

# Sources of primordial matter in the asteroid main belt *and beyond*

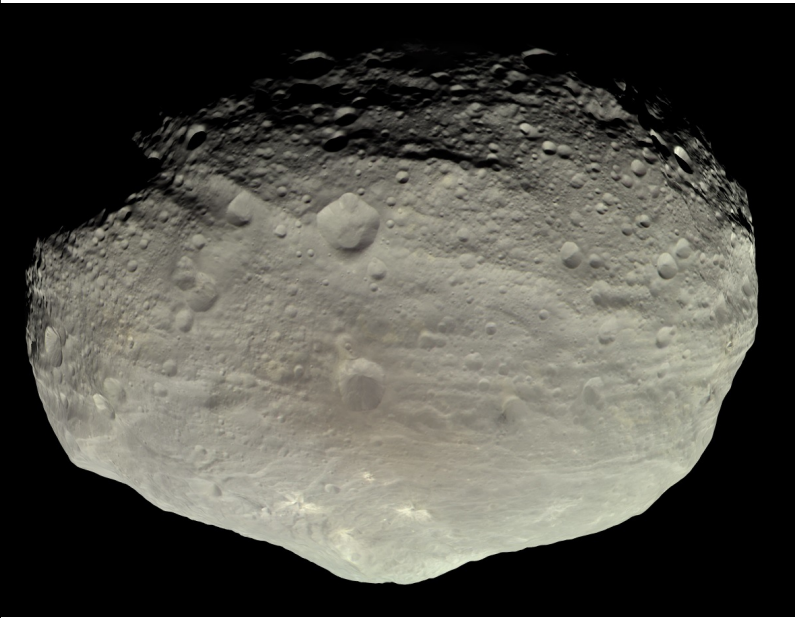
**Marco Delbo**

**University Côte d'Azur, CNRS, Côte d'Azur Observatory**

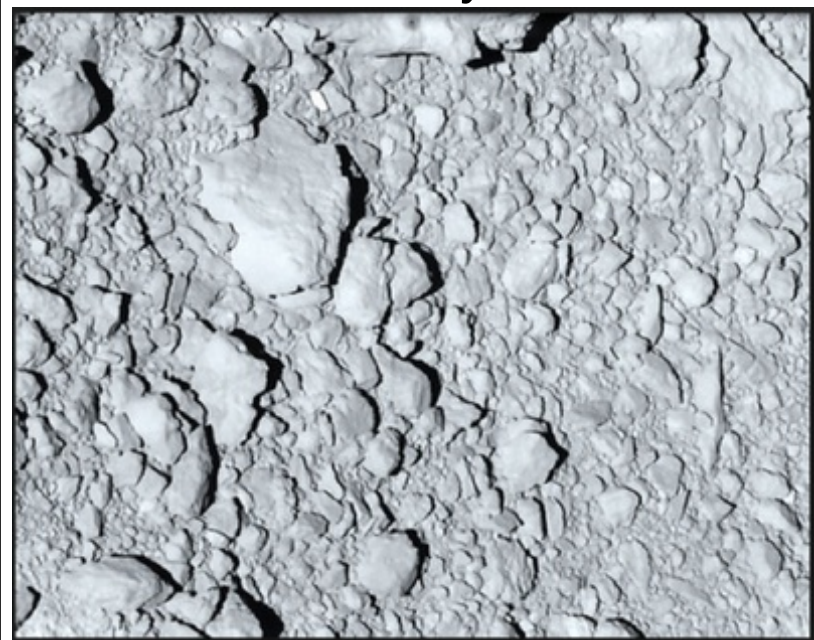


# The big questions

(4) Vesta from DAWN



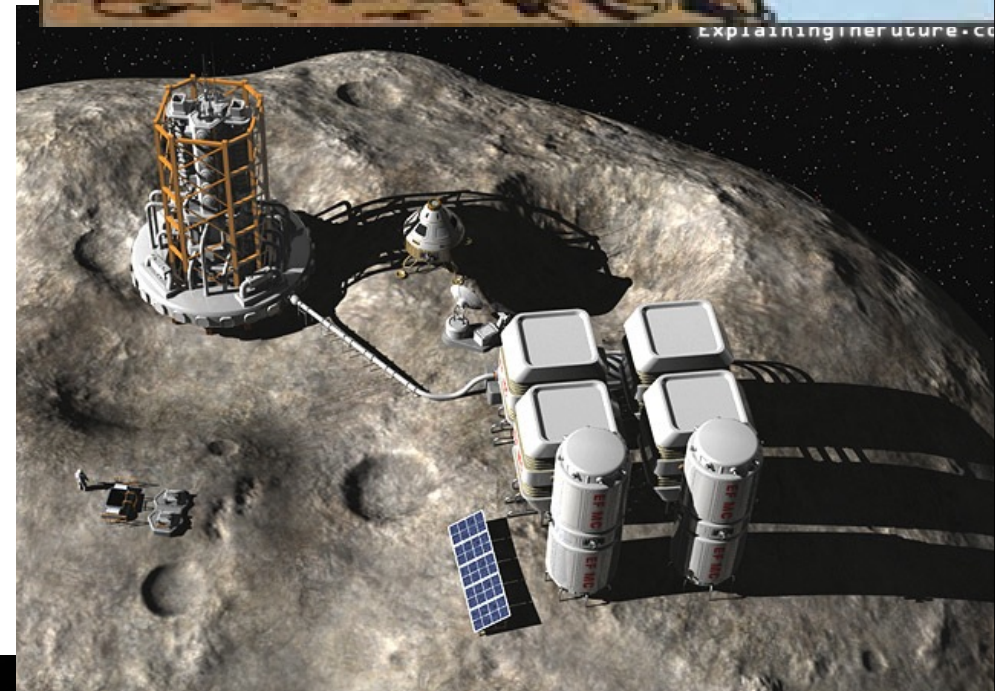
The soil (regolith) of  
(25143) Itokawa from  
JAXA's Hayabusa



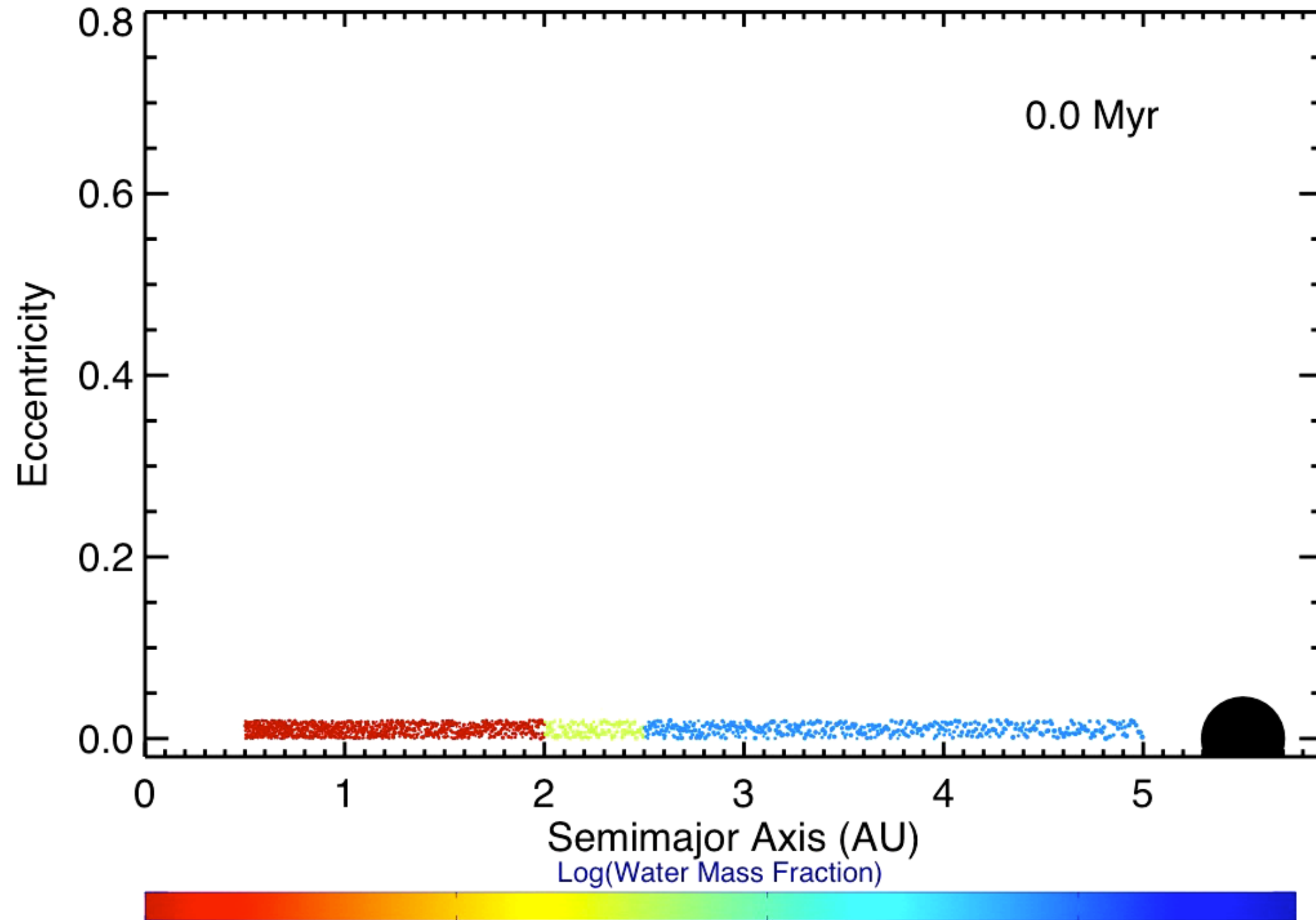
**Is any of these small  
worlds (extremely)  
habitable ?  
Or was it in the past ?  
And under which  
conditions ?**

**and  
Can we make them  
habitable ?**

**Or  
Did small bodies  
contribute to make  
other places  
habitable?**



# Water and organics delivery to terrestrial planets by planetesimals

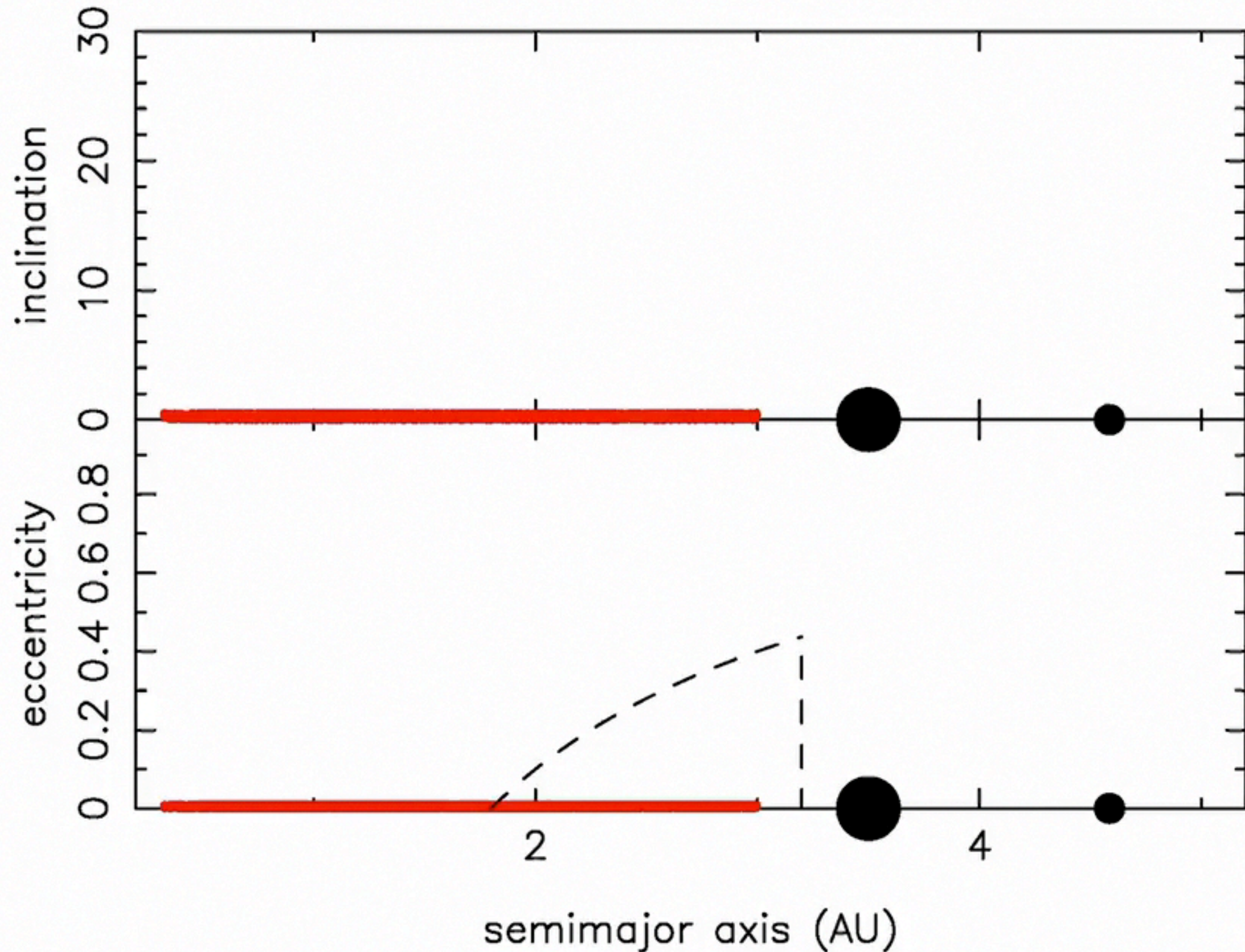


Raymond, Quinn & Lunine (2006)



# Grand Tack Scenario

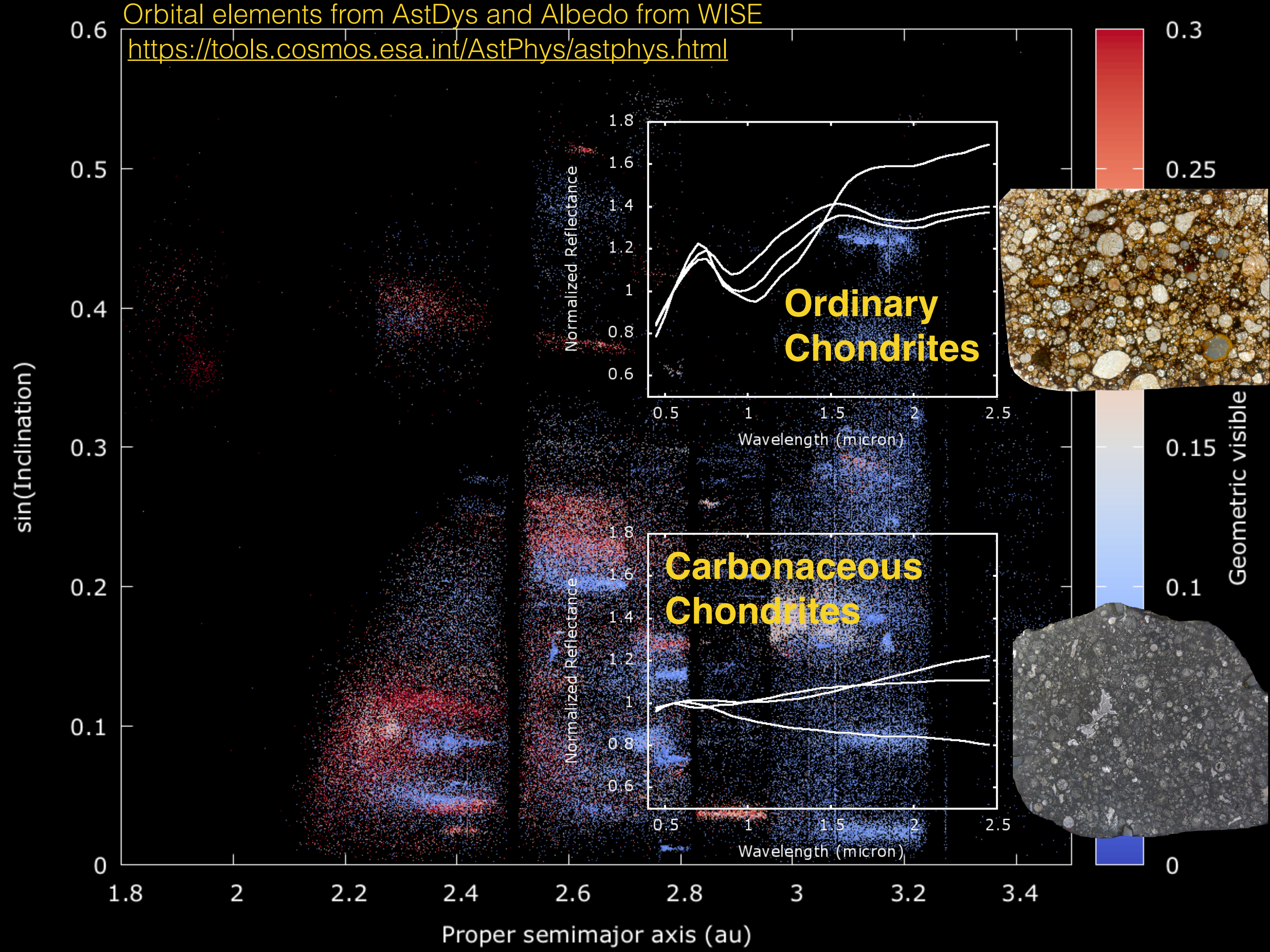
$T = 0.000$  ky





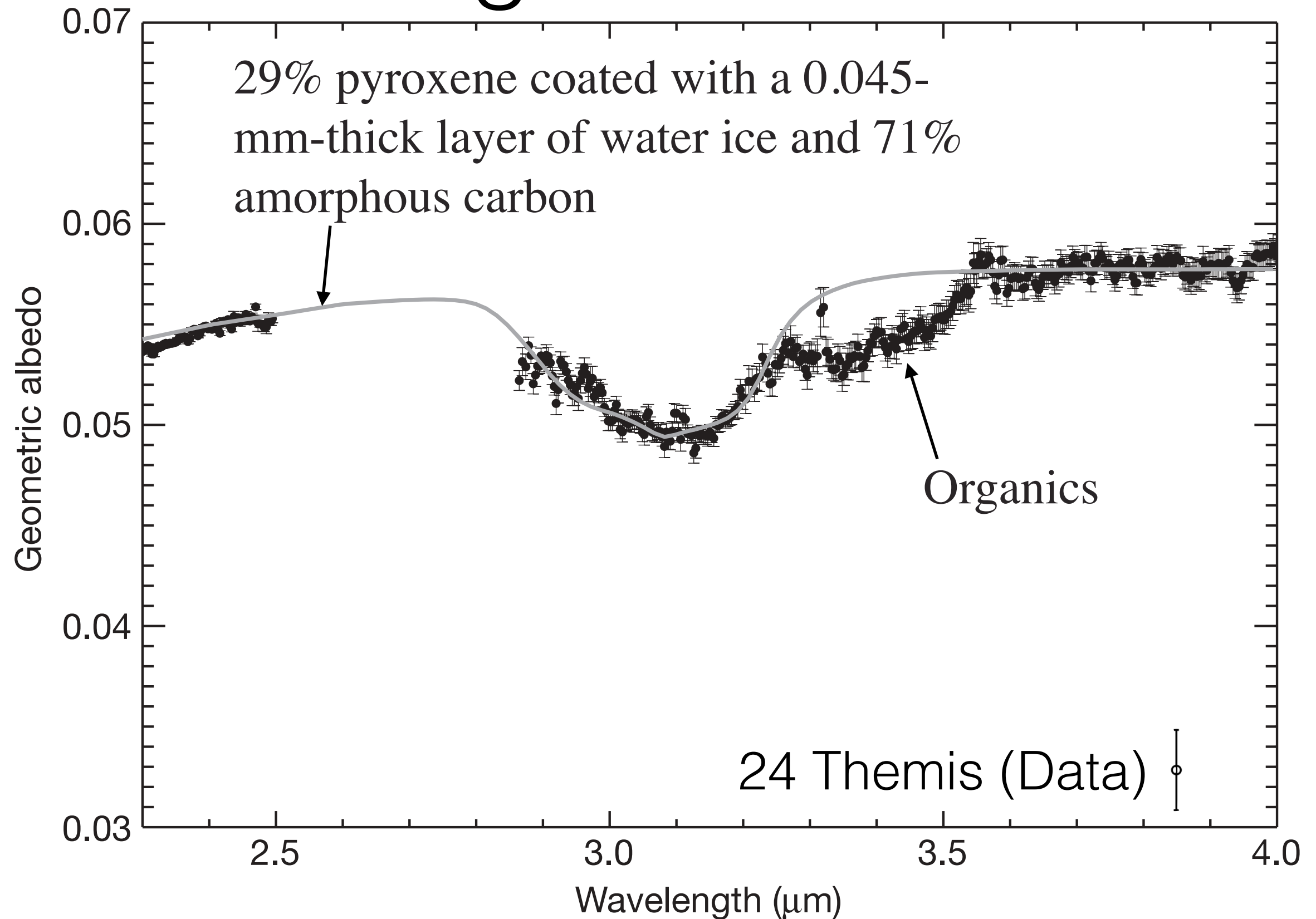
Orbital elements from AstDys and Albedo from WISE

<https://tools.cosmos.esa.int/AstPhys/astphys.html>





# Water & organics in asteroids

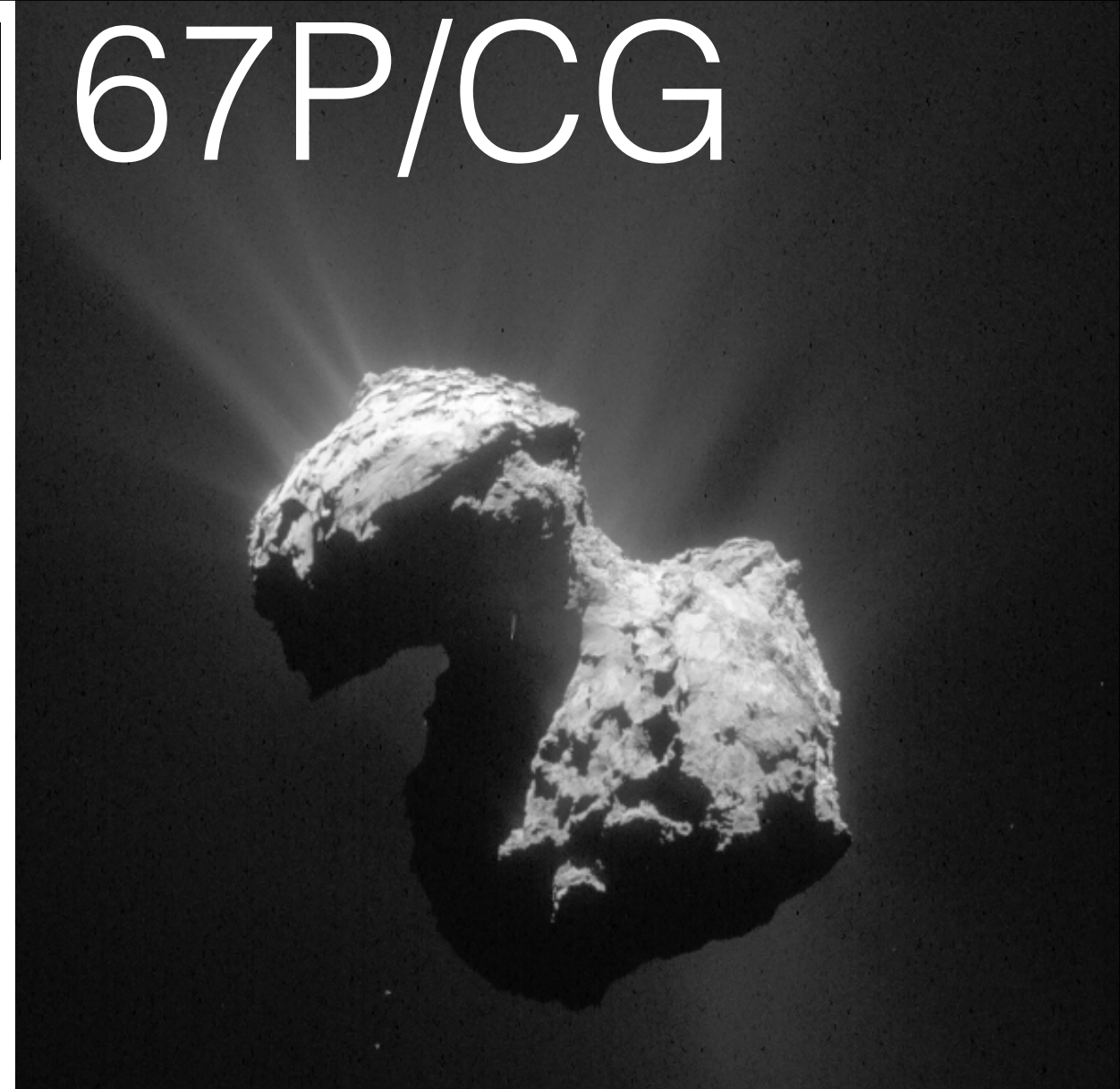
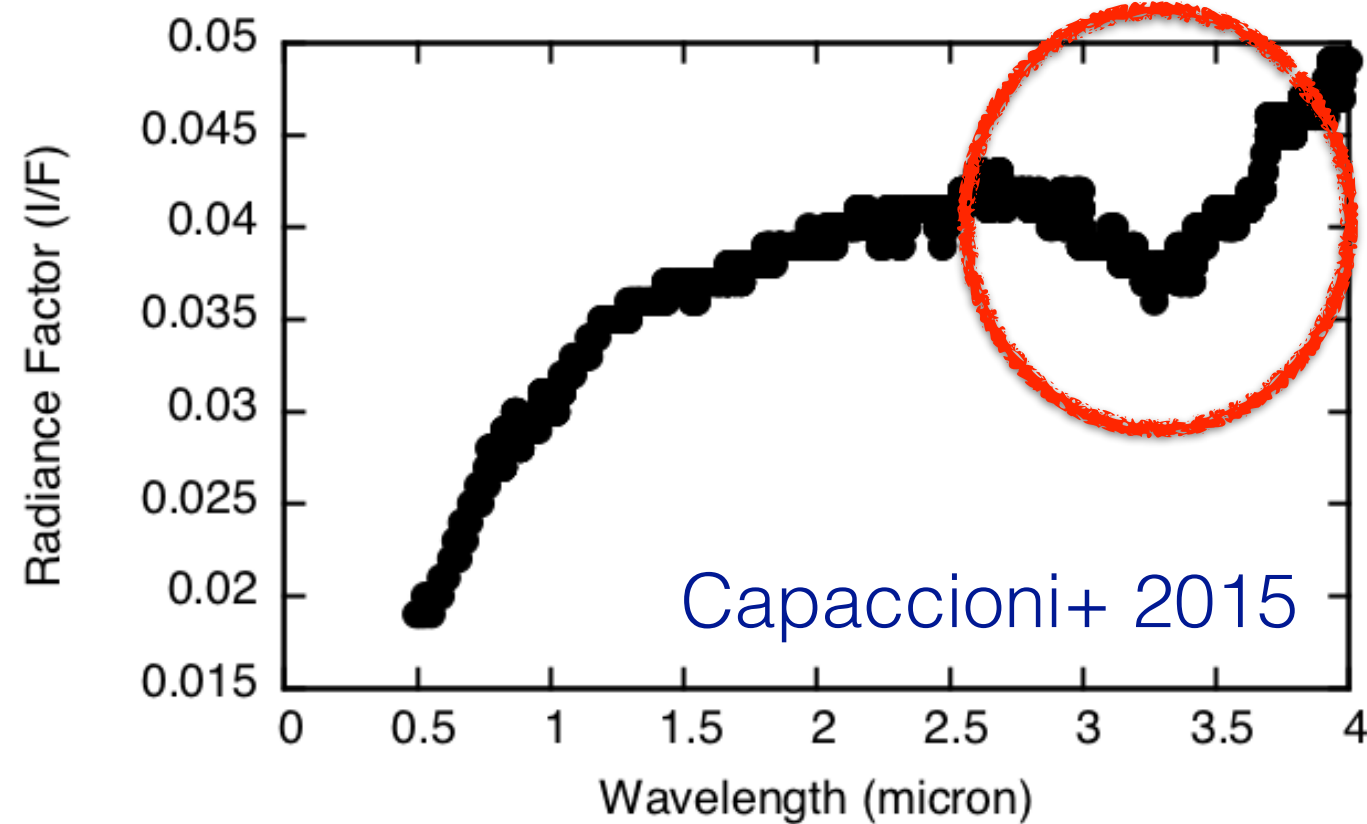


Rivkin & Emery 2010; Campins+ 2010



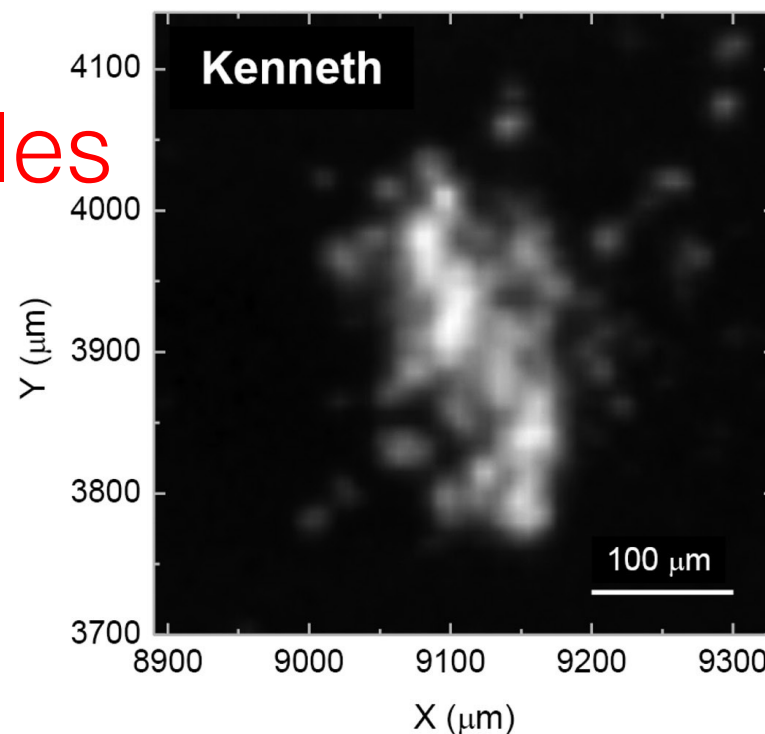
# Comets and 67P/CG

## Organics from spectroscopy



## Organic macromolecules in the dust (COSIMA)

Fray+ 2016

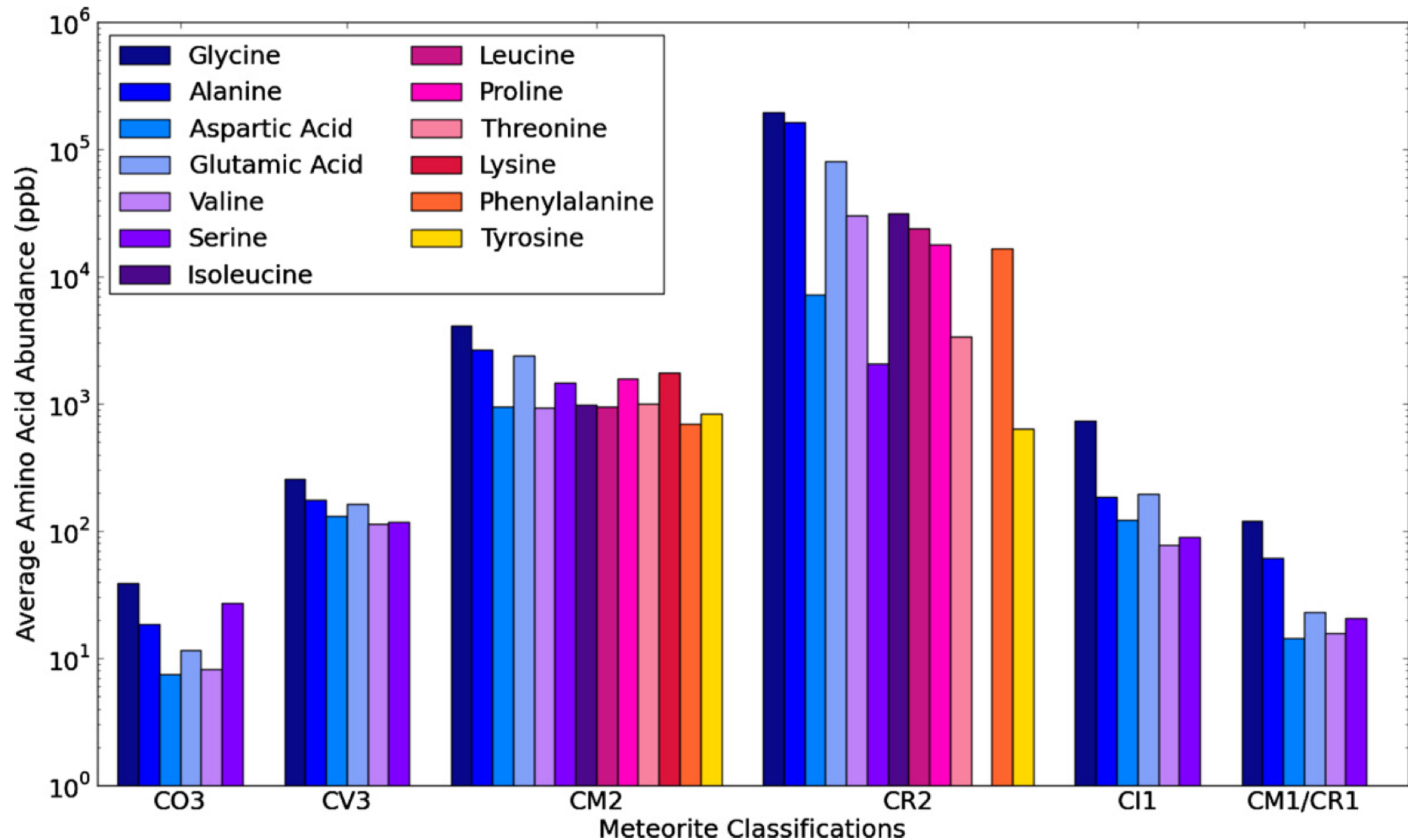


Glycine ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NO}_2$ ) — *Amino Acid* —  
Methylamine ( $\text{CH}_5\text{N}$ ),  
Ethylamine ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_7\text{N}$ ) [Altwegg+ 2016](#)  
Also found in the dust of **Wild2**:  
[Elsila+ 2009](#)

Phosphorus, never previously detected [Altwegg+ 2016](#)



# Amino acids in meteorites

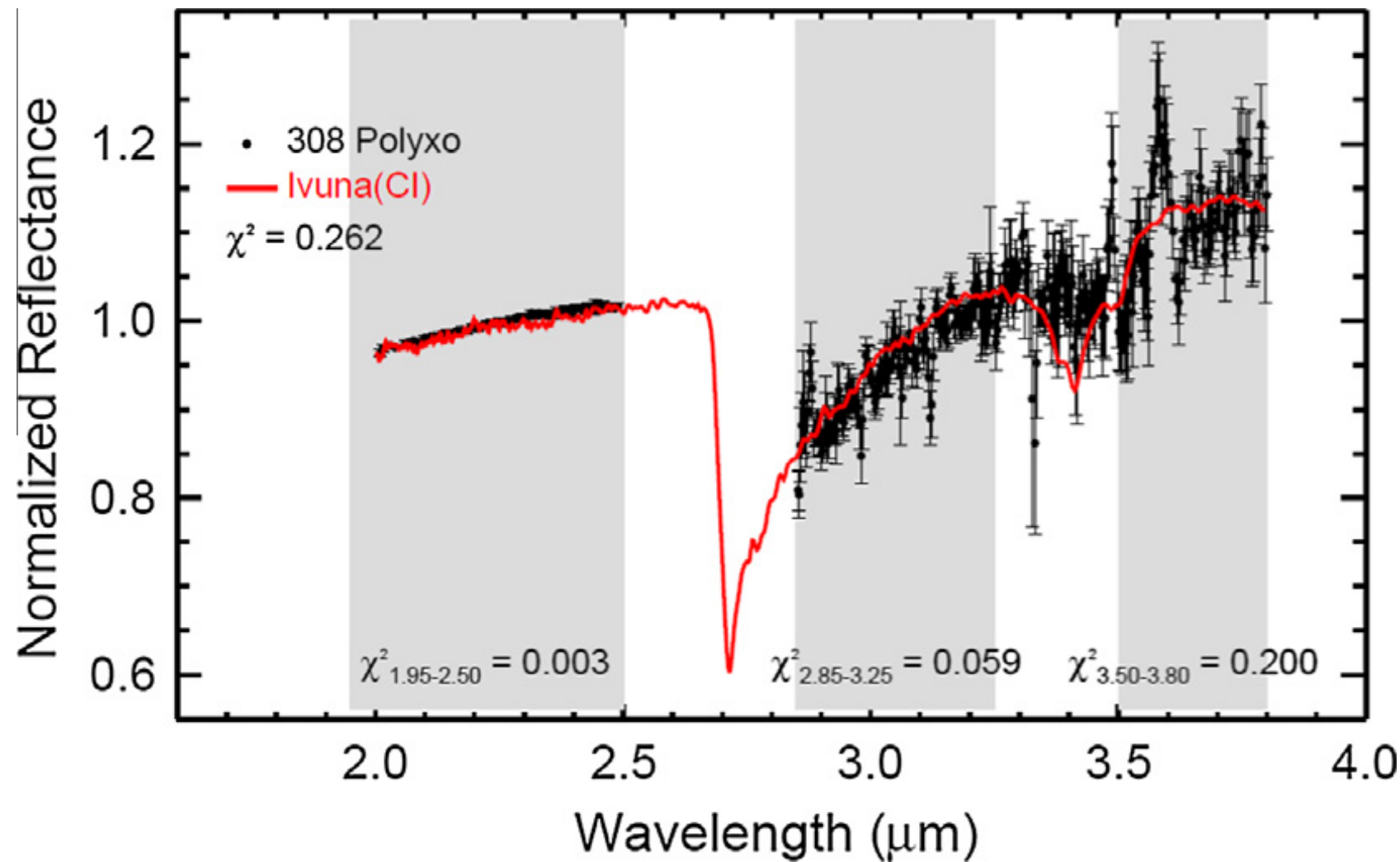


CM2 and CR2 type have the highest abundance of amino acids —> abundance of amino acids depends on the degree of aqueous alteration

Cobb & Pudritz 2014

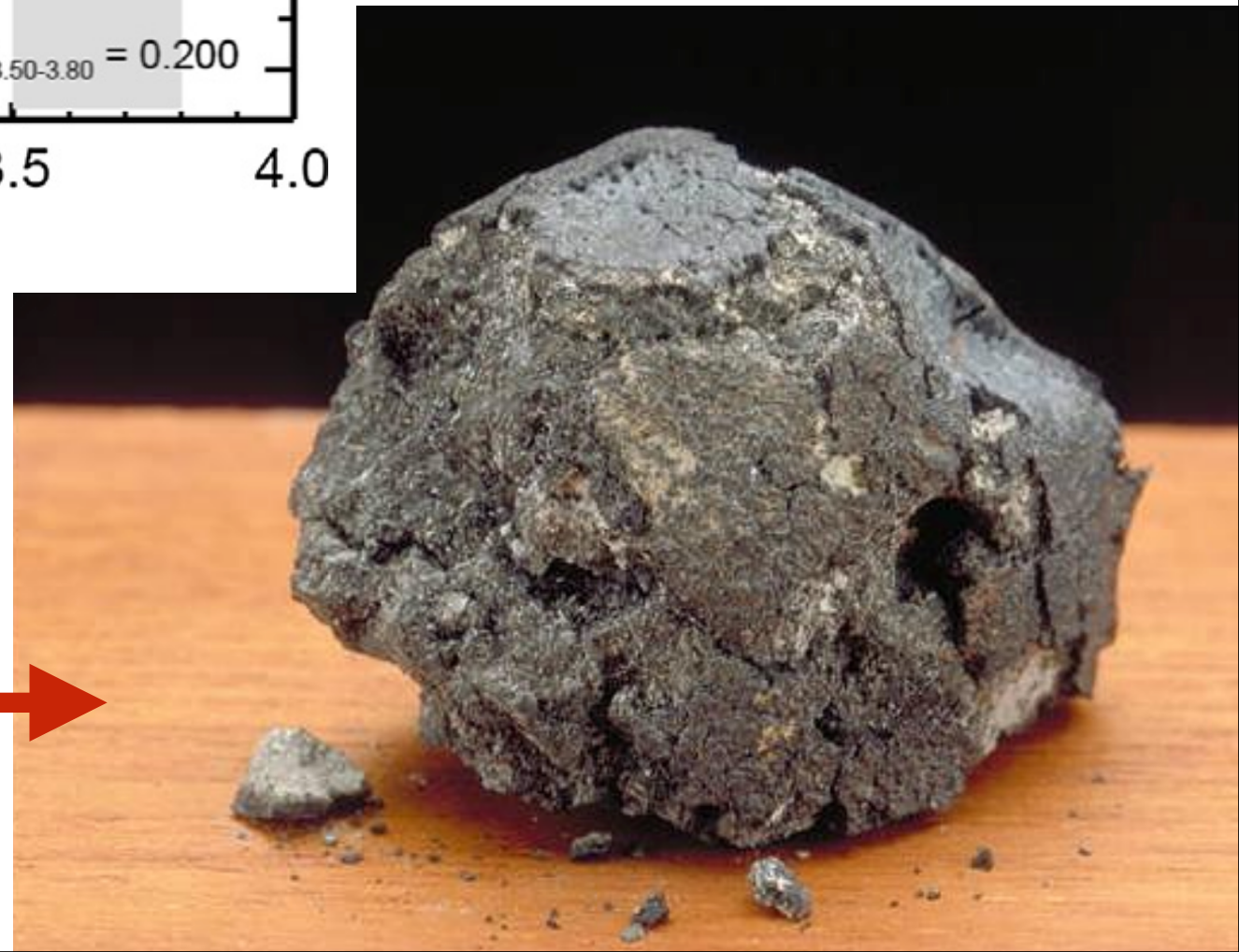


# Structural water in asteroids



“Sharp” 2.8 μm band  
is matched with CI  
and CM  
carbonaceous  
chondrites:  
Takir+ 2015; Rivkin+  
2015

Signature of aqueous  
alteration is observed in  
meteorites such as Ivuna

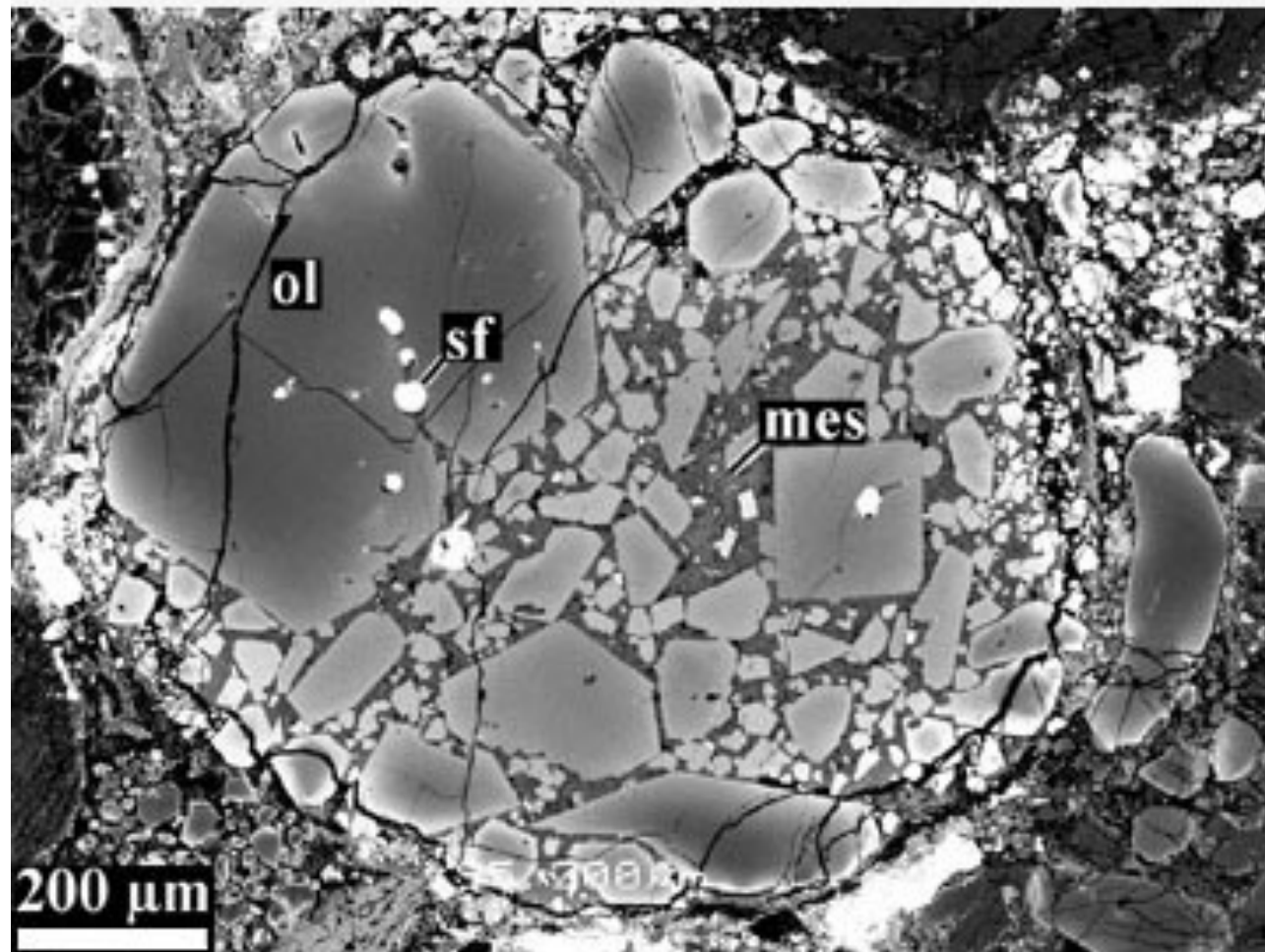




# Aqueous Alteration

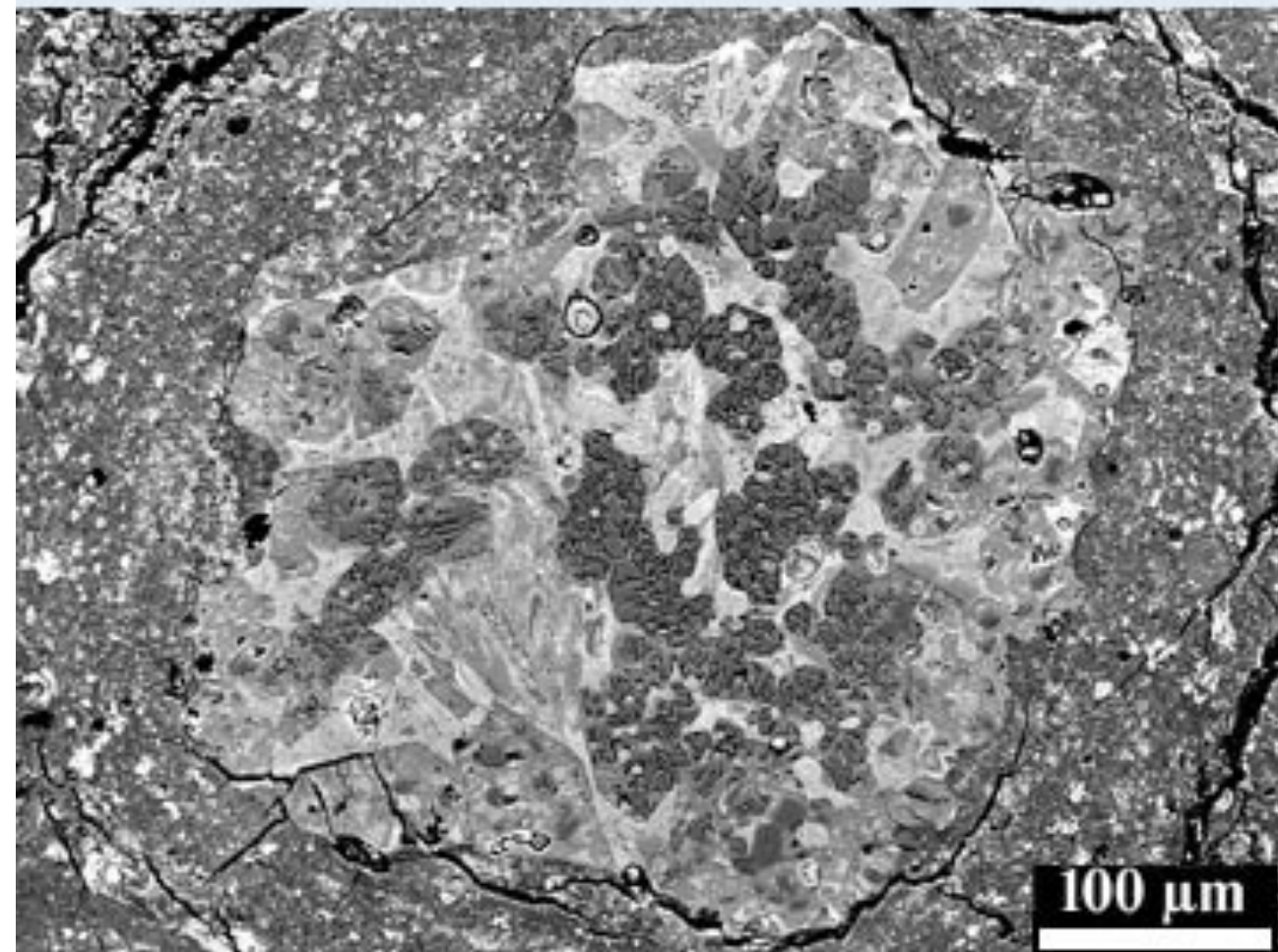
High temperature phases are replaced by phyllosilicates

*Unaltered Chondrule*



(Courtesy of Sasha Krot, University of Hawaii.)

*Altered Chondrule*



(Courtesy of Adrian Brearley, University of New Mexico.)

This is believed to be a parent body process, that occurred as it is thought that planetesimals were heated (by e.g.  $^{26}\text{Al}$ ) during accretion.

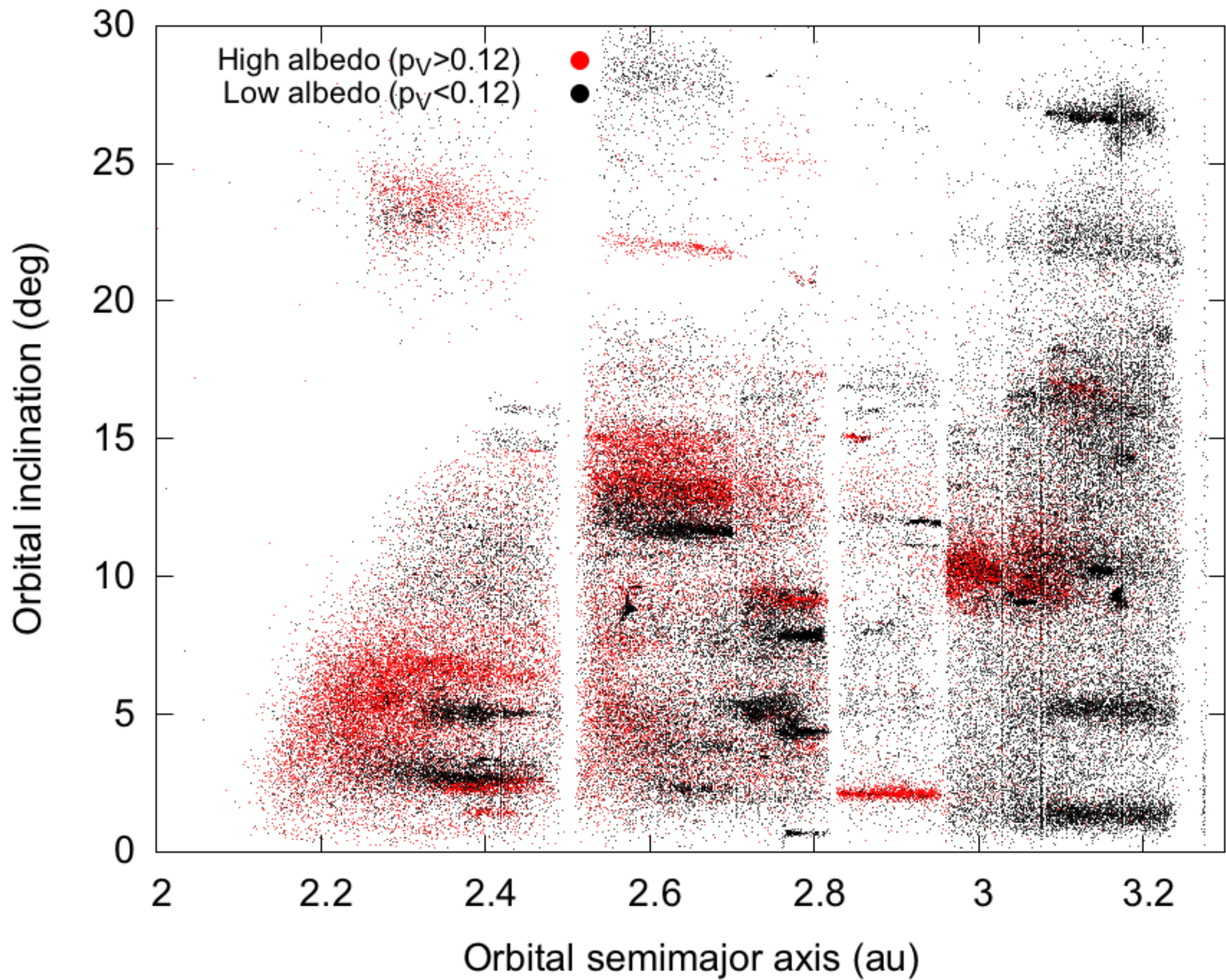


# NASA OSIRIS-REx

TAGSAM

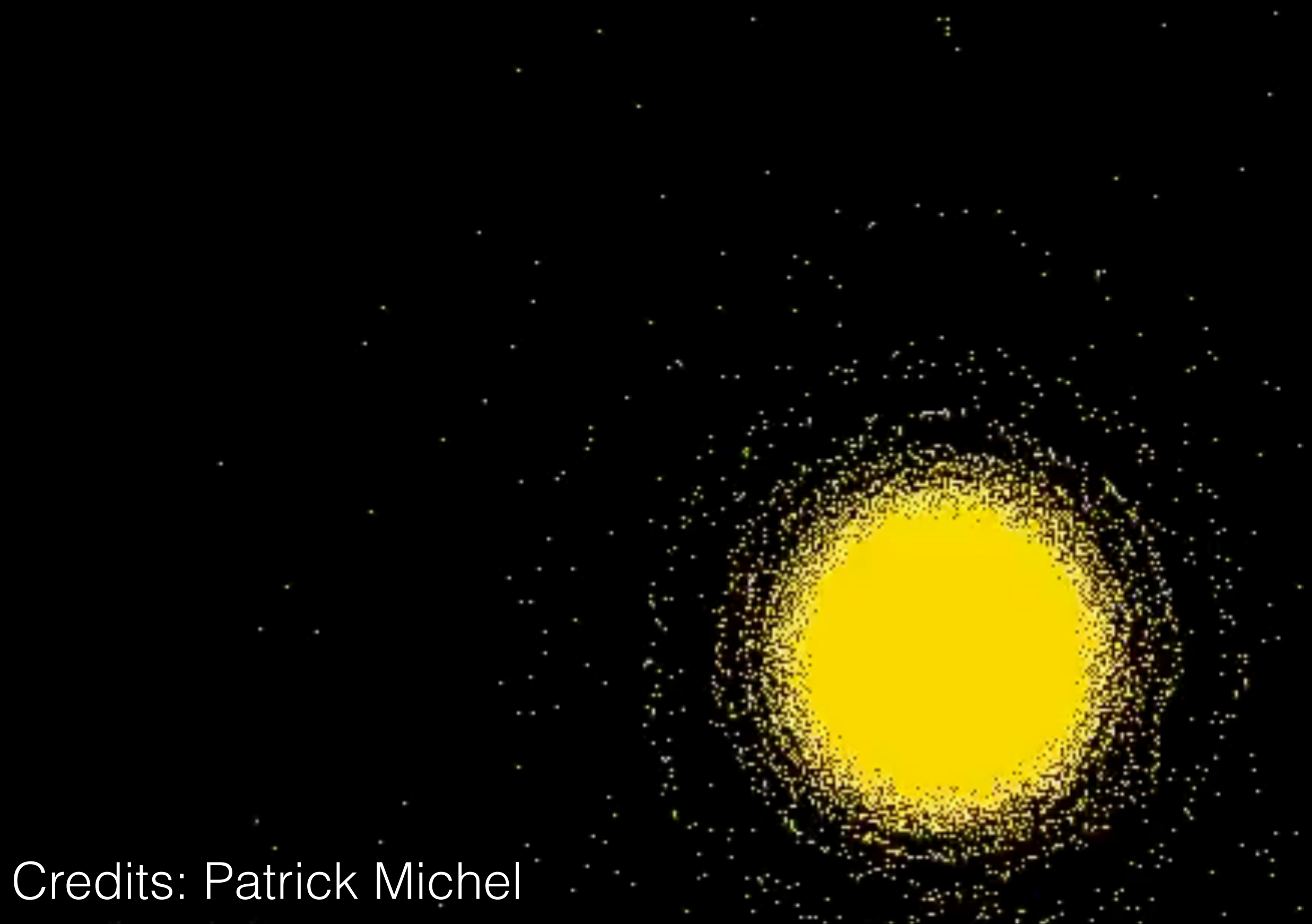
see OSIRIS-REx video on youtube







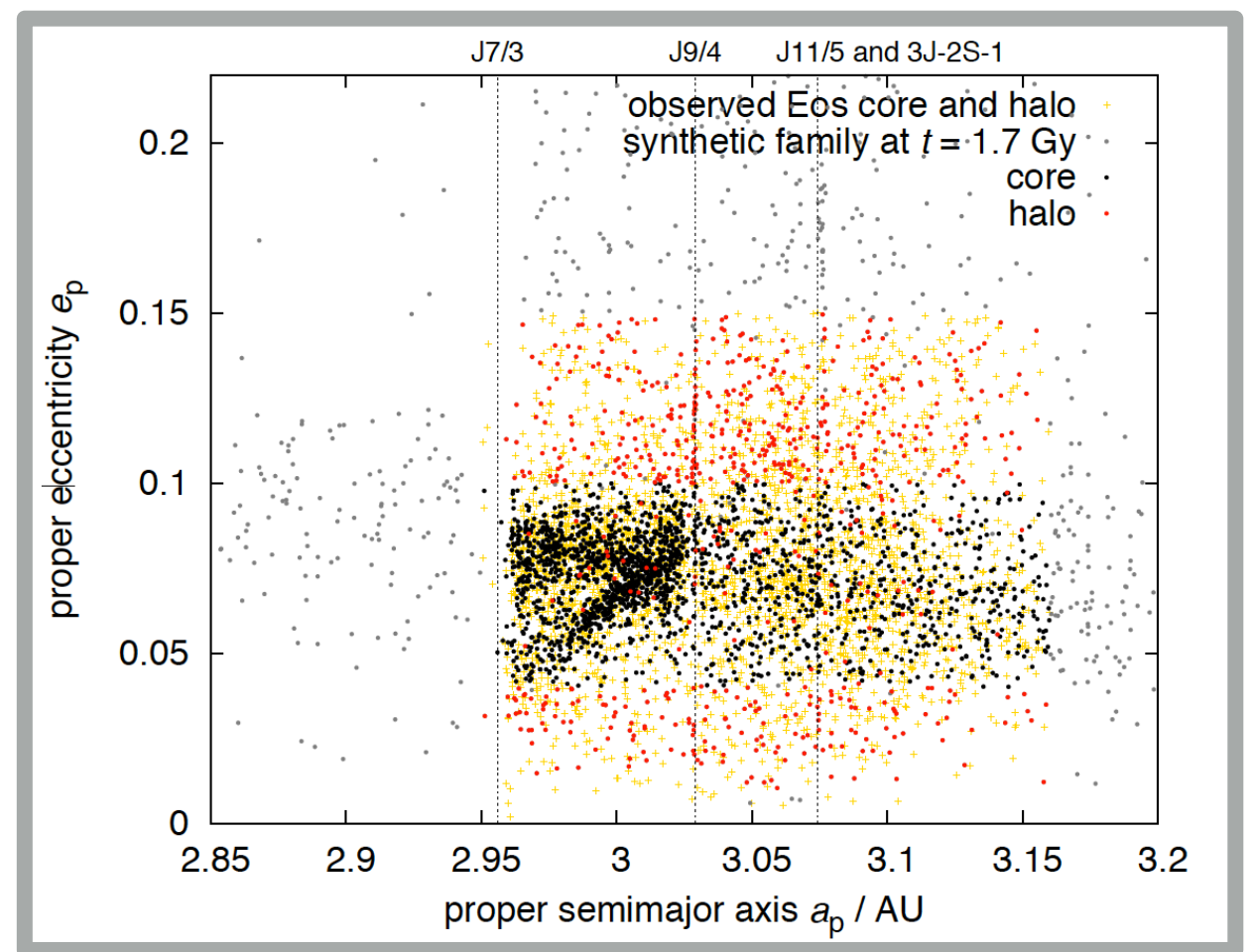
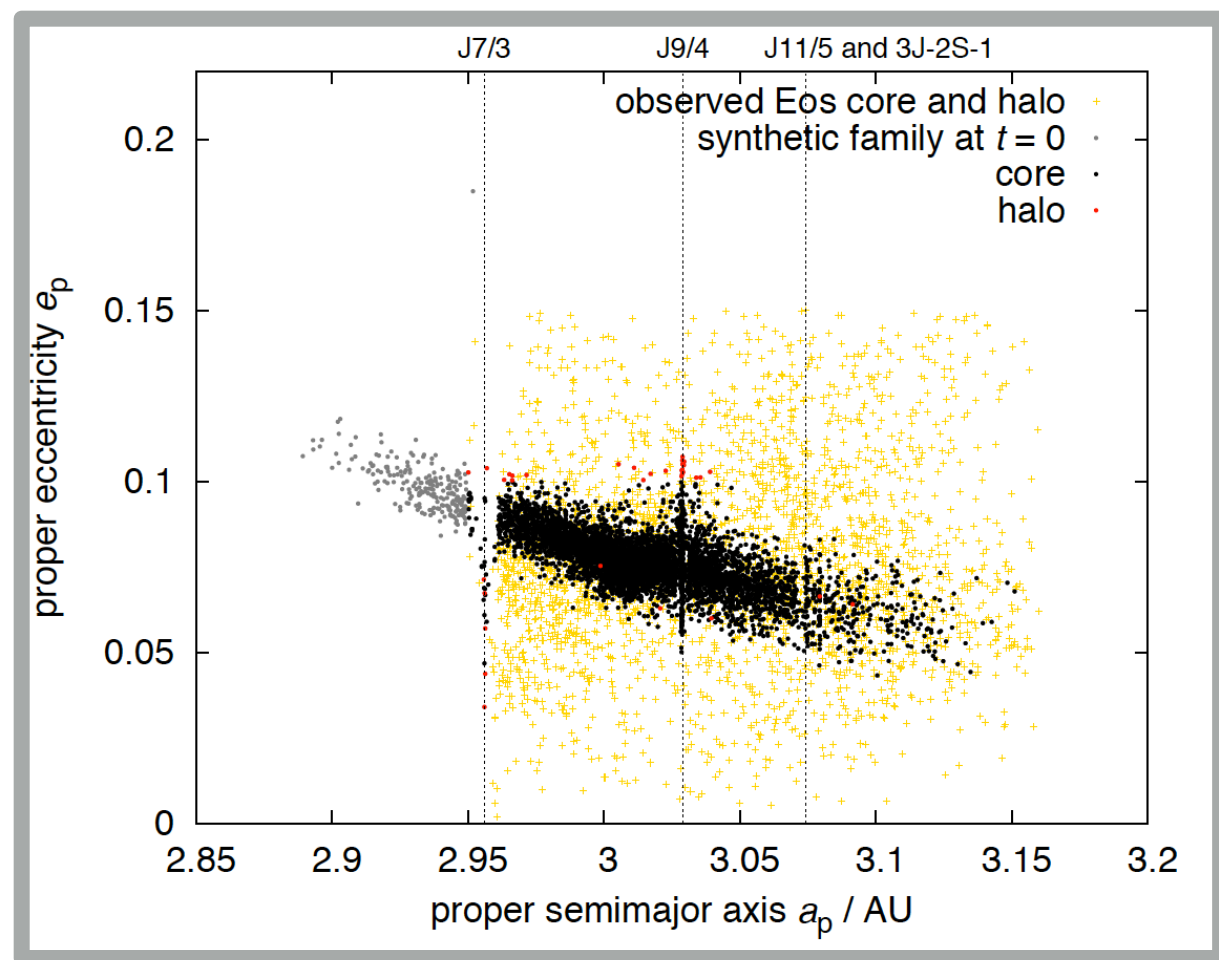
# Asteroid family-forming impact



Credits: Patrick Michel

# Diffusion of orbital elements

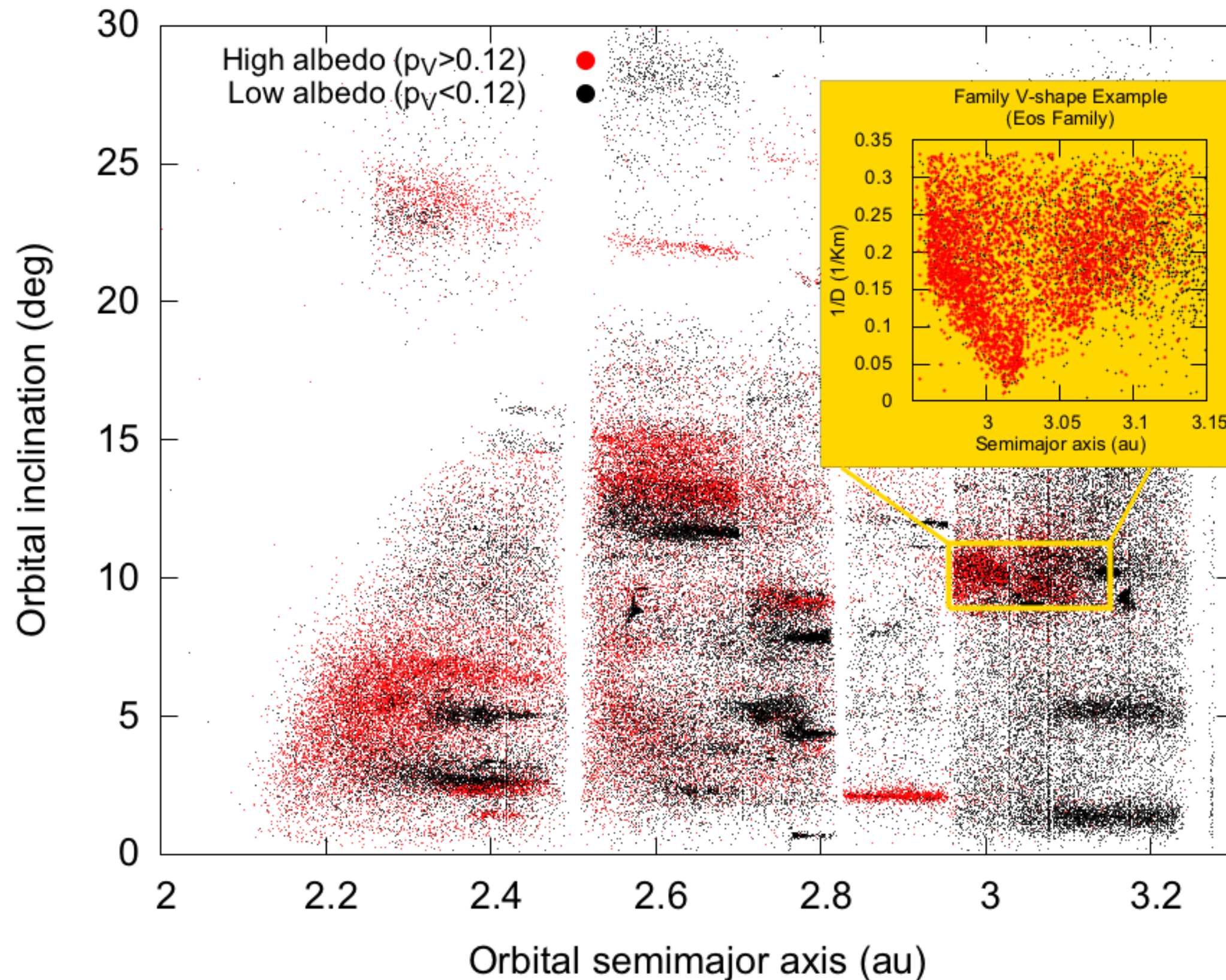
- Family fragments diffuse in  $(e, i)$  due to secular and mean motion resonances (MMR).



1.7 Gyr

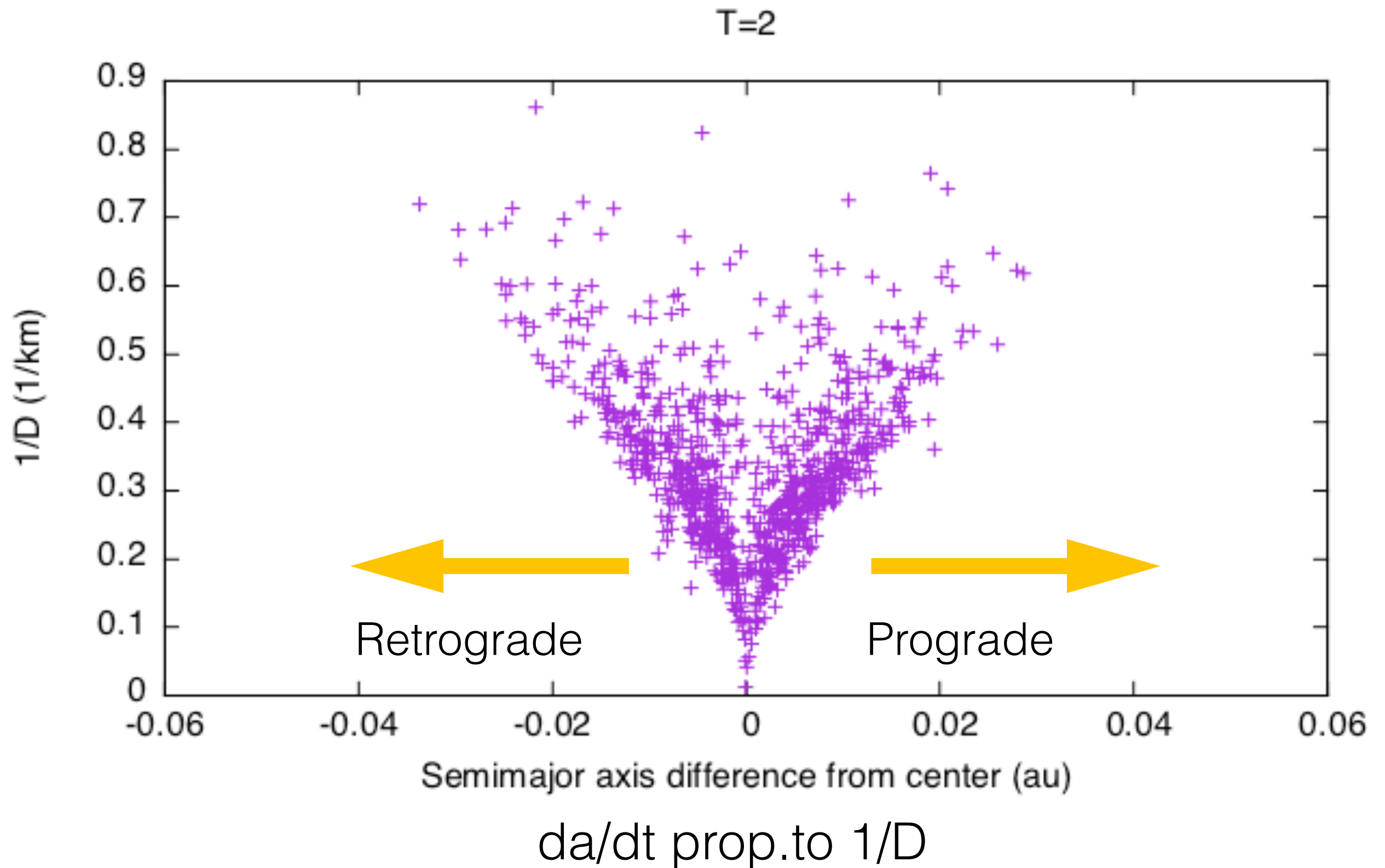


# The V-shape of asteroid families



Diameters & Albedos: Masiero+11,12,14; Nugent+15,16; Usui+11; Ryan&Woodward+10; Tedesco+02

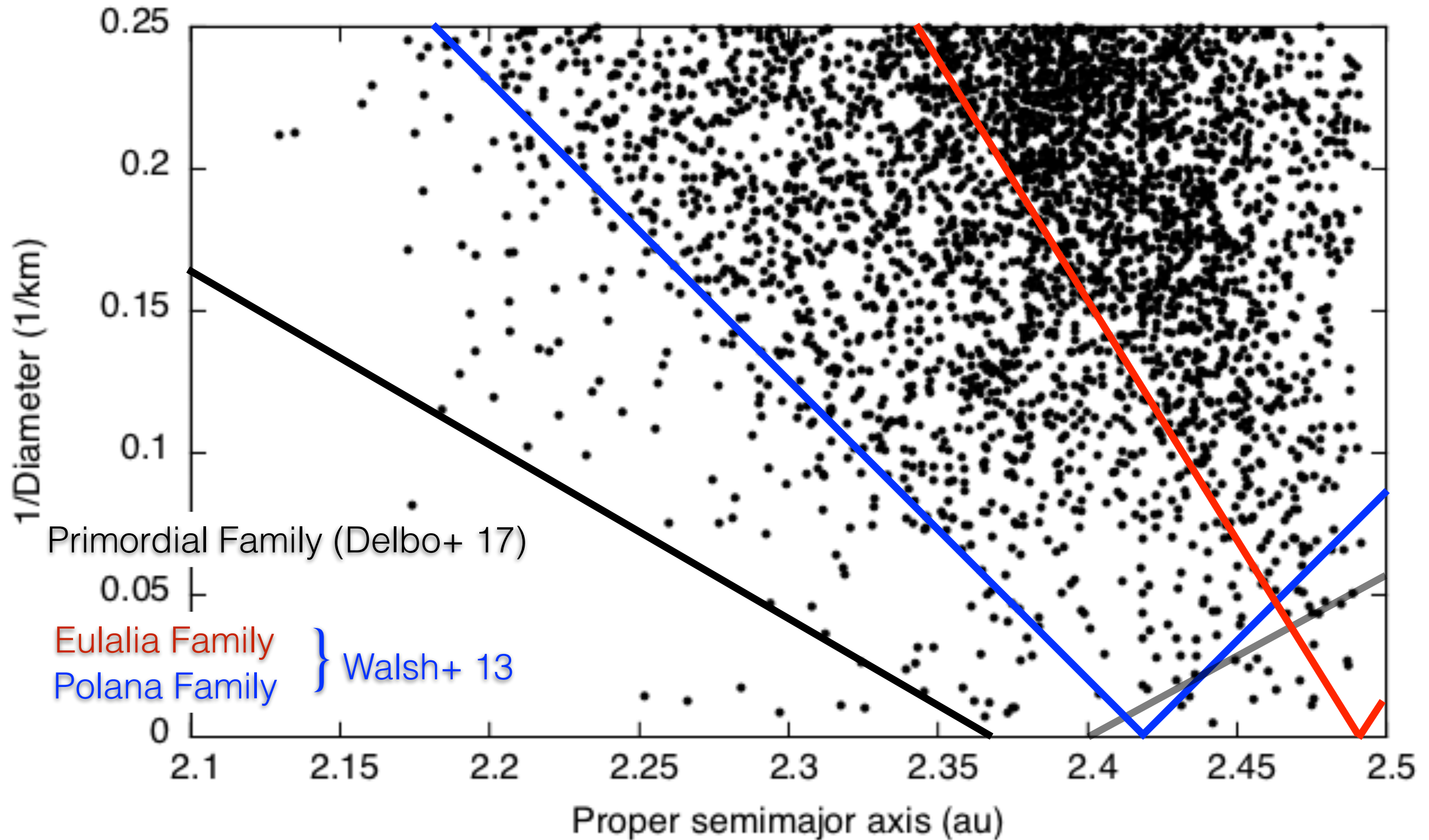
# Yarkovsky V-shape





# The entire inner Main Belt makes a V-shape

for the low-albedo asteroids

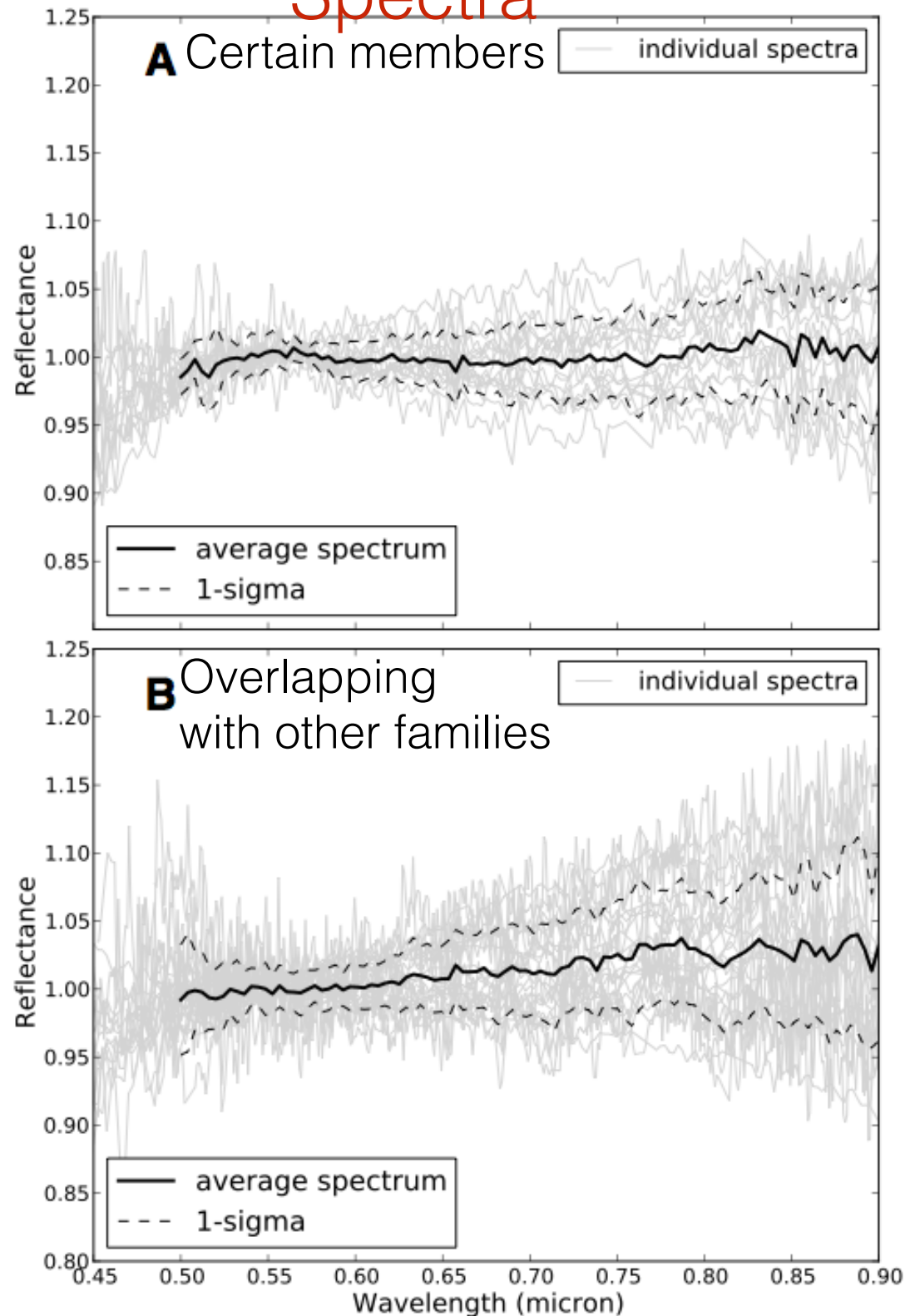


The V-shape slope of the primordial family is  $\sim 0.6 \text{ km}^{-1}\text{au}^{-1}$  corresponding to an age  $t = 4.0^{+1.7}_{-1.1} \text{ Gyr}$

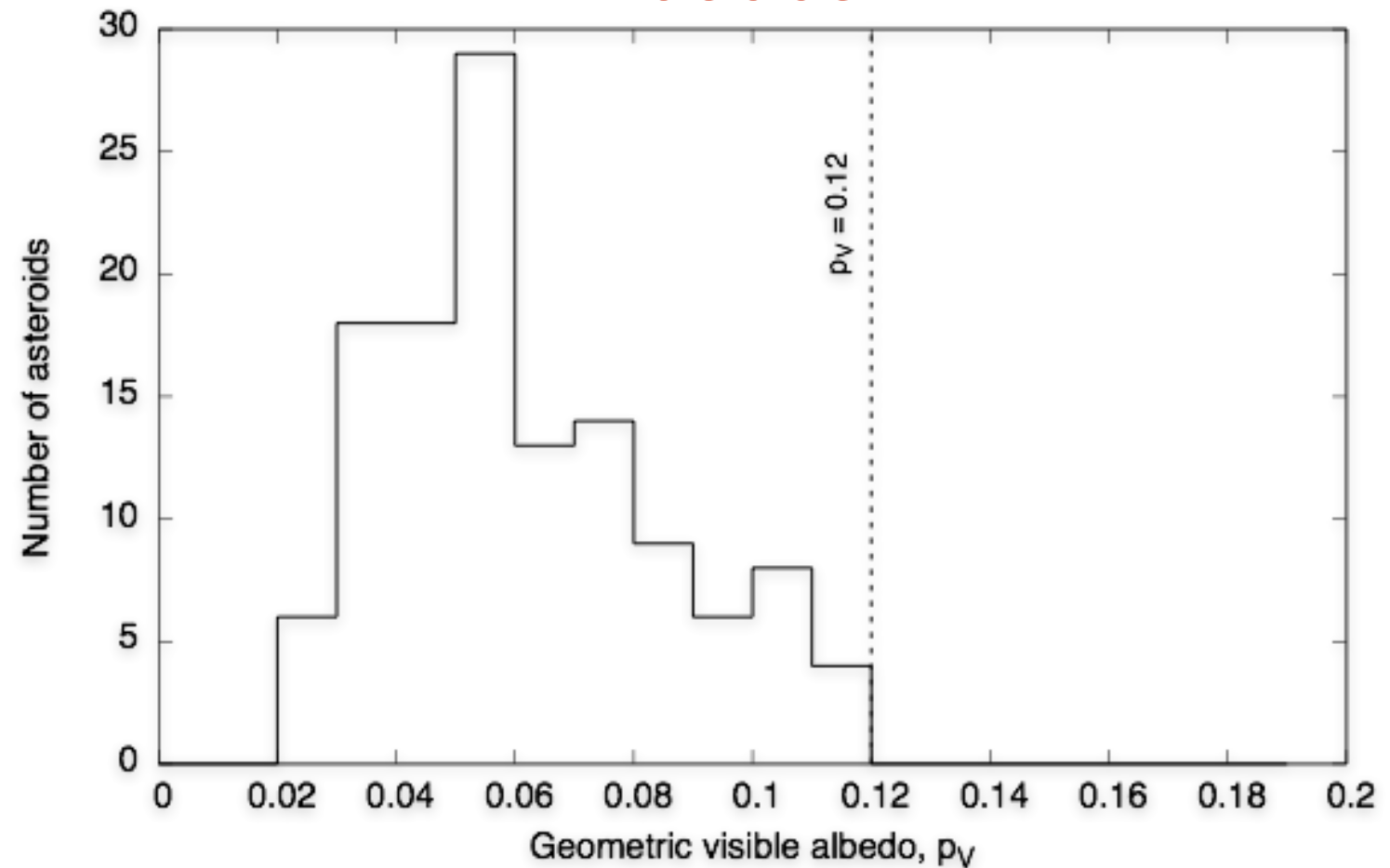
# Physical properties

Homogeneity of the physical properties of its members (albedo and spectra are expected to be similar for asteroids sharing origin from a common parent body)

## Spectra



## Albedos

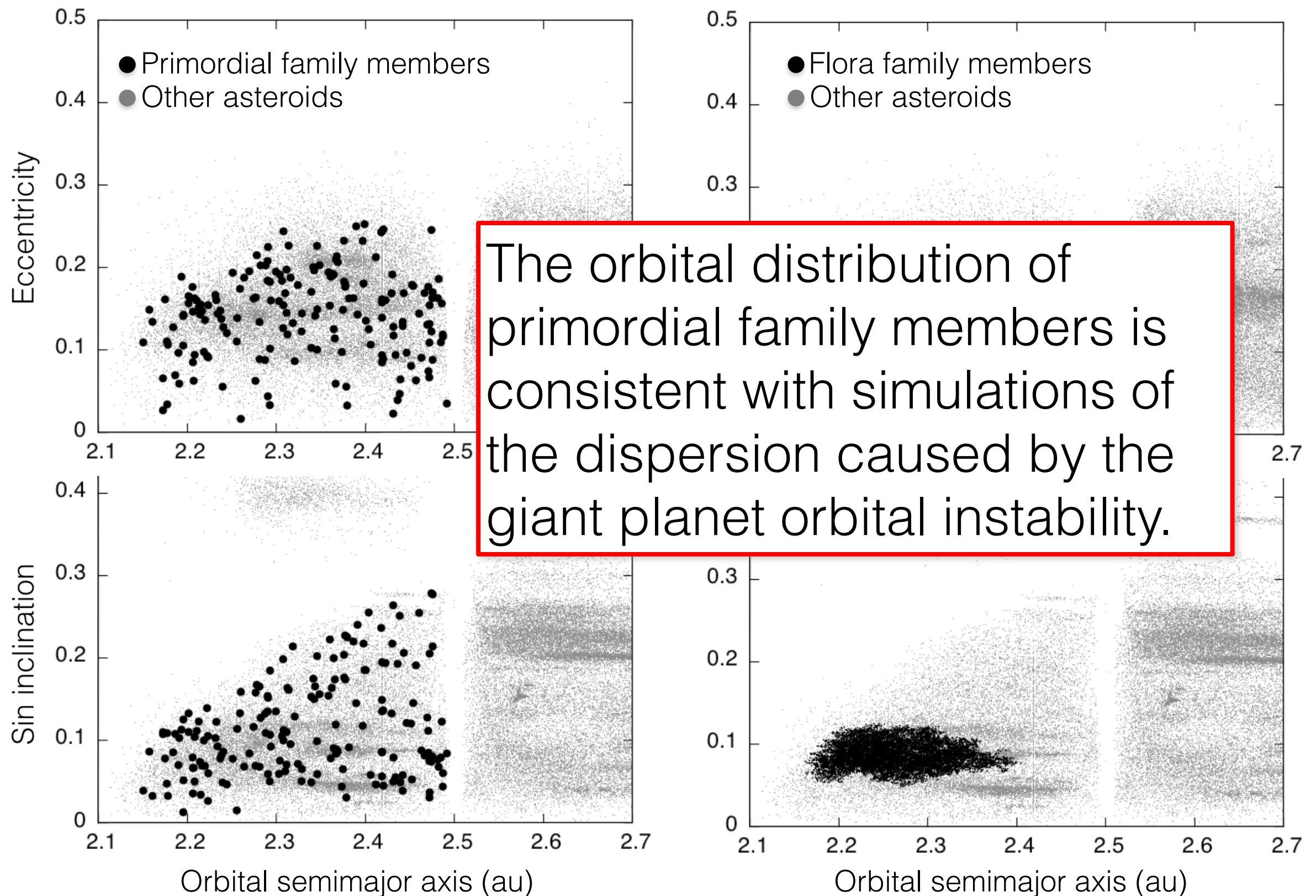


Homogenous albedos and spectra, similar other low-albedo families of the inner Main Belt (Walsh+2013; Pinilla-Alonso+2016; DeLeon+2016; Masiero+2013,2015; Nesvorny +2015;)

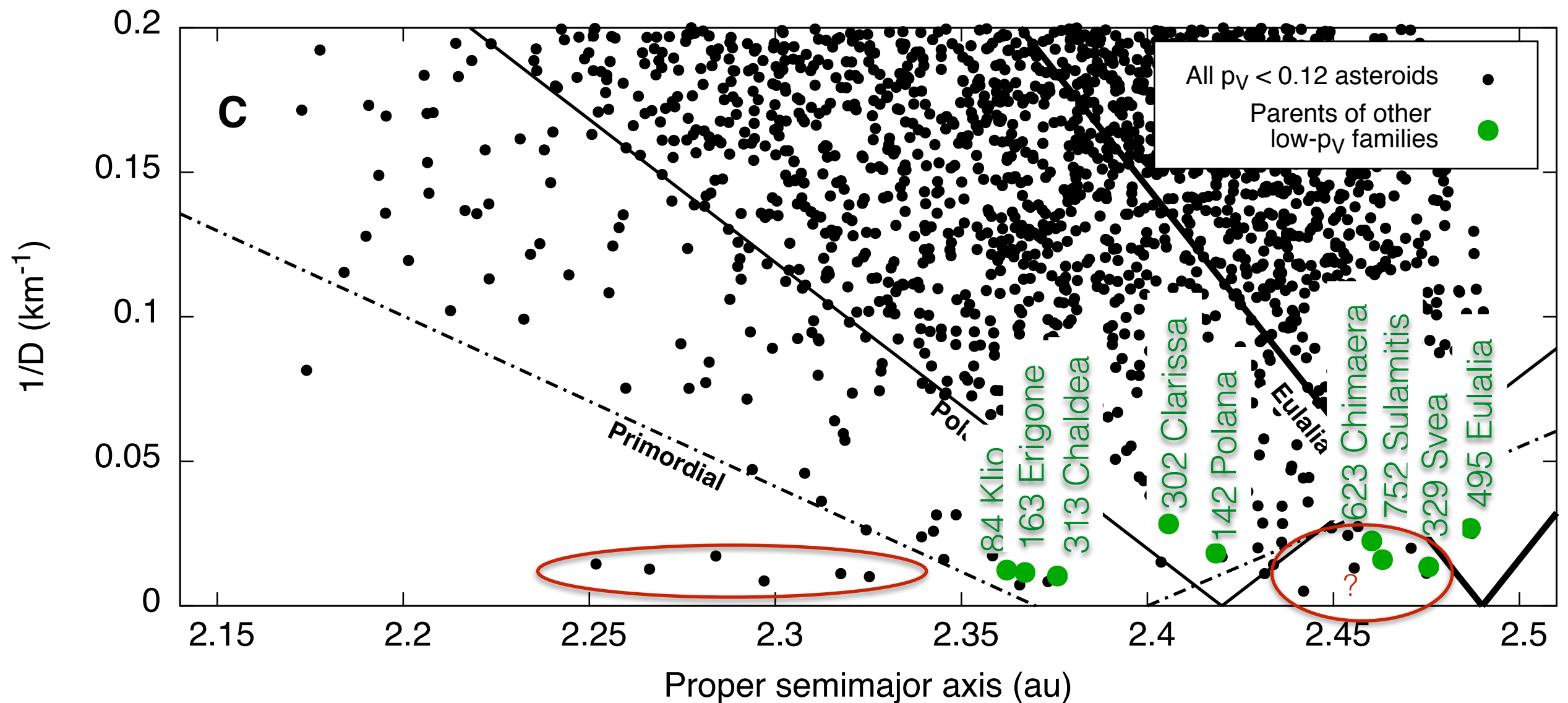


# Orbital distribution

Compare the dispersion in orbital elements of our primordial family with the old but less dispersed Flora family.



# A family tree for the inner Main Belt



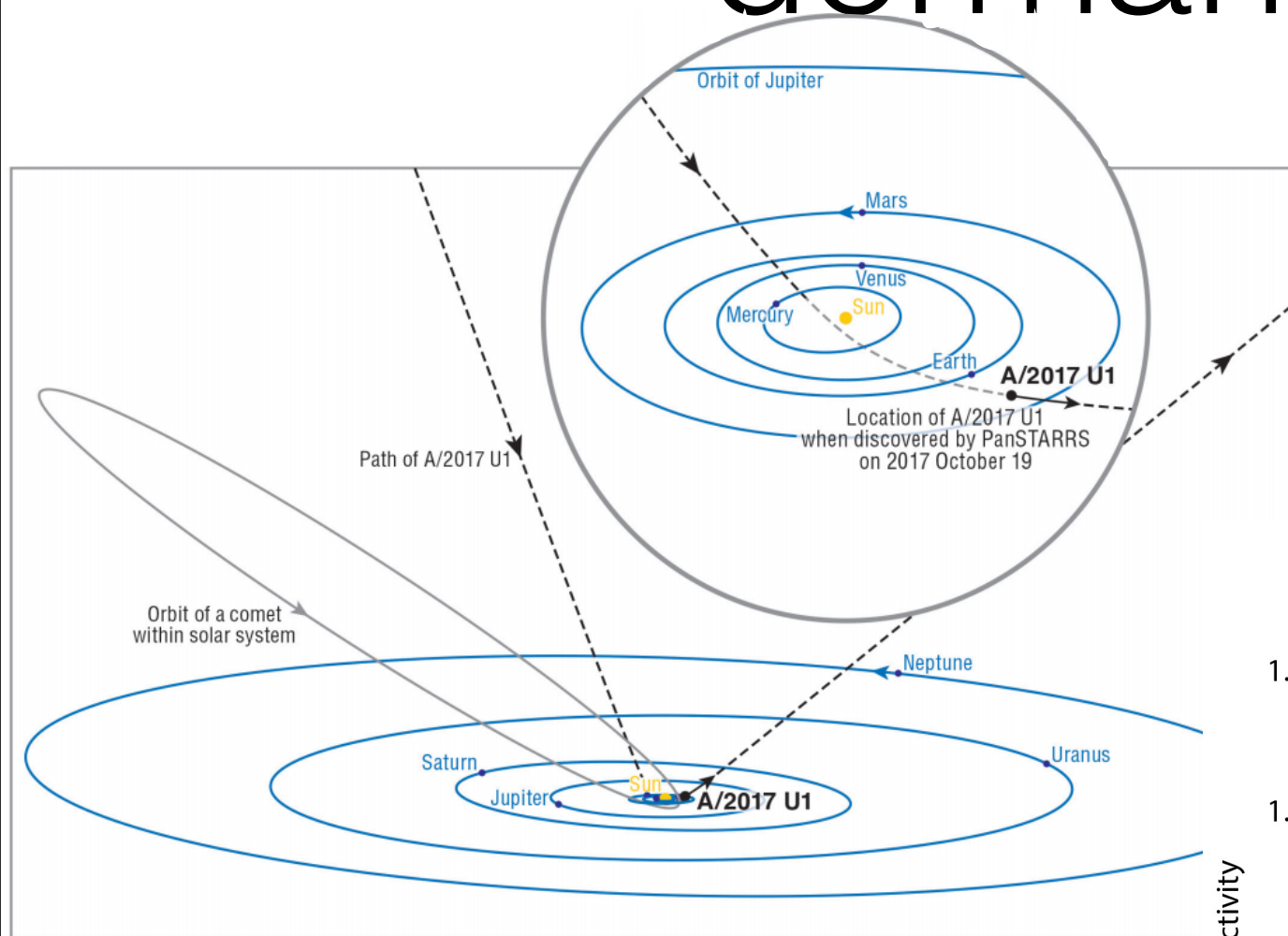
Some of the parents of known low-albedo families are within the boundary of the primordial family. They could be members of the primordial family that suffered further family forming impacts.



Two populations of asteroids: those inside V-shapes and **those that cannot be inside V-shapes**. The former are family members; **the latter the original ones**.



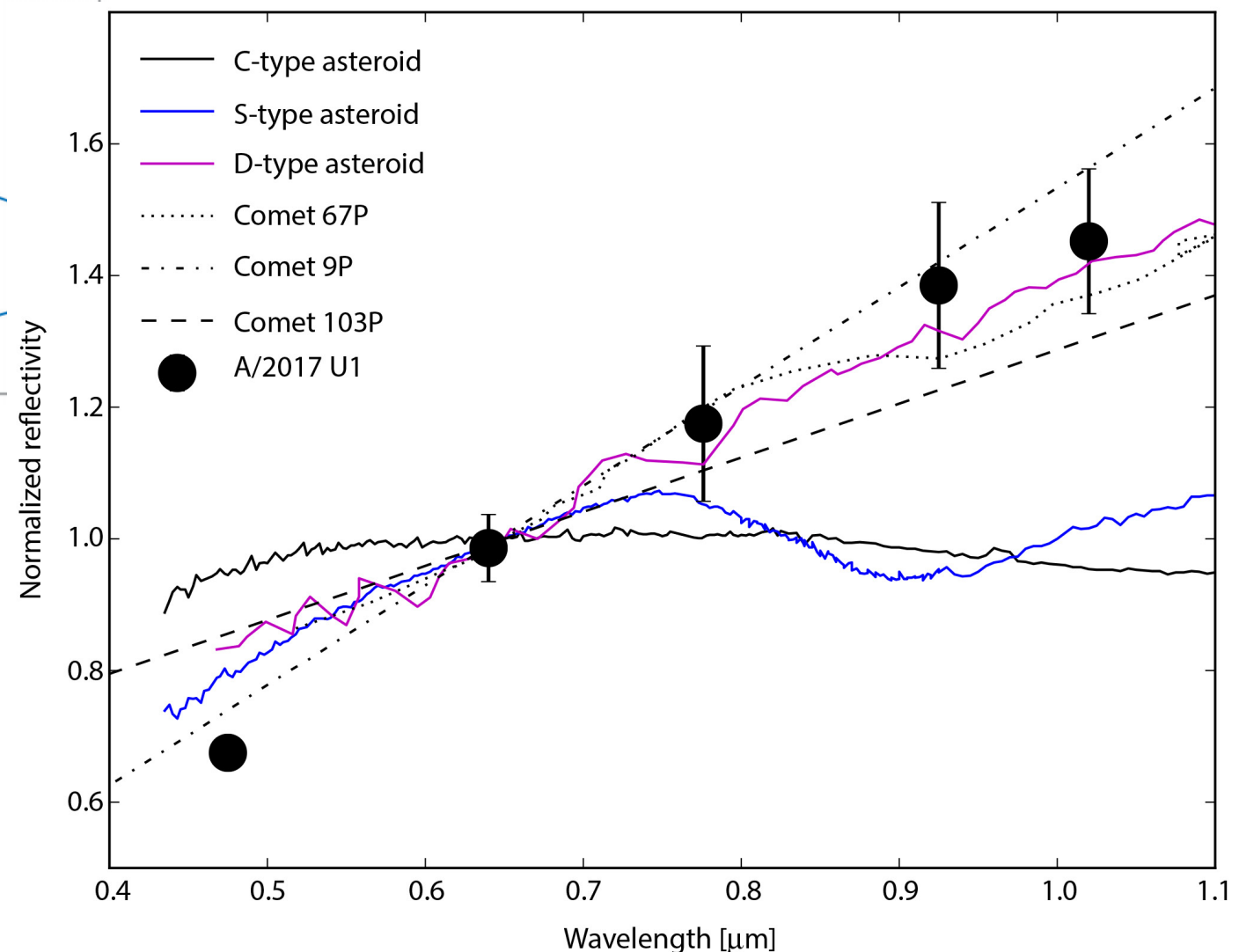
# Interstellar asteroid or dead/ dormant comet **Oumuamua**



Colors alike cometary nuclei, but no activity detected despite  $q=0.25$  au

Trajectory inconsistent with origin from our solar system as eccentricity  $\sim 1.2$

Meech+ 2017



# Conclusions

- Asteroid precursors impacted the early Earth
- Carbonaceous asteroids contains water and water-bearing minerals and organics, which were thus delivered to Earth
- Most of low-albedo (carbonaceous) of the inner Main Belt asteroids are genetically related.
  - This could be a general feature of the main belt.
- ESA should send a mission to the primordial asteroids: i.e the planetesimals.