



Quantum Gravity Sensing in Space

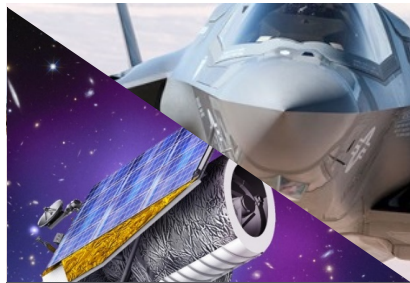
Steve Maddox

NCEO AND CEOI EARTH OBSERVATION CONFERENCE
September 2019

The Value we Bring

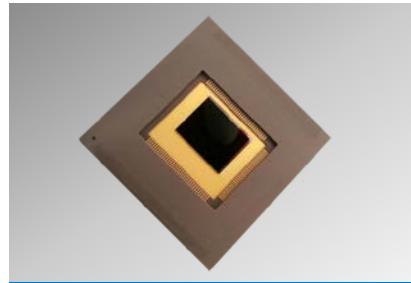
The Best Sensing Solutions for Your Needs

**Space Qualified | Mil-Spec | Hybrid | COTS+ | Industrial
Detector | Camera | Quantum Sensing | Engineered System**



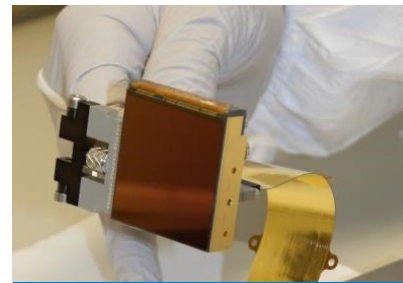
Your Partner

COTS & Custom
Sensors
Engineered
Detection Systems
Technical &
Consultancy
Services



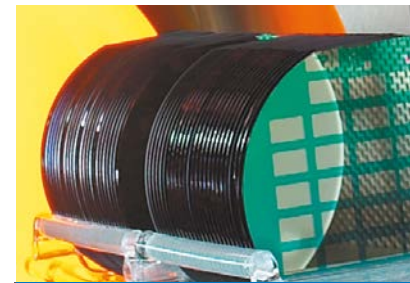
CMOS

Leading the
expansion of
visible CMOS in
space



Infrared

MCT (2nd Gen)
Substrate
Removed
InSb, InGaAs, etc.
Ultra-Low Light



CCD Foundries

X-Ray to NIR
Large Format FPAs



Quantum

Gravity Sensors
(ground & space)
Time & frequency
solutions
Components &
services

Commercialising Quantum Technologies of the Future

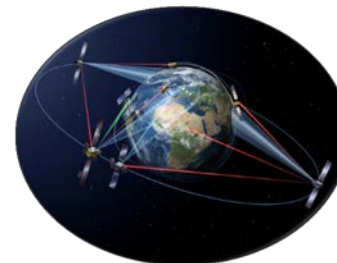
Next Generation Sensing and Control

Quantum
gravity
gradient
sensors

Time &
frequency
solutions

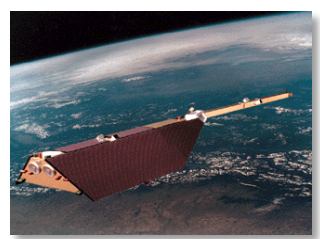
Quantum
Secure
Communication

Quantum
Sensing for
Space

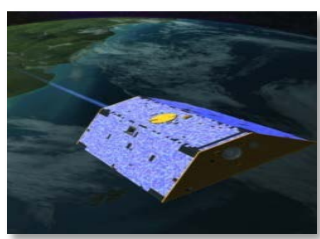


Past, present and future gravity missions

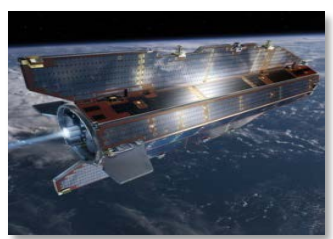
Past, present and planned



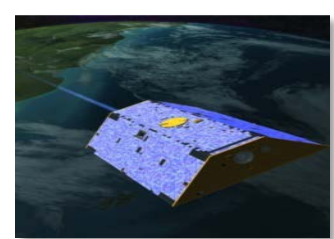
CHAMP



GRACE



GOCE



GRACE FO

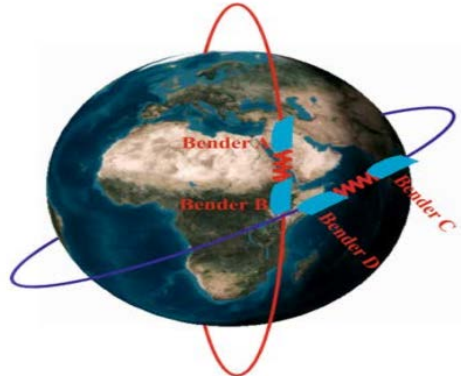
2000

2010

2020

2030

Simulation studies for ESA /NASA show that an international collaborative constellation will provide higher return than the sum of two missions



Future constellation

Continuation of observations at lower resolution

more accurate & better space/time resolution

GRACE II (US)

2030

NGGM (Europe)

Start of sustained observations at high resolution

Key applications of Gravity Sensing

- Ice Sheets and Glaciers
- Sea Level Change and Ocean Dynamics
- Terrestrial Water Storage
 - Groundwater depletion
- Climate Service Applications
 - Drought and flood prediction
- Commercial
 - Water reserves for mining
 - Oil and gas exploration
 - Geothermal energy sources
 - Ocean currents for shipping

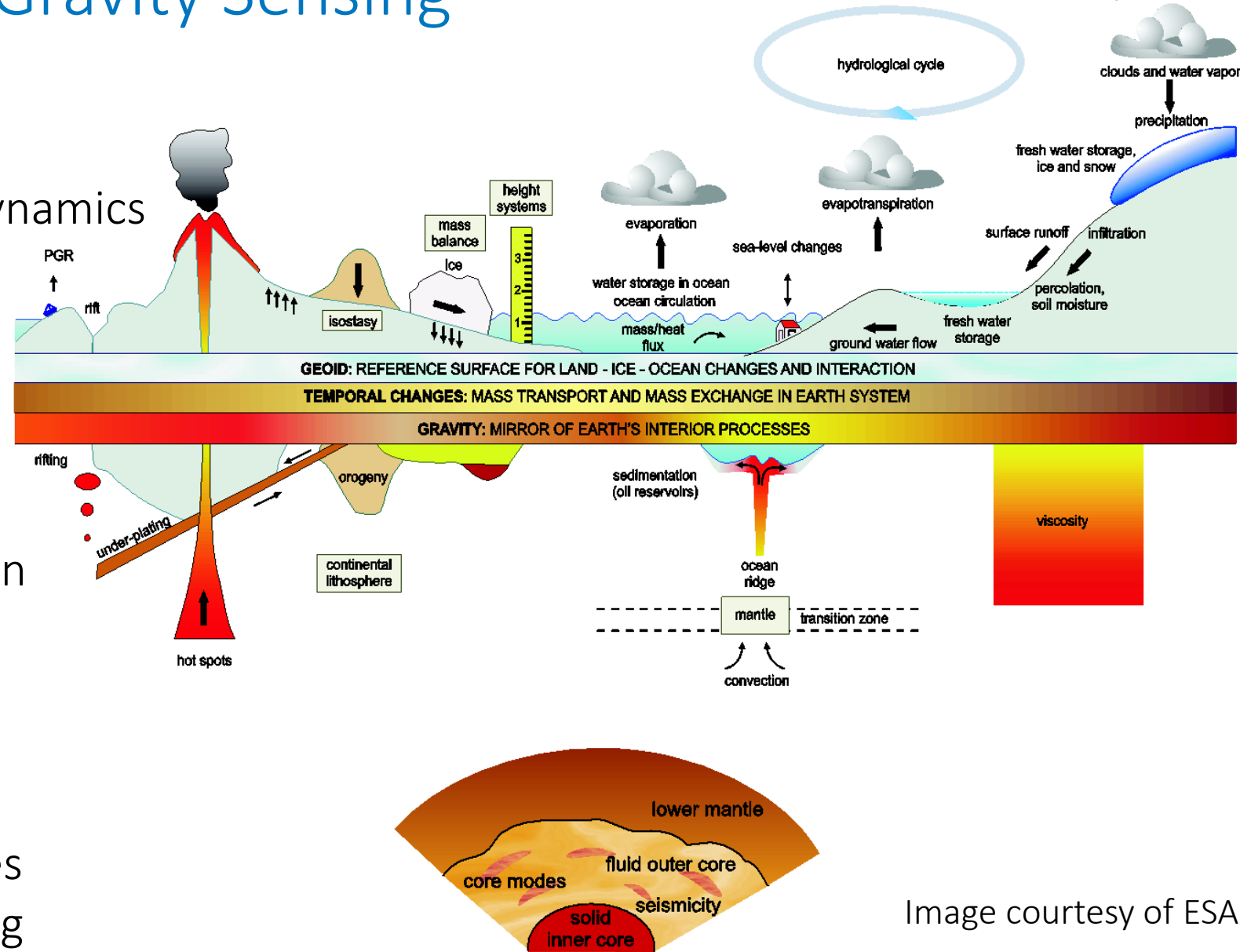
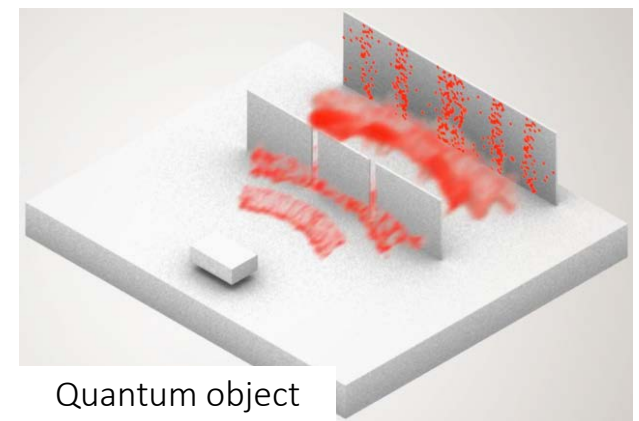
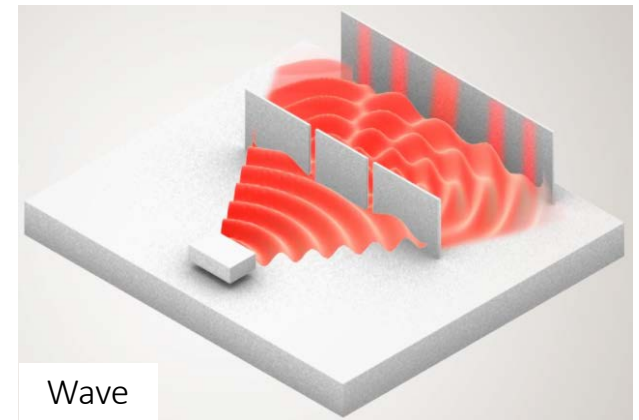
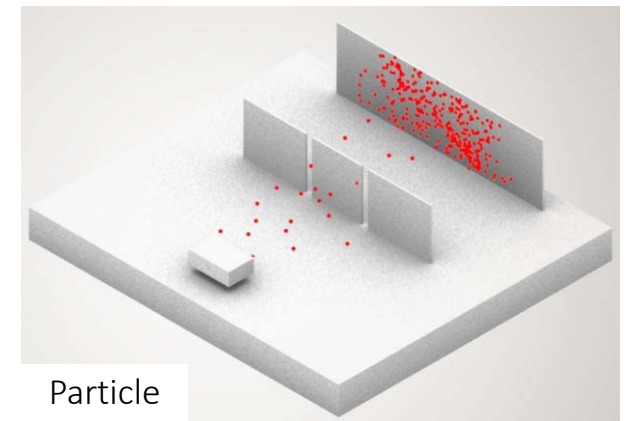


Image courtesy of ESA

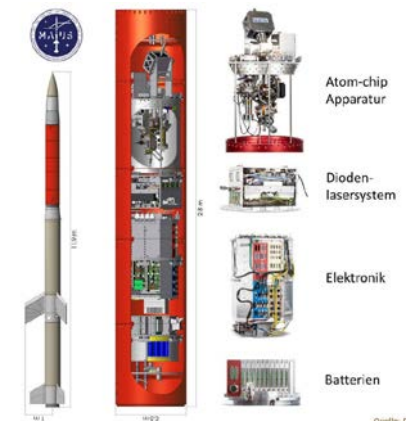
What is Quantum sensing?

- Use clouds of atoms in vacuum as sensors
- Confined and measured using very precise lasers
- Exploits the wave-particle duality of atoms to create an atom interferometer
- Benefits:
 - High sensitivity
 - Low drift



'Current' space cold atom systems

Organisation	Technology	Application	SWAP, Environment	When
NASA	Cold Atom Lab (CAL) on ISS	Fundamental Science	~370 litres Pressurised, a/c environment.	Launched in May 2018
China	Cold Atom Clock on Tiangong II	GNSS Clock/EO Technology Demonstrator	SWAP unknown Pressurised, a/c environment.	Launched in September 2016
ZARM / Hannover / DLR	BEC on sounding rockets / drop tower	Fundamental science	315kg, 300W 1400 litres 20g shock	First launch 2017



Space Quantum Gravity Sensors

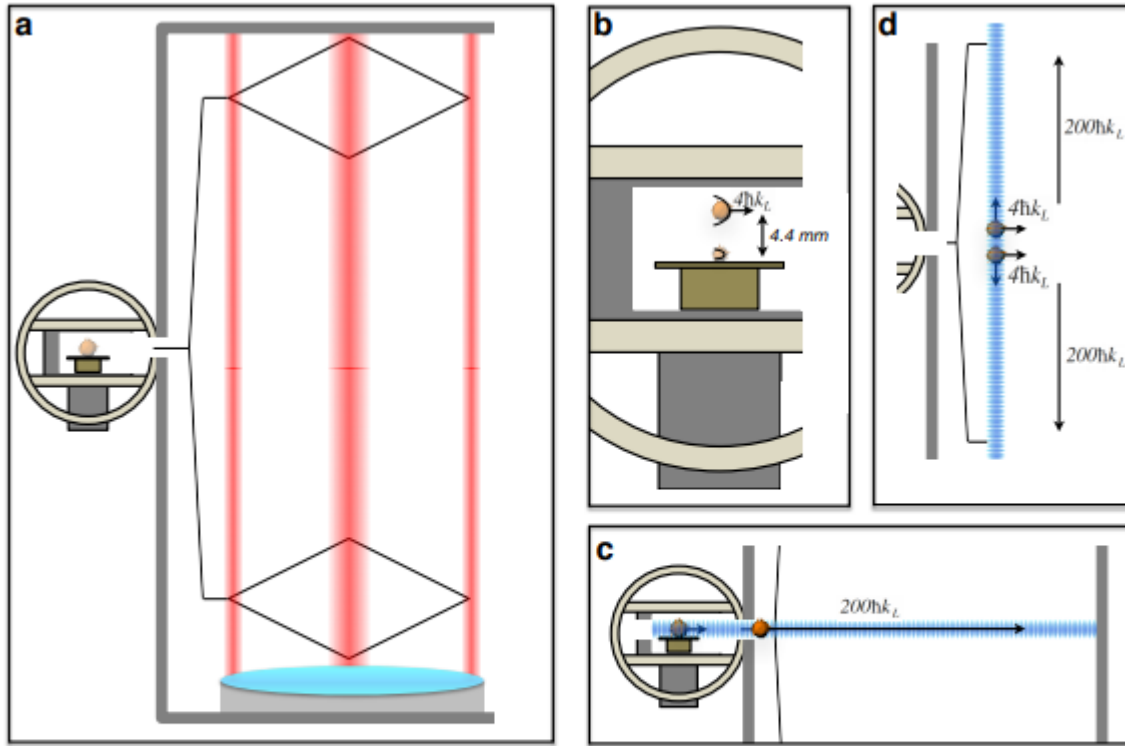
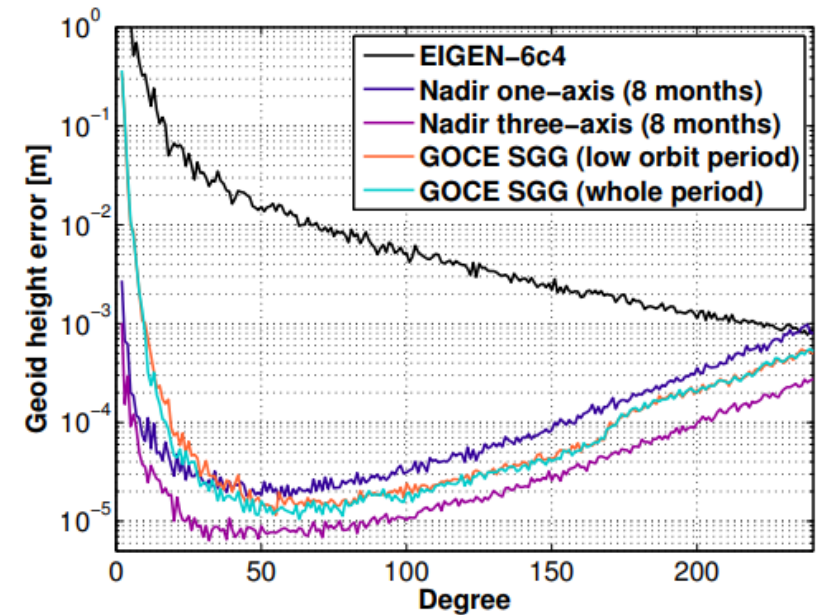


FIG. 1: (a) Scheme of the gravity gradiometer, based on differential accelerometry with two separated atom interferometers. (b) An initial BEC source of 10^6 atoms is magnetically evaporated, displaced and collimated in 1.1 s. (c) Horizontal transport step to the interferometry chamber (12 cm in 100 ms). (d) The BEC is split in two by the combination of a double Raman diffraction and a twin-lattice technique feeding both interferometers with ensembles at a horizontal velocity of 4 recoils.

Volume	1.78m ³
Mass	785 kg
Power Consumption	2940 W

(3-axis instrument including a 20% margin)



Concept study and preliminary design of a cold atom interferometer for space gravity gradiometry

A. Trimeche, B. Battelier, D. Becker, A. Bertoldi, P. Bouyer, C. Braxmaier, E. Charron, R. Corgier, M. Cornelius, K. Douch, N. Gaaloul, S. Herrmann, J. Müller, E. Rasel, C. Schubert, H. Wu, F. Pereira dos Santos

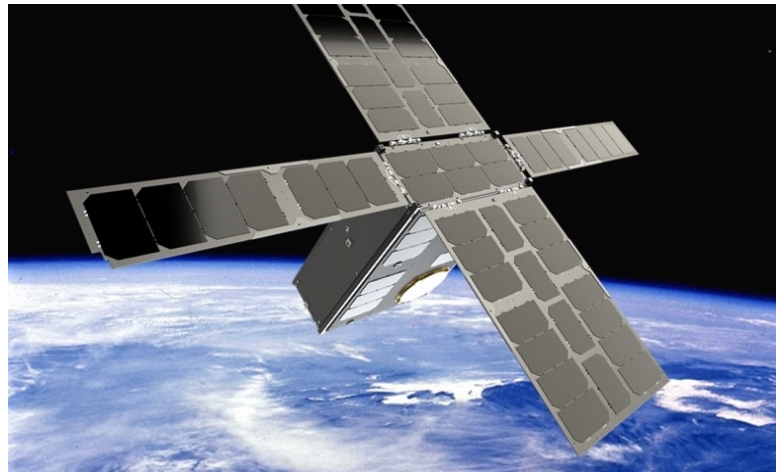
Development plan

- Develop interferometry capability and design
- Terrestrial product in its own right

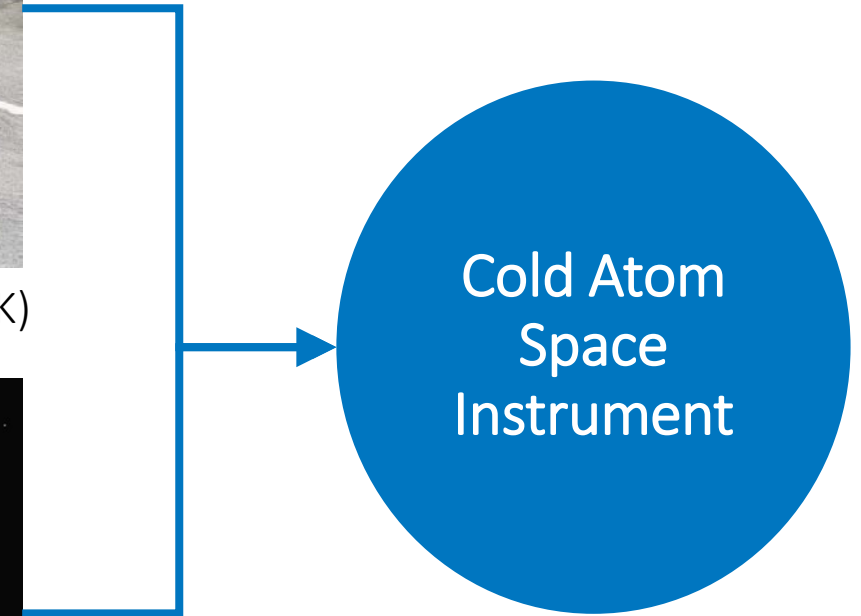


REVEAL Ground Based Gradiometer (IUK)

- Adapt key technology for space
- Miniaturisation, power reduction, robustness, material suitability



Cold Atom Space Payload (IUK)



Cold Atom Gravity Explorer (CEOI)

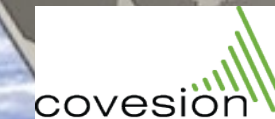
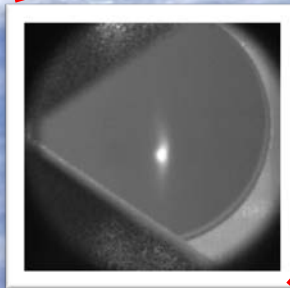
CASPA: Cold Atom Space Payload

Mission

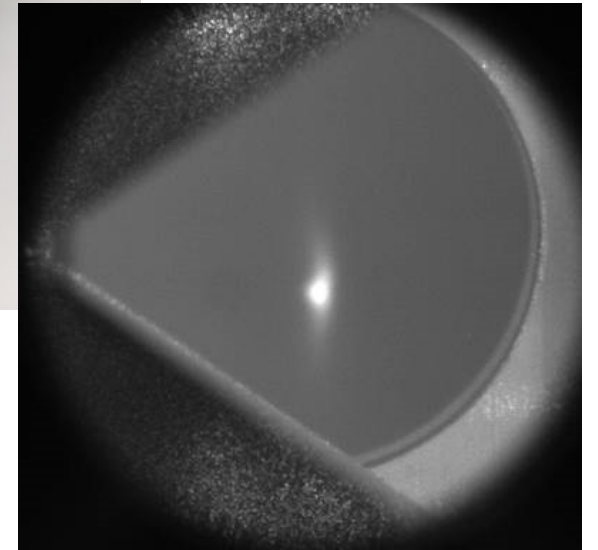
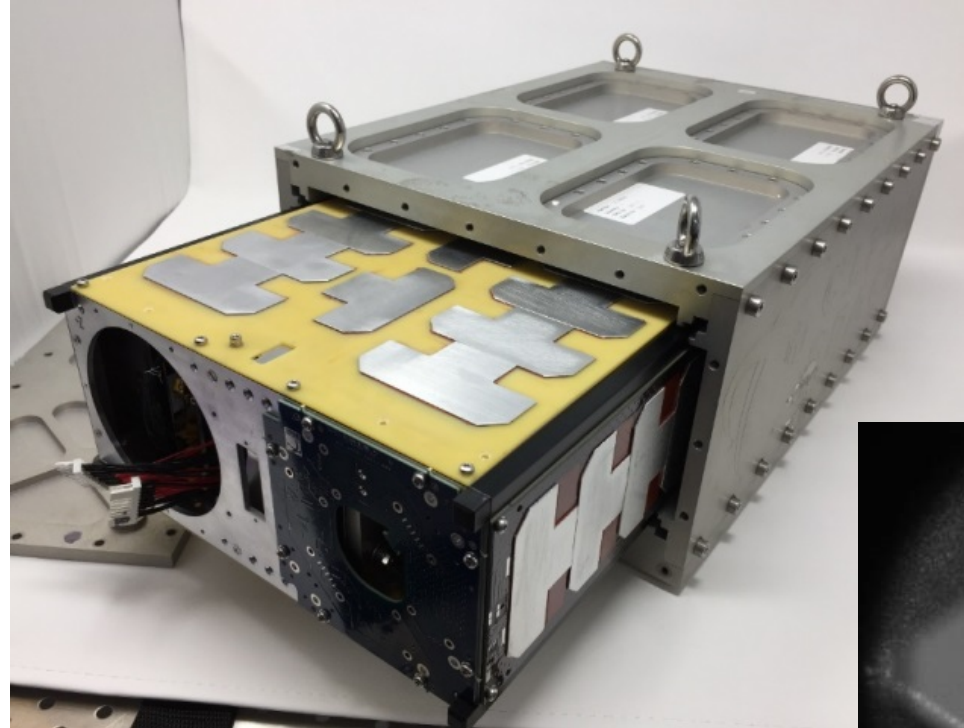
- Deliver autonomous cold-atom cooling on a 6U CubeSat

Objectives

- Increase TRL
- Develop space-suitable, properly engineered solutions
- Reduce SWAP



Engineering Model Testing Complete



Cold Atom Gravity Explorer (CAGE)

Centre for
EO Instrumentation



Objectives:

- Identify a concept for a pathfinder mission with a science case to enable a longer term mission.
- Build concept payload design, science case and mission definition



UNITED KINGDOM • CHINA • MALAYSIA

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



British
Geological Survey
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



Summary

- Quantum sensors are a promising new technology for gravity sensing
- UK is a latecomer but is catching up with a focus on cost reduction and miniaturisation
- For the UK to be credible we need to rapidly launch a pathfinder mission with a credible science case
- Opportunity for commercial applications to follow

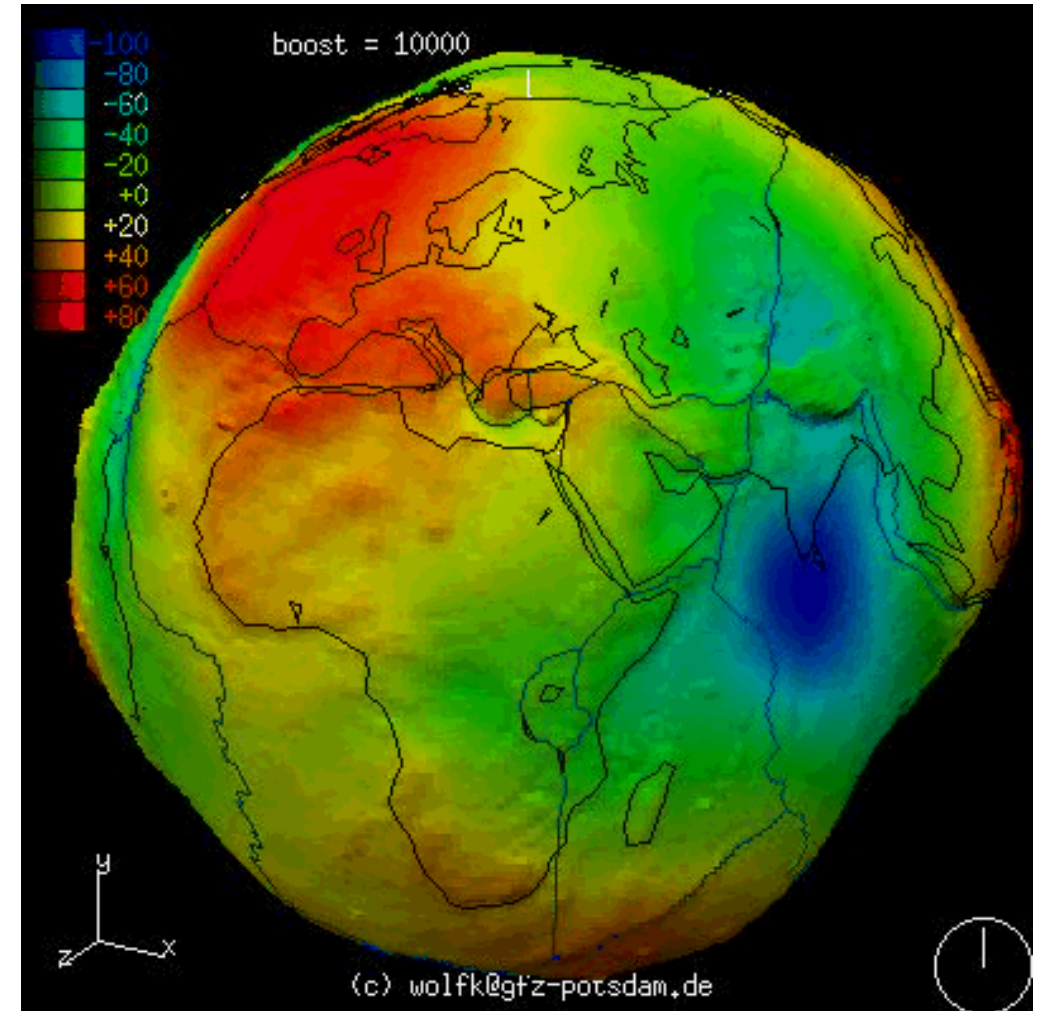


Image courtesy of ESA