PolySat
Launch and Operations

Cubesat Developers’ Summer Workshop
Logan, Utah
12 August 2007
PolySat

• Objective: Engineering Education

• Objective: Provide a reliable bus system to allow for flight qualification of a wide variety of small sensors and attitude control devices.
Earth Station

- Yeasu FT-847 and Icom IC-910
- Yaesu G-5500
- MixW Software TNC
- Mac Doppler Pro for tracking
Earth Station

Marconi
- dual phased 70 cm yagis

Hertz
- 2 m yagi
- 70 cm yagi
Operations Experience

• Training Objectives
  – Successfully make contact with a CubeSat
  – Download and decode AX.25 digital data.

• Collaboration with University of Tokyo
  – Experience gained with XI-IV
CP1

- Magnetorquer developed by Cal Poly
- Third party Sun Sensor

- Valuable lessons learned
  - CubeSat development: challenges & logistics
  - Multiple Flight Units
CP2.1 manifested as CP4
- Energy Storage and Dissipation Experiments
- Test and Characterize CPBus

CP3
- Attitude Determination using a suite of sensors
- Attitude Control using Magnetorquers in each side panel
- Observation Imagers: lots of data to download!
Lessons Learned

• Beacons
  – Object identification
  – Immediate data

• RF power

• Solar panel efficiency

• Contingency plan
On-Orbit Data

External Temperatures
CP3 2007-07-12_1130

Temperature (°C) vs Time

Time:
On-Orbit Data
Amateur Radio Involvement

• 80% of lab personnel are hams
• Training the next generation of satellite builders and operators
• Huge community of active listeners
  – Colin Hurst and Mike Rupprecht
GENSO Background

- Global Educational Network for Satellite Operators
- Originally started with the Japanese to combat interference (GROWS)
- Started under the International Space Education Board, a collaboration between CSA, ESA, JAXA, and NASA
- Approved on 5 October 2006 for 2 years
- Project to link low-cost earth stations
GENSO Background

• A system to link ground stations using the internet
• Only 1200/9600 baud data for now
• Three parts:
  – Central server
    • Authentication and registration
  – Mission Control Client
    • Scheduling of Ground Station Servers
    • 1 MCC per satellite developer
  – Ground Station Servers
    • Actual interface between rotors/radio and internet
Central Server

- 3 central servers located around the world
  - Europe
  - California (Cal Poly or SRI)
  - Japan
- Tasked with Authentication and Registration only
  - Registration of IP addresses of GSS and MCC
  - Statistics
- All other functions (scheduling, data transfer) will go peer-to-peer between Mission Control Clients and Ground Station Servers
  - This keeps the load off a single server when system scales up
Mission Control Client

- A program that runs on a personal computer that can control Ground Station Servers
- Uses the Central Servers to get IP addresses for individual GSS, then contacts the GSS’s directly to:
  - Schedule an active session
  - Download decoded data
  - Control the radios and rotors to track a satellite during an active session
  - IRC Client?
  - Skype Client?
Ground Station Server

• Compatible with a majority of ground stations currently operating
• “Passive” tracking:
  – Will continuously track all satellites it can decode
  – Will forward data on to MCC
• “Active” tracking:
  – Someone at a MCC is actively controlling the rotors and radio, looking at the decoded data, and listening to the audio
  – Must be scheduled prior to satellite pass and cleared with GSS
  – Requires offline interaction and parties that know each other
• Store audio/data locally and stream to MCC as bandwidth allows
• IRC and/or Skype client?
“Standard” Earth Station

- Icom IC-910 radio with computer interface
- M² OR2800P-DC for Azimuth and MT-1000 for elevation
- Symek TNC 31S
  - Possibly software in future
- Antennas:
  - 2MCP22 for 145 MHz
  - 436CP42UG for 437 MHz
  - 1 meter dish for S-band (downlink only)
Workshop IV

- At Cal Poly 2-6 July 2007
- Completed PDR
- Documentation Finished
- Started to work on the code
- Initial testing slated for late summer
Welcome to cubesatalumni.com!

Written by Site Administrator
Tuesday, 31 July 2007

A while back, a number of us were sitting around, reminiscing about the good old college days, and all the great times we had while in the CubeSat Program. As we were talking about where everyone was, and what they were doing, a couple of interesting things came up.

1. In addition to creating many great experiences, the CubeSat Program also produced many strong and lasting relationships.

2. Those that had (finally) graduated were very successful at finding great jobs and working on
Spring Workshop

• April 2008 (possibly 10-12 April)
• Huntington Beach, CA
• Looking for presenters and sponsors
• Contact Riki, Lori, Matt D, or Dr. P
• cubesat-workshop@atl.calpoly.edu
Announcements

• SmallSat Conference
  – Booth upstairs in 7U and 8U
  – Inside Room 311
• Camera Charger
• Thanks for coming to this workshop
• Presentations are online at cubesat.org
• This room is open
Thanks!

polysat.calpoly.edu

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Justin Foley  
jfoley@calpoly.edu

Bryan Klofas  
bklofas@calpoly.edu