JAXA Flight Dynamics Team

Ajisai celebrates 30 years in space

The Experimental Geodetic Satellite "AJISAI" was launched on Aug 13, 1986 (JST) and it was put into a circular orbit at an altitude of 1,500 km. AJISAI is the first Japanese geometric satellite, and its major missions are rectifying Japan's domestic geodetic triangular net -- determining the exact position of many isolated Japanese islands and establishing Japan's geodetic point of origin. AJISAI is a ball-shaped satellite, 2.15 meters in diameter and weighing about 685 kilograms. Its surface is covered with 1,486 prisms and 318 reflectors. SLR stations around the world are observing AJISAI. We will review the AJISAI satellite and AJISAI mission at WOrkshop.