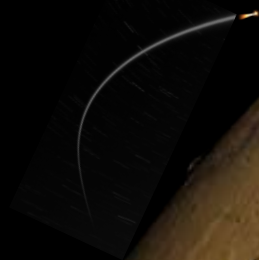


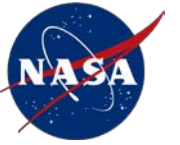
Mars Ascent Vehicle



Development Concepts for Mars Ascent Vehicle (MAV)
Solid and Hybrid Vehicle Systems

Lisa Tunstill McCollum, Andrew Schnell, Darius Yaghoubi, Quincy
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NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

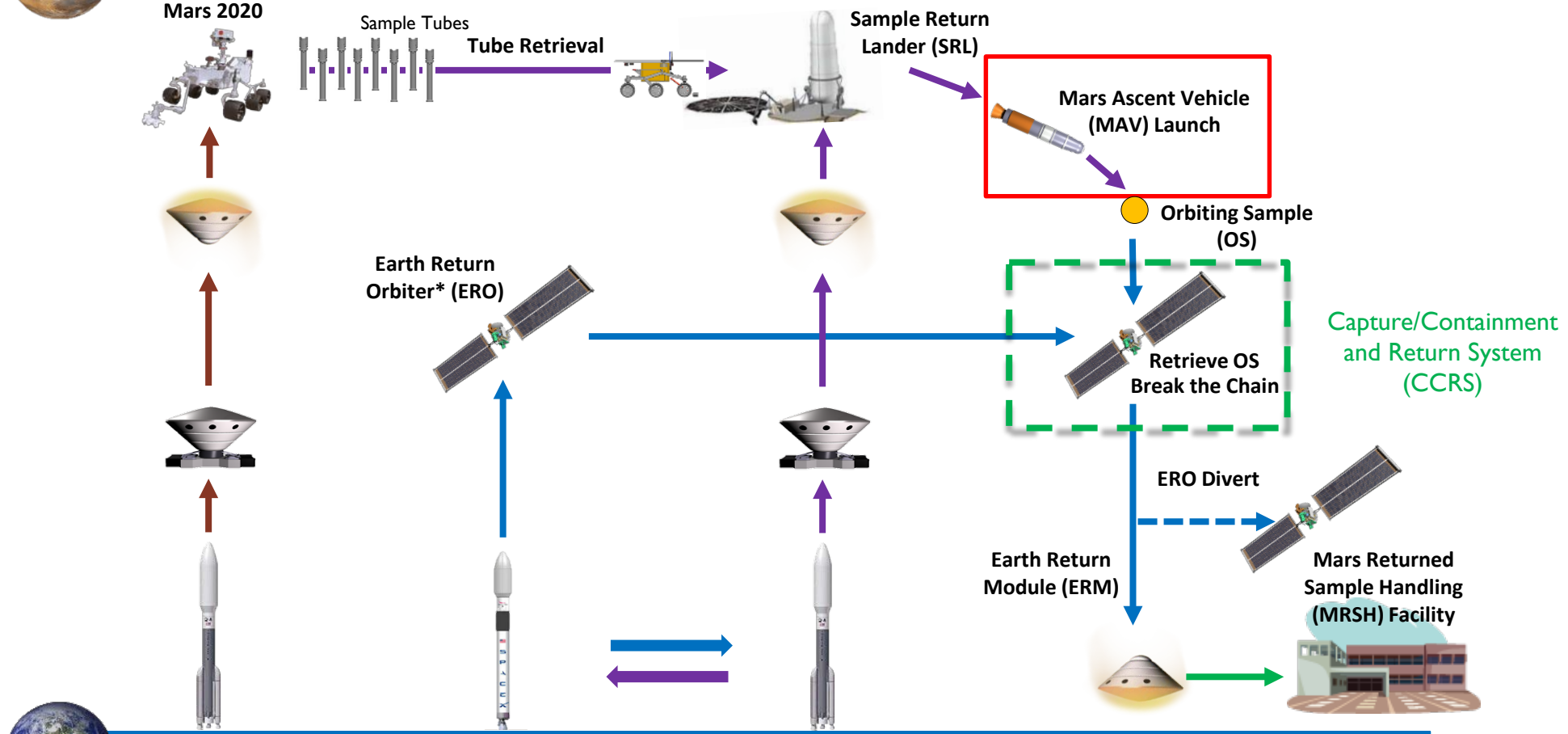
March 2019



Mars Ascent Vehicle Study



Mars



Earth

Mars 2020

Earth Return Orbiter*

Sample Retrieval and Launch*

Sample Return and Science*

*Concepts under study



Mars Ascent Vehicle Study



Introduction

- *Previous Studies*
 - Solid, liquid and hybrid rocket propulsion feasibility studies since 2011
 - Focus on hybrid rocket propulsion since 2016
- *Reassessing Propulsion Systems for Risk Reduction*
 - Liquid propulsion vehicle found to not be feasible
- *Challenges*
 - An autonomous return mission has never been done
 - Mars surface environments
 - Platform packaging limitations
 - Performance and trajectory requirements
- *Study Team*
 - MSFC's Advanced Concepts Office (ACO)
 - MSFC propulsion and vehicle design engineering expertise
 - JPL MAV team



Mars Ascent Vehicle Study



Concept Design Methodology for Solid Propulsion MAV

- *Common ground rules, assumptions and constraints with hybrid MAV concept*
- *ACO's iterative design methodology*
 - Performance needs
 - Structures sizing estimation
 - Reaction control system and vehicle stability
 - Avionics and power sizing
- *Analysis prioritized for subsystems which presented the most uncertainty or risk to safety and mass.*
- *Ongoing updates as concepts mature*

Parameter	Assumption/Constraint
Orbital Insertion Height	343 km
Orbital Insertion Inclination	25°
Payload Mass	18 kg
Vehicle Mass	400 kg (max)
Vehicle Length	3 m (max)
Vehicle Diameter	0.57 m (max)
Non-Operational Temp.	-70 °C to +40 °C
Operational Temp.	-20 °C
Entry Accel. Loads	15 g (lateral)
Post-Insert Divert	No divert maneuver
RCS Location	Fwd of 2 nd stage / within OML
Avionics/Power Hardware	Maximum similarity to hybrid
Performance Margin	Additional 5 kg payload
Other Margin	AIAA margins / 25% for unknown

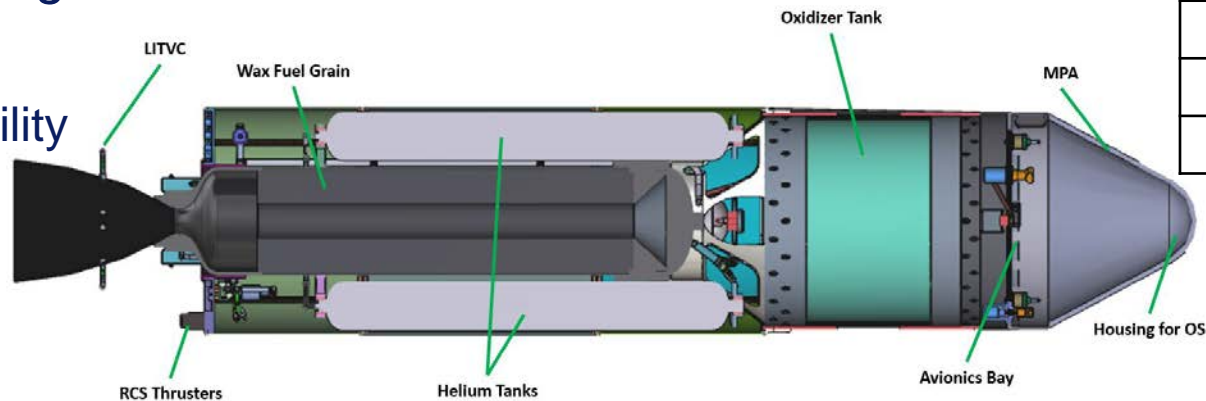


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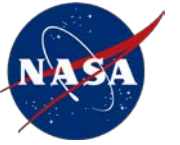


Hybrid MAV Concept Design Overview

- *Single stage to orbit vehicle*
- *SP7 wax and high percentage mixed oxide of nitrogen (MON)*
- *Liquid Injection TVC*
 - MON oxidizer
- *Reaction Control System (RCS) Concept*
 - Helium pressurant
- *Hybrid MAV Challenges*
 - MON percentage
 - Aerodynamic Stability
 - Hypergolic Ignition



Parameter	
GLOM	372 kg
Reserve Mass	5 kg
Payload	18 kg
Avionics & Telecom	4 kg
Power	0.4 kg
Vehicle Structure & Thermal	12 kg
Propellant	296 kg
Prop. Dry Mass	36 kg
ΔV	Appx. 4000 m/s
Total Impulse	824,300 Ns
Specific Impulse	308 s
Average Thrust	6830 N



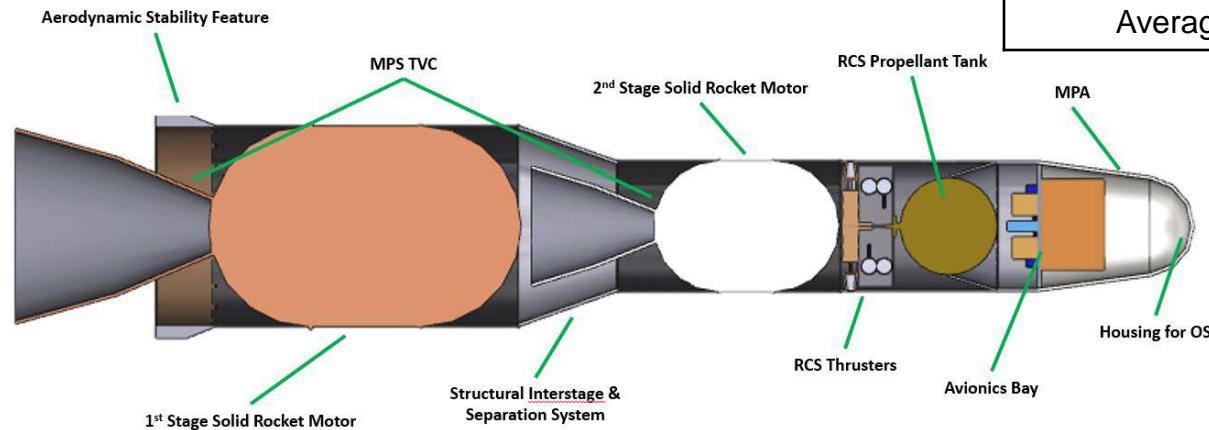
Mars Ascent Vehicle Study



Solid MAV Concept Design Overview

- 2-Stage vehicle with “frangibolt” separation system
- Derived from heritage space and tactical motors
- Electro-mechanical TVC
- Reaction Control System (RCS) Concept
 - Monopropellant hydrazine
- Solid MAV Challenges
 - Extreme cold environments
 - Lander interface

Parameter	1 st Stage / 2 nd Stage
GLOM	374 kg
Reserve Mass	5 kg
Payload	18 kg
Avionics & Telecom	10 kg
Power	0.5 kg
Vehicle Structure & Thermal	31 kg
Propellant	263 kg
Prop. Dry Mass	47 kg
ΔV	Appx. 4000 m/s
Total Impulse	620,730 Ns / 113,230 Ns
Specific Impulse	291 s
Average Thrust	13,794 / 4,355 N





Mars Ascent Vehicle Study



MAV Concept Comparison

- *Hybrid and Solid concepts show similar Gross Lift-off Mass (GLOM)*
- *Structures estimates are preliminary*
- *Further characterization of cold performance needed*
 - Hybrid potentially stores and performs better
- *Hybrid concept shows higher efficiency*
- *Solid shows higher TRL*
 - Extensive heritage in tactical systems and space missions

Parameter	Hybrid MAV	Solid MAV
GLOM	372 kg	374 kg
Reserve Mass	5 kg	5 kg
Payload	18 kg	18 kg
Avionics & Telecom	4 kg	10 kg
Power	0.4 kg	0.5 kg
Vehicle Structure & Thermal	12 kg	31 kg
Propellant	296 kg	263 kg
Prop. Dry Mass	36 kg	47 kg
ΔV	Appx. 4000 m/s	Appx. 4000 m/s
Total Impulse	824,300 Ns	620,730 Ns / 113,230 Ns
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Mars Ascent Vehicle Study



Interface Challenges and Mission Architecture Considerations

- *Interface with lander must continue to be studied and negotiated*
 - Structural supports and launch guides
 - Mass and volume constraints
 - Power constraints
- *Interface with Orbiting Sample (OS) and MAV Payload Assembly (MPA) still being studied*
- *Clarification of mission timelines*
 - Narrow expected storage and operational environments
- *Further integration of MAV study team into larger Mars Sample Retrieval study to stay abreast of changes to lander design, constraints, and assumptions*



Mars Ascent Vehicle Study



Ongoing and Future Studies

- *Propulsion system selection is expected to be made in 2019*
- *MSFC is currently running a preliminary architecture assessment in support of the propulsion system selection*
 - Concepts for MAV using each propulsion system are being developed in parallel
 - Mass, power, and cost estimates will be developed, and provided to the decision makers



Mars Ascent Vehicle Study



Acknowledgments

- MSFC MAV Project team
- MSR and MAV design teams at JPL
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