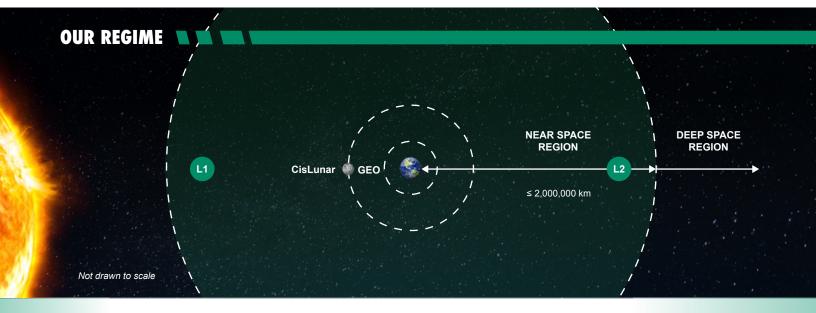
# NEAR SPACE NETWORK

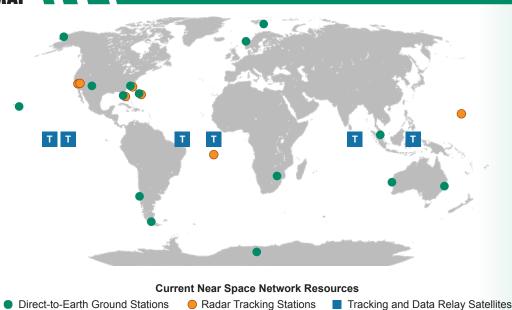


NASA's Near Space Network (NSN) empowers user missions with critical communications and navigation services, enabling the transmission of science and exploration data to and from space. Through space relays and ground-based antennas, the NSN provides data delivery and satellite tracking services, transmitting an average of almost 15 terabytes of critical data daily. As a single point of interface for missions in the near-space region, the NSN orchestrates services through a robust blend of government and commercial service providers.

The network leverages a broad spectrum of government and commercial capabilities and services, negotiating with providers on behalf of all missions to lower the costs of mission services. Users can confidently rely on the proficiency and expertise of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, which has a 60-year legacy of excellence in managing NASA communications services.



### **NETWORK MAP**



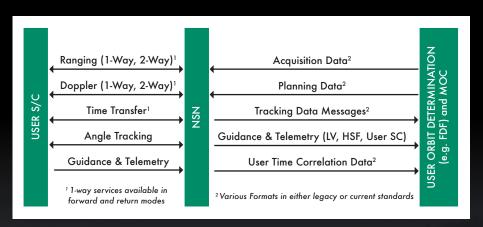
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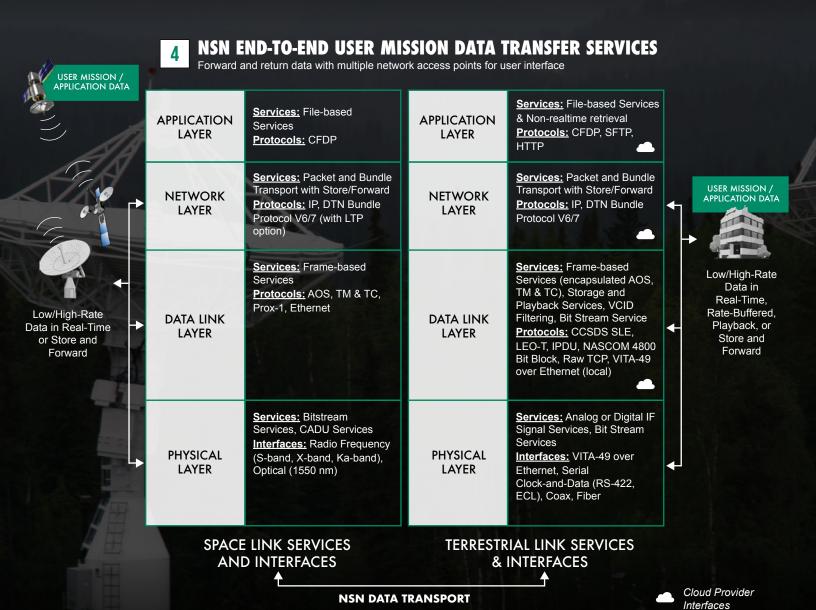
### SERVICES PROVIDED

# The NSN provides four main services to mission customers:

- Mission Integration: development of service agreements, interfaces, documentation, support of reviews, etc.
- Mission Planning and Scheduling: performing link and loading analyses, supporting service requests, and generating and implementing operational schedules
- Position, Navigation, and Timing (PNT): navigation information, tracking data measurements, and messages
  - User Mission Data Transfer: spacecraft forward command and return telemetry data

## 3 NSN PNT OPERATIONAL SERVICES





## INTERFACES AND CAPABILITIES

INTERFACE/CAPAE	BILITY a	DIRECT TO EARTH	SPACE RELAY		
1	Mission Integration and Operational Support				
Customer Mission Engineering and Support Services		Requirements Development, Mission Planning, Analysis and Design, Integration and Network Compatibility Testing, Operational Scheduling, Launch & Commissioning Support, Mission Operations Support, Monitor and Control, Tracking & Orbit Determination, Critical Event Support (Maneuvers, EOL Disposal, etc.), Data Storage and Distribution, Readiness Reviews, Post-Launch Reports and Reviews			
2	Service Management, Planning, and Scheduling				
Monitoring		Real-time monitoring and reporting			
Scheduling		Advanced and on-demand scheduling via web-based interfaces			
Service Accounting	Provides proficiency statistics, reporting of total support time				
3	Spacecraft Metric Tracking Capabilities				
Radiometric Tracking Services		Tone or PN Ranging, 1-way or 2-way Doppler, Antenna Angle Data	Spread Spectrum Ranging, 1-way or 2-way Doppler, Antenna Angle Data		
Radiometric Measurement Accurac	ey 🗿	Range •: S/X-band: ≤ 1 m systematic; 5 m noise, 1 $\sigma$ Doppler (Range-Rate) •: S-band 1-way: ≤ 3 mm/s, 1 $\sigma$ S-band 2-way: ≤ 1.5 mm/s, 1 $\sigma$ X-band 1-way: ≤ 0.7 mm/s, 1 $\sigma$ Ka-band 1-way: ≤ 0.2 mm/s, 1 $\sigma$ Antenna Angles (From Ground): S: 0.03 $^{\circ}$ , X: 0.05 $^{\circ}$ Ka: 0.01 $^{\circ}$ (auto), 0.05 $^{\circ}$ (program)	Range <b>①</b> : S/Ku-band: ≤ 4.5 m systemic; 2.73 m noise, 1σ  Doppler (Range-Rate) <b>①</b> :  S-band 1-way ≤ 3.5 mm/s, 1σ  S-band 2-way ≤ 1.75 mm/s, 1σ  Ku/Ka-band 1-way ≤ 0.51 mm/s, 1σ  Ku-band 2-way ≤ 0.25 mm/s, 1σ  Antenna Angles (From Relay): ≤ 0.1°		
Relative Dynamics 9		Velocity: ≤ 11.6 km/s free flight, ≤ 15 km/s powered flight; Acceleration: ≤ 14.8 m/s² free flight, ≤ 50 m/s² powered flight; Jerk: ≤ 0.02 m/s³ free flight, ≤ 2 m/s³ powered flight			
Radar Tracking Servic	e Bands	C-band (5.4-5.9 GHz) Single Object X-Band (10.499 GHz) Multi Object C-Band: 212-245 (227 typical)	N/A		
Radar Tracking Loop (	Gain (dB)	X-Band: 246 (nominal)			
Other		Ground Antenna Slew Rate:  Azimuth and Elevation: ≥ 10°/sec (10°/sec²) *  Train: ≥ 5°/sec (5°/sec²) *  18-meter systems ≥ 2°/sec (1°/sec²)	Time Correlation: User Spacecraft Clock Calibration System: ≤ ±5 µs Return Channel Time Delay: ±25% of a bit period		
4		Terrestrial Link Data Transport Capal	bilities 0		
Data Storage @		Station storage: 5-30 days; Cloud-based: Mission-driven	7 days		
Network Data Rate 0		Mission-driven (	(up to 1.2 Gbps)		
SLE Protocols		F-CLTU, EF-CLTU (Forward), RAF, RCF, ROCF (Return)			
SLE Versions Support	ed <b>o</b>	CCSDS 910.4, CCSDS 911.1, CCSDS 911.2, CCSDS 911.5, CCSDS 912.1, CCSDS 912.11, CCSDS 912.3, CCSDS 913.1			
Offline-Data Transfer		CFDP, SFTP			
Security		Trusted networks (access controls, firewalls, authentications, etc.)			
4	Optical Communications Capabilities (Demonstration Only)				
Wavelength	elength 1550 nm		0 nm		
Max Forward Data Rat	e <b>0 0</b>	20.4 Mbps	1.244 Gbps		
Max Return Data Rate	<b>a o</b>	261 Mbps	1.244 Gbps		
Modulation <b>0 0</b>		PPM (Order 16 or 32)	PPM (Order 16) or DPSK		
Encoding <b>0 0</b>		SCC (Rate 1/3 or Rate 2/3)	SCC (Rate 1/2)		
Framing		Ethernet	AOS, Ethernet		
Optimetrics	Optimetrics Optical ranging capabilities and accuracy TBD				
4	Forward (Command) Communications				
Frequency Bands (Near-Earth Use)		S-band: 2025-2110 MHz X-band: 7145-7235 MHz Ka-band: 22.55-23.15 GHz	S-band: 2025-2110 MHz Ku-band: 13.775 GHz Ka-band: 22.55-23.55 GHz <b>₫</b>		

## INTERFACES AND CAPABILITIES (CONTINUED)

INTERFACE/CAPABILITY	DIRECT TO EARTH	SPACE RELAY		
Forward (Command) Communications (continued)				
Maximum Bandwidth	S-band: 5 MHz X-band: 10 MHz Ka-band: 40 MHz (Typical) <b>5</b>	S-band: 6 MHz Ku-band: 50 MHz Ka-band: 50 MHz <b>①</b>		
Forward Max Data Rate <b>5</b> (prior to encoding)	S-band: 5 Mbps X-band: 10 Mbps (5 Mbps Typical) <b>⑤</b> Ka-band: 40 Mbps	S-band MA: 300 Kbps S-band SA: 4.2 Mbps Ku-band: 50 Mbps Ka-band SA: 50 Mbps		
Antenna System EIRP (dBW) 💿	S-band: 51-81 (56 typical) X-band: 85-86 Ka-band: 89 <b>©</b>	S-band MA: 42  S-band SA and Ku-band SA: 48.5  Ka-band SA: 63  S		
Modulation <b>ひ ⊙</b>	PM, FM, PCM, PCM/PM, PCM/PSK/PM, BPSK, QPSK, OQPSK, UQPSK, Filtered OQPSK	Spread spectrum: BPSK or UQPSK Non-spread: BPSK, QPSK, OQPSK, PCM/PM, or PCM/PSK/PM		
Encoding 5 6	Uncoded, or LDPC 1/2 or 7/8	Uncoded, Rate 1/2 Conv., Reed-Solomon, Concatenated (1/2 Conv. + RS), LDPC 1/2 or 7/8		
Polarization	Circular (LHC, RHC)	Circular (RHC, LHC only for MA services)		

4 Return (Telemetry) Communications				
Frequency Bands (Near-Earth Use)	S-band: 2200-2300 MHz X-band: 8025-8500 MHz Ka-band: 25.5 – 27 GHz	S-band: 2200-2290 MHz Ku-band: 15.0034 GHz Ka-band: 25.25 – 27.5 GHz <b>①</b>		
Maximum Bandwidth	S-band: 5 MHz X-band: 375 MHz X-band (SRS): 10 MHz Ka-band: 1500 MHz	S-band (MAR & SAR): 6 MHz Ku/Ka-band: 225 MHz Ka-band (Wide): 650 MHz <b>①</b>		
Return Max Data Rate 🏻 🗗 (prior to encoding)	Rates will vary – examples: S-band: 2.2 Mbps (PACE) X-band: 220 Mbps (ICESat-2) X-band (SRS): 13.1 Mbps (IRIS) Ka-band: 3.5 Gbps (NISAR)	S-band MA: 1 Mbps S-band SA: 14.1 Mbps Ku/Ka-band: 600 Mbps <b>©</b> Ka-band (Wide): 1200 Mbps <b>©</b>		
Antenna System G/T  (dB/K)	S-band: 19.1-29.6 (21 typical) X-band: 30.5-39 (32 typical) Ka-band: 38-47.5 (41.3 typical)	S-band MA: 3.2 (for LEO) S-band SA: 9.5 (for LEO) Ku-band: 24.4 (for LEO) Ka-band: 26.5 (for LEO)		
Demodulation <b>9</b>	PM, FM, PCM, PCM/PM, PCM/PSK/PM, BPSK, QPSK, OQPSK, AQPSK, Filtered OQPSK, SQPN, 8PSK	Spread spectrum: BPSK or OQPSK Non-spread: BPSK, QPSK, OQPSK, 8PSK PCM/PM, or PCM/PSK/PM		
Decoding 5 6	Uncoded, Rate 1/2 Conv. and/or Reed-Solomon, LDPC 1/2 or 7/8, or Turbo Rate 1/2	Uncoded, Rate 1/2 Conv., Reed-Solomon, Concatenated (1/2 Conv. + RS), LDPC 1/2 or 7/8, Rate 7/8 TPC		
Polarization	Circular (LHC, RHC)	Circular (RHC, LHC only for MA services)		

Services and performance levels depend on many factors and are not uniform across network assets.

Contact us for assessment of mission design, network performance, signal design compatibility, orbital design, antenna considerations, angles/off-pointing, atmospherics, etc. Maximum rates and bandwidths are given in accordance with system limitations, though higher rates may be possible. Confirmation of support depends upon many factors including mission planning & analyses performed by the NSN

Additional capabilities could be supported. Contact us for more information.

In-progress and future upgrades will allow increases in network capability. NASA may consider adding capabilities with technologies not currently on its grading.

technologies not currently on its roadmap. Contact us for information on future capabilities.

d 2nd and 3rd generation TDRS only.

e LEGS only.

There exists a

These values are based on a 1-second measurement integration interval.

These are preferred capabilities.
Additional legacy

capabilities exist, as shown on Page 2.

Free flight values apply to S, X, Ku, and Ka-band. Powered flight values apply to S and X-band.

### **CONTACT US**

ESC WEBSITE:

esc.gsfc.nasa.gov

MISSION GENERAL INQUIRIES:

MISSION SERVICE REQUEST INQUIRIES:

go.nasa.gov/NSNServiceInquiry

#### **COMMERCIAL PROVIDERS:**

nasa-commercialsynergies@mail.nasa.gov