



MOST

The first and the only micro-satellite for
astronomy

Slavek Rucinski

Montreal April 2010

1997 - 2003



Institute for Space and Terrestrial Science (ISTS), Toronto, Ontario, 1987 – 1997.

Canadian Space Agency (CSA). The Small Payloads Program, 1997: Projects within ~10M\$.

UTIAS & Dynacon: Kieran Carroll.

An idea of a photometric micro-satellite...

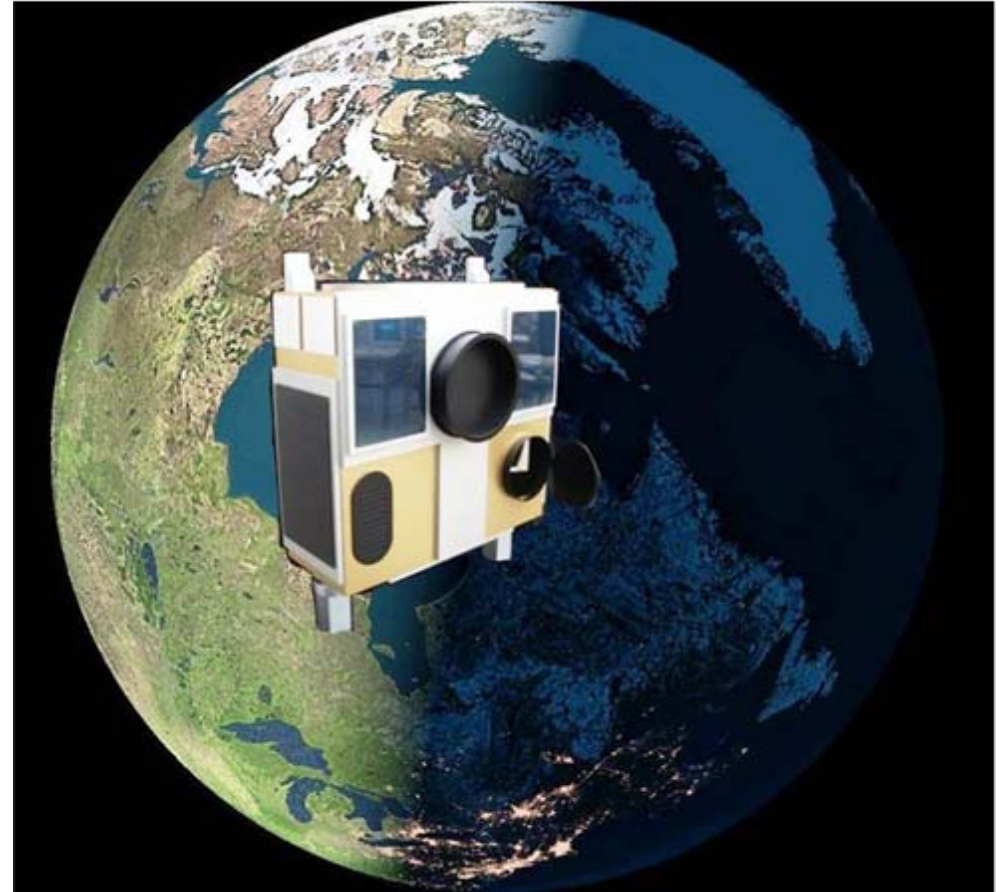
Idea

Micro-satellite for astronomy (?!):
3-axis stabilized.

Stabilization: better than $\pm 15''$.

Dusk/dawn orbit.

CCD passively cooled, same side
as the telescope opening.



1997 - 2003



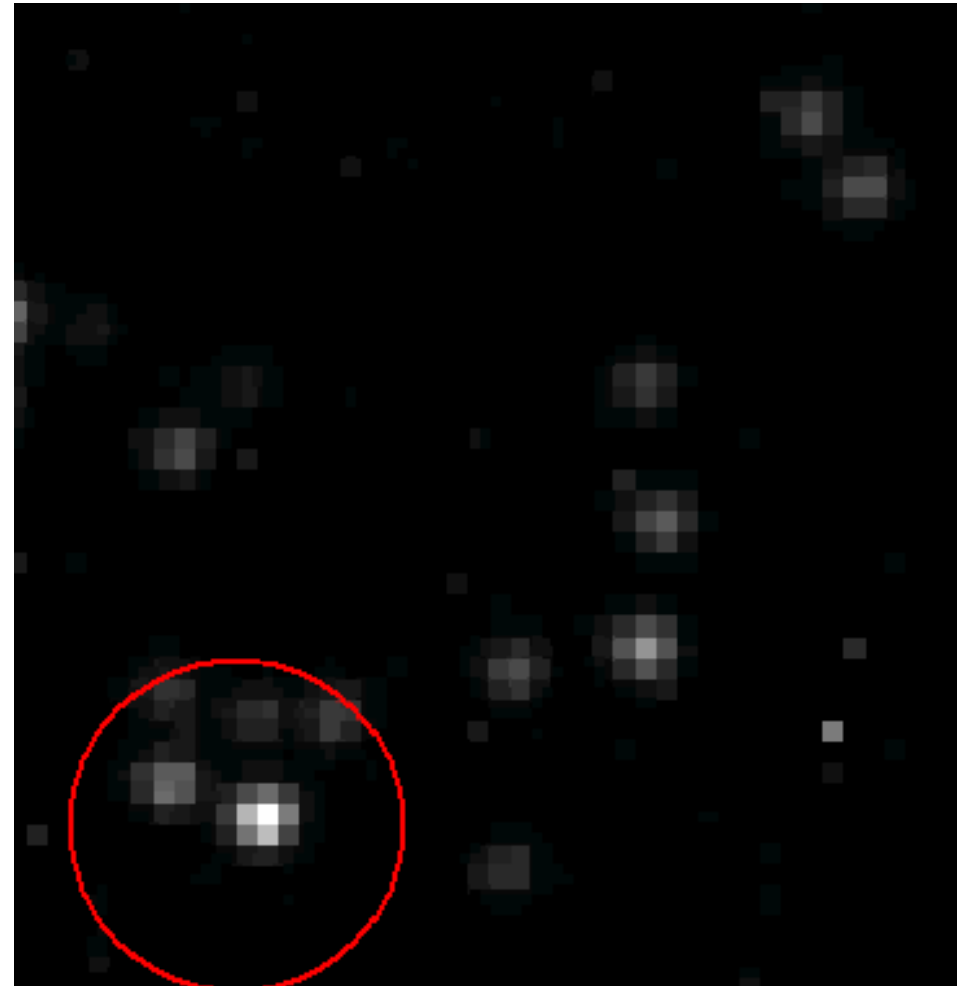
- Proposal to CSA (SR and KC) in 1997, within the Small Payloads Program.
- Acceptance 1998.
- Dynacon as the Primary Contractor. Components manufactured in many places: UTIAS/SFL, UBC, etc.
- Launch 2003.
- The Team: Matthews (PI), Guenther, Kuschnig, Moffat, Rucinski, Sasselov, Walker, Weiss

Success story...

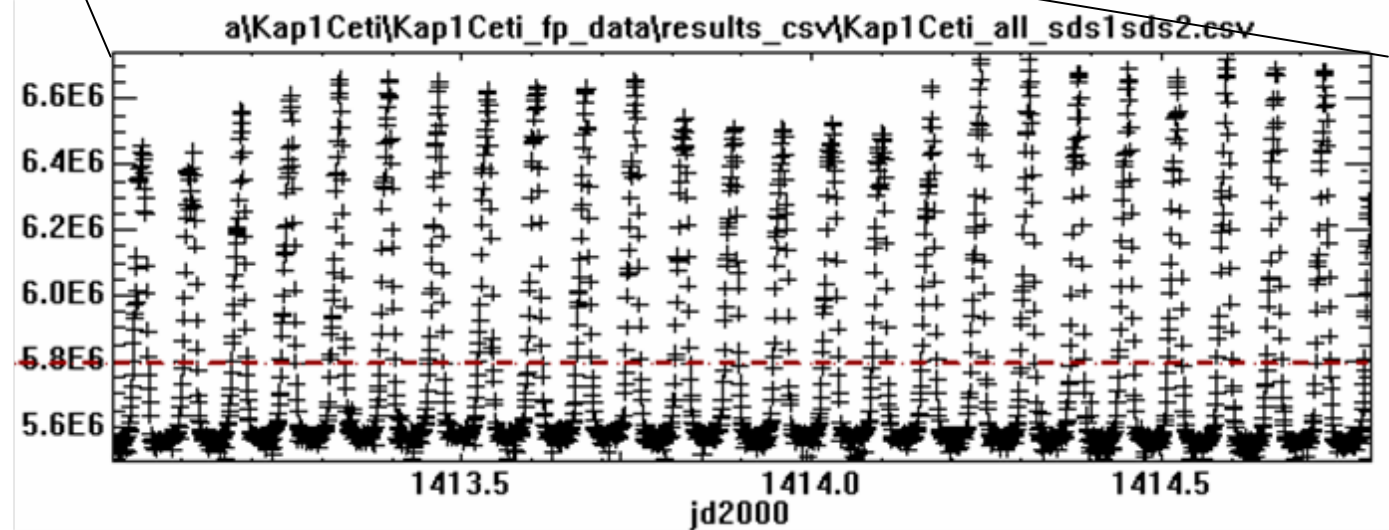
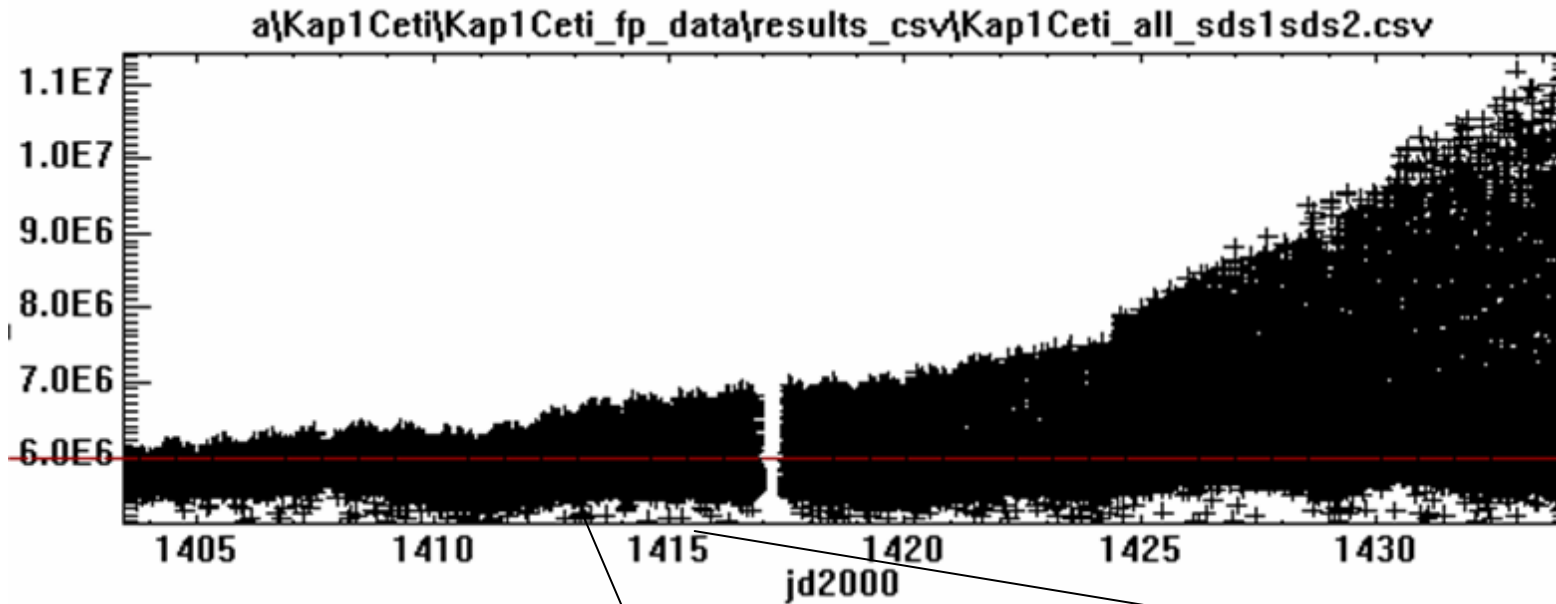
6.5 years of highly successful operations.

Broadening of the scope of the program. Many different programs.

Stabilization to $\sim 1.5''$.



...the only dark cloud: stray light



BRITE



A natural & logical follow up of MOST....

- Progress in miniaturisation since the late 1990's
- Expertise at UTIAS/SFL in nano-satellites
- Excellent research niche

1997 - 2003

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