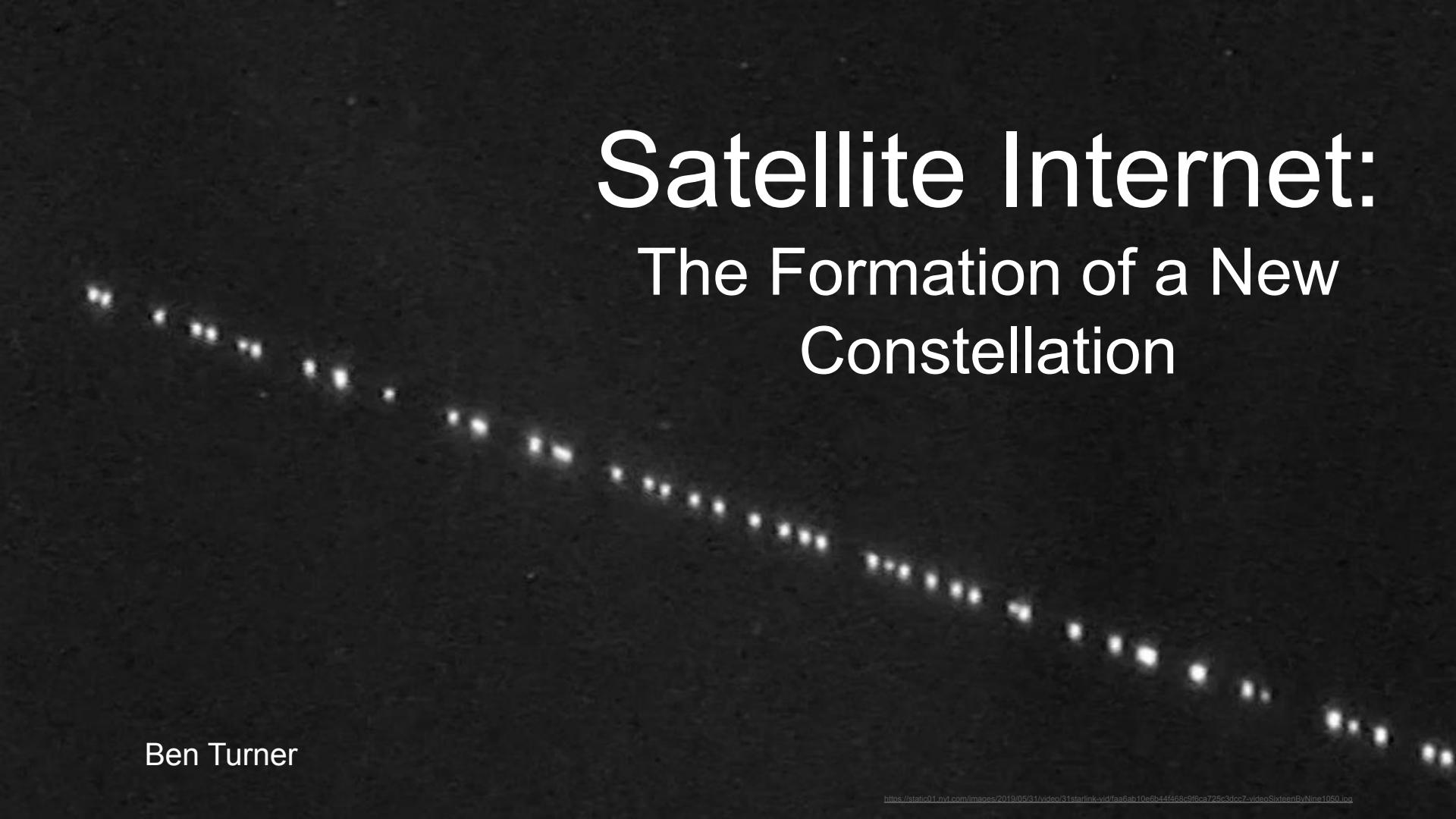


Satellite Internet: The Formation of a New Constellation



Ben Turner

Acknowledgements

- Family
- Friends
- Peers
 - Kanishk
 - Osip
- Professors
 - Marty
 - Ryan
- Everyone who is here!



★ = current section

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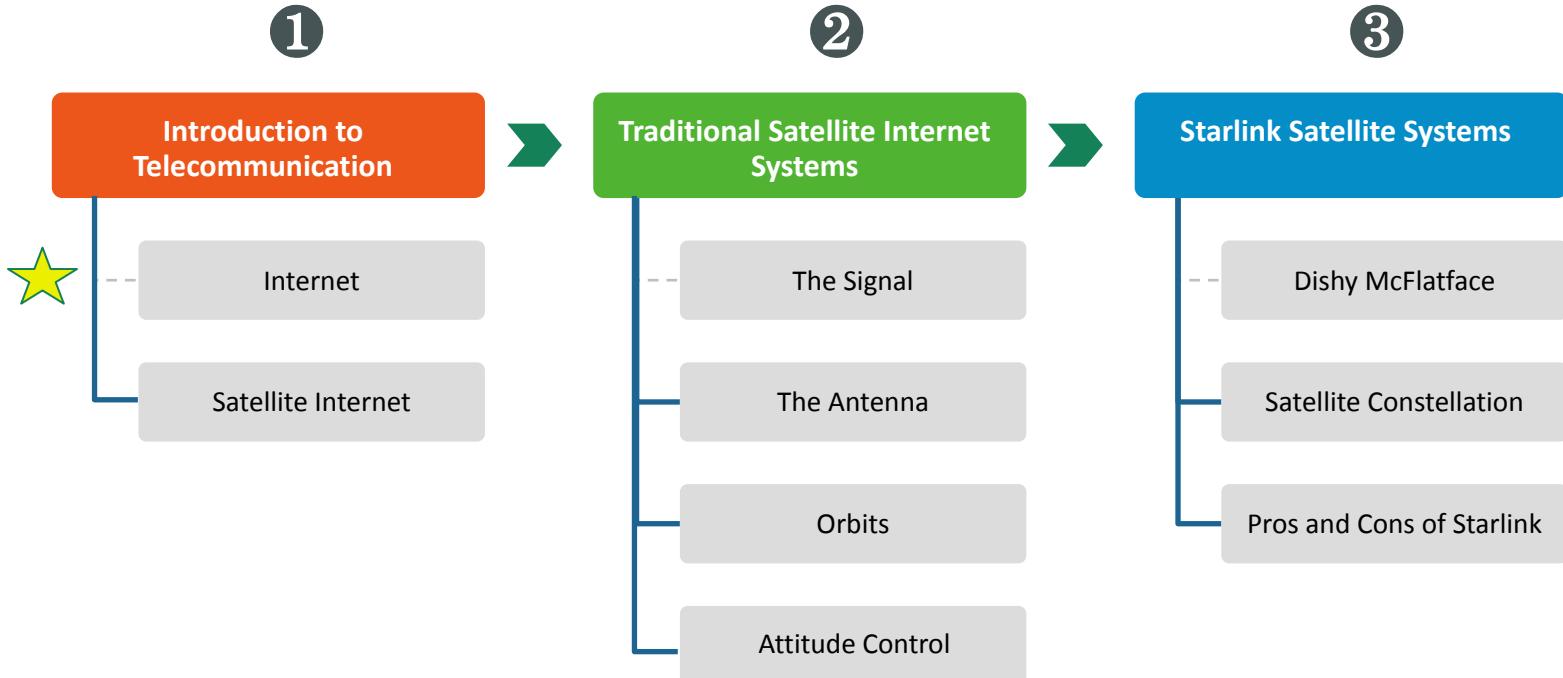
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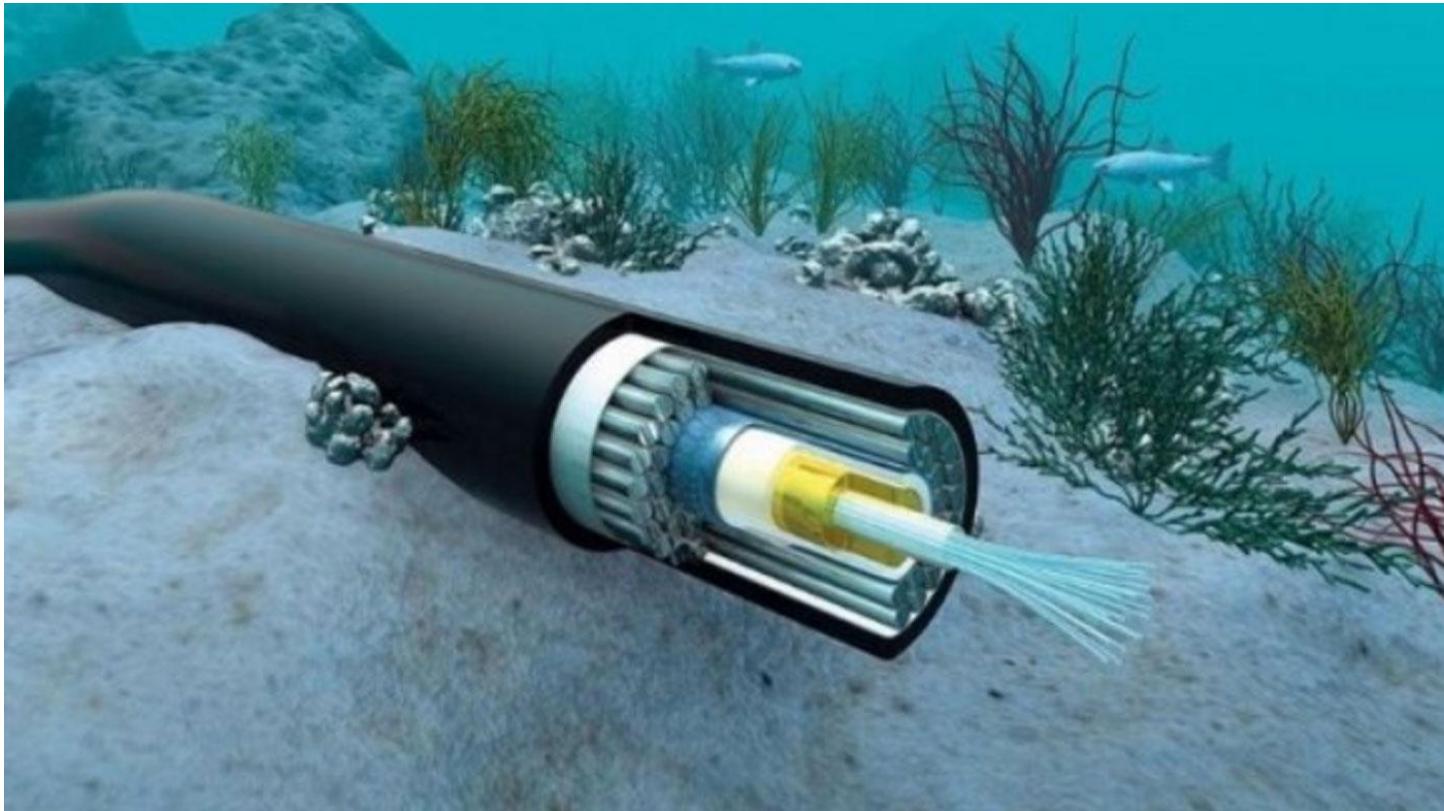
1

What the Internet seems like...



1

What it actually is...



1

Brawl Stars!



RELEASE DATE

December 12, 2018

GENRE

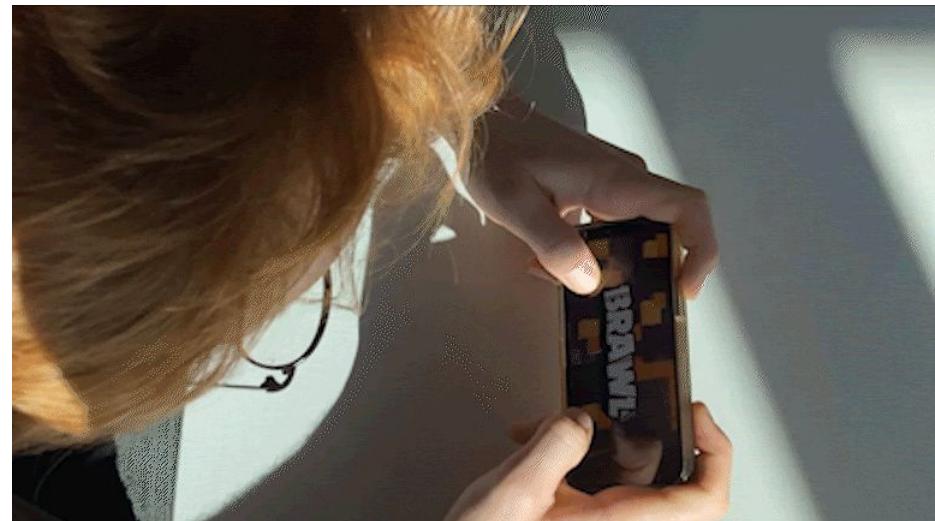
MOBA

DEVELOPER

Supercell

PUBLISHER

Supercell



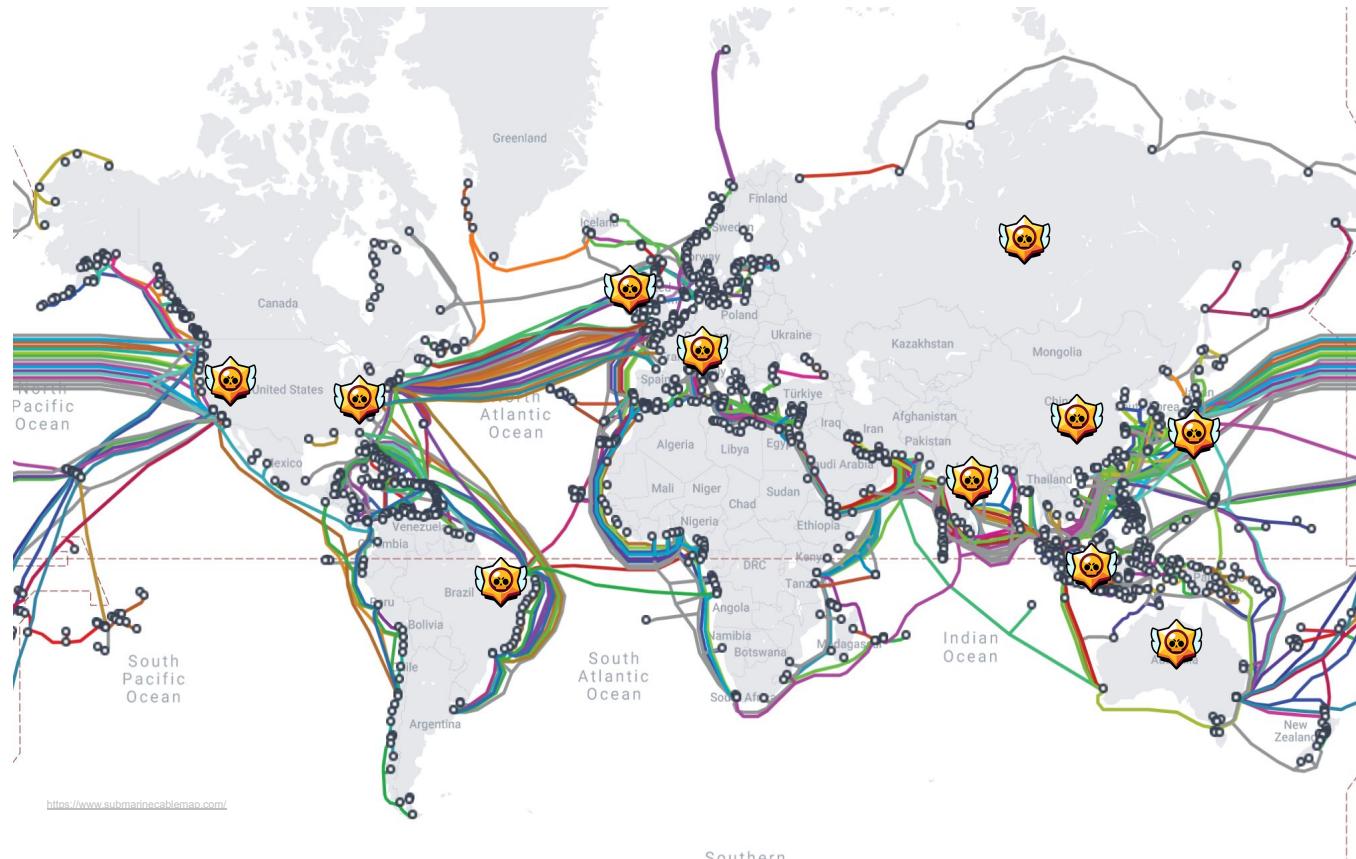
Internet Structure

Key Terms:

- Internet
- Signal
- Latency (Ping)
- Bandwidth

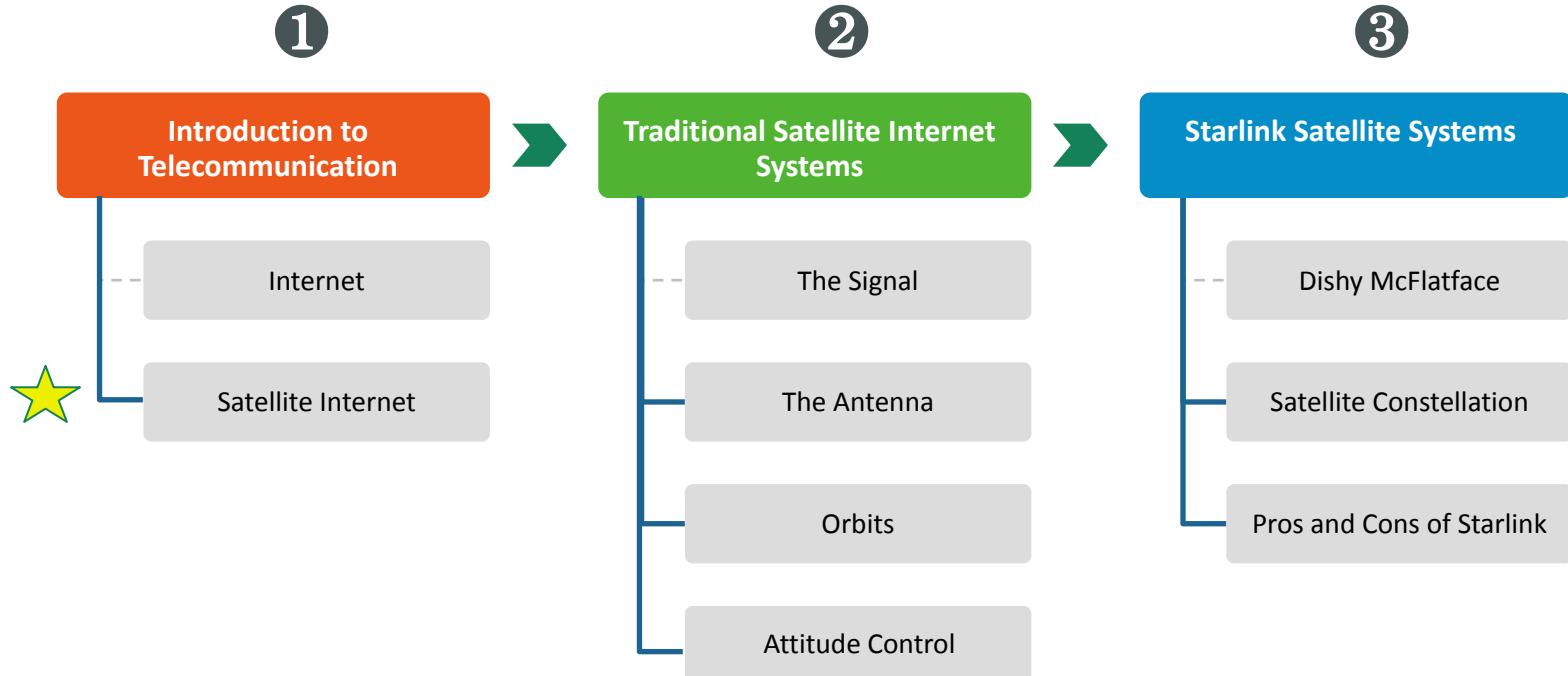


Wired Internet

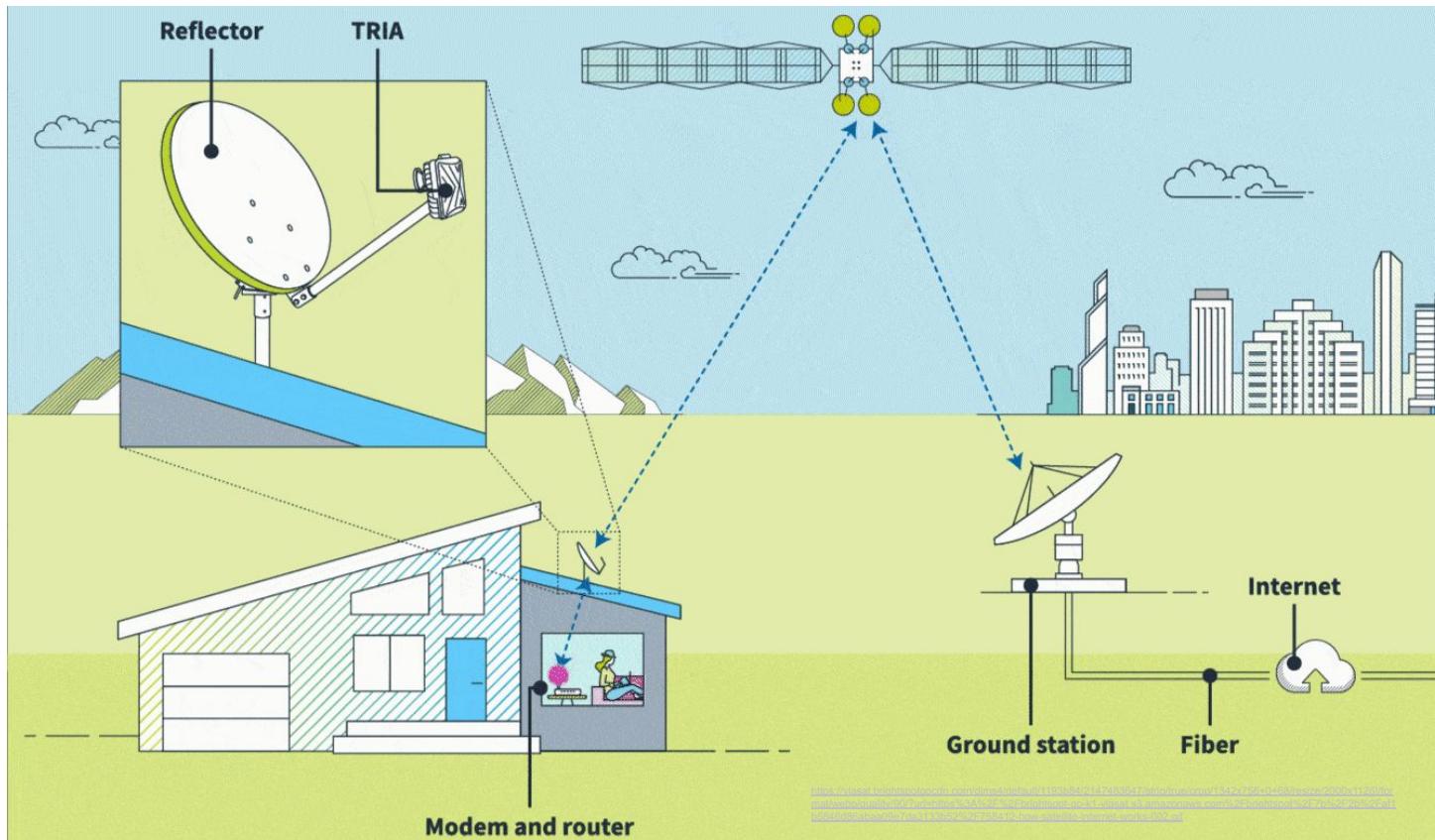


But...
37% of world is
not connected
*as of 2021

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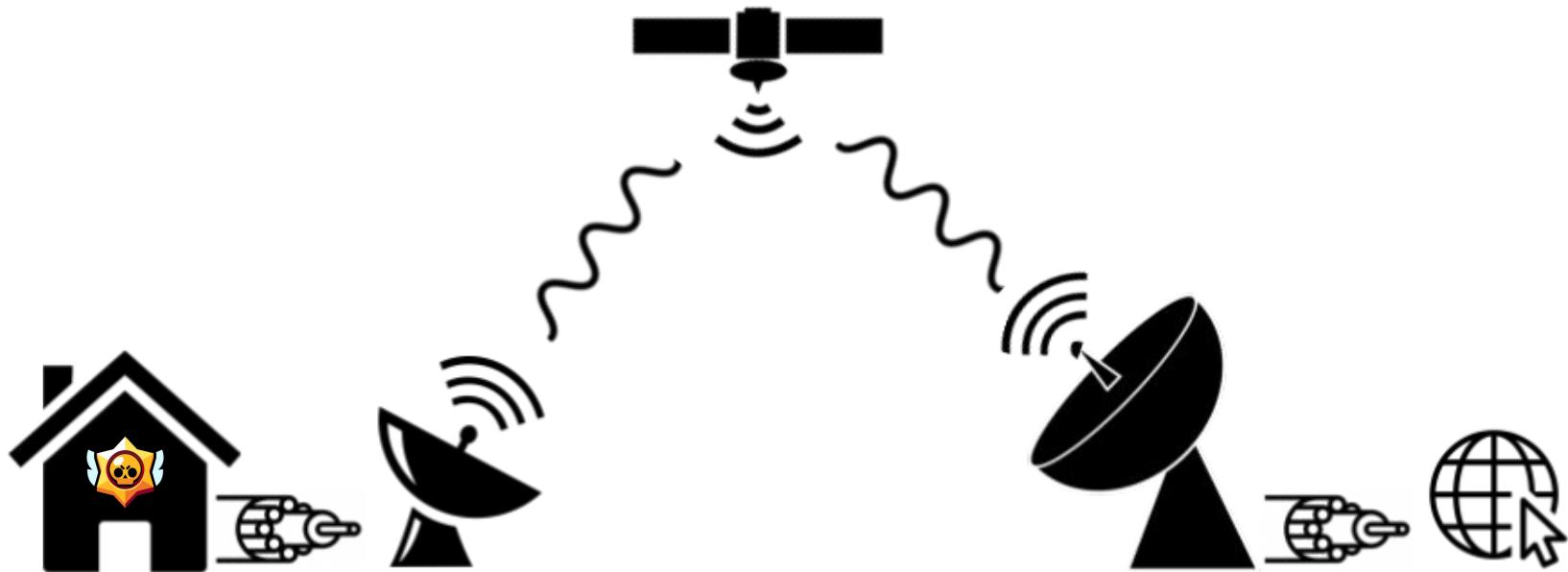


Components of a Satellite Internet System



1

Satellite Communications System



Signal

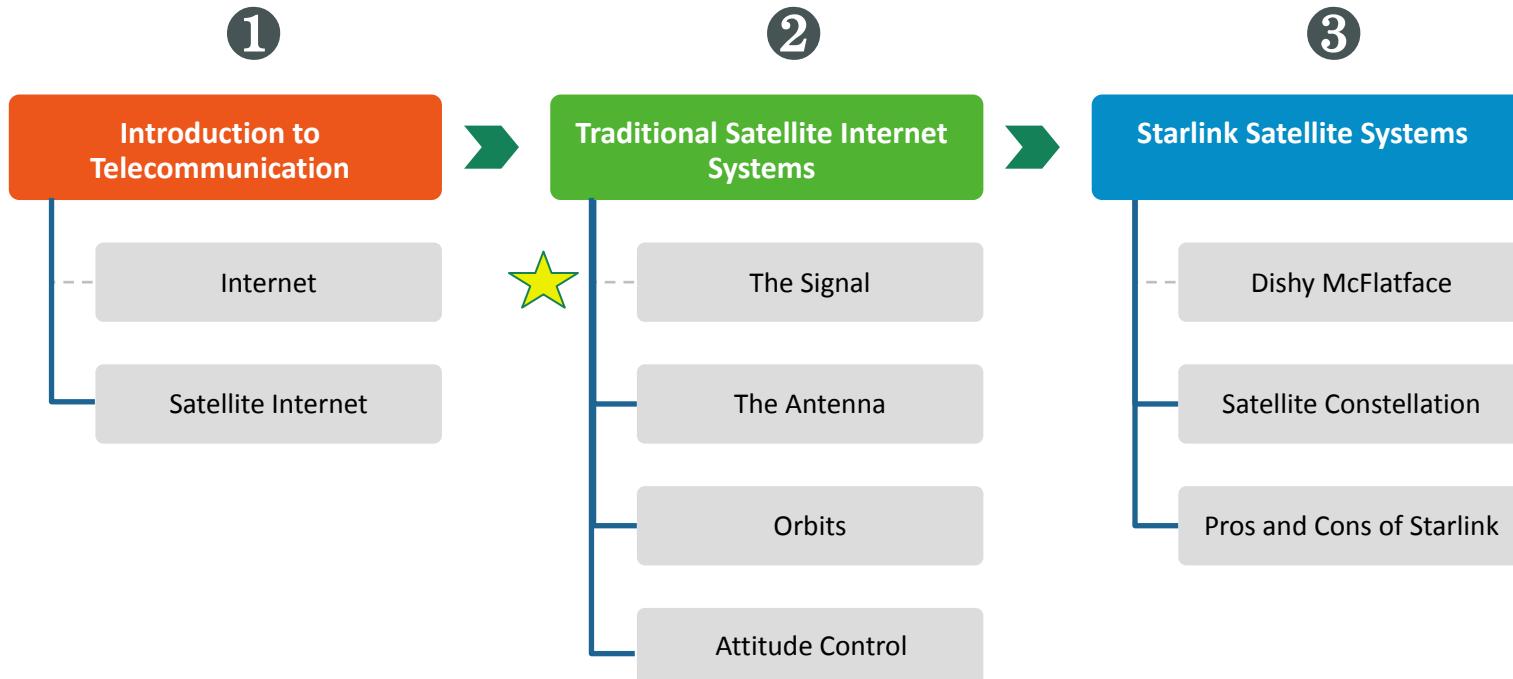
Antenna

Satellite

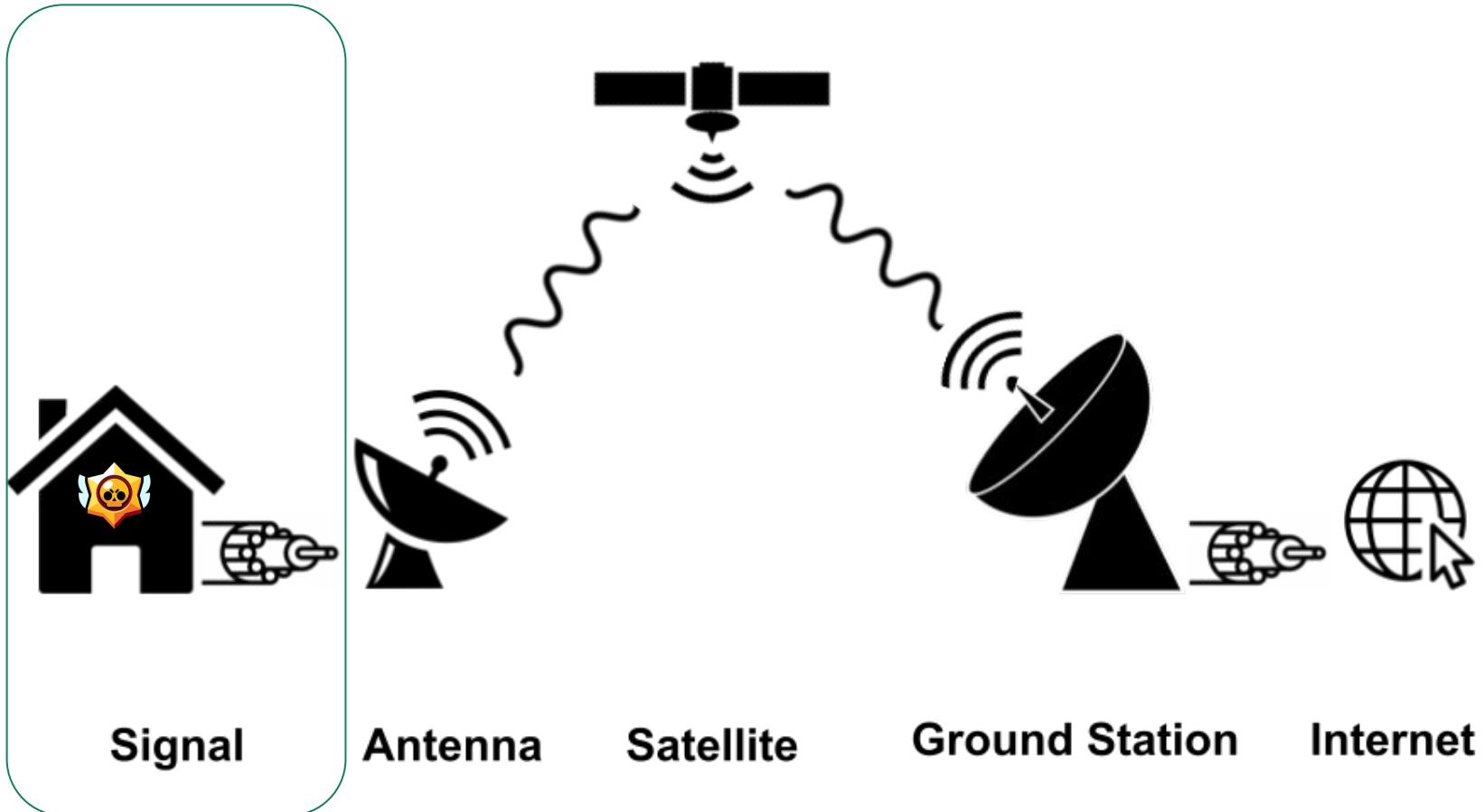
Ground Station

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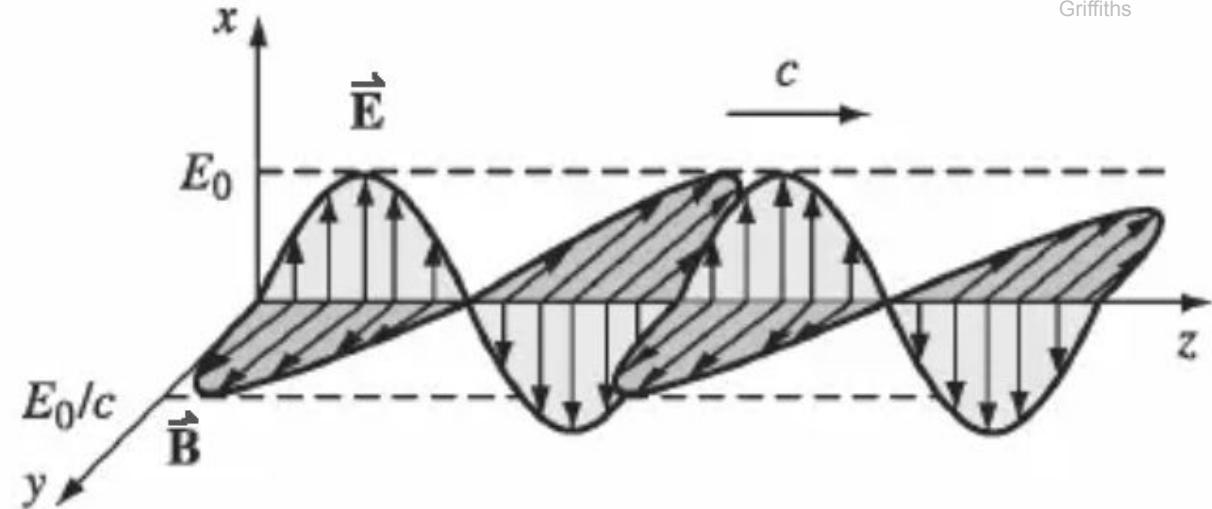
What is a signal?



Brawl Stars

- Connection requests
- Game state updates
- Input commands
- Chat messages

Signal = Data
bits (0 or 1)



$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = \boxed{E_0} \cos(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t + \phi_0) \hat{E}$$



$$\vec{B}(\vec{r}, t) = \boxed{B_0} \cos(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t + \phi_0) \hat{B}$$

Encode data in:

amplitude

phase

angular frequency

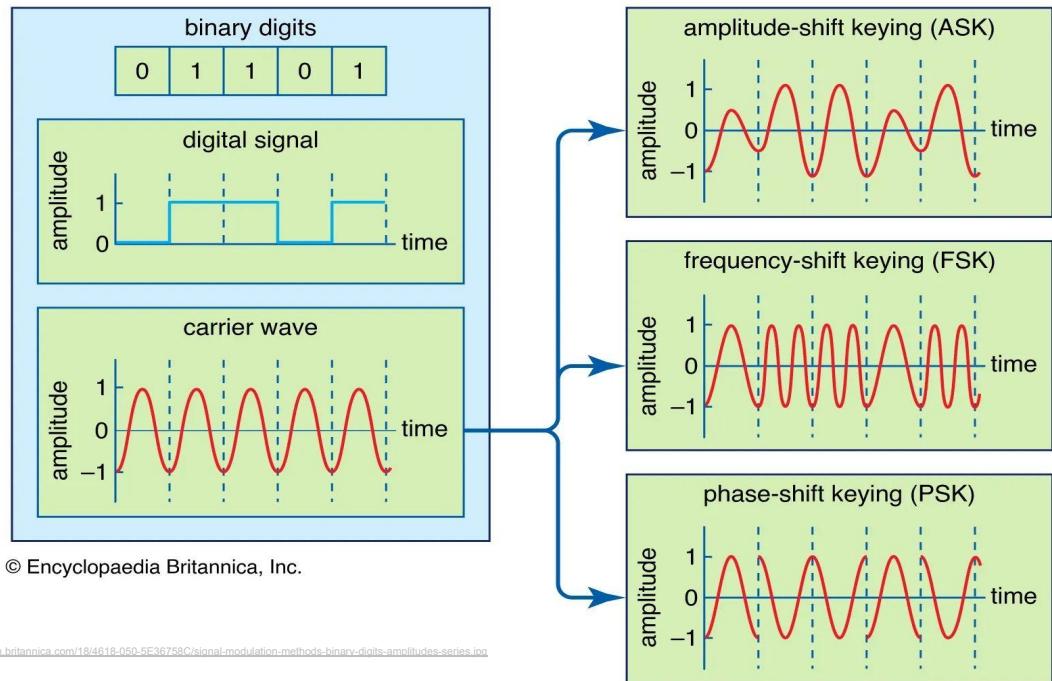
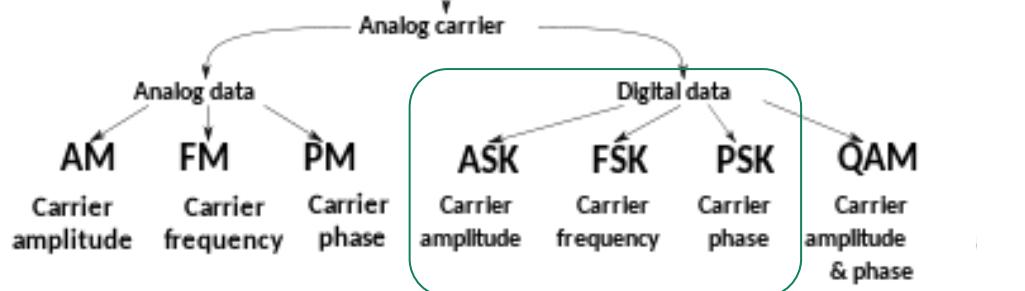
Signal Modulation

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = E_0 \cos(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t + \phi_0) \hat{E}$$

amplitude

angular frequency

phase



2

A closer look: ASK Circuit

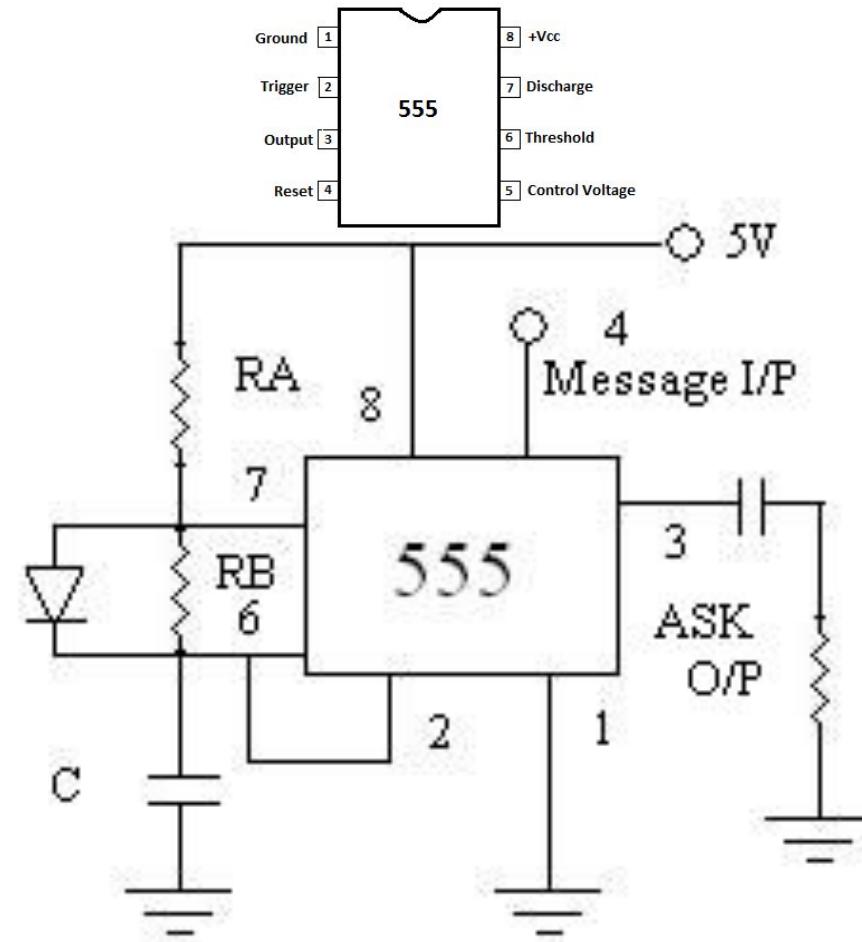
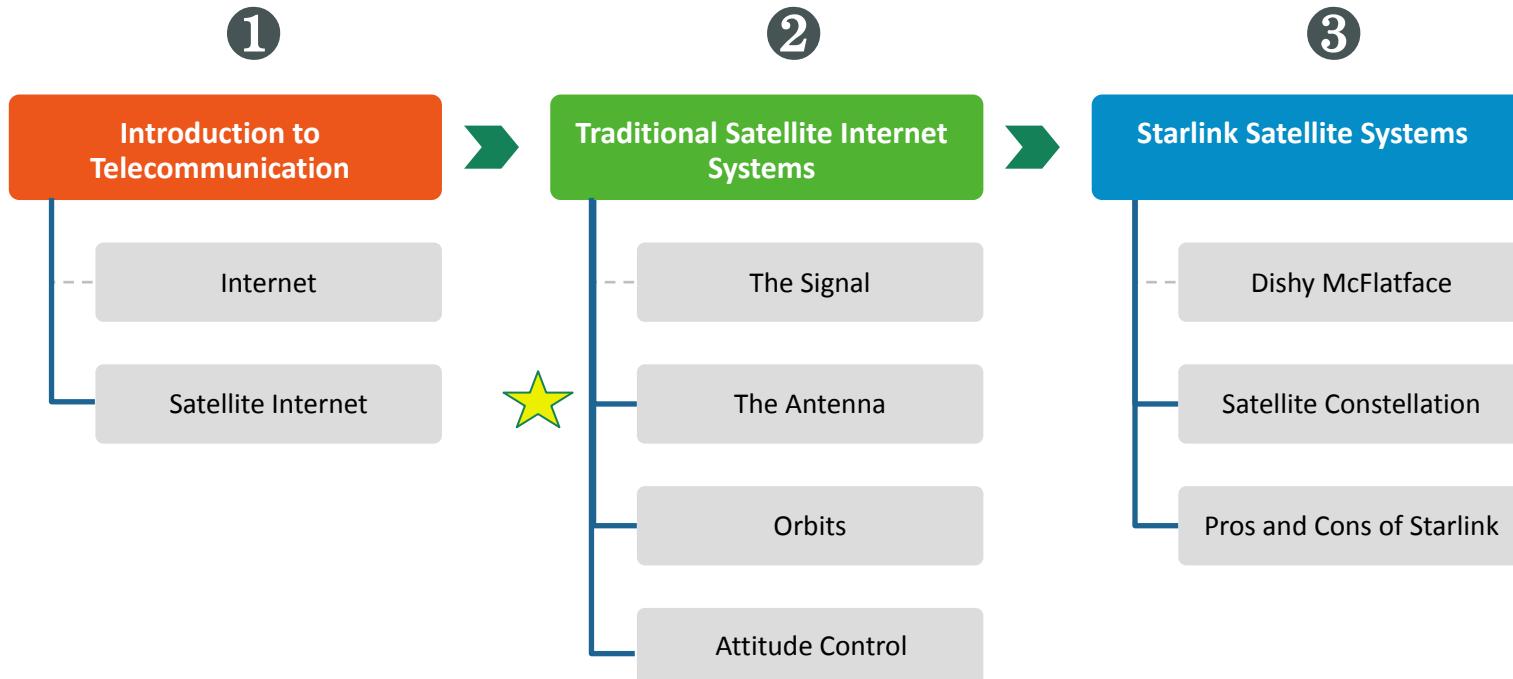
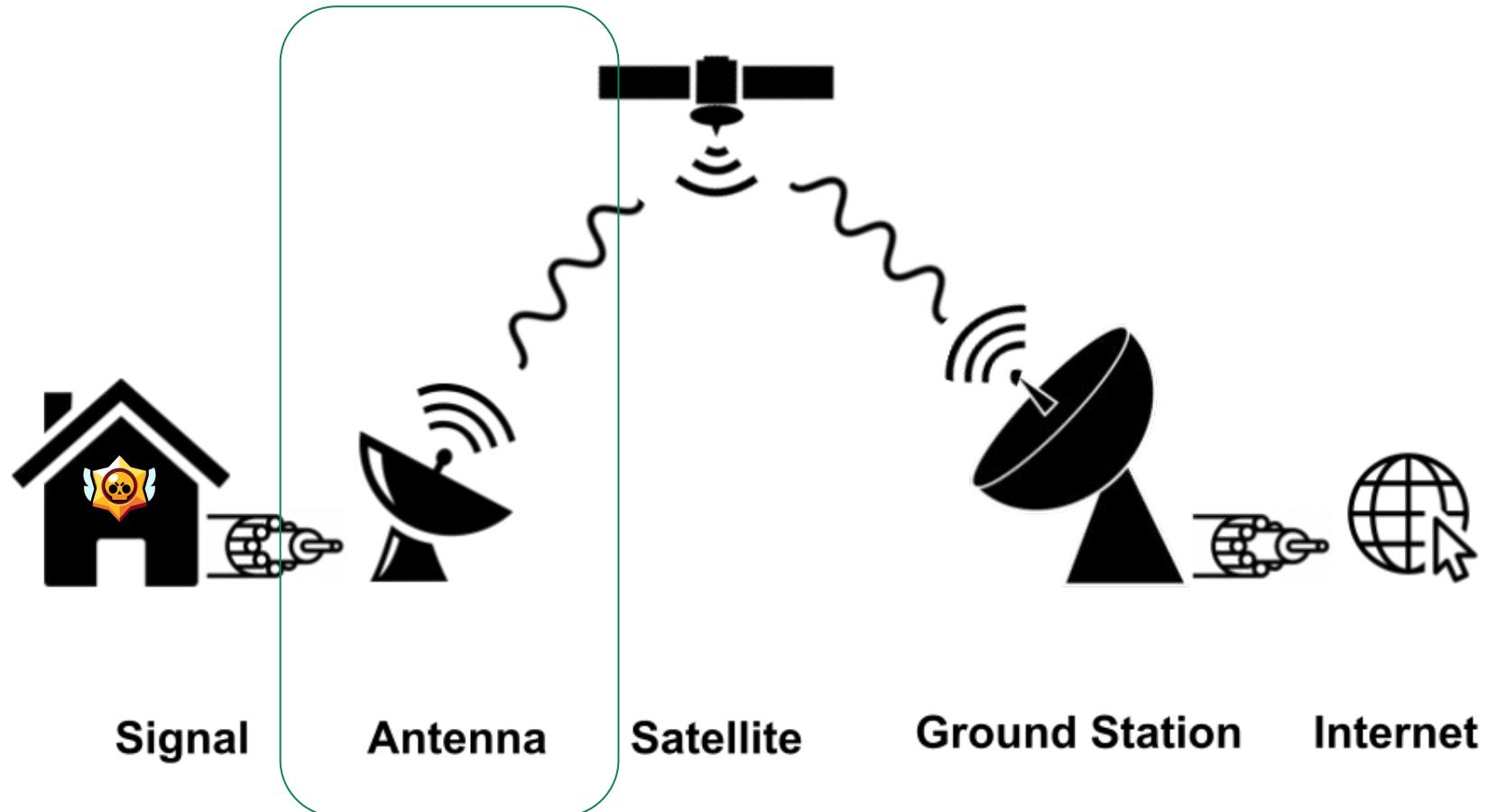


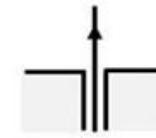
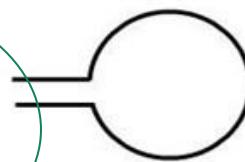
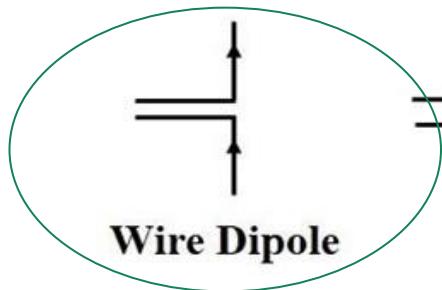
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What are Antennas?



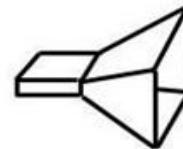
TRIA



Parabolic Reflector
(Dish)



Yagi-Uda Array



Horn



Microstrip Patch

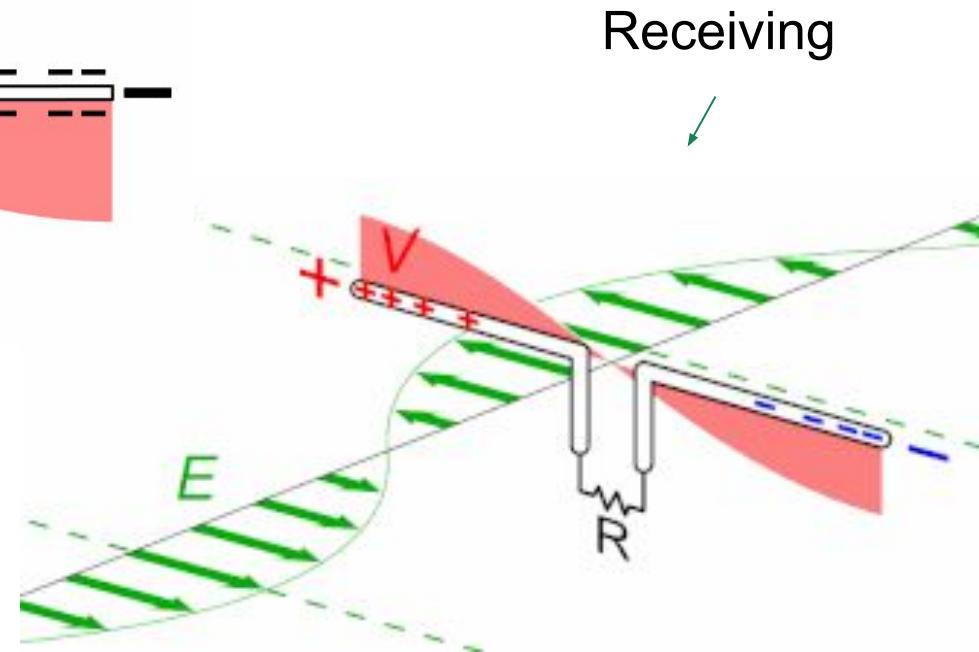
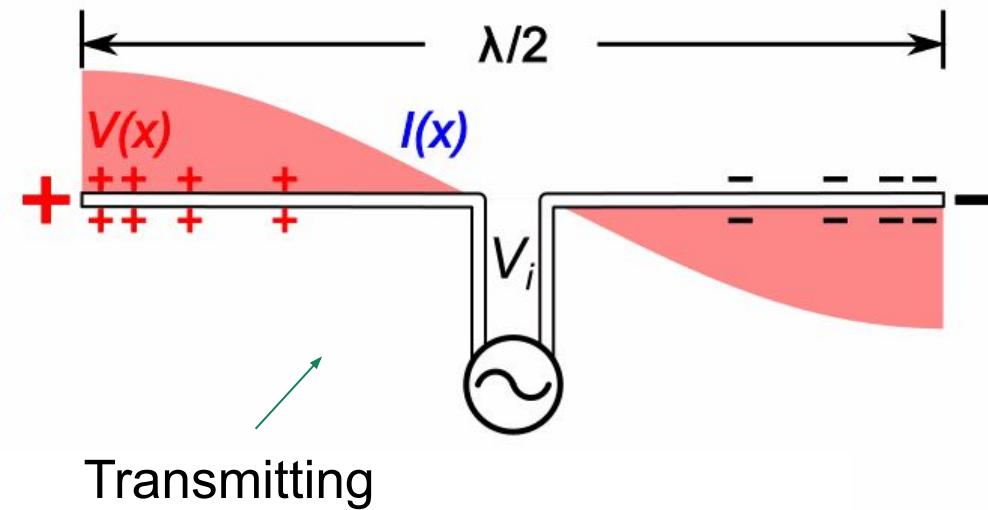


Slot



2

Visualizing a Dipole Antenna

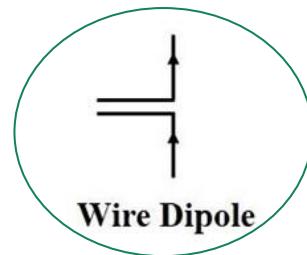
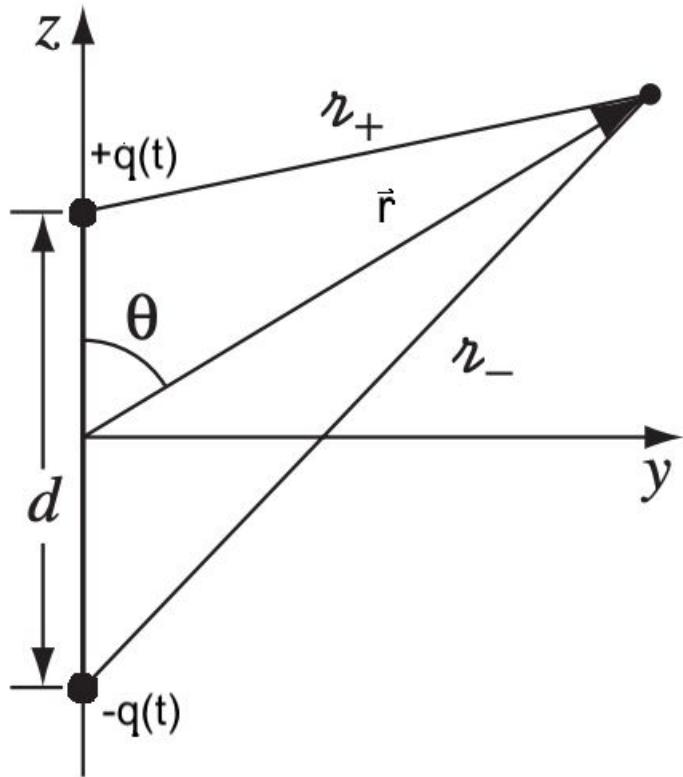


https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fe/Dipole_antenna_standing_waves_animation_6_-_5fps.gif

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/d/d6/Dipole_receiving_antenna_animation_6_800x394x150ms.gif/330px-Dipole_receiving_antenna_animation_6_800x394x150ms.gif

2

Deriving the Electric Field



Charge

$$q(t) = q_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

Electric dipole

$$\vec{p}(t) = p_0 \cos(\omega t) \hat{z}$$

Max dipole moment

$$p_0 \equiv q_0 d$$

2

Maxwell's Equations

Given

$$\rho(\vec{r}, t)$$

$$\vec{J}(\vec{r}, t)$$

what are \vec{E} and \vec{B} ?

We define \vec{A} as

$$\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}$$

$$(1) \quad \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

$$(2) \quad \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

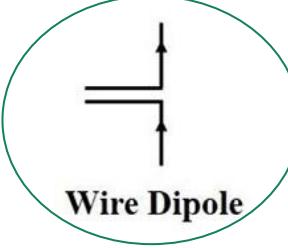
Gauss' Laws

$$(3) \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = - \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

Faraday's Law

$$(4) \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

Ampere's Law



Wire Dipole

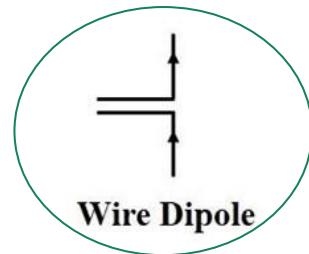
In terms of potentials:

$$\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}$$

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} V - \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t}$$

2

Potential representations



$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}V - \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t}$$

} into Eq. (1)

$$\nabla^2 V + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\nabla \cdot A) = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0}\rho$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{B} &= \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \\ \vec{E} &= -\vec{\nabla}V - \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \end{aligned}$$

} into Eq. (4)

$$\left(\nabla^2 \vec{A} - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial t^2} \right) - \vec{\nabla} \left(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \right) = -\mu_0 \vec{J}$$

2

Lorenz Gauge

$$\nabla^2 V + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\nabla \cdot A) = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

$$\nabla^2 V + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

$$\square^2 V = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = -\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$$

$$\left(\nabla^2 \vec{A} - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial t^2} \right) - \vec{\nabla} \left(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \right) = -\mu_0 \vec{J}$$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial t^2} = -\mu_0 \vec{J}$$

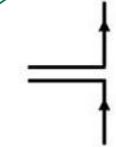
$$\square^2 \vec{A} = -\mu_0 \vec{J}$$

In static case, these reduce to:

$$\nabla^2 V = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} = -\mu_0 \vec{J}$$

with solutions...



Wire Dipole

d'Alembertian

$$\square^2 \equiv \nabla^2 - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}$$

2

Retarded Time and Potential

$$V(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho(\vec{r}', t_r)}{|\vec{r}|} d\tau'$$

$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\vec{J}(\vec{r}', t_r)}{|\vec{r}|} d\tau'$$

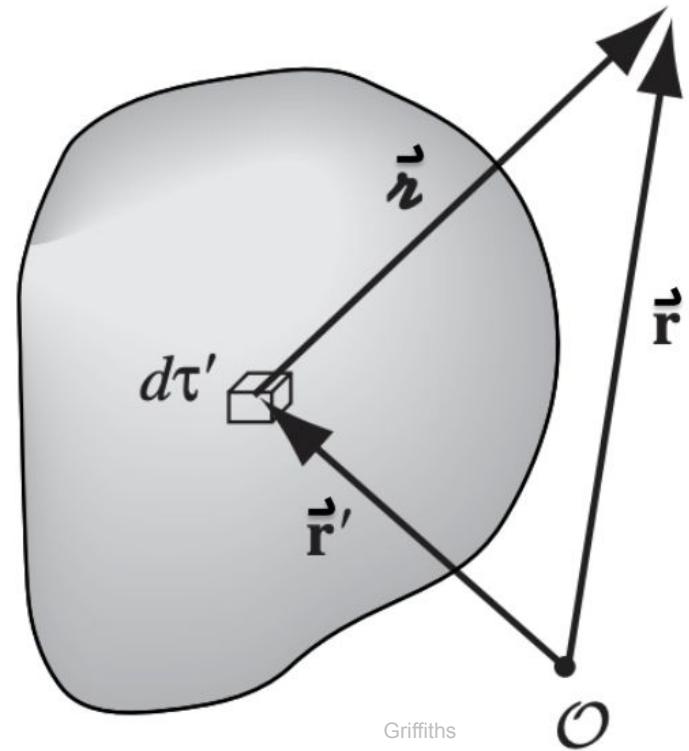
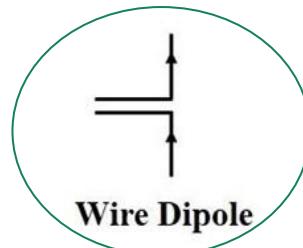
These satisfy both

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = -\mu_0\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\square^2 V = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

$$\square^2 \vec{A} = -\mu_0 \vec{J}$$

$$t_r = t - \frac{r}{c}$$



2

Scalar Potential

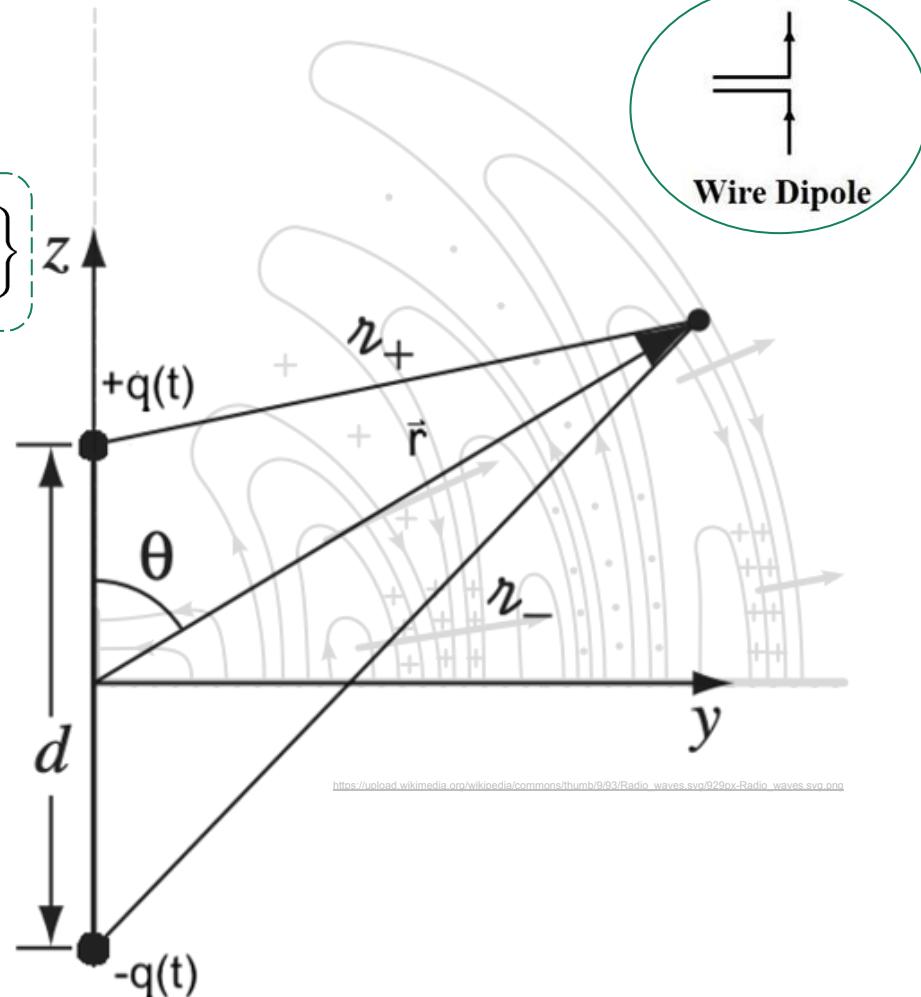
$$V(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left\{ \frac{q_0 \cos [\omega(t - z_+/c)]}{z_+} - \frac{q_0 \cos [\omega(t - z_-/c)]}{z_-} \right\}$$

Approximation 1: $d \ll r$

Approximation 2: $d \ll \lambda$

Approximation 3: $r \gg \lambda$

$$V(r, \theta, t) = -\frac{p_0 \omega}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c} \left(\frac{\cos \theta}{r} \right) \sin [\omega(t - r/c)]$$



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/93/Radio_waves_svo/929px-Radio_waves_svo.png

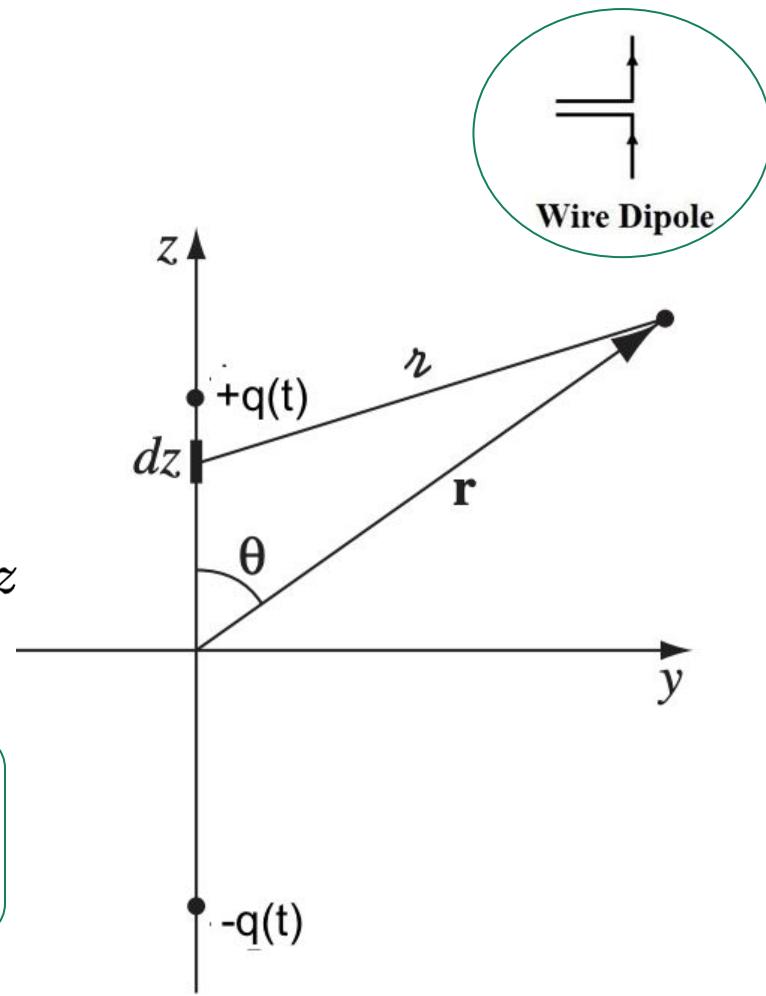
2

Vector Potential

$$\vec{I}(t) = \frac{dq}{dt} \hat{z} = -q_0 \omega \sin(\omega t) \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_{-d/2}^{d/2} \frac{-q_0 \omega \sin[\omega(t - z/c)] \hat{z}}{r} dz$$

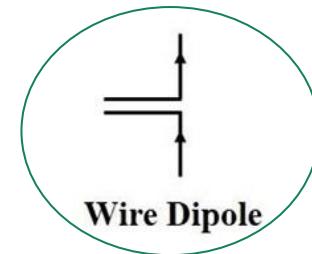
$$\boxed{\vec{A}(r, \theta, t) = -\frac{\mu_0 p_o \omega}{4\pi r} \sin[\omega(t - r/c)] \hat{z}}$$



Wire Dipole

2

The Electromagnetic Fields of a Dipole Antenna



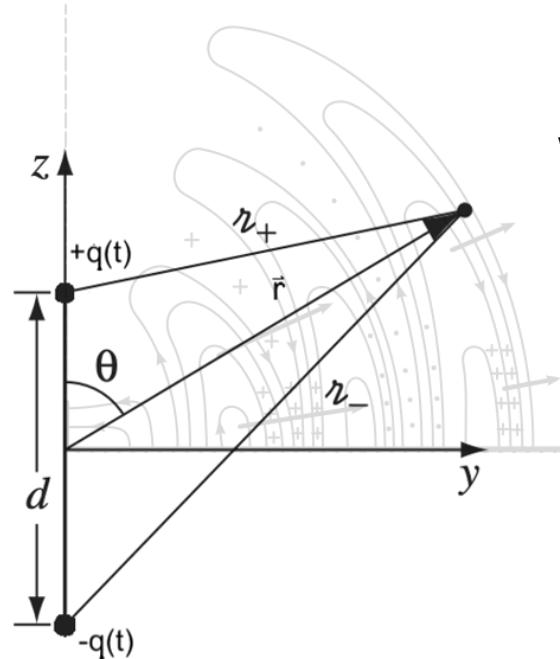
From

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}V - \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \quad \vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}$$

we get

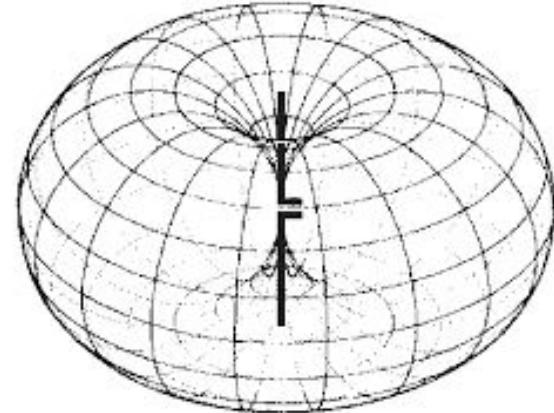
$$\vec{E} = -\frac{\mu_0 p_0 \omega^2}{4\pi} \left(\frac{\sin \theta}{r} \right) \cos[\omega(t - r/c)] \hat{\theta}$$

$$\vec{B} = -\frac{\mu_0 p_0 \omega^2}{4\pi c} \left(\frac{\sin \theta}{r} \right) \cos[\omega(t - r/c)] \hat{\phi}$$



Antenna Properties

- Poynting Vector $\vec{S}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{\mu_0} (\vec{E} \times \vec{B})$

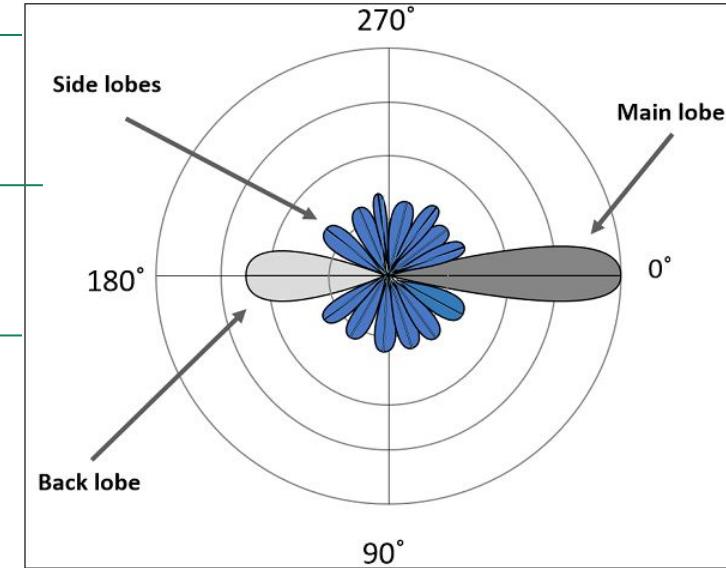


- Radiation Intensity $U(\theta, \phi) = r^2 \langle S \rangle = \left(\frac{\mu_0 p_0^2 \omega^4}{32\pi^2 c} \right) \sin^2 \theta$

- Power $P_{rad} = \oint \langle \vec{S} \rangle \cdot d\vec{a} = \frac{\mu_0 p_0^2 \omega^4}{12\pi c}$

- Directivity $D(\theta, \phi) = 4\pi \frac{U(\theta, \phi)}{P_{rad}} = \frac{3}{2} \sin^2 \theta$

- Gain $G(\theta, \phi) = \eta_{rad} D(\theta, \phi) = \eta_{rad} \frac{3}{2} \sin^2 \theta$





Osip before his comps



Me before my comps

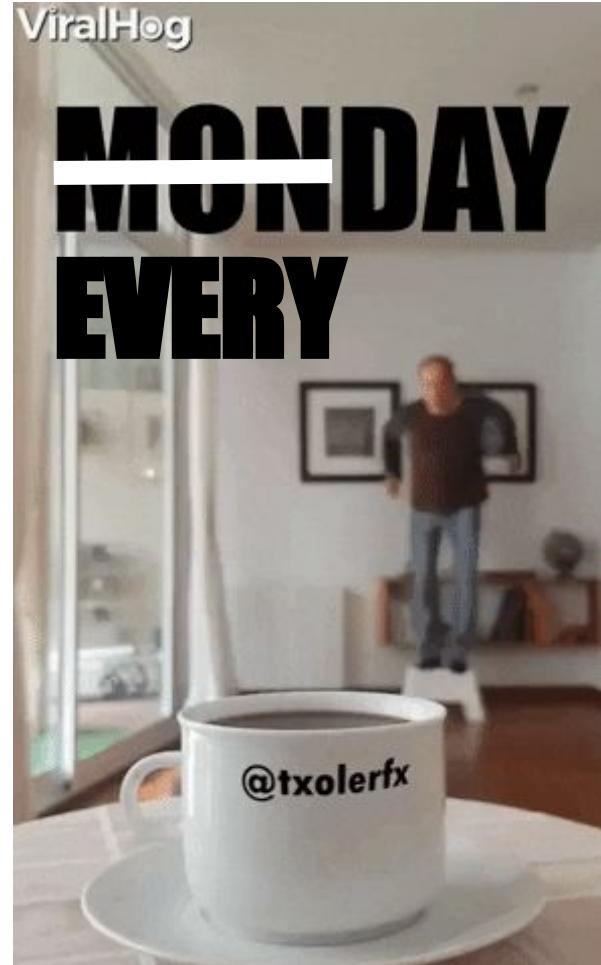
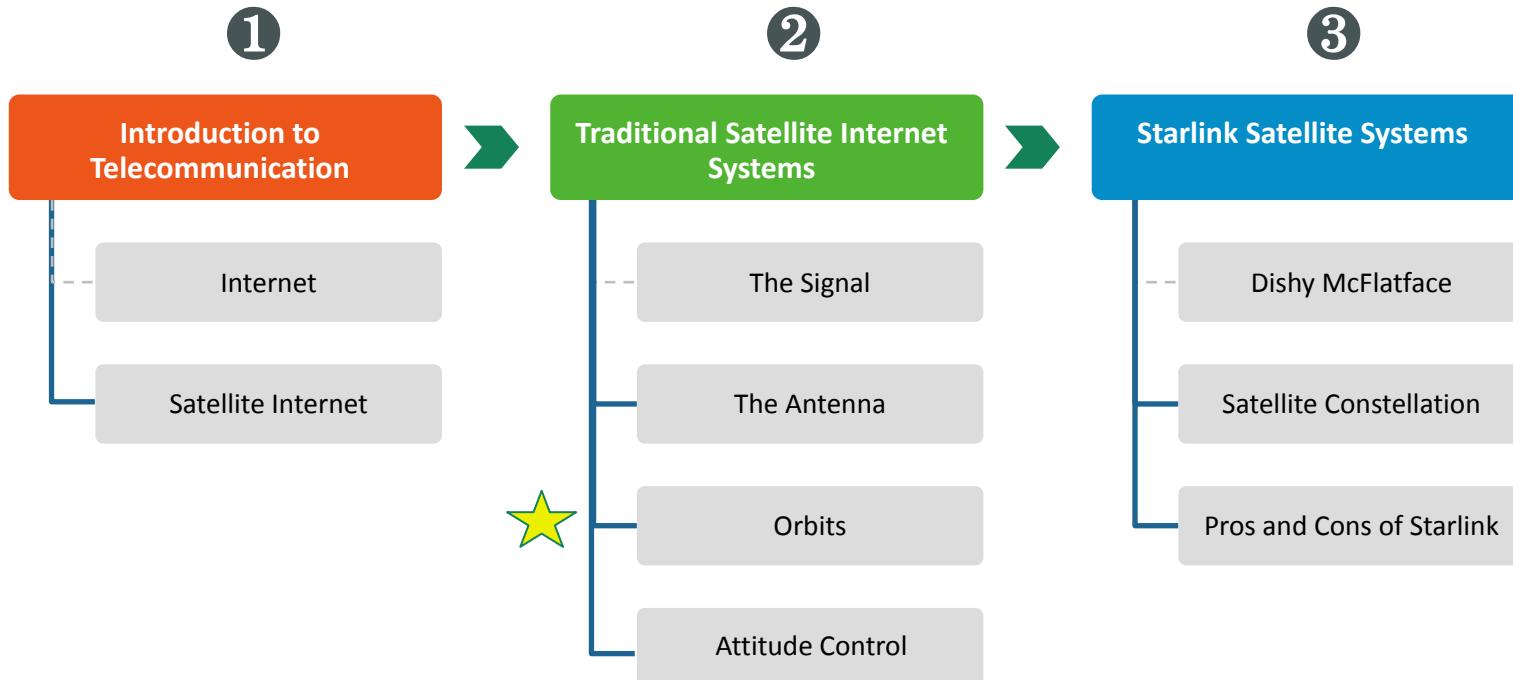
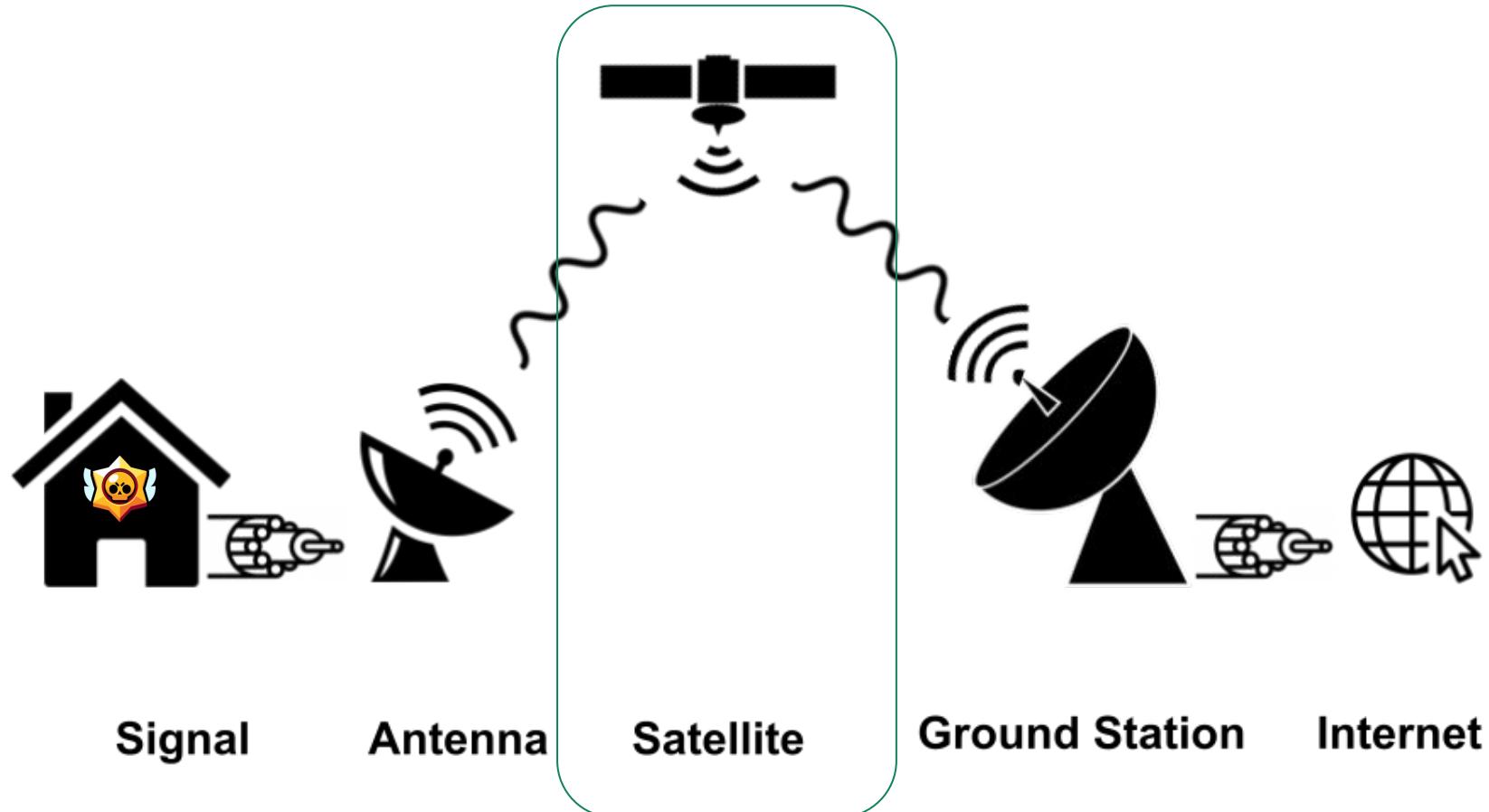


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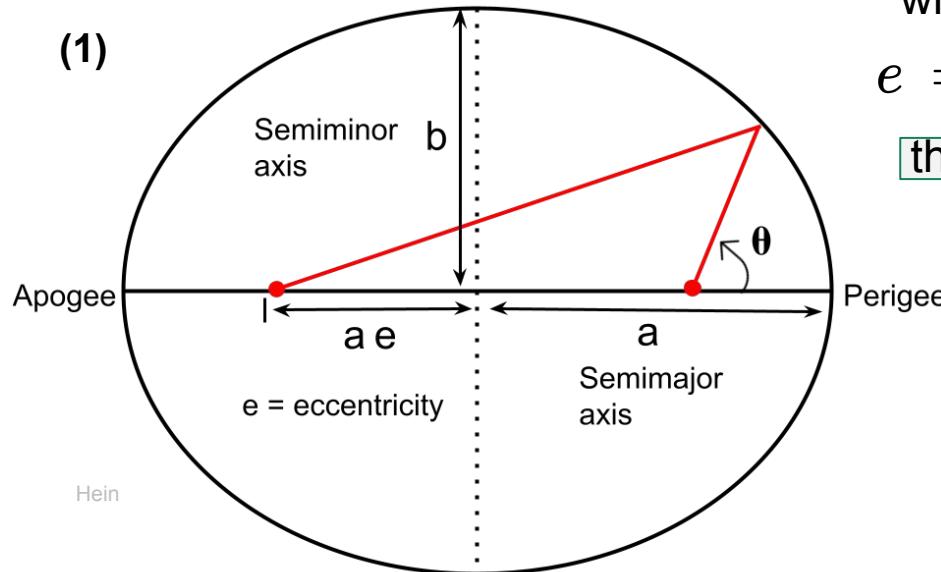
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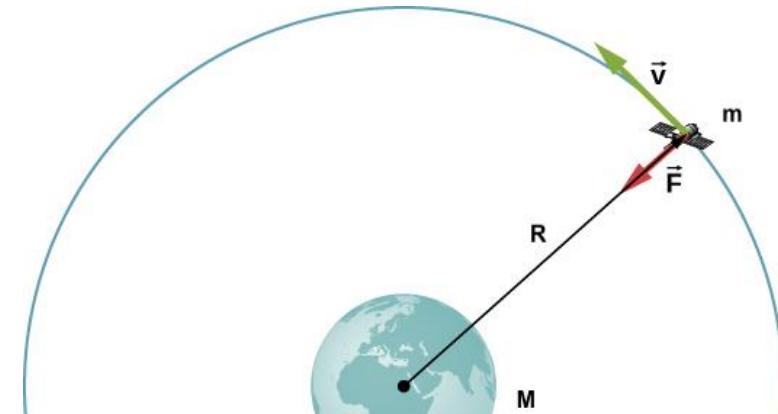
2

Kepler's Laws of Planetary Motion

(1)



when
 $e = 0$
 then →



https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/courses-images/wp-content/uploads/sites/2952/2018/01/31200003/ONX_UPhysics_13_04_orbit.jpg

Most telecommunications satellites are in **quasi-circular** orbits.

(3)

$$T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} a^3$$

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{R}}$$

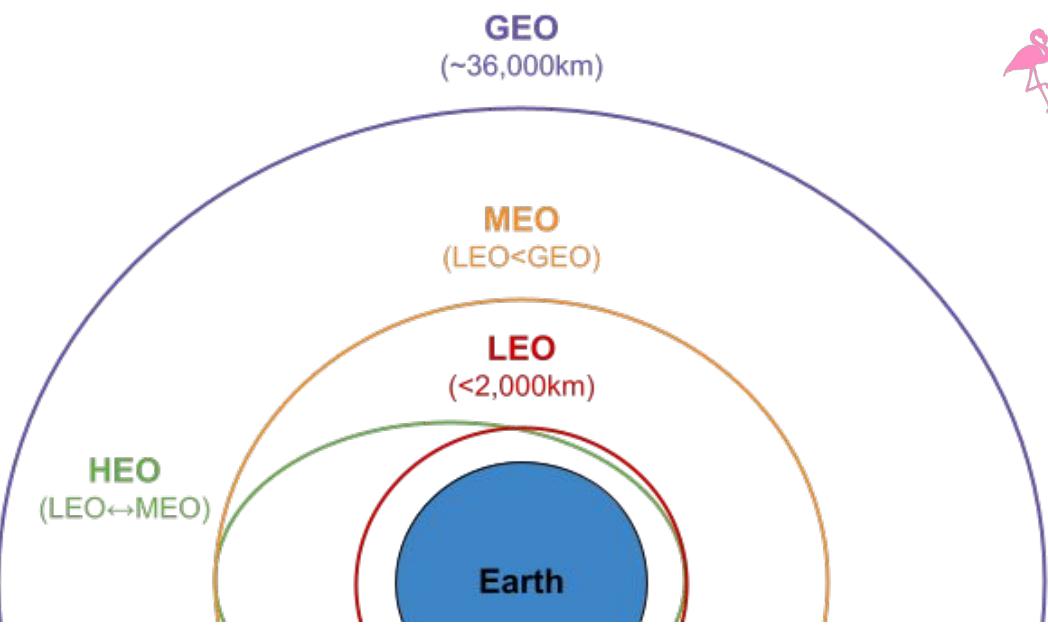
$$T^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{GM} R^3$$



Types of Orbits

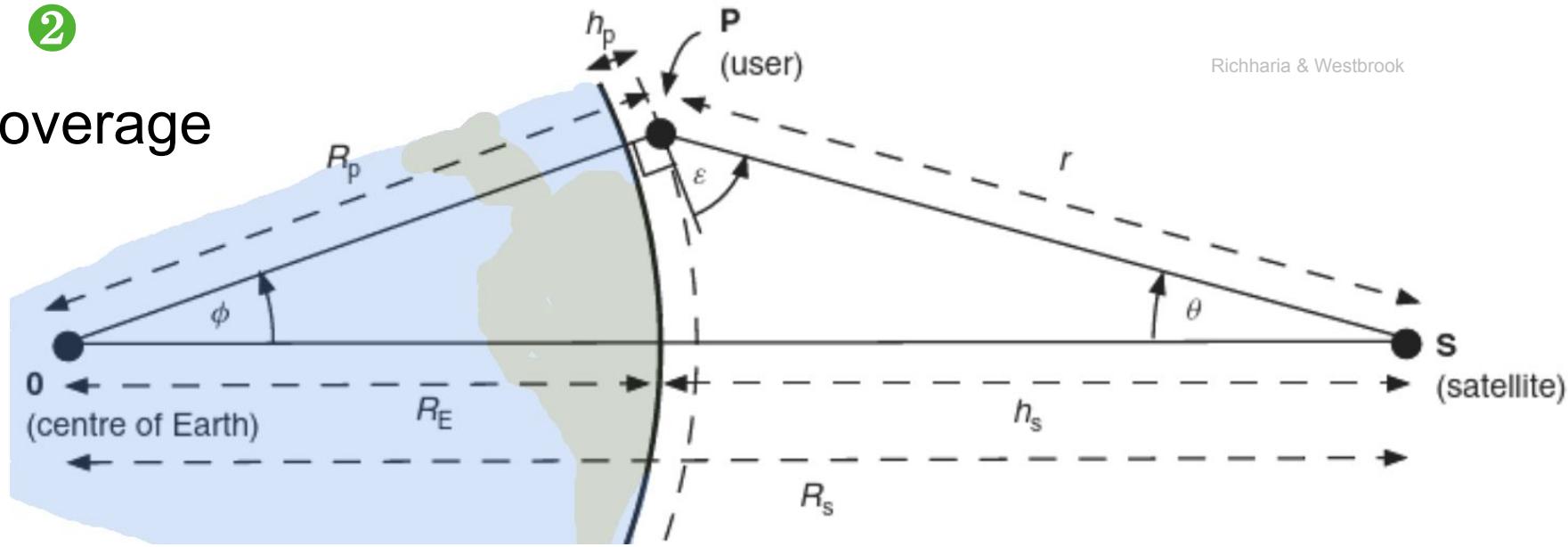
We will focus on

- **LEO** (Low Earth Orbit)
 $200 \text{ km} < 2000 \text{ km}$
- **GEO** (Geostationary Earth Orbit)
 $\approx 36000 \text{ km}$



Orbit	Altitude (km)	Period	Velocity	θ°	ψ°	Coverage radius (km)	Coverage Area (km^2)	Fractional coverage (%)
HAP	20	–	–	79.0	0.97	108	36 563	0.0072
LEO	800	1 h 40 min	7450 m/s	61.0	19.0	2106	1.38×10^7	2.7
MEO	20 000	11 h 50 min	3887 m/s	13.7	66.3	7351	1.52×10^8	29
GEO	35 786	23 h 56' 4.09''	3 074.7 m/s	8.54	71.5	7928	1.73×10^8	34

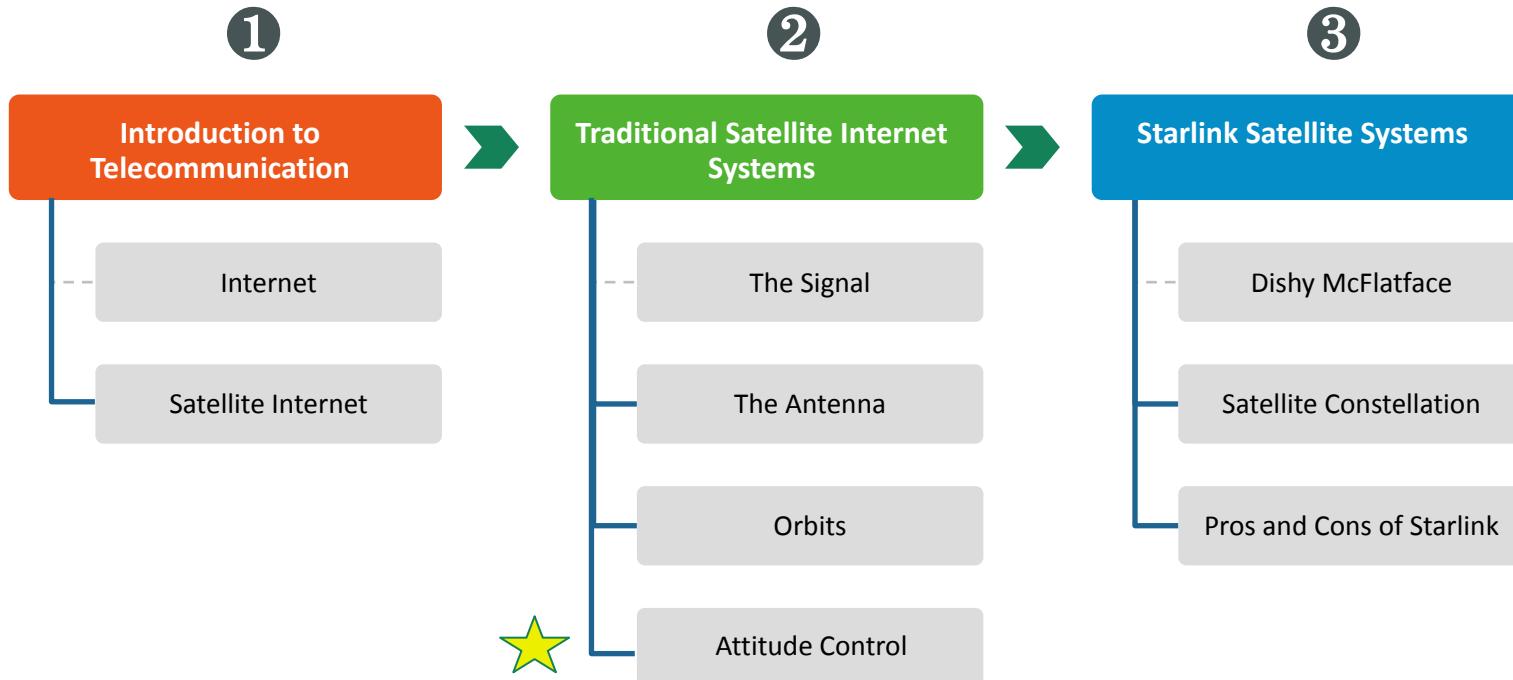
Coverage



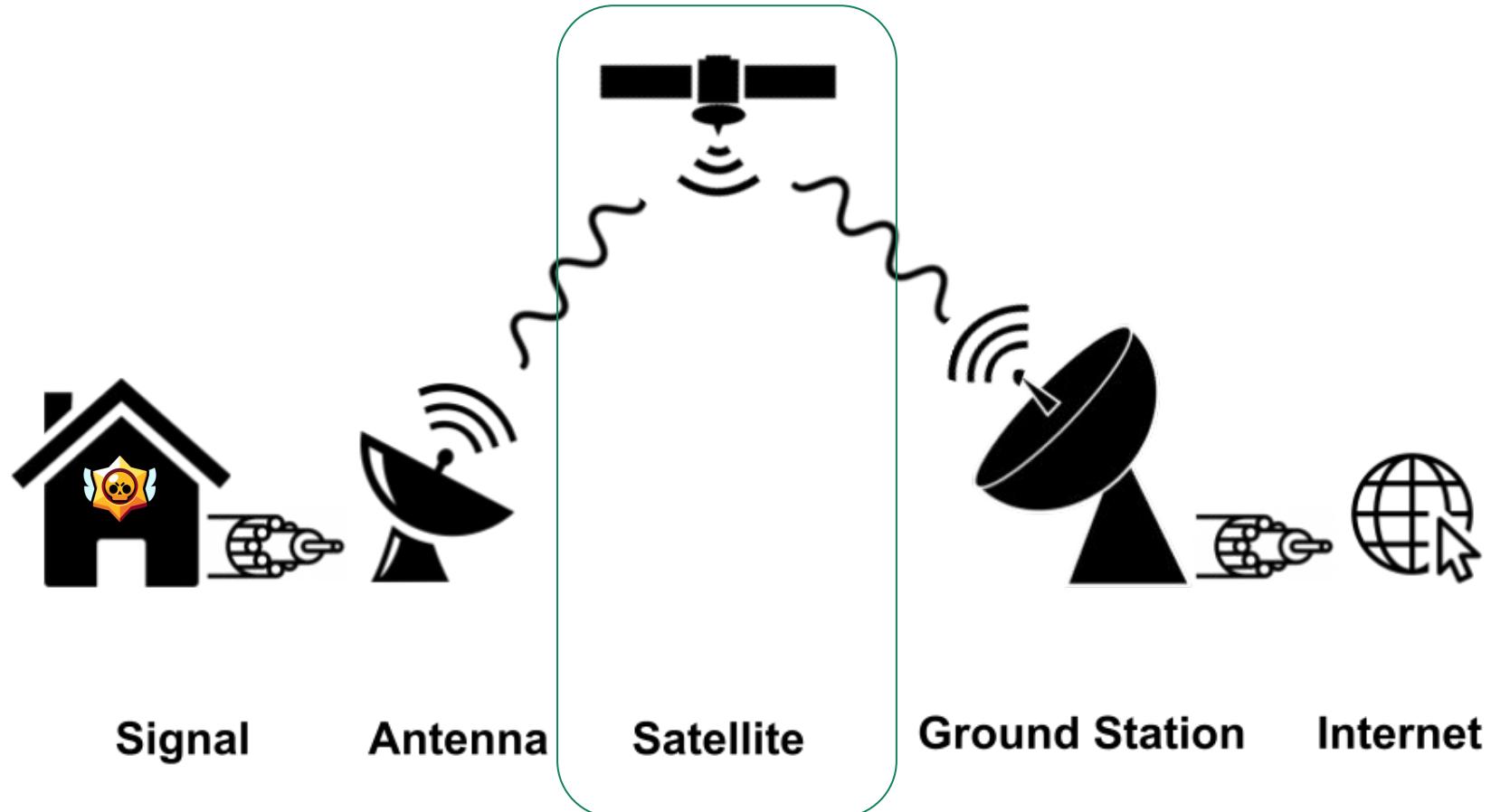
$$\theta = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{R_p}{R_s} \cos \epsilon \right) \quad \phi = \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta - \epsilon \quad \Omega_C = 2\pi(1 - \cos \phi)$$

$$A_C = \Omega_C R_E^2$$

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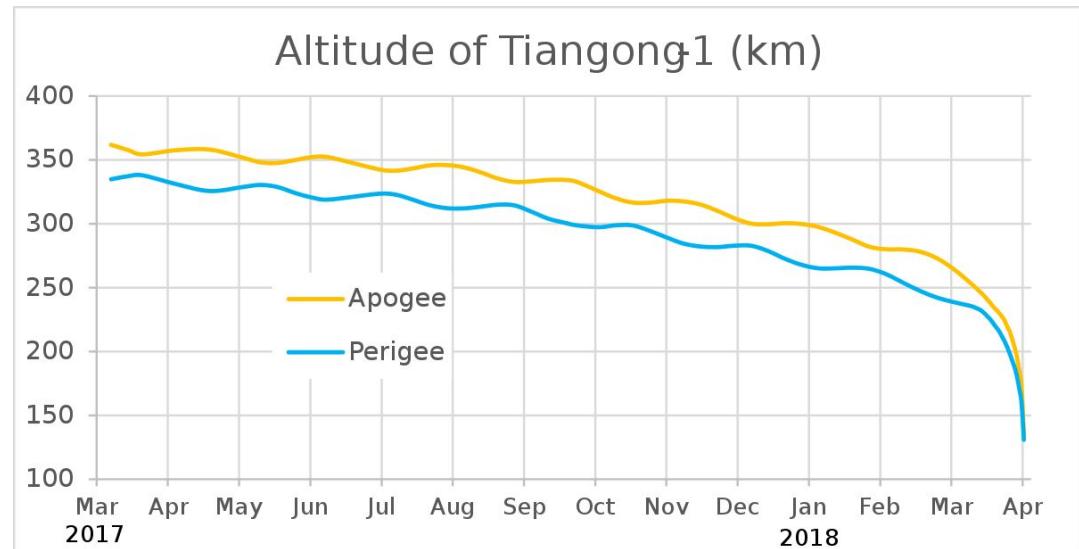


Satellite Orbital Decay

- Gravitational forces
- Atmospheric Drag
- Tidal effects
- Light and thermal radiation

Simplified model

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \frac{\alpha_o(R) \cdot T(R)}{\pi}$$

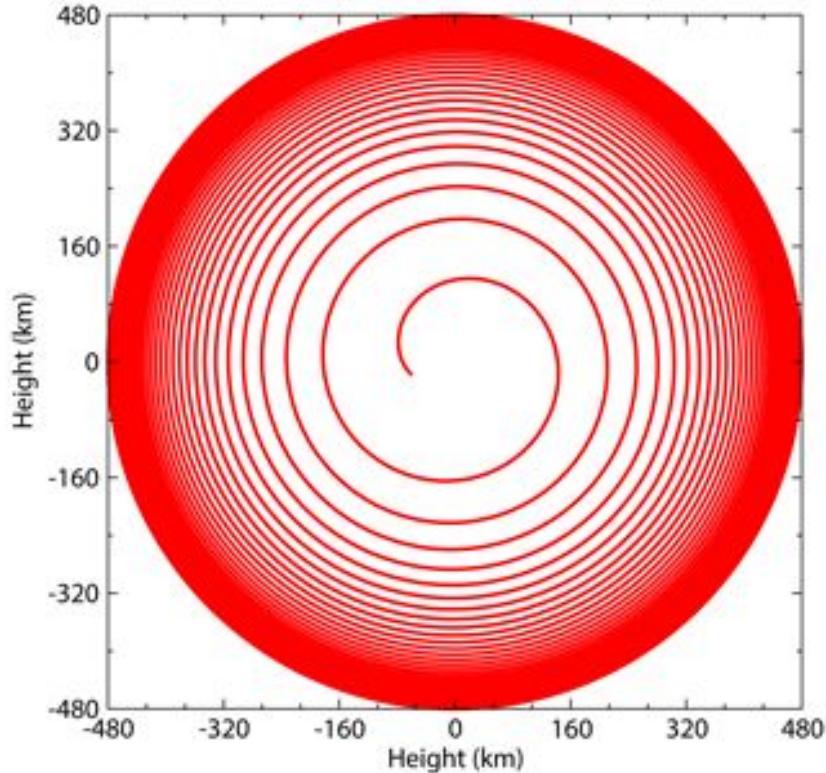


https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/0/0e/Altitude_of_Tiangong-1_svo/580px-Altitude_of_Tiangong-1_svo.png

Atmospheric Drag for LEO

200-400 km orbits face significant drag

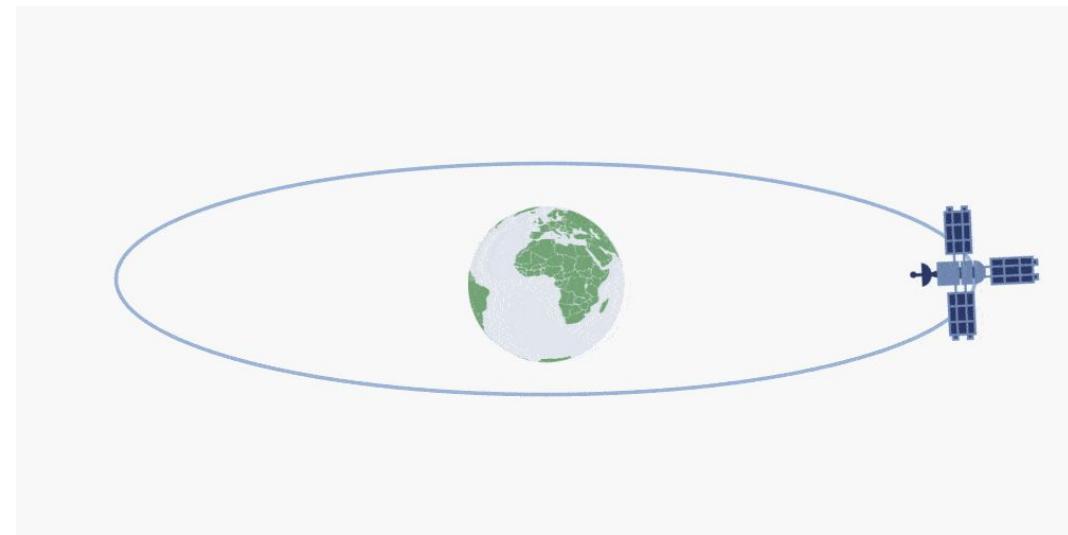
$$\alpha_0(R) = \frac{1}{2} \rho(R) v^2 c_d \frac{A}{m}$$



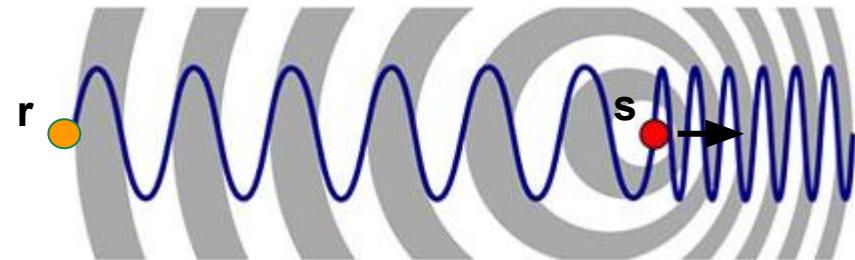
Locating and keeping a satellite in orbit

Combine techniques to *determine* satellite location in *time* and *space*

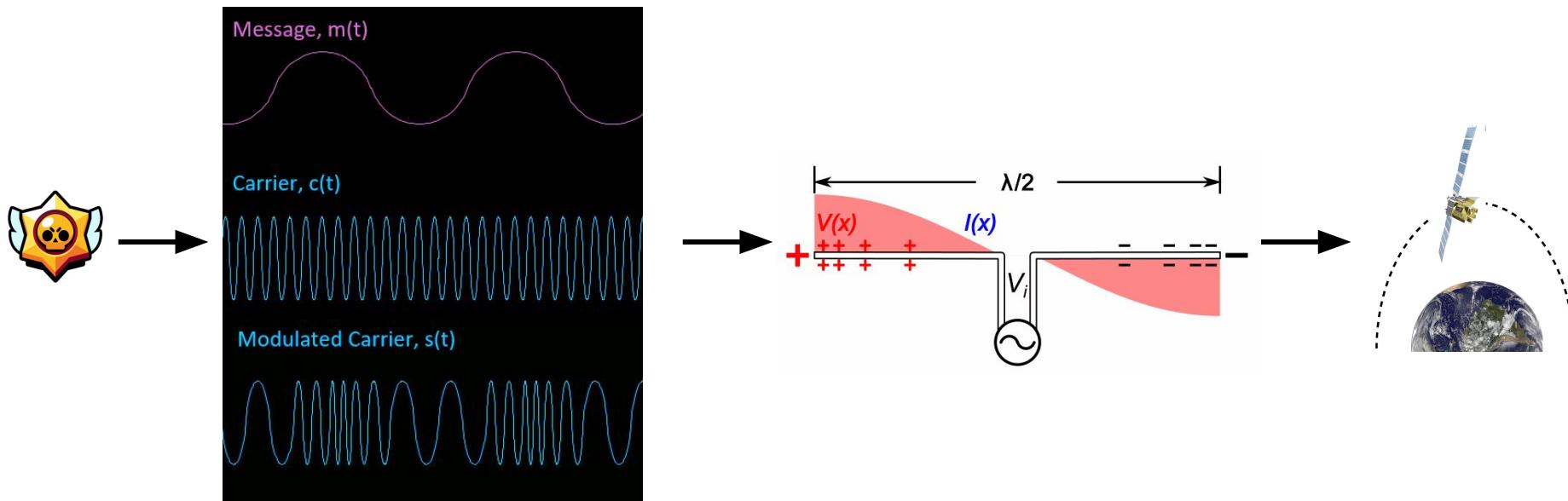
- Global Positioning System (GPS)
- Inertial Navigation Systems (INS)
- Star trackers
- Satellite laser ranging (SLR)
- **The Doppler effect**



$$f = \left(\frac{c \pm v_r}{c \pm v_s} \right) f_0$$



The journey thus far



2

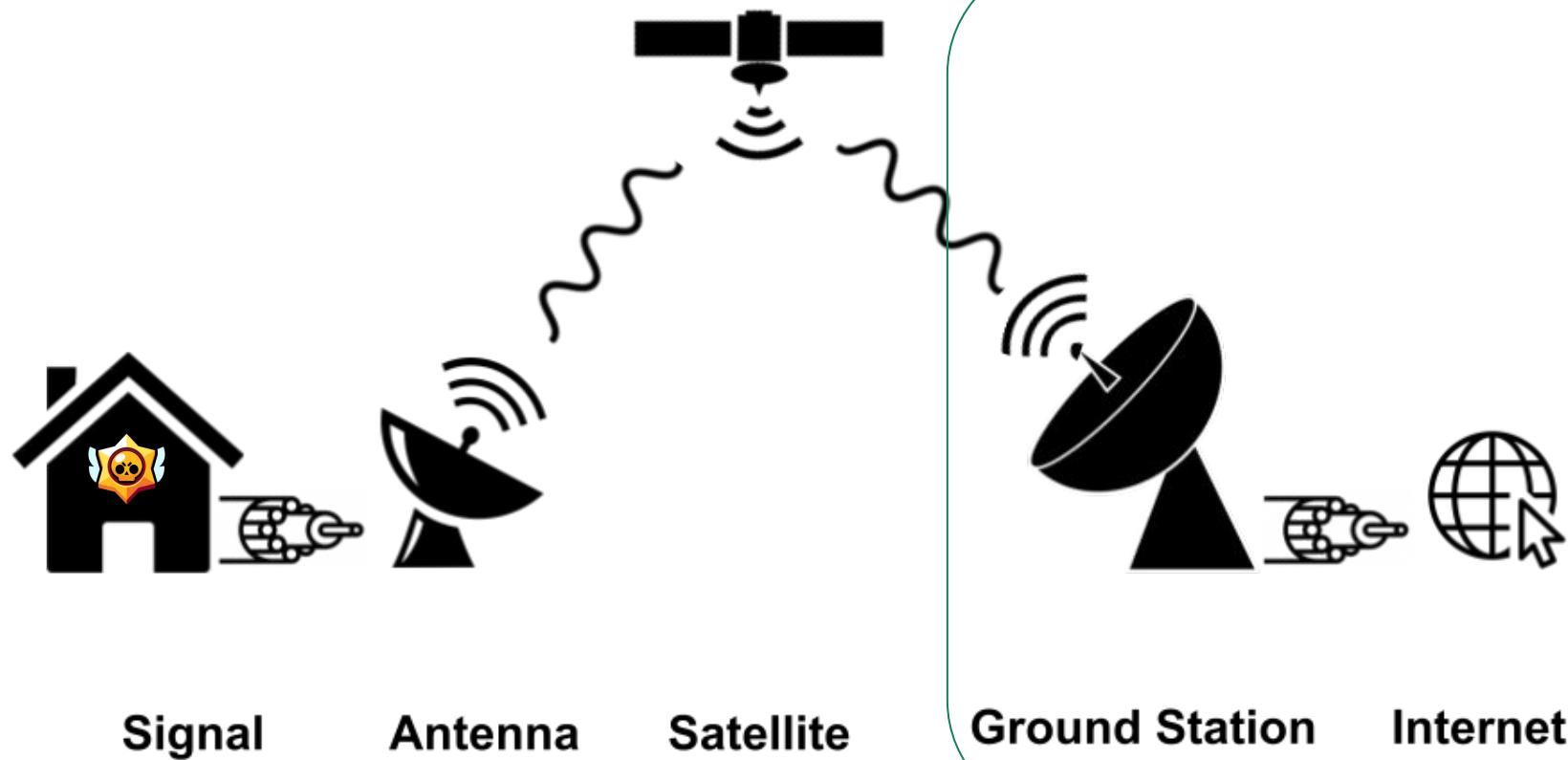
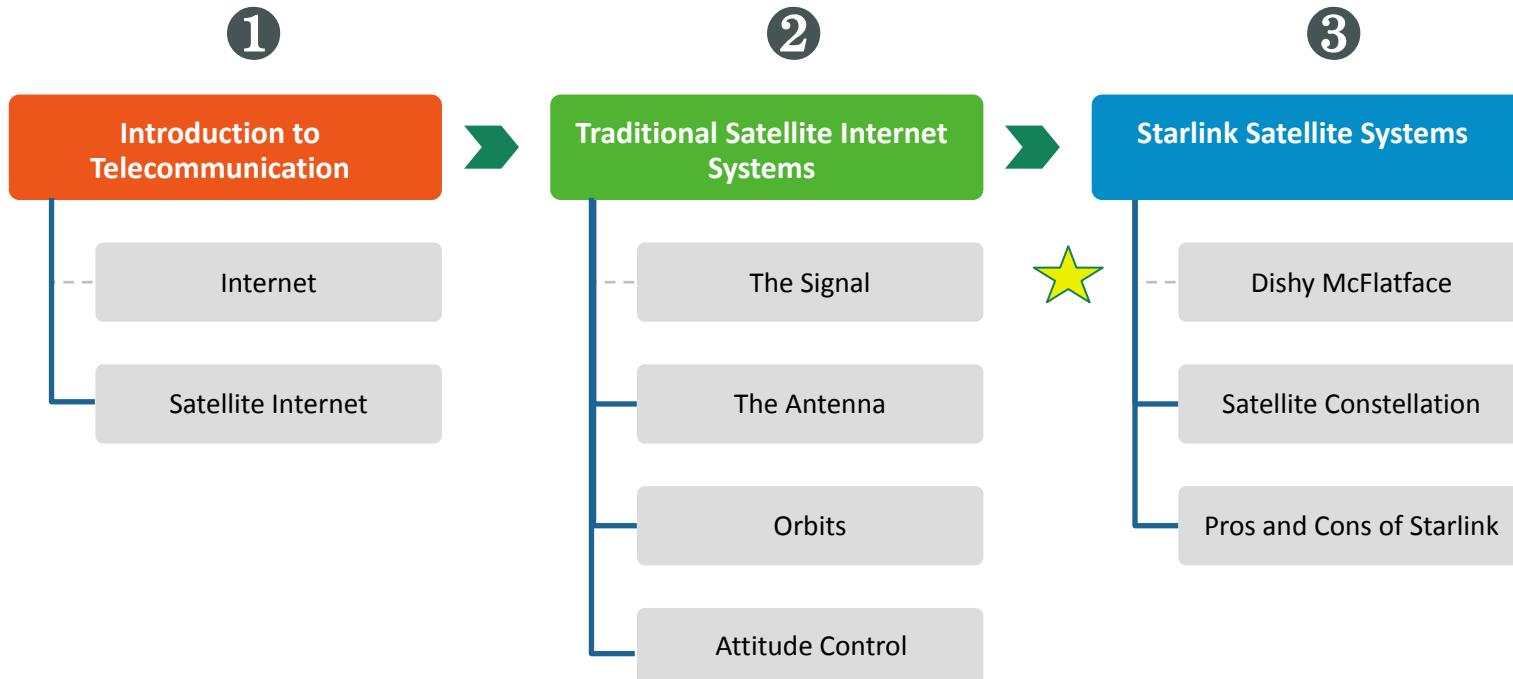
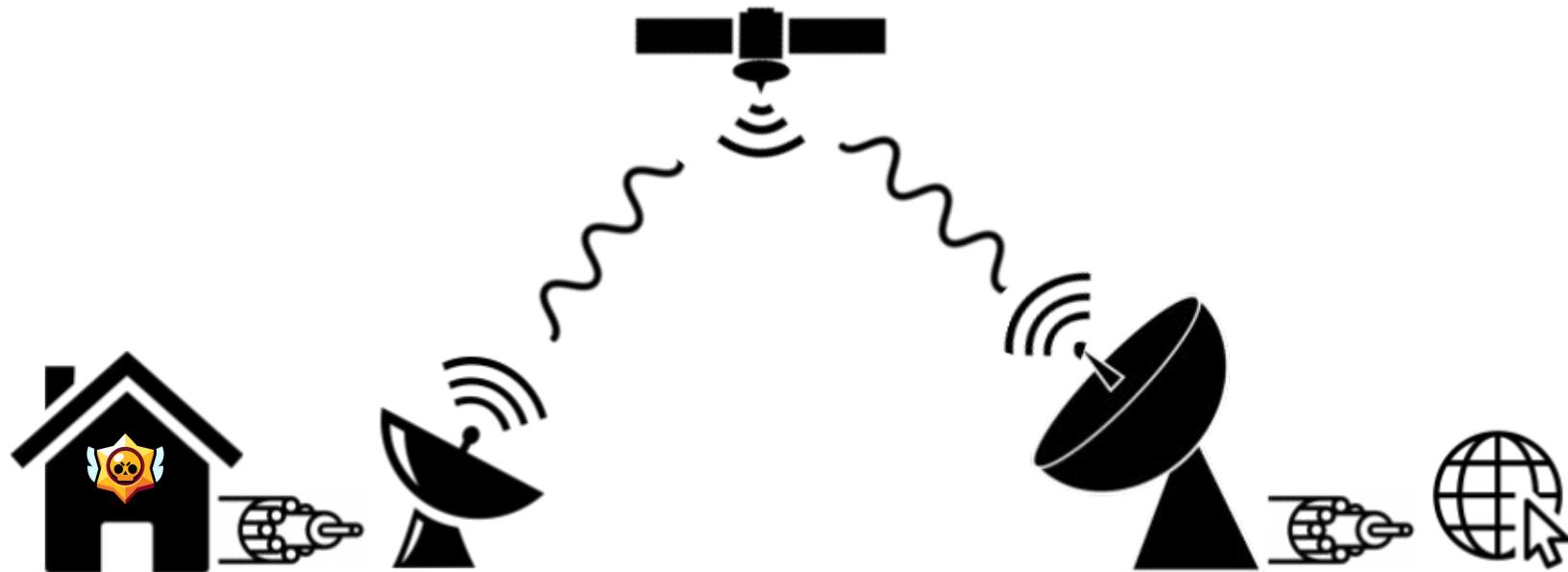


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③

Starlink



Signal

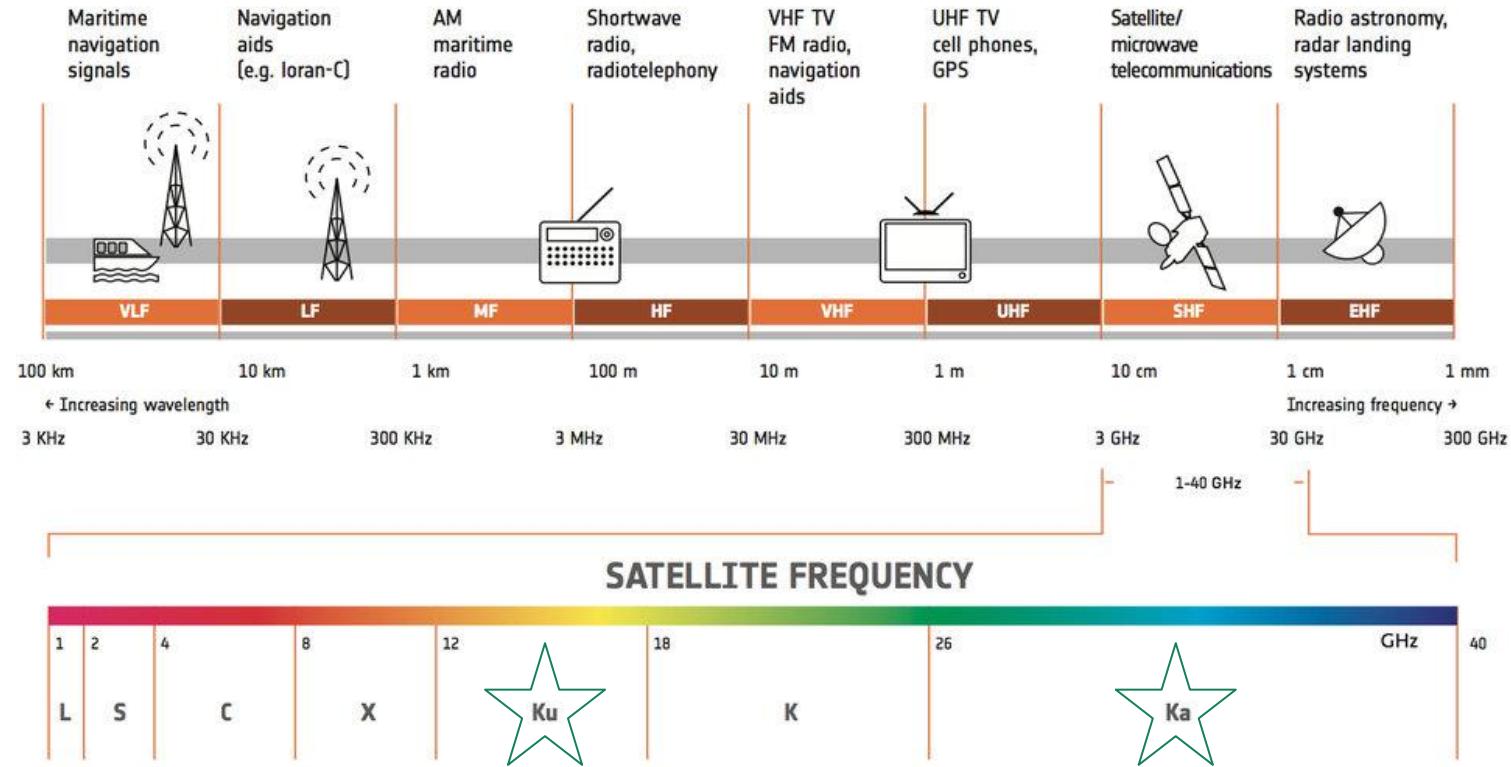
Antenna

Satellite

Ground Station

Internet

Starlink Signal

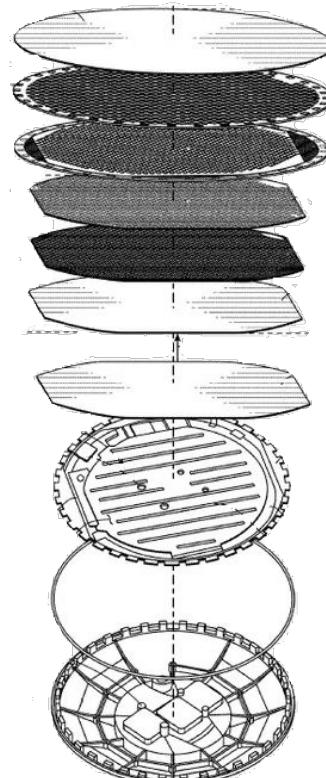


3

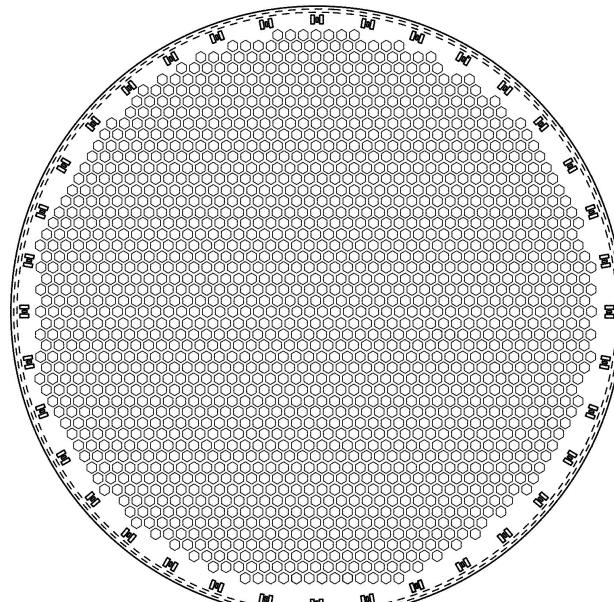
Dishy McFlatface (Antenna) Design



<https://www.rvmobileinternet.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/first-gen-starlink-dish-dishy-300x300.png>



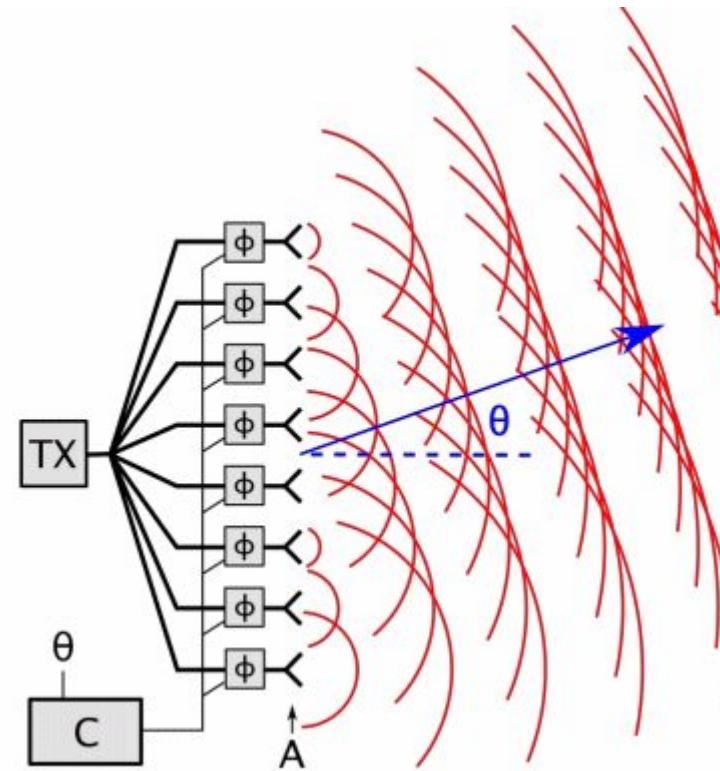
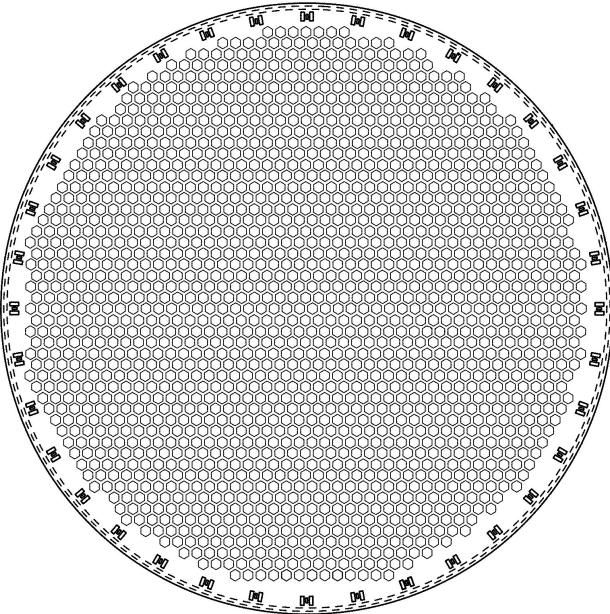
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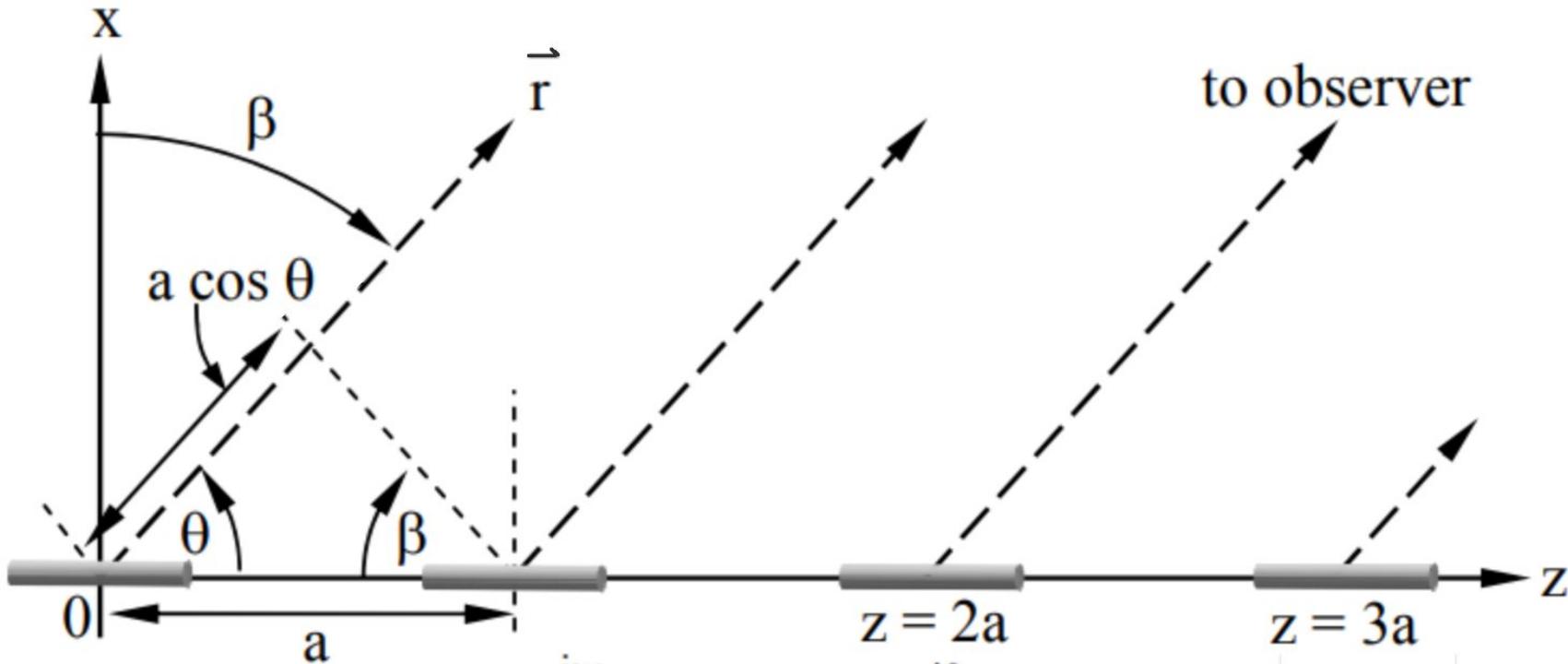
Array Interference



3

Beamforming

$$a \cos \theta = a \sin \beta = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \Delta\phi_a$$



3

Dishy Radiation Pattern

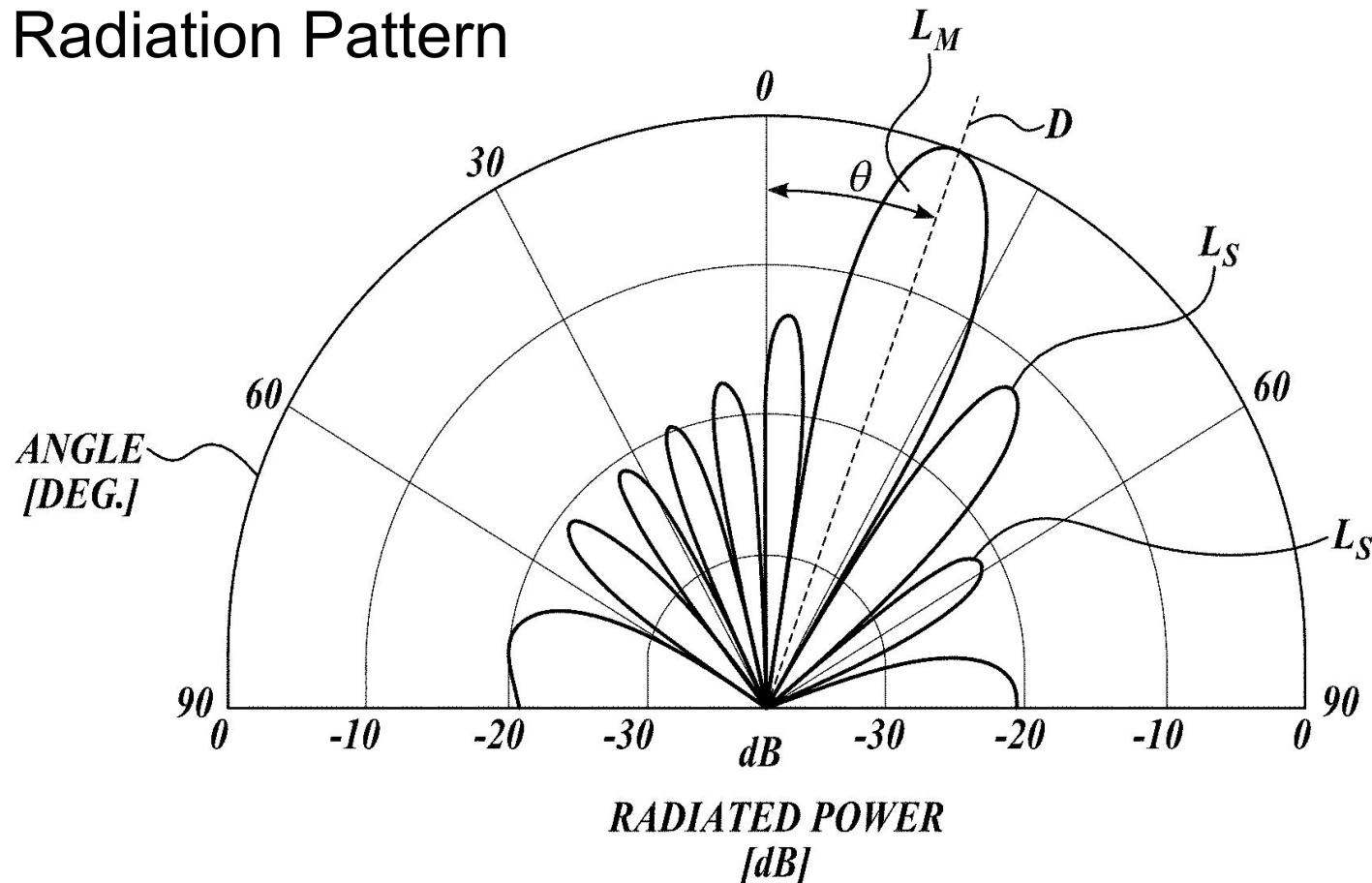
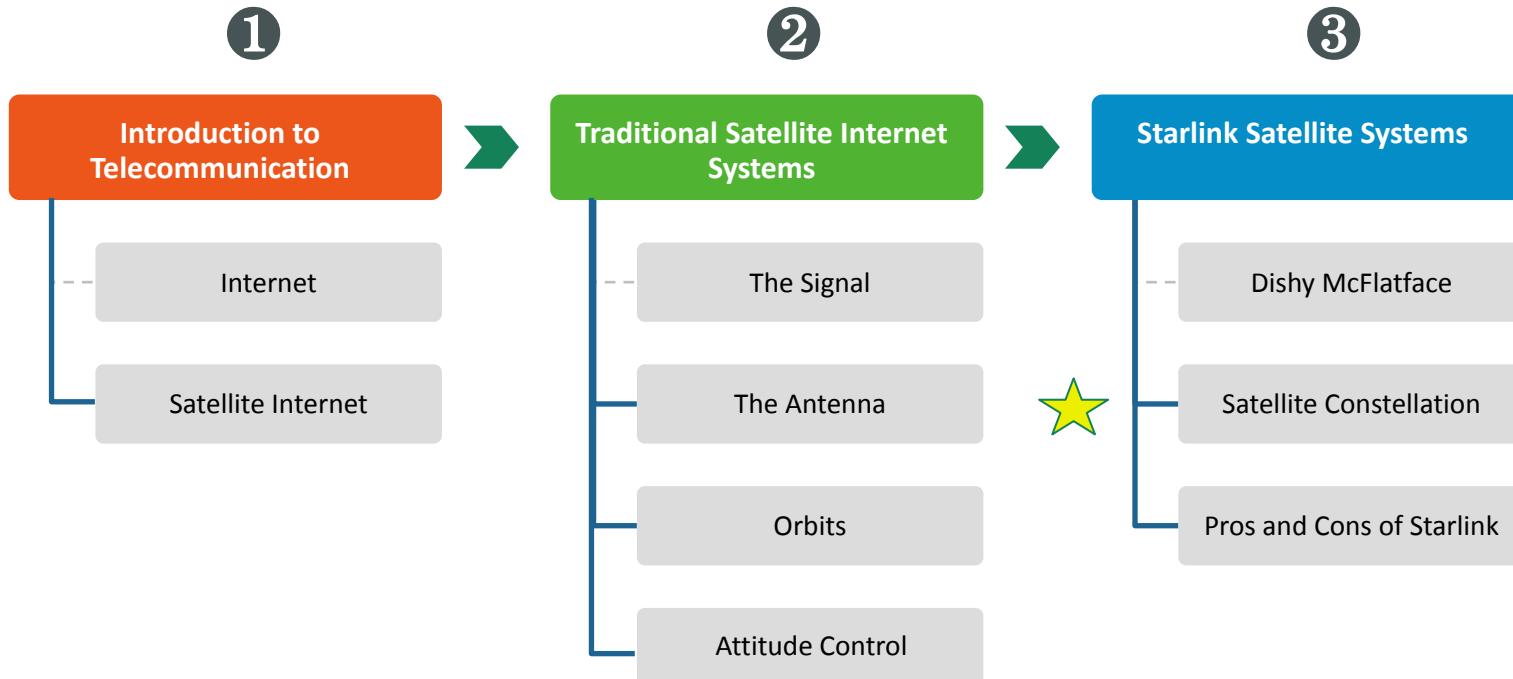
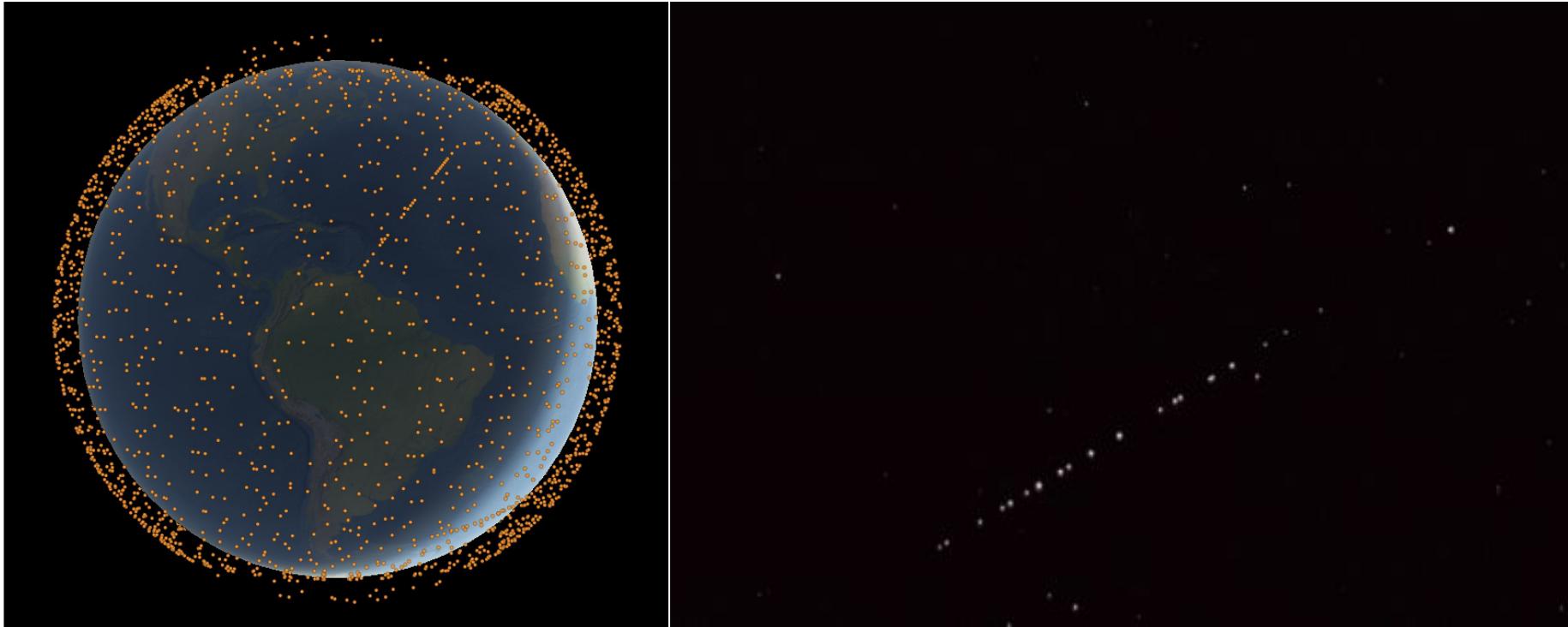


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A new constellation?

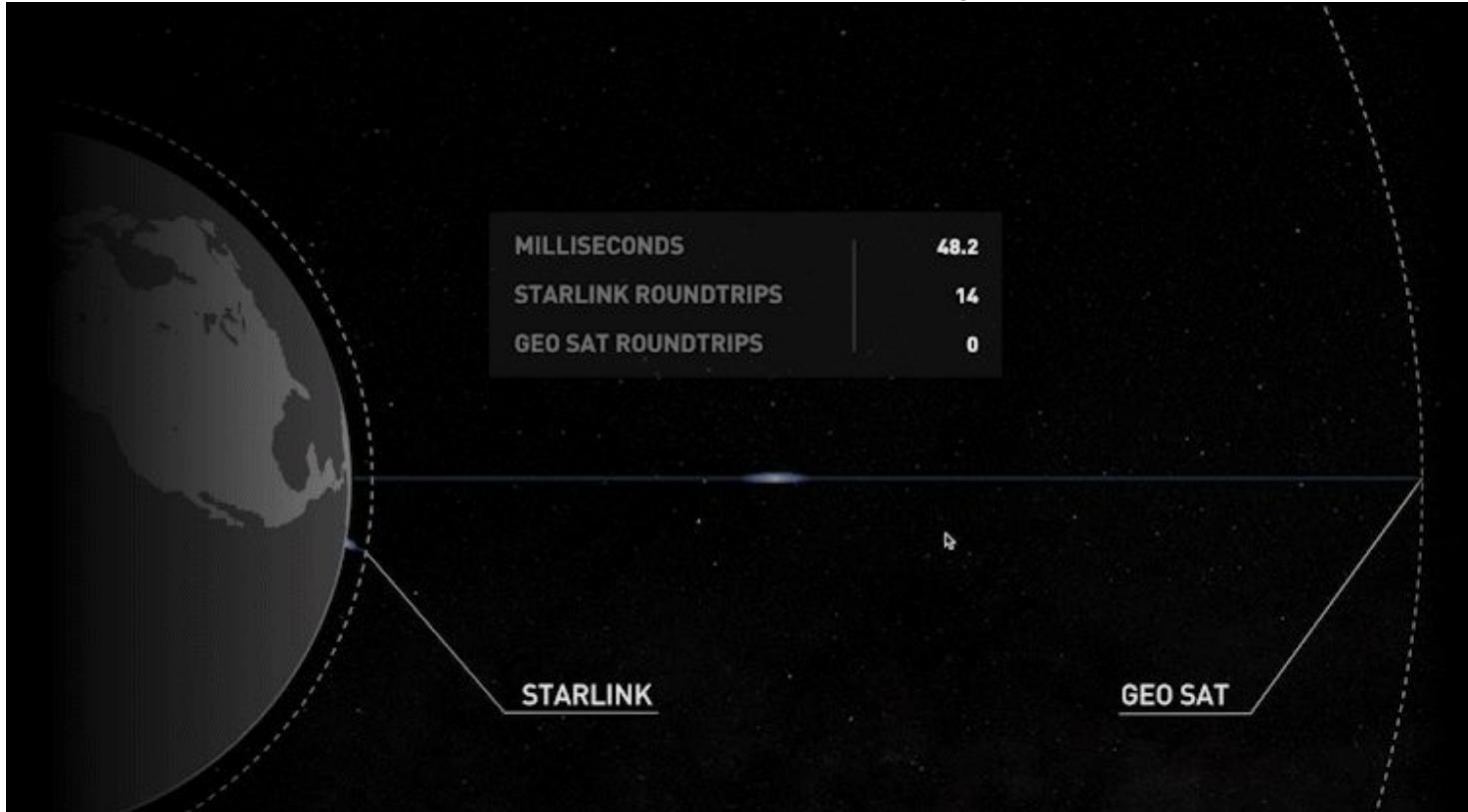


3

Why LEO and why now?



LATENCY!
and
FEASIBILITY!



3

Deployment



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/91/Starlink_Mission_%2847926144123%29.jpg/600px-Starlink_Mission_%2847926144123%29.jpg

3

Starlink Point of Presence (PoP)

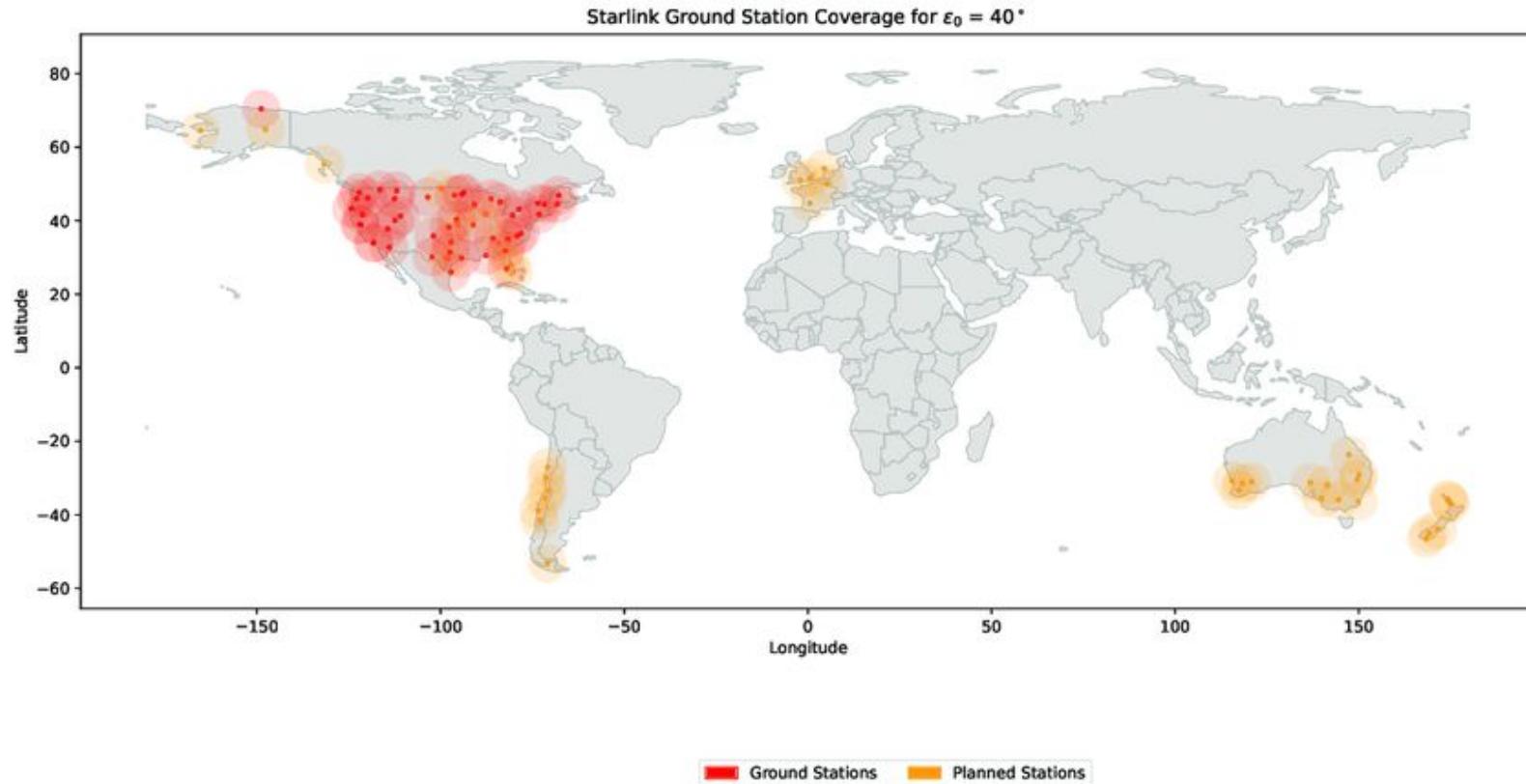
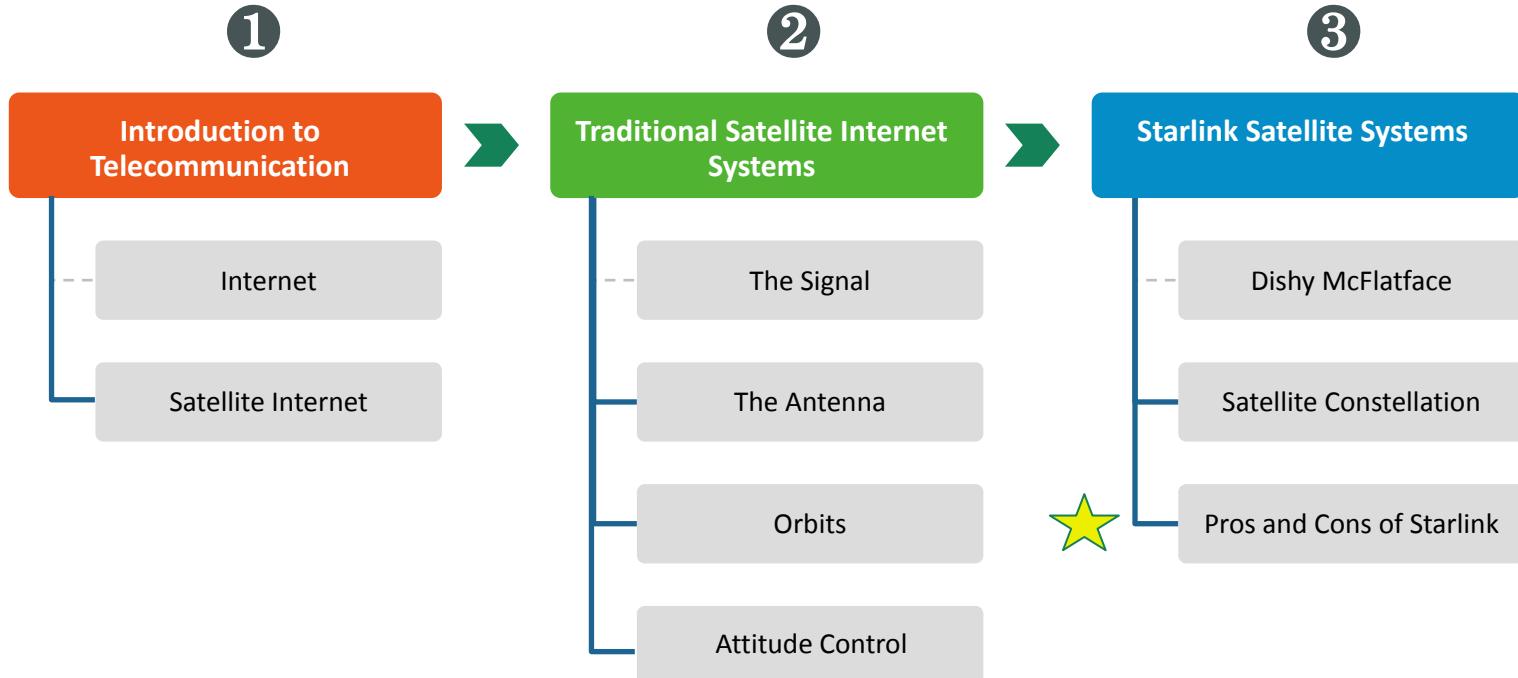


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Starlink Concerns and Benefits

Concerns:

- Space debris
- Disrupt astronomical measurements

Benefits:

- Communication Disruptions
 - Natural Disasters
 - War
- Faster than cable Internet?

