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# Scientific objectives and payloads of the lunar sample return mission—Chang'E-5

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#### Abstract

In the early morning on December 17, 2020 Beijing time, China's chang'E-5 probe successfully returned to the Earth with 1731 g of lunar samples after completing drilling, shoveling, packaging of lunar soil and scientific exploration on lunar surface. It is the successful completion of the third phase of China's lunar exploration project, namely ''circling, landing and returning to the moon". The scientific objectives of CE-5 mission are to carry out in situ investigation and analysis of the lunar landing region, laboratory research and analysis of lunar return samples.

This paper analyzes scientific exploration tasks of CE-5 mission conducted on the lunar surface, and carries out the scientific payload system architecture design and individual scientific payload design with the scientific exploration task requirements as the target, and proposes the working mode and main technical index requirements of the scientific payloads. Based on the preliminary geological background study of the Mons Ruemker region which is the landing region of CE-5, the lunar scientific exploration and the laboratory physicochemical characterization of the return samples are of great scientific significance for our in-depth understanding of the formation and evolution of the Earth-Moon system and the chemical evolution history of the lunar surface. 2021 COSPAR. Published by Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

Keywords: CE-5; Scientific objectives; Scientific payloads; Lunar sample

#### 1. Introduction

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The Moon, being our only natural satellite, is the closest celestial body to the Earth. Since the 1960s, more than 100 probes have been sent to the moon. When American astro-

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naut Armstrong stepped on the moon on July 20, 1969, the human dream of exploring the vast space was greatly inspired. From then on, there were 6 probes and 12 astronauts landed on the moon, and 382 kg of lunar rock and soil samples were carried back to earth. As well, the inspection and sampling return of the Soviet Union unmanned probe, set off the lunar probing upsurge. Through these explorations, we have had a more systematic and comprehensive understanding of the lunar morphology, rock composition, etc., recorded the moon quakes, and prospected the interior of the moon.

China Lunar Exploration Program (CLEP) named ''Chang'E Program" in 2004, was divided strategically into three phases: Orbiting,Landing and Robotic Sample Return. Phase I of CLEP: from 2004 to 2008, was to achieve a global orbiting detection of the moon; Phase II of CLEP: from 2008 to 2014, was to achieve softlanding on themoon surface, in situ exploration and patrol detection; Phase III of CLEP: from 2011 to 2020, was to achieve robotic sample return from the moon [\(Pei et al., 2015; Luan, 2006](#page-13-0)). Starting from Chang'E-1 mission, China has implemented five successful lunar missions, including Chang'E-1, 2,3,4,5 [\(Ye et al.,](#page-13-0) [2014\)](#page-13-0). Fig. 1 shows China's lunar exploration program three phases, and [Table 1](#page-2-0) shows the scientific objectives and payloads of China's Chang'E series missions.

Chang'E-1 (CE-1) and Chang'E-2 (CE-2) probes were launched in 2007 and 2010, respectively. These two missions achieved a global and general remote sensing exploration of the moon, obtained the world's first all coverage ''microwave map of the moon", made the lunar holographic image with a resolution better than 7 m, and detected the distribution and abundance of elements on the lunar surface ([Ouyang et al., 2008; Liu et al., 2013\)](#page-12-0). CE-2 probe made preparation for the soft-landing on the

moon, which was the objective of second phase.CE-2 probe surveyed the preselected landing site of CE-3 in detail, and even further probed the second Lagrangian (L2) point and Asteroid 4179 Tutatis ([Jianjun et al., 2013](#page-12-0)).

Chang'E-3(CE-3) probe was launched on December 2, 2012, and soft landed successfully at northwest Mare Imbrium of the moon on December 14, then the Yutu rover separated from the lander. This site was named ''Guanghangong". CE-3 probe investigated the topography and geological structure of lunar surface ([Le et al.,](#page-13-0) [2014\)](#page-13-0), mineralogical composition [\(Zhao et al., 2014](#page-13-0)) and lunar internal structure ([Fa et al., 2014, 2015\)](#page-12-0), detected the earth's plasma layer [\(He et al., 2013\)](#page-12-0), and carried out lunar-based optical astronomical observation [\(Wang](#page-13-0) [et al., 2011](#page-13-0)). CE-3 probe is still working on the scientific detection, which is the longest working probe on the moon.

Chang'E-4(CE-4) probe was launched on December 8, 2018, and landed in Von Karman Crater inside the South Pole-Aitken basin on the far side of the moon on January 3, 2019. CE-4 mission is the first mission to make a soft landing and perform scientific exploration on the far side of the moon [\(Jia et al., 2018](#page-12-0)). It discovered the deep lunar material ([LING et al., 2019\)](#page-12-0), and revealed the geological evolution history of the area. For the first time in the world, the radiation characteristics and energy spectrum structure of high energy particles and neutral atoms on the lunar surface were obtained ([Zhang et al., 2020a](#page-13-0)). By March 2021, CE-4 probe had been working for 28 months, the total mileage of Yutu-2 rover is 652.62 m.

Chang'E-5(CE-5) probe was launched on November 24, 2020, by a Long March-5 rocket (CZ-5) at Wenchang Space Launch Center in Hainan province. CE-5 probe took back 1731 g of lunar samples, and the samples have been transferred to research teams for further study. With the



Fig. 1. China's lunar exploration program three phased.

<span id="page-2-0"></span>Table 1



Scientific objectives and payloads of China's Chang 'E series missions.

successful completion of the CE-5 mission, the target on three phases of China's lunar exploration project is totally achieved [\(Ye et al., 2014\)](#page-13-0).

# 2. CE-5 mission

### 2.1. Process of CE-5 mission

CE-5 probe consists of an ascender, a lander, a returner and an orbiter, with a total weight of 8.2 tons. It is the first Chinese spacecraft to implement an unmanned lunar surface sample return mission. It is why CE-5 was launched by the Long March-5 rocket-currently China's most capable carrier, and sent into Earth-Moon transfer orbit from Wenchang Space Launch Center in Hainan province which has the higher tangential speed.

The flight process of CE-5 had 11 stages. After the separation of the probe and the launch vehicle, the probe had about 5 days of earth-moon transfer flight, arrived at perilune and performed 2 near-moon brakes, then entered the circular lunar orbit with an altitude of 200 km. In the circumlunar orbit, the probe separated from the orbiterreturner combination and the lander-ascender combination, where the orbiter-returner combination continued to fly in a 200 km circular orbit. In the meantime, the lander-ascender combination completed two descents and

decelerated into a 15 km\*200 km elliptical orbit at the right time, then implemented a powered descent and a soft landing on the lunar surface at the right time.

The lander-ascender combination started soft landing on the lunar surface from the initial point of descent, and found a suitable time to decelerate and hover for obstacle avoidance during the descent. The whole process of landing and descent lasted about 15 min. After touchdown, the lander-ascender combination stayed on the lunar surface for about 48 h. It completed the drilling and shoveling lunar soils and encapsulation work, meanwhile, the scientific payloads conducted scientific exploration on the lunar surface. At the same time, the orbiter-returner combination still running in circumlunar orbit and performed several orbital maneuvers to prepare for the subsequent lunar orbit rendezvous and the samples transfer.

After the lunar sample collection and encapsulation, the lander and ascender were unlocked and separated, and the ascender engine ignited and took off, entering the target orbit of 15 km\*180 km. Through remote guidance and proximity guidance, the ascender and the orbiter-returner combination completed unmanned rendezvous and docking, and the sealed encapsulation device was transferred from the ascender to the sample module in returner, after which the orbiter-returner combination was safely separated from the ascender.

After separation, the orbiter-returner combination made orbital adjustment and implemented acceleration maneuvers to enter the lunar-earth transfer orbit, and orbiterreturner combination separated at an altitude about 5000 km from the ground, the orbiter performed evasive maneuvers, and the returner went through inertial glide and then found a suitable node to achieve re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere. In this process, the returner first re-entered the Earth's atmosphere in a speed close to the second cosmic velocity, completed atmospheric deceleration by way of a semi-ballistic jump return, opened its parachute at a distance of about 10 km from the ground and landed at the scheduled location [\(Chen et al., 2015\)](#page-12-0). Fig. 2 shows the composition of CE-5 probe ([Ye et al.,](#page-13-0) [2014\)](#page-13-0), [Fig. 3](#page-4-0) shows the process of CE-5 mission [\(Zhihao,](#page-13-0) [2021\)](#page-13-0).

# 2.2. Scientific objectives

The goals of CE-5 mission are to land on the lunar surface, collect a total 2 kg of lunar regolith samples from depths up to  $\sim$ 2 m through gathering and drilling, return the samples back to the earth, and study the samples in ground laboratory. Two scientific objectives of CE-5 mission are as below:

(1) To carry out in situ exploration in sample collection area, provide the evidence to selectively collect sam-

![](_page_3_Figure_5.jpeg)

Fig. 2. The composition of CE-5 probe. The orbiter -returner combination was at the bottom, the lander-ascender combination was on the top [\(Ye et al., 2014](#page-13-0)).

ples and establish the connection between the data acquired on the moon and analyzed in ground laboratory.

(2) To systematic and long-term study about the lunar regolith samples in ground lab, analyze the structure, physical properties and substance composition of lunar samples and research the origin and evolution history of the moon.

To achieve the first scientific objectives, there were 4 scientific payloads installed on the lander, which were Landing Camera (LCAM), Panoramic Cameras (PCAM), Lunar Mineralogical Spectrometer (LMS) and Lunar Regolith Penetrating Radar (LRPR). Together with the payload controller on the lander, they constituted the scientific payload system.

The LCAM and PCAM jointly completed the research on lunar surface topography and geological structure. The LCAM took video during the powered descending phase to acquire images of the lunar topographic feature of the landing area. The PCAM were used to acquire high solution lunar images of landing region and sample collection area, and provide images to help the decision-making process of gathering samples collection.

The LMS was used to survey the composition and resources of the lunar surface. The LMS would acquire the visible and infrared spectral images data before gathering samples collection (original lunar soils). After gathering samples collection (fresh lunar soil), the LMS would conduct in situ analysis of mineral composition and distribution on samples collection area, and provide information to help the decision-making process of gathering samples collection.

The LRPR was used to detect the lunar subsurface structure. The LRPR would acquire the information of lunar soil layering and structure of drilling area before drilling samples collection, analyze the structural features of samples and help the decision-making process of drilling samples collection. [Table 2](#page-4-0) shows the relationship between scientific exploration tasks and scientific payloads.

# 2.3. Landing region

The CE-5 probe landed in the Mons Ruemker region  $(43.1^\circ \text{ N}, 51.6^\circ \text{ W})$  of northern Oceanus Procellarum, which was an area none probes ever landed before ([Mallapaty,](#page-12-0) [2020\)](#page-12-0).[Fig. 4](#page-4-0) shows the landing sites of CE-5 mission, Apollo mission and Luna mission of the Soviet Union. The area is covered by widespread mare basalts, and contains a variety of geomorphology including impact craters, wrinkle ridges, sinuous rilles, and volcanic domes. Analysis of young mare basalt samples from this region will significantly improve the lunar chronology by calibrating the lunar cratering rate in the last three billion years and provide exact absolute radiometric dates for some of the Moon's most young volcanic events. The lunar samples retrieved by the U.S and the Soviet Union lunar missions,

<span id="page-4-0"></span>![](_page_4_Figure_2.jpeg)

Fig. 3. The process of CE-5 mission ([Zhihao, 2021](#page-13-0)).

Table 2

The relationship between scientific exploration tasks and scientific payloads.

![](_page_4_Picture_140.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Figure_7.jpeg)

Fig. 4. The landing region of CE-5, Apollo and Luna.

are all older than 3 billion years. Scientists believe that lunar volcanic activity peaked 3.5 billion years ago, then gradually weakened and stopped, while volcanic activity on the earth is still very active. Based on the analysis of remote sensing data, it is believed that some areas of the moon, including the CE-5 landing area, may contain volcanic lava formed only last 1–2 billion years ago. At present, there are no samples of the moon in this period, which will be achieved by CE-5 mission ([Qian et al.,](#page-13-0) [2018; Qian et al., 2020](#page-13-0)). If the lunar sample of CE-5 proves that the moon is still active during this period, it will have important scientific value for the lunar volcanism, especially for the lunar evolution [\(Mallapaty, 2020](#page-12-0)). In addition, this region also includes the Procellarum KREEP Terrane (PKT), which has high concentrations of radiogenic heat-producing elements (e.g. Th, U, and K) (e.g. Lucey et al., 2006). These samples will also help us understand how the radioactive PKT materials have contributed to the formation of late-stage mare volcanism.

In addition, this region also includes the Procellarum KREEP Terrane (PKT), which has high concentrations of radiogenic heat-producing elements (e.g. Th, U, and K) (e.g. Lucey et al., 2006). These samples will also help us understand how the radioactive PKT materials have contributed to the formation of late-stage mare volcanism. The Mons Ruemker Region is shown in Fig. 5.

#### 3. Scientific payloads

## 3.1. Framework of scientific payloads system

With the scientific payload controller as the core, scientific payload subsystem formed each scientific payload a system through the internal bus network. The payload controller unified interface with the satellite platform, to provide each scientific payload unified power supply, command control, data acquisition, processing and caching. Under the control of the payload controller, each scientific payload carried out scientific exploration, and the scientific payload subsystem achieved the autonomous operation in orbit, and had the ability of independent health management and fault repair capabilities.

The electric design of the payload controller, Panoramic Cameras and Lunar Mineralogical Spectrometer were integrated in the scientific payload system. 1553B bus communication was used between the payload controller and data management system of the lander platform. Payload controller supplied electricity for Panoramic Cameras and Lunar Mineralogical Spectrometer, processed the data received from them and transferred the data to the lander platform by LVDS channel.

Lunar Regolith Penetrating Radar was away from other payloads, the working timing sequence of Landing Camera was different from others. This two payloads

were directly connected to the lander platform and respectively had the primary bus power and command power to receive and execute switching commands from the lander. Through 1553B bus interface connected to dada management subsystem of the lander, Lunar Regolith Penetrating Radar could receive data injection commands and send detection data and engineering parameters. After powered on, Landing Camera could send detection data through LVDS interface with the dada management subsystem of the lander. [Fig. 6](#page-6-0) shows the Framework of scientific payload system, [Fig. 7](#page-7-0) shows the pictures of the scientific payloads.

# 3.2. Work mode of scientific payloads

In order to effectively achieve the scientific exploration objectives, the detection requirements of scientific payloads are: 1) to obtain the panoramic camera full field of view detection data before lunar sample shoveling collection in order to analyze the sampling area; 2) to obtain the Lunar Mineralogical Spectrometer full field of view detection data (original surface of lunar soil) before lunar sample shoveling collection; 3) to obtain the lunar sample shoveling collection full field of view detection data (fresh surface of lunar soil) after lunar sample shoveling collection; 4) to obtain Lunar Regolith Penetrating Radar data before drilling to analyze the characters of the geological structure of the drilling area.

Based on the above requirements, the scientific payloads working modes are designed as follows:

The scientific payloads don't work in the probe launch segment, the Earth-Moon transfer segment, the circumlunar segment, and the landing impact segment.

The Landing camera: works during the lander powered descent section to obtain optical images of the landing area, and the working time is no longer than 30 min. There are two working modes, mode 1 effective image element number  $2352 \times 1728$ , image compression ratio 4:1, mode 2 effective image element number  $1024 \times 1024$ , image compression ratio 8:1, both generate 1 image per second. After

![](_page_5_Figure_15.jpeg)

.<br>• 69°0'0"W 67°0'0"W 65°0'0"W 63°0'0"W 61°0'0"W 59°0'0"W 57°0'0"W 55°0'0"W 53°0'0"W 51°0'0"W 49°0'0"W 47°0'0"W

Fig. 5. The landing region—the Mons Ruemker Region.

<span id="page-6-0"></span>![](_page_6_Figure_2.jpeg)

Fig. 6. The Framework of scientific payload system.

mode 1 works for 5 s, mode 2 works for 1 s and completes a cycle in 6 s. The image of mode 2 is transmitted back to the Earth in real time, and the image of mode 1 is transmitted back to the Earth after landing on the moon.

The Lunar Regolith Penetrating Radar: there are two working modes, internal calibration mode and detection mode. Before drilling, the Lunar Regolith Penetrating Radar is powered up to carry out internal calibration and scientific detection, and takes 32 min to carry out a complete probe (for 128 cumulative times). Multiple detection can be performed according to the needs of the detection tasks.

The Panoramic camera: There are two modes, static imaging and dynamic camera. Before and after shoveling sample collection, the panoramic camera takes images in the whole field of view respectively, and takes 120 pictures for each imaging, acquiring 240 pictures.

The Lunar Mineralogical Spectrometer: There are calibration mode, full-band acquisition mode, short-wave full-field-of-view acquisition mode, mid-wave full-field-ofview acquisition mode, visible and near-infrared full-fieldof-view acquisition mode, etc. The spectral detection of sampling points is performed before and after the shoveling sample collection, respectively.

## 3.3. Scientific payload design

#### 3.3.1. Landing camera

The landing camera is a high-performance, miniaturized optical imaging detection device that works in the lander powered descent section to acquire optical images of the landing area. It can also be used to analyze the topography and regional geology of the lunar surface in the landing area. [Table 3](#page-7-0) shows the main performance parameters of the landing camera.

The design of the landing camera adopts the integrated design of optical, structural, electronic system and temperature control. Optical system has a window glass, six high transmission lenses. Considering the requirements of the optical system of radiation protection, the first lens uses radiation-proof glass, optical system transmittance is about 0.87. Detector parts uses DALSA's IA-G3 CMOS image sensor parts, electronics composition is shown in [Fig. 8.](#page-8-0) Focal plane circuit consists of CMOS image sensor and its peripheral circuit, mainly completes the function of photoelectric signal conversion. Video processing circuit mainly consists of FPGA, SDRAM and interface conversion chip, to complete the CMOS drive signal output, static image compression, automatic exposure and other func-

<span id="page-7-0"></span>![](_page_7_Picture_2.jpeg)

Fig. 7. The scientific payloads (from left to right, first row:Panoramic Camera, Lunar Mineralogical Spectrometer, second row:Landing Camera, Lunar Regolith Penetrating Radar Controller, third row: Antenna of Lunar Regolith Penetrating Radar A/B/C).

Table 3 Main performance parameters of the Landing Camera.

Items	Main performance parameters
Imaging distance (m)	$4\sim\infty$
Effective pixel number	Imaging mode $1:2352 \times 1728$ , 4:1 compression;
	Imaging mode 2:1024 $\times$ 1024, 8:1 compression
Flied of view $(°)$	Imaging mode 1: $59^{\circ} \times 45^{\circ}$ ; Imaging mode 2: $27.5^{\circ} \times 27.5^{\circ}$
System static modulation transfer function	0.21
Maximum data rate (Mbps)	$\leq 10$
Mass (kg)	$\leq 0.6$
power $(W)$	$\leq 10$

tions. Power distribution circuit mainly conducts the primary and secondary power conversion, the implementation of switching instructions and other functions.

The landing camera had two working modes, Mode 1 and Mode 2. LCAM took images one frame per second, in Mode 1 it took image 5 frames then in Mode 2 it takes images 1 frame, working alternately. LCAM powered on and started working, images in Mode 2 were transmitted down to the ground in real time, and images in mode 1

were cached and transmitted back to the ground after the probe landed on the moon due to the limitation of the data transmission channel.

# 3.3.2. Lunar Regolith Penetrating Radar

LRPR is a subsurface penetrating detection radar installed on the Chang'e-5 lander platform, whose detection task is the detection of lunar subsurface structure and lunar soil thickness, and provides information support during the drilling sample process after the lander landing the lunar surface.

LRPR electronics box is installed inside the drilling side of the lander, and the antenna is installed at the bottom of the lander. LRPR adopts the carrier-free frequency picosecond pulse signal and uses 12 ultra-broadband time-domain antennas to form a transceiver multiplexed antenna array to achieve high-resolution detection images of the thickness of the lunar soil and its layered structure in the area below the antenna array by means of electrical scanning detection.

There are 12 transceiver antennas, divided into three groups A, B and C. Group A antennas consist of antennas numbered 1 to 7, group B antennas consist of antennas numbered 8 to 11 and group C antennas consist of anten-

<span id="page-8-0"></span>![](_page_8_Figure_2.jpeg)

Fig. 8. The specific installation position of LRPR on the lander.

nas numbered 12. 3 groups of antennas are installed at the bottom of the lander, and the installation position is shown in Fig. 8. Each antenna can both transmit and receive electromagnetic pulse (EMP) signals. The EMP signal emitted by each antenna covers an elliptical area, and Fig. 9 shows the area covered by the EMP signal emitted by 12 antennas, and the drill bit of the drilling device is located at the intersection of the 12 covered areas. When one of the antennas transmits the pulse signal, the other 11 antennas receive the pulse signal reflected from the interior of the Moon in turn. 12 antennas finish transmitting and receiving in turn, and by analyzing all the received signals, the internal stratification structure of the shallow layer of the lunar surface below the antennas can be inverted, especially the internal structure of the lunar surface in the drilling area. It can provide technical support for drilling. [Table 4](#page-9-0) shows the main technical parameters of LRPR.

#### 3.3.3. Panoramic camera

PCAM are installed on the sampling side of the lander, consisting of two cameras at 270 mm distance apart, which can achieve stereo imaging of the target through the detection principle similar to the ''human eyes". Relying on the left and right rotation and up and down pitch of the rotating mechanism, they can achieve a panoramic detection on a large field of view and a wide range up and down, covering the sample collection area. Then through image stitching and stereo inversion, a panoramic stereo image of the sample collection area can be got.

As shown in [Fig. 10](#page-9-0), the panoramic camera is mounted on the rotating mechanism, the angle of orientation rotation is  $-90^{\circ}$  to  $+90^{\circ}$ , the angle of pitch rotation is  $-85^{\circ}$ to  $+90^{\circ}$ , the panoramic camera can achieve full coverage of the field of view of the sampling area with the cooperation of the rotating mechanism, as shown in [Fig. 11](#page-9-0), this is

![](_page_8_Figure_8.jpeg)

Fig. 9. The antenna footprint of LRPR.

<span id="page-9-0"></span>the top view, the pink area indicates the sampling range of the robotic arm, the gray area indicates the panoramic camera field of view, the green area indicates the panora-

![](_page_9_Picture_269.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_270.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_4.jpeg)

Fig. 10. Assembly picture of panoramic camera and rotating mechanism (range of rotating mechanism: azimuch angle:  $-90^\circ$  to  $+90^\circ$ , pitch angle:  $-85^{\circ}$  to  $+90^{\circ}$ ).

![](_page_9_Figure_6.jpeg)

Fig. 11. The field of view simulation of the sampling area of the manipulator by PCAM.

mic camera can achieve full coverage of the sampling area of the robotic arm within the rotation range of the rotating mechanism.

PCAM consists of several parts, including optical system, mechanical system, electronics, and thermal control. The electronics part includes detector, camera power circuit, FPGA, SDRAM, RS422 bus interface and image output interface (LVDS).

When the sample collection mechanism works, PCAM can also take pictures and video of the sample collection process, so as to obtain the sample collection process image information, while cooperating with other scientific payloads to jointly complete the scientific objectives of the sample collection area in situ detection. Table 5 is the main performance parameters of PCAM, Fig. 10 is the installation picture of the panoramic camera on the turntable. The field of view simulation of the sampling area of the manipulator by PCAM is shown in Fig. 11.

# 3.3.4. Lunar Mineralogical Spectrometer

LMS is installed on the side panel of the lander located below the lander's robotic arm. By changing the driving

![](_page_9_Picture_271.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_272.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_273.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_17.jpeg)

Lunar Mineralogical Spectrometer, LMS

Fig. 12. The location of LMS installed at the lander. The mechanical arm completes the work of shoveling samples by selecting points of scientific value through the spectral detection of LMS.

<span id="page-10-0"></span>![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

Fig. 13. Simulation diagram of lunar mineral spectrometer detection range.

frequency of the acousto-optic tunable filter (AOTF), the wavelength of the light waves passing through the AOTF got changed. The desired spectral curve and the spectral image of the specified wavelength are finally obtained. At the same time, by integrating the designed twodimensional rotating pointing mechanism (pitch angel: 0

Table 6 Main performance parameters of the Lunar Mineralogical Spectrometer.

Items	Main performance parameters
Spectral range (nm)	480-3200
Spectral resolution (nm)	$2.4 - 24.8$
Field of view $(°)$	$4.1 \times 4.1$
Detection distance (m)	$1.7 - 5$
Signal to noise ratio $(d)$	$\geq$ 40 (Maximum signal to noise ratio)
	$\geq$ 30 (albedo 0.09, sun elevation 45°)
Mass (kg)	$\leq$ 5.73
Power $(W)$	$\leq$ 15.2
Maximum data rate (bps)	≤800

to  $+30^{\circ}$ , azimuth angle:  $-22.5^{\circ}$  to  $+22.5^{\circ}$ ), the pointing mirror is rotated as required to realize the pointing adjustment detection of the sampling point, thus meeting the tasks of multi-point detection of the sample collection area. [Fig. 12](#page-9-0) shows the installation position of LMS on the lander. Through the spectral detection of LMS, the points with scientific value are selected, and then the mechanical arm completes the work of shoveling the lunar samples. Fig. 13 shows the simulation diagram of the detection range of LMS.

LMS consists of the following parts, including the dust protection device, the two-dimensional rotation pointing mechanism, the optical part, and the electronics part. The AOTF beam splitting component can select the splitting wavelength by changing the driving RF frequency. The converging mirror converges the parallel beams from the AOTF spectrometer on the detector assembly to achieve the purpose of spectral detection and spectral imaging. The RF driver assembly realizes Hz-level frequency adjus-

![](_page_10_Figure_9.jpeg)

Fig. 14. The comparison of the full-band spectral curves of the samples measured by LMS with the standard comparison instruments ASD and DP102F.

<span id="page-11-0"></span>table RF power drive to complete the function of spectral refinement of the reflected broad-spectrum light to achieve the selection of the spectral wavelength.

[Table 6](#page-10-0) shows the main performance parameters of the LMS, [Fig. 14](#page-10-0) shows the comparison of the full-band spectral curves of the samples measured by LMS with the standard comparison instruments ASD and DP102F, both in terms of spectral shape and reflectance amplitude are in good agreement, which can effectively identify the spectral characteristics and absorption peak characteristics of the samples [\(He et al., 2020](#page-12-0)). By comparing the common pyroxene with obvious absorption peak characteristics, the data quality meets the requirements of the task and

application by calculating the error of the center position of absorption peaks of common pyroxene and peridotite samples with obvious absorption peak characteristics ([Ting-ni et al., 2019](#page-13-0)).

# 4. On-orbit operation of scientific payloads

CE-5 mission landed in the Mons Ruemker region  $(43.1^\circ \text{ N}, 51.6^\circ \text{ W})$  of northern Oceanus Procellarum on December 1, 2020 at 23:11 Beijing time. The Landing Camera (LCAM) started to power up when it was 17 km away from the lunar surface, and transmitted  $1024 \times 1024$  resolution image in real time, which helped the lander-ascender

![](_page_11_Picture_7.jpeg)

Fig. 15. A color panoramic image of the sampling area of the CE-5 taken by panoramic camera.

![](_page_11_Figure_9.jpeg)

Fig. 16. Full field coverage of spectrometer (blue trapezoidal area). The three selection points are shown in the figure.

<span id="page-12-0"></span>combination to land safely. During the landing progress, the LCAM captured 649 images with  $2352 \times 1728$  resolution, 129 images with  $1024 \times 1024$  resolution. After landing on the lunar surface, the data was sent back to the earth. After processing, the dynamic image of the probe landing on the moon was formed.

On December 1, 2020, before drilling and sampling, LRPR started to work on detecting the lunar soil structure of drilling point and identifying the layered structure. After drilling, three more detections were carried out to further explore and analyze the underground structure of the landing site. The original plan for CE-5 mission was to drill to a depth of 2 m. According to the analysis of the detection results of the lunar soil structure detector, there were large rocks at a depth of 1 m from the lunar surface, so the drilling and sampling stopped at a depth of 0.9 m.

After drilling, shoveling collection were conducted. Firstly, PCAM took a panoramic image of the landing area, shown as [Fig. 15](#page-11-0).

Based on the analysis of the panoramic image, with the range of motion of the shovel manipulator and the view of the LRPR, the schematic diagram of the sampling points was designed as shown in [Fig. 16.](#page-11-0) Finally, a total of 12 shovels were made at 3 points. The LMS conducted spectral measurement during the whole process-before, during and after shoveling.

#### 5. Conclusions

This paper mainly focuses on the scientific objectives and exploration tasks of CE-5, carries out the design of CE-5 scientific payload system architecture design and individual scientific payload design, payload technical indicators analysis, working mode design and detection viewing field analysis. Through the design and analysis results, scientific payloads carried out the preliminary geological background study of the sampling area, which effectively supported the sample collection work of CE-5 on the lunar surface and successfully completed the specified exploration mission.

CE-5, which waslaunched half a centurylater, carried four scientific payloads to obtain scientific data for in-situ exploration of the landing area and carried out analysis and research on the background characteristics of the landing area. Through the collection of lunar samples, it will carry out laboratory research on the physical and chemical properties of lunar samples, the mechanism of formation and evolution of lunar soil and the history of lunar chemical evolution, providing scientific answers for a profound understanding of the formation of the Earth-Moon system and the evolutionary history of the formation of the solar system.

#### Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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