

COOL BINARIES

Kevin Walsh¹

¹*Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur, Laboratoire Cassiopée (France)*

We present results from thermal-infrared observations of binary near-Earth asteroids (NEAs). These objects, in general, have surface temperatures cooler than the average values for non-binary NEAs. We discuss how this may be evidence of higher-than-average surface thermal inertia. The comparison of these binary NEAs with all NEAs and rapidly rotating NEAs suggests that the binary formation mechanism is altering the surface properties, most likely by the removal regolith.