Visible wavelength spectroscopy of sub-km-sized Near-Earth Asteroids with low delta-v

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We present a unique data set of the taxonomic type of near-Earth asteroids (NEAs) accessible with available spacecraft.

The research on NEAs has entered a new phase thanks to sample-return space explorations together with state-of-the-art large ground-based telescopes. We made observations of twelve asteroids with Subaru, GEMINI-North, GEMINI-South and Okayama 188cm telescopes. They have low delta-v orbits with potential to be investigated by manned/unmanned spacecraft. Also, ten sub-km-sized bodies are included in them, and are one of remarkable characteristics in terms of an evolutionary scenario.

We find that eleven asteroids are classified as S-complex and one asteroid as V-type. Most S-complex asteroids (eight out of eleven, ∼70%) have spectra similar to subgroups of Q or Sq-type, suggesting that these objects are less matured against space weathering.

In this presentation, we show their spectra and discuss dominance of S-complex asteroids based on the previous research.

Keywords: asteroid, visible spectroscopy, taxonomic classification