**Entanglement Propagation in Gravity** 





### **General Relativity / Quantum Theory**



Albert Einstein

Erwin Schrödinger

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### **General Relativity / Quantum Theory**

String theory Loop quantum gravity Scale Relativity Acoustic metric Asymptotic safety in quantum gravity Euclidean quantum gravity Causal dynamical triangulation Causal fermion systems Causal sets Covariant Feynman path integral Group field theory E8 Theory Wheeler-DeWitt equation Geometrodynamics Hořava–Lifshitz gravity MacDowell–Mansouri action Noncommutative geometry. Path-integral based cosmology models Regge calculus String-nets Superfluid vacuum theory Supergravity Twistor theory Canonical quantum gravity

### History of General Relativity and Quantum Mechanics

- **1916**: Einstein (General Relativity)
- 1925-1935: Bohr, Schrödinger (Entanglement),
- Einstein, Podolsky and Rosen (Paradox), ...
- **1964**: John Bell (Bell's Inequality)
- 1982: Alain Aspect (Violation of Bell's Inequality)

# **1916: General Relativity**

# Describes the Universe on large scales

"Matter curves space and curved space tells matter how to move!"

# **Testing General Relativity**

Experimental attempts to probe the validity of general relativity:

#### Test mass MICROSCOPE



#### Light Bending effect



# **Quantum Theory**

### Describes the Universe on atomic

### and subatomic scales:

- Quantisation
- Wave-particle dualism
- Superposition, Entanglement

### **1935: Schrödinger (Entanglement)**



### **1935: EPR Paradox**

Quantum theory predicts that states of two (or more) particles can have specific correlation properties violating 'local realism' (a local particle cannot depend on properties of an isolated, remote particle)

MAY 15, 1935

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 47

#### Can Quantum-Mechanical Description of Physical Reality Be Considered Complete?

A. EINSTEIN, B. PODOLSKY AND N. ROSEN, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey (Received March 25, 1935)

In a complete theory there is an element corresponding to each element of reality. A sufficient condition for the reality of a physical quantity is the possibility of predicting it with certainty, without disturbing the system. In quantum mechanics in the case of two physical quantities described by non-commuting operators, the knowledge of one precludes the knowledge of the other. Then either (1) the description of reality given by the wave function in quantum mechanics is not complete or (2) these two quantities cannot have simultaneous reality. Consideration of the problem of making predictions concerning a system on the basis of measurements made on another system that had previously interacted with it leads to the result that if (1) is false then (2) is also false. One is thus led to conclude that the description of reality as given by a wave function is not complete.

### **1964: Testing Quantum Mechanics**

**Bell's tests:** Testing the completeness of quantum mechanics by measuring correlations of entangled photons



N: counts E, S: correlation functions

### **Coincidence Counts**



### **Coincidence Counts**



# **Accuracy Analysis**

Single and entangled photons are to be **detected** and **time stamped** by single photon detectors. Wrong coincidence counts can be avoided if the **timing resolution** is sufficiently high to sample nearly-simultaneously occurring pairs of singles.

High sampling rate:

Low sampling rate:



| • |  |
|---|--|
| • |  |

### **1982: Violation of Bell's Inequality**

Testing the Bell inequality with polarization entangled photons proved that quantum mechanics is complete!

$$|\Psi^{-}\rangle = 1/\sqrt{2} (|H_1H_2\rangle - |V_1V_2\rangle)$$



### **Bell curve**



### " Why not come up with an experiment that combines quantum properties and general relativity?"

### Testing general relativity using quantum mechanical properties

Milburn 1991 Ralph 2004 Penrose 1994 Diosi 1987 Deutsch 1991 Adler 2004

#### **On Gravity's Role in Quantum State Reduction**

Roger Penrose<sup>1,2</sup>

Received August 22, 1995. Rev. version December 12, 1995

The stability of a quantum superposition of two different stationary mass distributions is examined, where the perturbing effect of each distribution on the space-time structure is taken into account, in accordance with the principles of general relativity. It is argued that the definition of the time-translation operator for the superposed space-times involves an inherent ill-definedness, leading to an essential uncertainty in the energy of the superposed state which, in the Newtonian limit, is proportional to the gravitational self-energy  $E_{\Delta}$  of the difference between the two mass distributions. This is consistent with a suggested finite lifetime of the order of  $\hbar/E_{\Delta}$  for the superposed state, in agreement with a certain proposal made by the author for a gravitationally induced spontaneous quantum state reduction, and with closely related earlier suggestions by Diósi and by Ghirardi *et al.* 

# New theory for predicting gravity effects on quantum states

#### Entanglement decoherence in a gravitational well according to the event formalism

#### T C Ralph<sup>1</sup> and J Pienaar<sup>2,3</sup>

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# **Ralph and Pienaar model**



# **Observables C**<sub>norm</sub>



# **Science Objective**

"Observe the interaction between gravity fields and entangled quantum states over a wide range of parameters."

# **Science Requirements 1**

Measure **variance** in normalised coincidences  $C_{norm}$  of entangled and non-entangled photons travelling through gravitational potential differences  $\Delta U$  ranging from

#### 0 - 13 km<sup>2</sup>/s<sup>2</sup>

with an accuracy better than 5 sigma and a sampling distance of 0.15  $\text{km}^2/\text{s}^2$ .



# **Science requirement 2.1**

Conduct a measurement that characterizes S and C<sub>norm</sub> in the range of the photon travelling distance D 200 km to 2000 km



# **Science requirement 2.2**

Conduct a measurement that characterizes S and  $C_{norm}$  in the range of the **relative velocity**  $\Delta v_{rel}$  between photon source and detector of

### 1 km/s to 13 km/s



# **Science requirement 2.3**

Conduct a measurement that characterizes S and  $C_{norm}$  in the range of the angle  $\alpha$ between the photon propagation vector and the gravity field gradient of 0 and 180°

# **Science requirement 3**

Conduct a measurement that characterizes S and C<sub>norm</sub> of two entangled photons with: **local detection & remote detection** 



### Accuracy analysis: count rates

From small  $\Delta U$  values, the accuracy of the C<sub>norm</sub> data is mostly depending on the coincidence count number. A five sigma error is achieved if:  $N_c = \frac{5^2}{(1 - C_{norm})^2}$ 

For large 
$$\Delta U$$
 values, the accuracy of C<sub>norm</sub> is achieved much faster (N<sub>c</sub> < 1000), but at least 1000 counts per data point are required to verify S > 2.



**Entanglement Propagation in Gravity** 



#### Mission design, orbits and payload



### Systems driven by count rate

Measurement accuracy requires a high coincident count number which is depending on:

- Entangled photon source pair generation rate
  Link budget (coupling efficiencies, telescope size/pointing performance, orbital distances)
- 3. Single photon detector efficiency
- 4. Link time / orbit and total mission duration

# Mission design approach

#### Design approach:

- Use best EPS rate currently available (10 MHz) to minimize development time
- Use largest COTS laser terminal (135 mm TESAT terminals)
- Use existing detector at medium cold temperature (60% at -30 degC)
- Drive the link budget by optimizing the orbit and mission duration

# **Orbit candidates**

### **Driving Requirement:**

### Inter-satellite visibility maximized



# **Final Orbit**

### **Circular & Elliptical Orbit**

Circular 700km Elliptical 3000x700km Inclination 28°


**Final Orbit** 

#### Satellite Visibility:



- Albert to Erwin : 33%
- Erwin to Optical Ground Station: 6% (1% due to daylight and cloud contraints)
- Albert to Optical Ground Station: 10% (2% due to daylight and cloud contraints)



Compliant with the  $\Delta U$  science requirement 0 – 13 km<sup>2</sup>/s<sup>2</sup>

#### **Payload: Entangled Photon Source**

High coincidence generation and detection rate is a key requirement to reach the high accuracies of the science requirements





[Steinlechner, F., Gilaberte, M., Jofre, M., Scheidl, T., Torres, J. P., Pruneri, V., & Ursin, R. (2014). Efficient heralding of polarization-entangled photons from type-0 and type-II spontaneous parametric downconversion in periodically poled KTiOPO\_4. J. Opt. Soc. Am.~B, 31(9), 2068.

http://doi.org/10.1364/JOSAB.31.002068

#### Laser terminal

Commercial 135 mm laser terminals are used to send and receive photons in between the satellites. -> more details in the system presentation



# Single photodetector

Commercial silicon avalanche photodetector with 60% quantum efficiency cooled to -30 degC.



#### **Observation Scenarios**



# **Payload layout**



#### **Payload: detector unit**



# **Switching units**

Micro-mechanical units for fibre switching. Commercial units not space qualified, development needed to achieve high reliability (10.000 switching cycles) and radiation hardness.



# Payload key requirements

|                         | Requirement  | Payload compliance  |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| Laser power             | 10 mW  | compliant   |
| Pair generation rate    | 10 MHz   | compliant   |
| Detection efficiency    | 10 M Coincidences / s                              | compliant   |
| Polarization correction | Position correction + half<br>wave-plates rotators | To be developed as part of the terminal   |
| Coherence length        | 1 ps   | Current performance: 100 ps<br>1 ps can be achieved with<br>different EPS cavity design |

#### **Science Data Generation**

Majority of the on-board data will be generated by the local detection of photons - 12 MBps

Total amount of data depends on the experiments performed during the orbit and the orbit time, with an achievable compression rate **1:10**, the maximum amount of data **per orbit** do not exceed **4 GB** and **3,3 GB** for Albert and Erwin respectively.

|                                  | MB/s                | MB/orbit* | after conversion |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Local detection - Albert         | 12                  | 35200     | 3520             |
| Local detection - Erwin          | 12                  | 29000     | 2900             |
| Remote detection (mean) - Albert | 0 <mark>,</mark> 08 | 234       | 23,4             |
| Remote detection (mean) - Erwin  | 0,08                | 188       | 18,8             |

#### **Entanglement Propagation in Gravity**



#### SYSTEMS



# **Optical link**

- Optical link drivers
  - 1000 photon coincidences within DU resolution 0.15 km2.s2
  - Achieving a signal to noise > 5 (based on Tenerife experiment)
  - Ensuring local detectors are not saturated
- Based on ESA OGS facility and TESAT Laser Comms Terminal
  - Modification to laser comms terminal to remove fibre optics in telescope to prevent loss of polarisation (studied within ESA)





# **Optical link**

- 10 MHz Pump (-86.1 dBm)
- Range 100 to 10000 km
- Space aperture diameter 135 mm
- Worst case atmospheric losses (HV5/7 model) -3.8 dB
- Ground aperture diameter 1016 mm





# **Optical link**

| Space-space             |         |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Signal to noise         | >9      |
| 1000 photon observation | < 150 s |
| Saturation              | FALSE   |
| Space-ground            |         |
| Signal to noise         | > 119   |
| 1000 photon observation | < 6 s   |
| Saturation              | FALSE   |

Biggest uncertainty is specular reflection from the transmitting satellite (10000 cps) to be derisked through experiment





## **System Architecture**

- There are two satellites Erwin and Albert
- Reference orbit for the mission is
  - Erwin is in a circular 700x700 km
  - Albert is in an elliptic 700x3000 km
- The ESA OGS facility is baselined for science as the ground link
- Existing ESA infrastructure is assumed for TTC + Data downlink
- A launch by Soyuz Fregat is targeted

#### **Satellite Architecture**

| Onboard Data<br>Handling    | Attitude<br>Determination<br>& Control | Electric Power<br>System         | Propulsion |
|-----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|------------|
| Power/Databuses, Harnessing |  |                                  |            |
| Instrument                  |  | Instrument<br>Thermal<br>Control | Comms.     |

## **Mission lifetime**

- Lifetime estimation based on confidence level requirement to prove the quantum gravity theory
  - Based on core 25% availability for space-space (one-way link) for gravitational potential to 13 km2s2
  - Mission goal is 1000 photons at this 0.13 km2.s2 resolution
  - 1300 bins across the range
  - Worst case photon count is > 10 cps
  - 100 repeats of the measurement (10,000 total per data point)
- Assuming 20% margin time to complete prime objective is <u>2.3 years</u>
- 3 year mission life currently specified

#### **Radiation Environment**



# **Radiation Design**

- 190 krad TID over 3 years with 5 mm Aluminium structure baseline
  - Specific at risk components identified within equipment list: Laser Comms Terminal, laser, detector
  - Laser Comms Terminal derisked by using hardened GEO version, 20% lifetime estimate (15 years GEO -> 3 years)
- Laser and detector to utilise spot shielding. Secondary effect of shielding is providing mass for thermal control
  - Radiation dose limit is 15 krad TID
  - Shielding mass is 6 kg per detector pair and laser (20 mm lead)
- Possible optimisation to shield entire optical payload (not baseline mass saving ~24 kg)
- SEE mitigated by design through FDIR and space radhard parts

# **System Thermal**



- Thermal design philosophy is radiative with local control
  - System stability of +/- 3 degC targeted
  - Satellite designed not to overheat in hot case

# **System Thermal**



- At hot sunlit peak power case (800 W electronics) 3.2 m2 radiator required
- At cold eclipse survival mode heater required 215 W

# **Payload Thermal**

- Approach is local thermal control of payload elements
- Thermal control of laser comms terminal handled within unit
- Local thermal control driven by sensitivity of optical elements (laser 25 +/- 2.5 deg, non-linear crystal 28 +/- 0.05 degC)
- Heat pad or Peltier dependent on sensitivity
- Total thermal control power requirement, 30 W



Peltier device



Resistive heat pad



| Subsystem                  | Nom.<br>(W) | Peak<br>(W) | Remarks               |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Instrument                 | 307         | 397         | Peak in dual LCT      |
| Instrument Thermal Control | 75          | 125         |                       |
| Onboard Data Handling      | 4           | 8           |                       |
| ADCS                       | 139         | 204         |                       |
| Propulsion                 | 1           | 13          | 10% duty worst case   |
| Power                      | 25          | 63          | + 310 W conv. loss    |
| Communications             | 23          | 116         | < 40% nominal link    |
| Harnessing                 | 0           | 0           |                       |
| Structure & Thermal        | 32          | 257*        | Peak in survival only |
| Total                      | 0.6 kW      | 1.4 kW      | 20% margin            |

#### Power

- Power driven by payload operations, payload thermal requirements, comms downlink capacity
- Power demand of 1.4 kW (100% operations capacity)
- Worst case eclipse of 44% (Erwin) for battery charging and overall; power system efficiency of 70%
- Solar arrays sized for 8 m2 solar panel sized for generation of 2.5 kW (EOL operations)
- Battery sized to allow full operations in eclipse with 30% depth of discharge, 45 kg mass
- Actual operations in baseline orbit 50%

# **Data Handling**

- As fundamental science mission, raw experimental data downlinked, no onboard processing anticipated
- High speed analogue input into radhard FPGA-based payload computer at 800 MHz
- 8 MBps produced by payload after lossless compression
- Dedicated SpaceWire link (40 Mbps) between payload and TTC+Data Transceiver
- Mass memory sized at 150 GB for 3 days no link
- Dual MIL-STD 1553 databuses between main system computers 1 Mbps
- Additional computers specified for ADCS and OBC

# **Data Handling**

| Subsystem                  | Data<br>(MBps) | Remarks            |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Instrument                 | 8.5            | Coincidence driver |
| Instrument Thermal Control | 0.2            |                    |
| Other Subsystems           | < 0.1          |                    |
| Total                      | 10.6           | 20% margin         |

### **Data Downlink**

Driven by payload data requirement of 4 GB per orbit

X-band downlink baselined is capable of 4.6 GB per orbit

TX RF Power output is 5 W (at 20% efficiency of high power amplifier) Maximum path length 5000 km Receiver 12 m

Datarate 100 Mbps

Worst case link 26 dB (Eb/N0)

#### Availability requirement is 6%

Expected to be feasible using ESTRACK network Further trade possible for EDRS / optical links



# **Pointing Control**

- Platform pointing requirement driven by LCT WFI acquisition of 0.16 deg
- Coarse pointing to 0.1 deg provided by platform system using reaction wheels
- Star trackers provide pointing knowledge to an accuracy to 0.001 deg
- Slow slew manoeuvre required for tracking during experiment but laser comms terminal capability > 1 deg.s-1
- Opportunities for desaturation every orbit, estimation of 7.2 N.s per day, requires DV of 20 m.s-1 over lifetime







# **Pointing Knowledge**

- Platform pointing knowledge is driven by relative angle perpendicular to photon wave between satellites
  - Requires active compensation in payload
- Resultant demand is for fine mechanical alignment of star tracker with the laser comms terminal
  - 0.2 acs alignment goal suggested to ensure that the error is within the beam divergence angle (0.3 acs)
  - Estimated mechanical alignment achievable is TBD but resolved in previous missions open issue to be addressed







# Timing

- The system requires a timing signal of 0.1 s for initial synchronisation of the experiment
  - Payload provides fine counter < 1 ns</li>
- Achievable using the 500 ns timing signal available with GPS
- Orbits always remains within GPS ring so GPS continuous availability
- Standard 10 Hz clock pulse to be distributed on satellite for onboard synchronisation of telemetries



# **Orbit Knowledge**

- Instantaneous and post-process orbit knowledge is required of varying accuracy
- Instantaneous measurement of 7 km driven by science requirement for uncertainty in timetagging
  - Provided by GPS with onboard propagator in ADCS computer
- Post process orbit knowledge required to 20 m for reconstruction of data
  - Achievable to 1 cm by modulating the beacon laser pulse of laser comms terminal



#### **Jitter**

- Angular jitter considered for experiment
- Jitter estimation of 3 arcsec for satellite based on
  - Solar Array Drive Mechanism
  - Reaction Wheels
  - Fuel Slosh
  - Thermal Flux
  - Comms Pointing
- Jitter requirement expected to be mitigated by the Laser Comms Terminal jitter rejection
  - Laser Comms Terminal uses feed forward active feedback compensation for jitter rejection
  - Open item but expected to be similar order of other missions

# Propulsion

- No orbit maintenance requirement for science
- Albert (elliptic orbit) satellite driver in propulsion
- Selected Hydrazine with Isp 220 s
- 8 thrusters baselined, 20 N (Airbus)
- Current DV requirement is less than 70 kg
  - Wheel desaturation
  - Deorbit
  - Collision avoidance



## Satellite **ΔV** Budget

| ltem                | DV        | Remarks            |
|---------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Wheel desaturation  | 20 m.s-1  |                    |
| Collision avoidance | 10 m.s-1  | Pcollision = 0.001 |
| Deorbit             | 134 m.s-1 | 2 years deorbit    |
|                     | 164 m.s-1 |                    |
| Mass of fuel        | 70 kg     | lsp = 220 s        |
|                     |           |                    |

# Configuration

- Configuration driven by
  - laser comms terminal FOV half-sky for availability
  - solar panel tracking
  - directional link antenna
  - minimising specular reflections
- Satellite total component volume 0.4 m3
- Total size 1.3 x 1.3 x 1.3 m providing suitable surface area for mounting equipment




### Mass budget

| Subsystem                  | Mass (kg) | Remarks               |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Instrument                 | 177       |                       |
| Instrument Thermal Control | 39        |                       |
| Onboard Data Handling      | 6         |                       |
| ADCS                       | 39        | 4 x 5 kg wheels       |
| Propulsion                 | 95        | 70 kg Hydrazine       |
| Power                      | 129       |                       |
| Communications             | 72        |                       |
| Harnessing                 | 37        |                       |
| Structure & Thermal        | 155       | Peak in survival only |
| Total                      | 903 kg    | 20% margin            |

# Launch Accomodation

- Total satellite wet mass 900 kg with all margins
  - Mass of SYLDA-S dual ride adaptor for Soyuz Fregat 220 kg
  - Adaptor with clamp-band (MAS), 115 kg
- Total launch mass to 700 km is 2600 kg
- Both satellites and adaptors fit within Soyuz Fregat 2.1b



# **Fregat Deployment**

- Soyuz Fregat can deliver 4.2 tons to 700 km (1.6 tn margin)
- 822 kg required for Fregat manoeuvres (26%)



### **Ground Segment**





#### **Entanglement Propagation in Gravity**



### PROGRAMMATICS



### **Cost estimation**

| COST AREA                     | MEUR | Who    | Notes  |
|-------------------------------|------|--------|--|
|                               |      |        |  |
| Launch                        | 75   | ESA    |  |
| Laser communication terminal  | 80   | ESA    | Includes laser, not required for mission         |
| Modification to LCT           | 5    | Member |  |
| Development of source         | 10   | Member |  |
| Development of detector pairs | 5    | Member | Inc. polarisation compensation in local detector |
| Detector pair FM              | 20   | Member |  |
| Source                        | 40   | Member |  |
| Platform                      | 120  | ESA    | Cost of GIOVE-A to ESA 28 MEUR inc. MAIT         |
| TTC operations                | 50   | ESA    |  |
| Science operations            | 50   | ESA    |  |
| MAIT                          | 50   | ESA    |  |
| Science ground segment        | 50   | Member | If OGS is used may be reduced / ESA              |
| EM / ground verification      | 15   | Member |  |
|                               |      |        |  |
| Total                         | 570  | MEUR   |  |
| Member contribution           | 145  | MEUR   |  |
| ESA contribution              | 425  | MEUR   |  |
| ESA overhead                  | 20%  |        |  |
| COST TO ESA                   | 510  | MEUR   |  |

### **COST TO ESA : 510 MEUR Suitable for M Class**

# Low TRL equipment

- Targeting 2025 launch therefore high TRL requirements
- Only payload subsystems have < 6 TRL levels
- Component and system margins applied according to TRL estimations
- Subsystem components with a low TRL are:
  - Entangled photon source and detectors (TRL 4)
  - Polarisation compensation unit detectors(TRL 4)
  - Laser control terminal (TRL 5, modification to telescope)

### **Development plan**

|                    | Year   | 1 | 2-3     | 4-5        | 6-10                  | 11-13                   |
|--------------------|--|---|---------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Phase 0            | Conception and mission study   |   | Mission | design rev | ew                    |                         |
| Phase A            | Assessment:<br>• Payload optical bench development<br>• Modification of laser <u>comms</u> terminal  |   |         | System     | requirement review    |                         |
| Phase B            | Definition:<br>• Preliminary design  |   |         |            | Critical design revie | W                       |
| Phase C/D          | <ul> <li>Qualification &amp; production:</li> <li>Payload integration</li> <li><u>Thermooptical</u> alignment test</li> <li>Internal payload switching mechanisms</li> <li>Radiation testing of at risk components</li> <li>Ground verification: use of bench<br/>in island-island</li> <li>Upgrade to ESA OGS facility</li> </ul> |   |         |            |                       | Qualification<br>review |
| Launch<br>campaign |  |   |         |            |                       | Fly to orbit            |
| Phase E1           | Operation & science  |   |         |            |                       |                         |

### **Descope options**

| Option                           | Impact  | Cost Saving                           |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Lose 1 LCT per<br>satellite      | 50% less<br>correlation count<br>loss, loss of<br>redundancy        | - <mark>40 MEUR</mark><br>(470 MEUR)  |
| Use GIOVE-A like<br>OTS platform | Higher perceived<br>mission risk,<br>radiation risk                 | - <mark>85 MEUR</mark><br>(425 MEUR)  |
| Single satellite<br>only         | Robustness of<br>QG hypothesis,<br>80% reduction in<br>availability | - <mark>205 MEUR</mark><br>(305 MEUR) |

### **Risks specific to EPIG**

| Risk evaluation   | Risk<br>(A-E) | Severit<br>y (1-5) | Comment  |
|---|---------------|--------------------|--|
| Low TRL subsystems<br>not ready in time<br>(entangled photon<br>source, TESAT<br>terminal modification) | D             | 2                  | Schedule delay or reduced science performance  |
| Failure of payload subsystem  | D             | 2                  | No single point failure, but link<br>availability reduced, could be<br>recovered with longer mission<br>duration |
| Radiation shielding not<br>sufficient for photo<br>diodes, crystals or<br>fibres                        | С             | 3                  | Mitigatable by proper test<br>programme; reduced performance<br>loss would lead to lower accuracy                |

### **Risks specific to EPIG**

| Risk evaluation  | Risk<br>(A-E) | Severit<br>y (1-5) | Comment   |
|--|---------------|--------------------|---|
| Underestimation of<br>straylight in particular<br>specular reflection from<br>the satellite or stars in<br>field of view | С             | 3                  | Mitigatable by proper simulations<br>and experimental test programme;<br>larger avoidance angles would lead<br>to lower counts/orbit. Possible to<br>include low specular reflective<br>material. |
| Failure of optical switching mechanisms  | D             | 3                  | Using a high reliability models,<br>optimising operations for low switch<br>cycles. Failure will lead to reduced<br>link availability   |

### **Education & Outreach**

- Building on the popularity of Einstein and Schroedinger, educational material about GR and QM for different school levels should be provided
- Demonstrator experiments for entangled photons and gravity potentials for science museums or for road shows
- Regular social media updates for measurement progresses and specific missions events (eg. ground station links with VIPs)





### Questions

# International collaboration opportunities

| Element                             | Impact  |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Additional optical ground stations  | More ground-space link availability   |
| One entangled photon source         | Development risk reduction, complementary EPS properties $(\tau)$   |
| Critical opto-electronic components | 405 nm laser currently only available from<br>Japan; better models may be available<br>from US/Japan for photo diodes and<br>crystals |

### **Final Orbit**

15° Sun angle with transmission link:



### Wavelength vs. Temperature



# **Payload: Data Generation**

#### Internal Bell's inequalities test (A)

Performed by payload computer – only  $N_C$ /s is used – cca 4MB

#### Asymmetrical measurement (B)

Each photon detection event is time-stamped, polarization of the detected photon is saved. Time-stamp bit size varies for `internal' and `external' (in case of bidirectional link) detection due to the detection rate

|                           | detection/second | bits/detection | bits/second | MB/s   |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|--------|
| internal detection        | 1000000          | 10             | 10000000    | 12     |
| external detection (mean) | 57               | 66             | 3762        | 0,0005 |

#### Symmetrical measurement (C)

No experiment data is stored on board of the source satellite







# **Payload: Data Generation**

Example of the acquired experimental data:



For local detection the time-stamp bit size can be reduced to 8-bit due to the high detection rate of 10MHz

| LINK                        |          | S-S       | S-S         | S-S        | S-G         | S-G         |         |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| RANGE                       |          | Max       | Min         | Min        | Max         | Min         |         |
|                             |          |           |             |            |             |             |         |
| Transmit power              | PTdB     | -86.1     | -86.1       | -86.1      | -86.1       | -86.1       | dBm     |
| Range                       | S        | 10000     | 50          | 50         | 3000        | 700         | km      |
| Diameter transmitter        | DT       | 135       | 135         | 135        | 135         | 1016        | mm      |
| Diameter receiver           | DR       | 135       | 135         | 135        | 1016        | 135         | mm      |
| Transmitter transmissivity  | tauT     | 80%       | 80%         | 80%        | 80%         | 90%         |         |
| Receiver                    | tauR     | 80%       | 80%         | 80%        | 90%         | 80%         |         |
| Pointing loss               | Lpoint   | 20%       | 20%         | 20%        | 20%         | 20%         |         |
| Atmospheric attenuation     | Latt     | 0.00      | 0.00        | 0.00       | -3.80       | -3.80       | dB      |
| Link loss                   | Lloss    | 55.8      | 9.7         | 9.7        | 41.5        | 28.9        | dB      |
| Received power              | PRdB     | -141.8    | -95.8       | -95.8      | -127.5      | -114.9      | dBm     |
| Detection efficiency losses | nudetect | -3        | -3          | -3         | -3          | -3          | dB      |
| System margin               | margin   | 3         | 3           | -3         | 3           | 3           | dB      |
| Detect power                | PDdB     | -147.8    | -101.8      | -95.8      | -133.5      | -120.9      | dBm     |
| Power                       | PD       | 1.657E-18 | 6.62936E-14 | 2.6392E-13 | 4.41743E-17 | 8.11364E-16 | W       |
| Coincidence                 | nD       | 6.67      | 266983.89   | 1062882.00 | 177.90      | 3267.60     | cps     |
| Time for conincidence       |          | 0.14982   | 0.00000     | 0.00000    | 0.00562     | 0.00031     | s       |
| Link duration               | nlink    | 1000      | 1000        | 1000       | 1000        | 1000        | per bin |
|                             | tlink    | 149.8     | 0.0         | 0.0        | 5.6         | 0.3         | s       |
| Satellite specular          | specular | 10000     | 10000       | 10000      | 10000       | 10000       | cps     |
| Background spurious         |          | 100       | 100         | 100        | 100         | 100         | cps     |
| Local spurious              |          | 5         | 5           | 5          | 10          | 10          | cps     |
| Detector dark count         |          | 150       | 150         | 150        | 150         | 100         | cps     |
| Coincidence window          |          | 1         | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1           | ns      |
| Coincident noise            |          | 0.75      | 0.75        | 0.75       | 1.50        | 1.00        | cps     |
| Signal to noise             |          | 9         | 355979      | 1417176    | 119         | 3268        |         |

### **Jitter**

|                      |  | Estimate |      |          |        |
|----------------------|--|----------|------|----------|--------|
| Reaction wheels      |  | 4,8      | μrad | 0,990071 | arcsec |
| Solar panels         |  | 5,4      | μrad | 1,11383  | arcsec |
| Thermal fluctuations |  | 0,5      | μrad | 0,103132 | arcsec |
| Propellant movement  |  | 1        | μrad | 0,206265 | arcsec |
| Comms pointing       |  | 1        | μrad | 0,206265 | arcsec |
|                      |  |          |      |          |        |
| Total:               |  | 12,7     | μrad | 2,619563 | arcsec |

Reaction wheel estimate found, solar panel estimated from that number (by comparing angular momentums, and assuming that the proportionality betw. ang.mom. and jitter are the same). The rest are found or estimated from similar setups

# Why no results yet?

#### Enabling technologies only recently available/demonstrated

(2007) 144 km free-space distribution of entangled photons
(2015) TRL 4-5 of space suitable laser sources for entangled photons
(2015) Operational demonstration of COTS laser space terminals for EDRS
And: Ralph Pienaar theoretical model only published **last year**





### The worst-case solar heating / operation mode

Q<sub>elecrtonic</sub> = 800 W, Q<sub>environment</sub> = 182 W/m<sup>2</sup>

Surface area of the radiators: 3.2 m<sup>2</sup> (5mil silvered Teflon)

Temperature: 293 K

Heater (52 W)

Temperature 298 K

- Sensors, thermo-electrical heaters, monitoring and controlling
- Radiator on the both side of the spacecraft
- Structure of the spacecraft covered by MLI

### The cold-case / no operation mode



- Bus stability +/- 3 K
- Payload inside the thermal shielding with active temperature control
- Detector will be cooled with thermos-electrical elements (Peltier elements)



### **RF Link X-band**

| Frequency (GHz)                                     | 8.00        | GHz |          |      |                |     |
|---|-------------|-----|----------|------|----------------|-----|
| Wavelenght (m)                                      |             |     | 0.0375   | m    |                |     |
|   |             |     |          |      |                |     |
| Slant Range   | input       |     | result   |      | [dB]           |     |
| Range (km)  | 5,000       | km  |          |      |                |     |
| Transmittion path loss                              | 0.65        |     |          |      | -1.9           | dB  |
| Spaceloss   |             |     | 3.56E-19 |      | -184.5         | dB  |
| Transmittion loss (L <sub>s</sub> +L <sub>a</sub> ) |             |     |          |      | -186.4         | dB  |
|   |             |     |          |      |                |     |
| Transmitter (Tx)                                    | input       |     | result   |      | [dB]           |     |
| P transmitter power (W)                             | 5.00        | w   |          |      | 7.0            | dB  |
| Transmitter loss                                    | 0.90        |     |          |      | -0.5           | dB  |
| Antenna Diameter (m)                                | 0.00        | m   |          |      | 0.0            | 00  |
| Antenna Efficency n                                 | 0.55        |     |          |      |                |     |
| Tx Antenna gain                                     |             |     | 3.86E+01 |      | 15.9           | dB  |
| Half-power beam width (degrees)                     | 0           |     | 26.25    | •    |                |     |
| EIRP  |             |     |          |      | 22.4           | dB  |
|   |             |     |          |      |                |     |
| Receiver (Rx)                                       | input       |     | result   |      | [dB]           |     |
| Antenna Diameter (m)                                | 12.00       | m   |          |      |                |     |
| Antenna Efficency n                                 | 0.68        | 1   |          |      |                |     |
| Half-power beam width (degrees)                     |             |     | 0.219    | •    |                |     |
|   |             |     | 787.50   |      |                |     |
|   |             |     | 3.82     | mrad |                |     |
| Antenna gain  |             |     | 6.87E+05 |      | 58.4           | dB  |
| Receiver noise temp (K)                             | 50          | K   |          |      | -17.0          | dB  |
| Rx G/T  |             |     |          |      | 41.4           | dB  |
|   |             |     |          |      |                |     |
| Link Budget   |             |     |          |      | [dB]           |     |
| EIRP  |             |     |          |      | 22.4           | dB  |
| Antenna Pointing Loss                               | 0.10        | •   |          |      | 0.0            | dB  |
| Transmission Loss                                   |             |     |          |      | -186.4         | dB  |
| Rx G/T  |             |     |          |      | 41.4           | dB  |
| Boltzmann's constant (k)                            |             |     | 1.38E-23 | J/K  | 228.6          | dB  |
| data Rate (bps)                                     | 100,000,000 | bps |          |      | -80.0          | dB  |
| Final E <sub>B</sub> /E <sub>N</sub>                |             |     |          |      | 26.0           | dB  |
|   |             |     |          |      |                |     |
| Maximum possible Data Rate E/N                      | 3.0         | dB  | 103.0    |      | 20,075,665,180 | bps |

### **RF Link S-band**

| Frequency (GHz)                                     | 2.20      | GHz |          |      |             |     |
|---|-----------|-----|----------|------|-------------|-----|
| Wavelenght (m)                                      |           |     | 0.1364   | m    |             |     |
|   |           |     |          |      |             |     |
| Slant Range   | input     |     | result   |      | [dB]        |     |
| Range (km)  | 5,000     | km  |          |      |             |     |
| Transmittion path loss                              | 0.65      |     |          |      | -1.9        | dB  |
| Spaceloss   |           |     | 4.71E-18 |      | -173.3      | dB  |
| Transmittion loss (L <sub>s</sub> +L <sub>a</sub> ) |           |     |          |      | -175.1      | dB  |
|   |           |     |          |      |             |     |
| Transmitter (Tx)                                    | input     |     | result   |      | [dB]        |     |
| P transmitter power (W)                             | 5.00      | W   |          |      | 7.0         | dBw |
| Transmitter loss                                    | 0.90      |     |          |      | -0.5        | dB  |
| Antenna Diameter (m)                                | 0.10      | m   |          |      |             |     |
| Antenna Efficency n                                 | 0.55      |     |          |      |             |     |
| Tx Antenna gain                                     |           |     | 2.92E+00 |      | 4.7         | dB  |
| Half-power beam width (degrees) (                   | Э         |     | 95.45    | •    |             |     |
| EIRP  |           |     |          |      | 11.2        | dB  |
|   |           |     |          |      |             |     |
| Receiver (Rx)                                       | input     |     | result   |      | [dB]        |     |
| Antenna Diameter (m)                                | 7.00      | m   |          |      |             |     |
| Antenna Efficency η                                 | 0.68      |     |          |      |             |     |
| Half-power beam width (degrees)                     |           |     | 1.364    | •    |             |     |
|   |           |     | 4909.09  |      |             |     |
|   |           |     | 23.80    | mrad |             |     |
| Antenna gain  |           |     | 1.77E+04 |      | 42.5        | dB  |
| Receiver noise temp (K)                             | 50        | K   |          |      | -17.0       | dB  |
| Rx G/T  |           |     |          |      | 25.5        | dB  |
|   |           |     |          |      |             |     |
| Link Budget   |           |     |          |      | [dB]        |     |
| EIRP  |           |     |          |      | 11.2        | dB  |
| Antenna Pointing Loss                               | 0.10      | •   |          |      | 0.0         | dB  |
| Transmission Loss                                   |           |     |          |      | -175.1      | dB  |
| Rx G/T  |           |     |          |      | 25.5        | dB  |
| Boltzmann's constant (k)                            |           |     | 1.38E-23 | J/K  | 228.6       | dB  |
| data Rate (bps)                                     | 1,000,000 | bps |          |      | -60.0       | dB  |
| Final E <sub>B</sub> /E <sub>N</sub>                |           |     |          |      | 30.1        | dB  |
|   |           |     |          |      |             |     |
| Maximum possible Data Rate E/N                      | 3.0       | dB  | 87.1     |      | 516.636.419 | bps |

### **Development actions**

- Payload optical bench development
- Modifications of laser comms terminal
- Optical bench and laser comms terminal integration
- Thermooptomechanical alignment test
- Testing of internal payload switching mechanisms
- Radiation testing of at risk components
- Ground verification: use of bench in island-island
- Upgrade to ESA OGS facility