

# Special Issue

## Planetary Exploration

### Message from the Guest Editor

Exploring foreign planetary bodies has long been a dream for humanity. At this juncture, numerous missions have visited several planetary bodies far from our own. Nevertheless, more blank spots remain on our maps than discovered areas. Robotics is a key driver in advancing the exploration of space. Even though the technological challenges involved in such efforts are often high, overcoming them could allow robotic explorers to visit areas that are currently inaccessible to humans due to either reach or cost. The current goals of planetary exploration include “classics”, such as reaching Mars or the Moon, but also smaller objectives related to bodies like comets and asteroids could enhance our understanding of their evolution. While orbital and surface missions have been long-time focuses, the subsurface is of growing interest.

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