

# Safety and Security of Small Satellites in Low Earth Orbit (LEO): Small Satellite Workshop @ UTD

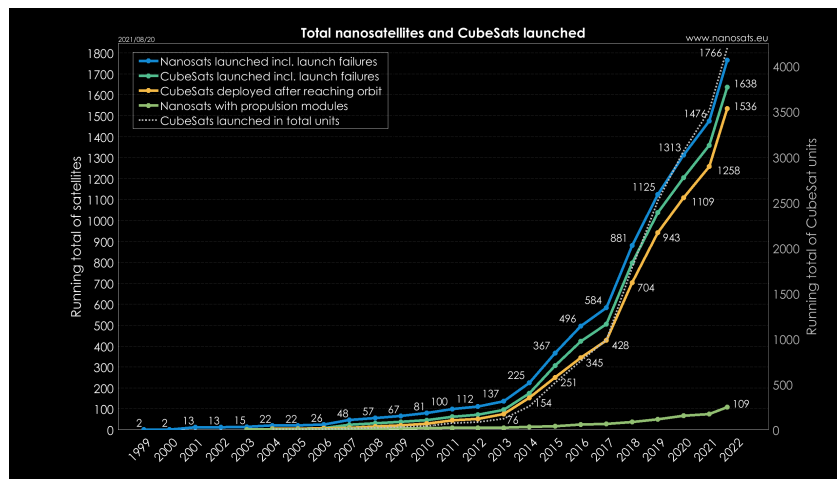
Kangkook Jee  
July 7, 2025

The University of Texas at Dallas

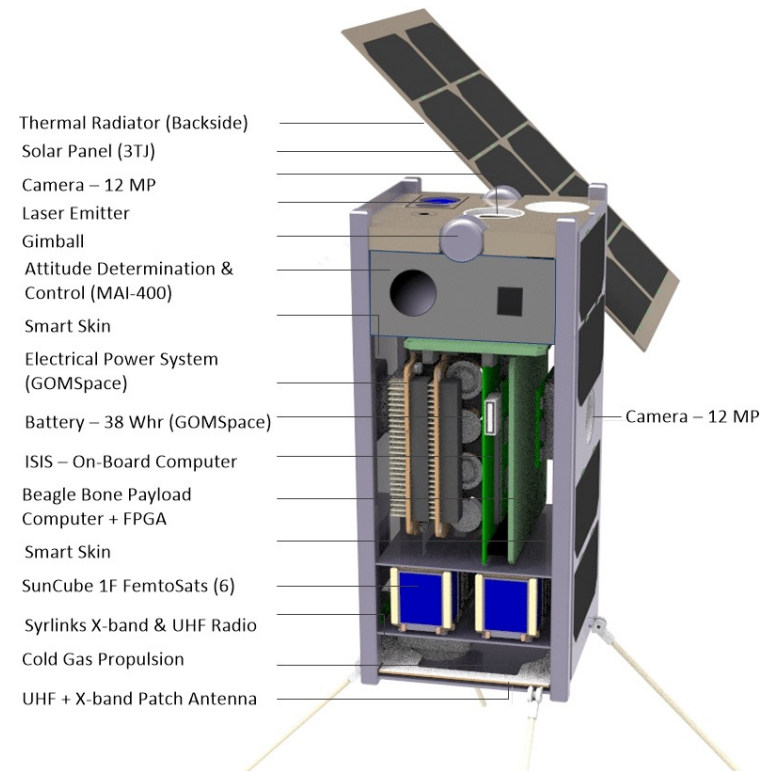


# New Space Era

- Two Enablers
  - Re-usable booter technologies
  - Ever-shrinking size of technologies



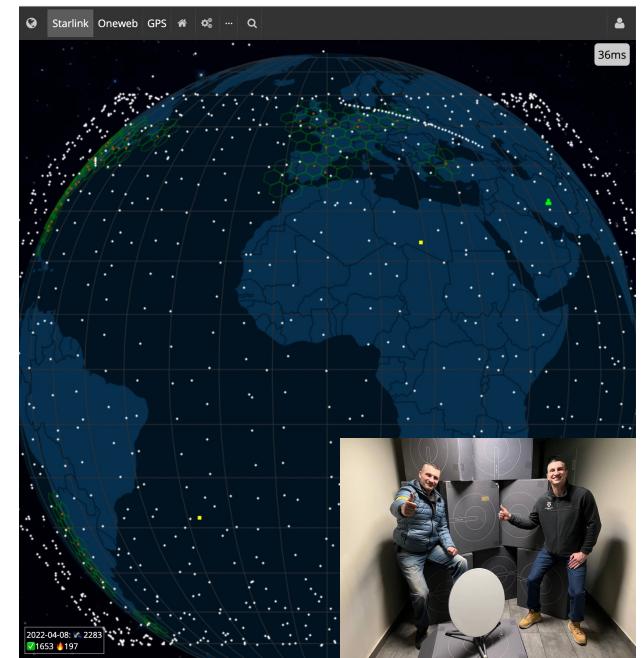
Total count of CubeSats launched as of August 2021



Standard 2U CubeSat  
(1U: 10 cm × 10 cm × 11.35 cm)

# Starlink@Ukraine

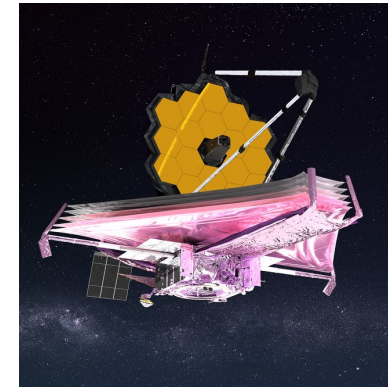
- Starlink aims to be a world-wide Internet ISP
  - Constellation with ~2000 on LEO (Low Earth Orbit)
  - ~3000 more on their ways
- Ukraine has been winning a propaganda campaign
- If you were Putin, what would you do?



Starlink satellite map - <https://satellitemap.space/>

# "Traditional" Space Electronics

- Confirmed by a rigorous process
  - E.g., Rad-hardening, ruggedized components



**Surviving space...**  
...it isn't easy

**Survive a rocket launch**  
The vibration alone would shake apart a non-space computer

**Keep it cool**  
There's no air to remove heat

**Shield it**  
The sun's radiation will damage an average computer in minutes

**Build it to last**  
There's no help desk in the cosmos

Our reliable radiation-hardened computers are at the core of more than 300 satellites on orbit today

BAE SYSTEMS

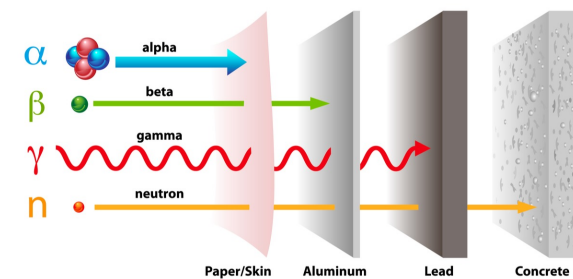
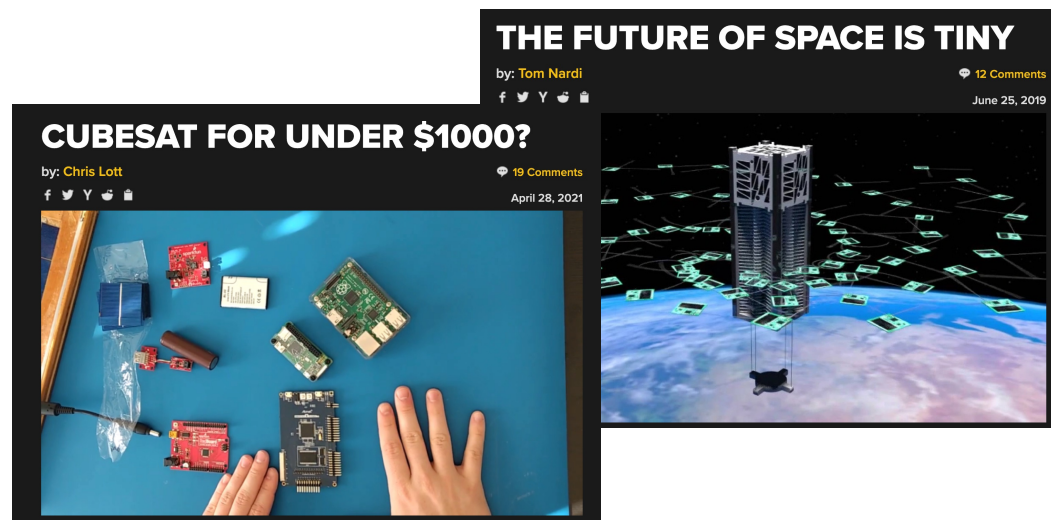


Image source: BAE systems



# The Game is Turning into a New Phase

- \$2M to put your CubeSat on LEO
- Big business for sweeping space debris



# Space + Cyber Security

This is historical material “frozen in time”. The website is no longer updated and links to external websites and some internal pages may not work.



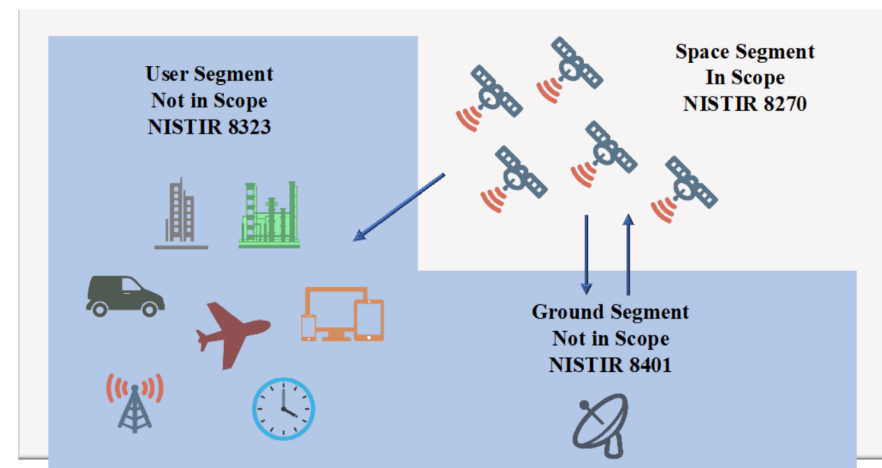
PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDA

## Memorandum on Space Policy Directive-5—Cybersecurity Principles for Space Systems

NATIONAL SECURITY & DEFENSE

Issued on: September 4, 2020

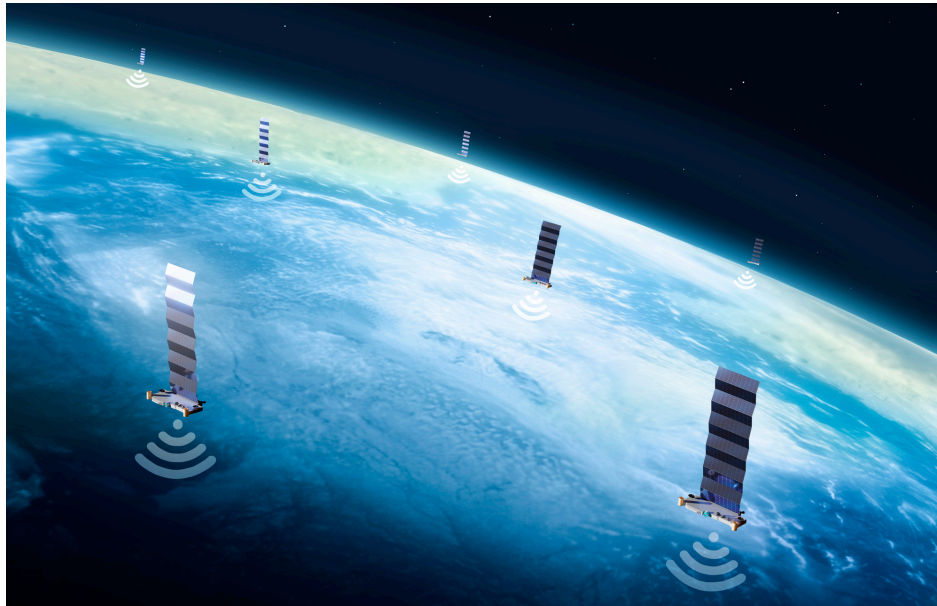
[memorandum on space policy direct 5](#)



- NIST-IR 8270: Introduction to Cybersecurity for Commercial Satellite Operations
- NIST-IR 8323: Foundational PNT Profile: Applying the Cybersecurity Framework for the Responsible Use of Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) Services
- NIST-IR 8401: Satellite Ground Segment: Applying the Cybersecurity Framework to Satellite Command and Control
- NIST-IR 8441: Cybersecurity Framework Profile for Hybrid Satellite Networks (HSN)

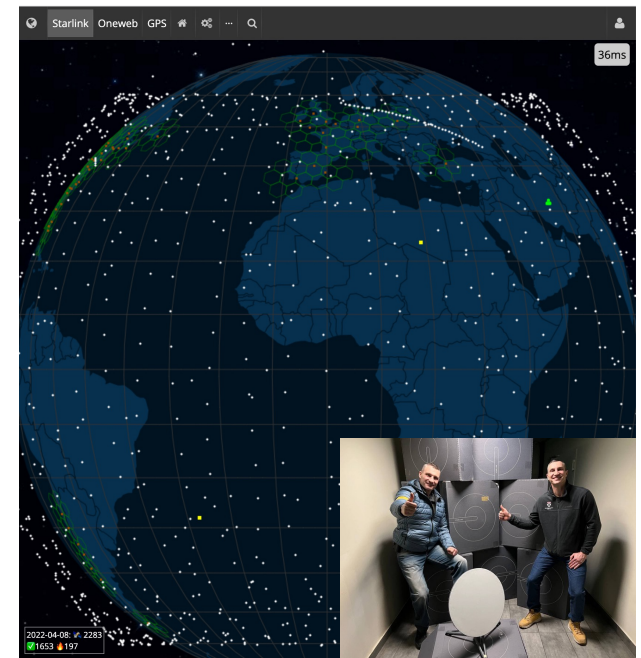
# Starlink@Ukraine

- People are still connected amongst war



# Starlink@Ukraine

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  - Constellation with ~2000 on LEO (Low Earth Orbit)
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Starlink satellite map - <https://satellitemap.space/>

# Disclaimer

- This is a failure story
  - 4+ years of endeavor without producing concrete outcomes
- Safety and security of small satellites (or CubeSats) in LEO
  - Space has many segments
  - LEO, MEO, GEO, and deep space
  - Private, public sectors, and *academic and research communities*

## Who Am I?

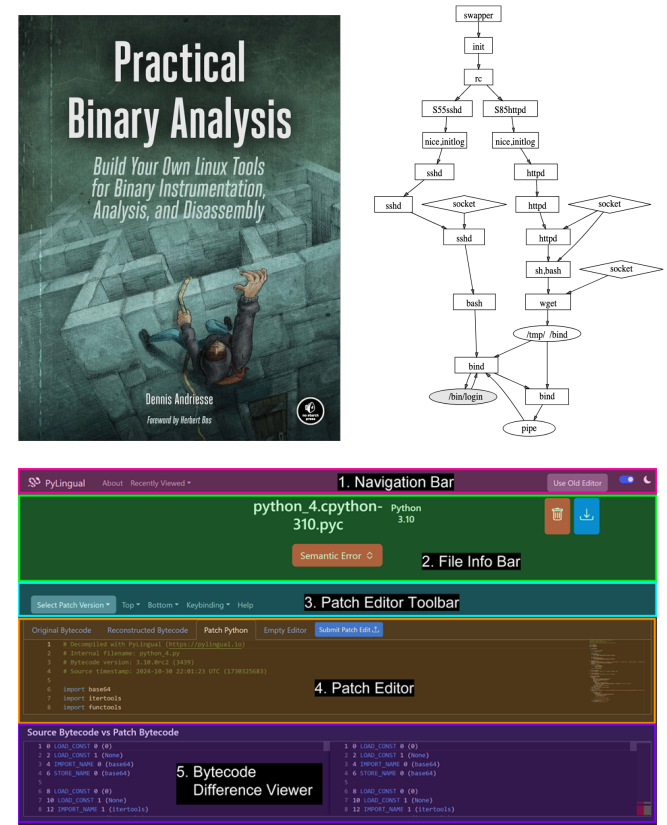
- 10 years of industry experience
  - IBM Korea, NEC Laboratory in America
  - OS/JVM engineer
  - EDR research, Pen-testing, and security analysis
- Joined UT Dallas in 2019
  - Specialized in system security
  - Teaching binary reversing (CTF) courses





# Who Am I?

- System security researcher
  - Binary-level information flow tracking: [libdft](#)
  - Static and dynamic program (binary) analysis
- Leveraging ML-techniques to automate security analysis
  - Data-driven security research with large security graphs
    - EDR, system provenance
  - Decompilation of High-level Dynamic Languages (HDLs)
    - [PyLingual](#)
- Why SPCACE?



# My Space Journey

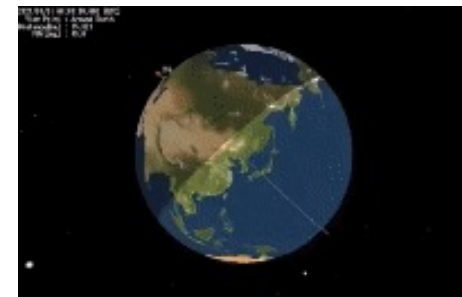
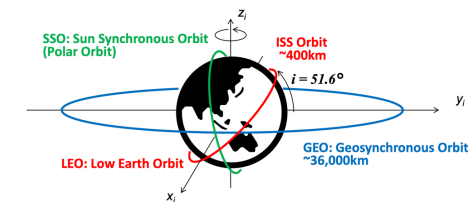
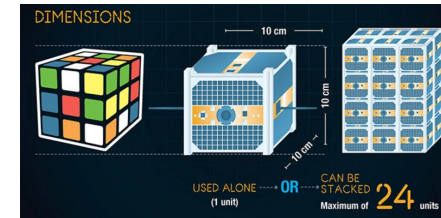
- How a system security researcher come to be a space enthusiast?
- Lucky to have a chance to participate satellite project (6U CubeSat)
  - 1 year in preparation stage, 2 years of operation
  - Planned to run various cybersecurity research
  - Couldn't say it was quite successful ...
- Still working on space
  - Gap between cyber and aerospace communities
  - Research opportunities
  - Optimistic (or Naive) about space
- This talk will be about ...

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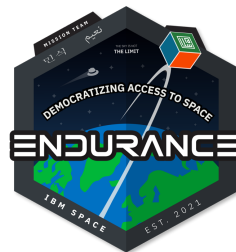
# Context Reminder: CubeSat in LEO

- CubeSat
  - Micro- or nanosatellites ( ~ 10 kg)
  - For amateur and hobbyists (You may not find it super-relevant)
- Low Earth Orbit (LEO)
  - Popular destination among recent spacecraft projects (e.g., Starlink, ISS)
  - Pros
    - Inexpensive launch cost
    - Short latency for terrestrial communication
  - Cons
    - Circle the earth every 7 ~ 9 hours
    - Under close gravity interference
    - Space debris



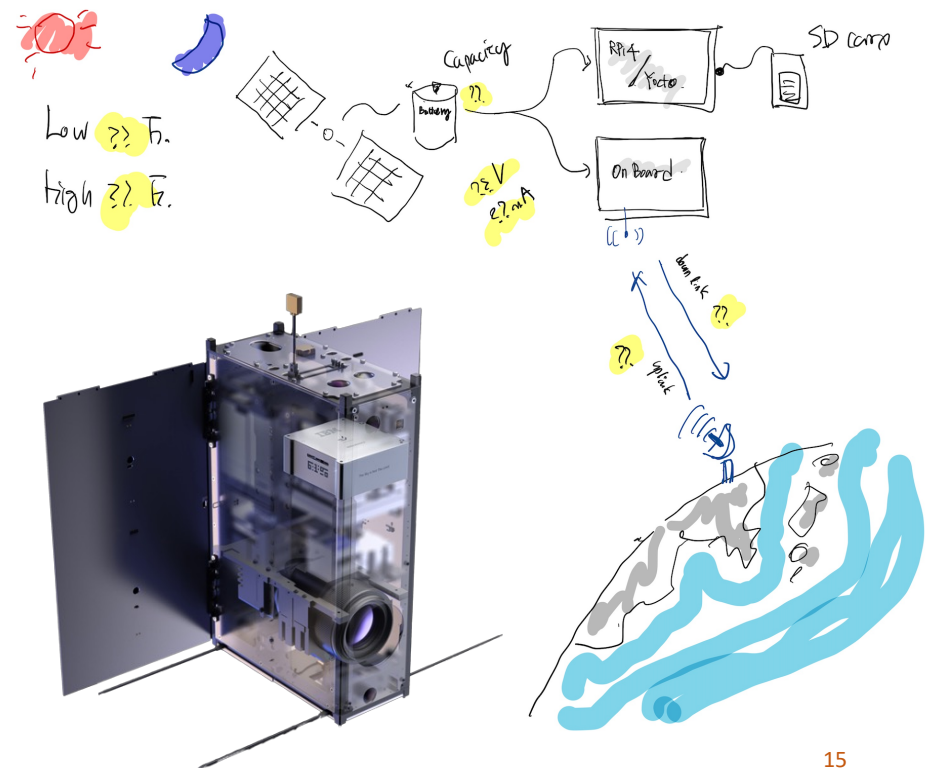
# UTD + IBM Space Collaboration

- Endurance CubeSat mission
  - A new and exciting topic
- Aim to make scientific contributions
- Safety and Security

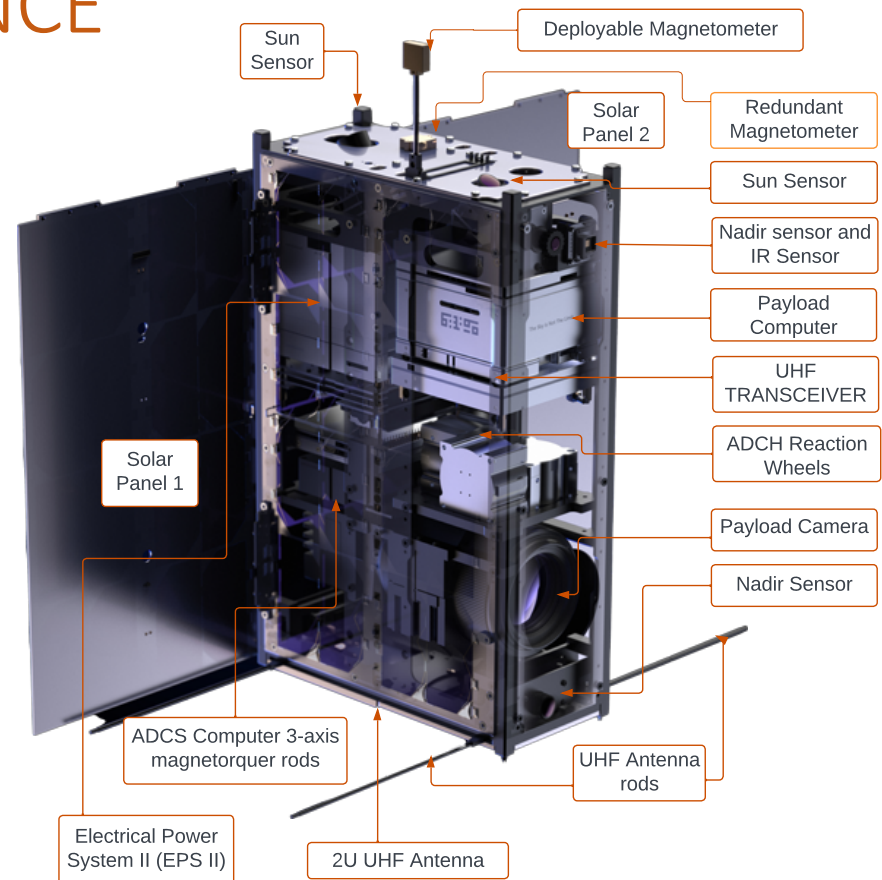
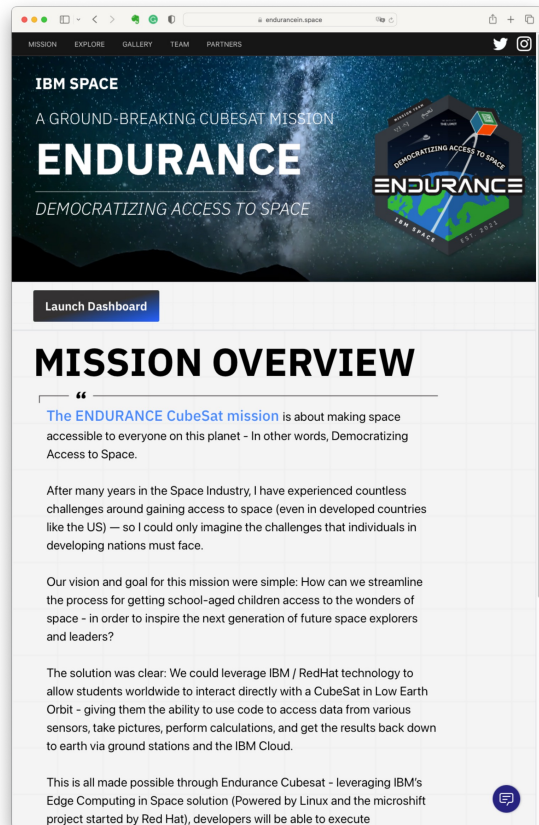


# UTD + IBM Space Collaboration

- CubeSat on LEO
  - Low-Earth-Orbit (LEO)
  - A unique testbed for safety and security using consumer grade electric device
- IBM Space Tech + academic research collaboration
- Unconventional use-case of edge-cloud computing model
  - Different physics for space computing



# IBM Space: ENDURANCE





# IBM Endurance

- Raspberry Pi 4 (BCM 2711)
  - Yoko Linux image customized for satellite operation
  - Minimal power consumption
  - Fast / seamless recovery
- CubeSat Onboard Computer (OBC)
  - Microcontroller (MCU) -based computer for payload operation
  - Mainly concerns about Satellite operation + ground communications

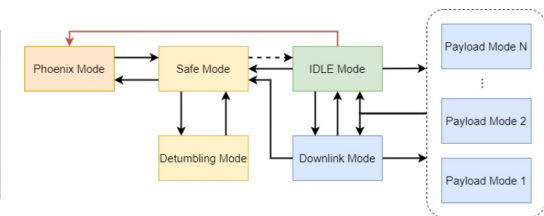
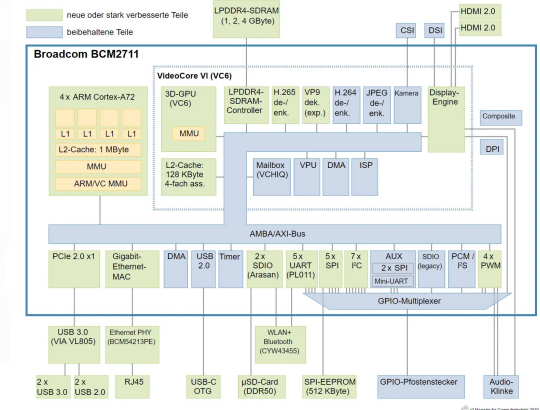


Payload (Rpi4)

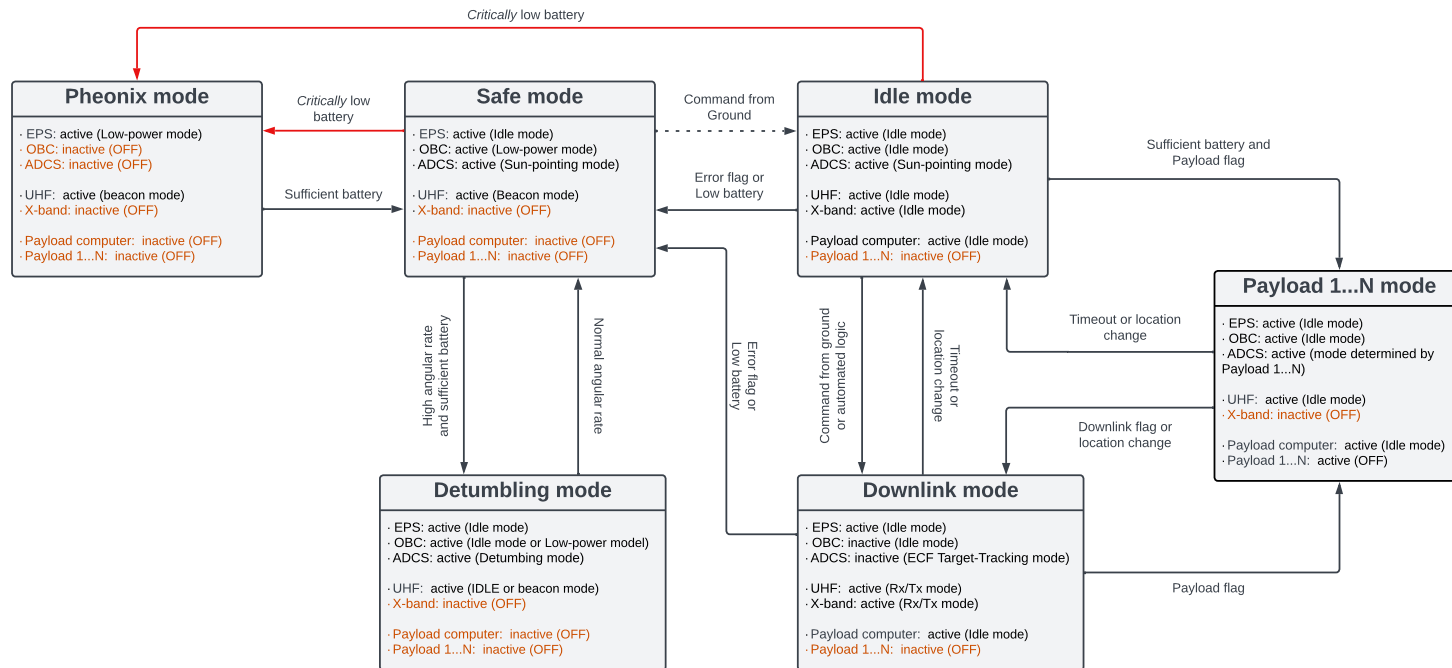


## Herz des Raspberry Pi 4: Broadcom BCM2711

Das System-on-Chip (SoC) BCM2711 vereint nicht nur vier CPU-Kerne mit einer GPU, sondern enthält auch Controller für viele Schnittstellen.



# Endurance CubeSat OBC State Diagram



\* Custom (in-house) control software

# IBM Endurance Telemetry

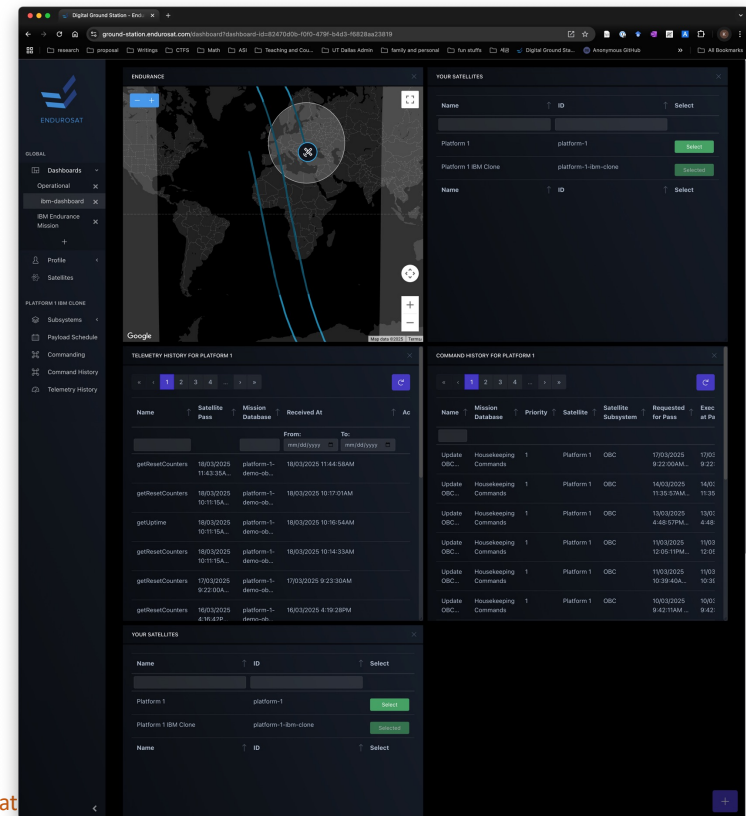


Image source: EndureSat

Components	Data field	Data width	Type	Granularity
Attitude Determination and Control System (ADCS)	Magnetic Field Vector	6	int16_t MagFieldVec[3]	Formatted value in [uT] = MagFieldVec[x] * 0.01
	Coarse Sun Vector	6	int16_t CoarseSunVec[3]	Formatted value = CoarseSunVec[x] / 10000.0
	Fine Sun Vector	6	int16_t FineSunVec[3]	Formatted value = FineSunVec[x] / 10000.0
	Nadir Vector	6	int16_t NadirVec[3]	Formatted value = NadirVec[x] / 10000.0
	Rate Sensor Rates	6	int16_t AngRateArr[3]	Formatted value [deg/s] = AngRateArr[x] * 0.01
	Wheel Speed	6	int16_t WheelSpeedArr[3]	-
	Star{1..3}† Body Vector	6	int16_t Star{1..3}BVec[3]	Formatted value = Star{1..3}BVec[x] / 10000.0
	Star{1..3}† Orbit Vector	6	int16_t Star{1..3}OVec[3]	Formatted value = Star{1..3}OVec[x] / 10000.0
	Estimated Angular Rates	6	int16_t EstAngRateArr[3]	Formatted value [deg/s] = EstAngRate[x] * 0.01
	Estimated Quaternion Set	6	int16_t EstQArr[3]	-
	Satellite Position in ECI Frame	6	int16_t SatPosECI[3]	Formatted value [km] = SatPosECI[x] * 0.25
	Satellite Velocity in ECI Frame	6	int16_t SatVelECI[3]	Formatted value [m/s] = SatVelECI[x] * 0.25
Electronic Power System (EPS)	Battery [Capacity, Voltage, Current, Temperature]	[4, 4, 4, 4]	int32_t[4] battery_stats	-
6U Dove Solar Panel {1,2}‡	MCU Temperature	2	int16_t SunDataTemp	Formatted value [degC] = SunDataTemp * 0.1
	Main Temperature	2	int16_t TmpDataMain	Formatted value [degC] = SunDataTemp * 0.1
	External1 Temperature	2	int16_t TmpDataExt1	Formatted value [degC] = SunDataTemp * 0.1
	External2 Temperature	2	int16_t TmpDataExt2	Formatted value [degC] = SunDataTemp * 0.1

# How My First Mission Crashed

- Could not schedule and run the experiments
  - Unstable communication, hard to schedule an experiment
  - Time synchronization problem
- No common bases for payload operations
  - Ad-hoc implementation for per-mission basis
  - Found many non-sensual design decisions
- And many many more ...



The University of Texas at

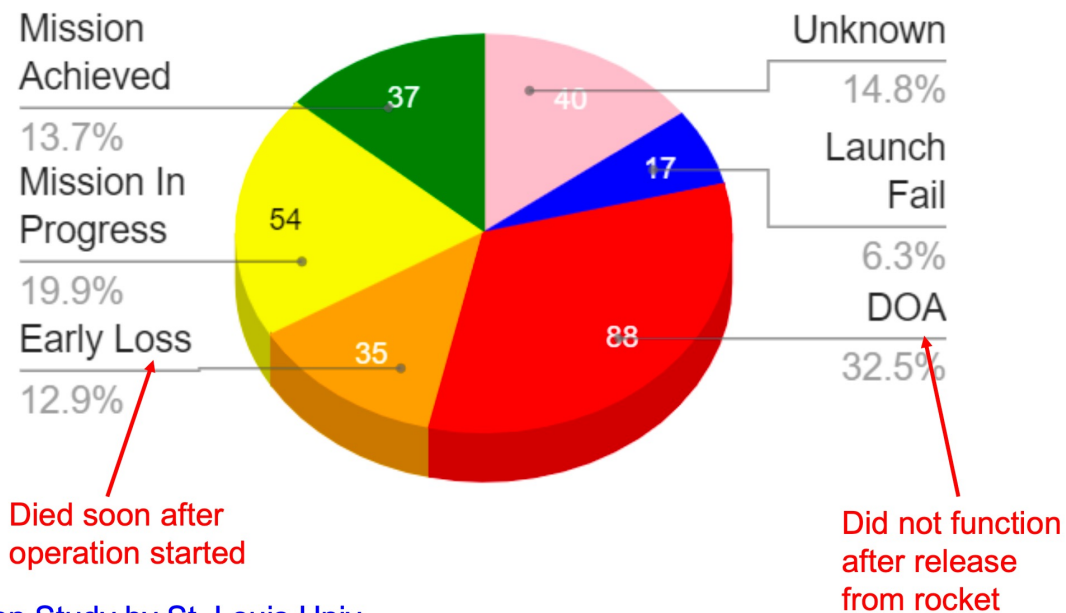
# How My First Mission Crashed

- Communication is very thin and unstable
  - Return rate 10 % ~ 20 %
  - High frequency band communication are sensitive and power greedy
    - X-band communication not activated
- Powers are very scarce
  - Short charging time; insufficient battery capacity
  - Need to budget wisely among: ADCS, communication, and payload operation
- Difficult (almost impossible) maintenance operation
  - OBC software mostly in-house and ecosystem is largely fragment
  - Open-source solutions are too heavy-weighted or not well maintained
    - E.g., NASA cFS

# This is a Community Issue

*Failure rate is about 50%*

**CubeSat Mission Status, 2000-present (271 spacecraft)**



Based on Study by St. Louis Univ.

<https://sites.google.com/a/slu.edu/swartwout/cubesat-database>



# Space Research Opportunities

- Launch cost dropped (and will drop) over time
- COTS components and open-source software stacks
- Unclear legal and regulatory guidelines
  - Many recommendations but few enforcements
- What will be the killer application for space (or LEO)?



# Two Research Ideas

1. Small Satellites Under Space Influence
  - Small satellites built with COTS components + open-source software stacks
2. Security and privacy of RF communications for satellites using amateur bands
  - Telemetry (downlink) and telecommands (uplink) communications cannot be obfuscated (or encrypted)
  - Due to outdated assumptions on amateur band users

## ARTICLE 25

### Amateur services

#### Section I – Amateur service

**25.1** § 1 Radiocommunication between amateur stations of different countries shall be permitted unless the administration of one of the countries concerned has notified that it objects to such radiocommunications. (WRC-03)

**25.2** § 2 1) Transmissions between amateur stations of different countries shall be limited to communications incidental to the purposes of the amateur service, as defined in No. 1.56 and to remarks of a personal character. (WRC-03)

**25.2A** 1A) Transmissions between amateur stations of different countries shall not be encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning, except for control signals exchanged between earth command stations and space stations in the amateur-satellite service. (WRC-03)

### 1.ITU-RR Article 25.2A (International Telecommunication Union Radio Regulations — binding worldwide)

#### LII Legal Information Institute

About LII » Get the law » Lawyer directory

(iii) A control operator may accept compensation as an incident of a teaching position during periods of time when an amateur station is used by that teacher as a part of classroom instruction at an educational institution.

(iv) The control operator of a club station may accept compensation for the periods of time when the station is transmitting telegraphy practice or information bulletins, provided that the station transmits such telegraphy practice and bulletins for at least 40 hours per week; schedules operations on at least six amateur service MF and HF bands using reasonable measures to maximize coverage; where the schedule of normal operating times and frequencies is published at least 30 days in advance of the actual transmissions; and where the control operator does not accept any direct or indirect compensation for any other service as a control operator.

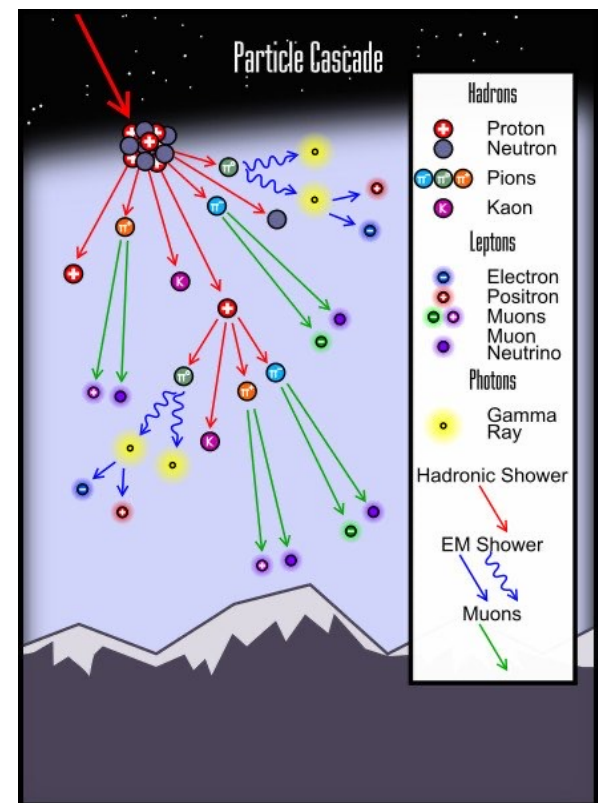
(4) Music using a phone emission except as specifically provided elsewhere in this section; communications intended to facilitate a criminal act; messages encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning, except as otherwise provided herein; obscene or indecent words or language; or false or deceptive messages, signals or identification.

(5) Communications, on a regular basis, which could reasonably be furnished alternatively through other radio services.

### 2. FCC Part 97.113(a)(4) in the US

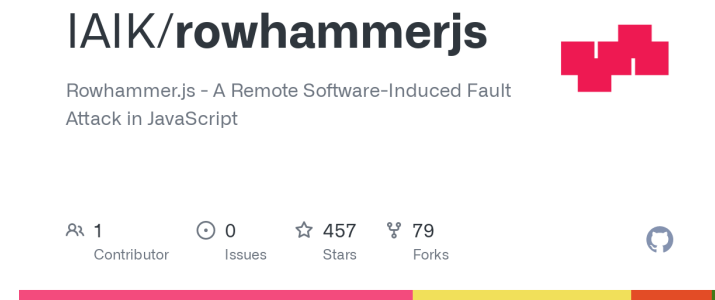
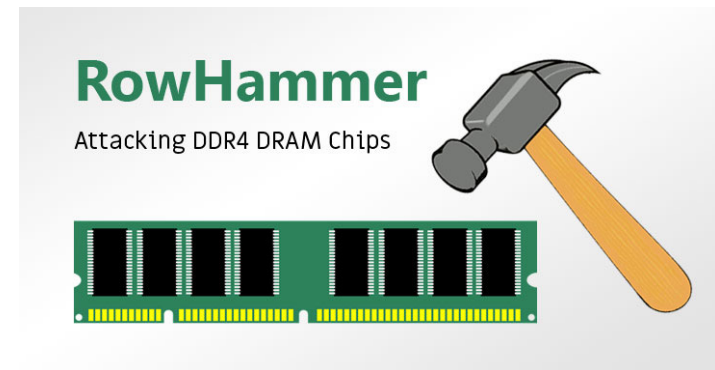
# Small Satellites Under Space Influence

- Confirm and verify our assumptions cyber/digital components
  - DRAM?, SoC?, SD Cards?, HWRNG?
  - Open-source software stacks
- CubeSat model for cyber security research
  - Running space software – e.g., NASA cFS framework
  - Emulating space mission tasks
  - End-to-end experiments and testing



# RowHammer Attack

- First proposed by researchers in 2014
  - Kim et al. ICSA 2014
- One of prominent HW attack vectors
  - Spectre, MeltDown and RowHammer
- Google Project Zero actualized the attack 2015
  - Gain kernel privileges
  - Hypervisor escape
- Created high-severity practical threats
  - Javascript level attack from the browser
  - Mobile phone take over
  - ....

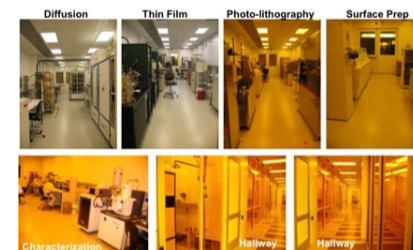
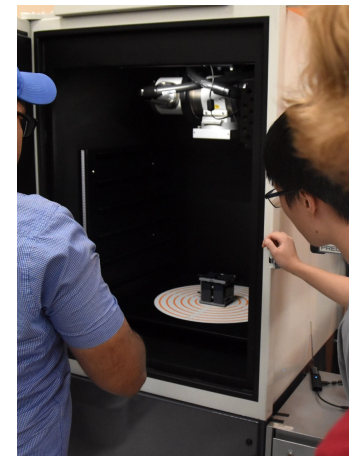


# Robustness and Stability of COTS Components

- Evolving space practice
  - Based on heritage components + COTS components
  - Based on COTS components + specially-designed/mission-specific devices
- Security-sensitive CPU features need to be tested
  - HWRNG: Hardware Random Number Generators
  - Crypto co-processors
  - CPU performance counters

# Small Satellites Under Space Influence

- Space RQs
  - Q1: How can we emulate space influences?
  - Q2: What components would break first?
    - What would be the recipe to impact certain components?
    - What would be the recipe to trigger *software errors* (e.g., bitflips, SEU) while not taking permanent damages to the HW components
- What would be distribution of the software errors?
  - Are space software are designed and written to be resilient against such errors?





# Satellite Communication

- UTD Ground stations
  - Operational and participating [crowdsourcing ground station network](#)
- Collecting downlink RF signals in Amateur bands aiming to
  - Improving demodulation performance
  - Decode/understand satellite telemetry items



UHF/VHF Ground station at residential area		
Frequency range	432-438 MHz	144-146 MHz
Gain	13.3 dBic	9.2 dBic
Polarization	Circular R.H./L.H	
VSWR	1.1	1.1
Front-to-Back (F/B)	15 dB	16 dB
Beamwidth	42°	60°
Impedance	50 Ω	
Power Rating	1000 W	
Weight	Approx. 8.7 kg (2 Antennas+Stacking Boom)	
Length	1.6 m	1.7 m
Radius of Rotation	1.7 m	
Connector	N-type	

(a) Ground station at residential area specification.



UHF/VHF Ground station at UTD Campus		
Frequency range	420-440 MHz	144-146 MHz
Gain	15.2 dBic	13 dBic
Polarization	Circular R.H./L.H	
VSWR	1.5 (Measured: 1.9)	1.5 (Measured: 1.8)
Front-to-Back (F/B)	20 dB	20 dB
Beamwidth	25°	32°
Impedance	50 Ω	
Power Rating	250 W	
Weight	Approx. 12 kg (2 Antennas+Stacking Boom)	
Length	4.45 m	5.7 m
Radius of Rotation	3.9 m	
Connector	N-type	

(b) Ground station at UTD Campus specification.

# Satellite Communication

- RF communications
  - De facto route open to user and the attacker
  - Channel between ground station and spacecraft
- Private bands are expensive and limited
  - Public frequencies reserved for amateurs and research groups
  - Cannot obfuscate (or encrypt) the traffic by regulation
- May contain information (telemetry) critical for satellite operations

Components	Data field	Data width	Type	Granularity
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	Satellite Velocity in ECI Frame	6	int16_t SatVelECI[3]	Formatted value [m/s] = SatVelECI[x] * 0.25
6U Dove Solar Panel [1,2]†	Battery [Capacity, Voltage, Current, Temperature]	[4, 4, 4, 4]	int32_t[4] battery_stats	-
	MCU Temperature	2	int16_t SunDataTemp	Formatted value [degC] = SunDataTemp * 0.1
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	External1 Temperature	2	int16_t TmpDataExt1	Formatted value [degC] = SunDataTemp * 0.1
	External2 Temperature	2	int16_t TmpDataExt2	Formatted value [degC] = SunDataTemp * 0.1

# Small Satellite + Cybersecurity

- European Space Agency (ESA) is actively engaging in cybersecurity
- Compared to NASA



# Space Attack Vectors (SPACE-SHIELD)

Space Attacks and Countermeasures Engineering Shield (SPACE-SHIELD)

layout: side ▾ show sub-techniques hide sub-techniques

Reconnaissance 6 techniques	Resource Development 4 techniques	Initial Access 5 techniques	Execution 3 techniques	Persistence 4 techniques	Privilege Escalation 2 techniques	Defense Evasion 4 techniques	Credential Access 4 techniques	Discovery 4 techniques	Lateral Movement 4 techniques	Collection 2 techniques	Command and Control 3 techniques	Exfiltration 5 techniques	Impact 12 techniques
Active Scanning (RF/Optical) (4)	Acquire or Build Infrastructure (4)	Direct Attack to Space Communication Links (2)	Modification of On Board Control Procedures modification	Backdoor Installation (5)	Become Avionics Bus Master	Impair Defenses (1)	Adversary in the Middle (1)	Key Management Policy Discovery	Compromise a Payload after compromising the main satellite platform	Adversary in the Middle (2)	Protocol Tunnelling	Exfiltration Over Payload Channel	Data Manipulation (3)
Gather Victim Mission Information (3)	Compromise Account (1)	Ground Segment Compromise (2)	Native API	Key Management Infrastructure Manipulation (2)	Indicator Removal on Host (1)	Escape to Host (1)	Brute Force (1)	Spacecraft's Components Discovery	Compromise of another partition in Time and Space Partitioning OS or other types of satellite hypervisors	Data from link eavesdropping (3)	Telecommand a Spacecraft (3)	Exfiltration Over TM Channel	Ground Segment Jamming (1)
Gather Victim Org Information (3)	Compromise Infrastructure (2)	Supply Chain Compromise (3)	Payload Exploitation to Execute Commands	Pre-OS Boot (1)	Masquerading	Pre-OS Boot (1)	Communication Link Sniffing (1)	System Service Discovery			TT&C over ISL	Optical link modification	Loss of spacecraft telecommanding (1)
In orbit proximity intelligence (6)	Develop/Obtain Capabilities (9)	Trusted Relationship (3)	Valid Credentials (3)	Valid Credentials (3)			Retrieve TT&C master/session keys (3)	Trust Relationships Discovery				RF modification	Permanent loss to telecommand satellite (1)
Passive Interception (RF/Optical) (4)												Side-channel exfiltration	Resource damage (7)
Phishing for Information (2)									Compromise the satellite platform starting from a compromised payload (2)				Resource Hijacking
									Lateral Movement via common Avionics Bus				Saturation of Inter Satellite Links (1)
													Saturation/Exhaustion of Spacecraft Resources (7)
													Service Stop (2)
													Spacecraft Jamming (3)
													Temporary loss to telecommand satellite (1)
													Transmitted Data Manipulation

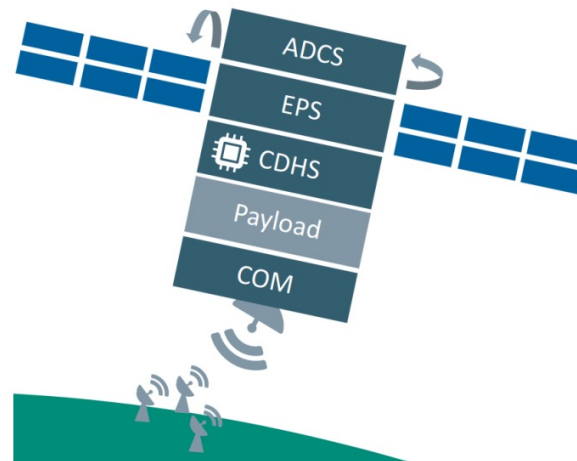
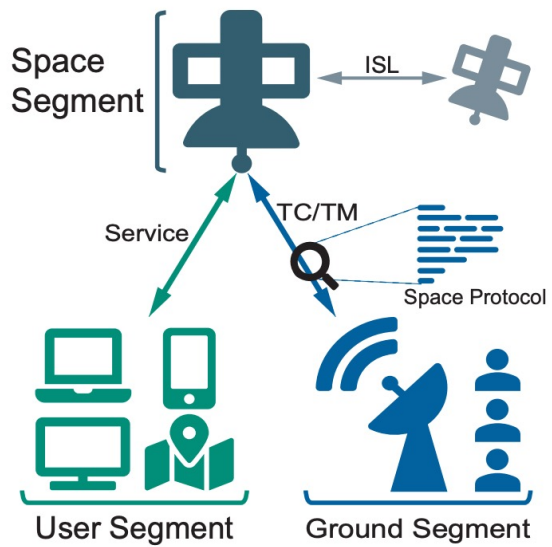
<https://spaceshield.esa.int/>

# Space Attack Research and Tactic Analysis (SPARTA)

Space Attack Research & Tactic Analysis (SPARTA)								
<a href="#">show sub-techniques</a> <a href="#">hide sub-techniques</a>								
Reconnaissance 9 techniques	Resource Development 5 techniques	Initial Access 12 techniques	Execution 18 techniques	Persistence 5 techniques	Defense Evasion 11 techniques	Lateral Movement 7 techniques	Exfiltration 10 techniques	Impact 6 techniques
Gather Spacecraft Design Information (9)	Acquire Infrastructure (4)	Compromise Supply Chain (3)	Replay (2)	Memory Compromise (5)	Disable Fault Management (2)	Hosted Payload (2)	Replay (2)	Deception (or Misdirection) (3)
Gather Spacecraft Descriptors (2)	Compromise Infrastructure (2)	Compromise Software Defined Radio (2)	Position, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) Geofencing (3)	Backdoor (2)	Disrupt or Deceive Downlink (2)	Exploit Lack of Bus Segregation (2)	Side Channel Exfiltration (2)	Disruption (2)
Gather Spacecraft Communications Information (4)	Obtain Cyber Capabilities (2)	Crosslink via Compromised Neighbor (2)	Modify Authentication Process (2)	Ground System Presence (2)	On-Board Values Obfuscation (12)	Constellation Hopping via Crosslink (2)	Signal Interception (2)	Denial (2)
Gather Launch Information (1)	Stage Capabilities (2)	Secondary/Backup Communication Channel (2)	Compromise Boot Memory (2)	Replace Cryptographic Keys (2)	Masquerading (2)	Visiting Vehicle Interface(3) (2)	Out-of-Band Communications Link (2)	Degradation (2)
Eavesdropping (4)	Obtain Non-Cyber Capabilities (4)	Rendezvous & Proximity Operations (3)	Exploit Hardware/Firmware Corruption (2)	Credentialed Persistence (2)	Subvert Protections via Safe-Mode (2)	Virtualization Escape (2)	Proximity Operations (2)	Destruction (2)
Gather FSW Development Information (2)		Compromise Hosted Payload (2)	Disable/Bypass Encryption (2)		Modify Whitelist (2)	Launch Vehicle Interface (1)	Modify Communications Configuration (2)	Theft (2)
Monitor for Safe-Mode Indicators (2)		Compromise Ground System (2)	Trigger Single Event Upset (2)		Evasion via Rootkit (2)	Credentialed Traversal (2)	Compromised Ground System (2)	
Gather Supply Chain Information (4)		Rogue External Entity (2)	Time Synchronized Execution (2)		Evasion via Bootkit (2)		Compromised Developer Site (2)	
Gather Mission Information (2)		Trusted Relationship (2)	Exploit Code Flaws (3)		Camouflage, Concealment, and Decoys (CCD) (2)		Compromised Partner Site (2)	
		Unauthorized Access During Safe-Mode (2)	Malicious Code (4)		Overflow Audit Log (2)		Payload Communication Channel (2)	
		Auxiliary Device Compromise (2)	Exploit Reduced Protections During Safe-Mode (2)		Credentialed Evasion (2)			
		Assembly, Test, and Launch Operation Compromise (2)	Modify On-Board Values (13)					
			Flooding (2)					
			Spoofing (2)					
			Side-Channel Attack (2)					
			Jamming (2)					
			Kinetic Physical Attack (2)					
			Non-Kinetic Physical Attack (2)					

<https://sparta.aerospace.org/>

# Space Security In Action



# Research Objectives

- New space era, new operational practices
  - Widespread use of COTS components and open-source software stacks.
  - Are these systems secure and resilient against space-related challenges?
- RF communication as a critical attack surface
  - RF communication is vital for spacecraft operations.
  - However, its security and safety remain insufficiently verified.
- Testbed environment for small satellite research
  - UTD's ongoing efforts focus on building expertise and establishing a comprehensive space testbed environment.



# Thoughts on Space Threat Modeling

- Bridging aerospace and cyber communities
  - Difficult in U.S.: cultural reasons, security clearances
- Highly inter-disciplinary research
  - Collaborative effort is must
- Different views to see the research problems
  - Similar to old days of computing
    - Micro computers vs. mainframe
    - Early days of Internet
- Can't think of *killer*-applications

# Conclusion

- Space is expanding
  - Rapidly dropping launch cost, shrinking technology
  - Increasing privatization of space activities
- Gap between aerospace and cyber security sectors
  - Aerospace remains cautious in adopting new technologies
- The UTD team's commitment to space and security research
  - Development of the IBM Endurance CubeSat.
  - Establishment of UHF/VHF ground stations.
  - NSF-supported small satellite workshop.

# Backup

# Small Satellite Workshop

- Three-day program with 19 participants
  - 17 UTD students from diverse backgrounds
  - 2 graduate students from KAIST
  - [University press release](#)
  - [Workshop website](#)
- Supported by NSF (#2321117)
  - “CyberTraining:Pilot:CyberTraining for Space CI in Low Earth Orbit (LEO)”
- Interdisciplinary effort
  - Cybersecurity, material science, computational algorithm

# Day 1 Schedule

Time	Sessions	Description
Day 1: Monday, June 10, 2024, <b>Location:</b> FO 2.208		
08:30 – 10:00 AM	Session 1	Opening remark and workshop logistics (8:30 ~ 9:00 AM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Ovidiu Daescu &amp; Dr. Kangkook Jee</li> </ul> Guest lecture (9:00 ~ 10:00 AM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speaker: Kuang-Han Ke (Gran Systems CEO)</li> <li>• Title: The Road to Mass-produced CubeSat - Lessons Learned from our Mission</li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:00 AM	Break	
11:00 – 12:30 AM	Session 2	Introduction to small satellite in LEO (Dr. Kangkook Jee) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to basic concepts</li> <li>• Small satellite operational lifecycles</li> </ul>
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch	
1:30 – 3:00 PM	Session 3	Small satellite components (Dr. Kangkook Jee) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CubeSat design and specification overview</li> <li>• Basic components for small satellite (CubeSat)</li> </ul>
3:00 – 3:30 PM	Break	
3:30 – 5:00 PM	Session 4	[Hands-on] Building your own CubeSat I (Jaehyun Park, Ron Dang) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CubeSatSim v1.3               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Introduction (building guide)</li> <li>○ Hardware component assembly</li> <li>○ Software image installation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Student group
  - 6 groups 3 ~ 4 students per group
- Basic concept intro
- Start hands-on building



# Day 2 Schedule

Time	Sessions	Description
Day 2: Tuesday, June 11, 2024, <b>Location:</b> FO 2.208		
08:30 – 10:00 AM	Session 1	Guest speaker: Jessica Thompson, US Space Force  [Hands-on] Building your own CubeSat II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground station set-up               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Hardware component assembly</li> <li>◦ Software Image setup</li> </ul> </li> <li>• RF Communication between CubeSatSim and Ground station</li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:00 AM	Break	
11:00 – 12:30 AM	Session 2	Satellite software and programming interface (Dr. Kangkook Jee) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-Board Computer (OBC) and ground system overview and programing interface</li> <li>• Commercial and open-source solutions</li> <li>• <b>Lab challenge 1, 2, 3</b></li> </ul>
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch	
1:30 – 3:00 PM	Session 3	Basic RF transmission and antenna theory (Dr. Kangkook Jee) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modulation and Demodulation</li> <li>• Space RF communication</li> <li>• SDR programming intro</li> </ul>
3:00 – 3:30 PM	Break	
3:30 – 5:00 PM	Session 4	[Hands-on] CubsatSim communication competition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lab challenge 4</b></li> </ul>

- Guest lecture: Jessica Thompson, US Space Force
- Finish building CubeSatSim
  - Conduct lab challenges
- Session on
  - Satellite software systems
  - RF communication



# Day 3 Schedule

Time	Sessions	Description
- Day 3: Wednesday, June 12, 2024, <b>Location:</b> NSERL, RL 3.204 (Session 1), FO 2.208 (Session 3, 4)		
08:30 – 10:00 AM	Session 1	Introduction to CHESS research (Dr. Manuel Quevedo-Lopez)  Physical and structural considerations (Dr. Francisco Aguirre) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small satellite form factors               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Shielding and insulations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Launcher and launch time considerations</li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:00 AM	Break	
11:00 – 12:30 AM	Session 2	[Hands-on] Experimenting CubeSatSim under X-ray radiations
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch (ROW)	
1:30 – 3:00 PM	Session 3	Space debris and De-orbit systems (Dr. Ovidiu Daescu) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Space and orbital debris</li> <li>• Space governance</li> <li>• De-orbit systems</li> </ul>
3:00 – 3:30 PM	Break	
3:30 – 5:00 PM	Session 4	Workshop closing (Dr. Kangkook Jee) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student discussion</li> <li>• Participant survey</li> <li>• Closing remarks</li> </ul>

- Different location NSERL @ ROW building
- Physical and structural considerations
- Session environmental influences on spacecraft
  - E.g., temperature variation, excessive radio exposures
- Session on space debris and de-orbiting mechanisms





# Participants

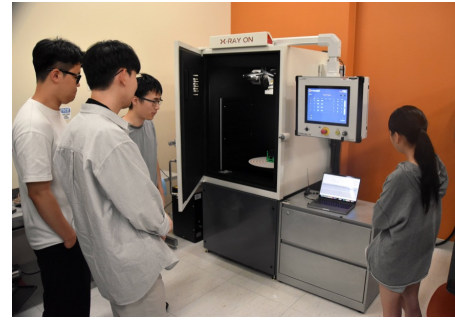
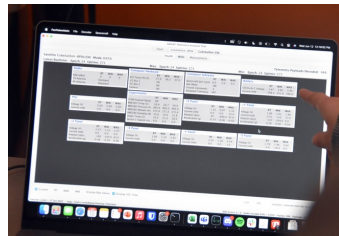
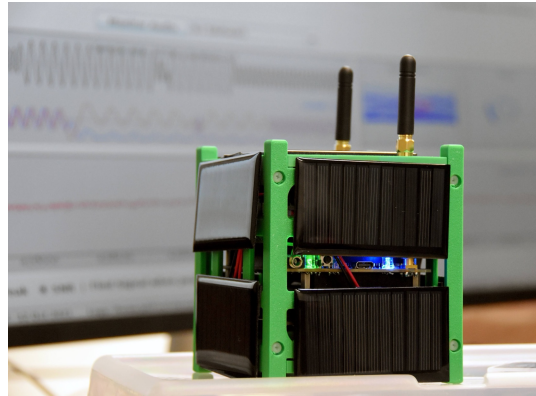
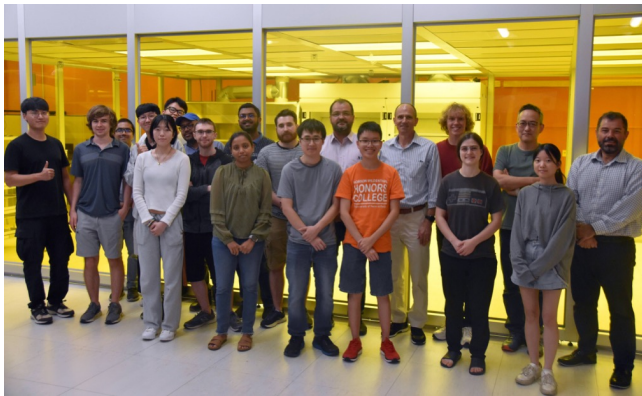
- Student demographics

Program	Female	Male	Sum
Biomedical engineering	1		1
BS Mechanical Engineering, MS Systems Engineering & Management	1		1
Computer Engineering	1		1
Computer Science	1	9	10
Electrical Engineering		1	1
Materials Science and Engineering		2	2
Physics		1	1
Software Engineering		1	1
Telecommunication Engineering	1		1
Total	5	12	19

Program	Bachelor	Master	Ph.D.	Sum
Biomedical engineering	1			1
BS Mechanical Engineering, MS Systems Engineering & Management		1		1
Computer Engineering	1			1
Computer Science	5	4	1	8
Electrical Engineering			1	1
Materials Science and Engineering		1	1	2
Physics			1	1
Software Engineering	1			1
Telecommunication Engineering			1	1
Grand Total	8	6	5	19

- Two International participants!

# Small Satellite Workshop



# Workshop Outcomes and Plan

- Resources and infrastructures
  - CubeSat Model
    - Extending AMSAT's CubeSatSim
  - Research and education/training infrastructure
    - UHF/VHF Ground stations
    - X-ray radiation chamber
  - Education/Training materials
- Future plan
  - Annual space *security* workshop
  - Course design
  - Community outreaches

# Research Problems

- Proper testbed environment\*
  - In-orbit (preferred) or terrestrial
  - Small satellites/CubeSats are toys
- Conferences/Workshop support
  - Between cyber and aerospace communities
  - Strict requirements for citizenship and security clearance
- Access to space computing devices and testing environment
  - Legacy software and hardware components
  - Radiation testing environment