

Mark Opfell

Exposure & Skills

RF Standards	FCC, ITU, DVB-S2
Programming Languages	Python, VBA
HW Tools	SDR, VNA, Antenna Hats,
SW Tools	Excel (Wizard), Pycharm, Git*, Bash, Vi
Scientific Python Stack	NumPy, SciPy, Matplotlib, Pandas
Cloud	Microsoft Azure
Significant Ascents	Mount Rainier, Mount Adams (solo)

Work Experience

Job Title	Lead Communication Systems Engineer	
Employer	Albedo	Remote
Period	October 2021 – Present	

Designing end-to-end mission communication systems to deliver 10 cm satellite imagery to the web with the swipe of a credit card.

Albedo raised seed funding in April 2021

10th Employee

Job Title	Senior RF Systems Engineer	
Employer	LeoStella	Tukwilla, WA
Period	April 2019 – October 2021	

Created technology roadmaps, architecture diagrams, link budgets, test plans, and ran hands-on troubleshooting. Collaborated with suppliers and customers to design, manufacture, test, and operate X, S, GPS, and UHF-band space+ground software defined communication systems (SDR) while managing cost, schedule, risk, and SWaP. Low-Earth orbit small satellite constellations: BlackSky, Loft Orbital, and NorthStar Earth & Space.

Designed, simulated, purchased, laid out, and validated: parts, mixed signal PCB, connectors, cabling, and enclosure for a GPS RF system self-compatibility filter. Successful in-orbit operation.

Awarded for saving \$0.5 million in recurring cost for flatsat test benches with a deep dive into the technical specifications of the ground and space hardware, and concurrence with vendors.

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Job Title	RF Systems Engineer	
Employer	Kymeta	Redmond, WA
Period	February 2018 – March 2019	
<p>Wrote phased array antenna cross-polarization optimization algorithm in Python and integrated it with production level test codebase along with documentation, theoretical and actual response data.</p> <p>Developed and executed over-the-air combined OSI application, transport, network, and physical layer level test cases for a mobile MIMO Ku-band terminal with software defined phased array flat panel antennas and a DVB-S2 satellite modem</p>		
Job Title	RF Systems Software Engineer	
Employer	Space Systems/Loral	Mountain View, CA
Period	October 2016 – January 2018	
<p>Award winning role leading, developing, and managing a production Python client and services to exchange data between a PostgreSQL database storing 1 TB of antenna data and an RF downlink capacity tool.</p>		
Job Title	Senior RF Systems Engineer	
Employer	Space Systems/Loral	Mountain View, CA
Period	March 2015 – October 2016	
<p>Lead successful Forward downlink payload re-design, deployment, launch, in-orbit test, and handover of geostationary communication satellite Echostar 21 operating the receive at Ka-band and transmit at S-band.</p>		
Job Title	RF Systems Engineer	
Employer	Space Systems/Loral	Mountain View, CA
Period	September 2013 – March 2015	
Job Title	Associate RF Systems Engineer	
Employer	Space Systems/Loral	Mountain View, CA
Period	June 2012 – September 2013	

Education

Degree	Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
University	University of California, Davis
Period	June 2009 – June 2012

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