

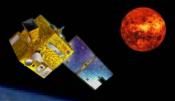
# Space Weather @ B.USOC

13<sup>th</sup> European Space Weather Week November 14-18, Oostende, Belgium









### Belgian User Support & Operations Centre



- Located in Brussels
- 2016: team of
  - 11 Operation Engineers,
  - 6 Ground Controllers

- European experiments in and outside Columbus, the European Module of the International Space Station, are operated from USOCs
- Link between the scientists and the ISS "world"
- Prepare and perform payload operations.
- Monitor, control and troubleshoot.
- Provide data access to user in R/T or near R/T.
- Archive/Process data received.



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### **International Space Station**



Altitude: ~400km

Orbital inclination: 51.6°

Orbital period: 92.65 minutes

• Typically 6 crew members



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### How Space Weather affects International Space Station

### Communication

S-Band (2-4GHz) and Ku-Band (12-18GHz) using TDRSS

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TDRSS: Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System





### How Space Weather affects International Space Station

#### Communication

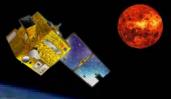
S-Band (2-4GHz) and Ku-Band (12-18GHz) using TDRSS

#### Vehicle traffic

 Jan 2014: Launch of Orb-1mission delayed by 1 day due to X1-flare and SEP event





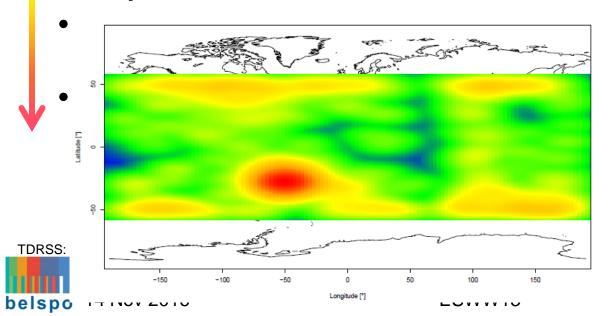


### How Space Weather affects International Space Station

#### Communication

- S-Band (2-4GHz) and Ku-Band (12-18GHz) using TDRSS
- Vehicle traffic
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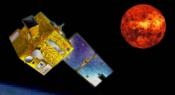
### Payload anomalies



Distribution of single event upsets in 2012 (Verzola, Lagny, & Biswas, AIAA 2014-1722)







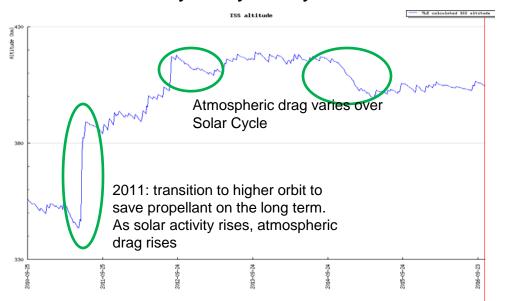
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- Communication
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- Vehicle traffic

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SEP event

- Payload anomalies
- Trajectory Predictions
  - Need for reboosts



TDRSS: Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System

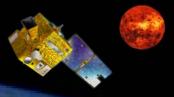
14 Nov 2016



ESWW13







### How Space Weather affects International Space Station

#### Communication

S-Band (2-4GHz) and Ku-Band (12-18GHz) using TDRSS

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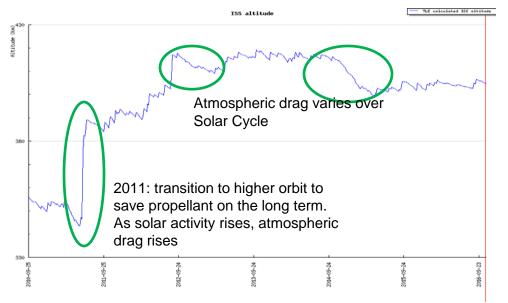
Payload anomalies

Trajectory Predictions

Need for reboosts

#### Astronaut health

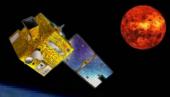
- Radiation effects
- Max. radiation dose over entire career: 1Sv



TDRSS: Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System







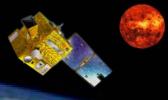
### **Crew Radiation Exposure**

The Space Radiation Analysis Group (SRAG) at the Johnson Space Center is responsible for ensuring that the radiation exposure received by astronauts remains below established safety limits. SARG provides:

- Radiological support during missions.
- Pre-flight and extra-vehicular activity (EVA) crew exposure projections.
- Evaluation of radiological safety with respect to exposure to isotopes and radiation producing equipment carried on the spacecraft.
- Comprehensive crew exposure modelling capability.
- Radiation instruments to characterize and quantify the radiation environment inside and outside the spacecraft.

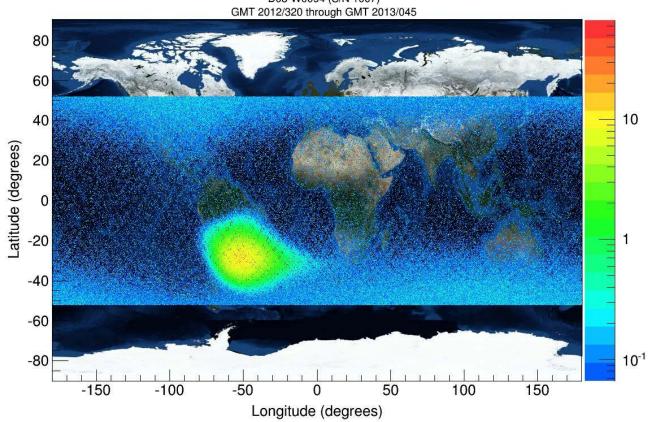






### Crew radiation exposure

REM Orbital Dose Rate Map (uGy/min) D03-W0094 (S/N 1007)



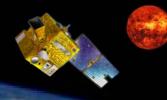
Radiation
Environment
Monitor Data
(Timepix
instrument
onboard the ISS)











### Radiation Event Definition and Warning

- Natural sources of space radiation: trapped particles, Galactic Cosmic Rays, Solar Particle Events
- Solar Particle Event (SPE)
  - Exceed of 10 pfu (>10 MeV) at geosynchronous altitude → alert
  - Previously, alarm levels were based on X-ray flux level >M5
  - Mostly a concern for EVA astronauts
- Energetic SPE
  - Exceed of 1 pfu (>100 MeV) at geosynchronous altitude → contingency
  - particles with sufficient energy to penetrate the ISS modules
- Geomagnetic Storm
  - Major: Kp=6
  - Severe: Kp≥7 → alert
- Warning generated by NOAA/SWPC and predicted time window provided

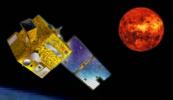
helspo

pfu: Particle Flux Unit (particles/sr.cm².s) EVA: Extra Vehicle Activity NOAA: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration SWPC: Space Weather Prediction Centre

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### Crew radiation exposure

Crew ionization radiation exposure limits

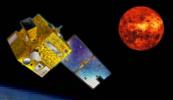
EXPOSURE PERIOD	blood forming organ (BFO)	<u>Eye</u>	<u>Skin</u>
30 DAYS	0.25 Sv	1.00 Sv	1.50 Sv
ANNUAL	0.50 Sv	2.00 Sv	3.00 Sv

- Passive and Active dosimeters all around the station
- In case of alert:
  - Regular monitoring by Crew and Ground
- In case of contingency crew could be advised to avoid lower shielded areas
- If energetic SPE reached 100 pfu (>100 MeV) level, crew should remain in the higher shielded areas:
  - Service Module Aft of Treadmill
  - Node 2 Crew Quarters
  - US Lab



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### Crew radiation exposure

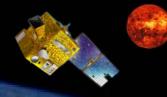
### Actions required for radiation exposure conditions

EXPOSURE STATUS	ACTIONS REQUIRED	
non-restricted (below the action levels)	<ul> <li>Provide routine crew exposure monitoring.</li> <li>Perform EVA exposure management (go/no-go criteria for EVA based on radiation exposure).</li> </ul>	
restricted (EXCEEDED action levels)	<ul> <li>non-restricted PLUS:</li> <li>review EVA schedules and update end of mission exposure projections.</li> <li>consider positive actions to reduce the risk of exceeding the joint exposure limits, such as</li> <li>1. restricting crew location within ISS</li> <li>2. limiting EVAs</li> </ul>	
VIOLATION or projected violation of Joint Exposure Limits	restricted PLUS:  consider positive actions to reduce the risk of exceeding the joint exposure limits, such as  1. terminating an EVA in progress 2. changing ISS altitude/attitude 3. DEFERRING reboost 4. accelerating crew rotation	









### B.USOC Operations – recent missions

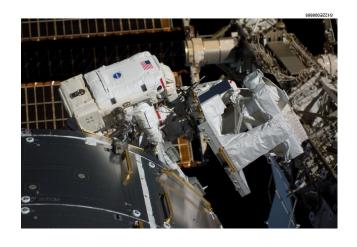
- SOLAR
   Spectral Solar Irradiance Measurements
- METERON
   Robotic operations
- Fluid Science Lab
- THOR

Observation of thunderstorms and Transient Luminous Events

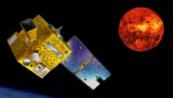
ASIM (expected Sep 2017)

**Atmosphere Space Interaction Monitor** 

- Detection of Terrestrial Gamma Ray Flashes and Transient Luminous Events
- Science campaigns for Aurora, Polar Mesospheric Clouds, Aerosols,...







### Space Weather and B.USOC operations

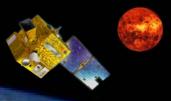
#### SOLAR

- Operational since 2008
- Measure long-term evolution of Total Solar Irradiance (TSI) and Spectral Solar Irradiance (SSI)
  - → important for climate models
  - → EUV data are input to Total Electron Content models
- One of the instruments is sensitive to the South Atlantic Anomaly
  - →impact on science data; avoid measurements during SAA passage
- Radiation sensitive component causes the anomalous deactivation of the "Analog Input Board" → recovery requires reboot

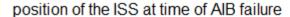


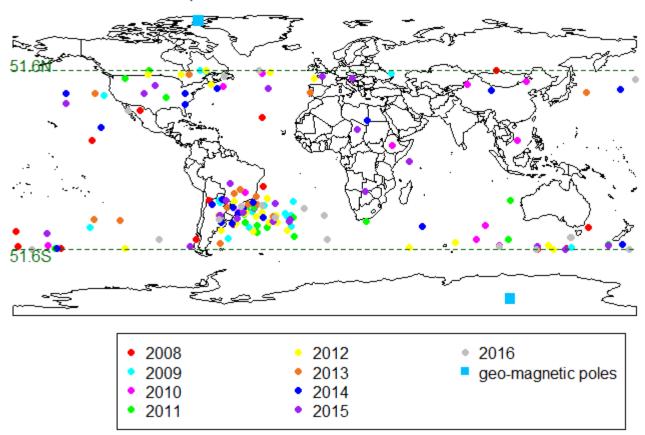






### Space Weather and B.USOC operations













### Space Weather and B.USOC Operations

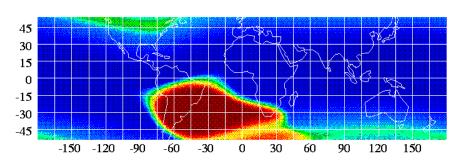
#### ASIM

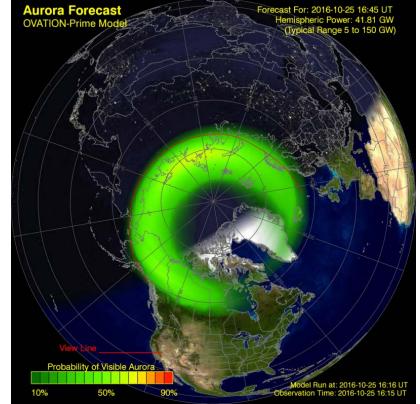
One of the ASIM instruments should not be operated over SAA (early

degradation of instrument)

ISS orbit and trajectory

Auroral Oval predictions

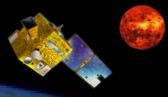




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## Questions?





