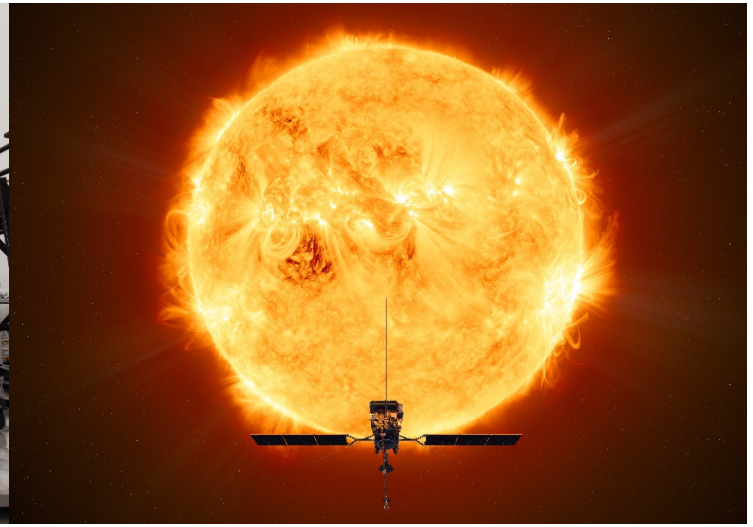
Welcome to the 16th Appleton Space Conference

Professor Chris Mutlow

Director RAL Space





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National Satellite Test Facility (NSTF)

- Currently, under construction at Harwell funded by:
  - Funding from Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF)
  - National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF)
- Comprehensive, co-located, large-scale space test facilities for the UK
- Enabling industry to be more competitive by providing facilities, skilled staff
- Foundation for industry to bid for national and international satellite/infrastructure contracts
- Good progress on site despite COVID-19
  - Exterior is weather-tight
  - Internal walls going up and plant and equipment being installed
- Build completion July 2021
- Operational July 2022 (after year of commissioning and characterisation)

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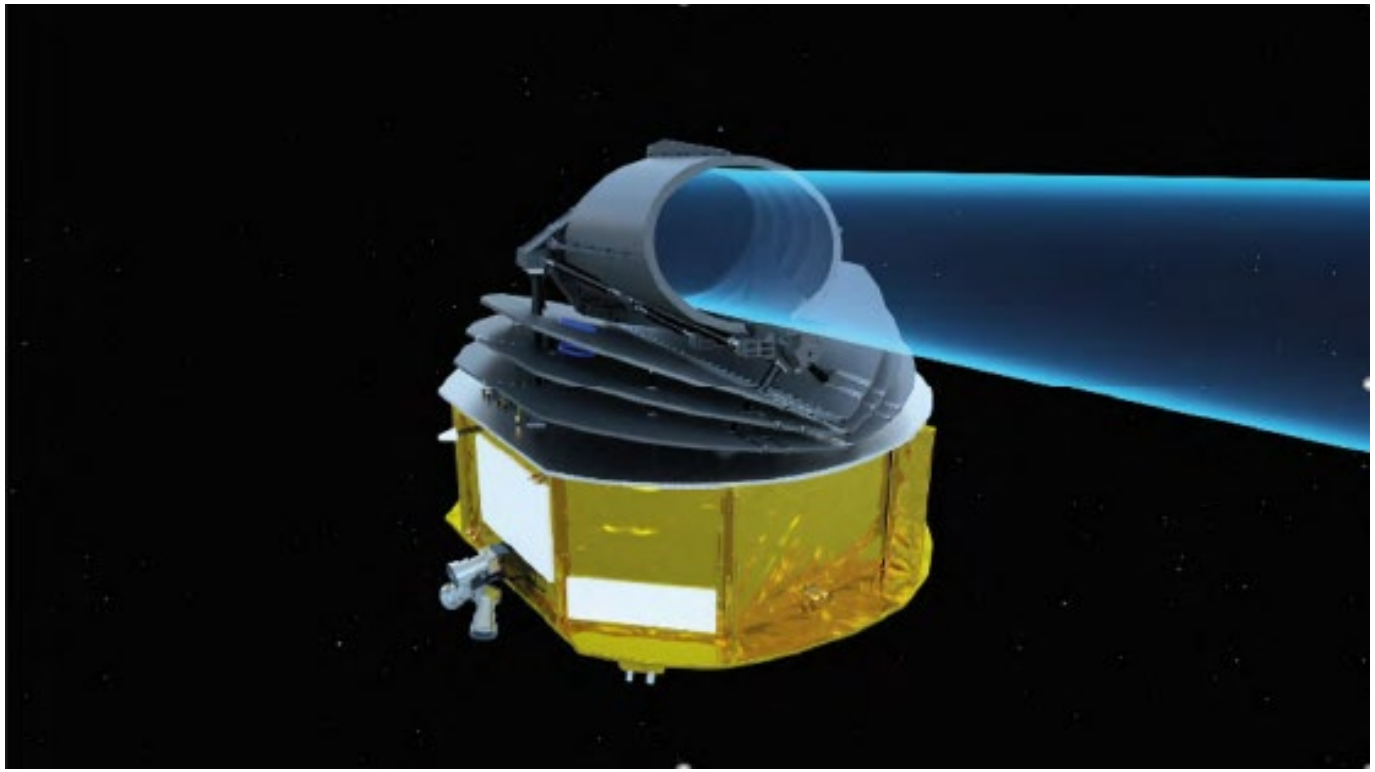
Ariel – Adoption by ESA

- Ariel will study the nature, formation and evolution of exoplanets
  - Survey 1000 planets outside our solar system during its lifetime
- Ariel Mission Consortium to build the payload led by UCL and RAL Space
- Mission now formally adopted by ESA following Science Programme Committee – 12th November
- Launch in 2029



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RAL Space Highlights 2020

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Available in the “virtual” reception area and the RAL Space website; ralspace.stfc.ac.uk / publications

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#appleton2020

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