



# ILLUMA-T (Integrated LCRD LEO User Modem and Amplifier Terminal) Payload

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Laser-Enhanced Mission Communications Navigation and Operational Services



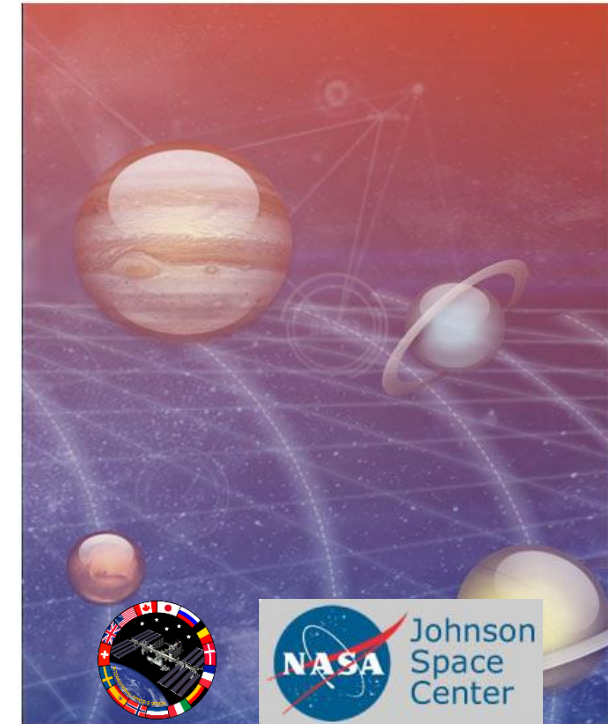
Exploration & SPACE  
Communications



LINCOLN LABORATORY  
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



NASA Goddard  
SPACE FLIGHT CENTER



NASA Johnson  
Space Center

- **Introduction**
- **Objectives & L1 Requirements**
- **High Level System Architecture**
- **Operational Characteristics**
- **Schedule**
- **Conclusion**

## **ILLUMA-T: Integrated LCRD LEO User Modem and Amplifier Terminal**

# LEMNOS Overview



## LEMNOS: Laser-Enhanced Mission Communications Navigation and Operational Services

### LEMNOS Project:

Implement Optical Communications on NASA spaceflight missions starting with demonstrations of operational utility on Orion EM-2 (O2O) and ISS (ILLUMA-T).

### Orion EM2 Optical Communications Terminal (O2O)

#### Objective:

O2O provides the first optical communications payload on a human exploration mission

#### Partners:

HQ/HEO, GSFC, MIT-LL, JSC/Orion, Orion/Lockheed Martin, GSFC Space Network, JPL

#### Funding Source: HEO



### Integrated LCRD LEO (Low-Earth Orbit) User Modem and Amplifier – Terminal (ILLUMA-T)

#### Objective:

First LEO user terminal of LCRD relaying data using GEO satellite

#### Partners:

HQ/SCaN, GSFC, LCRD, MIT-LL, JSC/ISS, JAXA,

#### Funding Source: SCaN



# ILLUMA-T Introduction



- Space-based Optical Comm demonstrated on LADEE LLCD
- LCRD is a Optical Comm Pathfinder.
- ILLUMA-T will establish a complete Optical Comm System

*O2O will take the next step and use optical communications for the Orion spacecraft as a Development Test Objective (DTO).*

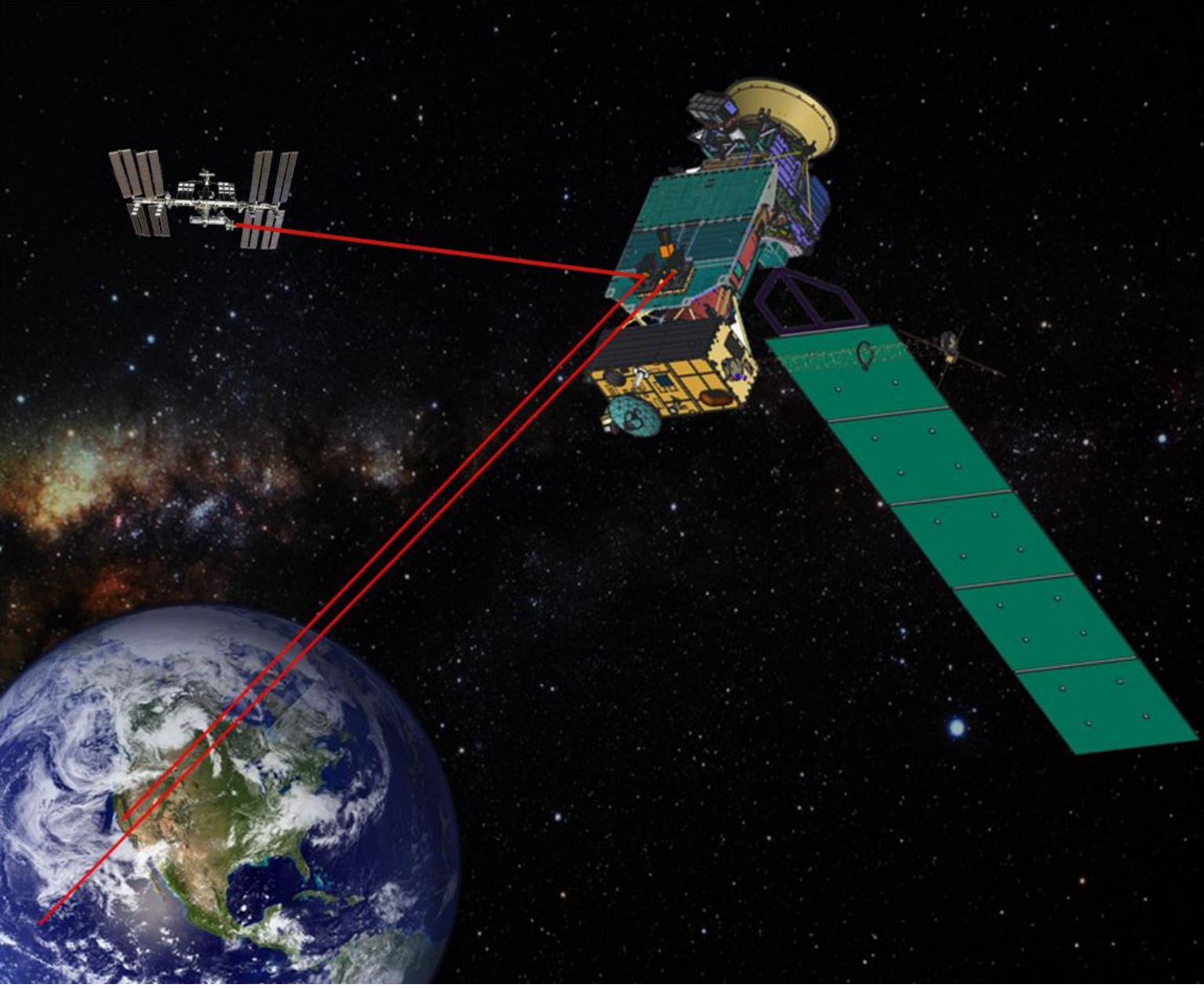


*ILLUMA-T will be the first*

- LEO user of the LCRD system
- Pointing and tracking to/from a moving spacecraft
- End to End operational demonstration of Optical Communication
- 50 Mbps link to ISS from ground

\*\* LLCD: Lunar Laser Communication Demonstration  
\*\* LCRD: Laser Communication Relay Demonstration  
\*\* O2O: Orion EM2 Optical Communications Terminal  
\*\* ILLUMA-T: Integrated LCRD LEO (Low-Earth Orbit) User Modem and Amplifier Terminal  
\*\* LEMNOS: Laser-Enhanced Mission Communications Navigation and Operational Services

# ILLUMA-T Overarching Objective



*Develop an optical communications user terminal to demonstrate data transfer between low Earth orbit and the ground through a geosynchronous relay*

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## ILLUMA-T: Integrated LCRD LEO User Modem and Amplifier Terminal

# ILLUMA-T Objective and L1 Requirements



**Objective: The ILLUMA-T project shall develop an optical communications user terminal to demonstrate data transfer between low Earth orbit and the ground through a geosynchronous relay**

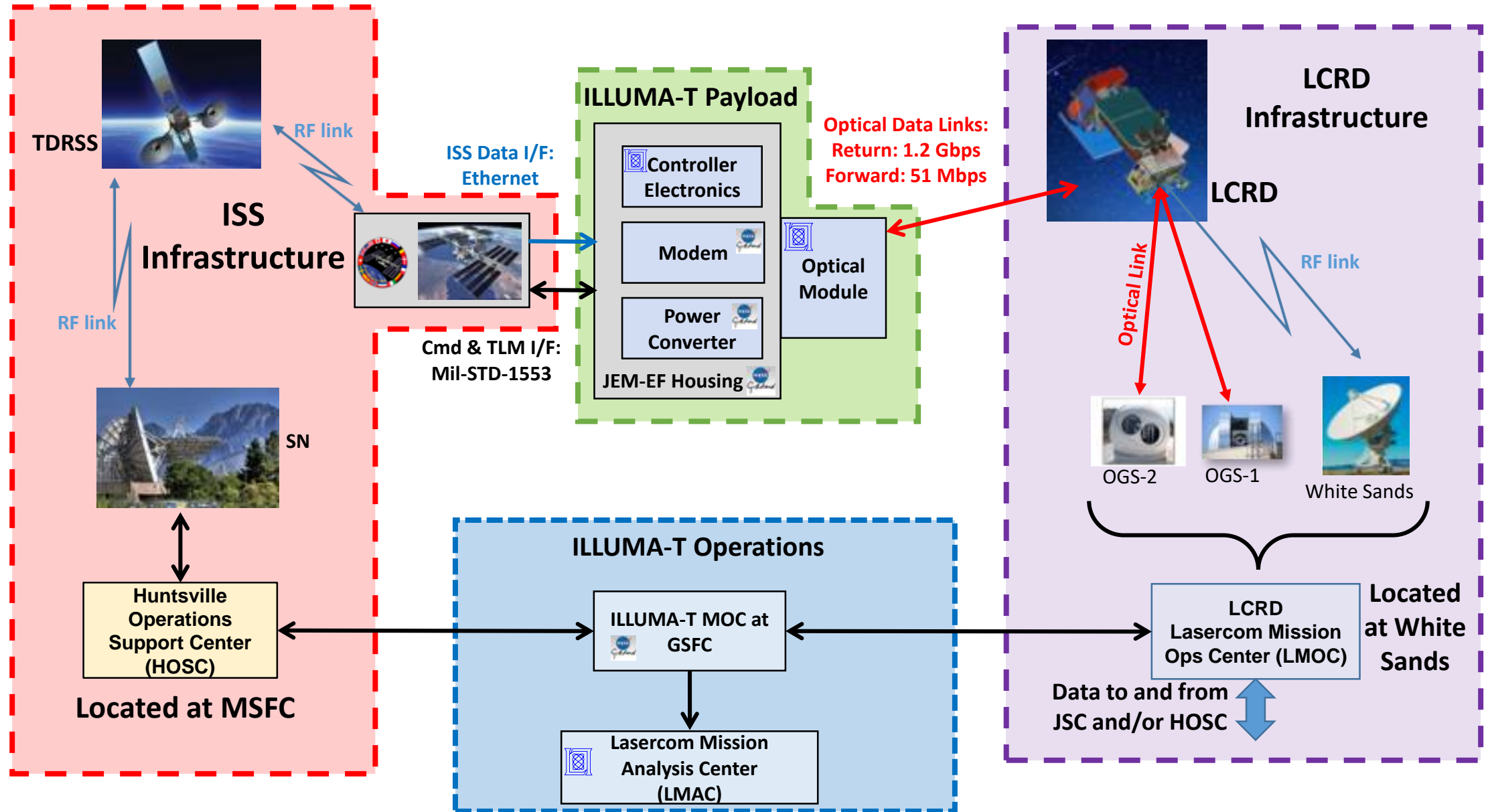
1.1	The ILLUMA-T project shall demonstrate a duplex optical communications link from the ILLUMA-T terminal located on the ISS to a ground station via the LCRD satellite
1.2	The ILLUMA-T user terminal shall operate at defined LCRD data rates including 1.244 Gbit/s on the return link (ISS via relay to ground) and 51 Mbps on the forward link (Ground via relay to ISS)
1.3	The ILLUMA-T protoflight terminal shall be developed using an approach that includes participation of commercial companies and enables the transfer of optical communications technology to industry
1.4	The ILLUMA-T terminal orientation shall support line of sight to a ground station
1.5	The ILLUMA-T terminal shall support a bi-directional data connection of at least 1.0 Gbit/s (i.e., 100/1000 Mbps Ethernet connection)

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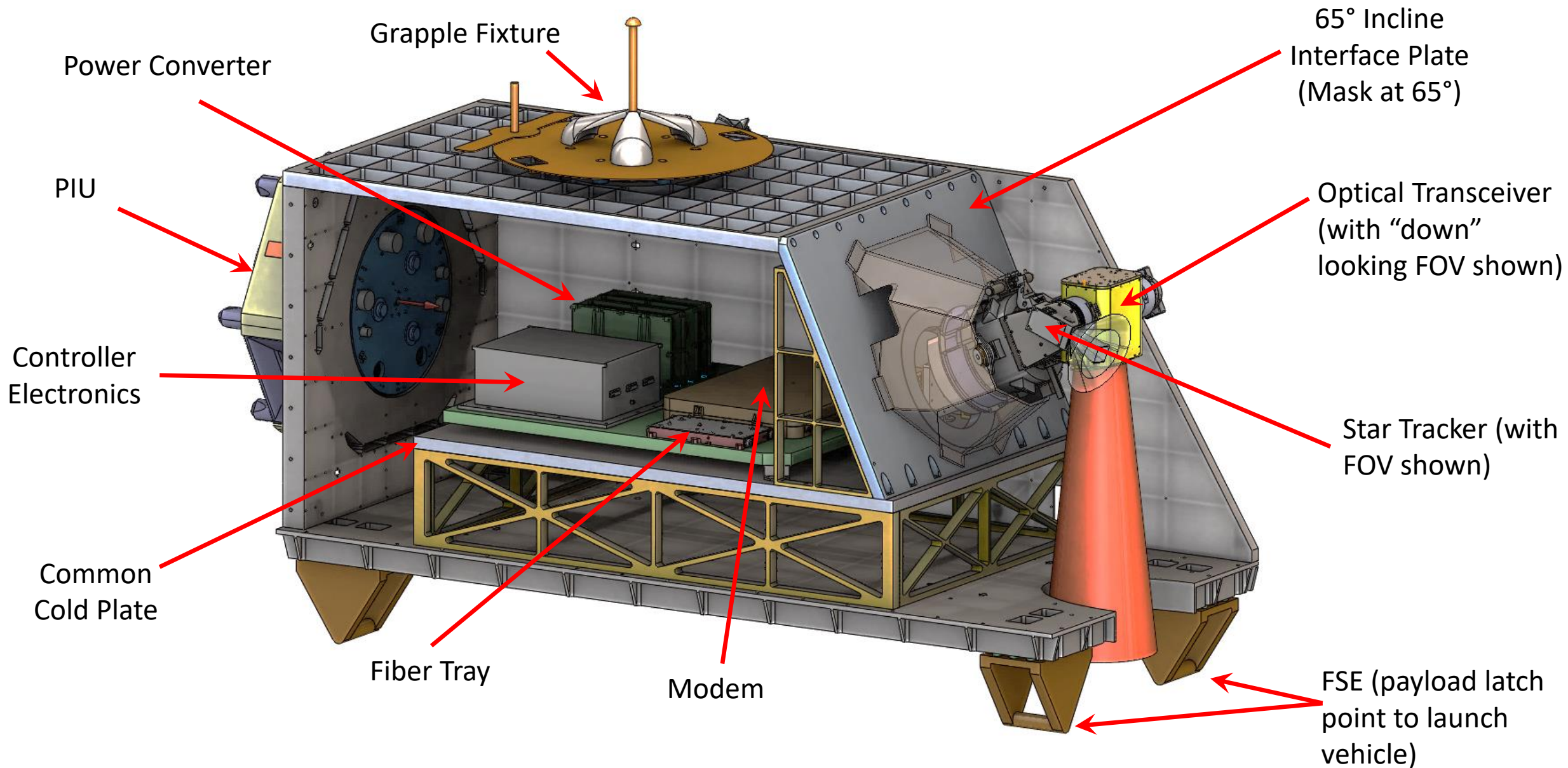
## ILLUMA-T: Integrated LCRD LEO User Modem and Amplifier Terminal



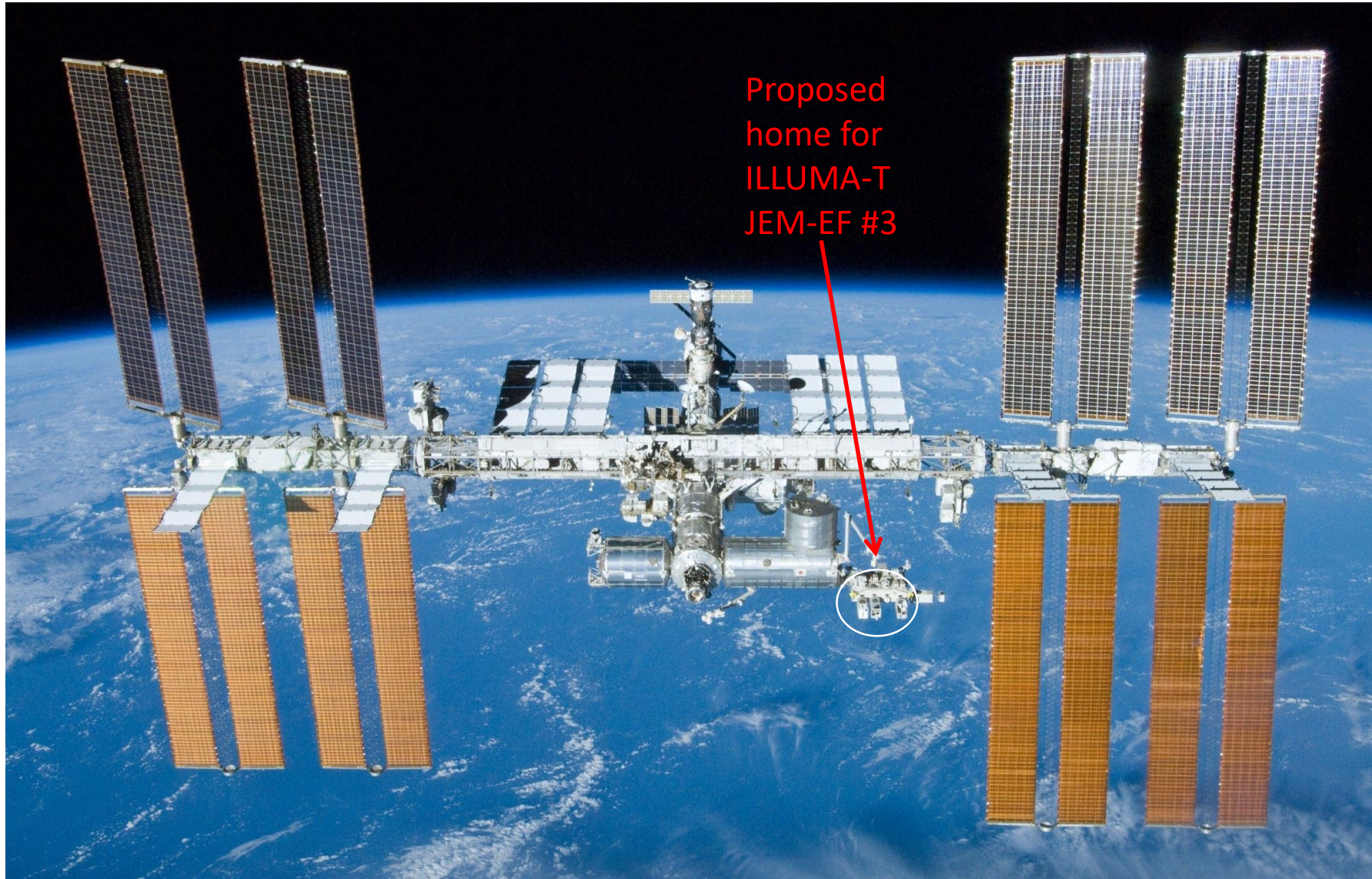
# ILLUMA-T Architecture



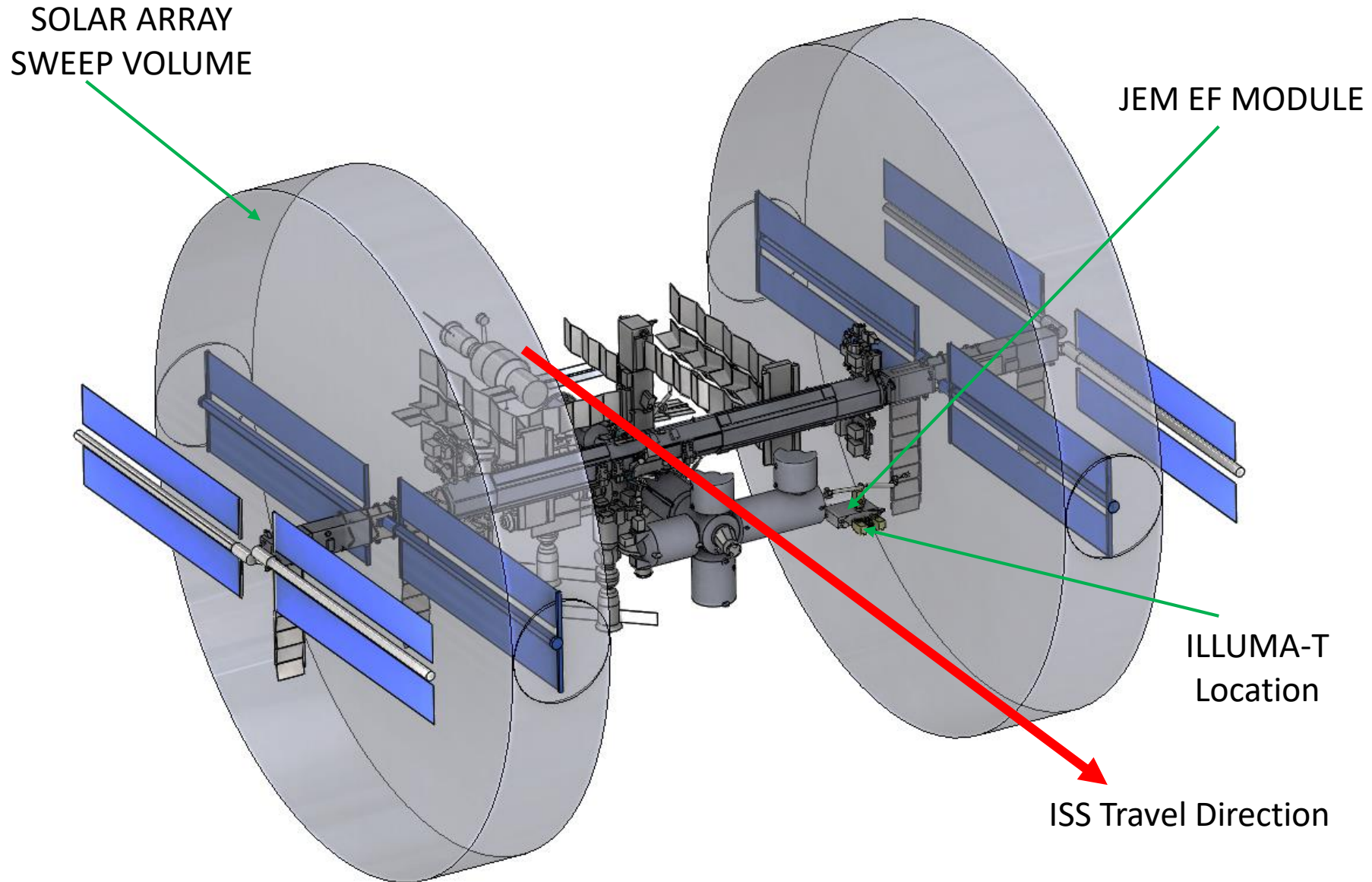
# ILLUMA-T Payload



# ILLUMA-T Location on ISS



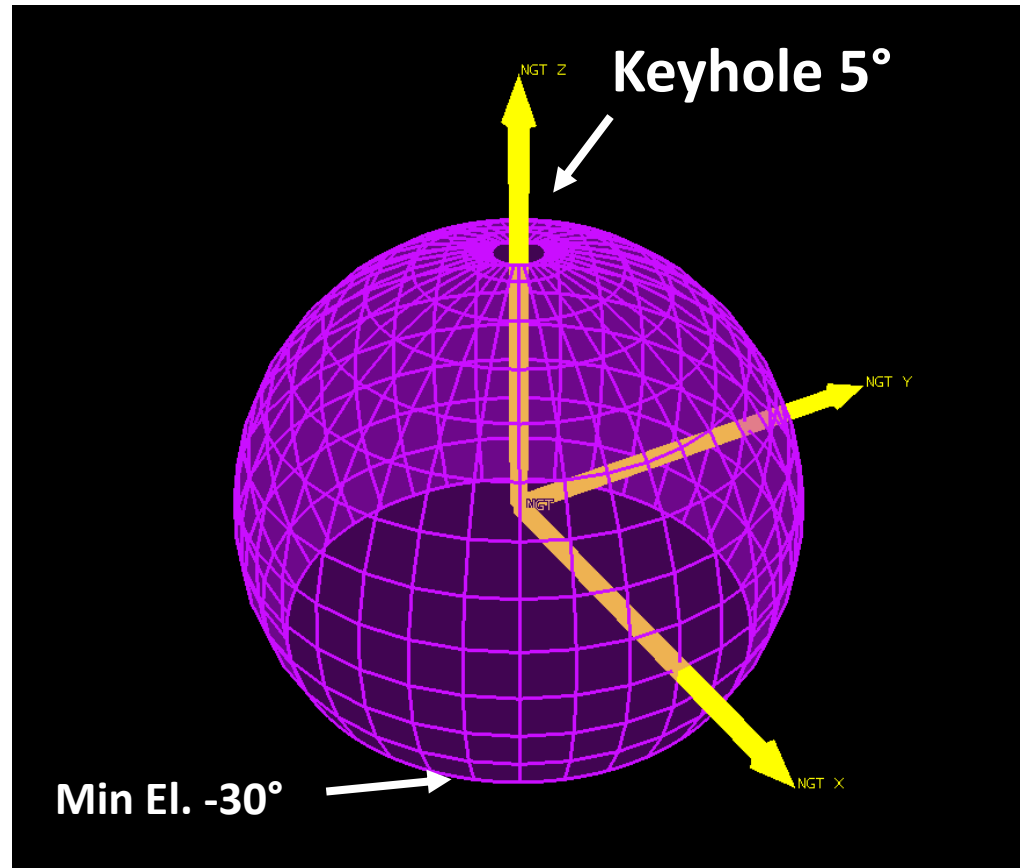
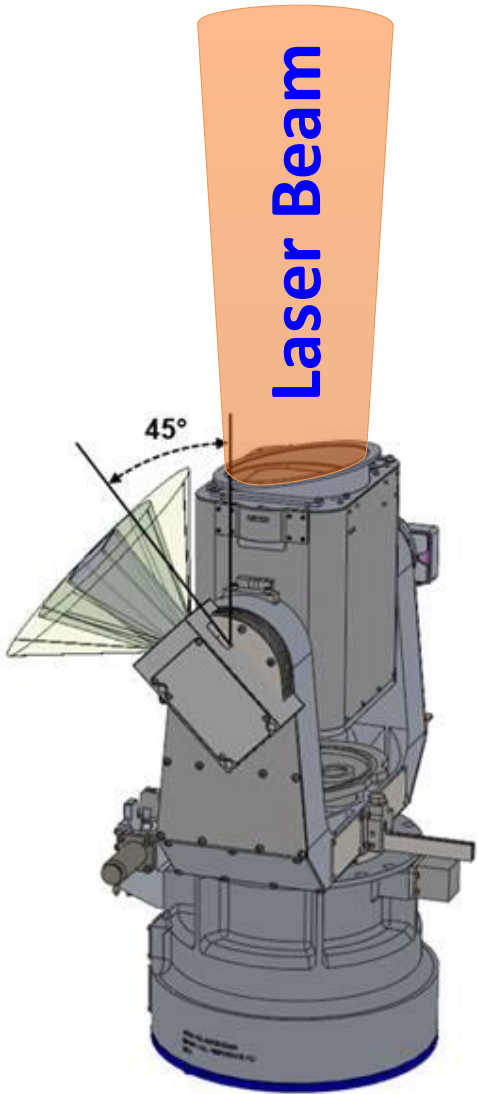
# ILLUMA-T Transceiver FOV Blockages



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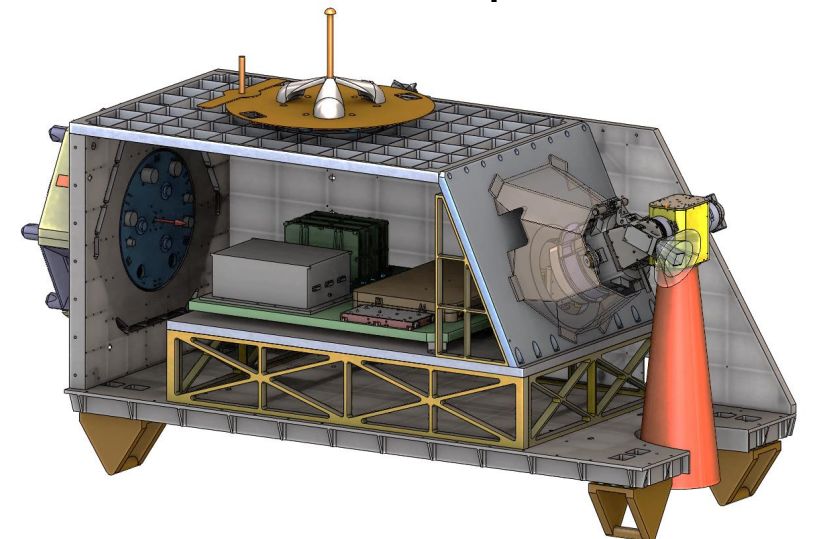
## ILLUMA-T: Integrated LCRD LEO User Modem and Amplifier Terminal

# ILLUMA-T Optical Terminal



**Gimbal Field Of Regard (FOR), 90° to -30° by 360°**

- NGT has two mechanical angular pointing restrictions:
  - Keyhole, within 5 degrees of NGT +Z
  - Low elevation, 30 degrees below the XY-plane

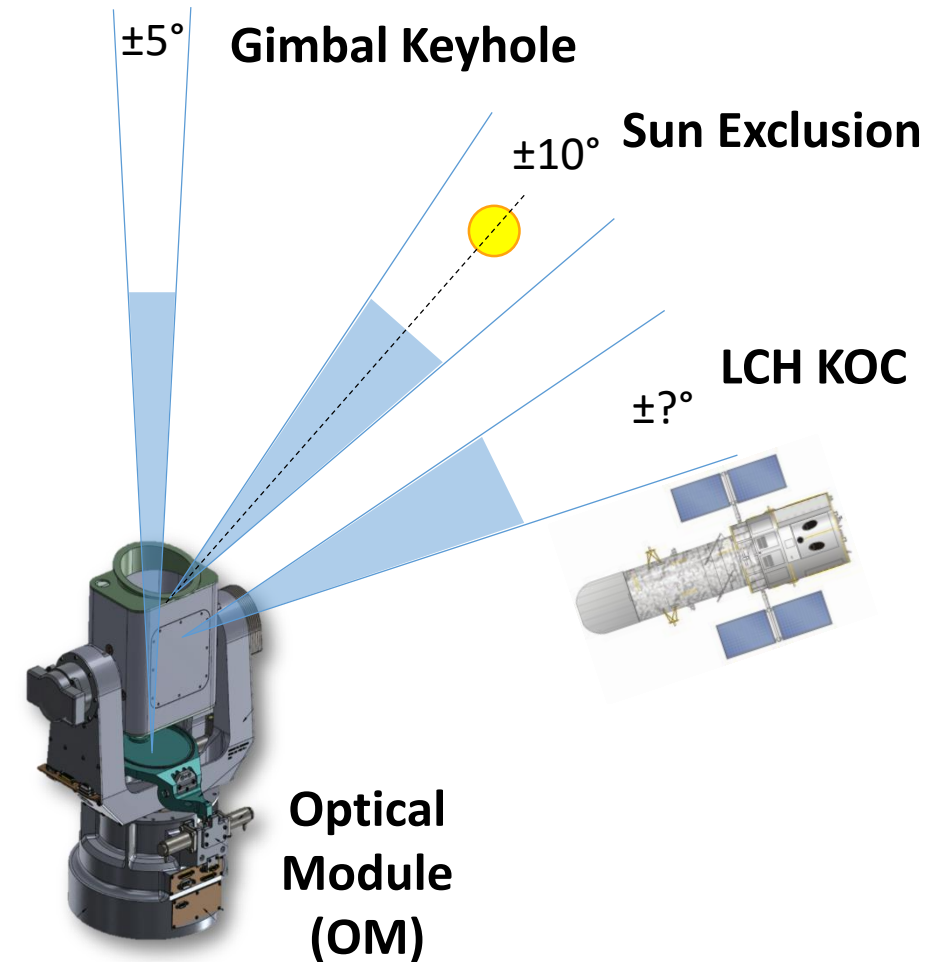


ILLUMA-T Optical Terminal

# Factors Impacting Link Access\*

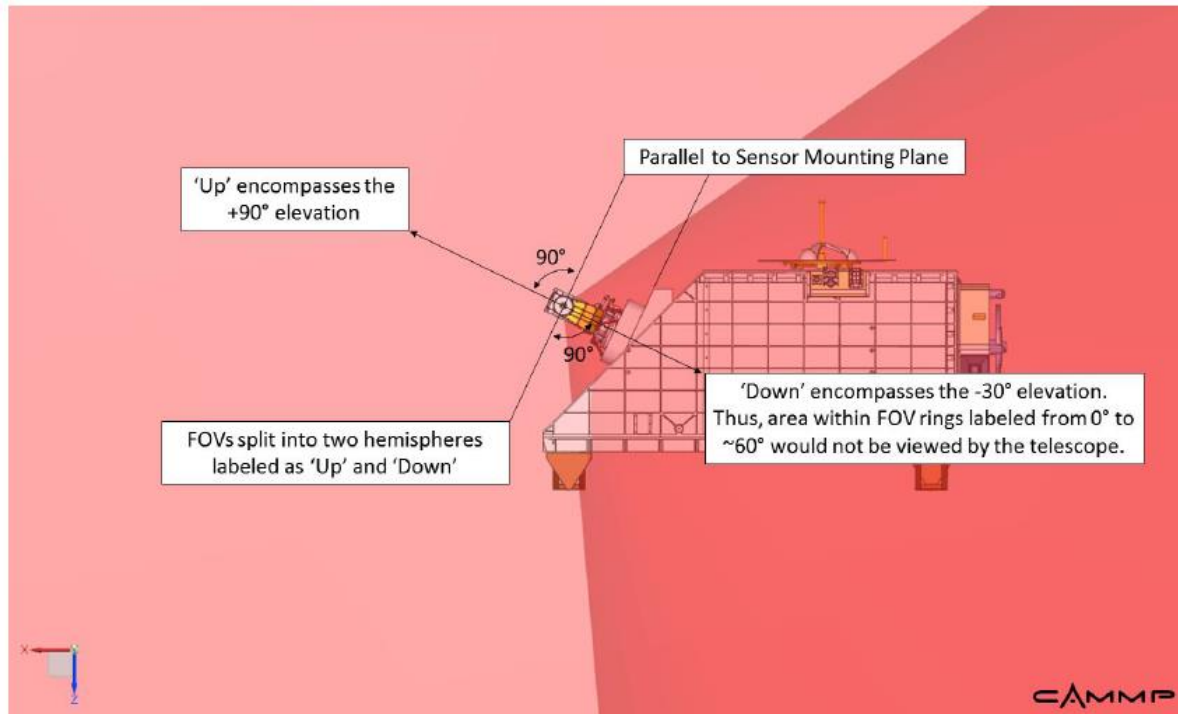


- Orbit
- Sun in Field Of View (FOV) of the acquisition/track sensor
  - OM will not operate when the sun is within  $10^\circ$  of the Line Of Sight (LOS) to LCRD
- Keyhole at gimbal mount zenith ( $\pm 5^\circ$ )  
Very small fraction of passes (TBD)
- Gimbal Field Of Regard (FOR)  
( $90^\circ$  to  $-30^\circ$  by  $360^\circ$ )
- ISS Body Mask
- Laser Clearing House (LCH) Keep Out Cone (KOC)



\*Access := A time period during which all conditions for the establishment and operation of a link are satisfied

## *ILLUMA-T Gimbal Up/Down 180° FOV Hemispheres Definition*



## Overview of Optical Sensor FOV with ISS

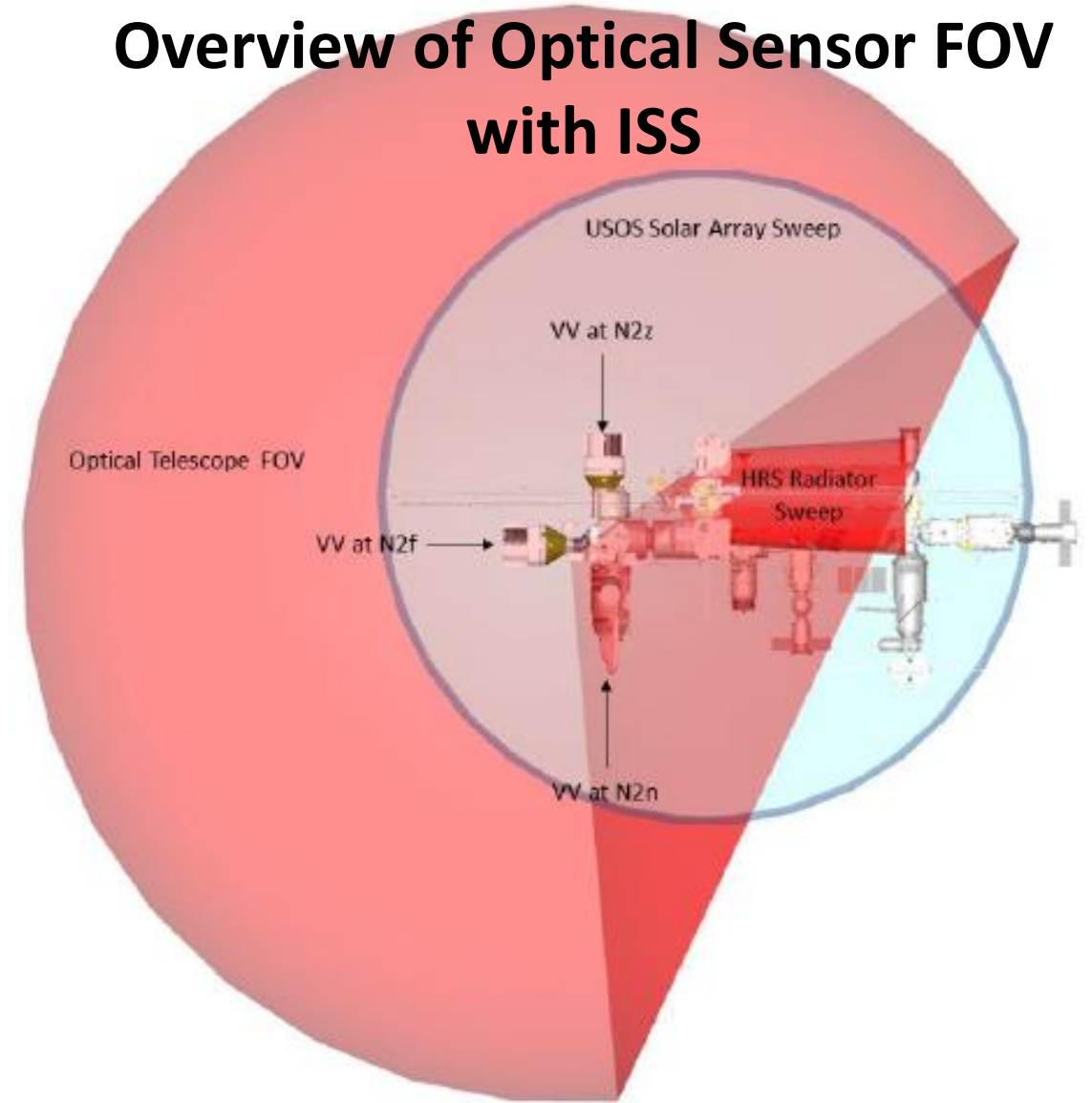
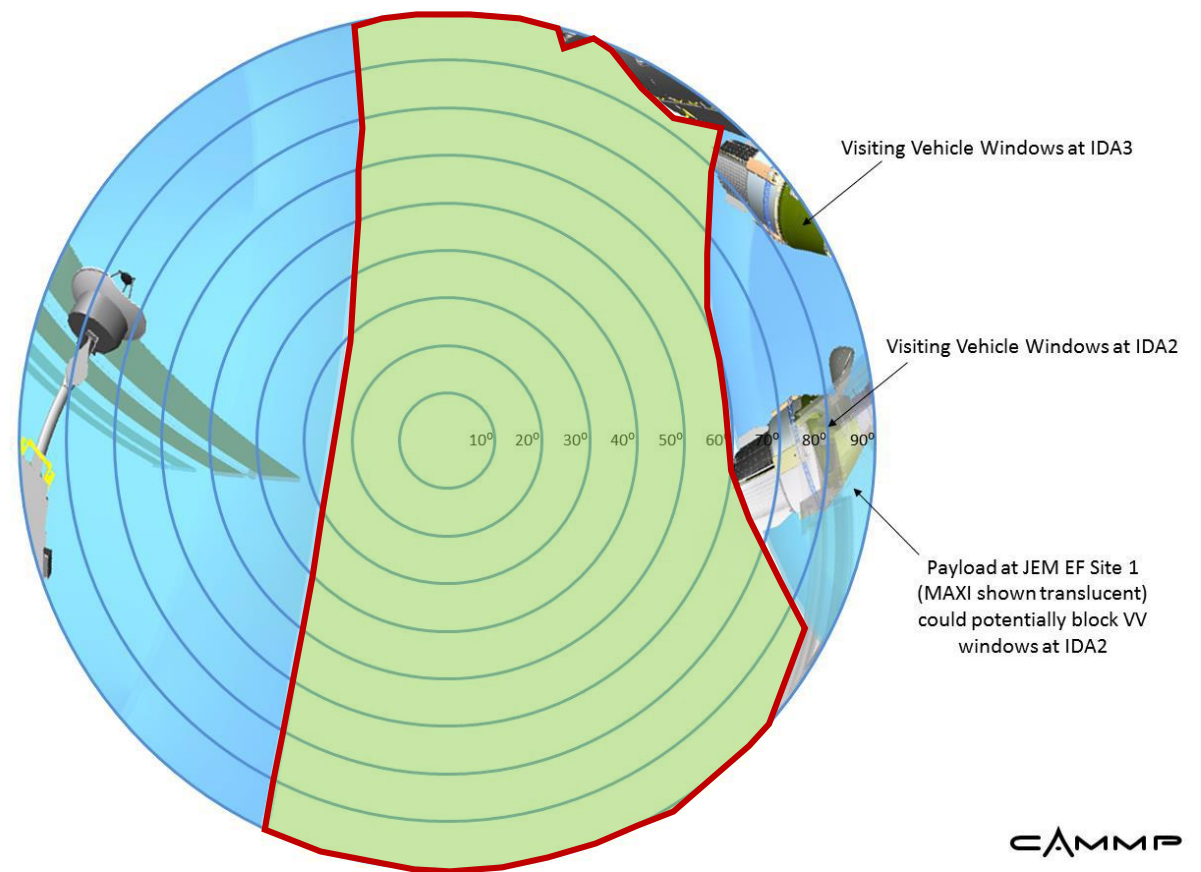
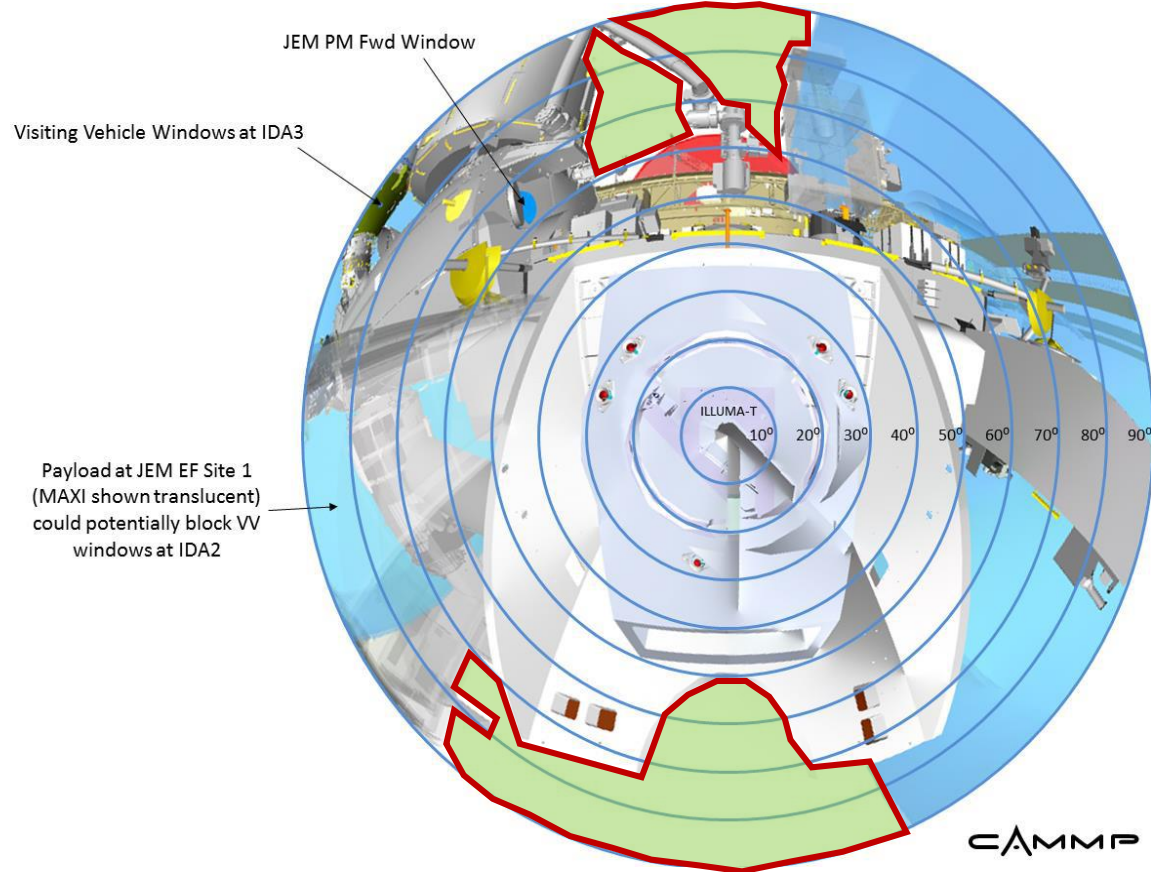


Figure 3. ILLUMA-T Gimbal Up/Down 180° FOV Hemispheres Definition



# CAMMP Analysis of Field of Regard (FOR)



- Mounting of ILLUMA-T on 65 degree plate
- FOR modeled by CAMMP
  - Green -> Persistent Line Of Sight (LOS) from ISS
  - Blue -> Solar panel swept solid

# ILLUMA-T Performance w/ Solar Panel Swept Solid



Weekly Access Statistics with  
Solar Panel Swept Solid and  
10 degrees solar exclusion

- 91 accesses
- 22 minute mean duration
- 33.5 hrs/week

**22 minute contact →**

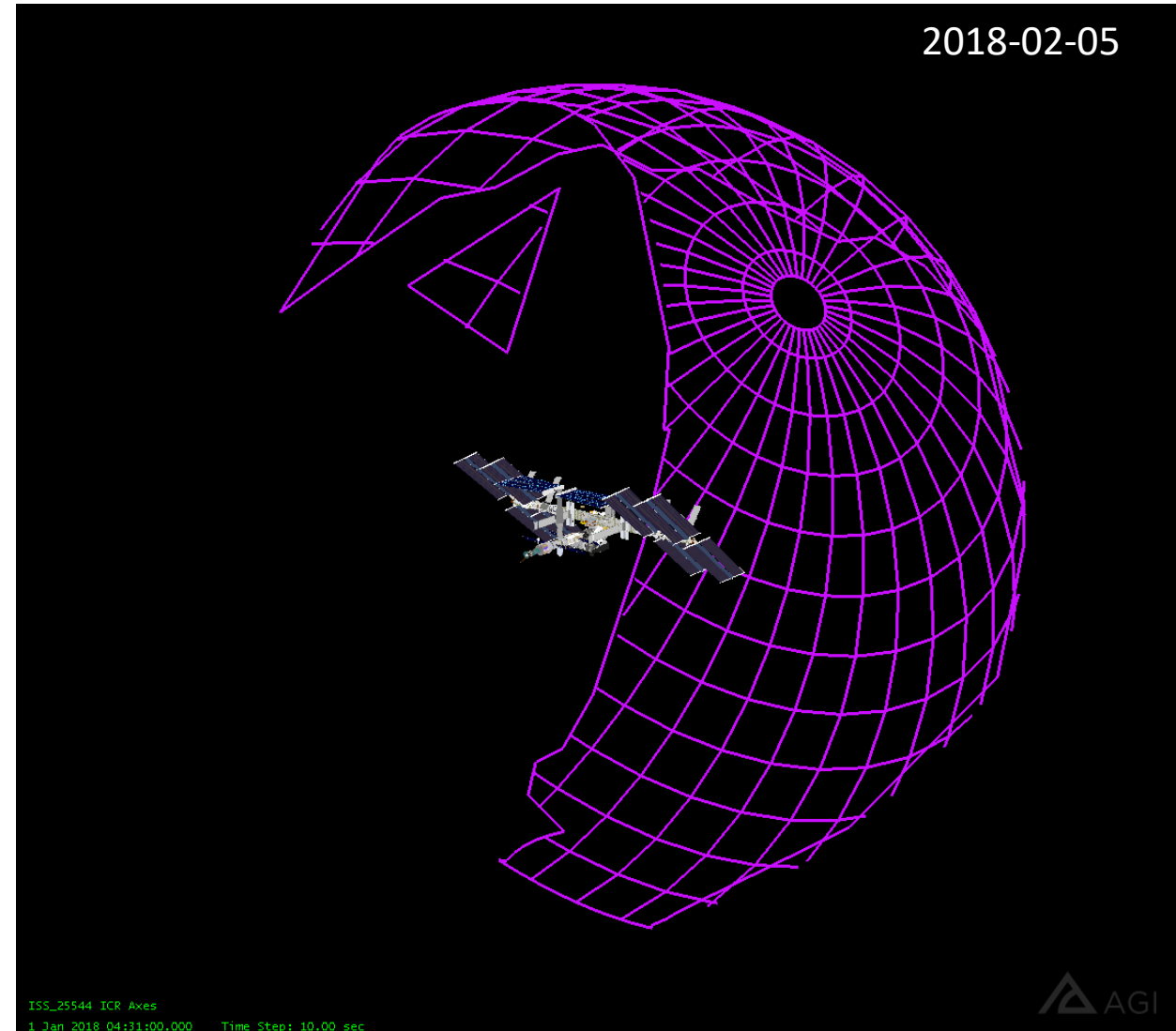
**Return: 1.642 Tbits (0.205 TBytes)**

**Forward: 67 Gbits (8.375 GBytes)**

**33.5 Hours weekly →**

**Return: 150.03 Tbits (18.76 TBytes)**

**Forward: 6 Tbits (0.75 TBytes)**

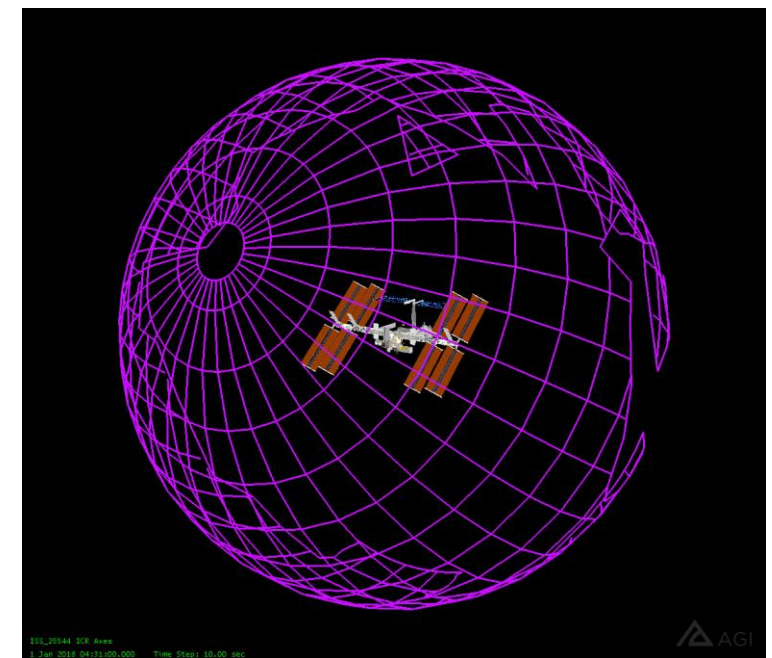
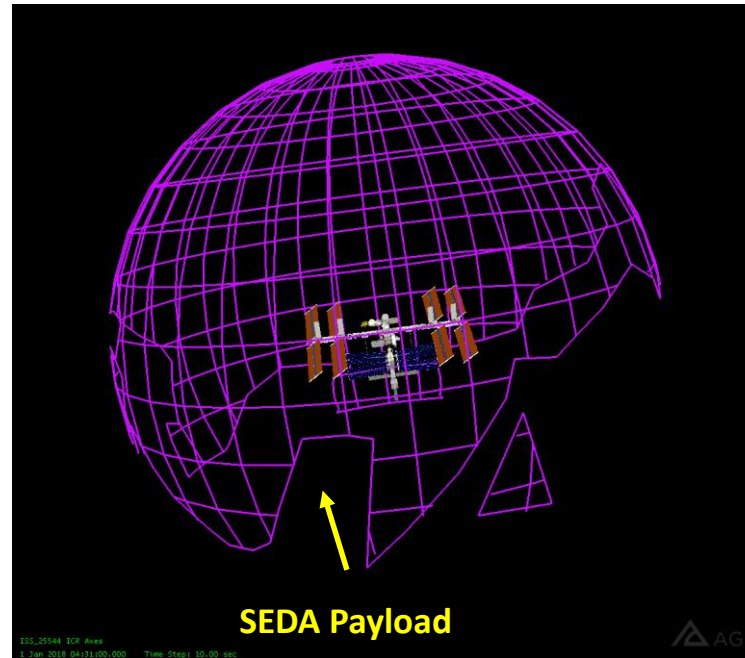
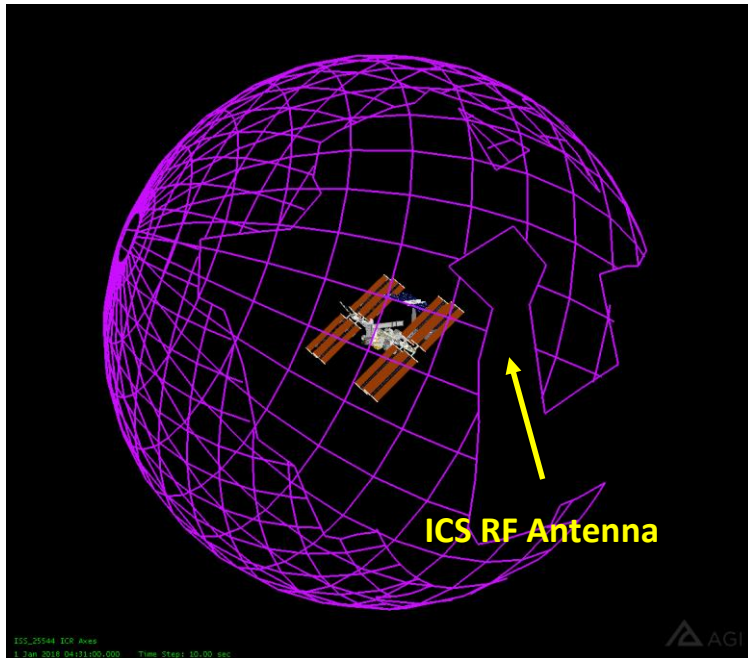


Mask at 65°

# ILLUMA-T Performance with w/o Solar Panel Swept Solid



Mask at 65°



LCRD weekly access statistics without solar panel swept solid and 10 degrees solar exclusion angle

- 125 accesses
- 29 minute mean duration
- 61 hours per week

**29 minute contact →**  
**Return: 2.164 Tbits (0.27 TBytes)**  
**Forward: 88.74 Gbits (11.1 GBytes)**  
**33.5 Hours weekly →**  
**Return: 273.2 Tbits (34.15 TBytes)**  
**Forward: 11.2 Tbits (1.4 TBytes)**

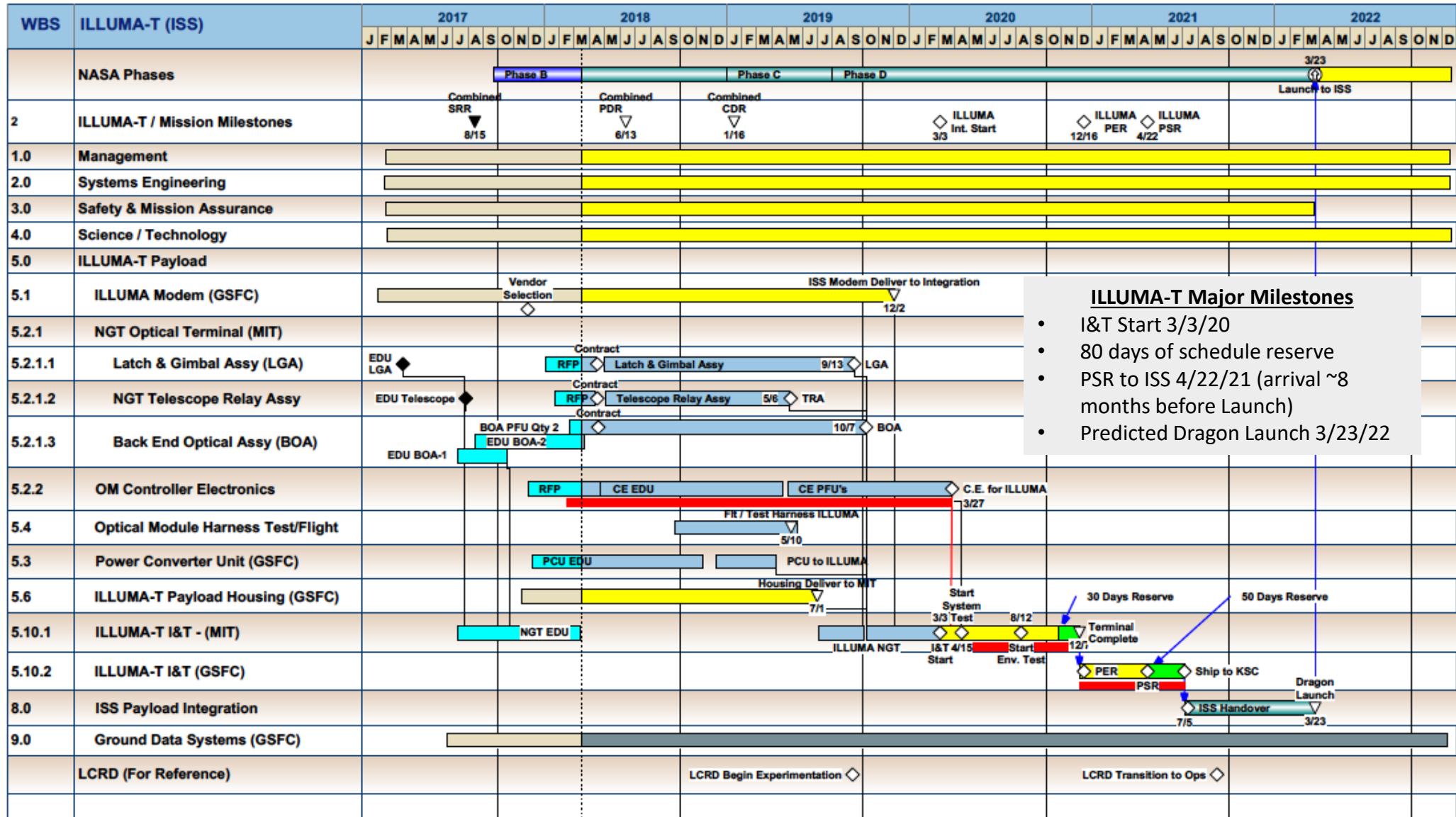
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# ILLUMA-T Schedule



3/18/18



**ILLUMA-T Major Milestones**

- I&T Start 3/3/20
- 80 days of schedule reserve
- PSR to ISS 4/22/21 (arrival ~8 months before Launch)
- Predicted Dragon Launch 3/23/22

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# Conclusion



- The ILLUMA-T team represents a world recognized group aiming to the demonstration of an end-to-end optical communications system between a LEO terminal and the ground through a GEO relay
- ILLUMA-T is an important opportunity for NASA to further enhance its reputation and skills in high bandwidth optical communications
- The ILLUMA-T project has been established on solid foundation and the ILLUMA-T team is working well together. The team is on track to deliver the optical terminal on schedule
- ILLUMA-T is a great mission that demonstrates key characteristics of optical communications based relay system and is a natural precursor to the planned deployment of the next generation communications relay system

***GO ILLUMA-T!***



# BACKUP SLIDES



# Acronyms



ILLUMA-T Integrated LCRD LEO User Modem and Amplifier Terminal  
LLCD Lunar Laser Communication Demonstration  
LCRD Laser Communication Relay Demonstration  
O2O Orion EM2 Optical Communications Terminal  
LEMNOS Laser-Enhanced Mission Communications Navigation and Operational Services  
HOSC Huntsville Operations Support Center  
LMAC Lasercom Mission Analysis Center  
LSTC Lasercom Space Terminal Console  
LMOC Lasercom Mission Ops Center  
ISS International Space Station  
OGS Optical Ground Station  
JEM-EF Japanese Experiment Module - Exposed Facility  
TDRS Tracking and Data Relay Satellite  
CATS Cloud-Aerosol Transport System  
SCaN Space Communications and Navigation  
NGT New Generation Terminal  
LEO Low-Earth Orbit  
MIT-LL Massachusetts Institute of Technology – Lincoln Laboratory

GEO Geostationary Earth Orbit  
S&MA Safety and Mission Assurances