

Current and Future Ground-Based Planetary Radar

Planetary Defense Conference 2023

Joseph Lazio

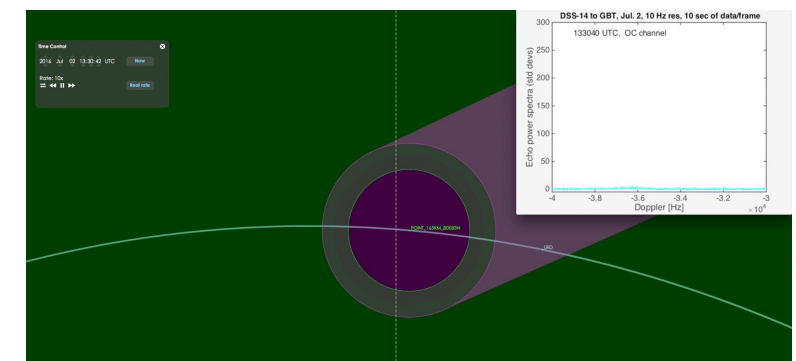


A. Beasley, L. A. M. Benner, M. Brozovic, P. G. Edwards, J. D. Giorgini, S. Horiuchi, E. Kruzins, R. R. Liou, B. Molyneux, S. P. Naidu, R. S. Park, C. J. Phillips, M. Sánchez Net, J. Spring, J. Stevens, M. Taylor, V. Vilnrotter, KISS Study Participants

NASA Use Cases

Radar delivers size, rotation, shape, density, surface features, precise orbit, non-gravitational forces, presence of satellites, mass, ...

- **Science**: Decipher the record in primitive bodies of epochs and processes not obtainable elsewhere
- **Robotic missions**: Navigation, orbit planning, observations
- **Planetary defense**: Precise orbit determination, size, shape for hazard assessment
- **Space Situational Awareness**: Assessing collision hazard risks between spacecraft, particularly relevant for crewed vehicles



NASA Radar Assets



**Goldstone Solar System
Radar (GSSR)**
70 m antenna, 450 kW
transmitter, 3.5 cm
wavelength (X band)



Southern Hemisphere Asteroid Radar Project
Canberra DSS-43 (DSN) 70 m antenna, 80 kW transmitter, 4 cm
wavelength (C band)
+ Australia Telescope Compact Array



+



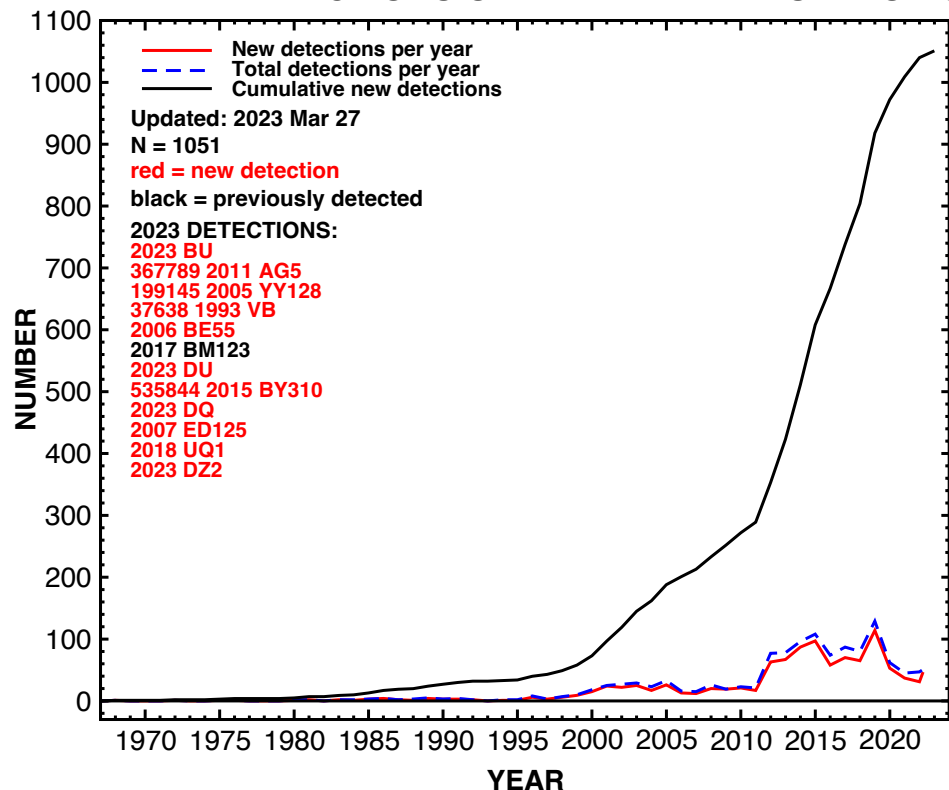
European Demonstrations
Madrid DSS-63 (DSN) 70 m antenna, 20 kW transmitter, 4 cm
wavelength (C band)
+ Medicina Antenna

Current and Future Ground-Based Planetary Radar

- **Current DSN Asteroid Radar work**
- **Near-term: GSSR Modernization a.k.a. GSSR-2.0**
- **Future: Science Motivation and Implementation**

Goldstone Solar System Radar

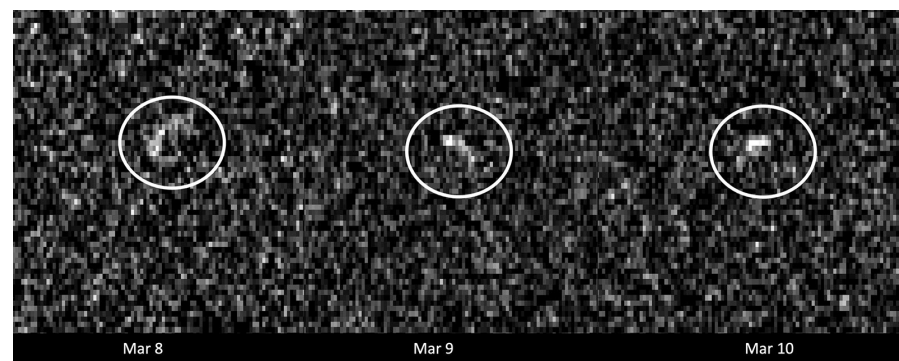
RADAR DETECTIONS OF NEAR-EARTH ASTEROIDS



Recent DSN Asteroid Radar Detections

	GSSR	SHARP
2021	40	6*
2022	45	7
2023 (to date)	12	3
*Canberra 70 m antenna undergoing scheduled maintenance for portion of 2021		

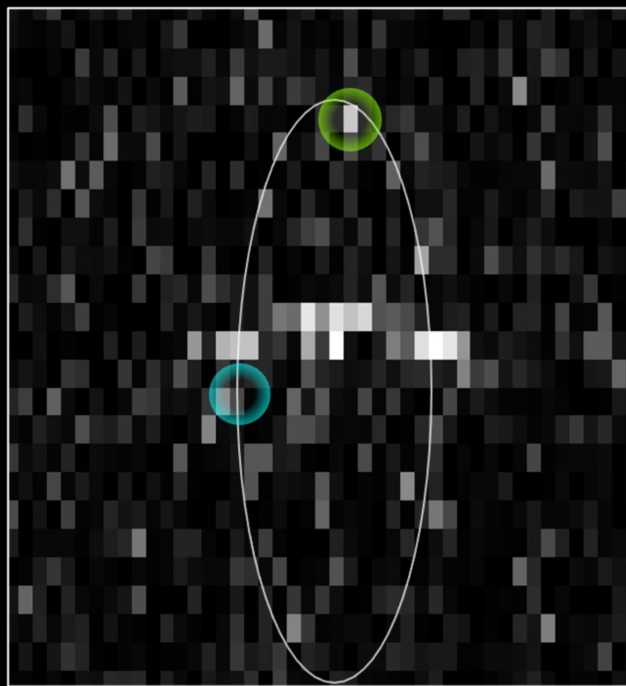
**Apophis
2021 March**



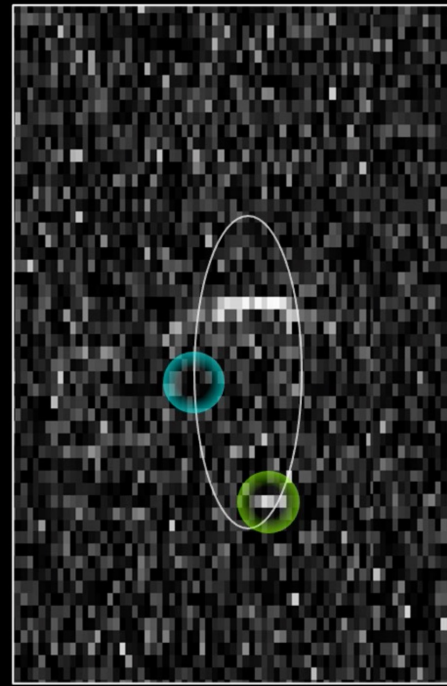
Double Asteroid Redirect Test (DART) Mission

GSSR-GBT Provided First Evidence for DART Mission Success

Radar images detect Didymos and Dimorphos



2022 Oct 04 11:55:39 UTC



2022 Oct 09 10:56:47 UTC

- Dimorphos
- Expected Dimorphos from previous 11 hr. 55 min. orbit
- Dimorphos orbit

Credit: NASA/Johns Hopkins APL/JPL/NASA JPL Goldstone Planetary Radar/National Science Foundation's Green Bank Observatory

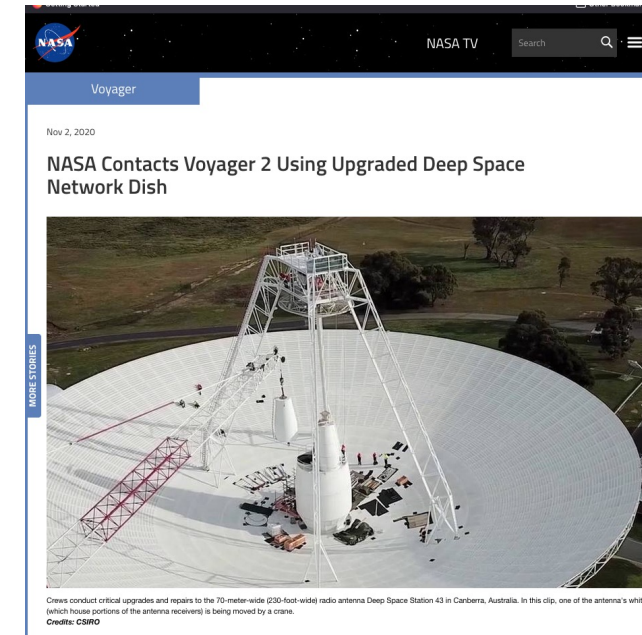
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- **Future: Science Motivation and Implementation**

Introduction

Overview

- The DSN has on-going task to replace operational transmitters and modernize facility infrastructure of 70 m antennas
 - ✓ Canberra (DSS-43) completed in 2021
 - Goldstone (DSS-14) scheduled for 2025-2027
 - Madrid (DSS-63) scheduled for (no earlier than) 2028
- The DSN adding replacement of GSSR Transmitter to 70 m Transmitter Replacement and Facility Modernization Task at Goldstone
 - GSSR transmitter replacement concurrent with 70 m Transmitter Replacement and Facility Modernization Task at Goldstone will lead to reduction in costs and downtime due to downtime efficiencies
 - Scope of full 70 m Transmitter Replacement and Facility Modernization Task is much broader



GSSR Transmitter Replacement Implementation Overview

Task Scope

- **Replace Transmitter System**
- **Replace GSSR feed cone with new feed cone**
- **Replace cooling system**
- **Update control architecture and operations concept**
- **Update microwave control system to support new transmitter and improve system response time**



Canberra TT&C Cone Replacement

Antenna Facilities

Experience from DSS-43 (Canberra)

Power and Cooling Systems



Trench Excavation for Substation



Original Equipment



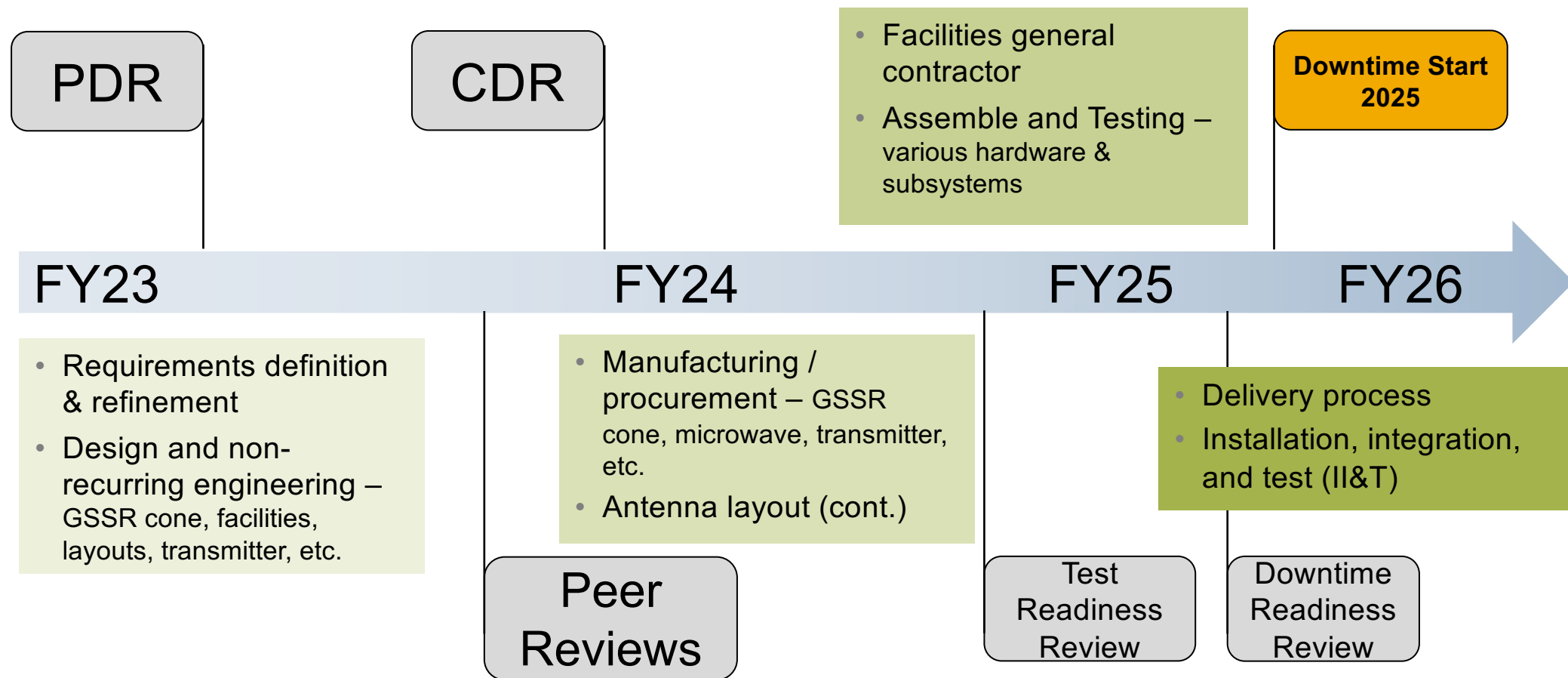
New Substation



Hybrid Coolers Installation

Top Level Task Planning

When does it end???? **2027 March** return to service review



Dates may be adjusted as design process continues

Current and Future Ground-Based Planetary Radar

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- **Future: Science Motivations and Implementation**

W. M. Keck Institute for Space Studies Next-Generation Planetary Radar Study



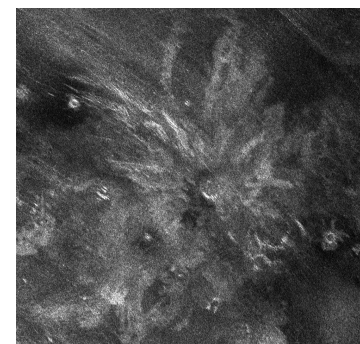
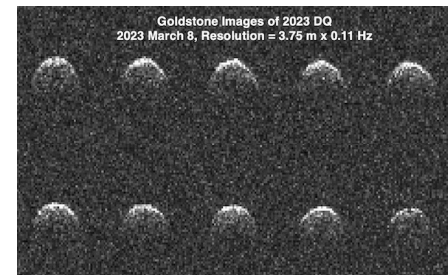
Future: Driving Science Cases

Driving use cases identified at KISS Workshop

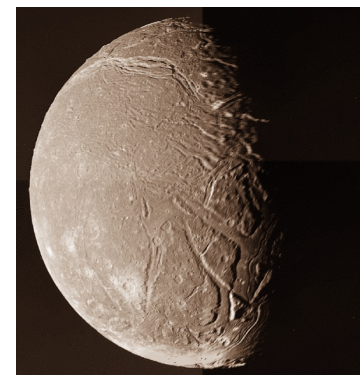
- **Near-Earth Asteroids and Planetary Defense**
- **Venus**
- **Outer Solar System**

Other potential targets

- **Mini-moons**
- **Interstellar objects**
- **Earth Trojans**
- ...

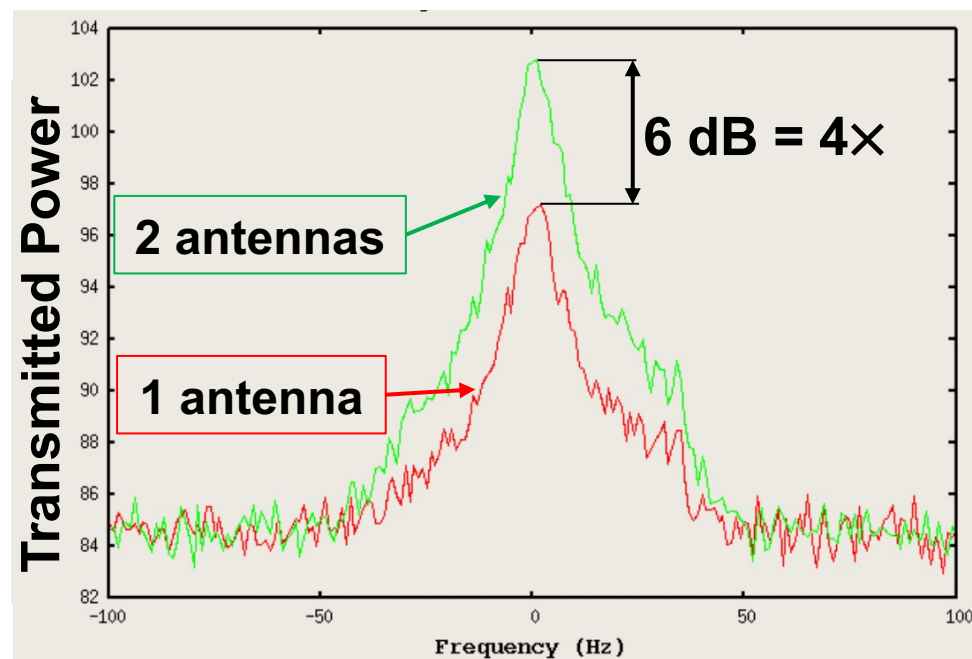


Venus / Sif
Mons



Ariel

Future II: Arrays of Transmitting Antennas



- ✓ **Arrays of receiving antennas are well-developed**
Both for radio astronomy (1974 Nobel Prize) and DSN
- **Arrays of transmitting antennas**
 - Array gain $G_{TX} \propto N^2$ for N -antenna array
- ✓ **Demonstrated in context of communication for up to 3 antennas**
- **Need to show ranging performance expected for planetary radar**
On-going work at JPL and elsewhere to do so

Vilnrotter et al.;
D'Addario et al.

Planetary Radar Trade Space

Received Power (a.k.a. Radar Equation)

$$P_{RX} = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^3} \underbrace{G_{RX}(P_{TX}G_{TX})}_{\text{Effective Isotropic Radiated Power (EIRP)}} \lambda^2 \frac{\sigma}{R^4}$$

Effective
Isotropic
Radiated Power
(EIRP)

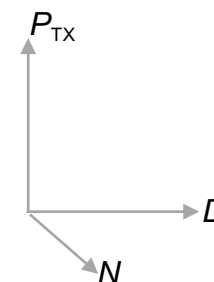
$$\text{EIRP} \propto N^2 D^2 P_{TX}$$

Number of
Antennas

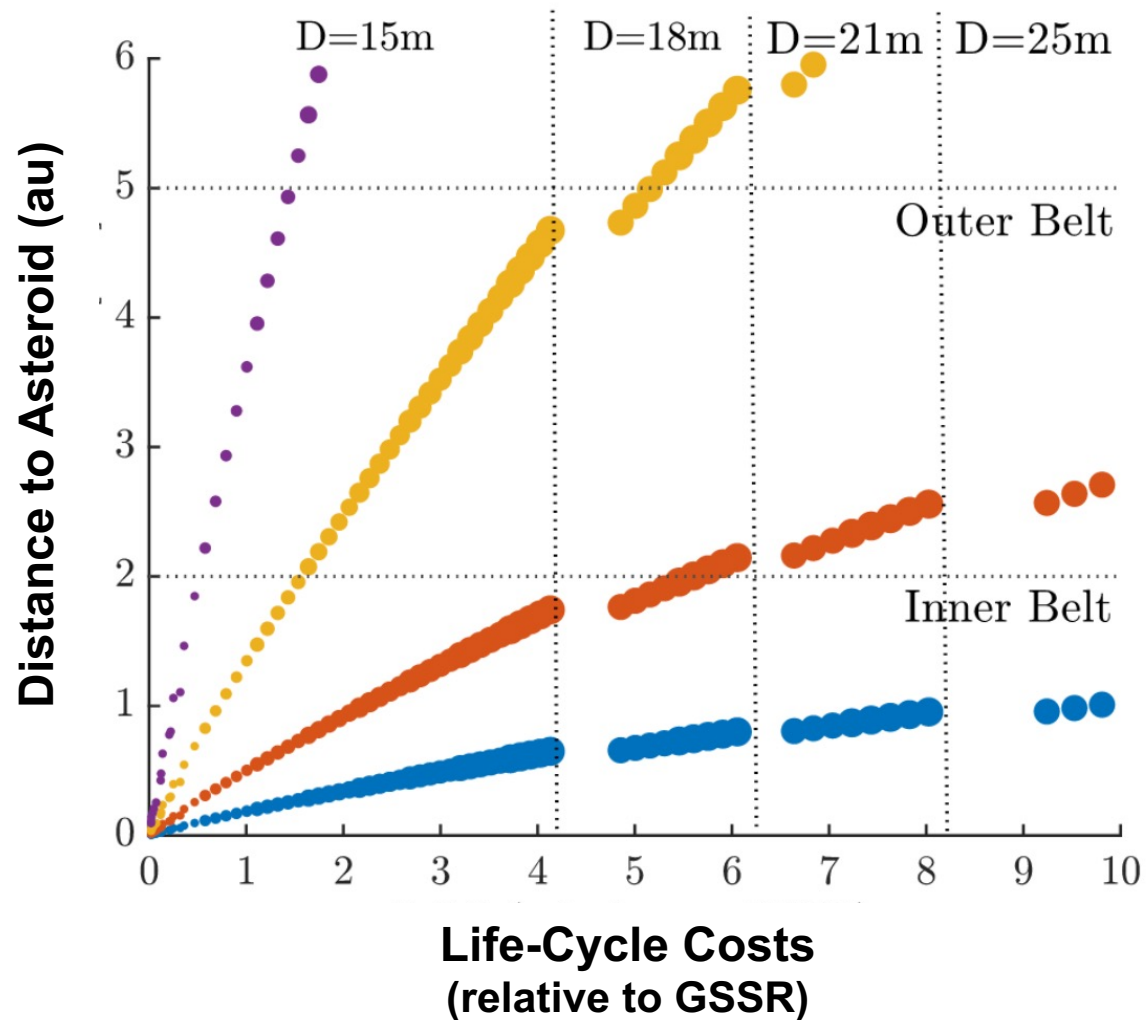
Antenna
Diameter

Transmitter
Power per
Antenna

➤ Maximize P_{RX} subject to cost cap including operations!



Planetary Radar Array Performance Evaluation



Array Size	Asteroid Size			
	1 km	10 km	100 km	1000 km
1-25	•	•	•	•
26-50	•	•	•	•
51-75	•	•	•	•
76-100	•	•	•	•
101-125	•	•	•	•
126-150	•	•	•	•
151-175	•	•	•	•
176-200	•	•	•	•

Sanchez Net et al.

Current and Future Ground-Based Planetary Radar

- **Current DSN Asteroid Radar work**
**Planetary Science, Mission Design & Navigation,
Planetary Defense, Space Situational Awareness**
- **Near-term: GSSR Modernization a.k.a. GSSR-2.0**
 - **Replace nearly everything except the antenna mechanical structure itself**
 - **Starts ~ mid-2025, ends ~ 2027 March**
- **Future: Science Motivation and Implementation**
 - **Solid-state transmitters and power amplifiers**
 - **Planetary radar array**



Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology