

Special Issue

Small Bodies in the Solar System

Message from the Guest Editors

Approximately 105 tons of extra-terrestrial material, also known as meteoroids, enter the Earth's atmosphere annually. Impacts release tremendous amounts of energy that could have profound effects on both the surface and interior of the target body, as well as its atmosphere, if one is present. While meteoroids (and asteroids) might produce craters on airless bodies, planetary atmospheres act as a cushion and a conduit for a series of physical phenomena to occur, including shockwaves. Additionally, while a typical meteoroid may affect the chemistry of the localized region of atmosphere, giant impacts have the potential to induce long-term chemical modification of atmosphere. Interest in meteor studies has flourished recently, mainly due to a large bolide that exploded over Chelyabinsk, Russia, in 2013, providing a sobering reality of the destructive potential of such impacts. The advent of more sophisticated observational techniques and numerical models has facilitated advancements in the domain of meteor science. We welcome contributions on the topic of meteoroid interactions with planetary atmospheres, with implications for planetary defence and space mission planning.

Guest Editors

Dr. Elizabeth A. Silber

Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM 87123, USA

Dr. Maria Gritsevich

1. Finnish Geospatial Research Institute (FGI), Geodeetinrinne 2, FI-02430 Masala, Finland

2. Department of Physics, University of Helsinki, Gustaf Hällströmin katu 2, FI-00014 Helsinki, Finland

3. Institute of Physics and Technology, Ural Federal University, Ekaterinburg 620002, Russia

Prof. Dr. Josep Maria Trigo-Rodríguez

Institute of Space Sciences (CSIC/IEEC), Campus UAB Bellaterra, c/Can Magrans s/n, Cerdanyola del Vallès, 08193 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

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Editorial Office

MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5

4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34

universe@mdpi.com

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The multidisciplinary journal *Universe* is aiming to follow and, hopefully, to lead to the largest extent as possible the ever-self renovating threads which weave mathematical theories with our understanding of the magnificent natural world. On behalf of all the distinguished members of the Advisory and Editorial Boards, I extend my welcome to this journal and look forward to hearing from the interested contributors and learning about their valuable research.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lorenzo Iorio

Ministero dell' Istruzione e del Merito, Viale Unità di Italia 68, 70125 Bari,
Italy

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