



# Technology Demonstration Mission of SPATIUM-II Towards Ionospheric TEC Mission Measurement

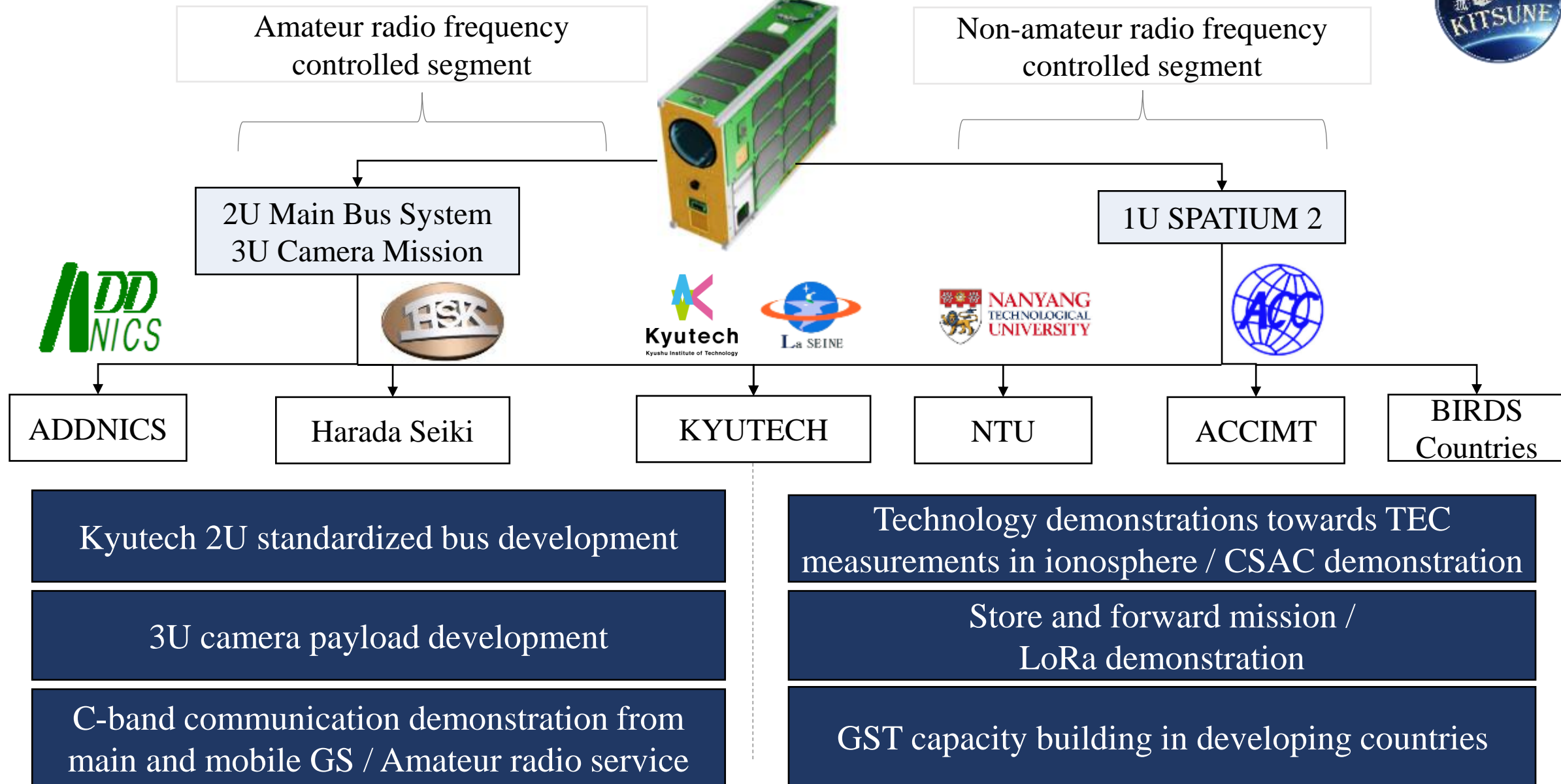
Presenter: Necmi Cihan Orger, Ph.D.

Contact e-mail: [orger.necmi-cihan397@mail.kyutech.jp](mailto:orger.necmi-cihan397@mail.kyutech.jp)

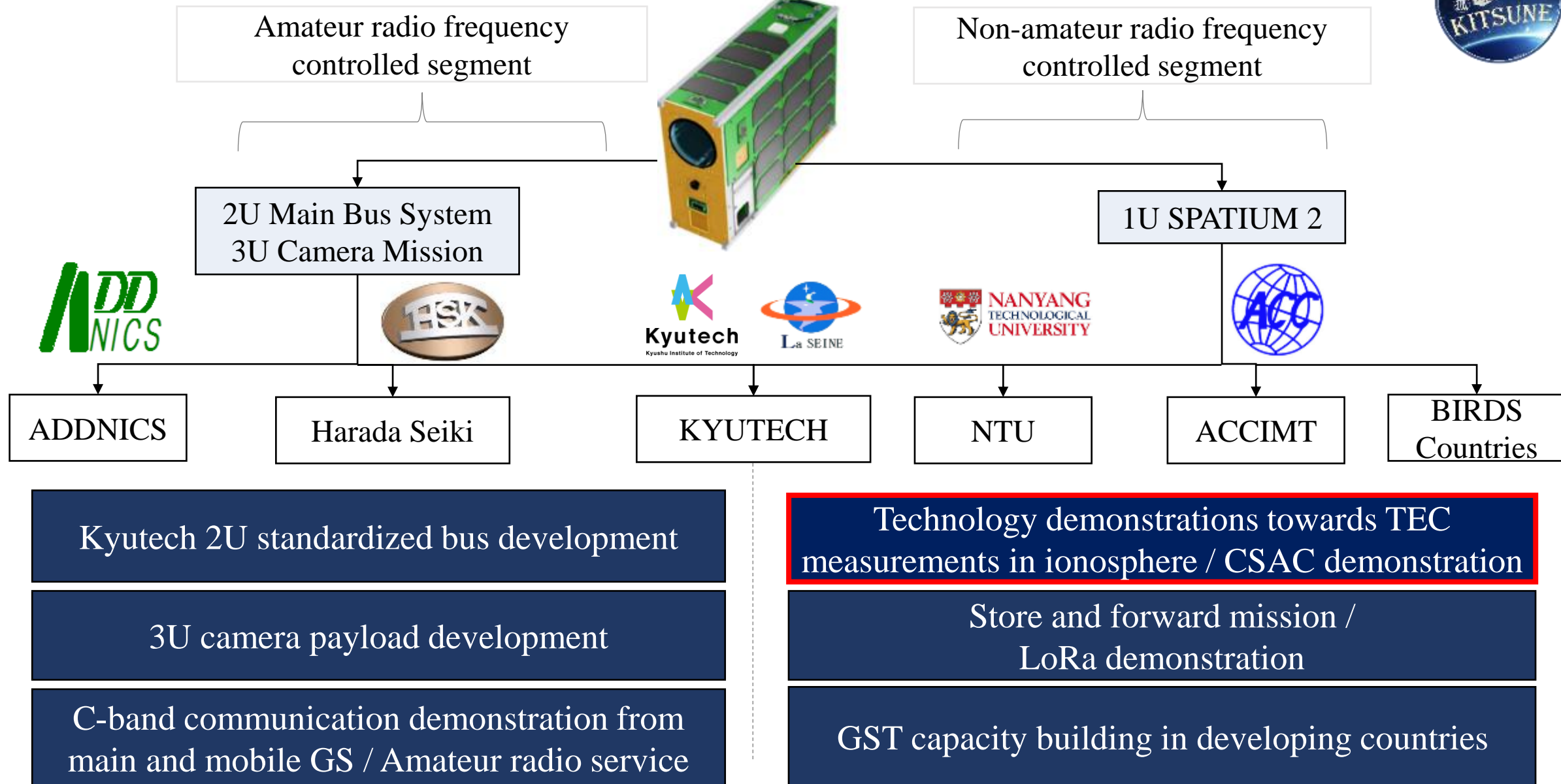
Date: 21 January 2023

Time: 22:55 - 23:10

# Project Overview: KITSUNE Collaboration



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# Project Overview (1)



KITSUNE satellite

KITSUNE satellite has been developed as a collaboration between international academic institutions and private sector in Japan.

- Kyushu Institute of Technology (Kyutech)
- Harada Seiki Co. Ltd. (HSK)
- Addnics Corp.
- Nanyang Technological University (NTU)
- Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT)

The name of KITSUNE stands for the mission objectives as building **K**yutech standardized bus, **I**maging **T**echnology **S**ystem, **U**tilization of **N**etworking and **E**lectron content measurements.



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The name of KITSUNE stands for the mission objectives as building **Kyutech** standardized bus, **Imaging Technology System**, **Utilization of Networking and Electron content measurements.**

SPATIUM-II Objectives

# SPATIUM Project

## Space **P**recise **A**tomc **T**iming **U**tility **M**ission

- Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan (Kyutech)
- Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU)

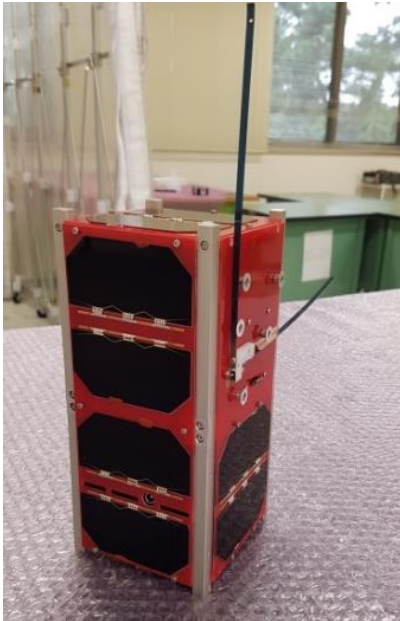


Final goal: SPATIUM  
Constellation with CubeSats

3D mapping of Ionosphere by CubeSat constellation

# SPATIUM-I: Orbital Result

- ✓ Space Demonstration of Chip Scale Atomic Clock (CSAC)
- ✓ Transmission of ranging signal from the satellite side



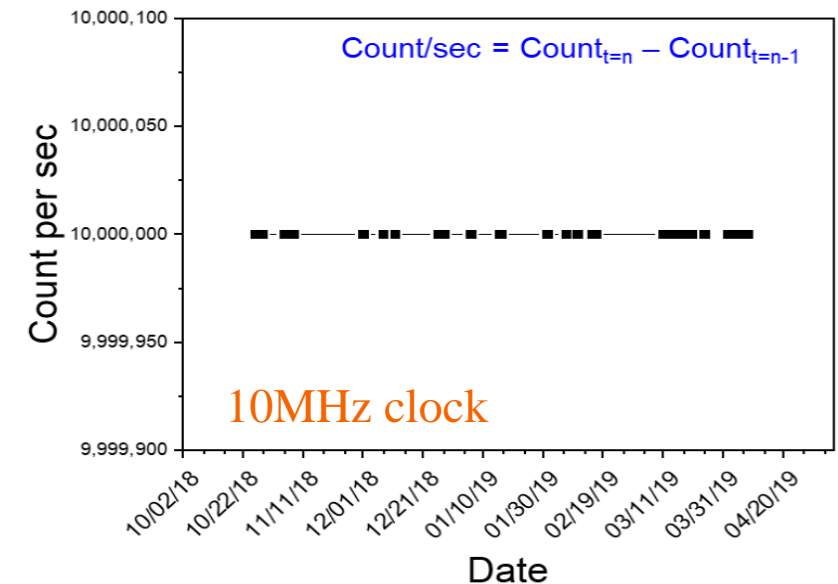
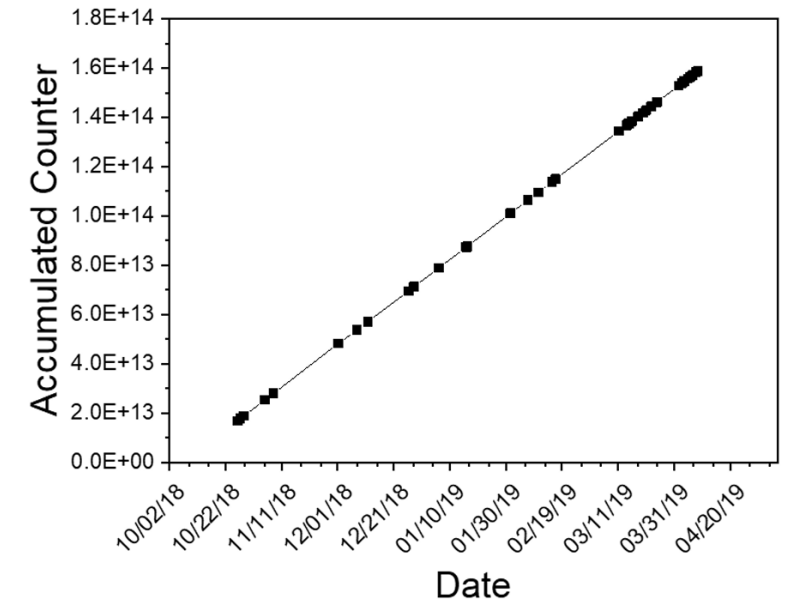
Released from ISS\*  
in October 2018  
(2U CubeSat)



CSAC board  
designed by NTU  
(90mm x 86mm)

\*ISS: International Space Station

Orbital result of CSAC 10MHz clock



Chow, Chee Lap, et al. "Overview of Project SPATIUM–Space Precision Atomic-clock Timing Utility Mission." (2019).

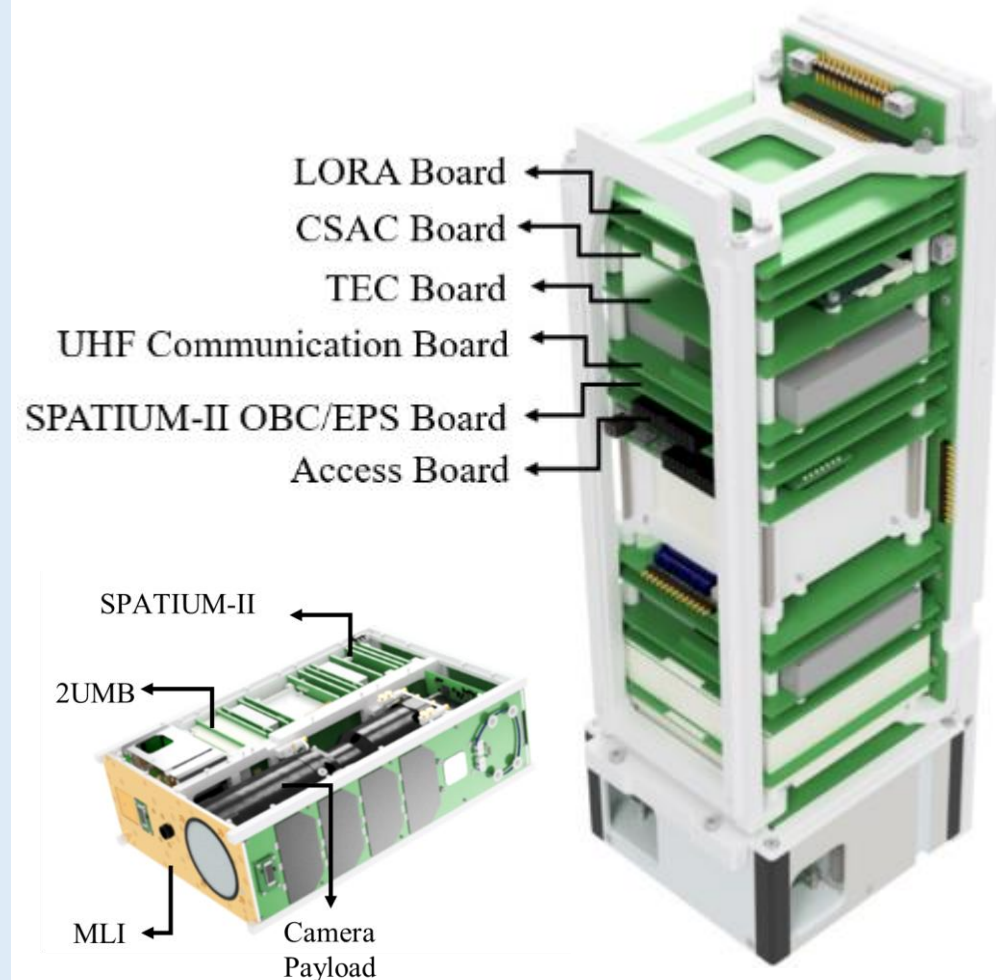


# Mission Objectives: Non-amateur radio frequency-controlled segment



## SPATIUM-II

- Technology demonstration towards total electron content (TEC) measurements of the ionosphere.
- On-orbit demonstration of LoRa communication board.
- S&F mission from the ground sensor terminals of BIRDS countries.
- Monitoring chip-scale atomic clock (CSAC) board on-orbit performance (resuming one of the SPATIUM-I objectives (Aheieva et al., 2017; 2018)).
- Development of mobile and fixed ground sensor terminals (GSTs).



1) Aheieva, K., Rahmatillah, R., Ninagawa, R., Adebolu, I.O., Kim, S., Kakimoto, Y., Yamauchi, T., Masui, H., Cho, M., Lap, C.C. and Ying, Z.: Project Overview of SPATIUM-I: A Technology Demonstration Mission Toward Global Three-Dimensional Ionosphere Mapping via CubeSat Constellation Equipped with an Atomic Clock, 69th International Astronautical Congress (IAC), Bremen, Germany, IAC-18-B4 (Vol. 7), 2018.

2) Aheieva, K., Rahmatillah, R., Ninagawa, R., Adebolu, I.O., Masui, H., Yamauchi, T., Kim, S., Cho, M., Chow, C.L., Tse, M.S. and Li, K.H.H.: CubeSat mission for ionosphere mapping and weather forecasting using chip-scale atomic clock, IEEE Progress in Electromagnetics Research Symposium-Fall (PIERS-FALL), 2017, pp. 761-766.



# SPATIUM-II: Overview



KITSUNE Flight Model  
(6U size)

**SPATIUM-II  
(1U size)**



KITSUNE  
3D CAD model

## Demonstrate Technologies

- Onboard demodulation of UHF Spread Spectrum ranging signal from Ground Station (GS) at satellite side.
- Derive the ranging signal time delay onboard.
- Estimating TEC values from time delay at GS side (limited by the sampling frequency with 1 MHz in current configuration)

# Deployment event (March 24, 2022)

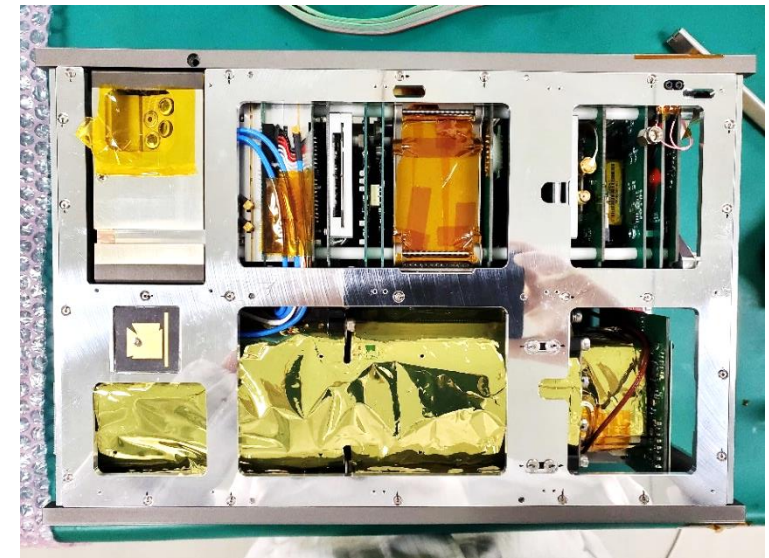


Source: JAXA broadcast

# Satellite Design Overview (1)



Specification	Information
<b>Mechanical Properties</b>	
Dimensions	340.5 x 226.3 x 100 mm
Total weight	7544 g
<b>Power Storage</b>	
Battery Type	Li-ion
Cell connectivity	2S3P (2 in series, 3 in parallel)
Battery capacity/nominal voltage	74.5 Wh/7.2 V (8.4V max)
<b>Power Generation per Orbit</b>	
Sun tracking mode	5.6 Wh – 10.7 Wh
Nadir pointing mode	<8.5 Wh
Tumbling mode/Detumbling mode	5.6 Wh – 7.2 Wh





# Satellite Design Overview (2)

## EPS Bus Voltage

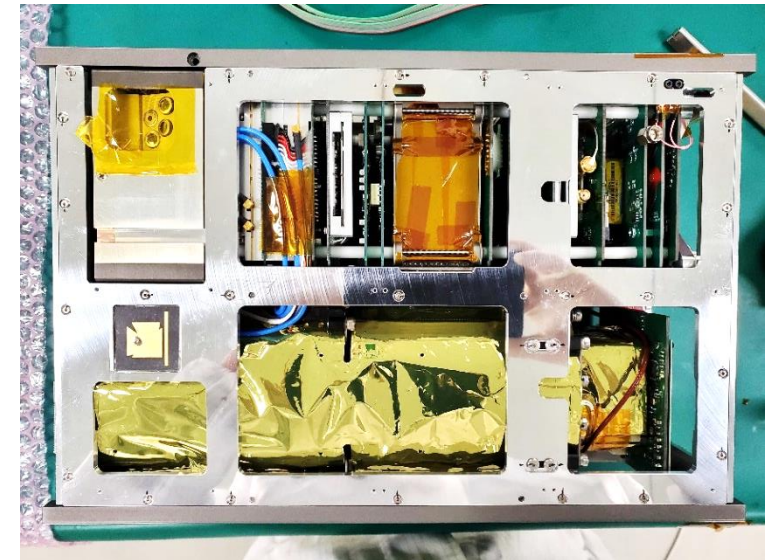
2UMB	(3x) Unregulated line
	(2x) +3.3 V line
	(1x) +5.0 V line
	(1x) +12.0 V line
SPATIUM-II system	(2x) Unregulated line
	(1x) +3.5 V line
	(1x) +4.5 V line
	(1x) +5.0 V line

## Nominal Power Consumption

2UMB	~4.1 Wh
SPATIUM-II	~2.5 Wh

## ADCS Modes

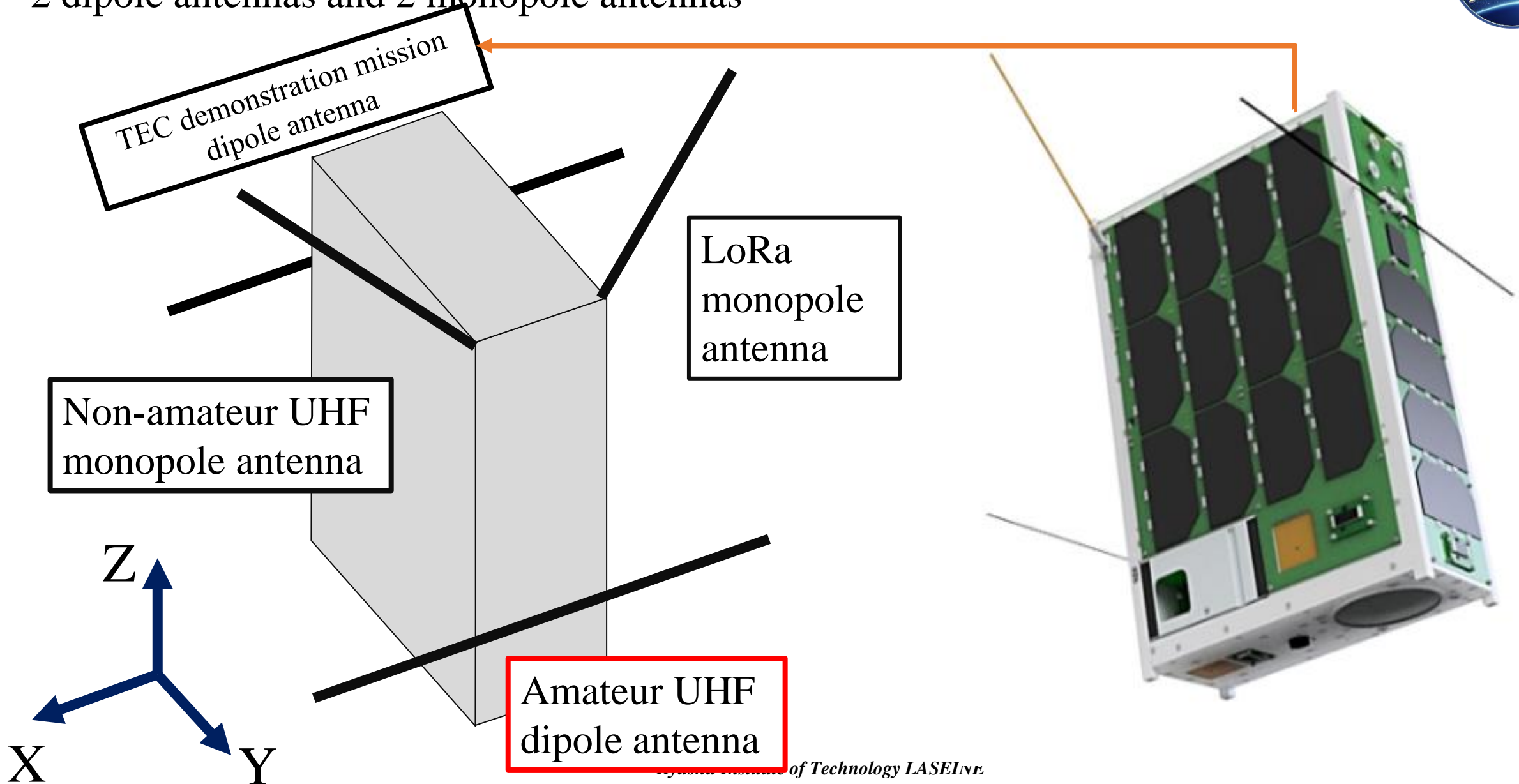
Nominal mode	Tumbling
EO mission mode	Nadir or Target pointing
SPATIUM-II mission mode	No requirement
Deployment mode	Detumbling/Sun-tracking



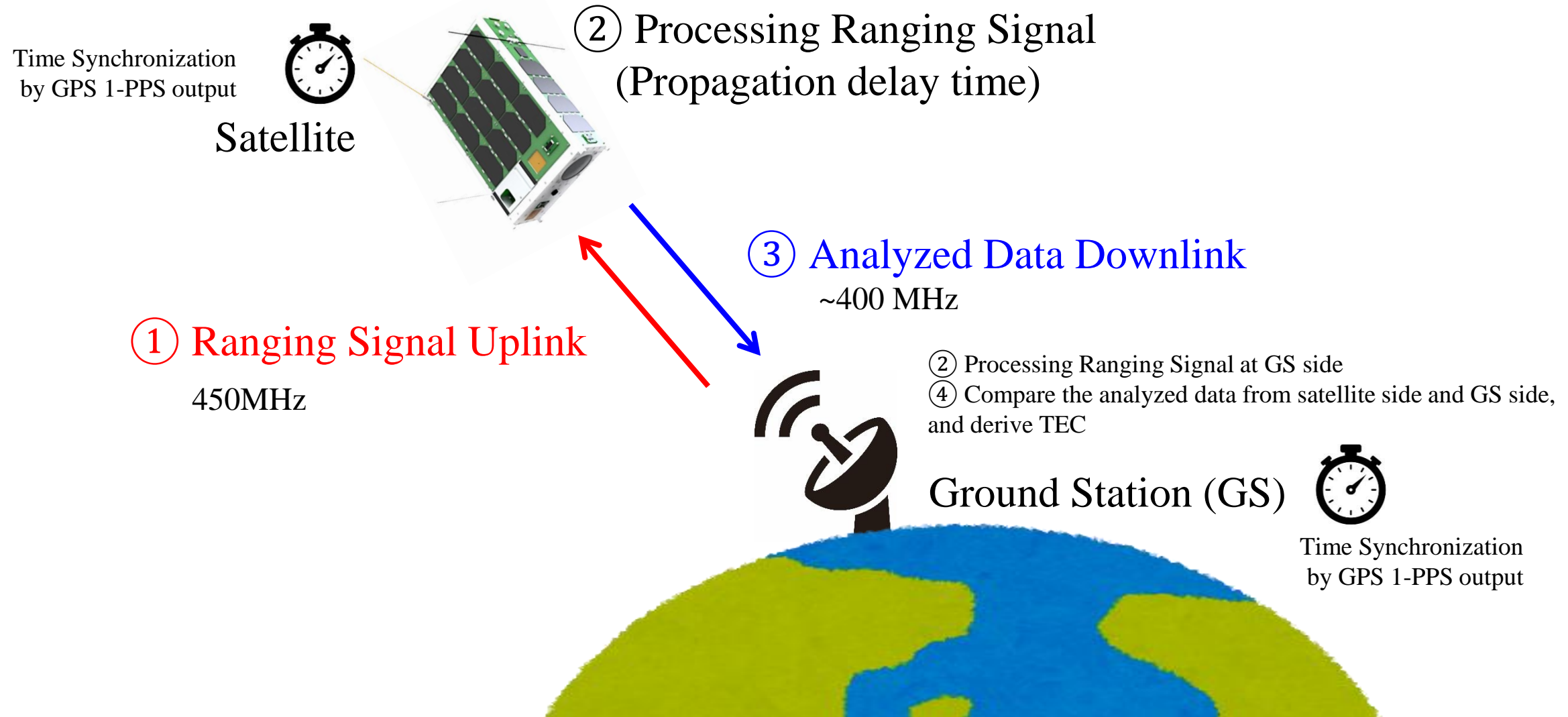


# Communication subsystem – UHF antennas

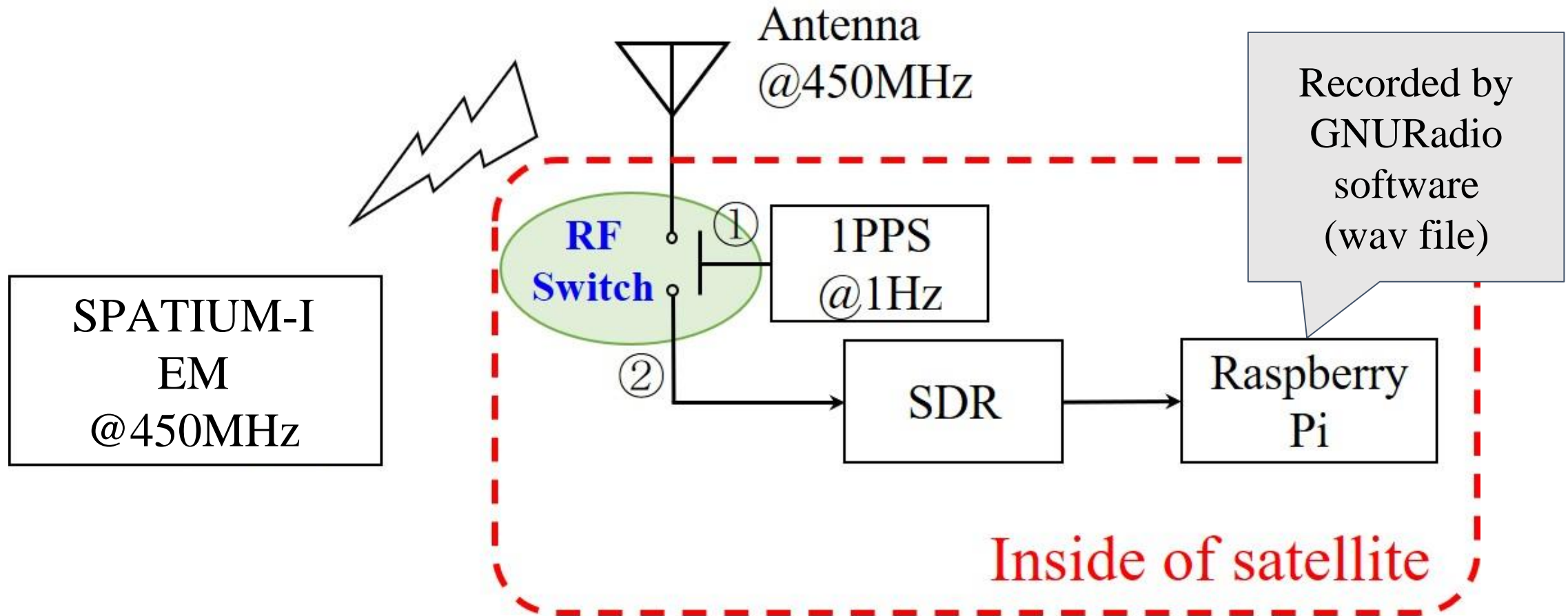
2 dipole antennas and 2 monopole antennas



# SPATIUM-II: TEC demonstration mission

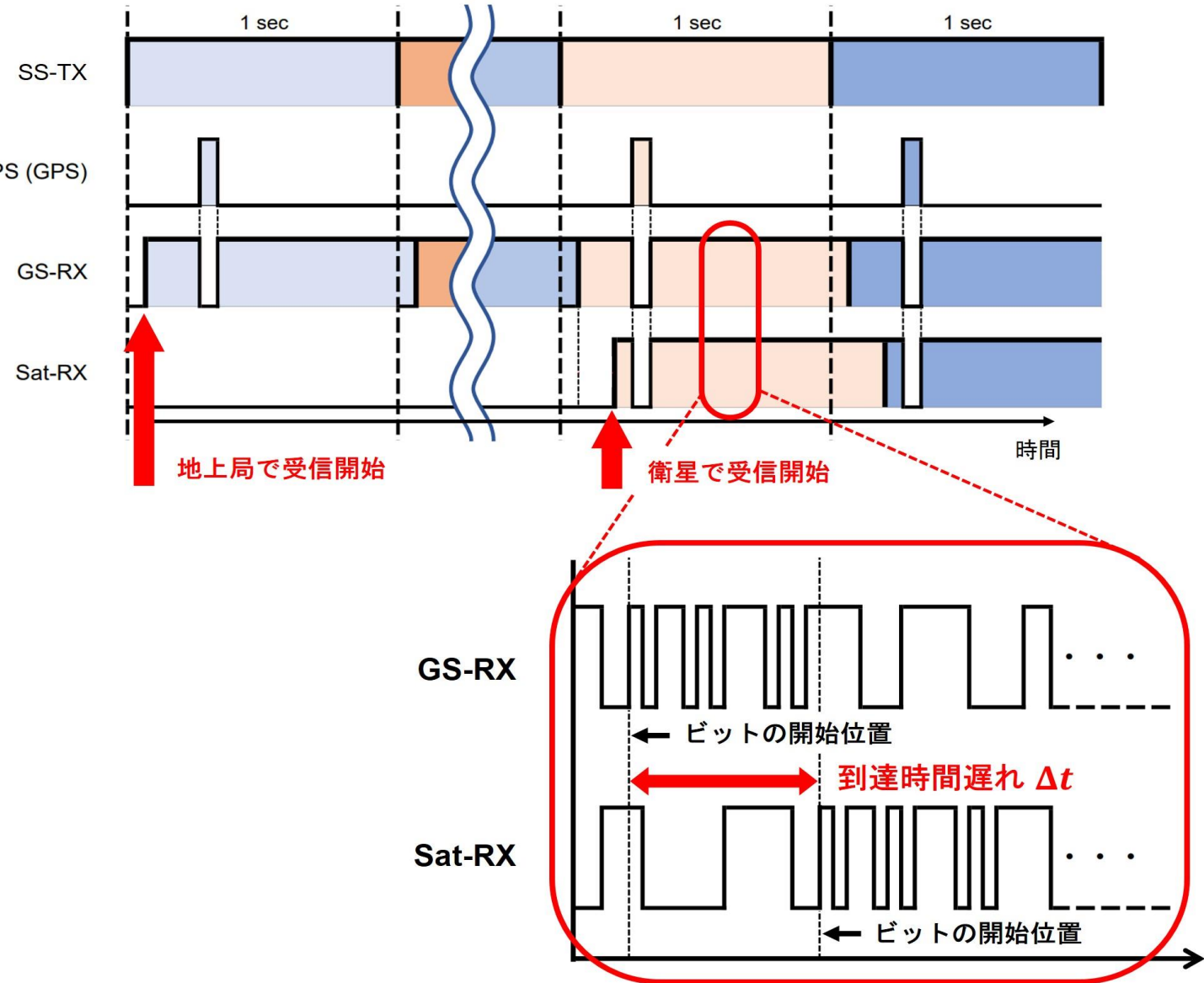
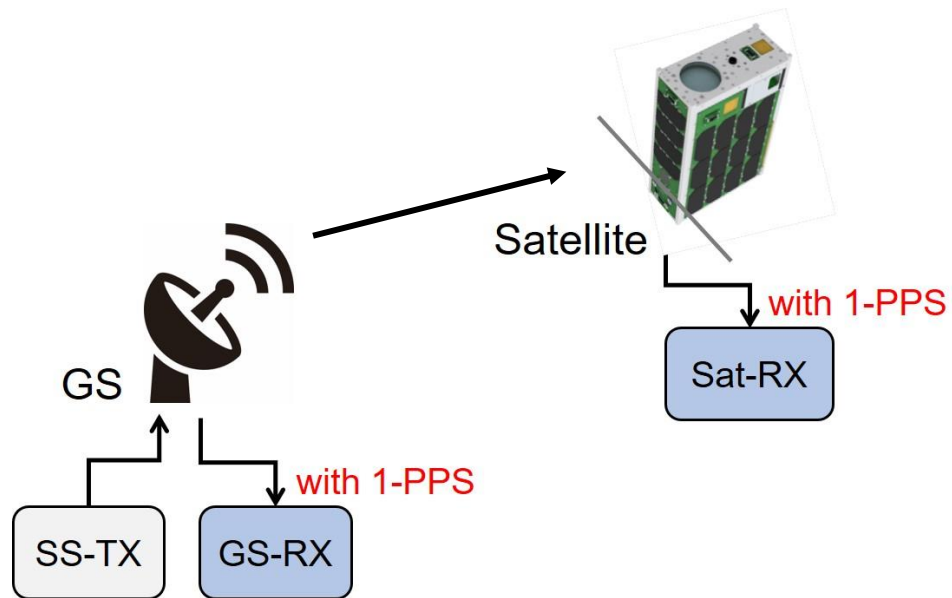


# Time Stamp by 1PPS superimposition RF-Switch



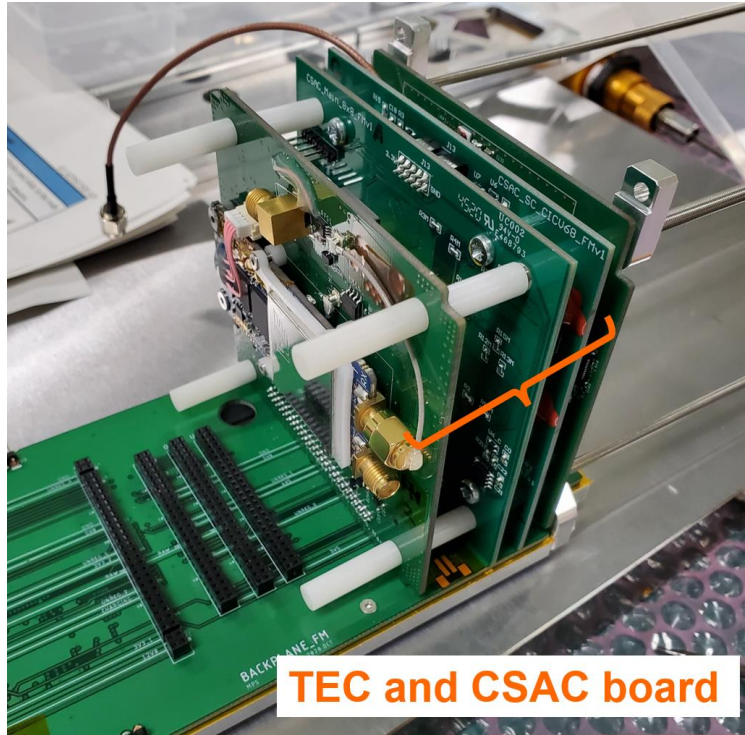
# How to detect time delay

- Checking the position of 1PPS of Sat-RX shows the delay time.
- Synchronize by 1-PPS of GPS receiver output



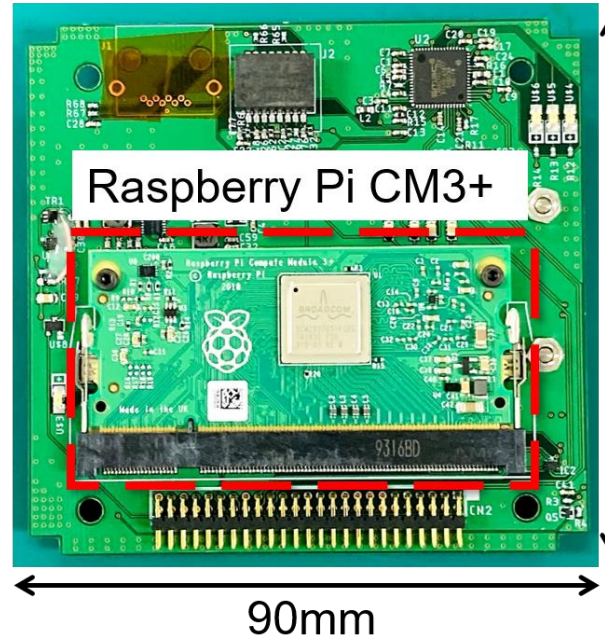


# SPATIUM-II: Flight Model

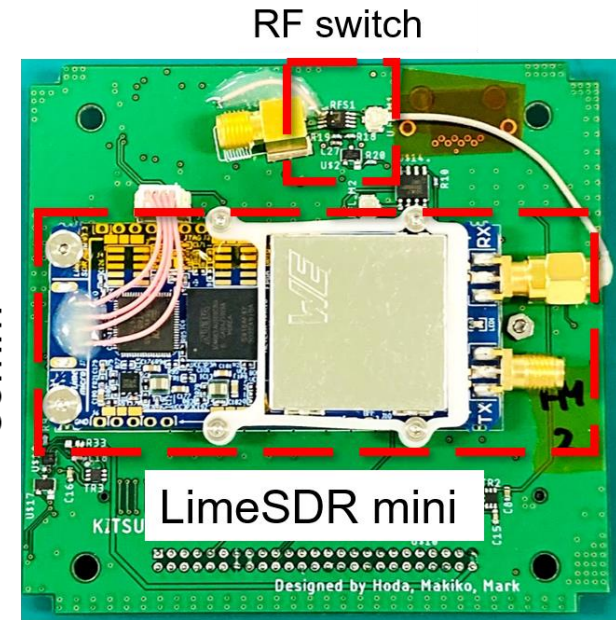


TEC and CSAC board

TEC measurement subsystem  
(size: 90mm x 86mm x 38mm)



Raspberry Pi CM3+



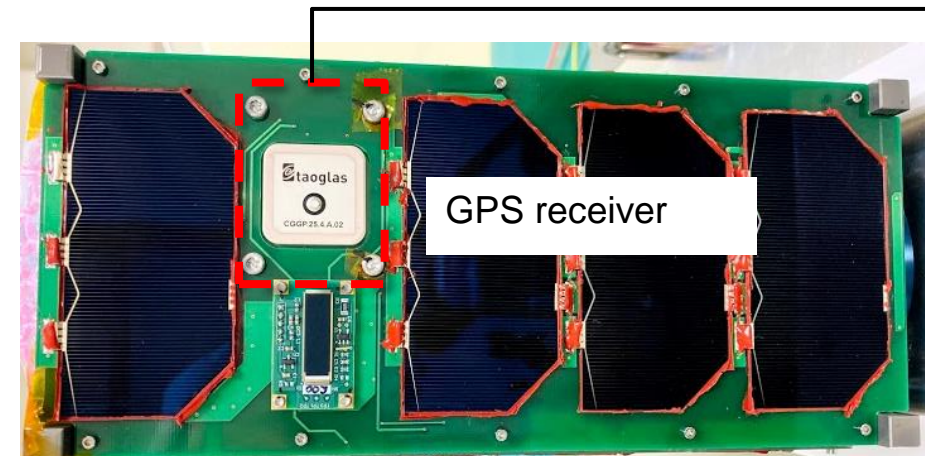
RF switch

LimeSDR mini

Designed by Hoda, Makiko, Mark



CSAC



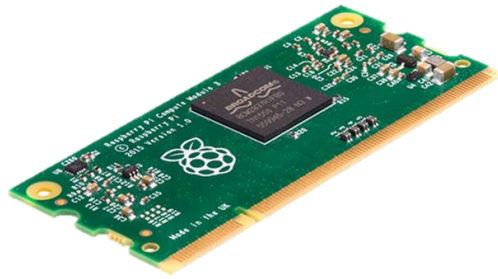
GPS receiver



# Subsystems - Total Electron Content Measurement Board Hardware

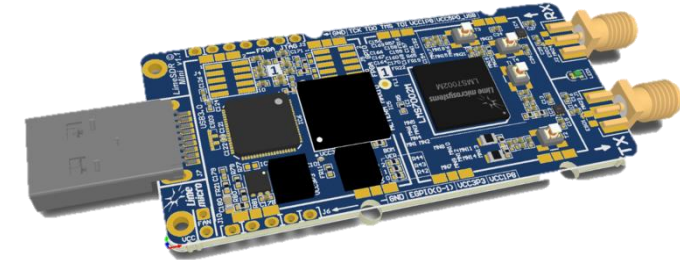


Raspberry Pi Compute Module 3+



Specification	RPi CM1
Processor	BCM2835 processor
Power	5V, 350mA
RAM	512MB
FLASH memory	4GB
Interfaces	USB2.0,UART,I2C,SPI
Dimensions	30x71.5x5.2mm (5.5g)
Temperature Range	-25C to +80C
Radiation Tolerance	Tested up to 130 krad

LimeSDR Mini



<https://wiki.myriadrf.org/LimeSDR-Mini>

Specification	LimeSDR Mini
Frequency Range	100k ~ 3.8GHz
Power	5V, 360mA
FPGA	MAX10M16 (Intel Altera)
TX/ RX channel	1 TX/ 1 RX
Interface	USB 3.0
RF transceiver	LMS7002M
Dimensions	31.4 x 69.0 x 6.17mm (20gram)
Temperature Range	-20C to +70C



# Subsystems - Total Electron Content Measurement Board Hardware

CSAC Board



Specification	CSAC Board
Connection	50-PIN
Power	4.5V, 79mA
Interfaces	UART
Dimensions	86.3x90x22.6mm (117g)
Temperature Range	-10C to +75C
Flight Heritage	SPATIUM-1

Fireant GPS



\* From Prof. Ebinuma<sup>[1]</sup>

Specification	Fireant GPS
Position precision	2.5m “CEP”
Power	3.3V, <0.3W
1PPS accuracy	50ns
Interface	UART
Dimensions	45x35x0.8mm (45gram)
Temperature Range	-40C to +85C
Flight Heritage	RAPIS-1 ひばり (Hibari) – Tokyo Institute of Technology KOSEN-1



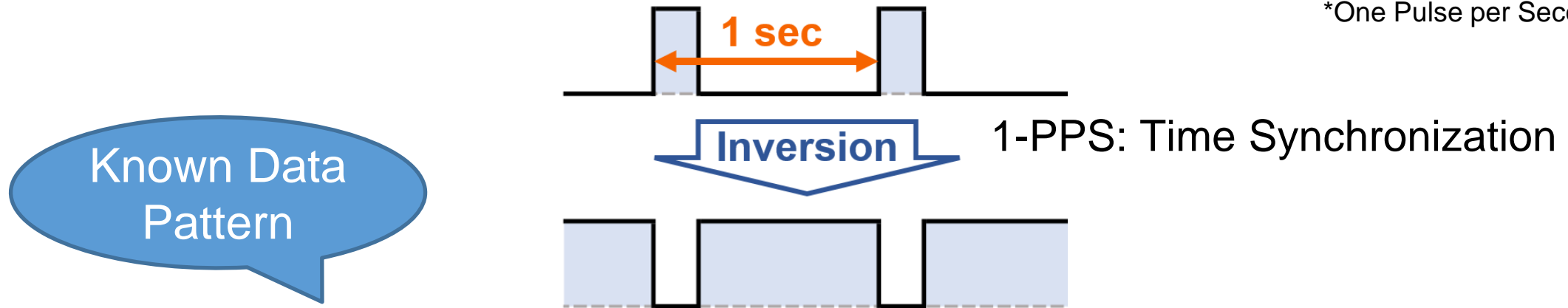


# The way of time synchronization

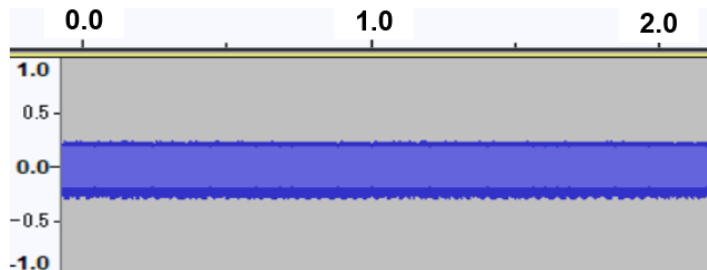


Turn on/off the ranging signal at the satellite side with 1-PPS\* of GPS.

\*One Pulse per Second

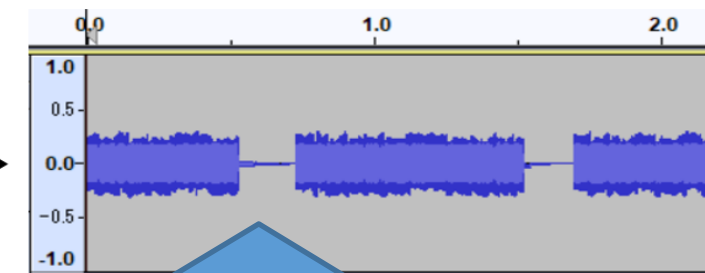


Ranging signal from  
**Ground Station**



RF Switch

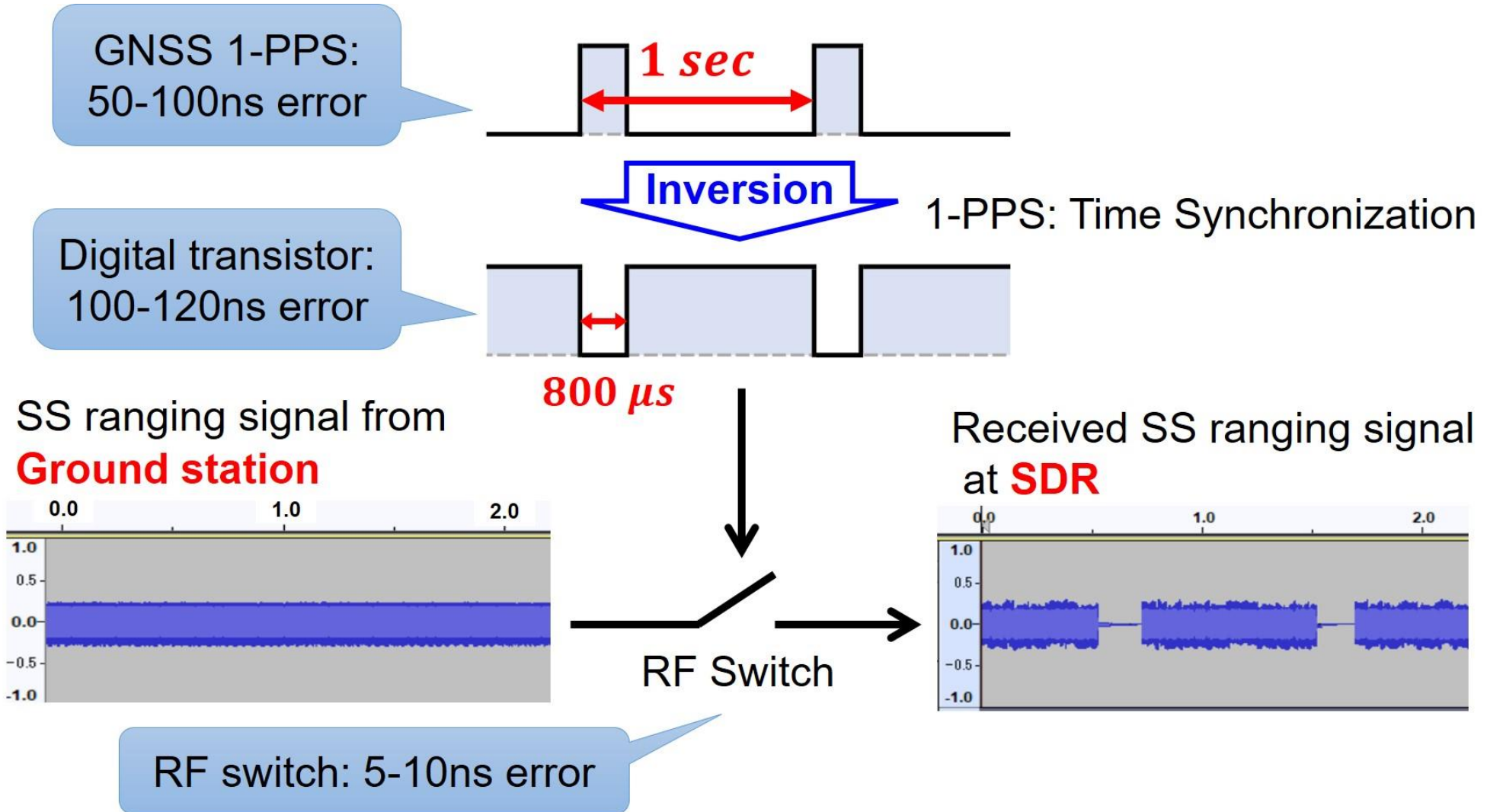
Received Ranging signal  
at **SDR\***



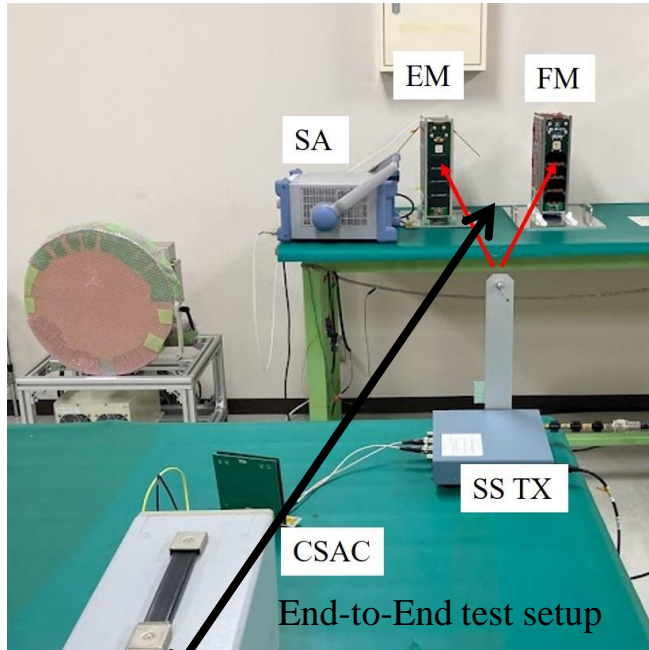
Possible to know which part of  
the data pattern

\*SDR: Software Defined Radio

# Measurement error

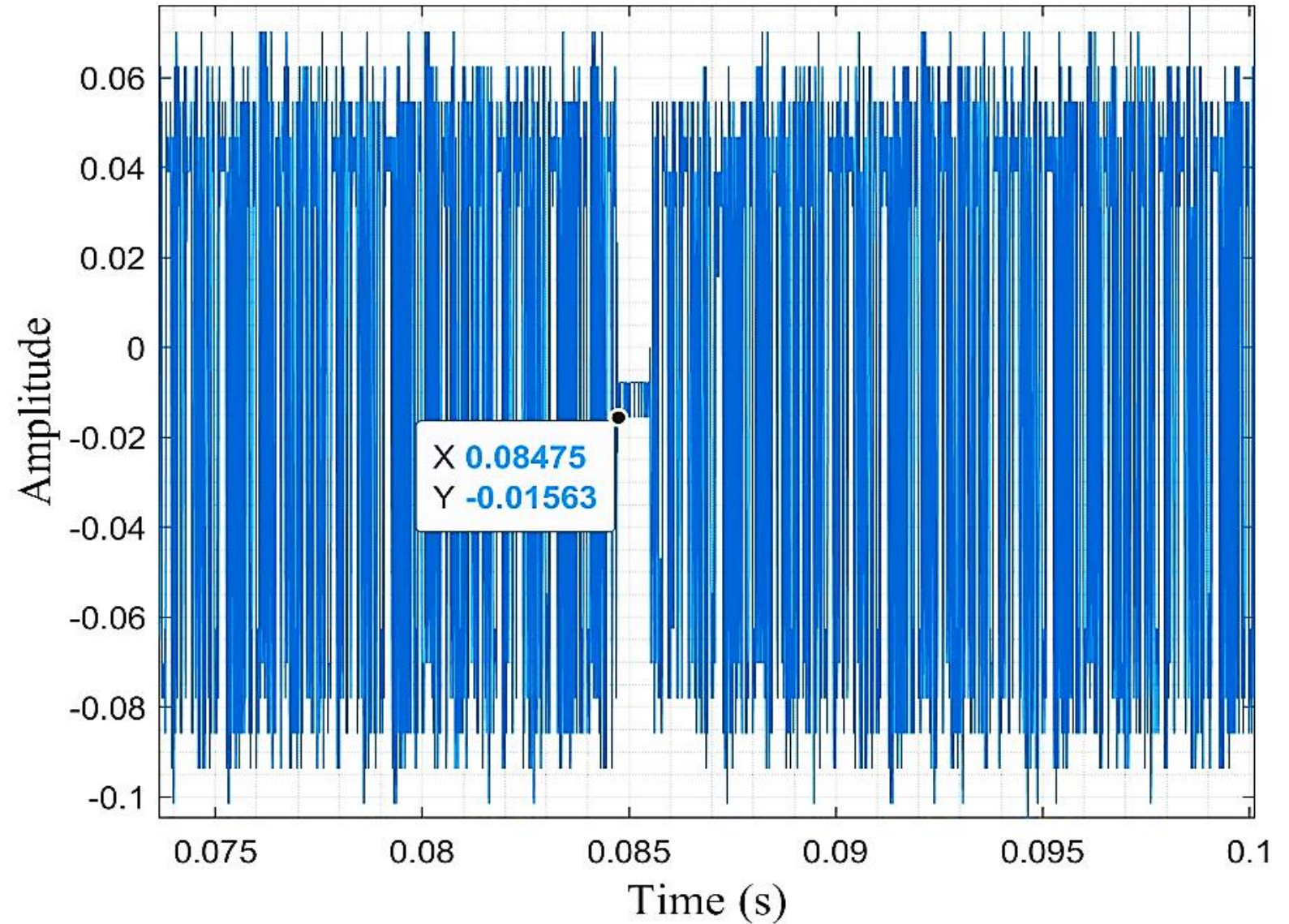


# KITSUNE FM End-to-End test

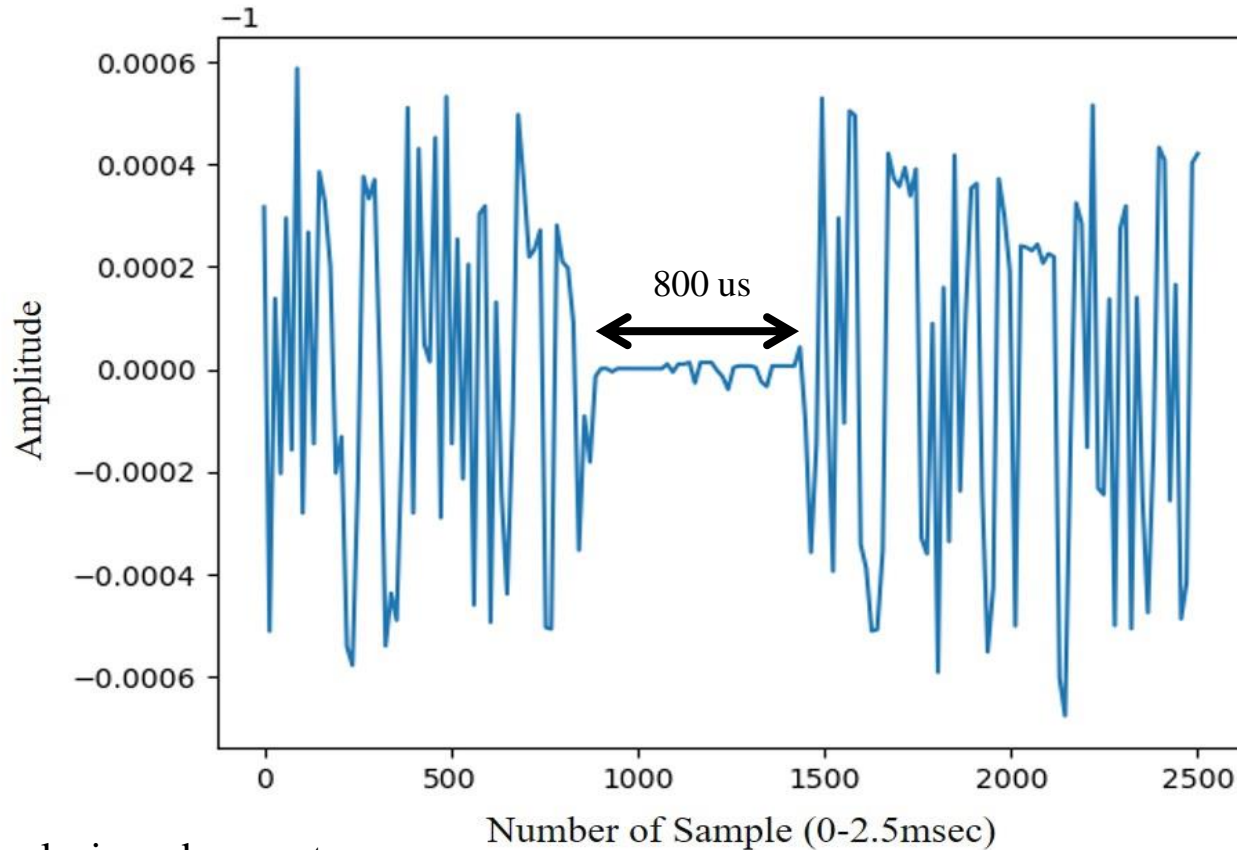


GS Equipment

- Command uplink
- Data downlink

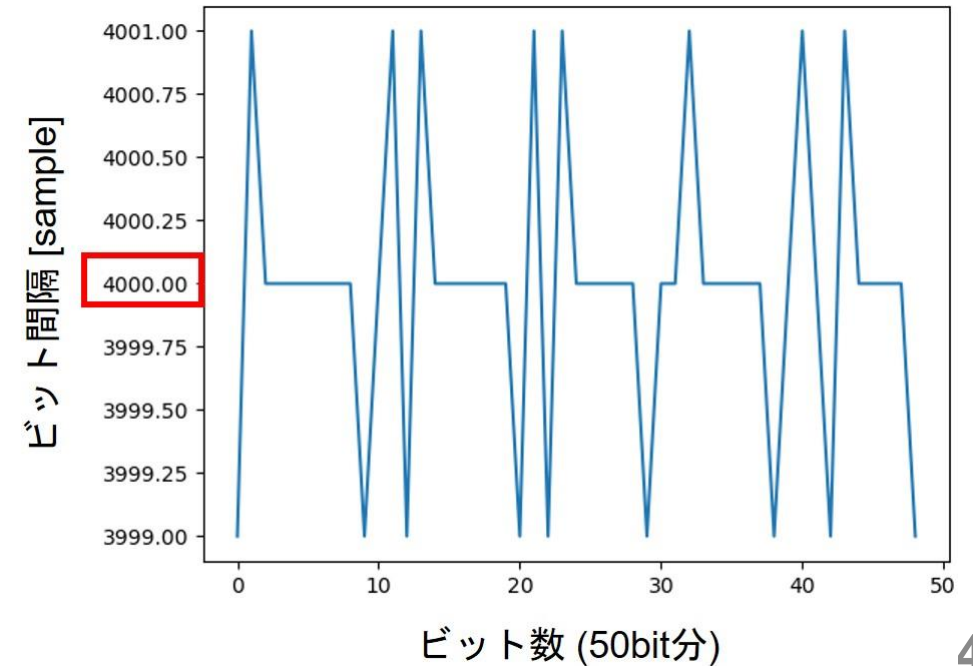
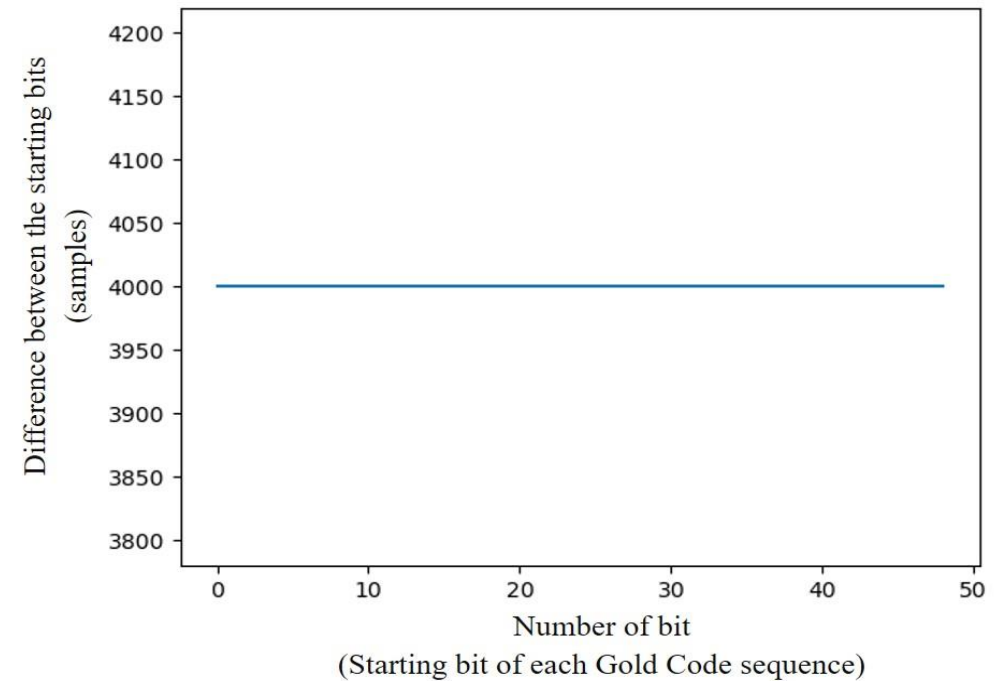


# KITSUNE FM End-to-End test



Analysis code reports:

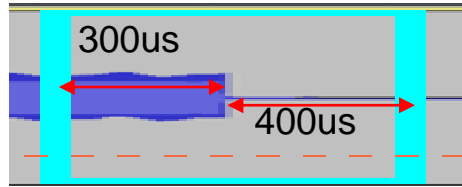
- Mean of RF switch detections= 0.084705 s (for 30 x 1-second intervals)
- Median RF switch detections = 0.084750 s (the mean and median values are almost same.).
- Standard deviation between RF switch detections= 0.000140 for 30 intervals.



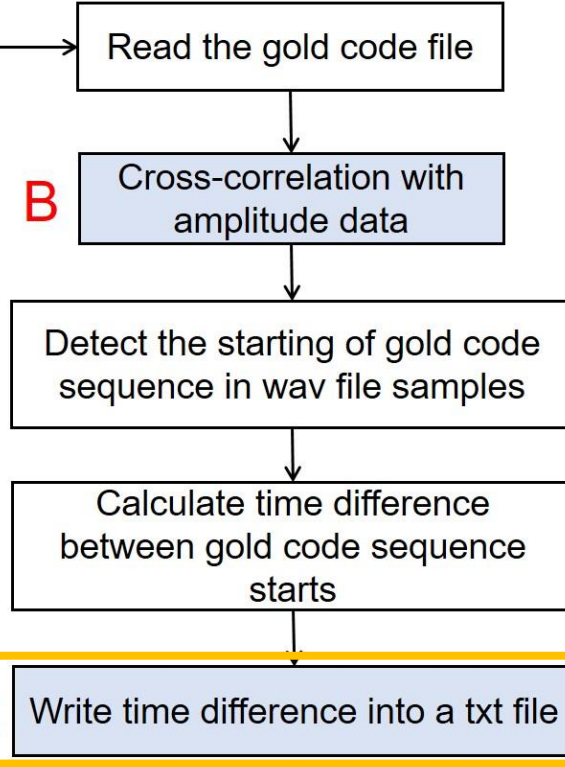
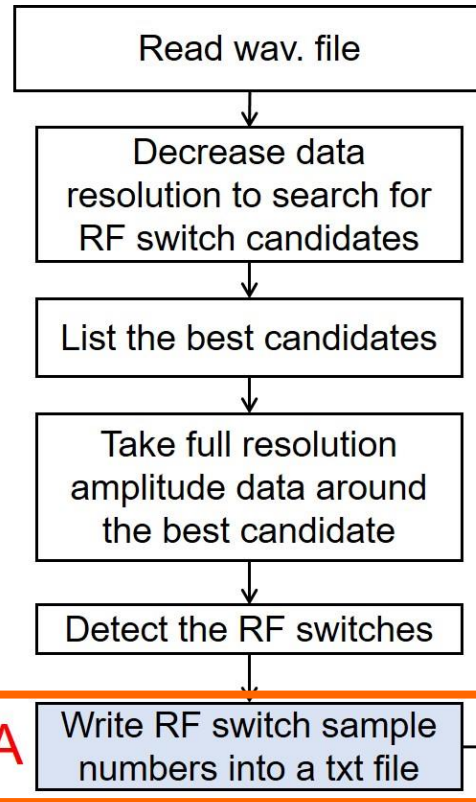


# How to analysis wav file [Ref.]

**05 file: around RF Switch**  
2nd 1PPS and 4th 1PPS



**04 file:**  
0.2539 [sec]  
1.2539  
2.2539  
...  
7.2539  
8.2539  
9.2539  
...

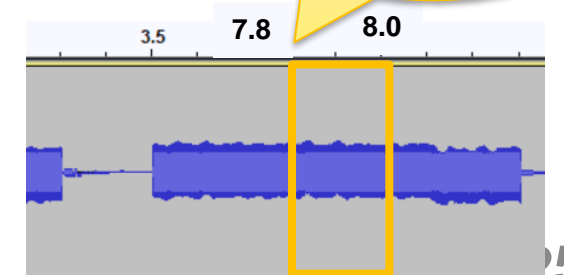
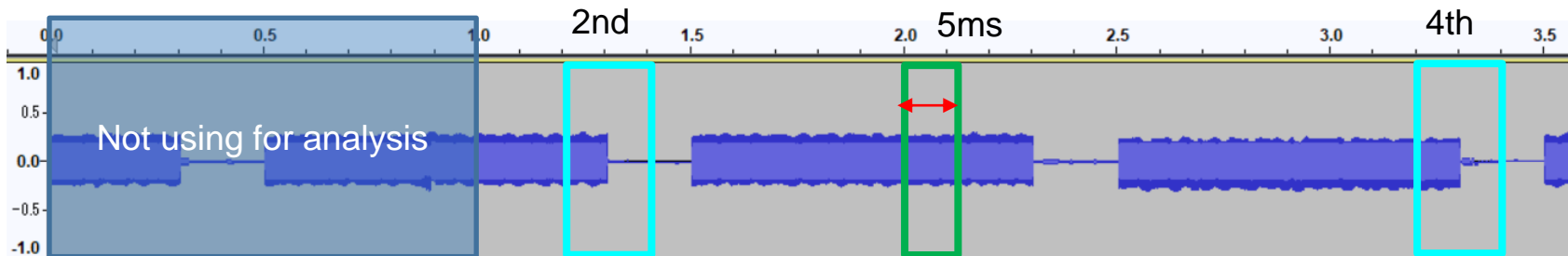


**06 file: 5ms raw wav data**  
5ms wav file from 2nd sec.  
1bit = 4ms = 4000sample = 250chip

**cross-correlate:**  
from 1950bit to 2000bit  
(from 7.8sec to 8sec)

**07 file: head sample position of each bit**  
1515 [us, sample]  
5515  
9515  
13515  
17515  
...

各bitの開始位置  
は分かるがSS  
信号のヘッダー  
(FAF320)は  
分からない



# Current Status



- Spread spectrum (SS) uplink is received by SDR and demodulated correctly.
- Onboard processing to detect gold code sequence every 4 ms is demonstrated.
- GPS time output is collected; however, the position data is not received correctly yet.
- 1 PPS output data is received, and it is under analysis to detect onboard accuracy.
- We are preparing for CSAC monitoring mission.

## Conclusion

- We proved that we are able to detect SS uplink. However,
  - RPi CM3+ with GNU radio and Linux OS provided us flexibility in development. Still, we are limited by hardware sampling frequency (1MHz).
  - GPS receiver should be improved in the next version.
  - We can improve the algorithm significantly as well.

# Project Timeline



- Satellite hardware/software development and testing: approximately 15 months. (MDR-FRR)
- MDR date coincides with Covid-19 start.
- PDR -  $\Delta$ CDR period was most influenced by campus lock-downs and state-of-emergencies.
- Frequency coordination took longer than expected.



Kyutech Team

# Acknowledgement

- We would like to thank the KISTUNE development members and ground station operators. Without their contribution, the satellite could never be built. In addition, I would like to acknowledge the support provided by Prof. Mohammad Tariqul Islam on C-band patch antennas. The part of KITSUNE development work, especially 2UMB, C-band and camera payload was supported by Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. The part of SPATIUM-II TEC mission development was supported by MEXT Coordination Funds for Promoting AeroSpace Utilization; Grant Number JP000959.
- We would like to express gratitude and appreciation to all support during testing phase to Prof. Takuji Ebinuma from Chubu University for his help with the GPS receiver.



# Acknowledgement

SPATIUM-II development team members in Kyutech:

- Necmi Cihan Orger
- Makiko Kishimoto
- Tharindu Lakmal Dayarathna Malmadayalage
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- Marloun Pelayo Sejera
- Hoda Awny A. A. Elmegharbel
- Mengu Cho
- Sangkyun Kim
- Yamauchi Takashi
- Masui Hirokazu
- Mariko Teramoto
- Kentaro Kitamura