

# International Space Station Status

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



**HEO NAC January 2021**

**Robyn Gatens**

*Acting International Space Station Director*

# Agenda



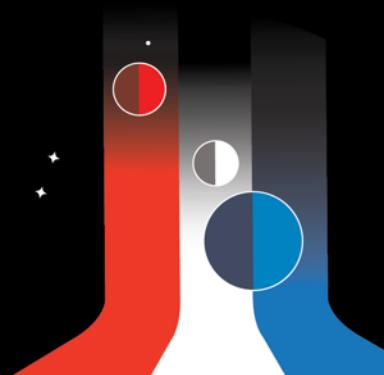
JAXA

ISS Increment Overview

ISS Operational Status

Utilization Highlights

ISS Future



# ISS Increment Overview

# Increment 64 Crew Overview



## Increment Highlights:

- 76P Undock
- 75P Undock
- SpX-21 Mission (NR's Airlock)
- 77P Mission
- NG-14 Release
- Boe-OFT2 Mission
- EVA's
- NG-15 Mission
- Crew-2 Launch

63S Dock 10/14/20 - 63S Undock 4/17/21



Kate  
Rubins  
Flight Engineer

Sergey  
Ryzhikov  
CDR Exp 64

Sergey  
Kud-Sverchkov  
Flight Engineer

Crew-1 Dock 11/16/20 – Crew-1 Undock May



Shannon  
Walker  
Mission Specialist

Victor  
Glover  
SpX PLT

Michael  
Hopkins  
SpX CDR

Soichi  
Noguchi  
Mission Specialist



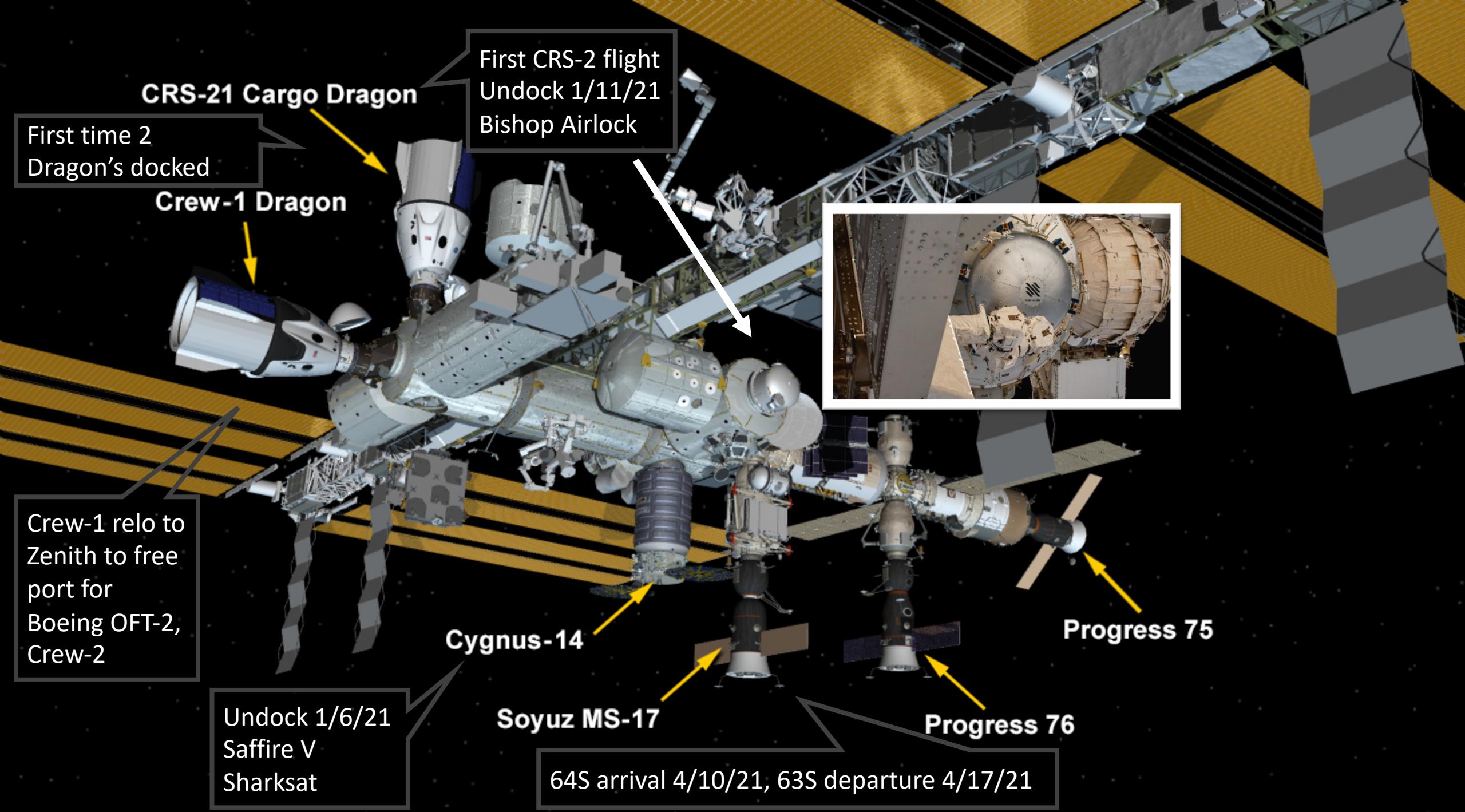
# Additional Crew on ISS (5 USOS)

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- With the arrival of SpaceX Crew-1, ISS occupancy is up to 7 total and 5 USOS.
- Significantly increased time dedicated to utilization and research.
- Astronaut Mike Hopkins will be utilizing Dragon as a sleeping location for duration of Crew-1 stay or until additional sleeping equipment arrives.



# ISS Operational Status



# Upcoming Spacewalks (EVA)

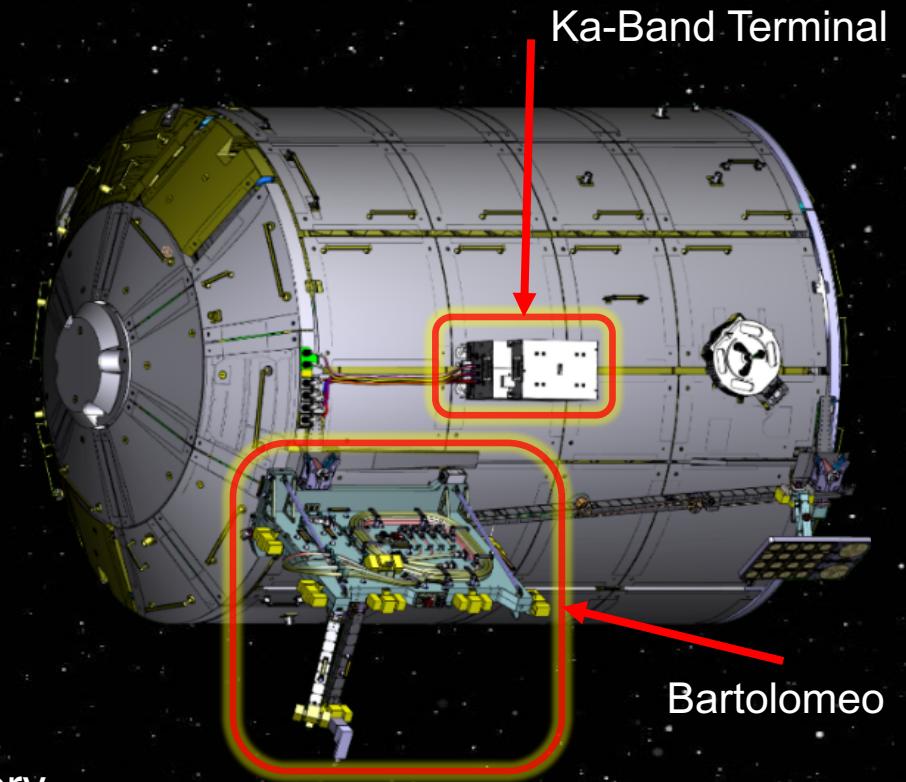
- Astronauts Michael Hopkins & Victor Glover will conduct the first pair of spacewalks in January, the 233rd and 234th in support of ISS assembly, maintenance and upgrades.

## • Columbus Upgrades

- Cable and antenna setup for the “Bartolomeo” science payloads platform.
- Configure Ka-band terminal to enable an independent, high-bandwidth communication link to European ground stations.
- Grapple fixture bracket removal in prep for future power system upgrades.

## • ISS Upgrades II

- Installation of a final lithium-ion battery adapter plate (finalizes battery upgrade initiative)
- Replace an external camera on the starboard truss
- Install new high-definition camera on the Destiny laboratory
- Replace components for the Japanese robotic arm’s camera system outside the Kibo module.





# Upcoming Spacewalks (EVA)

- **IROSA Prep**

- Though functioning well, the current solar arrays are showing signs of degradation, as expected.
- To ensure sufficient power is maintained for exploration technology demonstrations for Artemis and beyond as well as utilization and commercialization, six of eight existing power channels will be updated.
- The new ISS Roll Out Solar Array (IROSA) wings will be delivered in pairs on the SpaceX Dragon cargo spacecraft during three resupply missions starting in 2021.
- Each array installation will require two spacewalks: one to prep, another to install. This EVA is the first to begin preparing the worksite.

- **ISS Upgrades III**

- Early Ammonia Servicer (EAS) Jumper Venting
- Mod Kit Completion
- Equipment Removal & Replacement (Airlock Magnet, PIP Pin, WETA)
- Camera Port Cable Routing



IMBA



# Atmosphere Leak

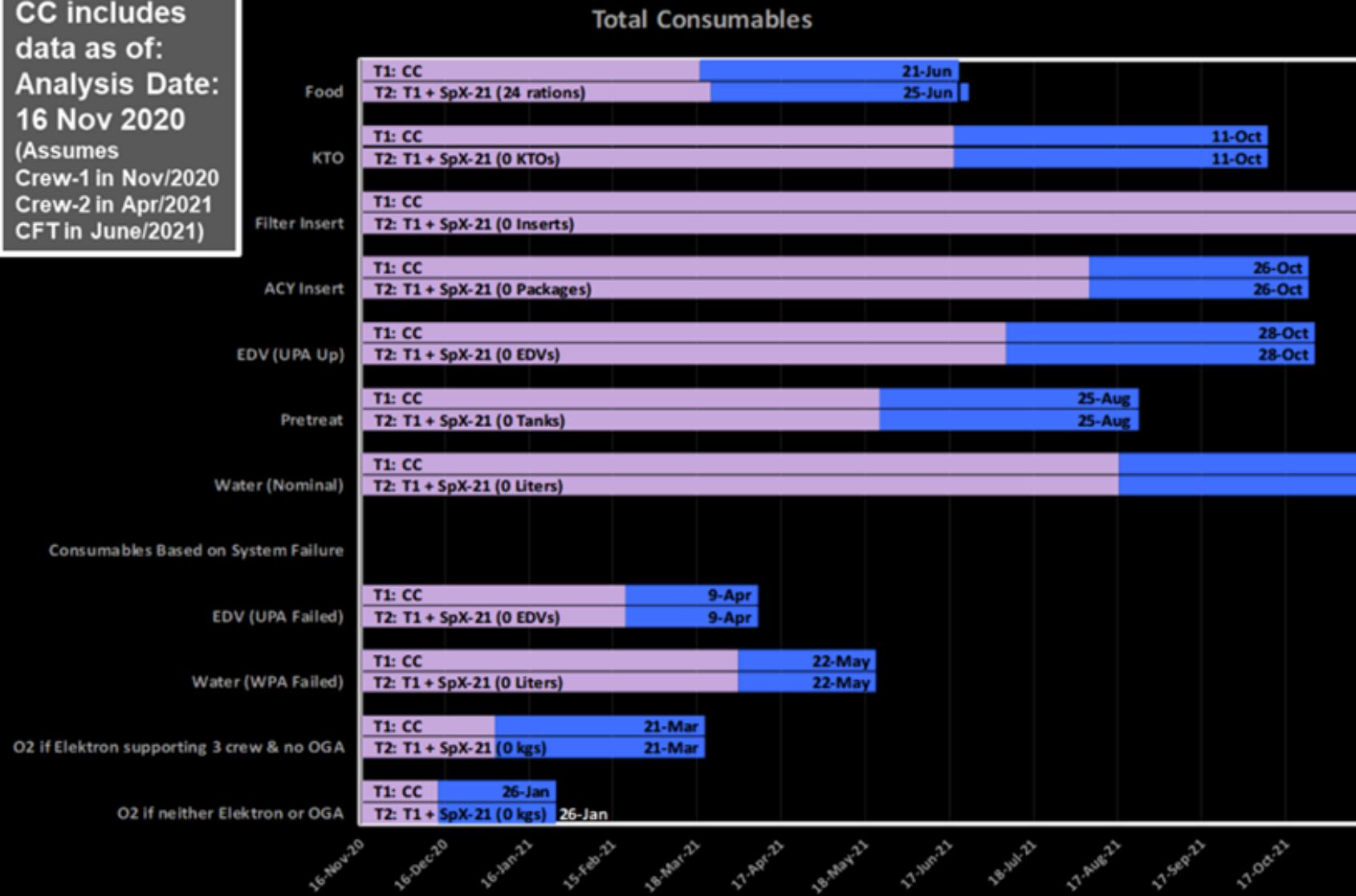
- Since September 2019, ISS has been tracking a slight increase above the previous sustained cabin air leak rate.
- The leak presents no immediate danger to the crew or the space station at its current state.
- A small crack was found in the aft segment of the Russian Service Module (SM). The crew applied a patch kit, slightly reducing the leak. In the near term, that part of SM has been isolated to minimize consumable loss.
- Teams across the partnership have been working together to identify additional leak source(s) and provide further leak mitigation / resolution.
- There is sufficient gas currently on-orbit, and planned to be launched, to sustain appropriate levels of atmospheric pressure until the issue is resolved.



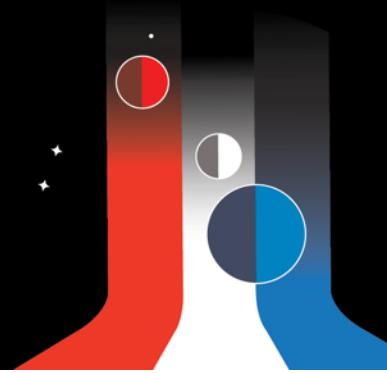
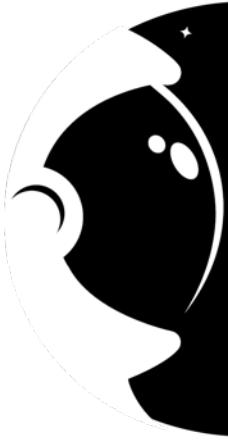


# Total Consumables

CC includes  
data as of:  
**Analysis Date:**  
**16 Nov 2020**  
(Assumes  
Crew-1 in Nov/2020  
Crew-2 in Apr/2021  
CFT in June/2021)

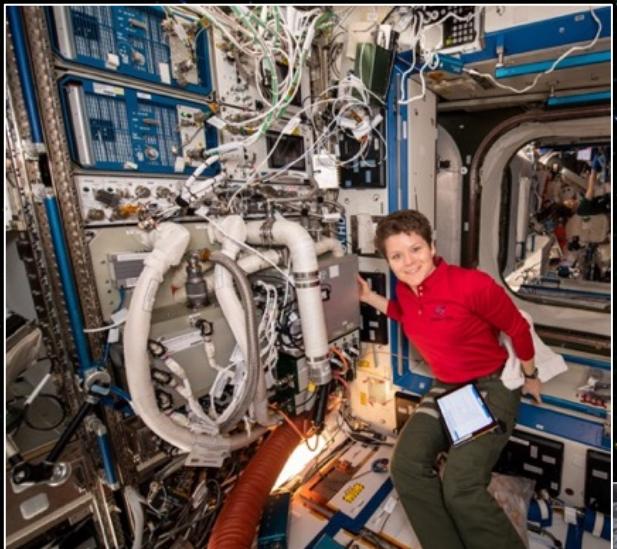


# Utilization Summary



# Exploration Capabilities Development Technology Demonstrations: Recently Arrived on the Space Station

## Atmosphere

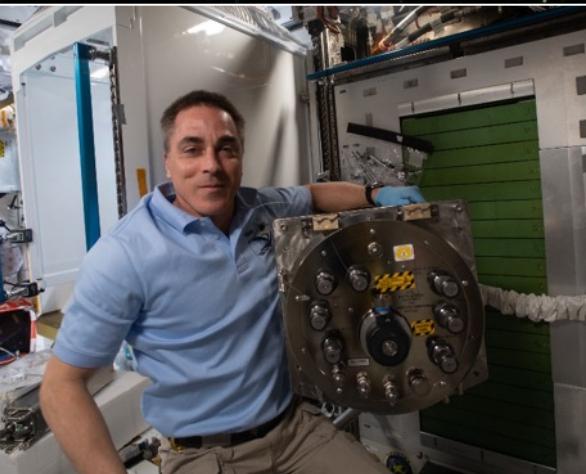


Left: Thermal Amine scrubber system installation in Destiny module



Right: Spacecraft Atmosphere Monitor (S.A.M.) TD-1

## Waste Management and Water Recovery



Left: Installation of the Urine Processor Assembly (UPA) Upgraded Distillation Assembly



Bottom: Double Toilet Stall



Above: Universal Waste Management System (UWMS)



Right: upgraded WPA catalytic reactor flew on SpX-21

# Featured Technology: UWMS

## *Universal Waste Management System*



Closing capability gaps—advantages of UWMS:

- “Universal” Fit
  - Regenerative systems (ISS, Gateway)
  - Orion (Artemis II vehicle install upcoming)
- 65% mass reduction and 40% volume reduction
- Through pretreatment, contributes to reaching exploration goal of 98% water recovery (current recovery on the space station ~90%)
- Lower maintenance time required due to simplified systems, corrosion resistant parts
- Improved cleanliness and crew comfort



# Exploration Capabilities Development Technology Demonstrations: Recently Arrived on the Space Station

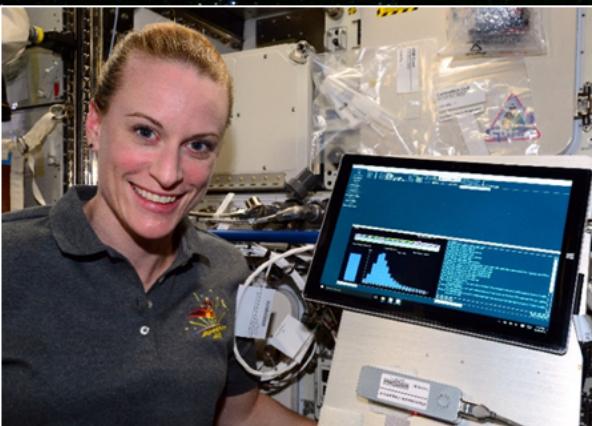
## Monitoring and Logistics Management



Left: RFID Enabled Autonomous Logistics Management (REALM) installed



Right: Airborne Particle Monitor



Bottom: MinION DNA Sequencer

## Fire Safety

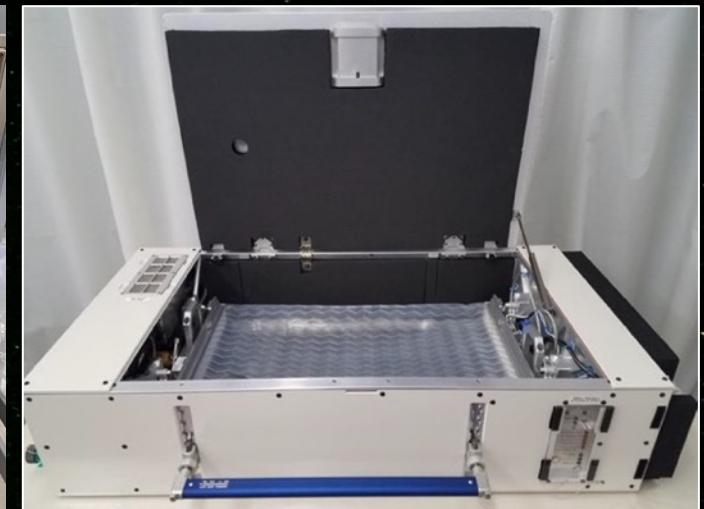


The fifth Spacecraft Fire Safety Experiments (Saffire-V) will be deployed when Cygnus leaves ISS

Coming Soon: - 2021



4-Bed CO<sub>2</sub> Scrubber



Brine Processor Assembly (BPA)



# Metrics – Agency Priority Goal (APG)

Initiate at least five technology demonstrations on the International Space Station to advance deep space exploration.

Status: GREEN

## FY20 Initiated (final)

Spacecraft Fire Safety (Saffire) IV

Advanced air filters – finished initialization in U.S. modules

Urine Transfer System

Biomole / Microbial Monitoring

Water Processor Assembly (WPA) Multi-Filter (MF) Single Bed Operation

Urine Processor Assembly (UPA) Upgraded Distillation Assembly

## FY21 Delivered

Spacesuit Evaporation Rejection Flight Experiment (SERFE) (Initiation began FY21, Q1)

Universal Waste Management System (UWMS) (Installation in progress)

RFID-Enabled Autonomous Logistics Management-2 (REALM-2) (awaiting initiation)

Spacecraft Fire Safety (Saffire) V, initiation following NG-14 departure from ISS

Water Processor (WPA) Upgraded Catalytic Reactor

Airborne Particulate Monitor (Initiation began FY21)

## FY21 To Be Delivered

Brine Processor Assembly (BPA)

4-Bed CO<sub>2</sub> Scrubber

Spacecraft Atmosphere Monitor (SAM) Unit 2

Urine Processor Assembly (UPA) Upgraded Purge Pump & Separator

Exposed Root On-Orbit Test System (XROOTS)

# Annual Highlights of Results from the ISS



- Latest highlights of research results from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 have been published at:

[https://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/station/research/  
results\\_category](https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/research/results_category)

- Results are a collaborative effort of the ISS partnership and represent the research of scientists around the world for investigations sponsored by NASA, the ROSCOSMOS State Corporation for Space Activities, the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), the European Space Agency (ESA), and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration | NASA

## ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS of RESULTS from the INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

October 1, 2019 – October 1, 2020



CSA ASC    esa    JAXA    ROSCOSMOS

# 2020 Utilization Highlights

*Enabling Exploration*

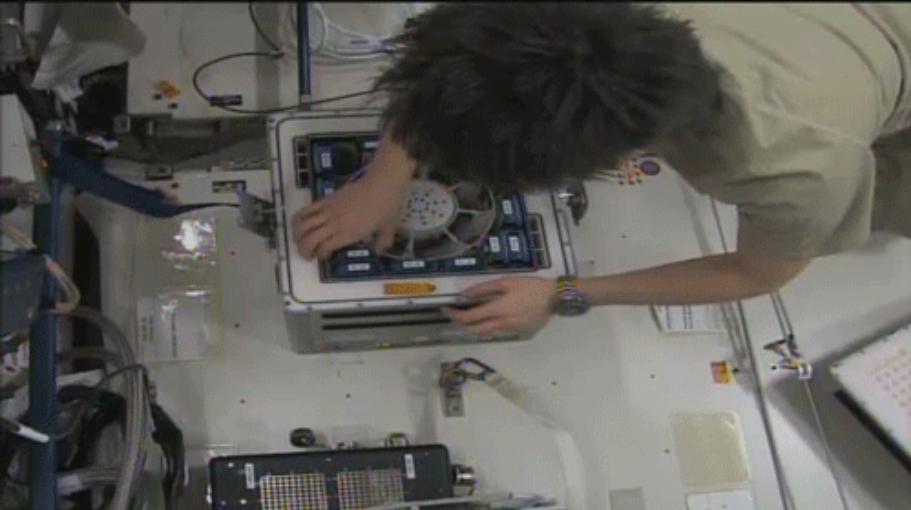


## MARROW Study (Bone Marrow Adipose Reaction: Red or White?)



- Anemia is a known issue when astronauts return from space, investigation sought to characterize problem and find cause
- Used more than 5 decades of astronaut data to determine that space anemia occurs after landing back on earth and the red blood cell loss is proportional to spending time in space, recovery taking 1-3 months depending on mission duration

## Nanoparticles-based Countermeasures for Treatment of Microgravity-induced Osteoporosis (NATO)



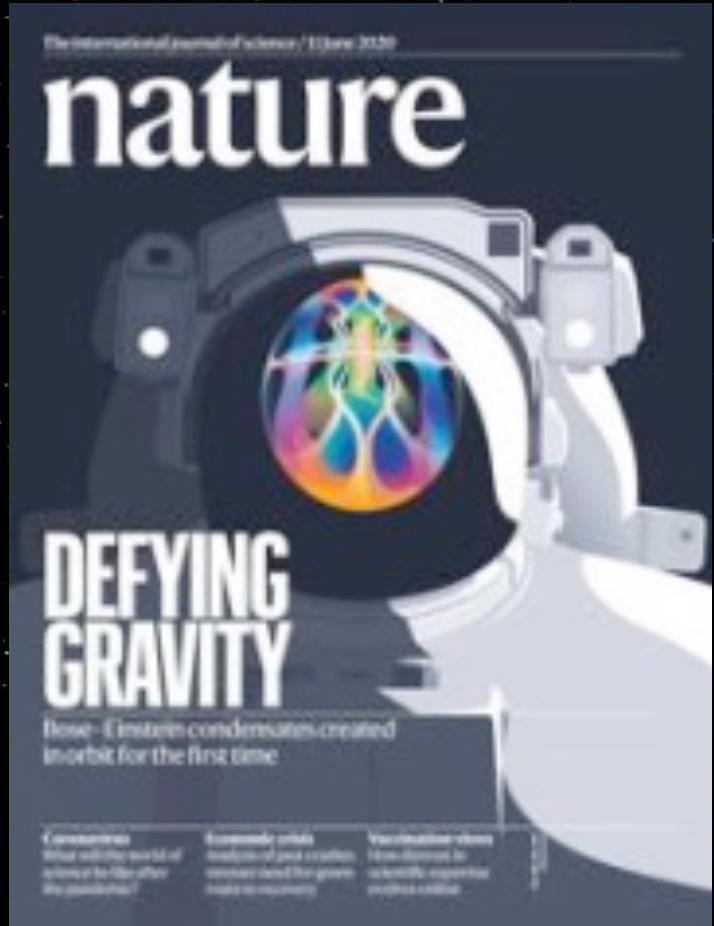
- Project studied a type of nanoparticle that could help counteract bone density loss, a significant problem for long term spaceflight missions
- Results from the experiment conducted in 2015 showed that the new drug delivery system has beneficial effects on cells responsible for bone formation
- Research results can be used to develop treatments for both astronauts and osteoporosis patients on Earth

# 2020 Utilization Highlights

Science

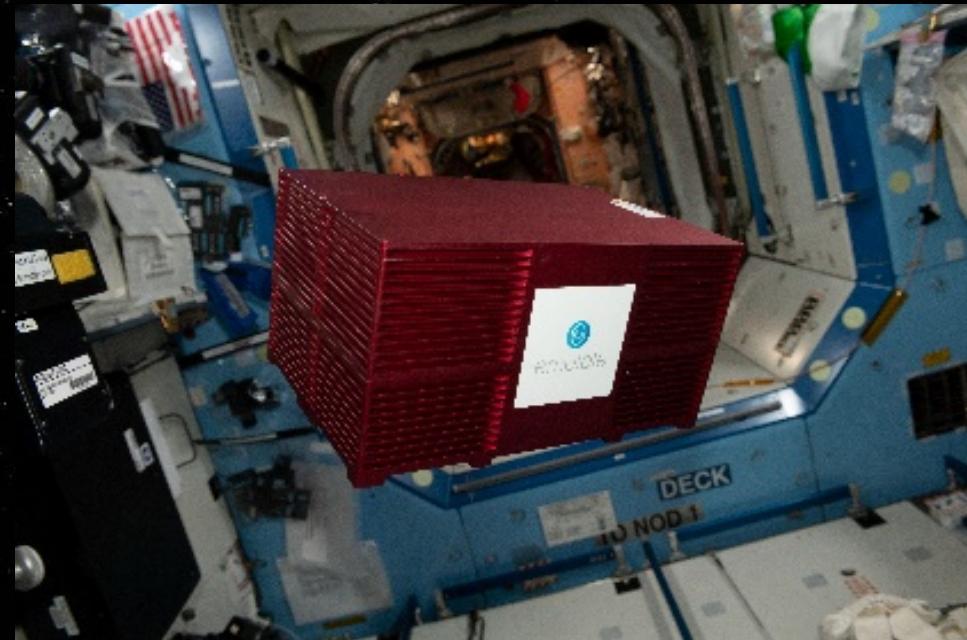


## Cold Atom Lab (CAL)



- Microgravity allowed observation of Bose-Einstein condensate (BEC) using ultracold atoms that are normally prevented by Earth's Gravity
- Can use BEC to perform tests of underlying principles of General Relativity

## Organs-On-Chips



- Platform for studying effects of microgravity on human physiology and how cellular changes occur on a chip that models human organs and tissue
- Offers solutions for modeling human physiology and disease

# 2020 Utilization Highlights

Science



## Arcsecond Space Telescope Enabling Research in Astrophysics (ASTERIA)



- Small Satellite deployed from ISS in 2017 designed to demonstrate new technologies for astrophysical observations
- ASTERIA is responsible for the first detection of an exoplanet transit by a small satellite
- Named 55 Cancri, the exoplanet is a known transiting super-Earth orbiting a Sun like star

## Biomolecule Sequencer



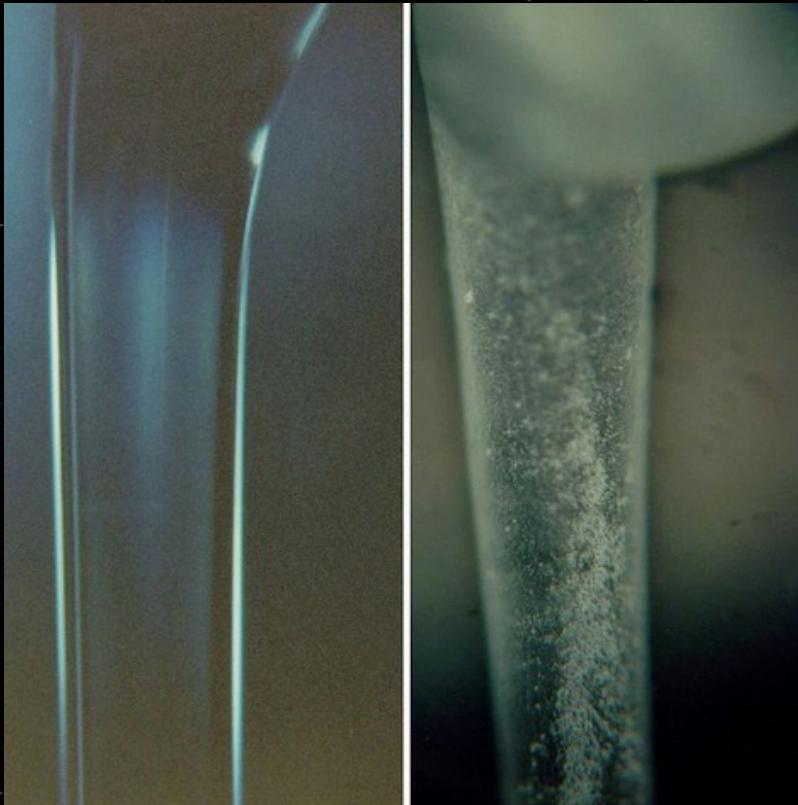
- Investigation tests the functionality of a permanent molecular biology capability that allows scientists to sequence DNA in space real time making crew members more independent in their decision making and problem-solving strategies
- Sequencer could identify microbes, diagnose diseases, and understand crew member health

# 2020 Utilization Highlights



## *Commercial Economy*

### Fiber Optics Manufacturing



ZBLAN optical fibers exhibit reduced attenuation by more than an order of magnitude when fabricated in zero gravity due to suppression of sedimentation processes

## **STEM**

### EarthKAM



Thousands of students can remotely control a digital camera mounted on the ISS to take pictures of Earth .

# 2020 Utilization Highlights

## Interagency Partnerships



NASA signs Memorandum of Understanding with the USDA and the NSF to continue collaboration.

### NASA and NSF

A collage of images illustrating various partnership activities. It includes a graphic for "NASA and NSF INCLUDES" with the tagline "Building MSI-Led Coalitions to Strengthen Broadening Participation in Engineering." Below this are several smaller images: a man working on a circuit board, a man working on a model rocket, a man holding a "PROJECT FORMULATION" sign, two people standing next to a model rocket, and a group of people in a lab setting. At the bottom, a text box reads: "Explore broadening participation strategies and partnership opportunities to reach underrepresented populations nationwide".

**NASA and NSF INCLUDES**  
*"Building MSI-Led Coalitions to Strengthen Broadening Participation in Engineering."*

Explore broadening participation strategies and partnership opportunities to reach underrepresented populations nationwide

NASA and NSF will continue to engage in research aboard the International Space Station ("ISS") addressing biological and physical research in microgravity, plasma physics and joint solicitations in transport phenomena, tissue engineering, and mechanobiology through ISS National Laboratory ("ISSNL")'s manager, Center for the Advancement of Science in Space.

### NASA and USDA

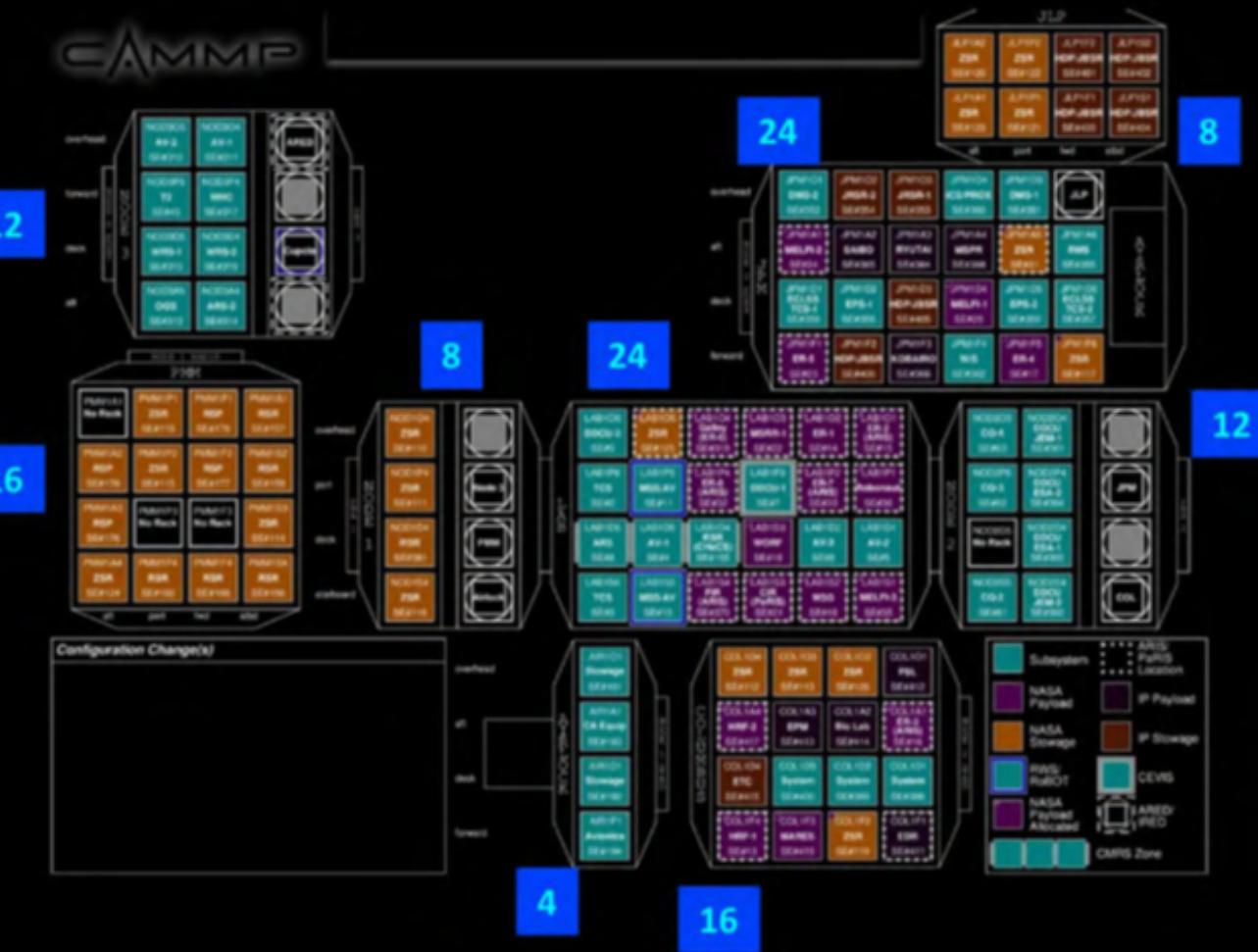


NASA and USDA will explore research gaps of importance to the agricultural community that could be addressed through innovative Earth observation systems and technologies developed over the next decade. The collaboration also will address recommendations made in the 2017 National Academies' Earth Science Decadal Survey.

# Increment 64 Research Highlights

## Three-dimensional Microbial Monitoring (3DMM) of ISS Environment

- Investigation uses DNA sequencing and other analyses to construct a 3D map of bacteria and bacterial products throughout the station
- 3DMM addresses specific questions by characterizing the microbial species and their natural products expressed under multiple stimuli encountered in spaceflight environments (altered gravity, atmosphere composition)
- The main objective is to determine how alterations in gravity affect microbial growth, geno- and phenotype, and natural product characteristics



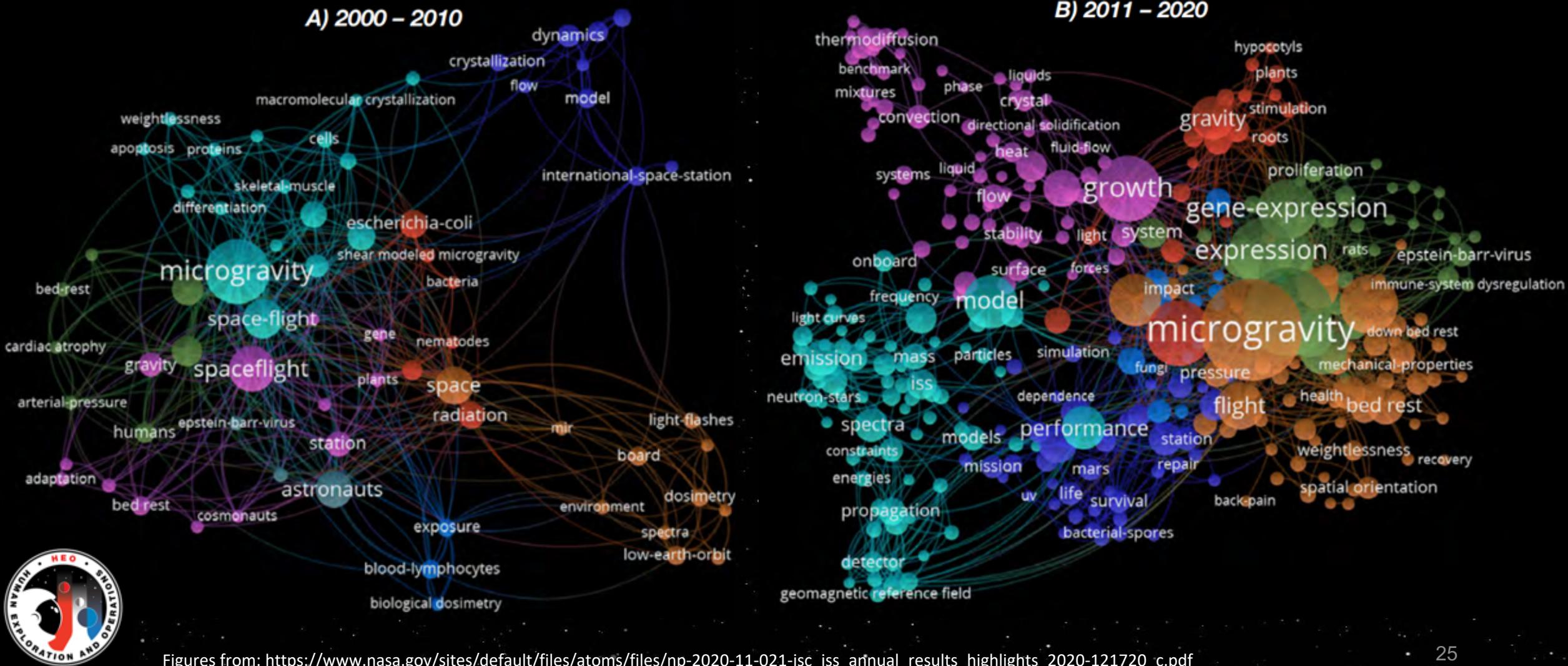
# Increment 64 Research Highlights

## Assessment of Nutritional Value and Growth Parameters of Space-grown Plants (Plant Habitat-02)

- Investigation grows radishes which is considered a model plant that is nutritious and edible, has a short cultivation time, and is genetically similar to *Arabidopsis*, a plant frequently studied in microgravity
- Developing the capability for food production in space requires understanding cultivation conditions such as intensity and spectral composition of light and the effects of the culture medium or soil
- This research could help optimize plant growth in the unique environment of space, as well as evaluation of nutrition and taste of the plants

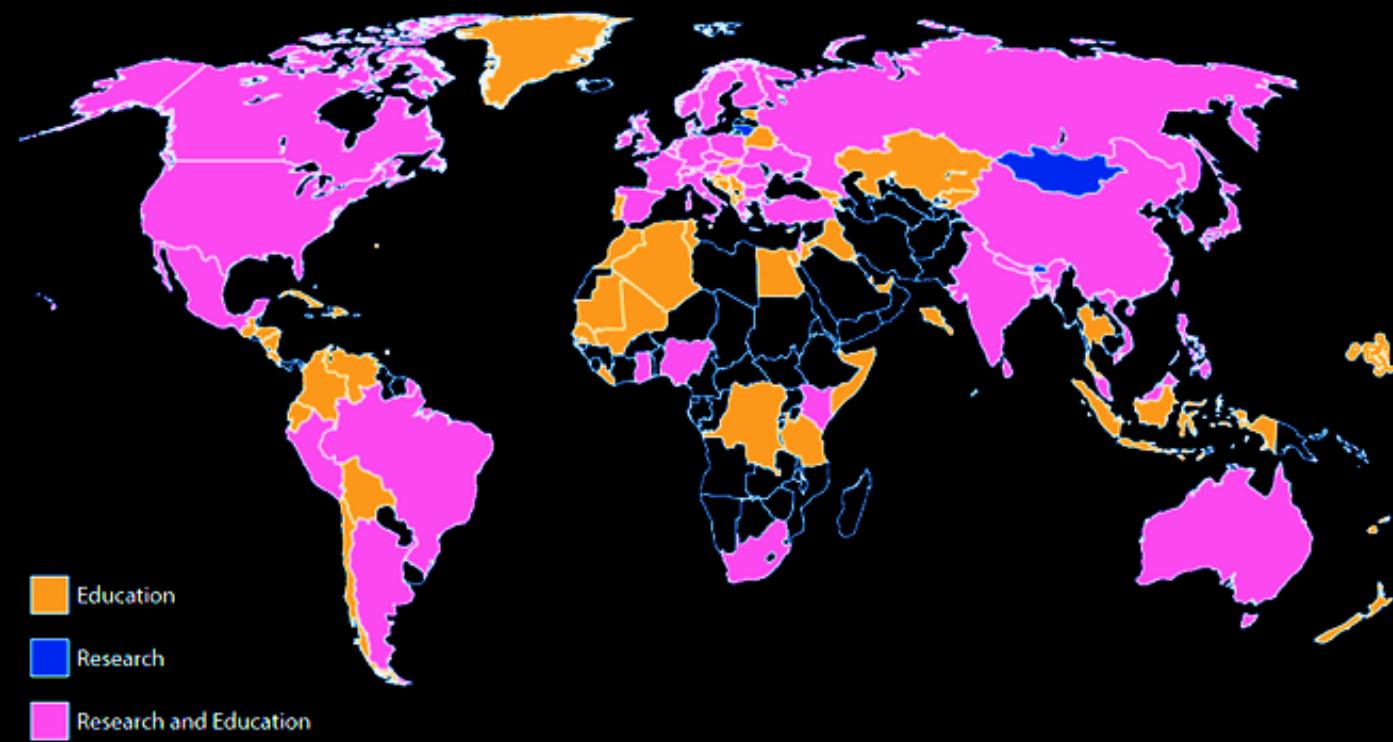


# 20 Years of Research Growth

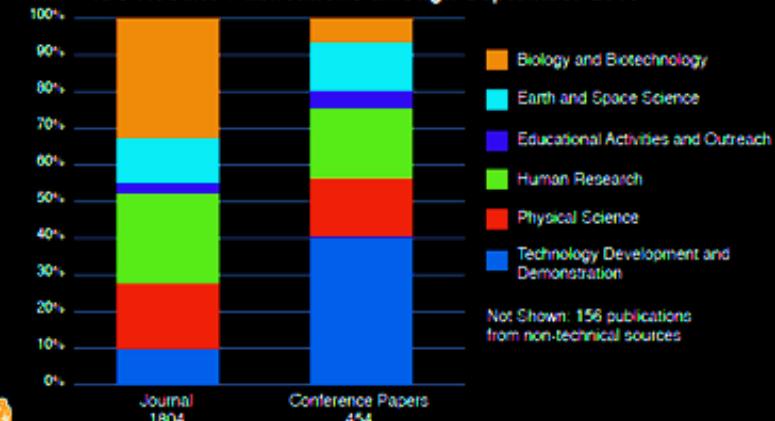


Figures from: [https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/np-2020-11-021-jsc\\_iss\\_annual\\_results\\_highlights\\_2020-121720\\_c.pdf](https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/np-2020-11-021-jsc_iss_annual_results_highlights_2020-121720_c.pdf)

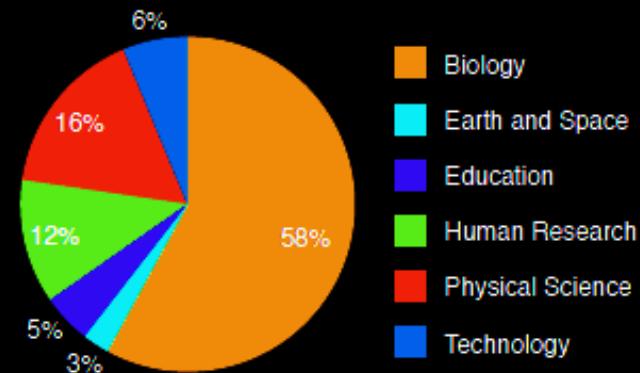
## International Participation on ISS



ISS Results Publications through September 2019



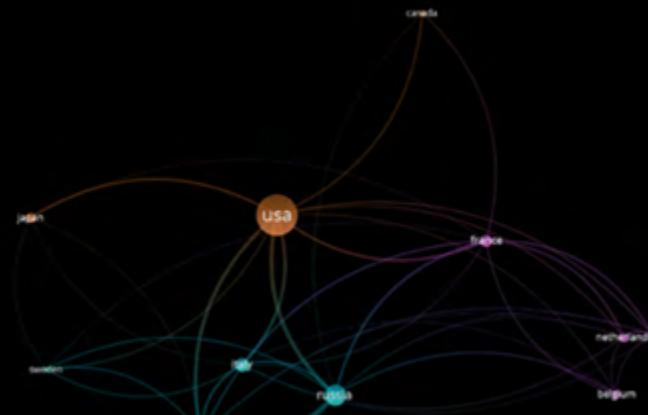
International Collaboration Percentage by Investigation Categories



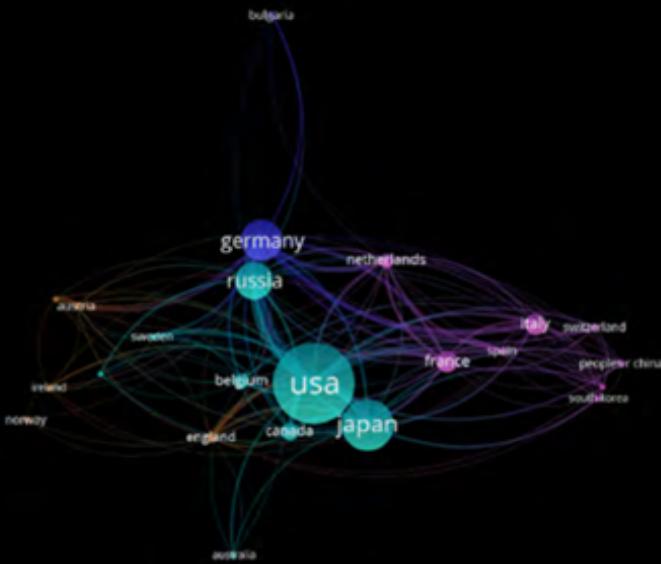
## Global Involvement in Utilization

# 20 Years of Collaboration

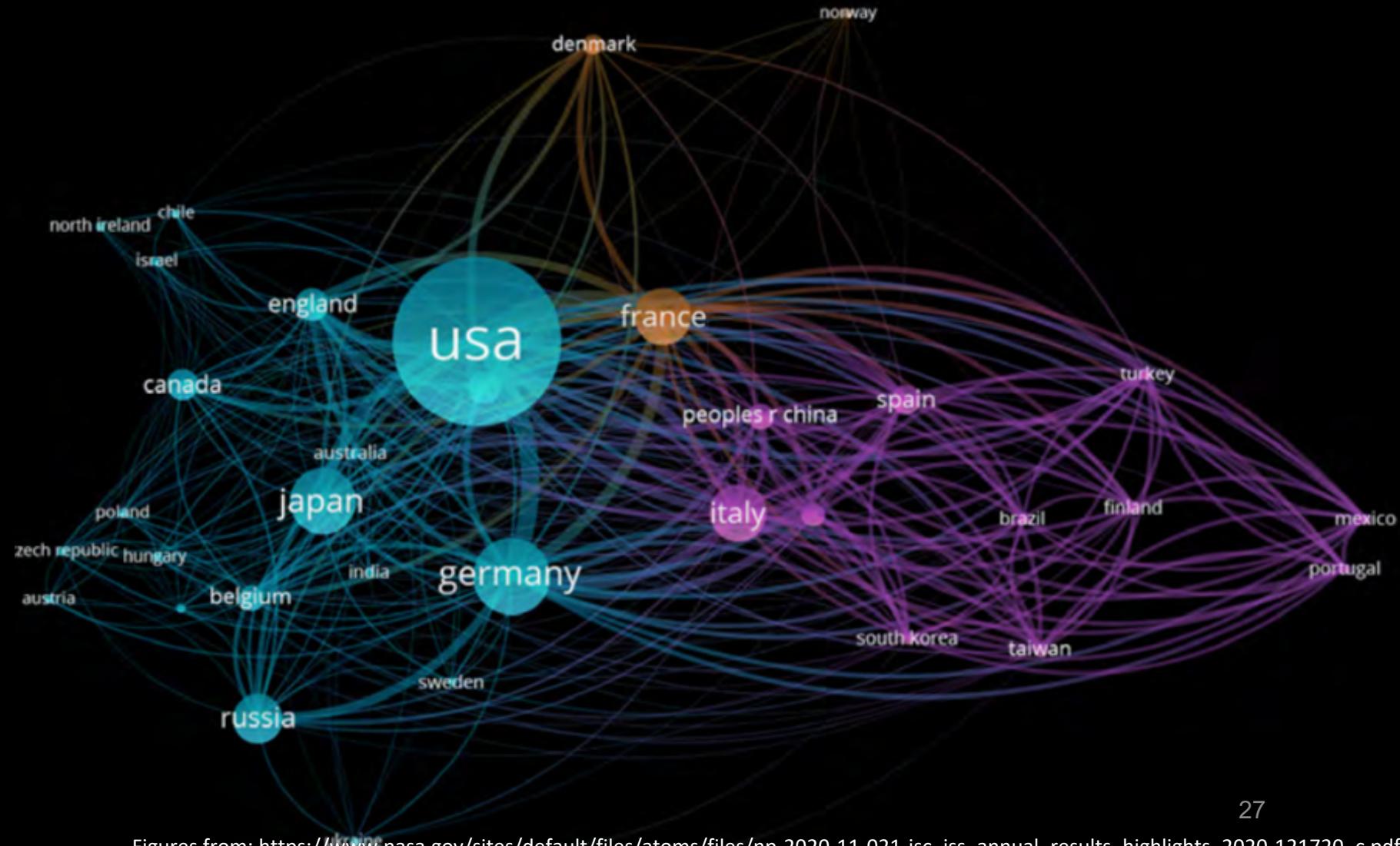
A) 2000 – 2007



B) 2008 - 2013



C) 2014 -2020



# ISS Research Statistics



## Current Investigations for 64: 228 †

- 148 NASA/U.S.-led investigations
- 80 International-led investigations
- 45 New Investigations
  - 0 CSA
  - 7 ESA
  - 3 JAXA
  - 35 NASA/US

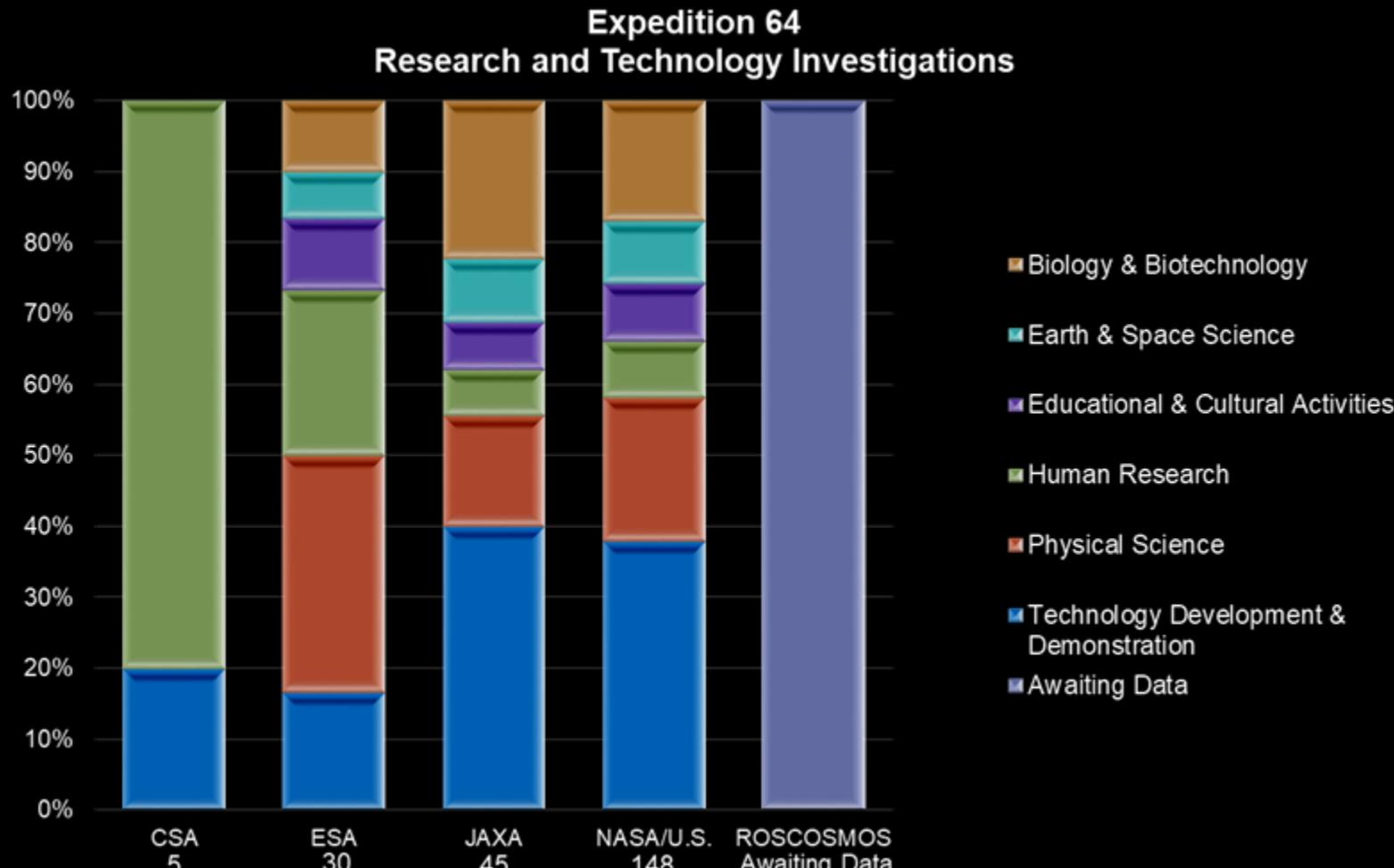
†*ROSCOSMOS Awaiting Data*

## MCB Approved Statistics Exp.

### 0-60

- 2948 Investigations
- 4269 Investigators Represented
- 108 Countries/Areas with ISS Research and Education Participation
- Over 2162 Scientific Results Publications (Dec 1998 – Sept 2020)

Estimated Number of Investigations Expedition 0-64: 3156\*



\*Pending Post Increment Adjustments

# Increment 63 (April '20 – Oct '20) Crew Time by Sponsor



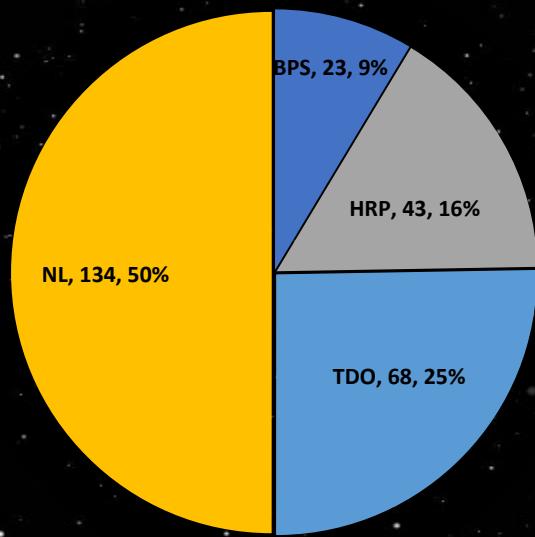
## ➤ Enablers

- Additional capability and crew time by extending Demo 2 duration
- Operationally ready reserve complement

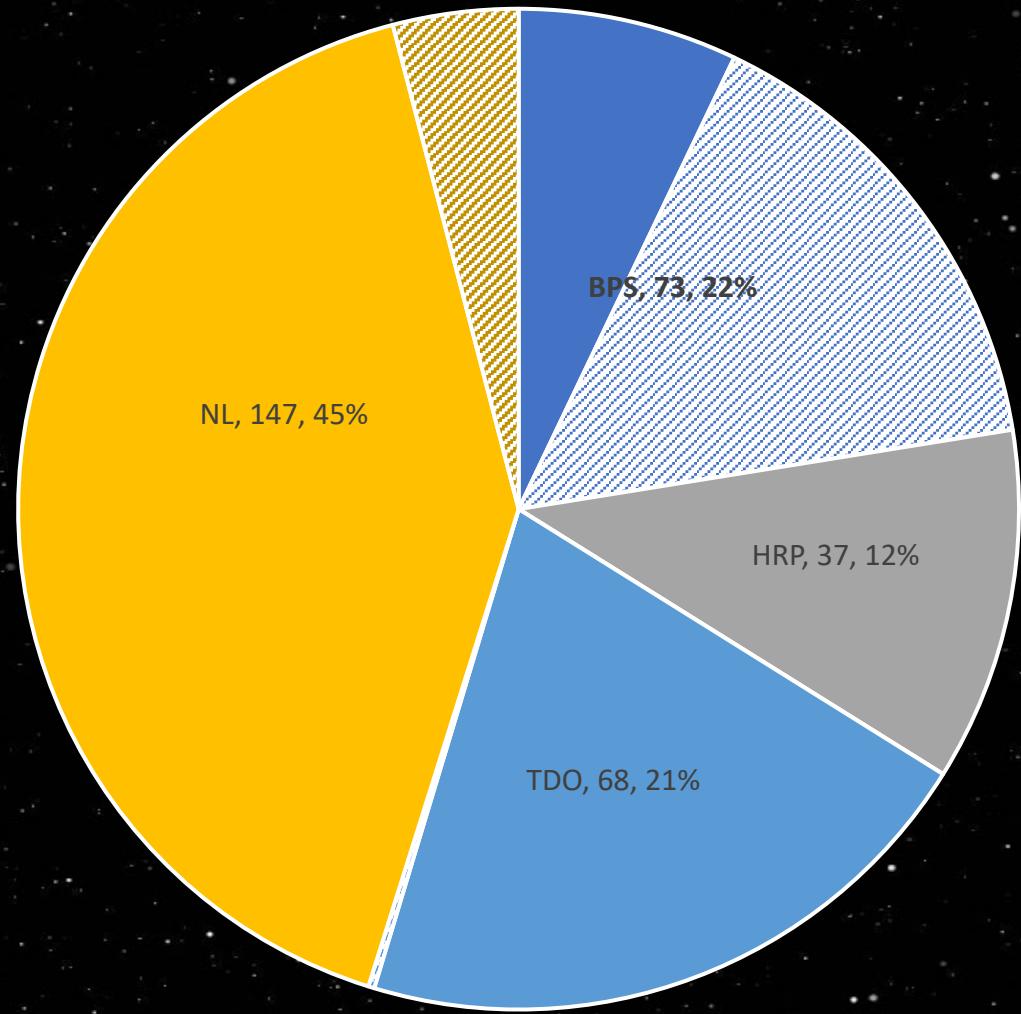
## ➤ Challenges

- Extended period with 1 USOS crew until Crew-1 arrival
- Loss of research requirements from Increment due to slip of NG-14 flight
- COVID-19 impacts to payload readiness

Planned Hours - 268



Actual Hours - 325



\*Hatched wedges indicate increase from plan





**ISS Future**

# ISS 20 Years of Human Presence



- Nov. 2, 2020 marked 20 years of continuous human presence on the International Space Station.
  - A 20-day countdown celebration (October 22 – November 2) featured various online activities like:

# Videos

## EZ Science episode with Drs. Ellen Stofan and Thomas Zurbuchen about the 20th anniversary



# *Documentary Release*

## 20 Years of Science: NASA Explorers S4 Bonus

### Video on the @NASA YouTube Channel



# ISS 20 Years of Human Presence



The New York Times

## 20 Years Aboard the International Space Station

By Eleanor Lutz Nov. 2, 2020

Twenty years ago today, three astronauts stepped aboard the International Space Station. Since then, the I.S.S. has hosted hundreds of residents from many countries. This is a history of our first 20 years of living aboard.

### The Space Station

During the past two decades, the I.S.S. grew from a small residence to a sprawling collection of laboratory modules, stowage platforms and crew living quarters.

### ZENITH 1 TRUSS

Structural addition to ISS • Oct. 14

Russia Progress M1-4

### The Passengers

Although the first piece of the I.S.S. reached orbit in 1998, it took another two years for the first permanent crew to arrive at the station. Since then, the I.S.S. has been continuously inhabited for two decades. Every I.S.S. visitor is shown on this timeline. Expedition crew members have an asterisk \* after their name.



SOYUZ TM-31  
Launched Oct. 31 (Docked Nov. 2)  
Russia ■ Yuri Gidzenko\*  
■ Sergei Krikalev\*  
U.S.A. ■ William Shepherd\*



## Social Media Engagement



Kerbal Space Program Reddit AMA

## Podcast Interview



EP 1: INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

[nasa.gov/station](http://nasa.gov/station) |  
#SpaceStation20th

# ISS Future and Transition Planning



2020 National Space Policy: “Continue the operation of the International Space Station in cooperation with international partners for scientific, technological, commercial, diplomatic, and educational purposes while developing separate commercial platforms to sustain continuous US presence in and utilization of low Earth orbit and to transition beyond ISS operations”

- **Key ISS Mission Goals:**

- **Enabling Exploration** - close all technology capability gaps and human research risk reduction activities requiring ISS as a testbed
- **Research to Benefit Humanity** - continue groundbreaking basic and applied government, academic, and commercial research requiring unique environment of space, with goal of sustained demand to support future platforms
- **International Partnership** - continue to lead partnership and expand opportunities for global participation
- **Enable Commercial LEO Economy** - work closely with Commercial LEO Office to enable new commercial initiatives and ensure no gap in LEO after ISS transition



A photograph of an astronaut in a white spacesuit floating in the void of space. The astronaut's back is to the viewer, showing the NASA logo on the left shoulder. In the background, the dark blue planet Earth is on the left, and the reddish-orange planet Mars is on the right. The image has a slight lens flare effect.

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



**Learn more about the space station at  
[NASA.GOV/STATION](http://NASA.GOV/STATION)**