Swarm: ESA's satellite trio on voyage through Earth's magnetic field

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part of ESA's Living Planet Programme

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SWARM



# Swarm

Objective: to provide the best ever survey of the geomagnetic field and its temporal evolution



Proposed: 2002 Selected: 2004

#### Constellation

- 3 satellites:
  - 2 side-by-side in low orbit1 in higher orbit
- three orbital planes with two different near-polar inclinations
- Near polar orbits for global coverage

## Each single satellite

- Magnetic field magnitude and vector components
- Electric field vector components
- Plasma density and temperature
- Ion drift velocity
- Air drag
- Position, attitude and time







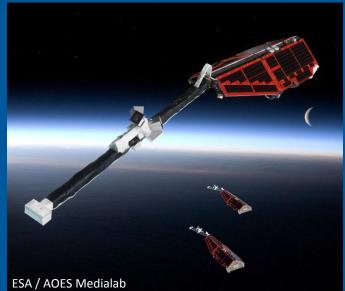
## Swarm Mission Details

#### Manufacturer:

EADS Astrium
 Friedrichshafen

#### Launch:

- 22. November 2013
- Rockot (Eurockot) "all in one"



### **Relevance of Swarm & Mission objectives**

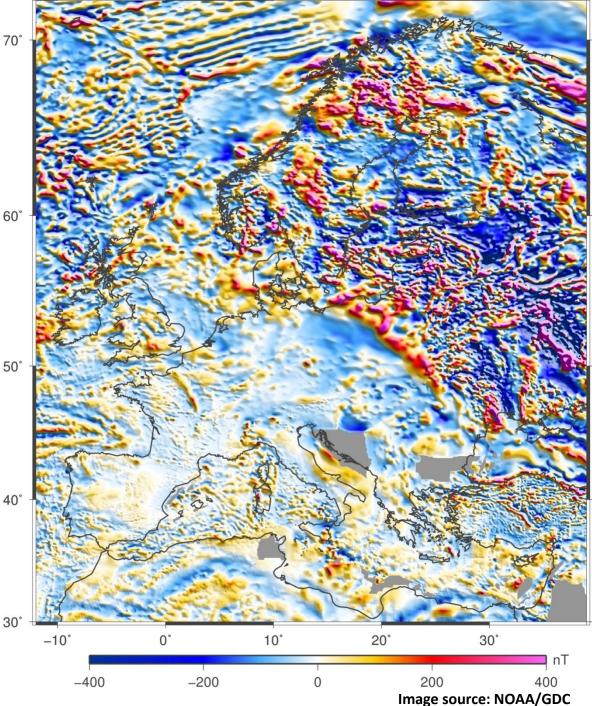
- Observation of the geomagnetic field and its variations
- insights into the interior of the Earth (e.g. processes at the core-mantle boundary)
- Insights into Earth's ionosphere and current systems
- Interactions of atmosphere and solar wind
  -> Forecast of disturbances in the signal transmission (e.g. GPS)
- Magnetization of the crust-> discovering ore deposits
- Ocean circulation
- Gravity field
- Navigation





## Crustal magnetization <sup>70°</sup> map

- Due to magnetic minerals -> detection of ore deposits
- Carries information about the past of a terrestrial planet, its evolution, and its tectonic, magnetic and thermal history
- High resolution through stereo effect of the low orbiting Swarm pair





# Stereo view of the two low orbiting Swarm satellites



- Overlap of the mapped area from two slightly different viewing angles
- Spatial
  resolution:
  150 km













- Coordination of the German SWARM user community
- Information about: Satellite and mission design
  - Swarm data products
  - Product utilisation
  - ESA Announcements
- Initiation and coordination of German funding programmes,
- Compilation of an appropriate user concept,
- Contact point for industry, politics and press.

**Duration:** June 2009 – June. 2014

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