YUsend:

York University Space Engineering Nanosatellite Demonstration Program

Hugh Chesser, York University, Earth & Space Science & Engineering CSA Workshop on Suborbital Platforms and Nanosatellites, 14 – 16 April, 2010



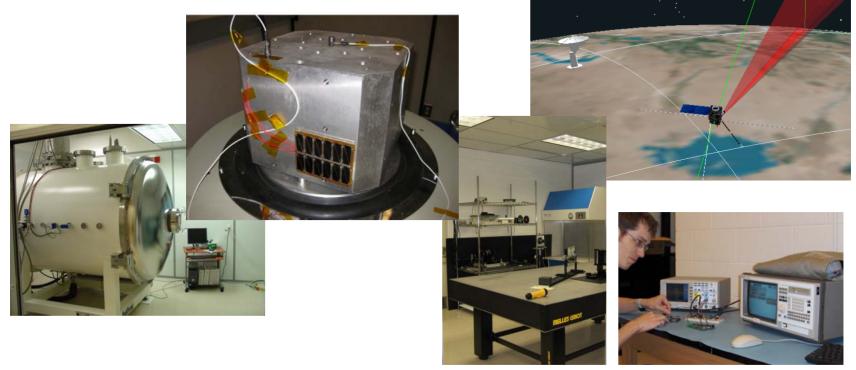


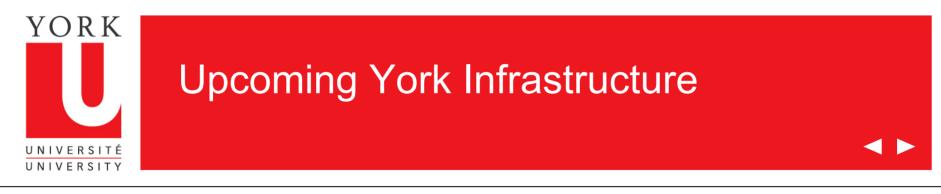


- Collaborative space systems research between Regina Lee
 and Hugh Chesser at York University, School of Engineering
- Program Motivations
 - Undergraduate curriculum development (space engineering) and outreach
 - Technology R&D graduate research
 - Atmospheric Science theme collaboration with colleagues in Centre for Research in Earth and Space Science (CRESS)
- Goals of this talk outline program and its status see one of us after if interested in technical details/results!



 York, particularly CRESS has existing facilities from which we have begun working on the necessary hardware and software elements for a series of nanosatellites





- 4th (and a small 5th) floor of Petrie Building nearing completion
- Includes a Communications Lab for ground station, antenna mounts on 4th, 5th floor roof





YUsend Motivations – Education/Outreach

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Space Engineering undergraduate curriculum

- Materials and Thermal Analysis for Space Applications (3rd year course) – SSETI SWARM, YUsend-1 thermal analysis
- Space Hardware (4th year course) applicable hardware/software labs, assignments
- Engineering Design 4th year capstone projects

Outreach

- Ontario Science Centre Challenge Zone, Hotspot presentations, Cart-top displays
 - York University summer camp, Speaker's Bureau



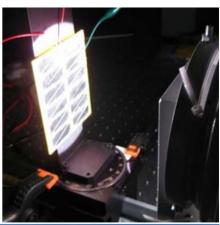


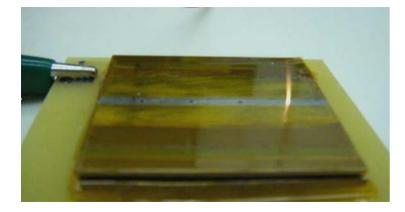


YUsend Motivations – Space Engineering Research & Development

Current research areas

- Microthruster development
- Power systems
- Onboard computer
- Attitude control
- Geolocation of measurements
- Communications







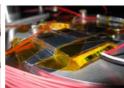


YUsend-1 Overview – Tech Demo

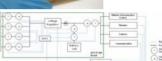






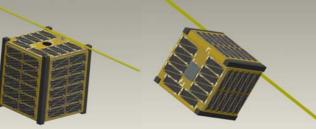




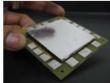


High rate transceiver





u-thruster



















YUsend-2 - Atmospheric Science from Nanosatellites

Atmospheric Science of interest

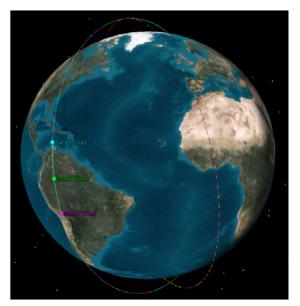
- Constituent studies H₂O, CO₂, CH₄
- Air glow for earthquake detection
- Applications to Climate, air quality models

Several miniaturized instrument prototypes being developed

- Exploring trade between size and throughput
- Deriving systems requirements for mass, size, pointing, knowledge and accuracy, position knowledge

Technology Developments for bus, instrument identified

Atmospheric Nanosatellite Platform in progress







The YUsend program is progressing well

- capitalizing on existing CRESS infrastructure we have been able to begin designing, selecting and prototyping needed nanosatellite components
- expansion of facilities when completed this year will allow us to do this better and in particular expand our ground systems work.

We think nanosatellites are an excellent way to:

- Motivate students to learn through hands-on work (experiential education)
- Build lab and facility capacity
- Collaborate with other researchers and student groups

Based on our assessment, a customized platform is necessary to accommodate small payloads of use for atmospheric science

