



# China's New Generation of Recoverable Satellite

*—An Advanced Platform for Space Environment Utilization*

Beijing Institute of Spacecraft System Engineering, CAST  
6<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2017

**Why** do we persist in recoverable satellite?

**What** are the differences from the ISS or other platforms?

**Which** kind of payload does platform support?

**CAST's Reentry Spacecraft**

**The New Generation Recoverable Satellite**

**Services for payloads**

**Cooperation with NGRS**

**Plan and Progress of NGRS**

# CAST's Reentry Spacecraft

- ◆ China Academy of Space Technology(CAST) is a core member of CASC.
- ◆ All reentry spacecraft launched in China were designed by CAST.

25 recoverable satellites, 11 manned spaceships , 1 lunar reentry capsule.



1975.11.5

First Recoverable  
Satellite

2003.10.15

First Manned  
spaceship

2014.10.24

First Lunar  
Reentry Capsule

2016.4.18

First Experiment  
Recoverable Satellite

2016.6.26

Next Generation  
spaceship

# CAST's Recoverable Spacecraft

By 2016, we had launched 25 recoverable satellites.  
They can be classified into 4 generations by scale and task.

## FSW-1

Height:~3m  
Weight:~2000kg



## FSW-2

Height:~4m  
Weight:~3000kg



## FSW-3

Height:~5m  
Weight:~3500kg



## FSW-4

Height:~5m  
Weight:~3500kg



## Generation 5

Height:~5m  
Weight:~3500kg



1975~1992

1993~1996

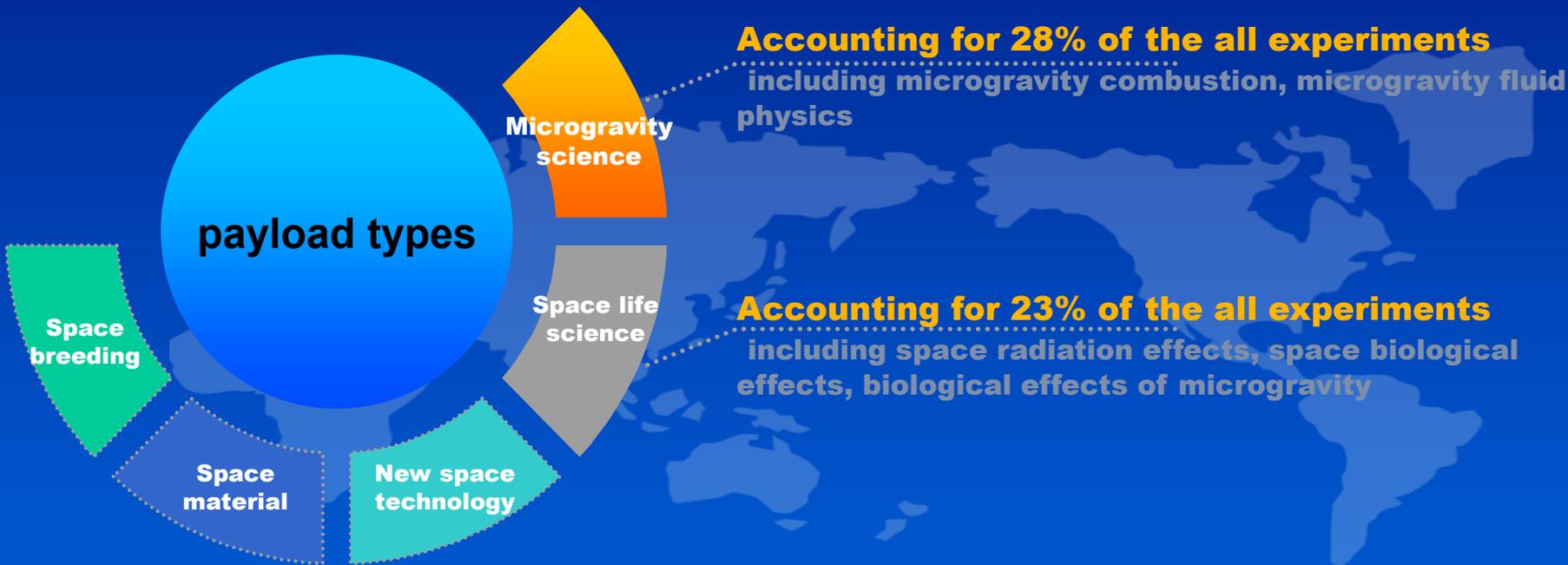
2003~2005

2006~2016

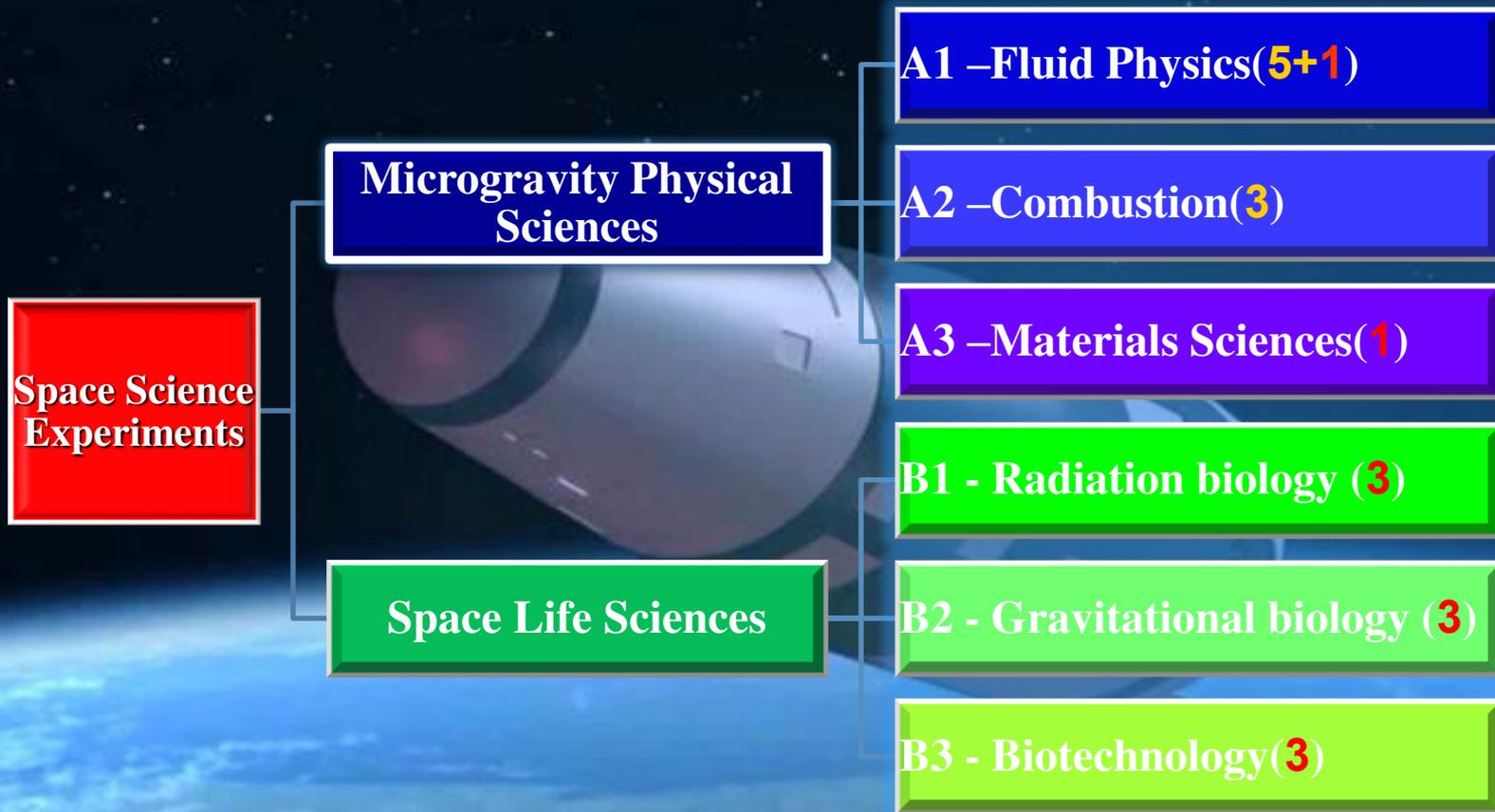
Now & Future

# Space Science Experiments on the Recoverable Satellites

The FSW1~3 (first 23) satellites, while conducting the main task of earth observation, had carried out 17 batches of space science experiments in the form of piggyback payload. The FSW 4 (24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>) satellites were built to operate space science experiment.

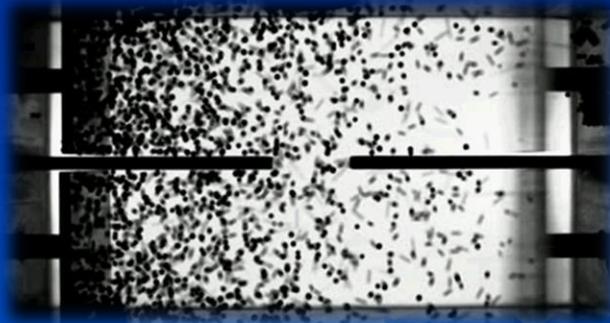
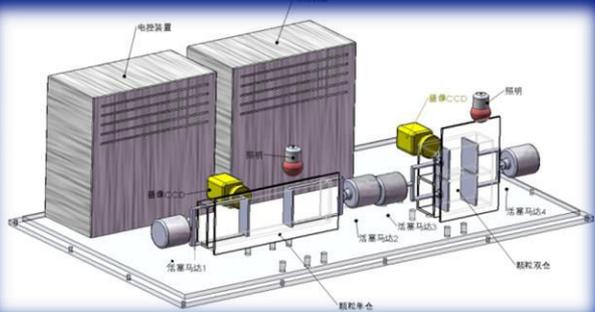


# Space Science Experiments on SJ-10 (2016)

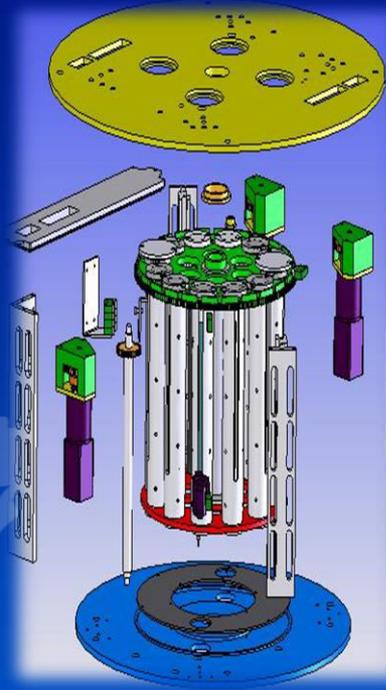


**8 experiments aboard the orbit capsule + 11 aboard the recoverable capsule**

# Microgravity Physical Sciences Projects on SJ-10(2016)



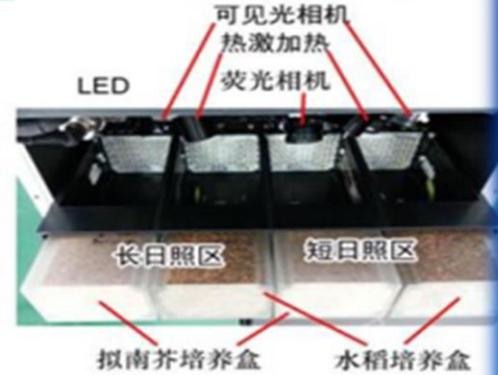
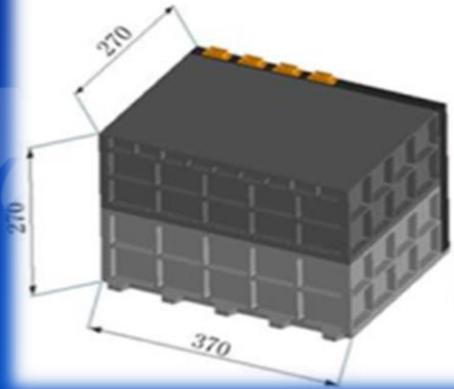
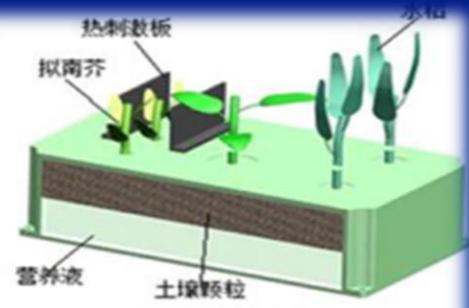
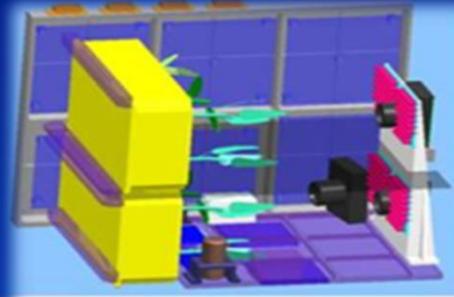
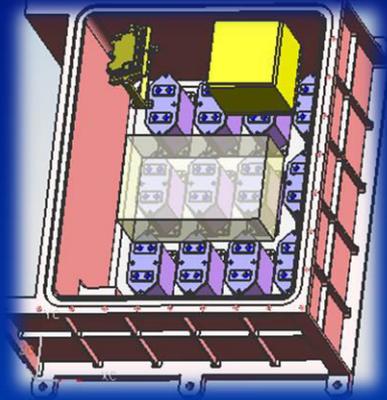
Phase separation and dynamic clustering in Granular gas



Multi-function furnace & Materials research

# Space Life Sciences Projects on SJ-10(2016)

China Academy  
of Space Technology



Silkworm embryo development and mutation

Photoperiod-controlling flowering of plants

# Advantages of Recoverable Satellite

*Why do we need the recoverable satellite for the space science research?*

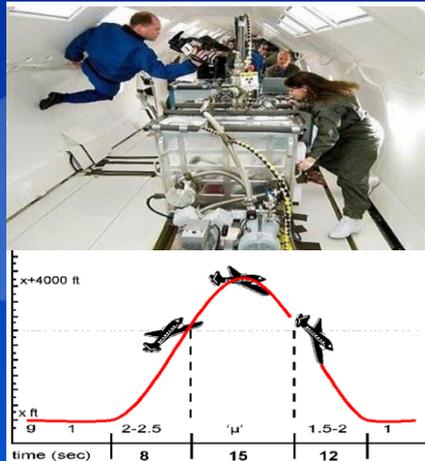
It can provide better service of **microgravity, radiation, vacuum, duration**, which are the most important elements for space science research.

## Drop Tower



$10^{-3}g_0 \sim 10^{-6}g_0$   
Seconds

## Parabolic Flight



$10^{-3}g_0 \sim 10^{-6}g_0$   
Seconds ~ Minutes

## Space Station



$10^{-3}g_0 \sim 10^{-6}g_0$   
Days ~ Years

## Satellite



$10^{-4}g_0 \sim 10^{-7}g_0$   
Days ~ Years

# Advantages of Recoverable Satellite

## Better microgravity

Without astronauts activities and solar wings, NGRS' quasi-steady acceleration is up to  $\sim 10^{-7}g_0$ .

## More available

NGRS offers shuttle service, with the capacity of 1000kg/year.



As a commercial platform, NGRS has less matters to coordinate with other systems.

## Less constrained

Launch and flight sequences are planned based on the experiments.

## More flexible

# The New Generation Recoverable Satellite

## Short-term Type

## Long-term Type



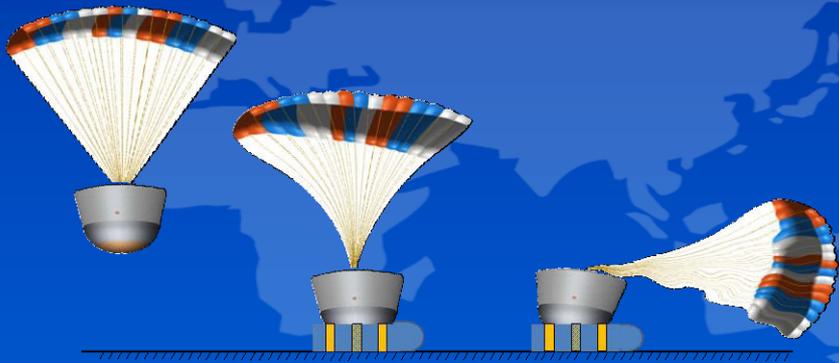
# The New Generation Recoverable Satellite



Orbit	Circular orbit, altitude: 340km, inclination angle: 43°	
Flight Duration	10~20d for recoverable module 1 year for Propulsion & Power Module	
Capacity For Payload	400W, 500kg, recoverable	400W, 600kg, recoverable 400W, 300kg, unrecoverable
Power Supply	Li/SOCl <sub>2</sub> Battery Lithium-thionyl chloride	Solar Array & Li <sup>+</sup> Battery

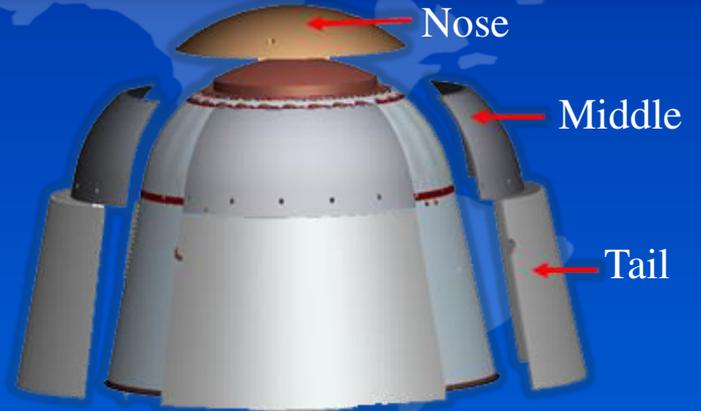
## Low Impact

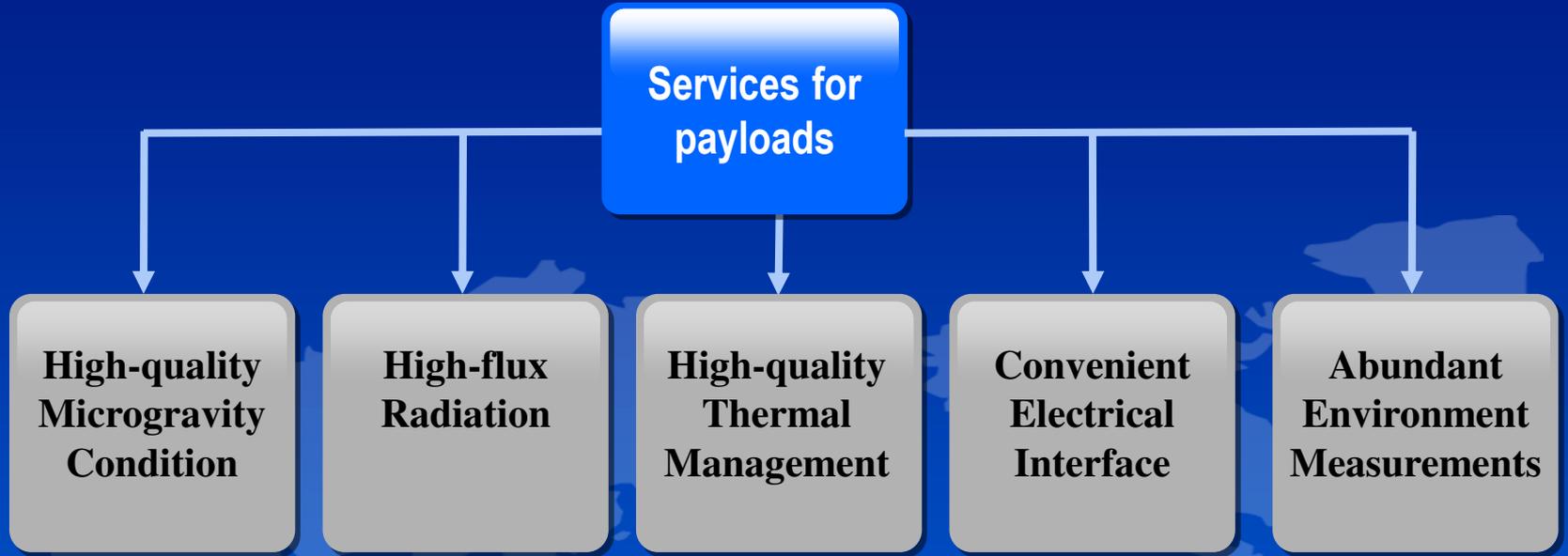
- The recoverable module is equipped with an airbag as a cushion while landing. The impact could be limited to 10g.
- airbag volume:  $10\text{m}^3$ .



## Reuse Design

- The recoverable module including structures, equipment and cables can be reused for 15 times.
- The thermal protective shield (TPS) will be replaced after each flight.





Microgravity

High-flux  
Radiation

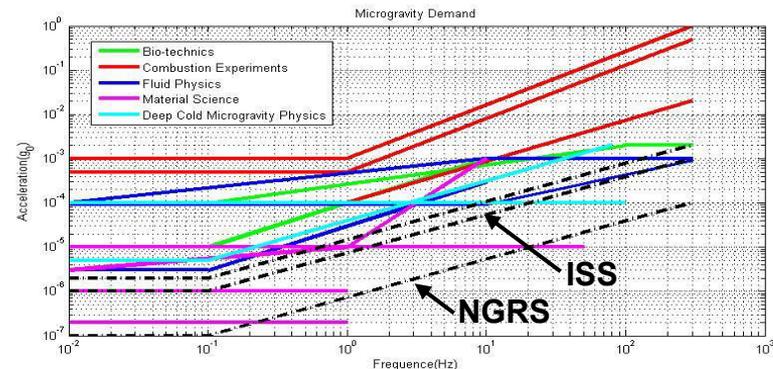
Thermal  
Management

Electrical  
Interface

Environment  
Measurement

## Our Goals:

- ◆ **Quasi-steady Acceleration:  $\sim 10^{-7}g_0$**
- ◆ **Oscillatory & Transient Acceleration:  
 $10^{-4}g_0 \sim 10^{-5}g_0$**



Quasi-steady  
Acceleration  
 $< 0.1\text{Hz}$

Oscillatory & Transient  
Acceleration  
 $0.1\text{Hz} \sim 300\text{Hz}$

# Services for Payloads

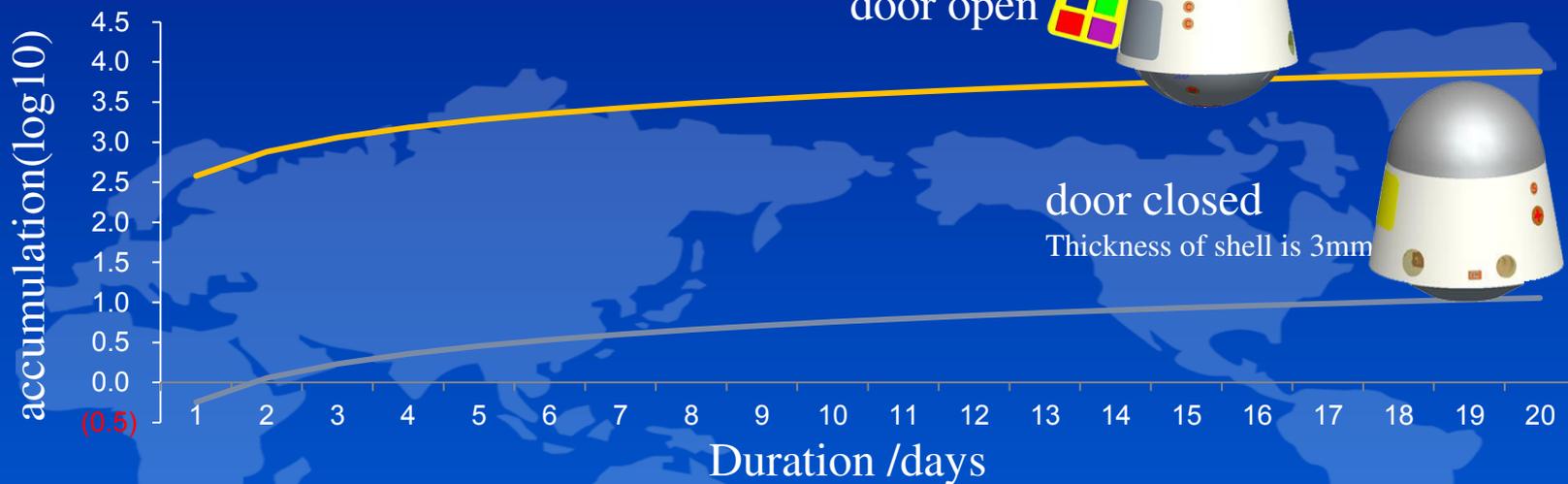
Microgravity

High-flux  
Radiation

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**NGRS is equipped with a single phase liquid loop system, so it may satisfy the demands for thermal control of payload, especially life science payload.**

- **Heat dissipation capacity: 600W**
- **Temperature range: 4°C~30°C**
- **Control accuracy:  $\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$**
- **Control stability:  $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C/h}$**



Microgravity

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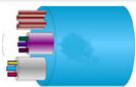
Environment  
Measurement

**All the payloads are managed by Payloads Management Unit(PMU).**

**PMU offers various communication interfaces.**

**Both science data and engineering data from payloads can be transmitted to platform, then to ground data centers.**



Power	TM\TC
DC: +28V	 RS485
Data & TM\TC	Data
 WIFI	 RS422\LVDS
 Ethernet	

Microgravity

High-flux  
Radiation

Thermal  
Management

Electrical  
Interface

Environment  
Measurement

## ➤ **Microgravity**

**Quasi-steady Acceleration** : frequency:  $10^{-4}\text{Hz}\sim 0.1\text{Hz}$ , rang:  $\pm 10^{-4}g_0$ , resolution:  $10^{-9}g_0$

**micro-vibration**: frequency:  $0.1\text{Hz}\sim 300\text{Hz}$ , rang:  $\pm 10^{-2}g_0$ , resolution :  $10^{-6}g_0$

## ➤ **Dynamic environment**

vibration, noise, shock during the launch and EDL phases.

## ➤ **Radiation**

Radiation dose in and out of the capsule through the flight.

## ➤ **Temperature**

Temperature of payload and surrounding equipment.

## ➤ **Pressure**

Pressure in the capsule through the flight.

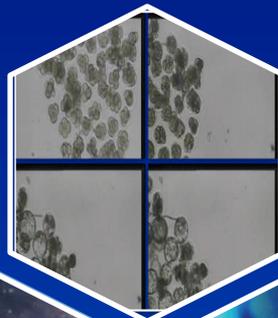
# Cooperation with NGRS

Various kinds of payloads are welcome.

Microgravity science



Life science



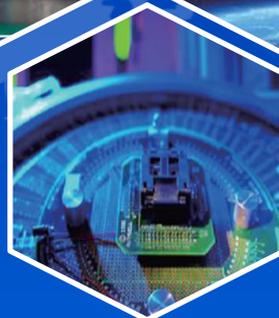
Space material



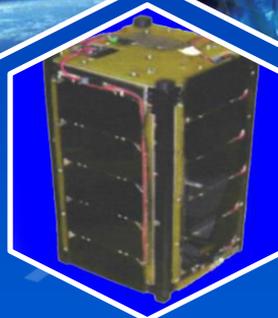
Space pharmacy



New tech demonstration



Education & Others



## Realization of your ideas for space

We can design equipment to realize your ideas!  
We also provide the training for equipment development and space technology

Users provide equipment

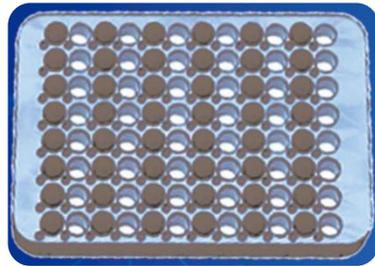


ampoule

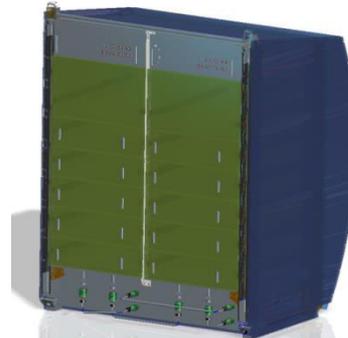


furnace

Space material

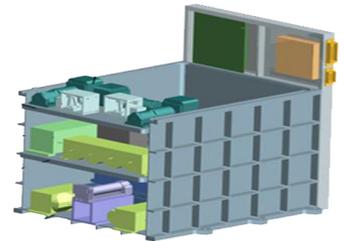


micro plate



Multi-function sealed capsule for special payloads

Life science



Users' equipment

Any types

# Mission Phases for Payloads



AIT in Beijing



Launch



Reentry



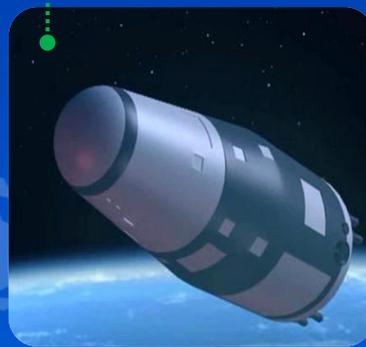
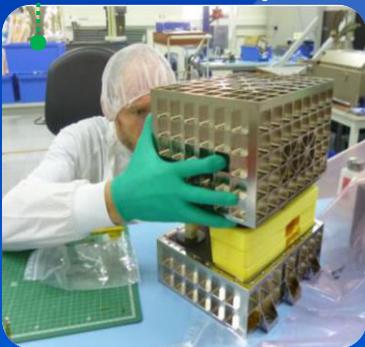
Return samples

Manufacture  
& Delivery

AIT at launch site

Experiment on orbit

Uninstall equipment



# Plan and Progress of NGRS



**Current Phase:** Phase C currently , Phase D (System AIT) will start late this year.

**Piggyback chances:** It's still available for the first flight by the end of this year.

**Cost:** As a commercial satellite, the cost will be in the affordable and reasonable range.

# Thanks for your attention!

**LET'S WORK TOGETHER**

**CREATING A BETTER FUTURE**