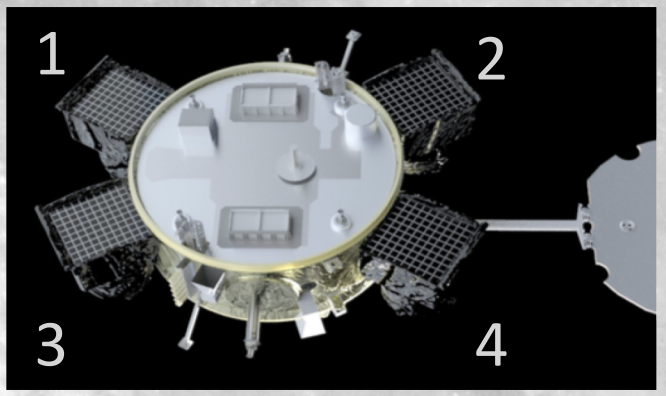
FOSSIL

Fragments from the Origins of the Solar System and our Interstellar Locale

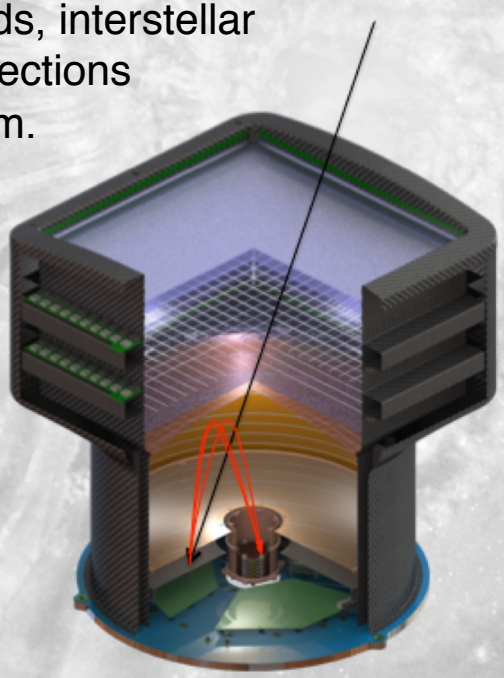
Exploring the Solar System's origins by measuring the compositions of dust grains from hundreds of comets and asteroids, and from interstellar space

Science
Surveying the composition of interplanetary and interstellar grains unfiltered by our atmosphere, linking them dynamically to their sources.

Science Team
30+ US and international leaders in in-situ dust measurements, comets, asteroids, interstellar dust, lab studies, and their connections to the origins of our Solar System.



Payload
4 Dust Telescopes, each with a Dust Trajectory Sensor and a high-resolution Composition Analyzer



Orbit
Highly flexible observation strategies can be achieved on either lunar-resonant, Earth-Sun L2, or Earth-trailing orbit

Mission
4-year duration