



- Prove, or Disprove, the Existence Theorem:
 - A CSSR Mission that returns a macroscopic sample from the surface of a comet is scientifically compelling, technically feasible, can be launched by 2016 ± 1 yr, and can be achieved within a cost cap of \$820M (FY07)
 - Report is expected to impact NASA decision-making for next New Frontiers AO
- Define CSSR Science Objectives (SDT)
- Define CSSR Measurement Objectives (SDT + Technical Team)
- Produce a Mission Design that accomplishes the Science & Measurement Objectives (All)

Comet Surface Sample Return

Mission Study Objectives

Science Leads: Hal Weaver (JHU/APL), Mike A'Hearn (UMD)

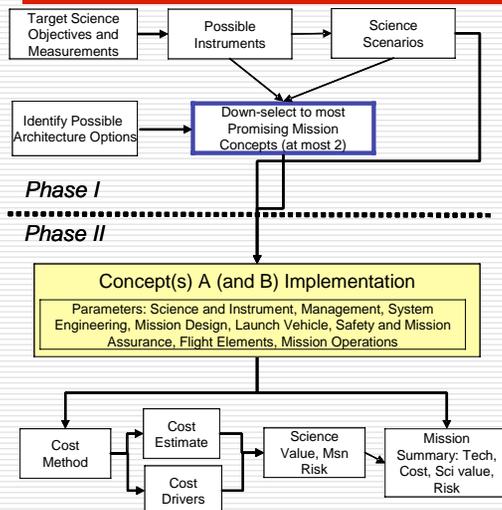
Program Manager: Glen Fountain (JHU/APL)

Technical Lead: James Leary (JHU/APL)

NASA Lead: Curt Niebur (NASA HQ)



CSSR Study Flow



- Conservative new technology approach
- Launch date of 2016+/- 1 year
- DSN
 - Ka band available
 - 70 M replaced with equivalent capability
- No international contribution



CSSR Study Schedule Milestones

- Draft Report due January 2008
- Peer Review during February 2008
- Final Report due March 15, 2008
 - Final Presentation to NASA
 - Public Release of report



Science Definition Team Members

- Mike A'Hearn (UMD) : Co-Chair
- Hal Weaver (JHU/APL) : Co-Chair
- Mike Combi (University of Michigan)
- Yan Fernández (University of Central Florida)
- Will Grundy (Lowell Observatory)
- Martha Hanner (University of Massachusetts)
- Casey Lisse (JHU/APL)
- Karen Meech (University of Hawaii)
- Joe Veverka (Cornell University)
- Paul Weissman (JPL)
- Mike Zolensky (NASA/JSC)

- 11 Members Total



CSSR Engineering Team

- Systems Engineering – JC Leary; PA Hill
- Mechanical Systems – CT Apland
- Communications – JR Bruzzi
- Propulsion – SS Bushman
- Payload – EH Darlington
- Mission Design – DW Dunham; JJ Guzman
- Advanced Technologies – RE Gold
- Landing Systems – JT Kaidy
- Sampling Systems – WJ Lees
- Software – VA Mallder
- Mechanical Design – DH Napolillo
- Avionics – JK Ottman
- Structures – DF Persons
- Guidance & Control – JC Ray
- Power – LM Roufberg
- Operations & Ground Systems – EP Theus
- Thermal – MJ Wirzburger
- Costing – LS Wolfarth

- SRV – NASA LaRC (WC Englund)
- Navigation & Mission Design – JPL (J Sims)



CSSR SDT Process

- Kick-off meeting on Aug 21-22, 2007 at JHU/APL
 - Discuss goals of CSSR Mission Study
 - SDT's primary role is to define CSSR Science Requirements, which drives the technical effort, and write the Science portion of the Final Report
 - SDT consults with Technical Team when questions are raised (e.g., clarification of requirements) and trade-off decisions are made
- Biweekly telecons to discuss requirements and current status
- SDT solicits advice from "outside" science experts
 - Meeting on Oct 6, 2007 in Orlando, FL with contributions from Akiva Bar-Nun, Dina Prialnik, Uwe Keller, Scott Sandford, Hajime Yano, and Ben Clark
 - Telecon presentation to CAPTEM (Oct 11, 2007)
- Town Hall forum during DPS Annual Meeting (Oct 11, 2007) to solicit feedback from the community (~30 non-SDT attendees)
- SDT meeting on Oct 12, 2007 in Orlando, FL to hone Requirements
- Town Hall forum planned for fall AGU meeting (Dec 10-14, 2007)
- Next SDT meeting scheduled on December 11, 2007



Science Rationale for CSSR Mission

- Key questions identified by Decadal Survey and NASA Roadmap for CSSR mission remain valid
 - What processes marked the initial stages of planet and satellite formation?
 - What is the inventory of volatile compounds, especially water, across the solar system?
 - What is the nature of organic material in the solar system, and how has this matter evolved?
 - How do the processes that shape the contemporary character of planetary bodies operate and interact?



Why Sampling Comets is Important

- Most pristine material in the solar system
 - Best record of conditions in the outer solar system during its formation and evolution
 - Best link to interstellar cloud from which solar nebula formed
- Chock full of water and organics, the seeds of life
 - What role did comets play in delivering water and organics to Earth?
- Building blocks of cores of the outer planets
- Critical role in formation and evolution of planetary atmospheres
 - Impacts of comets throughout the solar system
- Comets bring material from the outer solar system to the inner solar system for easy sampling



General Guidelines for CSSR Mission

- A viable CSSR New Frontiers mission must provide a major scientific advancement over what Discovery missions have done (Stardust, Deep Impact) or could do
 - Stardust samples collected from **hypervelocity** (~6 km/s) impacts of coma grains into aerogel
 - Destruction/Alteration of large fraction of impacting material
 - Generally unable to preserve original chemical and mineralogical properties
 - Stardust provided *huge* scientific advances, but **the science return from CSSR vs Stardust should be even greater than the Stardust advance over previous knowledge**
- As part of New Frontiers, CSSR is a PI-led mission with a single, focused goal - **Return a Surface Sample**
- Like all mission proposals, descopes must be identified from a baseline mission to a floor



CSSR Mission Objective

Obtain a Macroscopic Sample of the Surface of a Comet Nucleus and Return It to Earth for Laboratory Analysis

Triage Science Requirements into 3 Groups (aka "Levels"):

Group 1: Must Do, Scientific Floor

-Mission is a **Failure** if these objectives are not accomplished

Group 2: Baseline Mission

-Selected mission scoped to achieve both Group 1 and Group 2

-Group 2 considered "highly desirable"

Group 3: Nice to Have

-Scientifically important, but of clearly lower priority than Group 1 & Group 2



Target Selection

- Any comet is fair game, as long as the mission design demonstrates that the Group 1 objectives can be achieved within the cost cap
 - Allow proposers to be innovative and creative in choice of comet
 - Comets that are already well-characterized may lower mission risk, but monitoring of nucleus during rendezvous phase mitigates this risk
 - Comets already well-characterized could require shorter rendezvous phase, thereby decreasing risk
 - Choosing comet already visited by spacecraft permits synergism between CSSR and previous results
 - Owing to accessibility issues, a Jupiter Family Comet (JFC) will be the likely CSSR mission target



Target Selection (2)

- ❑ SDT identified 9 comets to serve as potential case studies for the CSSR mission
 - 9P/Tempel 1 (Deep Impact target)
 - 19P/Borrelly (DS1 target)
 - 81P/Wild 2 (Stardust target)
 - 67P/Cheryumov-Gerasimenko (Rosetta target)
 - 21P/Giacobini-Zinner (ICE target)
 - 22P/Kopff (CRAF target)
 - 6P/d'Arrest (CONTOUR target)
 - 43P/Wolf-Harrington (recent change in q from 2.5 to 1.5 AU)
 - 46P/Wirtanen (Original Rosetta target)



Group 1 Objectives

- ❑ Return substantial (≥ 500 cc) sample of comet surface for Earth laboratory investigation
 - Maintain the elemental, molecular, and mineralogical integrity of all sampled material that is stable at -10 C at 1 bar
 - ❑ Must prevent aqueous alteration of sample
 - Sample volume can be reduced to ≥ 250 cc in exchange for substantially lower temperatures that are justified for preservation of the sample
 - Determine the geomorphological context of sampled region
 - ❑ Global visible mapping of nucleus to ≤ 1 m resolution
 - ❑ Visible characterization of sampled region to ≤ 1 cm resolution
 - Laboratory curation facilities must have the capability to maintain the samples without degradation for ≥ 5 yr



Group 2 Objectives

- ❑ Maintain the elemental and molecular integrity of volatile species that may evolve from the sample (e.g., species that sublimate at -10 C and 1 bar)
 - Capture evolved species (e.g., in flasks)
- ❑ Return material from a depth ≥ 10 cm (~ 3 diurnal thermal skin depths), if the sampled region has a shear strength ≤ 50 kPa
- ❑ Determine whether sample is from an active region of the nucleus
 - Monitor nucleus for ≥ 20 rotation periods while the comet's activity is within a factor of ~ 10 of its peak value during its orbit around the Sun
- ❑ Sample multiple locations
 - Active and Inactive regions
 - Regions with different geomorphologies
- ❑ Choose sample locations to accuracy of ≤ 50 m



Group 3 Objectives

- ❑ Sample to depth ≥ 50 cm
- ❑ Preserve stratigraphy of sampled region
 - Even gross (3 cm scale) information is valuable
- ❑ Perform remote compositional observations of nucleus surface, including sampled area
- ❑ Perform remote compositional observations of coma, including near sampled area
- ❑ Perform thermal mapping of entire nucleus
 - Identification of icy terrain
- ❑ Measure dust flux in coma
 - Simple counter is sufficient



Discussion of Science Priorities

- SDT has had major discussions on two issues
 - Priority of sample depth requirement
 - 2 of 11 SDT members insist that sample **must** be collected at least 3 diurnal skin depths below the surface, and would make this a Group 1 requirement
 - 9 SDT members say that macroscopic sample collected anywhere and at any depth justifies CSSR mission
 - Everyone feels that collection to a depth ≥ 10 cm is feasible (easy?), but the requirement will be difficult, if not impossible, to verify in-flight
 - Sampling **surface only** of an **active area** is considered sufficient by everyone, but verifying that sampled region is active is problematic
 - Priority of volatile capture requirement
 - 1 SDT member feels that capture of sublimated volatiles must be a Group 1 requirement



Measurement Objectives & Payload

- Characterize surface of nucleus in visible light (panchromatic): global resolution ≤ 1 m, locally near sample to a resolution ≤ 1 cm
 - Capable (~ 5 μ rad/pixel) Narrow Angle Camera (NAC)
- Map the surface temperature of the nucleus: global resolution ≤ 10 m, locally near sample to a resolution ≤ 1 m
 - Could use near-IR (1-5 μ m) spectral imager or thermal-IR imager
- Remote measurements of surface composition: global resolution ≤ 10 m, locally near sample to a resolution ≤ 1 m
 - Could use Near-IR (1-5 μ m) spectral imager or Near-IR Camera with multiple filters
- Measure the composition of the coma gas
 - Could use Mass Spectrometer or near-IR (1-5 μ m) spectral imager
- Measure dust flux
 - Could use nephelometer



Payload Complement

- Instruments baselined (in priority order)
 - Sampler
 - Multiple corers
 - Active system (drill, grinder, scooper) required for risk mitigation
 - NAC
 - Facility instrument required for optical navigation
 - Sample Collection Verification Imager
 - Facility instrument required for risk mitigation
 - Sample Monitoring Suite (P/T)

----- Science Floor -----

- IR/Thermal Imager
- LIDAR
 - Facility instrument used for long-range proximity operations
- WAC (with filter wheel)
- Dust Measurement Instrument
- Neutral Mass Gas Spectrometer
- Subsurface Radar
- Other Drivers/Factors
 - Covers
 - Scanning Platform(s)



CSSR Mission Risks

- Programmatic
 - Closure on requirements priority with SDT consensus
 - Planetary protection
 - Development of curation facility
 - Public response to return of cometary material
- Technical
 - Sampler design with unknown comet surface properties
 - Landing complexity
 - SRV design changes for sample handling & thermal control
 - Mechanical accommodation of all payload elements
 - May require instrument descopes
 - Complexity of trajectory



CSSR Mission Risks (cont'd)

- Cost
 - Electric propulsion cost growth with dependencies on:
 - NEXT funding
 - Dawn Performance
 - Oversubscription of payload



Cost Summary

- A Comet Sample Return Mission can be performed for a cost within the \$820M cap
 - Resolution (and costing) of remaining trades will add to depth of study
- Careful balancing of science payload required to keep within cap
 - Mission with “minimal” payload is ~\$750M
- Work with Headquarters to begin dialogue with those who can have major impact on programmatic risks
 - Planetary protection
 - Curation facility



In Summary

- It's the sample, stupid!
 - Returning an unaltered piece of a comet nucleus is the paramount objective of the CSSR mission
 - All other objectives are secondary

- CSSR mission is scientifically compelling, even at the floor

Backup Material



Key Technical Requirements

- ❑ The Mission concept cost cap shall be $\leq \\$820M$ in FY07\$.
- ❑ The Mission concept shall assume a 2016 launch date (± 1 year).
- ❑ The Mission concept shall be limited to using EELV-class launch vehicles.
- ❑ The Mission communications shall be via DSN 70-m antennas or an equivalent.
- ❑ The Mission shall be capable of returning a surface sample of ≥ 500 cc from the target comet to Earth (UTTR) for laboratory investigation.
- ❑ The Mission shall be capable of preserving the comet sample's organics and volatiles at a temperature $\leq -10^\circ\text{C}$ at a pressure of 1 bar.
- ❑ The Mission shall maintain the elemental, molecular, and mineralogical integrity of the sampled material.
- ❑ The Mission shall monitor the target body for >20 rotations in the period -10 days to $+100$ days around perihelion passage.
- ❑ The Spacecraft's sampling mechanism shall be capable of obtaining a core sample ≥ 10 cm deep with a goal of 50 cm.
- ❑ The Mission shall be capable of detecting the target comet >3 months out.
- ❑ The Mission shall be capable of mapping the target comet's surface to ≤ 1 -m resolution.
- ❑ The Spacecraft shall be capable of descending to the surface for sample capture at least three times.



System Overview

- ❑ Spacecraft design and operation leveraging recent experience
 - NEAR, MESSENGER, STEREO, New Horizons
- ❑ Proximity operations and landing strategy
 - NEAR-like proximity operations
 - Internally developed landing strategy using multiple levels of protection (inertially-based navigation similar to NEAR augmented with imaging, multi-path LIDAR, and multi-path radar)
- ❑ Sampling strategy
 - Internally developed strategy for coring coupled with drilling/grinding/scooping mechanism to improve chance of bulk sample return
 - Return capsule augmented with sample monitoring (T/P) suite and volatile capture devices



Major Trade Areas

- ❑ Mission/Science Trades
 - Trajectory Complexity
 - Payload Complement
 - Sample Acquisition
 - Sample Handling
- ❑ Spacecraft Trades
 - Sample Return Vehicle Design (Stardust vs. MSR)
 - Power Subsystem Design (RPS vs. Solar Array)
 - Communications Bandwidth
 - Propulsion Subsystem Design (Electric vs. Conventional)



Trajectory Complexity

- ❑ Targets of scientific interest are difficult to rendezvous
 - All past comet missions have been flybys (Rosetta, 67P/C-G TBD)
- ❑ ΔV requirement >3 km/s will drive mission to EP (and perhaps beyond cap)
- ❑ Duration longer than 10 years may drive reliability requirements
- ❑ Rendezvous and return near perihelion to minimize solar distance
 - >3 AU starts to impact the design; >5.5 AU is technically risky
- ❑ Launch energy will drive to larger launch vehicle
- ❑ Staying at the comet through perihelion would drive mission duration up by ~ 2



Target Analysis

Comets with rendezvous/return possibilities; [#] after name is scientific rank, Sept. 19th message (for ballistic orbits, those below with perihelion near 1.0 AU work best)

lower inclinations have lower launch C3's, ω near 0 or 180 lowers C3 & ΔV

Values in red may be show-stoppers ($q \geq 1.3$, $Q \geq 5.5$ AU, $i \geq 15^\circ$, ω away from 0 or 180 & 1 big)

Comet	Apparitions	Perihel. AU	Aphel. AU	Incl. deg.	ω deg.
67P d'Arrest [7]	2015 Mar 2, 2021 Sep 17	1.35	5.64	19.5	178.1
9P Tempel 1 [11]	2016 Aug 2, 2022 Mar 4	1.54	4.75	10.5	179.2
19P Borrelly [2]	2015 May 29, 2022 Feb 2	1.31	5.90	29.3	351.9
21P Giacobini-Zinner [5]	2018 Sep 10, 2025 Mar 25	1.01	5.98	32.0	172.9
22P/Kopff [6]	2015 Oct 25, 2022 Mar 17	1.56	5.33	4.7	162.9
43P Wolf-Harrington [8]	2016 Aug 19 (before 2019 Mar)	1.36	5.34	16.0	191.6
43P Wolf-Harrington [8]	2025 Aug 5 (after 2019 Mar)	2.44	6.22	9.3	223.8
46P Wirtanen [9]	2018 Dec 12, 2024 May 19	1.05	5.13	11.8	356.3
67P Churyumov-Gerasimenko [4]	2015 Aug 13, 2021 Nov 2	1.21	5.70	3.9	22.1
81P Wild 2 [3]	2016 July 20, 2022 Dec 15	1.59	5.31	3.2	41.7

Values below in red are outside the planned limits of 3100 m/s for post-launch ΔV (PLAV), 5.50 AU for the maximum solar distance (Max. Rs) and 12.0 km/s for the Earth return V-infinity (V_{inf}, last column). Note that for comets with perihelion passages ("apparitions" above) in 2015 and 2016, it is necessary to launch directly to the comet with a high C3 since there's no time to preface the trajectory with ΔV EGA or gravity assist trajectories

Comet	Launch	C3	DLA	PLAV	Incl	Min. Rs	Max. Rs	Stay time	Return	V _{inf} , km/s
67P d'Arrest [7]	2016 Aug 2	188.0	-28.1	3089	16.5	0.99	5.45	1163.04	2027 Aug 11	14.8
9P Tempel 1 [11]	2017 May 31	117.5	-36.9	3232	10.8	1.01	4.75	1642.14	2027 May 30	10.5
19P Borrelly [2]	2016 Dec 6	375.4	62.4	3037	29.4	0.98	5.46	850.94	2027 Dec 6	20.1
21P Giacobini-Zinner [5]	2019 Oct 9	430.2	-57.3	1072	32.0	0.99	5.26	180.04	2030 Oct 9	20.9
22P/Kopff [6]	2016 July 23	92.5	-11.7	3353	4.6	1.00	5.33	1433.04	2027 July 10	10.2
43P Wolf-Harrington [8]	2020 Feb 3	143.2	-63.1	9092	11.6	0.97	5.11	1170.84	2030 Nov 26	10.2
46P Wirtanen [9]	#60 2013 Dec 14	15.1	-36.3	194	5.0	0.98	5.14	1086.74	2028 Dec 13	11.1
	#40 2013 Apr 26	23.1	-12.3	2020	4.0	0.70	5.13	1782.44	2028 Dec 13	11.1
	#45 2013 Apr 26	23.1	-12.3	2365	4.0	0.70	4.87	60.04	2028 Dec 15	11.2
	#49 2013 Apr 26	23.1	-12.3	2354	4.0	0.70	4.89	150.04	2028 Dec 15	11.1
67P Churyumov-Gerasimenko [4]	#13 2013 Nov 13	93.4	29.4	2370	5.5	0.98	5.54	810.94	2026 Nov 3	8.8
	#14 2016 Nov 28	79.8	25.4	2967	4.7	0.98	4.88	524.14	2026 Nov 3	8.8
81P Wild 2 [3]	2017 March 3	117.7	-2.2	3732	5.5	0.97	5.31	2418.94	2029 March 9	10.7



Target Selection

- ❑ 67/P (C-G) will be the common target to facilitate architecture comparison (Ballistic and Low-Thrust)
 - Ballistic is very difficult and may require relaxing the launch window requirement
- ❑ 67/P will be well studied by the time the sample return mission gets there
- ❑ Higher science value targets are technically riskier (very difficult to reach and return even with low-thrust trajectories)

Design Decision – Limit mission to Atlas V due to cost and risk (NASA certification already complete).



Sample Acquisition

- ❑ Sample Mechanical Properties
 - Corer will not alter material; pore size is of concern
 - Thruster plumes mitigated prior to sampling
 - Active system will disrupt sample but helps ensure bulk sample
- ❑ "Cryogenic" Acquisition
 - Sample required to be maintained <-10°C at all times [sample acquisition and maintenance <-135°C will be examined for comparison but is thought to be outside scope of study]
 - Surface temperature and properties are of concern



Sample Handling

- ❑ Volatile Management
 - Full cryogenic handling is problematic
 - ❑ Cruise (thermal path from inside SRV)
 - ❑ Return (mitigation for soak back and time on the ground – cooler power?)
 - ❑ Ground (all ground handling/processing must be done cryogenically – cost)
 - Capturing volatiles possible
 - ❑ Mitigating cross-contamination is difficult
- ❑ Stratigraphy
 - Managing detailed stratigraphy through landing is difficult
 - ❑ Parachute system; shock isolation
 - Stratigraphic information can be obtained by multiple cores of different length



Sampling Baseline



- ❑ “Touch and Go” baseline vs. landing to reduce risk
- ❑ Plan is to sample near dawn terminator (within 20°)
- ❑ Redundant coring pairs will be carried
 - Different lengths provide stratigraphic information (10-cm and TBD-cm, longest technically feasible)
 - Different diameters mitigate pore size sampling risk (TBD-mm and TBD-mm)
 - Each corer capable of carrying >250 cc of material
- ❑ At least one active system will be carried
 - Will ensure a bulk sample is captured from any surface type (capable of >500 cc of material)
- ❑ Volatile capture flasks will be provided for individual samples
- ❑ Sample temperature will be maintained below -10°C



SRV Design



Stardust/Genesis heritage design (with parachute and helicopter catch) was compared with Mars Sample Return (MSR) ballistic return design

- Heritage design may allow preservation of stratigraphic information
- MSR design would be pathfinder for future work, eliminates parachute complexity (could eliminate electrical interface through to SRV depending on sample monitoring requirements)
- MSR design has higher cost risk

DESIGN TRADE DECISION – Carry both architectures forward for detailed comparison.



Power Subsystem Design



Radioisotope Power Systems were considered versus solar array power

- ❑ Positive Aspects
 - RPS removes aphelion trajectory constraint
 - Solar arrays during landing are a concern
- ❑ Negative Aspects
 - RPS adds significant cost risk
 - RPS limit system power (MMRTG performance)
 - ASRG TRL is low
 - Cannot target Earth return with RPS onboard (need separable spacecraft)

DESIGN TRADE DECISION – Solar arrays baselined, no RPS solution considered possible within study programmatic constraints.



Communications Subsystem Design



- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Articulated Dish HGA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pros <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Potential for higher Bandwidth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Accommodates both X-Band & Ka-Band ■ Easily scalable for higher gain ■ Accommodates use of higher power TWTAs ❑ No restriction on S/C attitude ❑ Straightforward antenna design ■ Cons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Complex/heavy mechanisms ❑ Deployable boom required ❑ Risk of moving parts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ gimbals & rotary joints ❑ Single-point failure for RF steering support at encounter | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 1-D Phased-Array HGA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pros <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Covers range of Earth direction w/ restriction on S/C roll only ❑ Electronically scanned ❑ No mechanisms or deployables ❑ Light-weight ❑ Graceful degradation with failure ■ Cons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Limits maximum bandwidth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ X-Band only ■ Limit on practical size (gain) ■ Limit on total SSPA power ❑ Less efficient power amps ❑ More complex antenna design ❑ Additional DSN Time/Cost |
|---|--|

DESIGN TRADE DECISION – Carry both architectures forward for detailed comparison.



Propulsion Subsystem Design

Ballistic trajectories with conventional propulsion were compared with low-thrust trajectories with solar electric propulsion

- Conventional propulsion
 - Limits target options and drives the need for more complex trajectory (planetary flybys; limited launch opportunities)
 - Requires more propellant mass (2-10x)
 - May require 3rd Stage (like New Horizons)
 - >\$25M cheaper (if no 3rd Stage)
- Electric propulsion
 - Allows more scientifically interesting targets to be considered
 - Increases cost risk and operations complexity (may drive the need for larger solar arrays)
 - Monoprop system still required for proximity operations

DESIGN TRADE DECISION – Carry both options forward for detailed comparison.



Conclusion

- Phase II (Detailed Design) will focus on two architectures to determine if one or both fit within study constraints and meet science requirements
 - Ballistic vs. Low-Thrust
 - Common spacecraft bus designs where possible (e.g., avionics and communications)
 - Common proximity operations and sampling scenario for each architecture
 - Common sampling system for each architecture
 - SRV trade (Heritage vs. MSR) will be evaluated and lowest cost solution that satisfies science requirements will be selected
 - Science floor payload (additional instruments added if resources are available)