



1
00:00:00,010 --> 00:00:04,140
[silence]

2
00:00:12,390 --> 00:00:08,290
[music]

3
00:00:12,410 --> 00:00:16,490
my title is Assistant Research Scientist, and I work

4
00:00:16,510 --> 00:00:20,580
in the Planetary Environments Laboratory.

5
00:00:20,600 --> 00:00:24,670
Astrobiology, I would say, is the field of study that looks for

6
00:00:24,690 --> 00:00:28,740
life outside the earth, but also for the origin of life. And--

7
00:00:28,760 --> 00:00:32,810
the way that my work is involved in astrobiology is--I'm looking

8
00:00:32,830 --> 00:00:36,840
at organics, and actually, my daily job is focused

9
00:00:36,860 --> 00:00:40,860
on developing--or, helping develop instruments that are related

10
00:00:40,880 --> 00:00:44,870
to those kind of organic materials, especially organic compounds that are

11
00:00:44,890 --> 00:00:49,010
part of life as we know it. Currently, I'm spending most of my time working on

12
00:00:49,030 --> 00:00:53,150
an instrument called VAPOR, which analyzes the volatile

13
00:00:53,170 --> 00:00:57,270

contents of samples--either from the Moon, or maybe from

14

00:00:57,290 --> 00:01:01,360

an asteroid or Mars--by heating the soil sample up

15

00:01:01,380 --> 00:01:05,470

at a real slow pace, and then analyzing the gases with a mass

16

00:01:05,490 --> 00:01:09,560

spectrometer. Yeah, what I like about the group I'm working in--not only the

17

00:01:09,580 --> 00:01:13,620

group related to the instrument--the VAPOR instrument--but the whole group that I'm working in--is

18

00:01:13,640 --> 00:01:17,680

that the group consists of both scientists and engineers, and

19

00:01:17,700 --> 00:01:21,720

so, we have a really good mix in our group, and a good interaction

20

00:01:21,740 --> 00:01:25,750

between the engineers and the scientists. So, the fact that, as a scientist, you actually get to tinker around

21

00:01:25,770 --> 00:01:29,770

a little bit as an engineer. And since my background is in engineering, I really

22

00:01:29,790 --> 00:01:33,820

like to have that link as well.

23

00:01:42,040 --> 00:01:37,950

[beeping]