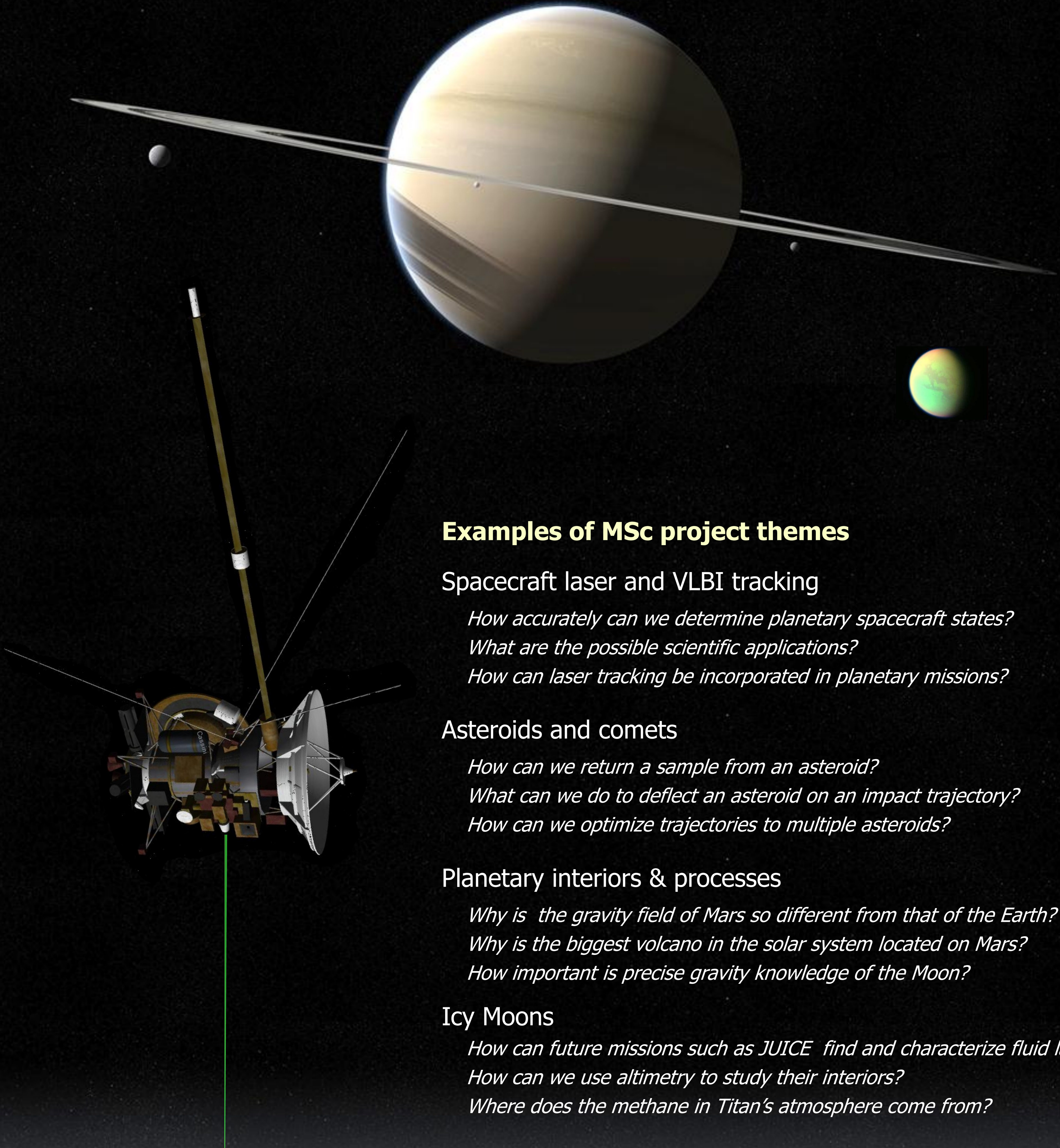


# Solar System Exploration

*Pushing the frontiers of planetary missions*



## Examples of MSc project themes

### Spacecraft laser and VLBI tracking

*How accurately can we determine planetary spacecraft states?*

*What are the possible scientific applications?*

*How can laser tracking be incorporated in planetary missions?*

### Asteroids and comets

*How can we return a sample from an asteroid?*

*What can we do to deflect an asteroid on an impact trajectory?*

*How can we optimize trajectories to multiple asteroids?*

### Planetary interiors & processes

*Why is the gravity field of Mars so different from that of the Earth?*

*Why is the biggest volcano in the solar system located on Mars?*

*How important is precise gravity knowledge of the Moon?*

### Icy Moons

*How can future missions such as JUICE find and characterize fluid layers?*

*How can we use altimetry to study their interiors?*

*Where does the methane in Titan's atmosphere come from?*

Contact: Dr. Bert Vermeersen (Room 9.01)