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# **INERTIAL TECHNOLOGY FOR ROBOTICS,** UAVS AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

Wednesday, May 6, 2020



# **WELCOME TO**

#### Inertial Technology for Robotics, UAVs and other Applications





Ralph Hopkins Distinguished Member Technical Staff Charles Stark Draper Laboratory Reidar Holm Manager Product Development Sensonor



Brian Rider Chief Technology Officer LeoStella Ryan Robinson ADCS Lead LeoStella

**Co-Moderator: Lori Dearman, Executive Webinar Producer** 

# Who's In the Audience?

A diverse audience of over 525 professionals registered from 50 countries, representing the following industries:

22% Military

- **17% Education/Research**
- **12%** Automotive

9% Transportation, Logistics, Asset Tracking

8% Machine Control, Mining, Construction

- **3%** Precision Agriculture
- 29% Other



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Hans Richard Petersen Head of Product Development & Marketing Sensonor

# **Today's Moderator**



Alan Cameron Editor in Chief Inside GNSS Inside Unmanned Systems

#### QUICKPOLL

# Which of the following best describes your application of inertial technology — or the one you are most interested in applying?

Poll Results (single answer required):

Automobile	15%
Machine Control & Precision Ag	15%
UAV	35%
Tactical missile	6%
Space, satellite	29%

# **Contemporary and Emerging Inertial Sensor Technologies**



Ralph Hopkins Distinguished Member Technical Staff Charles Stark Draper Laboratory

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- Current Inertial Sensor Landscape
- MEMS and Low SWaP Inertial Sensors
- Emerging Technology Trends
- Inertial System Augmentation
- Inertial Sensors: Where do we go from here?

## **Current Gyro Technology Applications**

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inside unmanned systems



Bias Stability (Deg/hr)

Ref: **R. Hopkins** - Contemporary and Emerging Inertial Sensors Technologies IEEE PLANS 2018 Short Course Tutorial, Draper Publication P-7364

## **Current Accelerometer Technology Applications**



Ralph Hopkins – May 2020

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## **Examples: Miniature Gyroscopes**

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**Draper/Honeywell TFG** 



**Analog Devices ADXRS** 



Sensonor SAR500 gyro



#### **UTC SiVSG**



#### Systron Donner QRS11



#### LITEF $\mu$ CORS gyro

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Ref: **R. Hopkins** - Contemporary and Emerging Inertial Sensors Technologies IEEE PLANS 2018 Short Course Tutorial, Draper Publication P-7364

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## **Examples: Miniature Accelerometers**

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## Solid State MEMS IMUs



Ralph Hopkins – May 2020 Ref: **R. Hopkins** - Contemporar Copyright © 2020 by The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, Inc all rights reserved

Ref: **R. Hopkins** - Contemporary and Emerging Inertial Sensors Technologies IEEE PLANS 2018 Short Course Tutorial, Draper Publication P-7364

## **Emerging MEMS Gyro Technology Trends**





Boeing Disc Resonator Gyroscope: A.D. Challoner et. al, Boeing Co., Proceedings IEEE PLANS 2014, Monterey, CA, May 5-8, 2014



REF: **Bernstein**, J. et al, *High Q diamond hemispherical resonators: fabrication and energy loss mechanisms*, J. Micromech. Microeng. 25 (2015) 085006 REF: Bernstein et al, *A MEMS diamond hemispherical resonator*, J. Micromech. Microeng. 23 (2013) 125007 **Prikhodko, I.P,** D. Shin, et al. Analog Devices and Stanford University, *Pseudo-Extensional Mode MEMS Ring Gyroscope*: Proceedings 2019 IEEE International Symposium on Inertial Sensors and Systems, Naples, FL

#### **UC** Irvine



Asadian, M., Shkel, A., MicroSystems Laboratory, University of California, Irvine, CA, *Fused Quartz Dual Shell Resonator*; Proceedings 2019 IEEE International Symposium on Inertial Sensors and Systems, Naples, FL

# **Optical Gyro Size Reduction: Resonating FOG**





- RFOG performance driven by resonator quality:
  - Previous RFOGs limited by errors due to high intensity in glass core & backscatter
- New developments:
  - Hollow core PC fiber- bulk of light (99%) travels in AIR not Glass
  - Modulation scheme to separately probe CW and CCW resonances



# **FOG Size Reduction: Integrated Photonics**

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# Photonic Integrated Circuit (PIC):

- Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> polarization maintaining (PM) waveguides
- Low-loss waveguide couplers
- High Polarization Extinction Ratio



Wang L., et al.KVH Industries, *Low-cost, High-end Tactical-grade Fiber Optic Gyroscope Based on Photonic Integrated Circuit:* Proceedings 2019 IEEE International Symposium on Inertial Sensors and Systems, Naples, FL



Ref: Spector, et.al, *Mode Engineering for Hybrid SOI/III-V Optical Devices*, SOI Conference (SOI), 2012 IEEE International

# Hybrid silicon photonics: CMOS on SOI

- SOI: Substrate for optical waveguides
  - Silicon waveguides
  - Ultra Low Loss silicon waveguides
- CMOS: III/V Semi-conductor Photonic components
  - Photodetectors, Modulators, etc.

	Mission												
Goals	Urban Personal Navigation System	Subterranean Personal Navigation System		Search & Rescue Robot	Autonomous Land Vehicle	Autonomous Undersea Vehicle							
<b>Size</b> (in <sup>3</sup> )	10	12		4	25	25							
Weight (lb)	0.5	3		1	2	2							
Power (w)	5	5	5		20	20							
GPS Availability	Intermittent	Der	nied	Denied	Intermittent	Denied							
Mission Time (h)	No Limit	0.5	8	1	1	8							
Position Knowledge (meters)	3	3	3	1	3	10							
Velocity Meter	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
Max Speed (m/s)	1	1	1	1	10	10							

# Sensor Augmentation and Integration

UPE GAURET (BURNES HERRE) - 1948

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#### Inertial Only



#### Smartphone Personal Navigator

- Example Technology Elements:
  - COTS Inertial (10°/hr, 1 mg)\*
  - GPS
  - Optimal Navigation Filter
  - ZUPT/ZARU
  - Altimeter/Magnetometer
  - Doppler Radar
  - Map Matching



#### Inertial w/GPS Updates

#### Inertial w/Velocity Meter



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- MEMS technology originated ~1985 and has rapidly developed into global multi-billion dollar a year business
  - Inertial products span mid-level tactical grade to consumer mass market performance range
  - New fabrication processes and design architectures are pushing inertial performance into the navigation grade regime
  - Advances in photonic technology being adapted in FOG designs ("Tech pull")
    - Optical fibers and waveguides (small diameter PM, photonic crystal, IOC, ULLW)
    - Silicon Hybrid photonic platform
  - Emerging and future PN&T solutions will be based on integrated inertial and augmentation sensor architectures implemented in a variety of platforms
    - Inertial sensors as chip-scale commodity item

• Inertial technology will remain a critical and evolving enabling feature, but PN&T product value will lie in the integrated system, not individual components

PN&T System > Sum of parts

Contemporary and Emerging Inertial Sensor Technologies – *Inside GNSS* Ralph Hopkins – May 2020 sensonor InsideGNSS

# Part I: Reliability by Design



Reidar Holm Manager Product Development Sensonor

## **Overview:**

- Introduction to Sensonor
- Application areas
- Gyro and IMU overview and key-features
- Approach to the field of tactical grade products

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- diagnostic function
- standard qualification programs
- vibrations
- radiation
- Developments in progress

**Brief history of Sensonor** Defense 10k/year Tactical grade IMUs Aerospace and gyro modules 35k Industrial 2009 Airbag accelerometers 35M Automotive Tire pressure sensors 250M safety Roll-over gyros 2M 1992 Medical **Pressure sensors** Defense 100k Accelerometers Aerospace Automotive 1985 Medical Pressure sensors Defense Accelerometers Silicon MEMS pioneer work in Horten, Norway 1965

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# Sensonor Location: Horten, Norway

#### **MEMS** Fabrication

#### **Gyro Module and IMU Production**



#### **MEMS Wafer Fab**

- State of the art 150mm MEMS line
- Line upgraded 2016
- Production / clean room area: 2600m<sup>2</sup>

#### Capacity

- 700 triple stack wafer starts per week
- Foundry services available

#### Assembly, Calibration and Test

- Fully automated flexible assembly line
- Development and qualification lab
- Production / clean room area: 4000m<sup>2</sup>

#### Capacity

- 10,000 Gyro Modules per year
- 5,000 IMUs per year

**Gyro/IMU** application areas Gyro/IMU Application area Main usage area of Sensonor gyros/IMUs Navigation Stabilization **True Inertial GNSS** supported **Real Time** Post processing Navigation systems LIDAR systems Weapon systems Surveying or land surveying Stand by instruments Ocean mapping **Observation cameras** Surface navigators Satellite back-up navigation Inspection systems Flight control UAV Back up **Missile separation IMU** Pipelines Missile control **General Aviation supplement** Railways Anti missile systems Satellite navigation Road surface Laser communications

# *sensonor* Inside GNSS unmanned systems

Sensonor portfolio				
Parameter	STIM202	STIM210	STIM300	STIM318
Configuration	3 axis gyro	3 axis gyro	3 axis gyro 3 axis acc 3 axis inc	3 axis gyro 3 axis acc 3 axis inc
Gyro ARW (±400 - ±1200°/s)	0.15°/√h	0.15°/√h	0.15°/√h	0.15°/√h
Gyro Bias Instability (±400 - ±1200°/s)	0.4°/h	0.3°/h	0.3°/h	0.3°/h
Gyro Bias 1-year stability (400 - ±1200°/s)	35°/h	35°/h	35°/h	35°/h
Accelerometer VRW (±10g*)	-	-	0.07m/s/√h	0.015m/s/√h
Accelerometer Bias Instability (±10g*)	-	-	0.05mg	0.003mg
Accelerometer Bias 1-year stability (±10g*)	-	-	1.5mg (nom)	1.2mg (nom)
Inclinometer VRW (±1.7g)	-	-	0.08m/s/√h	0.08m/s/√h
Inclinometer Bias Instability (±1.7g)	-	-	0.05mg	0.05mg
Inclinometer Bias 1-year stability (±1.7g)	-	-	1.0mg (nom)	1.0mg (nom)
Start-up time	5s	1s	1s	1s
AUX input (±2.5V)	No	No	Yes	No
Bias Trim Offset functionality	No	Coming	Coming	Yes

\*) Other accelerometer ranges available: ±5g, ±30g and

For complete datasheets, see: www.sensonor.com

# **Comparing accelerometer performance STIM300 –> STIM318**



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# **STIM functional block diagram**



Functionality covered by 32 bit RISC ARM μC **STIM – self-diagnostic** 



Use internal ADC of  $\mu$ C to monitor internal voltages

GYRO DRIVE X-AXIS + ADC + LPF GYRO CALIBRATION RS422 TxData+ AND OUTPUT Y-AXIS GYRO DRIVE TxData-COMPENSATION DRIVER + ADC + LPF GYRO Z-AXIS GYRO DRIVE RS422 RxData+ GYRO + ADC + LPF INPUT RxData-- -BUFFER X-AXIS SYSTEM ADC LPF ACC. CONTROLLER ExtTrig TOV Y-AXIS ADC + LPF ACC. Reset Z-AXIS ADC 🕇 LPF ACC. SELF-DIAGNOSTICS X-AXIS ADC + LPF INCL. Y-AXIS ADC + LPF POWER INCL. +5V MANAGEMENT / **VOLTAGE AND** Z-AXIS GND ADC I LPF FREQUENCY INCL. REFERENCES ᆂ

# **STIM – self-diagnostic**

Use internal ADC of  $\mu$ C to monitor internal voltages

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Monitor resonance frequencies of MEMS gyros -> continuous self-test of the complete gyro proof mass -> test-coverage of system clock

# **STIM**– self-diagnostic



Use internal ADC of µC to monitor internal voltages

Monitor resonance frequencies of MEMS gyros -> continuous self-test of the complete gyro proof mass -> test-coverage of system clock

Monitor all available temperatures Monitor deviation between temperatures

Temperatures used for temperature compensation of signals

Additional available temperatures

# STIM – self-diagnostic



**Parameters monitored** 

Bit#	Specification	Bit#	Specification	Bit#	Specification	Bit#	Specification
E <sub>127</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>126</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>125</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>124</sub>	For future use (=0)
E <sub>123</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>122</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>121</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>120</sub>	For future use (=0)
E <sub>119</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>118</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>117</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>116</sub>	For future use (=0)
E <sub>115</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>114</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>113</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>112</sub>	For future use (=0)
E <sub>111</sub>	Reference voltage#4 error	E <sub>110</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>109</sub>	INC Z: Overload	E <sub>108</sub>	INC Y: Overload
E107	INC X: Overload	E <sub>106</sub>	ACC Z: Overload	E <sub>105</sub>	ACC Y: Overload	E <sub>104</sub>	ACC X: Overload
E <sub>103</sub>	GYRO Z: Overload	E <sub>102</sub>	GYRO Y: Overload	E <sub>101</sub>	GYRO X: Overload	E <sub>100</sub>	GYRO Z: Config,error
E <sub>99</sub>	GYRO Y: Config,error	E <sub>98</sub>	GYRO X: Config.error	E <sub>97</sub>	µC temperature failure	E <sub>96</sub>	GYRO Z: ASIC temp.dev.
E <sub>95</sub>	GYRO Y: ASIC temp.dev	E <sub>94</sub>	GYRO X: ASIC temp.dev	E <sub>93</sub>	INC Y: Temp.deviation	E <sub>92</sub>	INC X/Z: Temp deviation
E <sub>91</sub>	ACC Z: Temp.deviation	E90	ACC Y: Temp.deviation	E <sub>89</sub>	ACC X: Temp.deviation	Ess	CYRO Z: Temp.deviation
E <sub>87</sub>	GYRO Y: Temp.deviation	E <sub>86</sub>	GYRO X: Temp.deviation	E <sub>85</sub>	Self-test not running	E <sub>84</sub>	TEMP INC Y: ADC error
E <sub>83</sub>	TEMP INC X/Z: ADC error	E <sub>82</sub>	TEMP ACC Z: ADC error	E <sub>81</sub>	TEMP ACC Y: ADC error	E <sub>80</sub>	TEMP ACC X: ADC error
E <sub>79</sub>	TEMP GYRO Z: Clipped	E <sub>78</sub>	TEMP GYRO Y: Clipped	E <sub>77</sub>	TEMP GYRO X: Clipped	E <sub>76</sub>	For future use (=0)
E <sub>75</sub>	INC Z: ADC error	E <sub>74</sub>	INC Y: ADC error	E <sub>73</sub>	INC X: ADC error	E <sub>72</sub>	ACC Z: ADC error
E <sub>71</sub>	ACC Y: ADC error	E <sub>70</sub>	ACC X: ADC error	E <sub>69</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>68</sub>	UART unable to transmit
E <sub>67</sub>	GYRO Z: data missing	E <sub>66</sub>	GYRO Y: Data missing	E <sub>65</sub>	GYRO X: Data missing	E <sub>64</sub>	Transmit stack warning
E <sub>63</sub>	Flash stack warning	E <sub>62</sub>	Sample stack warning	E <sub>61</sub>	Command stack warning	E <sub>60</sub>	Monitor stack warning
E <sub>59</sub>	Supply overvoltage	E <sub>58</sub>	Internal DAC error	E <sub>57</sub>	Flash check error	E <sub>56</sub>	RAM check error
E <sub>55</sub>	TEMP INC Y: Error	E <sub>54</sub>	TEMP INC X/Z: Error	E <sub>53</sub>	INC Z: Clipped	E <sub>52</sub>	INC Y: Clipped
E <sub>51</sub>	INC X: Clipped	E <sub>50</sub>	TEMP ACC Z: Error	E <sub>49</sub>	TEMP ACC Y: Error	E <sub>48</sub>	TEMP ACC X: Error
E47	ACC Z: Clipped	E48	ACC Y: Clipped	E45	ACC X: Clipped	E44	GYRO Z: Data lost
E <sub>43</sub>	GYRO Z: Exc.ampl.error	E <sub>42</sub>	GYRO Z: Int.comm.error	E <sub>41</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>40</sub>	For future use (=0)
E <sub>39</sub>	GYRO Z: ASIC overflow, I	E <sub>38</sub>	GYRO Z: ASIC overflow, Q	E <sub>37</sub>	GYRO Y: Data lost	E <sub>36</sub>	GYRO Y: Exc.ampl.error
E <sub>35</sub>	GYRO Y: Int.comm.error	E <sub>34</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>33</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>32</sub>	GYRO Y: ASIC overflow, I
E31	GYRO Y: ASIC overflow, Q	E30	GYRO X: Data lost	E <sub>29</sub>	GYRO X: Exc.ampl.error	E <sub>28</sub>	GYRO X: Int.comm.error
E <sub>27</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>26</sub>	For future use (=0)	E <sub>25</sub>	GYRO X: ASIC overflow, I	E <sub>24</sub>	GYRO X: ASIC overflow, Q
E <sub>23</sub>	Regulated voltage#3 error	E <sub>22</sub>	Regulated voltage#2 error	E <sub>21</sub>	Regulated voltage#1 error	E <sub>20</sub>	Supply voltage error
E <sub>19</sub>	Reference voltage#3 error	E <sub>18</sub>	Reference voltage#2 error	E <sub>17</sub>	Reference voltage#1 error	E <sub>16</sub>	Start-up phase active
E15	GYRO Z: Int.comm.error	E <sub>14</sub>	GYRO Y: Int.comm.error	E <sub>13</sub>	GYRO X: Int.comm.error	E <sub>12</sub>	GYRO Z: Clipped
E <sub>11</sub>	GYRO Y: Clipped	E <sub>10</sub>	GYRO X: Clipped	E <sub>9</sub>	TEMP GYRO Z: Error	E <sub>8</sub>	TEMP GYRO Y: Error
E <sub>7</sub>	TEMP GYRO X: Error	E <sub>6</sub>	GYRO Z: ASIC temp.error	E <sub>5</sub>	GYRO Y: ASIC temp.error	E4	GYRO X: ASIC temp.error
E <sub>3</sub>	µC temperature error	E <sub>2</sub>	GYRO Z: Exc.freq.error	E <sub>1</sub>	GYRO Y: Exc.freq.error	E <sub>0</sub>	GYRO X: Exc.freq.error

> 100 different parameters

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Self-test running

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Each transmitted data package will include status-byte(s)

Result from all tests are available to user



Inertial Technology for Robotics, UAVs and other Applications





Ralph Hopkins Distinguished Member Technical Staff Charles Stark Draper Laboratory Reidar Holm Manager Product Development Sensonor



Brian Rider Chief Technology Officer LeoStella

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Ryan Robinson ADCS Lead LeoStella

#### QUICKPOLL

# What level of gyroscope bias instability performance does your application require?

Poll Results (single answer required):

1 deg / hr	<mark>10%</mark>
,1 deg / hr	23%
.01 deg / hr	43%
.001 deg / hr	17%
.0001 deg / hr	6%

# Part II: Reliability by Design



Reidar Holm Manager Product Development Sensonor

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# **Standard qualification programs**

1-year stability program:

#### Stability test 50hrs @+20°C (powered) Low Temperature Storage 72hrs @-55°C (non-powered) **High Temperature Storage** 240hrs @+85°C (non-powered) TurnOn (powerswitching) 100x switch on/off @+20°C **Temperature Cycling** 132 cycles, -40°C/+85°C (non-powered) High Temperature Operating Life 240hrs @+85°C (powered) Vibration 20min per axis, 10-2000Hz/20grms (non-powered) Mechanical Shock 5x 500g, 0.5ms/ 6 dir (non-powered)

#### 10-year qualification program:



High Temperature Operating Life: 1000 hours powered at +85°C



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inside unmanned **Extensive vibration testing** 

Sinusoidal vibrations (5 – 20g, 50 – 2000Hz):



#### Random vibrations (MIL STD 810E 514.4 "High Performance Aircraft", g<sub>rms</sub>=14.83):

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# **Radiation Test plan: Proton test**



Energy level		S	TIM21	0		S	тімзо	0		
[MeV]	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
200			х	х		х				
120	х	x					x			
60		x						х		
30			x						x	
20					x					х
Fluence		>=10 <sup>11</sup> p/cm <sup>2</sup>								

Characterization over temperature, rate and g (g for STIM300 only) STIM210: 5pcs, STIM300: 5pcs



# Radiation Test plan: Total Ion Doze (TID)





Radiation Test result: TID

	STIM210													
#	Dose step	Powered							Unpowered					
		#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	
0	Pre-irradiation													
1	0 -> 3 krad													
2	3 -> 5 krad													
3	5 -> 7 krad													
4	7 -> 10 krad													
5	10 -> 15 krad													
6	15 -> 30 krad													
					Not	inclu	ded a	t dos	e stei	o				

Passed at post-irradiation tes Failed at post-irradiation test

	STIM300													
#	# Dose step		Powered							Unpowered				
		#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	
0	Pre-irradiation													
1	0 -> 3 krad													
2	3 -> 5 krad													
3	5 -> 7 krad													
4	7 -> 10 krad													
5	10 -> 15 krad													
6	15 -> 30 krad													

Not included at dose step Passed at post-irradiation tes Failed at post-irradiation test No communication at post-irradiation test



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![](_page_41_Figure_6.jpeg)

# **Developments in progress**

- Introduce new IMU based on STIM318 with improved gyro ARW and PPS input
- Introduce products with hermetic package
  - STIM277H (form-fit-function as STIM210)
  - STIM377H (form-fit-function as STIM300)
- Radiation testing on new prototype IMU with expected improved robustness towards radiation. Testing completed Q1/202

# LeoStella Satellite Use Case

![](_page_43_Picture_1.jpeg)

Brian Rider Chief Technology Officer LeoStella

![](_page_43_Picture_3.jpeg)

Ryan Robinson ADCS Lead LeoStella

## **Emerging Space Market Drives Paradigm Shift for Satellite Technology**

#### New Wave of Products and Services Offered by Commercial Companies

 Economic Forecasting, Resource Management, Change Detection, Conflict Monitoring, Affordable Science, Data Transport/Security, Reserve Defense

#### Engineering Decisions Strongly Coupled with Business Case

- Satellite technology must enable profitable business
- Intelligent volume manufacturing required to lower overhead

#### Competition Drives Advanced Performance

- Emphasis on data quality, availability, system throughput
- Requires constant capability advancement to stay ahead
- Ruggedized Tactical Hardware Critical to Balance Cost/Capability
  - Leveraging rapid advancements in terrestrial, marine, air tactical products
  - Unique opportunity to benefit from growing tactical market and industry funded R&D

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![](_page_44_Picture_13.jpeg)

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#### **Example Use Cases in the News**

#### BlackSky Offering Geospatial Intelligence Tools for Analysts who Telework

https://spacenews.com/blacksky-offering-geospatial-intelligencetools-for-analysts-who-telework/

![](_page_45_Picture_3.jpeg)

Global-1 satellite shot of Iron Ore Transhipment Facility, Port Hedland, Western Australia. Credit: BlackSky

# Satellite Data Reveals the Pandemic's Effects

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From Above

https://www.wired.com/story/satellite-data-revealsthe-pandemics-effects-from-above/

![](_page_45_Picture_8.jpeg)

COURTESY OF MAXAR

![](_page_45_Picture_10.jpeg)

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**Use Case: Commercial Earth Observation Constellation** 

Satellites Comprised of Many Systems Working Together

- ADCS System Maneuvers, Stabilizes, and Points Satellite
- Propulsion System Maintains Orbit Altitude & Phasing
- Power System Manages Power Generation, Storage, Usage
- Comms System Transfers Commands, Telemetry & Data
- Payloads Collect and Process Mission Data
- Structures and Thermal Manage Environmental Loads

High Agility/Stability Satellites Rely Heavily on the ADCS system for Launch Detumble, Power Generation, Communications, & Mission Data Collection. ADCS is a Complex System of Numerous Sensors, Actuators and Control Systems that all Must Work in Unison to Meet Performance Example 50kg class satellite with 1m resolution imaging and high agility to capture multiple snap-shots per pass with ground speed of ~7500 m/s

![](_page_46_Picture_10.jpeg)

Satellites Built in High Volume Production Lines

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![](_page_46_Picture_12.jpeg)

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Satellite & ADCS Driving Requirements

- Earth observation satellites in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) require precise position, attitude, and rate knowledge/control to meet ground pointing requirements
  - Example Reqt: Tens of arcsec of pointing error, tens of meters of position error
  - In LEO, satellite may need to precisely rotate over target at >1 deg/s to maintain pointing
- Image quality depends on minimizing "smear"
  - Smear: Motion over exposure time, driven by angular rate error
  - Ideally << 1 pixel smear</li>
- Low-cost components for constellation-level production
- Reliability in LEO environment (vs. thermal variation, vibration/shock, vacuum, radiation)

![](_page_47_Figure_9.jpeg)

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# **Attitude Determination & Control System (ADCS) Architecture**

- Control feedback loop includes sensors, estimation & control algorithms, and actuators
- Rate Gyros (IMUs) + Star Trackers are critical for fine pointing
  - Star Tracker: Measures attitude (orientation) at low frequency (e.g. 2 Hz)
  - Rate Gyro: Provides body rate data at high frequency (e.g. 20 Hz)
  - Kalman Filter: Combines attitude + body rate measurements with dynamic model to estimate attitude at high frequency; also used to estimate and correct gyro bias
- Calibration performed on-orbit corrects misalignment between ST(s) and IMU(s), as well as scale factor and bias (note: bias drifts over time)

![](_page_48_Figure_7.jpeg)

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**IMU Driving Requirements** 

- Low gyro noise / angle random walk (ARW)
- Low bias drift
- High measurement rate
- Minimize size, weight, and power

![](_page_49_Figure_5.jpeg)

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![](_page_49_Figure_6.jpeg)

**ADCS Performance Simulation** 

 "High" accuracy IMU produces low attitude and rate error, meeting pointing and smear performance criteria

![](_page_50_Figure_2.jpeg)

 Noisy IMU (2x noise stdev) increases avg rate error and results in worse attitude estimation/control

sensonor InsideGNSS

unmanned

![](_page_50_Figure_4.jpeg)

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## **On-Orbit Data**

- Pre-Calibration: ST-IMU misalignment propagates rate in slightly wrong direction, creating "jumps" when STs "correct" the attitude estimate
- Post-Calibration: Aligned ST & IMU minimize attitude control error

![](_page_51_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Control Error, Pre-Calibration (2 Hz STs, 20 Hz Gyro)

![](_page_51_Figure_5.jpeg)

#### Control Error, Post-Calibration (1 Hz STs, 20 Hz Gyro)

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# **Future Technology Developments**

- Continue to push limits of performance, robustness, size/weight/power, and cost efficiency
- Fully hermetic IMUs: helium on launch vehicles may interfere w/ MEMS gyros
- Radiation tolerance: redundant memory, latchup protection, self-diagnostics, etc
- Accelerometers: Sensitive enough to measure thrust from electronic propulsion (i.e. ion thrusters, ~10 micro-g)

#### QUICKPOLL

# How critical is the need for fully hermetic IMUs in your solutions?

Poll Results (single answer required):

A necessity	<mark>1</mark> 6%					
Important, but not critical	25%					
Becoming increasingly important 2						
Not important	20%					
Not sure	16%					

#### QUICKPOLL

# Which is the leading requirement for inertial in your application?

Poll Results (single answer required):

Low gyro noise / angle random walk (ARW)					
Low bias drift	38%				
High measurement rate	8%				
Minimize size, weight, and power	28%				

![](_page_55_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### inside unmanned systems

# **Ask the Experts**

![](_page_55_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_4.jpeg)

Ralph Hopkins Distinguished Member Technical Staff Charles Stark Draper Laboratory

![](_page_55_Picture_7.jpeg)

Reidar Holm Manager Product Development Sensonor

![](_page_55_Picture_9.jpeg)

Brian Rider Chief Technology Officer LeoStella

![](_page_55_Picture_11.jpeg)

Ryan Robinson ADCS Lead LeoStella