The Results of ISO

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The *Infrared Space Observatory (ISO)* was the world's first true orbiting infrared observatory, providing astronomers with unprecedented sensitivity and capabilities at infrared wavelengths from 2.5 to around 240 μm with spatial resolutions ranging from 1.5$''$ (at the shortest wavelengths) to 90$''$ (at the longer wavelengths). Launched in November 1995 and operational until April 1998 – almost a year longer than specified, ISO was a great scientific, technical and operational success. Its 60cm-diameter telescope was was cooled by superfluid liquid helium to temperatures of 2-4K. ISO was equipped with four highly-sophisticated and versatile scientific instruments, two spectrometers a camera and an imaging photopolarimeter. At a wavelength of 12 μm, ISO was one thousand times more sensitive and had one hundred times better angular resolution than IRAS. Some 30000 individual imaging, photometric, spectroscopic and polarimetric observations were made of all classes of astronomical objects and these data are now available to all from the ISO Data Archive at `www.iso.vilspa.esa.es`. Over 600 ISO papers have appeared in the refereed literature since late 1996. An overview of ISO's scientific results, which are impacting all areas of astronomy literally from comets to cosmology, will be given.