

Satellite Communications

**Satellite system to provide communication services  
to polar regions in Europe and Russia**

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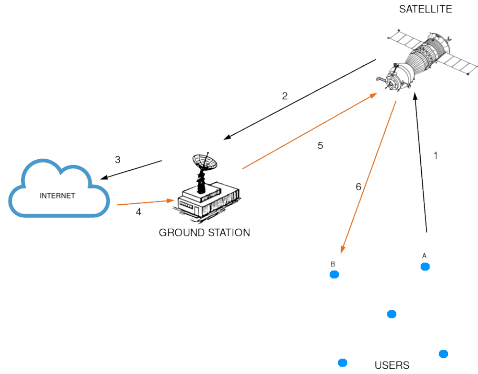


Figure 1: Scheme of the topology of the system.

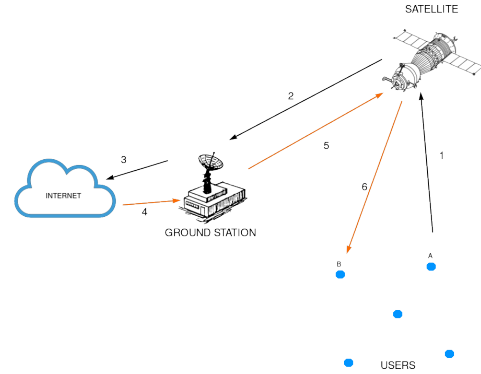


Figure 2: Typical communication path between an user A and an user B.

## 1. Problem Description

This project results from the necessity of having a good broadband coverage of polar areas and the land areas of Northern Europe and Russia: this means the coverage of latitudes over  $60^\circ$ .

The subjects interested in this kind of communication are mostly industries involved in economic sector: they need a reliable communication system able to provide a service of 50 Mbps in download and 5 Mbps in upload.

The aim is to project a system able to provide a continuous, reliable and feasible communication service, maximizing the number of users allowed to access it over  $60^\circ$  latitudes and minimizing the costs. To do that, services in narrowband communication using LEO satellites are not useful, since the broadband communication required is not feasible with this technology.

A simple representation of the system to be built is shown in Figure 1 and a communication between two users is in Figure 2.

Typically, if a user A has to communicate with user B, it sends his packets to the satellite, with the recipient address in the header. The satellite receives the packets and forwards them to the Ground Station that sends them to the proper application (Skype, Hangout, ...). These packets are sent from the application to the Ground Station, that forwards them, through the satellite, to the recipient B.

## 2. Simulator and Orbits

To guarantee the service required in section 1., different orbits have been taken in account. The most used orbit to ensure a stable and reliable satellite communication is Geostationary. Figure 3 has been taken from the Inmarsat's Website, and it shows as a Geostationary Earth Orbit (GEO) satellite can not reach the latitudes over  $75^\circ$ . For this reason a GEO does not fit our purpose.

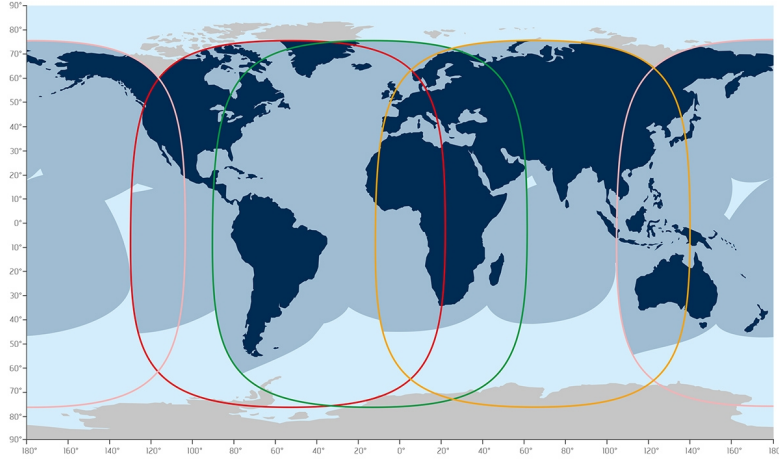


Figure 3: Approximate coverage of GEO Satellites.

Low Earth Orbits (LEOs) has been discarded since the time of visibility for a single satellite is very low, so an high number of satellites and an accurate tracking system are required to ensure a continuous service.

Medium Earth Orbits (MEOs) suffer the same problems of LEO ones, with the addition of the proximity to the Van Allen Belt where signal degradation increases significantly.

The most suitable solution for our problem is a High Elliptical Orbit (HEO).

## 2.1 Simulator Architecture

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## 2.2 Orbit selection

## 3. Payload and Space Segment

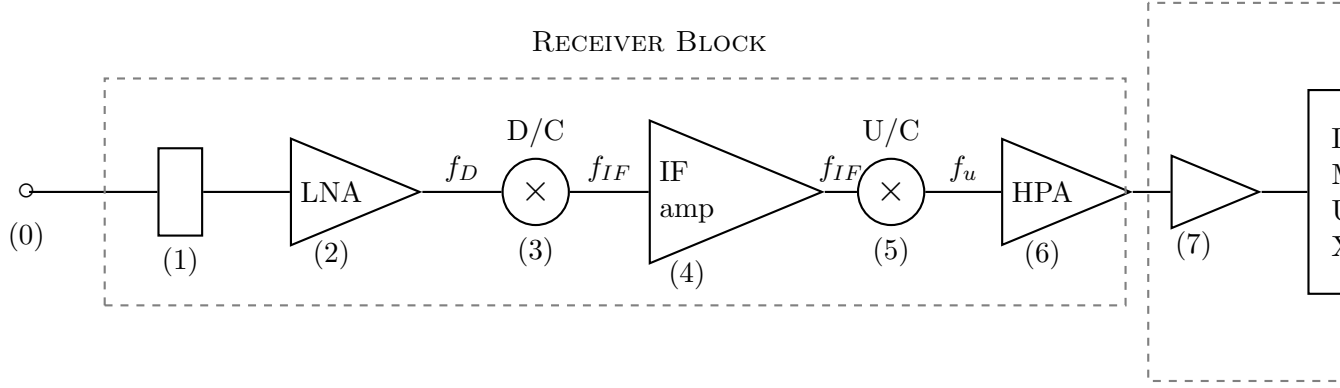
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### 3.1 Communication Module

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## 3.2 Payload



SECOND-ORDER NOISE SHAPER

### 3.2.1 Receiver Block

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### **3.2.2 Repeater Block**

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## **3.3 Power Budget**

### **3.3.1 Required Power**

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### **3.3.2 Solar Panels specifications**

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## **3.4 Weight Estimation**

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## 4. Ground Segment

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### 4.1 Ground Station coordinates

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### 4.2 Ground Station requirements

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### 4.3 User requirements

## 5. Link Budget

### 5.1 Parameters setting and estimation

#### 5.1.1 Antenna Parameters

#### 5.1.2 Effective Isotropic Radiated Power(EIRP)

#### 5.1.3 Losses

### 5.2 Uplink

### 5.3 Downlink

### 5.4 Overall Link Budget

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## 6. Cost Estimation

### 6.1 Spacecraft cost

### 6.2 Launch cost

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## 7. Final considerations and conclusions

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