

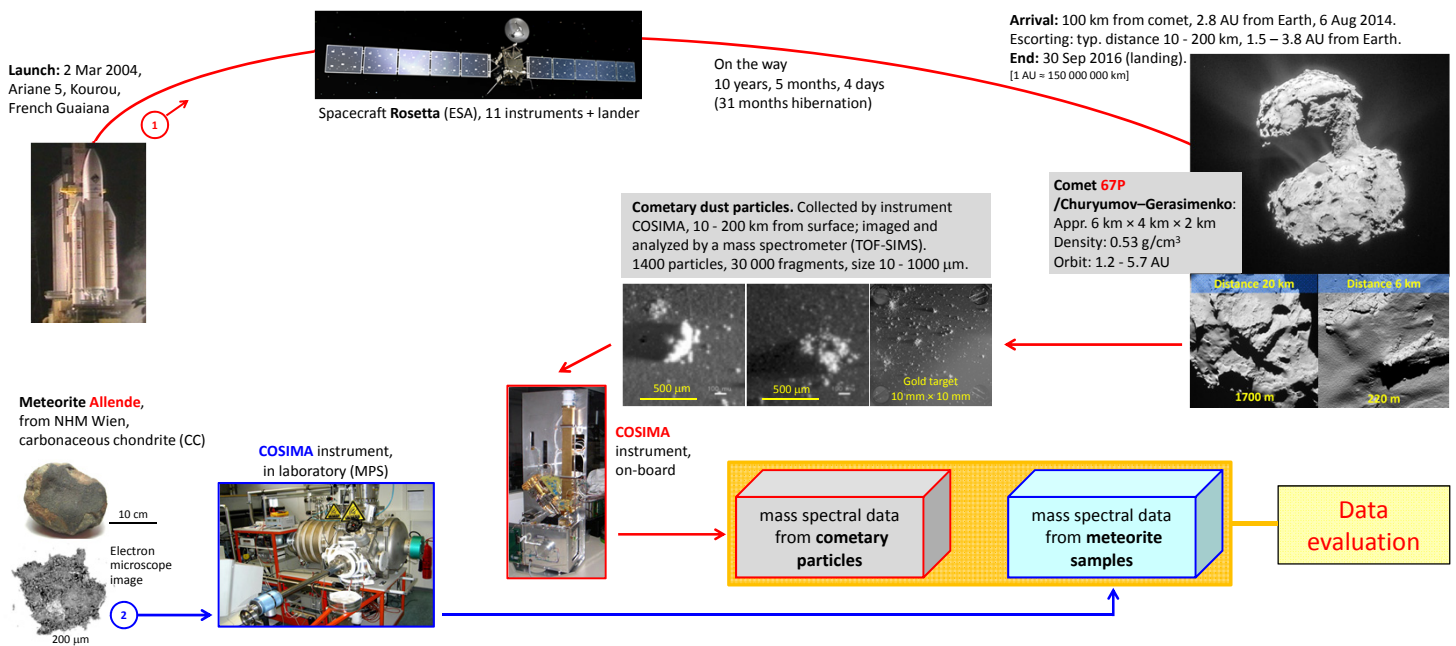
CoMeCS Project

Comet and Meteorite Materials - Studied by Chemometrics of Spectroscopic Data

Data from deep space (comet),
and laboratory (meteorites)

Multivariate statistics
Chemoinformatics

Information about chemical
composition of samples



Data selection

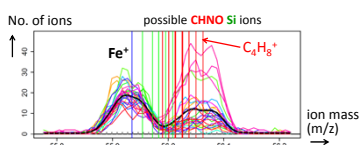
More than 30 000 mass spectra measured in space; about 6000 spectra on meteorite samples.

Original spectrum: a vector with about 130 000 numbers (ions counted in mass intervals).

Selection of spectra measured on particles or on background: by spectroscopic concepts, supported by multivariate statistics (e. g., orthogonal distance to robust PCA models, KNN approach, NMF).

Selection of variables (from relevant mass intervals) by exhaustive chemical formulae generation.

Example: 27 spectra around mass 56, measured on a cometary particle



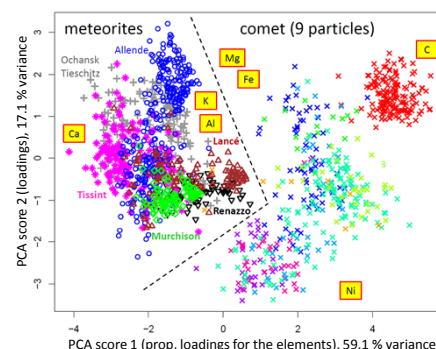
Exploration

Data

$n = 1426$ objects (cases, COSIMA spectra), 509 from nine cometary particles, 917 from seven meteorites (NHM Wien).
 $m = 7$ variables (counts of positive ions for C, Mg, Al, K, Ca, Fe, Ni), centered log-ratio transformed (compositional data).

Method

Principal component analysis (PCA); biplot with scores and loadings.



Interpretation (preliminary, also considering other results)

- Cometary particle surfaces are clearly different from meteorites.
- Cometary particles show higher carbon contents than the carbon-rich meteorites (CC: Allende, Lance, Murchison, Renazzo).

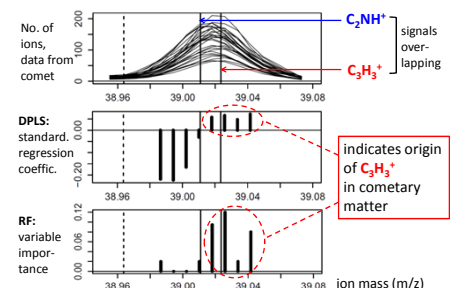
Discrimination

Data

$n_1 = 29$ objects (cases, COSIMA spectra) from a cometary particle,
 $n_2 = 59$ objects (cases, COSIMA spectra) from background
 $m = 540$ variables (counts of positive ions containing C, H, N, O)

Methods and Aim

Estimation of **variable importance** for discrimination between the two classes of objects by (1) discriminant partial-least squares classification (DPLS), and by (2) random forest classification (RF). Variables with high importance may indicate CHNO ions originating from **organic material in cometary matter**.



Interpretation (preliminary, also considering other results)

- Cometary material contains carbon from CH(NO)-substances with high molecular masses; typical ions are C⁺, CH⁺, CH₂⁺, CH₃⁺.
- Further (unsaturated) ions from organics are C₂H₂₋₃⁺, C₃H₀₋₃⁺, C₄⁺.

People (Austria)

Project coordination: Kurt Varmuza

TU Wien/105/CSTAT: Peter Filzmoser, Irene Hoffmann, students

TU Wien/164/Analytical Chemistry: Günter Allmaier, Ernst Pittenauer, students

BOKU Wien: Notburga Gierlinger (IR microscopy)

Naturhistorisches Museum Wien (NHM): Franz Brandstätter, Ludovic Ferrière, Christian Köberl

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Collaborations

COSIMA team: Principal investigator of the COSIMA project (within the Rosetta project of the European Space Agency, ESA) is Martin Hilchenbach, Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research (MPS), Göttingen; research groups from Germany, France, Finland, Sweden, and Austria.

Details, references, PDFs: <http://www.lcm.tuwien.ac.at/comecs/>