

The Rosetta Mission - Where no Spacecraft has gone before

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This talk will provide an overview on the Scientific Highlights of the Rosetta Mission. After travelling through the Solar System for nearly 10 years Rosetta arrived at its main target, Comet 67/P Churyumov-Gerasimenko, in August 2014. Following an initial characterization of the Comet, the lander unit Philae touched down on the partly active Nucleus on November 12 of the same year.

The data acquired from the numerous instruments onboard the Spacecraft provides a unique insight into the properties of the Comets. While most of the measurements and processing of the data are still ongoing, first results from the Mission provide continuous surprises to the scientific community. While the Lander unit is currently in an inactive state, the Orbiter is pursuing its main mission objectives until the end of 2015, with a likely extension of the Mission until Autumn 2016.

During the long journey, the Spacecraft had encountered Earth, Mars and two Asteroids (2867 Šteins and 21 Lutetia) and even performed some Astronomical observations.