



## Steve Jolly Commercial Civil Space Chief Engineer

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## **LEO Satellite Operations**

With LEO becoming more congested and collisions more likely, improved accuracy of trajectory forecasting is necessary:

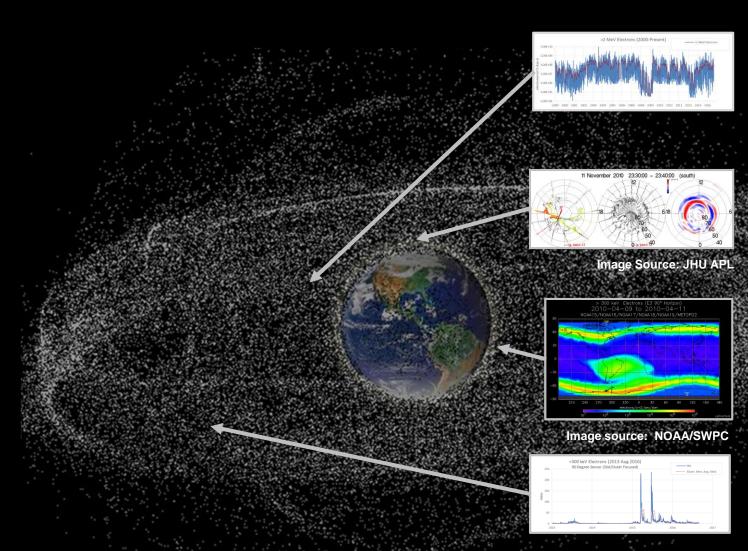
- With current capabilities, error ellipses for satellite orbits grow quickly with forward propagation, resulting in:
  - Tracking & monitoring challenges
  - Excessive conjunction warnings
- With increasing traffic in LEO, the challenge will only increase, becoming a large burden for all operators, and possibly beyond the capabilities of small operators
- Increased traffic holds the opportunity for additional measurements, and corresponding improvements in thermosphere modeling and forecasting



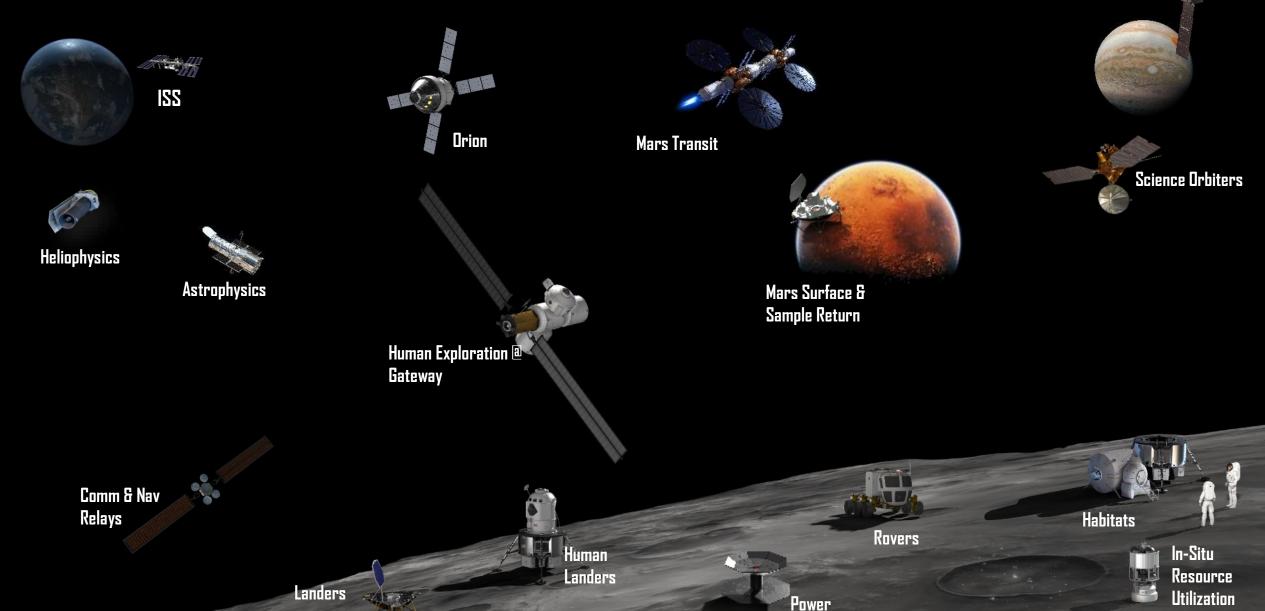
## **GEO & Space Domain Awareness**

Greater spatial fidelity forecasting and nowcasting of the near-Earth environment is needed for improved SDA:

- Improved local environment nowcasts would assist with anomaly resolution
  - Significant interpretation and interpolation is left to the end user
  - Challenging for large operators, beyond the ability of smaller operators
- Improved local environment nowcasts would support SDA & attribution
- Improved accuracy and lead time of SWx forecasting and nowcasting is needed throughout



## **Future Space Exploration**



Deep Space Missions

**Some Images Courtesy of NASA** 

