



Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) - NASA's First Planetary Defense Mission

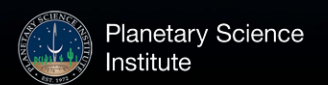
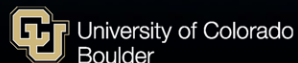
Deane Sibol, Ground Data System Lead
Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory



Goddard Space Flight Center
Johnson Space Center
Langley Research Center
Glenn Research Center
Marshall Space Flight Center
Planetary Defense Coordination Office



Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology





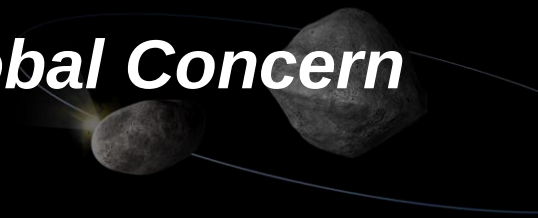
COMETS AND ASTEROIDS CAN STRIKE OUT OF NOWHERE

BUSINESS
INSIDER

<https://www.businessinsider.com/no-one-saw-chelyabinsk-meteor-over-russia-coming-could-happen-again-2016-4>

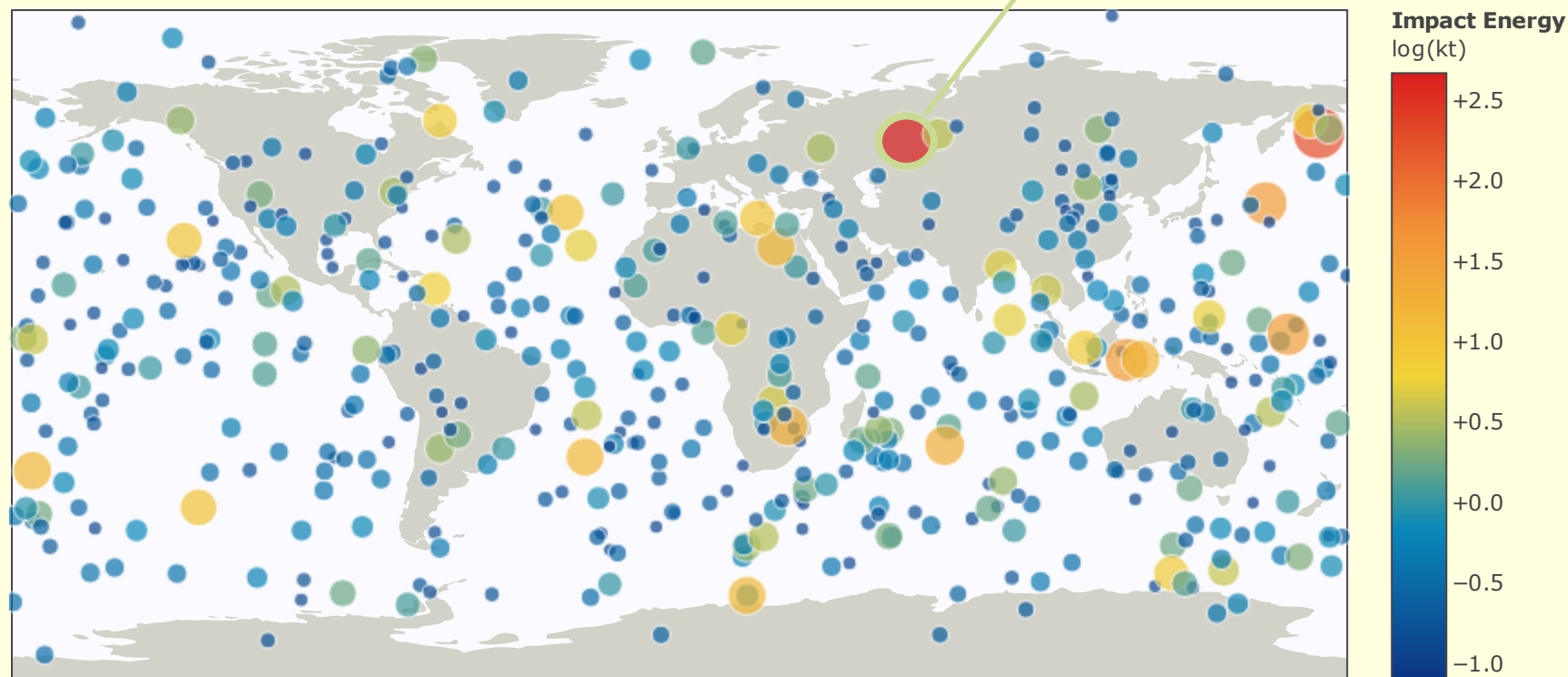
Planetary Defense: Mitigation of Asteroid Hazards, a Global Concern

Small asteroids hitting Earth, 1988–2019



Fireballs Reported by US Government Sensors

(1988-Apr-15 to 2019-Jul-23; limited to events ≥ 0.1 kt)



<https://cneos.jpl.nasa.gov/fireballs/>

Alan B. Chamberlin (JPL/Caltech)

Chelyabinsk-sized

Diameter: ~20 m

~500 kilotons TNT

2013, every few decades

Tunguska-sized

Diameter: 60–190 m

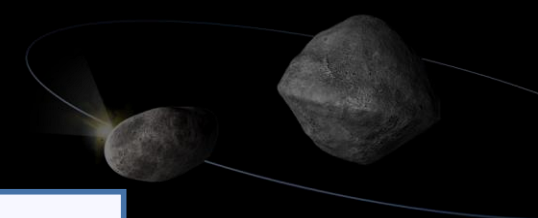
~5 megatons TNT

1908, every few centuries

Chicxulub-sized “dinosaur killer”

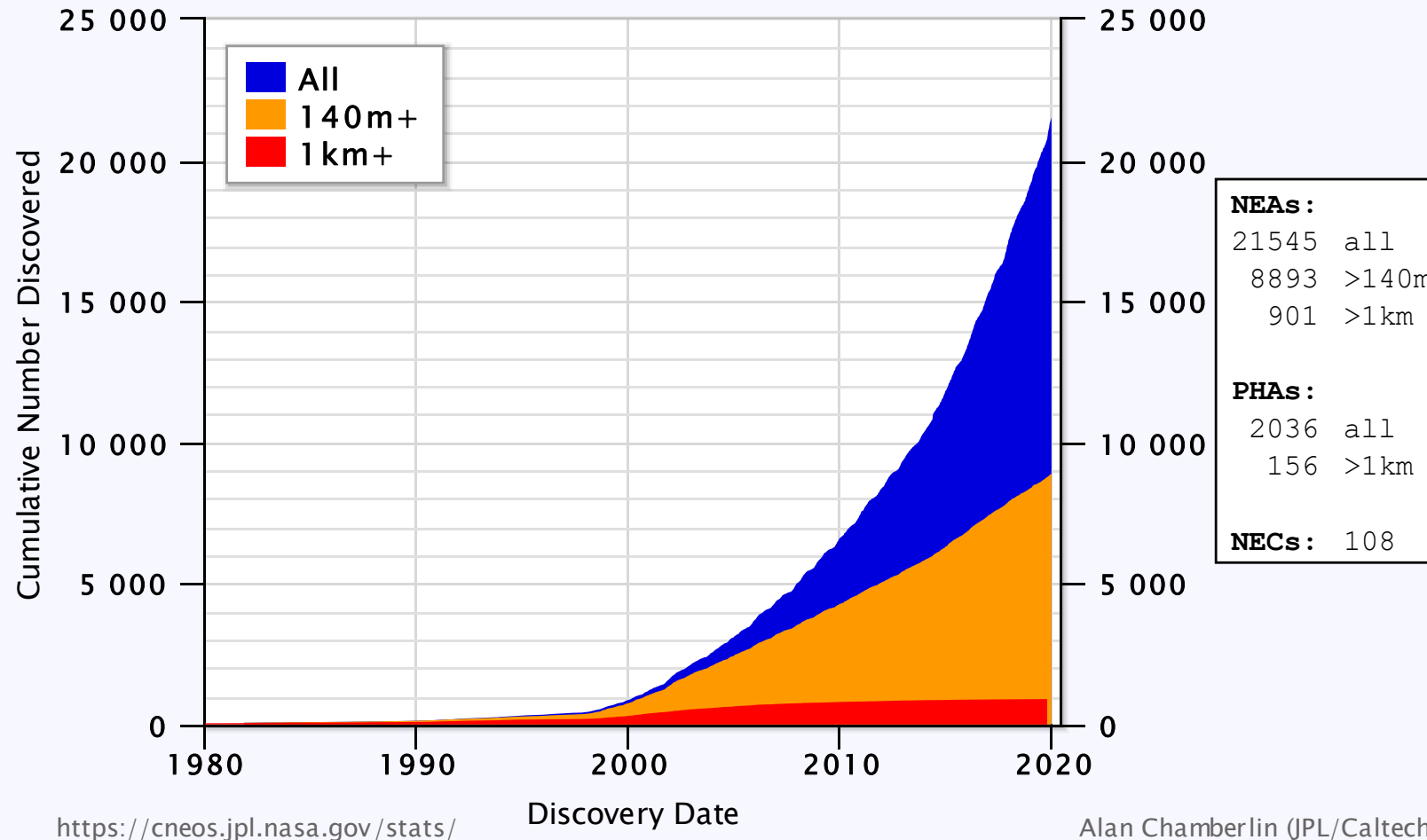
Diameter: 10–15 km

65 million years ago



Near-Earth Asteroids Discovered

Most recent discovery: 2019-Dec-03



ASSESS

[CENTER FOR NEAR EARTH
OBJECT STUDIES]



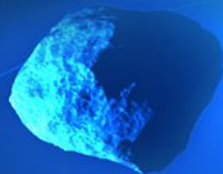
SEARCH, DETECT & TRACK

[GROUND-BASED & SPACE-BASED
OBSERVATIONS, IAWN]



MITIGATE

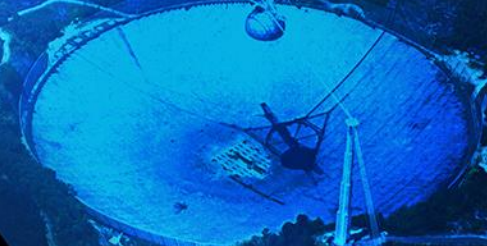
[DART, FEMA EXERCISES]



PLANETARY DEFENSE

CHARACTERIZE

[NEOWISE, GOLDSTONE,
ARECIBO, IRTF]



PLAN & COORDINATE

[SMPAG, PIERWG, DAMIEN IWG]



NASA Planetary Defense
Coordination Office (PDCO):
established 2016

Top Priority for a Mitigation Mission

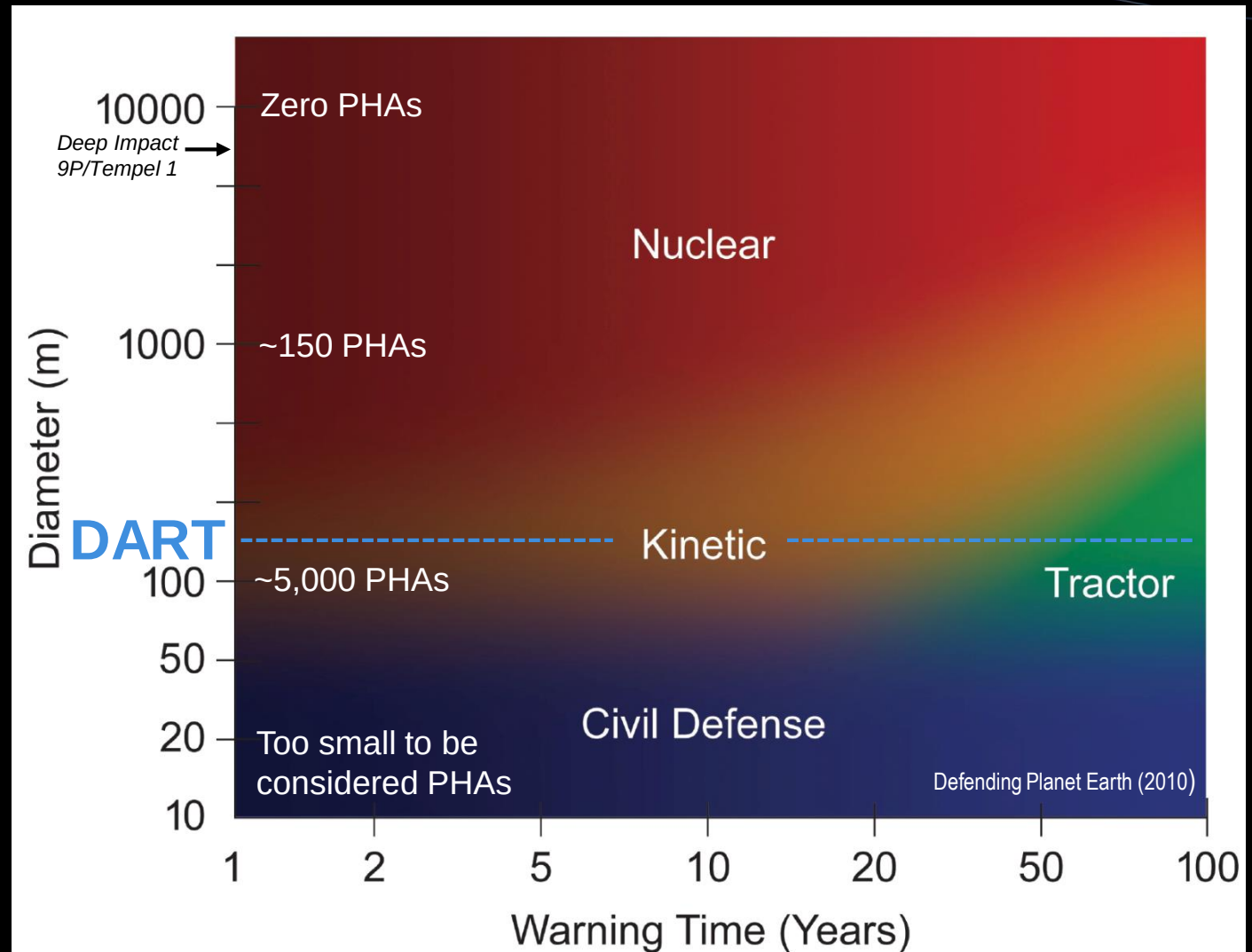
Defending Planet Earth (2010)
National Academy of Sciences

Recommendation:

“the first priority for a space mission in the mitigation area is an experimental test of a kinetic impactor”

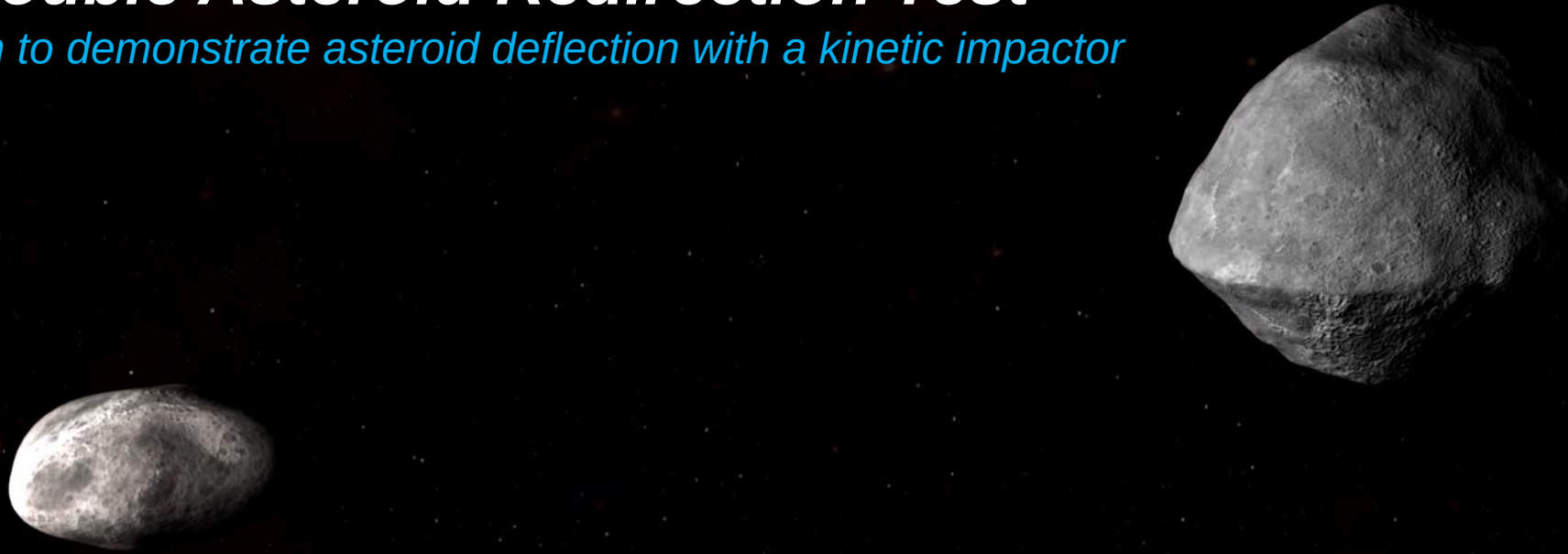
DART is the first kinetic impact test at a realistic scale for planetary defense

Mitigation Techniques for Potentially Hazardous Asteroids (PHA)



DART – Double Asteroid Redirection Test

The first mission to demonstrate asteroid deflection with a kinetic impactor



Goddard Space Flight Center
Johnson Space Center
Langley Research Center
Glenn Research Center
Marshall Space Flight Center
Planetary Defense Coordination Office



JOHNS HOPKINS
APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY



AUBURN
UNIVERSITY



University of Colorado
Boulder

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND



NORTHERN
ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY



Lawrence Livermore
National Laboratory



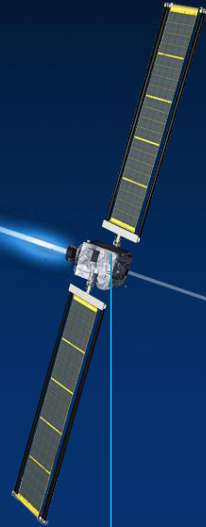
Planetary Science
Institute

Launch

July 22, 2021

IMPACT: September 30, 2022

LICIACube
(Light Italian Cubesat
for Imaging of Asteroids)
ASI contribution



DART Spacecraft

~600 kg arrival mass
18.8 m × 2.4 m × 2.0 m
6.65 km/s closing speed

Didymos-B

163 meters
11.92-hour orbital period

65803 Didymos (1996 GT)

1,180-meter separation
between centers of A and B

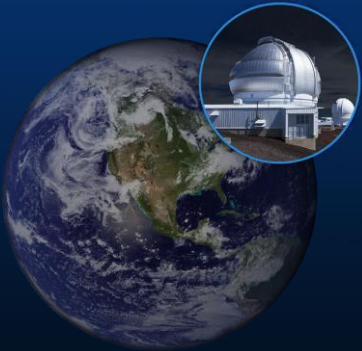
Didymos-A

780 meters, S-type
2.26-hour rotation period

Earth-Based Observations

0.07 AU range at impact
Predicted ~10-minute change
in binary orbit period

- Target the binary asteroid Didymos system
- Impact Didymos-B and change its orbital period
- Measure the period change from Earth

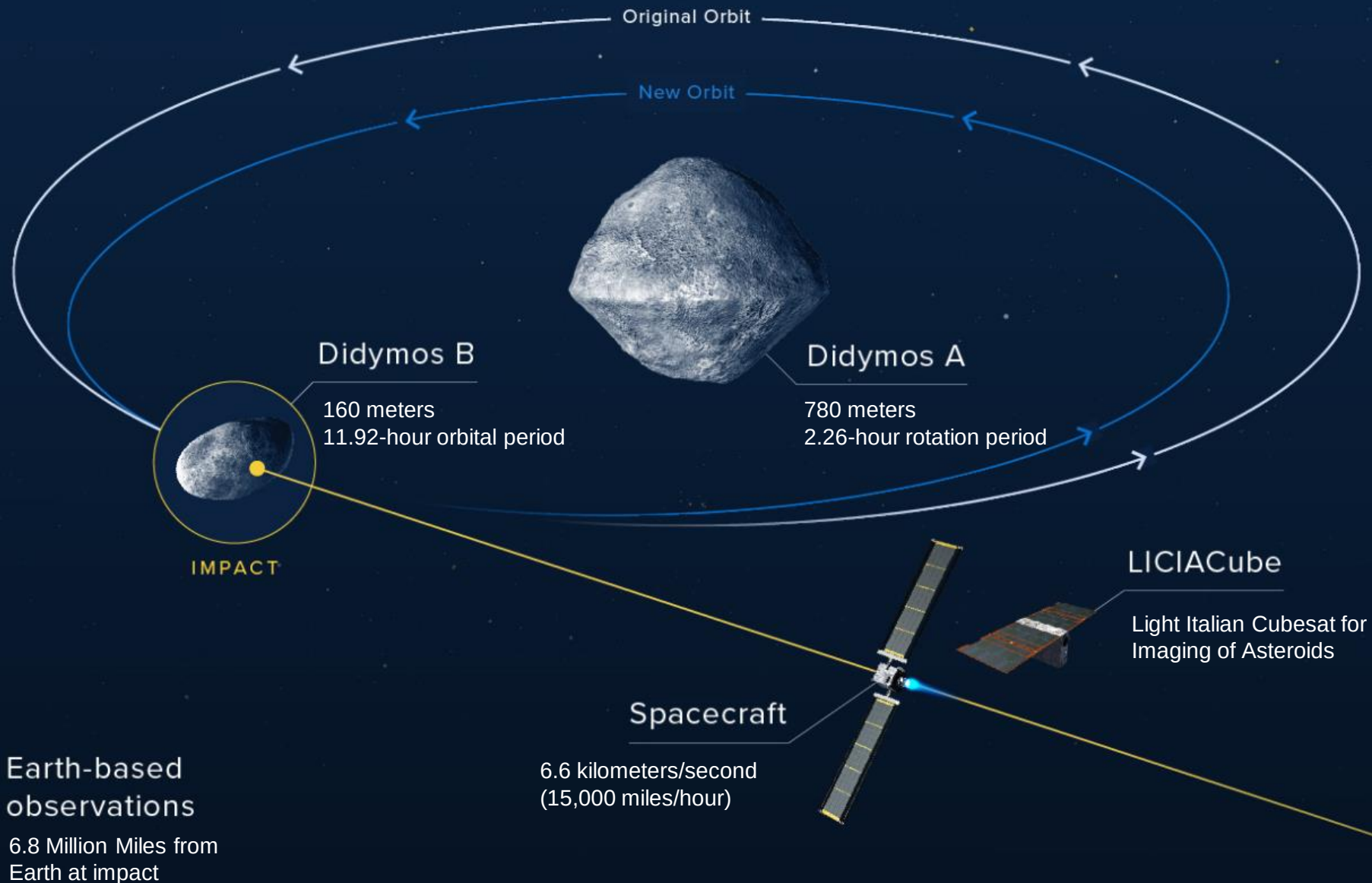


Didymos:

The Ideal Target

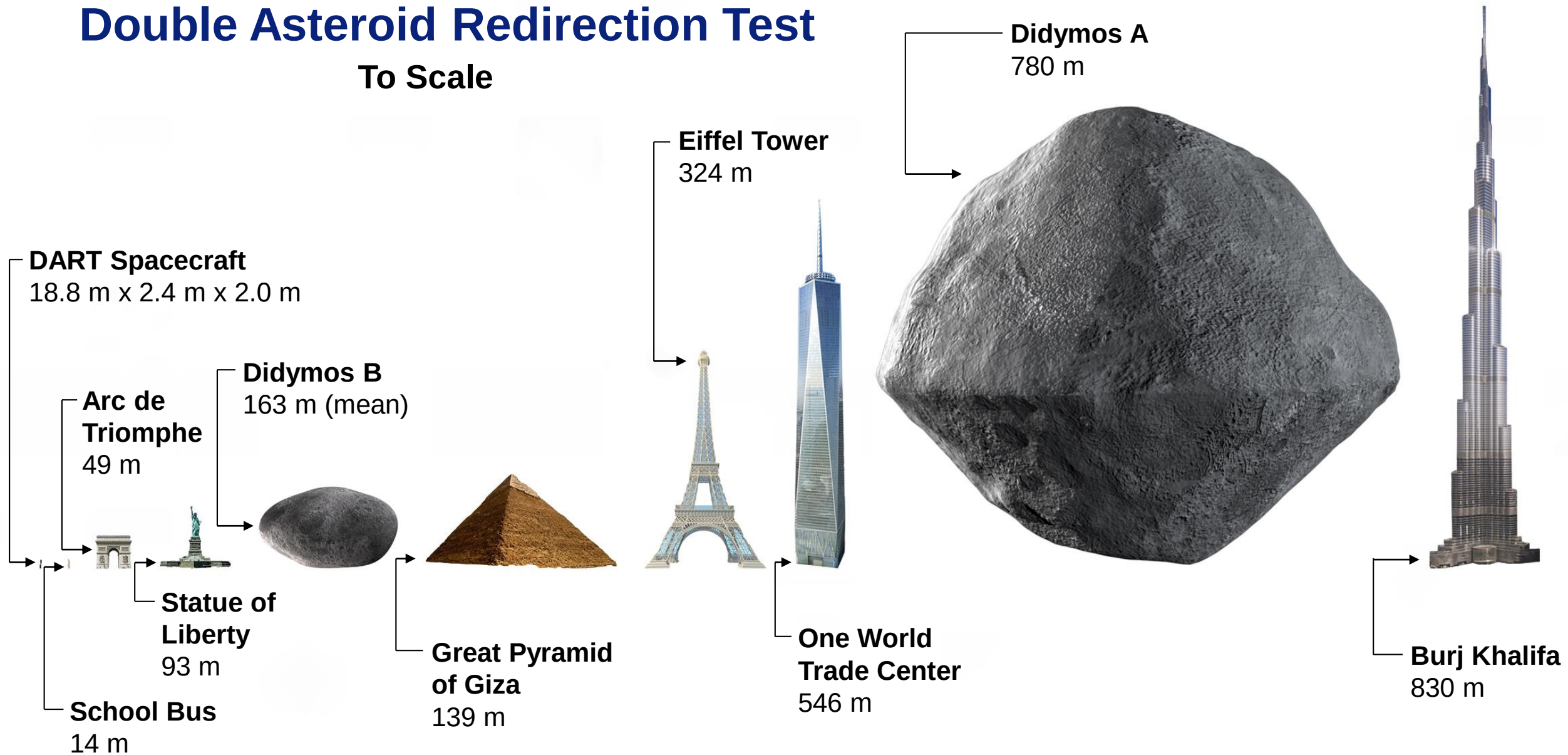
It allows a deflection demonstration on an asteroid of the relevant size by changing its orbital period by ~1% about the larger asteroid.

In 2022, the result can be observed from Earth-based telescopes.



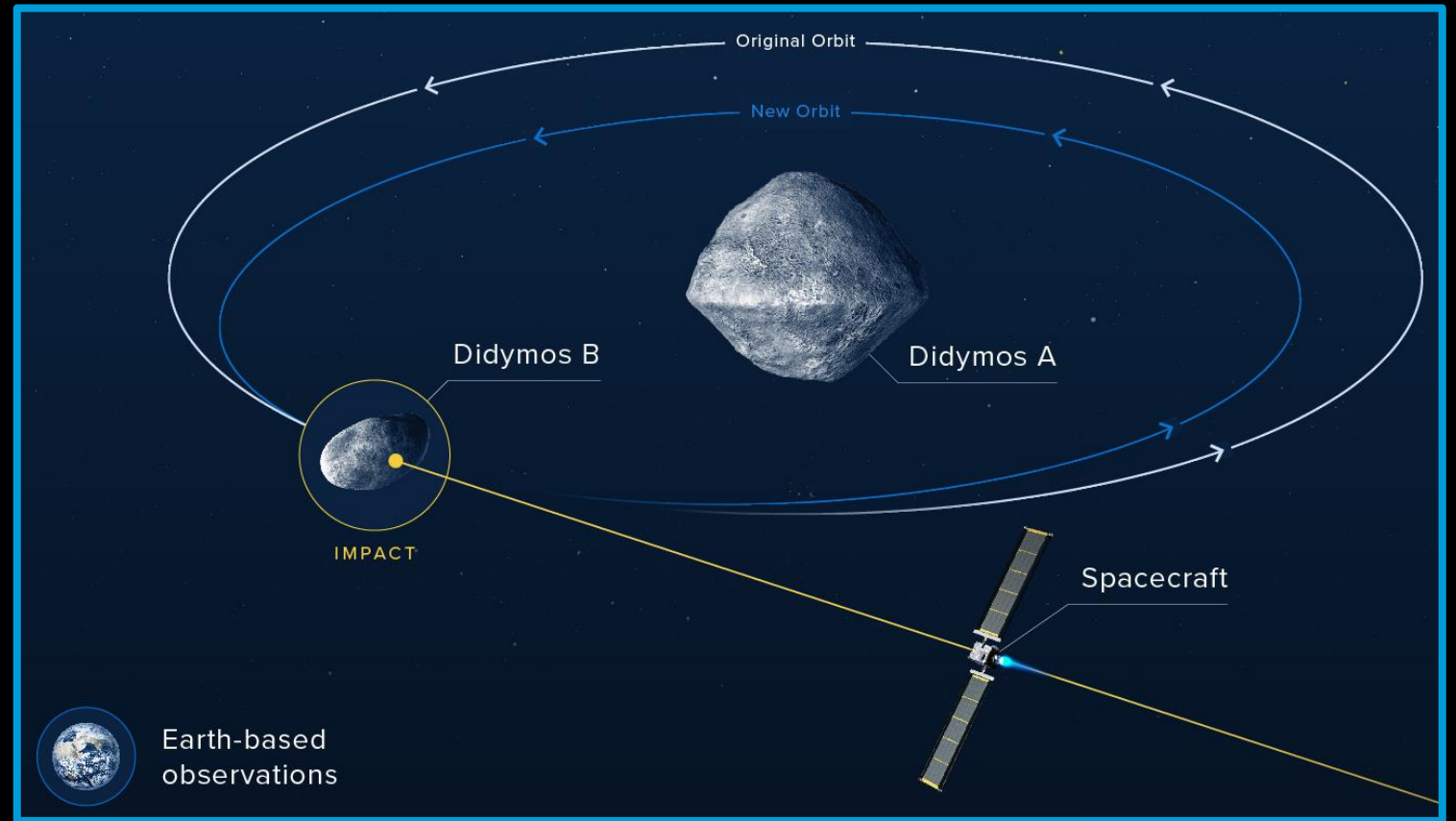
Double Asteroid Redirection Test

To Scale

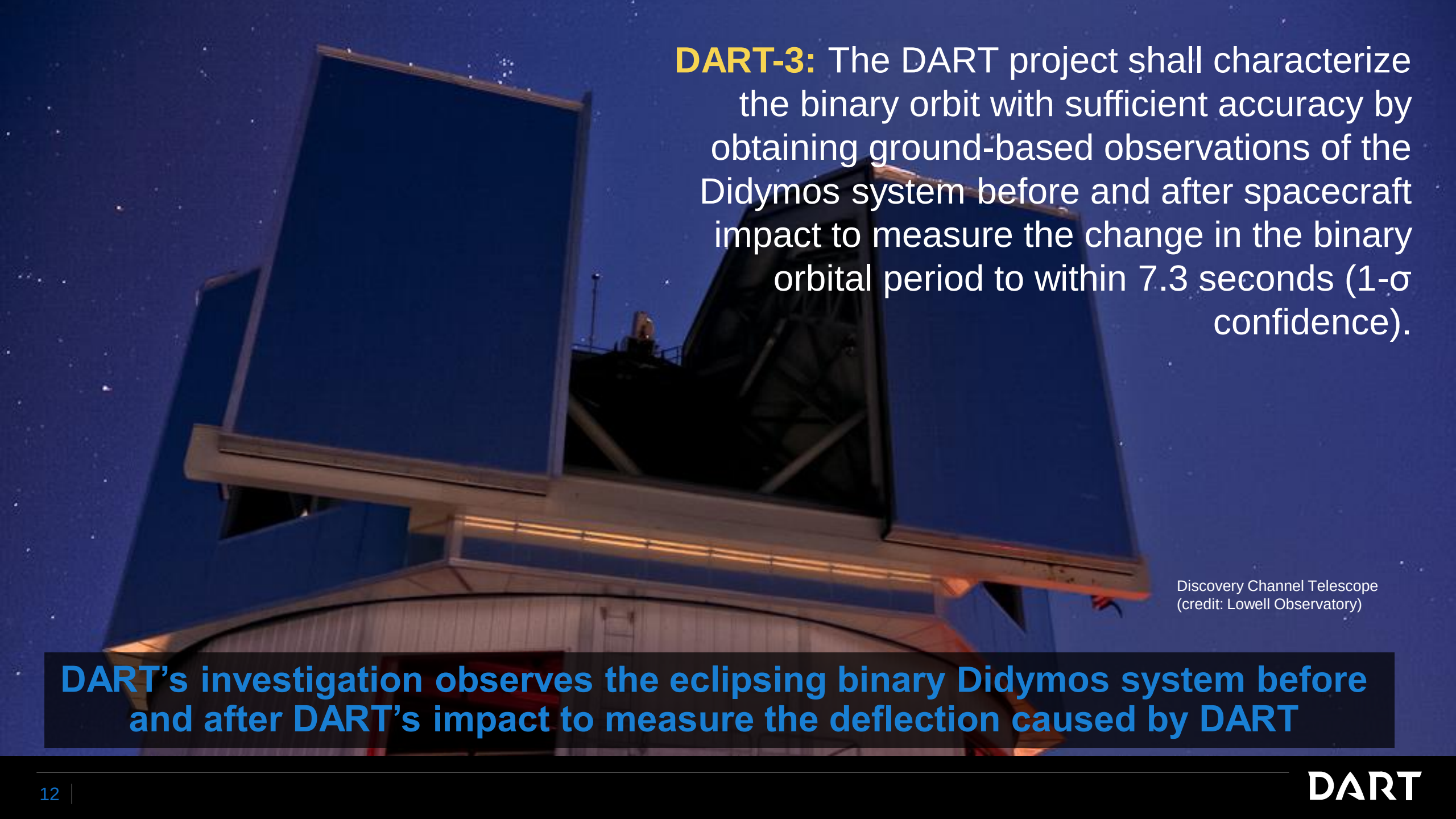


DART-1: DART shall intercept the secondary member of the binary asteroid (65803) Didymos as a kinetic impactor spacecraft during its September to October, 2022 close approach to Earth.

DART-2: The DART impact on the secondary member of the Didymos system shall cause at least a 73-second change in the binary orbital period.



DART intercepts Didymos B, designing the impact to maximize the deflection to the orbit of Didymos B about Didymos A

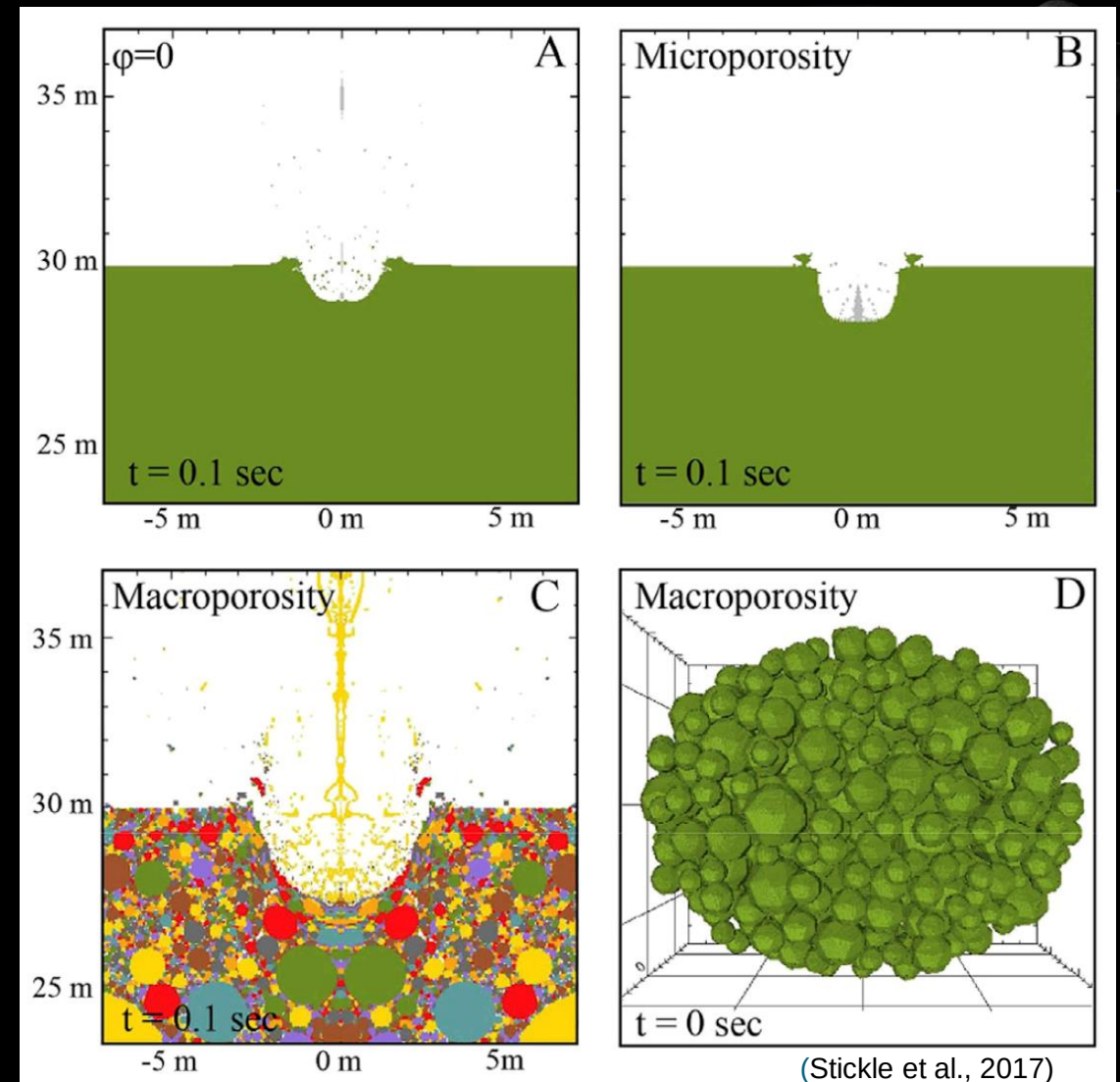
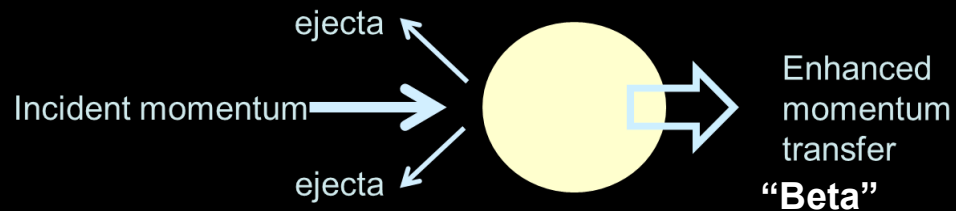
A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of the Discovery Channel Telescope at night. The telescope's large, dark, rectangular primary mirror is the central focus, with its complex support structure visible. The sky is a deep blue with numerous stars. The telescope's base and lower sections are illuminated with a warm, orange light.

DART-3: The DART project shall characterize the binary orbit with sufficient accuracy by obtaining ground-based observations of the Didymos system before and after spacecraft impact to measure the change in the binary orbital period to within 7.3 seconds (1- σ confidence).

Discovery Channel Telescope
(credit: Lowell Observatory)

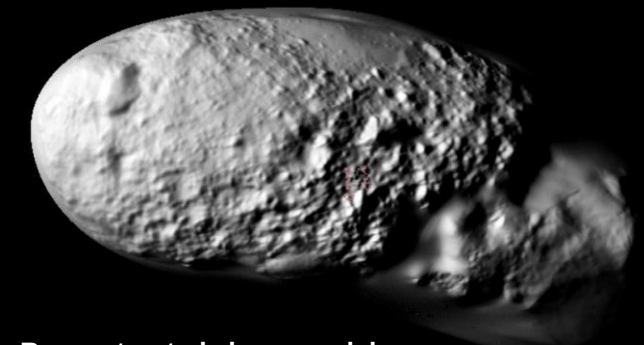
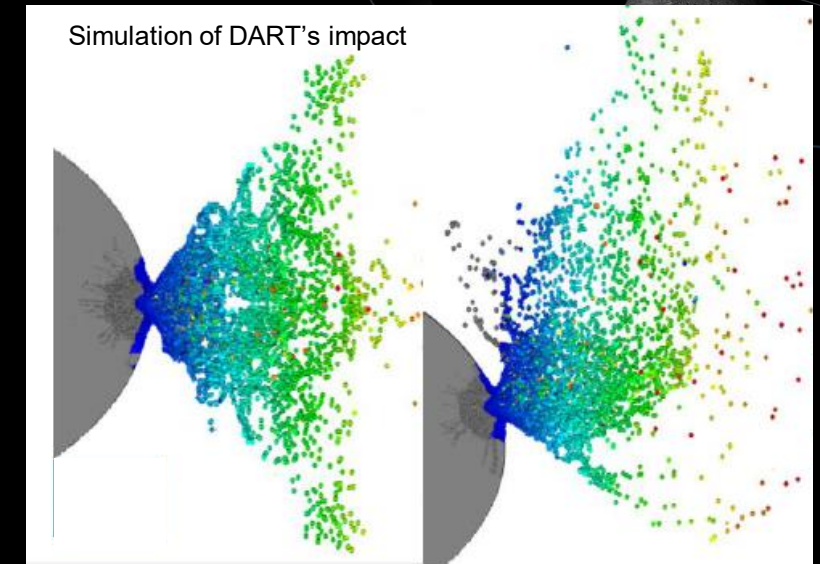
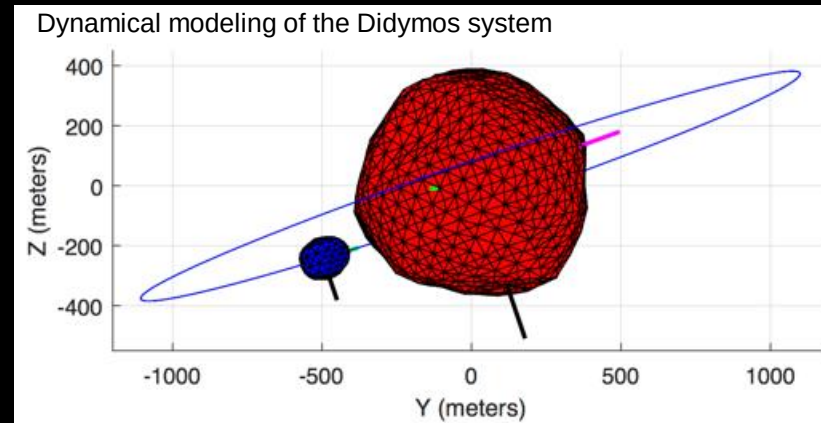
DART's investigation observes the eclipsing binary Didymos system before and after DART's impact to measure the deflection caused by DART

DART-4A: The DART project shall use the velocity change imparted to the target to obtain a measure of the momentum transfer enhancement parameter referred to as “Beta” (β) using the best available estimate of the mass of Didymos B.



DART's investigation determines and interprets the momentum transfer resulting from the DART impact

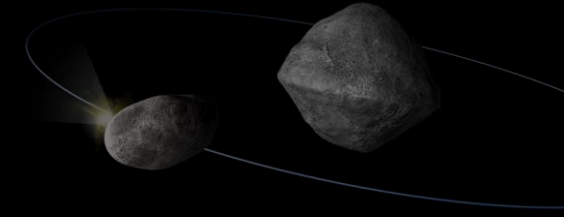
DART-4B: The DART project shall obtain data, in collaboration with ground-based observations and data from another spacecraft (if available), to constrain the **location and surface characteristics of the spacecraft impact site** and to allow the estimation of the **dynamical changes in the Didymos system** resulting from the DART impact and the coupling between the body rotation and the orbit.



DART's investigation characterizes the impact site, dynamical effects, and ejecta to fully evaluate the results of DART's kinetic impactor mission

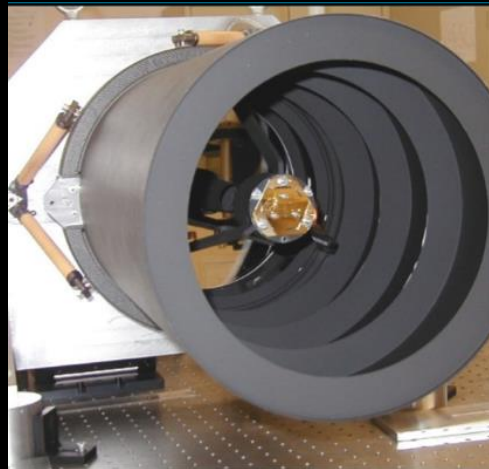
DART: Key Technologies

DART will demonstrate key technologies for future planetary defense missions.



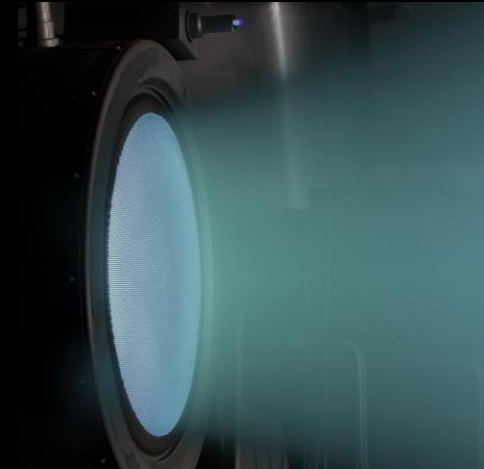
Autonomous SMART Nav System

SMART Nav autonomously directs DART to impact Didymos-B, leveraging decades of missile guidance algorithm development and experience at APL.



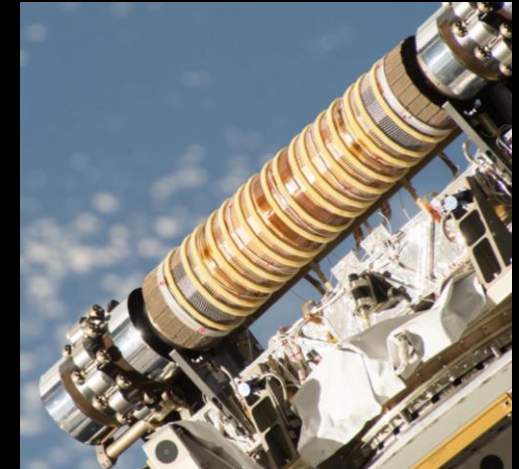
DRACO Imager, modified from LORRI

DRACO (Didymos Reconnaissance and Asteroid Camera for Opnav) is a modification of the LORRI instrument used on the New Horizons mission to Pluto and the Kuiper Belt.



NEXT-C Ion Propulsion Engine

DART will be the first flight of NASA's Evolutionary Xenon Thruster-Commercial (NEXT-C) ion propulsion engine and be about 3x as powerful as the ion engine on the Dawn mission.



ROSA – Roll Out Solar Arrays

NASA's newly developed ROSA arrays will provide a compact form and light mass for launch and be deployed in space to reach 19 meters from tip to tip.

DART Spacecraft

mass: NLT 676 kg
power: ~5000 W

DRACO
(with cover on)

LICIACube

NEXT-C cover
(top hat)

Hydrazine
Thrusters

High Gain
Antenna (RLSA)

NEXT-C
Ion thruster

2.6 m

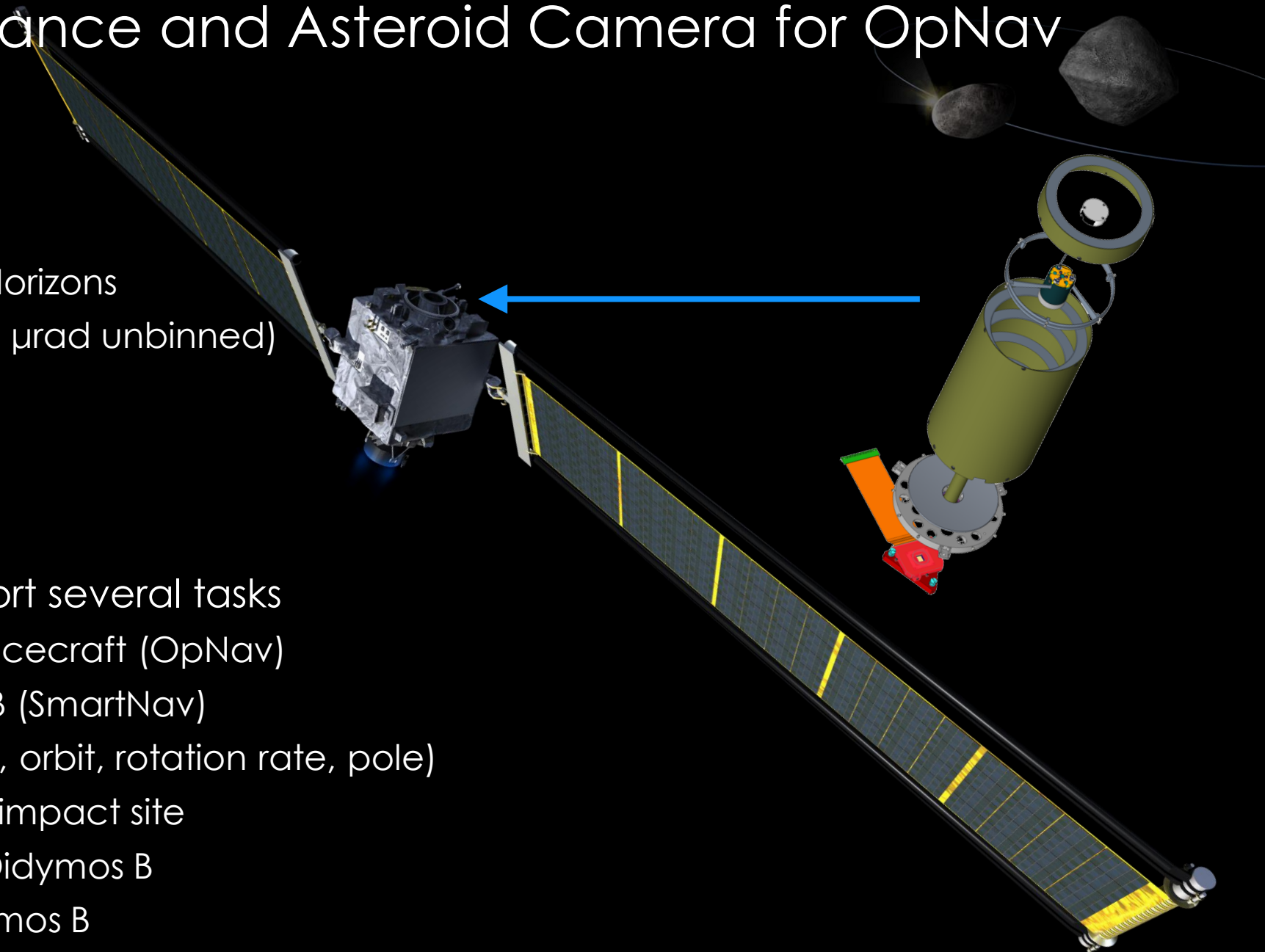
2 m

Roll Out Solar Arrays (ROSA)

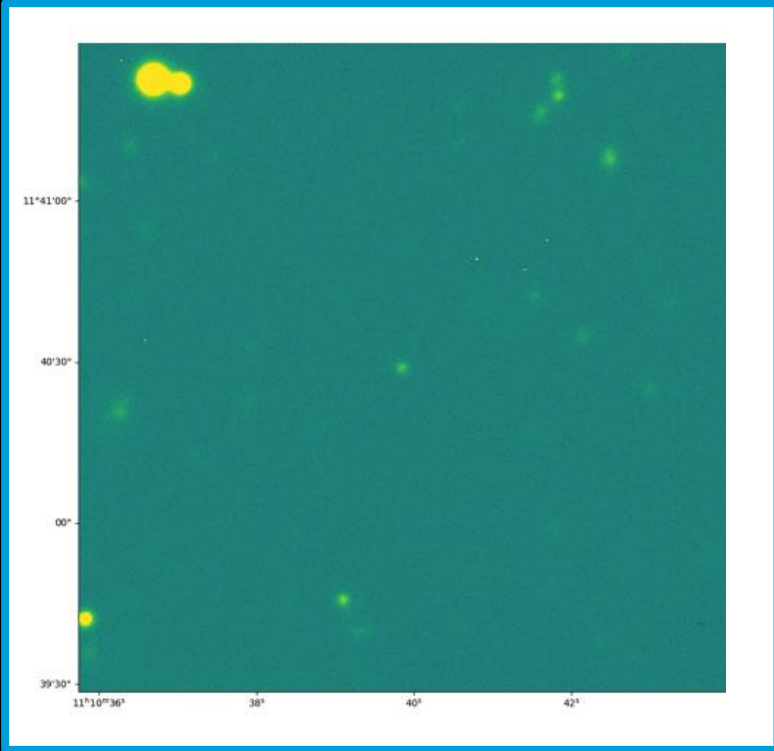
18 m

Didymos Reconnaissance and Asteroid Camera for OpNav (DRACO)

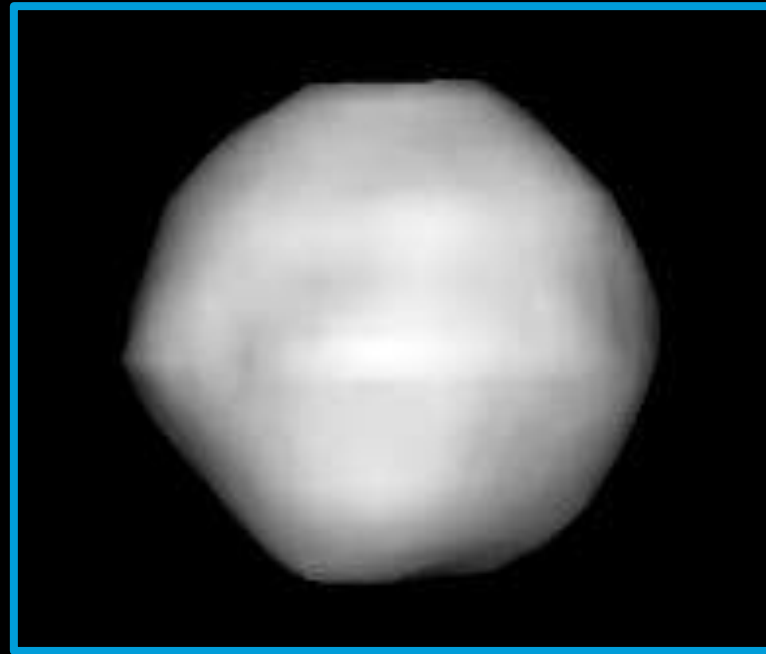
- DRACO is the DART payload
 - Derived from LORRI on New Horizons
 - IFOV is $4.96 \mu\text{rad}$ binned ($2.48 \mu\text{rad}$ unbinned)
 - Full FOV is 0.29 degree
 - CMOS detector
 - Panchromatic
- DRACO is designed to support several tasks
 - Optical navigation of the spacecraft (OpNav)
 - Ensure impact with Didymos B (SmartNav)
 - Refine system properties (e.g., orbit, rotation rate, pole)
 - Constrain the location of the impact site
 - Characterize the surface of Didymos B
 - Determine the shape of Didymos B



Know little about the object we are trying to hit

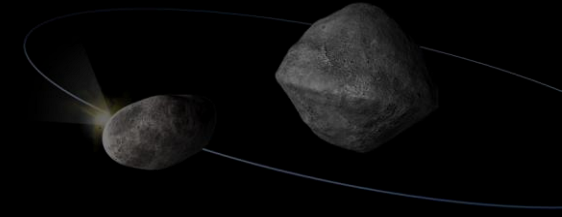


*Images centered on Didymos, moving through star fields.
Taken from VLT in Chile, March/April 2019*



Radar shape model

Preliminary shape model of the Didymos primary from combined radar and light curve data, diameter ~780 m.



... and won't know in time to hit it



timeline not to scale



30 days

Camera detects Didymos system

10 days

Continuous ground antenna coverage

8 hours

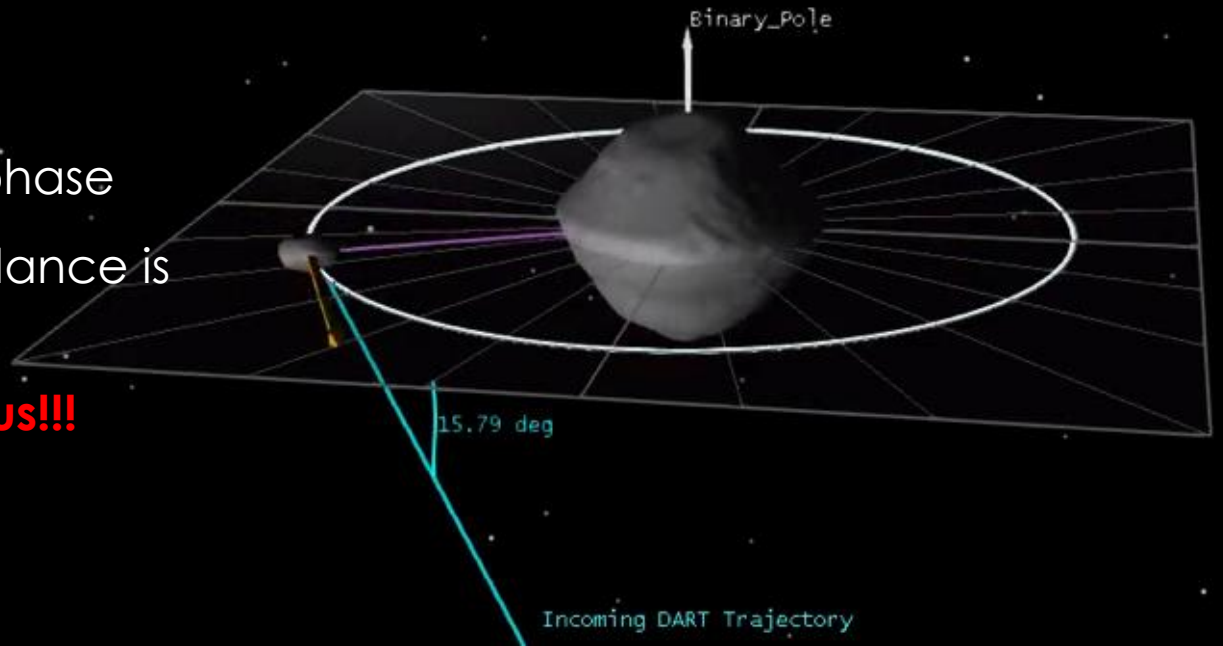
Begin pre-terminal phase

4 hours out

Begin terminal phase

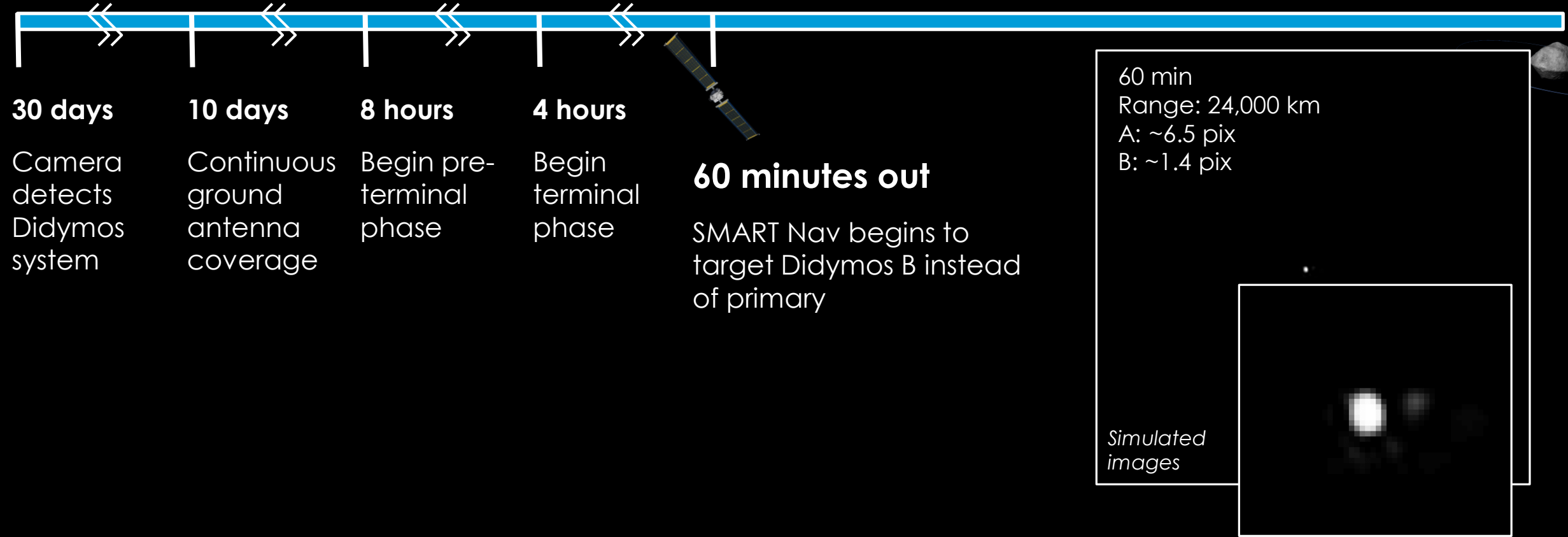
SMART Nav guidance is enabled.

Fully Autonomous!!!



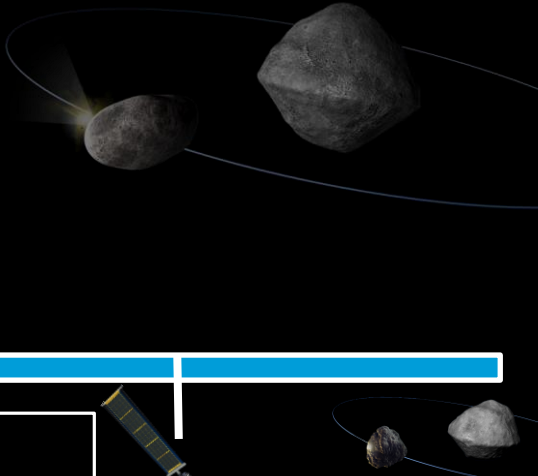
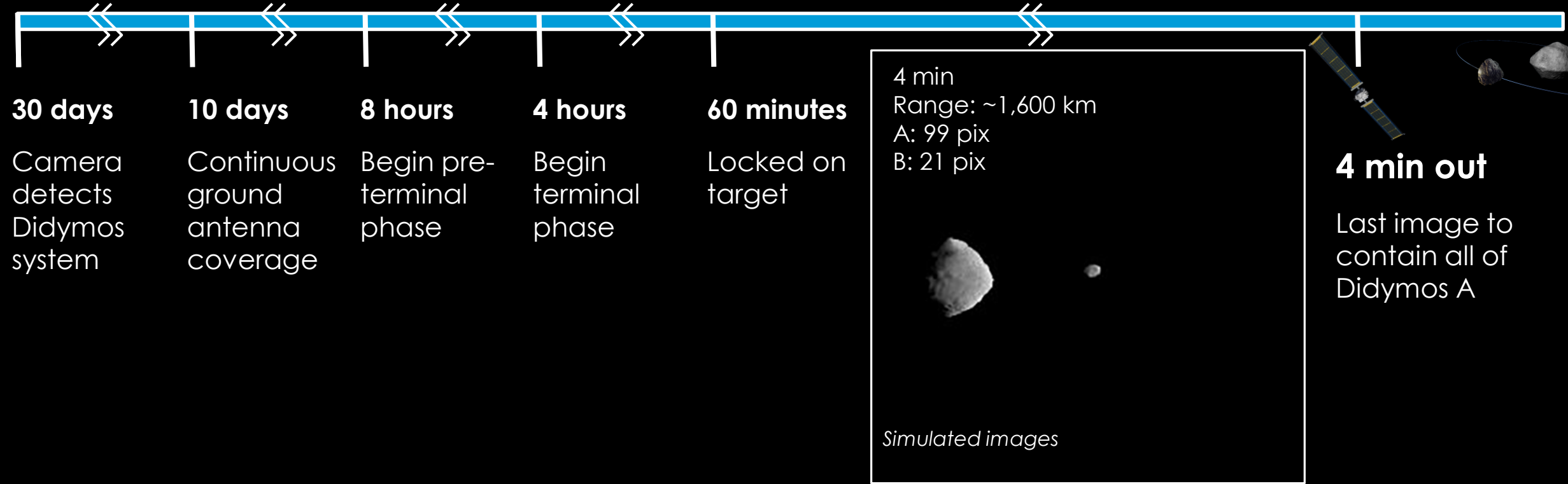
Terminal Phase Timeline

timeline not to scale



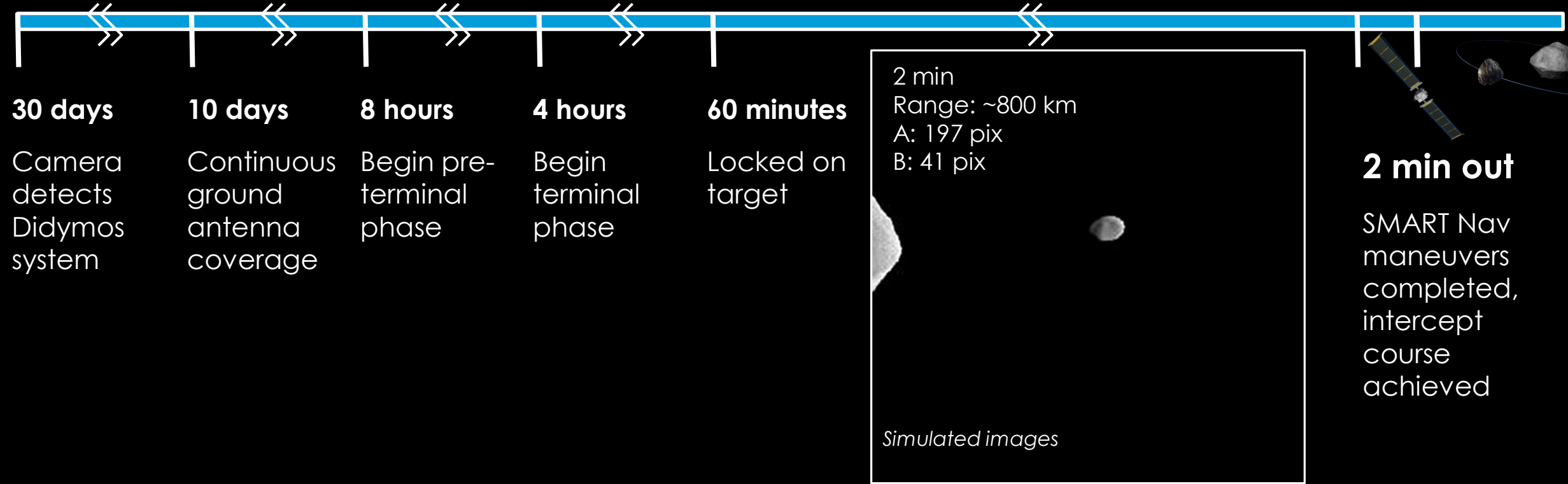
Terminal Phase Timeline

timeline not to scale



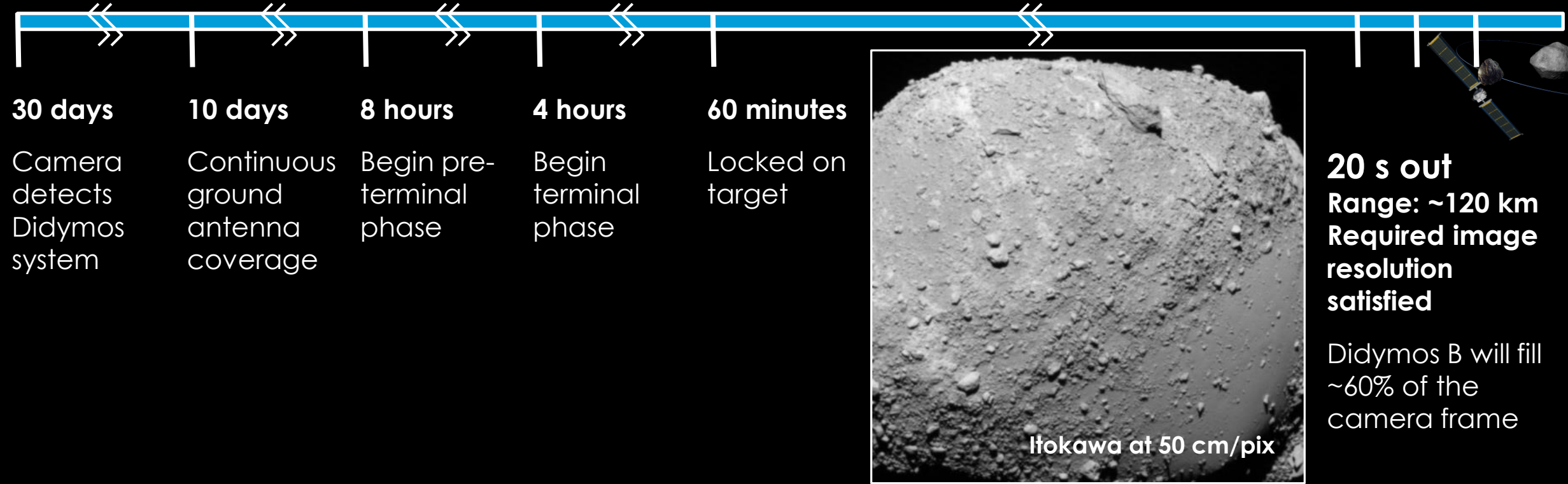
Terminal Phase Timeline

timeline not to scale

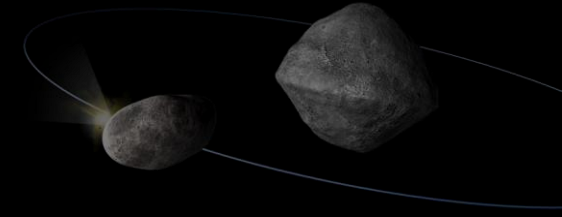


Terminal Phase Timeline

timeline not to scale

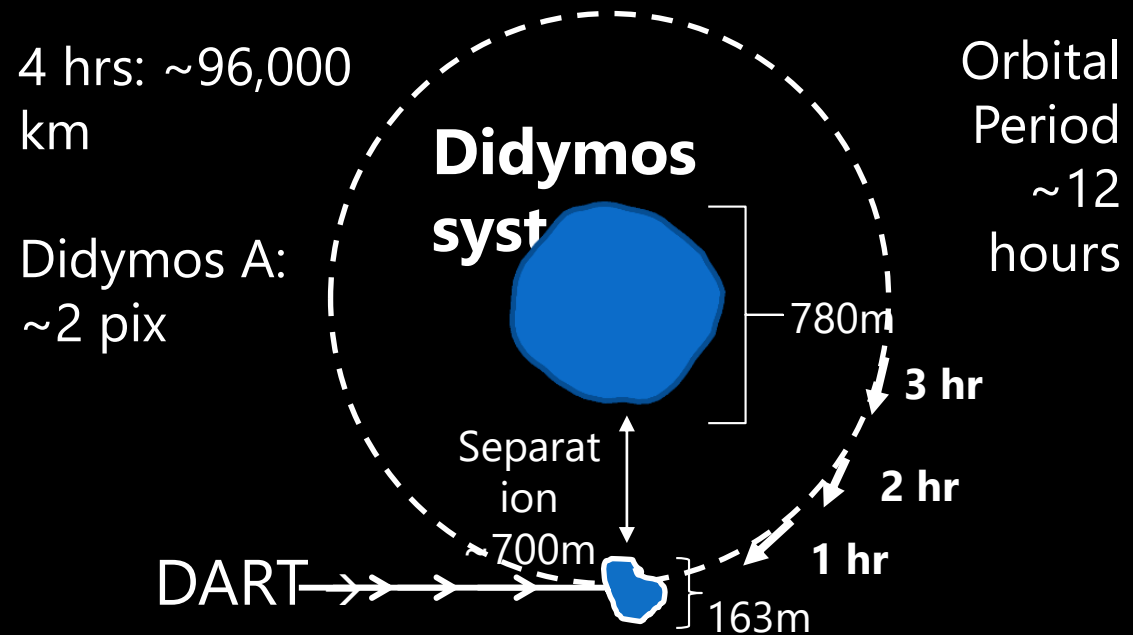


Only “sort of know” where the object is



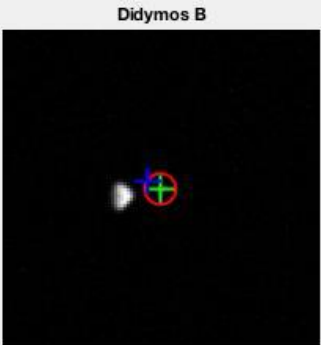
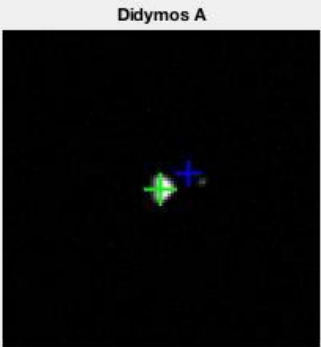
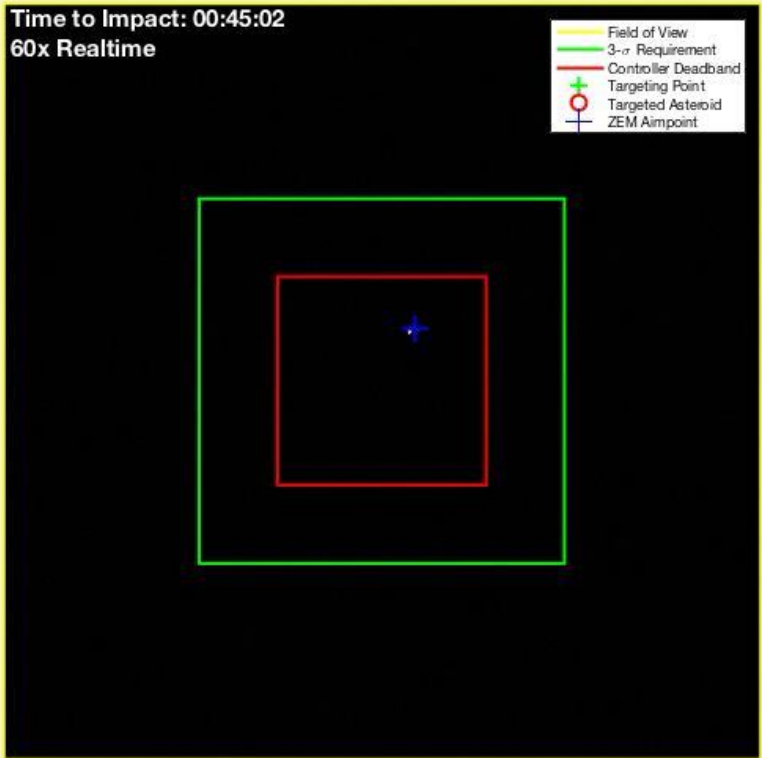
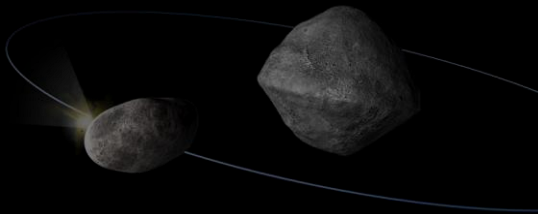
Needle in the
haystack

... and
you have to
thread that
needle



DART - Through the Eyes of DRACO

Small-body Maneuvering Autonomous Real-Time Navigation SMART Nav)



60 min: ~24,000 km
A: ~6.5 pix
B: ~1.4 pix
A-B surfaces: ~6 pix

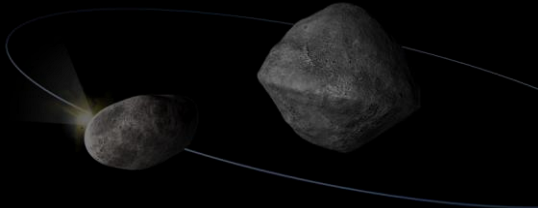
4 min: ~1,600 km
A: 99 pix
B: 21 pix
A-B surfaces: 22 pix

2 min: ~800 km
A: 197 pix
B: 41 pix
A-B surfaces: 179 pix

SmartNav
simulation
(Mean ecliptic +z = up)

How do we know SMART Nav works?

On the ground



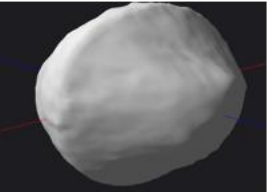
Row_names
Orbit Phase Angle (deg)
Target Shape File
Primary Shape File
Target Albedo
Primary Albedo
Target Radius (m)
Primary Radius (m)
Target Spin Rate (period, hrs)
Target Orbit Radius (km)
2nd Moon Present Flag
2nd Moon Radius (m)
2nd Moon Orbit Radius (km)
2nd Moon Shape File
2nd Moon Albedo
2nd Moon Spin Period
2nd Moon Orbit Period
2nd Moon Orbit Phasing (deg)
2nd Moon Orbit Inclination (deg)

Vary the moon

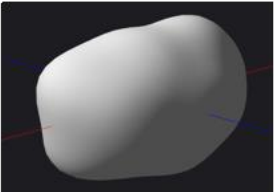
Vary the Spacecraft

Run simulations on high fidelity testbeds (hardware & emulations of spacecraft)

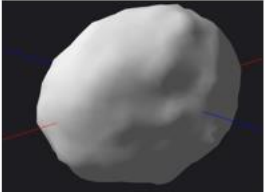
Category	Parameter
Mass Properties	CM position error
	Inertia principal axis misalignment
	Inertia principal moment error
Mass Property Knowledge	CM position knowledge error
IMU	Gyro bias per axis (post-cal)
	Gyro scale factor error per axis (post-cal)
	Gyro rotational misalignment per axis (post-cal)
	Gyro non-orthogonality per axis (post-cal)
	Accel bias per axis (post-cal)
	Accel scale factor error per axis
	Accel rotational misalignment per axis
	Accel non-orthogonality per axis
ST	Star tracker misalignment (post-cal)
LPS	LPS thruster coefficient scale factor error per thruster
	Thruster misalignment



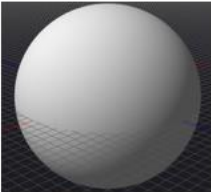
ID1: kw4a



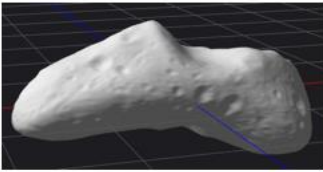
ID2: kw4b



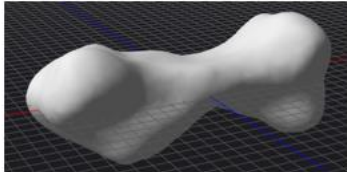
ID6: Rashalom



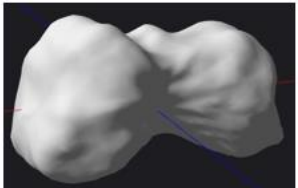
ID7: sphere 1



ID4: Eros



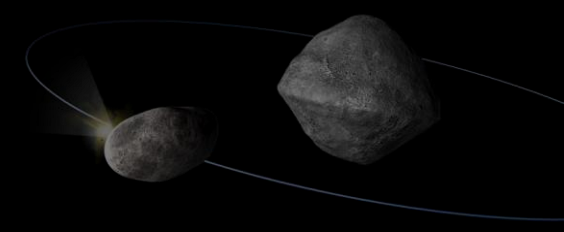
ID5: Kleo



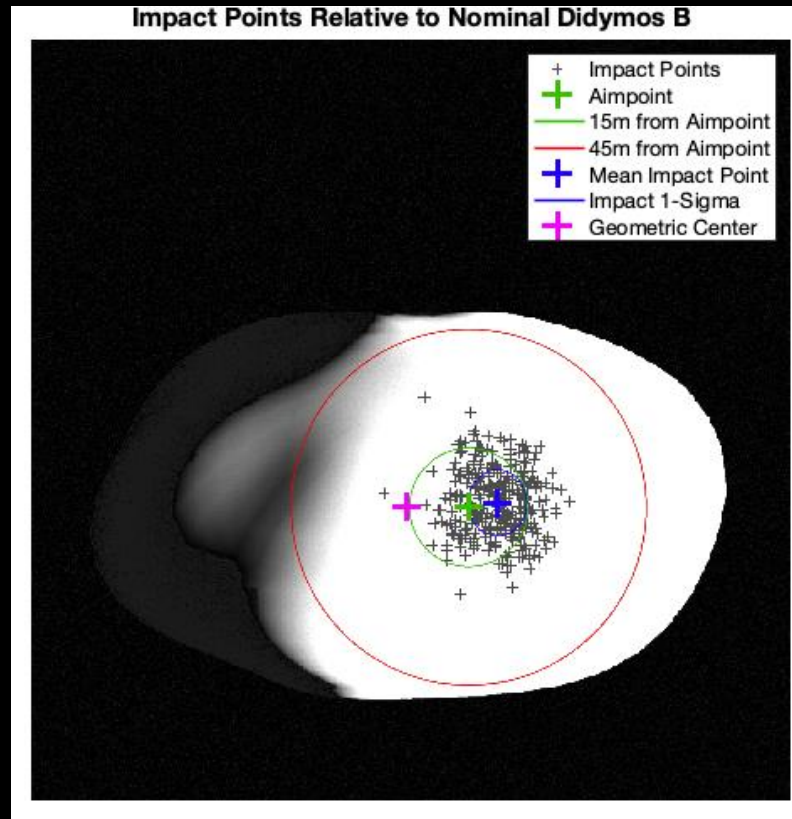
ID3: Mithra

How do we know SMART Nav works?

On the ground



Goal: Hit the center



15 meter (1- σ) miss distance is satisfied. All cases hit within 45 meters of aimpoint

Testing SMART Nav

In Flight:

23 and 60 days after launch and again 100 days prior to impact

Practice on moons of Jupiter

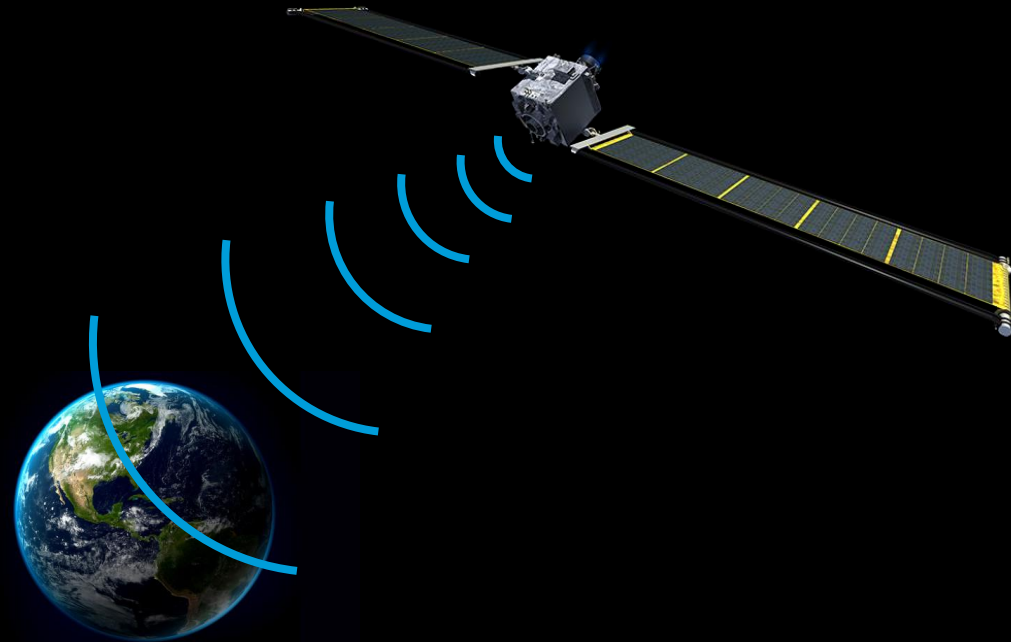
Jupiter's Opposition
Planet Jupiter with Galilean's moon
IO, Ganymede, Europa & Callisto
4/7/2017 - 8:30pm



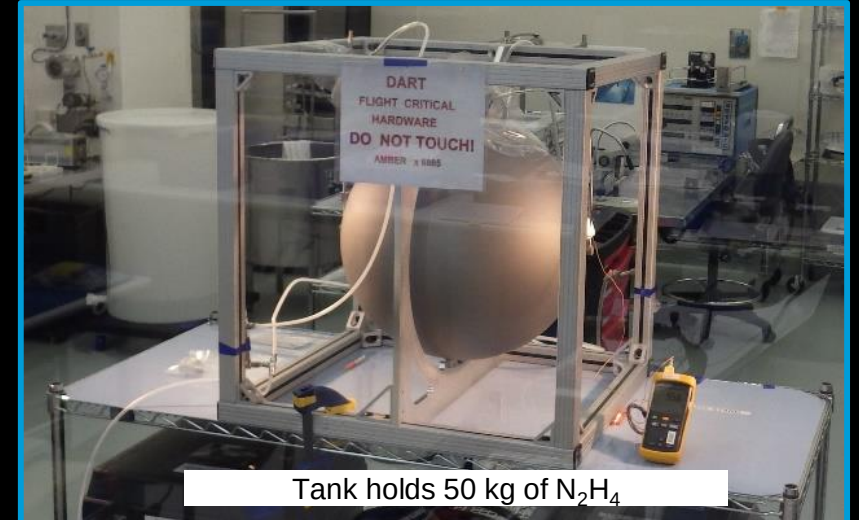
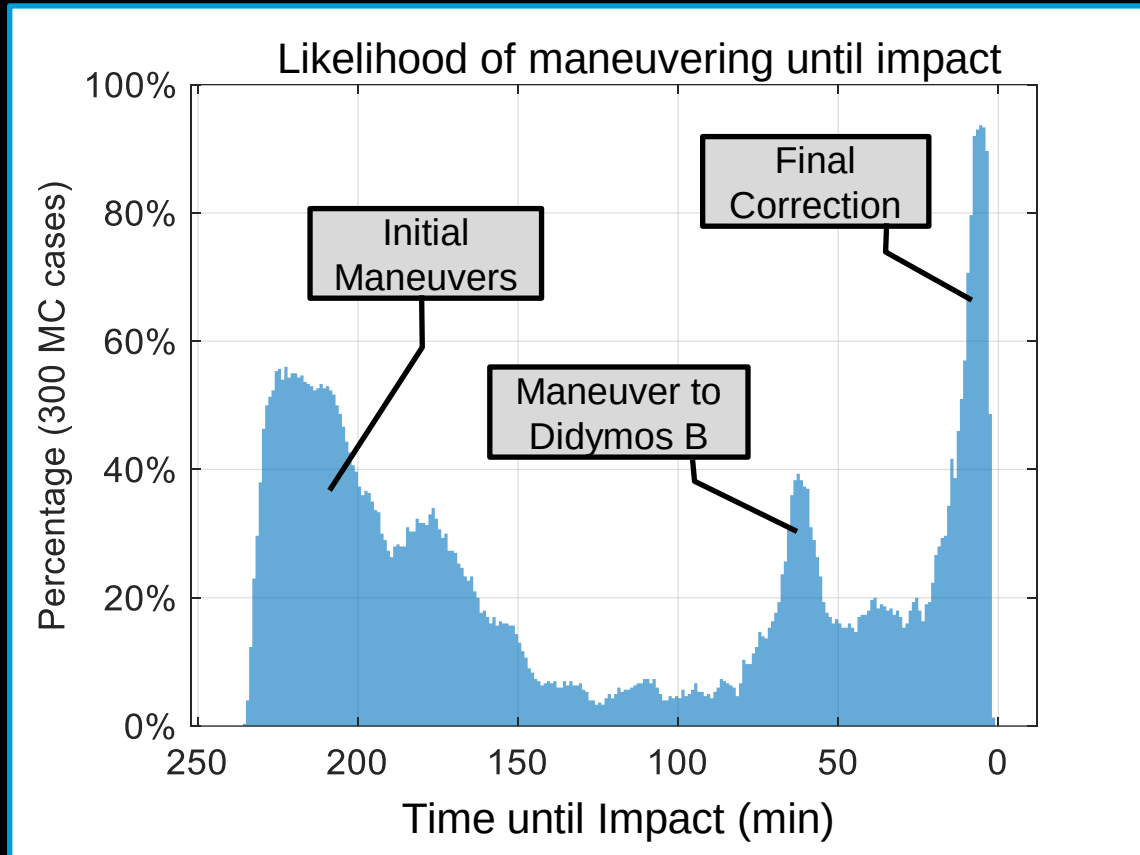
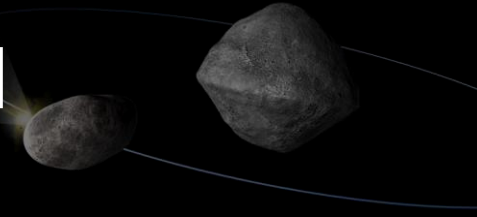
Fernando Roquel Torres
Caguas, Puerto Rico

Meade LX90, Celestron NexImage 5,
Orion Sirius EQ-G

Do image processing,
guidance and navigation, and
send data to Earth real time



Prerequisite to Impact: Don't run out of fuel at the end

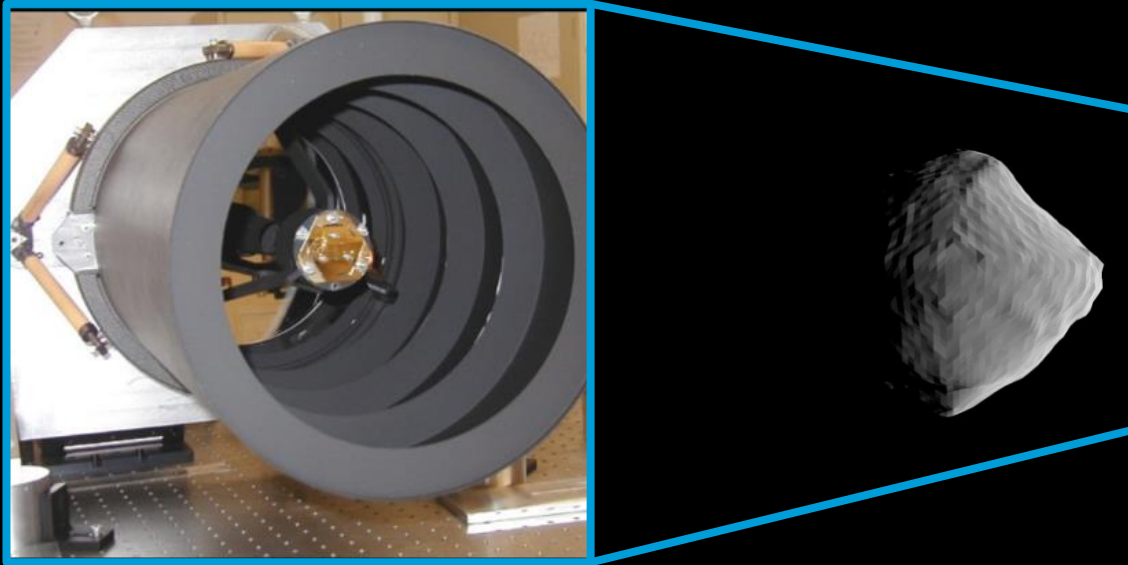


Most of the fuel is
used early on in
the mission

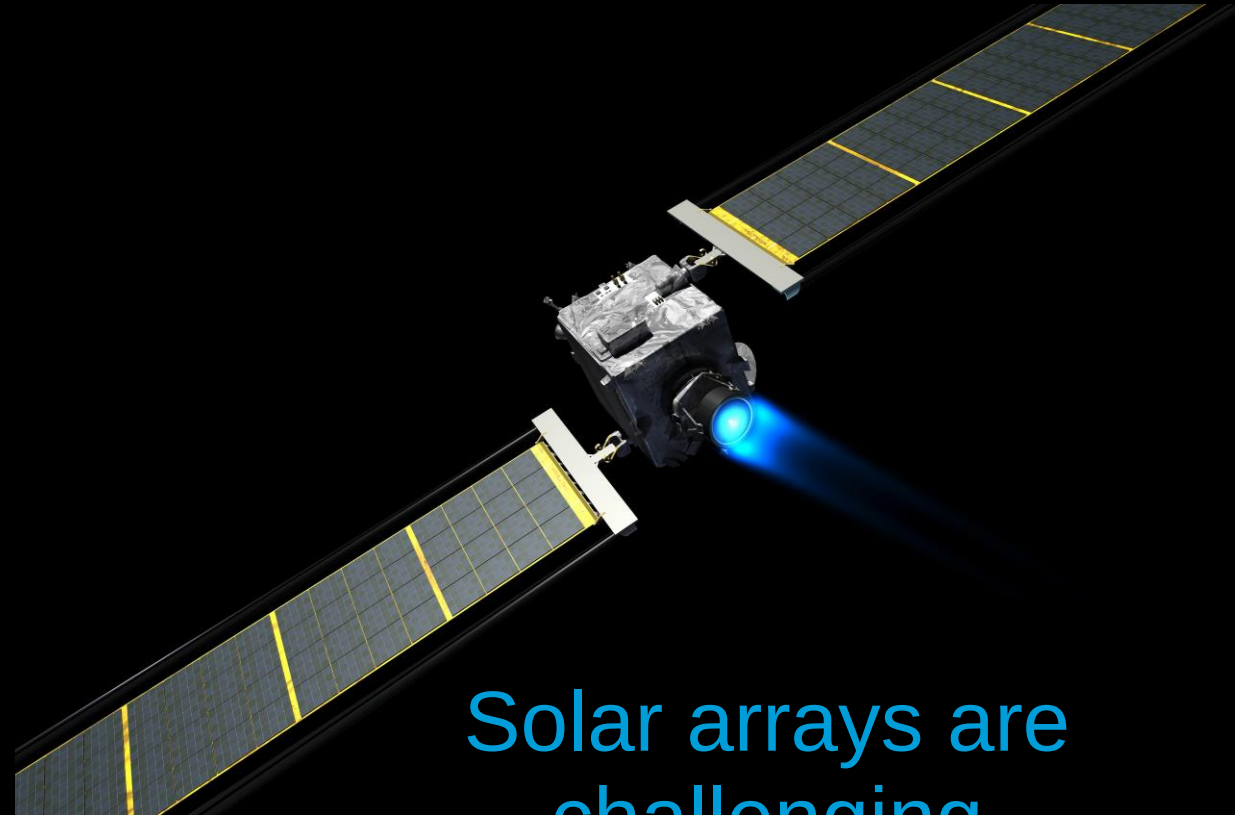
Early simulations show that we maneuver ~65% of time Terminal Phase (last 4 hours)

Prerequisite to Impact: Image that asteroid!

It sure won't be happening after impact...



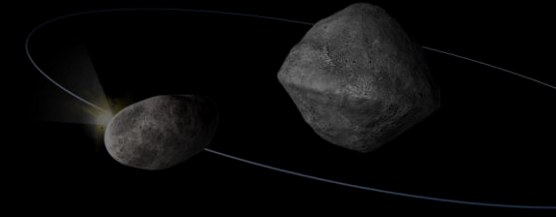
Point this camera
(telescope)
at Didymos



Solar arrays are
challenging

Light Italian CubeSat for Imaging Asteroids

LICIACube

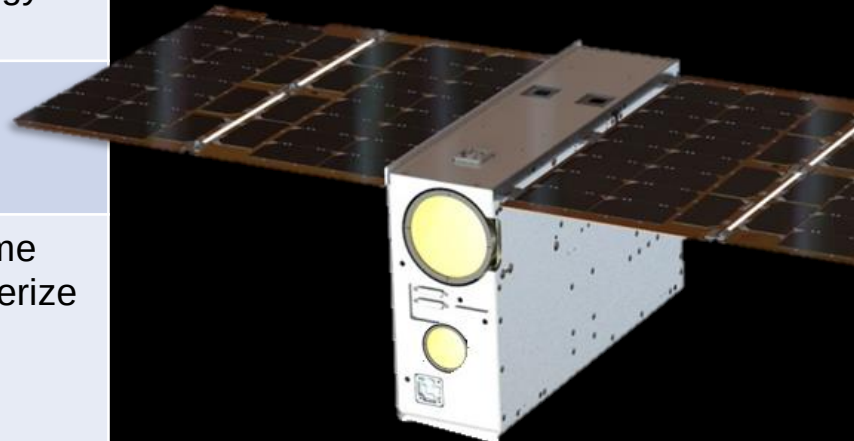


LICIACube Goals	Description
1- Impact ejecta plume evolution	Obtain multiple (at least three) images of DART impact ejecta plume over a span of times and phase angles, to allow estimation of plume density structure
2- Impact crater	Obtain multiple (> 3) images of DART impact site having sufficient resolution to allow measurements of impact crater size and morphology
3 - Non-impact hemisphere	Obtain multiple (at least three) images of the non-impact hemisphere of Didymos B
4 - Color/ spectral imaging plume & Didymos	Obtain images of the ejecta plume and of asteroid target to characterize color and spectral variations

Capable 6U CubeSat provided by Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI)

Based on Argomoon CubeSat that will be flying on EM-1 mission (first flight of SLS in 2020)

Two cameras (goal of 2 m/ pixel resolution imagery)



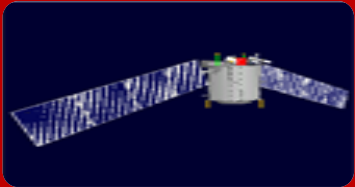
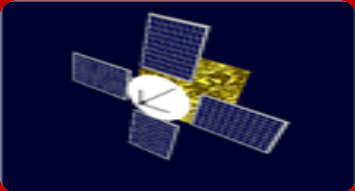
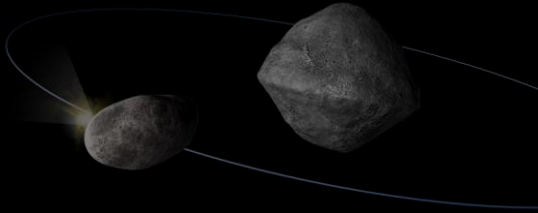
Current conops includes flyby of Didymos ~ 5 min after DART impact and downlinking data after event

argotec
our boost to your future

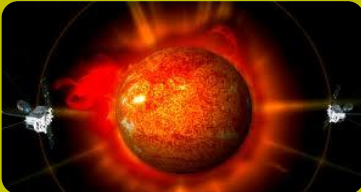
ASI
agenzia spaziale
italiana

DART

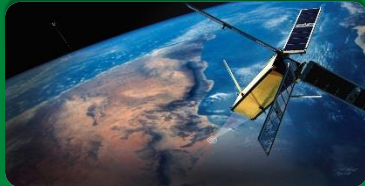
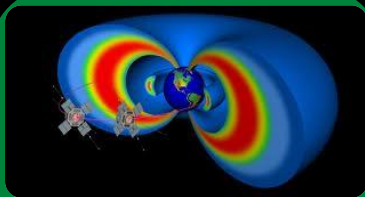
Ground Software Heritage



1990s
One-Off Systems



2000s
Common Ground
Architecture



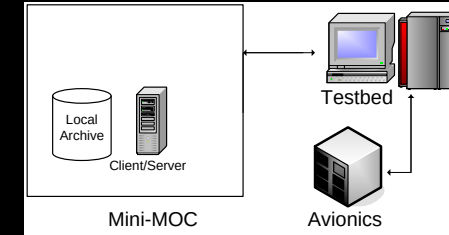
2010s
Mission / System
Independent
Architecture

Ground Software Mission Operations Center (MOC*) Configurations

The same set of software is used in each configuration

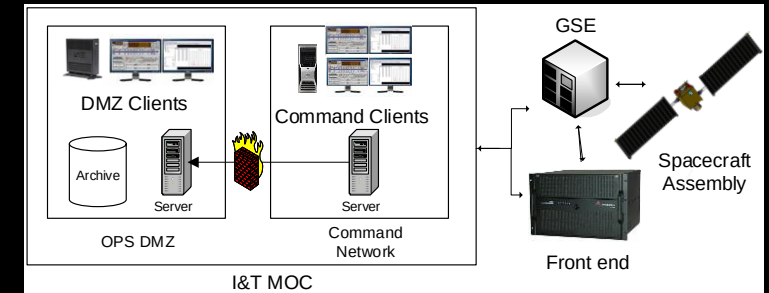
■ Mini-MOC / Hardware-In-The-Loop Simulator

- Supports local test of a spacecraft processor subsystem and avionics via a single computer
- Provides primary user interface for the testbed (commanding and telemetry)
- Local archive



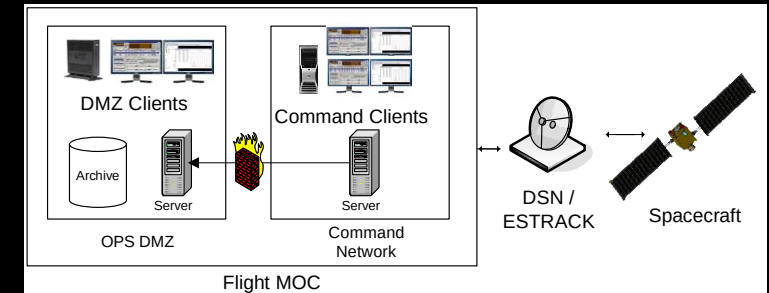
■ I&T MOC

- Supports spacecraft I&T, allowing users to send commands to and receive telemetry from the spacecraft under test and GSE
- Central archive in the OPS DMZ
- Other users may view status and telemetry information simultaneously from client workstations connected to controlling I&T MOC workstation and in the OPS DMZ



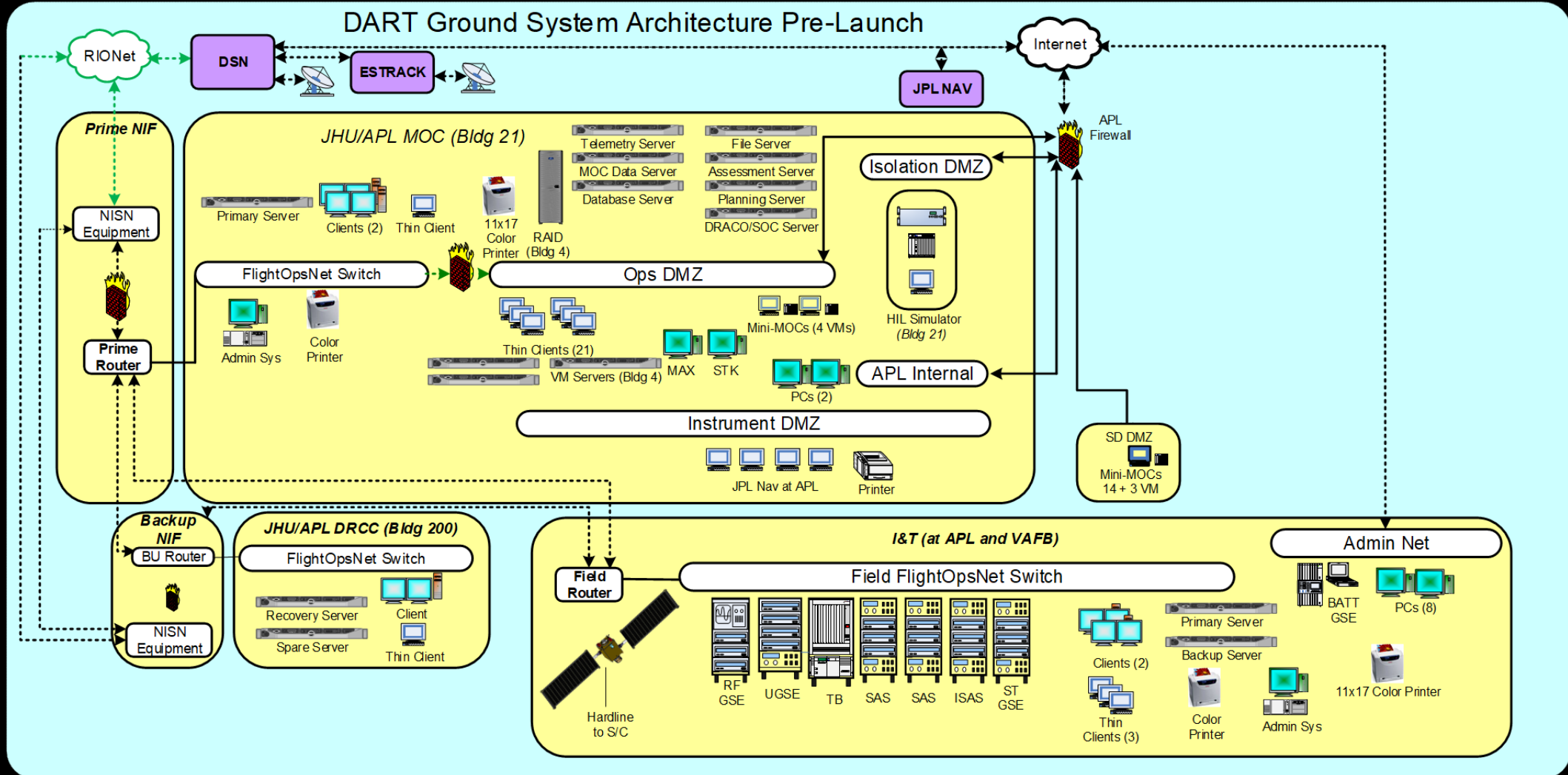
■ Flight MOC

- Supports mission simulations, launch and operations, including via ground stations
- Central archive in the OPS DMZ
- Other users may view status and telemetry information simultaneously from client workstations connected to controlling Flight MOC workstation and in the OPS DMZ

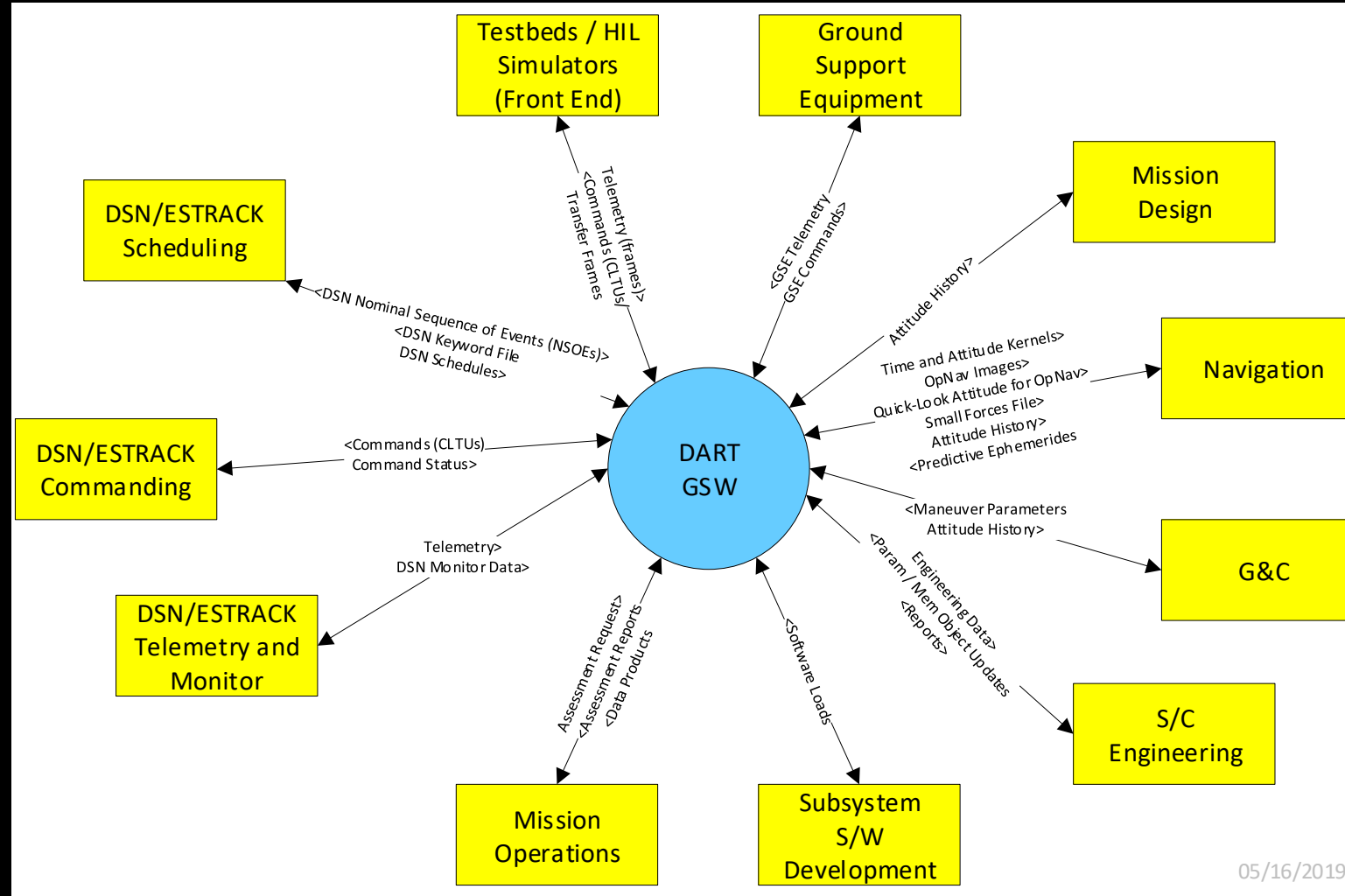


*Mission Operations Center (MOC) =~ Satellite Operations Center

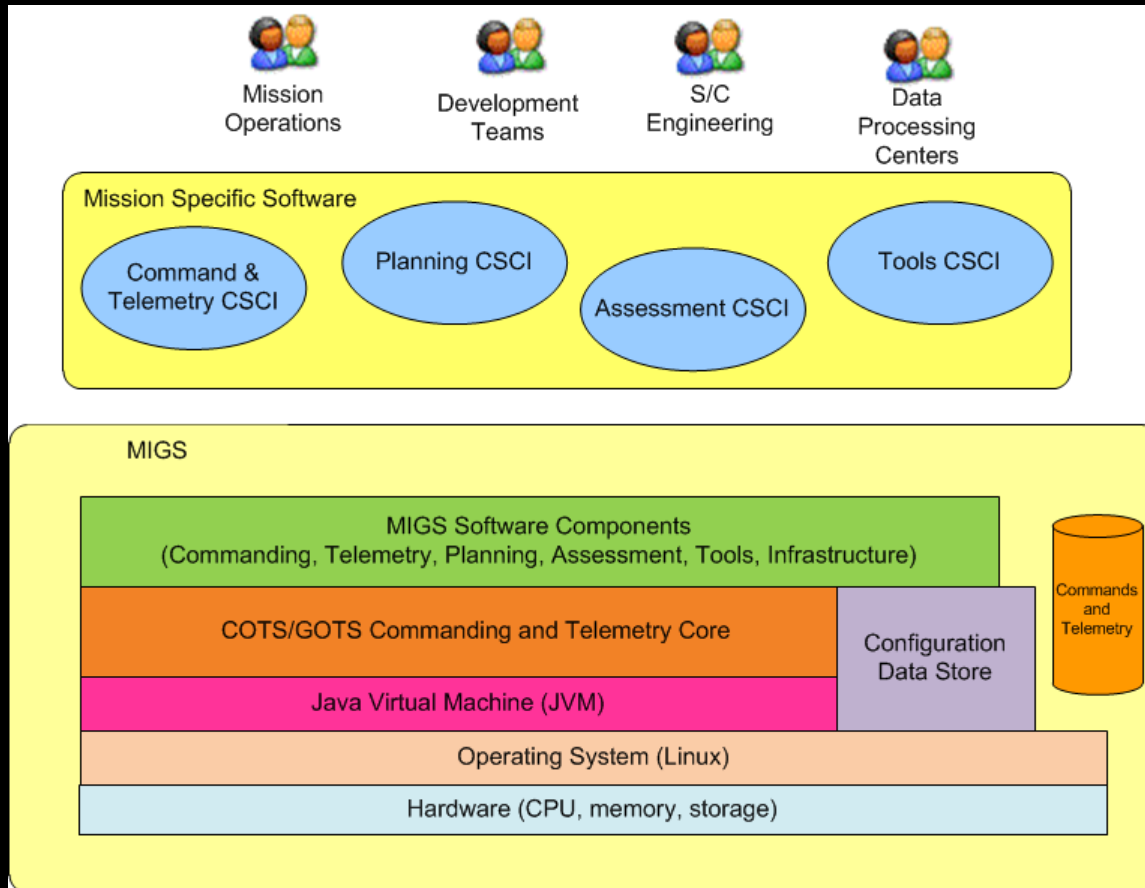
Typical Ground System Architecture



Typical Ground Software Context



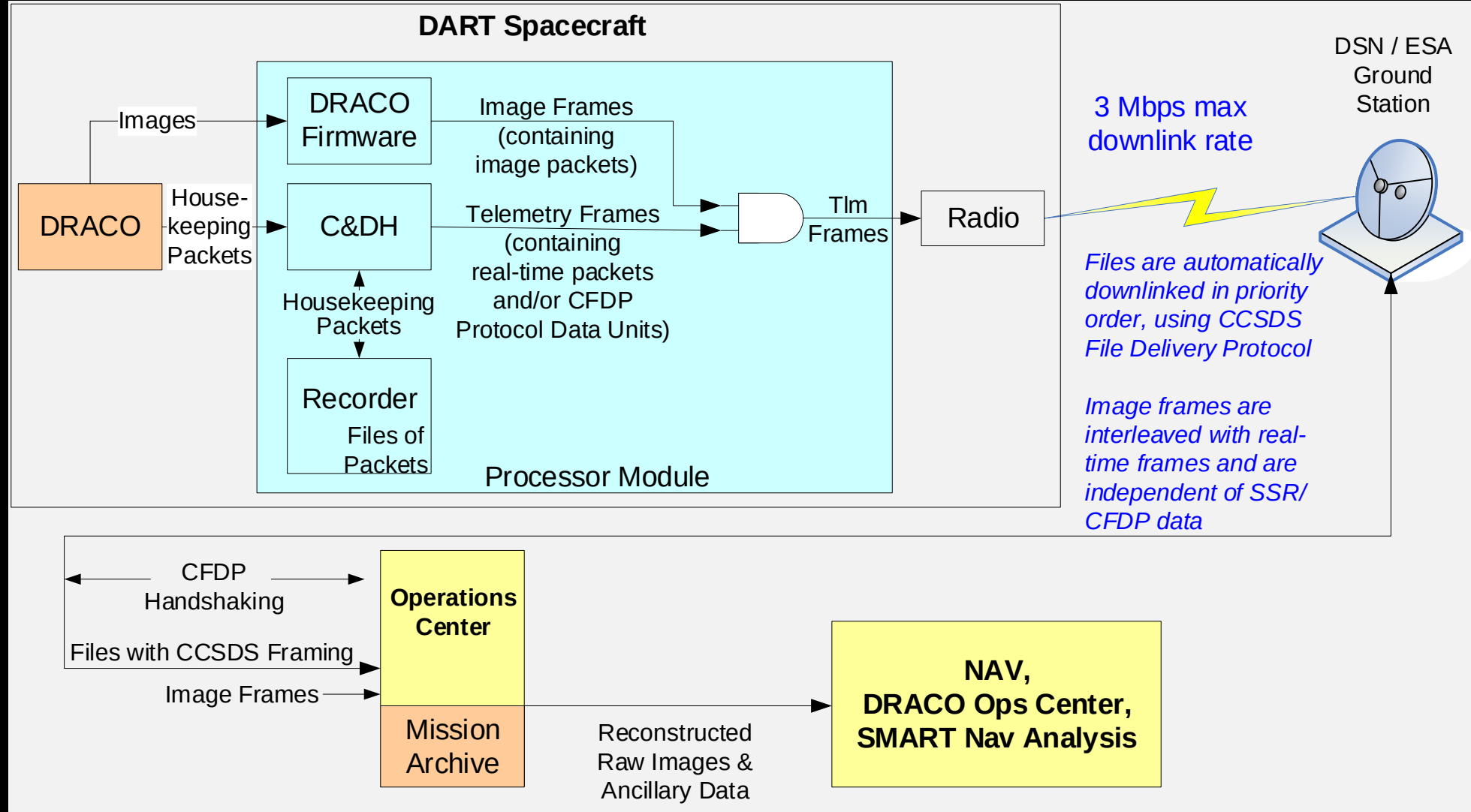
Mission / System Independent Architecture



- DART's Ground Software consists of 71 Computer Software Components (CSC)s
 - Most CSCs are java applications that run in separate JVM processes or application server
 - ~40 CSCs are on-line applications running with an L3Harris InControl-NG Telemetry and Commanding system
 - Remainder are off-line planning or assessment applications
- Code is shared across missions and used with mission specific configuration

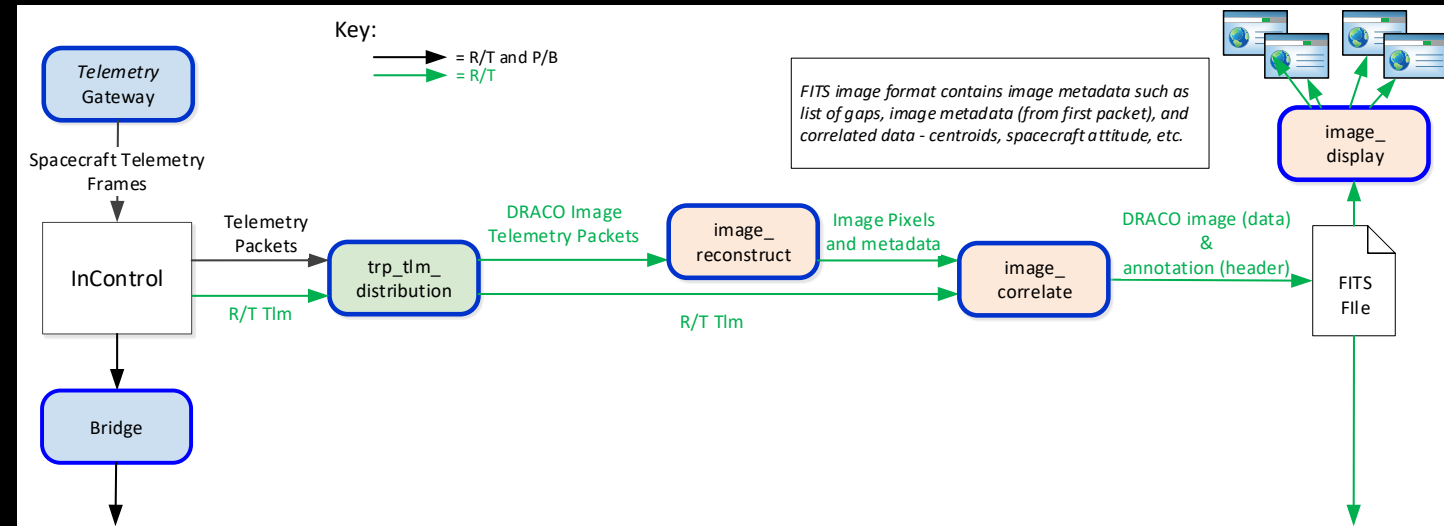
High (94%) Re-use = Inexpensive DART ground solution

Downlink Flow: Many Sources = Lots of Telemetry Virtual Channels!



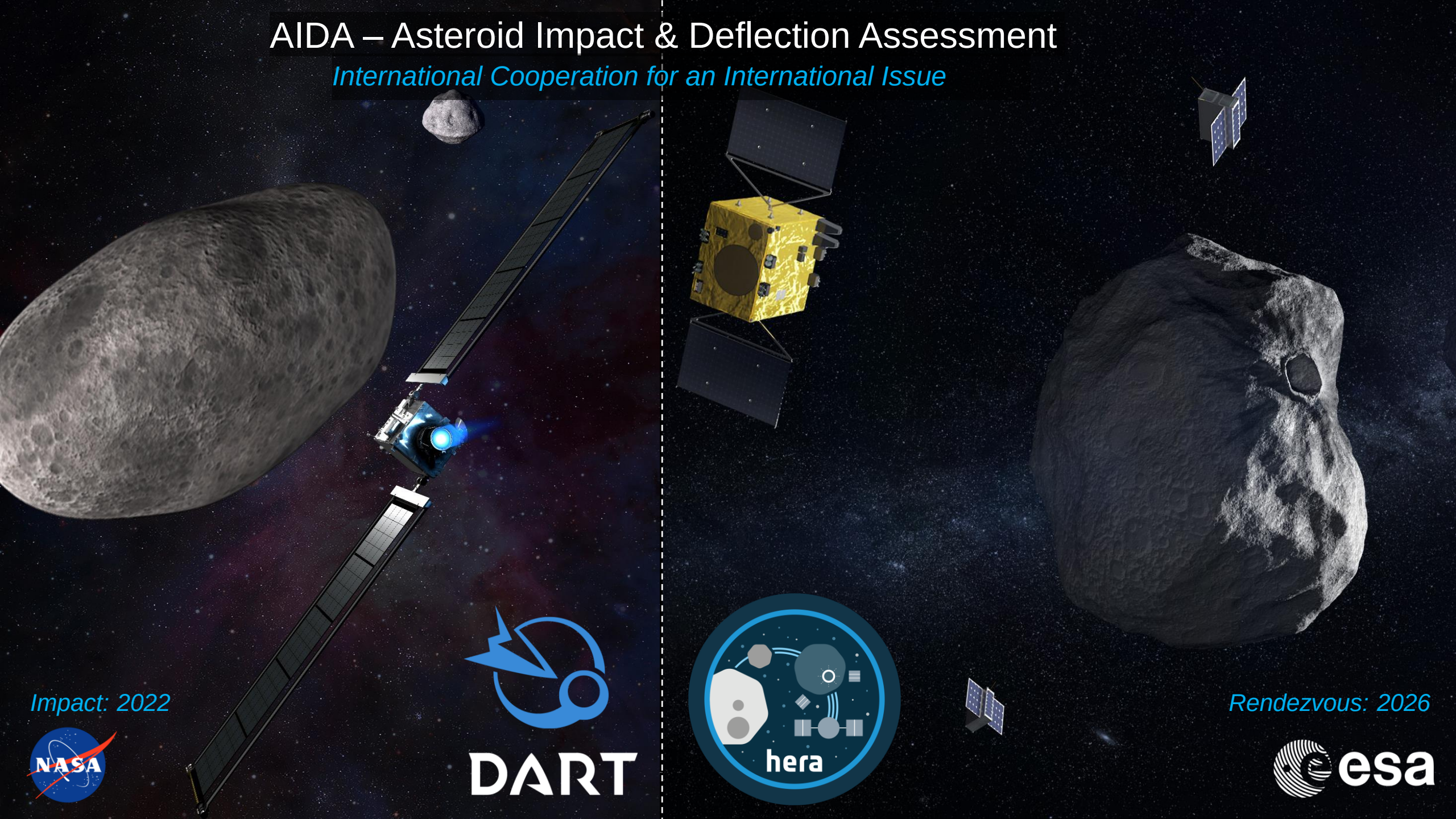
Ground Software: Unique Features for DART

- Receive Telemetry Frames from DSN / ESTRACK @ 3 Mbps
- Extract image packets from frames and reconstruct image in near-real-time @ 1 image / second during Terminal Phase
- Correlate additional flight data with reconstructed image in near-real-time
- Overlay image with applicable correlated data and display to users in 2 different networks
- Separately, support timely OpNav processing of recorded images to Navigation Team



AIDA – Asteroid Impact & Deflection Assessment

International Cooperation for an International Issue



Impact: 2022



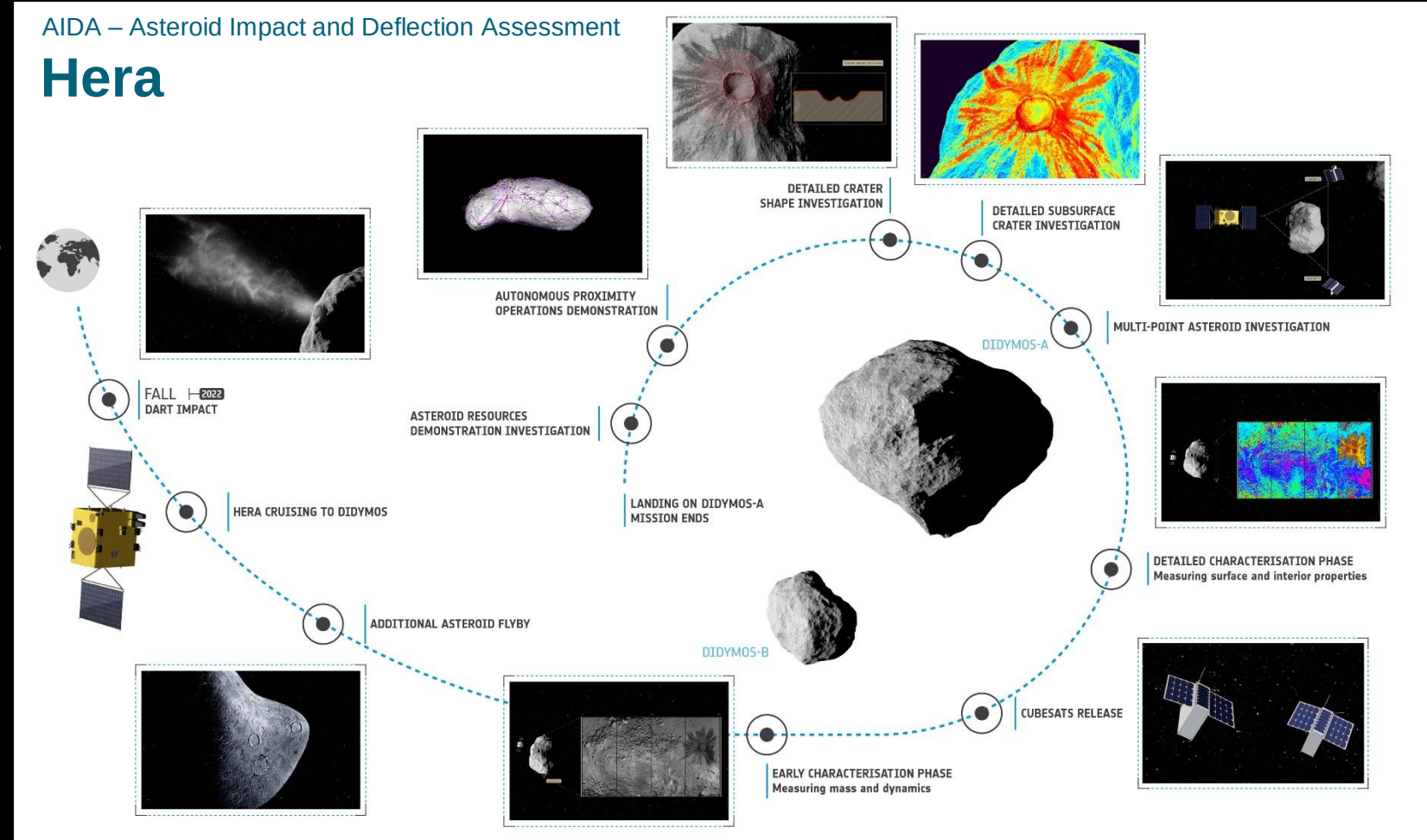
Rendezvous: 2026

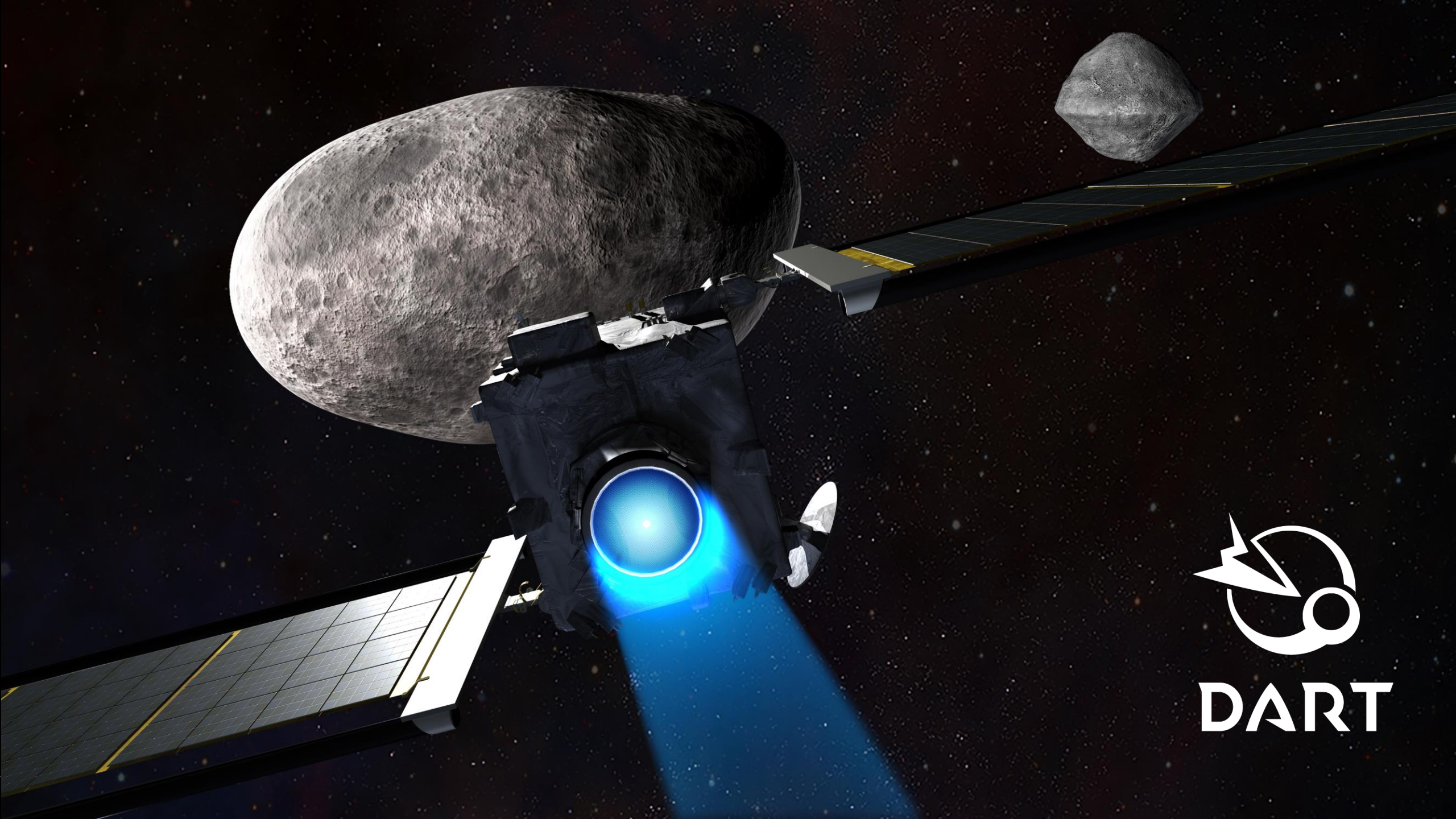


AIDA – International Collaboration for Planetary Defense

Hera Advances the Planetary Defense Test that DART Begins

- Hera would launch in 2024, arrive at Didymos in 2026, and conduct a 6-month survey, including:
 - Directly measuring the Didymos B mass to determine momentum transfer
 - Investigating the DART impact crater depth and diameter to understand target physical property effects
- These measurements can be made four years after the DART impact without loss of value







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