

# Welcome Small Data Network VTC 2019

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A satellite is shown in space, positioned in the upper right quadrant. The background features the dark expanse of space with numerous stars. On the left side, the curved horizon of Earth is visible, showing a bright blue atmospheric glow and a dense network of yellow and orange city lights. A vertical white line separates the text on the left from the text on the right.

**A mission to  
provide  
connectivity for  
space**

Building assets for ground communications and  
growing long term to in-space connectivity

# Kepler Today



12 Months  
Napkin to Orbit



38 Person  
Team



Proprietary  
Satellite

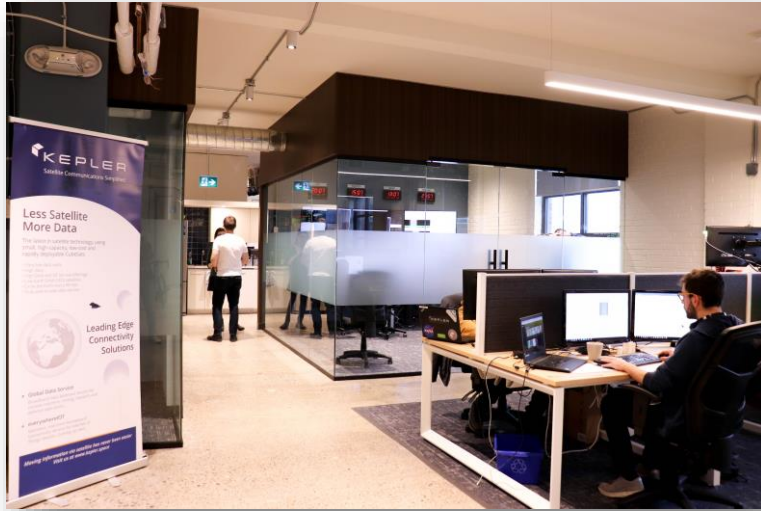


Acquired  
Spectrum



Government  
Contracts

# Where We Operate



## MAIN OFFICES

Headquarters and R&D located in Toronto,  
Canada

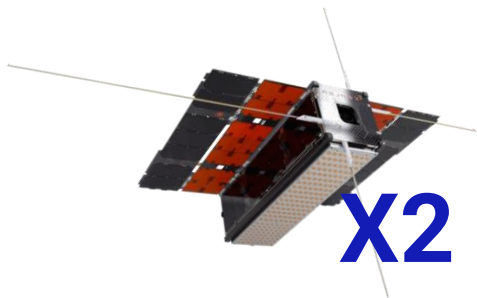


## GROUND INFRASTRUCTRE

Locations in Inuvik (Canada), Svalbard  
(Norway), and New Zealand

# Kepler's Satellites

Current

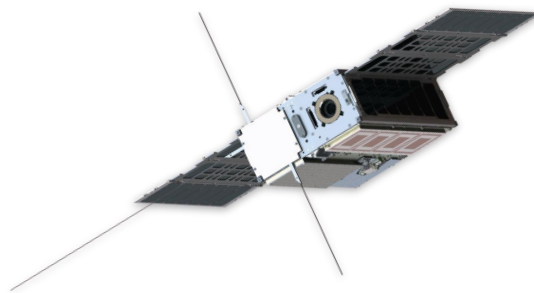


**X2**

Ku-Band

Global Data Service

Next Year



Ku-Band

S-Band

everywhereIoT

# Wideband and Narrowband Services



## ***Global Data Service™***

A hybrid wideband satellite service, routing data over multiple satellite networks to optimize bandwidth and reduce costs



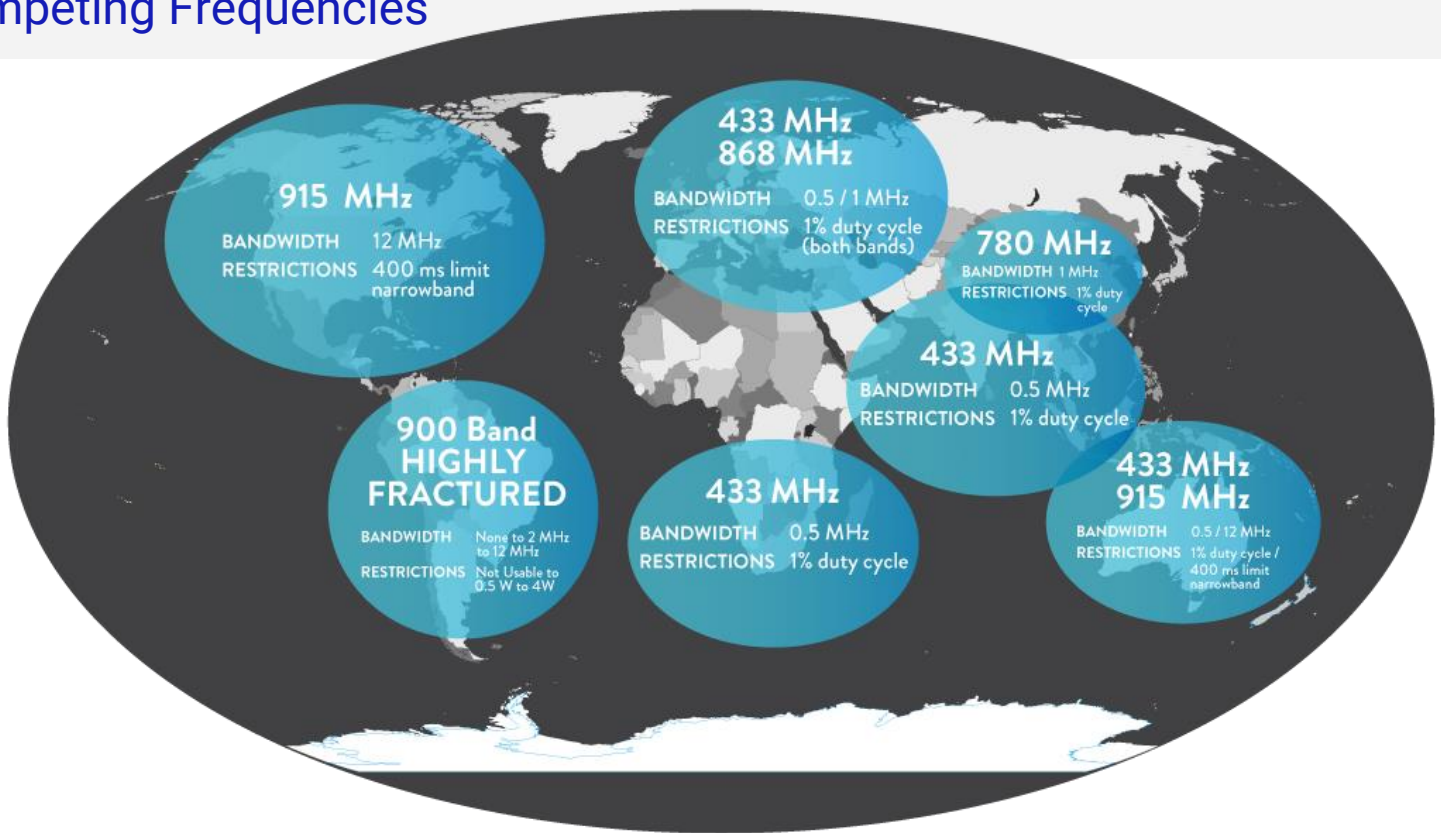
## ***everywhereIoT™***

A cellular-like and globally-available connection for Internet of Things devices

# Why Satellite IoT?

# Terrestrial ISM Spectrum

## Competing Frequencies





## 2G/3G Network Sunset

**2G** 

Ongoing shutdown  
Legacy hardware

**3G** 

Transition starting

**Lte** 

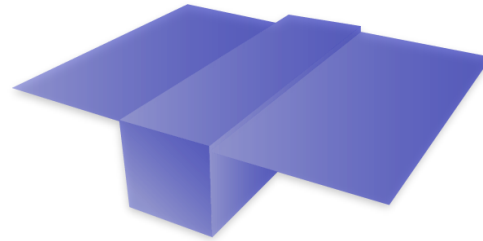
Inconsistent rollout  
of CAT NB/M1

# Terrestrial vs. Satellite IoT

## Frequency Standards



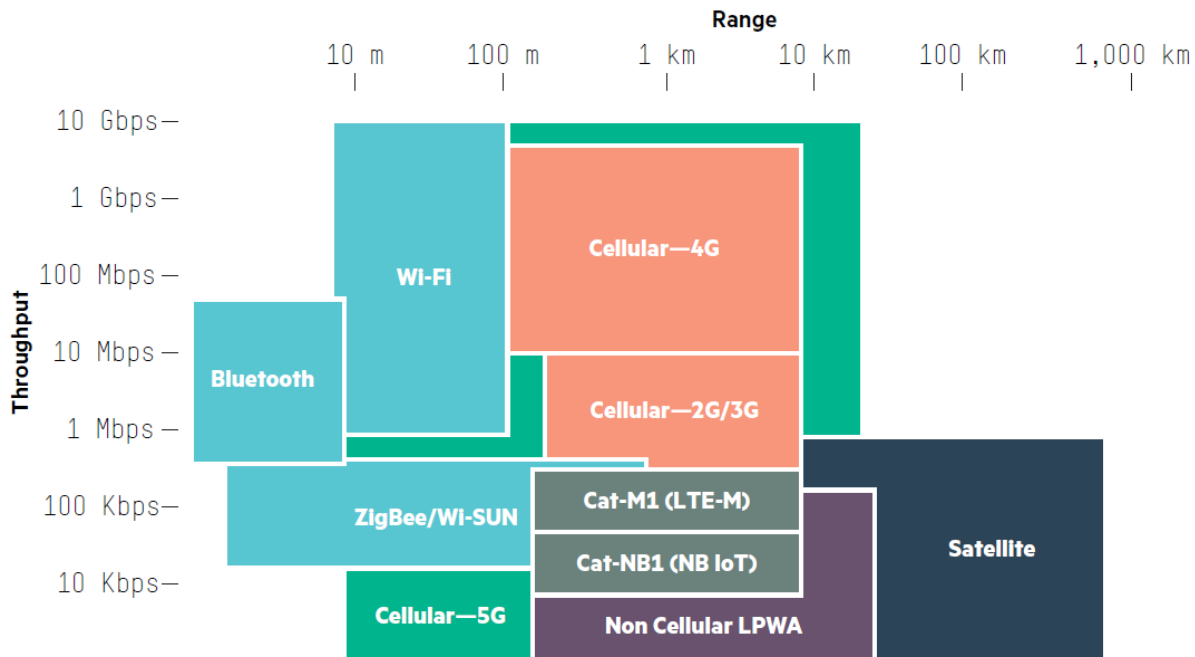
Different frequencies  
needed for different  
geographical areas



**One** frequency works  
worldwide

# Terrestrial vs. Satellite IoT

## Coverage and Throughput

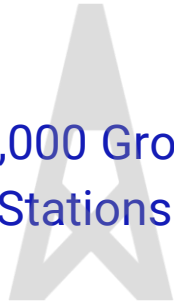


Source: Hewlett Packard Enterprise (2016). Low Power Wide Area (LPWA) networks play an important role in connecting a range of devices, Business white paper. Available at: <https://h20195.www2.hp.com/V2/getpdf.aspx/4AA6-5354ENW.pdf?ver=3.2>

# Terrestrial vs. Satellite IoT

## Coverage

~36,000 Ground  
Stations



Continental U.S.



1 LEO Satellite

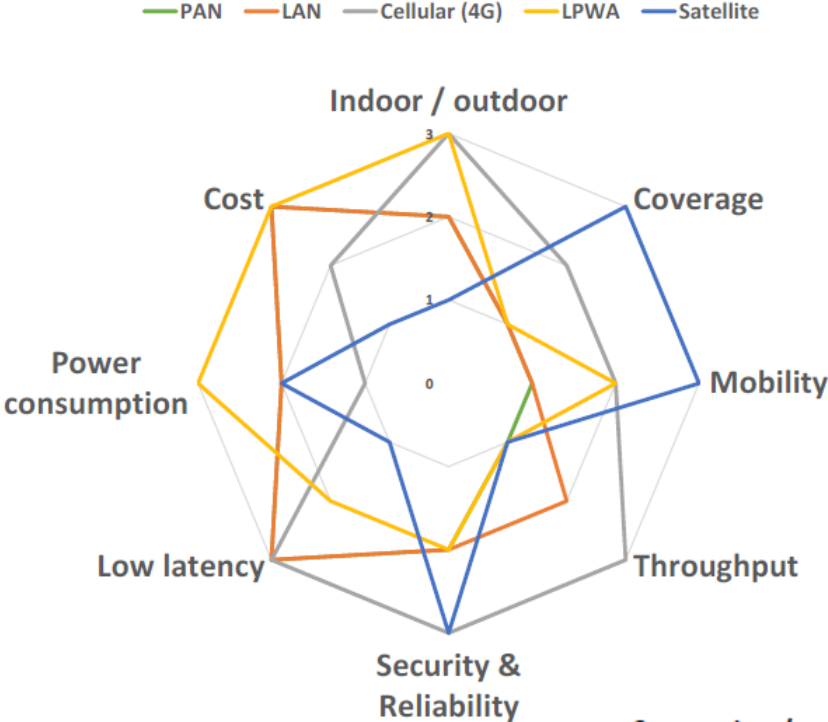


Global



# Terrestrial vs. Satellite IoT

## Network Diagram



Source: London Economics analysis

# Technical Challenges in Satellite IoT

# All About Orbits

## Low Earth Orbit (LEO)

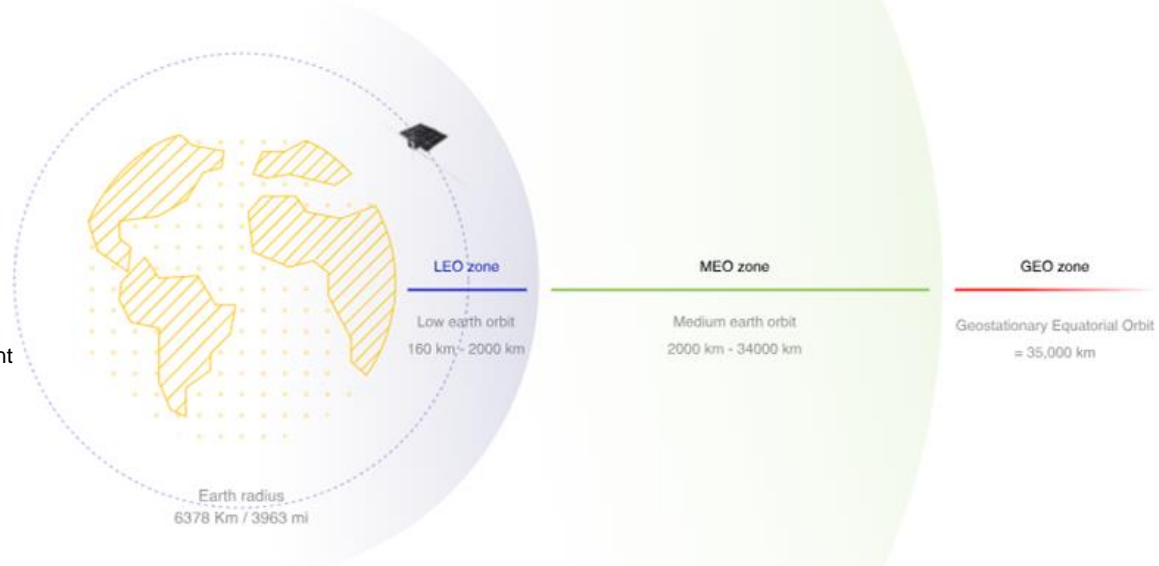
- More bandwidth and lower power ground equipment
- Steerable ground antenna needed for broadband
- Many (>50) satellites needed for real-time coverage
- **Kepler satellites**

## Medium Earth Orbit (MEO)

- Medium bandwidth, medium power ground equipment
- Steerable ground antenna needed for broadband
- Modest (>5) satellites needed for real-time coverage
- **GPS satellites**

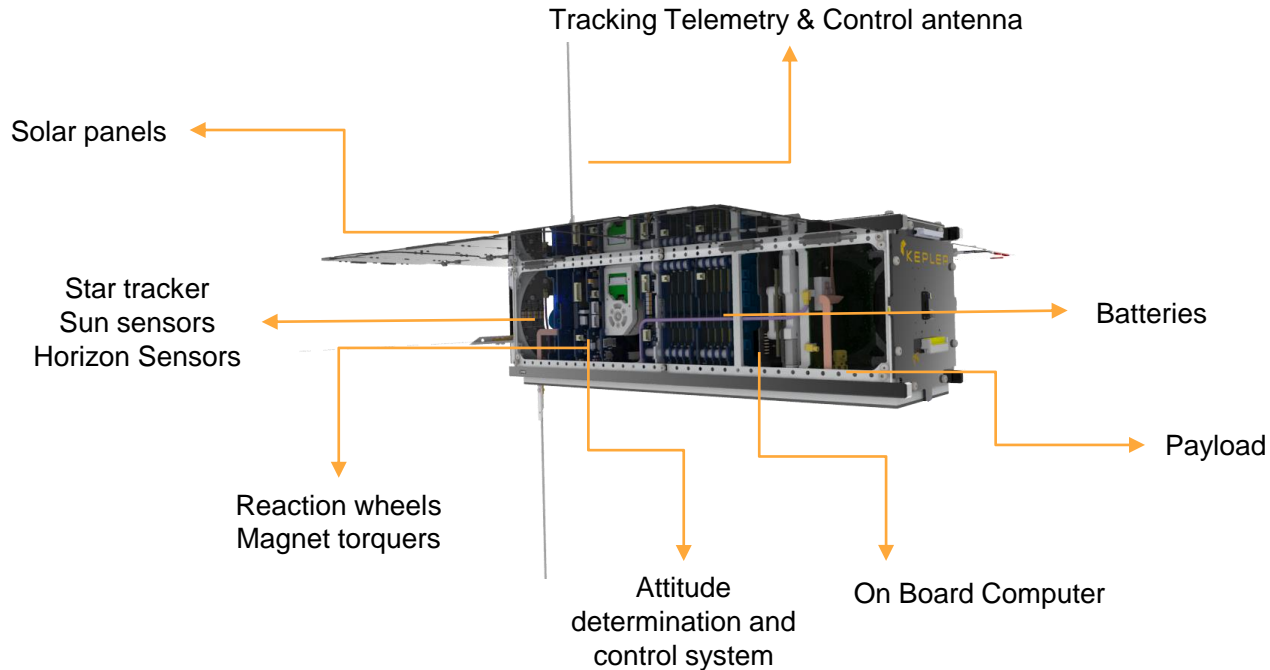
## Geostationary Earth Orbit (GEO)

- Low bandwidth and high power ground equipment
- Simple fixed antenna needed for broadband
- Single satellite needed for regional real-time coverage
- **Traditional telecom satellites**



# Technical Challenges - Satellite Platforms

## (Low Cost) Satellite Anatomy





# Technical Challenges - Satellite IoT

## User Terminal



Bi-Directional

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Low Power

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Low Cost

# Technical Challenges - Satellite IoT

## Link Budget

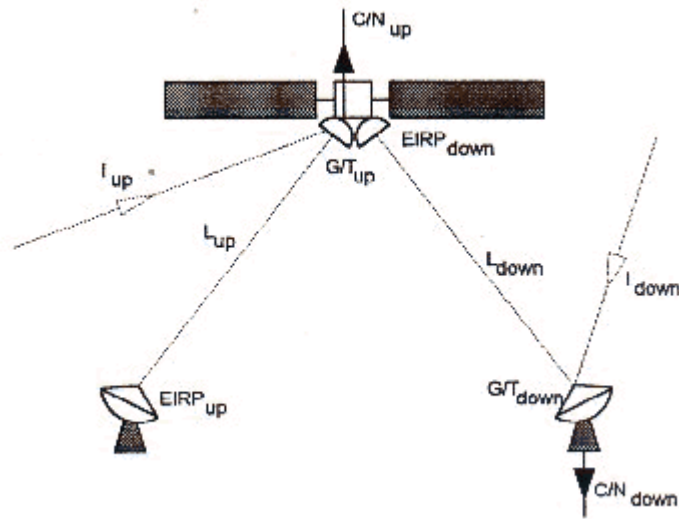
Low Power Transmitter

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Large Distances

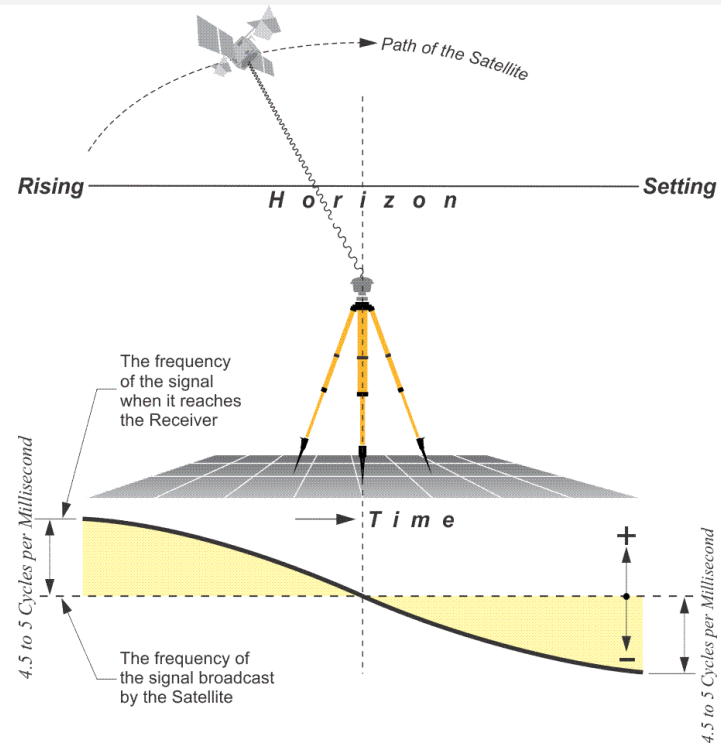
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Small Satellite



# Technical Challenges - Satellite IoT

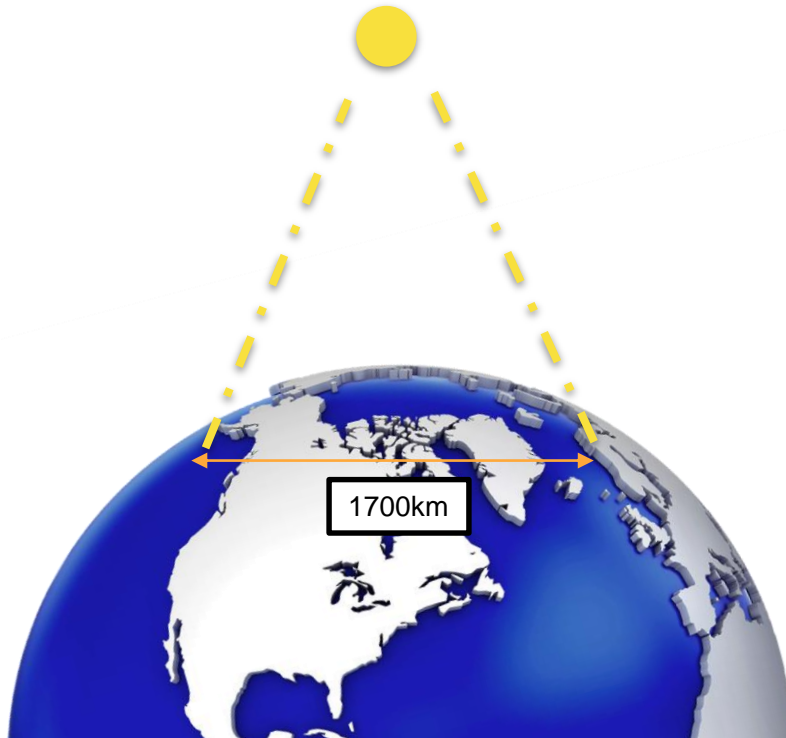
## Doppler Shift



Max Doppler of approx.  
**±40kHz @ 2GHz**

# Technical Challenges - IoT

## Multi-Access Schemes



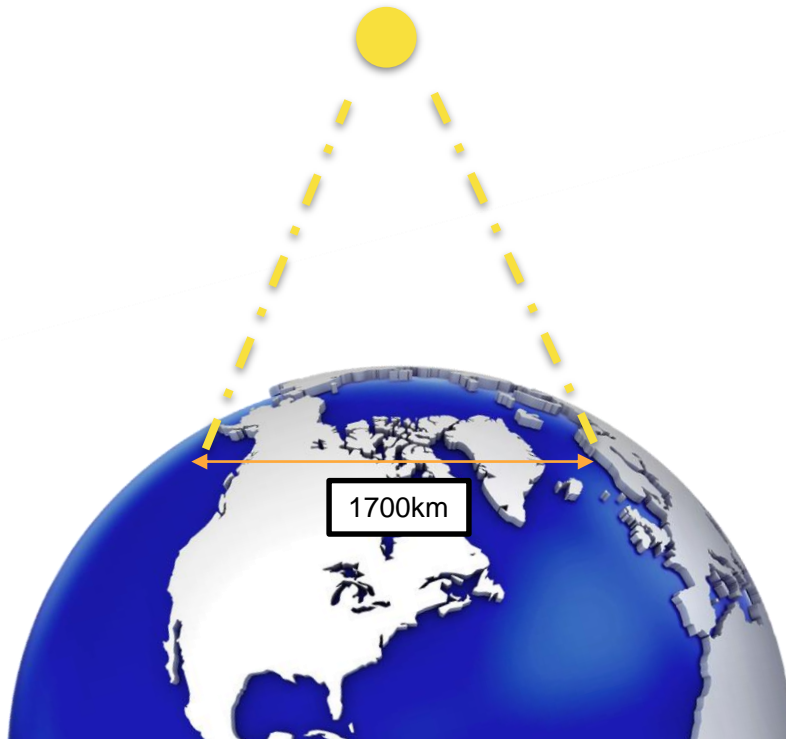
Each satellite has a large footprint which translates to supporting **>20,000 terminals** simultaneously

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All operate with potentially **different Doppler shifts** and **power levels**

# Technical Challenges - IoT

## Multi-Access Schemes



Challenging channel conditions for synchronization (both time and frequency)

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Uncoordinated/Random access

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Potentially mutually interfering signals

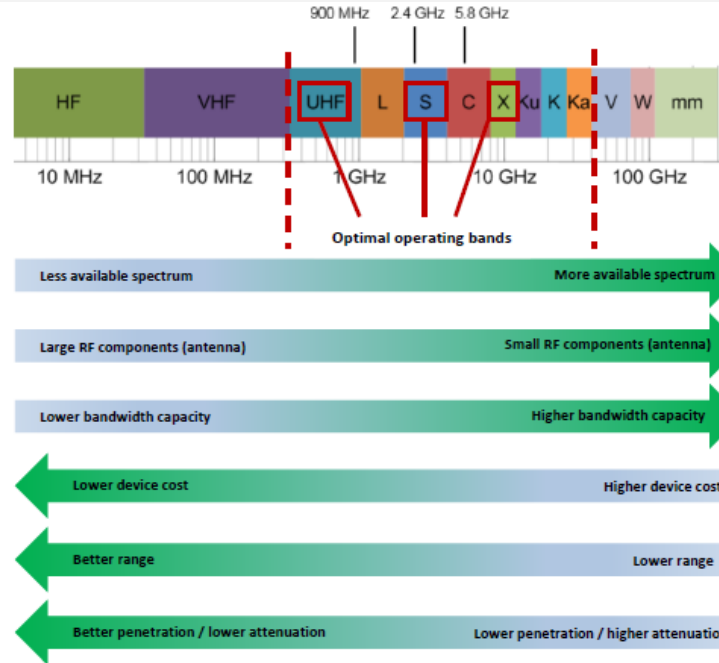
# Technical Challenges – Satellite IoT

## Regulatory and Spectrum

Licensed vs

Bandwidth

Choice of fr  
range, pene



Note: Example of common ISM bands within the IEEE frequency band chart.

Source: *IE analysis and annotation based on stakeholder interviews and Dixon, J., Politis, C., Wijting, C., (2008). Considerations in the Choice of Suitable Spectrum for Mobile Communications. Available at:*

<http://www.wvrf.ch/files/wvrf/content/files/publications/outlook/Outlook2.pdf>

Frequency diagram sourced from Southwest Antennas, Inc. (2016). *Modern Co-Site RF Interference Issues and Mitigation Techniques.*

Based on "Frequency Band Comparison" by Treinkvist. Please see: [https://southwestantennas.com/sites/default/files/white-paper/Whitepaper\\_Modern-Co-Site-Interference-Mitigation-Techniques\\_Southwest-Antennas.pdf](https://southwestantennas.com/sites/default/files/white-paper/Whitepaper_Modern-Co-Site-Interference-Mitigation-Techniques_Southwest-Antennas.pdf)

# Technical Challenges – Satellite IoT

## Other

Requirement for Mobile Satellite Services –  
Listen before transmit

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Data landing rights – deploy ground station on  
demand

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Data integrity and security - encryption

# Market Opportunities



# Key Verticals

Asset Tracking



Largest Segment

Smart Agriculture



Fastest growing

Maritime



# Key Verticals



# Key Verticals



# Key Verticals



# Key Verticals



# Kepler's IoT Solution

# Kepler's Solutions

How does Kepler deal with the challenges of IoT?



50 Satellite  
Constellation

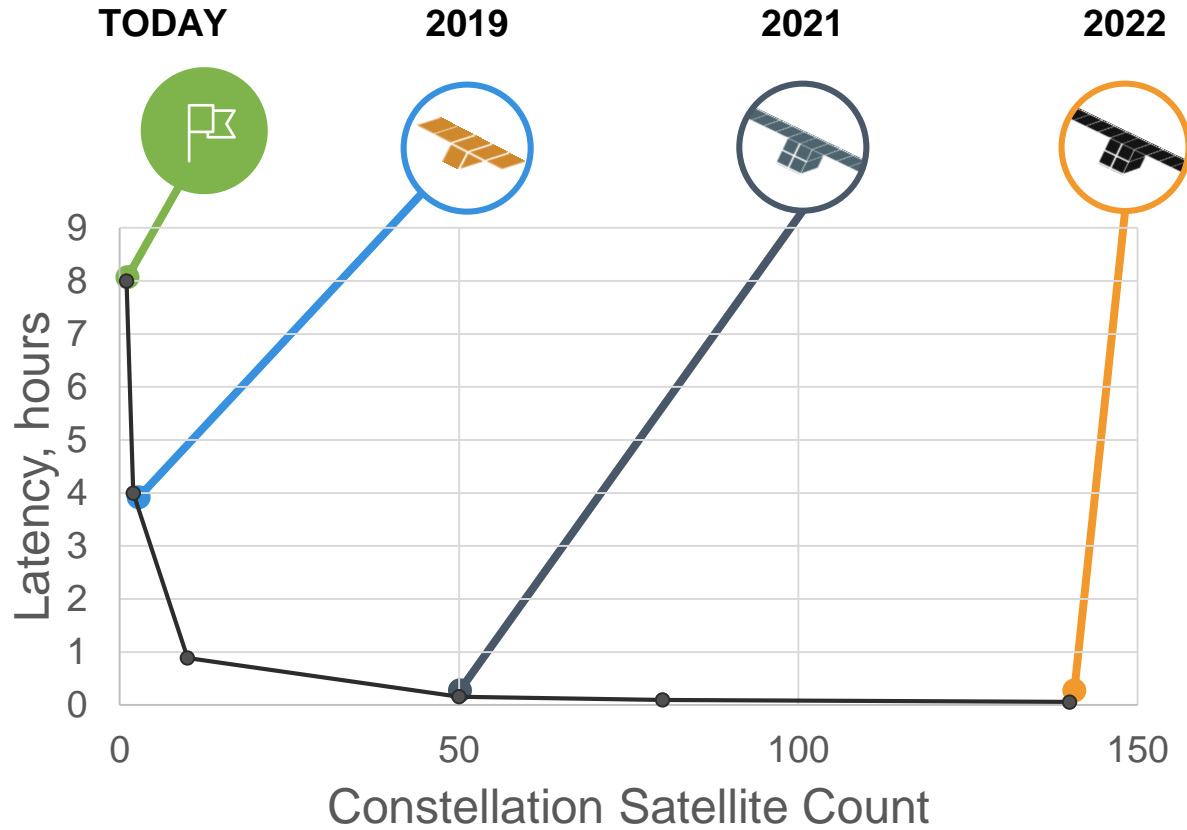


5 Ground  
Stations

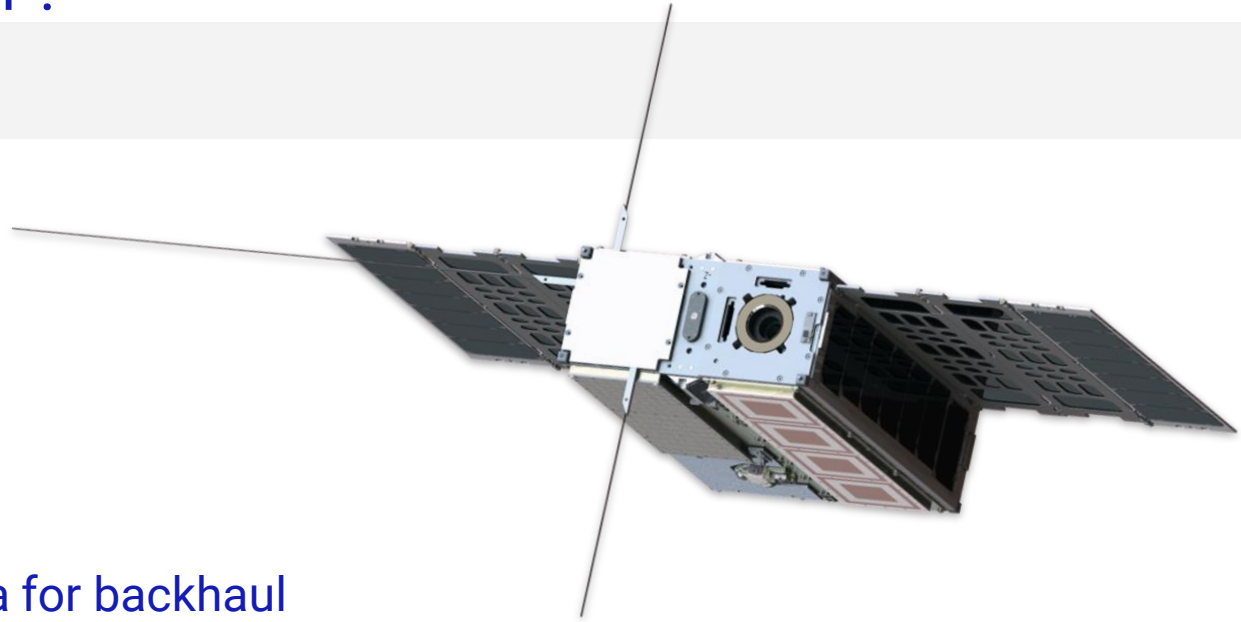




# Space Segment Average Latency



# The Next Frontier : TARS



- Reconfigurable SDR
- High gain Ku antenna for backhaul
- High gain S-band phased array antenna
- Launching end of 2019/Q1 2020

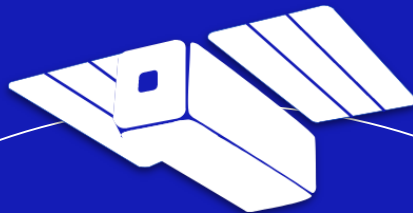
# 1st Generation User Terminal



- 3" x 4" footprint
- 2 KB per day uplink capacity
- Bi-directional communication
- Low-profile antenna (<1")

# Protocol Selection

- Store raw IQ samples on-orbit and forward to ground station for processing
- Experimented with various spread spectrum technologies in the lab environment (LoRA, RPMA, E-SSA)
- Both user terminal and satellite are fully reconfigurable
- TARS is an on-orbit laboratory to experiment with various protocols in 2020 (perhaps SIC)



# Thank You

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