

IS THERE POLARIMETRIC Q-EFFECT FOR THE MOON, ASTEROIDS, AND LABORATORY ARTIFICIAL SAMPLES?

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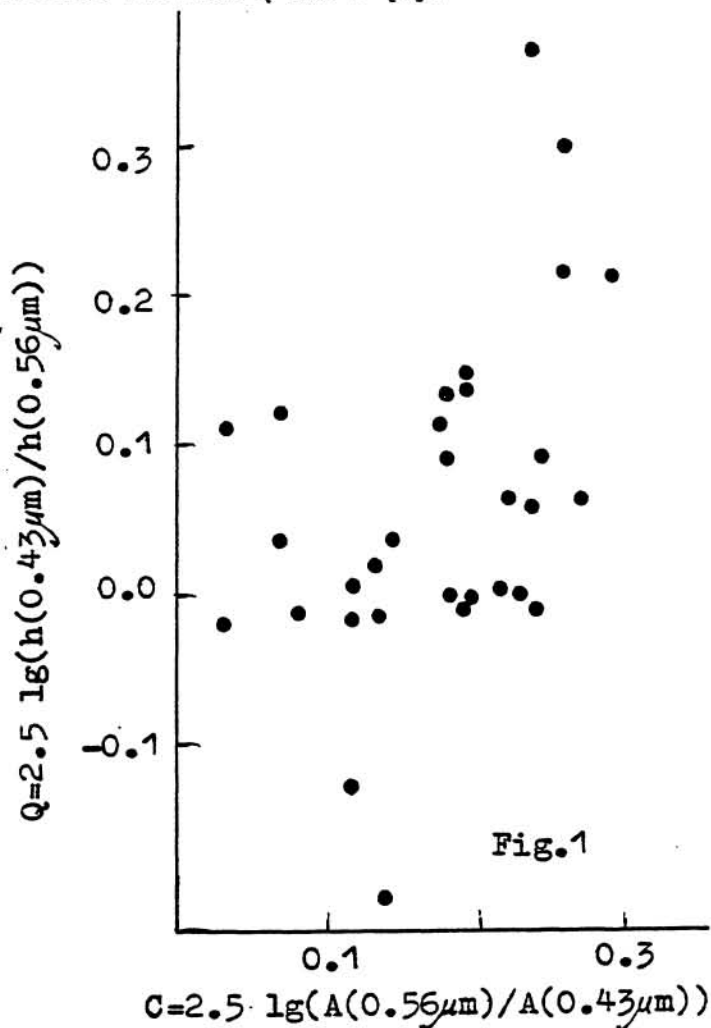
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It's well known that h (a slope of polarization phase curve at the inversion angle) depends on A (an albedo of scattered surfaces) [1]. It is naturally to expect the same correlation between Q ($Q = h(\lambda_1)/h(\lambda_2)$) and C ($C = A(\lambda_2)/A(\lambda_1)$) where λ is wavelength. However studies [2] showed no Q - C correlations for asteroids, lunar regions, and terrestrial samples. This strange fact was called Q -effect [2]. Recently we have obtained a new experimental data which showed that Q -effect is perhaps an artefact.

REVISED DATA FOR ASTEROIDS. A Q - C diagram for asteroids including data mentioned in [2] as nonreliable is plotted on Fig.1. In this case we have an allusion to slight correlation between Q and C [3].

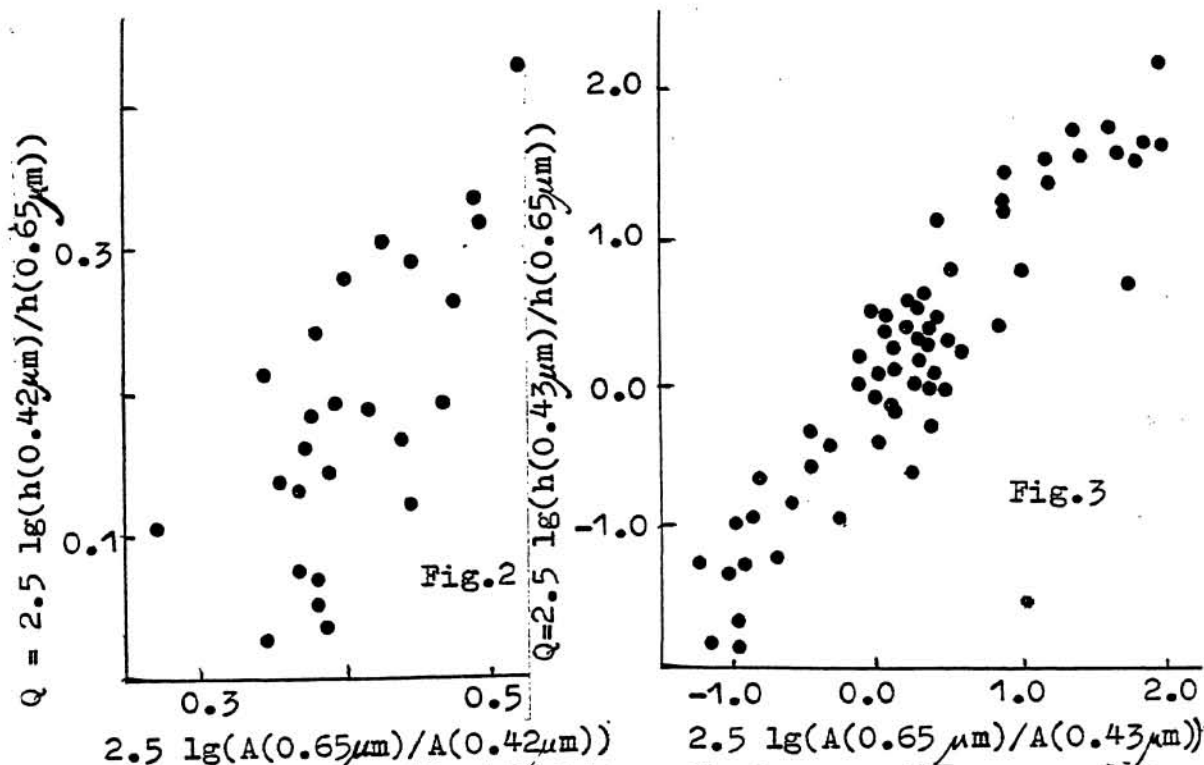
NEW LUNAR DATA. Spectropolarimetric and spectrophotometric observation of the Moon were carried out using polarimetric facility [4] based on 60-cm telescope. Diagram is shown in Fig.2. We can see a slight correlation as for asteroid case. Problems concerning reality of lunar Q - C correlation can be solved by means of laboratory polarimetric measurement.

LABORATORY DATA. Q -effect is checked using measurements of a large series of artificial samples which are mixtures of water-colour substances of a fine structure (see Fig.3). For the measurement we used a laboratory polarimeter [5]. Owing to wide dispersion of structural and optical parameters of the samples a rather strong correlation between Q and C was obtained, which is qualitatively similar to that of the Moon and asteroids.



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DISCUSSION. We suggest that the represented facts contradict Q-effect. Q-C correlation is natural phenomenon because it results from h-A correlation i.e. from Umov's law. The weakness of the correlations for asteroids and the Moon apparently follows from both errors of the measurements and real structural features of scattering surfaces.

References.

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