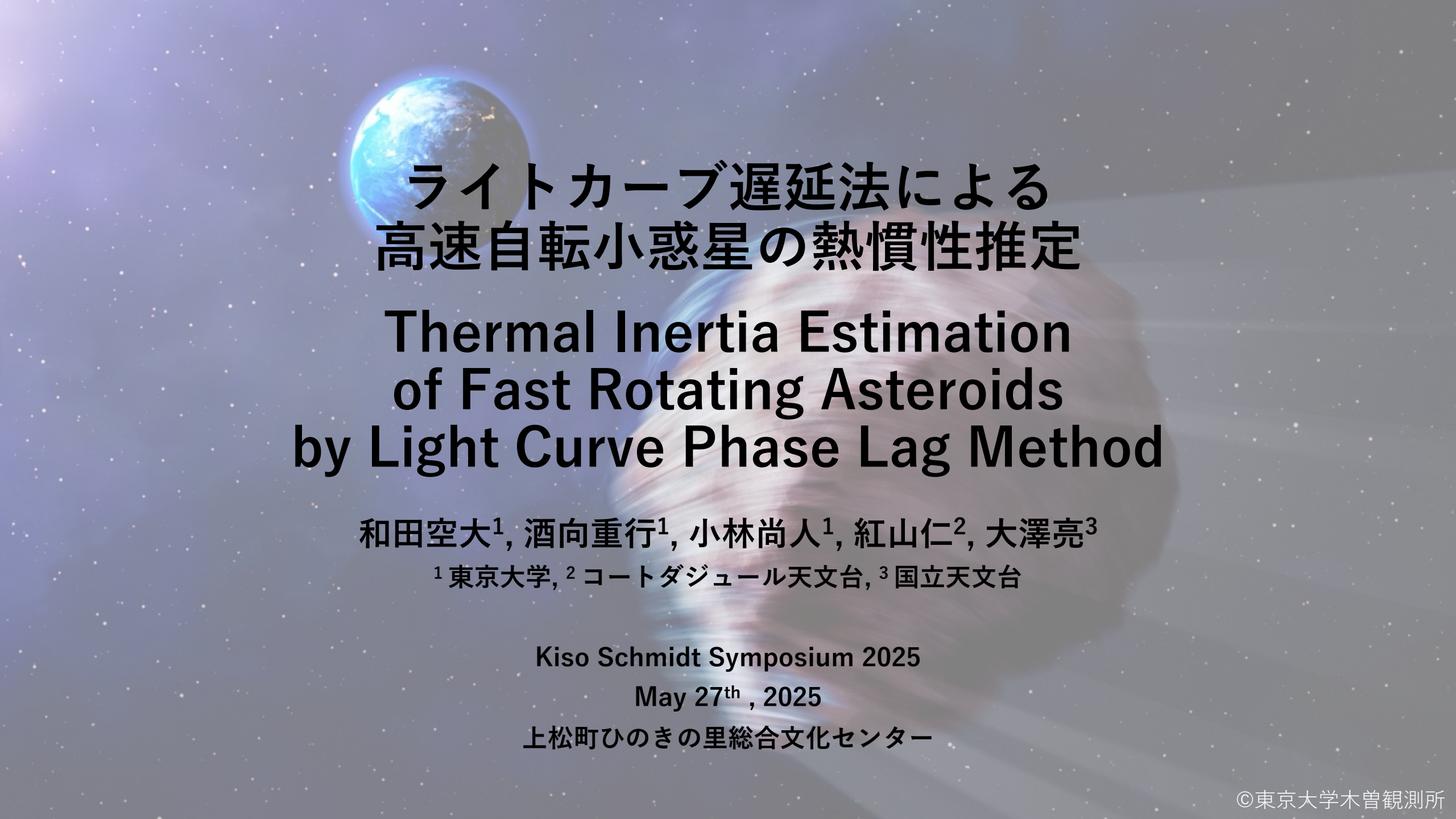




ライトカーブ遅延法による 高速自転小惑星の熱慣性推定

Thermal Inertia Estimation of Fast Rotating Asteroids by Light Curve Phase Lag Method

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Kiso Schmidt Symposium 2025

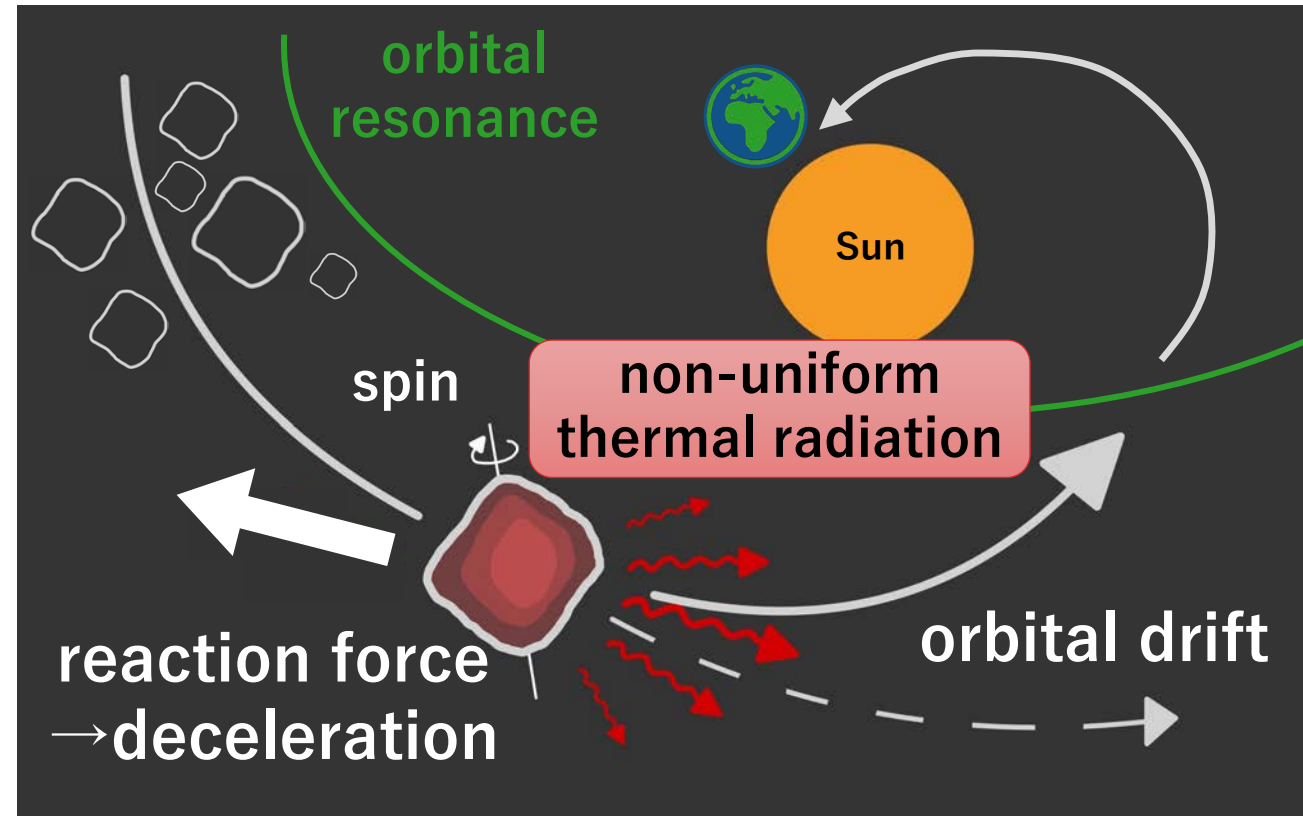
May 27th, 2025

上松町ひのきの里総合文化センター

Orbital evolution of asteroids

- Asteroids that formed in the main belt and were rich in hydrous minerals delivered water to early Earth. (Peslier+2017)
- The orbital evolution is driven by **Yarkovsky effect**. (Vokrouhlicky 1998)
 - Force caused by non-uniform thermal radiation
- The surface temperature strongly depends on **thermal inertia** (熱慣性)

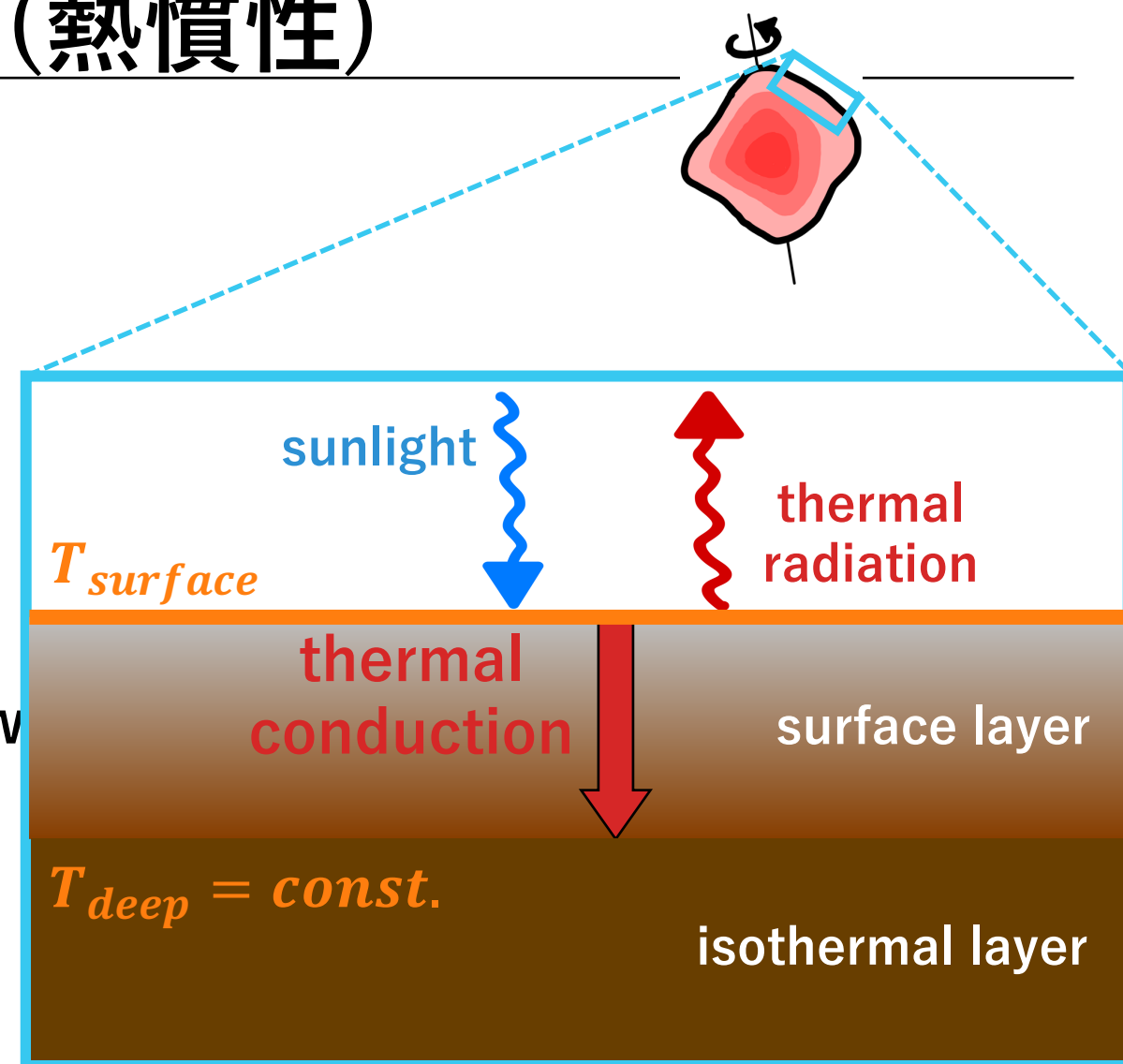
Main Belt



Thermal Inertia (TI) Γ (熱慣性)

Rotational period: P [s]

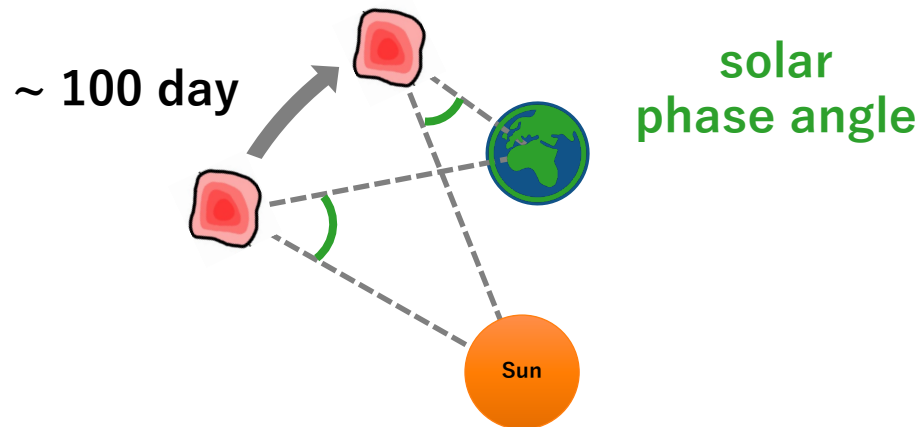
- Definition: $\Gamma = \sqrt{k\rho C_p}$ [tiu]
 - k : thermal conductivity [W/m/K]
 - ρ : bulk density [kg/m³]
 - C_p : specific heat capacity [J/kg/K]
- Significance
 - **Determine the temperature distribution in the depth direction.**
 - **Large TI causes slow cooling and slow warming.**



Two-layer (simple) model

Estimation of TI

- Standard method
 - Based on mid-infrared observations at **multiple solar phase angles**.
(e.g. MacLennan&Emery2021)



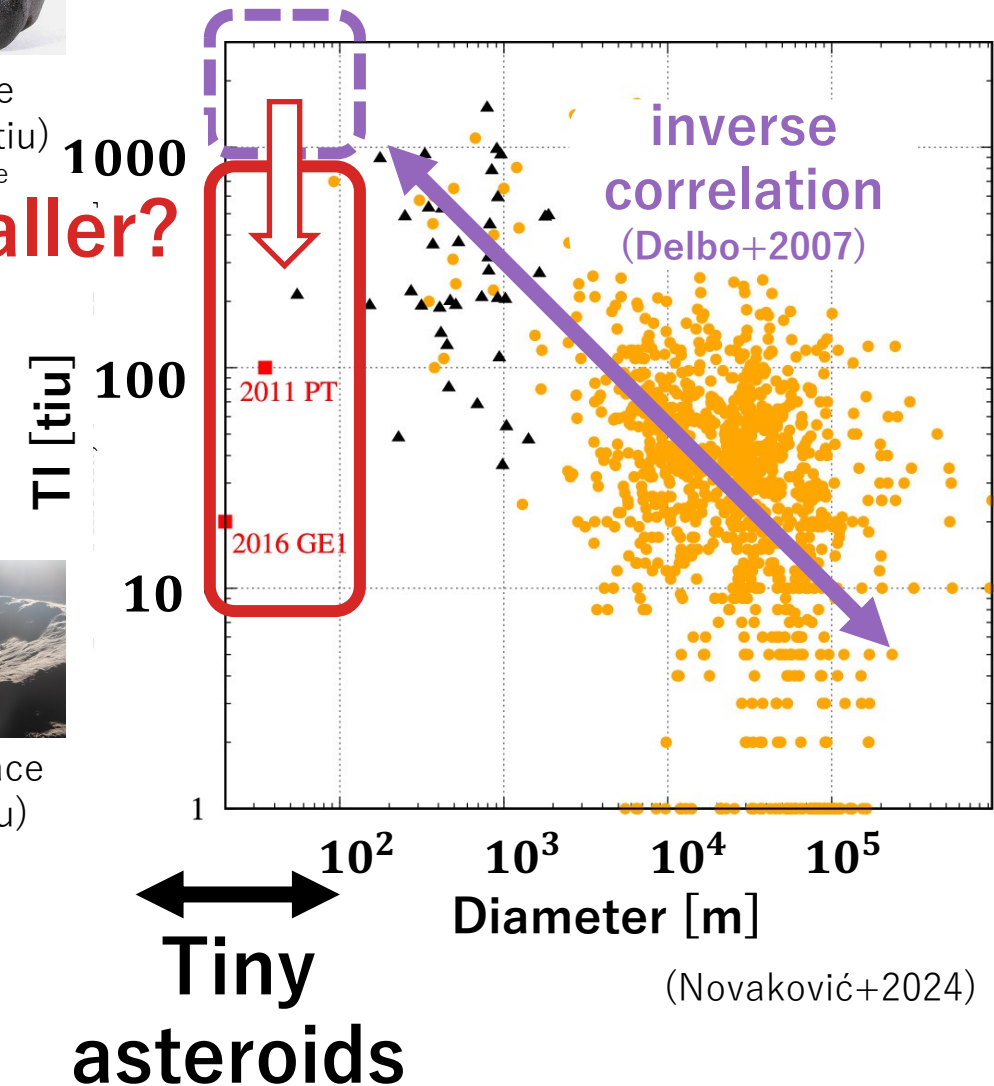
- TI of tiny asteroids (< 100 m)
 - Estimated for only 4 objects**
 - Smaller than expected**
(Novaković+2024)



meteorite
(TI ~ 1000 tiu)
©Jim Strobe



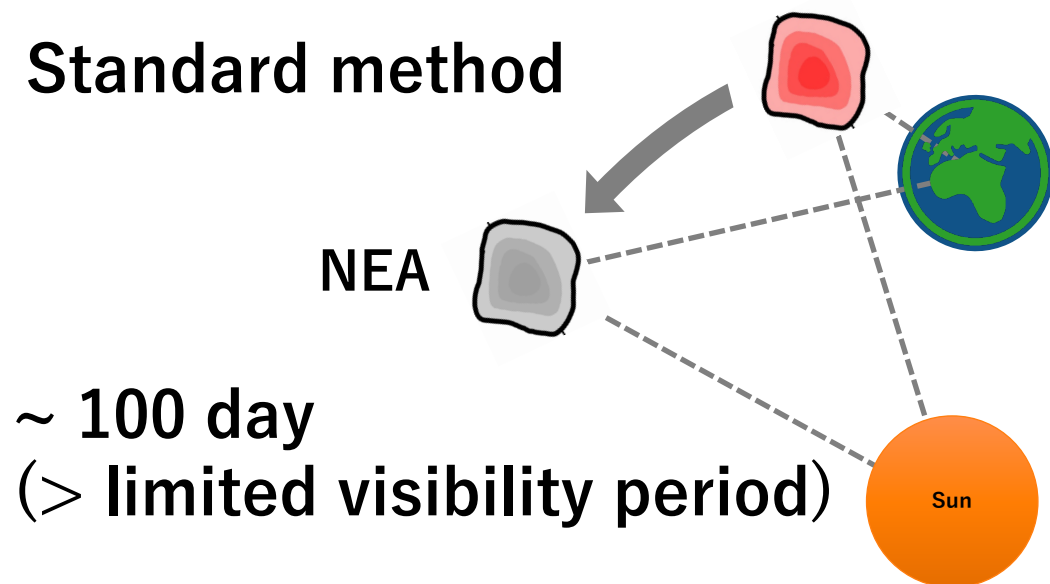
lunar surface
(TI ~ 10 tiu)
©NASA



Proposal of a new method to estimate TI

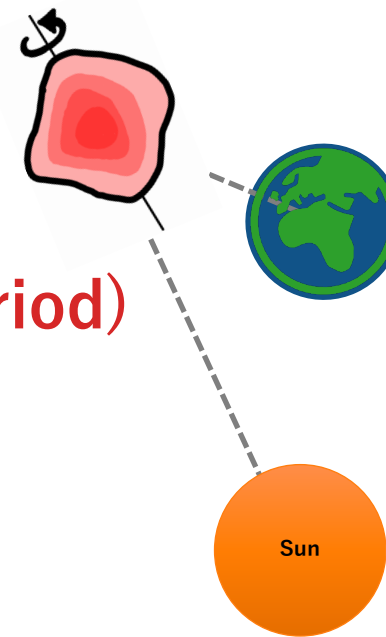
- To estimate TI of tiny asteroids, I focus on Near-Earth Asteroids (NEAs), which are much brighter than Main Belt Asteroids.
- The standard method for TI is difficult to apply to NEAs due to their limited visibility period of only a few days.
- In this study, we developed a new method by **utilizing the dependence of light curves on rotational phase**.

Standard method



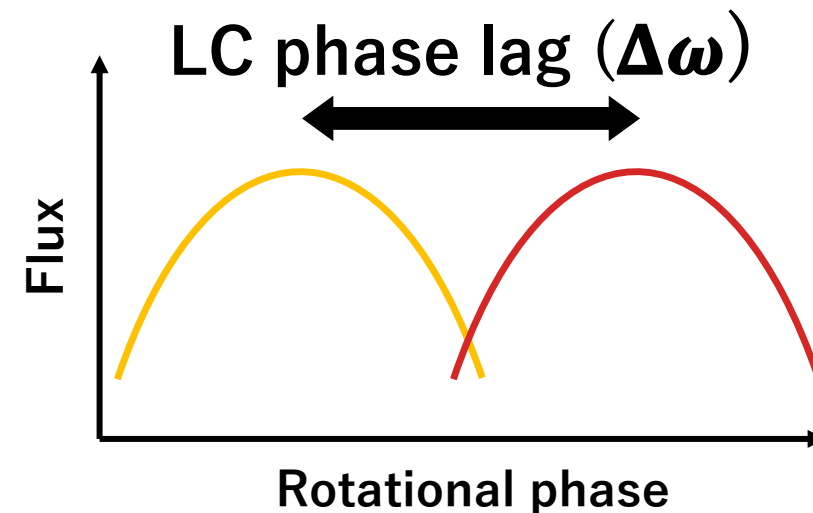
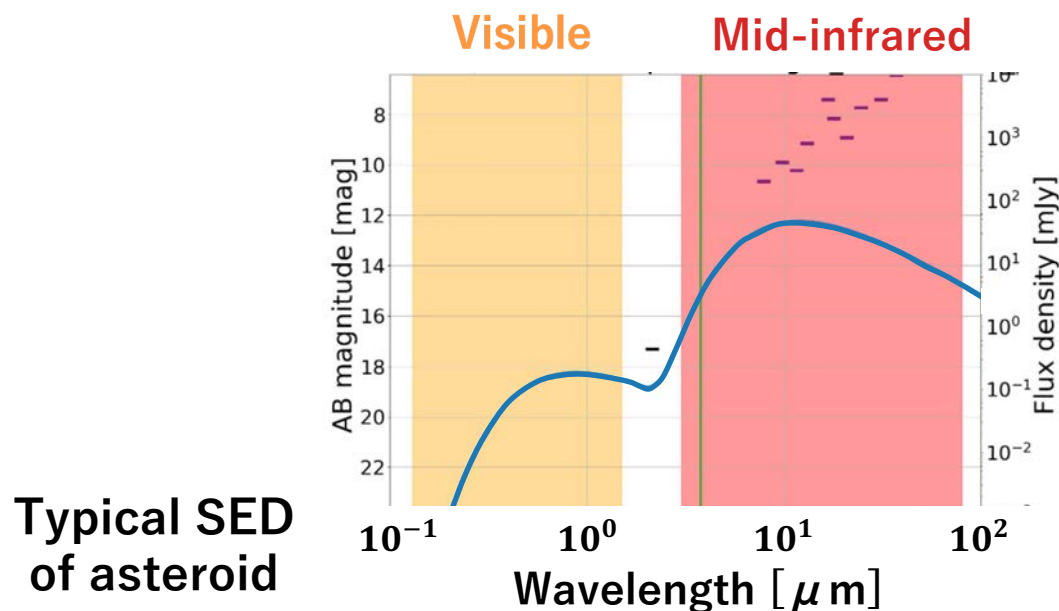
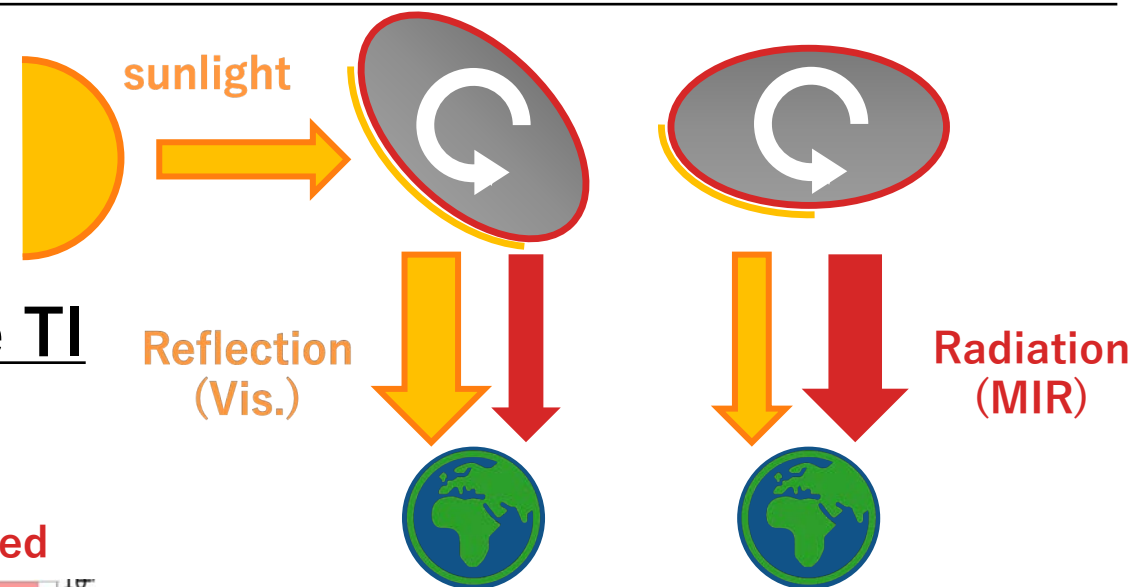
New method

~ 1 day
(< limited visibility period)



Light curve phase lag method

- Phase lags exist between mid-infrared and visible light curves. (Morrison1976, Harris+2005)
- **Phase lags strongly depend on TI.**
- We developed a new method to estimate TI by observing phase lags.



Thermal radiation intensity calculations

- Thermo-Physical Model (TPM) (Delbo+2007)
 - Multiple layer model
 - 1-D calculation (vertical)

Representative parameters
Object model
Rotational period P
Rotational axis
Number of slabs (層数)
TI Γ
Emissivity

$$T(0, t)$$

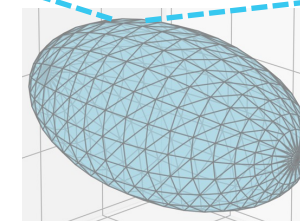
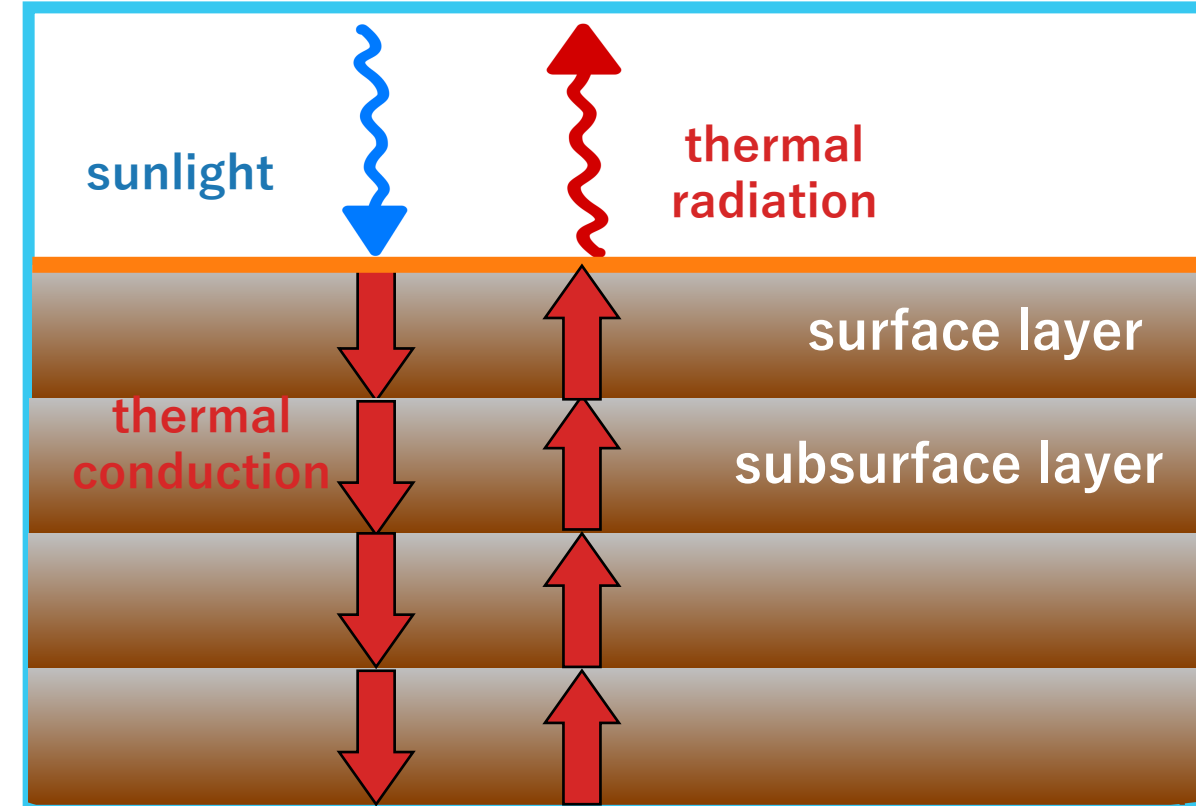
$$T(1, t)$$

$$T(2, t)$$

$$T(3, t)$$

⋮

$$T(z, t)$$



Calculate on each facet

Reflected light intensity calculations

- We developed a simple reflection model.
 - Assuming the Lambertian reflectance

Representative parameters

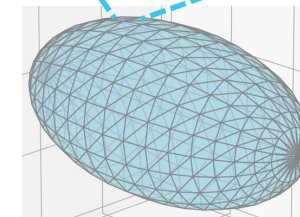
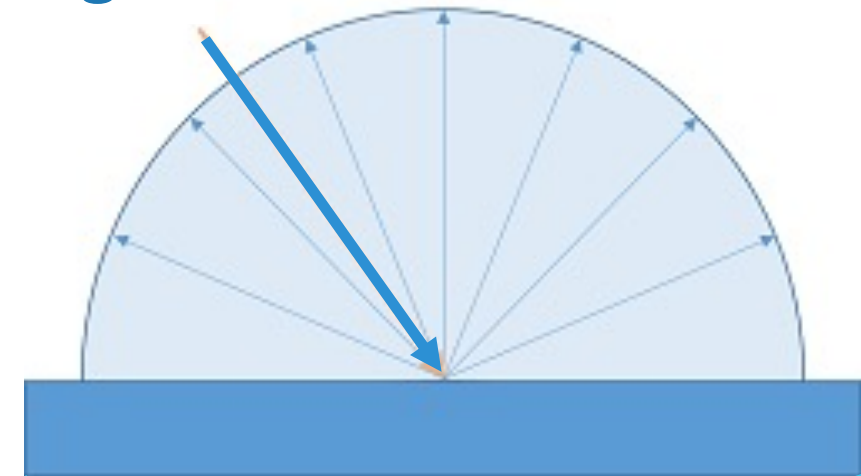
Object model

Rotational period P

Emissivity

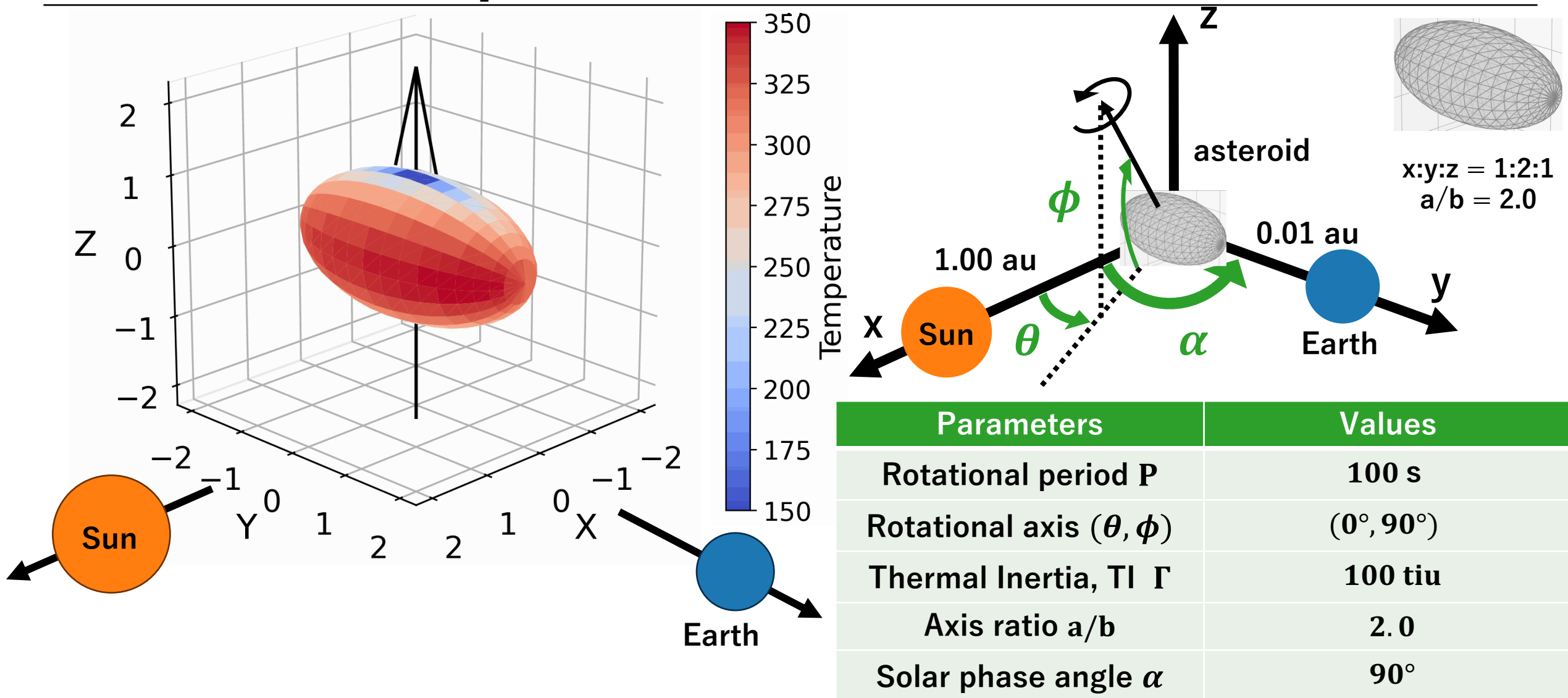
Solar phase angle α

Sunlight **Lambertian reflectance**

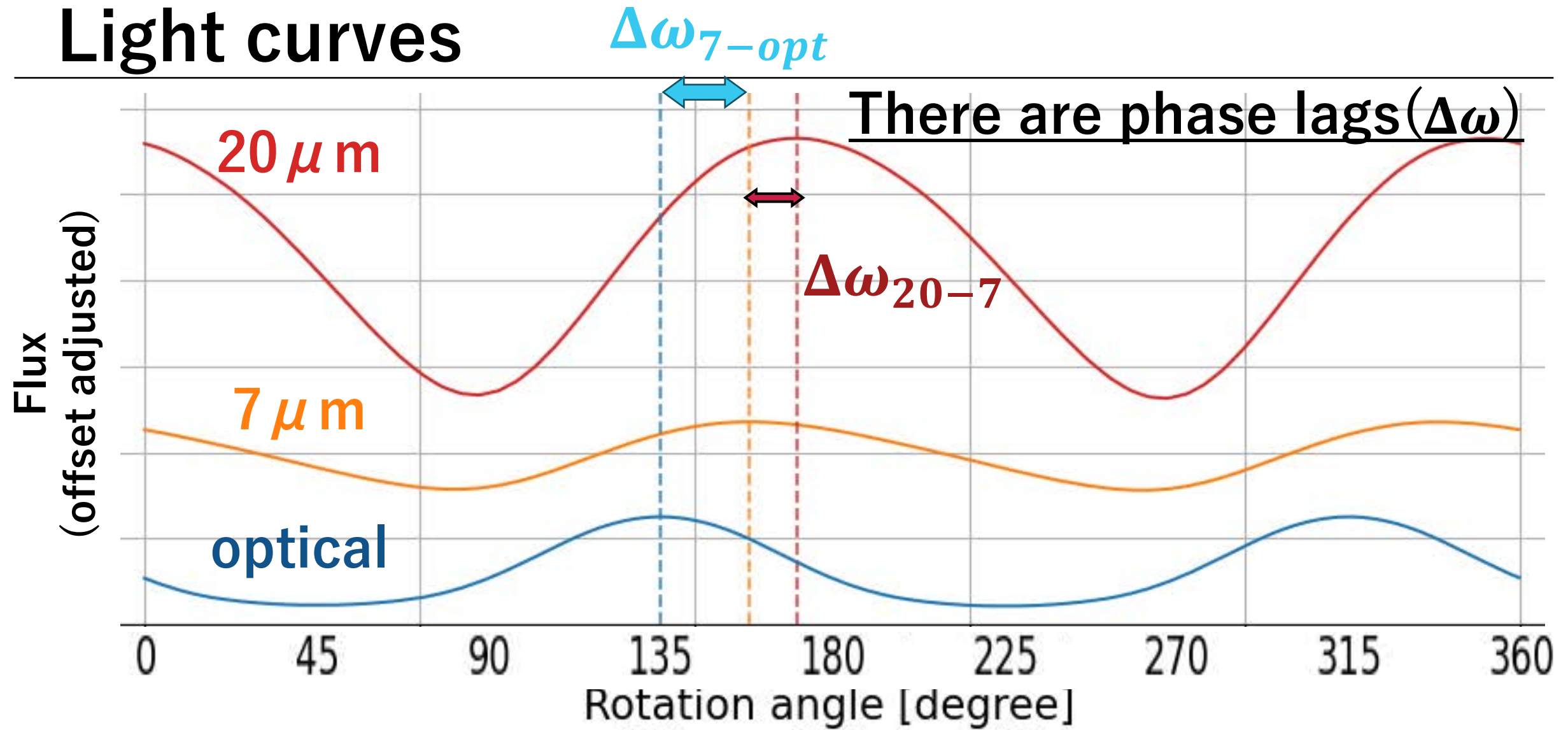


Calculate on each facet

Surface temperature distributions



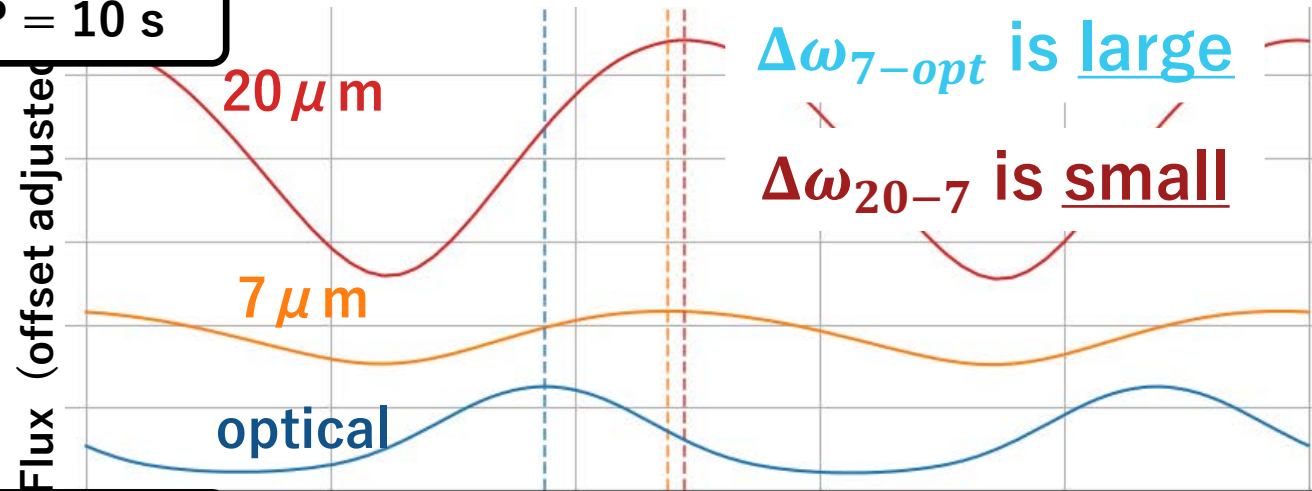
Light curves



$$P, \theta, \phi, \Gamma, a/b, \alpha = 100\ \text{s}, 90^\circ, 90^\circ, 100\ \text{tiu}, 2.0, 90^\circ$$

Variations in light curves

$P = 10 \text{ s}$

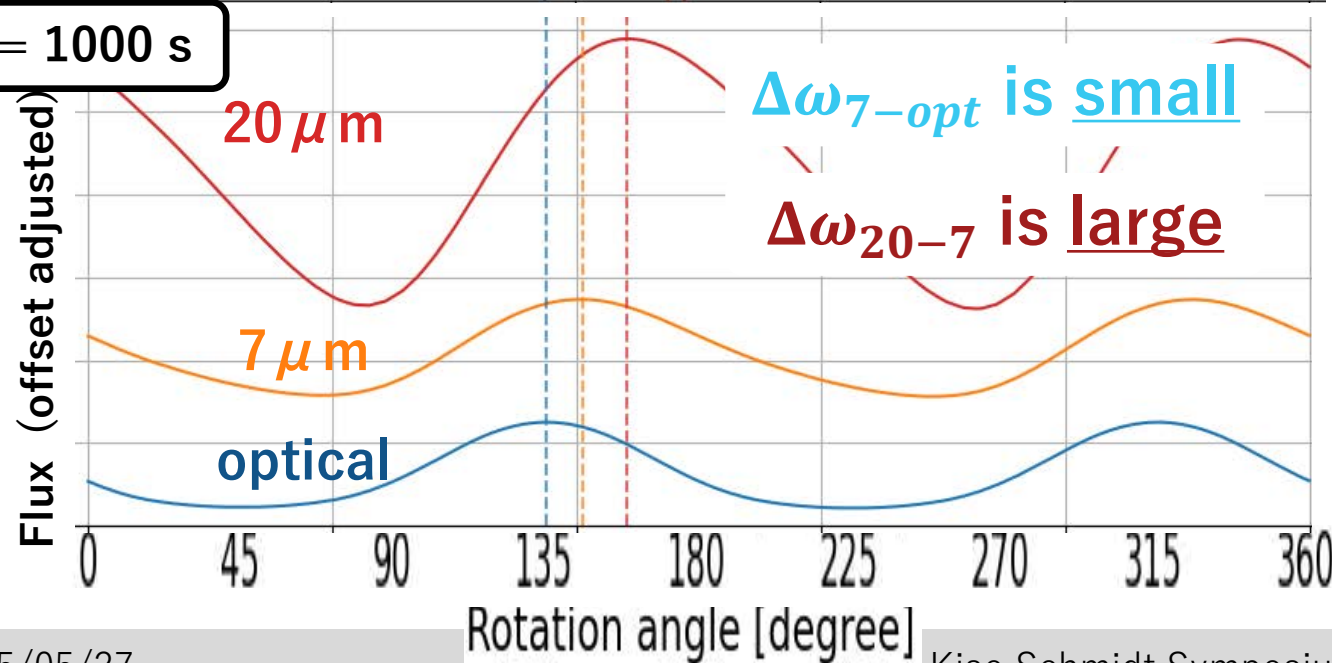


$P, \theta, \phi, \Gamma, a/b, \alpha$
 $= 10 \text{ s}, 90^\circ, 90^\circ, 100 \text{ tiu}, 2.0, 90^\circ$

Calculated for all combinations.

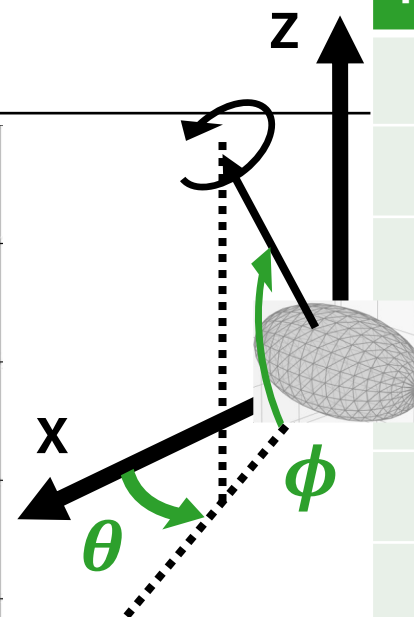
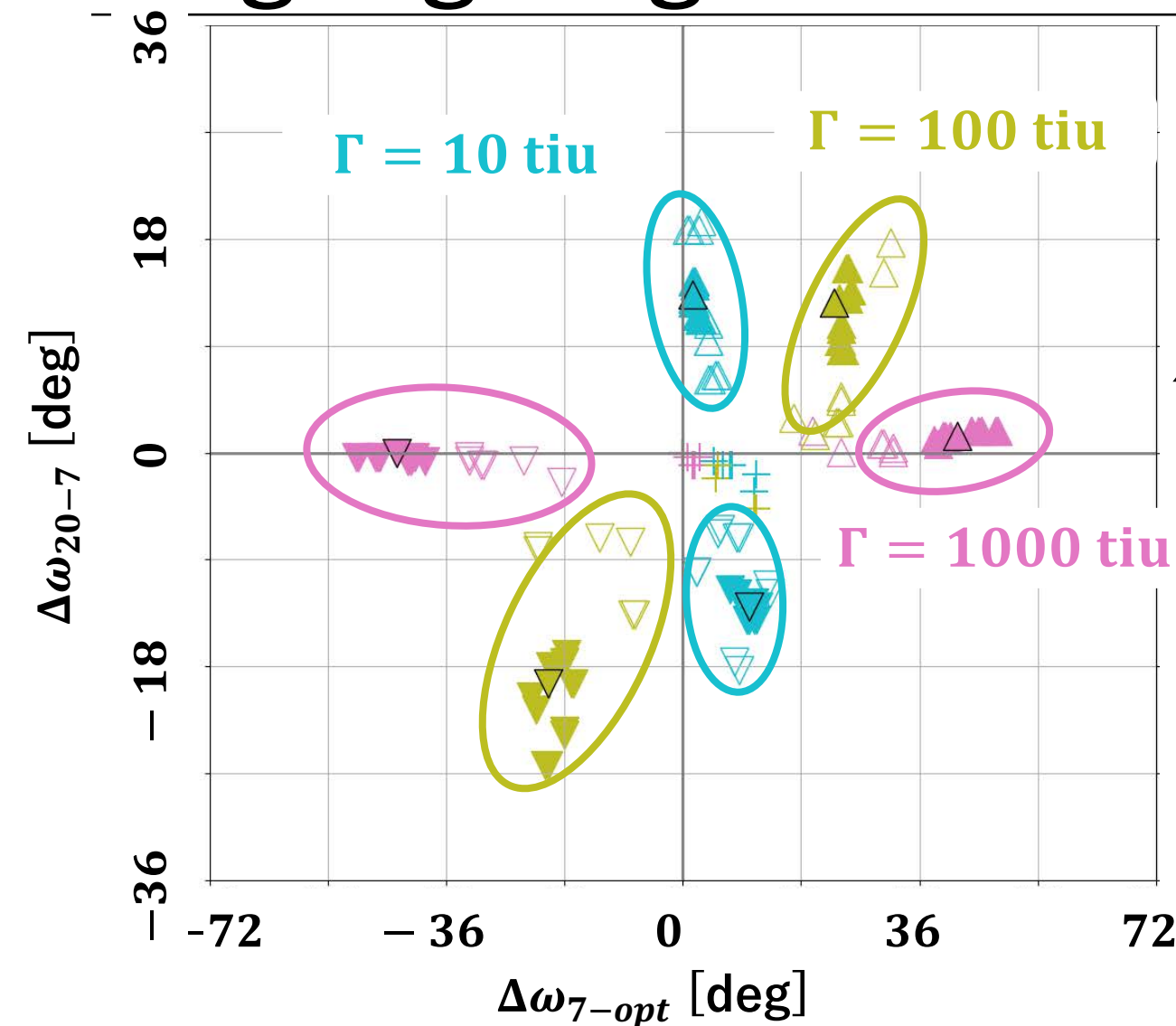
Parameters	Values
P	[10, 100, 1000] s
θ	$[-150^\circ, -120^\circ, \dots, 180^\circ]$
ϕ	$[-90^\circ, -60^\circ, \dots, 90^\circ]$
Γ	[10, 100, 1000] tiu
a/b	[1.5, 2.0, 3.0]
α	$[0^\circ, 30^\circ, 60^\circ, 90^\circ, 120^\circ]$

$P = 1000 \text{ s}$

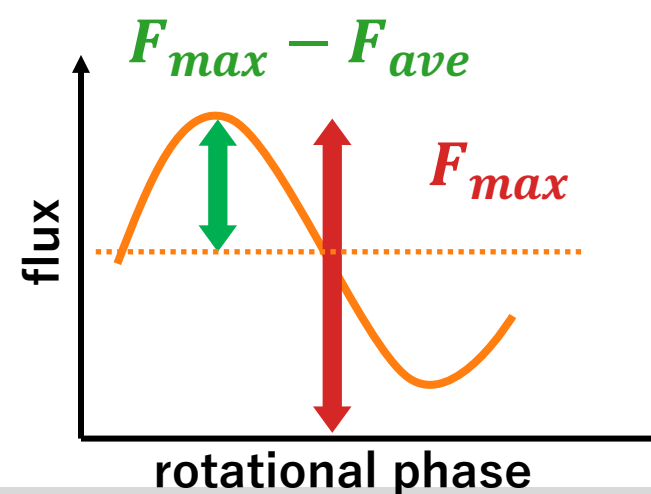


$P, \theta, \phi, \Gamma, a/b, \alpha$
 $= 1000 \text{ s}, 90^\circ, 90^\circ, 100 \text{ tiu}, 2.0, 90^\circ$

Lag-lag diagram



Parameters	Values
P	100 s
θ	$[-150^\circ, -120^\circ, \dots, 180^\circ]$
ϕ	$[0^\circ, \pm 30^\circ, \pm 60^\circ, \pm 90^\circ]$
Γ	$[10, 100, 1000]$ tiu
a/b	2.0
α	90°



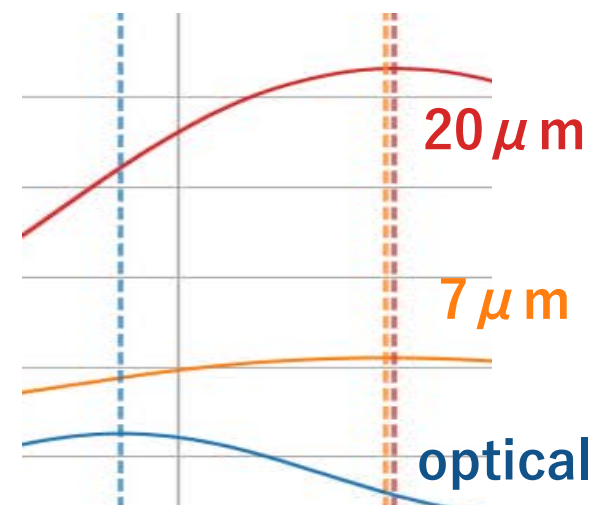
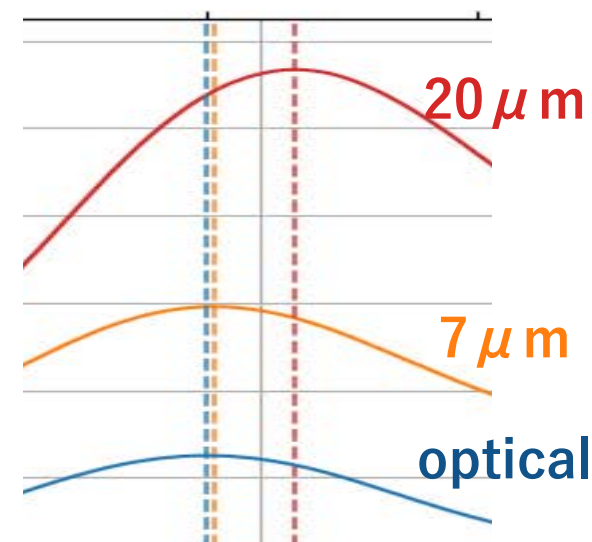
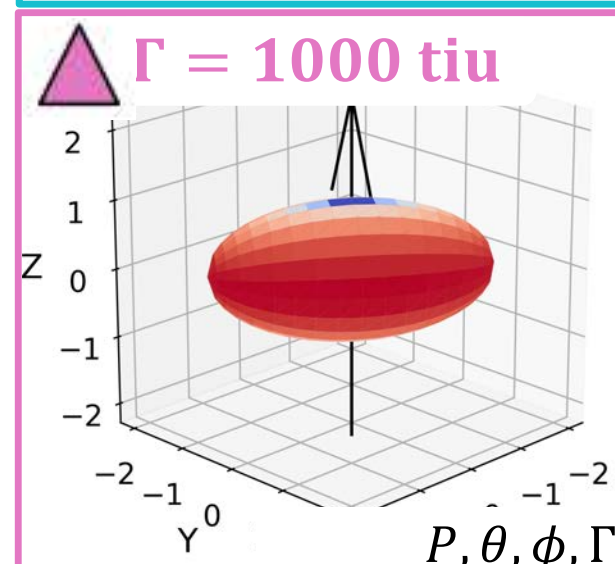
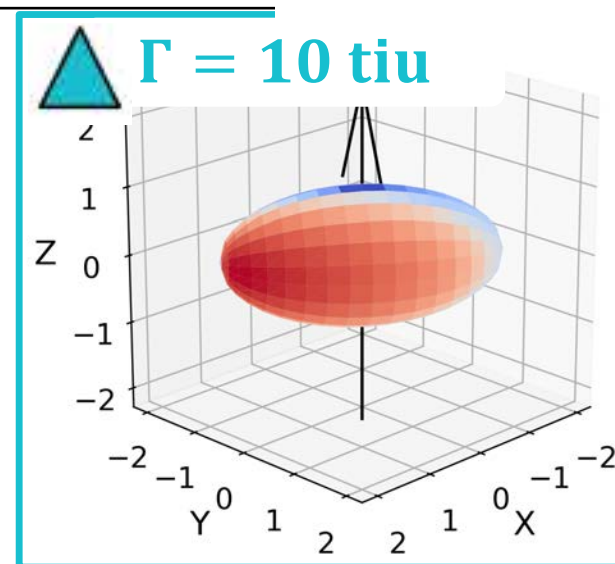
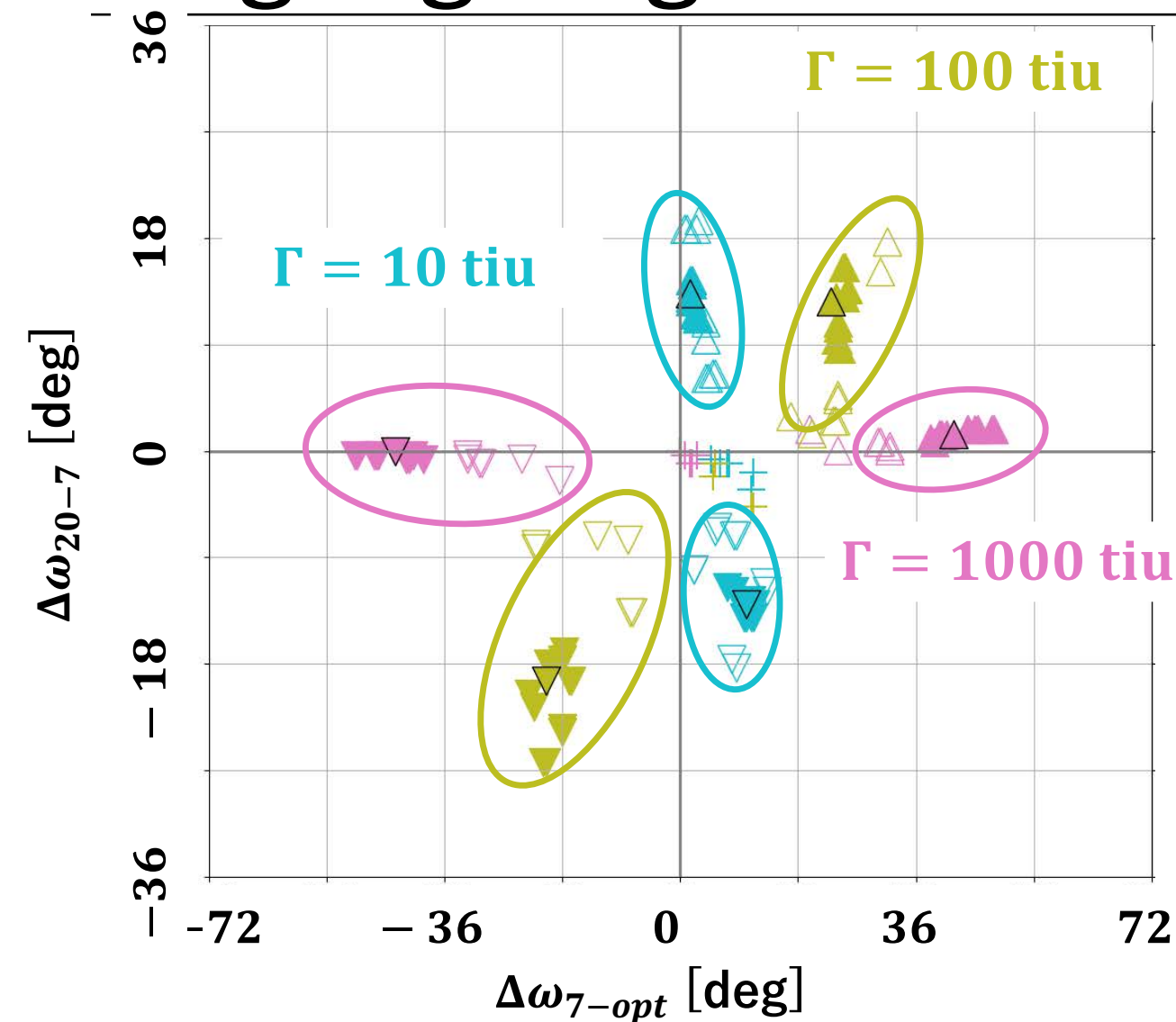
$$= \frac{F_{max} - F_{ave}}{F_{max}}$$

$$\geq 0.1$$

Lag-lag diagram

$$P, \theta, \phi, \Gamma, a/b, \alpha$$

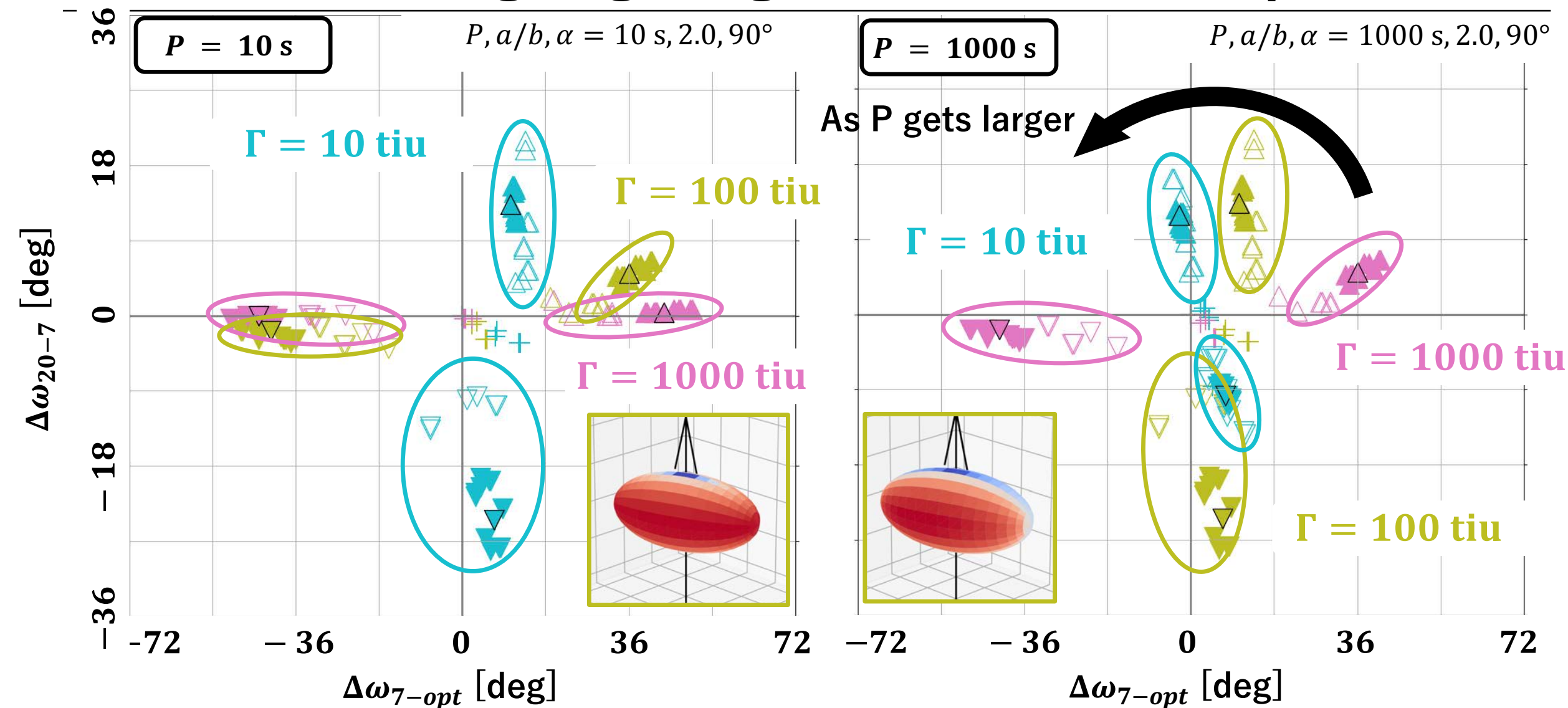
$$= 100 \text{ s}, 90^\circ, 90^\circ, 10 \text{ tiu}, 2.0, 90^\circ$$



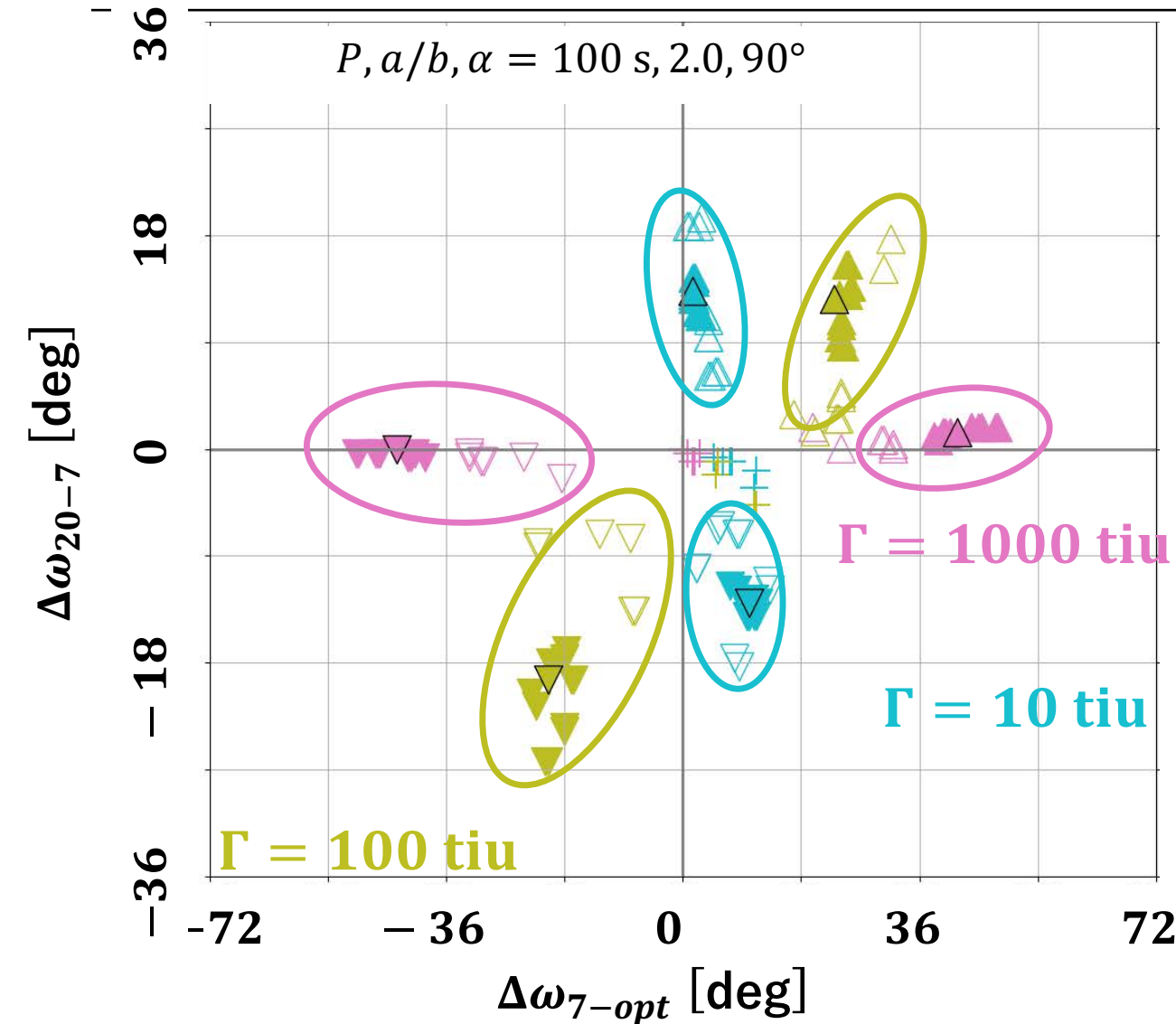
$$P, \theta, \phi, \Gamma, a/b, \alpha$$

$$= 100 \text{ s}, 90^\circ, 90^\circ, 1000 \text{ tiu}, 2.0, 90^\circ$$

Variations in lag-lag diagrams (rotational period P)



Estimation of TI with lag-lag diagram



- The distribution strongly depends on TI.
- The distribution is clearly distinguishable TI.
- Additionally, we can distinguish the rotational direction.

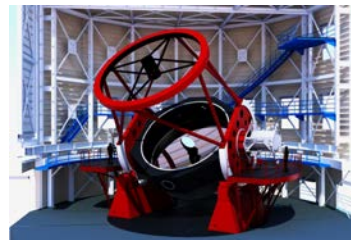
We can estimate TI on this diagram.

Observation strategy

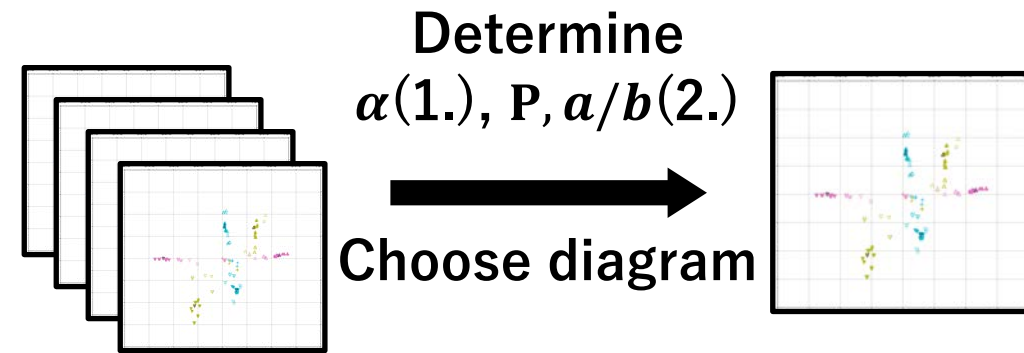
1. Detection and orbit determination (α)
 - CSS, Pan-STARRS, ZTF, Tomo-e Gozen, etc.
2. Derivation of $P, a/b$
 - Follow-up observation by Tomo-e Gozen
3. Derivation of $\Delta\omega$
 - Observe light curves
 - Optical by Tomo-e Gozen
 - MIR with TAO 6.5m
4. Estimation of Γ
 - Compare derived and simulated $\Delta\omega$



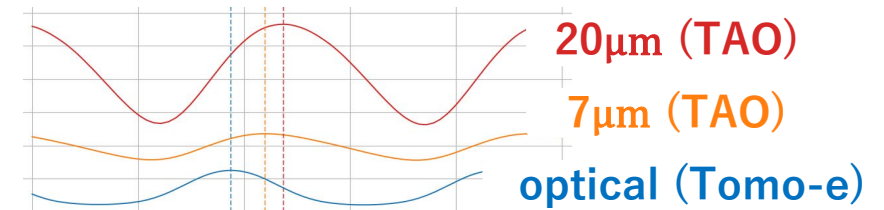
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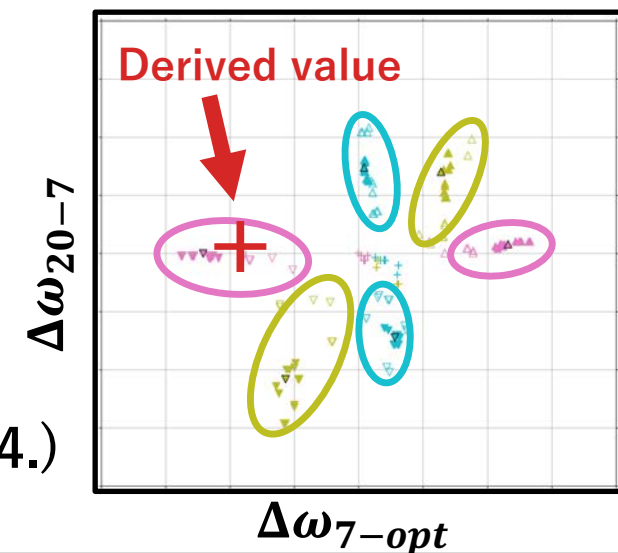
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Derivate $\Delta\omega_{7-opt}$ and $\Delta\omega_{20-7}$ (3.)



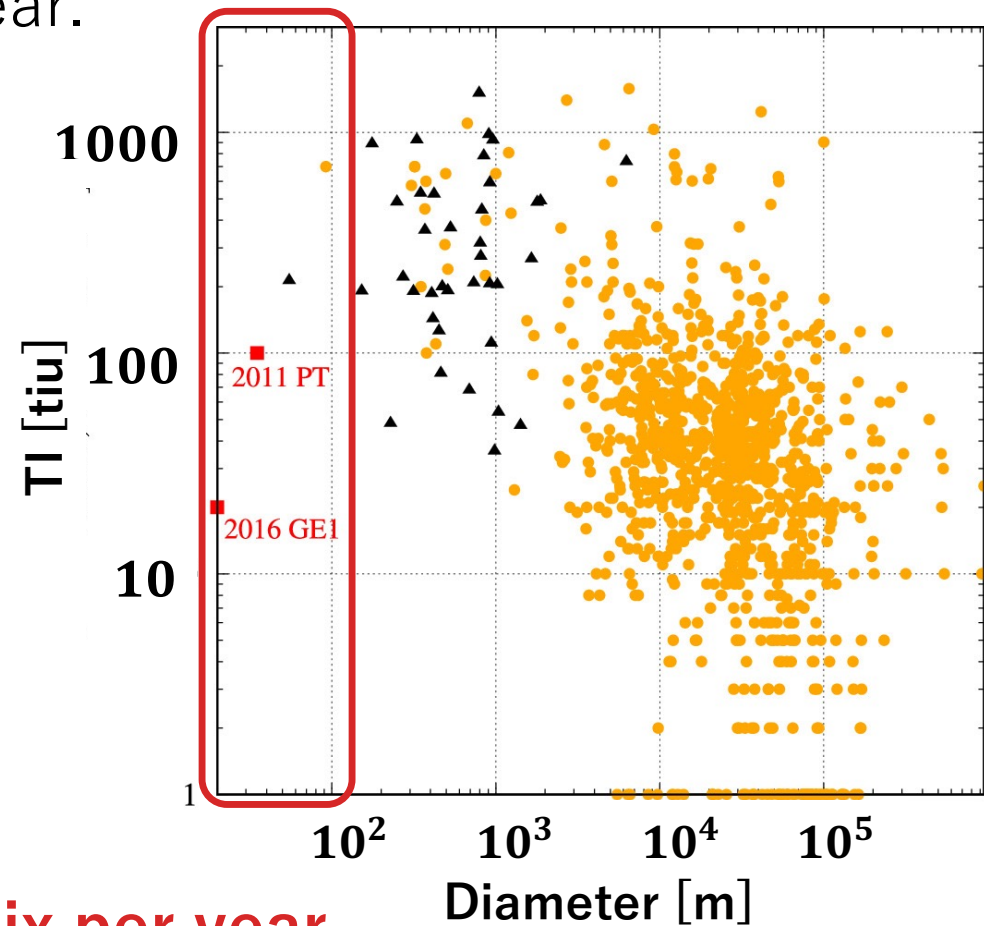
Estimate TI (4.)



Expected outcomes

We can estimate **more than six** TI values per year.

- ~ 30 : Limitation by equipment
 - Has an observable rotational period
(Counted from LCDB Updated Oct. 2023 (Warner et al. (2009)))
 - $P \geq 10$ s: The rotational phase is derivable
 - $P \leq 1000$ s: The observation finishes in 30 minutes
- $\times 1/3$: Limitation by observational conditions
 - Enables observation from both Kiso and TAO sites
- $\times 3/5$ (at least): Limitation by rotational axis
 - Has enough amplitude of light curves



(Novaković+2024)

Summary

- It is difficult to estimate thermal inertia of tiny asteroids, which are responsible for the origin of water to the Earth, by the standard methods.
- **We have developed a new method to enable estimation of thermal inertia of tiny Near-Earth Asteroids.**
- Thermal inertia can be estimated utilizing a lag-lag diagram.
- We can realize the method by Tomo-e Gozen and with TAO.

