Planetary Science Archive

Users Quick Guide

How to query and access data using the PSA FTP Interface

General Overview

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Accessing the FTP area

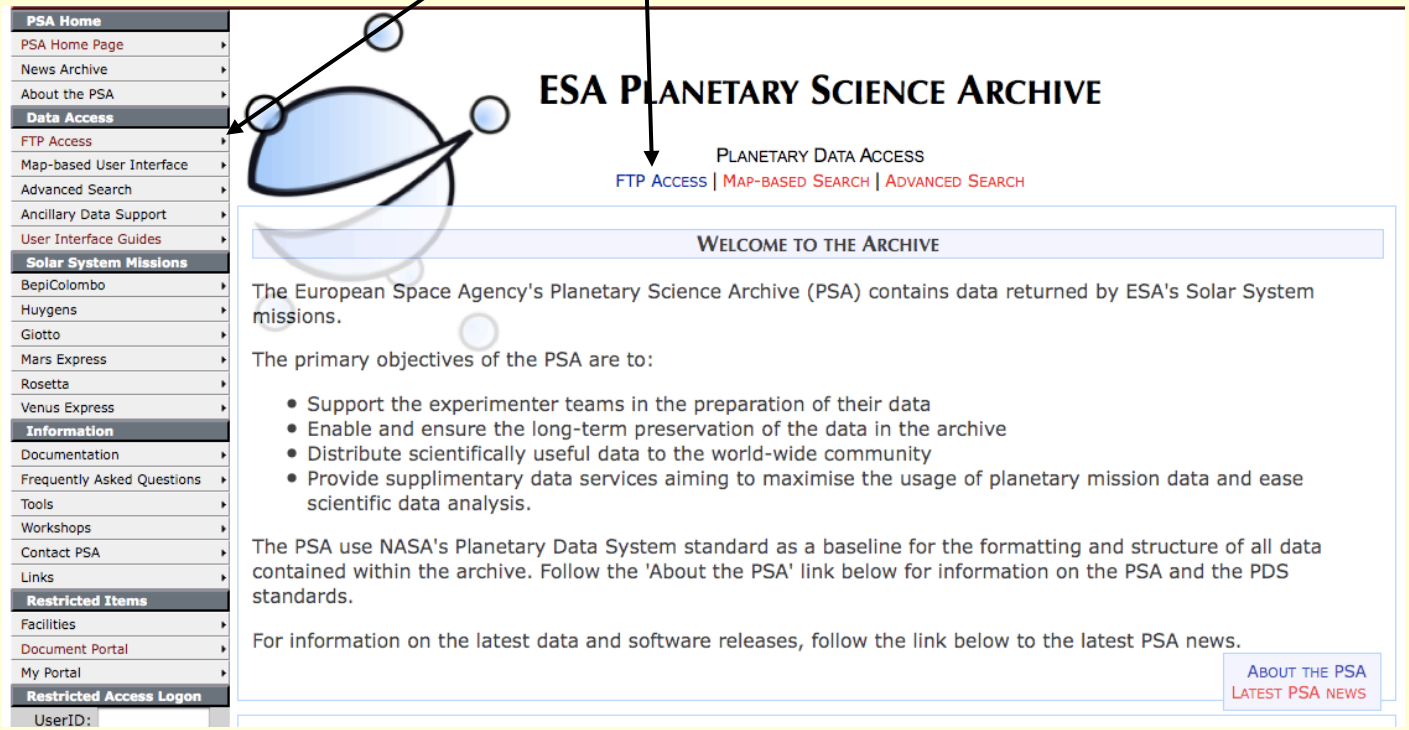
Step 1

a) Open the PSA www home page at:

http://www.rssd.esa.int/psa

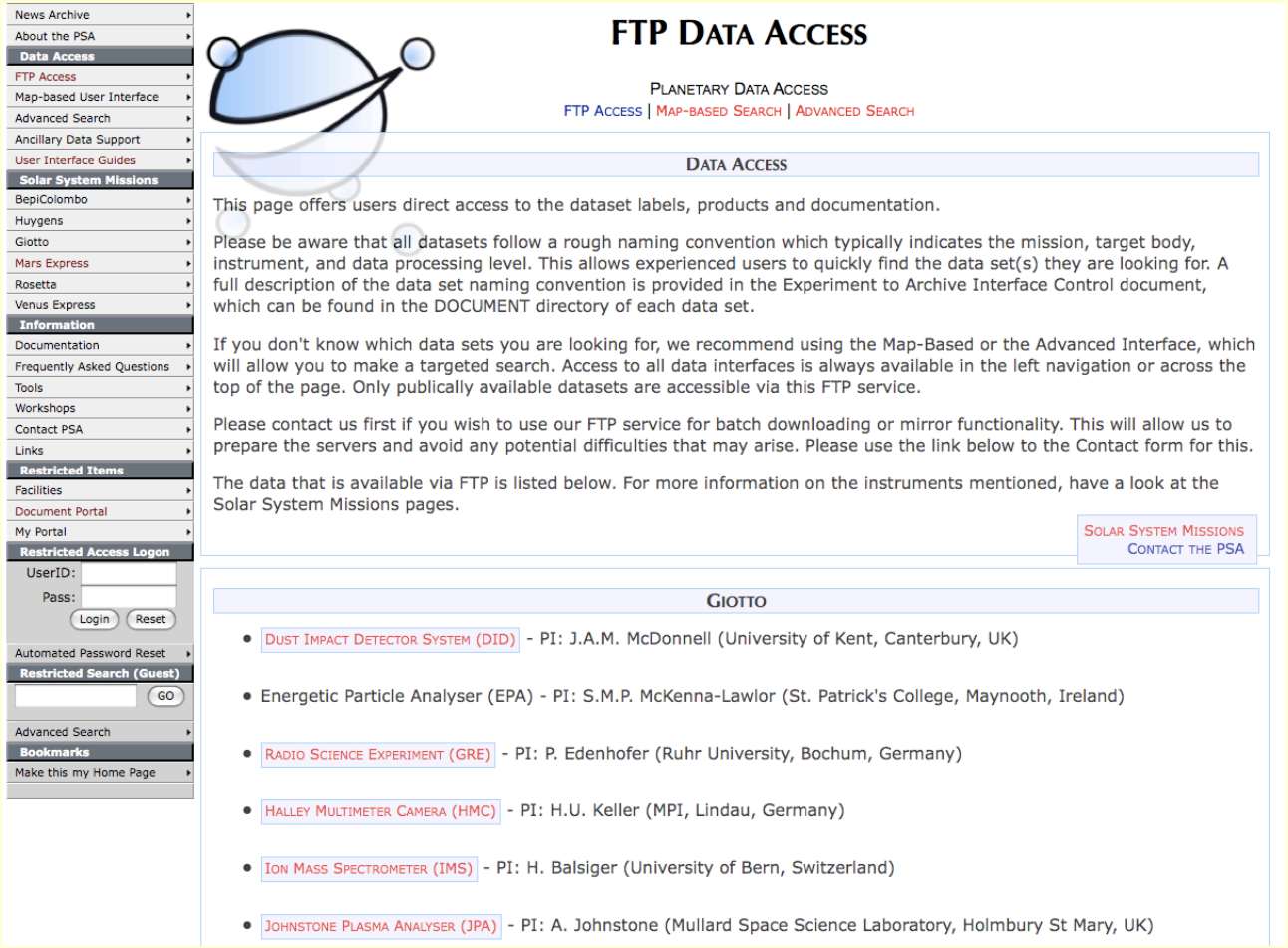
b) Select “FTP Access” from the left menu or the top of the page.

c) You will be directed to the PSA FTP Access web-page



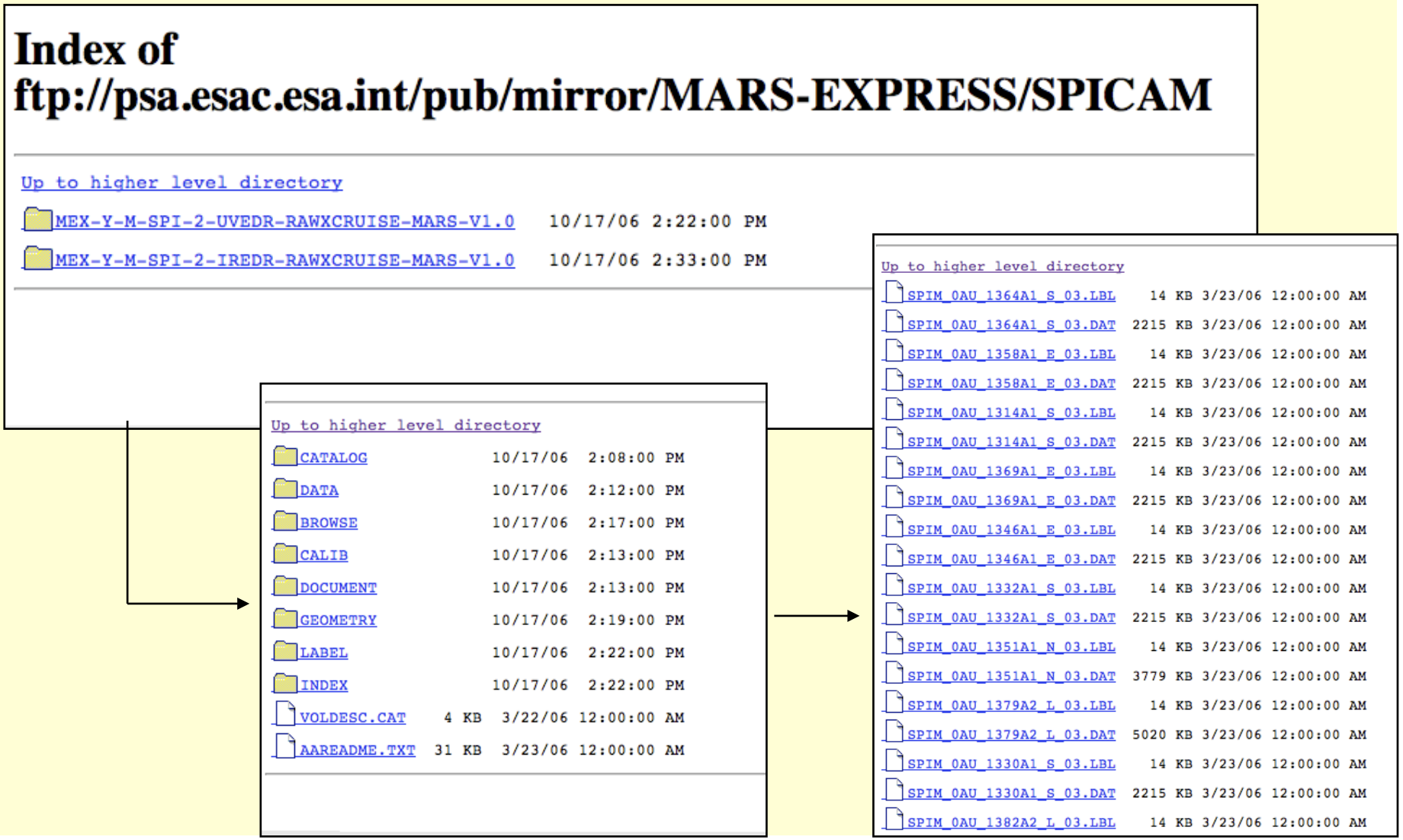
Direct Browsing of Datasets I

- **From the FTP Browser entry page, select the instrument of interest.**
- **Only public datasets are available through this interface! So you will not find**
  - Datasets before public release
  - Datasets in Peer Review



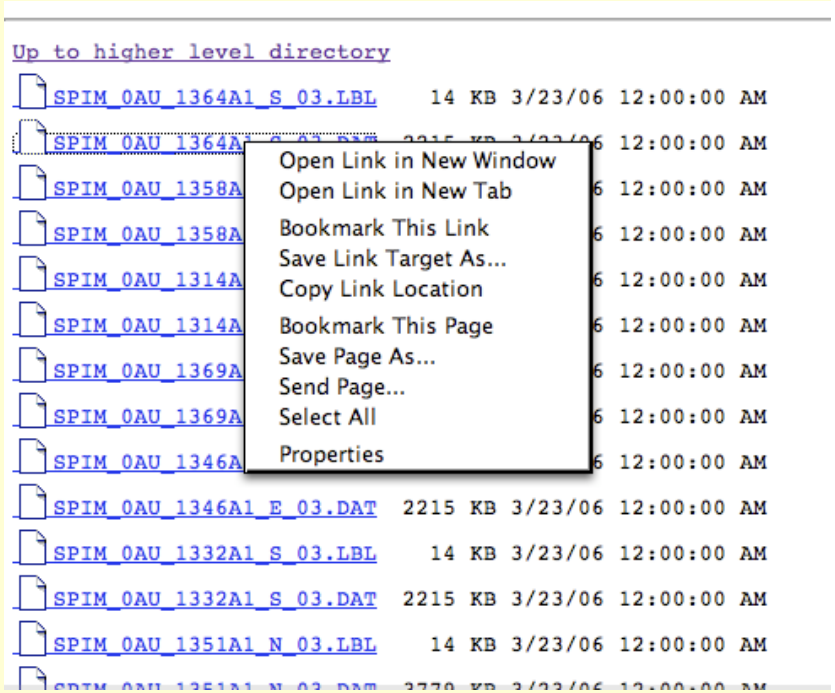
Direct Browsing of Datasets II

> Browse through the dataset in the usual way.



Data Download

- **When using a web browser, please insure to use an appropriate method to download your data,**
  - E.g. in MOZILLA the ‘Save Link Target As…”
- **Be aware that you download only the file selected, …**
  - Detached label files (e.g. LBL and DAT) need to be both downloaded to get the full data product!
  - Any linked files, .e.g. ^DESCRIPTION = “INSTRUMENT.PDF” will not be attached to the downloaded file!



Accessing the PSA archive with an FTP-client

- **You will be able to connect to the PSA archive with any ftp client, e.g. ncftp, ftp, fuqu, etc**
  - Using ftp://psa.esac.esa.int/pub/mirror
  - Or directly the mission related subpage ftp://psa.esac.esa.int/pub/mirror/MARS-EXPRESS

Automatic Download Scripts / Mirror Scripts

- You can use any automatic download script (mirror, etc) to download recursively the data on the PSA.
- Before installing a regular download scheme on your side (mirror, etc), please inform us by sending a short note to psahelp@rssd.esa.int. We will keep an eye on the load of network and server such that other users are not disturbed. In such cases, we will contact you and propose alternative time periods and options to download the data of your interest.
- Be aware that the files that you see in your www-browser or your ftp-client are not the physical files, but a link into the PSA database system. When downloading data, the PSA server resolves the link on the fly and delivers the data back to you.
- When building mirror scripts, you can compare your data items against size or time with the ones on the PSA server.

Be careful when using automatic downloads, as the size of the datasets can be huge (several 100GBytes or larger)! Please contact the PSA Helpdesk beforehand.

PSA Remarks and Proposals

- Please send us your remarks psahelp@rssd.esa.int
- In case of problems, please visit the Frequently Asked Questions page before contacting us
- In case you can not find the data you are looking for, please read the Mission Specific pages on the PSA home page

  (http://www.rssd.esa.int/psa)