

Dear A1 commission member,

March 2nd, 2020

Following are three announcements concerning our commission

1. GAIA status
2. JASMINE status
3. Colloquium “Active Galaxies and Quasar Reference Systems in the Gaia era”, Paris, June 15-19, 2020
4. Documents on line concerning IAU 2021 GA Symposium & Focus meeting proposals, Voyage2050 white paper & ICRS-PC Annual Report

Best Regards,

Jean Souchay

1. GAIA status

Gaia is now well into its extended mission lifetime. As mentioned in the previous newsletter a large orbit maintenance manoeuvre took place on July 16 after which the precession direction of Gaia's spin axis was reversed. This operation was executed without problems and Gaia has been operating in reverse precession scan law mode without any major problems. The spin axis precession will go back to normal in the summer of 2020.

The estimated end-of-life for Gaia (when the micro-propulsion fuel runs out) is still end-2024. The process of extending the mission for the period 2023-2025 (thus covering end-of-life) will start on February 27 with a technical review of the status of the spacecraft and payload. In June we hope to get the confirmation for the extension 2021-2022 and preliminary approval for 2023-2025.

The data processing for Gaia EDR3 has almost finished and the release is still on track for Q3 2020. This release will feature improved astrometry (positions, parallaxes, proper motions) and photometry (integrated G, G_BP, G_RP). For convenience the radial velocities from Gaia DR2 will be included as well. Many new data products will become available with Gaia DR3 in the second half of 2021. As listed on <https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/gaia/release>

- Gaia EDR3 contents (see above)
- Object classification and astrophysical parameters, together with BP/RP spectra and/or RVS spectra they are based on, for spectroscopically and (spectro-photometrically) well-behaved objects.

- Mean radial velocities for stars with available atmospheric-parameter estimates.
- Variable-star classifications together with the epoch photometry used for the stars.
- Solar-system results with preliminary orbital solutions and individual epoch observations.
- Non-single stars.
- Quasars and Extended Objects results
- An additional data set, called the Gaia Andromeda Photometric Survey (GAPS), consisting of the photometric time series for **all** sources located in a 5.5 degree radius field centred on the Andromeda galaxy.

Both releases are based on 34 months of observations and feature the same source list.

[Transmitted by A. Brown]

2. JASMINE status

Small-JASMINE selected by ISAS/JAXA as a M-class to be launched in mid-2020s has been listed as one of large research programm in Science Council of Japan. JASMINE Consortium has been built and the kick off meeting was held in Aug 2019 in Japan. This consortium covers data analysis, scientific data validation and public outreach for Small-JASMINE. Small-JASMINE is currently seeking the international partners, and we welcome the international partners to join the consortium in near future. Small-JASMINE is discussing with a USA team led by USNO about their contribution to the development of the detector box unit. We are also discussing with ESA their ground station contribution for science data down-link.

[Transmitted by Y. Yamada]

3. Colloquium “Active Galaxies and Quasar Reference Systems in the Gaia era”, Paris, June 15-19, 2020

Deadline for registration is extended at March 12th. *The future of this meeting with respect to the coronavirus propagation is uncertain.* As soon as some decision is taken, information will be given in the corresponding web-site.

<https://syrtte.obspm.fr/astro/agnworkshop2020/>

4. On line in the IAU A1 commission website at the item “documents” :

- A Focus Meeting proposal for IAU GA 2021 (A. Brown)
- A Symposium proposal for IAU GA2021 (F.Seitz)
- The Voyage2050 white paper (D.Hobbs)
- The ICRS-PC 2018 Annual Report (B.Dorland & J. Souchay)