

# TRI-NAV™

## *Integrating LORAN, GPS, INS, and Timing for a Total Navigation Solution*

**Steve Smith, Gary Steimer**  
**Oak Ridge National Lab**  
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# TRI•NAV™

*(Triply-Redundant Integrated Navigation & Asset  
Visibility System)*

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*“A three-fold cord is not quickly broken” - Eccl. 4:12*

# Presentation Outline

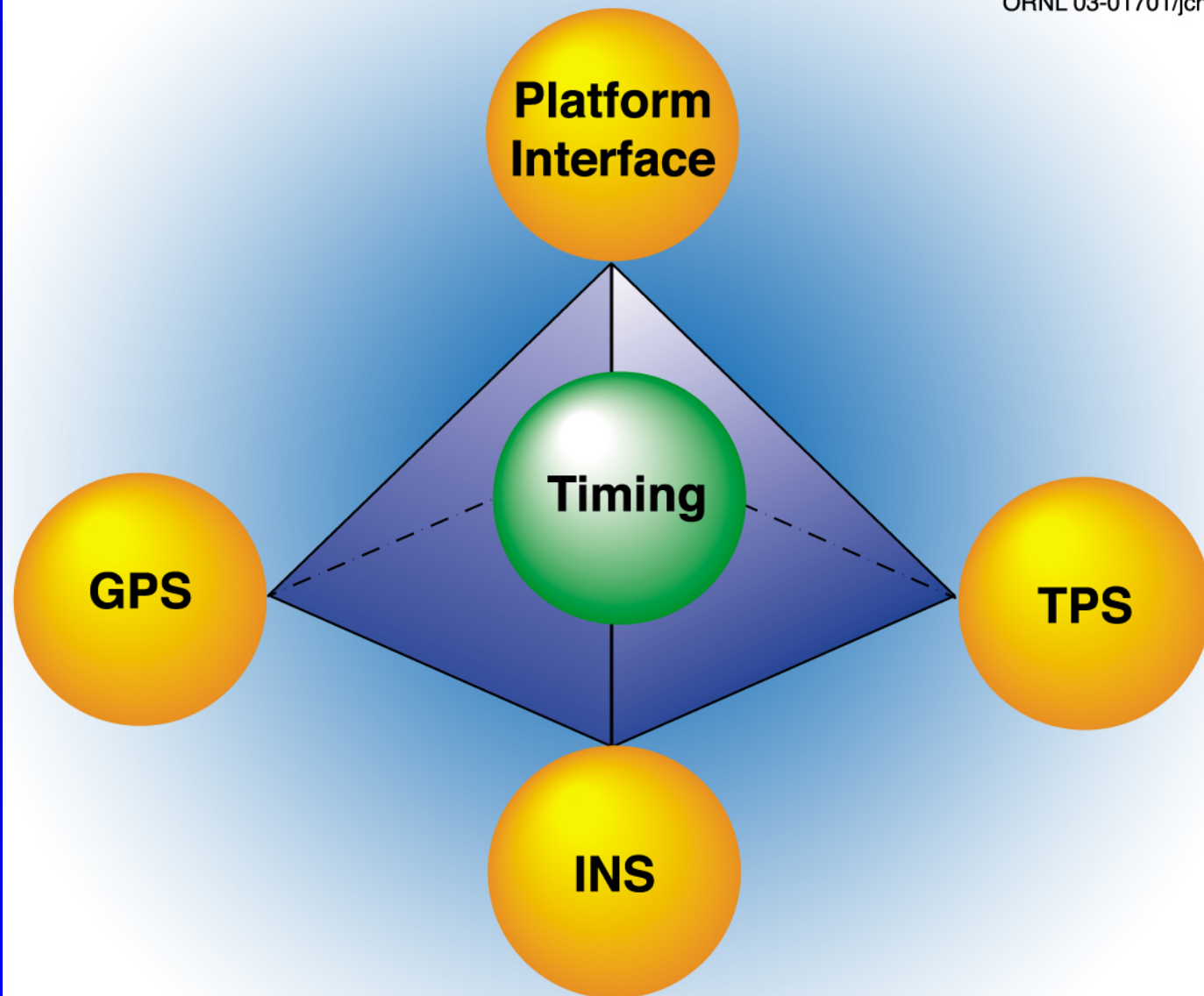
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- Technology Background
- TRI-NAV™ Overview
- Timing Technology
- TPS & LORAN
  - Overview
  - Architecture
  - Applications
- Conclusions



# TRI•NAV™ System Concept

ORNL 03-01701/jcn





# TRI·NAV™ Features

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- Fault-tolerant, triparte system combines advanced, low-power INS (Sensor + custom ORNL electronics) with advanced timing, mil-quality GPS, and an agile, robust “theater” RF location scheme.
- We are proposing for the “theater” radiolocation (TPS) a new, robust, spread-spectrum system in the same LF range of the highly reliable and commercially proven LORAN-C. Alternative TPS versions would be implemented in the HF-SHF range.
- The new system is frequency-agile (including a special hopping protocol) and would be very difficult to jam effectively ( $PG > 30$  dB).
- These “local” RF-type signals would be highly effective in foliage, rough terrain and in urban, built-up areas and would complement (and thus back up) GPS satellites.
- These new signals would also permit precise time, wide-area tactical operational information and DGPS data distribution.

# TRINAV will provide accurate, reliable PNT in GPS-denied environments

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- Frequency-agile system can operate in diverse environments (large vs. small areas, urban/rough terrain, allocations, etc.).
- GPS and TPS components cross-check each other and continually cross-calibrate the INS unit.
- TPS will provide TTFFs of < 15 seconds (cold start).
- Very low power consumption; TPS/GPS interactions help save power; INS also detects unit motion for sleep mode.
- TPS provides anti-spoofing check for GPS and is totally immune to GPS-spectrum jamming.
- Enhanced real-time PNT solution with reduced latency.
- Back-up high-accuracy time distribution via TPS.
- Better coverage than GPS alone (availability >99.5%).

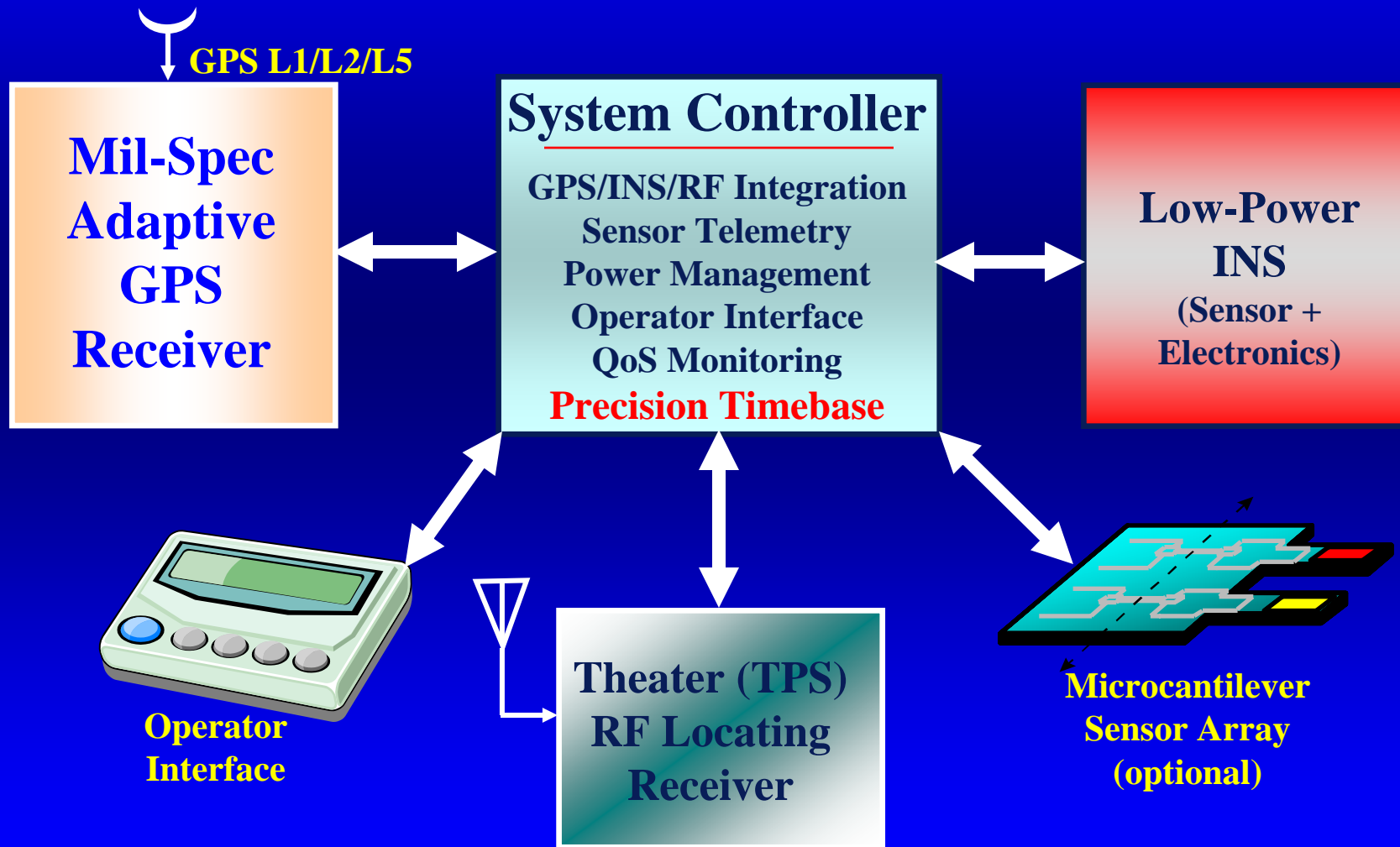


# TRINAV Advantages (cont.)

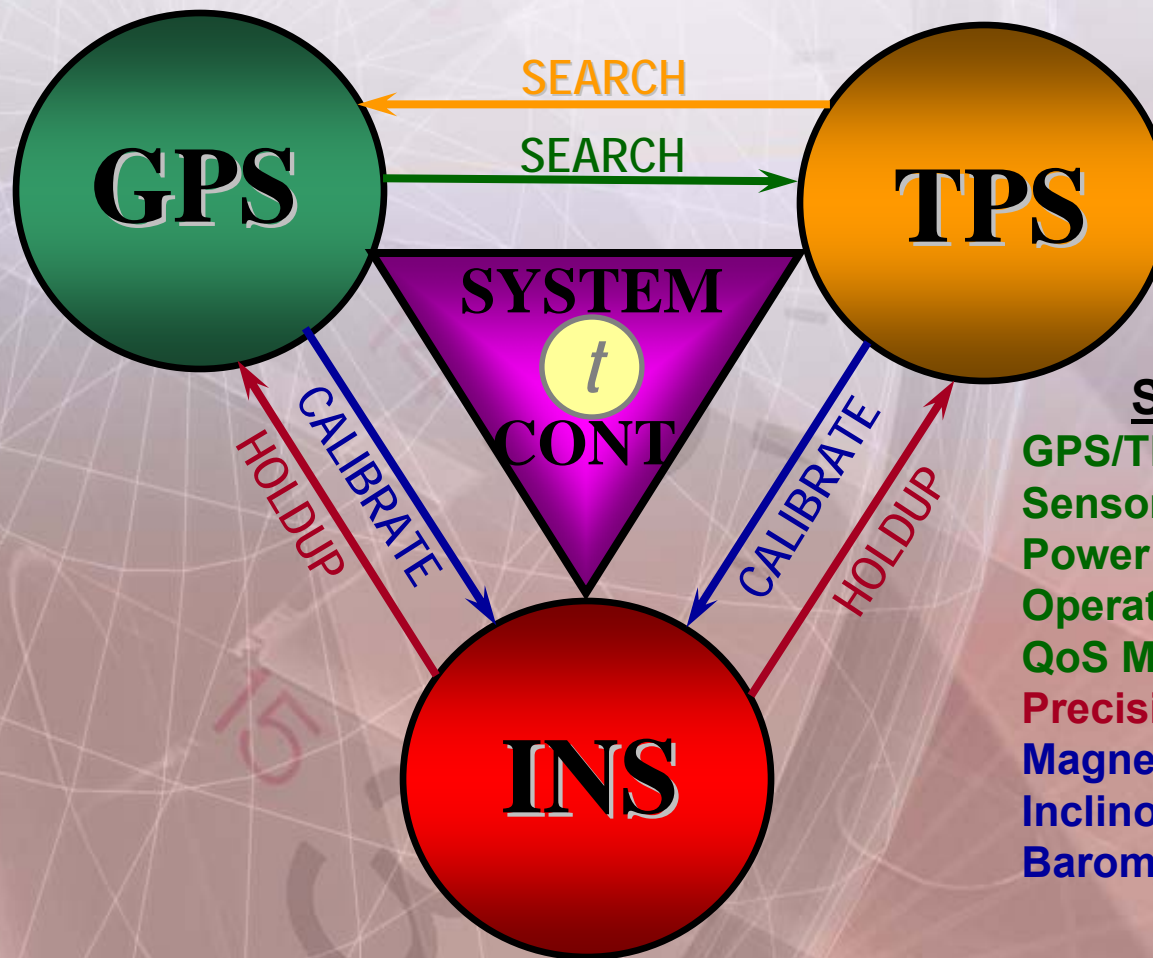
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- Permits incorporation of much lower-power, lower-cost (drifty) INS units.
- Highly upgradable SDR-based architecture and low-power ASIC/ FPGA implementation.
- System timing accuracies into sub-10 ns range.
- Longer wavelengths good for fast movers.
- TPS can assist in rapid GPS integer-cycle ambiguity resolution. TPS itself has no inherent ambiguities!
- System fix and time accuracy is dynamically assessed vs. GPS and optimized.
- Hardware consists of minimal RF section plus SDR defined FPGA-based signal processing.
- Advanced TRINAV system timing is being designed with Allan Space Time Solutions.

# TRI•NAV™ System Block Diagram



# 7- D TRI-NAV™ System



## System Module:

GPS/TPS/INS Integration  
Sensor Telemetry  
Power Management  
Operator Interface  
QoS Monitoring  
Precision Clock (EQUATE)  
Magnetic Compass  
Inclinometer  
Barometer



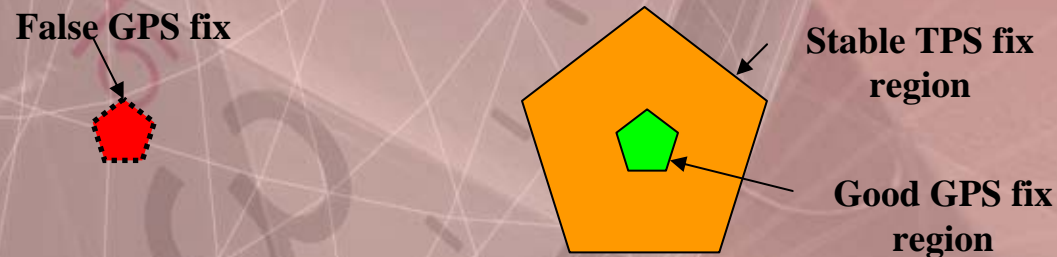
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# TRI-NAV™ Operation

- GPS is normally the principal positioning source.
- If GPS is unavailable, TPS is used instead (almost as accurate).
- If both RF signals are blocked, the INS unit continues to provide location.
- The system also contains an ultra-accurate, low-power clock (EQUATE).
- All TRINAV components cross-check and cross-calibrate each other.
- The result: TRINAV is an extremely reliable system!

## GPS/TPS Cross-Checking



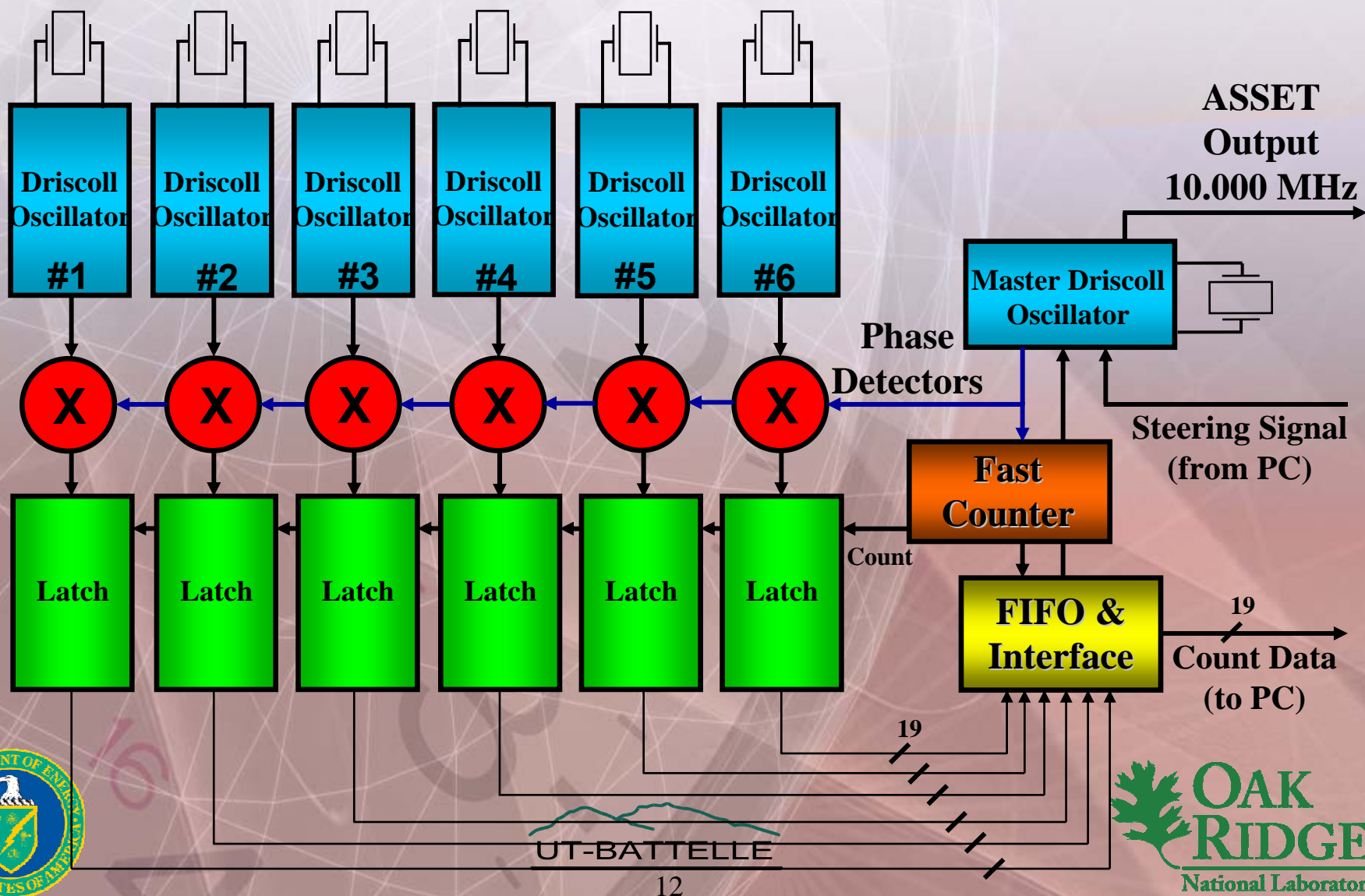
# INS Devices for TRI·NAV™

- **Selectable, based on performance needs.**
- Existing mil-type nav-grade units ( $<0.1^\circ/\text{hr}$ ), e.g., RLG or FOG types, are quite expensive & power-hungry.
- **COTS MEMS automotive gyros (e.g., ADI) have high drift rates ( $35\text{-}70^\circ/\text{hr}$ ) but are low cost ( $< \$20$ ) and low power (10s of mW).**
- **Three new developing INS technologies are promising:**
  - **Electromagnetic “6-D” Sensor.**
  - Next-generation MEMS gyro from PSU-ARL [sensor] and ORNL [ASIC electronics] ( $\sim 0.01^\circ/\text{hr}$ ).
  - **EQUATE clock/accelerometer: disruptive technology.**
- TRI·NAV™ can accommodate a wide range of INS performance levels while maintaining effective integration with the GPS and TPS/LORAN RF radiolocation schemes.



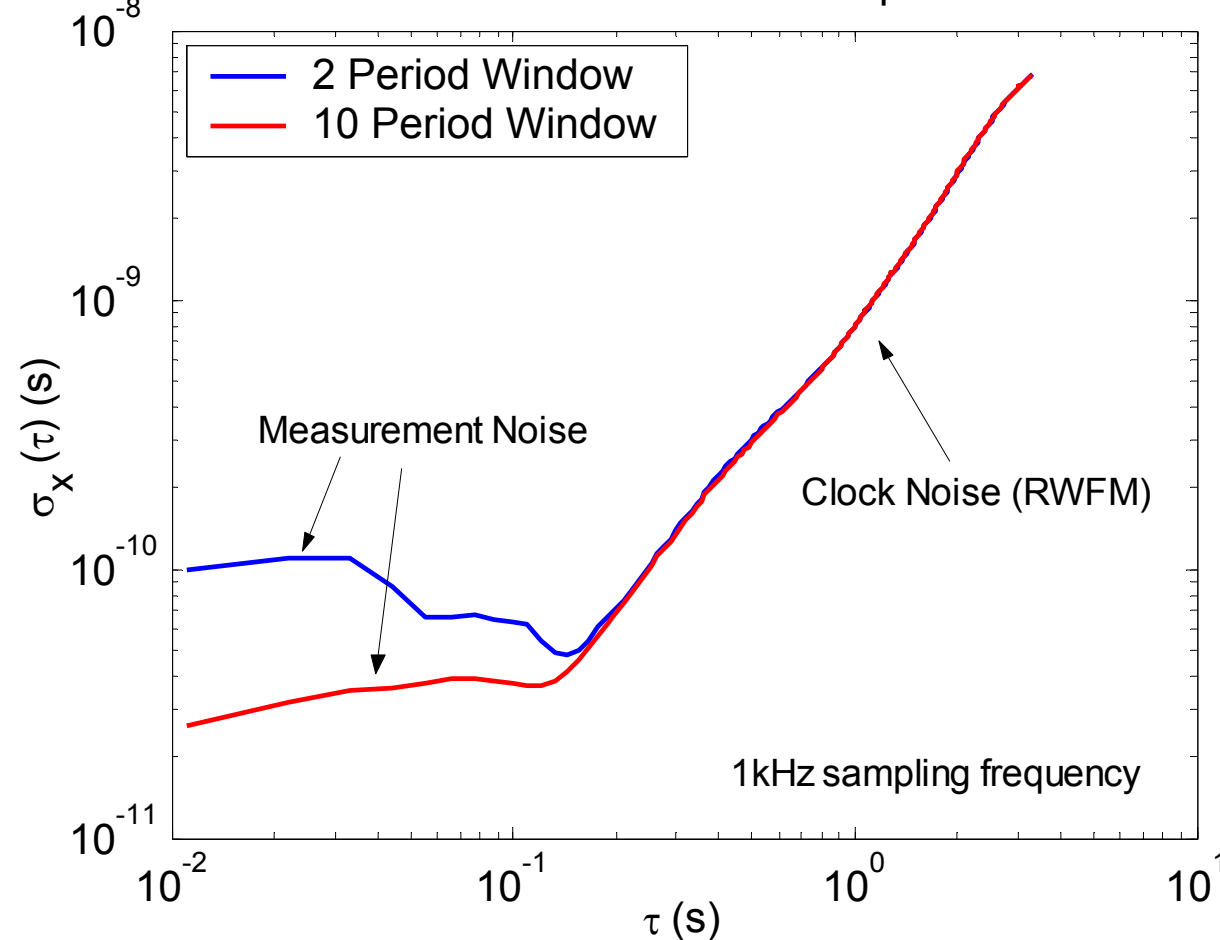
# EQUATE 7-Oscillator Array Prototype

## Block Diagram



# Clock Time-Dispersion Plots

A Pair of Driscoll Oscillators - Oscilloscope Measurements



**Average time dispersion about 0.65 ns/sec.**

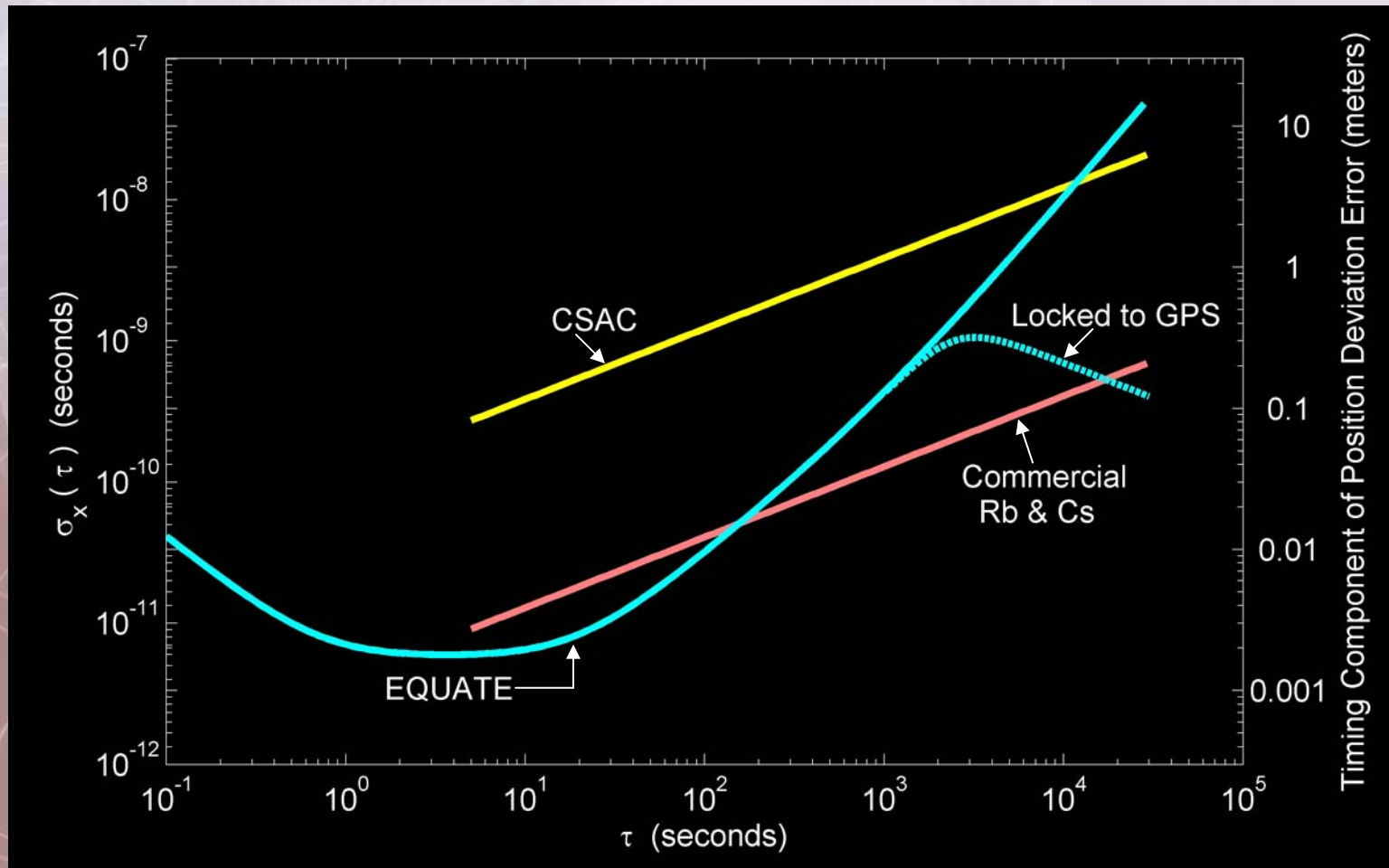


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# Averaged Phase Residuals



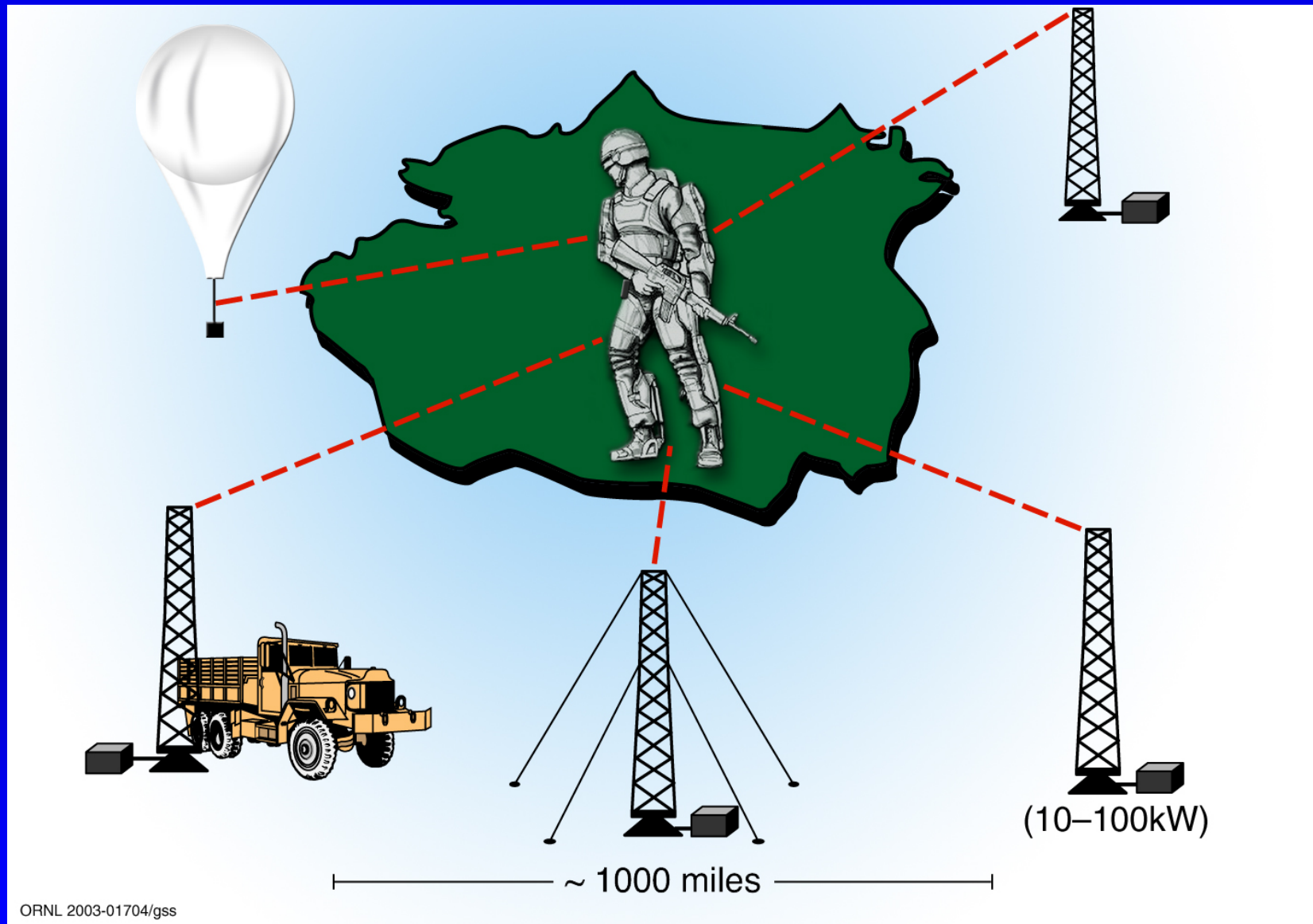


# TRI•NAV must operate reliably in all types of terrain



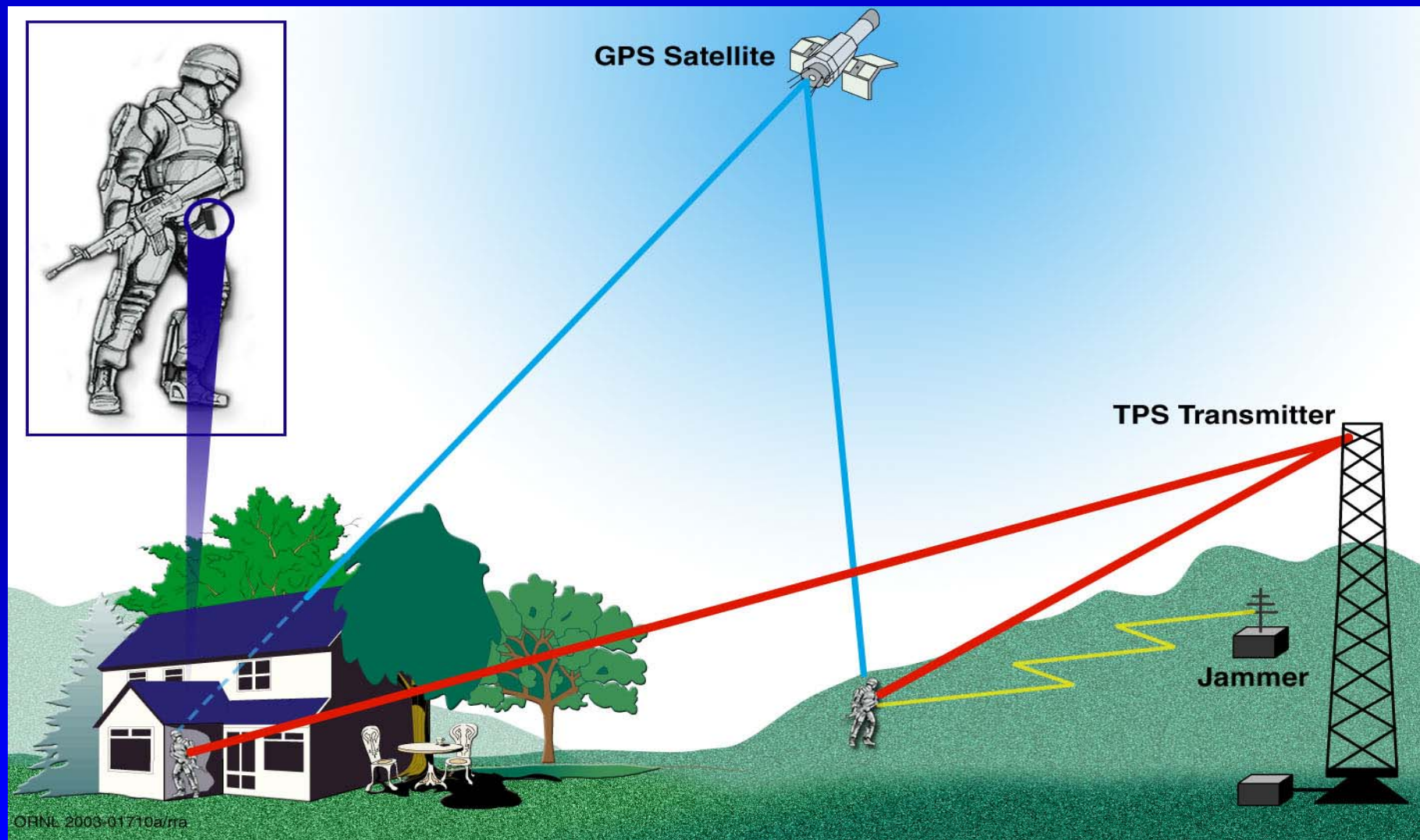
# Theater Positioning System (TPS)

## *Typical Deployment Scenario*

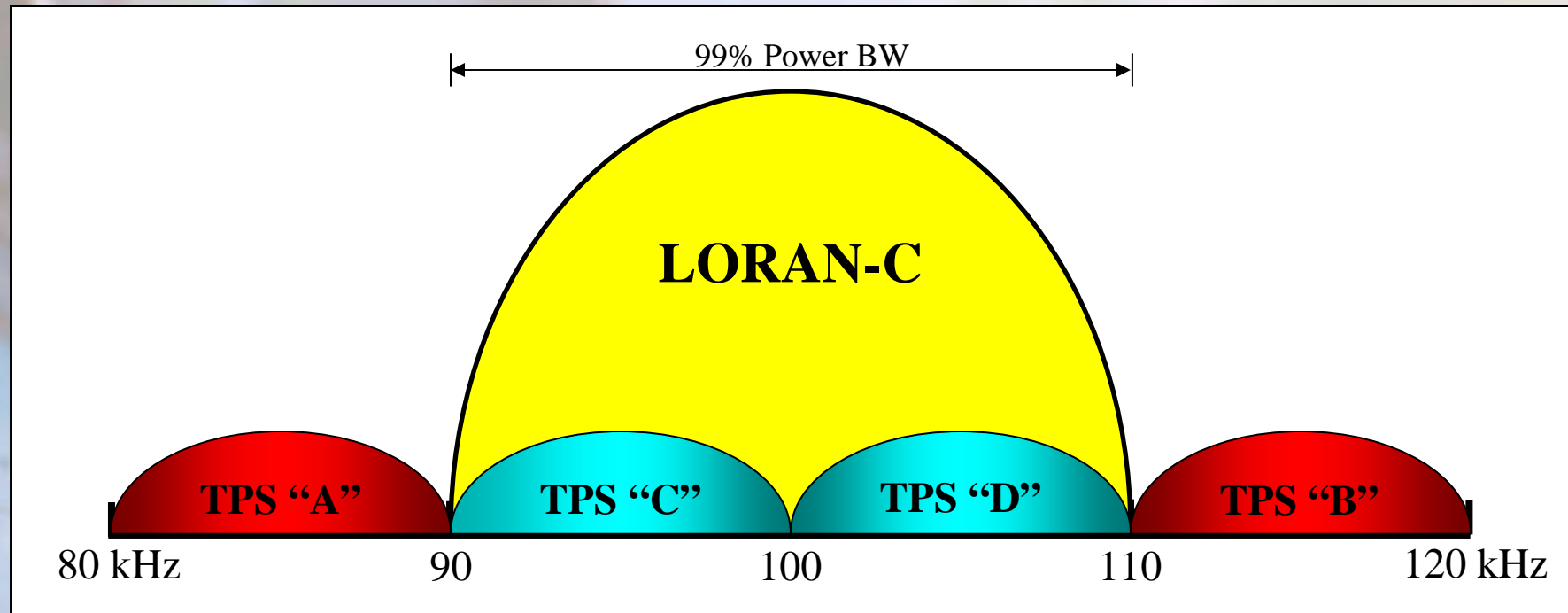




# Low-frequency TPS signals will penetrate where GPS won't



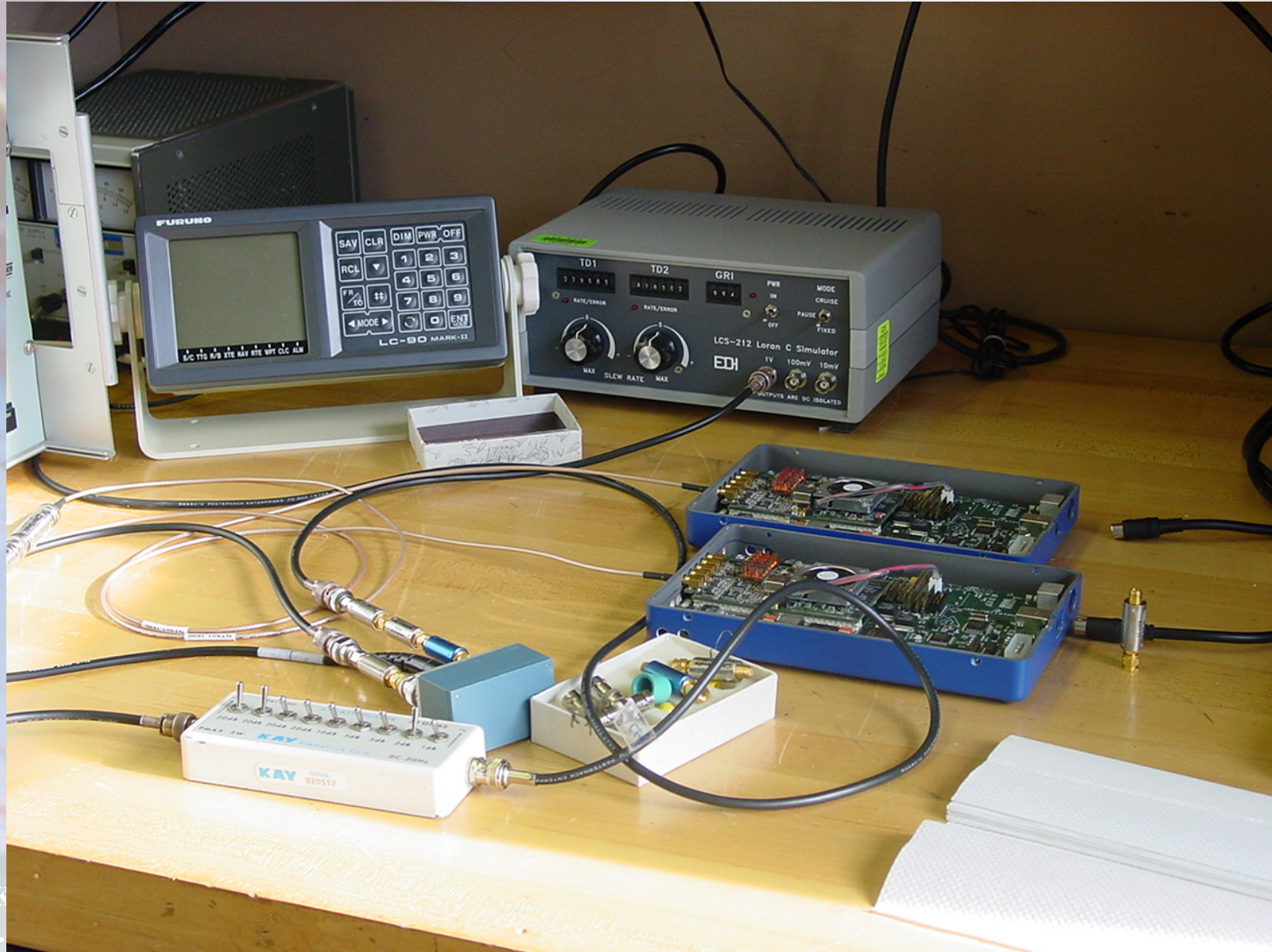
# TPS/LORAN-C Spectral Tests



- **Standard LORAN-C has >99% of its power from 90-110 kHz.**
- **TPS A, B are “clear” SS signals centered at 85, 115 kHz.**
- **TPS C, D are SS signals embedded in LORAN, centered at 95, 105 kHz.**



# TPS/LORAN Testing Setup



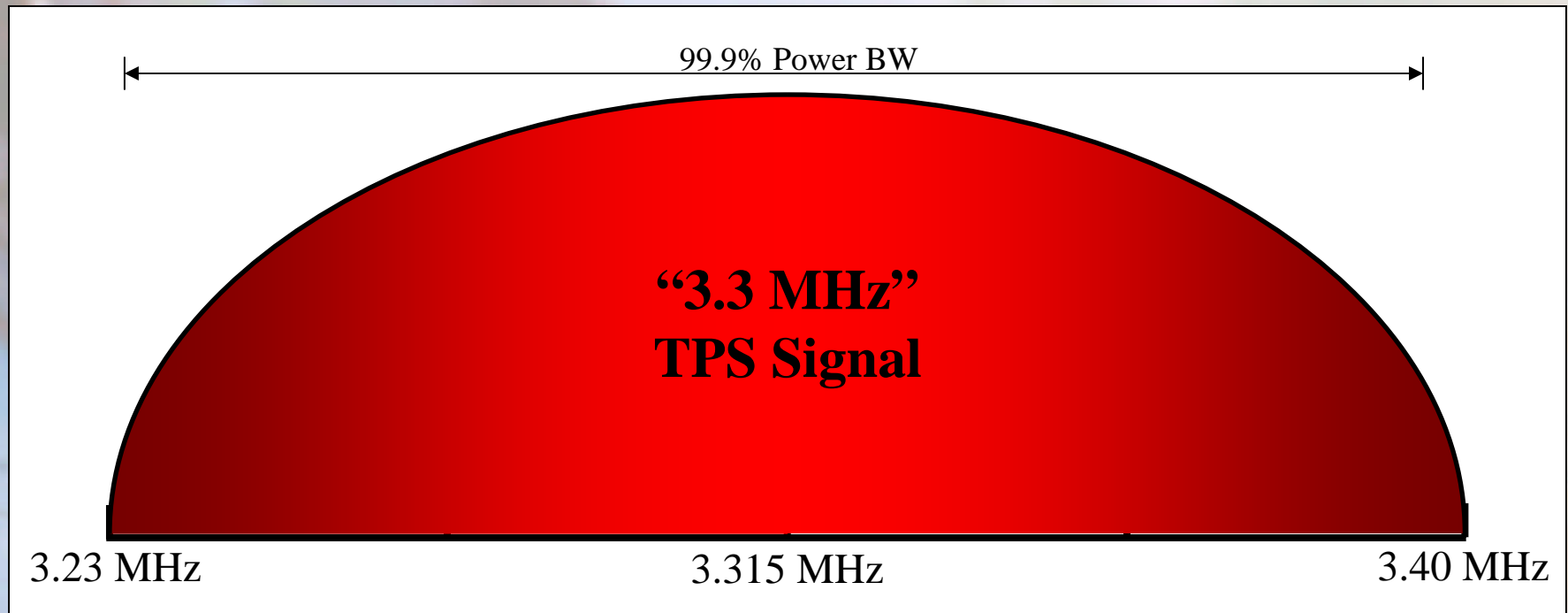


# TPS/LORAN Conclusions

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- TPS signals, being spread-spectrum, can peacefully coexist with standard LORAN-C. This is essential for allocation purposes!
- Tests at ORNL have shown that simulated, non-filtered TPS signals A & B produce no interference to LORAN location functions at SIRs of -5 dB or better; filtered work to -18 dB SIR!
- A full-band, unshaped (80-120 kHz) TPS signal at -3 dB or lower SIR causes no LORAN errors.
- TPS signals can be co-transmitted from LORAN-C sites at quite high powers (up to -6 dB) with no ill effects on LORAN systems.
- Filtering of TPS A, B signals (as via SOQPSK modulation) offers even higher levels of interoperability (~ -18 dB) SIR.
- TPS C, D signals can be additionally used to improve TPS system performance, reliability, and data rates; SIR ~ -7 dB (for equal ABCD signal levels re LORAN).

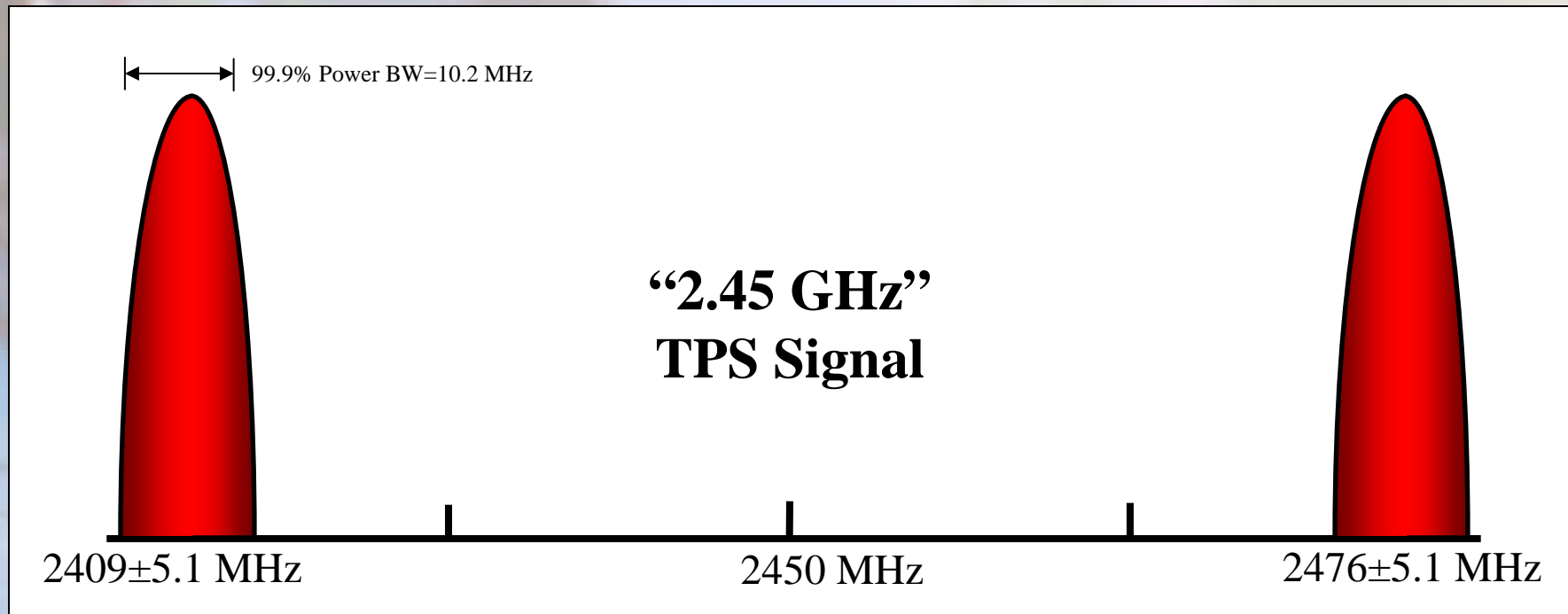
# MOUT TPS Signal Spectrum



- **New TPS signal occupies radionav band at 3.23-3.40 MHz.**
- **TPS signal is a single carrier at 3.315 MHz with I/Q chipping rates of 85 kHz; tailored for MOUT testing needs.**
- **TPS signal is filtered to avoid out-of-band emissions.**

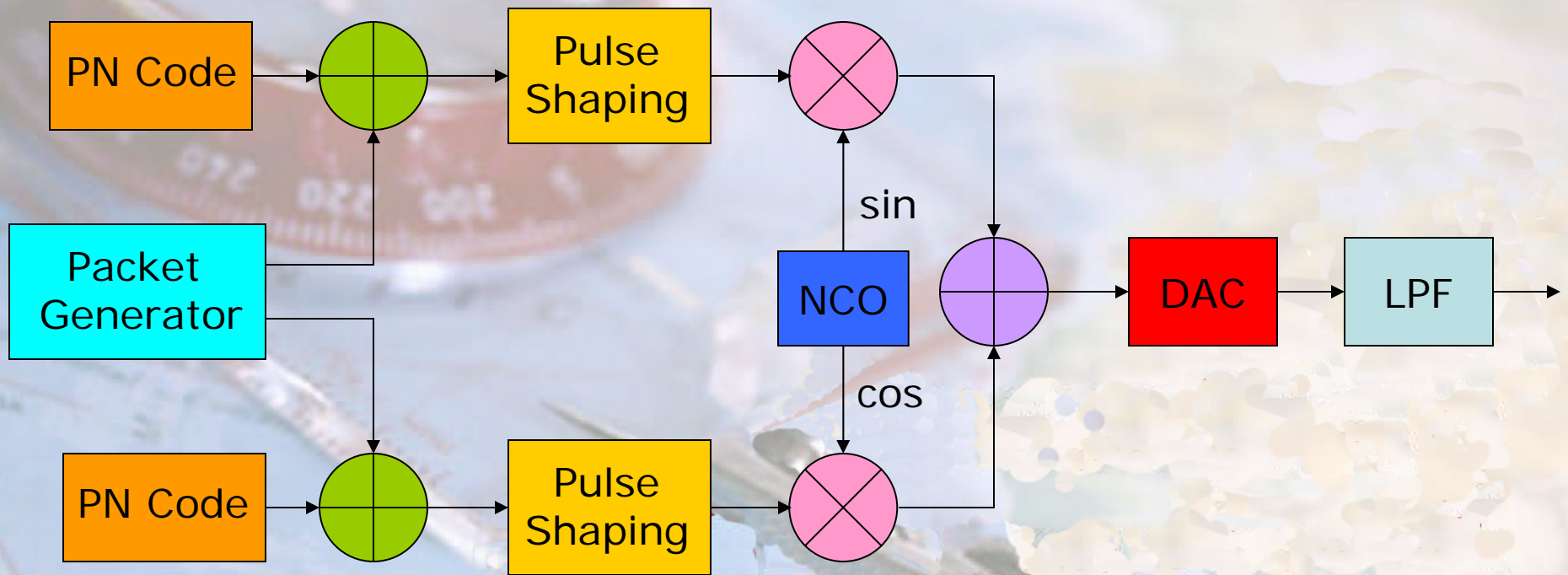


# LOS TPS Signal Spectrum



- **New LOS TPS signal occupies ISM band, 2.40-2.4835 GHz.**
- **TPS signal has dual carriers at ~2409, 2576 MHz with I/Q chipping rates of 5 MHz; tailored for air range testing.**
- **TPS signal is filtered to avoid out-of-band emissions.**

# Transmit Channel Architecture



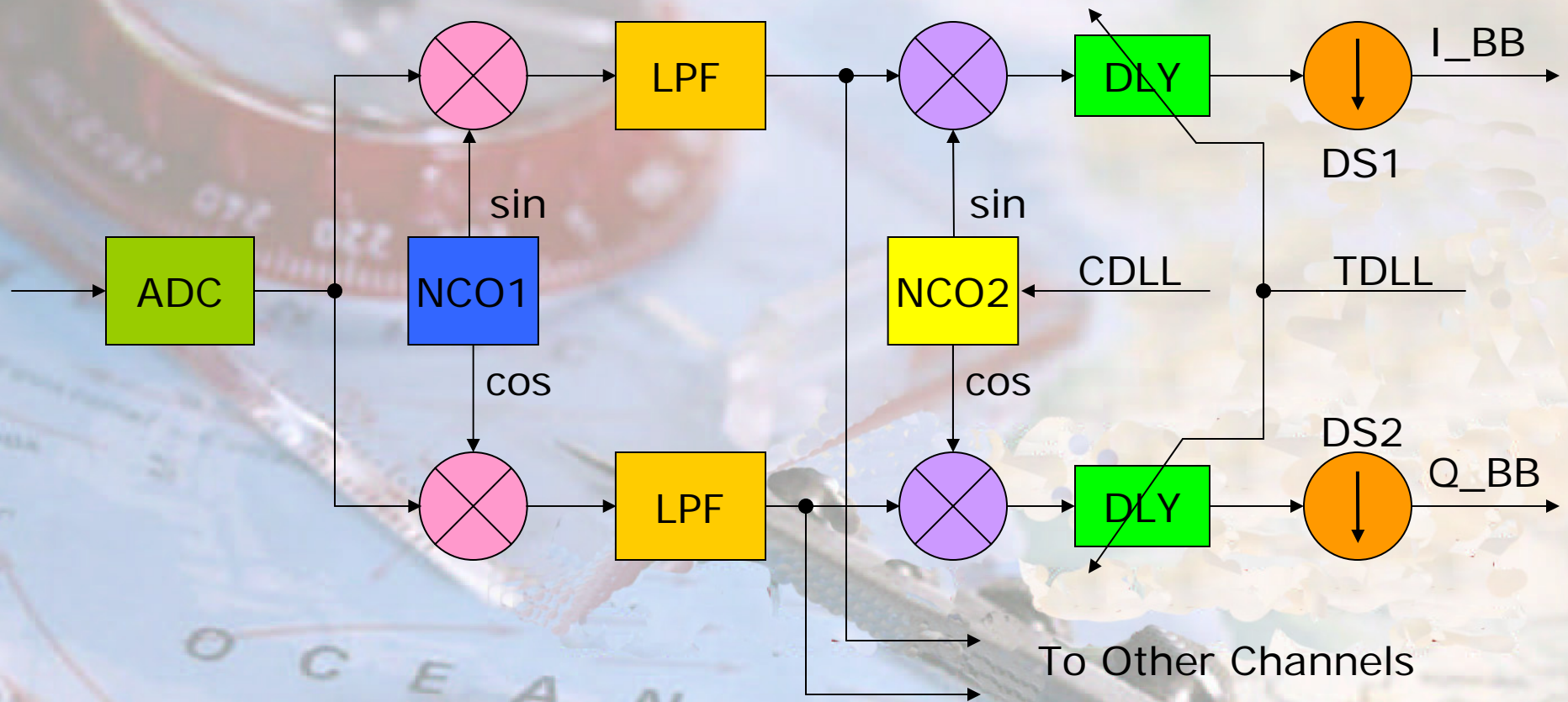
PN Code: 1023 Gold  
Symbol Rate: 10/s  
BB BW: 5.115 kHz

Packet length: 160 symbols  
Preamble: 32 symbols  
DDW: 32 MLS aug.  
Data Length: 96 symbols

Carrier: 85, 115 kHz  
RF BW: 5.115 kHz  
Sampling: 26.52 MHz



# Receiver Architecture



ADC: 14 bits @ 13.26 MHz  
NCO1: 85, 115 kHz  
NCO2: ~ 0 MHz

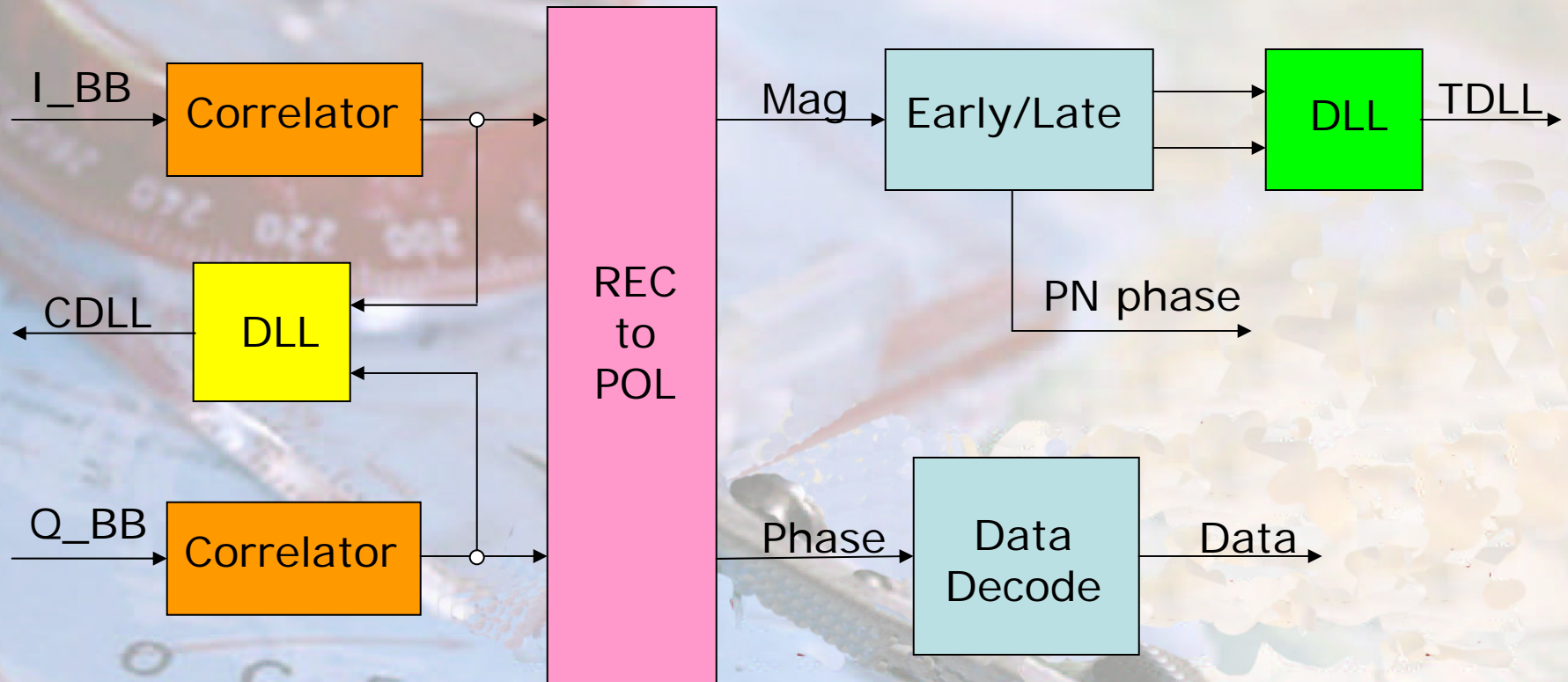
DLY step:  $T_{ch}/156$   
DS1, DS2: 78

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# Receiver Architecture (cont.)



Correlator: parallel 8-bit@2 samples/chip Output: Data (192 bits)

RECtoPOL: 14-bit CORDIC

DLL: 2<sup>nd</sup> order

TDLL Register(7 bits)  
CDLL Register(10 bits)  
PN Phase(11 bits)

# TPS Radiolocation Process

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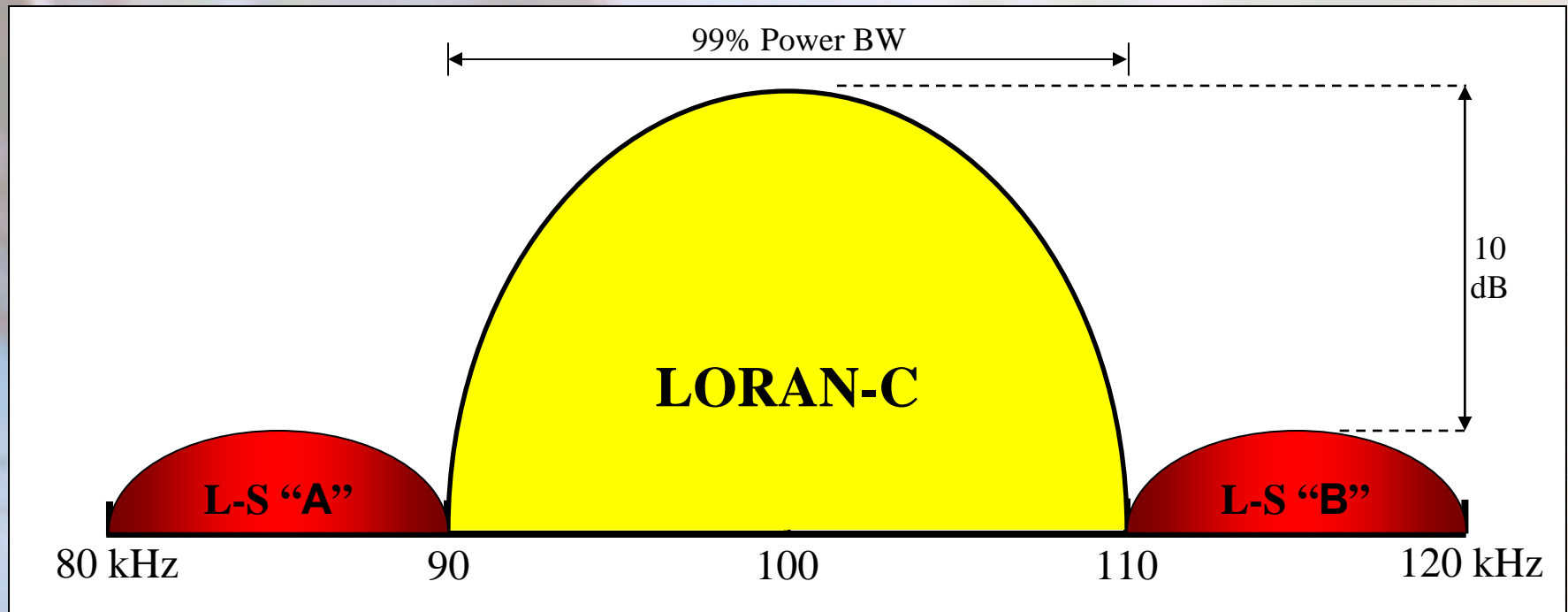
- Like GPS, TPS initially uses DS code phase for coarse ranging.
- Unlike GPS, TPS uses code correlator resolution ( $1/_{17}$ ,  $1/_{23}$  rather than  $1/_{1540}$ ) to specify the correct carrier cycle.
- Unlike GPS, TPS uses its extended Costas loop to unambiguously determine the carrier phase to within  $<0.35^\circ$  (at 100 kHz, 9.77 ns).
- **Essentially no carrier-cycle ambiguity as in GPS.**
- Longer code epoch gives  $\sim 3 \times 10^7$  m (18,600 mi.) unambiguous range.



# Basic TPS Parameters (~100 kHz)

- Carrier frequencies: 85(A), 95(C), 105(D), 115(B) kHz.
- Chipping rate/code: 5.115 kHz, C/A Gold set (I/Q).
- Spreading: DS with FH security component.
- Modulation: Shaped OQPSK, constant envelope.
- Compatibility: Configured to interoperate with standard LORAN-C (-18 dB SIR [AB]; -7 dB [ABCD], lab tests).
- Process gain: 30 dB (1023-length code).
- Power-line noise rejection: 40 dB + 30 dB PG.
- Standalone accuracy (optimized): ~3 m (H), 20-s avg.
- Accuracy in TRINAV™ setup: ~ same as GPS.

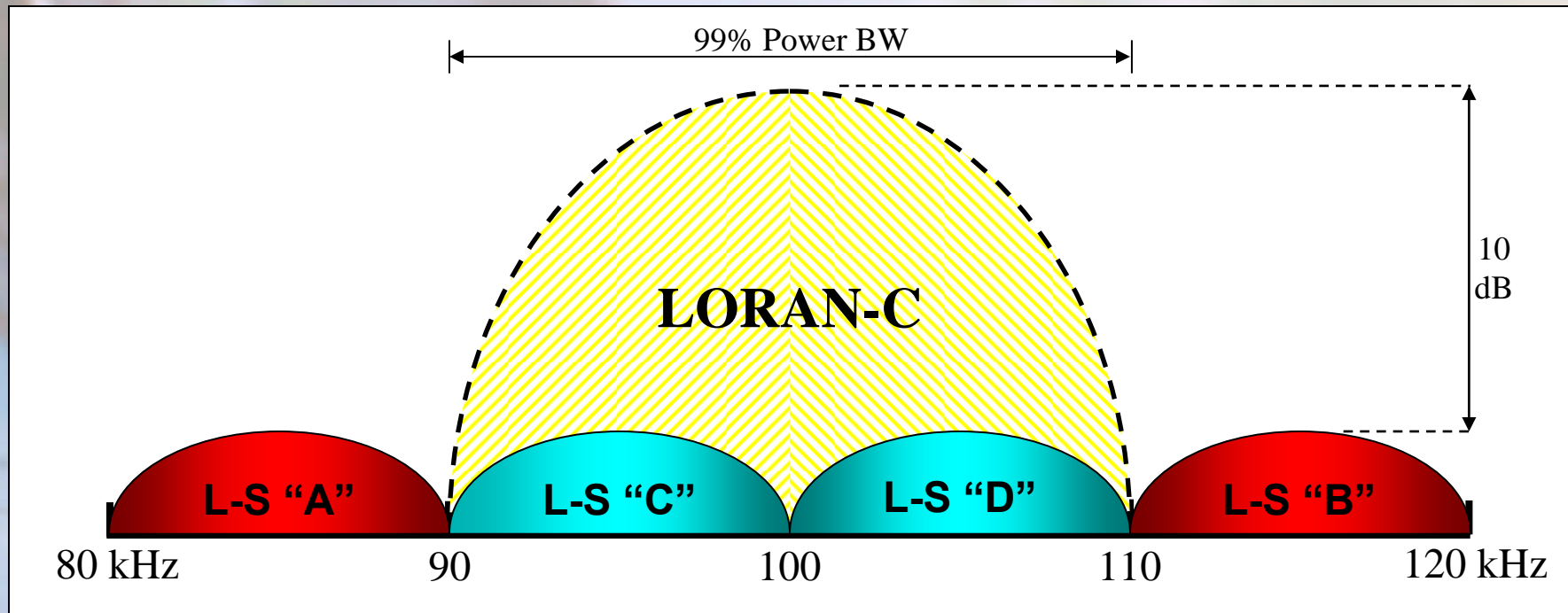
# LORAN-C/S Spectra, Phase 1



- **Standard LORAN-C has >99% of its power from 90-110 kHz.**
- **L-S "A", "B" are "clear" SS augmentation signals centered at 85 & 115 kHz, at typically 10 dB below the main LORAN-C.**
- **L-S "A", "B" signals have been verified by measurements to cause no LORAN fix errors up to an SIR of -18 dB!**



# LORAN-C/S Spectra, Phase 2



- **LORAN-S "A" and "B" signals remain as in Phase 1.**
- **New signals "C" and "D" are added, centered at 95 & 105 kHz, with the same basic format as "A" and "B".**
- **The LORAN-C signal is discontinued, with a reduction in operating costs and > 20 dB better system performance.**

# LORAN-S Advantages (Phase 1)

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- L-S signals (“A” & “B”) are each spread-spectrum for high process gain (30 dB) for excellent narrowband and impulse noise rejection – about 20 dB better than in LORAN-C (–10 dB A/B power).
- Data rate of 5 bits/s (per I/Q phase) permits additional rejection of 50/60-Hz line noise of ~ 40 dB in receiver via integration.
- TTFF of about 15 seconds is much faster than in LORAN-C or GPS.
- Embedded navigation data stream also distributes precise time, wide-area data, weather & emergency alerts, & DGPS/DL-S corrections.
- Basic CDMA approach permits multiple, overlapping service areas for continuous, reliable coverage; raises GPS/TPS availability to >99.5%.
- “A” & “B” signals can be encrypted to prevent unauthorized use.
- Almanac broadcasts provide rapid local propagation corrections.
- L-S can also provide vertical position determinations.

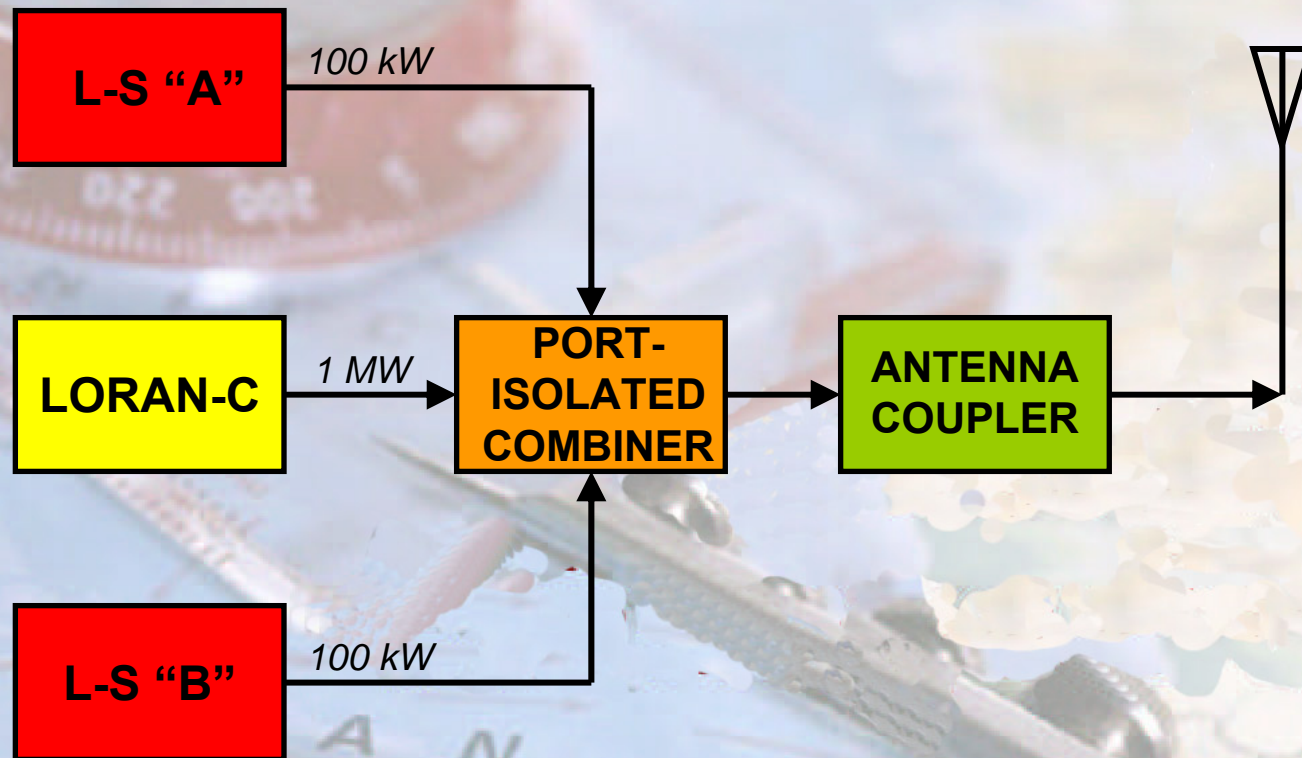


# LORAN-S Advantages (Phase 2)

- L-S signals (“A” - “D”) are each spread-spectrum for high process gain (30 dB) for excellent narrowband and impulse noise rejection – about 20 dB better than in LORAN-C.
- Data rate of 5 bits/s (per phase) permits additional rejection of 50/60-Hz line noise of ~ 40 dB in receiver via integration.
- TTFF of about 8 seconds is much faster than in LORAN-C or GPS.
- Embedded navigation data stream has double the effective rate of Phase 1; more detailed information available quicker.
- Basic CDMA approach permits multiple, overlapping service areas for continuous, reliable coverage; raises GPS/L-S availability to >99.8%.
- “C” & “D” signals can be encrypted to prevent unauthorized use, or can be altered in emergency situations for rapid data transmission.
- Almanac broadcasts provide rapid local propagation corrections.
- Higher-accuracy vertical position determinations than in Phase 1.



# LORAN-S/C TX Implementation



# LORAN-S Implementation Summary

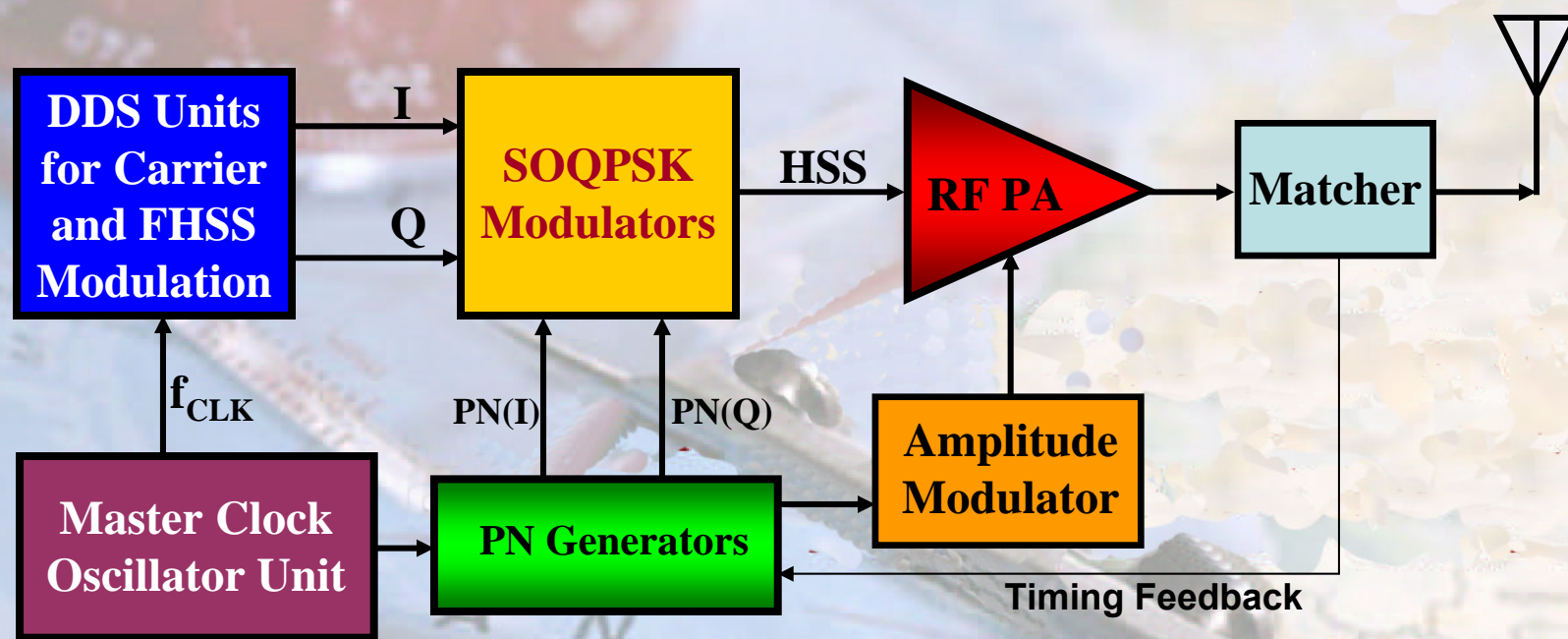
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- LORAN-S would be deployed at existing LORAN-C sites. The two new signals would likely be at a 10-100 kW power level and be coupled into the existing antenna via a port-isolated combiner system. The transmitter and network hardware are of commercially available types.
- Operating AC power costs for LORAN-S would range from roughly 25 to 250 kW (about 18% to 185% of a dual rated 1-MW LORAN-C site, depending on the LORAN-S power levels). No additional personnel would be required.
- Coverage (noise- and skywave-limited) should be somewhat larger than in LORAN-C and should be much better in electrically noisy urban zones. Time and DGPS data can also be distributed via LORAN-S.
- Existing LORAN-C receivers can be straightforwardly redesigned to add LORAN-S service.

***LORAN-S is a strong component in the long-term future of terrestrial PNT sources as a reliable backup to GPS.***

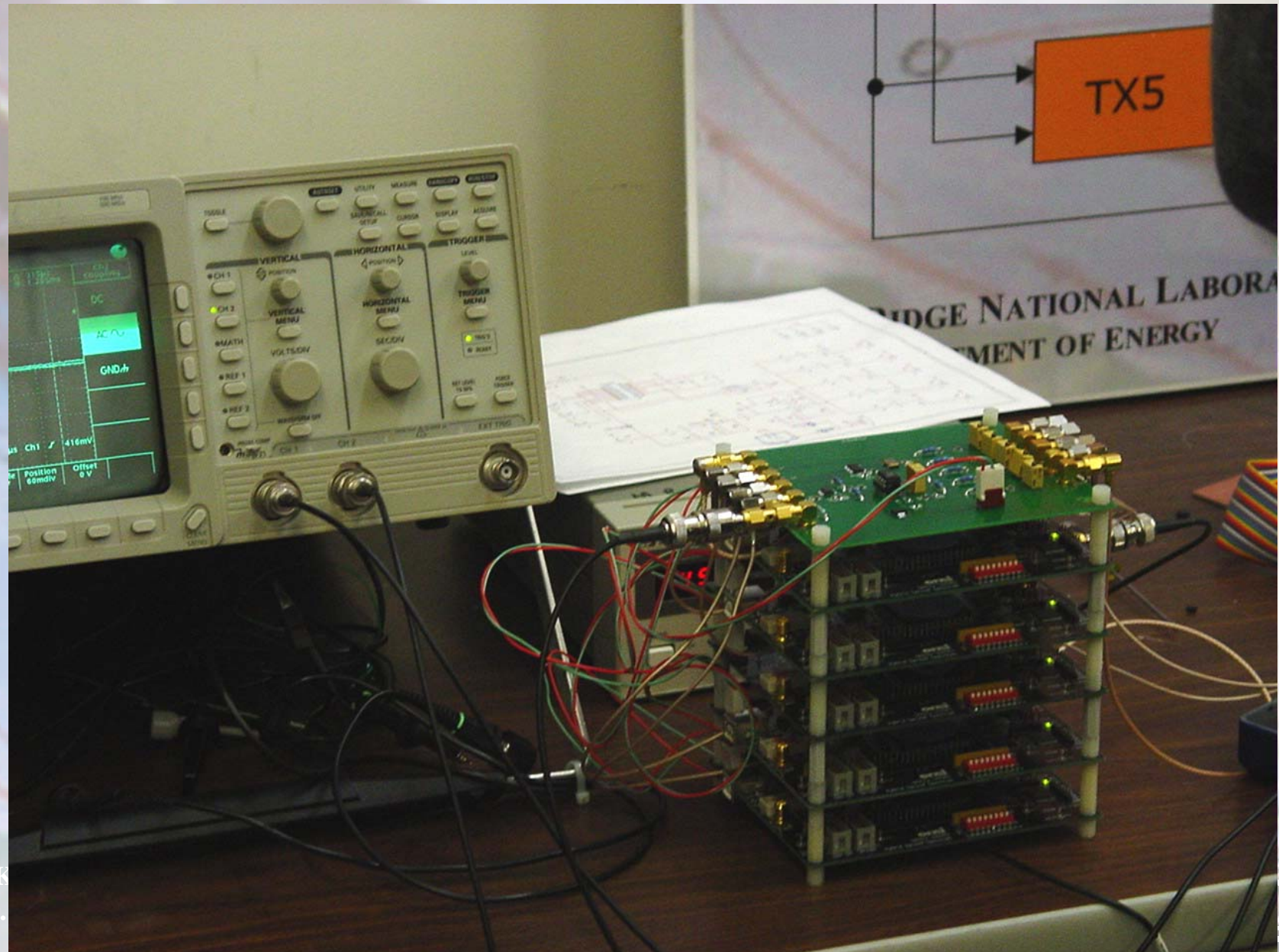


# TPS/L-S Transmitter Block Diagram



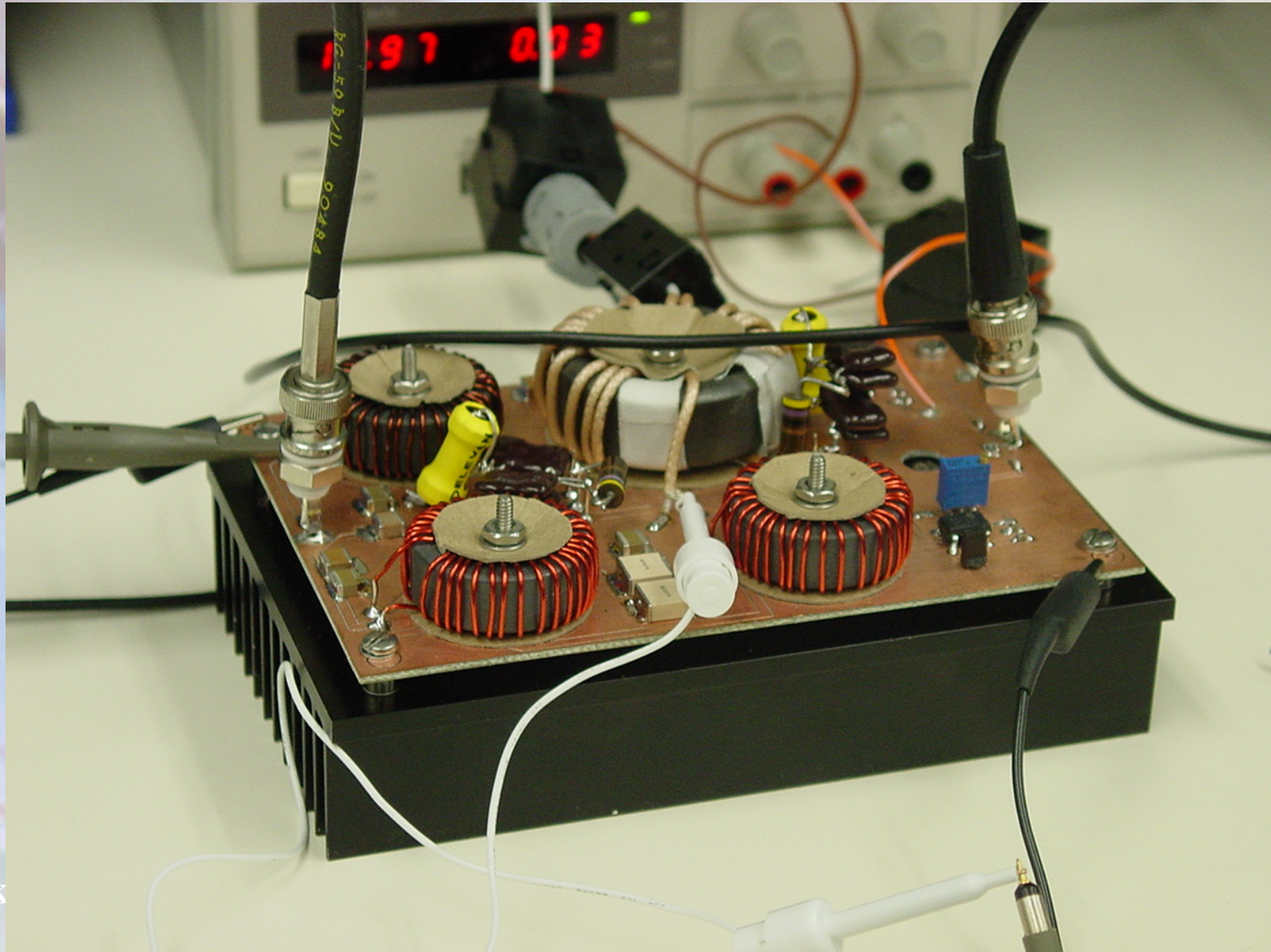


# 5-Transmitter Test Assembly



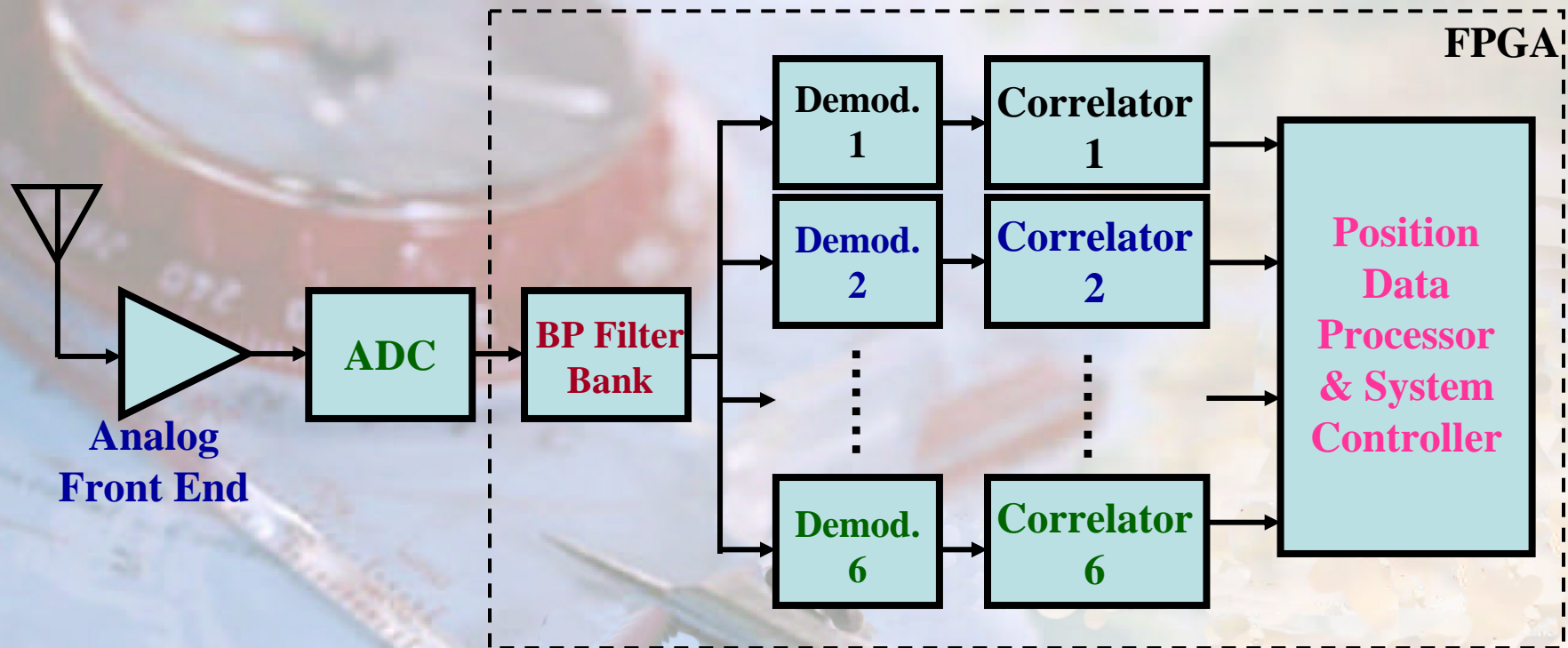


# TPS 100-kHz RF Power Amp





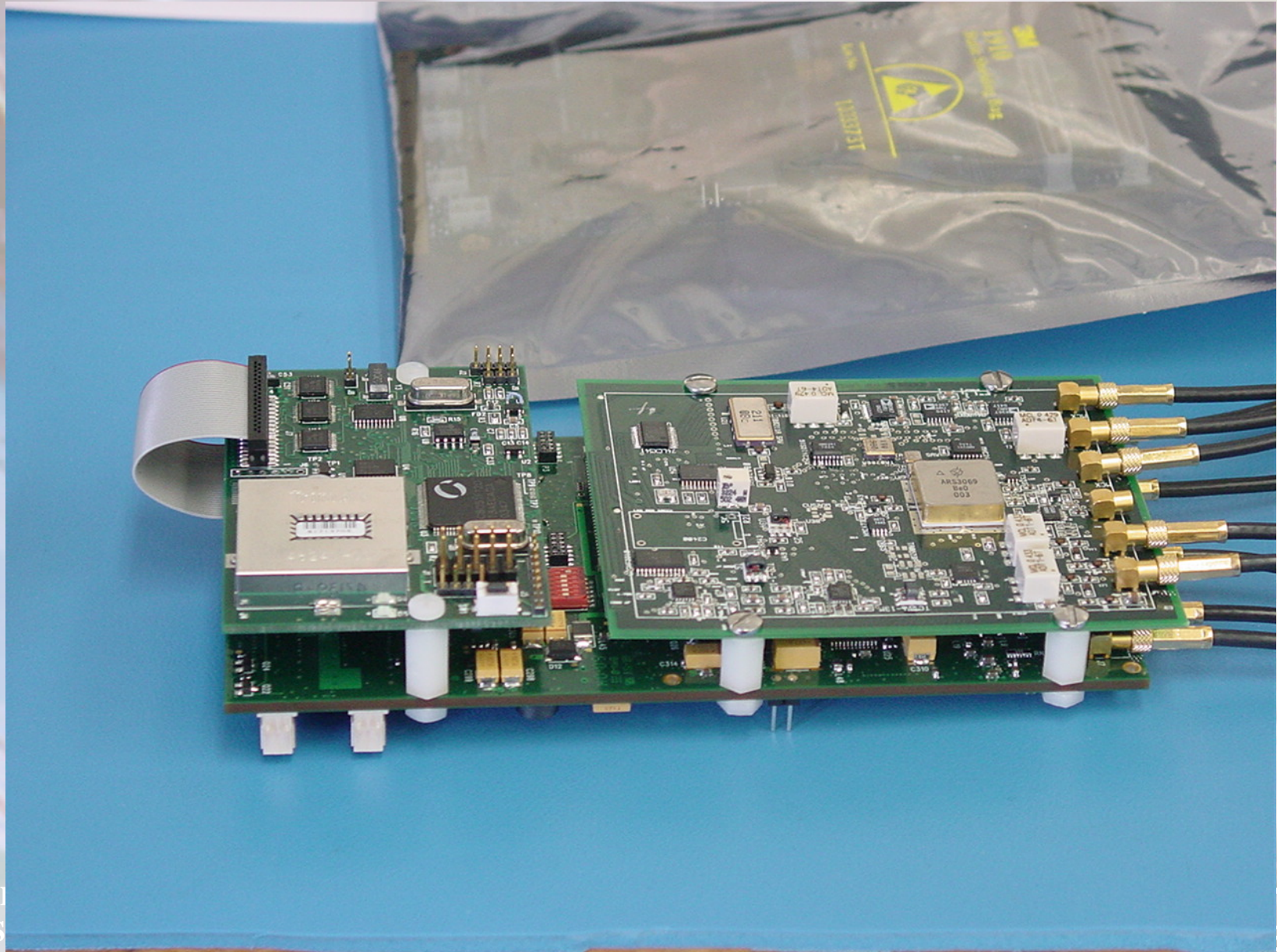
# TPS/L-S Receiver Block Diagram



- Low-power digital FPGA-based architecture with  $\mu$ Controller.
- Multiple ( $\geq 6$ ) fast serial correlators/phase detectors for high-resolution TPS/L-S position location.
- Ample RAM for position storage for 96-hr. test duration.
- Operator, GPS data, and INS interfaces can be added.

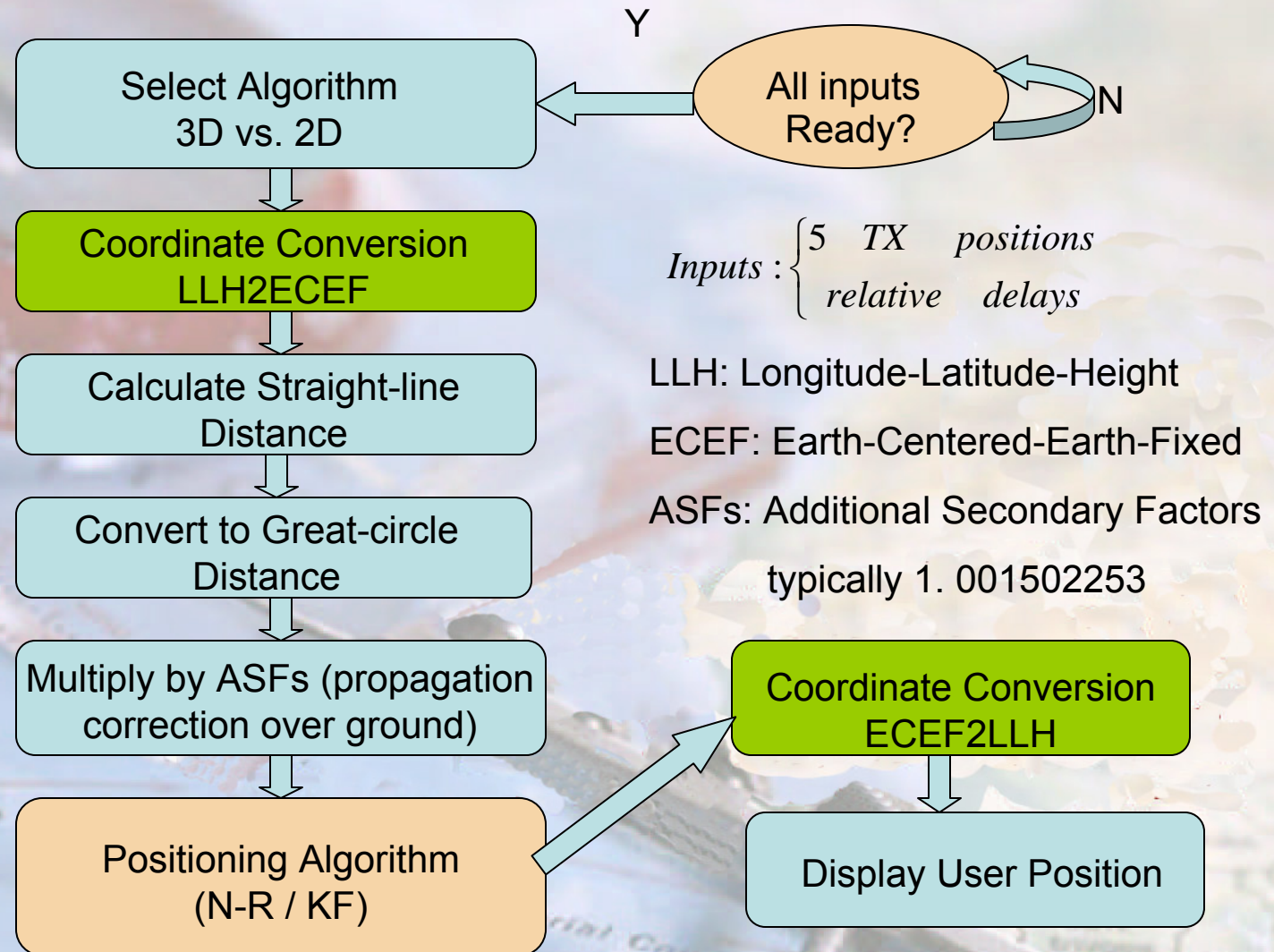


# TPS Receiver Prototype Board

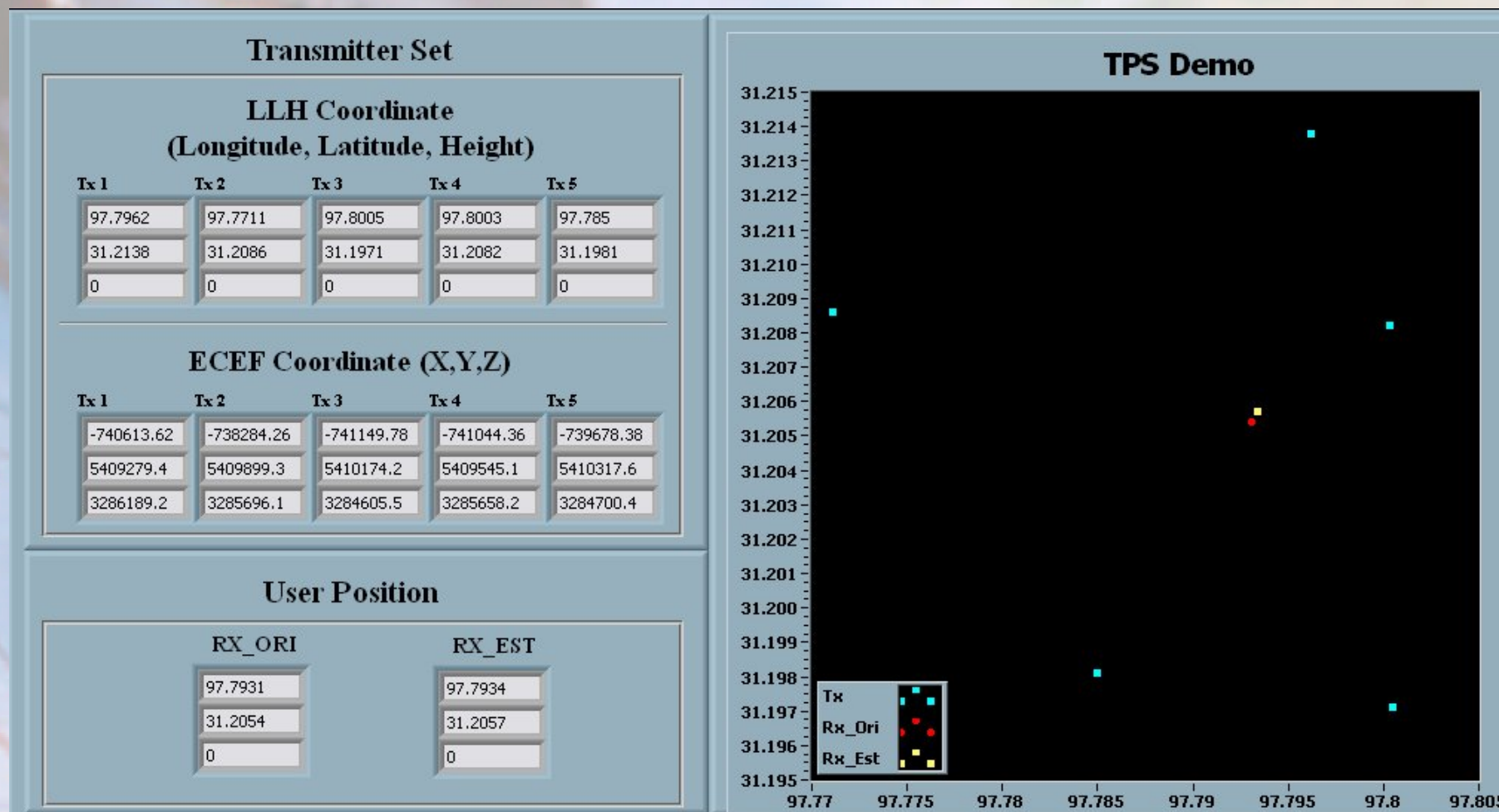




# Overall Radiolocation Algorithm



# Navigation Software Interface



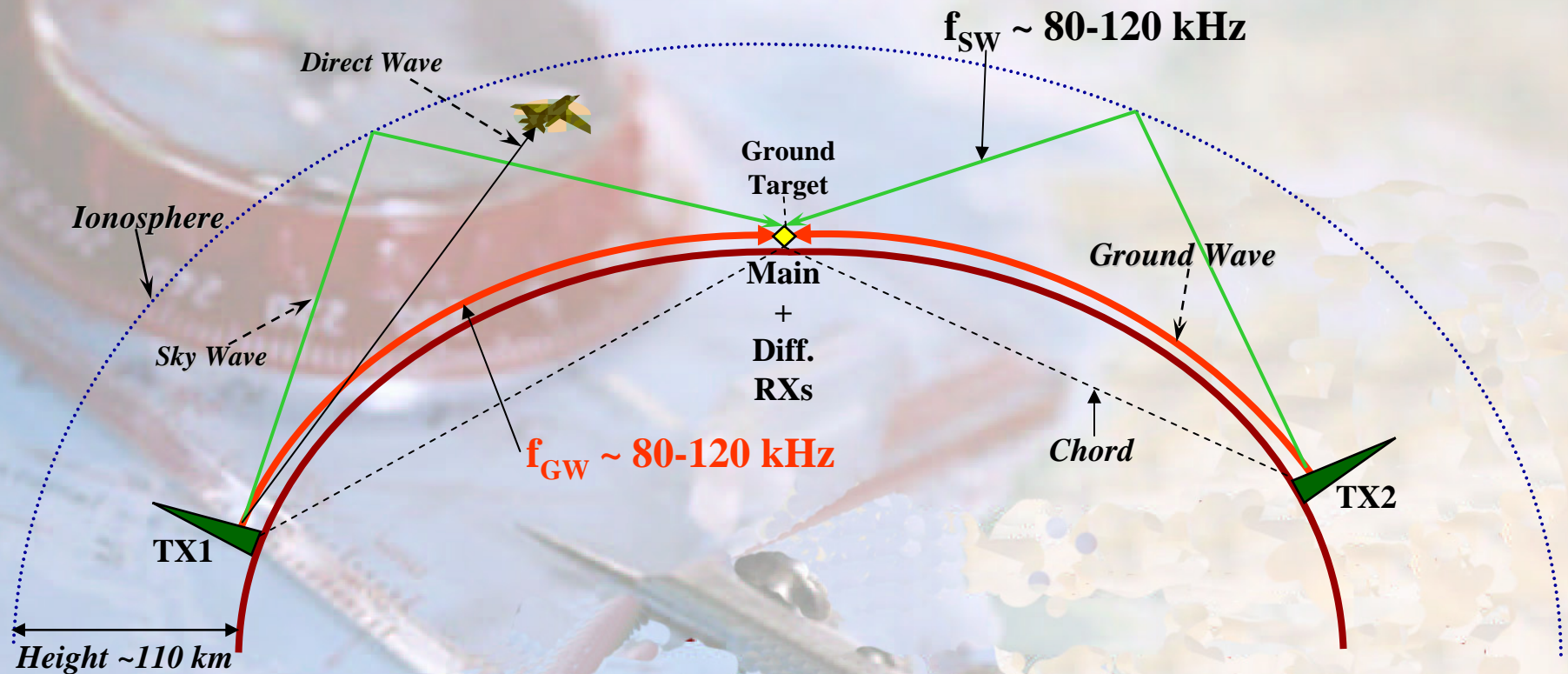


# L-S Navigation Accuracy (100 kHz)

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- Basic precision  $\sim 0.35^\circ$  carrier phase ( $\pm 2.93$  m)
- Basic accuracy is limited by:
  - TX clock dispersion ( $\sim 3$  ns via ACV-GPS/Rb).
  - TX signal delays (*calibrated and sent*).
  - Propagation delay variations (*ASFs from LORAN*).
  - RX signal delays (*calibrated and stored*).
  - RX clock accuracy ( $\sim 5$  ns via EQUATE).
- Typical optimized L-S system errors  $< 10$  ns.
- Horizontal position uncertainties expected to be  $< 3$  m with reasonable averaging ( $\sim 10$ -20 sec).

# 3-D L-S Signal Propagation



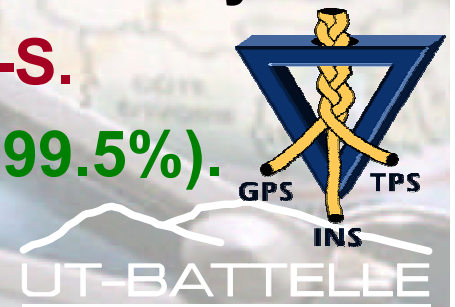
- **Basic L-S signals are ground-wave propagated - (main correlators).**
- **Basic L-S range measurements are (X,Y) only (2-D positioning).**
- **3-D L-S receiver processes sky-wave components to get vertical measurements with VDOPs similar to GPS ( $\sim 3$ ) - (2<sup>nd</sup> correlators).**



# TRINAV™ will provide accurate, reliable PNT in GPS-denied environments

- Frequency-agile system can operate in diverse environments (large vs. small areas, urban/rough terrain, allocations, etc.).
- GPS and TPS components cross-check each other and continually cross-calibrate the INS unit.
- L-S will provide TTFFs of < 15 seconds (cold start).
- Very low power consumption; TPS/GPS interactions help save power; INS also detects unit motion for sleep mode.
- TPS provides anti-spoofing check for GPS and is totally immune to GPS-spectrum jamming.
- Enhanced real-time PNT solution with reduced latency.
- Back-up high-accuracy time distribution via L-S.
- Better coverage than GPS alone (availability >99.5%).

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# Conclusions

- **TRI-NAV/TPS system is ideal for reliable PNT.**
  - Highly configurable, easily adaptable to situation changes.
  - System accuracy continuously assessed vs. GPS and optimized during use.
  - INS units (wide quality range) modeled and *in situ* calibrated.
- **TPS can be used as a compatible add-on/upgrade for LORAN-C, with excellent RF performance and utility for data distribution (time, DGPS, alerts, etc).**
- **EQUATE frequency source has been demonstrated.**
- **SDR-based TPS can easily add LORAN-C reception.**

