

Acknowledgements	Introduction	Scope	Concept	Test Objectives	Design	ConOps	Calculations	Assumptions	Risks and Mitigations	Opportunities	Path forward	Conclusion	Backup slides
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Gravity Simulation Platform On-Orbit: A Testbed

Master's Project: Space Architecture, Fall 2019

Albert Rajkumar

M.S. in Space Architecture Student, SICSA, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, University of Houston.

Committee members: Prof. Larry Bell Prof. Olga Bannova Prof. Larry Toups Prof. Kriss Kennedy

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Prof. Larry Bell
Prof. Olga Bannova
Mr. Larry Toups
Mr. Kriss Kennedy

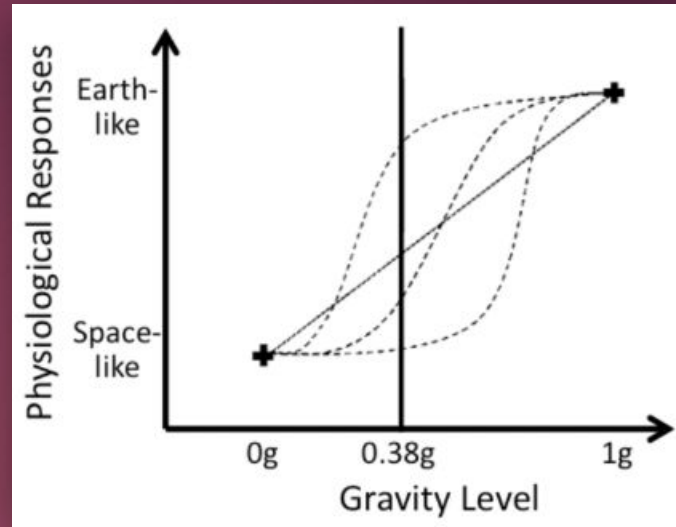
Spencer Stanford
Victor Kitmanyen
Vittorio Netti
Rahul Venkataraman
Timothy Bishop
Justin Lin
Les Johnson
Justin Rowe
Amandarose Kiger

Safety

Long Term Human Presence In LEO, Mars & Beyond

Vision

Issue: Knowledge Gap In Long Term Effects Of Partial Gravity



Source: Artificial Gravity Evidence Report, Human Research Program, Human Health Countermeasures Element, Version 6, May 2015, Gilles Clément

“The effects of Martian gravity on

the human sensorimotor, cardiovascular, musculoskeletal, and immune systems, as well as effects on behavior, general health and performance,

are unknown.”

Source: International roadmap for artificial gravity research, November 2017, Gilles Clément

NASA TA 7.4.4

NASA HRP

Human Health Countermeasures

Variable Gravity Research Platform In LEO

The Proposal



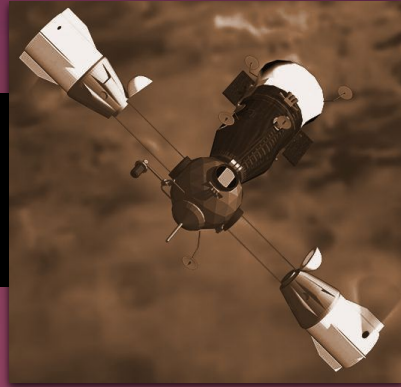
Credit: MIT

1

Phased Approach



Credit: MIT



1

2

Phased Approach



Credit: MIT



1

2

Phased Approach



Credit: MIT



1

2

3

Phased Approach



Credit: MIT

**Testbed for
Technical
Systems**

**Testbed for
Physiological
faculties**

1

2

3

Phased Approach



Credit: MIT

**Testbed for
Technical
Systems**

**Testbed for
Physiological
faculties**

**Variable Gravity
Research
Platform**

1

2

3

4

Phased Approach

Testbed

For Variable Gravity Research Platform In LEO

Thesis Proposal

Scope of Project

Conops

Constituent Elements Of Testbed

Test Objectives

Time, Forces, Technical Systems

Modifications - Constituent Elements Of The Testbed

Rudimentary Design Of The Tether System

In scope

Conops Constituent Elements Of Testbed Test Objectives

Time, Forces, Technical Systems

Modifications - Constituent Elements Of The Testbed

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Conops
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Time, Forces, Technical Systems

Modifications - Constituent Elements Of The Testbed

Rudimentary Design Of The Tether System

In scope

Design Of Subsystems

Test Activities Details

Interior Design Of The Testbed

Out of scope

Design Of Subsystems

Test Objectives Details

Interior Design Of The Testbed

Out of scope

Design Of Subsystems

Test Activities Details

Interior Design Of The Testbed

Out of scope

Project Statement

Low Cost Enabling Mission - Off The Shelf Products

Short Term Human Adaptations To Rotating Platforms

Low Cost Enabling Mission - Off The Shelf Products

Short Term Human Adaptations To Rotating Platforms

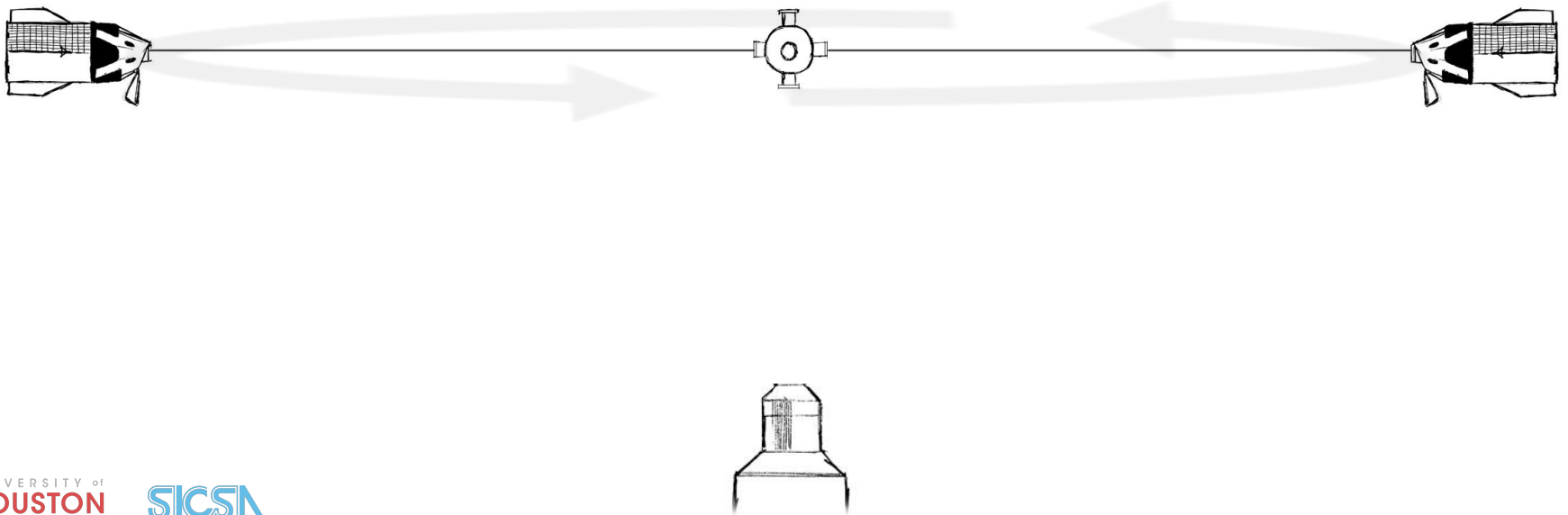
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Preliminary Design Concept

3 Body System

2 Space Vehicles Tethered To Pressurized Central Hub

The Central Hub Docks To ISS Intermittently



Test Objectives

Technical

Physiological

2

3

Test subsystems

- ECLSS
- Thermal control
- GNC
- Power supply & distribution
- Propulsion & AAC

Test
docking
and
transfer
systems &
protocols

Test
spin-up
and
spin down
systems &
protocols

Test
structural
stability
and
integrity.

Test subsystems

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Technical

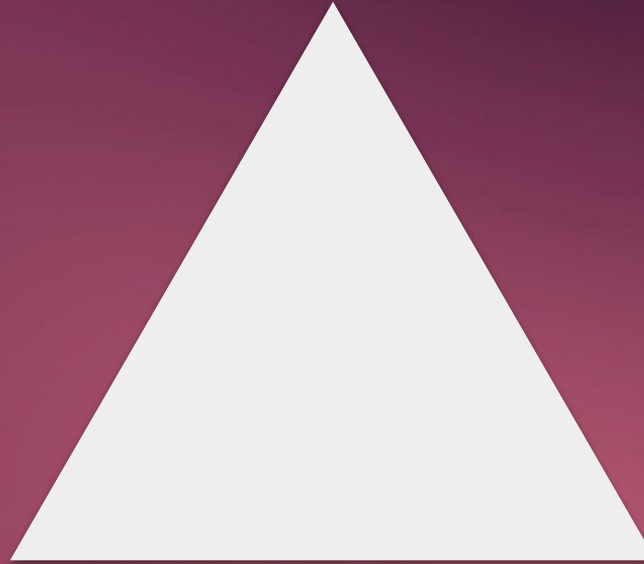
Physiological

2

3

Centripetal Acceleration

RPM



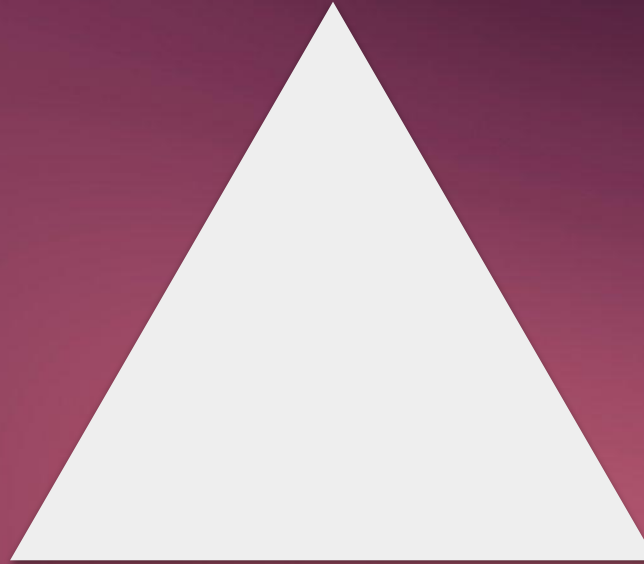
Radius

Centripetal Acceleration



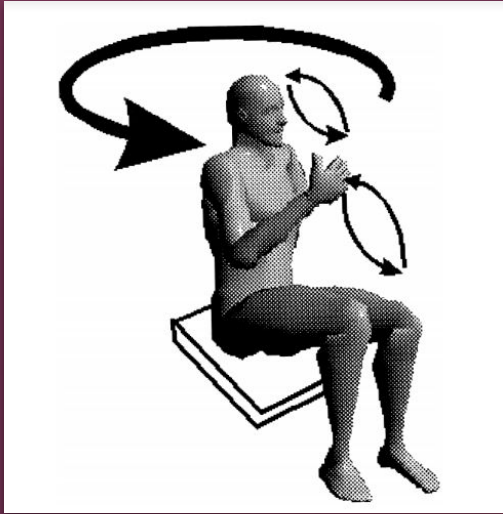
Centripetal Acceleration

RPM



Radius

Source: Adaptation in a rotating artificial gravity environment, James R. Lackner, Paul DiZio, 1998

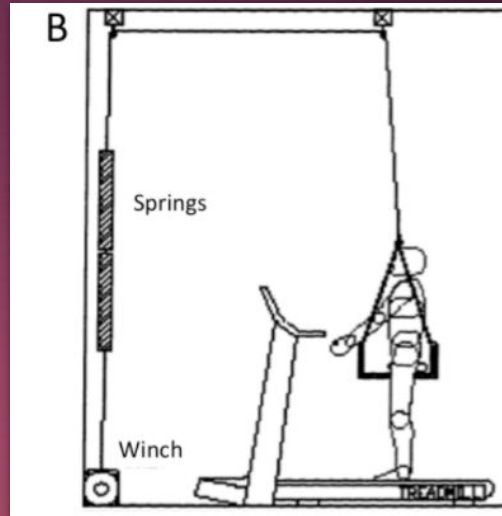


Test Response To
Coriolis And
Related Effects.

Test Response To
Different Levels Of
Gravity.

Test Response To
Different Rates Of
Angular Velocity
And Radii.

Source: Artificial Gravity Evidence Report, Human Research Program, Human Health Countermeasures Element, Version 6, Gilles Clément, 2015

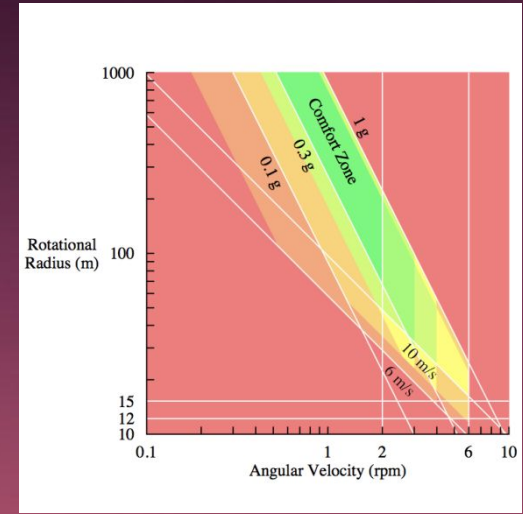


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Source: Space Settlement Population Rotation Tolerance, Al Globus, Theodore Hall, 2017

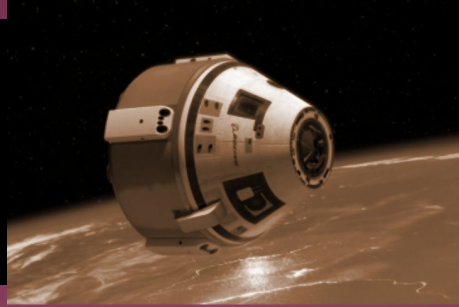
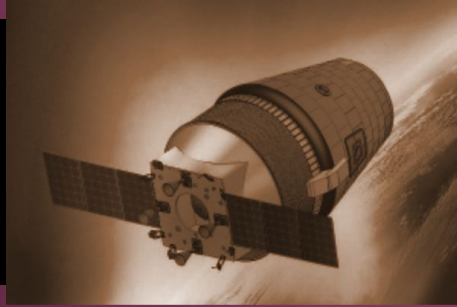


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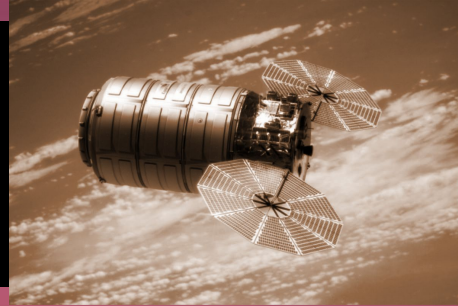
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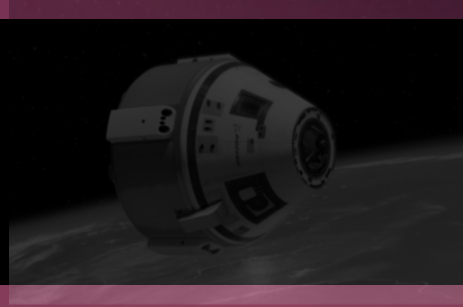
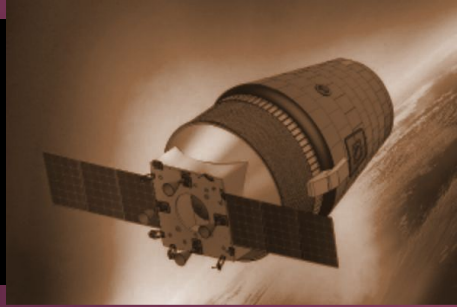
Test Response To
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Space Vehicle Selection

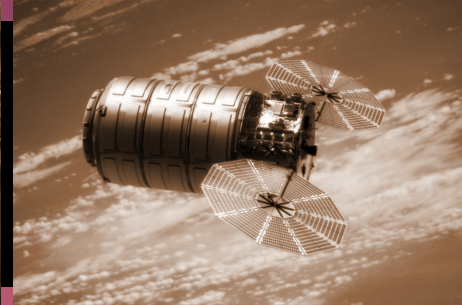
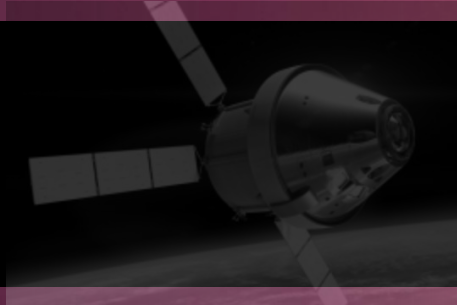


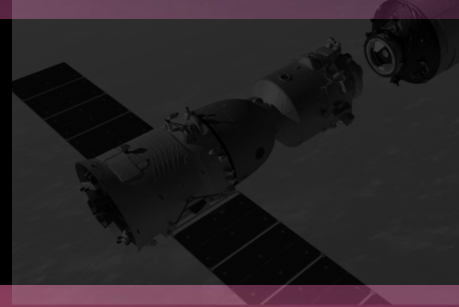
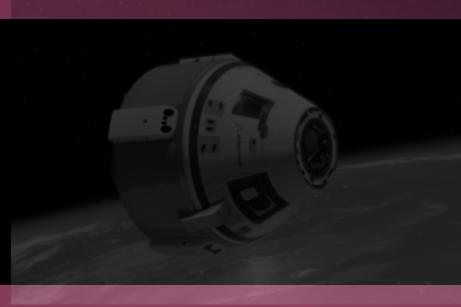
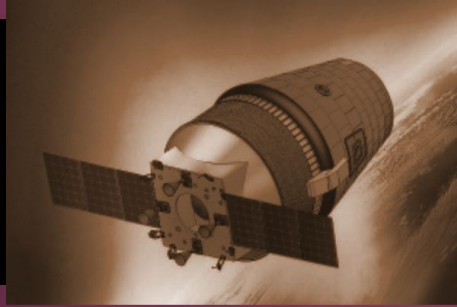
Sidewall Angle, Habitable Volume, Cost, Operational Status



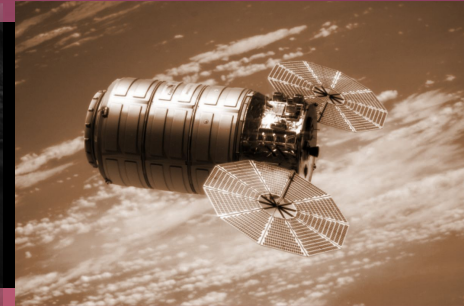
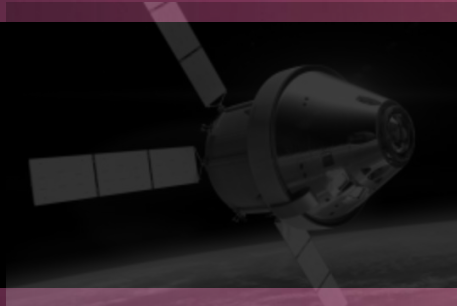


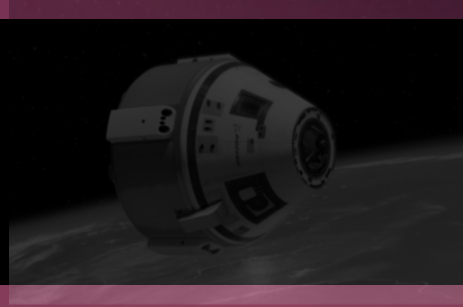
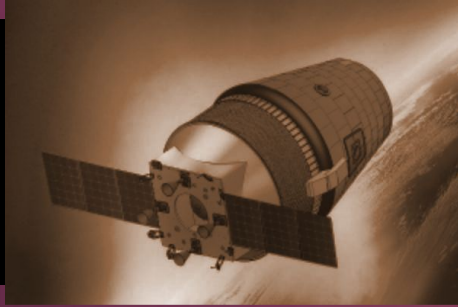
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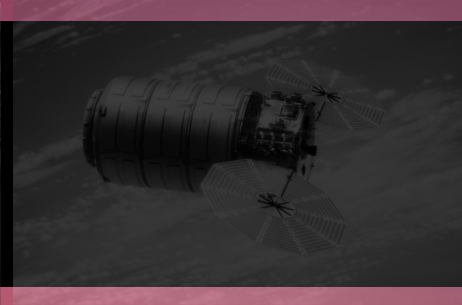
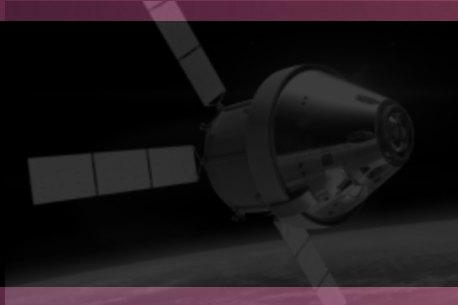


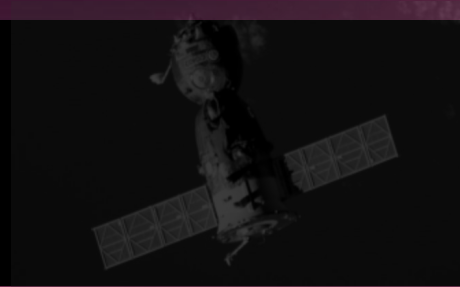
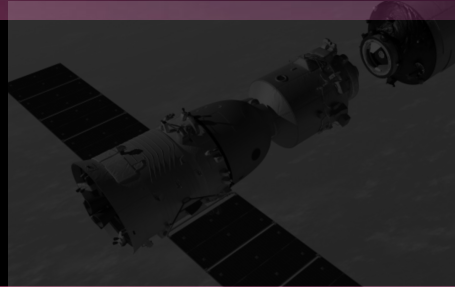
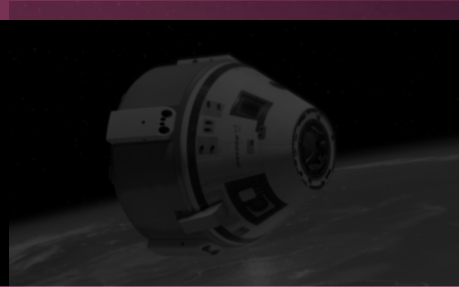
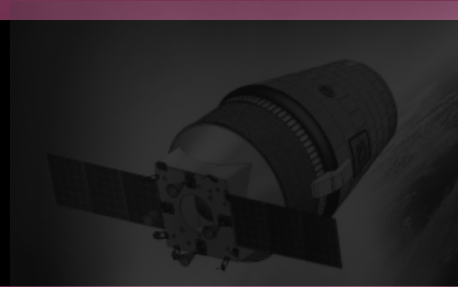
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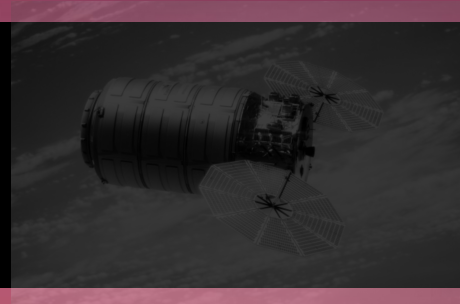
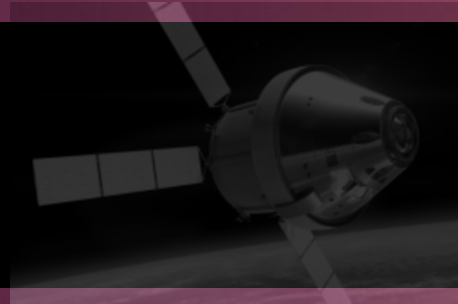


Sidewall Angle, Habitable Volume, Cost, Operational Status

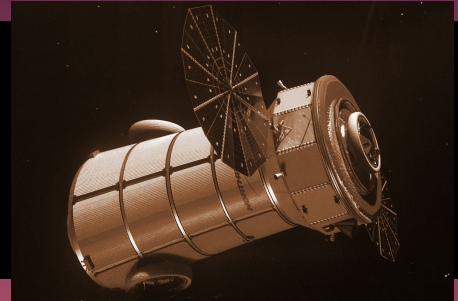
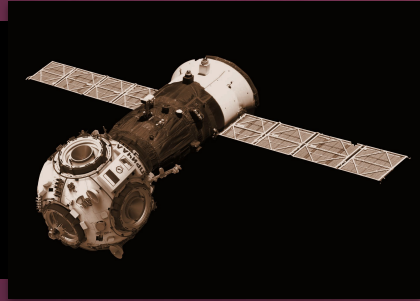




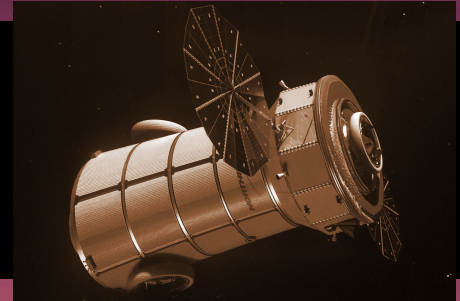
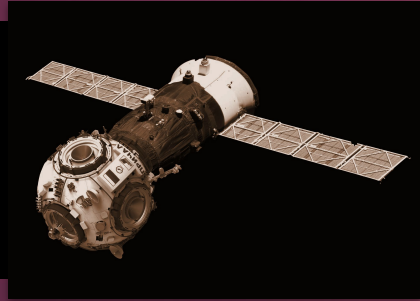
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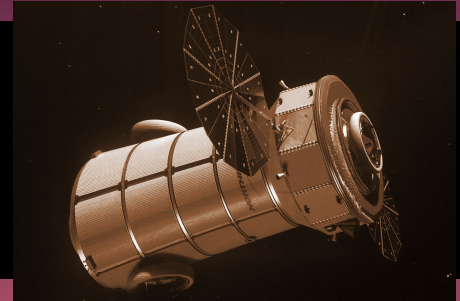
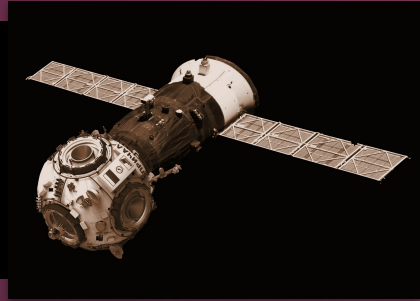
Central Hub Selection



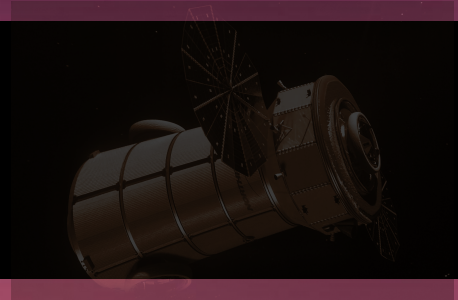
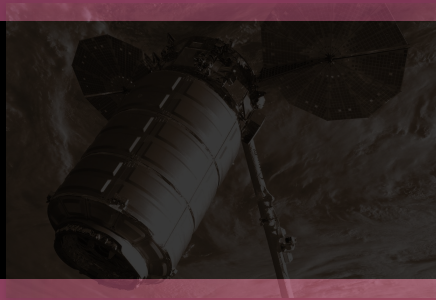
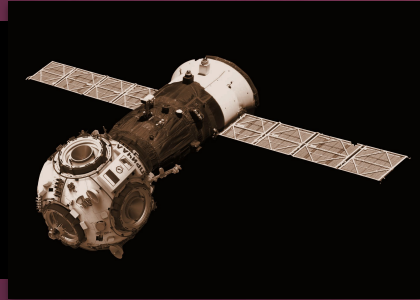
Cost, Propulsion, Docking Ports, Operational Status



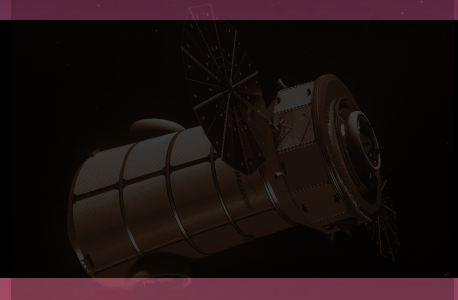
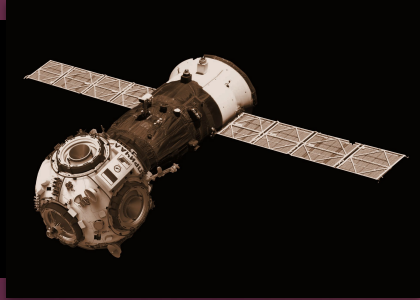
Cost, Propulsion, Docking Ports, Operational Status



Cost, Propulsion, Docking Ports, Operational Status



Cost, Propulsion, Docking Ports, Operational Status



Prichal + Progress

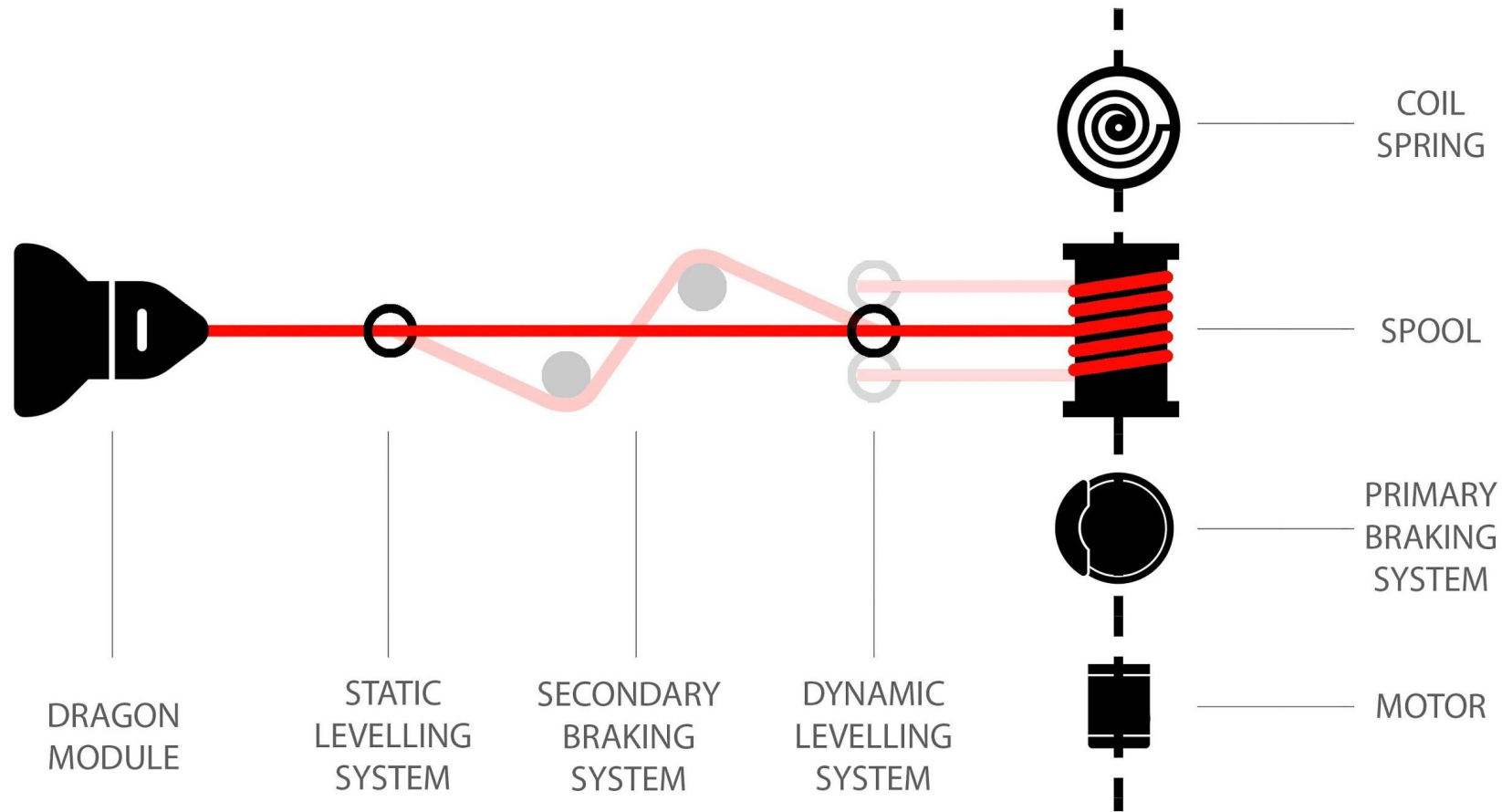
Cost, Propulsion, Docking Ports, Operational Status



Customization of Central Hub



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Frame Assembly, Aluminium 2219

Coil Spring

Spool

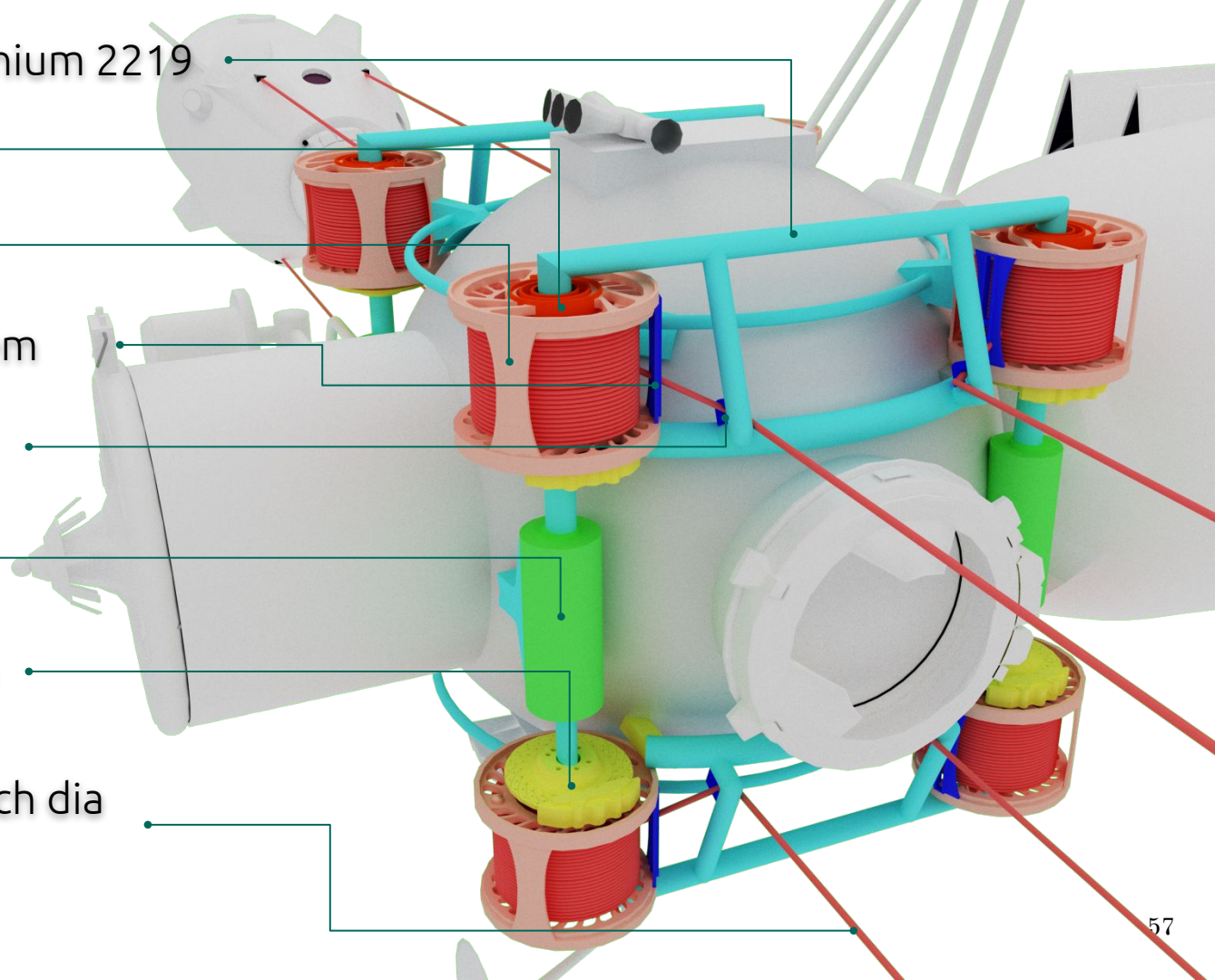
Dynamic Levelling System

Static Levelling System

Motor

Primary Braking System

Toro™ 12 Strand 1-1/8 inch dia
100 m



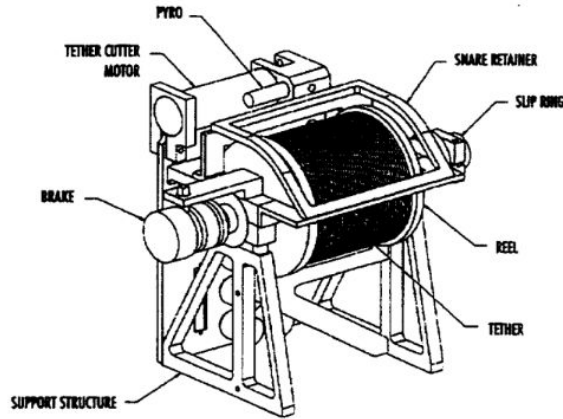
Toro™ 12 Strand



1-1/8" Diameter
10 Factor Of Safety
100" max. Tether Length

The Oedipus-C Tether deployer

Credits: CSA & NASA



Space Tether Automatic Retrieval (STAR)

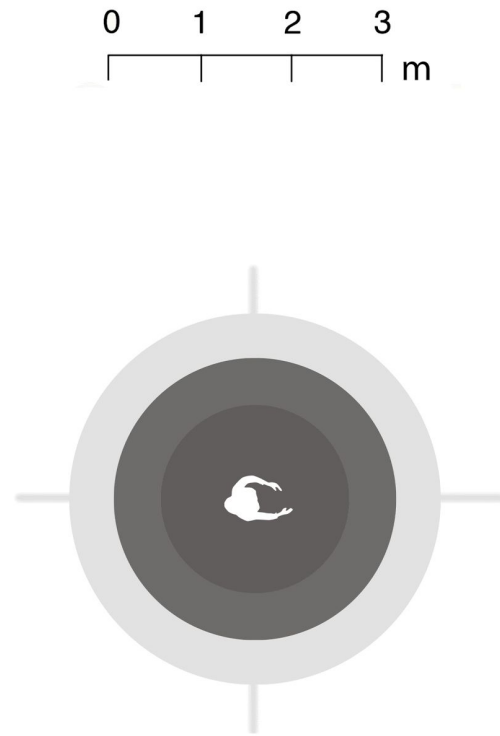
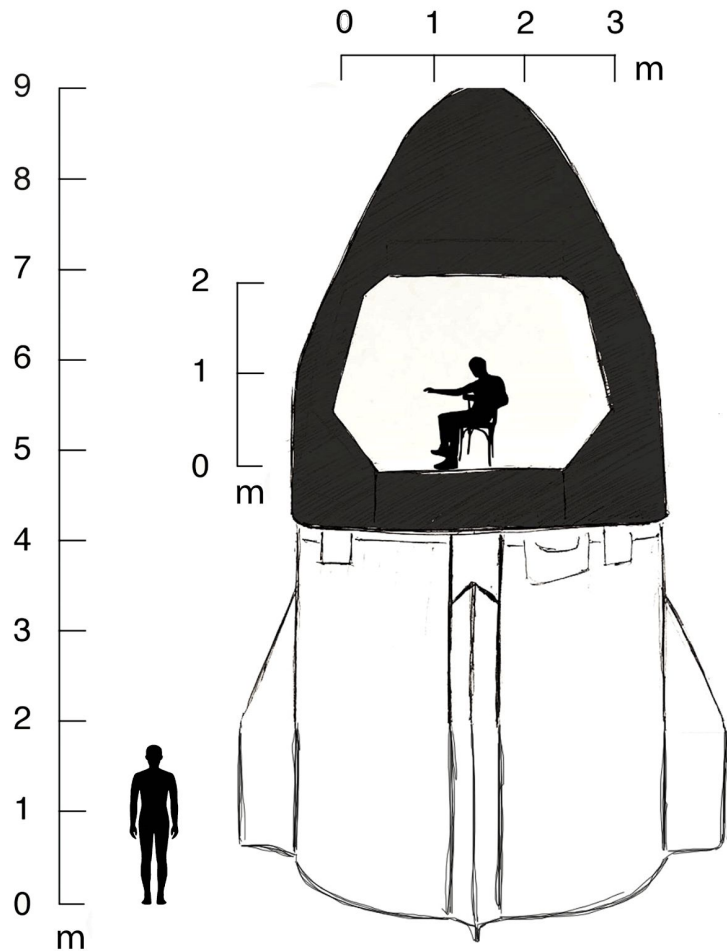
Credits: DLR & ESA



Customization of Dragon Modules

No Internal Outfittings Of The Crew Dragon

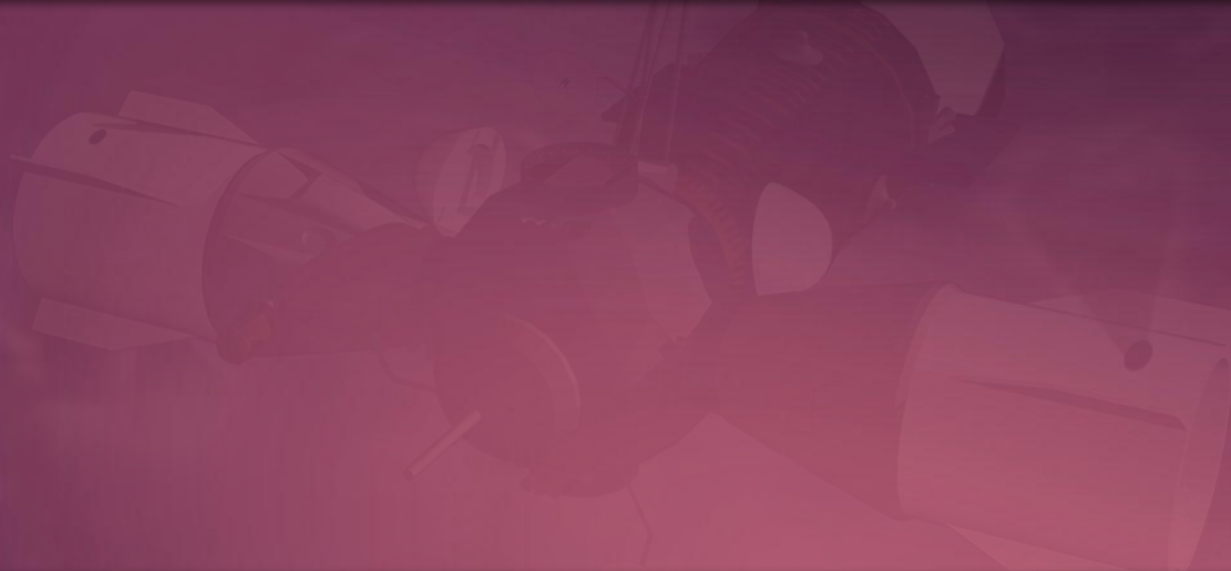




No Superdraco Thrusters



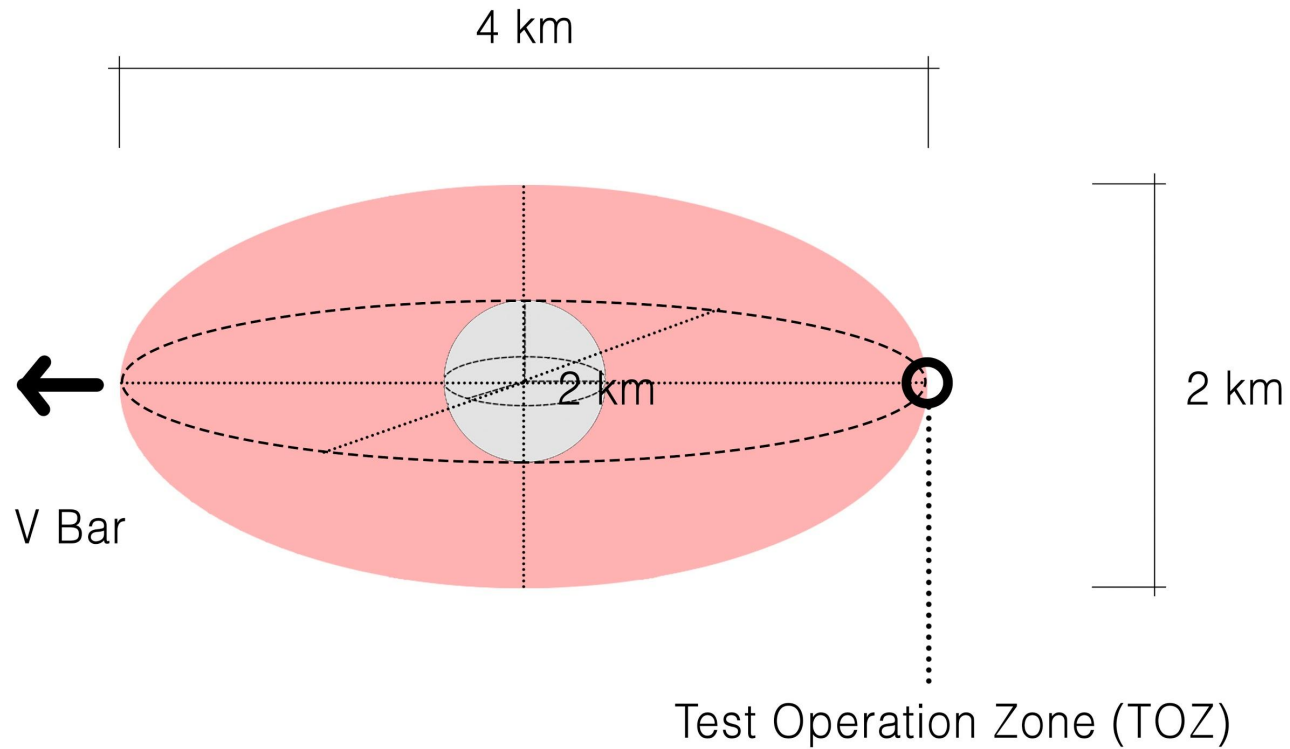
Spin-up Thrusters Introduced In The Service Module



Hooks For Tether System Introduced

ConOps

Testbed System	Docked mode	Free flying mode
Solar Arrays	Extended	Retracted
Electrical power supply	Charging batteries	On
ECLSS	Off	On
Comms	Off	On
GNC	Off	On







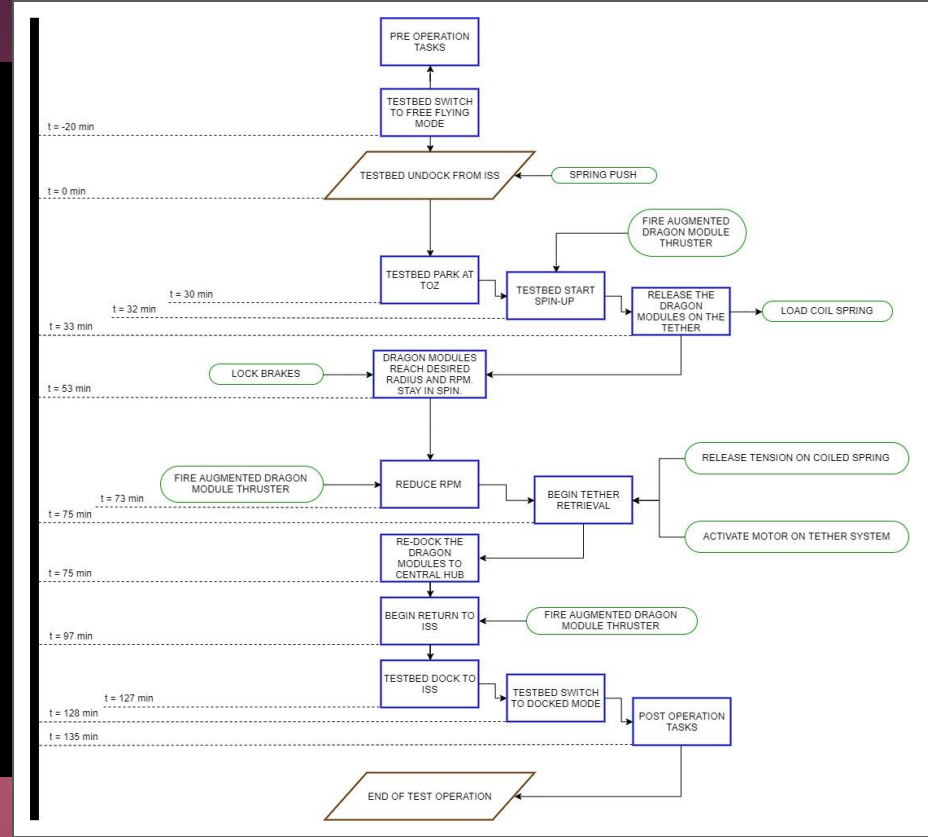
TEST NAME T1

SPIN RADIUS 10 M

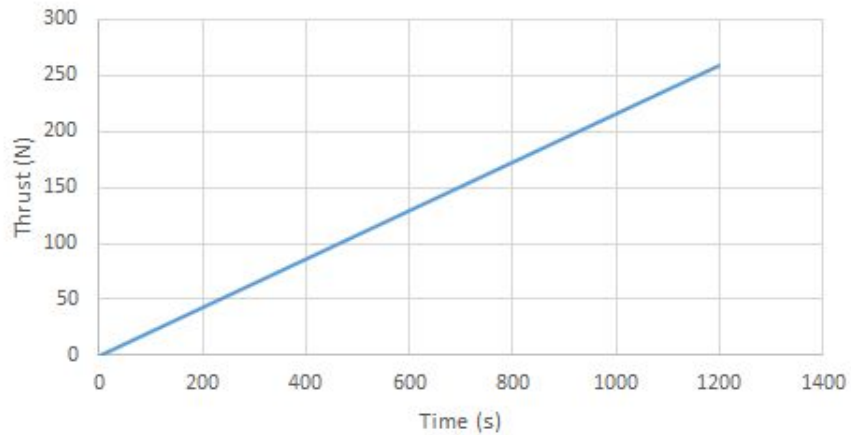
RPM 9.5

G 1

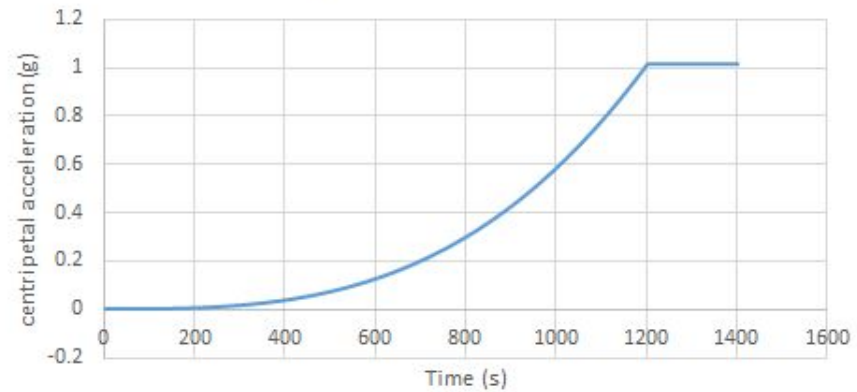
SPIN DURATION 20 MINS



Thrust (N)



Level of g generated while spinning up to 10 m radius in 20 mins





TEST NAME T_n

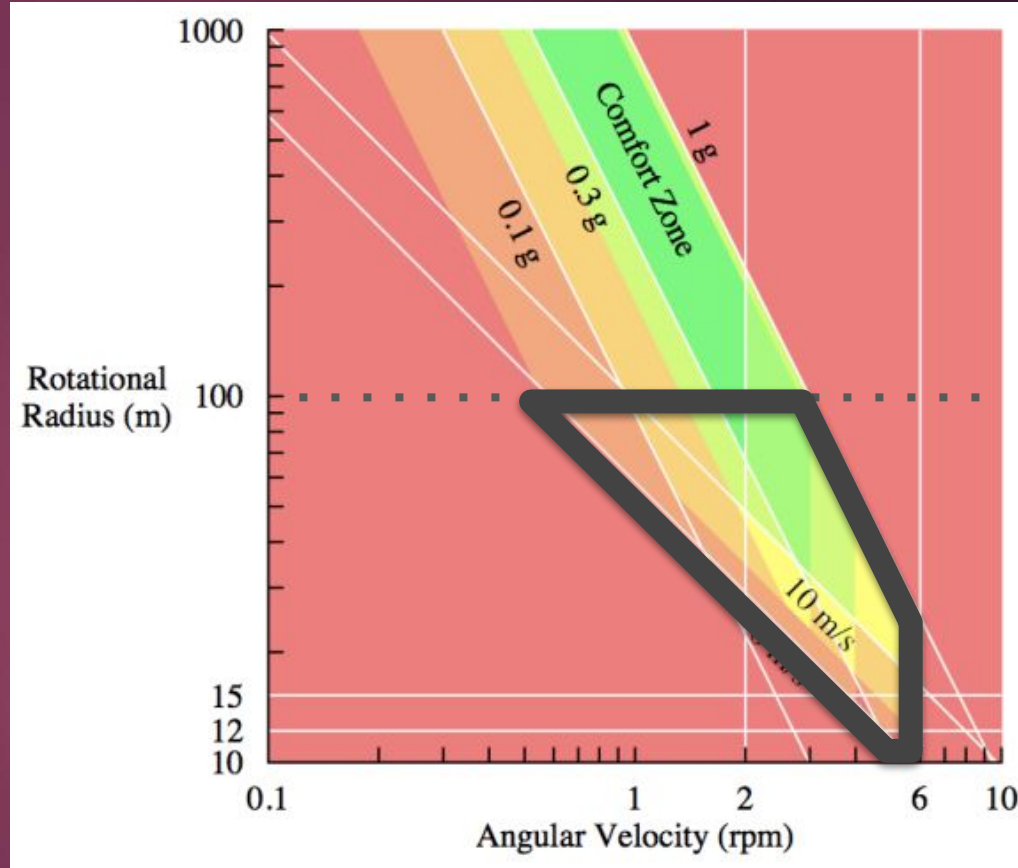
SPIN RADIUS 100_M

RPM 3

G 1

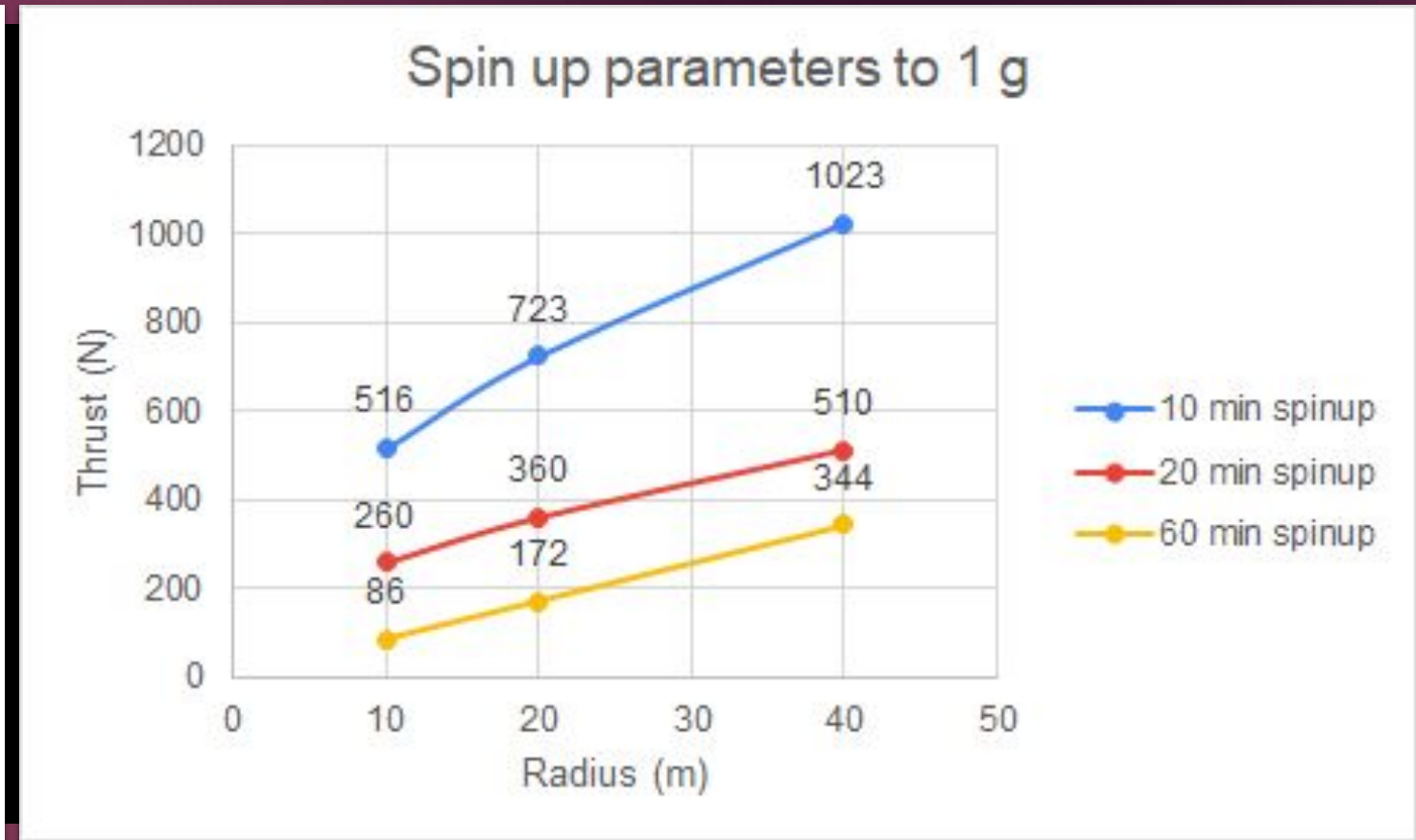
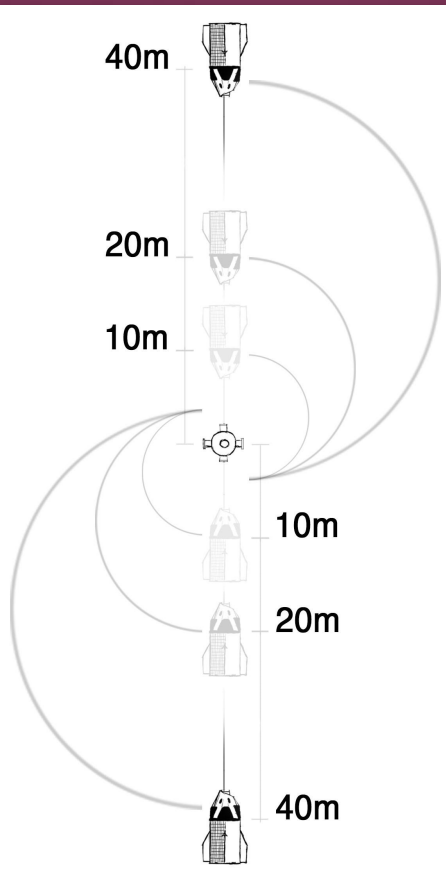
SPIN DURATION TBD

Adapted from: Space Settlement Population Rotation Tolerance, Al Globus, Theodore Hall, 2017



31 M-tons

Estimated Wet Mass Of Testbed

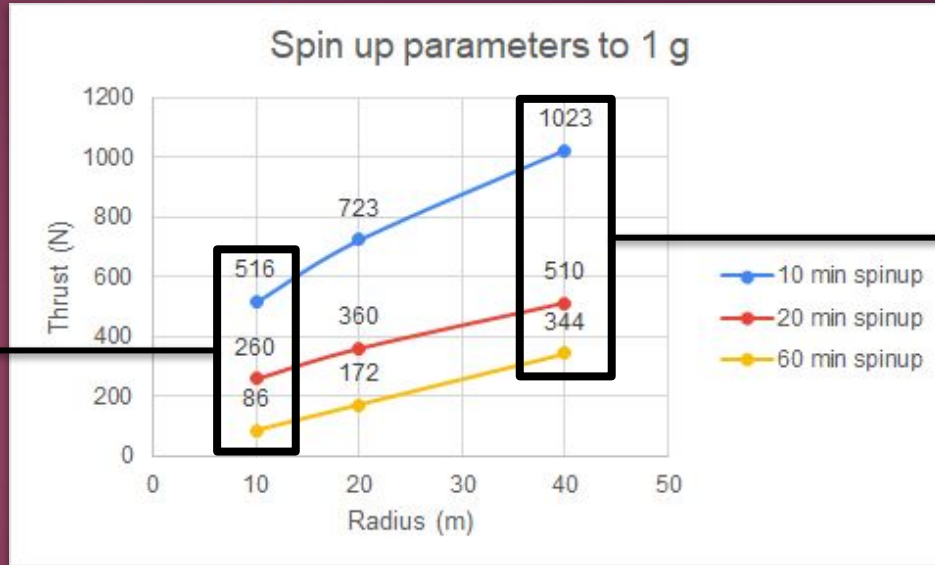


KDTU-80 Thruster Of Progress And Same Sized Fuel Tank

100 Kg
Of Fuel Spent Per
Spin-up And
Spin-down Cycle.

9

Cycles Before
Refueling



200 Kg
Of Fuel Spent Per
Spin-up And
Spin-down Cycle.

5

Cycles Before
Refueling

Assumptions

In-orbit Refueling Capability

Power - Free Flying Mode - Longest Test Operation

Costs Of Prichal, Progress Module,
Developmental And Sustenance

In-orbit Refueling Capability

Power - Free flying Mode - Longest Test Operation

Costs Of Prichal, Progress Module,
Developmental And Sustenance

In-orbit Refueling Capability

Power - Free Flying Mode - Longest Test Operation

Costs Of Prichal, Progress Module,
Developmental And Sustenance

Risks & Mitigations

Static Discharge



Conductive Tether

Center of Gravity Offset



Variation In Tether Length

Hypergolic Fuels



Safer Fuel Mixtures / Thrusters.

Zvezda Docking Port Utilization



Alternate & Dedicated Docking Spot

Static Discharge



Conductive tether

Center of Gravity Offset



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Zvezda Docking Port Utilization



Alternate & Dedicated Docking Spot

Opportunities

Future Researchers Follow Up

Inform Design Standard Handbook For AG Habitat Interiors

Artificial Intelligence: Data Gathering

Use Beam As Precursor- Docking / Undocking Protocols

Adapt As Deep Space Transit

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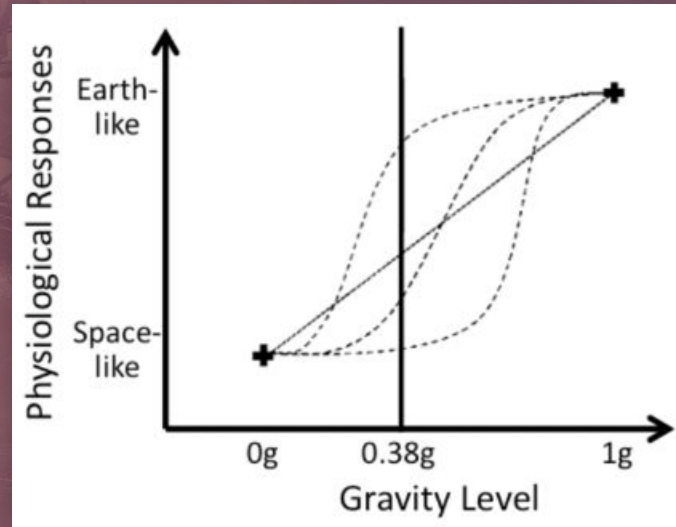
Path Forward

Smallsat testbed²

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Conclusion

Issue: Knowledge Gap In Long Term Effects Of Partial Gravity



Source: Artificial Gravity Evidence Report, Human Research Program, Human Health Countermeasures Element, Version 6, May 2015, Gilles Clément

\$1.5 B

Estimated Cost : Hardware + Launch + Development + Sustenance



\$1.5 B



\$1.5 B



\$1.5 B



*What bridges need to be built from
current state to future state?*



Gravity Simulation Platform On-Orbit: A Testbed

Master's Project: Space Architecture, Fall 2019

Albert Rajkumar
M.S. in Space Architecture Student, SICSA, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, University of Houston.

Committee members: Prof. Larry Bell Prof. Olga Bannova Prof. Larry Toups Prof. Kriss Kennedy

TETHER

Dynamic Radii

Launch Friendly

TRUSS

Less Complex Operation

Stability

Telescopic / In-orbit
Manufacture

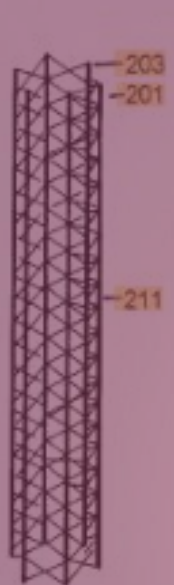


Figure 2a



Figure 2b

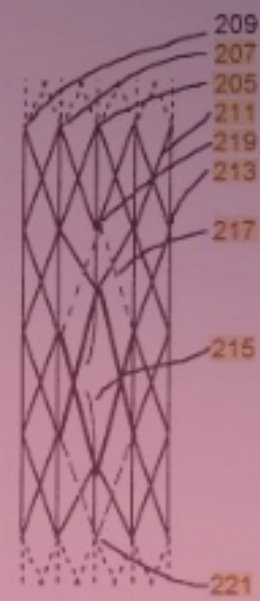


Figure 2c

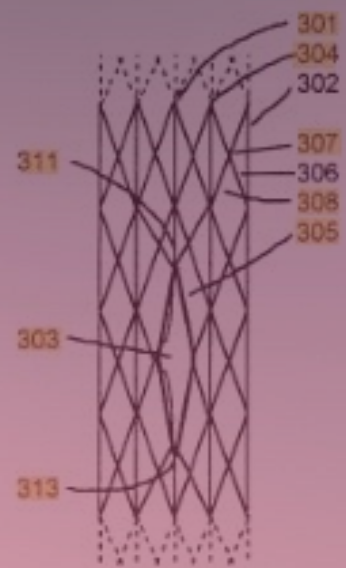


Figure 3

ID	Element		Cost (million)	Quantity	Total cost (million)	Mass (kg)
1	Crew Dragon		\$310	2	\$620	24000
2	Prichal (UM) module		\$200*	1	\$200*	4000
3	Progress MS		\$300*	1	\$300*	3290
4	Launch	Soyuz 2-1b (UM + Progress)	\$80	1	\$80	-
5		Falcon 9	\$62	2	\$124	-
6	Development Analysis, Integration, and testing		\$100*	-	\$100*	-
7	Sustaining operations		\$100*	-	\$100*	-
8	Grand Total				\$1524	31290

Spin up calculations for static radius @ 10 m

Assumptions:

- The dragons are already at 10 m radius before start of spin-up. Radius of spin, $r = 10$ m
- Centripetal acceleration to be generated = $1g$
- Therefore, Tangential velocity to be generated, $a_t = m/s$
- Time taken to spin up to end state, $dt = 1200$ sec (20 mins)
- Mass of Dragon 1, $m_{d2} =$ Mass of Dragon 2, $m_{d1} = m_d = 12,000$ kg
- Central hub is a solid sphere of mass, $m_{ch} = 7290$ kg and radius, $r_{ch} = 2.5$ m
- Thrust provided by augmented thruster, $F_a = F_1 = F_2$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Moment of Inertia of system, } I_{\text{total}} &= \frac{2}{5} m_{ch} r_{ch}^2 + 2m_d r_d^2 (MI_{\text{sphere}} + MI_{\text{two body system}}) \\ &= 18,225 + 2,400,000 \\ &= 2,418,225 \text{ kgm}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Tangential acceleration, } a_t = r \alpha$$

$$\text{Angular acceleration, } \alpha = a_t / r$$

$$= (dv_t/dt) / r = (10 \text{ m/s} / 1200 \text{ s}) / 10 \text{ m} = 1/1200 \text{ rad/s}^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Torque} &= I_{\text{total}} \times \alpha \\ &= 2015 \text{ kgm}^2/\text{s}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Also, Torque} = r_1 F_1 + r_2 F_2 = 2rF$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore, thrust required by engine, } F_a &= \text{Torque} / 2r \\ &= 2015 / 20 \\ &= 100 \text{ kgm/s}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Spin up calculations for pre-deployed radius to 10 m in 20 mins.

Augmenting the KDTU-80 thruster for the Progress MS as an example, as the spin thrusters on the crew dragons,

For the KDTU-80 on a Progress MS,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Maximum mass of fuel spent, } dm &= (F \times dt) / I_{sp} \times g_0 \\
 &= (2950 \times 890) / 302 \times 9.81 \\
 &= 886 \text{ kg}
 \end{aligned}$$

For the KDTU-80 when augmented on the crew dragons, to perform the procedure described on the previous page,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Mass of fuel spent, } dm_a &= (F \times dt) / I_{sp} \times g_0 \\
 &= (100 \times 1200) / 302 \times 9.81 \\
 &= 40 \text{ kg}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, If we spend 40 kg of fuel during spin-up and another 40 kg for spin-down, and if we keep the same sized tanks and same specs,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{No. of test operations possible before refueling} &= 886 / (40 \times 2) \\
 &= 11
 \end{aligned}$$

Spin up calculations for $r = 40$ m, spin up time = 10 mins

Augmenting the KDTU-80 thruster for the Progress MS as an example, as the spin thrusters on the crew dragons,

For the KDTU-80 on a Progress MS,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Maximum mass of fuel spent, } dm &= (F \times dt) / I_{sp} \times g_0 \\
 &= (2950 \times 890) / 302 \times 9.81 \\
 &= 886 \text{ kg}
 \end{aligned}$$

For the KDTU-80 when augmented on the crew dragons, to perform the procedure described on the previous page,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Mass of fuel spent, } dm_a &= (F \times dt) / I_{sp} \times g_0 \\
 &= (500 \times 600) / 302 \times 9.81 \\
 &= \sim 100 \text{ kg}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, If we spend 100 kg of fuel during spin-up and another 100 kg for spin-down, and if we keep the same sized tanks and same specs,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{No. of test operations possible before refueling} &= 886 / (100 \times 2) \\
 &= \sim 5
 \end{aligned}$$

Spin up calculations for $r = 10$ m, spin up time = 60 mins

Augmenting the KDTU-80 thruster for the Progress MS as an example, as the spin thrusters on the crew dragons,

For the KDTU-80 on a Progress MS,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Maximum mass of fuel spent, } dm &= (F \times dt) / I_{sp} \times g_0 \\
 &= (2950 \times 890) / 302 \times 9.81 \\
 &= 886 \text{ kg}
 \end{aligned}$$

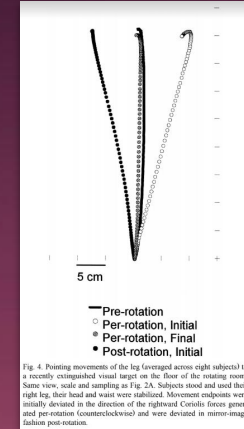
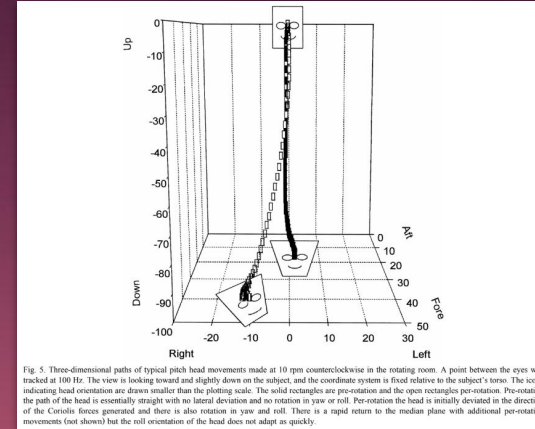
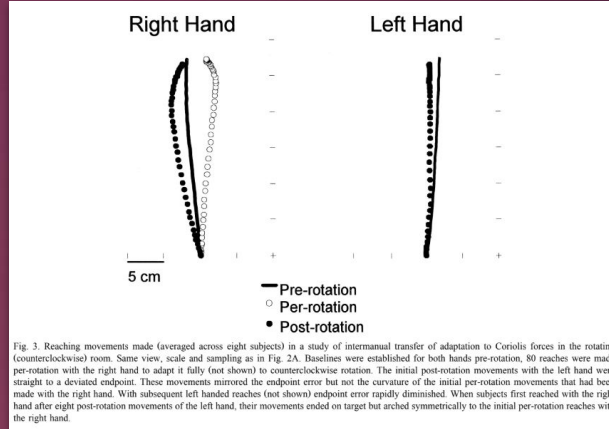
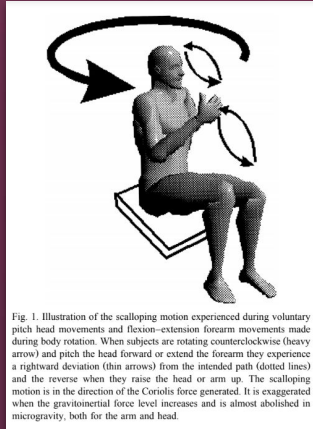
For the KDTU-80 when augmented on the crew dragons, to perform the procedure described on the previous page,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Mass of fuel spent, } dm_a &= (F \times dt) / I_{sp} \times g_0 \\
 &= (43 \times 3600) / 302 \times 9.81 \\
 &= \sim 50 \text{ kg}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, If we spend 50 kg of fuel during spin-up and another 50 kg for spin-down, and if we keep the same sized tanks and same specs,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{No. of test operations possible before refueling} &= 886 / (50 \times 2) \\
 &= \sim 9
 \end{aligned}$$

Source: Adaptation in a rotating artificial gravity environment, James R. Lackner, Paul DiZio, 1998

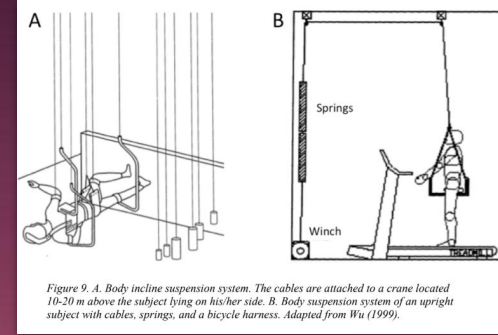
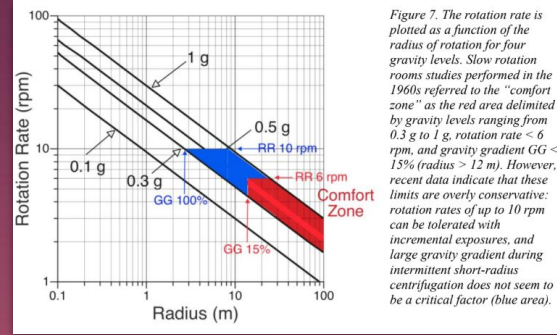
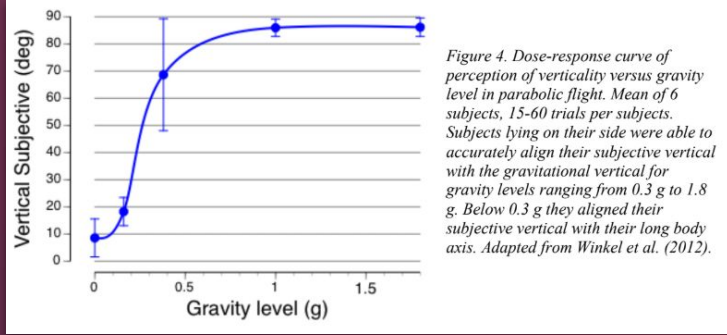


Test Response To Coriolis And Related Effects.

Test Response To Different Levels Of Gravity.

Test Response To Different Rates Of Angular Velocity And Radii.

Source: Artificial Gravity Evidence Report, Human Research Program, Human Health Countermeasures Element, Version 6, Gilles Clément, 2015

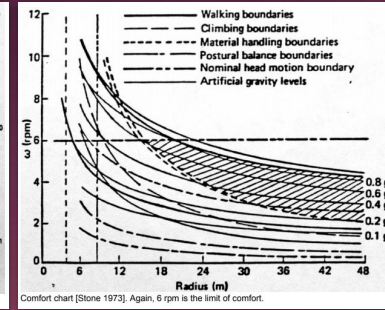
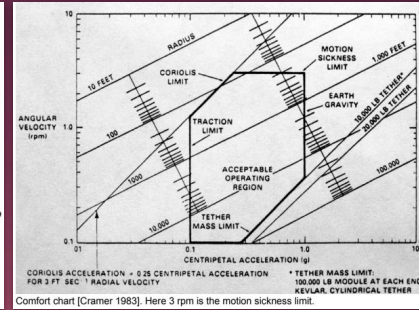
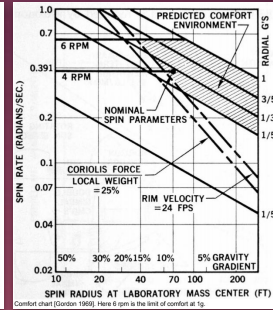
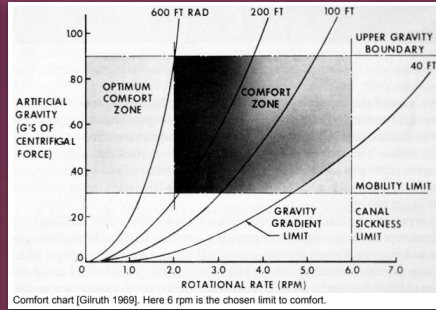
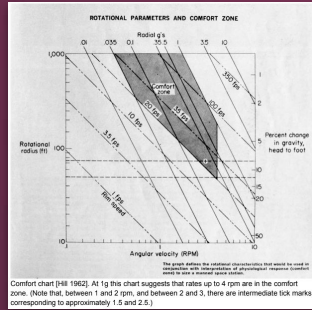


Test Response To
Coriolis And
Related Effects.

Test Response To
Different Levels Of
Gravity.

Test Response To
Different Rates Of
Angular Velocity
And Radii.

Source: Space Settlement Population Rotation Tolerance, Al Globus, Theodore Hall, 2017

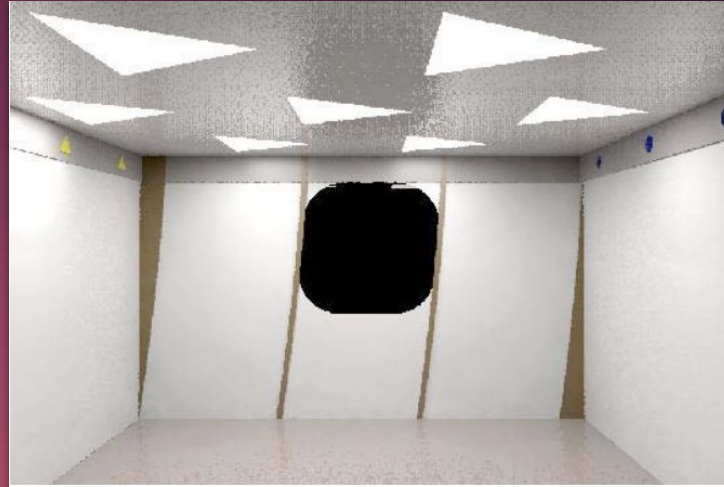
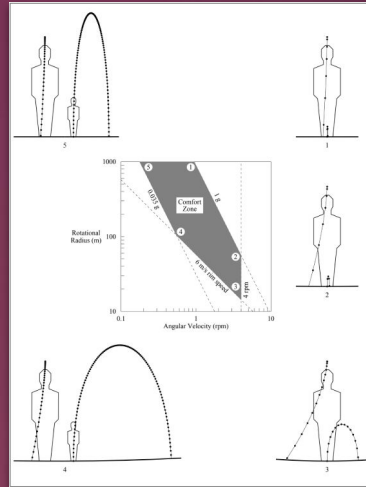


Test Response To Coriolis And Related Effects.

Test Response To Different Levels Of Gravity.

Test Response To Different Rates Of Angular Velocity And Radii.

Source: Artificial Gravity And The Architecture Of Orbital Habitats, Theodore W. Hall, 1999



Test Response To
Coriolis And
Related Effects.

Test Response To
Different Levels Of
Gravity.

Test Response To
Different Rates Of
Angular Velocity
And Radii.

ID	Test Objectives	Task	Duration (mins)	RPM	Radius
T0	<p>In a free flying but non-spinning condition, Confirm the following systems work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ECLSS ● GNC ● Power systems ● Propulsion and AAC 	<p>Undock</p> <p>Move to TOZ</p> <p>Park</p> <p>Move to ISS</p> <p>Dock</p>	<p>-</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>20 (?)</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>

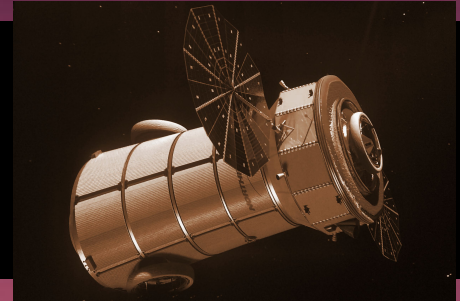
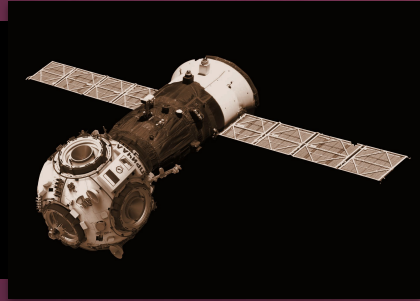
ID	Test Objectives	Task	Duration (mins)	RPM	Radius
T1	<p>In a free flying and spinning condition. Confirm the following systems work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECLSS • GNC • Power systems • Propulsion and AAC • Spin up and spin down system • Tethering system 	<p>Undock</p> <p>Move to TOZ</p> <p>Spin Up</p> <p>Perform tests</p> <p>Spin down</p> <p>Move to ISS</p> <p>Dock</p>	<p>-</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>20</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>-</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>TBD</p> <p></p> <p></p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>TBD</p> <p></p> <p></p>

ID	Test Objectives	Task	Duration (mins)	RPM	Radius
T2	<p>In a free flying and spinning condition. Iterate and improve the following systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECLSS GNC Power systems Propulsion and AAC Spin up and spin down system Tethering system 	Undock	-	Varied	Varied
T3		Move to TOZ	TBD		
T4		Spin Up	TBD		
...		Perform tests	Varied		
		Spin down	TBD		
		Move to ISS	TBD		
		Dock	-		

ID	Test Objectives	Task	Duration (mins)	RPM	Radius
P1	<p>Perform short term tests. In the framework of papers listed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jump and drop tests ○ In-place motion tests ○ Lateral movements tests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ prograde ■ retrograde ■ parallel to spin axis 	<p>Undock</p> <p>Move to TOZ</p> <p>Spin Up</p> <p>Perform tests</p> <p>Spin down</p> <p>Move to ISS</p> <p>Dock</p>	<p>-</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>20</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>-</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>TBD</p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>TBD</p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>

ID	Test Objectives	Task	Duration (mins)	RPM	Radius
P2	Perform short term tests. In the framework of papers listed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jump and drop tests ○ In Place motion tests ○ Lateral movements tests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Prograde ■ Retrograde ■ Parallel to spin axis 	Undock	-	Varied	Varied
P3		Move to TOZ	TBD		
P4		Spin Up	TBD		
...		Perform tests	Varied		
		Spin down	TBD		
		Move to ISS	TBD		
		Dock	-		

	Vectran		Toro		Spectra		G/T Composite braid	
Factor of Safety	size (in)	total tether mass (kg)	size (in)	total tether mass (kg)	size (in)	total tether mass (kg)	size (in)	total tether mass (kg)
2	1/2	54.8	1/2	36.4	9/16	47.2	3/4	97.2
5	3/4	166.4	7/8	110	1	139.2	7/8	121.6
10	1-1/8	274.8	1-1/8	180.4	1-1/2	307.6	1-5/16	292.4



Cost, Propulsion, Docking Ports, Operational Status