



1  
00:00:02,790 --> 00:00:00,870  
[Music]

2  
00:00:04,390 --> 00:00:02,800  
nasa's jet propulsion laboratory

3  
00:00:07,030 --> 00:00:04,400  
presents

4  
00:00:09,030 --> 00:00:07,040  
the von carmen lecture a series of talks

5  
00:00:09,750 --> 00:00:09,040  
by scientists and engineers who are

6  
00:00:13,190 --> 00:00:09,760  
exploring

7  
00:00:20,390 --> 00:00:13,200  
our planet our solar system and all that

8  
00:00:24,230 --> 00:00:22,310  
we are starting to straighten up and fly

9  
00:00:25,589 --> 00:00:24,240  
right maneuver where the spacecraft will

10  
00:00:27,349 --> 00:00:25,599  
jettison the entry

11  
00:00:29,349 --> 00:00:27,359  
balance masses in preparation for

12  
00:00:29,990 --> 00:00:29,359  
parachute deploy and to roll over to

13  
00:00:34,150 --> 00:00:30,000

give the radar

14

00:00:39,670 --> 00:00:37,430  
complicated indicate shoe deploy

15

00:00:41,430 --> 00:00:39,680  
the navigation has confirmed that the

16

00:00:43,670 --> 00:00:41,440  
parachute has deployed and we are seeing

17

00:00:45,670 --> 00:00:43,680  
significant deceleration

18

00:00:48,549 --> 00:00:45,680  
in the velocity our current velocity is

19

00:00:50,389 --> 00:00:48,559  
450 meters per second at an altitude of

20

00:00:53,189 --> 00:00:50,399  
about 12 kilometers from the surface of

21

00:00:57,189 --> 00:00:55,750  
heat shield set press advance has now

22

00:00:58,549 --> 00:00:57,199  
slowed to subsonic

23

00:01:00,709 --> 00:00:58,559  
speeds and the heat shield has been

24

00:01:02,389 --> 00:01:00,719  
separated this allows

25

00:01:04,469 --> 00:01:02,399  
both the radar and the cameras to get

26

00:01:07,109 --> 00:01:04,479

their first look at the surface

27

00:01:08,950 --> 00:01:07,119

current velocity is 145 meters per

28

00:01:11,030 --> 00:01:08,960

second and an altitude of about

29

00:01:27,749 --> 00:01:11,040

10 km nine and a half kilometers above

30

00:01:32,069 --> 00:01:30,069

now filter converge velocity solution

31

00:01:34,950 --> 00:01:32,079

3.3 meters per second

32

00:01:35,990 --> 00:01:34,960

altitude 7.4 kilometers now has radar

33

00:01:38,230 --> 00:01:36,000

lock on the ground

34

00:01:39,270 --> 00:01:38,240

current velocity is about 100 meters per

35

00:01:46,069 --> 00:01:39,280

second

36

00:01:49,910 --> 00:01:47,990

perseverance is continuing to descend on

37

00:01:52,789 --> 00:01:49,920

the parachute we are coming

38

00:01:54,230 --> 00:01:52,799

up on the initialization of terrain

39

00:01:56,069 --> 00:01:54,240

relative navigation

40

00:01:58,389 --> 00:01:56,079

and subsequently the priming of the

41

00:02:00,709 --> 00:01:58,399

landing engines our current velocity is

42

00:02:07,350 --> 00:02:00,719

about 90 meters per second at an

43

00:02:11,350 --> 00:02:09,749

ovf valid we have confirmation that the

44

00:02:12,710 --> 00:02:11,360

lander vision system has produced a

45

00:02:14,869 --> 00:02:12,720

valid solution

46

00:02:16,070 --> 00:02:14,879

and part of terrain relative navigation

47

00:02:19,510 --> 00:02:16,080

priming

48

00:02:25,990 --> 00:02:19,520

pba is nominal we have timing of the

49

00:02:29,670 --> 00:02:28,710

back shell set current velocity is 83

50

00:02:32,630 --> 00:02:29,680

meters per second

51  
00:02:33,430 --> 00:02:32,640  
at about 2.6 kilometers from the surface

52  
00:02:34,869 --> 00:02:33,440  
mars

53  
00:02:36,470 --> 00:02:34,879  
we have confirmation that the back shell

54  
00:02:38,070 --> 00:02:36,480  
has separated

55  
00:02:40,550 --> 00:02:38,080  
we are currently performing the divert

56  
00:02:41,430 --> 00:02:40,560  
maneuver current velocity is about 75

57  
00:02:44,150 --> 00:02:41,440  
meters per second

58  
00:02:45,990 --> 00:02:44,160  
at an altitude of about a kilometer off

59  
00:02:50,229 --> 00:02:46,000  
the surface of mars

60  
00:02:52,470 --> 00:02:50,239  
here in safety bravo we have completed

61  
00:02:54,949 --> 00:02:52,480  
our terrain relative navigation

62  
00:02:57,350 --> 00:02:54,959  
current speed is about 30 meters per

63  
00:03:01,509 --> 00:02:57,360

second altitude of about 300 meters

64

00:03:05,270 --> 00:03:03,830

we have started our constant velocity

65

00:03:07,990 --> 00:03:05,280

accordion which means we are

66

00:03:12,390 --> 00:03:08,000

conducting the sky crane about to

67

00:03:12,400 --> 00:03:16,070

skytrain maneuver has started

68

00:03:16,080 --> 00:03:24,229

about 20 meters off the surface

69

00:03:30,229 --> 00:03:27,270

we're getting signals from mro

70

00:03:31,110 --> 00:03:30,239

tango delta touchdown confirmed

71

00:03:34,149 --> 00:03:31,120

perseverance

72

00:03:39,230 --> 00:03:34,159

faithfully on the surface of mars

73

00:03:39,240 --> 00:03:44,830

[Music]

74

00:03:48,390 --> 00:03:46,470

life hello

75

00:03:50,070 --> 00:03:48,400

and welcome to another edition of the

76

00:03:52,630 --> 00:03:50,080

2021 virtual

77

00:03:54,229 --> 00:03:52,640

von carmen lecture series i am nikki

78

00:03:56,070 --> 00:03:54,239

weirich from jpl's office of

79

00:03:57,910 --> 00:03:56,080

communications and education

80

00:03:59,589 --> 00:03:57,920

and i will be your host for our topic

81

00:04:02,550 --> 00:03:59,599

tonight helicopters

82

00:04:05,350 --> 00:04:02,560

in space many of you took the chance to

83

00:04:07,990 --> 00:04:05,360

join us on february 18th as we watch the

84

00:04:09,030 --> 00:04:08,000

perseverance rover successfully land on

85

00:04:11,429 --> 00:04:09,040

mars

86

00:04:12,789 --> 00:04:11,439

with this landing the helicopter

87

00:04:15,670 --> 00:04:12,799

ingenuity has also

88

00:04:17,189 --> 00:04:15,680

arrived safely on the red planet as a

89

00:04:19,430 --> 00:04:17,199

technology demonstration

90

00:04:20,469 --> 00:04:19,440

the helicopter is set to test the first

91

00:04:22,710 --> 00:04:20,479

powered flight

92

00:04:25,189 --> 00:04:22,720

on another planet it takes both

93

00:04:26,790 --> 00:04:25,199

ingenuity and perseverance to fly a

94

00:04:28,550 --> 00:04:26,800

helicopter on mars

95

00:04:49,140 --> 00:04:28,560

so let's take a moment to see what this

96

00:05:41,350 --> 00:05:05,500

[Music]

97

00:05:44,390 --> 00:05:43,350

wow just incredible footage we have

98

00:05:47,110 --> 00:05:44,400

there

99

00:05:48,230 --> 00:05:47,120

joining us this evening as co-host is

100

00:05:50,790 --> 00:05:48,240

sarah marcotte

101  
00:05:52,870 --> 00:05:50,800  
public engagement specialist for nasa's

102  
00:05:54,469 --> 00:05:52,880  
mars exploration program

103  
00:05:56,790 --> 00:05:54,479  
sarah brings over two decades of

104  
00:05:59,189 --> 00:05:56,800  
experience at out-of-school environments

105  
00:06:01,270 --> 00:05:59,199  
working to connect learners of all ages

106  
00:06:05,270 --> 00:06:01,280  
to current scientific research

107  
00:06:07,350 --> 00:06:05,280  
hi sarah hello nikki

108  
00:06:09,830 --> 00:06:07,360  
so uh my role tonight is i will be

109  
00:06:12,550 --> 00:06:09,840  
taking your questions from social media

110  
00:06:14,870 --> 00:06:12,560  
so keep those questions coming in the

111  
00:06:17,270 --> 00:06:14,880  
chat wherever you're watching tonight

112  
00:06:18,710 --> 00:06:17,280  
and i'm sure you're as excited as i am

113  
00:06:20,790 --> 00:06:18,720

about the helicopter's

114

00:06:22,950 --> 00:06:20,800

first flight so i want to make sure that

115

00:06:25,029 --> 00:06:22,960

you know where you can find out

116

00:06:26,710 --> 00:06:25,039

all the background information so that

117

00:06:29,749 --> 00:06:26,720

you'll be ready when hell

118

00:06:31,590 --> 00:06:29,759

and ingenuity lifts off the ground we

119

00:06:35,029 --> 00:06:31,600

have a website of course

120

00:06:38,550 --> 00:06:35,039

which is [go.nasa.gov](http://go.nasa.gov)

121

00:06:41,110 --> 00:06:38,560

ingenuity now on those pages you'll find

122

00:06:42,469 --> 00:06:41,120

all sorts of interesting things so that

123

00:06:44,710 --> 00:06:42,479

you can learn about this

124

00:06:45,749 --> 00:06:44,720

historic mission there's beautiful

125

00:06:48,550 --> 00:06:45,759

animations

126

00:06:50,469 --> 00:06:48,560

there's images of the helicopter as it

127

00:06:52,870 --> 00:06:50,479

was being built in the clean room at

128

00:06:55,990 --> 00:06:52,880

nasa's jet propulsion laboratory

129

00:06:57,909 --> 00:06:56,000

there's cool quick facts there's

130

00:06:59,350 --> 00:06:57,919

a helicopter model and there's

131

00:07:02,150 --> 00:06:59,360

activities for kids

132

00:07:03,830 --> 00:07:02,160

so that's the best place to go to learn

133

00:07:06,629 --> 00:07:03,840

about the helicopter

134

00:07:06,950 --> 00:07:06,639

and of course when the helicopter sends

135

00:07:09,909 --> 00:07:06,960

back

136

00:07:12,070 --> 00:07:09,919

images that it takes during its flight

137

00:07:14,469 --> 00:07:12,080

those images will be on that webpage

138

00:07:16,150 --> 00:07:14,479

as well so i'm excited to see your

139

00:07:16,550 --> 00:07:16,160

questions i see they're already coming

140

00:07:29,029 --> 00:07:16,560

in

141

00:07:30,790 --> 00:07:29,039

difficulties tonight or small failures

142

00:07:32,309 --> 00:07:30,800

we ask for your patience and please do

143

00:07:33,830 --> 00:07:32,319

stick with us we'll get them sorted out

144

00:07:35,749 --> 00:07:33,840

as soon as we can

145

00:07:37,430 --> 00:07:35,759

remember this is your space program we

146

00:07:37,830 --> 00:07:37,440

want you to get involved as sarah was

147

00:07:39,990 --> 00:07:37,840

saying

148

00:07:41,510 --> 00:07:40,000

please put those questions in the chat

149

00:07:44,309 --> 00:07:41,520

if you're watching on youtube

150

00:07:46,070 --> 00:07:44,319

youtube facebook live linkedin ask

151  
00:07:48,309 --> 00:07:46,080  
questions in the chat box and our social

152  
00:07:49,110 --> 00:07:48,319  
media team will bring up as many as we

153  
00:07:50,629 --> 00:07:49,120  
can

154  
00:07:52,629 --> 00:07:50,639  
and if you don't see the chat box please

155  
00:07:54,710 --> 00:07:52,639  
make sure you refresh your page and it

156  
00:07:56,869 --> 00:07:54,720  
should be right there for you

157  
00:07:57,990 --> 00:07:56,879  
our first speaker tonight started his

158  
00:07:59,909 --> 00:07:58,000  
jpl career

159  
00:08:02,150 --> 00:07:59,919  
writing software for the deep space

160  
00:08:03,749 --> 00:08:02,160  
network he worked on flight software for

161  
00:08:05,830 --> 00:08:03,759  
the curiosity rover

162  
00:08:08,230 --> 00:08:05,840  
and is now the mars helicopter

163  
00:08:12,070 --> 00:08:08,240

operations lead at jpl

164

00:08:15,270 --> 00:08:12,080

please welcome timothy cannon hi tim

165

00:08:17,029 --> 00:08:15,280

hi good evening everyone thanks so much

166

00:08:18,550 --> 00:08:17,039

for being with us tonight tim

167

00:08:20,469 --> 00:08:18,560

can you tell us a little bit about who

168

00:08:23,909 --> 00:08:20,479

you are and how you got to work on this

169

00:08:25,430 --> 00:08:23,919

project and let's bring up image three

170

00:08:27,749 --> 00:08:25,440

well first of all i want to congratulate

171

00:08:29,430 --> 00:08:27,759

perseverance and doing a great job

172

00:08:31,029 --> 00:08:29,440

and bringing the ingenuity helicopter

173

00:08:32,230 --> 00:08:31,039

into a nice soft landing on the surface

174

00:08:34,630 --> 00:08:32,240

of mars

175

00:08:36,389 --> 00:08:34,640

so i worked at jpl for a number of

176

00:08:37,670 --> 00:08:36,399

projects over the years i started in the

177

00:08:40,310 --> 00:08:37,680

deep space network

178

00:08:42,070 --> 00:08:40,320

i worked on the cassini project and most

179

00:08:44,710 --> 00:08:42,080

recently before the helicopter i worked

180

00:08:46,389 --> 00:08:44,720

on the curiosity rover flight software

181

00:08:47,990 --> 00:08:46,399

as a matter of fact much of my software

182

00:08:50,550 --> 00:08:48,000

that i wrote for curiosity is now

183

00:08:53,030 --> 00:08:50,560

running on perseverance as well

184

00:08:54,470 --> 00:08:53,040

so most recently our group had developed

185

00:08:55,990 --> 00:08:54,480

a set of software that we used on a

186

00:08:57,590 --> 00:08:56,000

number of projects internally so i was

187

00:09:00,389 --> 00:08:57,600

asked to be the software lead

188

00:09:02,070 --> 00:09:00,399

for the helicopter and we had a team of

189

00:09:04,070 --> 00:09:02,080

four or five programmers that put the

190

00:09:06,230 --> 00:09:04,080

software together and tested it

191

00:09:07,190 --> 00:09:06,240

and since we operate the helicopter via

192

00:09:09,110 --> 00:09:07,200

the software

193

00:09:11,110 --> 00:09:09,120

i was asked to be the operations lead to

194

00:09:14,949 --> 00:09:11,120

actually operate the helicopter once we

195

00:09:18,389 --> 00:09:16,630

it's an incredible story of how you

196

00:09:19,910 --> 00:09:18,399

ended up where you are today

197

00:09:22,630 --> 00:09:19,920

but let's talk a little bit about the

198

00:09:24,070 --> 00:09:22,640

helicopter how do you build a helicopter

199

00:09:26,389 --> 00:09:24,080

that's going to be able to fly

200

00:09:28,790 --> 00:09:26,399

on mars and if we could see image 4

201  
00:09:30,389 --> 00:09:28,800  
please

202  
00:09:31,670 --> 00:09:30,399  
well when you design a helicopter for

203  
00:09:33,430 --> 00:09:31,680  
mars you have to keep in mind the

204  
00:09:35,269 --> 00:09:33,440  
environments you're going to fly in

205  
00:09:37,590 --> 00:09:35,279  
mars has a very thin atmosphere so we

206  
00:09:39,030 --> 00:09:37,600  
need to design it to be very lightweight

207  
00:09:40,870 --> 00:09:39,040  
the blades are very lightweight they

208  
00:09:43,110 --> 00:09:40,880  
spin very quickly

209  
00:09:45,110 --> 00:09:43,120  
and also because we are so far from

210  
00:09:46,949 --> 00:09:45,120  
earth you can't have a joystick and just

211  
00:09:48,710 --> 00:09:46,959  
fly it like you would a drone at home

212  
00:09:49,990 --> 00:09:48,720  
we had to write the software so it could

213  
00:09:52,389 --> 00:09:50,000

fly itself we

214

00:09:54,230 --> 00:09:52,399

basically get a set of instructions and

215

00:09:55,829 --> 00:09:54,240

the helicopter takes off and flies to

216

00:09:57,670 --> 00:09:55,839

the places we tell it to

217

00:09:59,190 --> 00:09:57,680

and we had an extensive test program

218

00:10:00,870 --> 00:09:59,200

here on earth where we

219

00:10:02,710 --> 00:10:00,880

did many flights in a special chamber

220

00:10:04,310 --> 00:10:02,720

jpl to prove that our software would

221

00:10:06,630 --> 00:10:04,320

work when we got to mars

222

00:10:08,069 --> 00:10:06,640

so we're very excited to be finally here

223

00:10:09,750 --> 00:10:08,079

and actually able to

224

00:10:13,750 --> 00:10:09,760

execute these flights on the surface of

225

00:10:17,269 --> 00:10:15,910

it's incredible and i can't wait for the

226

00:10:18,870 --> 00:10:17,279

chance to see all of that

227

00:10:20,550 --> 00:10:18,880

um we're actually gonna bring the

228

00:10:23,350 --> 00:10:20,560

audience in right now and let them

229

00:10:24,790 --> 00:10:23,360

ask the next question for tim so sarah

230

00:10:29,030 --> 00:10:24,800

i'm sure they're excited out there

231

00:10:35,269 --> 00:10:32,470

so elitia on linkedin is asking

232

00:10:35,990 --> 00:10:35,279

what are or what is one of the greatest

233

00:10:40,310 --> 00:10:36,000

challenges

234

00:10:44,550 --> 00:10:42,550

well as i mentioned before the

235

00:10:46,230 --> 00:10:44,560

atmosphere is super thin

236

00:10:47,590 --> 00:10:46,240

and so you can't design a helicopter

237

00:10:50,230 --> 00:10:47,600

like you do on earth

238

00:10:51,110 --> 00:10:50,240

and so we had to do very new kinds of

239

00:10:52,949 --> 00:10:51,120

algorithms

240

00:10:55,430 --> 00:10:52,959

in the software we had to design

241

00:10:57,110 --> 00:10:55,440

hardware especially for flying on mars

242

00:10:59,030 --> 00:10:57,120

and so all of that was challenged we did

243

00:11:00,470 --> 00:10:59,040

things that have never been done before

244

00:11:02,069 --> 00:11:00,480

it's shorter right brother moment in

245

00:11:03,030 --> 00:11:02,079

that we get to go to a planet somewhere

246

00:11:04,710 --> 00:11:03,040

outside of earth

247

00:11:06,710 --> 00:11:04,720

and try a helicopter there that's never

248

00:11:07,829 --> 00:11:06,720

been tried before so we had to do

249

00:11:14,949 --> 00:11:07,839

special

250

00:11:16,550 --> 00:11:14,959

it happen

251  
00:11:18,230 --> 00:11:16,560  
sarah let's do one more question from

252  
00:11:20,470 --> 00:11:18,240  
the audience for tim

253  
00:11:21,910 --> 00:11:20,480  
sure thing i like this one uh this is

254  
00:11:23,750 --> 00:11:21,920  
from margie on facebook

255  
00:11:25,509 --> 00:11:23,760  
and she's asking for her nine-year-old

256  
00:11:28,710 --> 00:11:25,519  
son jonah so we've got

257  
00:11:30,790 --> 00:11:28,720  
a young space fan out here so he says

258  
00:11:33,030 --> 00:11:30,800  
how will ingenuity fly in the different

259  
00:11:35,910 --> 00:11:33,040  
gravity

260  
00:11:36,630 --> 00:11:35,920  
well that's a great question and we

261  
00:11:39,350 --> 00:11:36,640  
designed it

262  
00:11:41,190 --> 00:11:39,360  
to be lightweight because mars has about

263  
00:11:43,269 --> 00:11:41,200

one-third the gravity of earth

264

00:11:45,030 --> 00:11:43,279

and so we had to design that in when we

265

00:11:45,829 --> 00:11:45,040

did it it's actually too heavy to fly on

266

00:11:48,069 --> 00:11:45,839

earth

267

00:11:49,910 --> 00:11:48,079

and so we had a special mechanism when

268

00:11:52,230 --> 00:11:49,920

we tested it here on earth that would

269

00:11:54,310 --> 00:11:52,240

pull up on the top of the helicopter and

270

00:11:55,910 --> 00:11:54,320

simulate mars gravity so we could fly in

271

00:11:56,629 --> 00:11:55,920

a chamber that was pumped down to mars

272

00:11:58,150 --> 00:11:56,639

pressure

273

00:12:00,069 --> 00:11:58,160

and have a special mechanism that

274

00:12:02,230 --> 00:12:00,079

allowed us to simulate the gravity of

275

00:12:03,990 --> 00:12:02,240

mars and let it fly around the chamber

276

00:12:08,710 --> 00:12:04,000

so yes we had to keep in mind the

277

00:12:11,670 --> 00:12:10,069

it sounds like a lot of testing went

278

00:12:13,430 --> 00:12:11,680

into this project and thank you sarah

279

00:12:15,590 --> 00:12:13,440

for that great set of questions

280

00:12:16,710 --> 00:12:15,600

now as tim you alluded to earlier the

281

00:12:19,430 --> 00:12:16,720

helicopter of course

282

00:12:19,829 --> 00:12:19,440

had to get to mars somehow so joining us

283

00:12:22,629 --> 00:12:19,839

now

284

00:12:23,269 --> 00:12:22,639

is perseverance mars 2020 systems

285

00:12:26,550 --> 00:12:23,279

engineer

286

00:12:30,150 --> 00:12:26,560

dr farah alibay hi farah

287

00:12:31,110 --> 00:12:30,160

hi so this next question is actually for

288

00:12:33,190 --> 00:12:31,120

both of you

289

00:12:34,470 --> 00:12:33,200

what are the challenges of working on a

290

00:12:37,110 --> 00:12:34,480

mission like this

291

00:12:38,150 --> 00:12:37,120

separate but united let's pull up image

292

00:12:41,430 --> 00:12:38,160

number five and tim

293

00:12:44,470 --> 00:12:43,590

well as a research project that's how we

294

00:12:45,990 --> 00:12:44,480

started

295

00:12:47,990 --> 00:12:46,000

and so when we were doing all of our

296

00:12:48,870 --> 00:12:48,000

development and testing it was a very

297

00:12:51,670 --> 00:12:48,880

much a very

298

00:12:53,269 --> 00:12:51,680

fast rapid uh high high-paced

299

00:12:55,430 --> 00:12:53,279

environment where we would make changes

300

00:12:56,949 --> 00:12:55,440

we'd fix something we'd try it again

301  
00:12:59,350 --> 00:12:56,959  
and when you go to a project like the

302  
00:13:01,030 --> 00:12:59,360  
rover the perseverance rover everything

303  
00:13:04,150 --> 00:13:01,040  
is very structured

304  
00:13:06,710 --> 00:13:04,160  
and very regimented

305  
00:13:07,190 --> 00:13:06,720  
with lots of processes you have to do

306  
00:13:09,030 --> 00:13:07,200  
and

307  
00:13:10,790 --> 00:13:09,040  
farah has been a great harbor pilot i

308  
00:13:12,310 --> 00:13:10,800  
call her our harbor pilot she guided us

309  
00:13:14,949 --> 00:13:12,320  
through all the icebergs of

310  
00:13:16,069 --> 00:13:14,959  
big project land to to get us on the

311  
00:13:17,829 --> 00:13:16,079  
rover and to

312  
00:13:19,590 --> 00:13:17,839  
help us figure out how to run all these

313  
00:13:19,990 --> 00:13:19,600

things together and it has been a

314

00:13:22,230 --> 00:13:20,000

challenge

315

00:13:24,230 --> 00:13:22,240

because we've all been remote with covid

316

00:13:25,670 --> 00:13:24,240

and working together with farah and

317

00:13:31,509 --> 00:13:25,680

the rest of the team has been a real

318

00:13:35,750 --> 00:13:32,870

i'm sure it's been a great learning

319

00:13:37,350 --> 00:13:35,760

experience too far how about for you

320

00:13:39,030 --> 00:13:37,360

yeah i mean as tim mentioned one of the

321

00:13:39,829 --> 00:13:39,040

craziest thing is tim and i have

322

00:13:42,949 --> 00:13:39,839

actually never

323

00:13:44,470 --> 00:13:42,959

met in person so i i joined the team you

324

00:13:45,590 --> 00:13:44,480

know i've been on the perseverance team

325

00:13:47,269 --> 00:13:45,600

for a long time

326

00:13:49,110 --> 00:13:47,279

but i actually only started working on

327

00:13:50,870 --> 00:13:49,120

the helicopter right around launch when

328

00:13:52,629 --> 00:13:50,880

we really started thinking

329

00:13:54,550 --> 00:13:52,639

well this thing's on its way to mars we

330

00:13:56,470 --> 00:13:54,560

better figure out how to operate it

331

00:13:58,550 --> 00:13:56,480

and so i was brought along and and you

332

00:14:00,230 --> 00:13:58,560

know we were deep in covet and i've been

333

00:14:01,670 --> 00:14:00,240

interacting with the team remotely and

334

00:14:03,590 --> 00:14:01,680

it's it's crazy because i feel like

335

00:14:05,269 --> 00:14:03,600

we've become close friends even though

336

00:14:07,030 --> 00:14:05,279

you know we've never actually physically

337

00:14:09,509 --> 00:14:07,040

met um but

338

00:14:10,069 --> 00:14:09,519

one of the challenges with helicopter is

339

00:14:11,670 --> 00:14:10,079

unlike

340

00:14:13,350 --> 00:14:11,680

other instruments for example on the

341

00:14:15,590 --> 00:14:13,360

rover typically we're used to bringing

342

00:14:17,829 --> 00:14:15,600

the instruments with us wherever we go

343

00:14:19,990 --> 00:14:17,839

whereas with ingenuity you know for the

344

00:14:21,829 --> 00:14:20,000

past few souls now on mars

345

00:14:24,069 --> 00:14:21,839

we've been looking for a place to drop

346

00:14:26,069 --> 00:14:24,079

it off right we we are looking for a

347

00:14:27,350 --> 00:14:26,079

flat environment where we can leave the

348

00:14:29,269 --> 00:14:27,360

helicopter and then

349

00:14:30,550 --> 00:14:29,279

an area for us to watch it from and take

350

00:14:32,150 --> 00:14:30,560

those videos

351  
00:14:34,550 --> 00:14:32,160  
because you know if you don't have a

352  
00:14:35,990 --> 00:14:34,560  
picture it didn't happen um and so

353  
00:14:37,990 --> 00:14:36,000  
so it's a little bit unique in that

354  
00:14:39,590 --> 00:14:38,000  
sense that you know we it's a different

355  
00:14:40,629 --> 00:14:39,600  
mission we're bringing it along with us

356  
00:14:43,910 --> 00:14:40,639  
it has its own

357  
00:14:45,350 --> 00:14:43,920  
needs um and we have to help it figure

358  
00:14:46,230 --> 00:14:45,360  
out you know we have to help it achieve

359  
00:14:47,829 --> 00:14:46,240  
its goals and

360  
00:14:49,910 --> 00:14:47,839  
and that's really what perseverance is

361  
00:14:50,710 --> 00:14:49,920  
there for in for this particular tech

362  
00:14:52,629 --> 00:14:50,720  
demo is

363  
00:14:53,990 --> 00:14:52,639

we are there to set the stage for the

364

00:14:56,949 --> 00:14:54,000

first flight on mars

365

00:15:00,150 --> 00:14:56,959

um and help our our friend uh achieve

366

00:15:04,550 --> 00:15:02,150

i mean what a great example of teamwork

367

00:15:06,150 --> 00:15:04,560

especially during the times of kovid

368

00:15:07,829 --> 00:15:06,160

tim we're going to come back to you in a

369

00:15:09,110 --> 00:15:07,839

little bit for some more questions but

370

00:15:10,150 --> 00:15:09,120

right now we're going to keep chatting

371

00:15:12,389 --> 00:15:10,160

with farah

372

00:15:13,990 --> 00:15:12,399

who has been a systems engineer at jpl

373

00:15:15,910 --> 00:15:14,000

for the past seven years

374

00:15:18,230 --> 00:15:15,920

working on several missions including

375

00:15:19,350 --> 00:15:18,240

the insight mars lander and marco

376

00:15:20,870 --> 00:15:19,360

cubesats

377

00:15:22,790 --> 00:15:20,880

today one of her roles on the

378

00:15:24,310 --> 00:15:22,800

perseverance mission is to lead the

379

00:15:26,310 --> 00:15:24,320

operations interface

380

00:15:27,990 --> 00:15:26,320

with the mars helicopter technology

381

00:15:29,749 --> 00:15:28,000

demonstration

382

00:15:31,910 --> 00:15:29,759

so far you've had a pretty exciting

383

00:15:33,910 --> 00:15:31,920

month you're living on mars time right

384

00:15:36,629 --> 00:15:33,920

now can you explain what is mars time

385

00:15:39,590 --> 00:15:36,639

and why are you on it

386

00:15:41,350 --> 00:15:39,600

yeah so it's currently about 8 45 a.m

387

00:15:44,790 --> 00:15:41,360

for perseverance right now

388

00:15:46,790 --> 00:15:44,800

um which well so it's not 8 45 a.m for

389

00:15:48,470 --> 00:15:46,800

me but what i do right now and what the

390

00:15:49,269 --> 00:15:48,480

rest of the perseverance team is doing

391

00:15:51,509 --> 00:15:49,279

is that

392

00:15:53,430 --> 00:15:51,519

we are working during the martian night

393

00:15:56,389 --> 00:15:53,440

and that's what we call mars time

394

00:15:57,990 --> 00:15:56,399

so our rover is too far away from earth

395

00:15:59,829 --> 00:15:58,000

and so we can't just command it you know

396

00:16:01,749 --> 00:15:59,839

it's not like we sit behind our desks

397

00:16:02,790 --> 00:16:01,759

with joysticks driving them over i wish

398

00:16:05,030 --> 00:16:02,800

it was that way

399

00:16:06,870 --> 00:16:05,040

mars is way too far so when we send

400

00:16:09,030 --> 00:16:06,880

signals to mars you know they're radio

401  
00:16:10,949 --> 00:16:09,040  
signals they go at the speed of light

402  
00:16:13,030 --> 00:16:10,959  
but it's so far away that it takes about

403  
00:16:13,749 --> 00:16:13,040  
13 minutes right now for a signal to get

404  
00:16:16,150 --> 00:16:13,759  
from earth

405  
00:16:17,269 --> 00:16:16,160  
to mars and then another 13 minutes for

406  
00:16:19,110 --> 00:16:17,279  
it to get back

407  
00:16:20,870 --> 00:16:19,120  
so it'd be really long and boring day if

408  
00:16:22,629 --> 00:16:20,880  
we were sending a command and waiting

409  
00:16:26,150 --> 00:16:22,639  
each time for an answer

410  
00:16:28,710 --> 00:16:26,160  
so what we do instead is that each night

411  
00:16:29,509 --> 00:16:28,720  
the rover sends us information it sends

412  
00:16:31,670 --> 00:16:29,519  
us images

413  
00:16:32,550 --> 00:16:31,680

it sends us data it tells us what it did

414

00:16:34,870 --> 00:16:32,560

that day

415

00:16:36,790 --> 00:16:34,880

we as a team analyze it so we go into

416

00:16:39,590 --> 00:16:36,800

work at about 6 p.m

417

00:16:40,870 --> 00:16:39,600

perseverance time every night and then

418

00:16:42,710 --> 00:16:40,880

we analyze the data

419

00:16:44,470 --> 00:16:42,720

we prepare a plan for the next day as a

420

00:16:45,509 --> 00:16:44,480

team and then we send it back up to the

421

00:16:47,509 --> 00:16:45,519

rover

422

00:16:49,509 --> 00:16:47,519

and we send it up before it wakes up in

423

00:16:51,829 --> 00:16:49,519

the morning at about 8 a.m

424

00:16:53,990 --> 00:16:51,839

so we work the martian night shift right

425

00:16:55,269 --> 00:16:54,000

which okay that seems fine you just

426

00:16:57,829 --> 00:16:55,279

shift your schedule

427

00:16:59,910 --> 00:16:57,839

well it's not that easy because a

428

00:17:03,269 --> 00:16:59,920

martian day which is we call it a

429

00:17:03,990 --> 00:17:03,279

saw is actually about 24 hours and 40

430

00:17:06,549 --> 00:17:04,000

minutes

431

00:17:07,429 --> 00:17:06,559

so it's just a little longer than earth

432

00:17:10,230 --> 00:17:07,439

so even though

433

00:17:12,309 --> 00:17:10,240

i start my day at the same time on mars

434

00:17:14,870 --> 00:17:12,319

every day at about 6 pm every day

435

00:17:16,630 --> 00:17:14,880

my start time on earth shifts by 40

436

00:17:17,590 --> 00:17:16,640

minutes every day so this morning for

437

00:17:20,150 --> 00:17:17,600

example

438

00:17:20,630 --> 00:17:20,160

my wake up time was about you know 4 30

439

00:17:23,270 --> 00:17:20,640

a.m

440

00:17:24,230 --> 00:17:23,280

tomorrow it'll be more like five to 5 10

441

00:17:25,990 --> 00:17:24,240

and so on

442

00:17:27,350 --> 00:17:26,000

so we're coming up this week and next

443

00:17:27,990 --> 00:17:27,360

week that's why i was able to join you

444

00:17:29,990 --> 00:17:28,000

today

445

00:17:31,590 --> 00:17:30,000

in in days where the martian night is

446

00:17:33,669 --> 00:17:31,600

lining up with the earth day

447

00:17:34,950 --> 00:17:33,679

but i just came out of doing the night

448

00:17:36,310 --> 00:17:34,960

shift of of

449

00:17:38,710 --> 00:17:36,320

having to wake up in the middle of the

450

00:17:40,549 --> 00:17:38,720

night so it's just a shifting schedule

451  
00:17:41,830 --> 00:17:40,559  
and we're doing that for the first 90

452  
00:17:43,590 --> 00:17:41,840  
days of the mission

453  
00:17:45,270 --> 00:17:43,600  
because those are critical times we need

454  
00:17:47,029 --> 00:17:45,280  
to be working every single day on the

455  
00:17:47,430 --> 00:17:47,039  
rover to get everything checked out to

456  
00:17:49,669 --> 00:17:47,440  
get

457  
00:17:51,190 --> 00:17:49,679  
the ingenuity mission done all of those

458  
00:17:53,990 --> 00:17:51,200  
key activities that everyone's so

459  
00:17:57,430 --> 00:17:55,270  
i mean that's definitely a lot of

460  
00:17:58,870 --> 00:17:57,440  
dedication that y'all's team are putting

461  
00:18:01,430 --> 00:17:58,880  
into this

462  
00:18:03,270 --> 00:18:01,440  
as we saw before the rover has safely

463  
00:18:05,110 --> 00:18:03,280

made it to mars and that video is just

464

00:18:06,230 --> 00:18:05,120

incredible watching it land i never get

465

00:18:08,630 --> 00:18:06,240

tired of it

466

00:18:10,390 --> 00:18:08,640

can you explain your role in relation to

467

00:18:12,870 --> 00:18:10,400

the helicopter mission and let's pull up

468

00:18:15,270 --> 00:18:12,880

image six

469

00:18:16,549 --> 00:18:15,280

yeah so as tim mentioned my job

470

00:18:19,430 --> 00:18:16,559

basically is to

471

00:18:19,750 --> 00:18:19,440

it is to help accommodate the helicopter

472

00:18:21,430 --> 00:18:19,760

uh

473

00:18:23,190 --> 00:18:21,440

tech demo so and there's really two

474

00:18:24,310 --> 00:18:23,200

parts to this right now you can see in

475

00:18:26,230 --> 00:18:24,320

the picture actually

476

00:18:27,830 --> 00:18:26,240

the helicopter is tucked in under the

477

00:18:29,029 --> 00:18:27,840

belly of the rover it's actually

478

00:18:31,190 --> 00:18:29,039

horizontal

479

00:18:33,270 --> 00:18:31,200

below the rover it's connected right it

480

00:18:34,470 --> 00:18:33,280

gets it gets heat it gets we can

481

00:18:36,310 --> 00:18:34,480

communicate with it

482

00:18:38,630 --> 00:18:36,320

and we have to deploy it on the surface

483

00:18:41,190 --> 00:18:38,640

of mars so in the upcoming weeks here

484

00:18:42,789 --> 00:18:41,200

once we find a site that's suitable we

485

00:18:44,630 --> 00:18:42,799

are going to go through a deployment

486

00:18:46,870 --> 00:18:44,640

process where we go from

487

00:18:48,710 --> 00:18:46,880

the helicopter being horizontal to going

488

00:18:51,430 --> 00:18:48,720

all the way vertical

489

00:18:52,950 --> 00:18:51,440

and then there's the last the last day

490

00:18:54,950 --> 00:18:52,960

of our deployment

491

00:18:57,270 --> 00:18:54,960

is when we separate the helicopter from

492

00:18:57,669 --> 00:18:57,280

the rover and what's special about that

493

00:18:59,750 --> 00:18:57,679

day

494

00:19:01,669 --> 00:18:59,760

is that from the moment that we separate

495

00:19:03,909 --> 00:19:01,679

from the helicopter from the rover

496

00:19:06,150 --> 00:19:03,919

we have to drive off of it and expose

497

00:19:09,270 --> 00:19:06,160

the solar panels from the helicopter

498

00:19:11,430 --> 00:19:09,280

within 24 hours of that drop because

499

00:19:12,470 --> 00:19:11,440

if we don't drive off on time if we have

500

00:19:13,510 --> 00:19:12,480

any problem

501  
00:19:15,830 --> 00:19:13,520  
then there's a chance that the

502  
00:19:17,110 --> 00:19:15,840  
helicopter might not survive the martian

503  
00:19:18,789 --> 00:19:17,120  
night which is so cold

504  
00:19:21,270 --> 00:19:18,799  
because it needs that energy from the

505  
00:19:21,990 --> 00:19:21,280  
solar panels so my job has to be been to

506  
00:19:25,909 --> 00:19:22,000  
coordinate

507  
00:19:28,230 --> 00:19:25,919  
rover side activities

508  
00:19:29,990 --> 00:19:28,240  
to get that deployment done to drive off

509  
00:19:31,110 --> 00:19:30,000  
to do all of the imaging during the

510  
00:19:33,430 --> 00:19:31,120  
flights

511  
00:19:35,350 --> 00:19:33,440  
and to coordinate for example

512  
00:19:37,510 --> 00:19:35,360  
communicating with the helicopter

513  
00:19:39,909 --> 00:19:37,520

the helicopter can't talk directly back

514

00:19:42,870 --> 00:19:39,919

to earth it has to send its signals

515

00:19:43,430 --> 00:19:42,880

through the rover and then to earth so

516

00:19:45,029 --> 00:19:43,440

there's a

517

00:19:46,870 --> 00:19:45,039

basically i call it sort of a dance

518

00:19:48,789 --> 00:19:46,880

there's a very careful dance that has to

519

00:19:51,110 --> 00:19:48,799

happen between the two projects

520

00:19:52,549 --> 00:19:51,120

and i'm i'm sort of the choreographer

521

00:19:54,150 --> 00:19:52,559

for those dances

522

00:19:55,669 --> 00:19:54,160

to make sure that everything happens

523

00:19:56,710 --> 00:19:55,679

everyone is right there when they need

524

00:20:01,110 --> 00:19:56,720

to be

525

00:20:04,390 --> 00:20:03,510

that seems really complicated and both

526

00:20:06,310 --> 00:20:04,400

you him tim

527

00:20:08,149 --> 00:20:06,320

have talked about how this isn't like

528

00:20:09,270 --> 00:20:08,159

using a joystick to command these

529

00:20:11,270 --> 00:20:09,280

spacecraft

530

00:20:13,430 --> 00:20:11,280

so how do you prepare for something like

531

00:20:15,990 --> 00:20:13,440

that and let's pull up video seven while

532

00:20:18,870 --> 00:20:16,000

you talk us through this

533

00:20:20,630 --> 00:20:18,880

so we test test test and test some more

534

00:20:22,950 --> 00:20:20,640

i can't tell you how much time i've

535

00:20:24,070 --> 00:20:22,960

spent in the mars yard at jpl in the

536

00:20:25,750 --> 00:20:24,080

past few months so

537

00:20:27,669 --> 00:20:25,760

so the mars yard is basically a big

538

00:20:28,950 --> 00:20:27,679

sandbox it looks like mars you're seeing

539

00:20:31,350 --> 00:20:28,960

it in the video there

540

00:20:34,549 --> 00:20:31,360

and we have a replica of both ingenuity

541

00:20:36,070 --> 00:20:34,559

and perseverance perseverance the

542

00:20:37,909 --> 00:20:36,080

replica for perseverance is called

543

00:20:40,630 --> 00:20:37,919

optimism and

544

00:20:41,350 --> 00:20:40,640

we use those earth you know those earth

545

00:20:44,710 --> 00:20:41,360

robots

546

00:20:47,990 --> 00:20:44,720

to test before we get to mars and

547

00:20:50,549 --> 00:20:48,000

we test everything all of the activities

548

00:20:52,789 --> 00:20:50,559

all of the sequences the timing to make

549

00:20:54,470 --> 00:20:52,799

sure that once we do it on mars

550

00:20:55,830 --> 00:20:54,480

it's not the first time it you know it

551  
00:20:57,350 --> 00:20:55,840  
should be boring by the time we do it on

552  
00:20:59,110 --> 00:20:57,360  
mars because we've done it so many times

553  
00:21:00,070 --> 00:20:59,120  
so the video that you're seeing here for

554  
00:21:01,909 --> 00:21:00,080  
example

555  
00:21:03,669 --> 00:21:01,919  
is what we hope the deployment day will

556  
00:21:04,630 --> 00:21:03,679  
look like on mars so we tested our

557  
00:21:07,590 --> 00:21:04,640  
deployment

558  
00:21:09,029 --> 00:21:07,600  
uh and we tested driving off of it and

559  
00:21:10,549 --> 00:21:09,039  
the other thing that we do is that we

560  
00:21:13,669 --> 00:21:10,559  
also test our people

561  
00:21:15,270 --> 00:21:13,679  
um so back in in late january we had a

562  
00:21:16,789 --> 00:21:15,280  
dress rehearsal

563  
00:21:19,669 --> 00:21:16,799

for the day that we're going to drop the

564

00:21:21,590 --> 00:21:19,679

helicopter so we had all of our team

565

00:21:22,789 --> 00:21:21,600

you know in the control room and i was

566

00:21:25,190 --> 00:21:22,799

sending them data

567

00:21:26,789 --> 00:21:25,200

and and you know spoofing anomalies and

568

00:21:27,430 --> 00:21:26,799

things like that and people had to react

569

00:21:29,669 --> 00:21:27,440

to them and

570

00:21:30,789 --> 00:21:29,679

and do that go no goes and decide okay

571

00:21:32,950 --> 00:21:30,799

are we gonna drive off

572

00:21:34,710 --> 00:21:32,960

is the helicopter separated what's the

573

00:21:36,549 --> 00:21:34,720

health of the helicopter so

574

00:21:38,789 --> 00:21:36,559

um so that's really helped us build

575

00:21:41,190 --> 00:21:38,799

confidence in our ability to do this

576  
00:21:42,789 --> 00:21:41,200  
and you know i think we're as ready as

577  
00:21:43,750 --> 00:21:42,799  
we can be and we're really excited to

578  
00:21:45,350 --> 00:21:43,760  
get to do it

579  
00:21:47,029 --> 00:21:45,360  
for real on mars it's a little bit like

580  
00:21:48,470 --> 00:21:47,039  
you know when you've rehearsed for a

581  
00:21:49,750 --> 00:21:48,480  
show for a long time and then you're

582  
00:21:53,750 --> 00:21:49,760  
ready for prime time

583  
00:21:58,230 --> 00:21:56,470  
i love what you said about this being a

584  
00:22:00,149 --> 00:21:58,240  
boring moment because you've tested it

585  
00:22:01,350 --> 00:22:00,159  
so many times that you want to make sure

586  
00:22:02,470 --> 00:22:01,360  
that it's going to work and if it goes

587  
00:22:03,990 --> 00:22:02,480  
according to plan

588  
00:22:05,510 --> 00:22:04,000

i guarantee it will not be a boring

589

00:22:08,149 --> 00:22:05,520

moment for any of us

590

00:22:09,510 --> 00:22:08,159

that's a great way to think about it

591

00:22:11,510 --> 00:22:09,520

we're actually going to get the audience

592

00:22:12,070 --> 00:22:11,520

involved again to ask our next question

593

00:22:13,750 --> 00:22:12,080

so

594

00:22:16,470 --> 00:22:13,760

sarah what are they asking out there for

595

00:22:20,390 --> 00:22:18,549

well i'm struggling because there are so

596

00:22:23,669 --> 00:22:20,400

many great questions coming in so

597

00:22:25,190 --> 00:22:23,679

i'm having a hard time deciding um but

598

00:22:27,350 --> 00:22:25,200

there were there are a couple themes

599

00:22:27,909 --> 00:22:27,360

emerging here and so i thought these

600

00:22:31,430 --> 00:22:27,919

were really

601  
00:22:33,590 --> 00:22:31,440  
interesting so um for pharah so

602  
00:22:35,190 --> 00:22:33,600  
kurt on linkedin is asking and it's also

603  
00:22:36,470 --> 00:22:35,200  
kind of related to what alicia on

604  
00:22:39,669 --> 00:22:36,480  
youtube is asking

605  
00:22:42,149 --> 00:22:39,679  
having to do with the um dust storms

606  
00:22:44,149 --> 00:22:42,159  
so how will ingenuity react to adverse

607  
00:22:45,190 --> 00:22:44,159  
environmental conditions such as dust

608  
00:22:47,350 --> 00:22:45,200  
storms

609  
00:22:49,350 --> 00:22:47,360  
um you know will they work and will the

610  
00:22:52,310 --> 00:22:49,360  
helicopter work in stormy weather

611  
00:22:53,430 --> 00:22:52,320  
what do you think so we're not even

612  
00:22:55,510 --> 00:22:53,440  
going to try and fly

613  
00:22:57,029 --> 00:22:55,520

in stormy weathers one of the advantage

614

00:22:58,470 --> 00:22:57,039

of having perseverance

615

00:23:01,110 --> 00:22:58,480

is that we actually have a weather

616

00:23:03,029 --> 00:23:01,120

station on board the rover

617

00:23:05,669 --> 00:23:03,039

so we have wind sensors we have

618

00:23:07,830 --> 00:23:05,679

temperature and we've actually been

619

00:23:09,110 --> 00:23:07,840

very closely watching the temperature

620

00:23:10,470 --> 00:23:09,120

and and the winds

621

00:23:12,390 --> 00:23:10,480

since we landed we actually had a

622

00:23:14,549 --> 00:23:12,400

meeting today where we looked at the

623

00:23:16,149 --> 00:23:14,559

you know at the at the results that we

624

00:23:18,789 --> 00:23:16,159

have so far to try and see

625

00:23:19,750 --> 00:23:18,799

okay you know not just is there anything

626  
00:23:21,990 --> 00:23:19,760  
going on

627  
00:23:23,909 --> 00:23:22,000  
on mars right now but even what time of

628  
00:23:25,909 --> 00:23:23,919  
day do we think it's better to fly

629  
00:23:27,270 --> 00:23:25,919  
um the winds on mars as it turns out are

630  
00:23:29,750 --> 00:23:27,280  
really predictable

631  
00:23:31,430 --> 00:23:29,760  
um so on from a day-to-day basis there's

632  
00:23:32,230 --> 00:23:31,440  
times of data that are more windy than

633  
00:23:34,390 --> 00:23:32,240  
others

634  
00:23:35,350 --> 00:23:34,400  
um so we're trying to evaluate right now

635  
00:23:37,110 --> 00:23:35,360  
okay

636  
00:23:38,870 --> 00:23:37,120  
what the what are the patterns starting

637  
00:23:39,909 --> 00:23:38,880  
to look like and when do we think that

638  
00:23:42,630 --> 00:23:39,919

we want to fly

639

00:23:42,950 --> 00:23:42,640

to avoid sort of the gustier times of

640

00:23:45,830 --> 00:23:42,960

day

641

00:23:46,149 --> 00:23:45,840

so um so yeah we we came prepared we're

642

00:23:48,630 --> 00:23:46,159

all

643

00:23:50,230 --> 00:23:48,640

with our own weather station in order to

644

00:23:55,110 --> 00:23:50,240

to figure that out and uh

645

00:23:58,789 --> 00:23:57,350

it's always good to be very prepared um

646

00:24:00,549 --> 00:23:58,799

i think we've got time for another

647

00:24:01,909 --> 00:24:00,559

question before we move on so sarah is

648

00:24:04,310 --> 00:24:01,919

there another one out there for pharah

649

00:24:07,510 --> 00:24:04,320

that we could ask sure

650

00:24:09,750 --> 00:24:07,520

sure so alithea on linkedin is wondering

651  
00:24:12,390 --> 00:24:09,760  
how do you balance a lightweight

652  
00:24:15,190 --> 00:24:12,400  
helicopter with a helicopter that can

653  
00:24:16,870 --> 00:24:15,200  
endure an impact i guess maybe when it

654  
00:24:18,789 --> 00:24:16,880  
comes back after a flight

655  
00:24:20,070 --> 00:24:18,799  
so how do you balance those two things

656  
00:24:21,590 --> 00:24:20,080  
got to be light but it's got to be

657  
00:24:22,950 --> 00:24:21,600  
strong

658  
00:24:25,430 --> 00:24:22,960  
yeah i mean that's all part of the

659  
00:24:27,510 --> 00:24:25,440  
challenges of designing things for mars

660  
00:24:30,230 --> 00:24:27,520  
is they have to be robust for the

661  
00:24:32,230 --> 00:24:30,240  
environment and they also have to be

662  
00:24:33,430 --> 00:24:32,240  
and they also have to meet constraints

663  
00:24:35,909 --> 00:24:33,440

like light like

664

00:24:37,110 --> 00:24:35,919

light in this case so um so i'm sure

665

00:24:39,350 --> 00:24:37,120

that tim could actually

666

00:24:42,070 --> 00:24:39,360

provide a lot more detail into exactly

667

00:24:44,230 --> 00:24:42,080

how um how the helicopter was designed

668

00:24:45,350 --> 00:24:44,240

uh but i can tell you that with anything

669

00:24:47,590 --> 00:24:45,360

in engineering

670

00:24:50,070 --> 00:24:47,600

there's a lot of cycles of iteration

671

00:24:51,909 --> 00:24:50,080

right we probably we start with a design

672

00:24:53,510 --> 00:24:51,919

and then we test it out we try it again

673

00:24:55,510 --> 00:24:53,520

until it meets those requirements that's

674

00:24:57,830 --> 00:24:55,520

true for the helicopter that's true for

675

00:24:59,990 --> 00:24:57,840

the rover wheels for example right we we

676  
00:25:03,110 --> 00:25:00,000  
redesigned the wheels on this mission

677  
00:25:04,710 --> 00:25:03,120  
and we tested you know dozens of

678  
00:25:06,470 --> 00:25:04,720  
different types of wheels

679  
00:25:08,149 --> 00:25:06,480  
in order to get there and i'm sure it

680  
00:25:08,470 --> 00:25:08,159  
was the same story for the helicopter

681  
00:25:10,310 --> 00:25:08,480  
but

682  
00:25:14,710 --> 00:25:10,320  
maybe tim can can add a little bit of

683  
00:25:17,510 --> 00:25:14,720  
information here

684  
00:25:19,350 --> 00:25:17,520  
well sure thanks farah for the intro so

685  
00:25:19,830 --> 00:25:19,360  
the helicopter was designed to be both

686  
00:25:22,310 --> 00:25:19,840  
strong

687  
00:25:23,990 --> 00:25:22,320  
and light so it's made of carbon fiber

688  
00:25:25,110 --> 00:25:24,000

in many cases which is really light but

689

00:25:27,830 --> 00:25:25,120

really strong

690

00:25:29,350 --> 00:25:27,840

the blades are can spin really fast and

691

00:25:31,110 --> 00:25:29,360

lift the weight of the helicopter but if

692

00:25:33,269 --> 00:25:31,120

you picked one up it would be about the

693

00:25:35,909 --> 00:25:33,279

weight of a sheet of paper so the whole

694

00:25:38,149 --> 00:25:35,919

helicopter weighs about four pounds

695

00:25:38,950 --> 00:25:38,159

but yet it's able to you know lift

696

00:25:41,110 --> 00:25:38,960

itself up

697

00:25:42,630 --> 00:25:41,120

and fly around and we did many tests of

698

00:25:43,830 --> 00:25:42,640

the legs you know the legs are springy

699

00:25:44,950 --> 00:25:43,840

so that if we

700

00:25:46,549 --> 00:25:44,960

bounce a little bit on landing they

701  
00:25:47,990 --> 00:25:46,559  
don't break and they're very stable they

702  
00:25:49,590 --> 00:25:48,000  
have a wide stance

703  
00:25:51,750 --> 00:25:49,600  
so that if we bounce a little one side

704  
00:25:52,549 --> 00:25:51,760  
we can recover and it's a very tough

705  
00:25:54,870 --> 00:25:52,559  
system

706  
00:25:56,630 --> 00:25:54,880  
so we spent a lot of time we had some

707  
00:25:57,269 --> 00:25:56,640  
advanced partners that helped us out

708  
00:25:58,710 --> 00:25:57,279  
that

709  
00:26:00,549 --> 00:25:58,720  
designed it so it could be strong and

710  
00:26:02,470 --> 00:26:00,559  
light at the same time so we're

711  
00:26:06,390 --> 00:26:02,480  
very confident that whatever mars can

712  
00:26:11,029 --> 00:26:09,669  
well in your confidence we trust so uh

713  
00:26:12,549 --> 00:26:11,039

we are going to take a couple more

714

00:26:14,070 --> 00:26:12,559

questions from the audience in just a

715

00:26:17,110 --> 00:26:14,080

moment for both of you

716

00:26:19,430 --> 00:26:17,120

but i have one final question for you

717

00:26:20,310 --> 00:26:19,440

is this part of the dream of working at

718

00:26:22,149 --> 00:26:20,320

jpl

719

00:26:23,990 --> 00:26:22,159

you get to be a part of a unique first

720

00:26:25,510 --> 00:26:24,000

of its kind mission is that why you come

721

00:26:26,789 --> 00:26:25,520

to work at a place like this

722

00:26:30,070 --> 00:26:26,799

and tim why don't you take that one

723

00:26:31,669 --> 00:26:30,080

first we're gonna pull up image eight

724

00:26:33,430 --> 00:26:31,679

well sure it is definitely a dream i

725

00:26:35,430 --> 00:26:33,440

grew up in small town america

726

00:26:37,110 --> 00:26:35,440

and i grew up reading all the national

727

00:26:37,990 --> 00:26:37,120

geographic issues about the voyager

728

00:26:39,990 --> 00:26:38,000

probe and all the different

729

00:26:42,789 --> 00:26:40,000

outer planets that have visited i love

730

00:26:44,549 --> 00:26:42,799

to consume all kinds of astronomy books

731

00:26:46,710 --> 00:26:44,559

and i was generally a computer geek so

732

00:26:48,549 --> 00:26:46,720

all this stuff came together really well

733

00:26:50,310 --> 00:26:48,559

and i was able to get a job out of

734

00:26:51,669 --> 00:26:50,320

college at jpl and do really exciting

735

00:26:53,110 --> 00:26:51,679

things which is really culminating in

736

00:26:55,029 --> 00:26:53,120

this chance to do

737

00:26:56,789 --> 00:26:55,039

a first of a kind thing on mars which is

738

00:26:58,390 --> 00:26:56,799

to fly a helicopter which has never been

739

00:26:59,990 --> 00:26:58,400

done before so sure

740

00:27:01,750 --> 00:27:00,000

we're very nervous but we're confident

741

00:27:02,390 --> 00:27:01,760

in our helicopter and we're excited to

742

00:27:06,390 --> 00:27:02,400

go

743

00:27:08,149 --> 00:27:06,400

and we're really looking forward to it

744

00:27:09,990 --> 00:27:08,159

and how about for you farah is this part

745

00:27:11,430 --> 00:27:10,000

of the dream of working at jpl for you

746

00:27:14,070 --> 00:27:11,440

as well

747

00:27:16,630 --> 00:27:14,080

absolutely so for me you know my story

748

00:27:19,669 --> 00:27:16,640

is that my first summer at jpl was the

749

00:27:21,350 --> 00:27:19,679

summer of 2012 and i was in interned

750

00:27:23,430 --> 00:27:21,360

and intern during graduate school and

751  
00:27:24,950 --> 00:27:23,440  
the summer of 2012 for those of you who

752  
00:27:27,029 --> 00:27:24,960  
are space fans is the summer that

753  
00:27:29,110 --> 00:27:27,039  
curiosity landed on mars

754  
00:27:31,190 --> 00:27:29,120  
and i still remember that moment in the

755  
00:27:33,190 --> 00:27:31,200  
auditorium it was like late on a sunday

756  
00:27:33,990 --> 00:27:33,200  
evening and i was super nervous with my

757  
00:27:36,230 --> 00:27:34,000  
friends watching

758  
00:27:37,190 --> 00:27:36,240  
watching the landing but what was so

759  
00:27:40,549 --> 00:27:37,200  
incredible as an

760  
00:27:42,549 --> 00:27:40,559  
intern is to be on lab and to see

761  
00:27:44,950 --> 00:27:42,559  
you see these incredible people

762  
00:27:47,029 --> 00:27:44,960  
achieving the impossible right

763  
00:27:49,190 --> 00:27:47,039

who sends a massive rover to mars and

764

00:27:50,070 --> 00:27:49,200

lowers it from a skycrane on the surface

765

00:27:51,830 --> 00:27:50,080

of mars and

766

00:27:53,430 --> 00:27:51,840

who's crazy enough to do that apparently

767

00:27:56,070 --> 00:27:53,440

people at jpl and i thought

768

00:27:57,750 --> 00:27:56,080

i want to be one of those crazy people

769

00:27:58,950 --> 00:27:57,760

and that is really you know when that it

770

00:28:02,389 --> 00:27:58,960

started i

771

00:28:04,310 --> 00:28:02,399

i knocked on every manager's job with my

772

00:28:05,909 --> 00:28:04,320

door with my resume and i was like i

773

00:28:07,990 --> 00:28:05,919

want to work here this is what i want to

774

00:28:10,070 --> 00:28:08,000

do i want to be part of a team like this

775

00:28:12,549 --> 00:28:10,080

i want to do these things

776

00:28:14,310 --> 00:28:12,559

um so uh so i was lucky enough to get a

777

00:28:17,350 --> 00:28:14,320

job back in 2014 and

778

00:28:18,870 --> 00:28:17,360

and this is my second was mission but um

779

00:28:21,029 --> 00:28:18,880

but with this one it's really coming

780

00:28:21,669 --> 00:28:21,039

full circle right perseverance is sort

781

00:28:24,310 --> 00:28:21,679

of the

782

00:28:26,470 --> 00:28:24,320

the big sister or for curiosity and it's

783

00:28:29,669 --> 00:28:26,480

it is that next big mission and it's

784

00:28:31,350 --> 00:28:29,679

so cool to be able to say that i am now

785

00:28:32,950 --> 00:28:31,360

part of the team that's making history

786

00:28:34,710 --> 00:28:32,960

right like i'm part of that team that's

787

00:28:37,510 --> 00:28:34,720

doing crazy things on mars

788

00:28:39,430 --> 00:28:37,520

um and it's it's super humbling too to

789

00:28:40,950 --> 00:28:39,440

have like come full circle that way and

790

00:28:43,750 --> 00:28:40,960

be part of that team and

791

00:28:44,950 --> 00:28:43,760

and what's special with ingenuity is you

792

00:28:47,750 --> 00:28:44,960

know with other missions

793

00:28:49,510 --> 00:28:47,760

at jpl we've had other rovers before so

794

00:28:50,710 --> 00:28:49,520

often when we have problems

795

00:28:52,230 --> 00:28:50,720

you know there's always someone to call

796

00:28:54,149 --> 00:28:52,240

we can call the person that did it on

797

00:28:56,870 --> 00:28:54,159

curiosity and ask like you know we have

798

00:28:58,789 --> 00:28:56,880

a similar problem here can you help me

799

00:29:00,470 --> 00:28:58,799

not the case with ingenuity no one's

800

00:29:02,149 --> 00:29:00,480

done this before there's no textbook

801  
00:29:04,070 --> 00:29:02,159  
there's no one to call

802  
00:29:05,669 --> 00:29:04,080  
we just gotta figure it out and that

803  
00:29:07,350 --> 00:29:05,679  
that is sort of like the best

804  
00:29:09,190 --> 00:29:07,360  
piece of engineering right there right

805  
00:29:10,710 --> 00:29:09,200  
like we we have to figure it out we

806  
00:29:12,950 --> 00:29:10,720  
figure it out as a team we

807  
00:29:14,549 --> 00:29:12,960  
come up with creative solutions and and

808  
00:29:17,029 --> 00:29:14,559  
you know we're we're the ones writing

809  
00:29:19,190 --> 00:29:17,039  
the textbooks right and and eventually

810  
00:29:21,350 --> 00:29:19,200  
i can't wait one day when you know

811  
00:29:22,870 --> 00:29:21,360  
hopefully that this all goes well and

812  
00:29:24,470 --> 00:29:22,880  
and you know when they will be the ones

813  
00:29:25,590 --> 00:29:24,480

getting the phone calls will be the ones

814

00:29:27,029 --> 00:29:25,600

that people are going to

815

00:29:30,630 --> 00:29:27,039

reach out to when they want to fly the

816

00:29:33,830 --> 00:29:32,470

really incredible groundbreaking work

817

00:29:36,470 --> 00:29:33,840

that you both are doing

818

00:29:37,909 --> 00:29:36,480

and i am sure that social media is

819

00:29:39,750 --> 00:29:37,919

lighting up with questions

820

00:29:41,430 --> 00:29:39,760

for those of you that are still watching

821

00:29:42,870 --> 00:29:41,440

uh with us please make sure you put

822

00:29:44,549 --> 00:29:42,880

those in the chat

823

00:29:46,310 --> 00:29:44,559

and our social media team will bring

824

00:29:49,269 --> 00:29:46,320

them to us as quickly as possible

825

00:29:52,070 --> 00:29:49,279

we'll answer as many as we can sarah

826

00:29:54,549 --> 00:29:52,080

how's it looking out there

827

00:29:56,230 --> 00:29:54,559

oh there's plenty there's plenty can i

828

00:29:58,549 --> 00:29:56,240

ask one right now

829

00:29:59,590 --> 00:29:58,559

please no i gotta clear my deck here

830

00:30:02,070 --> 00:29:59,600

great um

831

00:30:02,710 --> 00:30:02,080

okay i don't know if his name is brian

832

00:30:05,190 --> 00:30:02,720

or brain

833

00:30:05,830 --> 00:30:05,200

i kind of hope it's brain but it's uh on

834

00:30:08,470 --> 00:30:05,840

linkedin

835

00:30:10,630 --> 00:30:08,480

uh this is a question for you tim how

836

00:30:11,990 --> 00:30:10,640

did you simulate the low gravity and low

837

00:30:15,350 --> 00:30:12,000

atmospheric pressure

838

00:30:17,750 --> 00:30:15,360

during testing on earth

839

00:30:19,669 --> 00:30:17,760

well jpl along with being a place that

840

00:30:21,029 --> 00:30:19,679

has cool spacecraft it also has cool

841

00:30:23,510 --> 00:30:21,039

ways to test things

842

00:30:25,510 --> 00:30:23,520

so there's a chamber at jpl it's 25 feet

843

00:30:26,789 --> 00:30:25,520

across and 70 feet high

844

00:30:29,190 --> 00:30:26,799

and they've used it for years for

845

00:30:31,029 --> 00:30:29,200

spacecraft to pump down

846

00:30:32,870 --> 00:30:31,039

and pump out the air to get it to either

847

00:30:34,870 --> 00:30:32,880

a pure vacuum or in our case we

848

00:30:36,070 --> 00:30:34,880

we pumped it down to one percent of

849

00:30:38,310 --> 00:30:36,080

earth's density

850

00:30:39,669 --> 00:30:38,320

so that's where the helicopter will fly

851  
00:30:41,269 --> 00:30:39,679  
so that's how we're able to get the

852  
00:30:42,950 --> 00:30:41,279  
equivalent atmosphere

853  
00:30:44,389 --> 00:30:42,960  
and we had some very clever engineers

854  
00:30:44,870 --> 00:30:44,399  
that came up with the design we called

855  
00:30:47,750 --> 00:30:44,880  
it our

856  
00:30:48,389 --> 00:30:47,760  
gravity offload mechanism and it was a

857  
00:30:50,789 --> 00:30:48,399  
it was a

858  
00:30:52,389 --> 00:30:50,799  
special computerized system that had a

859  
00:30:53,750 --> 00:30:52,399  
tether or a big cable that would come

860  
00:30:54,789 --> 00:30:53,760  
down and attach to the top of the

861  
00:30:57,509 --> 00:30:54,799  
helicopter

862  
00:30:59,269 --> 00:30:57,519  
and literally pull it up in a way that

863  
00:31:01,350 --> 00:30:59,279

would simulate mars gravity

864

00:31:03,509 --> 00:31:01,360

so that way we had this chamber that

865

00:31:03,830 --> 00:31:03,519

could simu both simulate mars gravity

866

00:31:07,269 --> 00:31:03,840

and

867

00:31:09,350 --> 00:31:07,279

that's where we did

868

00:31:14,549 --> 00:31:09,360

almost three years of testing to get the

869

00:31:17,509 --> 00:31:16,310

that's uh quite a bit of dedication i

870

00:31:19,190 --> 00:31:17,519

mean you've already showcased that

871

00:31:20,789 --> 00:31:19,200

tonight how dedicated you've been but

872

00:31:22,470 --> 00:31:20,799

three years of testing that's quite

873

00:31:23,830 --> 00:31:22,480

dedicated sarah we've got time for a few

874

00:31:26,950 --> 00:31:23,840

more questions

875

00:31:27,909 --> 00:31:26,960

great excellent okay um this one is for

876

00:31:30,149 --> 00:31:27,919

you parah

877

00:31:31,509 --> 00:31:30,159

uh pedro on linkedin so a lot of

878

00:31:32,149 --> 00:31:31,519

questions from linkedin tonight this is

879

00:31:34,789 --> 00:31:32,159

great

880

00:31:36,789 --> 00:31:34,799

um how will perseverance track ingenuity

881

00:31:40,230 --> 00:31:36,799

in the sky is there a beacon

882

00:31:41,590 --> 00:31:40,240

or object recognition that's a great

883

00:31:44,470 --> 00:31:41,600

question pedro so

884

00:31:45,350 --> 00:31:44,480

um so actually what we do is that we can

885

00:31:46,710 --> 00:31:45,360

localize

886

00:31:49,110 --> 00:31:46,720

the helicopter and we're going to keep

887

00:31:51,830 --> 00:31:49,120

track of where it is on the ground

888

00:31:53,590 --> 00:31:51,840

and then based on uh based on what we

889

00:31:55,350 --> 00:31:53,600

think the flights are going to be like

890

00:31:57,269 --> 00:31:55,360

we're going to set off field of view

891

00:31:58,630 --> 00:31:57,279

while enough on our cameras to be able

892

00:32:00,630 --> 00:31:58,640

to catch the flight so

893

00:32:02,470 --> 00:32:00,640

so when we drop off the helicopter we'll

894

00:32:03,190 --> 00:32:02,480

know exactly where it is and we'll have

895

00:32:05,750 --> 00:32:03,200

you know we keep

896

00:32:07,509 --> 00:32:05,760

really good maps of mars when we drive

897

00:32:08,470 --> 00:32:07,519

so we'll have a map of where we are and

898

00:32:11,190 --> 00:32:08,480

where it is

899

00:32:12,950 --> 00:32:11,200

and then as we drive away from it uh

900

00:32:15,430 --> 00:32:12,960

we'll be augmenting those maps and

901  
00:32:17,509 --> 00:32:15,440  
relocalizing using images every time so

902  
00:32:18,710 --> 00:32:17,519  
think of it as like i've set a pin on a

903  
00:32:20,870 --> 00:32:18,720  
map and i try and

904  
00:32:22,149 --> 00:32:20,880  
point back to it and based on my images

905  
00:32:24,549 --> 00:32:22,159  
i can sort of

906  
00:32:26,230 --> 00:32:24,559  
adjust a little bit what the error might

907  
00:32:28,470 --> 00:32:26,240  
be you know in my

908  
00:32:30,230 --> 00:32:28,480  
my position or what i think my position

909  
00:32:33,029 --> 00:32:30,240  
might be with the helicopter so

910  
00:32:34,549 --> 00:32:33,039  
so even at 100 meters away we'll know

911  
00:32:36,470 --> 00:32:34,559  
where the helicopter is and we'll be

912  
00:32:37,909 --> 00:32:36,480  
able to image it before its flight so we

913  
00:32:39,269 --> 00:32:37,919

know exactly where it is

914

00:32:41,430 --> 00:32:39,279

and then the morning of that first

915

00:32:43,350 --> 00:32:41,440

flight for example we'll point all our

916

00:32:45,110 --> 00:32:43,360

cameras at it we have multiple cameras

917

00:32:46,549 --> 00:32:45,120

and we'll wait eagerly and we

918

00:32:48,549 --> 00:32:46,559

we're even going to take a video

919

00:32:49,350 --> 00:32:48,559

hopefully of the flight and then we

920

00:32:51,990 --> 00:32:49,360

should see that

921

00:32:53,509 --> 00:32:52,000

that helicopter um in our field of view

922

00:32:55,269 --> 00:32:53,519

and then when we're done and it lands

923

00:32:55,990 --> 00:32:55,279

we'll be able to relocalize again and

924

00:33:02,389 --> 00:32:56,000

figure out

925

00:33:09,029 --> 00:33:06,630

okay for tim here oh sorry about that i

926  
00:33:10,870 --> 00:33:09,039  
didn't mean to jump out there but i'm

927  
00:33:14,470 --> 00:33:10,880  
going in i'm going in

928  
00:33:16,630 --> 00:33:14,480  
great kirk on facebook um

929  
00:33:18,470 --> 00:33:16,640  
i thought this is for you tim uh does

930  
00:33:21,509 --> 00:33:18,480  
the helicopter have any smarts

931  
00:33:23,830 --> 00:33:21,519  
to adjust if its flight model is not

932  
00:33:24,710 --> 00:33:23,840  
exactly what it's discovering on mars

933  
00:33:27,110 --> 00:33:24,720  
basically is the

934  
00:33:30,549 --> 00:33:27,120  
can the helicopter make adjustments or

935  
00:33:33,110 --> 00:33:30,559  
learn learn along the way

936  
00:33:34,950 --> 00:33:33,120  
well certainly the software is we did a

937  
00:33:37,509 --> 00:33:34,960  
lot of testing on the flight algorithms

938  
00:33:38,630 --> 00:33:37,519

we have a very talented guidance control

939

00:33:40,310 --> 00:33:38,640

team

940

00:33:42,149 --> 00:33:40,320

and they built the software to follow a

941

00:33:44,310 --> 00:33:42,159

set of waypoints so before the flight we

942

00:33:46,149 --> 00:33:44,320

get together as a team and we plan

943

00:33:47,830 --> 00:33:46,159

where we want the flight to go and then

944

00:33:49,029 --> 00:33:47,840

the software on board will take those

945

00:33:51,029 --> 00:33:49,039

waypoints

946

00:33:53,430 --> 00:33:51,039

and fly that trajectory and the software

947

00:33:54,870 --> 00:33:53,440

has the built-in smarts to adjust to

948

00:33:57,269 --> 00:33:54,880

environmental conditions it might

949

00:33:59,509 --> 00:33:57,279

encounter like gusts of wind

950

00:34:00,389 --> 00:33:59,519

or you know just deviations in the

951  
00:34:02,310 --> 00:34:00,399  
flight path it's

952  
00:34:03,590 --> 00:34:02,320  
it's very well designed to bring it back

953  
00:34:05,350 --> 00:34:03,600  
into alignment

954  
00:34:07,669 --> 00:34:05,360  
with the path that we had planned for it

955  
00:34:09,190 --> 00:34:07,679  
so that was part of the new

956  
00:34:11,190 --> 00:34:09,200  
development that we did for this project

957  
00:34:14,069 --> 00:34:11,200  
is they designed all new brand new

958  
00:34:15,669 --> 00:34:14,079  
algorithms that can handle the martian

959  
00:34:17,829 --> 00:34:15,679  
environment plus this mission that we

960  
00:34:21,030 --> 00:34:17,839  
gave it to fly along these trajectories

961  
00:34:22,950 --> 00:34:21,040  
and do what it needs to do because it's

962  
00:34:24,629 --> 00:34:22,960  
not only flying based on an inertial

963  
00:34:25,909 --> 00:34:24,639

sensor it has a camera system that

964

00:34:28,470 --> 00:34:25,919

points downward

965

00:34:29,510 --> 00:34:28,480

we're taking pictures 30 times a second

966

00:34:31,510 --> 00:34:29,520

looking at features

967

00:34:33,669 --> 00:34:31,520

inside the camera the image of the

968

00:34:35,510 --> 00:34:33,679

camera and then track those features

969

00:34:37,829 --> 00:34:35,520

from frame to frame

970

00:34:39,669 --> 00:34:37,839

and that's how the helicopter is able to

971

00:34:41,190 --> 00:34:39,679

know which direction it's going and how

972

00:34:43,589 --> 00:34:41,200

fast along with the

973

00:34:45,190 --> 00:34:43,599

inertial sensor and even an altimeter so

974

00:34:52,869 --> 00:34:45,200

it's a pretty sophisticated little robot

975

00:34:56,629 --> 00:34:54,710

we have time for some more questions

976

00:35:00,630 --> 00:34:56,639

sarah so feel free to ask a couple

977

00:35:02,150 --> 00:35:00,640

of ways okay this is also for them

978

00:35:04,230 --> 00:35:02,160

because this is a little bit about

979

00:35:05,829 --> 00:35:04,240

the helicopter team and so i know that

980

00:35:06,790 --> 00:35:05,839

you've been on the helicopter team for a

981

00:35:09,270 --> 00:35:06,800

long time

982

00:35:10,150 --> 00:35:09,280

um so rhonda on facebook is wondering

983

00:35:13,349 --> 00:35:10,160

first of all how

984

00:35:15,030 --> 00:35:13,359

big the helicopter team is and then um

985

00:35:16,470 --> 00:35:15,040

sort of a related question from

986

00:35:19,109 --> 00:35:16,480

white-tailed jedi

987

00:35:20,390 --> 00:35:19,119

on youtube is who gets to pilot the

988

00:35:23,430 --> 00:35:20,400

helicopter every day

989

00:35:25,349 --> 00:35:23,440

how do you choose oh that's a great

990

00:35:27,109 --> 00:35:25,359

question so we had a team i would say at

991

00:35:29,190 --> 00:35:27,119

our peak we were probably 30 or 40

992

00:35:30,790 --> 00:35:29,200

different people all bringing different

993

00:35:33,349 --> 00:35:30,800

kinds of talents to the table

994

00:35:34,870 --> 00:35:33,359

i'm here because i'm representing

995

00:35:37,190 --> 00:35:34,880

operations but there's many other

996

00:35:39,589 --> 00:35:37,200

talented people on the project who did

997

00:35:41,109 --> 00:35:39,599

mechanical design the thermal design the

998

00:35:43,670 --> 00:35:41,119

power design

999

00:35:45,430 --> 00:35:43,680

and when you mention the pilot our chief

1000

00:35:48,150 --> 00:35:45,440

pilot hovard grip

1001  
00:35:50,150 --> 00:35:48,160  
is a very talented uh guidance engineer

1002  
00:35:52,790 --> 00:35:50,160  
he even flies planes for

1003  
00:35:54,470 --> 00:35:52,800  
fun so he's a naturally gifted guy for

1004  
00:35:55,670 --> 00:35:54,480  
doing this and he's the one

1005  
00:35:57,670 --> 00:35:55,680  
with his team that are going to be

1006  
00:36:00,950 --> 00:35:57,680  
planning each one of the flights

1007  
00:36:02,710 --> 00:36:00,960  
and so that's how it works is is

1008  
00:36:04,310 --> 00:36:02,720  
the guidance team gives me the path they

1009  
00:36:07,190 --> 00:36:04,320  
want to follow we

1010  
00:36:09,270 --> 00:36:07,200  
enter it into a series of commands that

1011  
00:36:10,550 --> 00:36:09,280  
that file of commands we give to far and

1012  
00:36:11,430 --> 00:36:10,560  
her team and they beam it up to the

1013  
00:36:15,349 --> 00:36:11,440

rover

1014

00:36:16,150 --> 00:36:15,359

the helicopter and executes it and then

1015

00:36:26,230 --> 00:36:16,160

we

1016

00:36:27,990 --> 00:36:26,240

chew our fingernails to the bone

1017

00:36:29,910 --> 00:36:28,000

okay here's another question why don't

1018

00:36:33,510 --> 00:36:29,920

you try and take this pharah

1019

00:36:35,430 --> 00:36:33,520

um gabriel on linkedin is asking

1020

00:36:37,510 --> 00:36:35,440

so how does communication between the

1021

00:36:40,069 --> 00:36:37,520

mars instruments get affected

1022

00:36:41,349 --> 00:36:40,079

by the lack of the magnetic field that

1023

00:36:44,630 --> 00:36:41,359

is on mars

1024

00:36:46,710 --> 00:36:44,640

and um does the solar radiation

1025

00:36:49,589 --> 00:36:46,720

um affect the communication between the

1026

00:36:52,550 --> 00:36:49,599

helicopter and the rover

1027

00:36:54,470 --> 00:36:52,560

so we obviously you know the environment

1028

00:36:56,150 --> 00:36:54,480

on mars is is different from the one on

1029

00:36:57,990 --> 00:36:56,160

earth but one of the things that we did

1030

00:37:00,150 --> 00:36:58,000

on earth before we went to mars is that

1031

00:37:01,109 --> 00:37:00,160

we actually tested that communication we

1032

00:37:03,910 --> 00:37:01,119

do something called

1033

00:37:06,230 --> 00:37:03,920

electromagnetic interference testing and

1034

00:37:08,550 --> 00:37:06,240

so we put the rover in a special chamber

1035

00:37:09,430 --> 00:37:08,560

that's quiet like mars or as quiet as we

1036

00:37:11,190 --> 00:37:09,440

can get it

1037

00:37:12,550 --> 00:37:11,200

and um and one of the things that we had

1038

00:37:14,470 --> 00:37:12,560

to do actually is

1039

00:37:17,349 --> 00:37:14,480

we had to figure out if there were any

1040

00:37:18,870 --> 00:37:17,359

instruments on the rover like when we're

1041

00:37:20,710 --> 00:37:18,880

changing or switching things on the

1042

00:37:22,470 --> 00:37:20,720

rover whether any of that

1043

00:37:23,750 --> 00:37:22,480

magnetic noise that's created when you

1044

00:37:25,750 --> 00:37:23,760

use those instruments

1045

00:37:27,670 --> 00:37:25,760

might affect the link between the

1046

00:37:29,510 --> 00:37:27,680

helicopter and the rover

1047

00:37:31,430 --> 00:37:29,520

and so you know we're talking from the

1048

00:37:33,510 --> 00:37:31,440

helicopter to the rover using a radio

1049

00:37:34,950 --> 00:37:33,520

that has a certain signal and we want to

1050

00:37:36,310 --> 00:37:34,960

make sure that there's not noise in that

1051  
00:37:38,150 --> 00:37:36,320  
signal created by

1052  
00:37:39,910 --> 00:37:38,160  
other instruments on board and we

1053  
00:37:40,950 --> 00:37:39,920  
actually found that there's a few

1054  
00:37:42,470 --> 00:37:40,960  
instruments that

1055  
00:37:44,790 --> 00:37:42,480  
uh for example if we're moving our

1056  
00:37:46,630 --> 00:37:44,800  
motors that that creates just enough

1057  
00:37:48,710 --> 00:37:46,640  
noise that we can lose communication

1058  
00:37:51,190 --> 00:37:48,720  
with the rover we can lose packets

1059  
00:37:53,030 --> 00:37:51,200  
um so that's why we do that kind of

1060  
00:37:54,630 --> 00:37:53,040  
testing before we go so that we kind of

1061  
00:37:57,349 --> 00:37:54,640  
understand the behavior

1062  
00:37:59,430 --> 00:37:57,359  
and then when we get to mars um we're

1063  
00:38:00,790 --> 00:37:59,440

gonna sort of restrict certain the usage

1064

00:38:02,630 --> 00:38:00,800

of certain things like we won't be

1065

00:38:04,230 --> 00:38:02,640

moving our arm all over while we're

1066

00:38:04,790 --> 00:38:04,240

talking to the helicopter so that we

1067

00:38:07,510 --> 00:38:04,800

know that

1068

00:38:08,950 --> 00:38:07,520

we can get a clean signal that way so um

1069

00:38:09,910 --> 00:38:08,960

so yeah it's definitely a test that

1070

00:38:12,069 --> 00:38:09,920

every single

1071

00:38:14,710 --> 00:38:12,079

um spacecraft goes through it's one of

1072

00:38:16,630 --> 00:38:14,720

the key tests that we do before launch

1073

00:38:18,790 --> 00:38:16,640

to figure out what's compatible with

1074

00:38:21,109 --> 00:38:18,800

what and make sure that we can

1075

00:38:27,030 --> 00:38:21,119

we can successfully communicate with our

1076

00:38:34,550 --> 00:38:31,990

okay do we have time for another one yep

1077

00:38:36,069 --> 00:38:34,560

you got it ron on linkedin is asking

1078

00:38:38,870 --> 00:38:36,079

will the helicopter

1079

00:38:39,829 --> 00:38:38,880

attempt to land atop higher elevation

1080

00:38:42,390 --> 00:38:39,839

features

1081

00:38:45,670 --> 00:38:42,400

or typically always return nearby the

1082

00:38:49,109 --> 00:38:45,680

rover i guess that's for you pharah

1083

00:38:50,950 --> 00:38:49,119

so um right now the plan is to is to

1084

00:38:52,630 --> 00:38:50,960

land at the same place so what we've

1085

00:38:54,390 --> 00:38:52,640

done or what we're doing on mars right

1086

00:38:57,430 --> 00:38:54,400

now is we're trying to identify

1087

00:38:59,910 --> 00:38:57,440

a flight zone so it's an area that's

1088

00:39:00,870 --> 00:38:59,920

about 30 meters across and about 100

1089

00:39:02,710 --> 00:39:00,880

meter long

1090

00:39:04,069 --> 00:39:02,720

and that is going to be our stage to

1091

00:39:05,829 --> 00:39:04,079

play on that's that's where the

1092

00:39:07,829 --> 00:39:05,839

helicopter is allowed to fly

1093

00:39:09,109 --> 00:39:07,839

and within that there's a little there's

1094

00:39:10,470 --> 00:39:09,119

an area that we might

1095

00:39:12,710 --> 00:39:10,480

you know that we're going to identify or

1096

00:39:14,390 --> 00:39:12,720

try and find that we'll have you know

1097

00:39:15,750 --> 00:39:14,400

we're looking for a flat area with

1098

00:39:18,150 --> 00:39:15,760

hardly any rocks

1099

00:39:19,589 --> 00:39:18,160

uh where the helicopter can land that's

1100

00:39:21,349 --> 00:39:19,599

kind of it's like landing pad right like

1101  
00:39:21,990 --> 00:39:21,359  
so if you have a helicopter on earth and

1102  
00:39:24,069 --> 00:39:22,000  
you

1103  
00:39:25,670 --> 00:39:24,079  
it can only really land in that flat

1104  
00:39:27,990 --> 00:39:25,680  
area with a big h on it

1105  
00:39:29,910 --> 00:39:28,000  
that's that's going to be our helicopter

1106  
00:39:31,349 --> 00:39:29,920  
on mars no big h but you know we'll have

1107  
00:39:33,510 --> 00:39:31,359  
our area where we're gonna

1108  
00:39:35,030 --> 00:39:33,520  
um be able to drop our helicopter and

1109  
00:39:37,910 --> 00:39:35,040  
fly to and from there so

1110  
00:39:39,750 --> 00:39:37,920  
so the goal is to is to always return to

1111  
00:39:41,910 --> 00:39:39,760  
that home base and then from there do

1112  
00:39:43,349 --> 00:39:41,920  
increasingly more complicated flights so

1113  
00:39:45,430 --> 00:39:43,359

at the beginning we'll just go up and

1114

00:39:47,589 --> 00:39:45,440

down and then we'll go across

1115

00:39:49,430 --> 00:39:47,599

and then we'll see maybe uh maybe the

1116

00:39:49,670 --> 00:39:49,440

team the helicopter team will get sporty

1117

00:39:53,430 --> 00:39:49,680

and

1118

00:39:55,670 --> 00:39:53,440

current plan

1119

00:39:59,190 --> 00:39:55,680

but for now we're planning on landing at

1120

00:40:02,310 --> 00:40:00,630

break for you the current plan that's

1121

00:40:03,430 --> 00:40:02,320

that's brave i like that i like that

1122

00:40:05,510 --> 00:40:03,440

exciting supporting

1123

00:40:06,550 --> 00:40:05,520

there we've got time for just a couple

1124

00:40:11,030 --> 00:40:06,560

more questions

1125

00:40:13,589 --> 00:40:11,040

probably about two more okay

1126

00:40:14,390 --> 00:40:13,599

all right angelica from linkedin she's

1127

00:40:16,630 --> 00:40:14,400

getting it

1128

00:40:18,630 --> 00:40:16,640

um this for you tim so what is the

1129

00:40:22,390 --> 00:40:18,640

actual flight goal of the vehicle

1130

00:40:24,390 --> 00:40:22,400

um is it flight time is it distance

1131

00:40:25,910 --> 00:40:24,400

and is there a particular forward

1132

00:40:29,589 --> 00:40:25,920

velocity that um

1133

00:40:34,710 --> 00:40:32,950

well since this is a kind of a new a new

1134

00:40:36,309 --> 00:40:34,720

mission we've never done this before the

1135

00:40:37,910 --> 00:40:36,319

primary objective of this

1136

00:40:39,510 --> 00:40:37,920

mission is to characterize what it's

1137

00:40:40,950 --> 00:40:39,520

like to fly on mars

1138

00:40:43,349 --> 00:40:40,960

so we're going to be doing as far as

1139

00:40:45,430 --> 00:40:43,359

said a series of these increasingly

1140

00:40:47,349 --> 00:40:45,440

aggressive flights and we take lots of

1141

00:40:49,750 --> 00:40:47,359

data during those flights

1142

00:40:51,589 --> 00:40:49,760

and we analyze that data on the ground

1143

00:40:53,430 --> 00:40:51,599

to see how it performed

1144

00:40:55,270 --> 00:40:53,440

and then that's the kind of data that

1145

00:40:56,870 --> 00:40:55,280

will feed forward into future possible

1146

00:40:59,589 --> 00:40:56,880

helicopters that can do more

1147

00:41:02,150 --> 00:40:59,599

and have greater capability and so

1148

00:41:04,870 --> 00:41:02,160

that's really the objective is to

1149

00:41:07,030 --> 00:41:04,880

is to test how well it flies and so

1150

00:41:08,630 --> 00:41:07,040

we'll be doing these increasingly harder

1151  
00:41:10,150 --> 00:41:08,640  
flights to stress the system a little

1152  
00:41:12,550 --> 00:41:10,160  
more each time

1153  
00:41:14,069 --> 00:41:12,560  
and see you know how the data comes back

1154  
00:41:15,430 --> 00:41:14,079  
when we do those flights

1155  
00:41:17,270 --> 00:41:15,440  
and how it responds to those various

1156  
00:41:19,750 --> 00:41:17,280  
things in the environment like wind

1157  
00:41:21,589 --> 00:41:19,760  
and altitude and we're going to fly it

1158  
00:41:23,030 --> 00:41:21,599  
about five meters high

1159  
00:41:24,950 --> 00:41:23,040  
we're a little bit limited by our

1160  
00:41:26,150 --> 00:41:24,960  
altimeter the how far down it can see

1161  
00:41:27,750 --> 00:41:26,160  
and the camera system

1162  
00:41:29,349 --> 00:41:27,760  
so it'll be about five meters high and

1163  
00:41:30,790 --> 00:41:29,359

we'll be flying two to three meters per

1164

00:41:32,069 --> 00:41:30,800

second horizontally when we do our

1165

00:41:33,510 --> 00:41:32,079

horizontal flights

1166

00:41:35,670 --> 00:41:33,520

so it's not going to exactly buzz the

1167

00:41:37,510 --> 00:41:35,680

tower so to speak but it's going to be

1168

00:41:39,109 --> 00:41:37,520

you know it's going to be faster than a

1169

00:41:41,670 --> 00:41:39,119

rover that's one of the promises of a

1170

00:41:43,670 --> 00:41:41,680

vehicle like this is that the rover

1171

00:41:45,430 --> 00:41:43,680

potentially could see a feature in the

1172

00:41:46,069 --> 00:41:45,440

distance that it thinks is very cool but

1173

00:41:47,990 --> 00:41:46,079

it could take

1174

00:41:49,510 --> 00:41:48,000

days or even a week to get there and

1175

00:41:51,030 --> 00:41:49,520

something like a helicopter could fly

1176  
00:41:53,349 --> 00:41:51,040  
over there in just a few

1177  
00:41:55,349 --> 00:41:53,359  
tens of seconds and analyze and inspect

1178  
00:41:56,550 --> 00:41:55,359  
it so that's part of what this mission

1179  
00:41:58,710 --> 00:41:56,560  
is about is to

1180  
00:42:00,630 --> 00:41:58,720  
do this groundbreaking work to see how

1181  
00:42:03,750 --> 00:42:00,640  
well it performs on mars so that

1182  
00:42:07,589 --> 00:42:03,760  
future generations of helicopters can do

1183  
00:42:11,510 --> 00:42:09,670  
i like that even more cool things in the

1184  
00:42:12,309 --> 00:42:11,520  
future and speaking of things in the

1185  
00:42:15,030 --> 00:42:12,319  
future we have

1186  
00:42:17,430 --> 00:42:15,040  
one final question sarah for our

1187  
00:42:19,670 --> 00:42:17,440  
speakers tonight

1188  
00:42:21,109 --> 00:42:19,680

okay let's take it from facebook from

1189

00:42:23,750 --> 00:42:21,119

matt on facebook

1190

00:42:24,790 --> 00:42:23,760

asks will imagery from the helicopter be

1191

00:42:28,150 --> 00:42:24,800

used to help

1192

00:42:32,230 --> 00:42:28,160

percy navigate the martian terrain as it

1193

00:42:36,150 --> 00:42:34,950

and i can take that one so so thank you

1194

00:42:37,910 --> 00:42:36,160

i should have said that's probably a

1195

00:42:41,190 --> 00:42:37,920

good one for you

1196

00:42:42,390 --> 00:42:41,200

got the personality connection um in the

1197

00:42:45,349 --> 00:42:42,400

nominal plan

1198

00:42:45,829 --> 00:42:45,359

no um so what we're learning again at

1199

00:42:51,510 --> 00:42:45,839

tim

1200

00:42:52,870 --> 00:42:51,520

paving the way for future helicopters

1201

00:42:53,750 --> 00:42:52,880

for future missions we want to

1202

00:42:55,750 --> 00:42:53,760

demonstrate

1203

00:42:57,430 --> 00:42:55,760

that you know that helicopters can fly

1204

00:42:59,510 --> 00:42:57,440

on mars and and by the way

1205

00:43:01,190 --> 00:42:59,520

rovers started as technology

1206

00:43:03,030 --> 00:43:01,200

demonstrations too we had

1207

00:43:05,190 --> 00:43:03,040

that's where we started you know a small

1208

00:43:05,589 --> 00:43:05,200

team came up with a small rover on mars

1209

00:43:10,230 --> 00:43:05,599

and

1210

00:43:12,069 --> 00:43:10,240

right so

1211

00:43:13,430 --> 00:43:12,079

so we're really hoping that one day

1212

00:43:16,230 --> 00:43:13,440

ingenuity will be

1213

00:43:17,670 --> 00:43:16,240

that stepping stone also for for bigger

1214

00:43:20,309 --> 00:43:17,680

um helicopters but

1215

00:43:21,270 --> 00:43:20,319

but in this in this case you know the

1216

00:43:23,990 --> 00:43:21,280

the area

1217

00:43:25,589 --> 00:43:24,000

that um that ingenuity is flying over is

1218

00:43:27,589 --> 00:43:25,599

one that we've already imaged we

1219

00:43:29,190 --> 00:43:27,599

actually wanted to assess that area to

1220

00:43:31,829 --> 00:43:29,200

make sure that it was safe

1221

00:43:33,750 --> 00:43:31,839

um so that you know if if ingenuity

1222

00:43:35,430 --> 00:43:33,760

needs to do an emergency landing for

1223

00:43:37,030 --> 00:43:35,440

example we know that it's a safe area

1224

00:43:38,309 --> 00:43:37,040

that it doesn't have big boulders and

1225

00:43:40,550 --> 00:43:38,319

things like that so

1226

00:43:42,069 --> 00:43:40,560

so again at least you know per the

1227

00:43:44,309 --> 00:43:42,079

current playbook and who knows

1228

00:43:46,069 --> 00:43:44,319

what you know what the um what the team

1229

00:43:47,510 --> 00:43:46,079

is going to decide to do once

1230

00:43:49,349 --> 00:43:47,520

you know if we are successful with those

1231

00:43:51,109 --> 00:43:49,359

first few flights but for the first two

1232

00:43:53,349 --> 00:43:51,119

flights at least it's it's going to be

1233

00:43:55,030 --> 00:43:53,359

an area that we've already imaged

1234

00:43:57,030 --> 00:43:55,040

but it definitely is going to be really

1235

00:43:58,630 --> 00:43:57,040

interesting right to look at

1236

00:44:00,069 --> 00:43:58,640

the path that it takes and the images

1237

00:44:01,670 --> 00:44:00,079

that it takes and compare that to what

1238

00:44:02,950 --> 00:44:01,680

we know about the surface and

1239

00:44:05,510 --> 00:44:02,960

again that's going to help us learn

1240

00:44:07,430 --> 00:44:05,520

about what it what it's like to fly on

1241

00:44:09,510 --> 00:44:07,440

mars and and what it takes so

1242

00:44:10,710 --> 00:44:09,520

um so it's definitely you know going to

1243

00:44:13,750 --> 00:44:10,720

be something that we're looking forward

1244

00:44:18,390 --> 00:44:16,309

great ability to develop new technology

1245

00:44:19,589 --> 00:44:18,400

uh thanks for those wonderful questions

1246

00:44:21,030 --> 00:44:19,599

to all of you out there and thank you

1247

00:44:23,190 --> 00:44:21,040

sarah for presenting those to our

1248

00:44:25,589 --> 00:44:23,200

speakers but unfortunately that is

1249

00:44:27,109 --> 00:44:25,599

all the time we have today for questions

1250

00:44:29,589 --> 00:44:27,119

please join us next month

1251  
00:44:30,470 --> 00:44:29,599  
for our lecture and earth day special

1252  
00:44:33,349 --> 00:44:30,480  
science on

1253  
00:44:34,630 --> 00:44:33,359  
ice what ice says about past present and

1254  
00:44:37,349 --> 00:44:34,640  
future climate

1255  
00:44:38,150 --> 00:44:37,359  
i want to thank our speakers tim canham

1256  
00:44:39,910 --> 00:44:38,160  
and dr

1257  
00:44:41,510 --> 00:44:39,920  
farah olivei thank you so much for

1258  
00:44:42,950 --> 00:44:41,520  
joining us and discussing this very

1259  
00:44:45,190 --> 00:44:42,960  
exciting topic

1260  
00:44:47,270 --> 00:44:45,200  
also big thank you to our wonderful

1261  
00:44:48,950 --> 00:44:47,280  
questions co-host sarah marcotte

1262  
00:44:50,790 --> 00:44:48,960  
and everyone working behind the scenes

1263  
00:44:52,470 --> 00:44:50,800

to make this possible tonight

1264

00:44:54,309 --> 00:44:52,480

and to all of you watching thank you for

1265

00:44:55,510 --> 00:44:54,319

taking the time to join us every month

1266

00:44:56,470 --> 00:44:55,520

and thank you for your wonderful

1267

00:44:57,990 --> 00:44:56,480

questions

1268

00:44:59,990 --> 00:44:58,000

if you've missed one or would like to

1269

00:45:01,270 --> 00:45:00,000

revisit any of our von carmen talks from

1270

00:45:04,390 --> 00:45:01,280

the past five years

1271

00:45:06,550 --> 00:45:04,400

they are available on jpl's youtube page

1272

00:45:08,470 --> 00:45:06,560

thank you again everyone be well have a

1273

00:45:22,790 --> 00:45:08,480

wonderful evening and we will see you