



# Research on Orbital Dynamics

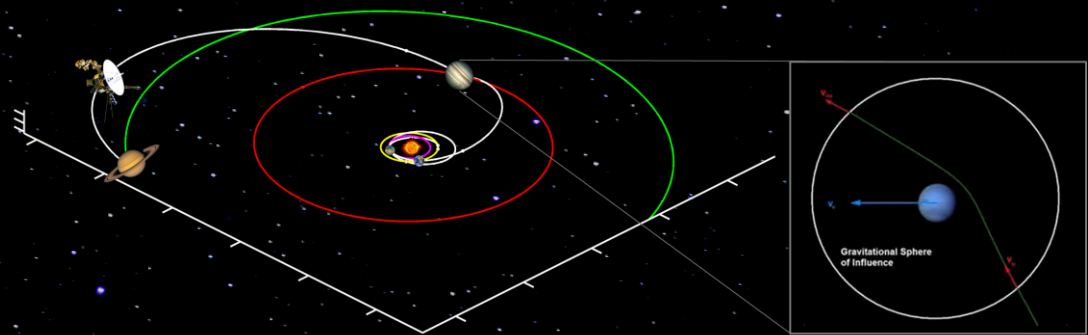
School of Engineering



**Matteo Ceriotti & colleagues**  
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# Expertise and interests

- Orbital dynamics
- Space trajectory design
- Local/global/combinatorial optimisation
- Dynamical systems
  
- Feedback control
  
- Swarming, multi-agent systems
- Artificial intelligence, decision making, tree search



# Applications

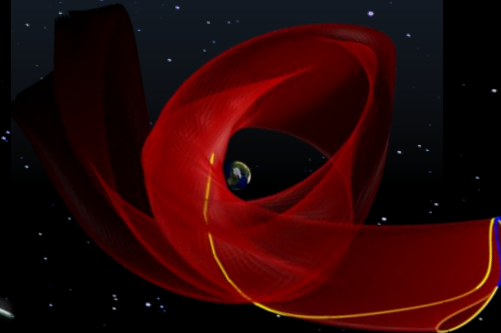
## Solar sailing

- Travelling in space using the sunlight pressure
  - Advanced solar sailing concepts



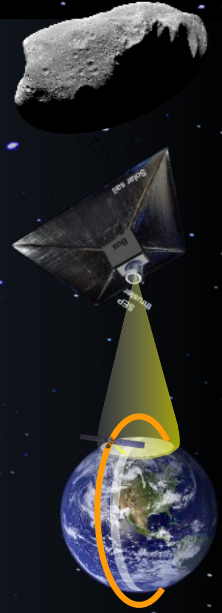
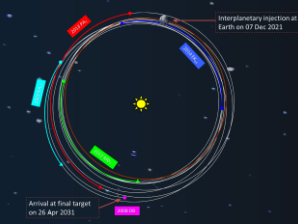
## Orbital dynamics and Trajectory design

- Travelling in space in multi-body dynamics
- Hybrid propulsion



## Asteroids and Future mission concepts

- How can we protect the Earth from hazardous asteroids?
  - Can we exploit asteroids?
- Multiple asteroid rendezvous mission with solar sailing



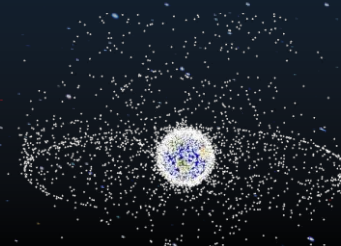
## Space weather

- Can we predict and mitigate space weather phenomena?



## Debris mitigation

- Can we accurately predict the orbit of lightweight, flexible debris?



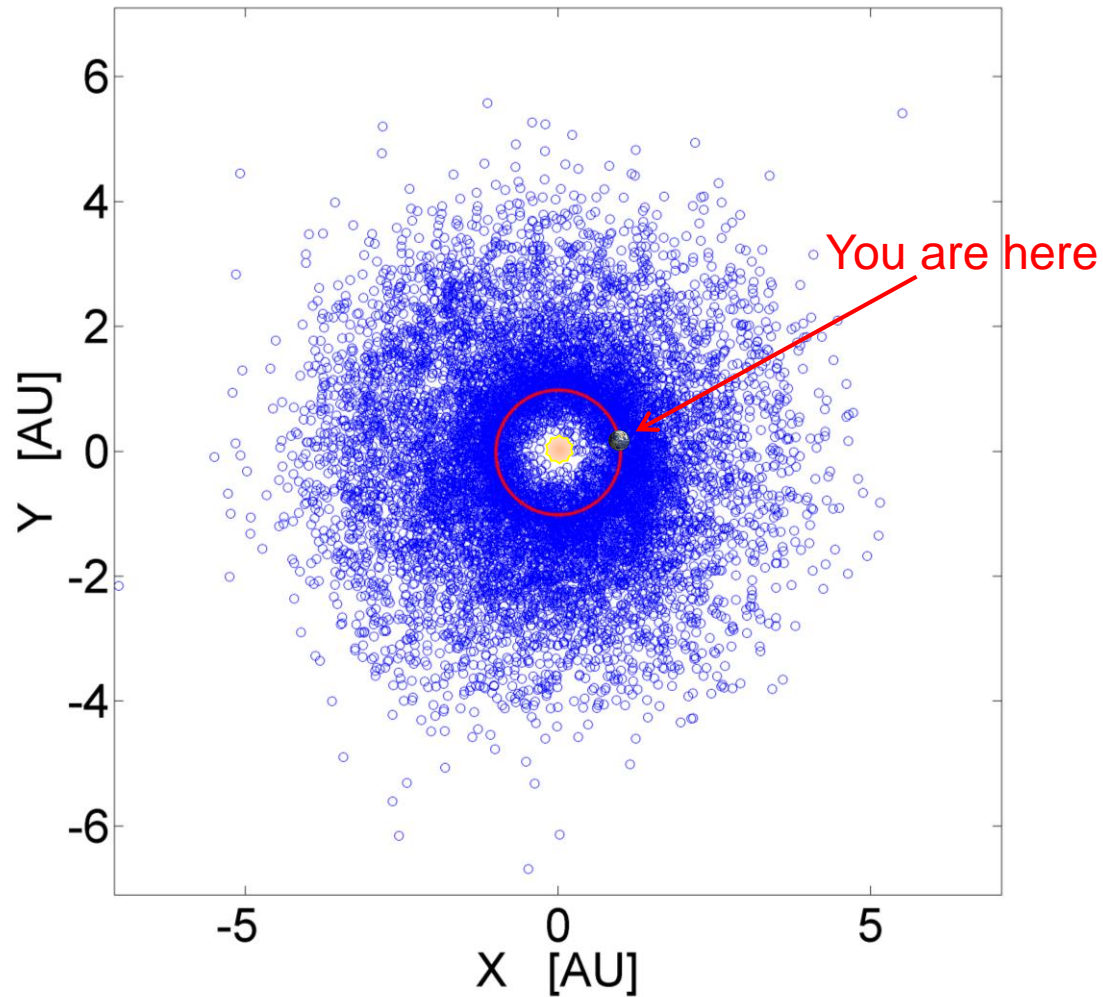


# MULTIPLE ASTEROID MISSION WITH SOLAR SAILING

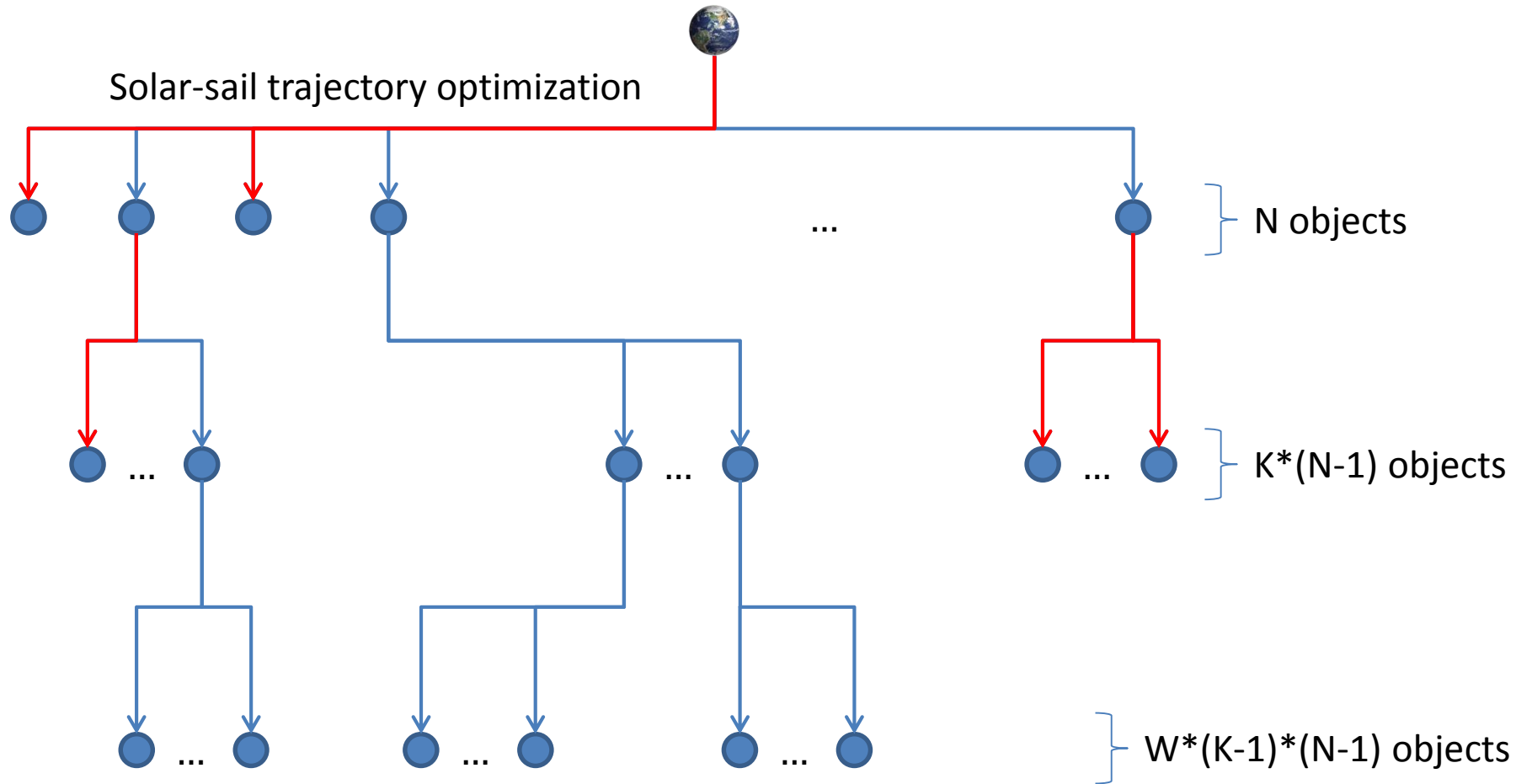
Giulia Viavattene  
Alessandro Piloni  
Matteo Ceriotti  
Bernd Dachwald



# Why NEOs?



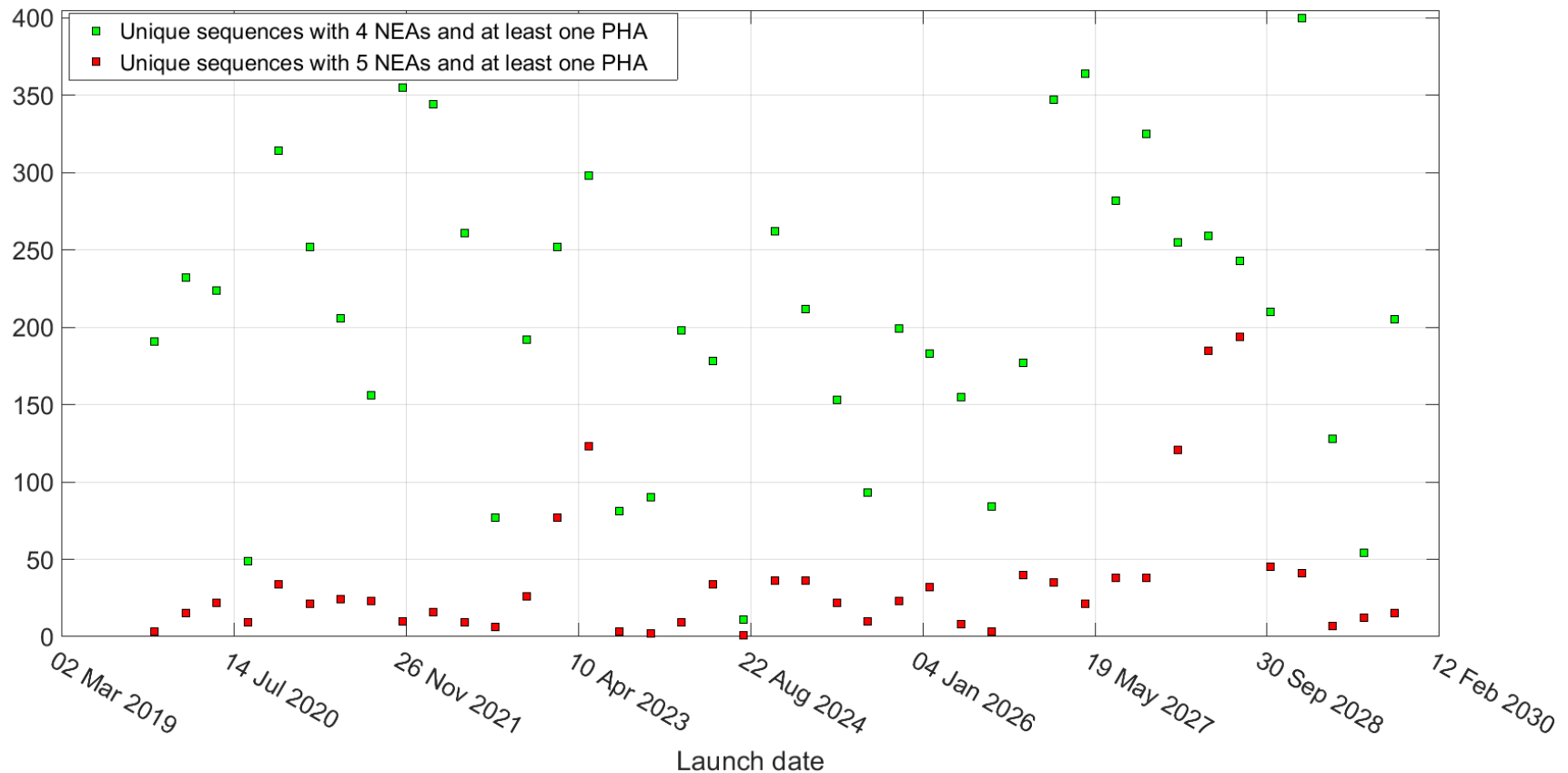
# Visiting multiple asteroids



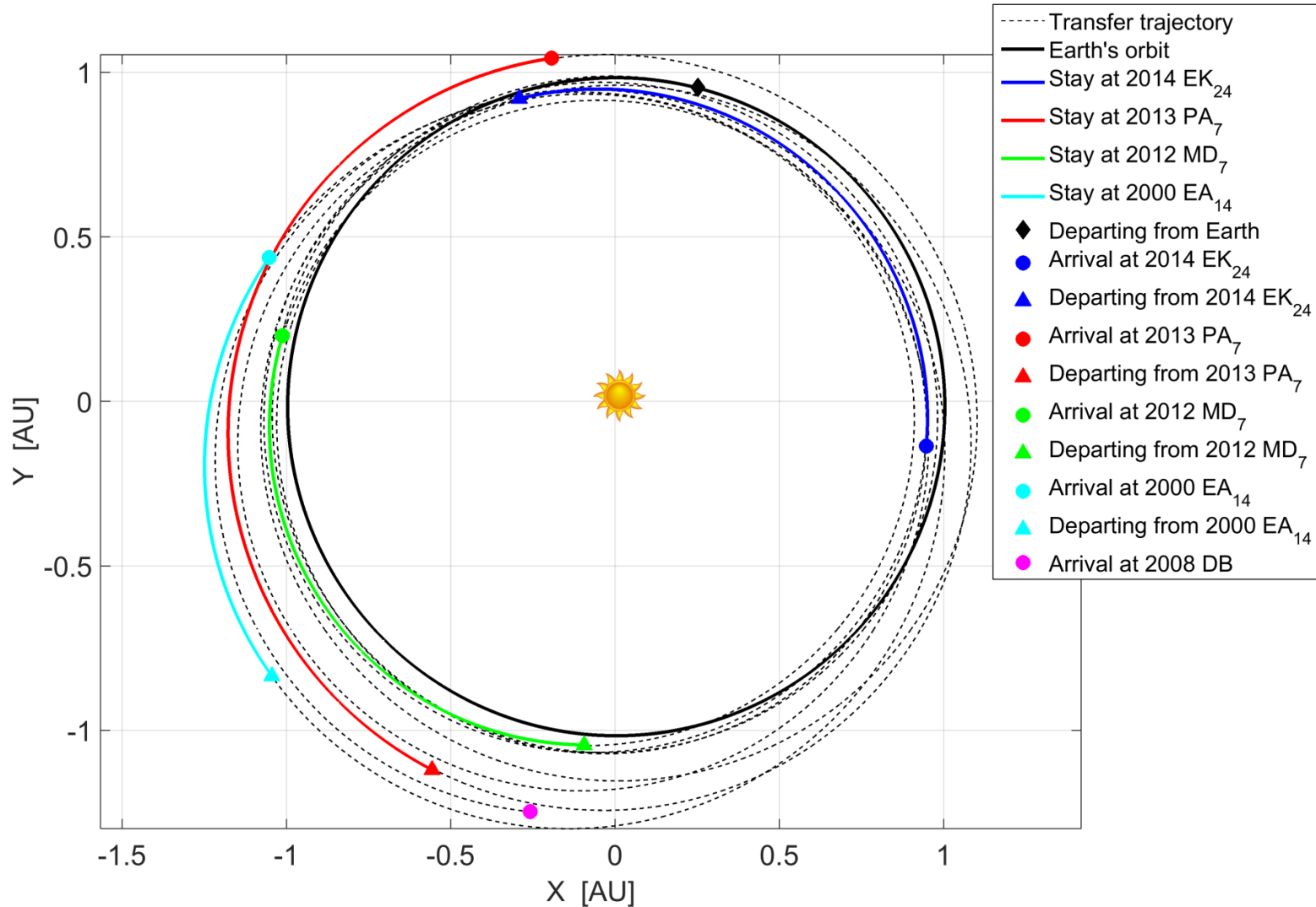
# Sequence search

Characteristic acceleration:  $a_c = 0.2 \frac{\text{mm}}{\text{s}^2}$   $\left(\frac{A}{m} = 22 \frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{kg}}\right)$

> 1,000 unique sequences made of 4 NHATS asteroids and 1 PHA!

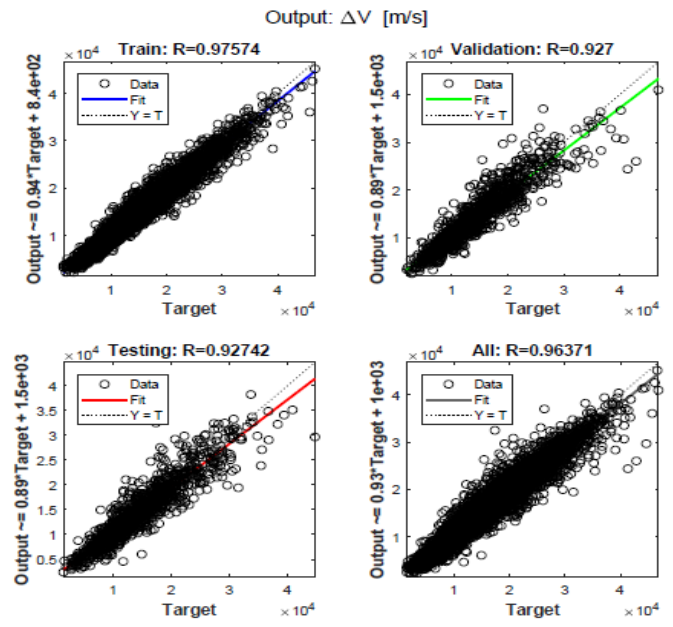
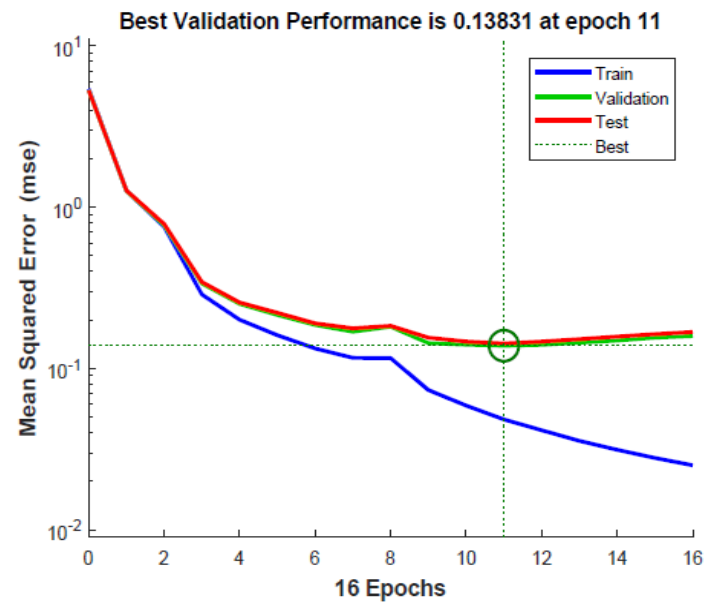
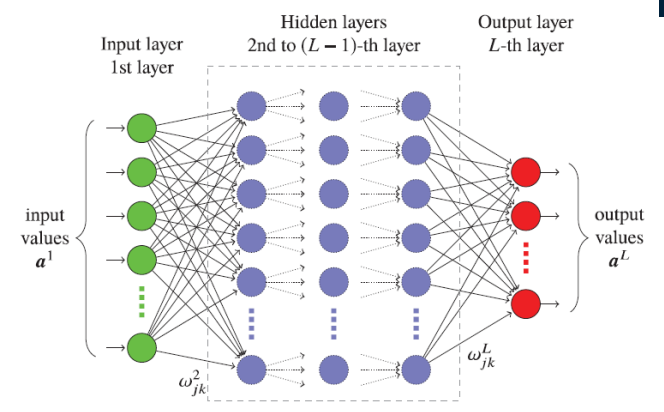
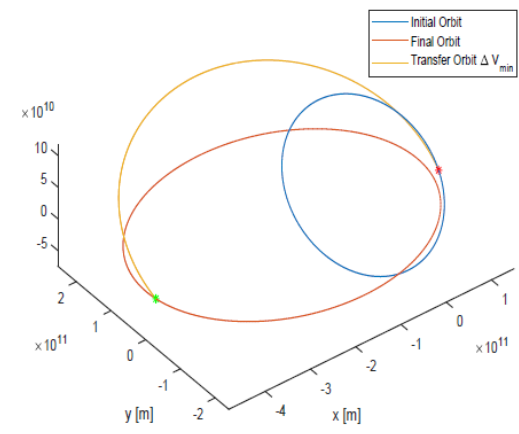
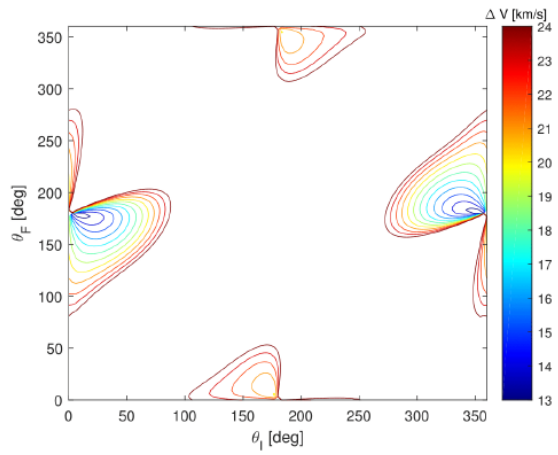


# Solution using a solar sail

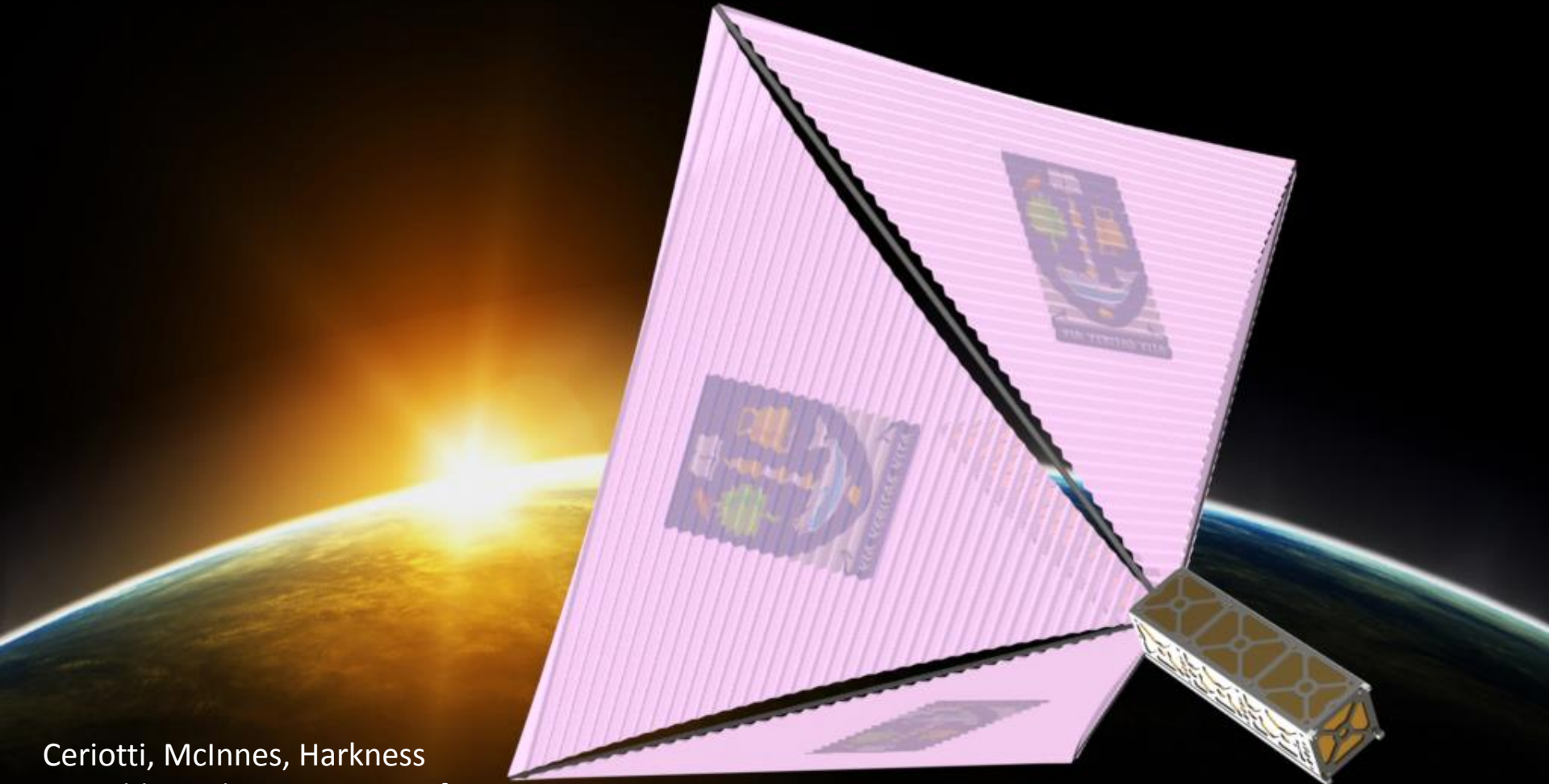




# Trajectory design using ANN



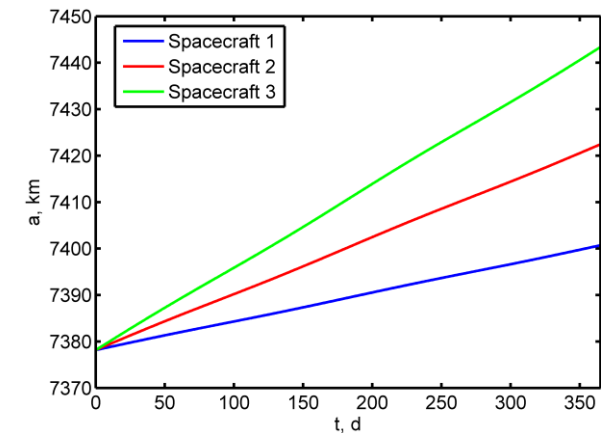
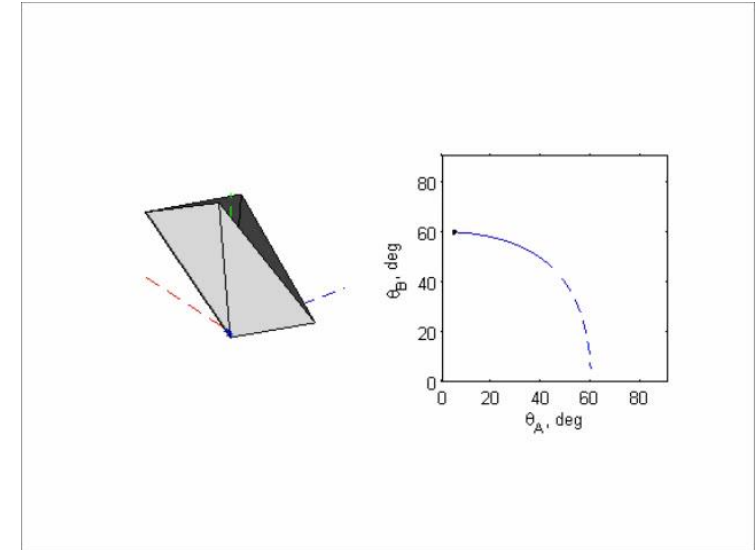
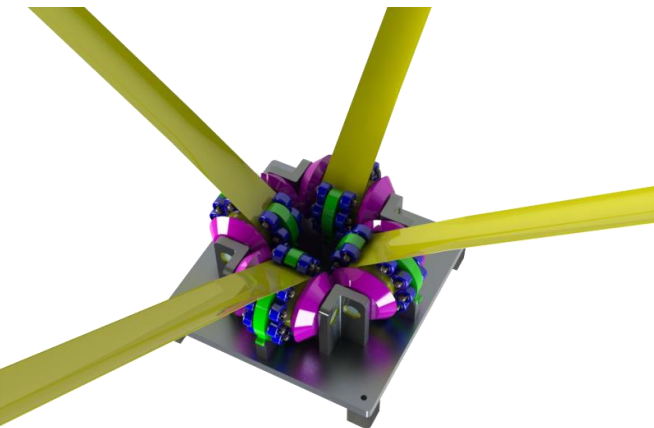
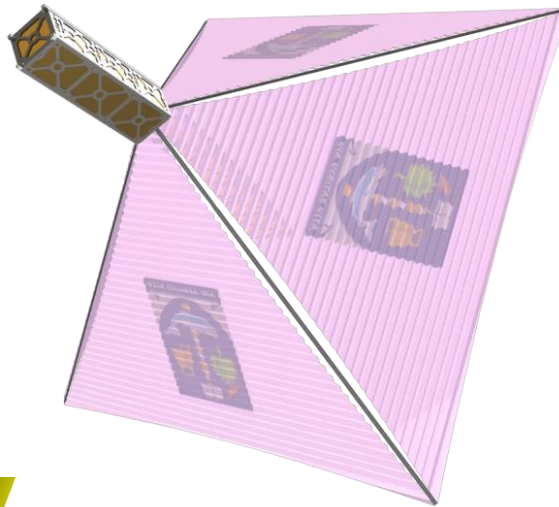
# NEW SOLAR SAIL CONCEPTS



Ceriotti, McInnes, Harkness  
McRobb, Heiligers, Borggraefe

# New solar sail concepts

## Quasi-rhombic pyramid

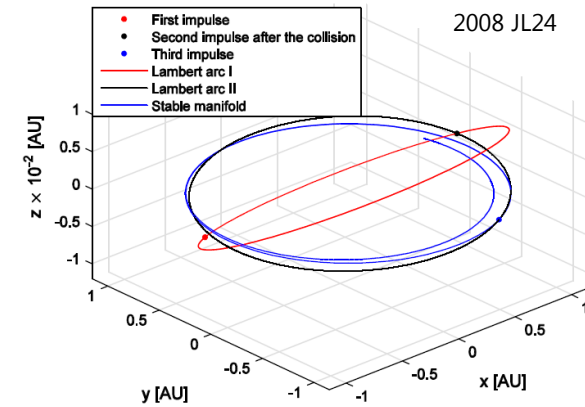
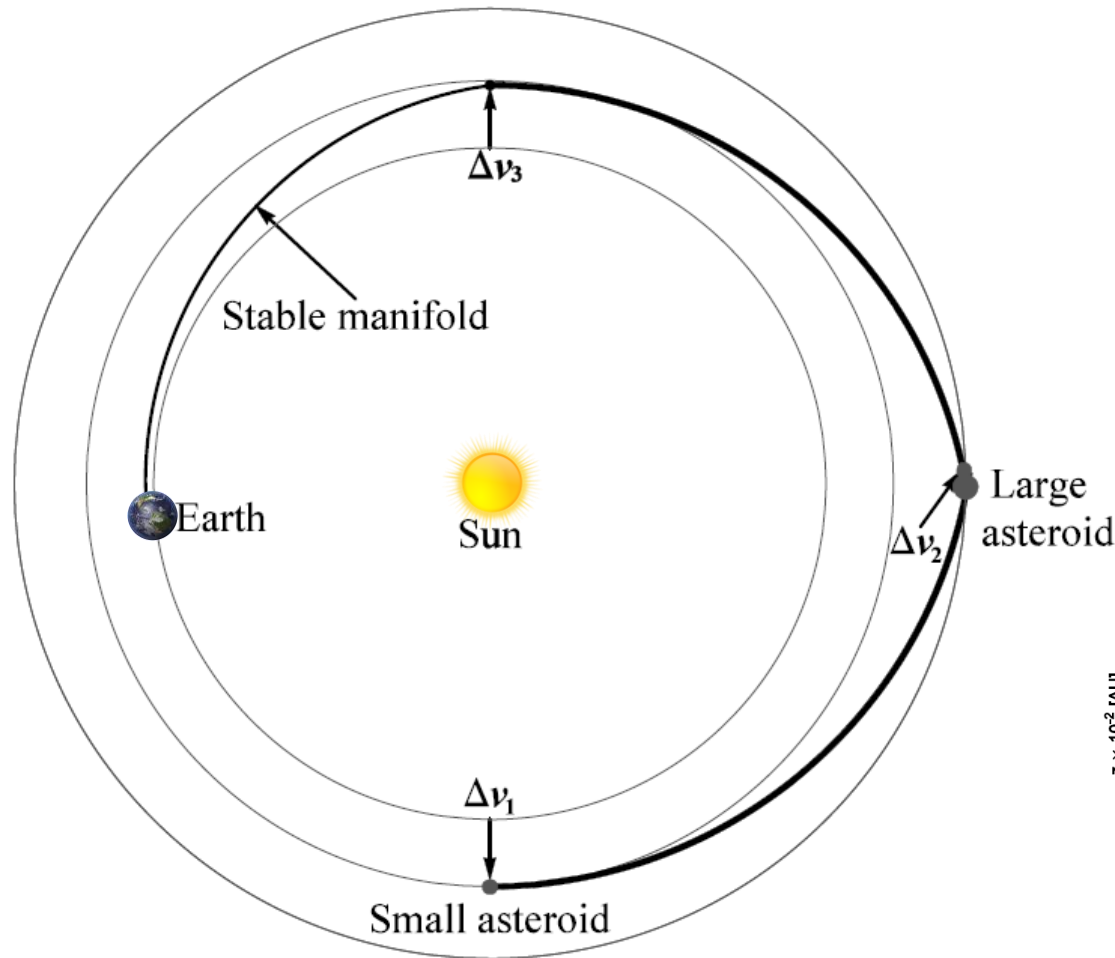




**ASTEROID ORBIT MANIPULATION  
AND CAPTURE**

Ceriotti  
Tan  
McInnes

# Collision with larger asteroid



M. Tan, C. R. McInnes, M. Ceriotti, "Low-energy near-Earth asteroid capture using momentum exchange strategies", *Journal of Guidance, Control, and Dynamics*, vol. 41, n. 3, p. 632-643, 2018. DOI: 10.2514/1.G002957



# Tether-assisted fly-by

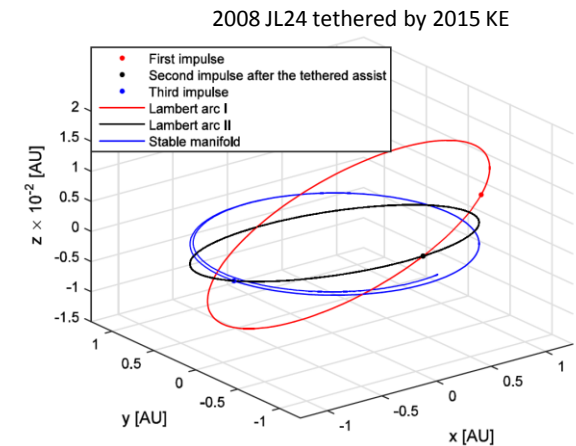
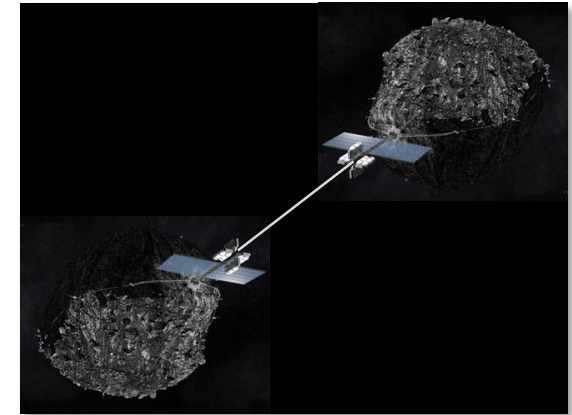
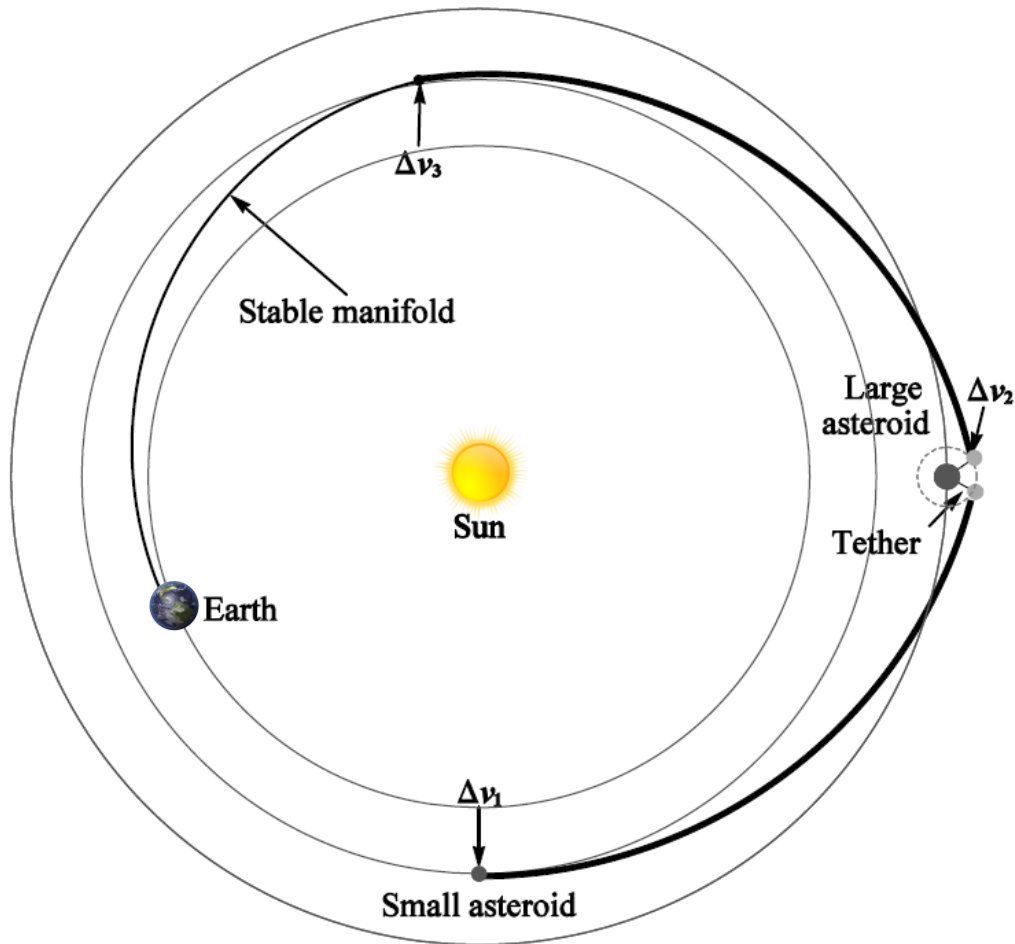
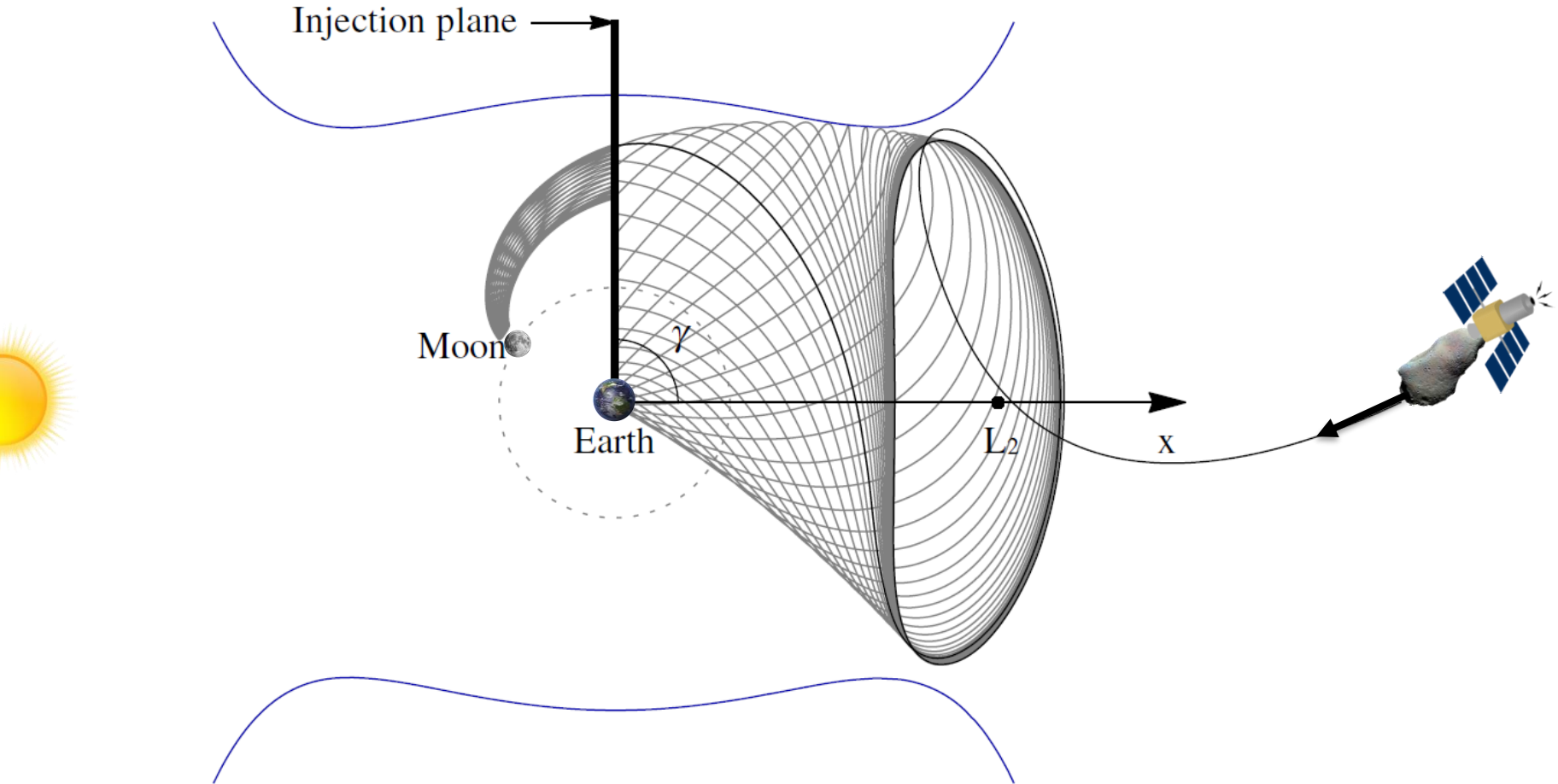


Image adapted from NASA

M. Tan, C. R. McInnes, M. Ceriotti, "Low-energy near-Earth asteroid capture using momentum exchange strategies", *Journal of Guidance, Control, and Dynamics*, vol. 41, n. 3, p. 632-643, 2018. DOI: 10.2514/1.G002957

# Direct capture to the Moon



Minghu Tan, Colin McInnes, Matteo Ceriotti, "Direct and indirect capture of near-Earth asteroids in the Earth–Moon system", *Celest Mech Dyn Astr* (2017) 129:57–88, DOI 10.1007/s10569-017-9764-x

# Aerobraking

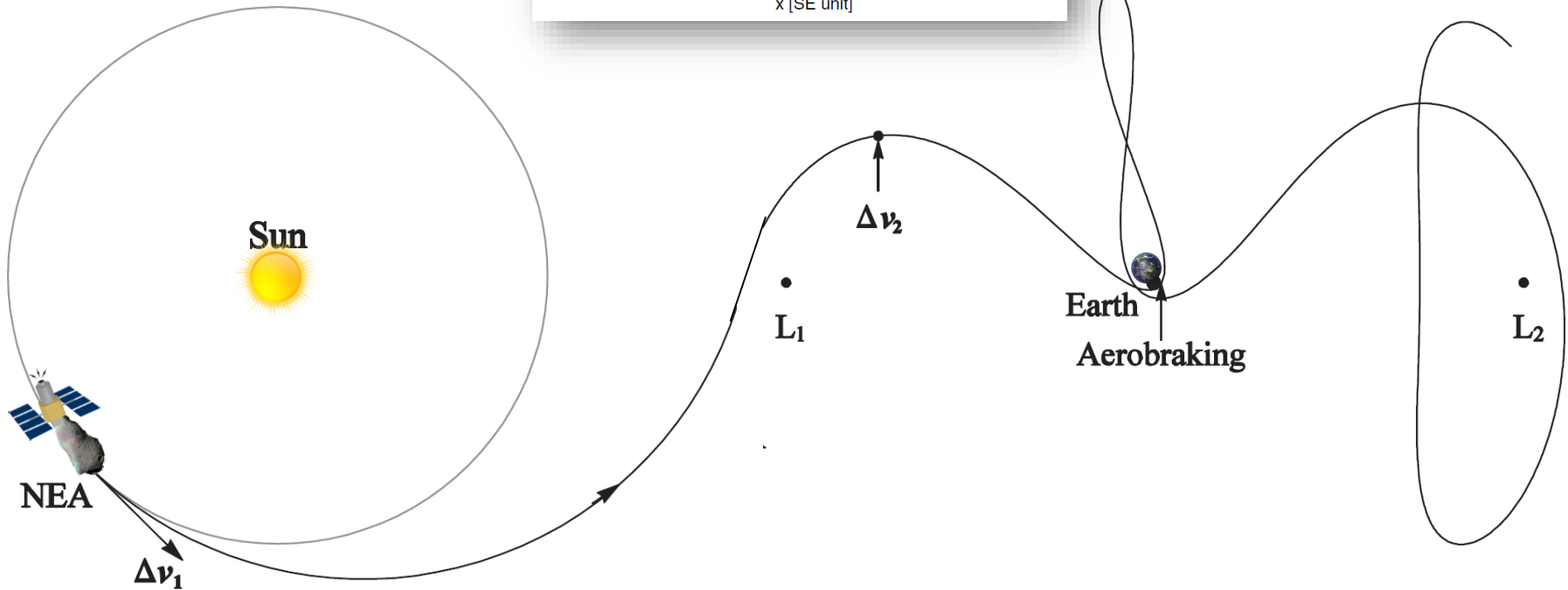
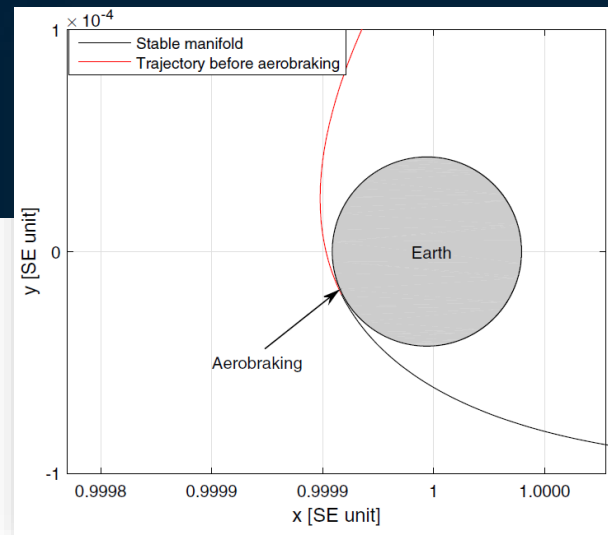


Image: Kerbal Space Program

M. Tan, C. R. McInnes, M. Ceriotti, "Low-energy near Earth asteroid capture using Earth flybys and aerobraking", *Advances in Space Research*, vol. 61, n. 8, p. 2099-2115, 2018. DOI: 10.1016/j.asr.2018.01.027



# FROM LOW THRUST TO SOLAR SAILING: A HOMOTOPIC APPROACH

N.Sullo - A.Peloni - M.Ceriotti

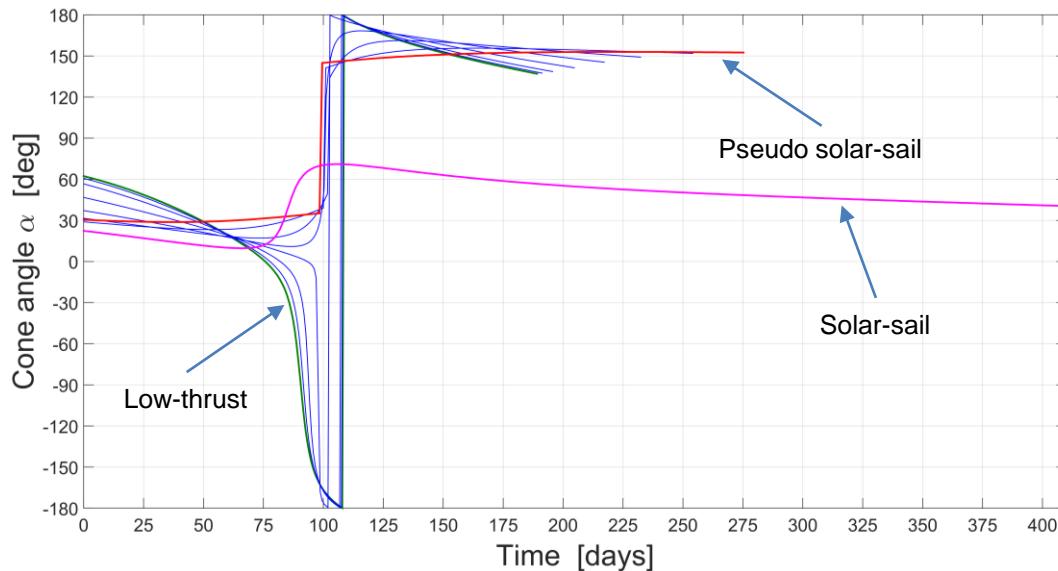


# Homotopic approach

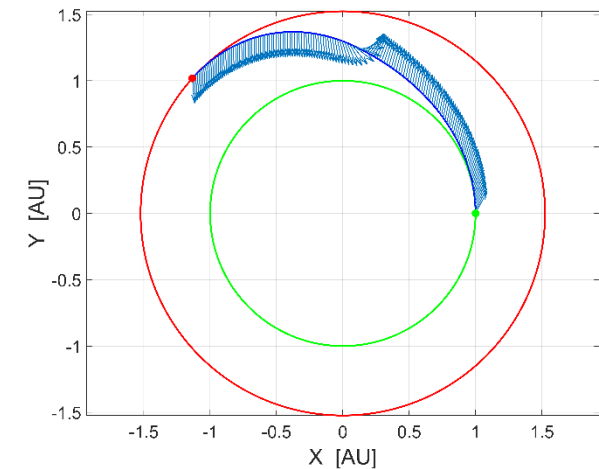
- Homotopies transform a low-thrust solution into a solar sail solution

$$\mathbf{a}_{LTSS} = a_{\max} \left[ (1 - \varepsilon) \mathbf{u} + \left( \left( \frac{r_{\oplus}}{r} \right)^2 \cos^2 \alpha \right) \varepsilon \right] \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha \\ \sin \alpha \end{bmatrix}, \quad \alpha \in [-\pi, \pi]$$

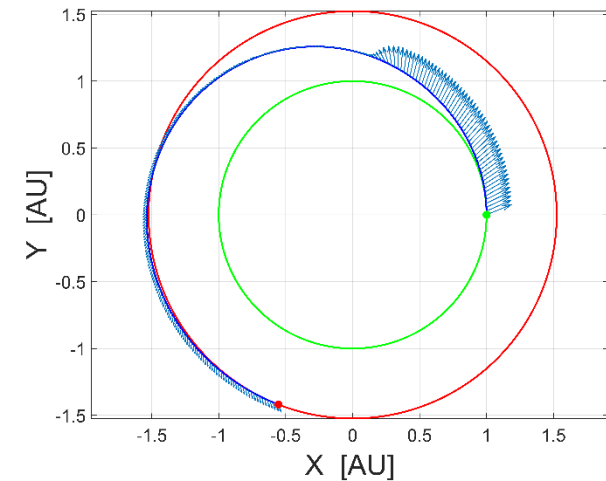
Cone angle evolution in the 1<sup>st</sup> continuation



Low-thrust transfer



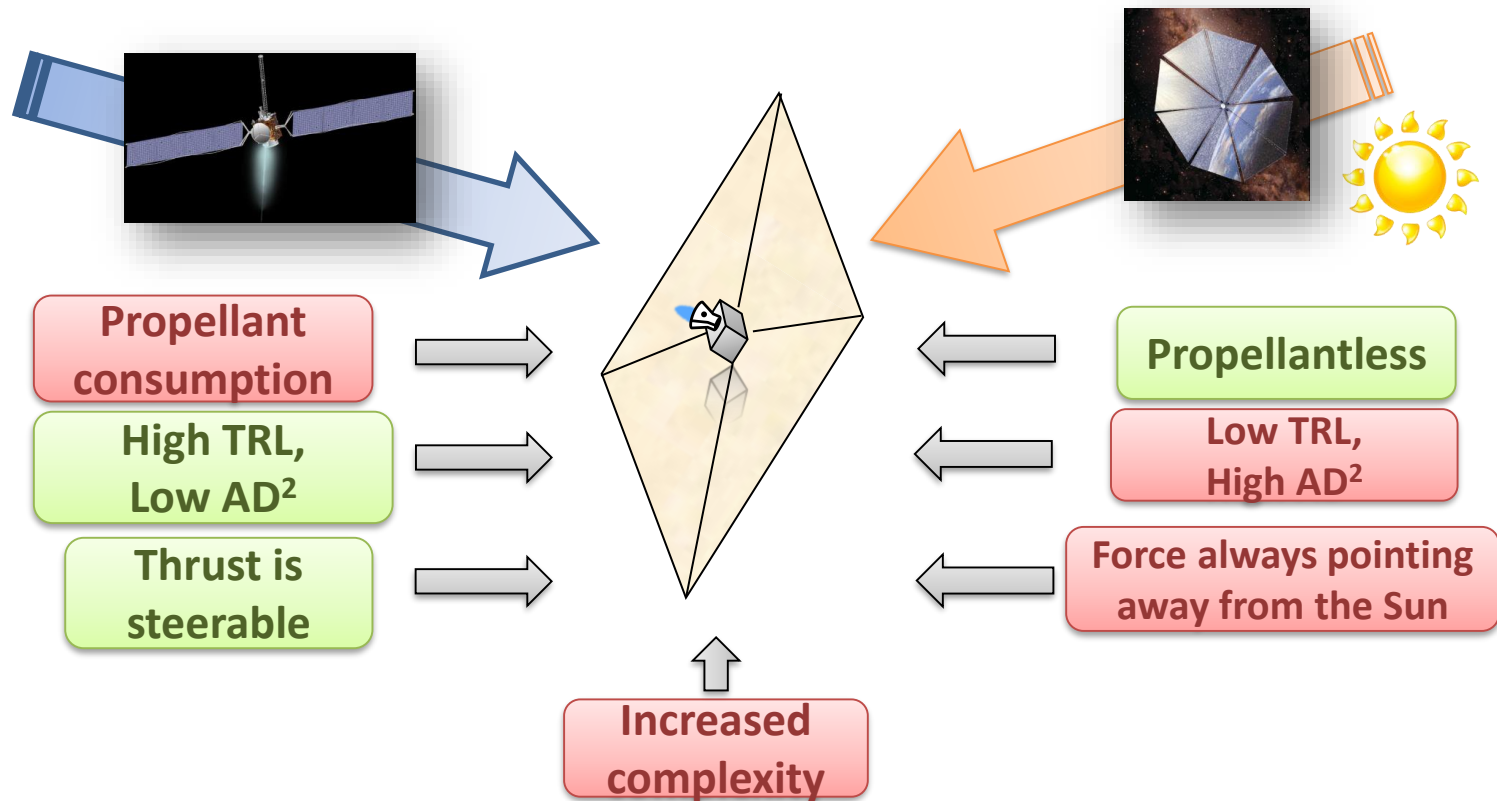
Solar-sail transfer



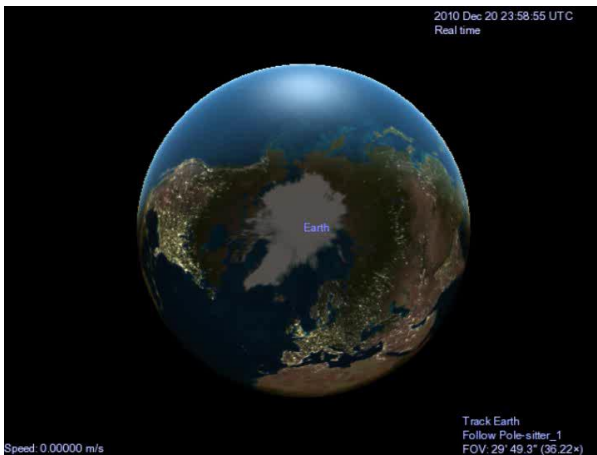
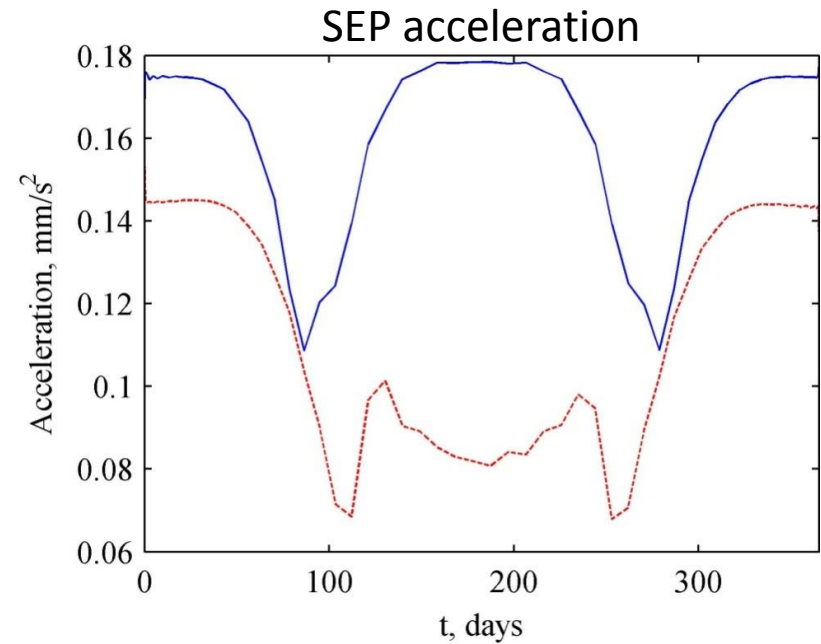
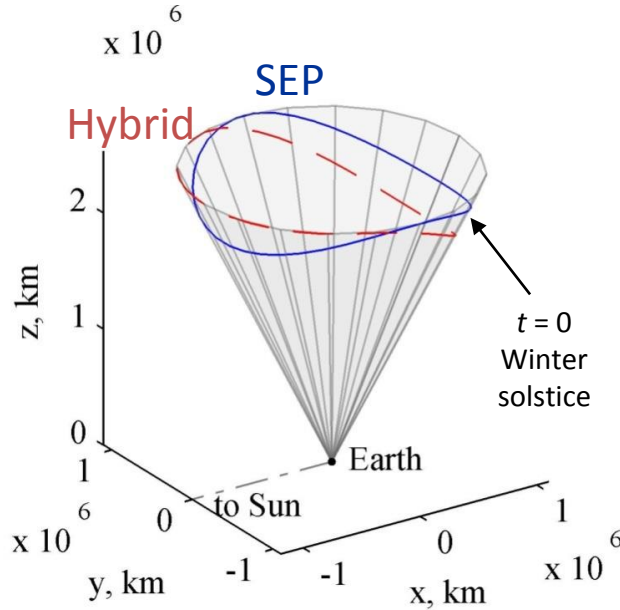


# Hybrid Propulsion

How to take advantage of both SEP and sail?  
 Combine them on the same spacecraft:



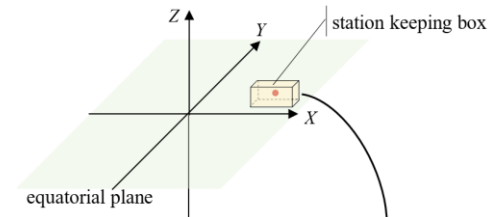
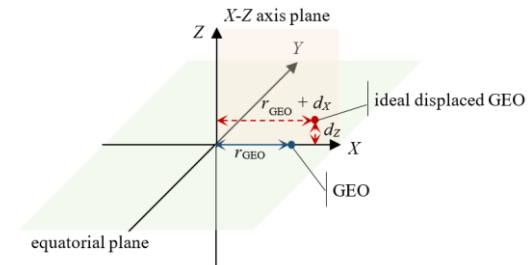
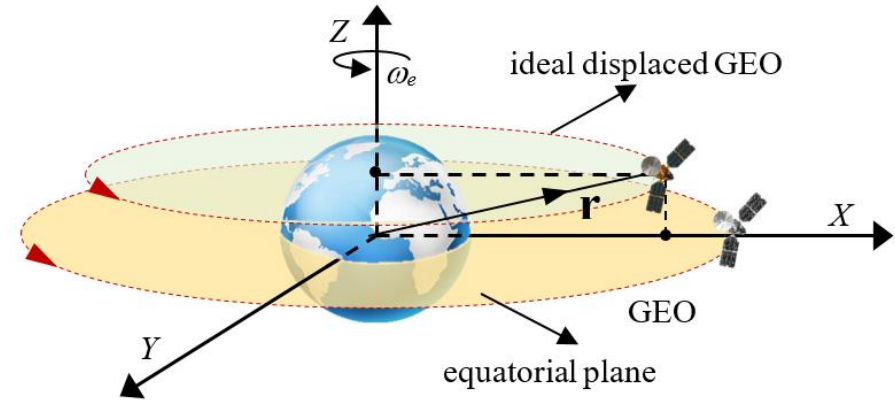
# Optimal pole-sitter orbits



YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-PFyq5zek0Q>

# Displaced Geostationary orbits

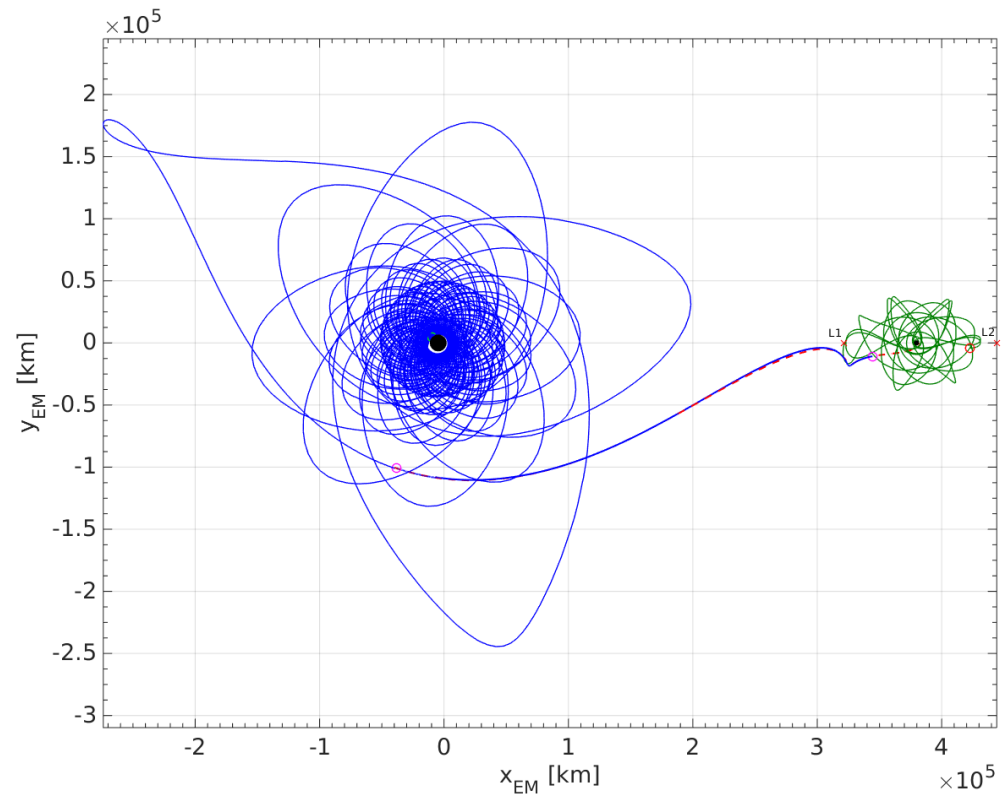
- Increase the capacity of the GEO ring
- Continuous thrust required
- Hybrid (sail+SEP) propulsion allows to save fuel
- Loose stationkeeping box enables further savings



$$\begin{array}{l}
 (r_{GEO} + d_x + \rho_x, d_r + \rho_y, d_z + \rho_z) \\
 (r_{GEO} + d_x - \rho_x, d_r - \rho_y, d_z + \rho_z) \\
 (r_{GEO} + d_x + \rho_x, d_r + \rho_y, d_z - \rho_z) \\
 (r_{GEO} + d_x - \rho_x, d_r - \rho_y, d_z - \rho_z)
 \end{array}$$

# Interplanetary transfers

- Earth-Moon transfers with hybrid propulsion
  - High thrust (chemical)
  - +
  - Low thrust (SEP)





# SPACE WEATHER MONITORING

Qingying Shu

Marian Scott

Lyndsay Fletcher

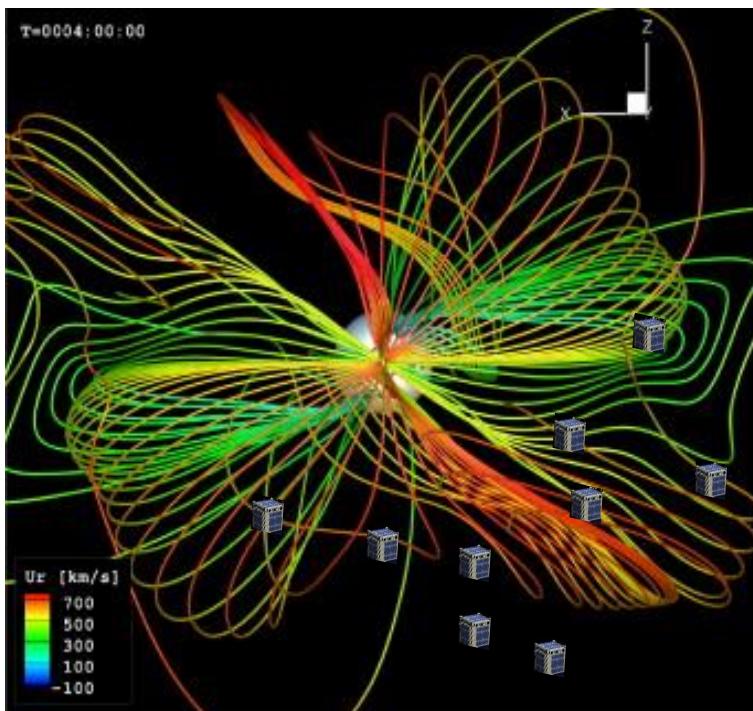
Matteo Ceriotti

Peter Craigmile



# Space weather monitoring

- At present, we have very few space-weather sample points, limited to a small number of scientific (rather than operational) satellites
- Satellite resources are always at a premium



- What are the best strategies for sampling space weather data to give robust forecasts?
  - Locations
  - Sampling frequencies
  - Redundancy
  - Communication options
  - Achievable orbits
- How to predict E/M storms?



Thank you!  
Questions?

# Space Glasgow

[www.glasgow.ac.uk/space](http://www.glasgow.ac.uk/space)

 @SpaceGlasgow

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 @mtcerio

