CubeSats: New Opportunities for Small Experiments in Near and Interplanetary Space.

APS Meeting 2015
Far West Section
California State University - Long Beach

http://meetup.com/smallsats

Don V Black, Ph.D. Digital ChoreoGraphics

drdon@digitalsats.com 1-949-548-1969 **CubeSats: New Opportunities**

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Planet Labs ISS Launch



CubeSat Specs in a Nutshell

- Power (~2W 57W)
- Temperature (-70 C to +70 C)
- Lifetime (depends on orbit, 2 wks 25 yrs)
- Cost (<\$10K-\$50K/1U \$500K/3U) ~\$150K
- Orbits (LEO, MEO, GTO, GEO)
- Launch Cost (\$8K \$500K) ~\$150K
- Form Factor (examples follow)
- Payload (up to you)

Form Factors

- CubeSat (4" cubed 10 cm on each edge)
 - -1U ... 3U (P-POD deployable)
 - 6U Interplanetary Candidate (10x20x30 cm)
- TubeSat 3.52" diameter x 5.0" tube
- PocketCube (1/8 x CubeSat)
 - 1p (up to 3p) 5x5x5 cm (up to 5x5x15 cm)
- ChipSat / Sprite 5 x 5 cm PCB w/ chip(s)

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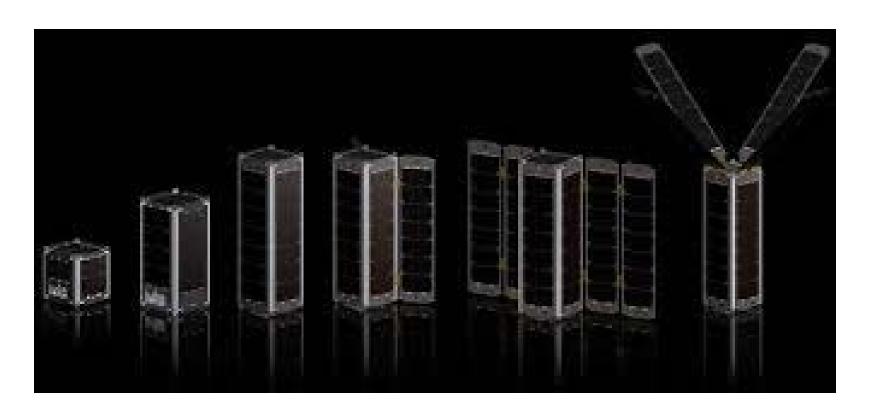
Merritt Island High School

(near Cape Canaveral)

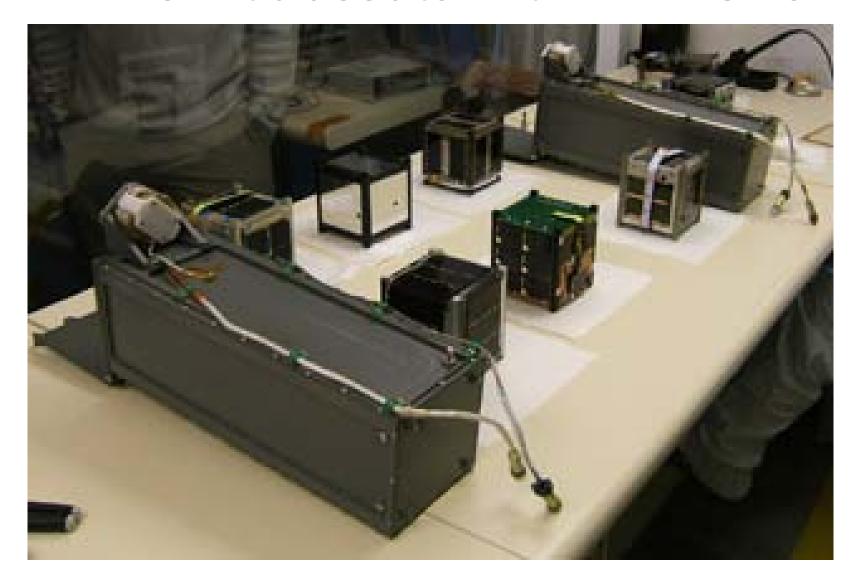
with P-POD, 3U, and 1U



1U (10x10 cm), 2U (10x10x20 cm), and 3U (10x10x30 cm) Form Factors



Six CubeSats with 2 P-PODs



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Interorbital Systems TubeSat kit: (on left) plus LEO Launch for \$8,000



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Wren

Launch 2013

Attitude and Orbital Control





Reaction wheels

Pulsed Plasma Thrusters

The German PocketQub "Just4You"

By: Paul Kocyla, Sacha Tholi, Bastian Döen, Matthias Stahnke

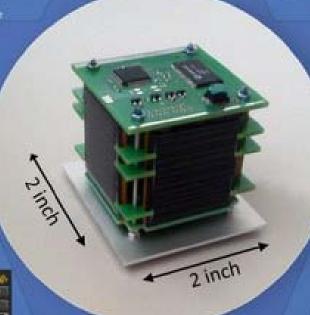
Ground Control



Mobile Ground Station



Intuitive Mission Control Software



PocketQub

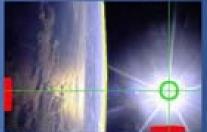
privately funded design matches proposal from Prof. Bob Twiggs



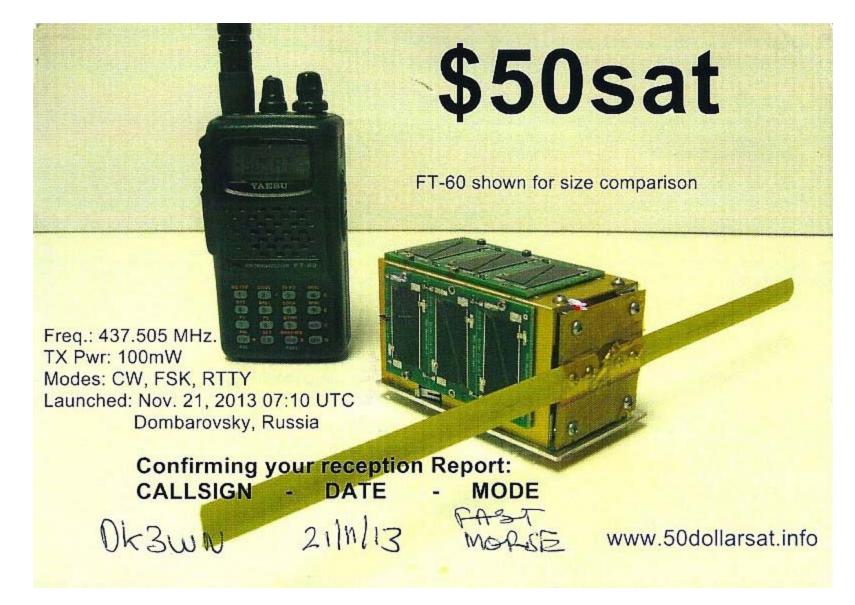


3 axes rotation rate 3 axes magnetometer

Navigation

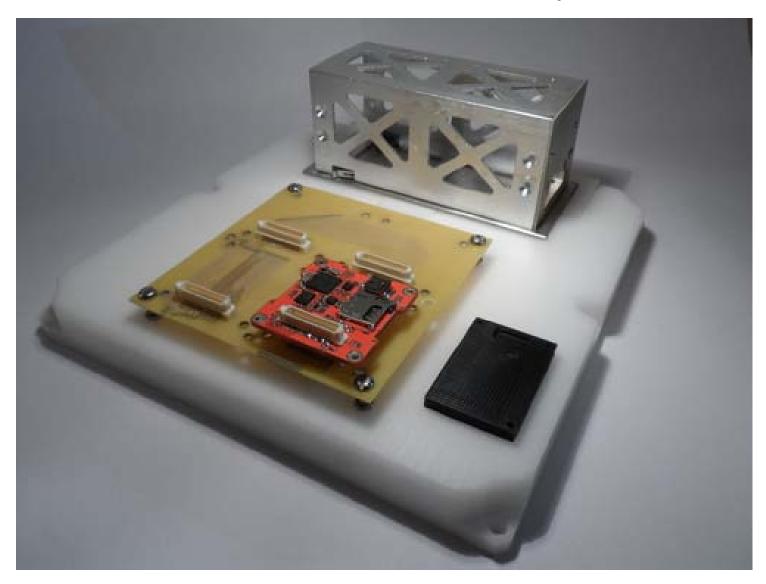


Camera based determination of sun and earth horizon vector



QSL card from Ham's Sputnik

PocketQube Kit < \$6,000



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 - A 3U w/ 100 Deployable Chips

KickSat 3U Deploying 100 Sprites





SmallSats Today & Tomorrow

- Lower Launch Costs
 - Many SmallSat Launcher Startups
- More Vendors
 - Ground Station Kit (Bob & Jann)
 - CubeSat & PocketQube Satellite Buses
- Useful Novel Payloads
 - Sensors: Atmospheric; Magnetic; Radiation; Solar; IR; Other Remote;
 - Optical & Radio Telescopes; GeoMag Surfers;
- Live on the Cutting Edge. Join SmallSats MeetUp

http://meetup.com/smallsats

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Introduction to a new Disruptive Technology

- Disruptive Technology CubeSats and P-PODs Striking Parallels between the Microcomputer and the CubeSat Revolutions
 - Both have the capabilities comparable to contemporary commercial products costing 1,000 times as much.
 - \$4,000,000 IBM Mainframe vs. \$4,000 PC
 - \$855,000,000 Landsat vs. \$500,000 CubeSat
 - Both introduced by academia, yet subsumed by home hobby kits, industry, the military. Personal Sat next.

Emergent Satellites – A Brief History

- 1999 CubeSat Spec introducede for students at Stanford.
 - Bob Twiggs, Morehead State (KY)
 - Jordi Puig-Suari , CalSate San Luis Obispo
- 2001 Calpoly P-POD Spec (jack-in-the-box)
- 2003 First launch on Russian Eurockot
- 2004 Est. \$10K build + \$100K-\$120K launch
- 2007 1/11: Chinese Head-on destructive intercept.
- 2012 100th CubeSat Launched
- 2013 70 US companies; 50 US univs; 41 foreign univs
- 2014 160 more CubeSats expected?
- 2015 OTS 1U: \$30K-\$50K; 3U: \$150K-\$350K

Mission Payloads

- Technology
 - Experiments
 - Demos
- Science
 - Remote Sensing (Planet Labs, Lunar Flashlight)
 - Earth Science (Geo Magnetism, Atmospheric Composition, Hyperspectral Surface Analysis)
 - Space Science (Planetary Resoources)
- Commerce
 - Weather
 - Google Maps (SkyBox)
 - Global Transportation (Planet Labs)

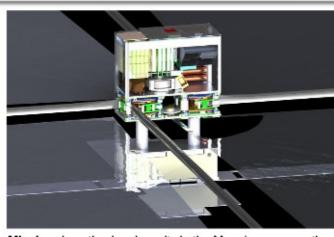
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First Interplanetary CubeSat Mission Lunar Flashlight

LF Flight System Overview





Mission: Locating ice deposits in the Moon's permanently shadowed craters

Approach: "6U" Solar-Sail Propelled CubeSat (<12 kg) Launch Opportunity: SLS EM-1 (Dec 2017 notional launch)

Bus: JPL Deep Space NanoSat Bus (leveraging INSPIRE) **Propulsion:** MSFC ~80 m² Solar Sail (based on NanoSail-D)

Payload: COTS 4-band spectrometer

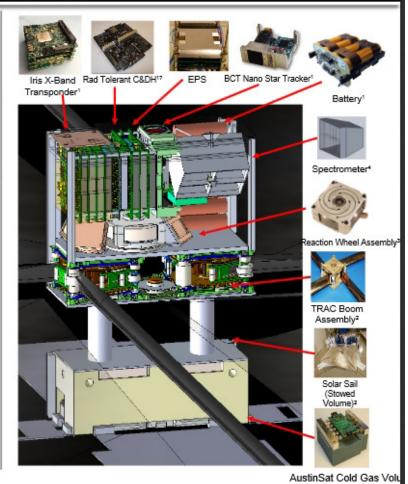
C&DH: Rad Tolerant LEON-3 architecture, JPL Protos

FSW

ADCS: COTS Cold Gas, RWA, SRU, IMU, CSS

Power: ~30W with gimbaled solar panels

Telecom: JPL Iris X-Band Transponder + Patch Antenna (~1 kbps nominal @ Lunar Distance with Morehead State)



Launch Systems

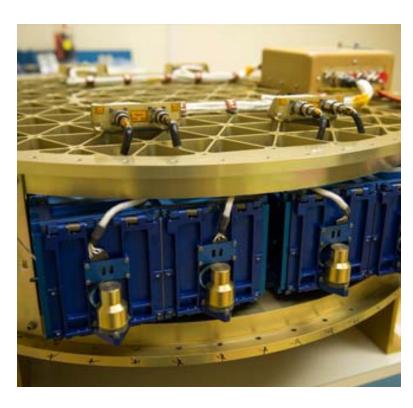
- NanoRacks ISS Launch System via Astronauts
 - Russia to International Space Station (ISS)
 - SpaceX Dragon to ISS
- Rocket Deployment Collars
- Direct to LEO
 - SpaceX (SmallSat GEO Internet Constellation?)
 - Interorbital Systems
 - Garvey Spacecraft Corp
 - Rocket Lab
- Air Launch to LEO
 - Virgin Galactic
 - Generation Orbit
 - Boeing ALASA via F-15E



Planet Labs ISS Launch



Rocket Collar Deployment System





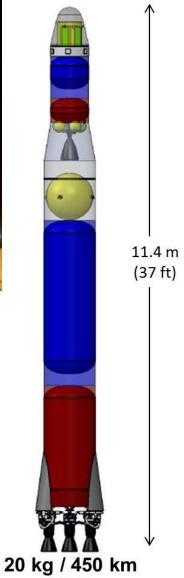
SpaceX

Interorbital Systems vision

Neutrino Length = 20 ° Diameter = 8 ° GLOW = 380 lbs



Garvey Spacecraft vision



NLV

OS Suborbital Rockets

Tachyon Length = 30° Diameter = 15 ° GLOW = 1000 lbs

Air Launch Solutions









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 - FirstLight, GeoMag Field, Radiation & SEU Honey Pots
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CubeSats, A Brief Introduction

A Brief History, State and Future of the Small Satellite Industry

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