

JD19

**Physical Properties and Morphology of Small Solar
System Bodies**

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Welcome and Introduction

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1. Introduction

The purpose of JD 19 was to discuss what might (and might not) be generalized from close-up observations (fly-bys and rendezvous) when combined with remote observations (using ground-based and Earth-orbiting instruments). The organizers and participants of this Joint Discussion believe measurements from fly-by and rendezvous missions provide unique benchmarks. However, such observations are available for only a handful of objects. Thus, by leveraging close-up observations with remote observations for those few objects having both kinds of data, we will not only be able to better understand the objects visited, but also those not visited, including bodies which differ from those already studied in detail by fly-by or rendezvous missions. In addition, understanding more about types of objects not yet explored by spacecraft (e.g., NEOs, Centaurs, KBO/TNOs), besides being valuable in itself, will enable us to better plan future missions to such objects.

With the above goal in mind, approximately 150 astronomers from around the world participated in Joint Discussion 19. In addition to the 20 invited and 26 poster presentations summarized herein, numerous substantive discussions took place, many of which will undoubtedly lead to future collaborative projects.