# Interview with Jean-Jacques Favier

**WHO ARE WE INTERVIEWING?** (job, studies…)

Jean Jacques FAVIER is a French engineer and a former CNES astronaut. He has been principal investigator of more than ten space experiments in collaboration with ESA, NASA, and the Russian Space Agency. Favier flew on STS-78 and logged over 405 hours in space. He was the Research Program Director at the International Space University.

**CONTEXT** (Why did we do this interview?)
Since we are creating a yeast production system for astronauts, we need to meet potential users of our system. We decided to have feedback from astronauts and people who have been in space. Jean Jacques was responsible for several experiments about microgravity, physics, fluid mechanics during one of the Spacelab laboratory missions.

**PRIOR WORK** (previous work that led to this interview)
We have previously interviewed Phillipe PERIN, a French spationaut, potential users or our system and we wanted to have another point of view from people who have already been in space. We asked the same questions.

**RATIONAL** (What questions did we ask him? What answers did we want to have?)

- Have you noticed a change in your taste during your flight ?

He lost completely his taste during the flight but not the smell. He tends to add tabasco and salt into his meals to actually taste something. He brought picodon French goat cheese because he is an ambassador. Even if it is forbidden on American territory, he managed to take it into space, in extremis, to his great pleasure.

- What types of protocol are being provided ?

PIs are writing and following the rules of the Space Agency. Today, protocols are both written on papers and “online”. Jean Jacques Favier knew how to optimize physics experiments because these experiments were designed by his team on earth. Most of the time, initial protocols need to be respected and strictly followed and if there is a specialist in flight, some rules can be flexible while asking for permission engineered in charge of the experiments on earth. We asked him some questions about what exactly pushed him to become an astronaut and how to become an astronaut to know more about his experience.

- What do you think about our project ?

He said that our project is interesting but there is a lot of effort for engineering and
We might need to develop our project through TRLs (Technology readiness level). After this interview, we thought to build our milestone for the use of our system during space missions. We also talked about what type of people who are recruited to go to space and what are the requirements. We had some curious questions as well as how did you decide to become an astronaut? To do physics in space? which was very interesting.