

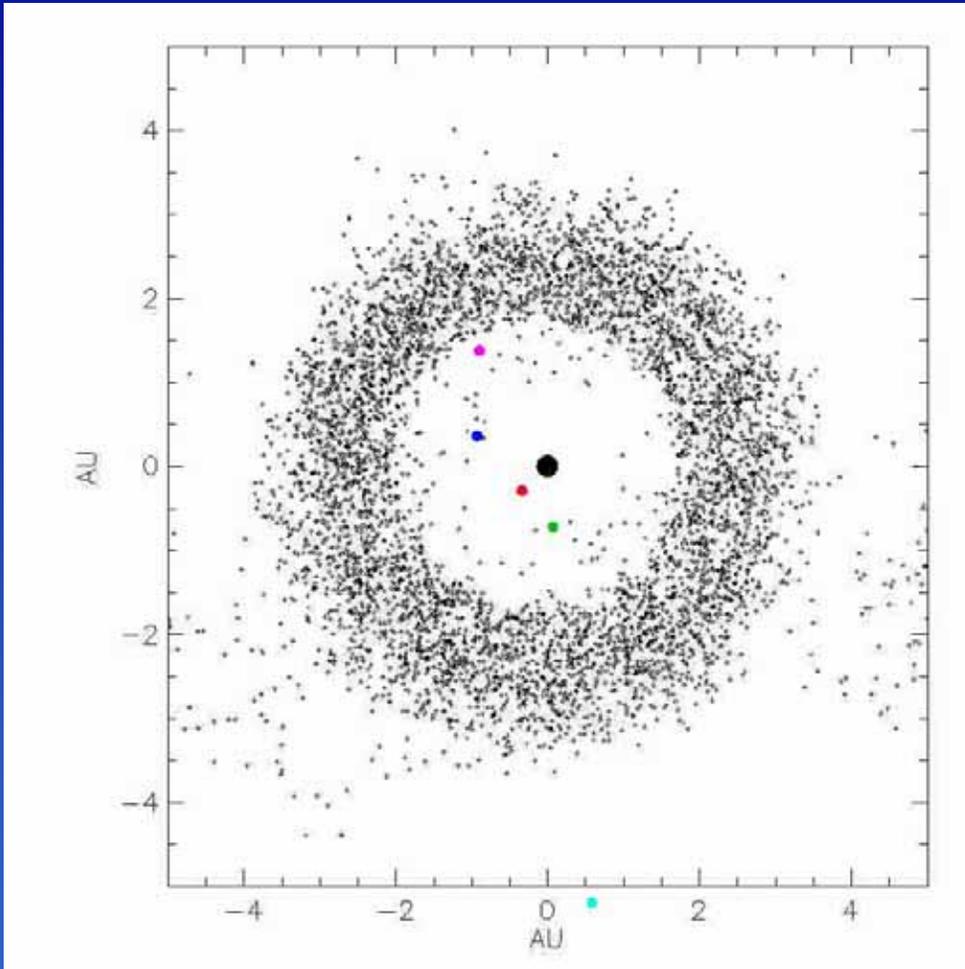
# ***Solar System science: Gaia in the 2015→2020 context***

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*Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur*



Observatoire  
de la CÔTE d'AZUR



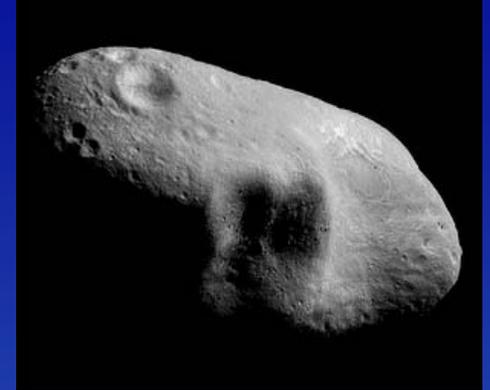


M. Delbo'

- Peculiar properties of SSOs
- Expected Gaia science
- Role of Gaia data

# Asteroid Science

- Main issues:
  - Origin: collisional life, related physics
  - Dynamical processes:
    - transport, mixing in the primitive nebula, origin of meteorites
  - Impact risks and mitigation strategy
- Main problems: lack of basic data
  - density, porosity...
  - Spectral types and connection to composition
  - Shapes, satellites
  - Size distribution

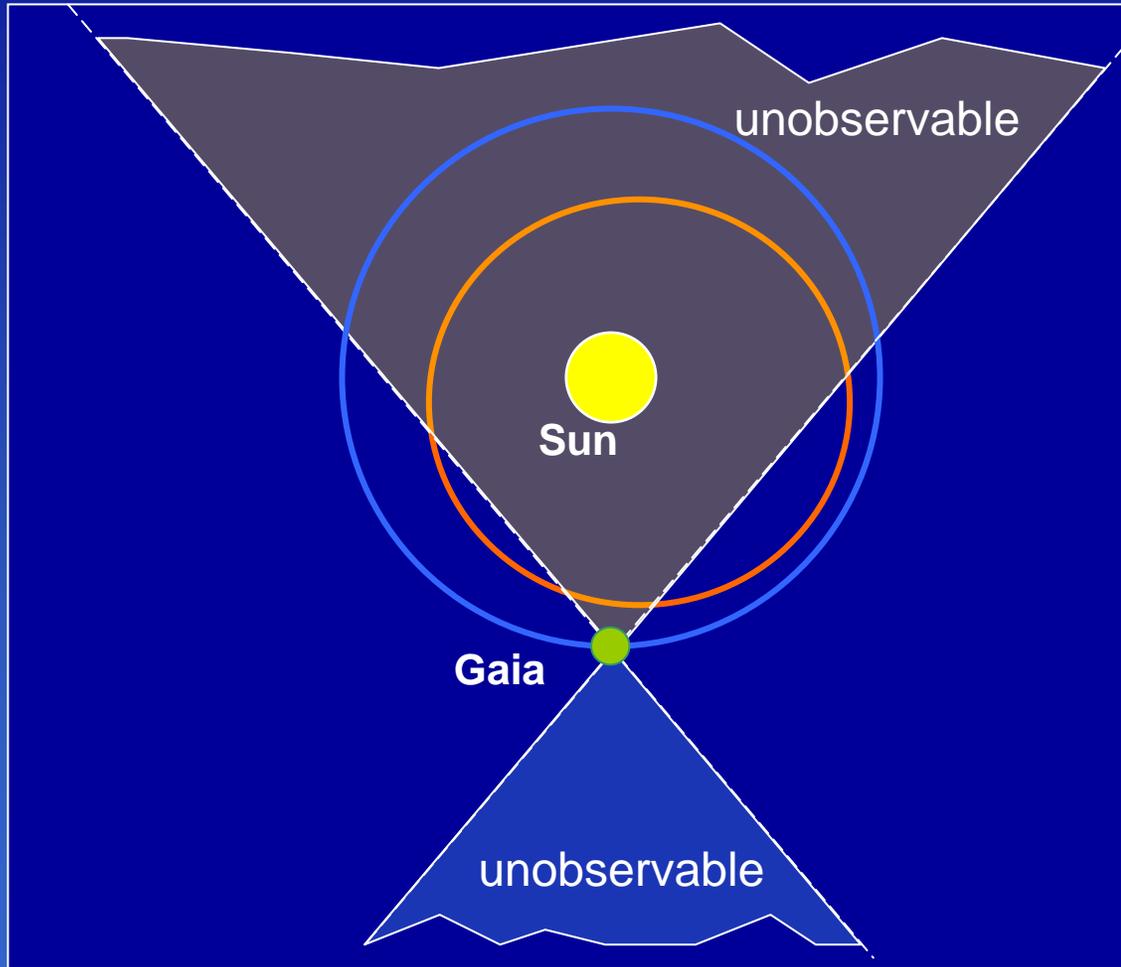


# How much is / will be known

Property	today	Gaia
astrometry	~ 0"5	0"005
rotation periods	1000	~100,000
shapes, poles	100	~100,000
spectral type	~ 1800	~200,000
masses, $\sigma < 60\%$	~ 40	150
size , $\sigma < 10\%$	~ 500	1000
satellites	~ 20 (MBA)	?

# Discovery potential and follow-up

Observable region on the ecliptic plane

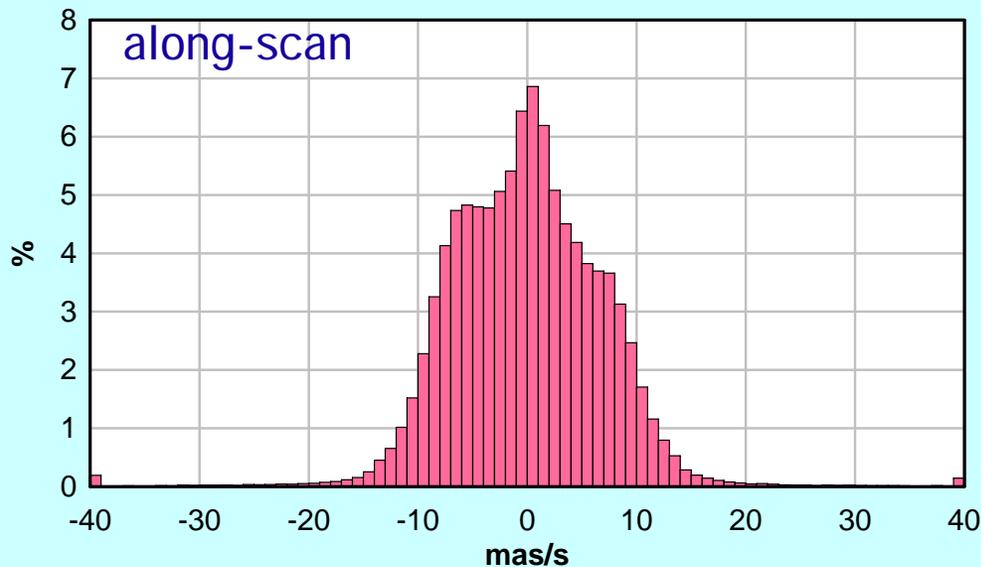


~ 70 detections/ 5 years for  
Main Belt asteroids

- Discovery space:
  - Low elongations (~45-60°)
  - Inner Earth Objects (~unknown)
  - Other NEOs

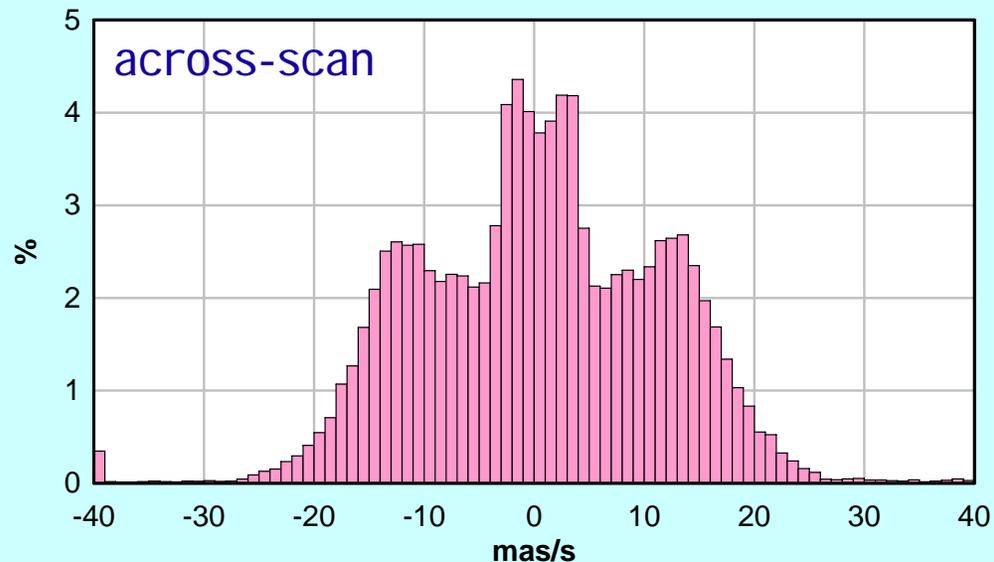
# Velocity distribution

- simulation on 5,000 objects
  - main-belt, NEOs
- motion detectable over 1 transit



$\sigma \sim 7 \text{ mas/s}$

$\sigma \sim 12 \text{ mas/s}$

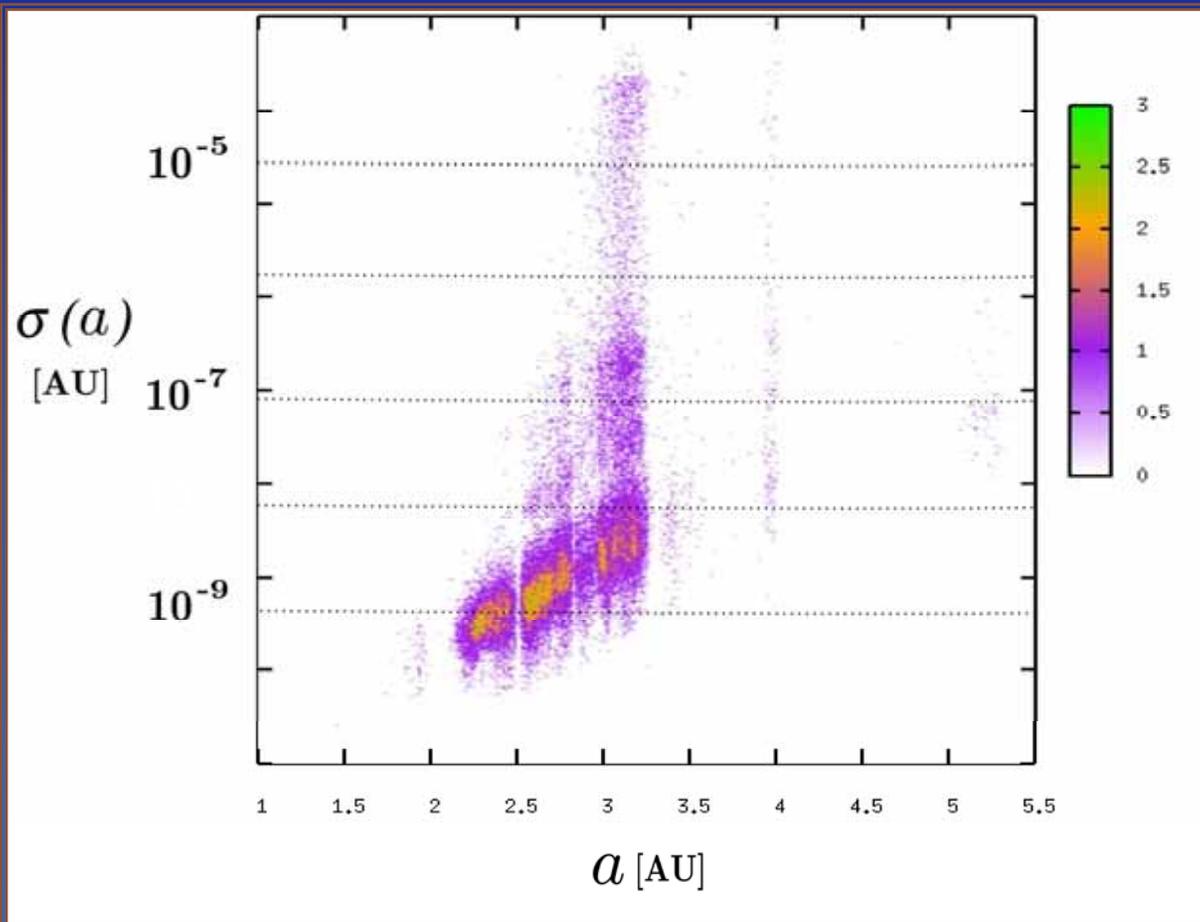


# CU4 : two pipelines for SSO

- **Input data: sources not matched by IDT**
- **Short-term (daily) processing**
  - Shortest timescale available
  - Fast processing of astrometry
  - Aims: identification of new or poorly known objects → diffusion of predictions to a network (DU459) and positions to the Minor Planet Center
- **Long term processing**
  - Best accuracy
  - Complex object model (shapes, motion,...), best astrometric solution, all effects taken into account
  - Aims: intermediate → final data releases

# Astrometry → orbit refinement

- Orbit reconstruction from simulated data
  - point sources & gravitational interaction
  - solar system perturbations



+

Density

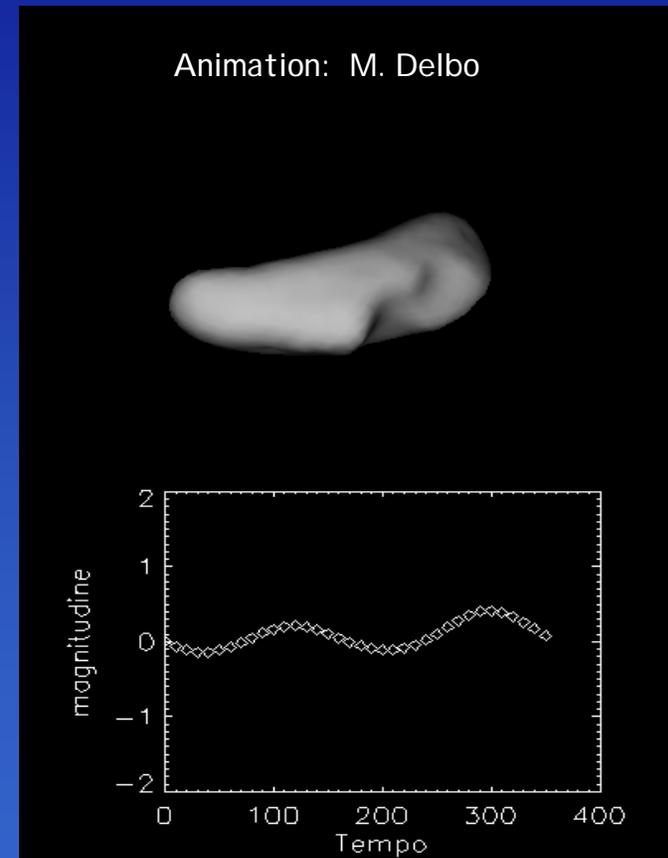
|

**$> 10^2$  better than  
current accuracy!**

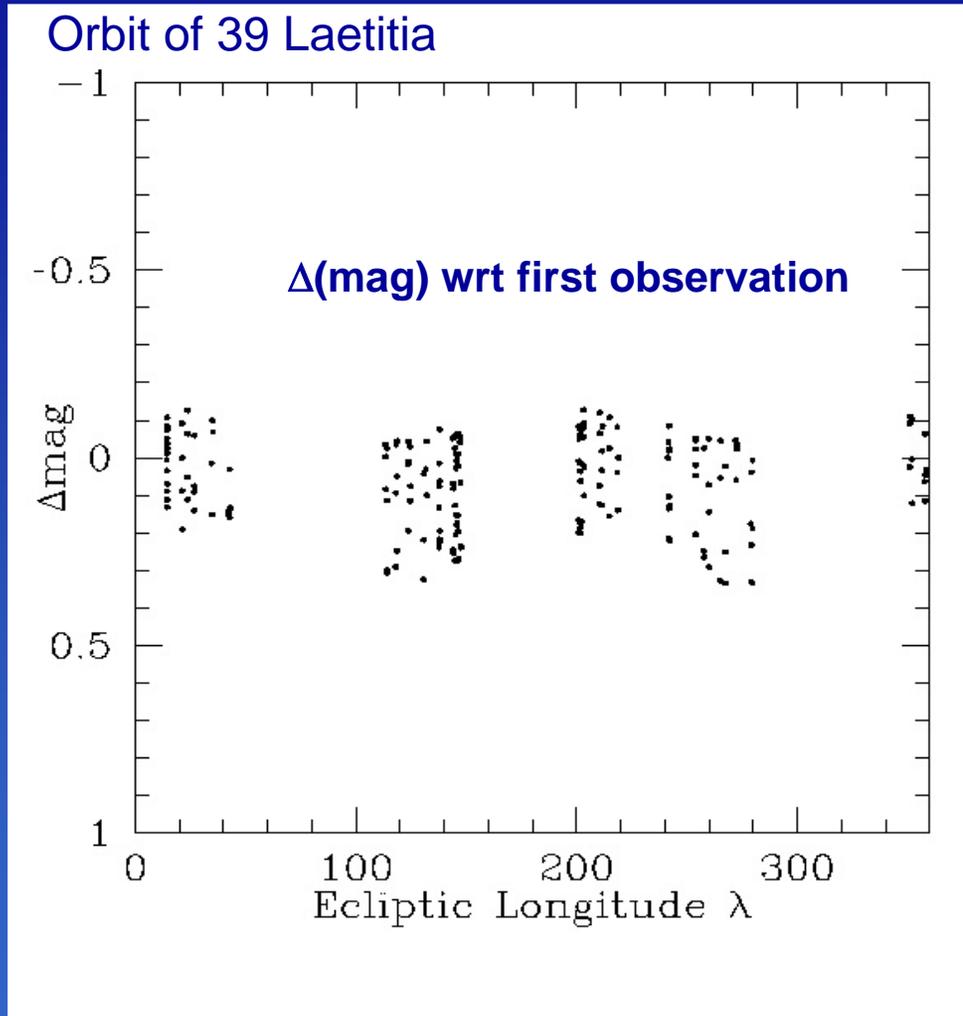
Mouret et al.

# Photometry → Shapes

- Asteroid's magnitude function of:
  - shape, rotation period, direction of spin axis
- Direct problem:
  - model of light curves for different shapes and rotation
- Inverse problem:
  - find the rotation parameters from photometric data
  - strongly non linear
- Choice for Gaia:
  - Three-axial ellipsoids



# Simulated Gaia photometry



$$\lambda_p = 30$$

$$\beta_p = 60$$

$$b/a = 0.7$$

$$c/a = 0.5$$

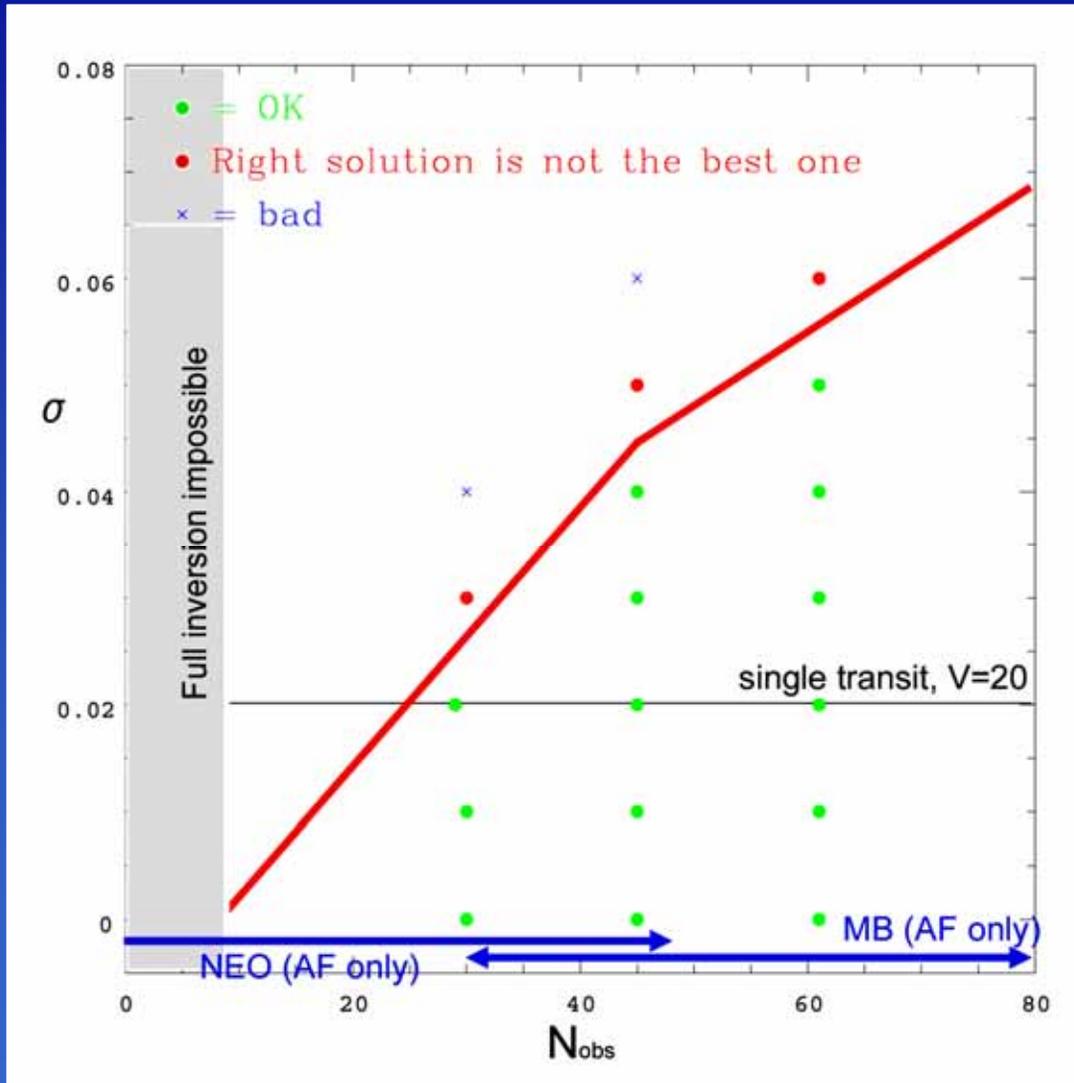
$$P = 7^{\text{h}}.527$$

$$\phi_0 = 0.4$$

A. Cellino, P. Tanga, M. Delbo

# Inversion limits

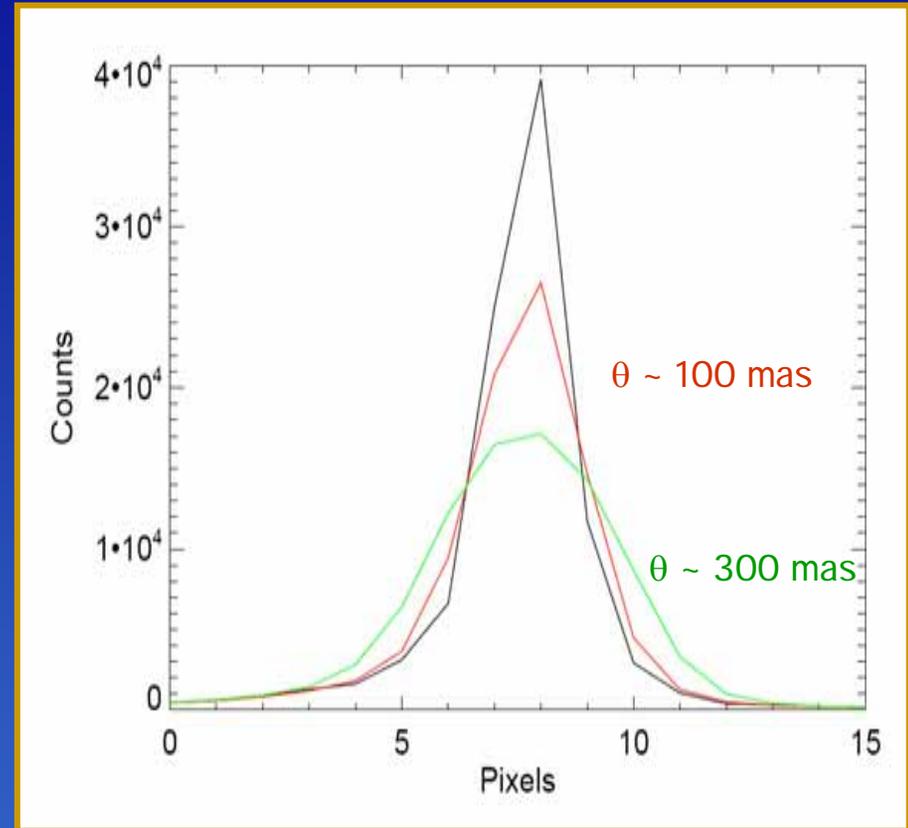
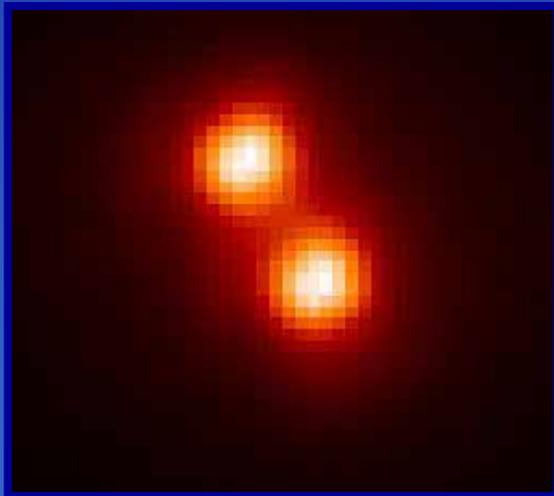
Ellipsoidal model inversion



A. Cellino, P. Tanga

# Size of the asteroids

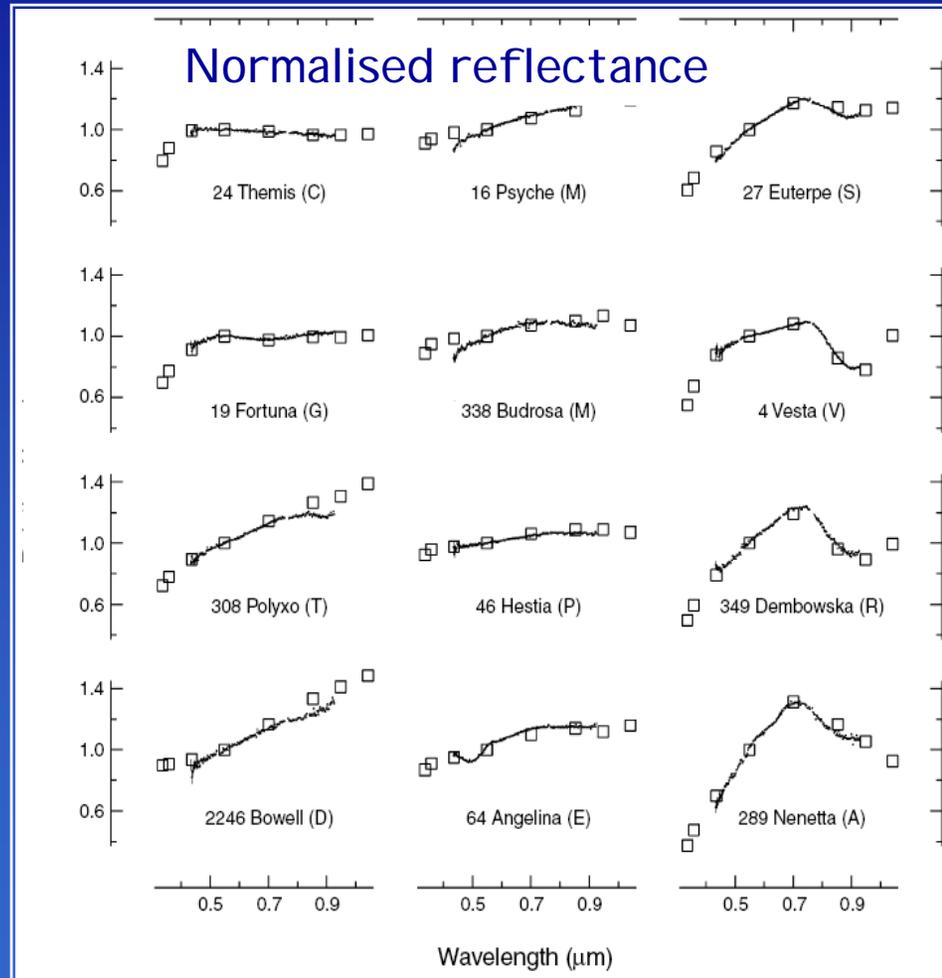
- Direct size determination for over 1000 asteroids
- Good quality sizes for  $D > 40\text{km}$
- Object's size at different epochs  
→ overall shape
- Binararity



Basic images for different source diameter

# RP/BP → Taxonomic classification

- Taxonomy classifies asteroids on the basis of visible *and* near-IR reflectance spectroscopy
  - Based on ~1000 objects today
- Gaia special features:
  - High solar elongation
  - Blue spectrum coverage
  - Several “bands”
  - Preliminary investigation on earth-based observations
- Limitations
  - ...no albedo → ambiguity E,M,P...
- automatic classifier developed for Gaia
  - *Gaia taxonomy*

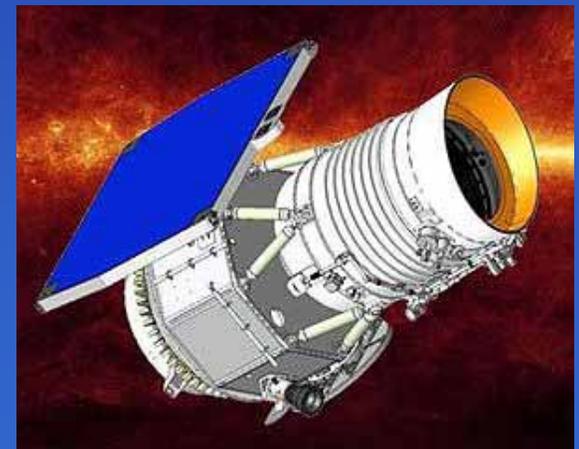
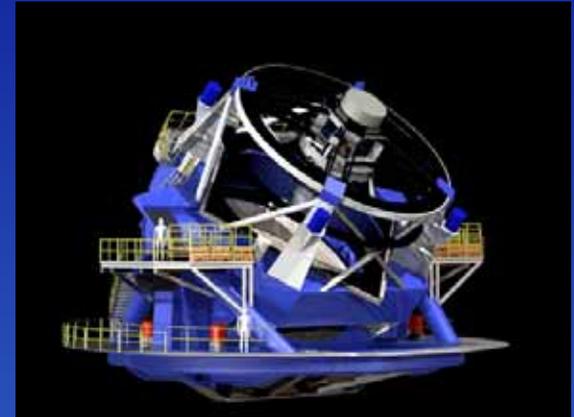


# Science goals : summary

- Systematic survey down to 20 mag ~  $3 \times 10^5$  objects
  - Main belt
  - NEOs
- Orbits : virtually all object observed - x30 better than now  
higher resolution of dynamical families
- Masses from close encounters ~ 100 masses expected
- Diameter for over 1000 asteroids : shape, density
- Binary asteroids
- Photometric data in several bands : albedo, taxonomic classification
- Light curves over 5 years : rotation, pole, shape
- Space distribution vs. physical properties
- Perihelion precession for 300 planets : GR testing, solar J2

# *Next generation Earth-based surveys for dynamical and physical characterization*

- Panoramic Survey Telescope & Rapid Response System (Pan-STARRS)
- Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST)
- Wide-Infrared Survey Explorer (& Spitzer)





## Dangers from space

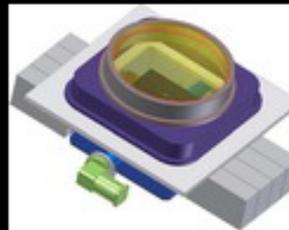
Learn about the threat to Earth from asteroids & comets and how the Pan-STARRS project is designed to help detect these NEOs. [Learn more...](#)



## 1,400,000,000 pixels

Pan-STARRS has the world's largest digital cameras.

[Read about them here...](#)



## The PS1 Prototype

PS1 discovers its first supernova!

PS1 consortium formed...

[More about PS1 here...](#)

[Zoomable images from PS1](#)



# Survey details

- **Pan-STARRS (PS1 – 2010 ??...)\***
  - $V = 24$ , 5 Sloan bands -  $\sigma \sim 63$  mas + parallaxes - whole sky 4 /month
  - 100,000 Jupiter Trojans (2900 now), 20,000 Kuiper belt objects (800)
  - PS1 operated from March to September 2009: 4000 asteroids, 7 new
  - Automated analysis and extraction of transient sources
  - Plans for photometric inversion → « **complex** » shapes
- **LSST (2015...)\***
  - $V=24$ , 6 bands  $\sigma \sim 9$  mas + parallaxes whole sky 8 /month
  - 30 TB each night, immediately public
  - Plans for NEO search – not yet clear for other aims
- **WISE (under way)**
  - 4 bands (3.3 – 23  $\mu\text{m}$ ), 1000 x IRAS sensitivity (1983)
  - <10 observations for 100,000 asteroids
  - ....also **SPITZER (more objects, lower precision)**
  - albedos

# Gaia and the others...

## Gaia

SSO orbit accuracy  
coverage at small elongation  
spectro-photometry resolution  
photometric accuracy

**Gaia is not said to save mankind  
from extinction...**

**...but could give a contribution  
on specific asteroids!**

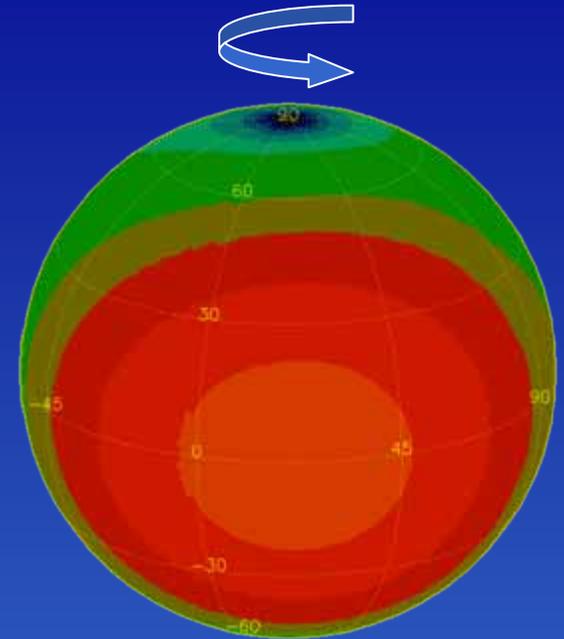
## Pan-STARRS, LSST

Higher number of observations  
→ Complex shapes  
Smaller objects accessible  
Longer operation



# Gaia & WISE

- Thermal observations → surface temperature of a SSO
    - Thermo physical model are based on a knowledge of shape
    - No shape model → larger size uncertainty (30% common)
  - Complementarity:
    - Gaia asteroid sample about the same size
    - Gaia shapes parameters can be used for thermal modeling
- Size inventory in a “global” solution



# Conclusions

- Gaia is an impressive tool for Solar System science
- Complementary in several aspects of other surveys
  - Better astrometric accuracy
  - Smaller solar elongation
  - Great support to WISE observations of about the same population of objects
- Open problems in photometry inversion
  - Space – based data more accurate (?)
  - Which difference in practical use of different shape models (ellipsoid vs complex) ?

*The End...*

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