



Hypersonic Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerators Technology Development Overview

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Technology Conference and Seminar**

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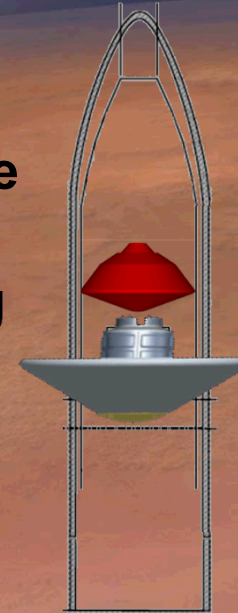
Outline

- Introduction and Background
- Current Organizational Structure
- Flexible System Development (FSD)
- Advanced Entry Concepts (AEC)
- Flight Projects
- Conclusions and Future Work



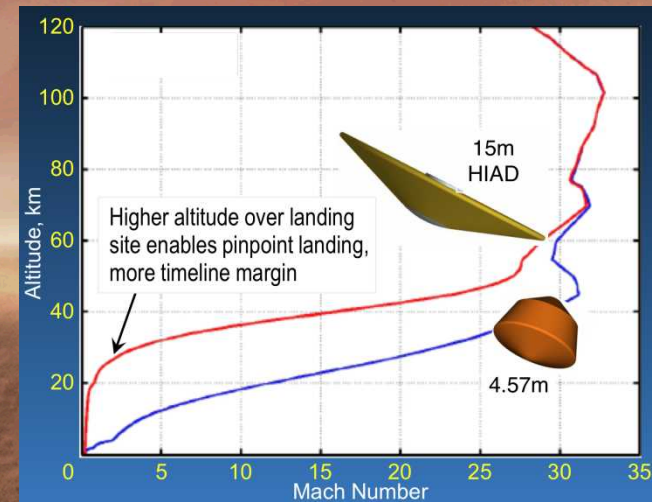
Motivation for HIAD

- **High ballistic coefficient makes it difficult to** lift large masses and limits accessible altitudes. Science payload size and site altitude are limited by Viking EDL architecture
- **Aeroshell size limited by Launch Vehicle fairing**
- **Improved payload access**
- **After inflation, HIADs behave like a rigid device**
 - Aerodynamics are scalable
 - HIADs are lighter – increasing delivered payload
- **Lower ballistic coefficient from increased drag area allows higher altitude deceleration (aerocapture or entry) leading to reduced heat rates, access to higher surface elevations, & increase in landed mass timeline margin**
- **Crewed EDL at Mars can benefit from reductions in ballistic coefficient**



MSL	HEART
3300 kg	3500 kg
4.5 m Dia	8.5 m Dia
125 kg/m ²	40 kg/m ²

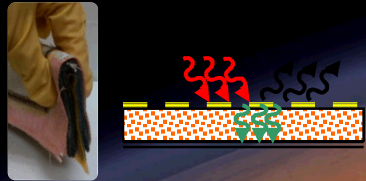
Comparable Entry Masses



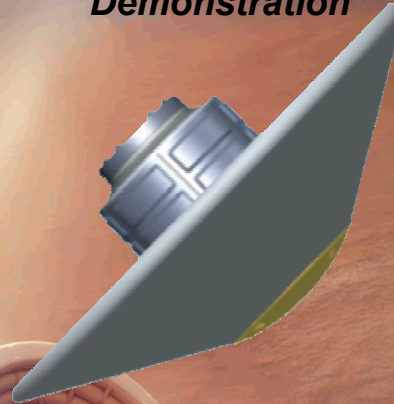


Vision for HIAD Mission Infusion

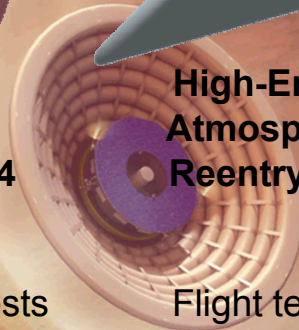
Sub-orbital Flight Testing



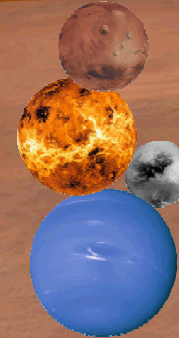
System Demonstration



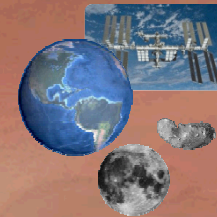
High-Energy Atmospheric Reentry Test



6-25 meter HIAD Class



- Robotic Missions (entry or aerocapture):*
- Mars
 - Venus
 - Titan
 - Neptune (and other gas giants)



- Robotic or Crewed Earth Return (entry or aerocapture):*
- LEO (including ISS)
 - GEO, NEO, Lunar



DoD Applications

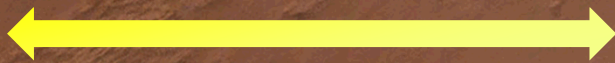


Technology Development & Risk Reduction for Human Mars Missions

Development and ground testing of HIAD components.

Sub-orbital flight tests on a cost-effective test platform (heating, lift, maneuverability).

Flight test to demonstrate system performance at relevant scales and environments.



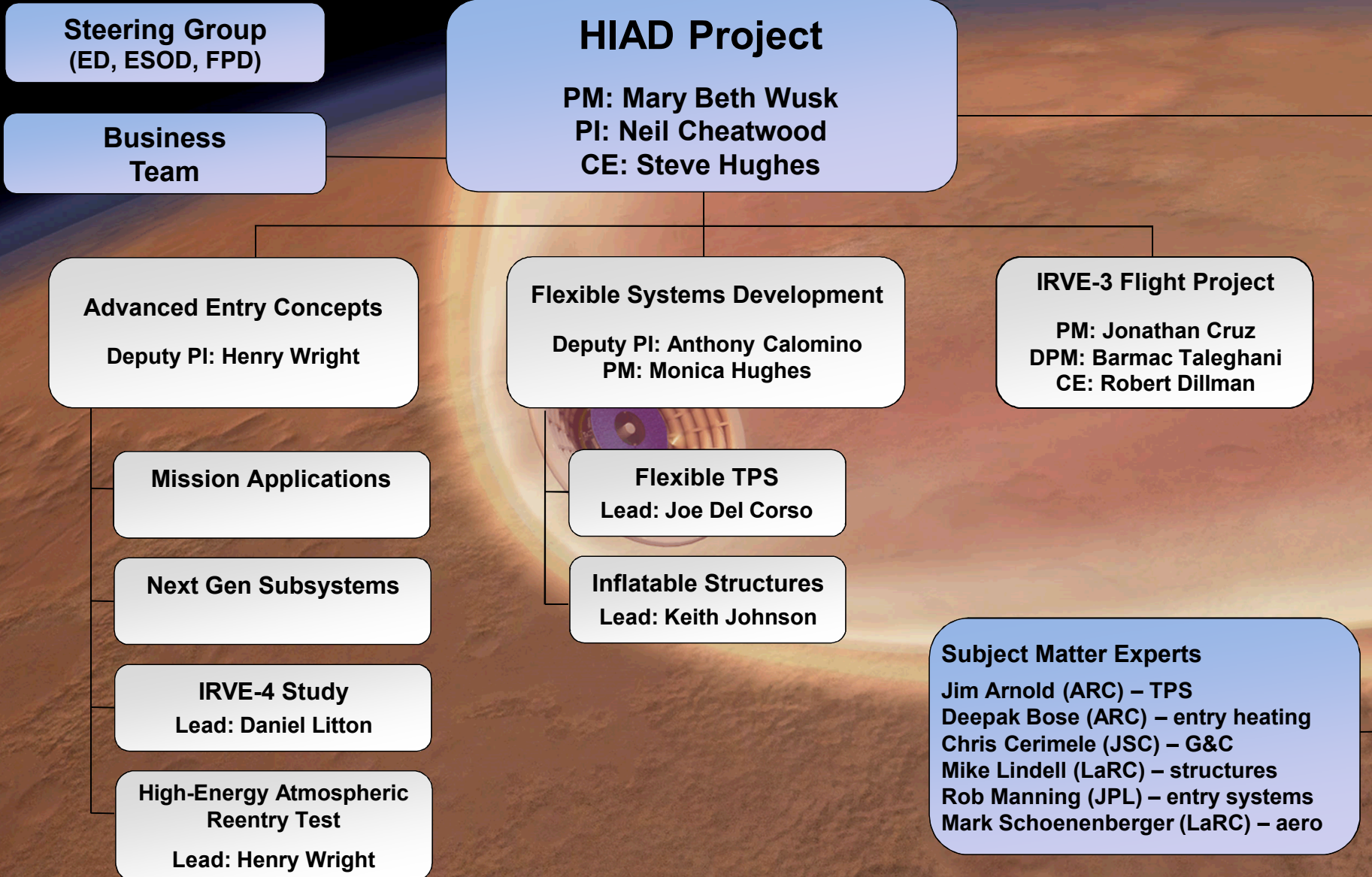
Proposed initial GCT investment spans these elements

Potential on-ramps for future investments.





HIAD Organization Structure





FSD Flexible TPS

- **Thermal Testing**
 - High Temperature Tunnel
 - Hardened Materials Exposure Lab
 - ARC Panel Test Facility
 - JSC Test Position 2
 - Boeing Large Core Arc Tunnel
- **Materials Testing and Characterization**
 - Age Testing
 - Surface Catalycity
- **Physics Based Modeling**
 - Radiative Characterization
 - Pyrolysis Characterization
 - Analytical Model Development





Flexible TPS Development

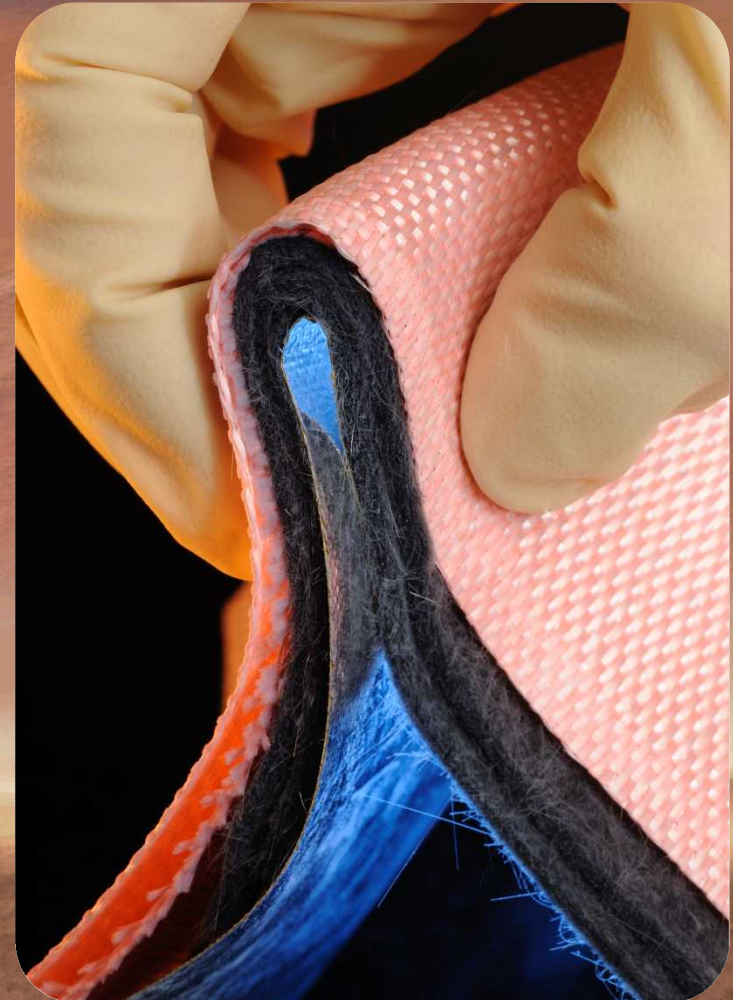
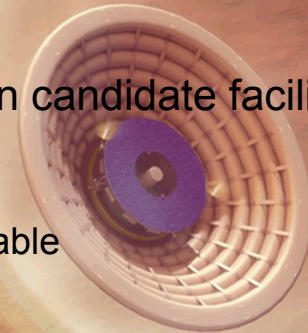
- Aerogel
- Kapton/Kevlar Laminate
- Developmental Materials
 - SiC Fabric
 - Polyimide Aerogel

Testing Approach

- Develop techniques for testing in candidate facilities
 - Mounting Configuration
 - Coupon Size
 - Aerothermal environments achievable
 - Age tested samples

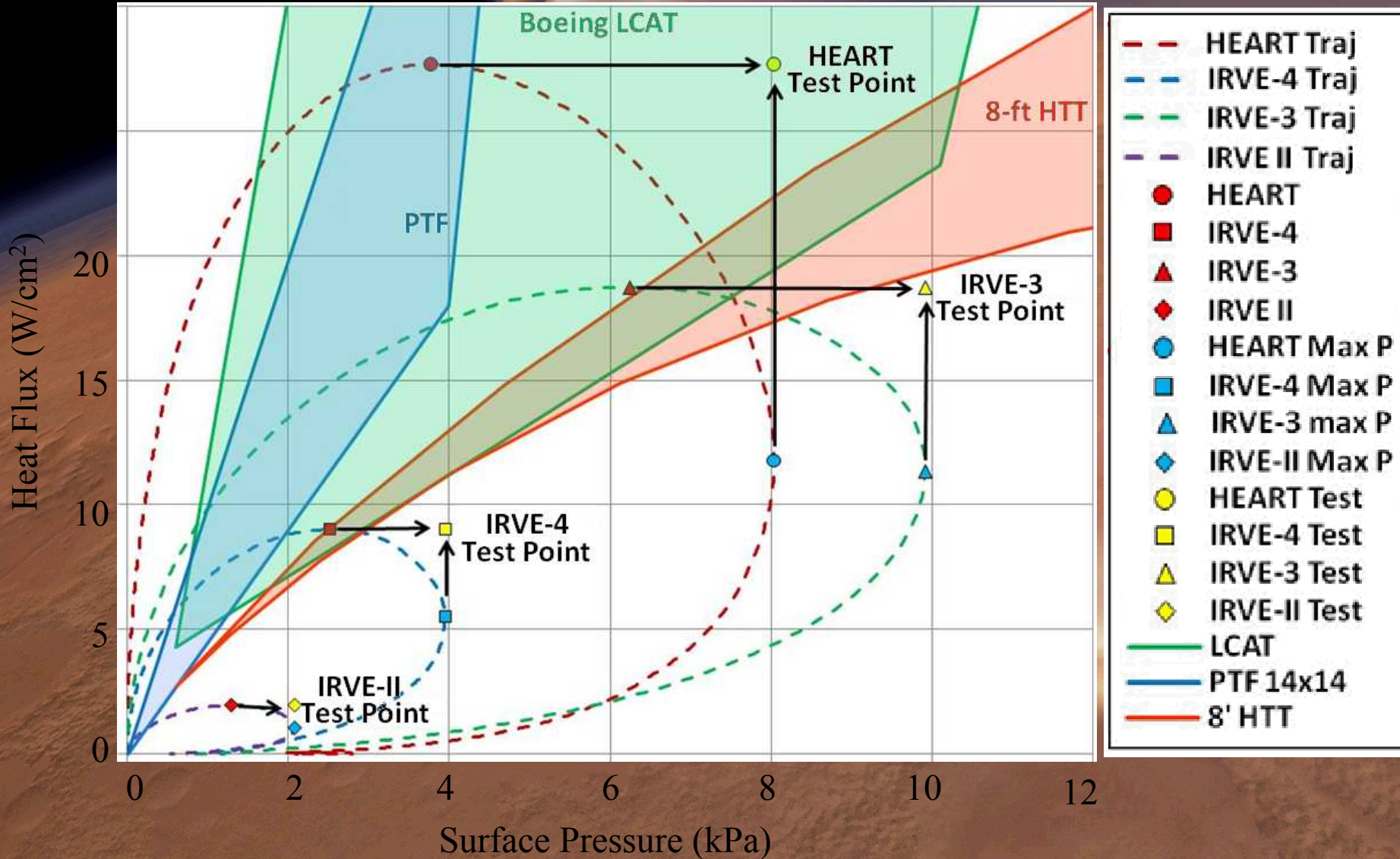
Testing Products

- Performance data to validate modeling efforts
- IRVE-3 TPS & Instrumentation Qualification
- TPS Feature Testing
- Relative performance of materials in different facilities
- Relative performance of developmental materials to baseline materials



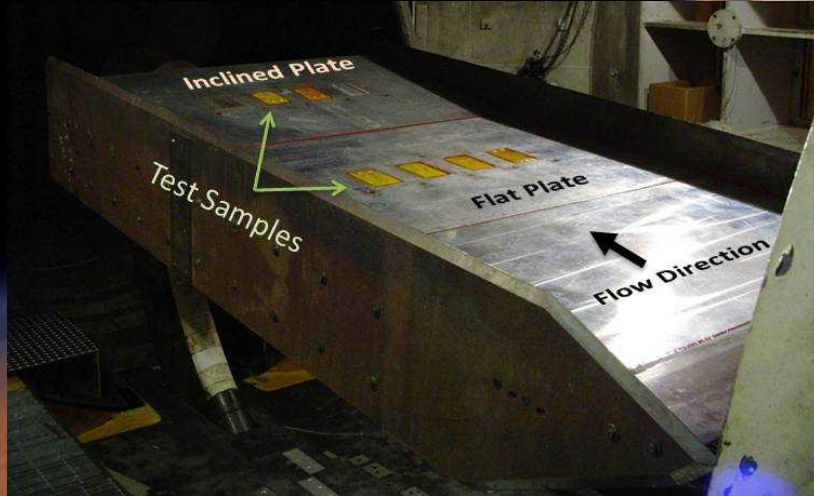


Mission Profiles/Facility Envelopes

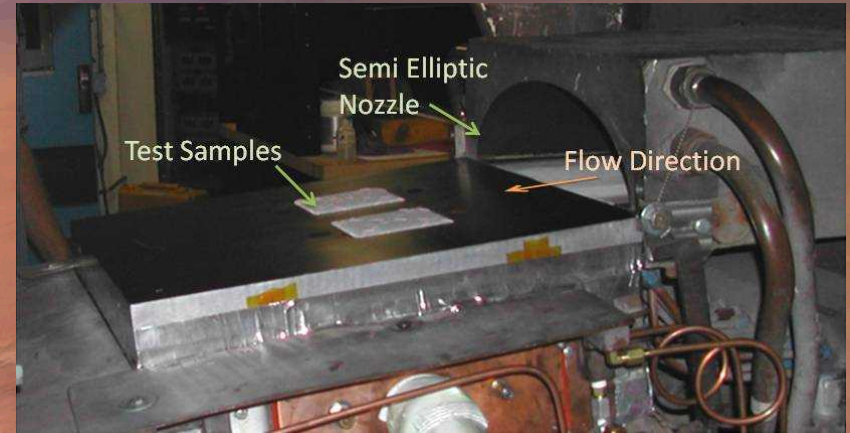




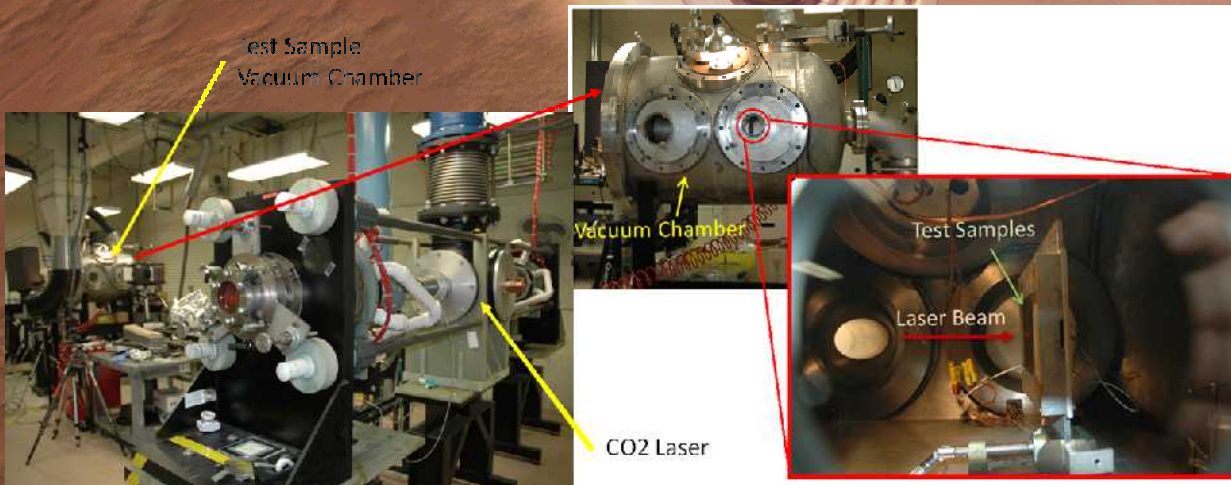
FTPS Test Facilities



8ft High Temperature Tunnel



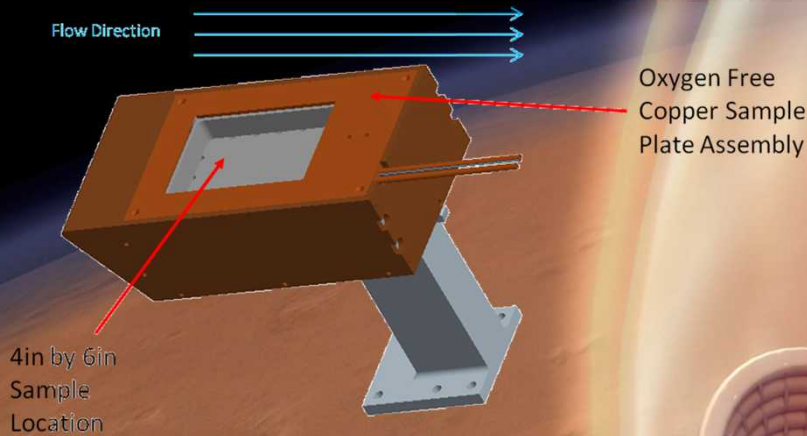
Panel Test Facility



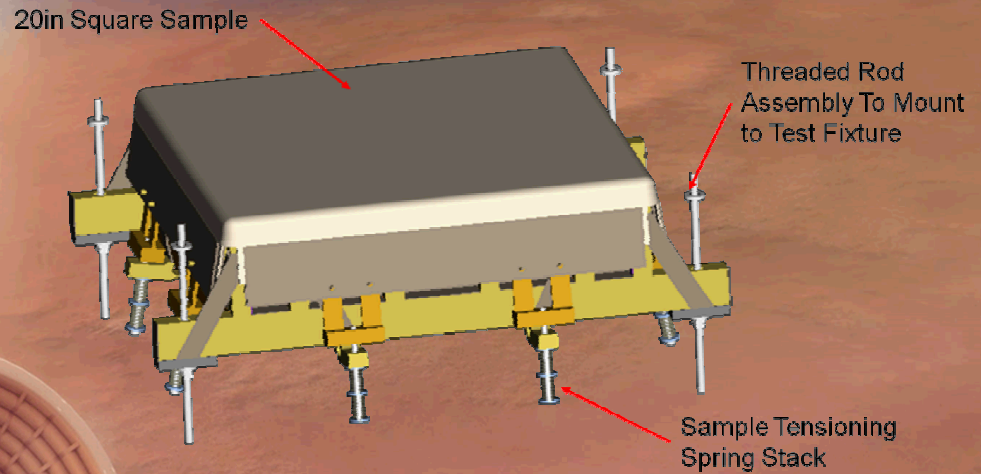
Laser Hardened Materials Exposure Lab



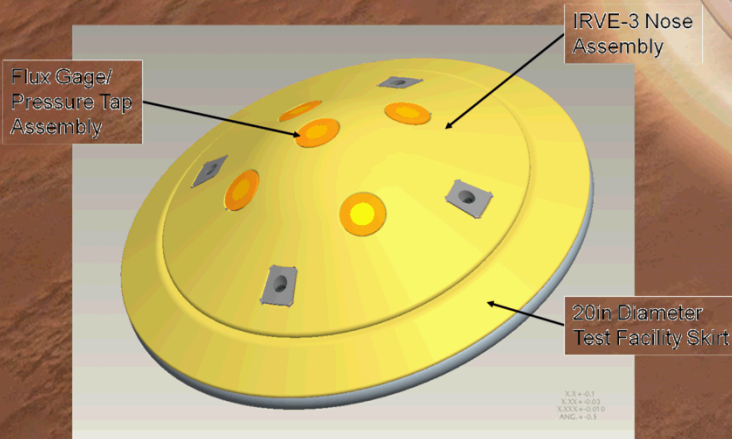
FTPS Test Facilities (Cont)



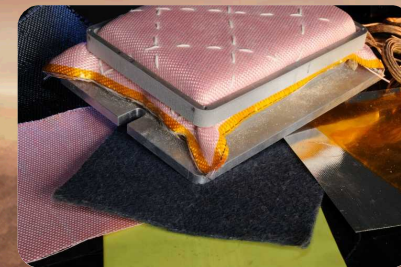
Boeing Large Core Arc Tunnel



8ft HTT Large 2ft Sample Holder



JSC Test Position 2



8ft HTT Large 4in by 6in Sample Holder



FSD Inflatable Structure

- Structural Testing (Acceptance)
- Full Scale Aerodynamics Complex
 - 6m, 3m IRVE-3 EDU, 8m
- Modal Testing
- **Materials Strength Testing**
 - Strap Load Testing
 - Room Temperature
 - Elevated Temperature
 - Fabric Biaxial Load Testing
 - Tension Torsion Testing Inflated Tubes
 - Higher temperature capable candidate materials





LSA Testing

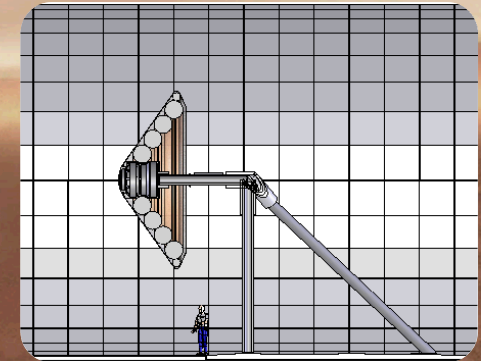
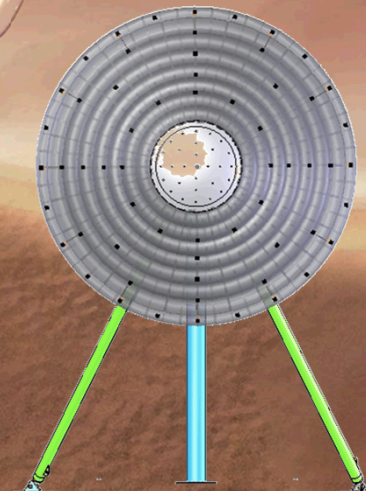
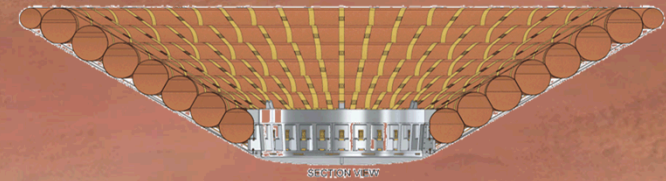
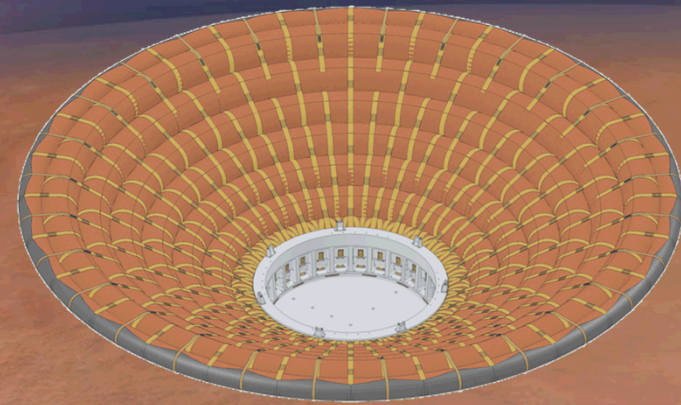
- 1.5m Centerbody derived from HEART concept
- 1.5m Centerbody Pressure taps
- Inflatable Structure derived from IRVE-3
- Aerodynamic Skin
 - Photogrammetry
 - Pressure Taps
- 3m IRVE-3 EDU
 - IRVE-3 EDU Centerbody interface
 - Aerodynamic Skin
 - Photogrammetry
 - No Pressure Taps

Testing Approach

- Matrix of Dynamic Pressure, Internal Pressure, and Angle of attack

Testing Products

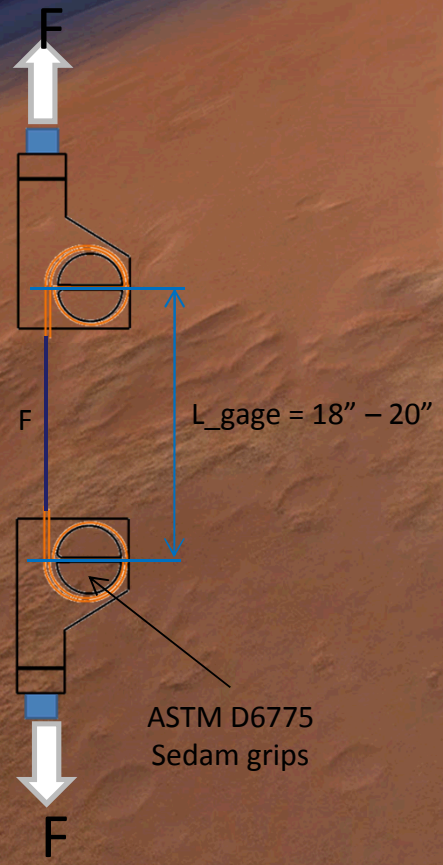
- Large scale construction Demonstration
- LS-DYNA Model validated with photogrammetry
- CFD validated with photogrammetry and pressure data
- Centerbody to Inflatable Structure interface stiffness
- Instrumentation Pathfinder





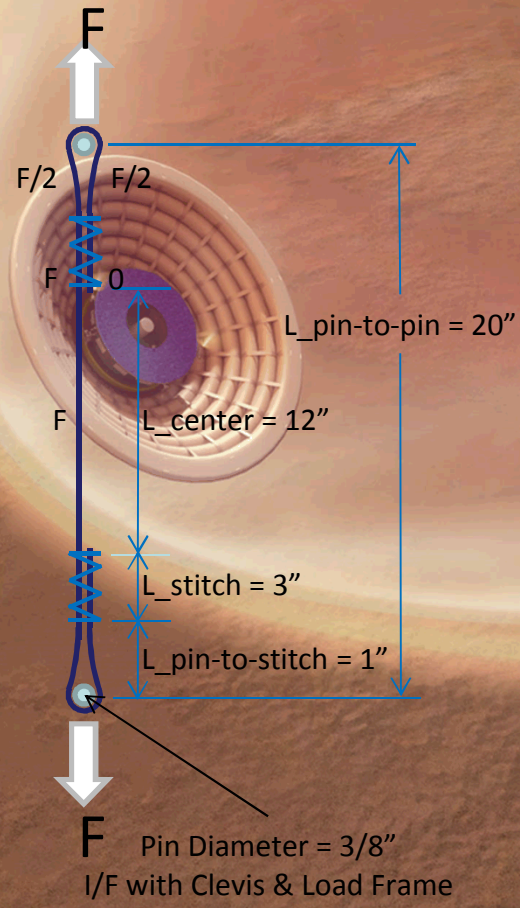
MST - Strap Testing Configurations

Strap Widths: 1.75" (4K UTS) & 2" (2K UTS)
Total Strap Length (per test): 68"



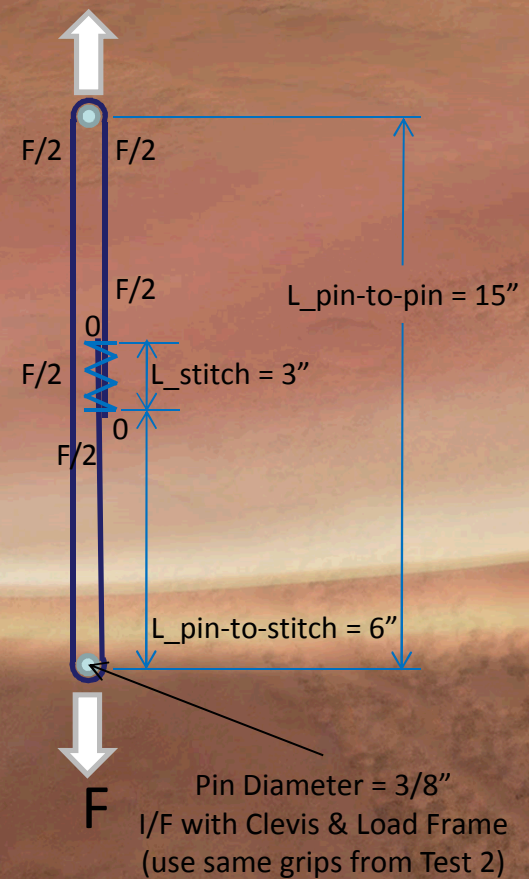
TEST 2: Frame Stitch Strength Testing

RT, 150C, 300C
Strap Width: 1.75" (4K UTS)
Total Strap Length (per test): 31"



TEST 3: Lap Stitch Strength Testing

RT, 150C, 300C
Strap Widths: 1.75" (4K UTS) & 2" (2K UTS)
Total Strap Length (per test): 35"





NextGen Subsystems: Plans Forward

Alternate shapes

- Deployable mass
- Articulating mass boom
- Alternate shapes
 - ✓ Sharper shoulders, ellipsoidal noses, hyperboloids
 - ✓ Asymmetric shapes
 - ✓ Gnoffo ideas
 - ✓ Pre-stressed shapes (flex under load to desired shape)

Alternate test methods for large articles

- Balloon drop of >8m at subsonic
- Balloon drop rocket-assist of >8m
- Advanced lab testing

G&C

- Two lift knobs (direction & magnitude)

NextGen structures

- Rib and stringer
- Rigidizable
- Radial boom behind stacked torroids

Inflation systems

Staged aeroshells

- Dual use bladders with two single-use TPS
- Drop TPS after q-pulse for supersonic
- Deploy additional area after q-pulse
- Drop outer torroids (bladder and TPS) after aerocapture before 2nd entry



Mission Applications: Plans Forward

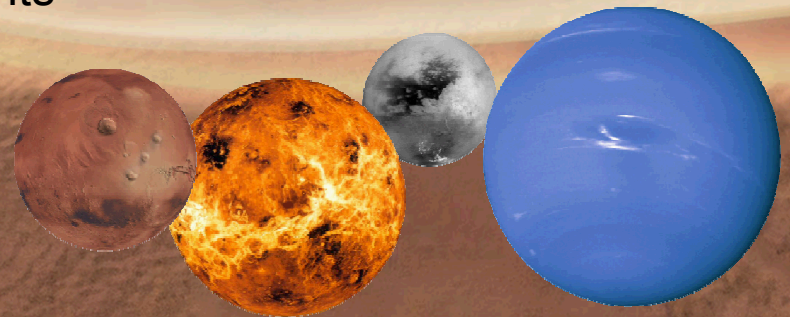
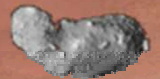
What technologies provide most advances?

How do flowfield uncertainties really drive the design?

What-if scenarios (impact of 2X decrease in insulation areal weight, 50% increase in bladder operating T, etc.) to guide future investments.

• Mission Applications

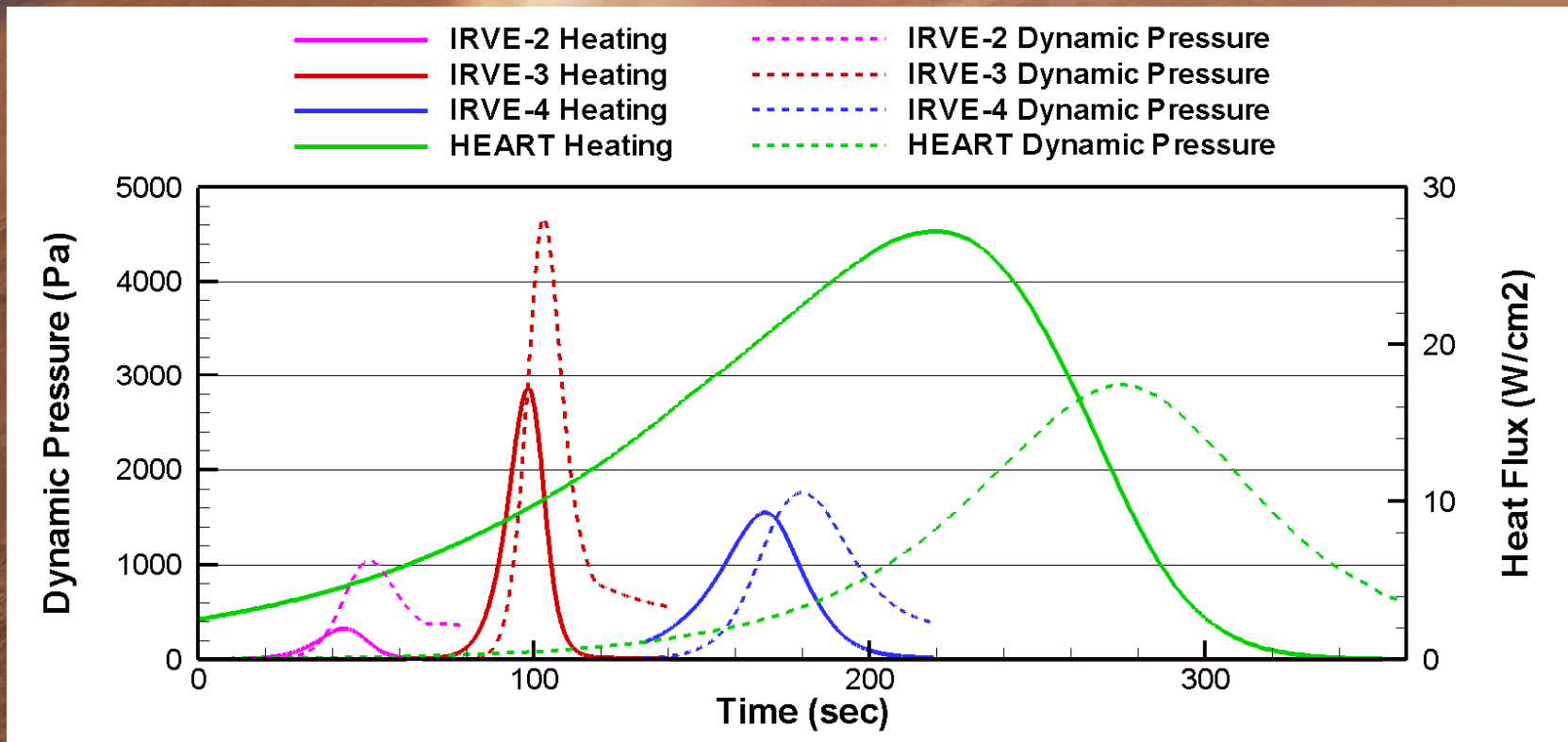
- ISS downmass
- LV booster recovery
- Earth return of humans from LEO, GEO, lunar, NEO, etc.
- Sample return from Mars, comets, etc.
- Robotic entry at Mars, Venus, Titan, gas giants
- Human-scale entry at Mars





Progression of HIAD Development Flights

	IRVE-II	IRVE-3	IRVE-4	HEART
Peak Heating (W/cm ²)	2	16	7	30
Dynamic Pressure (kPa)	1.2	4.7	2	4
Angle of Attack (deg)	0	7	10	0
Diameter (meters)	3	3	3	8.5



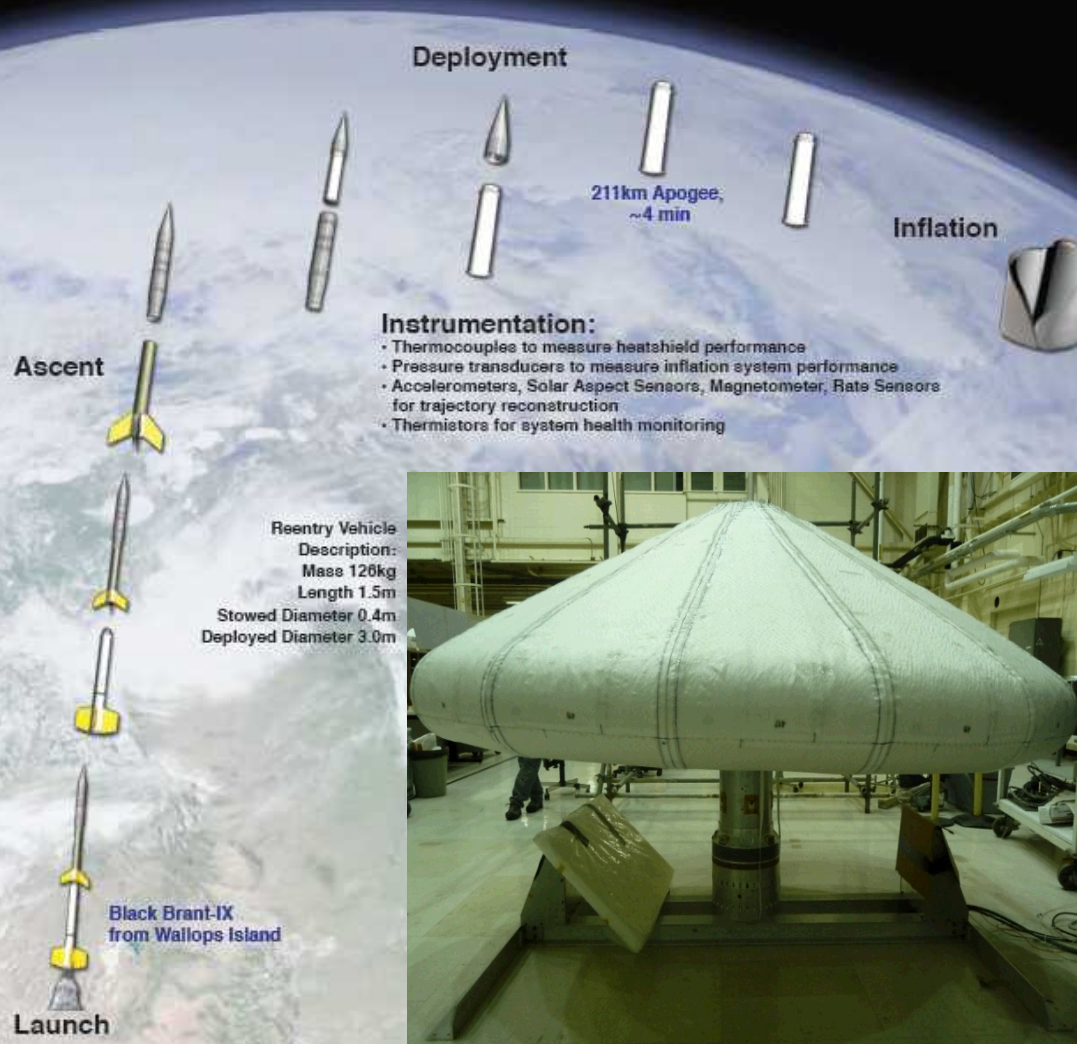


First Fully Successful Reentry HIAD Flight Demo



IRVE-II (Inflatable Reentry Vehicle Experiment) Mission

Developing Cutting Edge Technology for Atmospheric Reentry



Instrumentation:

- Thermocouples to measure heatshield performance
- Pressure transducers to measure inflation system performance
- Accelerometers, Solar Aspect Sensors, Magnetometer, Rate Sensors for trajectory reconstruction
- Thermistors for system health monitoring



Mission Objectives Achieved:

- ✓ Demonstrated inflation and survival
- ✓ Verified predicted thermal and drag performance
- ✓ Collected data and validated design and performance predictions

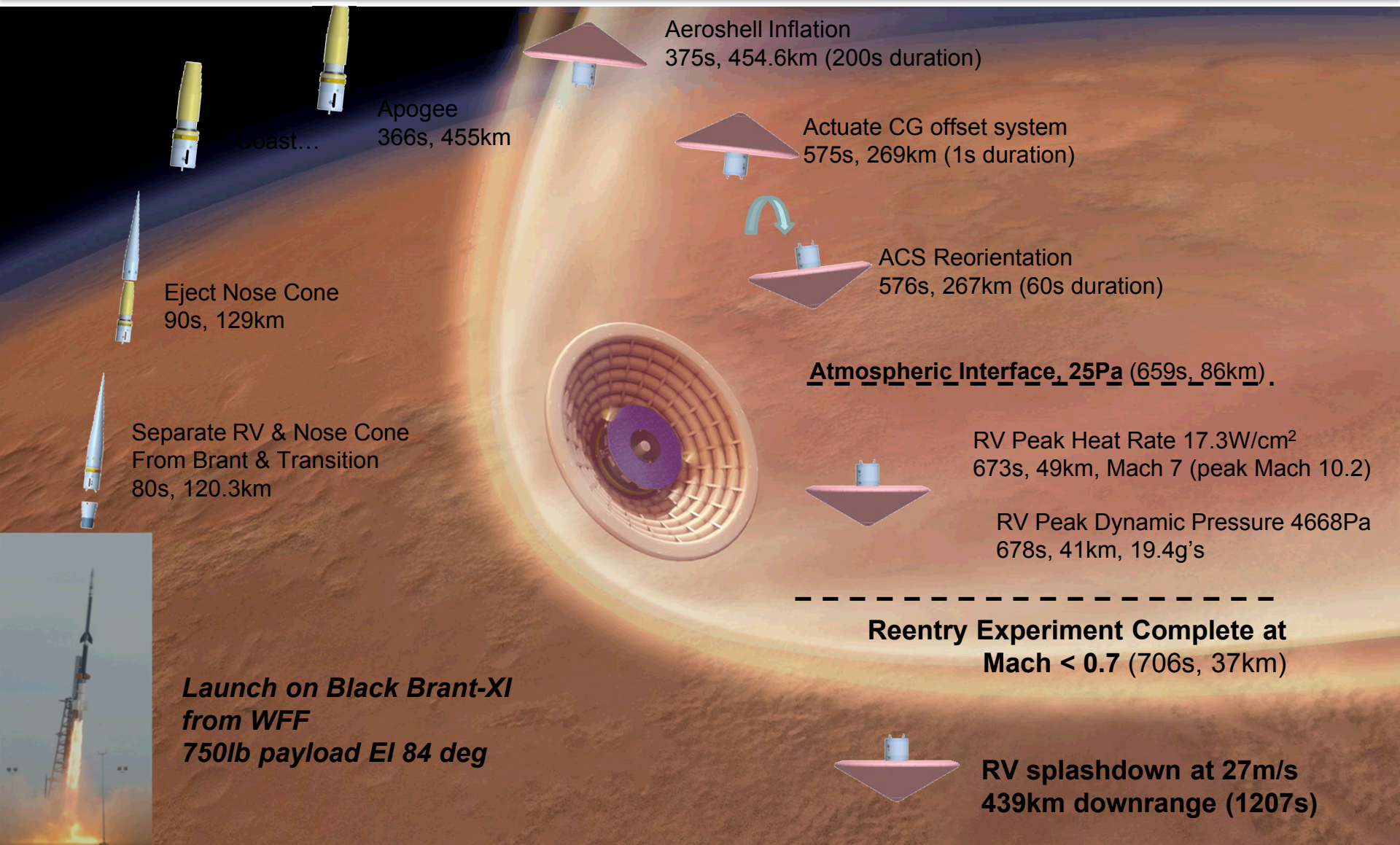
Benefits of Inflatables vs. Rigid Reentry Shells:

- More usable volume in existing shroud space
- Increased payload mass to the planet surface for given set of reentry conditions
- Access to payload in the launch vehicle once configured for launch
- Payload systems available for use during interplanetary cruise phase





IRVE-3 Mission Concept





IRVE-3 Design Overview

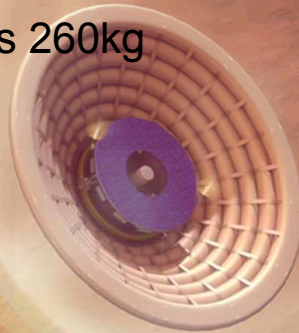
• Inflatable aeroshell with flexible TPS on forward surface
• Body houses inflation system, CG offset mechanism, telemetry module, power system (batteries), ACS, cameras

- Inflatable aeroshell stows inside 22" diameter nose cone for launch
- Restraint cover holds aeroshell in place; pyrotechnic release in flight
- Inflation system fills aeroshell from 3000 psi Nitrogen tank
- Attitude control system uses cold Argon thrusters to reorient for entry
- CG Offset mechanism allows evaluation of inflatable aeroshell L/D
- Target RV mass 260kg

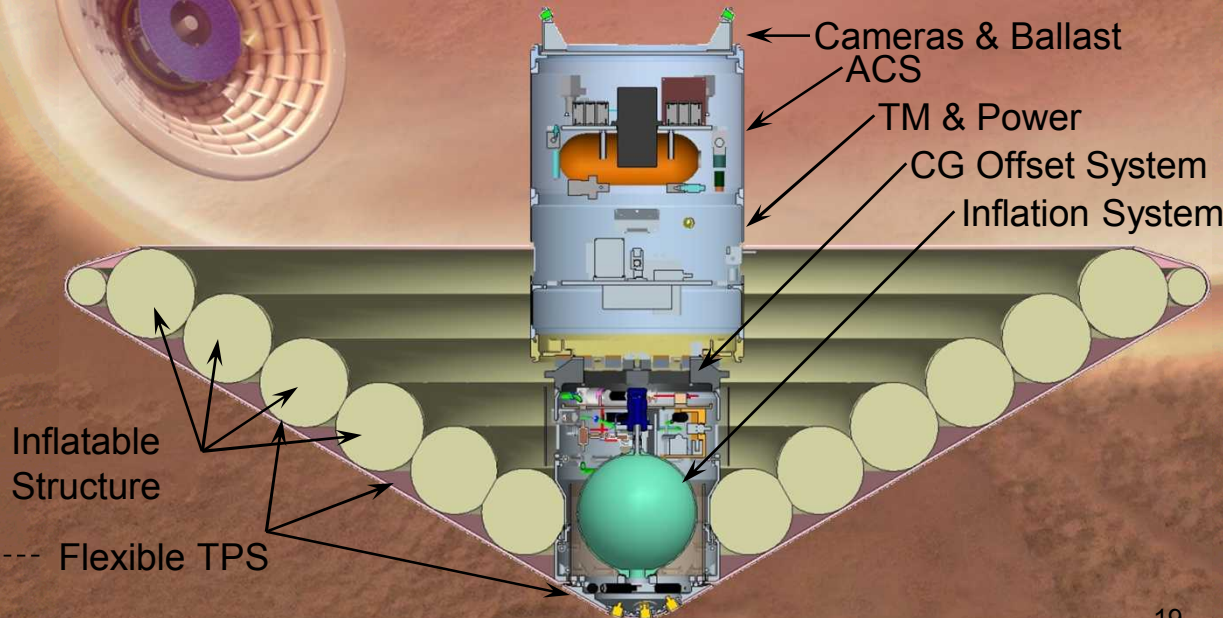
TPS Layup

1 mil Kapton
5 mil Kevlar
1 mil Kapton
118 mil Pyrogel 3350
118 mil Pyrogel 3350
20 mil Nextel 440 BF-20
20 mil Nextel 440 BF-20

Aeroheating and Dynamic Pressure



Deployed (3m diam)





HEART Reference Concept Description

Reference Concepts of the HIAD Development Project to demonstrate the performance and survivability of an integrated low ballistic coefficient entry vehicle in a relevant environment

Entry Vehicle

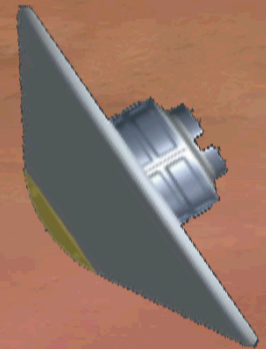
- Single 7 - 9 m diameter HIAD (8.5 m nominal)
- 55 to 65 degree sphere cone – stacked torus (55 degree nominal)
- Entry – mass ~3300 – 3500 kg; Ballistic Coefficient ~45 kg/m²
- Ballistic entry – 0 degree AoA

• Entry Environments – Initial Limits

- Peak heat rate – 25 to 35 W/cm²
- Peak dynamic pressure – 4800 Pa

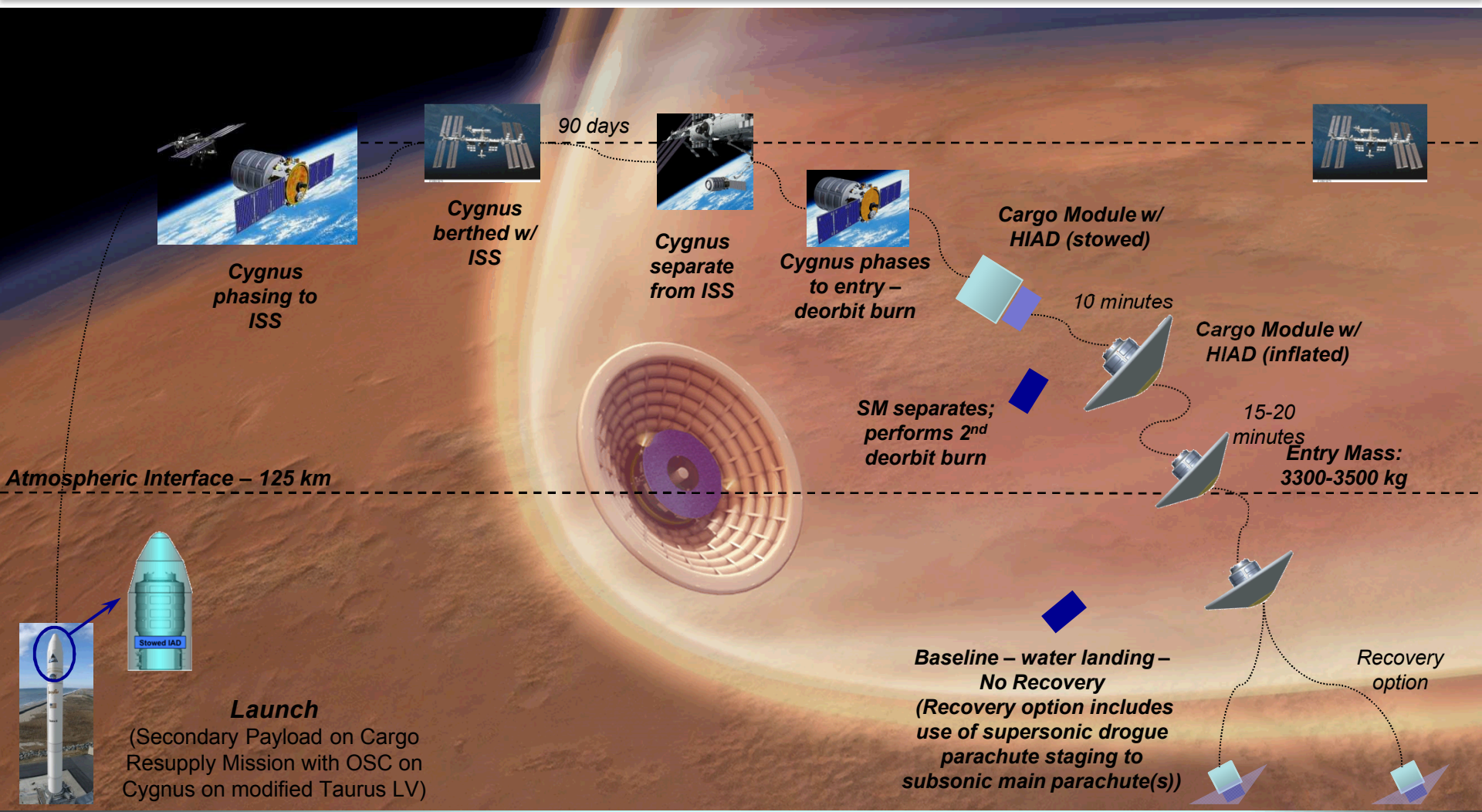
• Launch, Orbit, De-orbit

- Integrated with the Orbital Sciences Corp Cygnus module as part of the ISS Cargo Resupply Service
- NASA – OSC Data Exchange SAA in Signature Loop
- Launch on Enhanced Taurus II
- Cygnus berths with ISS – up to 90 days
- Cygnus performs all maneuvering
- Entry from LEO – 7.6 km/s
- HIAD returns Pressurized Cargo Module



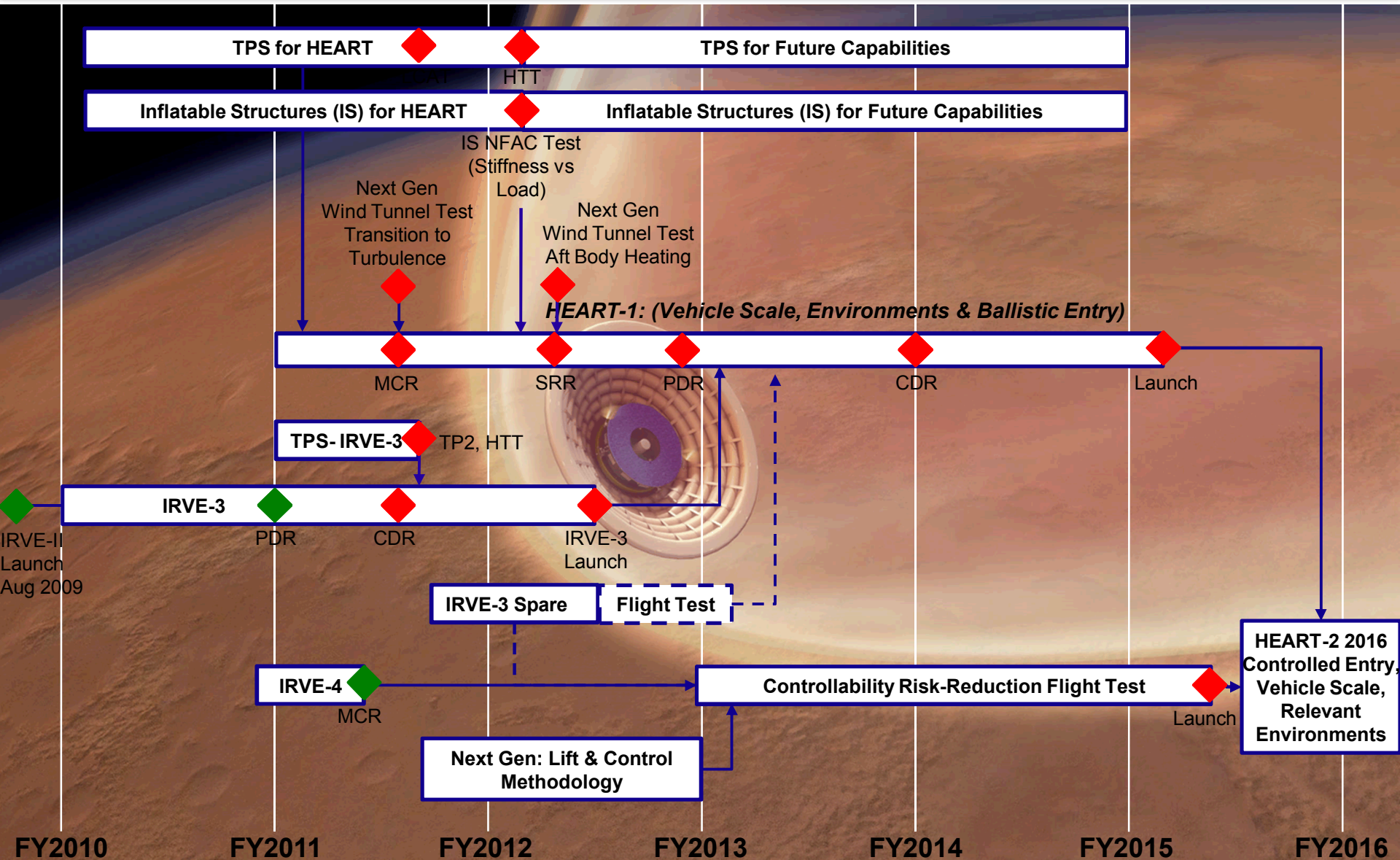


HEART Concept of Operations





HIAD Project Infusion Strategy





Summary/Next Steps

- **Develop large-scale Inflatables development demonstrating robotic scale capabilities with development path to larger scales**
- **Flight test to demonstrate IAD Technology in a relevant environment**
- **HEART flight test to demonstrate IAD Technology at a relevant environment AND scale**
- **Team focused on achieving FY11/FY12 milestones**
 - IRVE-3: CDR (Jun), TP2 Testing (Jun), Complete System Test (Nov)
 - HEART: Peer Review (May), MCR (Jun), SRR (Nov), PDR (Aug/Sept 2012)
 - Transition to Turbulence Wind Tunnel Test (Jun)
 - Flexible TPS Testing: 8' HTT (May-Aug), LCAT (Jun)
 - IDIQ release (Aug)
 - Large-scale Inlatable Articles: 6-m (Sep 2011), 8.3-m (Nov 2011), NFAC Test (Jan/Feb 2012)