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Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter lives up to part of name - June 23, 2009

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The Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter has reached the Moon.

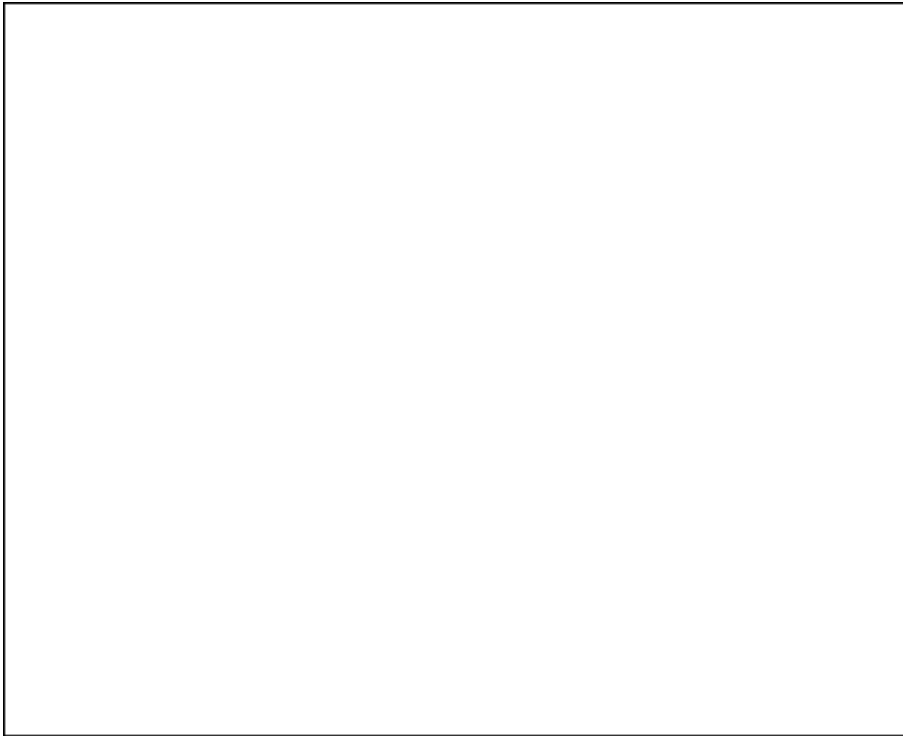
“I am now 450km above the moon...” said the probe’s Twitter feed at 11.00 UK time [today](#).

Minutes later it [noted](#), “The moon has capture me! I am there! :-) ... I am now in orbit about the moon!! :-)”.

LRO is orbiting; now let's have some recon! Perhaps someone should also update the feed’s [location information](#) so it no longer says ‘Greenbelt, MD’. (For more on LRO see Nature: [Moon mission tackles water question](#).)

“The engines have been burning now for 15, 20 minutes,” Mike Wargo, NASA’s chief lunar scientist, told [NASA TV](#) just moments ago. “We’ve been captured stably by the moon. We’re there.”

Later today you can watch [live video](#) of the lunar swingby of sister mission LCROSS (Lunar CRater Observation and Sensing Satellite), live from 2:10 pm GMT. Till then, here’s a video of the takeoff of both LCROSS and LRO (hat tip: [Bad Astronomy](#)).



Posted by Daniel Cressey on June 23, 2009

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COMMENTS

Very excited 2 watch DREAMS, powered by years of HARD WORK, ascend through the heavens successfully! Congrats LRO team!

So proud of your awesome accomplishments! We are with you all the way. (ibmlucia-retired GSFC family)

Posted by: Lu Lorenzano | [June 23, 2009 03:07 PM](#)

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