

# HAMTV

**AMSAT Italia Proposal  
for a television down link from  
ESA Columbus module**

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President - AMSAT Italia***

***ARISS International Delegates Meeting  
October 28-29, 2011 - Houston***



***AMSAT Italia*** ®

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- **Proposal outcome**
- **Down-link Frequency Band Identification**
- **2.4 GHz Band limits**
  
- **Television Standard Selection**
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- **First experiments and preliminary results**



# ***PROPOSAL OUTCOME***

- **De Paolis and Nespoli trip to Naples**
- **Exchange of some preliminary ideas through Skype**
- **Identification of study structure**
- **Disclosure of the study to ARCOL WG**
- **Ideas for an “unsolicited proposal” to ESA**
- **ESA, Astrium, Kayser Italia and Amsat Italia Technical Interchange Meeting on 11 Nov 2010**
- **Contract signed between ESA and Kayser Italia on August 2011**
- **Contract deadline February 1, 2013**

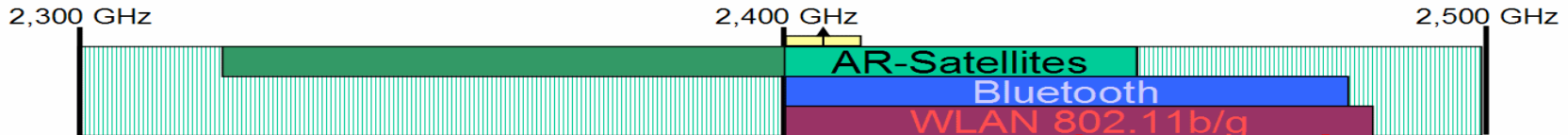


# ***FREQUENCY BAND IDENTIFICATION***

- ITU Table of frequency allocations to services– Footnote 5.282
- ***5.282 In the bands 435-438 MHz, 1 260-1 270 MHz, 2 400-2 450 MHz, 3 400-3 410 MHz (in Regions 2 and 3 only) and 5 650-5 670 MHz, the amateur-satellite service may operate subject to not causing harmful interference to other services operating in accordance with the Table (see No. 5.43). Administrations authorizing such use shall ensure that any harmful interference caused by emissions from a station in the amateur-satellite service is immediately eliminated in accordance with the provisions of No. 25.11. The use of the bands 1 260-1 270 MHz and 5 650-5 670 MHz by the amateur-satellite service is limited to the Earth-to-space direction.***
- The frequency band 2400-2450 MHz is the only one usable in down link with enough bandwidth to accommodate a television transmission and for which a suitable antenna is installed on board ISS.



# S-BAND SPECTRUM ALLOCATION



## Amateur Radio 13cm Band:

- 2,320 GHz to 2,450 GHz
- 2,400 GHz to 2,450 GHz allocated to satellites

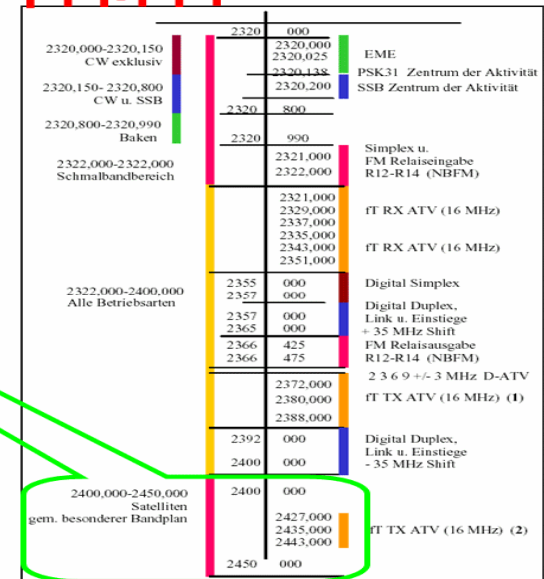
## Bluetooth:

- 2,402 GHz to 2,480 GHz
- 79 separate frequencies, 1MHz spacing
- Frequency Hopping, up to 1600hps

## WLAN (IEEE 802.11b/g):

- 2,400 GHz to 2,483.5 GHz
- US: 11 channels, EU: 13 channels
- 5 MHz spacing
- 802.11b: max 11Mbps, 802.11g: max 54Mbps

- Ch 01: 2.412 GHz
- Ch 02: 2.417 GHz
- Ch 03: 2.422 GHz
- Ch 04: 2.427 GHz
- Ch 05: 2.432 GHz
- Ch 06: 2.437 GHz
- Ch 07: 2.442 GHz
- Ch 08: 2.447 GHz
- Ch 09: 2.452 GHz
- Ch 10: 2.457 GHz
- Ch 11: 2.462 GHz
- Ch 12: 2.467 GHz
- Ch 13: 2.472 GHz
- Ch 14: 2.484 GHz



# ***2.4 GHz FREQUENCY BAND LIMITS***

## **I Part**

- **Secondary allocation to the amateur satellite service (or even less)**
- **ISM Band (Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Microwave ovens, medical equipments, WLAN, etc.)**
- **Wi-Fi applications on ISS**
- **On-ground reception interfered-with by pervasive applications (Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, microwave ovens, etc.)**



# **2.4 GHz FREQUENCY BAND LIMITS**

## **II Part**

- **Fall-back proposal for an alternative channel (i.e. 2395 MHz) in the higher part of the band 2300-2400 MHz on non-interfering basis (RR. 4.4) in addition to the nominal channel at 2422 MHz (channel 3 of Wi-Fi raster)**
- **Consciousness of no primary allocation to the amateur satellite service in the UHF band (300 – 3000 MHz) with a suitable bandwidth**



# ***TELEVISION STANDARD SELECTION***

## ***Comparison between:***

- ***Analogue standard (FM)***

***$\Delta F_{pp}=16$  MHz,  $BW=28$  MHz***

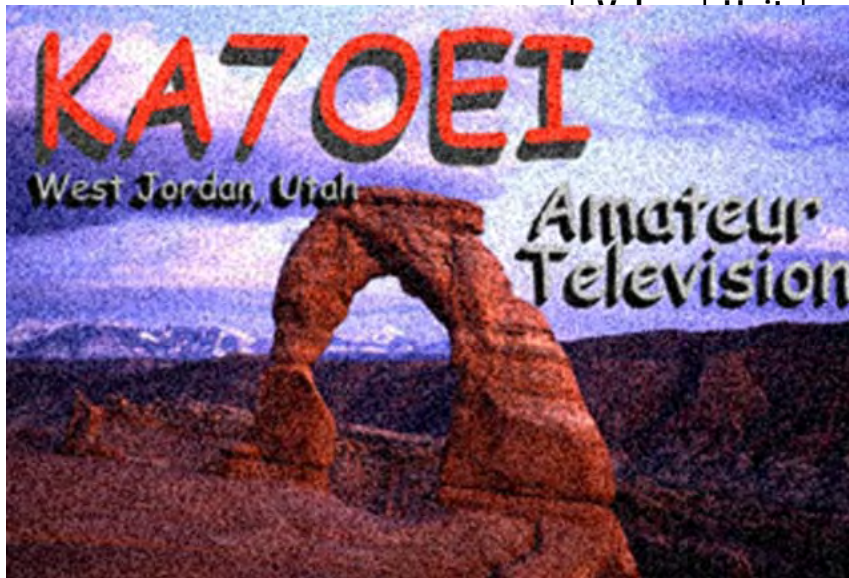
- ***Digital standard (DVB)***

***DVB-S (QPSK)***





# FM TV from Columbus



|                     |       |      |
|---------------------|-------|------|
| System Noise Temp   | 100.7 | K    |
| System Noise Figure | 1.9   | dB   |
| G/T                 | 2.3   | dB/K |

| CARRIER CHARACTERISTICS                          |      |     |
|--|------|-----|
| Peak to Peak frequency deviation $\Delta F_{pp}$ | 16   | MHz |
| TV signal bandwidth $B_v$                        | 6    | MHz |
| Modulation                                       | FM   |     |
| Carrier's occupied bandwidth                     | 28   | MHz |
| $p_w$ [Unified] CCIRR Rep. 637 pre/de-emphasis   | 13.2 | dB  |

| TX & Downlink                                  |       |     |
|--|-------|-----|
| TX power                                       | 10.0  | dBW |
| cable & connector losses                       | 7.0   | dB  |
| TX Antenna gain (boresight)                    | 8.0   | dBi |
| pointing losses                                | 10.5  | dB  |
| Downlink e.i.r.p. toward earth receive station | 0.5   | dBW |
| Downlink path loss (free space)                | 160.3 | dB  |
| Atmospheric losses                             | 0.0   | dB  |
| Rain attenuation losses                        | 0.0   | dB  |

|  |              |           |
|--|--------------|-----------|
| C/N (Available)                        | -3.4         | dB        |
| C/N (required due to demod. threshold) | 7.0          | dB        |
| Margin on C/N                          | -10.4        | dB        |
| S/N (Required for P3 video quality)    | 25.0         | dB        |
| C/N0 (Required for P3 quality)         | 69.3         | dBHz      |
| C/N0 (available)                       | 71.1         | dBHz      |
| Margin on C/N0                         | 1.8          | dB        |
| <b>Link Margin</b>                     | <b>-10.4</b> | <b>dB</b> |

$$\frac{S}{N} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{\Delta F_{pp}^2}{B_v^3} \frac{C}{N_0} p_w$$



Antenna noise temperature DO NOT include noise contributions from interfering systems close to the receiving station (e.g. WiFi access point, microwave ovens, video senders, etc.). A preliminary measurement of G/T is strongly recommended. Sun-noise measurement at sunrise or sunset should be a convenient method to test RX station figure-of-merit at low elevations.

# DVB-S TV from Columbus

|                    | Value | Unit |
|--------------------|-------|------|
| Downlink frequency | 2.450 | GHz  |
| ISS to E/S range   | 1000  | Km   |

| EARTH STATION CHARACTERISTICS |      |        |
|-------------------------------|------|--------|
| Antenna diameter              | 0.90 | meters |
| Efficiency                    | 50%  |        |
| Rx Antenna gain               | 24.3 | dBi    |

|                           |      |    |
|---------------------------|------|----|
| Antenna Noise Temperature | 100  | K  |
| LNB gain                  | 35   | dB |
| LNB noise figure          | 0.8  | dB |
| LNB equiv noise temp      | 58.7 | K  |

| FIGURE of MERIT G/T |       |      |
|---------------------|-------|------|
| System Noise Temp   | 158.7 | K    |
| System Noise Figure | 1.9   | dB   |
| G/T                 | 2.3   | dB/K |

| CARRIER CHARACTERISTICS      |         |       |
|------------------------------|---------|-------|
| Data Rate                    | 922     | kbps  |
| Reed Solomon                 | 188/204 |       |
| Modulation                   | QPSK    |       |
| FEC                          | 1/2     |       |
| Symbol Rate                  | 1000    | kbaud |
| Carrier's occupied bandwidth | 1.35    | MHz   |

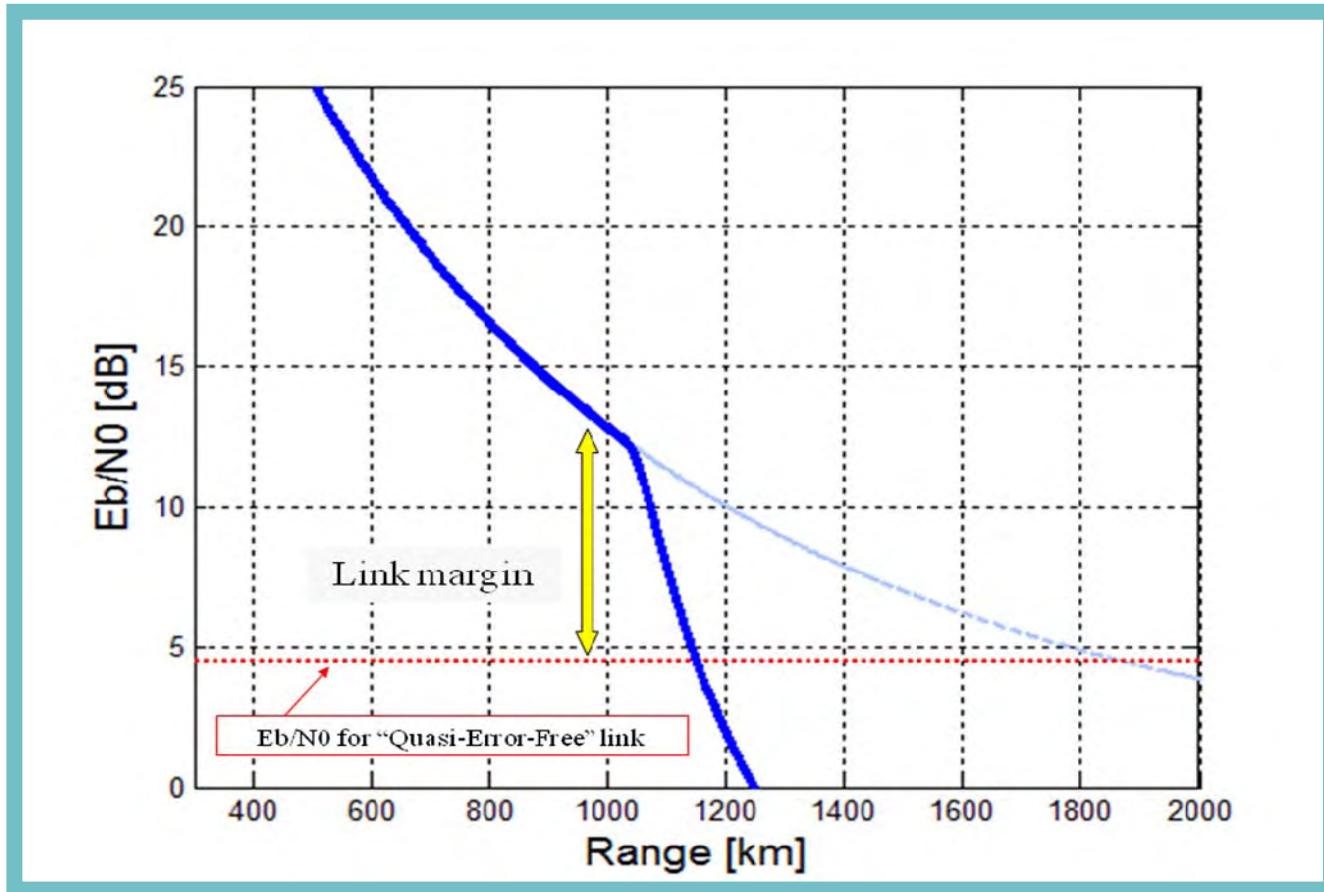
| TX & Downlink                                  |       |     |
|--|-------|-----|
| TX power                                       | 10.0  | dBW |
| cable & connector losses                       | 7.0   | dB  |
| TX Antenna gain (boresight)                    | 8.0   | dBi |
| pointing losses                                | 10.5  | dB  |
| Downlink e.i.r.p. toward earth receive station | 0.5   | dBW |
| Downlink path loss (free space)                | 160.3 | dB  |
| Atmospheric losses                             | 0.0   | dB  |
| Rain attenuation losses                        | 0.0   | dB  |

|                    |            |           |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|
| C/No               | 71.1       | dBHz      |
| C/N                | 9.8        | dB        |
| Eb/No (Available)  | 11.4       | dB        |
| Eb/No (Required)   | 4.5        | dB        |
| <b>Link Margin</b> | <b>6.9</b> | <b>dB</b> |

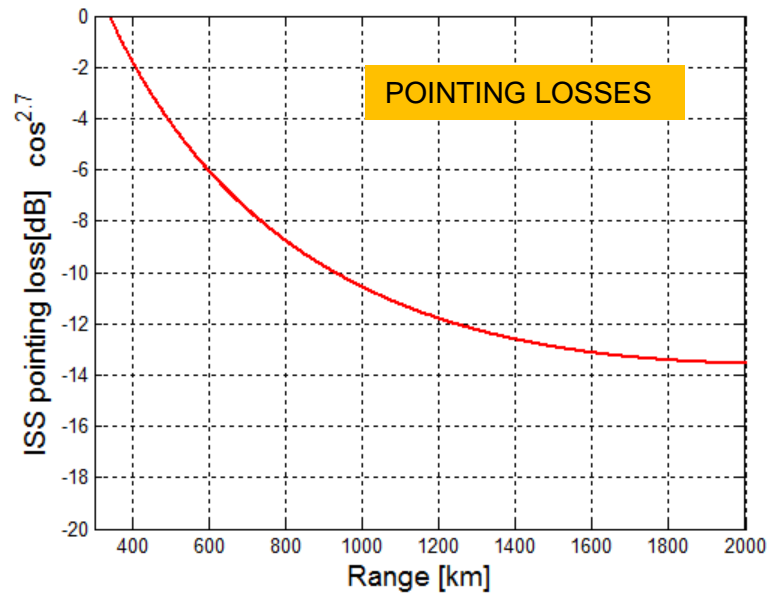
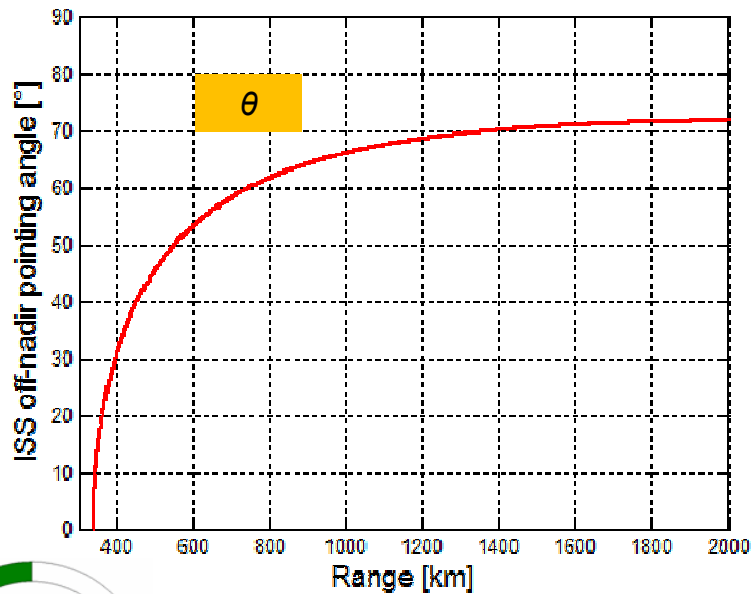
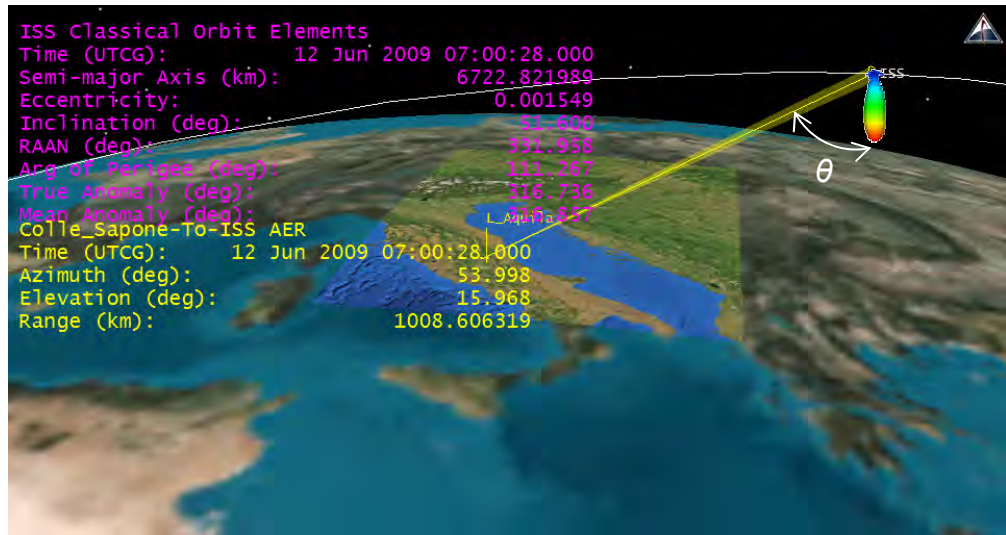
Preliminary transmission parameters based on DVB-S Television Standard



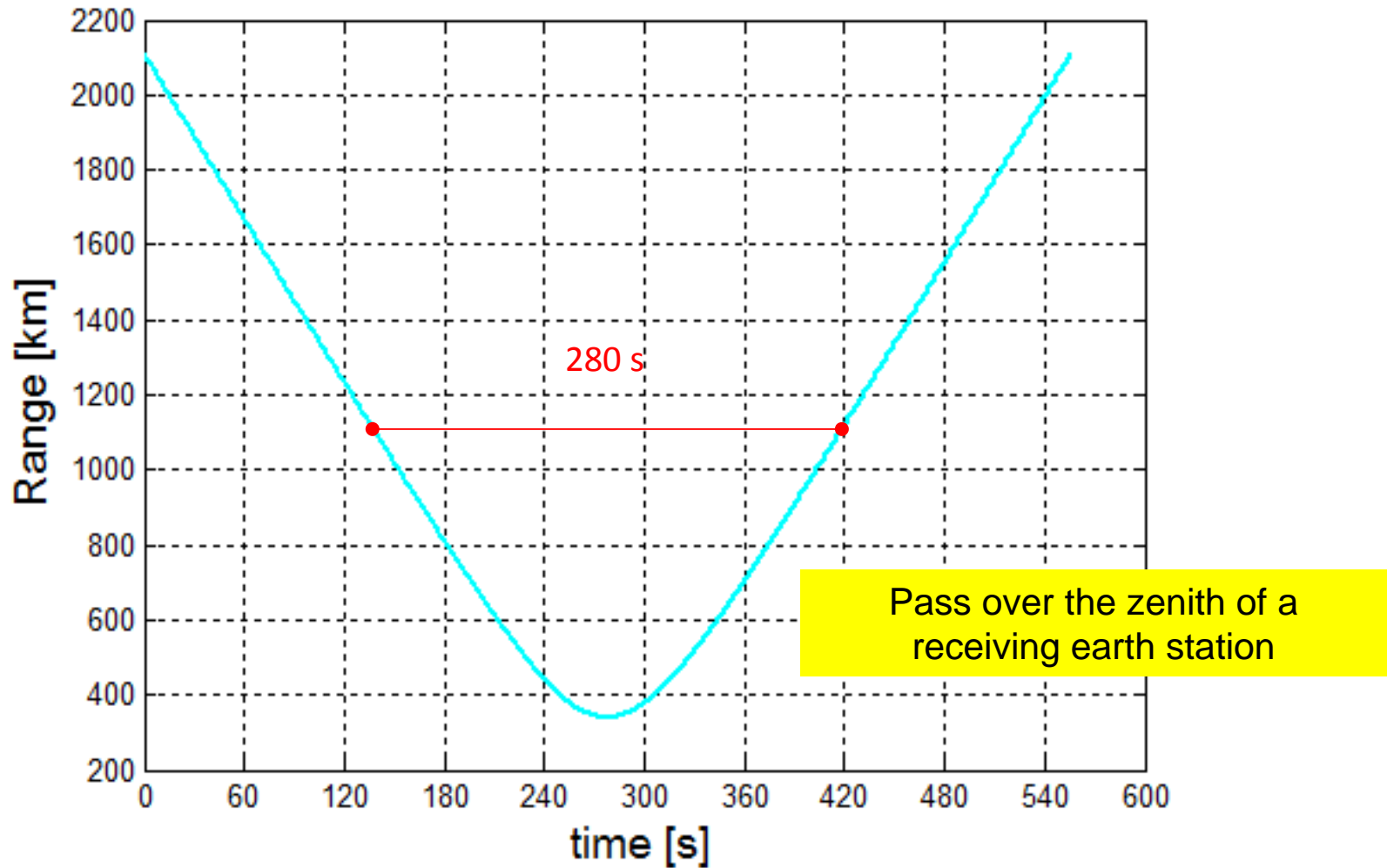
# Link Margin



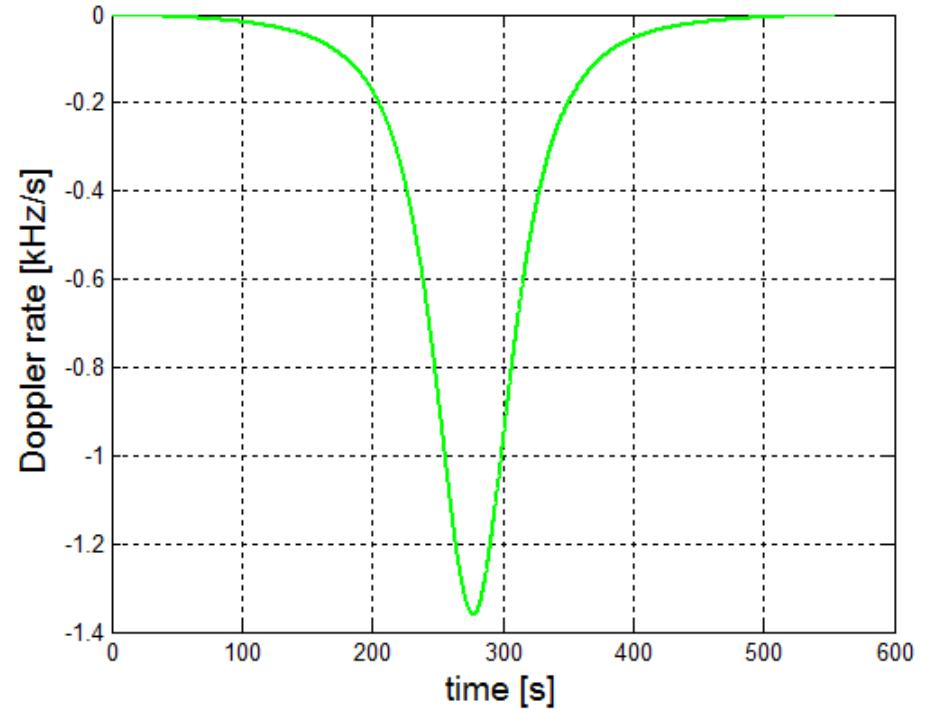
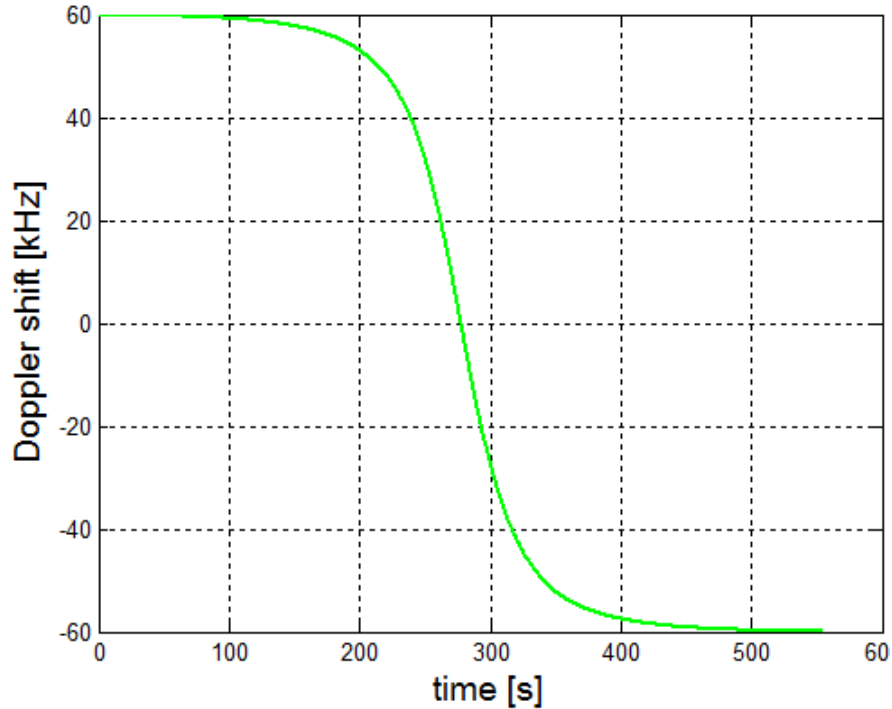
# Pointing losses



# Video link duration



# DOPPLER Effect



Computer simulations by Centro Ricerche RAI, Torino, show no negative impact due to Doppler-rate



# *L and S-Band ARISS antennas*

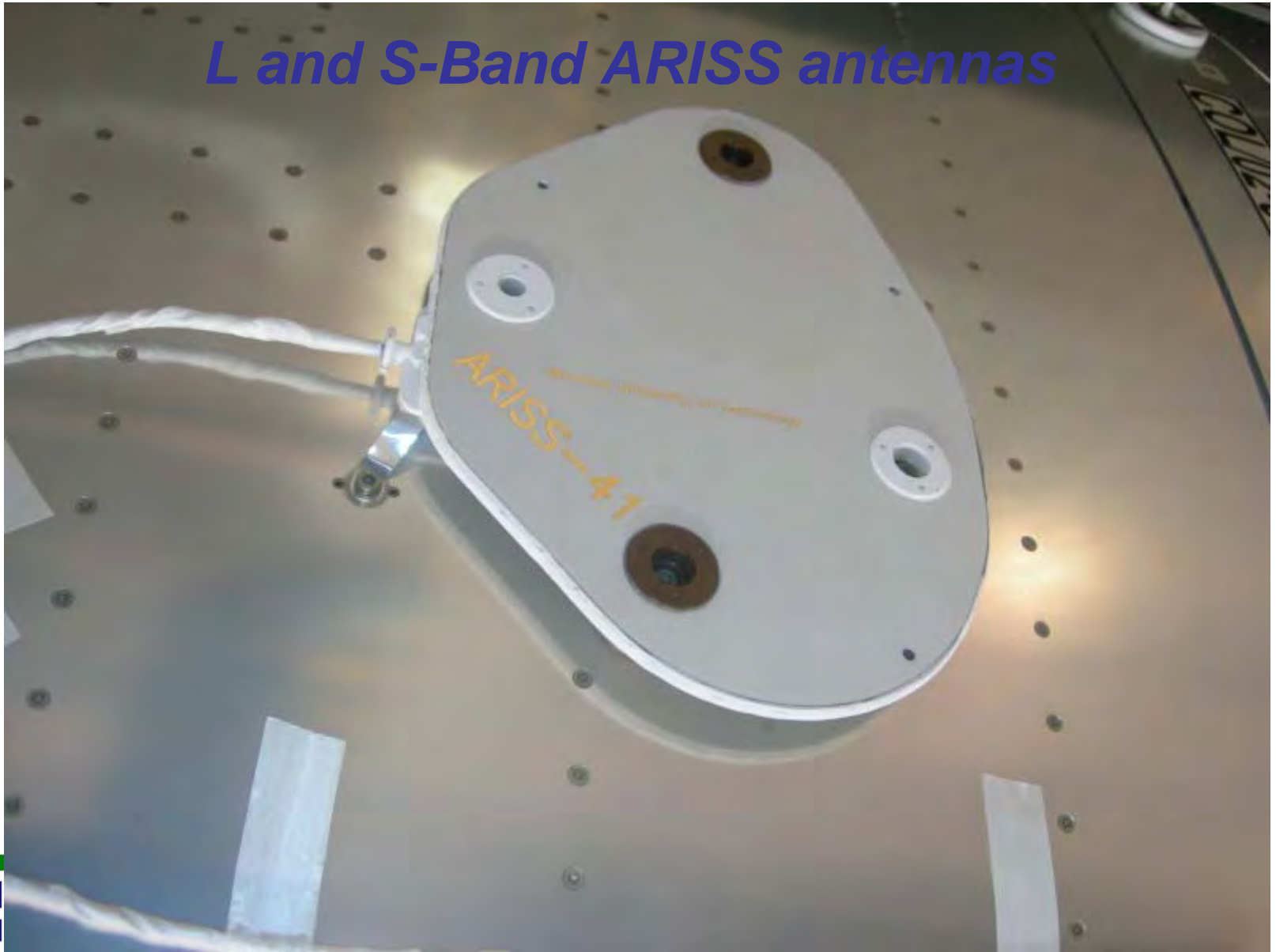


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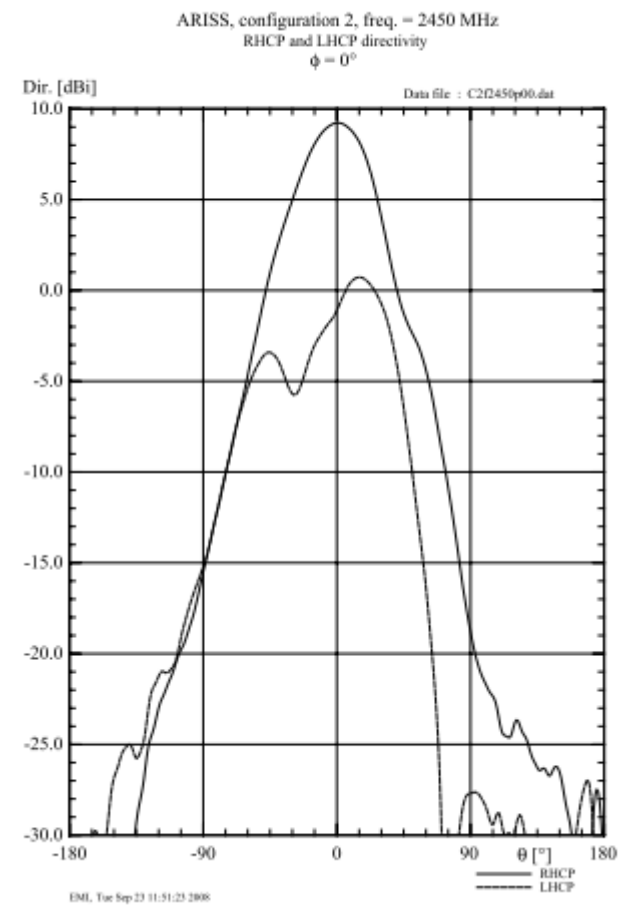
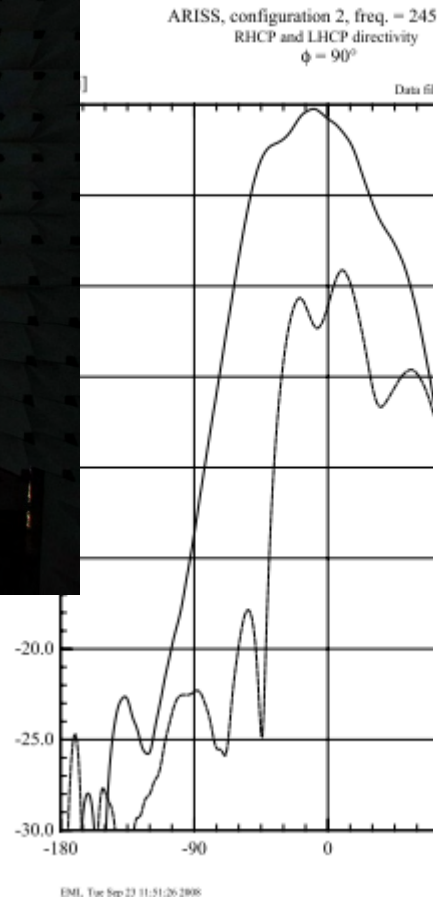
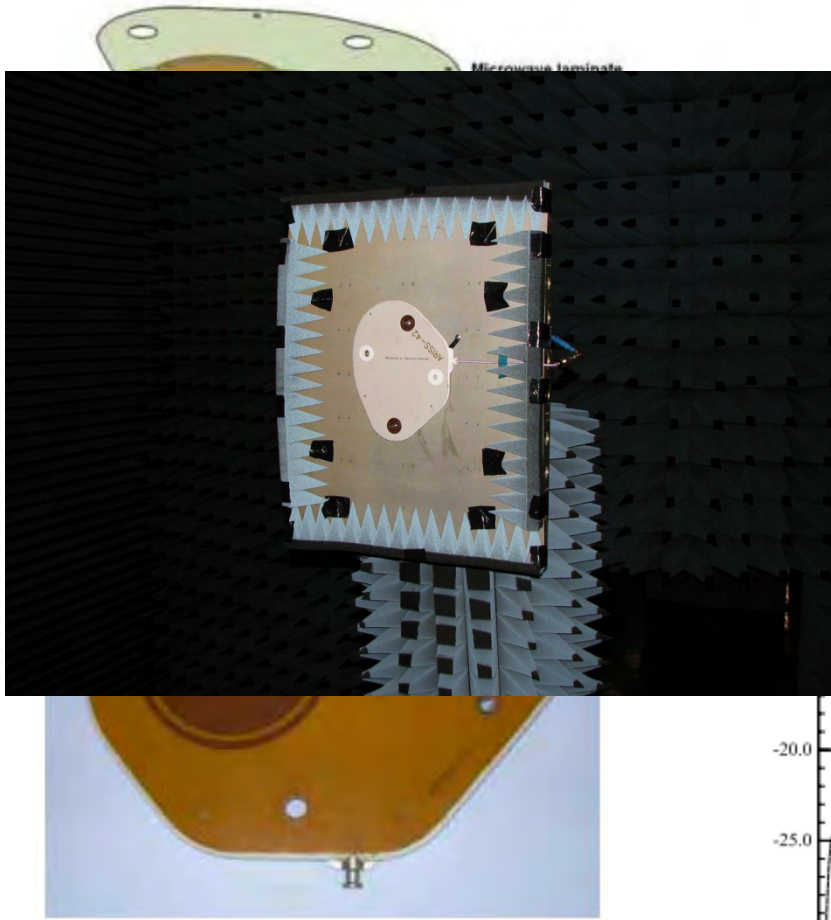
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## *L and S-Band ARISS antennas*

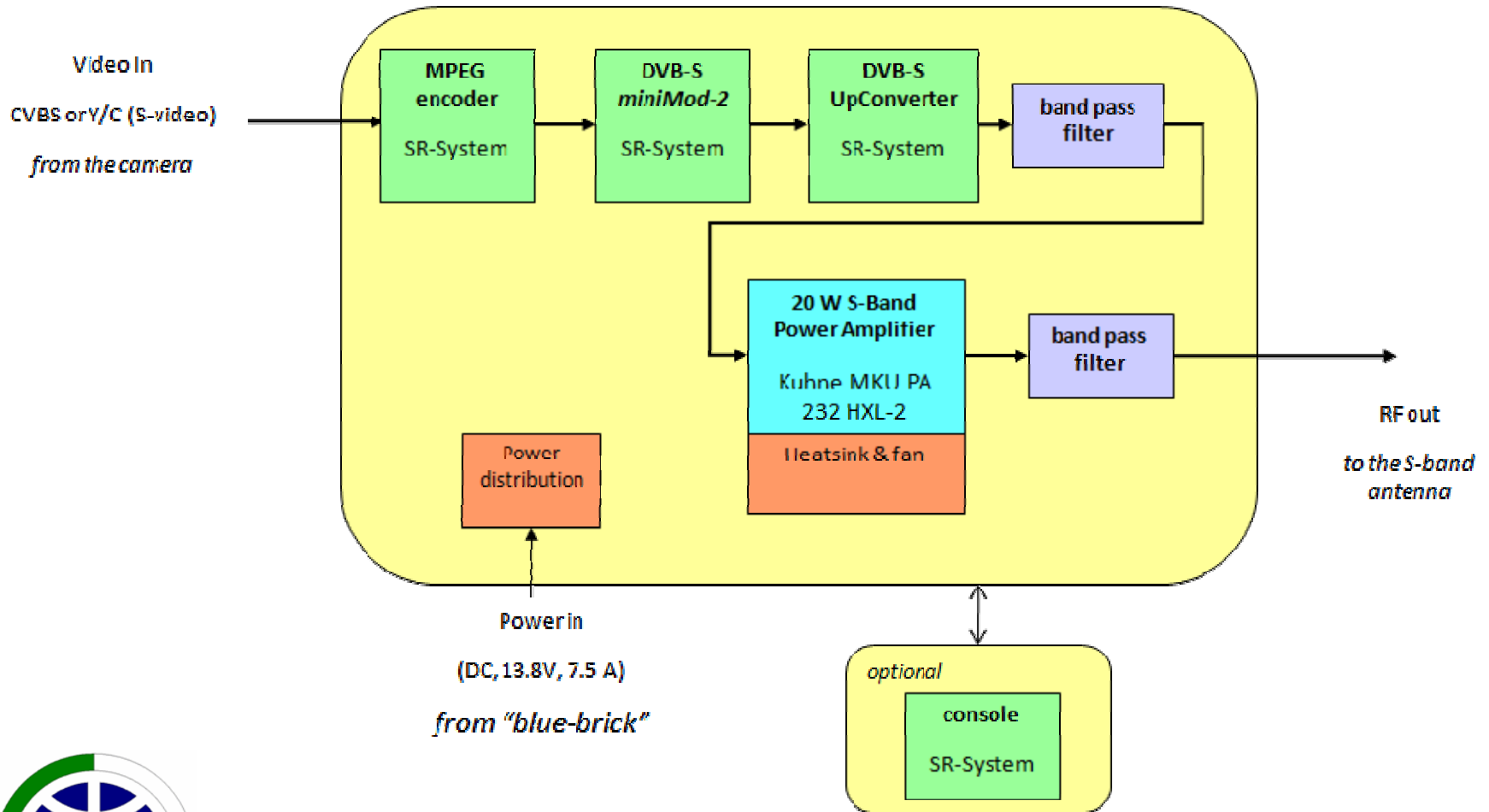




# L and S-Band ARISS antennas

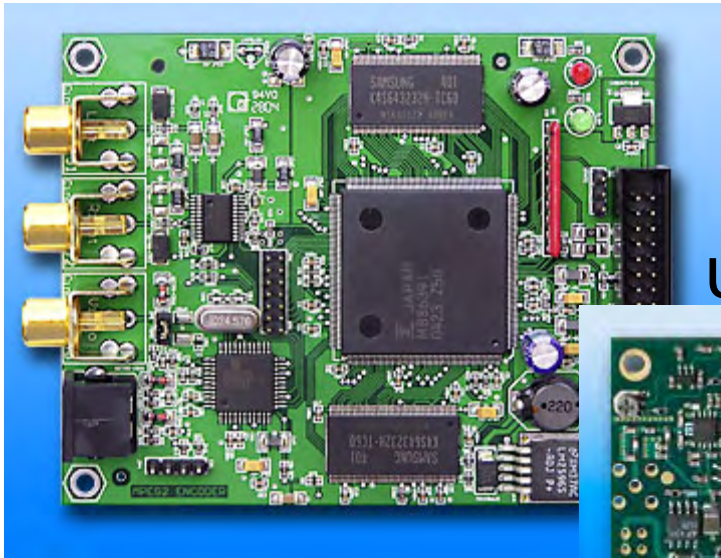


# HAMTV transmitter

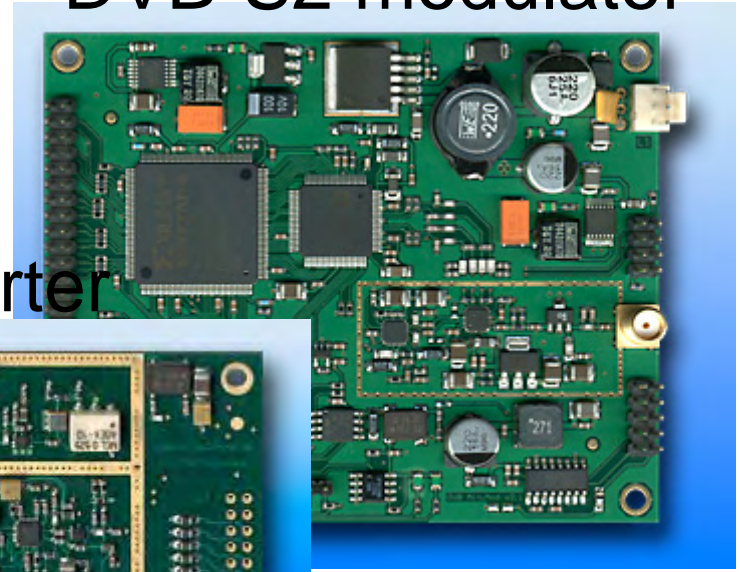


# Main modules

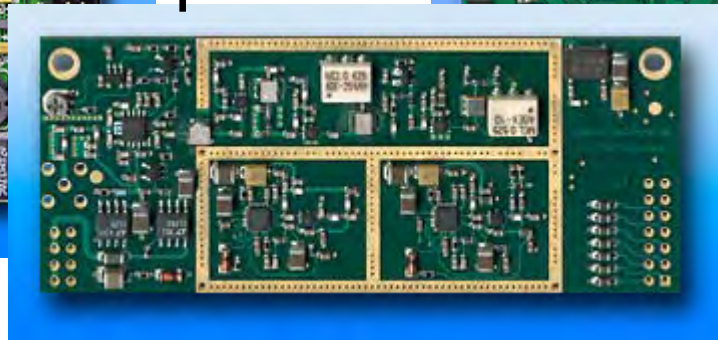
MPEG encoder



DVB-S2 modulator



upconverter



console



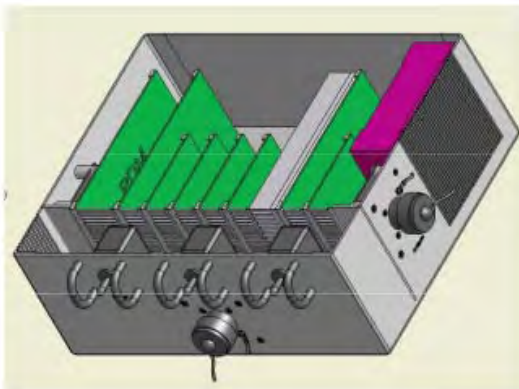
P.A.



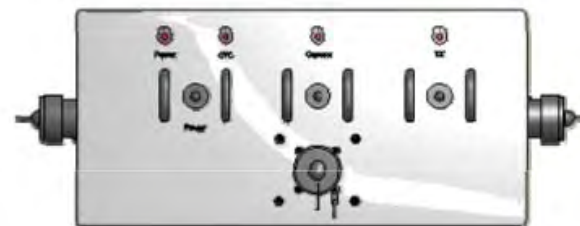
## HAMVIDEO box



The HAMVIDEO payload will be accommodated inside a suitable container, developed and qualified by KI, based on the heritage of the BLOKON container.



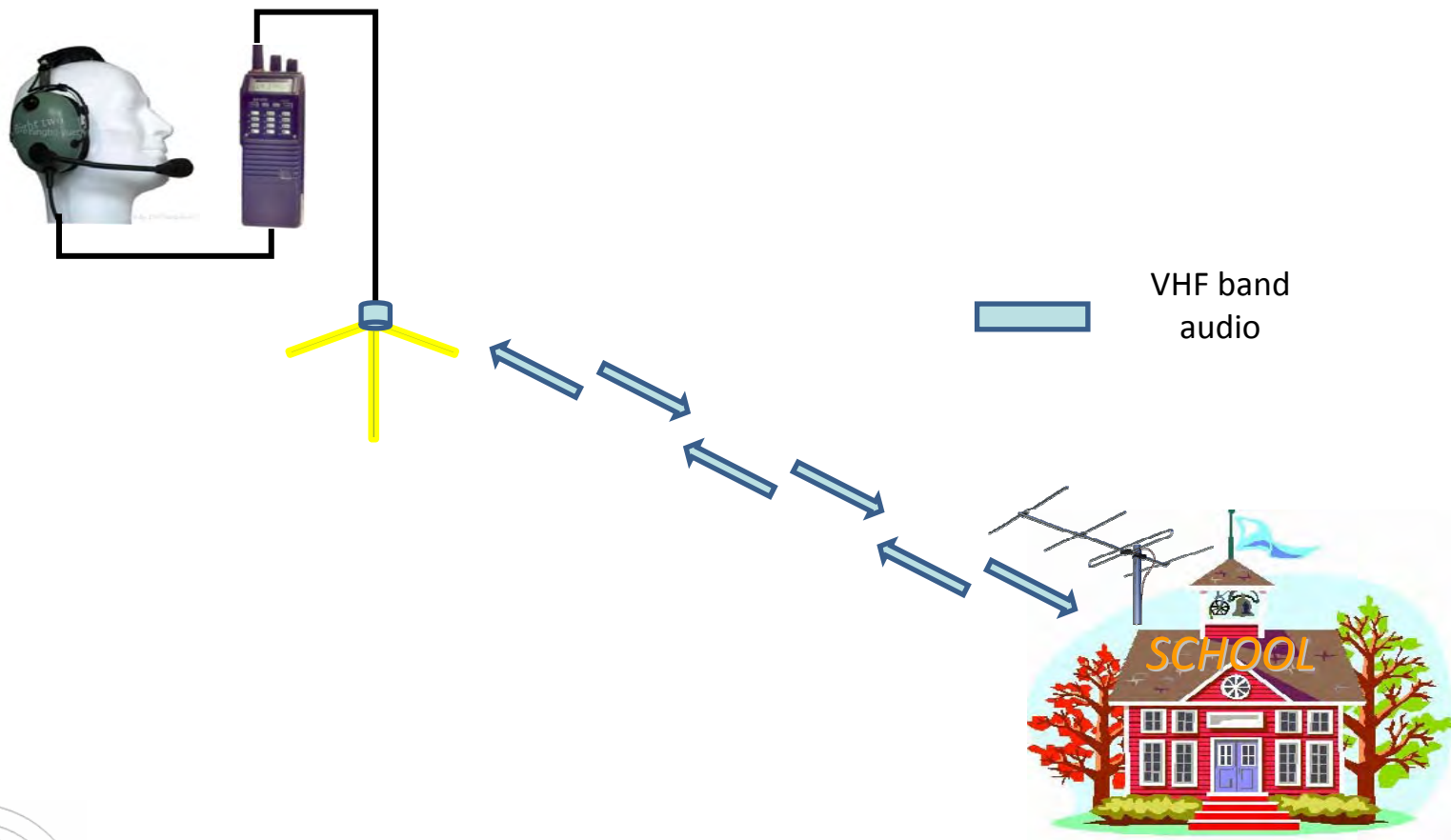
HAMVIDEO units accommodation



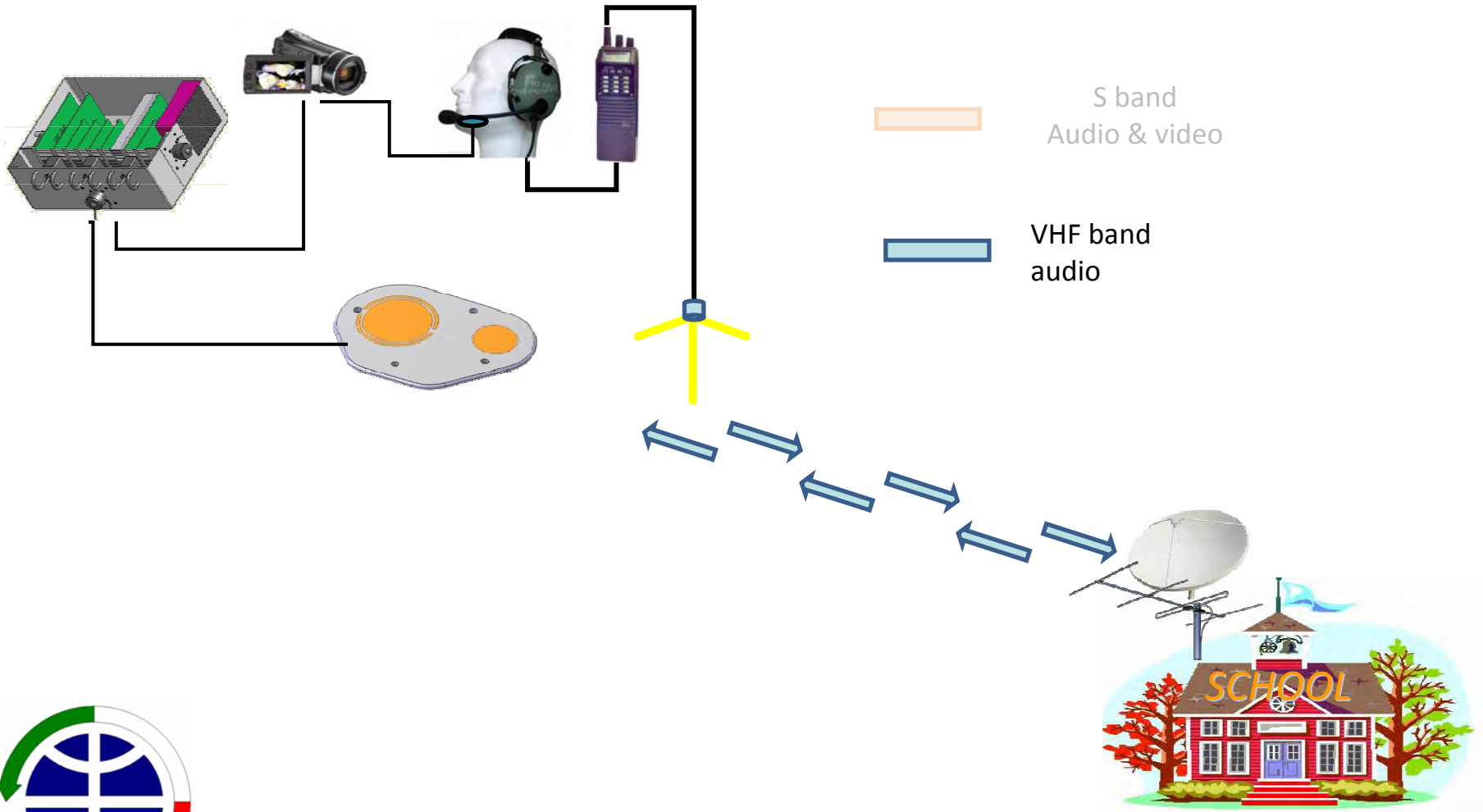
Front Panel



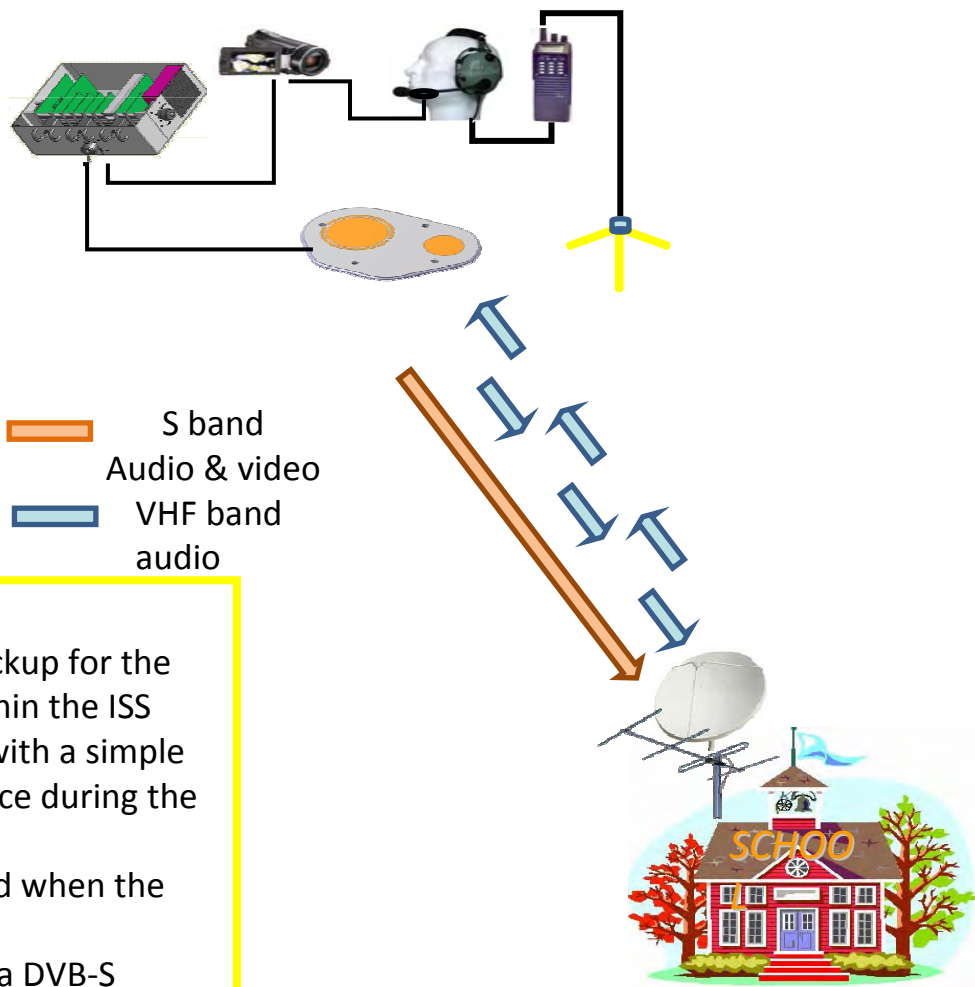
# Traditional, voice-only, bidirectional, half-duplex school contact



# First portion of the HAMTV school contact (approx. first 3 minutes)



## Central part of the HAMTV school contact: live video from ISS (duration up to 5 minutes)



### NOTE:

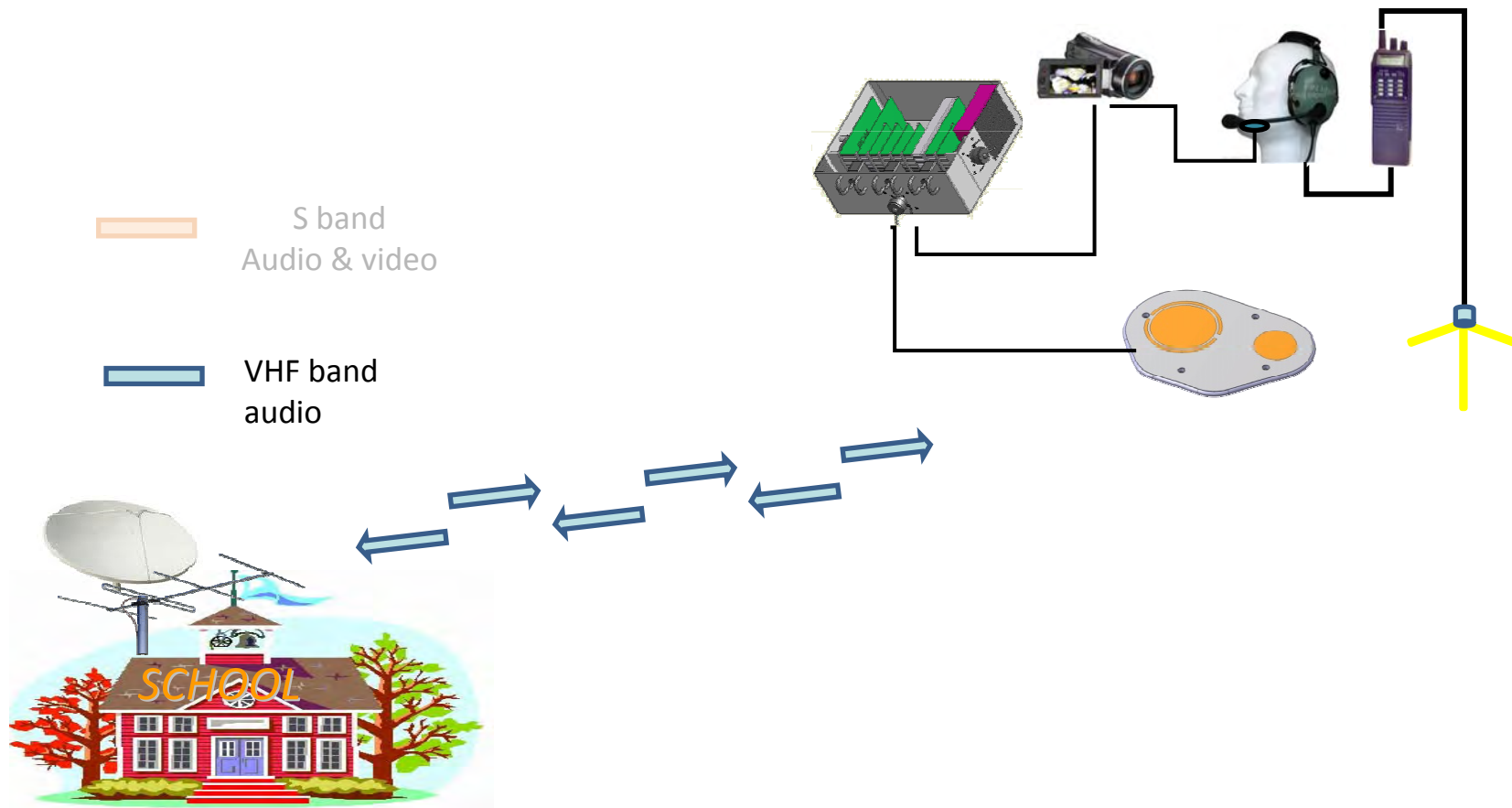
1) VHF audio downlink acts as a backup for the school and allows ham stations within the ISS visibility circle to receive ISS voice with a simple hardware. Hams will receive ISS voice during the whole pass.

2) Lip synchronizazion is guaranteed when the school listen to the "S band voice"

3) Any ham station, equipped with a DVB-S receiver similar to the one used in the school and within the ISS visibility circle, can catch the video downlink.

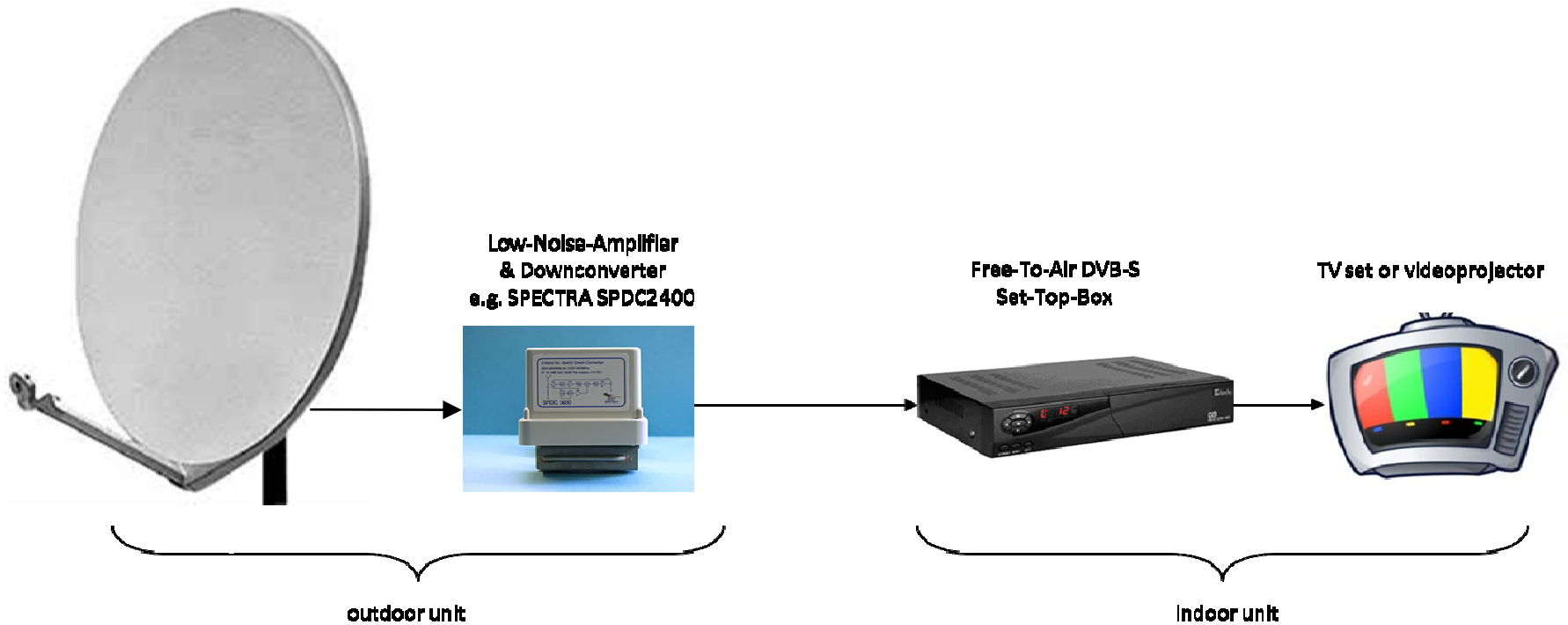


## Last part (greetings) in voice-only mode





# On ground receiving station



# Ground station receiving antenna



2.4 GHz Circular polarized patch feed for prime focus dishes

**2G4PF1L**

*for every prime focus dish*

2.4 GHz circular polarized helix feed for TVRO offset dishes

**2G4HF1L**

*for every "sat-tv" offset dish*

- LHCP for dish mounting
- Professional milled aluminium
- Specially designed for satellite use
- Fits to every offset TV dish
- PE low loss radome
- Male and Female N conn. available
- Very easy dish mounting

1 mounting  
milled aluminium  
igned for satellite use  
prime focus dish  
unting  
nale N conn. available

Male N connector order code is: 2G4PF1L/M  
Female N connector order code is: 2G4PF1L/F

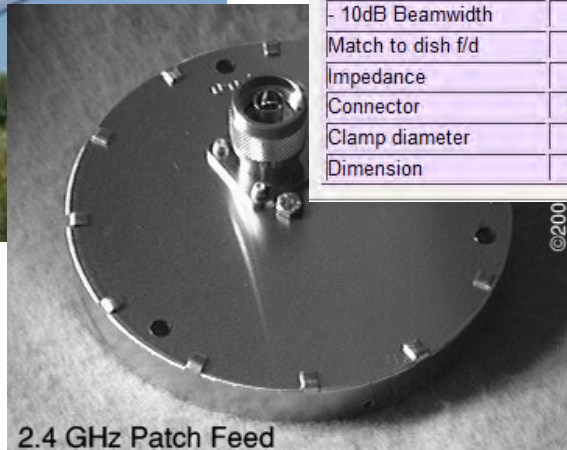


|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Polarization      | LHCP               |
| Center frequency  | 2400 MHz           |
| Bandwidth         | 100 MHz            |
| Gain              | 9.5 dB iso circ.   |
| - 10dB Beamwidth  | 105°               |
| Match to dish f/d | 0.48 - 0.65        |
| Impedance         | 50 ohm             |
| Connector         | N male or female   |
| Clamp diameter    | 35 mm              |
| Dimension         | 120 x 120 x 240 mm |

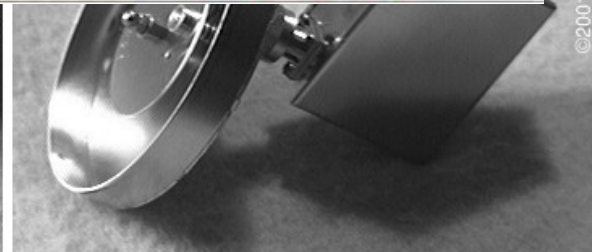
Male N connector order code is: 2G4HF1L/M  
Female N connector order code is: 2G4HF1L/F



download datasheet



2.4 GHz Patch Feed



# *Ground station pointing system*

Example of a mobile receiving  
antenna by PRO.SIS.TEL  
(Bari)

80-cm dish

0.2° accuracy

complete track 6 s



# COTS LNBS



## S-Band Downconverter

### Summary

#### Low Cost Drop-in solution

Plug and play ready for standard settop boxes.

#### Low phase noise

Due to a very stable and low noise internal synthesized source an ideal solution for phase noise susceptible applications.

#### Unconditional stable design

No parasitic oscillations. Unconditional stable for a wide range of input terminations.

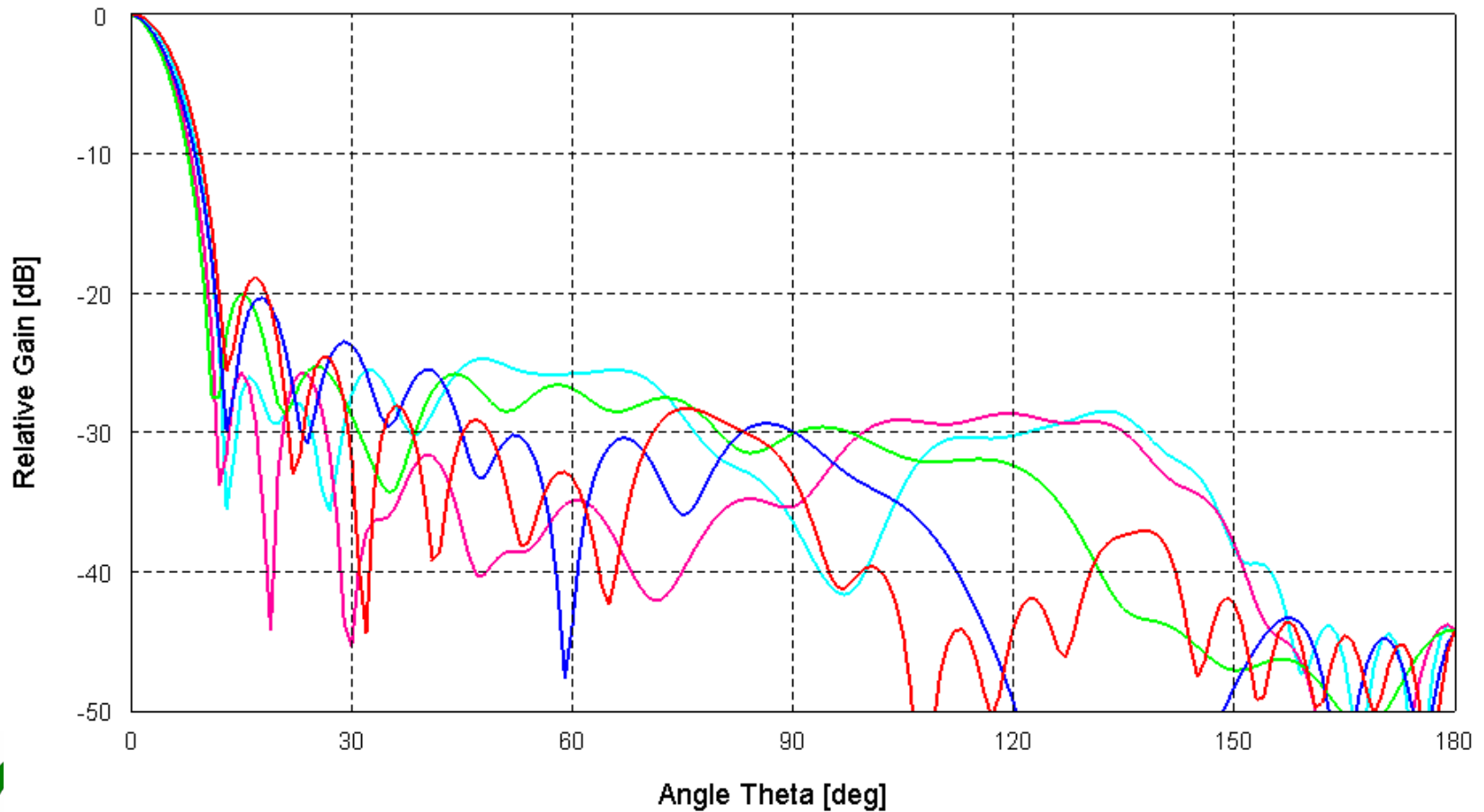
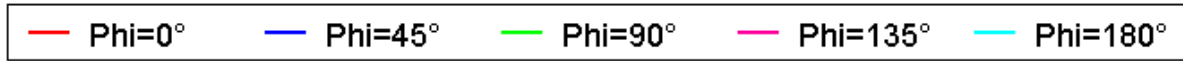
#### Excellent overall Noise Figure

With an overall noise figure of better than



# A computer model Antenna pattern

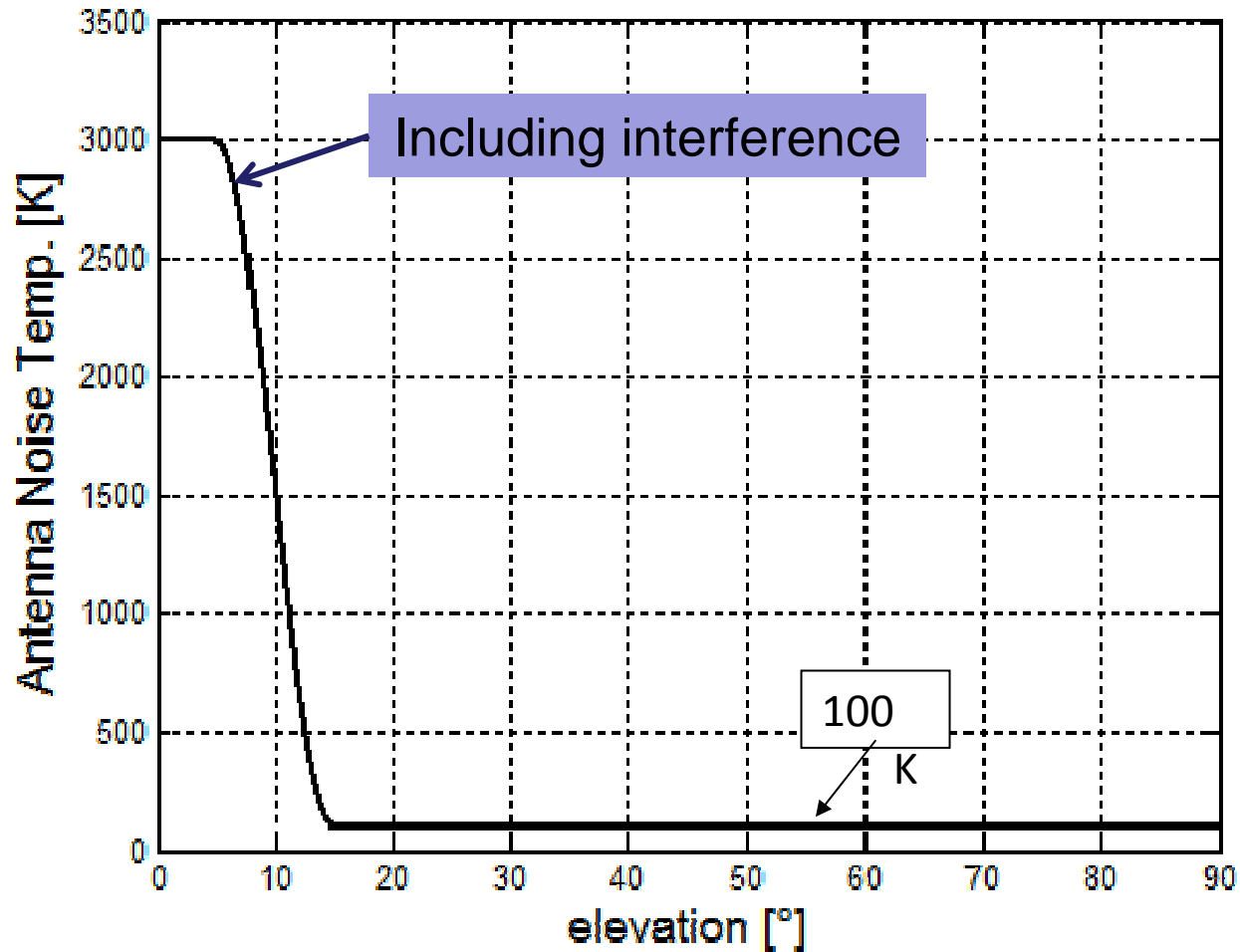
Gain



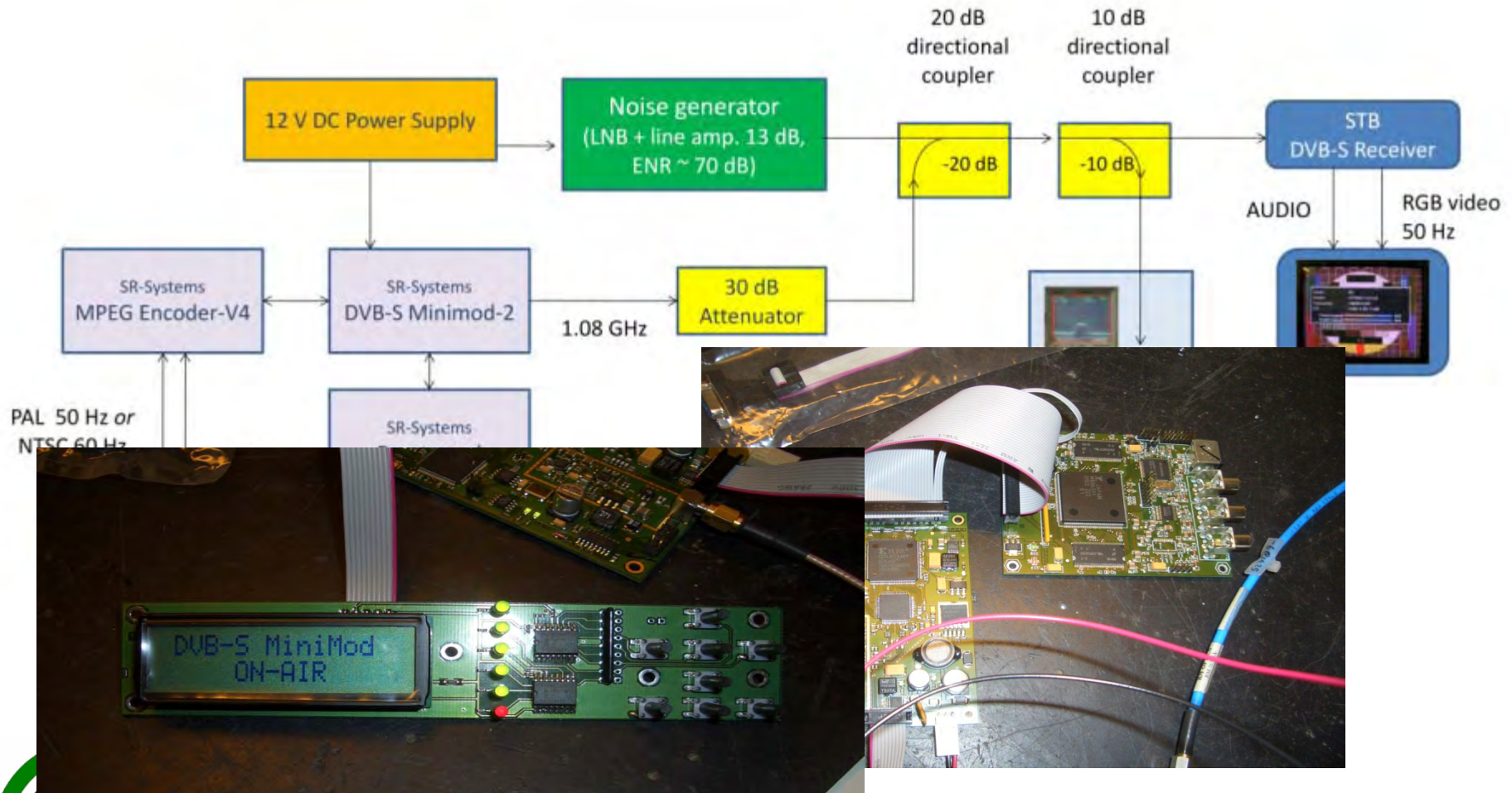
2010-04-02 : completa\_90\_FW\_5tum



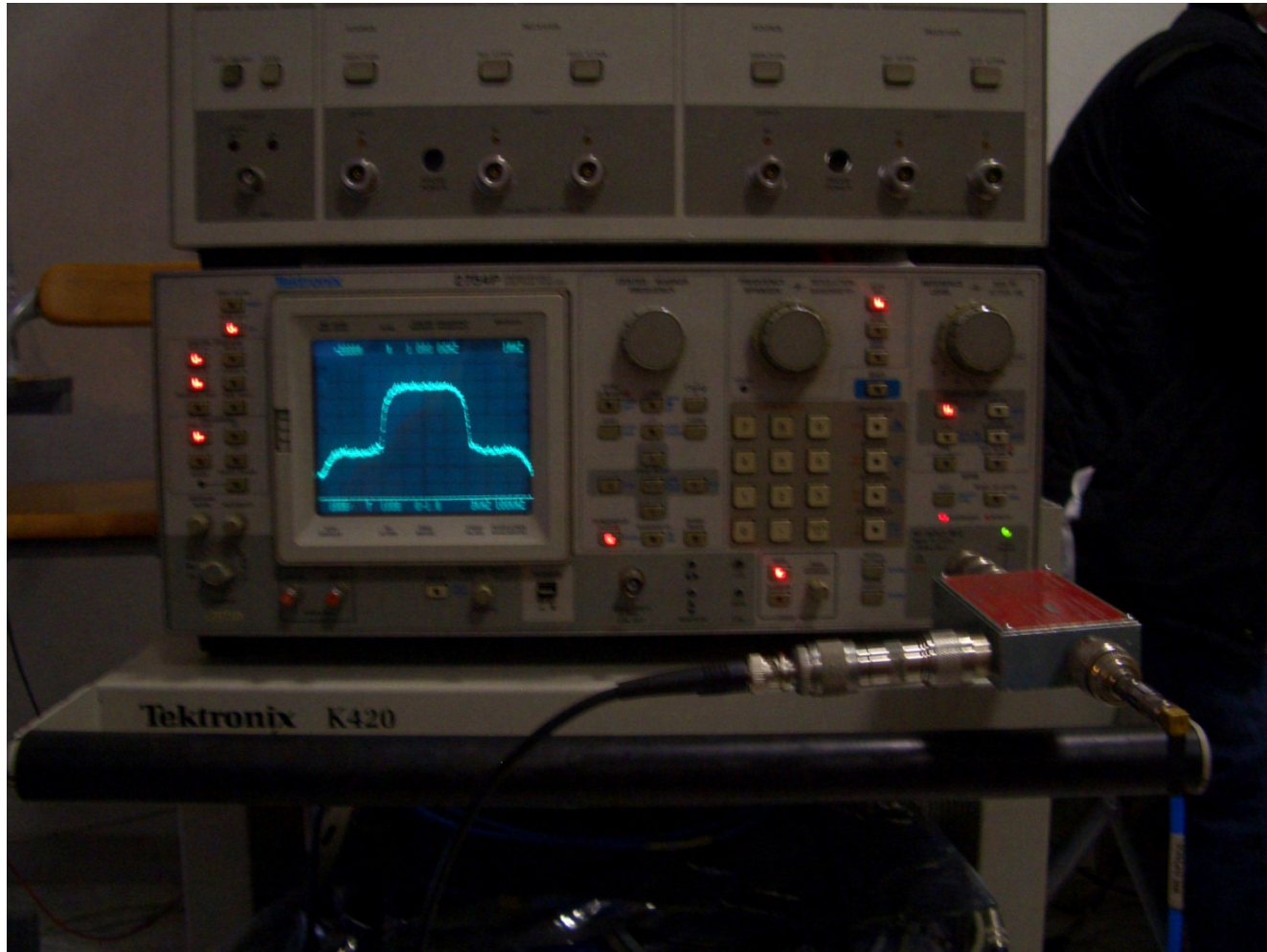
# Earth Station Antenna Noise Temperature



# TEST-BED at LTG Elettronica



# *First results in IF-LOOP*

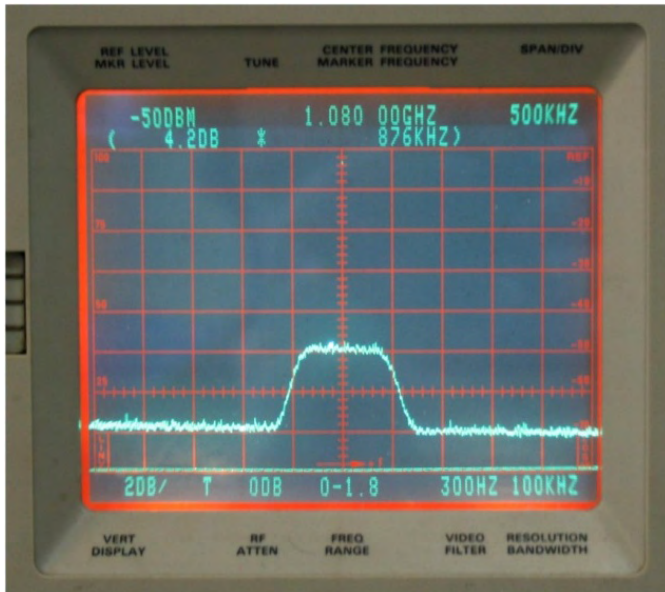




# First results in IF-LOOP



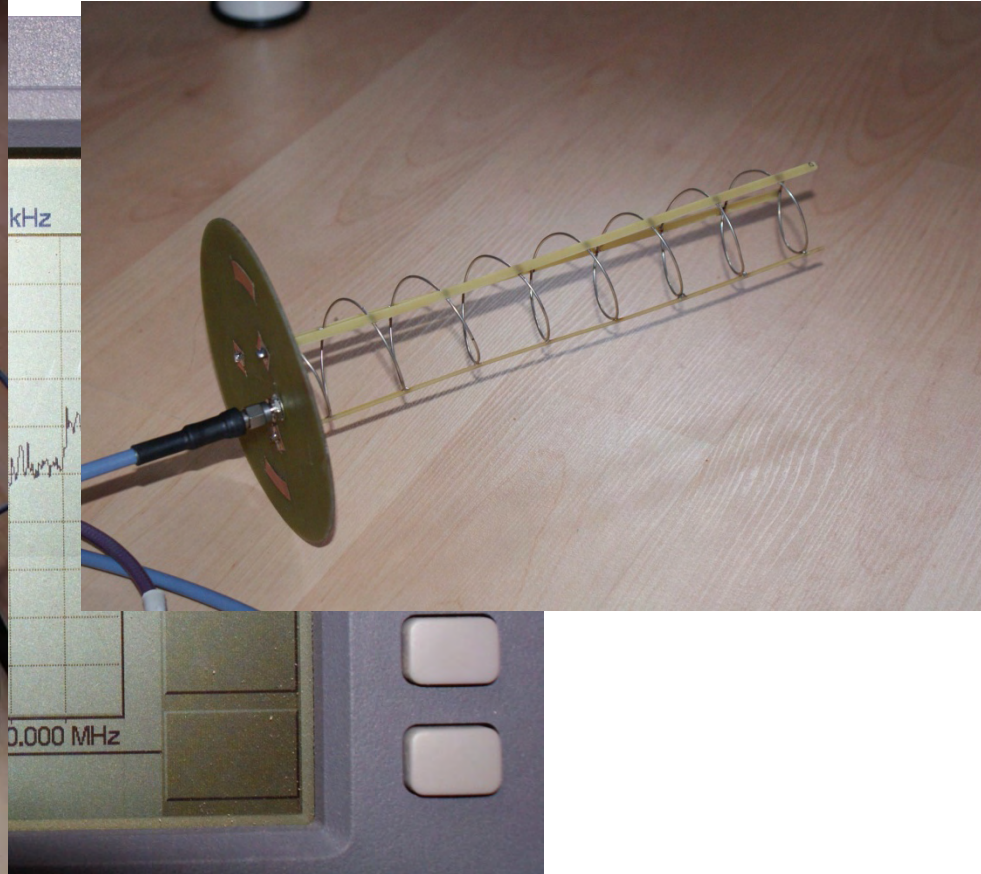
# First results in IF-LOOP



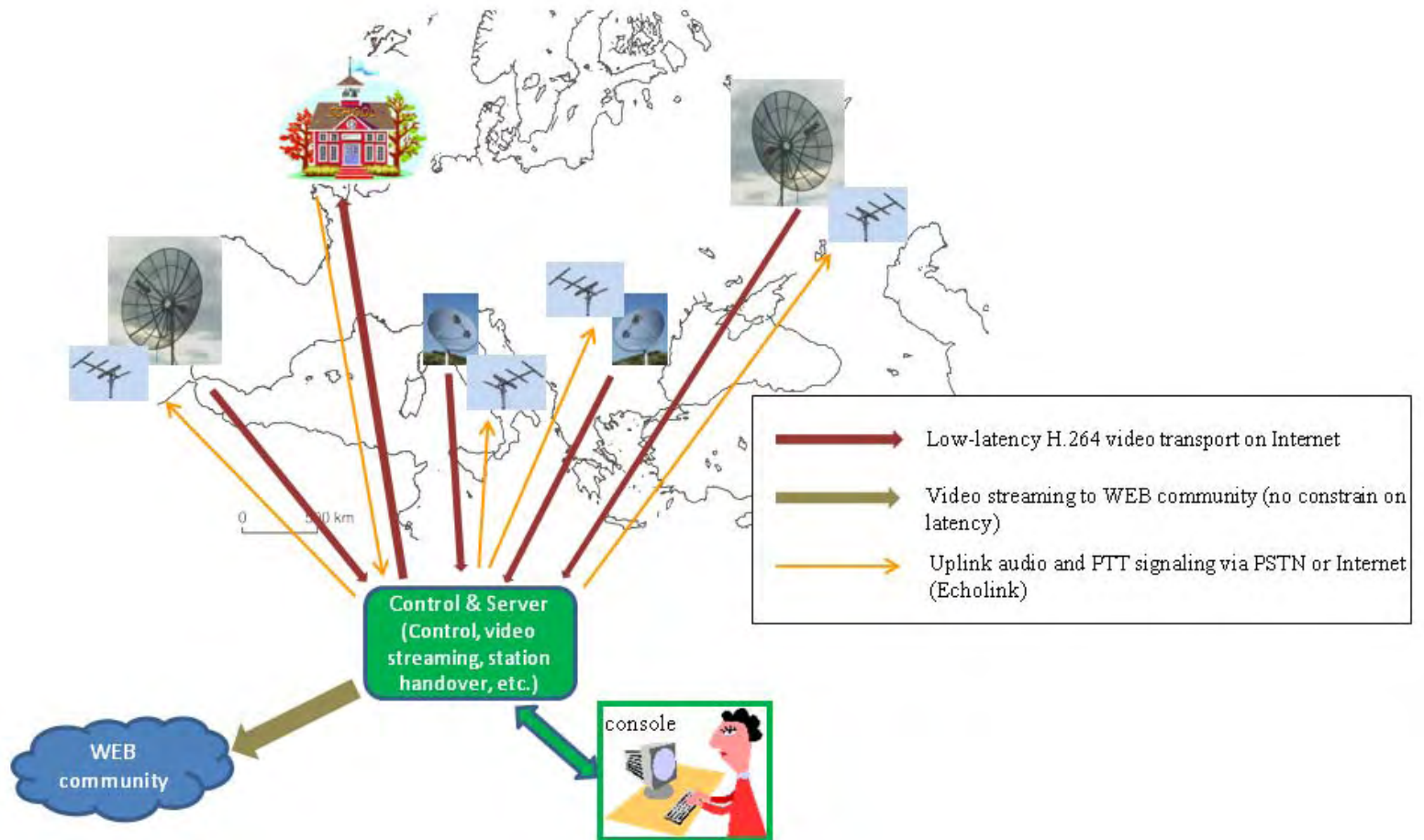
An example of noise level setting, corresponding to  $(C_0+N_0)/N_0 = 4.2$  dB and its effect on video quality, as shown in the image on the right.  $FEC = 3/2$ . This situation was considered to be below the receiver threshold. The threshold was at about  $(C_0+N_0)/N_0 = 4.5$  dB.

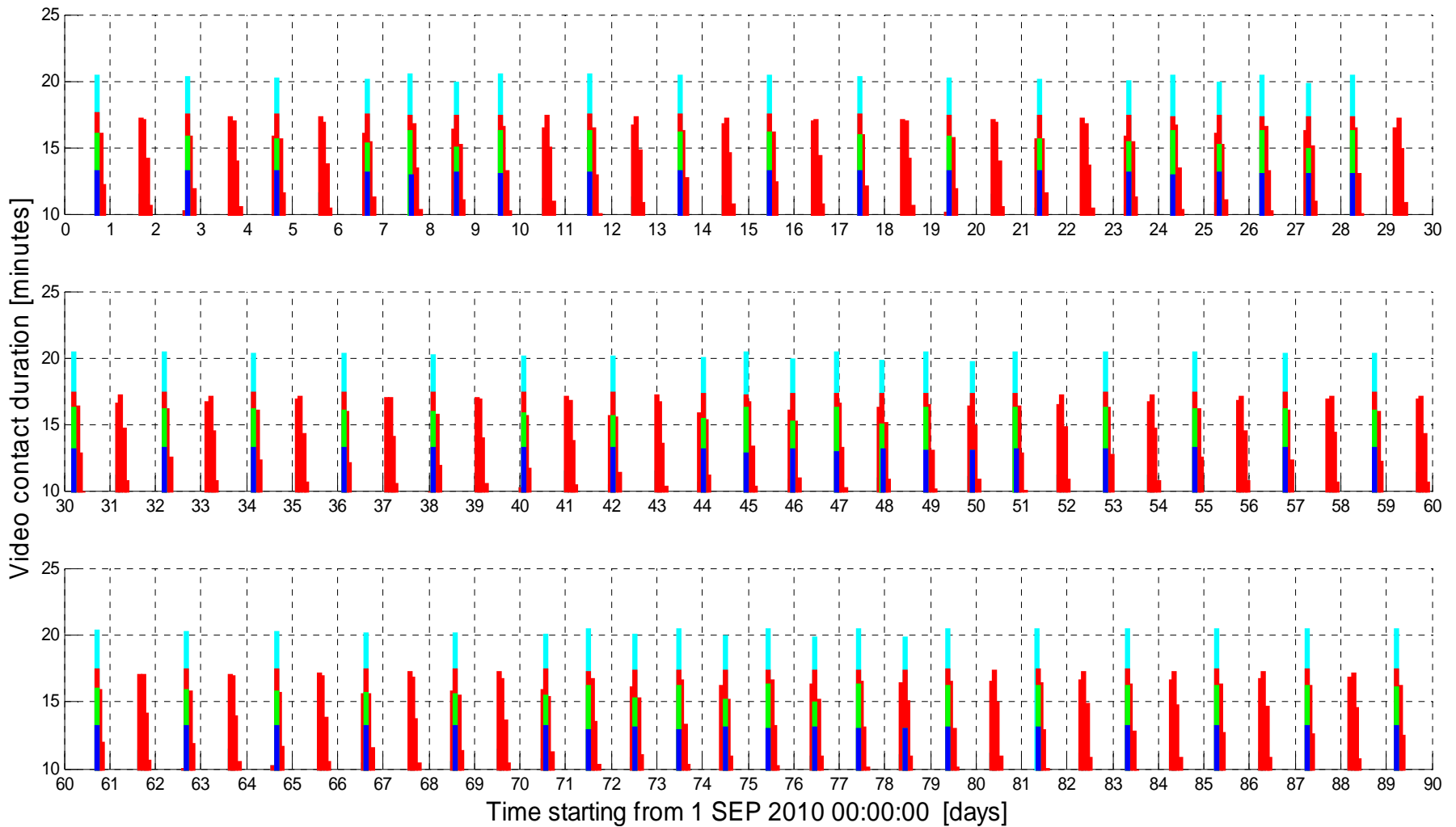


# First environment measurements



# Chained Ground Segment





Video contact duration for a 90 days period starting September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

Chained stations (and antenna diameters):

Blue: (case A) Lisboa (1 m), Milano (1 m), Bucaresti (1 m), Moskva (1 m)

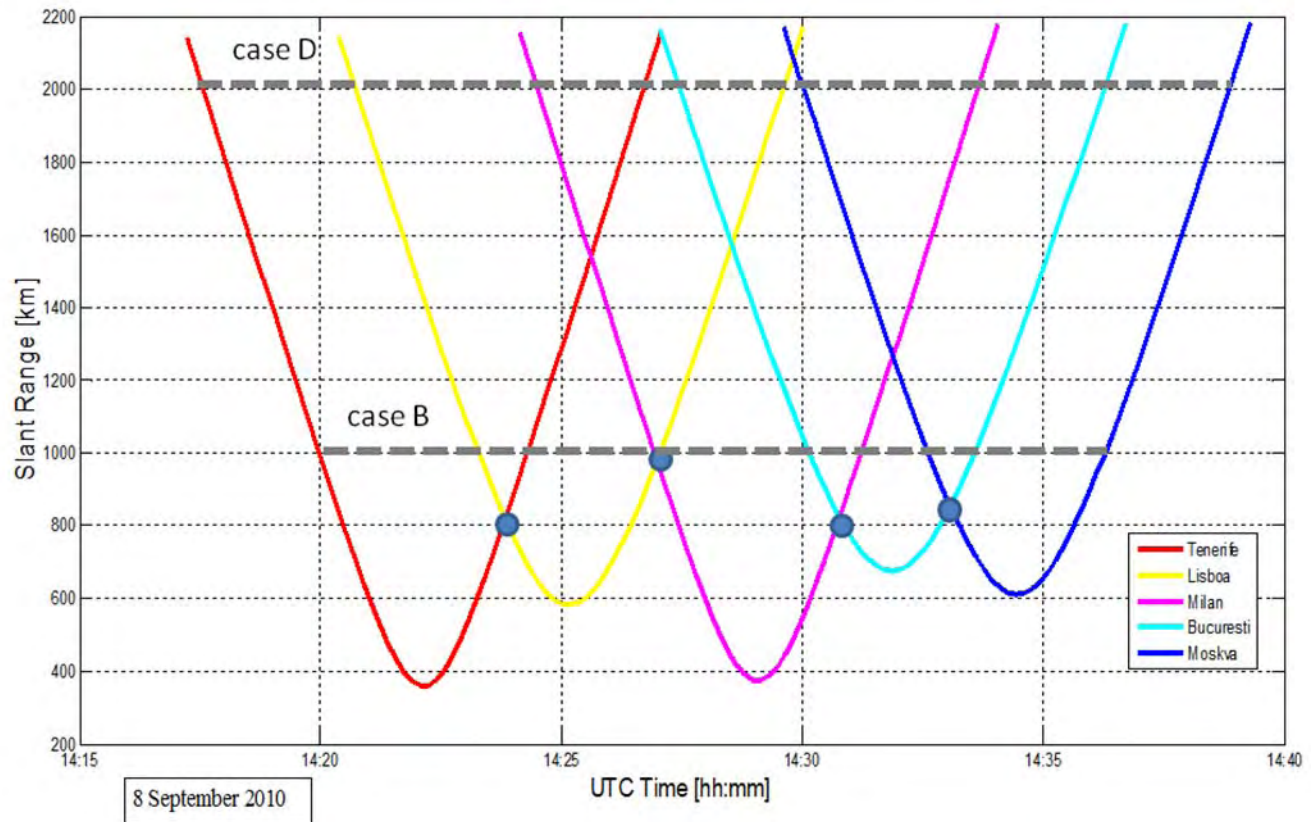
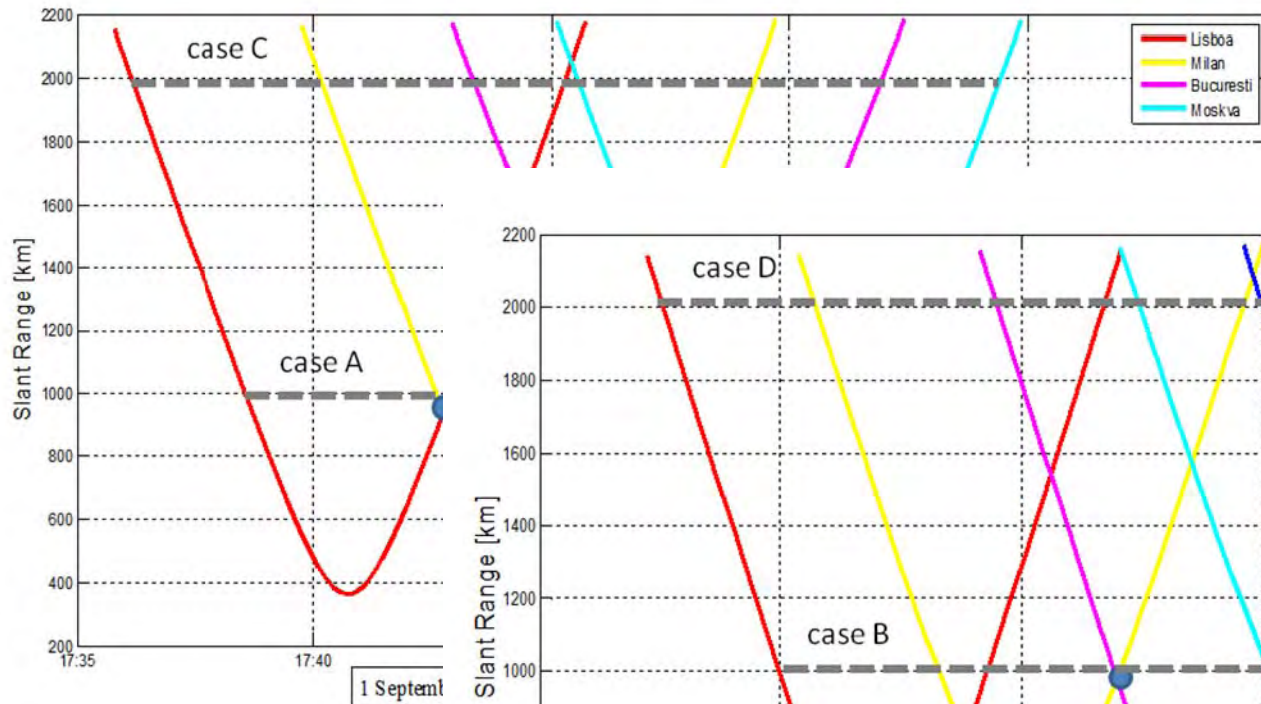
Green: (case B) Tenerife (1m), Lisboa (1m), Milano (1m), Bucaresti (1m), Moskva (1m)

Red: (case C) Lisboa (2.5m), Milano (1m), Bucaresti (1m), Moskva (2.5m)

Cyan: (case D) Tenerife (2.5m), Lisboa (1m), Milano (1m), Bucaresti (1m), Moskva (2.5m)



# Hand-over among earth stations



## ***THANKS to***

Piero Tognolatti IØKPT,  
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Tonino Giagnacovo  
Fabio Azzarello IW8QKU,  
Paolo Pitacco IW3QBN,  
Pierluigi Poggi IW4BLG

Gaston Bertels ON4WF  
Oliver Amend DG6BCE

and the international ARISS/ARCOL WGs

