



**Workshop Human Capacity-Building in Space Science and Technology  
for Sustainable Social and Economic Development  
Samara, November 2, 2017**

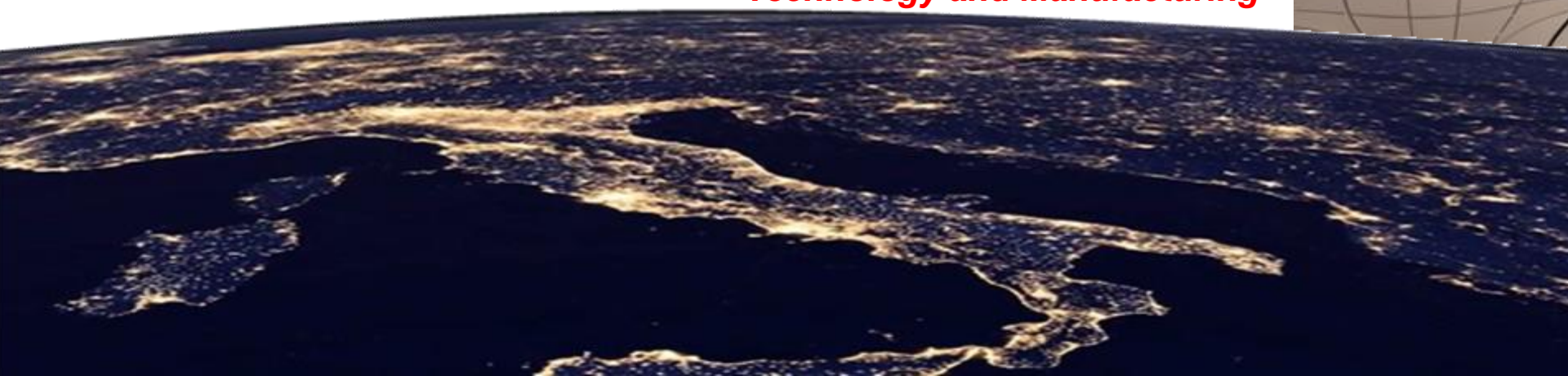


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## Sustainability of in-Space Manufacturing

Loredana Santo, PhD

**Technology and Manufacturing**



## Outline

- ✓ **The concept of Sustainability for and in Space**
- ✓ **Research overview of my group**
- ✓ **Previous and future experiments on ISS about SMC**
- ✓ **Introduction on Shape Memory Polymer Foam and Composites (SMP and SMC) and application for debris capture**
- ✓ **The challenging idea of in-space manufacturing**
- ✓ **Conclusions**

## Capacity of building in Space in the 21st Century happens through connecting Human needs to Space solutions in order to meet sustainability

What is **Sustainability** in and for **Space**?

To make good educational courses in order to disseminate the concept of sustainable development in/for Space?

To have the possibility to colonize Moon, Mars for future scenario?

To find solutions for the survival of Human in Space?

To make researches in space for better life on Earth?

To enhance telecommunication?

To maintain the Space clean and save energy?

.....

**Sustainability therefore can be examined by different points of view.**

## Sustainable development in/for Space

Space as environment to ensure the future of Humanity.

The experimental activity on ISS and with satellites is sufficient for these purposes?

My challenging proposal is a new **small laboratory for in-space manufacturing**

**How?**

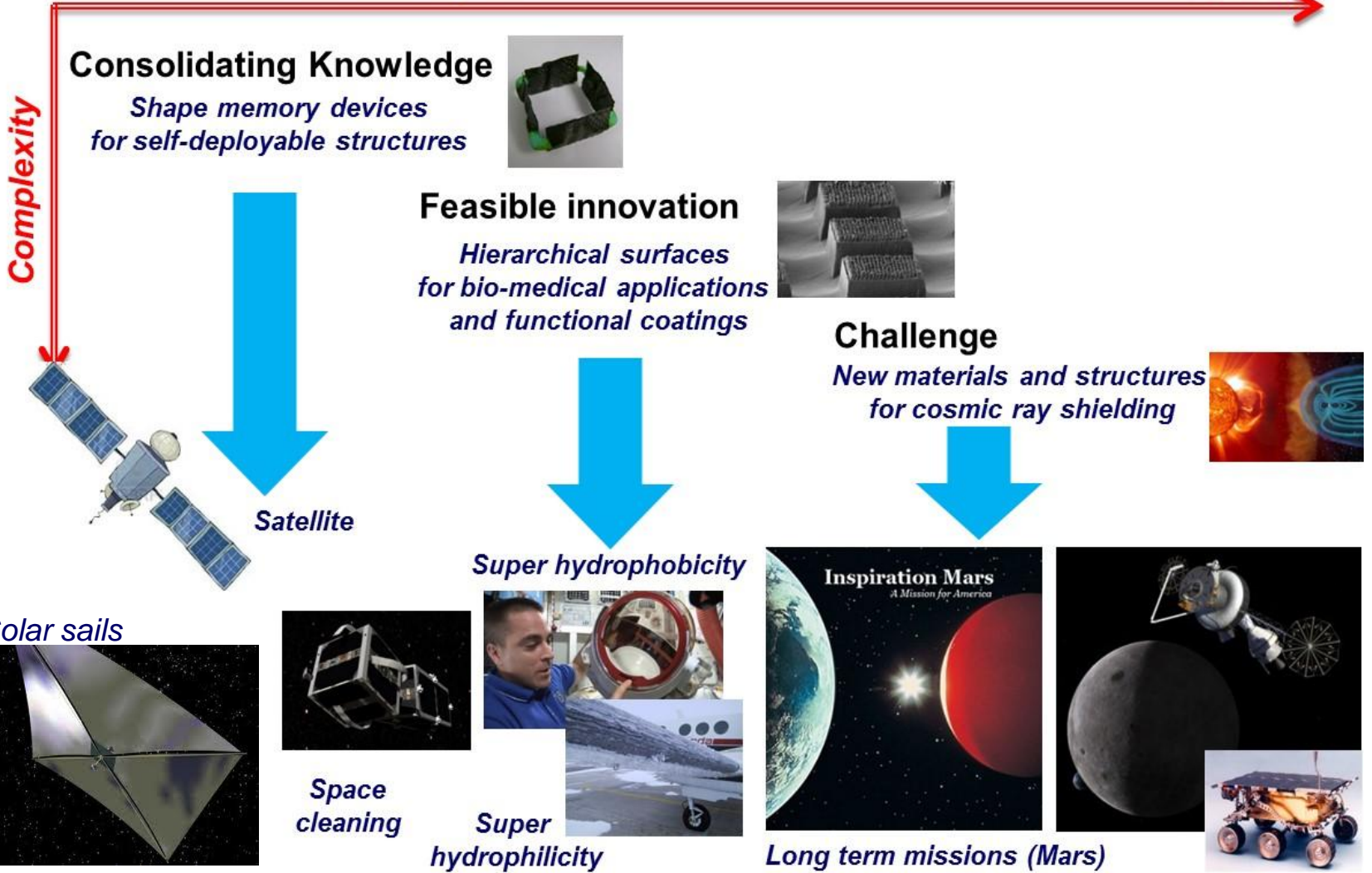
**Where?**

**Why?**

# Research overview

## New Activities for Space

Time →





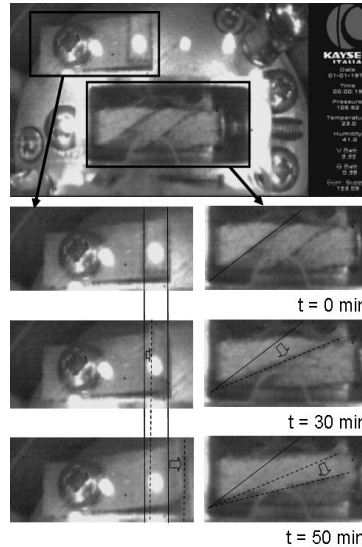
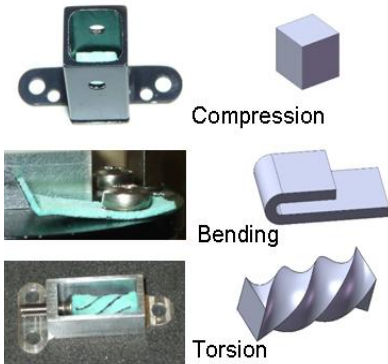
# Microgravity experiments



I-FOAM (Shuttle Mission STS 134, May 22, 2011)

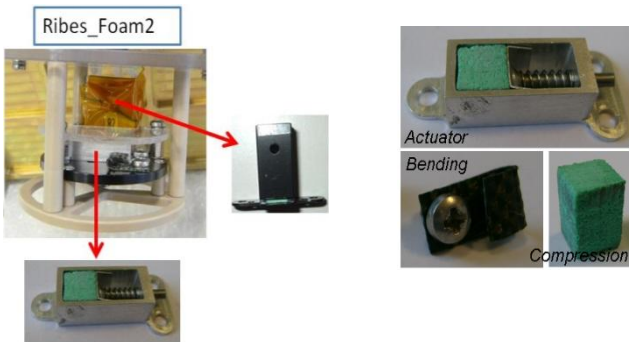


Clamping device    Configuration



L. Santo, F. Quadrini, E.A. Squeo, F. Dolce, G. Mascetti, D. Bertolotto, W. Villadei, P-L. Ganga, V. Zolesi, "Behavior of Shape Memory Epoxy Foams in Microgravity: Experimental Results of STS-134 Mission", *Microgravity Science and Technology*, 24 (2012) 287-296.

Ribes\_Foam2 (BION-M1 Russian Mission, April 20, 2013)



L. Santo, F. Quadrini, W. Villadei, G. Mascetti, V. Zolesi, "Shape memory epoxy foams and composites: ribes\_foam2 experiment on spacecraft "bion-m1" and future perspective", *Procedia Engineering* 104 (2015) 50 – 56.

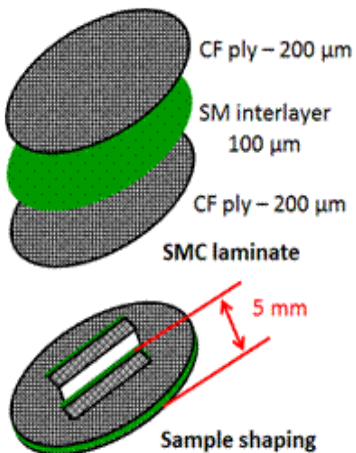
# Future experiments

Exposure to Space environment (ISS) for 1 year:

- NASA MISSE-9 Mission , November 2017
- NASA MISSE-10 Mission, May 2018

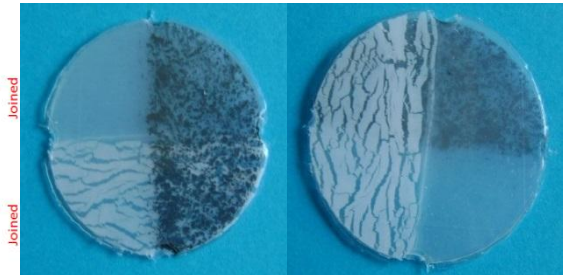
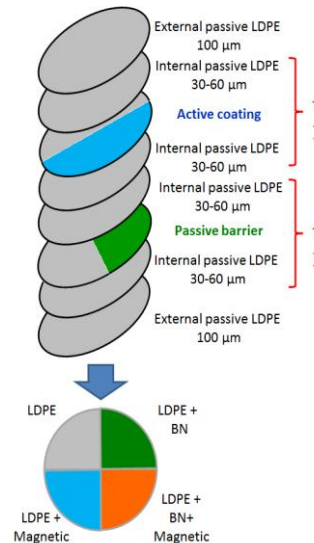


Shape memory composite (SMC)



SMC sample for MISSE-9

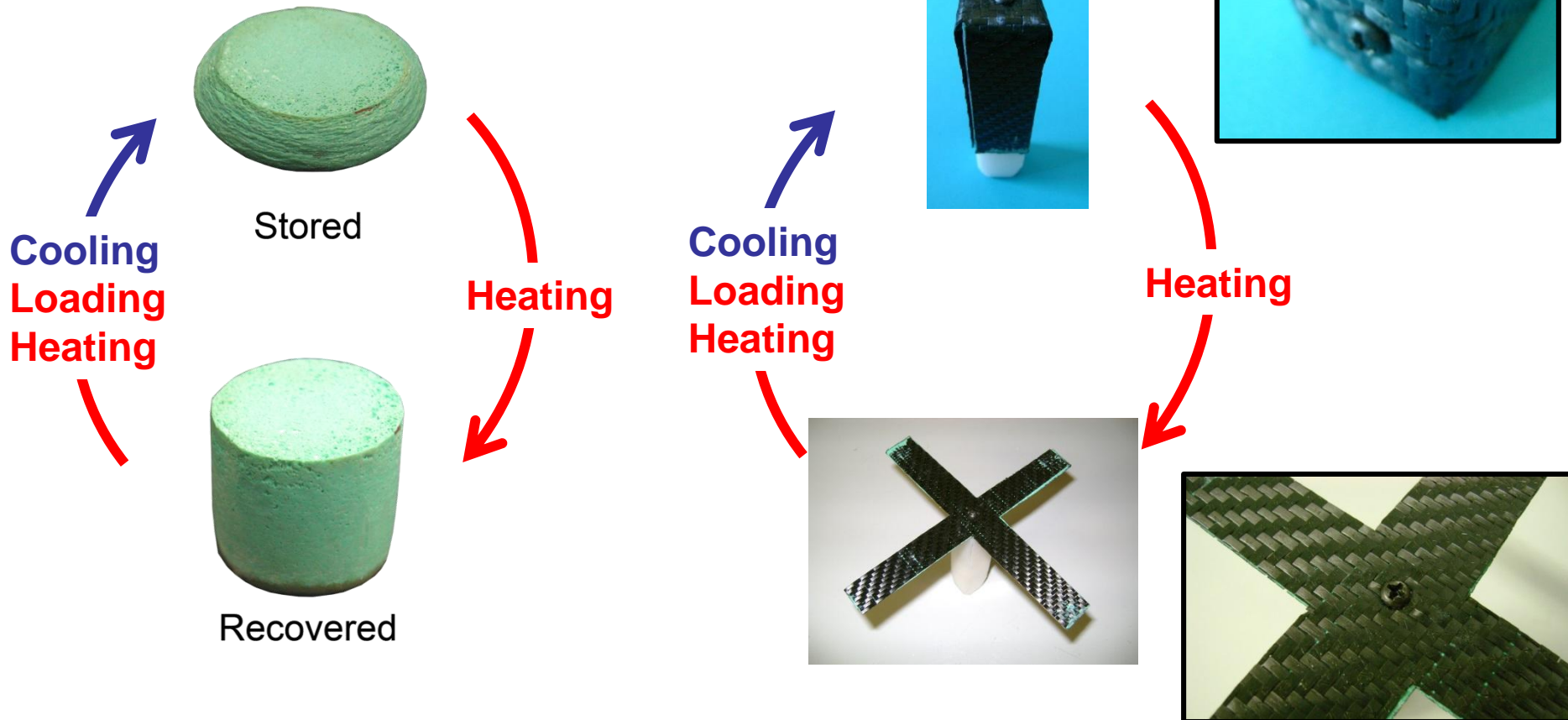
Shielding materials (CRS)



CRS sample for MISSE-9

## SMP foams and SMP composites by Tor Vergata

- PMCs with shape memory polymers (SMPs)
- Thermo-mechanical cycle SMPs and SMCs





## Applications for SMPC

- Self-deploying systems
- Space debris grabbing

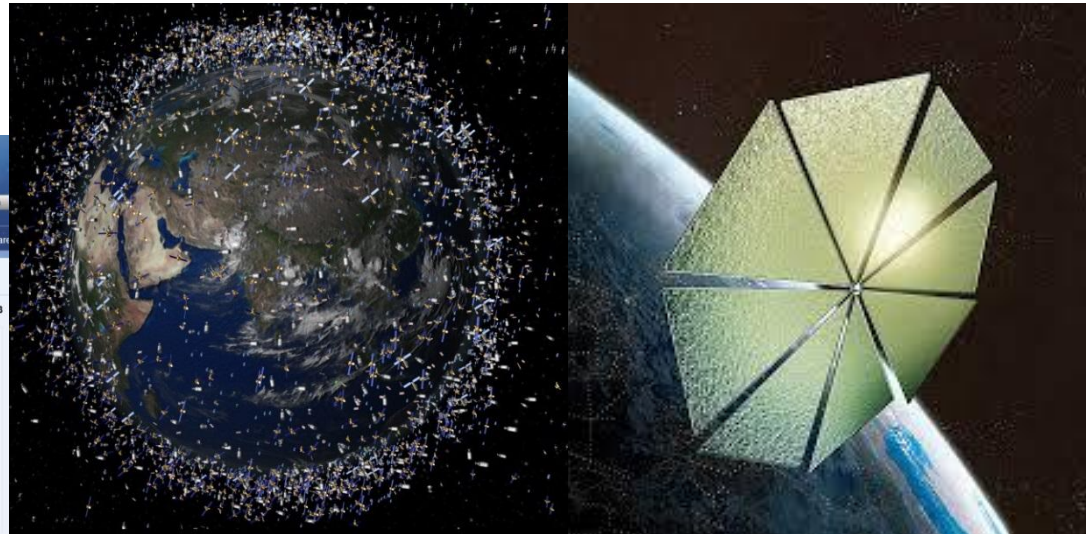
**Space Debris and Human Spacecraft** Sept 27, 2013

More than 500,000 pieces of debris, or "space junk," are tracked as they orbit the Earth. They all travel at speeds up to 17,500 mph, fast enough for a relatively small piece of orbital debris to damage a satellite or a spacecraft.

The rising population of space debris increases the potential danger to all space vehicles, but especially to the International Space Station, space shuttles and other spacecraft with humans aboard.

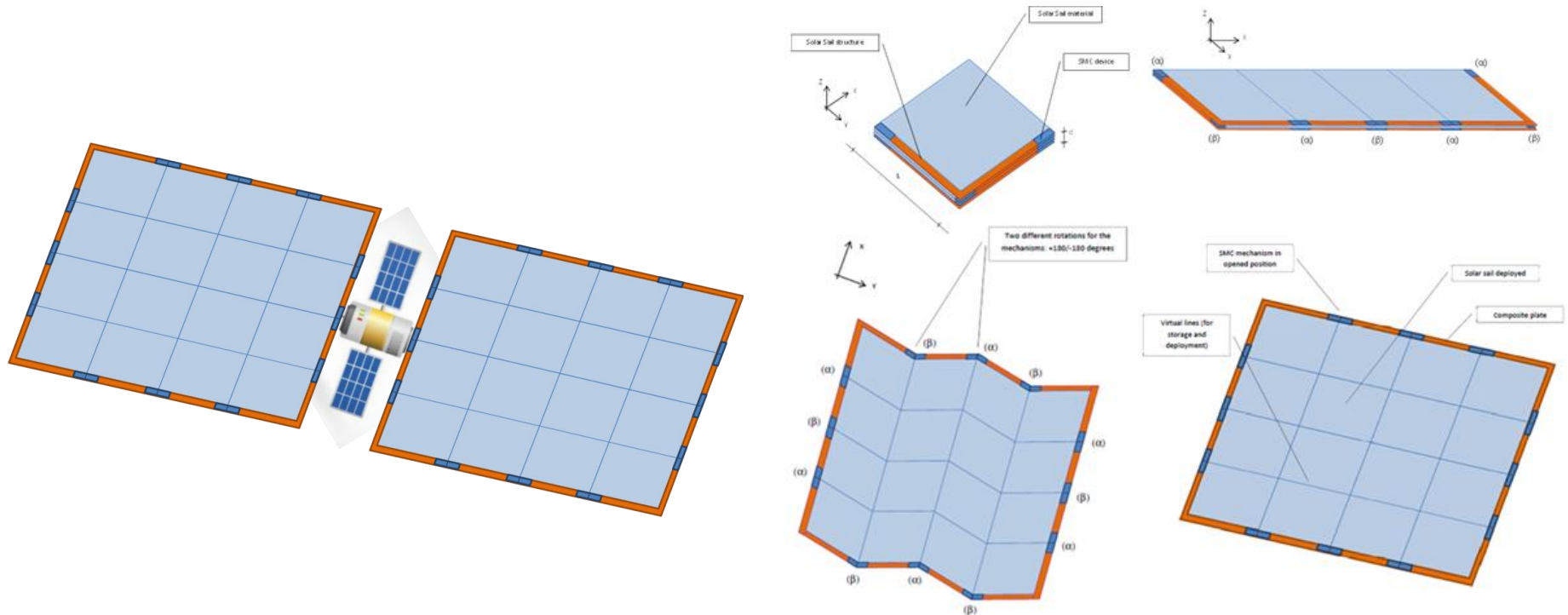
NASA takes the threat of collisions with space debris seriously and has a long-standing set of guidelines on how to deal with each potential collision threat. These guidelines, part of a larger body of decision-making aids known as flight rules, specify when the expected proximity of a piece of debris increases the probability of a collision enough that evasive action or other precautions to ensure the safety of the crew are needed.

Space debris is tracked as it orbits Earth.  
Image Credit: NASA

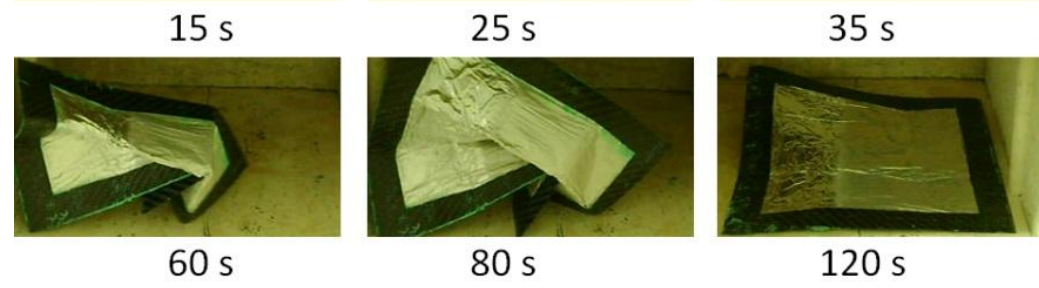
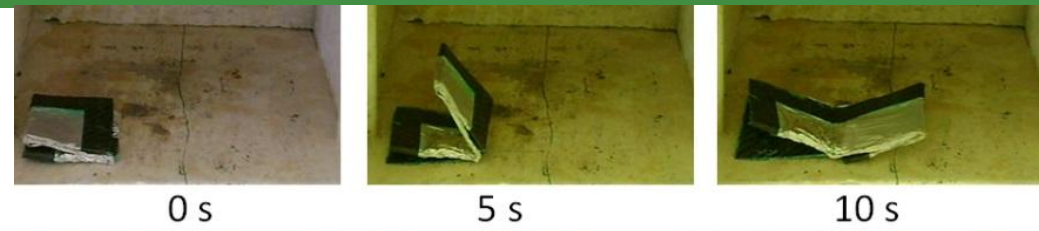
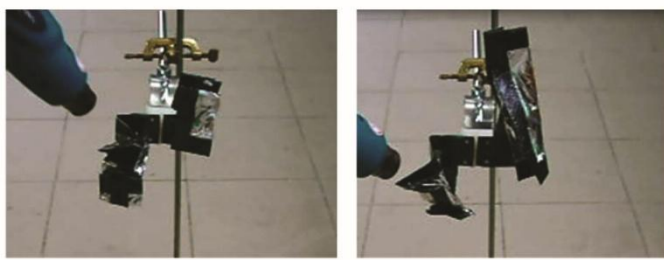


# SMC structures deployment

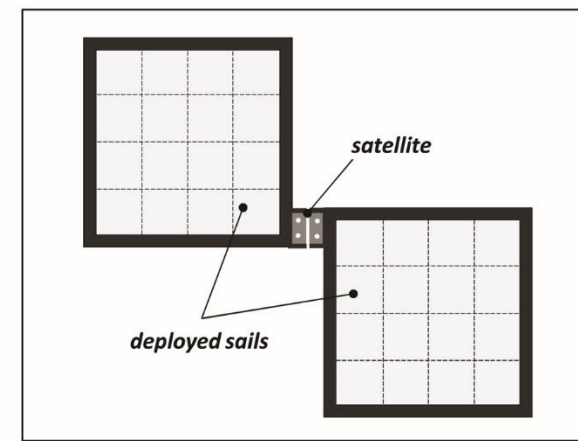
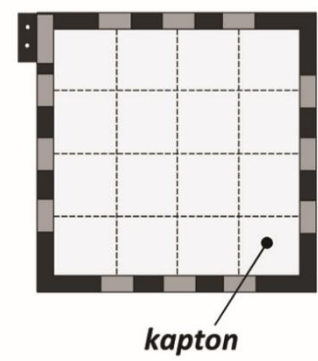
Deploying systems



# Deploying systems

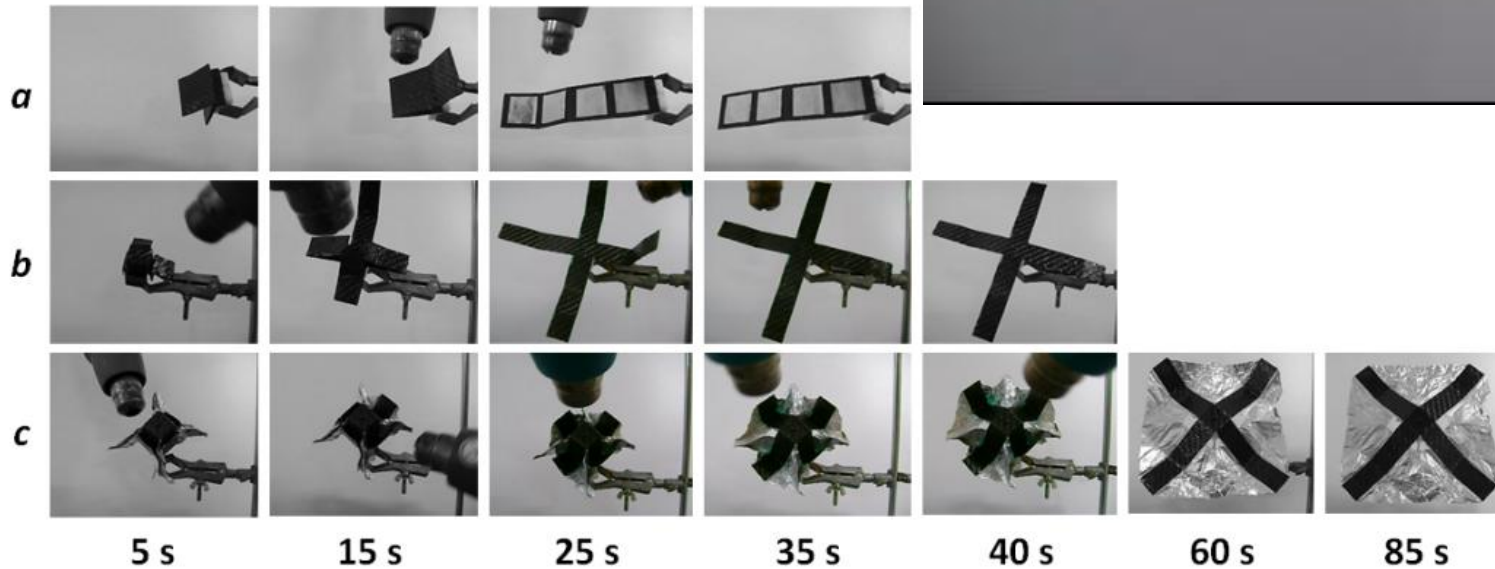
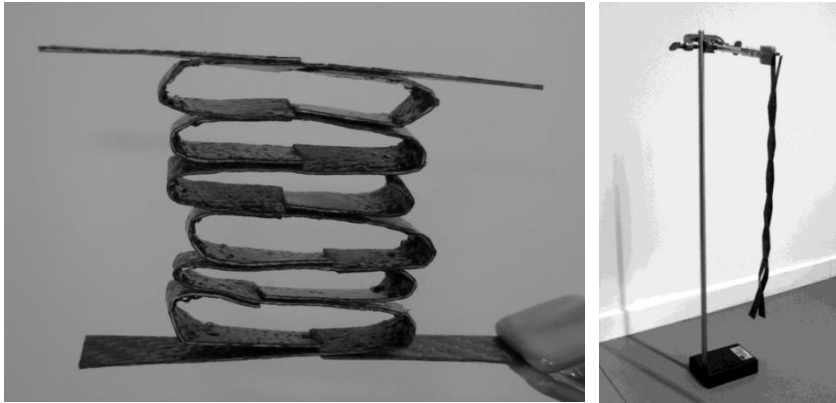


single sail



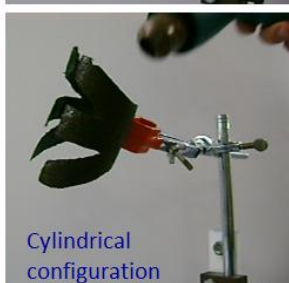
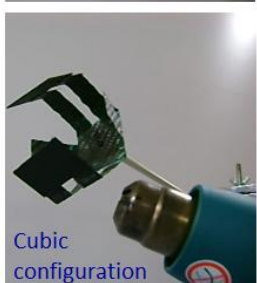
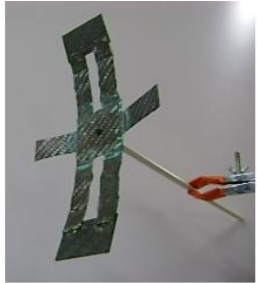


# Deploying systems



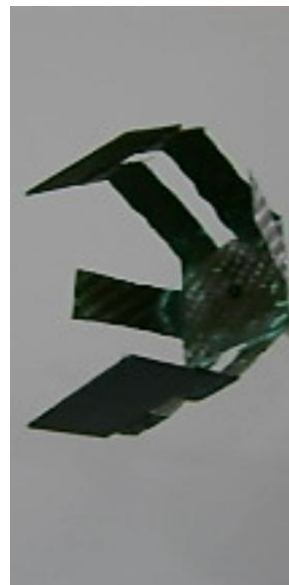
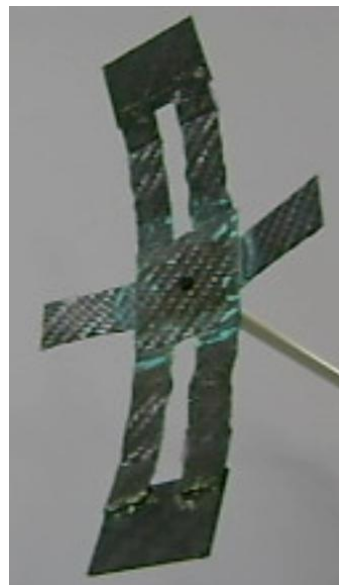
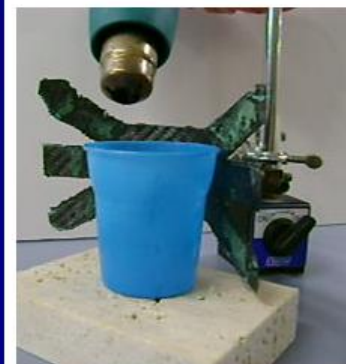


# Grabbing systems



Cubic configuration

Cylindrical configuration



Cubic configuration



Cylindrical configuration

## Space debris

More than 500,000 pieces of debris, or "space junk," are tracked as they orbit the Earth. There are more than 20,000 pieces of debris larger than a softball orbiting the Earth. They travel at speeds up to 17,500 mph, fast enough for a relatively small piece of orbital debris to damage a satellite or a spacecraft. There are 500,000 pieces of debris the size of a marble or larger.

[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)

## Kessler's syndrome (1991)

**Space Station**

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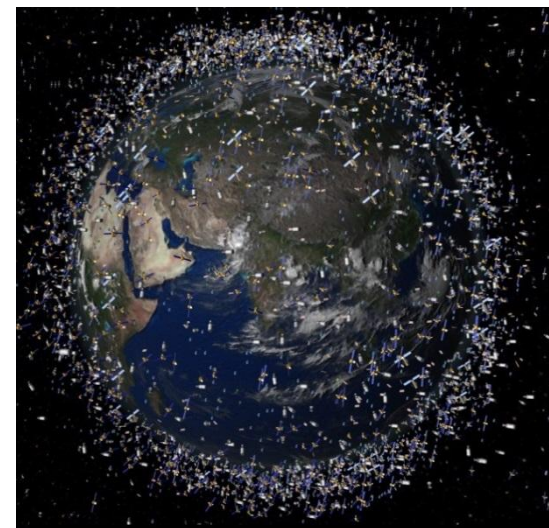
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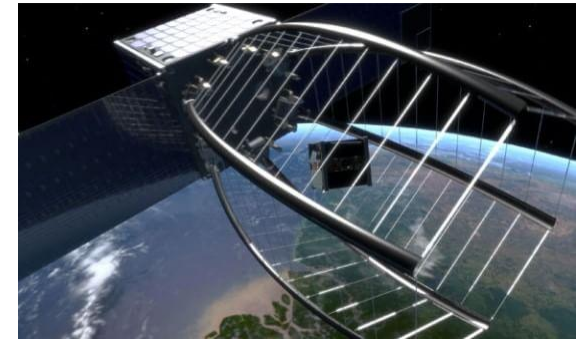
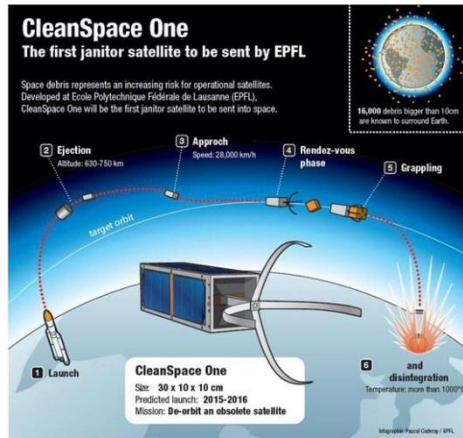
Image Credit: NASA





**Clean Space One**

**Is it possible to remove Space debris?**



By 2016 (**now 2018**), Switzerland plans to launch a "janitor satellite" to start fighting the space junk problem directly while the rest of us keep twiddling our thumbs. CleanSpace One is, as far as we know, the first purpose-built spacecraft designed from the ground up to tackle the space junk (**size?**) problem directly. **Costing just under \$11 million, it's simple, cheap, and hopefully, it'll be effective.**

EPFL eSpace Space Research at EPFL CleanSpace One

SPACE ENGINEERING CENTER EPFL ESPACE

What is eSpace? Space Education at EPFL Space Research at EPFL Student Projects Project archive Publications News

CleanSpace One

CubeETH  
CleanSpace One - Press releases and videos  
CNEOPS Project  
Satellites Observing Lakes and Vegetation Environments (SOLVE)  
CASSIS: Colour and Stereo Surface Imaging System

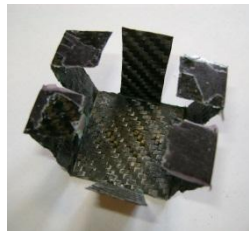
**The Context**  
China's demonstration of its capability to destroy an aging satellite in 2007, and the collision between the American satellite Iridium and the Russian Cosmos in 2009 brought a new emphasis on the orbital debris problem. Although most of the work had been concentrated on avoidance prediction and debris monitoring, all major space agencies are now claiming the need for active removal of debris (R1, R2). In 2011, about 14,000 debris above 10 cm were catalogued (see Figure 1). About 2,000 of these are remains of launch vehicles and 10,000 originate from non-operational satellites.

**The project's objectives**  
The motivation behind the CleanSpace One (CSO) project is to advance TRL levels and start mitigating the impact on the space environment by acting responsibly and removing our 'debris' from orbit. As a non-commercial entity, EPFL holds a unique position ensuring that ecological goals and disruptive research are not affected by the need to generate profit.

The objectives of the CleanSpace One (CSO) project are to:

## New scenario

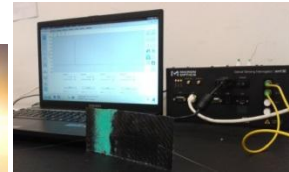
- Is it possible to clean or to make safe a single orbit?
- Is it feasible launching rockets for grabbing small debris?
- From the manufacturing point of view...
- ... integrated processes, raw materials, tolerances, costs



**SMPC** **LIPI**  
SMP actuator



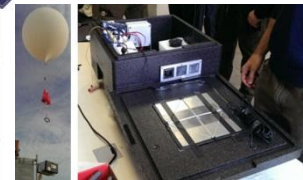
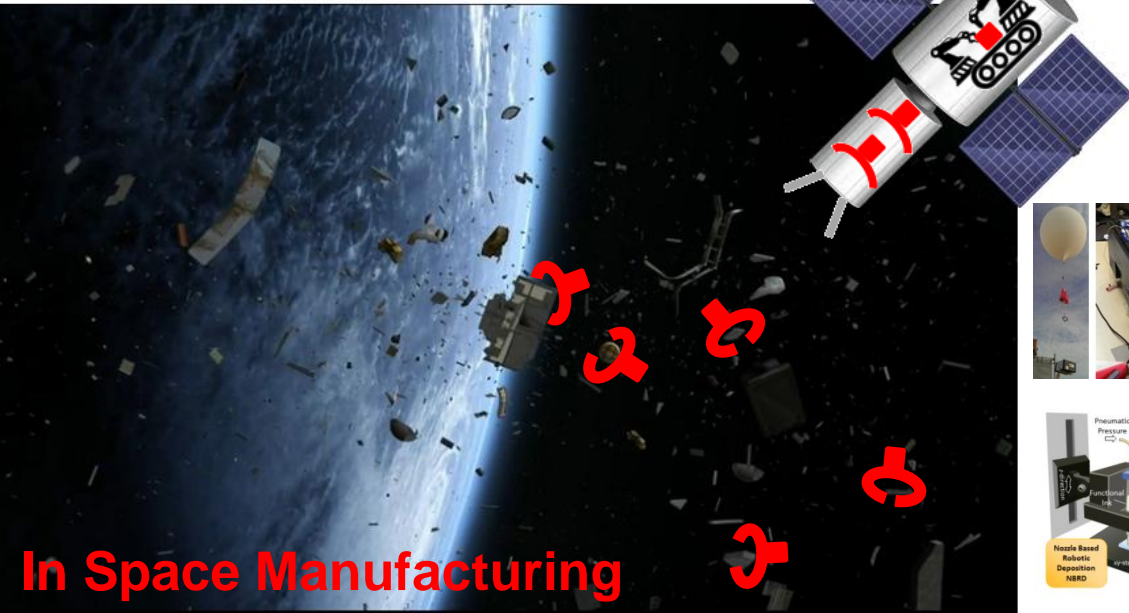
**Foaming**



**Ketlab** **Sensing**



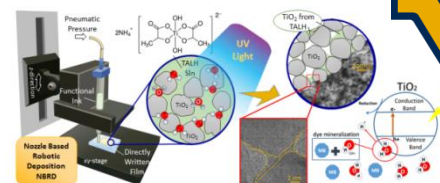
**Additive manufacturing**



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INGEGNERIA INDUSTRIALE



**Shielding materials**



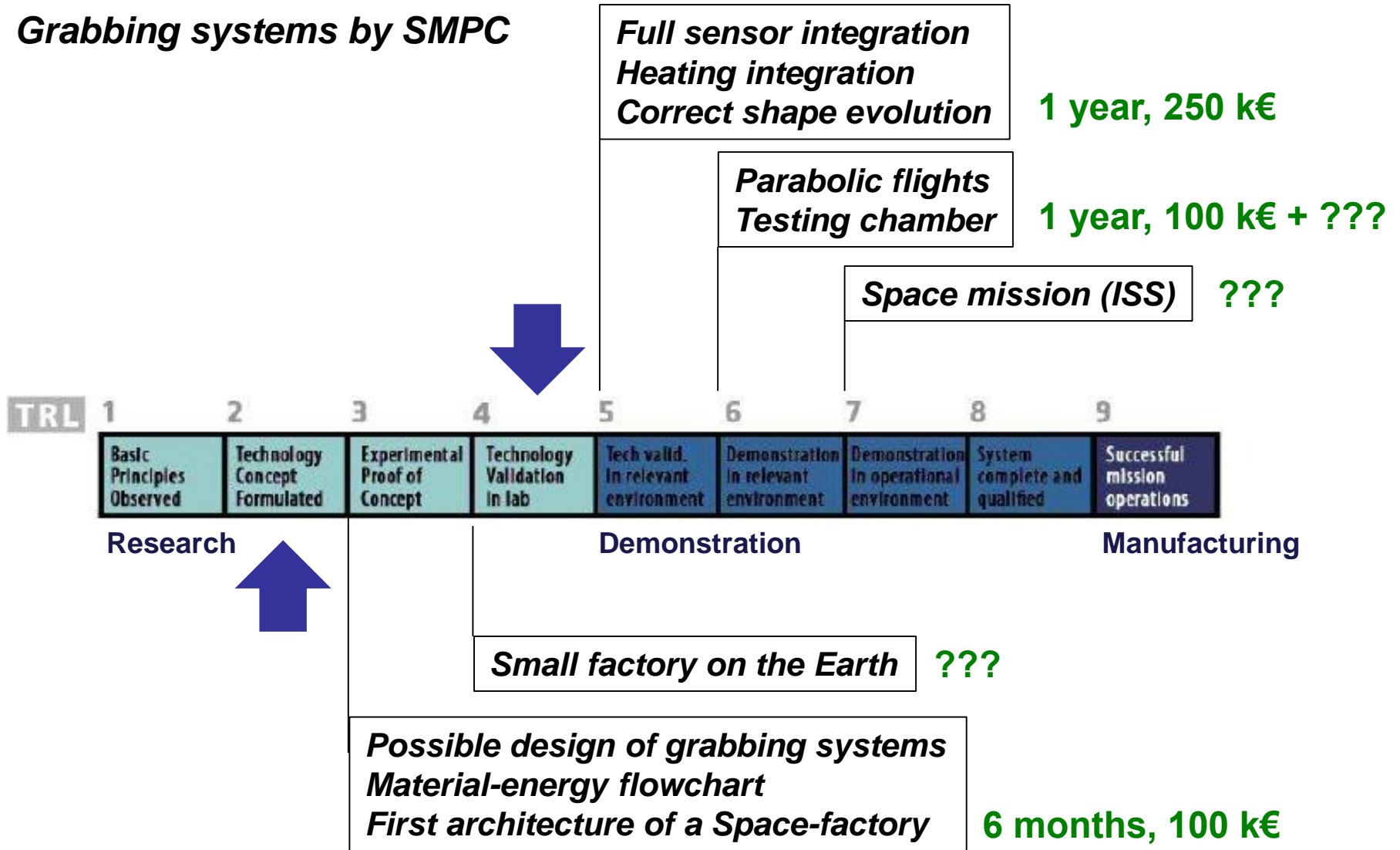
**Printed electronics**

**In Space Manufacturing**



**The future of the research**

**Grabbing systems by SMPC**



**In-Space manufacturing** ????

## **Conclusions**

***Sustainability seems a simple concept but the implementation strongly depends on the field, and economical, social, industrial aspects should be examined***

***I have proposed a challenging idea of the in-space manufacturing interesting for debris capture but also in the optic of planets colonization ( Mars and other) for future scenarios***

***UN and all the Space Agencies together could promote and develop such a small but challenging laboratory as a first example of in-space manufacturing laboratory. This could be useful for all the countries involved in space activity.***



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*Grazie*

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