



FortranCon 2020

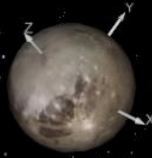
# Copernicus Spacecraft Trajectory Design and Optimization Program

Jacob Williams

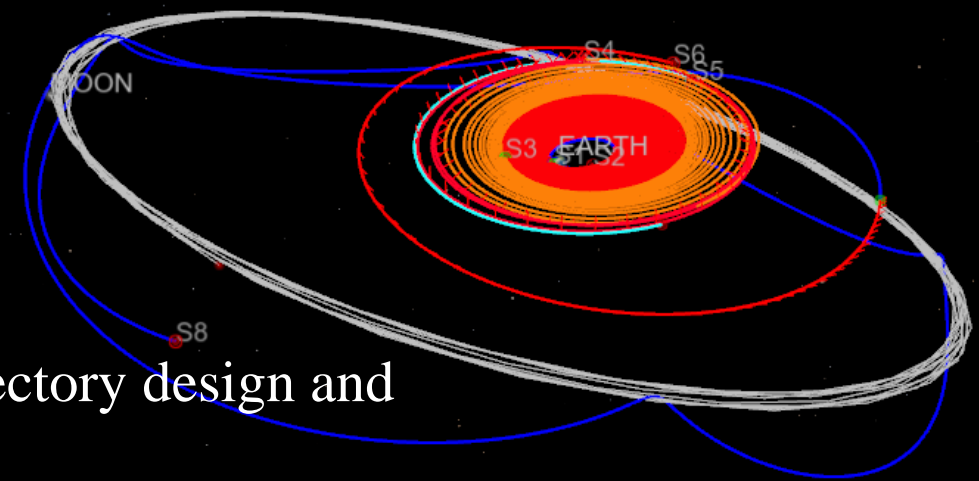
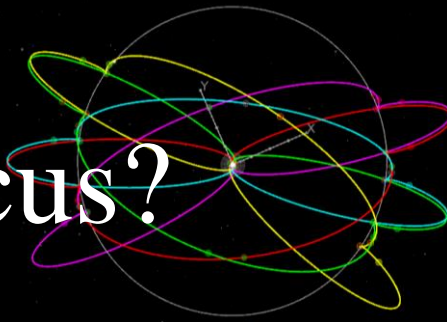
NASA Johnson Space Center

July 2, 2020

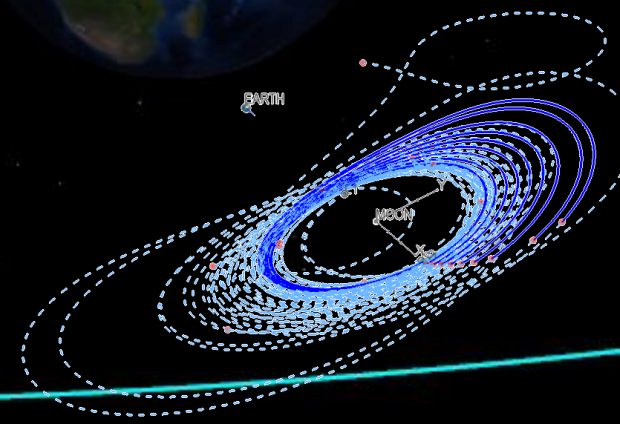
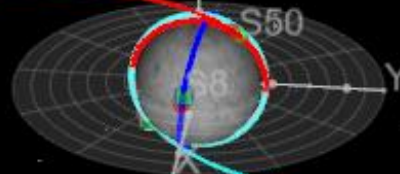
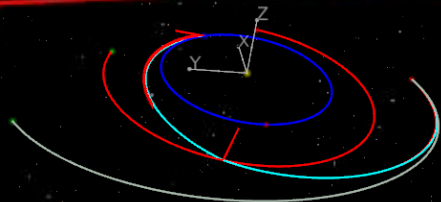




# What is Copernicus?



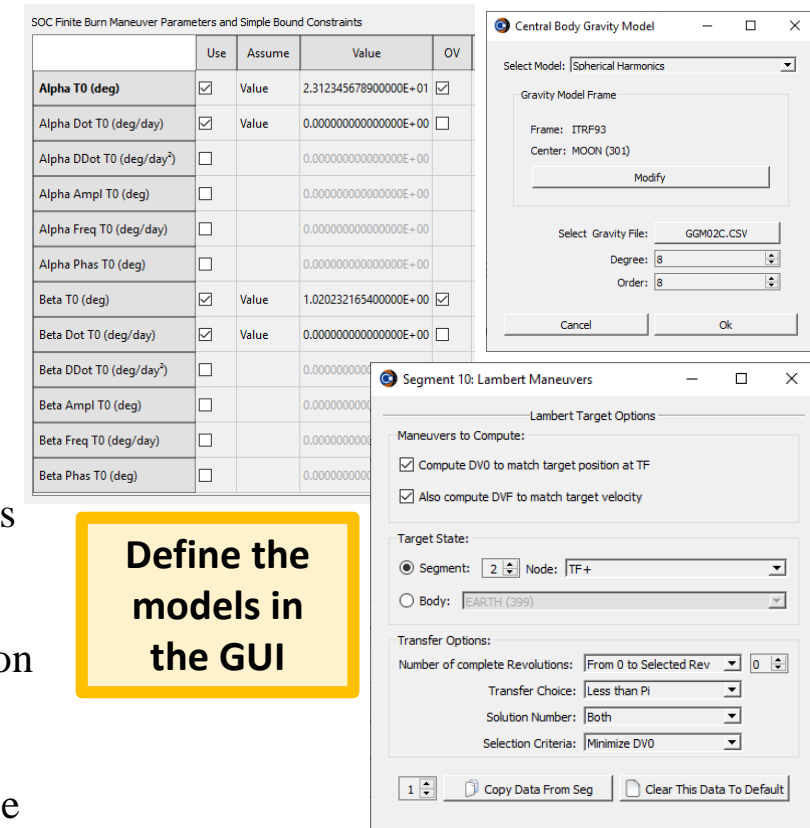
- Copernicus is a generalized, interactive, spacecraft trajectory design and optimization application
- Multiple spacecraft and propulsion systems, integrated GUI and 3D graphics, flexible segment & plugin architecture, selectable mission fidelity (simple to complex)
- Extensive range of missions: impulsive/low/high thrust, multi-body, planet centered/inter-planetary, multi-body transfers/trajectories
- Developed at JSC, and available for use by any NASA employee or U.S. government contractor
- Evolutionary and expandable
- Copernicus can be scaled from a single desktop or laptop computer using the GUI, to computer clusters where no user interaction or graphical feedback are required



# Copernicus Models

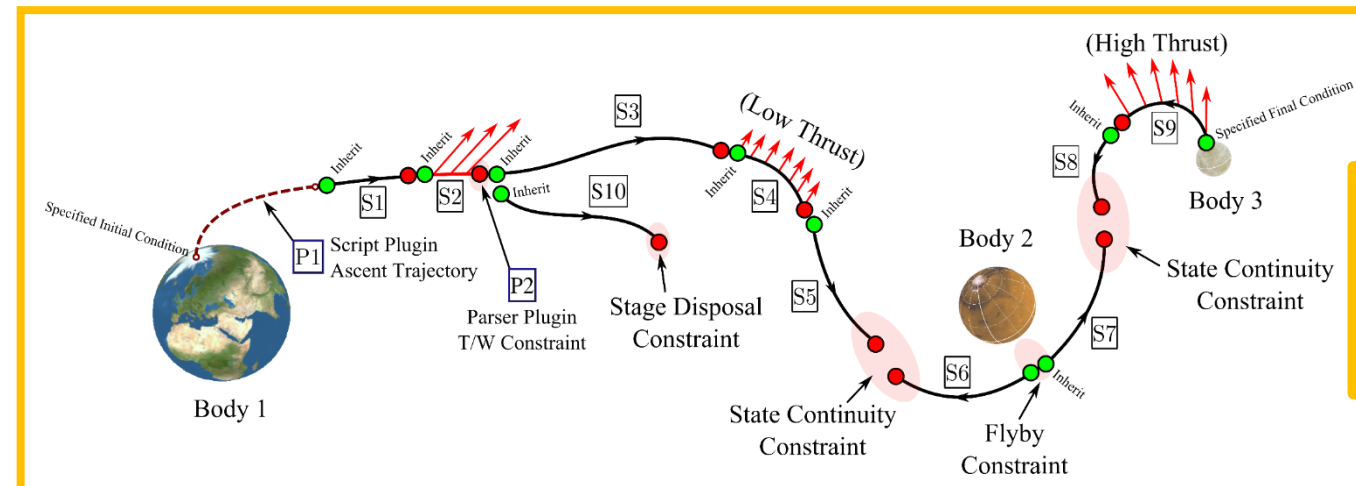
- Low and high fidelity models in the same tool

- Mission Segments
- Integrators/Propagators
- Optimal Control Theory
- Parameter Optimization
- Numerical Differentiation
- Ephemerides
- Reference Frames
- Finite Burn Engine Models
- Finite Burn Maneuver Models
- Impulsive Maneuvers
- Lambert Targeting
- State Parameterizations
- Maneuver Parameterizations
- Gravity Assists
- Halo Orbits
- Gravity Models
- Interpolation
- 3D Visualization
- Data Output
- Plugin Interface
- Scripting Interface



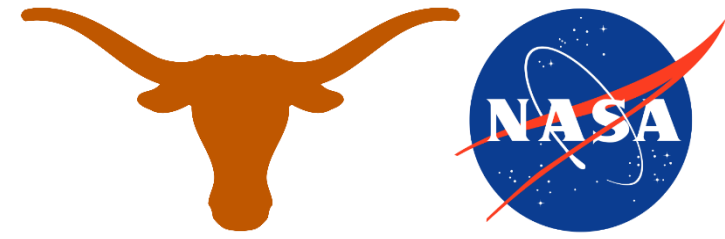
**Define the models in the GUI**

- Interactive, flexible architecture
- More than one way to design/optimize a mission

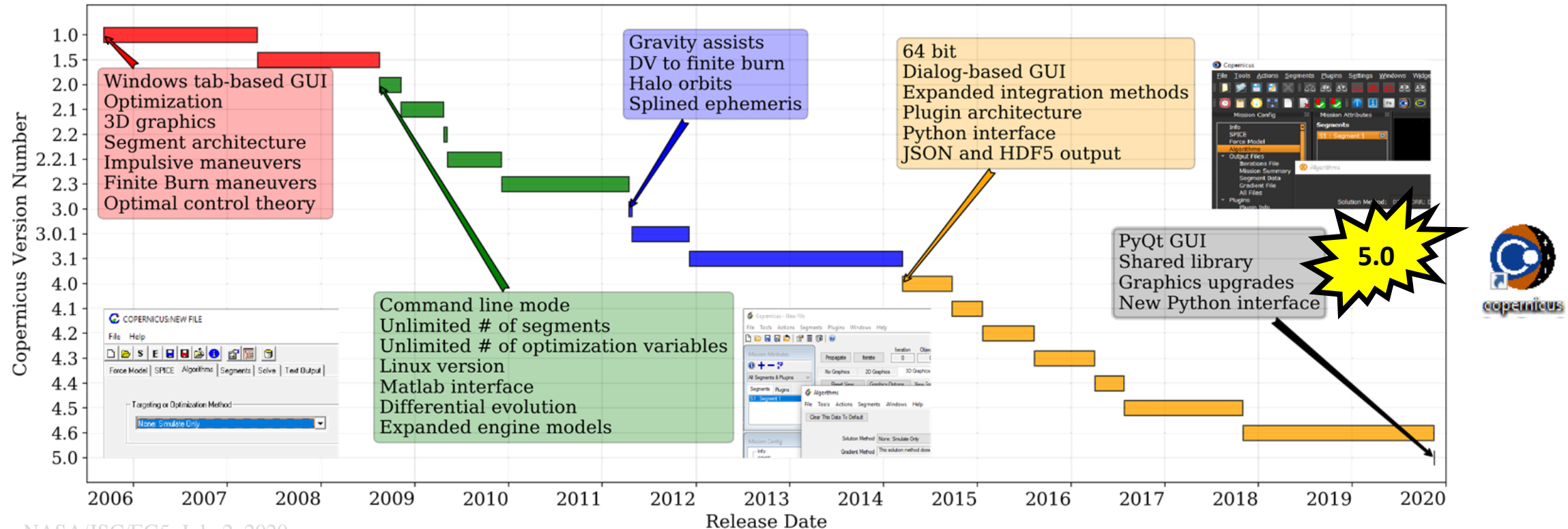
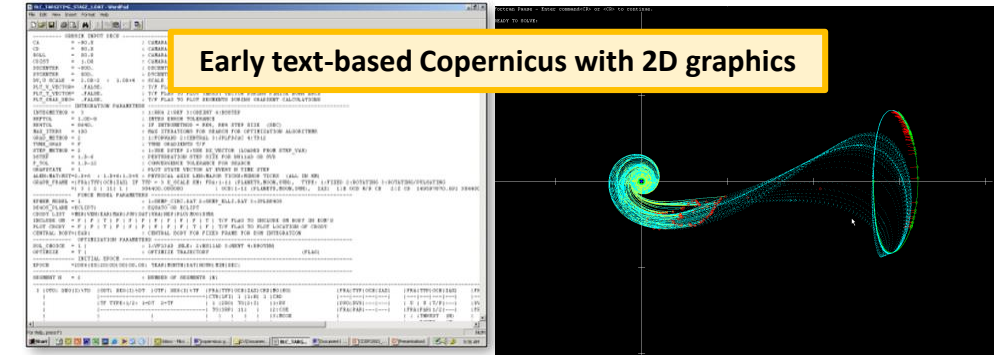


**Many classes of problems can be modeled with the segment concept.**

# Copernicus History



- Copernicus has been continuously developed for nearly 20 years
- 5 major releases (5.0 is one of the most significant updates we have done)
- 2001-2002: University of Texas at Austin (UT)
- 2003-2006: JSC/UT Collaboration
- **First official release: March 2006**
- 2007-Present: Primary Development at JSC

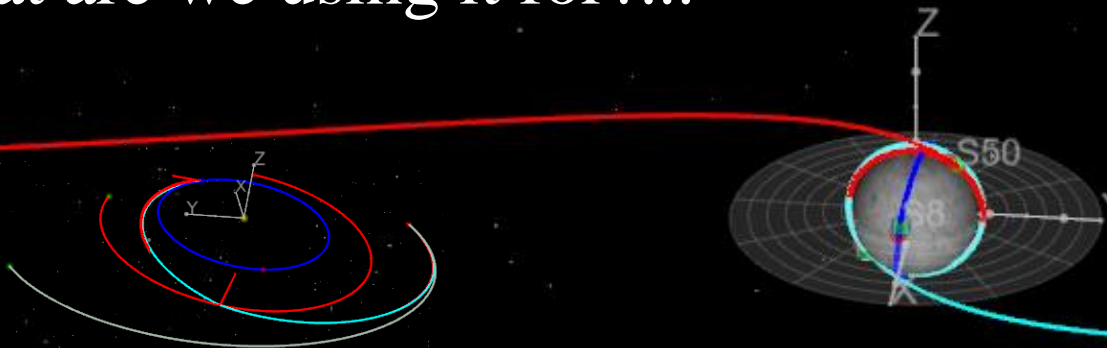
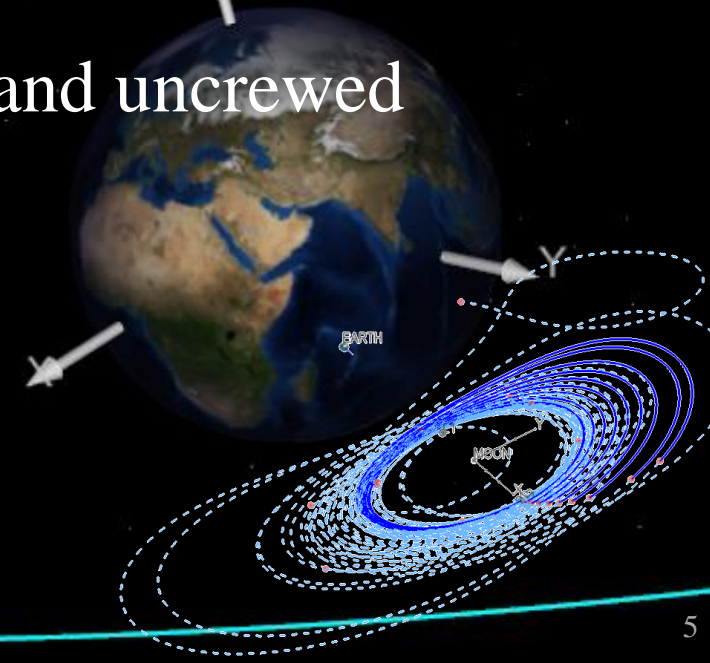
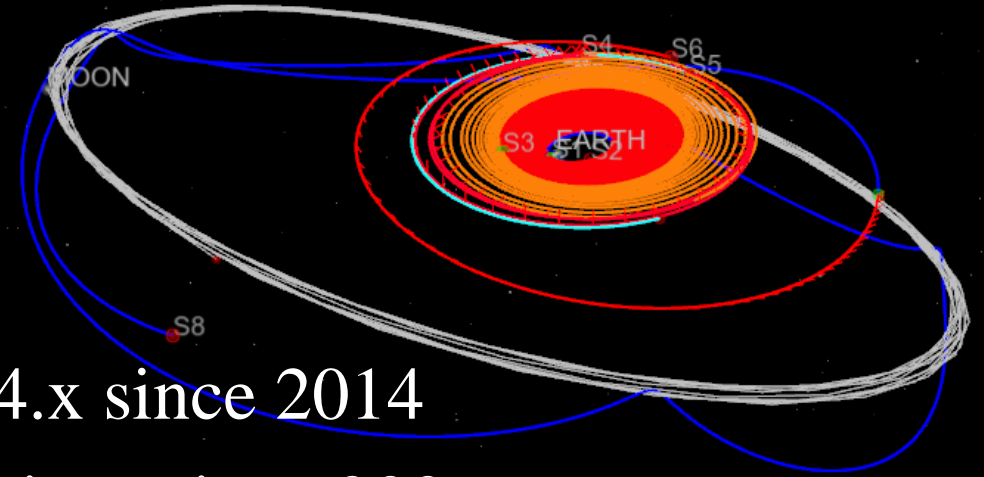
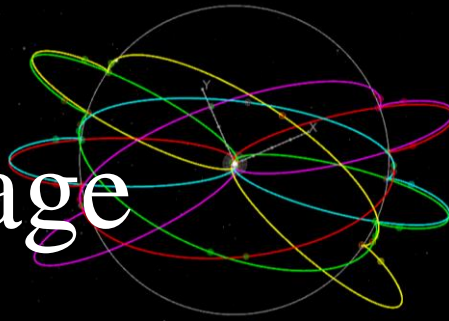






# Copernicus Usage

- About 190 licenses issued for Copernicus 4.x since 2014
- About 300 licenses issued in all for all versions since 2006
- Used at NASA (JSC, MSFC, GRC, GSFC, JPL, LaRC, KSC, ARC), numerous government contractors, and universities
- Copernicus has become a workhorse tool for crewed and uncrewed spaceflight mission design at JSC
- What are we using it for?...



# LCROSS Mission

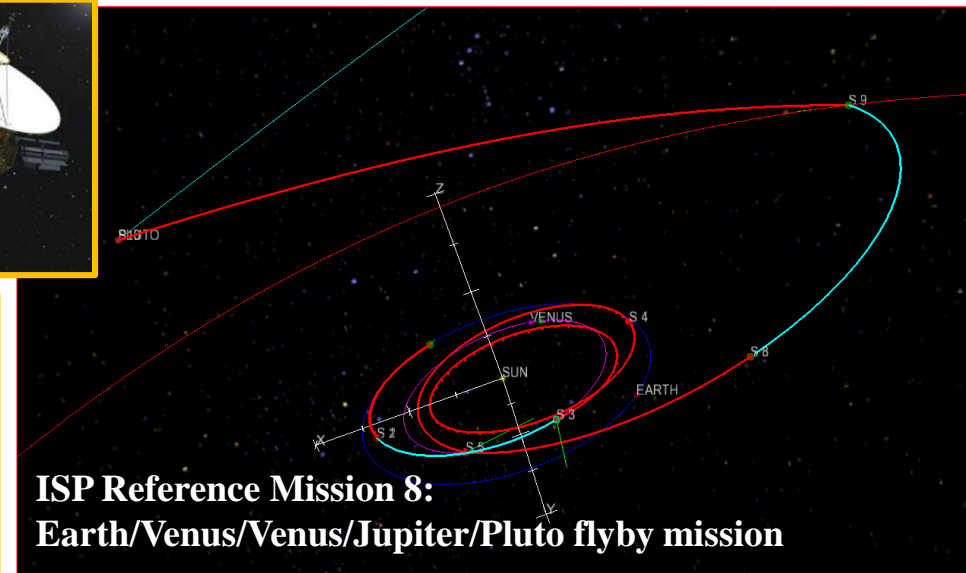
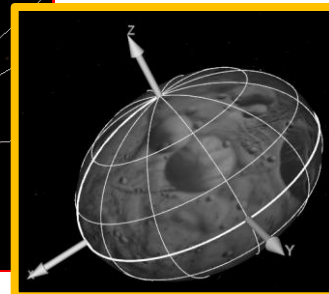
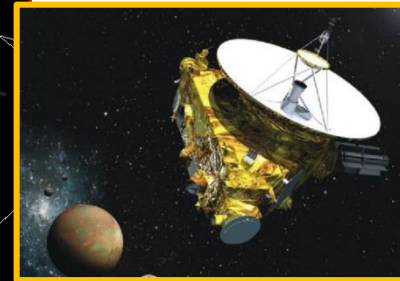
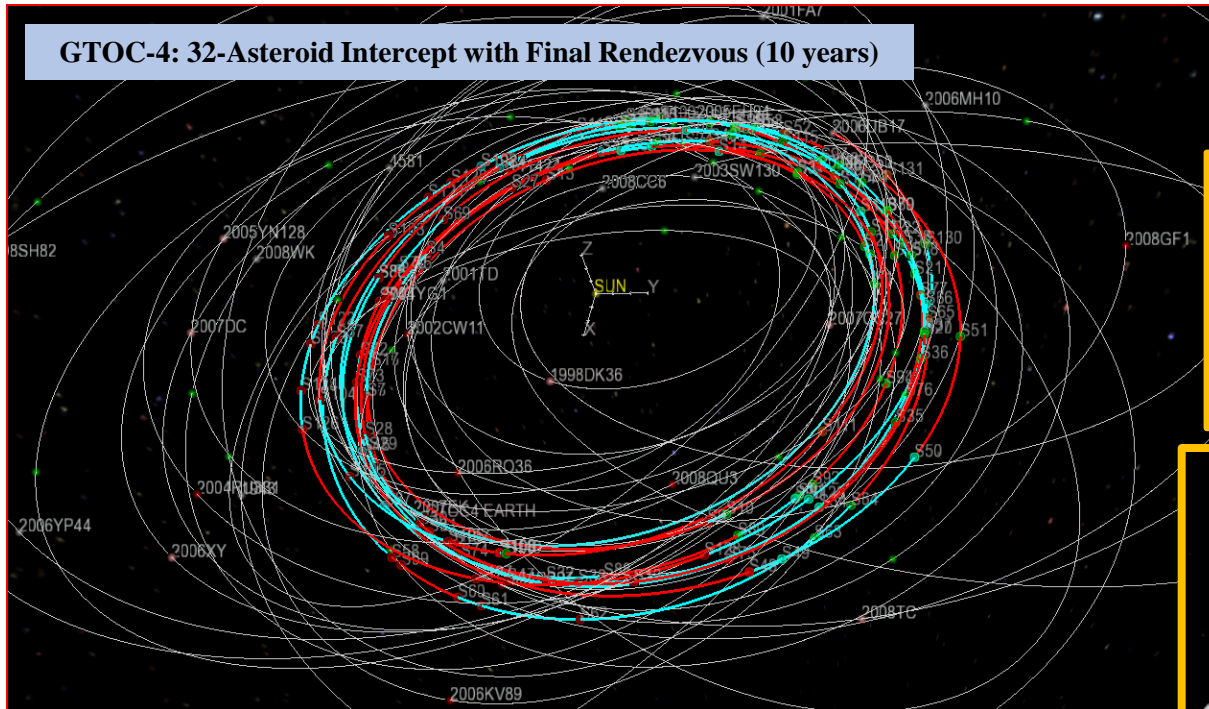
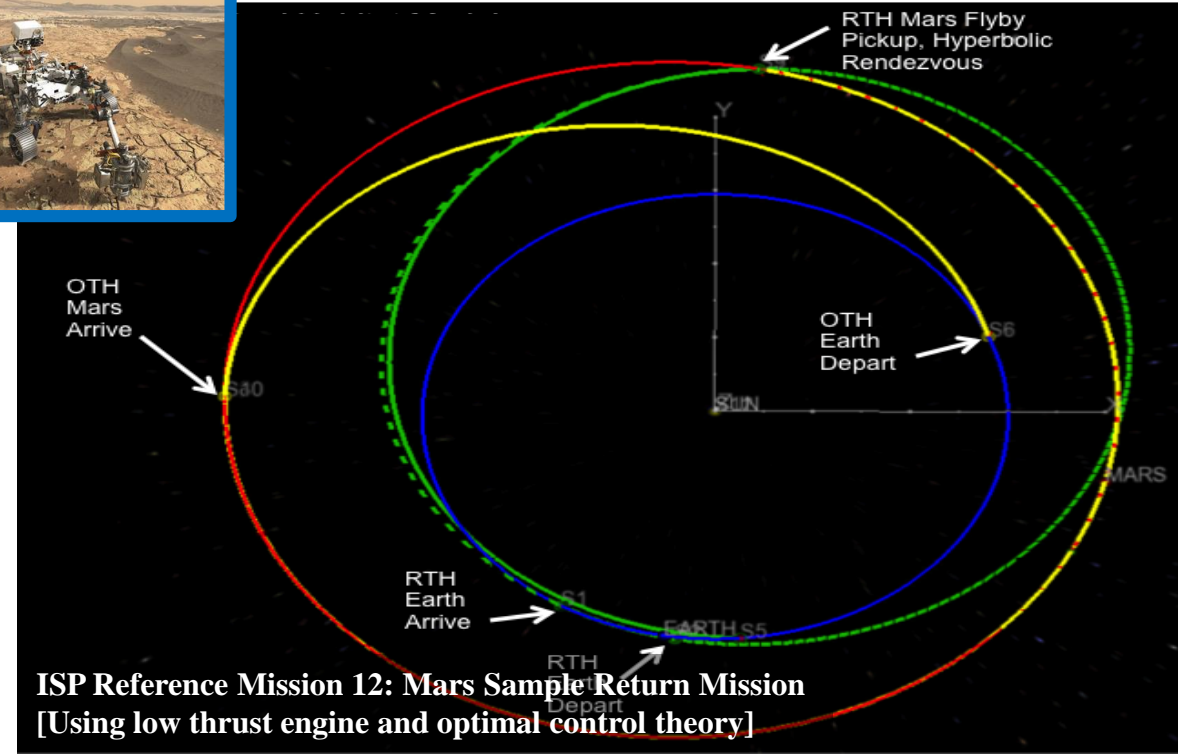
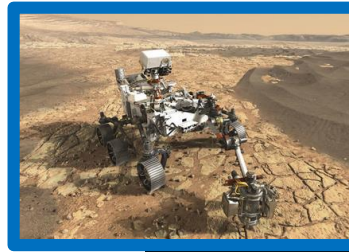
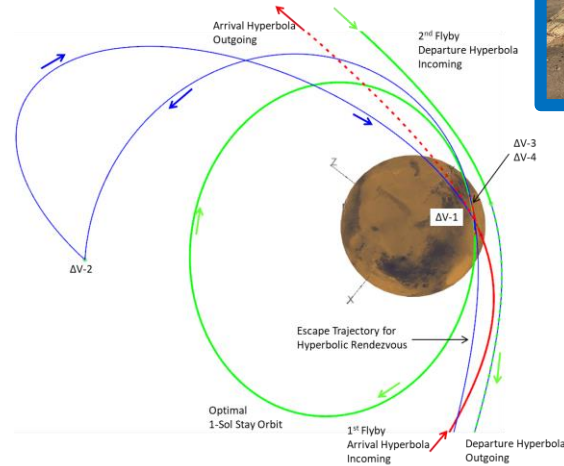
(Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite)

- Copernicus was used to construct hundreds of optimal Earth-Lunar flyby-to-Lunar impact trajectories including the separation phase from the original LRO trajectory which was bound for Lunar orbit
- Also used post-launch to examine under/over burns en route
- LCROSS and its Centaur stage impacted the Moon on Oct. 9, 2009



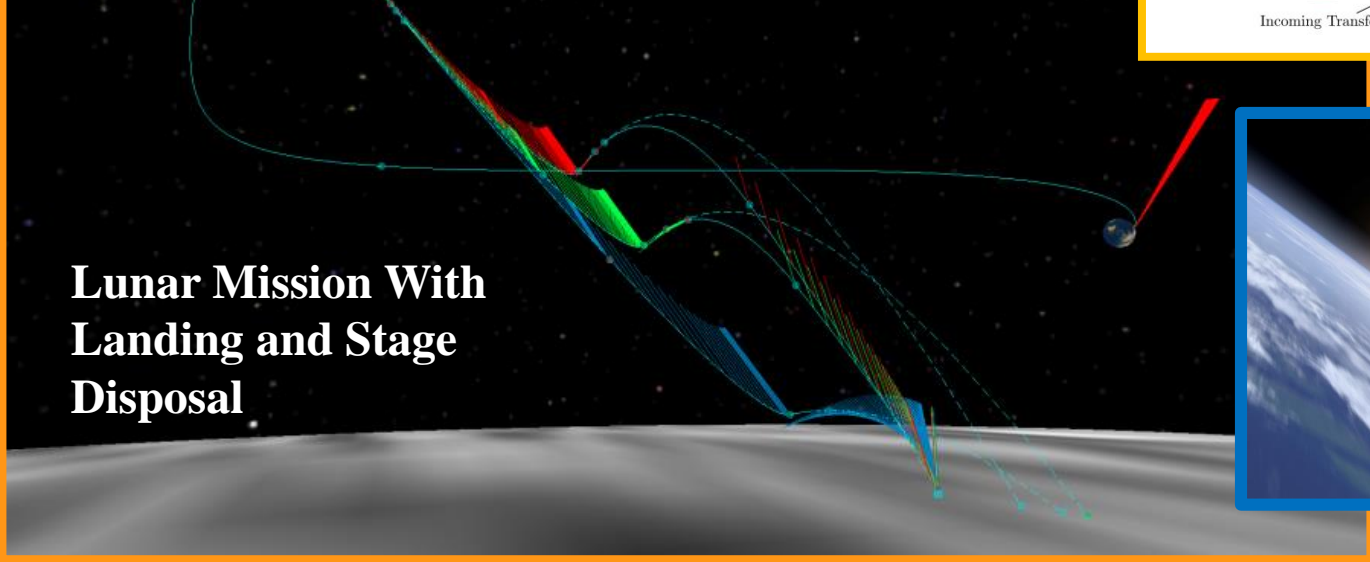
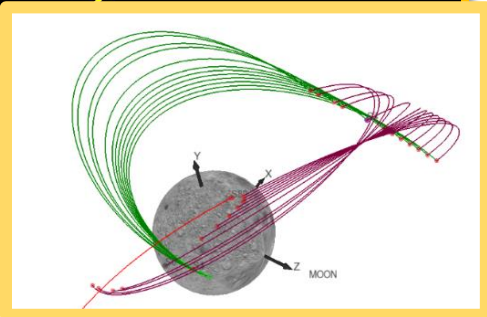
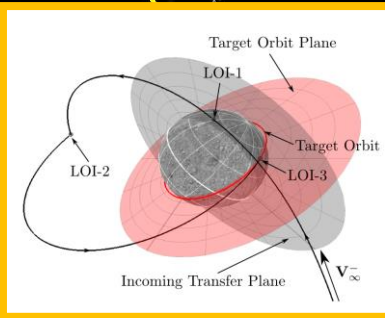
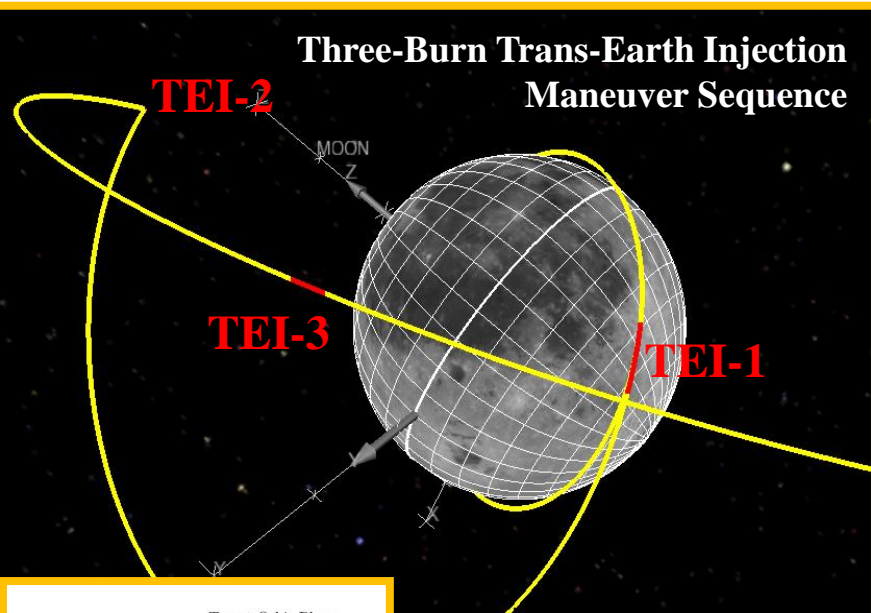
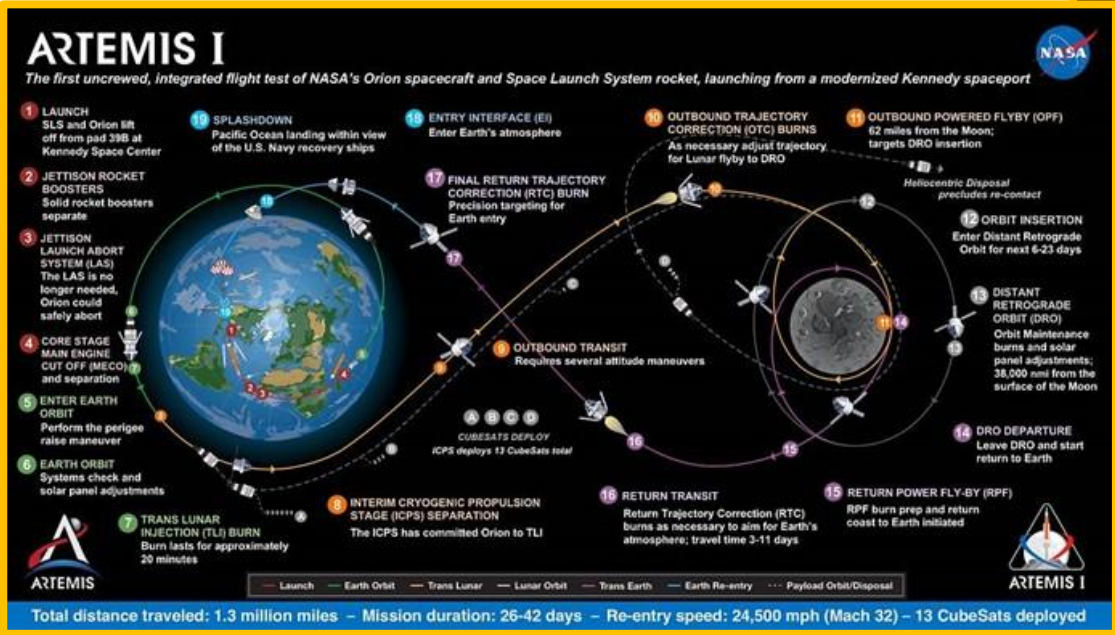
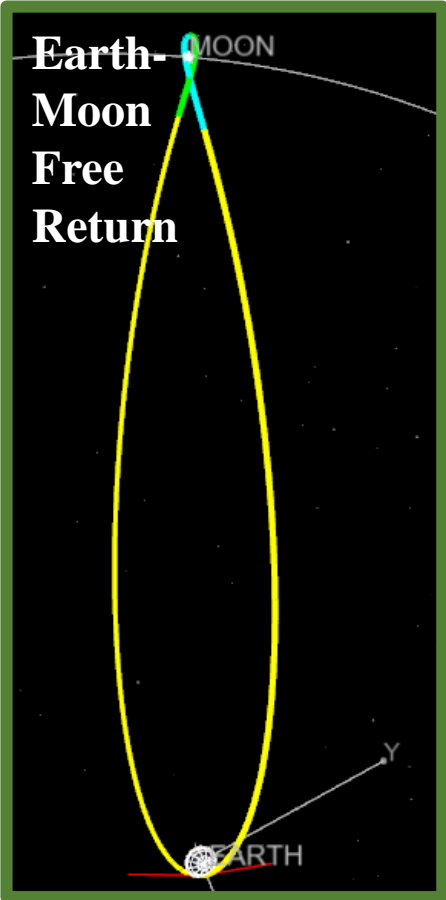


# Asteroids, Mars & Outer Planet Studies





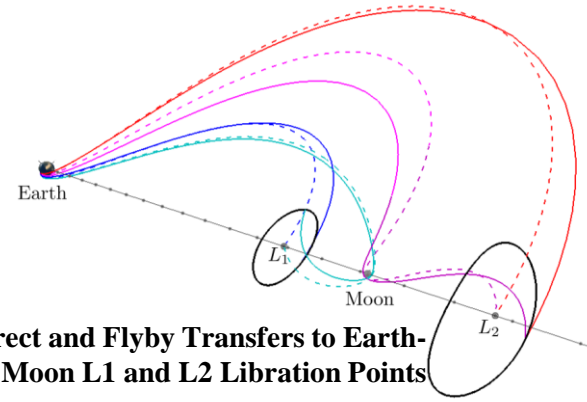
# Lunar Missions



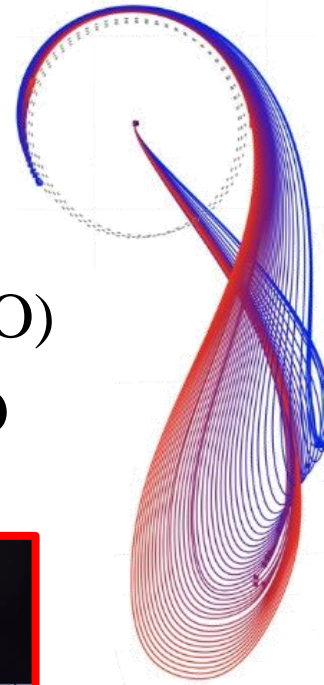


# Three-Body, Halo Orbits, DRO, NRHO, etc.

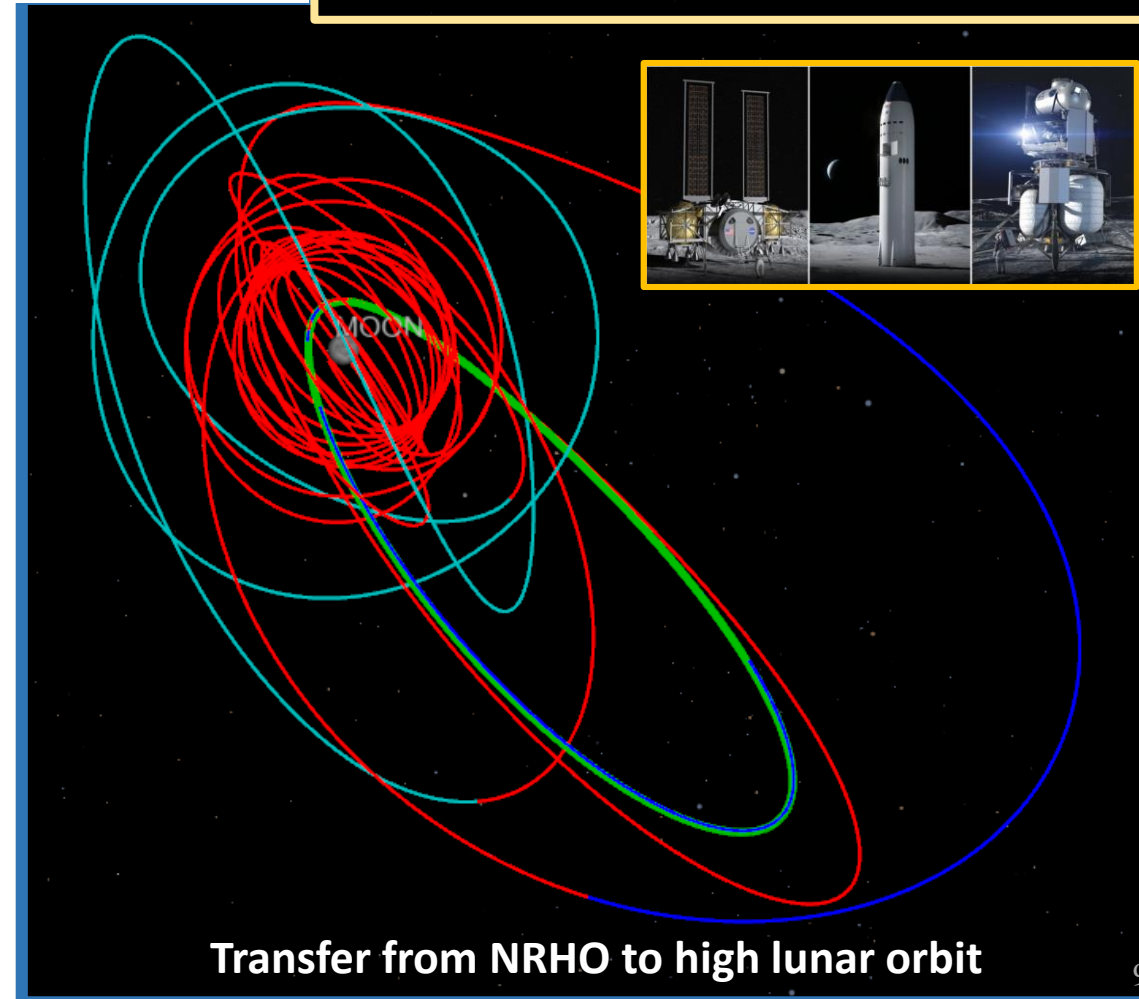
- Halo Orbits & Weak Stability Boundary/Ballistic Capture
- Artemis I, II, III
- Human Landing System (HLS)
- Near-Rectilinear Halo Orbits (NRHO)
- Deep Space Gateway / PPE / HALO



Direct and Flyby Transfers to Earth-Moon L1 and L2 Libration Points



Ballistic Transfers from Earth to NRHO



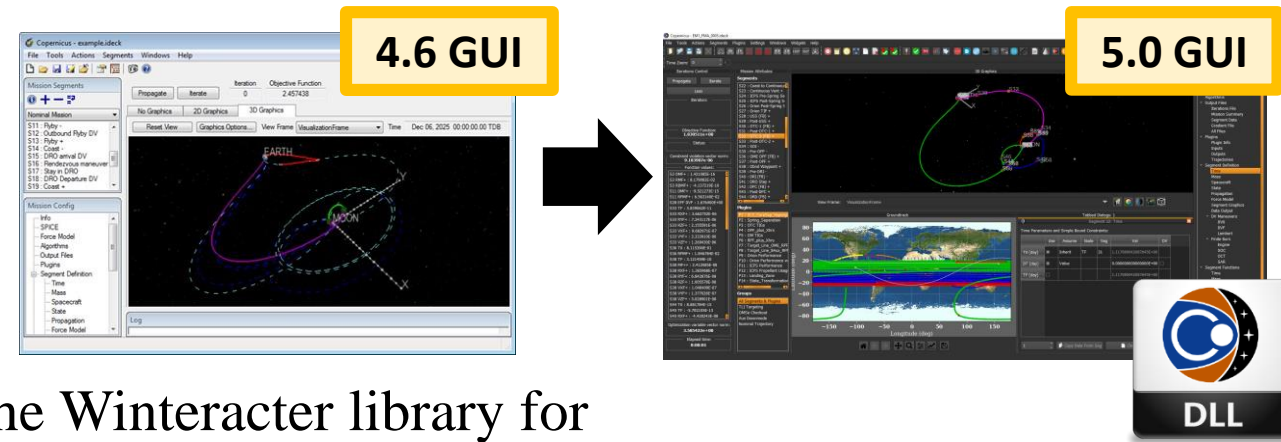
Transfer from NRHO to high lunar orbit

# Copernicus Software Development

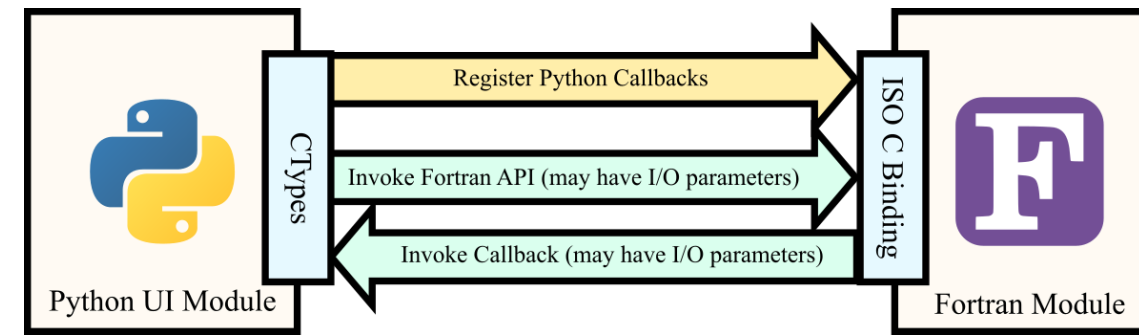
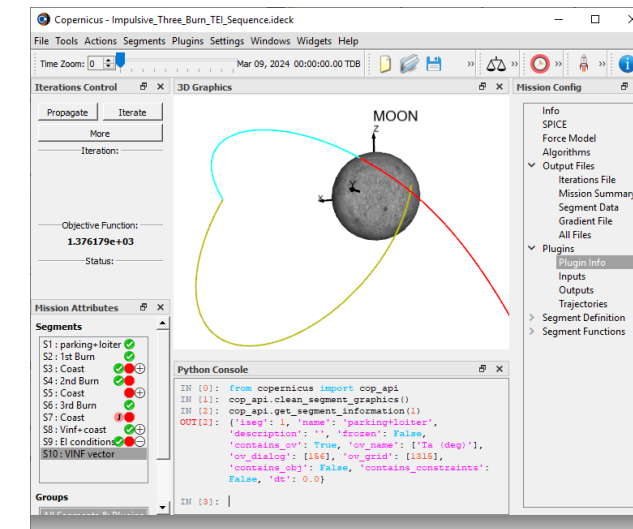
- Copernicus started in 2001 as Fortran 77/90, Compaq Visual Fortran (Windows only)
- Transitioned to Intel Fortran circa 2007
- Cross platform: Windows, macOS, Linux
- Continuous improvement & modernization, keep up with the latest Fortran standards and tools
  - If Intel supports a feature, we will use it.
  - Copernicus is never finished.
- Some of the tools/libraries we are currently using: Intel Fortran 2019, CMake 3.12.3, Git, Python 3.7, Anaconda 2019.07, MS Visual Studio 2017, VS Code, Qt 5.12.3, OpenSceneGraph 3.6.2, HDF5 1.10.4



# Software Architecture



- Formerly, the entire program was Fortran (used the Winteracter library for the GUI)
- Significant refactoring as Fortran 2003+ became available
  - Mostly standard Fortran with some Intel extensions and MKL routines
  - 327 modules, about 218,505 lines of code (not counting 3rd party F77)
- Copernicus is now (v5.0) implemented as a shared library that is called from a Python GUI
  - Core Copernicus code (Fortran) and the GUI (Python) are now completely decoupled
  - Extensive use of C Interoperability – Callbacks to/from Fortran & Python
  - The Copernicus shared library can also be used by other scripts, tools, etc.
- Interactive 3D graphics using OpenSceneGraph and OpenFrames libraries – Fortran interface to C++ code
- Dynamic equations/functions/models user-input:
  - Custom internal function parser written in Fortran
  - User created shared library plugins (DLLs)
  - Eventually: Python code executed by callback.





# Copernicus GUI: Example

Interactive graphics: Iterate, pan, zoom, rotate

The screenshot displays the Copernicus GUI interface. The central 3D Graphics window shows a complex orbital path around Earth and the Moon, with a yellow dot indicating a specific point of interest. The left sidebar contains several panels: Iterations Control, Mission Attributes (Segments), Objective Function, Constraint violation vector norm, Function values, and Plugins. The right sidebar shows Mission Config settings. The bottom panel features a Python Console with a 'hello Copernicus' message.

**Widgets**

**User-Selectable Themes, Customizable GUI Configuration**

**Embedded Python console**

# 3D Party Fortran Components

- [SNOPT](#) (optimization)
  - Fortran 77, Waiting for “modern” version
- [SPICELIB](#) (JPL, solar system ephemeris, geometry, and time)
  - Fortran 77, Recently announced rewriting it in C++
- [JSON-Fortran](#) (configuration files, data output, data exchange)
- [Bspline-Fortran](#) (interpolation)
- [SLSQP](#) (optimization)
- [Hairer](#) (ODE IVP)
- [FLINT](#) (ODE IVP)
- And more!



Open source

# Conclusions



- Copernicus is an example of an actively developed modern Fortran application with a wide user base at NASA
- Critical software tool for JSC & NASA-wide
- Greatly expanded capabilities and use cases with recent (v5.0) Python GUI and scripting integration
- Copernicus Fortran wish list
  - Better ecosystem & cross-platform tooling, linting, etc.
  - Generic programming, differentiable programming
  - Exception handling
  - Built-in modern string class
  - Dynamic, interactive capability (think Python, Julia, Jupyter)





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# Questions?

