## MECHANICAL AND MAGNETIC PROPERTIES OF MICRON-SIZED REGOLITH FROM THE STUDY OF ITOKAWA SAMPLES



Josep M. Trigo-Rodríguez Institute of Space Sciences (IEEC-CSIC)









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### **METEORITES, MINOR BODIES & PL. SCIENCES**

- Research group at the Institute of Space Sciences (IEEC-CSIC), specialized in space missions: www.ice.csic.es
  - PI: Josep M. Trigo-Rodríguez, Tenured scientist CSIC
  - Dr. Ivan Lloro
  - Dr. Jordi Ibáñez (ICTJA/CSIC)
  - PhD. Safoura Tanbakouei and M. Moreno-Ibáñez
  - Plus master students: M. Herrero
- **Research group main lines:** 
  - Laboratory experiments to gain insight about processes affecting asteroids and comets:
    - How these processes affected the structure, composition and reflectivity of asteroids?
    - Evidence, constrains and implications for impact shock, and space exposure in meteorites
  - Recovery and characterization of new meteorites
  - Determination of fireball trajectories and meteoroid orbits from the SPMN network: www.spmn.uji.es
  - Photometric follow-up of comets and NEOs



The ICE building at UAB campus



Joan Oró robotic Telescope at OAdM

### **TECNIQUES AND INSTRUMENTS USED**

#### • We are applying different techniques to study meteorites and returned samples:

- Petrographic and polarization microscopy (thin sections' integral mapping) at CSIC-IEEC
- Scanning Electron Microscopy and Energy Dispersive X-ray microscopy
- Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)
- Shimadzu UV-3600 spectrometer (0.2-2.6 μm), and IR ATR Nicolet spectrometer (2-40 μm) at UPC
- ICP Atomic Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-AES) and Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) ThermoElectron
- UMIS indenter from Fischer Cripps Laboratories for nano-indentation
- Vibrating Sample Magnetometers (VSM) for magnetic properties



SEM+EDX microscopy at CIN2-CSIC

### **ITOKAWA AS SEEN BY HAYABUSA**



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#### It is a nice example of rubble pile:

- It is covered by fine-grained regolith, rocks and boulders that are the product of collisional gardening and space weathering (aging)

# ORDINARY CHONDRITES



- The ordinary chondrites are subdivided into 3 groups based on different chemical criteria as e.g. the ratio of metallic to oxidized Fe (see Fig.).
- O isotopes also indicate a common origin betweer group members
- Fe-Mg content in Itokawa's olivine and pyroxene is in the range of LL OCs (Nakamura et al., 2011)

Itokawa Particles Compared to Ordinary Chondrite Groups



## HAYABUSA MISION



- Several attempts at collecting samples from Itokawa during touch and go maneuvers, ended with thousands of regolith particles in one of the sample containers
- We requested three Itokawa regolith particles to JAXA for the study of their physical properties
- It has been found recently that shock ages of Itokawa particles of 1.5 Ga obtained by Terada et al. (2018) are different from previously reported shock ages of shocked LL chondrites (4.2 Ga).
  - Itokawa had a time evolution different from that of the parent body of LL chondrites.



**Osaka University** 

## NANOINDENTATION

- What are the consequences of this collisional history for the physical properties of Itokawa materials?
- Experiments made at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) with the support of the Group of Smart Nanoengineered Materials, Nanomechanics, and Nanomagnetism (Prof. Jordi Sort)

#### • Indenter:

- UMIS indenter from Fischer Cripps Laboratories
- Diamond tip with Berkovich pyramidal geometry
- Working at load control mode



Image of one of the UMIS indenters used

- Investigation of mechanical properties on Chelyabinsk forming materials: silicate chondrules, metal grains, veins, etc
- Application of a controlled load (~20 μN-500 mN) through use of a hard indenter



- The indenter pushes the surface while increasing load, down to a maximum depth (h<sub>max</sub> ~ few μm)
- Concurrent measurement of depth.
- Due to elasticity, the surface partially recovers when the indenter is unloaded





#### **Load-displacement curve**



The curve shows plastic ( $W_p$ ) and elastic ( $W_e$ ) works

- Loading -> Deformation mechanisms: elastic, plastic and phase transformations
- **Unloading -> Mainly elastic recovery**

Load-displacement curves of three olivine-rich regolith particles of Itokawa under applied forces of 5 and 10 mN (Tanbakouei et al., 2018)

### • Oliver & Pharr (2004) analysis (indentation software), provides:

- Hardness (H)
- Reduced Young's modulus (E\*)
- Plastic Work (W<sub>p</sub>)
- Elastic Work (W<sub>e</sub>)
- Relative properties:
- Indirect assessment of the Wear Resistance (H/E\*)
- Elastic recovery and Plasticity Index (W<sub>e</sub>/W<sub>tot</sub> & W<sub>p</sub>/W<sub>tot</sub>)







# **MECHANICAL BEHAVIOUR**

• Reduced Young's modulus (Er), hardness (H), constant stiffness (S), elastic recovery (Uel/Utot) and plasticity index (Upl/Utot) were calculated by averaging the results from two lines of indentations for a maximum applied force of 5 mN

Sample#	Er (GPa)	H (GPa)	S ( <u>mN</u> / micron)	Uel/ Utot	Upl/ Utot
14	83.01 ± 0.12	$8.01\pm\ 0.01$	$77.01 \pm 0.11$	$0.64 \pm 0.01$	$0.36\pm0.01$
23	$111.01 \pm 0.22$	$10.01 \pm 0.02$	$92.00\pm0.20$	$0.73 \pm 0.07$	$0.27\pm0.07$
47	$86.01\pm0.13$	$13.01 \pm 0.03$	$62.01 \pm 0.03$	$0.88\pm0.01$	$0.13\pm0.01$

- The mechanical properties of Itokawa's regolith particles are comparable with silicates forming LL chondrites.
- Despite of it, the elastic recovery of minerals in the Chelyabinsk chondrite (Moyano-Cambero et al., 2017, ApJ) is lower than that measured for the Itokawa samples.
- There is difference in the Young's modulus but hardness values are similar.



# MAGNETIC PROPERTIES

- The magnetic properties were measured by using a vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM) from MicroSense (LOT-Quantum Design). Hysteresis loops were recorded at room temperature with a maximum magnetic field of 20 kOe.
- We found a soft magnetic behavior with a coercivity of around 70 Oe.
- As we see in the figure, for the same magnetic field, sample 23 has at higher signal than the other two
- This magnetic behavior is consistent with the presence of tiny Fe and Ni inclusions in the samples, as was detected by energy-dispersive X-ray (EDX) analyses, indicating the possible presence of FeNi, FeO or FeS<sub>2</sub>, among others.

### **OUR CONTRIBUTION TO HERA**



 As members of a cubesat proposal for Hera we plan to participate in the interpretation of the surface properties of Didymoon, the release of regolith by crater excavation, and the study of the regolith size and expected properties

### CONCLUSIONS

- Asteroids formed by ordinary chondrites are the result of the fragmentation of larger progenitors (Beitz et al., 2013)
- The rubble piles materials studied so far, like e.g. Itokawa or chondritic meteorites, experienced significant shock metamorphism
- The mechanical properties of Itokawa's regolith particles are comparable with silicates forming LL chondrites, but with some differences. For example, the elastic recovery of minerals in the Chelyabinsk chondrite (Moyano-Cambero et al., 2017, ApJ) is lower than that measured for the Itokawa samples. There is also difference in the Young's modulus but hardness values are similar.
- Nanoindentation provides valuable information about the material response to impacts in the diverse lithologies and shock veins
- Itokawa's µm-sized regolith has a soft magnetic behavior with a coercivity of around 70 Oe. It is consistent with the presence of tiny Fe and Ni inclusions, and other magnetic minerals in the samples
- From these experiments we plan to better understand the answer of asteroid regolith to impacts used to deflect future Potentially Hazardous Asteroids