

Status of the ESA Scientific Programme

Günther Hasinger, ESA Director of Science 59th European Space Sciences Committee Meeting

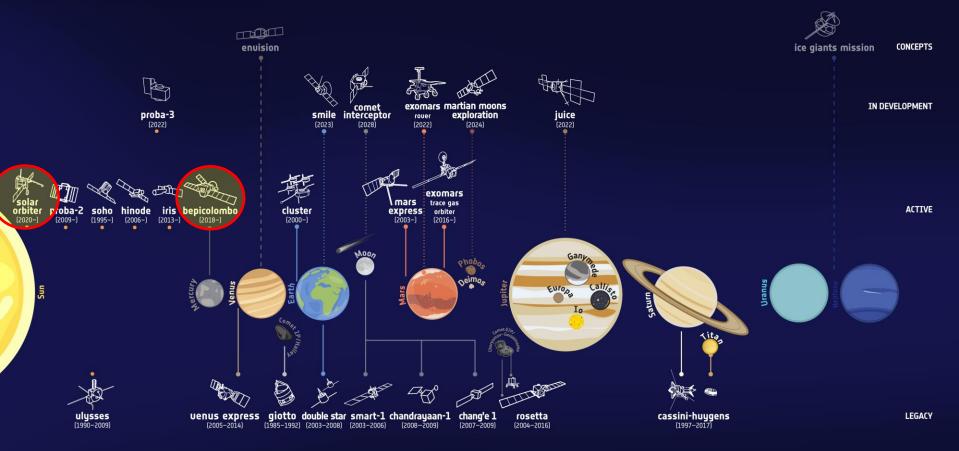
15.May 2020



→ SOLAR SYSTEM EXPLORERS

ESA Solar System Fleet







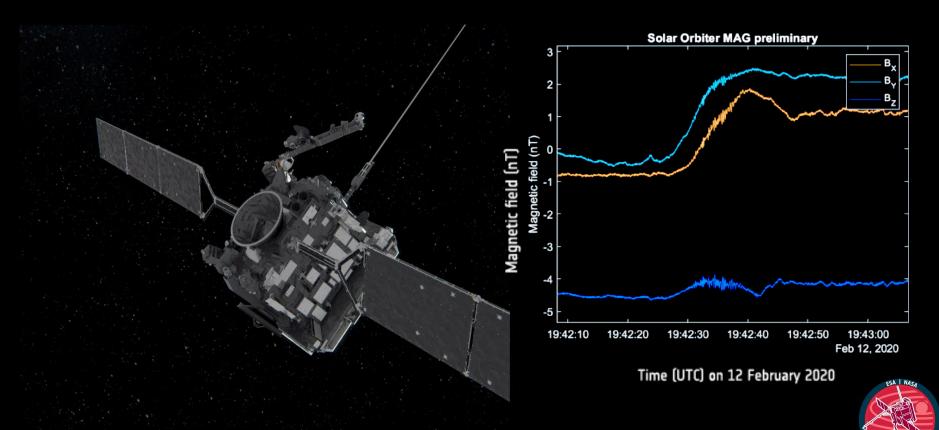


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BOOM DEPLOYMENT

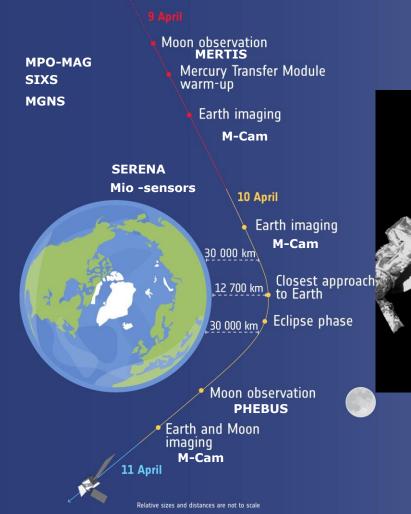




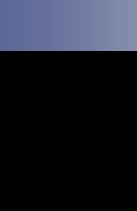
Now ALL instruments switched on!



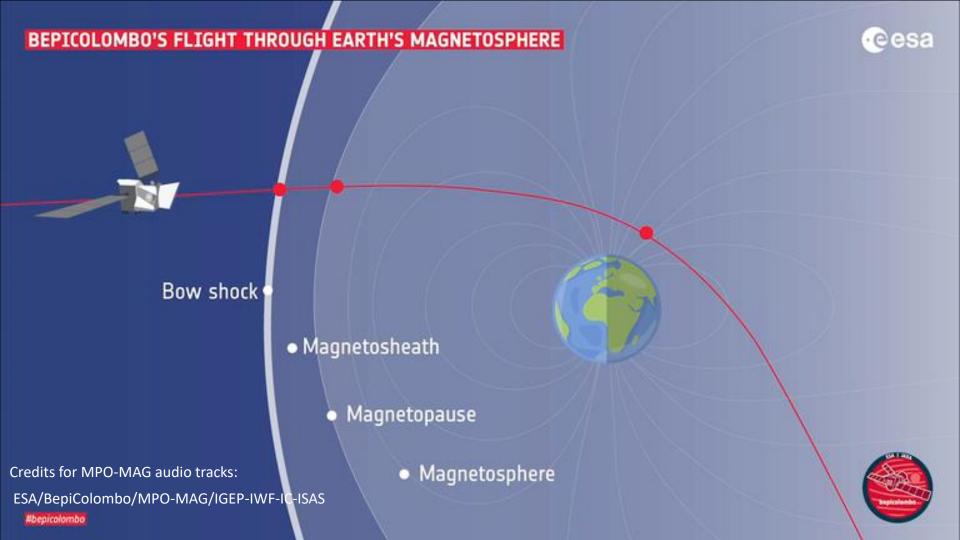
BEPICOLOMBO EARTH FLYBY





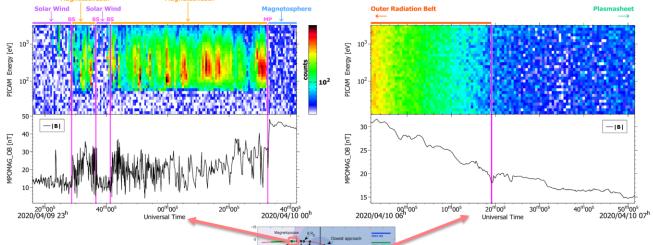






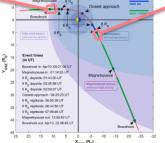
esa

Observations of PICAM (preliminary results)



✓ Inbound crossing:

- Bowshock
- Magnetosheath plasma
- Magnetopause



Inner Magnetosphere:

 Outer radiation belt, background counts

Magnetic field data: courtesy of MPO-Mag team at University of Braunschweig

Ion data: courtesy of SERENA-PICAM team at Austrian Academy of Sciences

G. Hasinger ESSC | 15.5.2020 | Slide 9

SERENA

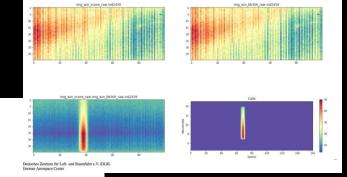
PICAM/ MPO

MAG

comparison

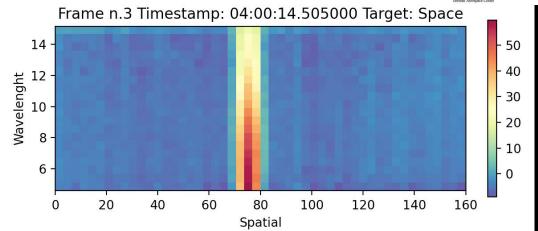
MERTIS: first results of a novel instrument



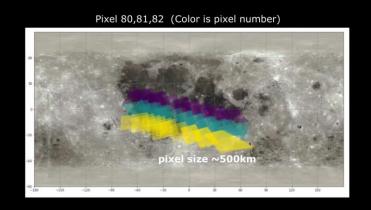


Raw Data from instrument and calibration source

Raw Data merged and additional calibration



MERTIS: WIP Geometric Data



Credit: DLR Berlin and Westfälische Wilhelms Universität Münster, Germany



Professionals/Amateurs Ground Based Observations

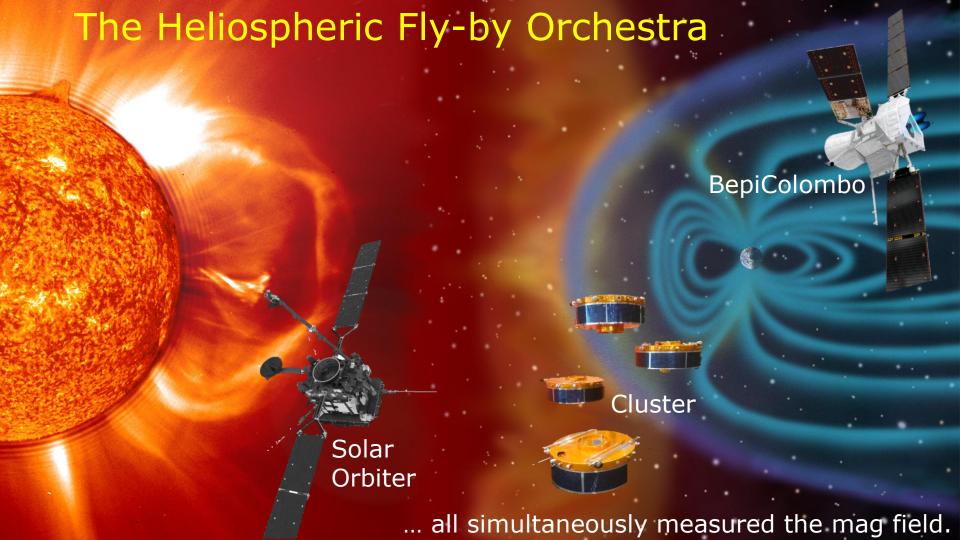




Image credit ESA/6ROADS, Marcin
Gedek, Rafal Reszelewski,
Michal Zolnowski".

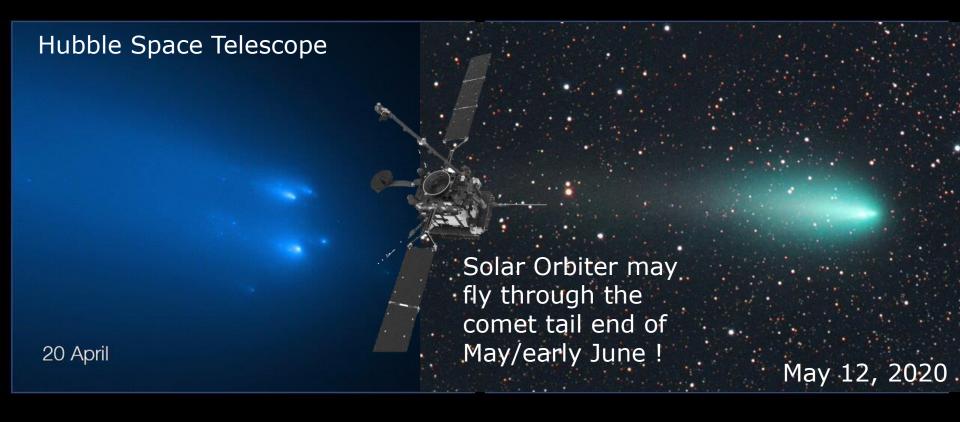
25 cm Telescope - the OCTOPUS telescope in San Pedro de Atacama (Chile) from the 6ROADS network.





Comet C/2019 Y4 ATLAS





Comet Interceptor



European Space Agency

Mission to a dynamically young object in the Solar System, or to an interstellar visitor

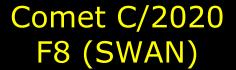


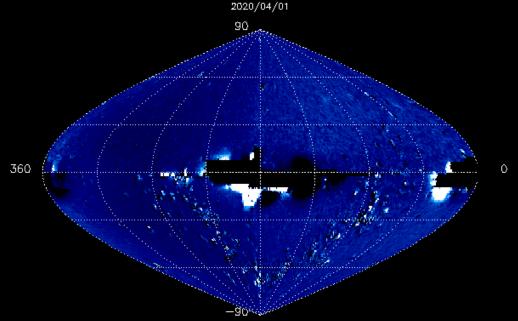
First ESA Fast/Flexi mission, approved June 2019!

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Amateur astronomer Michael Mattiazzo from Australia spotted this icy visitor from the outer Solar System while inspecting images that had been posted online from the Solar Wind ANisotropies (SWAN) instrument aboard SOHO, the ESA/NASA Solar and Heliospheric Observatory.

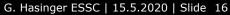
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Hubble Space Telescope 30th Anniversary





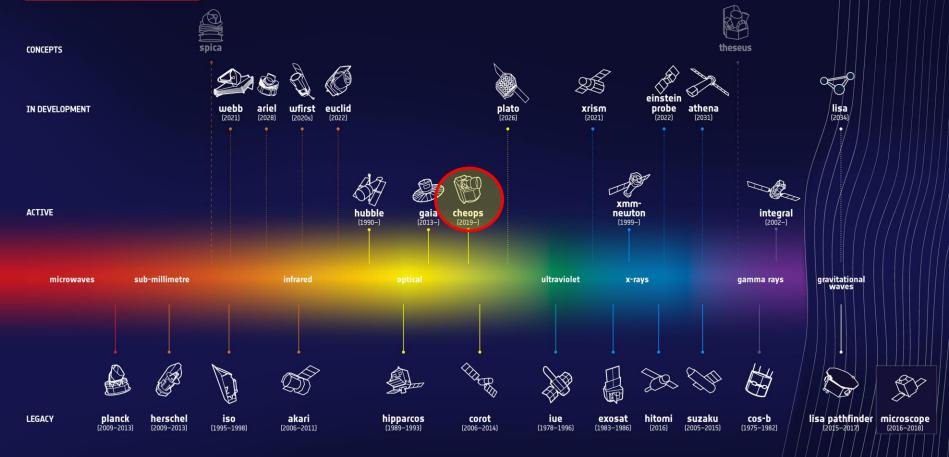




ESA Astrophysics Fleet

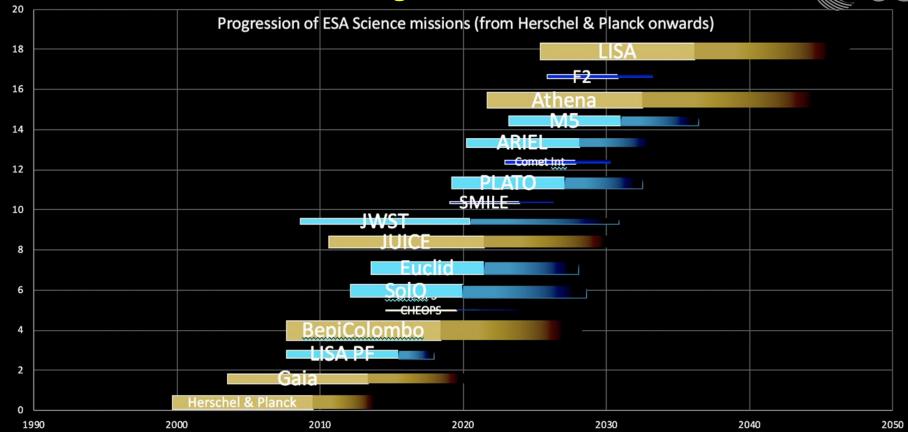






Draft Long-term Plan





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SPC Workshop Topics (14-15.4.)



- Extension of mission operations
 - Smaller Missions (e.g. F2)
- ATHENA/LISA Phased Implementation
 - M5 implementation timescale
 - Future Missions of Opportunity



Joint mission with NASA to one of the Ice Giants?



Exoplanet Statistics

- Three ESA CDF studies performed in 2019 to study possible contributions to a NASA-led Ice Giant mission and technology for a future mission.
- The window for a possible mission to both Uranus and Neptune is already practically closed.
- A Uranus-only mission could be launched as late as 2034.
- Depends on the decisions in the NAS Decadal Survey ('22?)



Uranus: 24 January 1986

Earth Super-Earth Neptune Neptune Signant

PLANET SIZE (relative to Earth)

Voyager 2: launch 20 August 1977



