

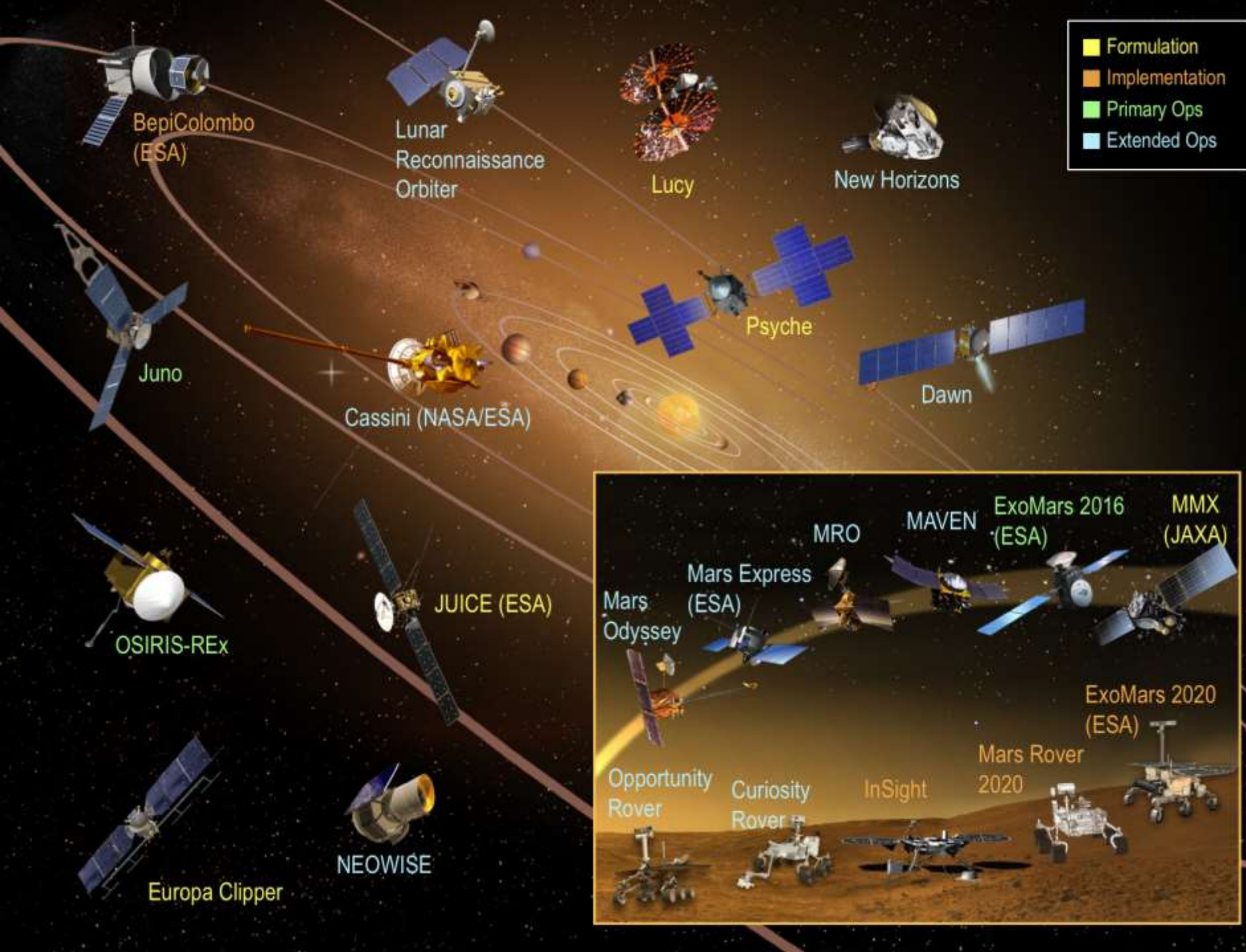
# Planetary Science Division Update

Jim Green

NASA, Planetary Science Division

September 12, 2017

Presentation at CAPS





# Planetary Science Missions Events

## 2016

March – Launch of ESA's *ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter*

**\* Completed**

July 4 – *Juno* inserted in Jupiter orbit

September 8 – Launch of Asteroid mission *OSIRIS – REx* to asteroid Bennu

September 30 – Landing *Rosetta* on comet CG

October 19 – *ExoMars EDM* landing and *TGO* orbit insertion

## 2017

January 4 – Discovery Mission selection announced

February 9-20 - *OSIRIS-REx* began Earth-Trojan search

April 22 – *Cassini* begins plane change maneuver for the “Grand Finale”

August 21 – Total Solar Eclipse across the US

September 15 – *Cassini* end of mission at Saturn

September 22 – *OSIRIS-REx* Earth flyby

## 2018

May 5 - Launch *InSight* mission to Mars

August – *OSIRIS-REx* arrival at Bennu

October – Launch of ESA's *BepiColombo*

November 26 – *InSight* landing on Mars

## 2019

January 1 – *New Horizons* flyby of Kuiper Belt object 2014MU69

# Discovery Program

NEO characteristics:  
NEAR (1996-1999)



Mars evolution:  
Mars Pathfinder (1996-1997)



Lunar formation:  
Lunar Prospector (1998-1999)



Nature of dust/coma:  
Stardust (1999-2011)



Solar wind sampling:  
Genesis (2001-2004)



Comet diversity:  
CONTOUR (2002)



Mercury environment:  
MESSENGER (2004-2015)



Comet internal structure:  
Deep Impact (2005-2012)



Lunar Internal Structure  
GRAIL (2011-2012)



Main-belt asteroids:  
Dawn (2007-TBD)



Exoplanets  
Kepler (2009-TBD)



Lunar surface:  
LRO (2009-TBD)



ESA/Mercury Surface:  
Strofió (2018)



Mars Interior:  
InSight (2018)



Trojan Asteroids:  
Lucy (2021)



Metal Asteroids:  
Psyche (2022)



# NEW Discovery Missions



## Psyche

Journey to a Metal World

Launch in 2022

## Lucy

Surveying the Trojan Asteroids

Launch in 2021



# New Frontiers Program

1<sup>st</sup> NF mission  
New Horizons:

Pluto-Kuiper Belt



Launched January 2006  
Flyby July 14, 2015  
PI: Alan Stern (SwRI-CO)

2<sup>nd</sup> NF mission  
Juno:

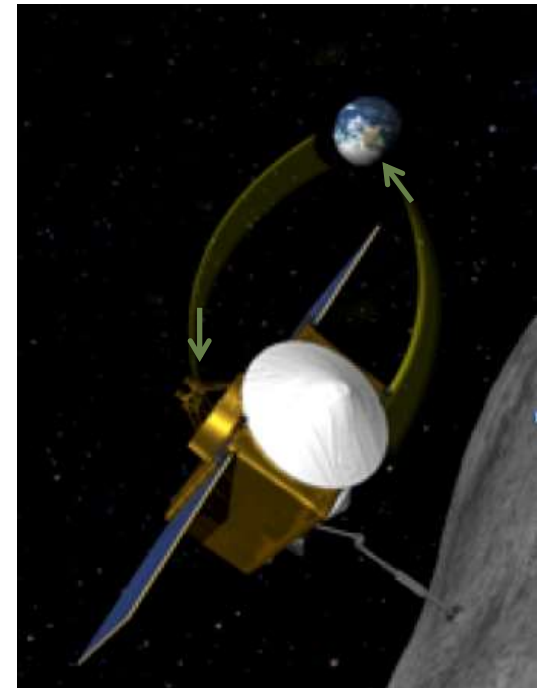
Jupiter Polar Orbiter



Launched August 2011  
Arrived July 4, 2016  
PI: Scott Bolton (SwRI-TX)

3<sup>rd</sup> NF mission  
OSIRIS-REx:

Asteroid Sample Return



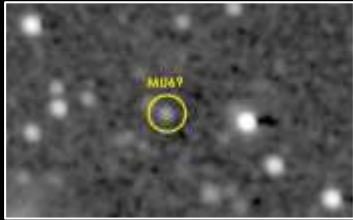
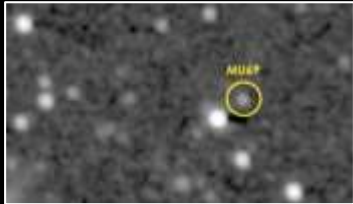
Launched Sept. 8, 2016  
PI: Dante Lauretta (UA)  
**Gravity Assist – Sept. 22, 2017**  
**Arrives at Bennu – Aug 2018**

# New Horizons

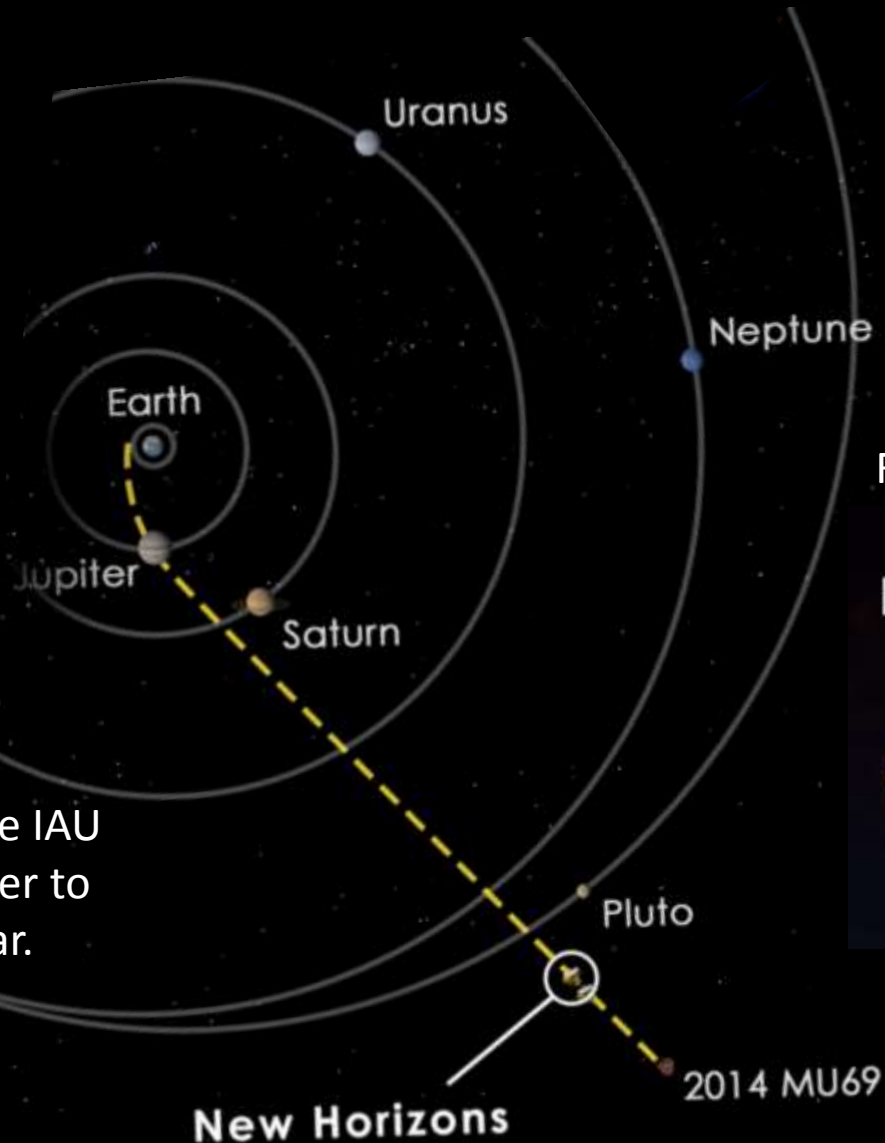


# New Horizons

MU69 Next KBO Target



NASA, NH team, and the IAU  
Will be working together to  
Name MU69 this year.



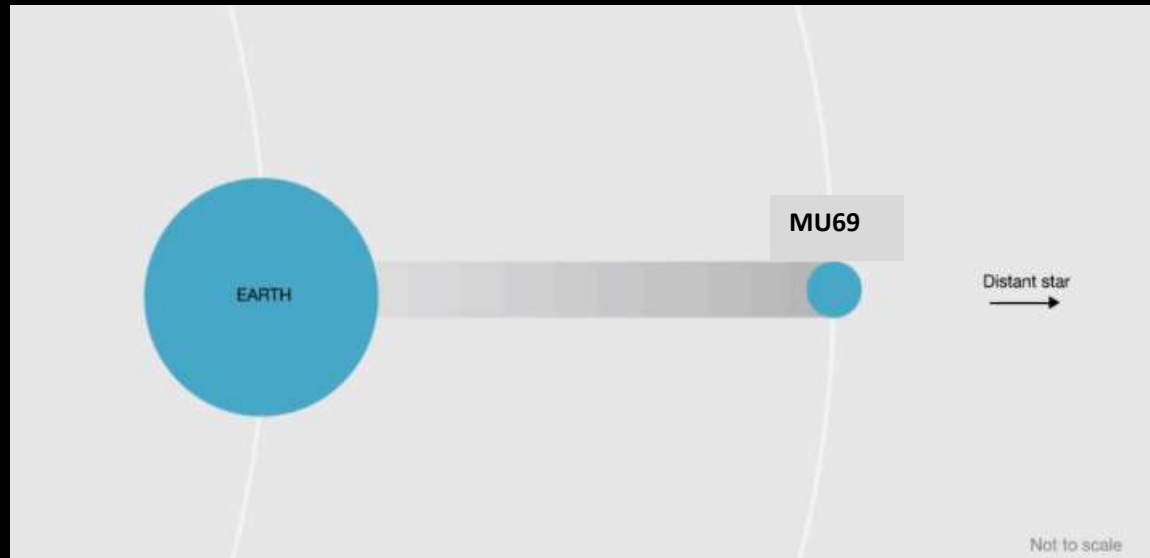
Flyby January 1, 2019

30 Miles





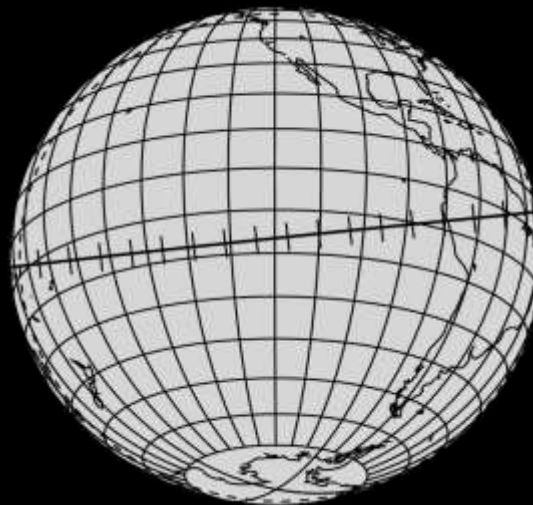
# Stellar Occultation of MU69



June 3, 2017



July 10, 2017



July 17, 2017

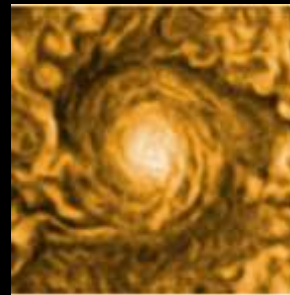


Juno

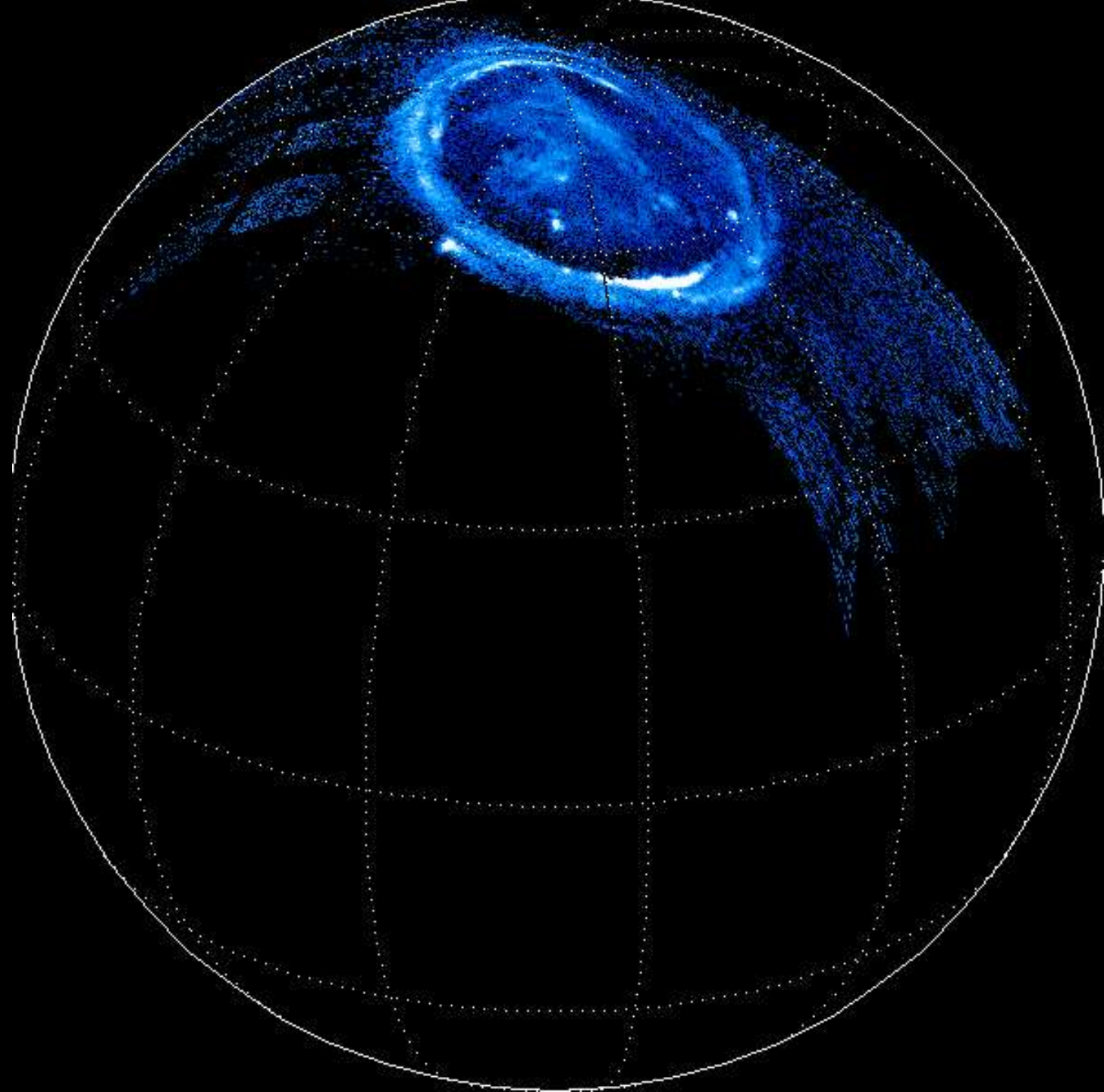


JunoCam - Primarily for outreach, but  
with considerable scientific  
contribution

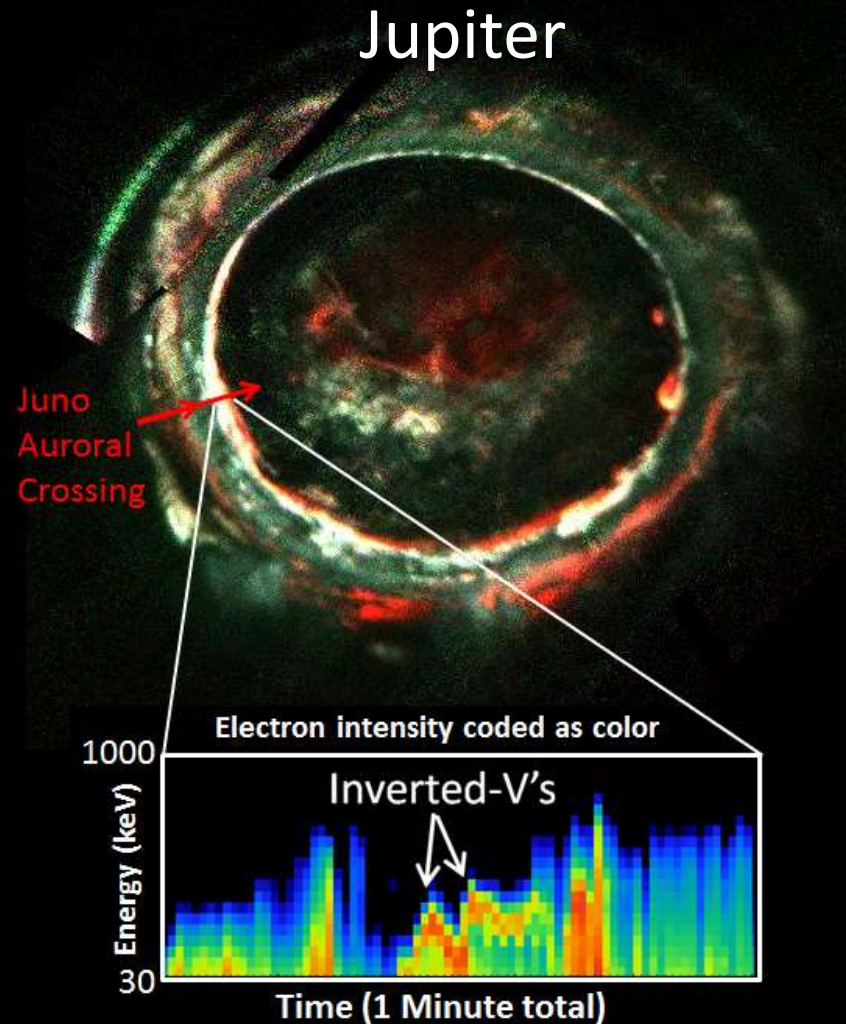
All processed results are available on  
the Mission Juno site







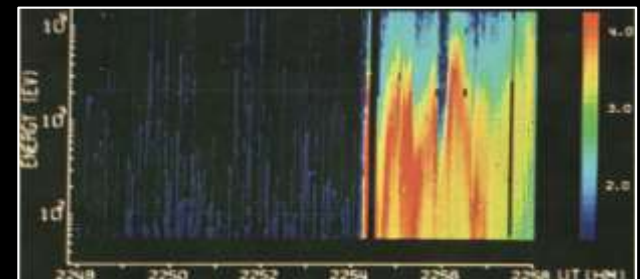
# Electron Beams Power Auroras



Earth



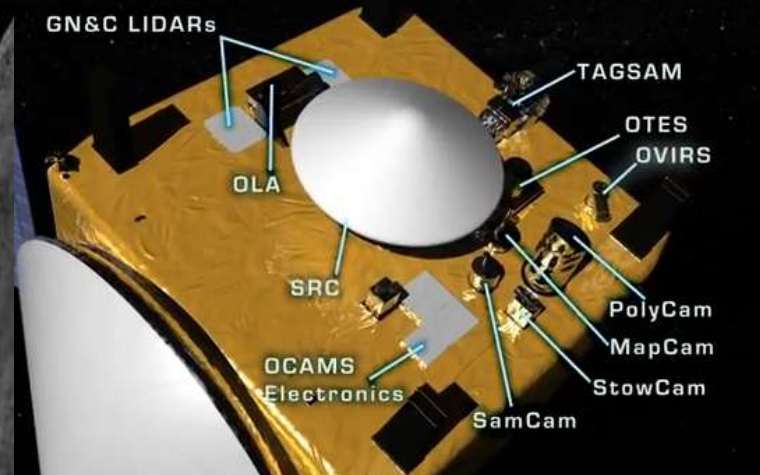
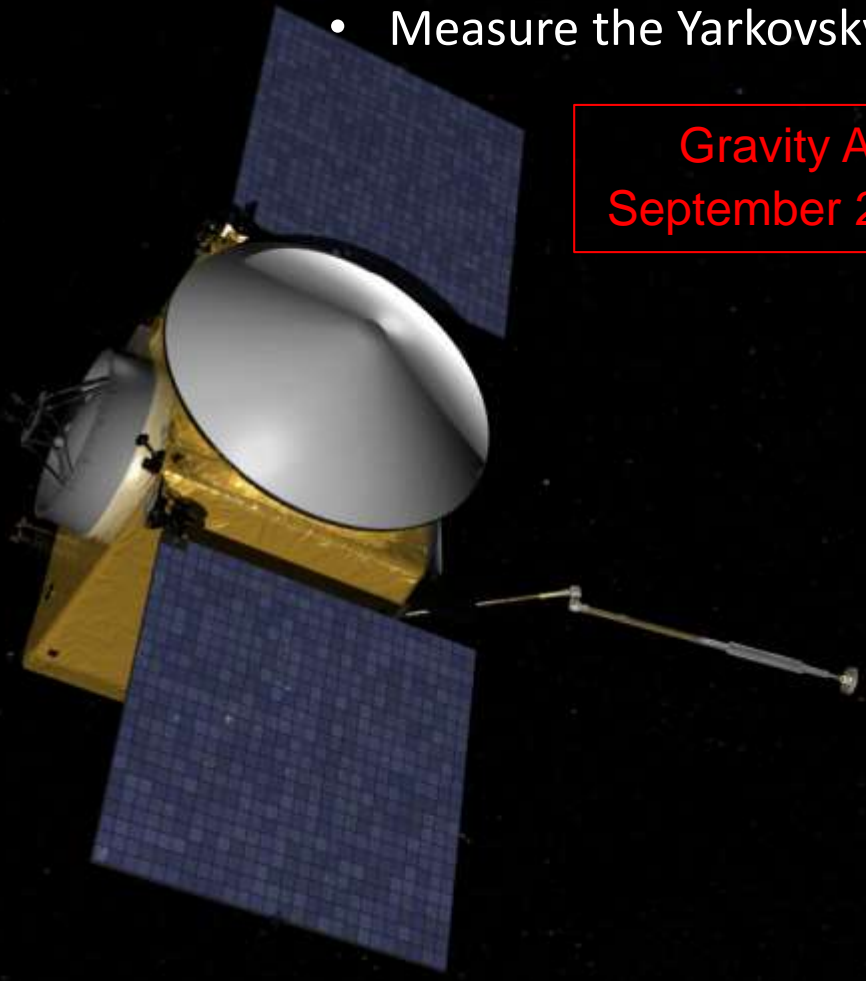
Inverted V's above Discrete Auroral arcs



# OSIRIS-REx

- Return and analyze a sample of Bennu's surface
- Map the asteroid & document the sample site
- Measure the Yarkovsky effect

Gravity Assist  
September 22, 2016





# New Frontiers 4 AO

Investigations (listed without priority):

- Comet Surface Sample Return
- Enceladus
- Lunar South Pole-Aitken Basin Sample Return
- Saturn Probe
- Titan
- Trojan Tour and Rendezvous
- Venus In Situ Explorer

Release of final AO..... December 9, 2016

Electronic Proposal Submittal Deadline..... April 28, 2017

**Step-1 Selections Announced (target)..... November 2017**

Phase A Concept Study Reports due..... December 2018

Down-selection for Flight (target)..... July 2019

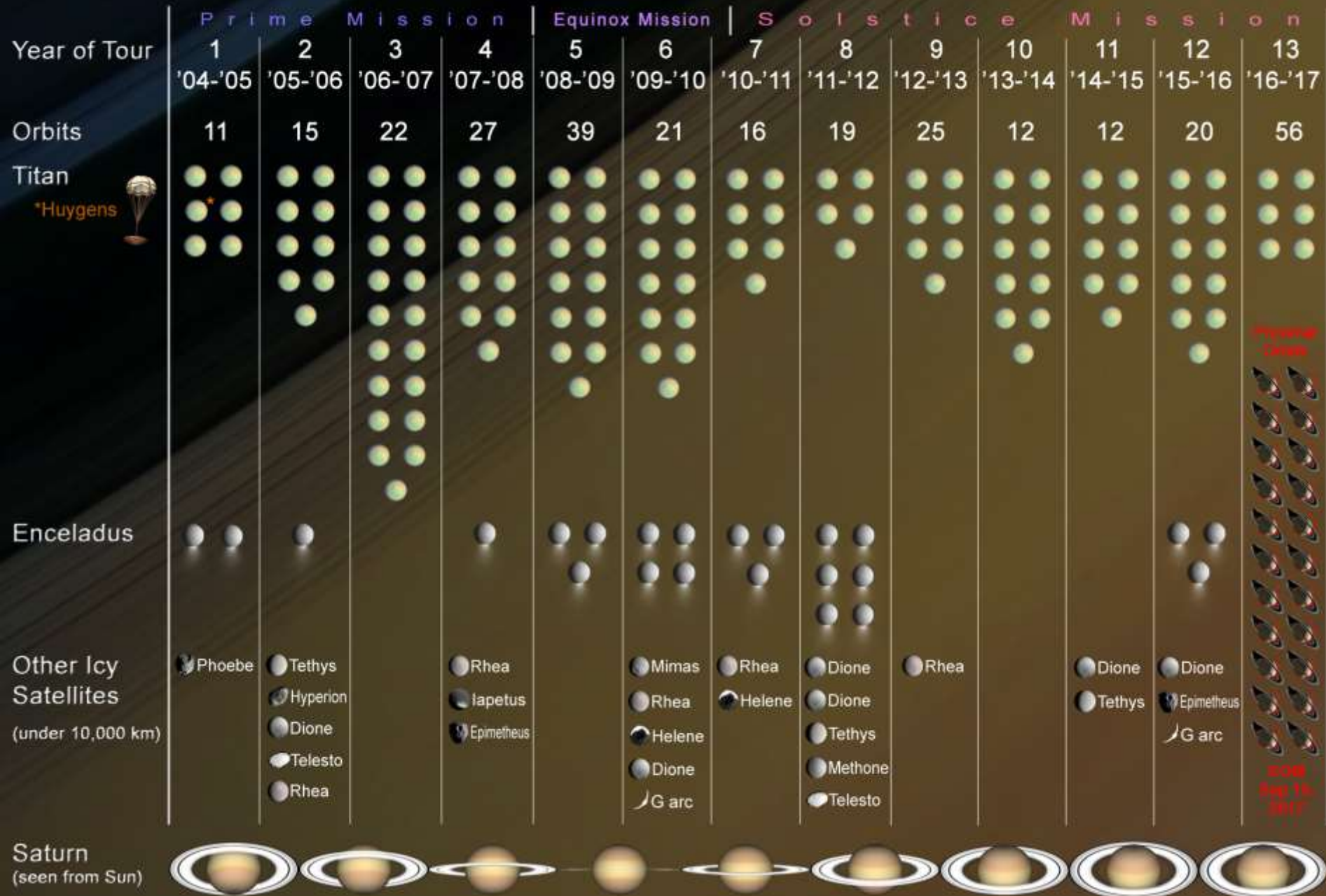
Launch Readiness Date..... NLT Dec. 31, 2025

# Cassini's Grand Finale



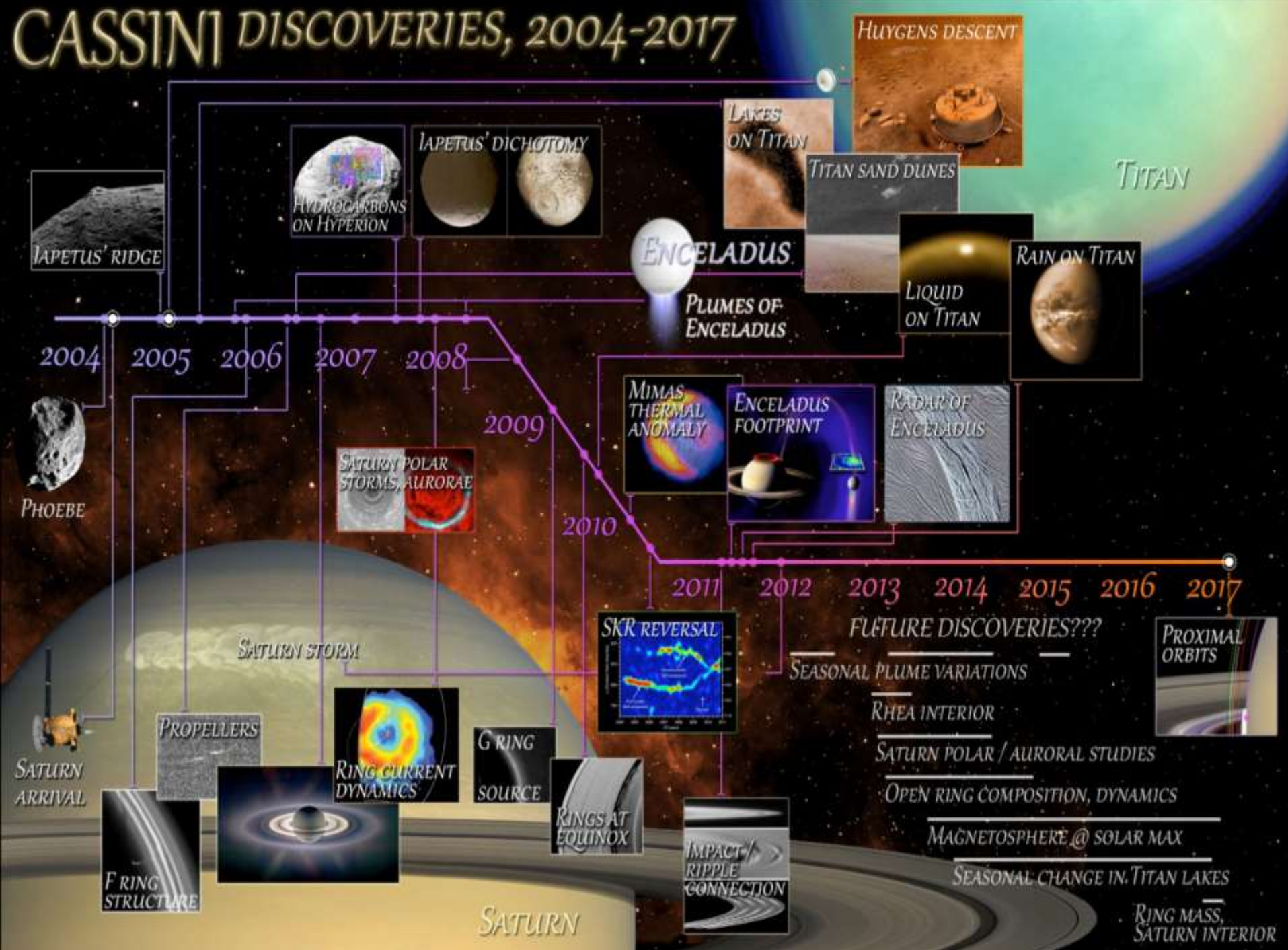
# Cassini Mission Overview

Four-Year Prime Tour, Equinox Mission, and Solstice Mission (Proposed), May 2004 - September 2017



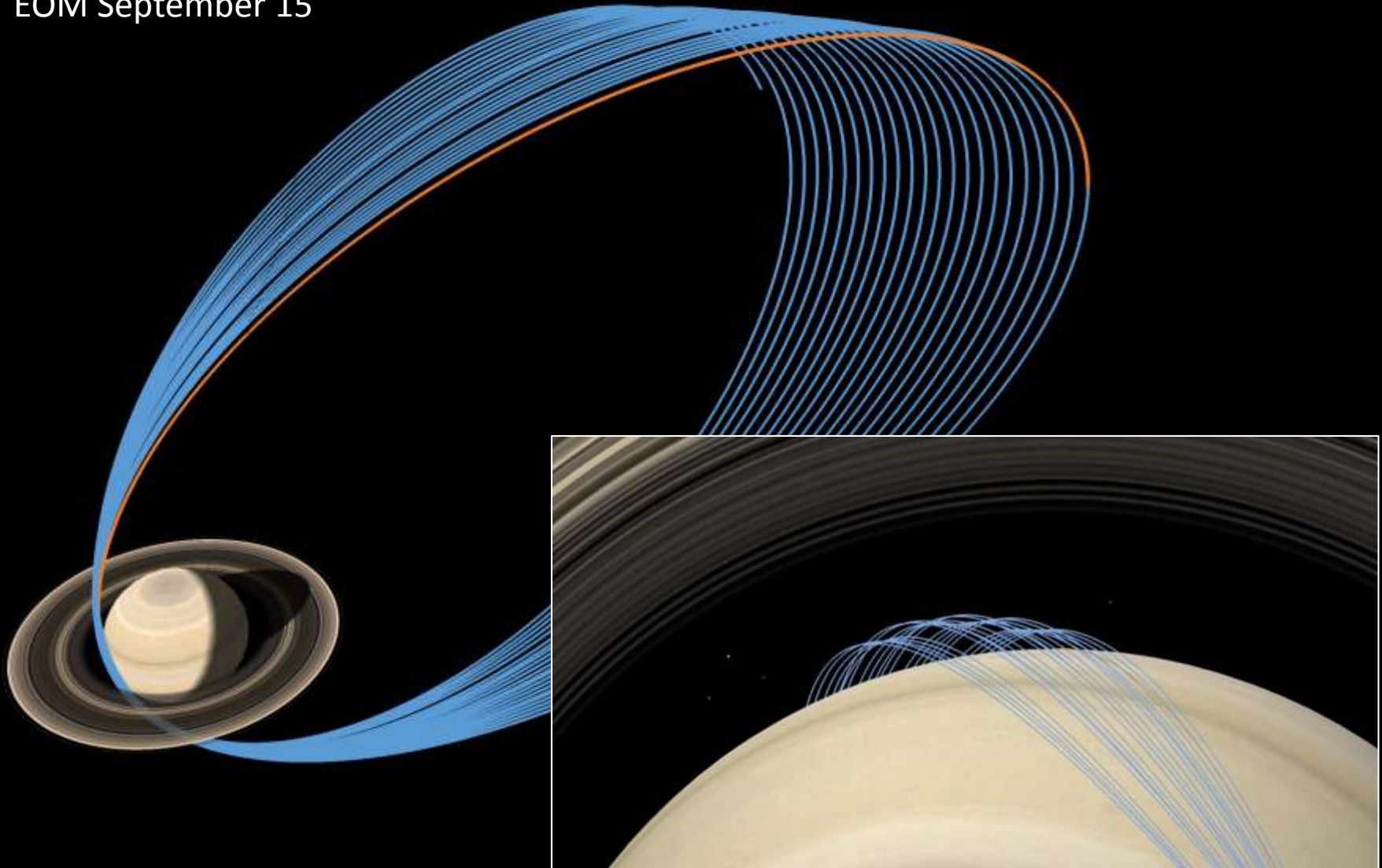


# CASSINI DISCOVERIES, 2004-2017



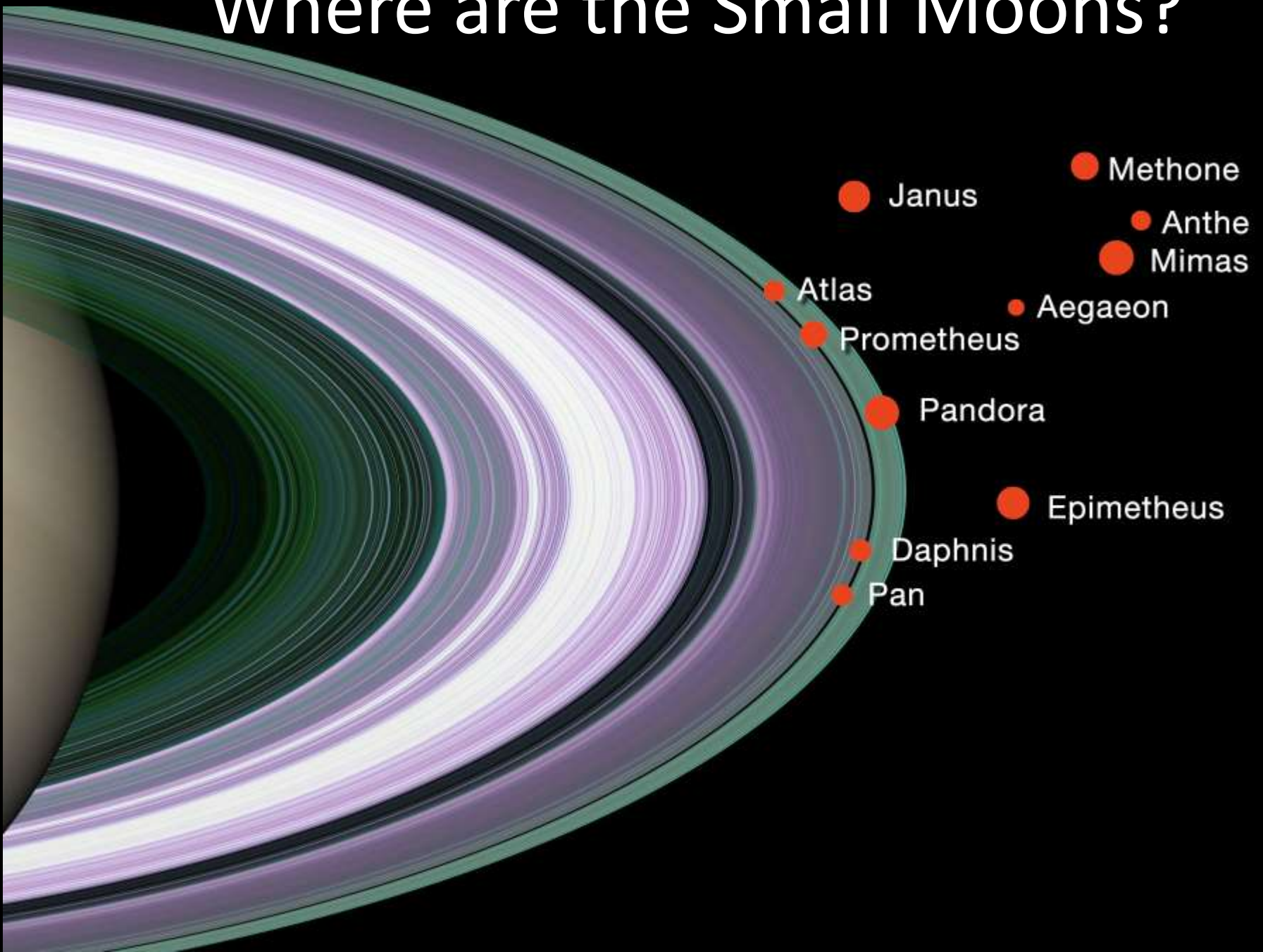
# Grand Finale Orbits Have Started

EOM September 15





# Where are the Small Moons?





# High Resolution Images of the Moons



Aegaeon  
 $1.4 \times 0.5 \times 0.4$  km



Methone  
 $3.88 \times 2.58 \times 2.42$  km



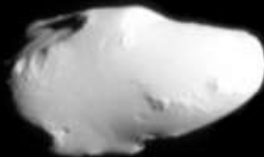
Anthe  
 $2 \times 2 \times 2$  km



Pallene  
 $5.76 \times 4.16 \times 3.6$  km



Telesto  
 $32.6 \times 23.6 \times 19.6$  km



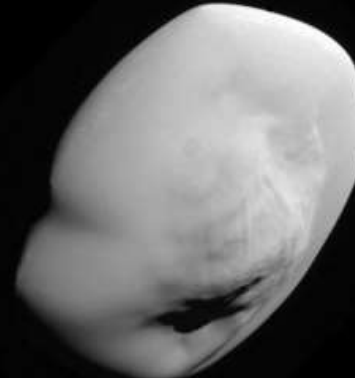
Calypso  
 $30.6 \times 18.6 \times 12.6$  km



Polydeuces  
 $3.0 \times 2.4 \times 2.0$  km



Pan  
 $34.4 \times 30.8 \times 20.8$  km



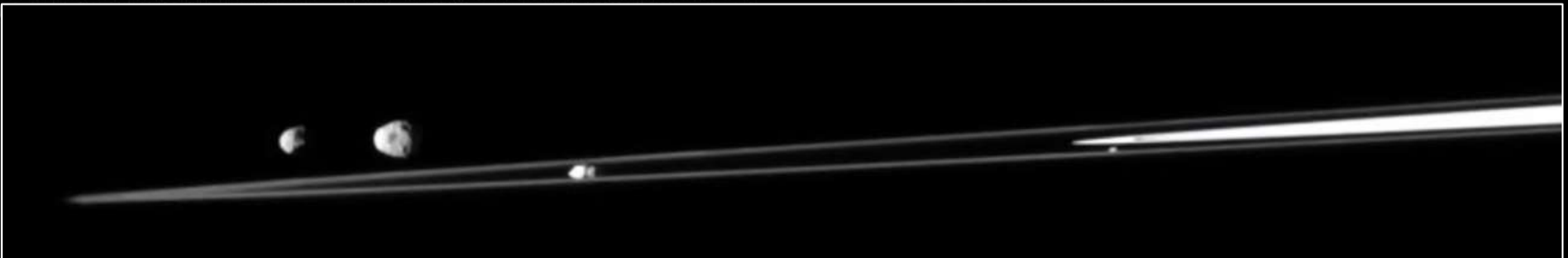
Atlas  
 $41.0 \times 35.6 \times 18.8$  km



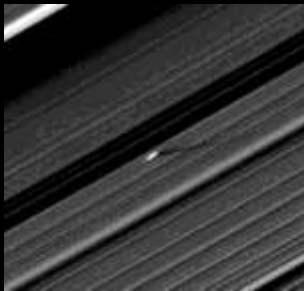
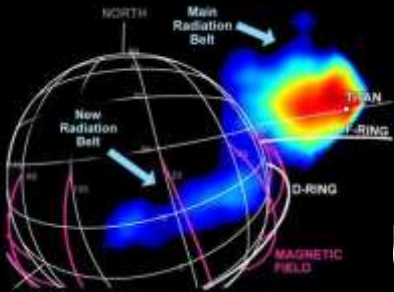
Helene  
 $45.0 \times 39.2 \times 26.6$  km



Daphnis  
 $9.2 \times 9.0 \times 5.6$  km



# Final Orbits Science Summary



- Saturn internal structure
  - Gravitational & Magnetic Fields
- Ring mass (currently uncertain by 10x)
  - Address age of main rings
- Saturn's ionosphere, innermost radiation belts & inner D ring particles
- Highest resolution main ring observations
  - First Active Radar of the Rings
- Highest resolution Saturn polar observations and aurora
- Saturn atmospheric structure & composition
- Cassini Saturn science complements that from Juno mission to Jupiter

# Europa Clipper Overview



- Conduct 45 low altitude flybys with lowest 25 km (less than the ice crust) and a vast majority below 100 km to obtain global regional coverage
- Launch NET 2022

## Science

### Objective

### Description

Ice Shell & Ocean

Characterize the ice shell and any subsurface water, including their heterogeneity, and the nature of surface-ice-ocean exchange

Composition

Understand the habitability of Europa's ocean through composition and chemistry.

Geology

Understand the formation of surface features, including sites of recent or current activity, and characterize high science interest localities.

Recon

Characterize scientifically compelling sites, and hazards for a potential future landed mission to Europa



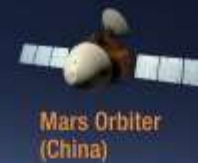
# Mars Missions

Operational 2001–2017

2018

2020

...and Beyond



Mars Lander & Rover (China)

M2020 Rover

ExoMars Rover (ESA/RSA)

Mars Sample Return (China)

Opportunity Rover (2003)

Curiosity Rover (2011)

InSight

Follow the Water

Explore Habitability

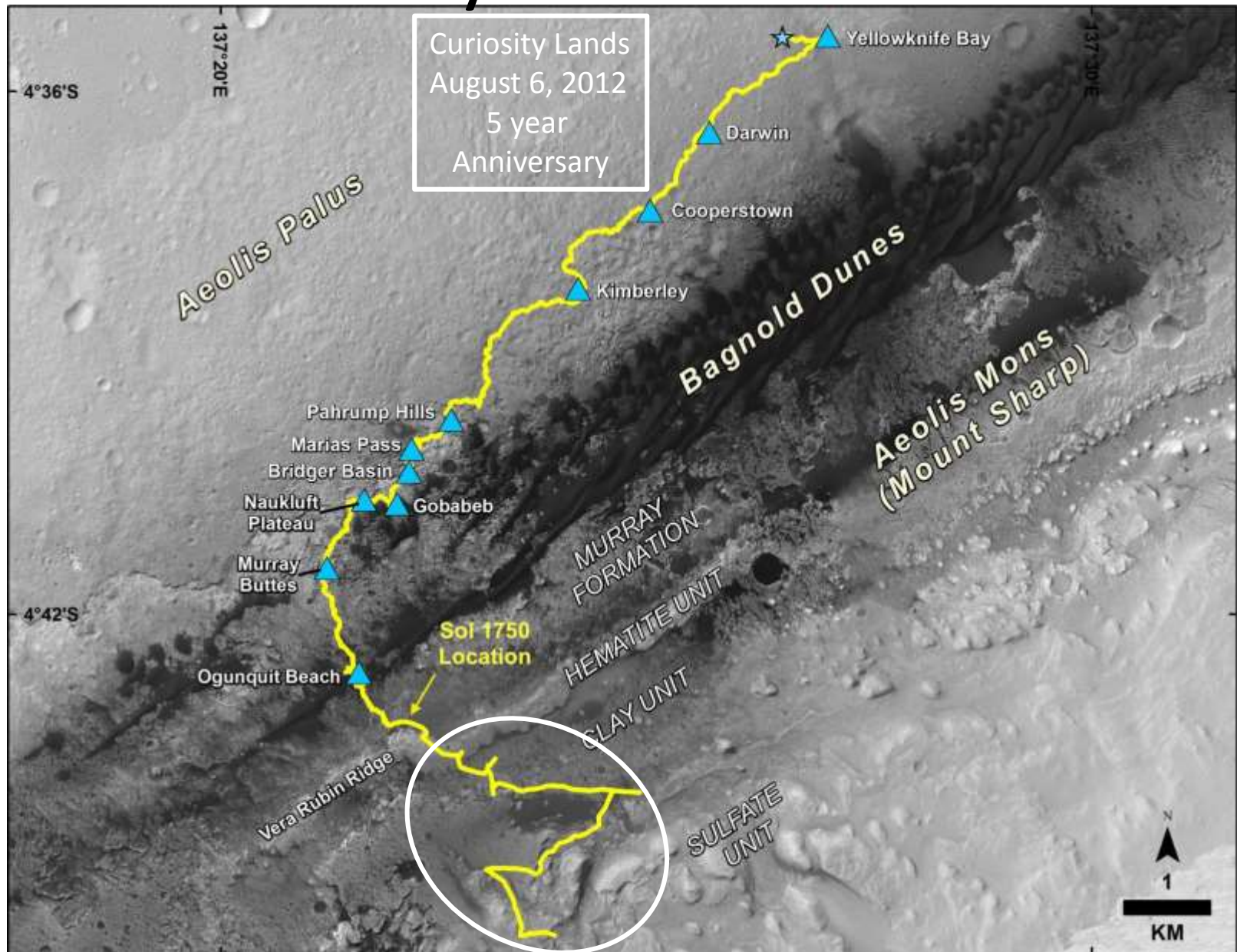
Seek Signs of Life

Prepare for Future Human Explorers

The Future

MMX (JAXA) (2024)

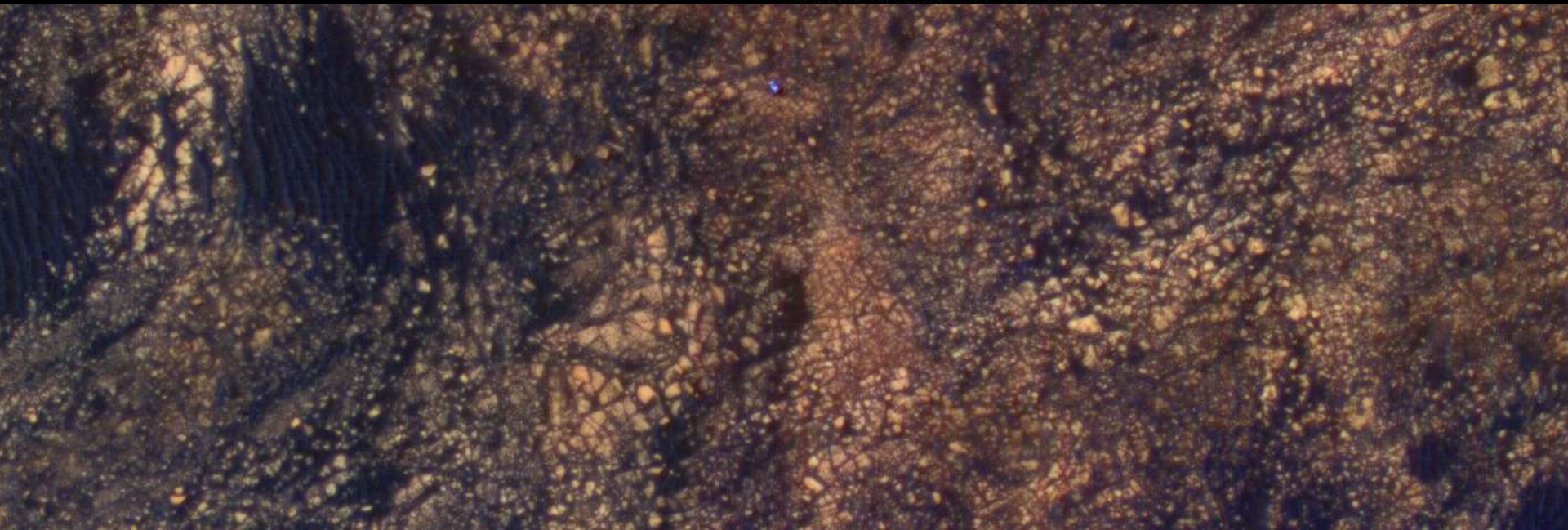
# Curiosity at Gale Crater







Curiosity approaches Vera Rubin Ridge Sol 1717 June 2017  
Credit: NASA/JPL/Ken Kremer/Marco Di Lorenzo





# Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport

To Be Launched May 2018



X-Band  
Transmission

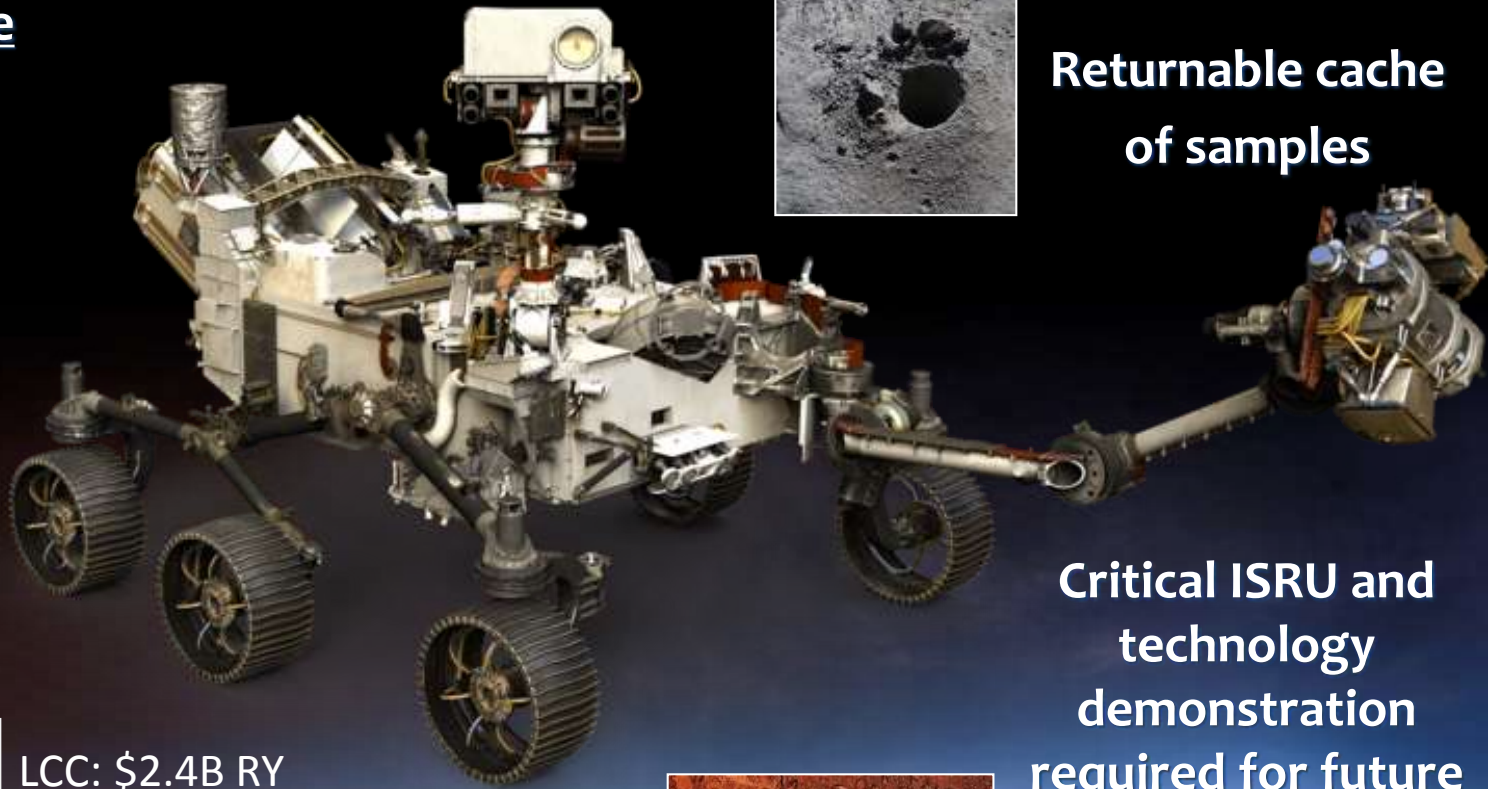
UHF  
Transmission

# Seeking Signs of Life: Mars 2020 Rover

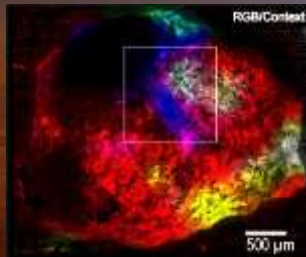
Conduct rigorous  
*in situ* science

Geologically  
diverse site of  
ancient  
habitability

Coordinated,  
nested context  
and fine-scale  
measurements



LCC: \$2.4B RY



Enable the future  
Returnable cache  
of samples

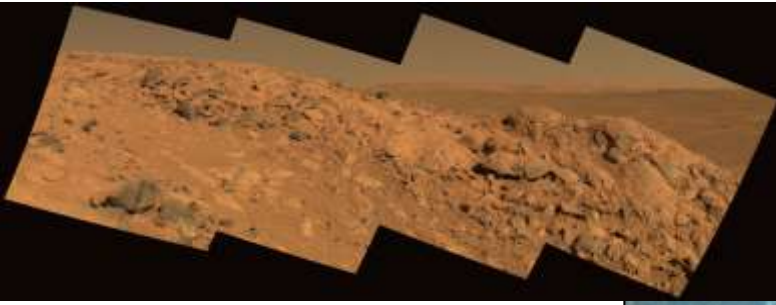
Critical ISRU and  
technology  
demonstration  
required for future  
Mars exploration





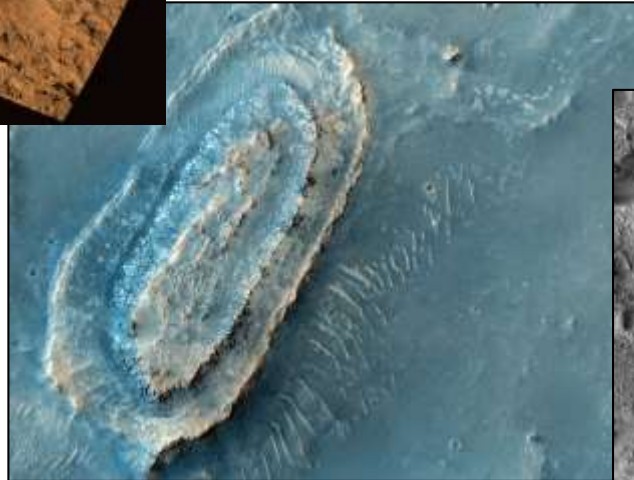
# Final Mars 2020 Candidate Landing Sites

*Final site selection targeted for  
end of 2018*



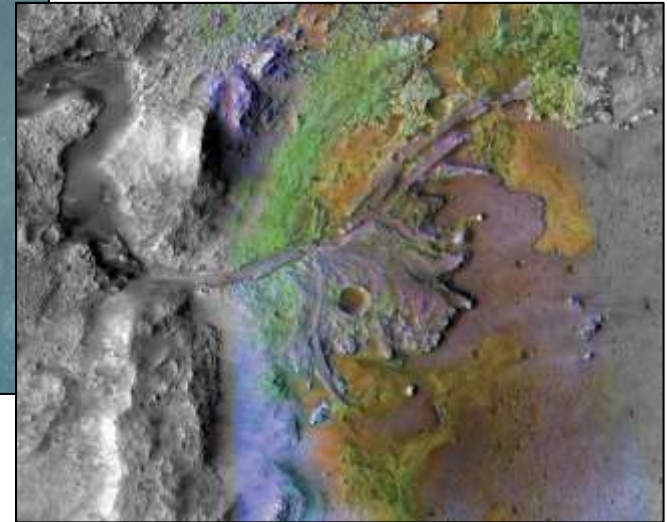
## COLUMBIA HILLS

- Ancient hot springs of carbonate, sulfate, and silica-rich material
- Potential biosignatures identified
- Previously explored by **Spirit** rover



## NE SYRTIS

- Extremely ancient volcanic and hydrothermal environments
- Large diversity of hydrated minerals
- Potential subsurface habitability



## JEZERO

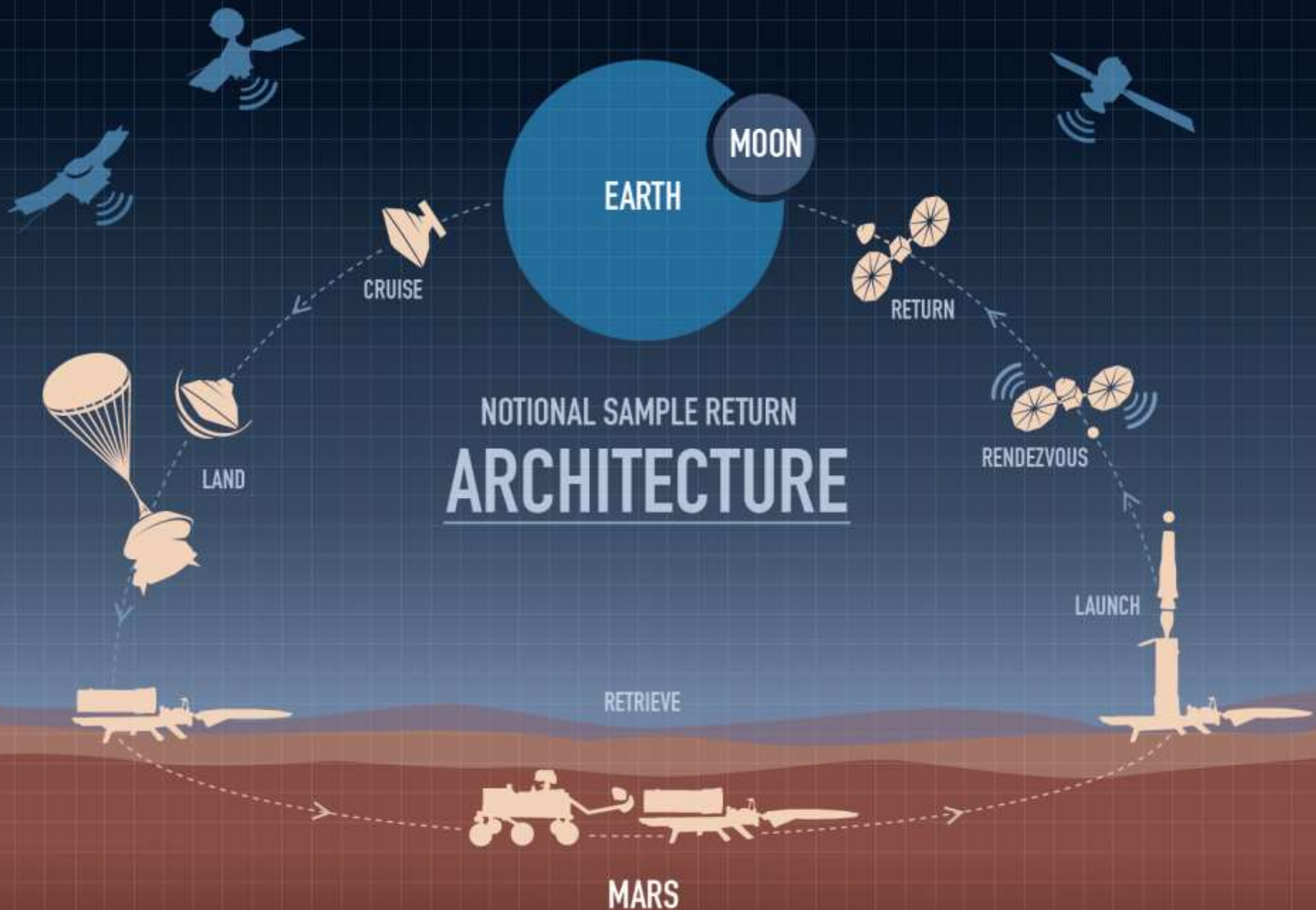
- Ancient lava and water deposition region
- Evidence for hydrous and clay minerals



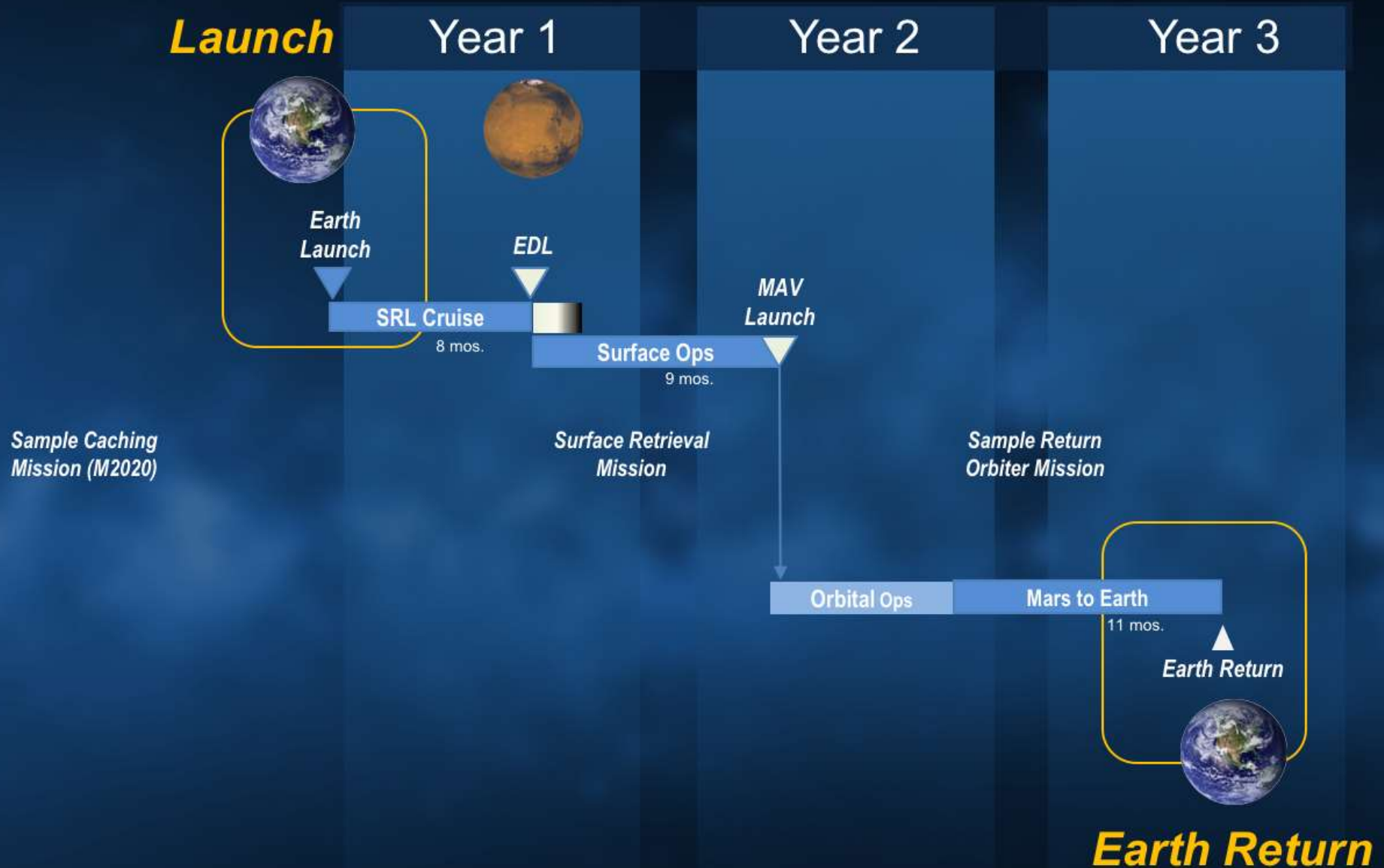
# MARS EXPLORATION PROGRAM

- Decadal Survey science goals
  - Determine if life ever arose on Mars
  - Understand the processes and history of climate
  - Determine the evolution of the surface and interior
- Progress report
  - Making breakthroughs in Mars science
  - Gaining knowledge in preparation of future Mars exploration
  - Current missions are healthy and performing well
  - Technology investments are addressing pivotal issues for future Mars exploration architectures
- Our future architectures should adapt to evolving Mars exploration
  - Existing program capabilities
  - Multiple international interests
  - Multiple commercial interests
- Investigating new, leaner Mars architectures to respond to global changes in Mars exploration

# NOTIONAL SAMPLE RETURN ARCHITECTURE



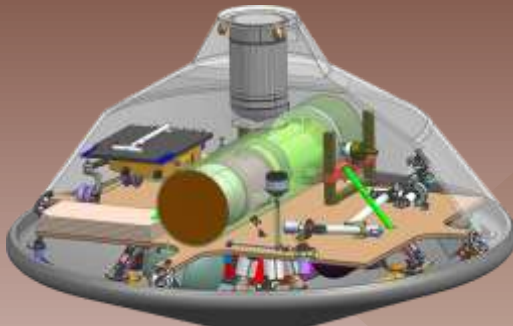
# NOTIONAL MSR TIMELINE



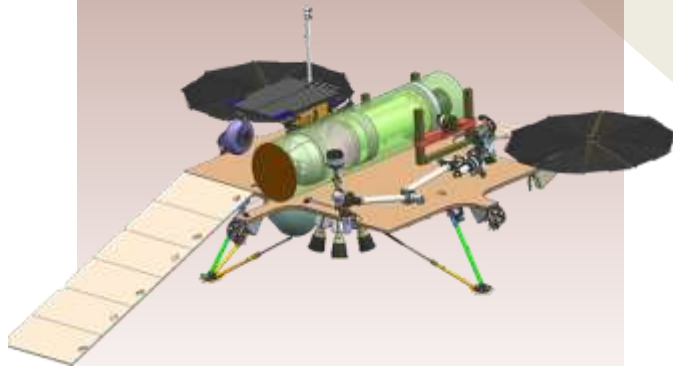


# TWO LANDER CONCEPTS

## 2017 Highly Integrated Concept



**Propulsive Platform Lander (PPL) Concept**  
*Packaged in MSL 4.5m Aeroshell*

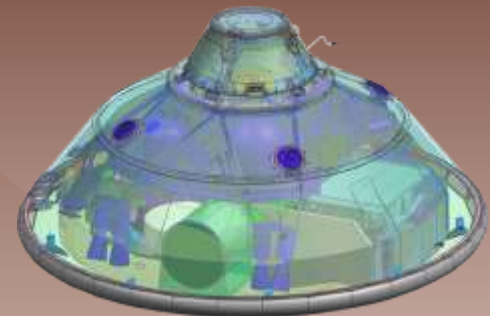


**Propulsive Platform Lander**  
*Concept Deployed*

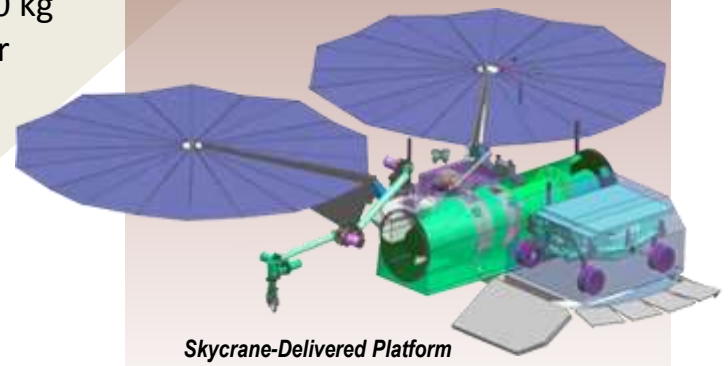
### Common Attributes

- Identical cruise and entry architecture
- ~ 10 km landing ellipse
- ~ 900-1000 kg landed useful mass
- Accommodates ~ 600 kg MAV and Fetch Rover

## Evolved 2011 Decadal Concept



**Skycrane-Delivered Platform Concept**  
*Packaged in MSL 4.5m Aeroshell*



**Skycrane-Delivered Platform**  
*Concept Deployed*

***Two concepts that leverage Mars program legacy system capabilities***

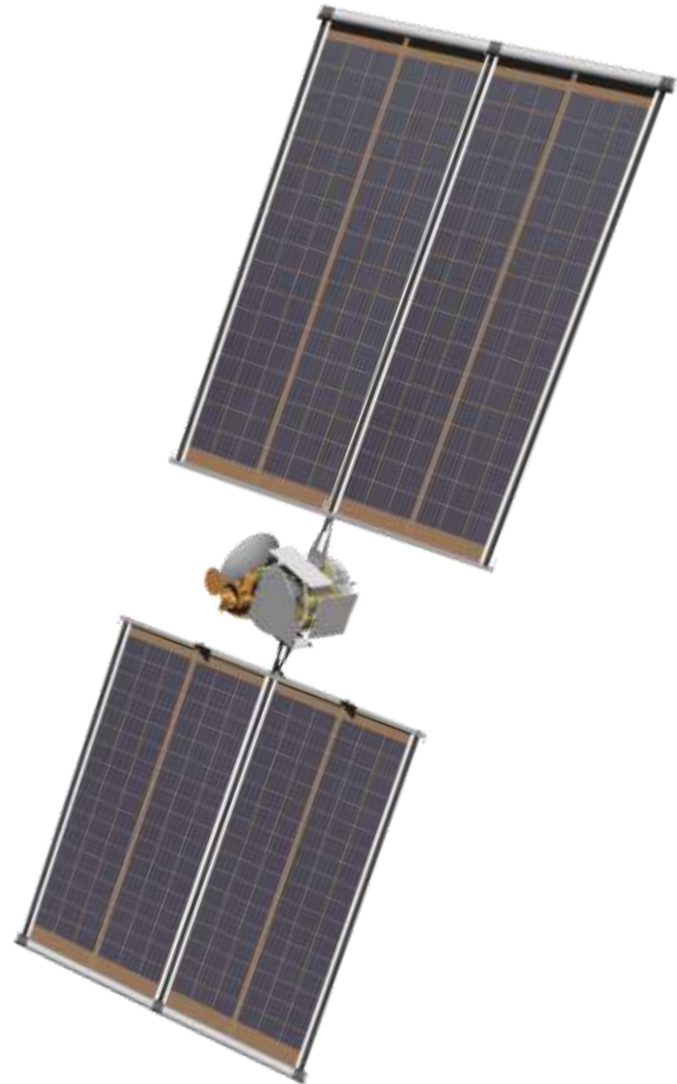
# NOTIONAL SAMPLE RETURN ORBITER

## Design for Orbital Rendezvous & Fast Sample Return

- Rendezvous & Capture
- Containment and Earth Planetary Protection
- Communication Relay Support for Surface Ops and Critical Events
- Return to Earth, either via
  - Direct return to Earth
  - Deliver to cis-lunar space for human-assisted returns

## Implementation Options

- NASA provided
- Partner provided



# PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- **International**

- Enduring scientific/technical and programmatic interests
- Multiple space agencies headed to Mars

- **Growing commercial interest in Mars**

- Potential to leverage commercial offerings of capability

- **Exploration benefits from MSR**

- Feed-forward into preparation, planning and development
- First round trip demonstration
- Samples inform environmental uncertainties [biological, physical, toxicity]
- Potential opportunity for early leverage of cis-lunar capabilities





# NEXT STEPS

- Continue pre-formulation studies on SRL concepts
- Explore additional opportunities for partnership
- Continue and expand technology maturation efforts
- Engage ESA and other international partner interest in a joint study on approaches for collaborative MSR

# Mission Studies Completed

- Mars orbiter
  - 2015 MEPAG's Next Orbiter Science Analysis Group
- Uranus and Neptune (Ice Giants) system missions
  - 2017 NASA science definition team report
- Europa lander
  - 2017 NASA science definition team report
- Venus orbiter and lander (Venera-D)
  - 2017 joint U.S.-Russian science definition team report

# CAPS Priority Areas Candidates for Large or Medium Class Mission Studies (Unprioritized)

Venus exploration missions	Additional concepts beyond the Venera-D orbiter and lander
Lunar science missions	Understanding interior processes and polar volatiles
Mars sample-return next-step missions	Mission elements beyond Mars 2020 necessary for second and third phases of a Mars sample-return campaign
Mars medium-class missions	Multiple mobile explorers, polar explorers, & life-detection. Investigations responsive to new discoveries
Dwarf planet missions	Large- & medium-class mission concepts to Ceres, Pluto, Triton
Io science (NEW FRONTIERS FIVE)	Reexamine mission to Io
Saturn system missions	Affordable, large strategic missions that visit multiple targets
Dedicated space telescope for solar system science	Dynamic phenomena on planetary bodies



# Planetary Science Deep Space Small Satellite Studies

- Concept studies to scope science capability and cost of small secondary missions
- 19 awards (\$6 M investment over one year)
- Report out at LPSC in March 2018

## Venus

Valeria Cottini, [CUVE - Cubesat UV Experiment](#)

Attila Komjathy, [Seismicity Investigation on Venus Using Airglow Measurements](#)

Tibor Kremic, [Seismic and Atmospheric Exploration of Venus \(SAEVe\)](#)

Christophe Sotin, [Cupid's Arrow](#)

## Moon

David Draper, [Innovative Strategies for Lunar Surface Exploration](#)

Charles Hibbitts, [Lunar Water Assessment, Transportation, and Resource Mission](#)

Noah Petro, [Mini Lunar Volatiles \(MiLUV\) Mission](#)

Suzanne Romaine, [CubeSat X-ray Telescope \(CubeX\)](#)

Timothy Stubbs, [Bi-sat Observations of the Lunar Atmosphere above Swirls \(BOLAS\)](#)

## Small Bodies

Benton Clark, [CAESAR: CubeSat Asteroid Encounters for Science and Reconnaissance](#)

Tilak Hewagama, [Primitive Object Volatile Explorer \(ProVE\)](#)

Jeffrey Plescia, [APEX: Asteroid Probe Experiment](#)

## Mars

Anthony Colaprete, [Aeolus - to study the thermal and wind environment of Mars](#)

Michael Collier, [PRISM: Phobos Regolith Ion Sample Mission](#)

Robert Lillis, [Mars Ion and Sputtering Escape Network \(MISEN\)](#)

David Minton, [Chariot to the Moons of Mars](#)

Luca Montabone, [Mars Aerosol Tracker \(MAT\)](#)

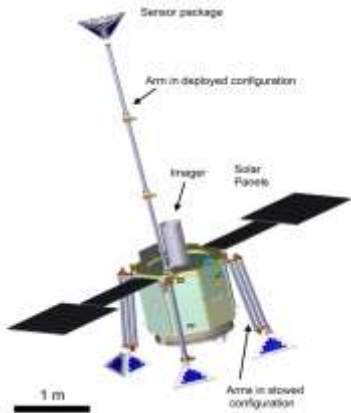
## Icy Bodies and Outer Planets

Kunio Sayanagi, [SNAP: Small Next-generation Atmospheric Probe](#)

Robert Ebert, [JUpiter Magnetospheric boundary ExploreR \(JUMPER\)](#)



Christophe Sotin (JPL)  
Cupid's Arrow spacecraft concept



Jeff Plescia (Purdue)  
APEX spacecraft concept

Questions?

