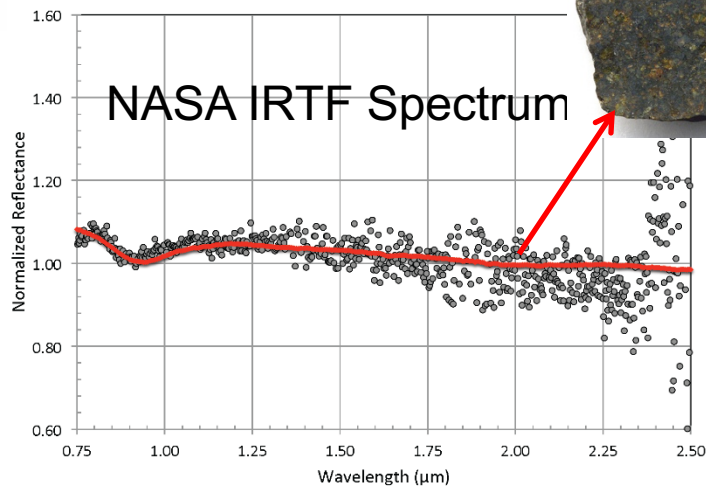


Smallest Near-Earth Asteroid

NASA IRTF Animation

Just two days after its discovery on October 11, 2015, asteroid 2015 TC25 made a very close pass by the Earth at a distance of about 69,300 miles (111,000 kilometers), or 29% of the distance to the Moon. Using data obtained at NASA's Infrared Telescope Facility, scientists supported by the Near Earth Objects Observation Program determined that 2015 TC25 is very similar to a rare class of carbon-rich stony meteorites, called Ureilites, found on Earth. *2015 TC25, which rotates once every 133 seconds, is only about 6 feet (2 meters) in diameter, making it the smallest asteroid ever mineralogically characterized with a ground-based telescope.*



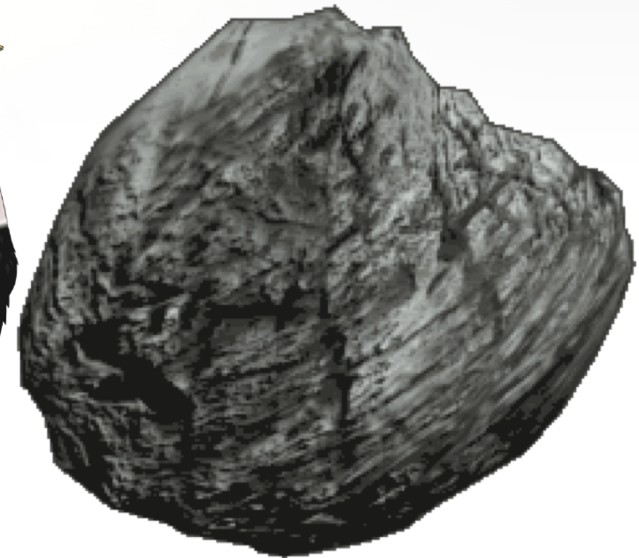
Ureilite



6 feet



Ostrich for scale



2015 TC25 animation
(artist's concept)

Reddy et al. In Prep.