

# Space Science Program Around Communication Engineering with High Achieving Undergraduate Cadres (SPACE HAUC): UMass Lowell's CubeSat mission

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# Outline

- An Introduction to UMass Lowell and the group
- The USIP program
- SPACE HAUC

# UMass Lowell Overview

- 17,000 students
  - Enrollments increased by 47% since 2007
  - SAT scores increased 79 points since 2008
  - Retention and Graduation rates improved
- More than 120 undergraduate, 39 masters and 33 doctoral degree programs in 6 colleges
- 1000+ faculty
- \$63M+ in research expenditures
- Urban campus with polytechnic focus



# New Models for Industry-University-Government Partnerships

Co-location catalyzes innovation, strengthens cluster development, and enhances workforce development



7th Nano satellite Symposium, Kamchia, 2016



# LoCSST: Objectives

- Train next generation of space scientists, technologists, teachers, business leaders and policy makers
- Involve industry partners in curriculum, research and proposals/business development
- Provide a home for space science and technology research activities on UMass Lowell campus

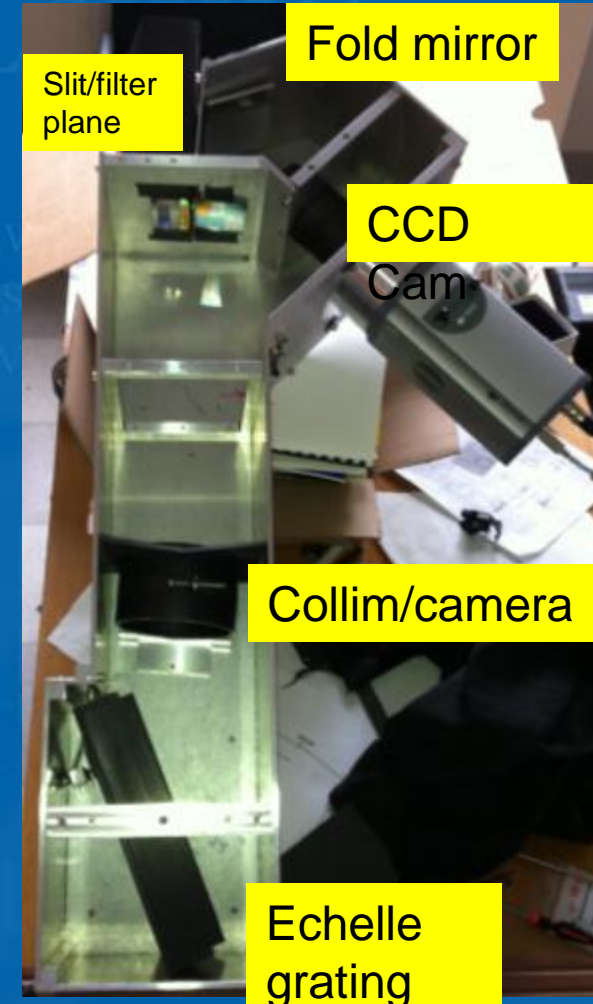
# We are toolmakers



A full-waveform lidar for quantitatively assessing forest structure, sequestered carbon



A high-resolution echelle spectrometer for round-the-clock space-weather studies

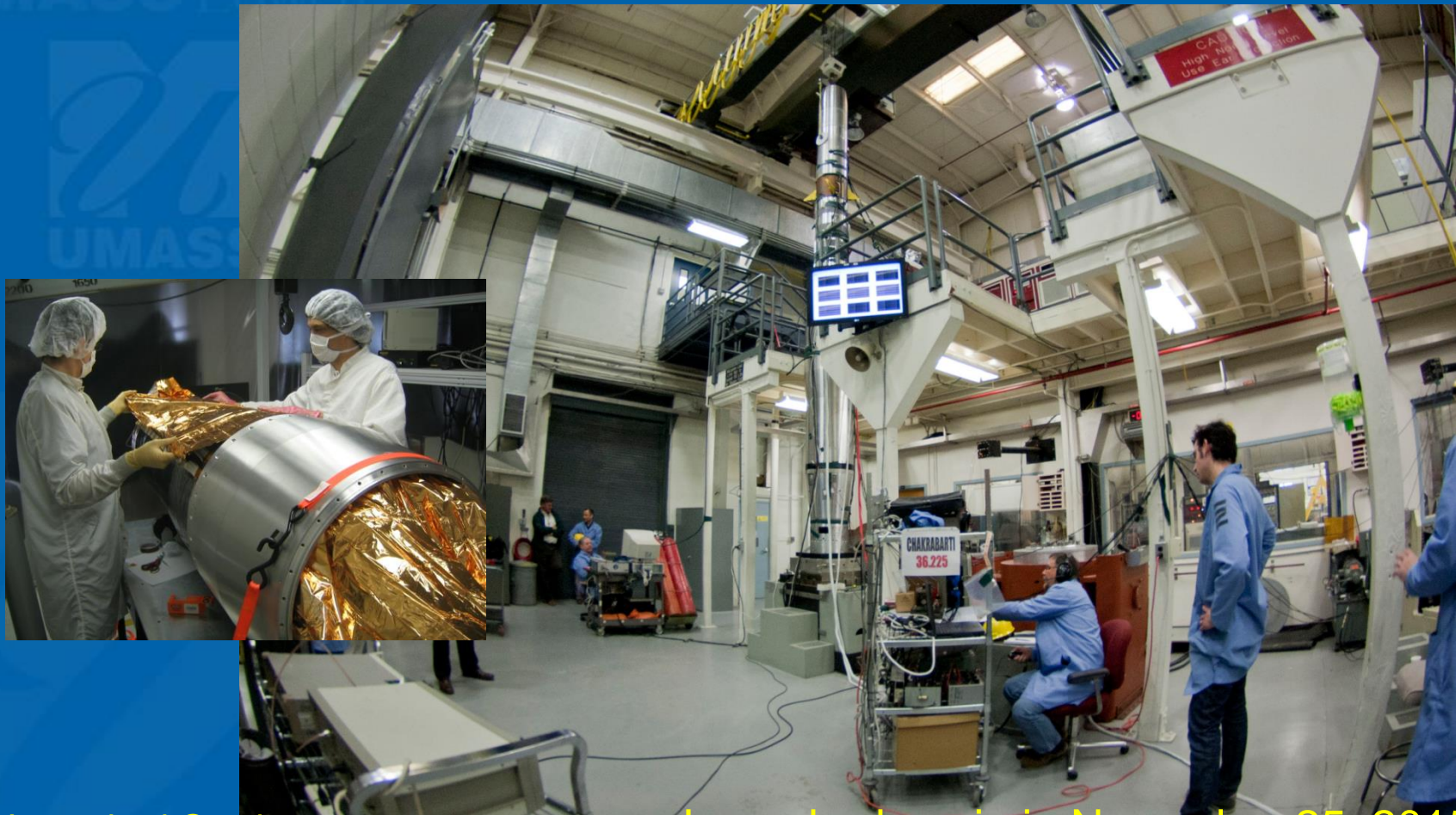


# We observe from balloons



Pictures of Balloon flight from Hyderabad in 2010  
Two new flights coming up in 2017 and 2019

# PICTURE rocket: Direct Imaging of Exoplanet environment

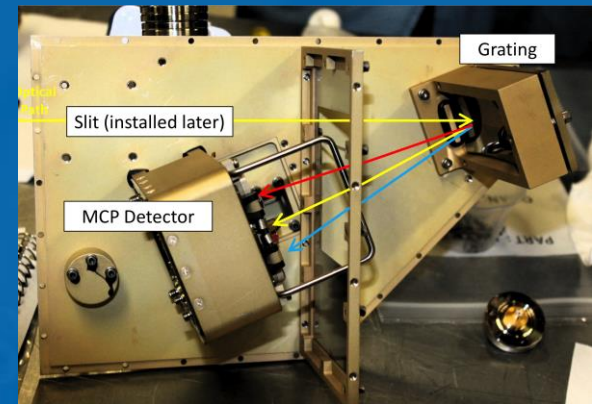
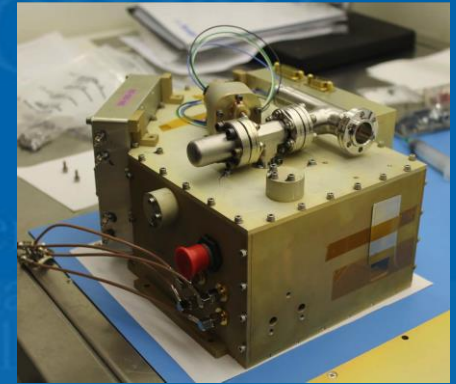
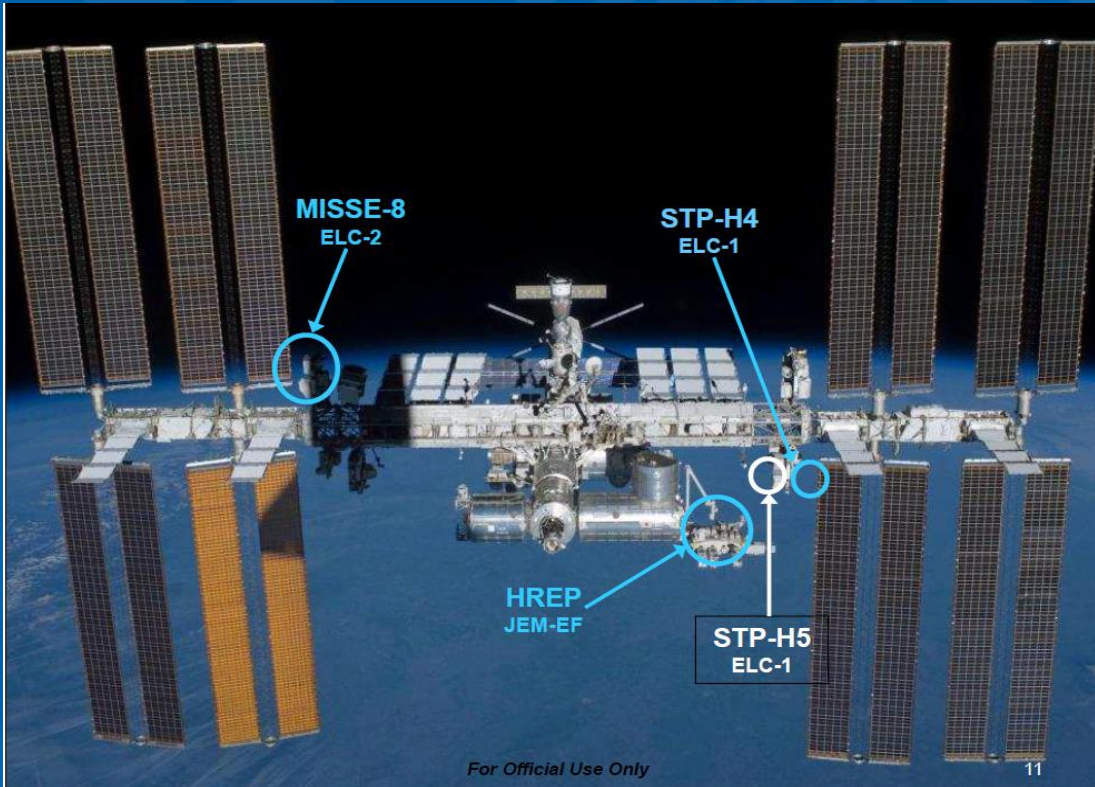


Launched October 8, 2011  
Demonstrated 5 milli-asec pointing

Launched again in November 25, 2015  
Demonstrated 3 milli-asec pointing



# Our LITES instrument flies aboard the ISS in early 2017



LITES: Limb-imaging Ionospheric and Thermospheric Extreme ultraviolet Spectrograph

And now....

**SCIENCE PROGRAM AROUND  
COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING  
WITH HIGH ACHIEVING  
UNDERGRADUATE CADRES  
(SPACE HAUC)**

# Undergraduate Student Instrumentation Project (USIP)



## USIP Project Goals

The two goals of this USIP SFRO are:

- To provide a hands-on flight project experience to enhance the science, technical, leadership, and project skills for the selected undergraduate student team.
- To fly a science and/or technology investigation relevant to NASA strategic goals and objectives on a suborbital-class platform.



# Organizational relationship

## NASA/GSFC/Wallops

**David Wilcox** Provides Mission Management support/help to teams; Arranges review support; Coordinates launch services; Coordinates vehicle Interfaces; Coordinates reports (monthly, final) & conference/poster sessions

## USIP Teams

### Principal Investigators:

Guide/train/mentor students/ NASA Grant Reporting

**Grad Students:** Serve as mentors

**Undergrad Students:** Lead Project (T/C/S) Design, Build, Test Conduct Reviews; Status GSFC/Wallops; Coordinate Launch readiness

## NASA/HQ/Space Grant & SMD

**David Pierce** Provides Technical Assistance

**Lenell Allen & Mary Sladek** Provide Grant Management

# NASA will provide launch services for USIP through CSLI

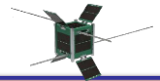


## CSLI and USIP

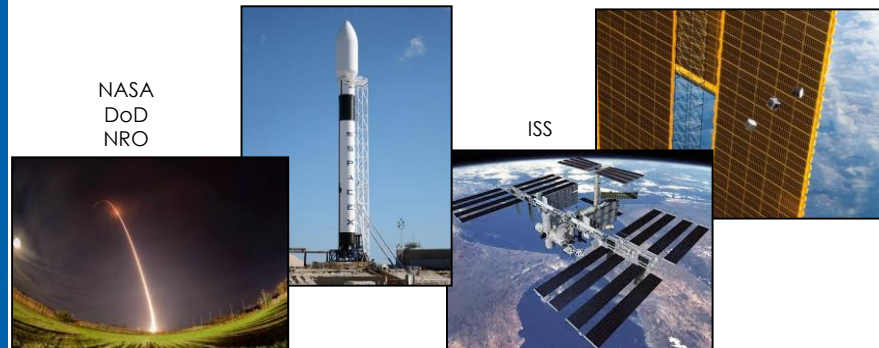
- The NASA CubeSat Launch Initiative (CSLI) will be the means of providing all 23 USIP Cubesats access to space.
- Step 1: Submit USIP proposal to CSLI (Nov 22, 2016)
- Step 2: Selection to USIP ( ~ Feb 2017)
- Step 3: Manifesting on a particular launch (~ time of I&T)
- Step 4: Launch and mission operations.
- The 2016 CSLI solicitation can be found at:  
[http://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/cubesat\\_launch\\_initiative\\_announcement\\_2016.pdf](http://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/cubesat_launch_initiative_announcement_2016.pdf)
- More information about the CubeSat Launch Initiative is available at: [http://go.nasa.gov/CubeSat\\_initiative](http://go.nasa.gov/CubeSat_initiative).



## CubeSat Launch Initiative



NASA's CubeSat Launch Initiative (CSLI) provides launch opportunities to educational institutions, non-profit organizations and NASA Centers who build small satellite payloads that fly as auxiliary payloads on previously planned launches, commercial missions or as International Space Station deployments.



NASA  
DoD  
NRO

ISS

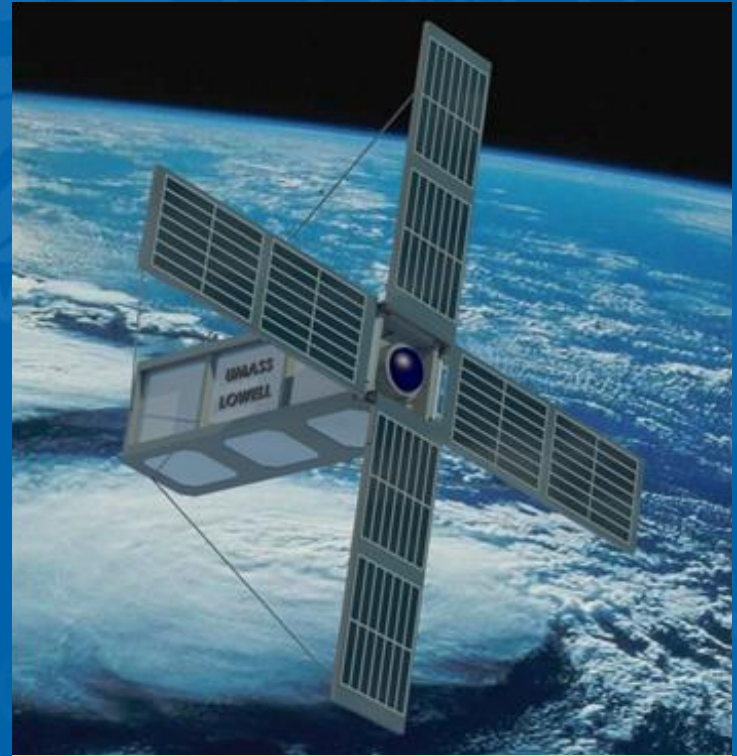
September 2016

USIP-II Kickoff Meeting

20

# SPACE HAUC Objectives

- Demonstrate practicality of high-data rate, high frequency communications on a CubeSat
- Achieve rapid beam steering for dynamic pointing of X-band uplink/downlink
- Use phased array of patch antennas
- Camera will take high-res images of Sun to transmit back to Earth



See:

<https://www.uml.edu/Research/LoCSST/Research/spacehauc/about.aspx>

# The students have formed teams (with minimal “adult supervision”)

- Project management
- Systems engineering
- Beam Steering
- Antennas
- Telemetry
- Deployables
- Power system
- Attitude determination and control
- Thermal
- Structures
- Command & Data Handling
- Ground Station
- Promotion Management

# Organization examples

(student slides from first organization meeting)

## How to Get Started

- Accept invitation to CubeSat group (university Office 365) and file repository (Workbench)
- **SUBSCRIBE TO THE GROUP FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- Research CubeSats and satellite subsystems (you should already have been doing this)
- Sort yourselves into teams, schedule meetings with each other

## Some Places to Start your Research...

- <http://www.cubesat.org> → Documents → Papers
- <http://www.polysat.calpoly.edu> → Team → Published Papers
- Library Databases (IEEE, Science Direct, Wiley)
  - Search terms such as “cubesat” and “nanosatellite”
  - Search for journal articles and conference publications
  - Senior projects and master’s theses are good sources
- Space Mission Analysis and Design (SMAD) → Space engineering bible
- Textbooks, for basics and fundamentals
- Workbench → Resources → Papers (stuff that I’ve found that is helpful)
- ...and of course, Google



# One more

(student slides from first organization meeting)

## Tips for Involvement

- Be open to criticism → keep long-term goal in mind
- Be proactive → don't wait around for someone to tell you what to do
- Communicate often.
- Communicate often!
- Communicate often!!!
- In event of:
  - Conflict with a team member,
  - Stress due to work, school, etc,
  - or anything else
- ...talk to your team leader or to your program manger → we'll help

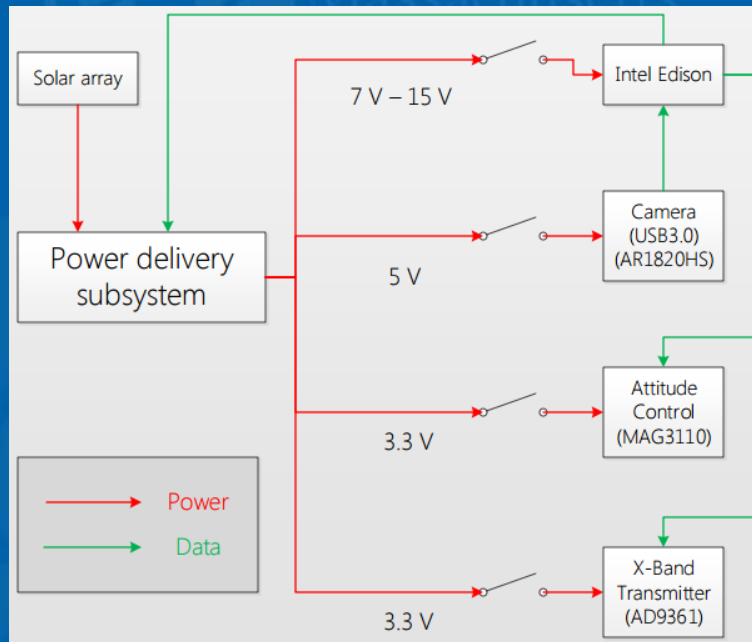
## Time Commitment and Example Schedule

- 6 – 8 hours/week
- Work as a team; distribute the work
- You get out what you put in
- Don't promise what you can't deliver

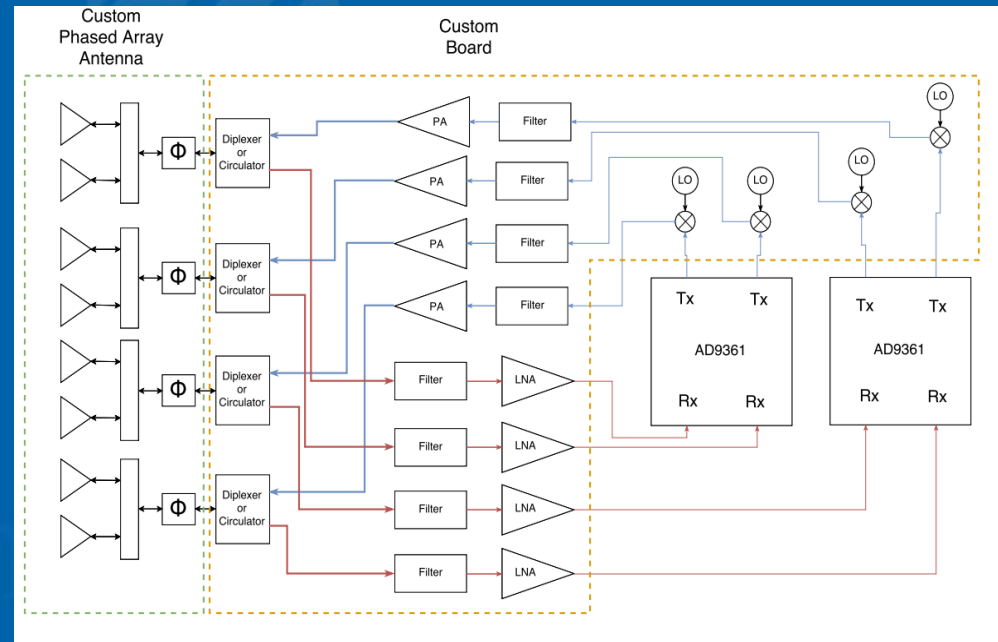
Day	Amount of Time (hours)	Example of Effort
MON	1	Team meeting, brainstorming
TUE	2	Informal get-together with team members to brainstorm
THU	2	Individual work/research
SAT	1	More individual work/research
SUN	2	Document progress for next team meeting, write your share of the specifications document
<b>TOTAL: 8 hours</b>		

# System design examples

## Power



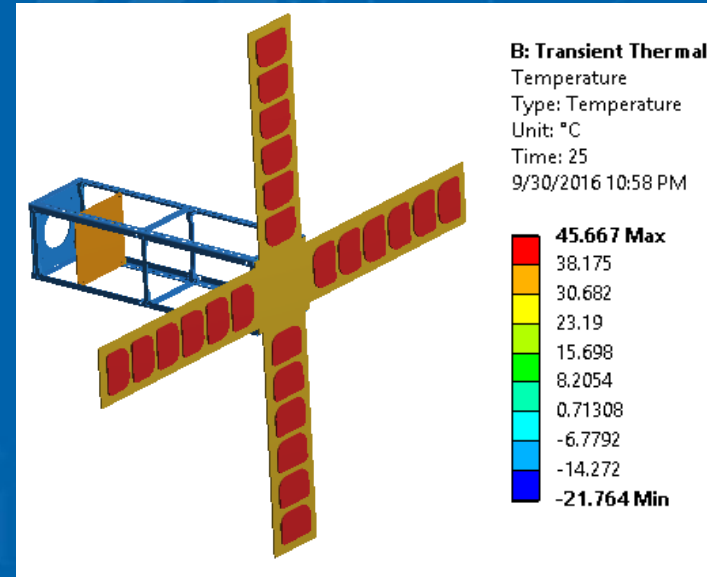
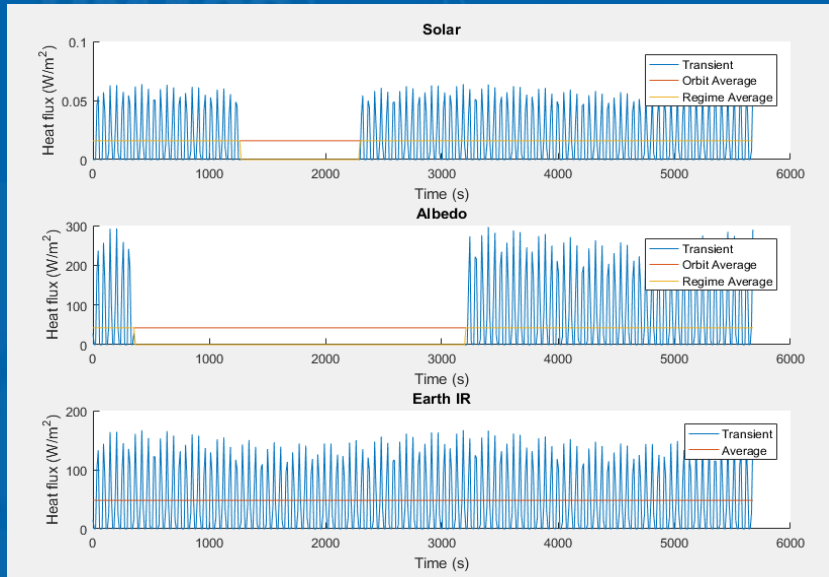
## Telemetry



# Thermal analysis example

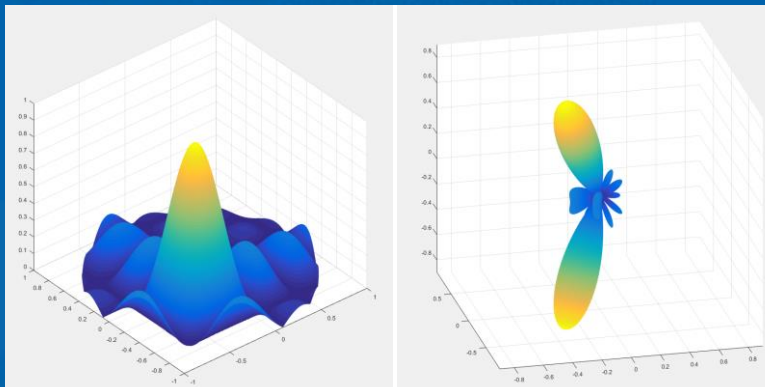
An orbit assumed, and...

First-cut results

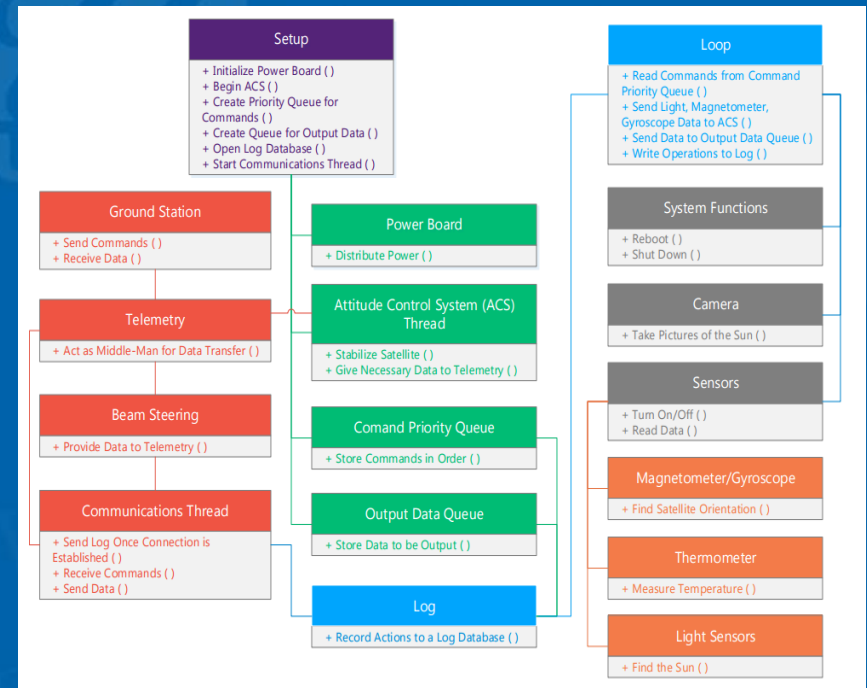


# More examples

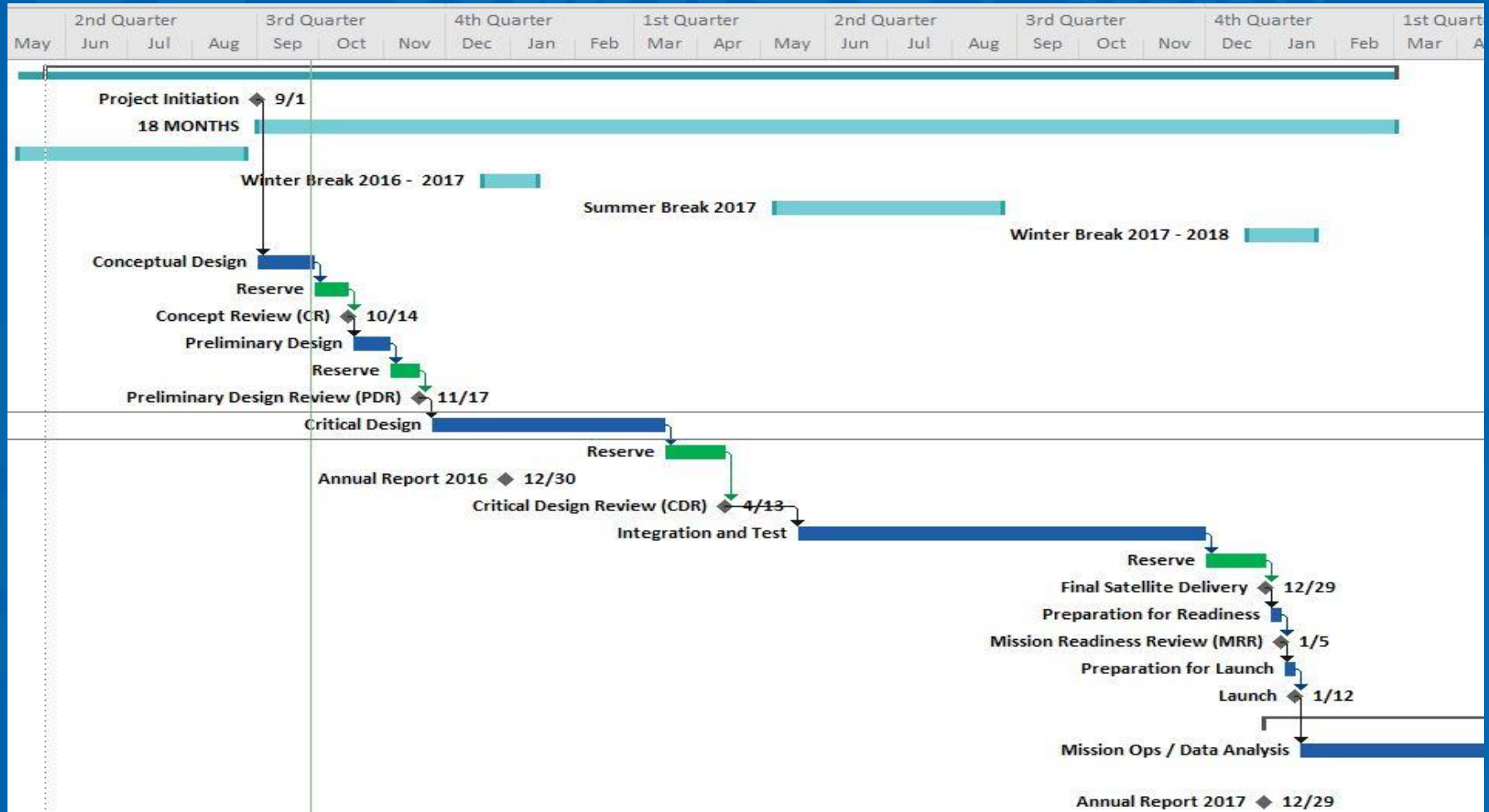
## Beam steering simulation



## Flight software organized



# Our planned schedule



# Our other student-involved work

- K-12
  - High school Newton's Laws experiment
  - Curriculum developed used in several schools in Massachusetts
- Undergraduate
  - Involved in all phases of all projects
  - SPECTRE
  - SPACE HAUC (launch 2018)
- Graduate
  - 8 Ph. D.s and 11 M. A.s in 15 years
  - Placed in Academia, Government, Private Industry and Private Start ups



# Our upcoming space flights

- Science
  - Exoplanet
    - PICTURE balloon 1 – **Launch 2017**
    - PICTURE balloon 2 – **Launch 2019**
  - Ground based studies of airglow and aurora (HiT&MIS)
    - Total solar eclipse – **“Launch” 2017**
  - Space based Ionospheric Studies (ISS/LITES) – **Launch: 2017**
  - Support for MISTIC WINDS with BAE – aircraft **Launch: 2017**
- Education and technology demonstration
  - SPACE HAUC – **Launch 2018**

# A symposium announcement

- To commemorate **60 years of space** exploration, we will host a symposium on **April 21-22 at UMass Lowell** entitled **Domestication: The future of space exploration in the upcoming decade**
- Please join – you will help shape the future

<https://www.uml.edu/Research/LoCSSTNews/Symposium.aspx>