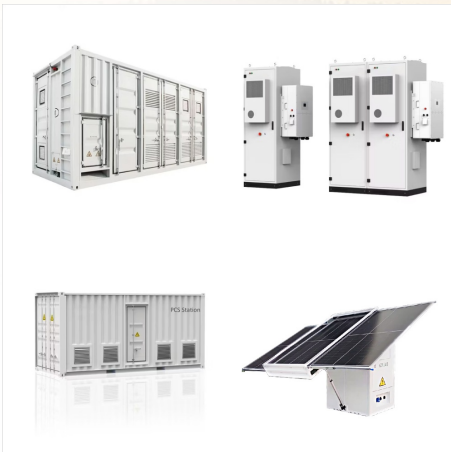




The small bodies of the Solar System (asteroids, comets, Kuiper belt objects, icy moons, rings, and dust) represent archives of the state of the proto-solar disk at various times and places during the history of our Solar System's formation. Researchers at JPL study the physical properties of these objects using ground-based and space-based



A small Solar System body (SSSB) is an object in the Solar System that is neither a planet, a dwarf planet, nor a natural satellite. The term was first defined in 2006 by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) as follows: "All other objects, except satellites, orbiting the Sun shall be referred to collectively as "Small Solar System Bodies " " .



Small body, any natural solar system object other than the Sun and the major planets and dwarf planets and their satellites (moons). The small bodies populate the solar system in vast numbers and include the mostly rocky asteroids, or minor planets, the ???

IDENTIFY THE SMALL SOLAR SYSTEM BODY WITH ITS NAME



The small bodies in the solar system include comets, asteroids, the objects in the Kuiper Belt and the Oort cloud, small planetary satellites, Triton, Pluto, Charon, and interplanetary dust. As some of these objects are believed to be minimally altered from their state in the young solar nebula from which the planets formed, they may [??]



A small Solar System body (SSSB) is a term defined in 2006 by the International Astronomical Union to describe solar system objects which are not planets or dwarf planets: All other objects orbiting the Sun shall be referred to collectively as "Small Solar System Bodies"

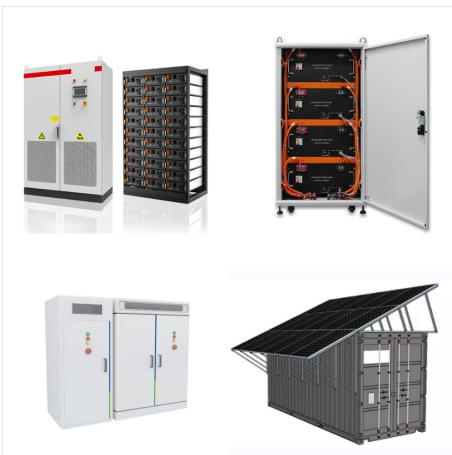


In this book, we will be exploring "small bodies" found in our solar system. Our solar system consists of one star, the Sun, and all the objects currently held in orbit by the gravity of our star. The solar system is just one part of a much, much larger group of ???

IDENTIFY THE SMALL SOLAR SYSTEM BODY WITH ITS NAME



Most comets have highly elliptical orbits which spend most of their time in the outer reaches of the solar system with only brief passages close to the Sun. And there is a large and important class of Trans-Neptunian Objects or Kuiper Belt Objects (including Pluto) that orbit (mostly) beyond Neptune.



Small solar system bodies???along with the Sun, planets, and dwarf planets???help make up our Solar System. Small solar system bodies include things like comets, asteroids, moons, and the icy objects in the Kuiper Belt and the Oort cloud.