



# Paradigm-Changing *CubeSat* Devices Enabling New Missions: **Present Potential**

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## Motivation

- ❑ Lack of apertures is *last frontier* (limitation) of Cubesat world
  - Most traditional subsystem spacecraft hardware exists or will exist soon (CD&H, com, EPS, ACS)
  - Propulsion actively pursued by multiple groups
- ❑ ***Apertures still lacking***
- ❑ As we are completing LightSail-1 Cubesat, we have initiated an IRAD project to leverage solar sail boom technologies for larger RF antennas
- ❑ Several design concepts are explored
- ❑ Multiple diverse application
  - NASA science mission
  - Communications -- commercial, DOD
  - Signals collection

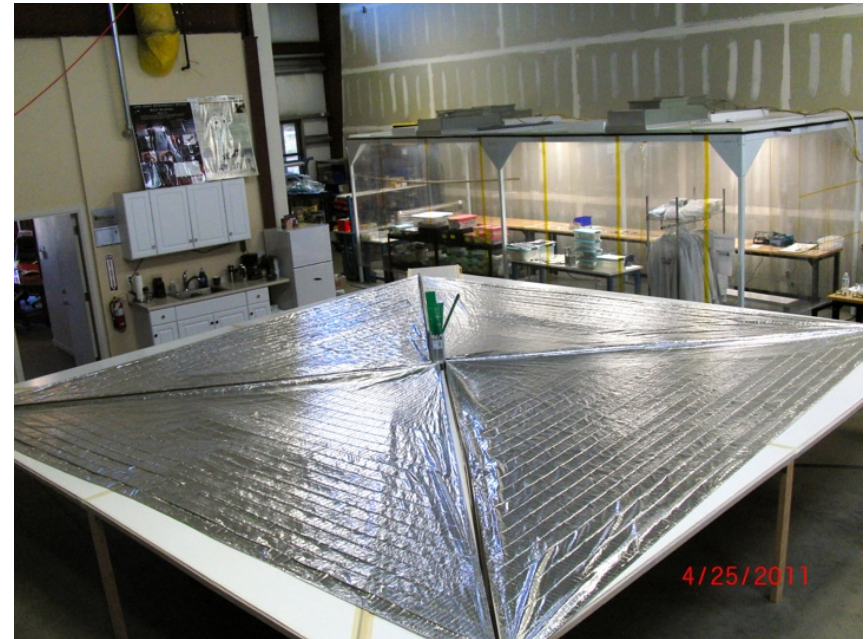
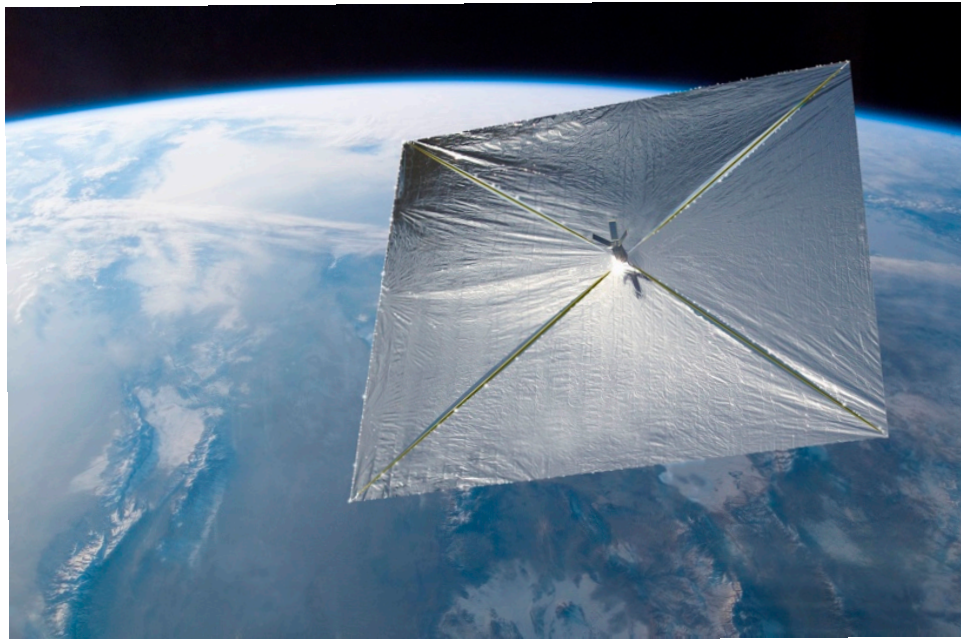




## LightSail-1 Overview

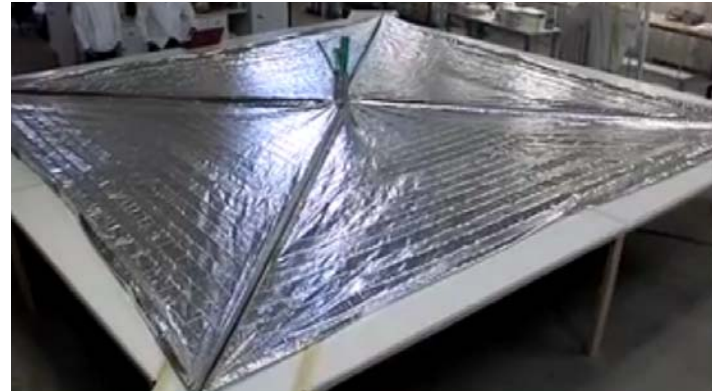
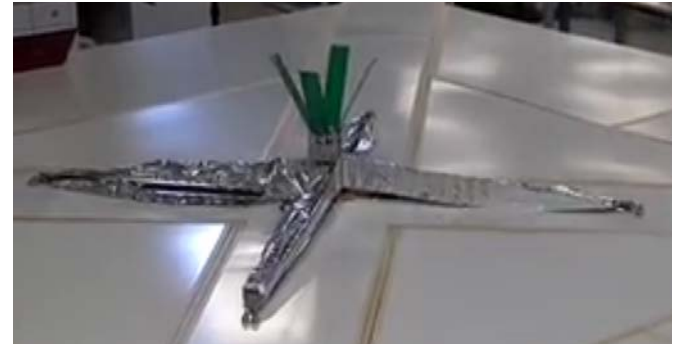
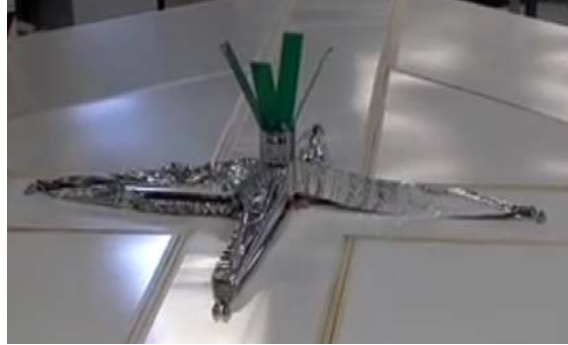
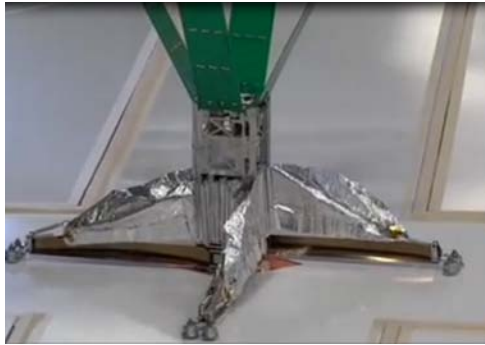
- ❑ *The Planetary Society* is customer => Solar sail pioneers
- ❑ Under development since 2009
- ❑ Development completed, in system I&T
- ❑ Ready to launch later in 2011
- ❑ Sophisticated solar sailing propulsion demonstration in 3U
  - Largest performance ever attempted for solar sail => 8 meters tip-to-tip, 32 m<sup>2</sup>
  - Active attitude control system (momentum bias), with solar power and battery power
  - 2 cameras, 3 MEMS inertial sensors, 2x3 high-precision accelerometer, laser corner cubes, DVD ....

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# LightSail-1 Deployment Sequence



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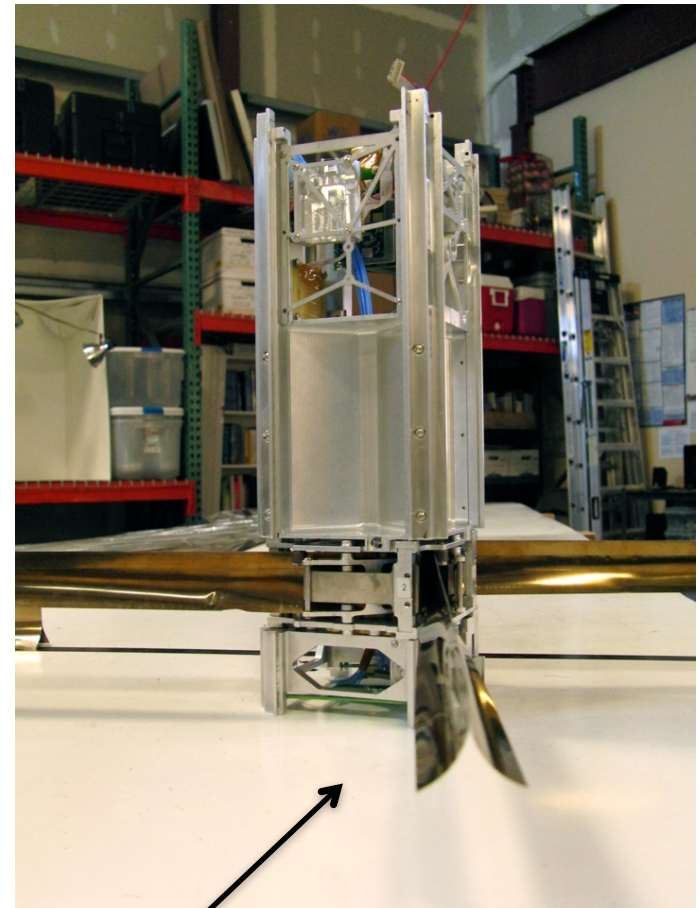
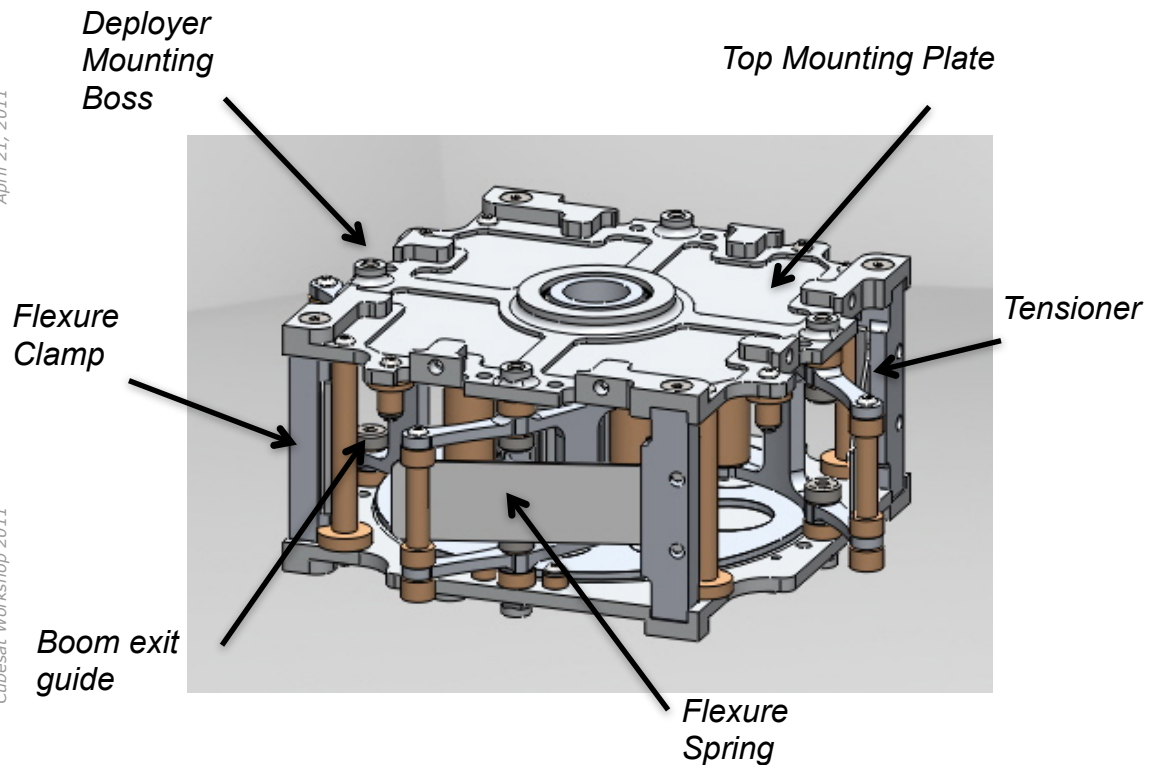


## Large Deployable Cubesat Structure

- ❑ For Lightsail-1 solar sail project, *Stellar* developed (with AFRL assistance) deployable structure using TRAC boom and motorized deployer for controlled deployment
  - Largest (known) ratio of pre/post-deployment dimensions
  - 10 cm => 8 m (end-to-end)
- ❑ Four booms inside single integrated deployer fits in volume  $\sim 0.5U$  and mass  $\sim 460$  g

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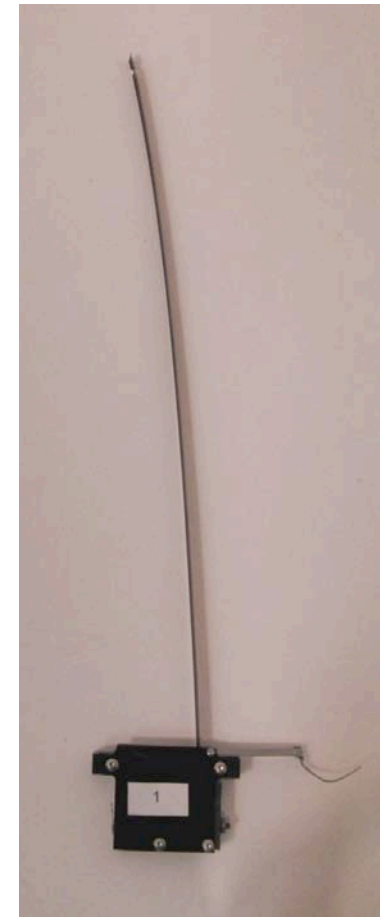
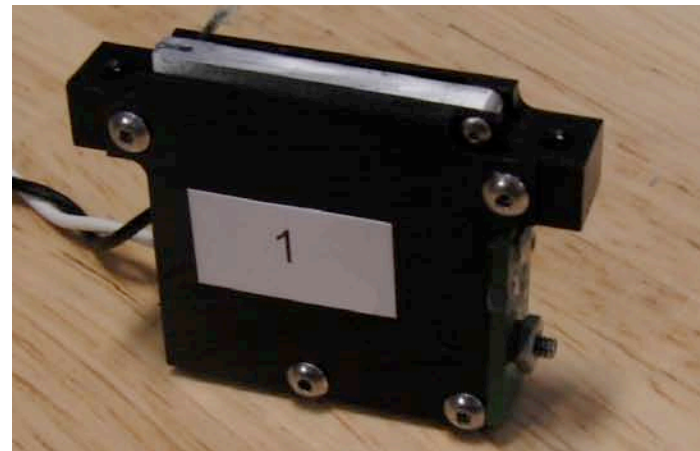
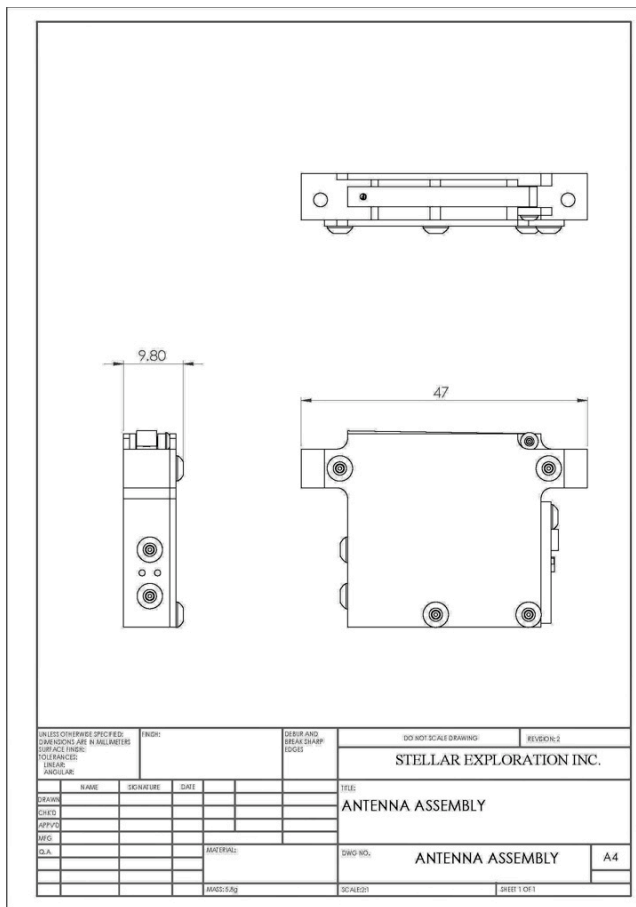
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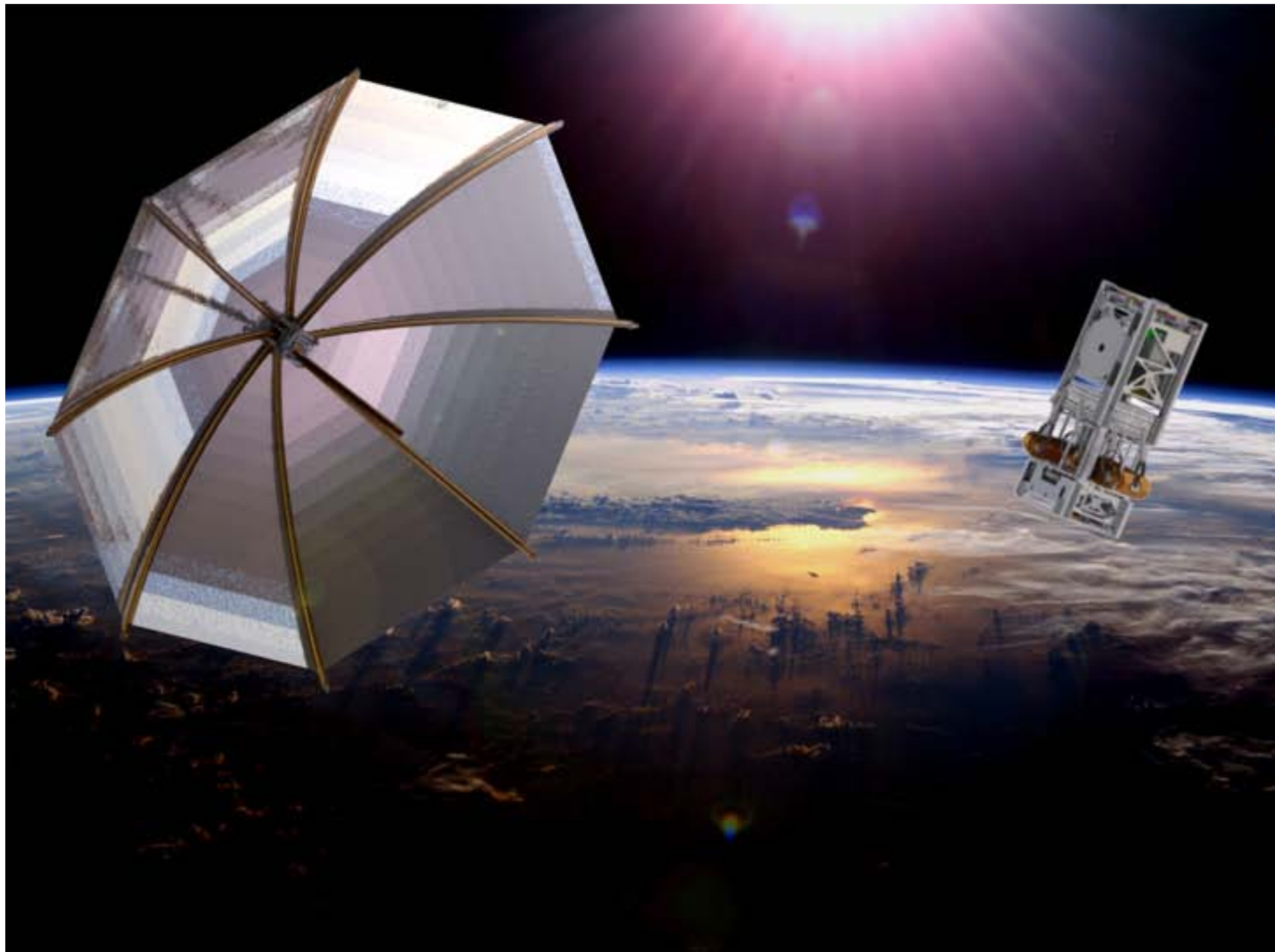


TRAC boom

## First, Small Antennas

- ❑ 430 MHz monopole
- ❑ <6 grams (including balun, grounding and deployer)
- ❑ Burn-wire initiator
- ❑ 3x improvement on previous SOA

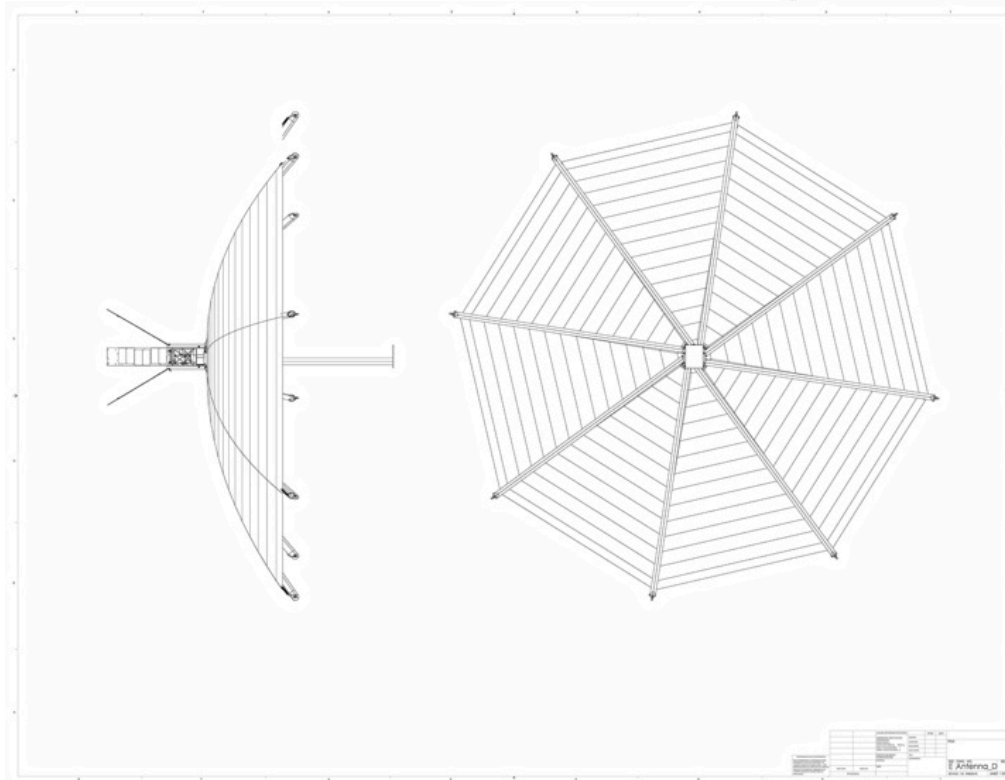
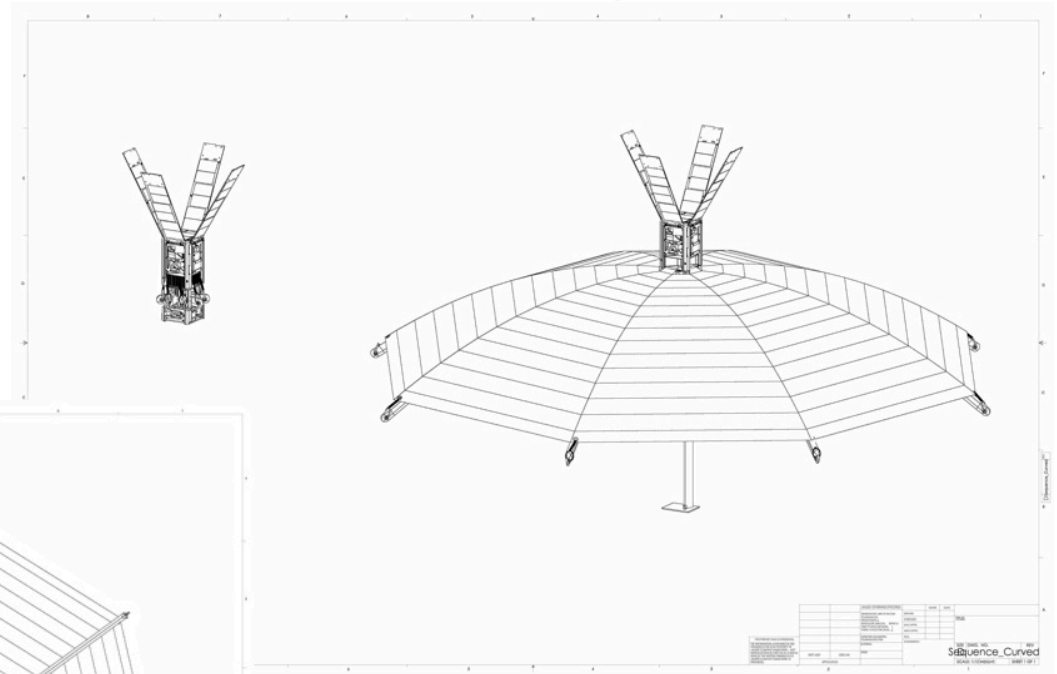






## Reflector Antennas

- ❑ Deployable parabolic reflector
- ❑ Up to 2 meter aperture from 1U volume
- ❑ Suitable for UHF, L-Band or S-Band applications



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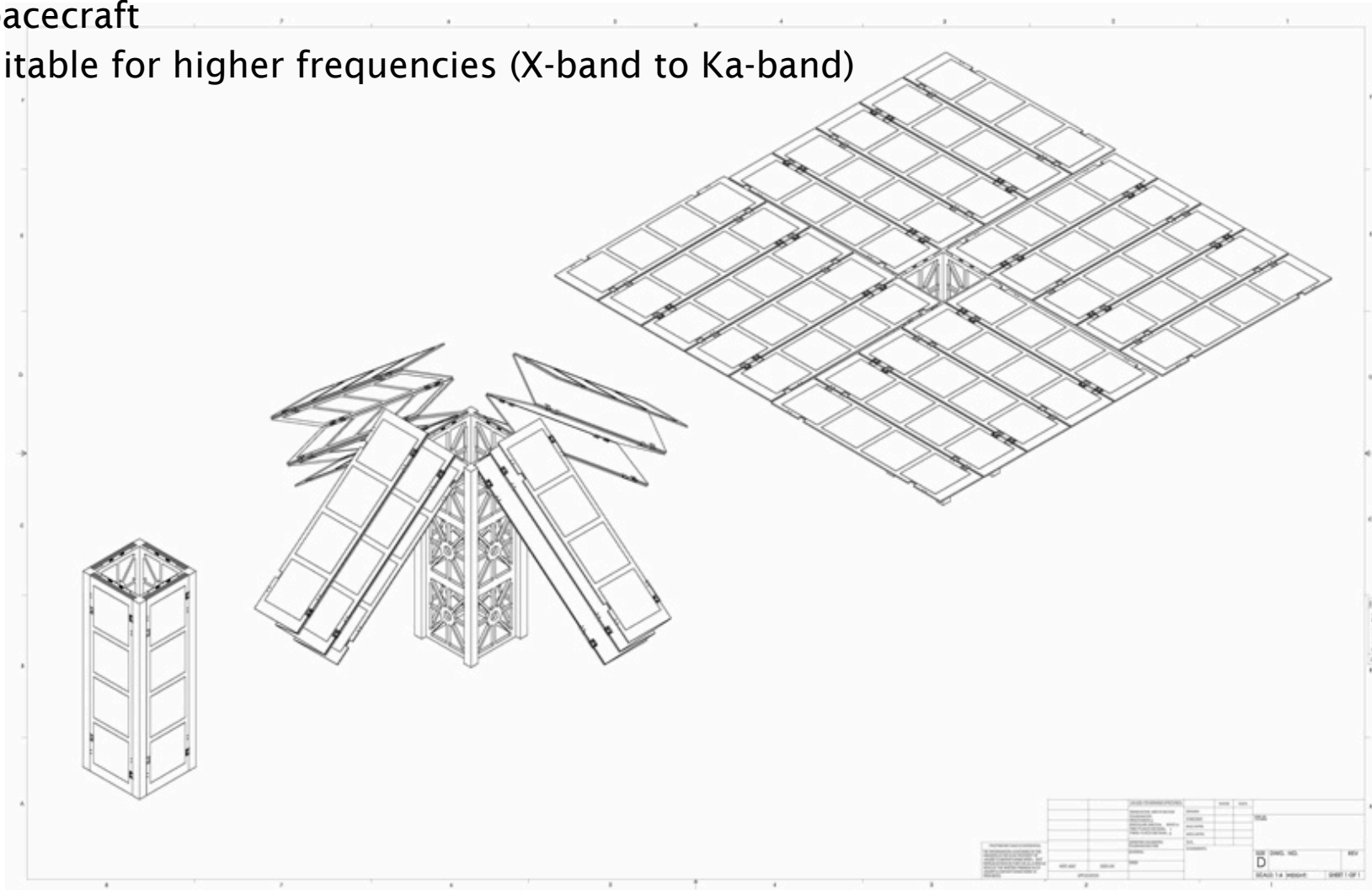
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## Planar Microwave Antenna

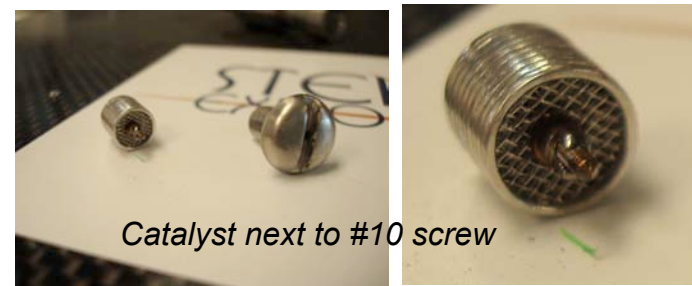
- ❑ Folding planar microwave antenna
- ❑ Leverage solar panel release/deployment technology
- ❑ Up to 0.6 m<sup>2</sup> aperture is compatible with 3U Cubesat spacecraft
- ❑ Suitable for higher frequencies (X-band to Ka-band)





# Hydrazine Monopropellant Micropropulsion

- ❑ Fully-integrated propulsion system in 1U Cubesat form factor
  - Attaches to additional Cubesat units
  - Low cost for complete unit (<<\$1M)
- ❑ Large  $\Delta V \sim 400\text{m/s}$  (3U total system)
- ❑ Range safety compliance
- ❑ Four canted thrusters translate and rotate about all three principal axes
- ❑ Hot firing testing underway
- ❑ Adaptable for multiple configurations
  - 0.5U form-factor (valves/catbed embedded inside tank)
  - 2U for increased  $\Delta v$
  - 2Ux2U (footprint) -- classical ellipsoid lightweight tank







Questions?