

Physical parameters of near-Earth objects from radar observations

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Asteroid-comet hazard

- Near-Earth objects (NEOs) – Objects of the Solar System (asteroids, comets) with the perihelion distances less than 1.3 astronomical units (AU).

Population: >20 000

- Potentially hazardous objects (PHOs) – NEOs having a minimum orbital intersection distance with Earth of less than 0.05 AU (19.5 lunar distances) and an absolute magnitude of 22 or brighter.

Population: >2 000

- Asteroid-comet hazard - The hazard of collision of the Earth with celestial bodies of asteroid, comet or artificial nature, usually NEOs.

Goals

- Creation of advanced optical systems for detecting new NEOs that can scan the entire celestial sphere in a short period of time (Catalina, Linear, Pan-STARRS, LSST etc.);
- Organization of observation storage and processing centers, including identification of reliable orbits for newly discovered celestial bodies (MPC);
- Organization of monitoring programs for already known potentially hazardous NEOs to study their dynamic and physical evolution. (CNEOS, NOEDyS, NEOShield etc.);
- Development of fast and reliable algorithms for estimating the probability of NEOs impact with the Earth and the effects of such impacts, as well as proposals for eliminating the threat;
- Implementation of measures to eliminate the threat of NEO impact with the Earth or to reduce the scale of consequences.

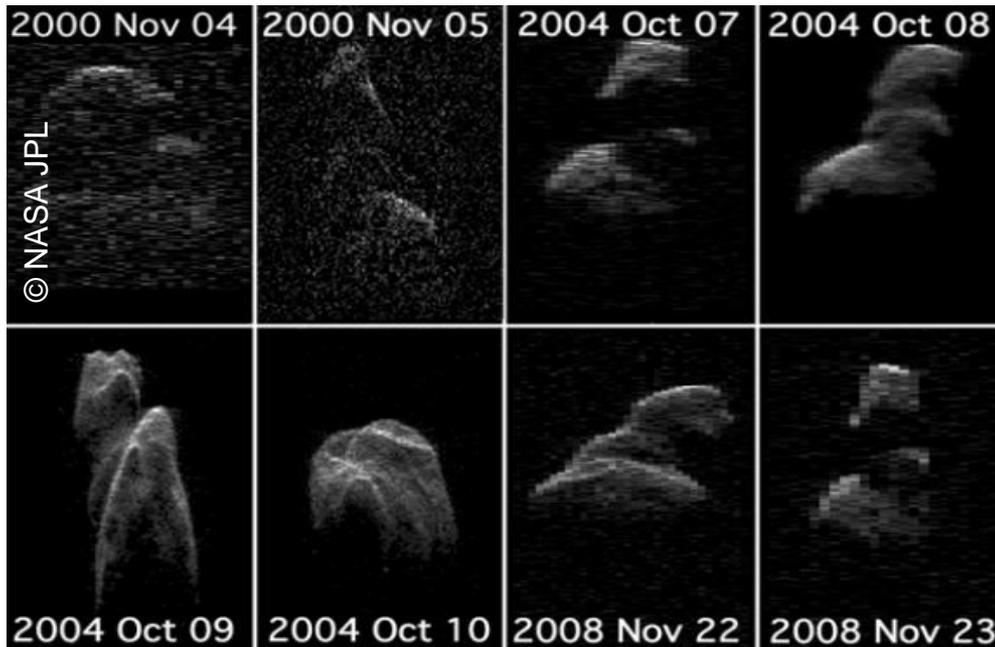
Existing infrastructure



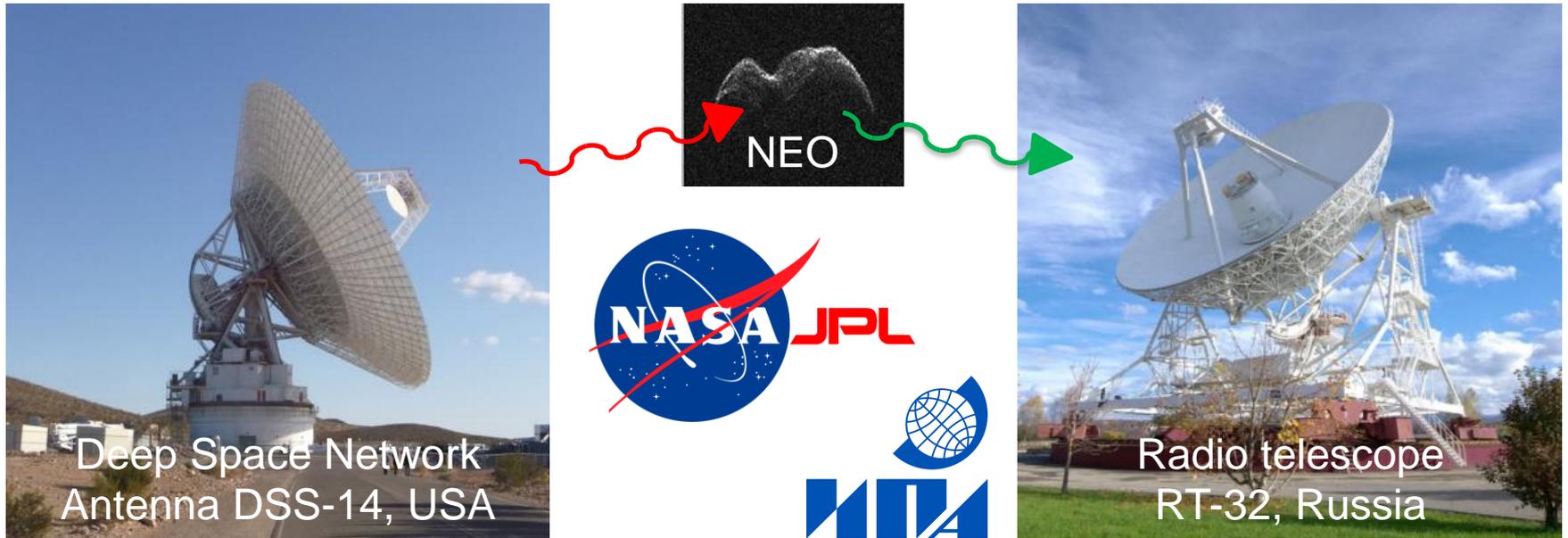
NEO monitoring (radio range)

Today, radar astronomy is one of the most effective techniques for determining the physical properties of near-Earth objects:

- Orbit determination accuracy (~ 1 m; ~ 1 mm/s);
- Physical properties of NEOs (size, shape, composition, rotation, surface...).



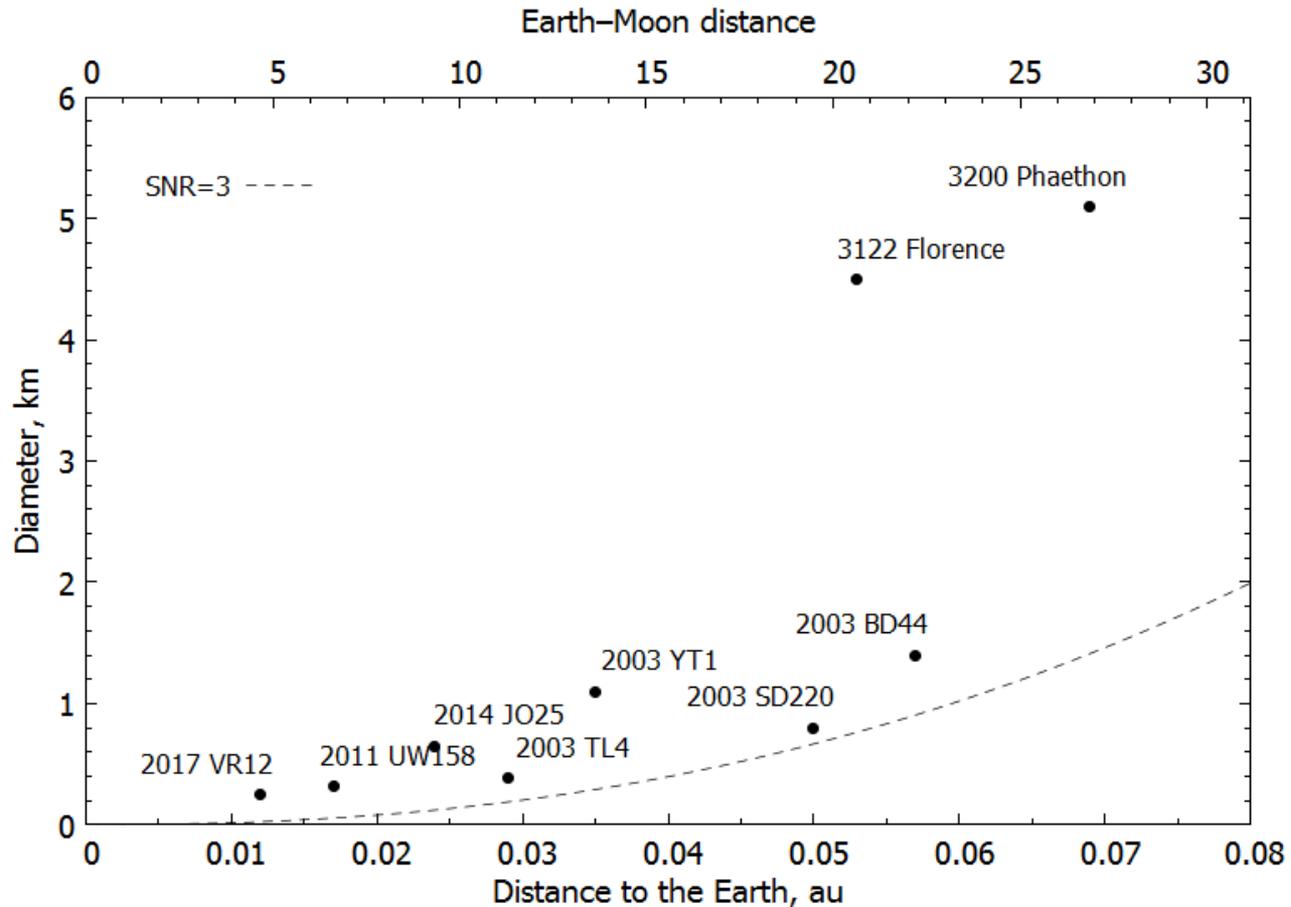
NEO monitoring (radio range)



- Institute of Applied Astronomy in cooperation with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) and Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex conduct intercontinental bistatic radar observations of NEOs;
- Echo signals from 8 potentially hazardous NEOs have been recorded: 2011 UW158, 2003 TL4, 2003 YT1, 2003 BD44, 2014 JO25, 3122 Florence, 2017 VR12 и 2003 SD220.

(see <http://iaaras.ru/en/observations/echo/>)

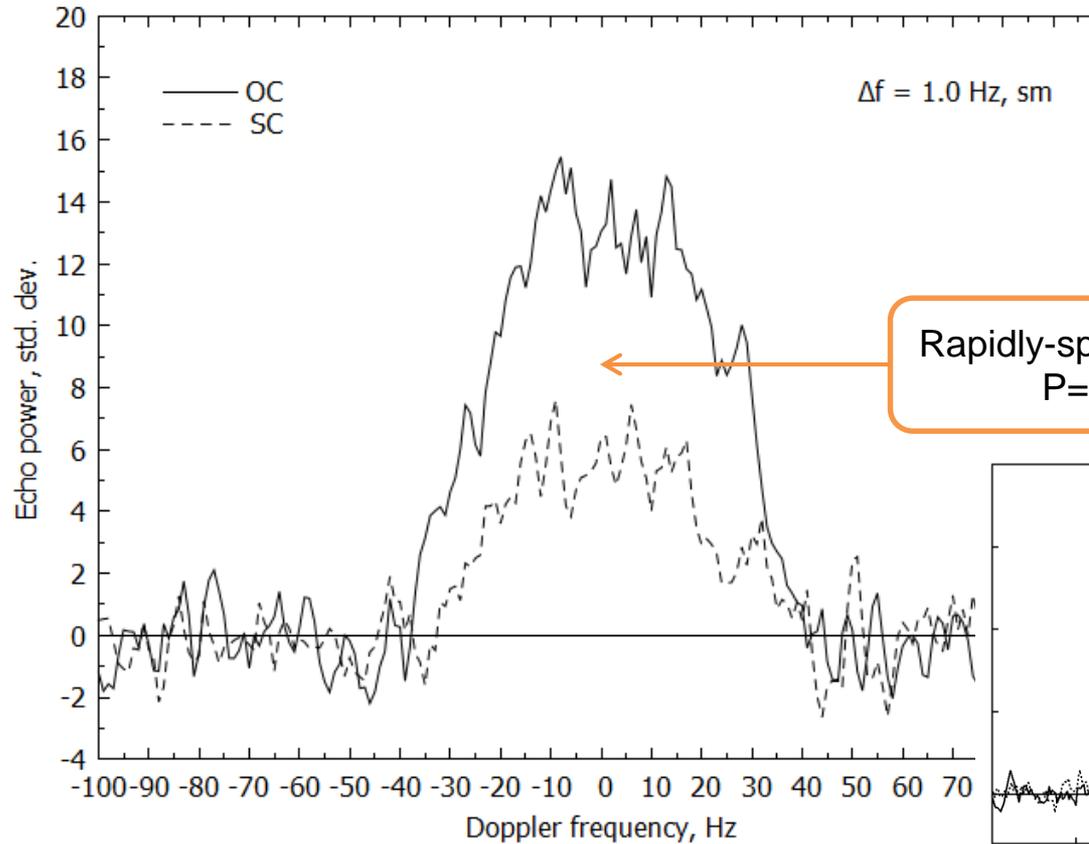
NEO monitoring (radio range)



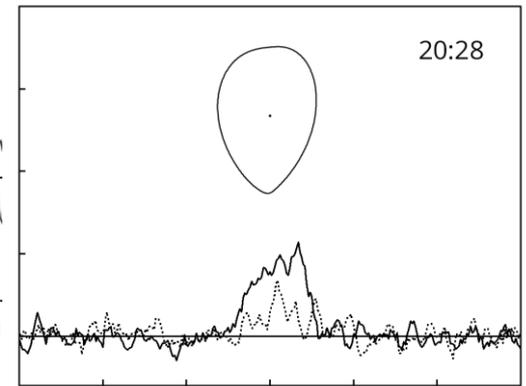
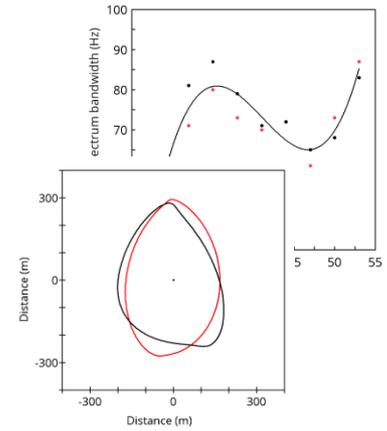
The size distribution of NEOs detected on RT-32, depending on the distance to the Earth.

NEO monitoring (radio range)

2011 UW158, 2015 Jul 18, Bd

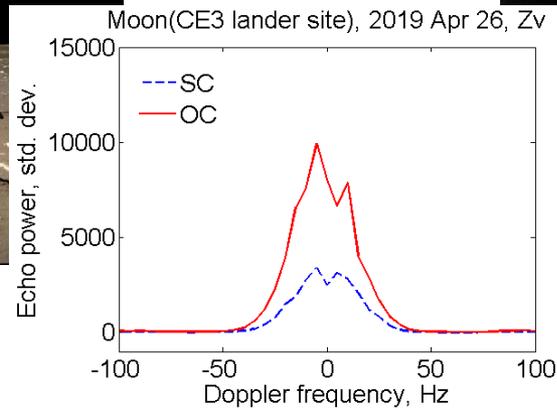
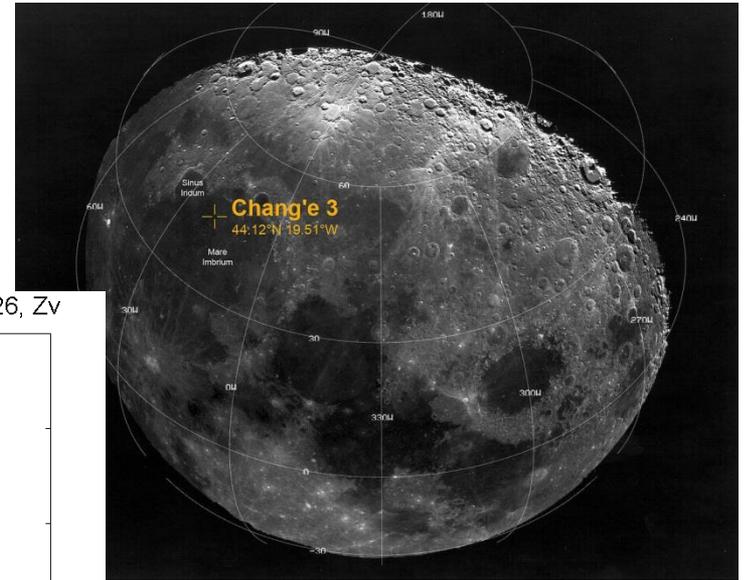
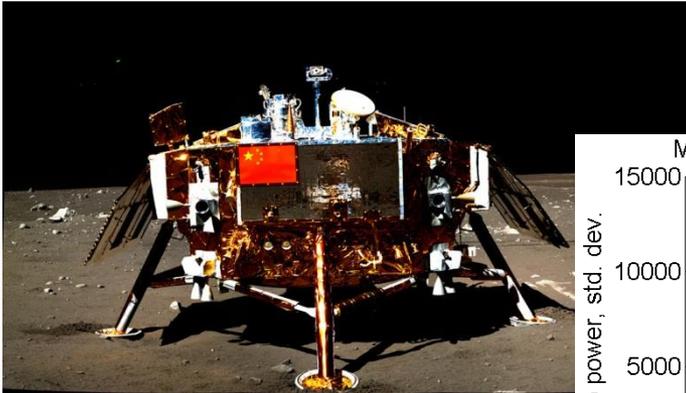
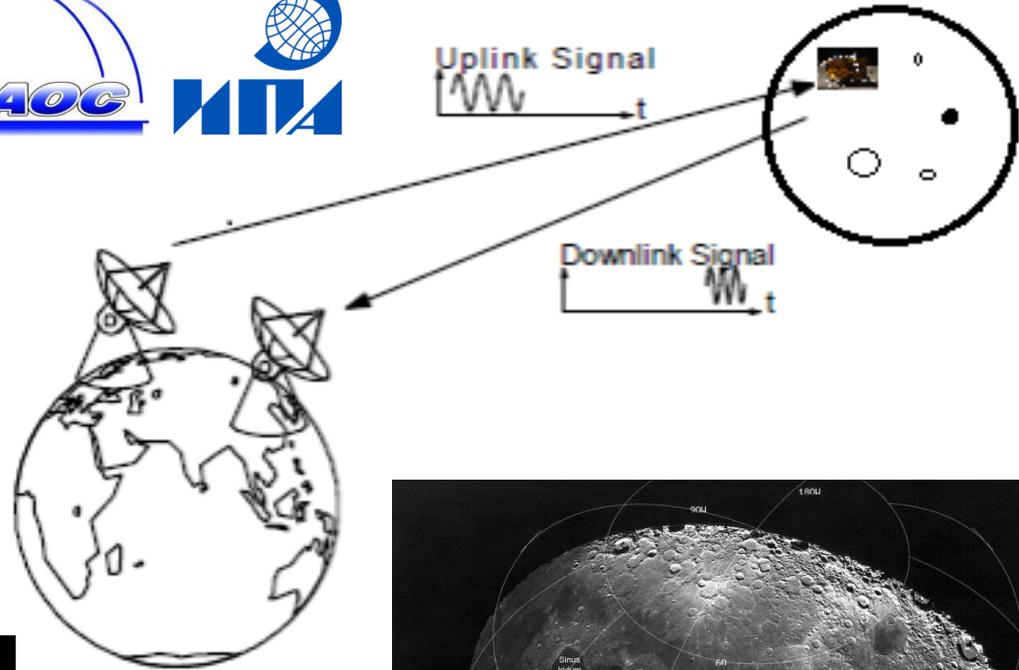


Rapidly-spinning elongated NEA:
P=0.6 h; D=320 m

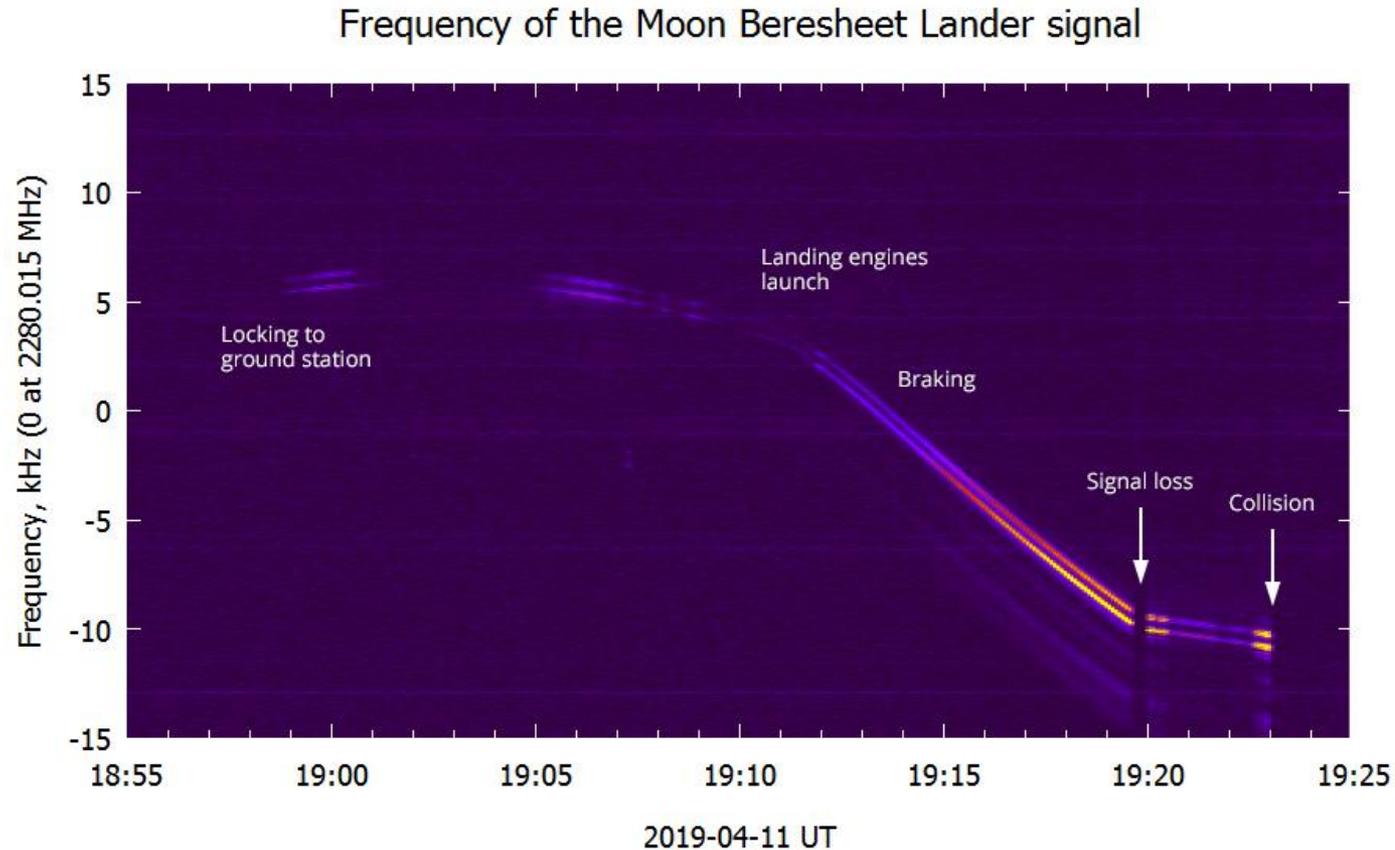


Echo power spectra of 2011 UW158 obtained from the joint DSS-14 and RT-32 observations on July 18, 2015 (~6.6 Earth-Moon distance).

Lunar monitoring (radio range)



Spacecrafts and space debris monitoring (radio range)

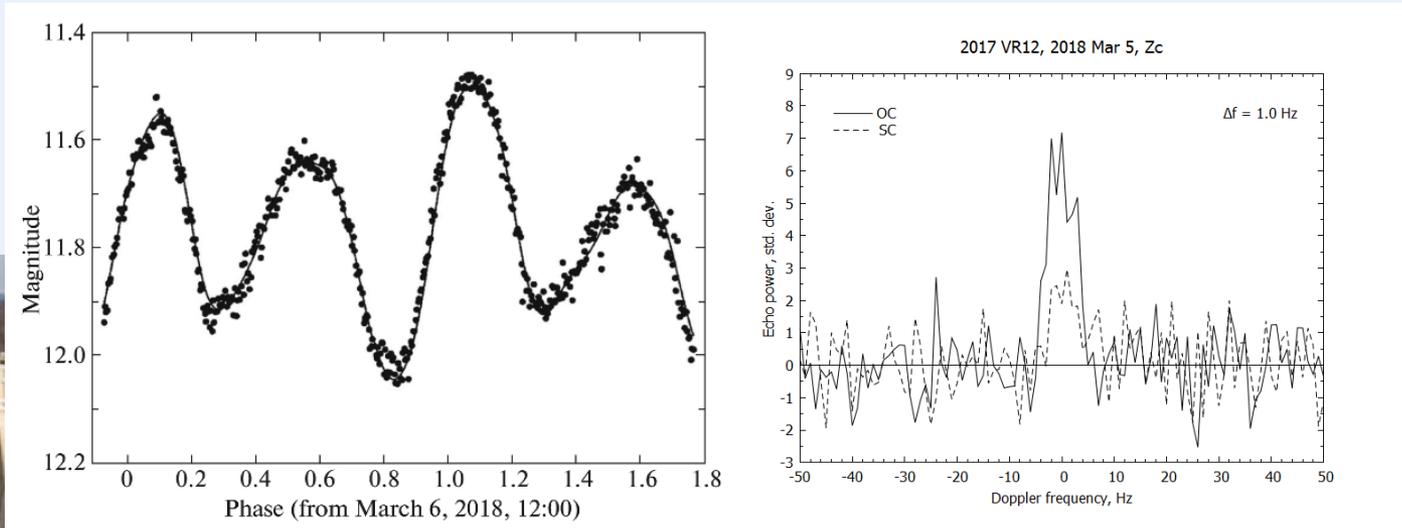


Spectrogram of Beresheet spacecraft signal obtained from observations of the RT-32 radio telescope on April 11, 2019.

NEO monitoring (optical range)

Positional and photometric observations of small bodies of the Solar system and artificial satellites.

Light curve and power spectra of 2017 VR12



Conclusion

- The Institute of Applied Astronomy carries out observations of NEOs in the radio and optical ranges, individually and in cooperation with foreign observatories;
- The Institute is working on the determination and refinement of the orbits of the bodies of the solar system, including NEOs, developed and implemented original methods for estimating the probability and consequences of NEO collisions with the Earth;
- Full cycle of observation, processing and analysis of results is performed (see <http://iaaras.ru/en/>);
- Observational and computing infrastructure, as well as theoretical developments of the Institute of Applied Astronomy, are open for joint international research of Near-Earth objects.



Thank you for your attention!