



Langley Research Center SmallSat Overview

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Description and Capabilities related to Small Spacecraft

LaRC has a complete concept to flight *instrument* capability.

Mission architecture analysis, engineering design and analysis, systems engineering, integration and test, calibration, composite and metal machine shop with 3D printing capability, and a Mission Operations Center. Brand new 175,000ft² world-class sensor & instrument Research and Development laboratory with integrated cleanroom facilities.

Specific Focus Areas:

- Entry, Decent, and Landing (EDL)
- LiDAR instruments to study winds, CO2, clouds, aerosols, and other key atmospheric processes
- Atmospheric composition, radiation budget and In-flight calibration of science instruments
- In-Space autonomous assembly and manufacturing

Current Small Spacecraft Activities

Advanced Composite Solar Sail System Project (ACS3) - Launch 2022

 LEO flight demonstration of an 80m² composite boom solar sail propulsion system

GPX2 - Launch Dec 2021

• Demonstrates differential GPS system testing for use for on-orbit close proximity ops. Secondary mission is GPS occultation with Aerospace Corp. Flight test of additive manufactured spacecraft frame.

The Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment (SAGE IV) Pathfinder

• SAGE IV is a multispectral (UV-VIS-NIR), solar occultation imager

Calibration of Lunar Spectral Reflectance from Space (ARCSTONE)

 Provides Lunar Spectral Irradiance Absolute Calibration for use by other instruments.

ATHENA

• Fast and low-cost instrument that utilizes the NovaWurks Hyper Integrated Satellite (HISat), reducing constraints on instrument design. Demonstration will validate precision operations of a single CERES sensor payload. Demonstrates collaborative partnerships.

LaRC Small Spacecraft Points of Contact

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