



AESS Distinguished Lecturer

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SPACE SUSTAINABILITY

Engineering a Responsible Future of Space

OUTLINE

- **Sustainability: a Holistic Concept**
- **Are Space Trends Sustainable?**
- **Space Sustainability by Design**
- **Ally Technologies**
- **Perspectives**



SUSTAINABILITY: A HOLISTIC CONCEPT



What are we
doing to
Earth?



SUSTAINABILITY: A HOLISTIC CONCEPT

MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS



**What are we doing to
Space?**

*Are space actors fully
aware?*

*How can we approach
Moon and Mars with the
current space
sustainability model?*

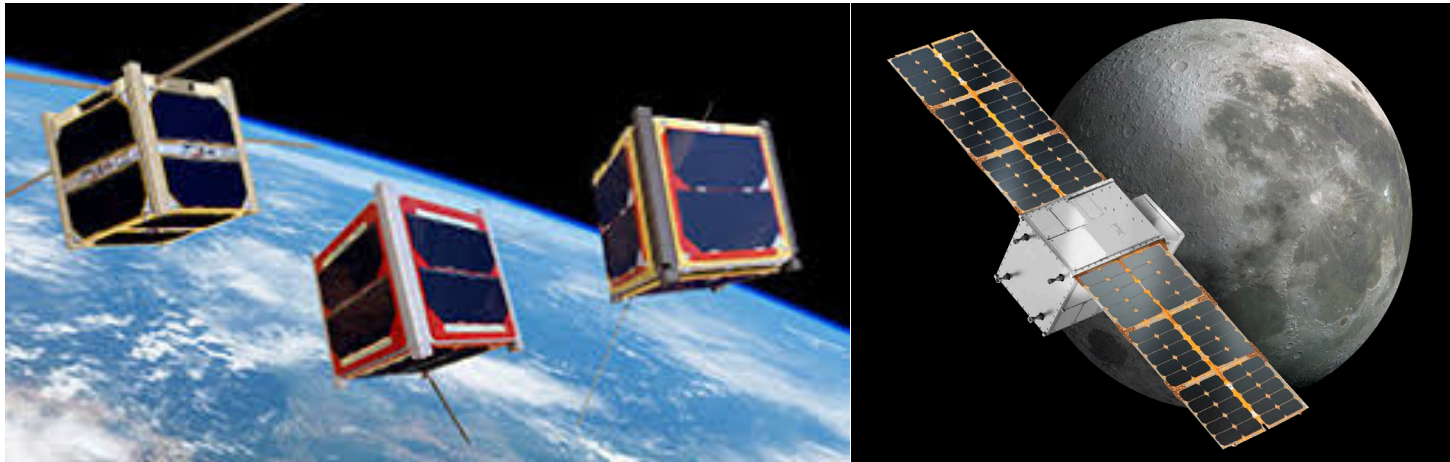
ARE SPACE TRENDS SUSTAINABLE?

GO MEGA!



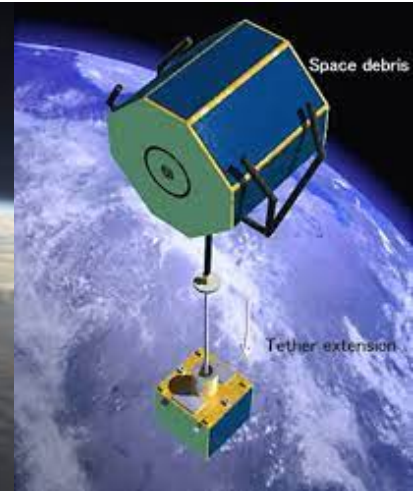
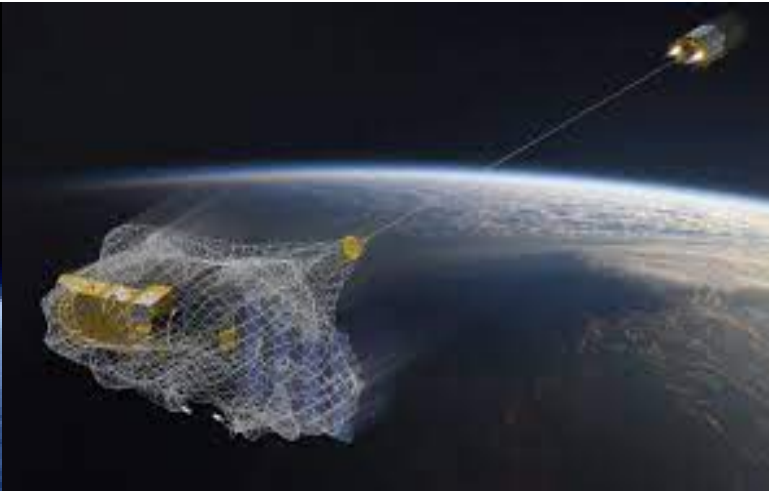
ARE SPACE TRENDS SUSTAINABLE?

GO SMALL!



ARE SPACE TRENDS SUSTAINABLE?

REMOVAL OF SPACE JUNK



SPACE SUSTAINABILITY BY DESIGN

A completely new approach to the conception, design and implementation of space systems is needed to:

- **STOP POLLUTING**
- **REPAIR DAMAGES**



SPACE SUSTAINABILITY BY DESIGN

Priorities need to be changed to change the trend,
with consequences at various levels:

- RESEARCH
- COORDINATION
- INVESTMENTS AND MARKET



SPACE SUSTAINABILITY BY DESIGN

Key strategies for the evolution framework of a sustainable space:

- **Upcycling and Recycling**
- **Sustainable materials**
- **Sustainable management**



SPACE SUSTAINABILITY BY DESIGN

Upcycling and Recycling is based on the intelligent and flexible reuse, integration and modification of:

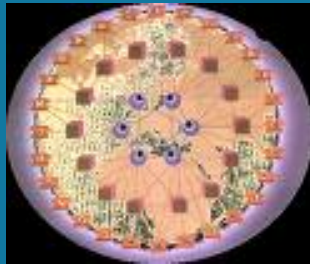
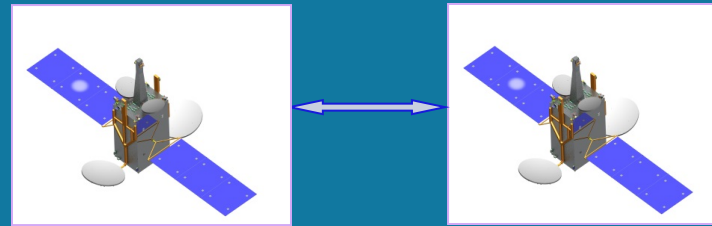
- Space networks
- Space nodes
- Missions and services



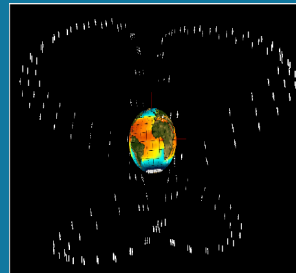
SPACE SUSTAINABILITY BY DESIGN

Flexibility is supported by system design choices, such as:

Inter-satellite link
Data relay



On-board
Routing



New constellation
concepts



Innovative
Control Center

SPACE SUSTAINABILITY BY DESIGN

Upcycling and Recycling strategies:

- **Backward compatibility**
- **Forward compatibility**



SPACE SUSTAINABILITY BY DESIGN

BACKWARD COMPATIBILITY needs for:

- Knowledge about existing systems
- Design for suitable integration
- Coordination



SPACE SUSTAINABILITY BY DESIGN

FORWARD COMPATIBILITY needs for:

- Knowledge about future systems
- Design for suitable integration
- Coordination



ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

- **Software-Defined techniques**
 - **Extremely High Frequencies devices**
 - **Artificial Intelligence algorithms**
-

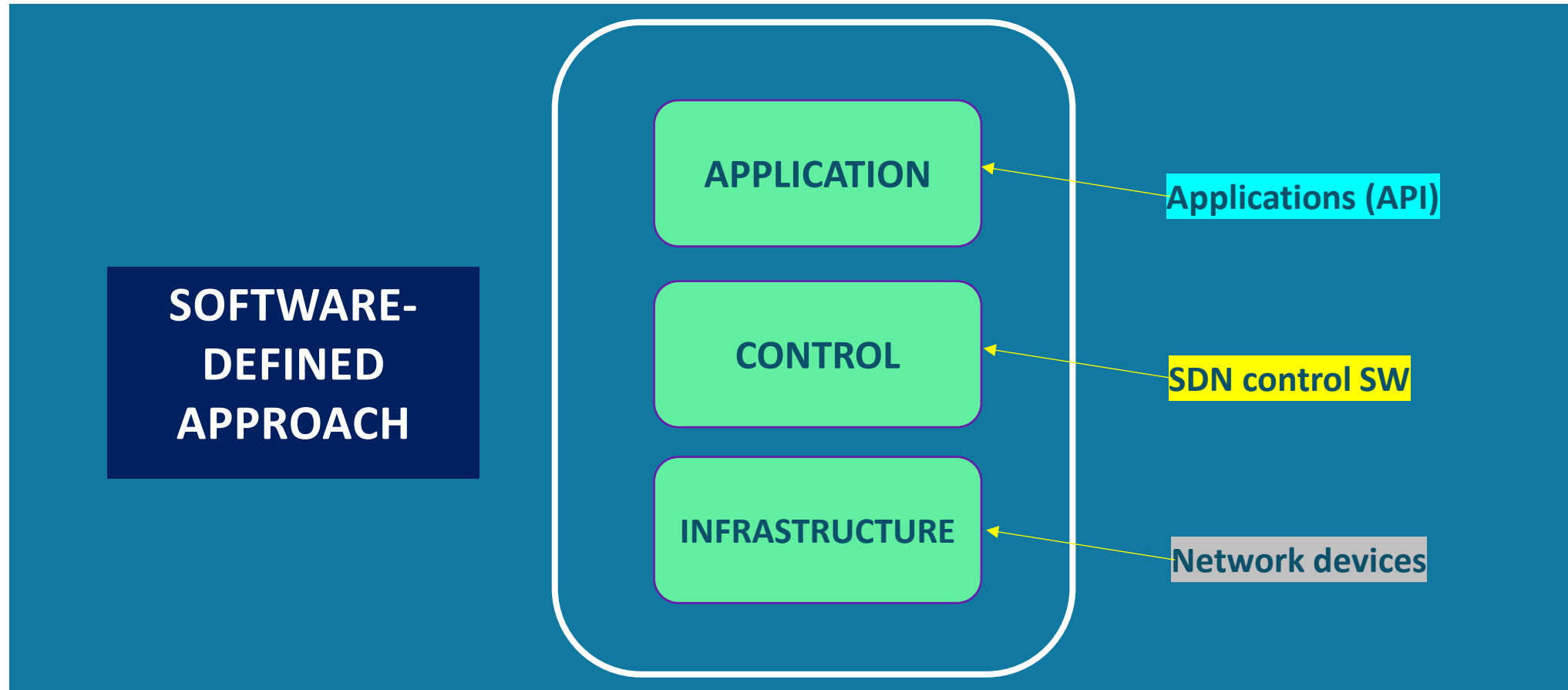
ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

SOFTWARE-DEFINED APPROACH

- **Software-Defined Networking (SDN)**
- **Software-Defined Storage (SDS)**
- **Software-Defined Data Center (SDDC)**
- **Software-Defined Everything (SDE)**

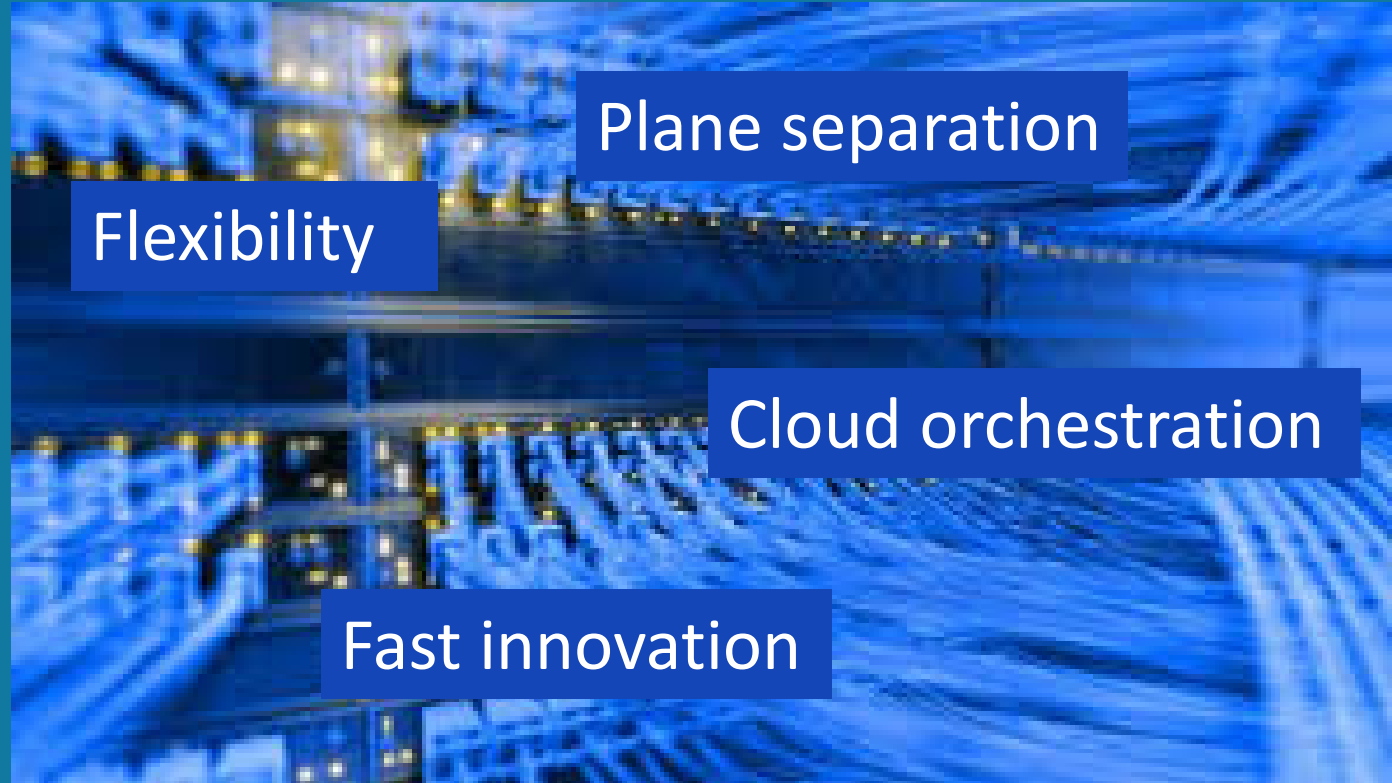


ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

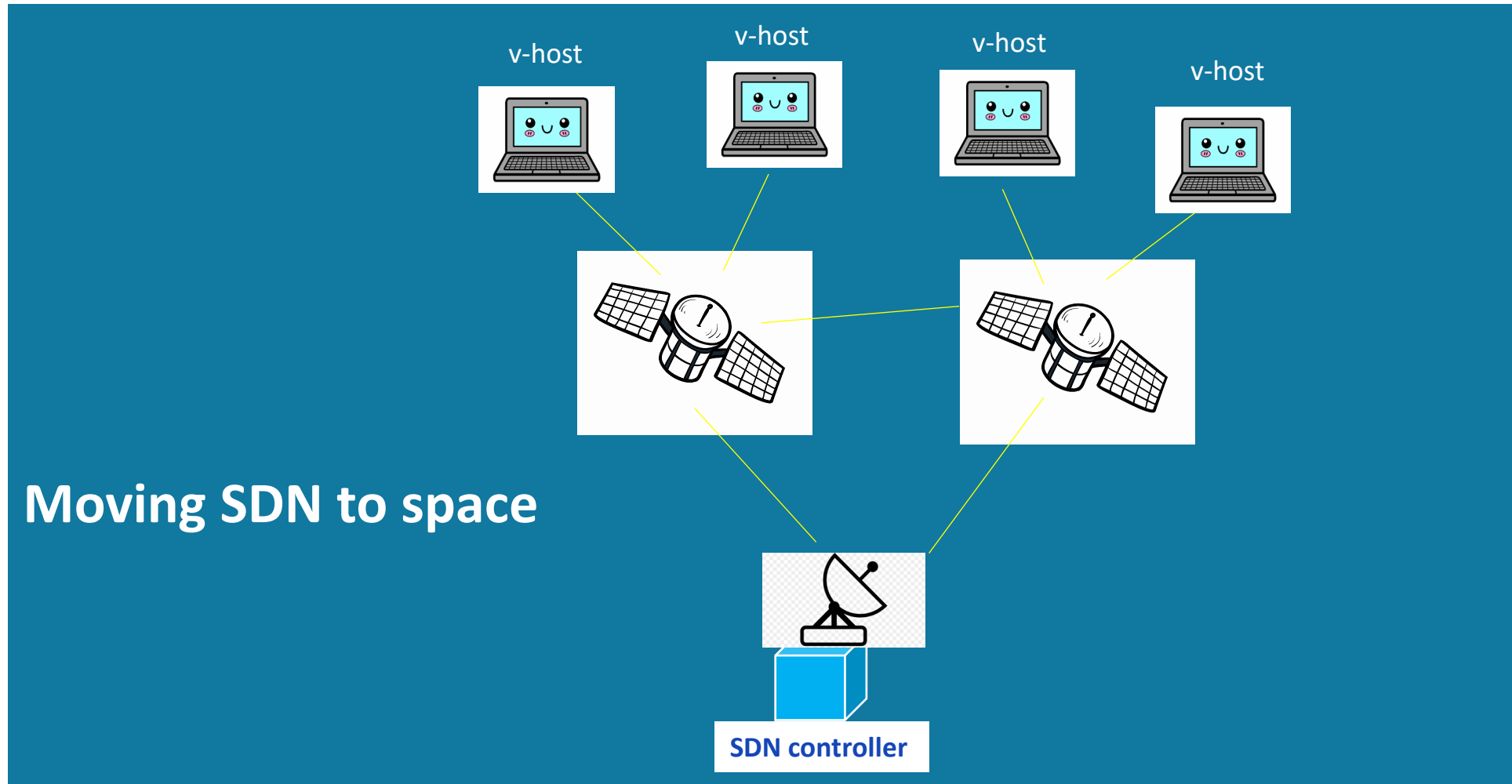


ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

SDN

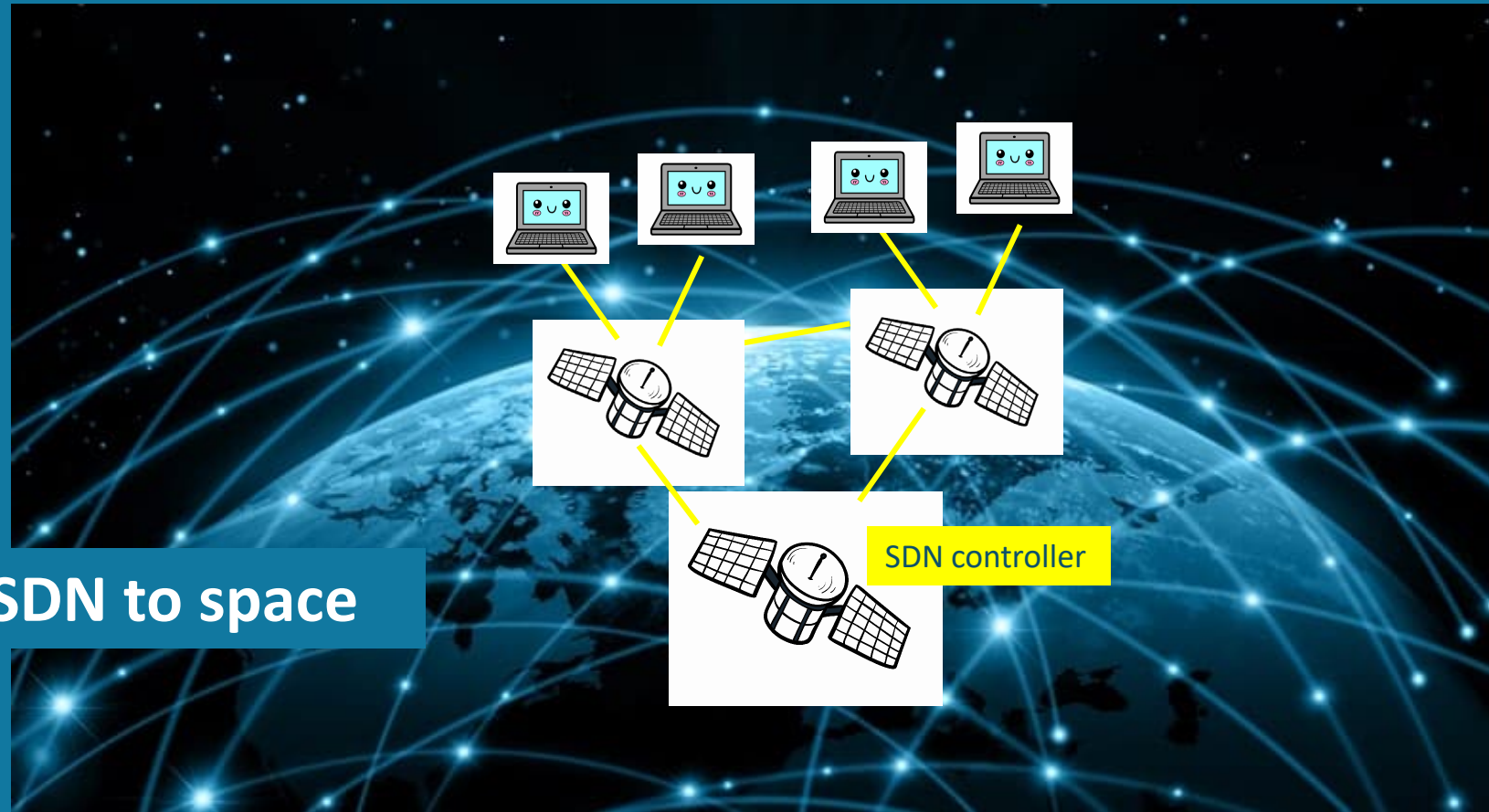


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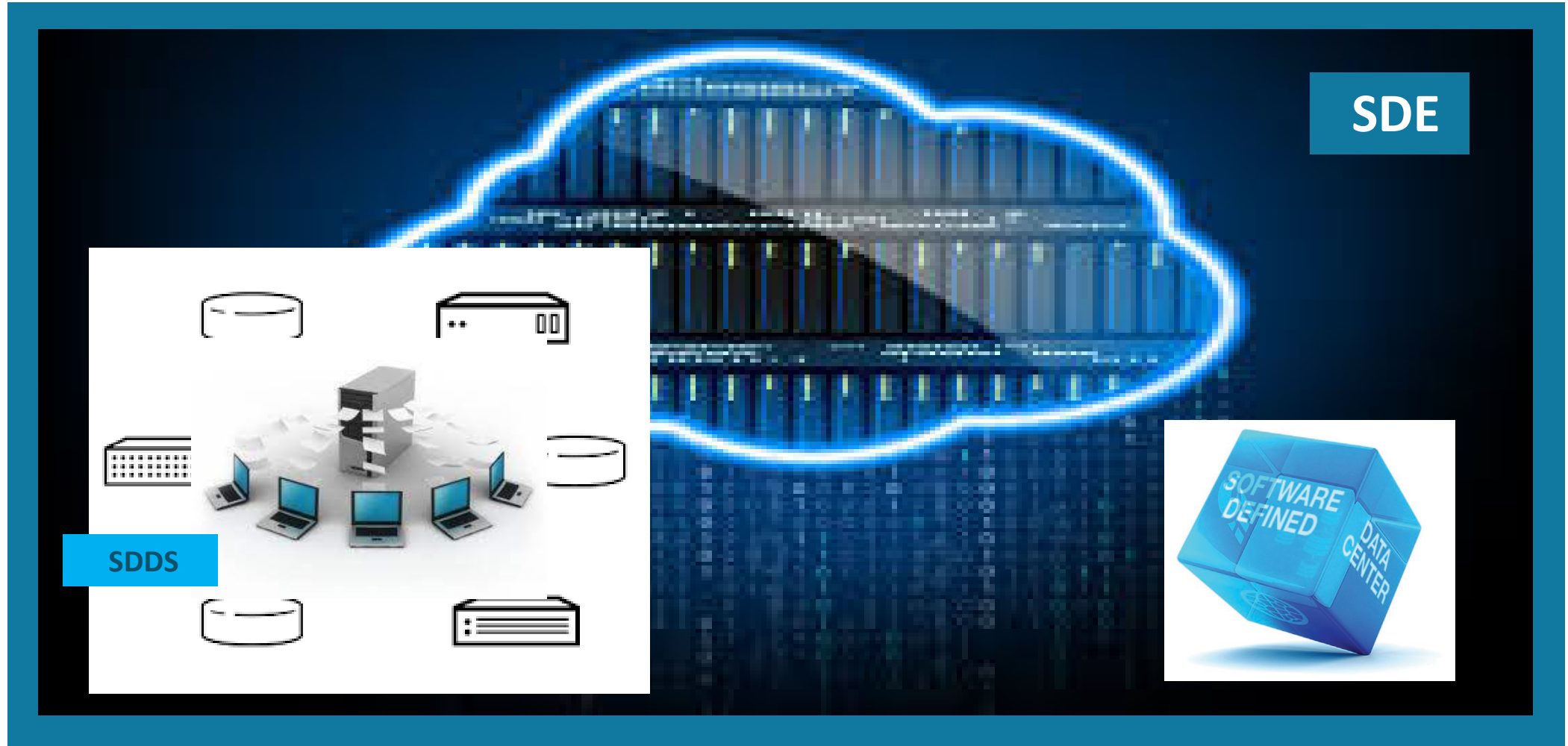


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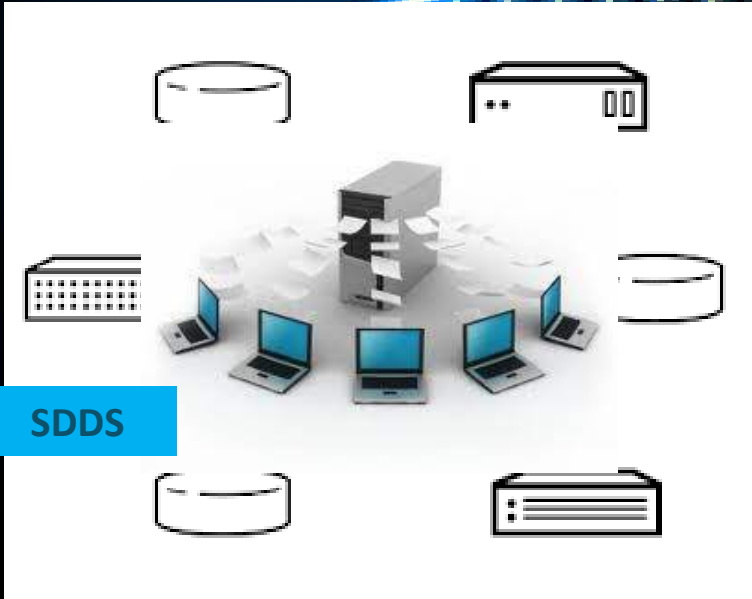
Moving SDN to space



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SDE

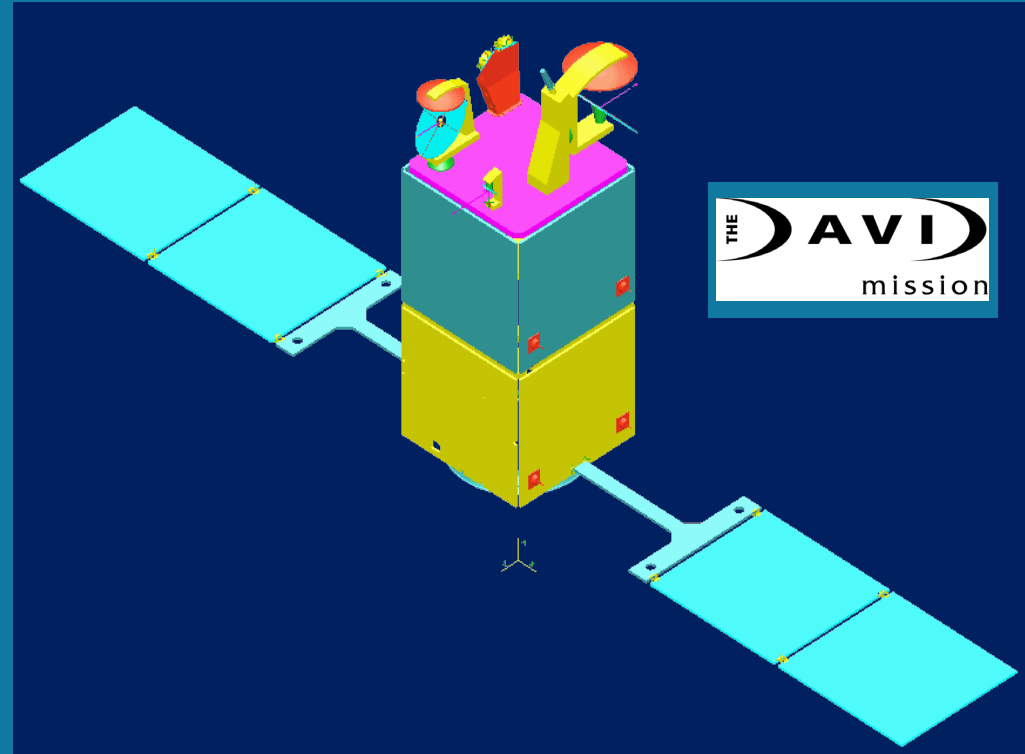


SDDS



ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

EHF (Q/V & W band)



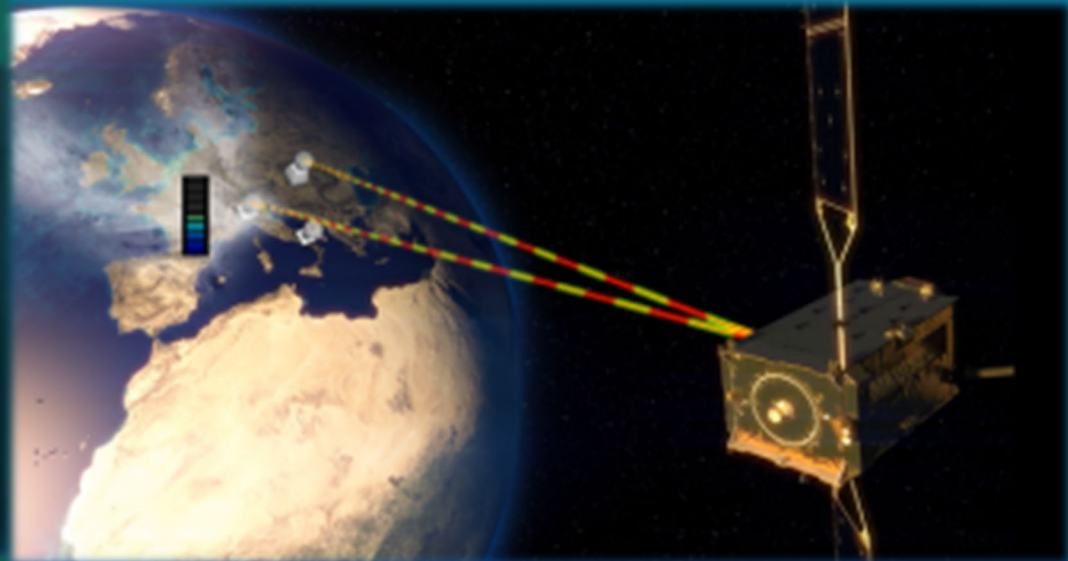
ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

EHF (Q/V & W band)

Kourou - July 25, 2013

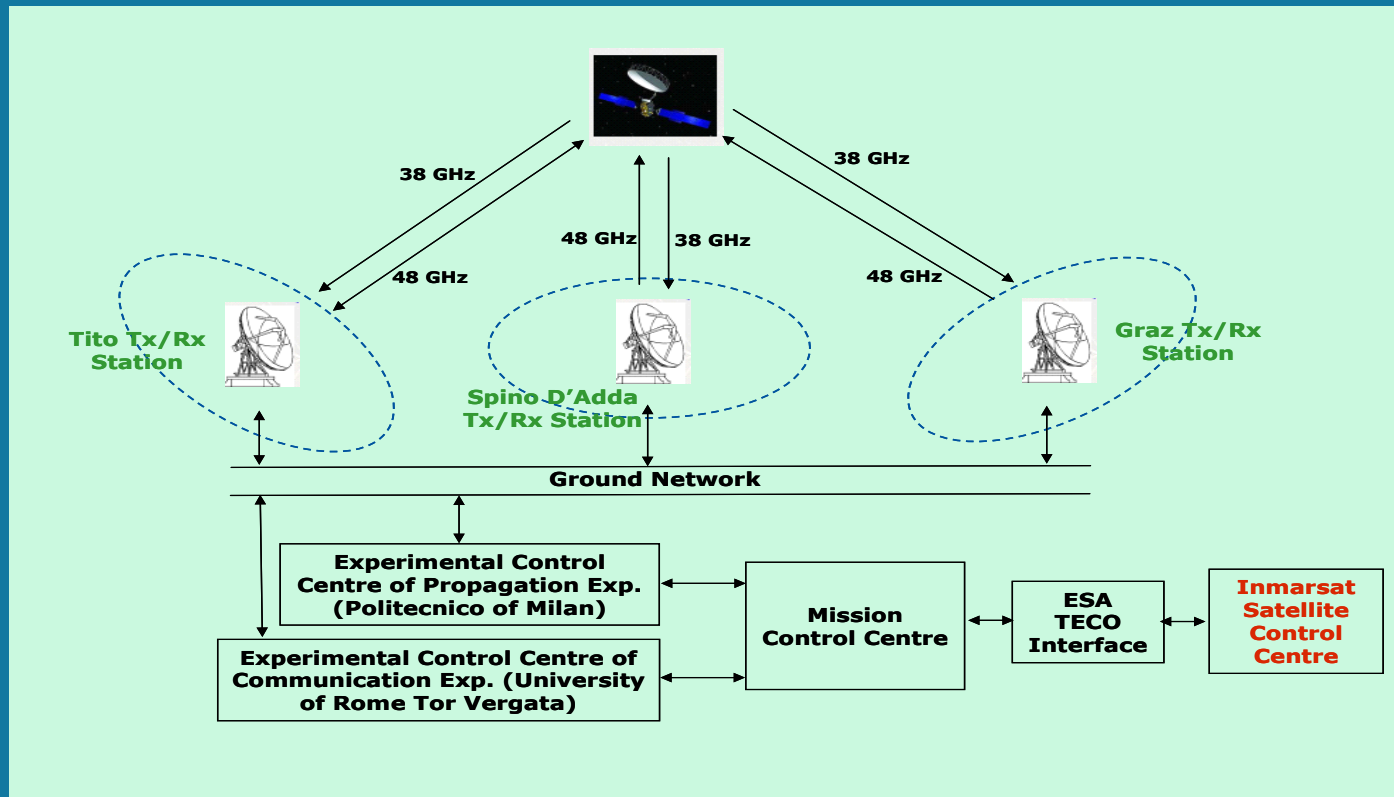


Launch of Alphasat



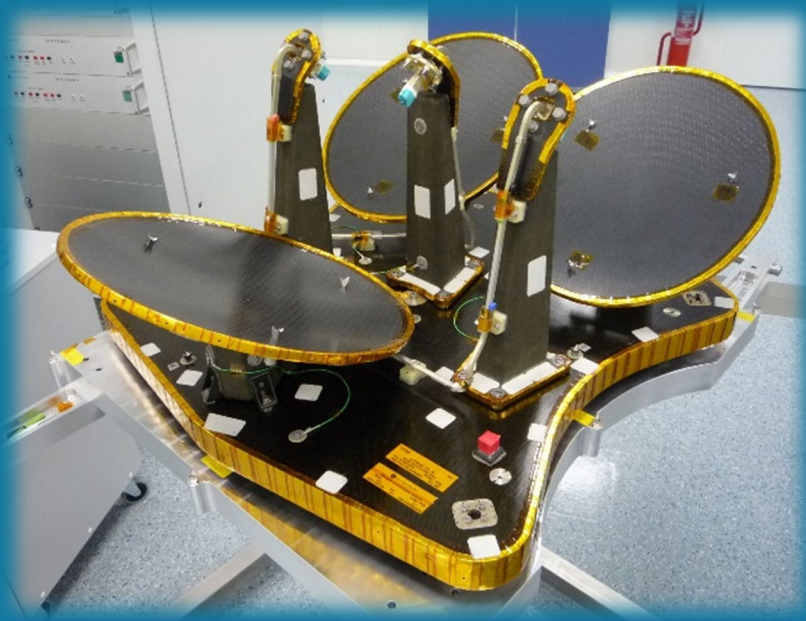
Alphasat embarks TDP#5 payload

ALLY TECHNOLOGIES



TDP#5 Q/V TELECOMMUNICATION EXPERIMENT

ALLY TECHNOLOGIES



Q/V-band TDP#5 Payload



TDP#5 Tito Scalo station

ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

Artificial Intelligence as key of the human-robot cooperative approach in manned space operations and missions:

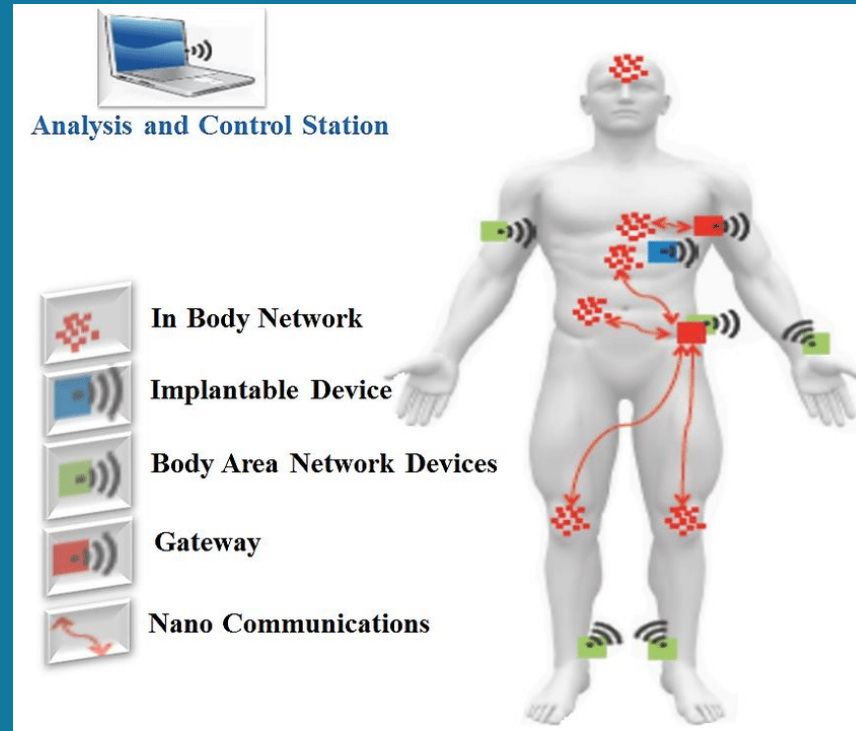
- **Human body cooperation in the network
(body as a network node)**
- **Human-robot super-node**



ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

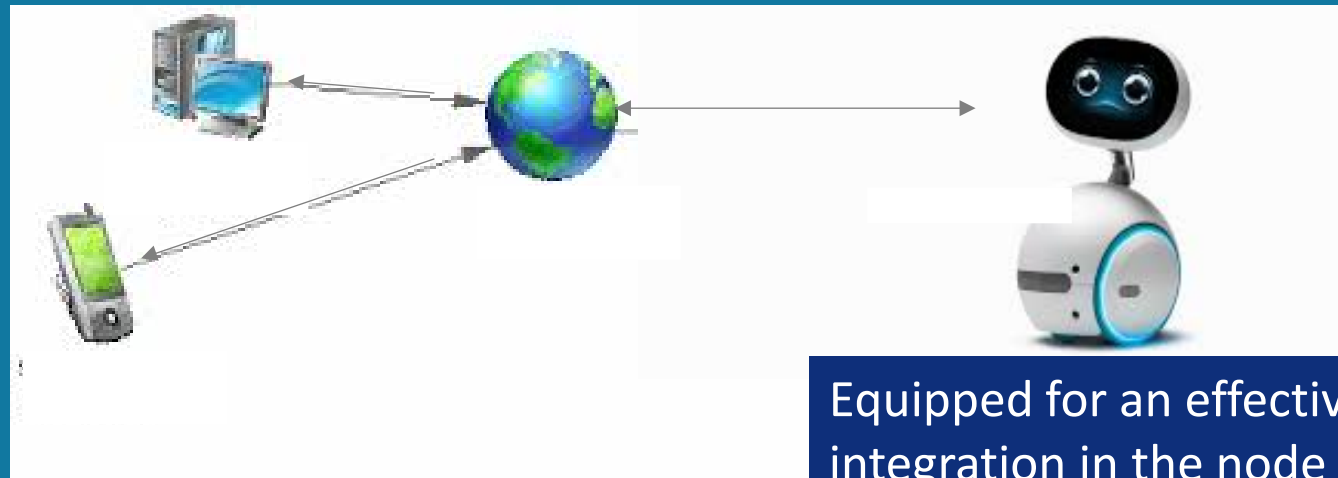
Body as a Network Node (ByN)

Intra-body,
wearable and
external devices



ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

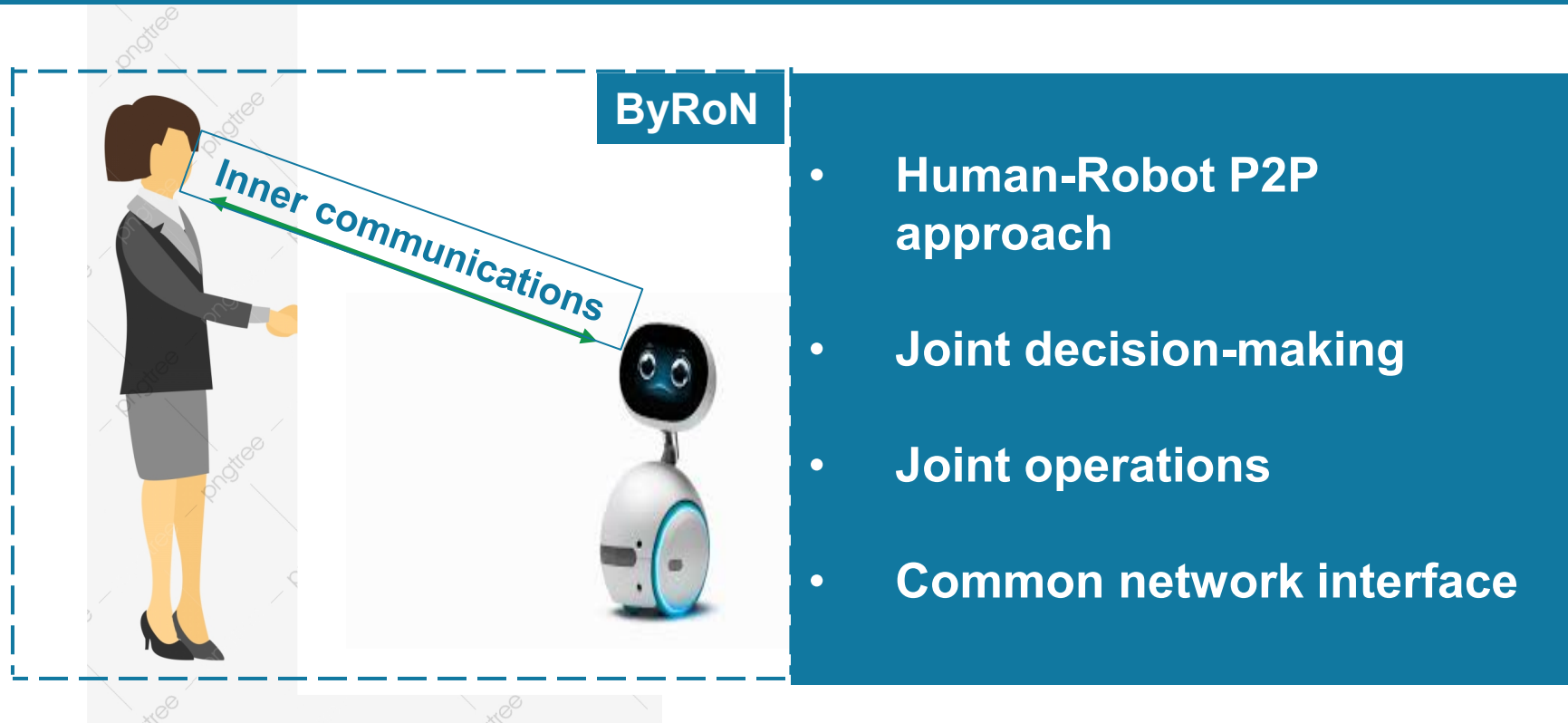
Robot as a Network Node (RoN)



Equipped for an effective integration in the node and network functions

ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

Human-Robot advanced Cooperation within a ByRoN super-node



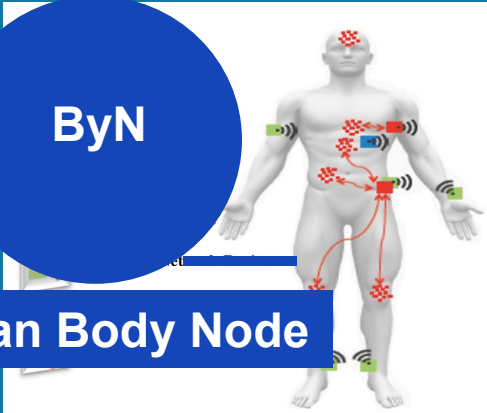
ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

T-Node



Technical node

ByN



Human Body Node

RoN



AI Robot Node

Human-Robot integrated networking

ByRoN

Human Body and AI Robot Super Node

ALLY TECHNOLOGIES

ByRoN in manned space missions



- **Spacecraft** (enhanced digital capabilities)
- **Spacecraft** (reduced delay effects)
- **Lander/Rover** (enhanced digital capabilities)

PERSPECTIVES



- 6G could be an enabler to space sustainability
- In fact, resolution of human needs and social issues is core of the 5G-to-6G transition
- 6G-Space integration must then be/become intrinsically **sustainable** for both Earth and Space

PERSPECTIVES



- Space sustainability calls for a profound change in priorities and paradigm in the space community
- A broad awareness and an active behavior in Earth sustainability matter are key to success in the space sustainability challenge.

SUGGESTED READING [1/2]



[1] E. Cianca, M. De Sanctis, T. Rossi, M Ruggieri, (2024) “*Advanced Technologies for a Sustainable Future of Space*”, IEEE COMPUTER, Special Issue on Tech Predictions 2024, August, Vol. 57, pp. 45-54, ISSN 0018-9162, DOI 10.1109/MC.2024.3402083.

[2] E. Cianca, J. Dauncey, G. Fasano, Z.M. Kassas, W. Neil, M. Ruggieri, (2024) “*Autonomy for Sustainability: An AESS Vision and Perspectives*”, IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Magazine, June, Vol. 39, Issue 6, pp. 32-41, ISSN 0885-8985, DOI 10.1109/MAES.2024.3376295.

SUGGESTED READING [2/2]



[3] E. Cianca, S. Morosi, M. Ruggieri, (2023), *“Technologies and Infrastructures for a Sustainable Space”*, Chapter 8 in *“A Roadmap to Future Space Connectivity - Satellite and Interplanetary Networks”*, Springer, ISBN 978-3-031-30761-4, pp. 185-200, DOI 10.1007/978-3-031-30762-1_8.

[4] E. Cianca, M Ruggieri, (2023) *“Space Sustainability: Toward the Future of Connectivity”*, Chapter 3 in *“Women in Telecommunications”*, Springer, ISBN 978-3-031-21974-0, pp. 375-391, DOI 10.1007/978-3-031-21975-7_14.

Thank you!

A detailed illustration of space debris orbiting Earth. The Earth's blue and white horizon is visible on the left. The right side of the image is filled with a dense field of various pieces of space junk, including satellite components, solar panels, and cylindrical containers, all set against the dark blue background of space.