



# **DARPA Tech Discoverer II**

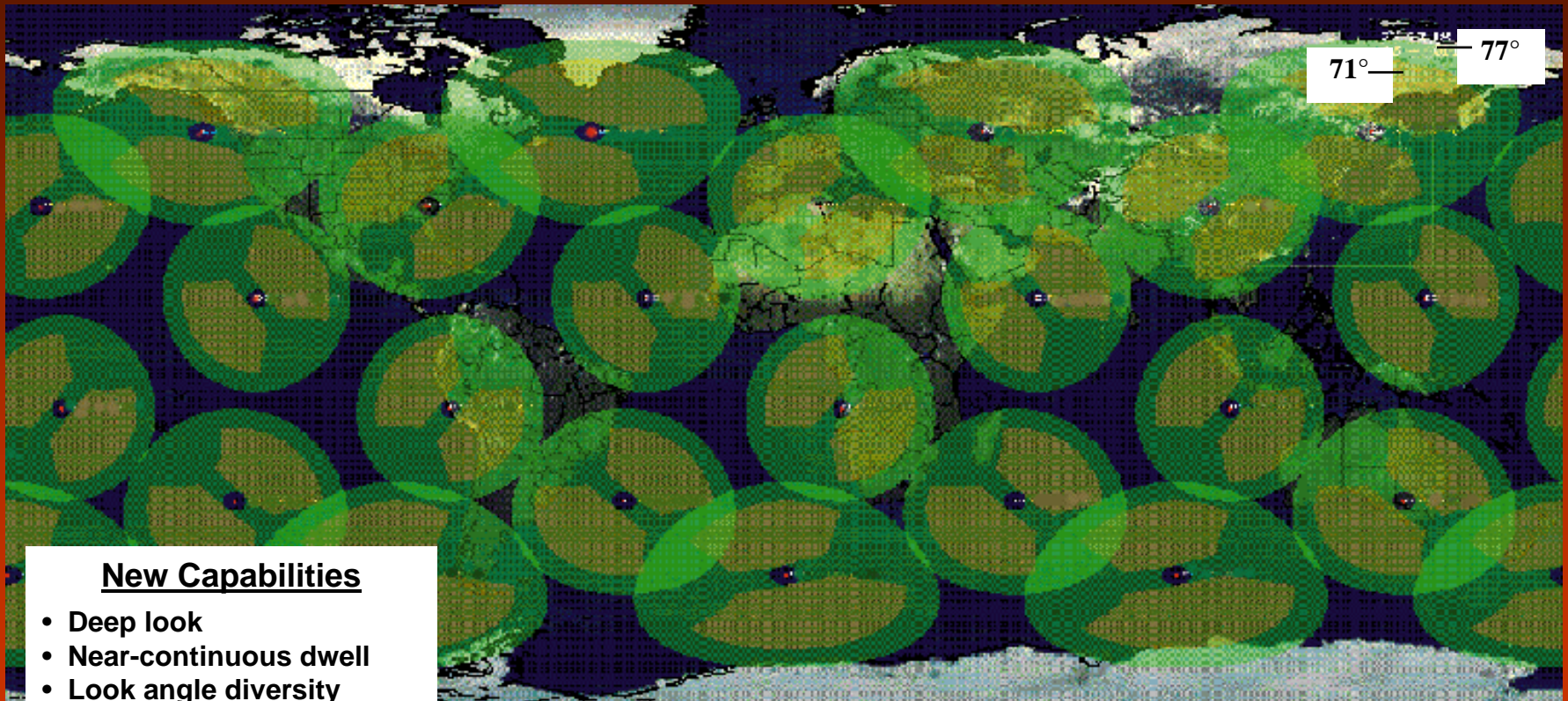
by:

Col Mark Hughes



# Program Vision

- Capable Affordable space-based radar



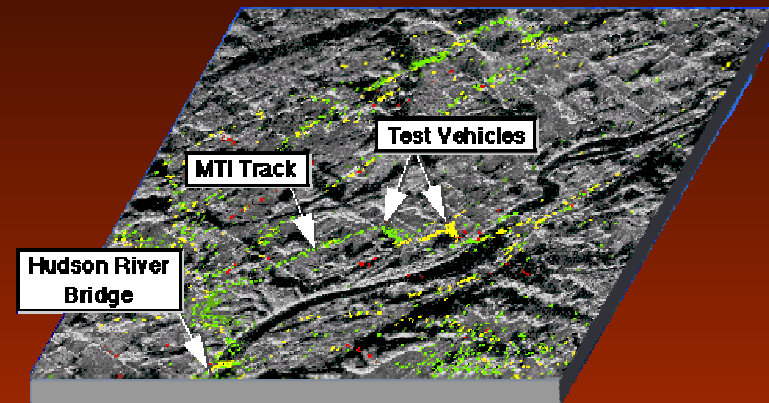
## New Capabilities

- Deep look
- Near-continuous dwell
- Look angle diversity
- 3-D change detection

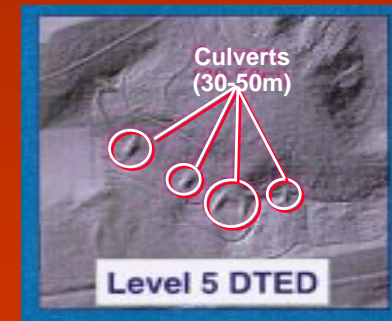


# Objectives

- GMTI Collection
- SAR Imaging
- Affordability
- Dynamic Tasking
- JTF/Theater Downlink Commander
- Collection of Precision Digital Terrain Elevation Data (DTED)



MTI Overlaid  
on SAR Image

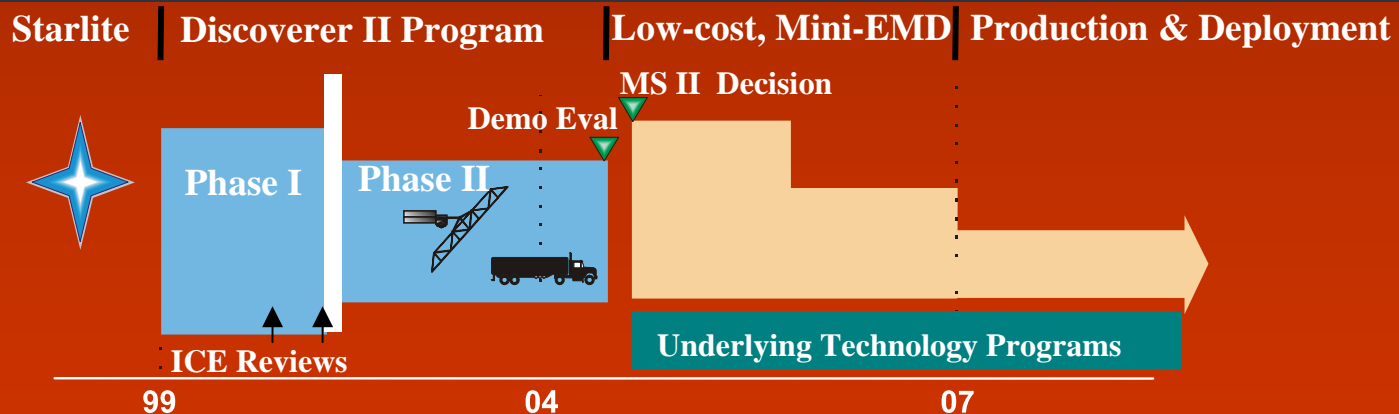




# Definition

- Technology demonstration (Design to Cost) program
- “Objective System”
- Two satellites/Modify ground systems
- Transition to reduced risk EMD

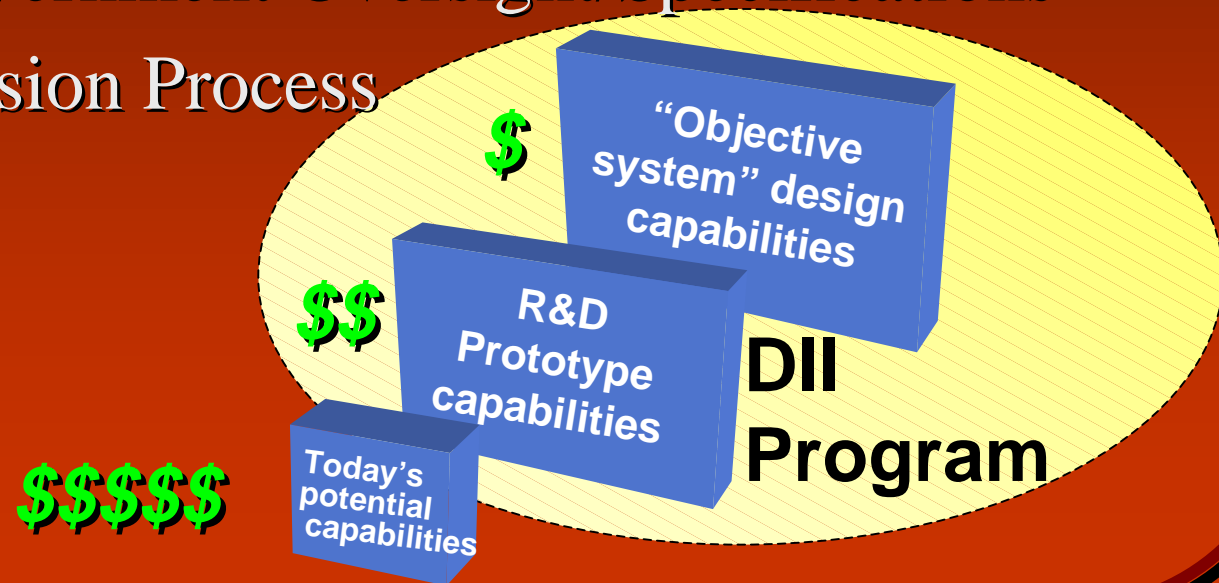
**Discoverer II: An advanced technology demonstration on the path to an affordable production system [Goal: 1) \$100M/bird 2) < \$10.0B life cycle cost]**





# Key Themes

- Cohesive, Focused Program with Balanced Risk Reduction and Core Elements
- Maximum Industry Innovativeness/Involvement
- Limited Government Oversight/Specifications
- Staged Decision Process



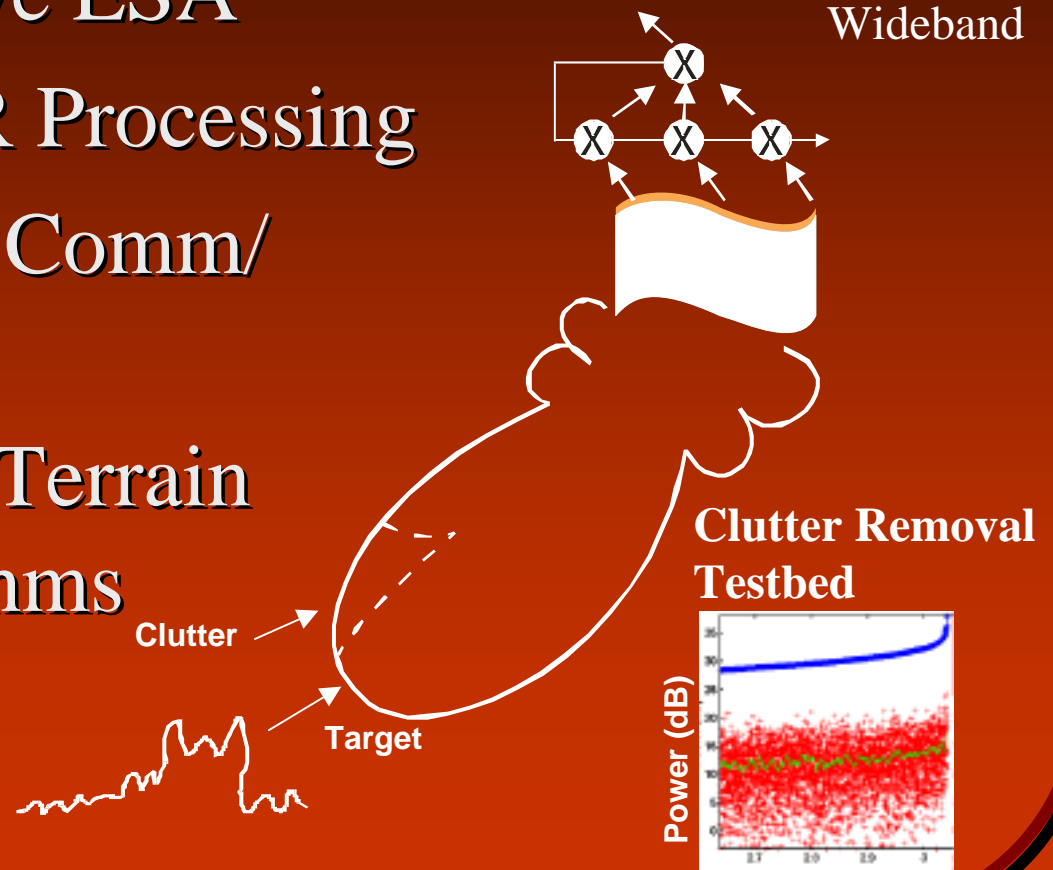


# Technical Challenges



Small Aperture  
Flexible  
Wideband

- Spaceborne Active ESA
- HRR-GMTI/SAR Processing
- Ground Segment Comm/  
Processing
- High-Resolution Terrain  
Mapping Algorithms





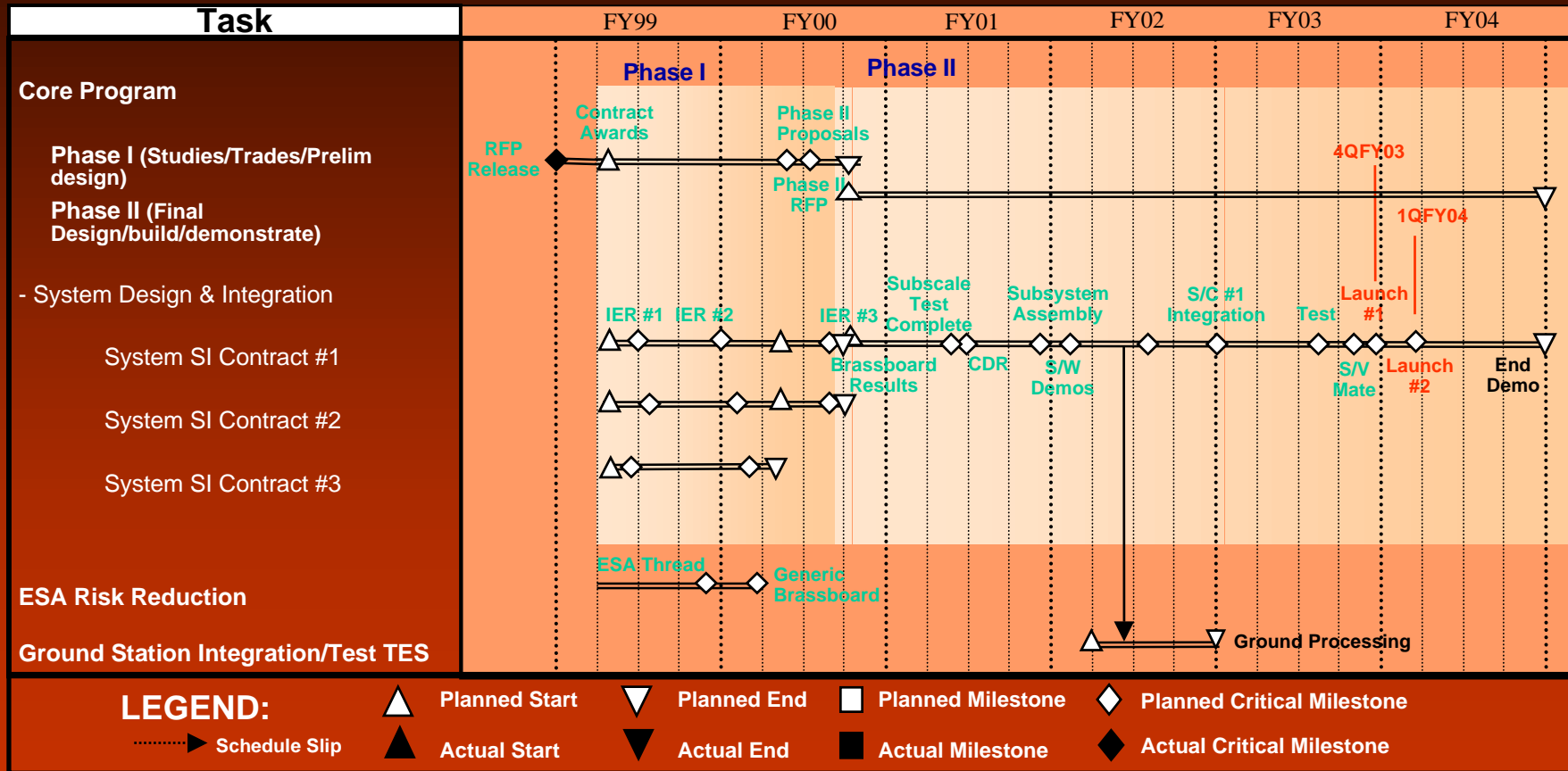
# Key Contractors



- System Integration Contractors
  - Lockheed Martin Astronautics
  - Spectrum Astro
  - TRW
- Risk Reduction Performers
  - Northrop Grumman
  - Raytheon
  - MIT/LL
  - Alphatech
  - Johns Hopkins/APL
  - AFRL
  - ERIM International
  - Aerospace Corp



# Program Schedule





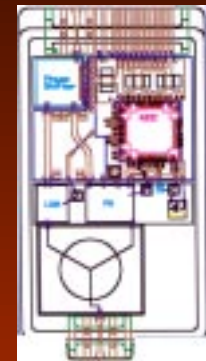
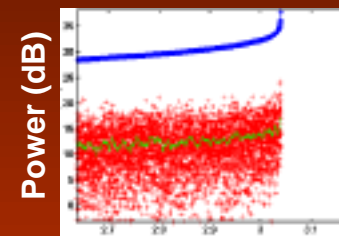


# Significant Accomplishments

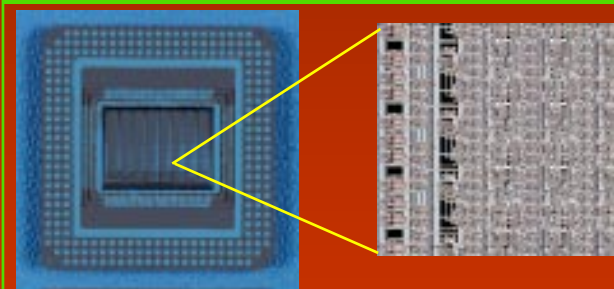


- Space Qualified Multiple Advanced T/R Module Designs
- Signal Processing Designed
  - STAP
  - Airborne Collects
- VLSI Processor Developed
  - .25 micron
  - 24 Gops/watt

Clutter Removal Testbed



Wideband Receiver



FIR Chip  
24 Gflop/watt

6M Transistors  
0.25 micron



# Demonstration Summary



- Joint Demonstration Program:
- Technical feasibility affordable space-based GMTI/SAR capability
- Objective System Design
- Fly (2) Space-based Radar (SBR) R&D satellites
- Tactical ground stations

