Understanding Space Systems

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"Wilton Park Dialogue WP1875V:
Responsible behaviours in space,
national submissions to the UN"
Feb. 23, 2021



Low Earth orbit (LEO): 160-2000 km; Earth observation, telecom, weather, missile warning/ISR satellites

Medium Earth orbit (MEO): 2000-35,786 km; navigation, missile warning/ISR satellites

Geosynchronous Earth orbit (GEO): 35,786 km; telecommunications, weather, missile warning/ISR, Earth observation satellites

High Earth orbit (HEO): >35,786km; communications satellites



Spacecraft Subsystems Overview

- Payload
- Attitude
- Thermal
- Power
- Propulsion
- Structure
- Data handling



Elements of a space capability

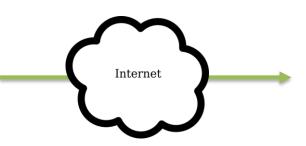
omoting Cooperative Solutions for Space Sustainability

Space segmen



Ground





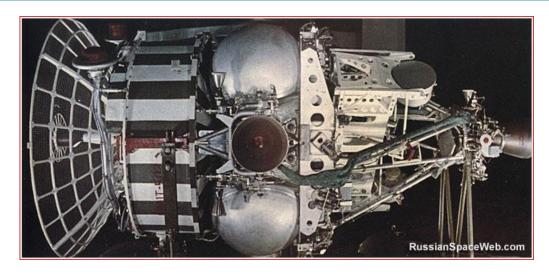
User segment



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Many Ways to Attack Satellites



Soviet IS killer satellite (1960-1987)



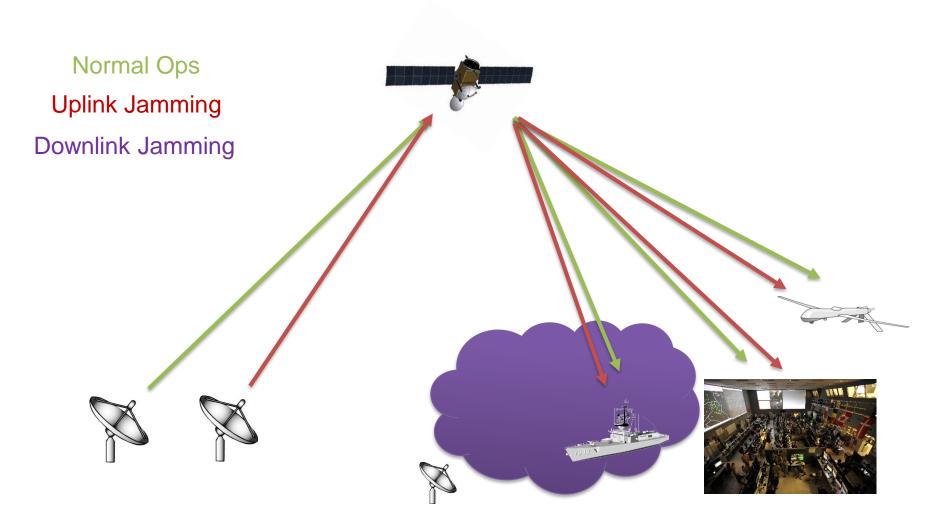
U.S. Air Force F-15 launching an ASM-135 ASAT missile (1978-1988)



Commerciallyavailable GPS jammer (2014)



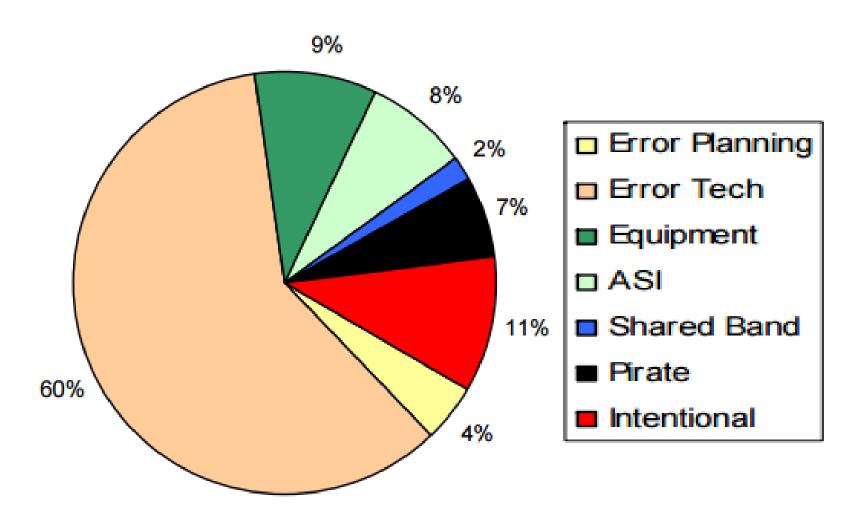
Satellite jamming



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Sources of RFI interference



Source: Eutelsat briefing to the ITU (2013)



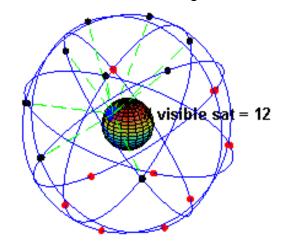
Major military activities in space



Field of view of a single geostationary satellite Source: Intelsat



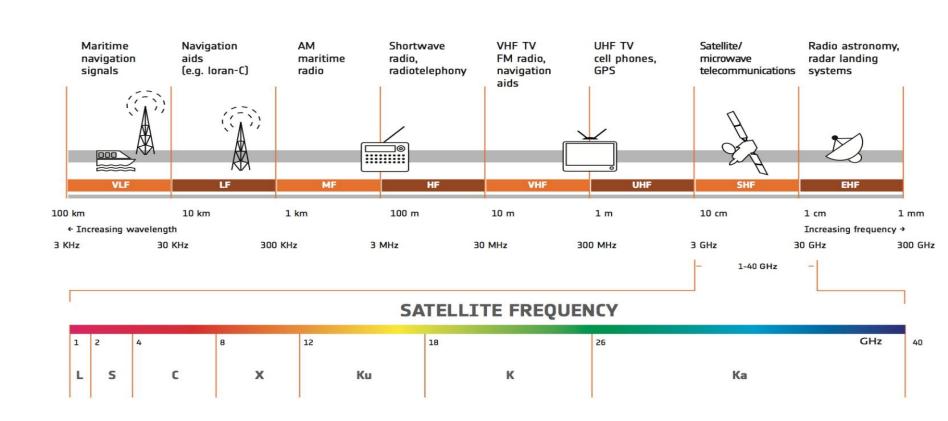
1-Meter Resolution Radar Image of the U.S. Capitol



GPS constellation



Satellite Frequency Bands



Questions?

Thanks.

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