Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC)



Florianópolis/SC - Brazil







- Partnership
- Introduction
- Subsystems
 - Payload
 - Communication System
 - Power System
 - On-Board Computer
 - Attitude Control System
 - Ground Station
 - Launching
- Conclusion





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Brazilian Space Agency (AEB)



CNPq

Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento

Científico e Tecnológico

 National Council of Scientific for Technological Development (CNPq)





Federal Institute of Santa Catarina (IFSC)







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The project's main goals are:

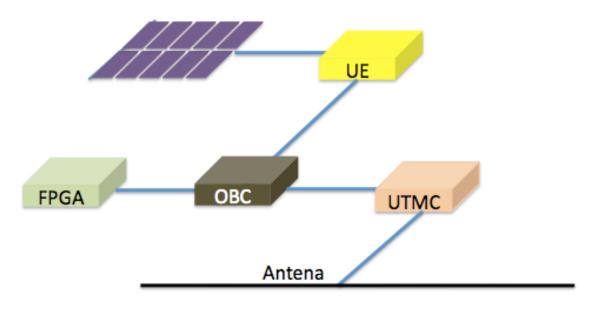
 To inspire both undergraduate and graduate students to work in the space field

 To establish a strong cooperation network among industry and university institutions





The system was divided in modules in order to make it reusable in future projects and to make tests and formal verification.



General Architecture





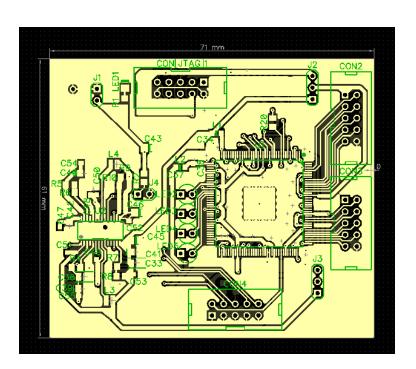
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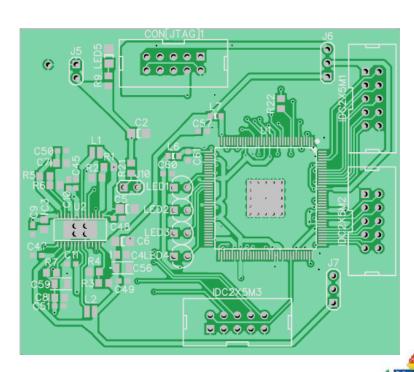




Payload Targets

- To study COTS FPGA's behavior when exposed to radiation
- To study energy harvesting technologies applicable to nano-satellites environment







Schematic of the FPGA board used in the payload



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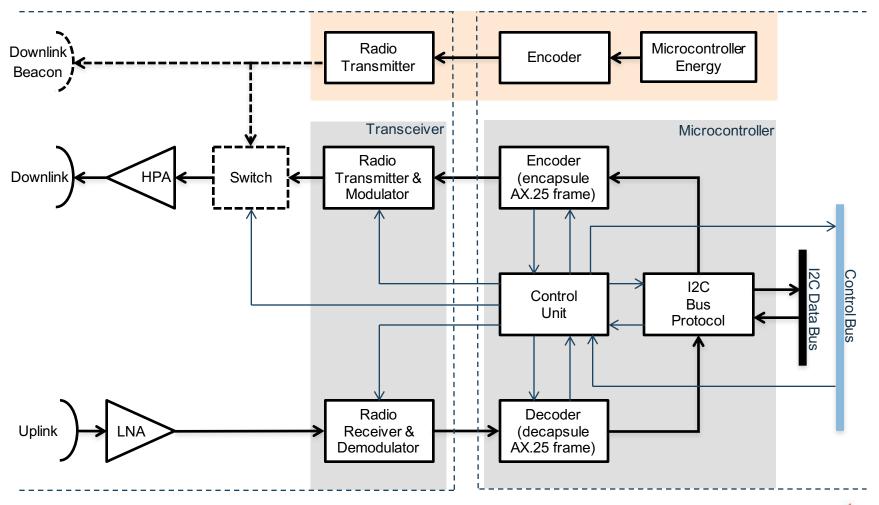
Communication system - Requirements

- The Communication subsystem verify the integrity of the frame and the command received from a ground station.
- A beacon transmitter is required using independent communication resources:
 - The beacon must send data from the Power System
 - Even if the Communication System fails, the Beacon should
 always be able to send Power System data
 - The beacon must avoid unnecessary battery consumption





Communication system - Architecture







Communication system

Transceiver

- Uplink (UHF) is always available to receive data from Earth;
- Downlink (UHF) downloads data when scheduled or requested by Earth

Beacon

- UHF shares Downlink's antenna or VHF with own antenna
- Beacon transmits data from the Power System
- Scheduled transmission to avoid unnecessary battery consumption
- Use of Morse Code

Communication Protocol

- AX.25 (detects errors, but does not fix them)
- CCSDS (future work)





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Orbit Modeling Considerations

- Worst case orbit Equator plane
- Circular orbit
- Altitude: 310 Km
- Antenna's face always pointing to Earth
- 5 faces covered by solar panels
- Free rotation around 'z' axis





- 15 solar cells per PCB
- 5 sets in parallel of 3 cells in series
- Open circuit voltage per set: 6.6 V
- Total short-circuit current: 155 mA



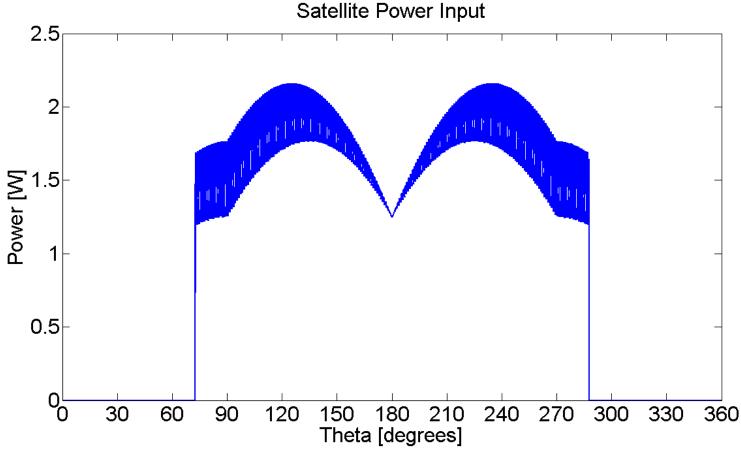
Source: interorbital.com





Orbit Modeling Simulation

Average power: 1.055 W







- At least three different architectures
- Allow students to design the complete architecture (from design to implementation)
- Compare architecture's performance (simulations and experiments)
- Select the best one for the satellite





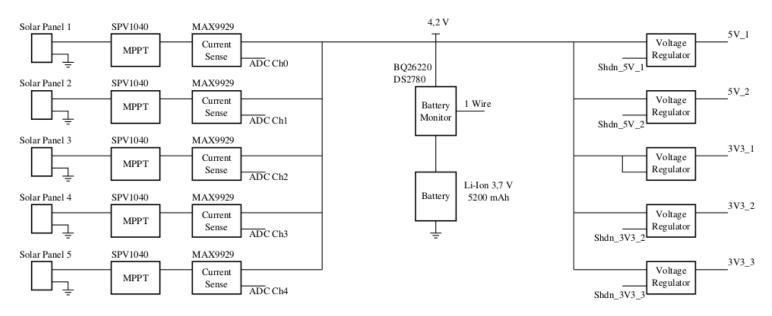
- Solar panel current measurement
- Dropout converter to 4.2 V
- Battery monitoring
- Multiple power buses 3.3 V e 5 V (on/off)
- OBC controlled (SPI or I²C and 1 Wire)
- Dedicated μC (MSP430) (Architecture 2)
- MPPT ICs (Architecture 3)

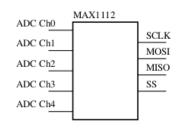


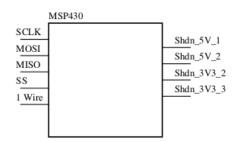


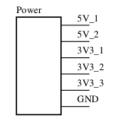
Architecture

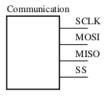
MPPT ICs;















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On Board Computer (OBC) - Software Solution

Drivers

- Basic intermodule communication
- Communication
- EPS (Electrical Power System)
- Attitude
- Payload

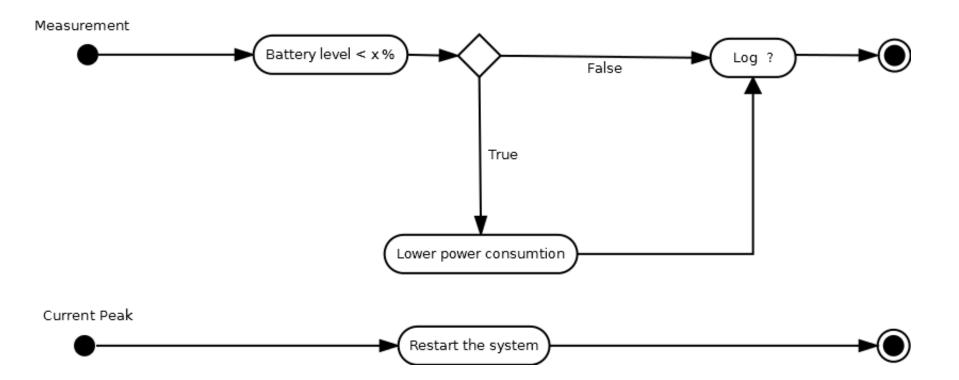
Applications

- Measurement
- Monitor
- UTMC (TM+TC)
- Log





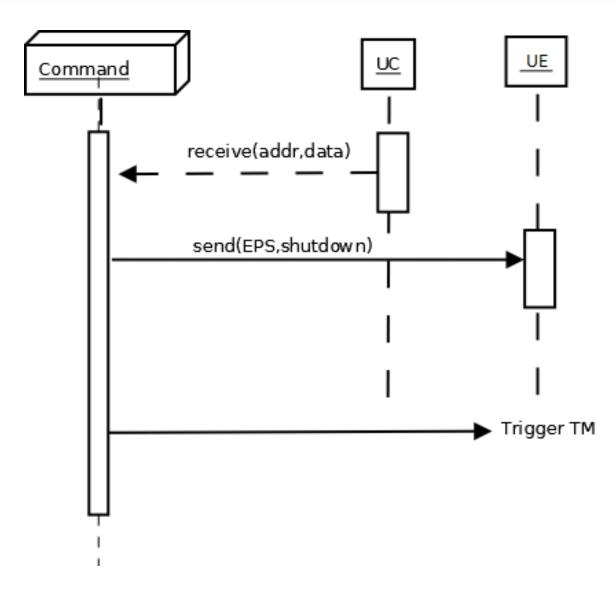
Monitor Application







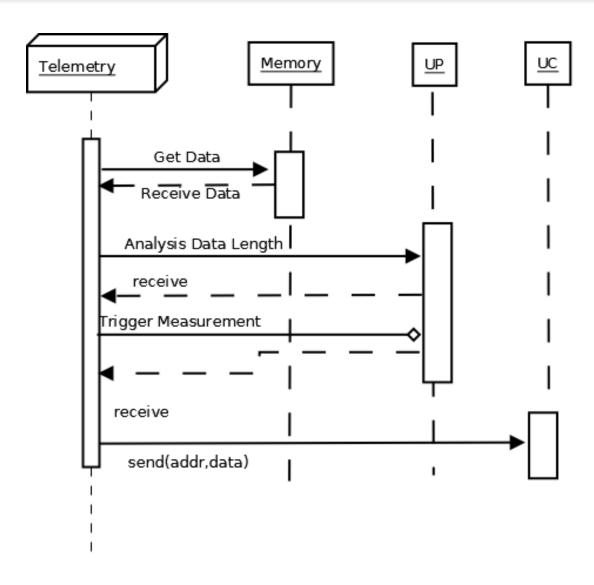
Command Application







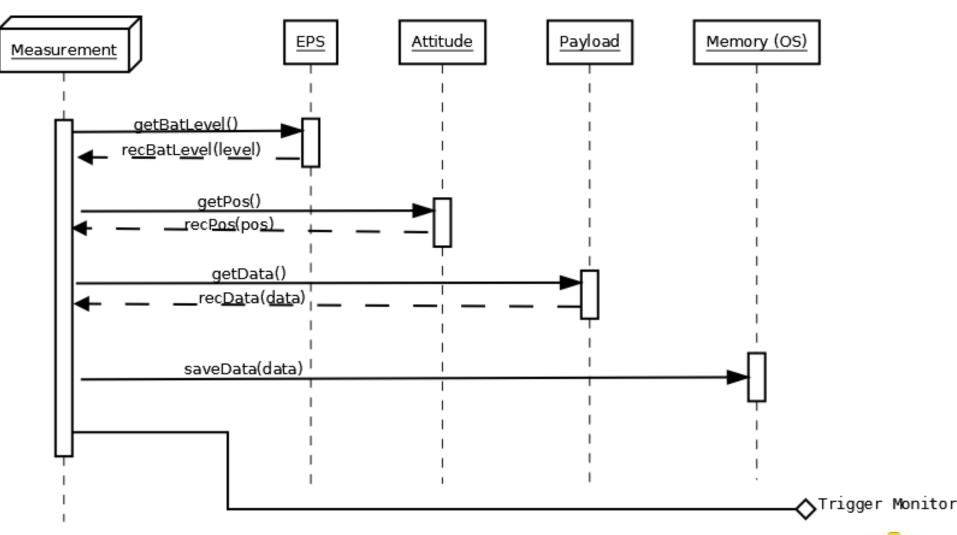
Telemetry Application







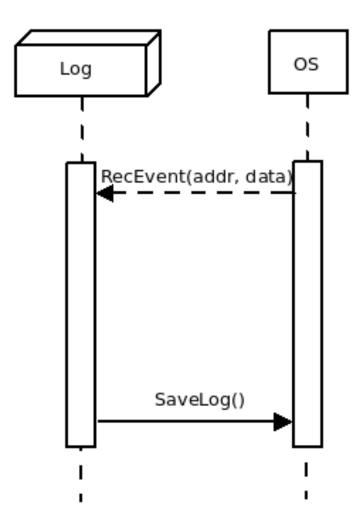
Measurement Application







Log Application







Operating System

- Reliability
- Architecture compatibility
- Allow application priority setup
- Power and memory consumption
- Library availability





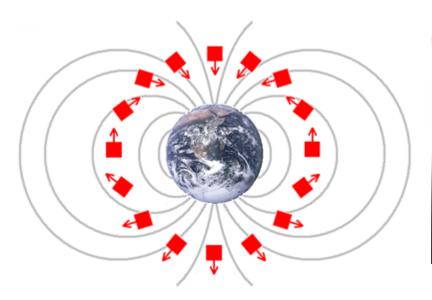
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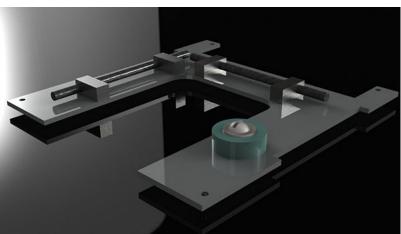




Attitude Control System

- Passive attitude stabilization: permanent magnets and hysteresis rods
 - Stabilization in only two of three rotation axes.









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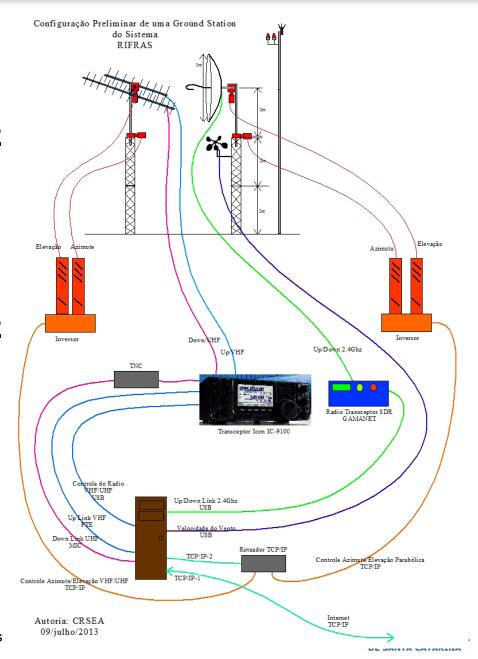


UHF Antenna:

- Frequency: 430-450 MHz
- Forward Gain: 15.5 dB

VHF Antenna:

- Frequency: 144-148 MHz
- Forward Gain: 11.1 dB





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Launching

Launching is planned for 2016



Source: interorbital.com





- The requirements and the features of each subsystem were defined
- The students are learning, being inspired and enjoying the project
- Besides, they are exchanging information with other universities and institutes
- Also, students are learning and feeling what is like to be in a real engineering project





Thank you for your attention!



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EMBEDDED SYSTEMS GROUP / UFSC



