

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Lift Off - Secondary Space Education (2)

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SPACE SCIENCE EDUCATION IN PHILIPPINE SECONDARY SCHOOLS: THE CURRENT STATUS
AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PLANS**Abstract**

The Philippines has lagged behind in terms of space science education compared to other countries in the Southeast Asian Region. This is primarily due to the minimal coverage of astronomy and space science in the basic education curriculum in both primary and secondary levels. There is also a lack of training in the field of space science among science educators. In this paper, we will present the current assessment of the comprehension level of high school students in astronomy and space science. Based on our results, we have seen that an average Filipino secondary school student have a basic understanding and knowledge of astronomy and space science prior to entering the university. In addition, there are various misconceptions that stems from lack of exposure to space science outside the educational setting. I will also be discussing the necessity of a multi-pronged approach in teaching astronomy and space science that would cater to students from different economic and social strata. Due to the geographical nature of the country, I will also tackle the issue of developing regional centers for astronomy and space science. Finally, I will be discussing the future development plans for astronomy and space science education in the Philippines.