



Tartan Artibeus

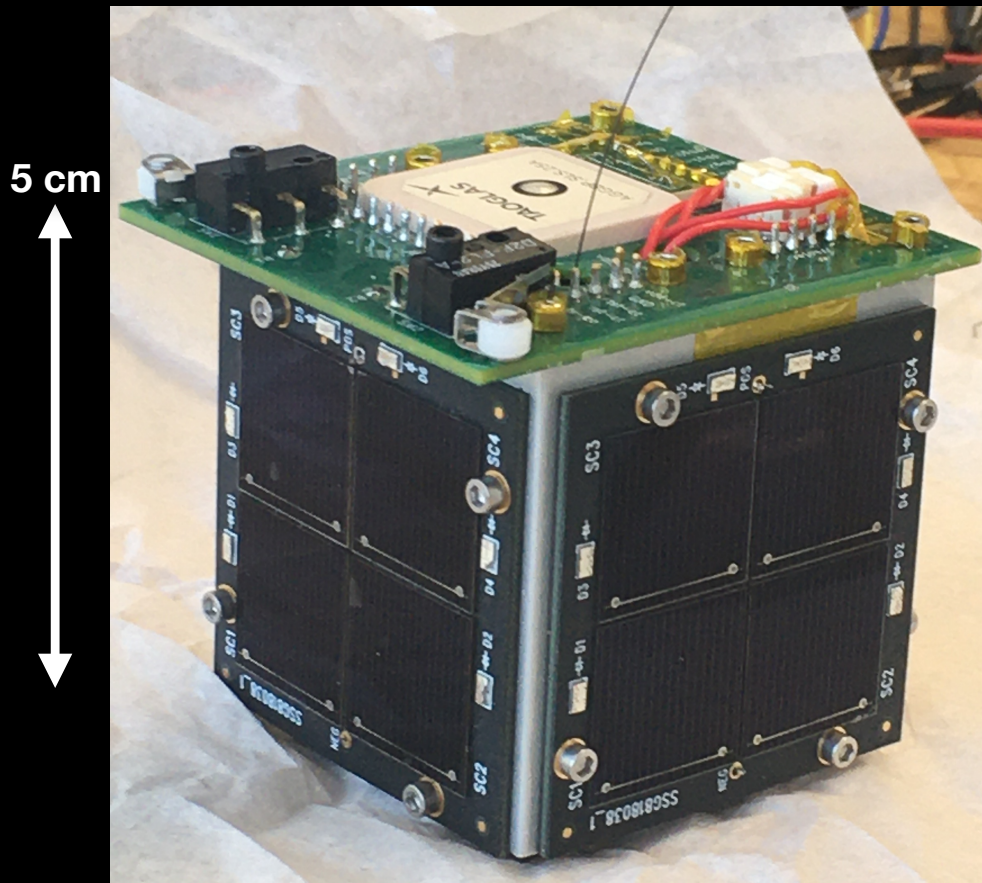
**A Batteryless, Computational Satellite
Research Platform**

Brad Denby, bdenby@cmu.edu

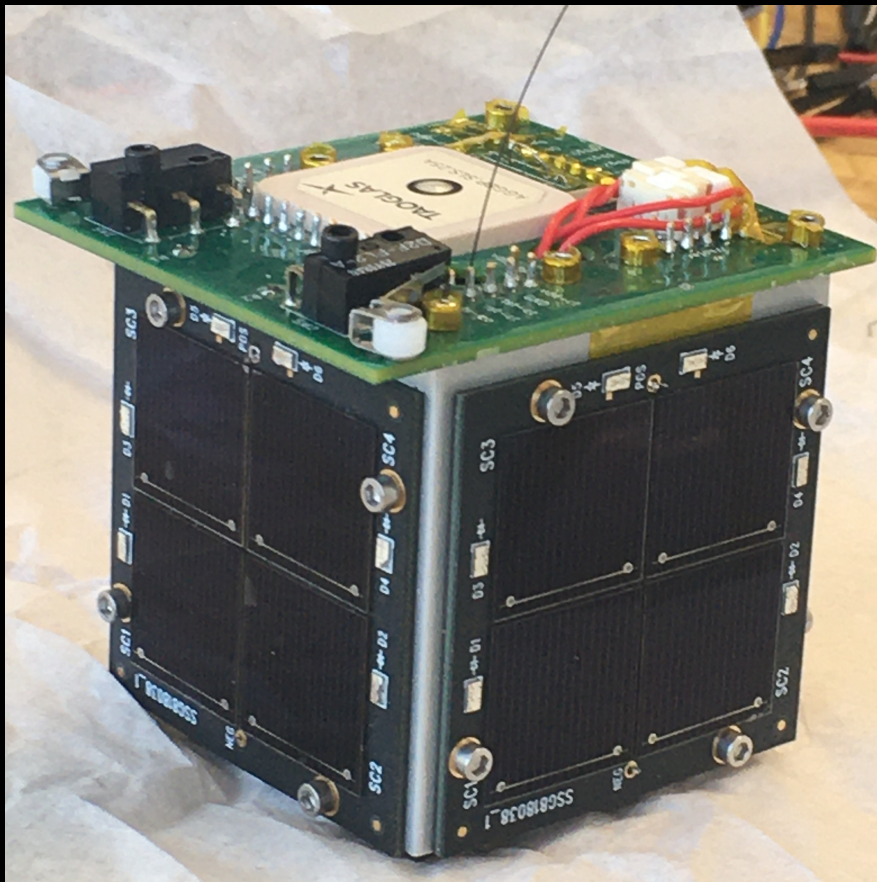
Emily Ruppel, Vaibhav Singh,
Shize Che, Chad Taylor, Fayyaz Zaidi,
Prof. Swarun Kumar, Prof. Zac Manchester,
Prof. Brandon Lucia, blucia@andrew.cmu.edu

Carnegie Mellon University

Tartan Artibeus Pocketcube

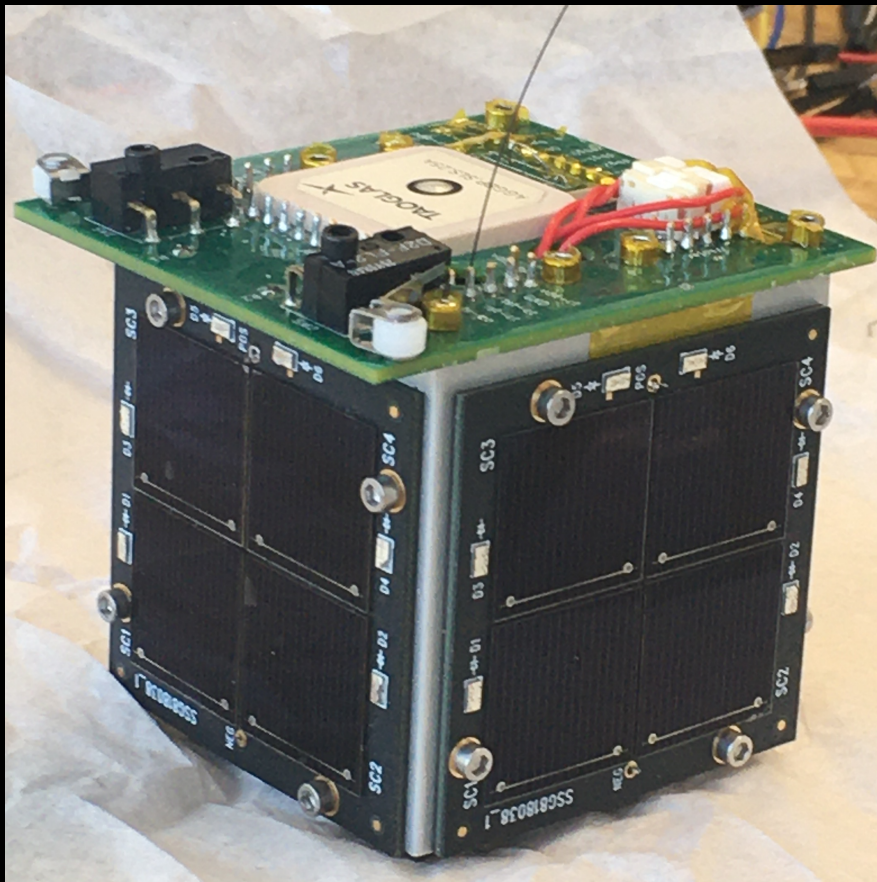


Tartan Artibeus Pocketcube



Goal 1: Accessible
An open source platform
ready to deploy to orbit

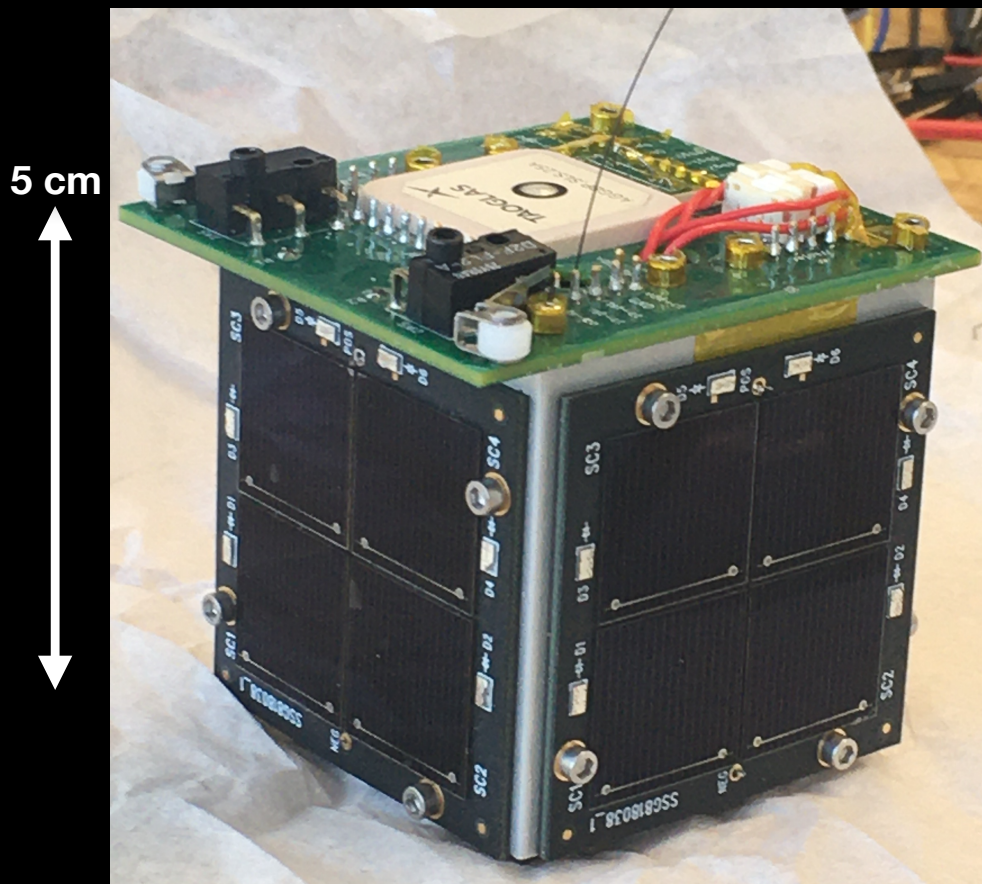
Tartan Artibeus Pocketcube



Goal 1: Accessible
An open source platform
ready to deploy to orbit

Goal 2: Compatible
Connect with simulation
software for mission planning

Tartan Artibeus Pocketcube



Goal 1: Accessible

An open source platform
ready to deploy to orbit

Goal 2: Compatible

Connect with simulation
software for mission planning

Goal 3: Extensible

Interface with computational
modules for machine inference

A satellite view of Earth showing the continents of North and South America. The text is overlaid in white on a dark blue background.

Overview

The Next Ten Years of Low-Earth Orbit

Small Satellite Challenges & Opportunities

Our Focus: Orbital Edge Computing (OEC)

Tartan Artibeus Design and Implementation

Small Satellites Support Innovation

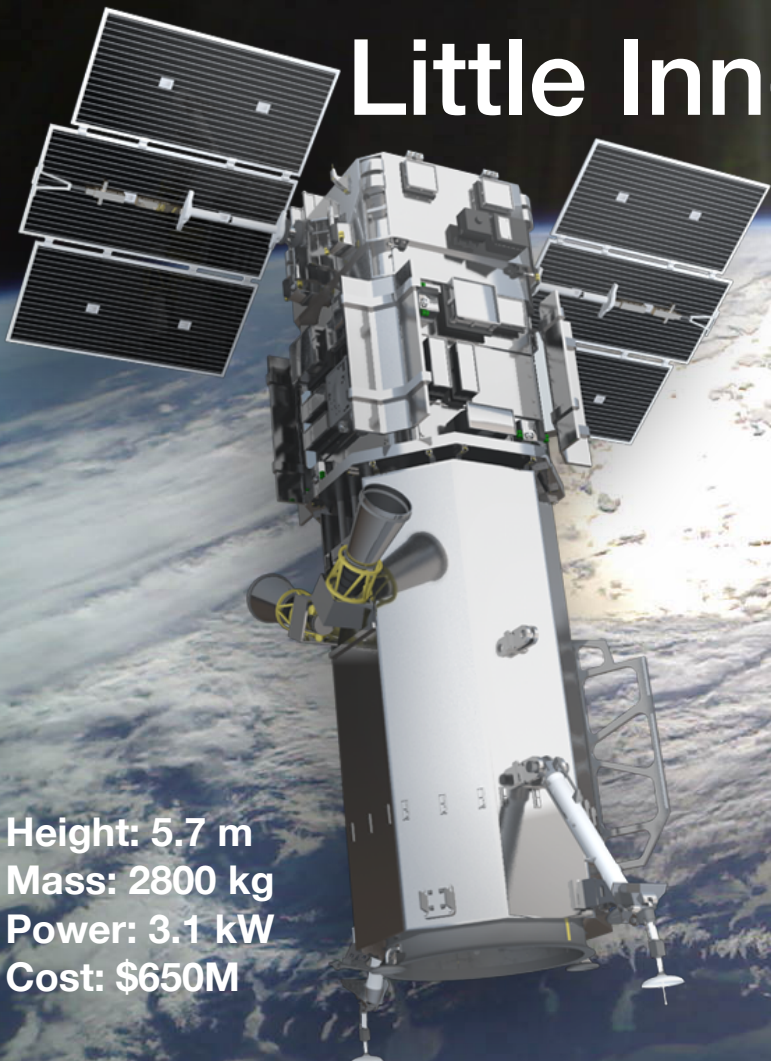
Height: 5.7 m
Mass: 2800 kg
Power: 3.1 kW
Cost: \$650M

Height: 0.3 m
Mass: 4 kg
Power: 7.1 W
Cost: \$65k



•
Pocketqubes and
Chip-scale Satellites

Little Innovation in CONOPS



Height: 5.7 m
Mass: 2800 kg
Power: 3.1 kW
Cost: \$650M

Command and Control

All Devices Share
a Bent-pipe CONOPS

Sensor Data

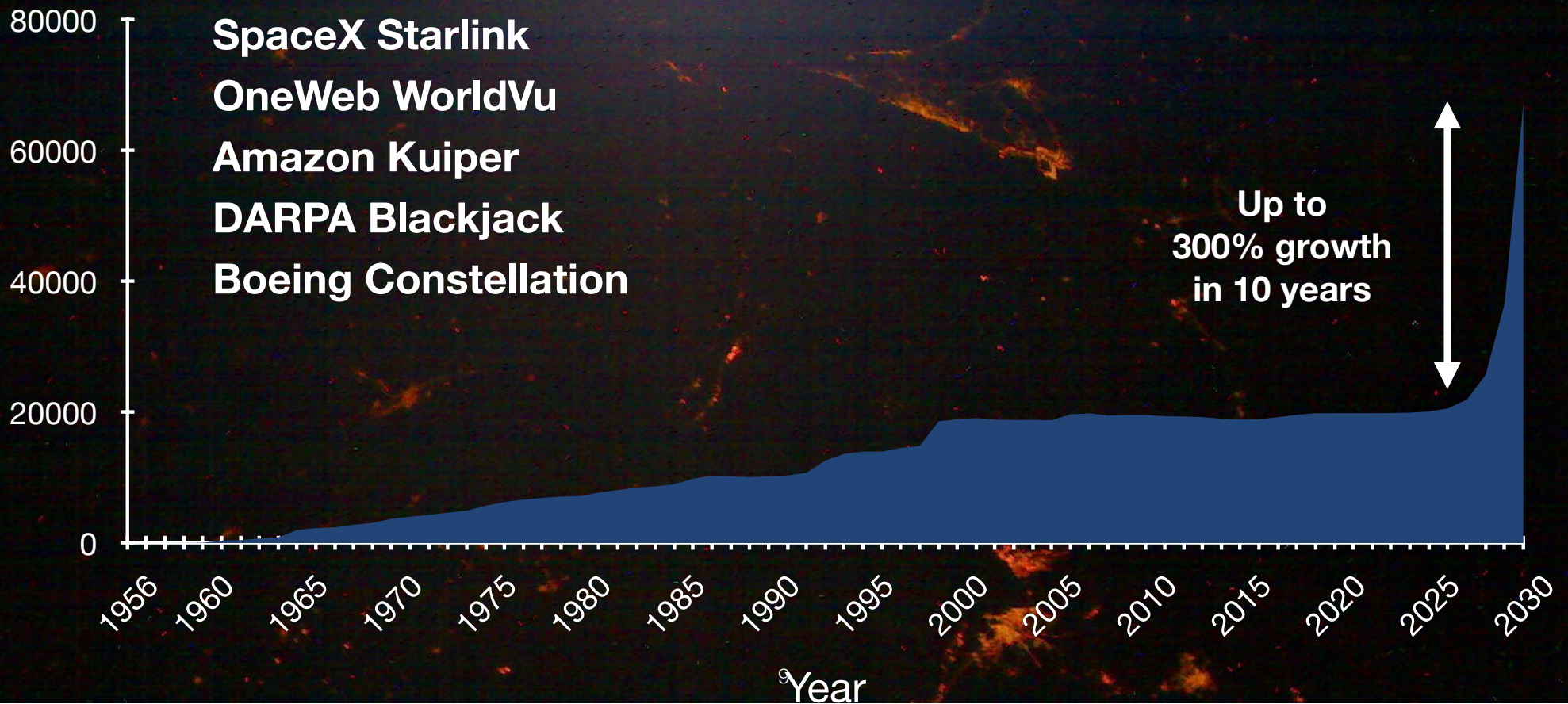
Height: 0.3 m
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Pocketqubes and
Chip-scale Satellites

CONOPS Must Change

Satellites Orbiting Earth



A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the continents of North and South America. The image is dark with a blue tint, and the text is overlaid in white and light gray.

Overview

The Next Ten Years of Low-Earth Orbit

Small Satellite Challenges & Opportunities

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Tartan Artibeus Design and Implementation

Downlinking Data Does Not Scale

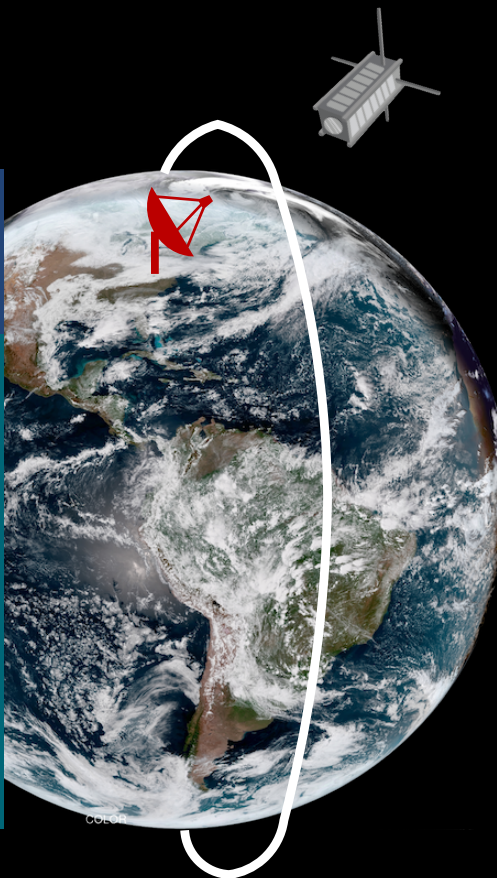


Downlinking Data Does Not Scale



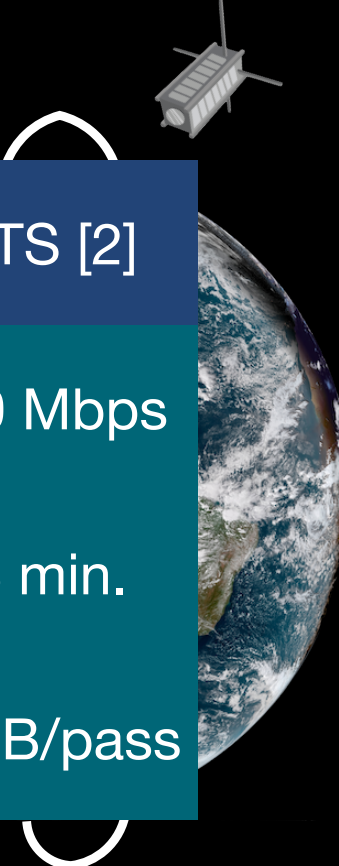
Downlinking Data Does Not Scale

| | Enterprise [1] |
|-------------|----------------|
| Bitrate | 200 Mbps |
| TX Duration | <10 min. |
| Data Down | 15 GB/pass |

A diagram of the Earth showing a satellite in orbit. A red antenna is positioned on the ground, pointing towards the satellite. A white line represents the satellite's orbit around the Earth.

[1] Dove High Speed Downlink System

Downlinking Data Does Not Scale



| | Enterprise [1] | COTS [2] |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Bitrate | 200 Mbps | <120 Mbps |
| TX Duration | <10 min. | 7-8 min. |
| Data Down | 15 GB/pass | 5.3 GB/pass |

[1] Dove High Speed Downlink System

[2] cote Simulator: <https://github.com/cmuaabstract/cote> 14

Downlinking Data Does Not Scale



| | Enterprise [1] | COTS [2] | Near Future |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bitrate | 200 Mbps | <120 Mbps | 1 Gbps? |
| TX Duration | <10 min. | 7-8 min. | 10 min. |
| Data Down | 15 GB/pass | 5.3 GB/pass | 75 GB/pass |

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Downlinking Data Does Not Scale

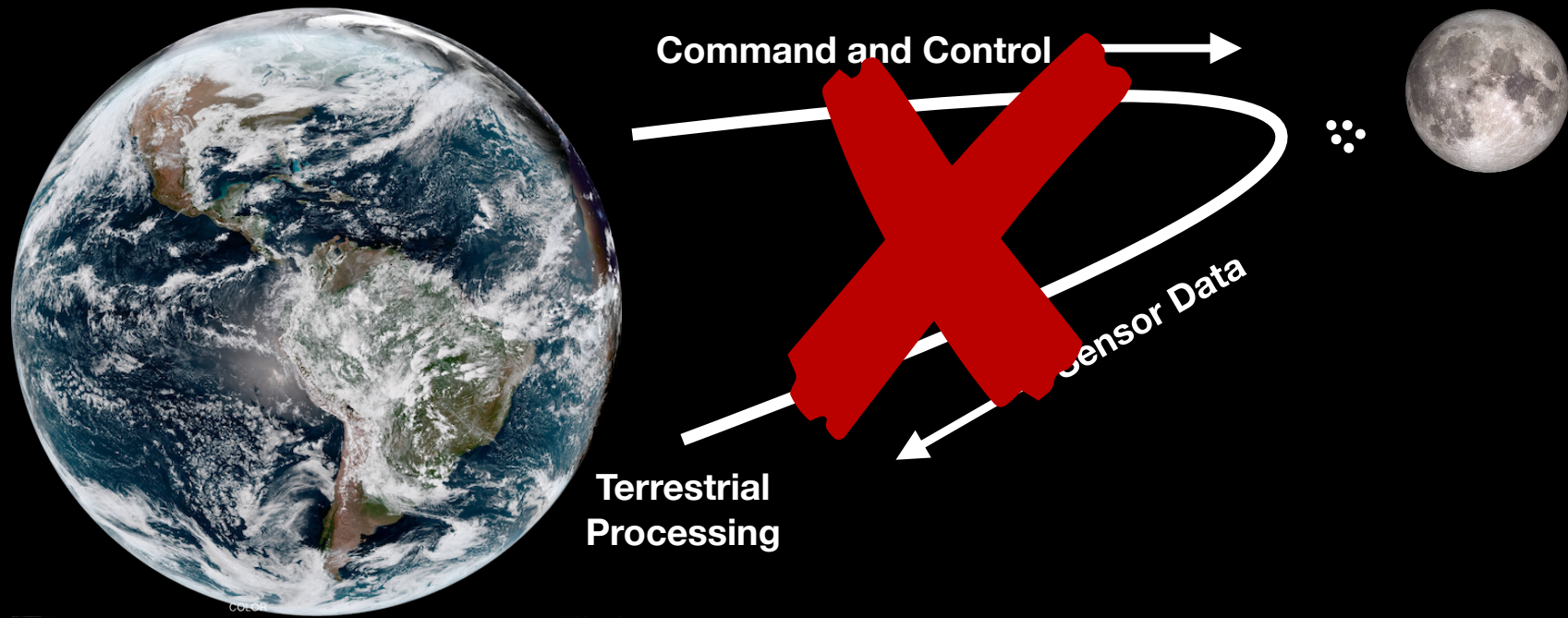


| | Enterprise [1] | COTS [2] | Near Future | Mega Constellation |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Bitrate | 200 Mbps | <120 Mbps | 1 Gbps? | No Change |
| TX Duration | <10 min. | 7-8 min. | 10 min. | ↓(contention) |
| Data Down | 15 GB/pass | 5.3 GB/pass | 75 GB/pass | Less per sat. |

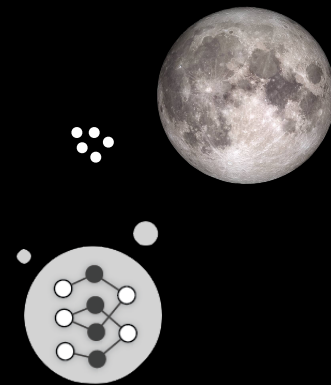
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Reducing Reliance on Bent Pipes



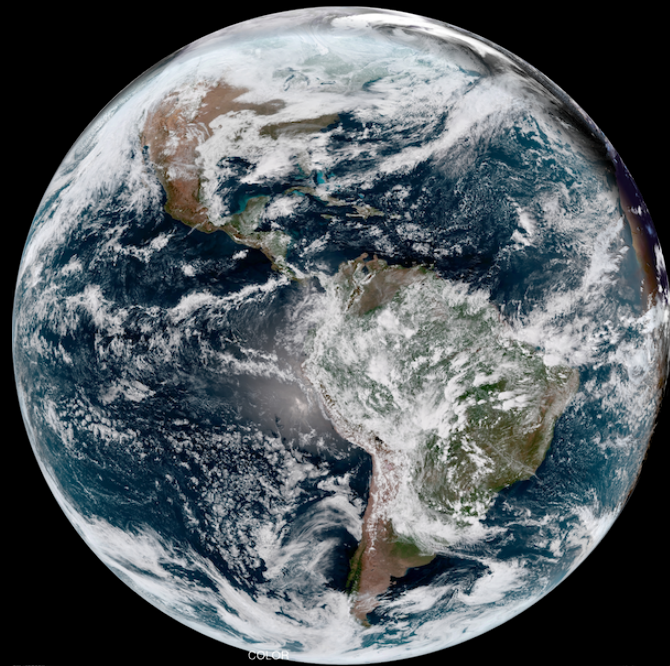
Edge Computing: A Scalable Alternative



**Computing
at the Edge**

Edge Computing: A Scalable Alternative

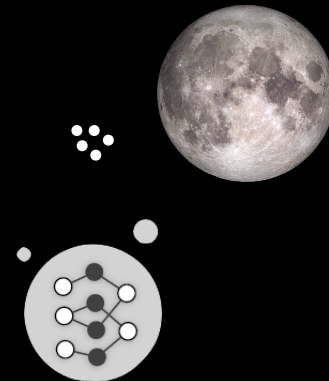
Existing Systems



Communication

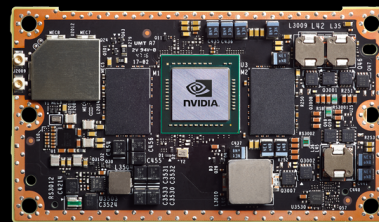
Guidance,
Navigation,
& Control

Sensors



Edge Computing in Space

e.g. Embedded Compute Module



Computing
at the Edge

A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the Western Hemisphere. The Americas are visible in the center, with the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west. The image is dark with a blue tint, and the text is overlaid in white and light gray.

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Tartan Artibeus Design and Implementation

Computational Satellite Requirements

Machine Learning in Space



Machine Learning Bridges the Gap

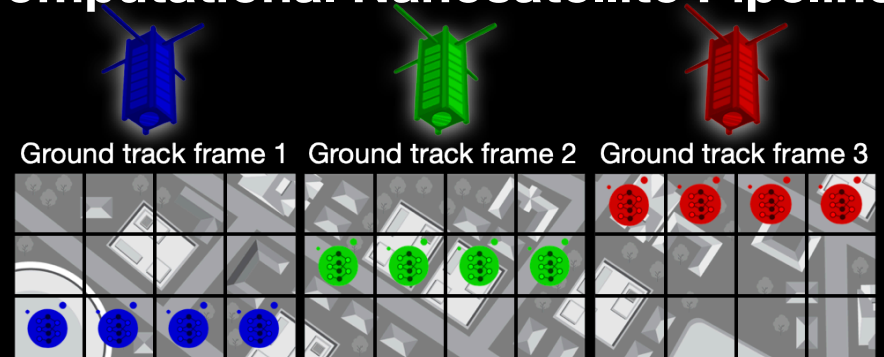
Orbital Edge Computing: Machine Inference in Space
(CAL'19; B Denby, B Lucia)

Computational Satellite Requirements

Machine Learning in Space



Computational Nanosatellite Pipelines



Machine Learning Bridges the Gap

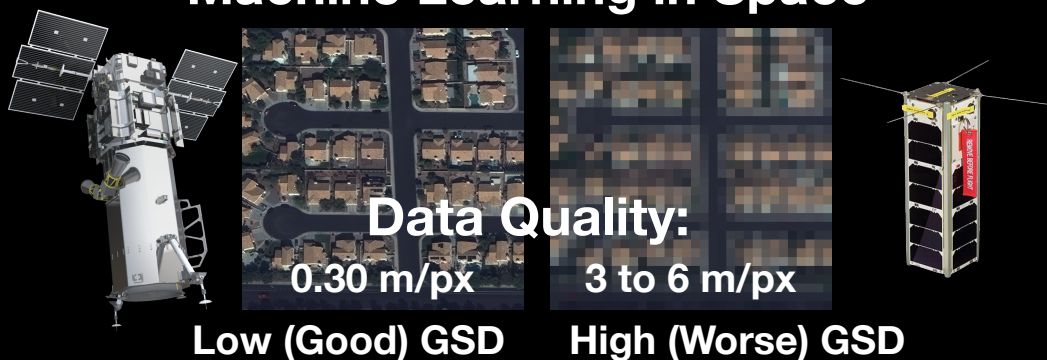
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Distributing Computation across Devices

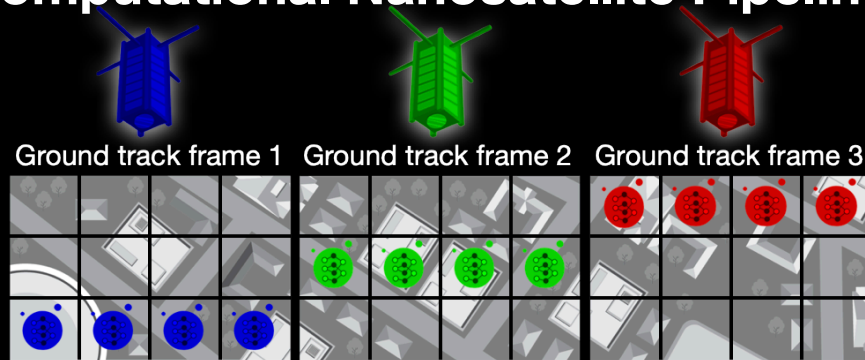
Orbital Edge Computing: Nanosatellite Constellations as a New Class of Computer System
(ASPLOS'20; B Denby, B Lucia)

Computational Satellite Requirements

Machine Learning in Space



Computational Nanosatellite Pipelines



Machine Learning Bridges the Gap

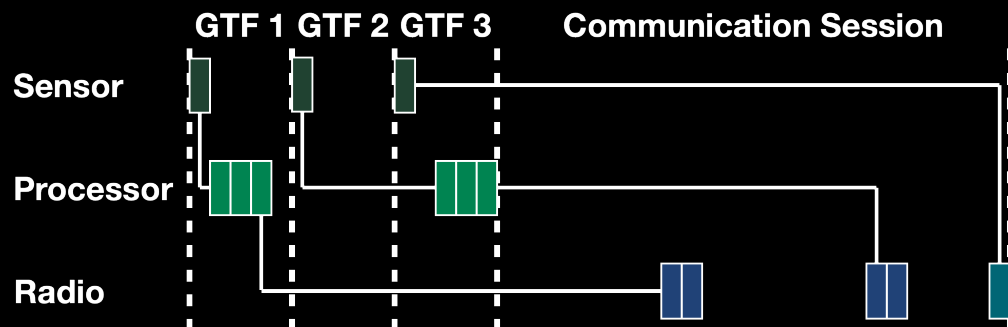
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Distributing Computation across Devices

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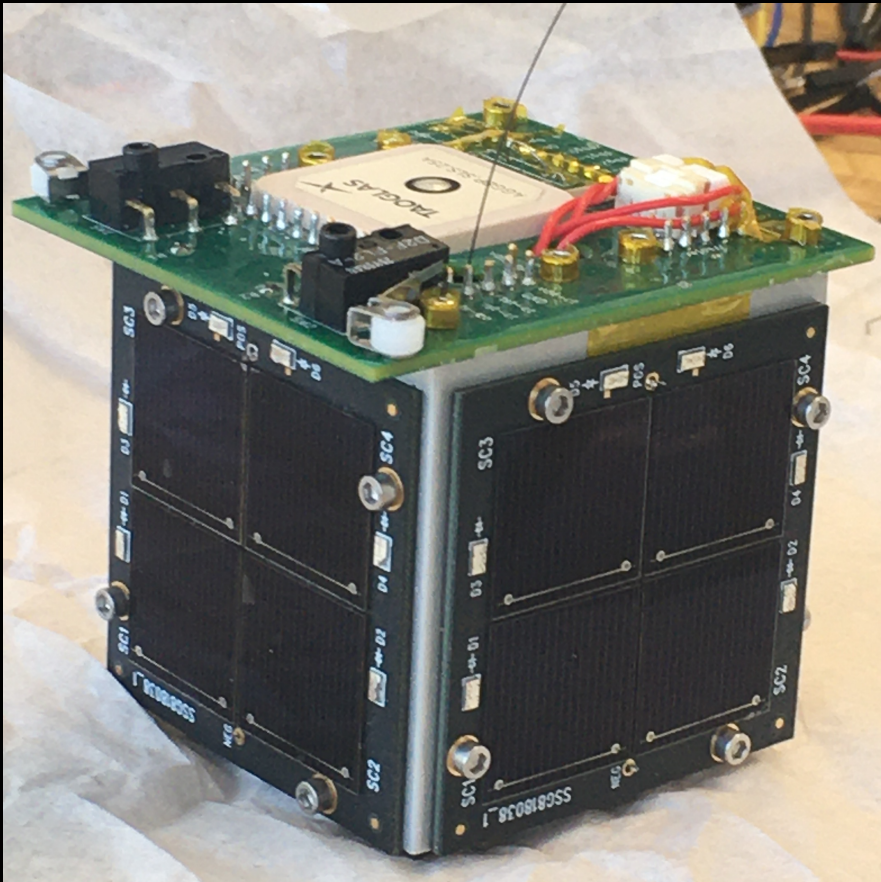
cote: Open Source Orbital Edge Computing Simulator

<https://github.com/cmabstract/cote>

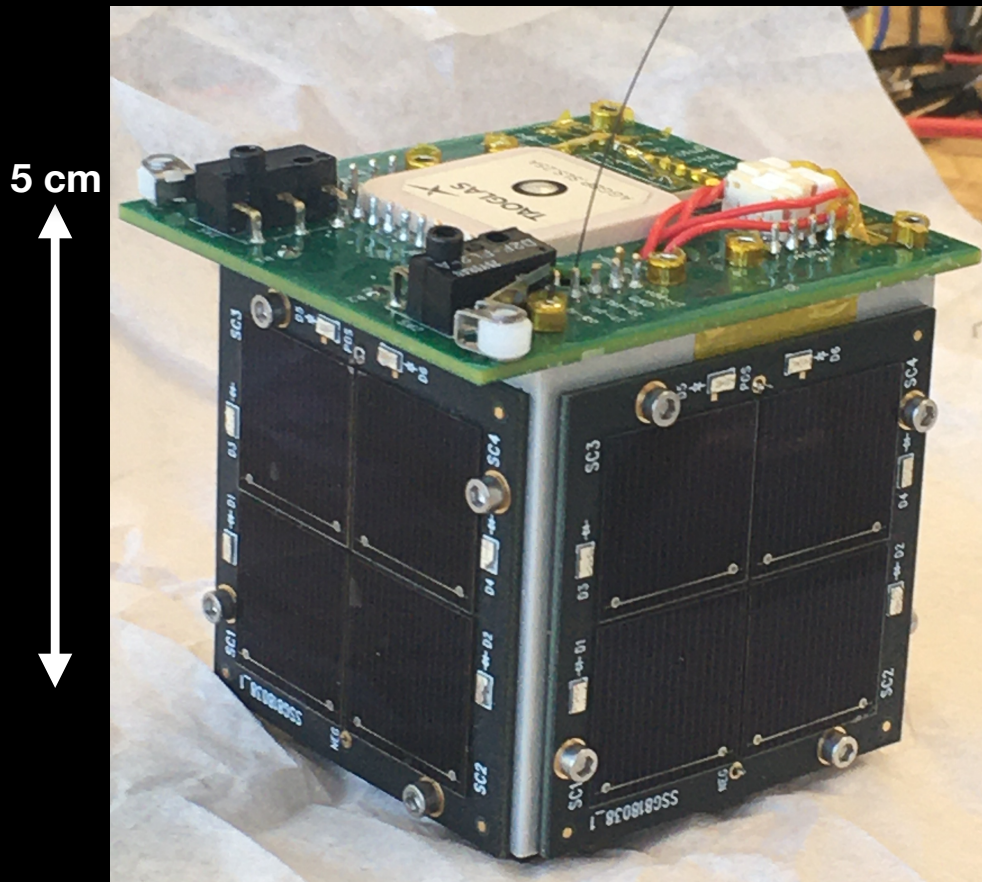


Tartan Artibeus Pocketcube

**Goal 1: Accessible
Ground control of
deployed satellites**



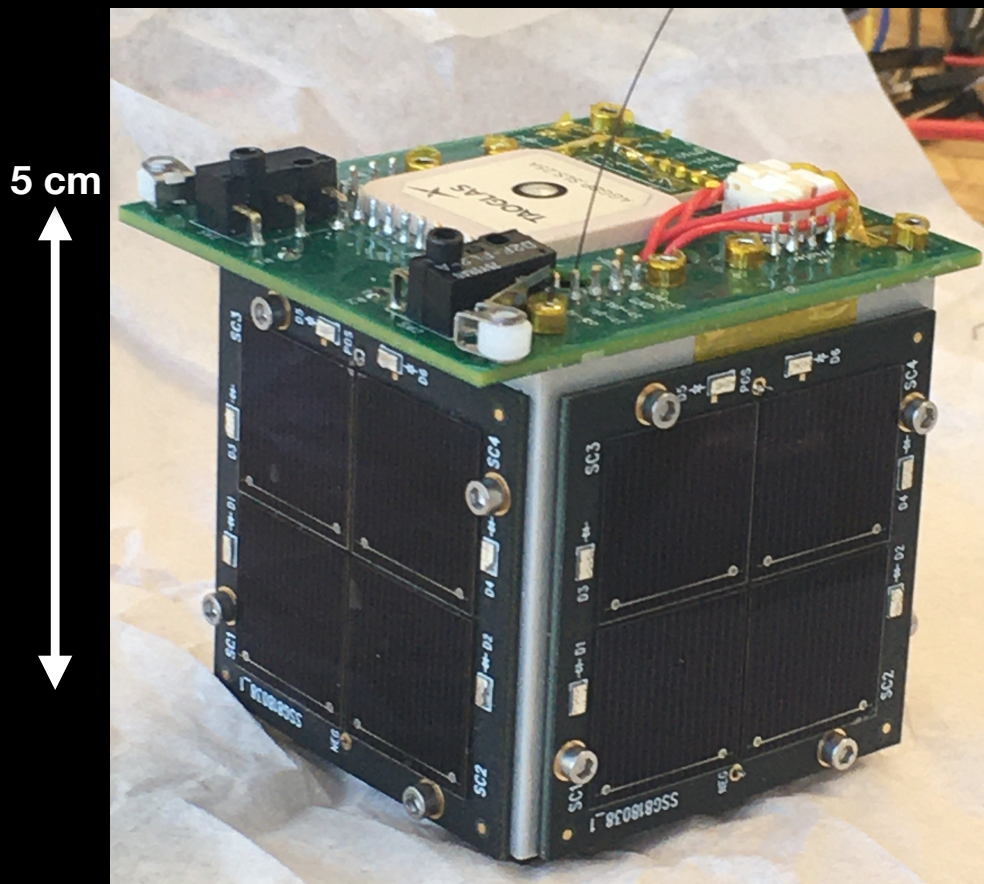
Tartan Artibeus Pocketcube



Goal 1: Accessible
Ground control of
deployed satellites

Goal 2: Compatible
Hardware-in-the-loop
simulation

Tartan Artibeus Pocketcube



Goal 1: Accessible
Ground control of
deployed satellites

Goal 2: Compatible
Hardware-in-the-loop
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Goal 3: Extensible
Integration of
third-party modules

A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the Western Hemisphere. The Americas are visible in the center, with the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west. The image is dark with a blue tint, and the text is overlaid in white and light gray.

Overview

The Next Ten Years of Low-Earth Orbit

Small Satellite Challenges & Opportunities

Our Focus: Orbital Edge Computing (OEC)

Tartan Artibeus Design and Implementation

Tartan Artibeus Bus (TAB)

TAB: a communication protocol for satellite data and commands

<https://github.com/cmuabstract/tartan-artibeus-sw>

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Mission Simulation



Hardware
in the Loop
(Goal 2)



Flight Hardware

Tartan Artibeus Bus (TAB)

TAB: a communication protocol for satellite data and commands

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Mission Simulation

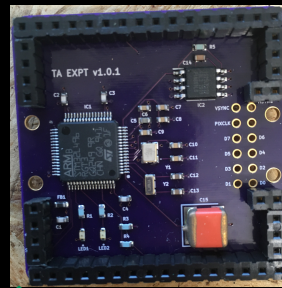


Hardware
in the Loop
(Goal 2)

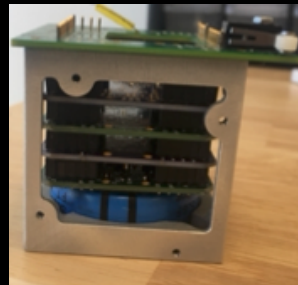


Flight Hardware

Custom Payloads



Intermodule
Communication
(Goal 3)



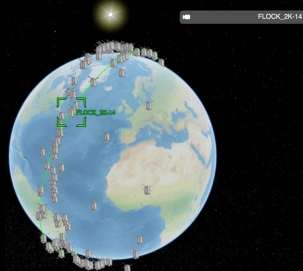
Satellite Platforms

Tartan Artibeus Bus (TAB)

TAB: a communication protocol for satellite data and commands

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Mission Simulation

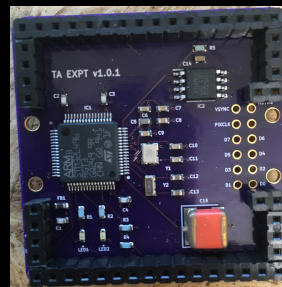


Hardware
in the Loop
(Goal 2)

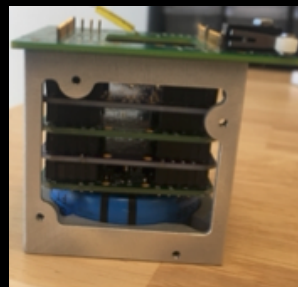


Flight Hardware

Custom Payloads

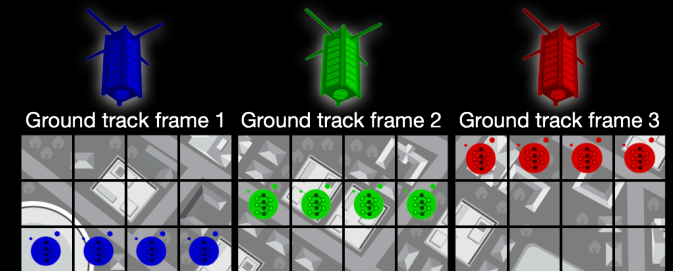


Intermodule
Communication
(Goal 3)

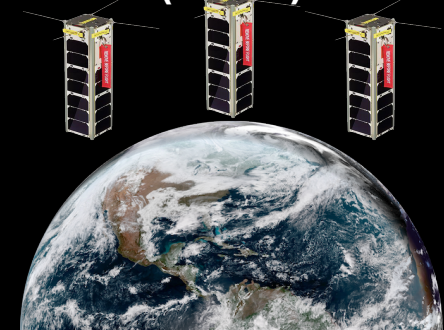


Satellite Platforms

Research Concepts



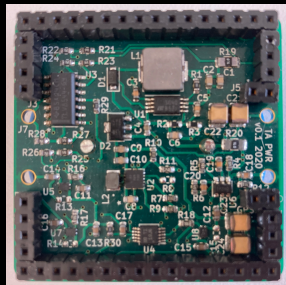
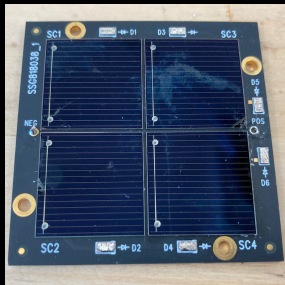
Remote Command
and Control
(Goal 1)



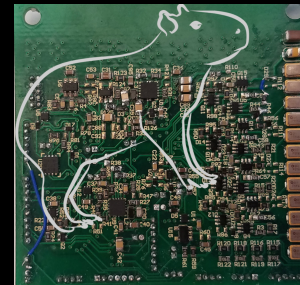
Deployment to Orbit

Tartan Artibeus Satellite

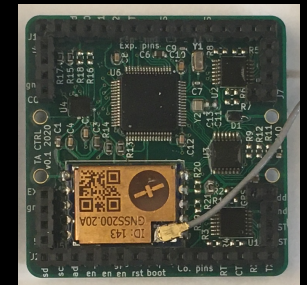
Energy System



Command and Control



Capybara

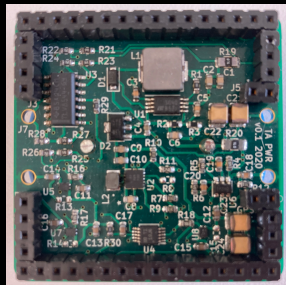
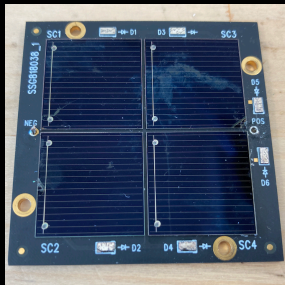


Pocketcube C&DH

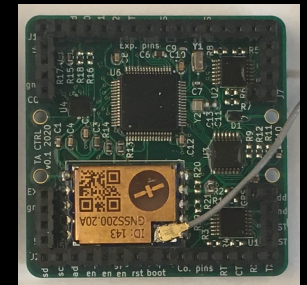
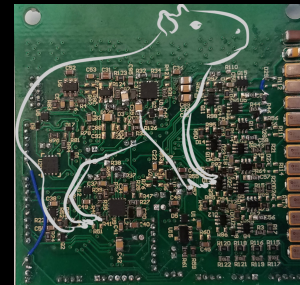
A reconfigurable energy storage architecture for energy-harvesting devices (ASPLOS'18; A Colin, E Ruppel, B Lucia)

Tartan Artibeus Satellite

Energy System



Command and Control

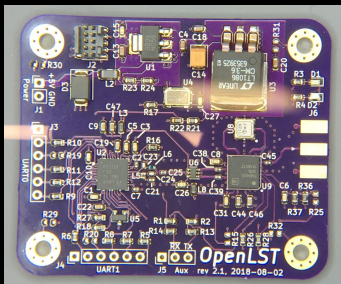


Capybara

Pocketcube C&DH

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Radio Communication



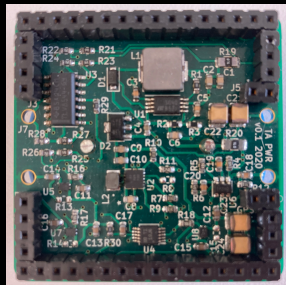
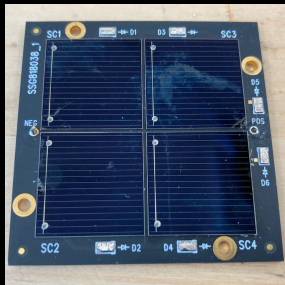
OpenLST

Pocketcube Radio

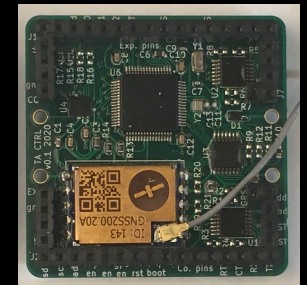
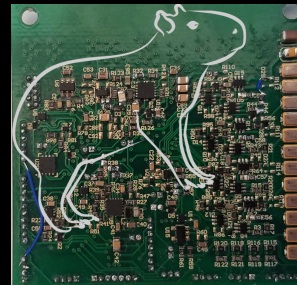
<https://github.com/cmuabstract/tartan-artibeus-hw>

Tartan Artibeus Satellite

Energy System



Command and Control

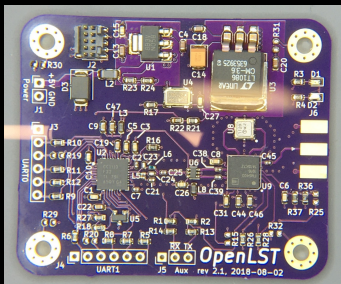


Capybara

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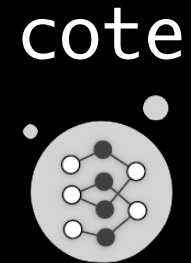
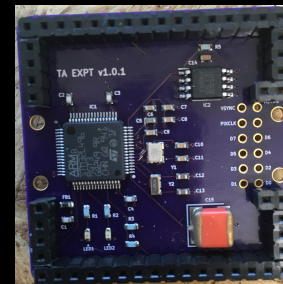
Radio Communication



OpenLST

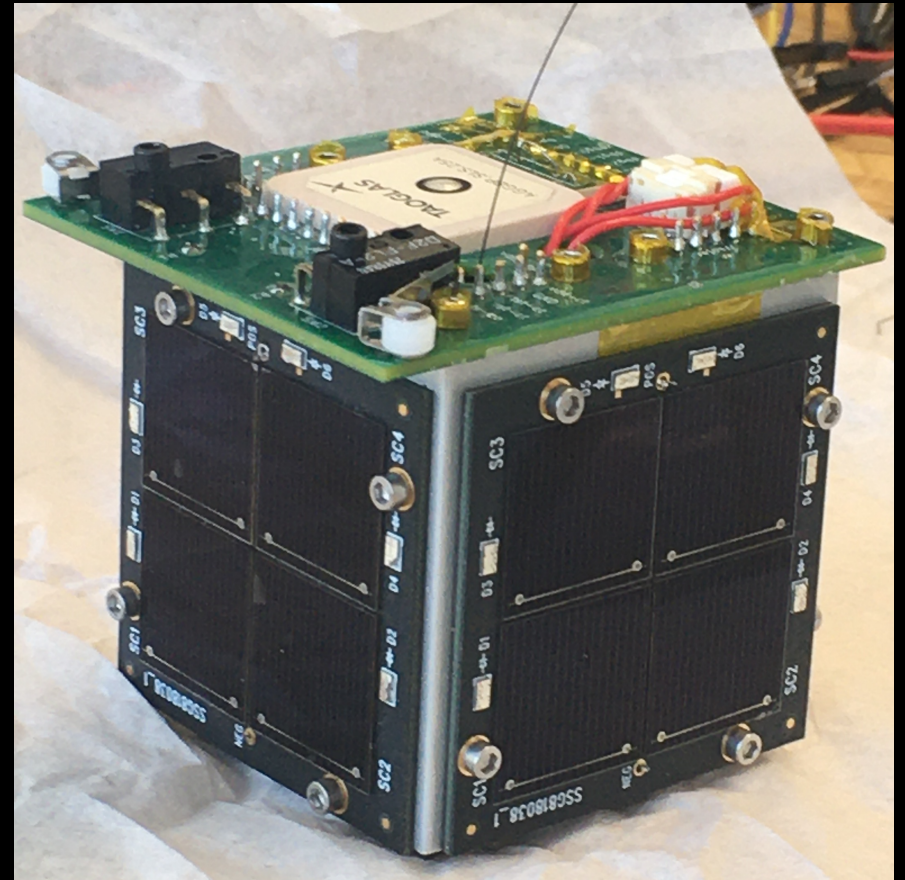
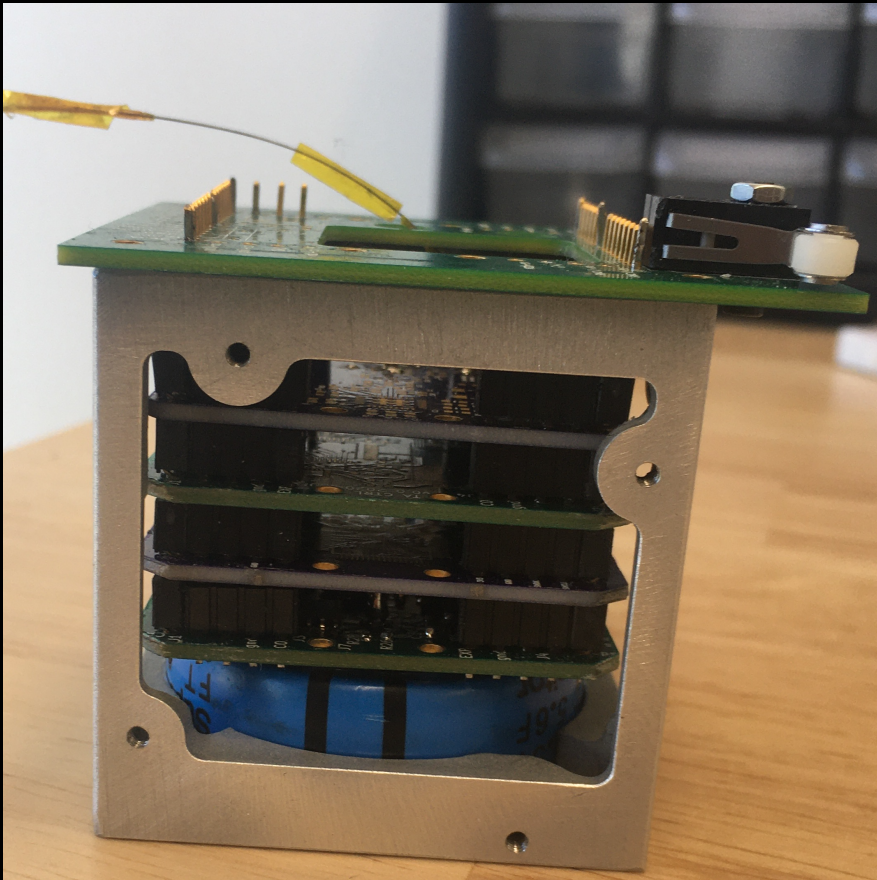
Pocketcube Radio

Computational Payload



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Tartan Artibeus Pocketcube





Let's chat!

Message me at bdenby@cmu.edu to set up a meeting this week

Interested in graduate school?

Email Prof. Brandon Lucia at blucia@andrew.cmu.edu and visit our web page: <http://abstract.ece.cmu.edu>

Carnegie Mellon University