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GNSS at the Moon: LuGRE Results, Open Data, and Lessons for Future Lunar PNT

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Contents and material by Dr. Andrea Nardin, the NavSAS team, and the LuGRE team

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NavSAS | Navigation Signal
Analysis and Simulation
Research Group



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Polytechnic University of Turin's **Japan Hub**

A gateway for Italy-Japan engineering, research, and innovation collaboration

- Provides a low-friction interface to build **academic and industrial partnerships** with Japan.
- Built around shared Italy-Japan **challenges**: sustainability, technology development, environmental risk, ageing society and cultural heritage.
- Coordinates activities in education, research & technology transfer, public engagement & knowledge dissemination.



01

Education

- Strengthen outgoing and incoming mobility
- Launch joint curricula with strategic universities
- Develop teaching opportunities at Japanese universities

02

Research & Technology Transfer

- Increase professor mobility and joint JP/IT publications
- Join competitive project calls with Japanese partners
- Develop research contracts with industrial partners, involving Japanese research groups

03

Reputation

- Organize symposia/workshops in both Italy and Japan to expand the network
- Promote PoliTO Japan Hub as a national best practice for Italy-Japan academic relations.
- Strengthen existing agreements at institutional level and develop new implementation agreements.

Relationships with academic partners



Contacts

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[Japan Hub website](http://japan.hub.polito.it)



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Outline



1. GNSS on the Moon
2. The Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE)
3. The Blue Ghost Journey
4. LuGRE Highlights & Initial Results
5. LuGRE Legacy:
Open Dataset, Processing Tool, Lessons Learned

GNSS ON THE MOON

01



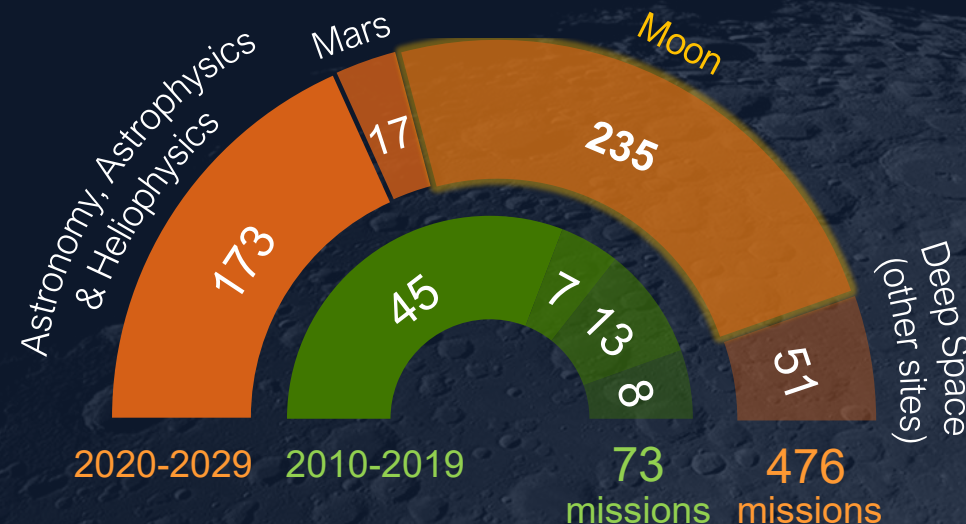
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Towards a crowded cislunar environment

Moon is a recognized **stepping-stone** for interplanetary exploration missions

- Testing and Refining Technologies for Deep-Space.
- Human-tended infrastructure development (e.g., in-orbit gateway and surface outposts).
- Continued science investigations, and crewed visits.



Credit: "Prospect for Space Exploration" Report

MISSION LAUNCHES

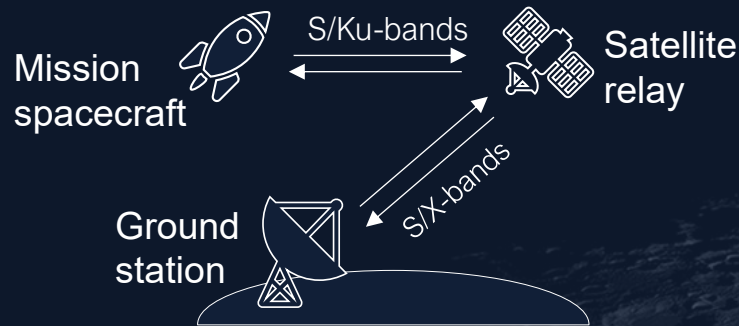
- Moon missions will contribute to the 40% share of this decade
- About 26% growth from previous decade
- Including SmallSats, **250+ outlook** in the **next 10 years**

Lunar PNT: approaches to date

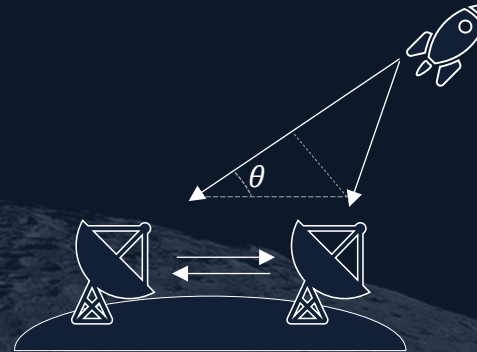
Operational services for cislunar Orbit Determination & Time Synchronization (ODTS) employ ground-based networks with Direct-To-Earth (DTE) links and space network



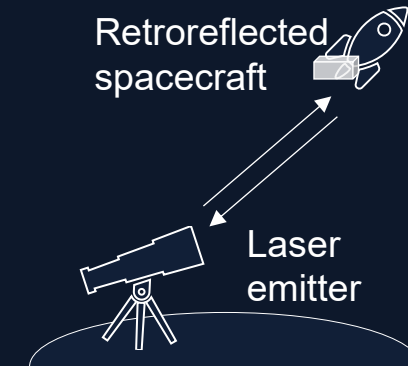
ONE/TWO-WAY (SPACE-RELAYED) RADAR TRACKING



(VERY) LONG BASELINE INTERFEROMETRIC TRACKING



LASER-BASED TRACKING



However, **current model** lacks efficiency and scalability

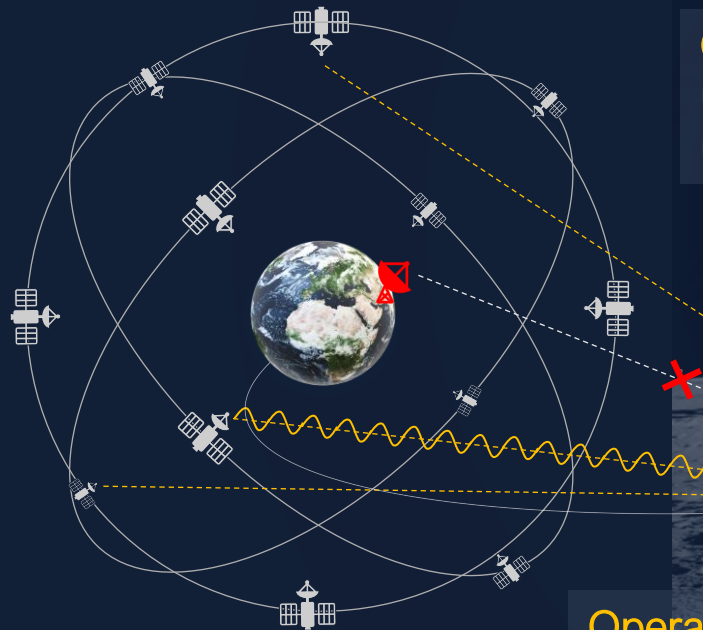
- Limited contact time and Coverage
- Scalability and Resource constraints
- Delayed Responsiveness and Limited Data Throughput

**Enhanced Autonomy in ODTS
has become a pressing need**

(Cis)Lunar GNSS: A Major Opportunity

GNSS may offer a **mature** and operationally proven PNT solution for space users.

- ▶ Extending GNSS into cislunar space opens the door to **autonomous navigation**, the key challenge for future lunar missions.



Onboard Timekeeping

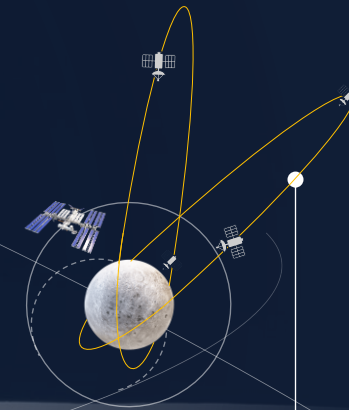
- Time transfer from satellite clocks
- Synchronize onboard subsystems

Operational autonomy & Flexibility

- Reduced ground-based tracking
- Higher mission cadence, scalability

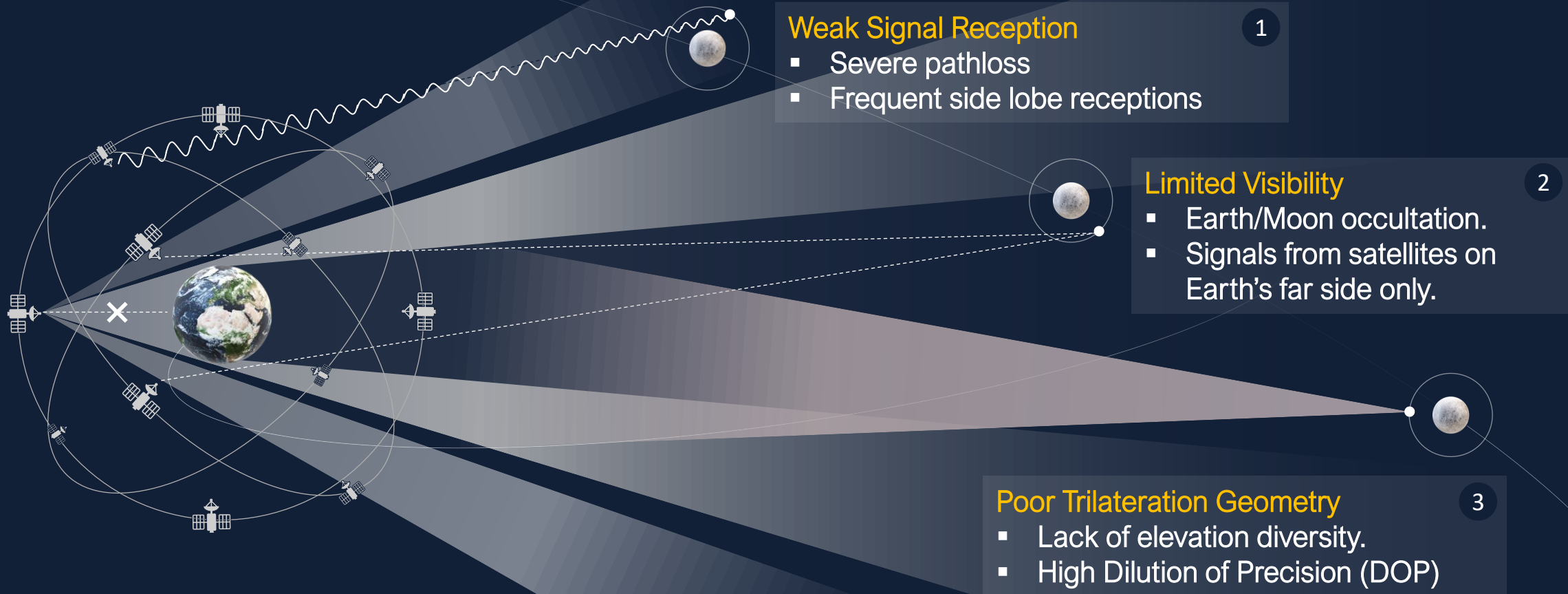
Fallback/Complementary PNT Source

- Support early Lunar infrastructure
- Supplement lunar navigation satellite network (LunaNet LANS)

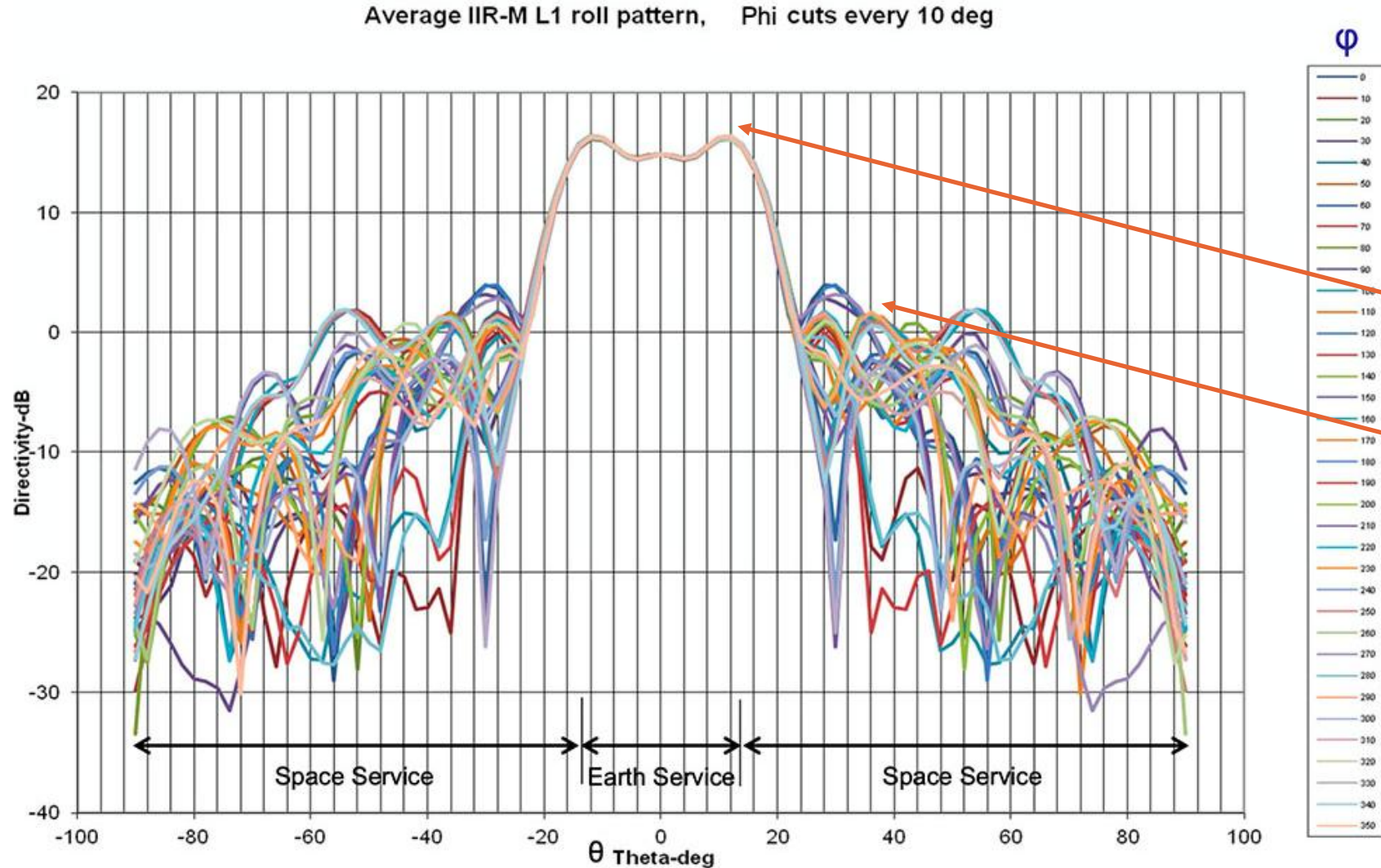


Challenges for (Cis)Lunar GNSS

Beyond Earth's orbits, GNSS faces its most challenging environment yet.



GNSS at lunar distances: critical issues

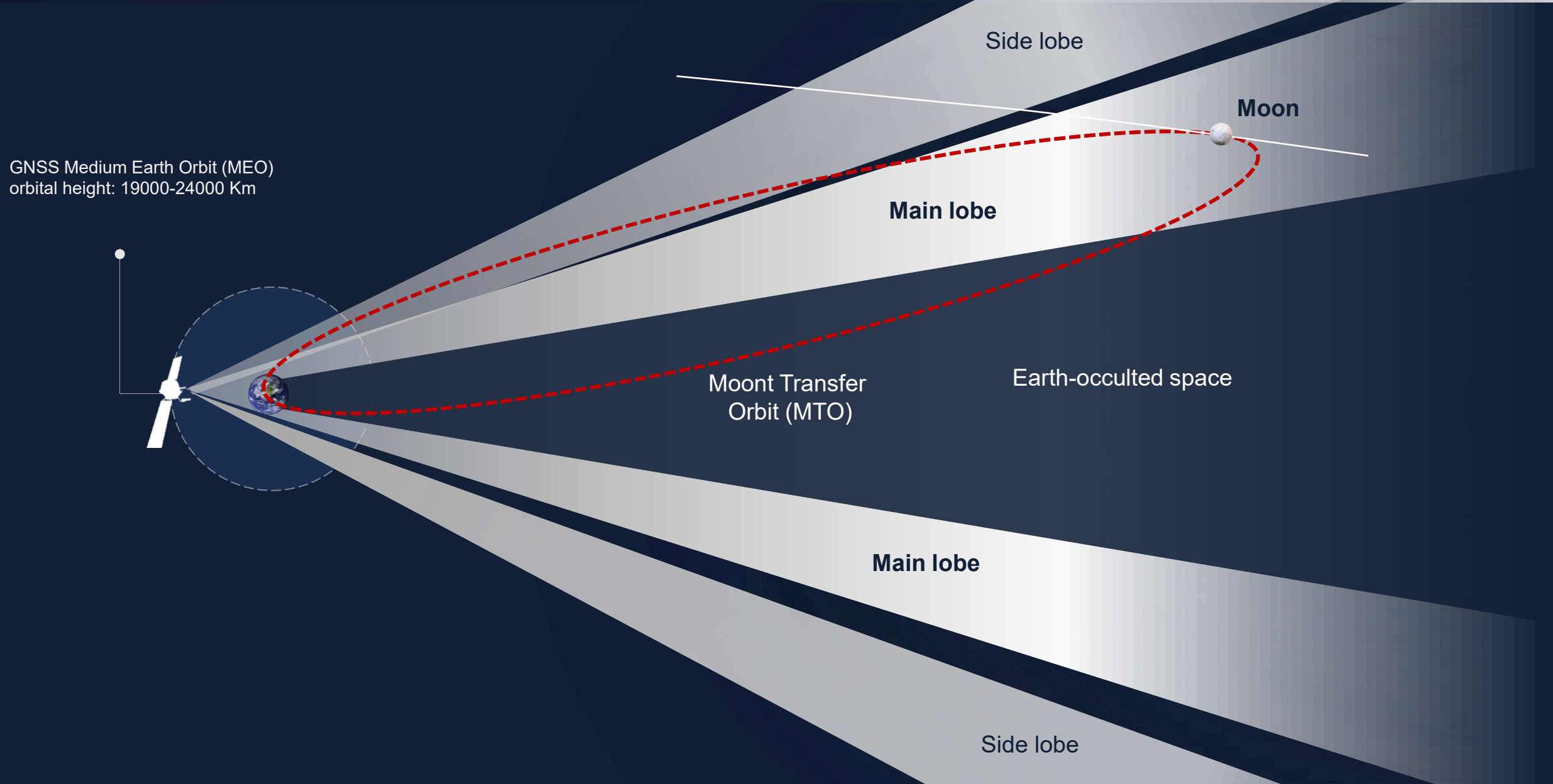


U.S. Space Force and Lockheed Martin Space have released the GPS IIR/IIR-M satellite antenna patterns for worldwide public use

Higher gain at the boundaries of the main lobe

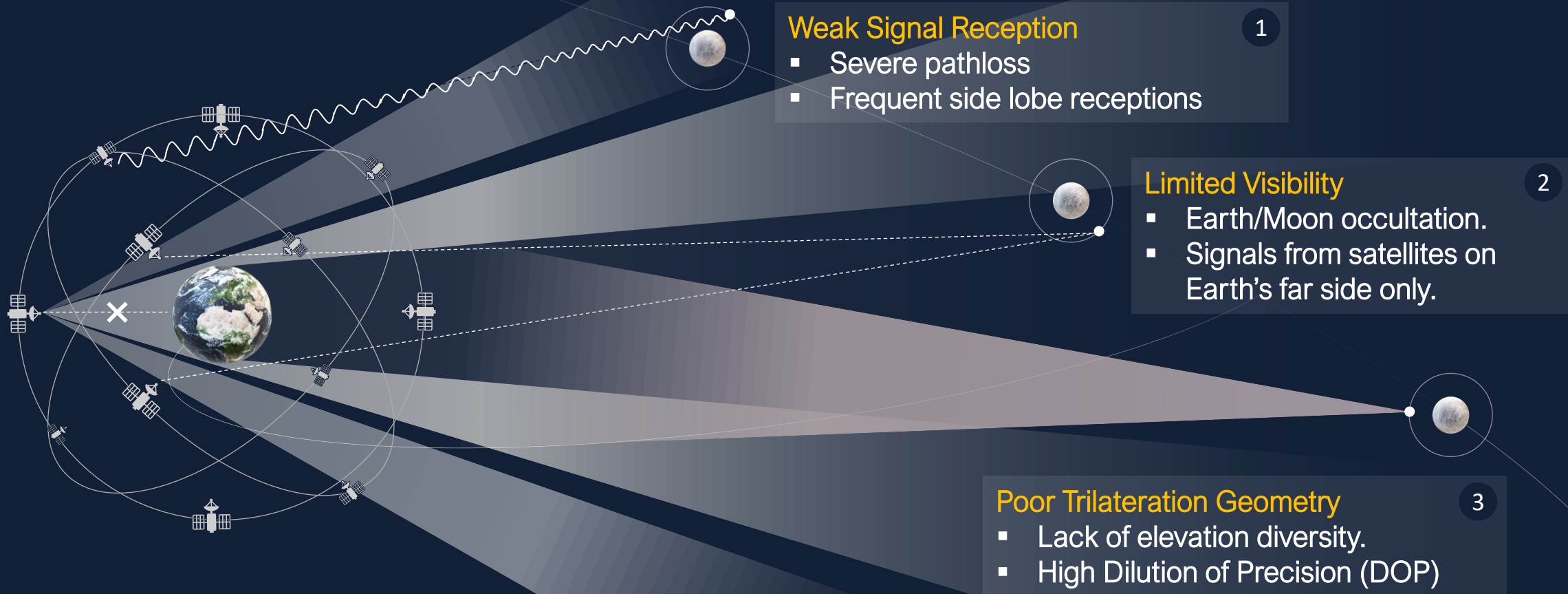
Sidelobes: spillover of power... that can be used for navigation in space

GNSS at lunar distances: critical issues



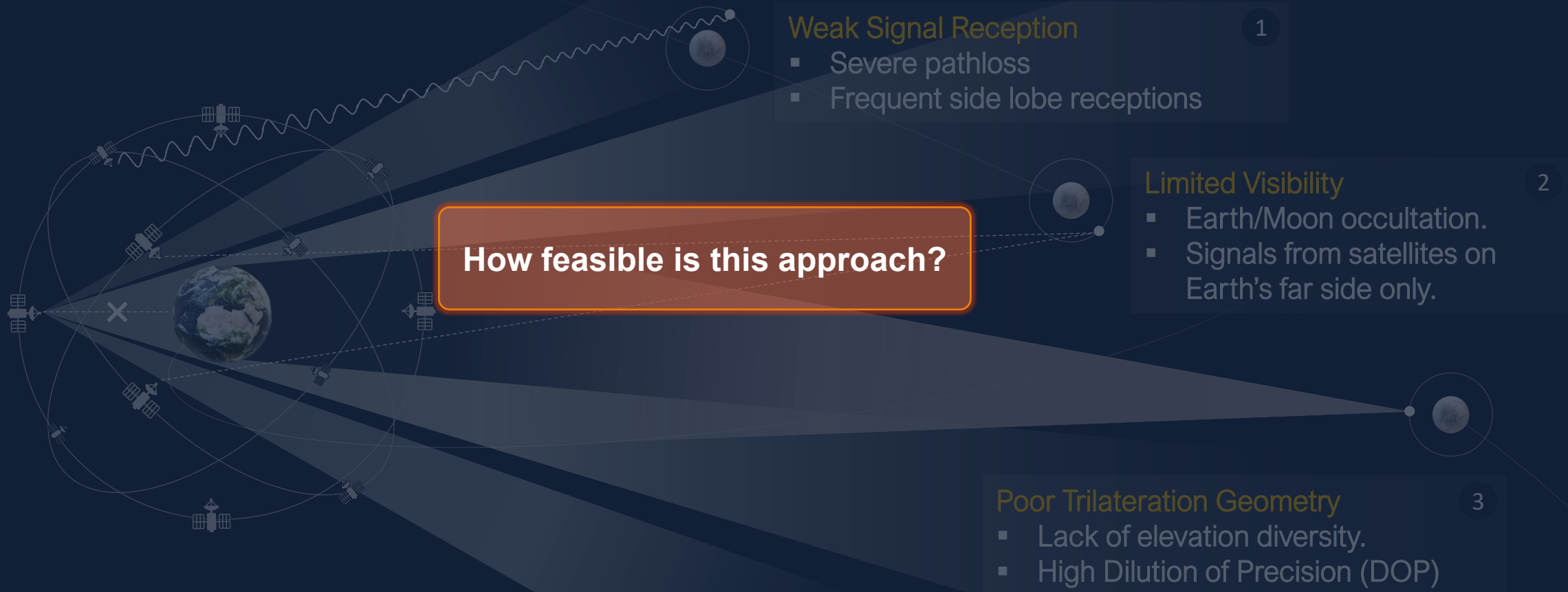
Challenges for (Cis)Lunar GNSS

Beyond Earth's orbits, GNSS faces its most challenging environment yet.



Challenges for (Cis)Lunar GNSS

Beyond Earth's orbits, GNSS faces its most challenging environment yet.



THE LUNAR GNSS RECEIVER EXPERIMENT (LuGRE)

04

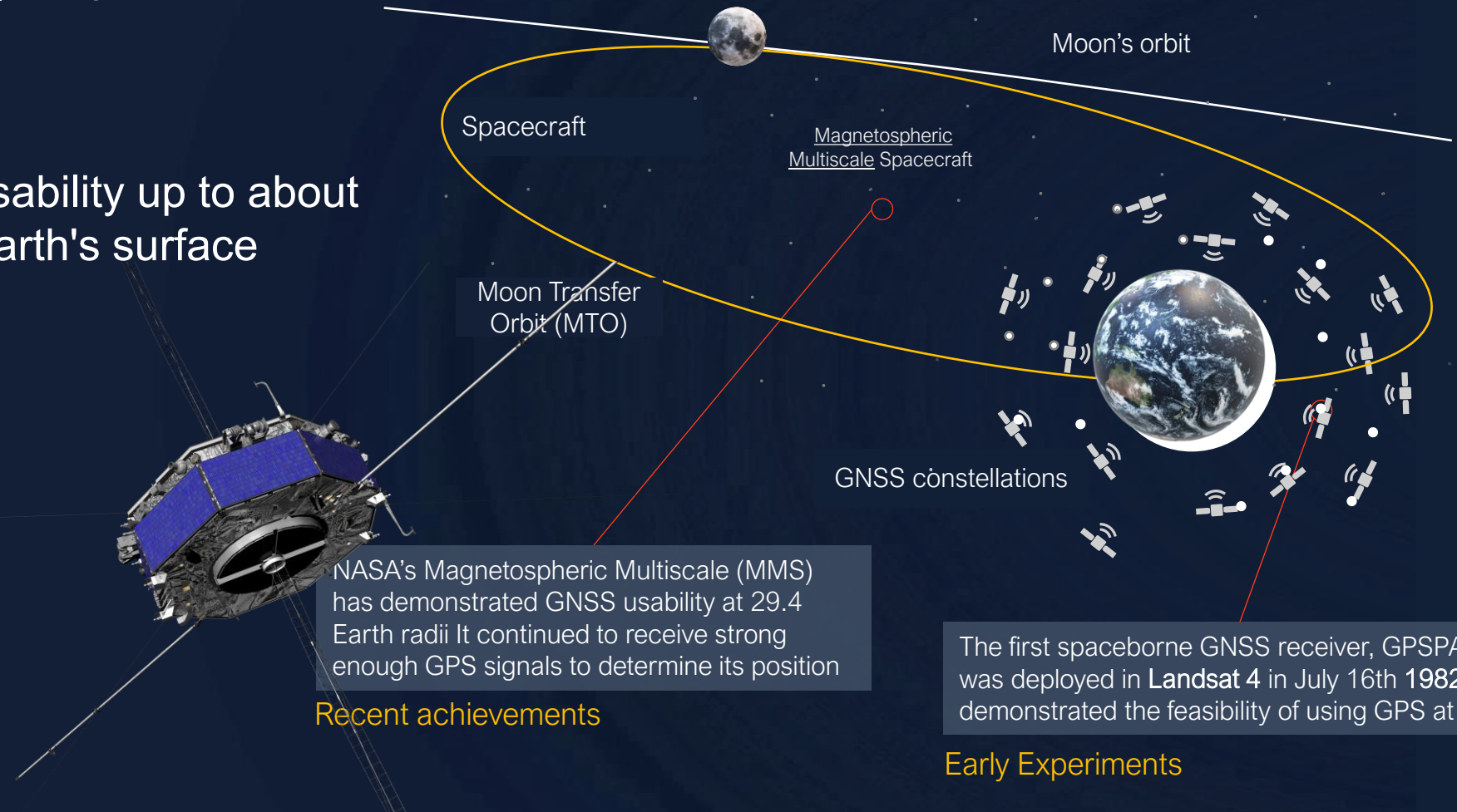


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GNSS beyond terrestrial applications

Can GNSS support autonomous navigation
(manned or unmanned) in space?

NASA has proven its usability up to about
190 000 km from the Earth's surface



Recent achievements

The first spaceborne GNSS receiver, GPSPAC, was deployed in **Landsat 4** in July 16th 1982. It demonstrated the feasibility of using GPS at LEO

Early Experiments

LUGRE

LUNAR GNSS RECEIVER EXPERIMENT



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Agenzia Spaziale Italiana

Qascom
Trust is Nice, Control is Better.



LuGRE Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment



The Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE) was a bilateral project involving **ASI** (the Italian Space Agency) and **NASA**



A GNSS receiver developed by the Italian company **Qascom** was launched onboard **Firefly's BlueGhost M1 (BGM1)** lander and successfully delivered to the Moon in March 2025.

LuGRE has been part of the **CLPS program**, an initiative where NASA partners with private companies to deliver science and technology payloads to the Moon, enabling rapid development and cost-effective lunar exploration



Software-defined radio (SDR) technology receiver



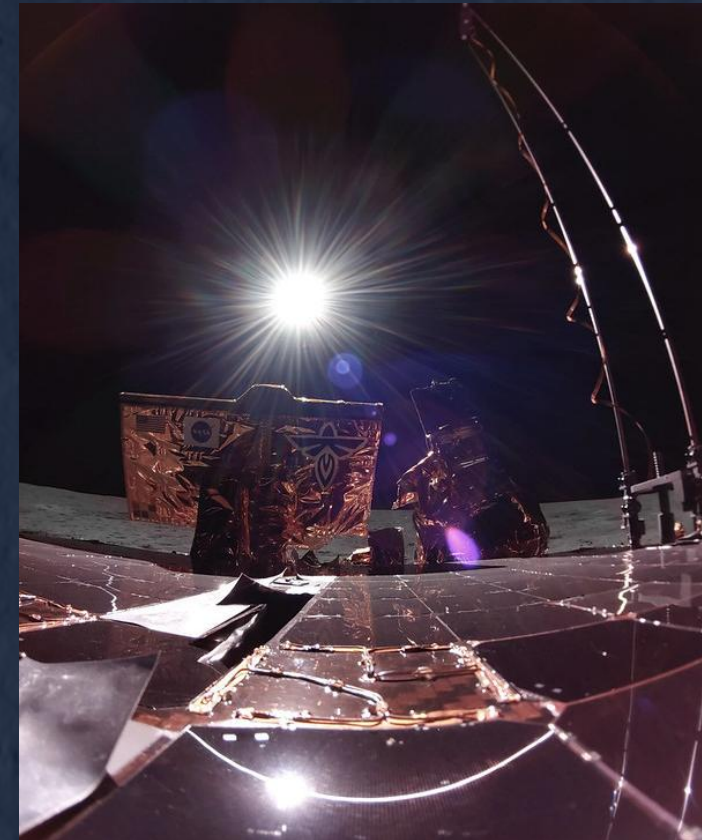
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Scientific support for the GNSS data analysis and experiments implementation

NASA
CLPS

Commercial Lunar Payload Services



The project assessed the usability of a spaceborne GNSS receiver to support cislunar and lunar standalone navigation through multi-frequency, multi-constellation GNSS.



LuGRE Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment

LUNAR GNSS RECEIVER EXPERIMENT

NASA

CLPS

Commercial Lunar Payload Services

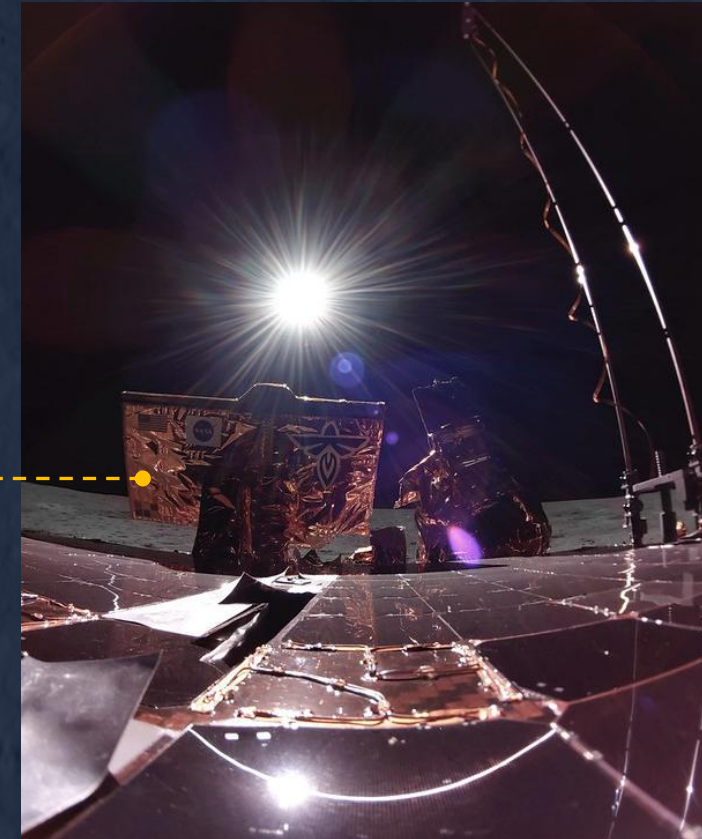
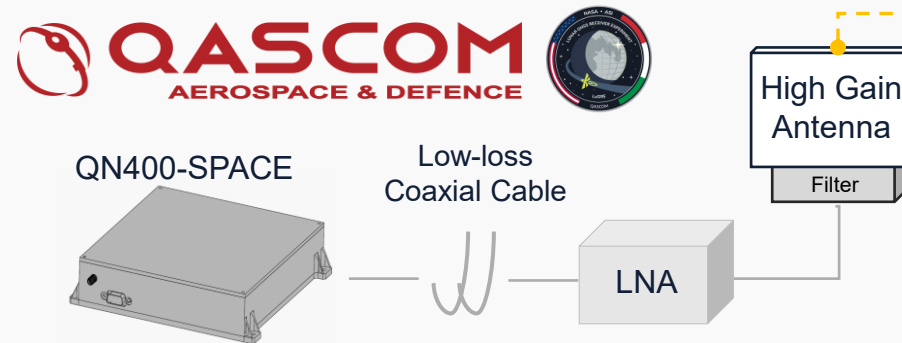
Payload objectives

1. **Receive GNSS signals** at the Moon. Return data and characterize the lunar GNSS signal environment.
2. **Demonstrate navigation and time estimation** using GNSS data collected at the Moon.
3. **Utilize** collected data to **support development** of GNSS receivers specific to lunar use.



LuGRE GNSS Payload

Navigation **E**arly **I**nvestigation on **L**unar surface (**NEIL**) receiver with software-defined radio (SDR) technology



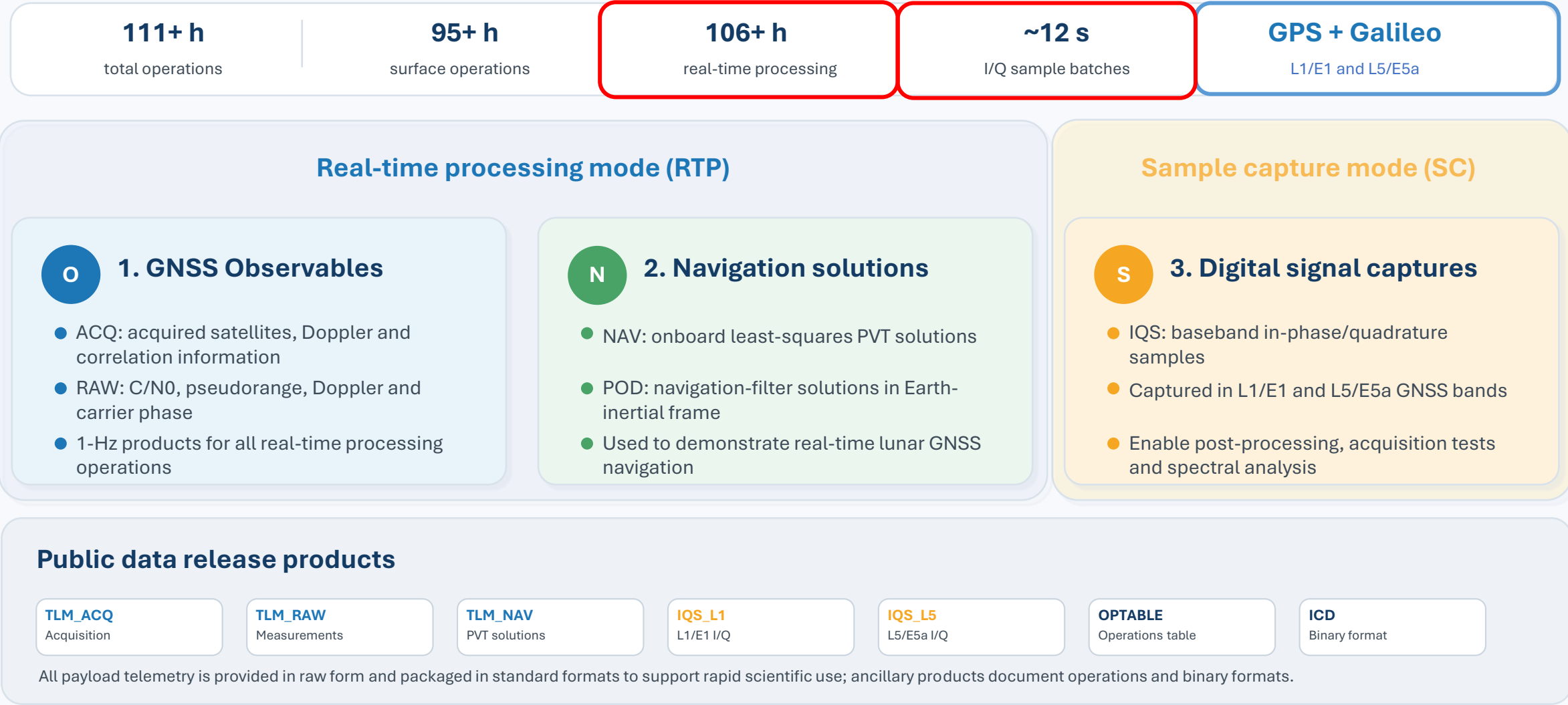
The first ever GNSS-only PNT demonstration in transit to the Moon and on the Lunar surface





LuGRE data collected

Essential view of the GNSS observables, navigation and raw-signal data returned by the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment



THE BLUE GHOST JOURNEY

04



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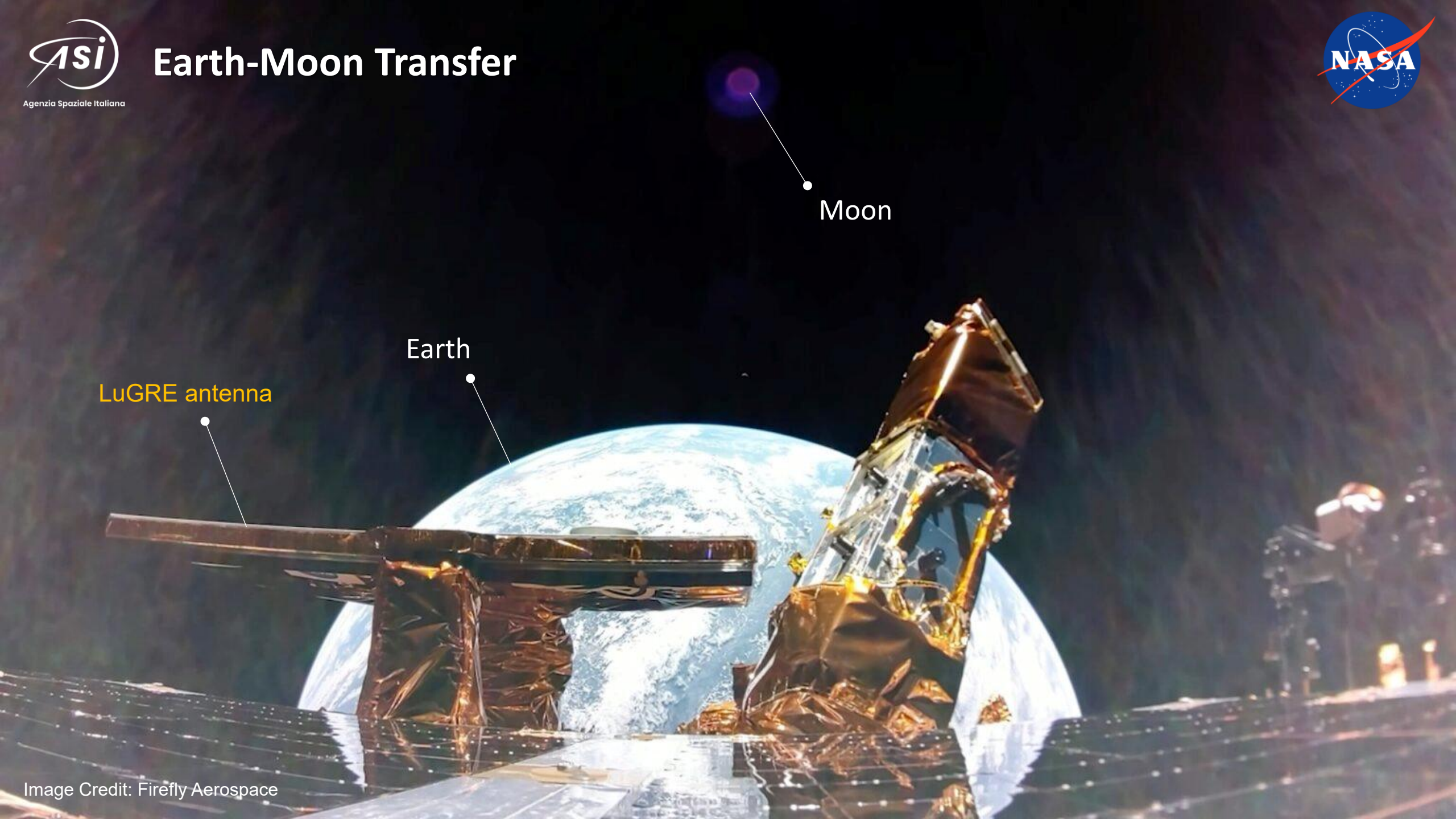


Payload Operations Center (POC)
NASA GSFC
Greenbelt, MD, USA



Remote Science Processing Center (RSPC)
Politecnico di Torino
Torino, IT

Earth-Moon Transfer



LuGRE antenna

Earth

Moon

Earth



The Earth reflected on the solar panels of Firefly Aerospace's BGM1 lander

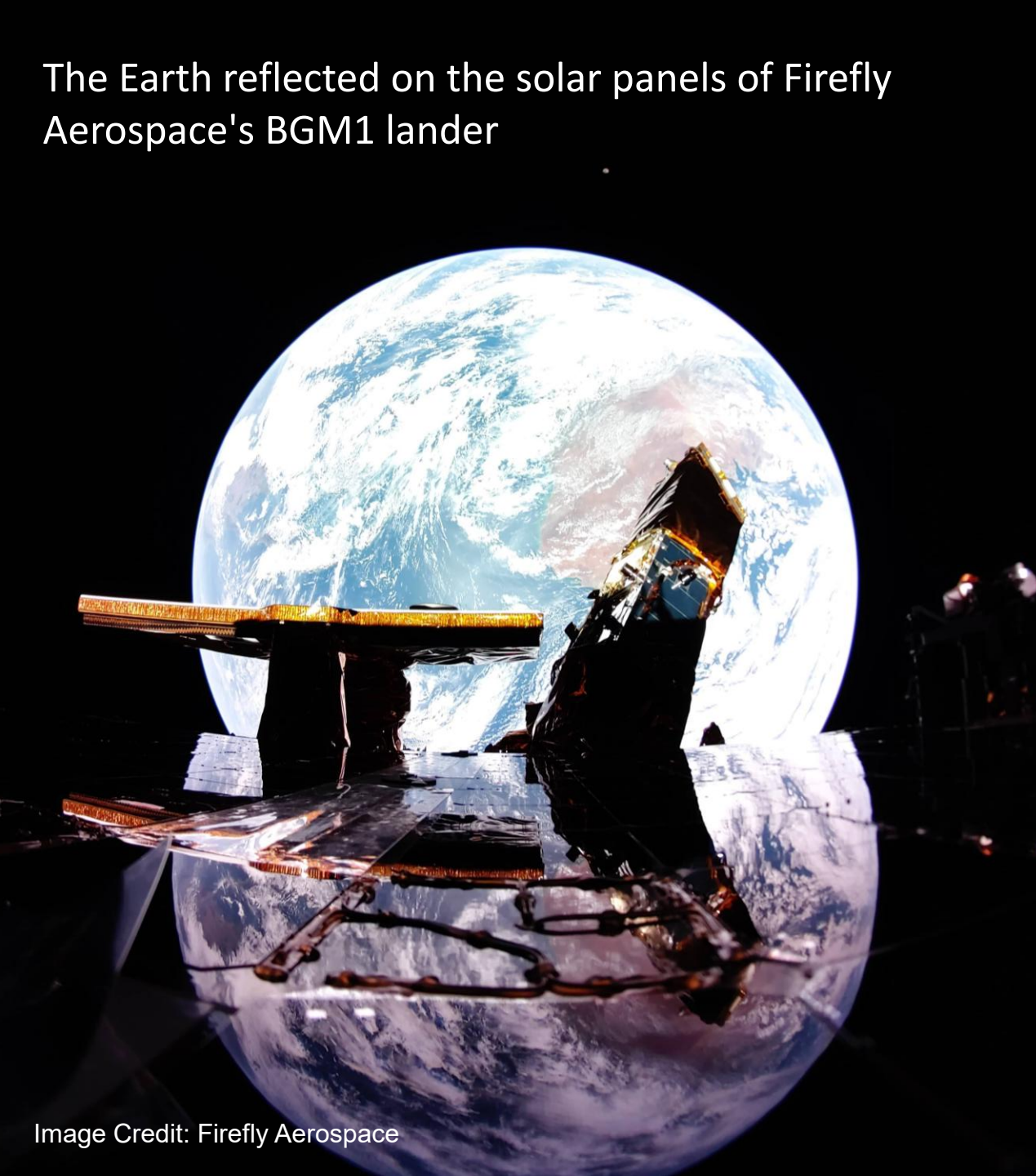


Image Credit: Firefly Aerospace

The first remote capture of the Moon

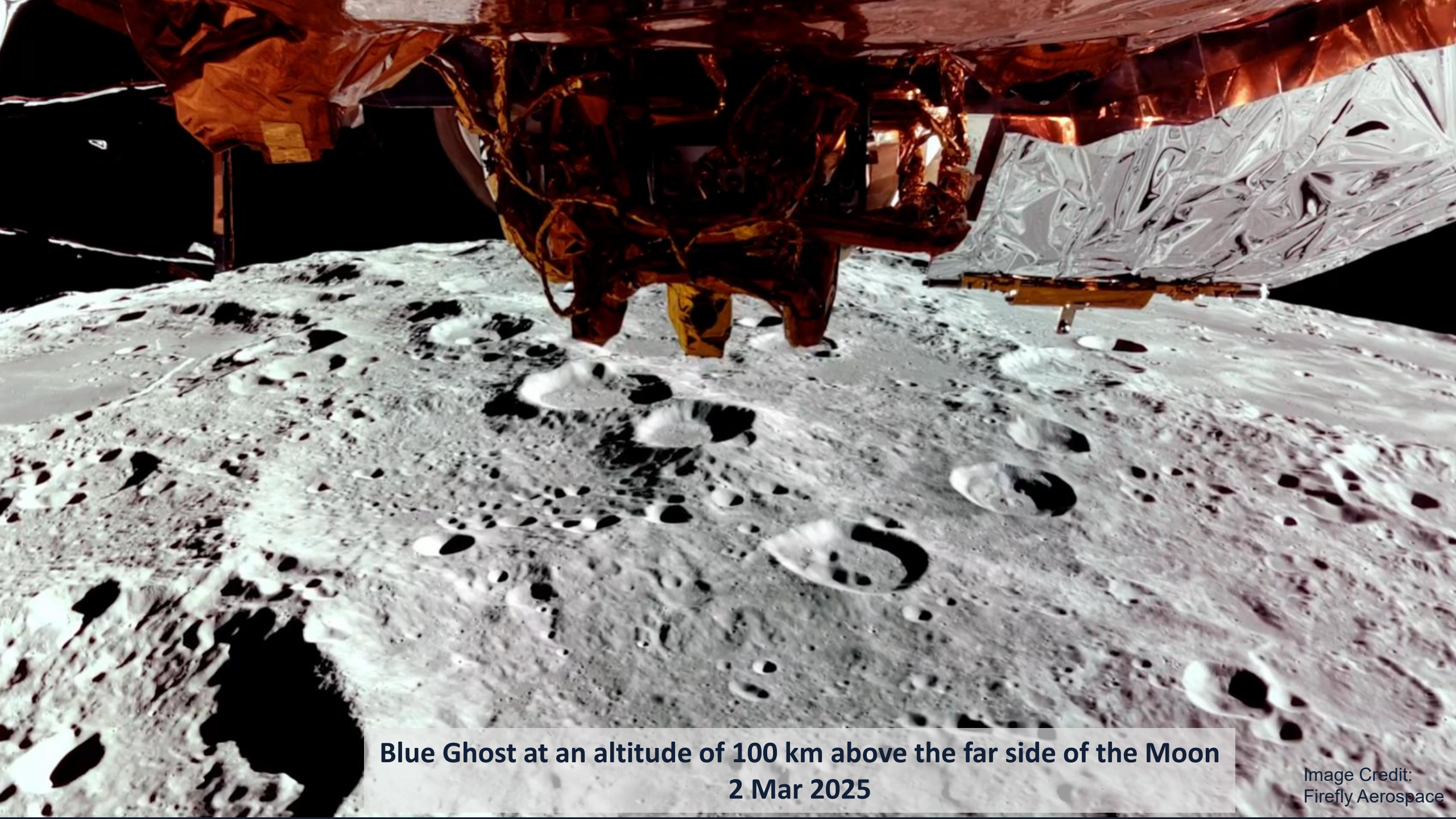


Image Credit: Firefly Aerospace



Image of the Lunar South Pole
14 Feb 2025

Image Credit: Firefly Aerospace

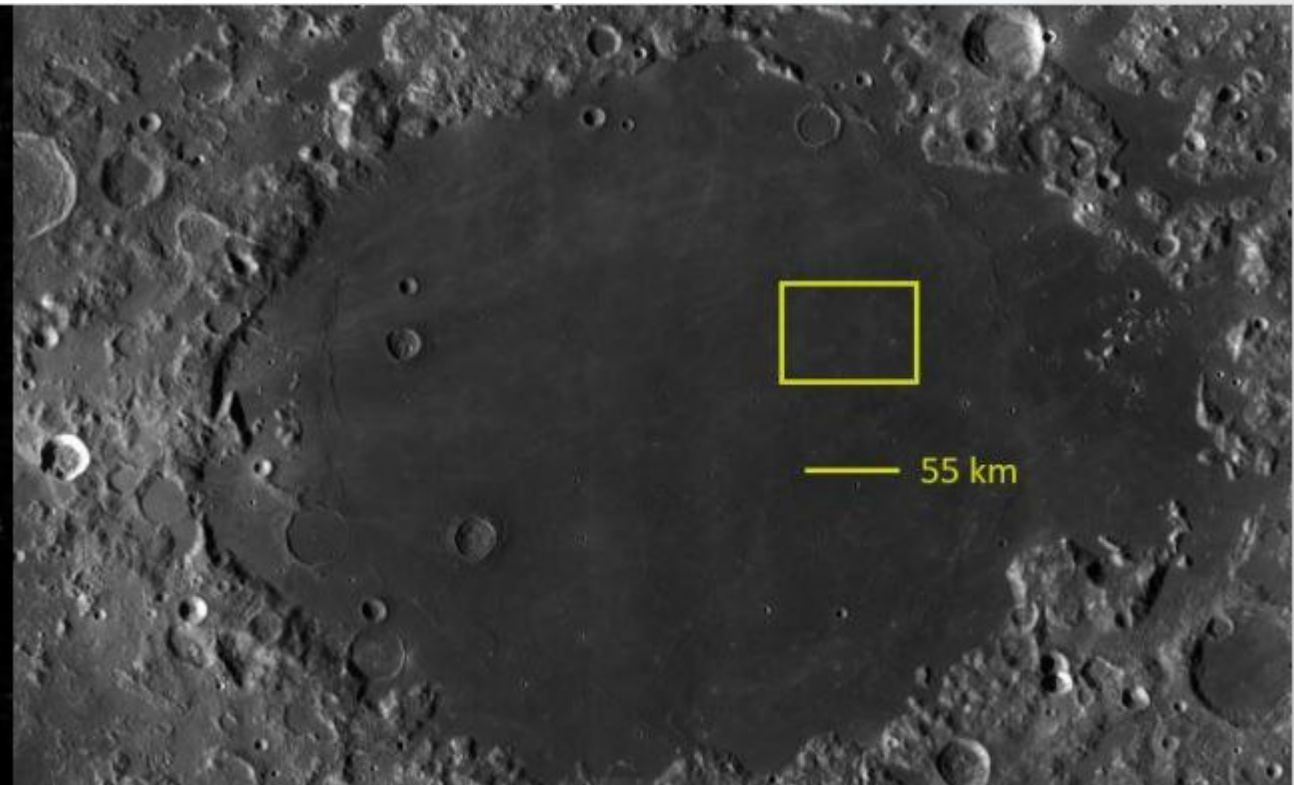
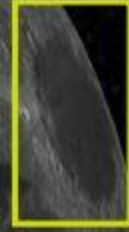


**Blue Ghost at an altitude of 100 km above the far side of the Moon
2 Mar 2025**

Image Credit:
Firefly Aerospace

LANDING SITE

Mare Crisium



Landing Site
18.5604° N
61.8071° E

Mons Latreille



5 km



Shadow of BGM1 on the lunar surface.
2 Mar 2025

Image Credit: Firefly Aerospace



Total solar eclipse observed by Mare Crisium, with re-emergence of the Sun.
14 Mar 2025

Image Credit: Firefly Aerospace



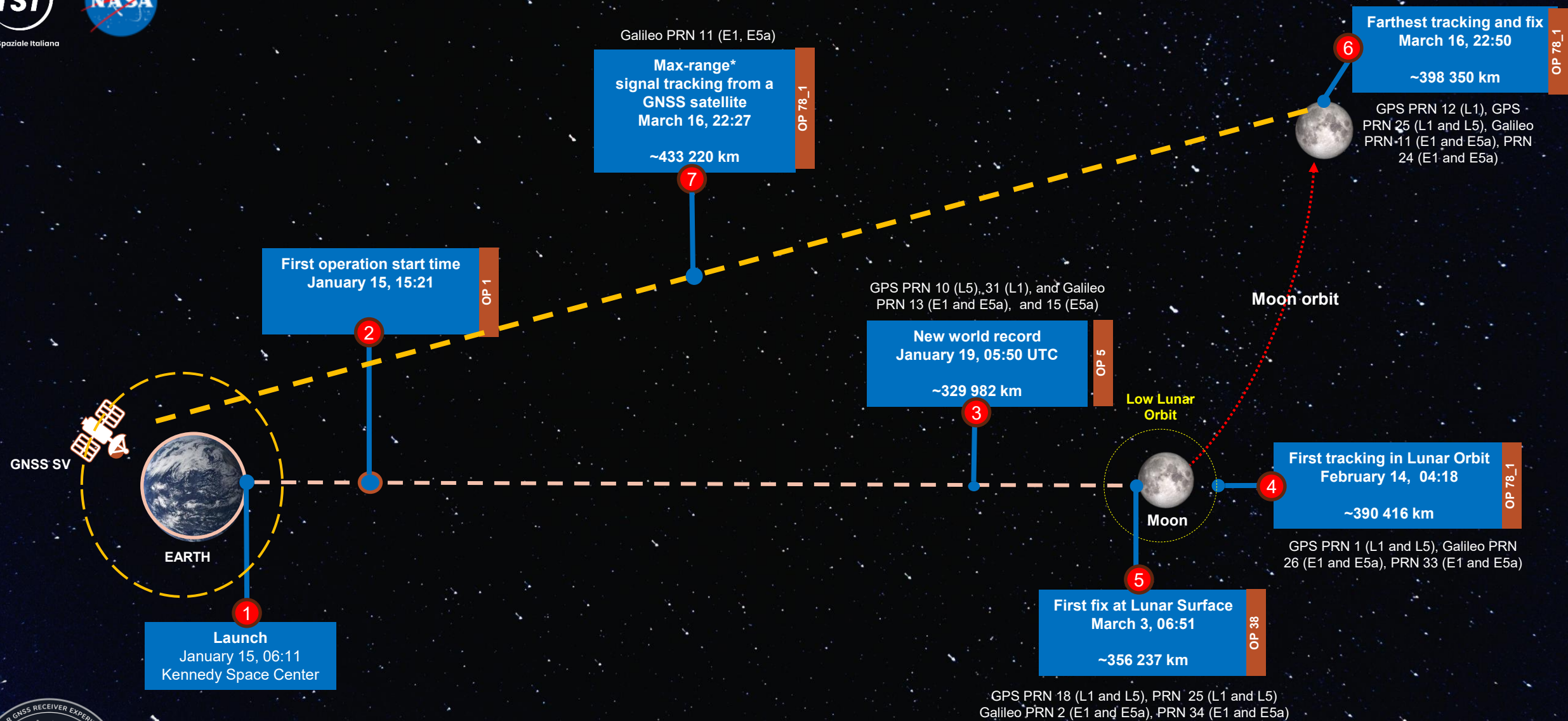
Sunset observed from the Moon.
16 Mar 2025

LUGRE HIGHLIGHTS & INITIAL RESULTS

05



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NOTES: diagram not to scale

All times are expressed in UTC; distances are altitude from Earth geoid

*The max range is computed from the Galileo GSAT0101 position to the Lander location

PRN = pseudo-random noise

SV = space vehicle

Payload Operations

- 16 in-flight operations (Earth-Moon transit + lunar orbit)
- 111+ hours total activity, incl. 95+ hours on the Moon
- 106+ hours in real-time processing (RTP);
- 12 s of IQ samples collected

Technical Performance

- Tracked GPS & Galileo (L1, L5, E1, E5a)
- Operated with both redundant receivers; demonstrated switching
- Maintained $<1^\circ$ Earth-pointing accuracy during ops

Tracking Achievements & PVT Records

- ✓ Record tracking distance: 433,220 km (Galileo PRN 11)
- ✓ First-ever GNSS fix in lunar orbit
- ✓ First GNSS fix on lunar surface
- ✓ Farthest GNSS fix: 398,350 km from Earth

Received: d month yyyy | Revised: d month yyyy | Accepted: d month yyyy
DOI: 10.1109/xxxx.xx.xxxx

REGULAR PAPERS



GNSS Reception at the Moon: First Results of the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE)

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³NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC, USA

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Fabio Dovis, Email: fabio.dovis@polito.it

Abstract

This article presents a comprehensive overview of the successful execution of the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE), the first known demonstration of GNSS signal acquisition, tracking, and navigation near and on the Moon. A general overview of the mission, payload, and ground system is provided. The as-flown mission profile is described in detail across Earth-Moon transit, low lunar orbit, and lunar surface phases. A description of the high-level results of the mission are presented, including an evaluation of the C/N_0 ; the quality of the pseudorange and carrier phase measurements; the signal availability; the results of real-time least-squares position, velocity, and time estimation by the on-board receiver; and an evaluation of the in-phase and quadrature samples captured during the mission. Finally, key observations for future lunar GNSS users are discussed. The article also serves as a reference guide to the unique open dataset released by the project.

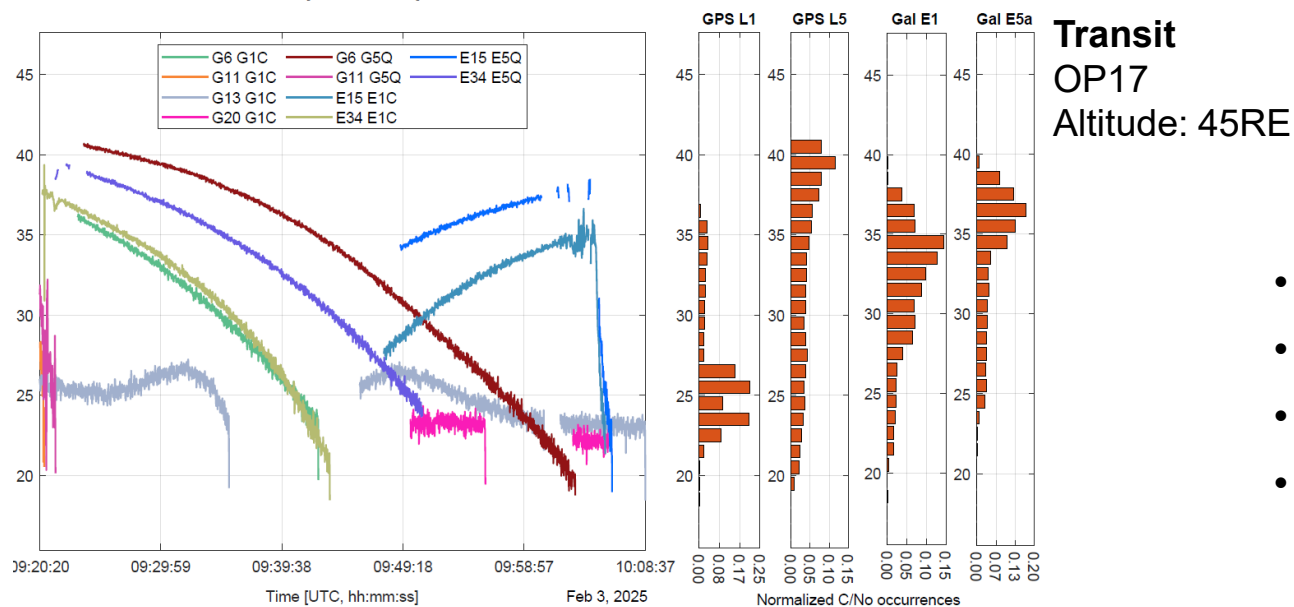
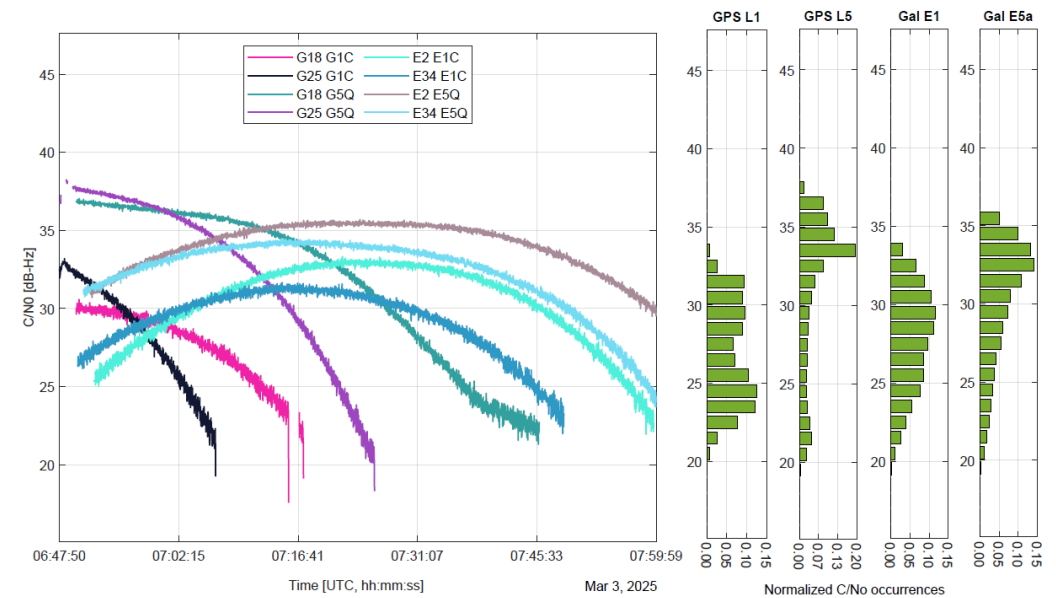
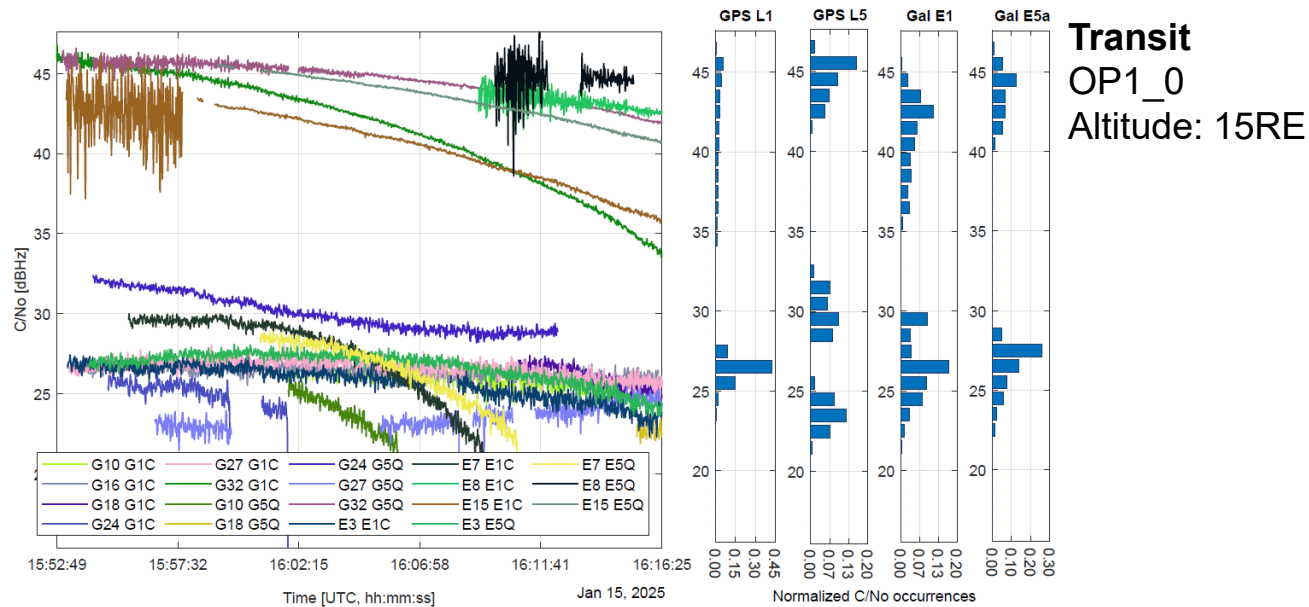
Keywords

Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE), GNSS, GPS, Galileo, Firefly Aerospace, Blue Ghost Mission 1 (BGMI), Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS), Lunar PNT, Lunar navigation, Space service volume

LuGRE Reference Paper

Parker, J. J. K., Dovis, et al. (2026). *GNSS reception at the Moon: First results of the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE)*. Institute of Navigation Mar 2026, 73 navi.756; DOI: 10.33012/navi.756

Results: Received Signal Strength (C/N₀)

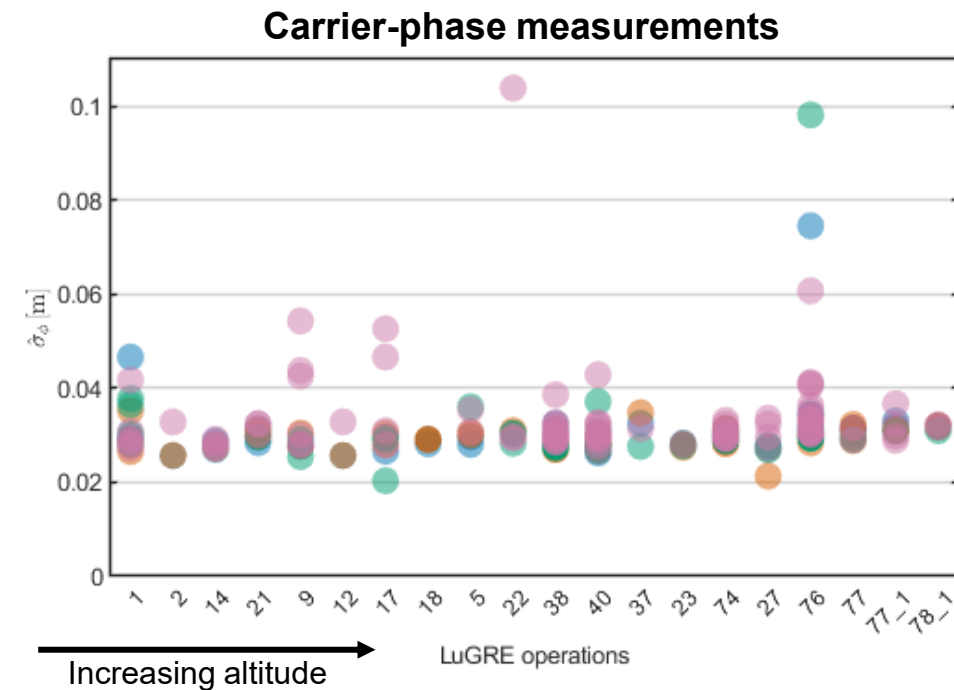
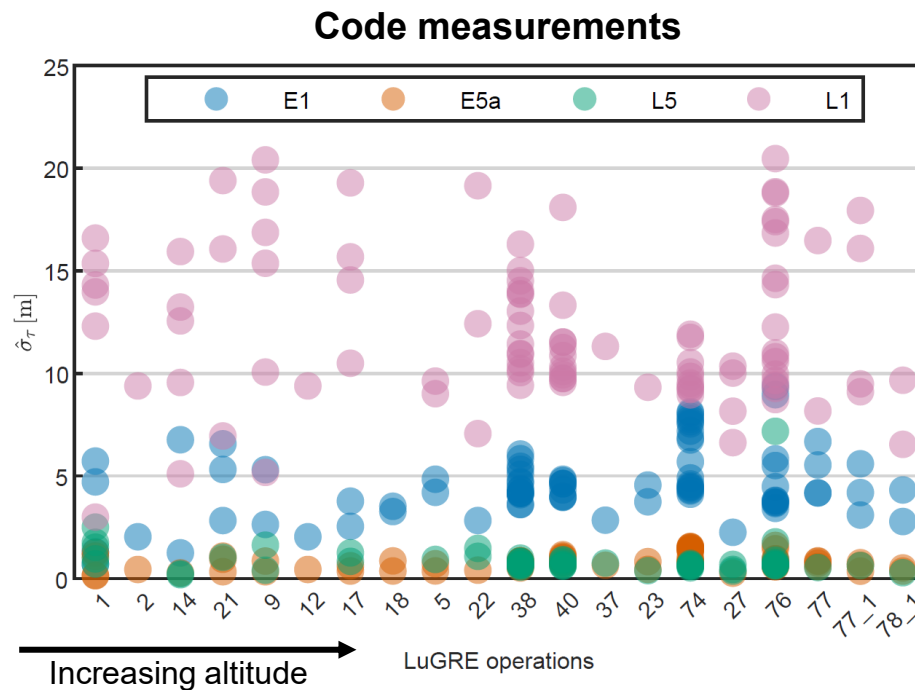


Lunar surface
Altitude: 55RE
(OP38, first 72 min)

- Plots show received C/N₀ at three example operations
- Mixture of GPS, Galileo, L1/E1, L5/E5a in all cases
- Distinct separation between **main lobes** and **sidelobes**
- Only main lobes present in OP38 example; sidelobes tracked occasionally on lunar surface

Results: Measurement Quality

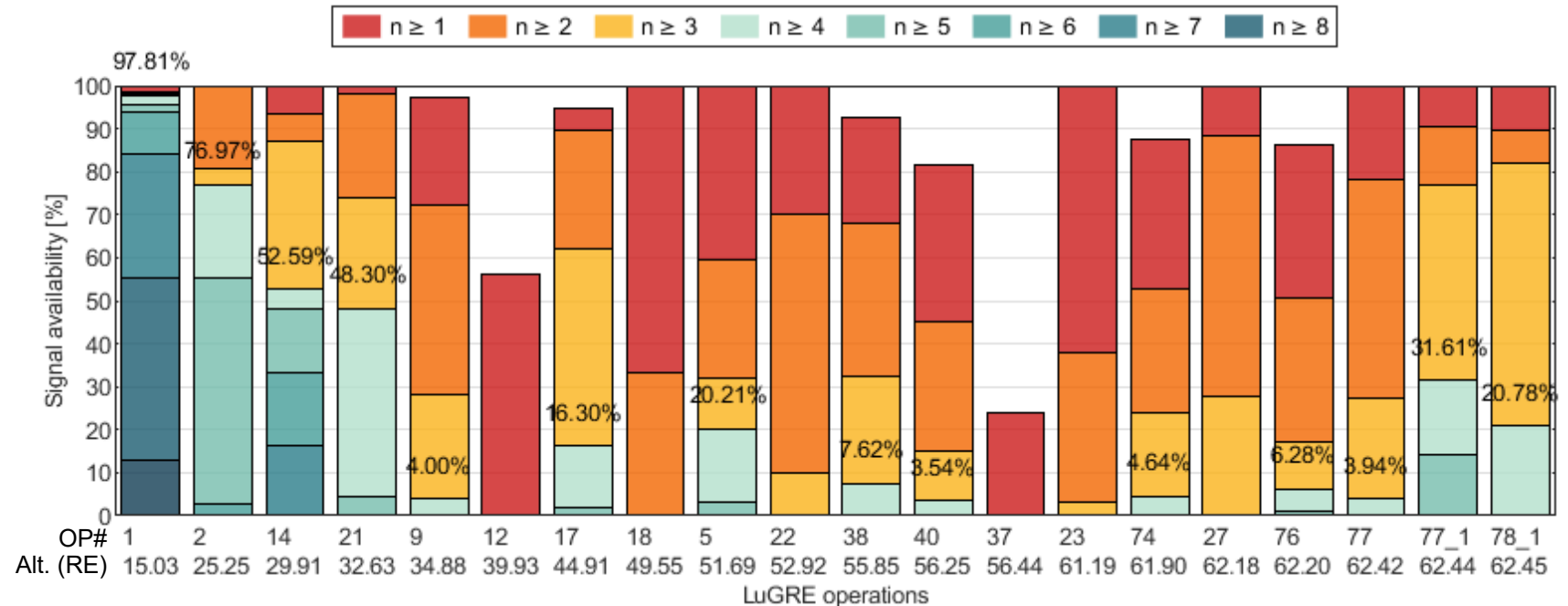
- Standard deviation of detrended code and carrier-phase measurements to isolate short-term variations due to receiver noise
- Statistics accumulated for each PRN over full operation window.
- In general, results show measurement quality in all mission phases comparable to typical terrestrial receivers
- Measurement noise behavior is as expected
 - L5/E5a measurements show lower measurement noise than L1/E1
 - Carrier-phase noise two orders of magnitude less than code measurement noise



Results: Signal Availability (multifreq., multiconst.)



- High degree of availability of at least one signal across full altitude range
- least-squares solution availability (4+ unique signals) decreased with altitude, but remained even during long-duration lunar surface operations
- L5/E5a contributed to PVT availability: 1–5% increase in long-duration lunar surface operations
- Limited availability (e.g., OP12, OP22 and OP37) was conditioned by poor geometrical visibility

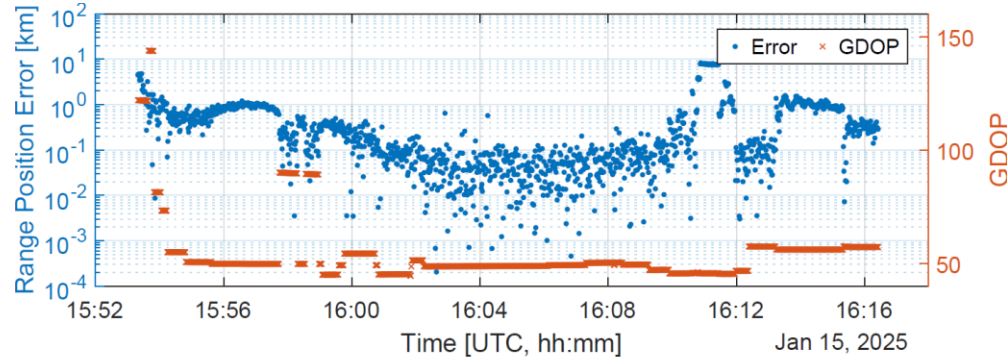


PVT availability (4+ unique signals)										Lunar surface operations				
Metric / OP ID	1	2	14	21	12	17	5	23	74	27	76	77	77_1	78_1
L1/E1 (%)	97.81	61.35	0.00	3.70	52.59	0.00	13.10	1.44	1.43	1.43	0.87	3.00	4.09	20.48
L1/E1+L5/E5 (%)	97.81	76.97	20.21	4.00	52.59	16.30	48.30	7.62	3.54	4.64	5.94	3.94	31.61	20.78
Gain (%)	0.00	15.62	20.21	0.30	0.00	16.30	35.20	6.18	2.11	3.21	5.07	0.94	27.52	0.30

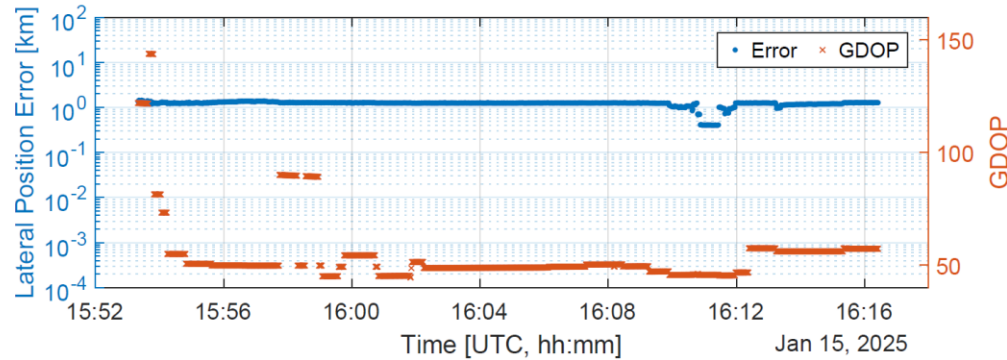
Results: State Estimation (PVT)

Range
position
error

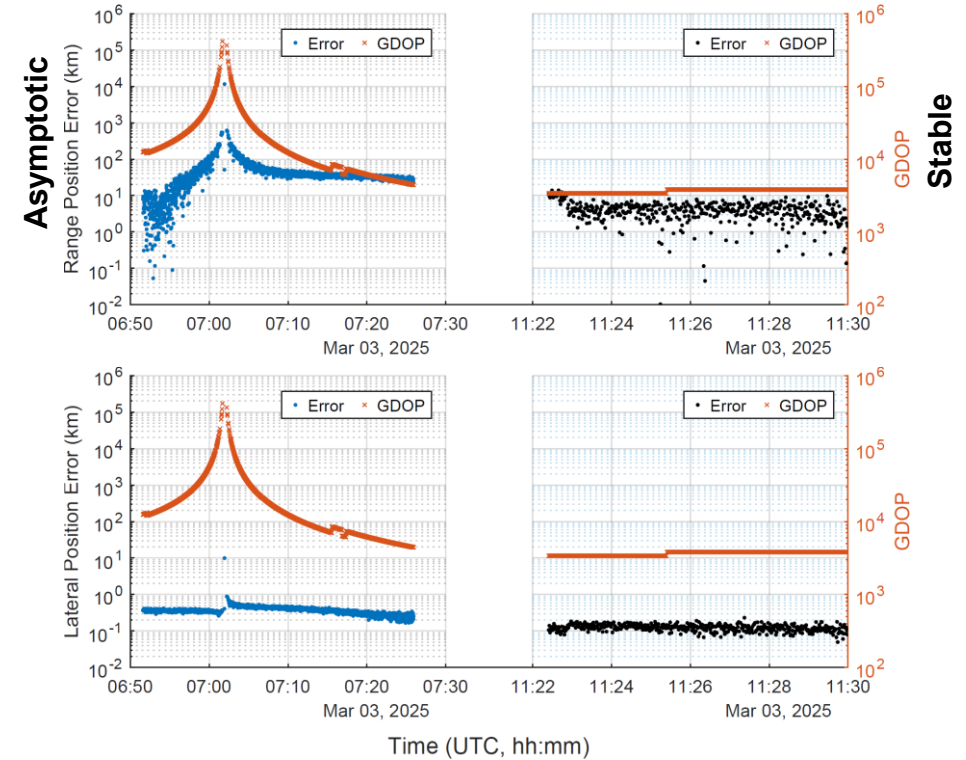
15RE altitude (OP1)



Lateral
position
error
(RSS)



Lunar surface (OP38, two PVT instances)



- LuGRE receiver calculated both least-squares PVT and Kalman filter POD multiconstellation solutions.
- Plots describe PVT solution position error with respect to Firefly definitive ephemeris and GDOP
- At 15RE, behavior is as expected – GDOP near 50, position errors around 1km in all directions
- On lunar surface, both an asymptotic and a stable DOP case are shown.

asymptotic case is caused by temporary alignment of GNSS planes as seen by receiver – DOP discontinuity causes highly elevated range position error.

Stable case shows effect of correlation between range and clock bias states – range error ~10km, lateral error ~100m

05

LUGRE OBSERVATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED



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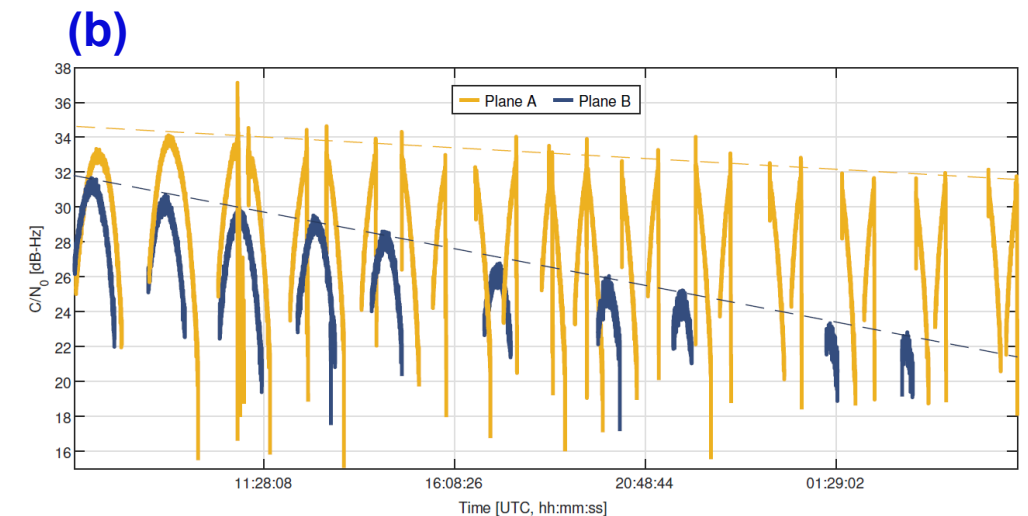
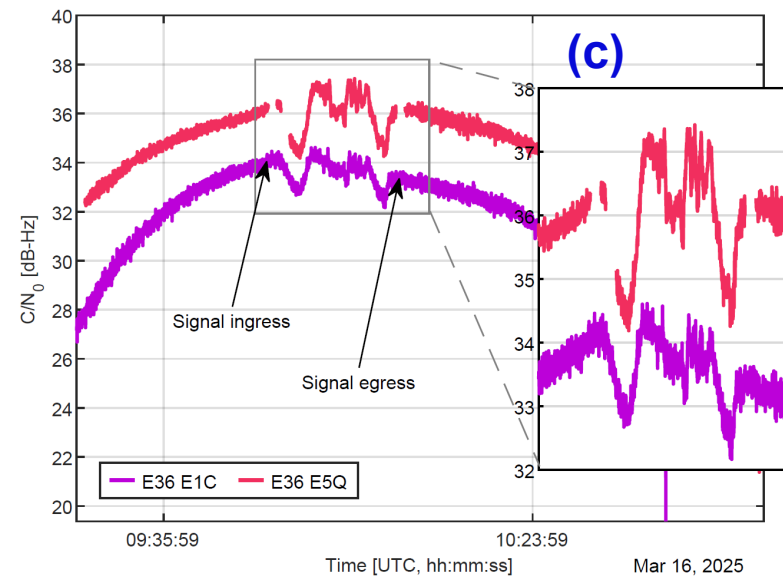
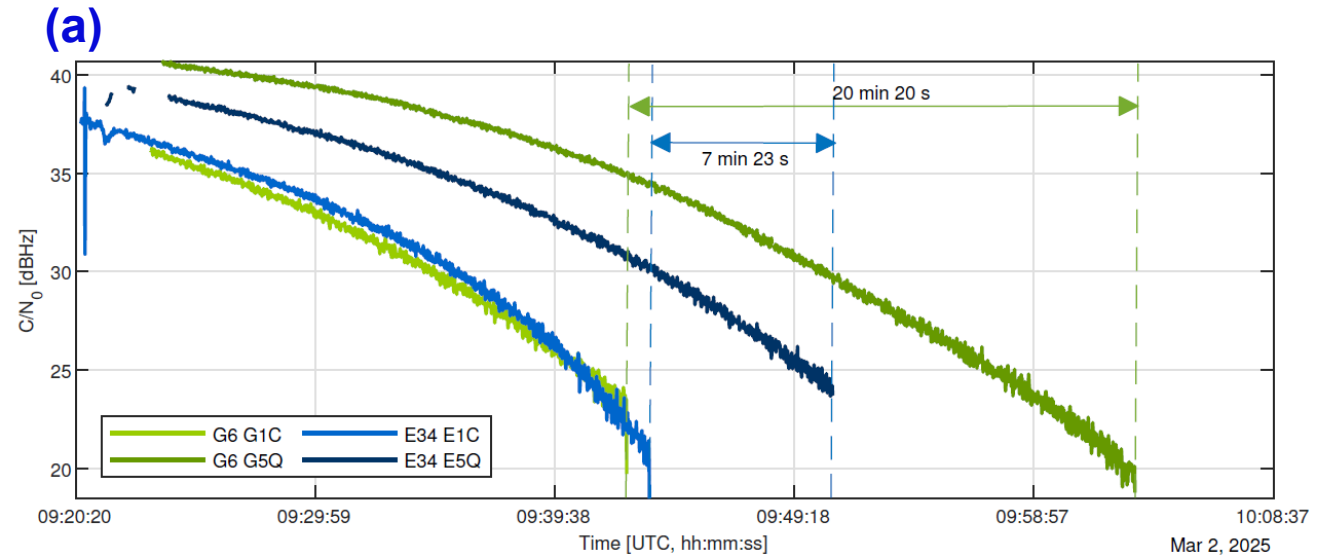
Observations

Overall remarks

- GPS and Galileo L1/E1 and L5/E5a signals can be acquired, tracked, and used for navigation at the Moon – using both main lobes and side lobes.
- Measurements quality vs. est. C/N₀ is consistent with measurements from typical terrestrial receivers.

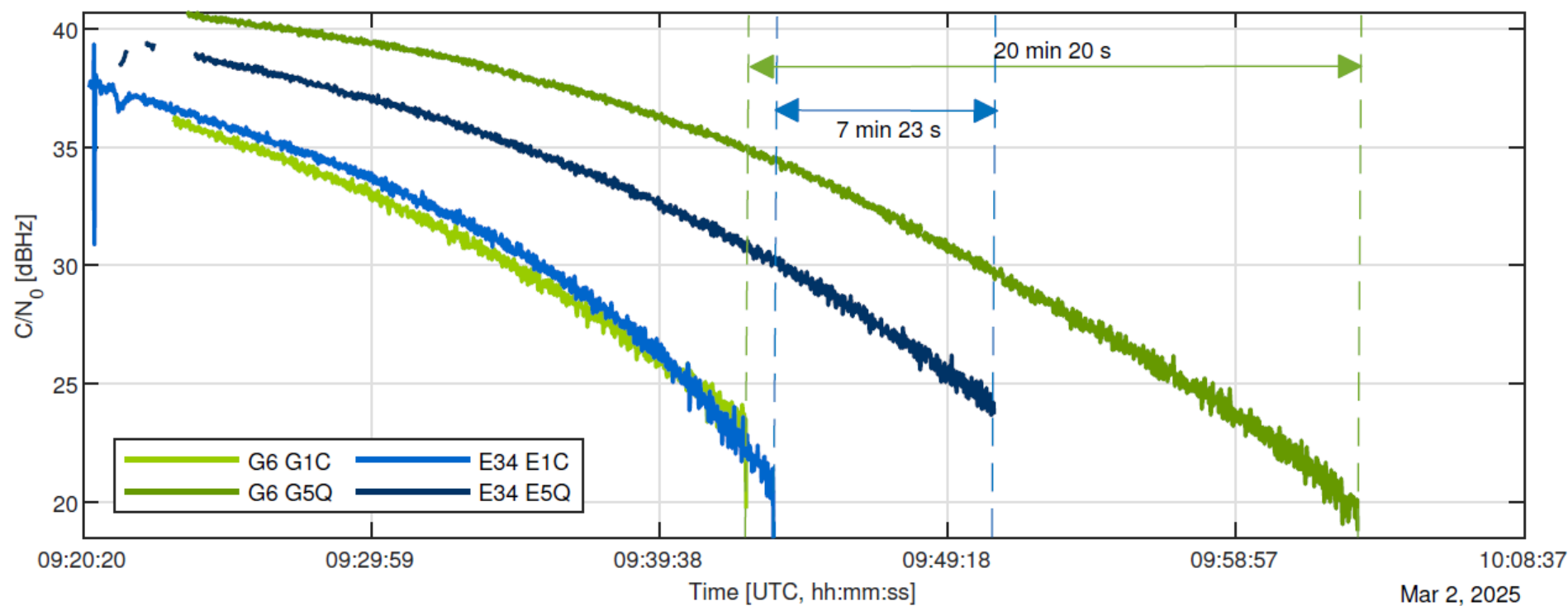
Peculiar observations (details on next slides)

- L5/E5a offers better C/N₀ and longer trackable signals than L1/E1. **(a)**
- Phasing significantly affects main lobe visibility, esp. for Galileo. **(b)**
- Ionospheric signature visible in C/N₀. **(c)**



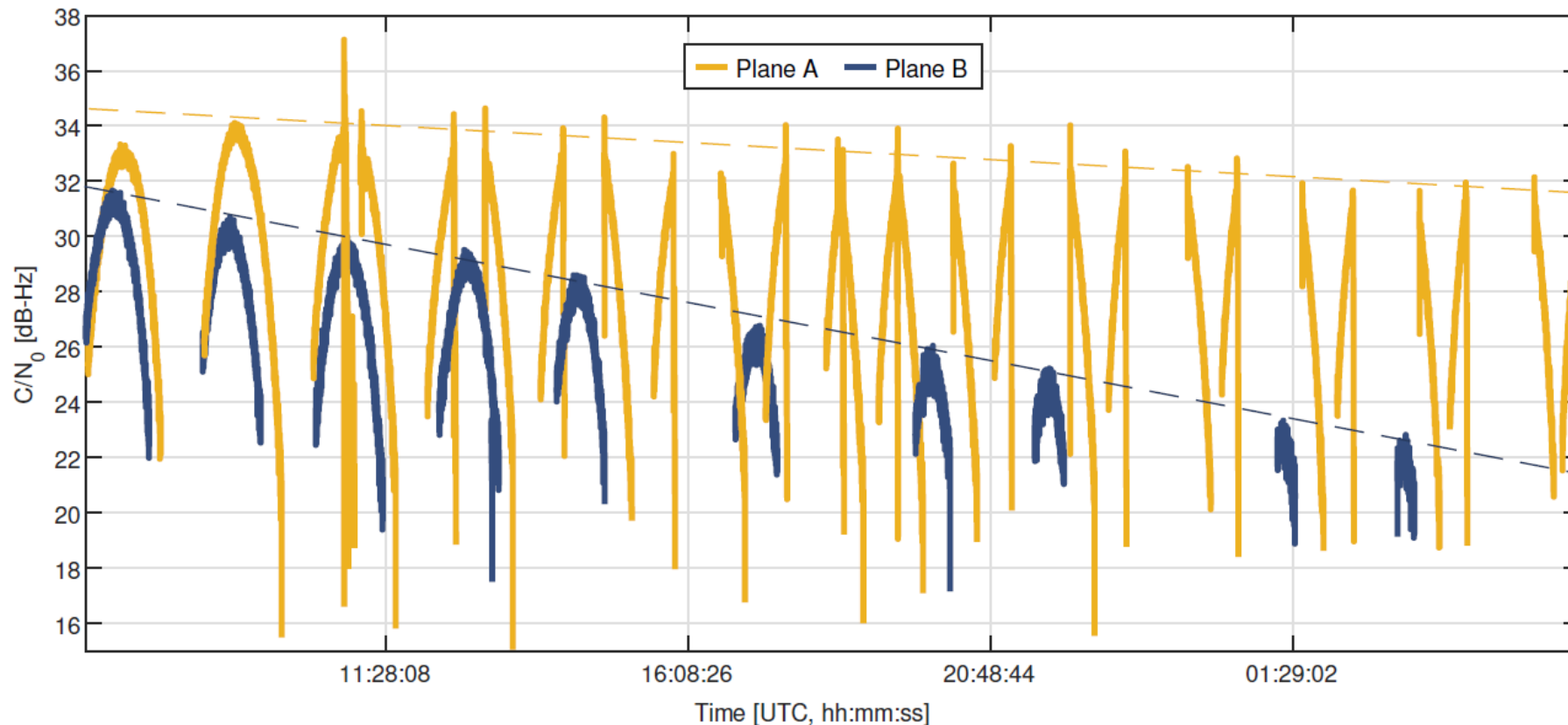
Observations (a)

- GPS and Galileo L1/E1 and L5/E5a signals can be acquired, tracked, and used for navigation at the Moon – using both main lobes and side lobes.
- Measurements show good stability over time (except when Earth limb/ionosphere occultation is experienced) and low standard deviation, consistent with measurements from typical terrestrial receivers.
- L5/E5a offers higher C/N_0 and longer trackable signals than L1/E1. This has a direct impact on signal and least squares solutions availability



Observations (b)

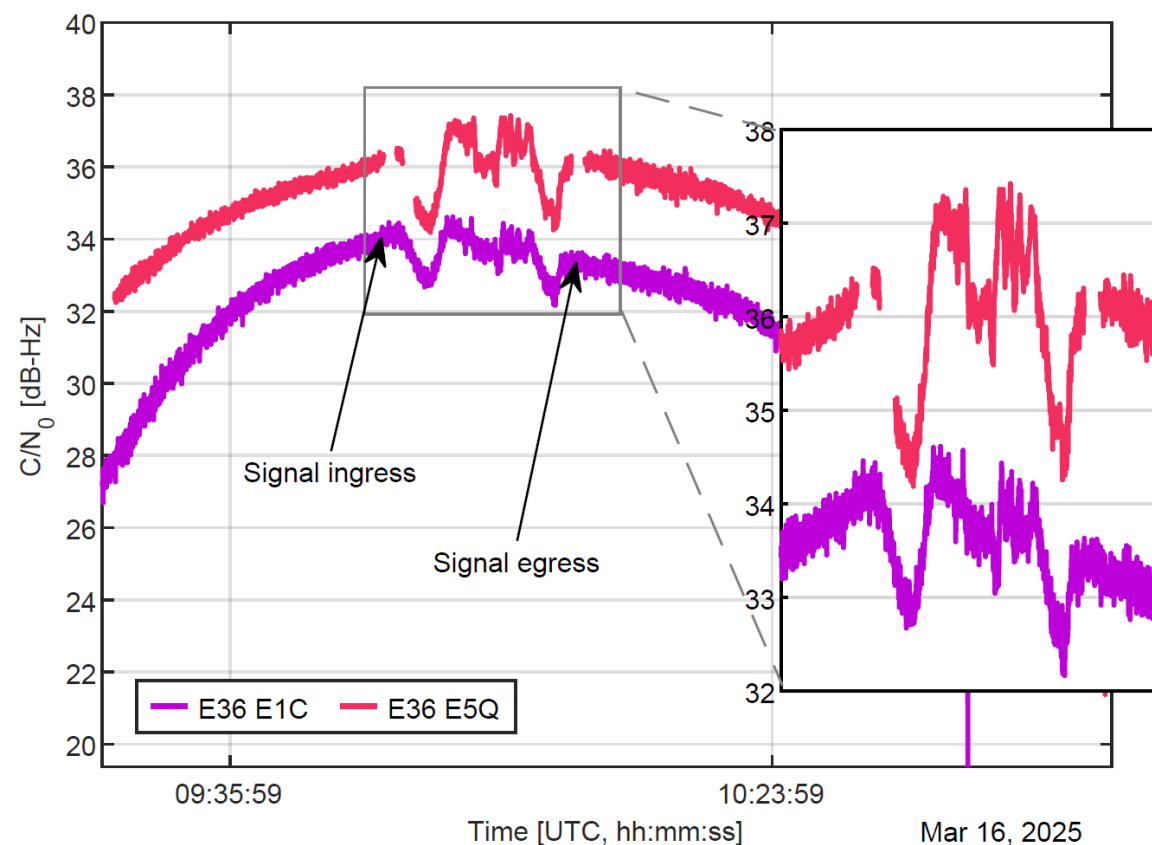
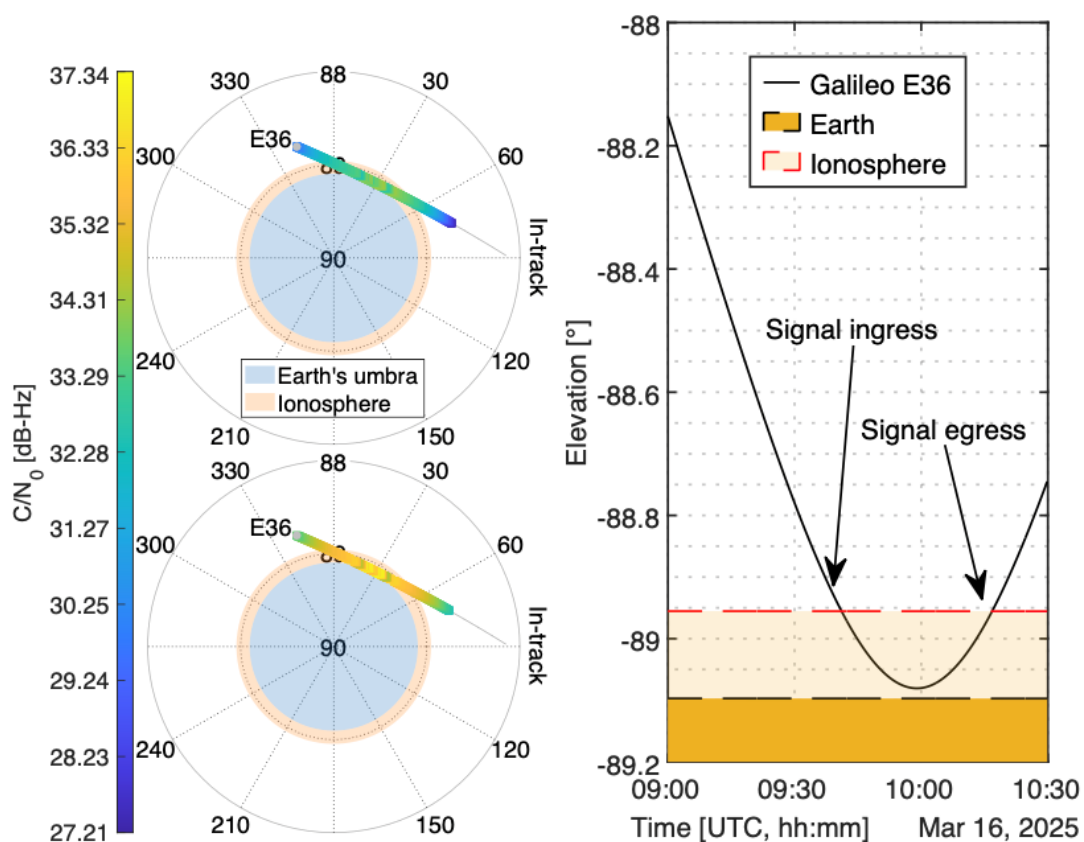
- GNSS satellite phasing due to orbital planes design significantly affects main lobe visibility, esp. for Galileo.
- Unprecedented experimental assessment (previously observed in different simulation scenarios)
- This partly contribute to a limited signal and least square solution availability on lunar surface



- Dashed curves highlight the decreasing trend over time by linearly interpolating peak C/N_0 observations
- Linear decrement (in dB scale) of C/N_0 experienced over time
- Difficult to observe over short timespan

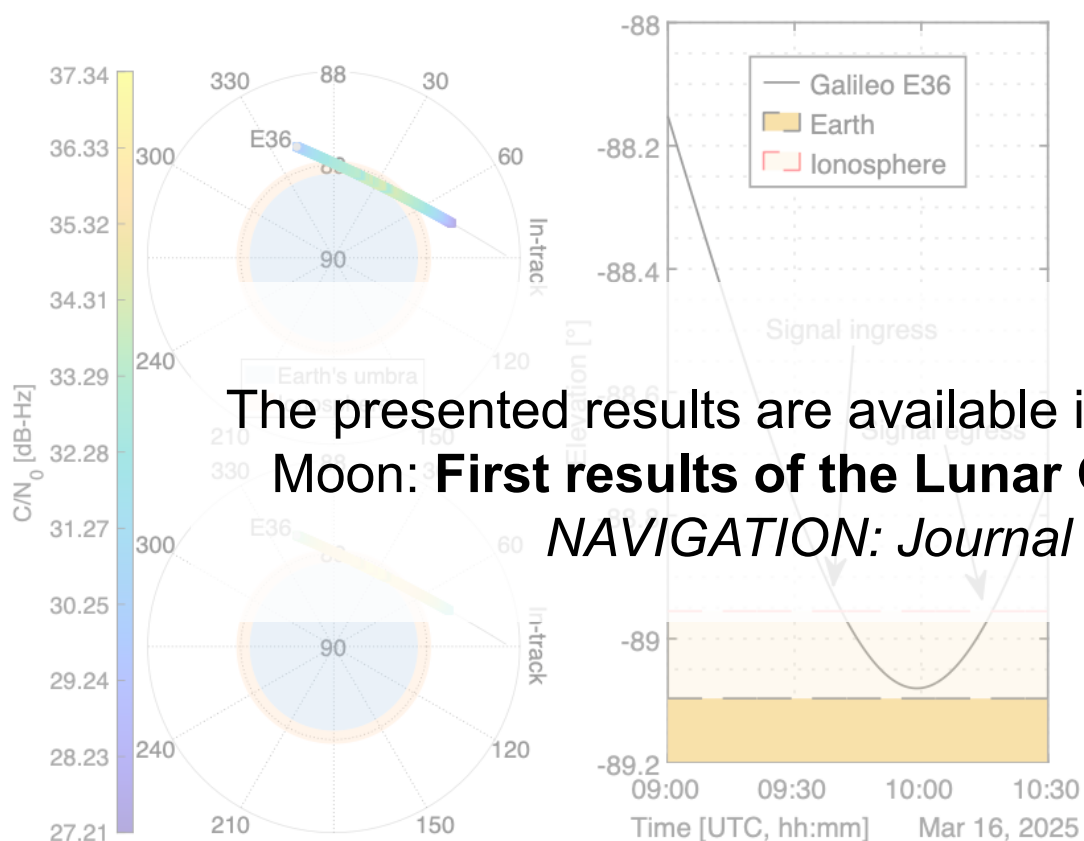
Observations (c)

- Ionospheric signature visible on C/N_0 time series (multi-frequency example in figure)
- Signal propagation transitions due to ionosphere were observed in several OP from transit to surface phase
- Signal tracking was kept stably by LuGRE payload, especially on L1/E1 band, but measurements reliability may be reduced

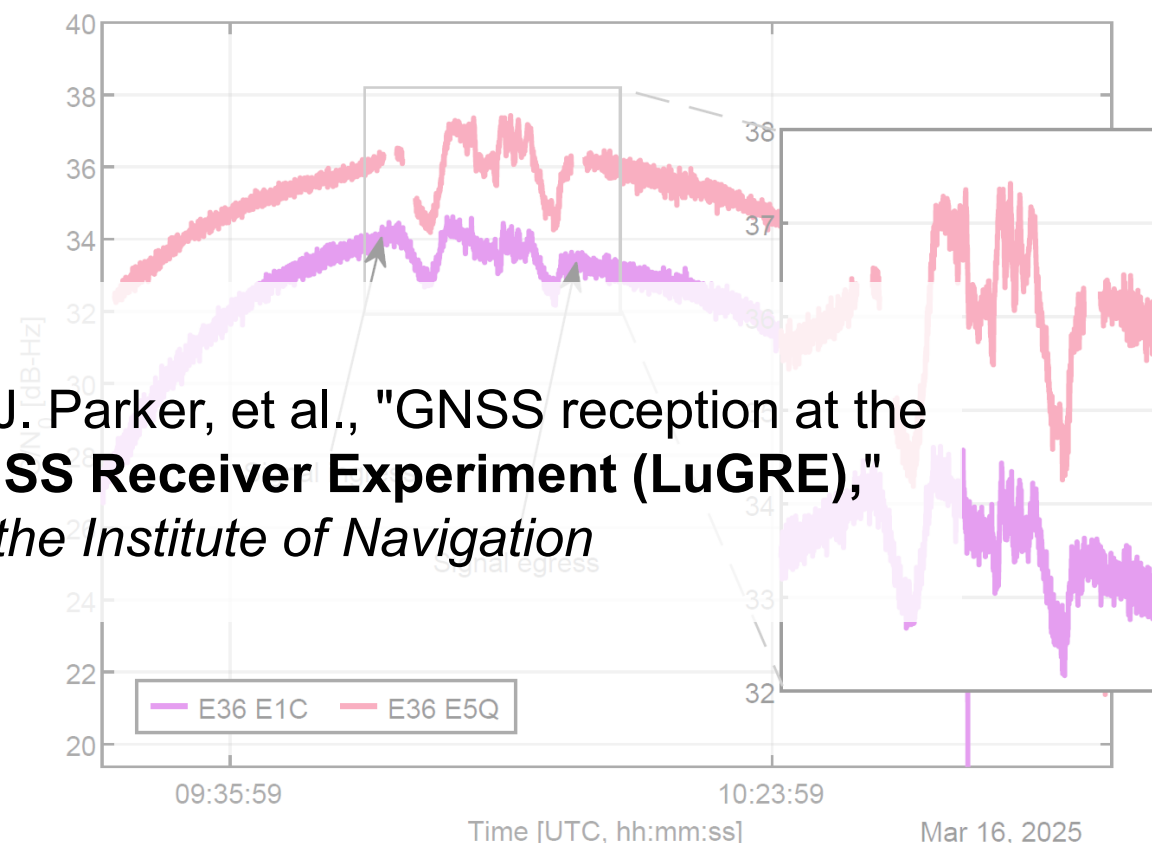


Observations (c)

- Ionospheric signature visible on C/N_0 time series (multi-frequency example in figure)
- Signal propagation transitions due to ionosphere were observed in several OP from transit to surface phase
- Signal tracking was kept stably by LuGRE payload, especially on L1/E1 band

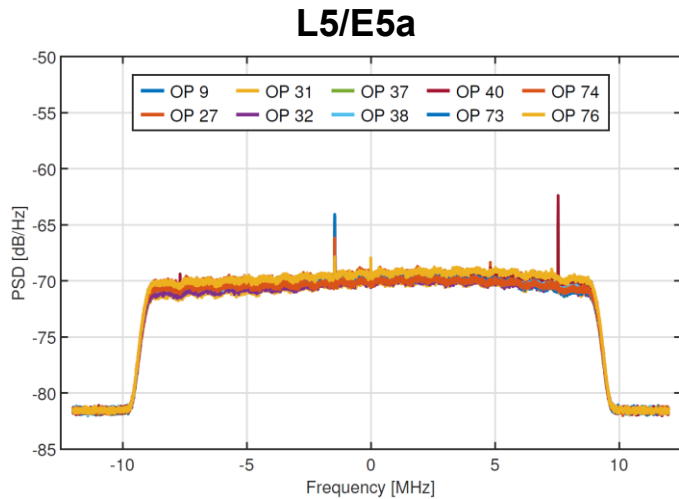
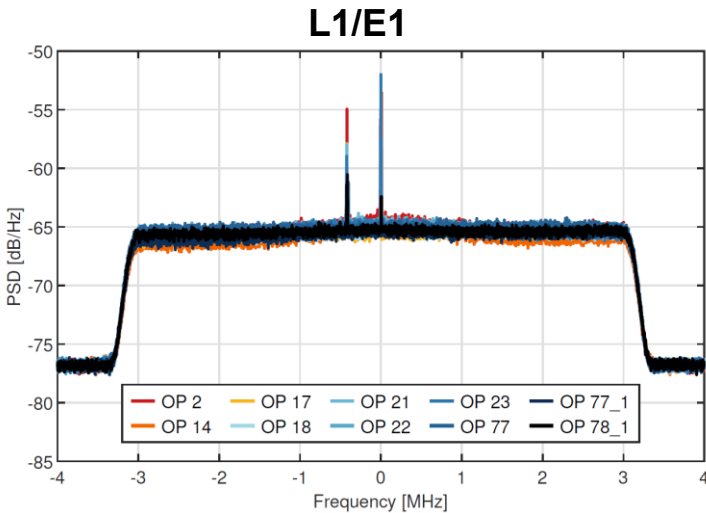


The presented results are available in: J. Parker, et al., "GNSS reception at the Moon: **First results of the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE),**" *NAVIGATION: Journal of the Institute of Navigation*



Post-processing IQ: Spectral Density

- LuGRE captured IQ samples during nearly all operations – 12s of samples total
- Configurable parameters:
 - Bands: L1/E1 only, L5/E5a only, dual-band
 - Sample rate: 8–12 Msps (L1/E1), 24 Msps (L5/E5a)
 - Quantization: 4–8 bits/sample
 - Duration: 200–800 ms (transit+surface) + 2000 ms (2x on surface)
- Executed immediately before or after real-time processing experiment
- Welch plots show spurious peak in both frequencies, likely caused by EMI
- Addition of cascading notch filter in postprocessing to exclude peak results in acquisition C/N_0 increase of <0.2 dB – shows that this peak does not significantly affect overall signal strength seen during operations.

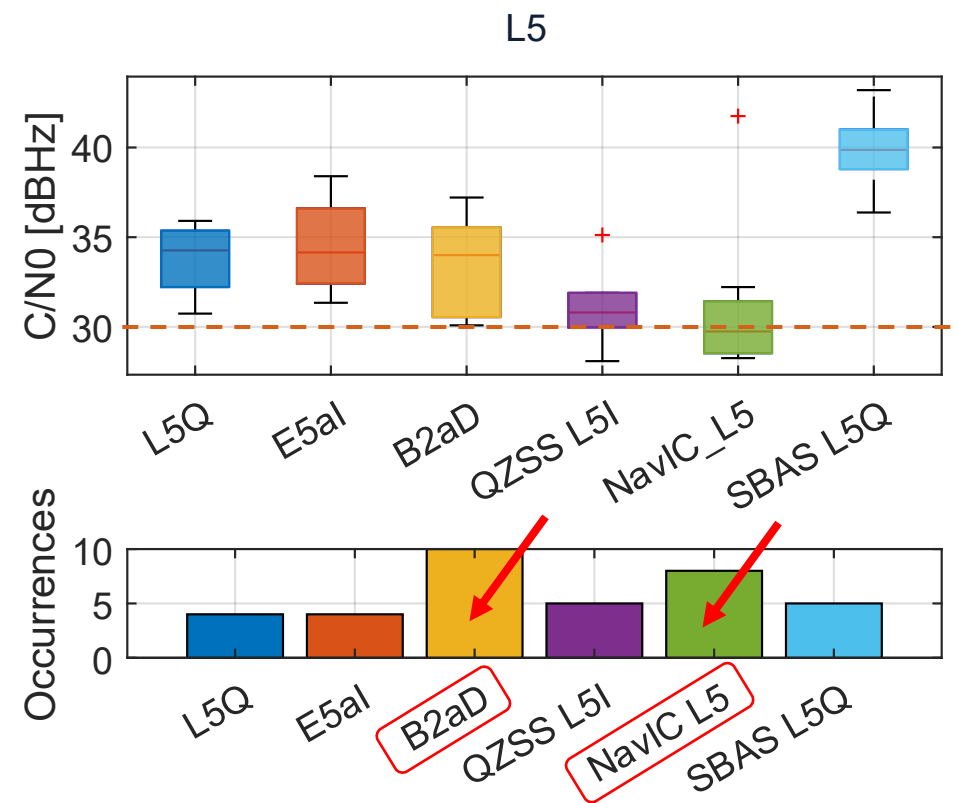
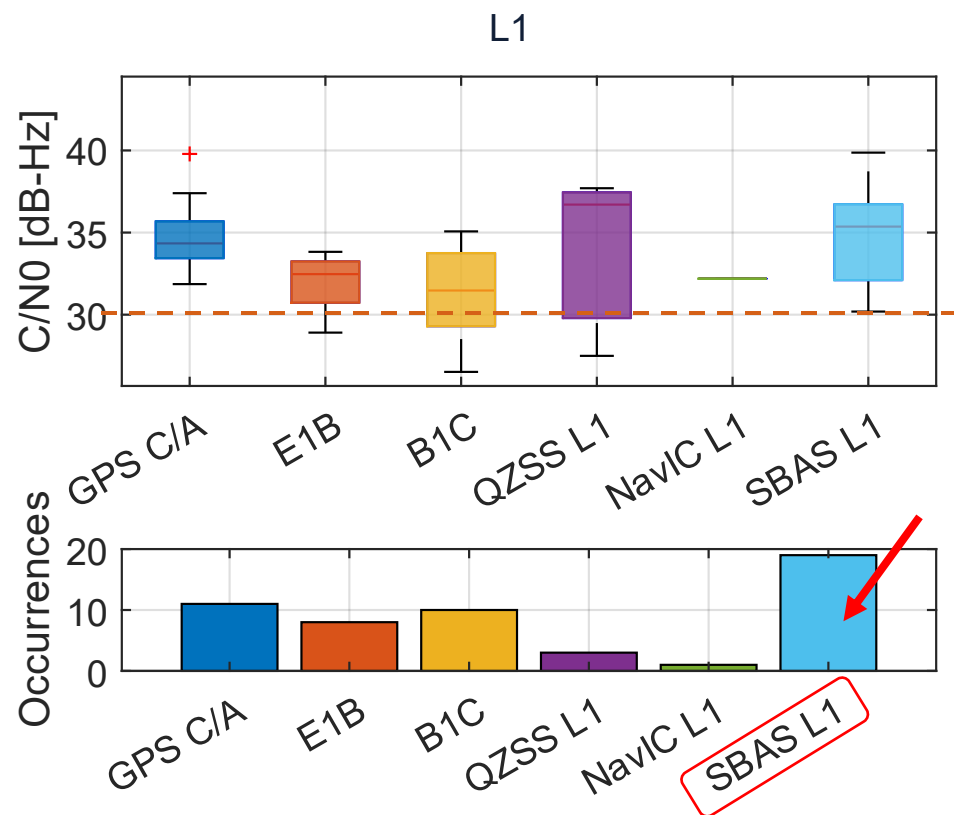


EMI peak can be removed via cascading notch filter; shows EMI has little impact on C/N_0

Signal, PRN	Est. C/N_0 (dB-Hz)			Doppler Shift (kHz)			C/N_0 Increase due to Filtering (dB)
	IQS	ACQ	Filtered IQS	IQS	ACQ	Filtered IQS	
GPS L1 C/A, 18	39.21	40.81	39.30	-10.800	-12.448	-10.800	0.09
GPS L1 C/A, 24	37.03	40.63	37.19	-3.100	-4.7477	-3.100	0.16

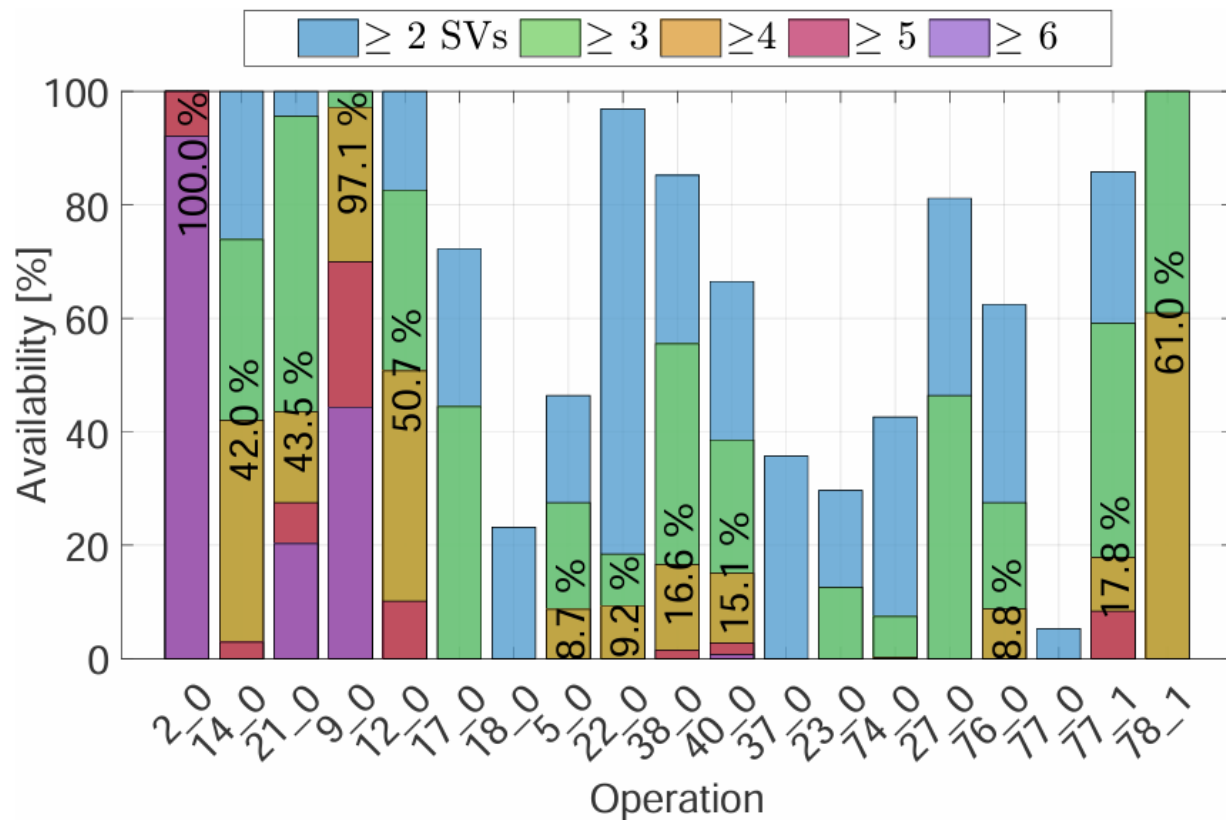
IQS batches are part of public dataset

Post-processing IQ: Signals Acquisition

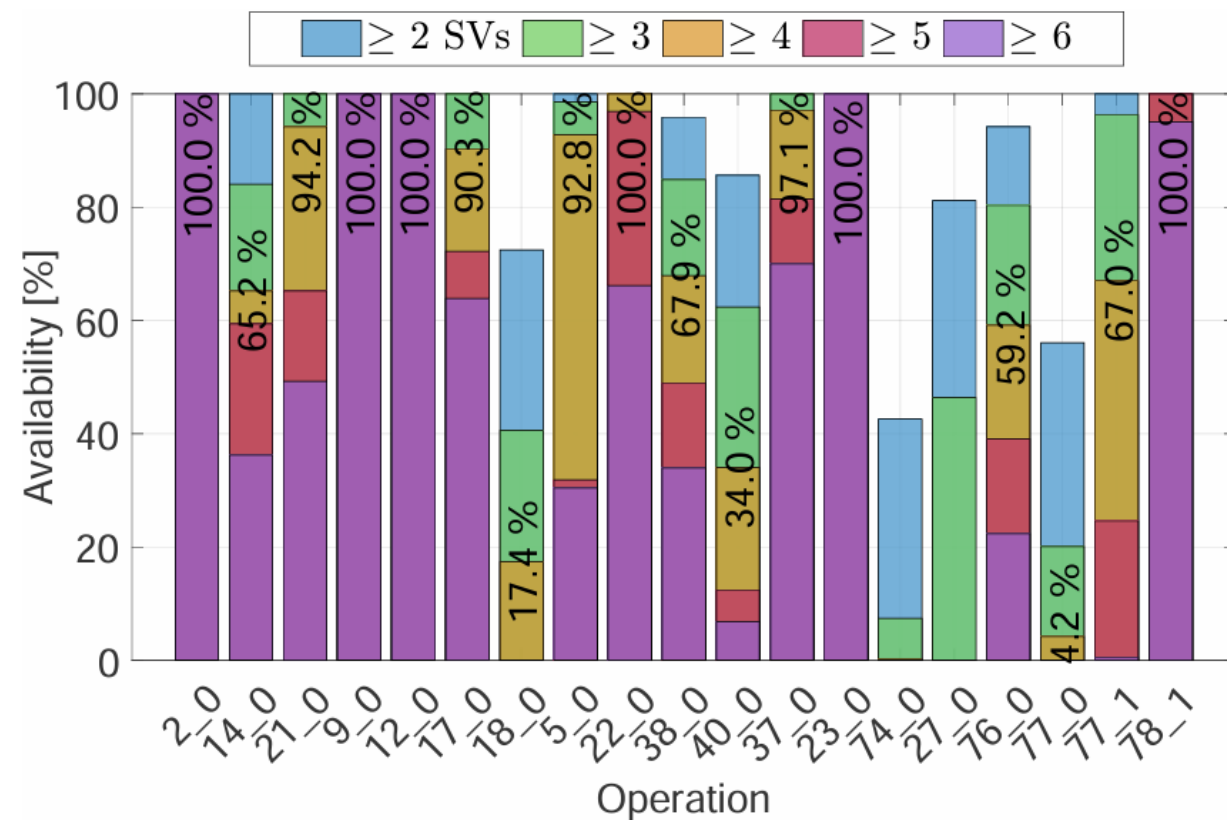


- Over all Ops, relatively strong signals from all the tested systems
- Statistical characterization of C/N_0 is still weak due the limited occurrences of signals and data (insufficient statistics)
- SBAS L1, B2aD, and NavIC L5 showed a remarkable number of occurrences.

Post-processing IQ: Signals Acquisition



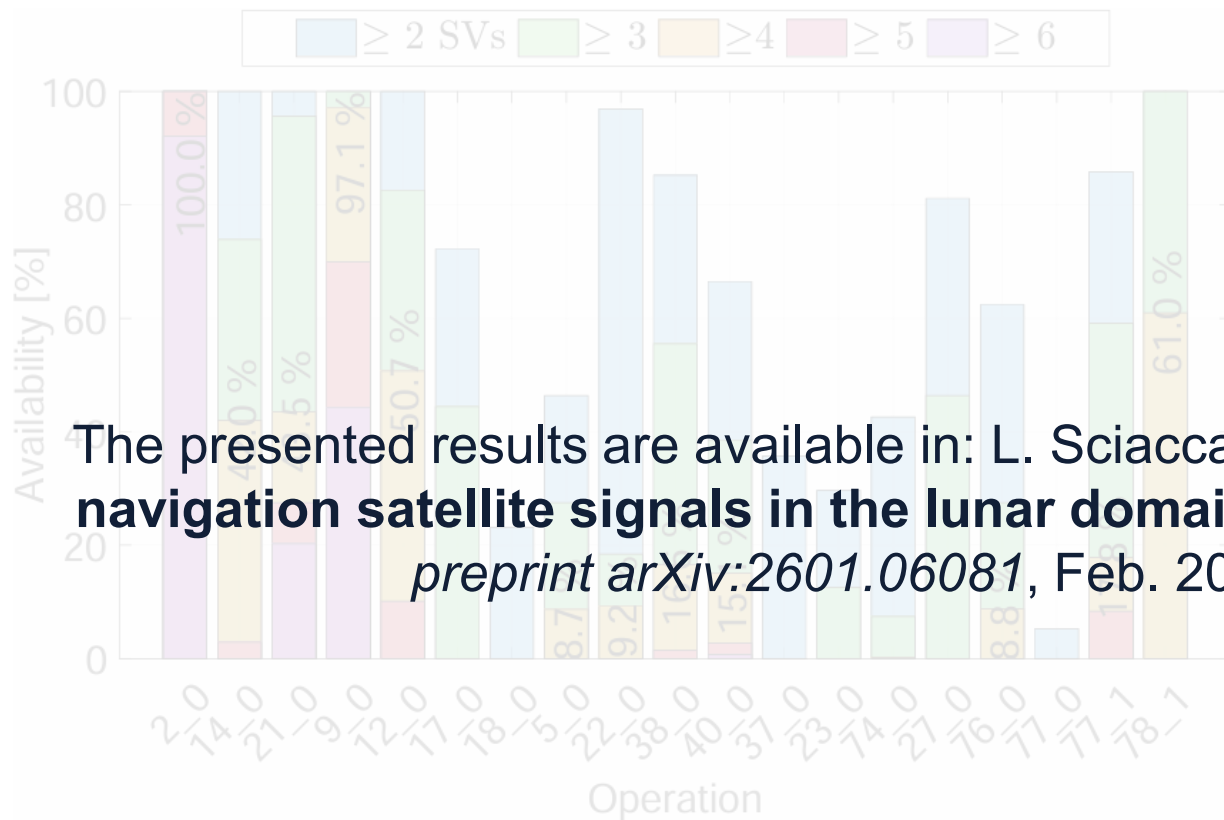
(a) GPS + Galileo



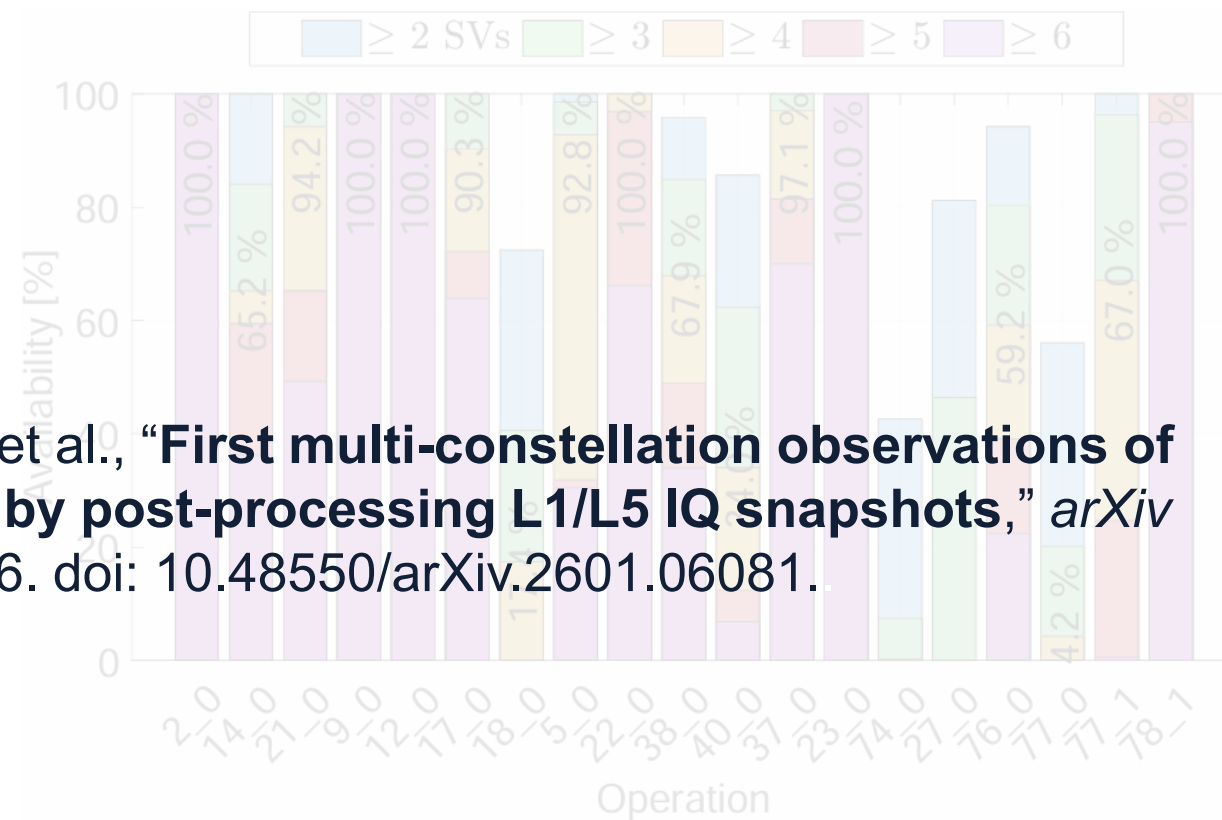
(b) GNSS + RNSS + SBAS

- Availability of signals from distinct GNSS satellites above the C/N0 threshold. **Percentages are shown for $n \geq 4$.**
- Expanding the no. of constellations is proved to have a **remarkable impact on availability**

Post-processing IQ: Signals Acquisition



(a) GPS + Galileo



(b) GNSS + RNSS + SBAS

The presented results are available in: L. Sciacca, et al., **“First multi-constellation observations of navigation satellite signals in the lunar domain by post-processing L1/L5 IQ snapshots,”** *arXiv preprint arXiv:2601.06081*, Feb. 2026. doi: 10.48550/arXiv.2601.06081.

- Availability of signals from distinct GNSS satellites above the C/N0 threshold. Percentages are shown for $n \geq 4$.
- Expanding the no. of constellations is proved to have a **remarkable impact on availability**

LuGRE: Lessons Learned

From first lunar GNSS demonstration to operational lunar PNT design



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- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 01 | Signals are usable | GPS and Galileo L1/L5 were acquired and tracked at lunar distance and on the surface; side-lobes improve availability and continuity. |
| 02 | Design for availability | Multi-constellation and multi-frequency reception is a major gain; L5/E5a offers better C/N0, wider main-lobes, and frequency diversity. |
| 03 | Protect the link budget | At lunar distance, small C/N0 losses can remove signals. Build margin, calibrate the full payload link, and investigate discrepancies. |
| 04 | Aiding and timing matter | Robust time, spacecraft ephemeris and GNSS ephemeris aiding speed acquisition; high-stability clocks become critical for demanding accuracy. |
| 05 | Long Operations + Robust Filters | Long-duration operations help warm-up, clock stability, tracking arcs and filter convergence; sparsity-robust navigation filters and up-to-date Earth-orientation parameters are essential. |
| | Operational heuristics | Warm up hardware when possible acquire L5/E5a directly reject grazing/outlier measurements fuse GNSS with complementary navigation sources |

Bottom line

GNSS at the Moon works but robust use depends on link margin, availability, aiding and filtering.

06

LUGRE LEGACY OPEN DATASET AND PROCESSING TOOL



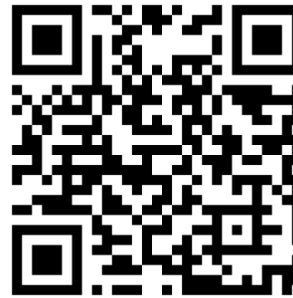
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LuGRE Overview and Results Paper



Find it here:



Most of the results, observations, and lessons learned described before can be found in the LuGRE reference paper.

What it contains

- It brings together the mission context and profile, payload architecture, ground operations, collected data, signal-strength results, measurement quality, signal availability, onboard PVT performance, I/Q sample characterization, and lessons learned for future lunar GNSS users.

Value for the community

- It serves as both a first-results paper and a guide to the LuGRE open data set, enabling researchers to reproduce and build on the mission results for future cislunar and lunar PNT studies.

Received: d month yyyy | Revised: d month yyyy | Accepted: d month yyyy
DOI: 10.1109/xxxx.xx.xxxx

REGULAR PAPERS



GNSS Reception at the Moon: First Results of the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE)

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Abstract

This article presents a comprehensive overview of the successful execution of the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE), the first known demonstration of GNSS signal acquisition, tracking, and navigation near and on the Moon. A general overview of the mission, payload, and ground system is provided. The as-flown mission profile is described in detail across Earth-Moon transit, low lunar orbit, and lunar surface phases. A description of the high-level results of the mission is presented, including an evaluation of the C/N_0 ; the quality of the pseudorange and carrier phase measurements; the signal availability; the results of real-time least-squares position, velocity, and time estimation by the on-board receiver; and an evaluation of the in-phase and quadrature samples captured during the mission. Finally, key observations for future lunar GNSS users are discussed. The article also serves as a reference guide to the unique open dataset released by the project.

Keywords

Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE), GNSS, GPS, Galileo, Firefly Aerospace, Blue Ghost Mission 1 (BGM1), Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS), Lunar PNT, Lunar navigation, Space service volume

LuGRE Reference Paper

Parker, J. J. K., Dovis, et al. (2026). *GNSS reception at the Moon: First results of the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE)*. Institute of Navigation Mar 2026, 73 navi.756; DOI: 10.33012/navi.756

LuGRE Data (Released on Oct. 15 2025)



zenodo

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Published October 15, 2025 | Version v1

Dataset Open

Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE) Mission Data

Parker, Joel J. K. (Contact person)¹ ; Dovis, Fabio (Contact person)² ; Pozzobon, Oscar³ ; Facchinetti, Claudia⁴ ; Anderson, Benjamin⁵ ; Ansalone, Luigi⁴ ; Ashman, Benjamin¹ ; Bauer, Frank H. ; Bernardi, Fabio³ ; Boschiero, Matilde³ ; Campagnolo, Giovanni³ ; D'Amore, Giuseppe⁴ ; Fantinato, Samuele³ ; Fiorina, Francesco² ; Ghedin, Mattia³ ; Guzzi, Salvatore³ ; Heighes, Cory ; Impresario, Gabriele⁴ ; Konitzer, Lauren⁵ ; Martini, Davide³ ; McKim, Stephen⁵ ; Miller, James J. ; Minetto, Alex² ; Miotti, Efer³ ; Montini, Nicola³ ; Morichi, Luca² ; Musmeci, Mario⁴ ; Nardin, Andrea² ; Pino, Tommaso⁴ ; Pulliero, Matteo³ ; Sanathanamurthy, Siddartha ; Sciacca, Lorenzo² ; Tedesco, Simone³ ; Valencia, Lisa ; Varacalli, Giancarlo⁴ ; Vicari, Danilo⁴ ; Vouch, Oliviero² ; Zocca, Simone²

Show affiliations

This dataset provides products derived from the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE). It is a public dataset containing raw GNSS observables and signal sample batches acquired by the LuGRE payload throughout Firefly's Blue Ghost Mission 1 (BGM1).

The dataset contains:

- Raw observable data for GPS and Galileo L1/E1 and L5/E5 bandwidth,
- Signal samples for L1/E1 and L5/E5 bandwidth.

Manage

Edit

New version

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3K VIEWS 563 DOWNLOADS

Show more details

	All versions	This version
Views	2,904	2,904
Downloads	563	563
Data volume	171.6 GB	171.6 GB

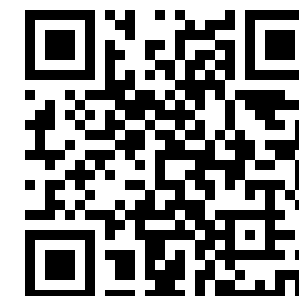
[More info on how stats are collected...](#)

Open Dataset Contains:



1. Raw GNSS observables (tracking)
2. Acquisition observables
3. Navigation Solutions (least-squares PVT)
4. I/Q digital signal samples

Find them here:



LuNART Open Project

The tool that produced most of these plots is available as open-source project on GitHub!

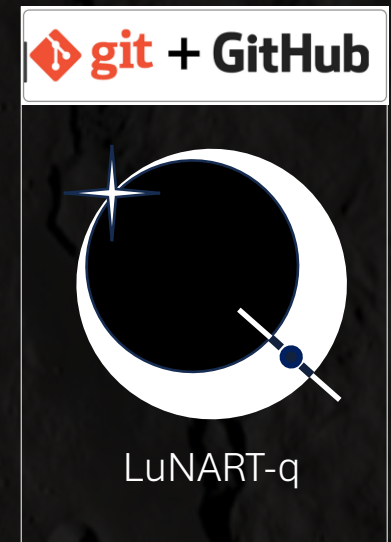


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- Quick GNSS **experiments** and **reporting** capability
- **Probing of LuGRE open data** for GNSS scientists, young engineers and students
- **New experiments** can be easily included by the community (modularity)
- **Educational-oriented** for training students on GNSS use in space
- **Open framework** for technical/scientific assessment of raw GNSS observables and I/Q data

Find it here:



LuGRE



LuNART Session Configuration Tab



LUGRE



The screenshot shows the 'Configuration' tab of the 'Analysis Tool'. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Session settings:** Includes fields for 'Operator name/ID' (user), 'Location' (GFSC (SPC)), 'Mission input folder', and 'Output results folder'. It also has a section to 'Choose or manually define the operation window to be analyzed' with options for 'Automated' (selected) and 'Manual'. Below this is a section for 'Manually select required files to be processed (Manual OP definition)' with fields for 'Telemetry file (TLM)', 'L1/E1', 'L5/E5', 'GPS ephemeris', and 'Galileo ephemeris'.
- Metadata (from mission scheduler):** Includes fields for 'Phase' (TRANSIT), 'Day' (2024-337), 'OP_ID' (8_0), 'Type' (Transit_OF), 'Name' (T8), 'Status' (Nominal), 'Start' (12:41:38), 'End' (13:41:38), 'Mode' (RTP), and 'Type' (Single). There is also a 'SC/RTP' field (7200i-1) and a 'Load TLM Data' button.
- Available Data (from Telemetry):** Includes checkboxes for 'ACQ (Acquisition)', 'RAW (Raw observables)', 'NAV (Navigation solutions)', 'POD (OD navigation data)', and 'STA (Check)'. There is a 'Confirm TLM Data' button.
- Reference data (from GEONS):** Includes a 'Use reference' checkbox and a 'Confirm REF Data' button.
- Console Messages (Log):** A text area showing log messages, including '[11-20 17:58:07] LuNART-Q is logging the session activities.' and '[11-20 17:55:09] LuNART-Q is ready for session configuration.'
- Tool Status:** A section with a list of steps: '1. Session settings (datetime, operator, location and OP window)', '2. Input data loading and validation', '3. Reference data loading', 'Ready for data inspection', and 'Ready for experiments'. Each step has a progress indicator. There are 'Reset Session' and 'Go to experiments' buttons.
- Prediction Mode:** Includes a 'Select Input File' button, 'File' and 'Directory' fields, a 'Select Output Folder' button, and 'File' and 'Directory' fields. It also has a 'Metadata (manual)' section with fields for 'Phase', 'Day', 'OP_ID', 'Name', 'Type', 'Status', 'Start', and 'End'. There is a 'Run evaluation' button and a 'Save and report' button.
- Operator comments (included in the Prediction Evaluation Report):** A text area for comments, with a 'No relevant comments.' placeholder. There are 'Parsing', 'Plots', 'Save and report', 'Save', 'Report', and 'Sent to output' buttons.

Annotations point to various features:

- Session settings:** Points to the 'Session settings' section.
- Operations List (automated from mission scheduler):** Points to the 'Automated' option in the 'Choose or manually define the operation window to be analyzed' section.
- Custom operation Files paths (manual):** Points to the 'Mission input folder' and 'Output results folder' fields.
- GEONS preference data:** Points to the 'Reference data (from GEONS)' section.
- Real-time reference clocks (SPC and RSPC):** Points to the 'SPC Time (NASA GFSC)' and 'RSPC Time (Turin)' fields.
- Real-time log panel:** Points to the 'Console Messages (Log)' section.
- Tool readiness status:** Points to the 'Tool Status' section.
- Reset and experiment:** Points to the 'Reset Session' and 'Go to experiments' buttons.
- Prediction Evaluation Mode (NASA only):** Points to the 'Prediction Mode' section.



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Quick Experiments Tab(s)



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Analysis Tool

Configuration Scientific Experiments Operation Summary Report (OSR)

Operator Default Ops Window Default SPC time: 25-09-11 15:18:30 RSPC time: 25-09-11 21:18:30

Objective 1 | Receive GNSS signal at the Moon and characterize the signal environment

Experiment Q1.b | Determine signal availability throughout the current operations window

This investigation will analyze the availability of GNSS signals during the selected operations window. The following parameters are logged during real-time operation of the on-board receiver:

- Tracked signals (i.e., PRNs included in the Telemetry RAW message)
- C/N0 measurements from RAW

Based on the data collected during the current observation window, the availability of a sufficient number of satellites for different purposes (e.g., to obtain a least-squares single point positioning solution) is determined by this experiment throughout each operation window timespan:

- Availability for different minimum acquisition and tracking thresholds can be evaluated for both mission telemetry and predicted data
- The analysis will be performed per frequency (L1, L5, both) and per constellation (GPS, Galileo, both)
- The benefits in terms of availability of a hybrid GPS+Galileo least squares solution using the Galileo-GPS Time Offset (GGTO)

Telemetry Input

- RAW - C/N0 measurements
- NAV - PVT solution availability

External Input

- REF - Predicted C/N0

Methodology

- RAW and REF time series are aligned in time to provide consistent comparison
- For each epoch, C/N0 from RAW and REF are used to determine channel visibility
- Only C/N0 above the operator-defined thresholds is considered to compute visibility
- For constellation visibility, the number of unique visible satellites is counted (i.e., two channels of the same PRN are counted as one)
- Availability is computed as percentage of epoch where a PVT solution can be obtained according to different conditions

Expected Science Products

- [Plot - 110] Number of tracked signals per channel, e.g. L1 C/A, E1a, (filtered by user-defined threshold) from Telemetry RAW and Reference
- [Plot - 111] Number of visible unique SVs per constellation, i.e., GPS, Galileo, and GPS+Galileo from Telemetry RAW and Reference
- [Plot - 112] Single and multi-constellation Single Point Positioning Solution availability and outages (with time percentages)

Settings (C/N0 Threshold)

	Telemetry	Link values	Reference	Link values	
GPS L1	20.0	dB-Hz	GPS L1	20.0	dB-Hz
GPS L5	20.0	dB-Hz	GPS L5	20.0	dB-Hz
GAL E1	20.0	dB-Hz	GAL E1	20.0	dB-Hz
GAL E5	20.0	dB-Hz	GAL E5	20.0	dB-Hz

Run Experiment

Output

Operator Comment (included in the report)

No relevant comments.

Save Results Generate Report Send to POC

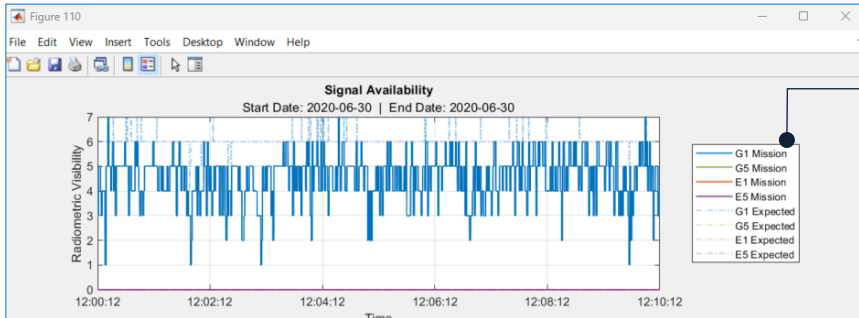
NavSAS's LuGRE Navigation Analysis and Reporting Tool (LuNART-q) Politecnico di Torino | Department of Electronics and Telecommunications

Experiment
briefing

Output of
the software
routines

Configuration
panel (if required)

Comments of the
science team
operator



Output results

This report has been automatically generated by the LuNART-q quick-look tool operated by Politecnico di Torino on behalf of the Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI) and is agreed with NASA GSFC SDT

LuGRE's Quicklook Report

Version: v2.0

Location: Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt, Maryland

A. MISSION OPERATION METADATA

AT PHASE TYPE	AZ DAY OF THE YEAR	A3 OPERATION ID	A4 C
COMMISSIONING	2024-321	1_0	C1

B. QUICK-LOOK SESSION METADATA

B1 EXP. ID	B2 EXP. RUN	B3 INPUT DIRECTORY
Q1.f	12	data\OPI_0\2024-11-29_15-4

C. EXPERIMENT OUTPUT

FIGURE 109 Visualization of Code-Minus-Carrier (CMC), Time-Differenced Code-Minus-Carrier (TD-CMC) or Detrended Code-Minus-Carrier (D-CMC) for L1/E1 (upper plot) and L5/E5 (lower plot) observables

FIGURE 110 Visualization of outliers detection over Code-Minus-Carrier (CMC), Time-Differenced Code-Minus-Carrier (TD-CMC) or Detrended Code-Minus-Carrier (D-CMC) for L1/E1 (upper plot) and L5/E5 (lower plot) observables

FIGURE 111 Outliers collection

Live Experimental
Report

There's still so much to explore: dive into the data and code and build on this work!



LuGRE White Paper

Parker, J. J. K., DAVIS, et al. (2025). *GNSS reception at the Moon: First results of the Lunar GNSS Receiver Experiment (LuGRE)*.



<https://doi.org/10.33012/navi.756>



LuGRE Open Dataset

zenodo



<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.16411686>



Dataset Processing Tool: LuNaRT-q



git



<https://github.com/NavsasPolito/LuNART>

Read

Download

Code

The Fantastic LuGRE team



Credit: Firefly Aerospace





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Researcher & Assistant Professor
E-mail: andrea.nardin@polito.it
Politecnico di Torino
Dept. of Electronics and Telecommunications

Thank you for your attention

Backup

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