

## Editorial

# Space: Science & Technology—Promoting Academic Exchange and Exploring the Frontiers of Space

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People on Earth, the cradle and common home of humankind, pursue a shared dream to explore the vast universe and understand the relationship between humankind and Earth. From ancient times to the present, human beings have always taken great interest in exploring and understanding Earth itself and its position in the universe. Basic sciences like astronomy, cosmology, space science, and planetary science, as well as material science, fluid science, and life science, were all born in response to this “call from the universe.” In the first half of the 21st century, remarkable developments in space flight, space exploration, and space observation that enable robots and humans to observe Earth, the Solar System, and the more distant universe from platforms in outer space can strengthen all these basic sciences. Such aspirations also urge us to push forward the research of substance, material science, and organism survival in the extreme conditions of outer space. Advancement in space technologies has stimulated a large number of high-tech developments, which will in return greatly drive the space industry and benefit human society. Spaceflight missions are enhancing the convergence of space science and technology, turning the dream of humankind’s exploration of the solar system into a reality.

Through its spectacular developments, space exploration has provided us with a new perspective—a mirror for us to examine ourselves. When we look at Earth from space, we understand it more deeply as an organic whole, a community with a shared future. By broadening our perspectives, space exploration can also help enhance humankind’s confidence and enterprising spirit and make us fully prepared for addressing and overcoming future major challenges.

On the basis of the principles of “independence, freedom, peace and equality” set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and the goal that the use of space “shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries” set in the Outer Space Treaty, most countries around the world have begun to jointly seek common interests and values in outer space. The booming exchange of ideas and cooperation within the international space community has stimulated the development of basic sciences, innovative technologies, and social applications.

In this context, the journal *Space: Science & Technology* has emerged at the right time to serve, stimulate, and integrate the achievements of the international space community. This journal is aimed at showcasing the core contents of space activities, namely, the continuous and fruitful synergies among science, technology, and management, which will ultimately contribute to the success of space programs and missions. Its primary goal is to faithfully, rigorously, and extensively document significant achievements in space technologies, sciences, and applications.

Equality, openness, cooperation and sharing are the founding principles of the journal. As a Science Partner Journal, *Space: Science & Technology* is jointly sponsored by the Beijing Institute of Technology and China Academy of Space Technology and is published and issued by AAAS. It is benchmarked against international first-class professional journals and is integrated with the ideas of international leading experts and the latest scientific achievements of the space community.

We hope that *Space: Science & Technology* will become a hub for extensive and in-depth academic exchanges among

governments, universities, research institutions, and laboratories in the space field. The close collaboration among the editorial board, peer reviewers and authors will accelerate the exchange of ideas in this journal at all levels and in all disciplines, and bring about the most innovative scientific ideas and research results for the world's space community to benefit humankind.

*Space: Science & Technology* will advance humankind's exploration of the frontiers of space and witness the vigorous development of space science and technology.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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