Space Physics: Instrumentation and Industrial Partnerships

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Space Physics: Mission timeline







JUICE Characterising the conditions of ocean-bearing moons around Jupiter

bepicolombo Exploring Mercury

Sono Facing the Sun

> **proba-2** Observing coronal dynamics and solar eruptions

> > cassini-huygens

Studying the Saturnian system and landing on Titan

mars express Investigating the Red Planet

Measuring Earth's magnetic shield

cluster

solar orbite The Sun up close

Chasing a comet

→ ESA'S FLEET IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM

The Solar System is a natural laboratory that allows scientists to explore the nature of the Sun, the planets and their moons, as well as comets and asteroids. ESA's missions have transformed our view of the celestial neighbourhood, visiting Mars, Venus, and Saturn's moon Titan, and providing new insight into how the Sun interacts with Earth and its neighbours. The Solar System is the result of 4.6 billion years of formation and evolution. Studying how it appears now allows us to unlock the mysteries of its past and to predict how the various bodies will change in the future.

Fluxgate Magnetometer Instrument for the **Cluster** mission:

Imperial College (PI), IGeP Braunschweig, IWF Graz, NASA-GSFC

Radiation hard Hi-Reliability Dual-redundant bus architecture Fault-tolerant by design 12-years continuous operation

(4 instruments)

No degradation



Cluster, 4th June 1996







Solar Orbiter Magnetometer

- Solar Orbiter's trajectory goes to less than 0.3 AU
 - Closer to the Sun than Mercury
- Spacecraft behind heat-shield
 - Boom-mounted sensor in permanent shadow
- Extreme thermal environment for the magnetometer
 - Maximum +80 ° C
 - Minimum -190 °C
- In-house mechanical, thermal design and simulation



Mechanical and Thermal FEM Analysis

SolidWorks Simulation plus ThermXL In accordance with ECSS-E-ST-32





Emanuele Cupido (e.cupido@imperial.ac.uk)

Magnetoresistive Sensor

- Miniaturised magnetic field sensor
 - Developed for use on very small satellites (e.g. CubeSat)
 - Honeywell magnetoresistive sensor
- First flown on the US 'CINEMA' CubeSat
 - 2 new launches in 2013
 - Selected for Sunjammer
 - ESA SSA 'SOSMAG'
- Technology licensed to Satellite Services UK Ltd as an attitude sensor
 - 8 flight units sold
 - Through Imperial Innovations plc



Imperial College London **Payload data processor** Leon3FT Processor



Prototype for Solar Orbiter

Low-voltage DC/DC power converters

- Flight model for BepiColombo
 - High efficiency
 - Multiple output voltages
 - Modular redundancy
 - Recent heritage:
 - » Cluster
 - » Double Star
 - » Venus Express etc.
- Potential for commercialisation
- We have a 'pump-priming' research contract from Lockheed Martin



Integrated Payload Data Handling Systems (I-PDHS)

- Astrium lead with SciSys
- Imperial and RAL payload
- Demonstrate new onboard data handling architectures
 - Reduced mass, power and complexity

I-PDHS is a NSTP Space-CITI project hosted by the Catapult

IMA

FPGA

Instrument #1



Industry Collaborations

Ultra Electronics (UK)

Fluxgate Sensors R&D Magnetic test facility (available through Imperial Consultants Ltd)

Lockheed Martin (USA) Power converters (research contract)

Astrium (UK)

CASE-funded postgraduate student and magnetometer ASIC development

ESA/MST Aerospace (Germany) Technology transfer contract (2010/11)

MAGSON (Germany)

Magnetometer prototype for ESA SSA (Space Situational Awareness) programme

Satellite Services BV Ltd (UK)

Licensed by **Imperial Innovations plc** to sell our magnetoresistive magnetometer

