

EO Technology at ESA: Processes, achievements and future trends

Φ-week - Future EO (part 5) session

by Josep.Rosello @ esa.int

Technology Coord. & Frequency Mngt Section (EOP-ΦMT)

EO Future Missions & Instrument Division (EOP-ΦM)

(15-Nov-2018)

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Why Technology ?

Earth Observation (EOP)

- Technology Needs
- ESA Programmes with technology

Examples of EOP technology

Conclusions

Why Technology ?

Application 1.0



Sony Walkman

Technology

- Components
- Processing algorithms (mp3)



Any parallel for Φ -space ?



Vision (e.g. miniaturisation)
with a purpose (better)

Application 2.0

- In the pocket
- Multi-CDs



Vision: integration
Application 3.0

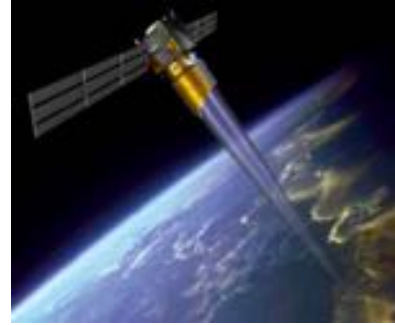


Application / Science is the driver, **Technology** is the **ENABLER** !!

Why Technology? Why early ?

ADM-Aeolus – launched 10+ years later (2018) than initially planned

- Aladin's laser **technology: not ready** when mission selected



Ariane-5 first launch: failure

- thought that space it was a commodity
- Software not verified under the new conditions



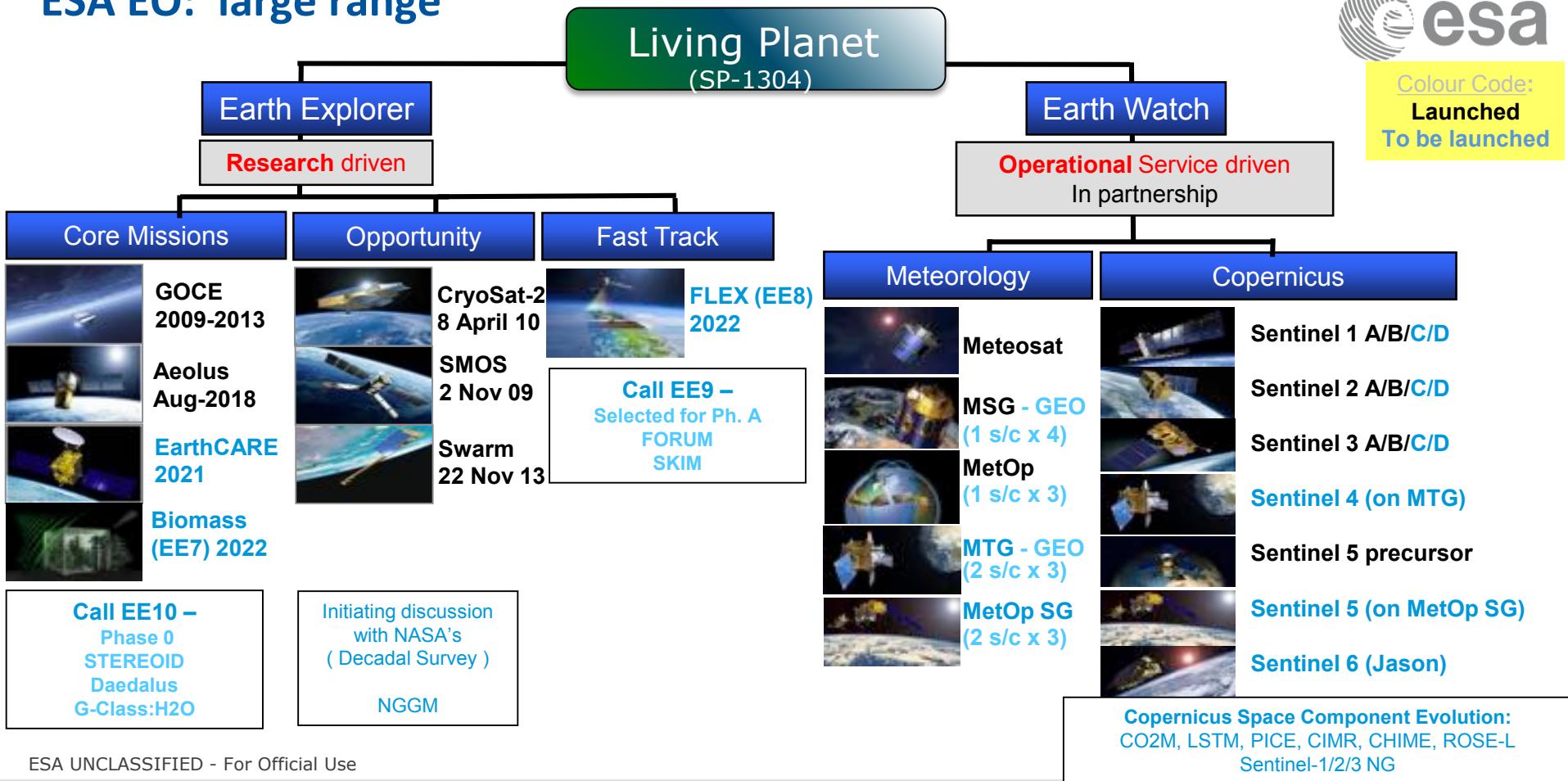
Lessons learnt:

- consequences of having technology not ready are very costly
- start technology development asap

ESA EO: large range



Colour Code:
Launched
To be launched



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European Space Agency

EO Technology needs



Higher performance / cost ratio

- **New Measurements** (enabler)
- **Higher spatial** and **temporal** resolution
- Higher **lifetime** (7 yrs → 10 yrs or more)
- Increased **flexibility** (advanced manufacturing, re-programmable FPGA onboard, COTS)
- **Faster** to design/develop and deploy
- Long-term data **continuity** → BIG DATA + AI
- Platform : Lower recurring **cost** (COTS),
with specific EO needs (AOCS, storage, comms speed, more autonomy)

Miniaturisation and constellations (incl. convoys and formations)

- More autonomous platform & operations
- Distributed Ground Segment
- Synchronisation (with ISL beacon and/or with GNSS)
- Launcher techno for efficient access to space
- lower cost, fast-to-market ability, adaptability and flexibility.



Mainly, but NOT LIMITED to LEO: also High-Elliptic (HEO) and GSO (e.g. G-Class EE-10).

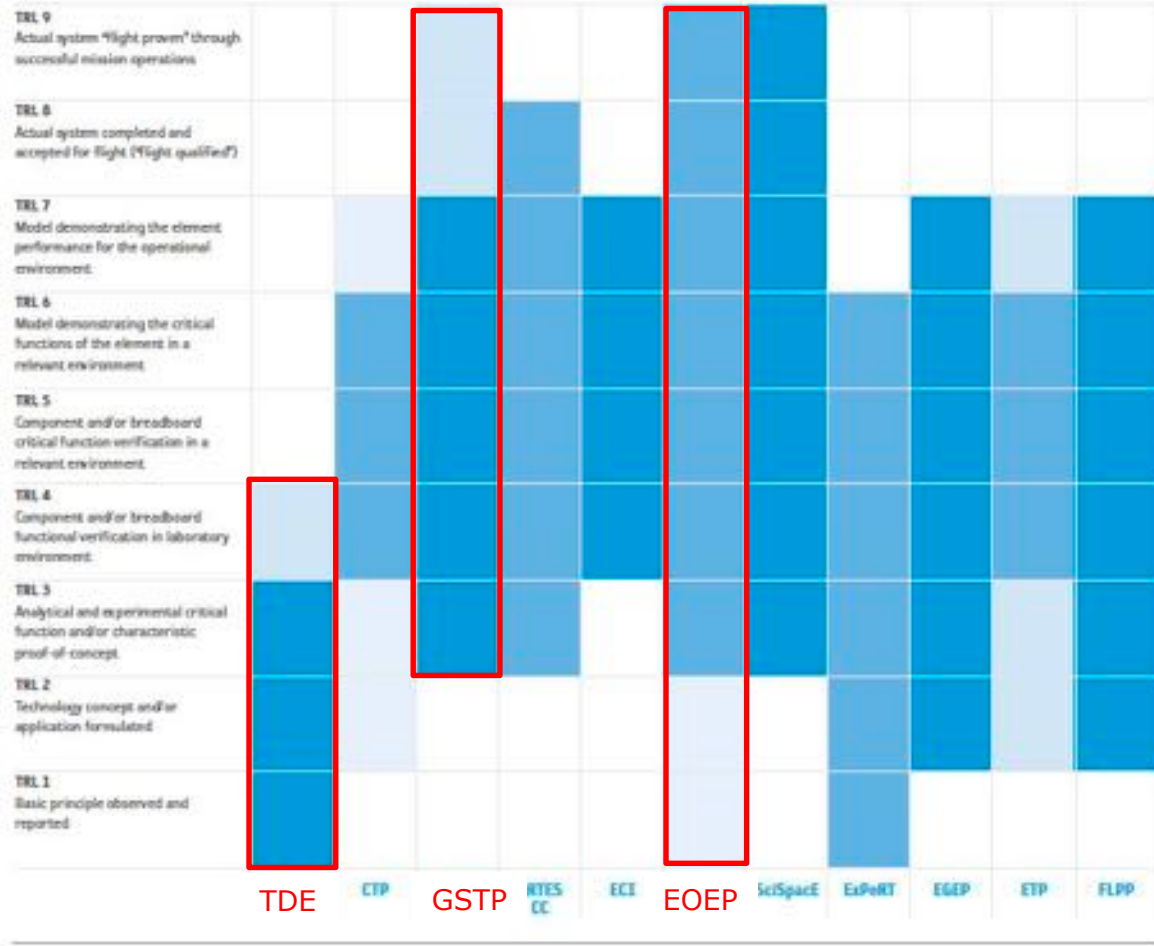
ESA Technology Programmes

EOP Technology under 3 programmes:

- **TDE** (former TRP): up to TRL 3-4
- **GSTP** : higher TRLs
- **EOEP** : all TRLs (from concept to flying products)

ESA Matrix: Collaboration between Application (**D/EOP**) and Support Directorates (**D/TEC** & **D/OPS**)

- **Multi-year** (TDE-GSTP) **Workplan** preparation via **TECNET** WGs
- **Executing** individual activities: ITT prepar., Evaluations, Tech. Officer assignment
- **Harmonisation** (also with EU)



TDE 2019-2029 - Priorities for EO



In green : top EO priorities for TDE.

Earth Expl. 10 (3 concepts for Ph.0) + 6 more for Technology	Science driven	Instrument (Optical/RF/Digital)	System (Platform + GS)	Constellation enabler (autonomy, GS, ...)	TDE + EOEP + GSTP
Copernicus & Meteo Evolution	User driven	System of Systems (architecture, formation)	Std/ Common Platforms / GS: e.g. high speed techno, autonomy,...	Constellation management	EOEP + Copernicus
Space 4.0 (incl. Φ work)	Innovation driven	Full Instrument Miniaturisation + OB processing	Mission - SmallSats /CheapSats - Hosted P/L	Big Data: AI (Deep/Machine Learning)	TDE + EOEP + InCubed + GSTP

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European Space Agency

Basic Activities, including TDE



Changes in 2017 led to the creation of the **DPTDE** programme within ESA's Basic Activities:

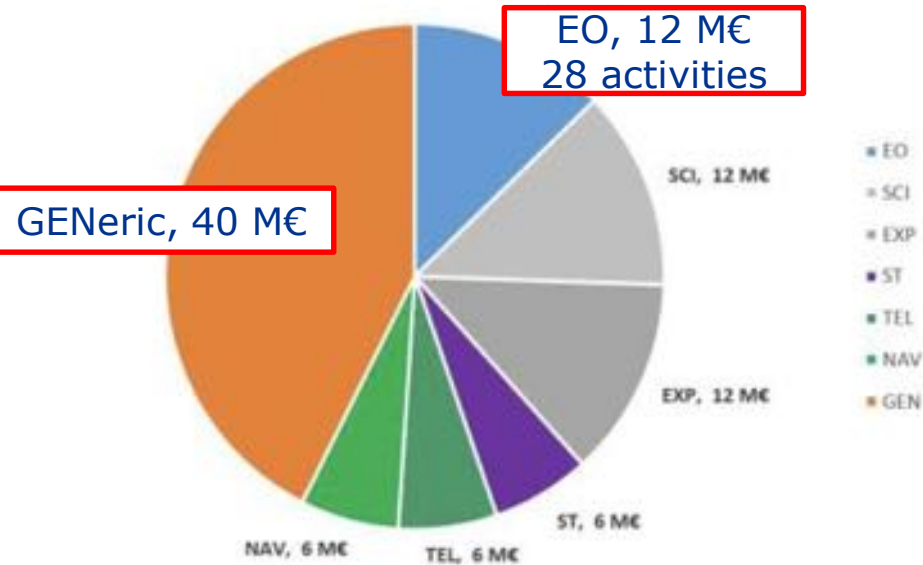
- **D**iscovery: former SysNova, ITI, NPI, Ariadna,... and other TEC-run activities (e.g. ACT) – in principle supporting also optional programs (**e.g. Φ -Lab**), TBC
- **P**reparation: former **GSP** - often **used to** support Ph.0/A studies
- **T**echnology **D**evelopment **E**lement : former **TRP**

TDE specifics :

- Low TRLs
- mostly competitive tendering
- Open to companies from all Member States
- average budget : 400 k€

GEN: FPGAs, Memories, AOCS, other building blocks...

TDE Workplan P 2019-2020 : 94 M€ (in 2 years)
(submitted to Member States in Nov.2018)



GSTP (General Support Technology Programme)



GSTP specifics :

- *High TRLs* → Budgets larger than for TDE
- It is an OPTIONAL programme
 - Tendering limited to companies from countries supporting the specific activity
- Our interest: EO and also GEN Serv.Domains

Three Elements :

- Elem. 1: Develop
- Elem. 2: Make
- Elem. 3: Fly

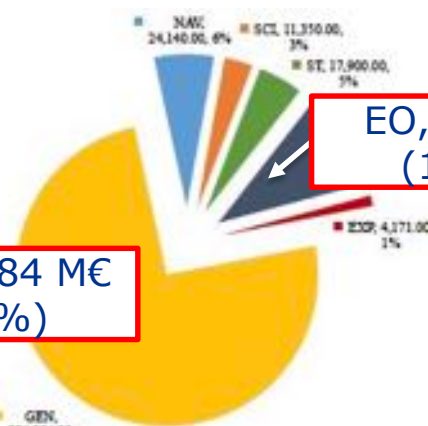
GSTP-6 activities - Develop



GSTP Elem. 1 "Develop" - ESA/IPC(2018)105 on 18-April-2017

G611 ID is for EO

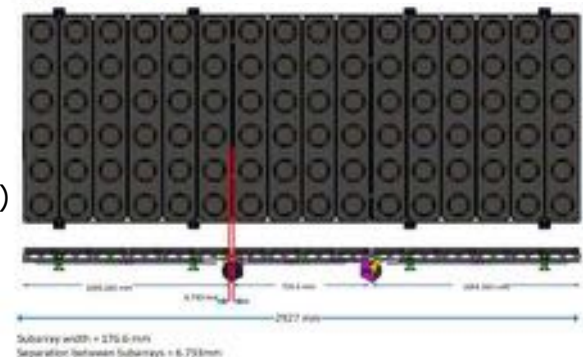
- 35 activit. in **EO Domain (39 M€ - i.e. 10%)**
- Total is 381 M€ - multi-year envelope .



Examples of SD-EO (many co-funded with EOEP):

Many Activities for upstream (components & modules)

- G611-039EE : Passive bi-static L-band SAR Antenna) – (EADS, ES)
- G611-038ET : EQM Radar Electronics bi-static SAR – (TAS-IT)
- G611-002T : IASI-NG Laser Source electronics (Konsberg, No)
- G611-008ET : High Power GaN C-band Tx/Rx (TAS-I)
- G611-017MM : High Stability Laser for NGGM – Many (DE, GB)
- G611-031EP : Solar Cell Interconnector ... (Leonardo, IT)
- G611-037SY : EQM of a Compact Spectrometer & Free Form Gratings (AMOS, BE)
- G611-041SY : Continuation VEGETATION (VITO , BE)
- G611-045EO : Pre-development ALTIUS instrument (OIP, BE)
- G611-048EO - GNSS ADC ASIC (Saphyrion, CH)
- G612-001QT - White thermal coating process optimisation (ENBIO, IE)



Many Activities for downstream (with ESRIN, see next slide)

Main reference for implementation of projects in ESRIN (EOP-G/-S/-Φ) is the **data lifecycle**.

Four Action lines and sub-action lines across →

A whole series of projects: -

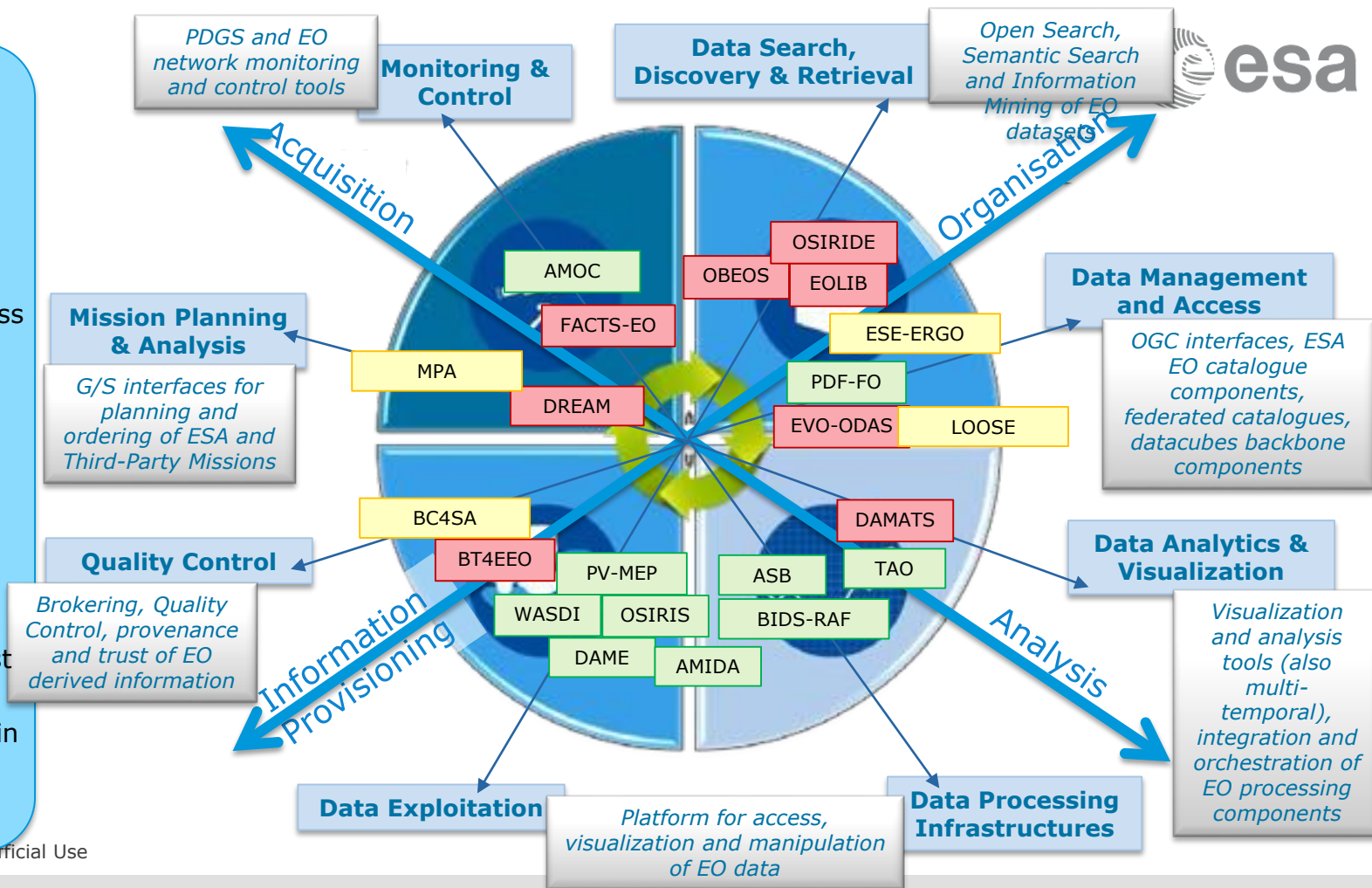
COMPLETED

ON-GOING

PLANNED

implemented along these lines in the last 6 years.

Leading to progress in technological developments.



Product oriented - with co-funding scheme (typically 50% by company)

Stepped approach: 1st outline proposal + 2nd full proposal

- 10 activities in Domain EO (11.6 M€ - i.e. 17% of 70 M€ total)
- not necessarily aligned with ESA EOP (partly driven by National interests)

Activity ID	Title	Class
G621-001MM	Optimisation and valorisation of long, modular linear InGaAs imagers	Upstream Techno
G621-008EP	PCDU Product Line Building Blocks	Upstream Techno
G621-011MM	STREEGO – Innovative Solutions for High Resolution Small Satellites	System / Upstream
G621-014SE	EO driven Landscape Infrastructure Modelling	Downstream
G621-031MM	High performance SWIR detector for high resolution land observation payload	Upstream Techno
G621-033MM	Development for future high resolution land observation payload	Upstream Techno
G621-053SY	sat4EO	System / Upstream
G621-076ET	Multimission Direct Access Terminal for PAZ, TerraSAR and Other Satellites	Upstream Techno
G621-079ET	Land analytics EO Platform	Downstream
G621-064ED	Image Compression Module	Upstream Techno

EO also interested in the **GENERIC-part. e.g.**
- GNSS Receivers G627-003ET
- Mass Memories G627-089ED

EO InCubed (also co-funded + stepped Program)
- Part of Φ-Lab
- NEW (since 2017)

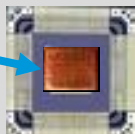
➔ More co-ordination with GSTP in the future

Examples of developments

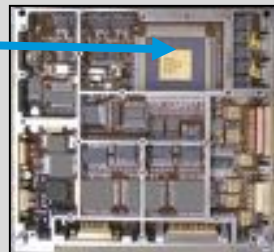
Advanced GPS-Galileo ASIC (AGGA-4)

EOEP funding → ASIC (enabler)

GSTP funding → GNSS Receivers



(~6 Million gates
with 180 nm process)



By Airbus,
ATMEL, RUAG

Programs adopting AGGA-4:

- MetOp-SG (P/F & RO inst.), S1c/d, S2c/d, S3c/d, S6, Proba-3, Neosat, others TBC (e.g. Biomass, Flex)
- CSO, SARah, + Comp.Adv Sat. 500 (S Korea), **Mohammed VI**
- Vega-C

Future:

- COTS FPGAs – reprogrammable on-board (7 nm)
L1 freq. & multi-GNSS (GPS, Galileo)
- A niche for ASICs (28 nm): multi-GNSS freq. → top accuracy



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26 GHz (K-band) data downlink (up to 10 Gb/s)

EOEP funding for System studies → enabler

- EOEP, GSTP, TRP, ARTES,
for OB / OG Antennas, OB Tx / OG Rx), Propagation, ...



Tesat

Adaptable speed (Gbit/s)
Transmitter

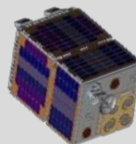
Konsberg



Joint report (NASA, JAXA, CNES, DLR, ...) available

Programs adopting the 26 GHz band:

- MetOp-SG, MTG, EDRS, Euclid → next Generation Sentinels (TBC)
- NASA (JPSS-1, NISAR, PACE, ...), ... JAXA, SARah, ...
- feasible for small sats : two ESA studies
 - 150 kg. P/F (with SSTL)
 - CubeSats (with Calisto-SSBV)



Technology enablers for small sats

- GaN SSPA – power amplification
- Smaller antenna (steerable or agile satellite)

Time to start Q/V band comms (more Bw)

Optimise Standard Platform → more resources for the Payload

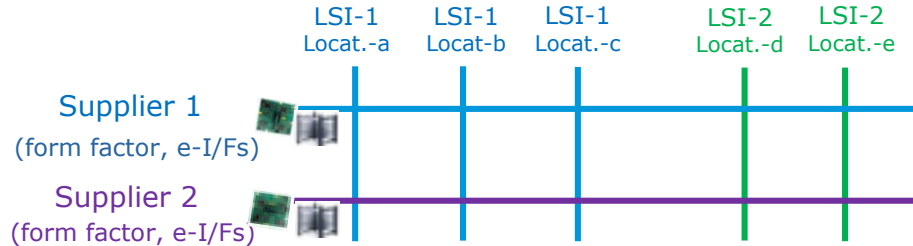


Lower Cost + Faster to adopt

- Mind EOP specific requirements: AOCS, Storage, downlink

Platform Needs:

- Architecture evolution
 - Miniaturisation (units → boards → components)
 - more Integration (AIT) → potential savings
 - Higher performance (speed) + functionality (protocols)
- Standardisation:
 - Common interfaces (electrical & mechanical form-factor)
 - Multi-source suppliers :
 - ✓ interchangeable modules
 - ✓ newcomers (incl. COTS)



Standardisation done for Cubesats → big success



Learning from NewSpace

Industrial challenge: collaboration (big & SMEs)

Multi-board SMU:
OBC, GNSS, SSMM, mini-RIU



➔ Three Phase A planned for 2019 (inspired from SYSNOVA studies, GSP funded, with EOP participation)



- EOP uniqueness: USER DRIVEN approach + need for highly calibrated P/L
- EOP is benefitting from GSTP Fly Technology

EOP Small Sats

(EOEP funded activities)



Sentinel Small Sat. (S3)- Challenge

- FSScat (UPC Barcelona) selected in 4Q-2017 : with two 6U Cubesats
- Sat-1: GNSS-R + radiometer & Sat-2: HyperScout + InterSat Links



FSScat (launch in 3Q-2019)

New challenge for SmallSat concepts- current plan:

- 4 phase-A studies (ITT planned for 1Q-2019)
- development depending on resources allocation in CMIN-19

Defining EOP landscape for small sats

- For Microwave Instruments (2 studies: Omnisys, HARP) – ending in 2Q-2019
- For optical instruments (being initiated)

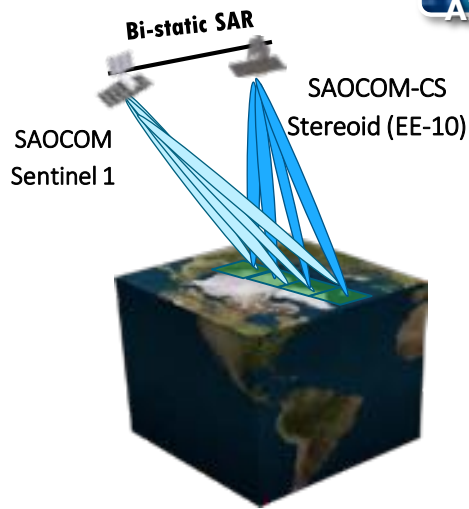
Inspiring looking outside: e.g. NASA's "ESTO Invest" good results

Core business not to be forgotten

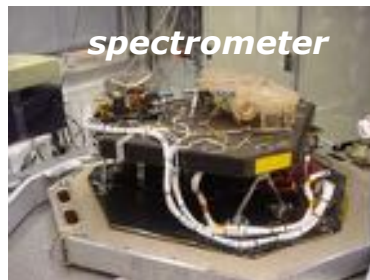
Preparing new instruments and observation techniques

- RF & Optical
- from concept, Components & HW demonstrators, up to qualified models
- for satellites (and airborne campaigns)

Big data challenges



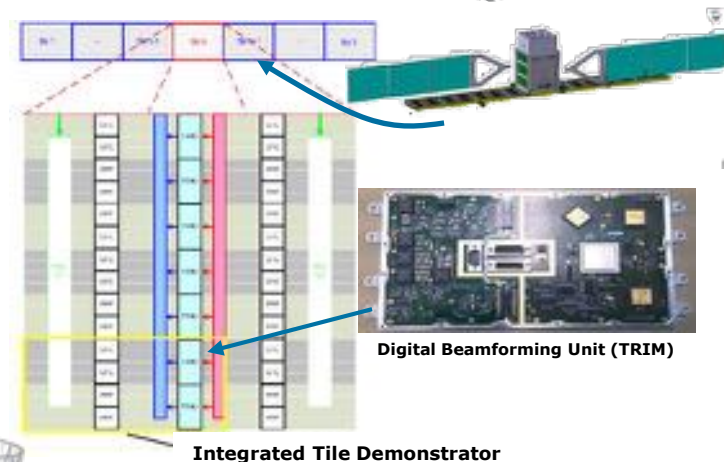
Horn antenna



spectrometer



Large Deployable antennas



Integrated Tile Demonstrator

Digital Beamforming Unit (TRIM)



Airborne campaigns



IR detector Array

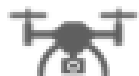
Future EO: leveraging the digital revolution (Technology as enabler)



10^x More Data



Expanding EO Landscape:
Copernicus 2.0 + Meteo SG
+ Science + Commercial
/ SmallSat Constellations..



HAPS, UAV,..



IoT, Open Data

Rapid Innovation



Cloud Computing
Big Data Analytics



AI, esp.
Deep Learning,
Autonomous Syst.



Miniaturisation
& Integration

New Solutions / Partnerships



Demo end-to-end distributed
smart sensing systems
(AI+EO+HAPS ... +IoT)



Environment for Rapid Innovation /
Prototyping, to test ideas via Proof of
Concept, Challenges, Hack,
Research/Sprint



Foster New Partnerships
(e.g. ICT, startup, investors, non-
space users), New start-up

CHALLENGES

OPPORTUNITIES

SOLUTIONS

Conclusion

EARTH OBSERVATION : USER DRIVEN with wide range of innovation

- **Technology** is the **ENABLER** → **start early**
- EOP Technology NEEDS:
 - Higher performance / cost ratio (also faster design & deployment)
 - Opening to Constellations (Space 4.0)



Large range of Technology under EOEP & (TDE + GSTP) Program (in collaboration with D/TEC- D/OPS):

- from concept to qualified equipment
- from micro (component) to macro (equipment, system)
- focus on instruments (RF, Optical) & Platform and downstream too

Harmonisation (also with EU) on-going - not discussed today

Trends:

- **Spin-in** : COTS + digitisation (FPGA re-programmable on-board) + smart manufacturing + Artif. Intelligence
- **Miniaturisation** opening new applications: for Institutional & Space 4.0
- **Standardisation** required - to foster industrial collaboration

