# ST3LLARsat1 BOIRA:

# The first CubeSat program at UC3M

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Aerospace Engineering Department

Master in Space Engineering (MISE)

Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain





MISE

# ST3LLARsat1 BOIRA – Our Mission

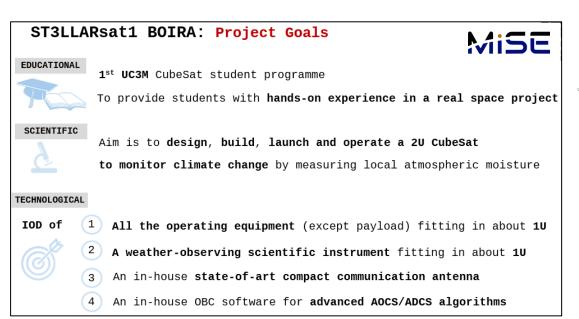
Start Date: September 2022 (expected launch 2026-27)

Required Skills: Multidisciplinary (aero, telecom, signals, SW, HW ...)

Director: UC3M / Aero – Dr. Andrés Marcos

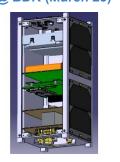
## First mission: ST3LLARsat1 "BOIRA"

"Boira" means fog in two of Spain's official languages: Galician & Catalonian.



### ST3LLARsat1 2U structure & internal config @ BDR (March'23) @ FDR (Feb'24)

**Mise** 

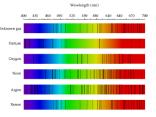




## ST3LLARsat1 science: measure water vapor (WV)

Detumblin

Bdot





## ST3LLARsat1 technology:

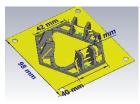


Advanced ADCS

Nadir pointing

EKE + SMC / H-infinit

Natir Pointin



## ST3LLARsat1 Obj1: Education – formal program





uc3m is structured around its 1.5-years / 90 ECTS 1 of only 5 (out of 192) masters in CAM accredited with 2 A's Master in Space Engineering (MISE) 1 of only 2 with an A in "Learning Results" 1<sup>st</sup> year 2<sup>nd</sup> vear \* Core classes in space engineering \* Optional classes & industry internships \* [C] Space Pre-Design (SPD) Team Course \* [C] Master Thesis (TFM): Advanced developments Feasibility study \* [O] Integral Project (IP) Team Course: Consolidation Changed ETCS/bimester on 23/24:  $3/1 \rightarrow 6/2$ New from 22/23 (start of ST3LLARsat1), 12ETCS/2bimesters

UC3M's Student CubeSat programme

Space Pre-Design (SPD) is a mandatory 6-ECTS MISE course

offered in the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the 1<sup>st</sup> year.

The main goal of the course is to apply all the student's knowledge and skills developed during the 1<sup>st</sup> year via a team-based space challenge.

In teams of 4-10 members, the students must perform a feasibility or consolidation design of a space mission, or its components, covering from project management to system engineering.

The proposed designs are evaluated by a multi-disciplinary panel of academic and industry staff, and each year a winner is chosen.

From 2021/22, it was focused on CubeSat (New Space).

From 2023/24, this course was extended from 3 to 6 ECTS credits and from 1 to 2 bimesters to better reflect its complexity.

Integral Project (IP) is an optional 12-ECTS (~300hrs' work) MISE course offered at the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

This course is offered to deepen engineering studies via:

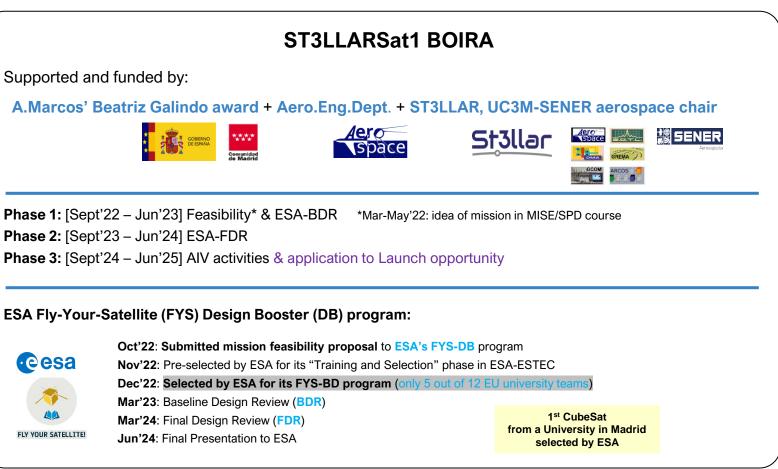
- · Group projects: to work in an integrated manner in a common project, but each student leading a specialism / topic.
- Individual projects: an additional path for deeper study of a selected topic, or to complement and extent the TFM work.

Started in 2022/23 articulated around the development of the 1st UC3M CubeSat: ST3LLARsat1 "Boira". Initially, it was running from Sept to March to align it with ESA FYS! "Design Booster" program.

From 2024/25, we are back to a period of Sept to Dec (2 bimesters).

## ST3LLARsat1 Obj1: Education – BDGT





## ST3LLARsat1 Obj1: Education – MGT

People, people, people ... the important component

CubeSat Co-Director

Payload

antenna

(inc.

Lead

Brais G

M. Negre

I. Alonso

Prof. Gabriele Dessena#

Thermal

García

. Flores

O.Torre

Phase III 2<sup>nd</sup> yr IP

student team leads

lead

[2 TFG / 5 TFMs ]

FDS

Lead

Daniel J.

E. Gomez

M. Rodriguez P.N. Villalba

AIV manager

Prof. Andoni Moral

(INTA) Undergrad

A. García 🐥

D. Rivero 🕹

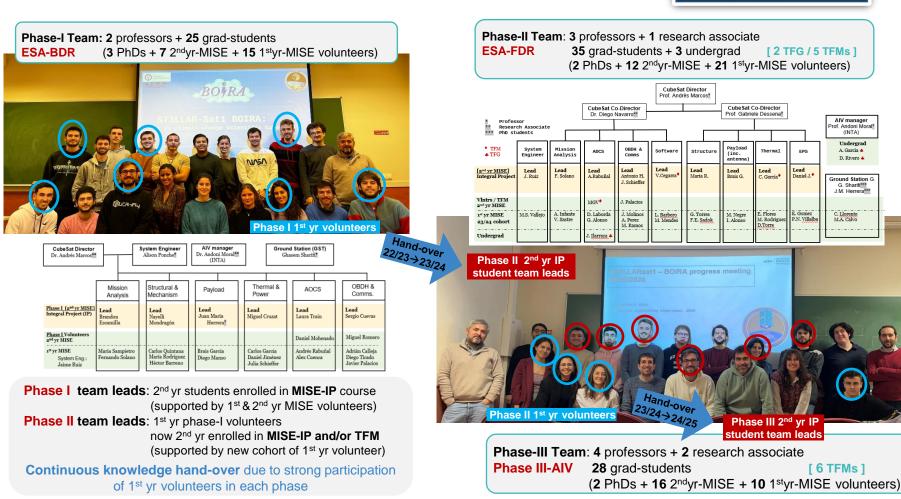
Ground Station G.

G. Sharifi\*\*\* J.M. Herrera\*\*\*

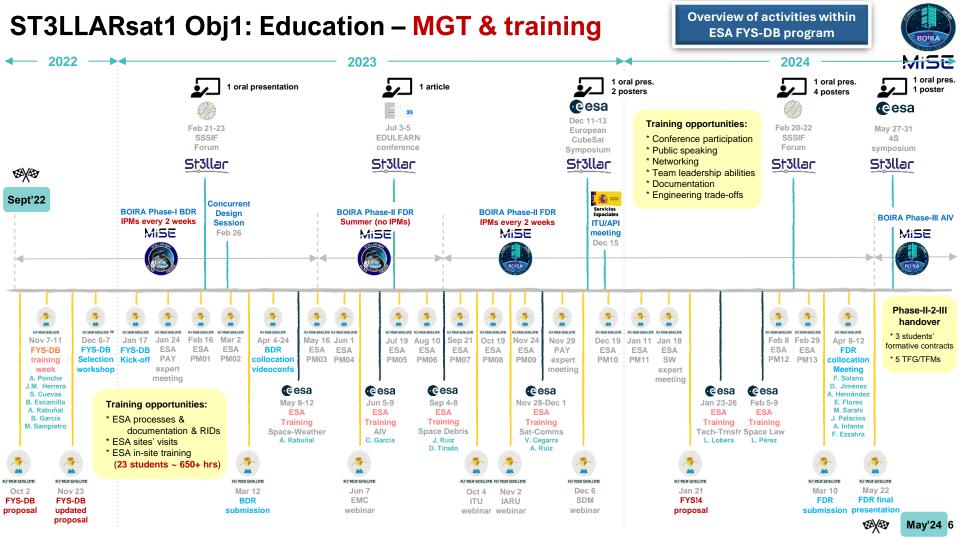
C. Llorente M.A. Calvo

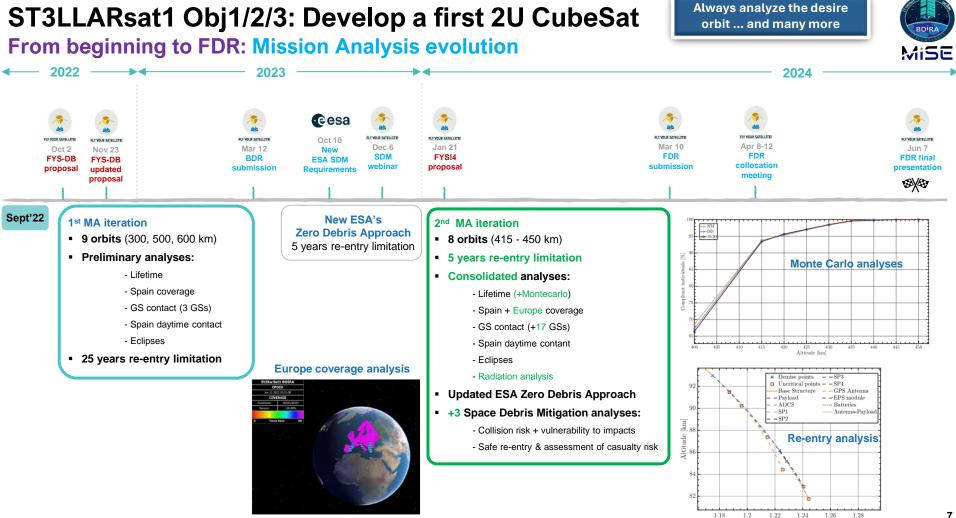
[6 TFMs]





5





 $\times 10^4$ 

Downrange [km]

7

# ST3LLARsat1 Obj1/2/3: Develop a first 2U CubeSat

## From beginning to FDR: Mission Analysis details



#### 1<sup>st</sup> MA iteration

- 9 orbits (300, 500, 600 km)
- Preliminary analyses:
  - Lifetime
  - Spain coverage
  - GS contact (3 GSs)
  - Spain daytime contact
  - Eclipses
- 25 years re-entry limitation

### 2<sup>nd</sup> MA iteration

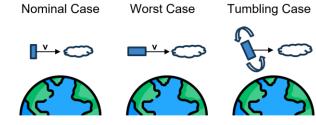
- 8 orbits (415 450 km)
- 5 years re-entry limitation
- Consolidated analyses:
  - Lifetime (+Montecarlo)
  - Spain + Europe coverage
  - GS contact (+17 GSs)
  - Spain daytime contant
  - Eclipses
  - Radiation analysis
- Updated ESA Zero Debris Approach
- +3 Space Debris Mitigation analyses:
  - Collision risk + vulnerability to impacts
  - Safe re-entry & assessment of casualty risk

To characterize performance of ST3LLARsat1's CubeSat while in orbit, <u>6 critical analyses</u> were made:

- Lifetime analysis: assessment of # days until S/C has re-entered Earth's atmosphere.
- Coverage analysis: calculation of % of Earth & Spain surface covered by each orbit.
- Ground Station contact analysis: computation of # windows with designated ground stations.
- Spain contact analysis: assessment of # passes over Madrid & Spain to characterize science windows.
- Eclipse events analysis: estimation of # eclipse events and their duration.
- Radiation analysis: preliminary estimation of radiation environment during mission.

Parameter	Range
Altitude	350-600 km
Inclination	96-98 degrees
Orbit type	SSO
LTAN	NM, DD & 10:30

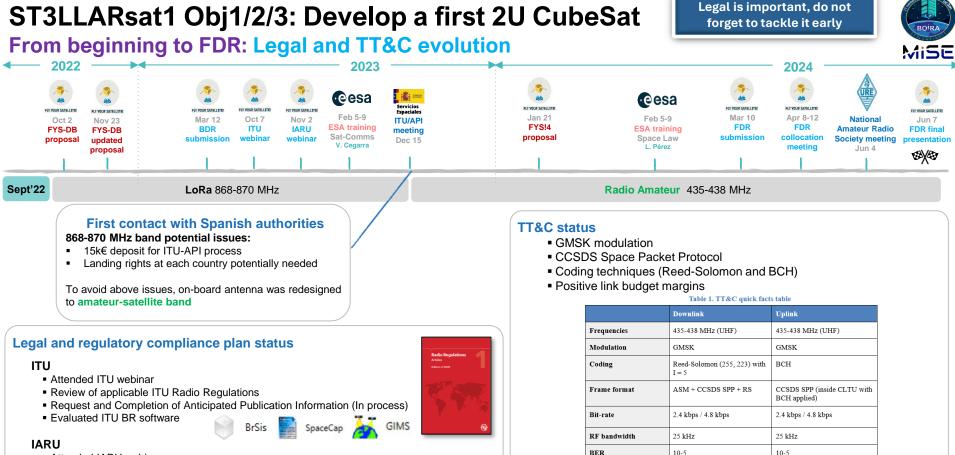




ST3LLARSat1's Lifetime analysis: Three-cases approach

#### Software used for ST3LLARSat1's MA

Name	Type of Analysis	Developer
DRAMA	Lifetime and SDM	ESA
FreeFlyer	Eclipses, Contact time (GS and Spain), Coverage (Europe and Spain)	a.i. solutions
STELA	Monte Carlo analysis on the spacecraft's lifetime	CNES
OMERE	Radiation Analysis	TRAD & CNES



Signal power at

Link margin (nominal)

LNA input

17 dBm (0.05W)

13.43 dB / 10.42 dB

30 dBm (1W)

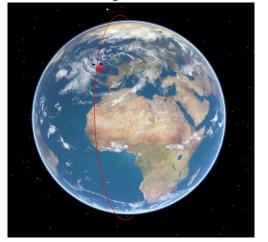
6.99 dB / 3.08 dB

- Attended IARU webinar
- Contacted and met with Spanish National Amateur Radio Society
  - They mentioned our mission might not be considered as amateur.
  - Preliminary contact with IARU to confirm amateur-satellite compliance

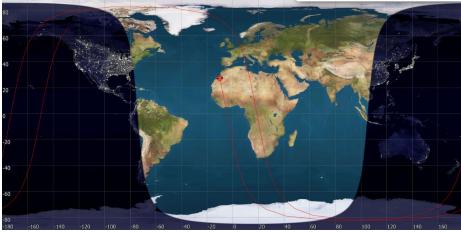
## ST3LLARsat1 Obj2: Science – Measure Water Vapor

Make sure your science goal is feasible



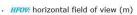


ST3LLARsat1's orbit @ FDR (SSO-450-10:30 case, J2000 frame)

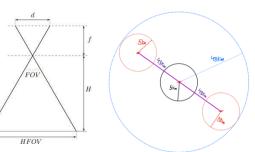


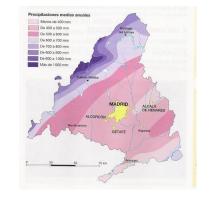
ST3LLARsat1 Ground Track @ FDR (SSO-450-10:30 case)

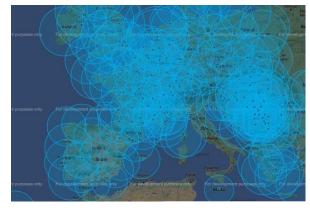
### Payload: We considered an In-House MW radiometer and subsequently chose a COTS spectrometer



- FOV: field of view (deg)
- GSD: ground sampling distance (m)
- *H*: altitude (m)
- d: sensor width (m)
- f: sensor focal length (m)
- n<sub>p</sub>: resolution, number of pixels







From beginning to FDR: Configuration

STM32F4 CPU

1x M10162040108X0PWAY

CoM Opt-B

Х

Y

7

Mass (Kg)

cm

-1.41

0.04

1 74

1.948

Watchdog: 2x MAX6320PUK

freeRTOS

EPS

OBC

ADCS

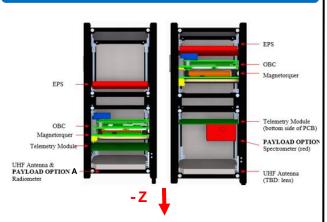
Payload

UHF Antenna

@ FDR (Feb'24) [as per ST3\_DML\_2024-03-10\_v1.0.xlsx]



### @ Proposal (Dec'22)



OBDH:

MRAM:

OS:

ADCS: STM32H7 CPU 3-axis gyro: ADIS 16460

- Magnetorguers: 1x iMTQ board
- Magnetometer: 1x HMC5883L
- Photodiodes: 6x SLCD-61N8
- Solar cells: 1x SpaceMind-SP1X 2x SpaceMind-SP2X

PCDU+Battery: ENDUROSAT EPS-I

GNSS receiver: Orion B16C1

RF transceiver: Semtech SX1277

Structure 2U: In-House

#### In-House MW radiometer Pavload: or COTS Spectrometer (Ocean Insight ST-NIR-25)



ADCS: STM32H7 CPU 3-axis gyro: ADIS 16500 Magnetorguers: 2xNCTR-M003 Magnetometer: 1x RM3100 Photodiodes: 6x SLCD-61N8 Solar cells: 2x SpaceMind-SP2X 2x SpaceMind-SP2X 1x SpaceMind-SP1Z PCDU+Battery: ENDUROSAT EPS-I GNSS receiver: Orion B16C1 RF transceiver: Semtech SX1276 Structure 2U: In-House COTS Spectrometer Payload:

OBDH: STM32F4 CPU Watchdog: 2x MAX6320PUK MRAM: 2x M100424204 RTEMS

СоМ	cm	
х	0.4	
Y	-0.27	
Z	0.42	
Mol	kg•m <sup>2</sup>	
Mol Ixx	kg•m <sup>2</sup> 0.005	
lxx	0.005	

### ADCS: SAMV71Q21B-AAB CPU 3-axis gyro: ADIS 16500 Magnetorguers: 2xCR0002 + 1xCoil Magnetometer: 1x RM3100

Solar cells: 1x SpaceMind-SP1X 3x SpaceMind-SP2X 1x SpaceMind-SP1Z GNSS receiver: Orion B16C1 RF transceiver: Semtech SX1276

Pavload: COTS Spectrometer

#### OBDH: SAMV71Q21B-AAB CPU Watchdog: 2x MAX6320PUK 2x MR5A16ACYS35 MRAM OS: freeRTOS

CoM	cm	
х	0.26	
Y	0.5	]
Z	0.12	1
Mol	kg•m²	
lxx	0.0046	
lyy	0.0046	
lzz	0.00145	
Mass** (Kg)	1.366	1

Mass\*:= includes 5-20% component & 20% total margins Mass\* (Kg) 2.439

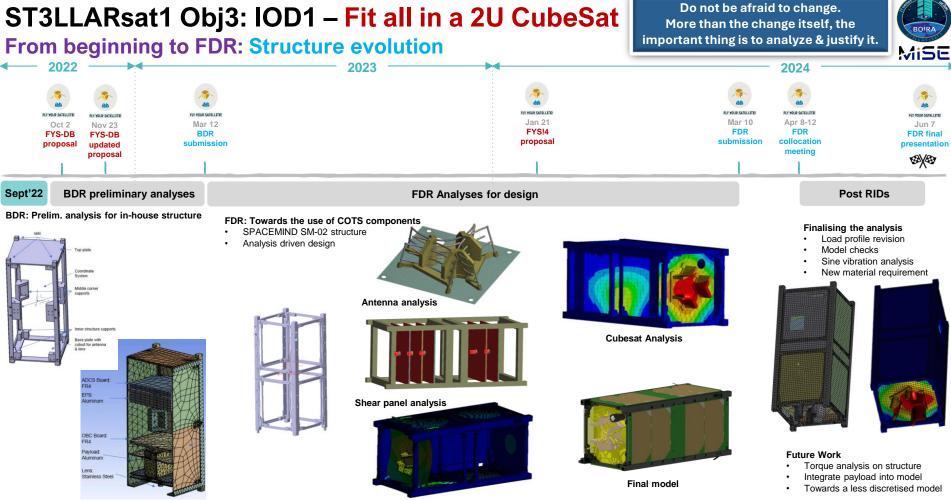
OS:

Photodiodes: 15x SFH 2401

PCDU+Battery: ENDUROSAT EPS-I GNSS Antenna: Molex 206640-0001

Structure 2U: SpaceMind SM-02

Mass\*\*:= only 20% total safety margin, lighter structure



Close-off analysis

## From beginning to FDR: EPS evolution

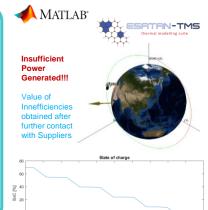
Recognize when something is wrong and then look to improve it.







- Components Trade-Off and Selection
- Preliminary Design:
- Solar Panels Sizing Analysis
- Battery Sizing Analysis
- Power Budget Analysis
- Energy Budget Analaysis
- Proposed Configuration:
- x3 Faces covered in panels
- Endurosat EPS I
- Spacemind Solar Panels

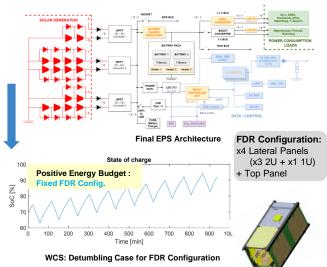


200 250 300 Time [min]

WCS: Detumbling Case for BDR Configuration

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration

- Trade-Off Re-Iteration + Supplier Contact
- Consolidated analyses and Design:
- Final Input Orbits from MA
- Updated Orbital Detumbling Analysis
- Duty Cycles stablished for the different modes
- Inhibits Update between SP and EPS Module
- Analysis Iteration with all above information
- RIDs Solving
- New Proposed Configuration:
- x5 Faces Covered in Panels



## From beginning to FDR: Thermal control subsystem evolution

In the first design phase, always from top (system-level) to bottom (unit-level)

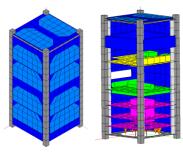




### Sept'22

#### Implementation of preliminary ESATAN GMM and TMM model

- Preliminar Heat load dissipation
- Estimated conductances
- SOLCYC algorithm
- Identification of critical components: battery and payload.



#### Passive thermal control:

White paint for solar panels

#### Active thermal control

Heaters in battery module

#### CubeSat Configuration and thermal environment:

- Missing geometry and • materials now gathered
- Thermo optical and bulk properties more accurate (references to values collected)
- Orbit parameters, altitude and attiude detailed.
- Temperature limits of design drivers components identified.

#### Conceptual analysis and design for rapid changes:

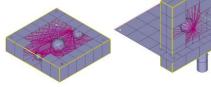
Development of procedures (files and processing results) and methodological steps to asses if a change in other subsystem is critical. Steady and transient states analysis with Matlab

#### Geometrical Mathematical Model

- Geometry redefinition of solar panels
- Structure geometry detailed
- Payload configuration changed
- PCBs design changed
- Individual GMM modules created to streamline changes
- Node numbering for debugging
- Groups for better conductance assignation

#### Thermal Mathematical Model:

- Computation of conductances and specific heats based on mass and volume ponderations
- User defined conductors enhanced to connect all missing nodes.
- New nongeometrical nodes created for • dissipations depending on duty cycles.
- Environment parameters detailed



Big effort on traceability for information flow

FileName	Inberest Conductor	Type	COMPLETING		DAULULU			
						Value (W/K)		
ATTITUDE	AOCS_V01							
AND ORBIT	GL_AOCS_MTLPCB	Conductive	AOCS_MT1:face1	AOCS_PCBfare45	Value	0.01		
CONTROL	GLAOCS_MT2_PCB	Conductive	AOCS_MT2faor1	AOCS_PCB face29	Value	0.01		
	EPS_Module_V01							
ELECTRICAL	BATT_EPSCASE	Conductive	BATTERY	EPS.Con.Resestation?	Value 1	0.05		
POWER	BUS_EPSCASE	Conductive	BUS	EPS, Case Base sturface2	Value	0.05		
	EPSINTCOMP_EPSCASE	Conductive	INT_COMP	EPS Case Resecution?	Value	0.05		
SUBSYSTEM	EP8.SolarPatels,V01							
	NONE							
ON BOARD	ORDH Ver							
DATA	KON							
	PAYLOAD.V02							
	PAY_AVASPECCASE	Conductive	PAY:PAY.IN	PAYAvaStseMintsurface2	Value	0.05		
	GLAVASPECMINI LENI	Conductive	PAY-LENS.CASE-face15	FAY An Stee Miniface 143	Value	0.05		
	GL_AVASPECMINLLEN2	Conductive	PAY-LENS, CASE face9	PAY AssSpecMiniface145	Value	0.05		
	GL AVASPECMINI LENS	Conductive	PAY:LENS.CASE face 11	PAYAvaSteeMiniface141	Value	0.05		
	GL AVASPECMINI LEN4	Conductive	PAY-LENS.CASE-fuel1	PAY:AuSperMiniface141	Value	20.0		
The second second	GLAVASPECMIN-PAYPEBI	Conductive	PAY:AvaSnecMini face105	FAY PAY BOARD food?1	Value	0.05		
PAYLOAD	OL DANSDOGUDT DUODED	0.1	Date And Designed and	THE PART NO. 1 P. L.	Value	0.05		

### Jun'24

Selection of possible temperature sensors: .

AIV procedures literature reviewed and subsystem representativeness in models assesed

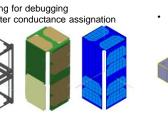
#### Now working on SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS:

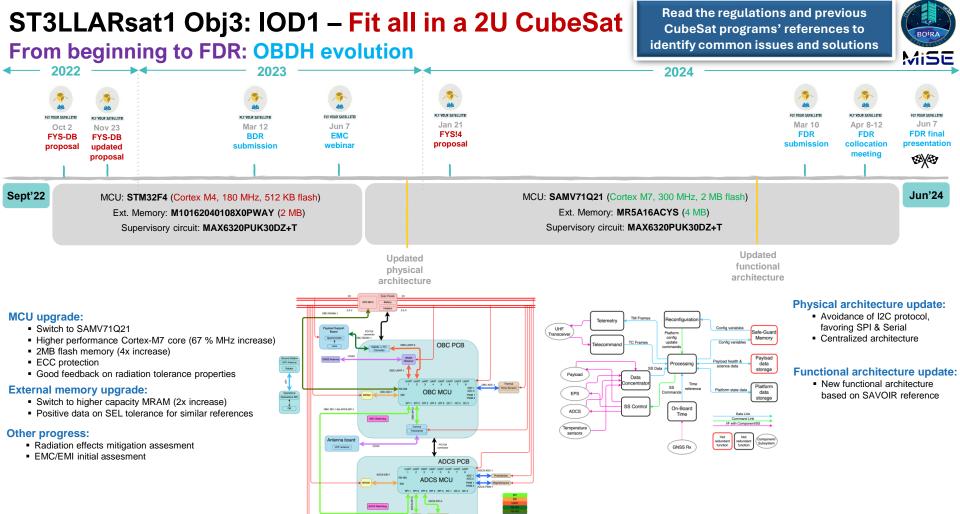
- Parameter inaccuracies.
- Uncertainty Margins

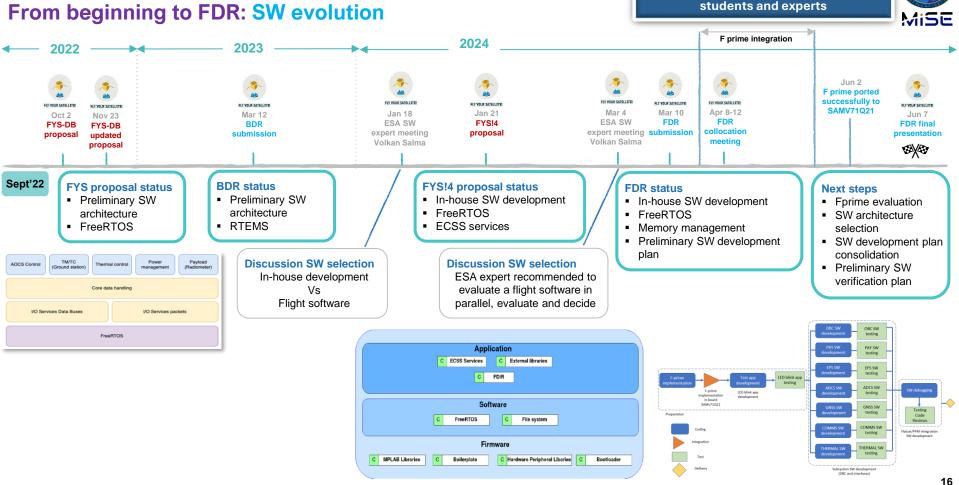
#### Current TCS:

- Battery heaters
- Thermo optical properties of external surfaces
- Strategic distribution of elements
- Z-axis rotation for temperature gradients decrease



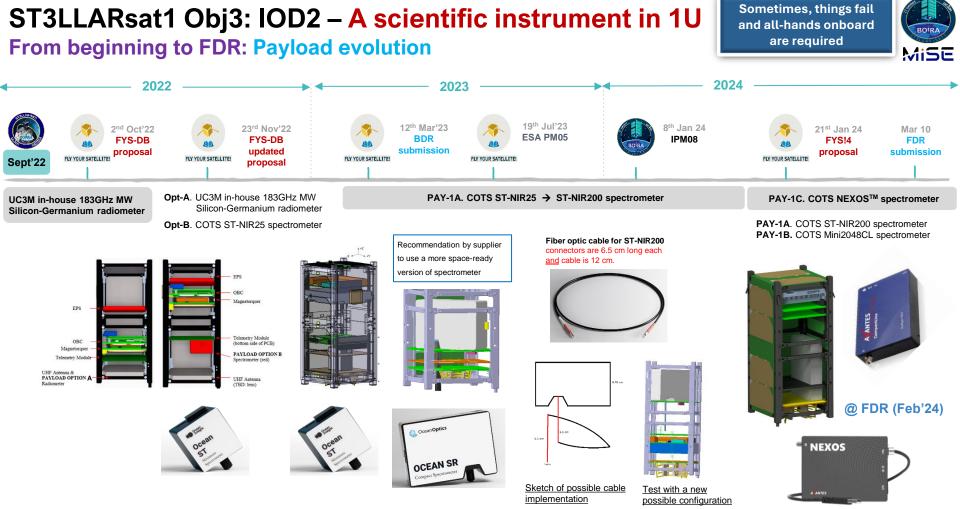






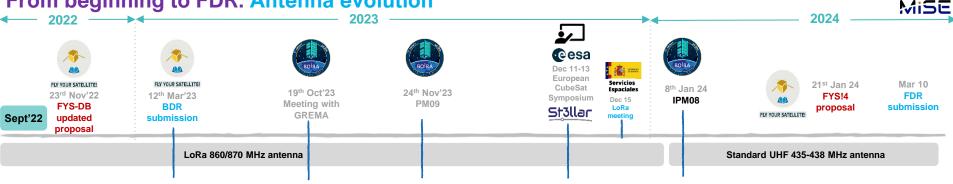
CubeSats are truly multidisciplinary, make every effort to involve SW students and experts

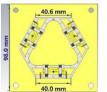




## ST3LLARsat1 Obj3: IOD3 – In-House compact antenna

## From beginning to FDR: Antenna evolution





### 1<sup>ST</sup> DESIGN & PROTOTYPE:

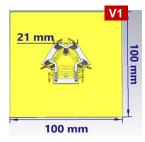
- \* Favoured size reduction and lower manufacturing cost
  \* Polylactic Acid (PLA) support at center of -Z face
- \* Prototype manufactured / tested





### [V1] 2<sup>ND</sup> DESIGN – 1<sup>ST</sup> ITERATION:

- \* Fiberglass support instead of PLA
- => Space-ready
- + Large size reduction
- \* Possible new placements



### [V2] 2<sup>ND</sup> ITERATION:

- \* Improved coupling and element separation
- \* Increased directivity (3dB)
- \* Face centre free for lens

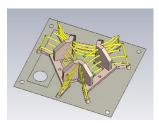


### 3RD DESIGN:

\* Proven robust & flexible antenna design process (i.e. quickly produced a UHF 435-438 MHz design)

Iterate, iterate, and iterate

- \* Larger than 1st & 2nd designs, but still fits in -Z face
- \* Position accounts for new spectrometer (Mini2048CL)



### 3<sup>RD</sup> DESIGN – 2<sup>ND</sup> ITERATION:

Copper plates' stress levels in shock analysis
exceeded yield → change them to aluminium

18

BOIR/

## ST3LLARsat1 Obj3: IOD4 – In-House ADCS / OBC

## From beginning to FDR: Modes and ADCS evolution

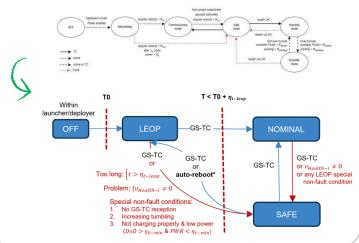






## **Operational modes evolution**

- Simplified operational modes flow: 3 main operational modes
- Detailed mode transition triggers
- Detailed health tests for mode transition
- Consolidated activation sequence

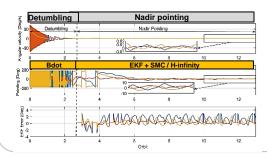


## **ADCS** status

- Sensors (magnetometer, GYR GNSS, CSS)
- Actuators (2 magnetorquer rods and 1 coil)
- Navigation (Triad + EKF)
- ADCS modes:
  - Detumbling (b-dot algorithm)
  - Nadir pointing (sliding mode)

### **MIL Monte Carlo results**

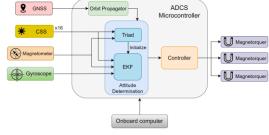
- Succesful detumbling < 6 orbits</li>
- Pointing APE < 10 deg</li>



### **HIL setup**

3 DoF balancing system





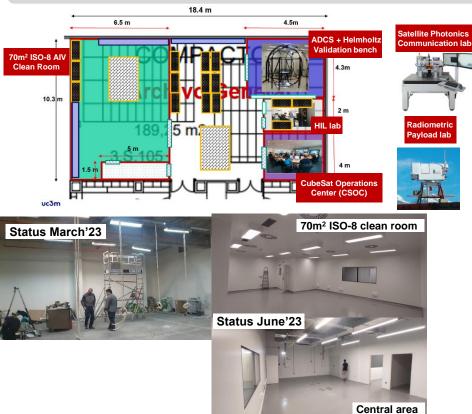
# ST3LLARsat1 – CSAT & Ground Station Status

## UC3M-CSAT



"Centro de investigación e integración de tecnología espacial y nano/micro SATélites"

Spanish-Ciencia - Infraestructuras y Equipamiento award to Dr. A. Marcos (1.5 M€, Nov'21)

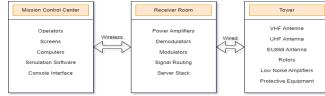


Set at least the GS at your university (and If economically possible, a n R&D / AIVT lab)

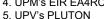


UC3M-GS<br/>Collaboration between<br/>four actors at UC3M1. UC3M-CSAT2. St3llar3. UC3-BASE4. E.T.-PACK-F



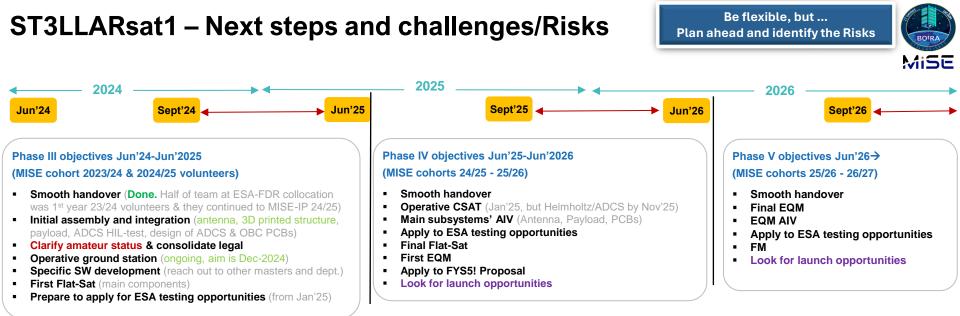


UC3-BASE is leading a national project to create a Spanish GS federation, with current members: 1. UC3M ST3LLARsat1 "BOIRA" 2. UVIGO's SpaceLab 3. ULaguna's TEIDESAT 4. UPM's EIR EA4RCT



- . UPV'S PLUTON
- 6. UVA





### Challenges & Risks [criticality / probability]

- [Major, High] Maintain students' interest over the end of the 'novelty'
- [Major, Med] Regulatory status
- [Major, Low] Access to AIV testing facilities or finding launch opportunity
- [Medium, High] Need for subsystem redesign (e.g. prelim integration or AIV indicating a shortcoming)
- [Medium, Med] Involvement of experts and other professors (especially, SW & electronics)
- [Low, Low] Funding

# Acknowledgements & THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING





A. Marcos gladly acknowledges the

Senior Distinguished Beatriz Galindo award

by the Spanish government & additional funding by the VPRICIT framework of the Comunidad de Madrid and UC3M.



UC3M-SENER aerospace chair ST3LLAR, for funding and expert support



For expert support, training and providing access to their facilities within the FYS Booster Design programme



UC3M's Aeroelastic and Structural Design Lab for their knowledge and support on the structural machining



*E.T.PACK-F H2020 project* Coord. by prof. G. Sánchez-Arriaga (Aerospace Engineering department) for joint **GCS development activity** 

## **UC3-BASE**

UC3M radioamateur-certified society by prof. D. Segovia (Signal Theory dept.) and prof D. Larrabeiti (Telematics dept.) for joint GS development activity



For providing free their thermal modeling software



For providing free their Mission Analysis software