Earth's Neighborhood 2013

Solving Atmosphere Mysteries

Mercury

No Moons
Thin Atmosphere (Exosphere)
Mission: MESSENGER

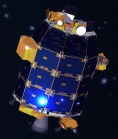
Comets

Comet ISON
Thin atmosphere (coma)
Mission: BRRISON
(Sept launch)

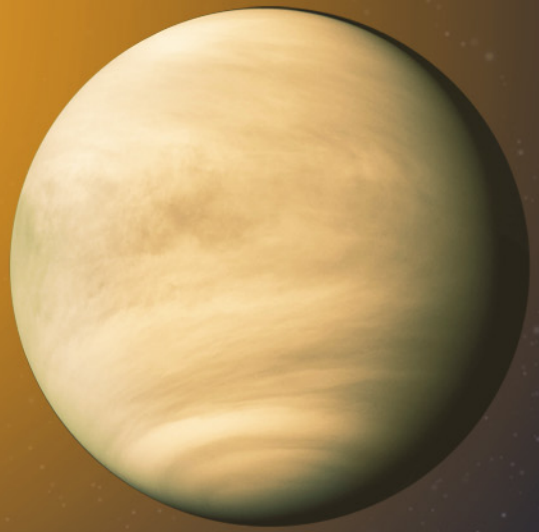
Sun

Atmosphere (corona)
Missions: IRIS (June launch)
SOHO, SDO, Stereo

Moon



Thin atmosphere
Mission: LADEE
(Aug 2013 launch)



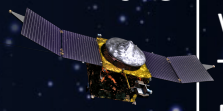
Earth

1 Moon
Stable axis
Stable atmosphere
Strong Magnetic field
Missions: Terra, Aqua

Venus

No Moons
Hot Atmosphere
Mission: VESPER (Nov launch)

Mars



2 Captured asteroid s/moons
Wobbly Axis
Thin atmosphere
Mission: MAVEN (Nov Launch)