

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2016

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Observing and modelling faint meteors

ABSTRACT

Nearly seven million small meteoroids, with masses between 1 μg and 0.1 g, enter the Earth's atmosphere each day. Many of these bodies represent the building blocks of the Solar System. They enter at speeds up to 70 km s^{-1} , ablating their mass and producing light. This results in the shooting star phenomenon called a meteor. Studying the composition and spatial distribution of meteoroids is important for understanding the evolution and current state of the Solar System. Similarly, determining the physical characteristics, such as the density, as well as speed and mass distributions of meteoroids is important for mitigating the hazard to spacecraft in orbit of the Earth. I will discuss how we observe faint meteors, and what sorts of information can be deduced from the observations.

SCIENCE COMPLEX ROOM 115

11:00 AM

All Welcome!

AWARDS PRESENTATIONS FOR

*THE LODGE SCHOLARSHIPS, PHYSICS PRIZE, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
WIVES' PRIZE AND THE BREUKELAAR PRIZE FOR LABORATORY
PROFICIENCY*

WILL TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE SEMINAR