

ISIS Impactor for Surface and Interior Science

....





ISIS Mission Concept

- Send an independent, autonomous impactor spacecraft, to the asteroid target of the OSIRIS-REx mission
 - } Co-manifest impactor with InSight launch
 - Arrive after OSIRIS-REx has completed its science objectives (i.e., sample collection)
- ISIS creates crater tens of meters in diameter
 - > OSIRIS-REx images the impact from a safe vantage point (~1-meter resolution)
- Seismic reverberations throughout the asteroid cause global modifications
 - After debris clears, approach asteroid for imagery of crater and previously mapped terrain (~2 cm resolution). Also collect spectra of pristine material exposed by impact

-} Deflection experiment

Measure asteroid delta-V due to impactor







Cross-cutting Exploration & Science Benefits

ISIS delivers Discovery-level Science, closes Exploration SKGs and demonstrates NEO Mitigation Technology, all for a small fraction of the cost of a

- Cratering experiment regolith properties and geophysics
- Seismic experiment global alterations (toppled rocks, landslides) due to shock wave/reverberations, lofting of material far from impact site
- Ejecta size distribution of regolith, understanding meteorite formation process
- Imaging of crater formation processes, morphology and subsurface geology
- Spectroscopy of pristine material from depth provides context to OREx sample
- Characterization of any volatiles released from impact site
- Thermal properties of disturbed & undisturbed areas
- Topographic mapping before and after to reveal exhumed volume and material mobility
- Particulate environment following impact over a wide range of disturbance energies
- Rotational excitation can constrain the interior mass distribution.

3

Measure delta-V imparted by impact – determine momentum enhancement due to ejecta



The Planetary Defense aspects of a deflection experiment will generate significant public interest.

- Pre-impact characterization of asteroid ephemeris
- Move to safe observing location and image ejecta cone as it expands over a period of several minutes.
 50 km gives 0.7 m/pixel with Polycam
- Monitor ejecta as it dissipates (15-20 days)
- Perform slow flyby(s) for imaging and spectra (15-20 days)
- } Enter radio science mode
 - } Few km terminator orbit for 15-20 days
- } Total time from impact 45-60 days
 - Assume 90 days science operations from impact to departure, including margin





ISIS Schedule Compatible with OSIRIS-REX



5



ISIS Flight System Overview



- } System designed around flight-qualified ESP Imposes no impact on host SC/LV interface Modular Flight System Spacecraft Architecture emphasizes simplicity and reliability No Comm. Crosslink (to observer s/c)
 - No Pyrotechnics
 - No Deployments
 - No Mechanisms

Potential Stakeholders

- Science This mission scheme is extraordinarily cost effective and aligned with NASA Science Mission Directorate objectives
 - Planetary Decadal Report, "The first and most important [criterion] was science return per dollar."
- Fechnology NEO Mitigation is a Space Techno Grand Challenge
 - > Terminal guidance demonstration
 - Earth impactor deflection demonstration
- > Exploration
 - ISIS squarely addresses numerous "Critical" Strategic Knowledge Gaps (SKGs) for human exploration of NEAs
 - Characterize geotechnical properties, particulate environment, mechanical response, structural integrity and local stability of sub-km NEAs

ISIS is a natural candidate for joint funding. In the current climate, this may be imperative in order to take advantage of the InSight secondary payload







Schedule

} Time is short!

- The InSight launch provides a critical constraint on the viability of the ISIS mission concept
- Starting 3-month pre-phase A study
 - High concept maturity crucial for short development schedule
 - } Leading to a mid-2013 Decision Point
- 3 ISIS development schedule assumes ~30 month Phase A-D
 - } Aug



ht launch

Conclusions



- ISIS is a low-cost mission that addresses NASA strategic goals and provides Discovery-class science returns across a wide range of small body science disciplines.
 - The mission leverages NASA's investment in the OSIRIS-REx mission and takes full advantage of the New Frontiers-class instrumentation on the observer spacecraft.
 - Co-manifesting with InSight further improves the costeffectiveness.
- > NEAR-Shoemaker is NASA's only NEA rendezvous mission so far. The second will be OSIRIS-REx, twenty years later.
 - The convergence of OSIRIS-REx schedule and Insight launch opportunity is an extraordinary alignment that will not be repeated again soon.
- ISIS represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to fly a lowcost asteroid cratering experiment