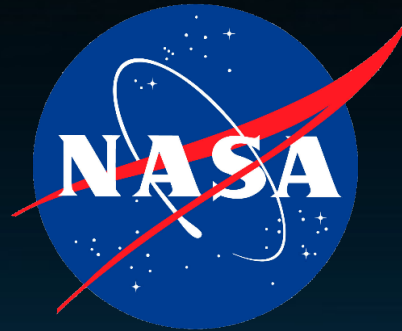


Becoming a NASA Engineer: A Journey

Meghan Chandarana, PhD



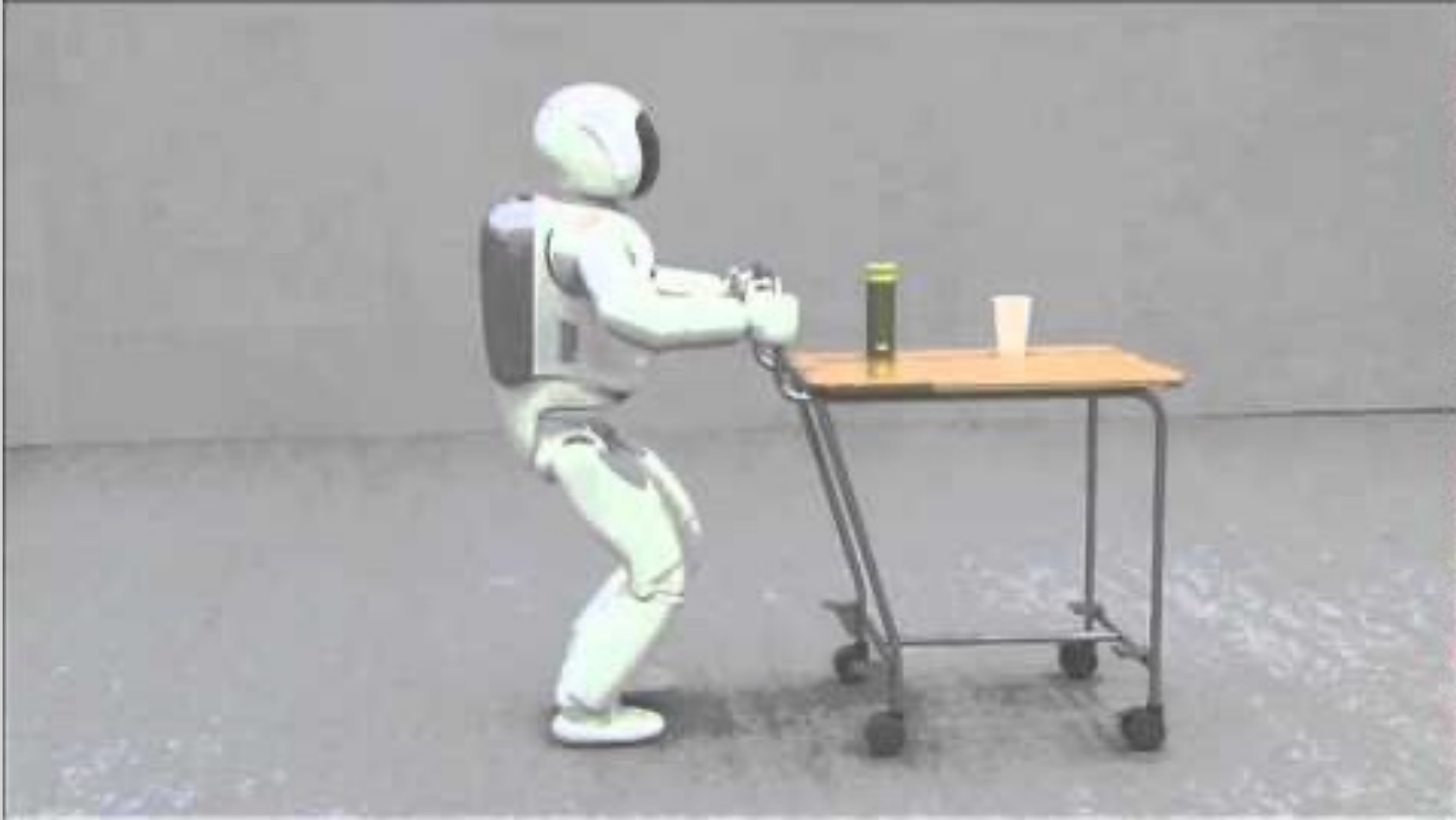
About Me

- **Name:** Meghan Chandarana
- **From:** California
- **Education:**
 - B.S. MechE from UC Berkeley
 - M.S./Ph.D. MechE from Carnegie Mellon University
- **Job:** Computer Engineer at Ames Research Center
 - Human-machine interaction
 - Robotics
- Worked at NASA since 2014 (4 summers, 3 years as civil servant)





Why Robotics?

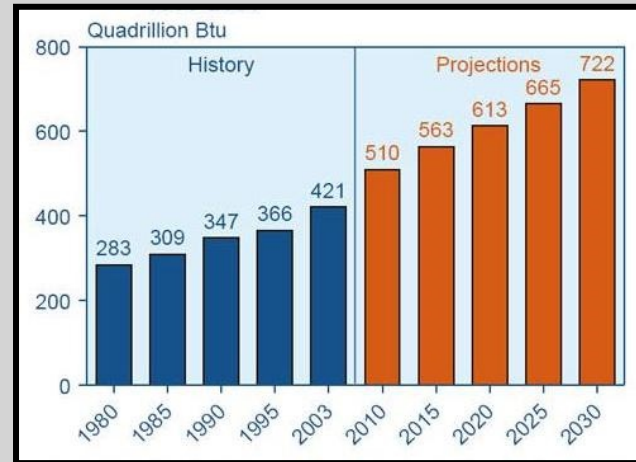




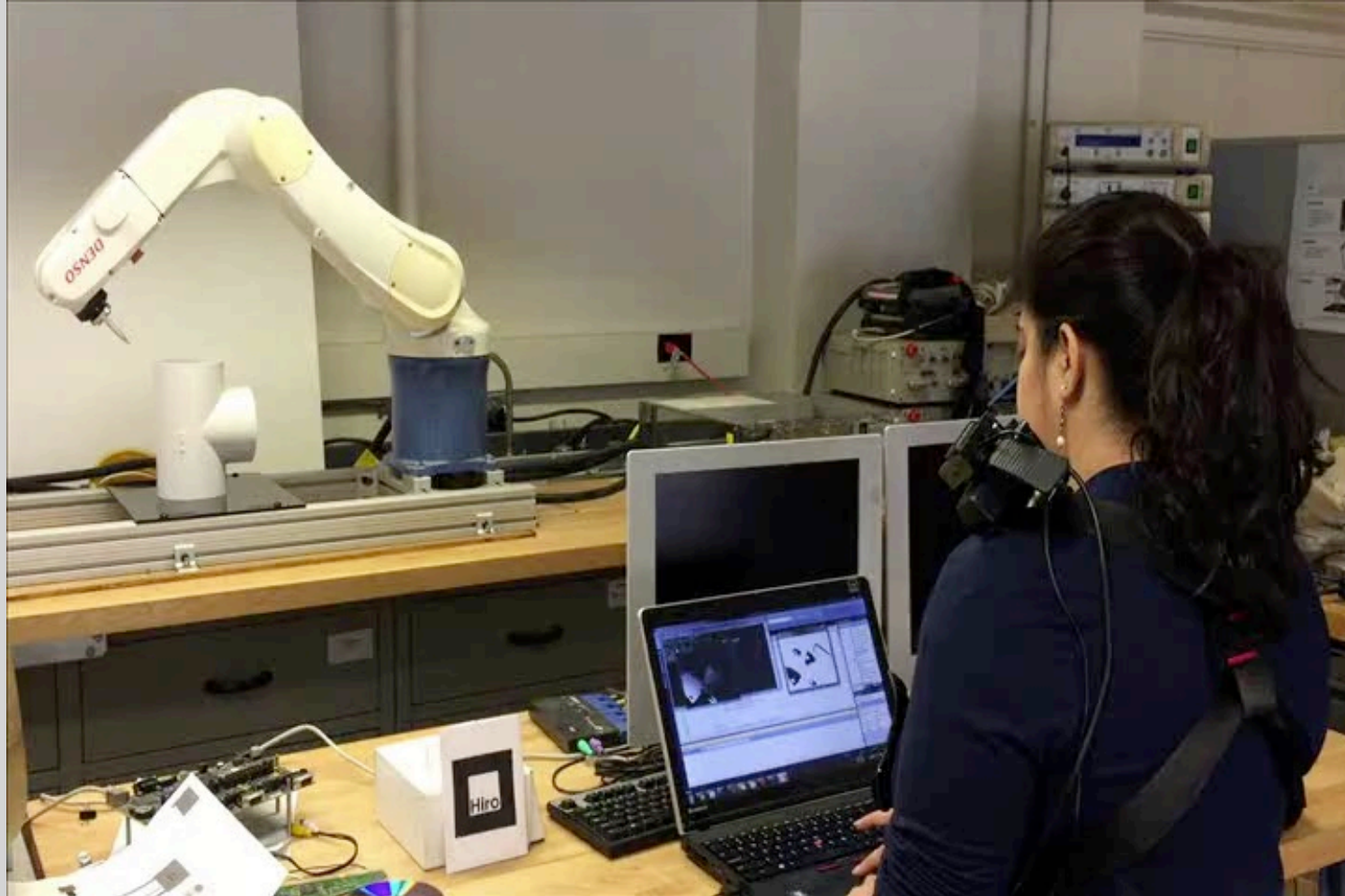
Tennis Dynamics - Mechanics



PV Cell - Controllers



Gesture Interface - Industrial Robot





NASA Internship - MSFC





Cubesat Gesture Interface

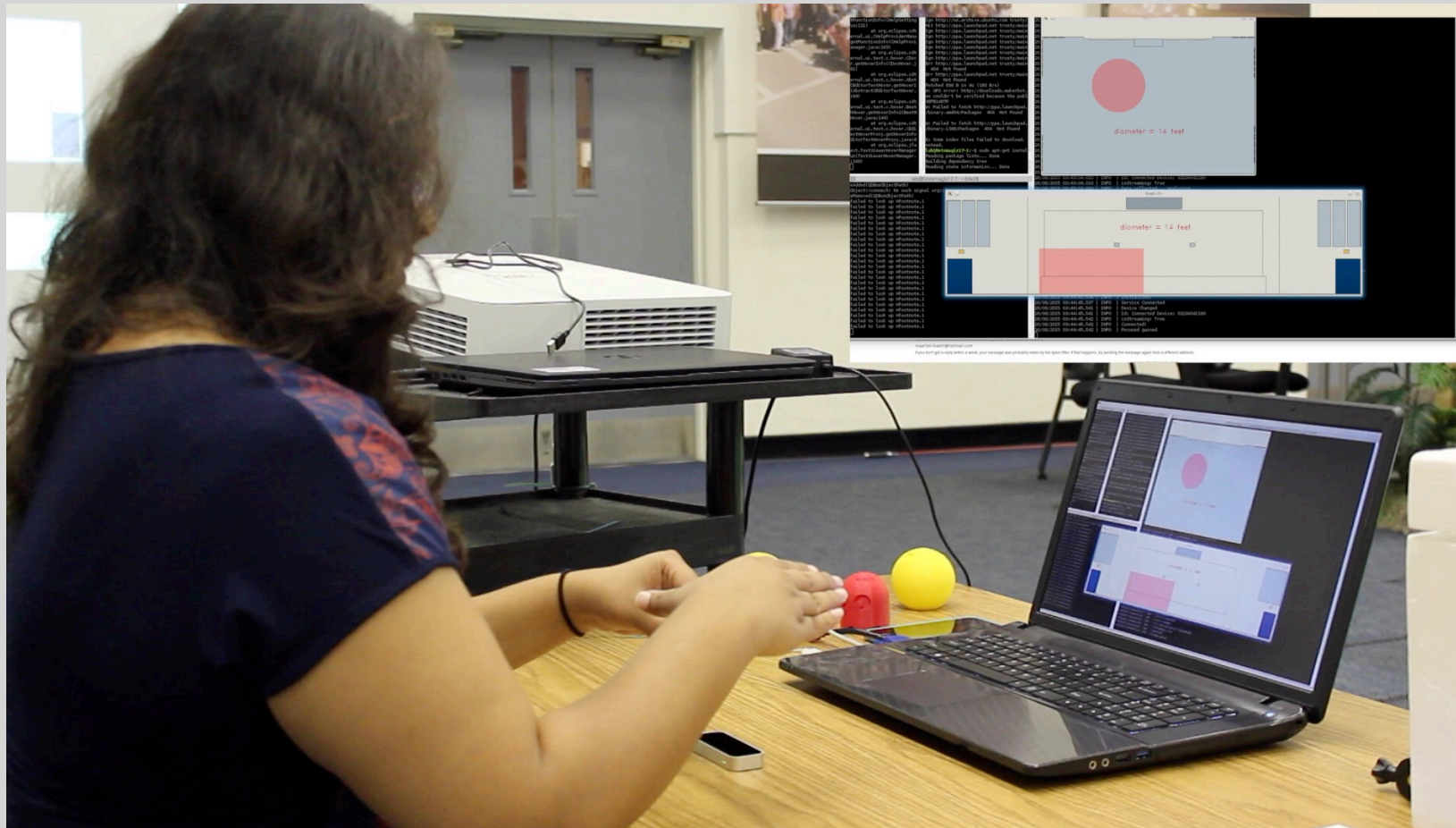




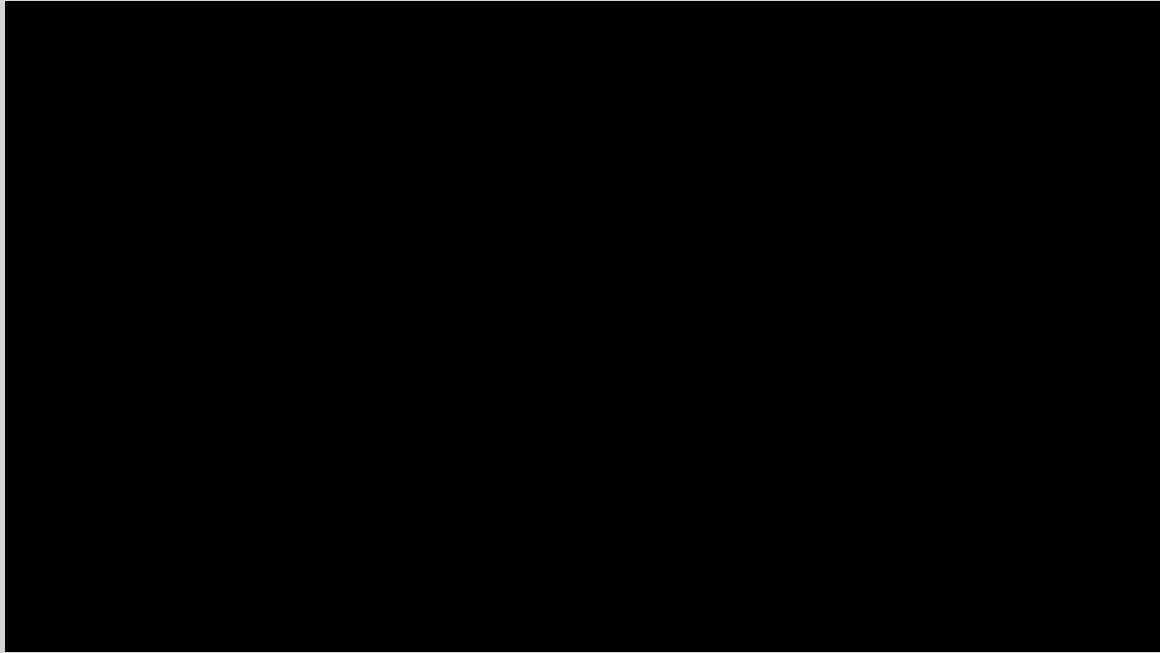
NASA Internship - LaRC



Gesture Interface - UAV



Swarm Robots

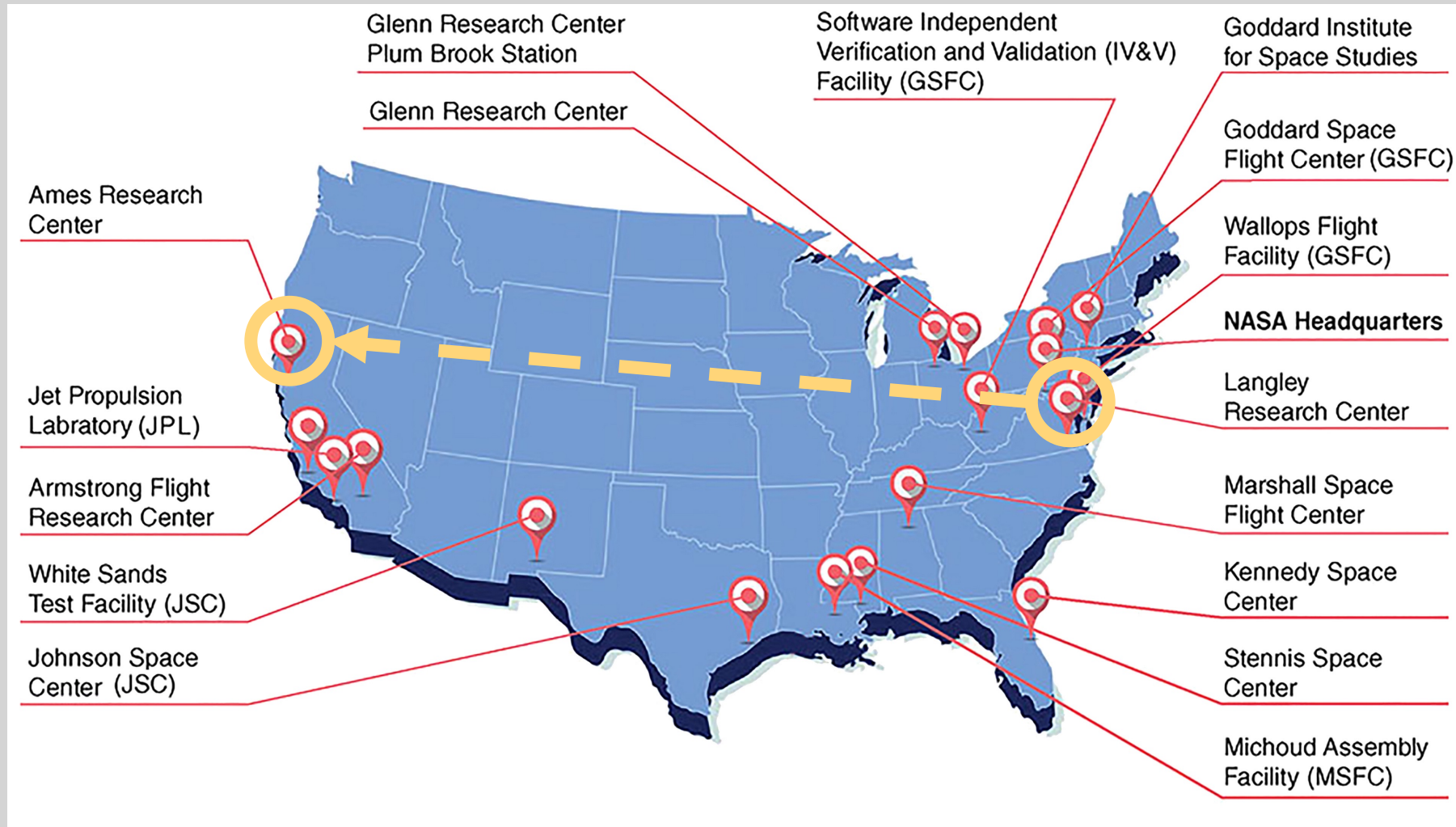


Ground Agents



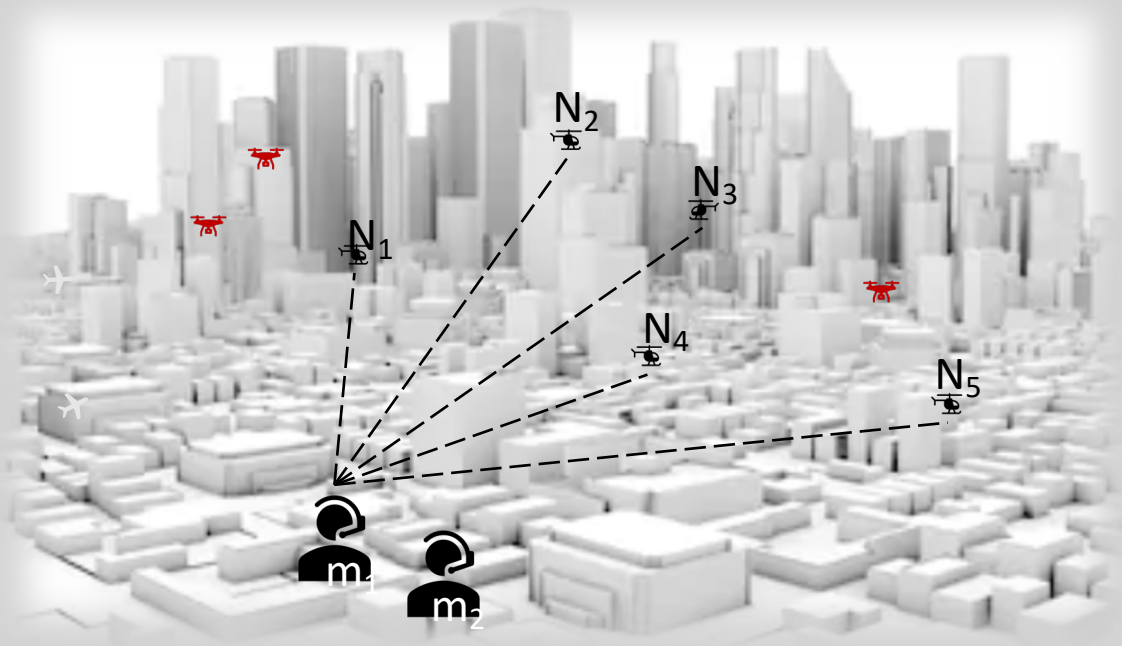
UAVs

Transferred to Ames



Current Projects

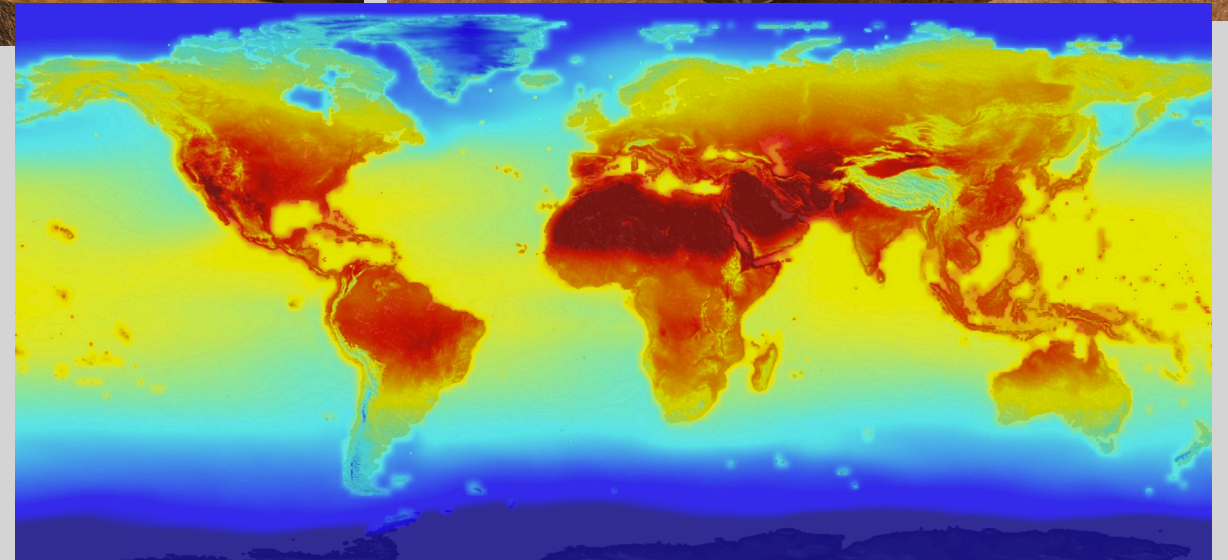
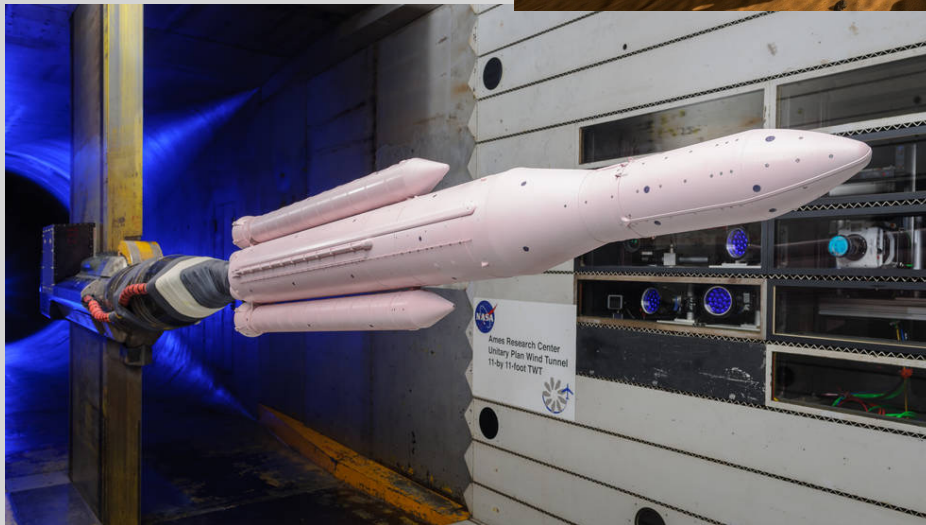
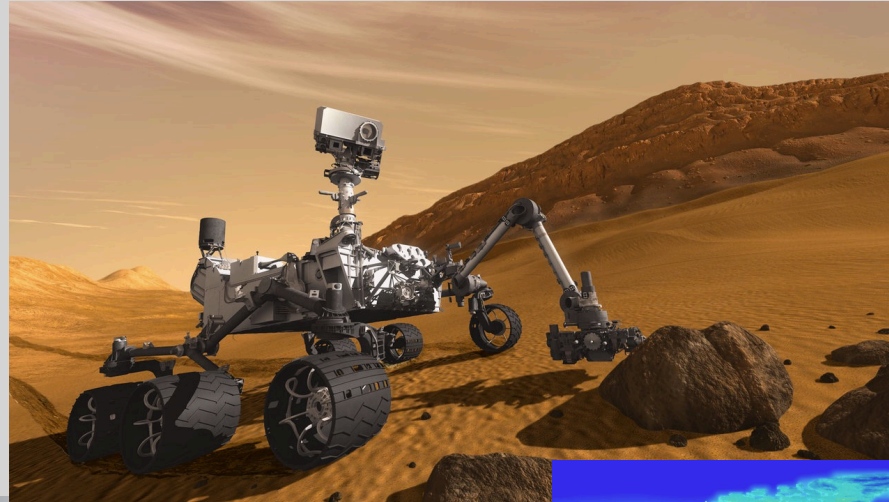
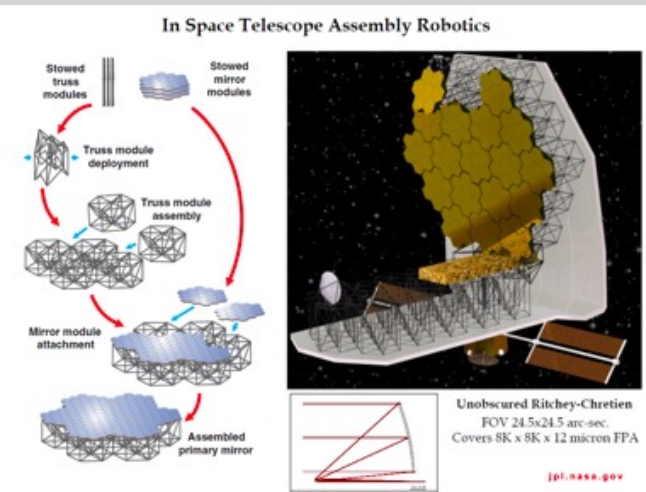
Transformational Tools and Technologies (TTT) - ARMD



Human Landing System (HLS) - Artemis Program



What other projects do NASA employees work on?



What does NASA look for?

- ✓ **Curiosity:** We are continually asking questions and seeking answers.
- ✓ **Team-oriented:** We come together as one to solve complex issues. Innovation is a staple, teamwork is a must, and everyone's opinion counts.
- ✓ **Excellence:** We are continuously striving to be better and to know more. We pursue excellence in both the ordinary and the extraordinary.
- ✓ **Passion for Exploration:** We are constantly embarking on a range of adventures to better understand our planet, the solar system, and beyond.
- ✓ **Agility:** We are comfortable working in ambiguous environments. We embrace change and are ready to adapt to what the future may bring.
- ✓ **Resilience:** When we put our minds to something—we don't give up.

MOST COMMON ENGINEERING FIELDS



AEROSPACE
ENGINEERS



ELECTRONICS
ENGINEERS



COMPUTER
ENGINEERS

MOST COMMON SCIENCE FIELDS



SPACE
SCIENTISTS



PHYSICAL
SCIENTISTS



LIFE
SCIENTISTS

MOST COMMON BUSINESS AREAS



CONTRACT
SPECIALISTS



FINANCIAL
ANALYSTS



HR
PROFESSIONALS

Opportunities at NASA

- Volunteer
- Internships (Summer, Fall, Spring)
- Co-op programs (Pathways)
- Recent graduate programs
- Fellowships

