Solutions for Selective Radiation-Hardened Components in CubeSats

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VORAGO TECHNOLOGIES

VORAGO Technologies

- Privately held fabless semiconductor company headquartered in Austin, TX
- Patented HARDSIL® foundation technology
- Focussed on space technology since 2004. Commercializing technology since 2015

VORAGO Technologies, Austin, Texas.

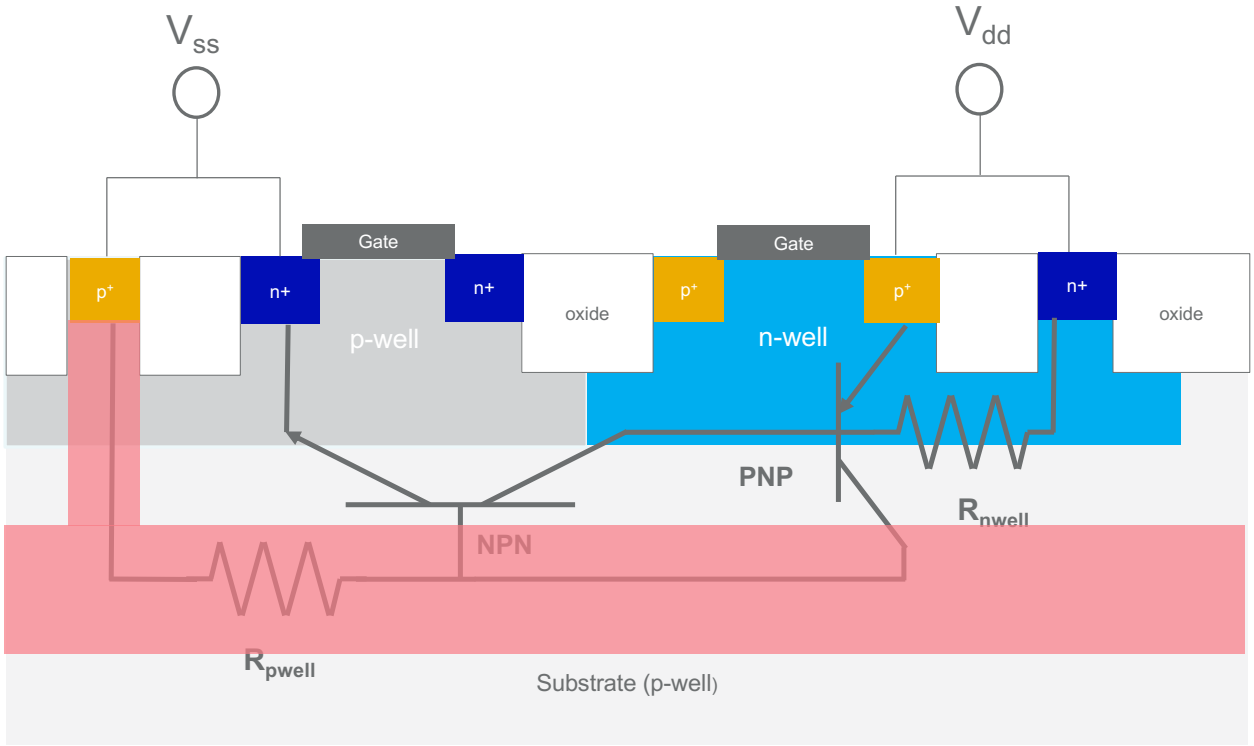
HARDSIL® – Technology

- Patented semiconductor technology (13 patents to date)
- Licensed to LSI, TI and Global Foundries
- Embedded into standard CMOS manufacturing process
  - Standard manufacturing equipment
  - Fully design agnostic
  - Enhances EOS/ESD performance
  - Eliminates latch-up
  - Improves noise floor immunity
  - Enables high temperature performance beyond 200°C
- Hardens silicon against radiation, temperature and electrical stress

HARDSIL® – Products

- Radiation hardened portfolio up to 300k RAD
  - 8M & 16M SRAMs
  - ARM® Cortex®-M0 MCU
- High temperature portfolio 200°C
  - ARM® Cortex®-M0 MCU

How does HARDSIL® prevent latch-up ?



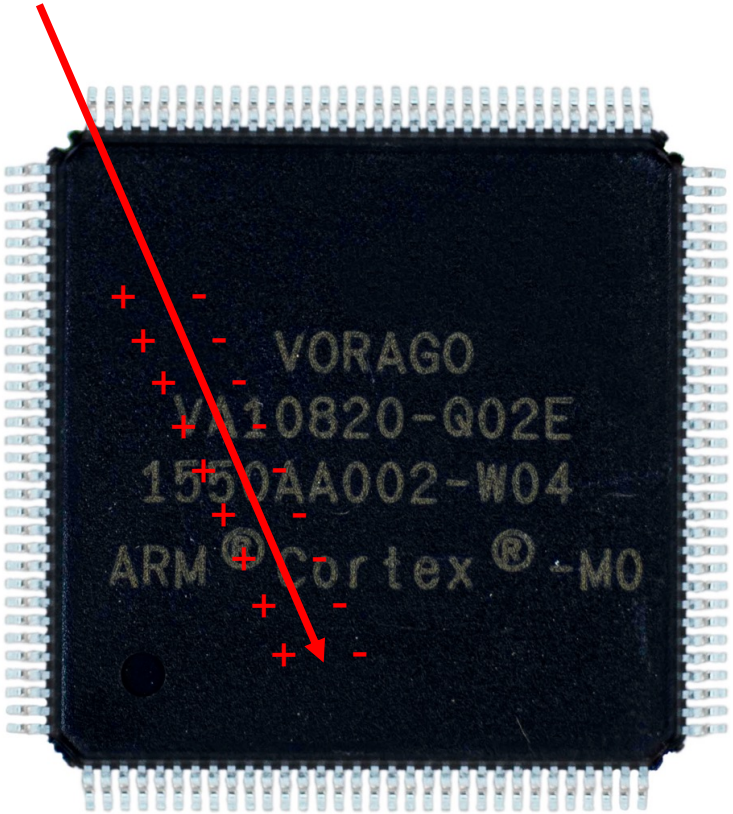
Buried Guard Ring

HARDSIL® creates a highly conductive layer underneath the CMOS devices and wells combined with a high conductivity connection to well contacts

How does the VA10820 deal with Single Event Upsets ?

SEU – Memory

- EDAC (detect 2 correct 1 bit, per byte)
- Scrub Engine – programmable rate, prevents accumulated uncorrectable errors
- Layout designed to space logically adjacent bits apart
- SER – EDAC enabled – 1e-15 errors / bit-day*
- HARDSIL reduces SEEs



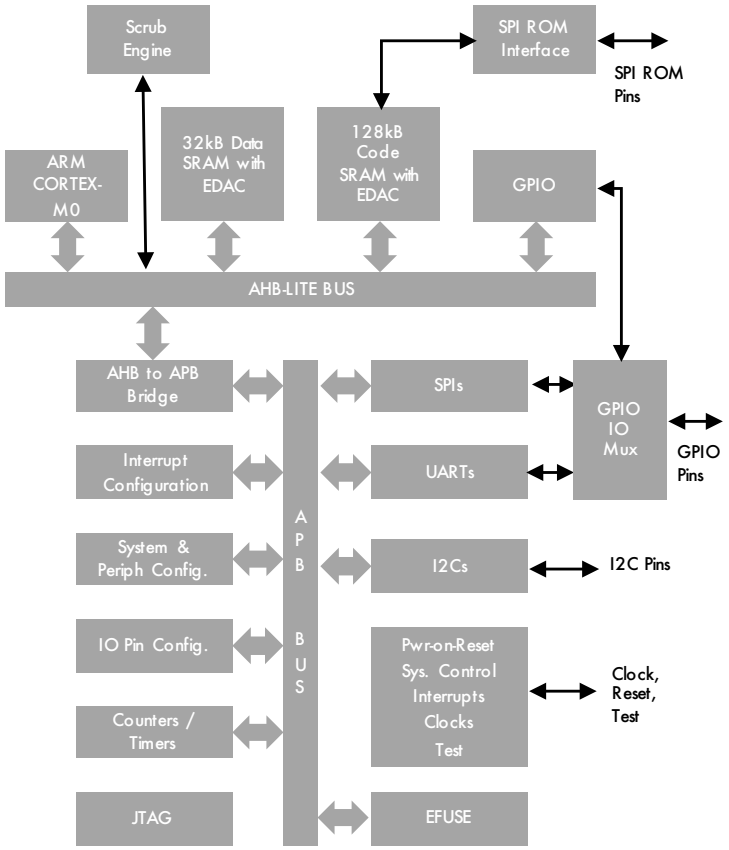
SEU – Logic

- DICE latches
- TMR registers
- Clock glitch filters

* At geosynchronous solar min. with 100 mils of aluminum shielding

VA10820

Radiation-hardened ARM® Cortex®-M0 Microcontroller



Key Features and Advantages

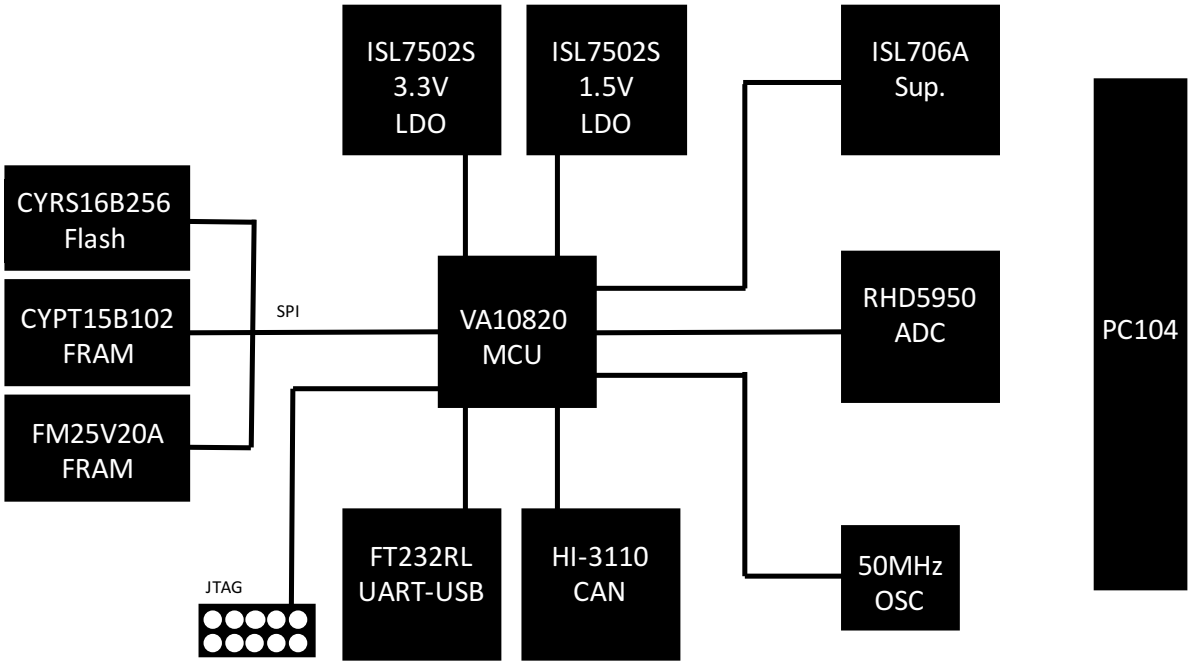
- Latch up Immune with *HARDSIL*® Hardened by Process Technology
- Power Gating and Hardware Debugger
- 32KB Data and 128KB Program Memory
- 1Kb One Time Programmable Configuration Memory (OTP)
- 24 Counter/Timers with Extensive Hardware/Software Triggering
- 3 SPI (one SPI is master only), 2 I^2C, and 2 UART External Interfaces
- 56 Multiplexed General Purpose 3.3V I/O (GPIO)

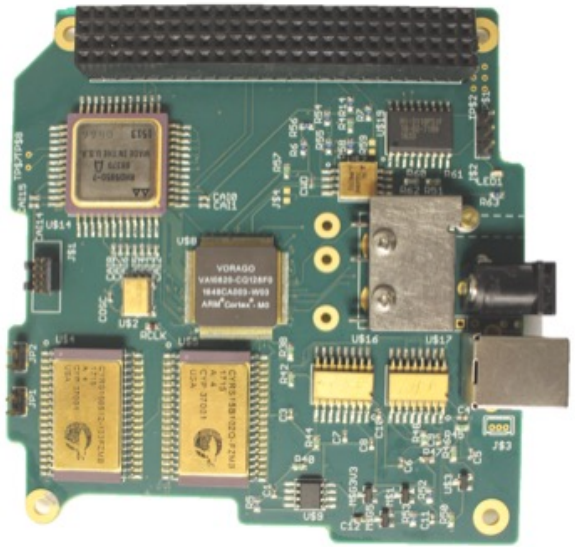
Specifications

- Total Ionizing Dose (TID) – 300K rad(Si)
- Soft Error Rate (SER) with EDAC disabled – 1.3e-7 errors/bit-day
- Soft Error Rate (SER) with EDAC enabled – 1e-15 errors/bit-day
- Linear Energy Transfer (LET) – 110 MeV-cm2/mg (at T=125C)

Description	Part number	Environment	Temperature Range	Package
Radiation-hardened microcontroller	VA10820-D0000F0PCA	Rad-hard 300K rad (Si)	-55 to 125°C	Die
Radiation-hardened microcontroller	VA10820-CQ128F0ECA	Rad-hard 300K rad (Si)	-55 to 125°C	Ceramic 128 LQFP
Radiation-hardened microcontroller	VA10820-PQ128F0PCA	Rad-hard 300K rad (Si)	-55 to 125°C	Plastic 128 LQFP

CubeSat On Board Computer Reference Design

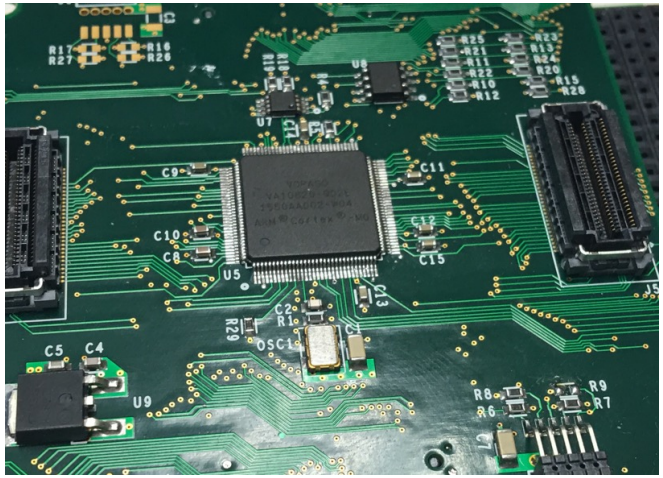




- Based on Pumpkin CubeSat Kit Bus
- Board available from Pumpkin
- FDK support from Bright Ascension
- Design files available from VORAGO Technologies
  - Modify original design as required (COTS v RH)

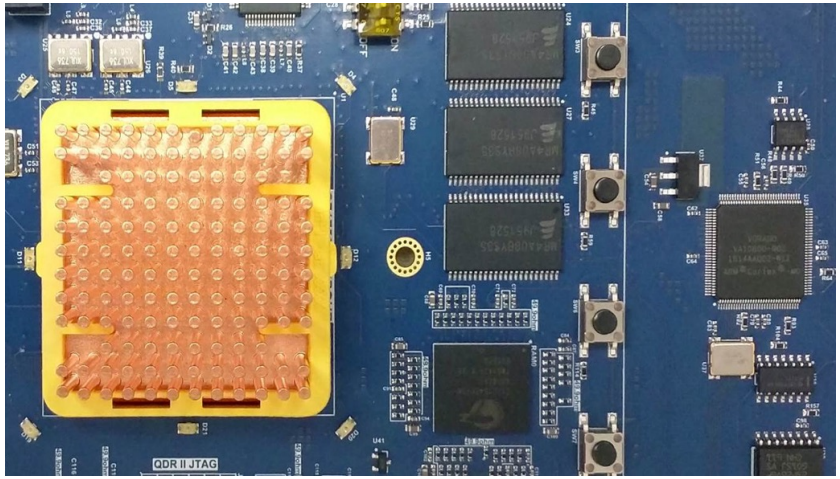
Two Common Use-Cases for VORAGO VA10820 in CubeSats

Standalone OBC



- Main system controller

System Monitor / Watchdog

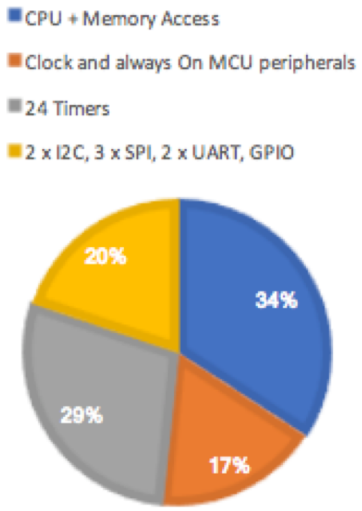


- Monitor FPGA and other subsystems
- Configuration of FPGA

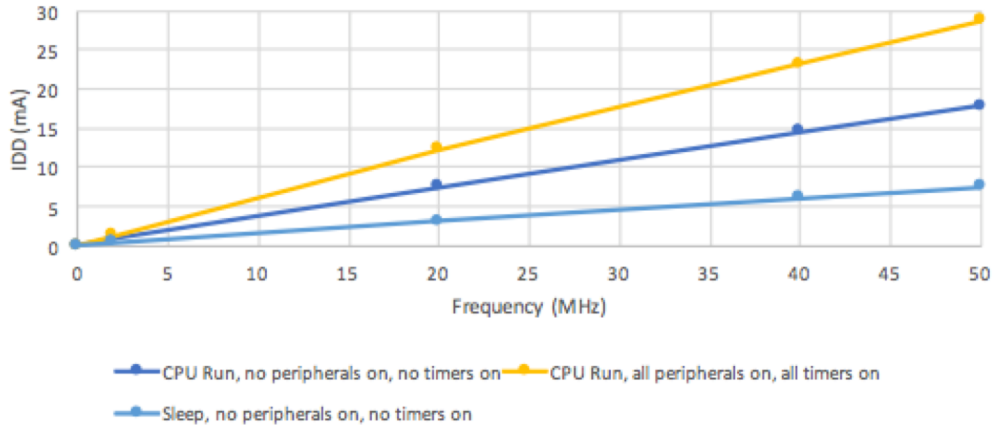
ARM® Cortex®-M0 is optimized for low power consumption

- Clock gating implemented on all peripherals
- WFI (Wait For Interrupt) instruction idles CPU
- CPU frequency can be adjusted to reduce power
- Power management Application Note available

VA10820 MCU IDD Breakdown



VA10820 MCU Core IDD with Operating Frequency



REB1-VA10820 Development Board

- Huge ecosystem of development tools
- All popular ARM compilers support VORAGO
- Board Support Package available
- Application notes available

	Supplier	Software Development Kit
KEIL Tools by ARM	ARM Keil	MDK Microcontroller Development Kit
IAR SYSTEMS	IAR Systems	IAR Embedded Workbench
iSYSTEM	iSYSTEM	winIDEA
freeRTOS	FreeRTOS	Real-time Operating System

VORAGO
TECHNOLOGIES
Opening up new possibilities