

# Satellites

**David Tipper**  
**Associate Professor**

Graduate Telecommunications and Networking Program  
University of Pittsburgh

[tipper@tele.pitt.edu](mailto:tipper@tele.pitt.edu)  
Slides 17



## Satellite Applications



- Over 3500 Satellites in use today - industry overall revenues of \$2.3 billion in 2004
- Telecommunications
  - global telephone connections
  - backbone for global networks
  - connections for communication in remote places or underdeveloped areas
  - global mobile communications
- Other Applications
  - weather
  - radio and TV broadcast satellites
  - Earth observation (climate change, agricultural, etc.)
  - military: surveillance, imaging, intelligence, early warning
  - Navigation and localization: aeronautic, nautical, etc., (e.g., GPS, NavStar)



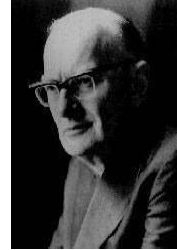
being replaced by fiber optics

## Satellite History



### A Selective Satellite Chronology

- 1945 Arthur C. Clarke – head of British Interplanetary Society publishes article: "Extra-Terrestrial Relays" defines basic satellite concept - latter fame as Sci-Fi author
- 1955 John R. Pierce (AT&T researcher) publishes Article: "Orbital Radio Relays" defines technical aspects for global telephony
- 1957 Sputnik: Russia launches the first earth satellite.
- 1960 First reflecting communication satellite ECHO – aluminum coated balloon



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<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/pao/History/satcomhistory.html>

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## Satellite History



- 1962 AT&T TELSTAR (first active satellite) and RELAY launched (MEO) - for voice/television/data
- 1962 Communications Satellite Act (U.S.)
- 1963 SYNCOM launched – first geosynchronous orbit satellite
- 1964 INTELSAT formed
  - International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (part of UN) - aim provide global telecommunications connectivity
- 1965 COMSAT's EARLY BIRD: 1st commercial communications satellite: 240 duplex telephone channels or 1 TV channel, 1.5 years lifetime
- 1969 INTELSAT-III series provides global coverage
- 1972 ANIK: 1st Domestic Communications Satellite (Canada)
- 1974 WESTAR: 1st U.S. Domestic Communications Satellite
- 1975 RCA SATCOM: 1st operational body-stabilized Satellite
- 1976 MARISAT: 1st mobile communications satellite
- 1979 INMARSAT formed.

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## Satellite History



- 1975 RCA SATCOM: 1st operational body-stabilized Satellite
- 1976 MARISAT: 1st mobile communications satellite
- 1979 INMARSAT formed.
- 1982 first mobile satellite telephone system INMARSAT-A
- 1988 first satellite system for mobile phones and data communication INMARSAT-C
- 1993 first digital satellite telephone system
- 1998 global satellite systems for small mobile phones



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## Satellite Basics

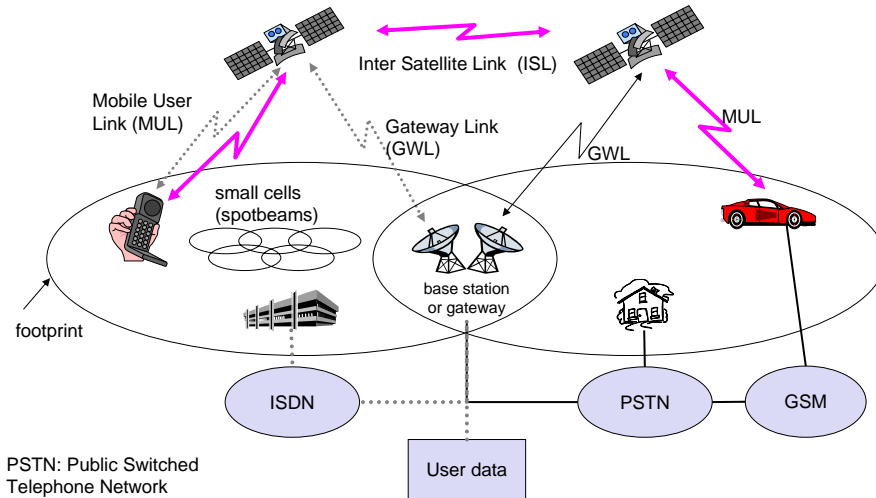


- Earth Stations – antenna systems on or near earth
- Uplink – transmission from an earth station to a satellite
- Downlink – transmission from a satellite to an earth station
- Typically separated frequencies for uplink and downlink (FDD)
- Transponder – electronics in the satellite that convert uplink signals to downlink signals
  - transparent transponder: only shift of frequencies (Bent Pipe)
  - regenerative transponder: additionally signal regeneration and formatting) Processing Satellite

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## Typical Satellite System



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## Satellite Classification



- Can Characterize Satellites on variety of Factors
- Frequency:
  - Spectrum
- Orbit:
  - Height: (GEO, HEO, MEO, LEO)
  - Pattern: elliptical vs. circular, inclination, etc.
- Multiple Access Method:
  - TDMA, FDMA, CDMA
- Satellite Capabilities
  - Bent Pipe vs. On board Processing
- Coverage and Usage Type
  - Coverage: global, regional, national
  - Usage: broadcast, two-way, mobile, etc.

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## U.S. Satellite Frequency Bands



### Licensed Spectrum - only

Band	Frequency Range	Total Bandwidth	General Application
L	1 to 2 GHz	1 GHz	Mobile satellite service (MSS)
S	2 to 4 GHz	2 GHz	MSS, NASA, deep space research
C	4 to 8 GHz	4 GHz	Fixed satellite service (FSS)
X	8 to 12.5 GHz	4.5 GHz	FSS military, terrestrial earth exploration, and meteorological satellites
Ku	12.5 to 18 GHz	5.5 GHz	FSS, broadcast satellite service (BSS)
K	18 to 26.5 GHz	8.5 GHz	BSS, FSS
Ka	26.5 to 40 GHz	13.5 GHz	FSS

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## Classification of Satellite Orbits

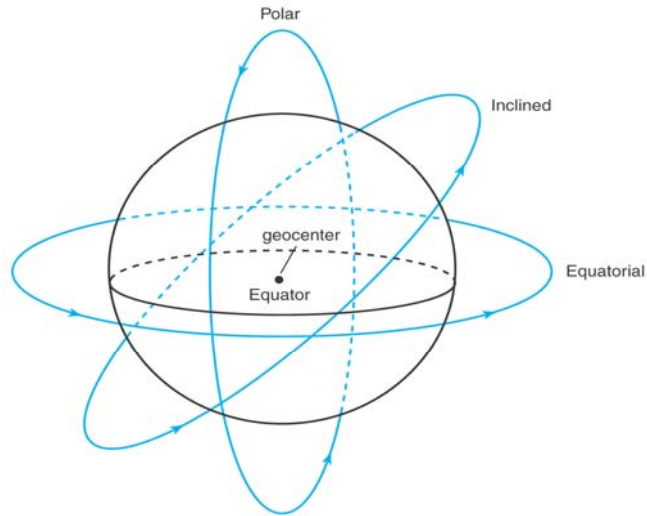


- Circular or elliptical orbit
  - Circular with center at earth's center
  - Elliptical with one foci at earth's center
- Orbit around earth in different planes
  - Equatorial orbit above earth's equator
  - Polar orbit passes over both poles
  - Other orbits referred to as inclined orbits
- Altitude of satellites
  - Geostationary orbit (GEO)
  - High earth orbit (HEO)
  - Medium earth orbit (MEO)
  - Low earth orbit (LEO)

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## Orbital Pattern



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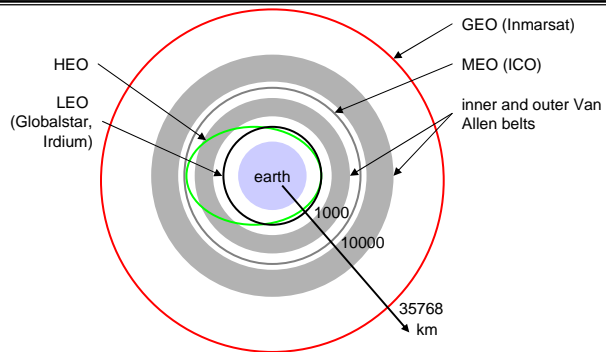
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## Orbital Height



Van-Allen-Belts:  
ionized particles  
2000 - 6000 km and  
15000 - 30000 km  
above earth surface

LEOs allow intra-satellite  
switched connections  
Require smart satellites



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## Orbit Basics

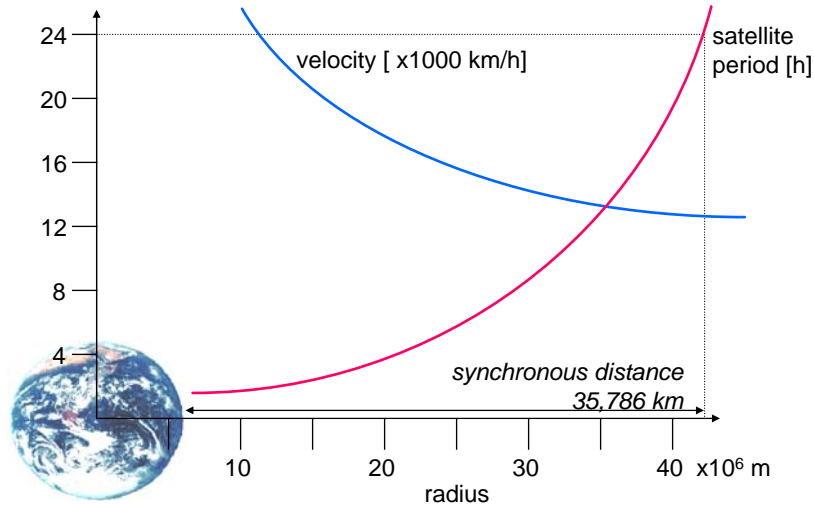


- Satellites in circular orbits
    - attractive force  $F_g = m g (R/r)^2$
    - centrifugal force  $F_c = m r \omega^2$
    - m: mass of the satellite
    - R: radius of the earth ( $R = 6370 \text{ km}$ )
    - r: distance to the center of the earth
    - g: acceleration of gravity ( $g = 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$ )
    - $\omega$ : angular velocity ( $\omega = 2 \pi f$ , f: rotation frequency)
  - Stable orbit
    - $F_g = F_c$
- $$r = \sqrt[3]{\frac{gR^2}{(2\pi f)^2}}$$

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## Satellite period and orbits



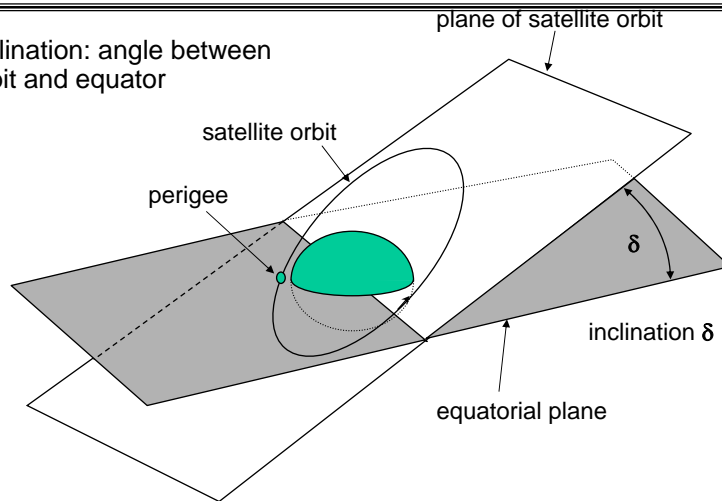
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# Inclination



inclination: angle between orbit and equator



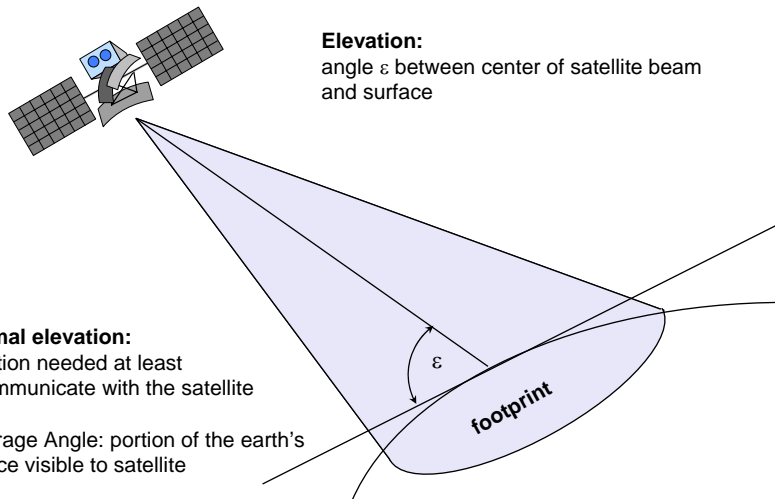
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# Elevation



**Elevation:**  
angle  $\epsilon$  between center of satellite beam and surface



**minimal elevation:**  
elevation needed at least to communicate with the satellite

Coverage Angle: portion of the earth's Surface visible to satellite

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## Satellite Footprint



**Footprint:** geographic area where communication possible

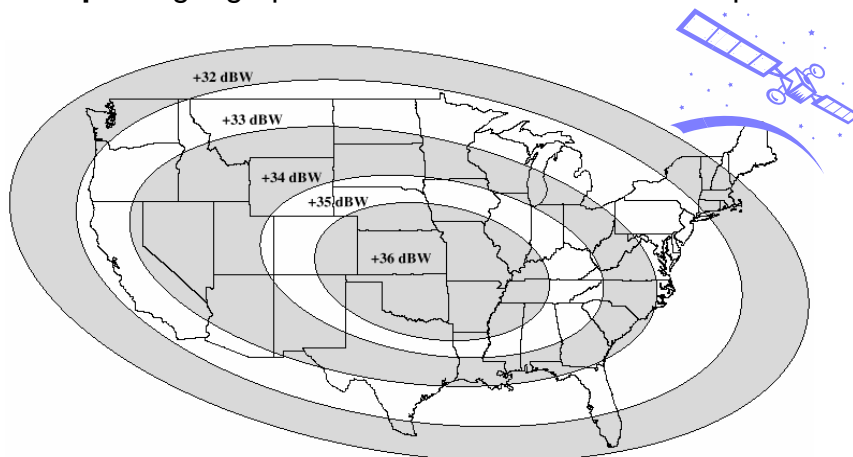


Figure 9.6 Typical Satellite Footprint

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## Link budget of satellites



- Parameters like attenuation or received power determined by four parameters:
- sending power
- gain of sending antenna
- distance between sender and receiver
- gain of receiving antenna
- Problems
- varying strength of received signal due to multipath propagation
- interruptions due to shadowing of signal (no LOS)
- Typically need LOS in satellite systems
- Possible solutions
  - Link Margin to eliminate variations in signal strength
  - satellite diversity (usage of several visible satellites at the same time) helps to use less transmit power

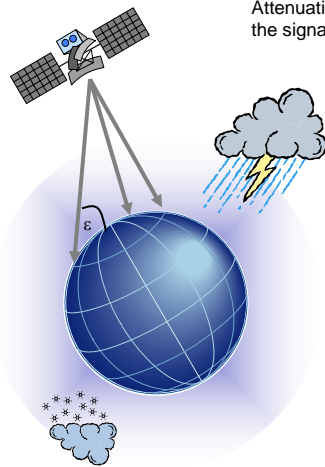
L: Loss  
f: carrier frequency  
r: distance  
c: speed of light

$$L = \left( \frac{4\pi r f}{c} \right)^2$$

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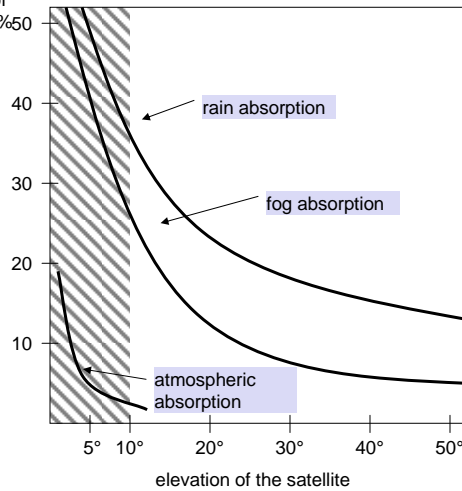
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## Atmospheric attenuation



Attenuation of the signal in %50

Example: satellite systems at 4-6 GHz



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## Geostationary satellites

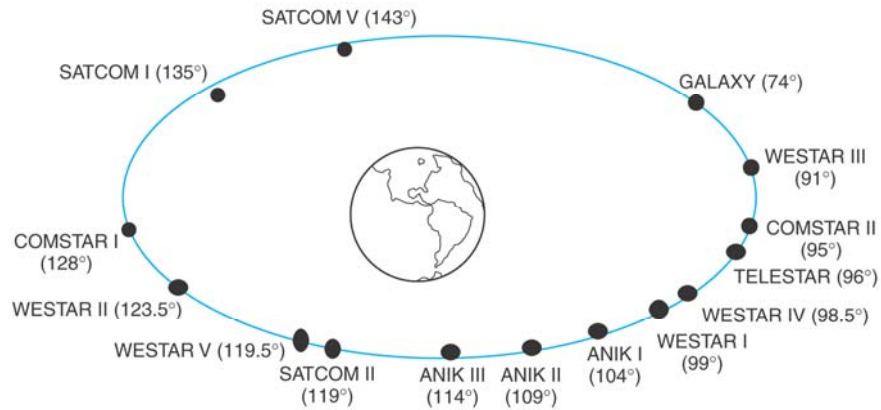


- Orbit 35.786 km distance to earth surface, orbit in equatorial plane (inclination 0°)
- → complete rotation exactly one day, satellite is synchronous to earth rotation
- Advantages of the GEO orbit
  - No problem with frequency changes
  - Tracking of the satellite is simplified
  - High coverage area with large footprint (up to 34% of earth surface!),
- Disadvantages of the GEO orbit
  - Weak signal after traveling over 35,000 km → high transmit power
  - Bad elevations in areas with latitude above 60° due to fixed position above the equator
  - Polar regions are poorly served
  - high latency due to long distance (~ 275 ms)
- Geosynchronous orbit – now called Clarke orbit

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## Satellites in geosynchronous earth orbits



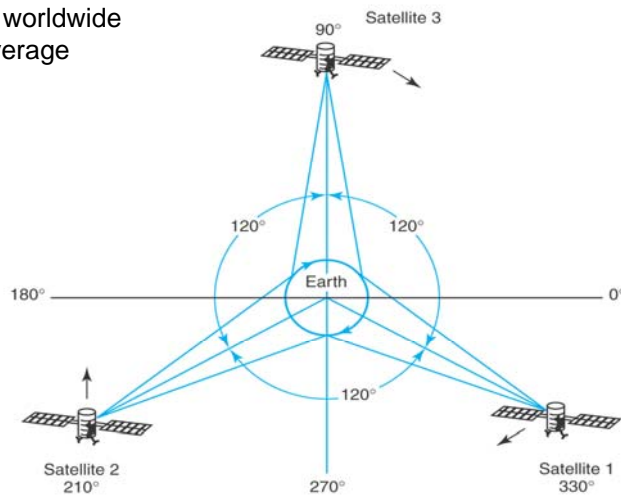
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## Three geosynchronous satellites in Clarke orbits



3 satellites can provide worldwide coverage



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# GEO Systems



- Example
- INMARSAT – GEO system originally for maritime communication
  - handheld phone not available due to high power required
  - focus now on data service as well as telephony



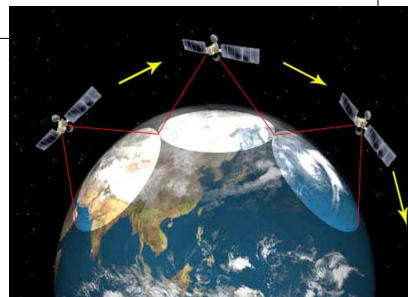
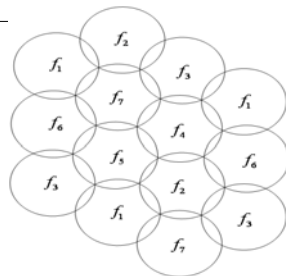
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# LEO systems



- Orbit 500 - 1500 km above earth surface
  - visibility of a satellite 10 - 40 minutes
  - latency comparable with terrestrial long distance connections, ca. 5 - 10 ms
  - many satellites necessary for global coverage
  - handover necessary from one satellite to another
  - more complex systems due to moving satellites
  - Note satellites use spot beams with smaller footprints - allows frequency reuse



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## LEO Systems

- Examples:
  - Iridium (start 1998, 66 satellites in 11 orbits – 6 in each orbit)
    - Smart system with ISL links
  - Globalstar (start 1999, 48 satellites in 8 orbits – 6 in each orbit)
    - Bent pipe system



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## GlobalStar

- Intended as adjunct to cellular
  - Dual Mode, dual band phones
    - IS95 – Globalstar,
    - Phone first tries to find cellular service
    - If not available – home on to satellite
  - LEO system 48 satellites
    - 8 orbital planes – 6 satellites each
  - Cheap Bent pipe system



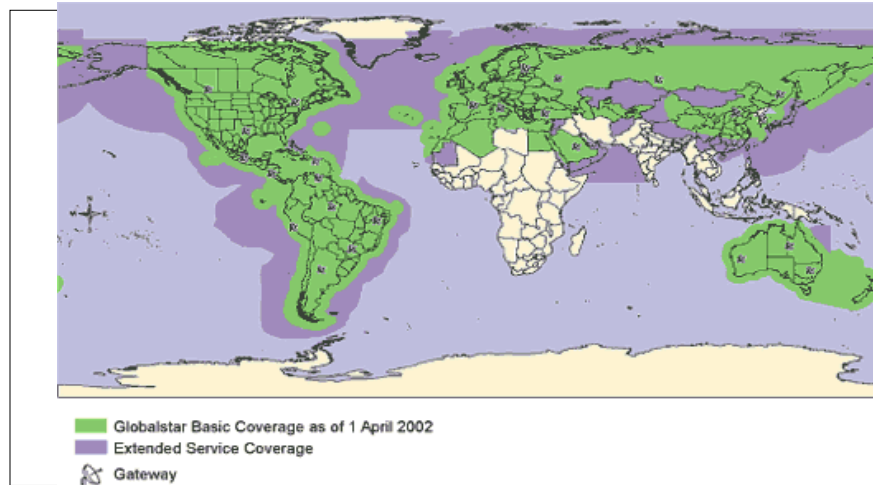
QUALCOMM GSP-1600



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## Global Star



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## Routing Connections



- In LEO networks need to route connections through the network
- Some LEOs use inter satellite links (ISL) (e.g., Iridium)
  - reduced number of gateways needed
  - forward connections or data packets within the satellite network as long as possible
  - only one uplink and one downlink per direction needed for the connection of two mobile phones or data connections
- Problems:
  - more complex focusing of antennas between satellites
  - high system complexity due to moving routers
  - higher fuel consumption
  - thus shorter lifetime
- Other systems use multiple gateways on the earth and additionally terrestrial networks (e.g, cellular networks when in range)

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## Localization of mobile stations



- Mechanisms similar to GSM
- Gateways maintain registers with user data
  - HLR (Home Location Register): static user data
  - VLR (Visitor Location Register): (last known) location of the mobile station
  - SUMR (Satellite User Mapping Register):
    - satellite assigned to a mobile station
    - positions of all satellites
- Registration of mobile stations
  - Localization of the mobile station via the satellite's position
  - requesting user data from HLR
  - updating VLR and SUMR
- Calling a mobile station
  - localization using HLR/VLR similar to GSM
  - connection setup using the appropriate satellite

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## MEO systems



- Orbit ca. 5000 - 12000 km above earth surface
- comparison with LEO systems:
- slower moving satellites
- Diameter of coverage is 10,000 to 15,000 km
  - less satellites needed
  - simpler system design
  - for many connections no hand-over needed
- higher latency, ca. 70 - 80 ms
- higher sending power needed
- special antennas for small footprints needed
- Orbit period of 6 hours or more
- Maximum satellite visible time is a few hours
  
- Example:
- Ellipso/ICO



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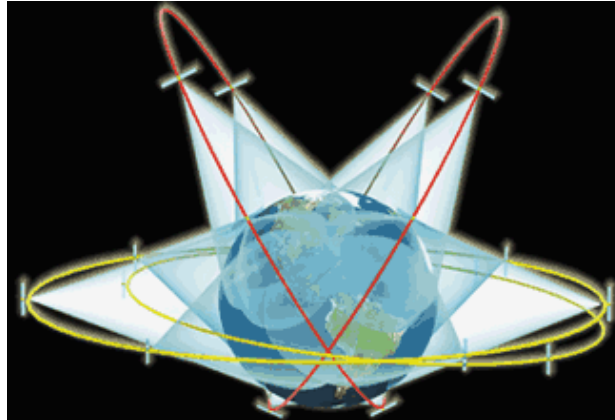
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## Ellispso System



- Set of 17 satellites to provide worldwide coverage with dual mode cellular/satellite phones

Satellite to mobile 2165 - 2200 MHz S band  
Mobile to satellite 1990 - 2025 MHz S band  
Satellite to gateway 6775 - 7075 MHz C band  
Gateway to satellite 15400-15700 MHz Ku band



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## Handover in satellite systems



- Several additional situations for handover in satellite systems compared to cellular terrestrial mobile phone networks caused by the movement of the satellites
  - Intra satellite handover
    - handover from one spot beam to another
    - mobile station still in the footprint of the satellite, but in another cell
  - Inter satellite handover
    - handover from one satellite to another satellite
    - mobile station leaves the footprint of one satellite
  - Gateway handover
    - Handover from one gateway to another
    - mobile station still in the footprint of a satellite, but gateway leaves the footprint
  - Inter system handover
    - Handover from the satellite network to a terrestrial cellular network
    - mobile station can reach a terrestrial network again which might be cheaper, has a lower latency etc.

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## Overview of LEO/MEO systems



	Iridium	Globalstar	Ellipso/ICO	Teledesic
# satellites	66 + 6	48 + 4	17 + 2	288
altitude (km)	780	1414	10390	ca. 700
coverage	global	±70° latitude	global	global
min. elevation	8°	20°	20°	40°
frequencies [GHz (circa)]	1.6 MS 29.2 ↑ 19.5 ↓ 23.3 ISL	1.6 MS ↑ 2.5 MS ↓ 5.1 ↑ 6.9 ↓	2 MS ↑ 2.2 MS ↓ 5.2 ↑ 7 ↓	19 ↓ 28.8 ↑ 62 ISL
access method	FDMA/TDMA	CDMA	FDMA/TDMA	FDMA/TDMA
ISL	yes	no	no	yes
bit rate	2.4 kbit/s	9.6 kbit/s	4.8 kbit/s	64 Mbit/s ↓ 2/64 Mbit/s ↑
# channels	4000	2700	4500	2500
Lifetime [years]	5-8	7.5	12	10
cost estimation	4.4 B\$	2.9 B\$	4.5 B\$	9 B\$
Access	TDD/TDMA	FDD/CDMA	CDMA	FDMA/TDMA

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## Global Position System



- In 1973, the US Air Force proposed a new system for navigation using MEO satellites
- The system is known as: *Navigation System with Timing and Ranging: Global Positioning System* or *NAVSTAR GPS*
- Full Operational Capability declared by the Secretary of Defense at 00:01 hours on July 17, 1995

<http://www.utexas.edu/depts/grg/gcraft/notes/gps/gps.html>

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## NAVSTAR GPS Goals



- What time is it?
- What is my position (including attitude)?
- What is my velocity?
- Other Goals:
  - What is the local time?
  - When is sunrise and sunset?
  - What is the distance between two points?
  - What is my estimated time of arrival?



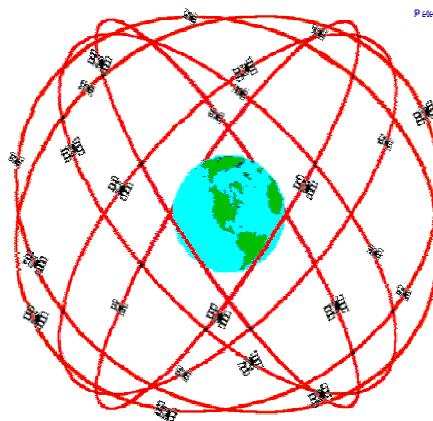
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## Space Segment



- System consists of 24 satellites: 21 in use and 3 spares
- Altitude: 20,200 Km with periods of 12 hr (MEOs).
- Current Satellites: \$25,000,000, 2000 KG
- Hydrogen maser atomic clocks - lose one second every 2,739,000 million years



GPS Nominal Constellation  
24 Satellites in 6 Orbital Planes  
4 Satellites in each Plane  
20,200 km Altitudes, 55 Degree Inclination

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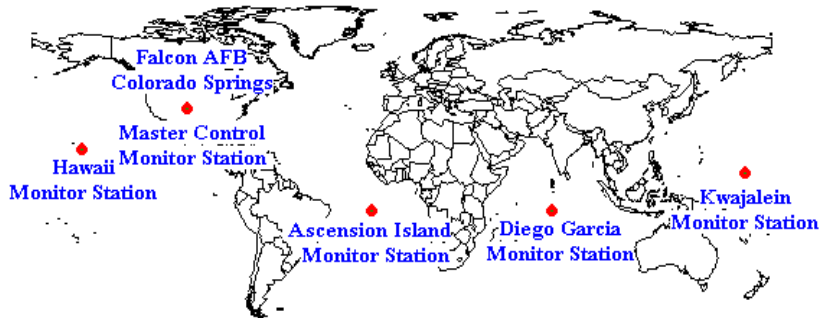
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# Control Segment



- Master Control Station is located at the Consolidated Space Operations Center (CSOC) at Falcon Air Force Station near, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- Tracks the satellites for orbit and clock determination and manages Denial Of Availability (DOA)

Peter H. Dana 5/27/95



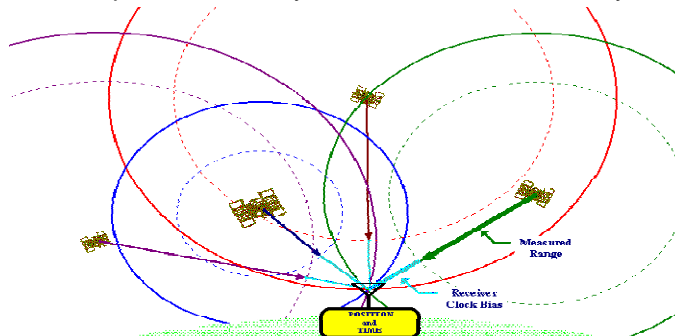
Global Positioning System (GPS) Master Control and Monitor Station Network

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# GPS System: Overview



- Satellites simultaneously broadcast beacon messages (called navigation messages)
- A GPS receiver measures time of arrival from the satellites, and then uses "trilateration" to determine its position
- 4<sup>th</sup> satellite improves accuracy as satellite clocks not in synch



The GPS Navigation Solution  
The estimated ranges to each satellite intersect within a small region when the receiver clock bias is correctly estimated and added to each measured relative range.

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P.H. Dana 5/27/95

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## GPS Satellite Transmissions



- All 24 GPS satellites transmit on the same frequencies BUT use different codes
  - i.e., Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum (DSSS), and
  - Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA)
- Two carriers: L1 = 1575.42 MHz, L2 = 1227.60 MHz
- Use BPSK modulation



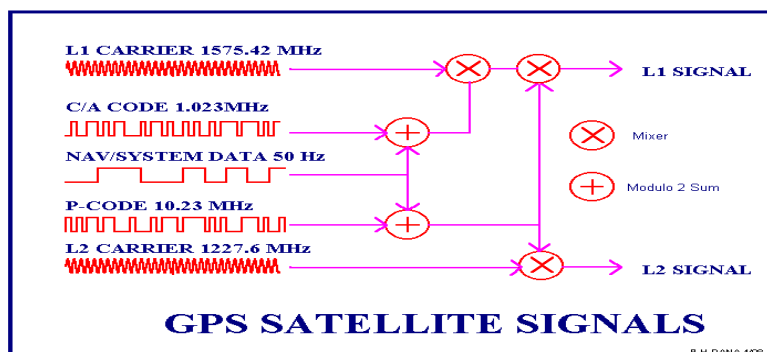
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## GPS Identifying Codes



- Two types of codes
  - C/A Code - Coarse/Acquisition Code available for civilian use on L1 provides 300 m chip length
  - P Code - Precise Code on L1 and L2 used by the military provides 3 m chip length
    - encrypted P code (called Y code) provides selected availability and anti-spoofing



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## GPS User



- Typical receiver: C/A code on L1
- During the “acquisition” time you are receiving decoding the navigation message on L1
- Navigation Message - transmitted on both L1 and L2 at 50 bps
  - each frame is 1500 bits; transmitted at minute and half-minute
- The receiver then reads the timing information and computes the “pseudo-ranges”
- GPS can be jammed by sophisticated adversaries
- Obstructions to GPS satellites common
  - each node needs LOS to 4 satellites
  - GPS satellites not necessarily overhead, e.g., urban canyon, indoors, and underground



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## Satellite Summary



- Applications of Satellites
- Basic system structure
- Types of Satellites
- Industry in flux – move from telecommunications to data oriented applications



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