

# **Europa Lander SDT Report & Mission Concept OPAG**

**February 22, 2017, Atlanta, GA**



**Kevin Hand, Alison Murray, Jim Garvin & Europa Lander Team**

# Science Definition Team

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- David Smith, MIT
- Chris Paranicas, APL
- Britney Schmidt, GA Tech

**Planetary scientists, Microbiologists, Geochemists**



# Europa Lander Mission Concept

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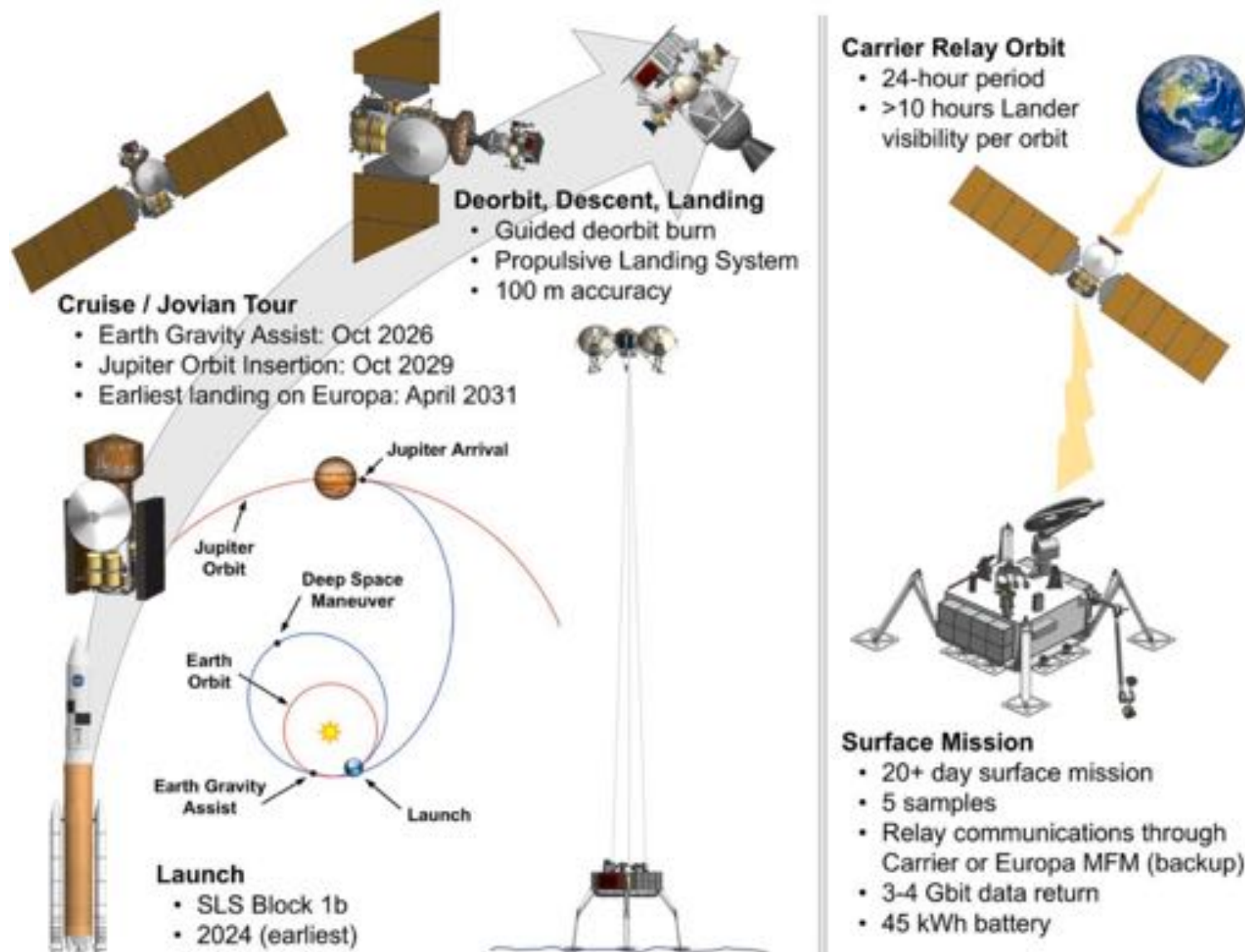
## Key Parameters:

- Lander would be launched as a separate mission.
- Target launch: 2024-2025 on SLS rocket.
- Battery powered mission: 20+ day surface lifetime.
- Spacecraft provides 42.5 kg allocation for science payload (with reserves).
- Baseline science includes:
  - Analyses of 5 samples,
  - Samples acquired from 10 cm depth or deeper (beneath radiation processed regolith) and from 5 different regions within the lander workspace,
  - Each sample must have a minimum volume of 7 cubic centimeters.





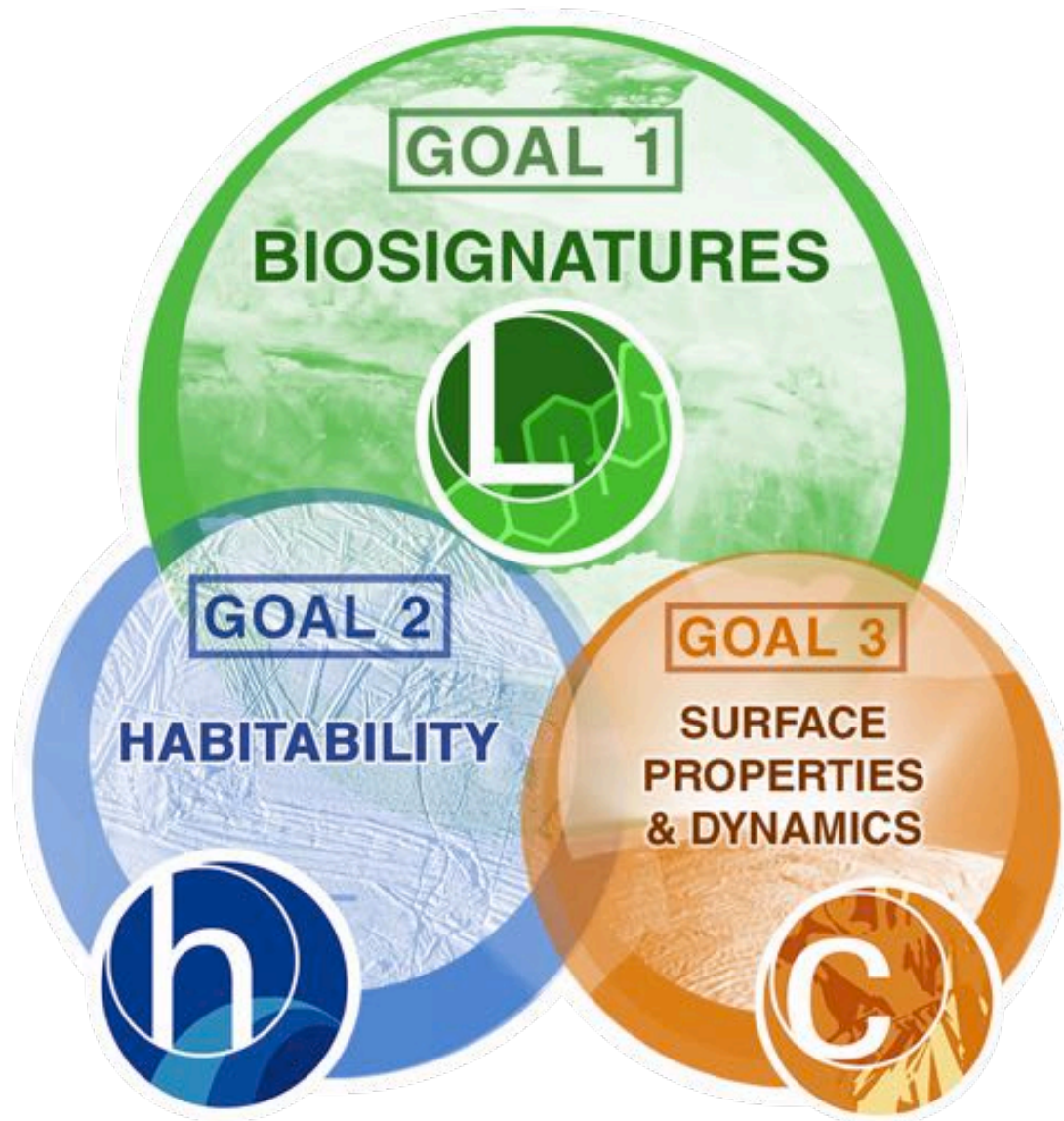
# Europa Lander Mission Concept





# Europa Lander Goals: A Robust Approach to Searching for Signs of Life

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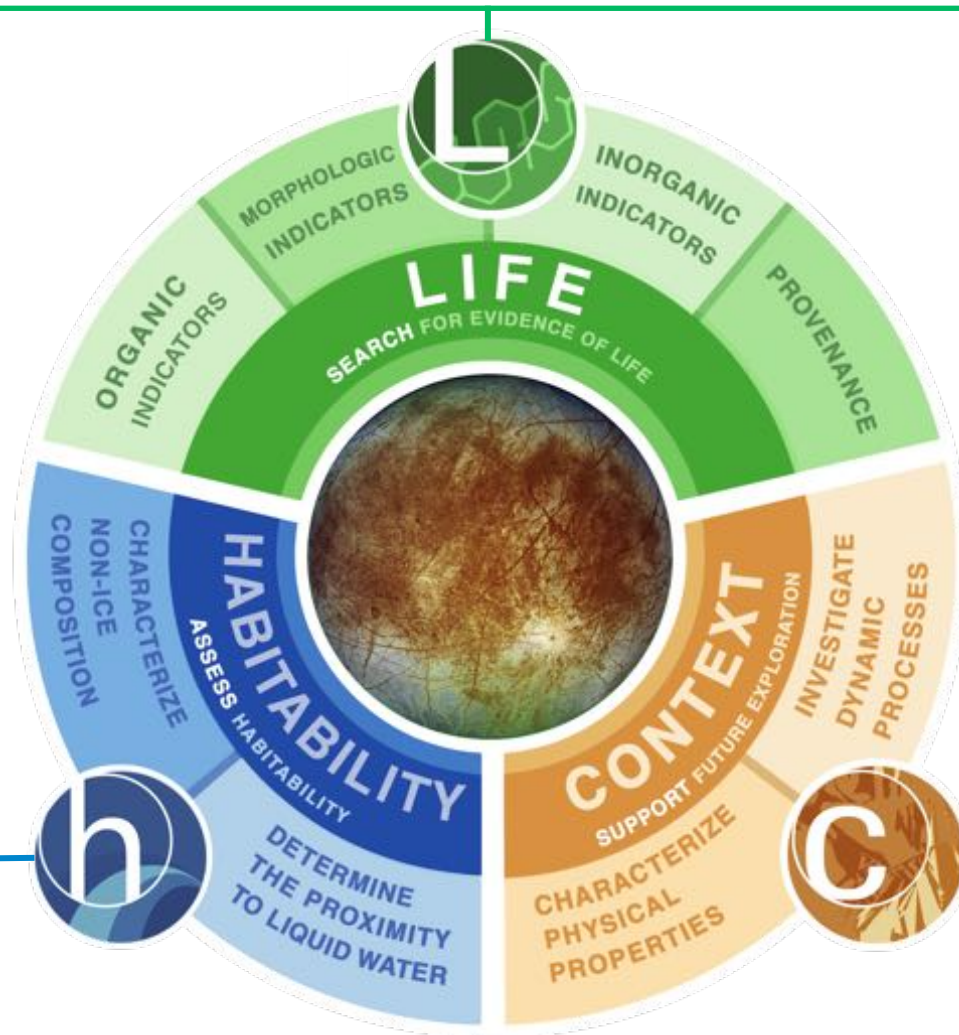
# A Connected Set of Goals & Objectives Addressed with a Focused Model Payload

GC-MS

Microscope

Raman spectrometer

Context cameras



Raman spectrometer

GC-MS

Context cameras

Geophone

Raman spectrometer

Microscope

GC-MS

Context cameras

Geophone





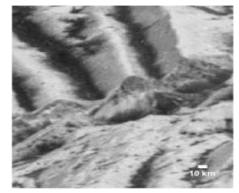
# Goal 1: Search for Evidence of Life

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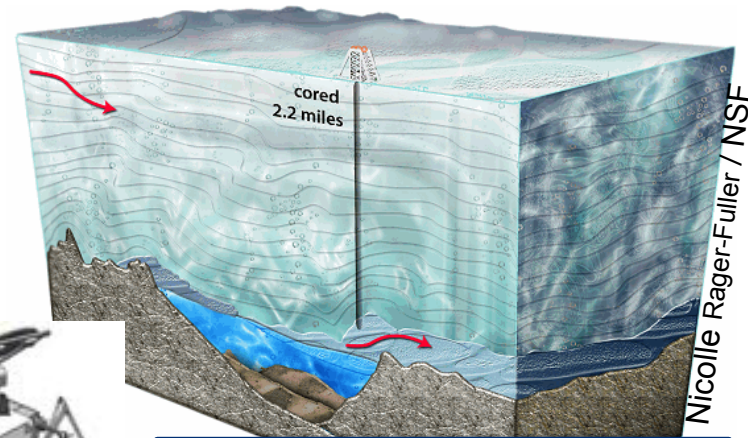


# Ocean World Analogues – Value as benchmark environments



**What biosignatures exist?**  
**What thresholds are needed for  
detecting signs of life?**

- Threshold signs of life
  - Chemistry associated with, and as a byproduct of life
    - Abundance levels
    - Composition
  - Physical lifeforms
    - Size
    - Abundance
    - Properties



H Dugan/UIC



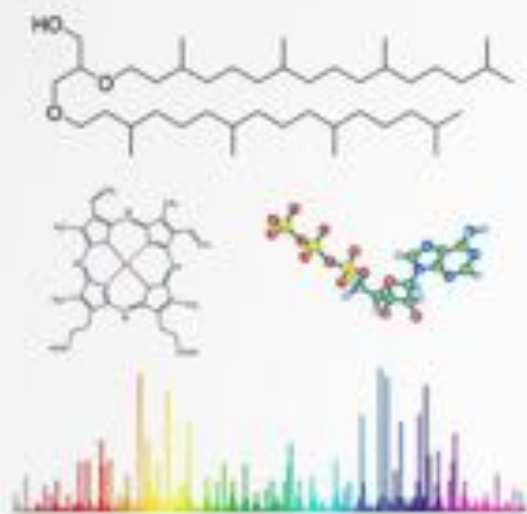
AE Murray / DRI



# Detection Limits & Measurement Requirements: Earth Environments as a Benchmark for Life Detection

	Lake Vostok (Subglacial)			Lake Vida (Salty)		Winter Circumpolar Deep Water (Deep Ocean) <sup>4</sup>
	Accretion Ice (Type I) <sup>1</sup>	Accretion Ice (Type II) <sup>1</sup>	Glacial Ice <sup>1</sup>	Brine <sup>2,3</sup>	Ice <sup>3</sup>	
Organic carbon ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	65	35	16	64,700	n.a.	<b><math>41 \pm 3</math></b>
DFAA (nM); DFAA % Org. Carbon	1-45; $\leq$ 0.006- 0.17%	<b>50-174; 0.08-0.49%</b>	20-62; 0.6 – 1.2 %	n.a.*	n.a.	<b><math>88 \pm 16</math> ; <math>0.7 \pm 0.1</math> %</b>
Total Asp (nM)	15-49	8	11-39	n.a.*	n.a.	n.a.
DF L-Asp (nM)	6-10 <sup>^</sup>	n.d.	10 <sup>^^</sup>	n.a.*	n.a.	3-9 <sup>#</sup>
Cell density (cells mL <sup>-1</sup> )	<b>260</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>120</b>	49,000,000	444,000	30,000 to 100,000
Microbial size ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	$\sim 0.3 - 3.0$	$\sim 0.3 - 3.0$	$\sim 0.3 - 3.0$	0.1-1	$\sim 0.5 - 2$	<b><math>0.2 - 1</math></b>





**ORGANIC DETECTION,  
CHARACTERIZATION,  
COMPOSITION**

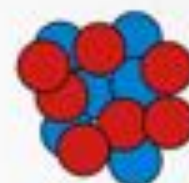


L-amino acid

D-amino acid

**ENANTIOMERIC EXCESS**

carbon-13



$^{13}\text{C}$

6 protons  
7 neutrons  
heavy

carbon-12



$^{12}\text{C}$

6 protons  
6 neutrons  
light

**ISOTOPIC INDICATORS**

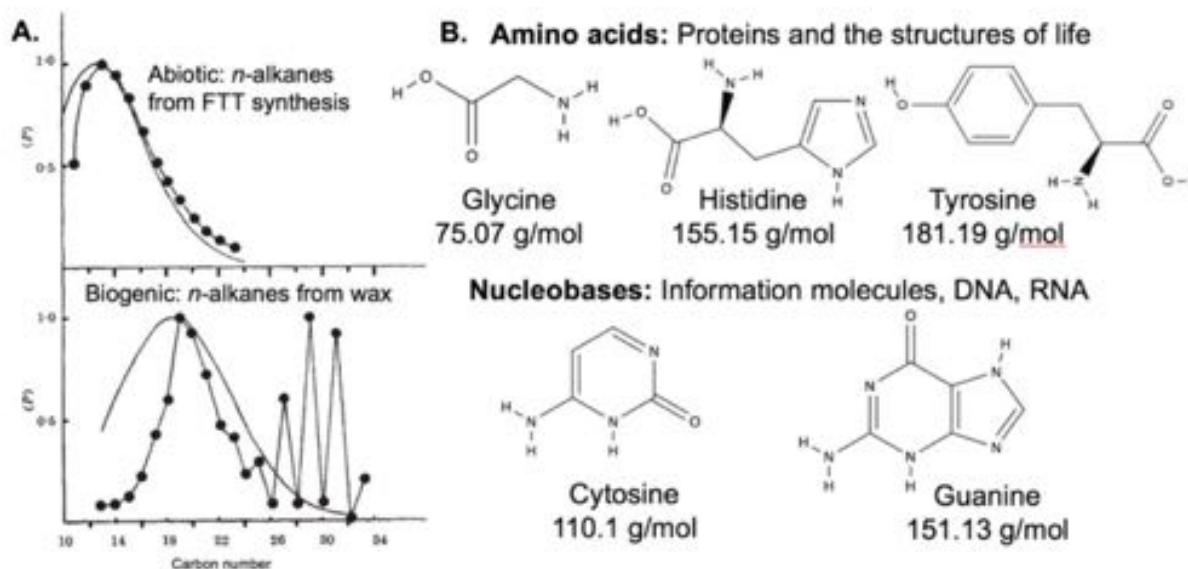
ORGANIC  
INDICATORS

**LIFE**

SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE OF LIFE



# Organic Detection & Characterization

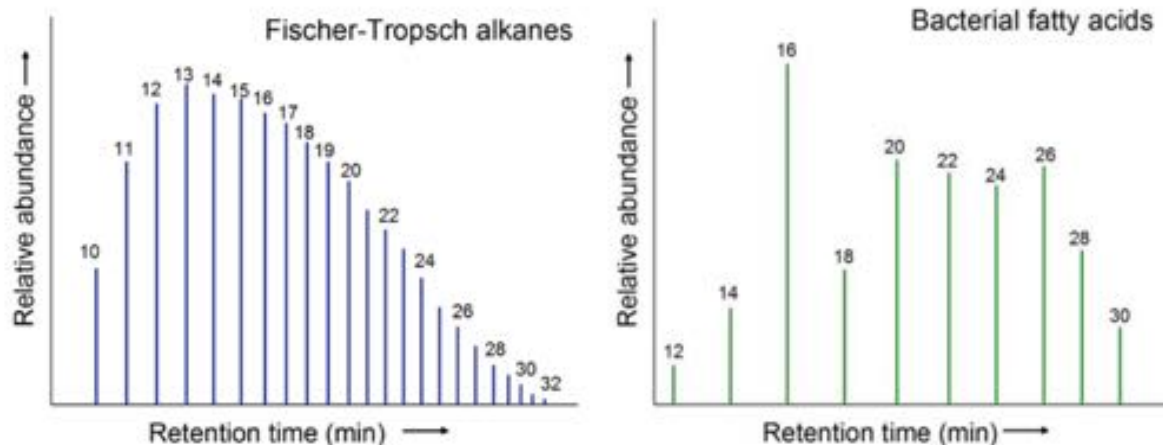


## Abiotic organic synthesis

- Low specificity

## Biological organic synthesis

- High specificity



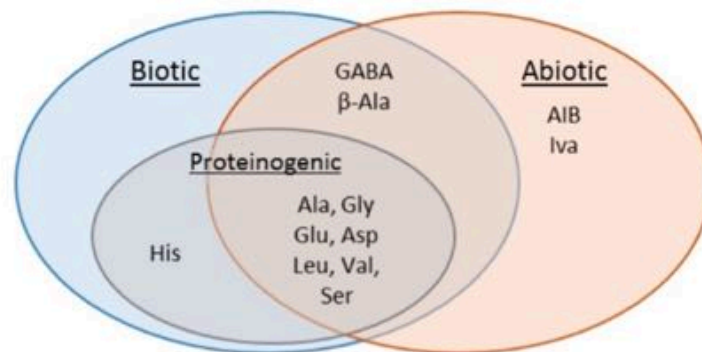
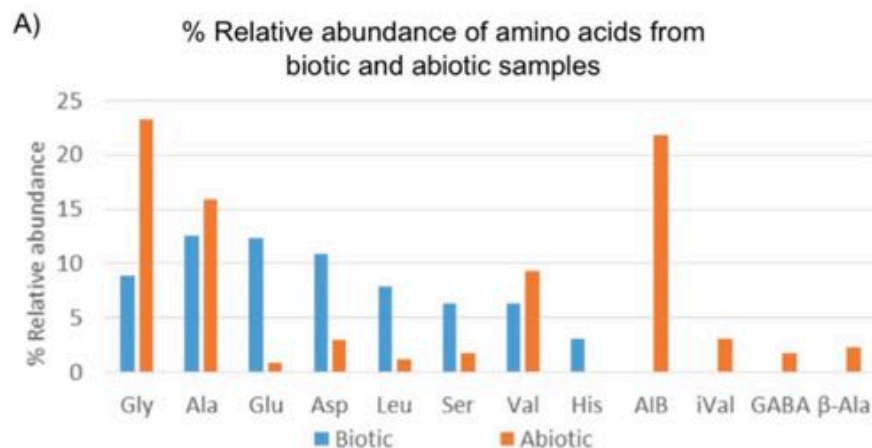
# Organic Detection & Characterization: Amino acids

## Amino Acid Relative Abundance

Abundances of the 12 amino acids found in highest abundance in biotic (*E. coli*) and abiotic (meteoritic) samples:

Eight chiral amino acids:  
Ala, Asp, Glu, Ser, Val,  
Leu, His, Iva

Four achiral amino acids:  
Gly,  $\beta$ -Ala, GABA, and AIB

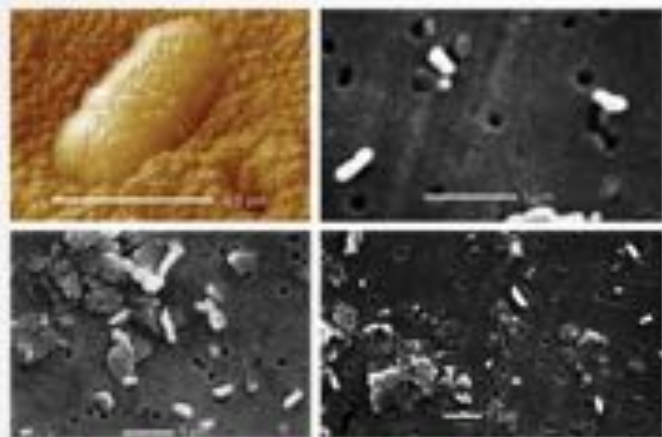


Creamer et al., (2017)

## Measurement requirement:

- Organic Carbon:** Determine presence, identities & relative abundance (**1 picomole in a 1 gram sample**). Molecular weight distribution to at least 500 amu and bulk structural characteristics of any organics to **1 picomole in a 1 gram sample**.

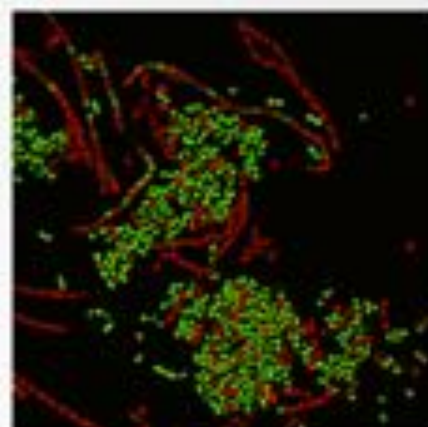




**MICROSCALE  
STRUCTURES**



**MACROSCALE  
STRUCTURES**

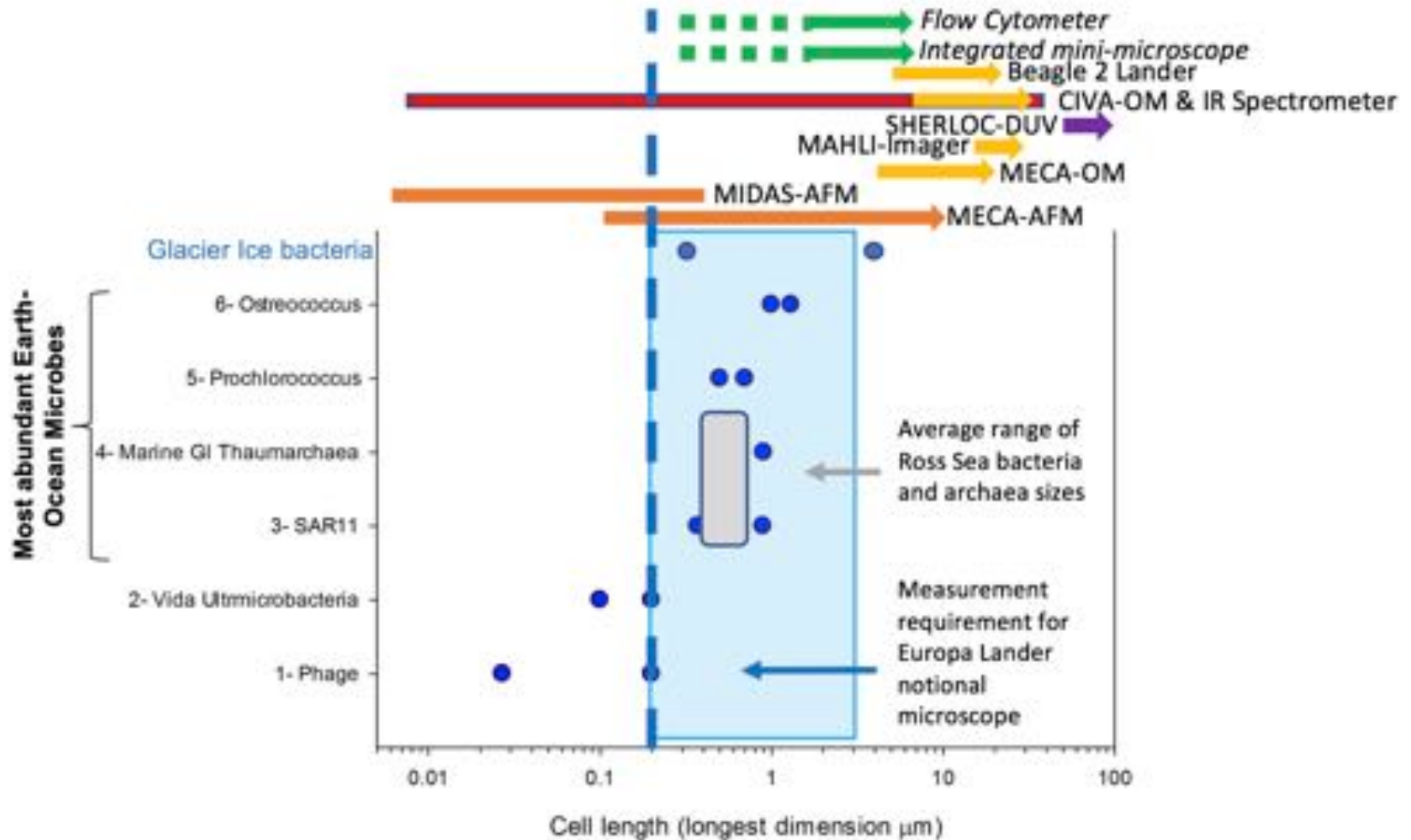


**CELLULAR  
PROPERTIES**



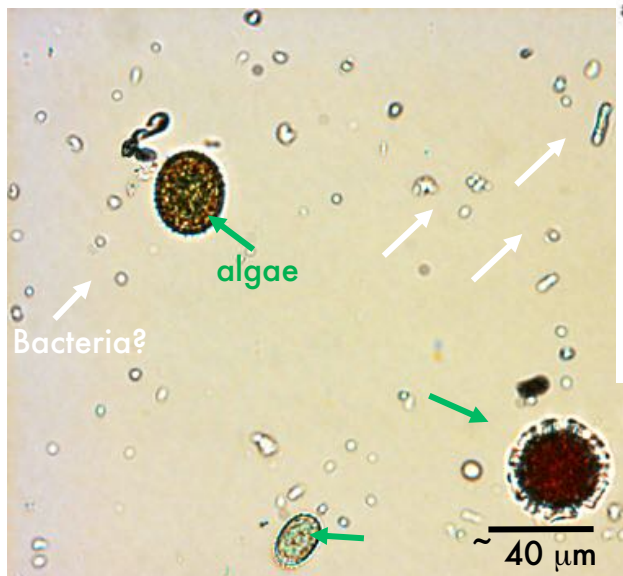


# Earth Benchmark Environments

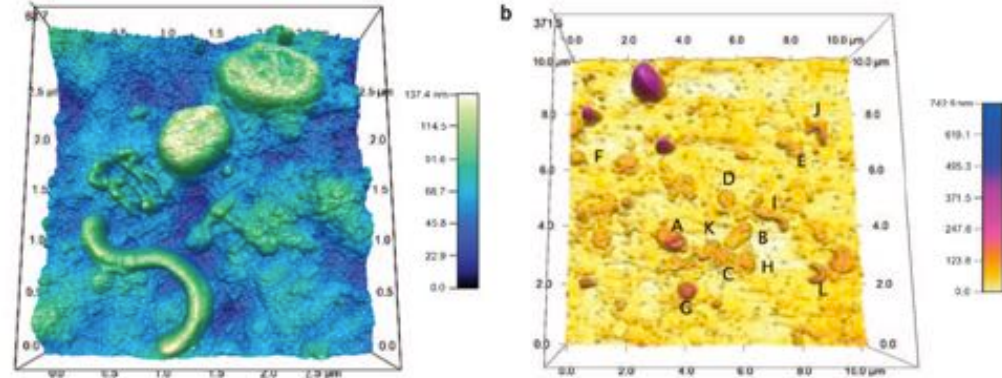


# Microscopic Capabilities

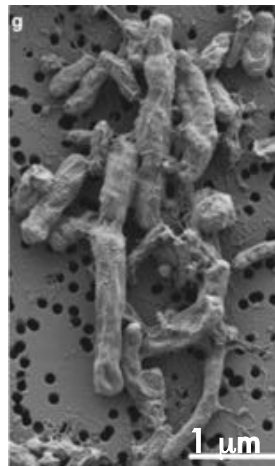
Light Microscopy (400X mag):  
Snow microbiota



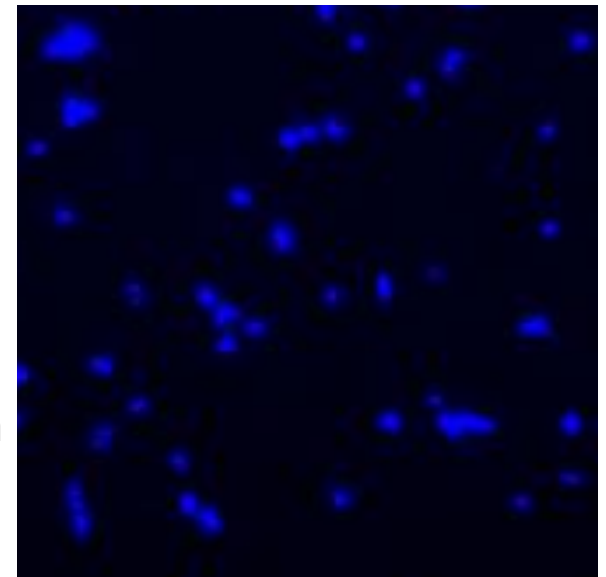
Atomic force microscopy:  
Marine bacteria

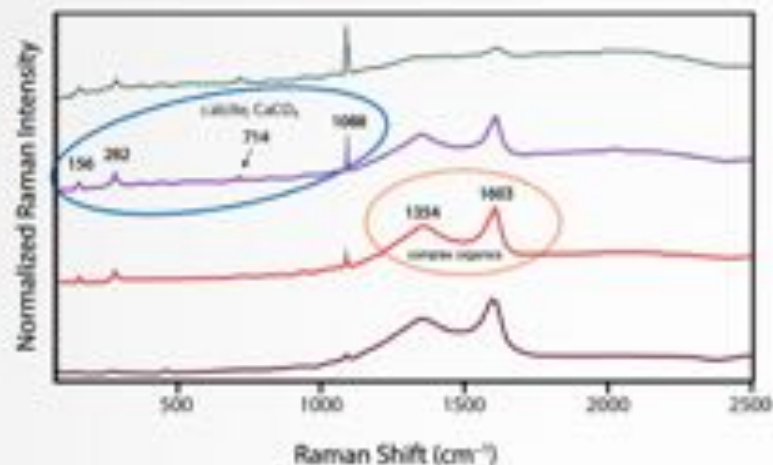


Scanning electron  
microscopy:  
Glacial ice bacteria



Fluorescence  
microscopy:  
Antarctic marine  
bacteria with  
DNA-binding stain





**INORGANIC COMPOSITION**



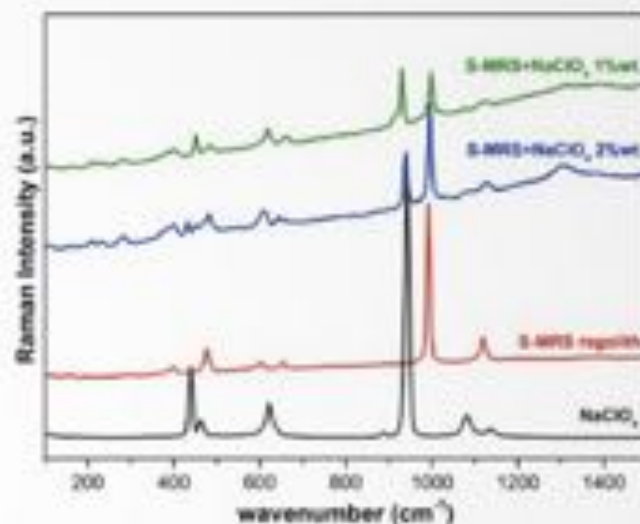
**BIOMINERALS**







## GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT



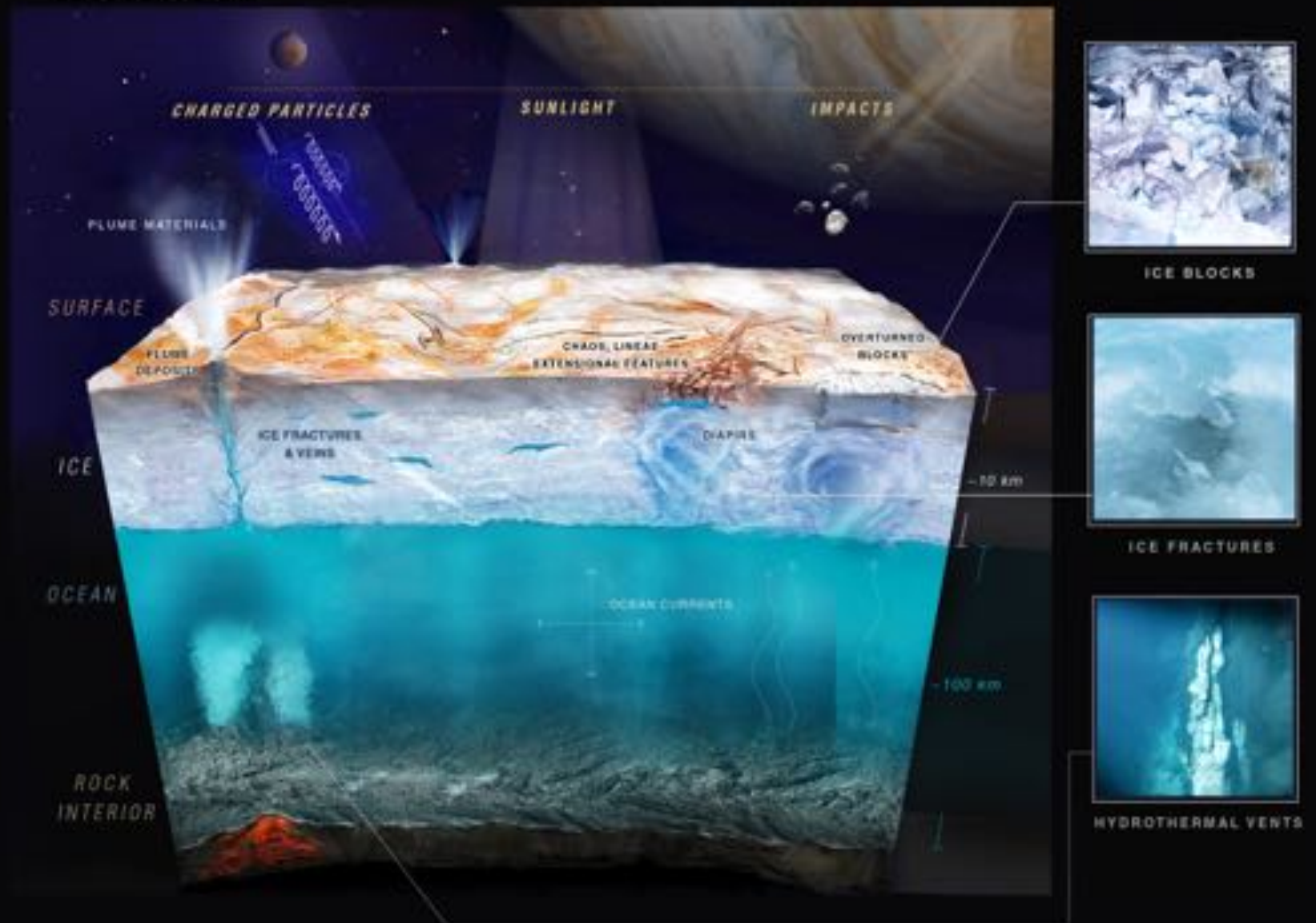
## ENDOGENOUS vs. EXOGENOUS ORIGINS AND PROCESSING

ORGANIC  
INDICATORS

**LIFE**  
SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE OF LIFE

PROVENANCE

# EUROPA







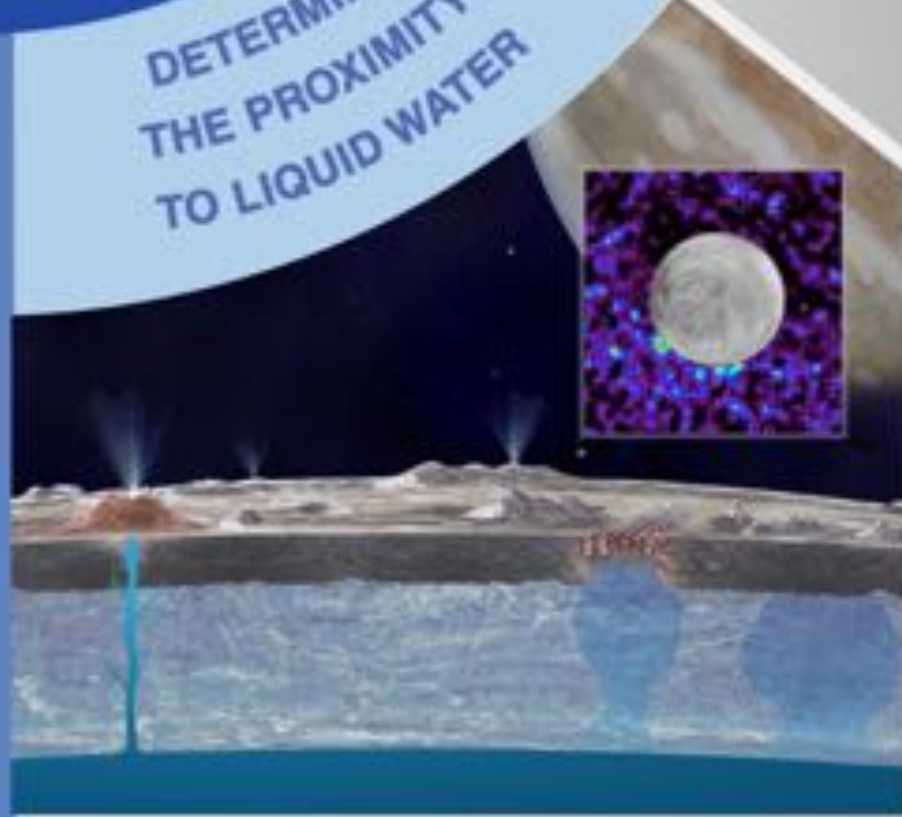
Biosignature Framework

# HABITABILITY

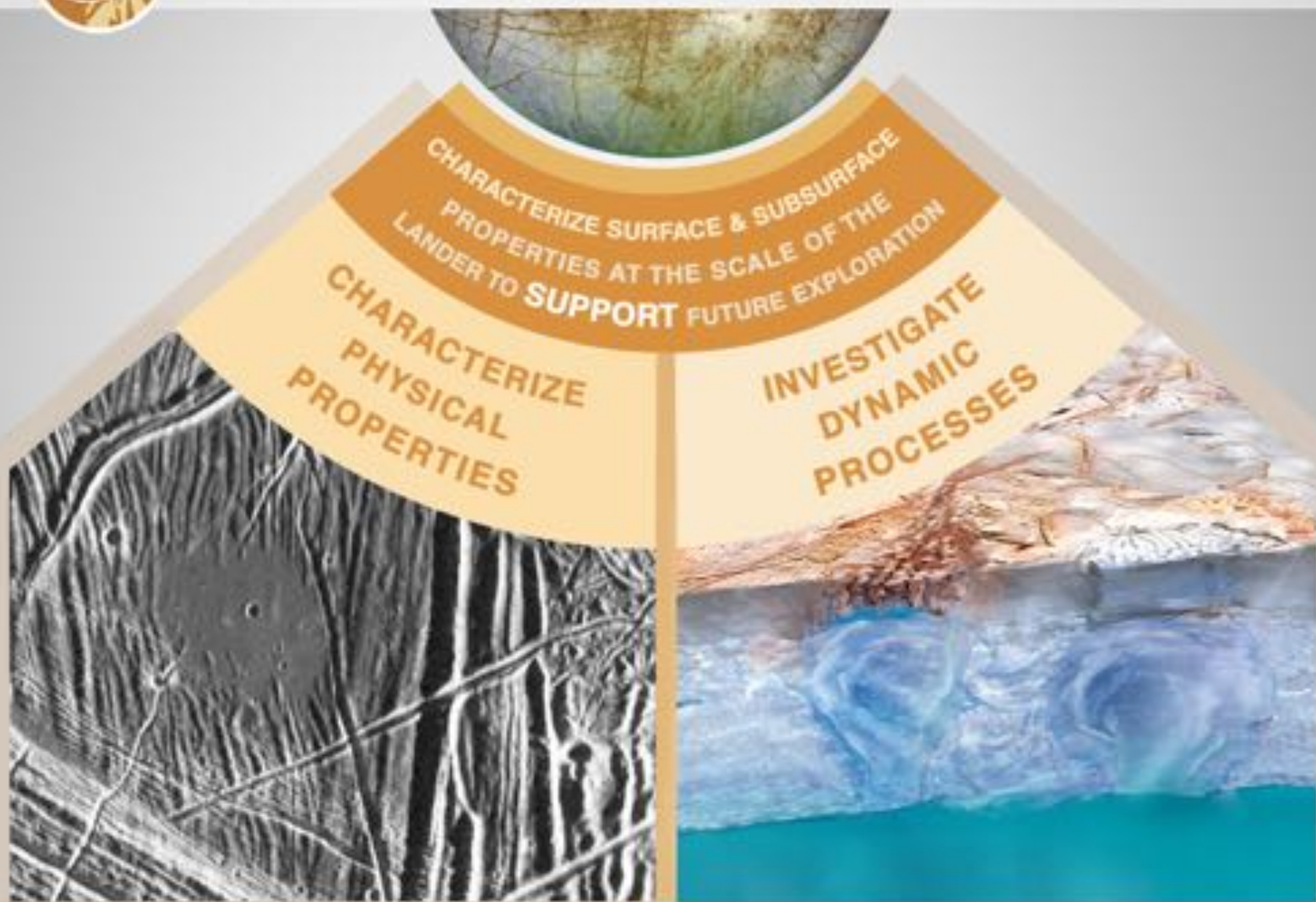
**ASSESS HABITABILITY  
VIA IN SITU ANALYSIS METHODS**

**CHARACTERIZE  
NON-ICE  
COMPOSITION**

**DETERMINE  
THE PROXIMITY  
TO LIQUID WATER**







# Mission Concept Payload Allocation: 42.5 kg (with margin, sampling system held separately)



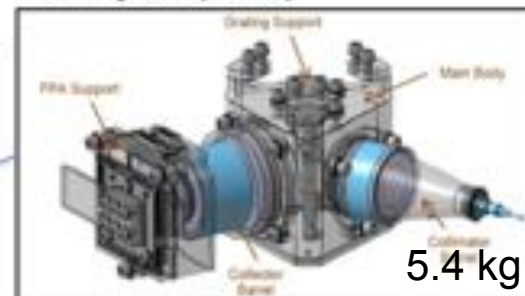
**Context Remote Sensing Instrument (CRSI)**

4.3 kg



**Organic Compositional Analyzer (OCA)**

16.4 kg



**Vibrational Spectrometer (VS)**

5.4 kg



**Geophysical Sounding System (GSS)**

Pre-Decisional Information — For Planning and Discussion Purposes Only



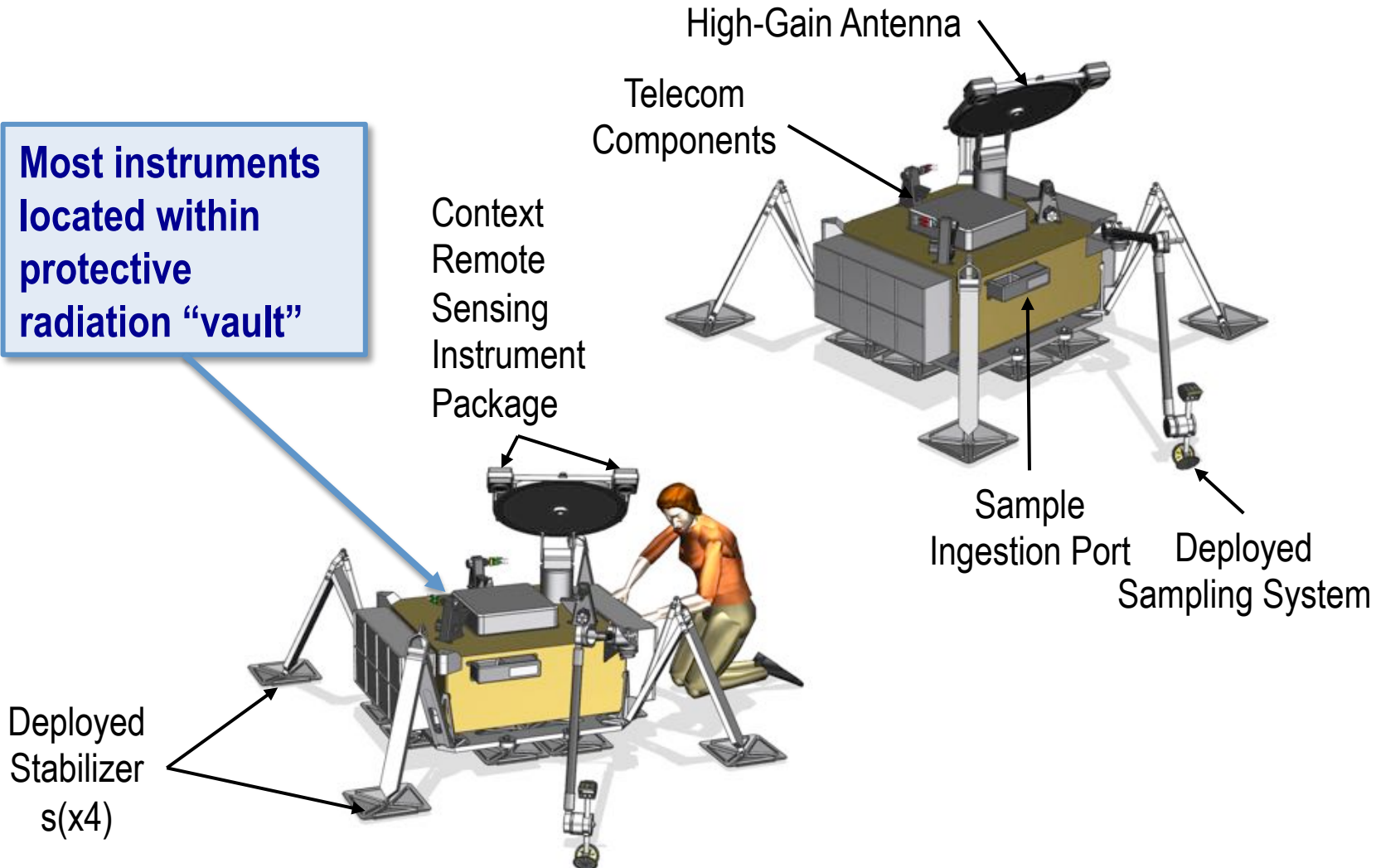
**Microscope for Life Detection (MLD)**

5.4 kg



# Lander Accommodates Model Instrument Payload and Supporting Equipment

**Most instruments located within protective radiation “vault”**





# Searching for Signs of Life: Lessons from Viking

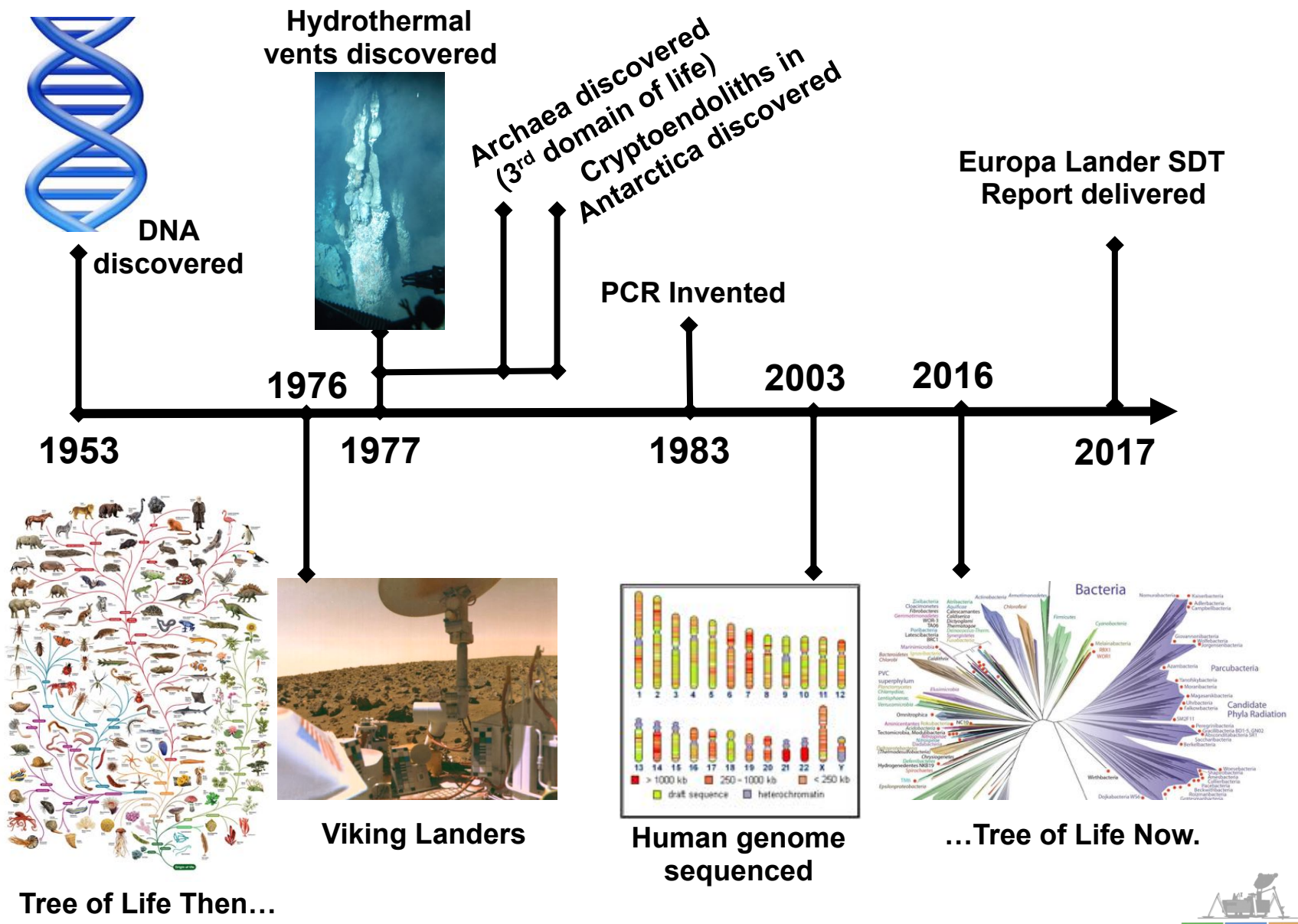
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- If the payload permits, conduct experiments that assume contrasting definitions for life.
- **Given limited payload, the biochemical definition of life deserves priority.**
- Establishing the geological and chemical context of the environment is critical.
- **Life-detection experiments should provide valuable information regardless of the biology results.**
- Exploration need not, and often cannot, be hypothesis testing. Planetary missions are often missions of exploration; and therefore, the above guidelines must be put in the context of exploration and discovery driven science.

NRC 2000; Chyba and Phillips (2001)



# Viking Results: Then & Now



# Framework for Sampling & Life Detection

Sample Analysis Scenarios

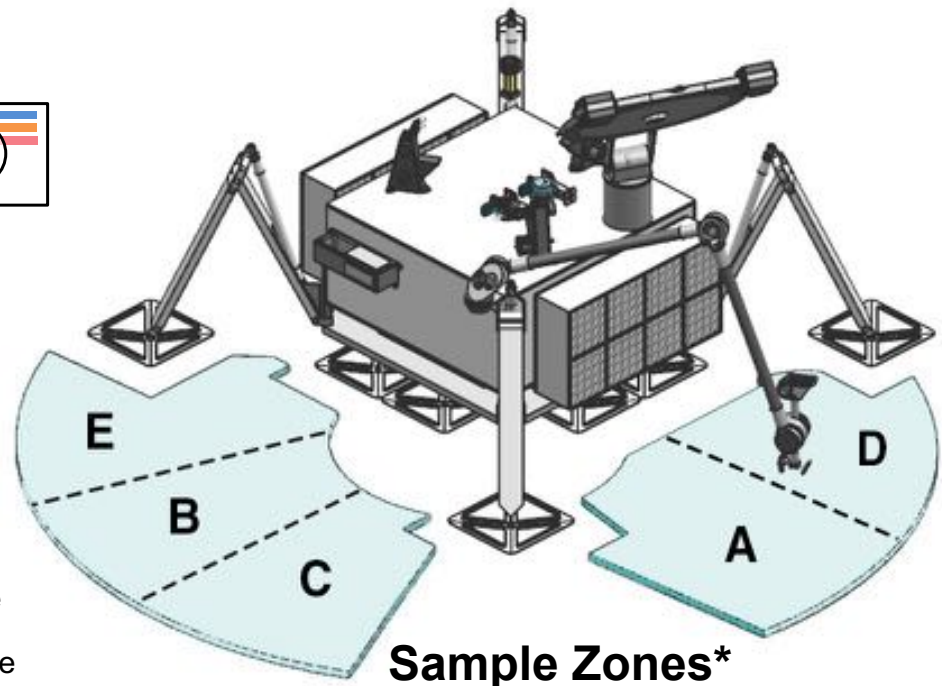
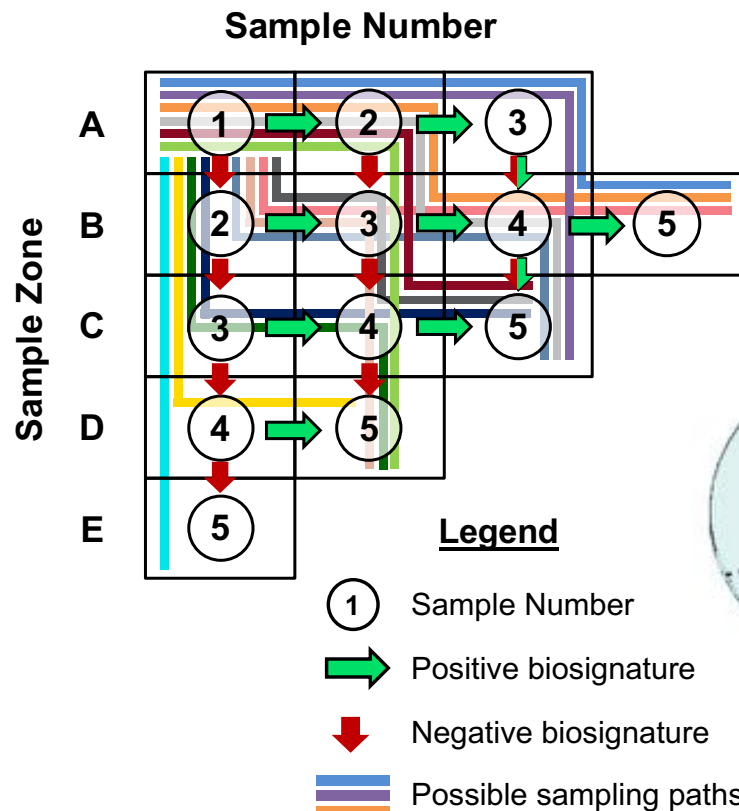
GCMS				Microscope		Raman	Context Remote Sensing		Biosignature Result
Abundance	Pattern	Chirality	Isotopes	Cell-like structures	Cellular properties	Biominerals	Context	Endo vs Exo	
1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1



# Sampling and Measurement Sequence can be Designed Ahead of Time for Rapid Execution

## Five Samples Provide Sufficient Measurement Set to Sample Multiple Work Areas and Identify Biosignatures

- 3 samples to detect and confirm any biosignatures (triplicate standard)
- Can choose up to 3 different zones, followed by 2 more samples for confirmation



Sample Zones\*

# Europa 'post-EMFM' Science Scenarios

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EMFM could lead to one of four scenarios:

- Not Habitable
  - Europa Lander would be critical for determining why (e.g. detection limits on carbon; geological activity).
- Maybe Habitable
  - Lander critical to resolving ambiguity of remote sensing.
- Habitable
  - Lander needed to detect and characterize any potential biosignatures.
- Inhabited (*very difficult via remote sensing*)
  - Lander needed for biosignature confirmation and for surface information needed for future exploration.

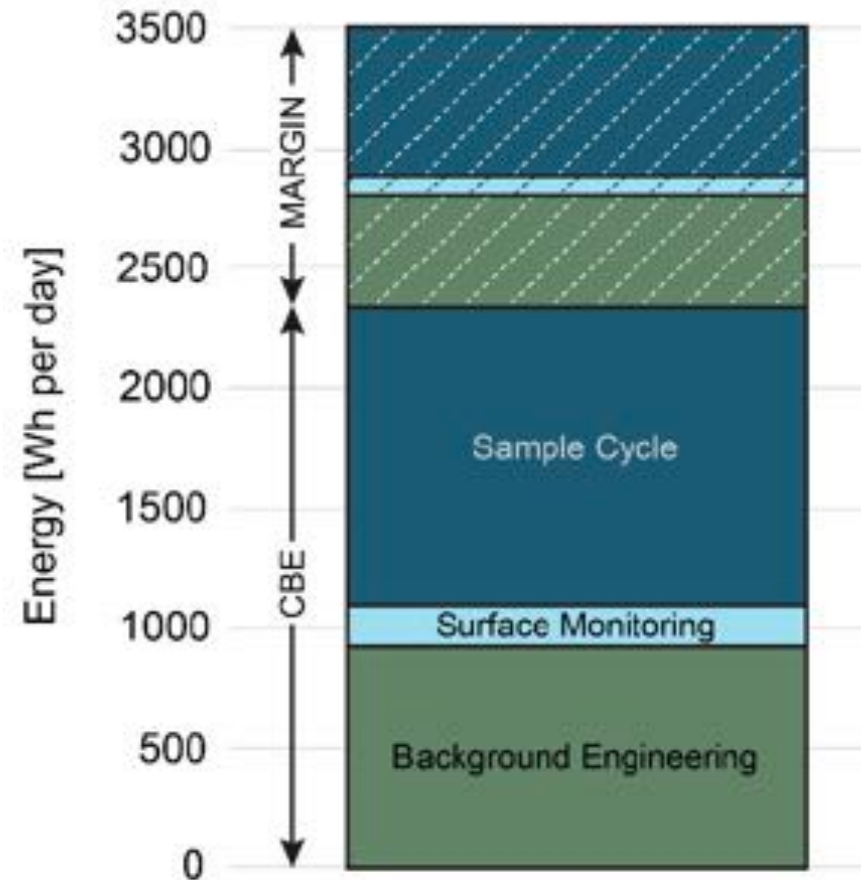


# Mission Concept Enables 5+ Samples

Batteries provide  
**45 kWh**  
of energy for surface  
operations.

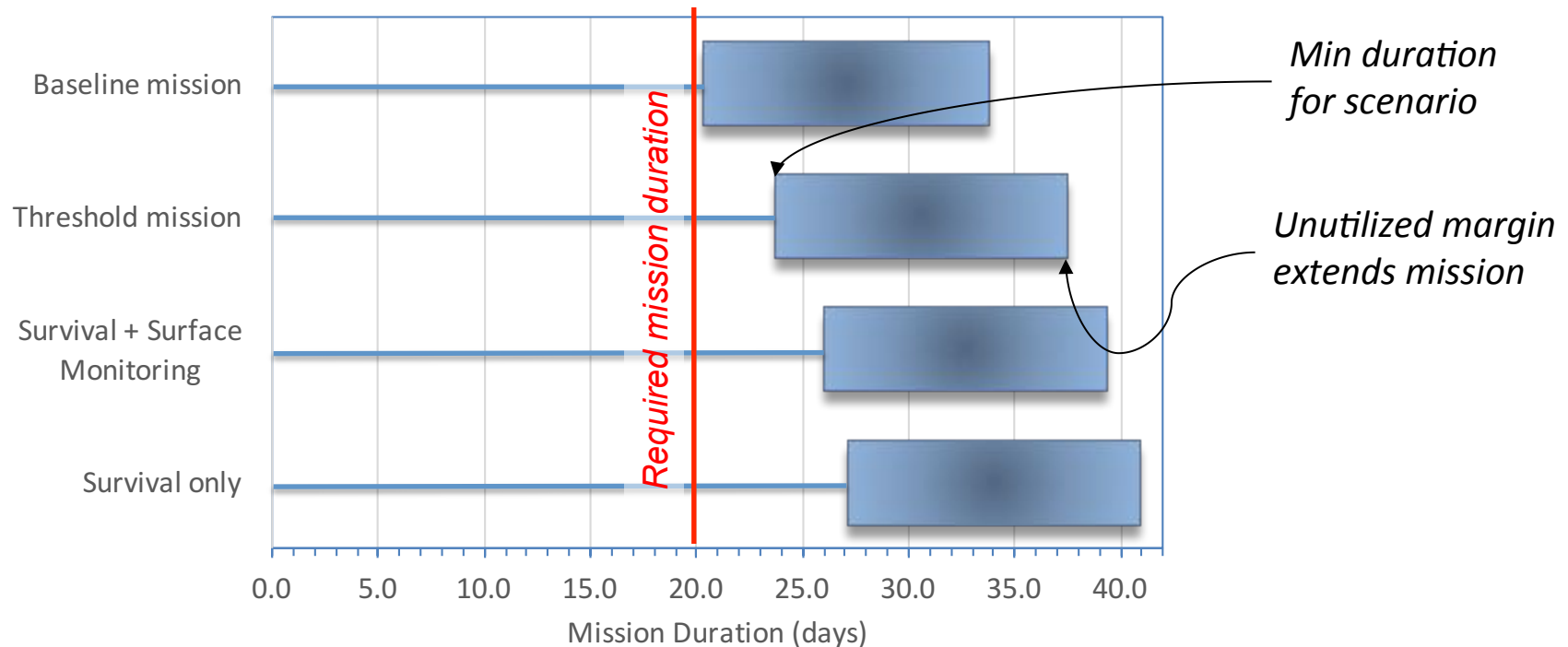
**Baseline mission  
scenario:**

**20 day lifetime**  
[5 days for sampling +  
15 days for monitoring/  
contingency]





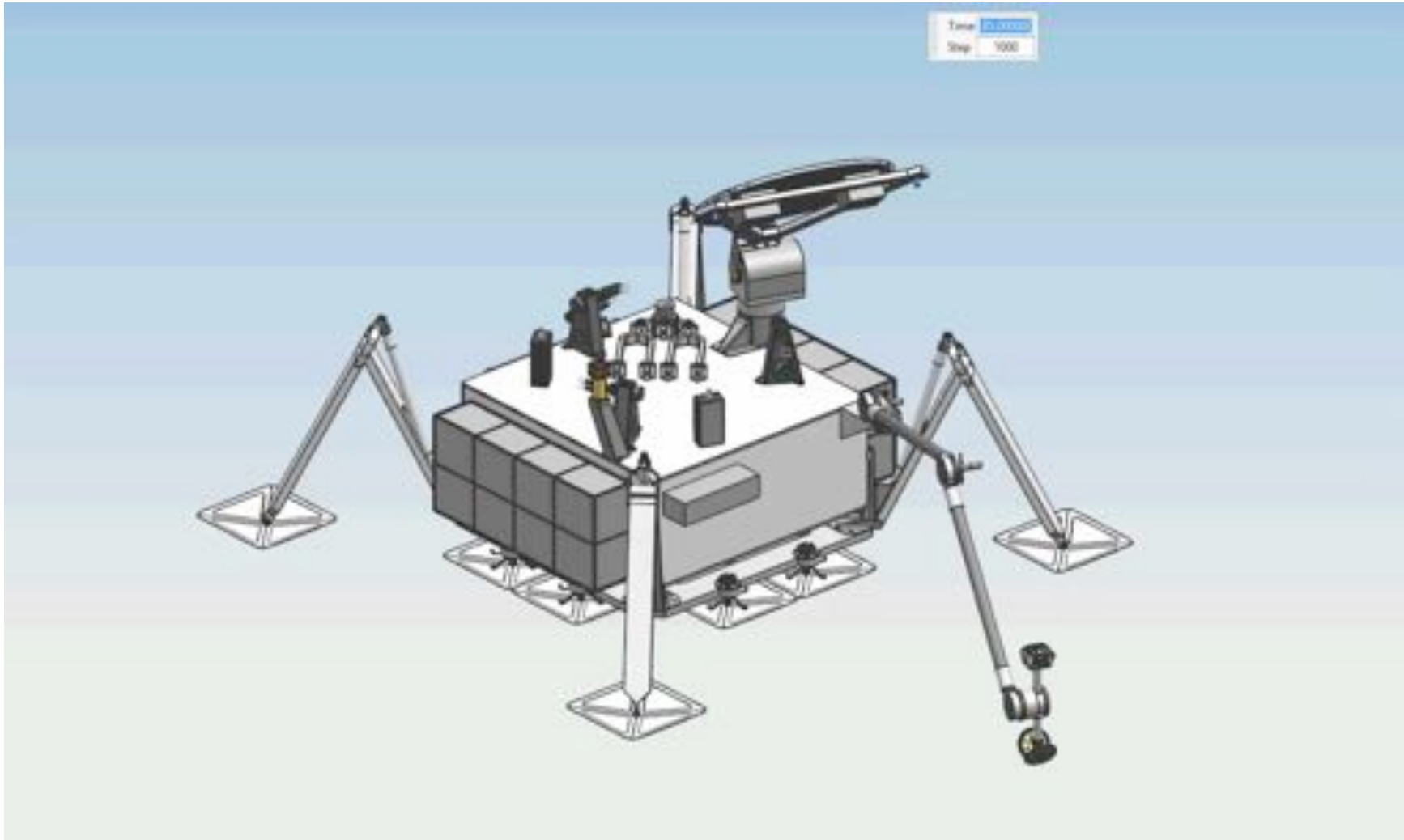
# Mission Duration: 45 kWh



Mission scenario	# Samples	Monitoring tals	Survival tals
Baseline mission	5	continuous	0
Threshold mission	3	7	remainder
Survival + monitoring	0	continuous	0
Survival only	0	0	continuous



# Lander Workspace Panorama & Sampling System Deployment



# Pre-Separation

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11 Jun 2032 14:00:00  
Days from Landing: -2.3





# Separation to Landing

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13 Jun 2032 18:13:23  
Days from Landing: -0.1



# Landing to End of Landing Pass

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13 Jun 2032 20:43:23  
Days from Landing: -0.0



# End of Landing Pass to First Relay Pass

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13 Jun 2032 21:03:23  
Days from Landing: 0.0

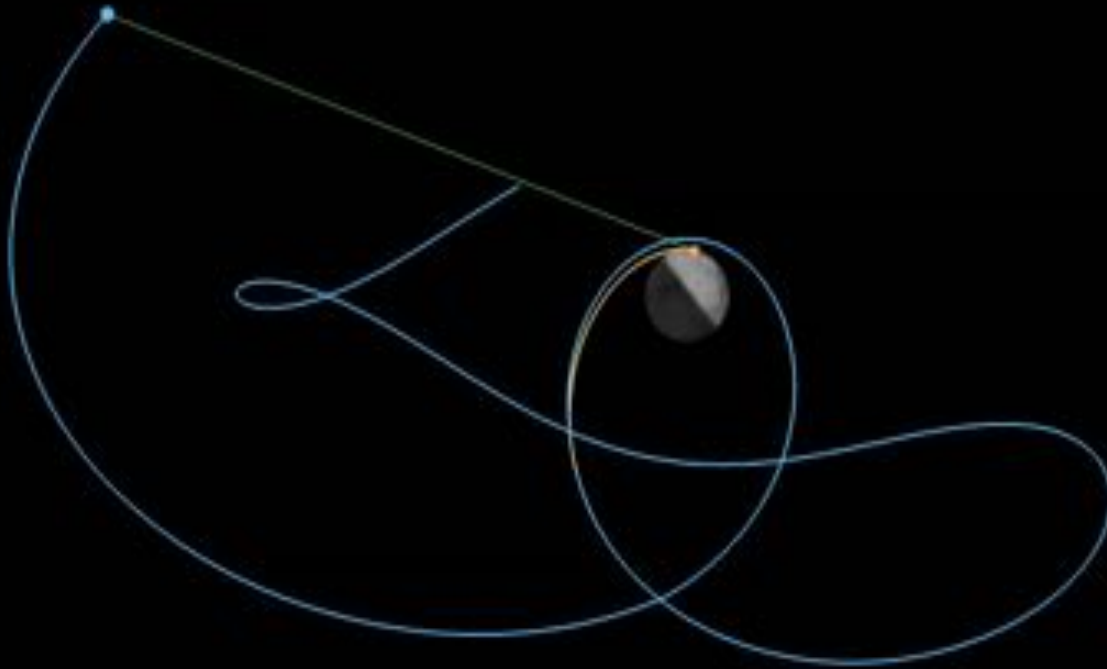




# First Relay Pass to Second Relay Pass

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14 Jun 2032 20:12:38  
Days from Landing: 1.0



# Second Relay Pass to Relay Orbit Insertion

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16 Jun 2032 03:22:25  
Days from Landing: 2.3



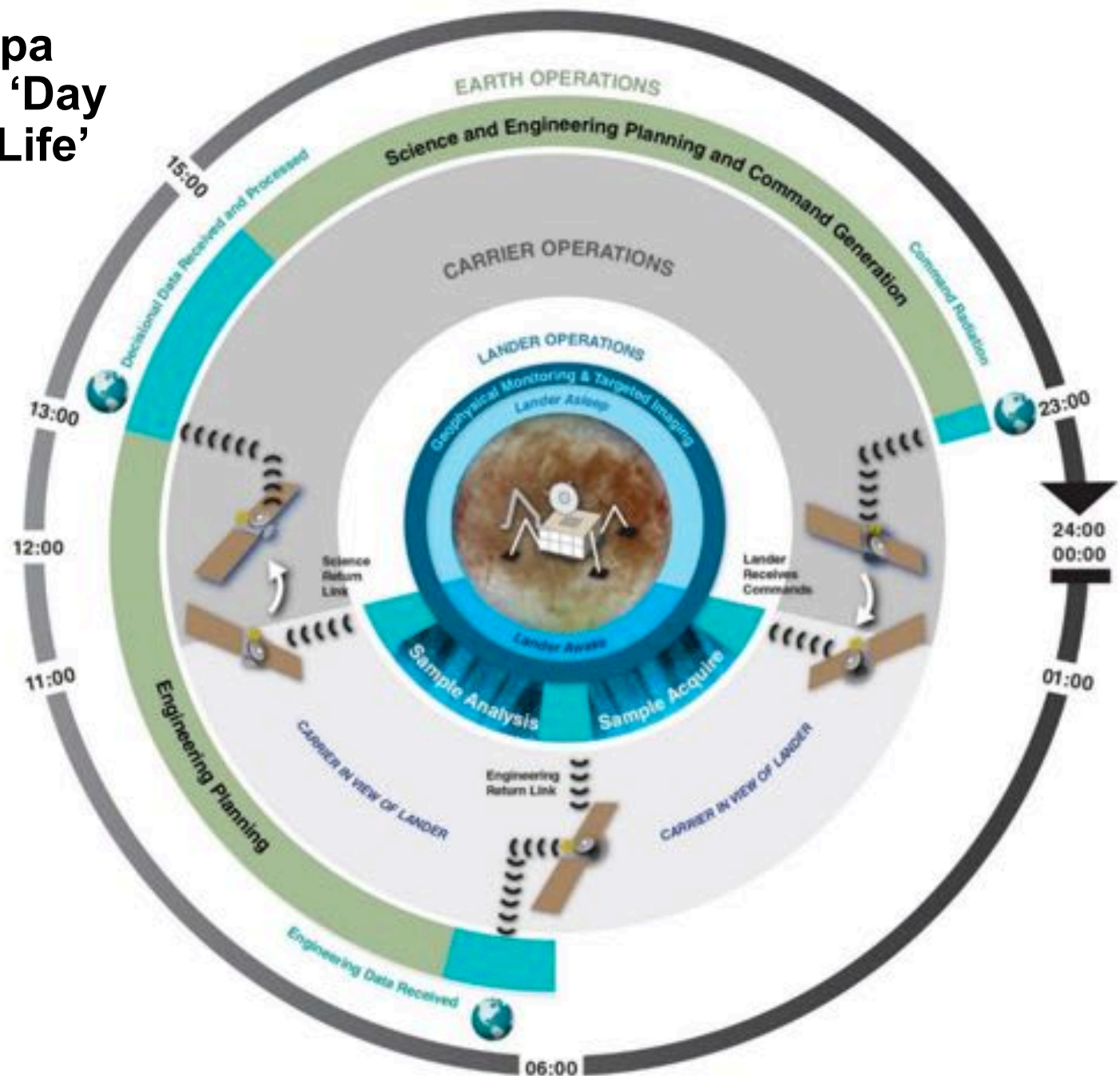
# Initial Relay Orbits

17 Jun 2032 18:30:00  
Days from Landing: 3.9



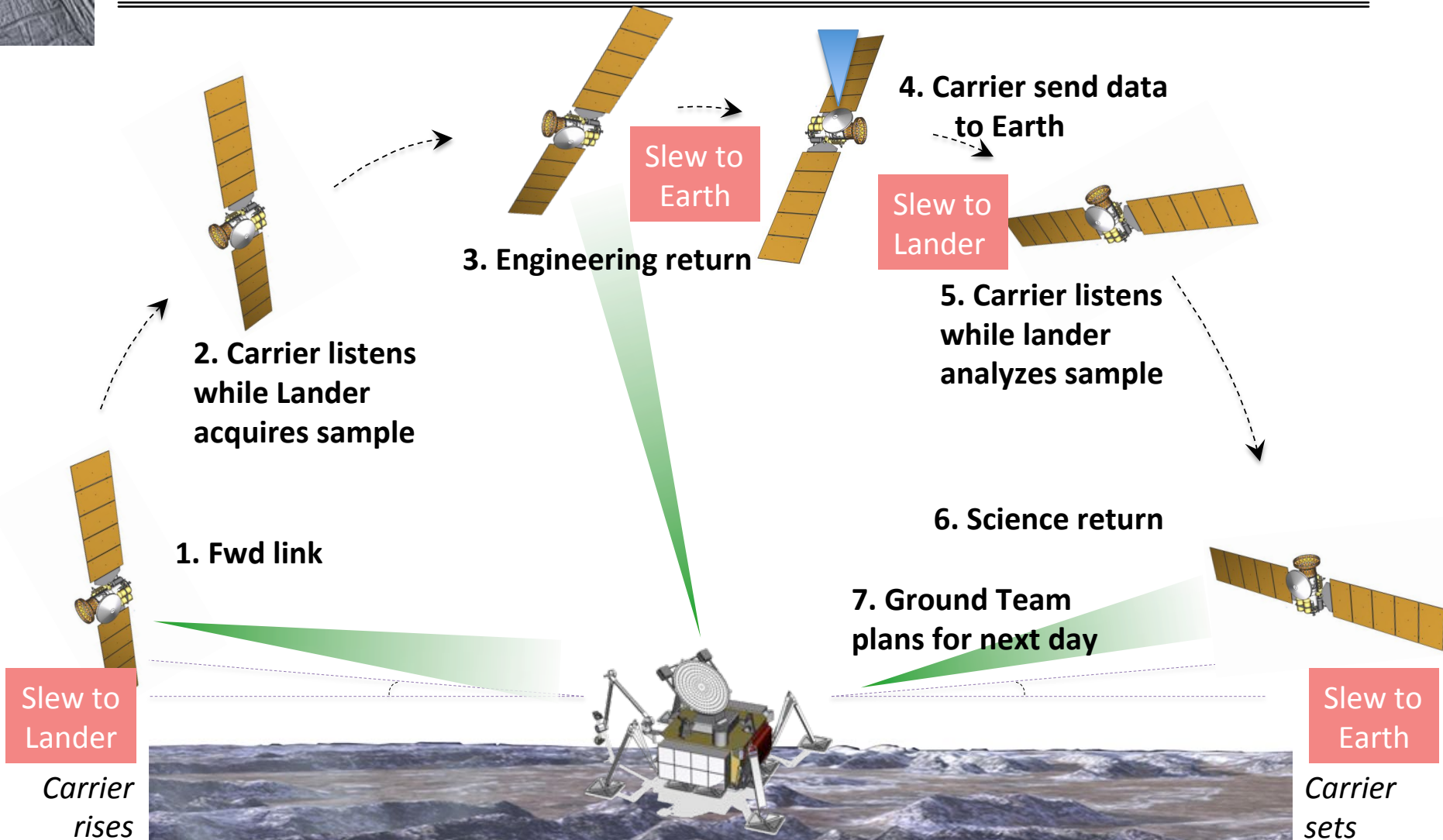


# Europa Lander 'Day in the Life'

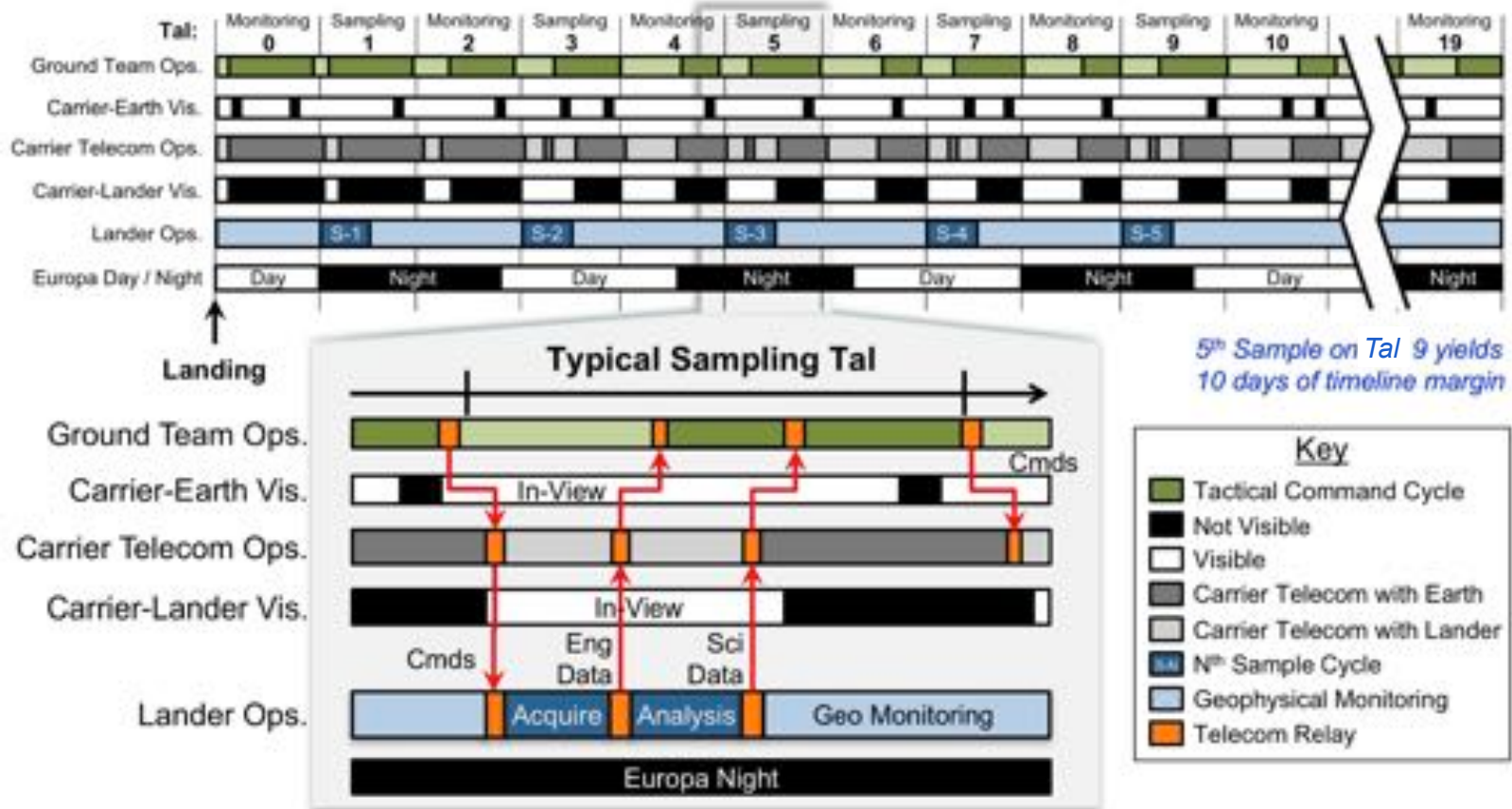


# A Day in the Life of Lander

## Relay Operations



# Europa Lander Surface Phase



- Baseline mission achieved in 10 days
  - One full sample cycle completed in one Earth day
  - Five sample cycles could be done back-to-back
- 20 day prime mission provides 100% contingency
- Extended mission possible based on battery margin





# Europa Lander Surface Lifetime

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## Trades & Considerations:

- Lander was required to bring a carrier-relay for data uplink/downlink to Earth
  - Carrier Relay Orbiter (CRO) lifetime limited by radiation environment (~30 days).
  - EMFM could only be used for backup.
  - Direct-to-Earth (DTE) options are too massive.
- Radioactive Power Source (RPS) option
  - Added lifetime difficult to justify given CRO lifetime limit.
  - RPS options too massive and complex.
  - Planetary Protection becomes significantly more challenging.
- Primary Battery option
  - Optimizes operations and minimizes complexity (i.e., energy as needed, when needed, and e.g., thermal management and mechanical configuration).
  - Easily 'quantized' and scaled.
  - Provides radiation shielding around vault.
  - Right 'knee-in-the-curve' for stationary, pathfinding lander.



# EMFM-Lander Cadence

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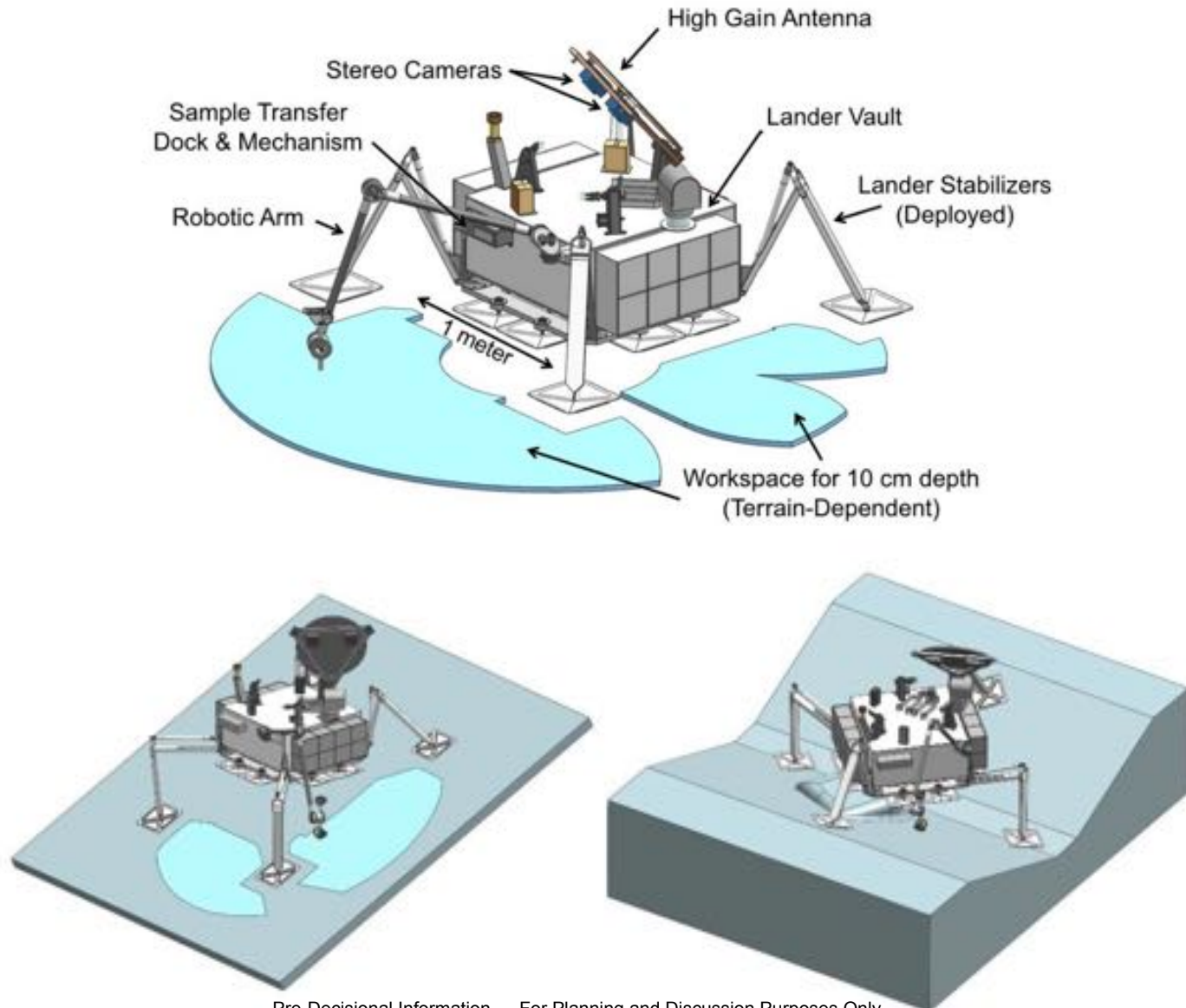
- Landing site recon must be acquired close in time prior to landing so as to ensure accurate knowledge of site.
- Without timely EMFM recon, any future lander would need to carry its own recon suite.
- Mechanical configuration unlikely to change much between EMFM vs. post-EMFM design
  - Decimeter-scale surface accommodation still required.
  - Mass is still going to be a limiting factor.















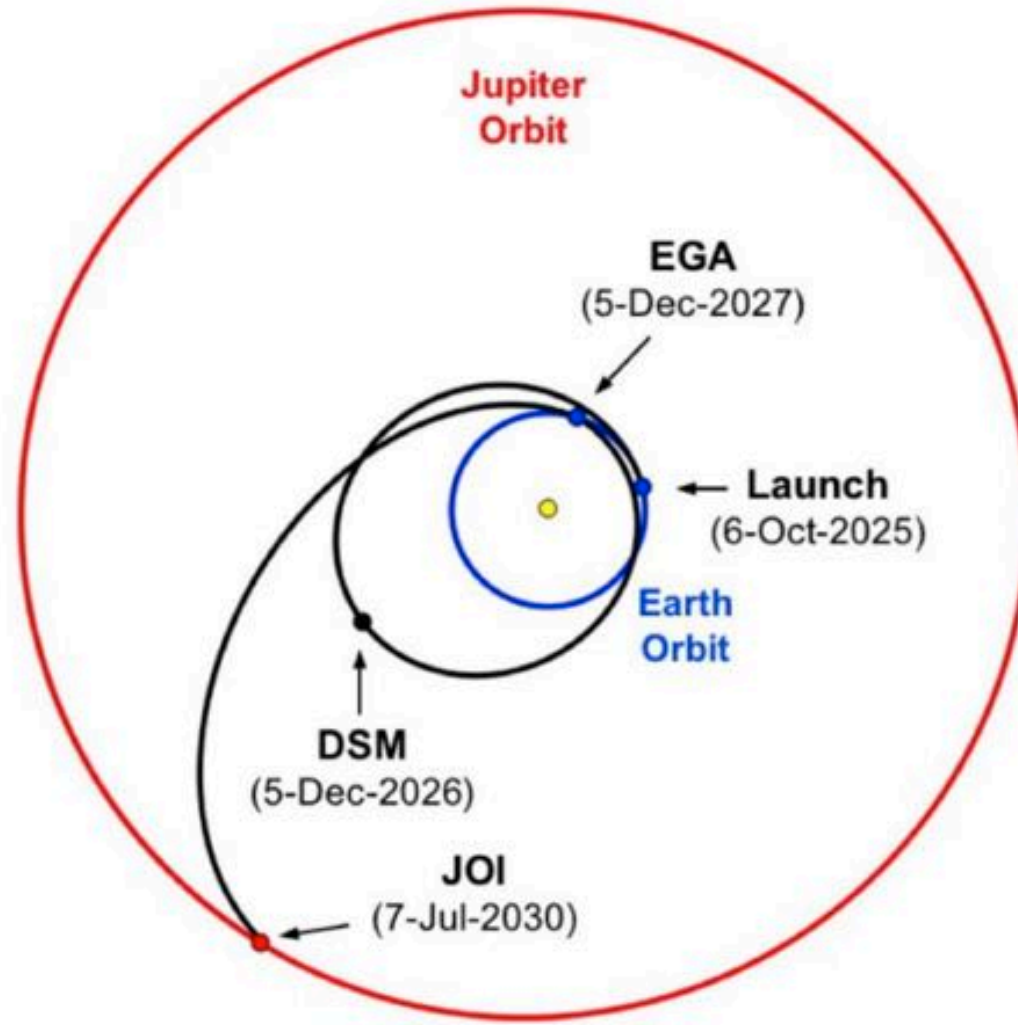
# Lander Surface Accommodation Trade



# Sampling System Trade Study

Mission	Tool	Excavation	Excavation to >> 1cm		Topography Robustness*	Sample Volume	Sample Temperature	Mass / Power
			Hard	Soft / Loose				
Viking Scoop			Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green
Phoenix Scoop + Rasp			Red	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
MSL Drill			Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Red
Europa Lander Saw + Scoop + Rasp			Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green

# Europa Lander Example Trajectory

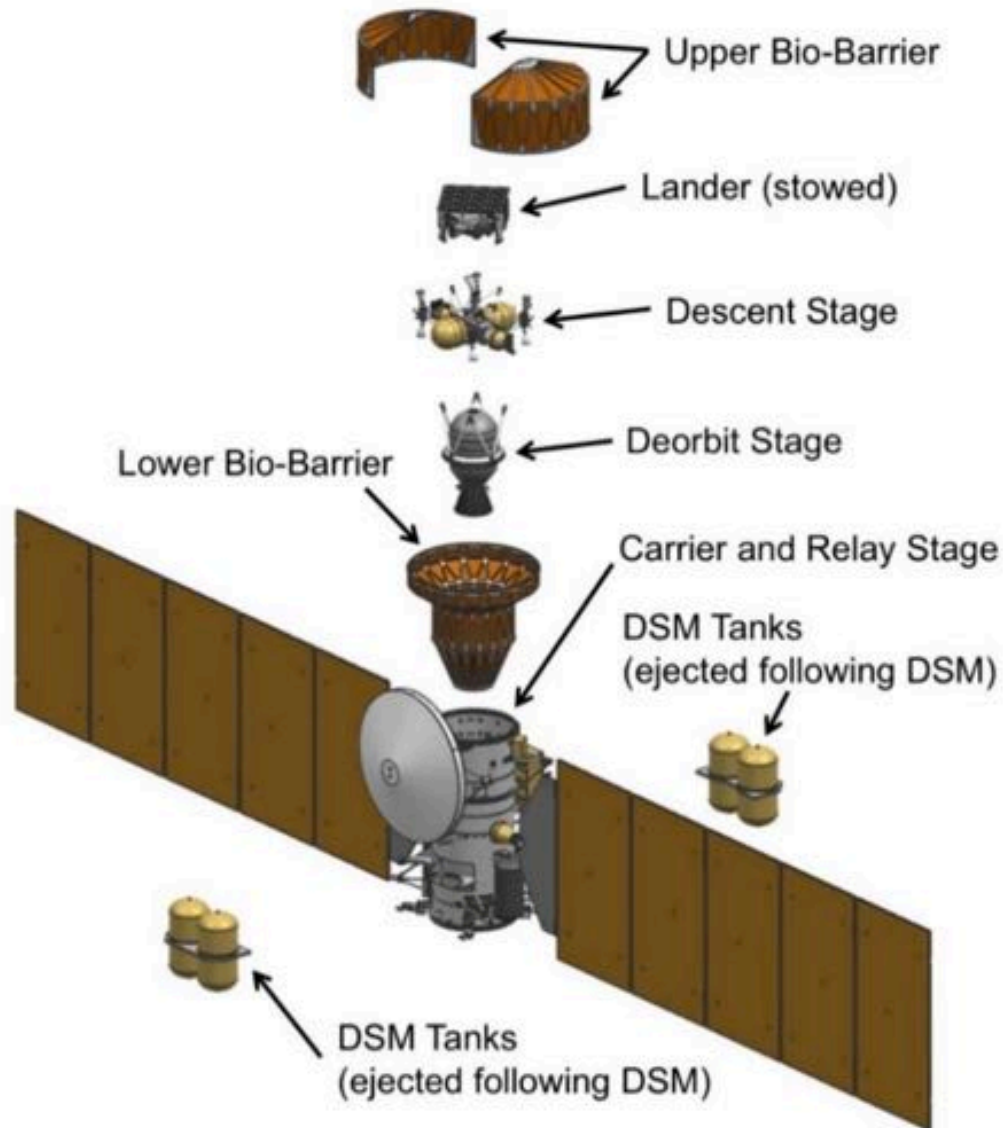


**Figure 10.4.** An example 2025 launch with a  $\Delta V$ -EGA trajectory and a 4.8-year transfer time.





# Europa Lander Integrated Spacecraft



# Europa Lander 2003 Decadal Survey

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## New Frontiers in the Solar System

An Integrated Exploration Strategy

Solar System Exploration Survey

Space Studies Board

Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL  
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

### *Medium Initiatives*

1. New technology developments to support future missions
2. Io Explorer
3. Ganymede Orbiter

### *Large Initiatives*

1. Europa Geophysical Explorer
2. Titan Explorer
3. Europa Lander (Pathfinder or Astrobiology)
4. Neptune Orbiter

8. Does (or did) life exist beyond Earth?

Europa Lander  
Mars Sample Return



Europa Lander		Decadal Survey	
Goal	Objectives	Themes & Goals	Questions & Objectives
1. BIOSIGNATURES	1. Search for evidence of life on Europa.	Crosscutting Theme 2: Planetary Habitats	<p><b>Priority Question 6:</b> Beyond Earth, are there contemporary habitats elsewhere in the solar system with necessary conditions, organic matter, water, energy, and nutrients to sustain life, and do organisms live there now?  <i>... "a lander will probably be required to fully characterize organics on the surface of Europa"</i></p>
			<p><b>Priority Question 4:</b> What were the primordial sources of organic matter, and where does organic synthesis continue today?</p>
		Satellite Science Goal 3: What are the processes that result in habitable environments?	<p><b>Objective 4:</b> Is there evidence for life on the satellites?</p> <p><b>Question 1:</b> Does (or did) life exist below the surface of Europa or Enceladus?  <i>"A key future investigation of the possibility of life on the outer planet satellites is to analyze organics from the interior of Europa. Such analysis requires [...] a lander ..."</i></p> <p><i>"Studies of the plume of Enceladus and any organics on the surface of Europa (or in potential Europa plumes) may provide evidence of biological complexity even if the organisms themselves are no longer present or viable."</i></p>
			<p><b>Objective 2:</b> What are the sources, sinks, and evolution of organic material?</p> <p><b>Question 3:</b> Are organics present on the surface of Europa, and if so, what is their provenance?</p>





Europa Lander		Decadal Survey	
Goal	Objectives	Themes & Goals	Questions & Objectives
2. SURFACE HABITABILITY	2. Assess the habitability of Europa via in situ techniques uniquely available to a lander mission.	<b>2A.</b> Characterize the non-ice composition of Europa's near-surface material and determine whether there are indicators of chemical disequilibria and other environmental factors essential for life.	<b>Satellite Science Goal 3:</b> What are the processes that result in habitable environments?  <b>Objective 3:</b> What energy sources are available to sustain life? <b>Question 1:</b> What is the nature of any biologically relevant energy sources on Europa? <i>"Important directions for future investigations ...include (1) measurement of the oxidant content."</i>
		<b>Satellite Science Goal 1:</b> How did the satellites of the outer solar system form and evolve?	<b>Objective 3:</b> How are satellite thermal and orbital evolution and internal structure related? <b>Question 8:</b> What is the thickness of Europa's outer ice shell and the depth of its ocean?  <b>Objective 4:</b> What is the diversity of geologic activity and how has it changed over time? <b>Question 5:</b> Has material from a subsurface Europa ocean been transported to the surface, and if so, how? <i>"...in situ measurements from the surface would provide additional information on the surface composition and environment and the subsurface structure"</i>
			<b>Satellite Science Goal 3:</b> What are the processes that result in habitable environments?  <b>Objective 1:</b> Where are subsurface bodies of liquid water located, and what are their characteristics and histories? <b>Question 1:</b> What are the depths below the surface, the thickness, and the conductivities of the subsurface oceans of the Galilean satellites?



Europa Lander		Decadal Survey	
Goal	Objectives	Themes & Goals	Questions & Objectives
3. SURFACE PROPERTIES AND PROCESSES	3. Characterize surface and subsurface properties at the scale of the lander to support future exploration.	<b>3A.</b> Observe the properties of surface materials and sub-meter-scale landing hazards at the landing site, including the sampled area. Connect local properties with those seen from flyby remote sensing.	<b>Crosscutting Theme 3:</b> Workings of Solar Systems  <b>Priority Question 10:</b> How have the myriad chemical and physical processes that shape the solar system operated, interacted, and evolved over time?
		<b>Satellite Science Goal 2:</b> What processes control the present-day behavior of these bodies?	<b>Objective 3:</b> How do exogenic processes modify these bodies? <b>Question 4:</b> How are potential Europa surface biomarkers from the ocean-surface exchange degraded by the radiation environment?
		<b>3B.</b> Characterize dynamic processes of Europa's surface and ice shell over the mission duration to understand exogenous and endogenous effects on the physicochemical properties of surface material.	<b>Satellite Science Goal 1:</b> How did the satellites of the outer solar system form and evolve?  <b>Satellite Science Goal 2:</b> What processes control the present-day behavior of these bodies?  <b>Objective 4:</b> What is the diversity of geologic activity and how has it changed over time? <b>Question 5:</b> Has material from a subsurface Europa ocean been transported to the surface, and if so, how?  <b>Objective 1:</b> How do active endogenic processes shape the satellites' surfaces and influence their interiors? <b>Objective 3:</b> How do exogenic processes modify these bodies?



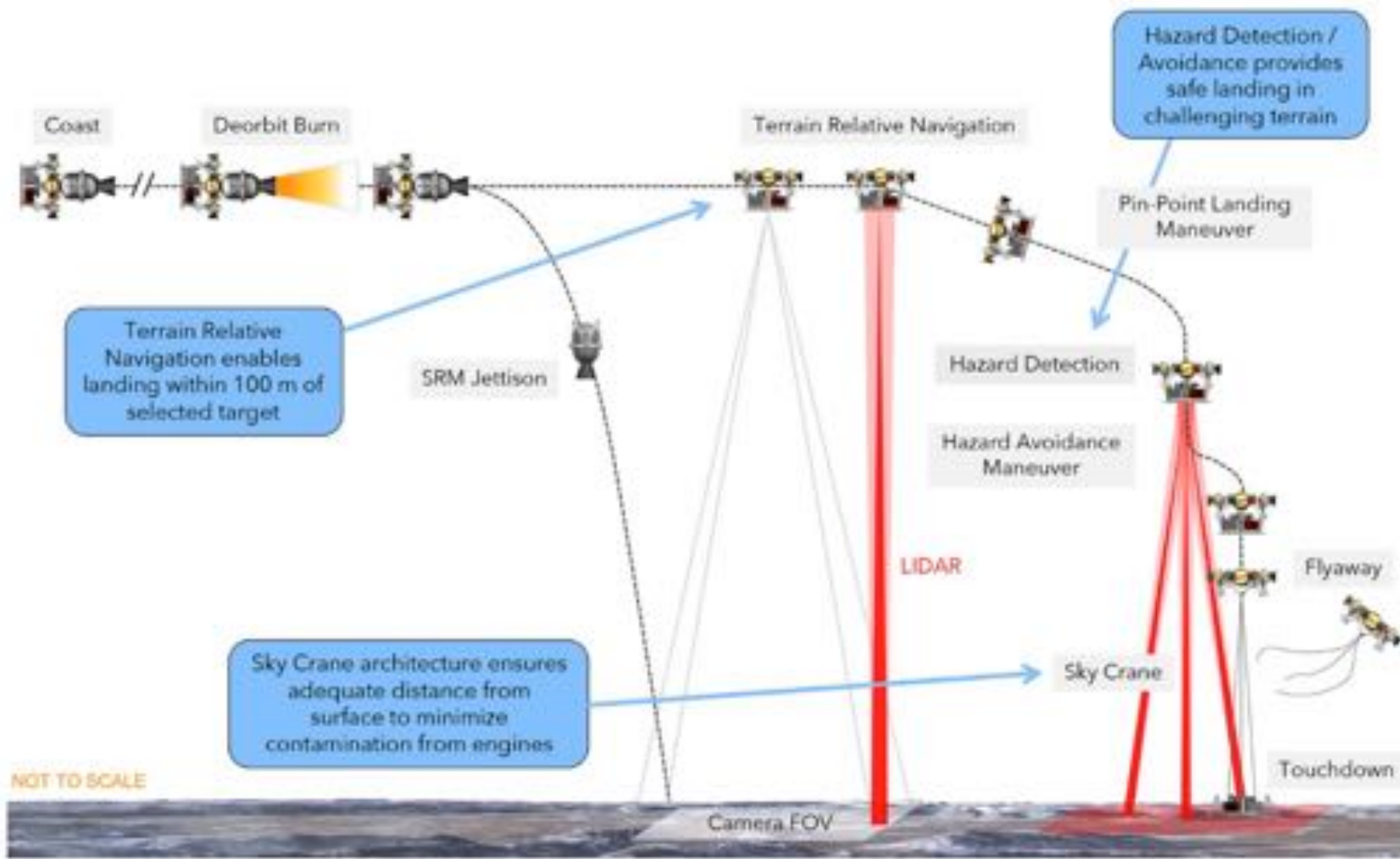
# Flying ‘the right lander’

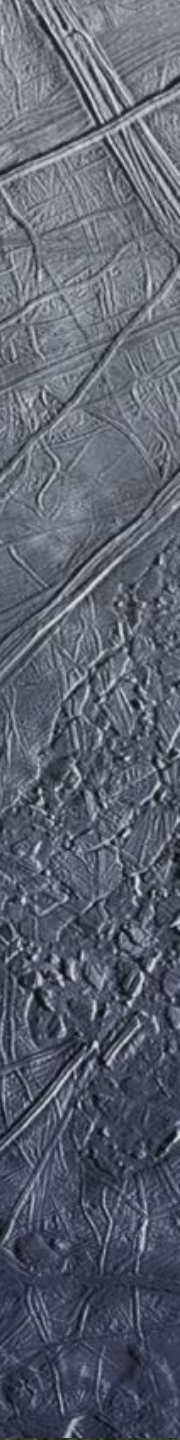
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- Why not wait until we have the science and recon data back from Clipper before building and launching a lander?
- Pro's
  - Possibly more science and surface knowledge.
- Con's
  - Earliest Phase-A would be ~2029; earliest launch would be ~2036; earliest landing would be ~2044.
  - Would require new recon spacecraft.









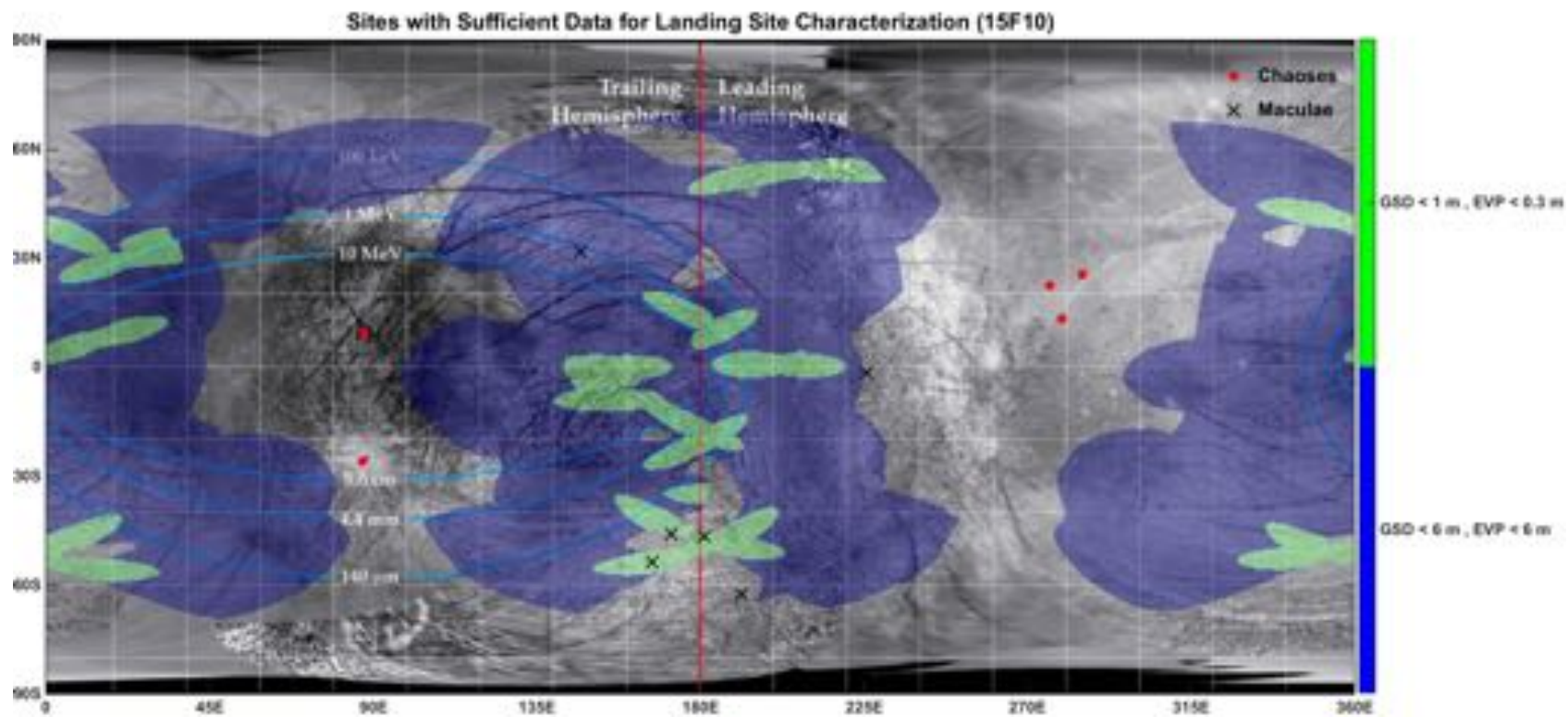
Instrument Class	Baseline Model Payload		
	Model Instrument	Characteristics	Similar Instruments*
<b>Context Remote Sensing Instrument (CSRI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two identical multi-filter, focusable, visible to near-infrared, stereo overlapping cameras with narrowband filters equivalent to those of the EIS cameras on the EMFM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multispectral filter wheel spanning the 350–1050 nm range</li> <li>34-mm fixed focal length, f/8 lenses with 21° x 15° FOV</li> <li>Camera heads:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mounted on the HGA, ≥1 m above the local european surface</li> <li>Spaced ≥20 cm apart with 2.5° toe-in</li> </ul> </li> <li>Camera resolution:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of 500 microns per pixel at distance of 2 m or more</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mastcam-34 or -100 on MSL</li> <li>Mastcam-Z on Mars 2020</li> <li>ChemCam on MSL</li> <li>SuperCam on Mars 2020</li> </ul>
<b>Microscope for Life Detection (MLD) + Vibrational Spectrometer (VS)</b> <i>[combined instrumentation]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deep UV resonance Raman and optical microscope with fluorescence spectrometer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optical microscope (OM):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resolution appropriate to provide context imaging of samples</li> <li>FOV: 100 microns x 100 microns</li> <li>Co-boresighted to spectrometer</li> </ul> </li> <li>Spectrometer               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjustable optical focus (depth of field ±12.5 mm)</li> <li>Rastered mapping of area co-registered with OM</li> <li>Raman shift: 150–3800 cm<sup>-1</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient range for minerals and organics</li> </ul> </li> <li>Resolution: ~6 cm<sup>-1</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Context imager:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WATSON on Mars 2020</li> </ul> </li> <li>Spectrometer:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SHERLOC on Mars 2020</li> <li>MicrOmega on the ExoMars 2020 rover</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Organic Compositional Analyzer (OCA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer (GC-MS) with both chirality analysis and Stable Isotope Analyzer (SIA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quadrupole mass spectrometer (QMS)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electron ionization source</li> <li>Mass-to-charge (m/z) range: 2–550 Da</li> <li>Mass resolution: Δm ≤1 Da across m/z range</li> <li>Abundance sensitivity: &gt;10<sup>6</sup></li> <li>LOD (for organics): 1 pmol g<sup>-1</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>Sample oven max temperature: ≥600°C</li> <li>Stable Isotope Analyzer (SIA):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LOD (for C1 compound at 1 pmol g<sup>-1</sup>): 10 fmol g<sup>-1</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>QMS and GC from the Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM) suite on MSL</li> </ul>
<b>Geophysical Sound- ing System (GSS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broad-band sels-mometer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequency range: 0.1 to &gt;100 Hz</li> <li>3-axis arrival information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SP seismometer from SEIS on In-Sight</li> </ul>





Instrument Class	Threshold Model Payload		
	Model Instrument	Characteristics	Similar Instruments*
<b>Context Remote Sensing Instrument (CSRI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two identical RGB, fixed focus, stereo overlapping cameras</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RGB Bayer pattern CMOS detectors</li> <li>14.7-mm fixed focal length, f/12 lenses with 45° x 45° FOV</li> <li>Camera heads:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mounted on the HGA, ≥1 m above the local european surface</li> <li>Spaced ≥20 cm apart with 2.5° toe-in</li> </ul> </li> <li>Camera resolution:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of 500 microns per pixel at distance of 2 m or more</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Navcam on MSL</li> <li>EECAM for Mars 2020</li> </ul>
<b>Microscope for Life Detection (MLD)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Atomic Force Microscope (AFM) with optical context imager</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optical context imager:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed focus with 6x magnification</li> <li>FOV: 2 mm x 1 mm</li> </ul> </li> <li>Atomic Force Microscope               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scan area: 65 microns x 65 microns</li> <li>Resolution (x, y, z): 50 nm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OM-AFM of the Phoenix Mars Lander MECA system</li> <li>Aspects of the MIDAS-AFM on Rosetta</li> </ul>
<b>Vibrational Spectrometer (VS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raman Laser Spectrometer (RLS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raman infrared point spectrometer               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjustable optical focus (depth of field: ±1 mm)</li> <li>Raman shift: 150–3800 cm<sup>-1</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient range for minerals and organics</li> </ul> </li> <li>Resolution: ~6 cm<sup>-1</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RLS on the ESA ExoMars 2020 rover</li> <li>VNIR+SWIR for SuperCam on Mars 2020</li> </ul>
<b>Organic Compositional Analyzer (OCA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer (GC-MS) with chirality analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quadrupole mass spectrometer (QMS)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electron ionization source</li> <li>Mass-to-charge (m/z) range: 2–550 Da</li> <li>Mass resolution: Δm ≤1 Da across m/z range</li> <li>Abundance sensitivity: &gt;10<sup>6</sup></li> <li>LOD (for organics): 1 pmol g<sup>-1</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>Sample oven max temperature: ≥600°C</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>QMS and GC from the Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM) suite on MSL</li> </ul>
<b>Geophysical Sound- ing System (GSS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-axis geophone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequency range: 0.1–100 Hz</li> <li>3-axis arrival information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SISMO seismometer from the OPTIMISM instrument on the Russian Mars 96 spacecraft</li> </ul>







# NRC 2000 Signs of Life Report

- Morphology
- Organic Chemistry & Biochemistry
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Isotopic Analyses
- Environmental Measurements

Biosignatures: Specificity for Life Detection, and Applicability to Detecting Extant and Extinct Life and Terrestrial Contamination on Spacecraft

Signatures of Life	Application for Life Detection	Specificity	Fossil and Nonterrestrial Life Detection
<b>Morphology (Micro- and Macroscopic)</b> Shape, size, replication structures (buds, chains of cells, spores, fruiting bodies, and spores), some biomineralized macromolecules such as biofilms and mineralized life structures	Detect extant terrestrial life, fossils, indication of active cells; application to spacecraft contamination.	Shape and size are not definitive (terrestrial life is >100 nm in diameter); replication structures are definitive indicators of life; can identify eukaryotes; biofilms and promastoid-like structures could be definitive.	Replication structures can be definitive; size, shape, and numbers of identical morphologies such as are seen in biofilms or laminated structures observed in stromatolites may or may not be definitive for life; and additional chemical and isotopic analysis are necessary.
<b>Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry</b> Cell walls (variety of dispolymers), Membranes (fatty acids), Nucleic acids (DNA, RNA), Proteins, Hydrocarbons, Alcohols, Lipones, Amino acids, Organic metal and phosphate compounds, Porphyrins, Bases, etc., Carbohydrates	Nucleic acids with same genetic code as terrestrial life would likely indicate terrestrial contamination; steroids generally indicate eukaryotes; lipones found in cyanobacteria; chirality and presence of the 20 key amino acids associated with terrestrial life indicate terrestrial and spacecraft contamination.	Bacteria, archaea, and eukaryotes have specific cell wall chemical structures (peptidoglycan, mycolic acids, and repeating structural units such as $C_{16}$ , $C_{18}$ , $C_{20}$ , $C_{22}$ , $C_{24}$ , $C_{26}$ , $C_{28}$ , $C_{30}$ , $C_{32}$ , $C_{34}$ , $C_{36}$ , $C_{38}$ , $C_{40}$ , $C_{42}$ , $C_{44}$ , $C_{46}$ , $C_{48}$ , $C_{50}$ , $C_{52}$ , $C_{54}$ , $C_{56}$ , $C_{58}$ , $C_{60}$ , $C_{62}$ , $C_{64}$ , $C_{66}$ , $C_{68}$ , $C_{70}$ , $C_{72}$ , $C_{74}$ , $C_{76}$ , $C_{78}$ , $C_{80}$ , $C_{82}$ , $C_{84}$ , $C_{86}$ , $C_{88}$ , $C_{90}$ , $C_{92}$ , $C_{94}$ , $C_{96}$ , $C_{98}$ , $C_{100}$ , $C_{102}$ , $C_{104}$ , $C_{106}$ , $C_{108}$ , $C_{110}$ , $C_{112}$ , $C_{114}$ , $C_{116}$ , $C_{118}$ , $C_{120}$ , $C_{122}$ , $C_{124}$ , $C_{126}$ , $C_{128}$ , $C_{130}$ , $C_{132}$ , $C_{134}$ , $C_{136}$ , $C_{138}$ , $C_{140}$ , $C_{142}$ , $C_{144}$ , $C_{146}$ , $C_{148}$ , $C_{150}$ , $C_{152}$ , $C_{154}$ , $C_{156}$ , $C_{158}$ , $C_{160}$ , $C_{162}$ , $C_{164}$ , $C_{166}$ , $C_{168}$ , $C_{170}$ , $C_{172}$ , $C_{174}$ , $C_{176}$ , $C_{178}$ , $C_{180}$ , $C_{182}$ , $C_{184}$ , $C_{186}$ , $C_{188}$ , $C_{190}$ , $C_{192}$ , $C_{194}$ , $C_{196}$ , $C_{198}$ , $C_{200}$ , $C_{202}$ , $C_{204}$ , $C_{206}$ , $C_{208}$ , $C_{210}$ , $C_{212}$ , $C_{214}$ , $C_{216}$ , $C_{218}$ , $C_{220}$ , $C_{222}$ , $C_{224}$ , $C_{226}$ , $C_{228}$ , $C_{230}$ , $C_{232}$ , $C_{234}$ , $C_{236}$ , $C_{238}$ , $C_{240}$ , $C_{242}$ , $C_{244}$ , $C_{246}$ , $C_{248}$ , $C_{250}$ , $C_{252}$ , $C_{254}$ , $C_{256}$ , $C_{258}$ , $C_{260}$ , $C_{262}$ , $C_{264}$ , $C_{266}$ , $C_{268}$ , $C_{270}$ , $C_{272}$ , $C_{274}$ , $C_{276}$ , $C_{278}$ , $C_{280}$ , $C_{282}$ , $C_{284}$ , $C_{286}$ , $C_{288}$ , $C_{290}$ , $C_{292}$ , $C_{294}$ , $C_{296}$ , $C_{298}$ , $C_{300}$ , $C_{302}$ , $C_{304}$ , $C_{306}$ , $C_{308}$ , $C_{310}$ , $C_{312}$ , $C_{314}$ , $C_{316}$ , $C_{318}$ , $C_{320}$ , $C_{322}$ , $C_{324}$ , $C_{326}$ , $C_{328}$ , $C_{330}$ , $C_{332}$ , $C_{334}$ , $C_{336}$ , $C_{338}$ , $C_{340}$ , $C_{342}$ , $C_{344}$ , $C_{346}$ , $C_{348}$ , $C_{350}$ , $C_{352}$ , $C_{354}$ , $C_{356}$ , $C_{358}$ , $C_{360}$ , $C_{362}$ , $C_{364}$ , $C_{366}$ , $C_{368}$ , $C_{370}$ , $C_{372}$ , $C_{374}$ , $C_{376}$ , $C_{378}$ , $C_{380}$ , $C_{382}$ , $C_{384}$ , $C_{386}$ , $C_{388}$ , $C_{390}$ , $C_{392}$ , $C_{394}$ , $C_{396}$ , $C_{398}$ , $C_{400}$ , $C_{402}$ , $C_{404}$ , $C_{406}$ , $C_{408}$ , $C_{410}$ , $C_{412}$ , $C_{414}$ , $C_{416}$ , $C_{418}$ , $C_{420}$ , $C_{422}$ , $C_{424}$ , $C_{426}$ , $C_{428}$ , $C_{430}$ , $C_{432}$ , $C_{434}$ , $C_{436}$ , $C_{438}$ , $C_{440}$ , $C_{442}$ , $C_{444}$ , $C_{446}$ , $C_{448}$ , $C_{450}$ , $C_{452}$ , $C_{454}$ , $C_{456}$ , $C_{458}$ , $C_{460}$ , $C_{462}$ , $C_{464}$ , $C_{466}$ , $C_{468}$ , $C_{470}$ , $C_{472}$ , $C_{474}$ , $C_{476}$ , $C_{478}$ , $C_{480}$ , $C_{482}$ , $C_{484}$ , $C_{486}$ , $C_{488}$ , $C_{490}$ , $C_{492}$ , $C_{494}$ , $C_{496}$ , $C_{498}$ , $C_{500}$ , $C_{502}$ , $C_{504}$ , $C_{506}$ , $C_{508}$ , $C_{510}$ , $C_{512}$ , $C_{514}$ , $C_{516}$ , $C_{518}$ , $C_{520}$ , $C_{522}$ , $C_{524}$ , $C_{526}$ , $C_{528}$ , $C_{530}$ , $C_{532}$ , $C_{534}$ , $C_{536}$ , $C_{538}$ , $C_{540}$ , $C_{542}$ , $C_{544}$ , $C_{546}$ , $C_{548}$ , $C_{550}$ , $C_{552}$ , $C_{554}$ , $C_{556}$ , $C_{558}$ , $C_{560}$ , $C_{562}$ , $C_{564}$ , $C_{566}$ , $C_{568}$ , $C_{570}$ , $C_{572}$ , $C_{574}$ , $C_{576}$ , $C_{578}$ , $C_{580}$ , $C_{582}$ , $C_{584}$ , $C_{586}$ , $C_{588}$ , $C_{590}$ , $C_{592}$ , $C_{594}$ , $C_{596}$ , $C_{598}$ , $C_{600}$ , $C_{602}$ , $C_{604}$ , $C_{606}$ , $C_{608}$ , $C_{610}$ , $C_{612}$ , $C_{614}$ , $C_{616}$ , $C_{618}$ , $C_{620}$ , $C_{622}$ , $C_{624}$ , $C_{626}$ , $C_{628}$ , $C_{630}$ , $C_{632}$ , $C_{634}$ , $C_{636}$ , $C_{638}$ , $C_{640}$ , $C_{642}$ , $C_{644}$ , $C_{646}$ , $C_{648}$ , $C_{650}$ , $C_{652}$ , $C_{654}$ , $C_{656}$ , $C_{658}$ , $C_{660}$ , $C_{662}$ , $C_{664}$ , $C_{666}$ , $C_{668}$ , $C_{670}$ , $C_{672}$ , $C_{674}$ , $C_{676}$ , $C_{678}$ , $C_{680}$ , $C_{682}$ , $C_{684}$ , $C_{686}$ , $C_{688}$ , $C_{690}$ , $C_{692}$ , $C_{694}$ , $C_{696}$ , $C_{698}$ , $C_{700}$ , $C_{702}$ , $C_{704}$ , $C_{706}$ , $C_{708}$ , $C_{710}$ , $C_{712}$ , $C_{714}$ , $C_{716}$ , $C_{718}$ , $C_{720}$ , $C_{722}$ , $C_{724}$ , $C_{726}$ , $C_{728}$ , $C_{730}$ , $C_{732}$ , $C_{734}$ , $C_{736}$ , $C_{738}$ , $C_{740}$ , $C_{742}$ , $C_{744}$ , $C_{746}$ , $C_{748}$ , $C_{750}$ , $C_{752}$ , $C_{754}$ , $C_{756}$ , $C_{758}$ , $C_{760}$ , $C_{762}$ , $C_{764}$ , $C_{766}$ , $C_{768}$ , $C_{770}$ , $C_{772}$ , $C_{774}$ , $C_{776}$ , $C_{778}$ , $C_{780}$ , $C_{782}$ , $C_{784}$ , $C_{786}$ , $C_{788}$ , $C_{790}$ , $C_{792}$ , $C_{794}$ , $C_{796}$ , $C_{798}$ , $C_{800}$ , $C_{802}$ , $C_{804}$ , $C_{806}$ , $C_{808}$ , $C_{810}$ , $C_{812}$ , $C_{814}$ , $C_{816}$ , $C_{818}$ , $C_{820}$ , $C_{822}$ , $C_{824}$ , $C_{826}$ , $C_{828}$ , $C_{830}$ , $C_{832}$ , $C_{834}$ , $C_{836}$ , $C_{838}$ , $C_{840}$ , $C_{842}$ , $C_{844}$ , $C_{846}$ , $C_{848}$ , $C_{850}$ , $C_{852}$ , $C_{854}$ , $C_{856}$ , $C_{858}$ , $C_{860}$ , $C_{862}$ , $C_{864}$ , $C_{866}$ , $C_{868}$ , $C_{870}$ , $C_{872}$ , $C_{874}$ , $C_{876}$ , $C_{878}$ , $C_{880}$ , $C_{882}$ , $C_{884}$ , $C_{886}$ , $C_{888}$ , $C_{890}$ , $C_{892}$ , $C_{894}$ , $C_{896}$ , $C_{898}$ , $C_{900}$ , $C_{902}$ , $C_{904}$ , $C_{906}$ , $C_{908}$ , $C_{910}$ , $C_{912}$ , $C_{914}$ , $C_{916}$ , $C_{918}$ , $C_{920}$ , $C_{922}$ , $C_{924}$ , $C_{926}$ , $C_{928}$ , $C_{930}$ , $C_{932}$ , $C_{934}$ , $C_{936}$ , $C_{938}$ , $C_{940}$ , $C_{942}$ , $C_{944}$ , $C_{946}$ , $C_{948}$ , $C_{950}$ , $C_{952}$ , $C_{954}$ , $C_{956}$ , $C_{958}$ , $C_{960}$ , $C_{962}$ , $C_{964}$ , $C_{966}$ , $C_{968}$ , $C_{970}$ , $C_{972}$ , $C_{974}$ , $C_{976}$ , $C_{978}$ , $C_{980}$ , $C_{982}$ , $C_{984}$ , $C_{986}$ , $C_{988}$ , $C_{990}$ , $C_{992}$ , $C_{994}$ , $C_{996}$ , $C_{998}$ , $C_{1000}$ , $C_{1002}$ , $C_{1004}$ , $C_{1006}$ , $C_{1008}$ , $C_{1010}$ , $C_{1012}$ , $C_{1014}$ , $C_{1016}$ , $C_{1018}$ , $C_{1020}$ , $C_{1022}$ , $C_{1024}$ , $C_{1026}$ , $C_{1028}$ , $C_{1030}$ , $C_{1032}$ , $C_{1034}$ , $C_{1036}$ , $C_{1038}$ , $C_{1040}$ , $C_{1042}$ , $C_{1044}$ , $C_{1046}$ , $C_{1048}$ , $C_{1050}$ , $C_{1052}$ , $C_{1054}$ , $C_{1056}$ , $C_{1058}$ , $C_{1060}$ , $C_{1062}$ , $C_{1064}$ , $C_{1066}$ , $C_{1068}$ , $C_{1070}$ , $C_{1072}$ , $C_{1074}$ , $C_{1076}$ , $C_{1078}$ , $C_{1080}$ , $C_{1082}$ , $C_{1084}$ , $C_{1086}$ , $C_{1088}$ , $C_{1090}$ , $C_{1092}$ , $C_{1094}$ , $C_{1096}$ , $C_{1098}$ , $C_{1100}$ , $C_{1102}$ , $C_{1104}$ , $C_{1106}$ , $C_{1108}$ , $C_{1110}$ , $C_{1112}$ , $C_{1114}$ , $C_{1116}$ , $C_{1118}$ , $C_{1120}$ , $C_{1122}$ , $C_{1124}$ , $C_{1126}$ , $C_{1128}$ , $C_{1130}$ , $C_{1132}$ , $C_{1134}$ , $C_{1136}$ , $C_{1138}$ , $C_{1140}$ , $C_{1142}$ , $C_{1144}$ , $C_{1146}$ , $C_{1148}$ , $C_{1150}$ , $C_{1152}$ , $C_{1154}$ , $C_{1156}$ , $C_{1158}$ , $C_{1160}$ , $C_{1162}$ , $C_{1164}$ , $C_{1166}$ , $C_{1168}$ , $C_{1170}$ , $C_{1172}$ , $C_{1174}$ , $C_{1176}$ , $C_{1178}$ , $C_{1180}$ , $C_{1182}$ , $C_{1184}$ , $C_{1186}$ , $C_{1188}$ , $C_{1190}$ , $C_{1192}$ , $C_{1194}$ , $C_{1196}$ , $C_{1198}$ , $C_{1200}$ , $C_{1202}$ , $C_{1204}$ , $C_{1206}$ , $C_{1208}$ , $C_{1210}$ , $C_{1212}$ , $C_{1214}$ , $C_{1216}$ , $C_{1218}$ , $C_{1220}$ , $C_{1222}$ , $C_{1224}$ , $C_{1226}$ , $C_{1228}$ , $C_{1230}$ , $C_{1232}$ , $C_{1234}$ , $C_{1236}$ , $C_{1238}$ , $C_{1240}$ , $C_{1242}$ , $C_{1244}$ , $C_{1246}$ , $C_{1248}$ , $C_{1250}$ , $C_{1252}$ , $C_{1254}$ , $C_{1256}$ , $C_{1258}$ , $C_{1260}$ , $C_{1262}$ , $C_{1264}$ , $C_{1266}$ , $C_{1268}$ , $C_{1270}$ , $C_{1272}$ , $C_{1274}$ , $C_{1276}$ , $C_{1278}$ , $C_{1280}$ , $C_{1282}$ , $C_{1284}$ , $C_{1286}$ , $C_{1288}$ , $C_{1290}$ , $C_{1292}$ , $C_{1294}$ , $C_{1296}$ , $C_{1298}$ , $C_{1300}$ , $C_{1302}$ , $C_{1304}$ , $C_{1306}$ , $C_{1308}$ , $C_{1310}$ , $C_{1312}$ , $C_{1314}$ , $C_{1316}$ , $C_{1318}$ , $C_{1320}$ , $C_{1322}$ , $C_{1324}$ , $C_{1326}$ , $C_{1328}$ , $C_{1330}$ , $C_{1332}$ , $C_{1334}$ , $C_{1336}$ , $C_{1338}$ , $C_{1340}$ , $C_{1342}$ , $C_{1344}$ , $C_{1346}$ , $C_{1348}$ , $C_{1350}$ , $C_{1352}$ , $C_{1354}$ , $C_{1356}$ , $C_{1358}$ , $C_{1360}$ , $C_{1362}$ , $C_{1364}$ , $C_{1366}$ , $C_{1368}$ , $C_{1370}$ , $C_{1372}$ , $C_{1374}$ , $C_{1376}$ , $C_{1378}$ , $C_{1380}$ , $C_{1382}$ , $C_{1384}$ , $C_{1386}$ , $C_{1388}$ , $C_{1390}$ , $C_{1392}$ , $C_{1394}$ , $C_{1396}$ , $C_{1398}$ , $C_{1400}$ , $C_{1402}$ , $C_{1404}$ , $C_{1406}$ , $C_{1408}$ , $C_{1410}$ , $C_{1412}$ , $C_{1414}$ , $C_{1416}$ , $C_{1418}$ , $C_{1420}$ , $C_{1422}$ , $C_{1424}$ , $C_{1426}$ , $C_{1428}$ , $C_{1430}$ , $C_{1432}$ , $C_{1434}$ , $C_{1436}$ , $C_{1438}$ , $C_{1440}$ , $C_{1442}$ , $C_{1444}$ , $C_{1446}$ , $C_{1448}$ , $C_{1450}$ , $C_{1452}$ , $C_{1454}$ , 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$C_{2072}$ , $C_{2074}$ , $C_{2076}$ , $C_{2078}$ , $C_{2080}$ , $C_{2082}$ , $C_{2084}$ , $C_{2086}$ , $C_{2088}$ , $C_{2090}$ , $C_{2092}$ , $C_{2094}$ , $C_{2096}$ , $C_{2098}$ , $C_{2100}$ , $C_{2102}$ , $C_{2104}$ , $C_{2106}$ , $C_{2108}$ , $C_{2110}$ , $C_{2112}$ , $C_{2114}$ , $C_{2116}$ , $C_{2118}$ , $C_{2120}$ , $C_{2122}$ , $C_{2124}$ , $C_{2126}$ , $C_{2128}$ , $C_{2130}$ , $C_{2132}$ , $C_{2134}$ , $C_{2136}$ , $C_{2138}$ , $C_{2140}$ , $C_{2142}$ , $C_{2144}$ , $C_{2146}$ , $C_{2148}$ , $C_{2150}$ , $C_{2152}$ , $C_{2154}$ , $C_{2156}$ , $C_{2158}$ , $C_{2160}$ , $C_{2162}$ , $C_{2164}$ , $C_{2166}$ , $C_{2168}$ , $C_{2170}$ , $C_{2172}$ , $C_{2174}$ , $C_{2176}$ , $C_{2178}$ , $C_{2180}$ , $C_{2182}$ , $C_{2184}$ , $C_{2186}$ , $C_{2188}$ , $C_{2190}$ , $C_{2192}$ , $C_{2194}$ , $C_{2196}$ , $C_{2198}$ , $C_{2200}$ , $C_{2202}$ , $C_{2204}$ , $C_{2206}$ , $C_{2208}$ , $C_{2210}$ , $C_{2212}$ , $C_{2214}$ , $C_{2216}$ , $C_{2218}$ , $C_{2220}$ , $C_{2222}$ , $C_{2224}$ , $C_{2226}$ , $C_{2228}$ , $C_{2230}$ , $C_{2232}$ , $C_{2234}$ , $C_{2236}$ , $C_{2238}$ , $C_{2240}$ , $C_{2242}$	

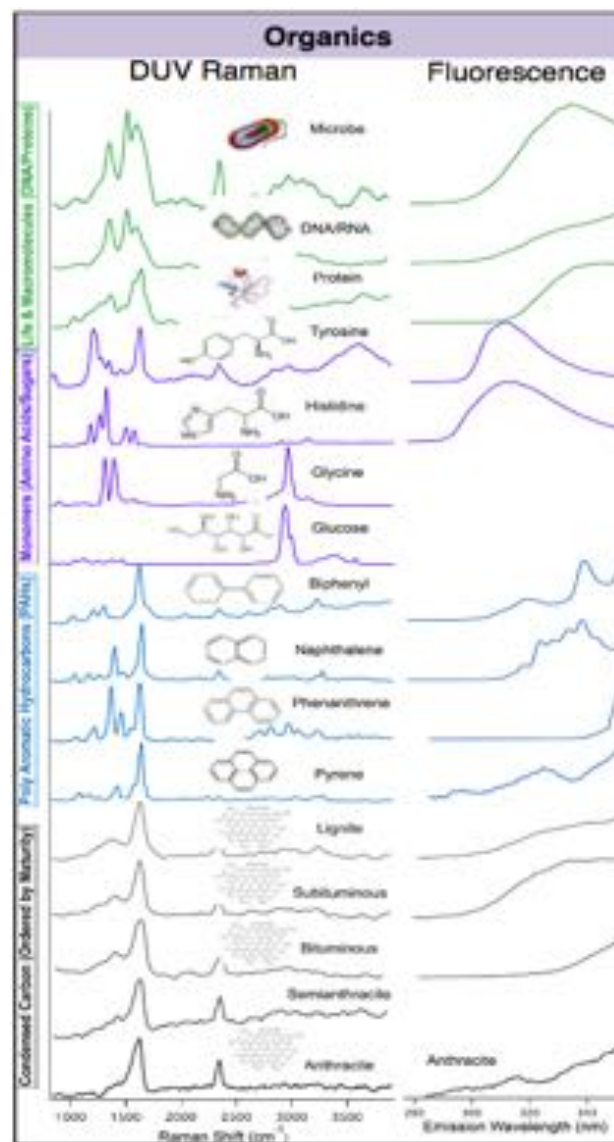


<b>Mission</b>	<b>Payload mass (kg)</b>	<b># of Samples, Threshold (Baseline)</b>	<b>Sample volume (cubic centimeters)</b>	<b>Mission surface lifetime (Threshold)</b>
Mars Pathfinder	7.98 (includes weather station on landing platform; rover had <1.5 kg)	NA	NA	30 sols (7 sols for the rover)
Mars Exploration Rovers	5.5 (7 instruments)	3 (6) [RAT grindings]	NA	90 sols (92 earth days)
Phoenix	59 (with robotic arm and sampling systems)	2 (9)	1 cc	90 sols
Mars Science Laboratory (Curiosity)	75 (10 instruments)	5	<1 cc from 20-50 mm depth	668 sols (683 earth days)
Europa Lander (this study)	42.5 (instruments only)	3 (5)	5 cc from at least 100 mm depth	20 earth days (5.63 eurosols)



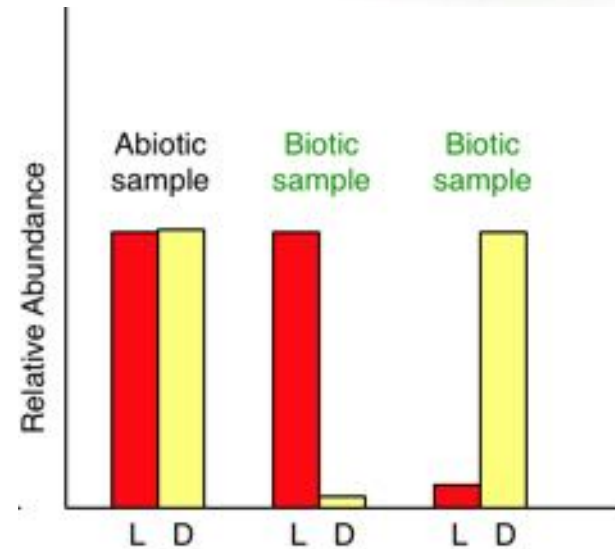
# Organic Detection & Characterization

- Model Payload employs complimentary techniques for organic detection and characterization:
  - Organic Compositional Analyzer: Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer
  - Vibrational Spectrometer: Raman spectrometer



# Chirality and Life's little twist

- Life's Legos consist of almost exclusively one enantiomer (i.e. one hand)
  - Earth: L-amino acids and D-sugars
- Abiotic processes produce racemic mixtures\*
- Enantiomeric excess may be a 'universal principle' for building carbon-based life.



\*Pure circularly polarized light can yield enantiomeric excess





# Meteoritic Abiotic Benchmarks

How much of an enantiomeric excess do we need to implicate biological processes?

**TABLE 7.1** Enantiomeric Enrichments for Amino Acids in the Murchison and Murray Meteorites

Compound	On Earth <sup>a</sup>	Enantiomeric Enrichment (%)	
		Murchison	Murray
2-Amino-2,3-dimethyl-pentanoic acid			
2S,3S/2R,3R	Unknown	7.6	1.0
2S,3S/2R,3S	Unknown	9.2	2.2
$\alpha$ -Methylnorleucine	Unknown	4.4	1.8
$\alpha$ -Methylnorvaline	Unknown	2.8	1.4
$\alpha$ -Methylvaline	Unknown	2.8	1.0
Isovaline	Rare	8.4	6.0
Norvaline	Rare	0.4	0.8
$\alpha$ -amino-n-butyric acid	Common	0.4	-0.4
Valine	Ubiquitous	2.2	-0.4
Alanine	Ubiquitous	1.2	0.4

<sup>a</sup>Natural abundance of the amino acid in Earth's biosphere.

SOURCE: Data from Pizzarello, S., and Cronin, J.R. 2000. Non-racemic amino acids in the Murray and Murchison meteorites. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 64:329-338.

**7-9% EE detected in some amino acids in Murchison meteorite – an 'abiotic benchmark'.**

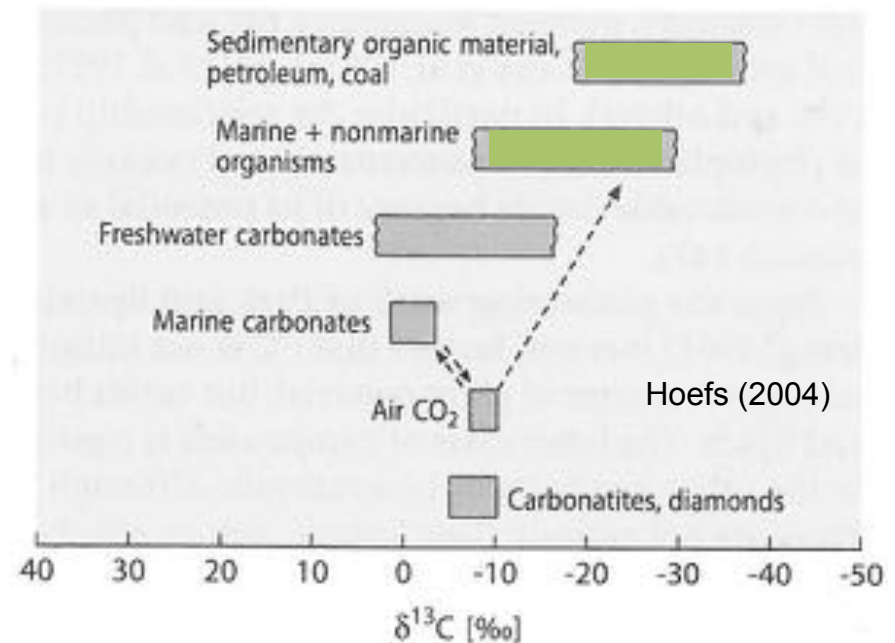
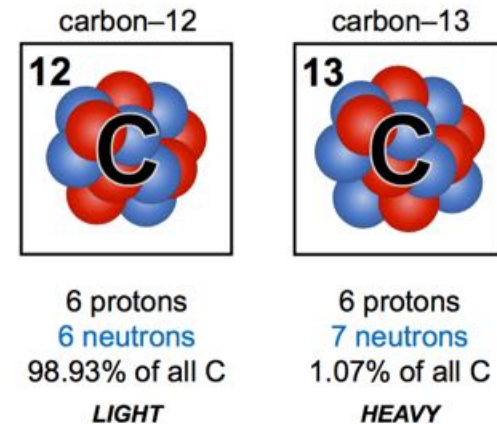
**SDT set an EE 'biogenic' threshold of 2X Murchison value: ~ 20%.**

**Measurement Requirement:**  
Quantify Enantiomeric Excess (chirality) to an accuracy of <5%



# Carbon isotopes indicate 'Life is Enlightened'

- Biological processes preferentially exclude carbon's stable heavy ( $^{13}\text{C}$ ) isotope.
- Radiation processing preferentially sputters and releases  $^{12}\text{C}$ .
- Not definitive, but an important contextual measurement for understanding carbon reservoirs on any world.



$^{13}\text{C}$  depletion →

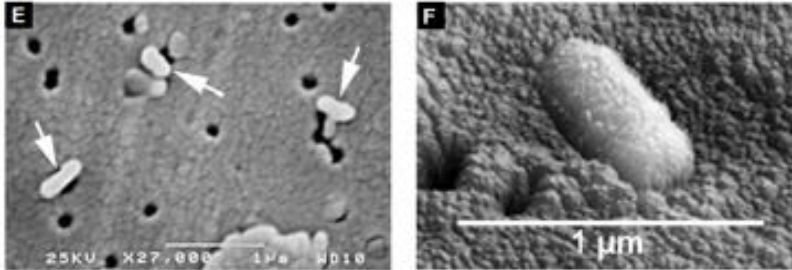


# Microscale & Macroscale Structures



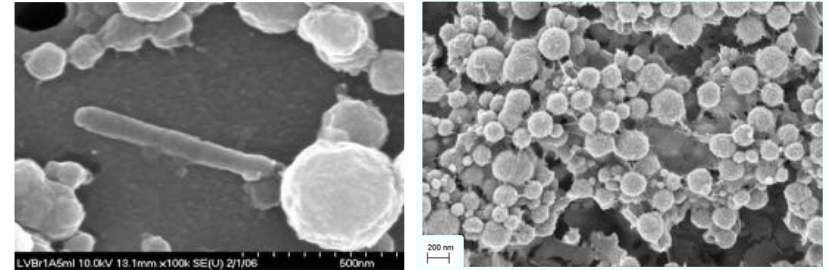
## Micro:

### Lake Vostok Accretion ice



Priscu et al. 1999, Science.

### Lake Vida Brine



Murray et al. 2012 PNAS.

## Macro:

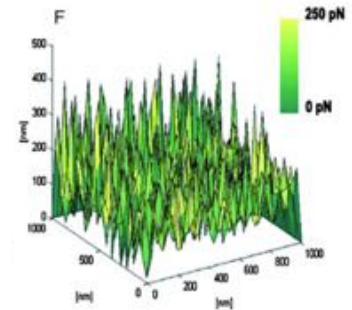


- Pigments
- Filamentous aggregations
- Biomineral structures

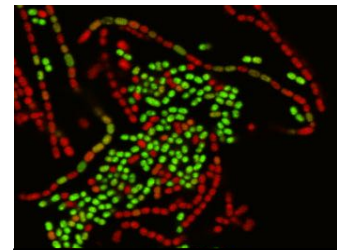


# Detect structural, compositional or functional indicators of life

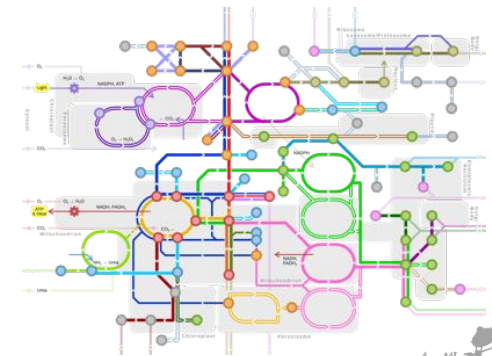
- Properties that provide supporting data concerning nature of microscale structures
  - Biophysical properties (AFM)
  - Spectral characterization (Spectroscopy)
  - Molecular or particle motion (AFM, holographic microscope)
  - Fluorescence detection (EFM, FCM, Deep UV)
    - Native fluorescence
    - Molecular stains
- Search for metabolic by-products
  - Low molecular weight “waste” organics
  - High molecular weight excesses
  - Molecular biocomplexity– only produced by biological synthesis



3D map: cell surface adhesion forces

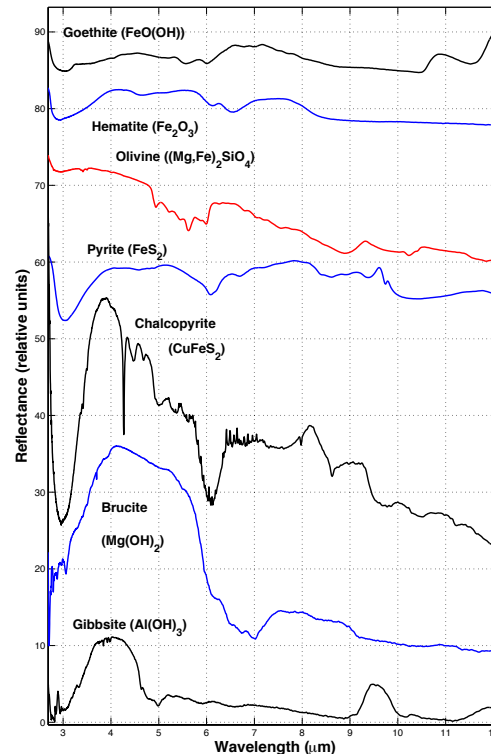


Membrane integrity



# Inorganic Indicators of Life

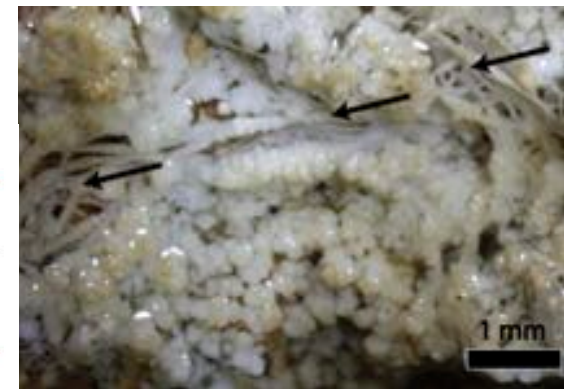
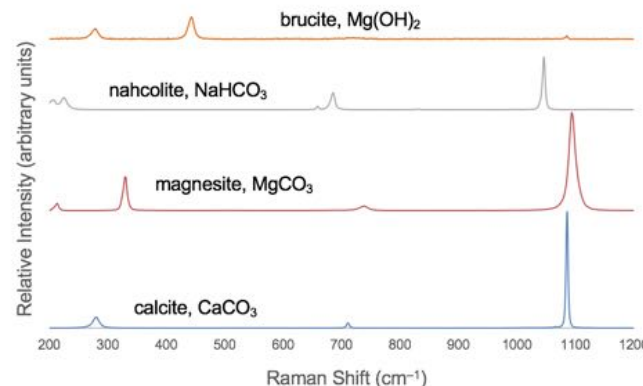
- Life and biological processes utilize a variety of inorganic compounds for metabolic processes and structures.
- Iron, sulfur, silicon and calcium compounds and minerals provide just a few examples.



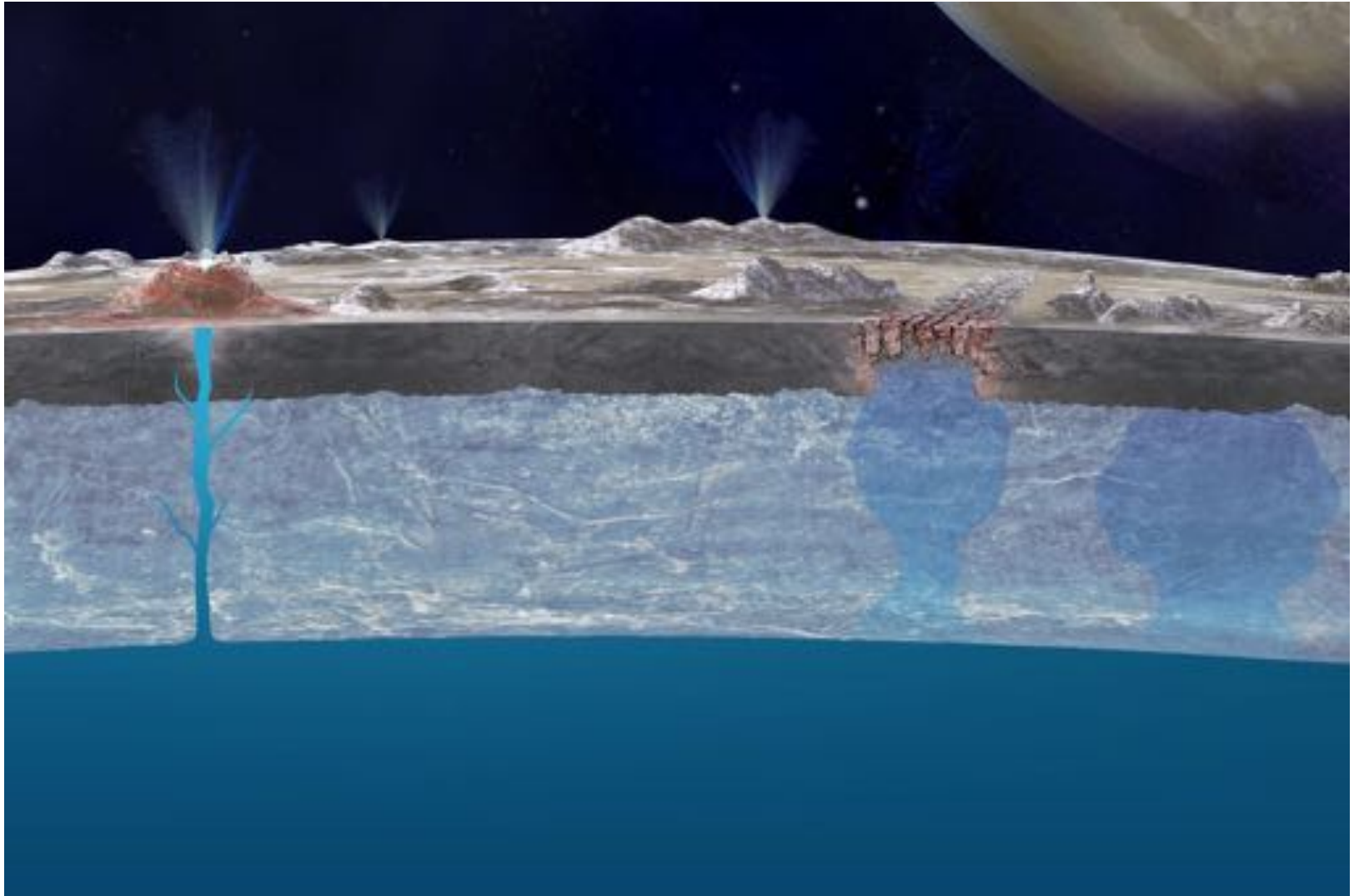
Priscu et al. (1999)

## Measurement requirement:

- Identify inorganic and volatile components in the sample at 10's to 100's of part per thousand level.

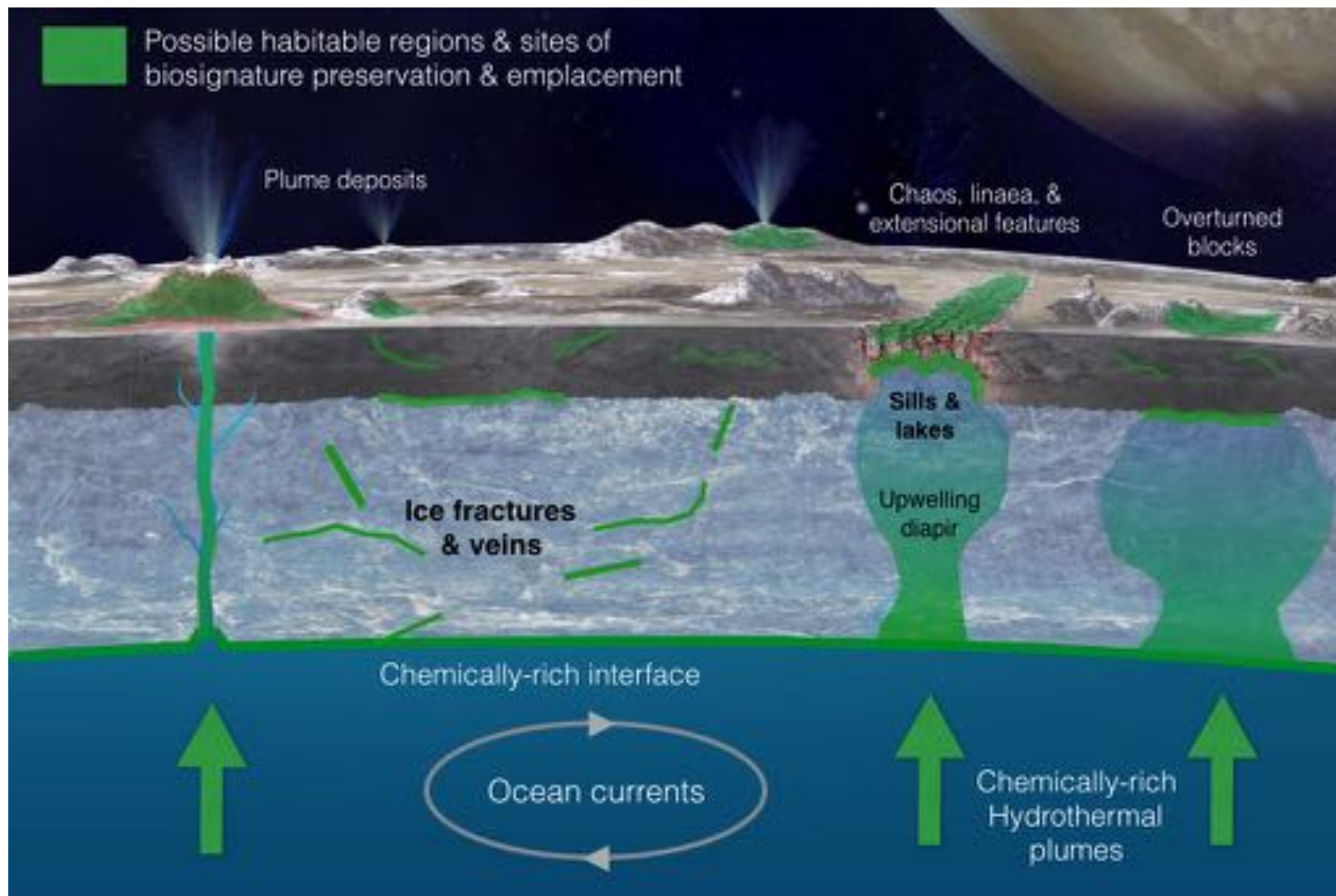


# Provenance



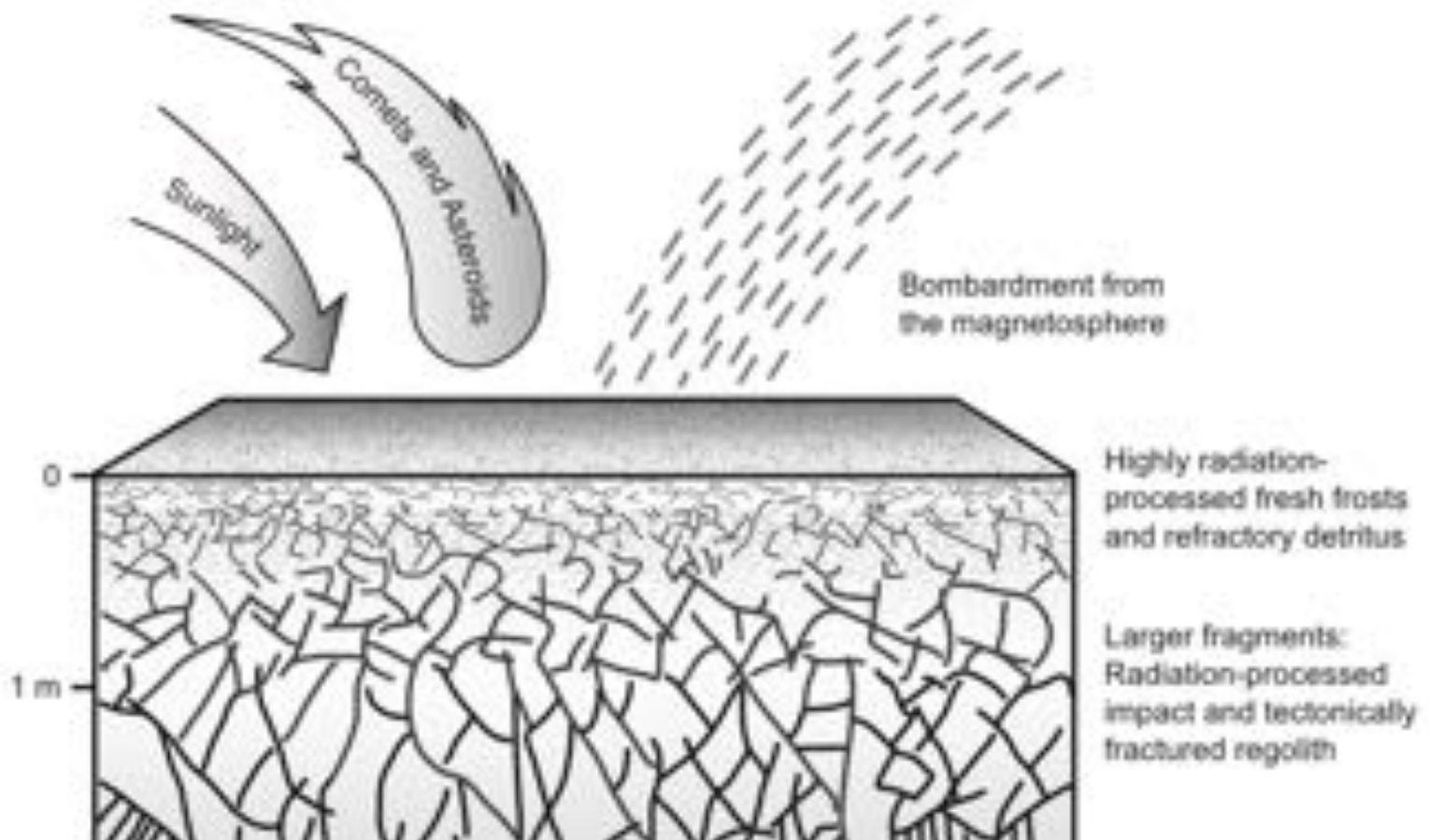


# Provenance



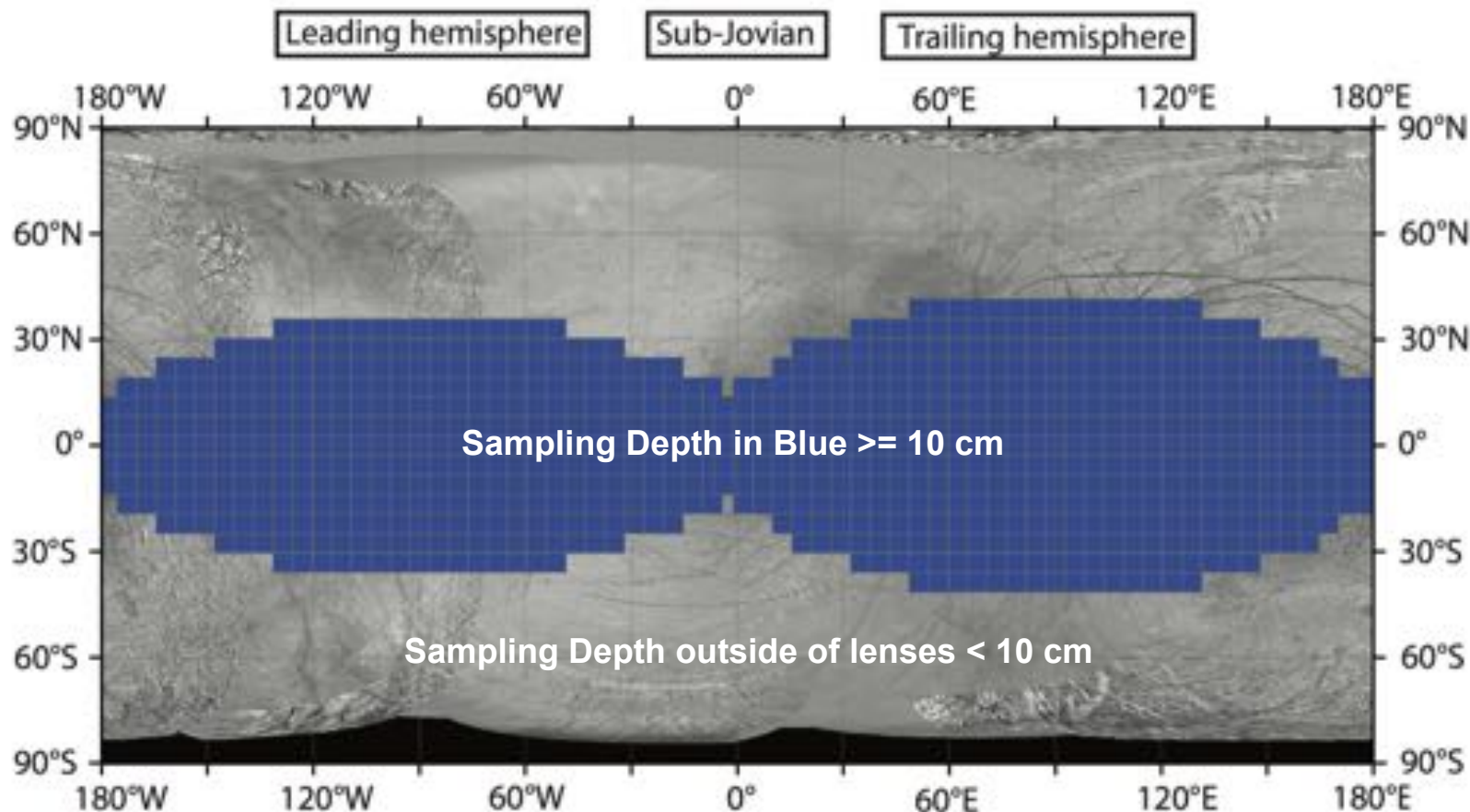
# Provenance

## The Ideal Sample vs. Reality





# Radiation processing: Sampling depth



**For a  $10^7$  yr average surface age, a pure water ice surface would be radiation processed to a 60 Grad dose (100 eV/16-amu) down to 10 cm.**

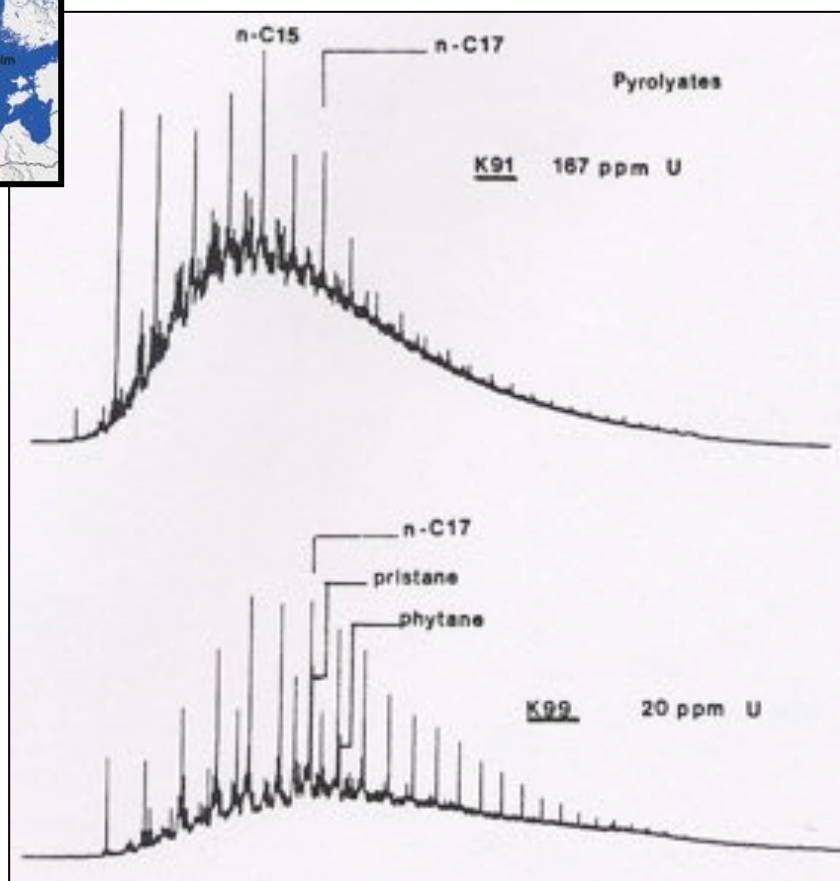




# Radiation Processing: Organic Patterns & Complexity



## Irradiation Effects on Biosignatures



- Uranium-rich rocks on Earth provide a useful guide.
- With  $>10^9$  rad the relative pattern changes but the biological 'Legos' can still be measured.



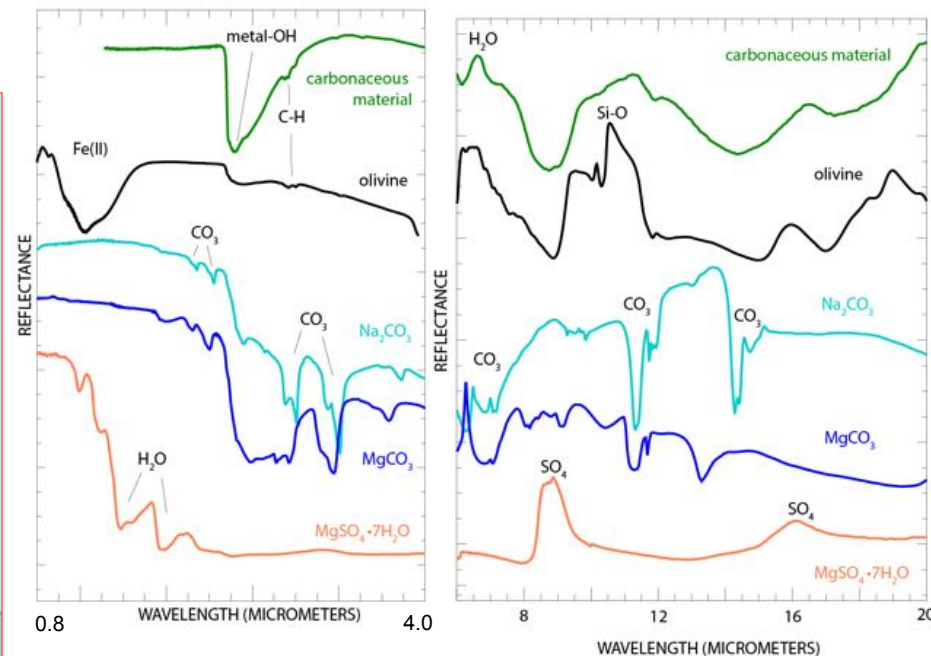
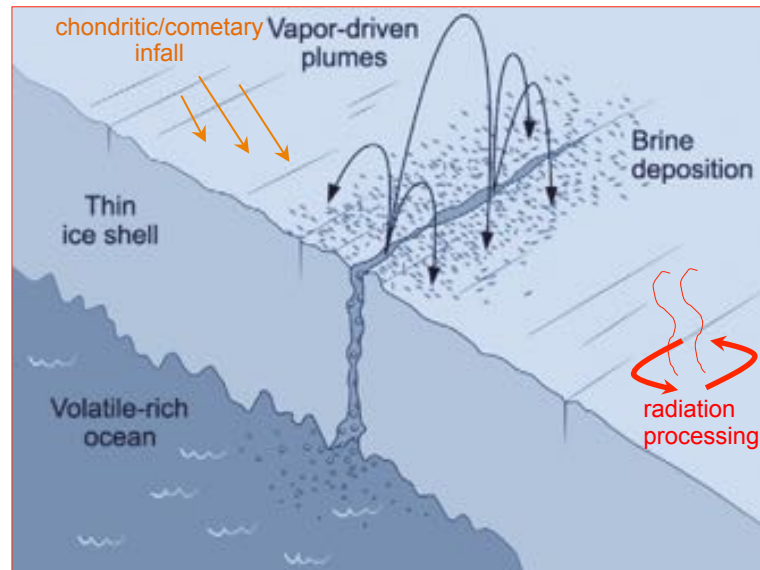
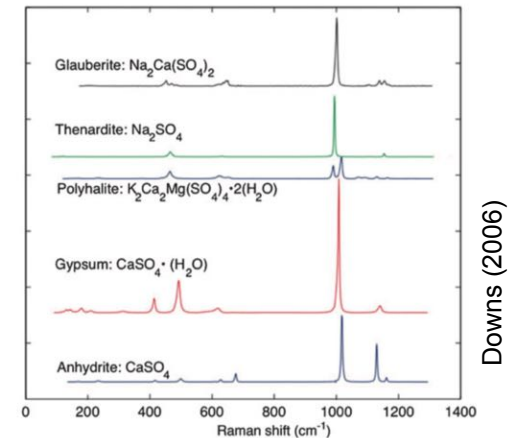
# Characterize Non-ice Composition

Spectroscopy reveals habitability and the effects of radiation on sampled materials

- Ocean chemistry by analyses of salts (C, Cl, S).
- Exogenous materials, which may provide nutrients to the ocean (micrometeorites, Io-sourced deposits).
- Ice grain size, which can reveal plume deposits and relative ice age.
- Radiation products, which indicate surface exposure.

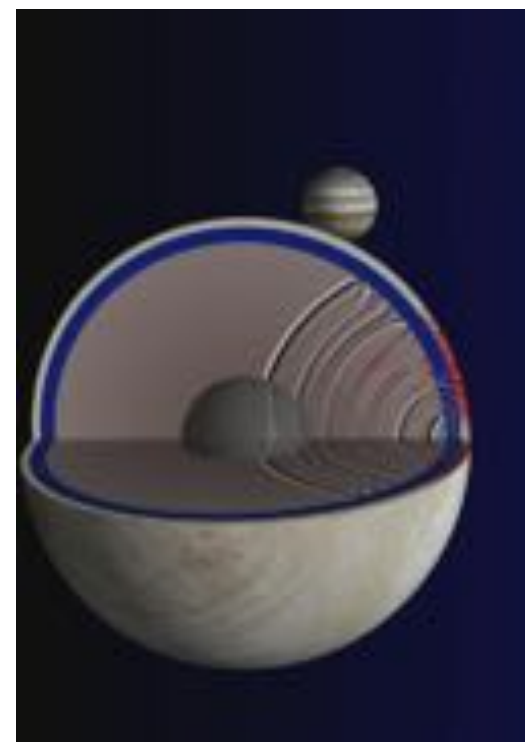
## Measurement requirement:

- Identify inorganic and volatile components in the sample at 10's of part per thousand level.



# Determine the Proximity to Liquid Water

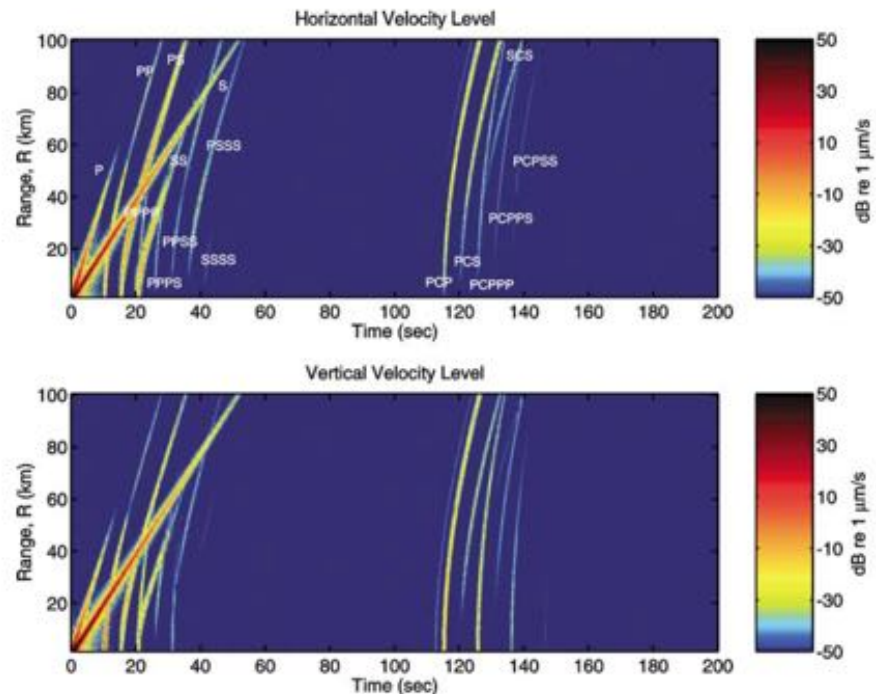
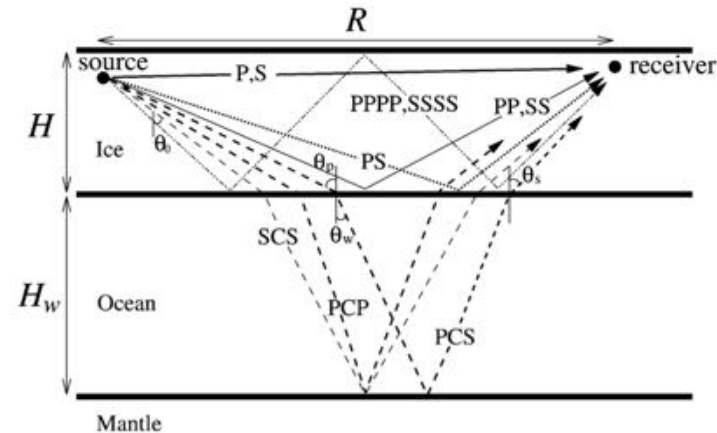
- Because the ice shell of Europa is ~10's km in thickness, and the ocean is ~100 km deep, signals of **~0.1 Hz to a few Hz** can be used to reveal ice shell thickness and mechanical properties, and possibly even seafloor depth.
- A single 3-axis geophone achieves the **Threshold** measurement, provided it can monitor Europa for at least two tidal cycles (7 Earth days).
- **Baseline** payload accommodates a broad-band seismometer that can 'listen' deeper into Europa's interior.





# Determine the Proximity to Liquid Water

- A tectonic event 100 km away from the lander will generate acoustic signals that take < 3 min. to travel from source to seafloor to the lander.
- Accommodating for instrument and lander noise, a geophone could detect signals to ~25 dB re 1  $\mu\text{m/s}$ .



# Goal 3: Context

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- Characterize surface and subsurface properties at the scale of the lander to support future exploration.
- Important whether or not life is detected by the investigations in Goals 1 and 2
- If life *is* detected:
  - Goal 3 will be essential in understanding how and where biosignatures, and life, could exist and be preserved.
  - Will aid future missions in accessing biosphere regions.
- If life *is not* detected:
  - Goal 3 will help us understand physical properties & dynamic processes at Europa's surface and whether a habitable region is/ was expressed on the surface (cross-over with Goal 2).
  - Will set the stage for future exploration, more advanced search for potential biosignatures with different mission configuration.
  - Comparative oceanography: Europa is of great scientific interest independent of the search for life.



# Goal 3: Science + Engineering

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- Measurements that feed-forward into the future exploration of Europa
- Goal 3 science takes advantage of engineering capabilities and instruments of the Europa Lander to better understand the surface:
  - Enables synergies of engineering and scientific measurements.
  - Conducts science with engineering capabilities of DDL system, e.g. imaging of landing site during descent process.
  - Characterizes surface with robotic arm mobility sensors.
  - Assesses temperature changes and physical properties of Europa's surface through thermal monitoring.

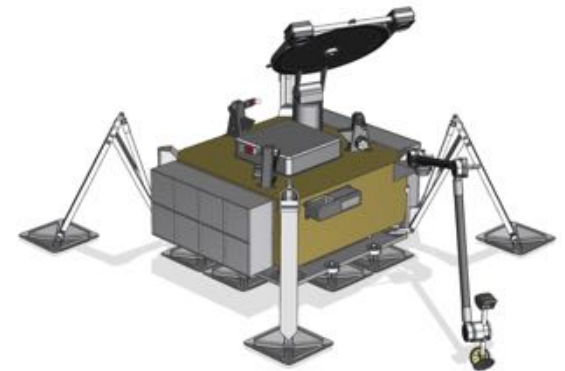




# Objective 3a: Physical Properties

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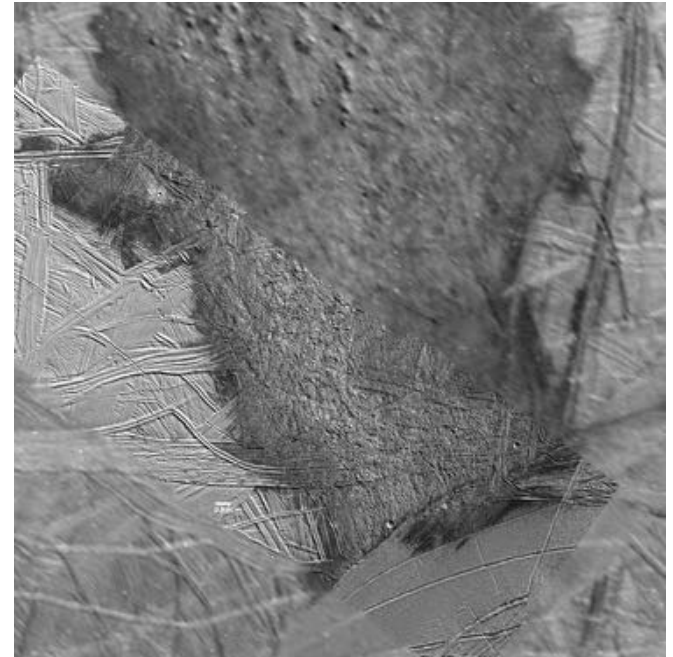
- Observe the properties of surface materials at the landing site (including the sampled area) and sub-meter-scale landing hazards, and connect local properties with those seen from flyby remote sensing.
- 3a1: Characterize the physical properties of Europa's surface materials through interaction with sampling arm and landing system.
- 3a2: Identify sub-meter-scale geomorphic features and their quantitative relief (topography) characteristics in the landing zone.
- 3a3: Characterize the chemical and mineralogical properties of the surface, to inform future site selection.
- 3a4: Characterize the internal structure of Europa including ice shell thickness, depth of the ocean, and interior structure.



# Objective 3b: Dynamic Processes

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- Characterize dynamic processes of Europa's surface and ice shell over the duration of the mission to understand exogenous and endogenous effects on the physicochemical properties of surface material.
- 3b1: Characterize the physical processes that affect materials on Europa (gardening, micrometeoroid impact, tectonic and thermal degradation, etc.).
- 3b2: Characterize the chemical processes that affect materials on Europa (radiolysis, decomposition, oxidation, etc.).
- 3b3: Characterize the magnitude and effects of the thermal response at the landing site from the landing event and the lander surface operations (sampling, etc.).
- 3b4: Characterize the 3-dimensional surface dynamics of Europa and the local dynamic variability (potentially indicative of activity) at the landing site.



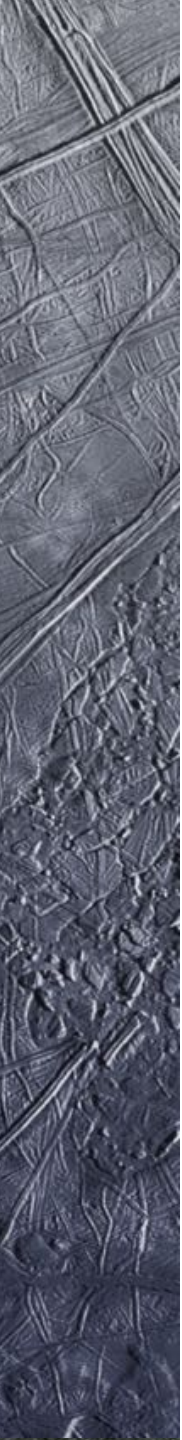
# Use of Mission Engineering Systems to Enable Science

---

- **Powered Descent Vehicle** (“SkyCrane”) supporting Lander: **Capture, store, and relay from Lander the following descent datasets:**
  - TRN nadir descent imaging sequence
  - Hazard avoidance imaging Lidar topography (DEM’s)
- **Lander engineering sensing systems:**  
**Capture, store, and return to Earth (via relay):**
  - 3-axis accelerometer data during landing and after to capture the impact of the Powered Descent Vehicle as a source signal
  - Temperature probes with contact to the surface?
  - RF transponder data from Lander to Comm orbiter at 1 mm/s?
  - Motor currents during arm-based cutter operations (sampling)







---

# **Devils Golf Course ASO LiDAR Data**

11-3-2015



# Data Collection Parameters

---

- Riegl LMS-Q1560 Airborne Lidar
  - 2 scanner system, but only scanner 1 operating
  - 400kHz laser pulse rate, 12% power
  - 58° FOV
- Flown aboard a King Air A-90 (N41J)
  - ~1000ft AGL, 180kts
  - 4 flight lines, each flown twice
  - Point density 20-60 pts/m<sup>2</sup>
  - ASO project ID CADG20150910F1a1





Google Earth Image of Survey Area  
(Flightlines shown in blue)

**Location:**  
**Devils Golf Course (salt evaporite  
pillars) in Death Valley N.P., CA**



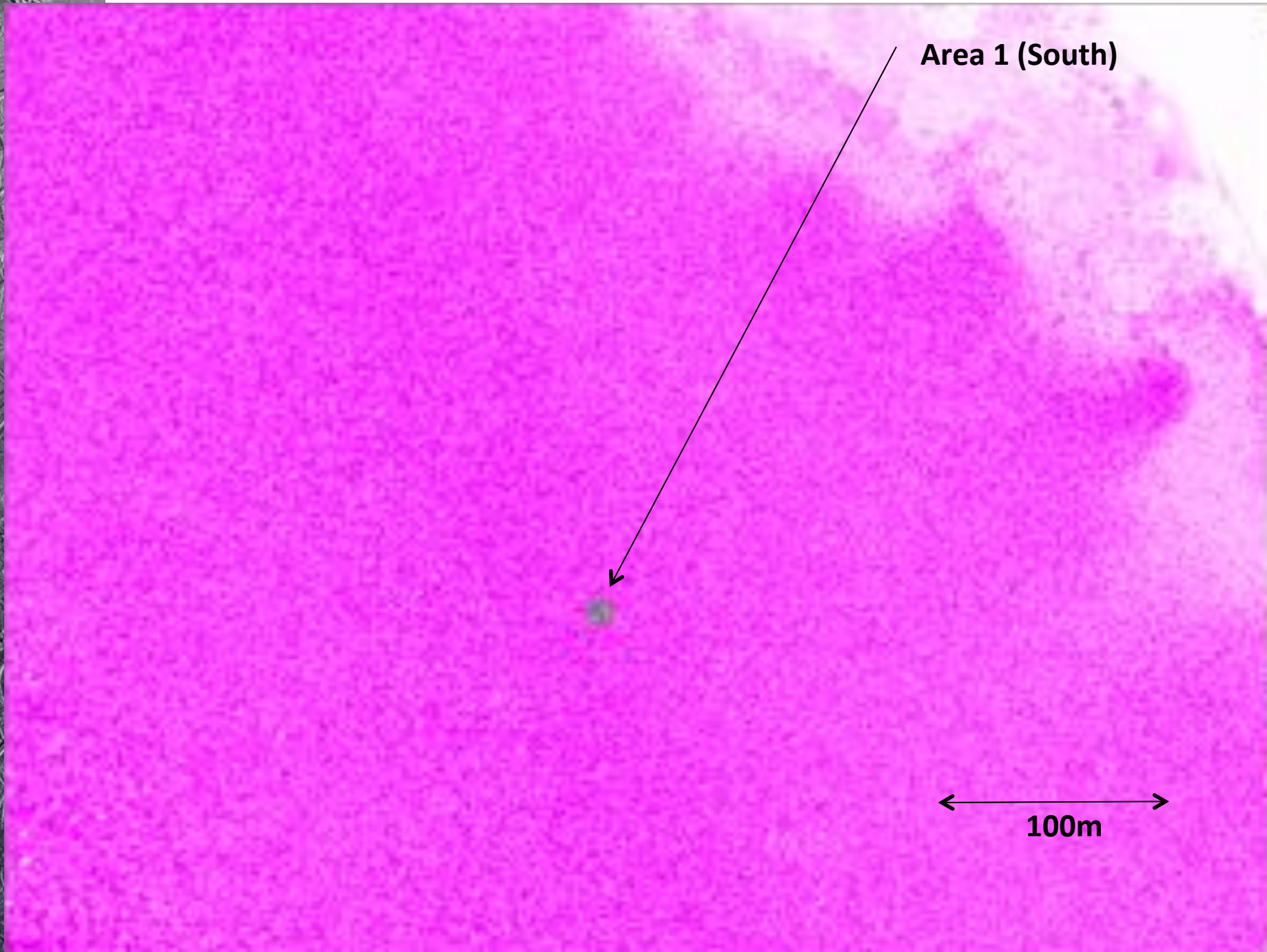
# LiDAR Dataset

## Overview showing locations chosen for CAD

- Area 4
- Area 2, 5, 6
- Area 7
- Area 3
- Area 1



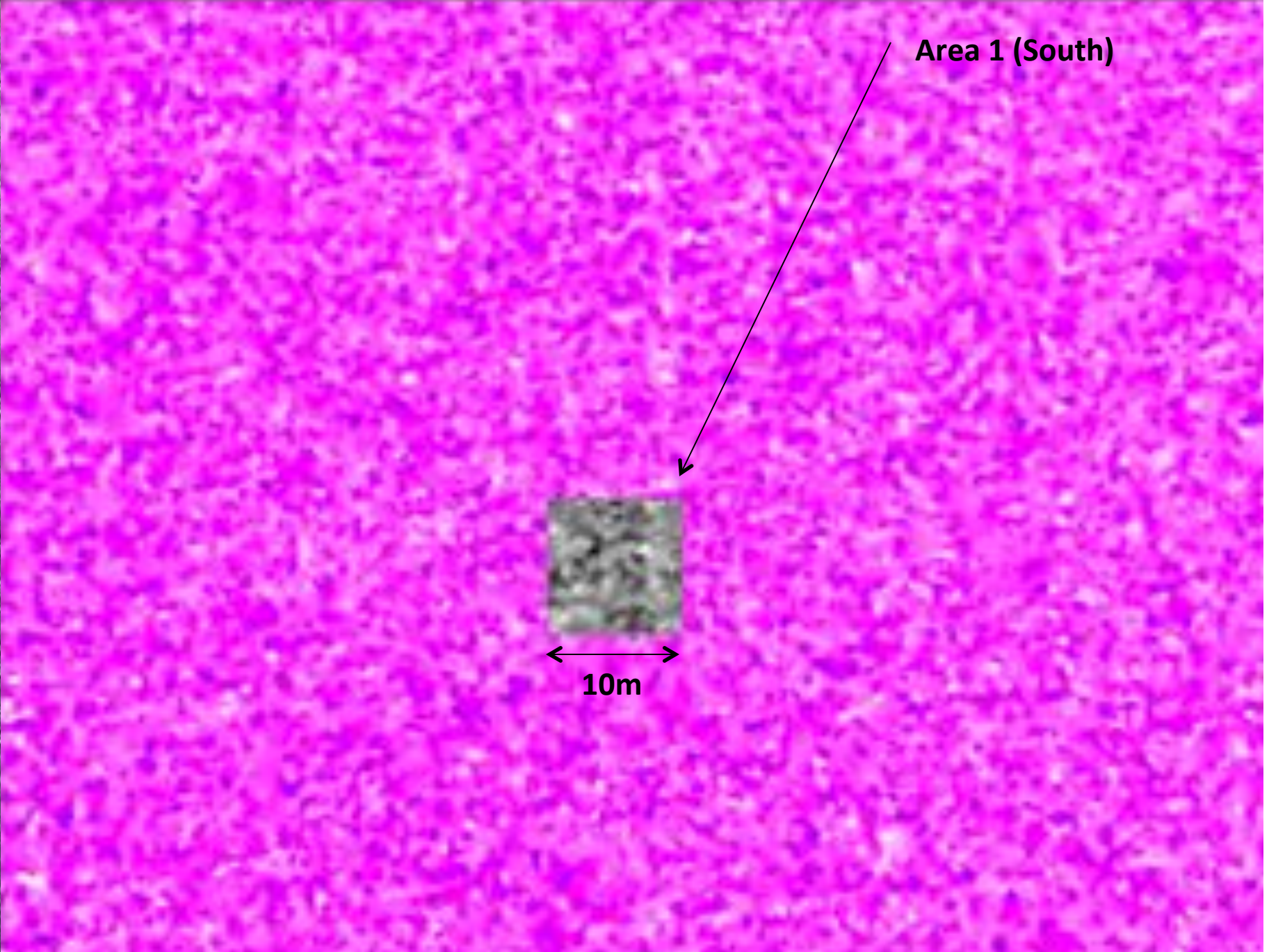




**Area 1 (South)**

← 100m →



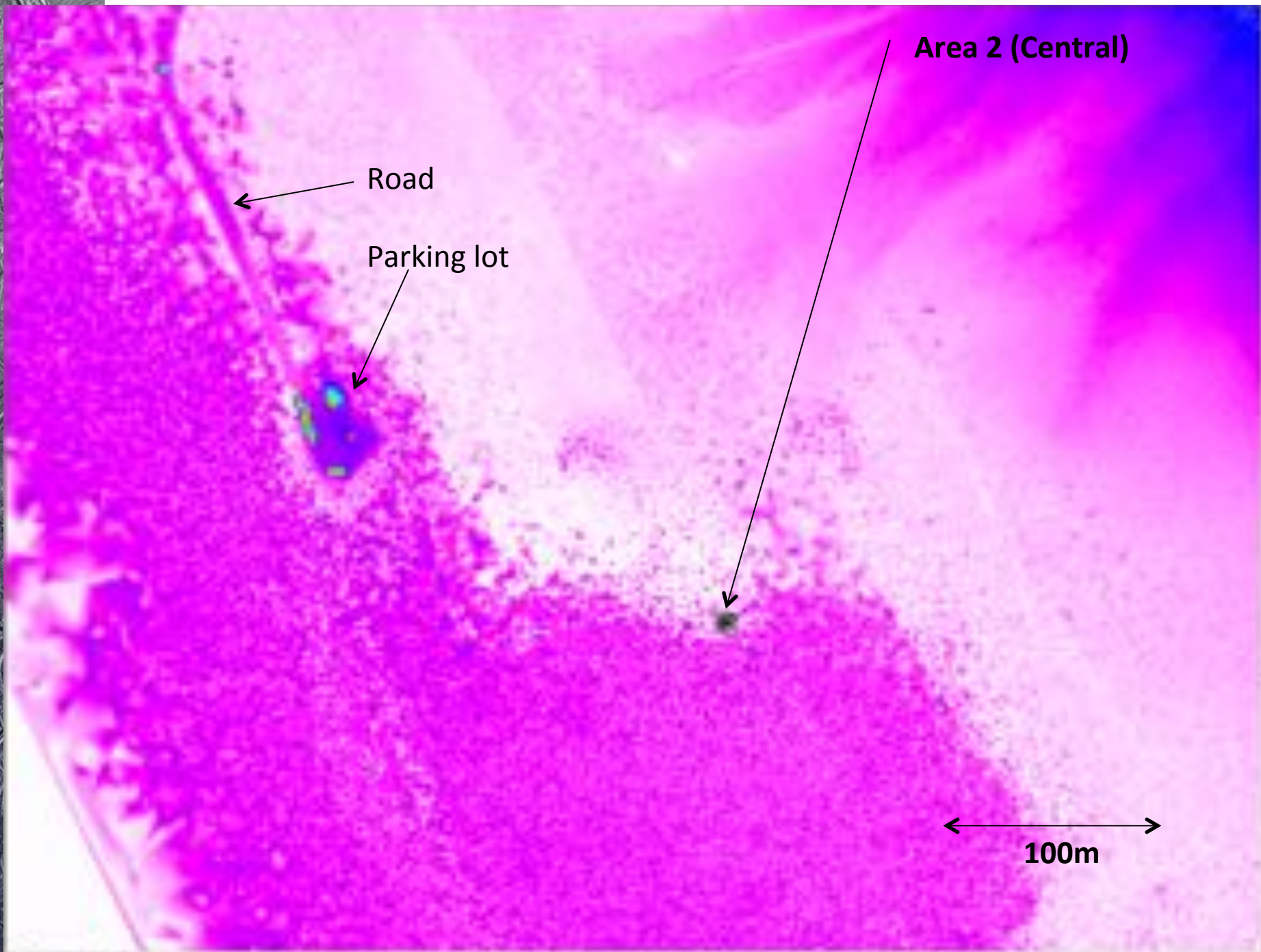


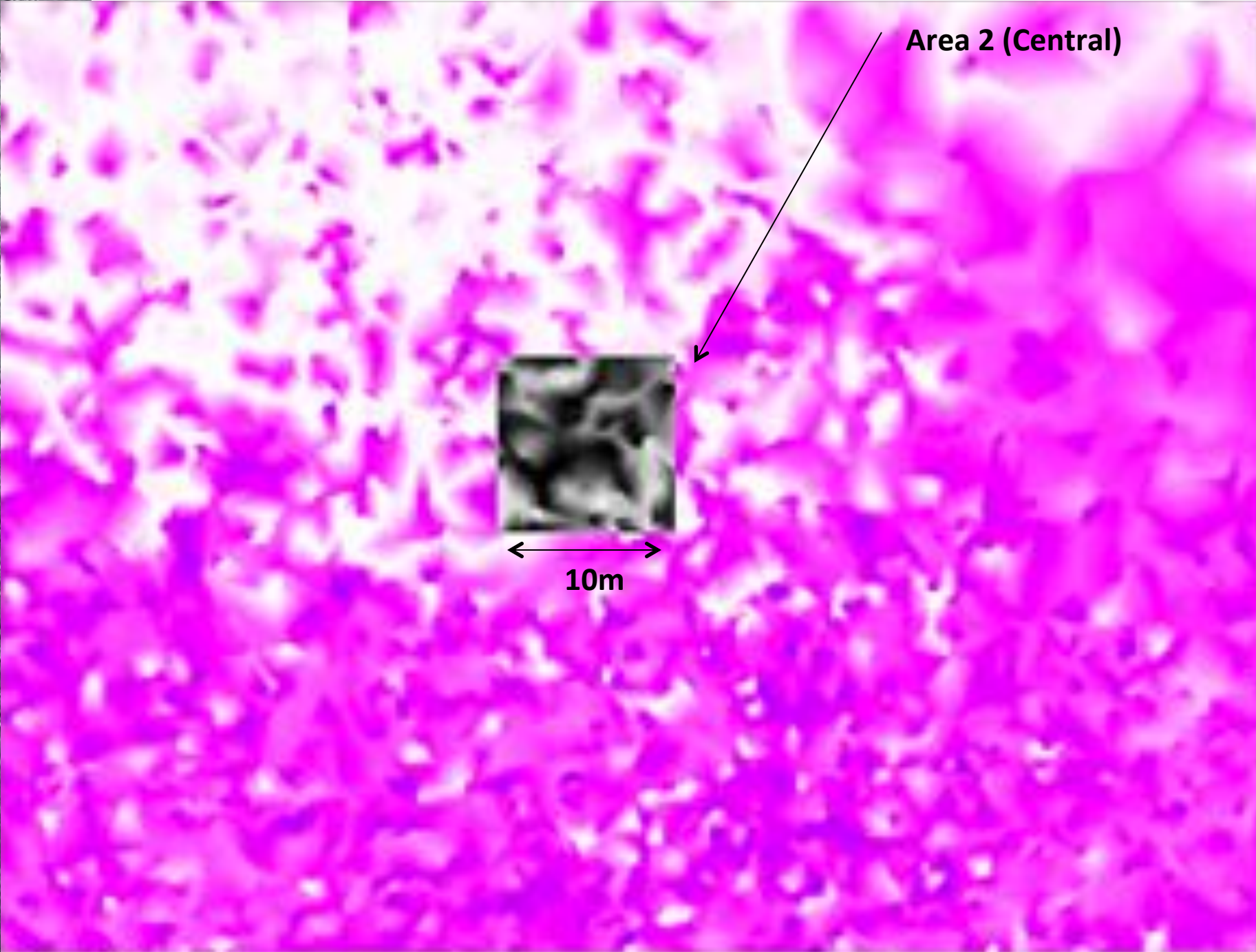
**Area 1 (South)**



**10m**



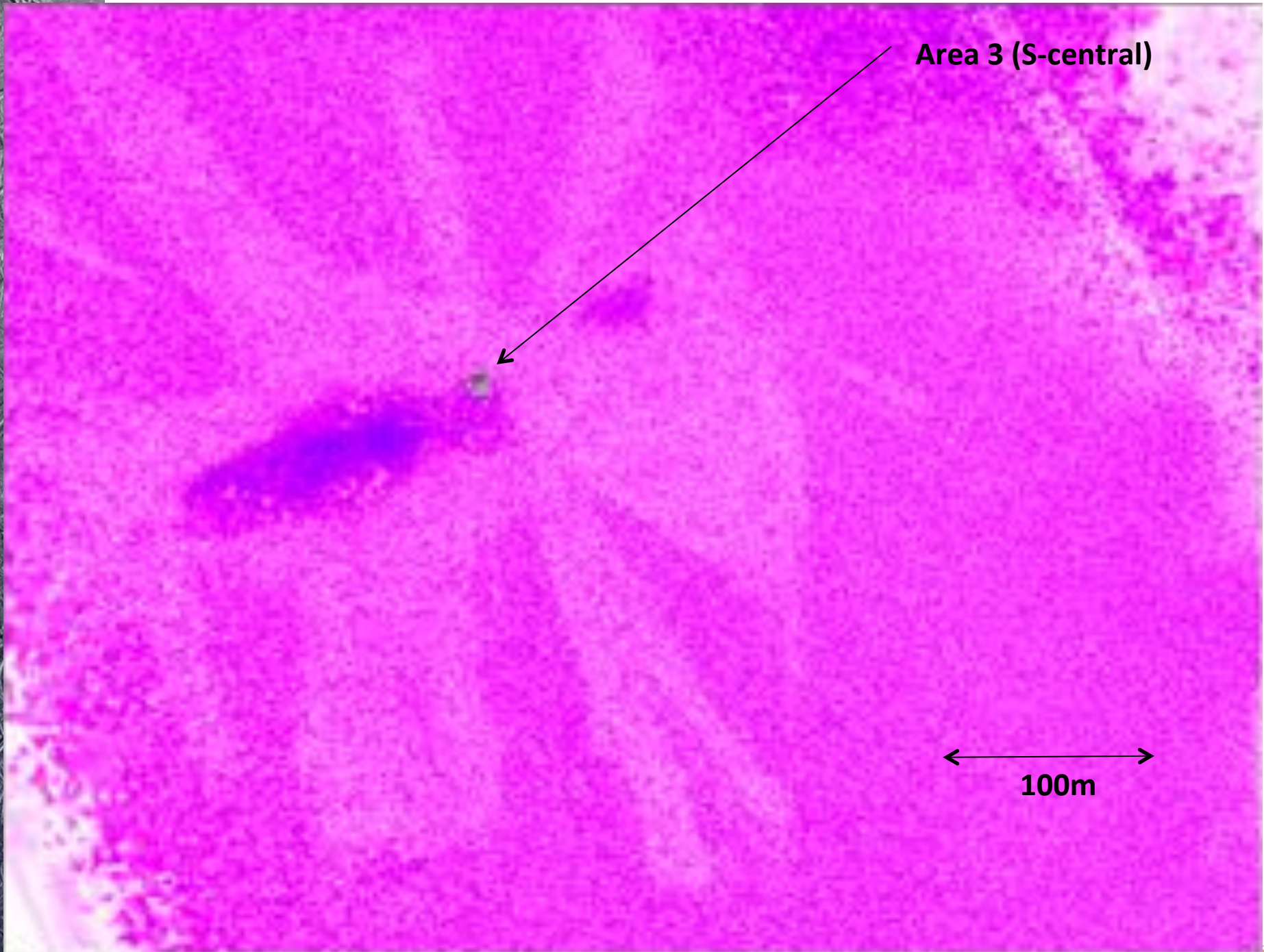




**Area 2 (Central)**

**10m**





**Area 3 (S-central)**

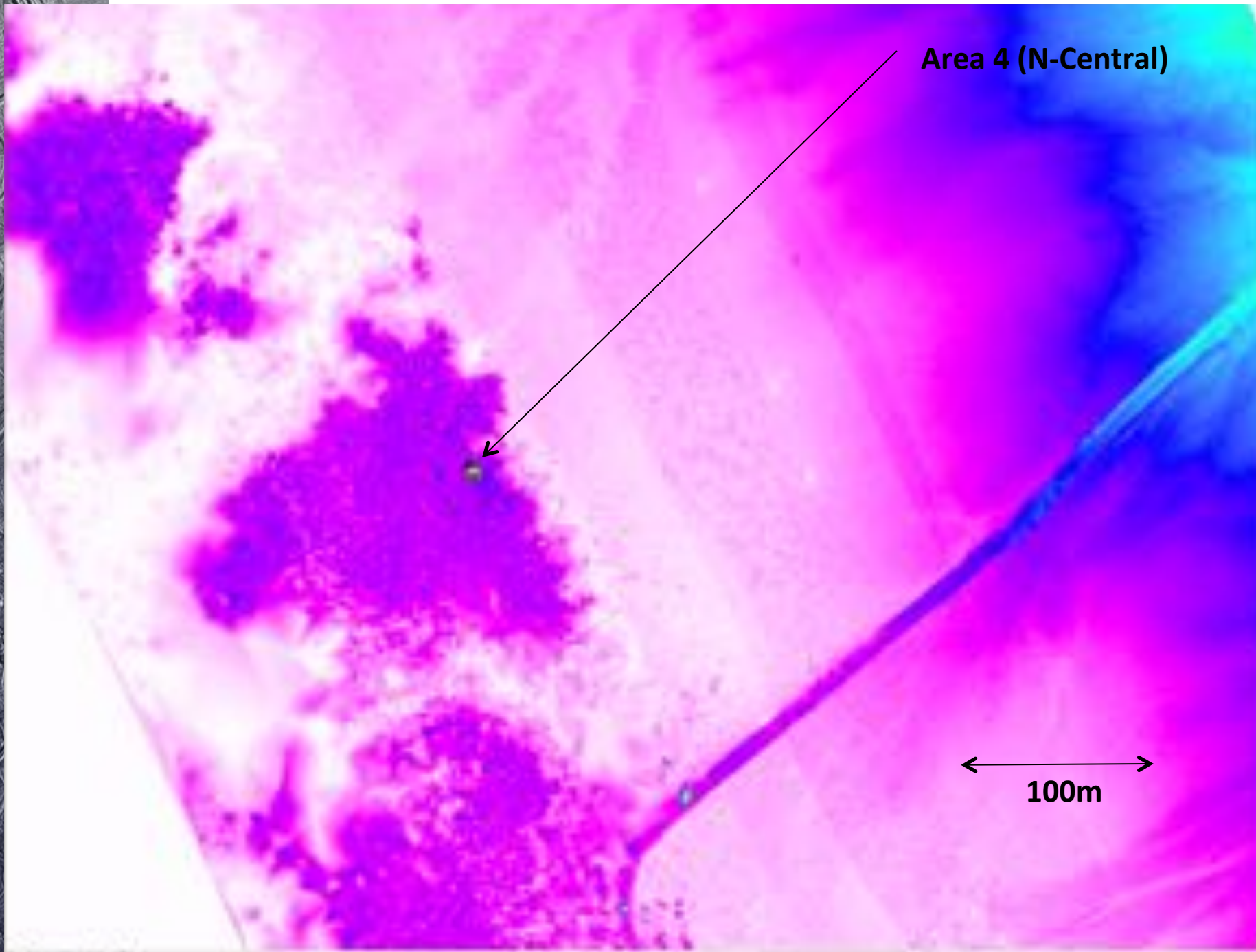
← 100m →



**Area 3 (S-central)**



10m





**Area 4 (N-central)**



**10m**

Europa Lander Concept in Area 2  
Scaled 1:1 with terrain height

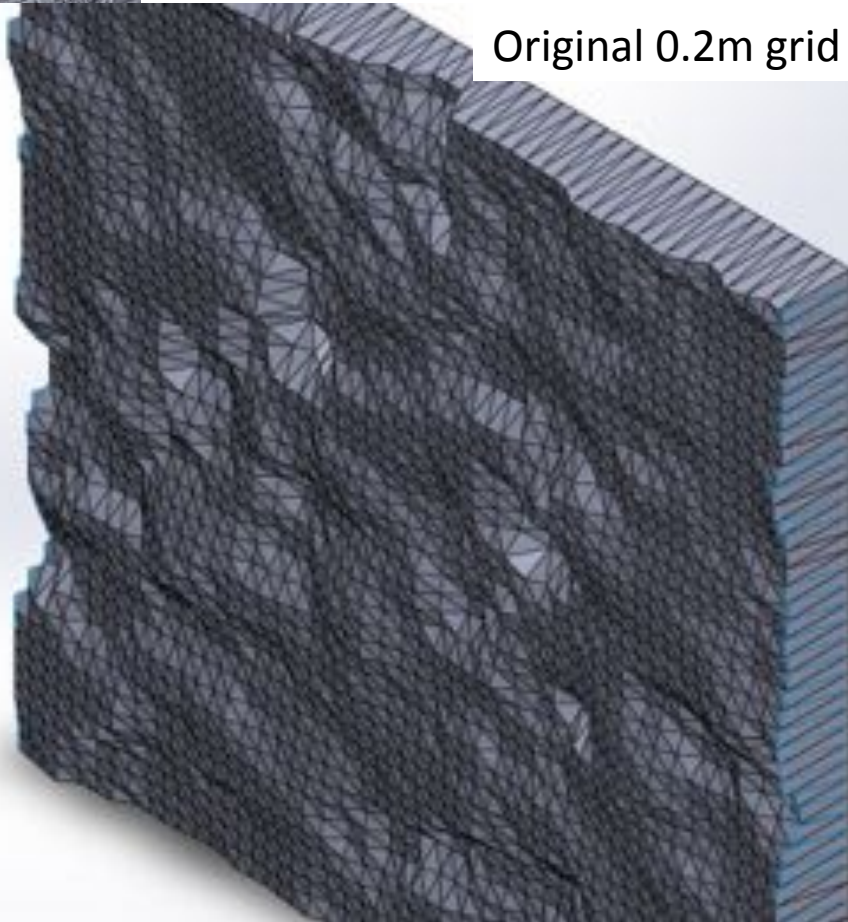




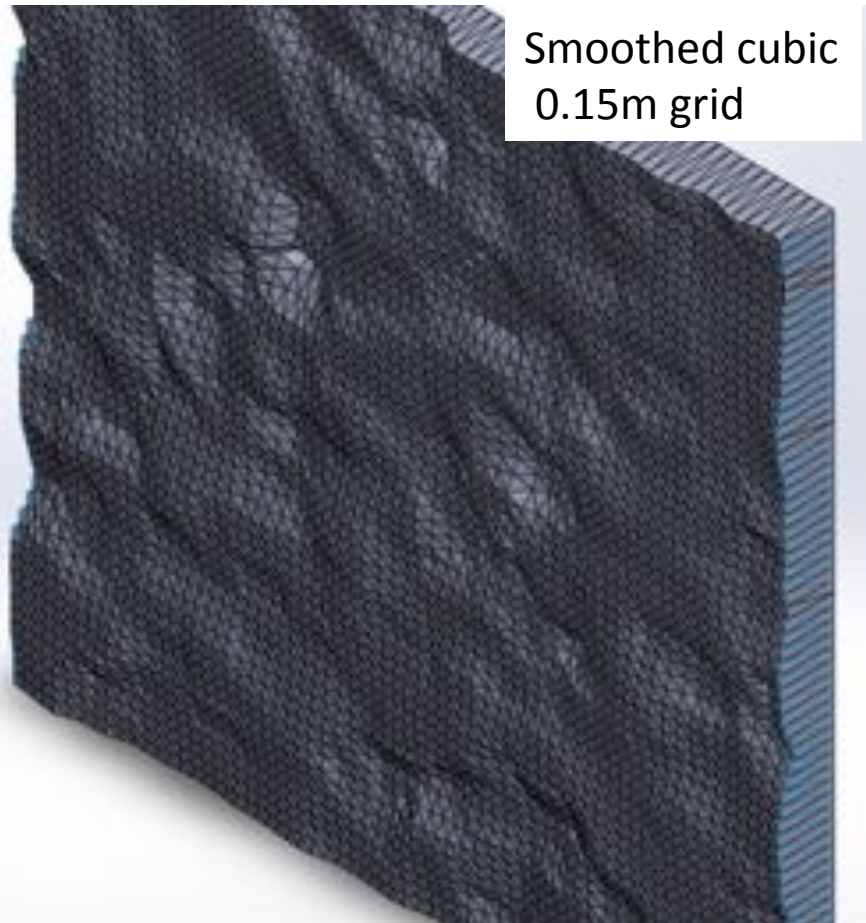
Effect of subsampling to artificially increase resolution.  
Area 3 (south) Arc Resampling (smoothing) option

---

Original 0.2m grid



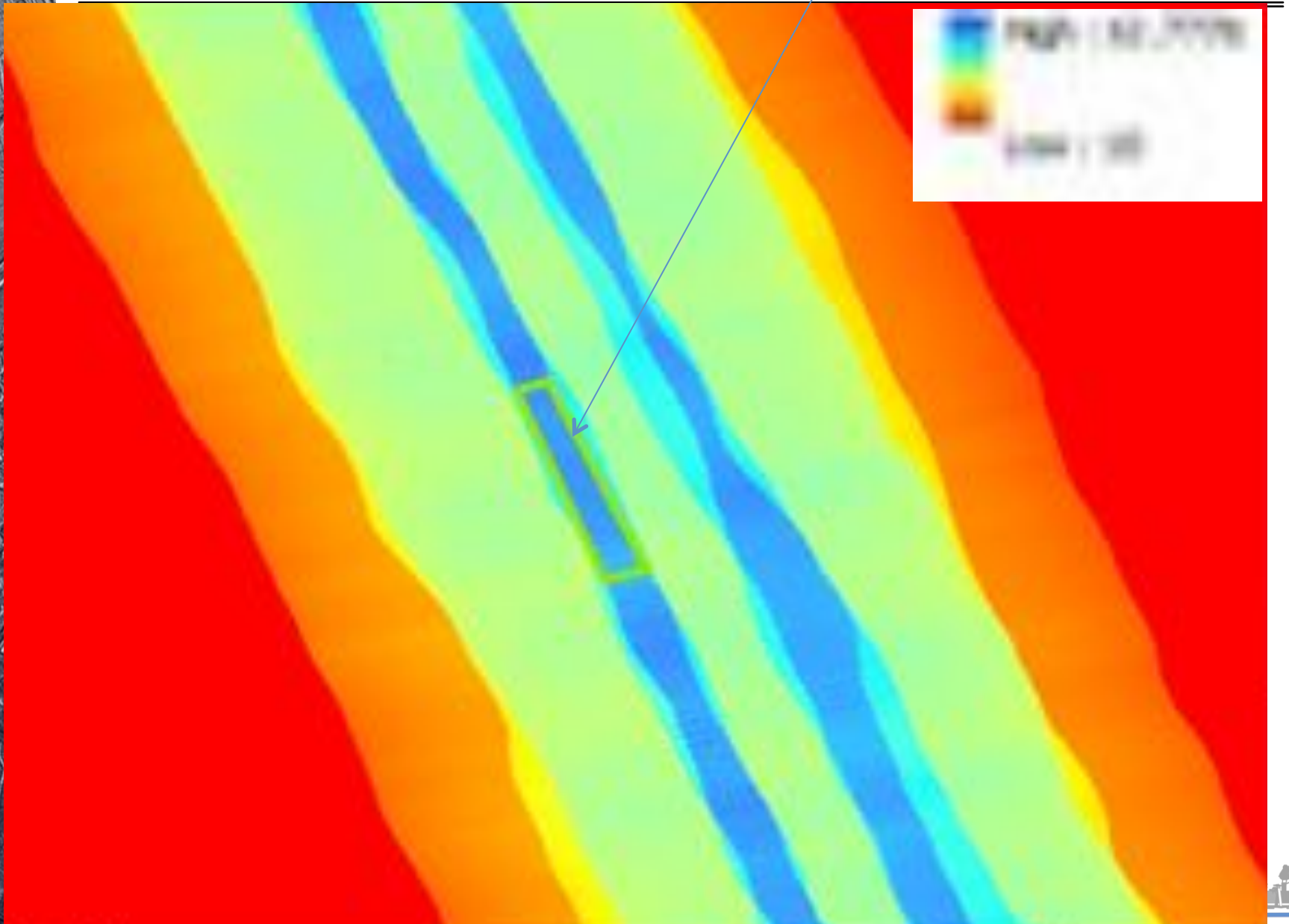
Smoothed cubic  
0.15m grid

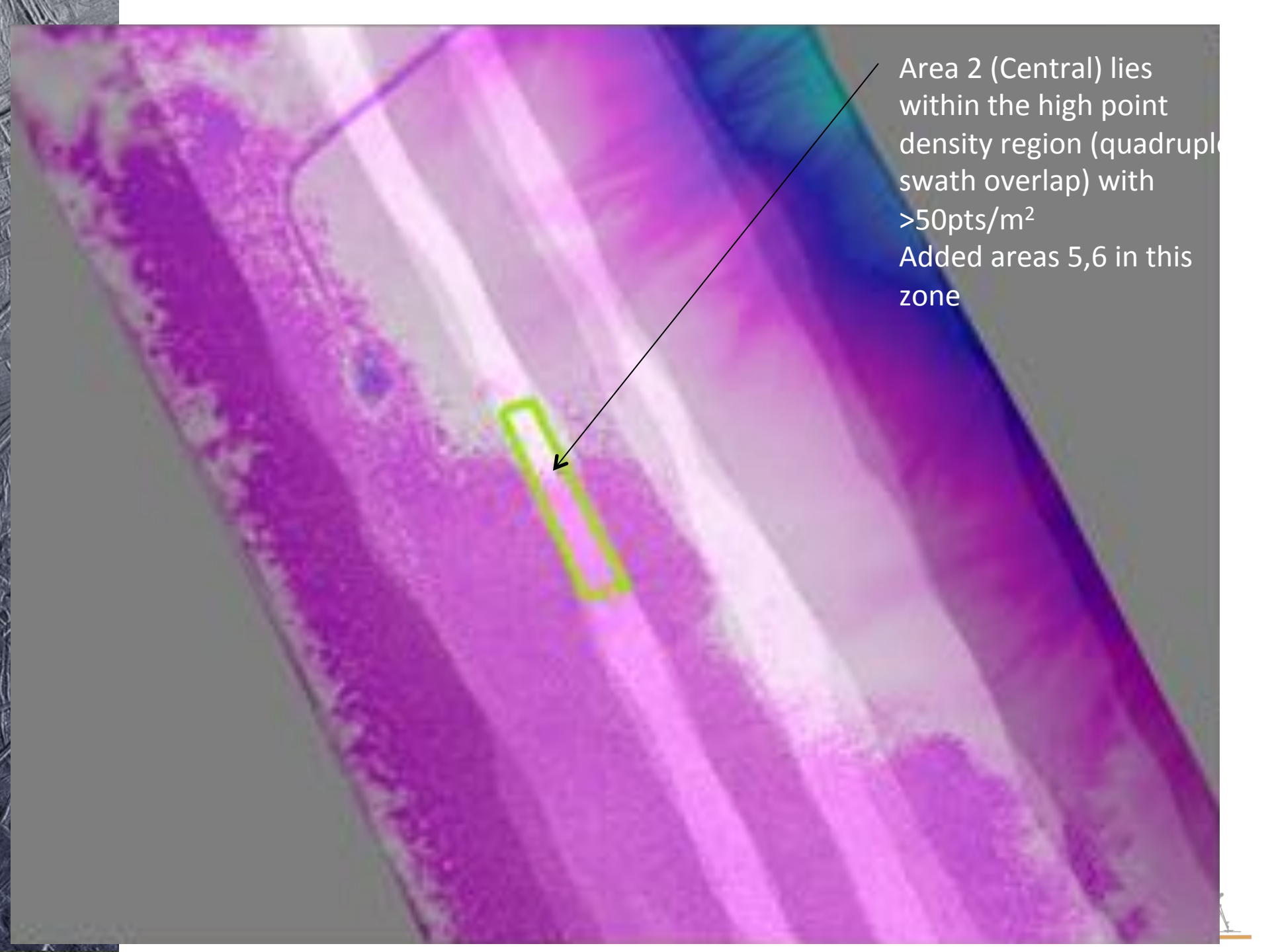




## LiDAR Point Density (pts/m2)

Areas of quadruple swath overlap have very high point density. It is possible to generate a higher resolution DEM here.

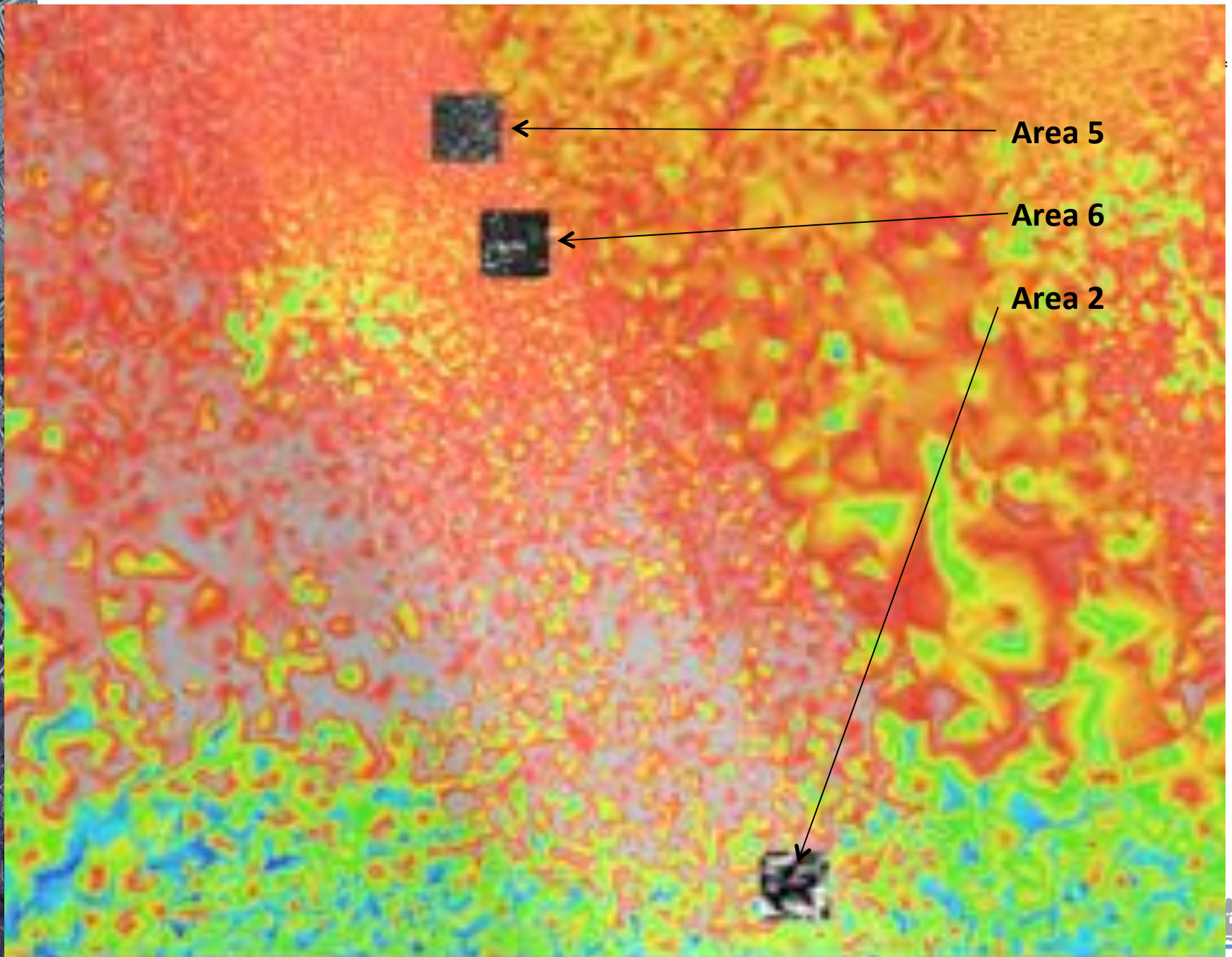


An aerial photograph of a coastal area, likely a beach or dune system. The image shows various shades of brown, tan, and green, representing different land cover types. A yellow rectangle is drawn on the image, highlighting a specific area. An arrow points from the text to this rectangle. The text describes the area as being within a high point density region (quadruple swath overlap) with a density greater than 50 points per square meter. It also mentions that areas 5 and 6 are added in this zone.

Area 2 (Central) lies  
within the high point  
density region (quadruple  
swath overlap) with  
>50pts/m<sup>2</sup>  
Added areas 5,6 in this  
zone

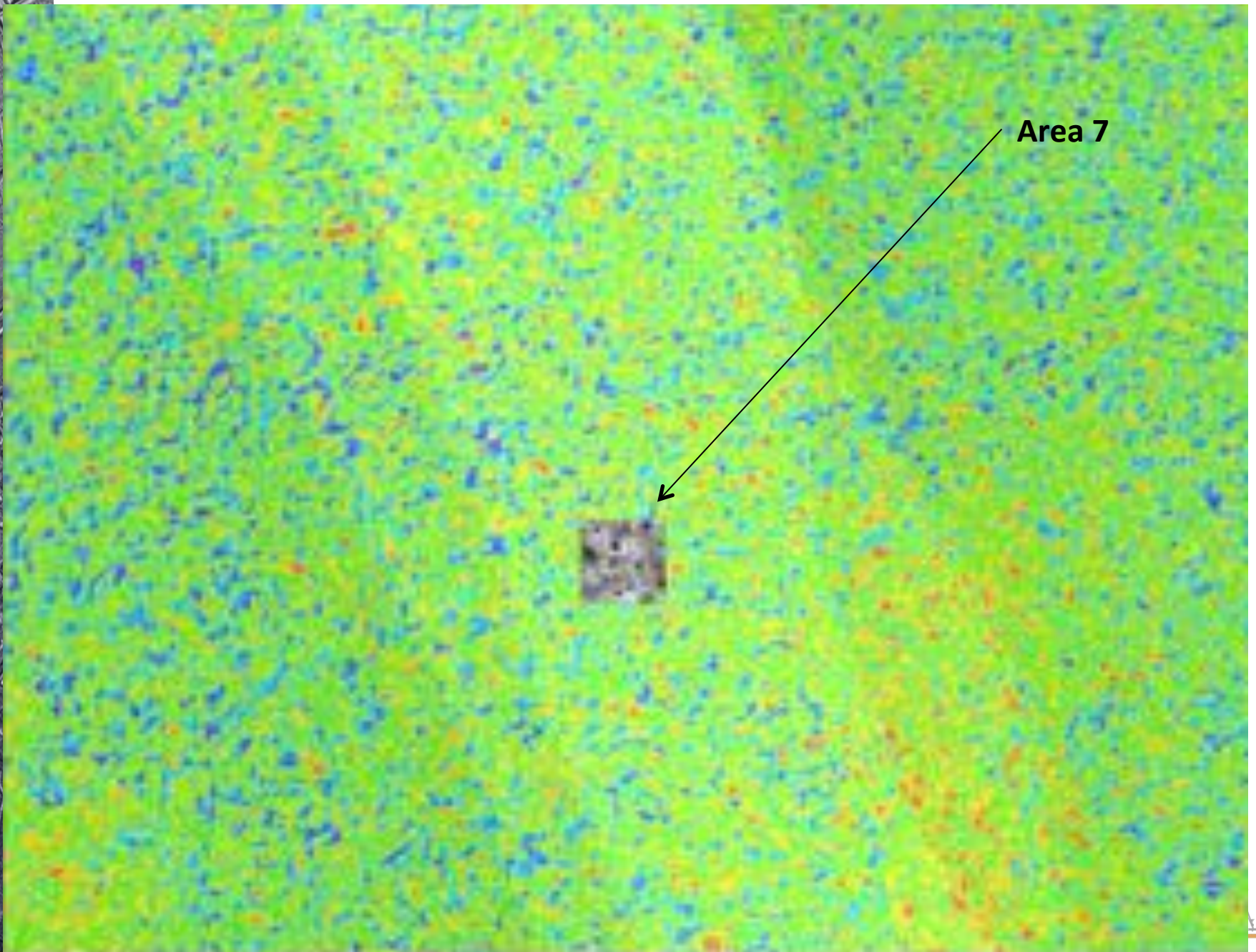


## Fine-Scale Terrain in High-Resolution Zone





Fine-Scale Terrain in High-Resolution Zone – further south





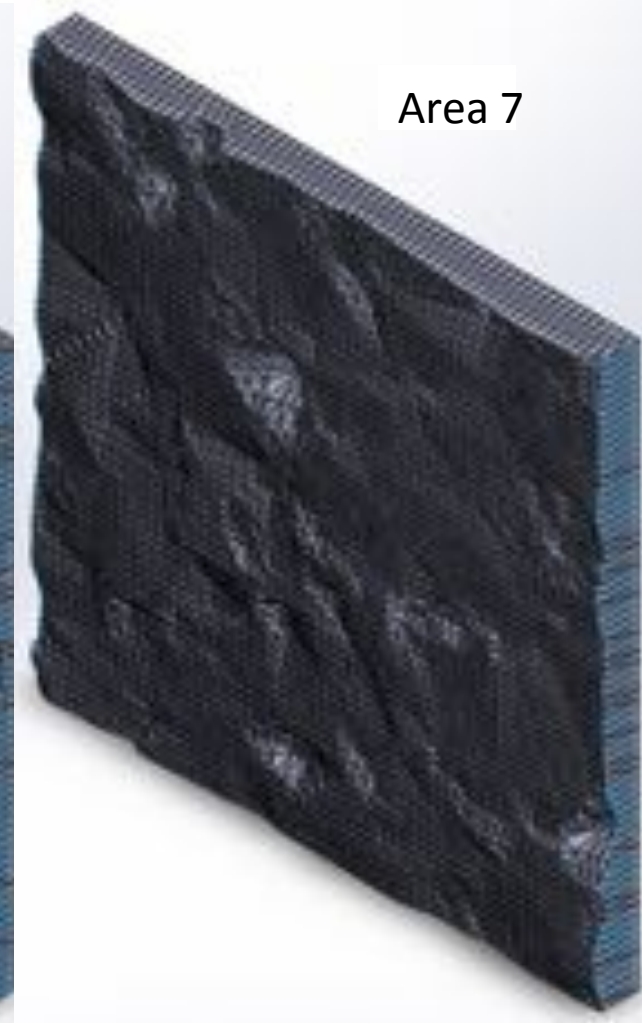
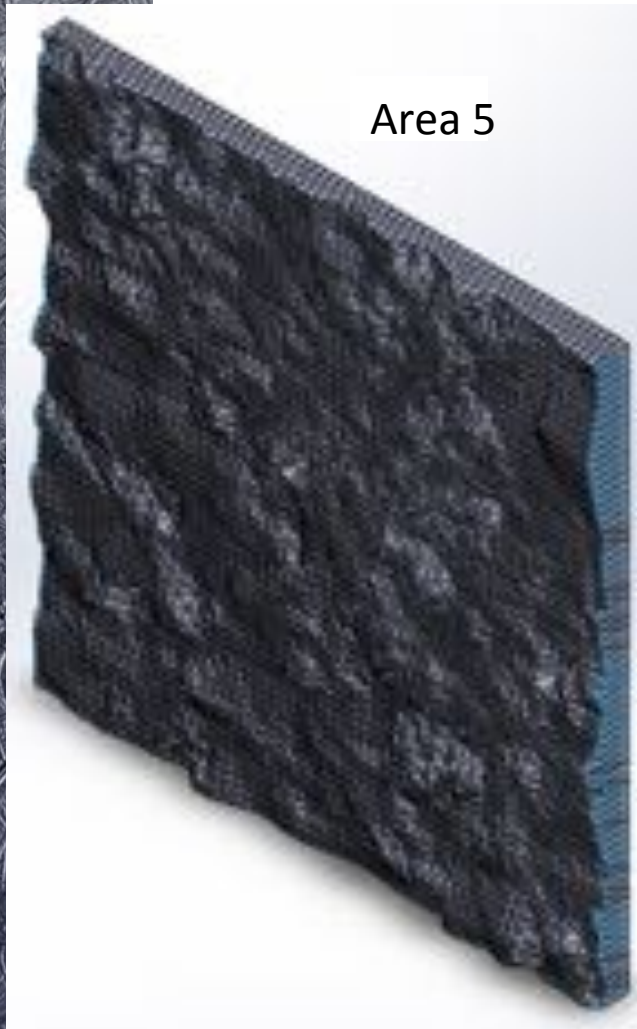
**Area 2-central, surface generated with true 0.15m grid vs. 0.2m grid.  
LiDAR point density in this region is ~60pts/m<sup>2</sup>, which corresponds to  
0.13m best real resolution.**

---

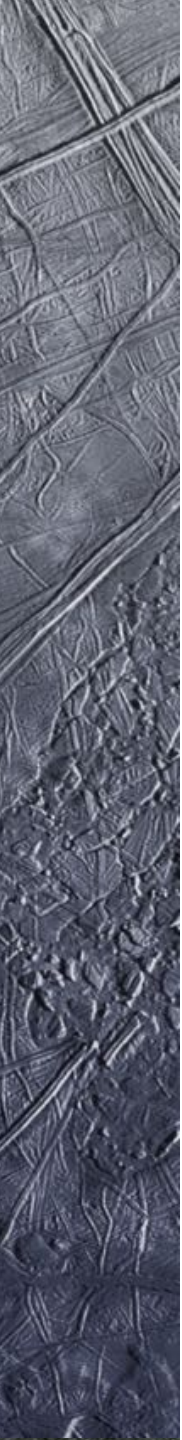


# Other 0.15m grid areas

---







# Framework for Life Detection

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**Mission duration:  
Do not think in terms of days,  
think in terms energy.**



# Mission Duration is Governed by Lander's 45 kWh of Stored Battery Energy

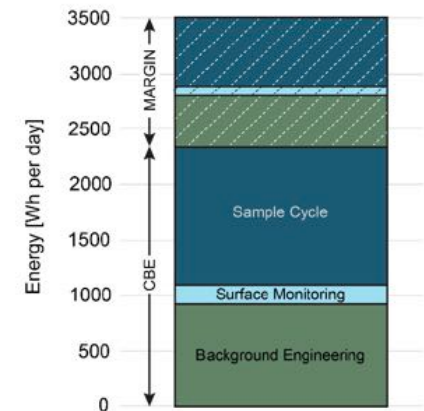
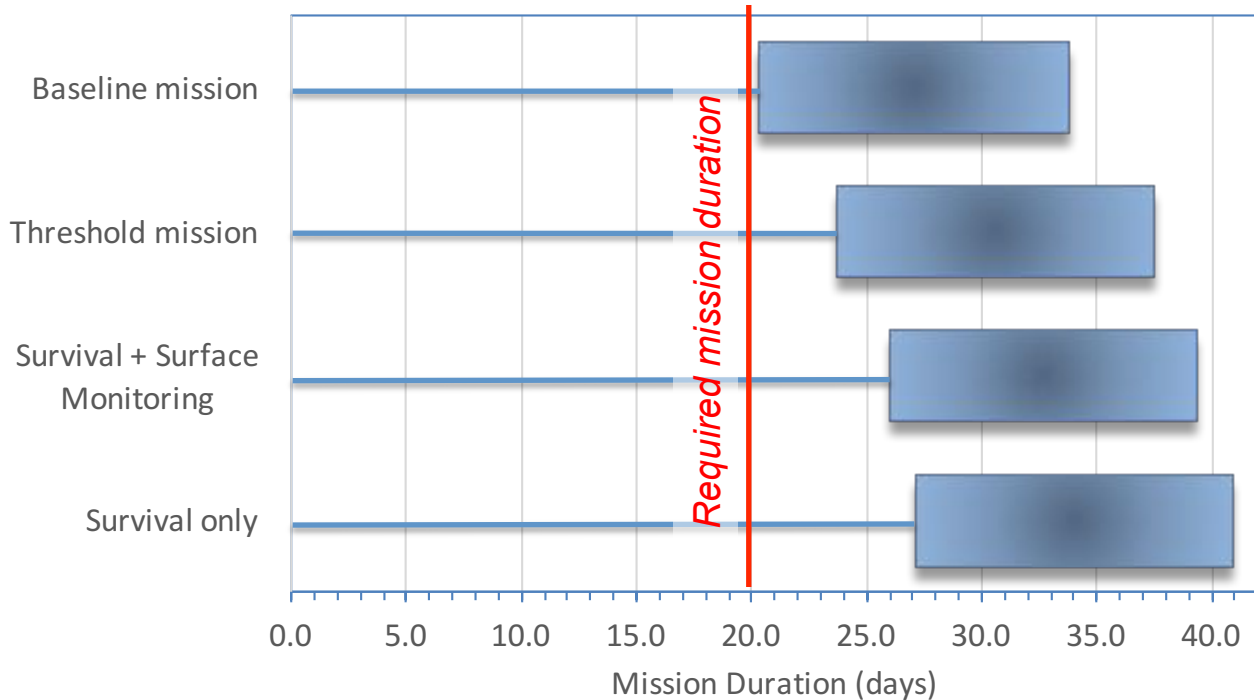


Figure 9.1. Surface mission energy allocation by function for an example sampling task.





# Model Payload Represents Viable Example of Notional Instrument Suite

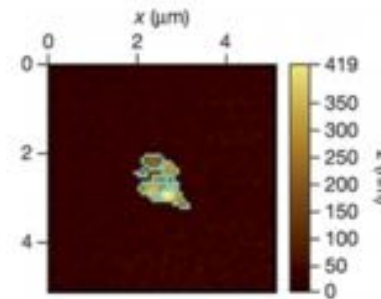
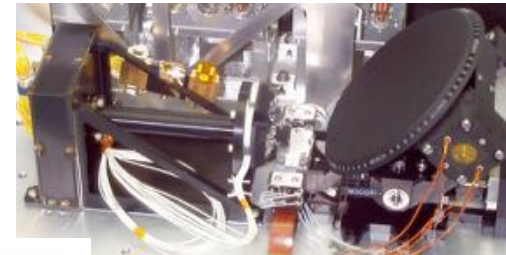
- 42.5 kg (with margin) for instruments

- Inside the Lander “Vault” (for radiation protection):

- Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer
- Microscope (0.2 micron/pixel resolution)
- Raman/IR spectrometer

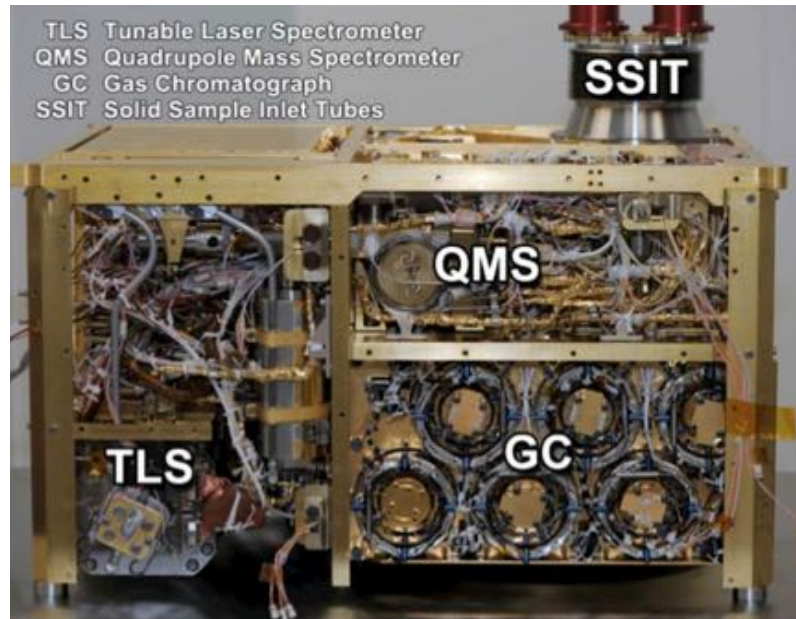
- External to the vault (mounted on Lander’s High-Gain Antenna):

- 2 identical visible wavelength, fixed focus cameras at approx. one meter height above surface, with optical “heads” separated by 20+ cm.



# Model Payload Represents Viable Example of Notional Instrument Suite

## Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer





# Model Payload Represents Viable Example of Notional Instrument Suite

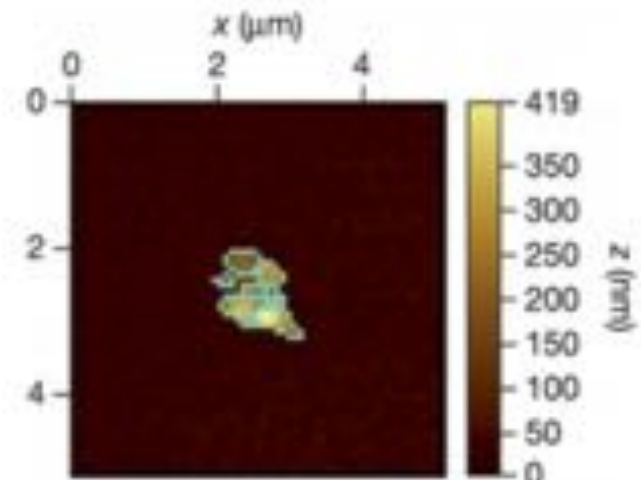
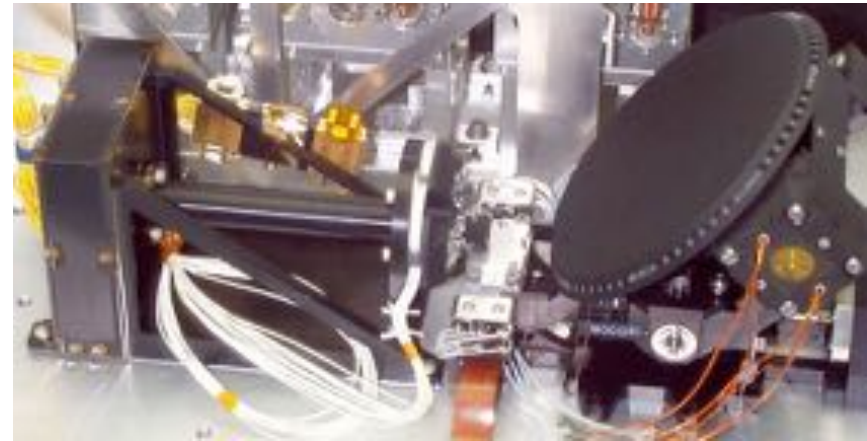
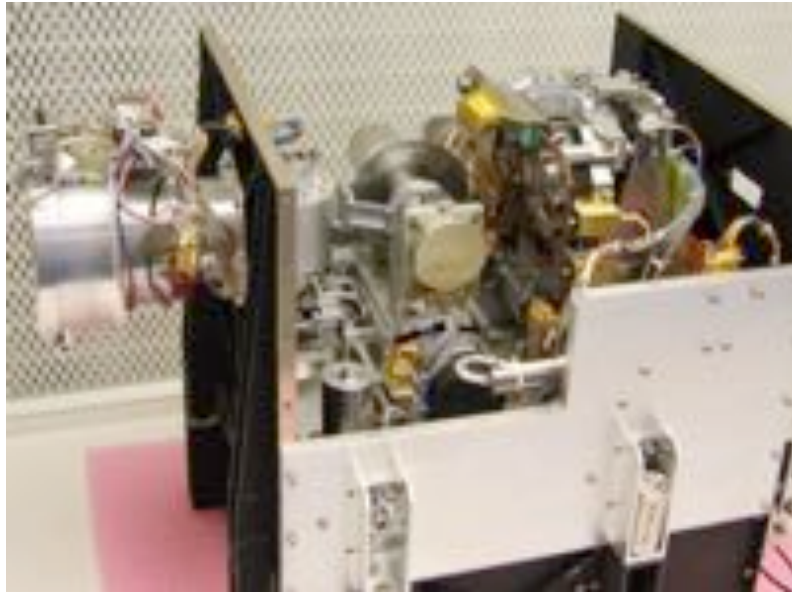
Raman/IR spectrometer





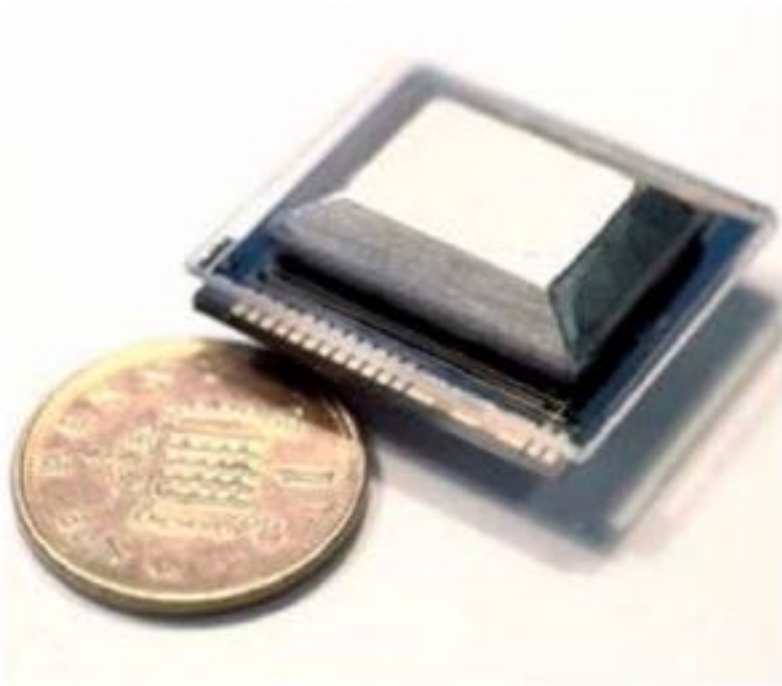
# Model Payload Represents Viable Example of Notional Instrument Suite

## Microscope



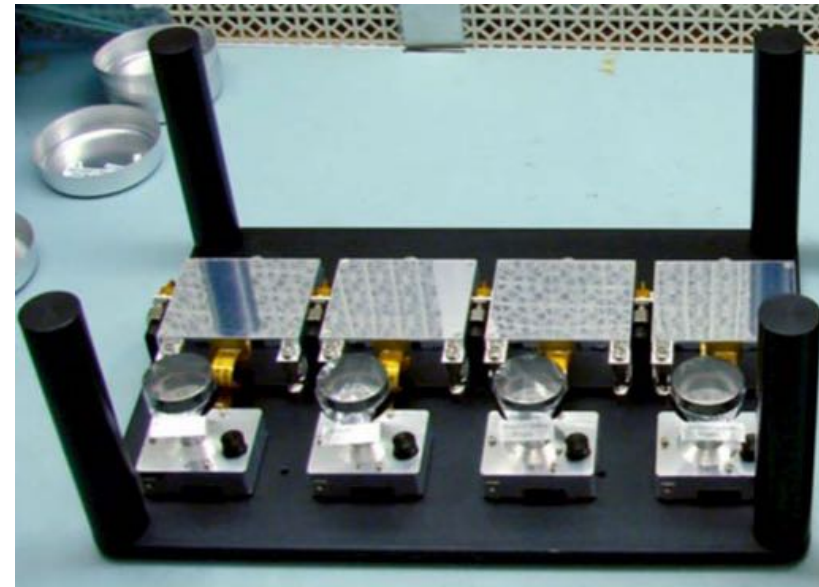
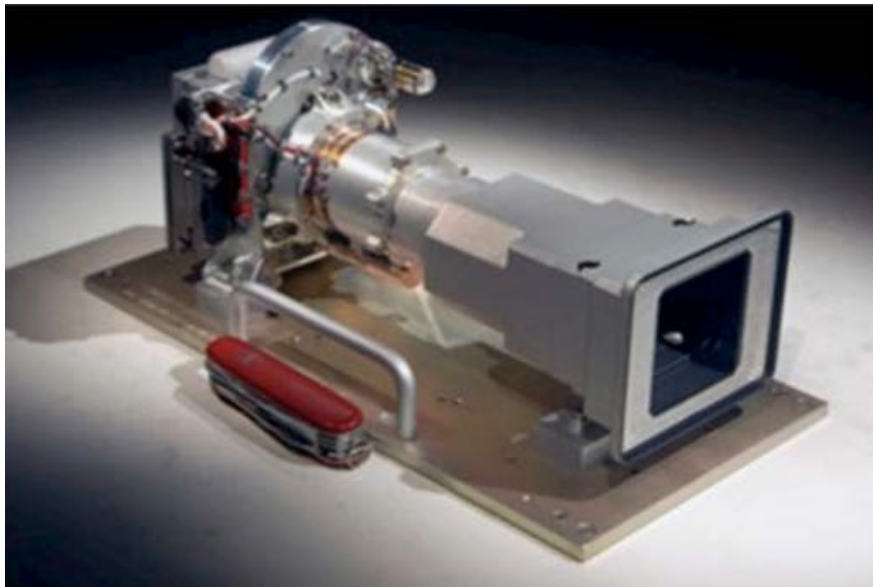
# Model Payload Represents Viable Example of Notional Instrument Suite

## 3-axis geophone



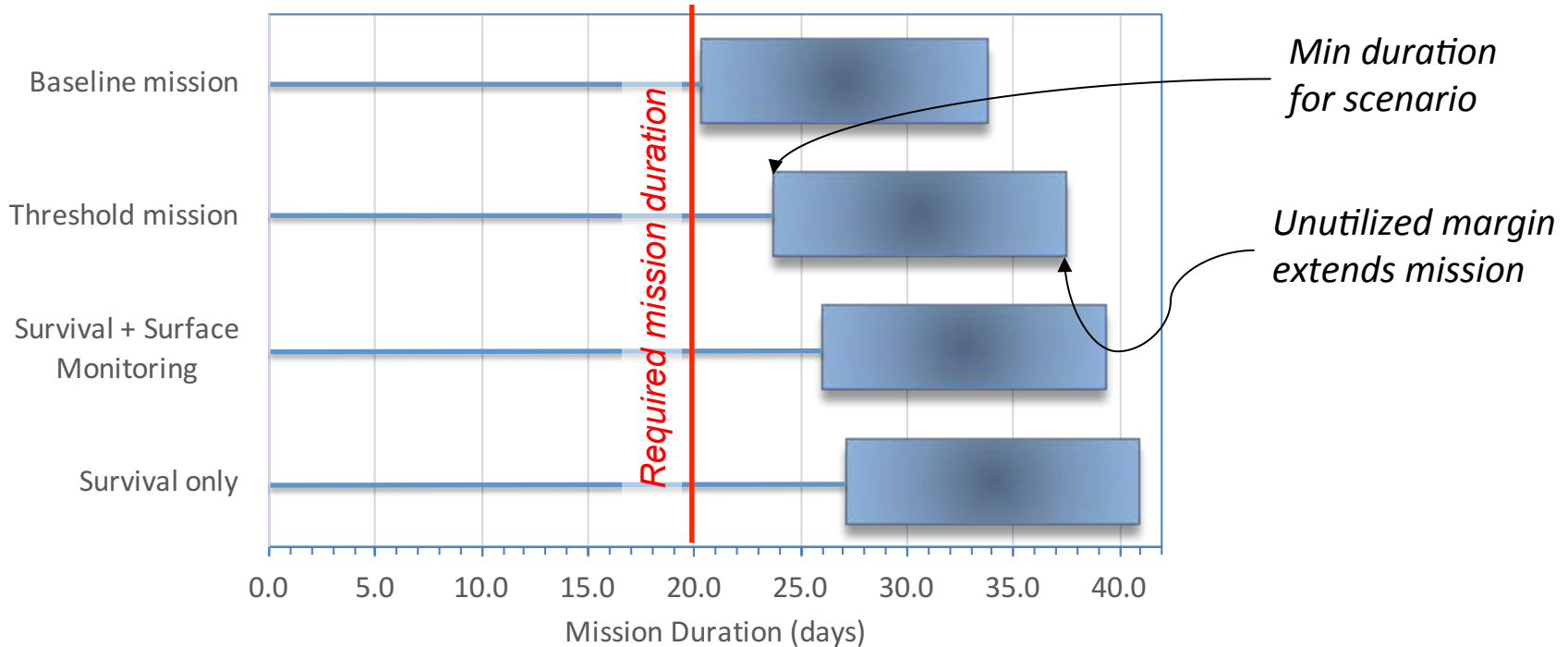
# Model Payload Represents Viable Example of Notional Instrument Suite

## Context Remote Sensing Instrument





# Mission Duration is Governed by Lander's 45 kWh of Stored Battery Energy



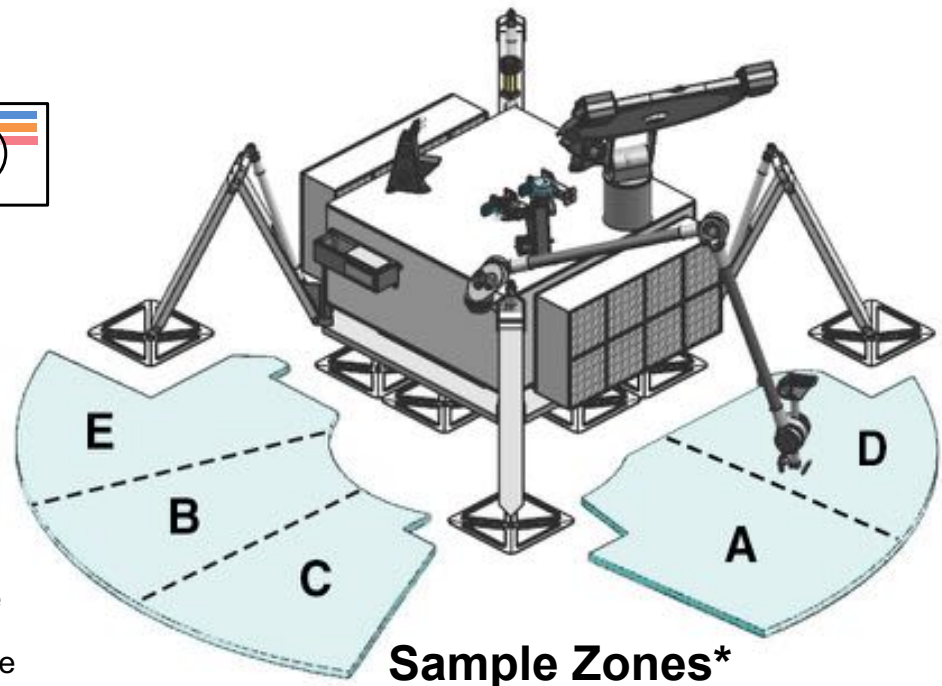
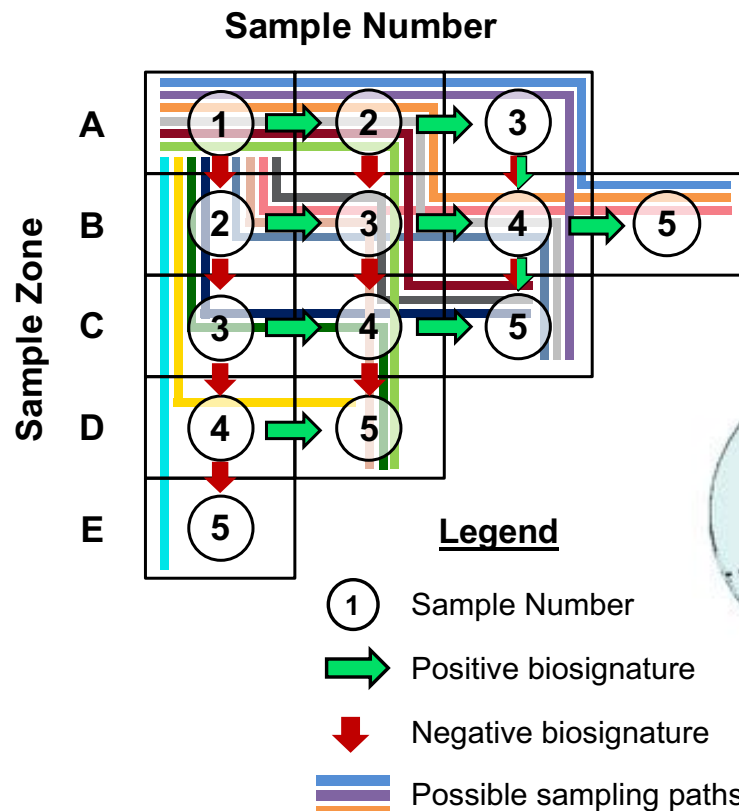
Mission scenario	# Samples	Monitoring tals	Survival tals
Baseline mission	5	continuous	0
Threshold mission	3	7	remainder
Survival + monitoring	0	continuous	0
Survival only	0	0	continuous



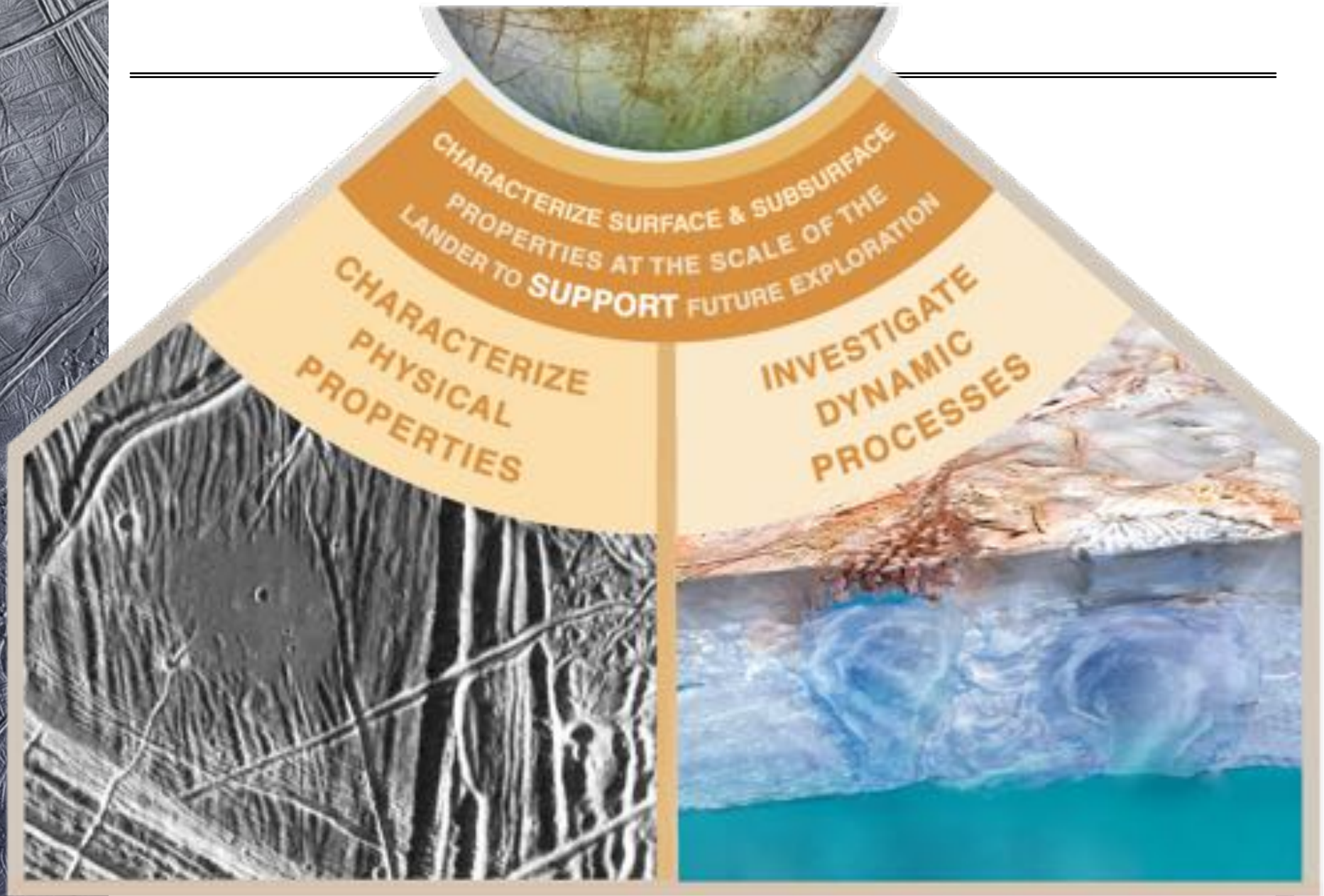
# Sampling and Measurement Sequence can be Designed Ahead of Time for Rapid Execution

## Five Samples Provide Sufficient Measurement Set to Sample Multiple Work Areas and Identify Biosignatures

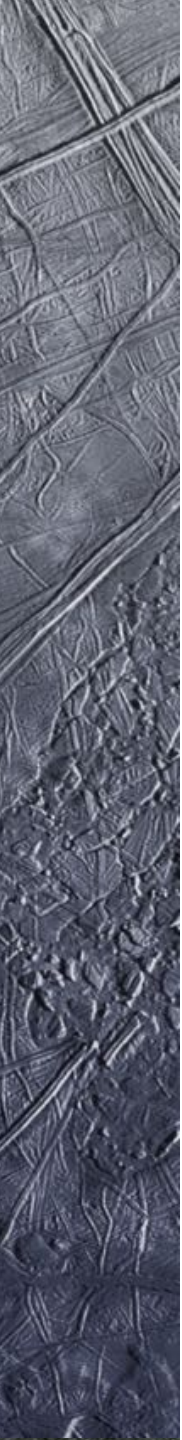
- 3 samples to detect and confirm any biosignatures (triplicate standard)
- Can choose up to 3 different zones, followed by 2 more samples for confirmation

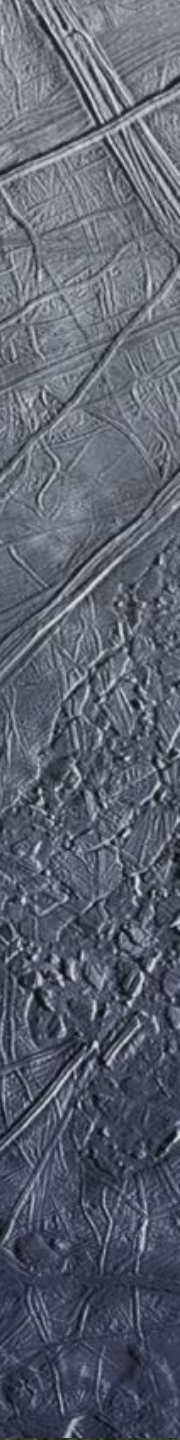


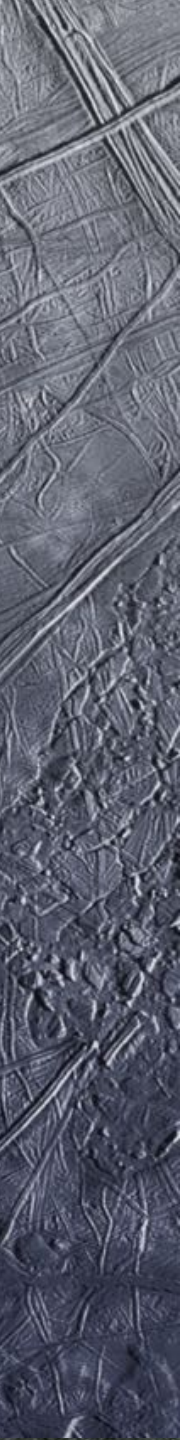
Sample Zones\*













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# Extras



# Introduction and Discussion Topics

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- Lander Pre-project Introduction (S. Thurman)
- Science Definition Team (K. Hand)
  - Leverages prior 2012 Europa Lander SDT
  - Use of Europa Clipper data for landing site selection
  - Model Payload Instruments Defined
- Mission Concept Summary (S. Thurman)
  - Separate launch from Europa Clipper
  - Dedicated telecomm relay asset (Clipper backup)
  - Propulsive descent and landing
- Next Steps (All)
  - Completion of SDT report (Jan. 2017)
  - Mission Concept Review (Jun. 2017)



# Why Europa?

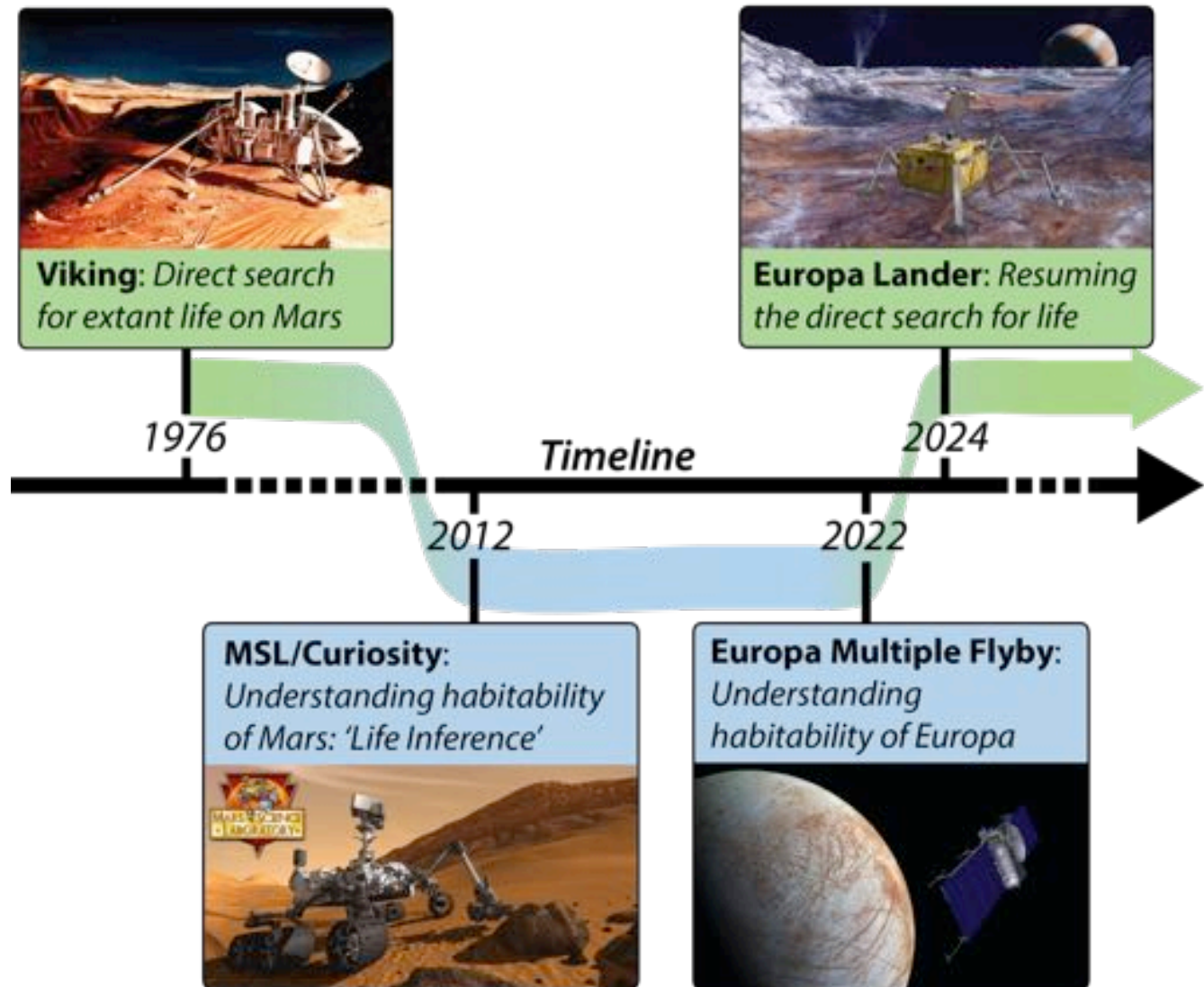
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Challenger Deep: 10,908 m



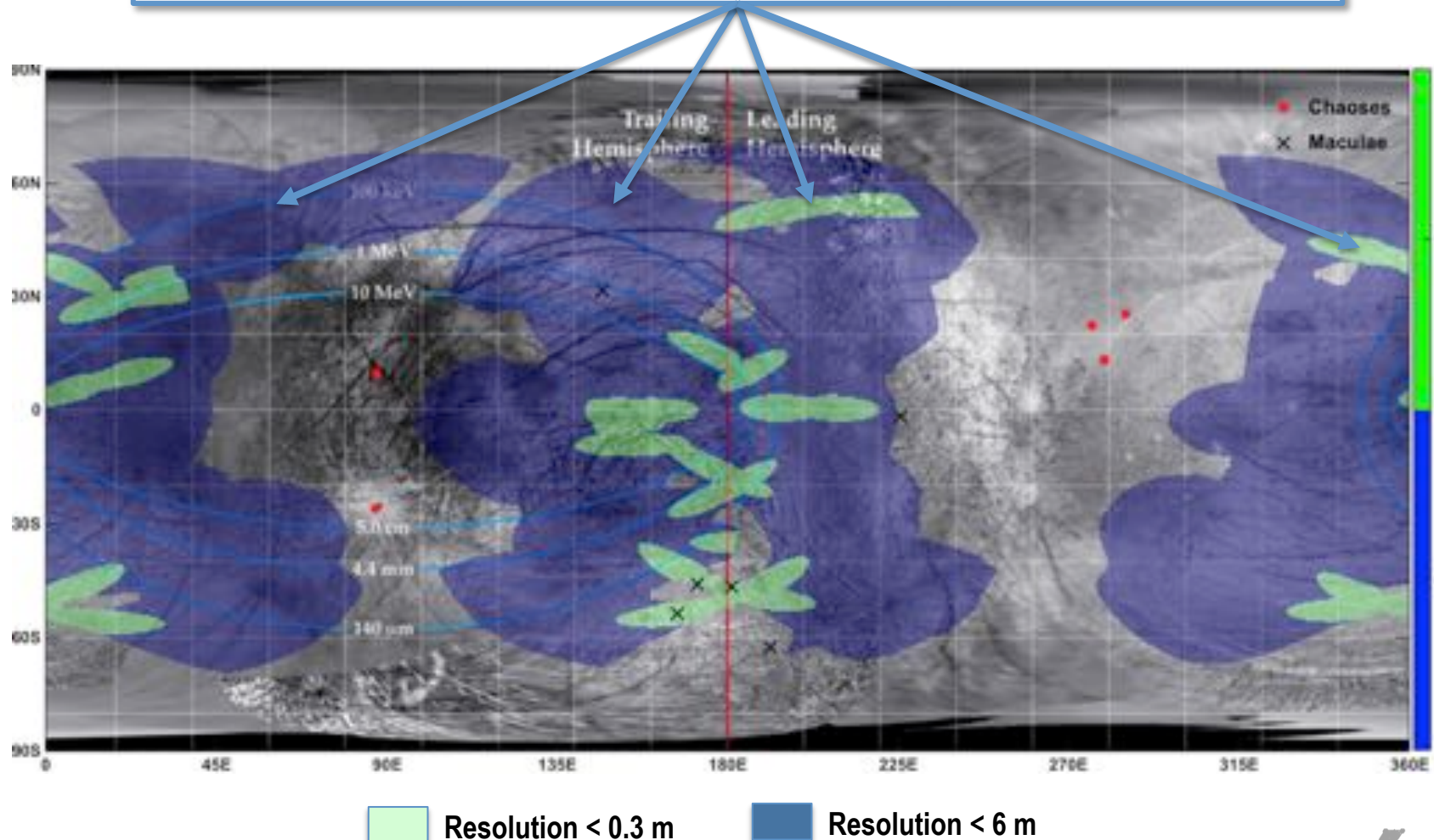


# Europa Lander in Context



# Europa Clipper Science Data Can Meet Lander Site Selection Needs

Blue/Green shaded areas represent potential Clipper data with sufficient coverage and resolution for landing site characterization



# Europa Lander Conceptual Framework: Informed by Science Objectives

---

## Key Pre-Phase A Mission Parameters:

- Lander would be launched as a separate mission.
- Target launch: 2024 using SLS launch vehicle.
- Mission would carry its own communication relay (Multiple Flyby can only be used as a backup).
- Battery powered mission: 20+ day surface lifetime.
- Spacecraft provides 42 kg allocation for science payload (with reserves).
- Baseline science includes analyses of 5 samples (3 samples for Threshold) from 10 cm depth or deeper, with a volume of at least 7 cubic centimeters each.





# Europa Lander Science Objectives



# Earth Benchmark Environments Used to Define Life Detection Approach and Measurements

	Lake Vostok (Subglacial)			Lake Vida (Salty)		Winter Circumpolar Deep Water (Deep Ocean)
	Accretion Ice (Type I)	Accretion Ice (Type II)	Glacial Ice	Brine	Ice	
Organic carbon levels (mM)	65	35	16	64,700	n.a.	<b>38-42</b>
Microbial abundance (cells mL <sup>-1</sup> )	<b>260</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>120</b>	49,000,000	444,000	30,000 to 100,000
Microbial size (μm)	0.3 - 3.0	0.3 - 3.0	0.3 - 3.0	0.1-1	0.5 - 2	<b>0.4 - 1</b>
Citation	Christner et al. <b>2006</b> L&O	Christner et al. <b>2006</b>	Christner et al. <b>2006</b>	Murray et al. <b>2012</b> PNAS	At 20 m Dugan et al. <b>2015</b> ; Kuhn et al. <b>2015</b>	Yuan et al. (in review)

## Europa measurement objectives:

- **Organic Carbon:** Determine presence, identities & relative abundance (**1 picomole in a 1 gram sample**). Molecular weight distribution to at least 550 dalton (Threshold) and bulk structural characteristics of any organics to **1 picomole in a 1 gram sample**.
- **Cell abundance:** Sufficient spatial resolution to **infer cells at ~ 100 cells mL<sup>-1</sup>** and other microstructures in the sample that have an average diameter of **0.5 μm, in a 5 cc sample**.



# Science Trace Matrix Developed to Define Notional Instrument Suite

		Goals	Objectives	Notional Instruments					
				OCA	MLD	VS	CRSI	GSS	LIS
BIOSIGNATURES	1. Search for evidence of life on Europa.	1a. Detect and characterize any organic indicators of past or present life.							
		1b. Identify and characterize morphological, textural and/or other indicators of life.							
		1c. Detect and characterize any inorganic indicators of past or present life.							
		1d. Determine the provenance of sampled material.							
HABITABILITY	2. Assess the habitability of Europa via in situ techniques uniquely available to a lander mission.	2a. Characterize the non-ice composition of Europa's near-surface material and determine whether there are indicators of chemical disequilibria and other environmental factors essential for life.							
		2b. Determine the proximity to liquid water and recently erupted materials at the lander's location.							
CONTEXT	3. Characterize surface and subsurface properties at the scale of the lander to support future exploration.	3a. Observe the properties of surface materials at the landing site, including the sampled area, and sub-meter-scale landing hazards, and connect local properties with those seen from flyby remote sensing.							
		3b. Characterize dynamical processes of Europa's surface and ice shell over the duration of the mission to understand exogenous and endogenous effects on the physicochemical properties of surface material.							

Instruments: Organic Compositional Analyzer (OCA), Microscope for Life Detection (MLD), Vibrational Spectrometer (VS), Context Remote Sensing Imager (CRSI), Geophysical Sounding System (GSS), Lander Infrastructure Sensors for Science (LIS).  
 Gray = Baseline Only; Green = Engineering Payload





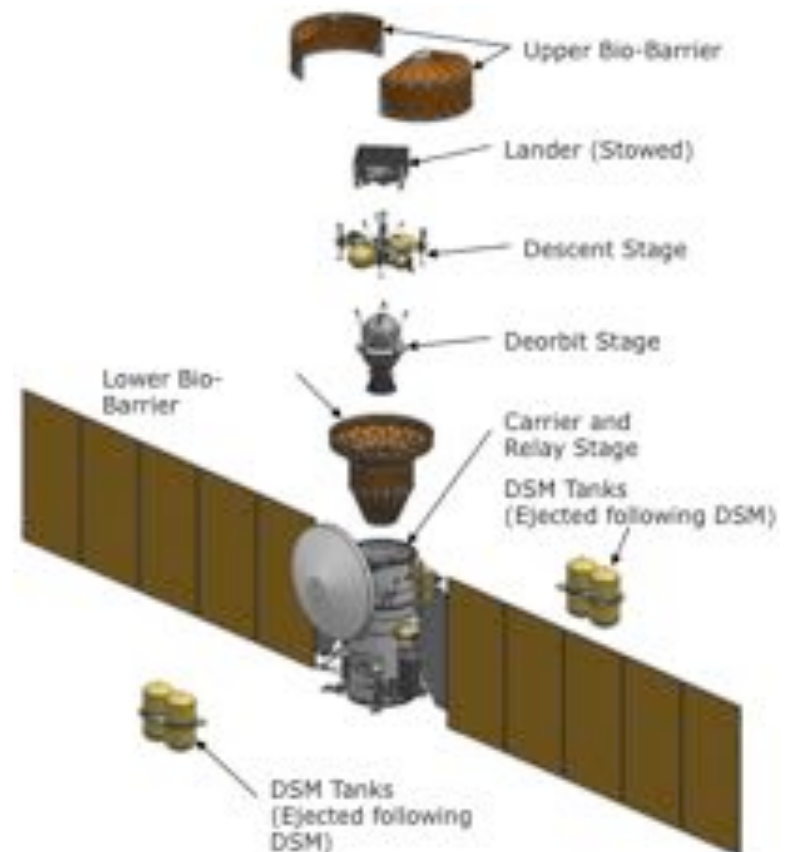
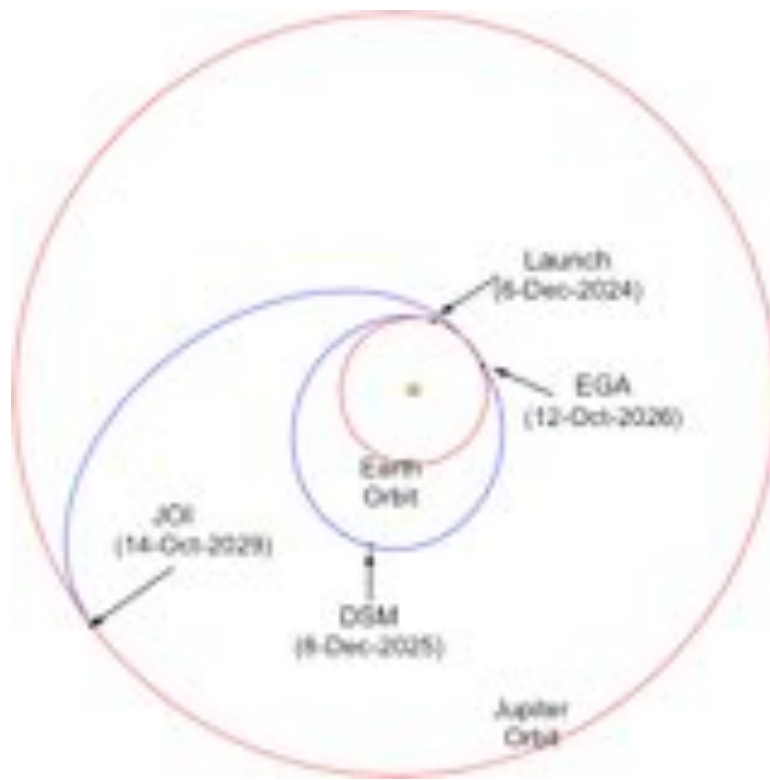
# Signs of Life: Minimizing Ambiguity in Life Detection Experiments

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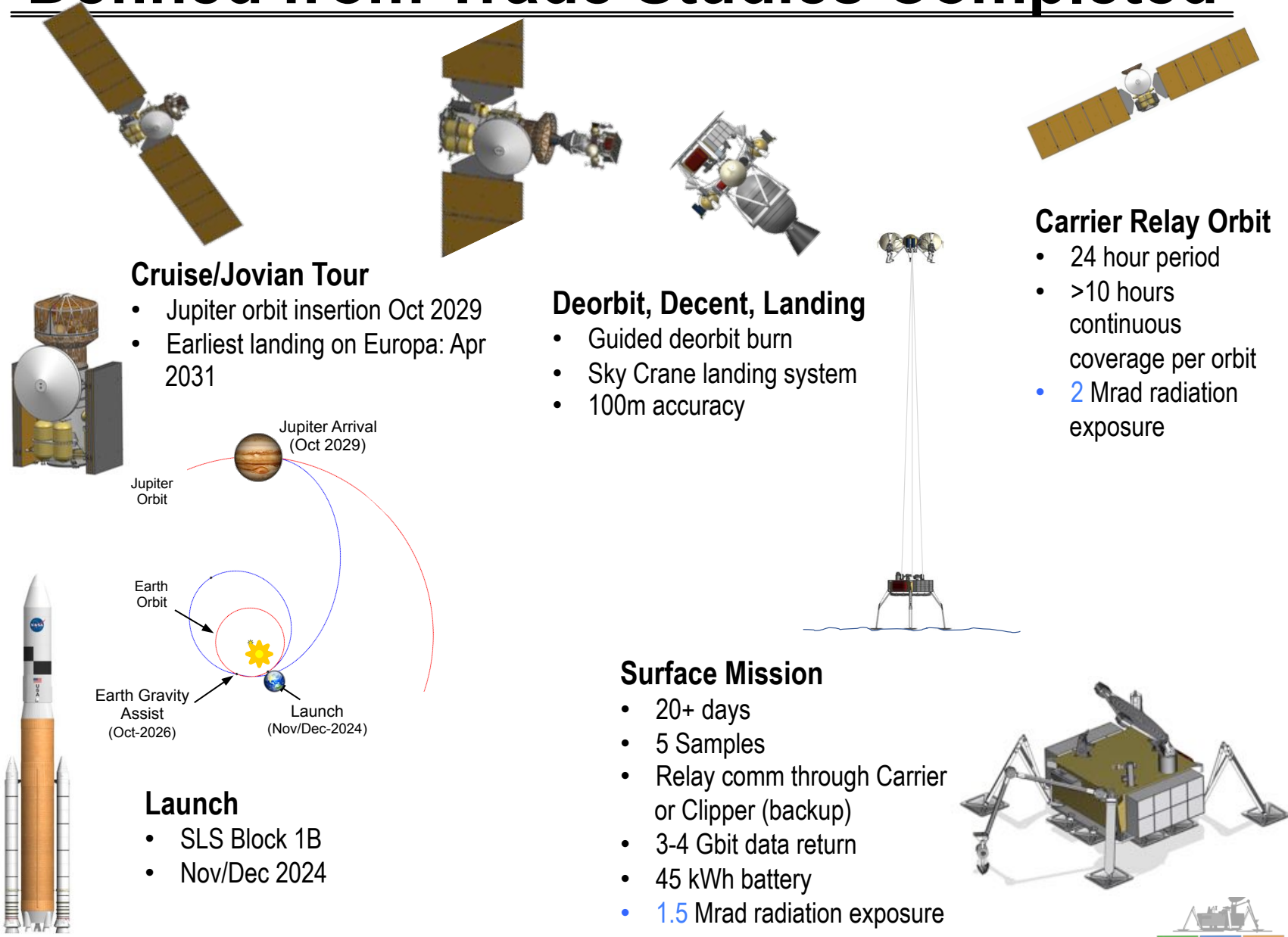
- By End of Mission:
  - Determination of the presence or absence of a suite of potential biosignatures at a level comparable to subglacial Lake Vostok.
  - Determination of the presence or absence of carbon-containing compounds down to a concentration of  $\sim 0.1$  ppb, which is approximately **six orders of magnitude** better than remote sensing capabilities.
  - In the event of at least three samples yielding a positive life detection, on Day 20 of the mission we will **NOT** announce life detection (it will take months to complete analyses and deliberations!)



# Mission Concept Summary



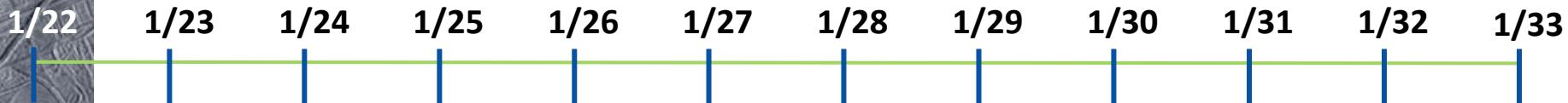
# Viable Lander/Carrier Mission Concept Defined from Trade Studies Completed





# Europa Clipper and Lander Timelines

## Support Site Selection Using Clipper Data



### Europa Clipper



### Europa Lander

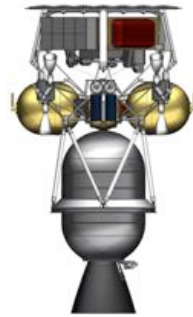


# Europa Lander Flight System: 2/3 of Total Mass Devoted to Propulsion Needs



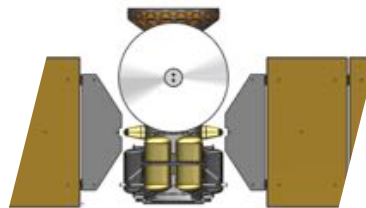
Cruise Vehicle (CV)

**Launch  
Mass:  
13,900 kg**

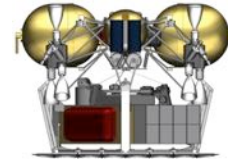


Deorbit Vehicle (DOV)  
(aka, the Lander Stack)

+



Carrier and Relay  
Stage (CRS)

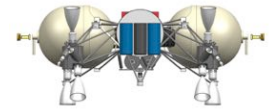


Powered Descent  
Vehicle (PDV)

+



Deorbit  
Stage (DOS)



Descent Stage (DS)

+



Lander

**Landed  
Mass:  
520 kg**





---

# Backup Material





# Science Definition Team Charter and Composition

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- SDT Chartered with mission goals defined:
  1. Search for evidence of biomarkers and/or signs of extant life.
  2. Assess the habitability (particularly through quantitative compositional measurements) of Europa via in situ techniques uniquely available by means of a landed mission.
  3. Characterize surface properties at the scale of the lander to support future exploration.
- Diverse, cross-cutting team formed
  - Co-chaired by Murray (UNV/Reno), Garvin (GSFC) and Hand (JPL)
  - Team members spanning academia, NASA, and other institutions



# Science Definition Team Composition

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**Co-Chairs: Alison Murray, DRI/Univ. NV Reno,  
Jim Garvin, NASA GSFC; Kevin Hand, NASA JPL**

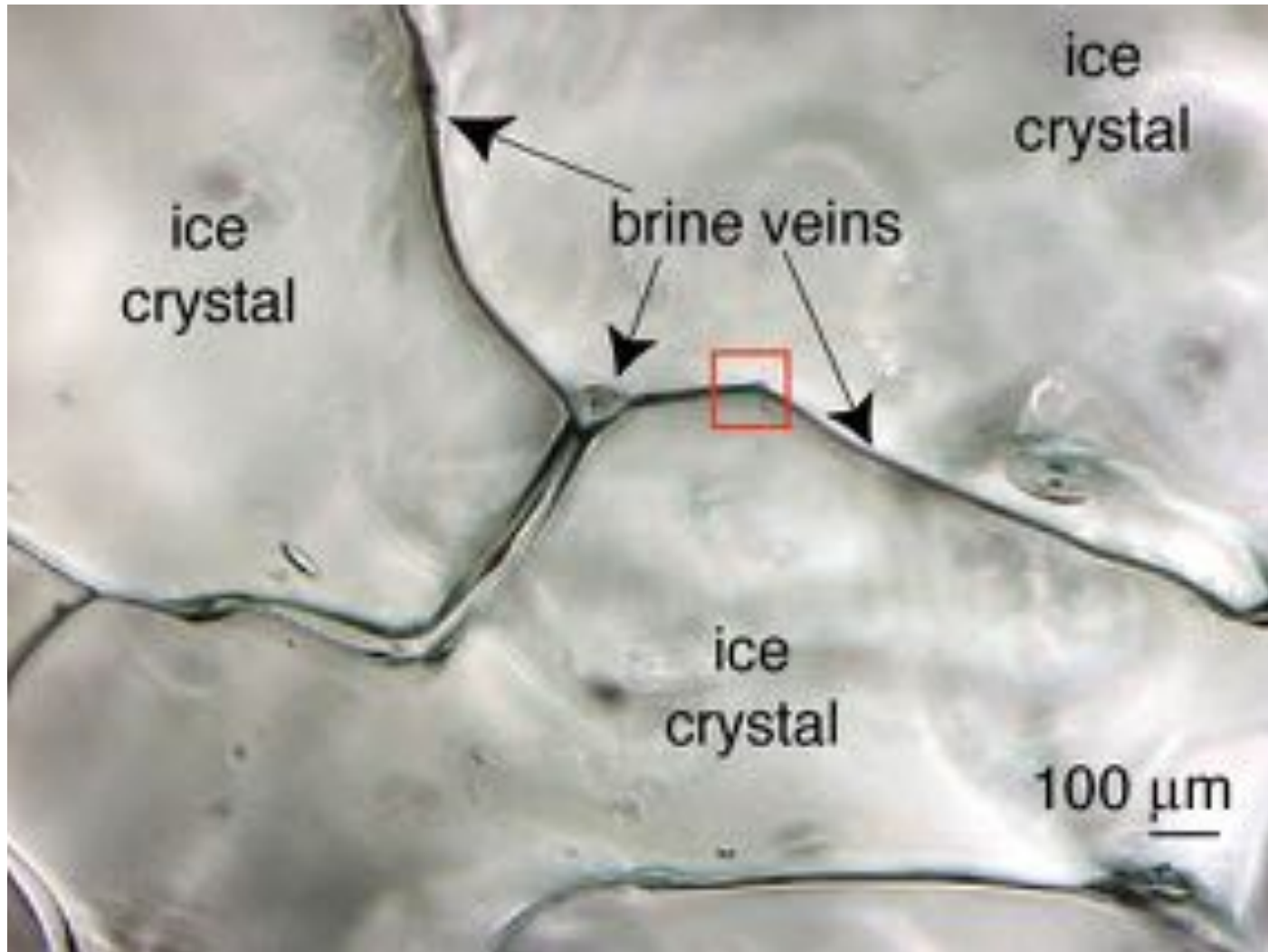
- Ken Edgett, MSSS
- Bethany Ehlmann, Caltech
- Jonathan Lunine, Cornell
- Alyssa Rhoden, ASU
- Will Brinkerhoff, NASA GSFC
- Alexis Templeton, CU Boulder
- Michael Russell, NASA JPL
- Tori Hoehler, NASA Ames
- Ken Nealson, USC
- Sarah Horst, JHU
- Peter Willis, NASA JPL
- Alex Hayes, Cornell
- Brent Christner, Univ FL
- Chris German, WHOI
- Aileen Yingst, PSI
- David Smith, MIT
- Chris Paranicas, APL
- Britney Schmidt, GA Tech

***Planetary and Ocean Scientists, Microbiologists,  
Geochemists, Geologists***

Europa Lander Project Science Team: Cynthia Phillips, NASA JPL;  
Morgan Cable, NASA JPL; Kate Craft, APL



# Glacial ice triple junctions and veins harbor liquid water and life





# Model Payload Formulated via Survey of Example Instruments and Prototypes

Instrument Class	STM Goal	Instrument Example(s)	Flight/Brassboard Example(s)
Organic Compositional Analyzer (OCA)	Goal 1	Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer (GC-MS)	SAM (MSL), MOMA (ExoMars 2020)
Microscope for Life Detection (MLD)	Goal 1, Goal 3	AFM with Optical Microscope; with Deep UV fluorescence and Raman spectroscopy	Optical Microscope (Phoenix), MIDAS-AFM (ROSETTA)
Vibrational Spectrometer (VS)	Goal 1, Goal 2, Goal 3	Raman or FTIR Spectrometer	SHERLOC (M2020)
Context Remote Sensing Imager (CRSI)	Goal 1, Goal 2, Goal 3 ( <i>external to vault</i> )	Stereo Camera (possibly with filters or point spectrometer for composition)	EECAMS (M2020), MastCam (MSL)
Geophysical Sounding System (GSS)	Goal 2, Goal 3	Geophone (or 3-axis seismometer)	JPL Seismometer (MGN Decadal Study)
Lander Infrastructure Sensors for Science	Goal 1, Goal 2, Goal 3	Descent Imager, LIDAR, Gravity Tracking	MARDI (MSL), X-band Radio



# Model Payload Mass Allocations

## Developed with Lander Engr. Team

Model Payload Instrument	Threshold			Baseline		
	Allocation	Margin	MEV	Allocation	Margin	MEV
Organic Compositional Analyzer (GC-MS)	<b>16.40</b>		<b>21.6</b>	<b>16.4</b>		<b>21.6</b>
Microscope	<b>5.0</b>		<b>6.6</b>	<b>5.0</b>		<b>6.6</b>
Instrument	3.0		3.9	3.0		3.9
Sample Handling	2.0		2.6	2.0		2.6
Vibrational Spectrometer (Raman)	<b>5.4</b>		<b>7.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>		<b>7.1</b>
Geophone	<b>0.8</b>		<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>		<b>1.6</b>
Context Remote Sensing Instrument on HGA	<b>2.2</b>		<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>		<b>3.7</b>
Instrument on HGA	1.0		1.3	1.6		2.1
CRSI Vault Electronics	1.2		1.6	1.2		1.6
Radiation Shielding	1.5		2.0	1.5		2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>42.5</b>



# Relay Orbit Comparison Summary

## (prelim. based on initial analysis)

Mission Parameter	Carrier w/ Low-Energy Relay Orbit	“Free-Flyer” Ref. (Clipper Relay)
Carrier $\Delta V$ to achieve	300 m/s	30-50 m/s
Carrier/Lander Rad dose (TID) to Lander separation	1.1 Mrad	150 krad
Carrier Rad dose (TID) for relay support	1.0 Mrad	N/A
Lander coast time following separation	30 hr.	6 hr.
Lander de-orbit $\Delta V$	1,900 m/s	2,300 – 2,900 m/s
Time from Jupiter Orbit Insertion to Lander delivery	21 months	16 months
Total Science Data Return	3 GB	< 0.5 GB





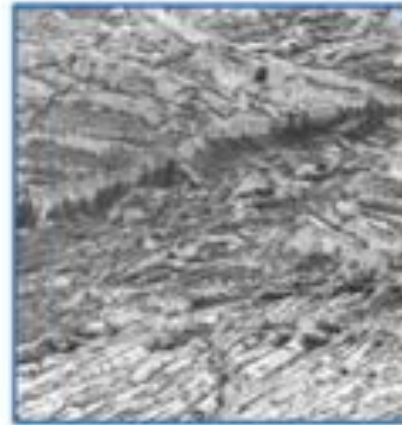
# Europa Surface has Many Potential Hazards

Current knowledge cannot exclude possibility of ubiquitous landing hazards

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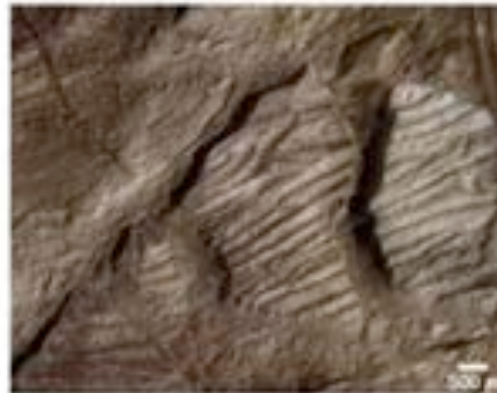
Earth glacier surfaces



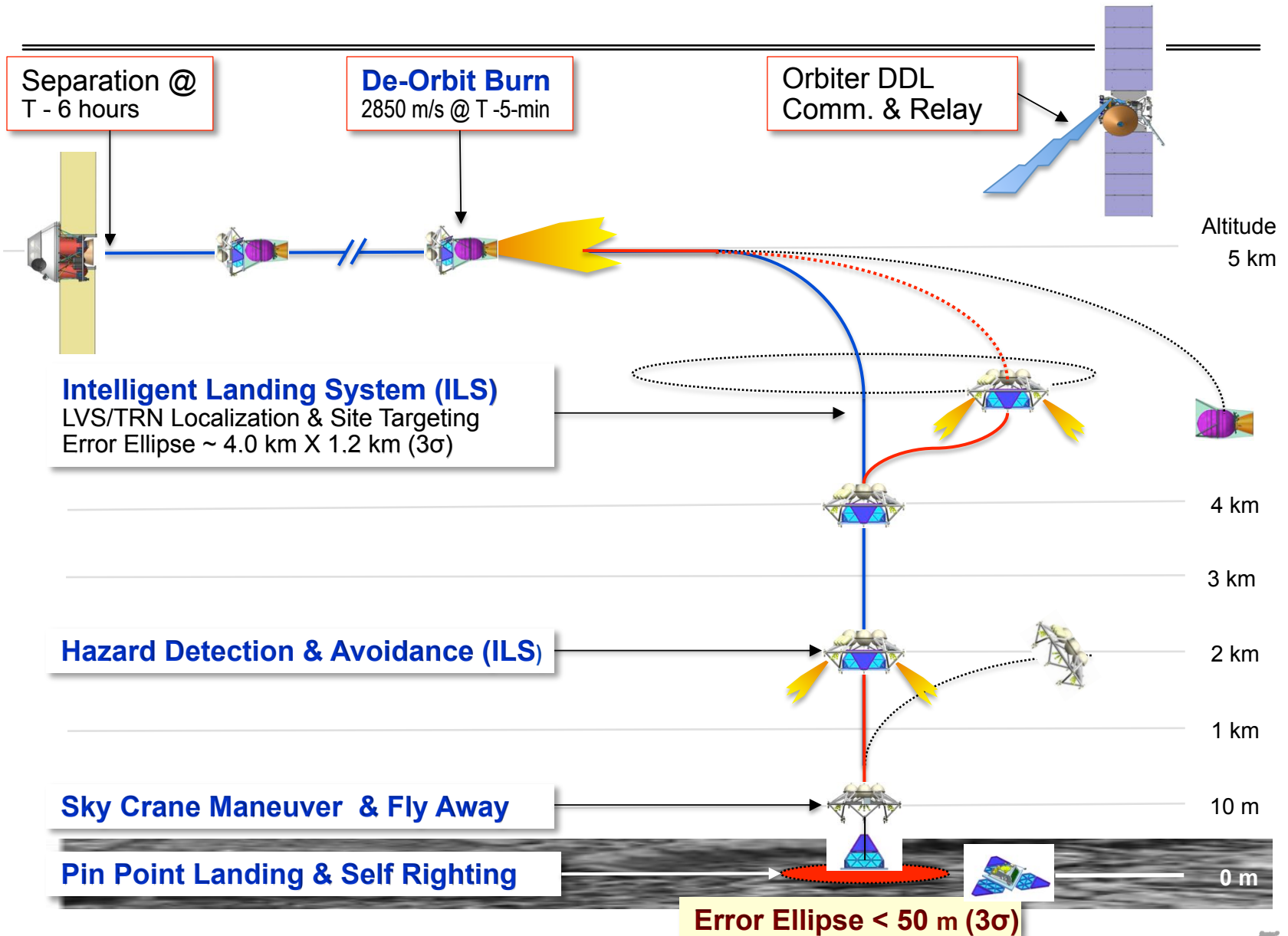
Europa at 12 m/pixel  
and 10 m/pixel



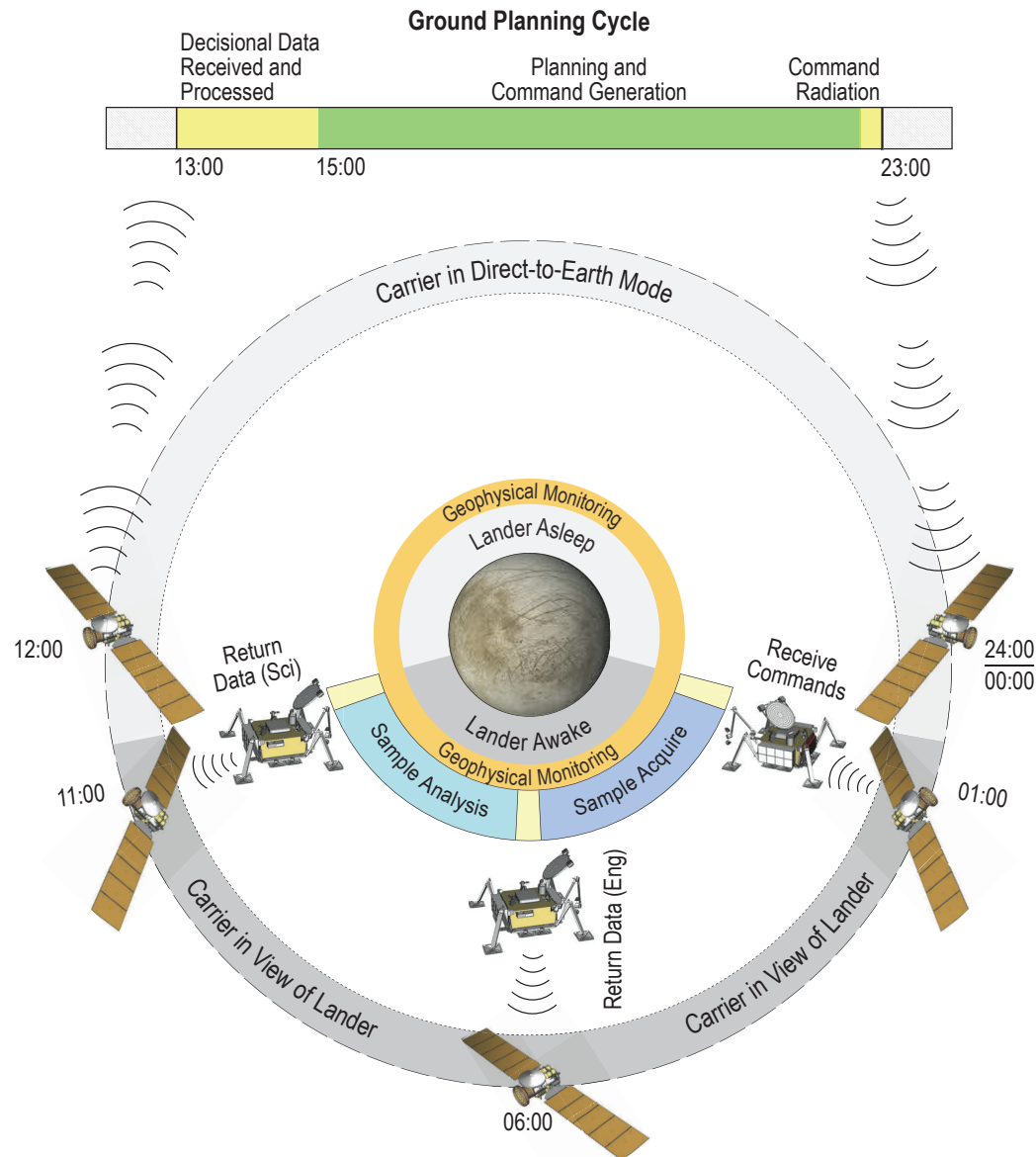
1 m/pixel  
Devil's Golf Course –  
Death Valley



# De-Orbit , Descent & Landing (DDL) Flight Path



# Surface Mission Provides for Ground-in-Loop Capability





# Representative Surface Timeline

