

Next decade initiatives for lunar planetary explorations: The third stage

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The third stage of next decade initiatives for lunar planetary explorations is now on-going.

Planetary science community in Japan has not been much experience of the self-selection of a mission proposal integrated through tough discussion and corroborative works. Recent Japanese budget crunch in space science have induced severe competition for few opportunities with other communities. To win the competition our community should improve the fascination of the mission proposal and persuade other science and engineering communities. We should reconstruct a mid-range future vision to clarify the best mix of medium- to large-sized flagship missions, small-sized missions, and internationally corroborated missions.

The third stage aims at sharing a mid-range future vision of planetary science, selecting a flagship planetary mission according to the vision, and making the compelling mission concept.

I will report on progress of the third stage of next decade initiatives for lunar planetary explorations.

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