Tiny rover system for asteroid explpiration

Tetsuo YOSHIMITSU¹, Takashi KUBOTA¹, Atsushi TOMIKI¹,  
Yoji KURODA², and Tadashi ADACHI³

¹ Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS), Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency  
² Meiji University  
³ Seccia Techno Co. Ltd.

Abstract

The authors have been developing a tiny rover package onboard Hayabusa-2 mission. This package contains multiple rovers making a surface exploration over the microgravity environment of the target body after they have been ejected from the mother spacecraft. This package is installable to any missions which stay near a small solar system bodies, including a sample return capability, since the impact to the mother spacecraft is minimized. This poster describes the robotic and scientific capabilities of the rovers, which is now under development to be installed in Hayabusa-2 spacecraft.