Special Issue

Space Missions to Small Bodies: Results and Future Activities

Message from the Guest Editor

Small bodies (asteroids, comets, and satellites) are the most primitive bodies of the solar system and therefore crucial to understanding its origin and early evolution. Lately, the study of small bodies has advanced significantly thanks to space missions developed in recent years, which observed asteroids (Vesta, Trojan asteroids, Toutatis, Itokawa, Ryugu, Bennu), comets (67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko), satellites (Moon), and dwarf planets (Ceres and Pluto). This Special Issue welcomes papers on new results concerning:

- Data analysis of space missions to small bodies, including observations from space telescopes and analysis of samples returned from Hayabusa, Hayabusa2, Chang'e 5, and previous sample return missions;
- Development of instruments, technologies, scientific activities, and software for future/upcoming missions to small bodies, including advances in sample return technology;
- Laboratory activity, supporting data interpretation and future missions to small bodies;
- Comparison between ground and space observations of small bodies.

Review papers on these topics are also welcome.

Guest Editor

Dr. Andrea Longobardo
Istituto di Astrofisica e Planetologia Spaziale INAF-IAPS, Via del Fosso del Cavaliere, 00133 Rome, Italy

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 April 2024)

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Impact Factor 2.6
CiteScore 5.2

mdpi.com/si/114590

Universe
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
universe@mdpi.com

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The multidisciplinary journal *Universe* is aiming to follow and, hopefully, to lead to the largest extent as possible the ever-self renovating threads which weave mathematical theories with our understanding of the magnificent natural world. On behalf of all the distinguished members of the Advisory and Editorial Boards, I extend my welcome to this journal and look forward to hearing from the interested contributors and learning about their valuable research.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lorenzo Iorio
Ministero dell' Istruzione e del Merito, Viale Unità di Italia 68, 70125 Bari, Italy

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