

# The UWE-Roadmap to Pico-Satellite Formation Flying: In-Orbit Experiences



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#### Pico-Satellites from Würzburg

UWE – University Würzburg's Experimental satellites

2018 NetSat-1 to NetSat-4 Formation Flying Mission Distributed Computing Capabilities, Formation Control, DTNs, MANets, ...

2016 NetSat-0 Relative Navigation

2015 UWE-4

Position Control

2013 UWE-3 Attitude Control

2009 UWE-2

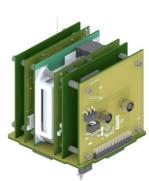
Attitude- and Orbit Determination

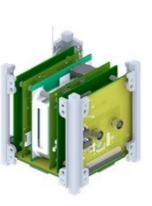
2005 UWE-1

Telecommunication /Internet in Space"

### Standardization of Electrical Interfaces / Modular Bus





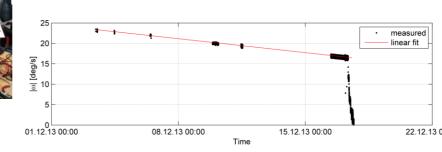




- Fast integration due to backplane approach
- Standardized electrical interfaces (by UNISEC Europe)

#### **UWE-3 Attitude Determination and Control System**

Integrated magnetic torquer, Sun sensor and magnetometer on the backside of each solar array



Using magnetic torquers:a rotation of 16.5 deg/s was cancelled within 7

## **UWE-3 Reliable Commercial On Board Data Handling Module, Using Shielding by Software**

• Miniaturisation leads to higher susceptibility to space radiation

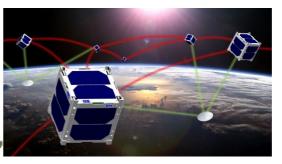
• Only commercial of the shelf electronics was used

 Fault detection, identification and recovery by software and watch-dog function

Despite significant radiation encountered,

UWE-3 provides uninterrupted service since launch for more than 20 months, despite encountered

SEUs and latch-ups





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#### NetSat

- realization of distributed, cooperating multi-satellite systems using autonomous formation control for optimization of observation periods
- 4 small satellites in order to establish a three-dimensional formation
- challenges relate to closed-loop control via communication link

