

TXMISSION

Quest-E™ Smallsat Modem with AES-256

Overview

Our revolutionary high-data-rate Quest-E™ DVB-S2/S2X and CCSDS-compliant Software Defined Radio has been designed specifically for smallsats and airborne applications.

Building on our standard Quest™ modem, the Quest-E™ adds an AES-256 encryption capability, ensuring all user data is transmitted securely.

It forms part of our comprehensive, off-the-shelf, end-to-end satellite communications solution covering not only the onboard satellite comms but also ground station satellite modems and network management systems.

Support for numerous electrical interfaces and communications protocols ensure the Quest-E™ modem is compatible with all of the popular CubeSat/smallsat ecosystems.

Users can extend the smallsat's functionality by developing and integrating their own software applications for running onboard the modem, using our Software Development Kit.

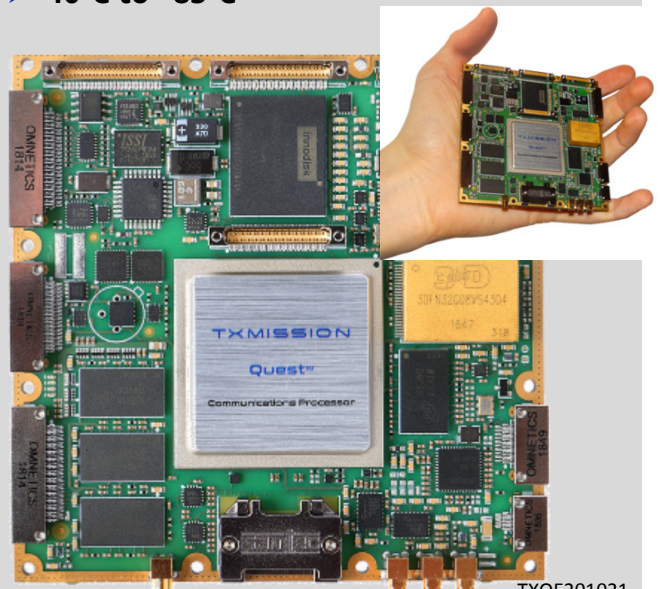
Benefits

DVB-S2/S2X is the most spectrally-efficient waveform available. It provides between two and three times the throughput of Viterbi/Reed-Solomon (or, alternatively, the same throughput but at a much lower transmit power level).

Both our Viterbi/Reed-Solomon and our DVB-S2/S2X support the CCSDS protocol, meaning that existing CCSDS solutions can be upgraded to use DVB-S2/S2X without having to change any of the data processing on the satellite or on the ground.

Features

- AES-256 encryption of TCP/IP traffic
- Data rates up to 1Gbps
- Modulations up to 1024QAM
- Direct VHF/UHF/IF/L/S/C-band support
- DVB-S2 & DVB-S2X waveforms
- CCSDS Viterbi-RS & CCSDS DVB-S/S2/S2X
- H.265 image & video compression
- 128GB payload mass storage option
- Data interfaces: Includes Gigabit Ethernet & various serial interfaces
- Can host third-party apps (5G/IoT/edge computing/cloud computing, etc.)
- Radiation tolerant option
- Unique DVB-S2/S2X OQPSK option for low transmit power
- Transmit predistortion (reduces required power)
- -40°C to +85°C



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Key Features

Primary Function	Software Defined Radio (SDR) for smallsat & airborne applications
Secondary Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can host third-party software applications Can host flight computer (OBC) function Can host payload processor (includes support for mass storage device & sensor interfaces)
Waveforms	DVB-S2 (EN 302 307-1) DVB-S2X (EN 302 307-2) CCSDS DVB-S2 (CCSDS 131.3-B-1) CCSDS DVB-S2X (proprietary CCSDS extension) CCSDS Viterbi/Reed-Solomon (CCSDS 131.0-B-1) CCSDS 4TCM (CCSDS 401)
Data Rate (Tx & Rx)	DVB-S2/DVB-S2X: 50kbps to 1Gbps Viterbi/Reed-Solomon: 9.6kbps to 50Mbps
Symbol Rate (Tx & Rx)	DVB-S2/DVB-S2X: 100ksp to 119Msp Viterbi/Reed-Solomon: 9.6ksp to 40Msp <i>Maximum occupied carrier bandwidth : 125MHz</i>
Frequency Range (Tx & Rx)	VHF/UHF/IF/L/S/C-band (75MHz to 6GHz) SMA connectors (Other frequencies via external up/down conversion)
Data Interfaces	Gigabit Ethernet, LVDS, SDI/ASI, USB3, SpaceWire, RS485, UART, CAN, I2C, SPI
Spectral Roll-off	Standard: Root-raised cosine filter provides choice of 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25% & 35% carrier roll-off factors Option: Extended roll-offs of 40%, 50% & 60% (reduces peak-to-average power ratio & amplifier back-off)
DVB-S2/S2X ACM	Varies data rate with satellite position during a satellite pass, maximising throughput for the strength of signal being received
Adaptive Tx Predistorter	Corrects for linear & non-linear distortion in the RF chain; maximises linear output power & minimises required back-off; up to 2dB performance gain
Real-time Video Compression	Hardware compression of sensor image & video data to the H.264/H.265 (HEVC) standards at 4K/Ultra High Definition resolutions & 60Hz frame rate, massively reducing storage requirements & data download
Mass Storage	Option to fit 32GB or 128GB SSD drive for storing sensor data
Radiation Tolerance	Standard: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-reliability lockstep processors Automatic memory error correction & scrubbing Software & PSU integrity maintained by watchdog Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key components for detecting & recovering from a radiation upset are radiation hardened (watchdog timer, watchdog timer PSU, flash memory) Radiation absorbent conformal coating
Output Power	-5 to -40dBm

Mechanical/Environmental

Size	90mm x 90mm x 20mm
Weight	< 120g (excludes enclosure)
Power Consumption	5W to 30W depending on data rate & options
Input Voltage	5V (non-regulated)
Emissions & Immunity	Emissions: EN 55032:2015 Immunity: EN 55024:2010, A1
Enclosure	Option: Clamshell enclosure (aluminium; provides 2mm of shielding; weight: < 0.25kg)
Conformal Coating	Option: Space-compliant PCB conformal coating
Testing	Environmental testing: functional, electrical, vibration, shock, thermal, vacuum, EMC (including ionising dose)

Waveforms / Forward Error Correction

DVB-S2X (EN 302 307-2)	Normal Frame: QPSK 13/45, 9/20, 11/20 8PSK 23/36, 25/36, 13/18 8APSK-L 5/9, 26/45 16APSK 26/45, 3/5, 28/45, 23/36, 25/36, 13/18, 7/9, 77/90 16APSK-L 5/9, 8/15, 1/2, 3/5, 2/3 32APSK 32/45, 11/15, 7/9 32APSK-L 2/3 64APSK 11/15, 7/9, 4/5, 5/6 64APSK-L 32/45 128APSK 3/4, 7/9 256APSK 32/45, 3/4 256APSK-L 29/45, 2/3, 31/45, 11/15 Short Frame: QPSK 11/45, 4/15, 14/45, 7/15, 8/15, 32/45 8PSK 7/15, 8/15, 26/45, 32/45 16APSK 7/15, 8/15, 26/45, 3/5, 32/45 32APSK 2/3, 32/45
DVB-S2 (EN 302 307-1)	Normal/Short Frames: QPSK 1/4, 1/3, 2/5, 1/2, 3/5, 2/3, 3/4, 4/5, 5/6, 8/9, 9/10 8PSK 3/5, 2/3, 3/4, 5/6, 8/9, 9/10 16APSK 2/3, 3/4, 4/5, 5/6, 8/9, 9/10 32APSK 3/4, 4/5, 5/6, 8/9, 9/10 <i>Note: rate 9/10 is not valid for short frames</i>
Proprietary Extension to DVB-S2/S2X	OQPSK 1/2, 3/5, 2/3, 3/4, 4/5, 5/6, 8/9, 9/10 (OQPSK reduces peak-to-average-power ratio of the transmitted signal compared to QPSK, reducing the required back-off & allowing a higher transmit power without impairing the signal)
CCSDS-compliant Viterbi & Reed-Solomon (CCSDS 131.0-B-1)	Viterbi: BPSK, QPSK & OQPSK 1/2, 2/3, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8 Reed-Solomon: Symbols per codeword: 255 Error correction values: 8 & 16 Codes include (255, 233) & (255, 239) plus shortened codeblocks Interleaver depth: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 8
CCSDS-compliant 4TCM (CCSDS 401)	CCSDS 4D 8PSK TCM 3/4, 8/9, 9/10, 10/11, 11/12
Other Modulations	Proprietary 1024QAM

Encryption

AES-256	Encryption/decryption of all TCP/IP traffic using AES with 256-bit keys. Supports Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode
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Telemetry, Tracking & Command (TT&C)

SSH/Telnet/Serial	A command line interface can be used to securely log in to the satellite modem over the TT&C uplink. This can be used to monitor & configure every aspect of the modem
Web User Interface	The satellite modem supports a built-in web server that serves web pages to any web browser for TT&C purposes. This may be useful for both pre-deployment testing & in-orbit operational use
MissionSpan™ NMS	As part of the ground station control network, it allows all modems (in orbit & on the ground) to be monitored & controlled through a single application

General Description

- High-performance, low-SWaP modem suitable for satellite & airborne applications
- Powerful 1.5GHz multi-core processing engine
- Optimised for low power operation; various power saving modes
- SDK available for developing onboard apps

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Ordering Information: Please select from the following options when placing an order

Feature		Options	Description
Hardware Platform	1 option Select	A (High Performance)	Provides AES-256 encryption , radiation tolerance, video compression & 128GB mass storage; meets all other specifications provided the relevant feature options are selected
		B (Low Cost)	No radiation hardening, no video compression & only 32GB mass storage; meets all other specifications including AES-256 encryption provided the relevant feature options are selected
RF	1 option Select	None	Provides a high-speed digital I/O interface to the user's own RF solution
		VHF/UHF/IF/L/S/C-band	All frequencies between 75MHz & 6GHz are supported through a plug-in mezzanine card (requires external power amplification); other frequencies (X, Ku, Ka, etc. require external up/down frequency conversion & amplification)
Data Rate	1 option Select	100Mbps	Tx & Rx data rates to 100Mbps (50Mpsps)
		300Mbps	Tx & Rx data rates to 300Mbps (100Mpsps)
		500Mbps	Tx & Rx data rates to 500Mbps (119Mpsps)
		1Gbps	Tx & Rx data rates to 1Gbps (119Mpsps)
Waveforms	1 option Select at least	DVB-S2	DVB-S2 QPSK, 8PSK, 16APSK & 32APSK operation per EN 302 307-1. Includes 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 & 35% spectral roll-offs
		DVB-S2X	DVB-S2X QPSK, 8PSK, 8APSK, 16APSK, 32APSK, 64APSK, 128APSK & 256APSK operation (EN 302 307-2). Includes 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 & 35% spectral roll-offs
		CCSDS DVB-S2/S2X	Note: requires the selection of the DVB-S2 and/or the DVB-S2X option CCSDS DVB-S2 per CCSDS 131.3-B-1 CCSDS DVB-S2X (proprietary CCSDS extension)
		CCSDS Viterbi/RS	CCSDS Viterbi/Reed-Solomon (CCSDS 131.0-B-1)
		DVB-S2/S2X OQPSK	Proprietary extension to DVB-S2/S2X to provide OQPSK modulation
		CCSDS 4TCM	CCSDS 4D 8PSK TCM (CCSDS 401)
		1024QAM	Proprietary 1024QAM (compatible with Connect™ Ground Station Modem)
ACM		DVB-S2/S2X ACM	Adaptive Coding & Modulation (ACM) mode for use with DVB-S2 & DVB-S2X
Compression		Video Compression	H.264/H.265 (HEVC) hardware image & video compression (included as standard when Hardware Platform A is selected)
Predistortion		Adaptive Tx Predistorter	Predistorts the Tx output in order to compensate for linear & non-linear distortion in the received signal
Enclosure		Clamshell Enclosure	Aluminium; provides 2mm of shielding; weight: < 0.25kg
Extended Roll-off		Extended Roll-off	Extends carrier roll-offs to include 40%, 50% & 60%

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