

Round 1

Answers

Question 1



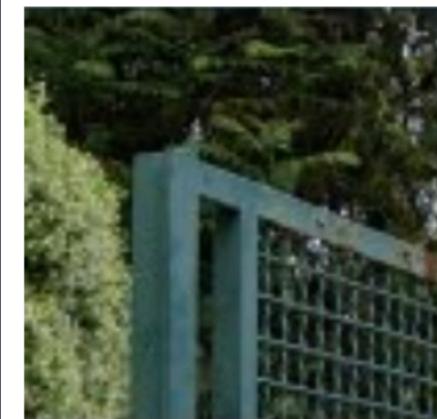
I'm not a robot



reCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

How many squares with bridges
are there?

Select all images with
bridges



VERIFY

Question 1 Answer

3

Question 2

What was the highest grossing film of 2024?
(As of 2023-11-26)

Question 2 Answer

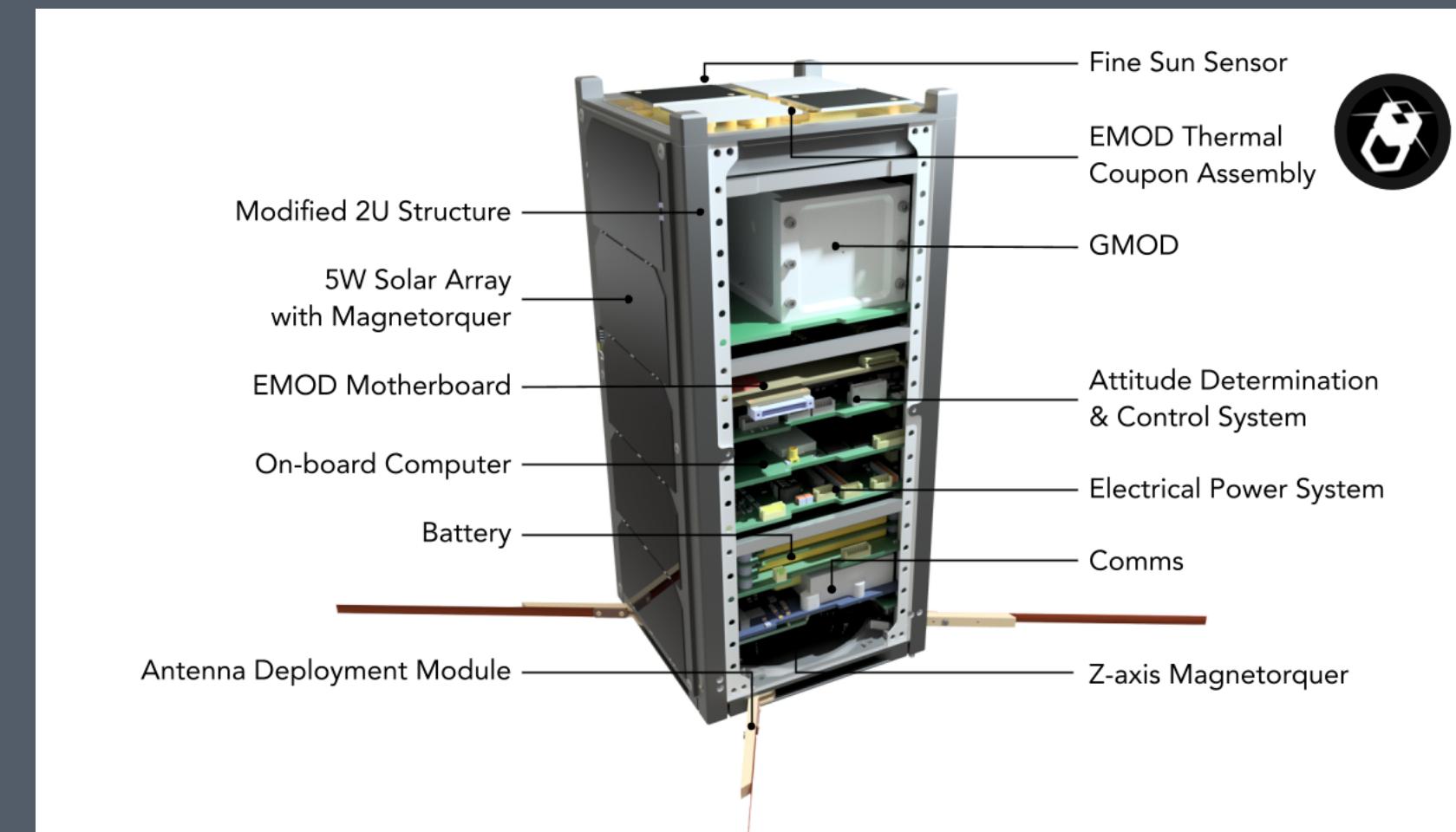
Barbie, \$1.4 billion

→ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2023_in_film

Question 3

What is the name of the first Irish satellite, due to be launch 1st December, 2023?

Bonus: What does the acronym stand for?

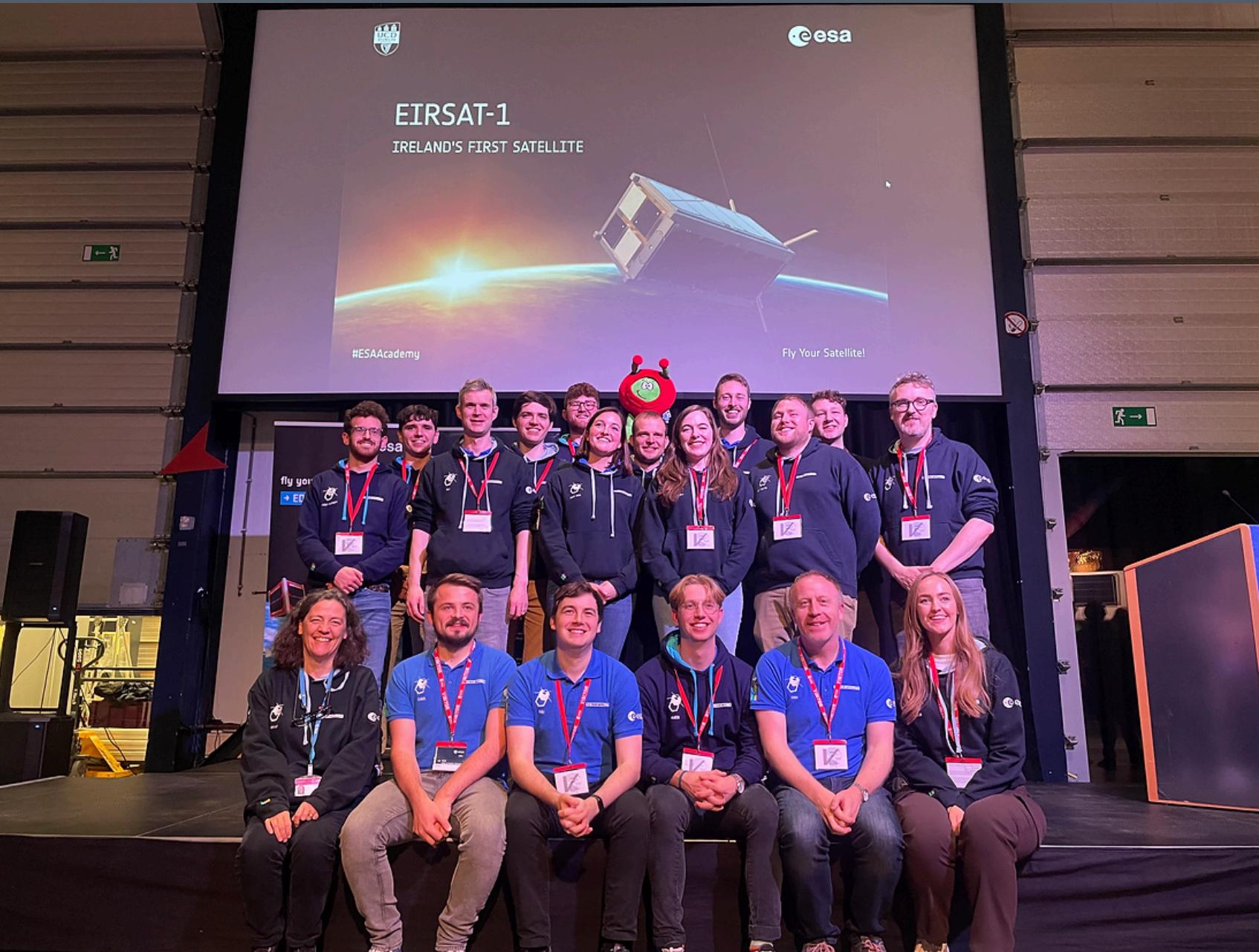


Question 3 Answer

EIRSAT-1

*Educational Irish Research
Satellite*

→ <https://www.eirsat1.ie/>



Question 4

What is widely regarded as the world's first computer virus and displayed a simple message ending with
'CATCH ME IF YOU CAN!'?

Question 4 Answer

Creeper

- [https://www.kaspersky.com/resource-center/
threats/a-brief-history-of-computer-viruses-and-
what-the-future-holds](https://www.kaspersky.com/resource-center/threats/a-brief-history-of-computer-viruses-and-what-the-future-holds)
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_virus

Question 5

Who first discussed the idea of computer viruses?
Clue: Their work went on to be shared in a series of lectures under the catch title of "Theory and Organization of Complicated Automata".

Question 5 Answer

John von Neumann

- [https://www.kaspersky.com/resource-center/
threats/a-brief-history-of-computer-viruses-and-
what-the-future-holds](https://www.kaspersky.com/resource-center/threats/a-brief-history-of-computer-viruses-and-what-the-future-holds)
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_virus

Question 6

Sam Bankman-Fried, the recently convicted ex-CEO of the crypto exchange FTX was known to play what game while on calls with investors?

Hint: the Financial Times classed his win ratio as “average-to-bad”

Question 6 Answer



League of Legends

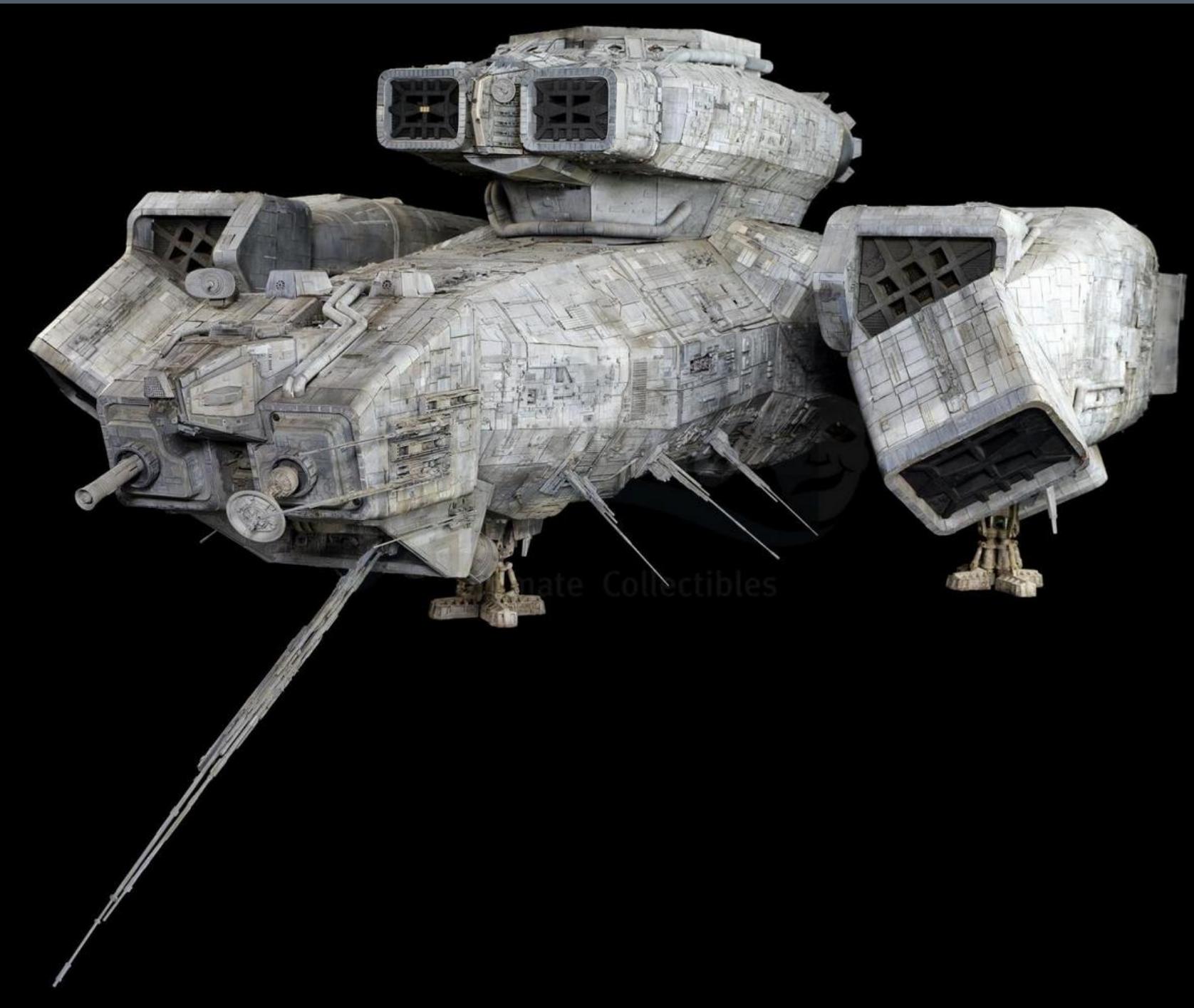
→ <https://www.ft.com/content/23ab2258-ce03-4fbb-a9b2-7d9ec6e3d7f0>

→ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sam_Bankman-Fried

Question 7

Name the film, game or TV series in which the following spaceship plays a role:

Nostromo



Question 7 Answer

Alien

→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
List of fictional spacecraft](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_fictional_spacecraft)

Question 8

Which fizzy soft drink can be used to visually represent a character in a 2D computer game?

Question 8 Answer

sprite

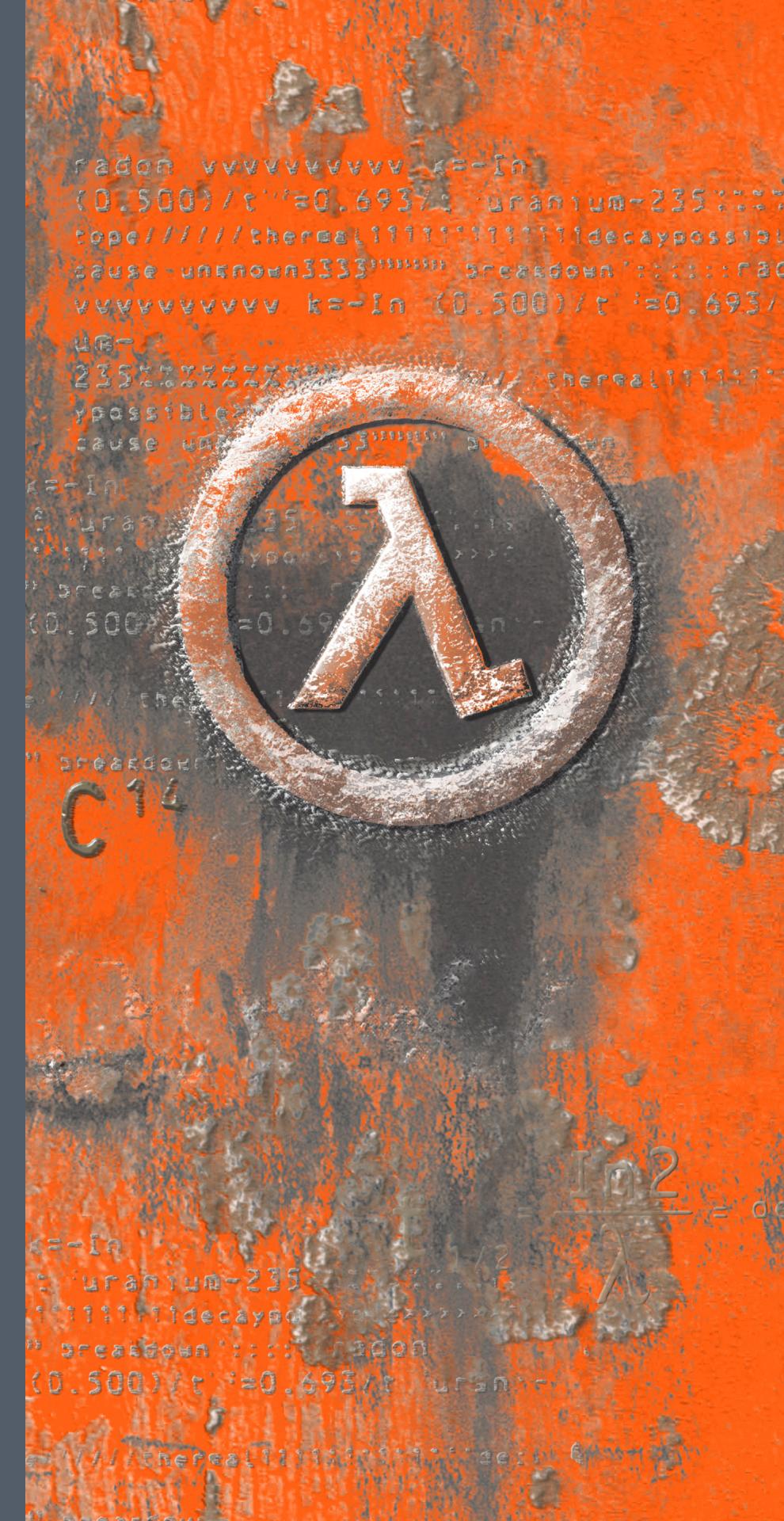
→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
Sprite_\(computer_graphics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sprite_(computer_graphics))

Question 9

The game Half-Life was released 25 years ago.

In it you play the scientist Gordon Freeman who is attempting to escape a research facility after an experiment goes terribly wrong.

What was the name of the research facility the game is set in?

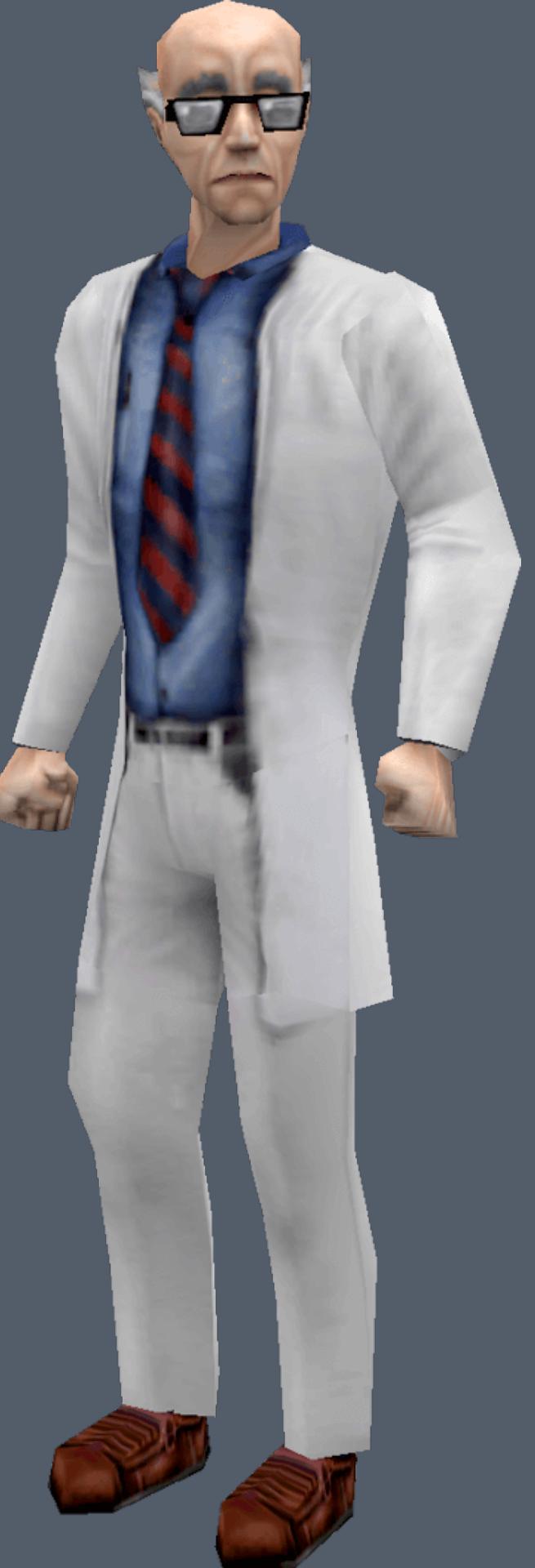


Question 9 Answer

Black Mesa

(or Black Mesa Research Facility)

→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
Half-Life_\(video_game\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Half-Life_(video_game))



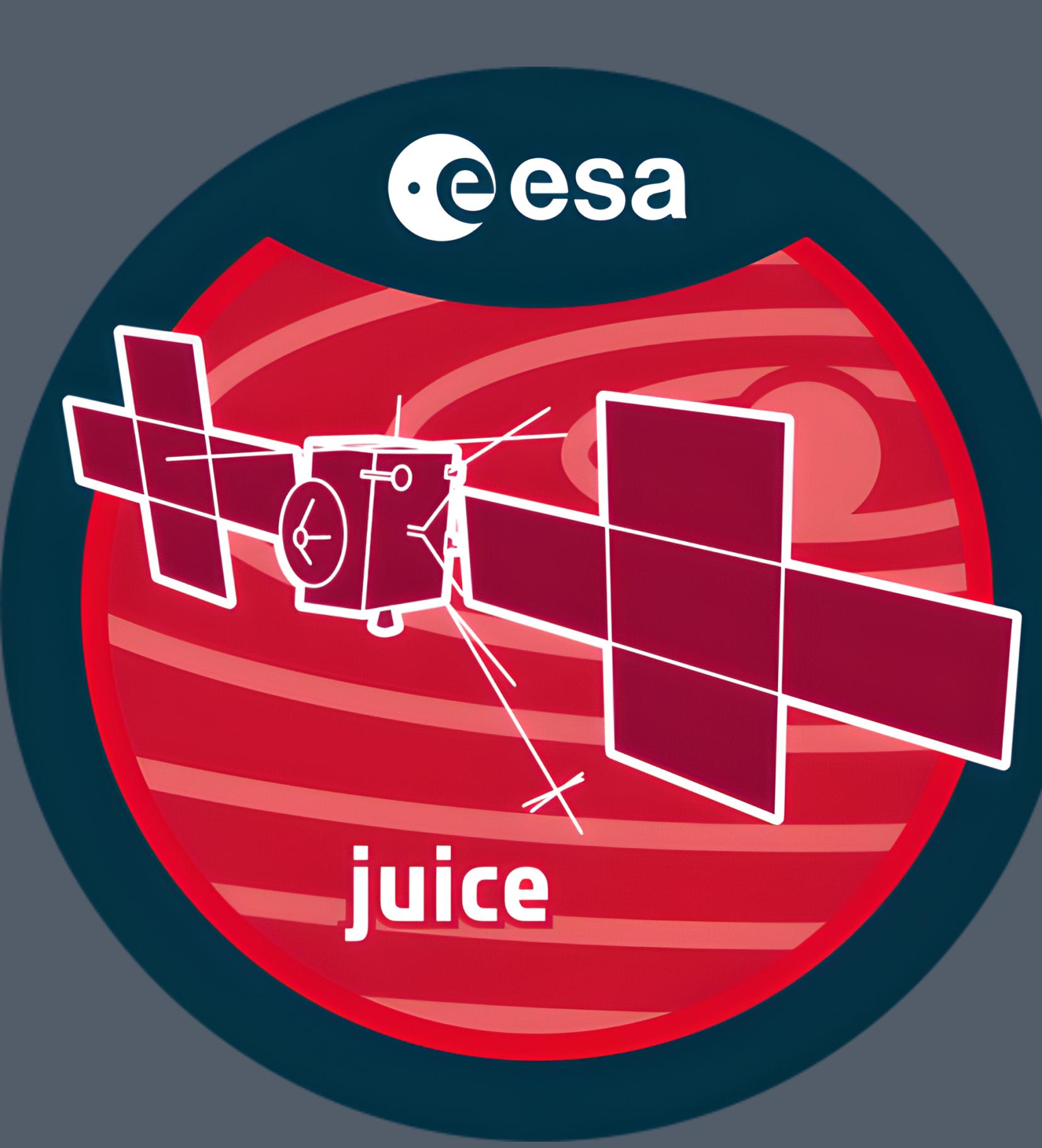
Question 10



The Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (Juice) is an interplanetary spacecraft that was launched on 14 April 2023 by the European Space Agency to explore Jupiter and its moons

When is it expected to reach Jupiter?

- a. 2031
- b. 2038
- c. 2040



•esa

juice

Question 10 Answer

a. 2031

It is expected to reach Jupiter in July 2031 after four gravity assists and eight years of travel.

→ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jupiter_Icy_Moons_Explorer

Round 2

Answers

Question 1

The long running TV series Doctor Who celebrated its what anniversary this year?



Question 1 Answer

60th

→ [https://www.bbc.com/
historyofthebbc/anniversaries/
november/doctor-who-first-
episode/](https://www.bbc.com/historyofthebbc/anniversaries/november/doctor-who-first-episode/)



Question 2

Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse used what open source 3D modelling tool for some of its animation?



Question 2 Answer

Blender

Grease Pencil on Spider-Verse... how did that happen?



- [https://conference.blender.org/
2023/presentations/1928/](https://conference.blender.org/2023/presentations/1928/)
- [https://youtu.be/8yHuJLeAAsA?
si=zYp42zBJEKg9pxMF](https://youtu.be/8yHuJLeAAsA?si=zYp42zBJEKg9pxMF)

Question 3

In what decade was the first working transistor invented?

- a. 1930s
- b. 1940s
- c. 1950s
- d. 1960s

Question 3 Answer

b. 1940s

→ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transistor>

Question 4

Name the film, game or TV series
in which the following spaceship
plays a role:

Normandy SR-1





Question 4 Answer

Mass Effect

→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
List_of_fictional_spaceships](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_fictional_spaceships)

Question 5

Chips, chips or chips! Which of these is a potato chip (ie. crisps, eaten unheated), a proper chip (ie. chipper chips, eaten hot) or a computer chip?

→ Fatter Agnus

→ Funyon

→ Poutine

1 point per correct answer

Question 5 Answer

- Fatter Agnus (Computer chip)
- Funyon (Potato chip)
- Poutine (Proper chip)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
Amiga Original Chip Set](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amiga_Original_Chip_Set)
- <https://parade.com/food/types-of-chips>
- [https://www.tastingtable.com/1344905/types-
french-fries-ranked/](https://www.tastingtable.com/1344905/types-french-fries-ranked/)

Question 6

Know your meme: fill in the blank:

Sci-Fi Author: In my book I invented the ____ as a cautionary tale

Tech Company: At long last, we have created the ____ from classic sci-fi novel Don't Create The ____

(Same answer for all blanks)

Question 6 Answer

Torment Nexus

Sci-Fi Author: In my book I invented the Torment Nexus as a cautionary tale

Tech Company: At long last, we have created the Torment Nexus from classic sci-fi novel Don't Create The Torment Nexus

→ <https://twitter.com/AlexBlechman/status/1457842724128833538?lang=en>

Question 7

Complete the following:

A badger, badger

Badger, badger, badger

Badger, badger, badger

Badger, badger, badger

_____, _____!



Question 7 Answer

**mushroom,
mushroom**

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=cMxRFCKIqr0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cMxRFCKIqr0)
- [https://genius.com/Mr-weebl-
badger-badger-badger-lyrics](https://genius.com/Mr-weebl-badger-badger-badger-lyrics)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
Badgers %28animation%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Badgers_%28animation%29)



Question 8



Metal Gear Solid is an action adventure stealth game created by Hideo Kojima

It was released on the Playstation how many years ago?

- a. 20 years ago
- b. 25 years ago
- c. 30 years ago

Question 8 Answer

b. 25 years ago

Released in 1998

What's the situation, Snake ?



Question 9

On September 24th the sample return module from NASA's OSIRIS-REx mission successfully touched back down on Earth.

Inside were samples successfully retrieved from a near Earth asteroid

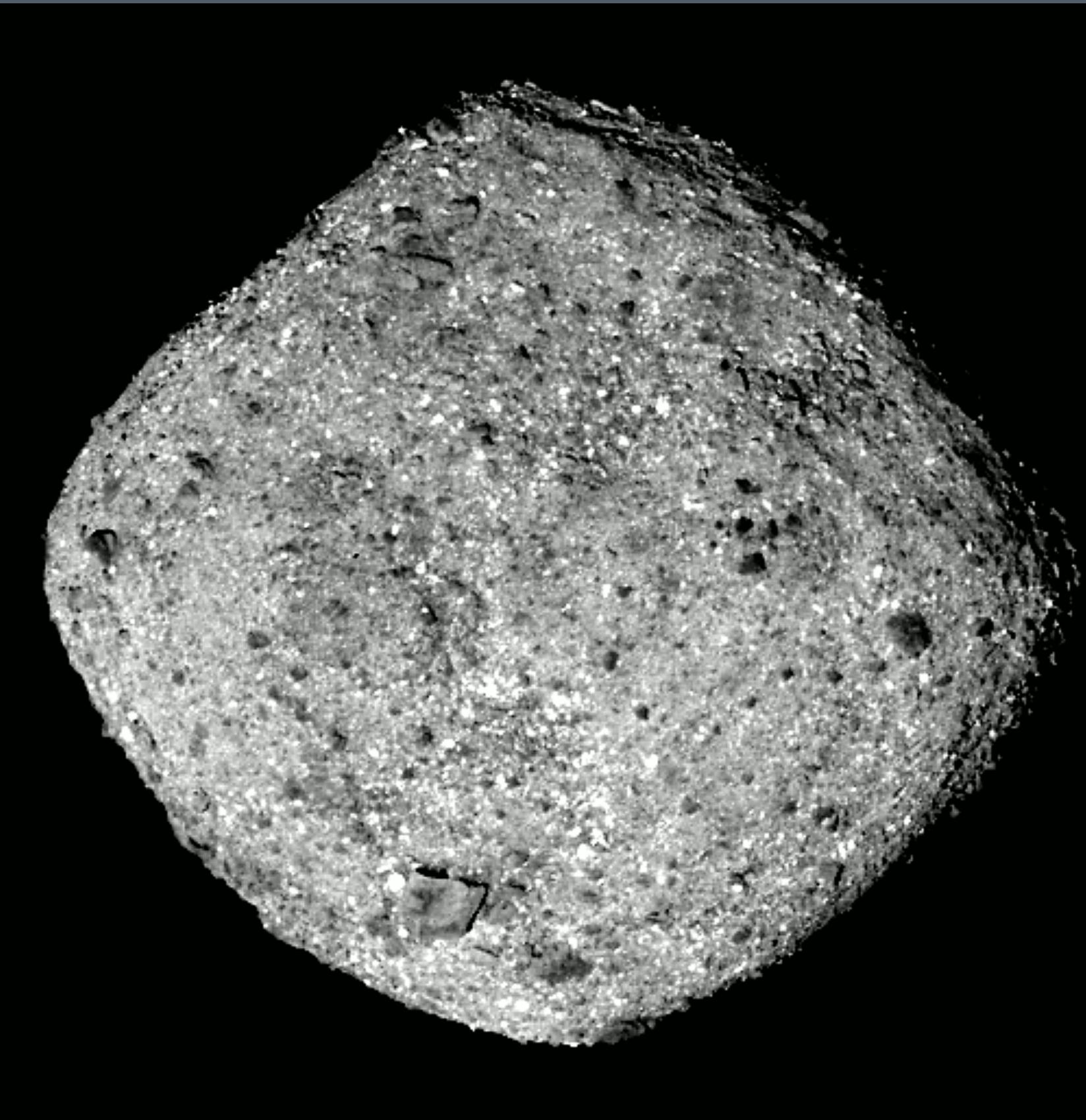
What was the name of the asteroid it took samples from?



Question 9 Answer

Bennu

101955 Bennu, a carbonaceous near-Earth asteroid.



Question 10

A bitcoiner recently made history for the largest transaction fee in Bitcoin history.

How much was it?

- a. ~\$500,000
- b. ~\$1,000,000
- c. ~\$3,000,000

Bitcoiner spends \$3 million on transaction fee

A Bitcoiner making a large transaction ended up spending 83.64 BTC (~\$3 million) of the 139.42 BTC (~\$5.1 million) transaction on transaction fees, effectively spending \$3 million to send what ended up being a \$2 million transfer. This likely error on the sender's part has become the largest transaction fee in Bitcoin history.

A similar incident occurred in September, when the Paxos crypto firm erroneously paid a \$500,000 fee to send \$1,865. They attributed the huge fee to a bug in their software, and the F2Pool mining pool (who had mined the block and received the fee) opted to return the overpayment.

- "[Bitcoin Sender Struck With \\$3.1M Transaction Fee, Largest in History](https://web3isgoinggreat.com/?id=bitcoiner-spends-3-million-on-transaction-fee)", *CoinDesk* [archive].

Other entries related to erroneous transaction fees

Question 10 Answer

C. ~\$3,000,000
(83.64 BTC)

(Transaction fees are usually < \$100)

→ <https://web3isgoinggreat.com/?id=bitcoiner-spends-3-million-on-transaction-fee>

Round 3

Answers

Question 1



I'm not a robot



reCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

How many squares with buses are there?

Select all squares with
buses
If there are none, click skip



Question 1 Answer

16 or None

→ <https://mastodon.social/@jemjabella/111204496899609794>

Question 2

In what year did we first run this table quiz?

- a. 2005
- b. 2010
- c. 2016

Question 2 Answer

c. 2010

Question 3

Name the film, game or TV series in which the following spaceship plays a role:

USS Cerritos

Question 3 Answer

Star Trek: Lower Decks

(or Lower Decks)

→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
List_of_fictional_spacecraft](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_fictional_spacecraft)





Question 4

We love QR codes and you've probably scanned a fair few of them. But what does QR stand for?

Bonus: For what purpose were QR codes invented?



Question 4 Answer

Quick Response

Bonus: For labelling automobile parts

→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
QR_code](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QR_code)

Question 5

Red Hat is famous for its Linux distribution and hat logo

This year it celebrated a major anniversary

What year was it founded?

Question 5 Answer

Founded in 1993

30 years ago



Question 6

How Many Buttons were on the Original NES controller (including the D-pad)

- a. 4
- b. 5
- c. 8
- d. 10
- e. 15

C. 8

Question 6 Answer



Question 7

Autonomous taxi company Cruise recently lost their self-driving permits in California.

Before they lost their license what common object did protestors use to immobilize Cruise cars?

Question 7 Answer

Traffic Cone

All it takes to render the technology-packed self-driving car inoperable is a traffic cone. If all goes according to plan, it will stay there, frozen, until someone comes and removes it.

→ <https://www.npr.org/2023/08/26/1195695051/driverless-cars-san-francisco-waymo-cruise>



Question 8

Software updates are important
NASA recently patched a famous
space probe in October
What is it's name?

Question 8 Answer

Voyager

Voyager 2 to be precise, Voyager 1 will be patched later

After 46 years Voyager is still getting updates!

→ <https://arstechnica.com/space/2023/10/nasa-wants-the-voyagers-to-age-gracefully-so-its-time-for-a-software-patch/>



Question 9

50 years ago Xerox released the Xerox Alto, the computer many regarded as having defined Graphical User Interfaces as we know them

The Alto also marked the introduction of what networking technology?

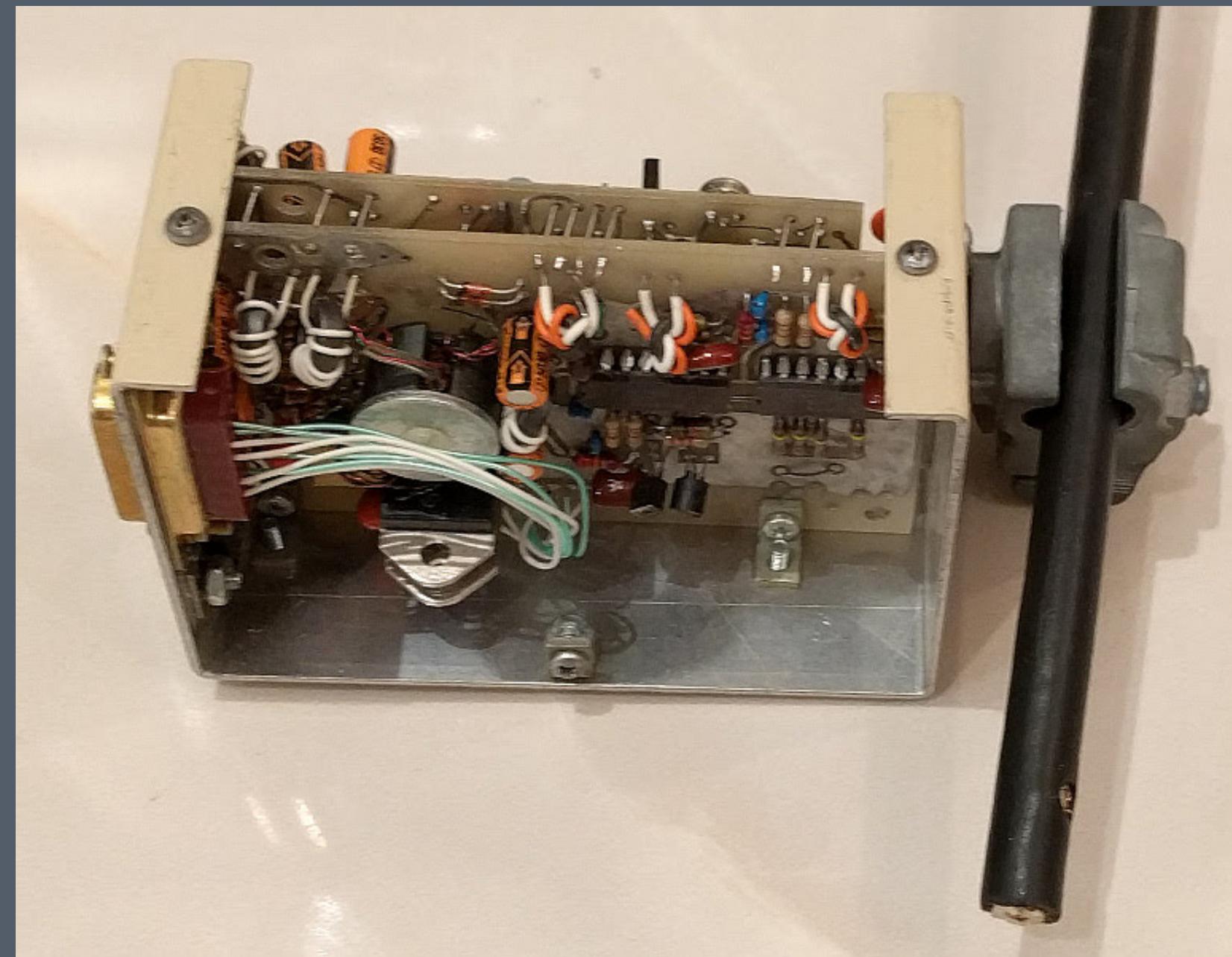


Question 9 Answer

Ethernet

Created to allow Xerox Alto computers communicate with each other

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xerox_Alto
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethernet>
- <https://www.righto.com/2018/01/xerox-altos-3-mbs-ethernet-building.html>

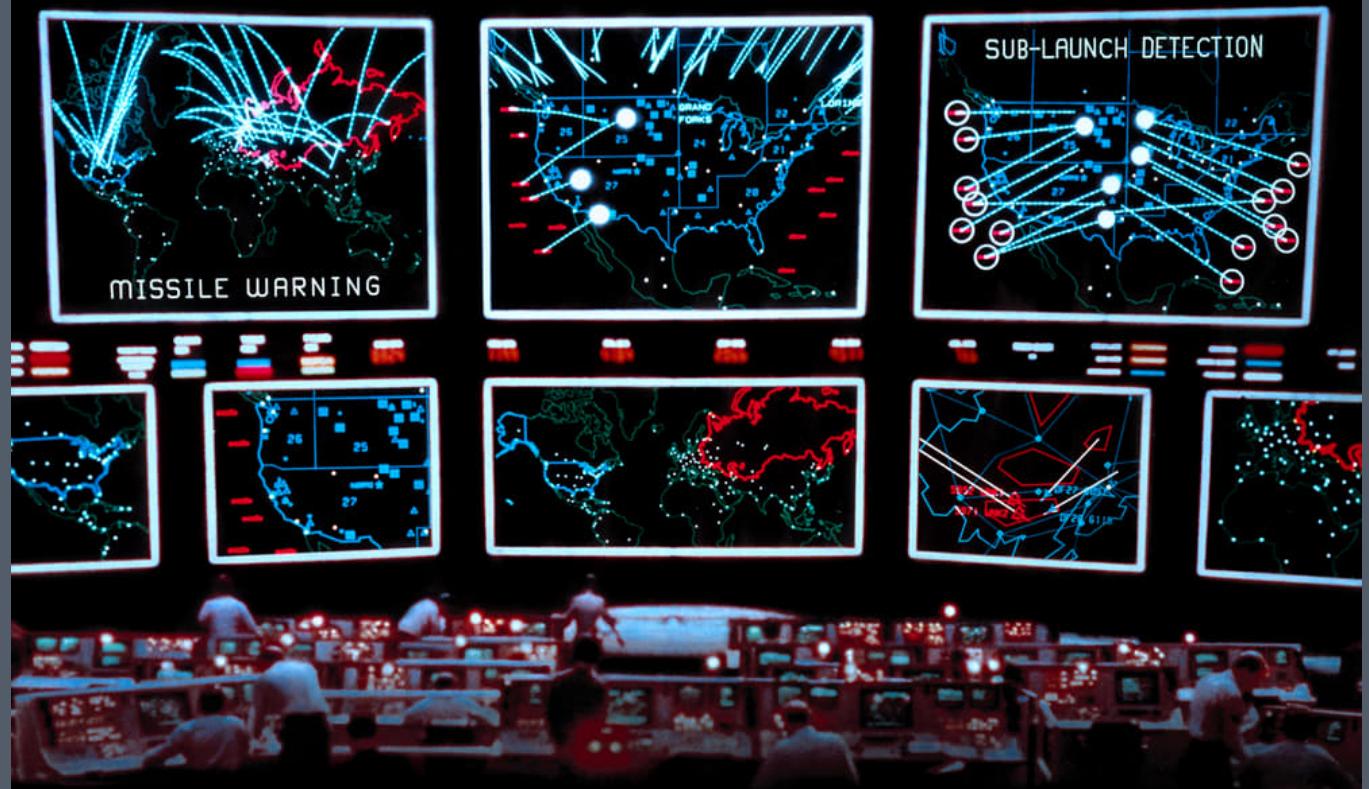


Question 10

Which movie is this quote from?

Shall we play a game?

Bonus: What is the name of the AI who said it?



WARGAMES



Question 10 Answer

WarGames

Bonus: JOSHUA

the only winning move is not to play

→ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WarGames>

Round 4

Answers

Question 1



I'm not a robot

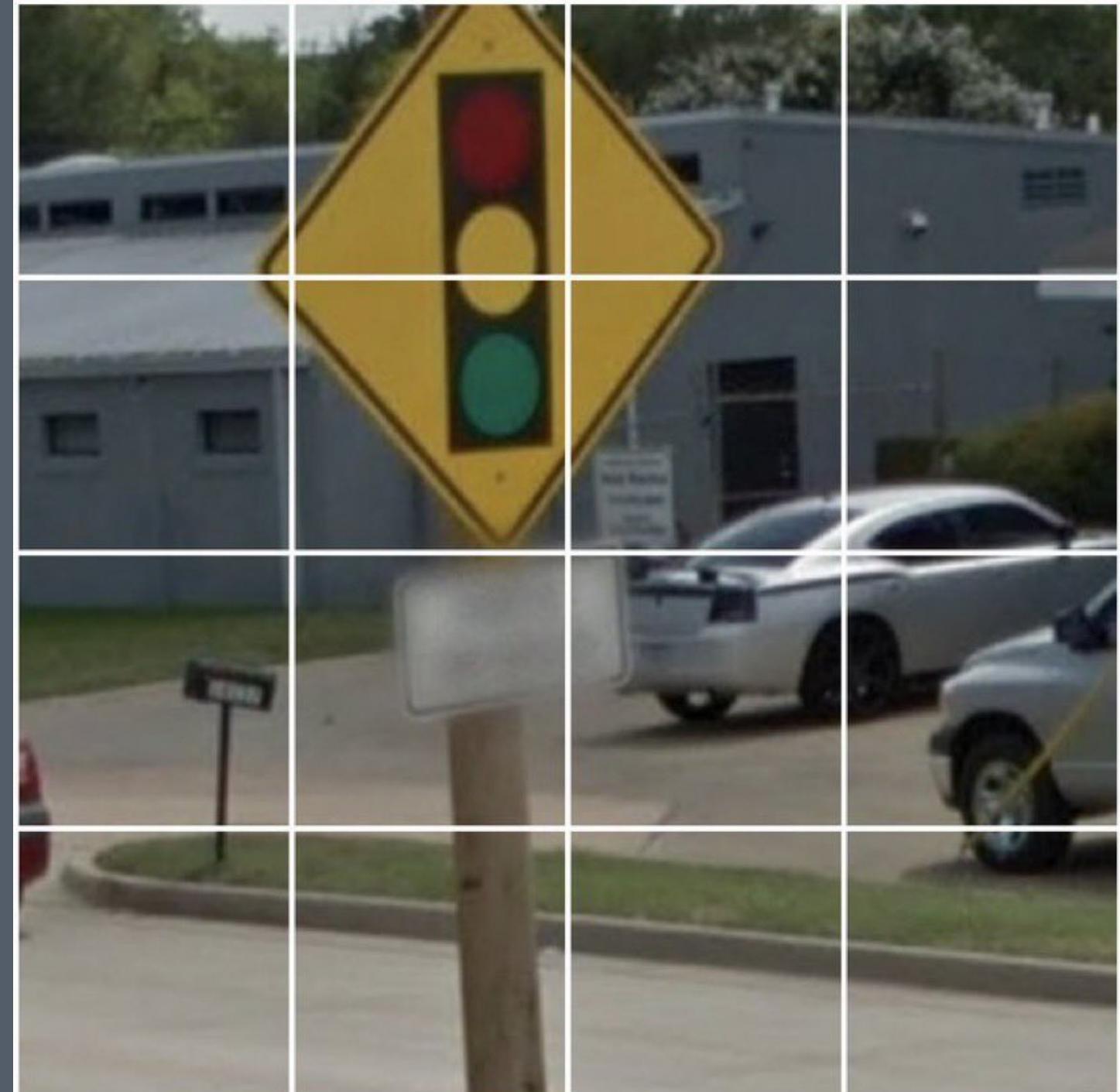


reCAPTCHA
Privacy - Terms

How many squares with traffic lights are there?

- a. None
- b. 2

Select all squares with
traffic lights



Question 1 Answer

b. 2

according to reCAPTCHA

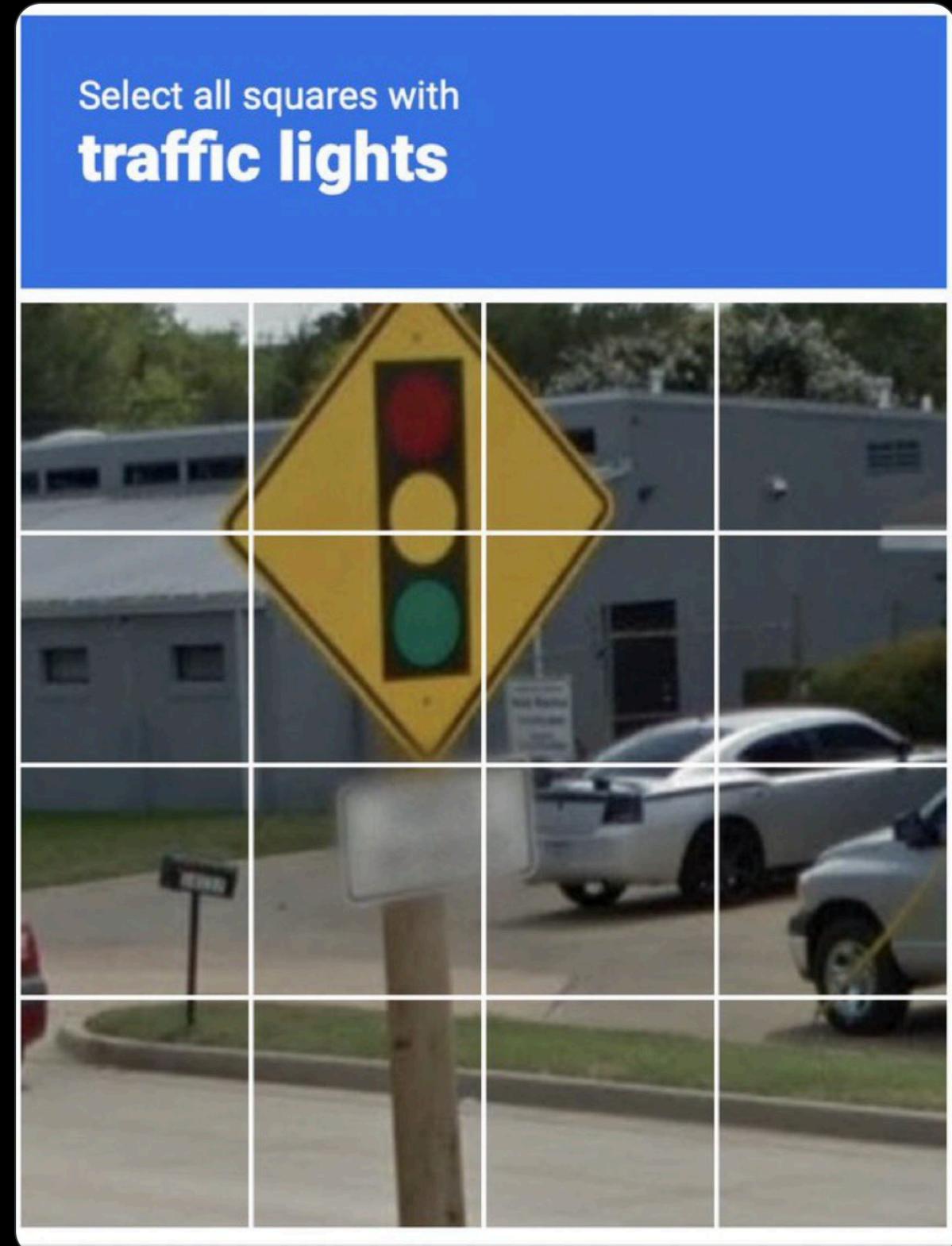
→ [https://twitter.com/
ThatsMauvelous/status/
1576675184165068800](https://twitter.com/ThatsMauvelous/status/1576675184165068800)



Mauv

@ThatsMauvelous

the machine refused to recognize my humanity until i professed to believe
that a sign painted to look like a traffic light is indeed a traffic light.



Question 2



Name the film, game or TV series
in which the following spaceship
plays a role:

Heart of Gold

Question 2 Answer

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
List_of_fictional_spacecraft](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_fictional_spacecraft)



Question 3

The term "bug" was used in an account by computer pioneer Grace Hopper, who publicized the cause of a malfunction in an early electromechanical computer.

What bug (insect) was it?

Question 3 Answer

Moth

→ <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/worlds-first-computer-bug/>

→ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software_bug

92

9/9

0800 Antran started
1000 " stopped - antran ✓
13"sec (032) MP - MC ~~1.2700~~ 2.130476715 (033) 4.615925059 (-)
(033) PRO 2 2.130476415

Relays 6-2 in 033 failed special speed test
in relay 10.0m test.

1700 Started Cosine Tape (Sine check)
1525 Started Multi Adder Test.



Relay #70 Panel F
(moth) in relay.

First actual case of bug being found.
1630 Antran started.
1700 closed down.

Relay
2145

Relay 3370

Question 4

Dave Tennant has reprised his role as the 14th Doctor in the recent Doctor Who specials.

Who will play the 15th Doctor in Doctor Who, starting this Christmas?



Question 4 Answer

Ncuti Gatwa

→ <https://www.bbc.com/mediacentre/2023/doctor-who-new-trailer-60th-anniversary-specials>

→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Doctor_\(Doctor_Who\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Doctor_(Doctor_Who))



Question 5

On the 23rd of August 2023 India became the 4th country to successfully do what in space?



Question 5 Answer

Land on the Moon

The mission consists of a lunar lander named Vikram and a lunar rover named Pragyan

→ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrayaan-3>



Question 6

Amazing languages like Elixir and Erlang run on a virtual machine called the BEAM.

It is not as creatively named as the JVM but nonetheless what does BEAM stand for?

Question 6 Answer

It was short for Bogdan's Erlang Abstract Machine
(Björn's Erlang Abstract Machine is also acceptable)

→ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
BEAM_\(Erlang_virtual_machine\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BEAM_(Erlang_virtual_machine))

Question 7

Collectors of Bored Ape NFT recently attended an "ApeFest" event in Hong Kong, which culminated in a concert.

After the concert some attendees complained about excruciating pain in which part of the body?



Question 7 Answer

Eyes 

→ <https://web3isgoinggreat.com/?id=apefest-photokeratitis>

November 4, 2023

Bored Ape collectors experience searing eye pain after "ApeFest" party

Bored Ape collectors attending an ApeFest party in Hong Kong have now been subjected to the kind of eye pain the rest of us have felt for years having to look at their hideous, pricey JPEGs.

The going theory is that event organizers skimped on lighting costs by using UV lights intended for sanitization, not for entertainment, causing burns to the eyes and skin.

The eye condition, [photokeratitis](#), is better known as "snow blindness" or "welder's flash", as it more typically affects people who haven't worn proper eye protection while welding or while exposed to sunlight reflected from ice and snow.



All this time I thought the lasers were going in the other direction (BAYC #9291)
[\(attribution\)](#)

Question 8

By views in the first 91 days, what is the most popular show on Netflix (in English)?

- a. Stranger Things 4
- b. Bridgerton: Season 1
- c. Wednesday: Season 1

Question 8 Answer

C. Wednesday: Season 1

(Only beaten by Squid Game (non-English))

→ [https://www.netflix.com/tudum/
top10/most-popular/tv?
week=2023-11-26](https://www.netflix.com/tudum/top10/most-popular/tv?week=2023-11-26)

Most Popular TV (English)

As of November 26, 2023

TITLE	HOURS VIEWED	RUNTIME	VIEWS
1 Wednesday: Season 1	1,718,800,000	6:49	252,100,000
2 Stranger Things 4	1,838,000,000	13:04	140,700,000
3 DAHMER: Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story	1,031,100,000	8:55	115,600,000
4 Bridgerton: Season 1	929,300,000	8:12	113,300,000
5 The Queen's Gambit: Limited Series	746,400,000	6:37	112,800,000
6 The Night Agent: Season 1	803,200,000	8:11	98,200,000
7 Stranger Things 3	716,100,000	7:33	94,800,000
8 Bridgerton: Season 2	797,200,000	8:30	93,800,000
9 The Witcher: Season 1	663,600,000	8:00	83,000,000
10 Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story	526,800,000	6:29	81,300,000

Question 9

Apple's recent October 30th keynote was the usual slickly produced sales event

There was something different about how this event was produced.

What was different?

Question 9 Answer

Filmed entirely on a phone

→ <https://www.apple.com/newsroom/2023/10/behind-the-scenes-at-scary-fast-apples-keynote-event-shot-on-iphone/>



Question 10

During a recent spacewalk outside the International Space Station what got dropped?

Question 10 Answer

A toolbag

→ <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2023/nov/11/astronaut-toolbag-earth-spacewalk>



EVA #89 lost tool bag
Offshore Japan

picture taken by Satoshi Furukawa
02 Nov 2023 / 21:39 GMT
ISS070-E-15786
© All images are courtesy of <http://eol.jsc.nasa.gov/>

Selected and Enhanced by
 

Tie-Breaker Answers

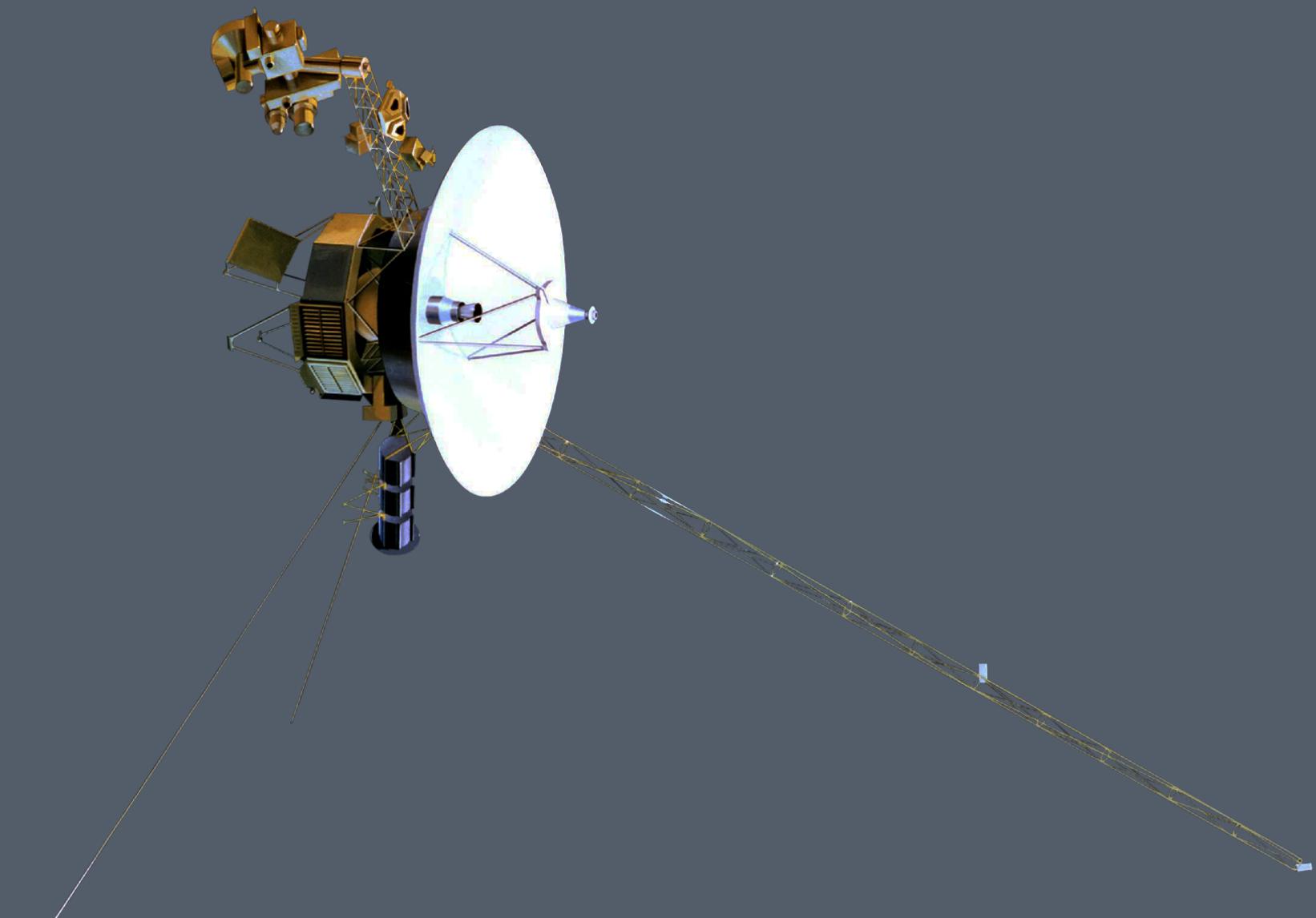
Question 1

Voyager 2 is currently in interstellar space

To the closest whole AU, how far away is Voyager 2 from Earth?

1 AU is the distance from the Earth to the Sun

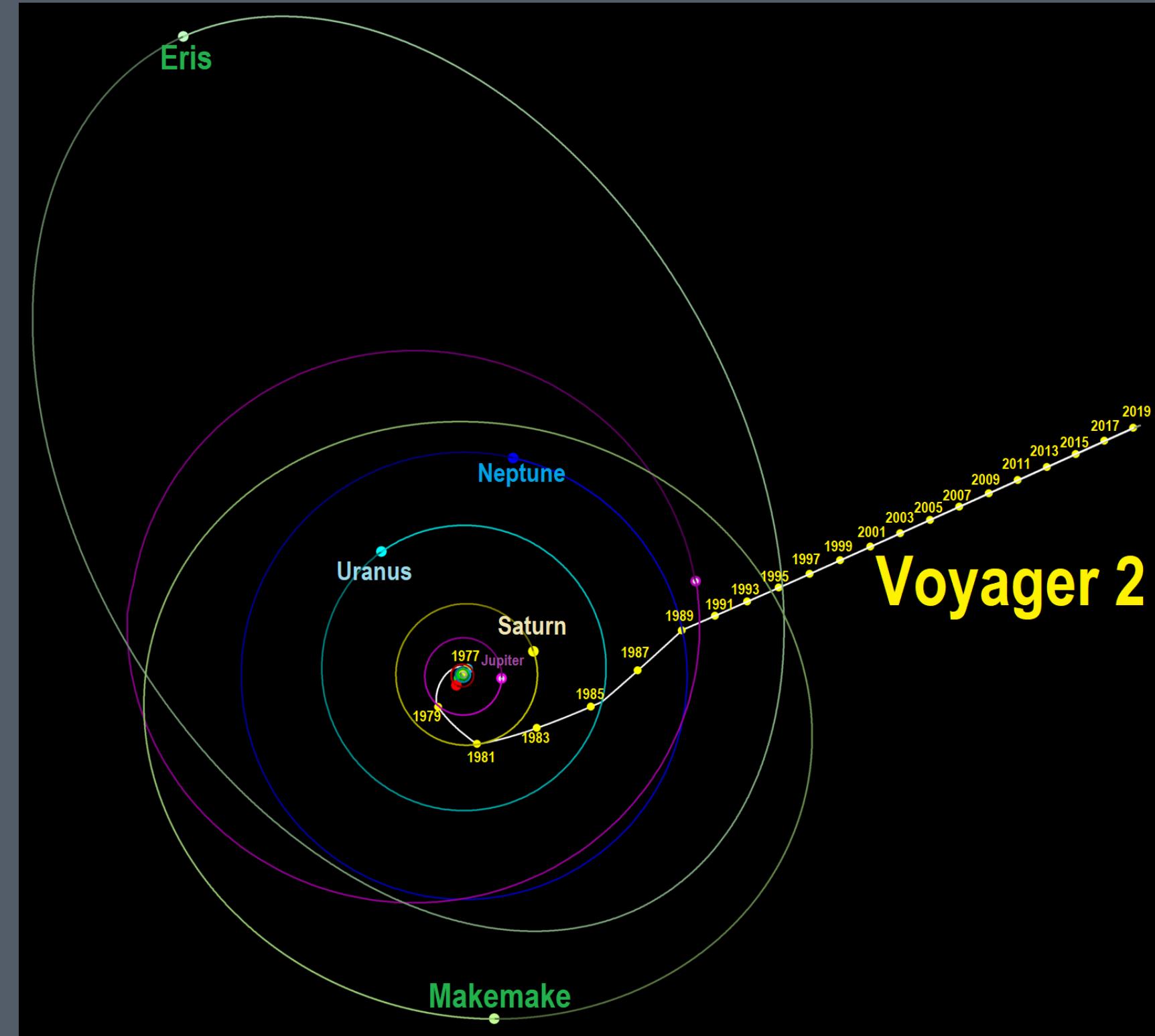
Write it down in secret so we can compare!



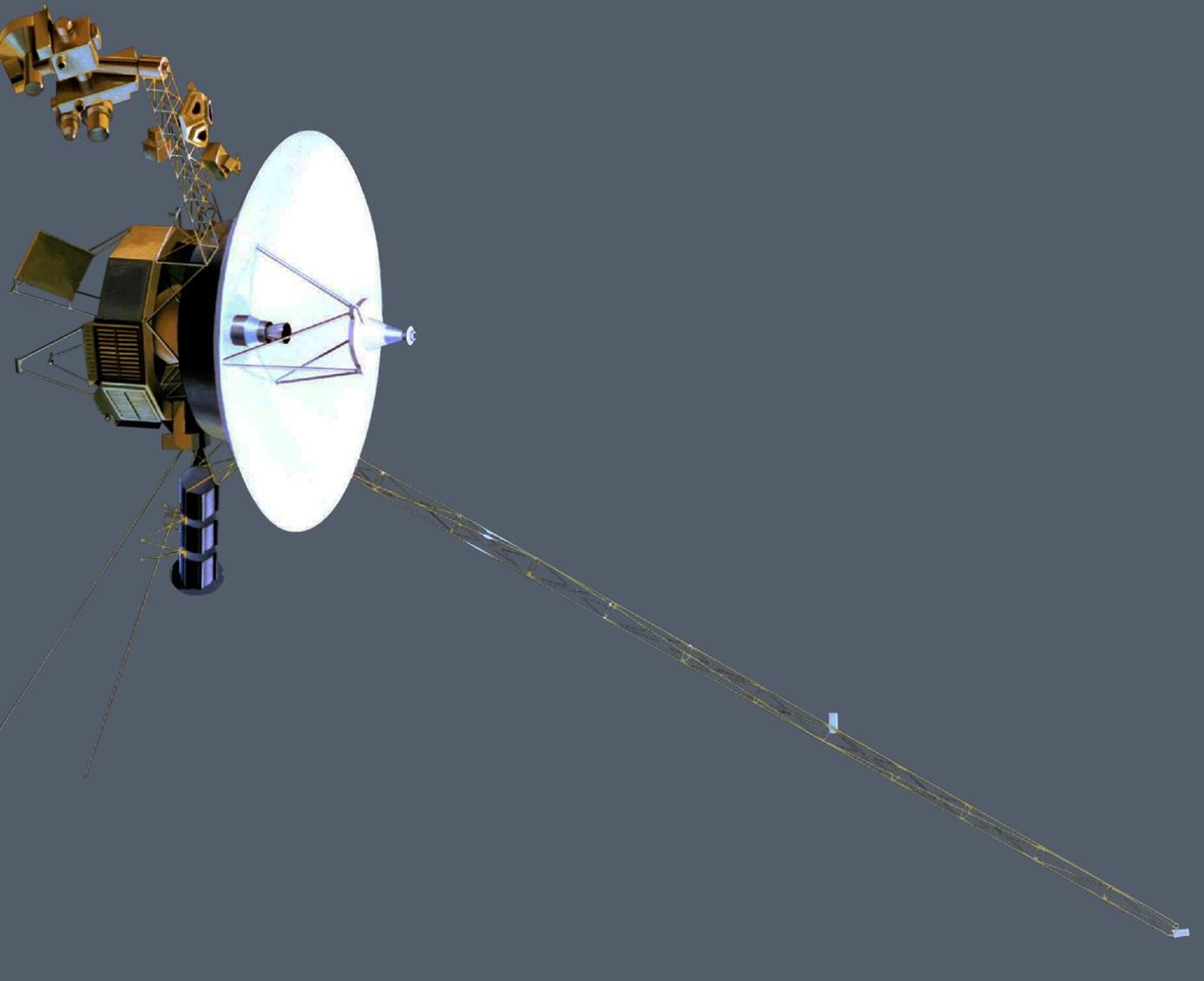
Question 1 Answer

134 AU

It is at a distance of 134 AU (20 billion km; 12 billion mi) from Earth as of November 2023.



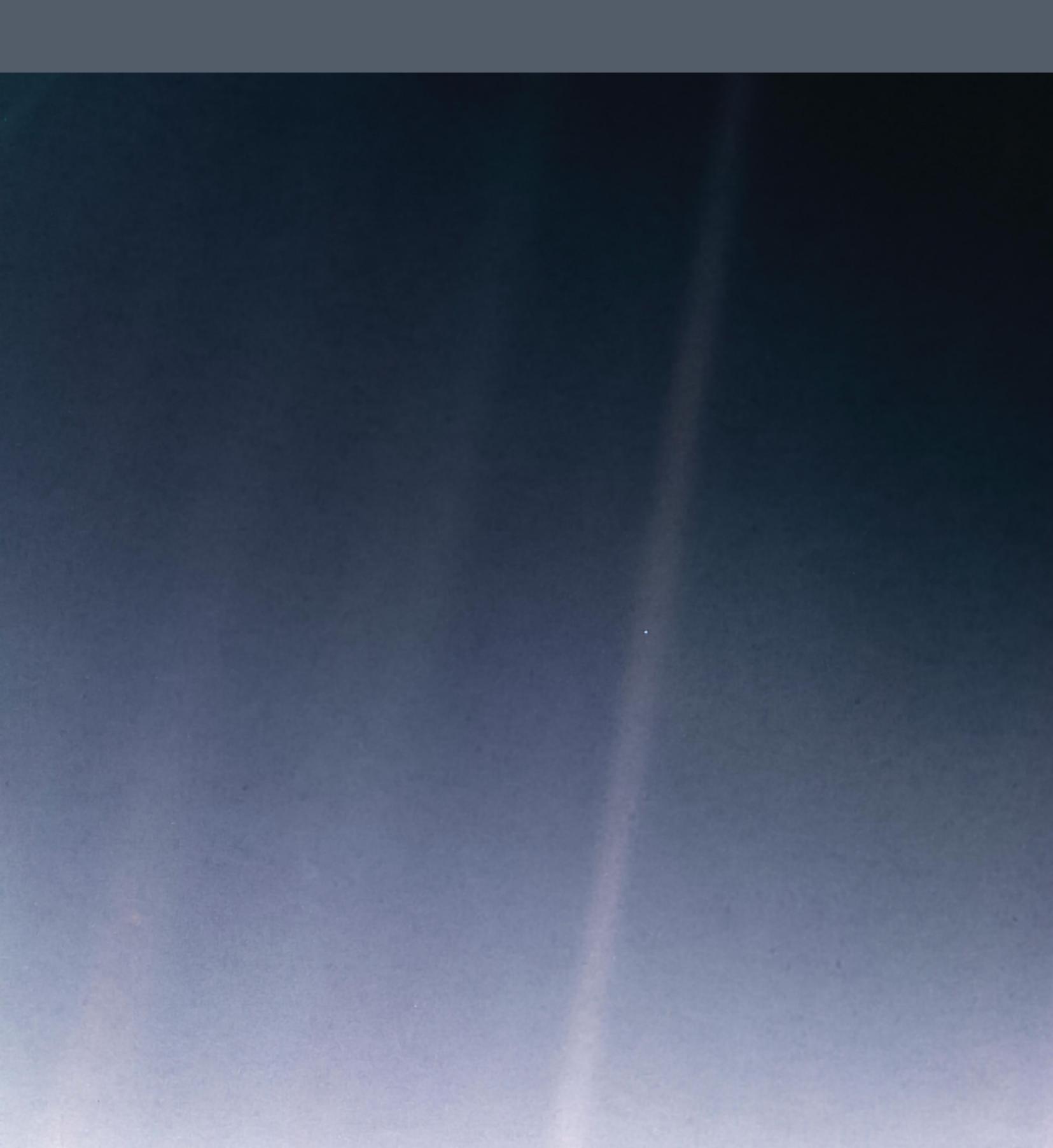
Question 2



Voyager 1 is the furthest man made object from Earth

To the closest whole AU, how far away is Voyager 1 from Earth?

Write it down in secret so we can compare!



Question 2 Answer

162 AU

