

Discovery of the First Interstellar Object

- 1I/2017 U1 ('Oumuamua) – first object observed that originated outside our solar system
- Discovered on October, 19 2017 by the University of Hawaii-operated Pan-STARRS1 telescope during survey operations as part of the Near-Earth Object Observations Program in NASA's Planetary Defense Coordination Office
- Confirmed by numerous follow-up observations and by the trajectory analysis performed by the Center for Near-Earth Object Studies at JPL



- Object is asteroidal in nature (no coma observed)
- Object is highly elongated, with an axis ratio of $\sim 10:1$ (Meech *et al.* 2017, *Nature*)
- Observations suggest a surface reddened due to irradiation by cosmic rays over its history