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ROSAs for New Space: Maxar Roll Out Solar Arrays on Three Different Spacecraft

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Maxar ROSA Experience

"Semper Gumby"



Evolution of ROSA at Maxar from 2014 - Present

- 2014 2018
 - IRAD contract with Deployable Space Systems (DSS)
 - Design and qualification of ROSA for 1300 Bus
 - 14 kW BOL, targeting >100 W/kg
 - Characterization and risk reduction testing
- 2018 2019
 - Awarded NASA Power and Propulsion Element
 - 70 kW BOL large dual-blanket ROSA
 - Awarded contract for small commercial GEO mission
 - Sub-10 kW ROSA
- 2020 2021
 - Awarded study contract for Dynetics Human Lander System
 - Sub-10 kW ROSA, retractable



Source: "SSL ROSA Qualification Status", 2018 Space Power Workshop

Changes in the market and customer mix are driving a bifurcation of the product line



Maxar ROSA for 1300 Bus

Update: Maxar GEO ROSA Qualification Wing Sine Vibe Completed

Test Setup on Vibe Table at Maxar





Test results to inform ongoing activities across ROSA programs at Maxar



Video of Maxar GEO Qual Wing Sine Vibe (X-Axis, Full)





Maxar Programs and ROSAs

"Three for three"



- **X** Three Maxar Programs, Three ROSAs
 - The Power and Propulsion Element (PPE) for Gateway, a part of NASA's Artemis Program
 - 70 kW Beginning of Life (BOL)
 - Electric Orbit Raising (EOR)
 - Lunar Near-Rectilinear Halo Orbit (NRHO)
 - Modular Architecture-Class Commercial GEO Communications Mission
 - 8 kW BOL
 - Electric Orbit Raising (EOR)
 - Standard GEO Orbit
 - Dynetics Human Lander System (DHLS)*
 - 5-10 kW BOL Deployable and Retractable
 - Lunar Surface Operations
 - NRHO (at Gateway)

*Maxar proposed Electrical Power System as a supplier under Dynetics HLS Study Contract











Maxar ROSA Qualification Approach Varies by Program

PPE

- Mechanically same solar cell as GEO Qual
- Some mechanical components like GEO Qual
- Dedicated Life Cycle and Combined Effects coupons
- Modest component re-use from iROSA
- Testing at assembly and sub-assembly level (e.g. 1/2 wing)

MAC

- ~ 80 % component re-use from DART (APL's Dual Asteroid Redirect Test)
- Extended mission-specific testing of IRAD and PPE coupons
- Protoflight testing of flight wings

- DHLS

- Maximize component re-use from MAC
- Development effort for 1/6 G, dust abatement, and deployment / retraction operation











PPE ROSA

"We may need a bigger building."





Power and Propulsion Element (PPE) ROSAs

- Driving requirements and unique considerations / observations
 - At 70 kw everything is "super sized"
 - From day one, plan to "max out" design capabilities
 - Scale drives need for early decisions on key long lead items
 - Test program is complex and must be thought through
 - Scale of GSE and infrastructure cannot be under-estimated

• Other

- Difficult to "stay out of the way" with wings this large
- Additional protective measures needed for thermal, other
 - EP and Bi-prop plume impingement
- Such large gossamer-like structures require a re-think of testing and verification approach
 - Need a dedicated AIAA spec for blanket solar arrays



Credit: NASA



Example ROSAs: Single and Dual-blanket



Credit: Deployable Space Systems

PPE Double Blanket will be ~ 2X the Maxar GEO Qual Wing on the left



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Video of PPE / HALO Deployments



X



× PPE ROSA Status

- Co-manifest with HALO uses every watt for EOR
- ROSA CDR in Q2 2021
- Long lead items
 - Booms fabricated and delivered
 - EDU boom strength testing underway
 - First flight SPMs delivered to DSS
 - Harness and diode boards on order
- End-to-end test plan being formalized
 - Baseline plan is to test each half-blanket like a single wing
 - Evaluation option to include full (double) blanket deployment like iROSA
 - Evaluating use of pLEDss for wing-level electrical testing
 - Working with DSS and NASA on assessment
- Extensive coupon test program underway
 - Supplemental to GEO IRAD

Deployment Boom Strength Testing at DSS



SPM with SolAero Z4J cells





PPE Wing-level Electrical Testing with LED-based Light Source —

- Maxar is currently working with Angstrom Designs to demonstrate a small pLEDss system for testing 5-junction solar cells on a flight program
- In parallel, plans are in development between Maxar, DSS, NASA GRC and Angstrom, for implementing pLEDss on a larger scale for wing-level test of PPE





ANGSTROM DESIGNS

Modular Architecture-class ROSA

"Wagging the dog."



Modular Architecture-Class ROSA

- Maxar's MA-class spacecraft is targeted at GEO missions in the 5-15 kW power range
 - First implementation is on a commercial GEO spacecraft
 - Full Electric Orbit Raising (EOR)
- Driving requirements and unique considerations / comments
 - Minimum specified time to GEO governs EOR duration
 - Business case means that EOR governs solar array sizing ("wagging the dog")
 - Sizing for EOR means payload EOL power margin is ~ 40%
 - EOR CONOPS require daily knowledge of expected array power output
 - Need specific daily (or near-daily) predicts
 - Orbital position, radiation exposure, and power output
 - Mounts to spacecraft using Maxar Redundant Release Devices (RRDs) in place of primary Frangibolts to reduce shock loads
 - ROSA allows this mission to use three different solar cell types

Electric Orbit Raising Drives EPS Design and Solar Array Sizing





× MAC ROSA is a scaled-up DART blanket with a scaled-down GEO Yoke



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DART ROSA Solar Array Flight Wings, Stowed and Deployed



Credit: Deployable Space Systems

~ 80 % of MAC ROSA components are re-used from DART

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MAC ROSA Status

- First flight build is underway, all SPMs have been delivered by SolAero
- Blanket and component builds ongoing and on track for Q3 delivery and Q4 launch



MAXAR

Deployable Space Systems

DHLS ROSA

"Shake, rattle and roll."



Dynetics Human Lander System (DHLS) ROSA

- Ongoing competition for a lander to put the first woman and the next man on the moon in 2024
- Driving requirements and unique considerations / comments
 - Design for 10 years: polar, equator or in-between
 - First mission is 6 (Earth) day stay near southern pole
 - Reduced mass is critical
 - Retractable wing for landing and takeoff (loads and dust)
 - Wing tilt mechanism for alternate latitudes
 - Stowed volume is restricted
 - Active dust abatement measures are required
 - "Shake, rattle and roll"
 - Deployment under 1/6 G
- Other
 - Use of ROSA allows for later upgrades to lower-mass PVA with minimal delta qualification

Key considerations are mass, and dust abatement



Dynetics Artist's Rendering

Dynetics A Leidos Company



DHLS follows Legion ROSA design, based on Maxar's modular architecture

- General design
 - Mandrel, blanket, solar cell and associated mechanisms are enveloped by MAC ROSA
 - Slightly larger deployment boom to take lunar loads
 - Motor for retraction (adds torque margin also for deployment)
 - Thruster plume shields based on designs/materials in development for PPE
- Dust mitigation measures
 - Three different dust abatement methods in development
 - Two of these are the subject of an ongoing cooperative IRAD between Maxar and NASA
 - One is the subject to an ongoing GTA between Dynetics and NASA
- Development and qualification approach
 - Early large/full scale wing prototyping to demonstrate deployment and some dust abatement
 - Parallel coupon testing to characterize / validate SPM-level dust abatement
 - Re-fit of large wing with SPMs featuring selected dust abatement features
 - Re-test of large wing in dust environment





DHLS ROSA Status

- Initial study contract completed including spacecraft-level PDR
 - Wing sizing and packaging complete approx. 2.5 m x 10 m
 - Stowed volume compliance is confirmed
 - Hold down locations and bolt pattern identified
 - Booms sized for >6X deployed strength margin
 - Three different cell and SPM solutions developed for same wing geometry
 - Continuing to evaluate additional mass-reduction options as new PVA technology matures



Credit: Mitsubishi Electric Company (MELCO)



Conclusion



Conclusions

Three different ROSA designs for three distinct missions have been presented

Each takes advantage of ROSA's unique capabilities in a different way

Designs of similar scale can build commonality and reduce qualification efforts

The blanket design is inherently solar cell agnostic

Conditions that lead to cell cracks in rigid panels are less prevalent

Industry needs an AIAA standard for flex blankets with different tests

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THANK YOU!



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Art by Sloane Yates



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