



Jet Propulsion Laboratory
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Update on S5's Starshade Technology Activities

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The decision to implement a starshade mission will not be finalized until after the 2020 Astrophysics Decadal Survey and NASA's completion of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. This document is being made available for information purposes only.

Starshade

The hard stuff is done external to telescope

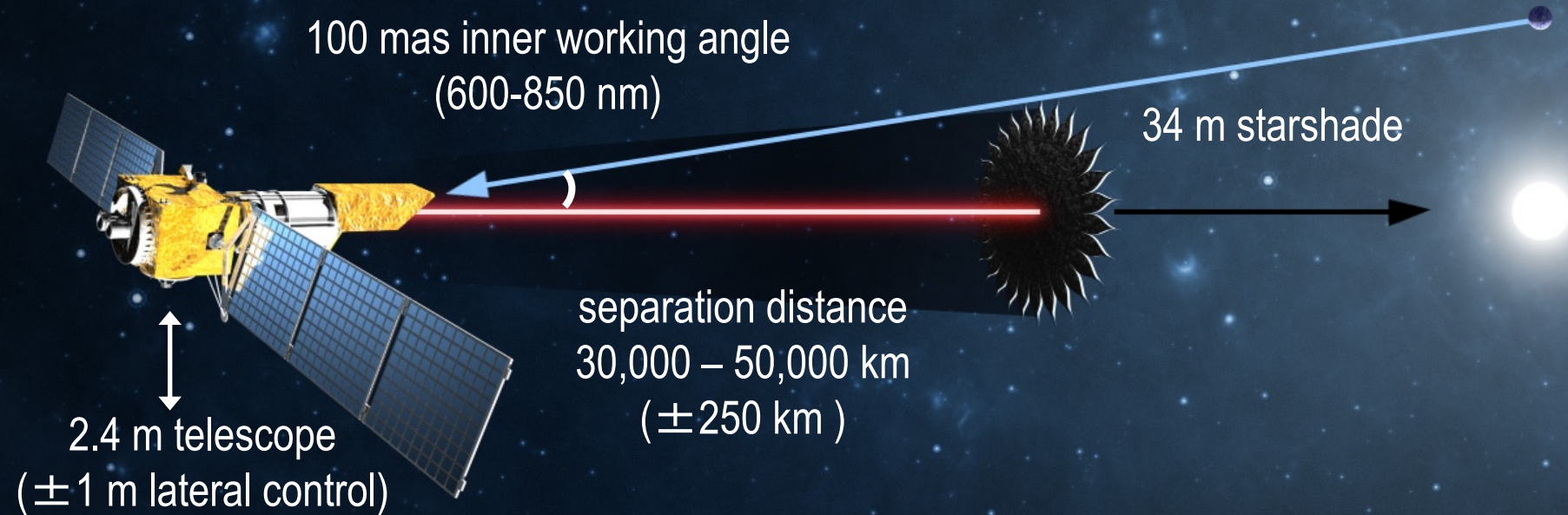


100 mas inner working angle
(600-850 nm)

34 m starshade

separation distance
30,000 – 50,000 km
(± 250 km)

2.4 m telescope
(± 1 m lateral control)

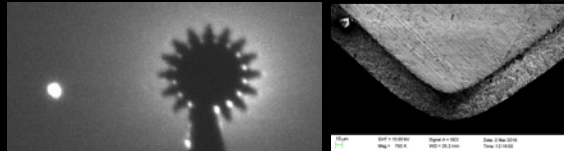


Organization of S5

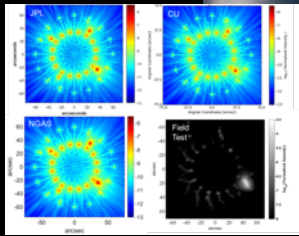
- S5 Technology Development Plan approved by NASA Astrophysics Division in September 2018
 - Brings all technologies to TRL5 by 2023
 - Brings some technologies (e.g. formation flying) to TRL5 prior to Decadal Survey
 - Plan retires as much risk as possible in other technologies prior to Decadal.
 - All milestones reviewed by external independent panel (ExoTAC)
- S5 includes Science and Industry Partners (SIP) program to solicit fresh ideas and approaches
- See <https://exoplanets.nasa.gov/exep/technology/starshade/>

The Three Starshade Technology Gaps

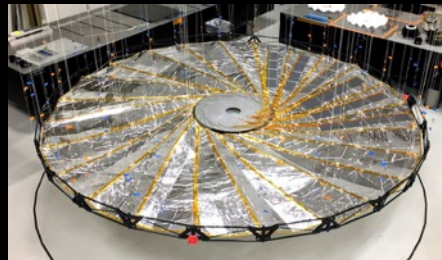
(1) Starlight Suppression



Suppressing scattered light off petal from off-axis Sunlight (S-1)

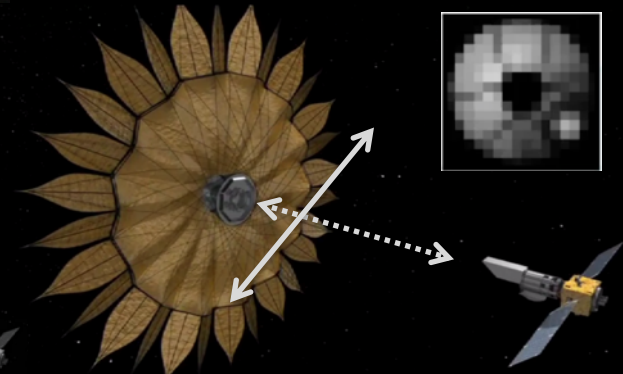


Suppressing diffracted light from on-axis starlight and optical modeling (S-2)



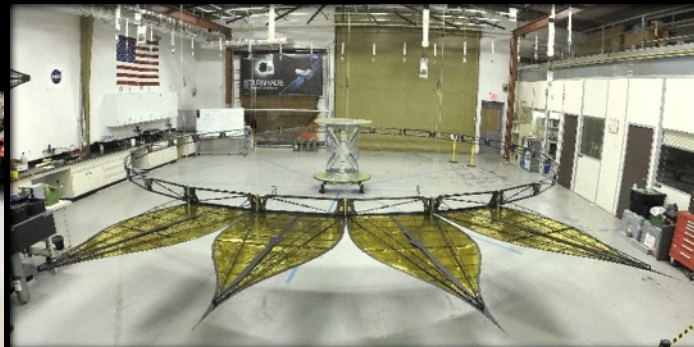
Positioning the petals to high accuracy, blocking on-axis starlight, maintaining overall shape on a highly stable structure (S-5)

(2) Formation Sensing



Sensing the lateral offset between the spacecraft (S-3)

(3) Deployment Accuracy and Shape Stability



Fabricating the petals to high accuracy (S-4)

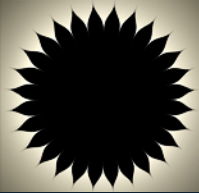
S-# corresponds to ExEP Starshade Technology Gap (<http://exoplanets.nasa.gov/exep/technology/gap-lists>)

S5 Reference Mission

- S5 Technology Development Plan uses WFIRST Rendezvous and HabEx mission concepts to derive KPPs; these KPPs are not tightly coupled to concept designs and apply fairly generally to space telescope missions at L2.
- Technology gaps are defined with reference to a starshade operating in formation with a space telescope.
- S5 technology milestones are more strictly defined with respect to WFIRST Rendezvous mission concept:
 - Optical and formation flying milestones apply equally well to HabEx
 - Mechanical milestones are built around test articles appropriate to WFIRST scale; test articles are half-scale for HabEx but still sufficient to demonstrate TRL5

S5 Starshade Technology Milestones

MS #	Milestone	Report Completion Date	Exo-TAC Confirm by Decadal	% Risk Retired by Decadal
1A	Small-scale starshade mask in the Princeton Testbed demonstrates 1×10^{-10} instrument contrast at the inner working angle in narrow band visible light and Fresnel number ≤ 15 .	1/28/19	X	100
1B	Small-scale starshade mask in the Princeton Testbed demonstrates 1×10^{-10} instrument contrast at the inner working angle at multiple wavelengths spanning $\geq 10\%$ bandpass at the Fresnel number ≤ 15 at the longest wavelength.	3/30/19	X	100
2	Small-scale starshade masks in the Princeton Testbed validate contrast vs. shape model to within 25% accuracy for induced contrast between 10^{-9} and 10^{-8} .	1/15/20	X	100
3	Optical edge segments demonstrate scatter performance consistent with solar glint lobes fainter than visual magnitude 25 after relevant thermal and deploy cycles.	11/1/19	X	100
4	Starshade Lateral Alignment Testbed validates sensor model by demonstrating lateral offset position accuracy to flight equivalent of ± 30 cm. Control system simulation using validated sensor model demonstrates on-orbit lateral position control to within ± 1 m.	11/14/18	X	100
5A	Petal subsystem with <i>shape critical features</i> demonstrates shape stability after deploy cycles (deployed) consistent with a total pre-launch shape accuracy within $\pm 70 \mu\text{m}$.	12/20/19	X	80
5B	Petal subsystem with <i>all features</i> demonstrates total pre-launch shape accuracy (manufacture, deploy cycles, thermal cycles deployed, and storage) to within $\pm 70 \mu\text{m}$.	6/2/23		
6A	Petal subsystem with <i>shape critical features</i> demonstrates on-orbit thermal stability within $\pm 80 \mu\text{m}$ by analysis using a validated model of critical dimension vs. temperature.	12/20/19	X	80
6B	Petal subsystem <i>all features</i> demonstrates on-orbit thermal stability within $\pm 80 \mu\text{m}$ by analysis using a validated model of critical dimension vs. temperature.	6/2/23		
7A	Truss Bay <i>longeron and node subassemblies</i> demonstrate dimensional stability with thermal cycles (deployed) consistent with a total pre-launch petal position accuracy within $\pm 300 \mu\text{m}$. (Note: SBIR funding dependency)	12/20/19	X	80
7B	Truss Bay <i>assembly</i> demonstrates dimensional stability with thermal cycles (deployed) and storage consistent with a total pre-launch petal position accuracy within $\pm 300 \mu\text{m}$.	6/2/23		
7C	Inner Disk Subsystem with optical shield assembly that includes <i>deployment critical features</i> demonstrates repeatable accuracy consistent with a total pre-launch petal position accuracy within $\pm 300 \mu\text{m}$. (Note: SBIR funding dependency)	12/20/19	X	80
7D	Inner Disk Subsystem with optical shield assembly that includes <i>all features</i> demonstrates repeatable accuracy consistent with a total pre-launch petal position accuracy within $\pm 300 \mu\text{m}$.	6/2/23		
8A	Truss Bay <i>longeron and node subassemblies</i> demonstrate on-orbit thermal stability within $\pm 200 \mu\text{m}$ by analysis using a validated model of critical dimension vs. temperature.	12/20/19	X	80
8B	Truss Bay <i>assembly</i> demonstrates on-orbit thermal stability within $\pm 200 \mu\text{m}$ by analysis using a validated model of critical dimension vs. temperature.	6/2/23		



S5 Technology Milestones Scorecard

Complete 2020



Complete 2023

Starlight
Suppression



Scattered
Sunlight



Formation Flying



Critical Features

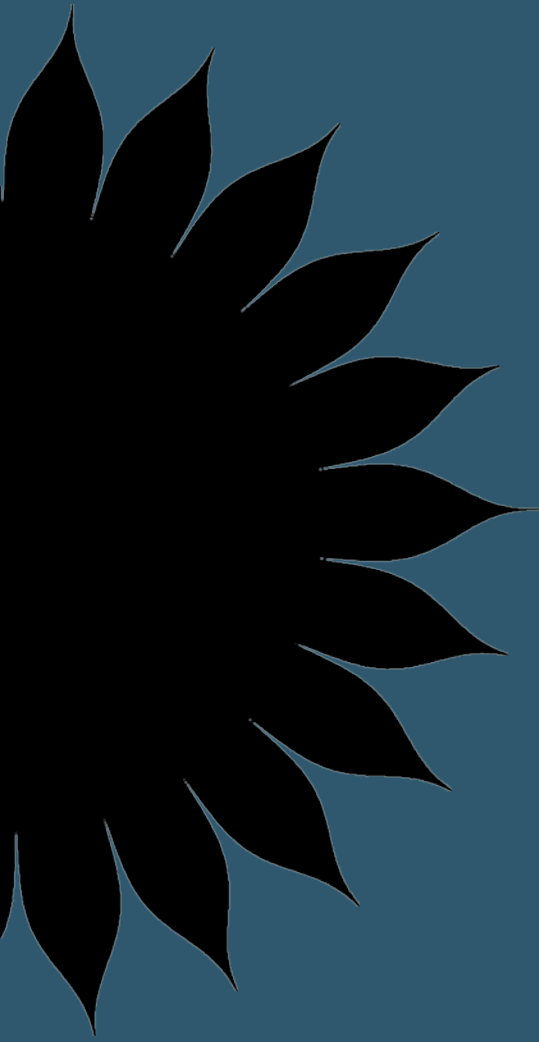
All Features

Shape Accuracy



Shape Stability

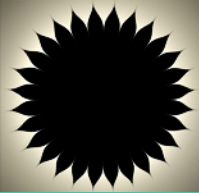




Starlight Suppression

Starlight Suppression Milestones

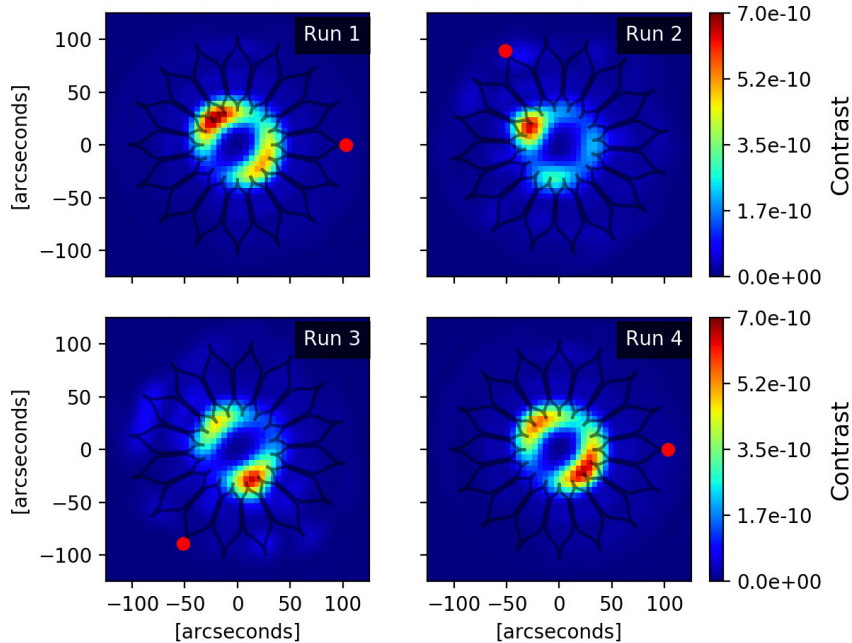
- MILESTONE 1A: Small-scale starshade mask in the Princeton Testbed demonstrates 1×10^{-10} instrument contrast at the inner working angle in narrow band visible light and Fresnel number ≤ 15 .
- MILESTONE 1B: Small-scale starshade mask in the Princeton Testbed demonstrates 1×10^{-10} instrument contrast at the inner working angle at multiple wavelengths spanning $\geq 10\%$ bandpass at Fresnel number ≤ 15 at the longest wavelength.
- MILESTONE 2: Small-scale starshade masks in the Princeton Testbed validate contrast vs. shape model to within 25% accuracy for induced contrast between 10^{-9} and 10^{-8} .
- Successful completion of all three milestones brings starlight suppression technology to TRL5



Narrowband Contrast Demonstration

Small scale starshade mask in the Princeton Testbed demonstrates 1×10^{-10} instrument contrast at the inner working angle in narrow band visible light and Fresnel number ≤ 15 .

KPP 1



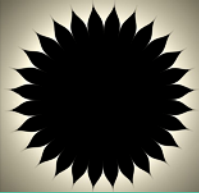
REQUIREMENT MET:

Achieved $< 10^{-10}$ contrast at 44% of IWA, best performance to date of a starshade at a flight-like Fresnel number.

Limits to contrast at small scale are well understood.



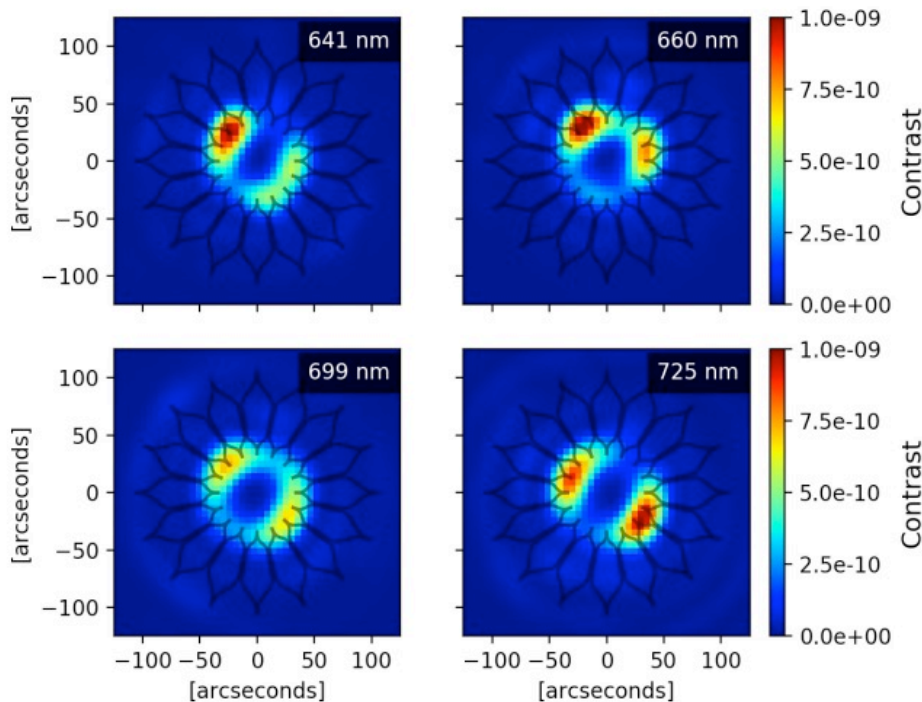
STATUS: Complete



Broadband Contrast Demonstration

Small-scale starshade mask in the Princeton Testbed demonstrates 1×10^{-10} instrument contrast at the inner working angle at *multiple wavelengths* spanning $\geq 10\%$ bandpass and Fresnel number ≤ 15 at the longest wavelength.

KPP 1



REQUIREMENT MET:

Achieved $< 10^{-10}$ contrast at IWA, for all wavelengths tested.

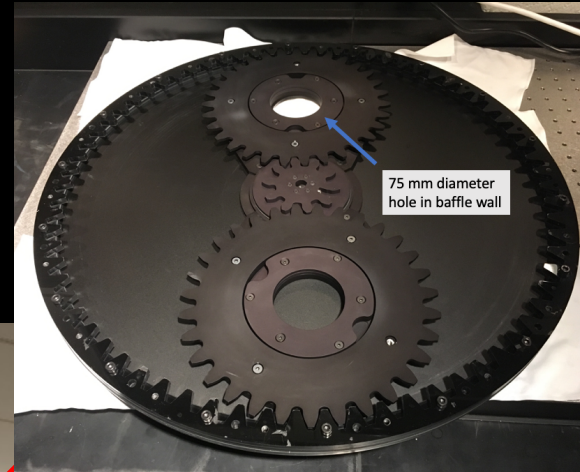
STATUS: Complete

Upgrades to the Princeton Starshade Testbed

Active control
of camera
transverse
position

Analyzer at
camera
station

Polarizer at
laser station

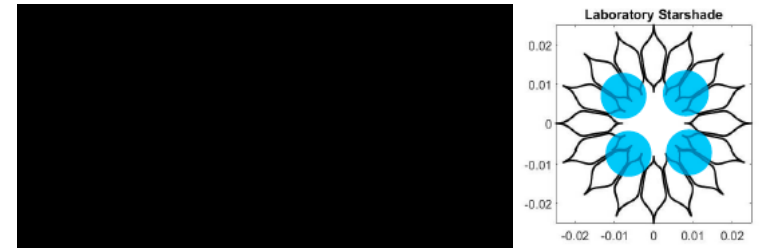
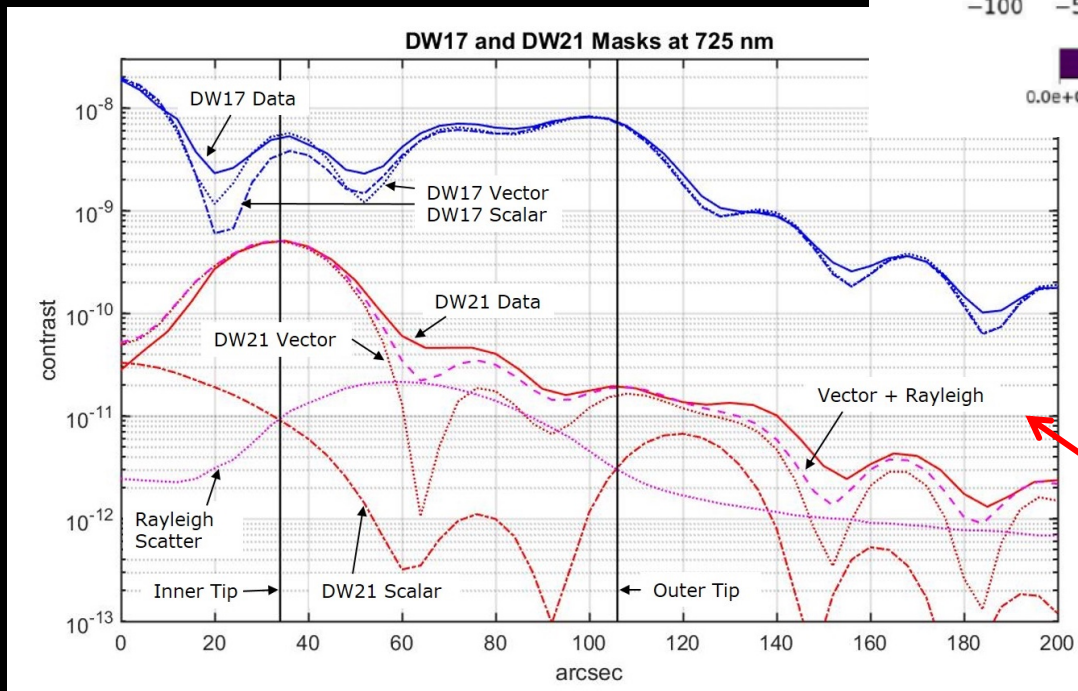
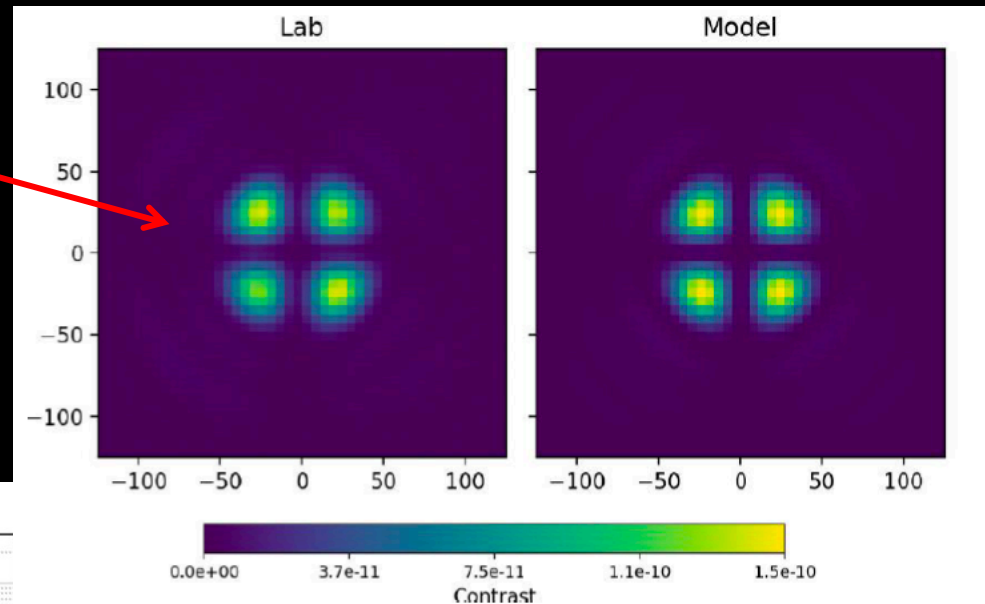


New mask
inserter/
rotator

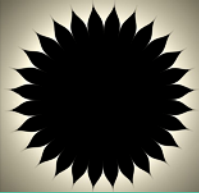


Understanding Vector Diffraction

Viewing starshade between crossed polarizers reveals vector interactions at petal bases



Detailed models show transition to scalar diffraction outside starshade stopband



Optical Contrast Model Correlation

Small-scale starshade masks in the Princeton Testbed validate contrast vs. shape model to within 25% accuracy for induced contrast between 10^{-9} and 10^{-8} .

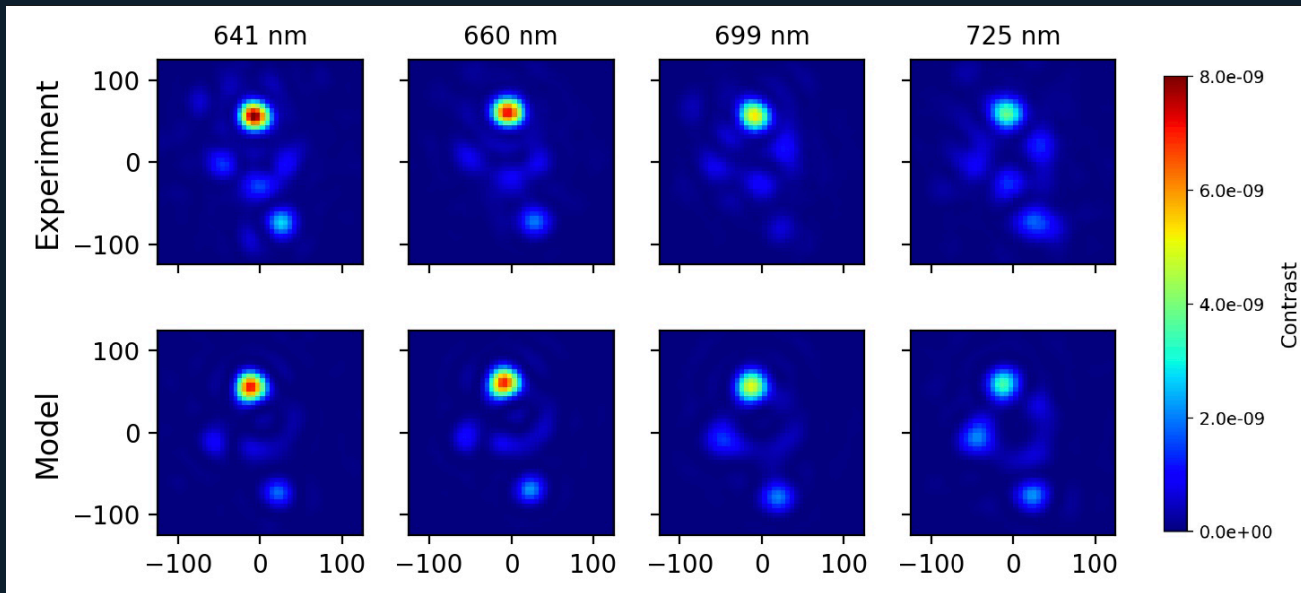
KPP 2

APPROACH:

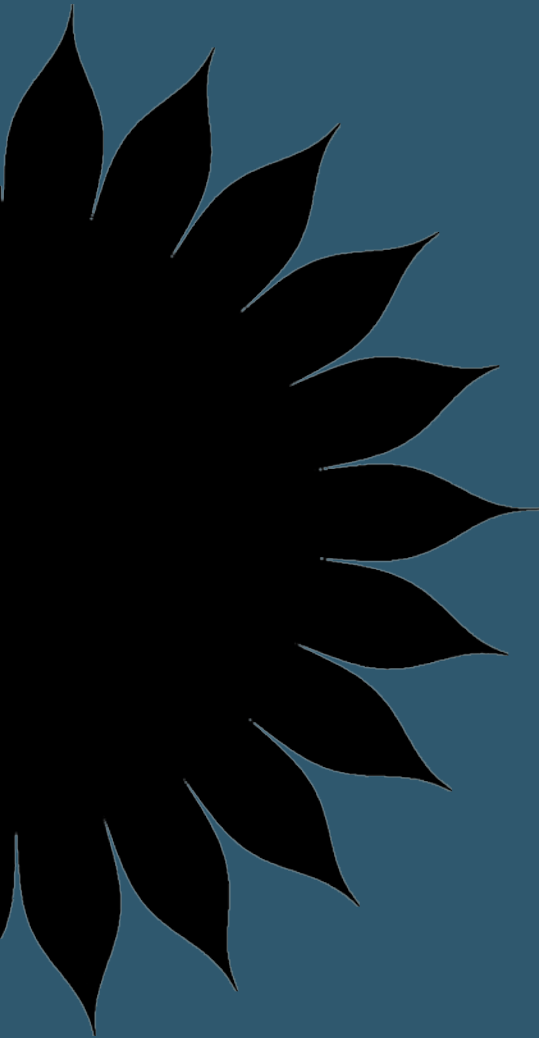
Test deliberately misshapen masks to verify that contrast varies with shape error as predicted.

STATUS:

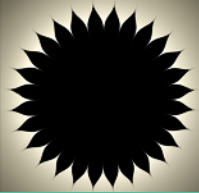
Contrast varies with shape as expected in masks tested to date.



STATUS: Delayed



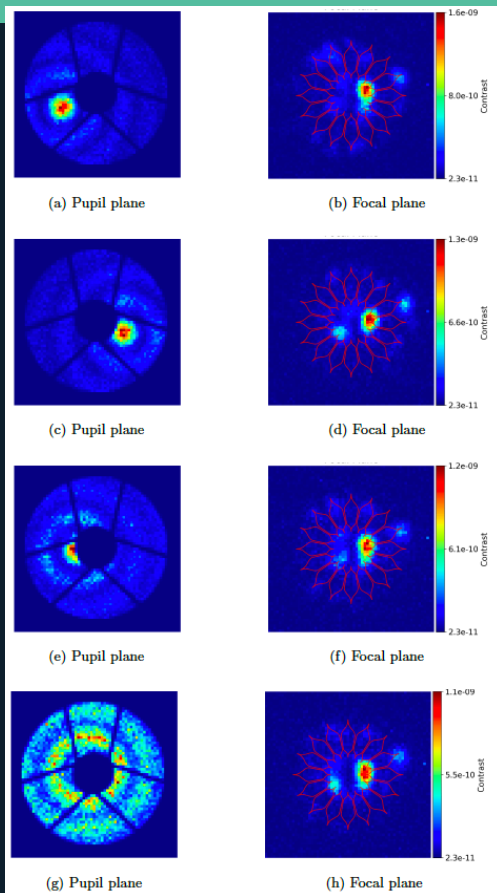
Formation Flying



Formation Flying

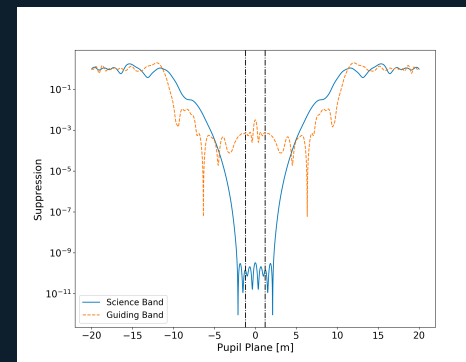
Starshade Lateral Alignment Testbed validates the sensor model by demonstrating lateral position offset sensitivity to a flight equivalent of 30 cm. Control system simulation using validated sensor model demonstrates on-orbit lateral position control to within ± 1 m.

KPP 4



REQUIREMENT MET:

- Starshade lateral offset measured to 10 cm flight equivalent.
- Formation flying simulation controlled position to ± 1 m.
- Large margins on stellar magnitude, allowable measurement error.

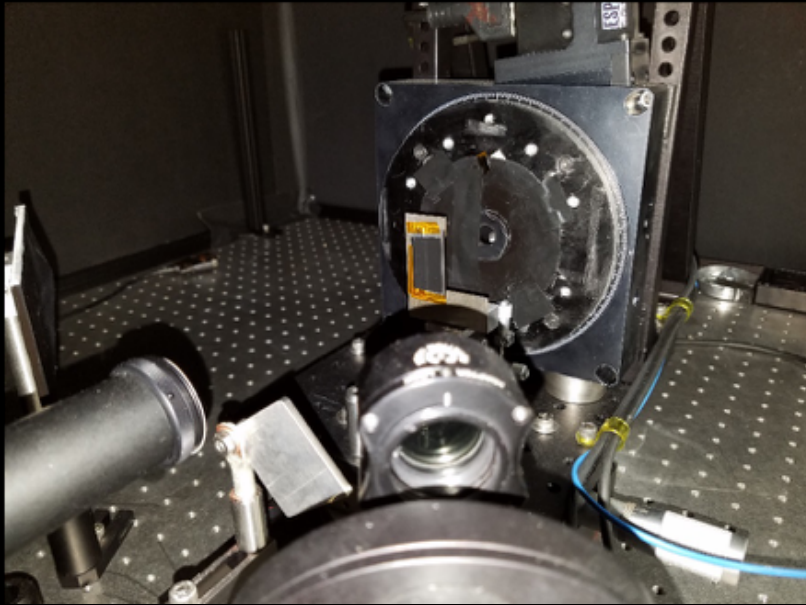


STATUS: Complete, formation flying at TRL 5



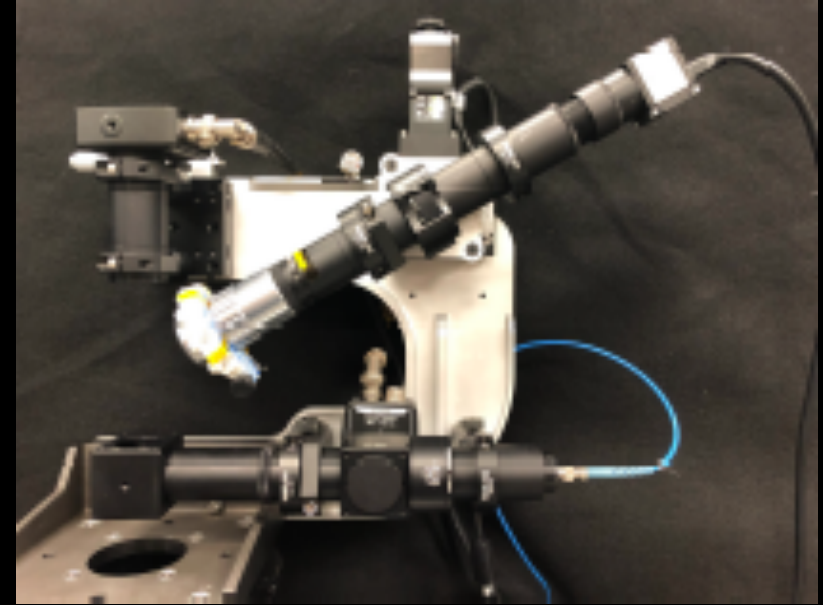
Solar Glint

S5 Scatterometers



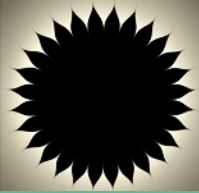
Multiple Angle Scatterometer

- Used to measure scatter for full range of sun and edge orientations
- Can test orthogonal polarizations separately
- Can only measure small coupons
- Current upgrade to higher power and wider spectral range



Single Angle Scatterometer

- Measures scatter over full range of of sun angles simultaneously, smaller range of edge angles
- Measures unpolarized light scatter
- Can scan and measure flight scale edge assemblies, on or off petals.

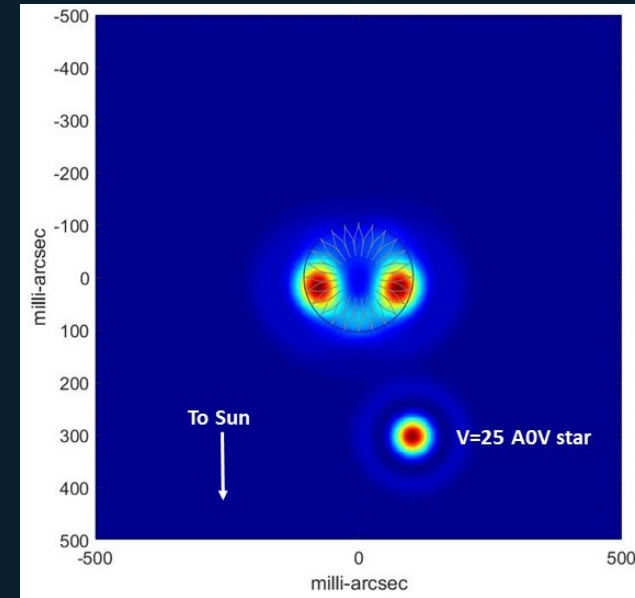
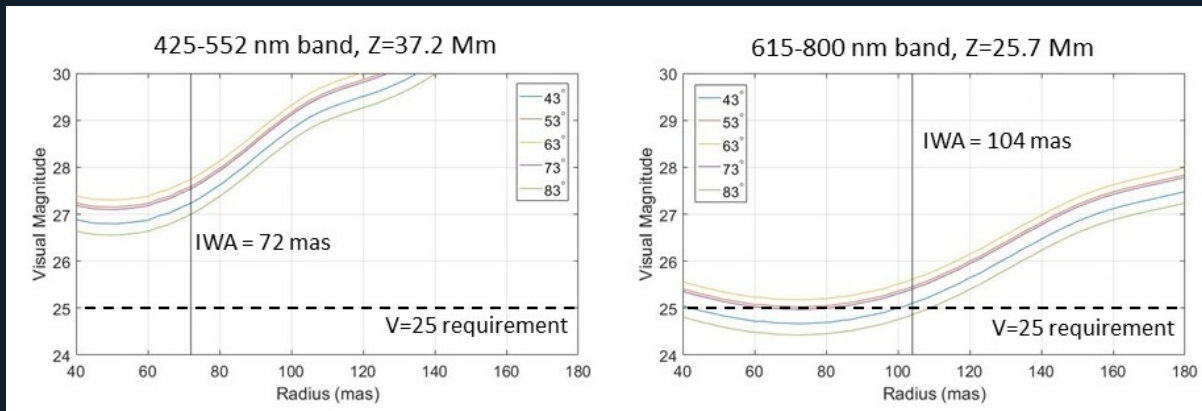


Solar Glint

Optical edge segments demonstrate scatter performance consistent with solar glint lobes fainter than visual magnitude 25 after relevant thermal and deploy cycles. **KPP 3**

RESULTS:

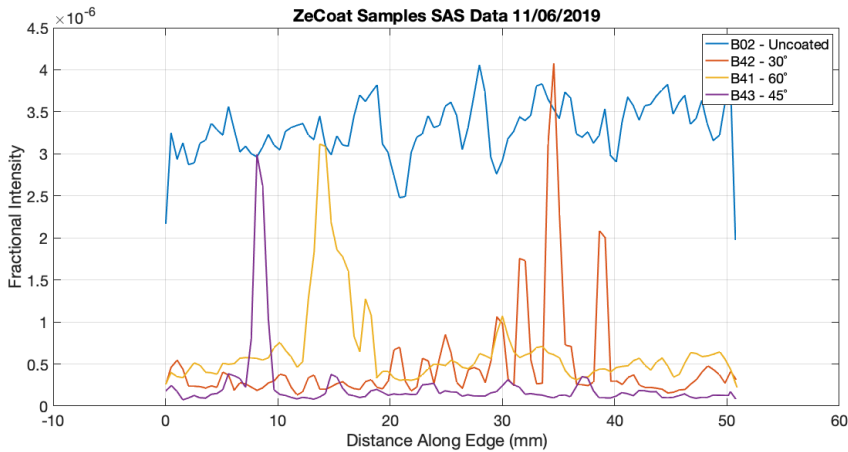
- System model shows scatter lobe dimmer than $V = 25$ mag for all wavelengths and nearly all sun angles.
- No degradation in scatter performance after exposure to environments.
- Some delamination seen after stow cycles, to be fixed in final petal article



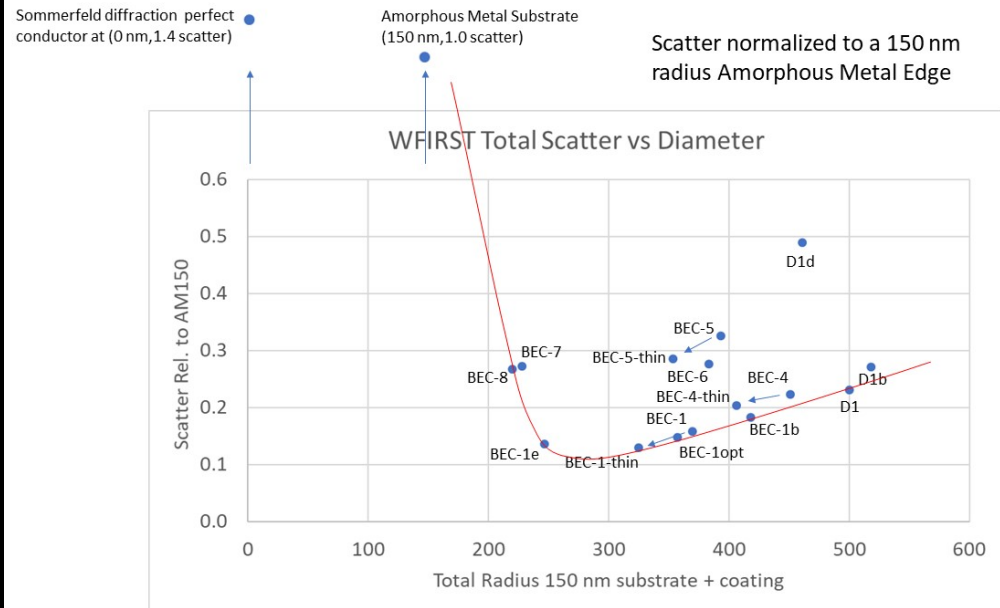
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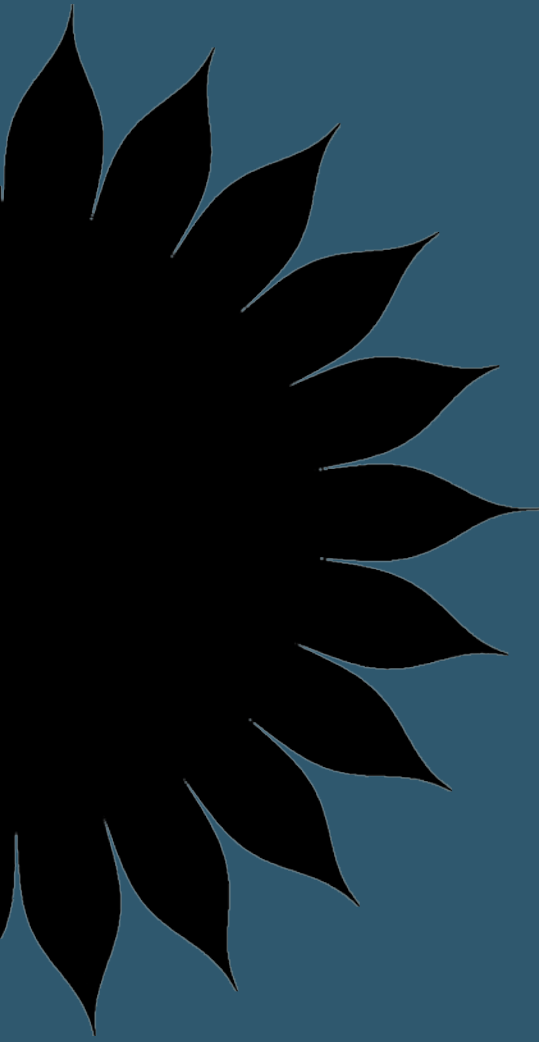
Latest Edge Scatter Work

Edge robustness activity spawned.



SIP subcontractor ZeCoat is applying black coatings to starshade edges- first results show tenfold reduction in scatter over uncoated edges.






Petal Shape and Position Accuracy & Stability

Mechanical Technology Development

Reference Mission:
26m starshade, 10m disc, 8m long x
2m max width petals (qty 24)

Petal Subsystem




Mixed Scales
Note: full scale is 8m long,
2m wide, 1.6cm thick

Optical Edge (Segment)



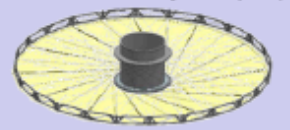
Half Scale (0.5m long)

Inner disc Truss Bay Assy




Full-Scale: (1.3-m long)

Inner Disc Subsystem (IDS)

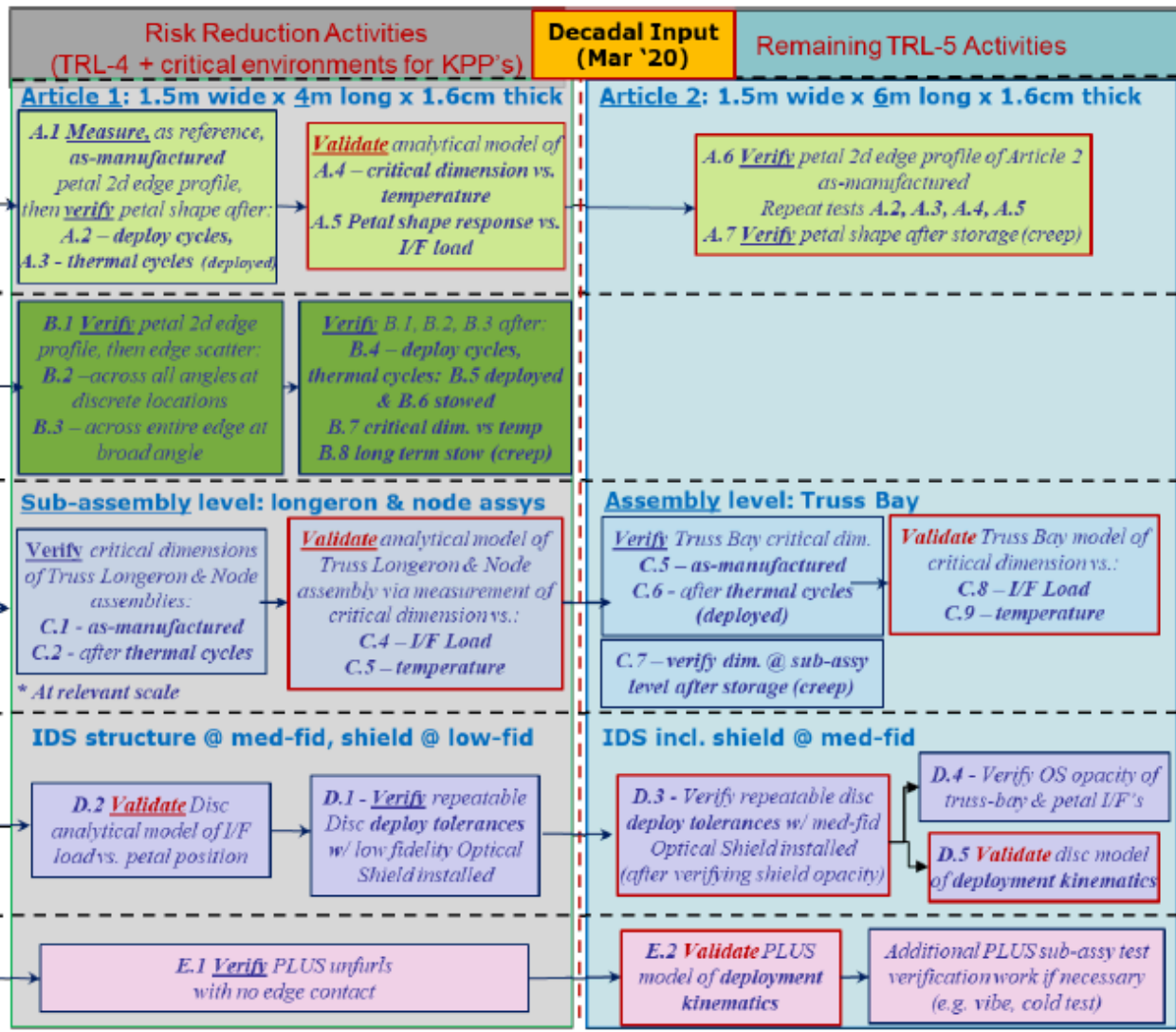


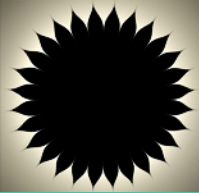
Full-Scale (10-m dia.)

Petal Launch & Unfurl Subsystem (PLUS)



Full-Scale (2.25-m stow dia.)





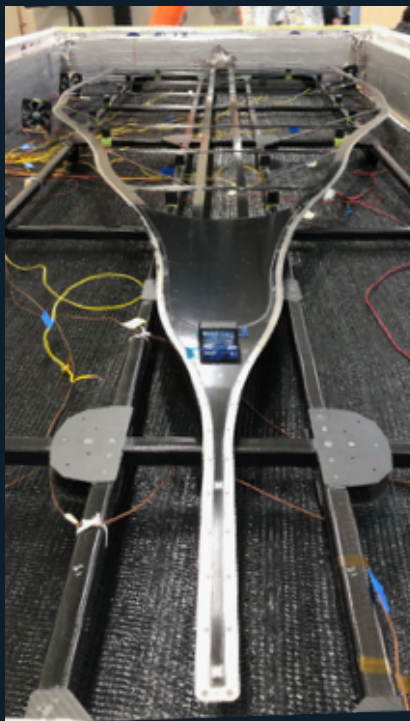
Starshade Shape Accuracy - Petal

Petal subsystem demonstrates total prelaunch shape stability (manufacture, deploy cycles, thermal cycles deployed, and storage) consistent with a total pre-launch shape accuracy within $\pm 70 \mu\text{m}$.

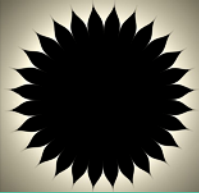
KPP 5

RESULTS:

Shape-critical element prototype meets requirement after stow-and-deploy and thermal cycles.



First article milestone passed, TRL 5 by 2023



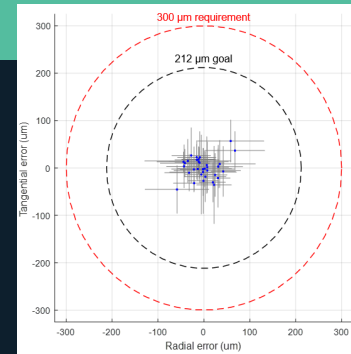
Starshade Shape Accuracy - Inner Disk

Truss Bay assembly demonstrates dimensional stability with thermal cycles (deployed) and storage consistent with a total pre-launch petal position accuracy within $\pm 300 \mu\text{m}$.

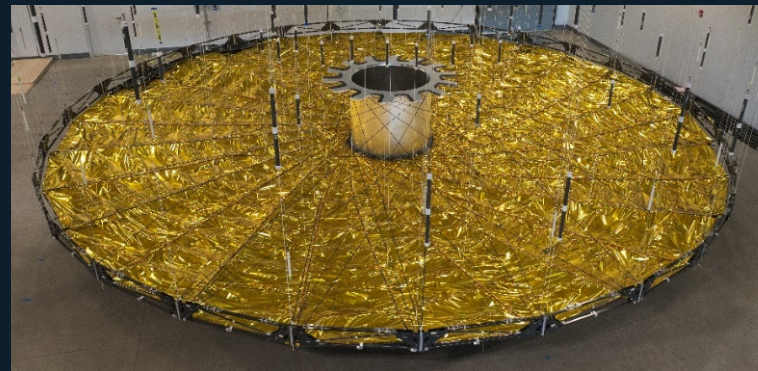
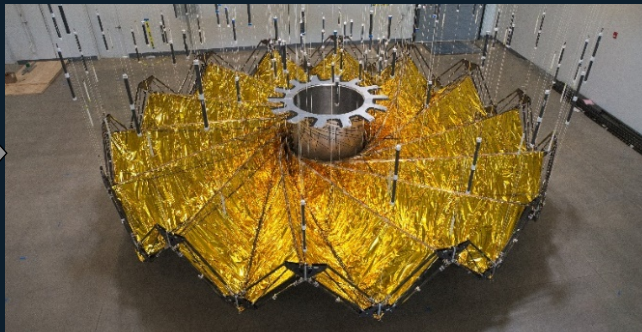
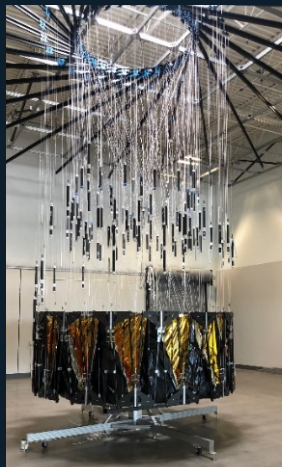
Inner Disk Subsystem with optical shield assembly demonstrates repeatable accuracy consistent with a total prelaunch petal position accuracy within $\pm 300 \mu\text{m}$.

RESULTS:

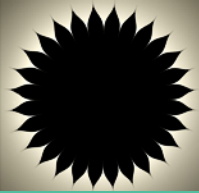
Shape-critical element prototype meets requirement after stow-and-deploy and thermal cycles.



KPP 7

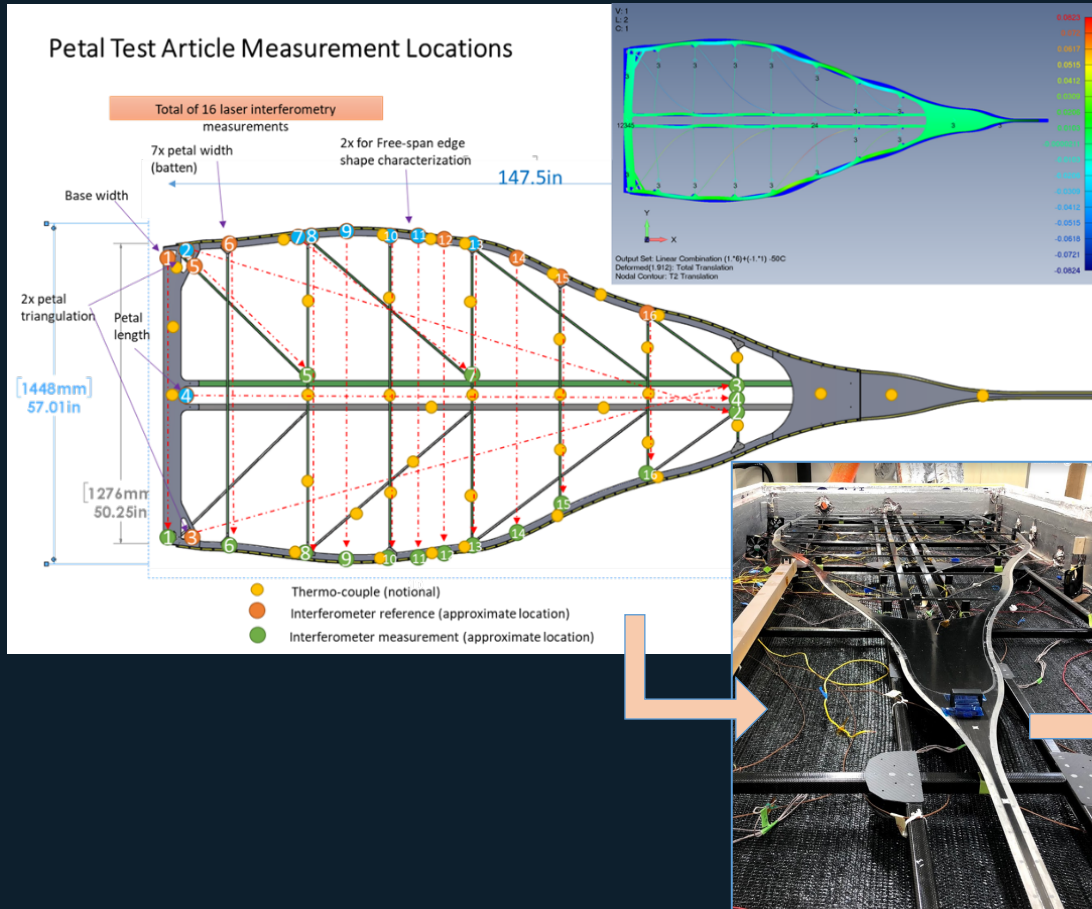


First article milestones passed, TRL 5 by 2023



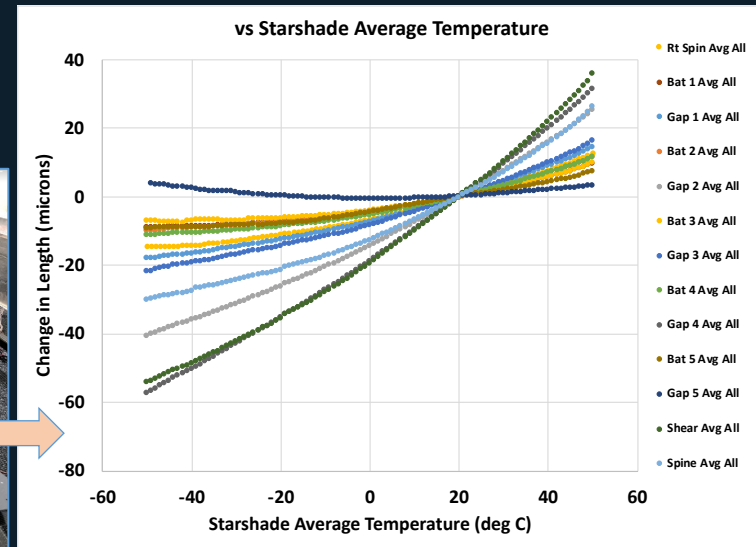
Starshade Shape Stability - Petal

Petal subsystem demonstrates on-orbit length thermal stability within $\pm 80 \mu\text{m}$ by analysis using a validated model of critical dimension vs. temperature. **KPP 6**

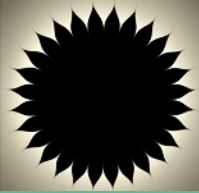


RESULTS:

Prototype with shape-critical elements meets requirement with large margin.



First article milestone still in review, TRL 5 by 2023



Starshade Shape Stability - Inner Disk

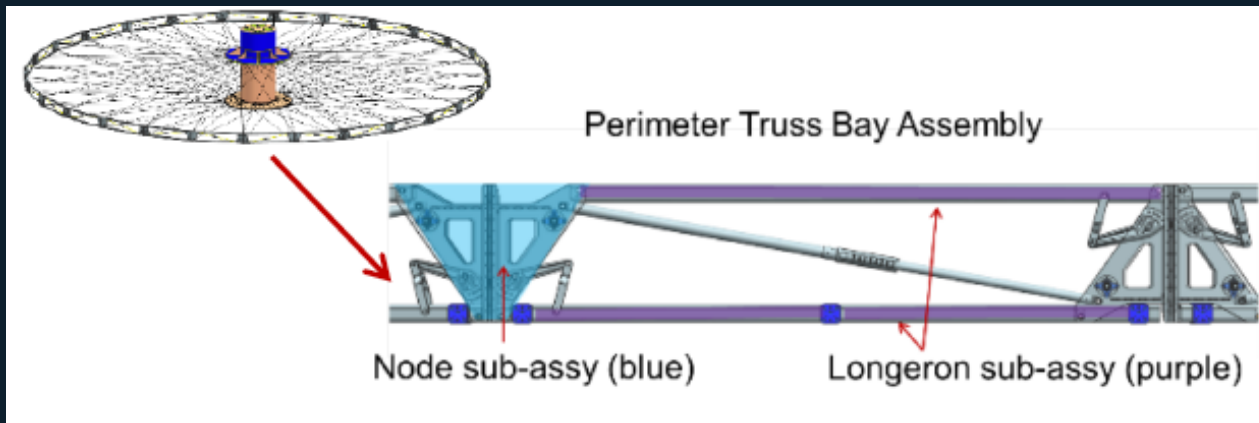
Truss Bay assembly demonstrates on-orbit thermal stability within $\pm 200 \mu\text{m}$ by analysis using a validated model of critical dimension vs. temperature. **KPP 8**

APPROACH:

- Initial tests validate on-orbit finite element models of longeron and node subassemblies
- Final TRL 5 test validates model at truss bay assembly level.

RESULTS:

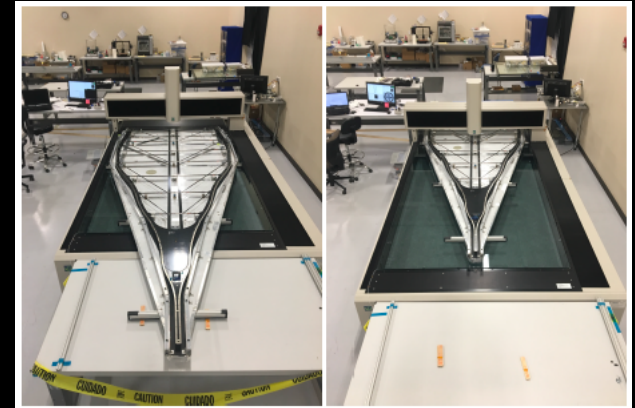
Longerons and nodes meeting requirements with margin.



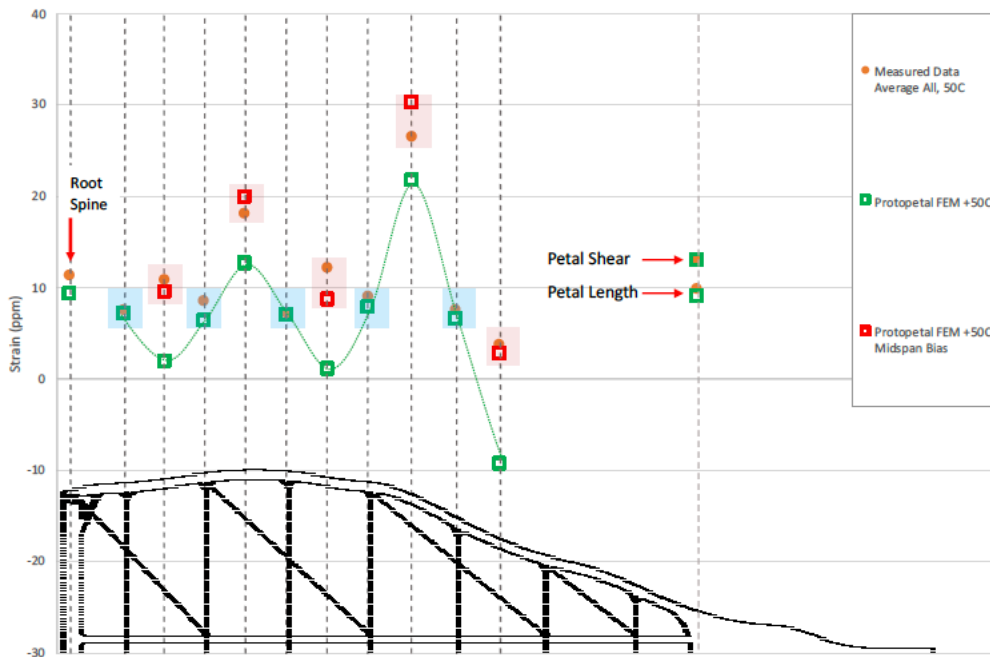
First article milestone passed, TRL 5 by 2023

Recent Developments

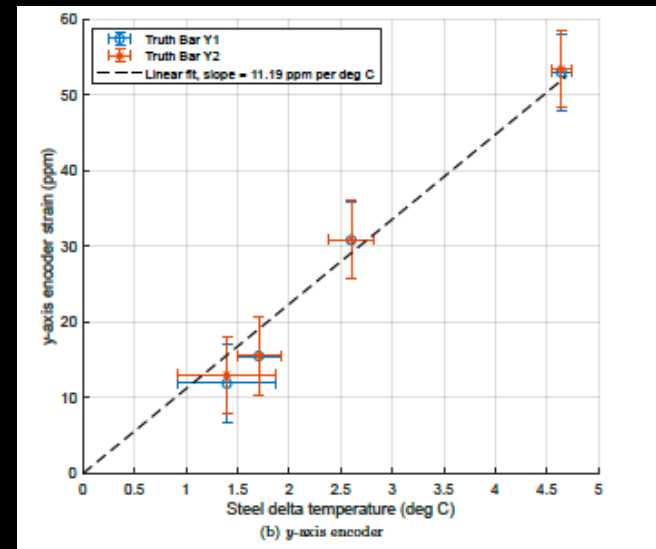
Unexpected bowing measured at petal midspans in thermal deformation tests; refinements to FEM suggest these are real and caused by thermal stresses at bondlines. Requirements still met.



Prototype Petal FEM Strain Predictions vs. Test Measurements, 50C

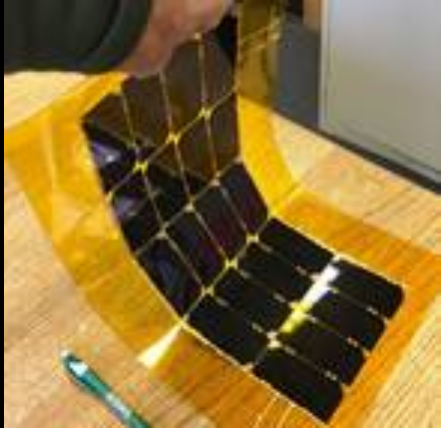


Thermal dependence found in MicroVu metrology system

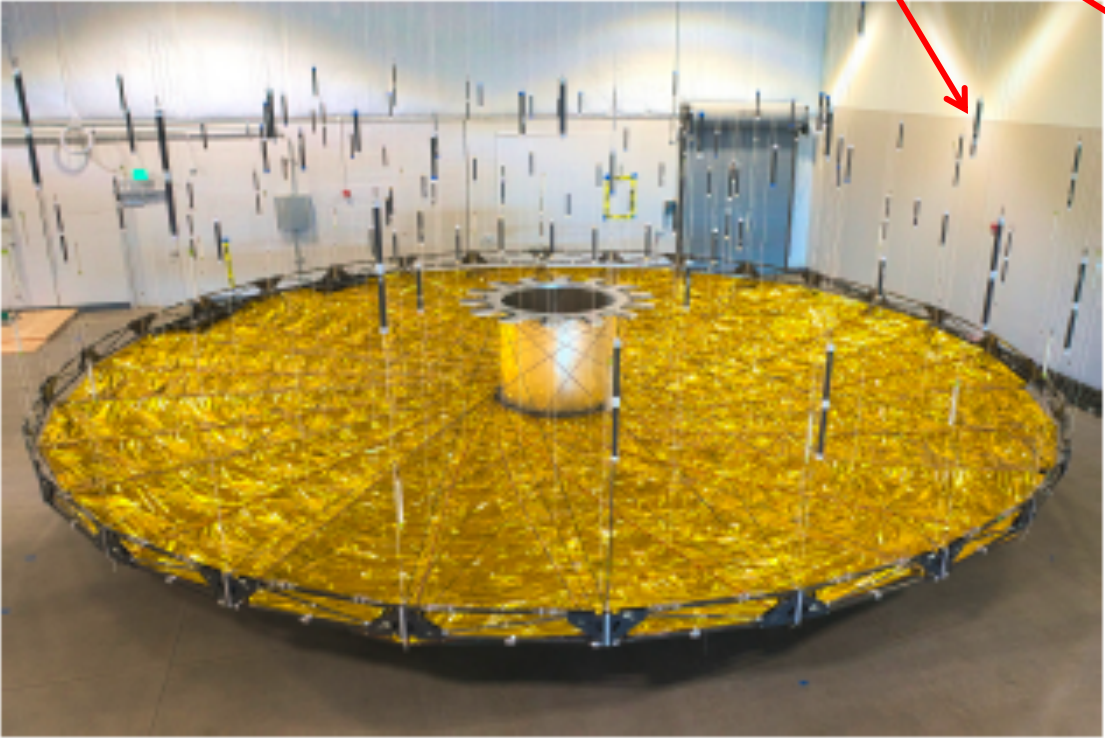


Inner Disk at Tendeg

Integrated solar cells



Gravity offloading



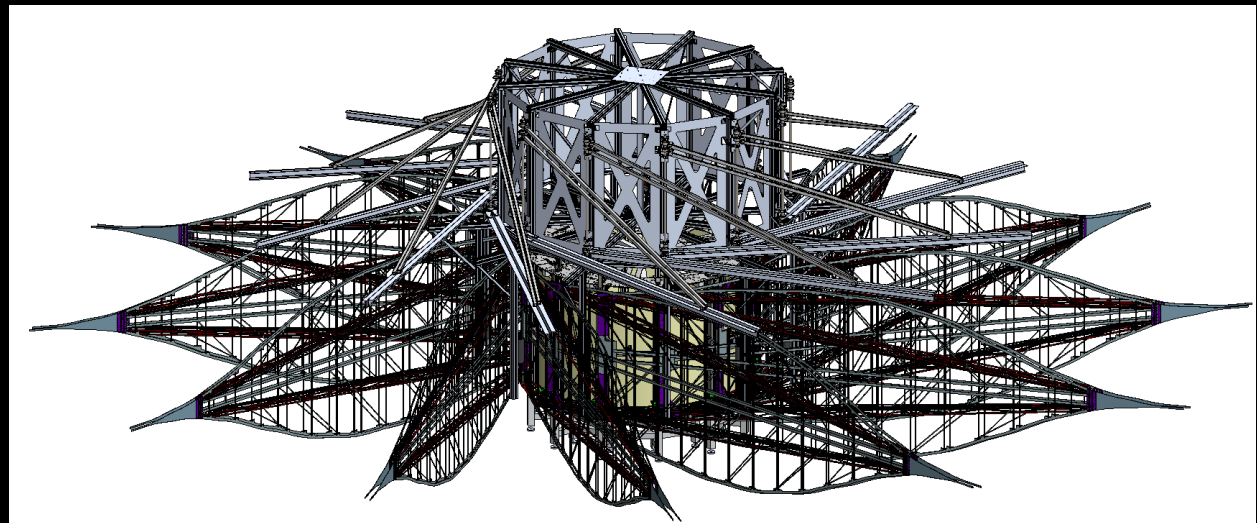
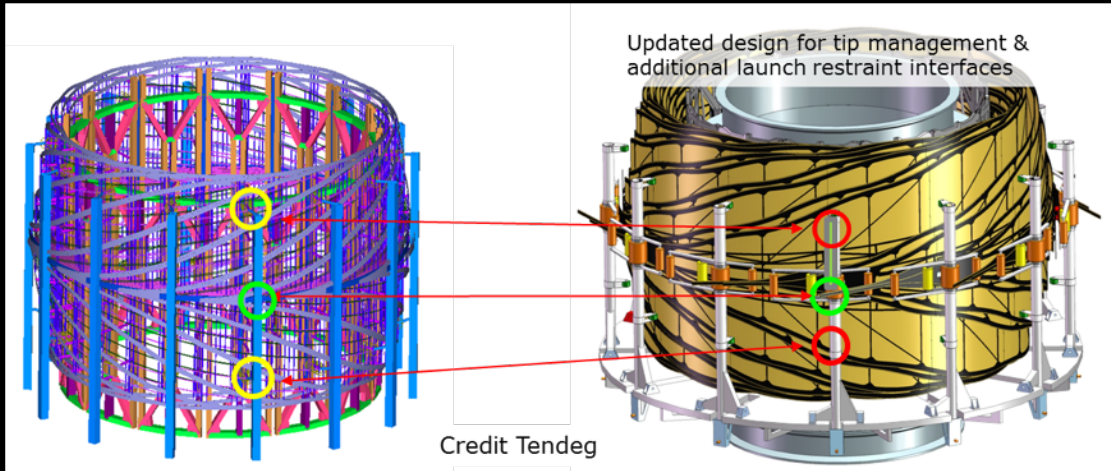
(a) Deployed



(b) Stowed

Petal Launch restraint and Unfurler System (PLUS)

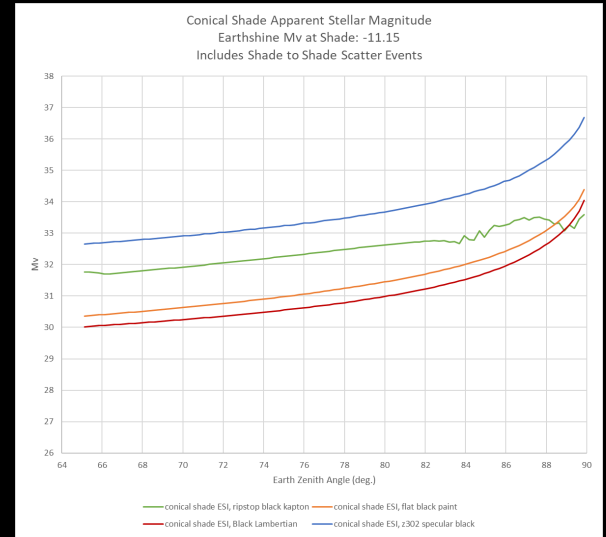
The PLUS is not a technology gap, but S5 is developing it as essential engineering in support of the wrapped architecture technology.



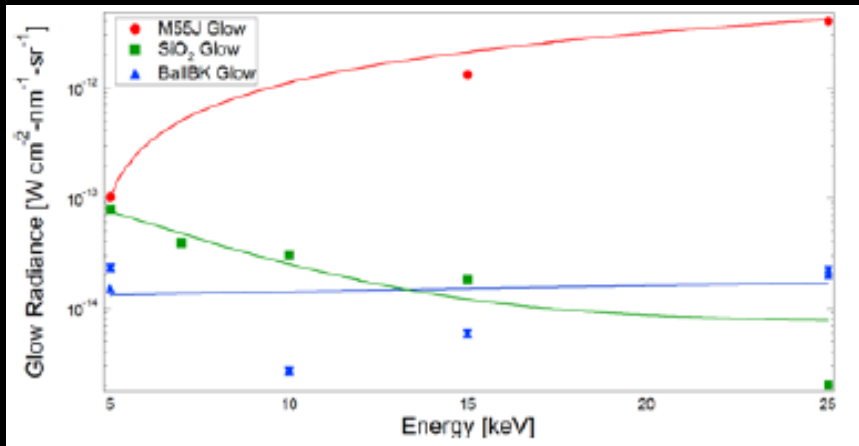
Straylight Studies

S5 is also investigating various sources of stray light from starshades :

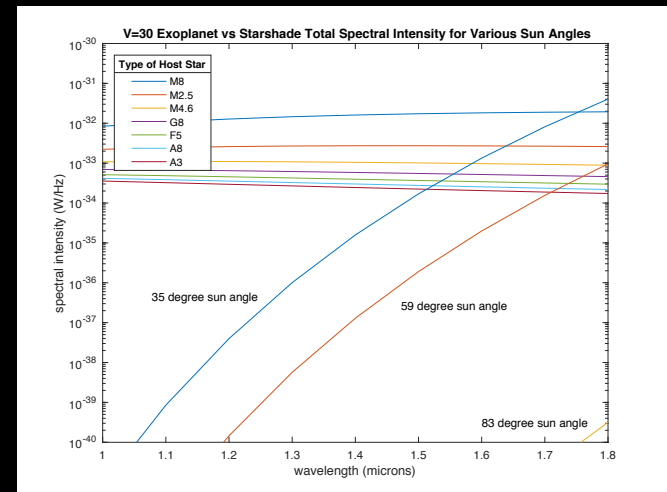
- Secondary reflections of sunlight through micrometeoroid holes and from petal to petal
- Reflected light from bright astronomical sources (Earth, moon, Jupiter...)
- Fluorescence of starshade materials in L2 radiation environment
- Starshade thermal emission

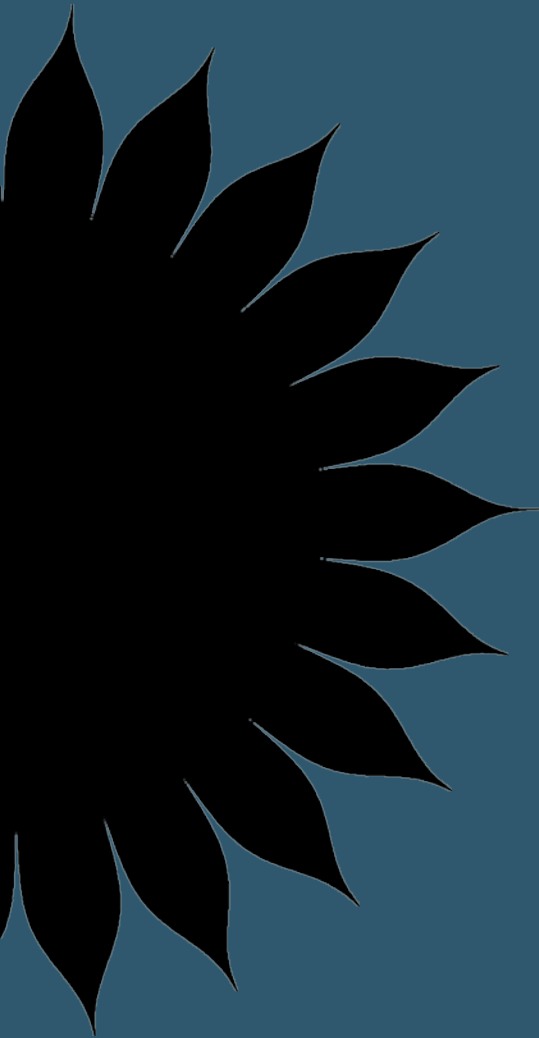


Starshade thermal emission vs exoplanet fluxes



Electron-induced fluorescence in various materials
(Dennison et al, 2012)





The End