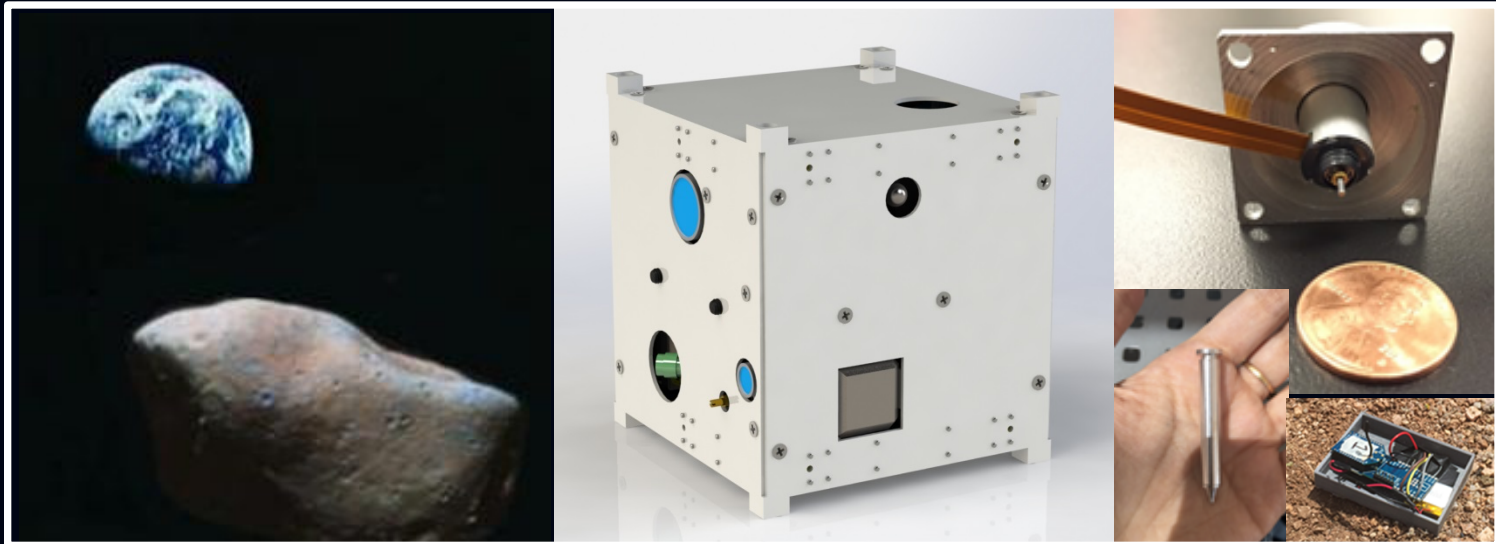


# SET: Picosatellite Mission to Study Apophis



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SpaceTReX Laboratory  
School of Earth and Space Exploration  
Arizona State University

# Interplanetary PicoSat Design Course

- Two semester capstone design course for grad students – concept to build to flight test
  - Geology, astrophysics, systems, mechanical, electrical, aerospace engineering



# Facilities



Facilities for conceptualization, designing, building, operating space missions.



Marston Exploration Theater



Mission Operations Center

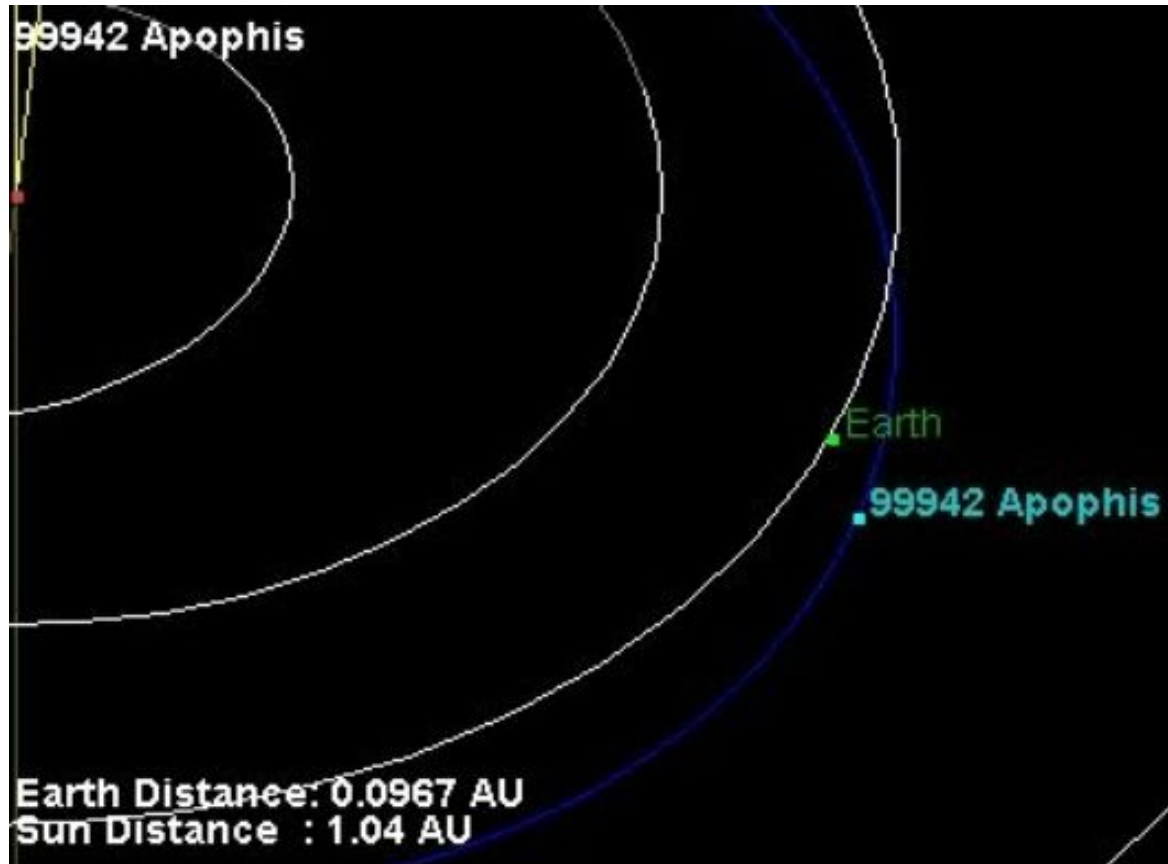


Class 10k & 100k clean room

## Mission in a Nutshell

*From an orbiting mothership, deploy a 1-U satellite that will conduct a geophysical investigation of the surface and interior of Apophis*

# Apophis

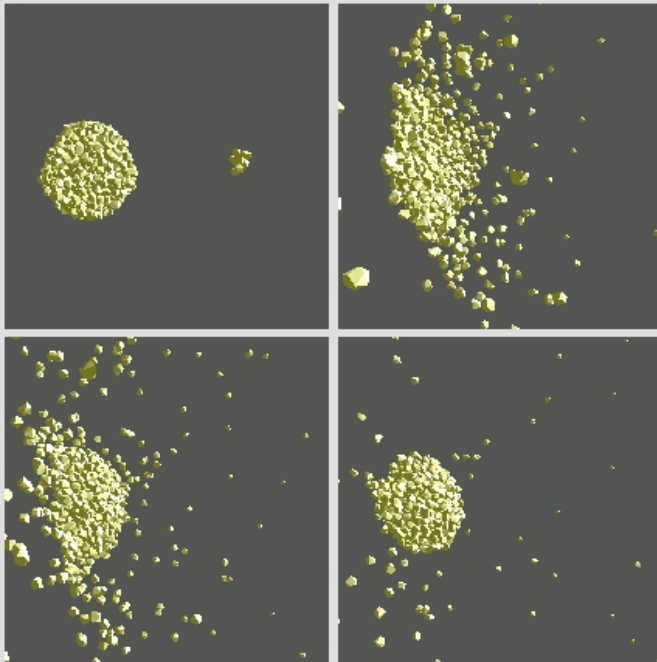


## Primary Science Mission Objectives

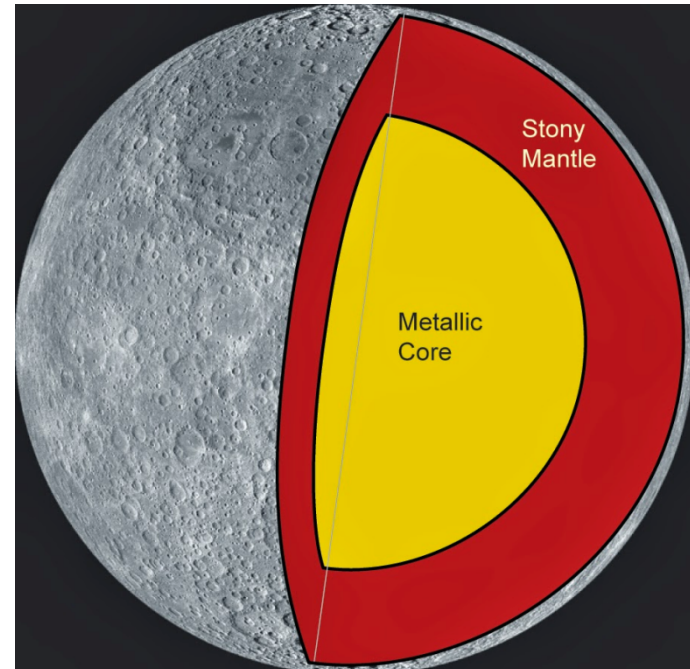
- Determine the physical characteristics of the regolith at Apophis
  - Grain sizes
  - Morphologies
  - Grain size distribution
  - Sorting
  - Alteration materials

## Secondary Science Mission Objectives

- Determine the internal structure of asteroid Apophis

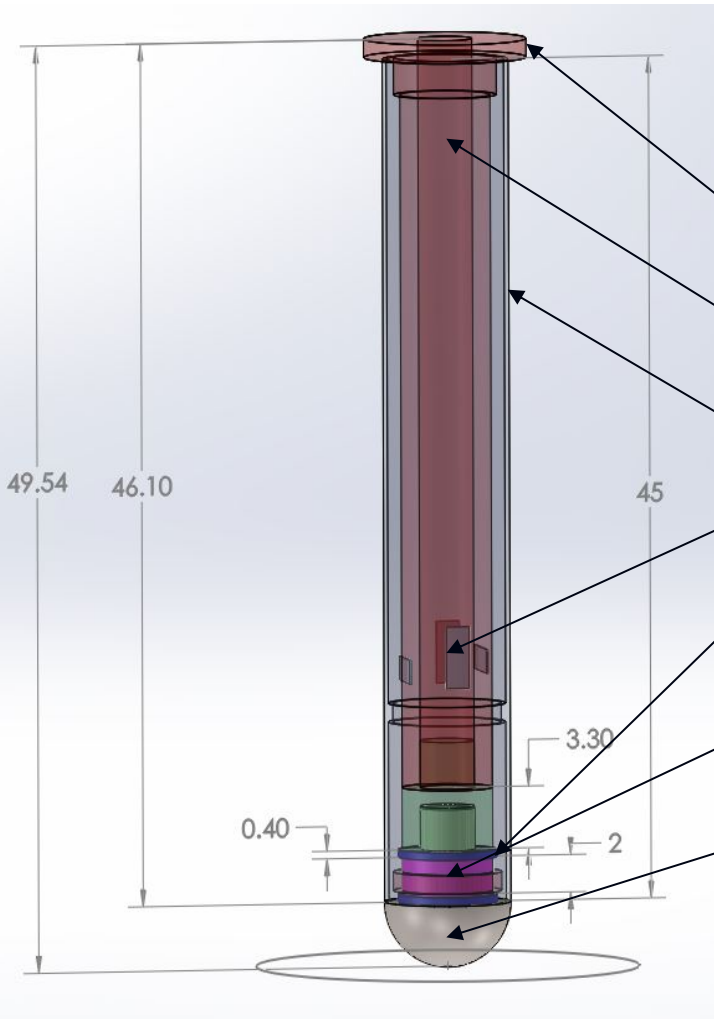


[es.ucsc.edu/~fnimmo/CODEP/](http://es.ucsc.edu/~fnimmo/CODEP/)



[planetarygeolog.blogspot.com/2013/09/mining-astroids-not-just-any-asteroid.html](http://planetarygeolog.blogspot.com/2013/09/mining-astroids-not-just-any-asteroid.html)

# Instruments

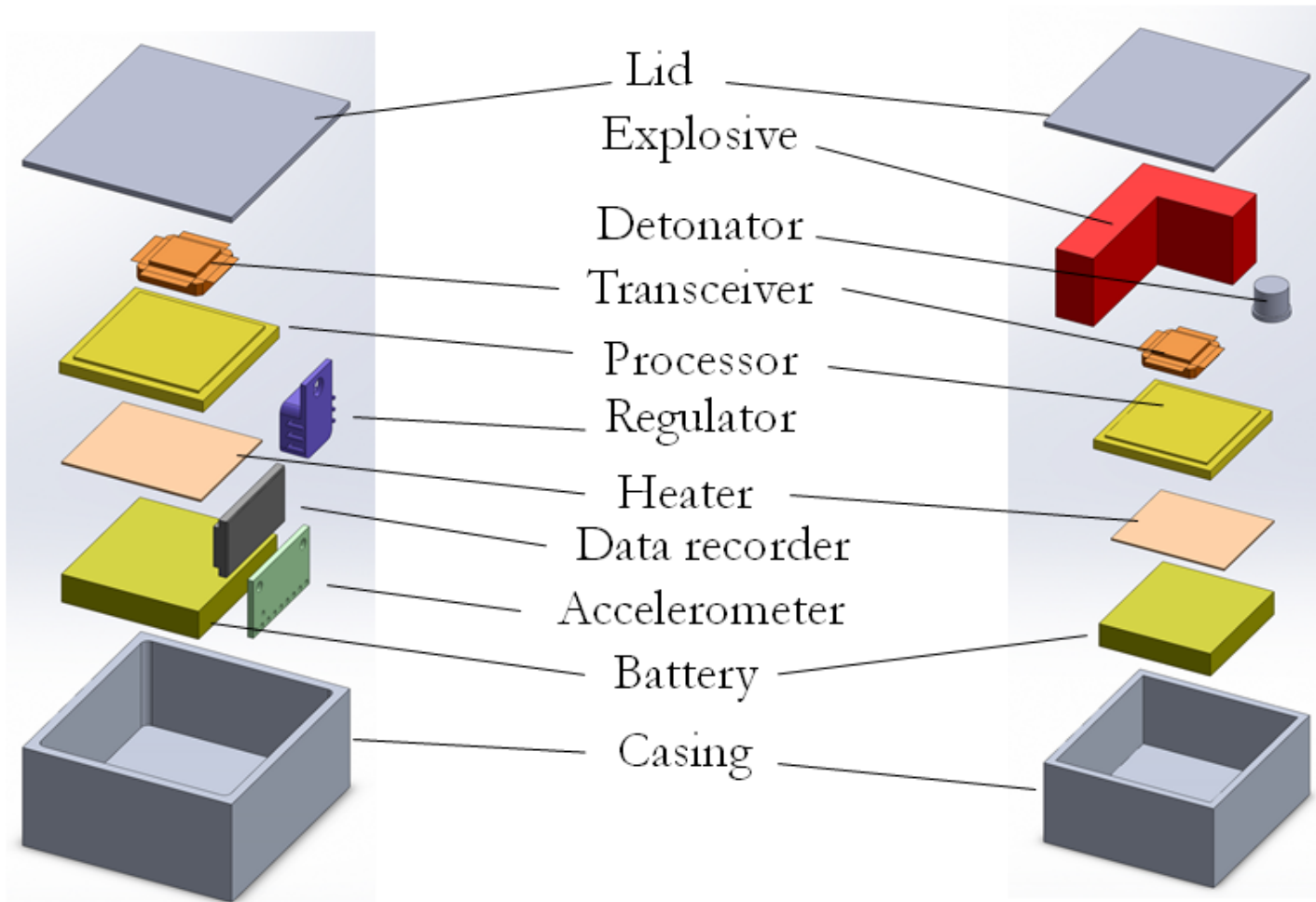


## Component (diameter)

1. Base (9 mm)
2. Fiberglass Shaft (6 mm)
3. Al Friction Sleeve (7 mm)
4. Strain Gauges
5. Macor Washer (6 mm)
6. Piezo Force Sensor (6 mm)
7. Tip (7 mm)

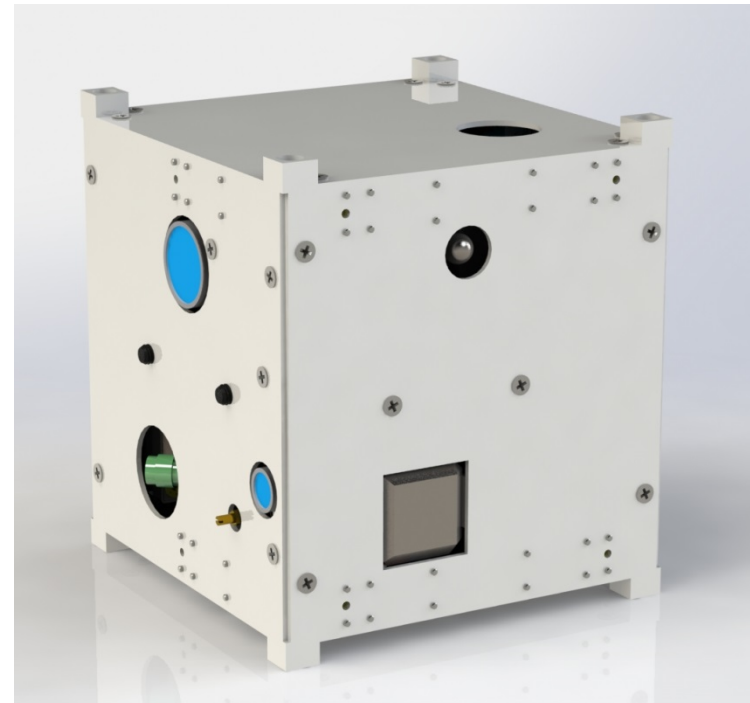


# Instruments - Seismology



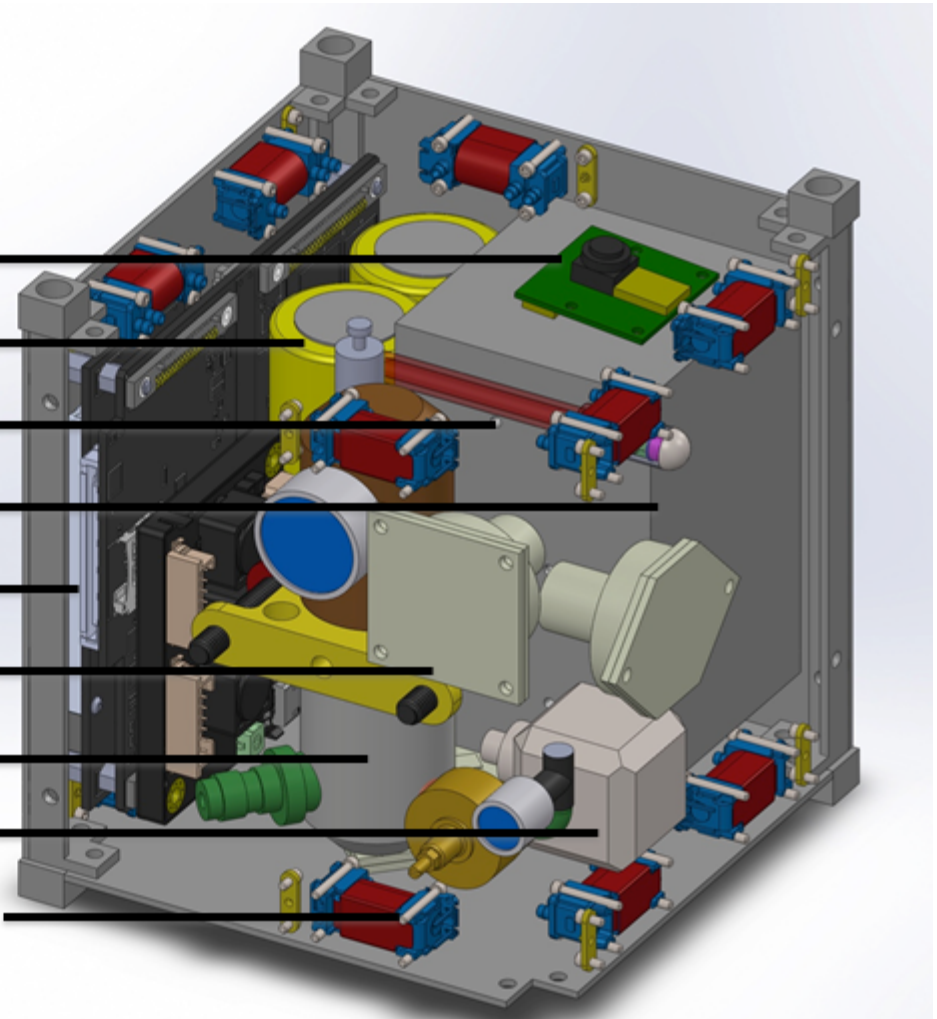
## System

- **Mass:** 1 kg
- **Volume:** 10 x 10 x 10 cm
- **Battery:** 72 Wh ( $\text{LiSOCl}_2$ )
- **Instruments:**
  - Camera
  - Penetrometer
  - Seismometry (3 deployables)
- **Mission Life:** ~12 hrs max
- **Propulsion:** Cold Gas ( $\text{N}_2$ )
- **ACS:** 3-axis Reaction Wheels
- **Computer:** Tyvak Intrepid

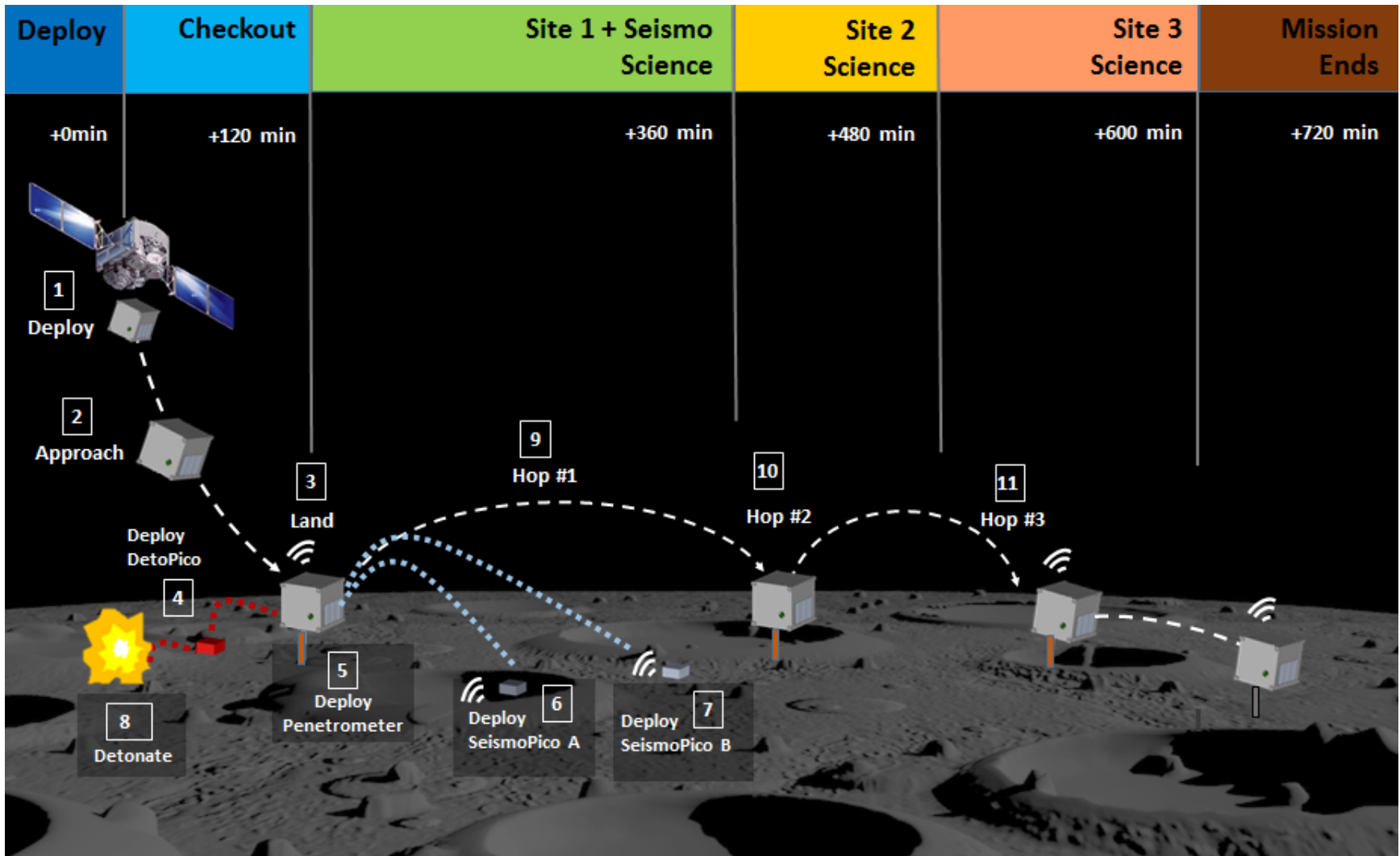


# System

- Camera
- Li-SOCl<sub>2</sub> Batteries
- Penetrometer
- Deployable Housing
- Tyvak Intrepid Board
- Reaction Wheel x3
- N<sub>2</sub> Tank
- Seismometer
- Thruster Solenoids/Nozzles x12



# Concept of Operations

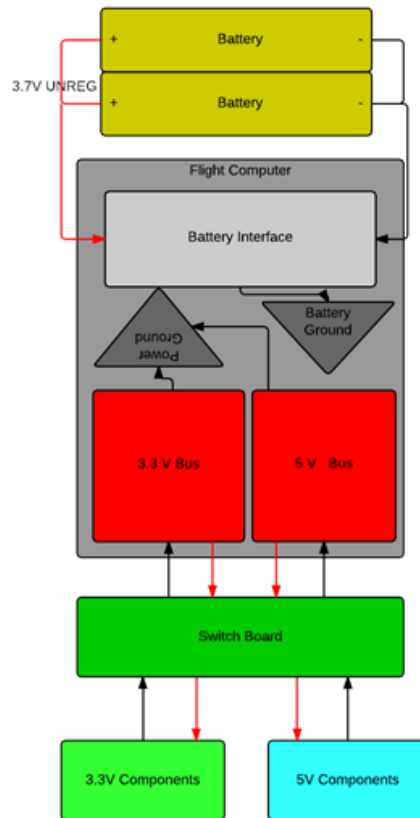


# System Budgets

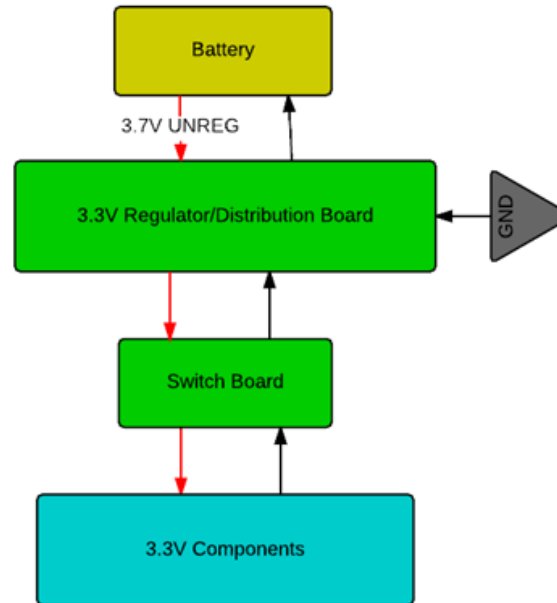
| Subsystem         | Component                    | Volume (cm <sup>3</sup> ) | Mass (g)     |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Structure         | Frame                        | 30                        | 127          |
|                   | Thermal Insulation (Aerogel) | 30                        | 5            |
| Payload           | Explosive Charge             | 51.5                      | 59           |
|                   | Remote Geophone (x2)         | 103                       | 124          |
|                   | MEMS Seismometer             | 9.6                       | 35           |
|                   | Penetrometer                 | 2                         | 5            |
|                   | Camera                       | 20                        | 5            |
| Propulsion & ADCS | Reaction Wheels (x3)         | 20                        | 150          |
|                   | Cold Gas Propulsion          | 125                       | 121.2        |
| CD & H            | Tyvak Intrepid - ARM 9 CPU   | 156                       | 55           |
| Comms.            | Tyvak Daughter UHF Comm      | 15                        | 21.2         |
| Energy Storage    | LiSOCl <sub>2</sub> Battery  | 98.6                      | 102          |
|                   |                              |                           |              |
|                   | <b>Total</b>                 | <b>600 cm<sup>3</sup></b> | <b>810 g</b> |
|                   | Margin (%)                   | <b>40 %</b>               | <b>19 %</b>  |

# Power Architecture

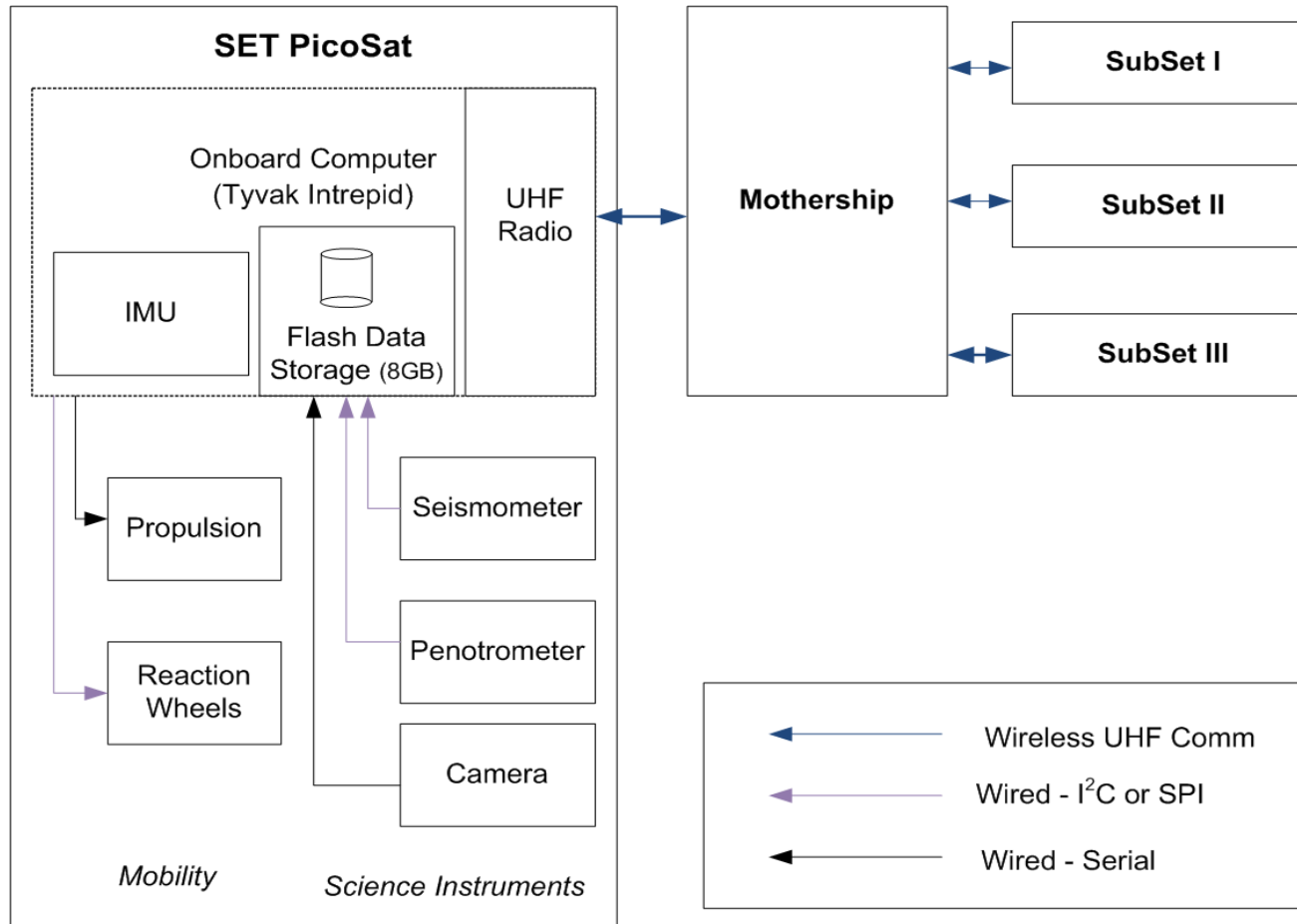
## Set Architecture



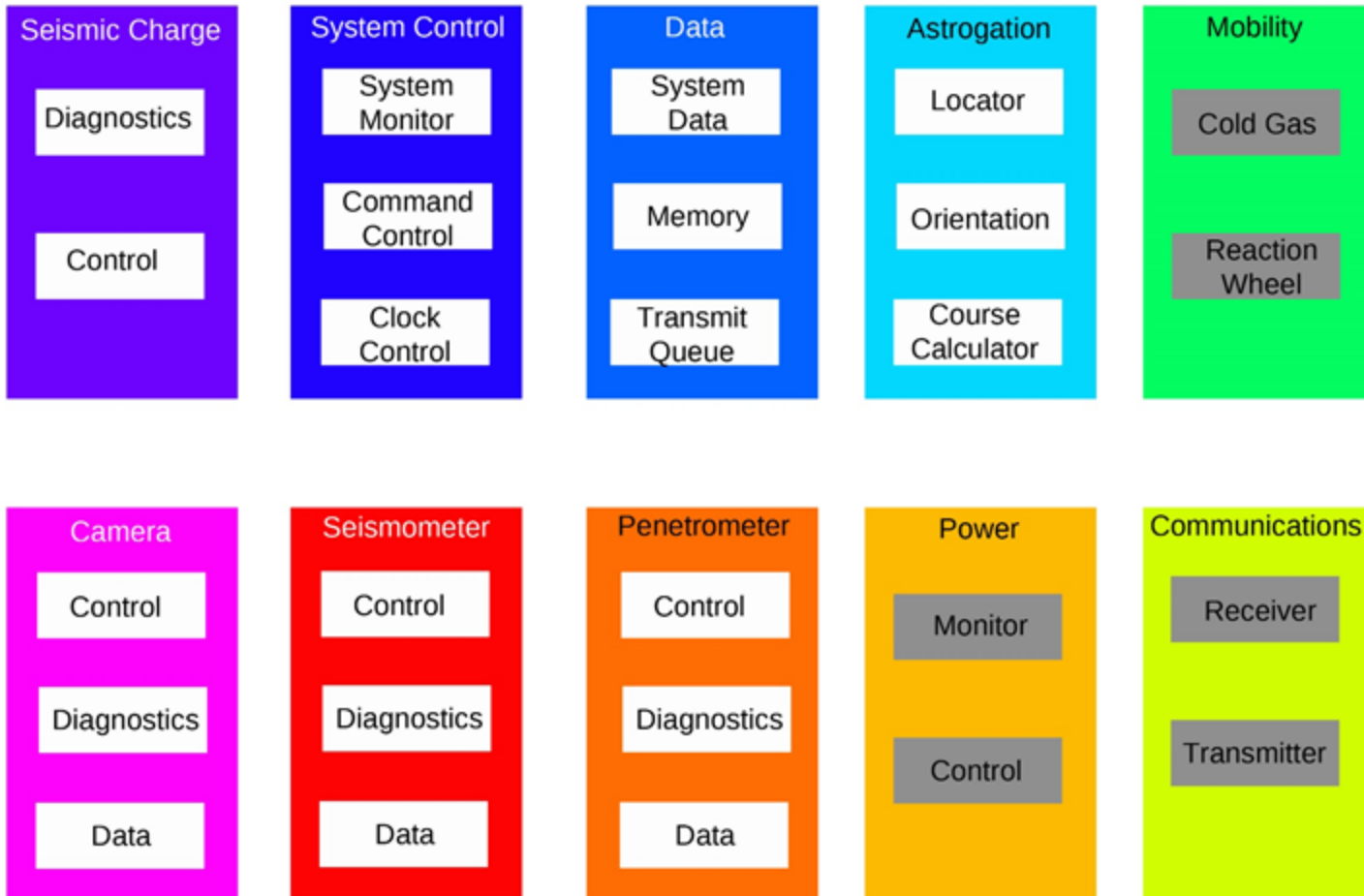
## subSet Architecture



# Computer Hardware/Comm Architecture

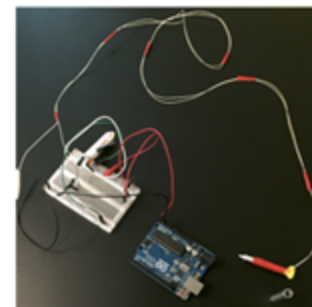
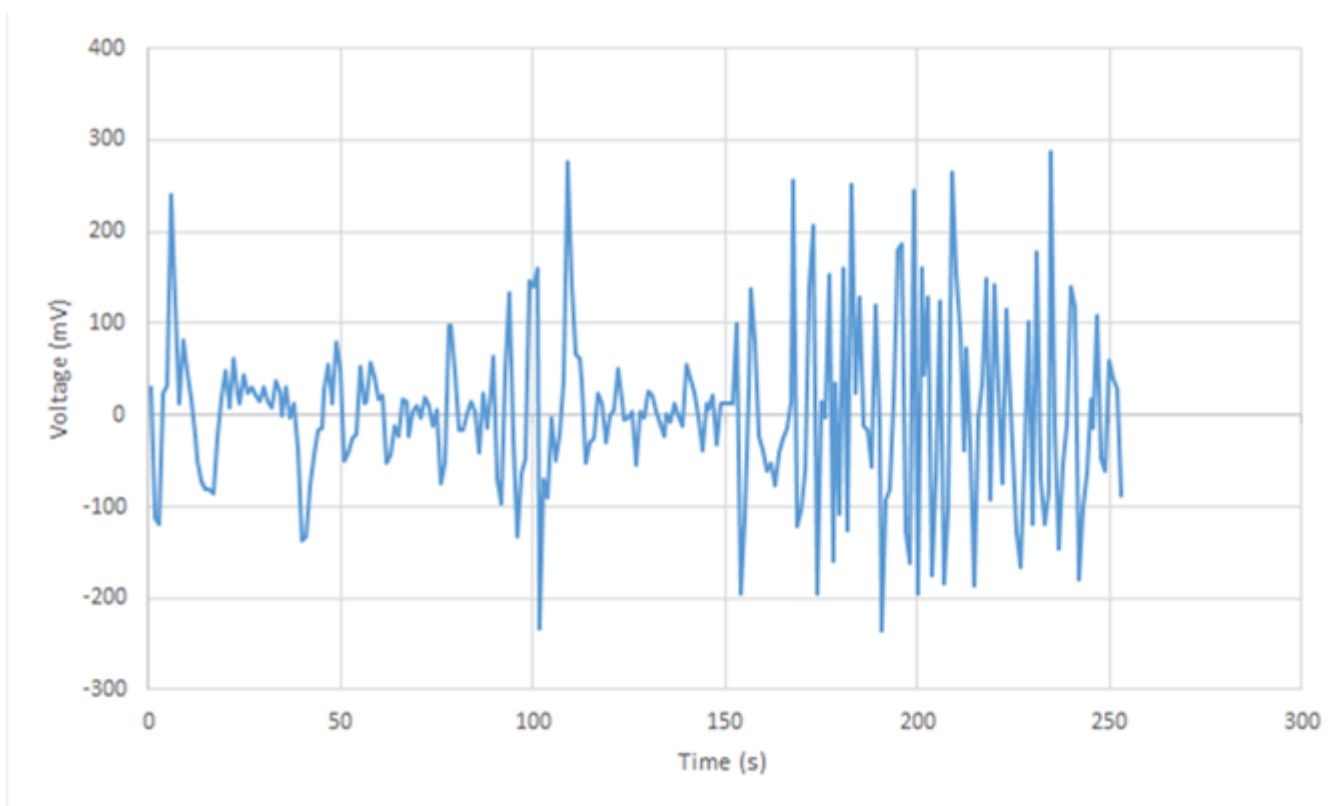


# Software Architecture

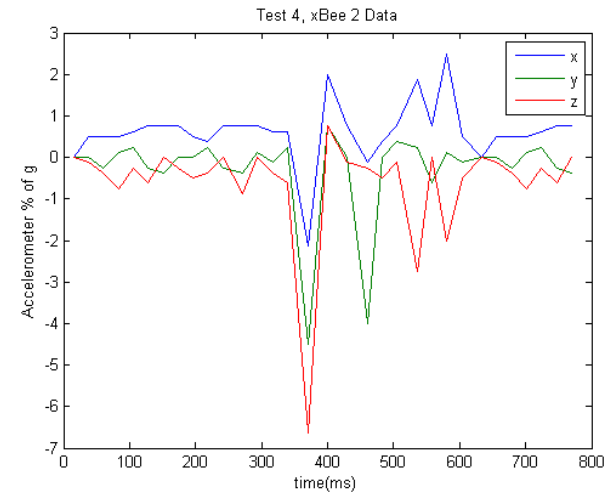
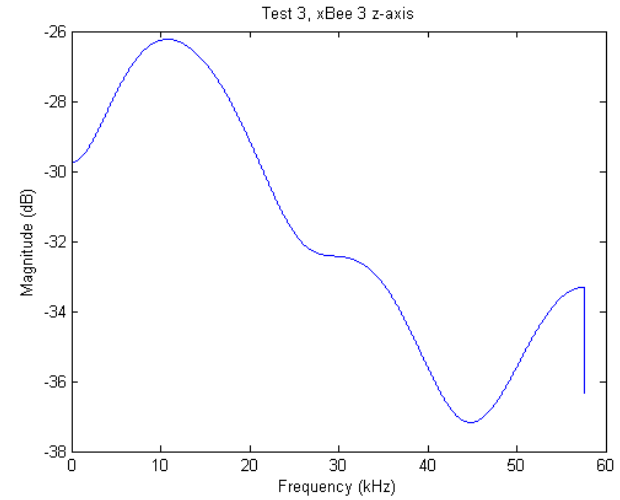




# Prototype Development



# Seismometer Experiments



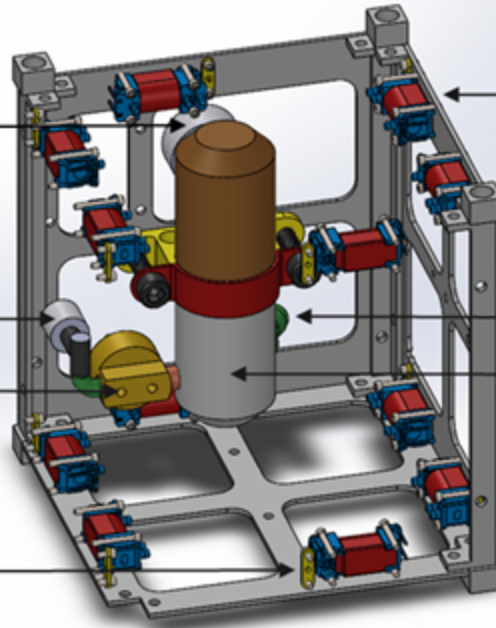
# Propulsion

Tank Pressure Gauge

Operating Pressure Gauge

Pressure Regulator

Nozzle with bracket  
(12 total)



Parker X-Valve  
(12 Valves total)

Fill Nipple

300psi Air Tank

# Propulsion

3-way Coupler

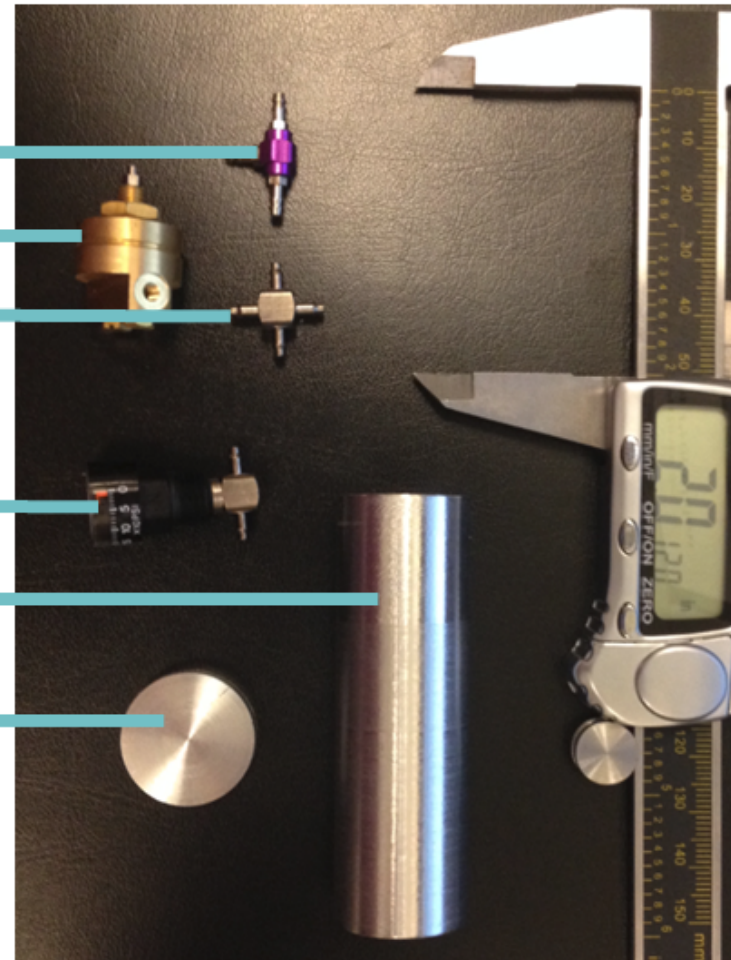
Pressure Regulator

4-way Coupler

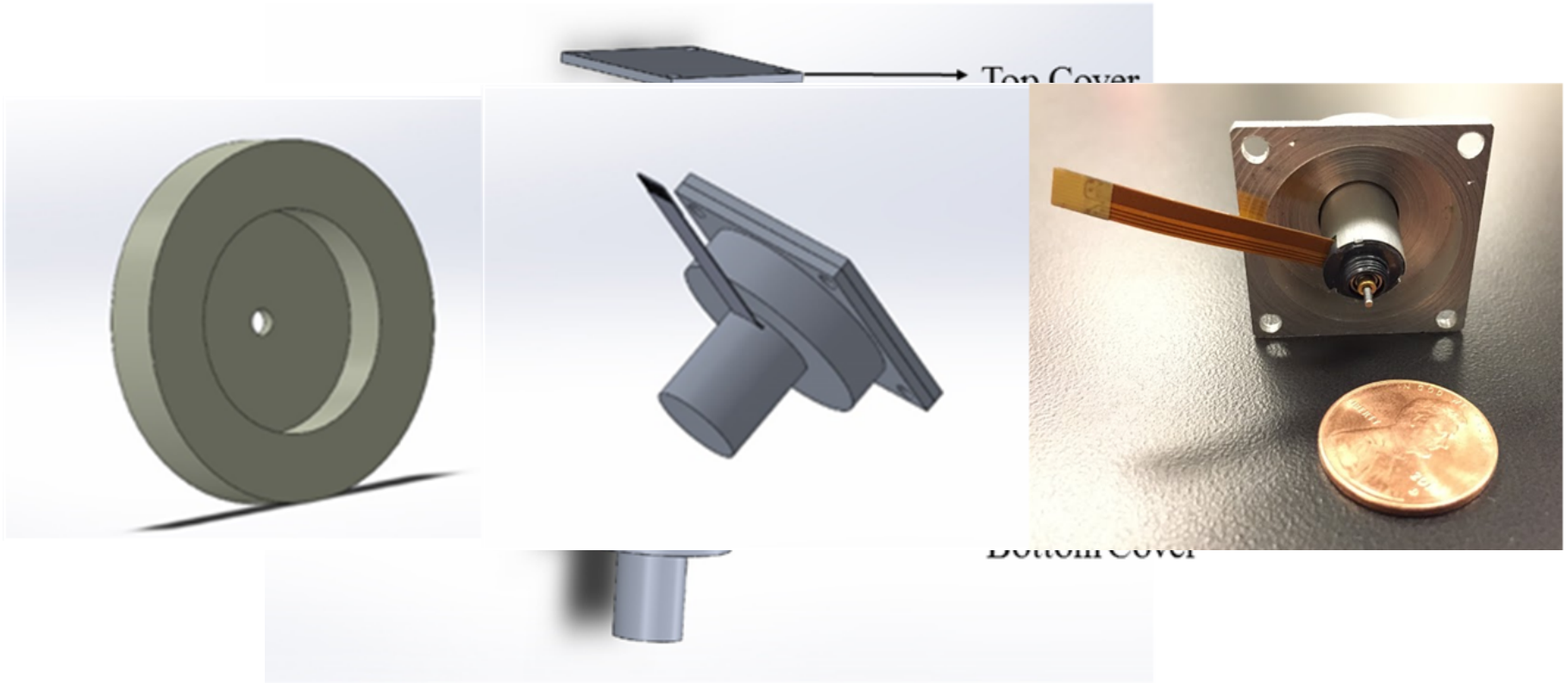
Pressure Gauge

Nitrogen Tank

Tank Cap



# Reaction Wheel System



## Discussion

- **Ongoing work to simplify & parallelize mission concept**
- **Quantify science products**
- **Determine effectiveness of science instrument and a descope plan**
- **Challenges in navigation/localization**
- **Flight qualification of critical components**

## Conclusion

- A low-cost approach to asteroid exploration proposed using a 1U short duration mission
- Soft and/or powered landing followed hopping on asteroid surface to perform science
- Miniaturization of science instruments promising – challenges in determining effectiveness
- Awaiting flight qualification testing opportunity.

# Acknowledgements



AZ Space Grant



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California Institute of Technology



KeyShot  
by Luxon



ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY



**Thank You!**