

# Compact Multi-Spectral Imager for Nanosatellites II

CEOI 11<sup>th</sup> Call

Stuart Bennett and Daniel Oi (PI)

CEOI Technology Showcase 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021

# Agenda and team



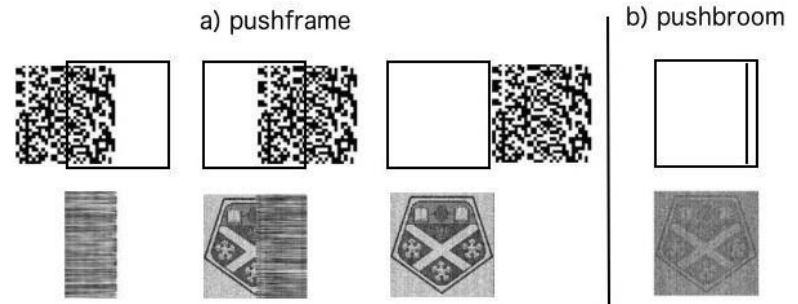
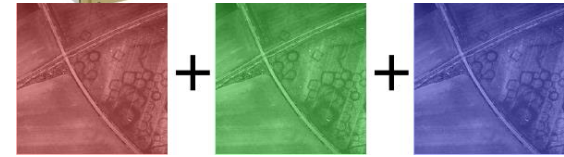
- Aims
- Single Pixel Imaging
- Pushframe Imaging
- Prototype
- Results
- Future Steps

- Physics
  - **Daniel Oi:** Project manager
  - **John Jeffers:** Lead manager on design & simulation
  - **Paul Griffin:** Lead manager on experiment
  - **Yoann Noblet:** Experimental optics
  - **Wojciech Roga:** Former member, theory
- SoXSA
  - **Malcolm Macdonald:** Lead manager roadmapping
  - **Steve Owens:** User engagement, mission analysis
- CeSIP (Centre for Signal and Image Processing)
  - **Steve Marshall:** Lead manager signal processing
  - **Paul Murray:** Co-manager signal processing
  - **Stuart Bennett:** Signal and image processing
- WideBlue
  - **Barry Warden:** Project manager
  - **Craig Whitehill:** Optical physicist
  - **Callum Stewart:** Mechanical engineer
  - **Graeme Millar:** Electronics design engineer
  - **Ken Devlin:** Software / firmware engineer
  - **Niall Slater:** Mechanical engineer

# CMSIN aims

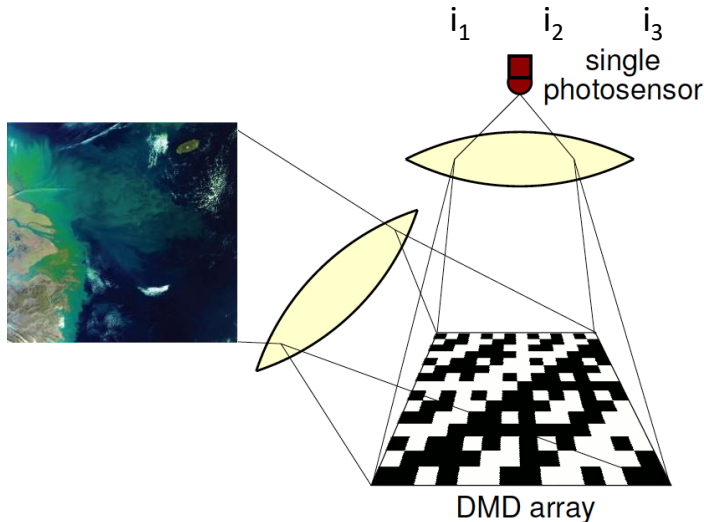
Implement and demonstrate a:

- compact – suitable for smallsat constellations
- co-registered multispectral – flexible and capable
- compressive sampling – optically-reduced bandwidth requirement
- pushframe imager – high SNR

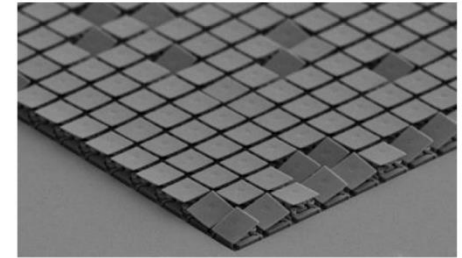


# Single-Pixel Imaging (SPI)

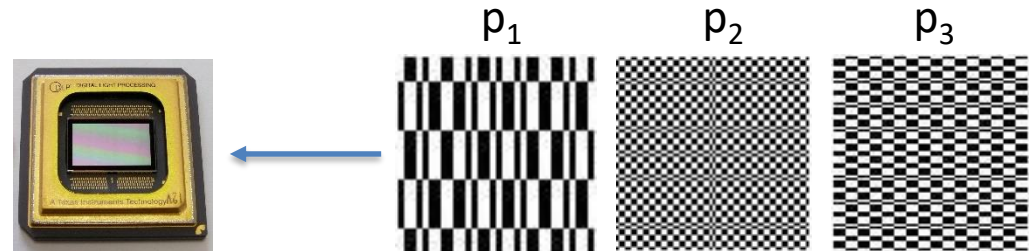
- Modulated spatial information captured by single pixel, *multiple patterns and exposures*
- Space-efficient, and simple electronics
- Imaging at wavelengths where 2D arrays expensive
- Can perform 100% sampling (Hadamard matrices etc.) or Compressive Sampling
- Potential for adaptive measurements



Spatial Light Modulator (SLM): an LCD or Digital Micromirror Device (DMD) for broadband performance



All bands automatically co-registered as sampled/reconstructed via same mask

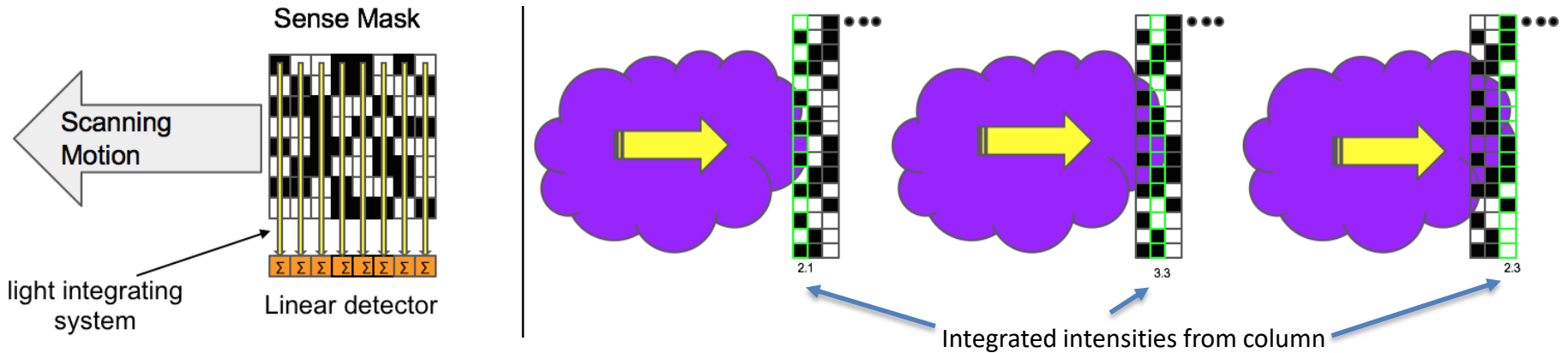
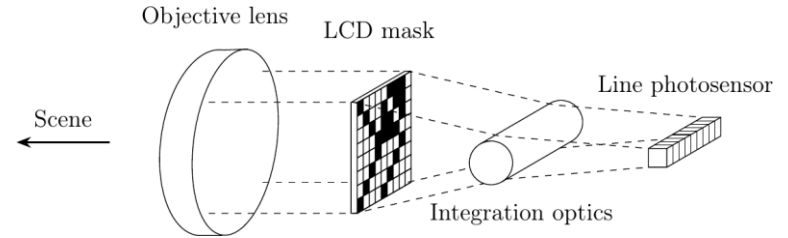


# Pushframe Imaging

Compact multispectral pushframe camera for nanosatellites  
Yoann Noblet et al.  
DOI: 10.1364/AO.399227



- Parallelizes exposure to reduce capture time
  - Multiple adjacent 1D Single Pixel Imagers
  - Overcomes sampling time limitation of conventional SPI
- Similar to pushbroom operation
  - Using a fixed pattern, along-track motion applies different mask columns to each scene-strip automatically
- Advantages over pushbroom
  - SNR improvement, particularly when read-noise limited
  - Compressive Sampling possible
  - 'Optical processing' enables adaptive operation

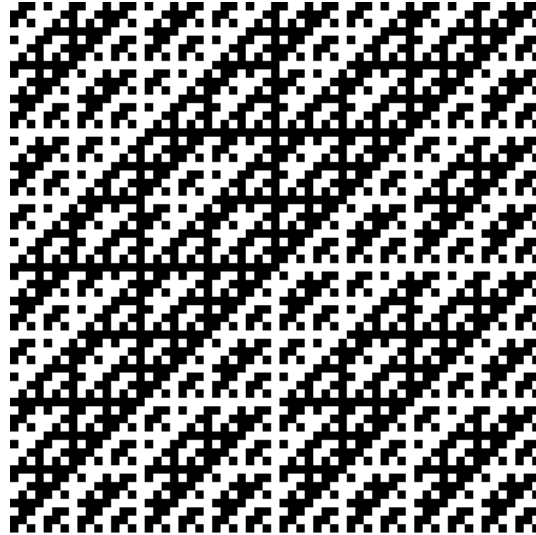


# Pushframe in operation

Scene



Mask

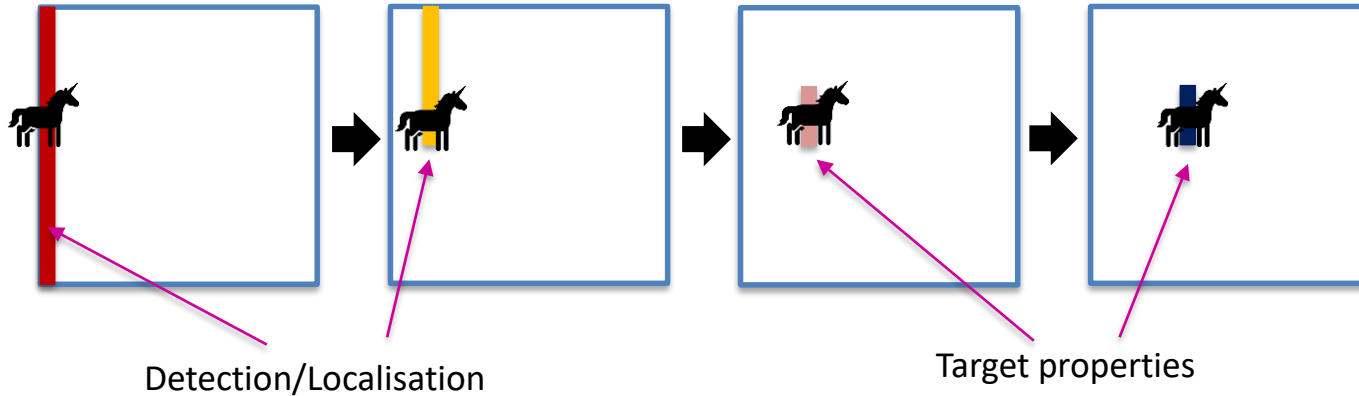


Capture



# Adaptive Sampling

Reduced data acquisition, low power monitoring



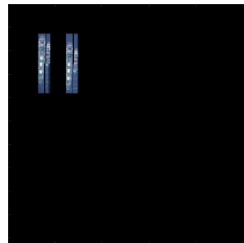
Sense patterns adaptively chosen based on preceding “signatures”

Patterns can also mask out land/sea, reduce background light

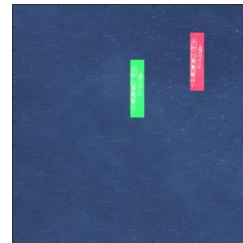
Simulated pushframe imaging with adaptive sense patterns



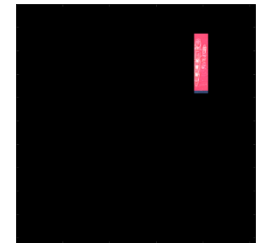
(a) Monochrome source image



(b) Acquired image, 2.3% of source

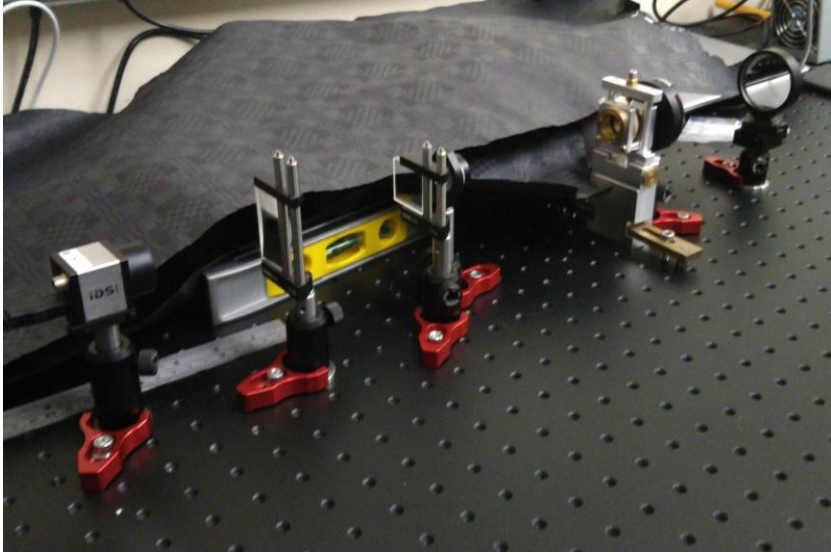


(c) Multi-spectral source image

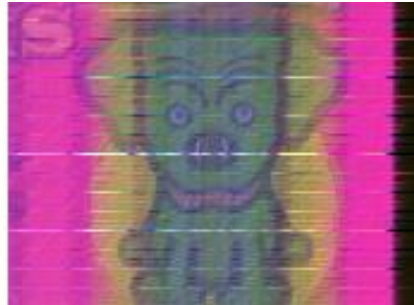


(d) Acquired image, 1.5% of source

# Pushframe demonstration



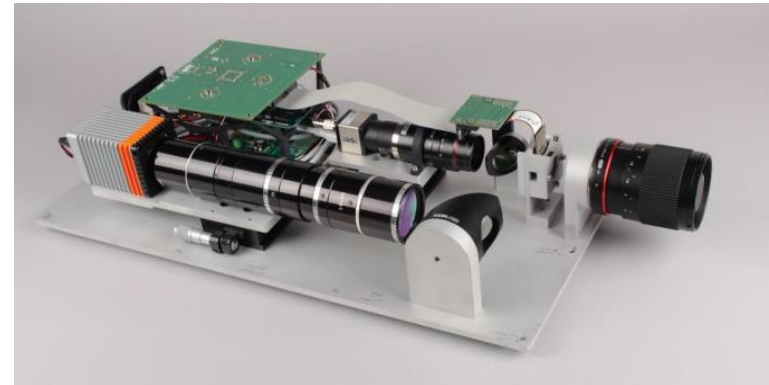
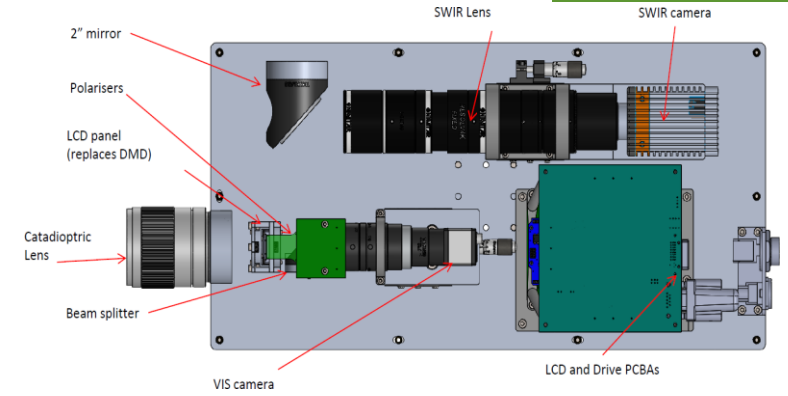
- First experimental demonstration of an optical pushframe camera
- COTS components
  - limited resolution (64x64)
  - limited optical performance
  - low 1D compression (2:1)
- Encouraging results
- Principle proved





# Prototype

- Built around off-the-shelf components
  - simulated 1D optical integration pragmatic and allows analysis and diagnostics
- Fits in a 6U envelope
- Co-registered multi-spectral imaging
- LCD was chosen for:
  - compactness
  - good optical performance
- Interchangeable front telescope
- ‘Field deployable’

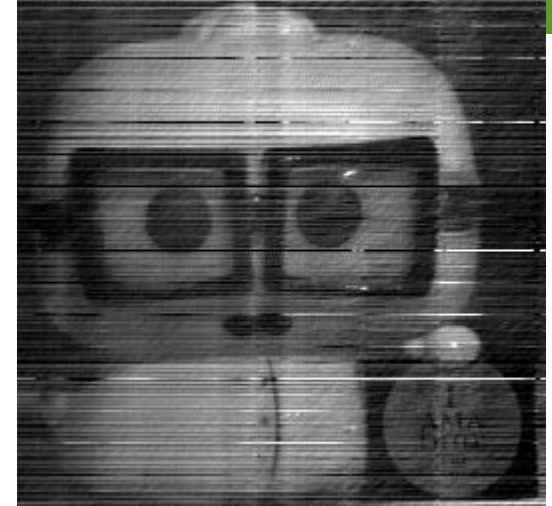


# Laboratory results



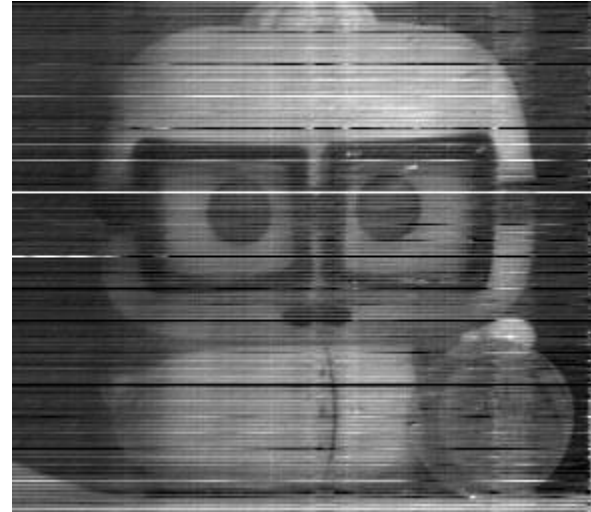
- First demonstration of co-registered multi-spectral imaging
- Good fidelity in both the visible and SWIR
- Maximum resolution of 256x256 pixels

# Field trials



- First field results, under uncontrolled conditions, of a pushframe camera
- Good fidelity, similar to that achieved in the laboratory

# NIR Si capability demonstration

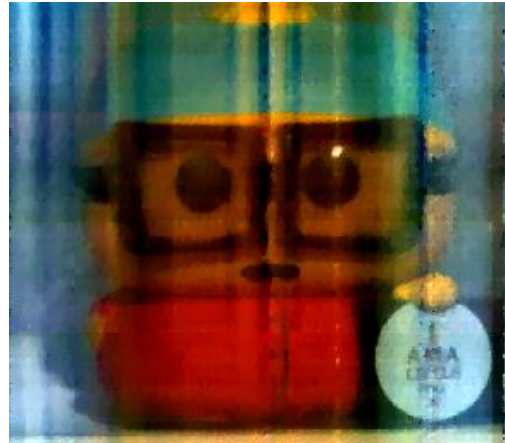
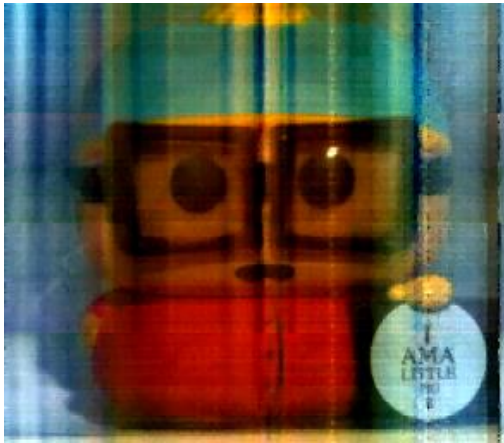
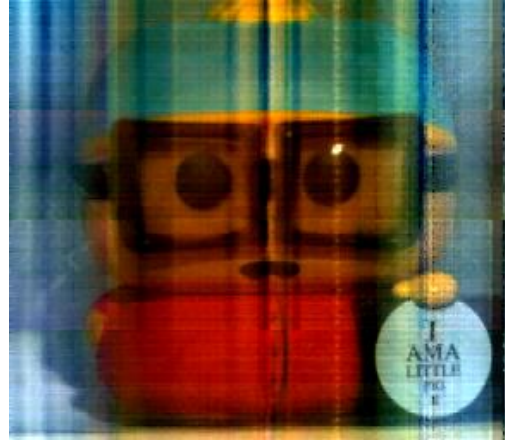
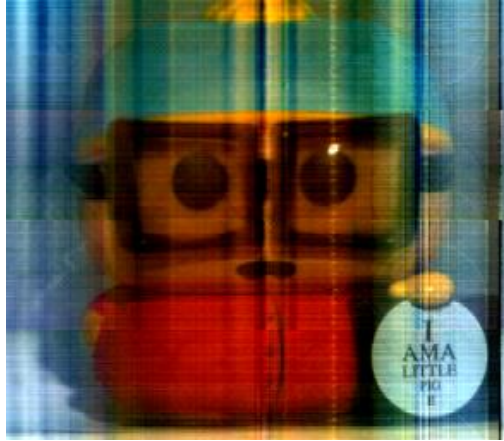


- Demonstration of the multispectral capabilities of the device
- The (outline of the) text disc is apparent in the SWIR whereas it is “hidden” in the visible



# Compressive sampling

Compressive Sampling Using a Pushframe Camera  
Stuart Bennett et al.  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.13085>

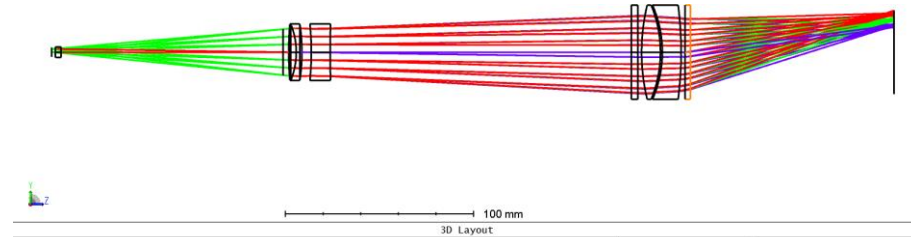


- Demonstration of the prototype's flexibility
- Reduces data rate for storage and transmission
- Uses bespoke 2D 'columnar block' adaptation of binary 'noiselet' basis to achieve SPI-like performance
- 100%, 60%, 40% and 20% sampling rate
- Good fidelity at 40%
- Affecting image quality significantly at 20%
- CR selectable without changing mask (useful for pansharpening)

# Future Steps

## Technical

- **Pushframe Algorithms**
  - Columnar Compressive Sensing Theory
  - Multispectral Sampling and Reconstruction
  - Joint spatio-(hyper)spectral compressive sampling theory
  - Adaptive sampling development
  - Pattern development
  - Compressive detection and characterisation
- **1-D Optical Integration**
  - Non-imaging optical system development
  - Multimode waveguide integrators
  - Free-form optics design
  - Diffractive optics design
- **Spatial light modulator development**
  - Optimisation of imaging optics onto SLM
  - Optimisation of SLM collection optics
  - MEMS SLM design, new concepts for pattern generation
- **Sensor Development**
  - On-chip 1-D integration
  - Low-power adaptive pushframe detection and characterisation
- **Payloads and Missions**
  - Satellite payload design
  - Mission design



## Markets/Users/Application

- **Novel applications of pushframe imaging**
  - Non-EO applications, e.g. autonomous vehicles
  - Monitoring and detection mission development
- **Markets**
  - Ongoing research
- **Users**
  - New and continuing engagement