



# The Tools of Astronomy

Seeing the whole picture

Dr. Jonathan Crass



# What tools do we need?

- We need to observe the Universe around us
  - The Solar System
  - The Milky Way
  - Galaxies
  - And beyond
- We need to understand what we see
- We need to predict what is going to happen

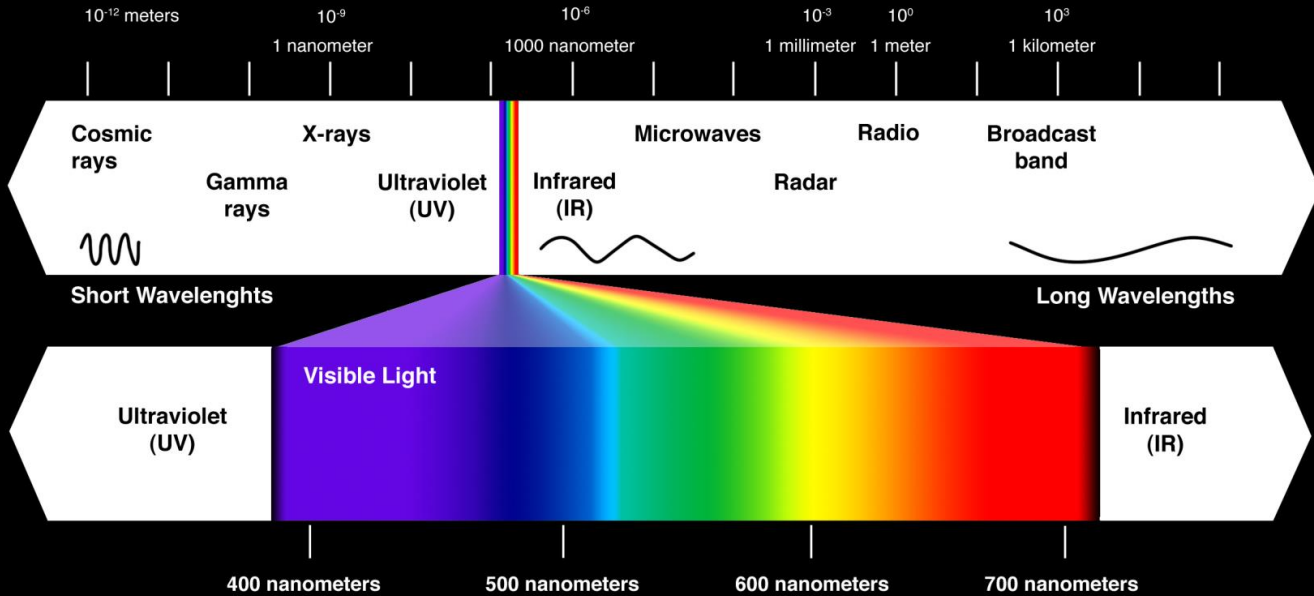
# The Tools of Astronomy

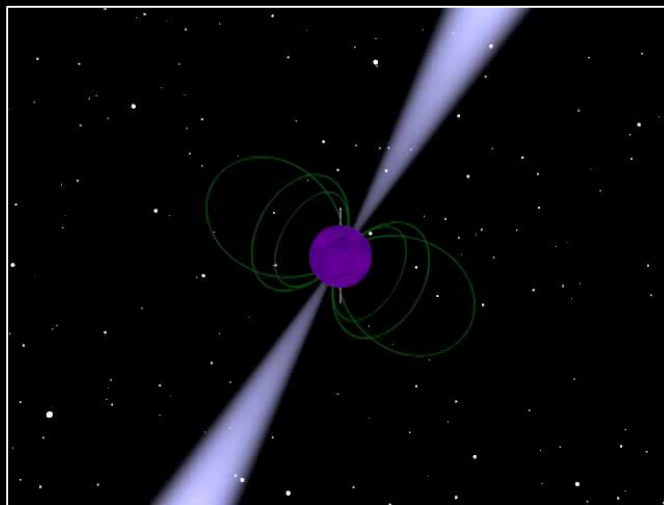
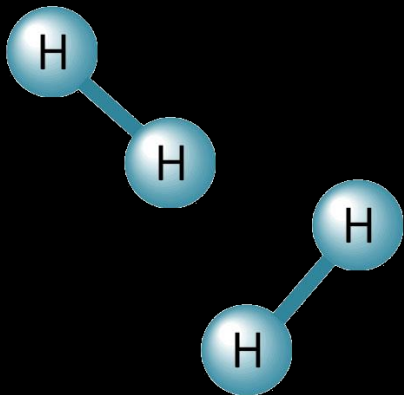
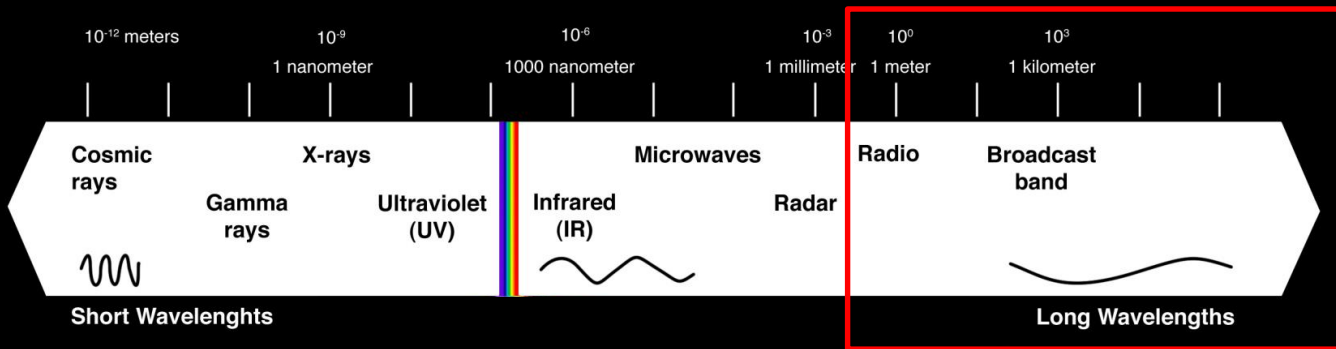
- The Astronomers Toolkit
  - Ground-based telescopes
  - Space telescopes
  - Spacecraft and probes
  - Computing power

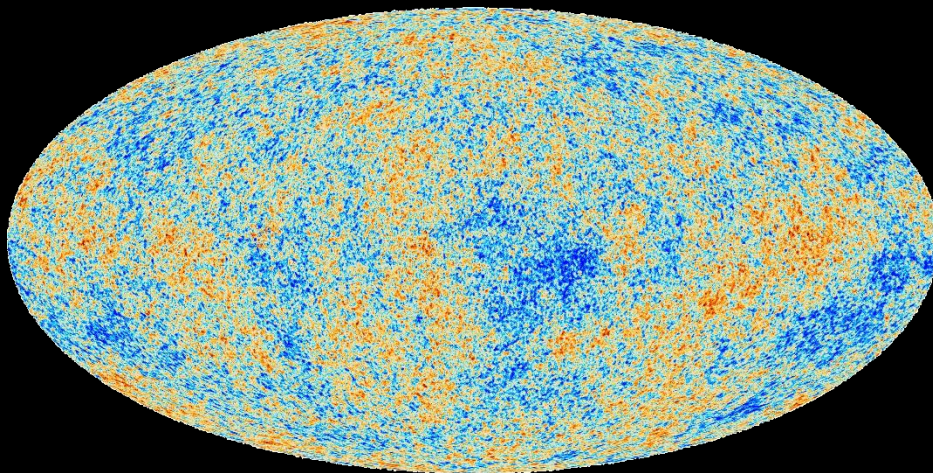
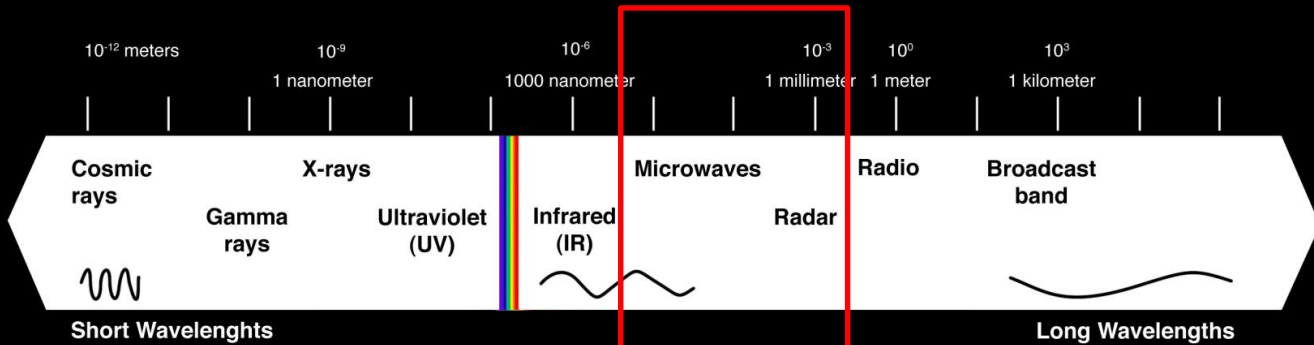
# Observing the Universe

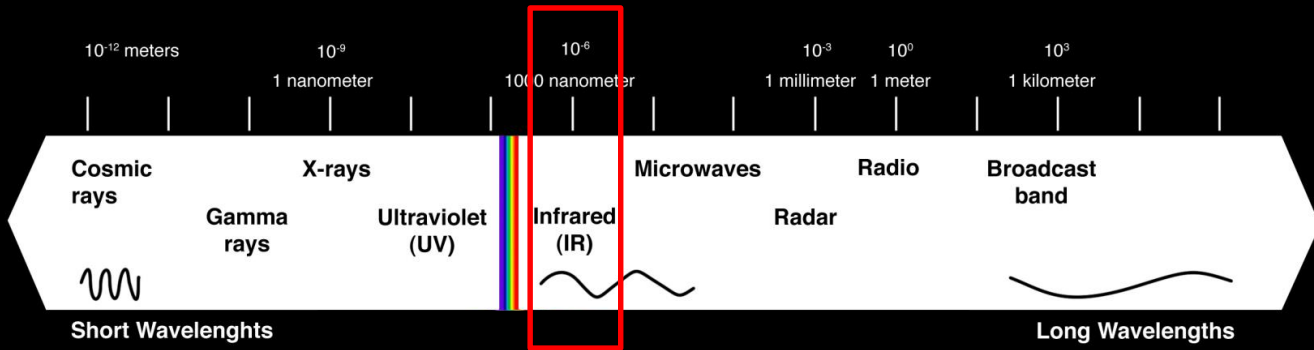




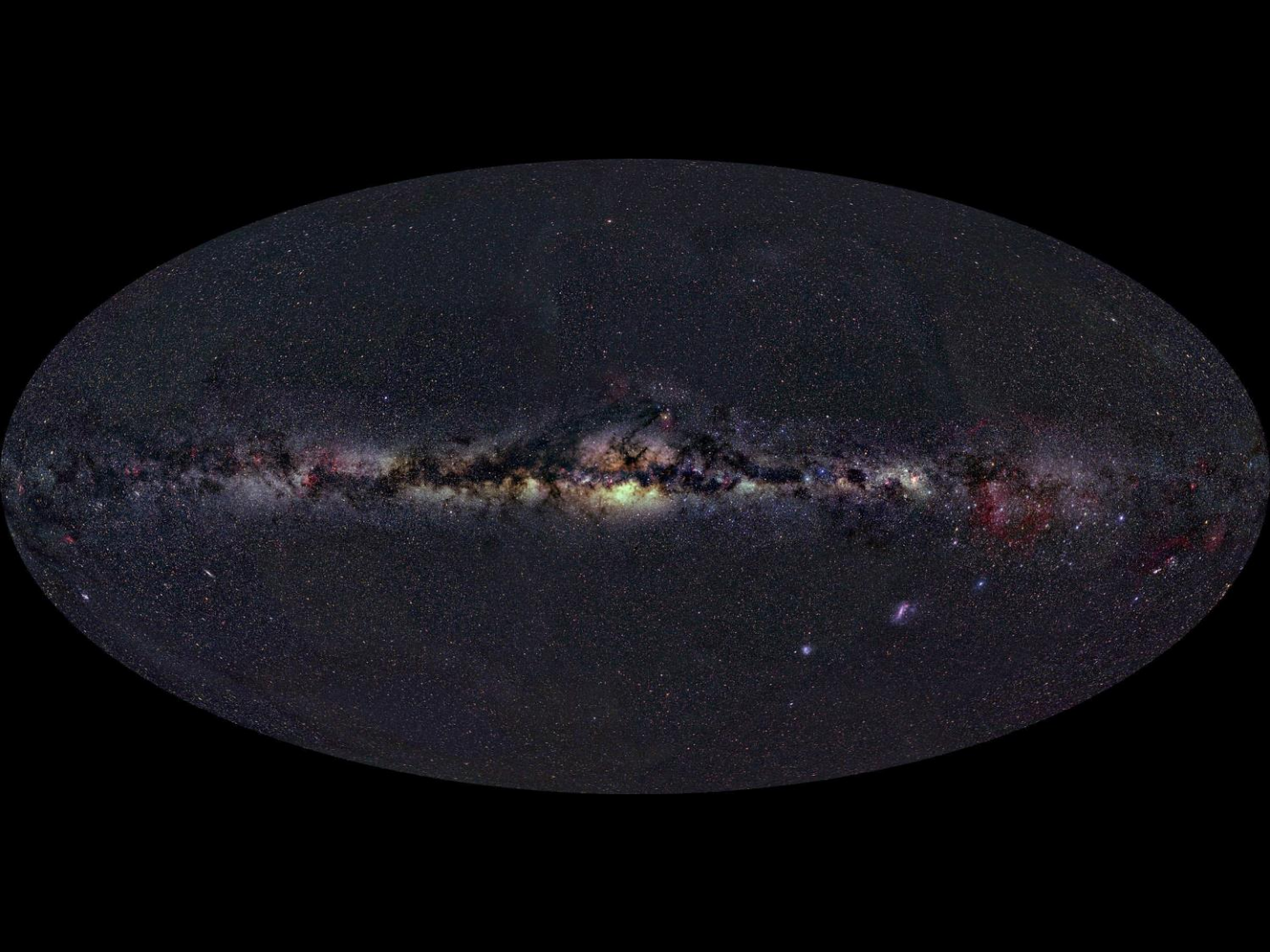


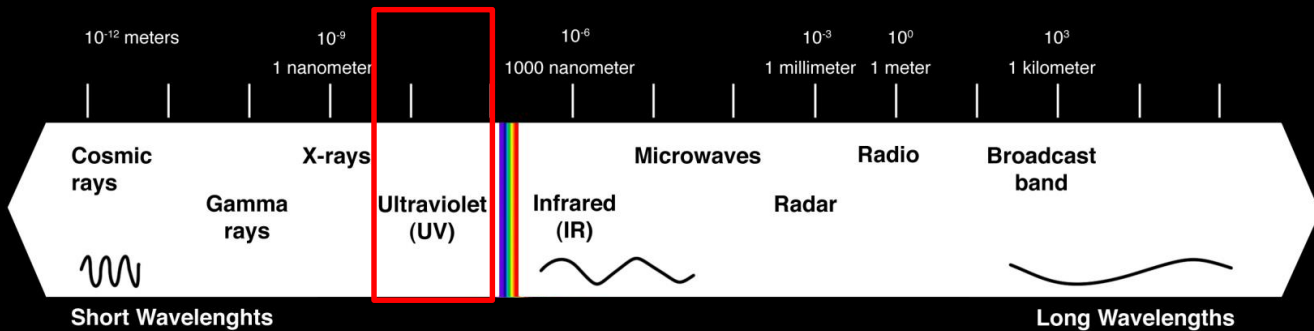






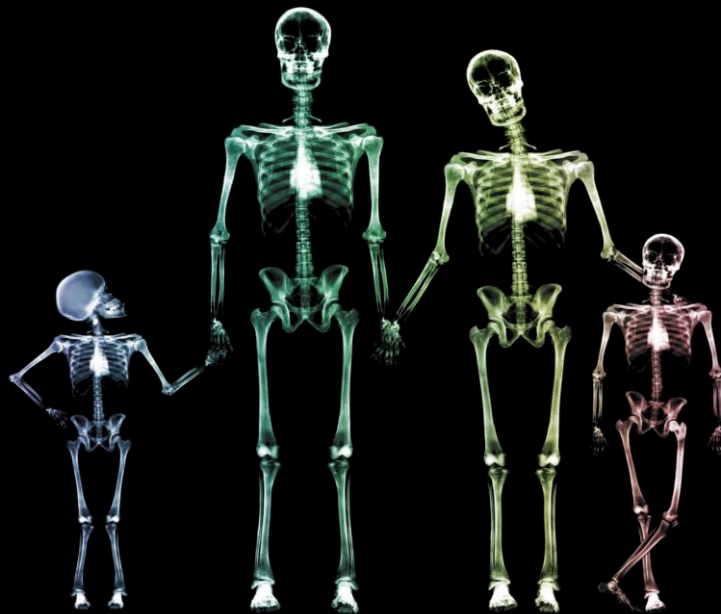
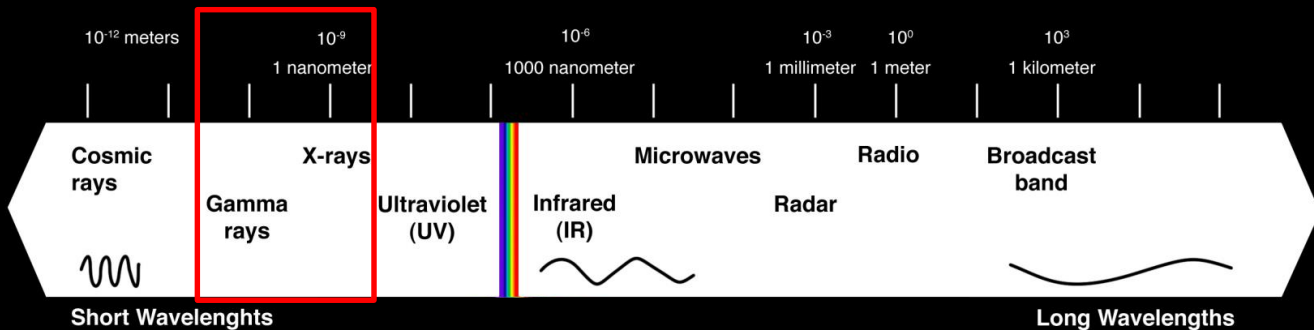


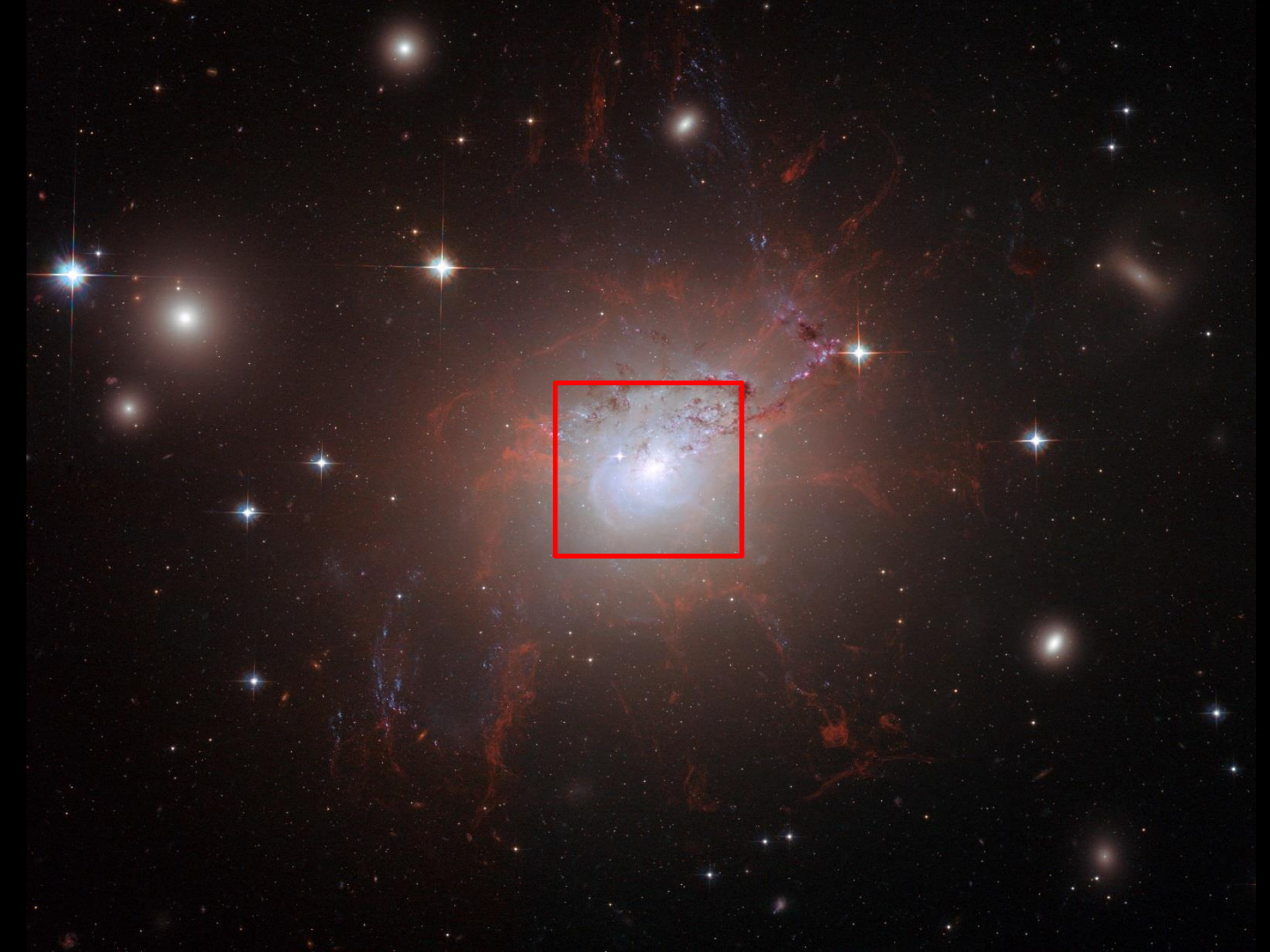










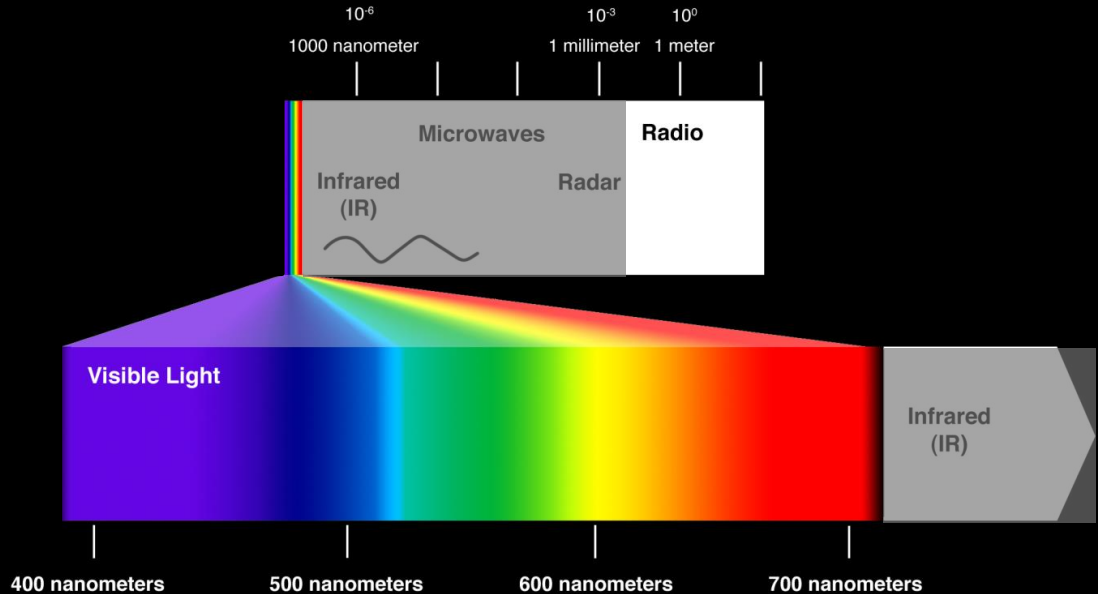


**Ground-based telescopes**

# Ground-based telescopes

1. They're "cheap"
2. They're easier to maintain
3. You can upgrade them
4. You can use different instruments for different types of science

# What can we see on the ground?









Lovell Telescope – 76.2m





# Why are radio telescopes so large?

- Sensitivity



# Why are radio telescopes so large?

- All telescopes are limited in resolution

$$\text{Resolution} = 1.22 \times \frac{\text{Wavelength}}{\text{Telescope Diameter}}$$

- Depends on:
  - Telescope diameter
  - Wavelength



Largest Filled Aperture

Arecibo Radio Telescope – 305m





Largest Filled Aperture

Five hundred meter Aperture Spherical Telescope – 500m



Largest Fully Steerable

Green Bank Telescope – 100x110m



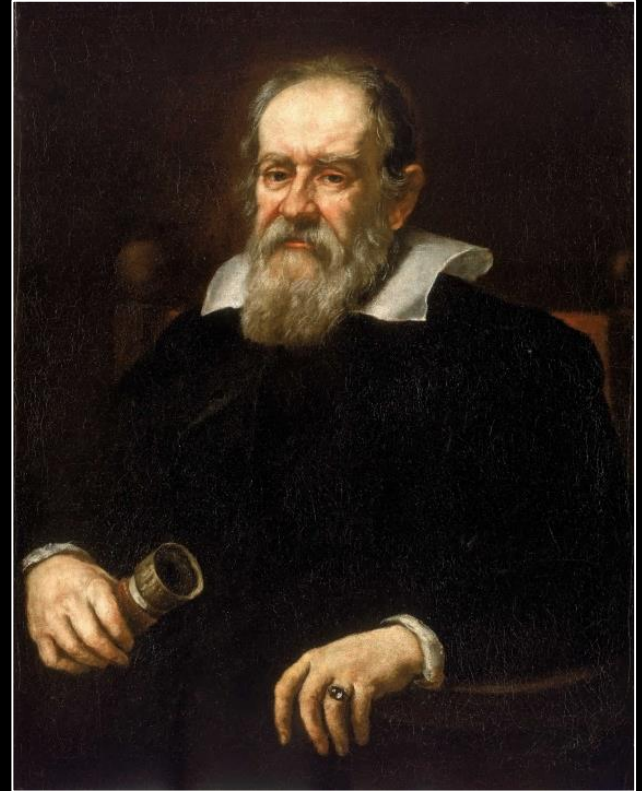


Largest Overall

RATAN-600 – 576m

# Optical Telescopes

- Galileo – 1609





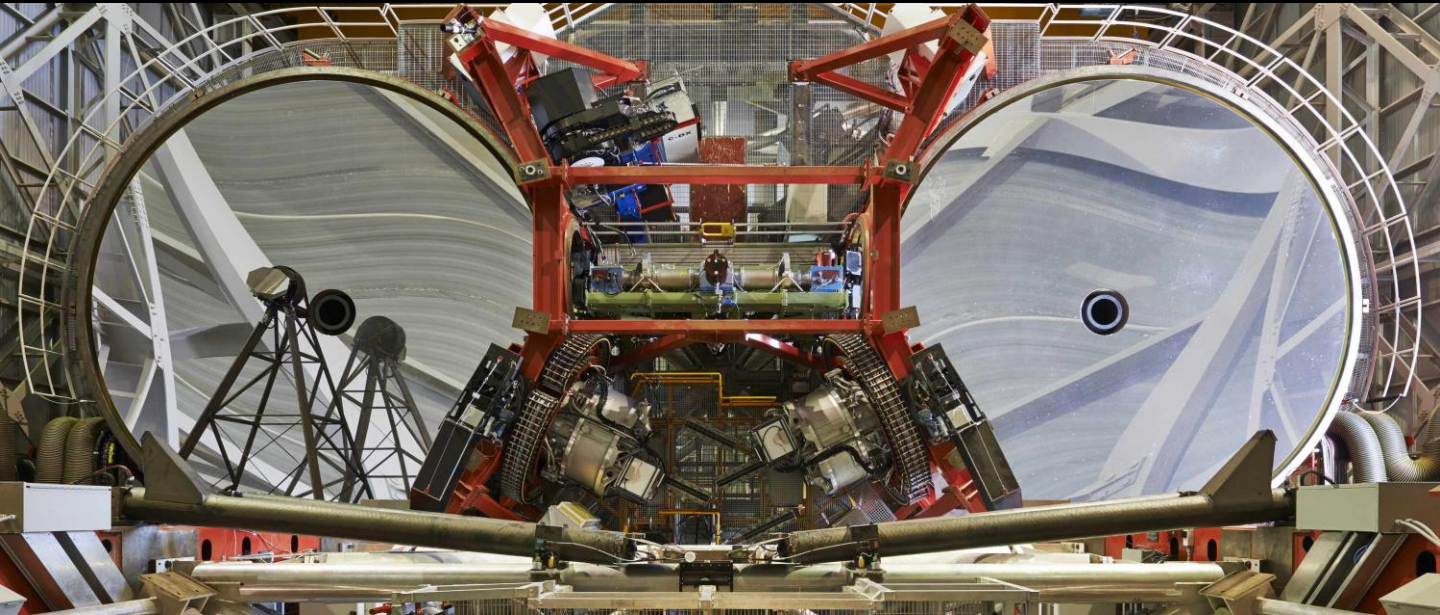


Northumberland Telescope,  
University of Cambridge, 11.6in

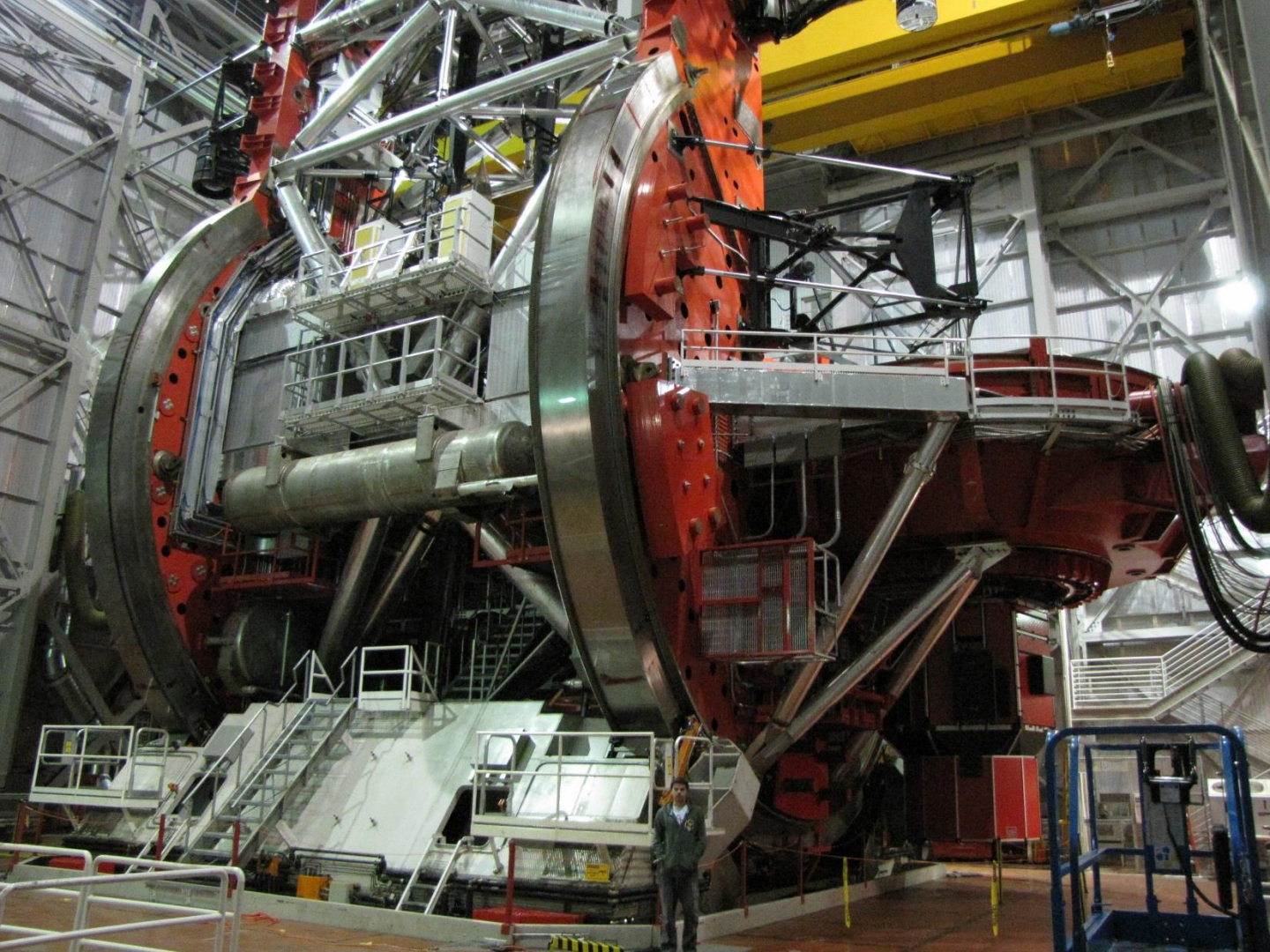


Hale Telescope,  
CA, USA – 60in





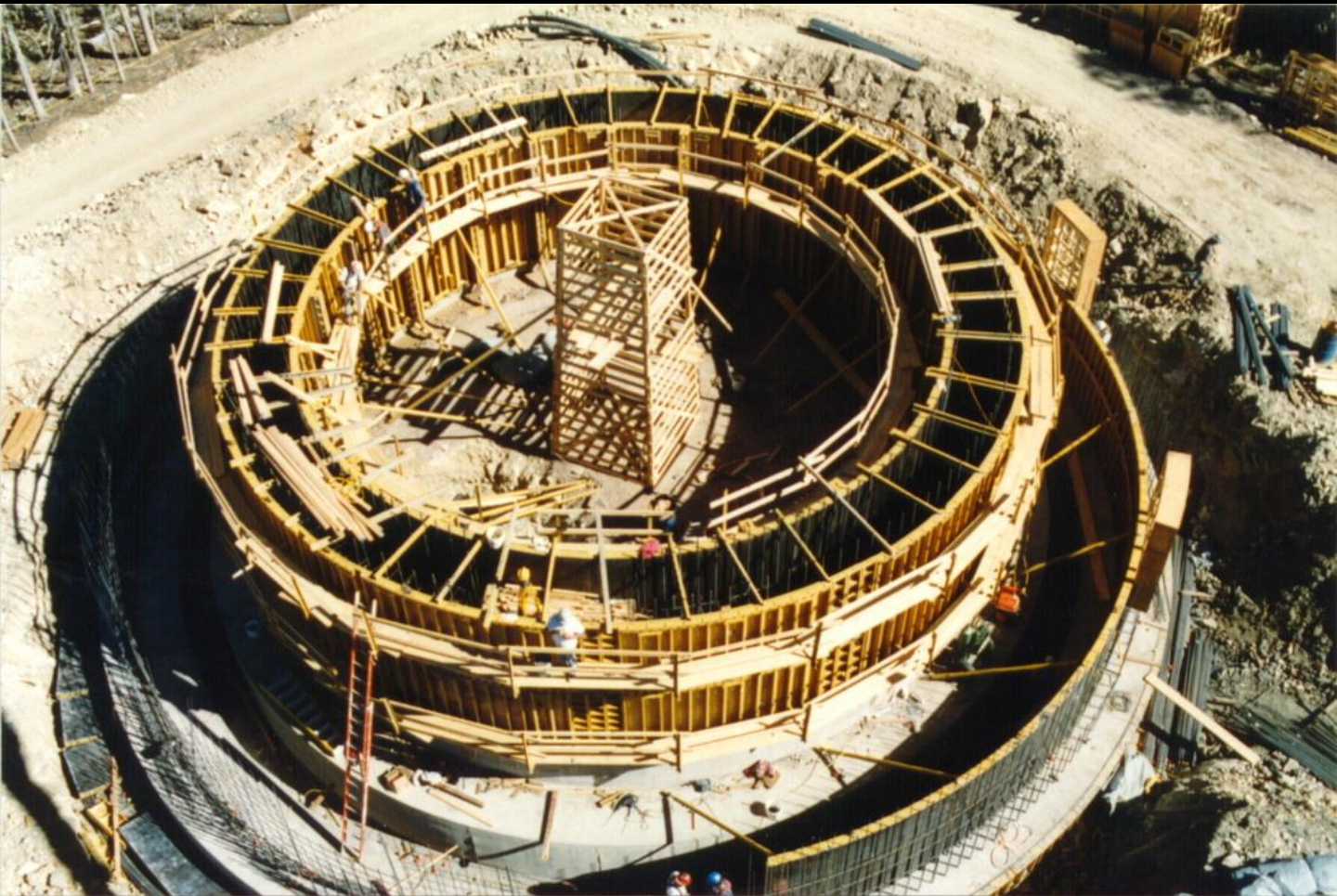
Large Binocular Telescope, AZ, USA – 2 × 8.4m





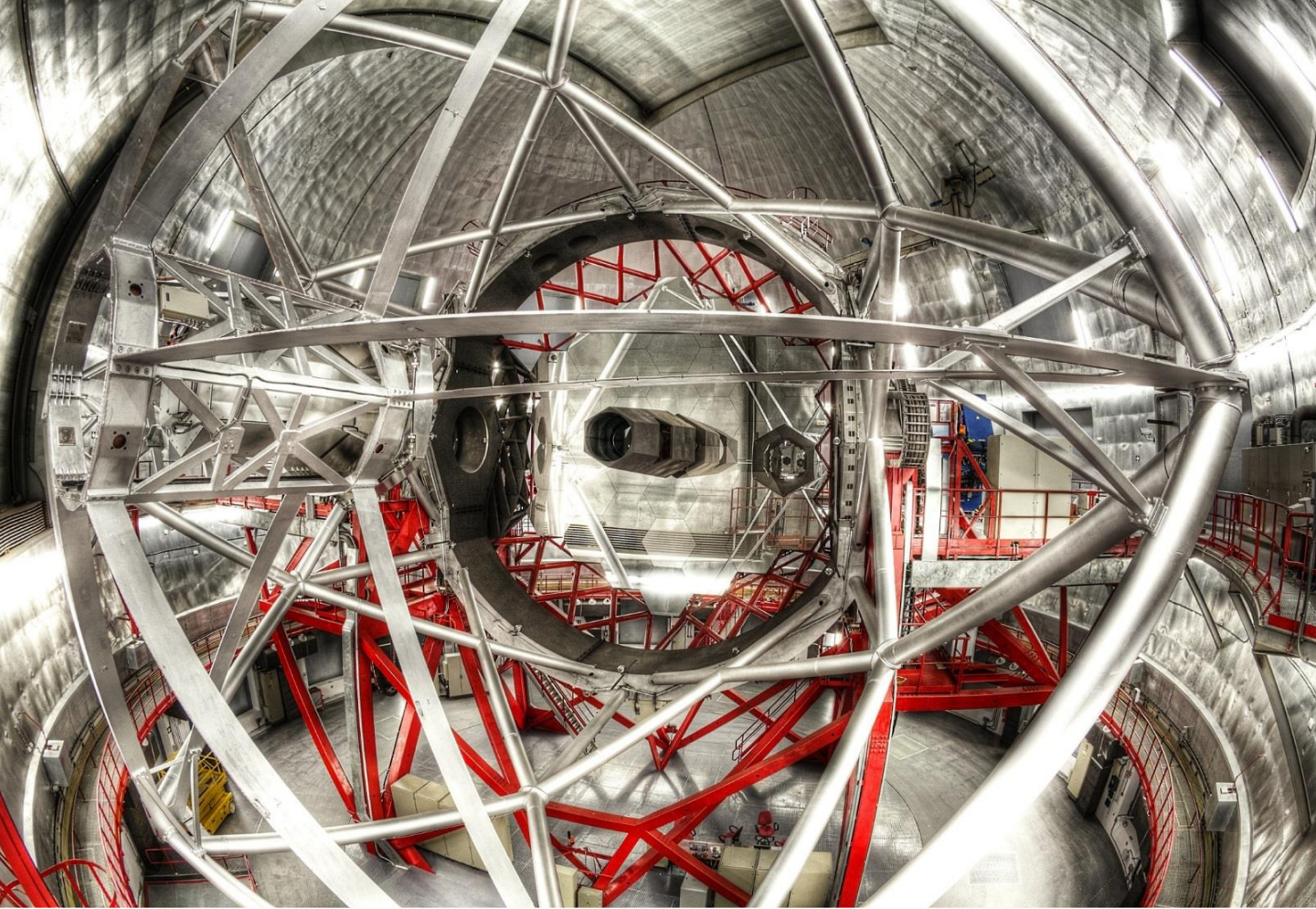










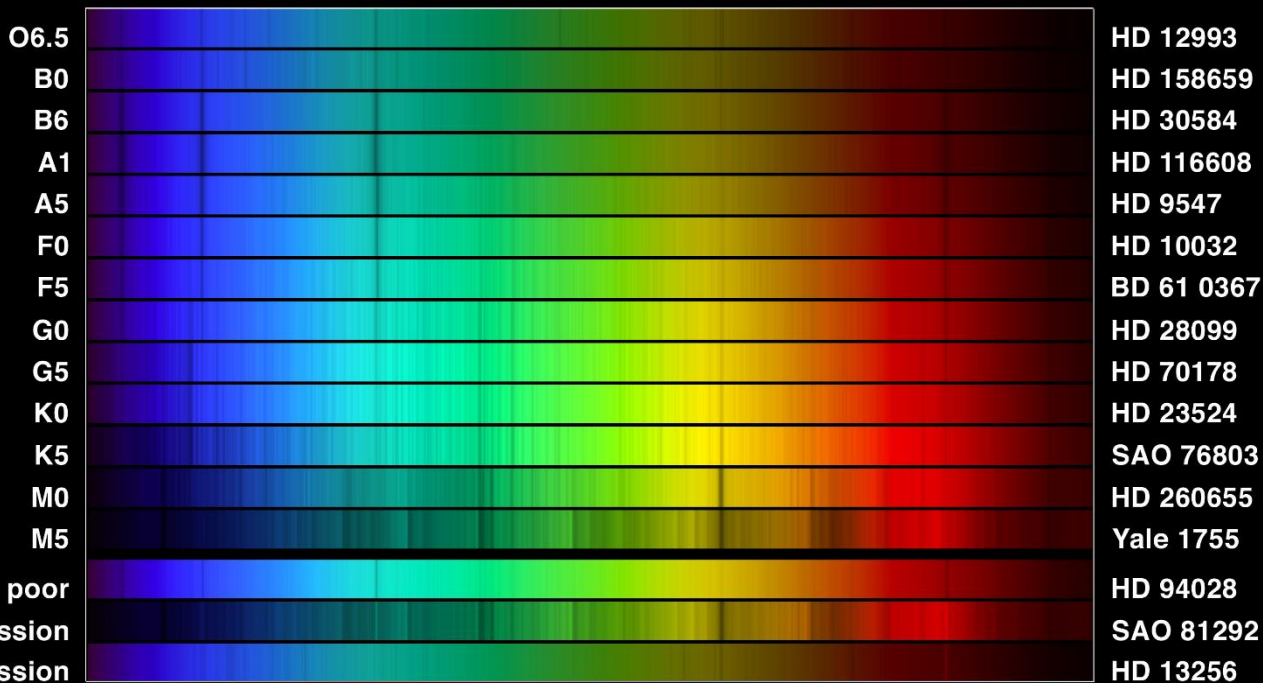


Gran Telescopio Canarias – 10.4m





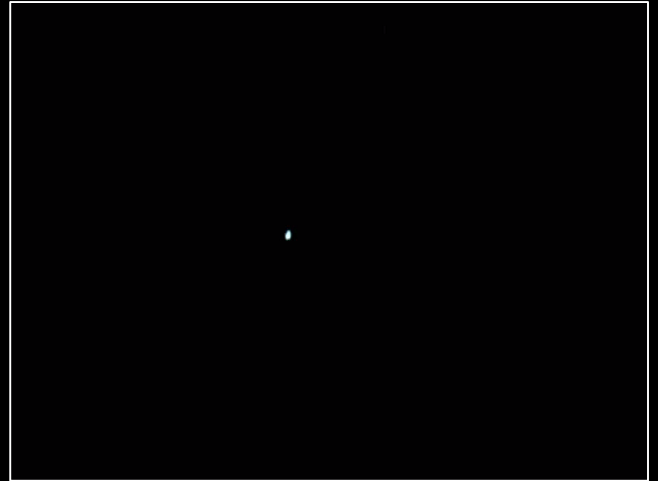




# The problem with big telescopes

- We have an atmosphere...
- There's a finite size single telescope we can build

# Atmospheric Turbulence

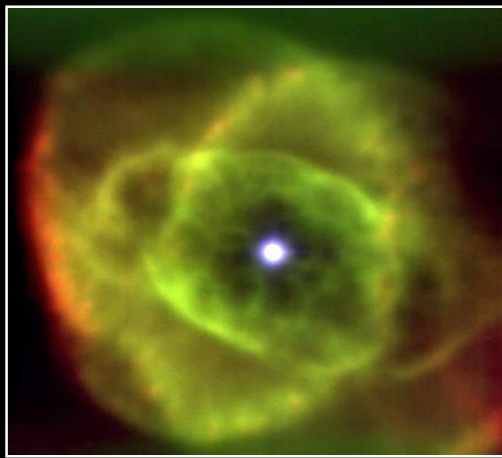
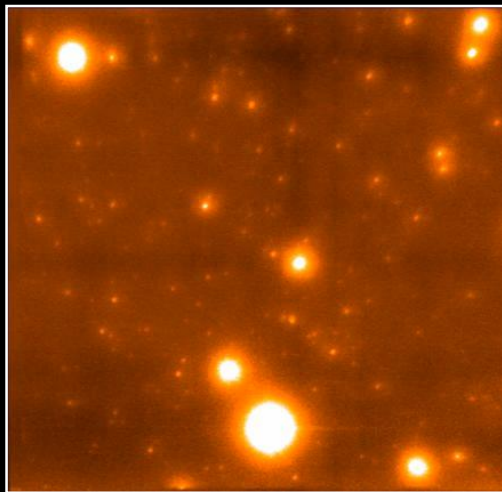
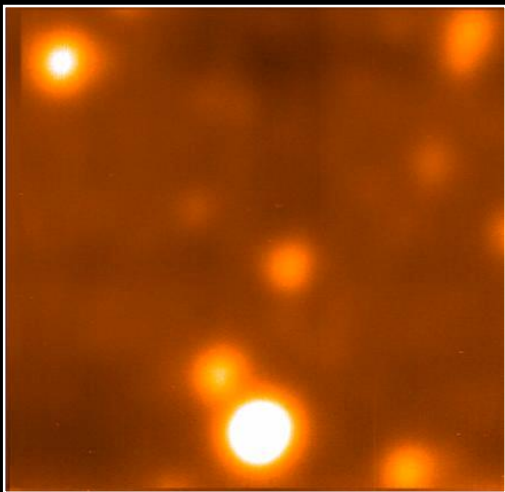


# Correcting for the atmosphere

- The simple option:
  - Go to space!
- Correct for the effects on the ground

\$ £ €

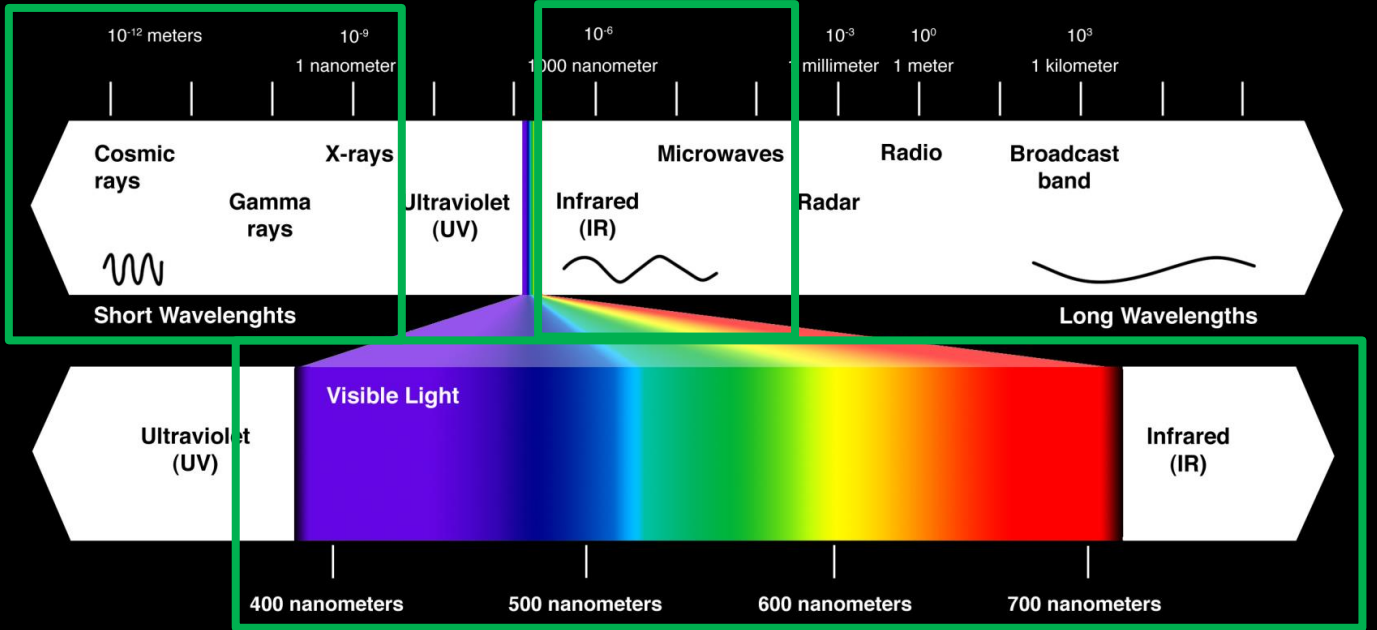






# Space Telescopes

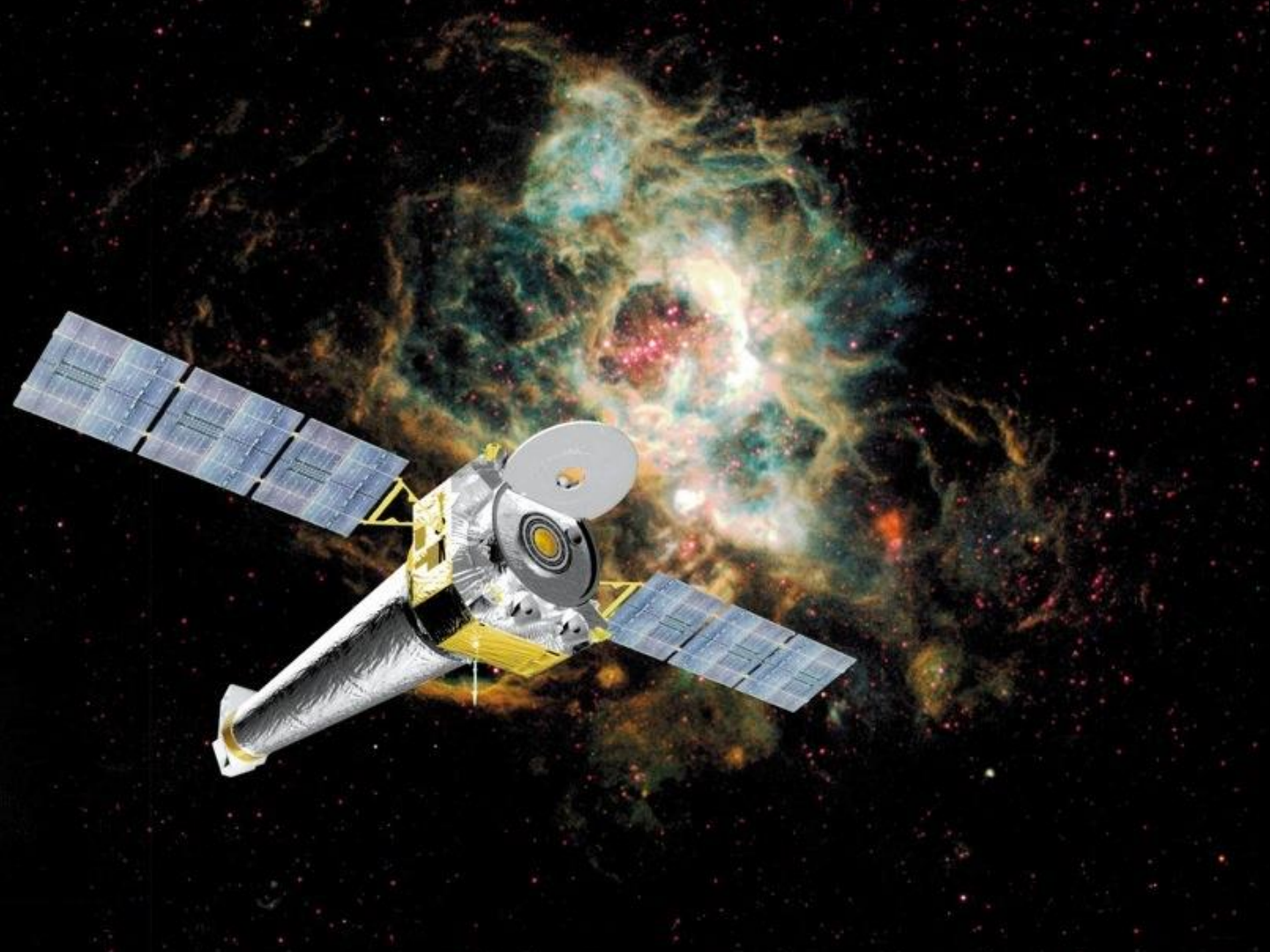




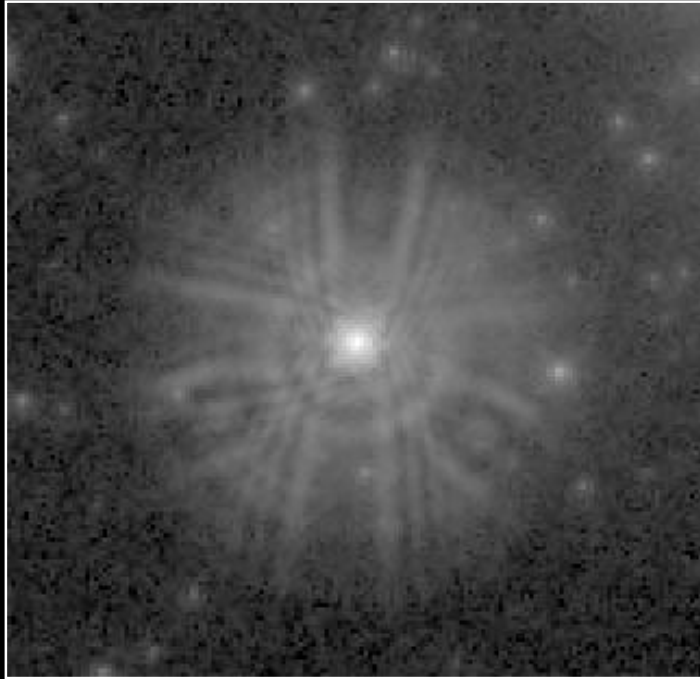








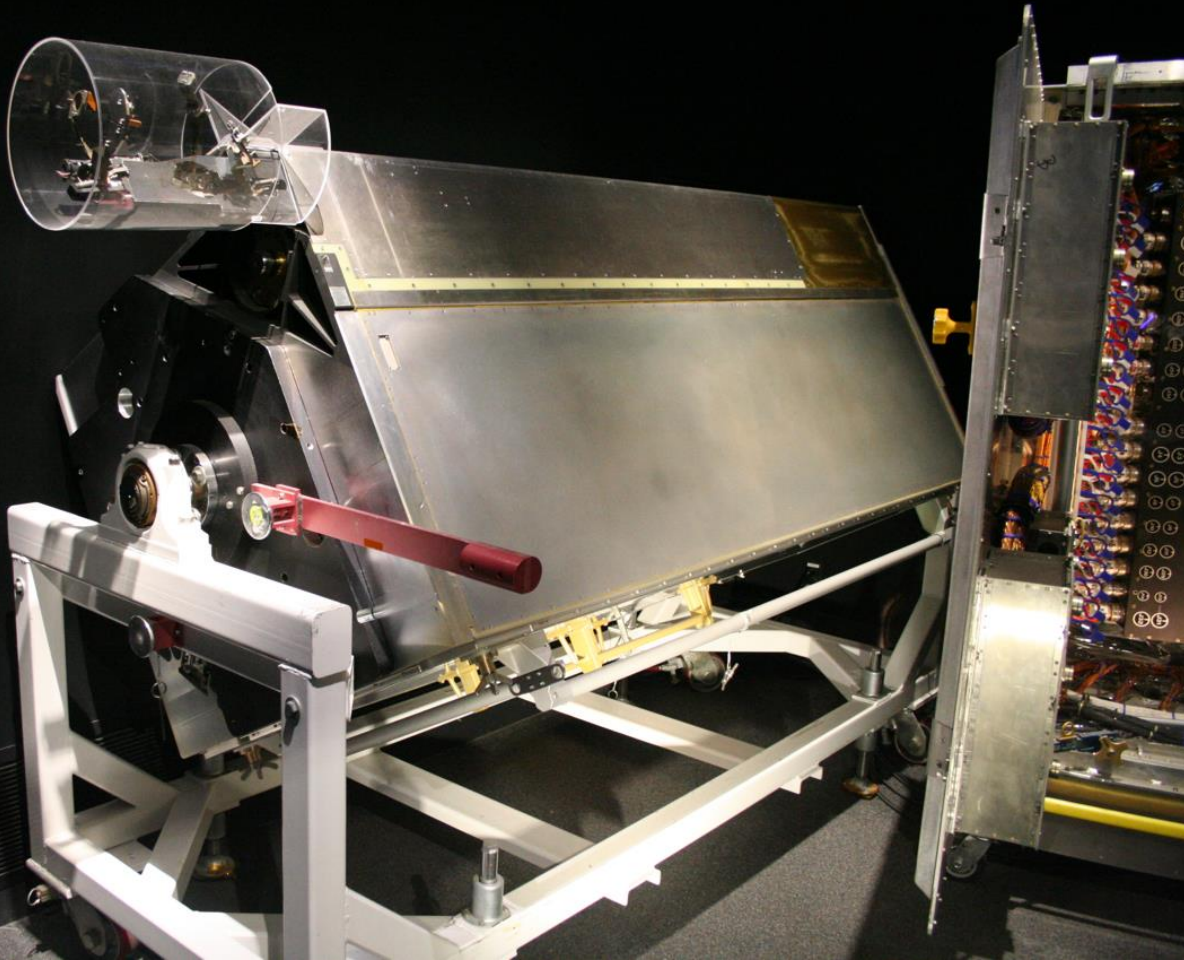




**PIX NIXED AS HUBBLE SEES DOUBLE**





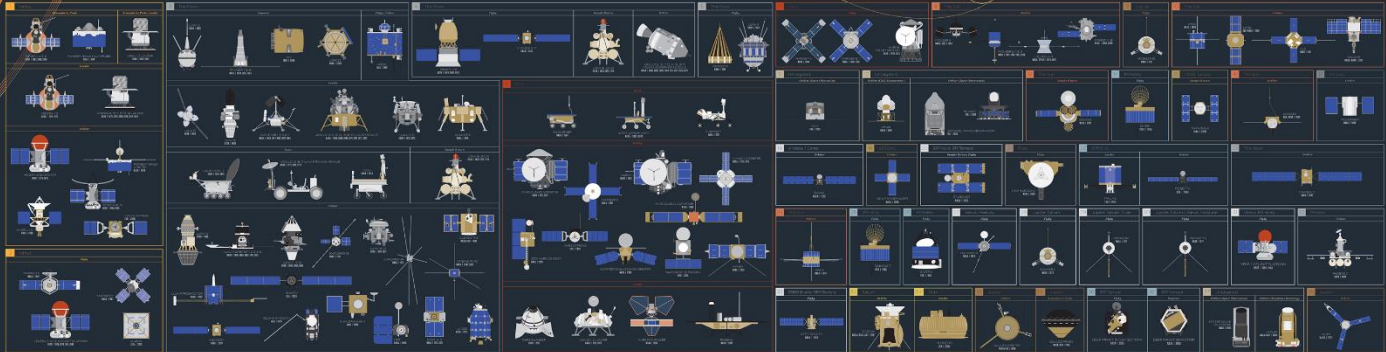
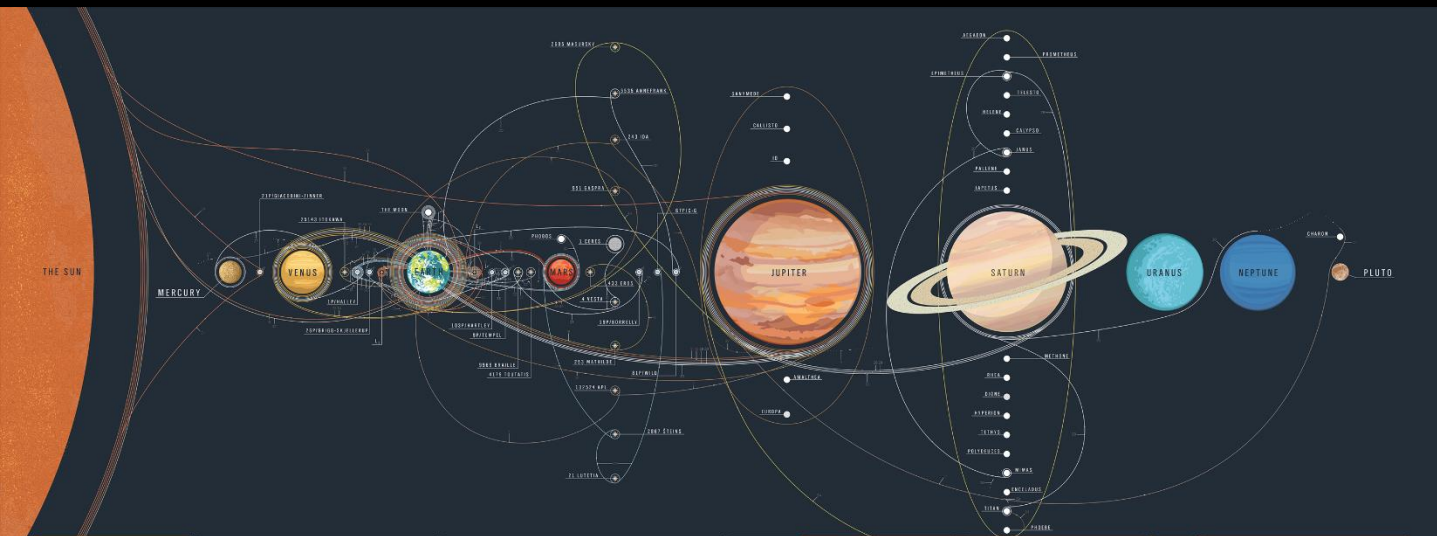








# Exploring Our Own Solar System



# THE CHART OF COSMIC EXPLORATION

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Legend:  
 ● Mission  
 ○ Probe  
 □ Lander  
 ○ Rover  
 ○ Orbiter

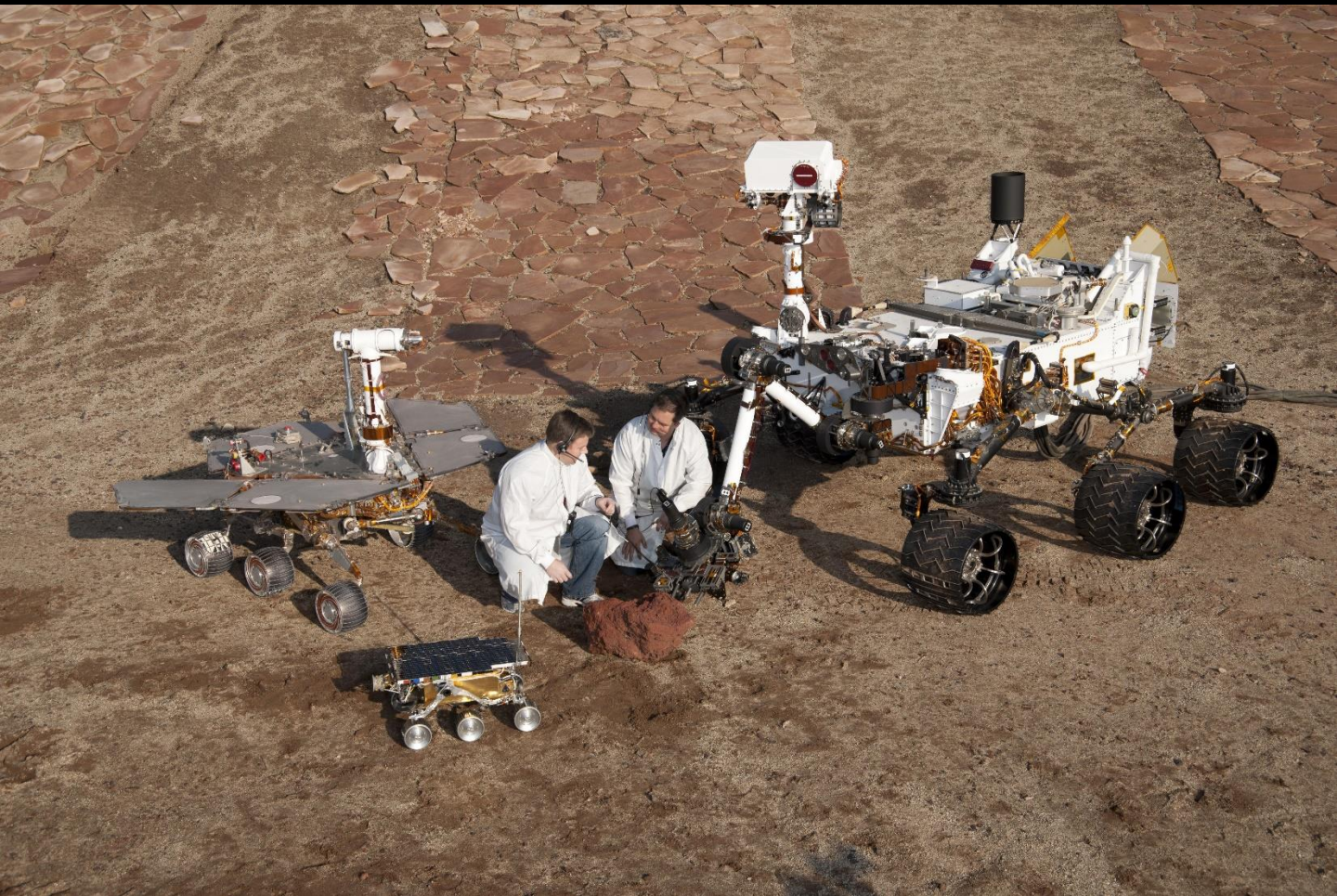




# Recent and Current Missions

- Curiosity Rover
- Cassini Mission
- New Horizons







## Cruise Stage Separation

Time: Entry - 10 min

## Cruise Balance Devices Separation

Time: Entry - ~8 min

## Entry Interface

Altitude: ~78 miles (~125 km)

Velocity: ~13,200 mph (~5,900 meters/sec)

Time: Entry + 0 sec

## Peak Heating

## Peak Deceleration

## Hypersonic Aero-manuevering

## Heat Shield Separation

Altitude: ~5 miles (~8 km)

Velocity: ~280 mph

(~125 meters/sec)

Time: Entry + ~278 sec

## Parachute Deploy

Altitude: ~7 miles (~11 km)

Velocity: ~900 mph

(~405 meters/sec)

Time: Entry + ~254 sec

## Radar Data Collection

## Back Shell Separation

Altitude: ~1 mile (~1.6 km)

Velocity: ~180 mph

(~80 meters/sec)

Time: Entry + ~364 sec

## Powered Descent

## Sky Crane

## Flyaway

## Sky Crane Detail

### Rover Separation

Altitude: ~66 feet (~20 meters)

Velocity: ~1.7 mph (~0.75 meter/sec)

Time: Entry + ~400 sec

### Mobility Deploy

### Touchdown

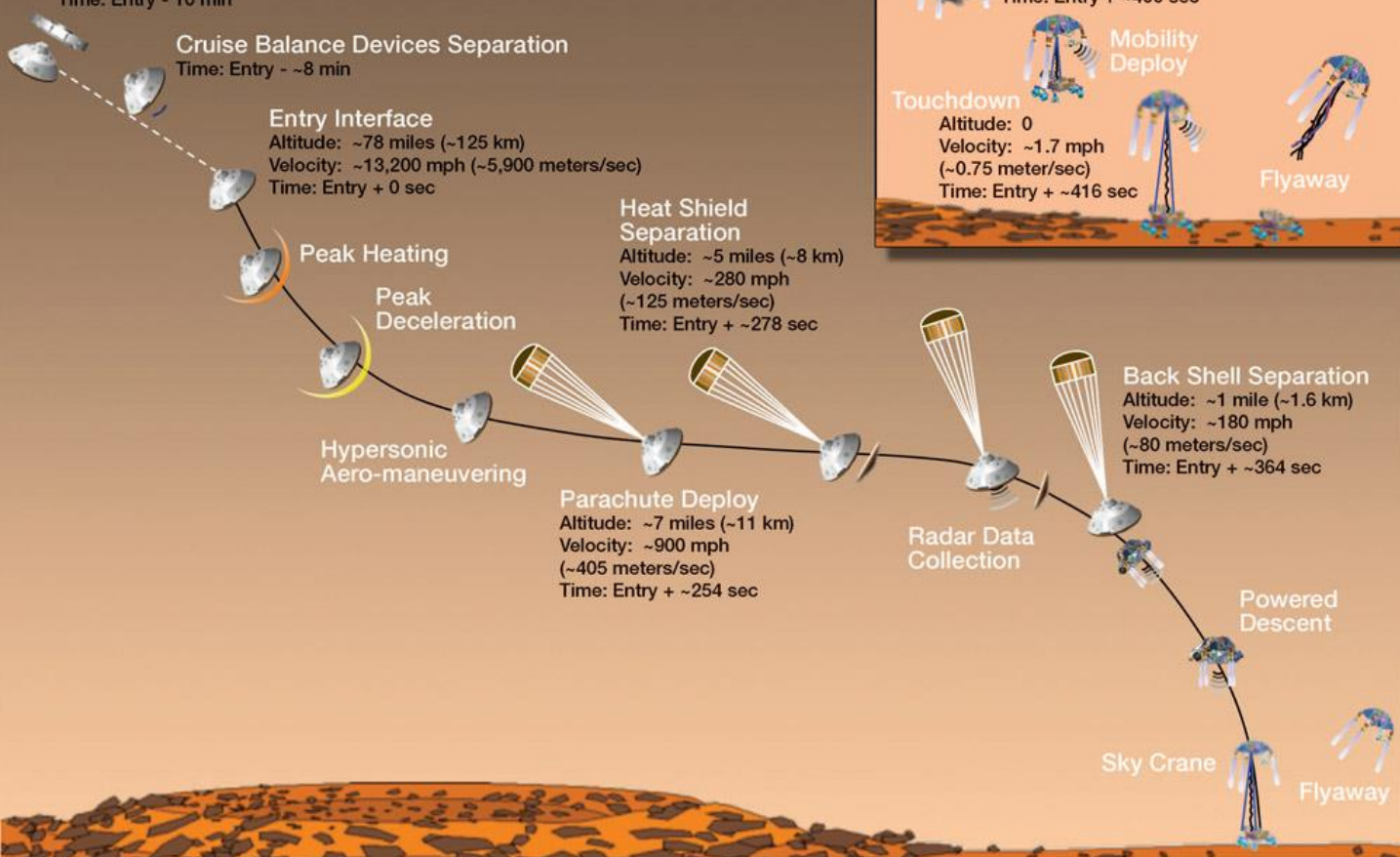
Altitude: 0

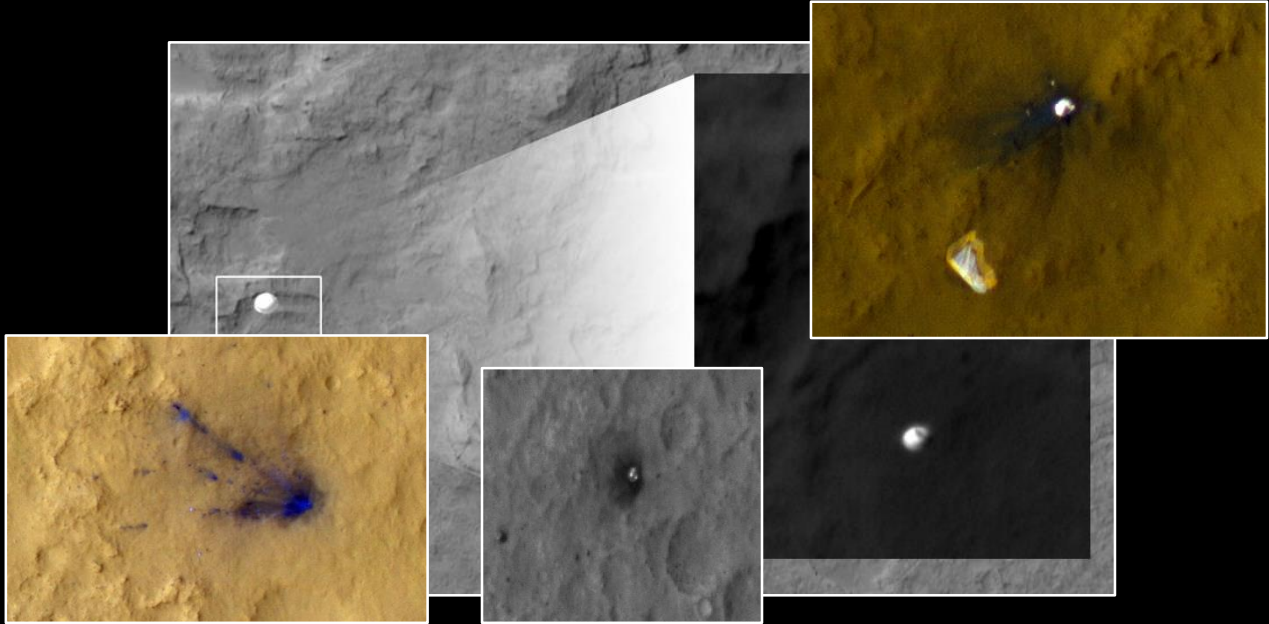
Velocity: ~1.7 mph

(~0.75 meter/sec)

Time: Entry + ~416 sec

### Flyaway





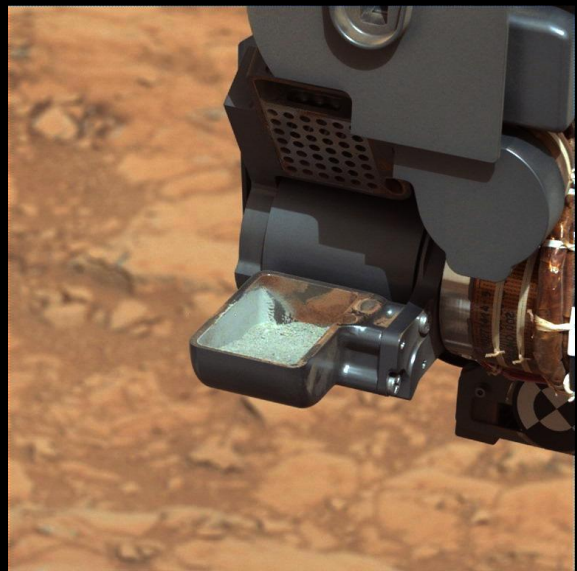








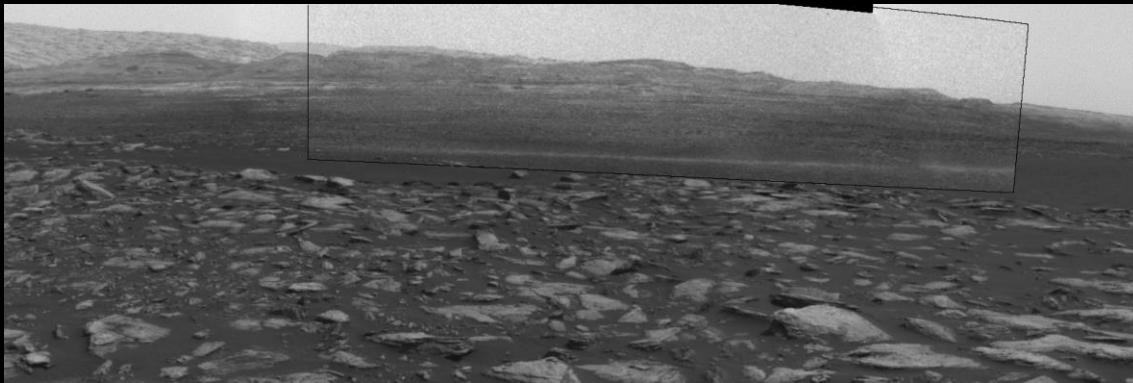


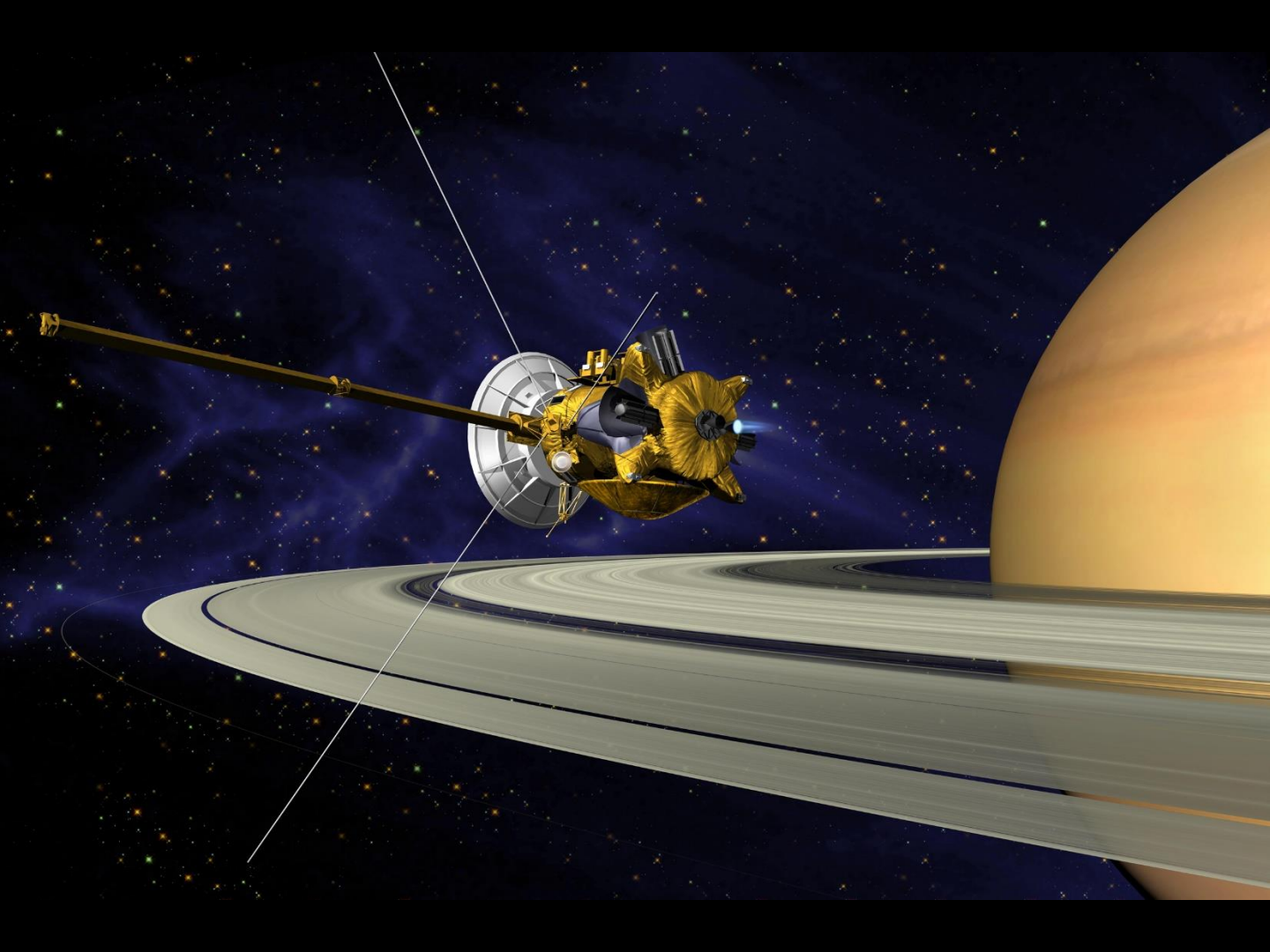




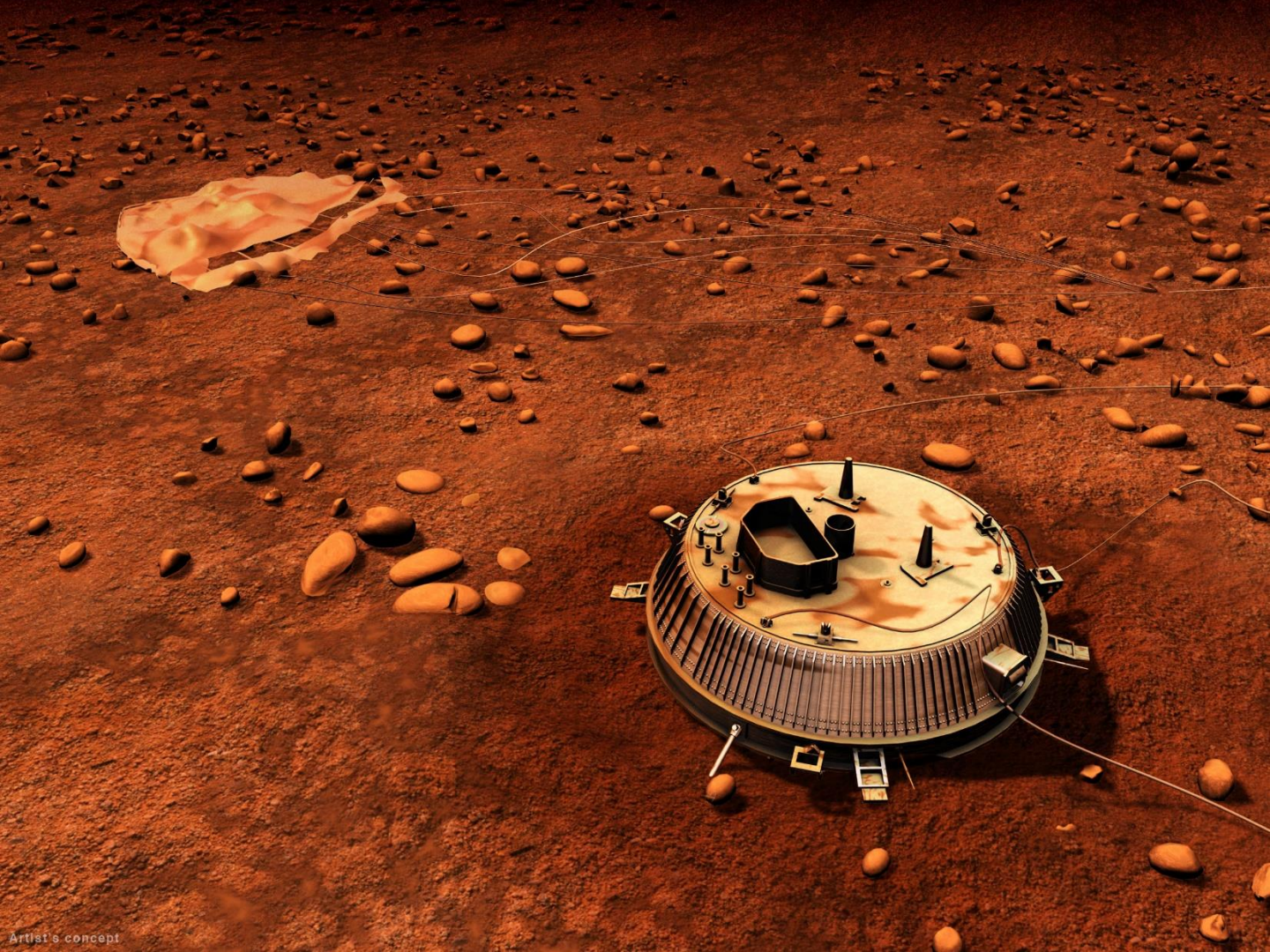


January 23, 2017

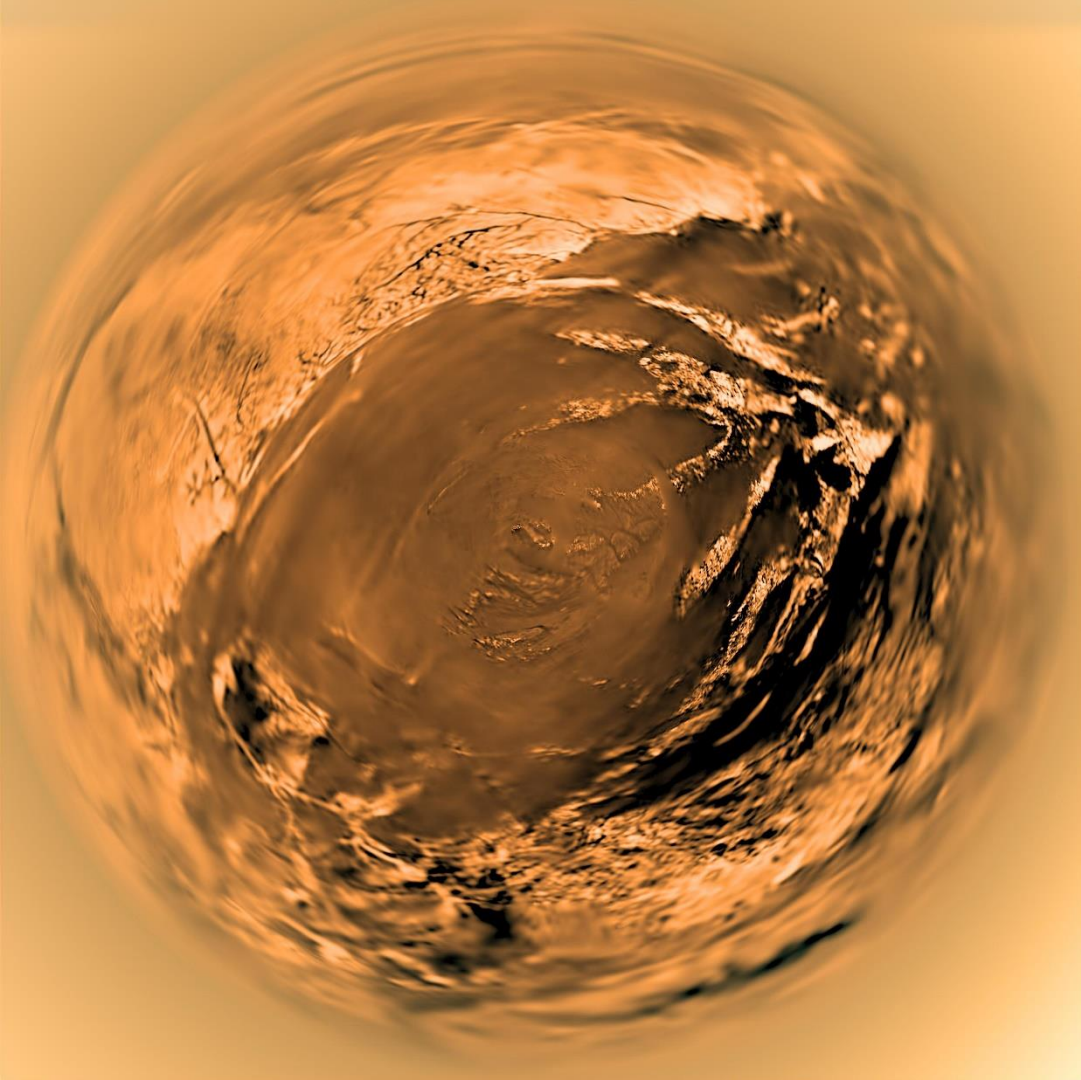


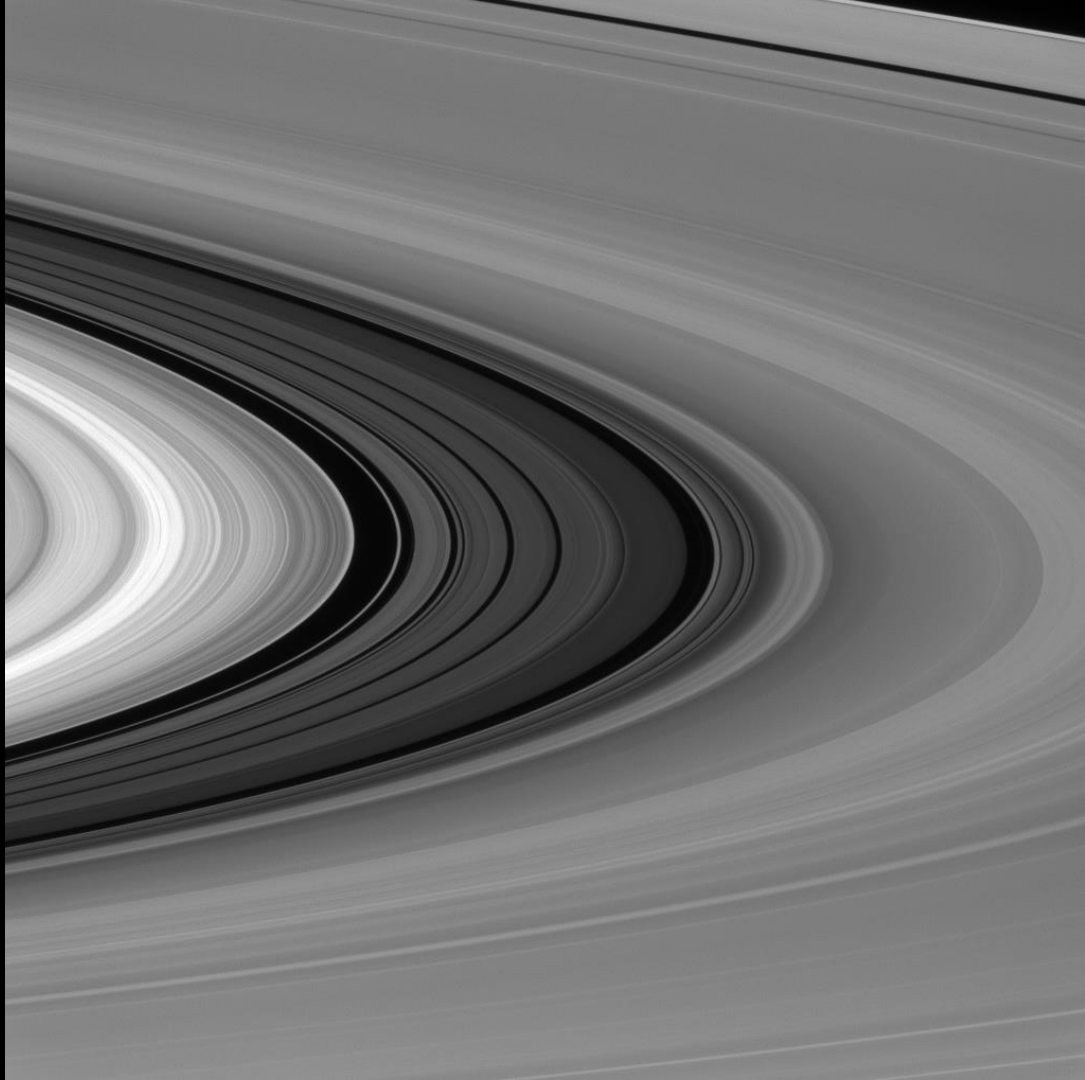


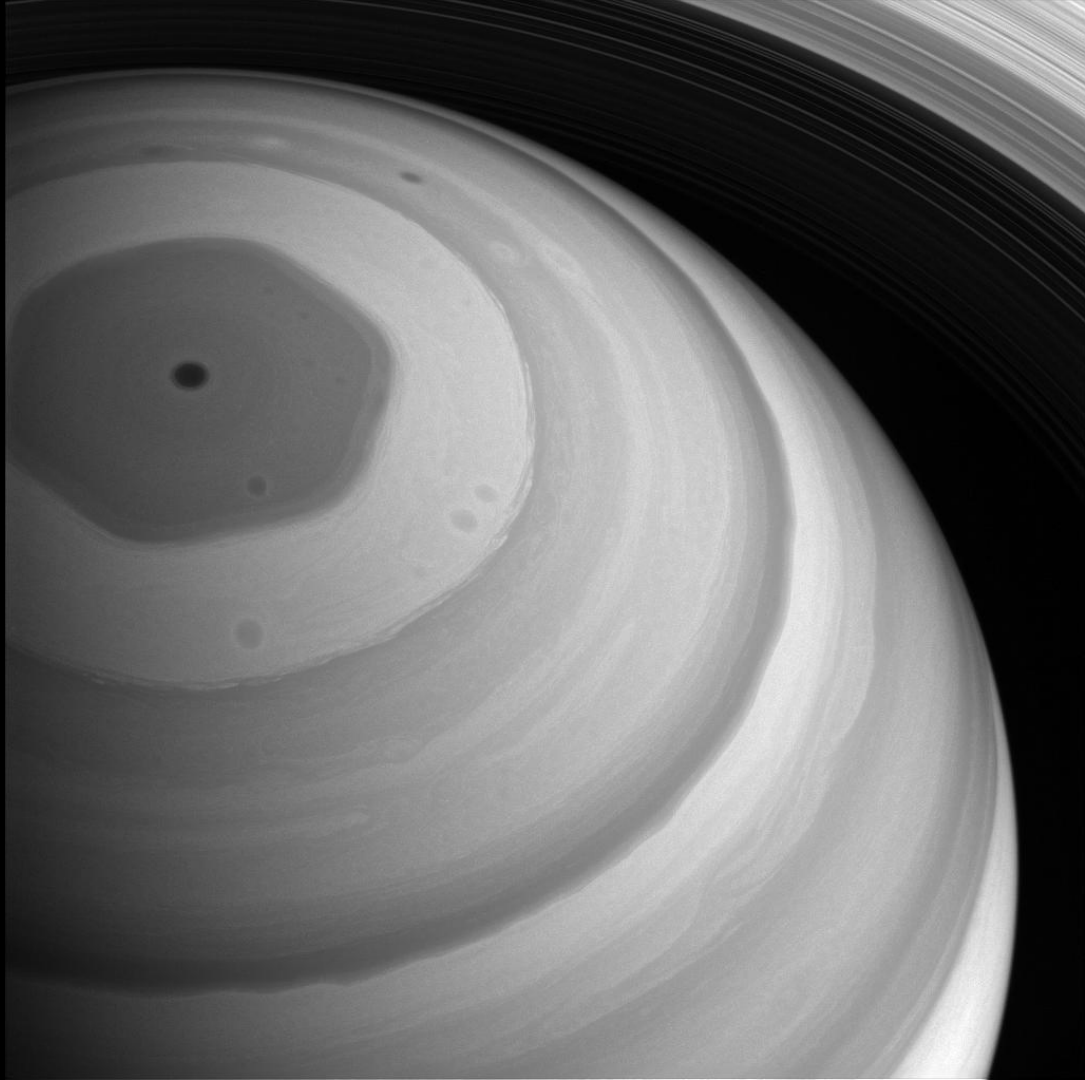




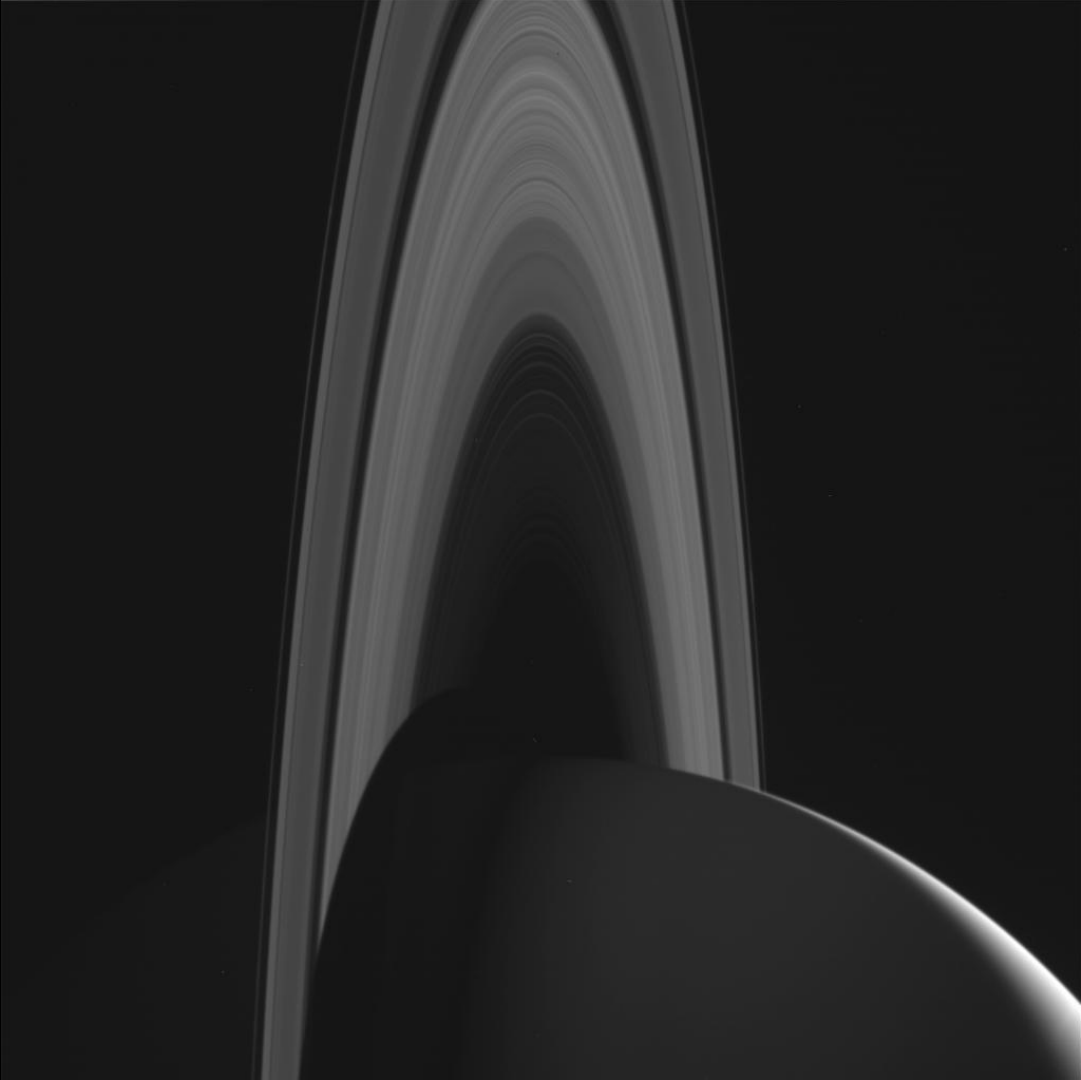


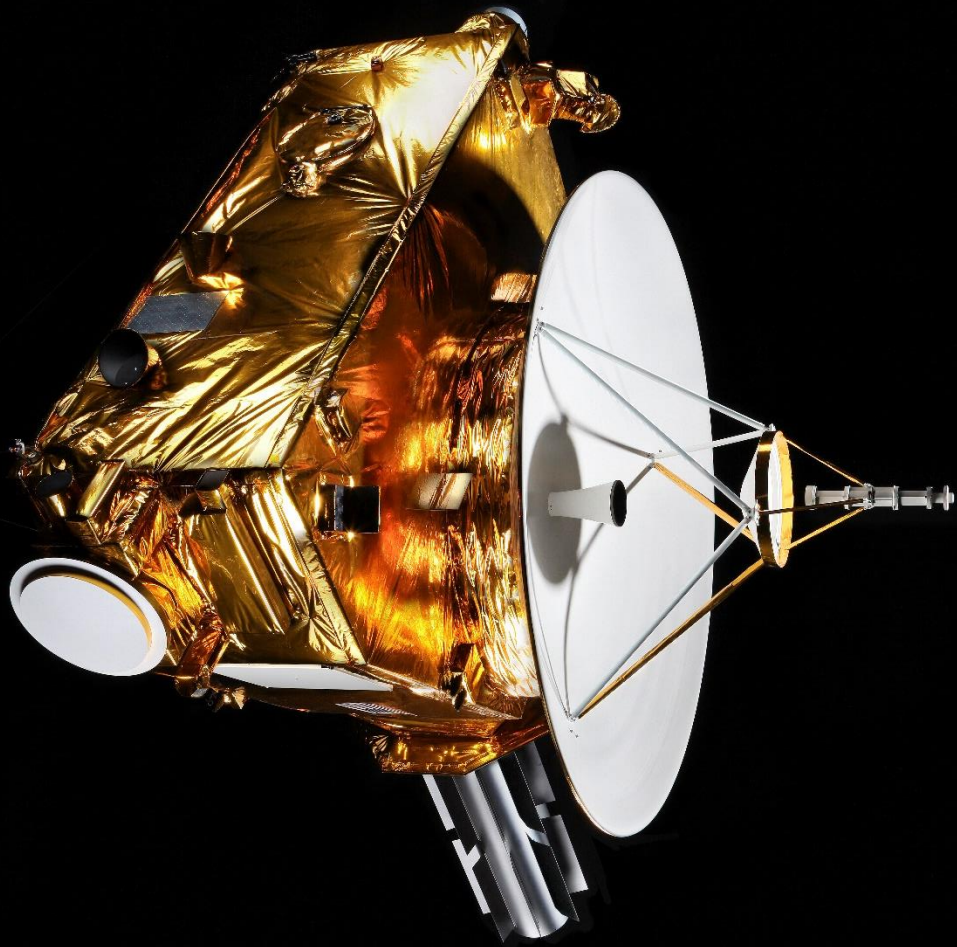


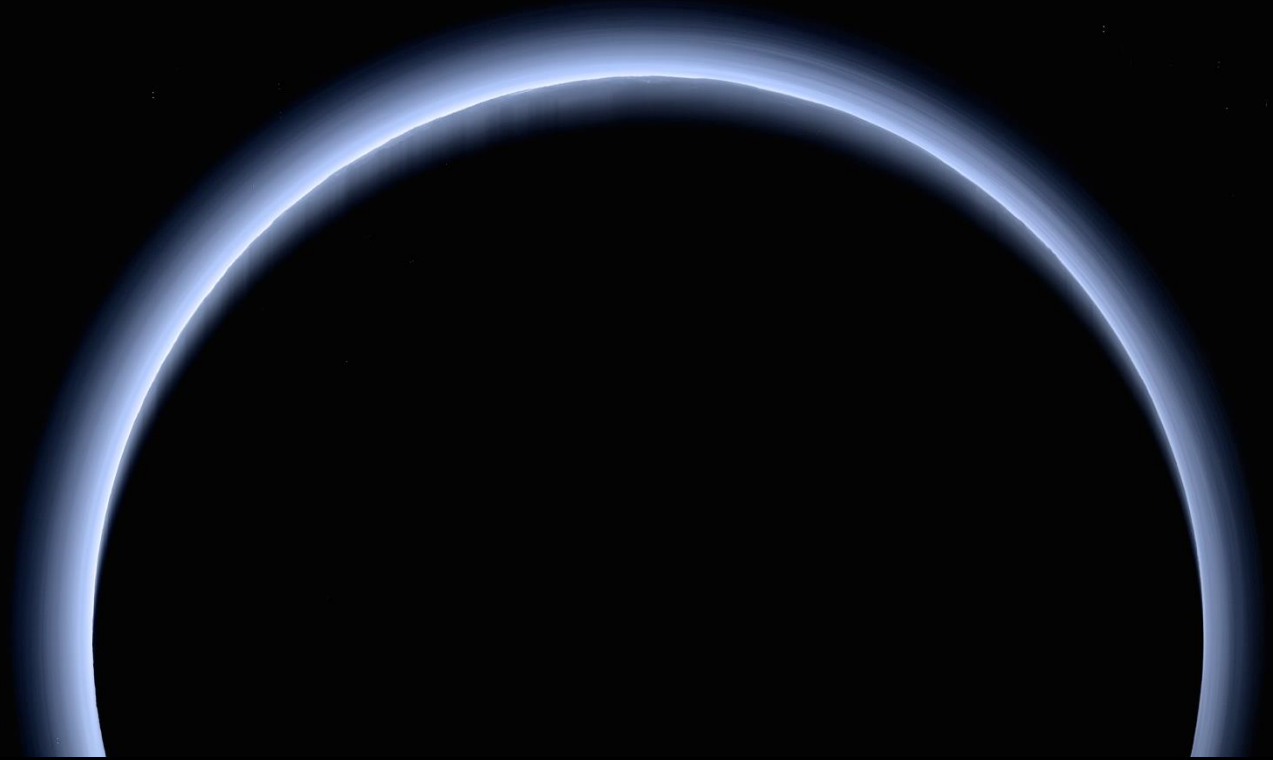






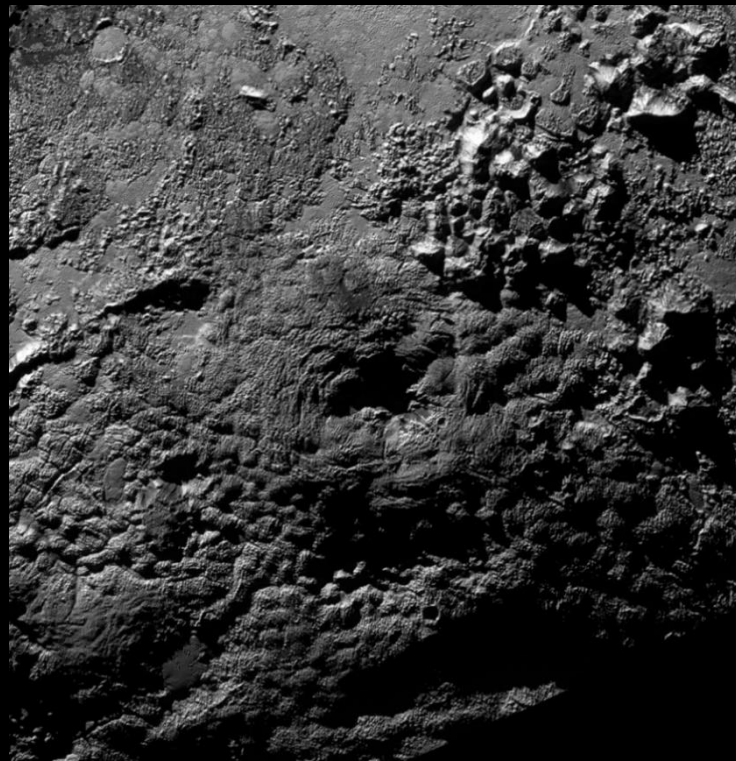
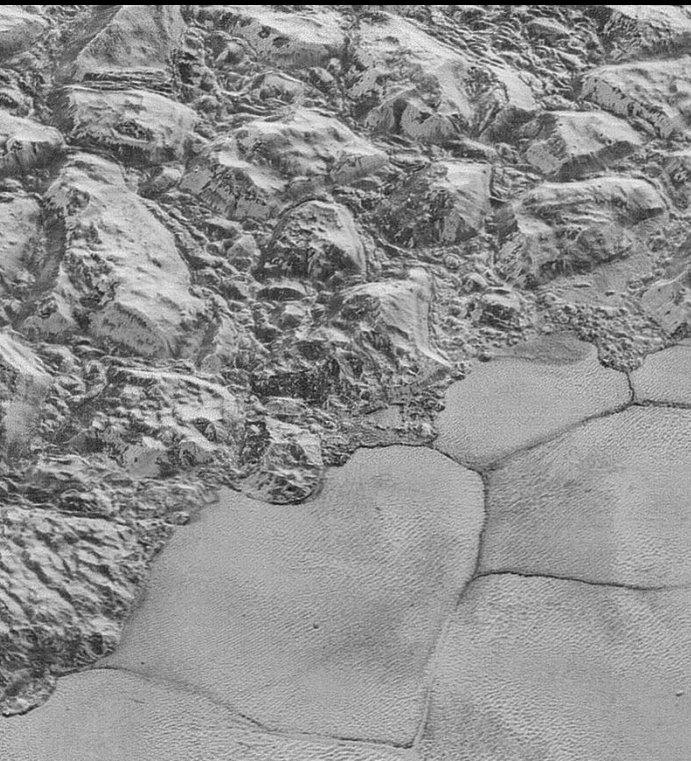














Earth

moon







Thank you