

## *DART and beyond*

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There are populations of asteroids on Earth-crossing trajectories that may potentially impact the Earth one day.

And depending on the size of those objects, they could either cause localized damage to cities or, if they're large enough, they can cause mass extinctions.

So these present a real threat to humanity, and we've been on an effort to identify as many of these asteroids as possible, calculate their orbits, and, more recently, with the DART Mission, which is the Double Asteroid Redirection Test, we have experimented with changing the orbit of an asteroid, and this was a successful test, and so one day we might actually be able to divert a potentially hazardous asteroid into a safer orbit.