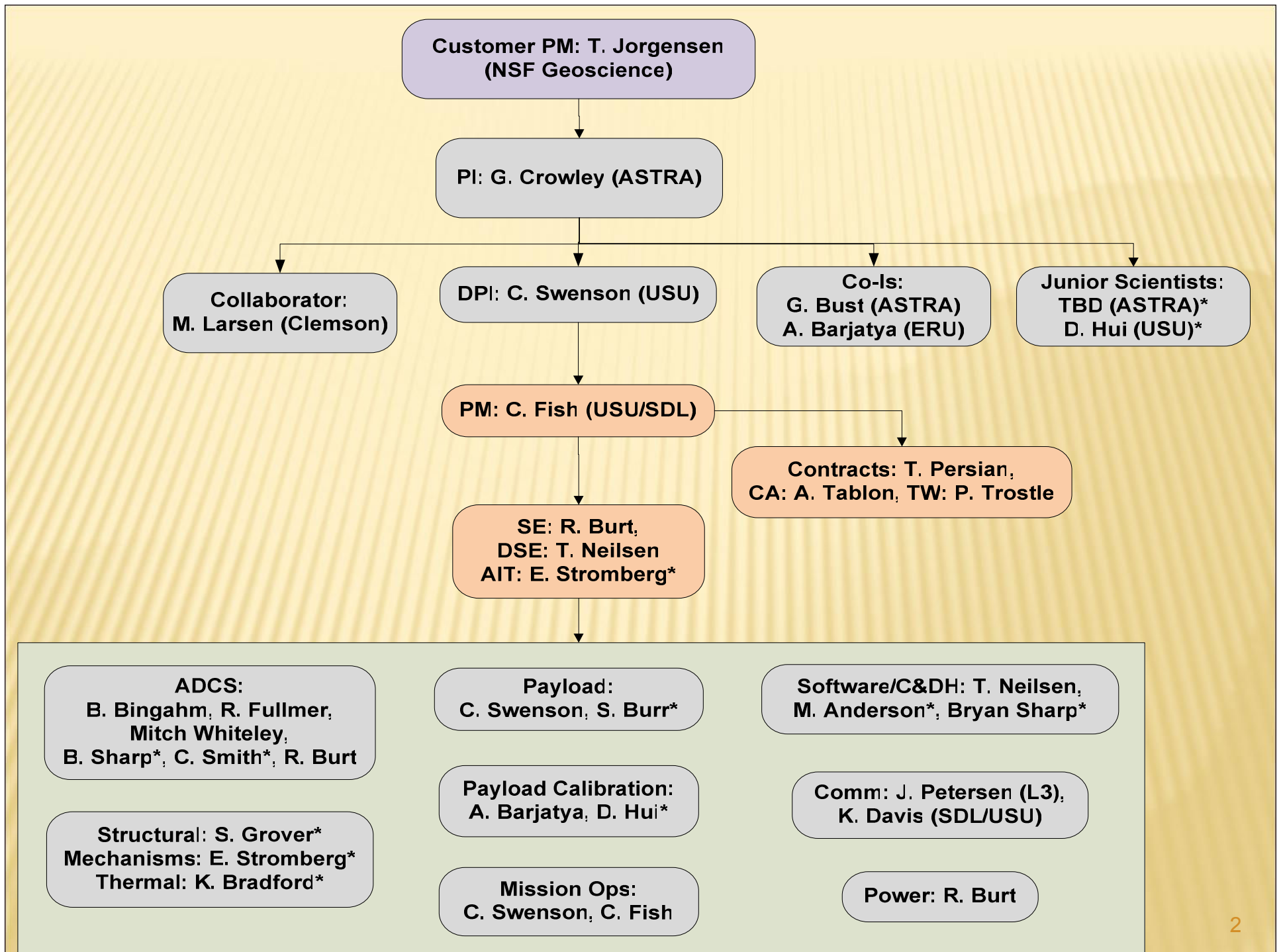




*Geoff Crowley, Chad Fish, Charles Swenson, Gary Bust,  
Aroh Barjatya, Miguel Larsen, and USU Student Team*

## **DYNAMIC IONOSPHERE CUBESAT EXPERIMENT**

*NSF-Funded Dual-satellite Space Weather Mission  
Project Funded October 2009 (6 months ago)*





# PRELIMINARY DESIGN REVIEW: JAN 25, 2010



- 11 Students & 5 professionals
- Review Panel (7 SDL Staff)





# DICE STUDENT TEAM



10+ Students and ~5 Professionals

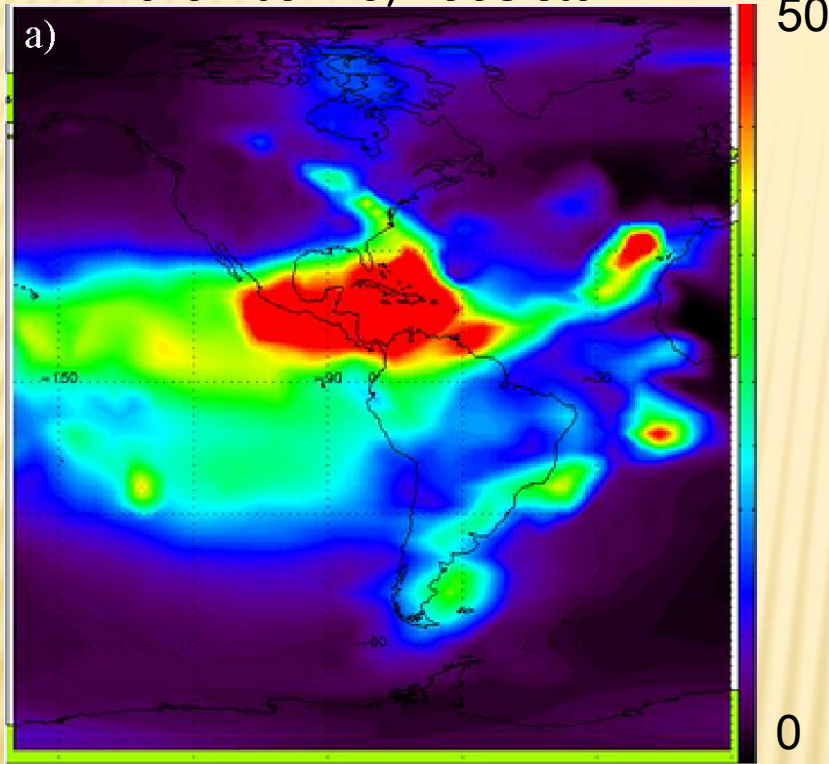




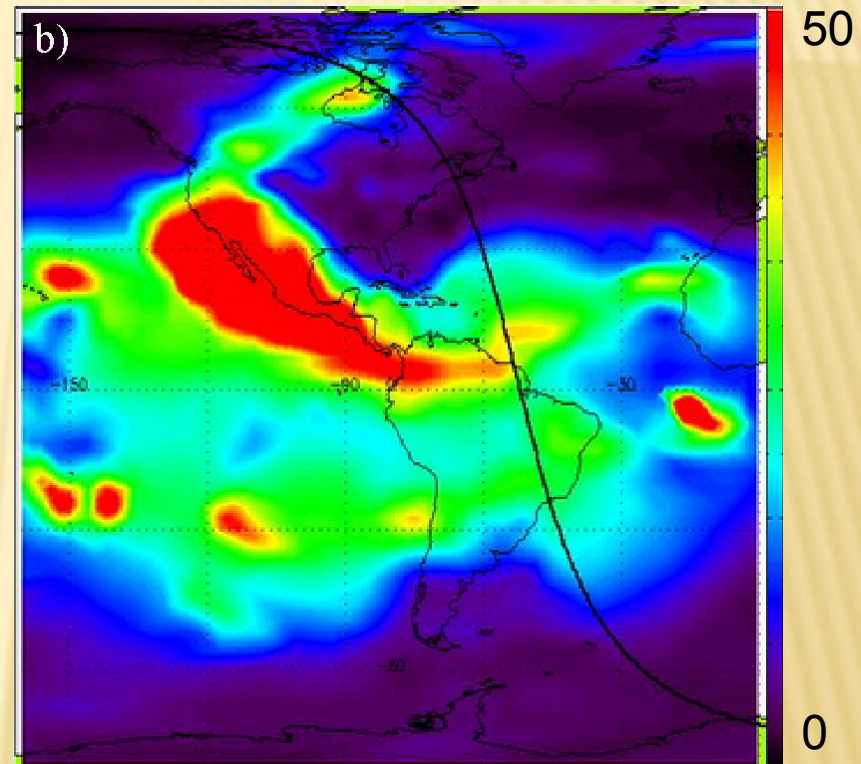
# Dynamic Ionosphere Cubesat Experiment

## SCIENCE MOTIVATION

November 20, 2003 storm



October 30 2003 storm

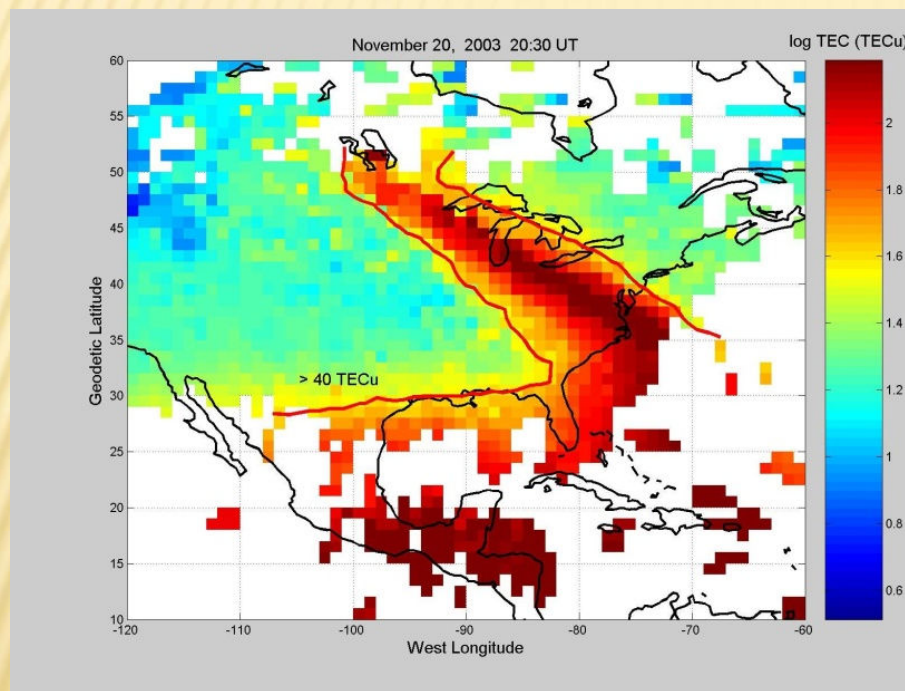


Horizontal distribution of peak electron density  
from 4D simulations



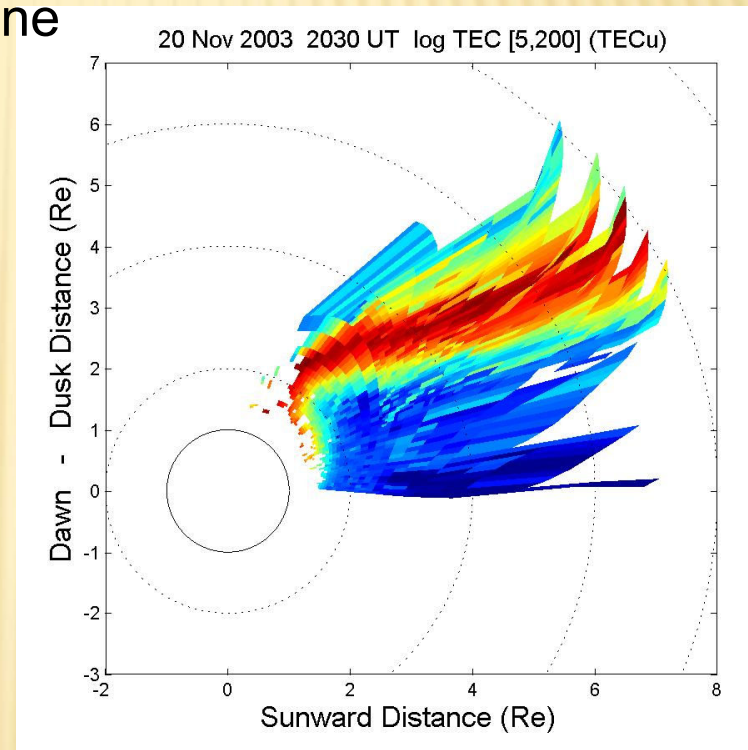
# Dynamic Ionosphere Cubesat Experiment

## SCIENCE MOTIVATION



Foster et al, JGR 2004

## TEC Plume Mapped to Equatorial Plane

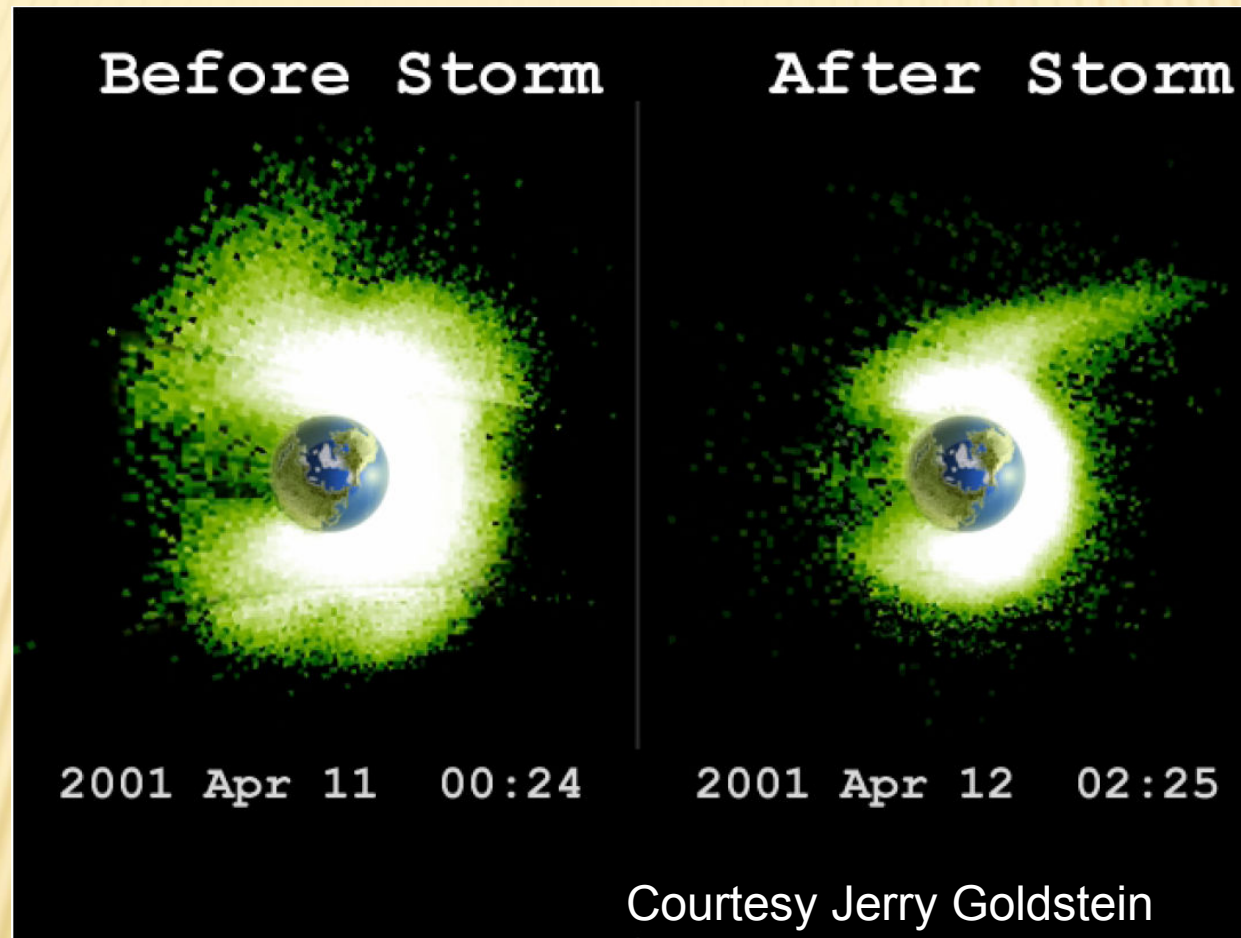


John Foster  
MIT Haystack Observatory





# DICE SCIENCE OVERVIEW



# SCIENCE OBJECTIVES

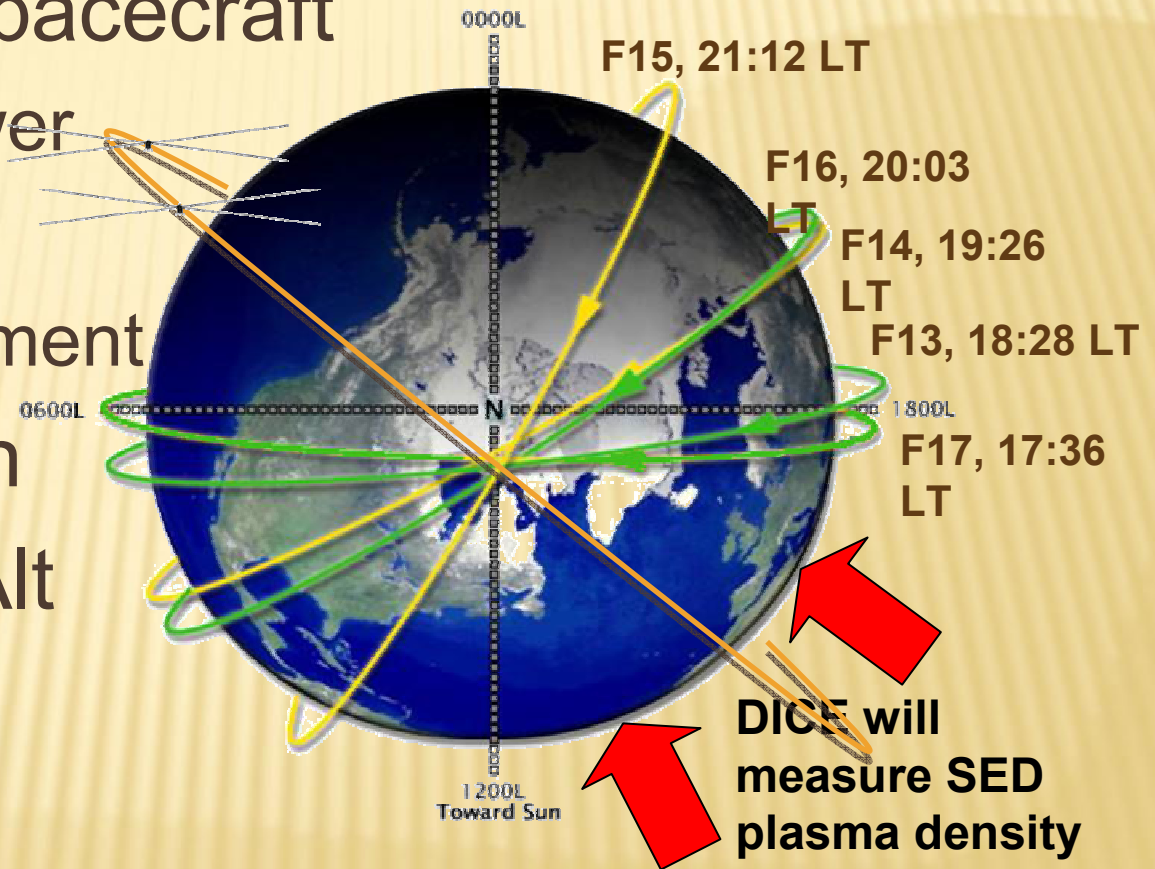
1. Investigate the physical processes responsible for formation of the geomagnetic Storm Enhanced Density (SED) bulge in the noon to post-noon sector during magnetic storms.
2. Investigate the physical processes responsible for the formation of the SED plume at the base of the SED bulge and the transport of the high density SED plume across the magnetic pole.
3. Investigate the relationship between the penetration electric fields and the formation and evolution of SED:





# MISSION

- Two spinning spacecraft
  - + Leader – follower
  - + ~0.2 Hz
  - + Geodetic alignment
- > 55° Inclination
- 350 – 550 km Alt
- 90 day mission
  - + Goal 180 day



# SCIENCE REQUIRMENTS

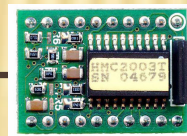
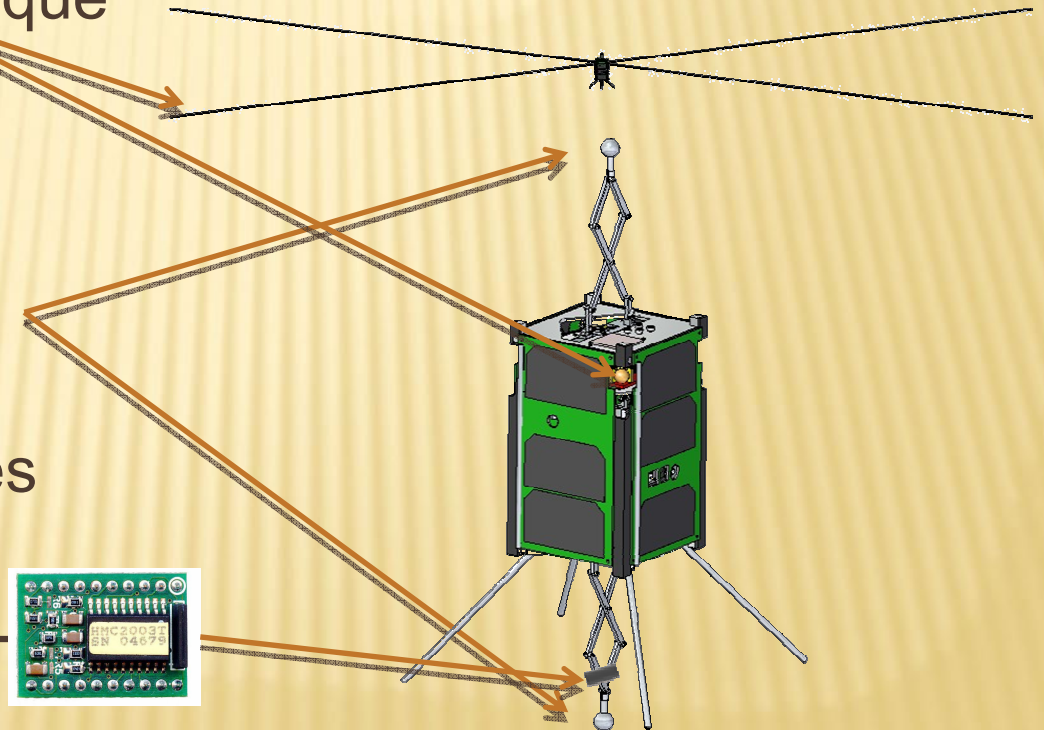
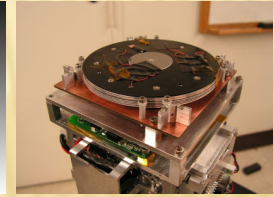
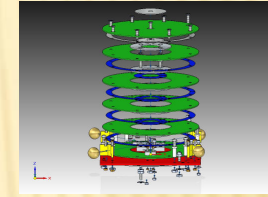
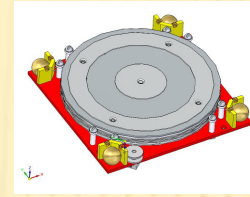
- ❑ Measure Electron Density
- ❑ Measure E-fields (plasma drift)
- ❑ Sun-synchronous orbit in the 12-16LT range is ideal
- ❑ Time-resolution of the measurements matches the scale-size of the features to be observed ( $1000\text{km} @ 7\text{km/s} = 14\text{ s}$ ; cadence of 0.5 to 1 seconds for the plasma and electric field measurements)
- ❑ AC electric field spectrum measurements (irregs)
- ❑ Expect 1 SED per month
- ❑ 6-mo mission yields 6 SED events
- ❑ Two 1.5U (10 x 10 x 15 cm) CubeSats
- ❑ Common high-inclination pearls-on-a-string orbit.
- ❑ The two satellites will remain within ~300 km of one another for up to six months, allowing temporal-spatial deconvolution
- ❑ Each satellite will carry identical instrumentation:





# INSTRUMENTATION

- Electric Field  $\sim 0.2$  mV/m
  - + Double Probe Technique
  - + 10 m wire booms
  - +  $\sim 80$  Hz sample rate
- Plasma Density  $\sim 10^2 \text{cm}^{-3}$ 
  - + Dual Langmuir Probes
  - +  $\sim 80$  Hz sample rate
- Magnetic Field  $\sim 5$  nT



+ Dual Magnetometers  
 ~80 Hz sample rate



Space Dynamics  
 LABORATORY



EMBRY-RIDDLE  
 Aeronautical University

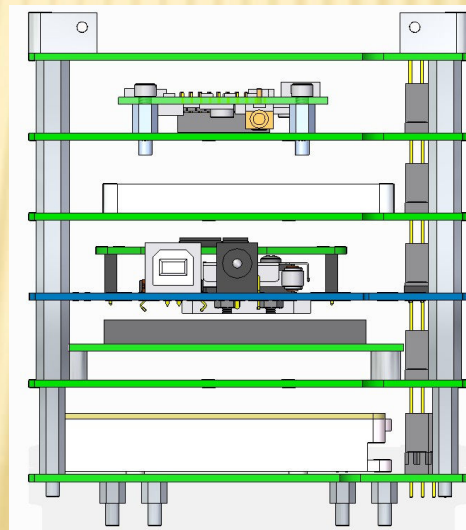
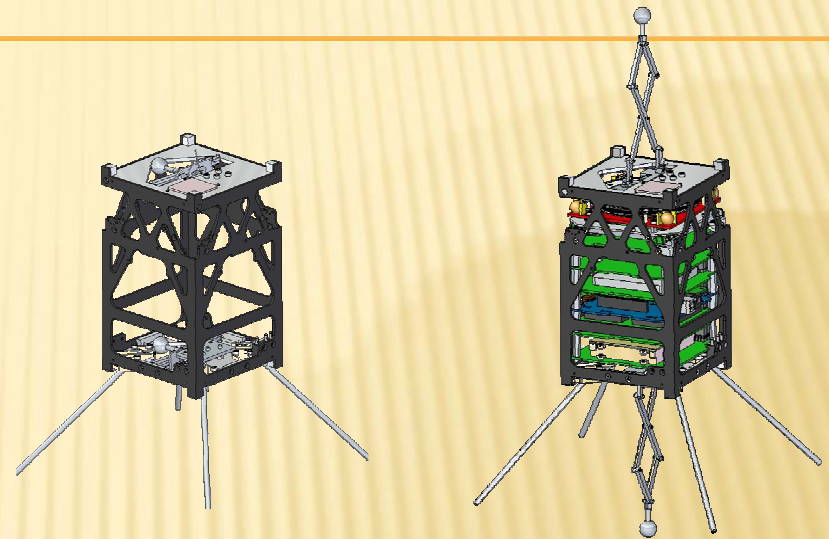
CLEMSON  
 UNIVERSITY

# DICE SPACECRAFT

- Pumpkin C&DH System
- SDL/USU Science board
- L3 Radio
  - + 1.5 Mbit/s down link
- Sun + Magnetometer
  - + 0.1° Post flight
- Power

+ ~1.5 W spacecraft

+ ~200 mW payload



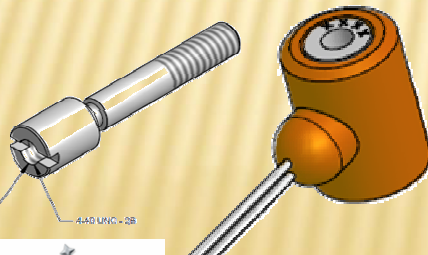
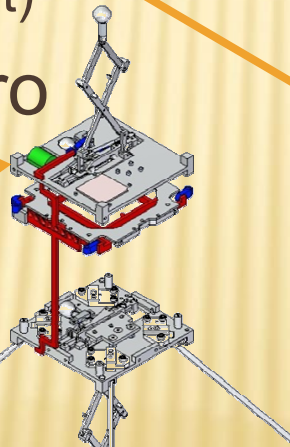
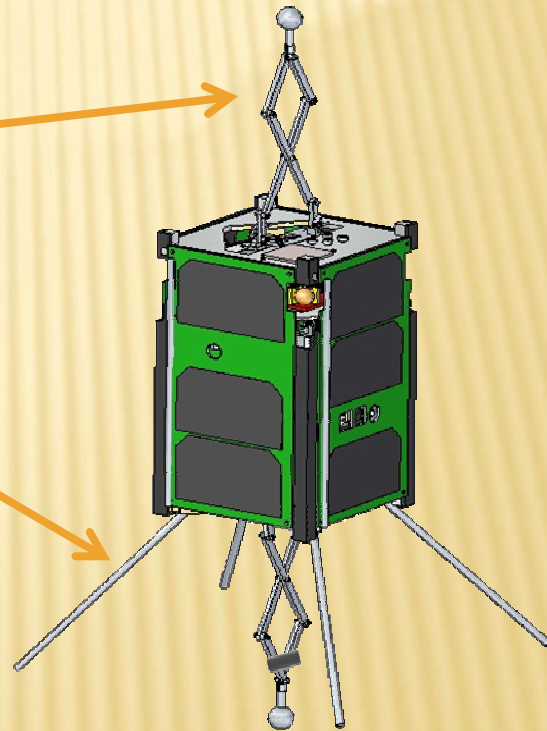
Instrument Electronics  
 ADCS Board with GPS Modul  
 Z-axis Torque coil  
 C&DH Board with Processor  
 EPS and Battery Board  
 Comm Board with L3 Radio

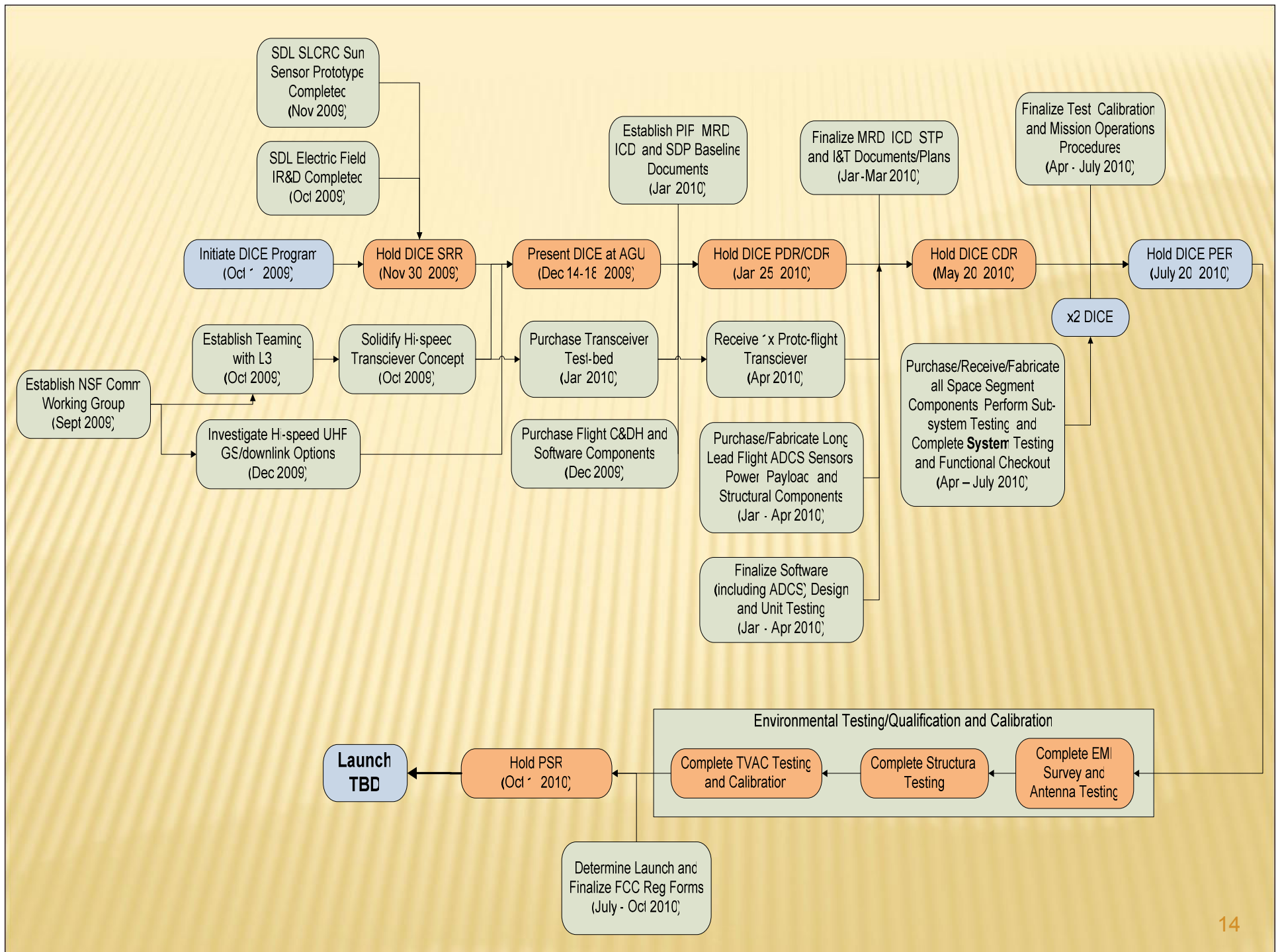




# ANTENNAS AND BOOMS

- EFP Booms - 5m
  - 10 m tip to tip
- DCP + Mag- 8cm
- UHF Comms – 14cm
  - (460 – 470 MHz, 1.5 Mbit)
- TiNi Aerospace Micro Frangibolt







# DICE TIMELINE AND STATUS

- NSF funding started 10/1/09
- Student team assembled (12 located at SDL)
- Design and Team conference calls - weekly
- Science team conference calls – as needed
- Science, Mission and Software requirements completed
- PDR Design Review 1/25/10
- Mechanisms, DC probe-boom etc complete
- Structural analysis complete; thermal analysis in progress
- Solar arrays to be delivered Late April 2010
- Science Instruments and ADCS electronics in layout / fabrication
- Radio licensing spectrum allocation through NSF in progress
- Majority of hardware expected to be fabricated by May 2010
- CDR planned for May 20, 2010
- Spacecraft/Instrument delivery Oct 2010



TIME-GCM MAP Electron Density  
Geopotential Height,  $Z = 350.00$  UT = 20:00:00 DOY = 324

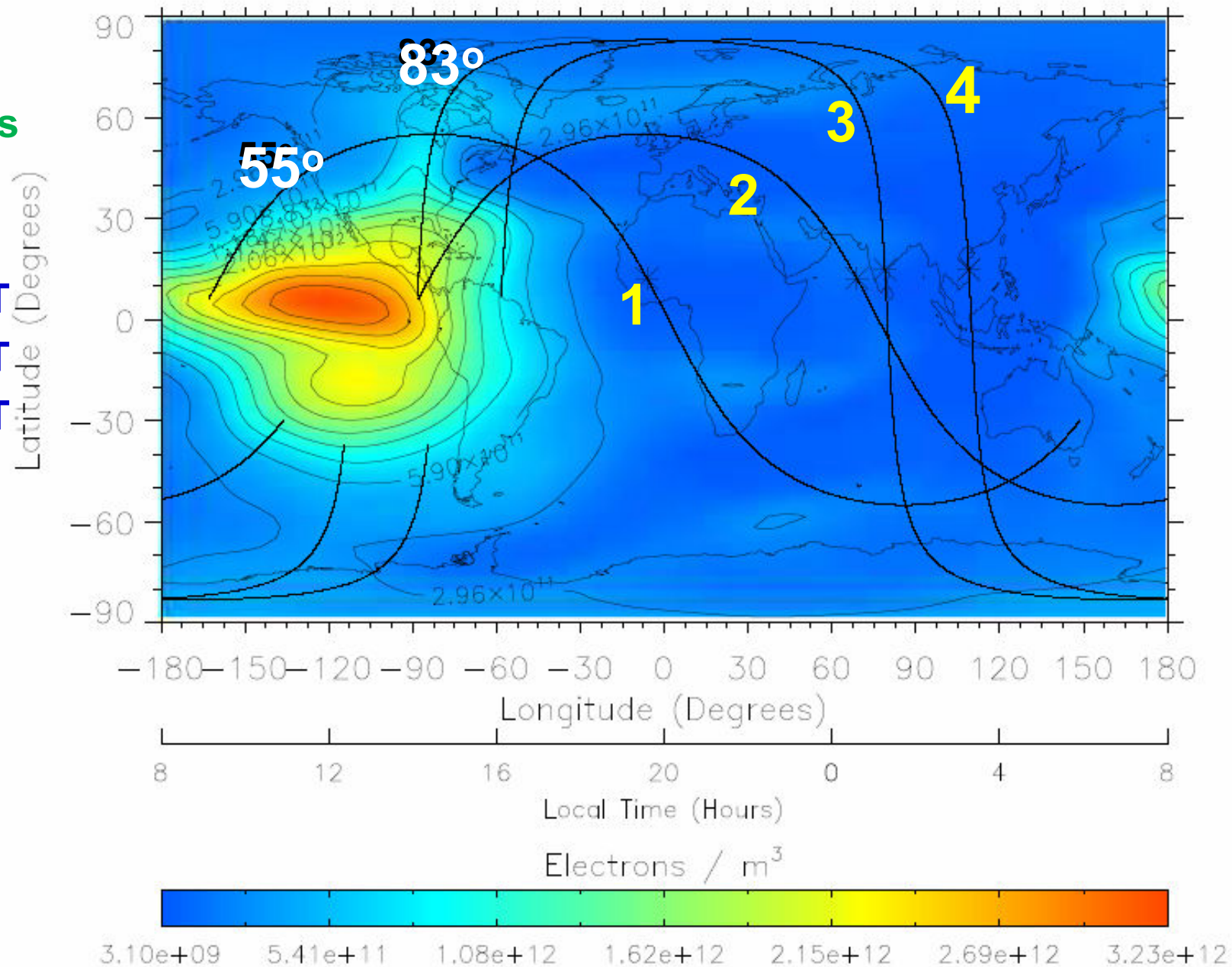
N-S cross

1- 9 SLT

2- 14 SLT

3- 14 SLT

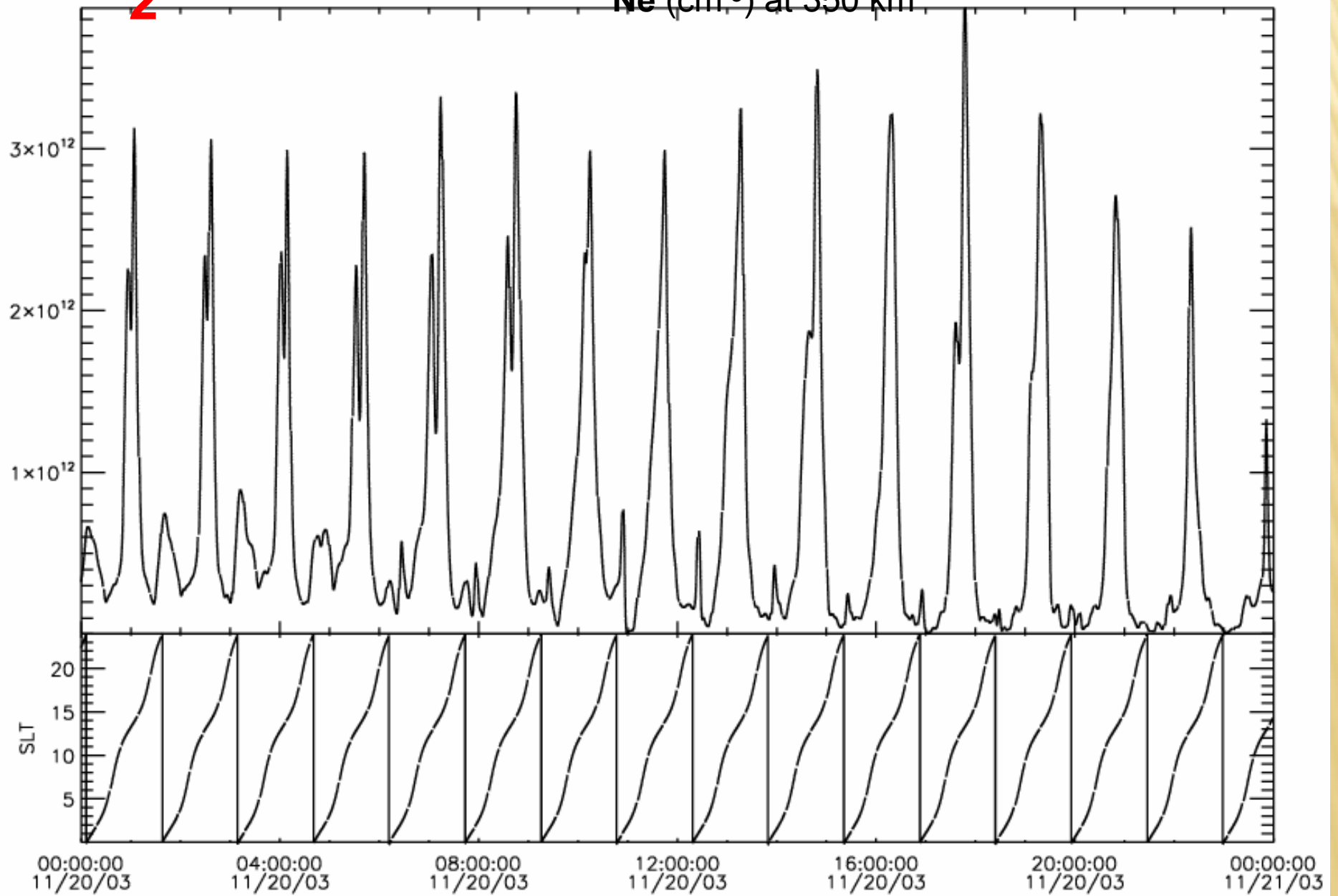
4- 16 SLT





2

Ne ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ) at 350 km



TIME-GCM MAP T1

Geopotential Height,  $Z = 350.00$  UT = 20:00:00 DOY = 324

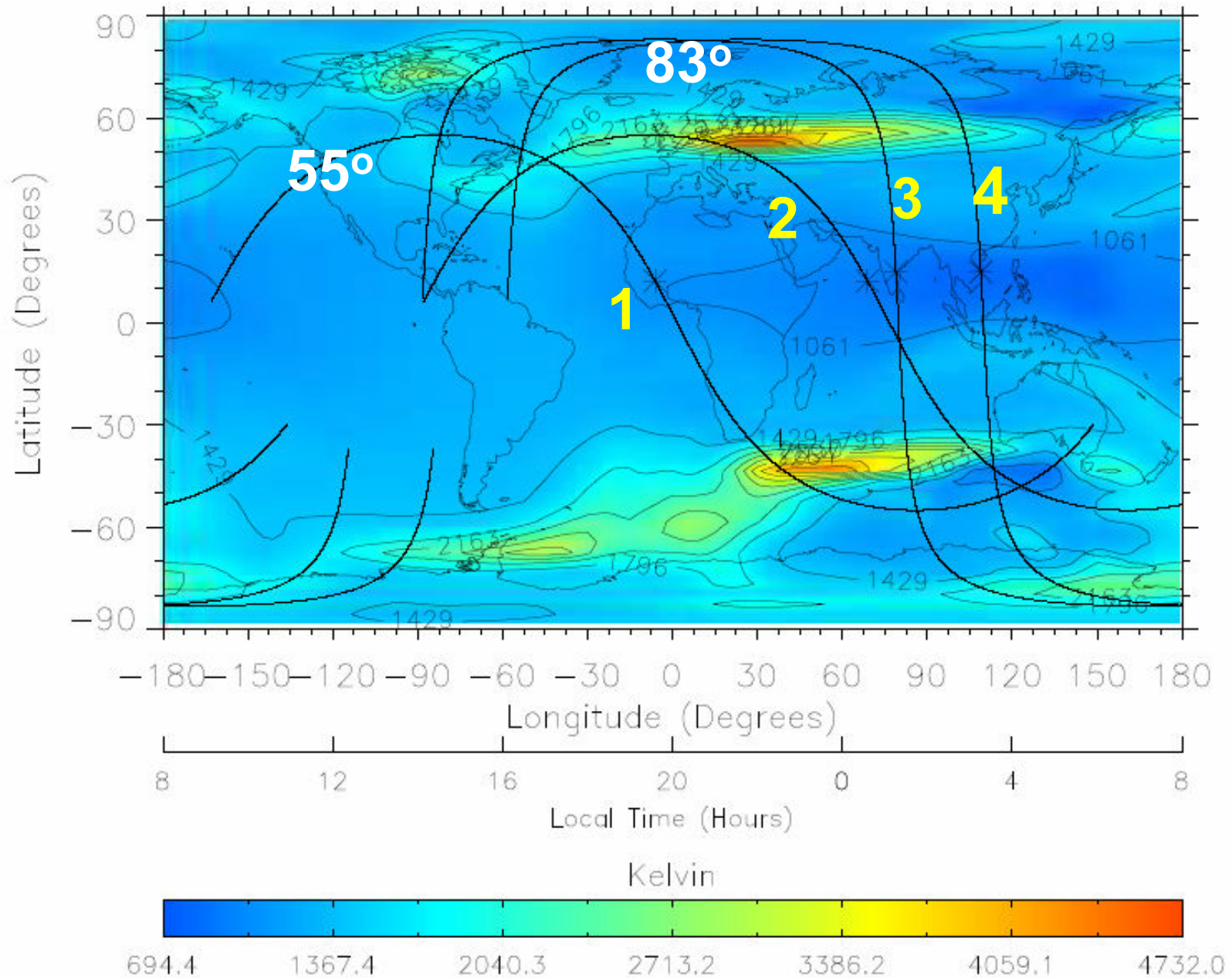
N-S cros

1- 9 SLT

2- 14 SLT

3- 14 SLT

4- 16 SLT





# SOFTWARE: STATUS OF VARIOUS SUBSYSTEMS

- Device Drivers - Testing Complete
- Messaging - Testing Complete
- Timed Messaging - Testing Complete
- Telemetry Module - Individual Testing Complete
- Attitude Determination Software - Testing Complete
- Attitude Control Software – Testing in progress
- Mode Manager - Implementation Complete. Testing in progress
- Uplink Task - Implementation in progress
- Device Control Library - Implementation in progress
- Ground Station Software - Implementation in progress



# DICE TIMELINE AND STATUS

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# QUESTIONS

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# BACKUP SLIDES

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# ABSTRACT

## ✧ **Dynamic Ionosphere Cubesat Experiment (DICE)**

*G. Crowley<sup>1</sup>; C. S. Fish<sup>2</sup>; G. S. Bust<sup>1</sup>; C. Swenson<sup>2</sup>; A. Barjatya<sup>3</sup>; M. F. Larsen<sup>4</sup>*

1. ASTRA, San Antonio, TX, United States.

2. Utah State University/Space Dynamics Laboratory (USU/SDL), Logan, UT, United States.

3. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL, United States.

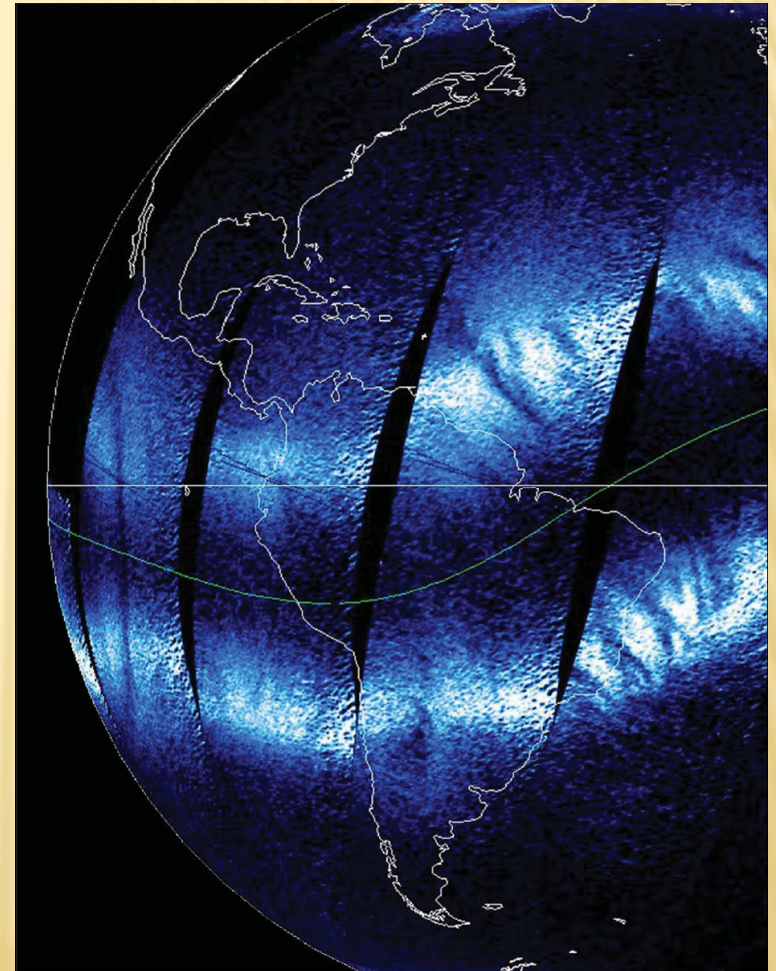
4. Clemson University, Clemson, SC, United States.

- ✧ The Dynamic Ionosphere Cubesat Experiment (DICE) mission has been selected for flight under the NSF "CubeSat-based Science Mission for Space Weather and Atmospheric Research" program. The mission has three scientific objectives: (1) Investigate the physical processes responsible for formation of the midlatitude ionospheric Storm Enhanced Density (SED) bulge in the noon to post-noon sector during magnetic storms; (2) Investigate the physical processes responsible for the formation of the SED plume at the base of the SED bulge and the transport of the high density SED plume across the magnetic pole; (3) Investigate the relationship between penetration electric fields and the formation and evolution of SED.

The mission consists of two identical Cubesats launched simultaneously. Each satellite carries a fixed-bias DC Langmuir Probe (DCP) to measure in-situ ionospheric plasma densities, and an Electric Field Probe (EFP) to measure DC and AC electric fields. These measurements will permit accurate identification of storm-time features such as the SED bulge and plume, together with simultaneous co-located electric field measurements which have previously been missing. The mission team combines expertise from ASTRA, Utah State University/Space Dynamics Laboratory (USU/SDL), Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Clemson University.



# SOURCE OF PLUMES





**Table 1: Science to Mission Functionality Requirements Traceability Matrix****Science Objective 1: Investigate formation of the SED bulge over the USA**

<b>Measurement Requirements</b>	<b>Instrument Requirements</b>	<b>Mission Requirements</b>
<b>Measure RMS Fluctuations in Electric Field and Plasma Density:</b> 1. Make co-located DC electric field and plasma density measurements at a $\leq 10$ km on-orbit resolution 2. Make $< 10$ meter (AC) resolution electric field measurements at a $\leq 10$ km on-orbit resolution 3. Make measurements on a constellation platform of $\geq 2$ spacecraft that are within 200 km of each other	<b>Electric Field:</b> 1. Max range of $\pm 0.6$ V/m 2. Min threshold of 0.6 mV/m 3. Min resolution of 0.15 mV/m 4. DC sample rate $\geq 4$ Hz 5. Telemeter DC data at $\geq 4$ Hz 6. AC sample rate $\geq 4$ kHz 7. Telemeter AC FFT power information at $\geq 1$ Hz (3 points) <b>Plasma (Ion) Density:</b> 1. Range of $2 \times 10^9 - 2 \times 10^{13} \text{ m}^{-3}$ 2. Min resolution of $3 \times 10^8 \text{ m}^{-3}$ 3. Sample rate $\geq 1$ Hz 4. Telemeter data at $\geq 1$ Hz	1. Constellation size $\geq 2$ satellites 2. Spacecraft spin $\geq 0.8$ Hz 3. Spacecraft spin axis aligned to geodetic axis to within $10^\circ$ ( $1\sigma$ ) 4. Spacecraft spin stabilized to within $1^\circ$ ( $1\sigma$ ) about principal spin axis 5. Spacecraft knowledge to within $1^\circ$ ( $1\sigma$ ) 5. Constellation time synchronization $\leq 1$ second 6. Orbital insertion inclination between $55 - 98^\circ$ (ideally sun-synchronous at 14-16LT) 7. Orbital insertion altitude between 350 - 800 km 8. Circular orbits with eccentricity of $\leq 0.015$ 9. Spacecraft separation speed of $\leq 20$ km/month 10. Storage/downlink $\geq 31$ Mbits/day. 11. Lifetime $\geq 6$ months

**Science Objective 2: Investigate formation of the SED plume over the USA**

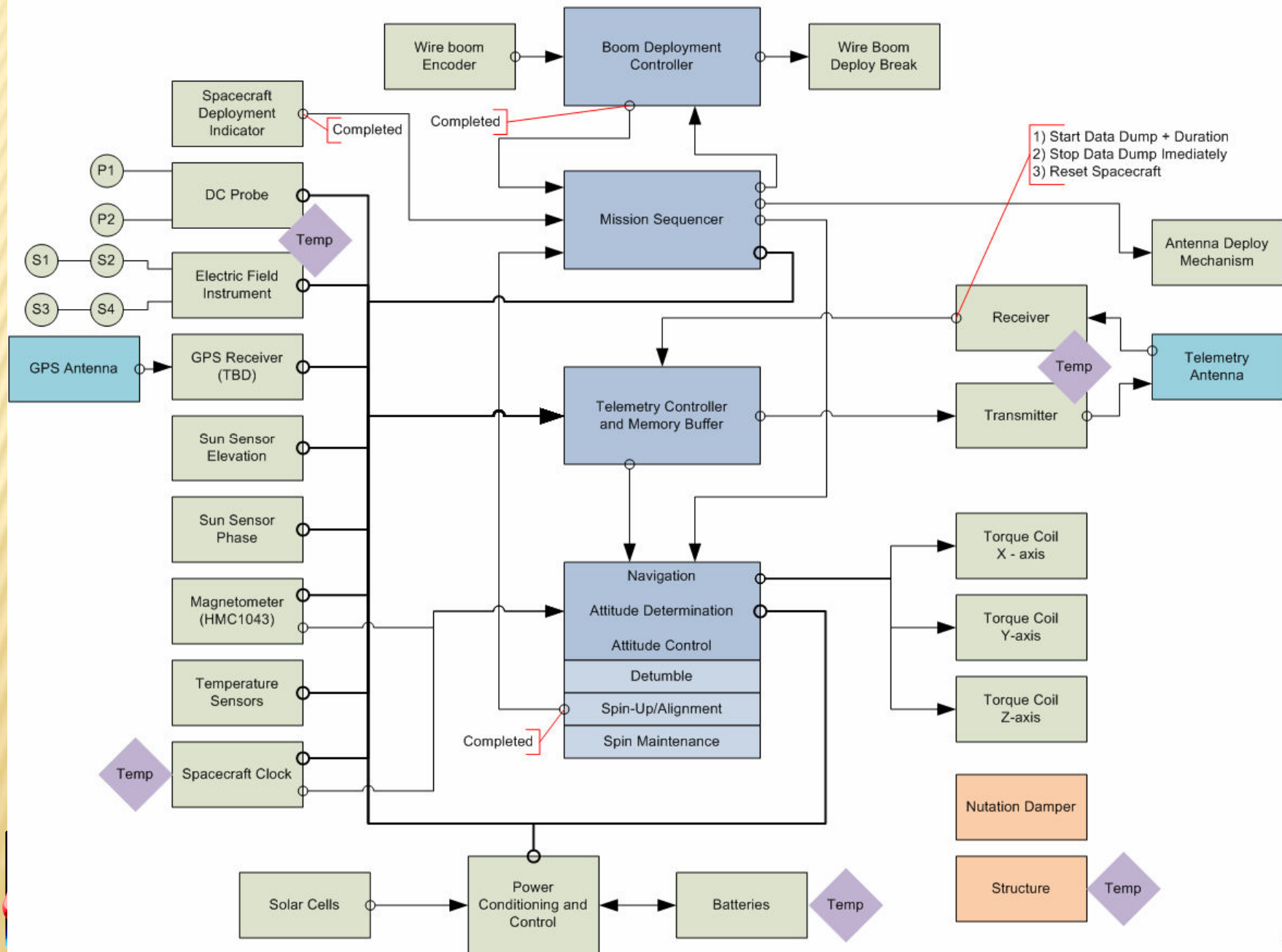
<b>Measurement Requirements</b>	<b>Instrument Requirements</b>	<b>Mission Requirements</b>
Same as Science Objective 1	Same as Science Objective 1	Same as Science Objective 1 (downlink included in Objective 1)

**Science Objective 3: Investigate correlation of PPE with formation and evolution of SED**

<b>Measurement Requirements</b>	<b>Instrument Requirements</b>	<b>Mission Requirements</b>
Same as Science Objective 1	Same as Science Objective 1	Same as Science Objective 1 (downlink included in Objective 1)

# DICE Block Diagram

Tuesday, October 06, 2009





# TELEMETRY CHANNELS

Channel Name	Rate Hz	Word Size bits	Bit Rate bits/s	Sample Period #/Orbit	Sample Period spatial (km)
Electric Field V12	80	16	1280	444276	0.10
Electric Field V34	80	16	1280	444276	0.10
Density DC Probe 1	80	16	1280	444276	0.10
Density DC Probe 2	80	16	1280	444276	0.10
Magnetometer X-Axis	80	18	1440	444276	0.10
Magnetometer Y-Axis	80	18	1440	444276	0.10
Magnetometer Z-Axis	80	18	1440	444276	0.10
GPS Receiver	0.00072	4096	2.95	4	10646.86
Sun sensor elevation	1.00	16	16.00	5553	7.67
Sun phase sensor	1.00	48	48.00	5553	7.67
Power system (battery)	0.03	48	1.60	166604	230.06
Temp Monitor 1	0.03	8	0.27	166604	230.06
Temp Monitor 2	0.03	8	0.27	166604	230.06
Temp Monitor 3	0.03	8	0.27	166604	230.06
Temp Monitor 4	0.03	8	0.27	166604	230.06
Temp Monitor 5	0.03	8	0.27	166604	230.06
Spacecraft Clock	1.00	48	48.00	5553	7.67
Everything else	0.03	128	4.27	166604	230.06
Rate collected on orbit			Total	9562.15	bits/s



## Required Down Link

Design Element	Symbol	Value	Units
Rate collected on orbit	$R_{\text{collected}}$	9562.15	bits/s
Downlink telemetry rate	$R_{\text{transmitted}}$	1.50E+06	bits/s
Packet overhead		7%	Unitless
Available telemetry rate		1388672	Bits/s
Factor of Safety	$\alpha$	1.05	Unitless
Contact Time Percent	$\tau_c$	0.75%	Unitless
Down link rate	$R_d$	1338701	bits/s
Telemetry Margin		4%	Unitless

## Estimated Daily Downlink

Average Daily Data Dump	103.41	M Bytes
Required Daily Data Dump	98.49	M Bytes
Average Contact Time per Day	648.00	s
Estimated contacts/day	2	
Estimated usable contacts duration	324.00	s
Estimated usable contacts duration	5.40	min
Estimated Dump/Contact	51.71	M Bytes

## Required Telemetry Buffer

Design Element	Symbol	Value	Units
Onboard Collection Rate	$R_c$	9562.15	bits/s
Factor of Safety	$\alpha$	4	
Max Time Between Contacts	$\tau_c$	58482	s
Required Telemetry Buffer		2.E+09	Bits
Required Telemetry Buffer		266.65	M Bytes
Required Telemetry Buffer		2133.23	M Bits

## Required Transmitter Power

Design Element	Symbol	Value	Units
Transmitter RF Power		1	Watts
Transmitter Efficiency		25%	
Transmitter Power		4.00	Watts
Orbit Average On time		41.65	S
Orbit Average Power		30.00	mW

## Required Ground Station Storage

Design Element	Symbol	Value	Units
Baseband Bandwidth		10	MHz
Digitization bits		8	bits
Baseband Sampling Rate		40	MHz
Baseband Sampled Data Rate		320	Mbits/s
Average Data in an Overpass		103680	Mbits/s
Storage Required Per Pass		12.66	G bytes

