



# **2019 PDC Fragments During Deflection**

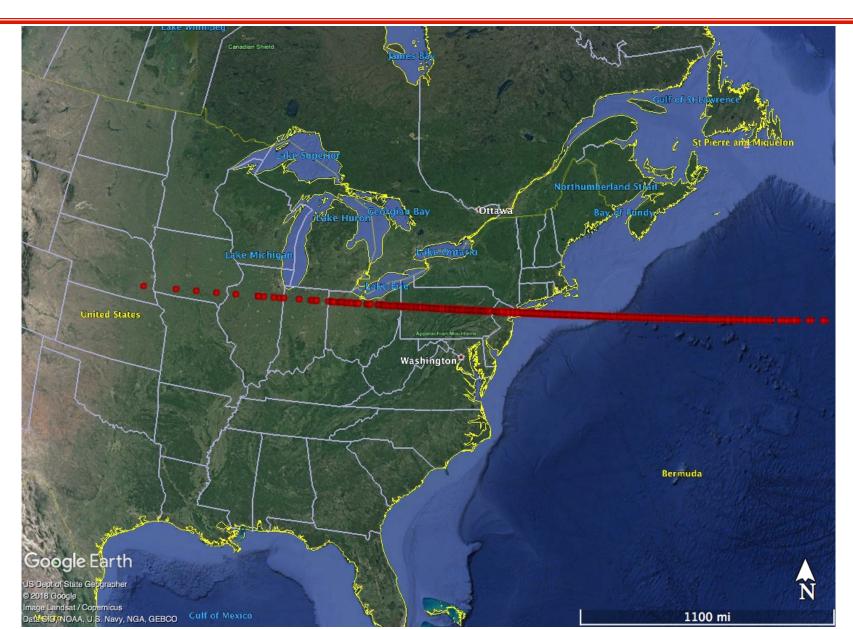


- Three Kinetic Impactors (KIs) deflected asteroid 2019 PDC, but a large fragment about 50 to 80 meters in size (160 to 260 feet) broke away during the first KI deflection and remains on a collision course
- The reconnaissance spacecraft had been on station for 10 months; it observed a large fragment breaking away when the first KI struck; the other two strikes occurred on the main body, not the fragment
- Today, however, contact was lost with the reconnaissance mission, probably due to debris hitting the spacecraft
- Using the spacecraft imaging data, IAWN confirms that the asteroid's main body was successfully deflected, but the fragment was not;
- The precise velocity changes are uncertain because of the short observation period, but IAWN estimates the fragment is on a course towards impact in the eastern U.S. or the Atlantic Ocean
- For more info: https://cneos.jpl.nasa.gov/pd/cs/pdc19/day4.html



# **Impact Footprint for 2019 PDC Fragment**



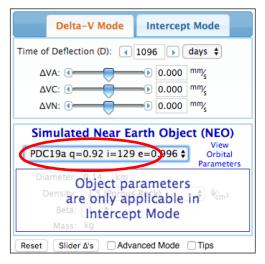


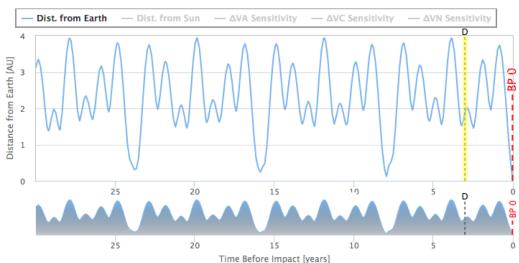


## **CNEOS NEO Deflection App (NDA)**

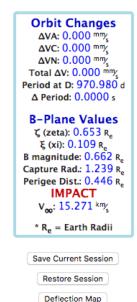


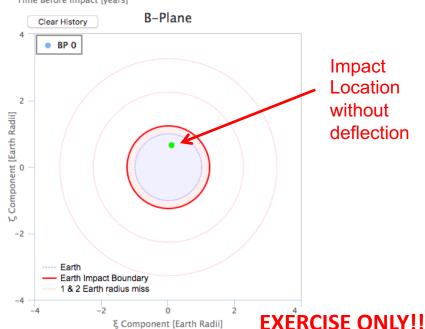
https://cneos.jpl.nasa.gov/nda/nda.html





#### Orbit and Positions at Deflection 3 2 Object 1 npact -1 -2 Earth Object X [AU]





**Impact** Location without deflection



### **Ground Observations of the Fragment**



- The deflection occurred while 2019 PDC was 1.7 au from Earth, almost on the other side of the Sun
- The deflection could not be observed directly from the ground because the solar elongation was low (less than 45 deg)
- IAWN has begun organizing a renewed ground-based observing campaign to track the fragment, in order to better assess its likely impact location
- Observations cannot begin for 3 months, when the asteroid emerges from behind the Sun