

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NASA BPS Foundations Program Update, Foundations Goal Update

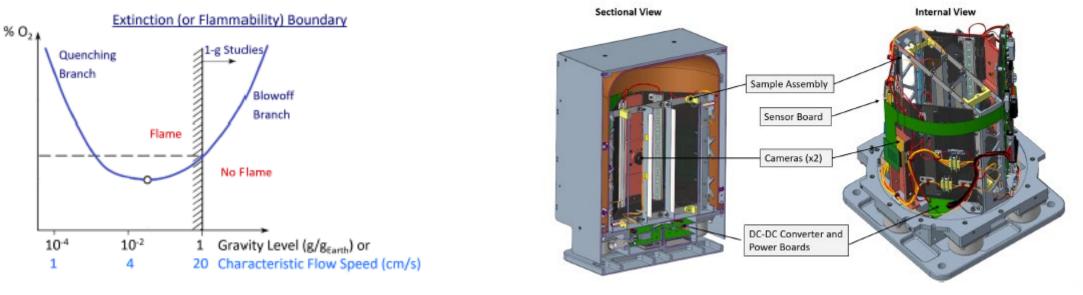
Brad Carpenter, Program Scientist 8 October 2024

Biological & Physical Sciences

Program Update

Science Highlights: Foundations

Flammability of Materials on the Moon – FM2 on the Artemis uncrewed demonstration



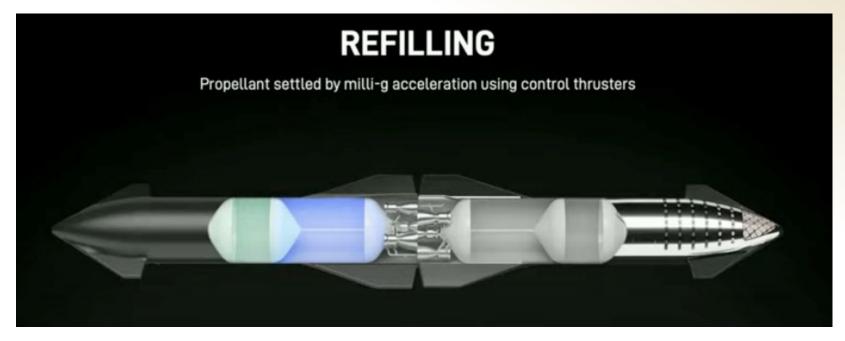


FM2 experiment concept

Convection carries oxygen into a flame, but also carries heat away. The result is that materials can be more flammable in reduced gravity, when buoyant convection is weak, than at Earth gravity. Data is needed to understand flammability at elevated oxygen levels in lunar gravity. The FM2 project is the first effort to obtain data relevant to operations at elevated oxygen levels and reduced gravity.

Science Highlights: Foundations

Flow Boiling and Convection Experiment – Transfer Line

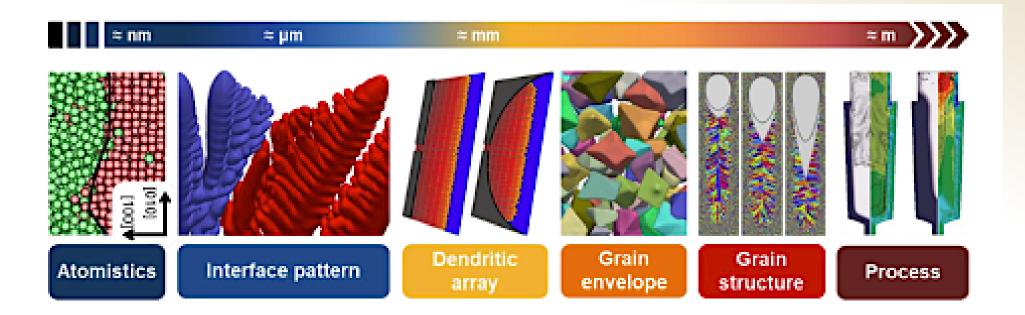


From: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oee66sAXGtc

Transfer of cryogenic fuels between vehicles is a critical capability for exploration missions. The density difference between liquid and gaseous fuels is O(1000-100), so vaporization during line chilling can result in large pressure spikes

Science Highlights: Foundations

Integrated Computational Materials Engineering – final report from the science team



Solidification processes at different length scales

Solicitations: Foundations

Physical Sciences 2024 Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Science (ROSES) Call

- Includes all Physical Sciences Disciplines with some focus applied
- Release planned for later this month
- Proposals due early 2025
- Awards begin fiscal 2026

We're Back!

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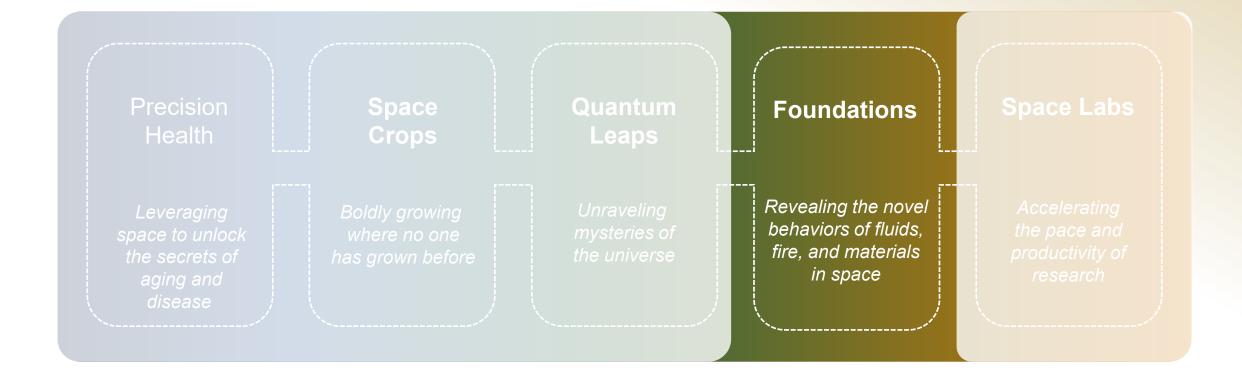
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Roadmap Update

Thriving in Space

Revolutionary research in extraordinary places.



Foundations

 Goal: to investigate fundamental physical systems and processes to lay the foundation for space exploration and to benefit life on earth.

Goal Overview: Foundations

Science Disciplines

Identify Gaps

Decadal Alignment

Roadmap End Goal and Opportunities

Decadal Alignment: Foundations

Living and Traveling in Space

- Principles for processing and use of local materials
- Chemical and physical properties that govern fluid behavior in space

Phenomena Hidden by Gravity or Terrestrial Limitations

- Principles that organize the structure and functionality of materials
- Laws that govern the behavior of systems far from equilibrium

Decadal Alignment: Foundations

Research Campaign: Build a foundation for increasingly circular ecosystems in space, á la Manufacturing Materials and Processes for Sustainability in Space (MATRICES)



Manufacturing mATeRials and ProcessEs for Sustainability in Space

Twenty-first century acronym technology

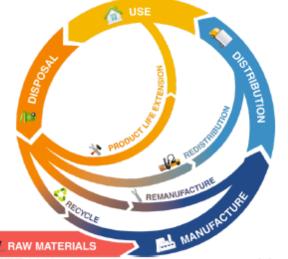


FIGURE 6-8 Alternative approaches to manage waste are needed to enable a circular economy. SOURCE: Courtesy of UK Research and Innovation.

Circular economies can reduce waste and improve efficiencies

Science Goal: Foundations

Themes:

Disciplines:

- Cryo Fluids & Thermal Management
- Fire Safety
- Recycling and Sustainability
- Manufacturing & Processing in Space

- Open Science
- Condensed Matter Physics
- Synthetic Biology
- Combustion
- Materials
 Science
- Cryogenic Fluids
- Fluid and Thermal Science

Space-Relevant Stressors:

- Altered Gravity
- Space Radiation
- Lunar and Martian Regolith
- Altered Magnetic Field
- Altered Atmospheric Pressure
- Altered Partial Pressure of Gases

Identify Gaps & Opportunities: Foundations

- Enabling Exploration Science
 - Fire safety solutions (safe materials, fire detection, extinguishment)
 - Cryogenic fuel thermal fluid system behavior prediction
 - Engineering foundation for translating Earth-developed processes to space
 - Materials for an evolution to increasing independence from Earth-supplied logistics
- Scientific Discovery
 - Finding new uses and capabilities for space platforms, especially the upcoming generation
 - Driving science forward in areas like functional and active matter, energy, and conservation
- Building Partnerships and Foundations
 - Keeping NASA at the center of an international scientific effort in space research
 - Maintaining a healthy research community in core disciplines vital for NASA's future

Roadmap End Goals: Foundations

Provide fundamental knowledge:

- to improve performance of exploration systems.
- to inform design strategies for future spacecrafts and habitats.
- to inform in-situ resource utilization processes for the Moon.
- to create a sustainable exploration ecosystem in LEO, on the Moon, and on Mars.

