Asteroids, bright things and a space station

Asteroid day !

(yesterday)

Tunguska event

116 years ago yesterday (1908) a big meteor exploded in the air over eastern Russia. Flattened 80 million trees over an area of 2,150 km2.

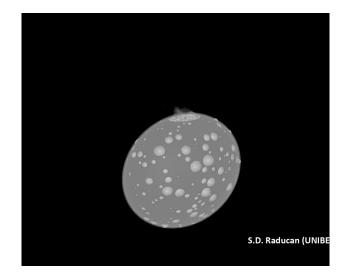


DART

Sept. 26, 2023

Double Asteroid Redirection Test

Flew a spacecraft into a asteroid called Dimorphos to determine that we can change its course. This could be used to stop a asteroid hitting earth.





Spin of supermassive black holes

Scientists have measured the spin of a supermassive black hole

Use patterns of x-rays produced after a tidal disruption event they measured the spin of a black hole.

This could allow us to learn more about the nature of black holes.

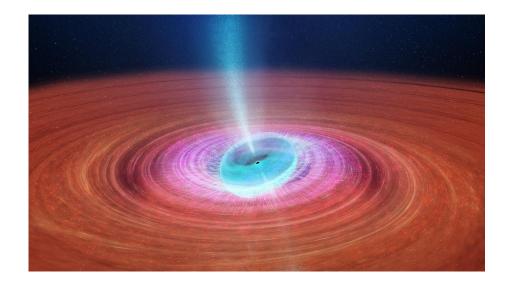
https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-024-07433-w

Brightest object ever found

19 February 2024

Brightest object ever

Quasar that shines 500 trillion times brighter than our sun's found 12 billion light years away, with an accretion disk with a diameter of 7 light years.



End of the international space station

The ISS will be decommissioned in 6 years

SpaceX have been given a million dollar contract to deorbit the space station by 2030.

NASA want to focus on other priorities such as the Artemis program and space telescopes (like JWST)

end