

THE ADEO PASSIVE DE-ORBIT SUBSYSTEM: REFERENCE MISSION SELECTION AND PRELIMINARY DESIGN OF PROTO FLIGHT MODEL

Clean Space Industrial Days 2018

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1. Avoiding Space Debris for a Clean Space

Current Space Environment:

- › Space debris in orbit increases since beginning of space flight
- › LEO, MEO, GEO full of space debris

Europe for a Clean Space:

- › International guidelines enforce disappearance 25 years after end of mission
- › ESA is pushing, as global leader, for a „Clean Space“. (Ref: Space Debris Legislation: ESA/ADMIN/IPOL(2014)2)

Technical Solutions:

- › Many variants under discussion and development:
 - Rocket engine for de-orbiting
 - Dragsails
 - Tethers



Source: <http://www.themarketforideas.com/space-debris-visualizing-the-risk-and-informing-stakeholders-a190/>

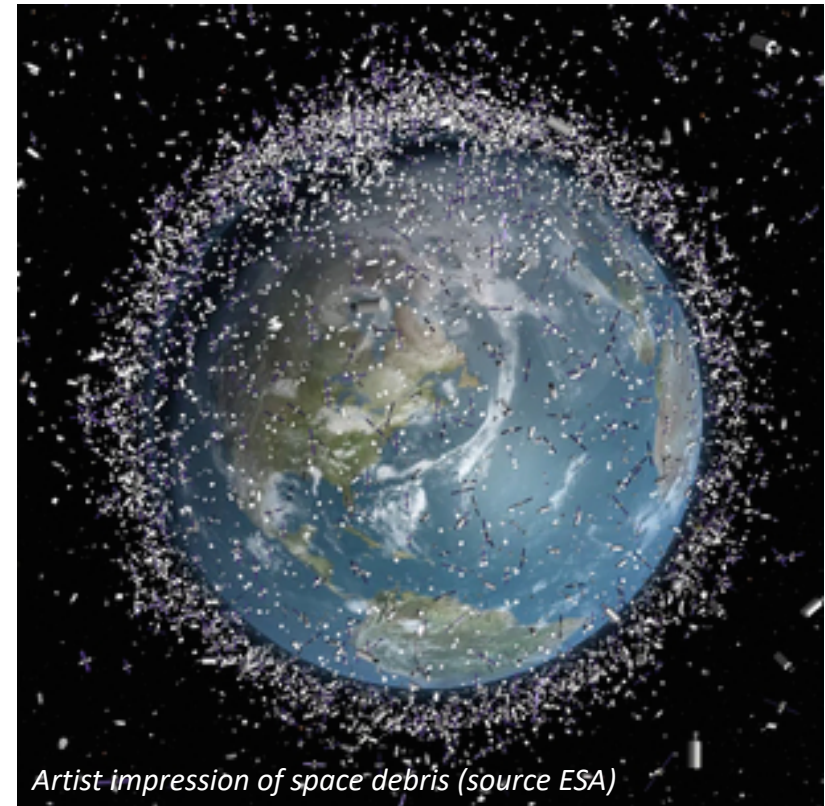
The „ADEO“ Solution

ADEO-Application Area:

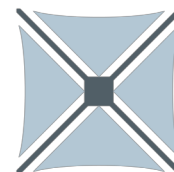
- › passive solution:
 - using rest-atmosphere to decelerate
 - augmentation of drag-area by a deployed sail.
- › Applicable to LEO-orbit: up to 750 km (perigee)
- › For all satellites cleared for uncontrolled de-orbit

ADEO „Family“:

- › ADEO-L (Large for satellites between 100 and <1.500 kg)
- › ADEO-N (Nano for cubesats and larger: 1 – 100 kg)
- › ADEO-M (Medium class: overlapping L- and N-class).



Artist impression of space debris (source ESA)



ADEO
DE-ORBIT SUBSYSTEM

2. Previous Activities

2.1 ADEO(1) (2014-2017): Technology Demonstrator Design, Manufacturing and Testing



The ADEO-1 Project (2014-2017)

Project Team

- › ESA: Customer
- › HPS Germany: Prime, system engin., design & analysis, S/S AIT
- › DLR Bremen/Braunschweig: boom and sail technology
- › HTS: sail development and mechanisms
- › ETAMAX: debris modelling & stabilisation techniques

Programmatics:

- › GSTP-Program
- › SME driven
- › Parallel activity („DEPLOYABLE MEMBRANE“):
sail development, primed by HTS
- › Duration: 11/2014 – 03/2017.



Preliminary De-orbiting Analysis

Key Specifications:

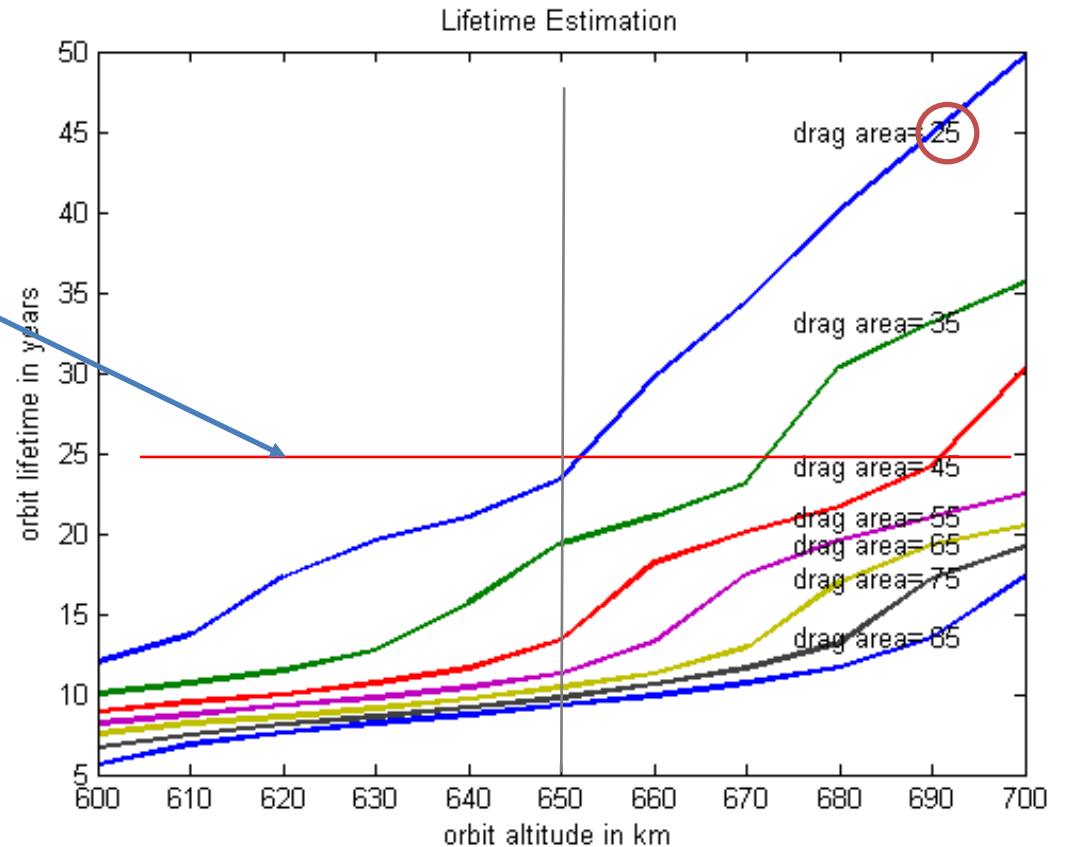
- 1.000 kg satellite
- 650 km orbit altitude
- De-orbiting within max. 25 years

⇒ 25 m² drag area.

Simulation:

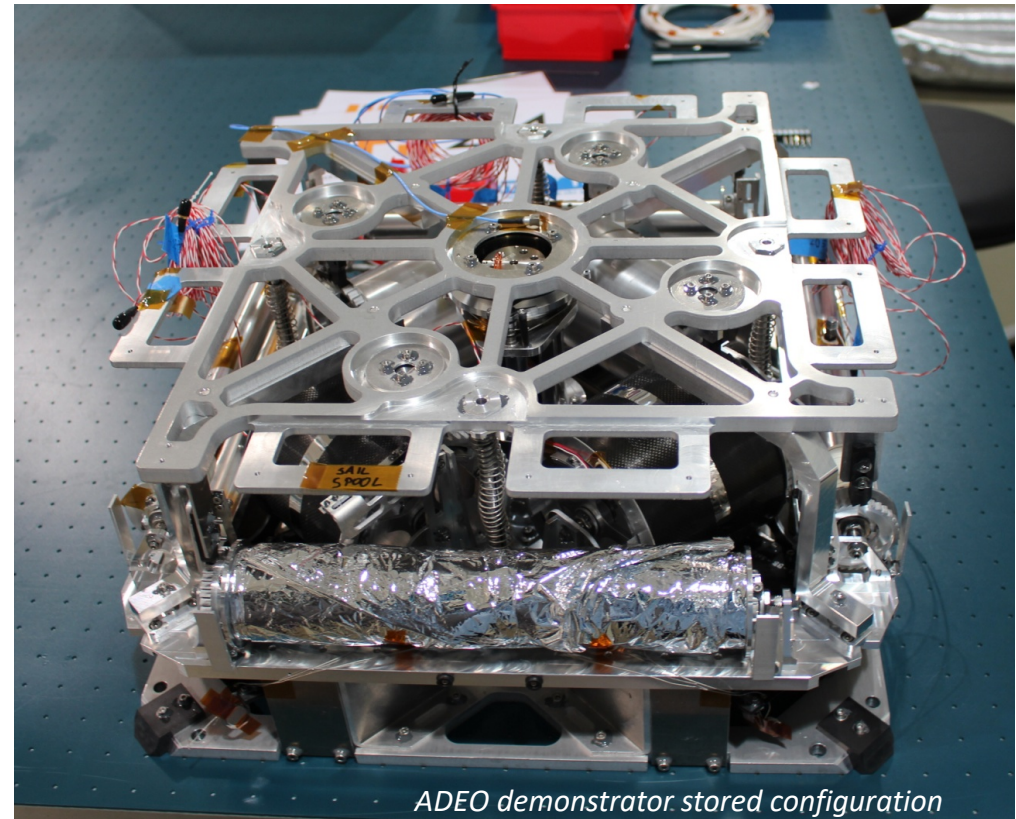
- 2014 start solar activity

⇒ above 700 km solar pressure is dominant.



ADEO Demonstrator

- Complete subsystem with flight representative mechanisms and components
- Designed for 25 m² drag sail area with 4 sails, but demonstrator testing with 1 sail segment only
- Deployment via 4 CFRP booms, but demonstrator testing with 2 booms only



ADEO demonstrator stored configuration

ADEO Demonstrator Test Campaign

Test as you fly approach:

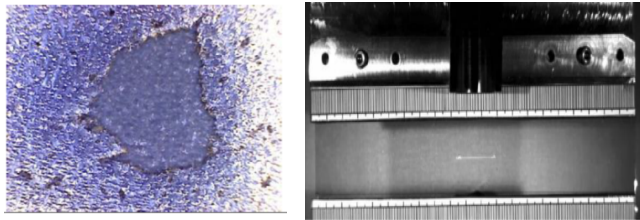
<p>Launch:</p>	<p>First a vibration test (representative sine and random loads on all three axes) was carried out simulating the launch loads followed by a rapid decompression test mimicking the pressure decrease during launch (Vega launcher depressurization profile).</p>
<p>In-Orbit Storage:</p>	<p>The temperature change of an orbiting space craft was mimicked via thermal cycling test.</p>
<p>Deployment:</p>	<p>The deployment was initiated with mechanism activation in hot and cold TVAC conditions leading to a full deployment (partial in TVAC and rest in ambient)</p>
<p>De-Orbit:</p>	<p>The survivability of the materials during the 25 year de-orbiting time was verified by extensive Atomic Oxygen (tested @ ESA/ESTEC labs), UV and thermal cycling tests. Furthermore, the effect of space debris impacts was verified by crack propagation analysis and impact tests.</p>

Sail Critical Testing

(as part of DEPLOYABLE MEMBRANE Study (HTS prime, HPS & DLR sub))

Environmental survivability

- Vibration, thermal cycling, rapid decompression, full sail deployment
- Impact and Crack Propagation



- ATOX & UV radiation

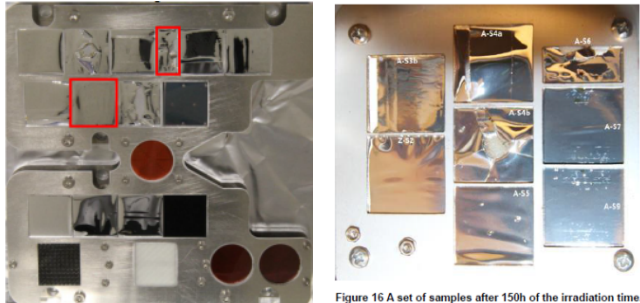
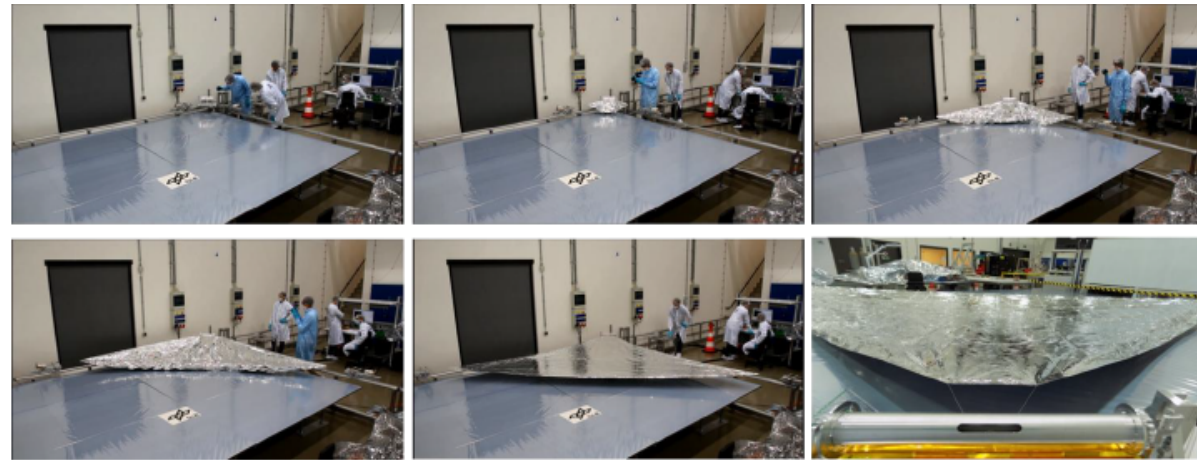


Figure 16 A set of samples after 150h of the irradiation time.

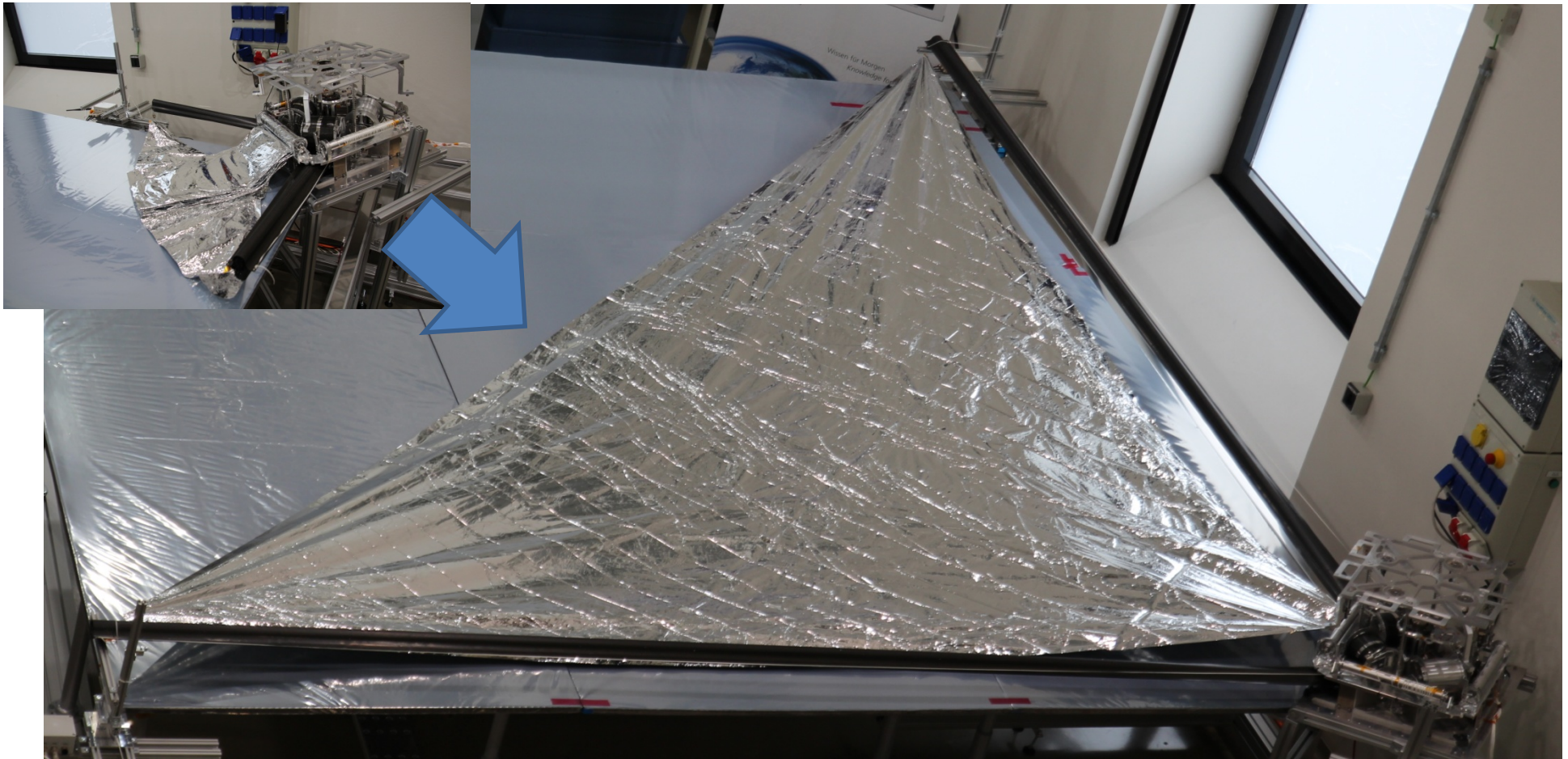


Folding of sail segment



Deployment of sail segment

Deployment Test: Full Ambient Deployment (after vibration, TC & TVAC)



Full deployment successful: Demonstrator Test Campaign successful, raising TRL of ADEO to 5/6.

2.2. ADDA ADEO De-Risk Dynamical (De-Orbit) Analysis



The ADEO De-Risk Activity

Project Team

- › ESA: Customer
- › HPS Germany: Prime, Reference Mission Review
- › ASTOS Solutions:
 - Dynamic analysis
 - De-orbit & stability assessments and analysis

Programmatic:

- › GSTP-Program
- › SME driven
- › Duration: 05/2017 – 08/2017.



Conclusions of ADEO De-Risk Activity ADDA

1. The drag sail shortens the post mission life time significantly : e.g. 97% faster de-orbit time with a 25m² sail on a 300 kg satellite from a 600 km orbit compared to the same satellite without a sail: 5 years instead of 140 years).
2. Depending on the satellite (mass, inertia, ...) and the start altitude the best de-orbit behavior can be optimized using different sail angles (change of pyramidal angle between 0° to 60°).
3. Sail angles of 0° are fully acceptable for meeting de-orbit requirements without GNC.
4. No active GNC is required, passive de-orbit is possible. In high altitudes (>500 km), the dragsail will slightly tumble. But a tumbling rate of non critical 1.4°/sec and a maximum torque moment of only 4.0×10^{-4} Nm will not be exceeded over the de-orbit time (assuming worst case conditions).
5. Analysis and tests during ADEO and previous activities (e.g. DLR's Gossamer) showed that the ADEO subsystem has a safety factor of well over 100 to the worst case tumbling loads (tumbling rate and maximum torque).

IN CONCLUSION IT HAS BEEN VERIFIED THAT THE DE-ORBIT WITH DRAGSAILS IS FEASIBLE AND THAT IT IS A VERY EFFICIENT PASSIVE DE-ORBIT SOLUTION FOR SMALL SPACECRAFTS.

3. Current Activities

3.1 ADEO(2) (2018-2020): Towards a flight ready dragsail PFM



ADEO2 (ESA GSTP activity) - Objective

The objective of this activity is to:

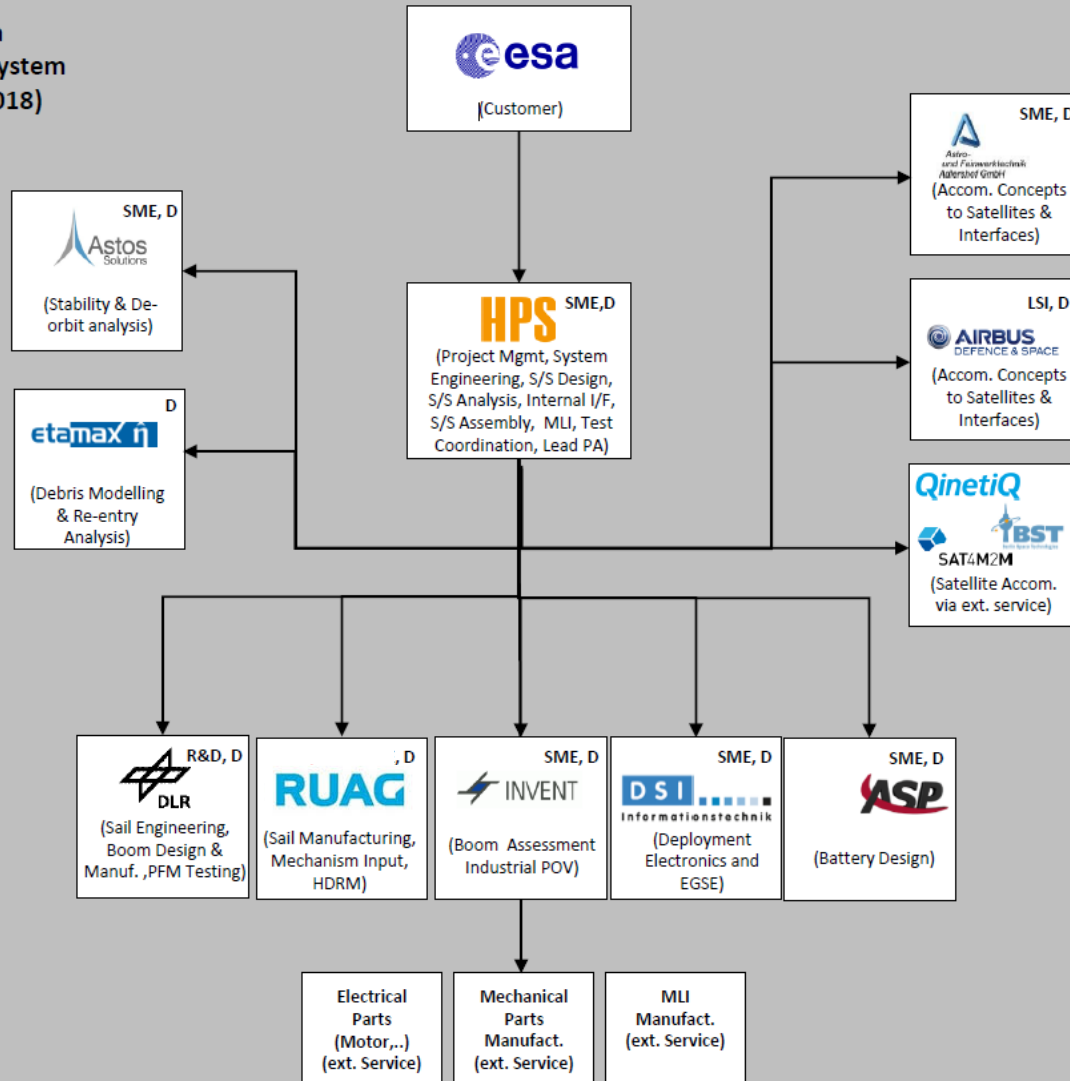
- define a reference mission for a passive de-orbiting sub-system (ADEO) for a LEO S/C
- define requirements for the ADEO subsystem to be flown with this reference mission
- Based on this mission and requirements, to flow down the requirements to an IOD.
- Based on the IOD requirements, a PFM shall be designed, developed, manufactured and fully qualified.

The refurbished (after all environmental tests) PFM is the final deliverable which can then be directly used for an IOD in a follow-up activity.

The de-orbit subsystem shall be built using the technologies developed in the previous ESA GSTP developments. Electronics for an autonomous deployment shall be flight standard. An on-board camera for a possible future IOD mission shall be included in the subsystem design (it shall not be a new development) and it must be possible to download the pictures. Mechanical and ground support equipment (GSE) for the verification of the de-orbit subsystem shall be designed and manufactured.

Teaming

ADEO2:
Prototype and
Qualification of a
De-orbiting Subsystem
 (Issue 1, 04.04.2018)



Project Flow

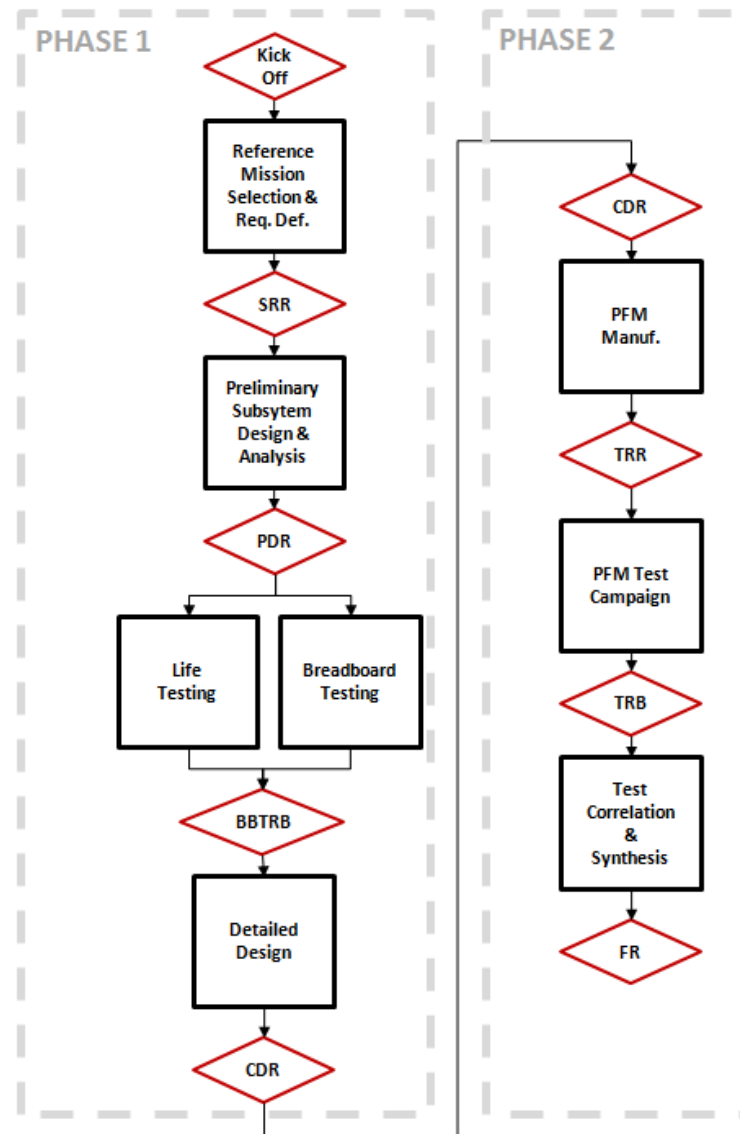
Phase 1:

- Requirement Definition for Reference Mission and IOD (-> 10/18)
- Preliminary Design (->12/18)
- Breadboards and Confidence Life Tests (-> 04/19)
- Detailed Design (-> 10/19)

1 Month Gap (Kick-off Phase 2: 11/19)

Phase 2:

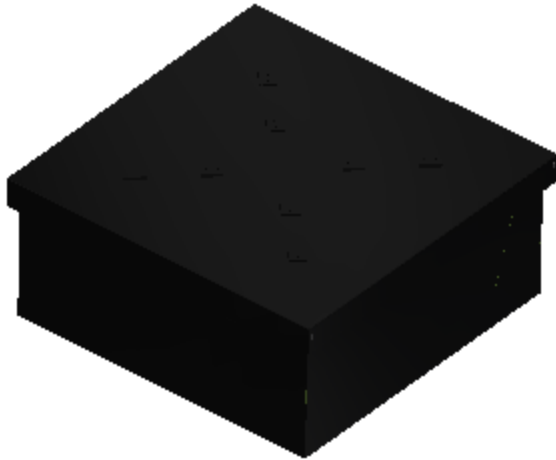
- Manufacturing/Assembly of PFM (-> 03/20)
- Testing of PFM (->06/20)
- Refurbishment of PFM (->08/20)



ADEO2: Main dimensions Preliminary Design

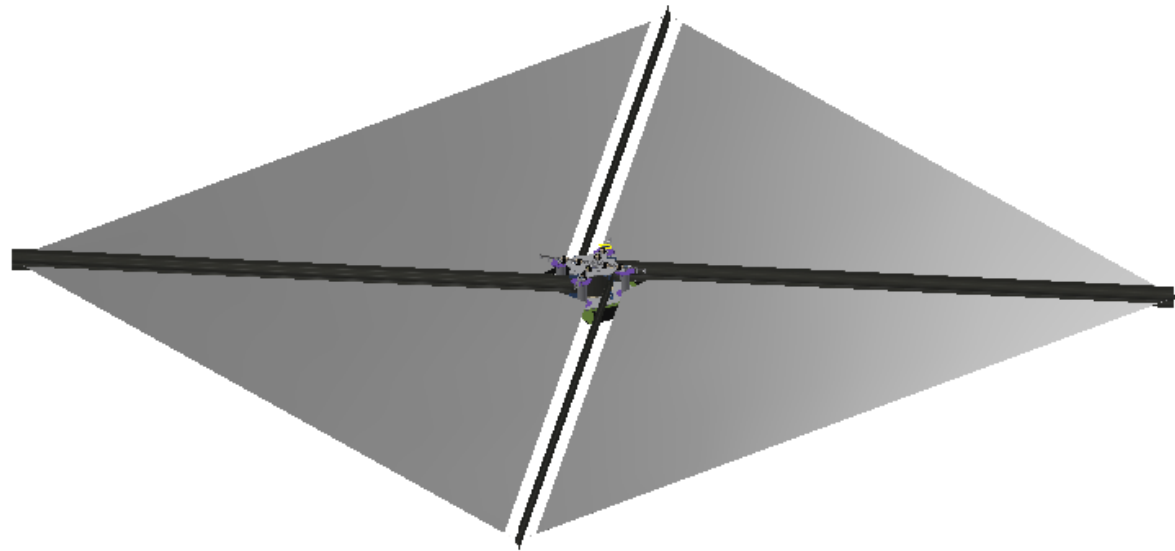
- **Stowed Configuration:**

Stored in a box of 42 cm x 42cm x 18 cm



- **Deployed Configuration:**

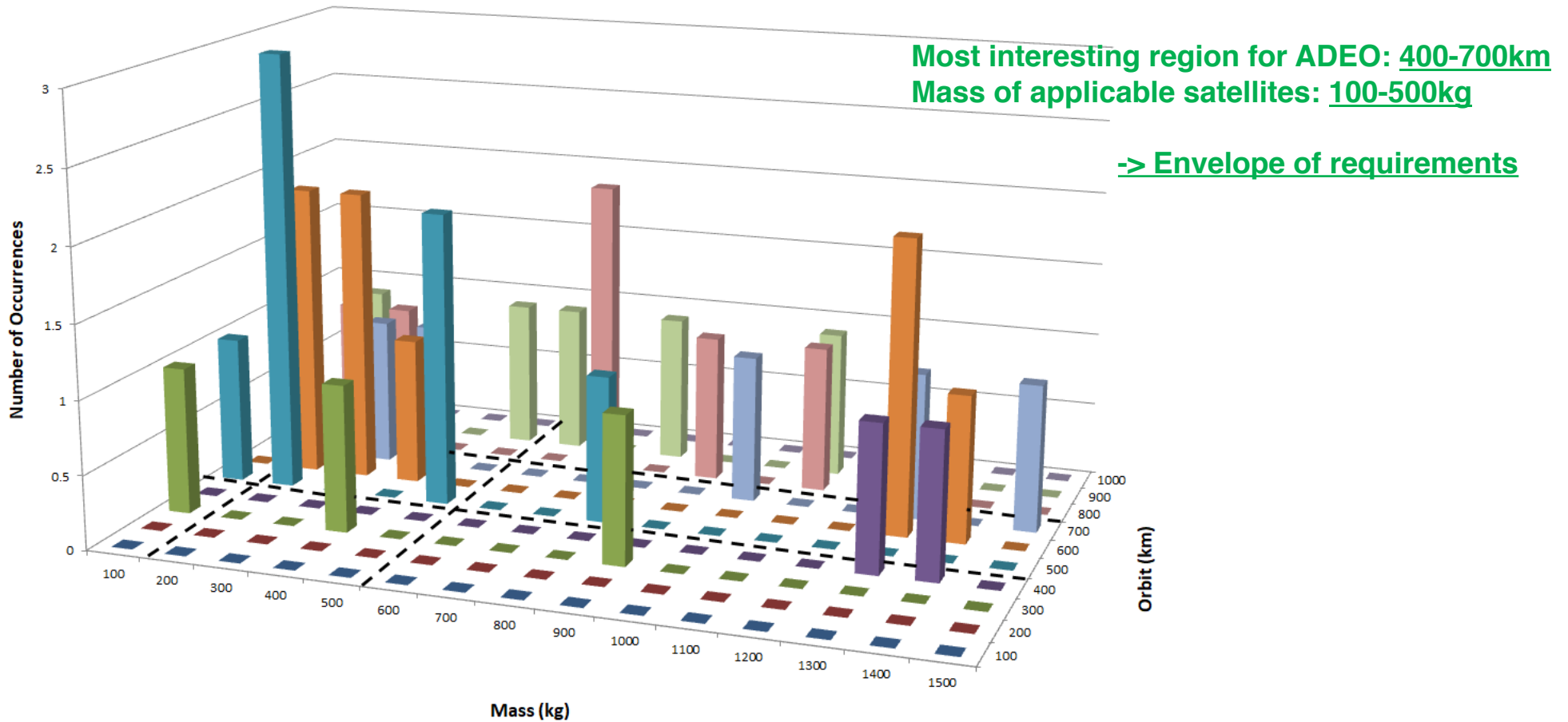
25 m² drag sail area 5m x 5m



- **Total mass of 8 kg**

- **First natural frequency = 140 Hz**

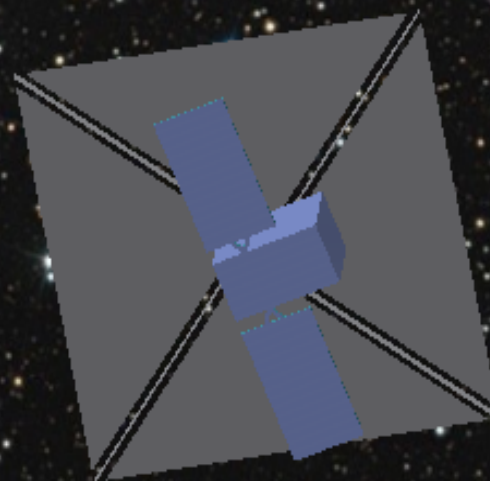
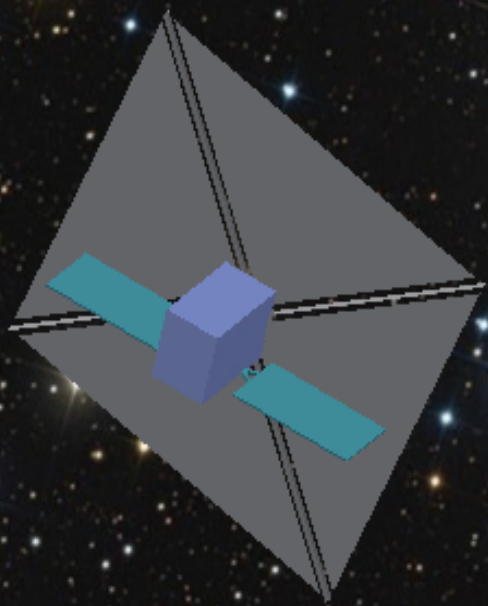
ADEO2: Reference Mission Trade Off



Most promising as future missions: ALTIUS & PICE

Most promising as IOD/IOV: EC IOD/IOV call, RocketLab/Ecliptic Enterprises Hosted Payload Programme

Accomodation:
Satellite size 0.8m x 0.65m x 1.2 m



ADEO2: Main Requirements

- › The ADEO subsystem shall be designed, build and tested **for a S/C** with a wet mass of **100-500 kg** in an sun synchronous orbit with a starting altitude of **400-700 km**.
- › The ADEO subsystem shall de-orbit the S/C with **re-entry taking place within 25 years**.
- › The ADEO subsystem shall be **passively stabilized**.
- › The S/C plus ADEO subsystem shall **not exceed the maximum allowable casualty risk** upon re-entry.
- › The ADEO subsystem shall be **scalable and easily adaptable for multiple missions** (generic interfaces).
- › The **mass** of the ADEO subsystem shall be not greater than **5 % of reference mission S/C**.
- › The ADEO subsystem's deployment shall be initiated by going through the subsystem internal deployment arming and deployment procedure (**WATCHDOG and DEAD MAN SWITCH**)
- › ADEO shall be completely powered by the ADEO subsystem by a **subsystem internal battery**.

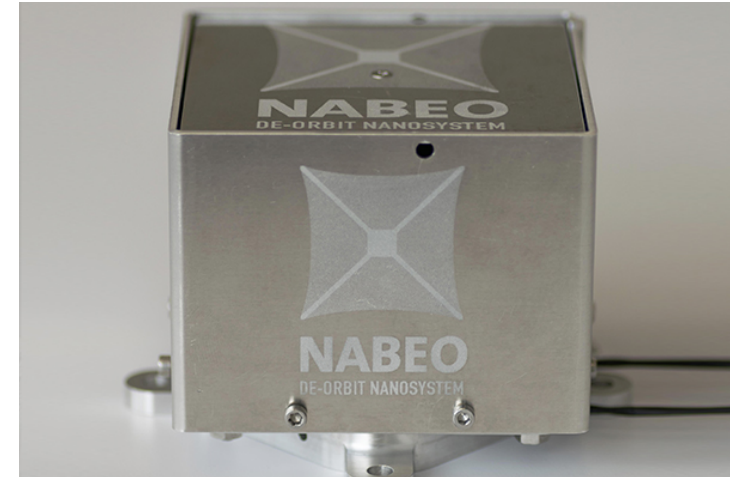
3.2 NABEO (ADEO-N): Launching onboard Rocket Lab's #ItsBusinessTime



NABEO (ADEO-N): Overview

Summary:

- › 2.5m² dragsail subsystem deployed out of 1U cube
- › Subsystem applicable to nanosatellites (cube sats) up to perigee of 750km and a mass of 1-100kg
- › Technology demonstrator to be launched and deployed onboard Rocket Lab's #It's Business Time in 2018
- › Designed, built and tested in March - May 2018
- › Delivered to Rocket Lab (Auckland, New Zealand) on 28.05.2018



The NABEO (ADEO-N) Project

Stakeholders:

- › Launch Provider: RocketLab (USA/NZ)
- › Hosted P/L program (by Ecliptic Enterprises)
- › NABEO cube sat dragsail by HPS GmbH (DE)
 - Co-funding: Bavarian Ministry of Economics (DE)
 - Development partners:
 - Fraunhofer EMI (DE)
 - DLR Bremen (DE)
- Onboard Camera: Ecliptic Enterprises (USA)

Programmatics:

- › Offer for an IOV by RocketLab: April 2018
- › 1st launch attempt: 23rd of June 2018 (weather delay)
- › 2nd launch attempt: 27th of June 2018 (technical issue with rocket motor controller)
- › Updated launch date: Beginning of November 2018



Bayerisches Staatsministerium für
Wirtschaft und Medien, Energie
und Technologie





Meeting with RocketLab CEO Peter Beck in Auckland (NZ)

Electron 3 #ItsBusinessTime on Launch Pad with NABEO in payload fairing at launch pad in Mahia Peninsula (NZ)

Launch Beginning of November 2018, for launch and mission updates follow us on Twitter (@HPS_GmbH) and Facebook (@HighPerformanceSpace)

Picture Source:
<https://www.rocketlabusa.com/>



NABEO(-2): Next Steps

Progress since June launch scrub:

- › Revisiting of design and improvement of key components based on lessons learned during flight model test campaign and dedicated key components breadboard campaign in July/August 2018
- › Simplification of parts to significantly decrease manufacturing costs, incorporation of ALM (3D printed) parts
- › Manufacturing and assembly of **NABEO2** (SN003, SN004 and SN005) finished, full qualification testing currently ongoing

Updated NABEO-2 properties

- › Dragsail area: 2.5m²
- › First Eigenfrequency: 400 Hz
- › Mass: 834 g (incl. I/F plate)
- › Stored volume: 10 cm x 10 cm x 8,7 cm (incl. I/F plate)



4. Conclusions



Conclusions

- Means to **de-orbit passively within 25 years**, no GNC required
- **Modular and scalable** subsystem:
 - ADEO-L (Large for satellites between 100 and <1.500 kg)
 - ADEO-N (Nano for cubesats and larger: 1 – 100 kg)
 - ADEO-M (Medium class: overlapping L- and N-class).
- Designed based on **requirements envelope** of applicable satellites (>30 mission analysed), **generic standard interfaces**
- **ADEO-M/L PFM** currently being designed for **IOD in 2020/2021**, commercial phase to start **2021/2020**
- **ADEO-N IOD** to be carried out in **November 2018**, commercial phase to start in **2019**.

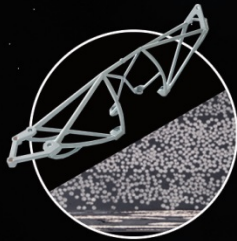


ADEO
DE-ORBIT SUBSYSTEM

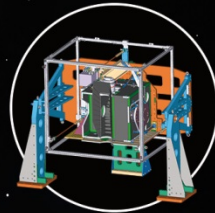
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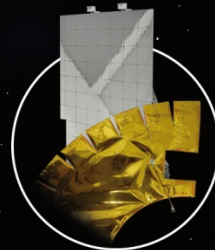
Engineering &
Integration
Services



New Materials &
Processes



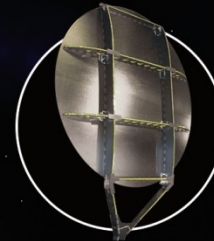
MGSE



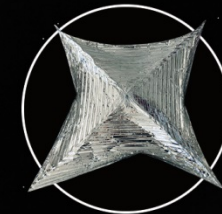
Thermal
Hardware



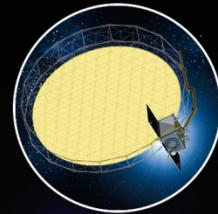
Lightweight
Structures



Reflector
Antennas



Deployable
De-orbit Sails



Large Deploy.
Reflector/
Boom Subsystems