

SnT



Overview of SnT SIGCOM 6GSPACE Lab and QCI Lab Activities



Dr. Jorge Querol
Research Scientist
Head of the 6GSPACE Lab

University of Luxembourg – SnT



630+
Workforce

Strategic Research Areas



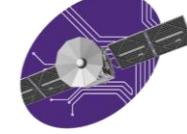
FinTech



Autonomous
Vehicles & IoT



Cybersecurity



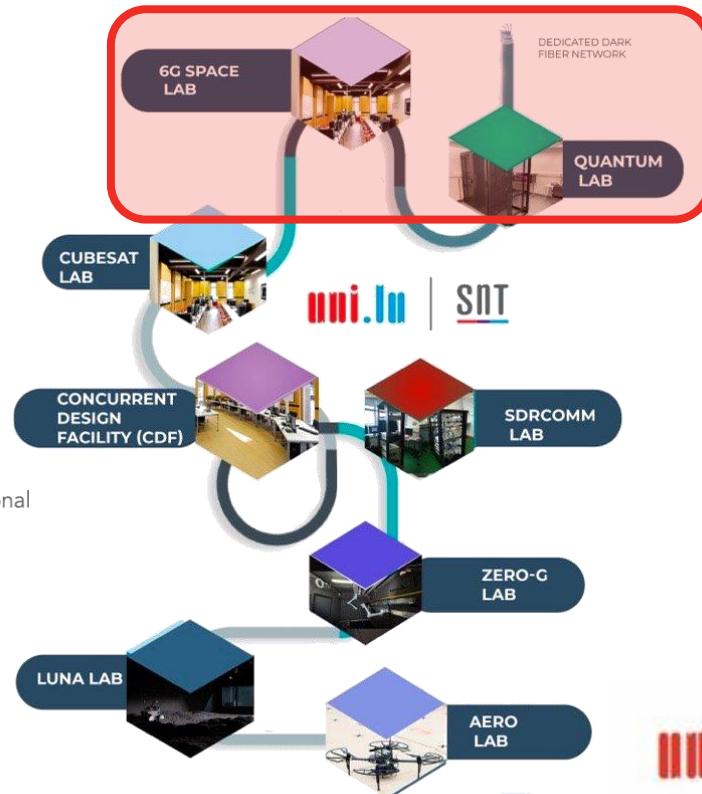
Space
Systems

SIGCOM – 6GSPACE Lab



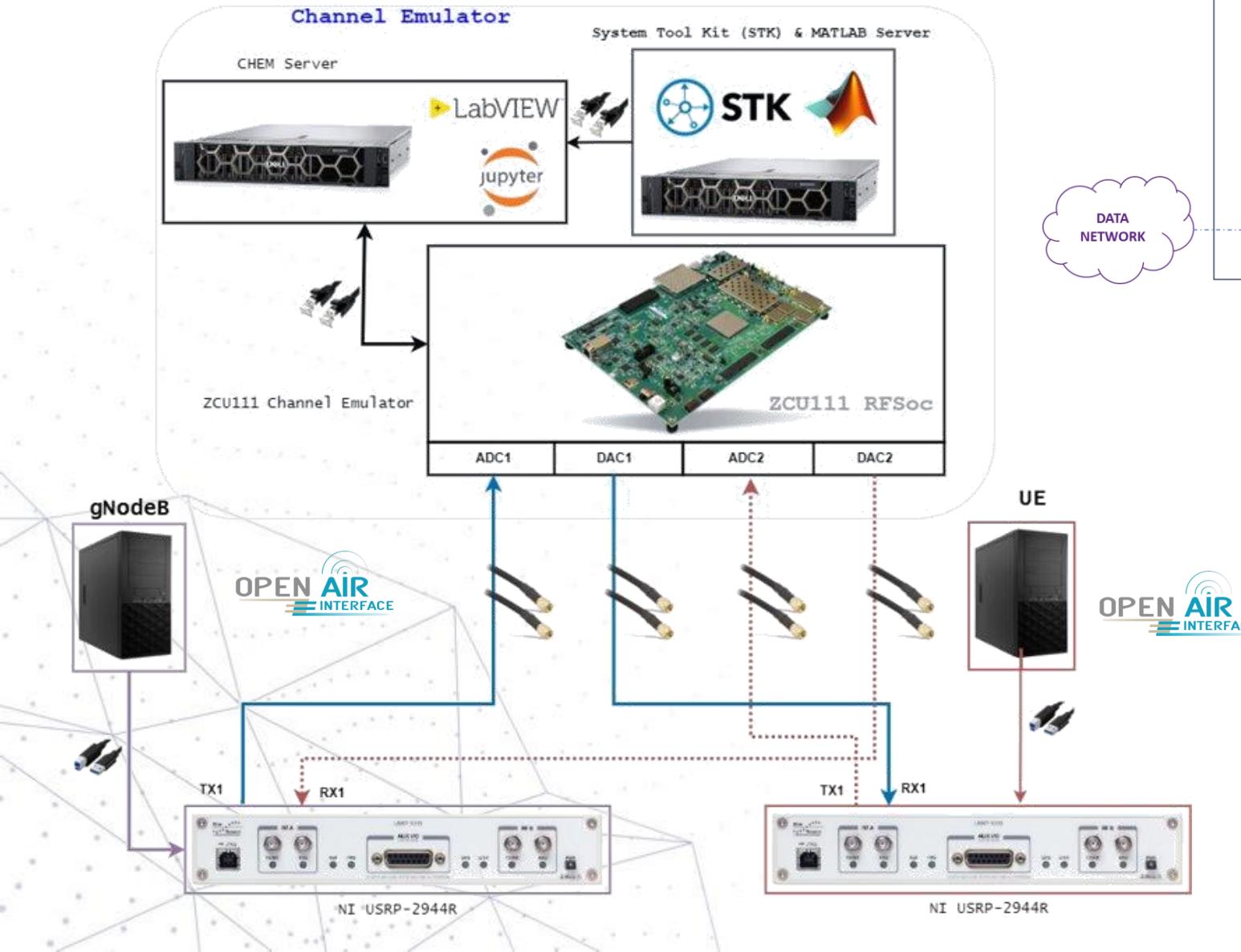
- [6GSPACE Lab](#) (20+ people) composed SnT SIGCOM researchers
- Facility for design and testing of 5G/6G Satellite-NTN-Space
- Multiple 5G/6G NTN research testbeds:
 - 6G NTN Multiorbit Emulation
 - 6G NTN AI-acceleration
 - 6G NTN OTS & OTA
 - Joint Communications and Sensing – PNT

PIONEERING SPACE EXPLORATION ADVANCED RESEARCH FACILITIES

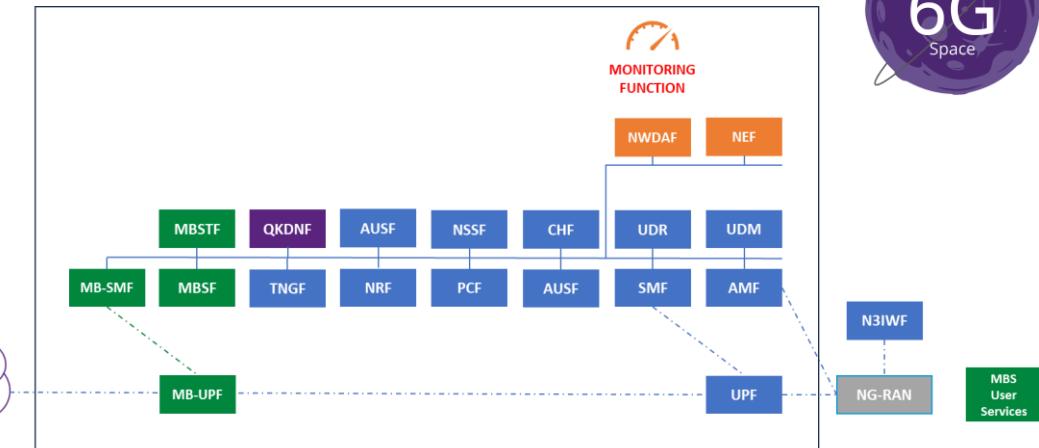


6G NTN Multiorbit Emulation

5G/6G RAN



5G/6G Core Network



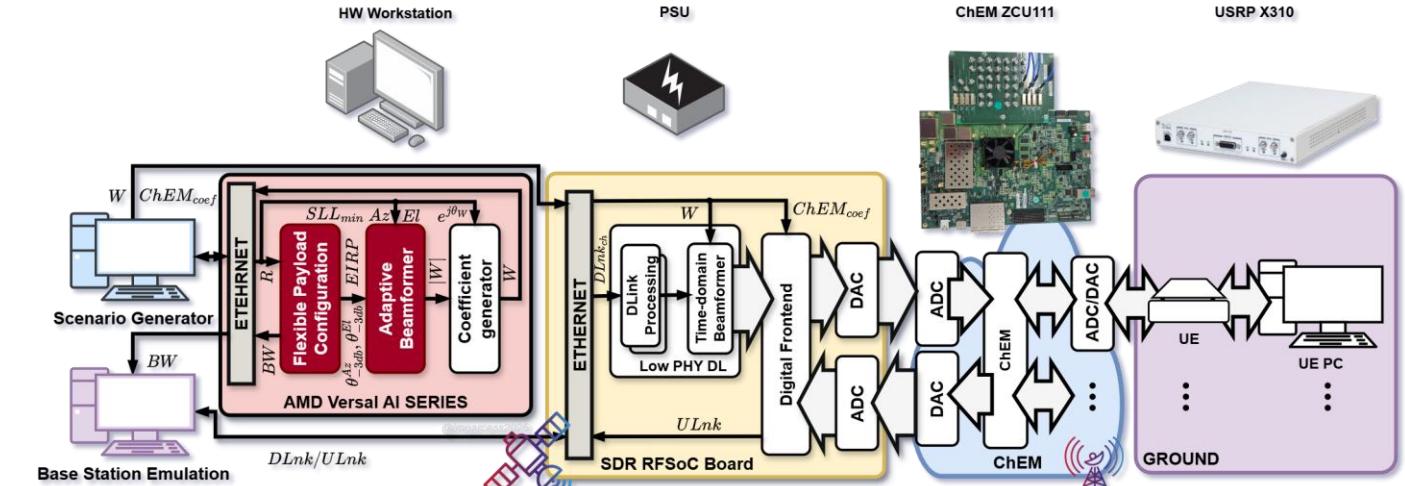
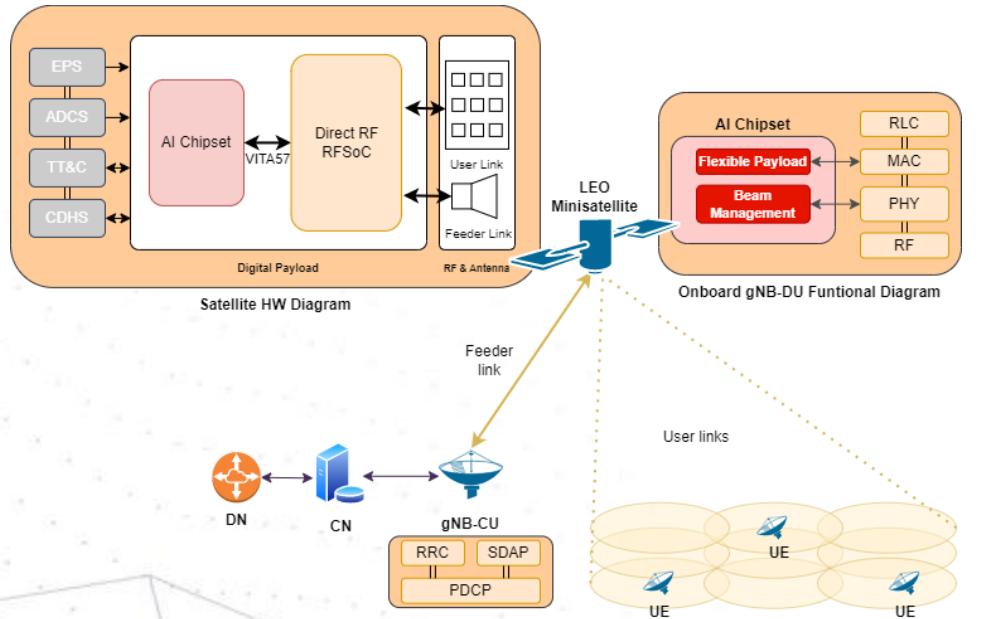
5G/6G NTN Demonstrations

- Multiorbit 5G connectivity LEO/MEO/GEO
- TN-NTN Handover (F1/N2)
- In-orbit UE Demonstration
- 5G NTN + Multicast Broadcast Services
- Security and Automation (QKD + NWDAF)
- Dual-connectivity / Dual-steer (Multiorbit)



6G NTN AI-acceleration

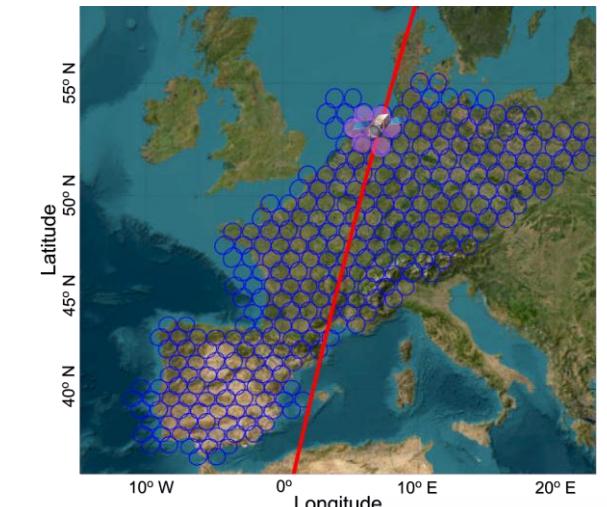
Onboard/onground AI-based resource allocation and beam management + AI PHY-enhancement



Custom SDR



Versal AI



Testbed

6G NTN OTS & OTA

C-/Ku-/Ka-bands GEO/NGSO/Terrestrial

beCom



Ku-band
BUC + LNB
1.2 m dish
GEO

0-40 GHz
EMF

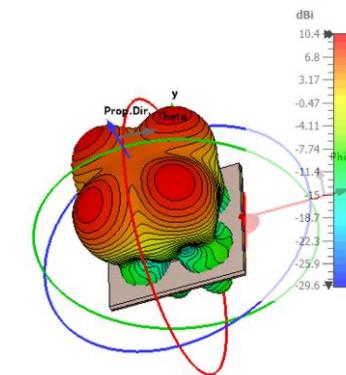


Ku-band LNB + Ka-band LNB – 3-axis NGSO



Argus 2

- OTS Demos
- Spectrum monitoring
- Direct-to-X Connectivity



ILR

INSTITUT LUXEMBOURGOIS
DE RÉGULATION

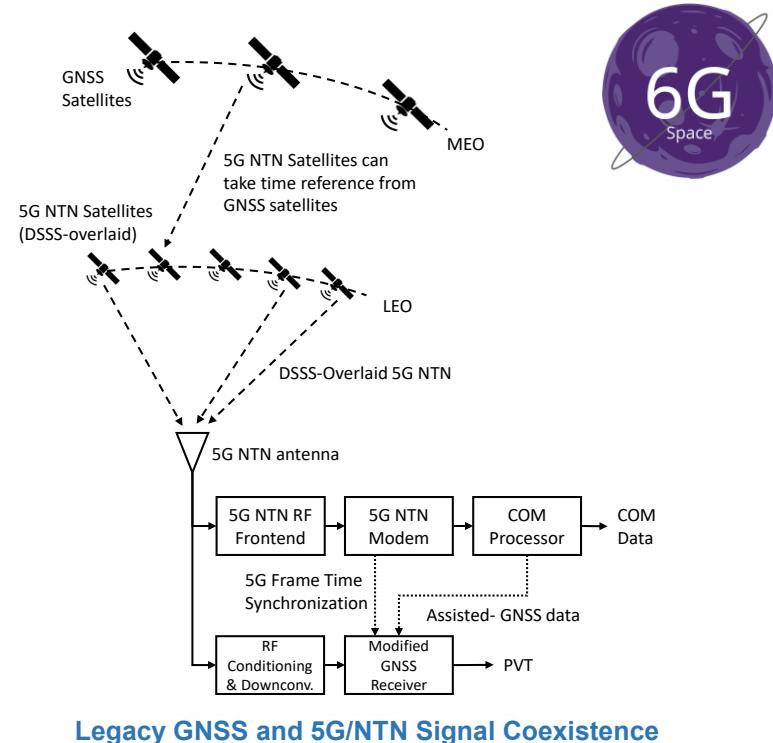
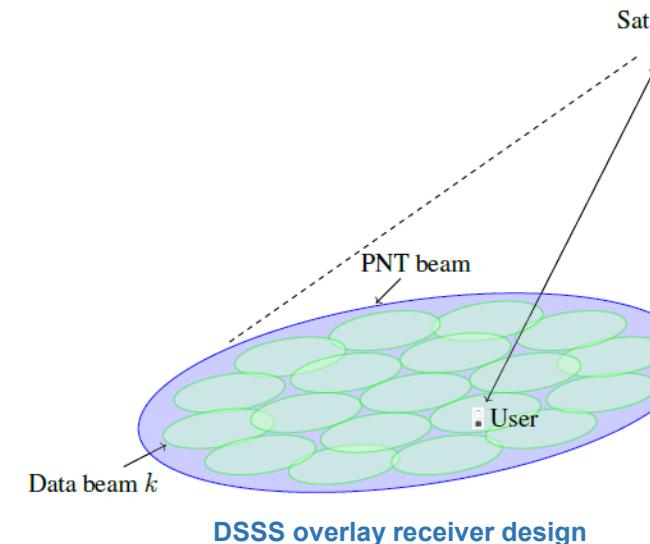
C-band Test License

uni.lu | **SnT**

Joint Communications, Sensing and PNT

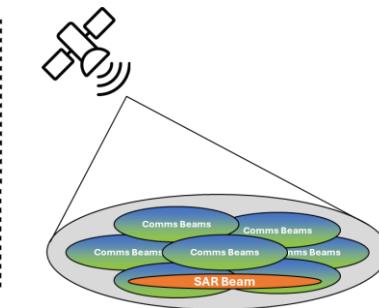
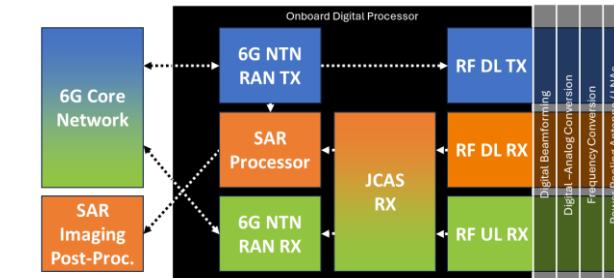
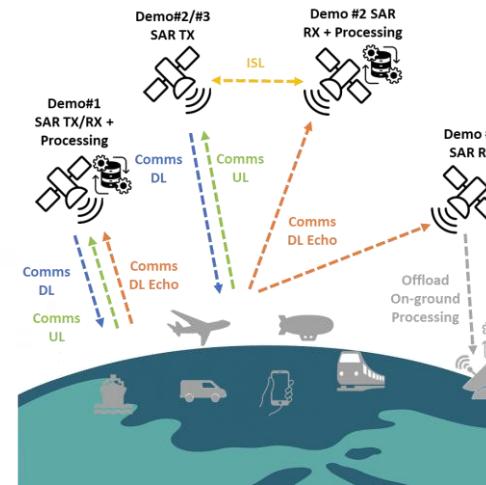
Joint Communication and Positioning (JCAP)

- ❑ ToA-Based Positioning in 5G/6G NTN using Pilots (achievable accuracy)
- ❑ Joint Waveform and Receiver Architectures (JCAP PHY)
- ❑ Interference modeling and performance limits in NTN systems



Joint Communication and Sensing (JCAS)

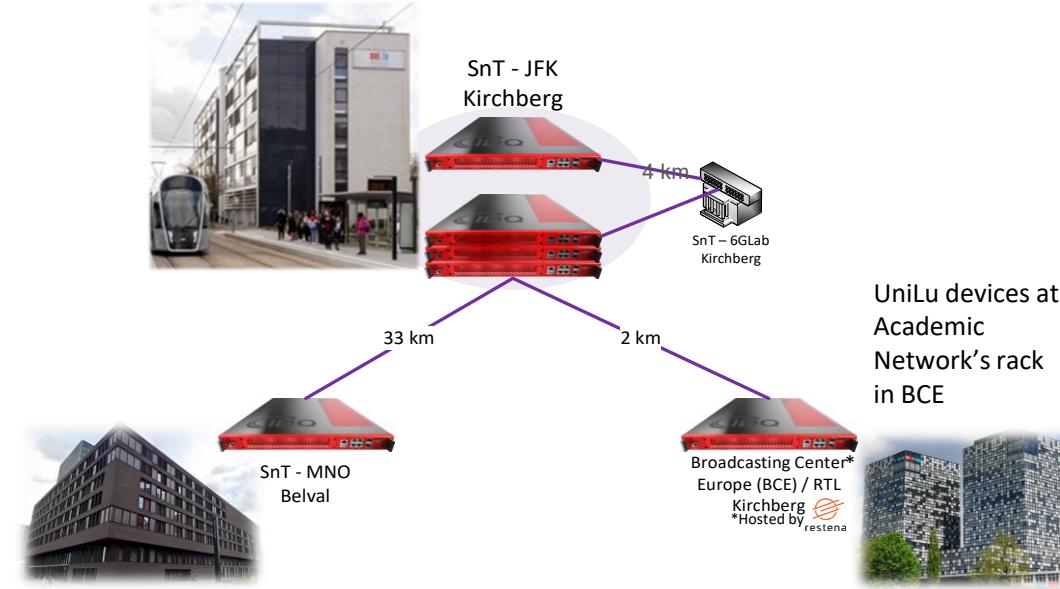
- ❑ Use case feasibility study (weather sensing, imaging radar, reflectometry/altimetry)
- ❑ Technology enablers (In-band full-duplex, new waveforms)
- ❑ Early demo testbed



Quantum Lab

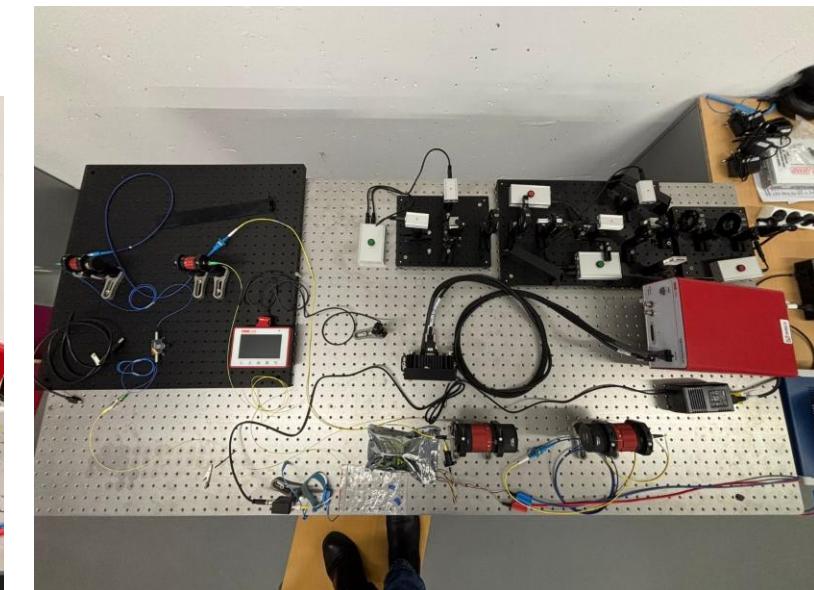
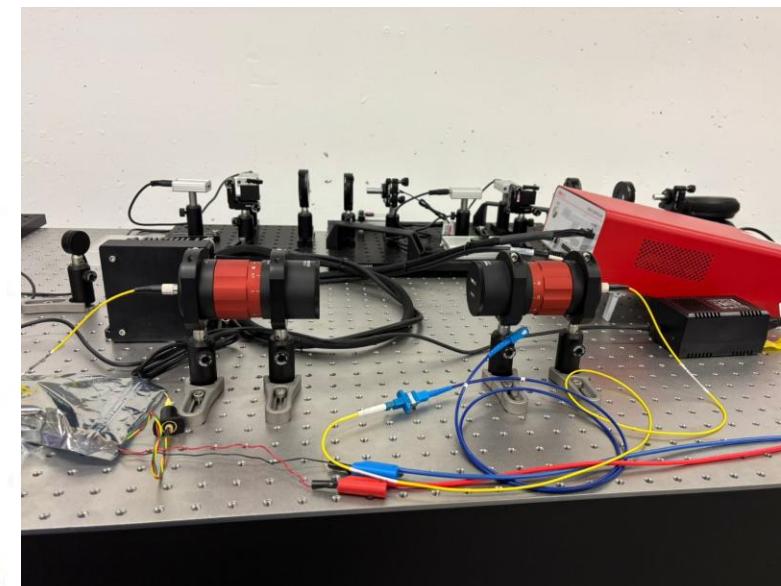
QKD Testbed Overview

- ❑ 6 QKD Links
- ❑ 7 PoP with SDN KMS orchestration
- ❑ 4 providers with different technologies
(MDI-QKD, CV-QKD, COW, BB84)
- ❑ Eagle-1 Emulator
- ❑ Crossborder Link between Luxembourg and Belgium



FSO Testbed Overview

- ❑ Free space optics demonstrations without turbulence (e.g ISL)
- ❑ QKD testbed based on Entangled States with SPDC sources
- ❑ Free Space QKD (Integration of BBM92 in FSO link)



Interdisciplinary Centre for Security, Reliability and Trust

Contact:



Jorge.Querol@uni.lu

Connect with us



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SnT, Interdisciplinary Centre for
Security, Reliability and Trust



Overview of 6GSPACE Lab activities

Outline

- **6GSPACE Lab Introduction**
- **6G NTN Over-The-Satellite**
- **6G NTN AI-acceleration**
- **6G NTN Spectrum Sensing**
- **Lunar 5G Proximity & Edge Computing**
- **Joint Communications and Sensing - PNT**

SNT

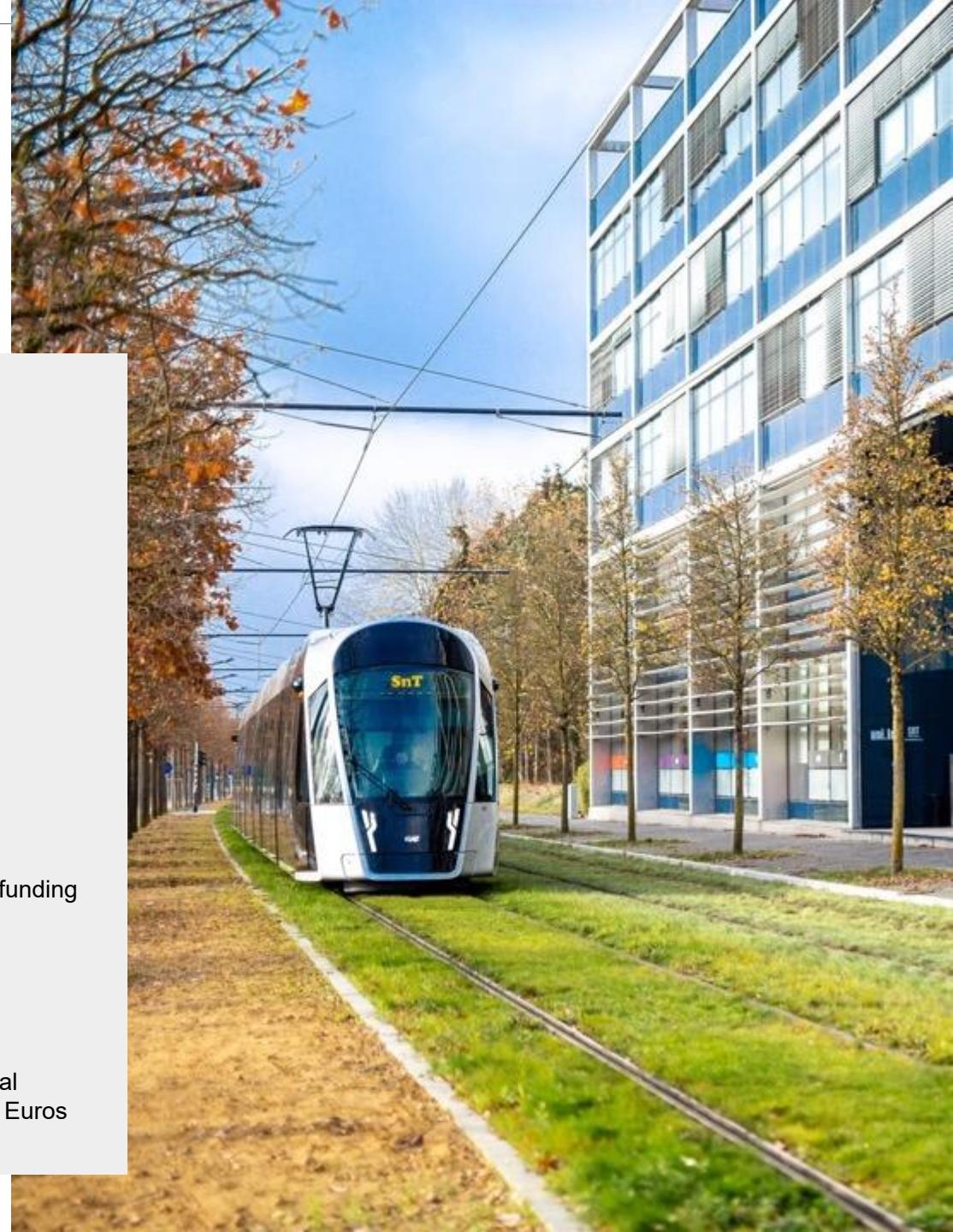
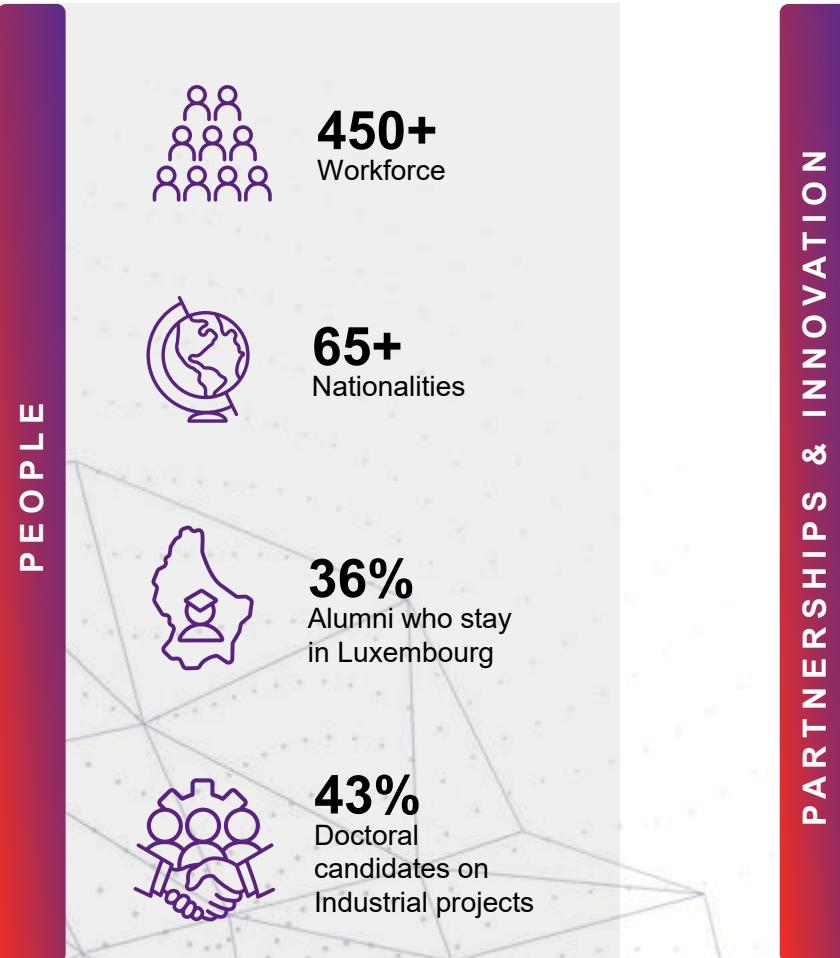


6GSPACE Lab Introduction

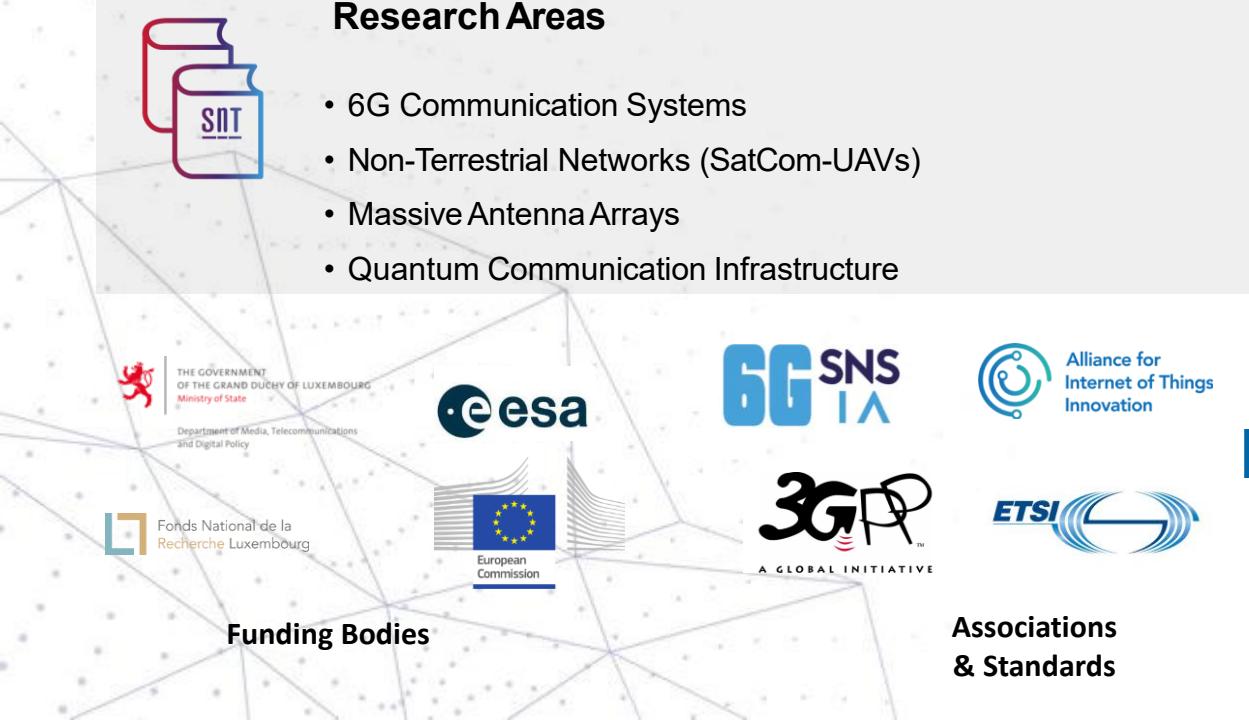


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SnT – University of Luxembourg



SnT SIGCOM Research Group

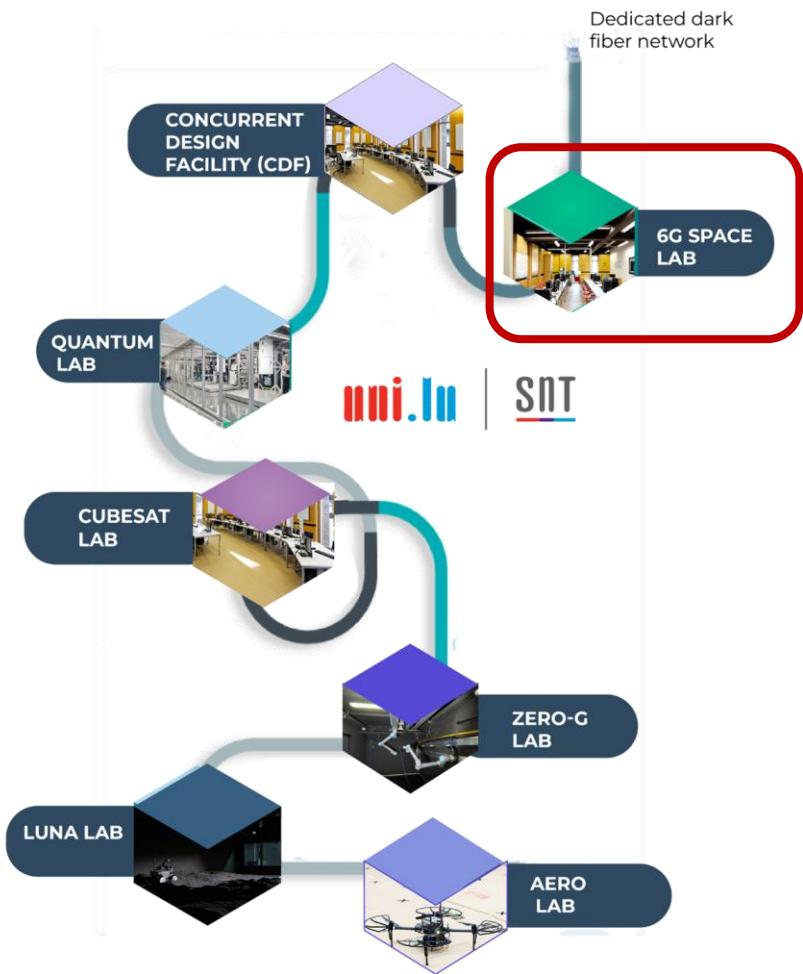


NOKIA
Bell Labs



Industry
Partners

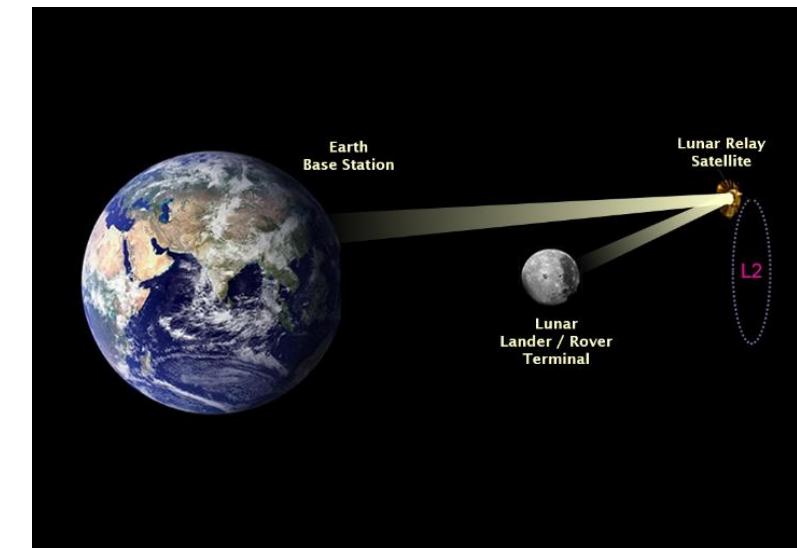
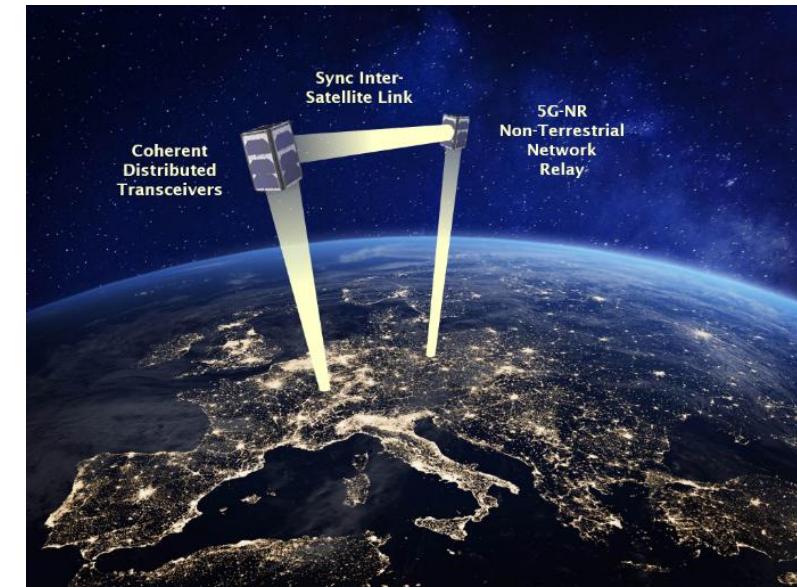
SnT Space labs



6GSPACE Lab

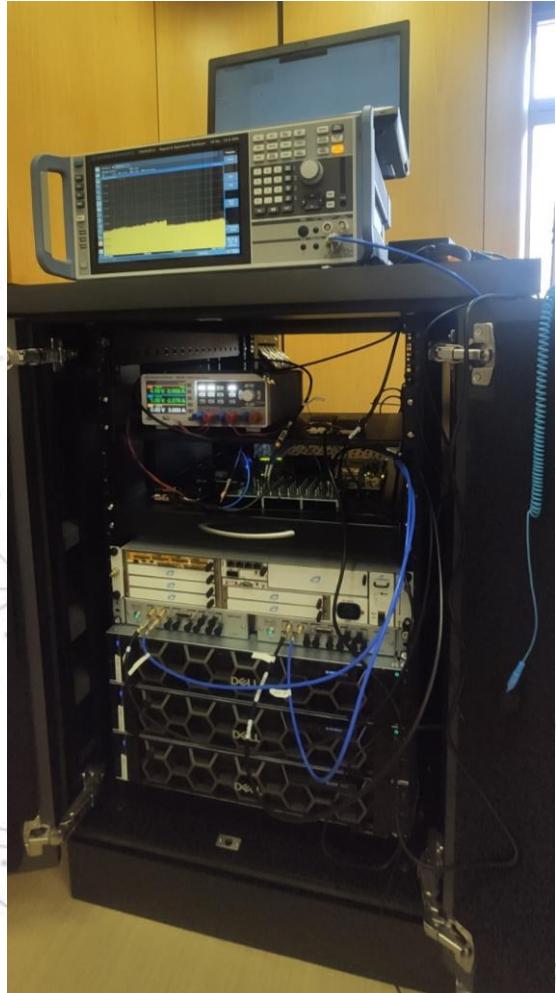
Overview

- [6GSPACE Lab](#) (15+ people) composed SIGCOM researchers
- Funded under the ISM / MSTB framework (Lux MECO & LSA)
- Facility for design and testing of 5G/6G Satellite-NTN-Space
- Current features:
 - OpenAirInterface-enabled 5G gNB and UEs
 - RU with PHY layer offloading for functional splits 6/7.X
 - STK-powered channel emulator
 - Edge Computing infrastructure
- Multiple 5G/6G NTN research testbeds:
 - 6G NTN Multiorbit Emulation
 - 6G NTN Over-The-Satellite
 - 6G NTN AI-acceleration
 - 6G NTN Spectrum Sensing
 - Lunar 5G Proximity & Edge Computing
 - Joint Communications and Sensing - PNT



6GSPACE Lab

Hardware and Space Labs integration



6GSPACE Lab Integration



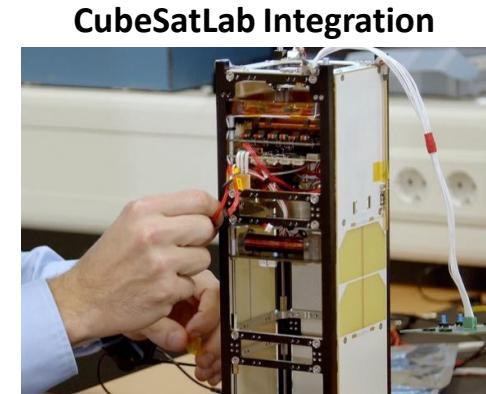
Cubesat SDR



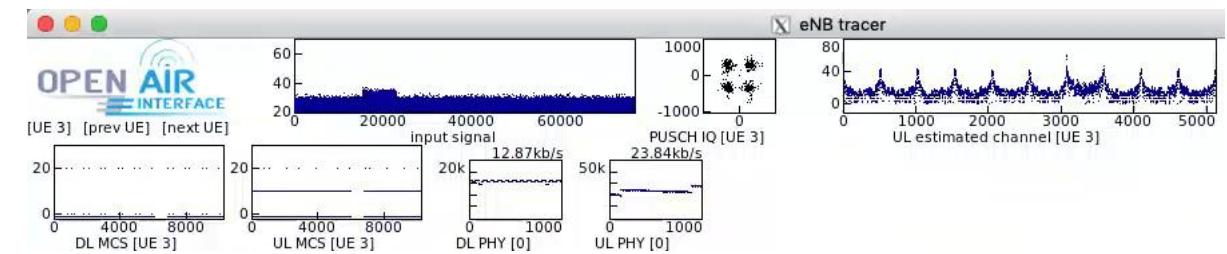
Channel Emulator



STK Scenario Design



CubeSatLab Integration

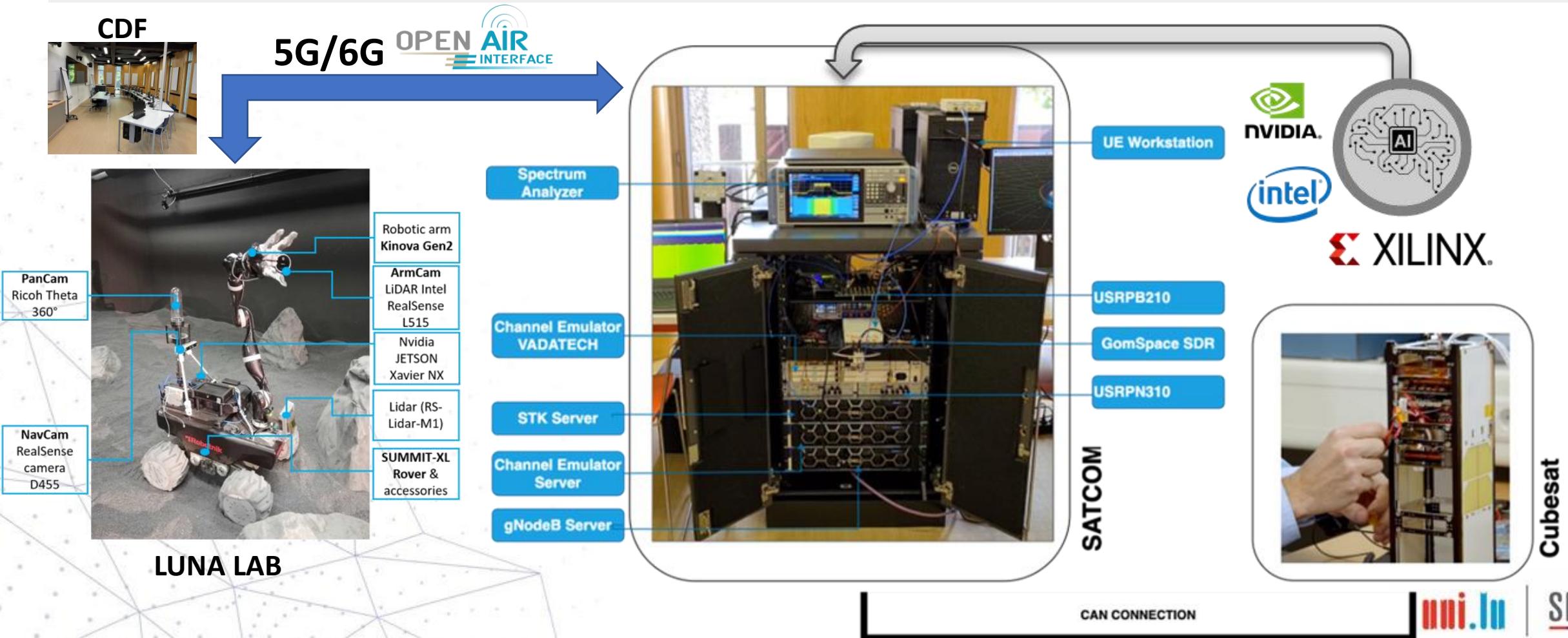


LunaLab Integration



6GSPACE Lab

- **Interdisciplinary Joint Lab**
 - Communications, Robotics, CubeSats, Concurrent Design

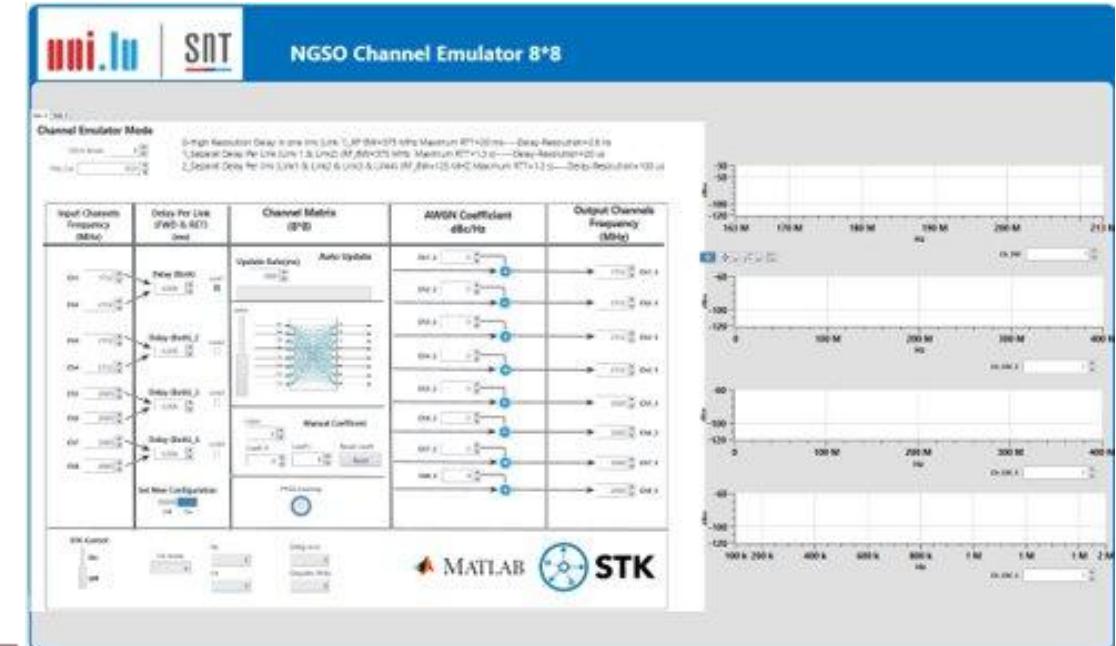
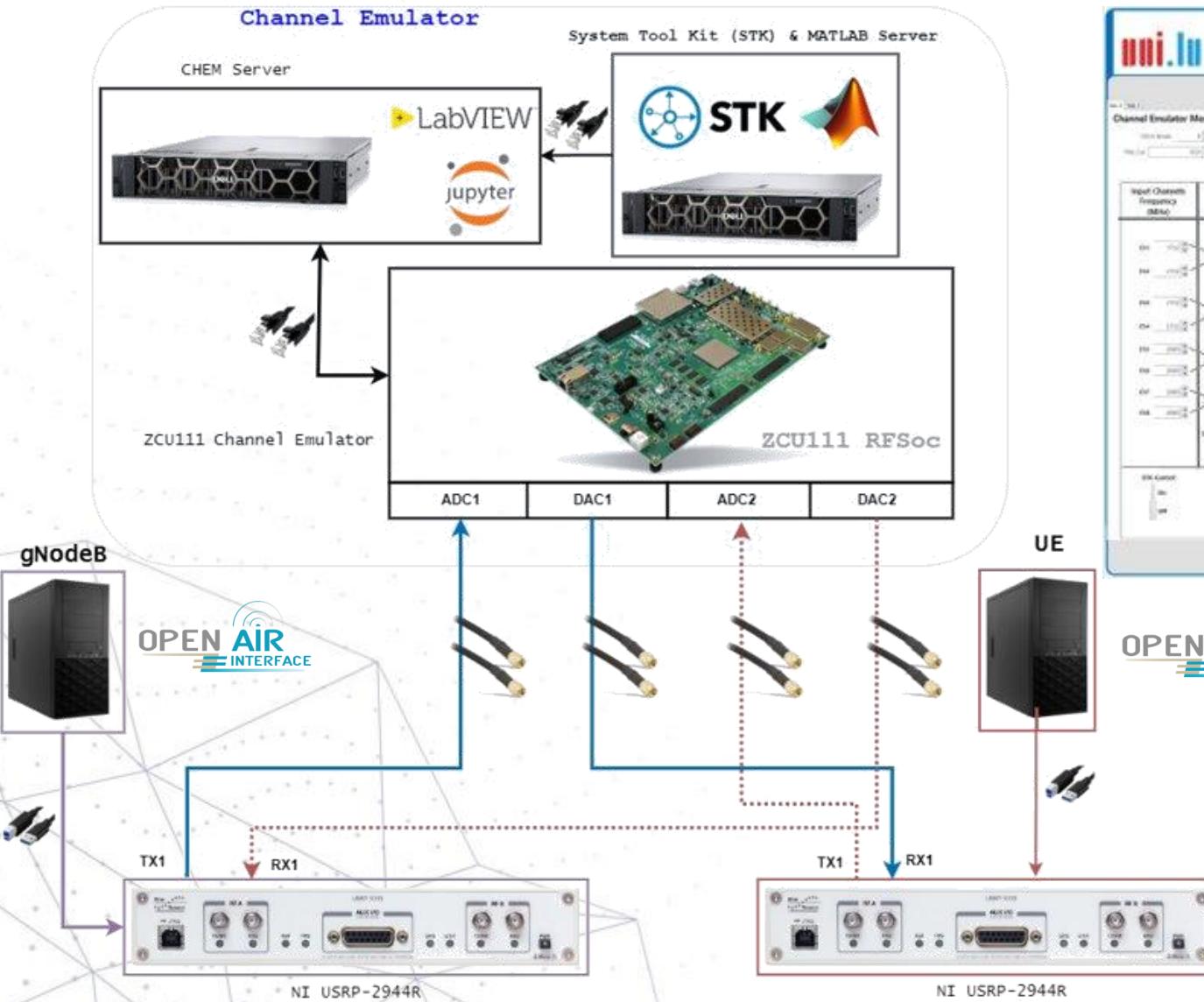


6GSPACE Lab

6G NTN Multiorbit Emulation (6gspacelab.uni.lu)



GUI



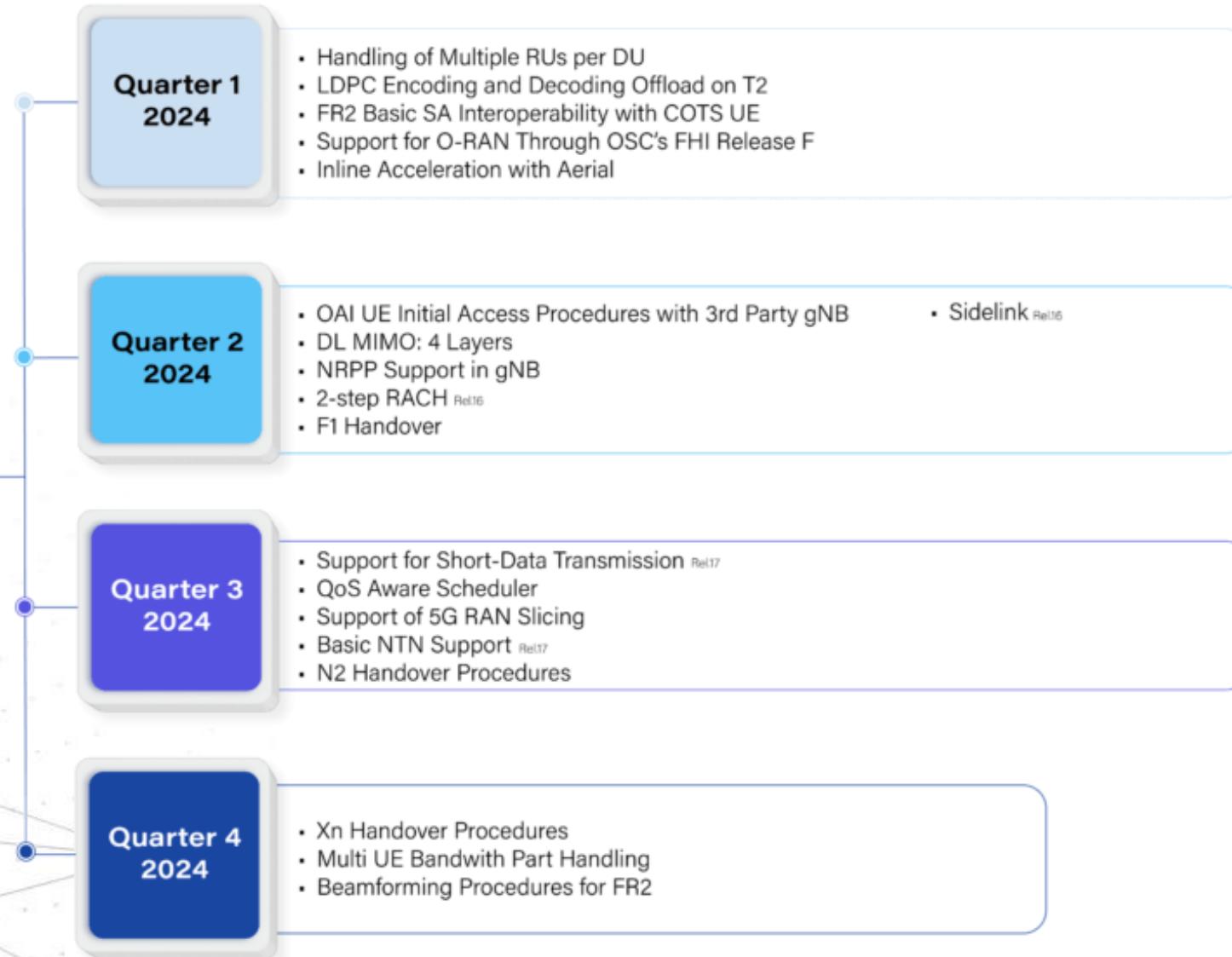
Functional blocks



- Multiorbital
- Customizable
- 8 Independent Channels
- Up to 330 ms delay
- ± 34 ppm / 0.5ppm/s
- Doppler / Doppler Rate

6GSPACE Lab

OAI RAN Roadmap (Q4 2023)



SNT



6G NTN Over-The-Satellite



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TRANTOR: 5G+ evolution to multiRbitAI multiBand neTwORks



Objectives

1. Adoption of 5G Advanced and pre-6G NTN by satellite operators
2. Provide novel satellite components for 5G Advanced NTN
3. Development of 5G Advanced NTN user equipment and gNB
4. Development of AI governance modules for resource management
5. Creation of mission planner for the design of future satellite networks
6. Secure satellite operator network

Demonstration TRL 3 → TRL 6

1. End-to-End single band connectivity with a single GEO satellite
2. End-to-End single band connectivity with a single drone-emulated LEO satellite
3. End-to-End single band connectivity with CU/DU split with OBP satellite
4. Multi-band transmission from a single GEO satellite
5. Multiorbital, multi-band transmission using a GEO and a drone-emulated LEO satellite
6. Multi-satellite, multi-band transmission using two GEO satellite

→ SnT develops its own Core Network



Consiglio Nazionale
delle Ricerche



Fraunhofer

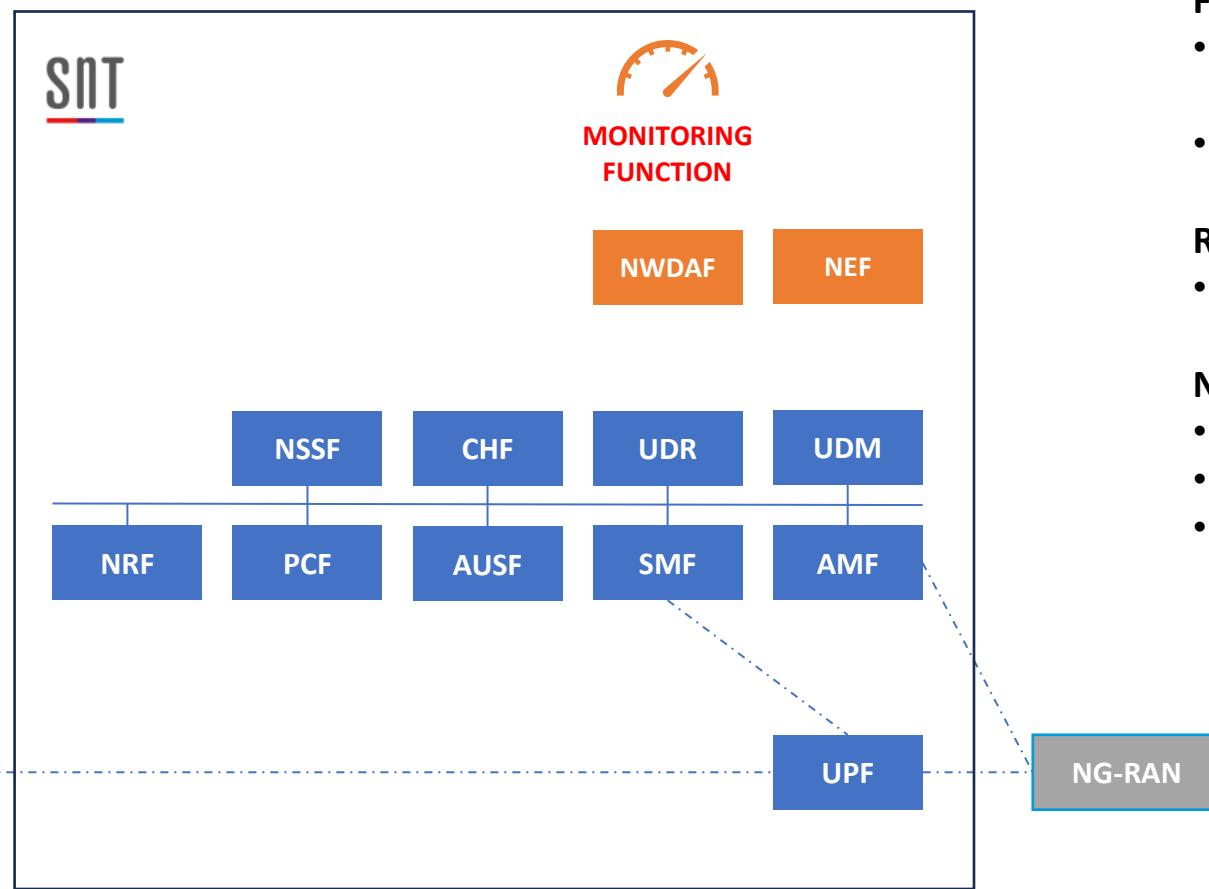
iis

hispasat
inster
grupo oesía

SRS
SOFTWARE RADIO SYSTEMS



SnT – Core Network



Fork of Free5gc Release 17

- Support of Network Data Analytics Function (NWDAF)
- Support of Network Exposure Function (NEF)

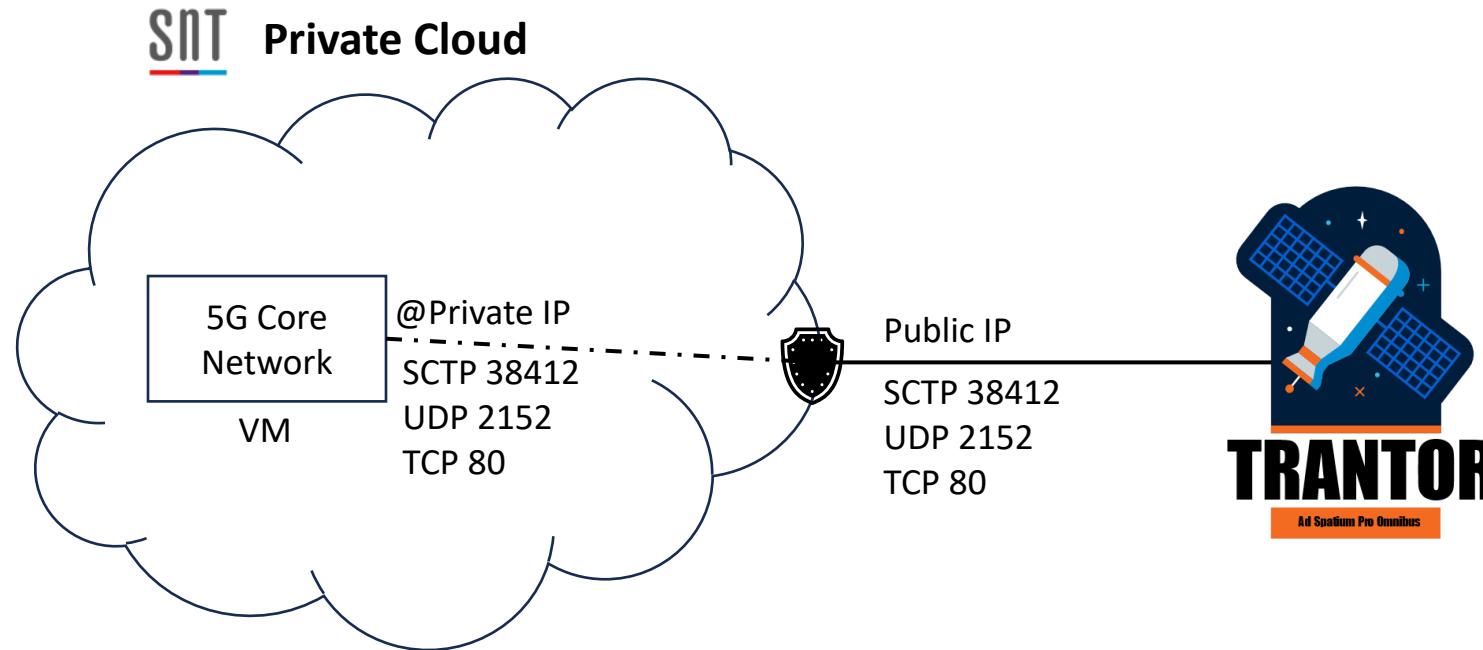
Realtime Metrics Monitoring

- Grafana

NG-RAN Testing

- Amarisoft gNB
- OAI 5G gNB
- srsRAN gNB

Core Network – Publicly Available



Status: Up and running

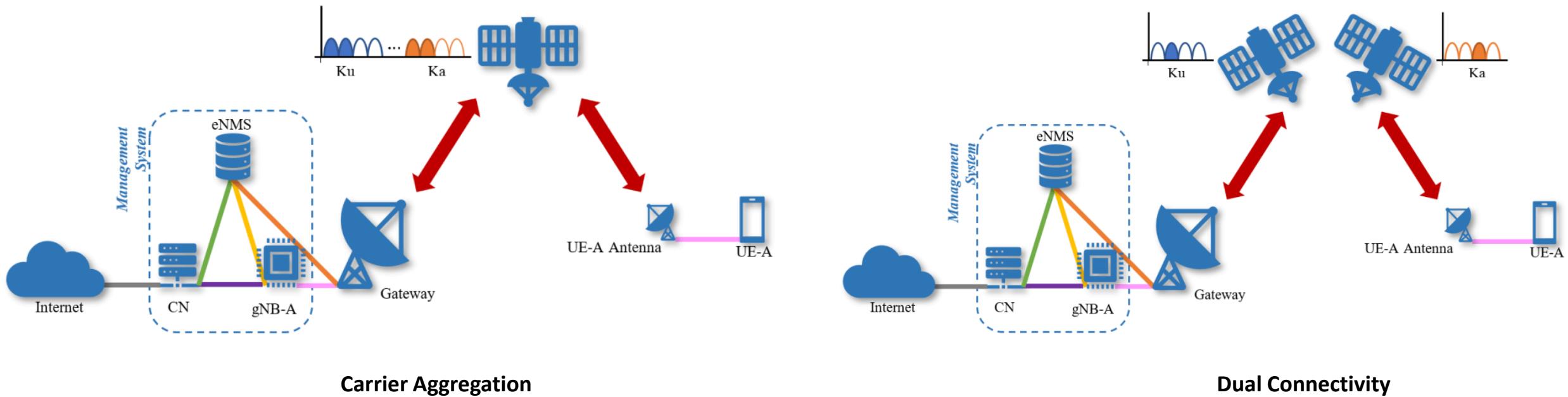
In order for partners to use the SNT Core Network, they will have to configure their tools/gNB to use it:

- AMF → Public IP:38412/SCTP
- UPF → 158.64.79.145:2152/UDP
- NEF → 158.64.79.145:80/TCP

HEU TRANTOR & SNS ETHER

Multiorbit and multiband simultaneous connectivity

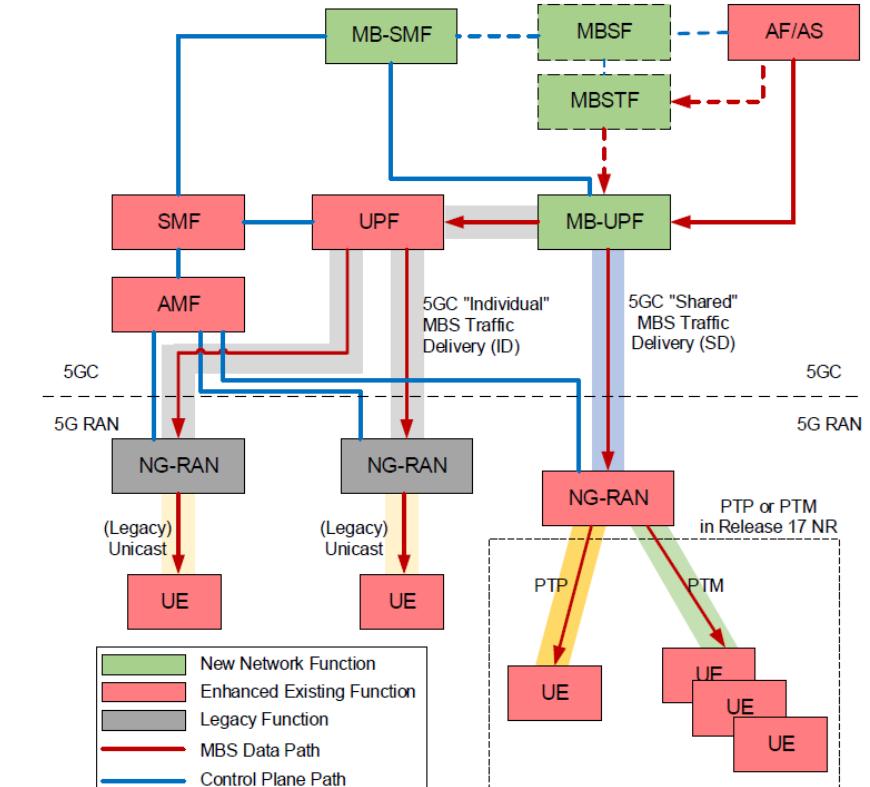
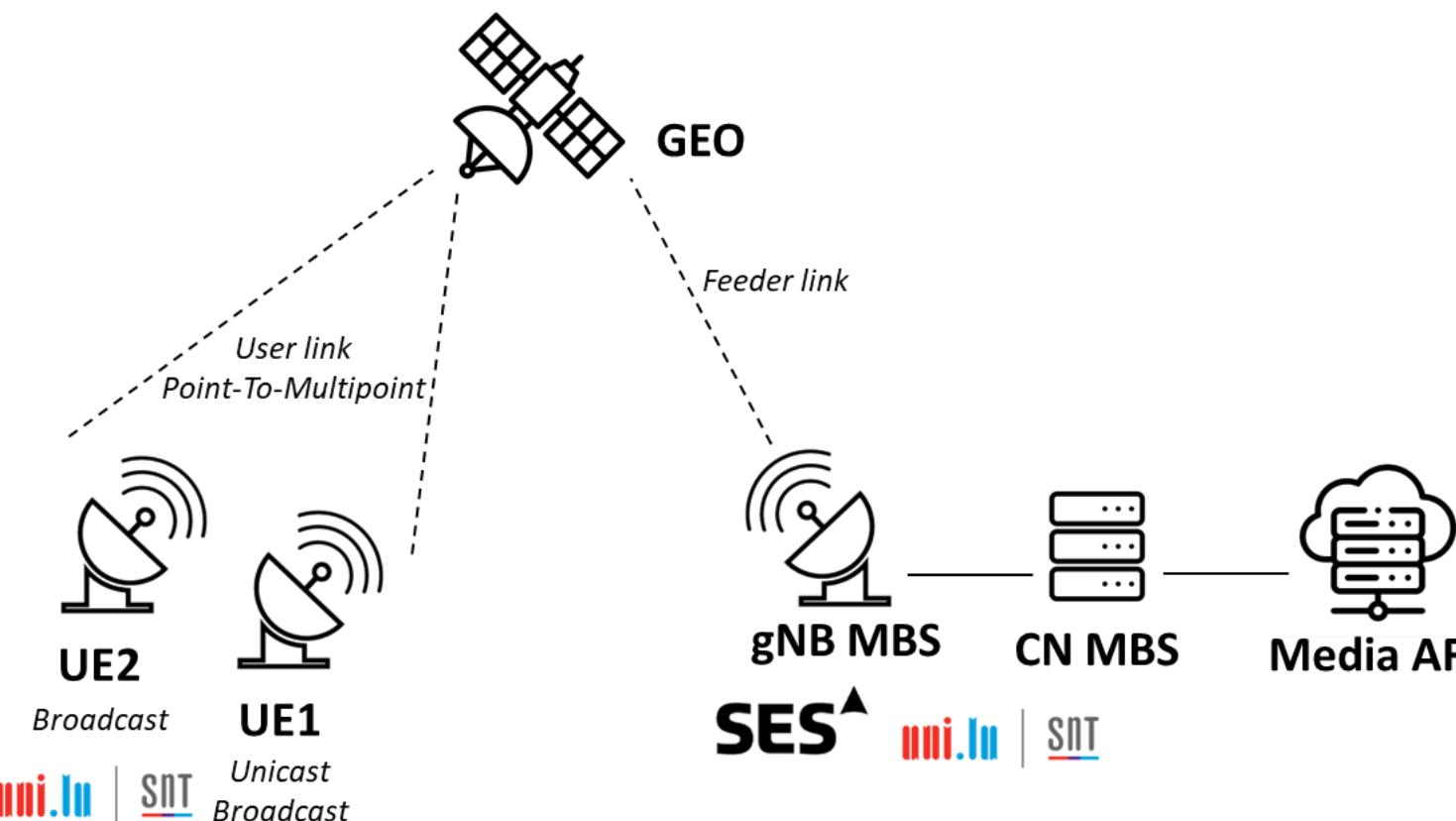
- 3D multilayer handover optimization in megaconstellations (via ISLs)
- Core Network NWDAF for real-time traffic monitoring, steering and routing



ESA 5G-EMERGE

6G NTN MBS Over-The-Satellite with SES GEO satellite

- Demonstration of 5G-NTN Point-To-Multipoint Direct-to-Device Receive-Only Broadcast
- ESA 5G-EMERGE Phase 2 project (KO'24)

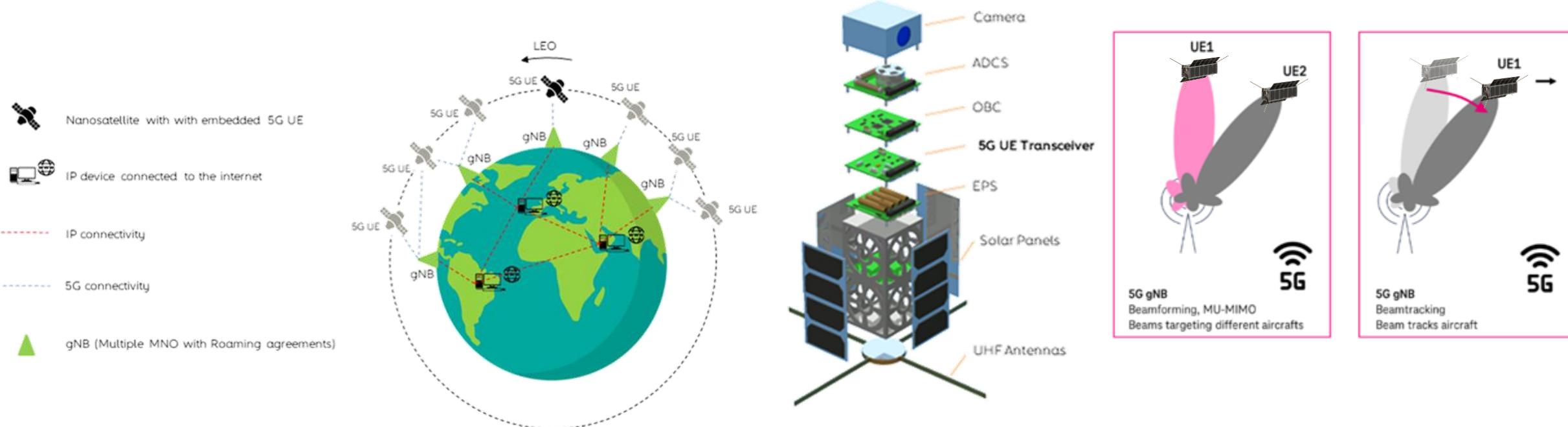


V. K. Shrivastava, S. Baek, and Y. Baek, "5G Evolution for Multicast and Broadcast Services in 3GPP Release 17"

ESA 5G-Nanosatellite

ESA Industry-driven project co-funded by Altice Labs

- Earth-observation missions generate huge amounts of data that needs to be downloaded from the satellites
- A network of dedicated 5G ground stations can provide high-bandwidth connectivity to thousands of satellites
- The 6GSPACE Lab is developing its own 5G terminal to be embarked in a 3U Cubesat Proof-of-Concept
- Project KO'24. Launch, operation and in-orbit validation are planned for 2026

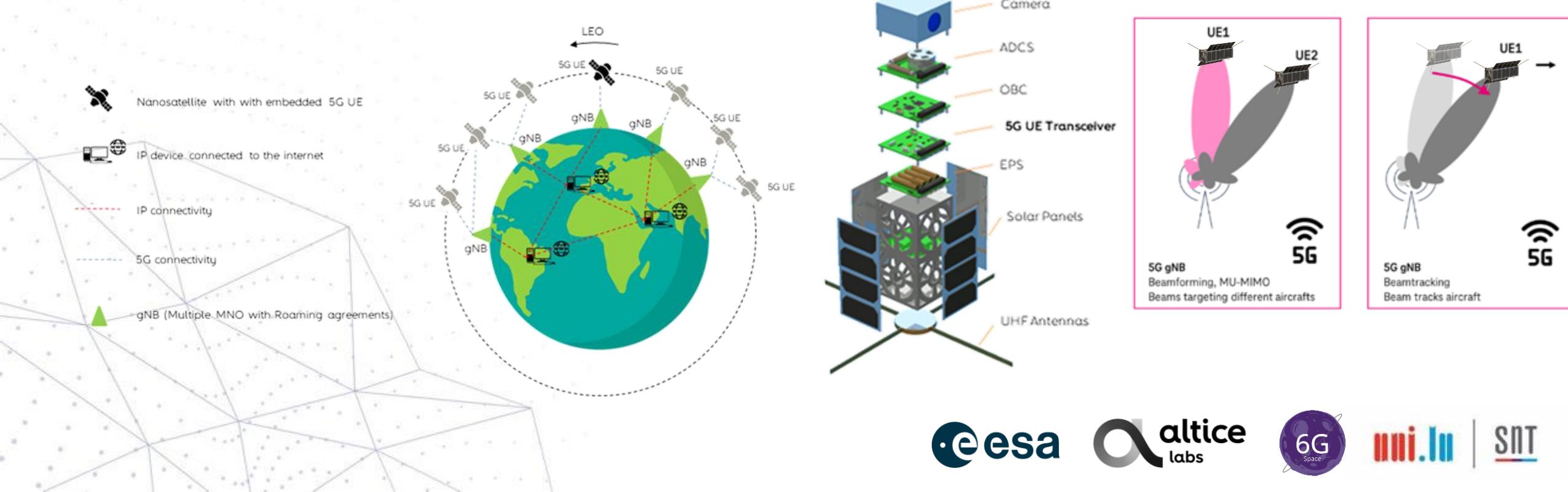


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ESA 5G-GOA

OAI Extensions during 5G-GOA To Support NTN Features

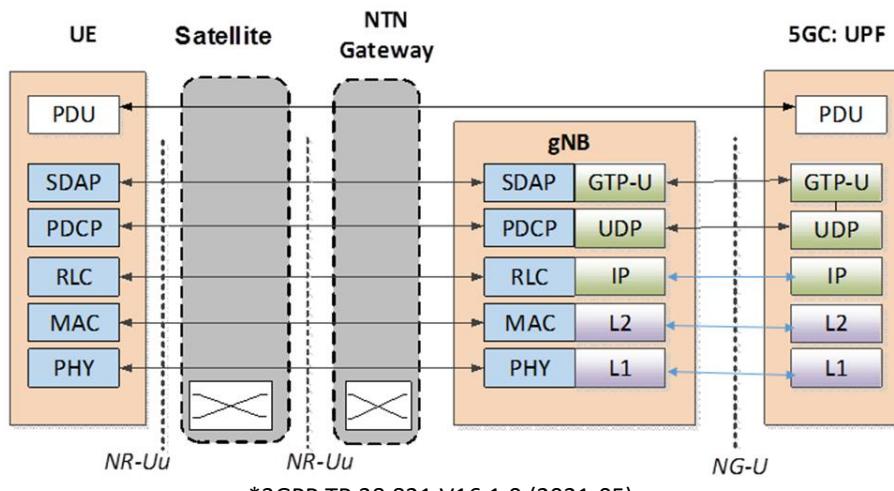


Features broader than NTN, but necessary for NTN experimentation

- **PHY Layer**
 - Extend OAI rf-simulator to support simulation of long delay
 - Support for 5 MHz BW with 15 kHz SCS
 - Extended support for multiple bandwidth parts (BWP)
- **MAC Layer**
 - Support for Multi-UE
 - Implementation of real FDD Scheduling
 - Implementation of QoS scheduling
- **Implementation of a new KPI GUI**

NTN specific feature extensions

- **PHY Layer**
 - Disabling HARQ at gNB and UE
 - Consider large delay for UL scheduling at gNB (FDD)
- **MAC Layer**
 - Adapting Uplink timing advance and RA procedure
- **RLC Layer**
 - Disable HARQ-ARQ interaction
 - Increase ARQ buffer size to cope with large GEO delay
 - Increase maximum Sequence Number value
- **PDCP Layer**
 - Increase discard timer for transmit SDU buffer
 - Increase t-reordering timer for receive PDU buffer
 - Increase size of transmit PDU buffer
- **RRC Layer**
 - Increase selected timers (T300, T301, T311)
- **NAS Layer**
 - No adaptations foreseen



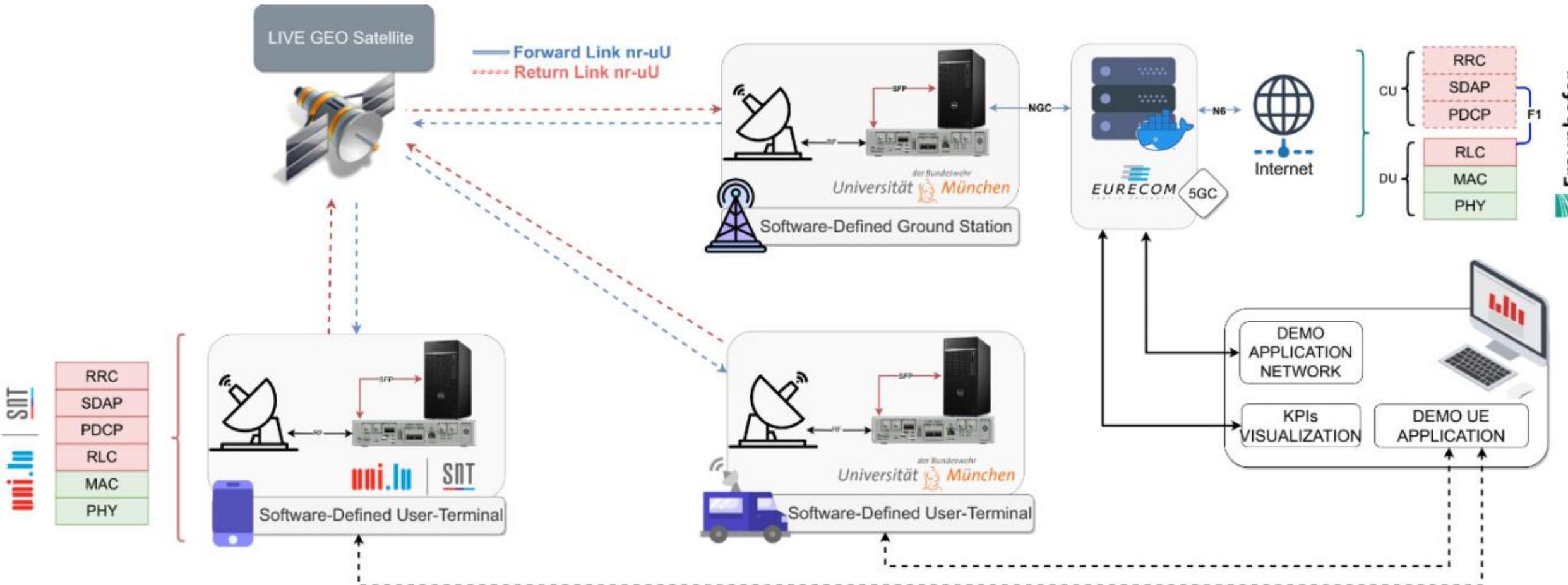
*3GPP TR 38.821 V16.1.0 (2021-05)

ESA 5G-GOA

System setup



Fraunhofer IIS



ESA 5G-GOA

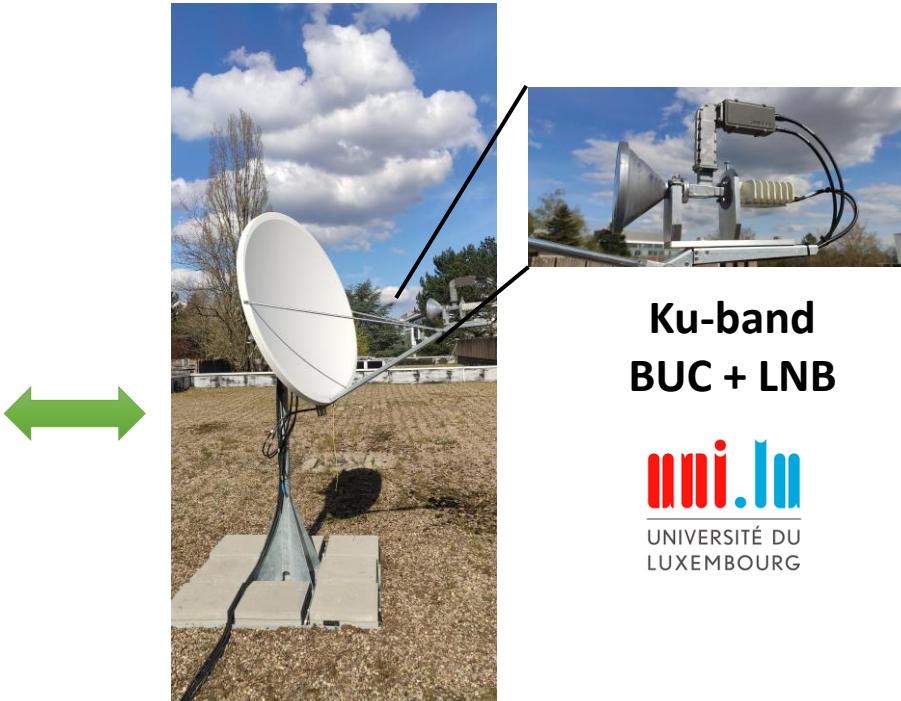
OTA Demo (Fall 2022)



Demo OTA locations

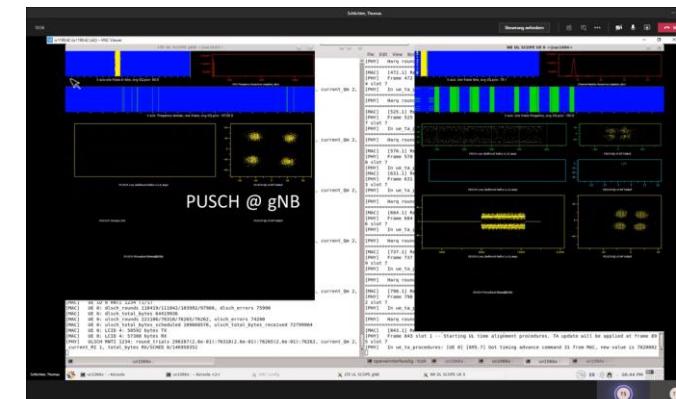
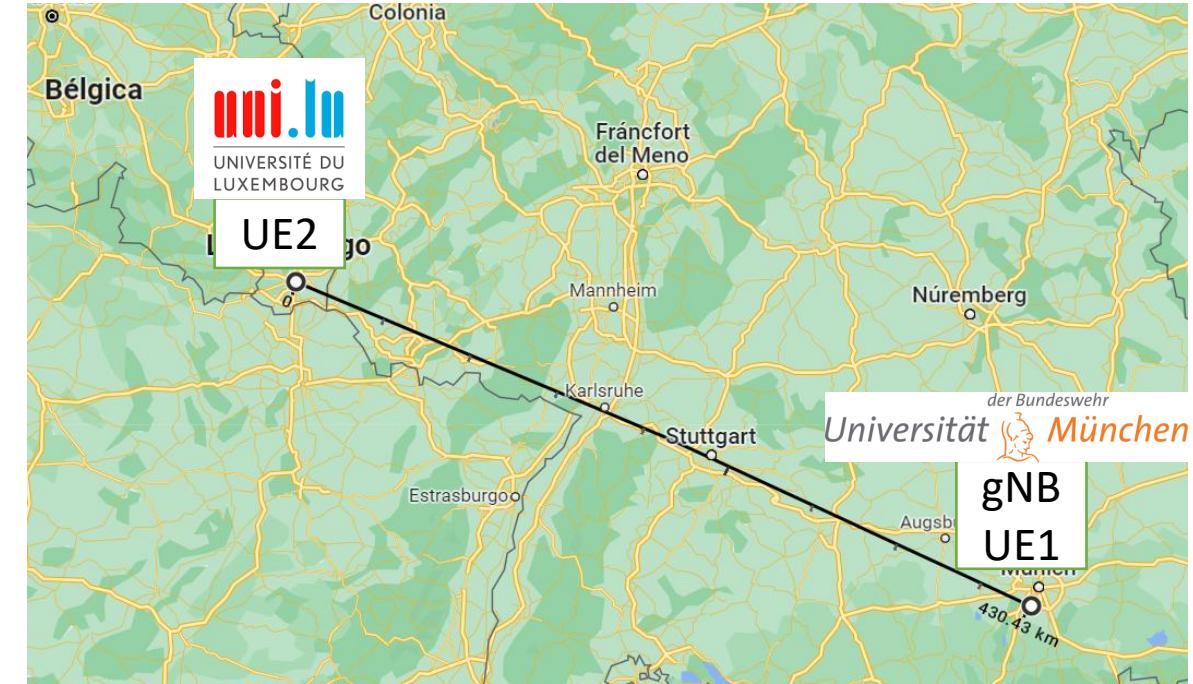


5G OAI UE



1.2 m dish

OAI GUI
 **Fraunhofer**
 der Bundeswehr
Universität München 



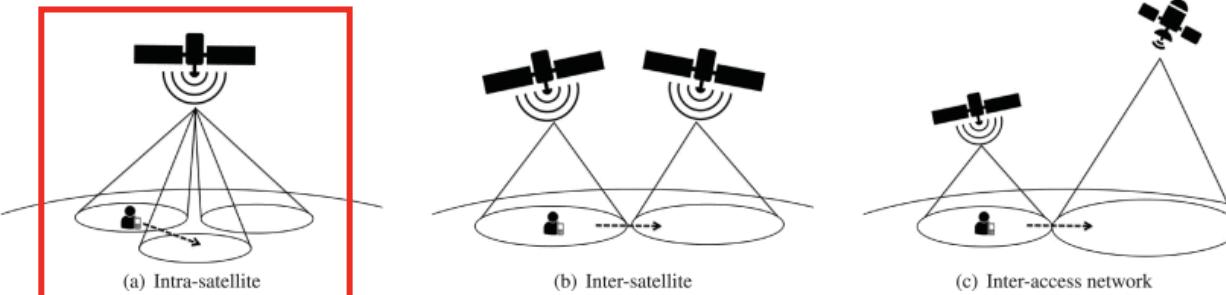
ESA 5G-LEO

OAI Extensions during 5G-LEO To Support NTN Features



Features broader than NTN, but necessary for NTN experimentation

- PHY and MAC Layer:
 - Continuous frequency offset compensation
 - SNR measurement and Channel State Information (CSI) Reporting
 - Uplink Power Control (Open loop & Closed loop)
 - Adaptive Modulation and Coding (AMC)
- Other
 - Extensions to the OAI gNB and UE KPI GUI



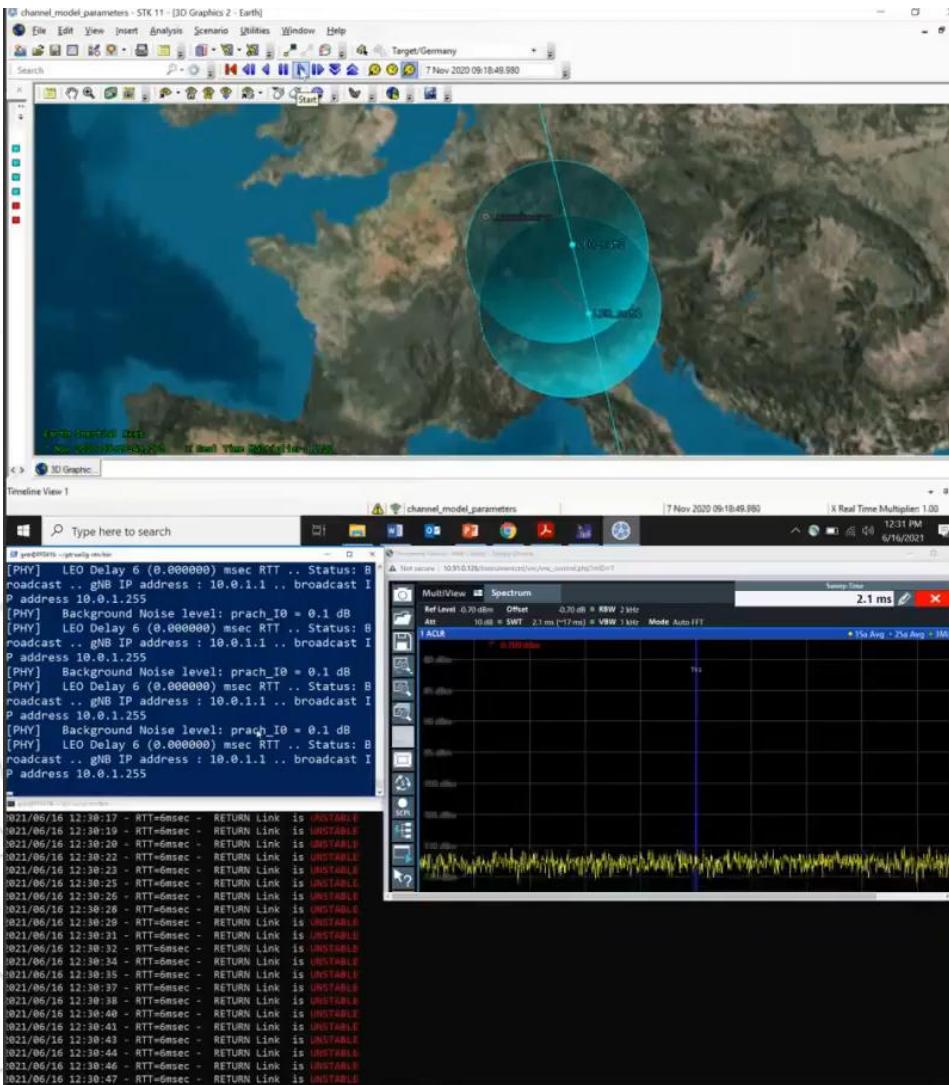
NTN specific feature extensions

- PHY and MAC Layer
 - Adapted continuous timing drift compensation (and Doppler)
 - Support for up to 32 HARQ Processes (following 3GPP Release 17)
- RLC Layer
 - Increased t-ReassemblyTimer when HARQ is enabled
- PDCP Layer
 - Increased discardTimer at the transmit entity
 - Increased t-ReorderingTimer at the receive entity
 - Increased SDU buffer at the transmit entity
- RRC Layer
 - Increasing UE-timers and constants used by the UE when in RRC_CONNECTED, RRC_INACTIVE and RRC_IDLE state
 - Extending sr-Prohibit Timer
 - Adaptation of the basic 5G NR Handover procedure and paging protocols (for intrasatellite handover)

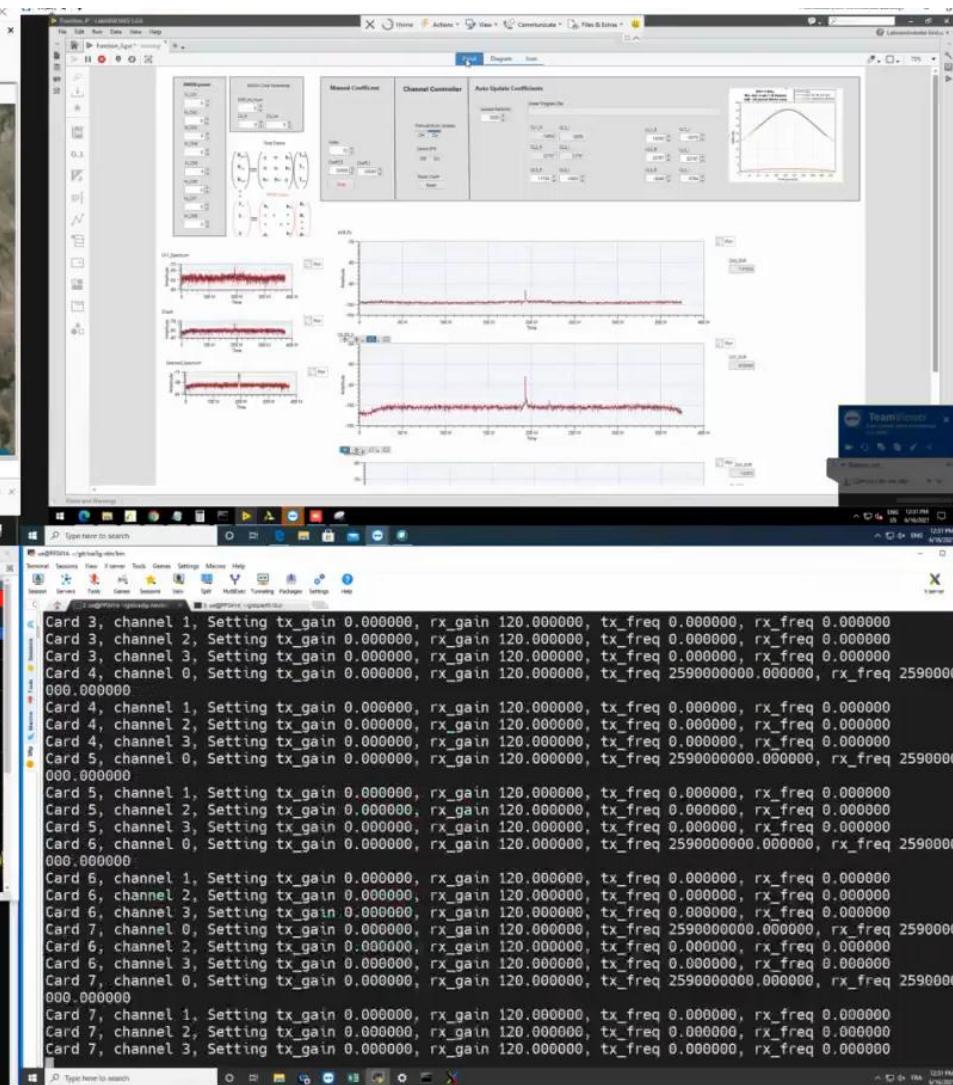
5G-SpaceLab Demo

Earth-orbiting Scenario: Small Satellites and NGSO Constellations

STK Orbit



gNB +
Sat



Chan.
Emul.

UE
(SNR+
Mbps)

SNT

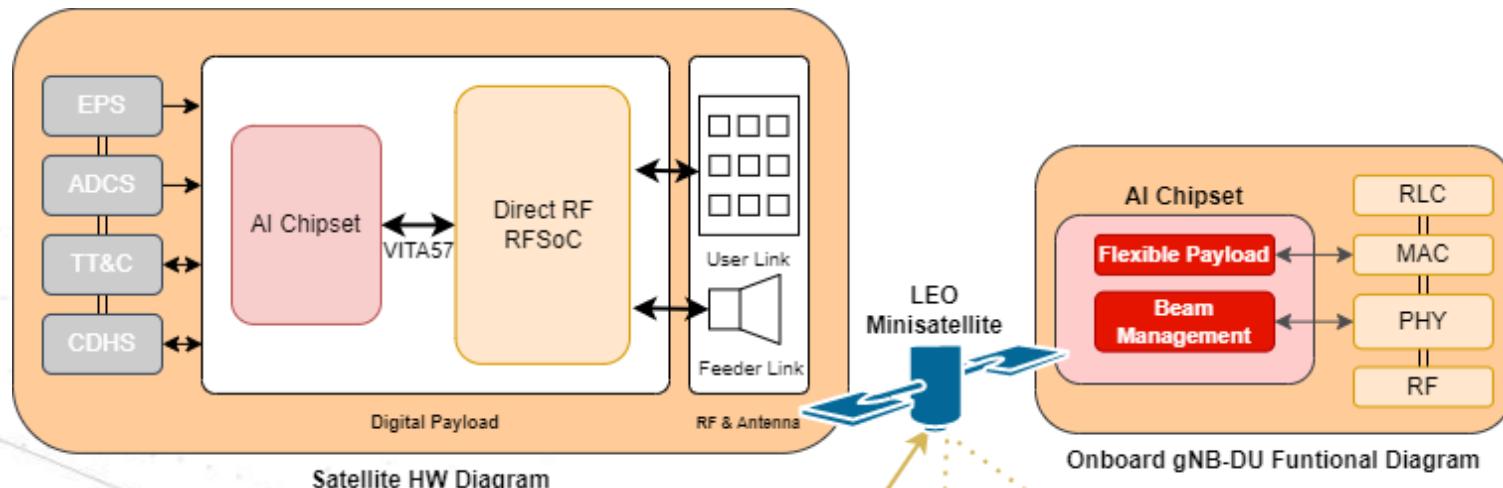


6G NTN AI-acceleration

AI-acceleration for regenerative satellite payloads

AI-acceleration for MAC/PHY layers using AI chipsets

- AI chipsets: AMD Versal, Intel Loihi, NVIDIA Jetson
- ESA [SPAICE](#), [NEUROSAT](#), SAFARI (SatNEx) Projects

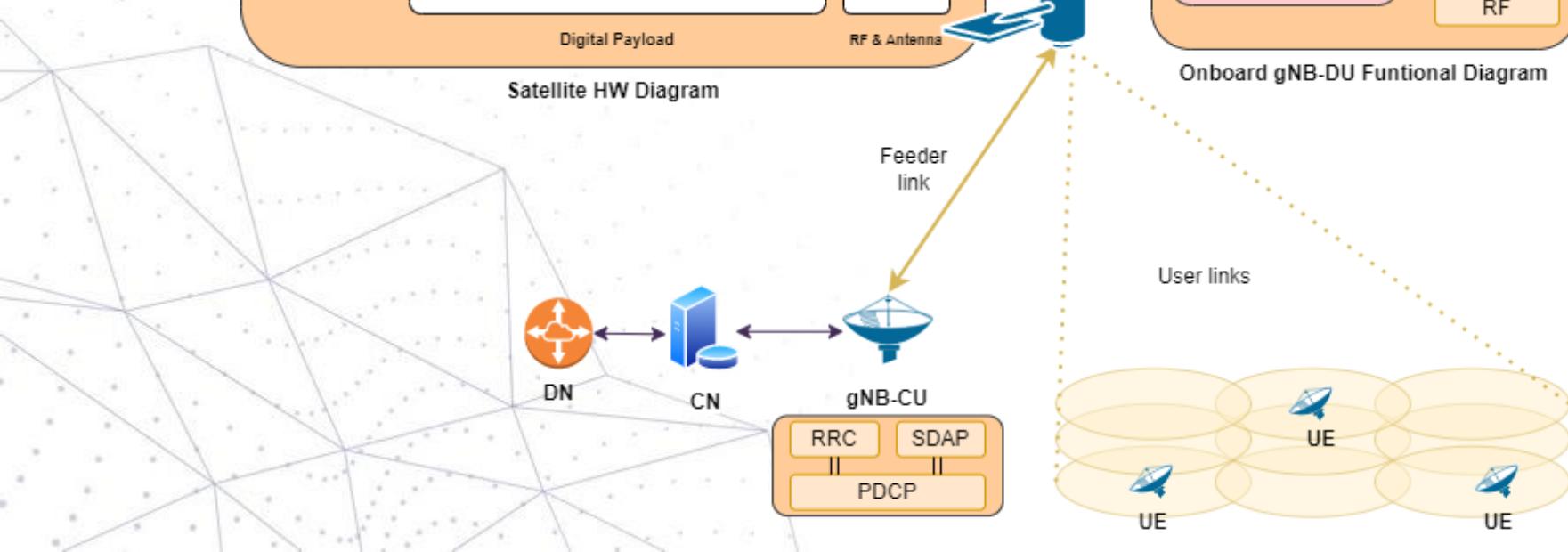


AI-Accelerated functionalities

- Scheduler (flexible payload)
- Beamforming
- PAPR & ACI reduction

LEO MSS use cases

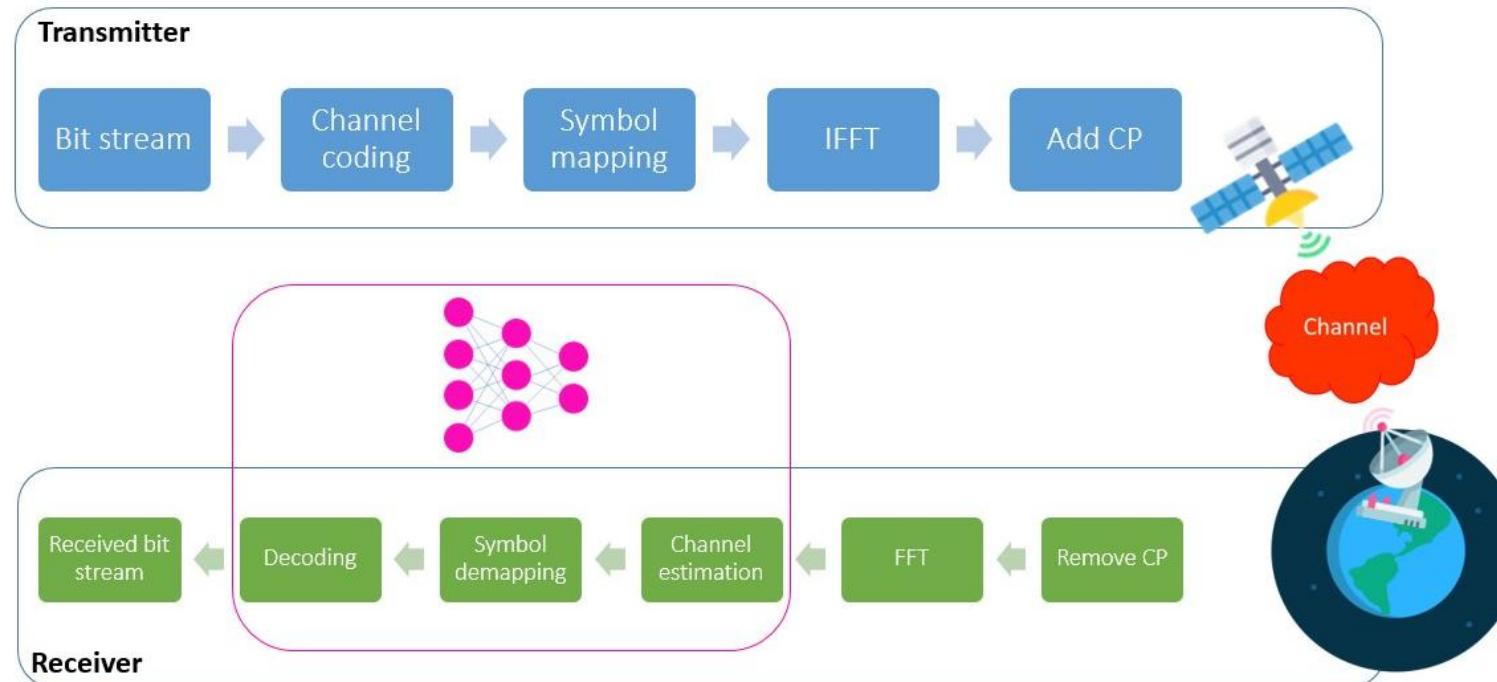
- Onboard LEO regenerative payload



AI-acceleration for 5G UEs

AI-acceleration for UE PHY layers using AI chipsets

- AI chipset: AMD Versal
- ESA TANDEM project



AI-Accelerated functionalities

- Channel decoding
- Symbol demapping
- Channel estimation

LEO MSS use cases

- UE NTN D2D optimization

SNT



6G NTN Spectrum Sensing

NGSO-Sense

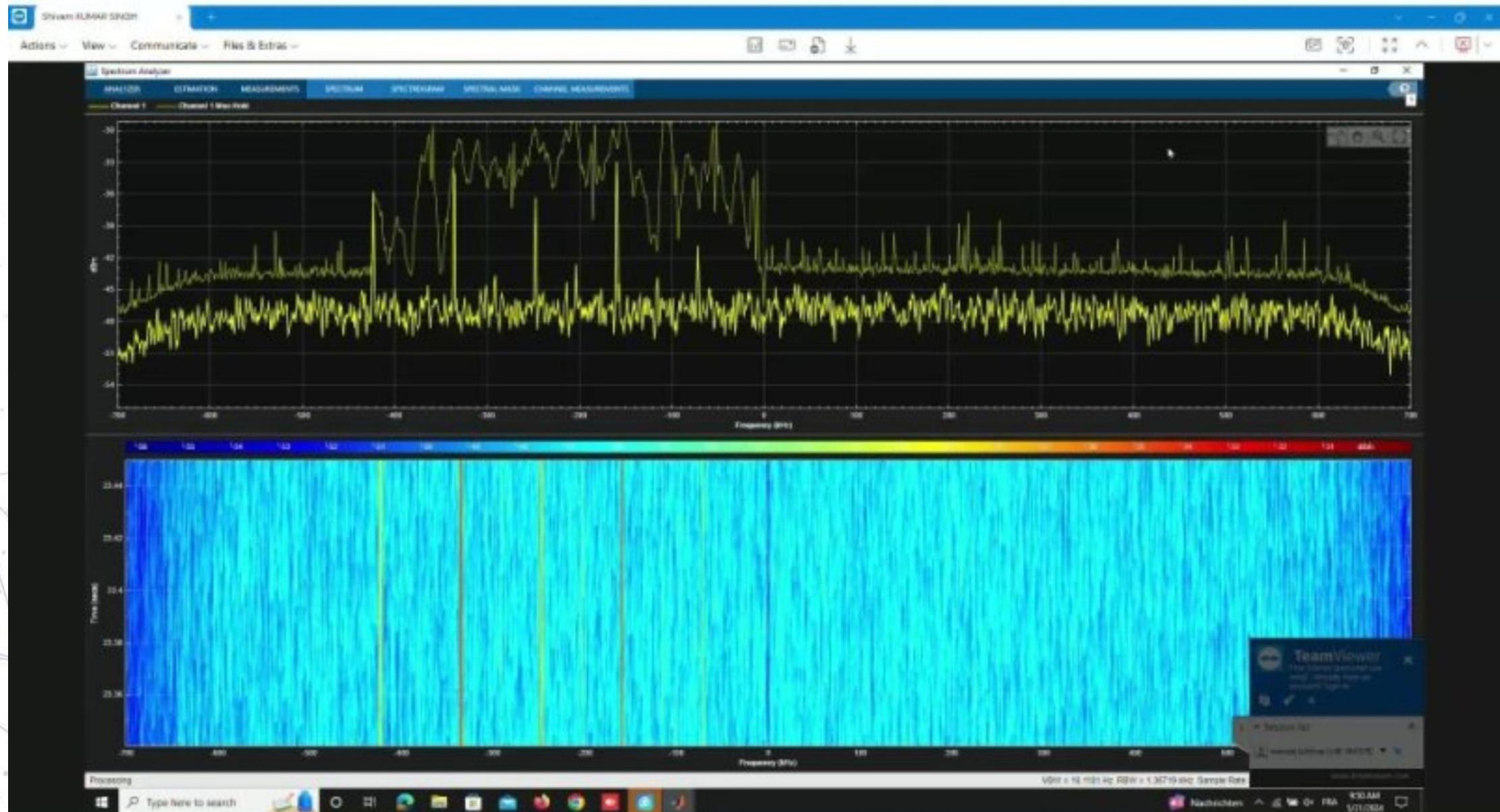
PROTOTYPE FOR MEASURING NGSO SATELLITE NETWORK INTERFERENCE AND RADIOFREQUENCY CHARACTERISTICS



Dual-band Tracking Antenna for Spectrum sensing



NGSO-Sense



SNT

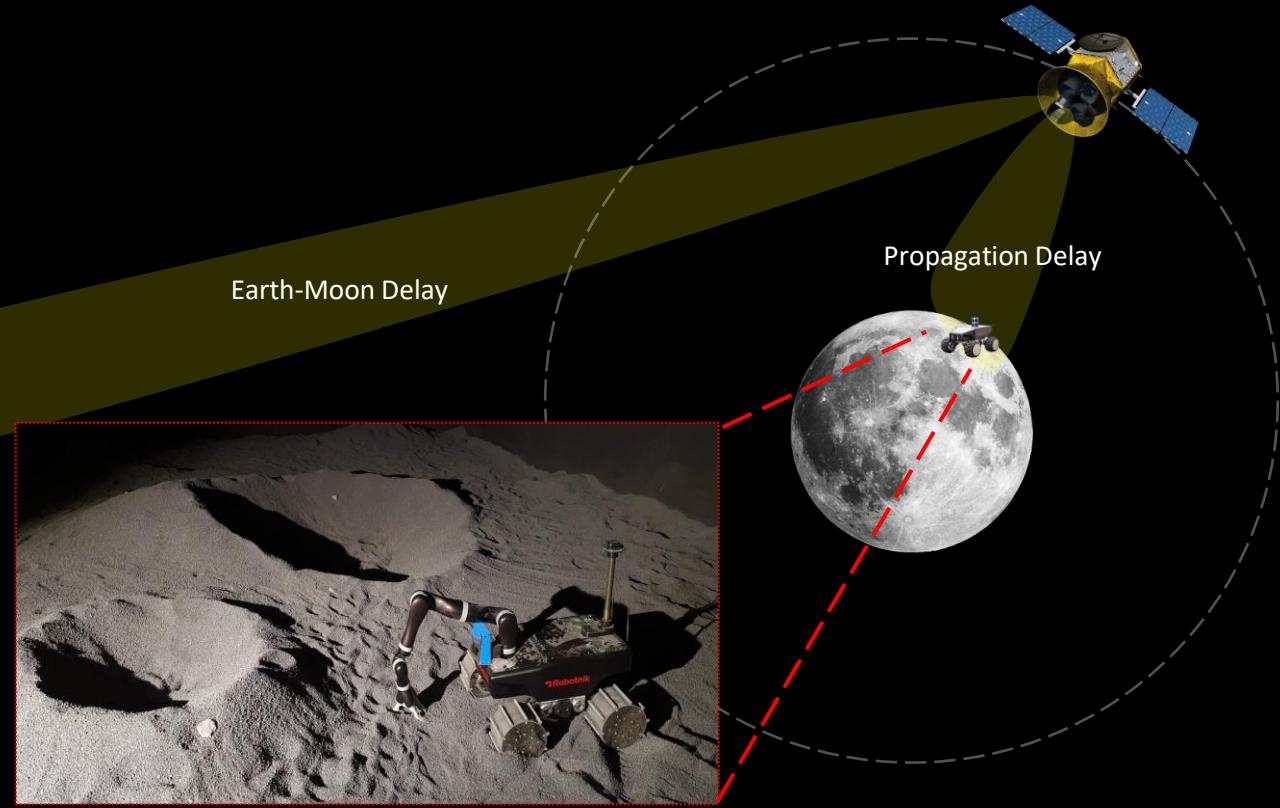


Lunar 5G Proximity & Edge Computing



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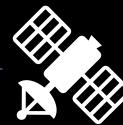
LLO Mission scenario



Teleoperator
Concurrent Design Facility
Core Network



Earth-Moon
delay



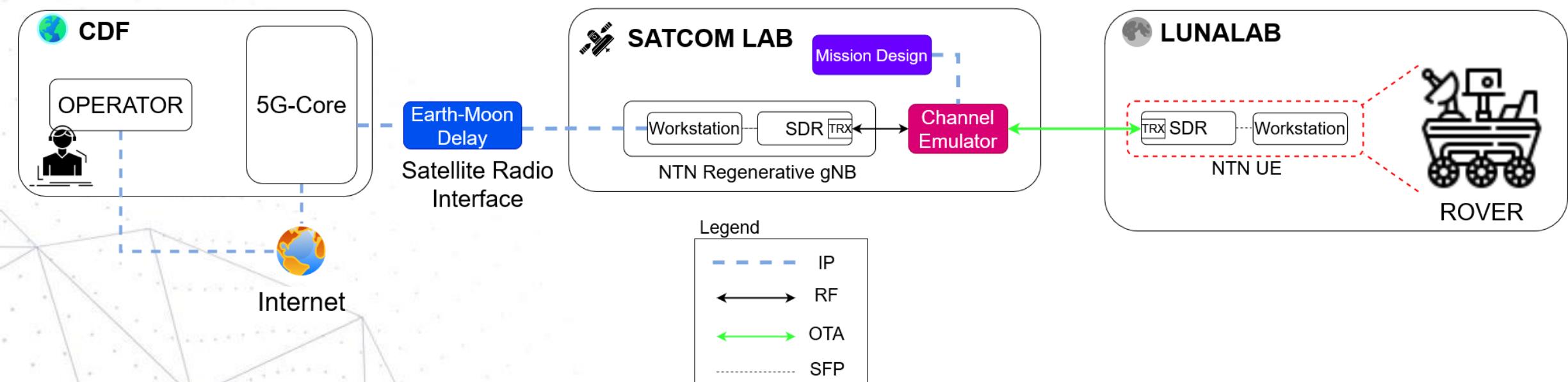
LLO Regenerative
5G-NR satellite

Propagation
delay

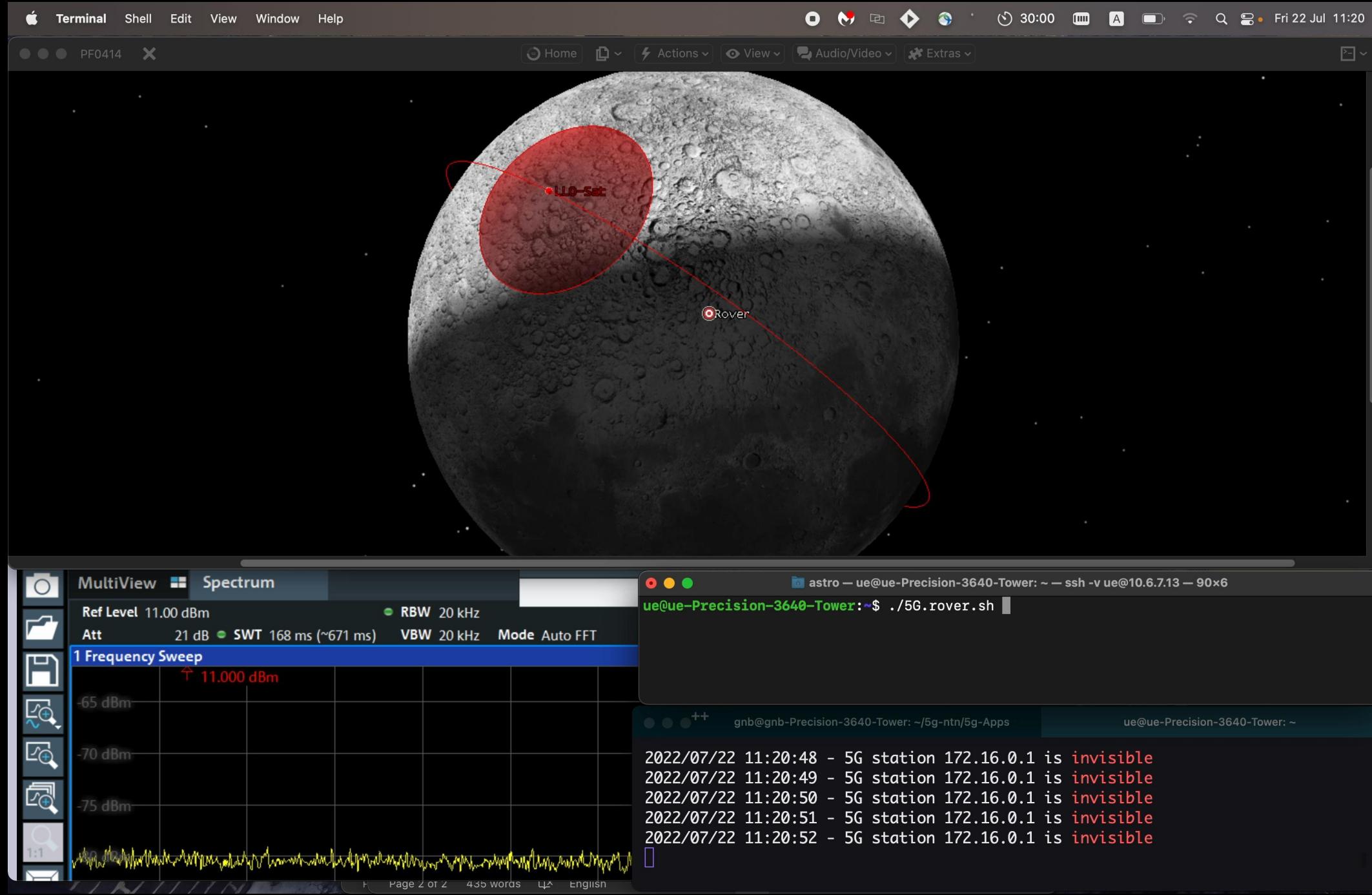


ROVER

Functional architecture of scenario testbed

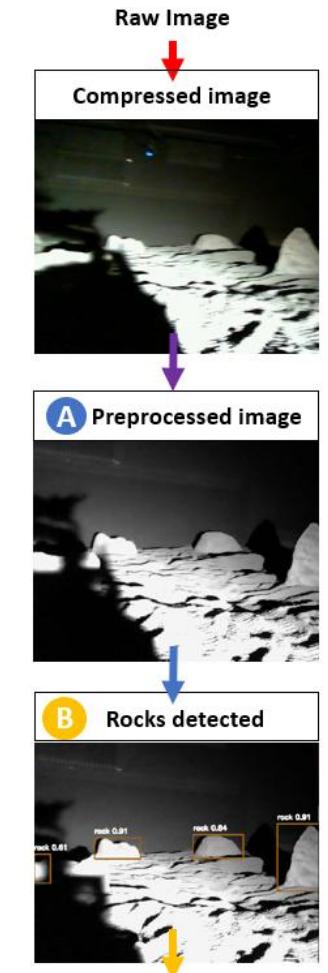
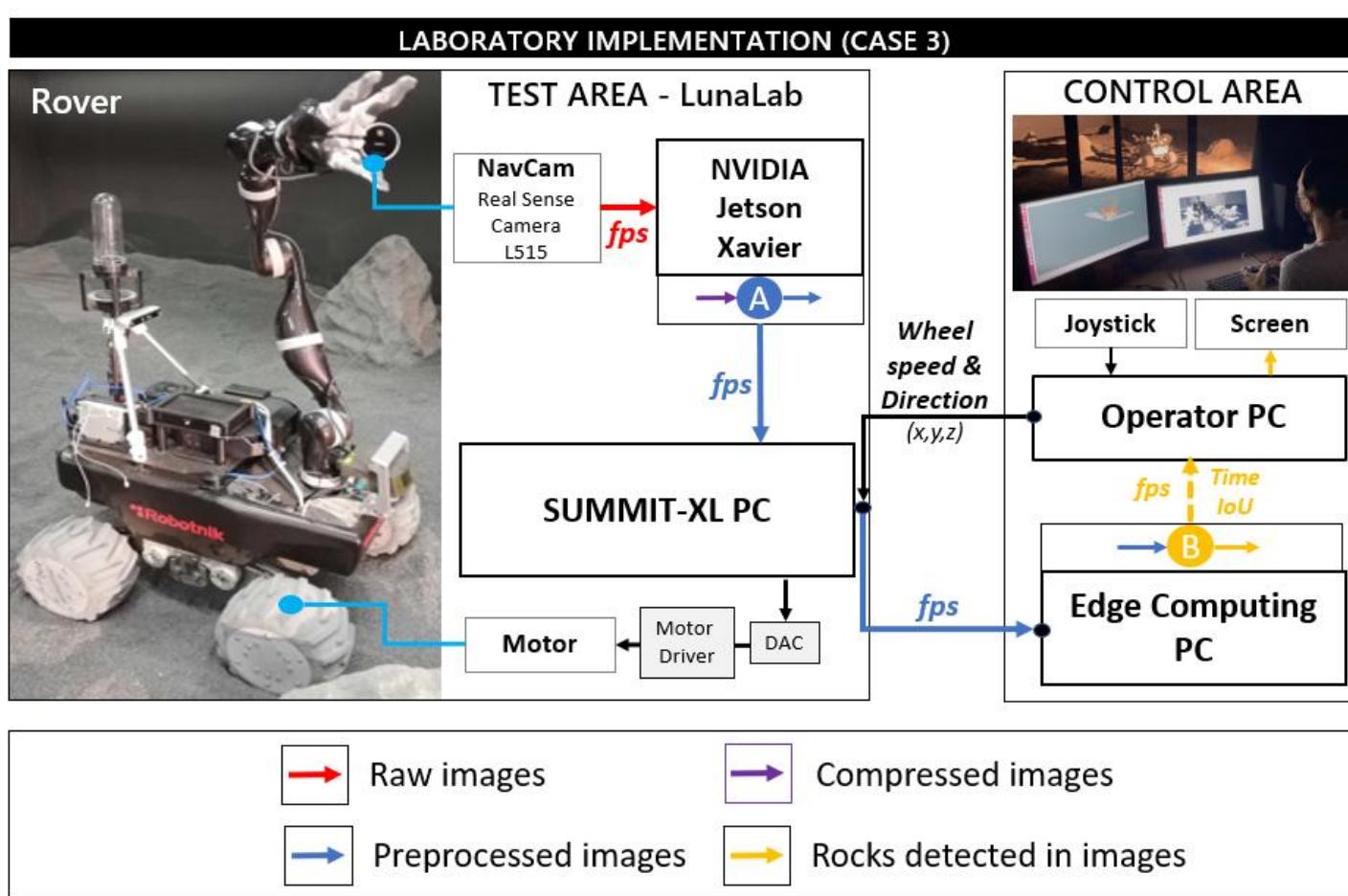


5G-NTN LL0 Mission Access-Time: 48~sec

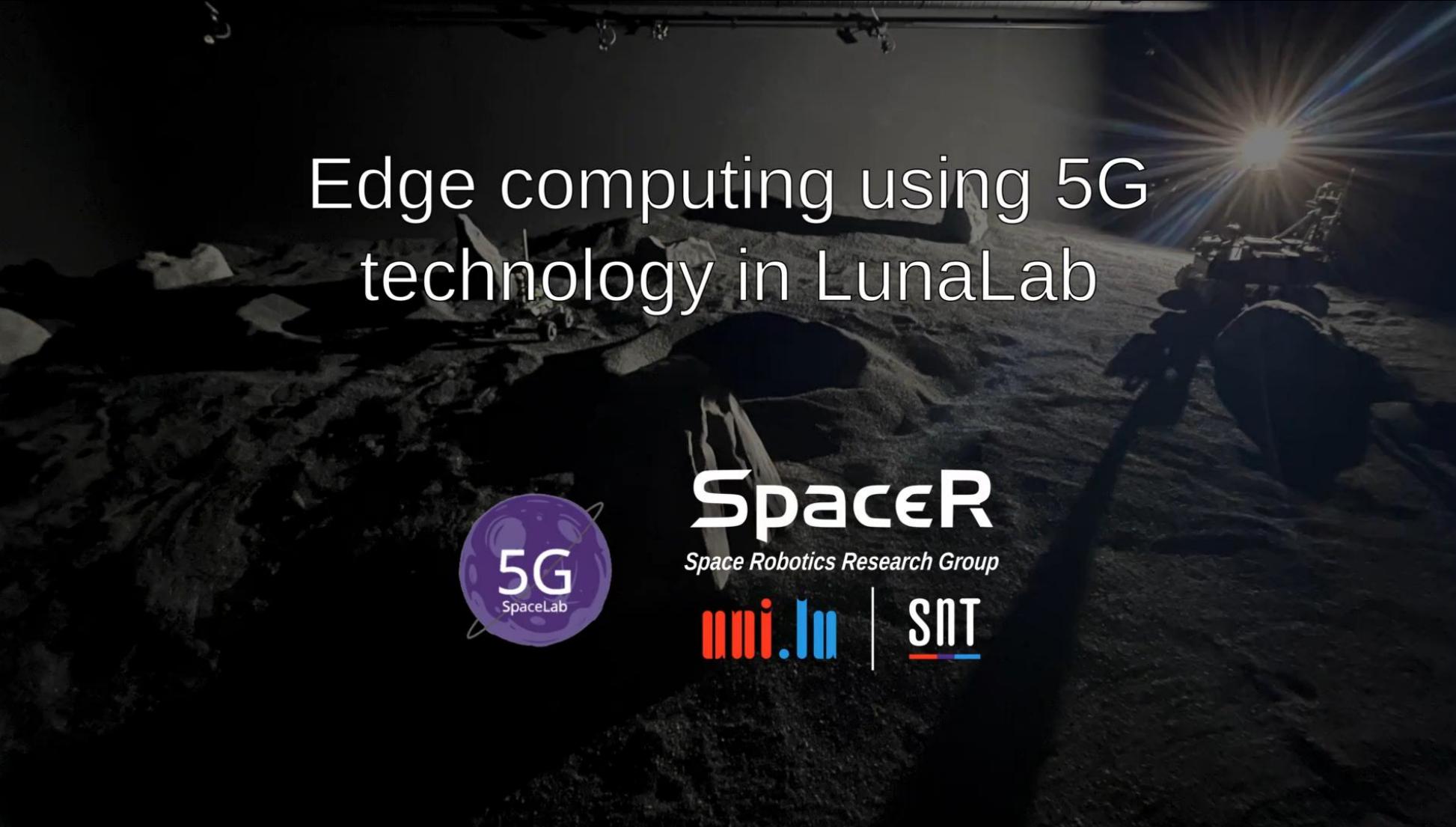


System Setup for Rock Recognition Algorithm

Preprocessing of the images in the NVIDIA Jetson Xavier and execution of YOLOv5 in the Edge Computing PC



Experiment Comparison (Qualitative)



Edge computing using 5G
technology in LunaLab



SpaceR

Space Robotics Research Group



SNT



Joint Communications and Sensing - PNT

Actual situation for PNT service providers

- At this moment, the PNT services are offered via Global Navigation Space Services (GNSS)
- This could be **easily attacked** (jamming and spoofing techniques)
- Any disruption of these PNT services could be **catastrophic for the Critical National Infrastructures (CNI)** that rely on them

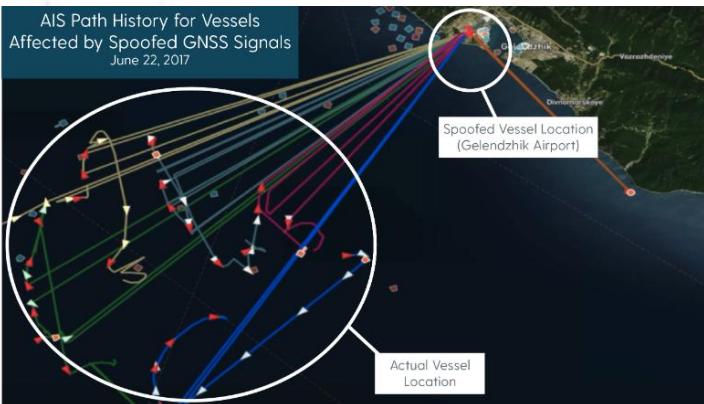


Fig. 1. Spoofed GNSS Signal in the Black Sea [1]



Fig. 2. Report about GNSS outage for flights surrounding Ukraine [2]

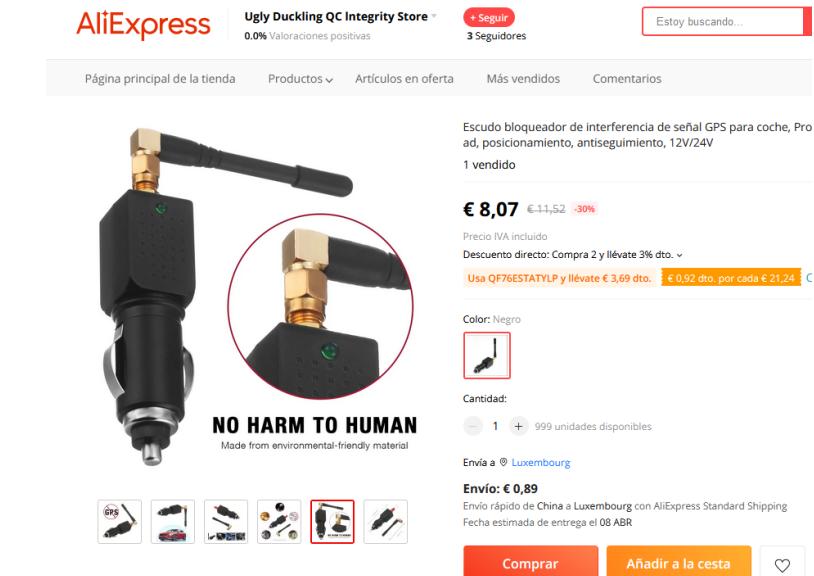


Fig. 3. GNSS jammer accessible by anyone for less than 10\$

And the solution: Diversification of PNT sources

- ✓ Lowering the likelihood of a single-point failure
- ✓ 5G enables **joint communication** and **localization** into a single receiver
- ✓ **Integrity** of the signal can be **verified** with the use of the communication network.
- ✓ Terrestrial waveforms penetrate better inside buildings, therefore **indoor navigation** is possible
- ✓ Combined with satellite, the 5G PNT service **coverage** in rural areas is **better** than using only terrestrial systems
- ⚠ Increased complexity of the receiver
- ⚠ Terrestrial PNT has local/regional coverage only

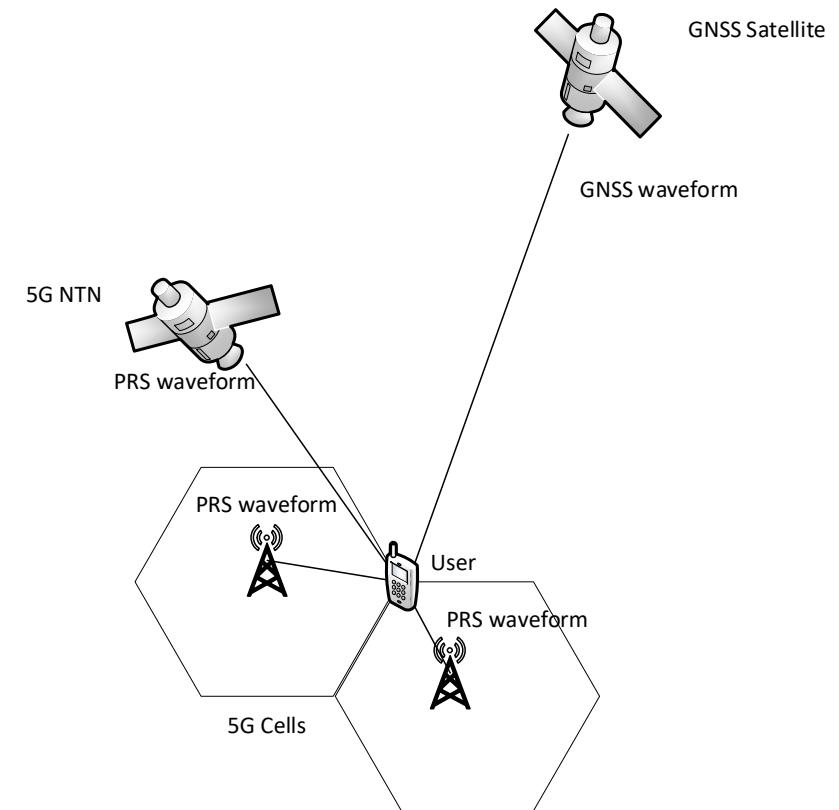


Fig. 4. Diversification of PNT sources

Interference analysis for a shared Resource Grid in an NTN scenario

Example of a shared Resource Grid between 4 transmitters

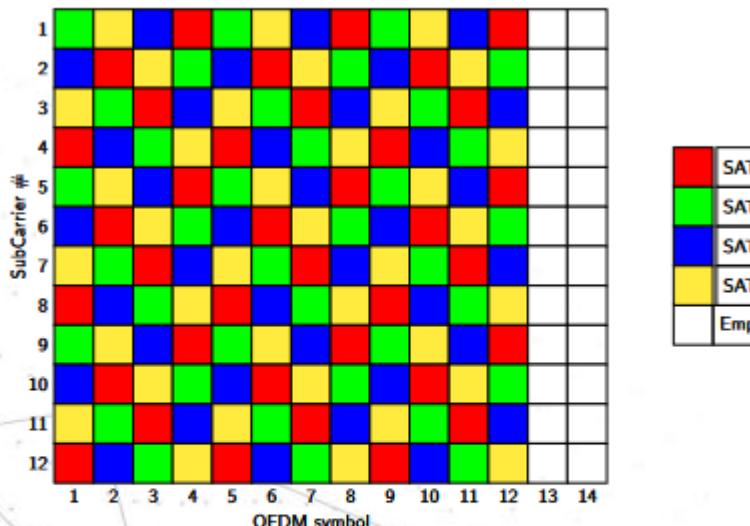


Figure: 5G PRS Resource Grid allocation. Size 1 Resource Block × 1 Slot

Differential delays and Dopplers between transmitters

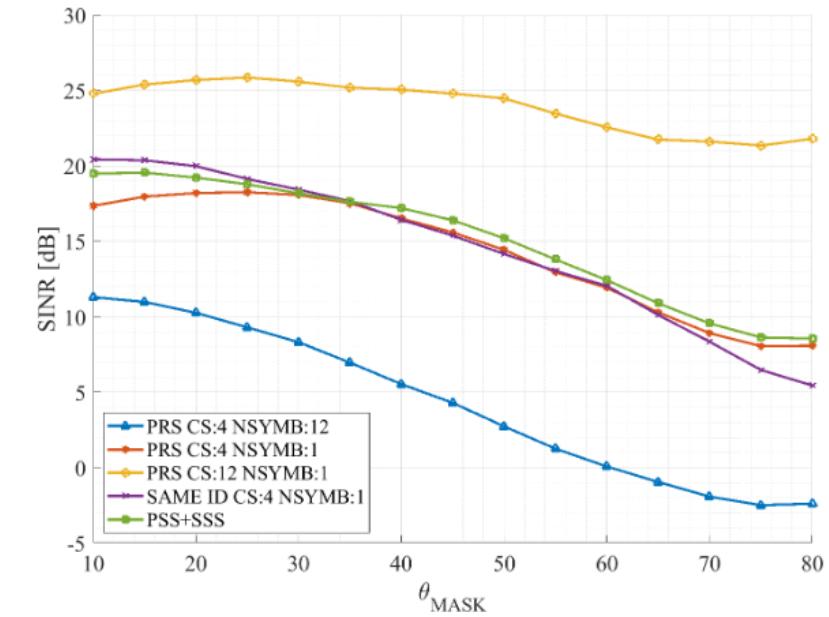


Figure 18: Received SINR for different θ_{MASK}

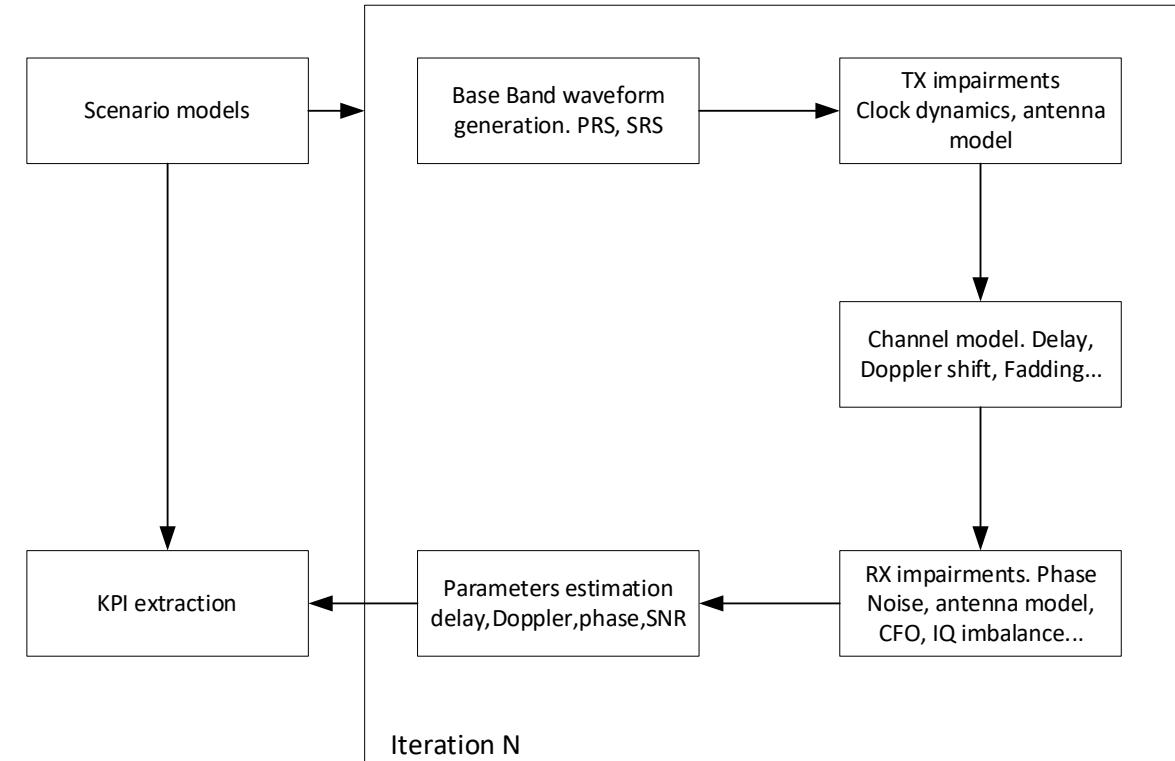
5G-LEON: RADIO POSITIONING TECHNOLOGIES FOR 5G SATELLITE NETWORKS

UniLu WP responsibilities:

- WP Leader of WP3300 and WP4200: Physical Layer Measurement Module
- WP Contributor to WP1300, WP2200, WP2300, WP3100 and WP5100

UniLu Main Tasks

- Develop the PHY layer measurement module. This module is responsible for obtaining the statistical distribution of the different parameters used for the position estimation (delay, doppler, phase, SNR,...) based on the transmitted waveform and the scenario.



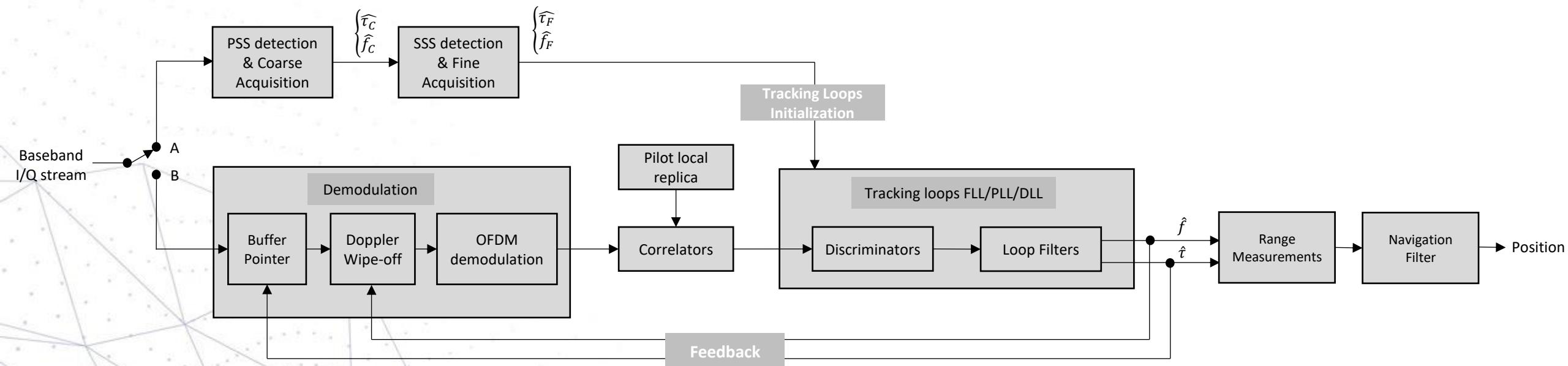
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JCAS for 6G-NTN

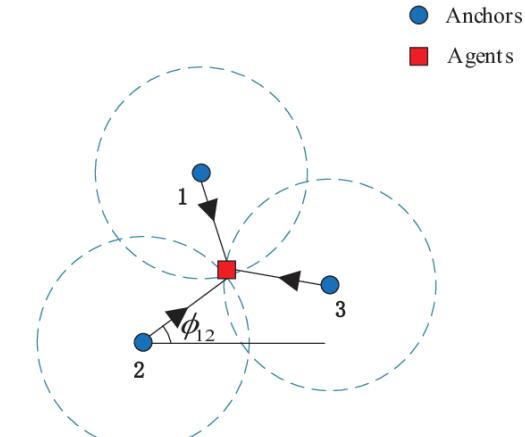
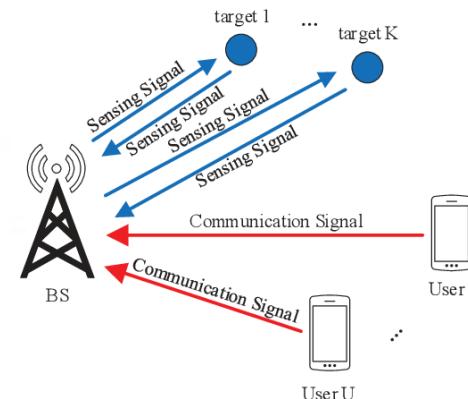
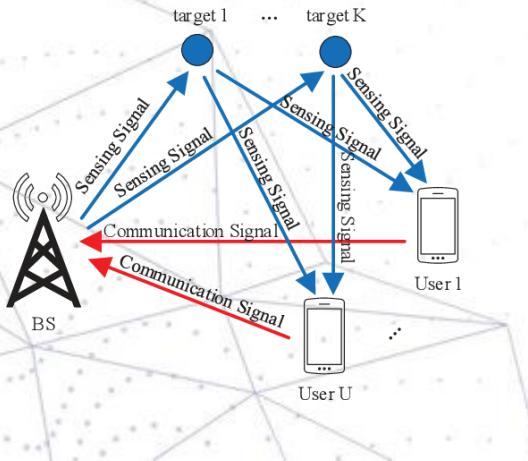
Funded by T-Labs (DE)

Objectives

- 1) Conduct a Literature Review to Gain a Comprehensive Understanding of Existing JCAS Literature for NTN (not only)
- 2) Identify Relevant Use Cases and their Enabling Techniques/Technologies
- 3) Gather Information on Relevant Regulatory Requirements and Constraints

Use case classification

- **Channel-based parameters (Remote Sensing)**
 - Estimated parameters are external to the network
 - Prior knowledge or calibration at TX/RX (position/antenna/receiver)
- **Device-Based (Positioning, Navigation and Timing)**
 - Estimated parameters depend on the TX/RX connected to the network



Summary of research outputs and projects

Projects:

- 5G-LEON: RADIO POSITIONING TECHNOLOGIES FOR 5G SATELLITE NETWORKS, funded by ESA TDE program
- SATNEX WI Y3.3 LEO-PNT, funded by ESA
- JCAS for 6G-NTN, funded by T-labs, Berlin
- 5G-Sky: Interconnecting the Sky in 5G and Beyond – A Joint Communication and Control Approach, funded by FNR

Journals:

- S. E. Trevlakis et al., "Localization as a Key Enabler of 6G Wireless Systems: A Comprehensive Survey and an Outlook," in IEEE Open Journal of the Communications Society, vol. 4, pp. 2733-2801, 2023.
- Gonzalez-Garrido, Alejandro, Querol, Jorge, Chatzinotas, Symeon, "Interference analysis of Positioning Reference signals in 5G NTN" in IEEE Open Journal of the Communications Society, *Submitted*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.09157>

Conferences:

- Gonzalez-Garrido, Alejandro, Querol, Jorge, Chatzinotas, Symeon, "Hybridization of GNSS and 5G Measurements for Assured Positioning, Navigation and Timing," *Proceedings of the 35th International Technical Meeting of the Satellite Division of The Institute of Navigation (ION GNSS+ 2022)*, Denver, Colorado, September 2022, pp. 2377-2384. <https://doi.org/10.33012/2022.18385>
- A. Gonzalez-Garrido, J. Querol and S. Chatzinotas, "5G Positioning Reference Signal Configuration for Integrated Terrestrial/Non-Terrestrial Network Scenario," *2023 IEEE/ION Position, Location and Navigation Symposium (PLANS)*, Monterey, CA, USA, 2023, pp. 1136-1142, doi: 10.1109/PLANS53410.2023.10140024

Book chapter:

- Nguyen Diep N. 2022. *Enabling Technologies for Social Distancing : Fundamentals Concepts and Solutions*. London United Kingdom: Institution of Engineering and Technology. Retrieved January 16 2024 (<https://doi.org/10.1049/PBTE104E>).

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