

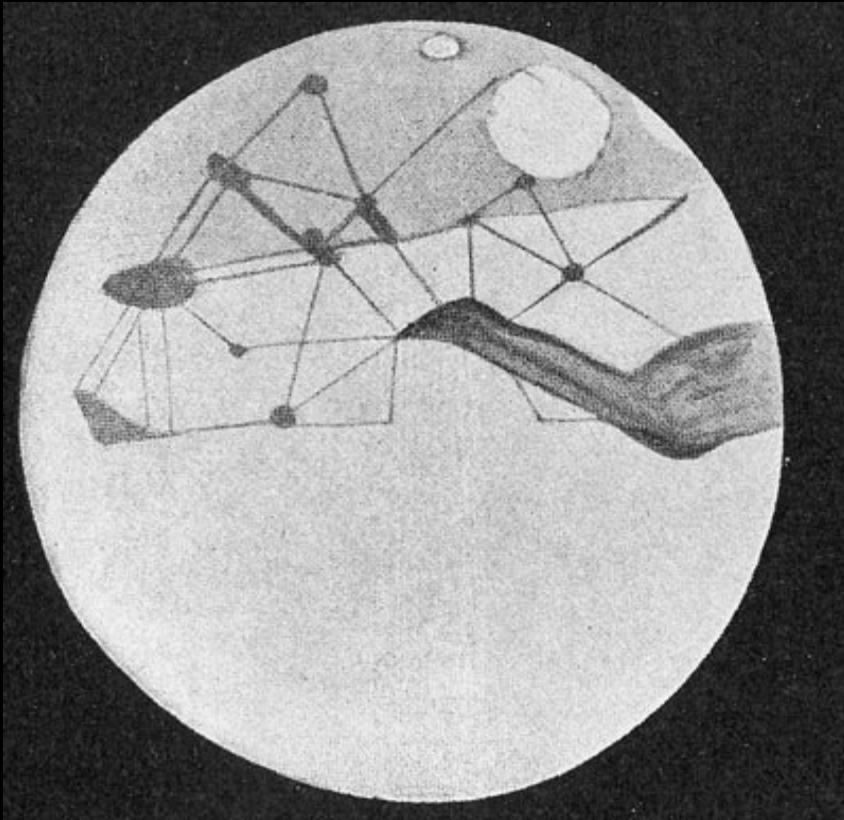
# The Next 50 Years of Planetary Exploration with Probes

James A. Cutts

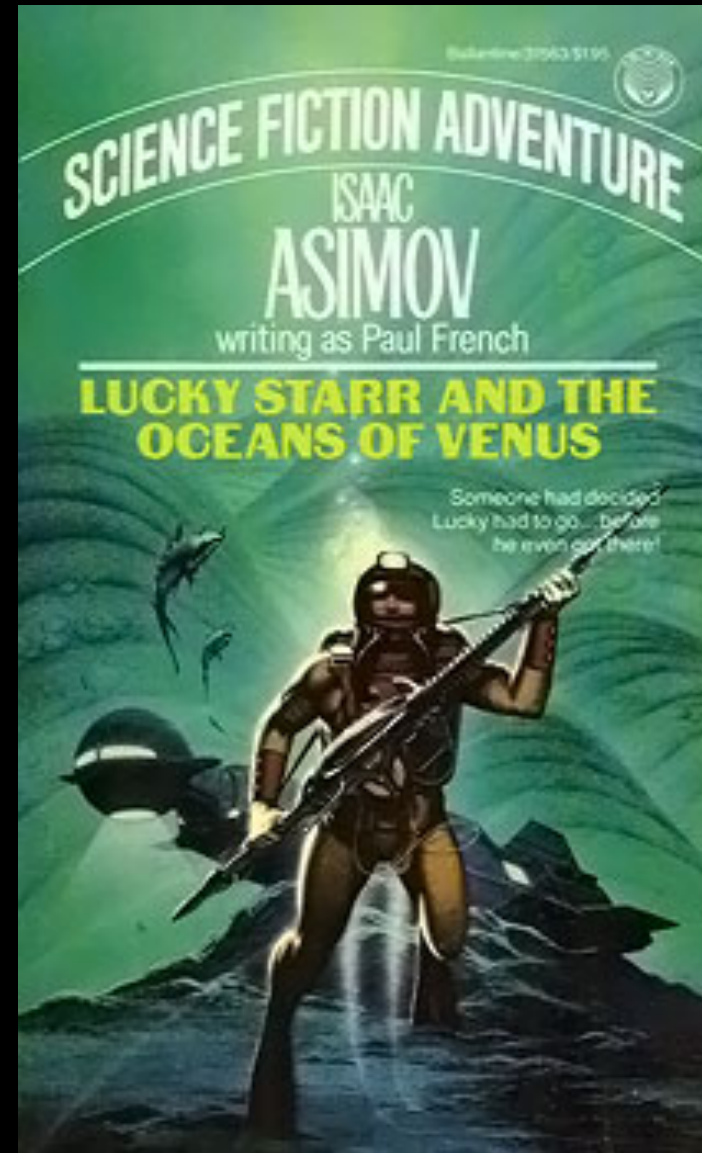
Jet Propulsion Laboratory

California Institute of Technology

# Mars and Venus in the pre spacecraft era



Martian canals as perceived  
by Percival Lowell





# First Planetary Mission

A detailed illustration of the Mariner 2 spacecraft in space. The spacecraft has a central body with various instruments and a large, circular, multi-ribbed antenna structure. Two long, thin solar panels extend from the sides. The background is a dark, star-filled space.

## **Mariner 2 (NASA/JPL)**

Launch: 27 Aug 1962

Venus encounter: 14 Dec 1962

Closest approach: 41,000 km

## **Mariner 2 Findings flybys at Venus**

- No Earth sized magnetosphere
- No Global Ocean – surface temperature  $>430^{\circ}\text{C}$

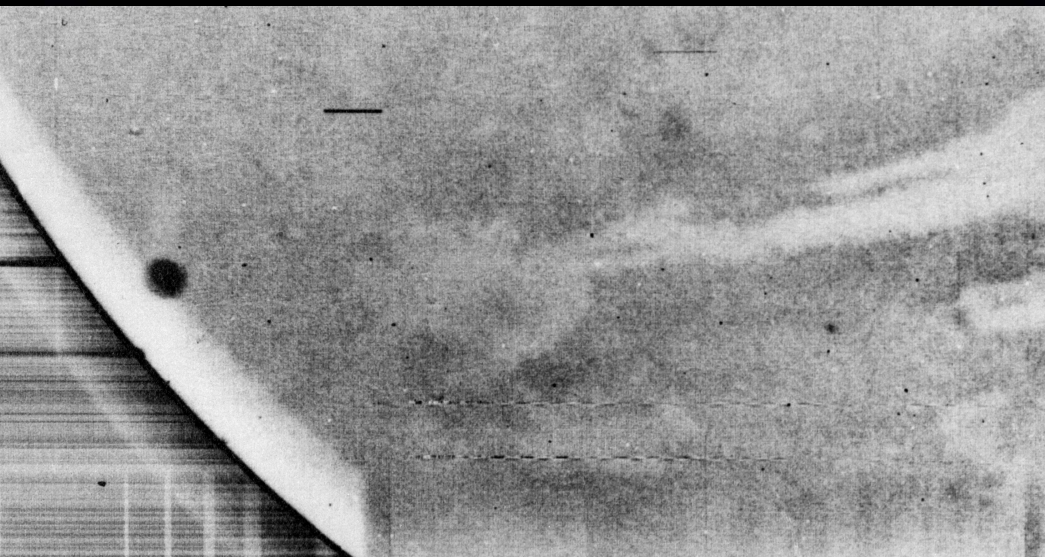
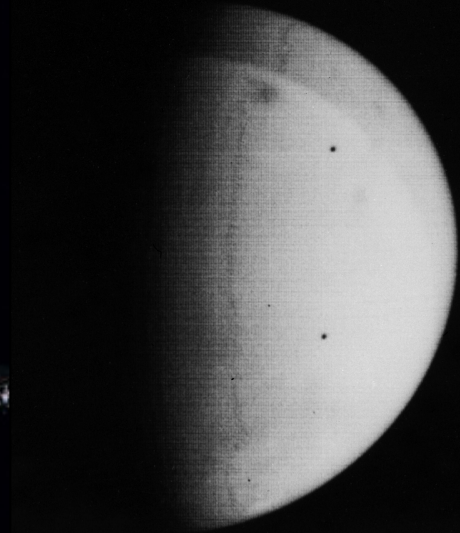
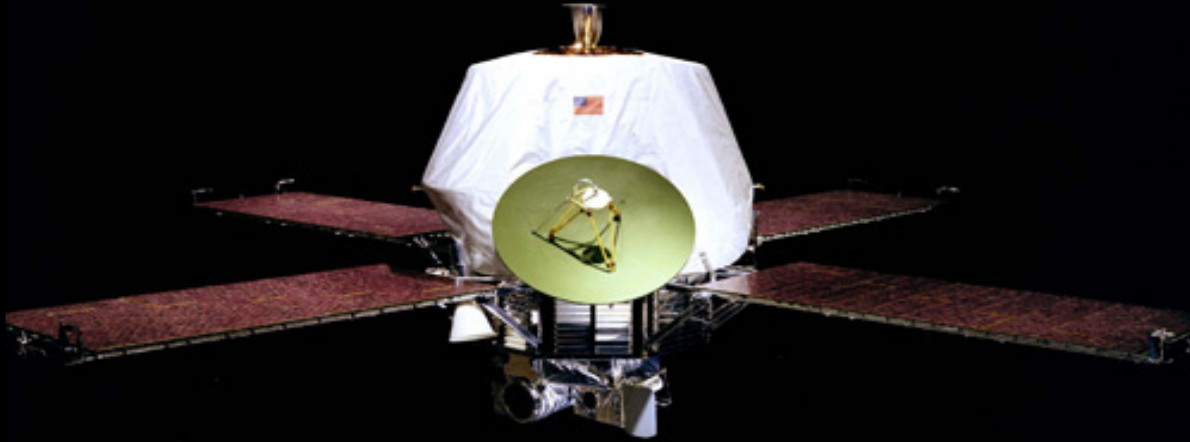
## **Mariner 4, 6 and 7 flybys at Mars**

- No canals
- A moon-like cratered surface with a thin veneer of windblown dust



# First Planetary Orbiter Mission

Mariner 9 (NASA/JPL)  
Entered Mars Orbit on 13 Nov 1971



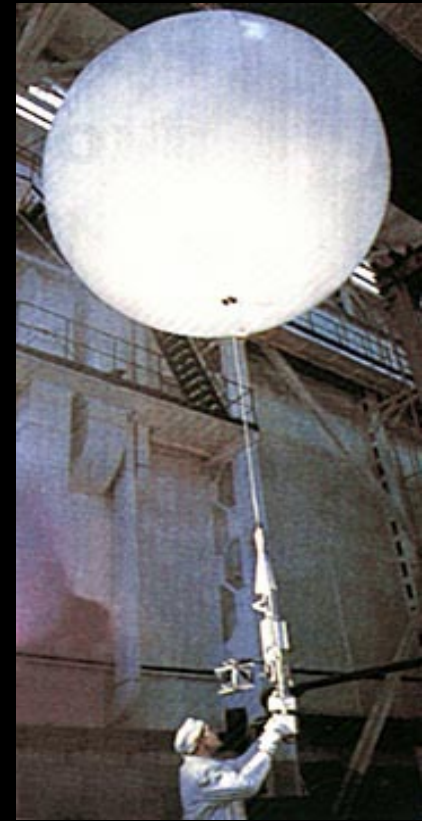
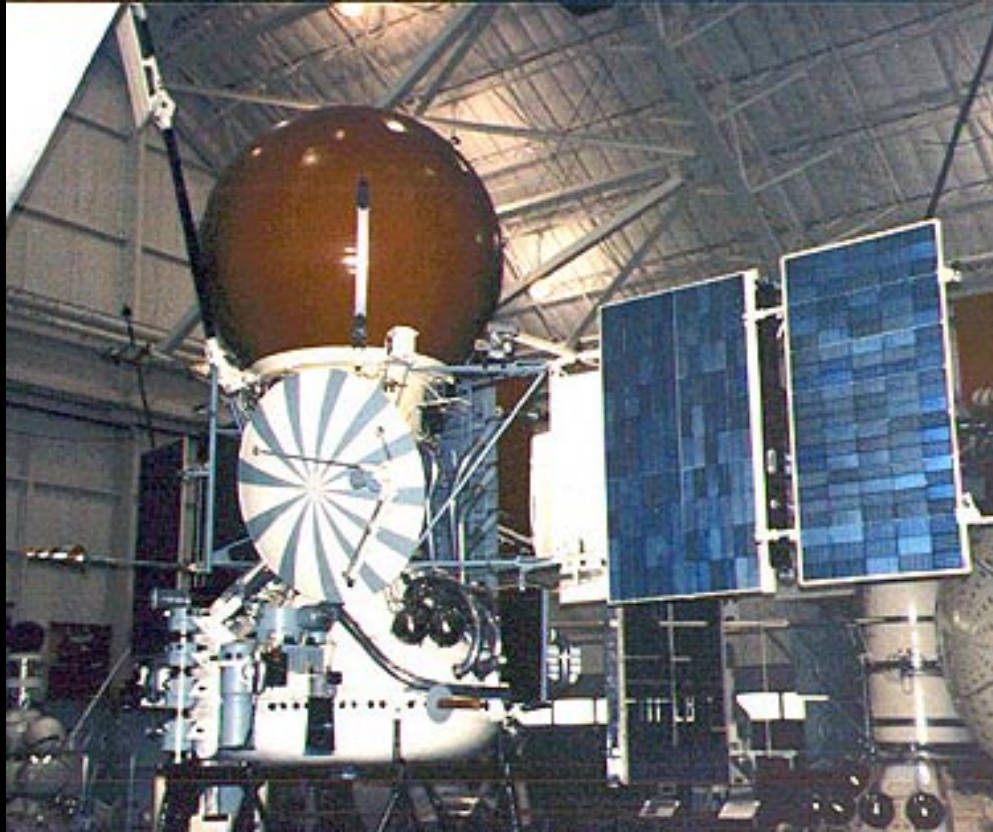
**Nirgal Valles after the  
dust storm cleared**

Nirgal Vallis, Mariner 9



# Venus Exploration by USSR

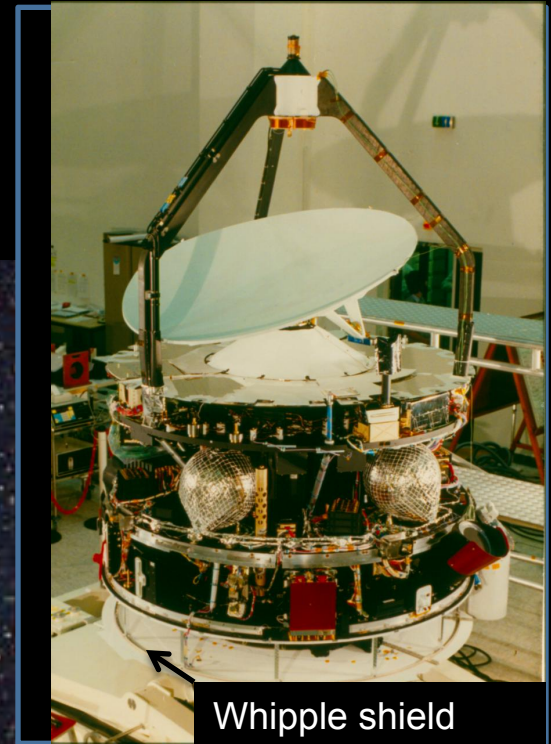
- 15 successful missions between 1967 and 1984
- Included flybys, orbiters, atmospheric probes, balloons and landers.



# Giotto – Mission to Halley's Comet (ESA)



Giotto (ESA)  
Launch: 2 July 1985  
Flyby March 6 1986



Whipple shield

## Halley Armada

**Giotto (ESA)**

Vega 1 (USSR)

Vega 2 (USSR)

Sakigake (Japan)

Suisei (Japan)



## Giotto

Fly by distance  
590 km

Approach speed  
68 km/sec



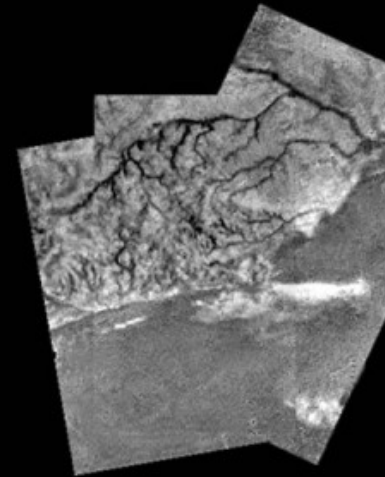
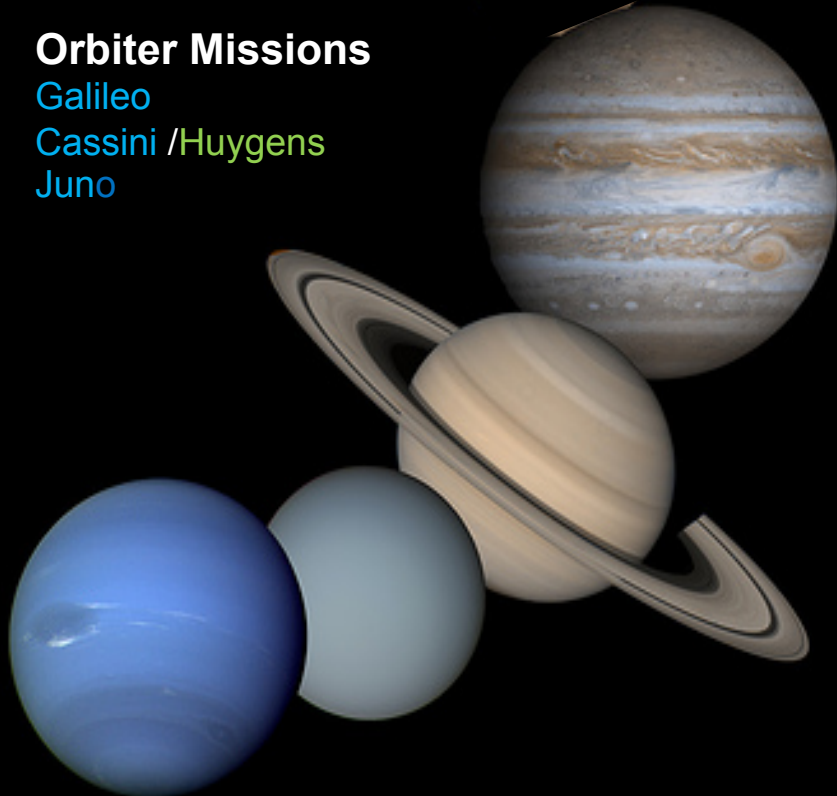
# Outer Planet Exploration

## Fly By Missions

Pioneer 10  
Pioneer 11  
**Voyager 1**  
**Voyager 2**  
New Horizons

## Orbiter Missions

Galileo  
Cassini / **Huygens**  
Juno





# Galileo – First probe into a gas giant's atmosphere

## Key Entry Parameters

Entry speed: 47.8 km/sec

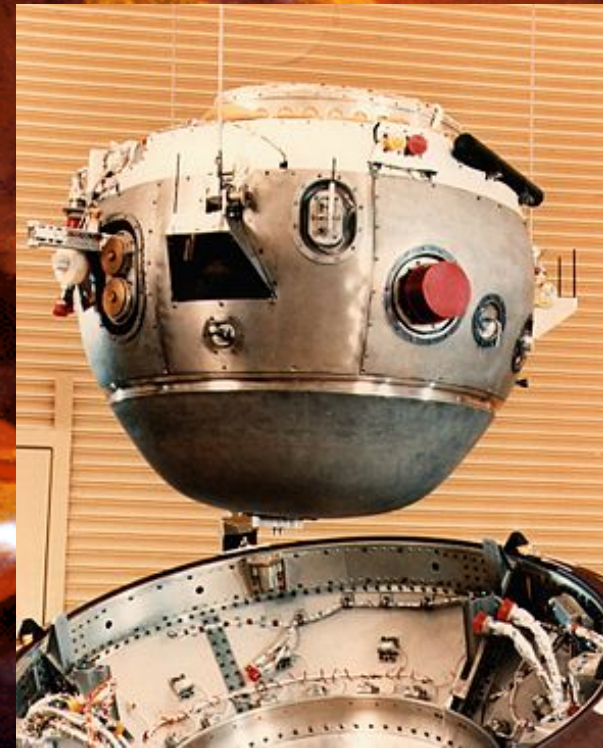
Peak Deceleration: 230g

## Heat Shield Performance

Probe Mass: 339 kg

Heat Shield Mass: 152 kg

Ablated Mass: 80 kg



## Scientific Results

- Measured temperature profile during entry/descent
- Determined noble gas abundances and isotope ratios
- Measured winds and turbulence during descent
- Determined cloud properties in situ



# Mobile Exploration of Mars

## Mars Exploration Rovers

Event	Spirit	Opportunity
Launch	Jun 10 '03	Jul 7 '03
Landing Site	Jan 3 '04 Gusev	Jan 24 '04 Meridiani
Distance (km)	7.73	34.47+



Iron rich spherule in layered rock, Meridiani, Mars



“Homestake” gypsum vein  
Endeavor crater, Mars,

# First sample return from an asteroid



Hayabusa Spacecraft at  
Asteroid Itakawa

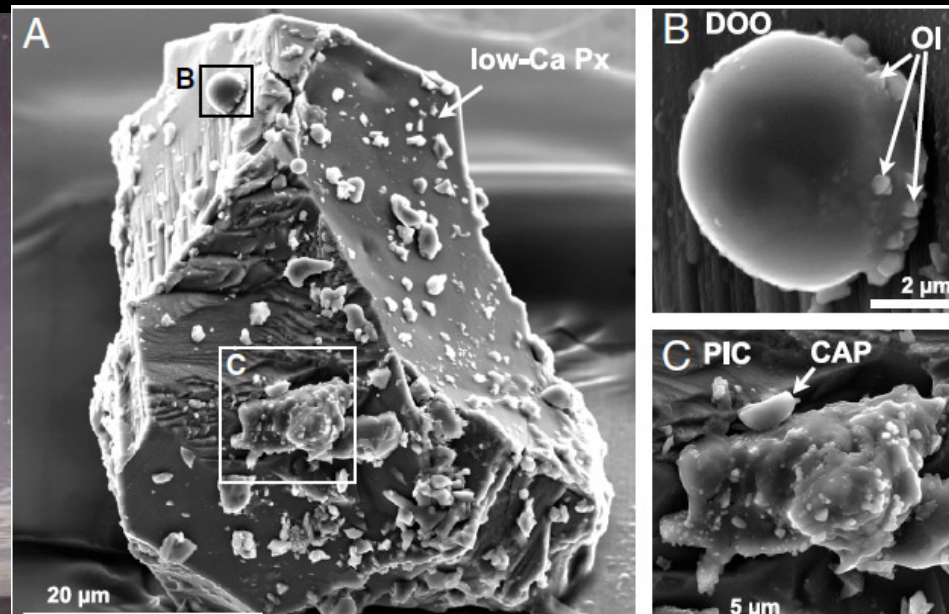
## Hayabusa's Seven Year Odyssey

- **May 2003 Launch from Kagoshima, Japan**
- Nov 2003 Spacecraft damaged by solar flare
- July 2005 Reaction wheel damaged
- Nov 2005 Second touchdown on Hayabusa - Hydrazine leak
- Dec 2005 Loss of attitude control and communications
- Nov 2009 Ion thruster failure and recovery
- **June 2010 Safe landing in Australia**



Hayabusa Reentry  
Fireball, June 13 2010

Hayabusa Reentry Fireball – 13 June 2010



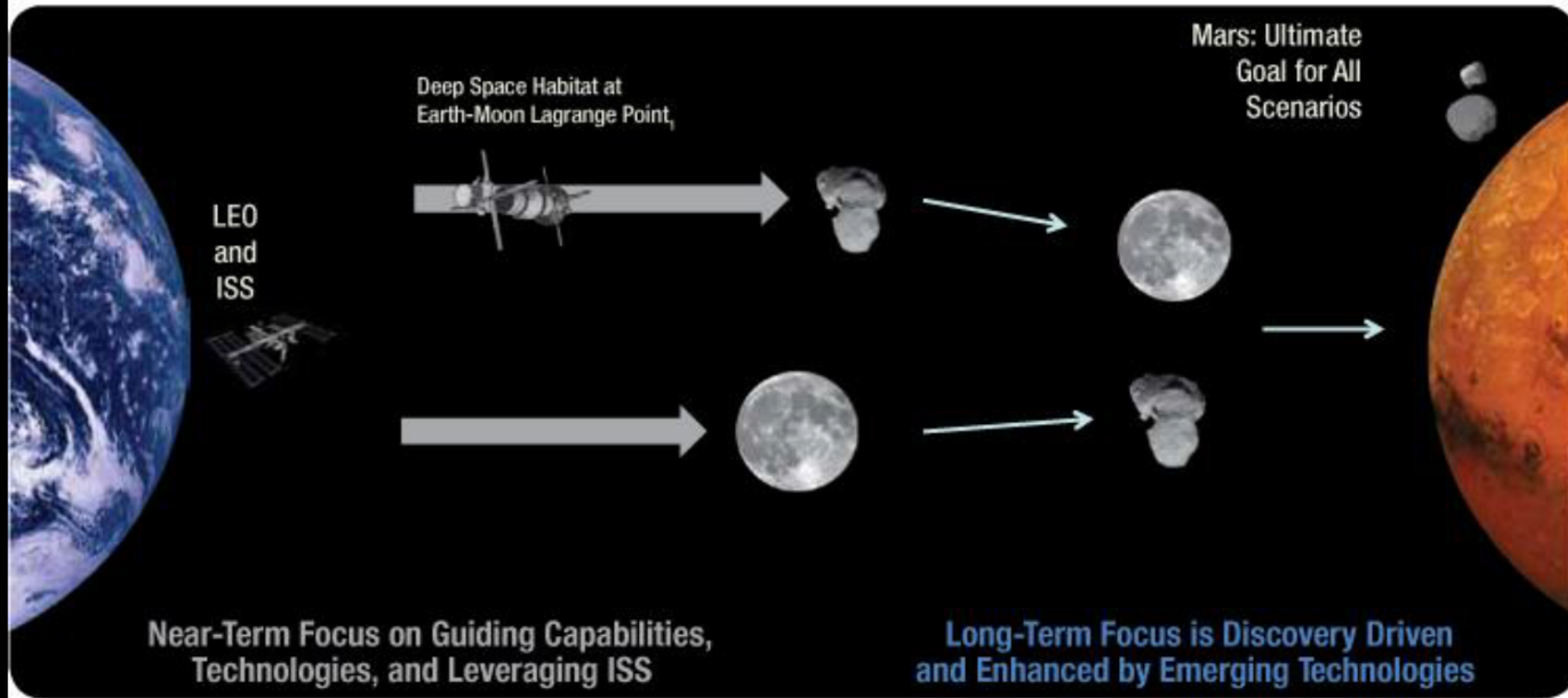


# The Next Fifty Years



# Human Exploration Strategy

## Optional Pathways in a Common Strategy



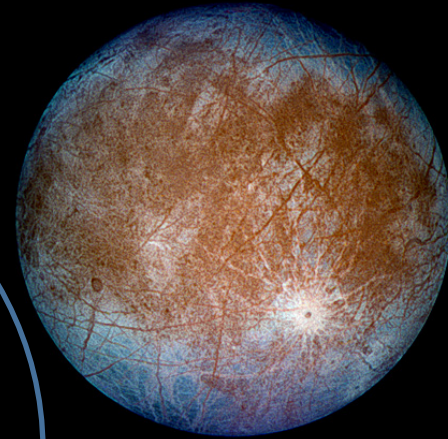


# Robotic Exploration Strategy

## The Search for Life



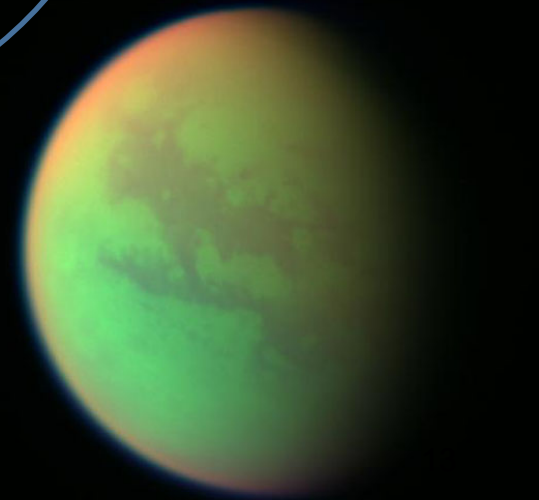
Mars



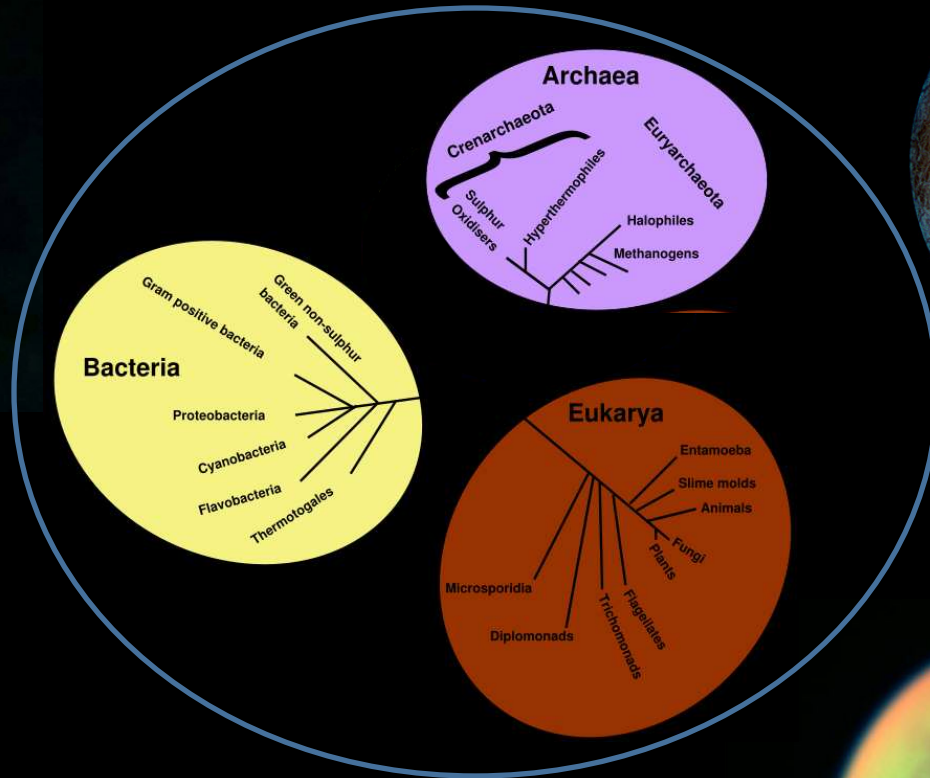
Europa



Enceladus

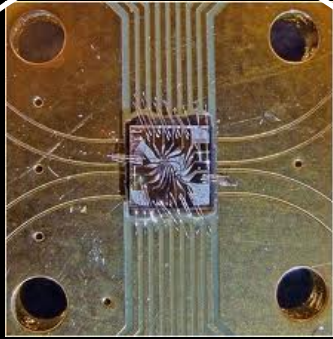


Titan



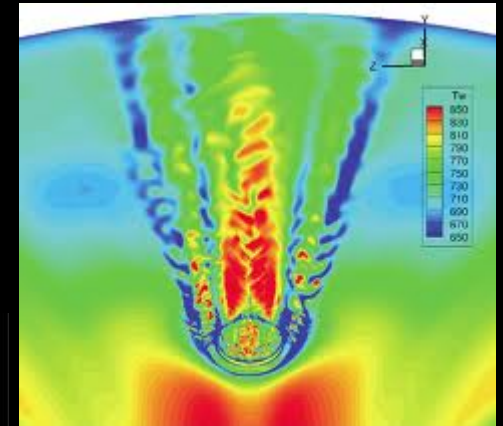
The Tree of Life

# Riding the Information Technology Wave

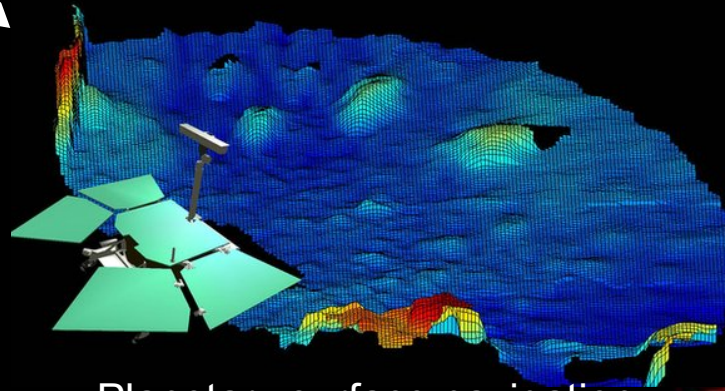


## Key technical drivers

- Miniaturization
- New Devices
- Software
- Ground Systems
- Space Systems



Modeling and simulation



Planetary surface navigation



Autonomous surface science



Science Data analysis



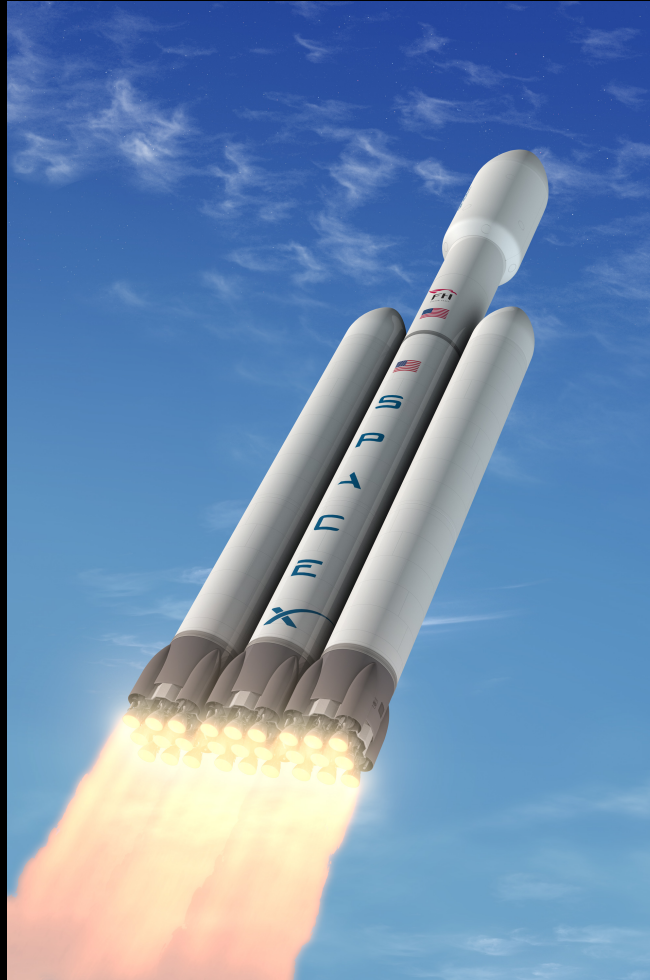
Planetary mission navigation



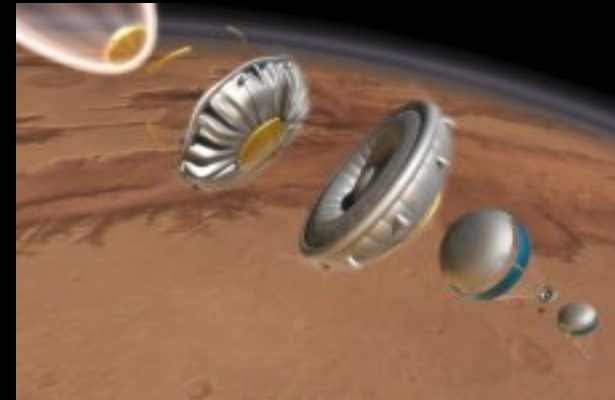
# Emerging Capabilities at NASA



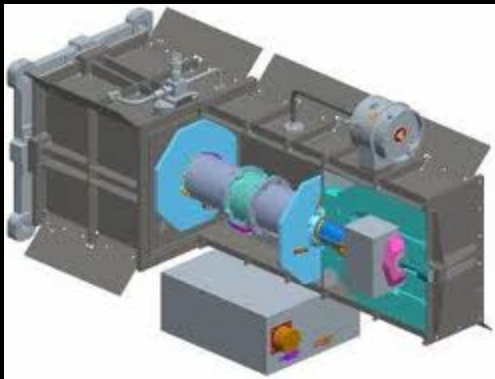
Sunjammer Solar Sail



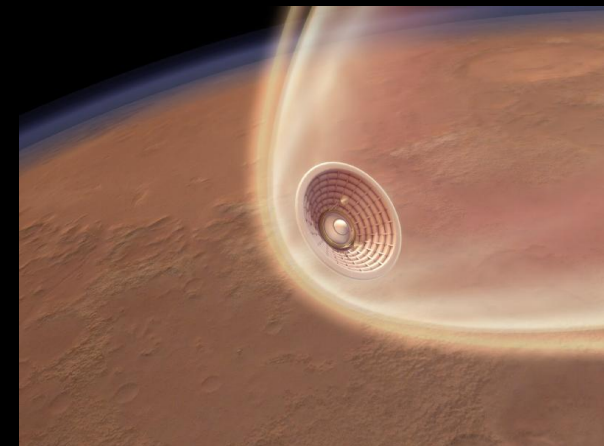
Falcon Heavy –biggest  
LV since Saturn V



Low Density Supersonic  
Decelerator (LDSD)

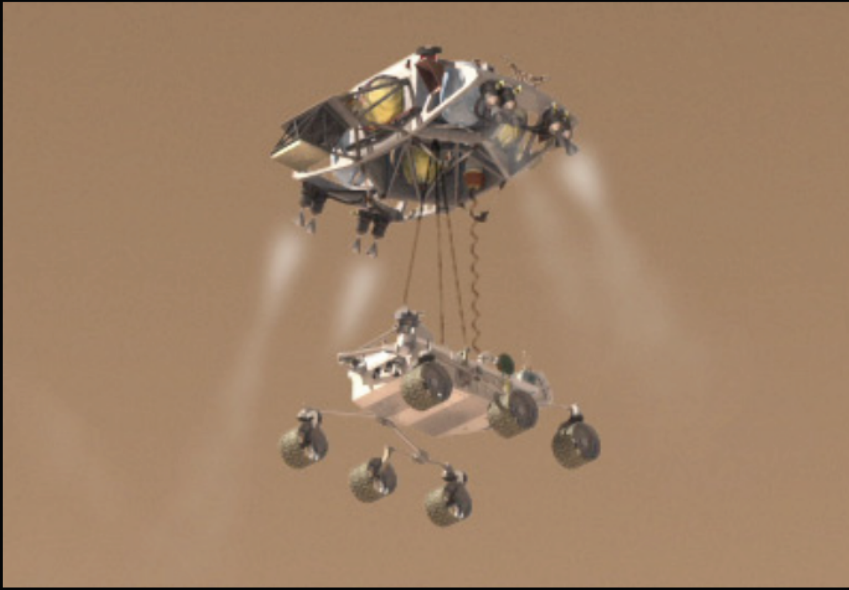


Advanced Stirling Radioisotopic  
Generator (ASRG)



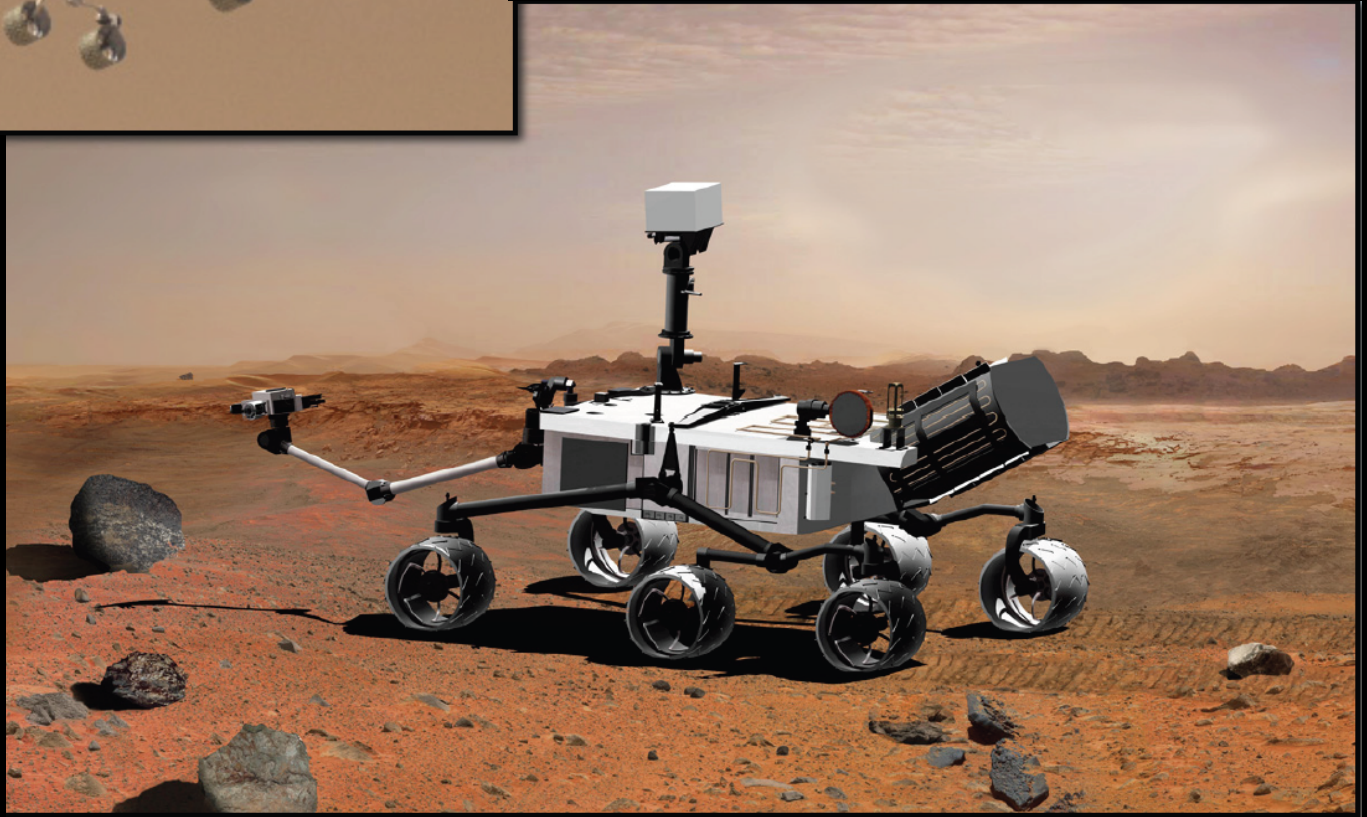
Hypersonic Inflatable  
Aerodynamic Decelerator (HIAD)

# Planetary Exploration – the Next 50 days



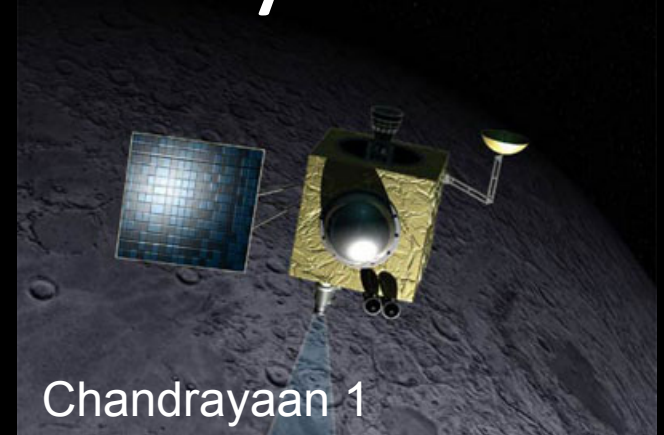
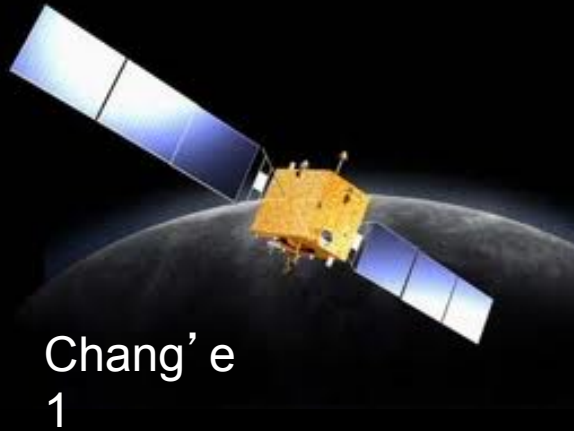
Mars Science Laboratory  
“Sky crane” landing system

Curiosity Rover





# New International Players



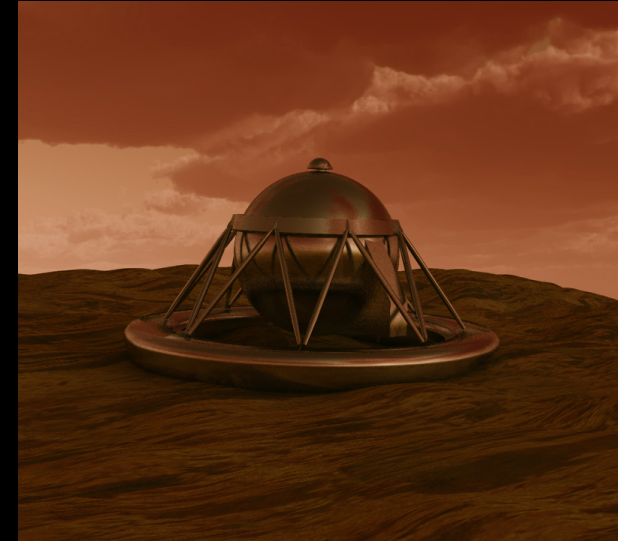
Yinghuo-1



CHINA

INDIA

# International Venus Exploration



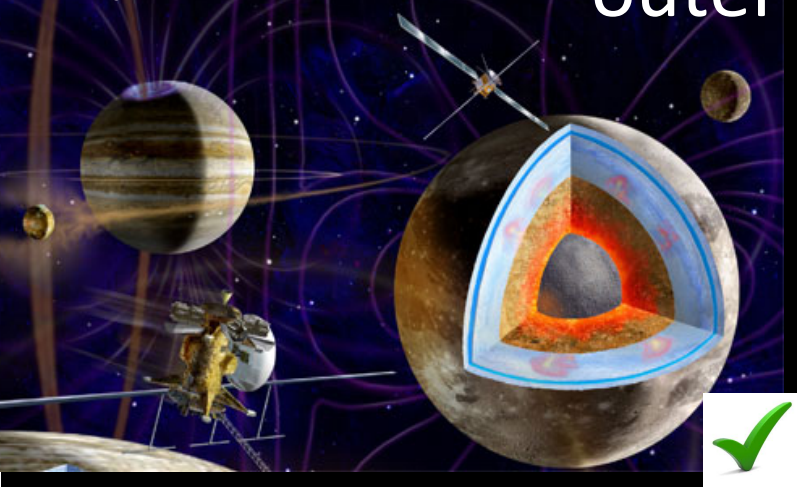
## Why Venus?

- Proximity to earth
- Relevance to climate change
- Multiple mission modes needed
- Missions can be loosely coupled

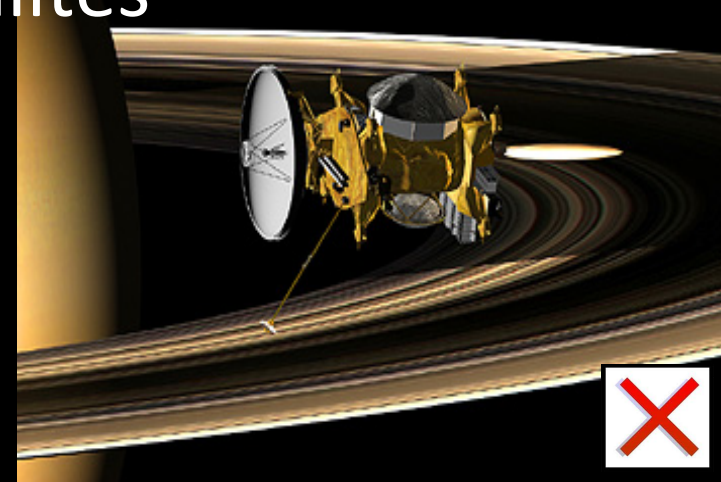


# Searching for life among the outer planet satellites

Europa Jupiter  
System Mission



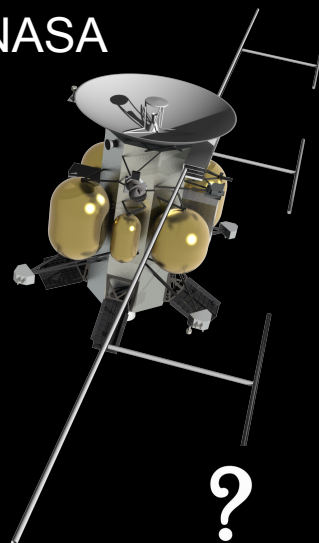
Titan Saturn  
System Mission



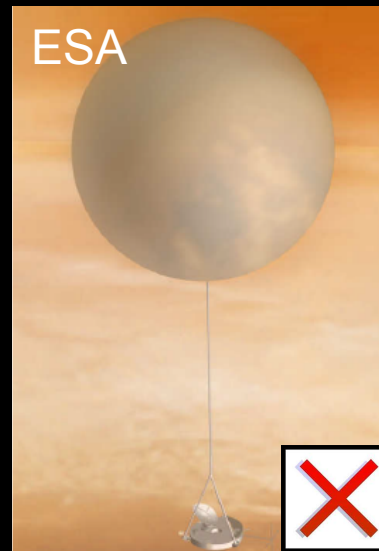
ESA



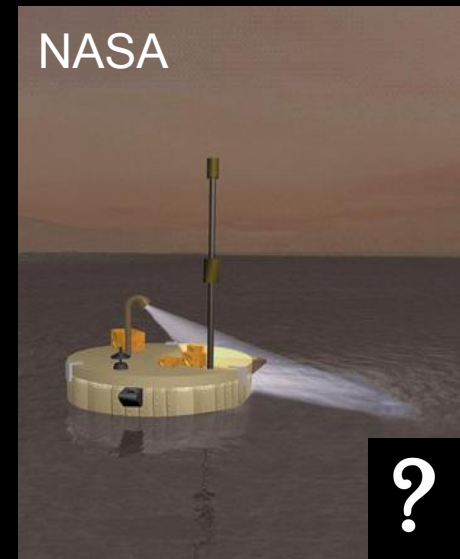
NASA



ESA



NASA



# Prognosis

- Technology investments at NASA have emerged at just the right time to revitalize planetary exploration
- Human and robotic exploration have become intertwined for future Mars initiatives
- Involvement of China and India in human exploration is positive for Mars exploration
- Immediate future will be dominated by smaller largely competitive missions in Europe and USA
- This is not sustainable for the longer term and larger strategic missions are going to be ultimately needed



# Acknowledgements

- Mark Adler
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