

# DRAGONFLY



*Sensing Your Opportunities in Space*

#BringMeARock

## ASTEROID MINING

**Team Dragonfly**

**2016 NASA SpaceApps Challenge**

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# Problems

- Need a lot of resources to survive in space
- Very expensive to bring materials from Earth (\$770 – \$10,000 per POUND to Low Earth Orbit)
- Increasingly expensive to retrieve materials on Earth
- Some asteroids are also potentially headed towards Earth (Angry Asteroids ARE COMING!)



# Scenario



- 20-30 years in the future
- Active Moon Colony with manufacturing and refining capacities
- Ongoing mission to Mars



# Mission



Hydrogen &  
Oxygen



Gold



Plutonium



Osmium



Nitrogen



Cobalt



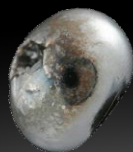
Rhodium



Nickel



Platinum



Ruthenium

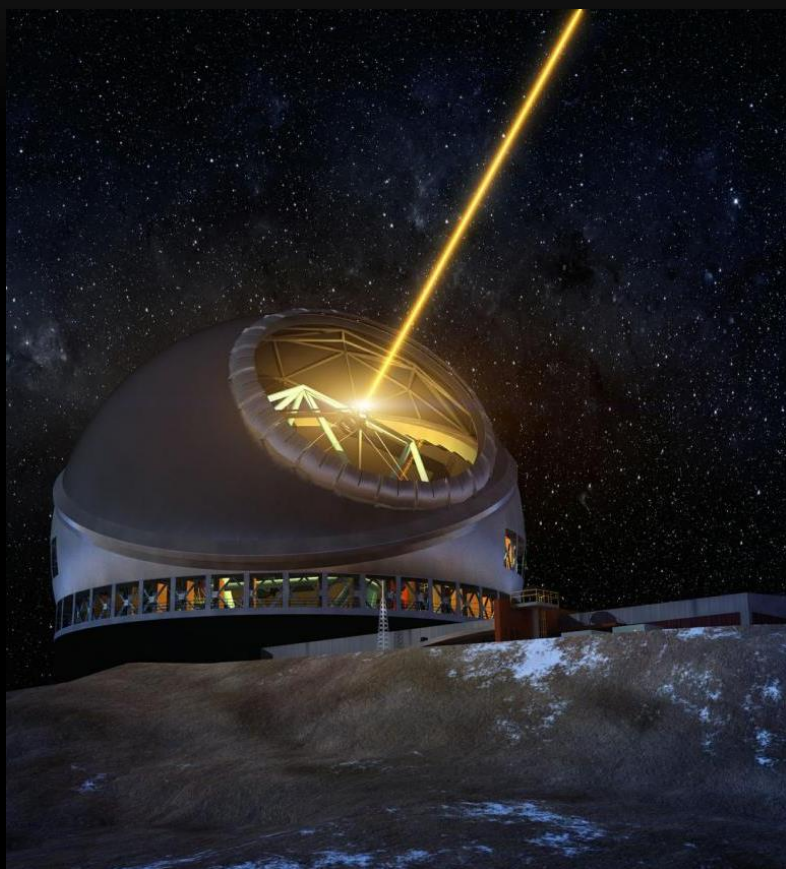
## ***Our Mission:***

Identify key resources from near earth/moon objects (NEMOs) to sustain human life and continue exploration by using exploratory cube satellites called *Dragonflies*.





# How will we find our target?



- Use infrared and optical telescopes with radar, Doppler, and infrared spectroscopy capabilities
- Located on the dark side of the moon to avoid glare
- Combine data to identify size, location, speed, rotation, and composition of NEMOs

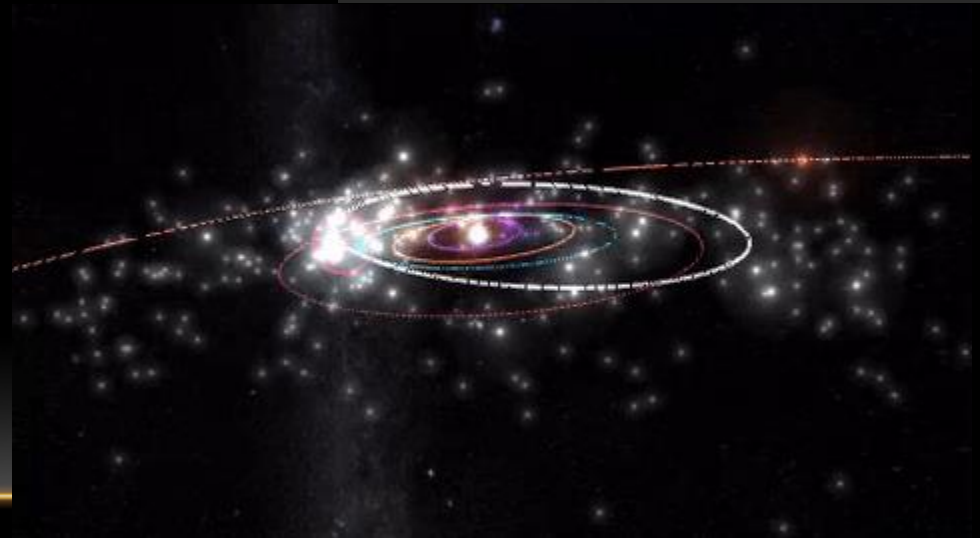


# Which NEMOs will we target?

- Composition: Carbonaceous (C-type) asteroids
  - Have many of the important minerals, require least energy to mine, and are the most abundant in space
- Speed: Slow
  - Ideally 5 to 10k per hour
- Rotation: Slow
  - Much easier to land on
- Size: Large or multiple clustered together
  - Most cost effective
- Location: Near to the moons orbit
  - More frequent mission potential

# Sample Target– 2001 SN<sub>263</sub>

- Composition – C-type
- Size: One of only two known NEMOs that are a **triple asteroid cluster**
  - Alpha - diameter of 2.8km
  - Beta - 1.1 km in diameter
  - Gamma - 0.4 km in diameter
- Orbit near Earth and Moon
- Low Delta V and Spin







# How we get there

- Launcher system
  - Modular
  - Easy Construction
  - 4 Dragonflies
  - Core Javelin Miniature satellite
- Dragonflies are let loose in cluster formation
- As the rocket separates the Javelin telescopes
- Remaining launcher assembly is retrieved for re-use

DRAGONFLY





# Dragonfly

- **Dragonfly Cluster** – send out set of modular, medium-production satellites
- Each dragonfly contains a **modular sensor package** to analyze a potential mining target
- **Communication** possible between satellites using a built in mesh-net with interferometry, location, and navigational aspects



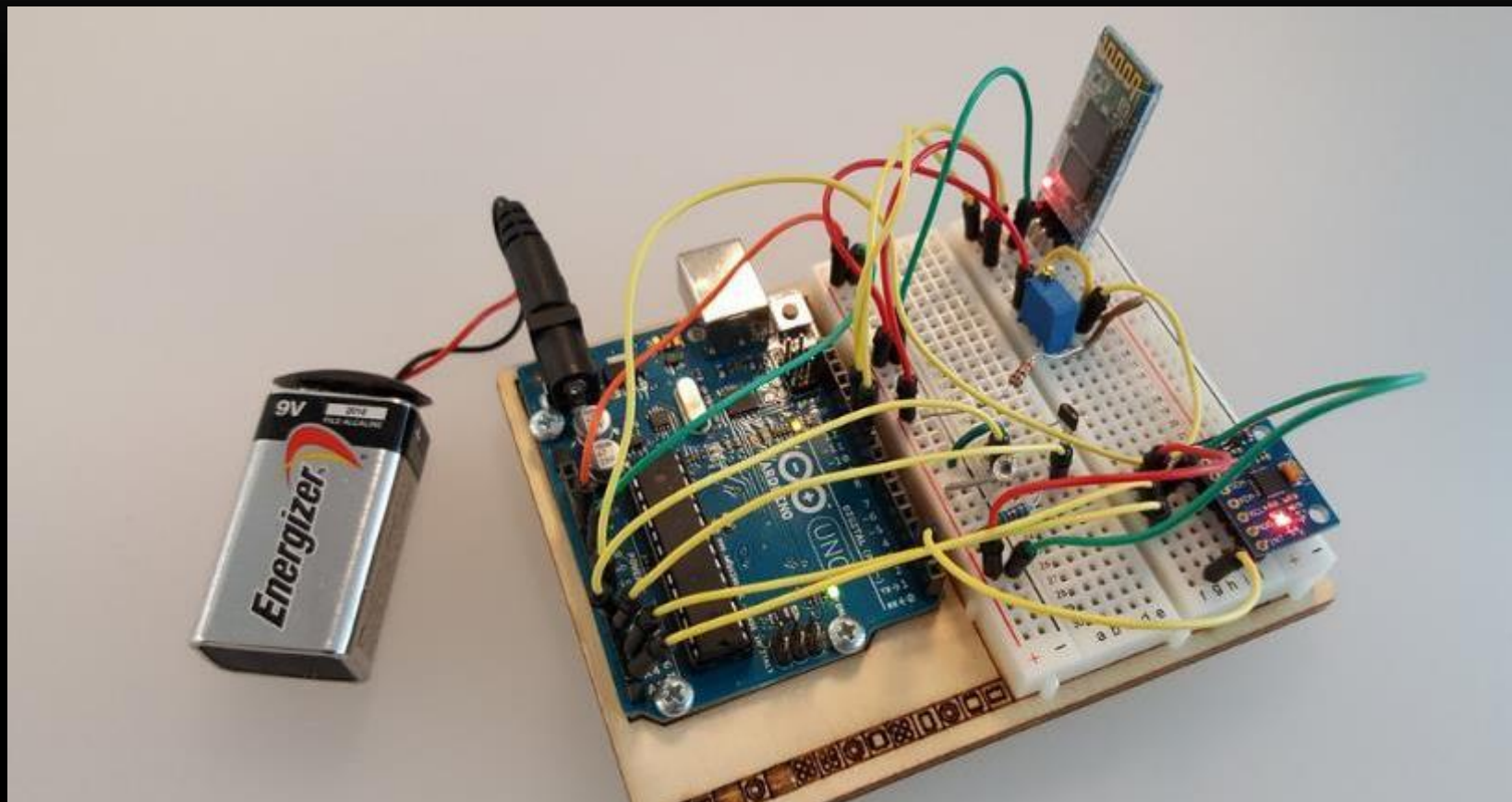


# Dragonfly – Sensor Package

- Dragonfly Telescopic Imaging System (DT-IS)
  - Dragonfly 3D Imaging System (D3D-IS)
  - Dragonfly IR/Thermal/UV System (DIRecT-US)
  - Dragonfly Gamma+Neutron+X-Ray Spectrometer Complex (DGNX-SC)
  - Dragonfly Laser Spectrometer (DLS)
  - Dragonfly High+Low Frequency Radar Multi-Sat System (DHLR-MSS)
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# Sample Dragonfly Sensor Board

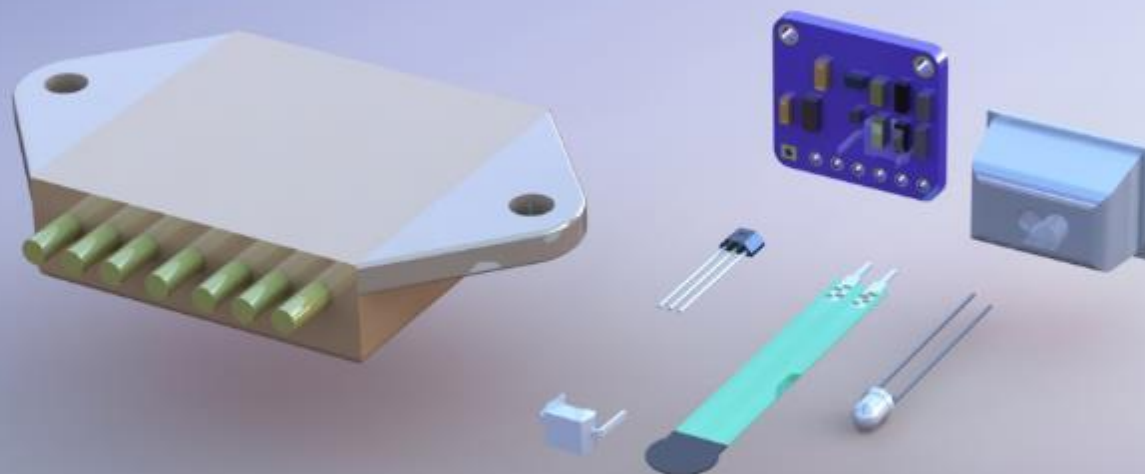


Gyroscope, Accelerometer, Light Sensor, Hall Effect, Force Sensor



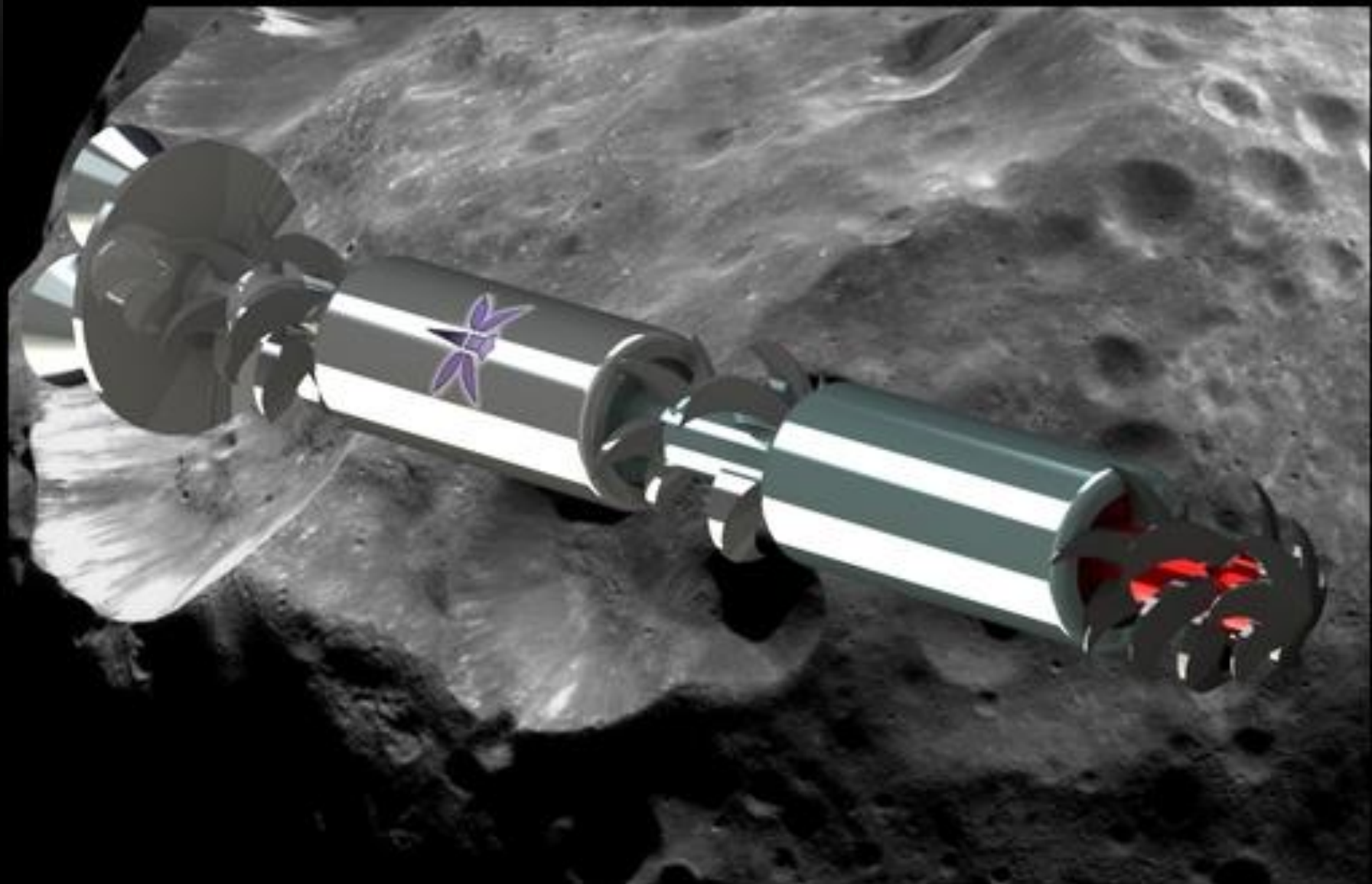


# Dragonfly – Sensor System (modularized)





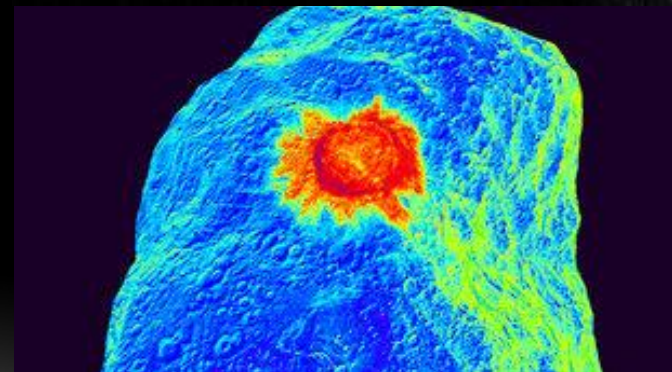
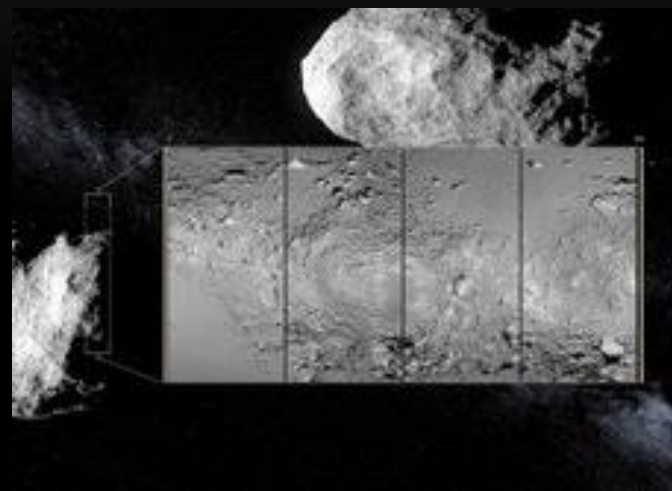
# Dragonfly - Javelin





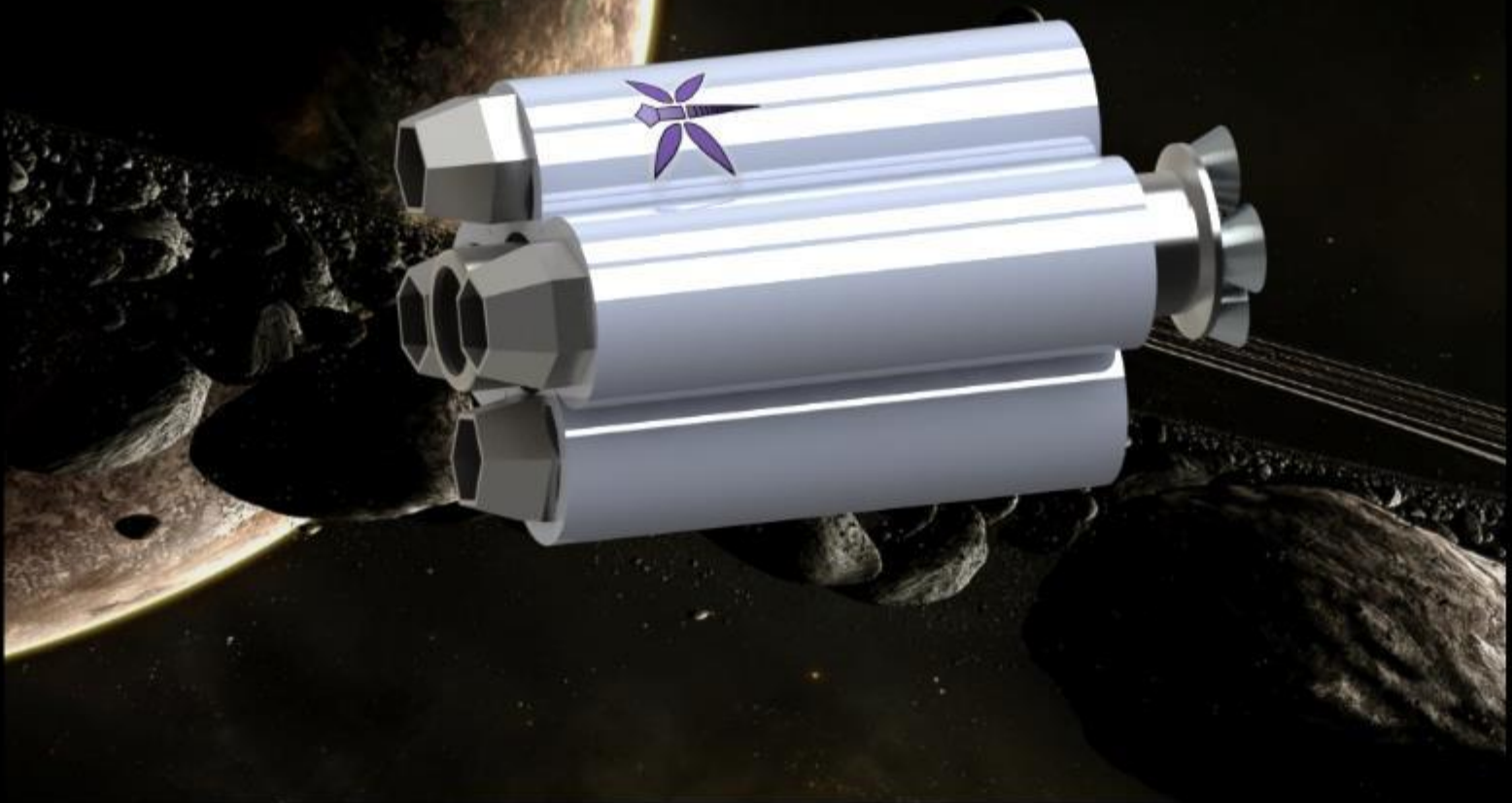
# Dragonfly – Javelin Specification

- Javelin Magnetometer System (JMS)
- Javelin GC/MS System (J-GCMS)
- Javelin IR/UV/Vis (J-Spectrum)
- Javelin Ground Penetrating Radar (JGPR)





# Dragonfly – Delivery System





# Mining and Refining

- Once a key target has been identified a **drilling rig will be sent to the asteroid to secure, drill, and potentially refine the materials**
- One option for mining and drilling was proposed in the **Star-Whals Project**
- It is also possible to **attach multiple Javelins to solar sails in order to manipulate orbit of the asteroid** or relocate it to near moon location





# Economic Impact

*Opportunity to turn threats into profit centers.*

## 1) Preventing disaster to Earth

- Mining Asteroids can prevent future asteroid collisions with Earth

## 2) Dramatically reduce the cost of space mining

- Weight of mining rig expected to be around 9000kg, weight of the Dragonfly 15kg
- Able to accurately predict composition 90 percent of the time – huge cost savings to deploy mining rigs to only most valuable sites.



# Economic Impact

*Opportunity to turn threats into profit centers.*

## 3) Dramatically Reduce the Cost of Living In Space

- Cost of transporting *one pound* of cargo into low earth orbit ranges from \$770 to \$10,000
- One 75 meter diameter C-type asteroid potentially has enough water to run all of the Space Missions to date.
- Resources in two similar sized C-type asteroids were valued by Asterank at **2.62 trillion** and **168.20 billion**



# Thank you!

Find ***extensive*** information on asteroid mining, and our solution to it + Renders + Circuit Diagrams on our page [Project](#) and [GitHub](#) page

- <https://2016.spaceappschallenge.org/challenges/solar-system/asteroid-mining/projects/the-dragonfly-sensing-your-opportunities-in-space>
- <https://github.com/DragonID/NASAAsteroidMiningChallenge2016>



# Sources:

1. Information on Asteroid Types and Composition: <http://www.astronomysource.com/tag/m-type-asteroid...>
2. Review of Asteroid Compositions: <http://www.uapress.arizona.edu/onlinebks/Resources...>
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5. Database of NEOs: <http://www.asterank.com/3d/>
6. Information on Asteroid Mining :<http://www.planetaryresources.com/asteroids/#asteroids-market-opportunity>
7. Information on Picking Asteroid Mining Targets: <http://www.planetaryresources.com/2015/08/how-we-c...>
8. Information on 2001 SN263: <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2011/pdf/2695.pdf>
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10. Information on identifying asteroids from Earth/Moon: <http://www.planetary.org/multimedia/space-images/c...>
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# Sources:

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2. <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/cubesat/missions/neascout.php>
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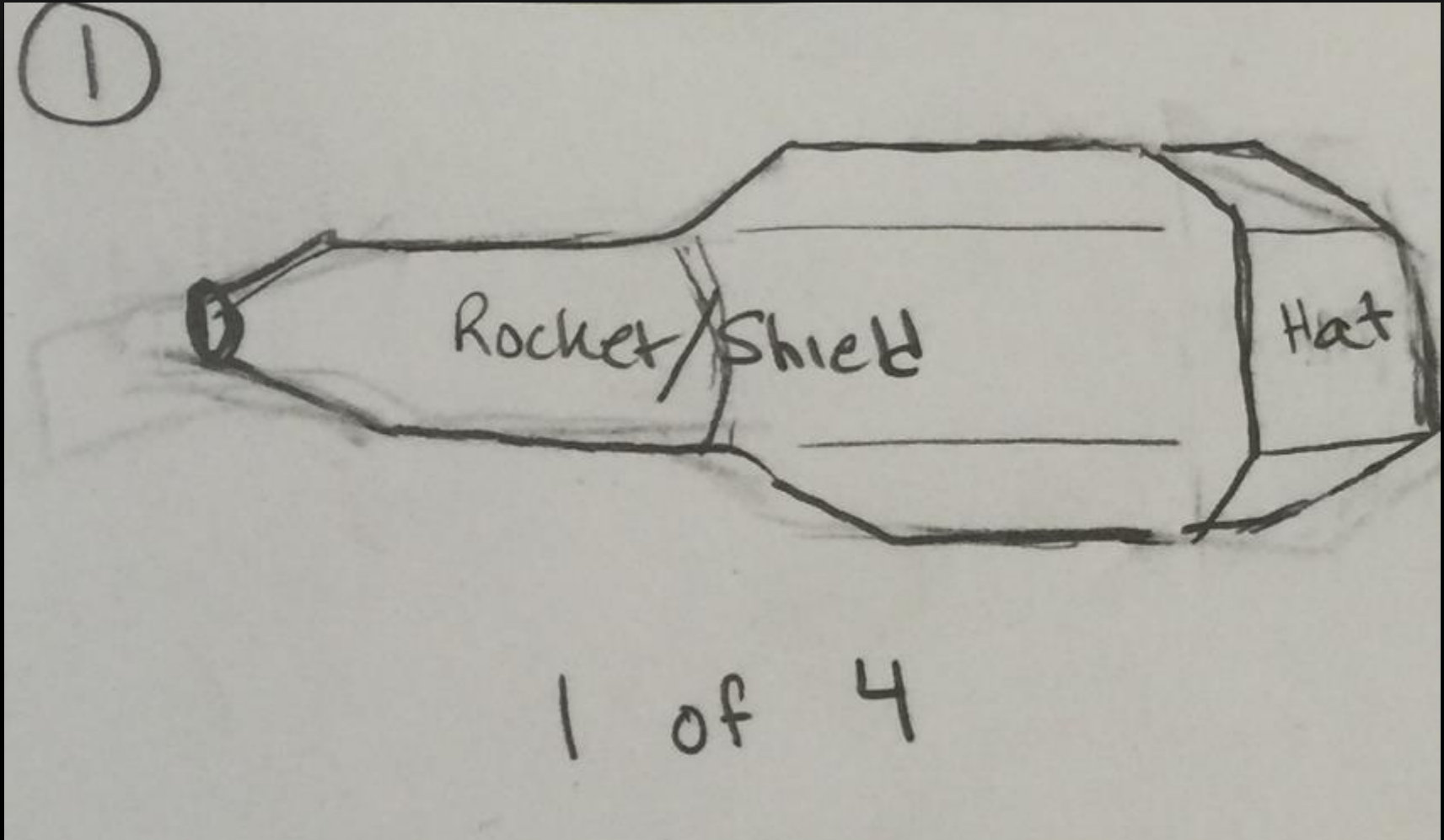


# Picture Sources:

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- Moon Base Photo: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0yCgFvCZco>
- <http://www.planetaryresources.com/asteroids/#asteroids-market-opportunity>
- Hubble Telescope Picture:  
<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3f/HST-SM4.jpeg>
- Infrared Telescope Picture:  
<http://voices.nationalgeographic.com/files/2014/06/eso1225a.jpg>
- Info on 2001 SN263: <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2011/pdf/2695.pdf>
- Moon Telescope - <http://cdn.phys.org/newman/gfx/news/hires/2014/3-construction.jpg>

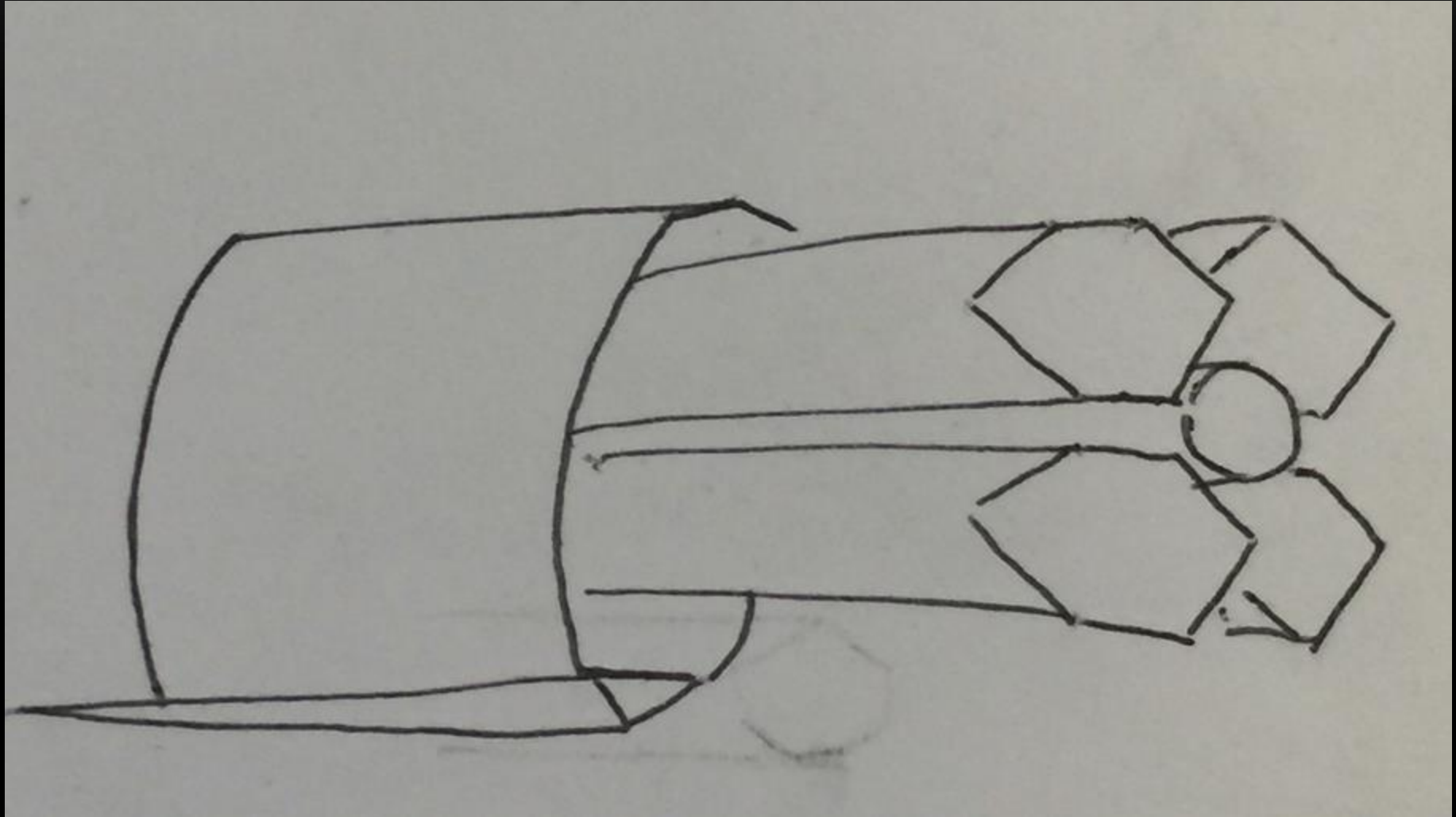


# Concept Drawings



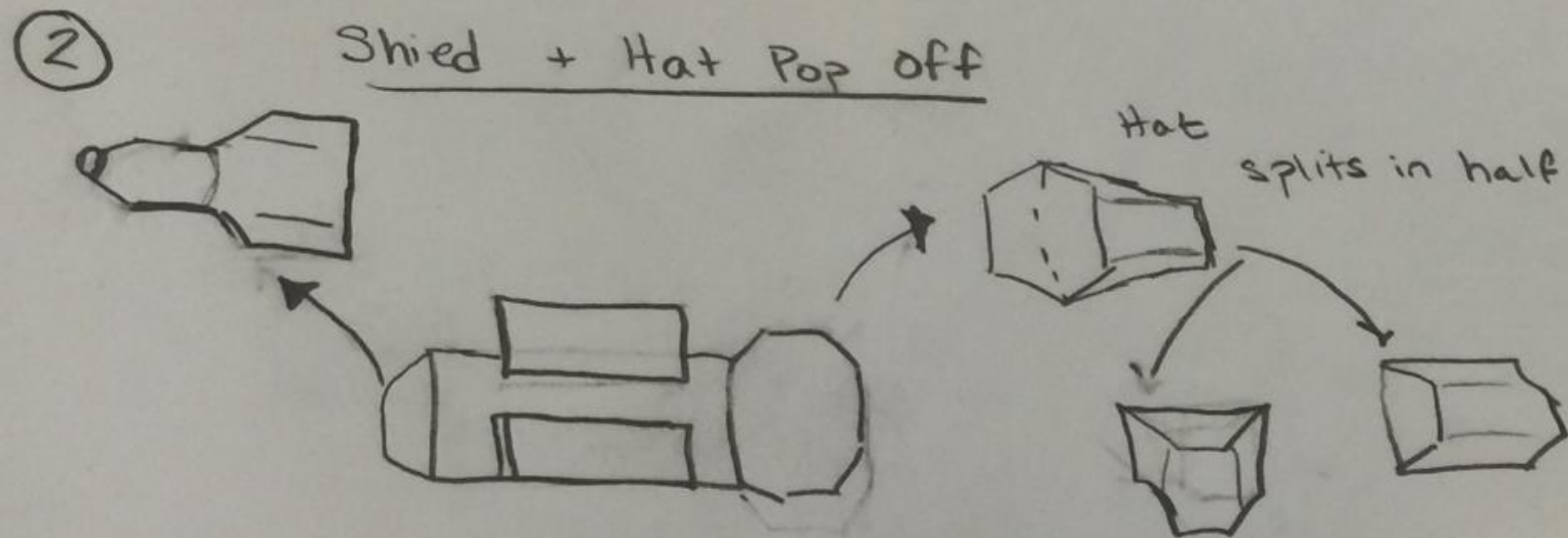


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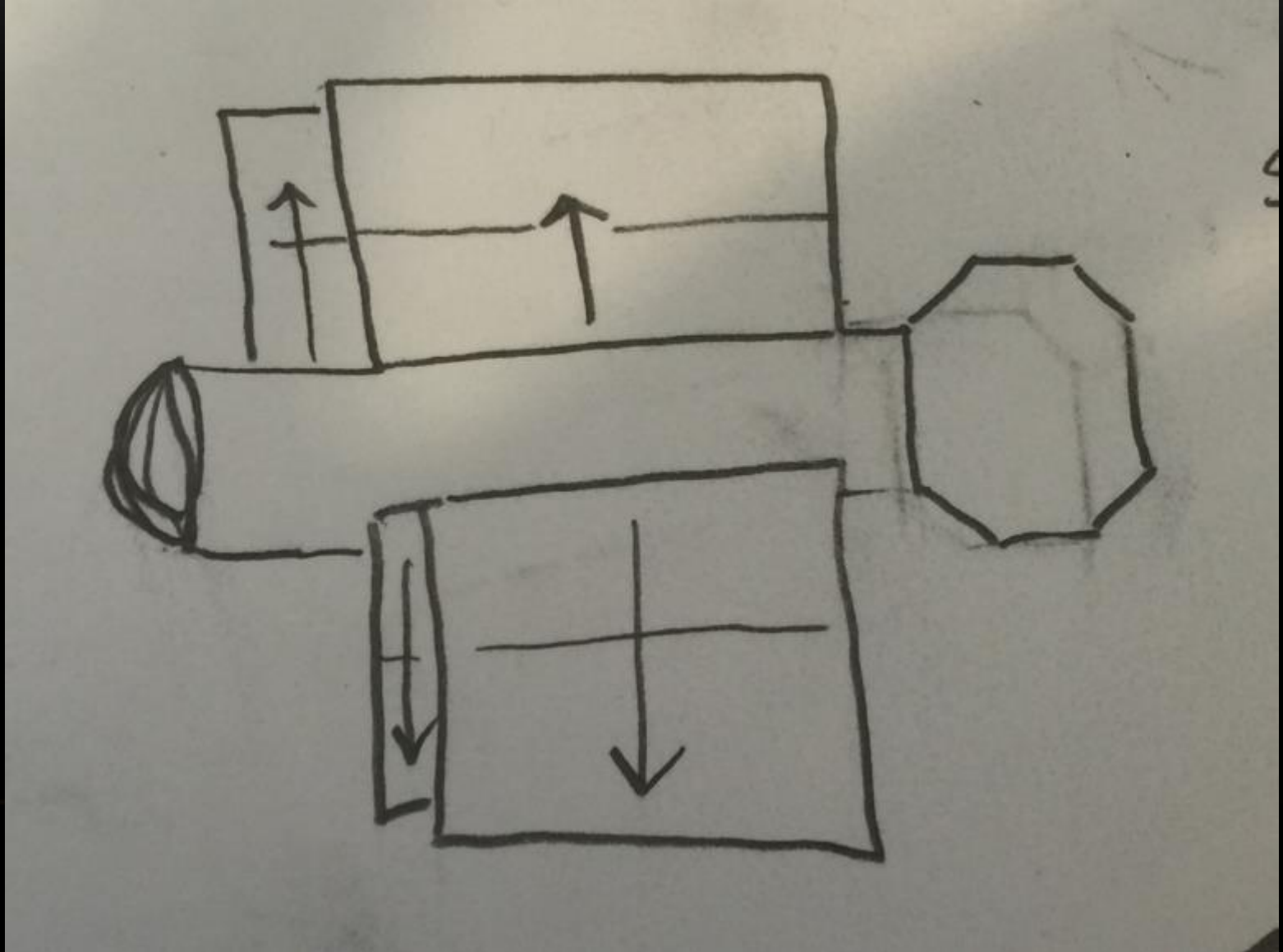


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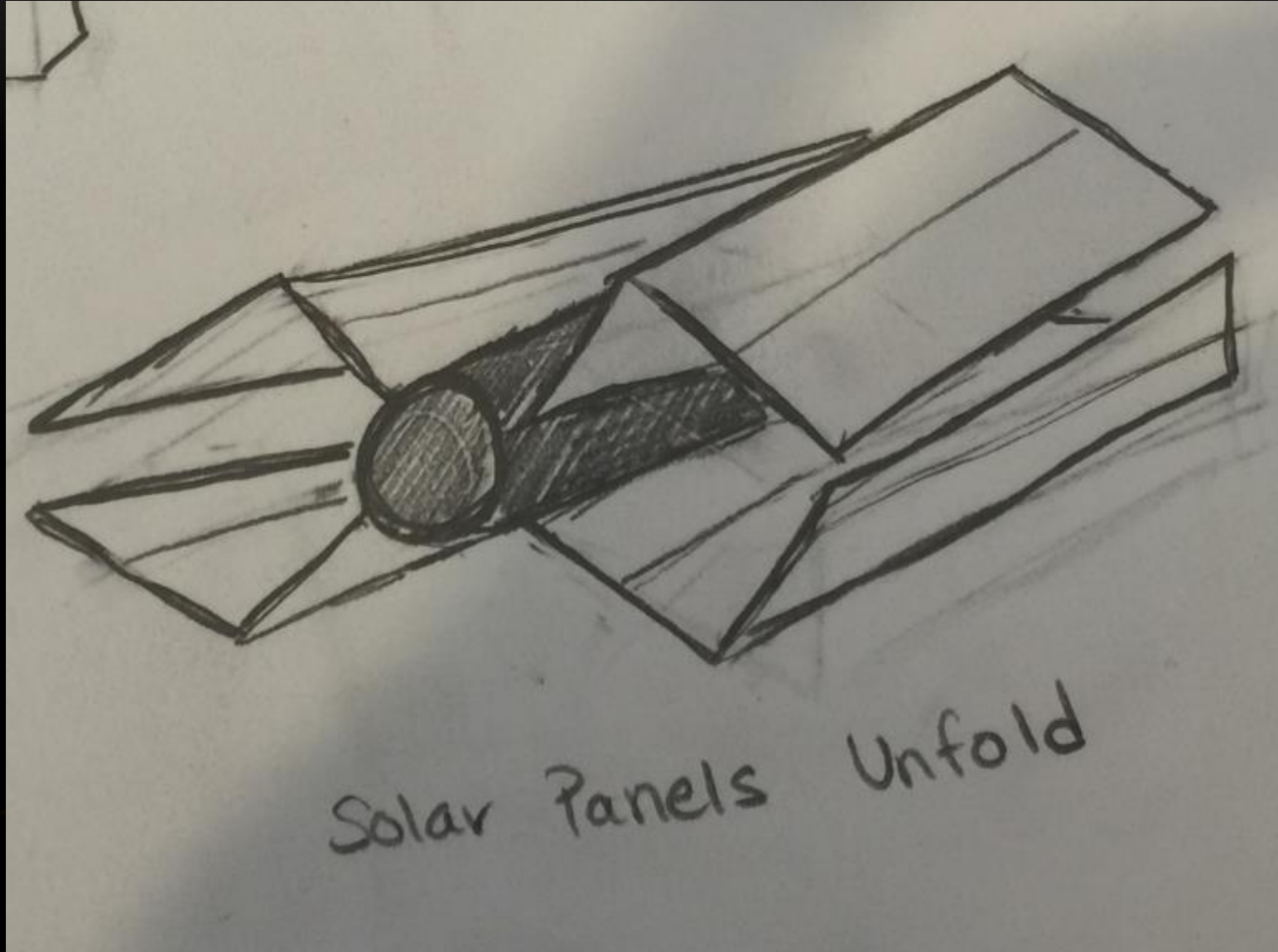
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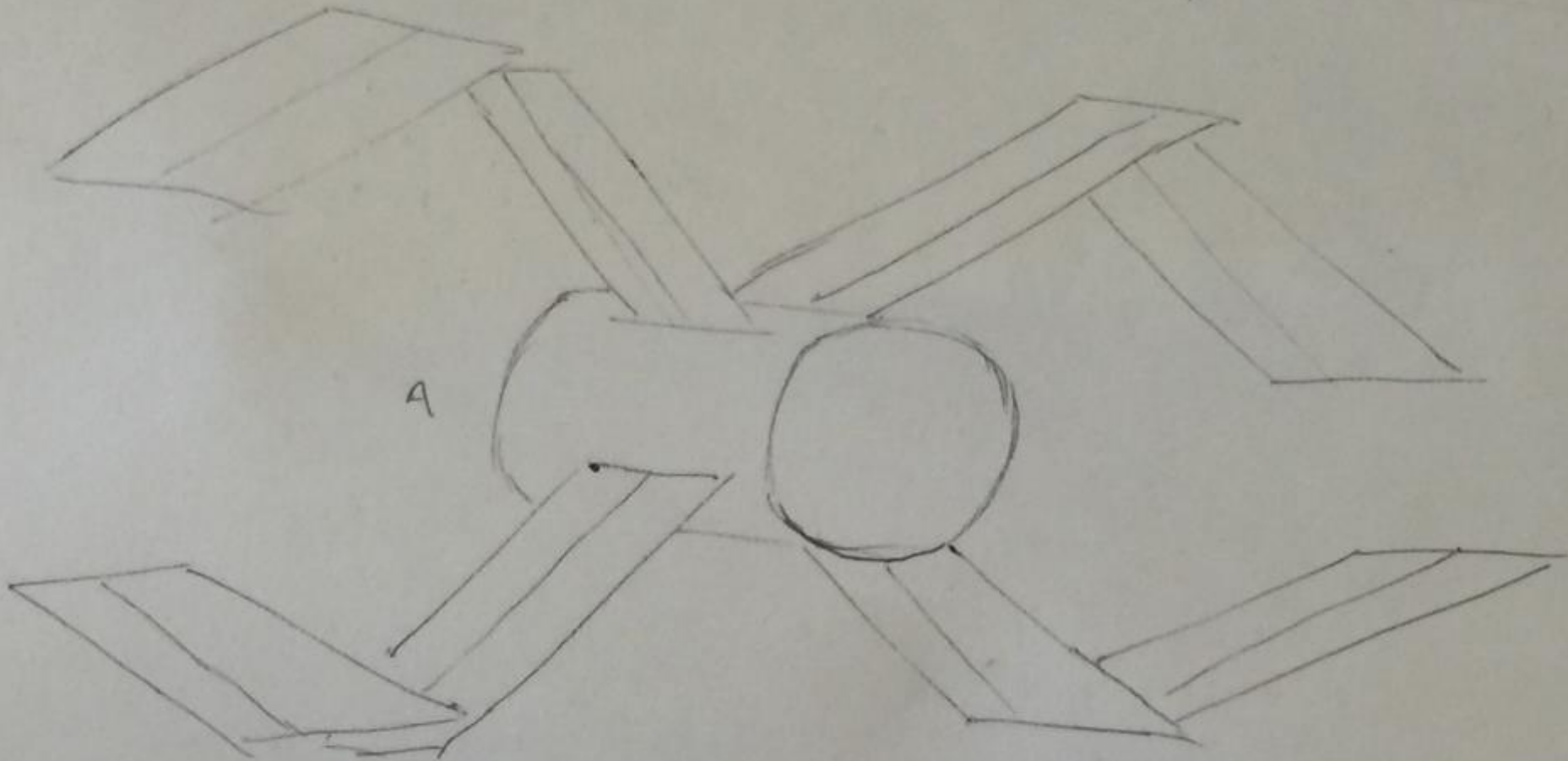


# Concept Drawings





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