



University of Colorado
Boulder



Celestial and Spaceflight
Mechanics Laboratory

High-Fidelity Small-Body Lander Simulations

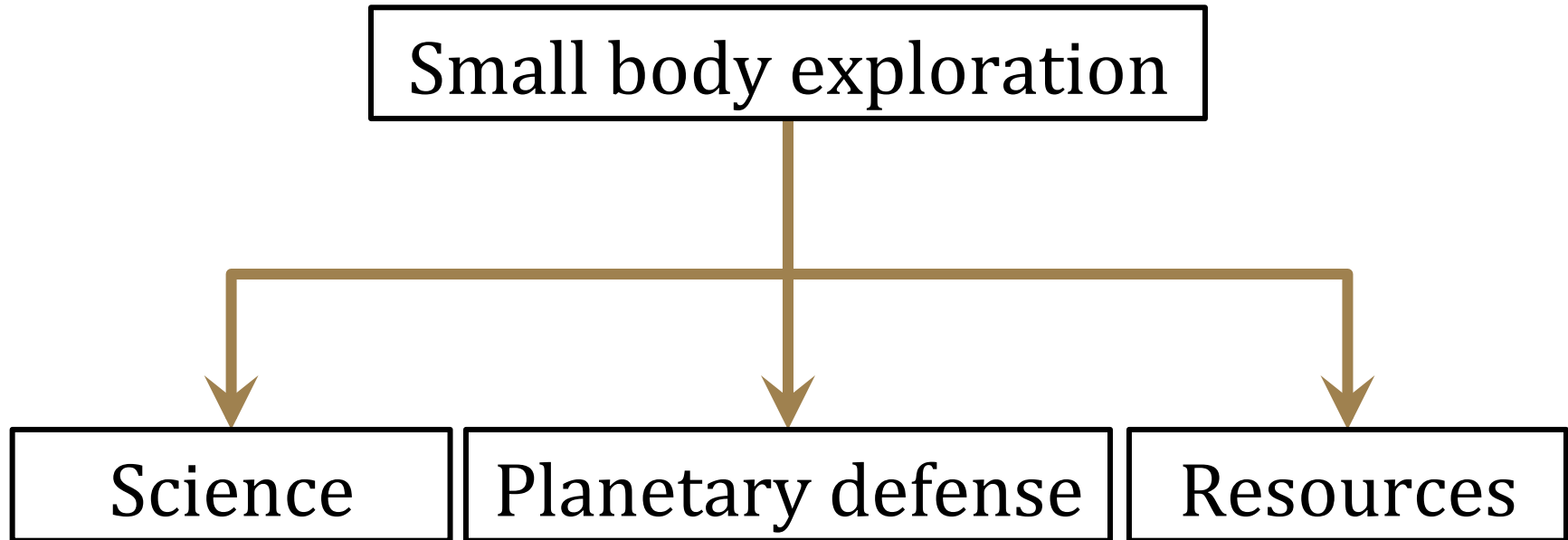
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6th International Conference on Astrodynamics Tools and Techniques

Darmstadt, 16 March 2016



→ Increase mission return with **lander** and **surface mobility** operations

→ Design requires **high-fidelity modeling**



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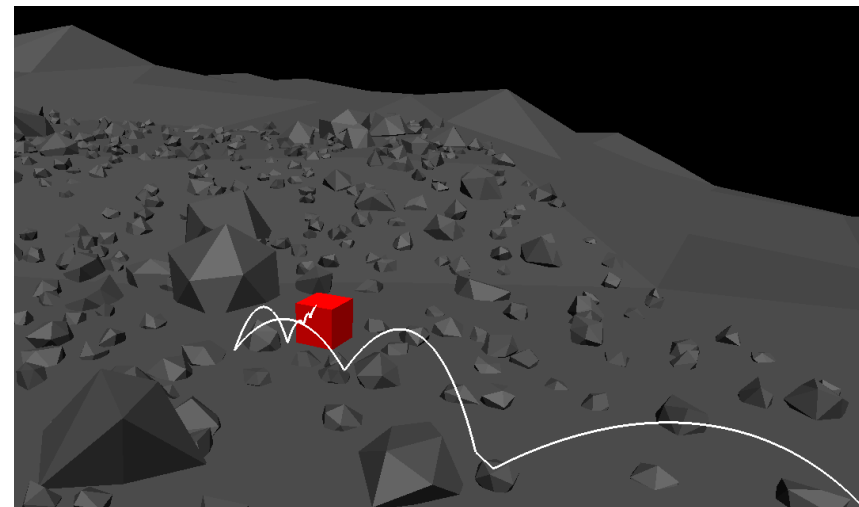
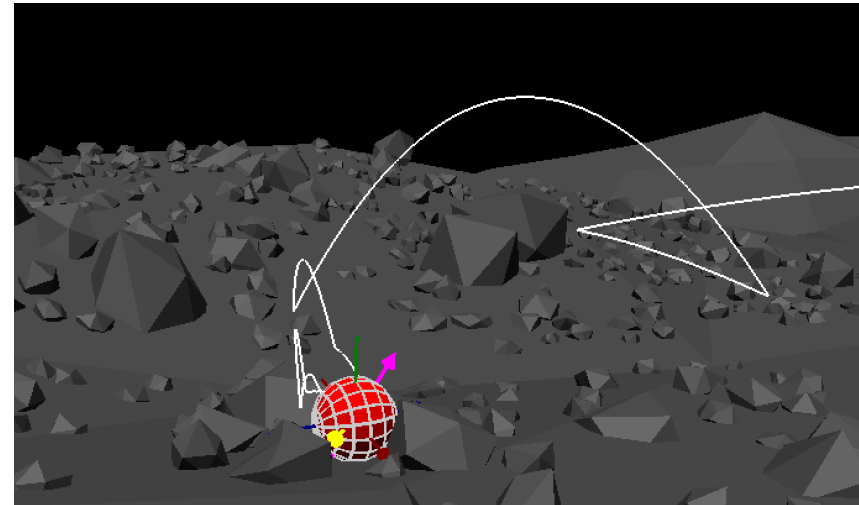
1. Framework
2. Gravity
3. Surface
4. Collisions
5. Results and conclusions

Framework



- *SAL* software package
- Previously: spherical landers
- Currently: extension to **arbitrary shapes**

- Integration with RK5(4) in C++, event capability
- Propagation relative to rotating target frame



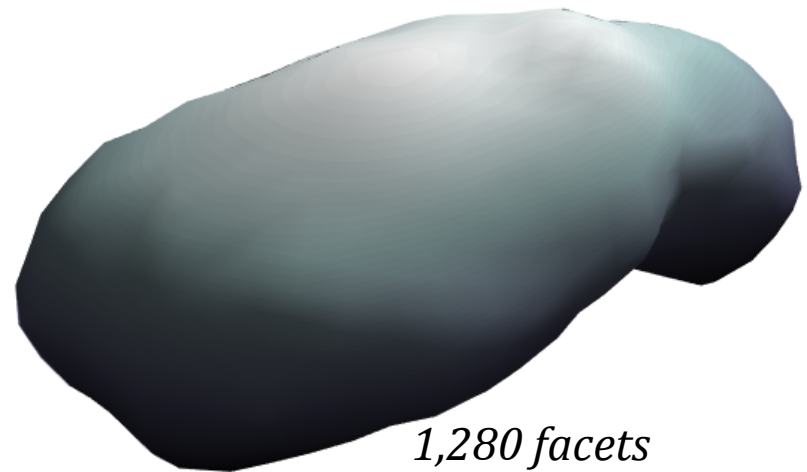
Gravity



- Constant-density **polyhedron** model, expensive
- Method 1: Linearization
 - Acceleration: $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}) \simeq \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_0) + (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0) \cdot \mathbf{\Gamma}(\mathbf{r}_0)$
 - Error control with Δr_{\max}
- Method 2: Reduced-resolution gravity model
 - Error control with resolution



200,000 facets

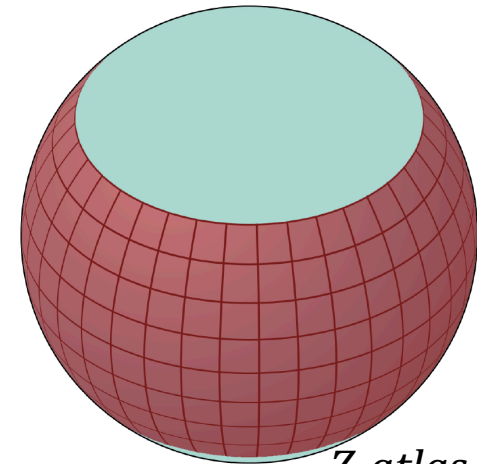


1,280 facets

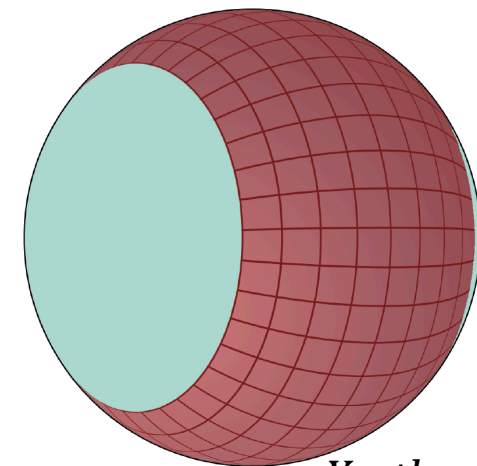
Surface



- Surface interactions govern dissipation, high-resolution model necessary
- Challenge: collision detection with *global* surface and rocks
- Method 1: Atlas
 - Latitude/longitude grid of small *local* worlds
 - **Fast** collision detection with single **active local world**



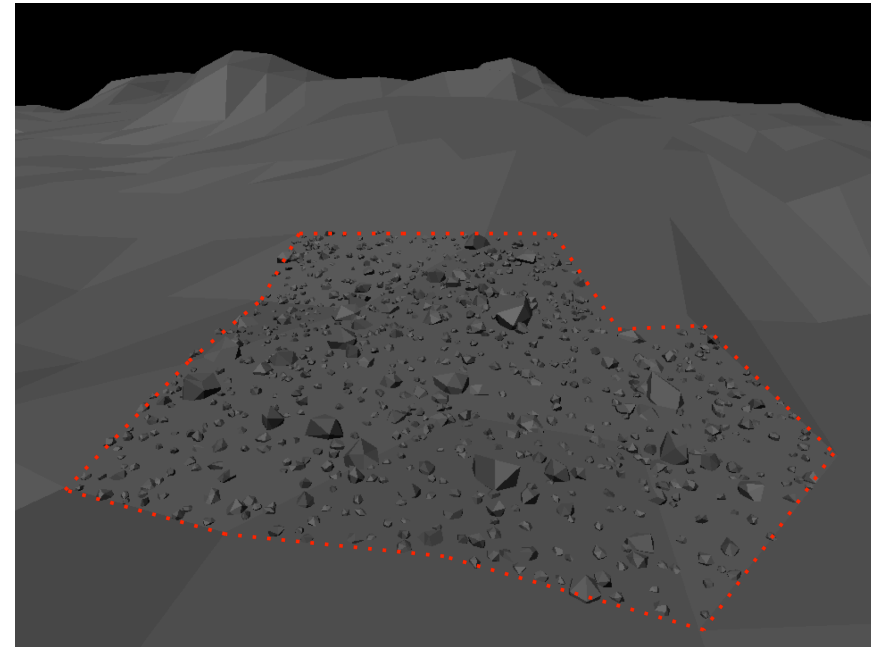
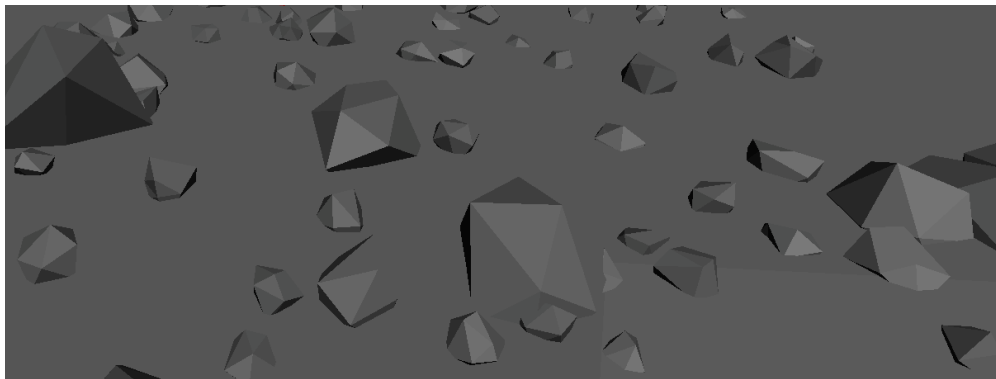
Z-atlas



X-atlas

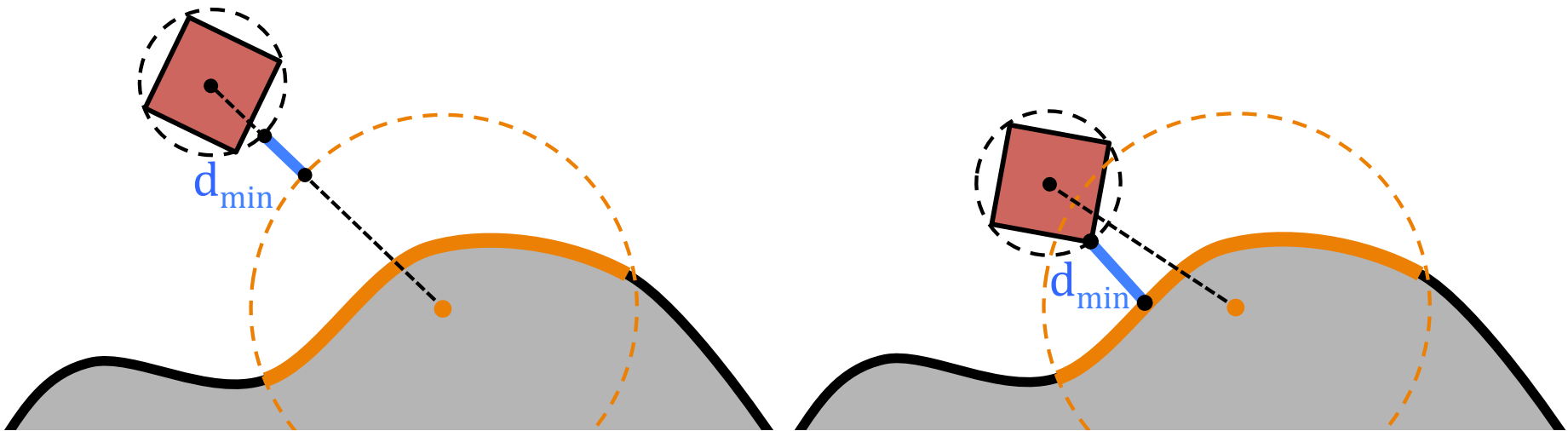


- Method 2: Surface rock distribution
 - Affects energy and topographic dissipation
 - Previously: stochastic model, limitations
 - Full model is necessary, large # of rocks
 - **Procedural generation** on *active* local world
 - Modified icosahedron





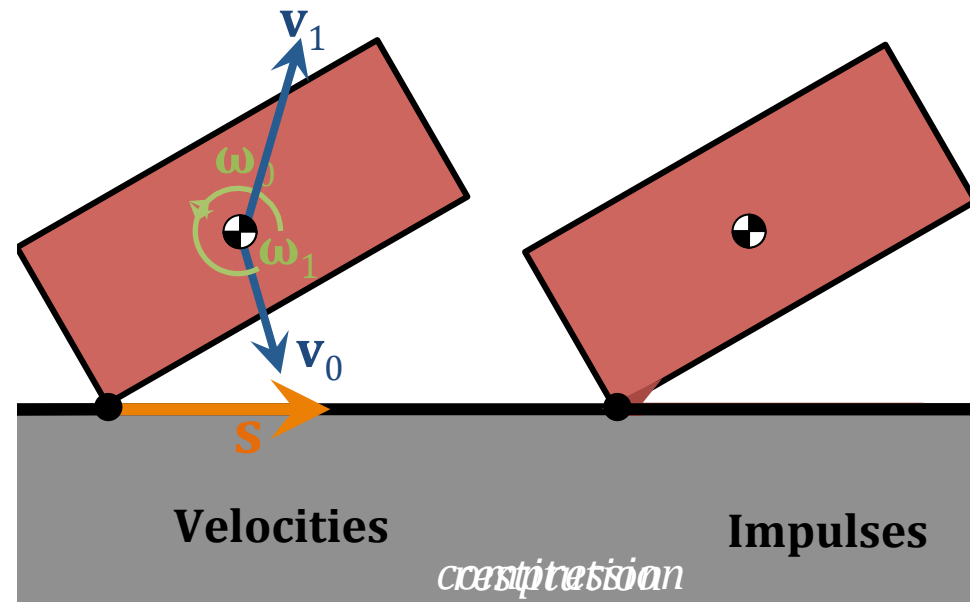
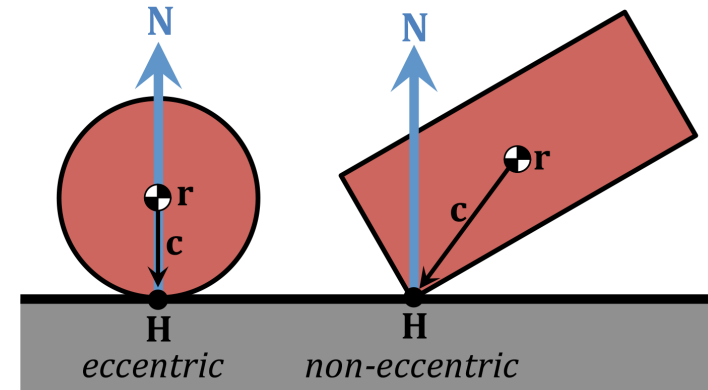
- Method 3: Bounding spheres
 - Defined for local worlds, rocks, and lander
 - Fully encompass target
 - **Trigger** finer collision detection
 - Fast detection for large # of features



Collisions



- Impact of arbitrary shapes:
 - *Non-eccentric*, coupling of normal force and friction
 - Integrated using **time-like** normal impulse p
 - Governed by e and μ
 - Sliding velocity s , slip vs. stick
 - Contact when $v_N \sim 0$



Sample deployment to Itokawa



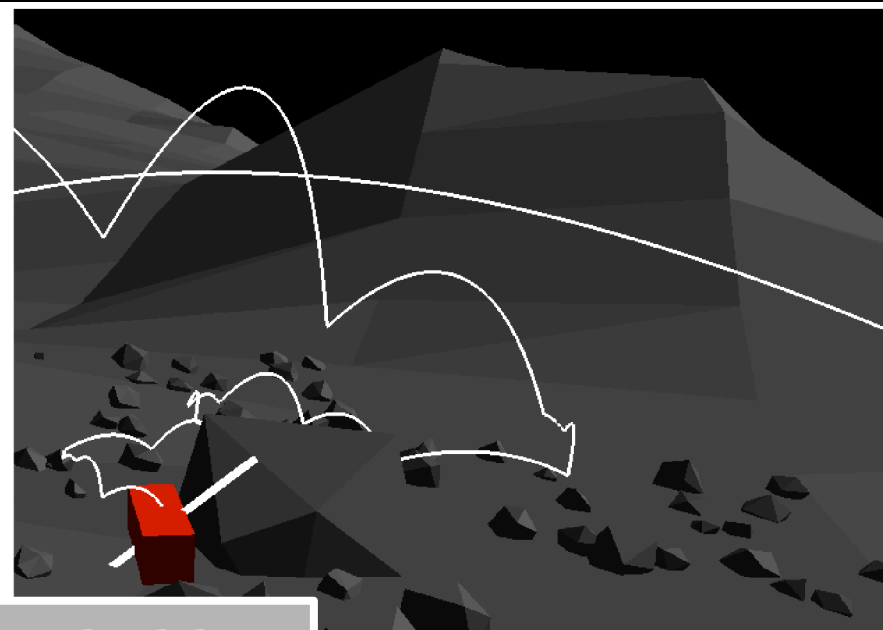
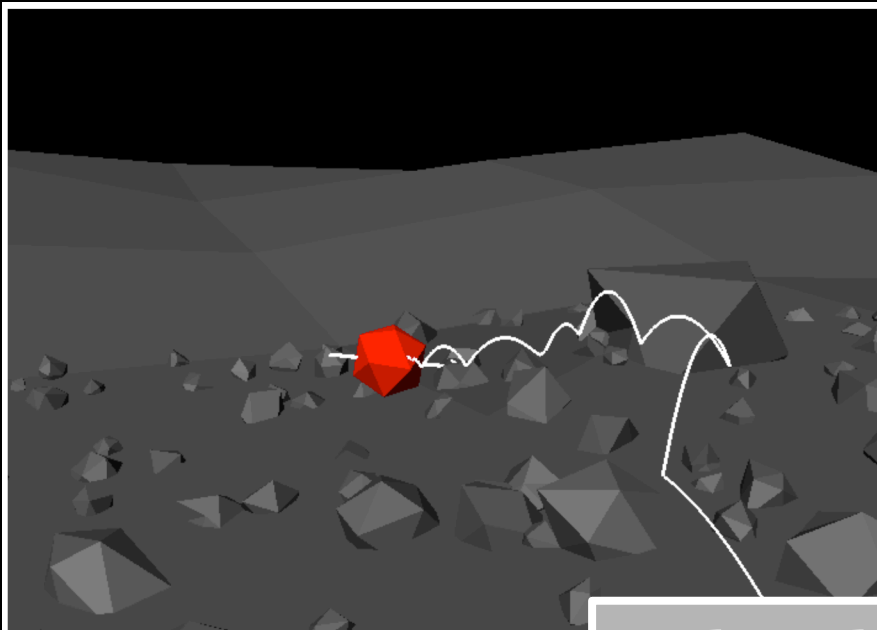
video placeholder

Results

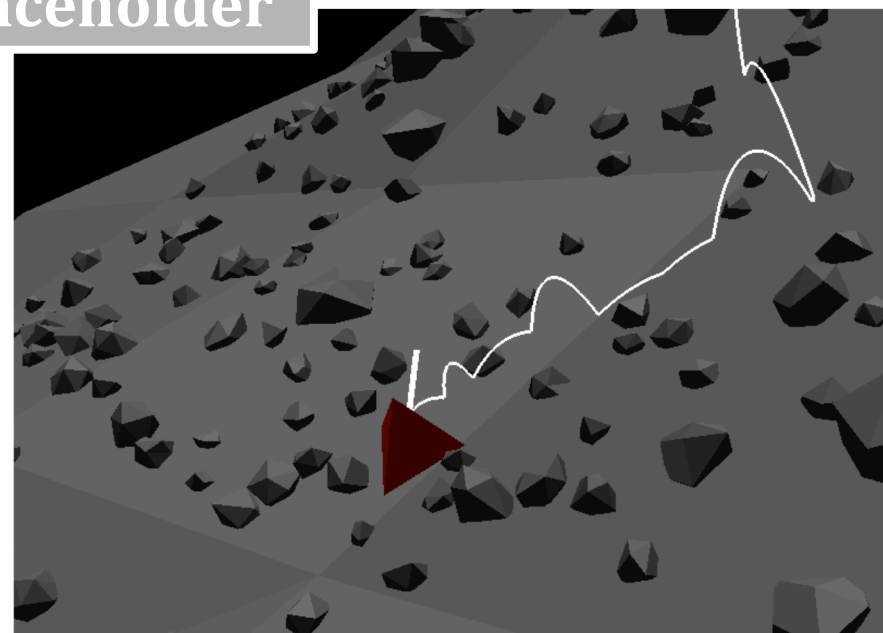
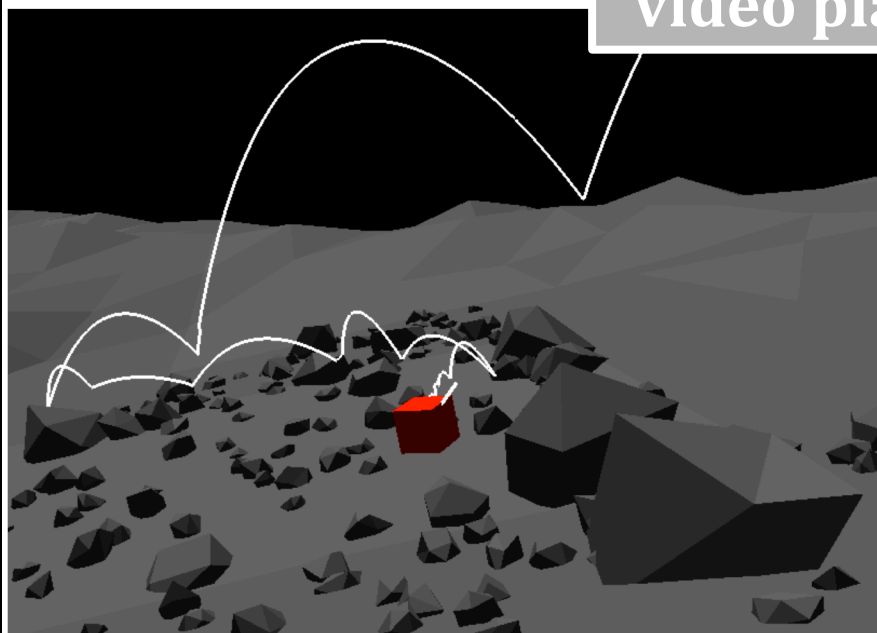


- Verification of deployment strategy
- Effect of uncertainty in:
 - Release conditions, *e.g.* altitude
 - Surface interaction properties, *e.g.* e and μ
 - Rock distribution
- Surface mobility operations
 - Control strategy
- Lander/rover shape optimization
- Visualization in OpenGL

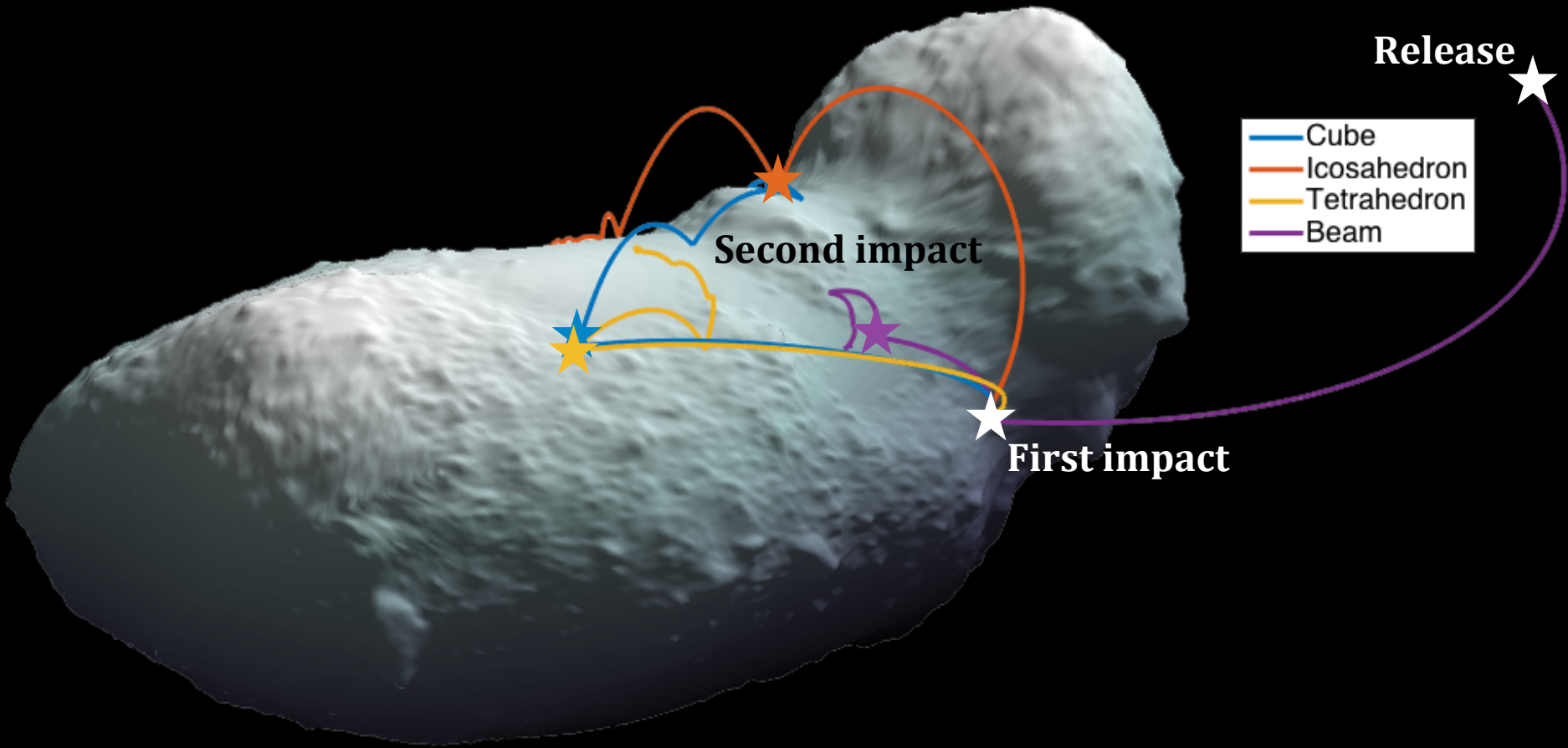
Lander shape comparison



video placeholder



Impact locations



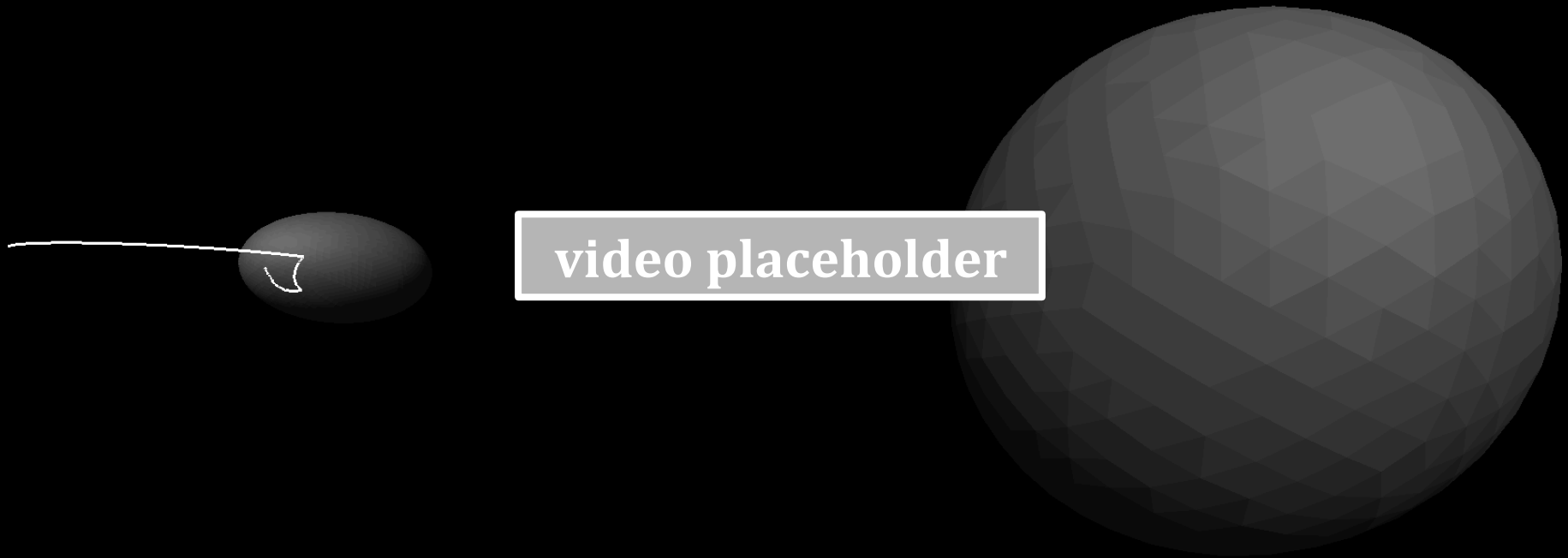
Conclusions



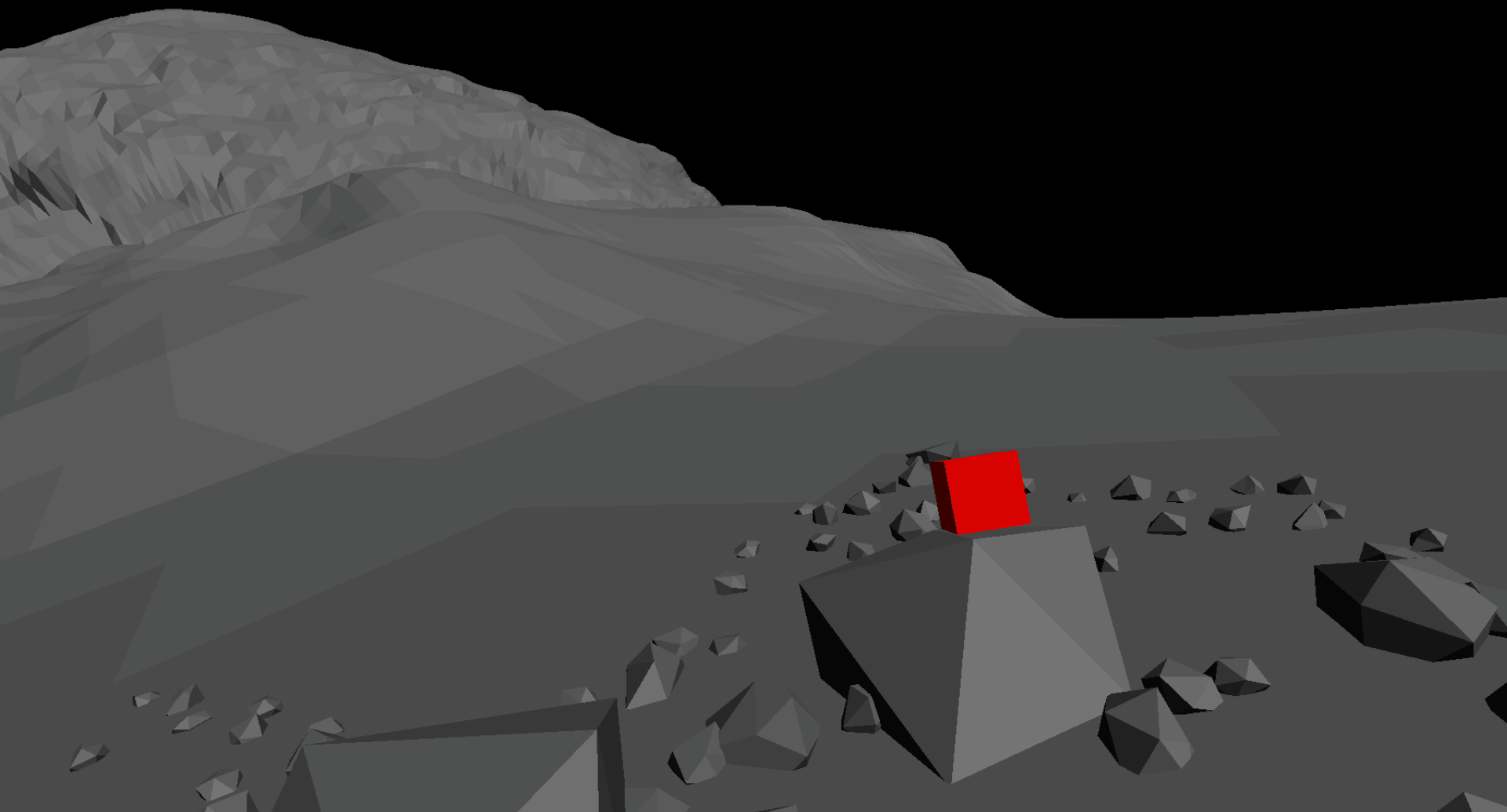
- Elements required for high-fidelity simulations
- Methods to reduce numerical burden:
 - Gravity (linearization/resolution)
 - Surface (atlas/rocks/spheres)
- Collision handling of arbitrary shapes
- Enables design and verification of lander/rover

- Future work:
 - Shape optimization
 - Contact motion
 - Mission scenarios

Sample Mascot-2 deployment to Didymoon



Questions?





References

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