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# Starshade to TRL5 (S5)

## Precision Deployment and Stability Milestones

**SIP Telecon**  
24 September 2020

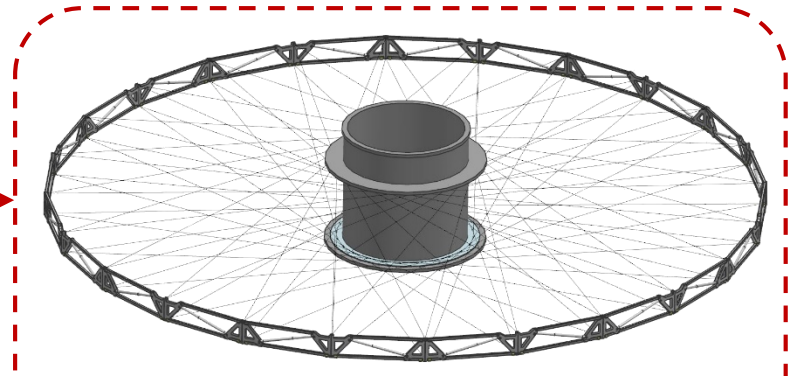
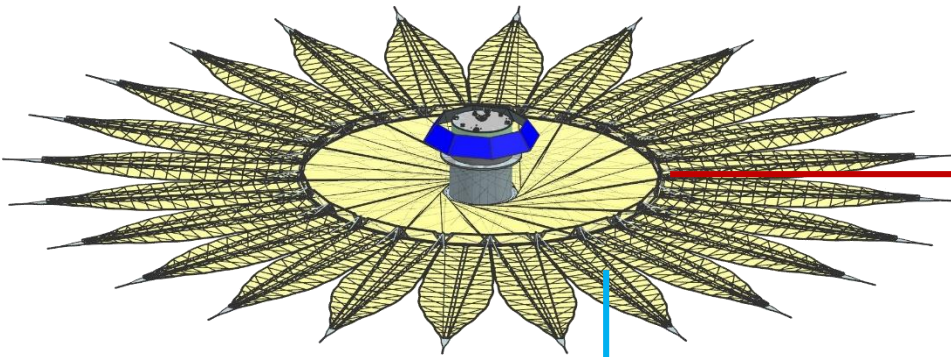
**Manan Arya, David Webb, Samuel Case Bradford, Evan Hilgemann, John Steeves, Flora Mechentel, Doug Lisman, Stuart Shaklan, Kim Aaron, and Mehran Mobrem**  
*Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology*

*Industry partners*  
Tendeg, Applied Composites, NGIS, Southern Research, ASL, JLA, Rocco

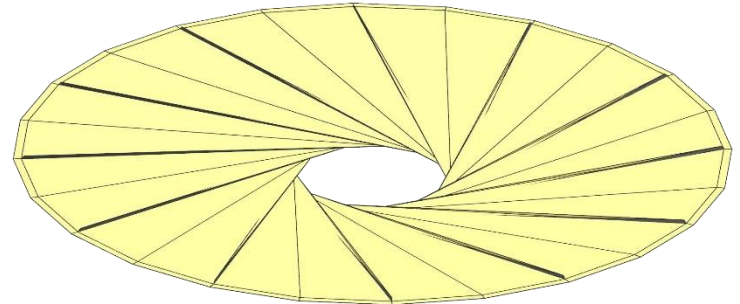
This research was partially carried out at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. © 2020



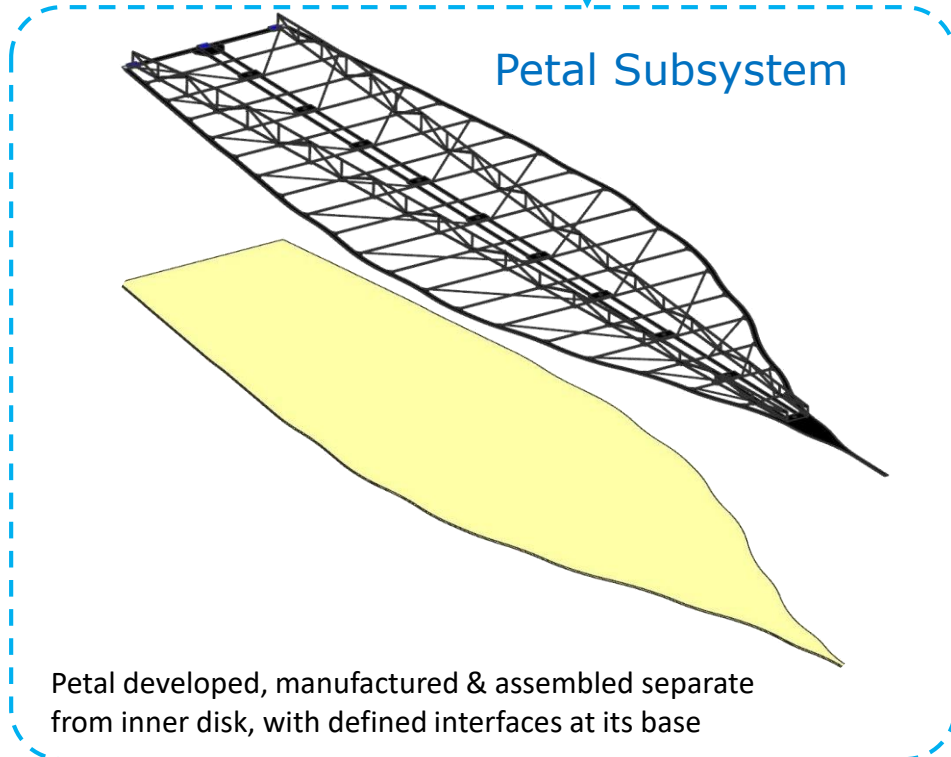
# Starshade Mechanical Subsystems



Truss + spokes + hub constitute separable structure w/defined interfaces to petal

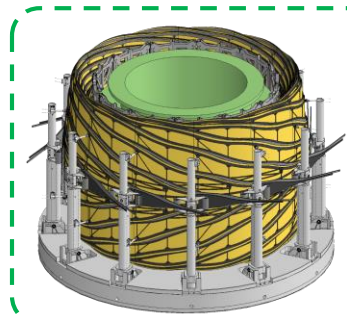


Inner Disk Subsystem



Petal Subsystem

Petal developed, manufactured & assembled separate from inner disk, with defined interfaces at its base

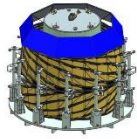


Petal Launch Restraint & Unfurl Subsystem (PLUS)

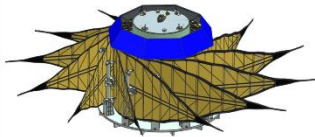
PLUS controls petal deployment & defines petal L/R interfaces (jettisoned after launch)

Step 1: Petal Unfurling

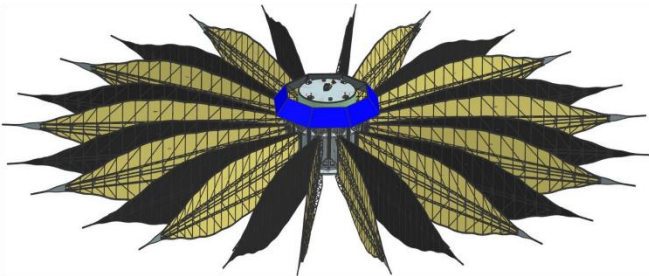
(a)



(b)

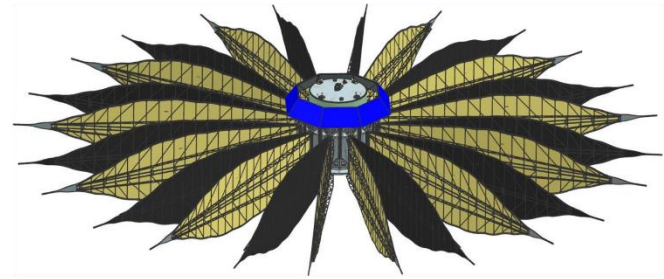


(c)

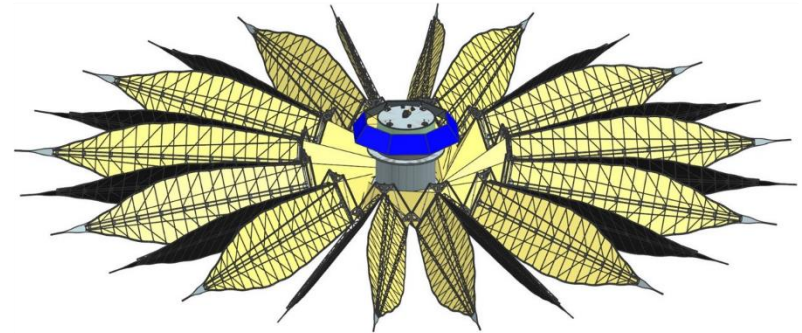


Step 2: Inner Disk Unfolding

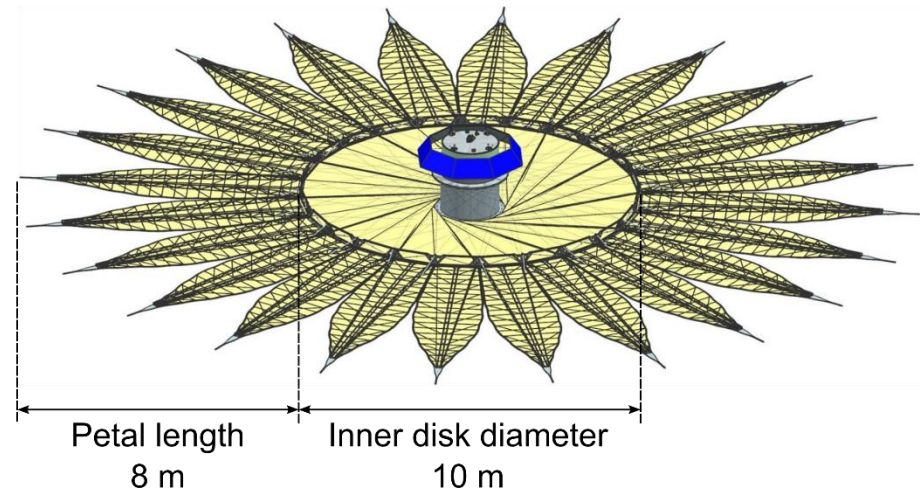
(d)



(e)



(f)





# Deployment and Stability Milestones

Key Performance Parameter (KPP)		Risk reduction milestones		TRL5 completion milestones	
KPP 5	Petal thermal-cycle stability & deployment accuracy	5A	Petal test article with <i>shape-critical</i> features	5B	Petal test article with <i>all</i> features
		6A		$\frac{3}{4}$ -scale width $\frac{1}{2}$ -scale length 1.5 m x 4 m	
KPP 6	Petal in-space thermal stability	7C	Inner disk with <i>low-fidelity</i> optical shield Full-scale: 10 m diameter	7D	<i>Medium-fidelity</i> inner disk w/ petals Full-scale: 10 m diameter
		7A		Perimeter truss bay <i>components</i> (longeron and nodes)  Full-scale components	
KPP 7	Inner disk thermal-cycle stability	8A	Full-scale components	8B	Full-scale 1.3 m length
		8A		Inner disk in-space thermal stability	



# Deployment and Stability Milestones

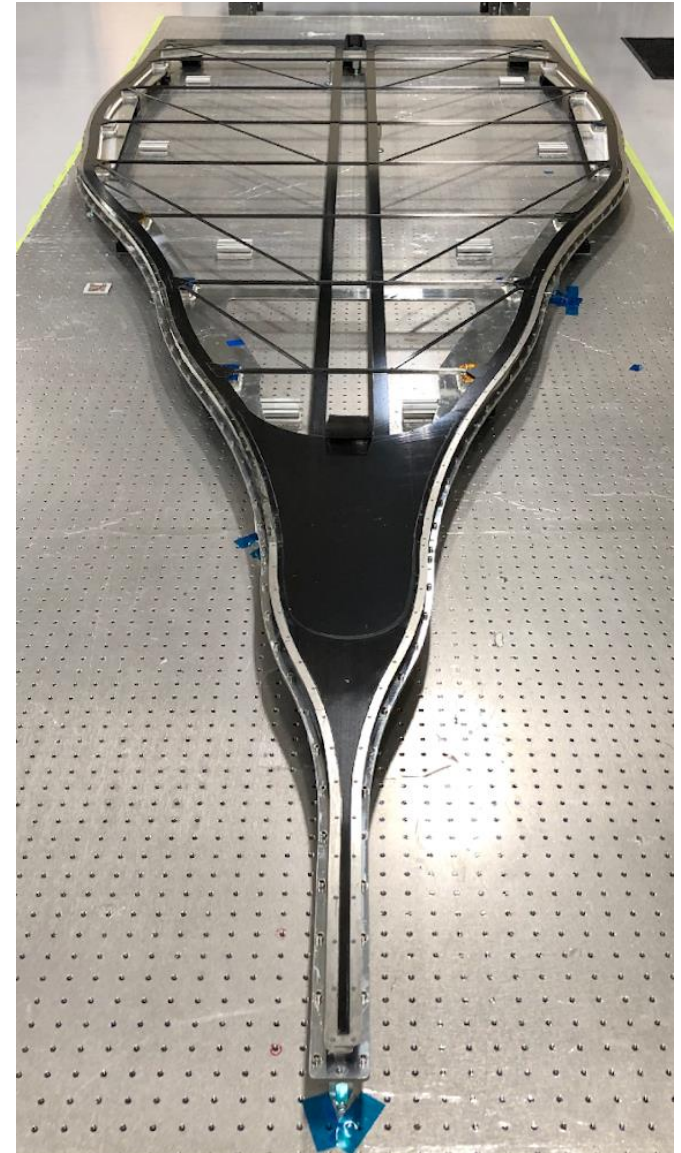
Key Performance Parameter (KPP)		Risk reduction milestones		TRL5 completion milestones	
KPP 5	Petal thermal-cycle stability & deployment accuracy	5A ✓	Petal test article with <i>shape-critical</i> features	5B	Petal test article with <i>all</i> features
KPP 6	Petal in-space thermal stability	6A ...	$\frac{3}{4}$ -scale width $\frac{1}{2}$ -scale length 1.5 m x 4 m	6B	$\frac{3}{4}$ -scale width $\frac{3}{4}$ -scale length 1.5 m x 6 m
KPP 7	Inner disk deployment accuracy	7C ✓	Inner disk with <i>low-fidelity</i> optical shield Full-scale: 10 m diameter	7D	<i>Medium-fidelity</i> inner disk w/ petals Full-scale: 10 m diameter
	Inner disk thermal-cycle stability	7A ✓	Perimeter truss bay <i>components</i> (longeron and nodes)	7B	Perimeter truss bay <i>assembly</i>
KPP 8	Inner disk in-space thermal stability	8A ✓	Full-scale components	8B	Full-scale 1.3 m length





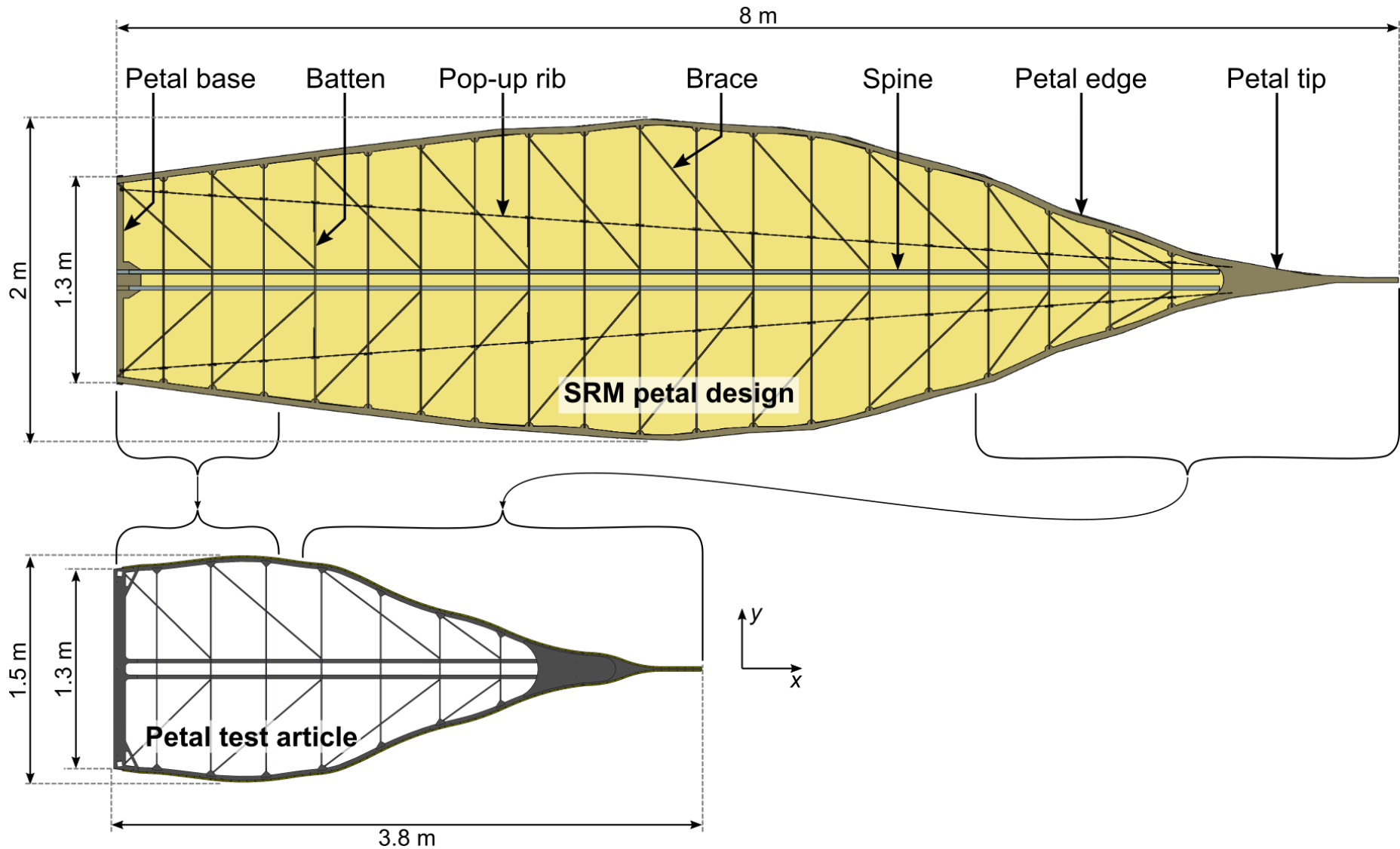
## MS 5A: Petal thermal-cycle stability & deployment accuracy

- Constructed petal test article that is  $\frac{3}{4}$ -scale in width,  $\frac{1}{2}$ -scale in length
  - Materials, components, joint geometry representative of SRM design
  - Carbon-fiber-reinforced polymer (CFRP) materials used for structural components
    - M55J/cyanate ester laminates
    - Pultruded unidirectional CF/epoxy rods
  - Engineering epoxy (EA9394) used to bond components together
- Omitted features that are not critical to preserving the width profile of the petal:
  - Out-of-plane ribs
  - Opacity blanket
  - Launch restraint interfaces





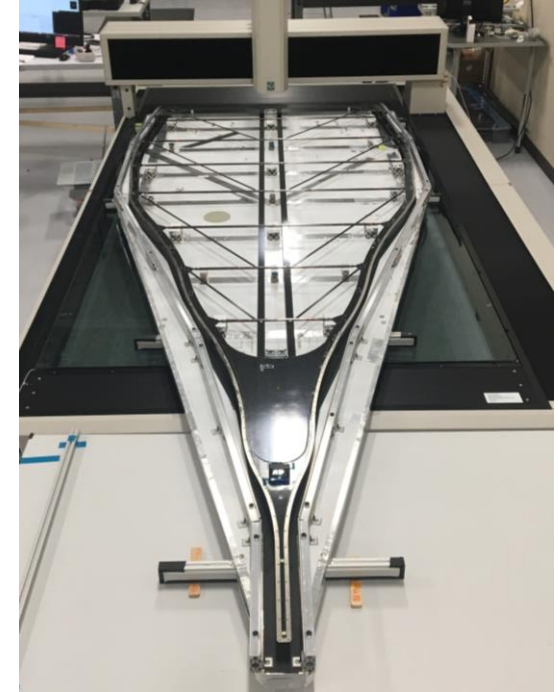
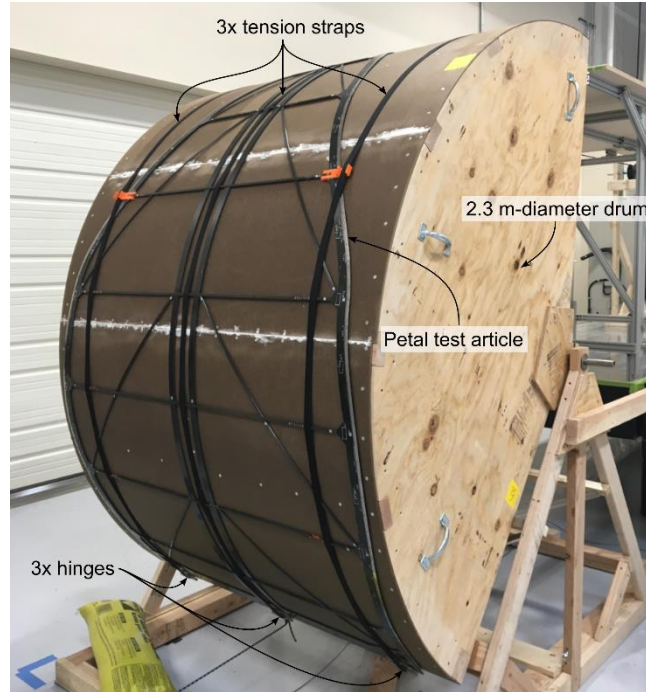
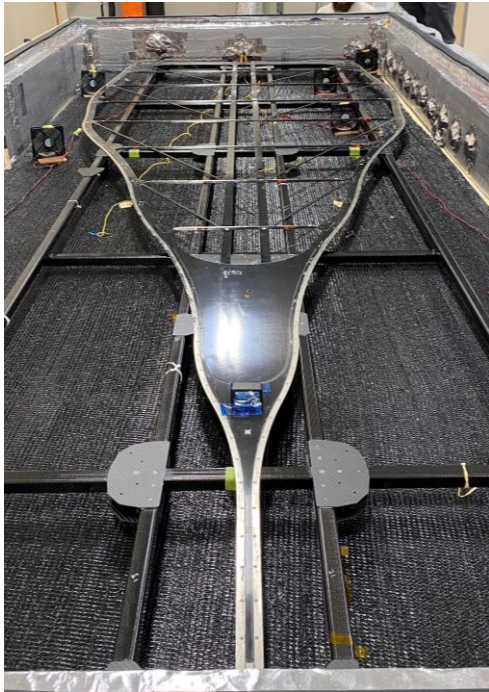
# MS 5A: Petal thermal-cycle stability & deployment accuracy





# MS 5A: Petal thermal-cycle stability & deployment accuracy

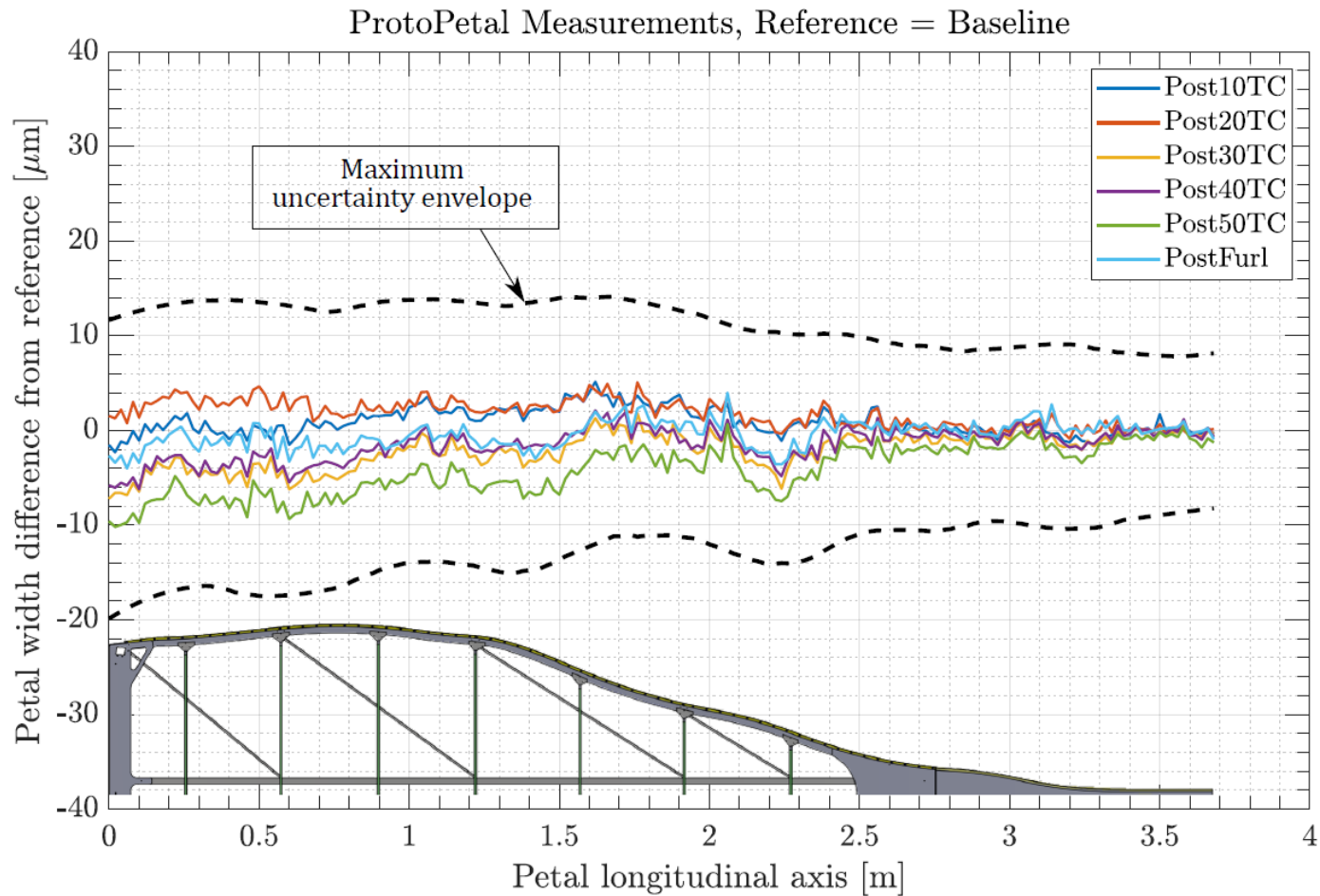
- Subjected petal test article to 50 thermal cycles ( $\pm 50^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Subjected petal test article to 5 furl-and-deploy cycles (simulating wrapping around 2.3 m-diameter)
- Measured petal shape after thermal cycles, furl cycles, compare to reference shape to calculate width change
  - MicroVu measurement machine (microscope on a x-y translation stage) used for petal shape measurement







# MS 5A: Petal thermal-cycle stability & deployment accuracy

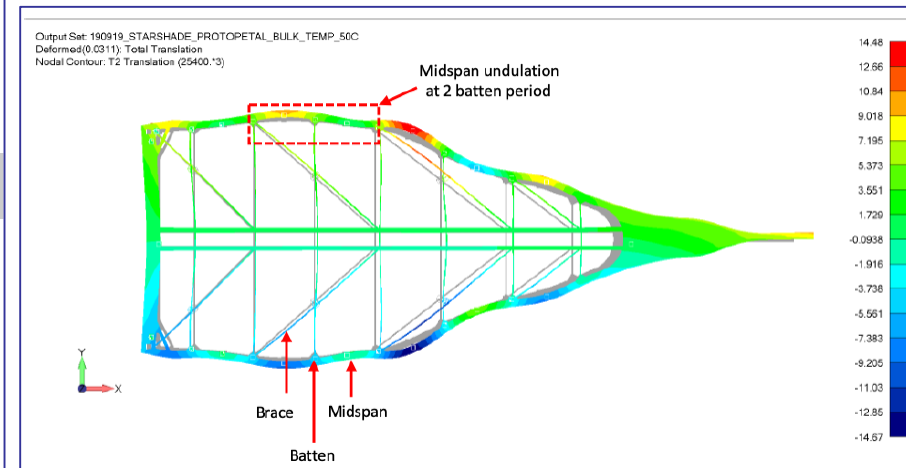
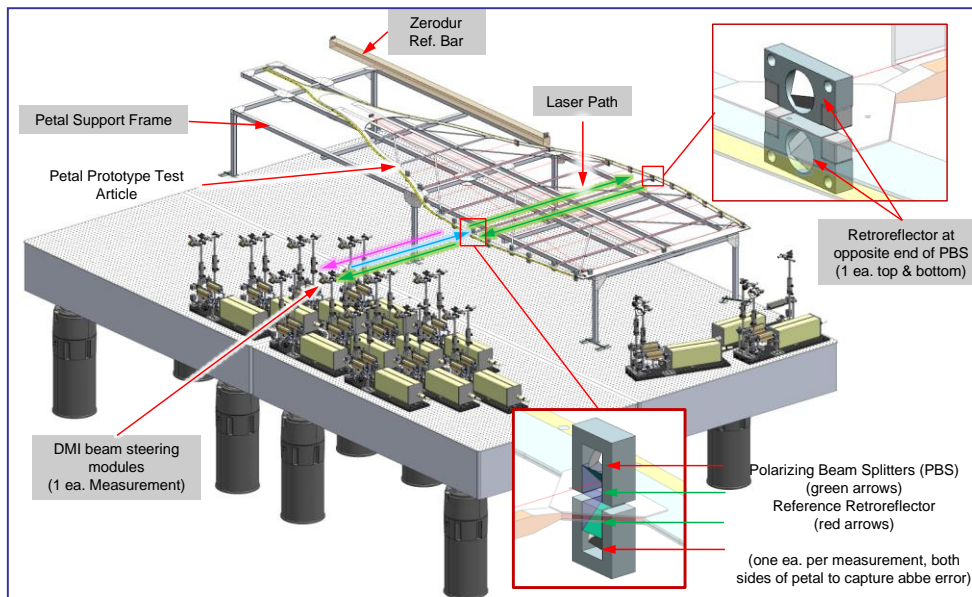


- Measured width changes were within allocations, with margin
- Exoplanet Technical Analysis Committee (ExoTAC) deemed Milestone 5A has been



# Milestone 6A: Petal in-space thermal stability

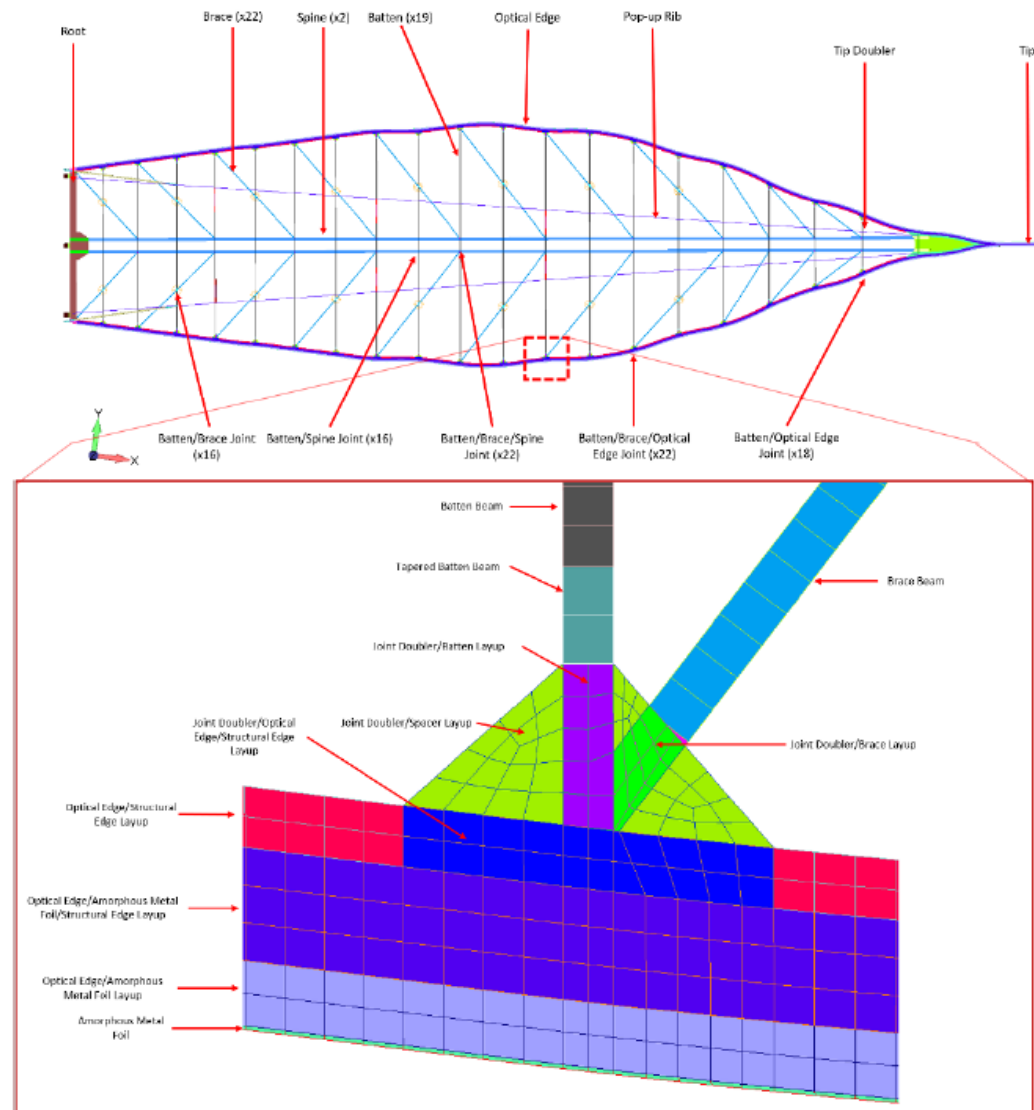
- Approach:
  - Validate petal thermo-elastic deformation modelling (FEMAP/Nastran) approach using experiments on the petal test article
  - Use validated model to predict in-space deformations due to expected in-space thermal loads
- Subjected petal test article to thermal soaks, measured change in critical dimensions using laser interferometry
- Developed finite element model that matched measured dimensional changes to within measurement uncertainty\*





# Milestone 6A: Petal in-space thermal stability

- Validated model predicts in-space thermo-elastic deformations of SRM petal to be within allocations
- Milestone 6A currently under ExoTAC review

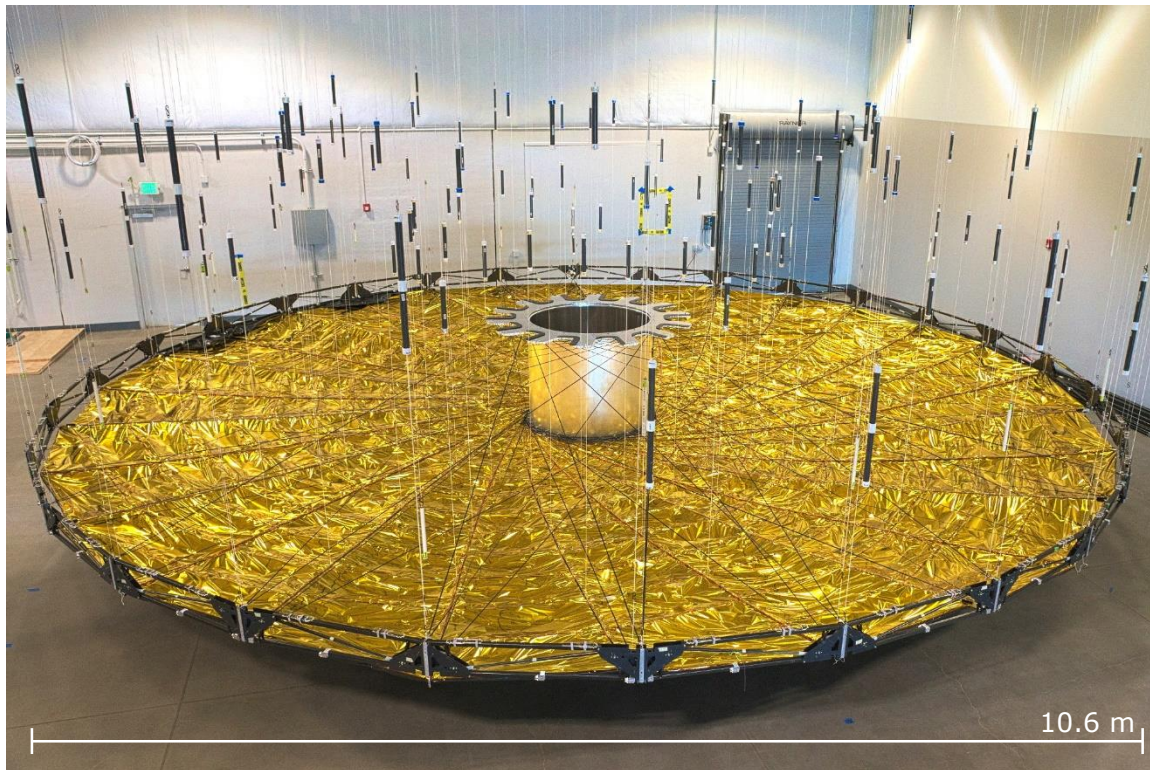




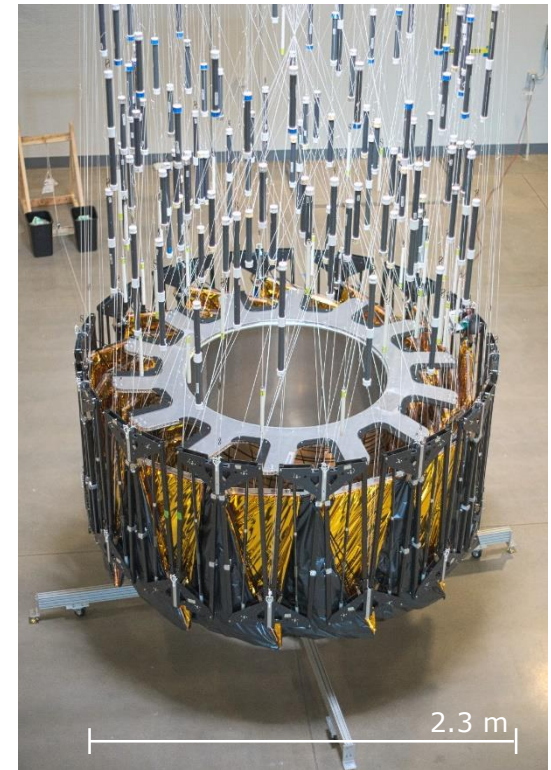


# Milestone 7C: Inner disk deployment accuracy

- Built full-scale (10 m diameter) inner disk test article
  - Perimeter truss, spokes are medium-fidelity (flight-like materials, geometry)
  - Optical shield is low-fidelity
- Deployed 22 times, measured deployed shape each time to quantify deployment accuracy



Deployed

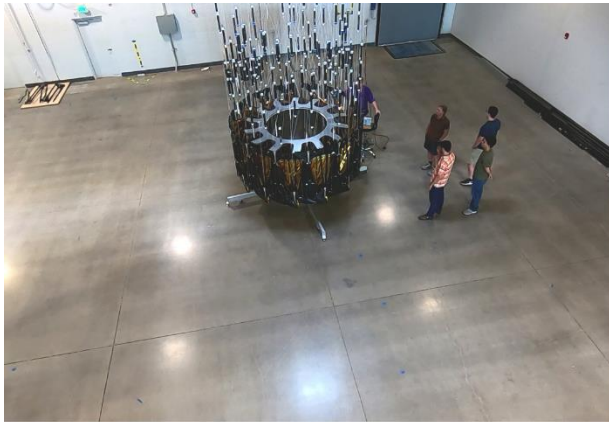


Stowed

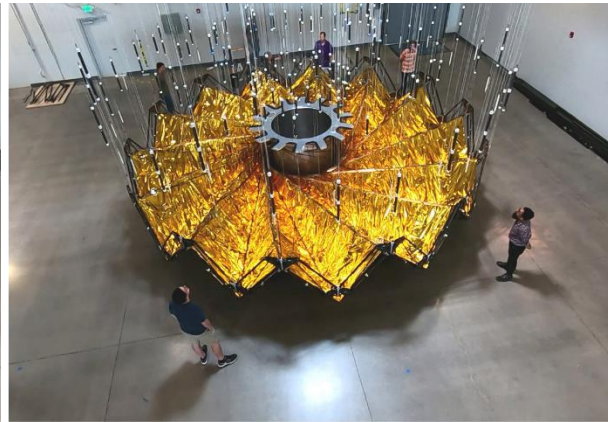




# Milestone 7C: Inner disk deployment accuracy



Stowed



Partly deployed

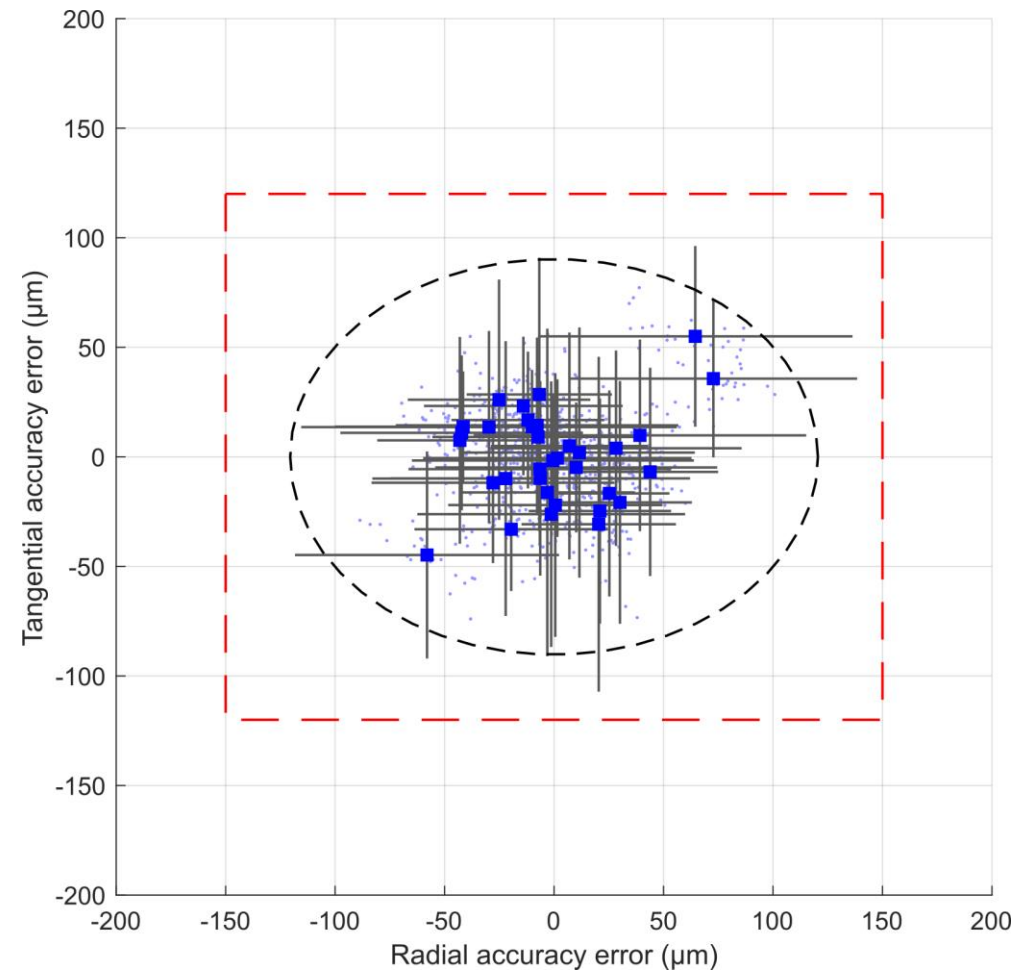


Fully deployed

- Inner disk test article is gravity offloaded to simulate in-space deployment
- Position of petal interface points measured using laser tracker after each deployment



# Milestone 7C: Inner disk deployment accuracy



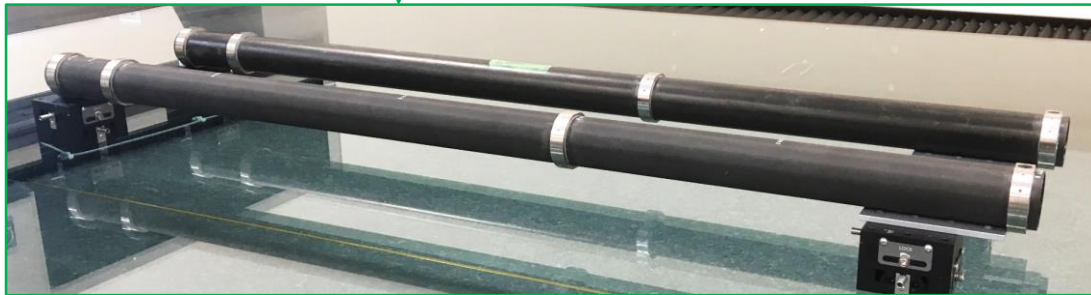
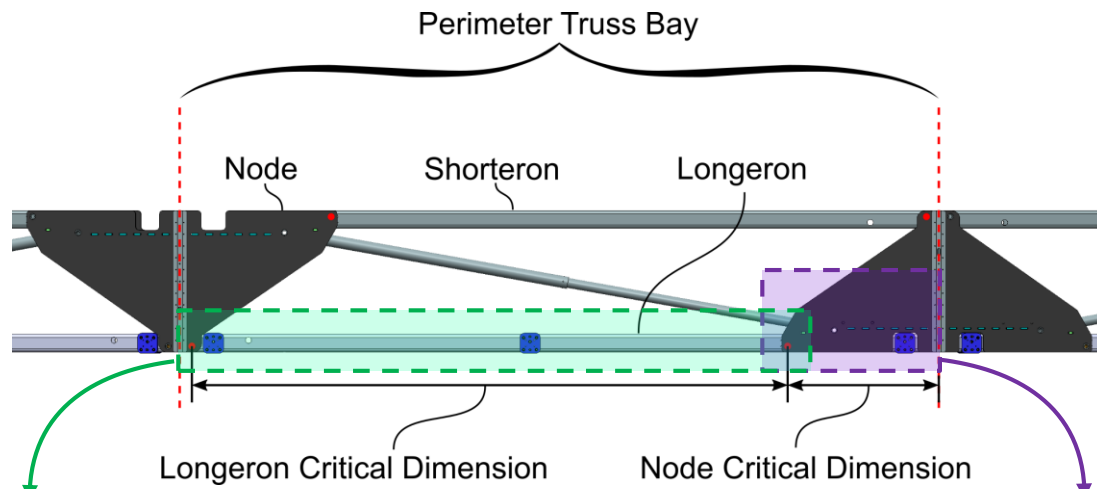
- 150  $\mu\text{m}$  radial random allocation,  $3\sigma$   
120  $\mu\text{m}$  tangential random allocation,  $3\sigma$
- Accuracy errors of 34 petal interfaces over 22 deployments
- Mean accuracy errors of 34 petal interfaces
- Conservative  $3\sigma$  bounds on spread of the 34 petal interfaces over the 22 deployments
- $3\sigma$  bounds on deployment accuracy calculated using Monte Carlo analysis: 121  $\mu\text{m}$  radial, 91  $\mu\text{m}$  tangential

- Measured accuracy errors within allocations, with margin
- ExoTAC deemed Milestone 7C met



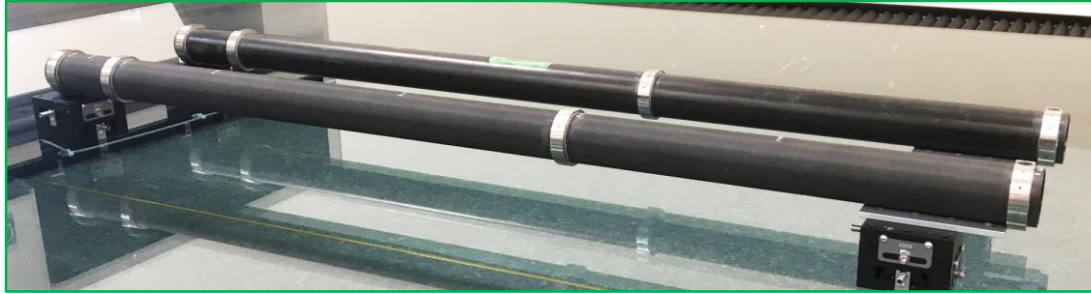
# Milestone 7A: Inner disk thermal-cycle stability

- Approach: subject key components of the inner disk perimeter truss to thermal cycles, and verify dimensional stability
- Inner disk deployed stability is set almost entirely by the perimeter truss, which consists of a number of repeating units called “bays”





## Milestone 7A: Inner disk thermal-cycle stability



Longerons



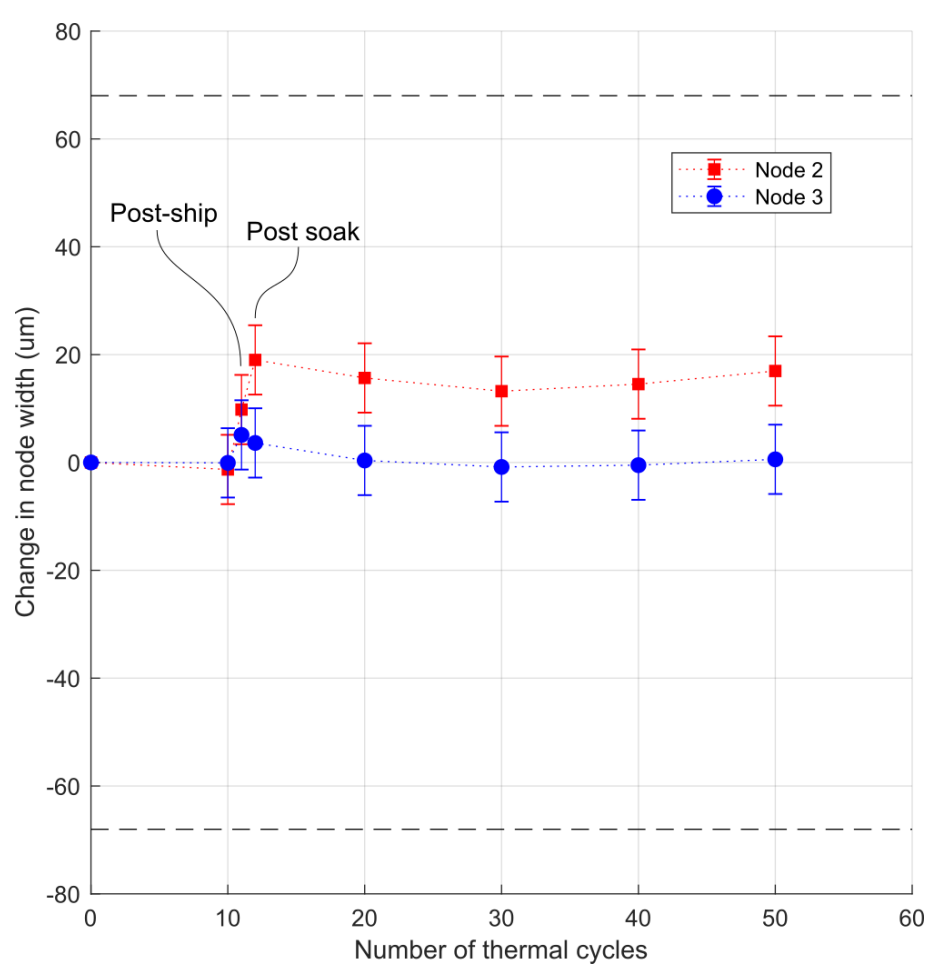
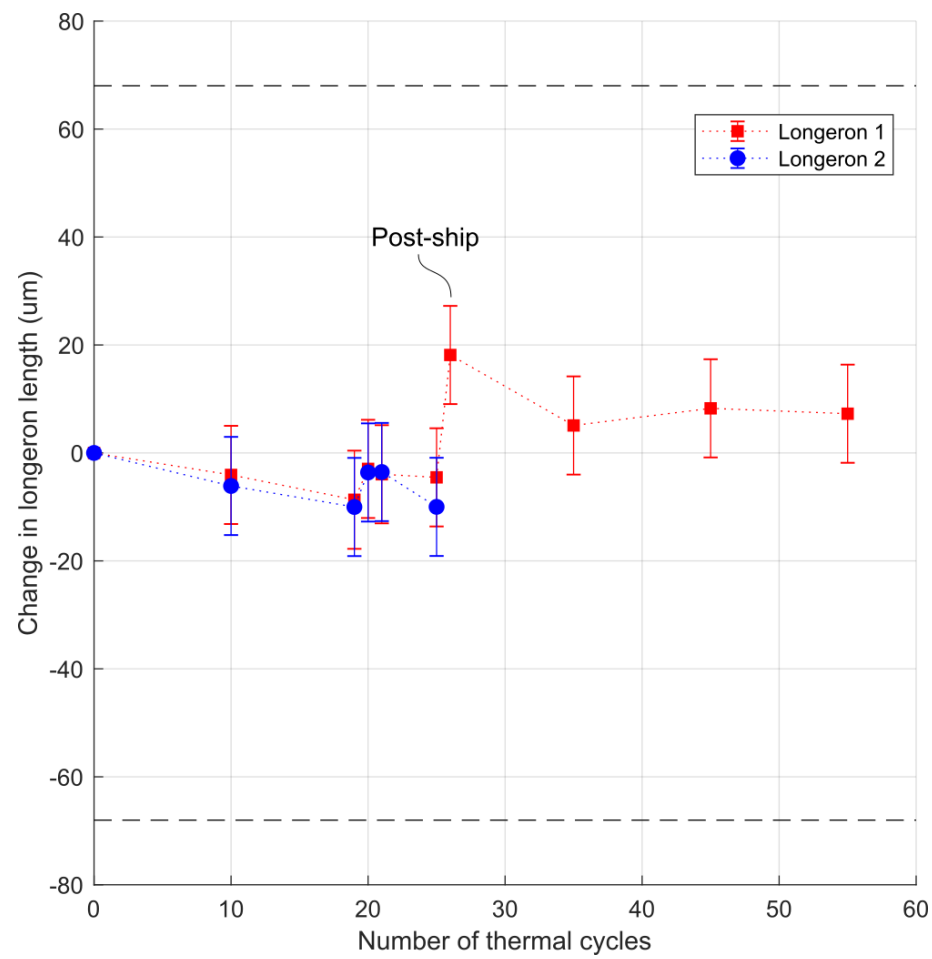
Node

- Longeron and node components are flight-like in terms of materials, constructions, and dimensions
  - CFRP (M55J/cyanate ester)
  - Invar fittings
  - Engineering epoxy (EA9394) for bonded joints
- Subjected to 50 thermal cycles each (70°C to -25°C)
- Critical dimensions measured before and after thermal cycles using MicroVu measurement machine





# Milestone 7A: Inner disk thermal-cycle stability

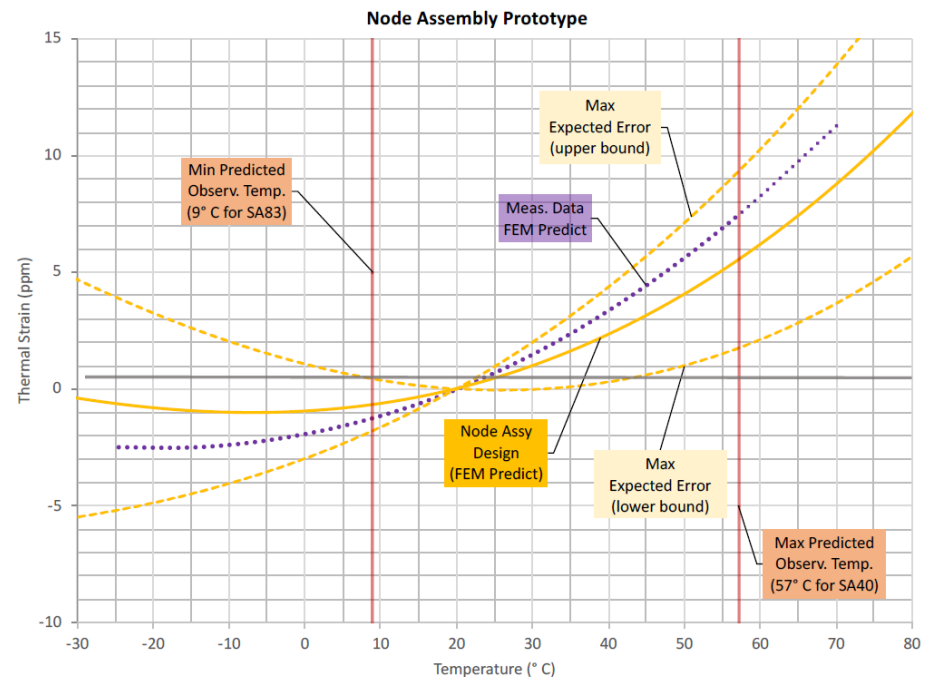
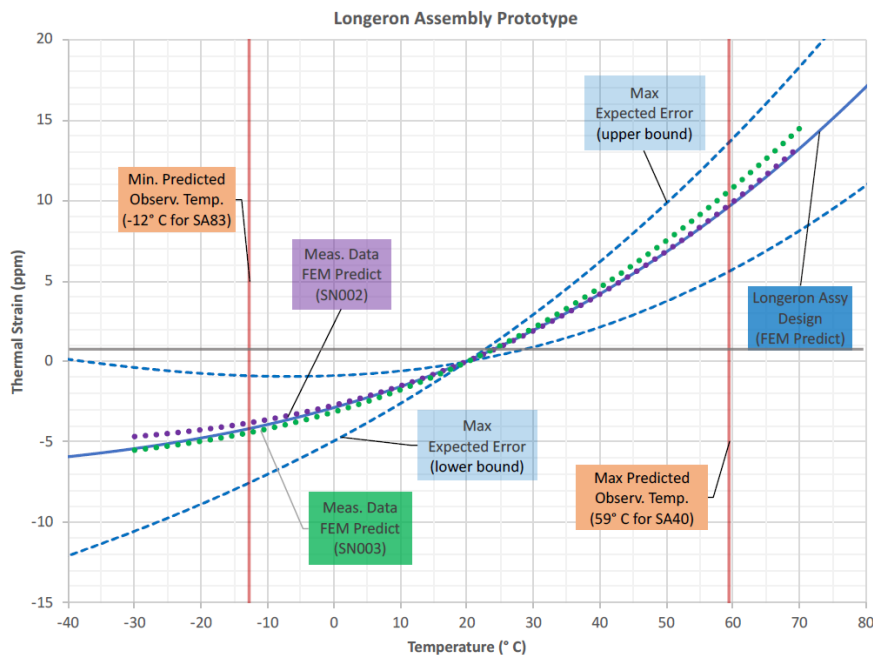


- Change in dimensions within allocations, with large margin
- Milestone 7A has been met, per the ExoTAC



# Milestone 8A: Inner disk in-space thermal stability

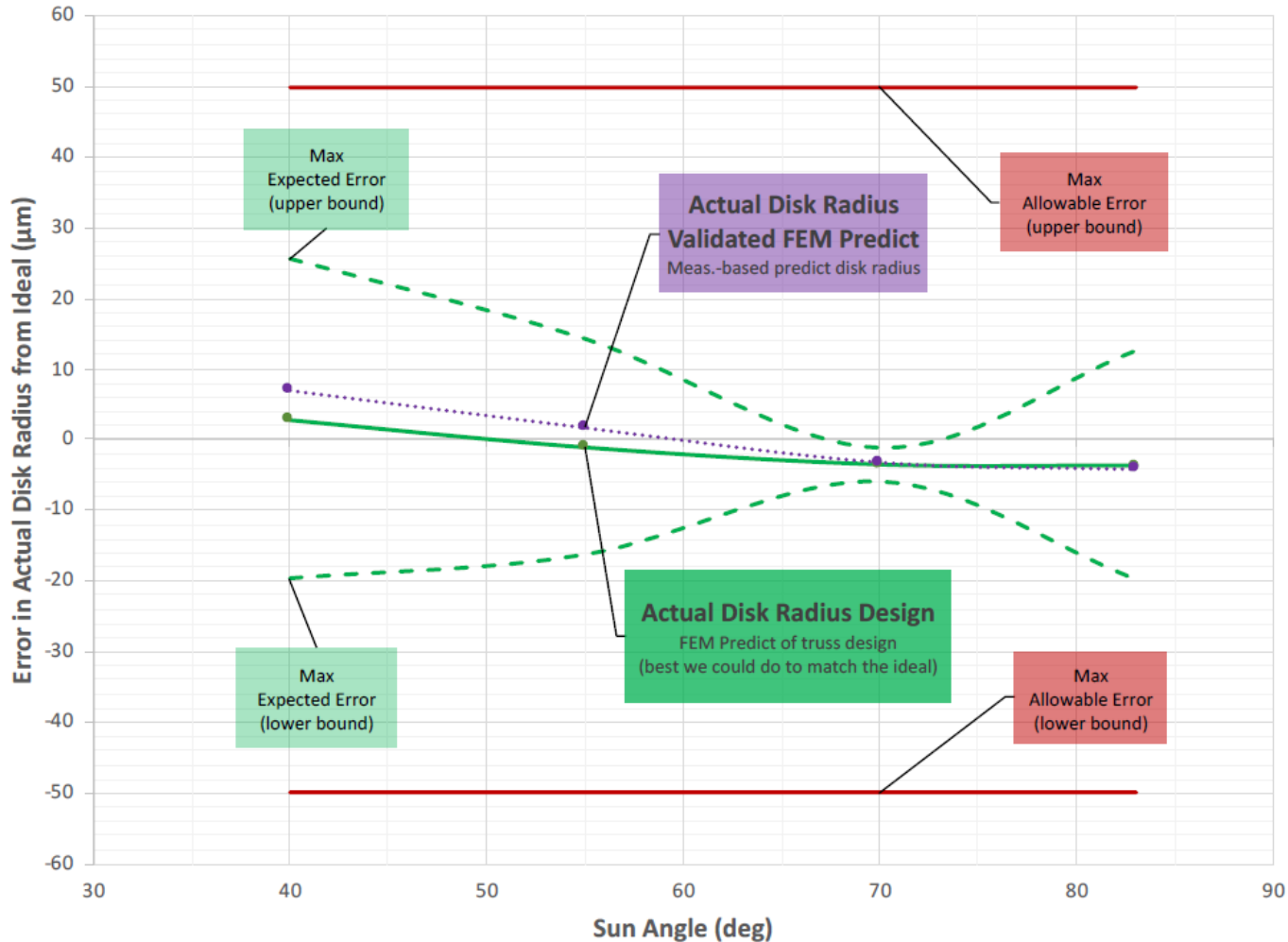
- Approach:
  - Validate thermo-elastic deformation finite element model using experiments on longeron, node test articles
  - Use validated model to predict in-space thermal deformations of the inner disk
- Used NG's Interferometric Metrology Facility (IMF) to measure critical dimensions of the longeron, node test articles over 70°C to -30°C temperature range
- Validated model predicts change in dimensions well:





# Milestone 8A: Inner disk in-space thermal stability

- Validated model predicts in-space inner disk deformation well within allocations
- Milestone 8A deemed to have been met by ExoTAC





# Deployment and Stability Milestones

Key Performance Parameter (KPP)		Risk reduction milestones		TRL5 completion milestones	
KPP 5	Petal thermal-cycle stability & deployment accuracy	5A	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;">                     Petal test article with <i>shape-critical</i> features                 </div>	5B	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;">                     Petal test article with <i>all</i> features                 </div>
		✓		6A	
KPP 6	Petal in-space thermal stability	...	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;"> <math>\frac{3}{4}</math>-scale width  <math>\frac{1}{2}</math>-scale length                      1.5 m x 4 m                 </div>	...	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;"> <math>\frac{3}{4}</math>-scale width  <math>\frac{3}{4}</math>-scale length                      1.5 m x 6 m                 </div>
		...		...	
KPP 7	Inner disk deployment accuracy	7C	<div style="background-color: #e0f2f1; padding: 5px;">                     Inner disk with <i>low-fidelity</i> optical shield                      Full-scale: 10 m diameter                 </div>	7D	<div style="background-color: #e0f2f1; padding: 5px;"> <i>Medium-fidelity</i> inner disk w/ petals                      Full-scale: 10 m diameter                 </div>
	✓	7A		7B	
KPP 8	Inner disk thermal-cycle stability	7A	<div style="background-color: #d1c4e9; padding: 5px;">                     Perimeter truss bay <i>components</i> (longeron and nodes)                       Full-scale components                 </div>	7B	<div style="background-color: #d1c4e9; padding: 5px;">                     Perimeter truss bay <i>assembly</i>                       Full-scale                      1.3 m length                 </div>
	✓	8A		8B	
KPP 8	Inner disk in-space thermal stability	8A	<div style="background-color: #d1c4e9; padding: 5px;">                     Full-scale components                 </div>	8B	<div style="background-color: #d1c4e9; padding: 5px;">                     Full-scale                      1.3 m length                 </div>
		✓		8B	