



# Next Steps: Laying the Groundwork for Bundle Protocol v7

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# Introduction



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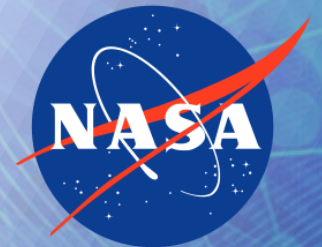
**Senior Software Engineer for Flight Systems**

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**Oregon TECH**

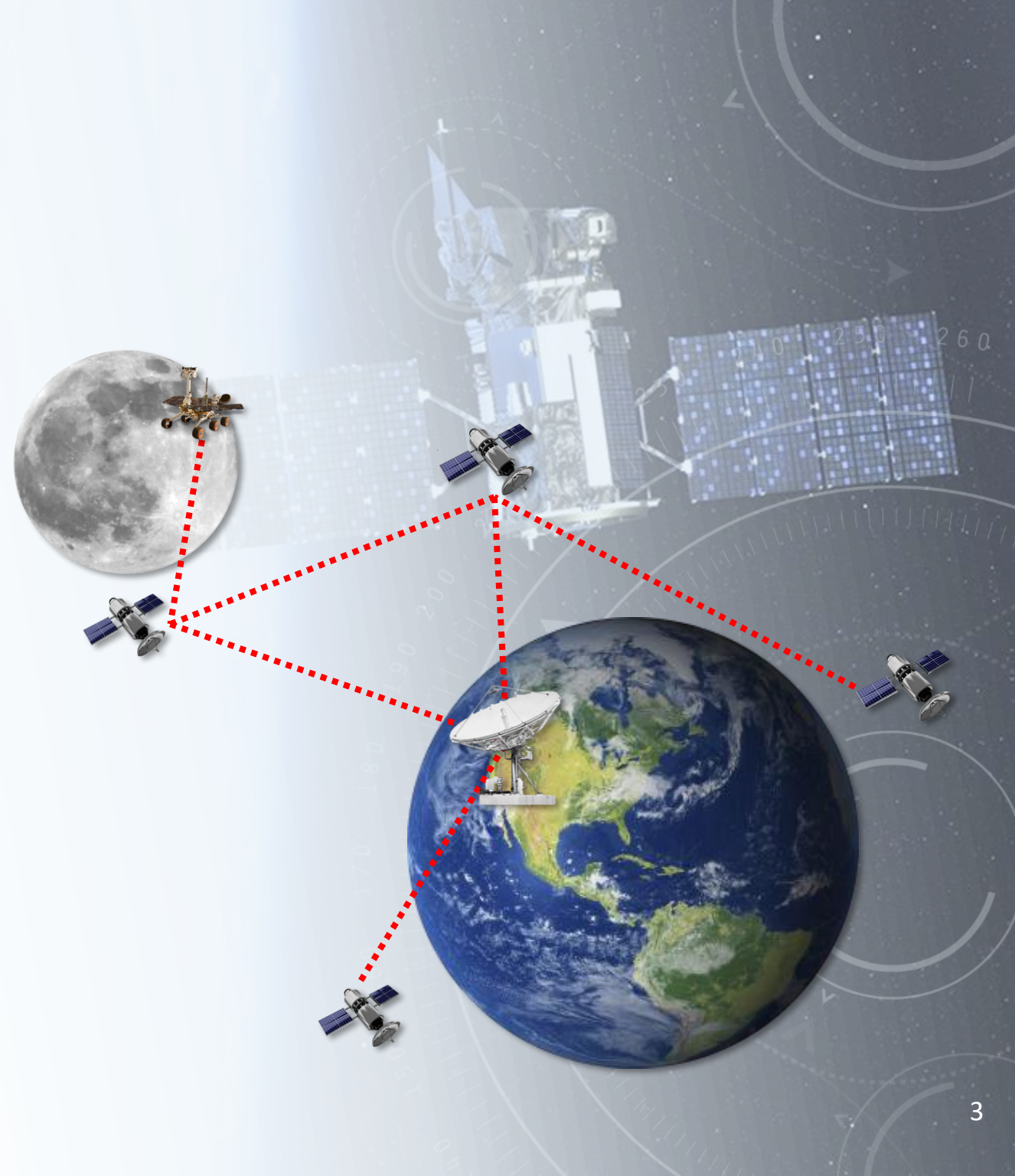
**Oregon Institute of Technology**



**Goddard**  
SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

# Background: DTN & BP

- **Delay/Disruption Tolerant Network (DTN)**
  - It's like terrestrial internet – but for space!
  - Multi-hop transmission
  - Uses store-and-forward mechanisms
  - Takes advantage of scheduled, predicted, and opportunistic connectivity
  - Chops data into smaller pieces for transport
- **Bundle Protocol (BP)**
  - Defines how data is sliced up
  - Defines disassembly and reassembly
  - Uses late binding of next hop connection



# Background: Applications

- **Netflix on Mars**
- **Spotify on the Moon**
- **LunaNet**
  - **Networking, positioning, navigation, timing, and science services – on the Moon!**
- **Areas on Earth where connectivity may be inconsistent**
  - **At the poles**
  - **Out in the boonies**



Artist's concept of LunaNet being used by astronauts.  
*Credit: Reese Patillo, 2018 SIP intern*

# Background: PACE, Lunar IceCube, ISS

- **PACE**
  - Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem (PACE)
  - NASA Earth-observing satellite mission that will provide unprecedented insight into the ocean and atmosphere
  - Flying a full implementation of BP
- **Lunar IceCube**
  - NASA/Morehead State University collaboration
  - CubeSat that will study ice on the Moon
  - Artemis I mission
  - Flying a full implementation of BP
- **ISS**
  - DTN testbed
  - Provided valuable data

Visualization of PACE in Orbit. *Credit: NASA*



Artist's rendition of Lunar IceCube in lunar orbit.  
*Credit: Morehead State University, NASA*

# Overview

- **Primary: Systems Engineering for Bundle Protocol v7**
  - Used lessons learned from missions flying BPv6
  - Investigated extensions of the protocol
  - Standardized terms and MIB parameters
  - Increased technology readiness of the DTN architecture
- **Secondary: “DTN Quick Reference”**
  - List of acronyms and mid-level concepts defined for easy reference
  - Help get interns (and new folks) up and running faster
  - Written from a fellow DTN intern perspective



# Methodology

- **Initial Goals**
  - Understand how the DTN architecture works
  - Understand the difference between BPv6 and BPv7
  - Understand how BPv6 is implemented for PACE
  - Identify opportunities for standardization and extension
- **General Approach**
  - Reviewed literature
  - Met with subject matter experts and other engineers
  - Participated in weekly working group sessions
  - Lots of critical thinking and connecting the dots



# Results

- **Use Case & Requirements Document**
  - Useful for aiding in the transition from BPv6 to BPv7
  - Helpful for managing engineering resources
  - Gained skills in systems engineering
- **BPv7 Dictionary of Terms**
  - Created named controls and parameters (MIB)
  - Suggested new terms to add clarification to BP bundle components
  - Useful for aiding in the standardization of terms across BP versions
- **DTN Quick Reference Document**
  - Living document
  - Help new people get oriented
  - Solidified DTN topics for me

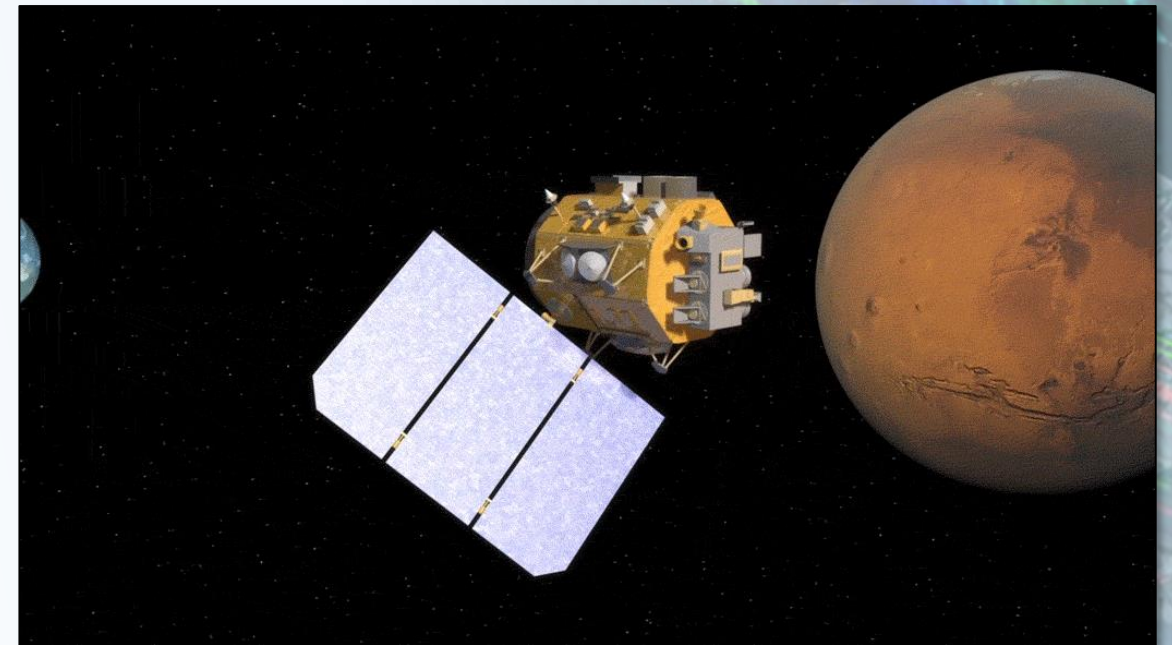
	Term	Data Type	Description	Behavior Notes	Location
1	version	unsigned integer	Identifies the version of the bundle protocol that constructed this block.		Primary Block
2	isFragment	boolean	Control flag that signals a bundle is or is not a fragment.		Primary Block
3	isAdminRecord	boolean	Control flag that signals that the payload block of a bundle is an administrative record.	If the bundle processing control flags indicate that the bundle's application data unit is an administrative record, then all status report request flag values MUST be zero.	Primary Block
4	mustNotFragment	boolean	Control flag that signals the bundle must never be fragmented.	If the bundle's source node is omitted, mustNotFragment flag value must be one and all status report request flag values must be zero.	Primary Block
5	acknowledgementRequested	boolean	Acknowledgment by the user application is requested.		Primary Block
6	statusTimeRequested	boolean	Status time is requested in all status reports.		Primary Block
7	receptionReportRequested	boolean	Status report flag that signals a request for a report of bundle reception.		Primary Block
8	forwardingReportRequested	boolean	Status report flag that signals a request for a report of bundle forwarding.		Primary Block
9	deliveryReportRequested	boolean	Status report flag that signals a request for a report of bundle delivery.		Primary Block
10	deletionReportRequested	boolean	Status report flag that signals a request for a report of bundle deletion.		Primary Block
11	crcType	unsigned integer	Type code that indicates "no CRC is present," "a standard X-25 CRC-16 is present," or "a standard CRC32C (Castagnoli) CRC-32 is present."		Primary Block
12	crc	byte string	When not omitted, the CRC SHALL be represented as a byte string of two bytes or of four bytes; in each case the sequence of bytes SHALL constitute an unsigned integer value (of 16 or 32 bits, respectively) in network byte order.	Shall be omitted from a block if and only if the block's crcType code is zero.	Primary Block
13	destinationEID	unsigned integer	Identifies the bundle endpoint that is the bundle's destination, i.e., the endpoint that contains the node(s) at which the bundle is to be delivered.		Primary Block
14	sourceID	unsigned integer	Identifies the bundle node at which the bundle was initially transmitted	May be the null endpoint ID in the event that the bundle's source chooses to remain anonymous	Primary Block
15	reportEID	unsigned integer	Identifies the bundle endpoint to which status reports pertaining to the		Primary Block
16	creationTimestamp				Primary Block

## DTN Acronyms

BPSec	Bundle Protocol Security
CBHE	Compressed Bundle Header Encoding
CBOR	Concise Binary Object Representation
CCSDS	Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems
CDR	Critical Design Review
CFDP	CCSDS File Delivery Protocol
cFS	Core Flight System
CLA	Convergence Layer Adapter
CORE	Common Open Research Emulator
CSTL	Communications, Standards, and Technology Lab
CTEB	Custody Transfer Enhancement Block
DACS	DTN Aggregate Custody Signal
DEN	DTN Experimental Network.
DNS	Domain Name System
DOT	Dictionary of Terms
DSN	Deep Space Network
DTN	Delay/Disruption Tolerant Networking
DTNME	DTN Marshall Edition. MSFC's DTN implementation
DTN2	Reference implementation of the DTN
DTPC	Delay-Tolerant Payload Conditioning

# Next Steps

- **Present DoT to CCSDS for review**
  - Consultative Committee for Space Data System
  - An international community, created by space agencies to develop standards for space data & information systems
  - Stamp of approval = adoption into standard
- **Upcoming LCRD tests**
  - Laser Communication Relay Demonstration
  - Demo of DTN network services using optical communication
- **LunaNet & Solar System Internet**
  - Increasing reliability and decreasing latency of data delivery
  - Expanding manned and unmanned space exploration opportunities



Conceptual animation depicting a satellite using lasers to relay data from Mars to Earth.  
*Credit: NASA Goddard Space Flight Center*

# SCaN Internship Program

- **Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN) oversees NASA's major networks, ensuring communications with science and exploration missions of all kinds and enabling new discoveries.**
- **SCaN also develops innovations that enhance the communications services and navigation capabilities of the agency.**
- **SIP provides additional programming and resources to supplement the standard NASA internship experience**
  - **Face time with NASA leadership**
  - **Skill building workshops**
  - **Professional development resources**
  - **Social and team building activities**



# Questions

- **Thank you...**
  - **Jonathan Wilmot**
  - **Carla Matusow**
  - **Larry Barrett & Simon Singh**
  - **Jimmy Acevedo & SCaN Internship Program**
  - **Catherine Lanier & Oregon Space Grant Consortium**

# Acronyms

<b>BP</b>	<b>Bundle Protocol</b>
<b>CCSDS</b>	<b>Consultative Committee for Space Data System</b>
<b>DTN</b>	<b>Delay/Disruption Tolerant Networking</b>
<b>ISS</b>	<b>International Space Station</b>
<b>LCRD</b>	<b>Lase Communication Relay Demonstration</b>
<b>MIB</b>	<b>Management Information Base</b>
<b>PACE</b>	<b>Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem</b>
<b>SCaN</b>	<b>Space Communications and Navigation</b>
<b>SIP</b>	<b>SCaN Intern Project</b>
<b>SSI</b>	<b>Solar System Internet</b>