

# Daedalon



## A Revolutionary Morphing Spacecraft Design for Planetary Exploration



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# Daedalon : THE CONCEPT

## CORE CONCEPT

*What if a single vehicle could enter an atmosphere, take flight to find the ideal landing site, and then land to fulfill its mission?*



## BENEFITS

- Payload & Mission Flexibility
- Mass Savings due to Integrated Design
- Aerodynamic Optimization & Characterization





## METHODOLOGY

- Next logical step was to size the *Daedalon* vehicle.
- Learned basics of spacecraft design from *Space Mission Analysis and Design* (Larson and Wertz).
- Researched prior Mars (and Venus) airplane concepts and designs.
- Researched morphing wing concepts, experiments, and system-level analyses. Contacted NASA Langley, Purdue, GTRI, ASDL.

## METHODOLOGY

- Developed parametric sizing spreadsheet for *Daedalon* and its Cruise Stage.
- Used SSDL and NASA tools for launch vehicle selection and cost estimation.
- Developed 3D renderings and 2D CAD Model for *Daedalon*.





## BASELINE MISSION

- 2025 flight to Mars
- Launch on Delta II 7925
- *Daedalon* separates from its Cruise Stage 5.5 hrs. before entry
- Once free of backshell, *Daedalon* flies the circumference of a 160 km diameter crater
- Remaining fuel allows traversing the crater diameter to return to optimum landing site



# Daedalon : BASELINE MISSION



## MARS ENTRY INTERFACE

- Direct Entry Trajectory
- Heat Shield TPS supported by Morphing Wing



## BACKSHELL RELEASE

- Altitude: 8000 m
- Speed: Mach 2



## HIGH-SPEED FLIGHT & DESCENT

- Morphing Swept Wing
- Duration: 10 min.

## LANDING AND PAYLOAD OPERATIONS

- Deep Stall at 10 m altitude
- Propulsive Landing
- Payload Budget: 12 kg, 35 W

## LOW-SPEED CRUISE AND LANDING SITE ASSESSMENT

- Altitude: 500 m
- Wing Aspect Ratio: 4.8
- Duration: 54 min.
- Speed: Mach 0.7





## VEHICLE SYSTEM

- Launch Vehicle
- Cruise Stage
- Backshell
- *Daedalon* Lander
- Payload





## PAYLOAD

Stored in Payload Bay; may be stationary or deployable

### MER PAYLOAD:

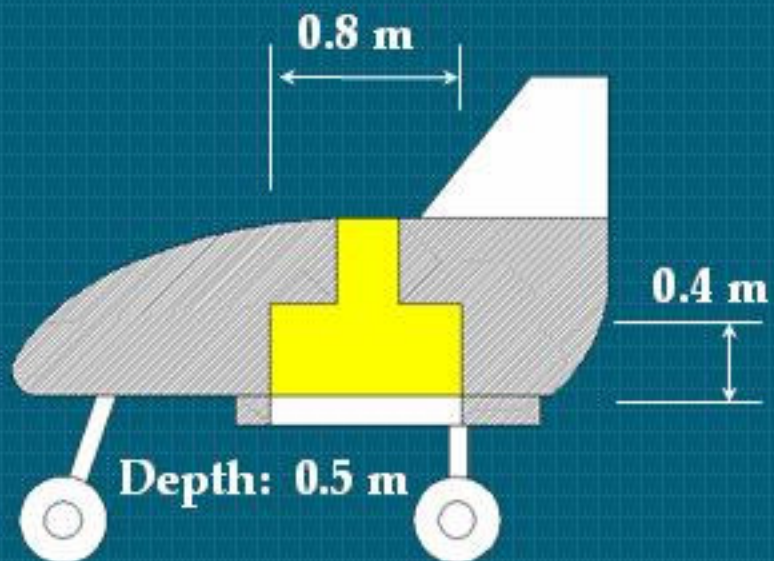
Est. Mass:	7.9 kg
Est. Power Consumption:	32 W

### SOJOURNER PAYLOAD:

Est. Mass:	1.4 kg
Est. Power Consumption:	2 W

### DAEDALON:

Max Payload Mass:	12.0 kg
Power Availability:	35 W

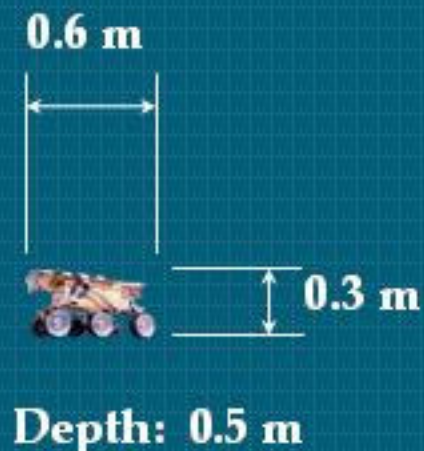


## PAYLOAD

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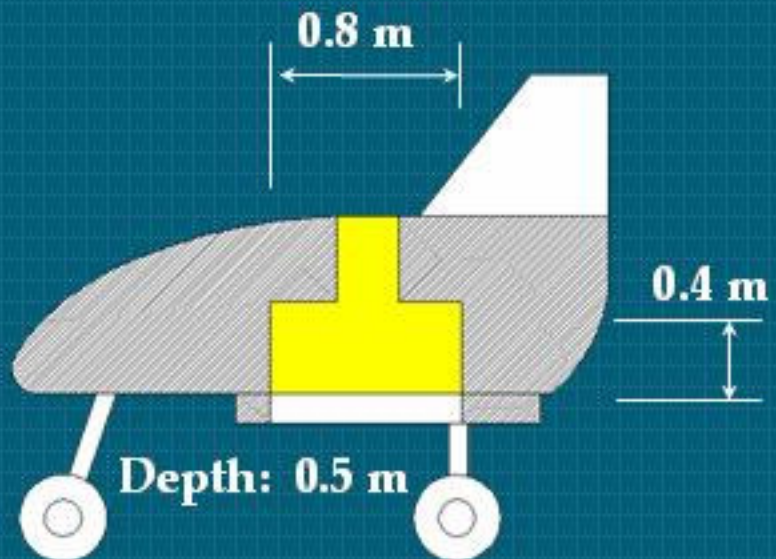
### SOJOURNER ROVER:

Mass:	10 kg
Power Consumption:	16 W



### DAEDALON:

Max Payload Mass:	12.0 kg
Power Availability:	35 W





## LANDER

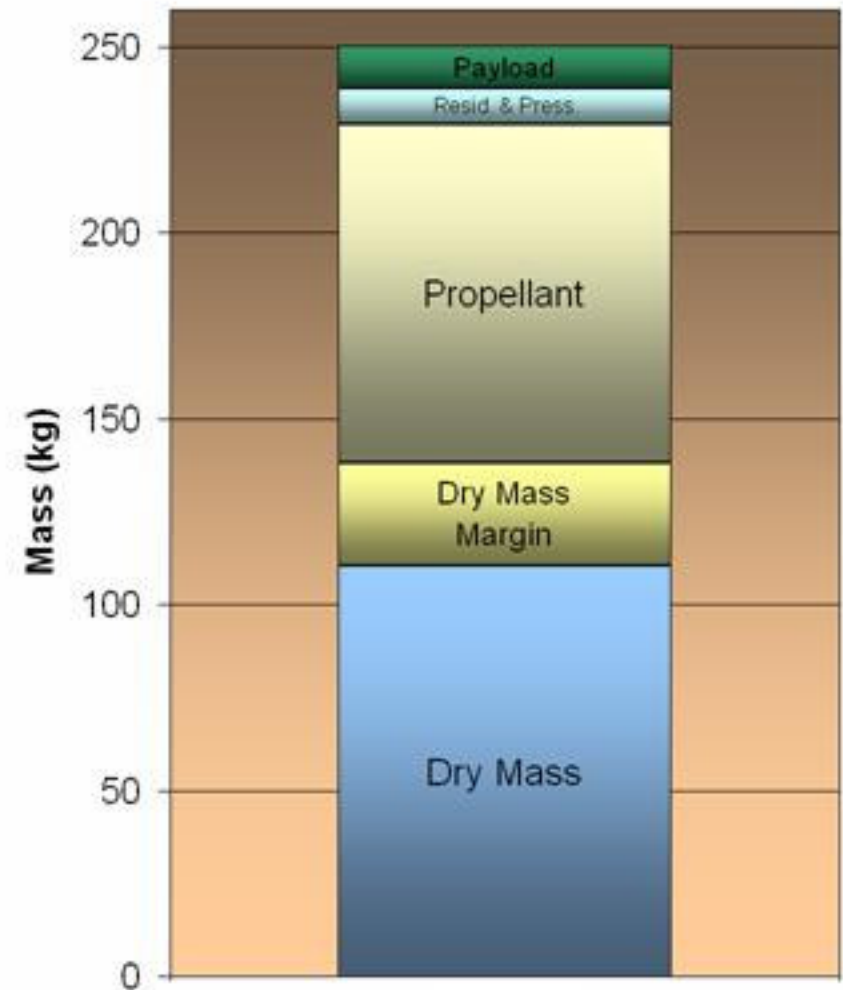
- Dry Mass: 138 kg  
Prop. & Press.: 101 kg  
Payload: 12 kg

Gross Mass: 251 kg

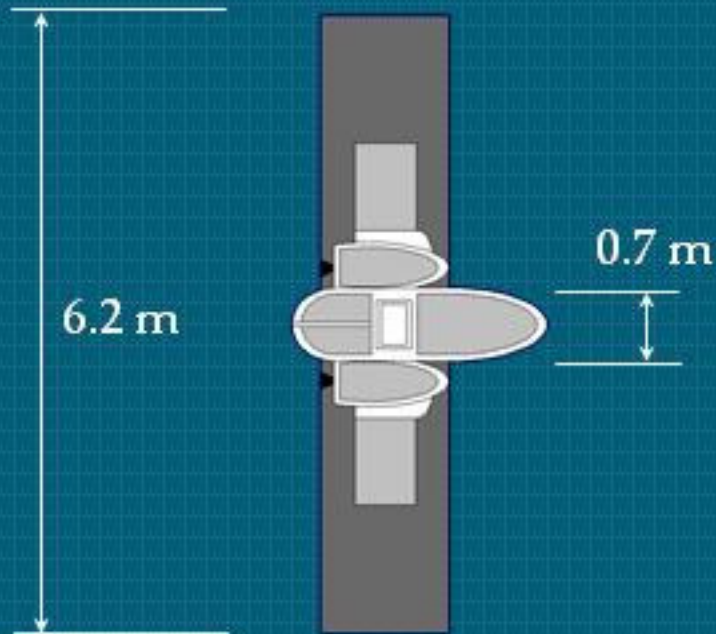
- Peak Power  
Consumption: 226 W

Dormant Power  
Consumption: 30 W

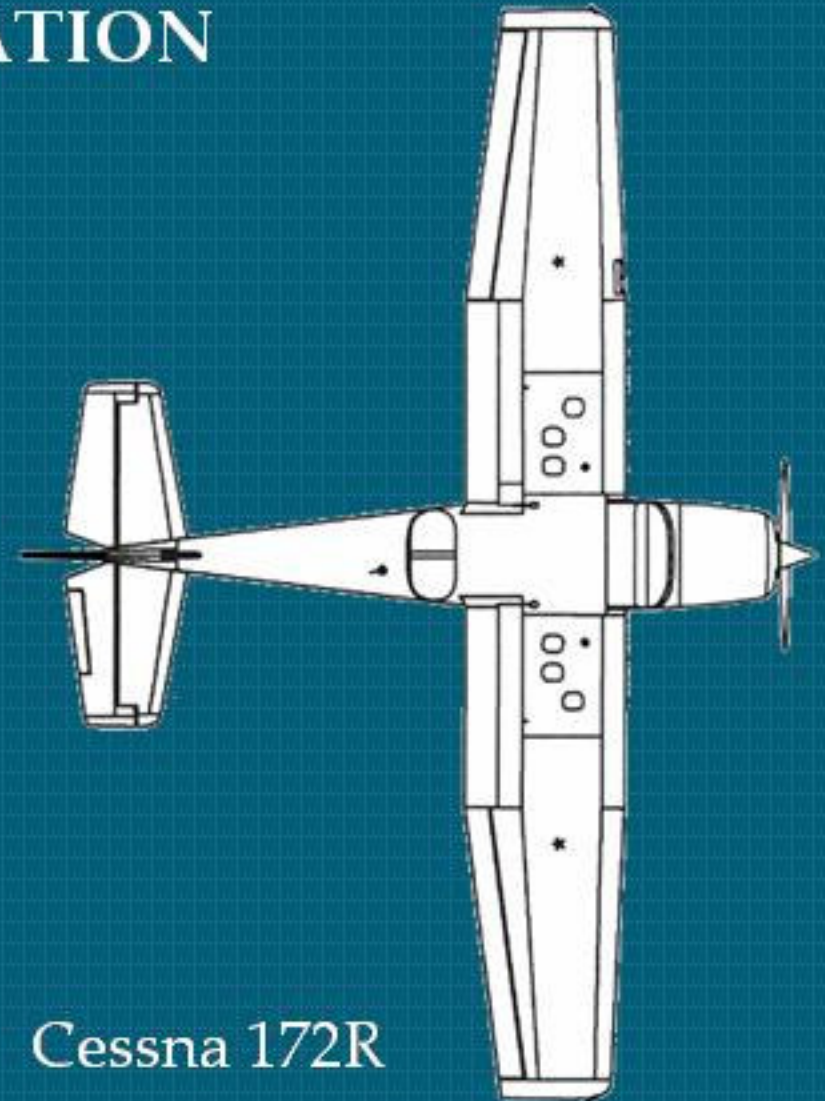
Daedalon Lander Gross Mass Breakdown



## LANDING CONFIGURATION



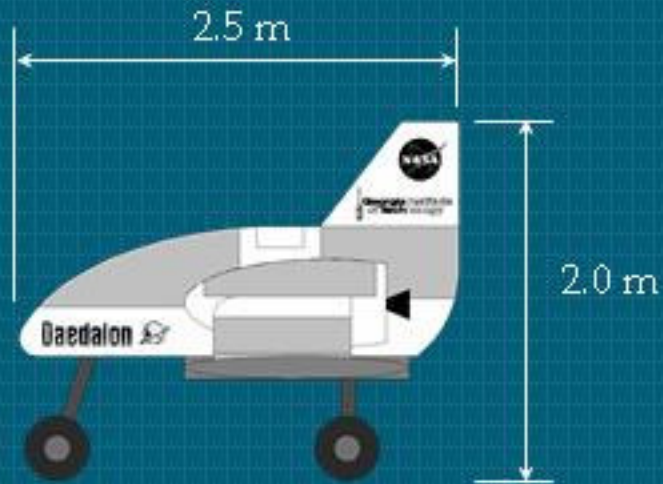
Daedalon



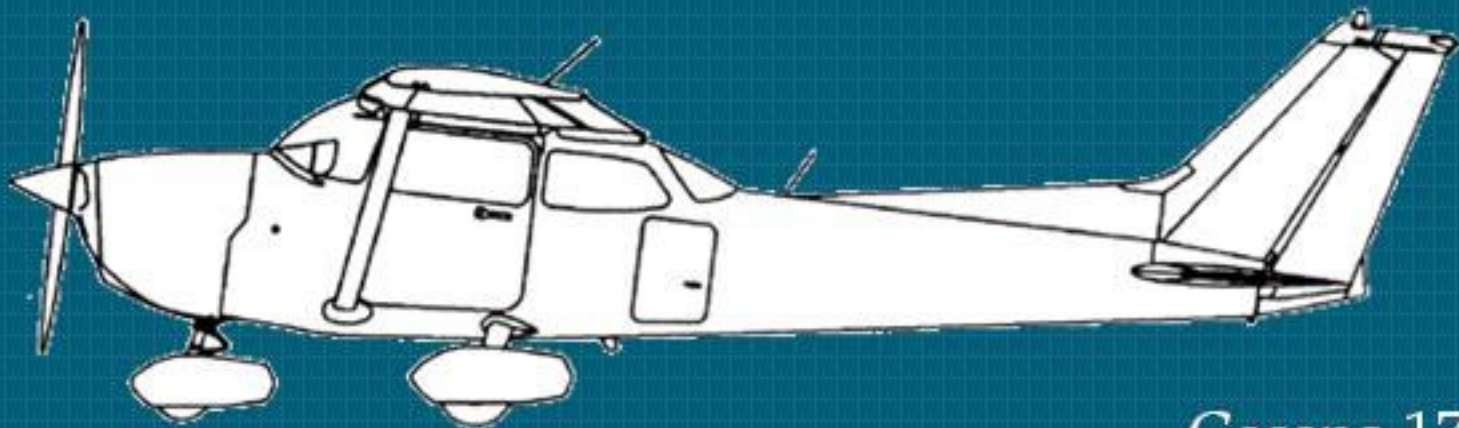
Cessna 172R



## LANDING CONFIGURATION



Daedalon



Cessna 172R

## LANDER SYSTEMS

Propulsion: Two 36-N Thrusters consume 90 kg of Monopropellant Hydrazine fuel in 54 min. of powered low-speed flight.

Two 444-N Thrusters for Propulsive Descent from Deep Stall.

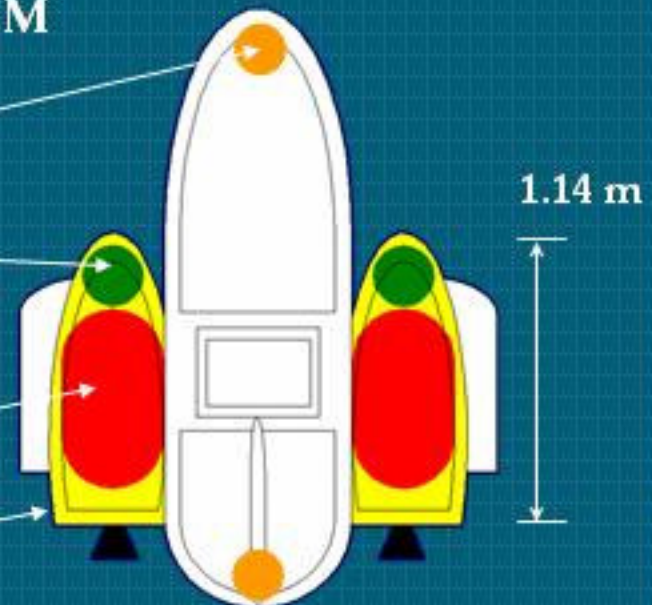
### PROPULSION SYSTEM

Descent Thruster  
(ventral surface)

Helium  
Pressurant Tank

Monopropellant  
Hydrazine Fuel Tank

Propulsion Pod



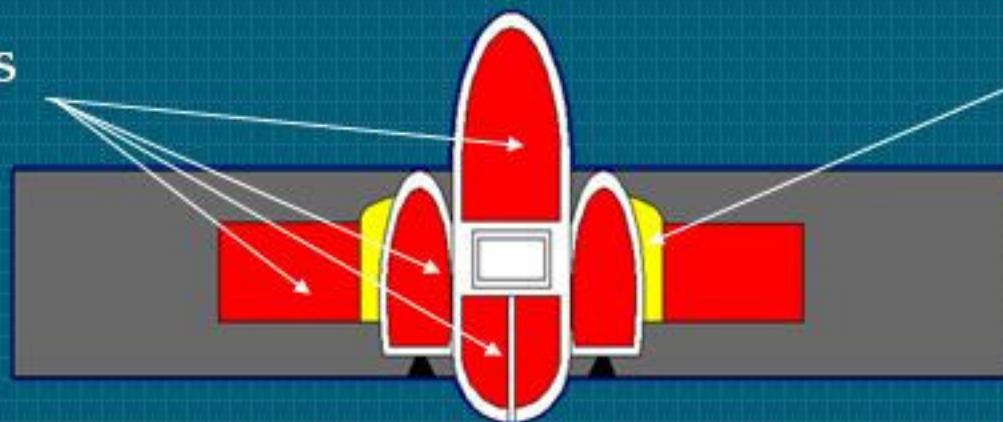


## LANDER SYSTEMS

Power: 670 W-hr.  $\text{NiH}_2$  battery powers lander from Cruise Stage separation to landing.

On landing, two  $0.5 \text{ m}^2$  solar arrays deploy over wings. Including body-mounted panels, array area is  $2.5 \text{ m}^2$  (15% efficient GaAs cells).

Solar Arrays  
and Panels



Solar Array  
Storage Pod

# Daedalon : BASELINE VEHICLE

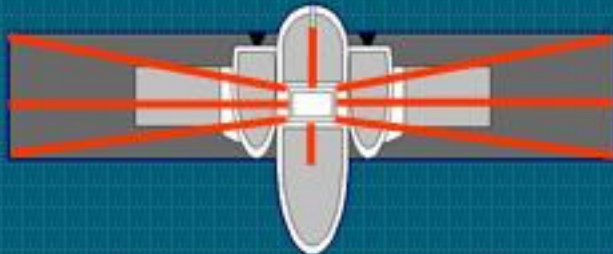
## DEPLOYMENT



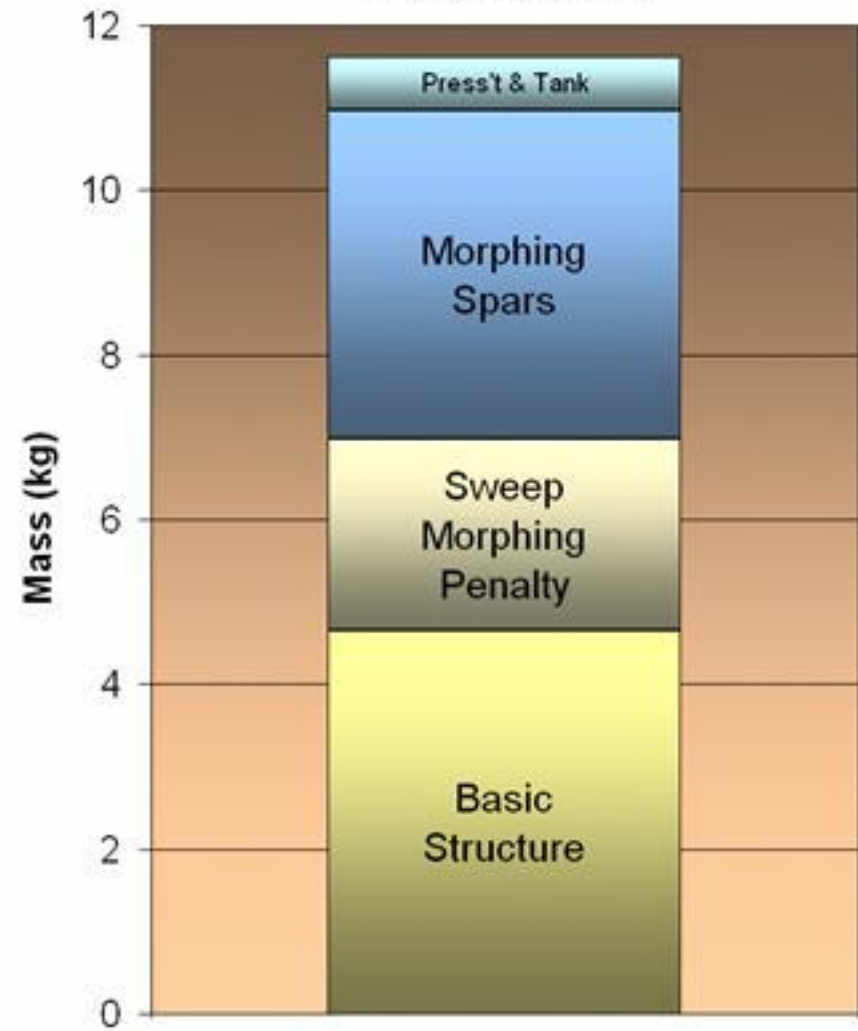
## HIGH-SPEED FLIGHT



## LOW-SPEED FLIGHT / LANDING



Daedalon Lander Morphing Wing  
Mass Breakdown





## **LANDER SYSTEMS**

GNC System: 4 kg and 52 W

IMU, Radar, Flight Sensors, 2 Nav Cameras

C&DH System: 3 kg and 20 W

Includes all on-board computers

Communications System: 4 kg and 3 W

Whip antenna for 512 kbps UHF signals to and from relay satellite (Cruise Stage during EDL, existing infrastructure for ground ops)

Thermal Control System: 5 kg and 4 W

## BACKSHELL

- Provides comm., allows stability during entry
- Sized based on MER, Pathfinder, and ARES
- Diameter: 2.65 m

Backshell Mass: 200 kg

Dry Mass Margin: 50 kg

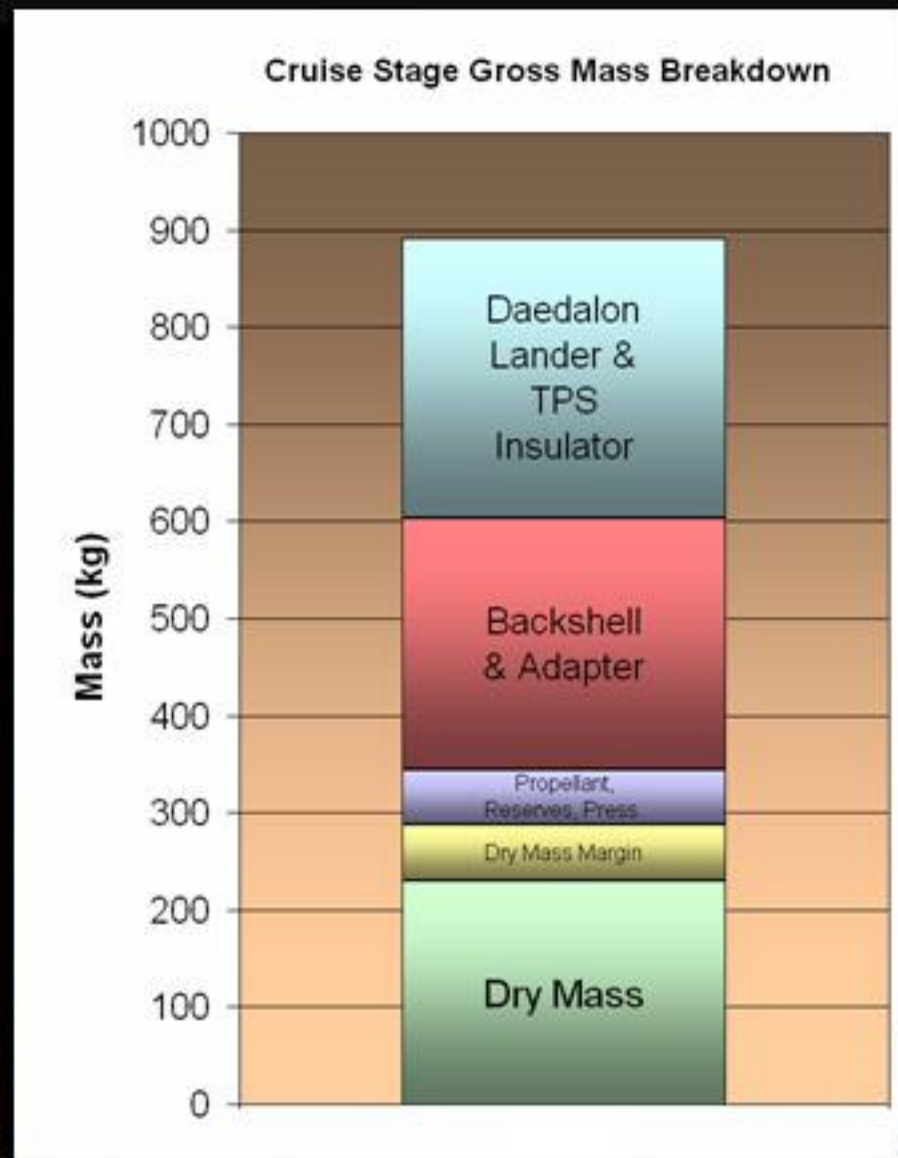
Total Mass: 250 kg





## CRUISE STAGE

- Dry Mass: 291 kg  
Prop. & Press.: 55 kg  
Payload: 550 kg  
  
Gross Mass: 896 kg
- Peak Power Consumption: 367 W
- Diameter: 2.65 m  
(plus solar array)



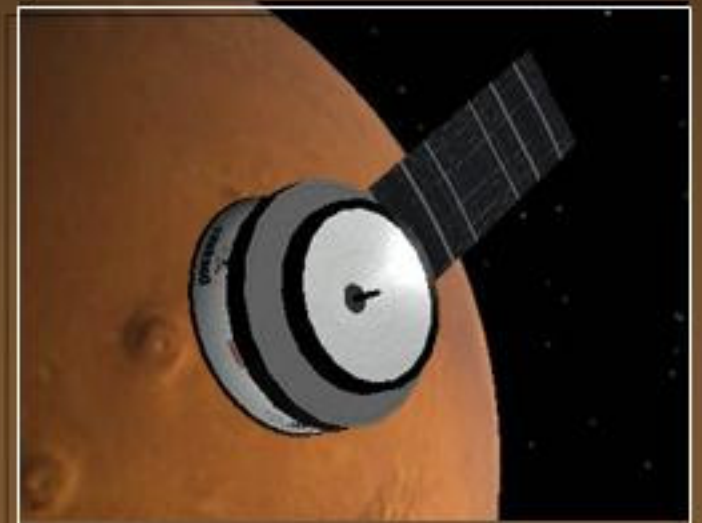
## CRUISE STAGE SYSTEMS

Propulsion: Twelve 13-N thrusters able to provide 130 m/s  $\Delta V$  for maneuvers during cruise

Propellant: 50 kg of Monopropellant Hydrazine

Power: 1160 W-hr. NiH<sub>2</sub> battery capable of powering vehicle for 5 hrs.

4.2 m<sup>2</sup> in solar arrays





## CRUISE STAGE SYSTEMS

GNC System: 19 kg and 53 W

IMU, Sun Sensor, Star Sensor

C&DH System: 25 kg and 25 W

Includes all on-board computers

Communications System: 27 kg and 60 W

2 m dish for UHF comm. with *Daedalon* and  
8 GHz X-band comm. with DSN

Thermal Control System: 21 kg and 15 W

Spacecraft Structure: 51 kg and 0 W

## LAUNCH VEHICLE

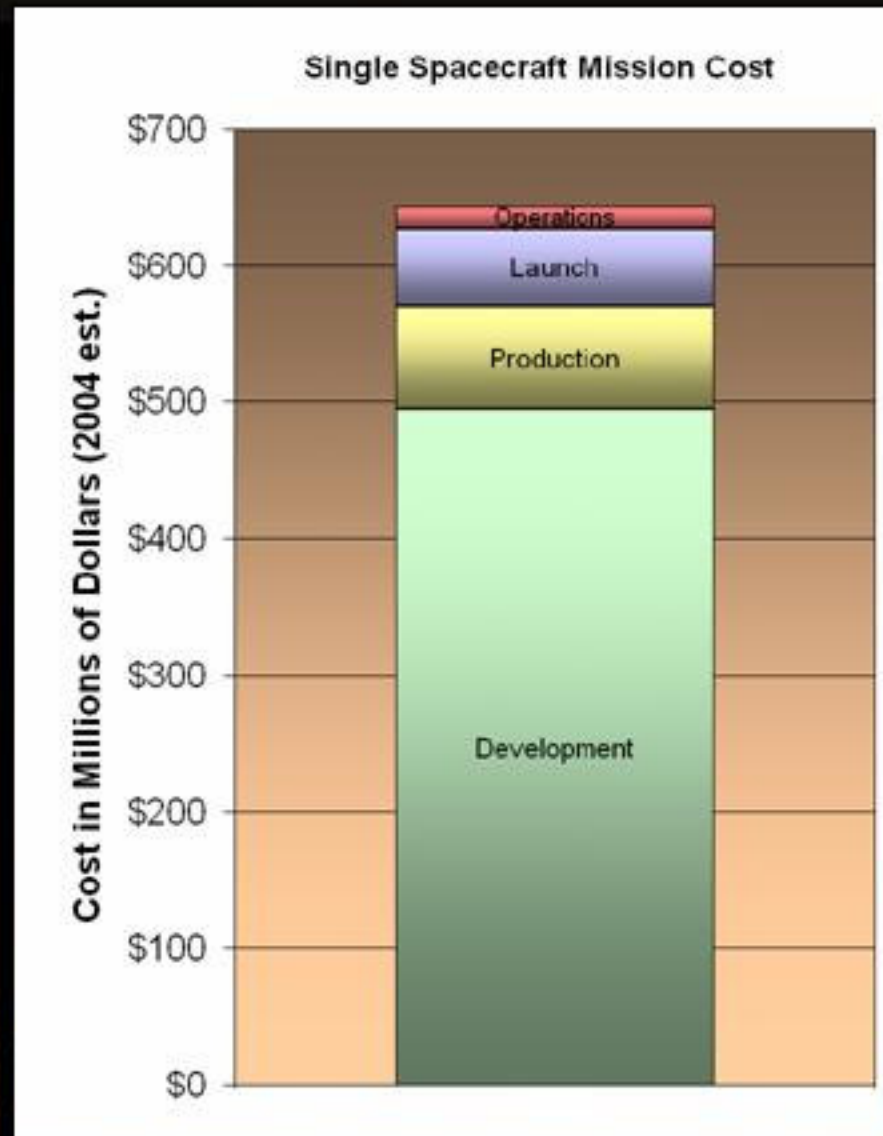
- Delta II 7925 ELV
- Fairing Diameter: 2.9 m  
Utilized Diameter: 2.7 m
- Payload Capacity: 940 kg  
Utilized Capacity: 900 kg  
(for C3 of  $14 \text{ km}^2/\text{s}^2$ )
- Launch Cost: \$57.1 million  
(2004 est.)



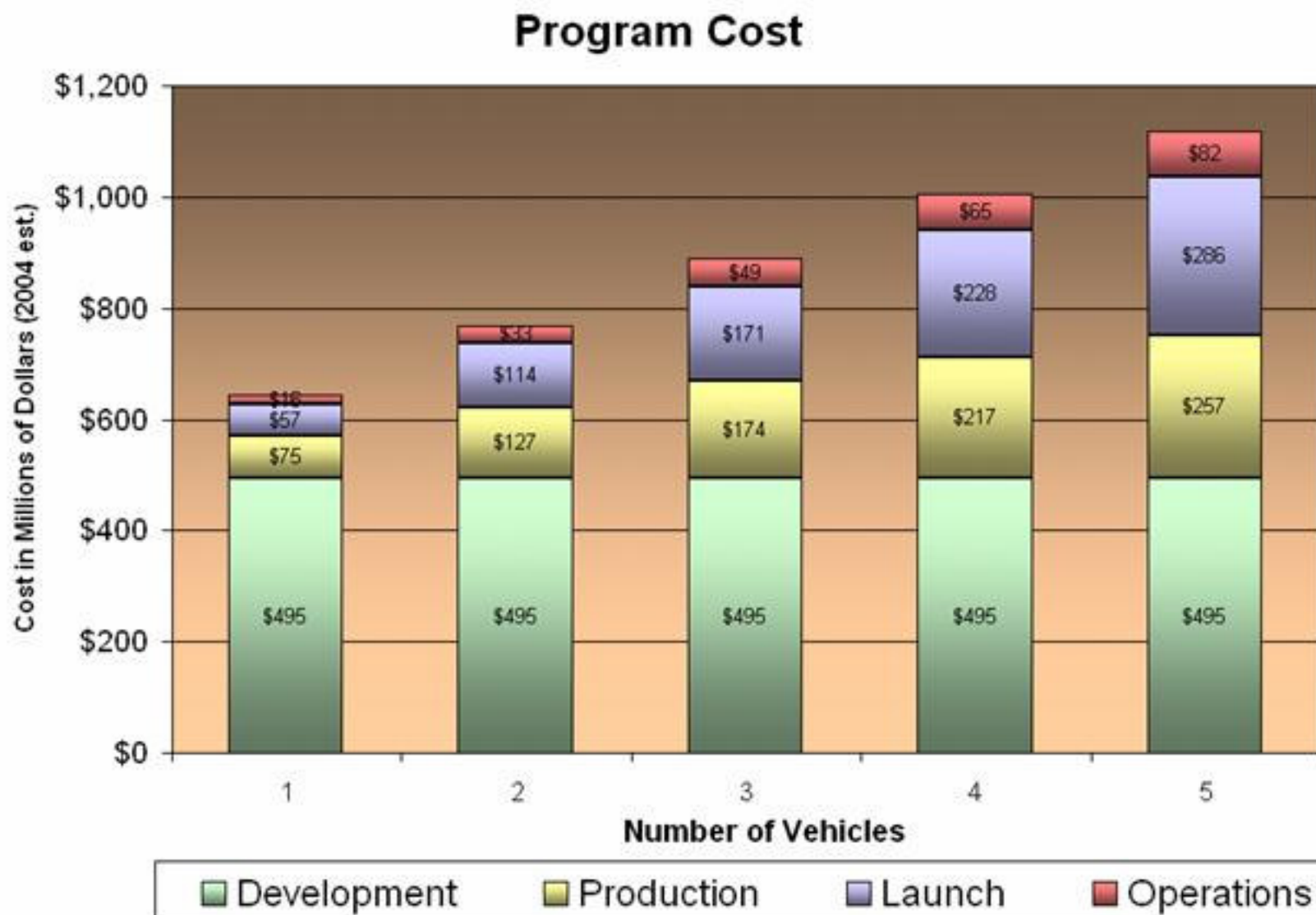


## COST ESTIMATE

- Heavily based on system dry mass of 720 kg
- Single Mission Cost: \$640 million
- However, the concept of *Daedalon* lends itself best to multiple missions

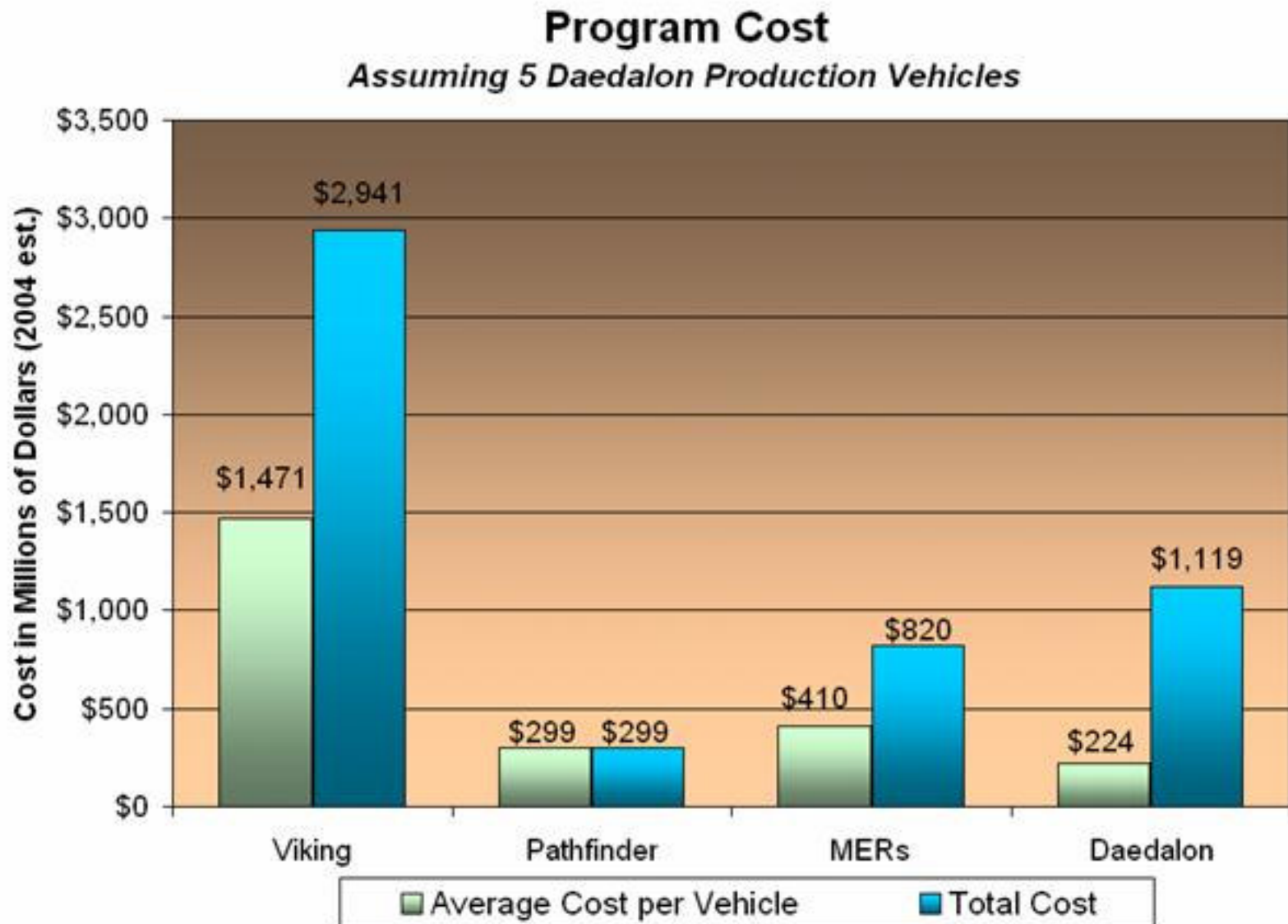


# Daedalon : BASELINE VEHICLE





# Daedalon : COMPARISONS



## FUNCTIONALITY COMPARISON

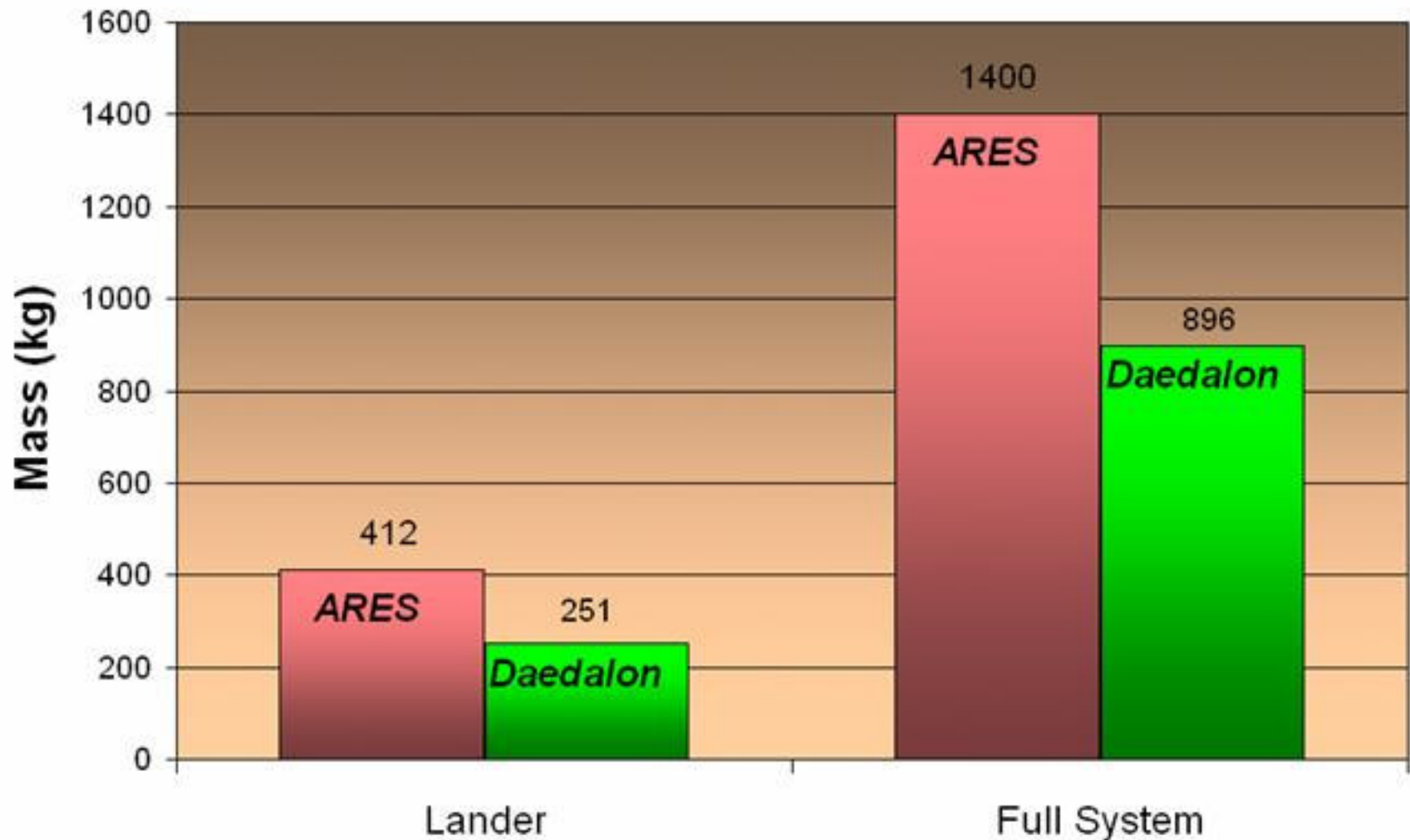
	Launch	Flight Ops		Landed Ops		
	<i>Fit inside Delta II 7925</i>	<i>In-flight Atmospheric Science</i>	<i>Low-Altitude Ground Surveying</i>	<i>Stationary Instrument Deployment</i>	<i>Mobile Instrument Deployment</i>	<i>Dynamic Landing Site Selection</i>
<b>MERs</b>	✓				✓	
<b>Pathfinder</b>	✓			✓	✓	
<b>Viking</b>				✓		
<b>ARES</b>	✓	✓	✓			
<b>Daedalon</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



# Daedalon : COMPARISONS

## Design Integration Mass Savings (Super-ARES vs. Daedalon)

Note: This ARES design functionally equivalent to Daedalon, but requires a >5 m payload fairing



# GROUND DISTANCE COMPARISON



MER

**Total Distance Travelled at or below 500 m: 1.5 km**

**First .6 km has little scientific value**

**Dollars Spent per Kilometer Travelled: \$273 million**



Daedalon

**Total Distance Travelled at or below 500 m: 464.0 km**

**May be increased if payload itself roves or flies**

**Dollars Spent per Kilometer Travelled: \$483,000**





## FLIGHT PROFILE COMPARISON

- Dollars per kilometer is not a deciding metric itself, but is indicative of the flexibility *Daedalon* allows.
- *Daedalon* allows in-flight selection of the most promising landing site, which is difficult to quantify at this stage.
- However, this mission inherently increases scientific gain and decreases long-term costs.
- Currently we're limited by where we bounce to. What could we be missing just out of range?

## IS IT POSSIBLE?

- As Dr. Lawrence Krauss once put it:  
“The answer is a resounding ‘maybe’.”
- Technology driver is the morphing wing

DARPA Morphing Aircraft Structures goals:

200% Aspect Ratio change

50% Area change

20° Sweep change

Once these goals are accomplished, morphing on the order of *Daedalon's* may not be far away.



## EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

- Learned that Mars airplanes have been under serious investigation since before I was born
- Learned that surprisingly little work has been done for flight on other planets and moons.
- Learned major aspects of morphing wing technology under exploration today
- For the first time experienced what it's like to start a spacecraft design from scratch and see the extent to which different systems interact

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

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