

Title:
The Global Average Disk-Resolved Photometric Properties of (101955) Benu

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1. Introduction

NASA's OSIRIS-REx (Origins, Spectral Interpretations, Resource Identification, and Security-Regolith Explorer) asteroid sample return mission (Lauer et al., 2017) began operating in proximity to near-Earth asteroid (101955) Benu in December 2018. Here we present an analysis of the global photometry of Benu from measurements by the OSIRIS-REx Visible and InfraRed Spectrometer (OVIRS; Reuter et al., 2018). This instrument is a point spectrometer with a wedged filter design. OVIRS is used for the spectral characterization of the surface of Benu, with a field of view of 4 mrad and an effective spectral range from 0.4 to 4.3 μm . Our work focuses on OVIRS data acquired from December 9, 2018, to September 26, 2019.

2. Dataset

This study comprises the global observation data from Preliminary Survey and the two sub-phases of Detailed Survey, Baseball Diamond (BBD) and Equatorial Stations (EQ) (campaigns described in Lauer et al., 2017). We use a total of 299,702 calibrated spots. More details about the data selection and calibration are introduced by Zou et al. (submitted).

3. Photometric analyses

We model the scattering properties of the surface of Benu using the Lommel-Seeliger, Minnaert, McEwen, and Akimov photometric models. The best-fit model is a McEwen model with an exponential phase function and an exponential polynomial partition function. We use this model to correct the OVIRS spectra of Benu to a standard reference viewing and illumination geometry at visible to infrared wavelengths for the purposes of global spectral mapping (**Figure 1**). We derive a

bolometric Bond albedo map in which Bennu's surface values range from 0.021 to 0.027. We find a phase reddening effect of $1.4 \pm 0.3 \times 10^{-4} \mu\text{m}^{-1}\text{deg}^{-1}$ across the wavelength range 0.48 to 2.5 μm , and our model is effective at removing this phase reddening.

We compare our OVIRS results to Golish et al. (2020)'s report on the global photometry of Bennu, based on imaging data from the OSIRIS-REx Camera Suite (OCAMS; Rizk et al., 2018). We also compare the results to ground observation and other minor planets including Ryugu.

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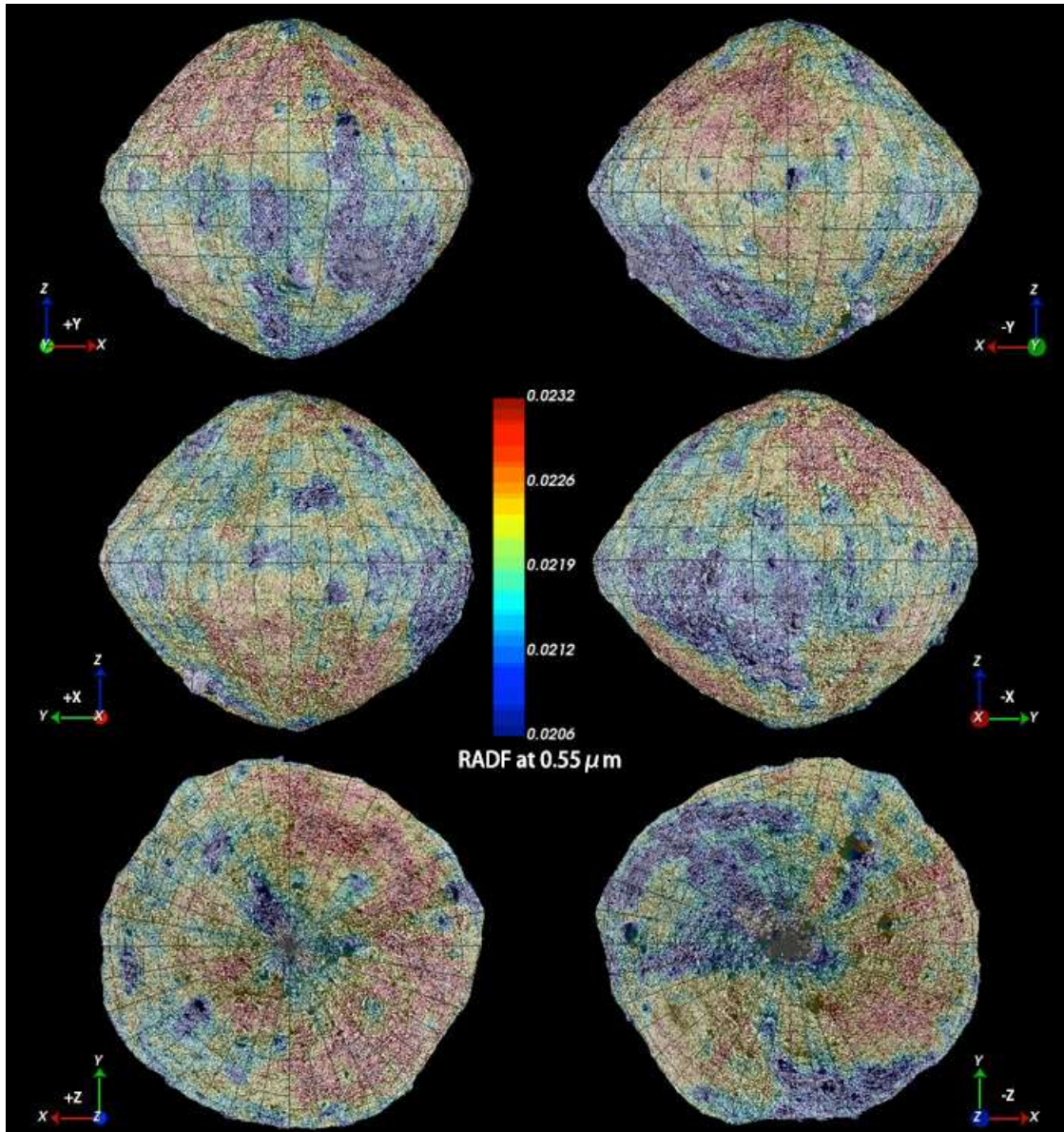


Figure 1. A global 3D facet-based map of the photometrically corrected (to 30° , 0° , 30°) OVIRS spots at a wavelength of $0.55 \mu\text{m}$. The data are overlain on the OCAMS imaging basemap (Bennett et al., 2020), as viewed in the Small Body Mapping Tool (Ernst et al. 2018). Input spectra were obtained during Detailed Survey EQ3.