

# Status of Arecibo Observations of NEOs

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# Observatory Status

- Management transition from Cornell University to a consortium (SRI, USRA U. Metropolitana) on 2011 Oct 1. No direct effect on observing status.
- NASA funding ( $\sim$  \$2M / year) is supporting the radar program. NSF funding reductions to the observatory mean that the program relies entirely on this funding, intended to keep the observatory operating at its traditional level of 20-30 objects per year.

# Observatory Status

- Having a reasonably reliable source of funding has allowed us to hire an additional staff member to move the data pipeline along.
- Some hardware issues on this 15-year old system have interrupted observing.
  - Currently down until ~ the end of January due to a power problem.

# Main power supply repaired 9/2011



- Improvements to the radar infrastructure have somewhat lowered fuel costs, allowing more than predicted observations.
- Observed ~ 100 NEOs in FY 2012.
- Beginning a program to do regular observing sessions shortly after new moon to get more objects without having to disrupt the telescope schedule.

# Spin rate distribution

