

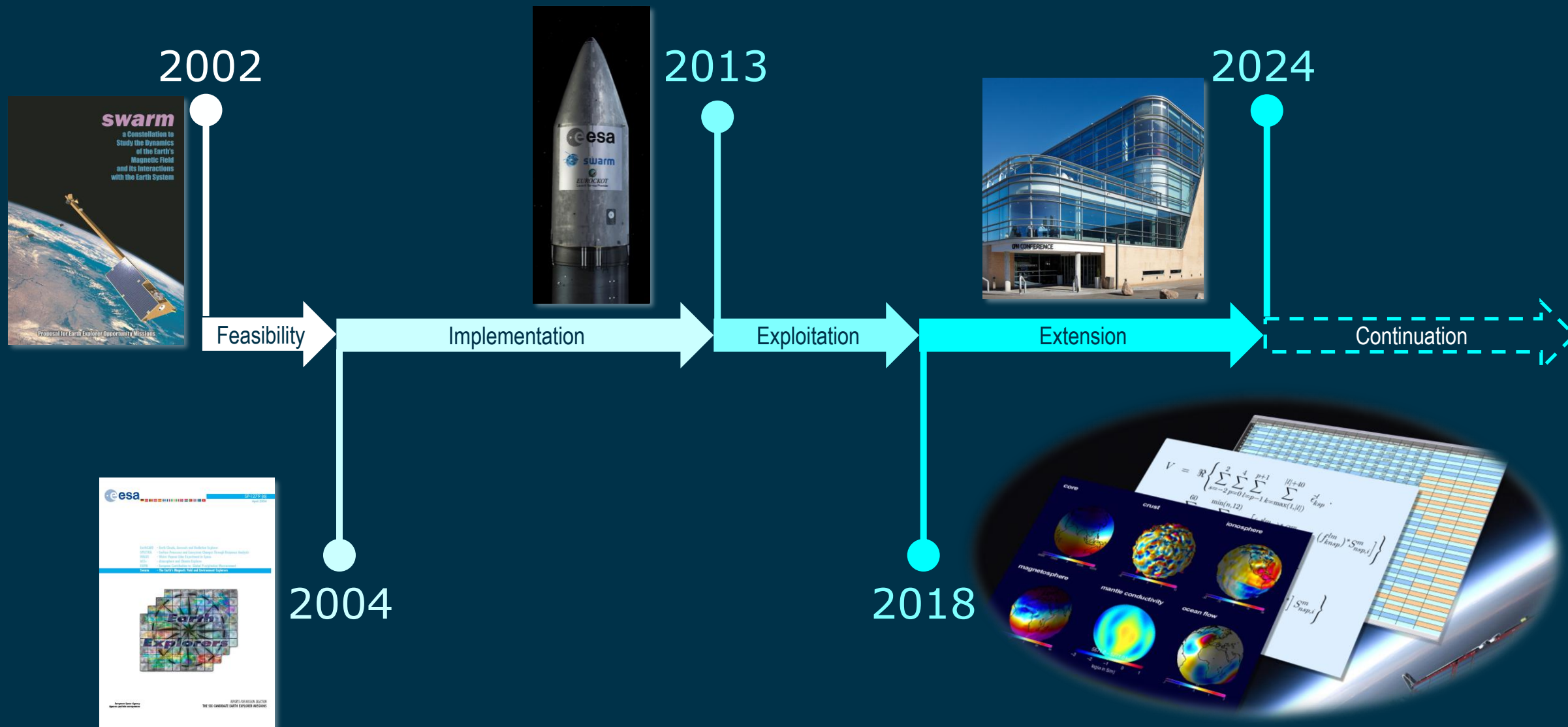


# How *swarm* became *Swarm*

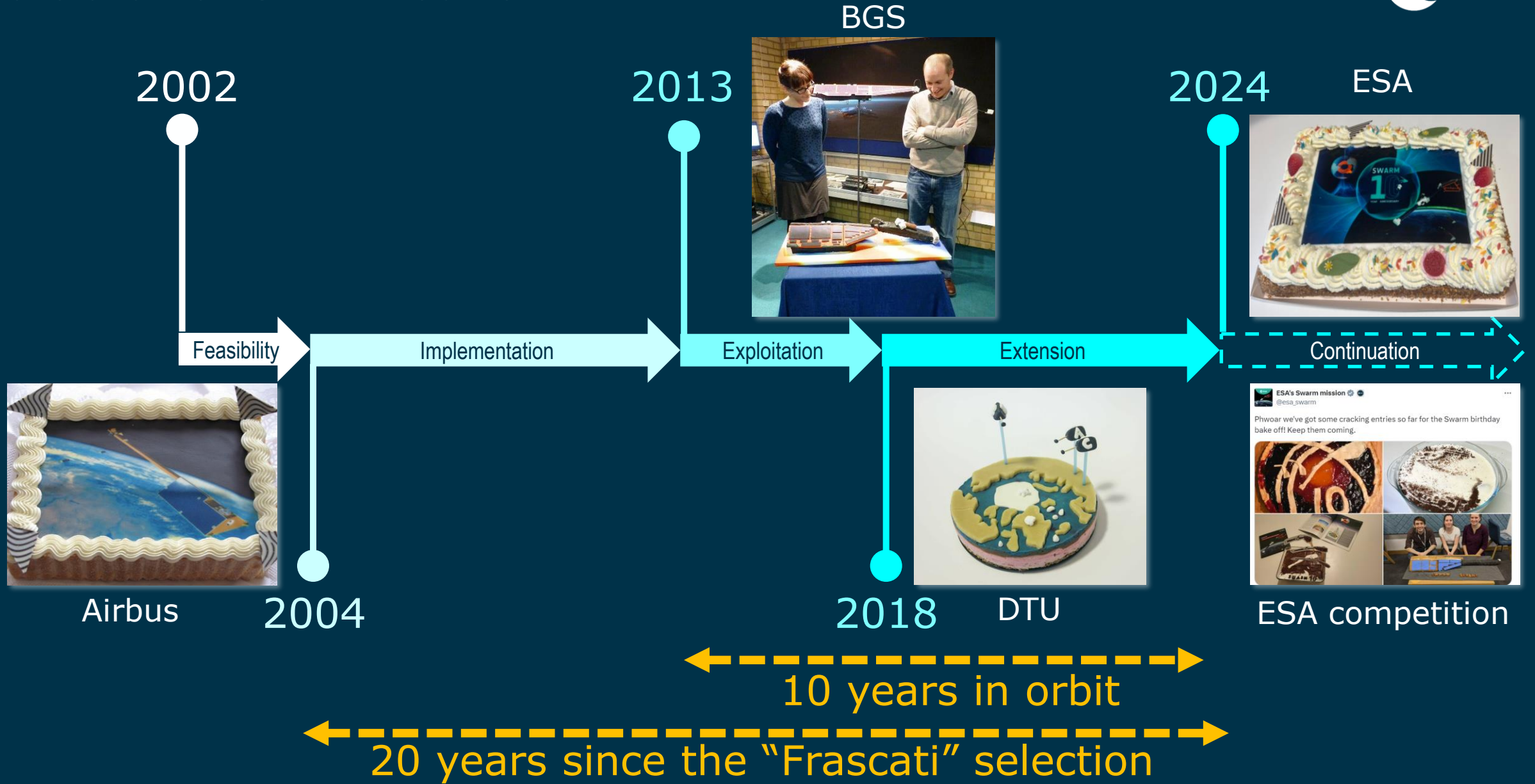
Roger Haagmans

Swarm 10 Year Anniversary &  
Science Conference 2024

10-04-2024



# Celebrations with cake



# Swarm: the mission that was not supposed to fly

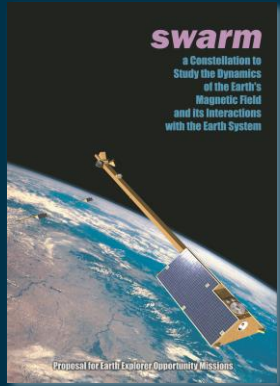


- Proposal selected as spare mission together with ACE+ and EGPM
- How to optimize the constellation with respect to science return and in the meantime reduce costs?
- ~~- Analyse merging with ACE+ because all have GNSS receivers~~

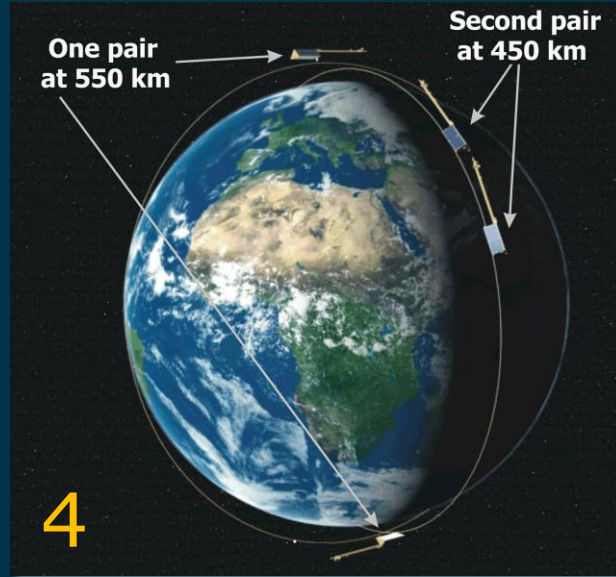
# Swarm: the mission that was not supposed to fly

2002

Mission End-to-End simulator (including NASA)



Feasibility



Mission was presented at the IUGG in 2003 in Sapporo.  
Newspaper interview with Eigil Friis-Christensen:

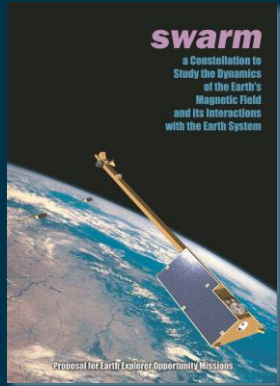
2004



# Swarm: the mission that was not supposed to fly

2002

- Rules changed: selection of only 1 mission due to budget constraints, so open competition
- French contribution: absolute scalar magnetometer
- ESA Science Directorate: debt of Canada to space science programme becomes a contribution to the Swarm electric field instrument from Canada
- User Consultation Meeting at ESRIN, Frascati, 2004



Feasibility

2004

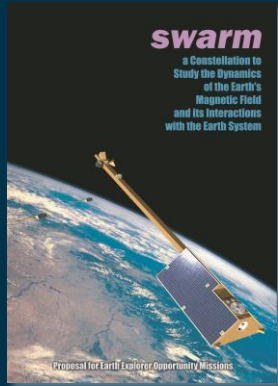


- Swarm mission selected for implementation and is still flying

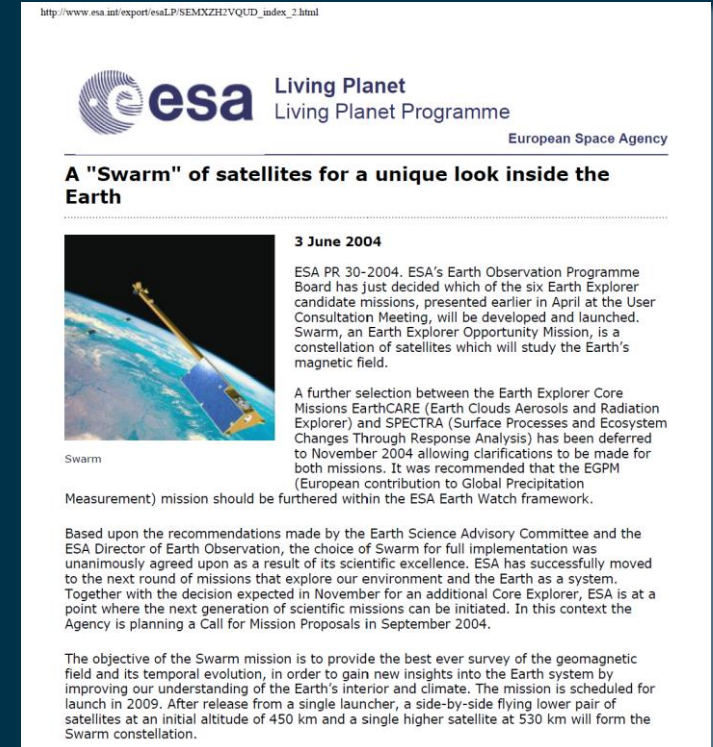
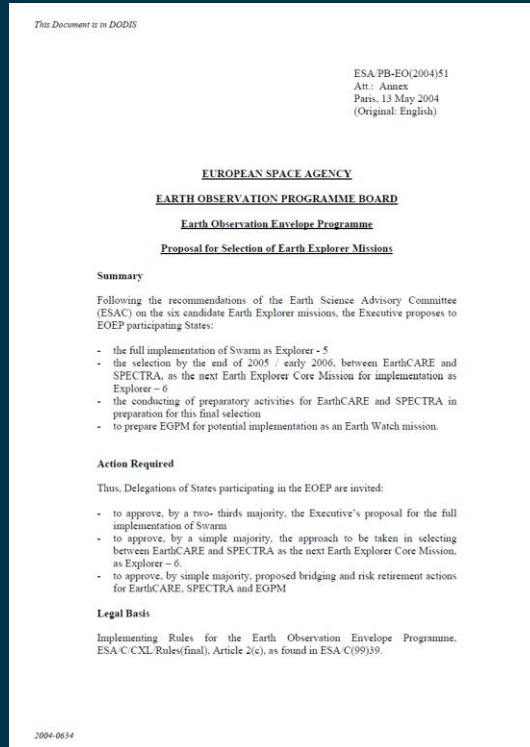
# Swarm: the mission that was going to fly



2002



Feasibility



2004



## SWARM - THREE EXPLORERS OF THE EARTH MAGNETIC FIELD AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

**A. Schöenberg**, R. Haagmans, A. Regan, A. Ginati, Y. Menard  
ESA – ESTEC, Noordwijk – The Netherlands

**ABSTRACT**  
ESA's Living Planet Programme [1], [2] includes two types of complementary user driven missions: the research oriented Earth Explorer missions and the operational service oriented Earth Watch missions. There are two classes of Earth Explorer missions, Core and Opportunity. In response to a call for Opportunity mission proposals in 2001, which resulted in 25 proposals being submitted by early 2002, three mission candidates, ACE+, EGPM and Swarm, were chosen for feasibility study. At the end of the feasibility study Swarm was approved for implementation as the fifth Earth Explorer mission to be launched in 2009.

# Celebration: Swarm selected in 2004

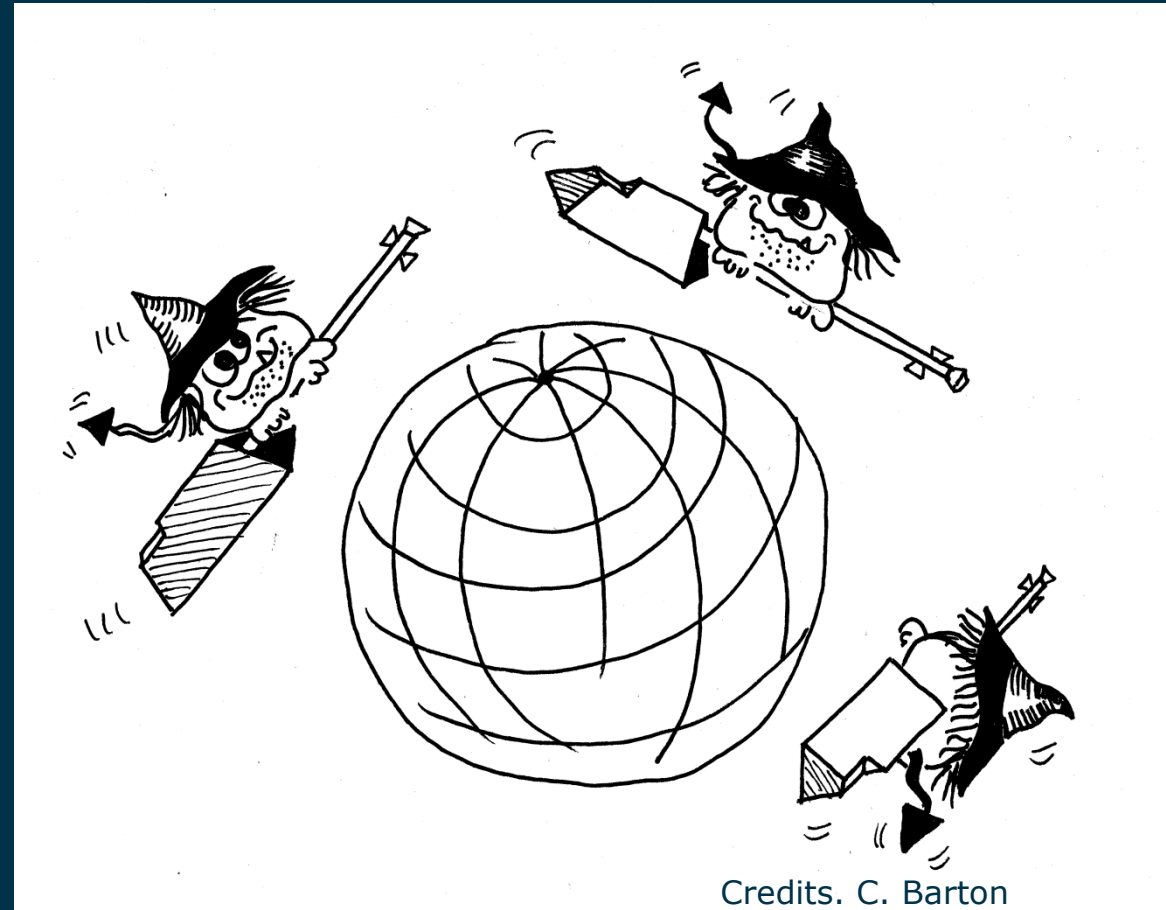




## First Satellite Design



## First Constellation Design



# Implementation Phase: change in design - less CHAMP

2002



Credits: Airbus

2013

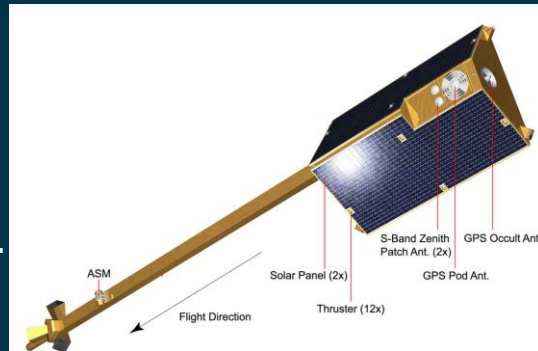


Kick off Airbus, 2005

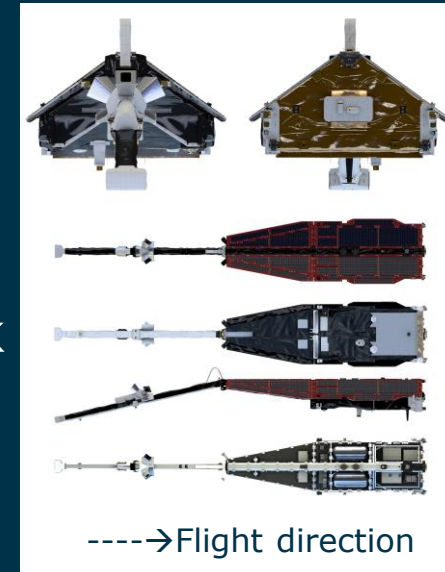
Feasibility

Implementation

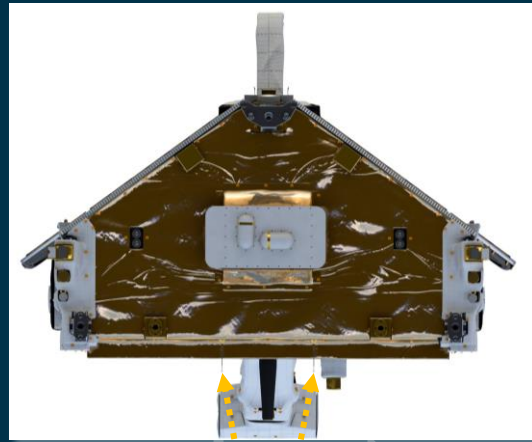
2004



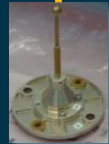
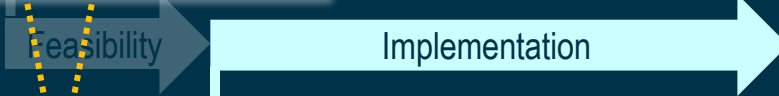
No GNSS occultation -> boom to the back



# Implementation Phase: too much mass to launch?



2013



2004

Langmuir probes from IRF, Uppsala, Sweden



Visit at IRF with Nico Stricker:  
a huge "probe" was situated in the entrance hall  
-> picture taken with Nico next to this "prototype" Langmuir probe  
-> advice to Yvon Menard our project manager: need for a bigger launcher!

# Implementation Phase: too much mass to launch?

2002  
ESA review meeting:  
during Phase B

Too much launch mass!

Question: Which instrument to remove, the accelerometer?

2013

Answer: End-to-end+ study: change of initial constellation saves fuel without impacting the science

Realism before launch: plenty of mass left, so tanks are filled up with fuel

Situation after in orbit commissioning: approximately 60kg of fuel left in each satellite!

Accelerometer kept (unfortunately as "experiment") but in the meantime with good products for science analysis

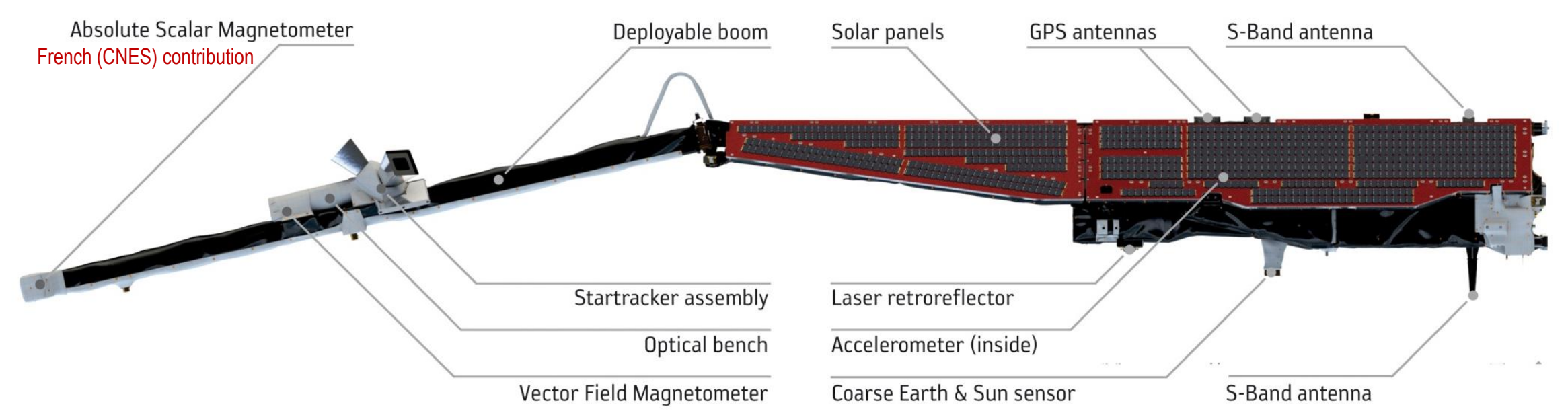
Feasibility

Implementation

2004

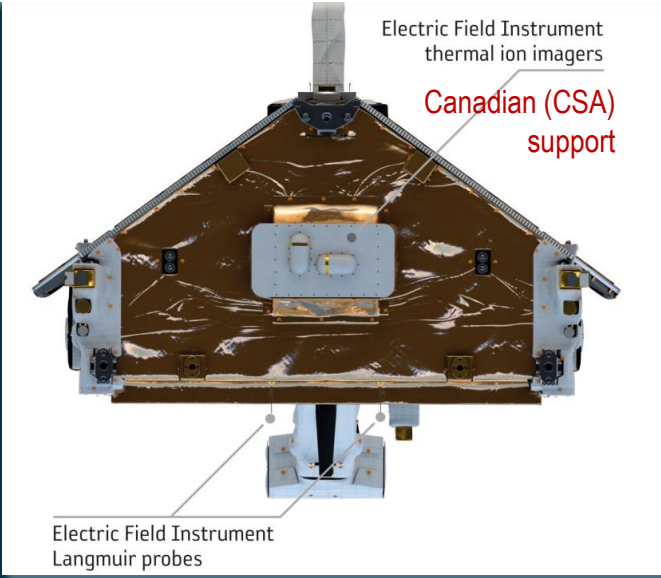


# From a magnetic satellite to a magnetic field satellite



Flight direction →

- Total length of ~9m
- 468kg incl. 106kg of fuel;
- ~1.0 m<sup>2</sup> cross section
- 4 years lifetime

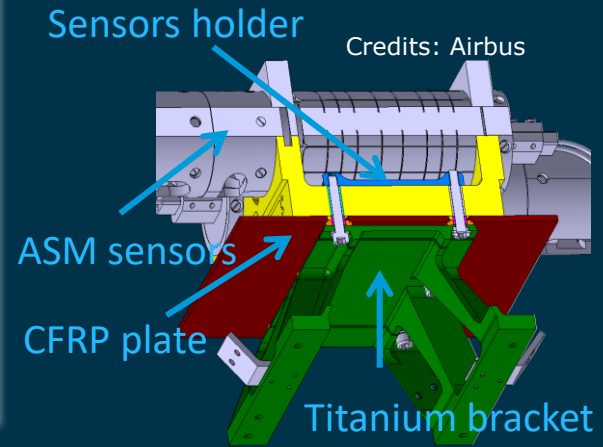


# Magnetic properties and effects: tackled by design, pre- and inflight characterisation

Optical bench alignment, DTU



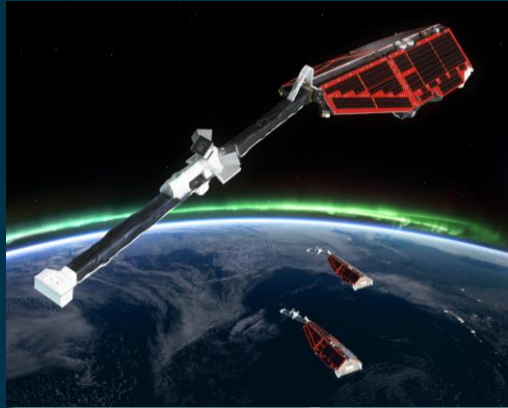
Magnetic characterization, IABG



Sun angle related effect, tackled by scientist, industry and ESA

In-orbit constellation alignment (designed in Phase B) successfully applied by science team

# Implementation Phase: competitions?



Idea for a naming competition for the three satellites

2013

Airbus proposed: Blood, Sweat and Tears



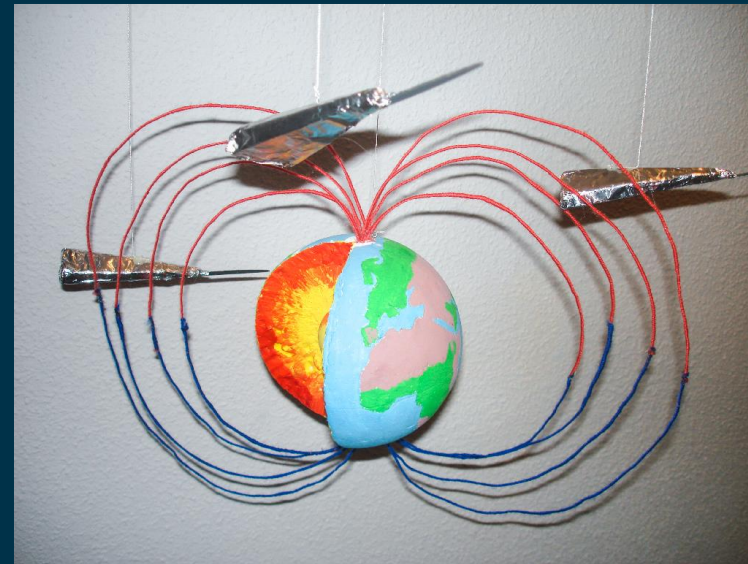
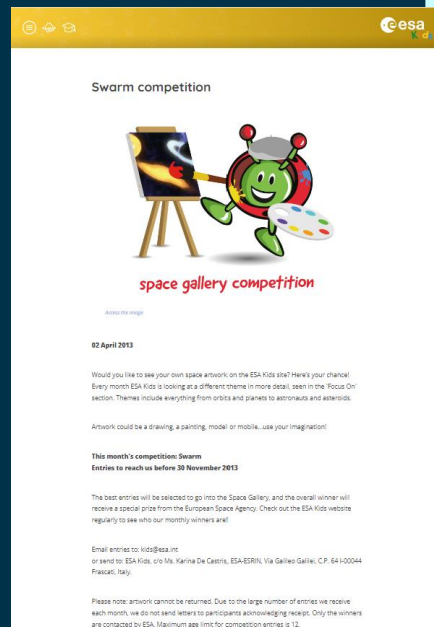
The winner is: Swarm A, B & C

Feasibility

Implementation

2004

Kids Swarm art competition 2013



Winner: Claudia from Spain!

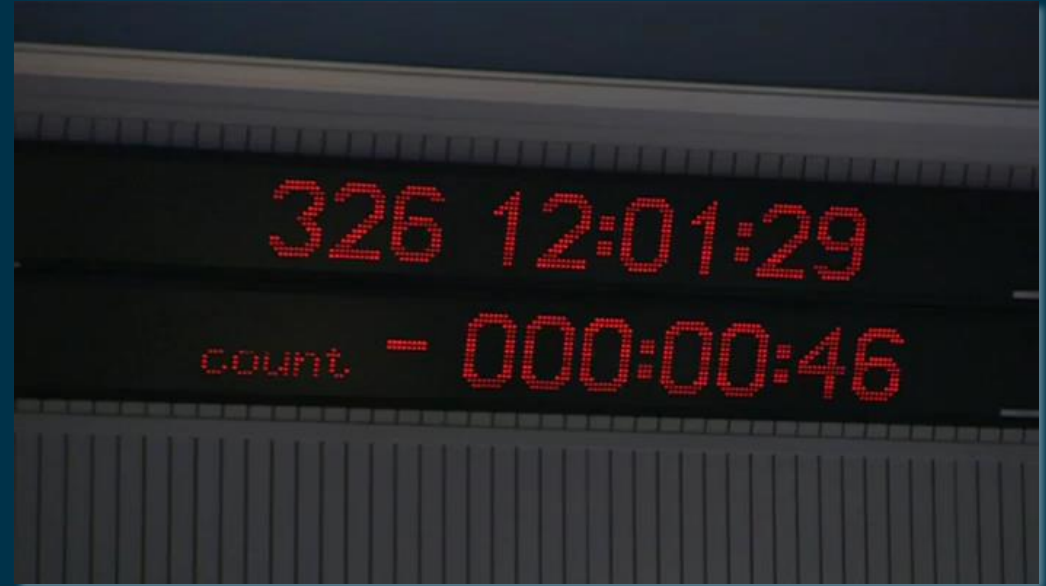
# Implementation Phase: towards launch 22 November 2013 esa



2013

Feasibility

Implementation





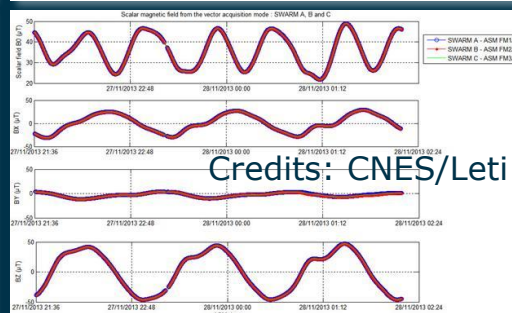
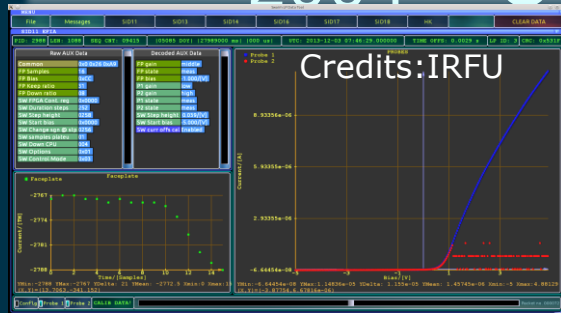
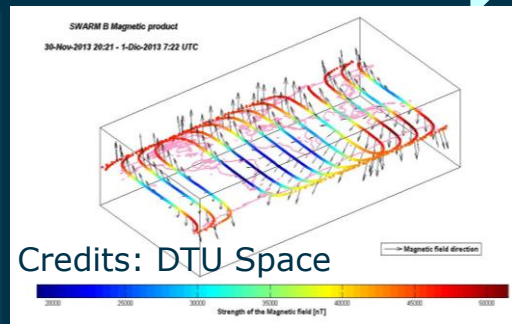
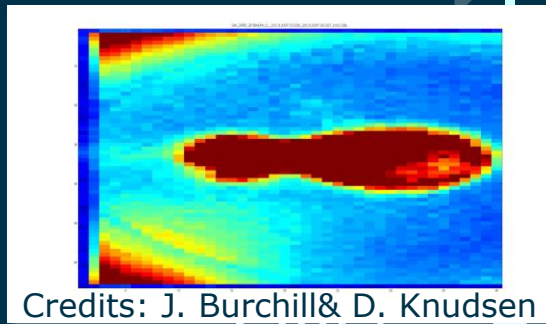
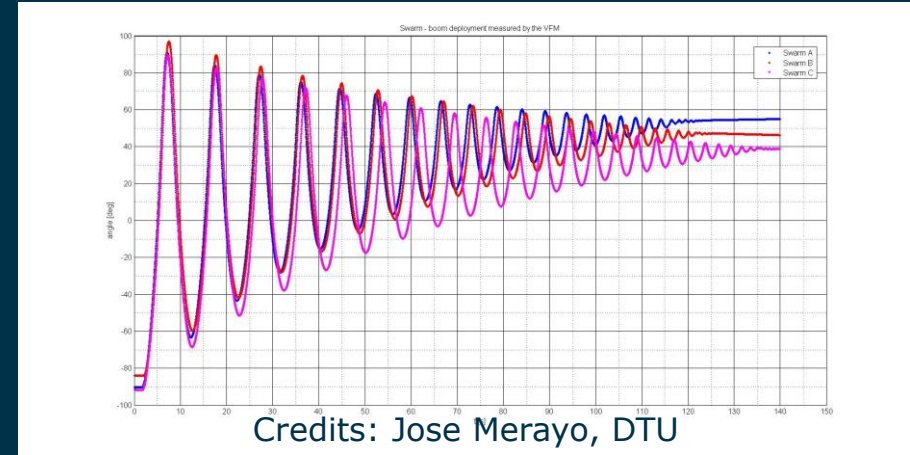
# Implementation Phase: Just after launch



2013

Feasibility

Implementation



# Swarm science meetings

1<sup>st</sup> science meeting, Nantes, 2006

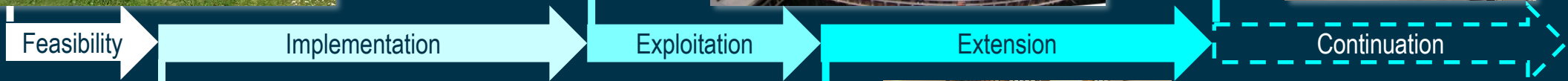


3<sup>rd</sup> science meeting, Copenhagen, 2014



Now, Copenhagen, 2024

2024



2013

2024

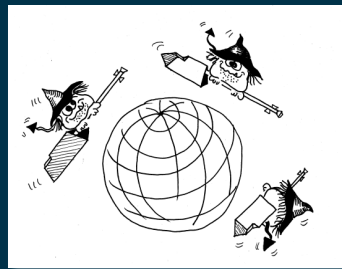
Feasibility

Implementation

Exploitation

Extension

Continuation



Credits: Charles Barton

2004



2<sup>nd</sup> science meeting, Potsdam, 2009

2018

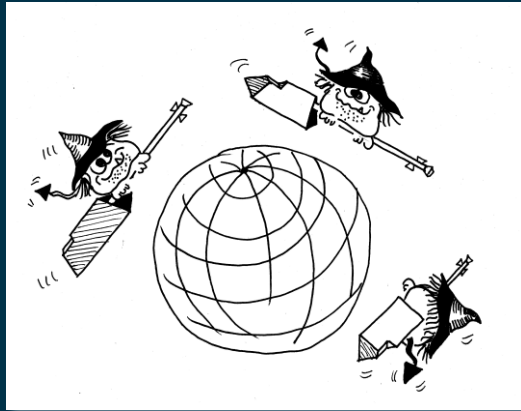


4<sup>th</sup> science meeting, Banff, 2017

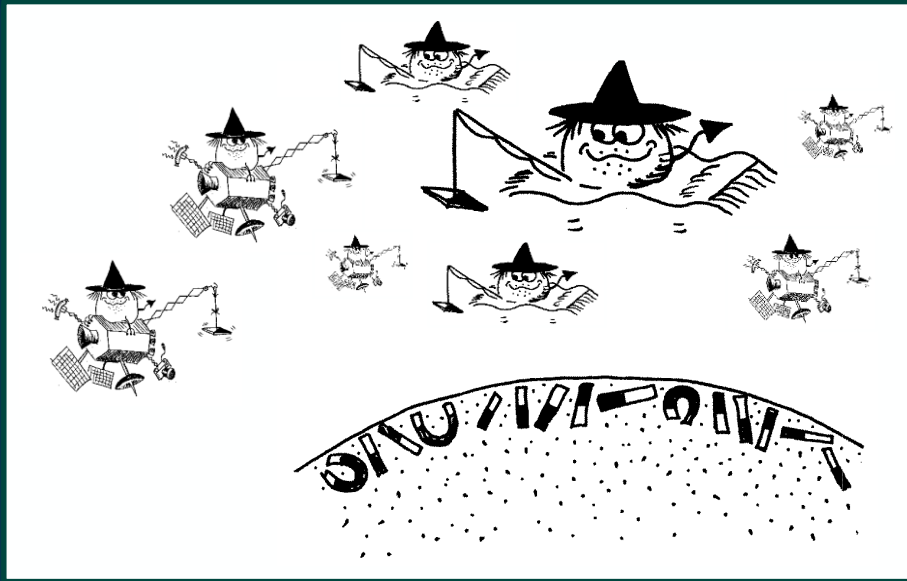




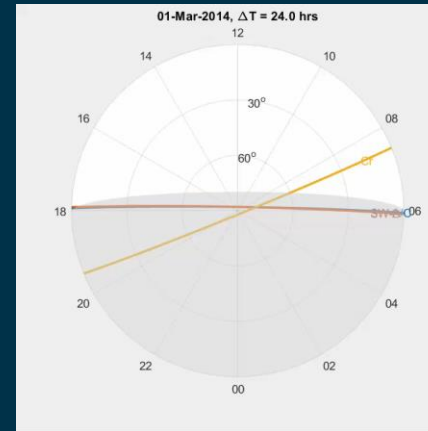
# Swarm, other satellites, mini follow-on and Sentinel?



+ e-POP, Cluster, platform magnetometers, CSES ....



2013



Credits: Nils Olsen

2024

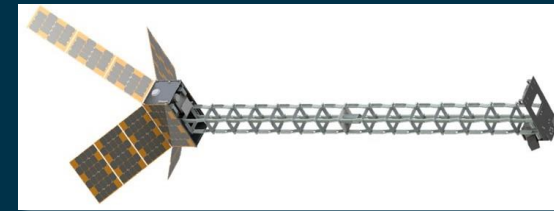
Exploitation

Extension

Continuation

2018

+ NanoMagSat constellation



Pre-cursor for a "cheap" Sentinel continuation of a key Earth observable

# How *swarm* became *Swarm*



My training period  
experience in Finland 1986



A real swarm

Before going to bed you kill most of the swarm in  
the cabin, so 3 become the swarm remainder  
which was given the name **Swarm**

**Congratulations to all Swarm teams in the Swarm community, industry and ESA with one of the most exiting, mysterious, intriguing and useful missions of ESA**

