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SETI 1: SETI Science and Technology (1)

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SETI SPACE MISSIONS

Abstract

The time is ripe to imagine, propose and then conduct SETI space missions.

Though the majority of SETI astronomers still believe that SETI may best be done from the surface of the Earth and in the "water hole" only, i.e. between 1 and about 10 GHz, times are changing rapidly.

We believe that submitting proposals about new space missions to conduct SETI searches in space should be done nowadays already. The more so if one keeps in mind that it may take decades before an imagined space mission goes from the design phase to the actual construction and final operations in space.

After a short review of a few SETI space missions that were proposed in the past but never came into consideration by the leading Space Agencies, in this paper we focus mainly on SETI space missions around the Moon or more specifically to the Moon Farside, that is the closest target for SETI space missions both in distance and in time.