OUFTI - 1

Thermal-vacuum and vibration test campaigns that led to the OUFTI-1 nanosatellite being fully qualified by ESA for launch and operation in Earth orbit

Xavier Werner¹, Sebastien De Dijcker¹, Valéry Broun², Gaëtan Kerschen³, Jacques G. Verly¹

¹Dept. of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Univ. of Liège ²Engineering Dept., Electronics Service, HEPL ³Dept. of Aerospace and Mechanics, University of Liège Liège, Belgium

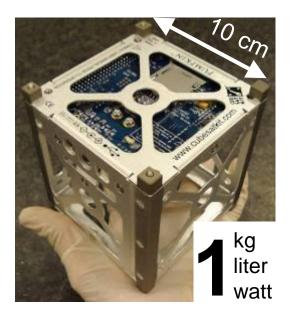
7th European CubeSat Symposium, Liège, Belgium, 9-11 Sept. 2015



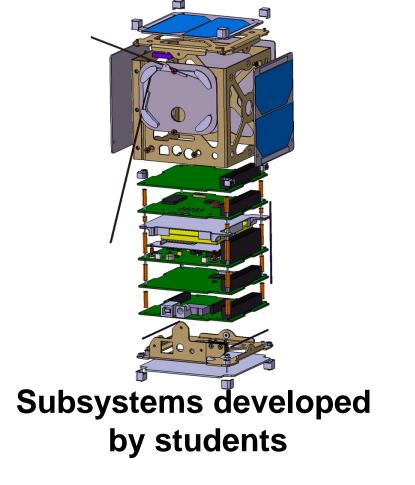
- OUFTI-1 CubeSat
- Fly Your Satellite! program
- Phase 1: Build Your Satellite!
- Phase 2: Test Your Satellite!
- Conclusions

OUFTI-1 CubeSat





1 Unit CubeSat





Main payload









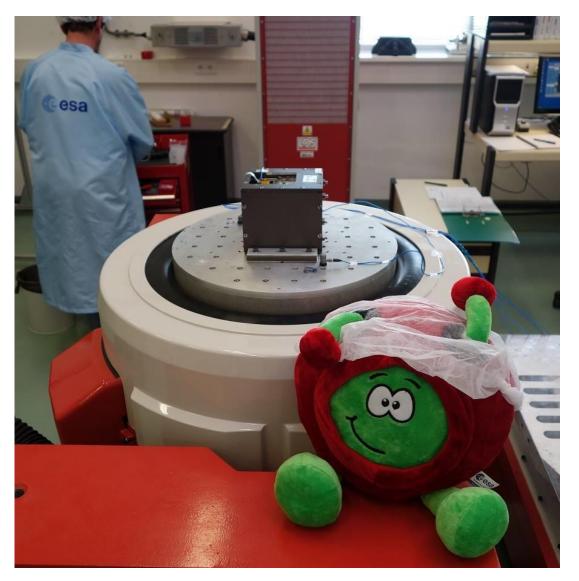




- OUFTI-1 CubeSat
- Fly Your Satellite! program
- Phase 1: Build Your Satellite!
- Phase 2: Test Your Satellite!
- Conclusions

Fly Your Satellite! program

- ESA educational program
- Structured in 4 phases
 - Build Your Satellite!
 - Test Your Satellite!
 - Ticket to Orbit!
 - CubeSats in Space!
- OUFTI-1 selected in June 2013
- Current state: end of Phase 2





- OUFTI-1 CubeSat
- Fly Your Satellite! program
- Phase 1: Build Your Satellite!
- Phase 2: Test Your Satellite!
- Conclusions

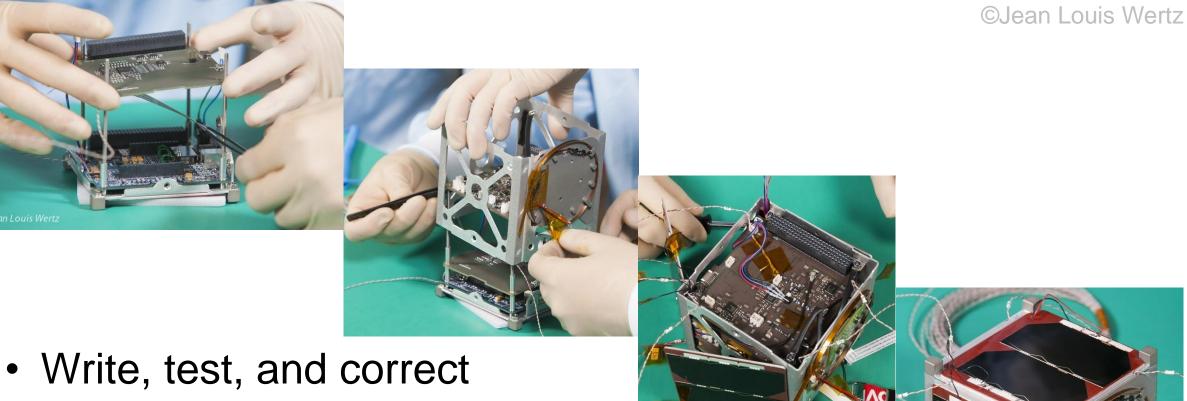
Phase 1: Build Your Satellite!

- Subsystems Functional Tests (SFT)
- Integration at Centre Spatial de Liège (CSL), Liège, Belgium
- Full Functional Test (FFT)
- Communication Test
- Mission Test (MT)



Phase 1: Integration





- integration procedures
- Integration performed at CSL, Liège, Belgium

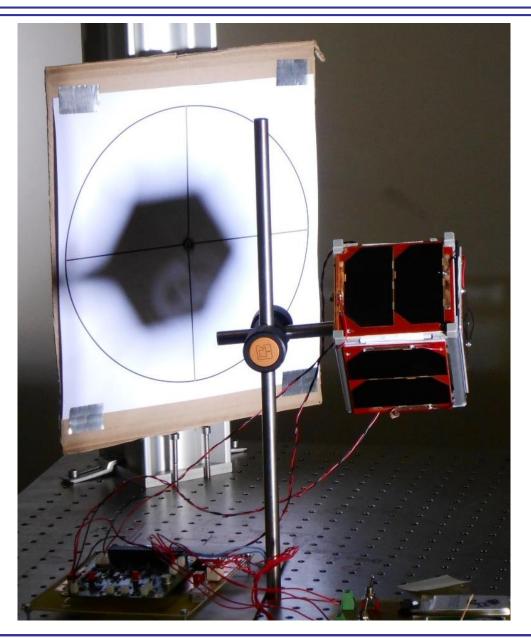
Phase 1: Communication Test

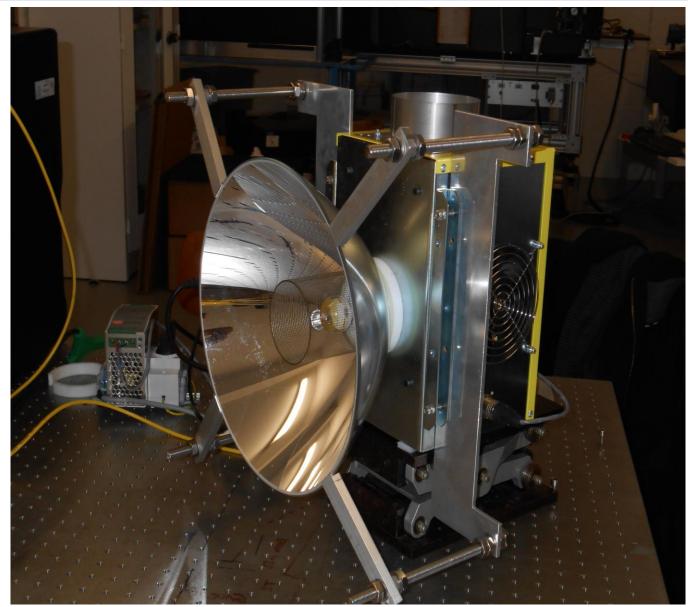
- Engineering Model on a zeppelin at 100m (~328ft) high
- Test performed at Euro Space Center, Transinnes, Belgium
- TC/TM, beacon, and D-STAR test in a wide open area



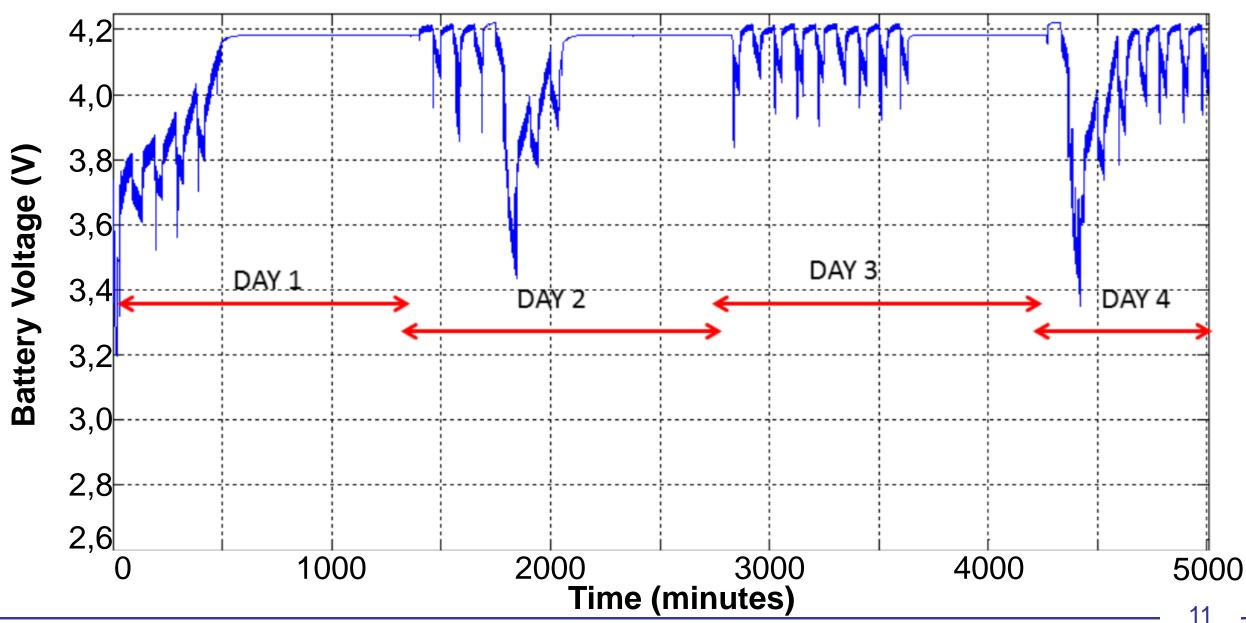
Phase 1: Mission Test (MT)







Phase 1: Mission Test (MT)



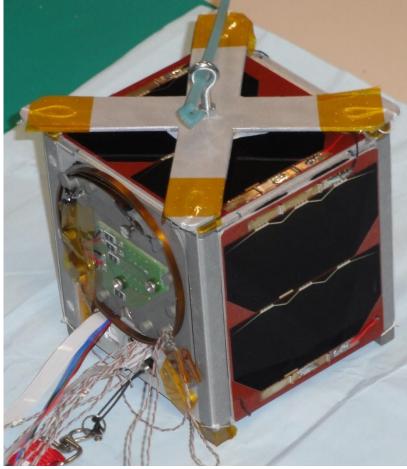




- OUFTI-1 CubeSat
- Fly Your Satellite! program
- Phase 1: Build Your Satellite!
- Phase 2: Test Your Satellite!
- Conclusions

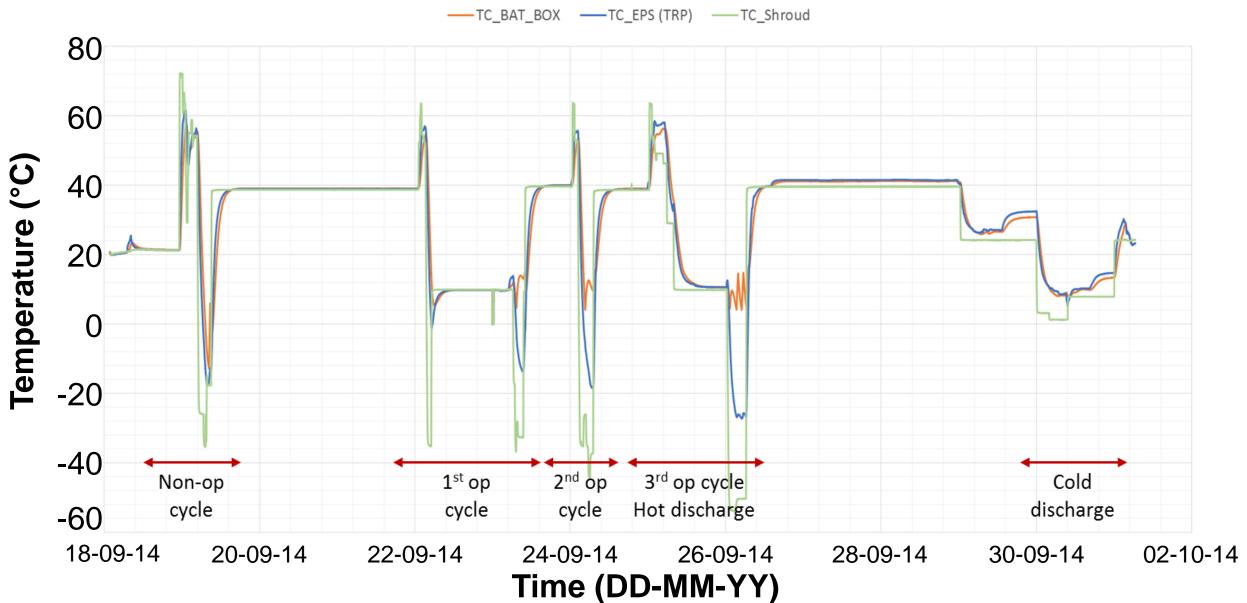
Phase 2: Thermal Vacuum Test Campaign (TVC)

- Thermal Vacuum test Campaign (TVC) at ESA/ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands





Phase 2: Thermal Vacuum Test Campaign (TVC)



Phase 2: Vibration Test Campaign (VIB)



- Random and sine at ESA/ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands → aborted
- Random at ESA/ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands
- Sine and quasi-static at V²I, Liège, Belgium

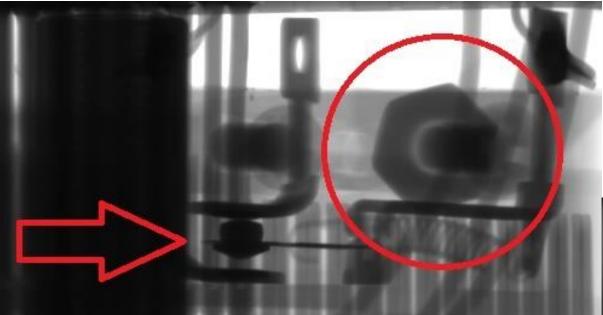
Phase 2: Vibration Test Campaign (VIB)

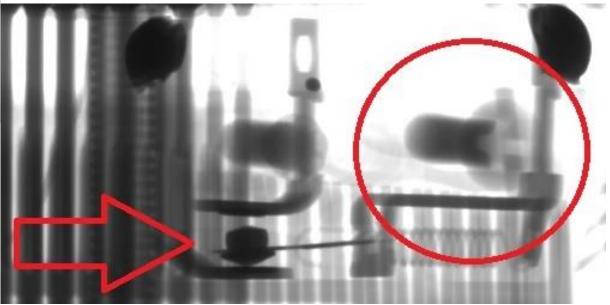
- OUFTI-1 turned ON during 1st VIB campaign
 →X-ray scan performed at ESA/ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands



Phase 2: Vibration Test Campaign (VIB)

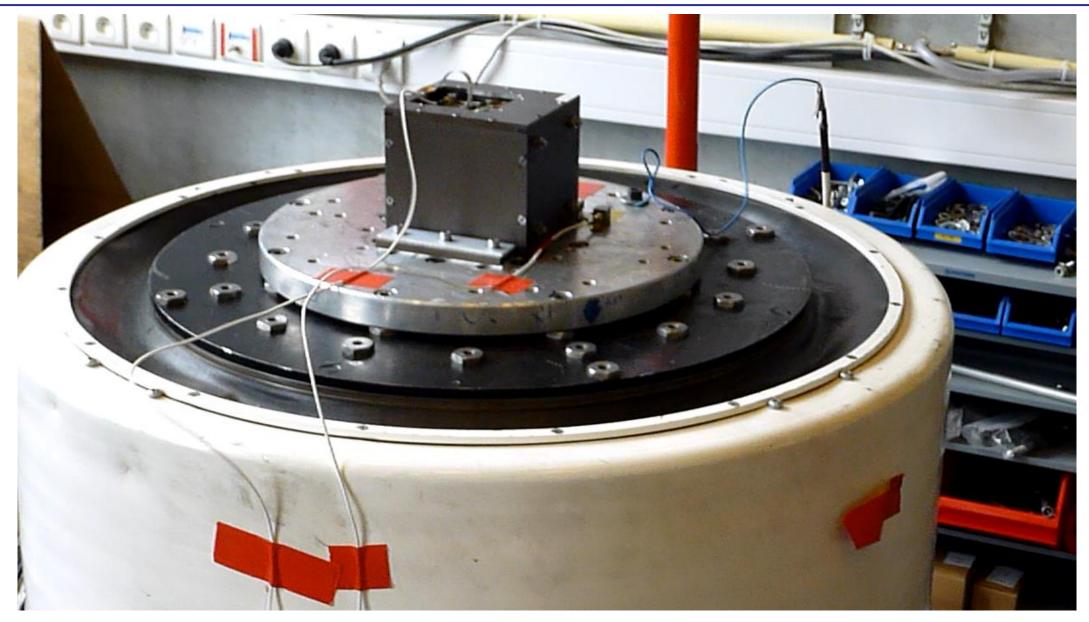
• X-ray images: Engineering Model vs. Flight Model





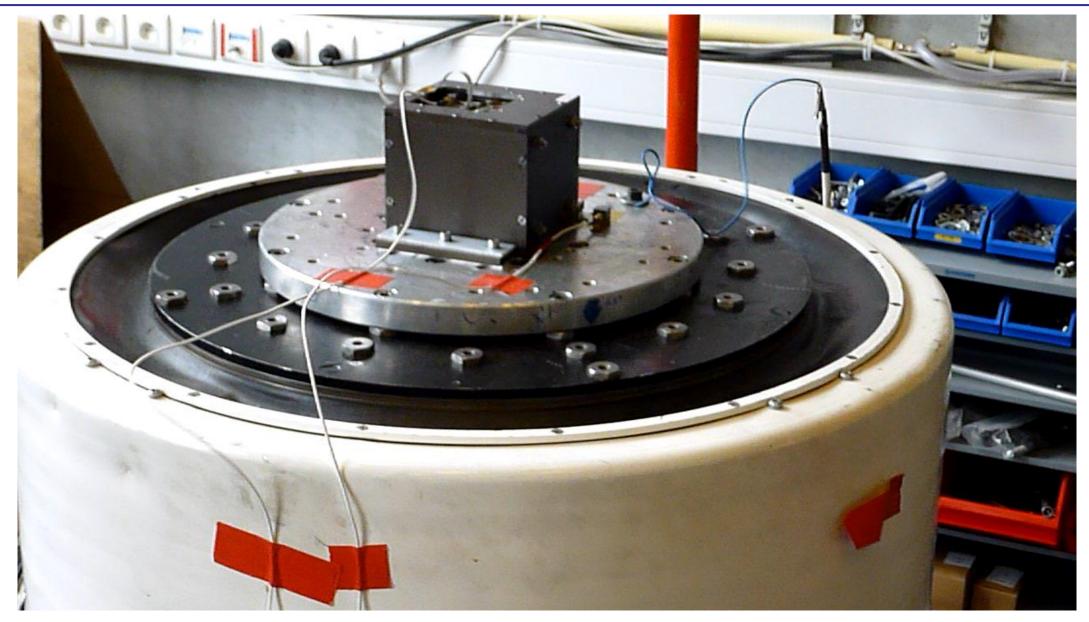
Phase 2: Quasi-static vibrations





Phase 2: Quasi-static vibrations







- OUFTI-1 CubeSat
- Fly Your Satellite! program
- Phase 1: Build Your Satellite!
- Phase 2: Test Your Satellite!
- Conclusions

Conclusions



- Tests must be considered since the very beginning of the design of the satellite.
- Tests are very important and useful.
- Step-by-step procedures must be carefully written.
- Take a lot of pictures and notes during tests.
- Design your spacecraft so that you can easily disassemble it.
- Glue all your bolts and nuts!

www.oufti.ulg.ac.be





The view expressed herein by the authors can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Space Agency