

GALILEO'S ORBITAL MISSION

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Following **successful** receipt of the **atmospheric entry Probe** data, the Galileo spacecraft went into orbit about Jupiter on 7 Dec, 1995. Its **first satellite encounter** will be with the Galilean satellite, **Ganymede**, on 27 June 1996, after which it will begin an 11 orbit tour of the Jovian system lasting until December of 1997. During the tour a **complete survey** of the magnetosphere will be conducted, including **nearly continuous real time** data from the space physics experiments. Each orbit will feature an approximately week-long encounter phase during which remote sensing **observations of** Jupiter and the target satellite, along with high time resolution **magnetospheric data** will be stored on the spacecraft's tape recorder. Data from the recorder is played back during the remainder of the orbit (the "cruise phase") using upgraded capabilities of the Deep Space Network and extensive use of on-board processing, editing and data compression. The current status of the spacecraft and mission and the science observation plans for the orbital mission will be discussed. This work was done at Caltech/JPL for NASA.

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| | | 5. | Oral Presentation |
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