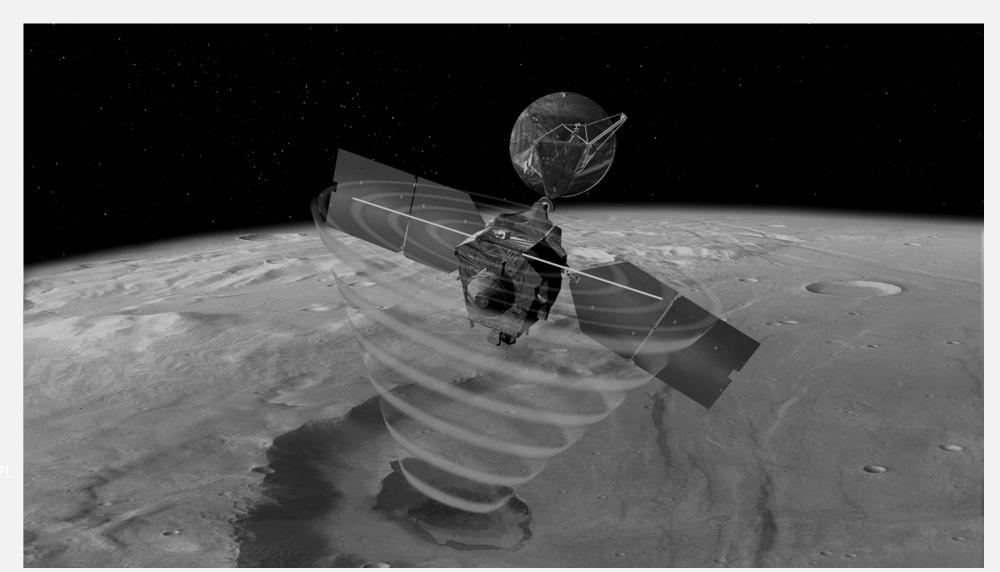
#### Lunar Resource Characterization mission(s?)

H. J. Melosh

**Purdue University** 

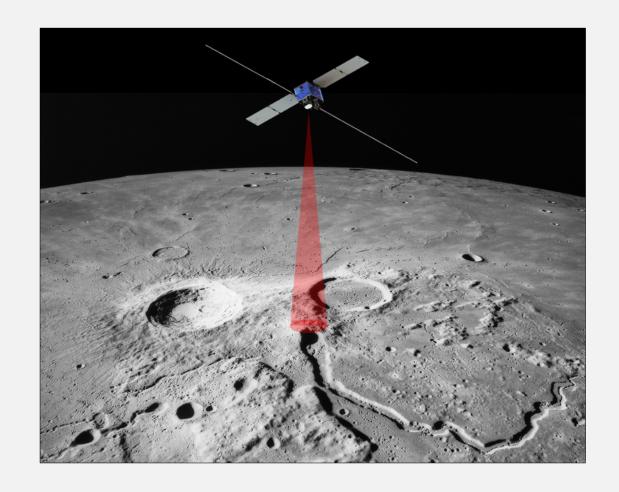
Theme D--Partnerships

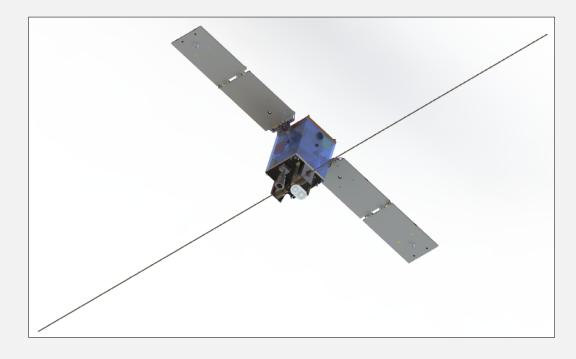
### Lunar Advanced Radar Orbiter for Subsurface Sounding (LAROSS): Lava Tube Exploration Mission



ourtesy: NASA/JE

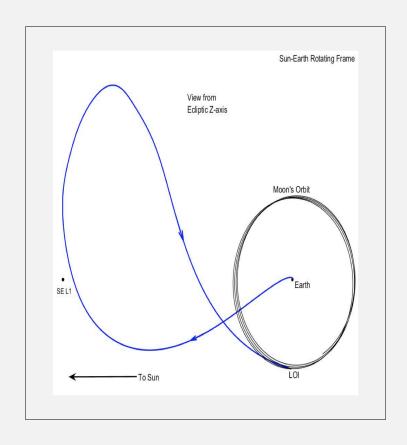
#### increase in radar sensitivity compared with prior missions.



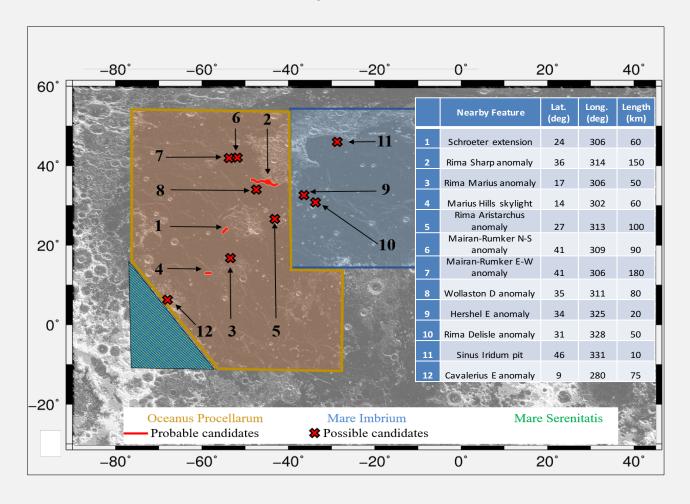


The LAROSS flight system is based on the Ball BCP-100 spacecraft with flight heritage

## LAROSS will explore our candidate lava tubes, as well as the rest of the lunar mare for open caves



LAROSS leverages the GRAIL lowenergy lunar transfer trajectory design to minimize mission DV.



The 90-day science mission in a polar orbit allows detailed observations of candidate lava tubes.

### Startup companies are already planning to mine the Moon and asteroids and may offer partnerships

- ♦ Planetary Resources: The asteroid mining company
- ♦ Deep Space Industries: Space resources for an unlimited future
- ♦ Kepler Energy and Space Engineering
- ♦ Infinite Space Dynamics
- ♦ Blue Origin
- ♦ Space X
- ♦ Bigelow Aerospace
- ♦ Etc, etc.





# New industries and other nations' space programs offer new opportunities—and partnerships









**European Space Agency**