

**NEPP ETW 2020**



# **Overview of Model-Based System Assurance for Spacecraft with Commercial Parts**

**A. Witulski, K. Ryder, M. Reaz, M. Rony, R. Austin, G. Karsai,  
N. Mahadevan, R. Reed, B. Sierawski, R. Schrimpf, B. Bhuva  
Vanderbilt University**

This work supported by NEPP Grant and  
Cooperative Agreement Number 80NSSC20K0424,  
JPL Subcontract Number 1643216, and Alphacore/NASA LaRC  
STTR 80NSSC190560

# Acronyms and Abbreviations

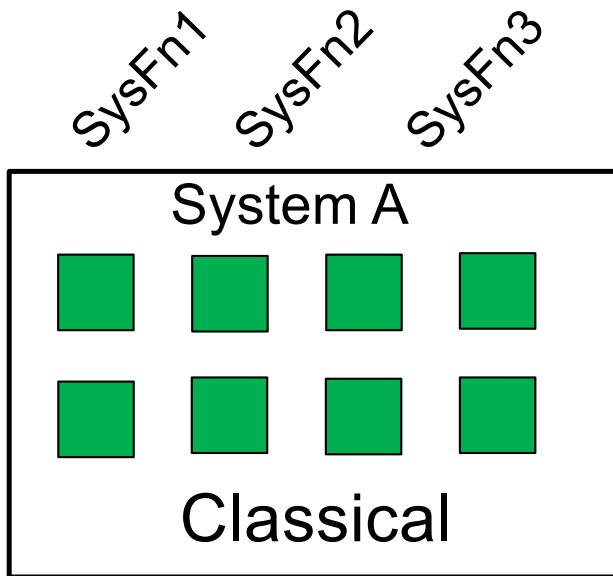
---

COTS: Commercial Off the Shelf components  
CRÈME: Cosmic Ray Effects on Micro-Electronics Code  
GSN: Goal Structuring Notation  
MBMA: Model-Based Mission Assurance  
MBSE: Model-Based System Engineering  
MRQW: Microelectronics Reliability & Qualification Workshop  
NASA: National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
R&M: Reliability & Maintainability  
R-GENTIC: Radiation Guideline for Notional Threat Identification and Classification  
RESIM Radiation Effect System Impact Modeling  
RHA: Radiation Hardness Assurance  
SEAM: System Engineering and Assurance Modeling  
SEB: Single Event Burnout  
SEL: Single Event Latchup  
STD: Standard  
SysML: System Modeling Language

# Classical and Systems-Oriented Radiation Analysis

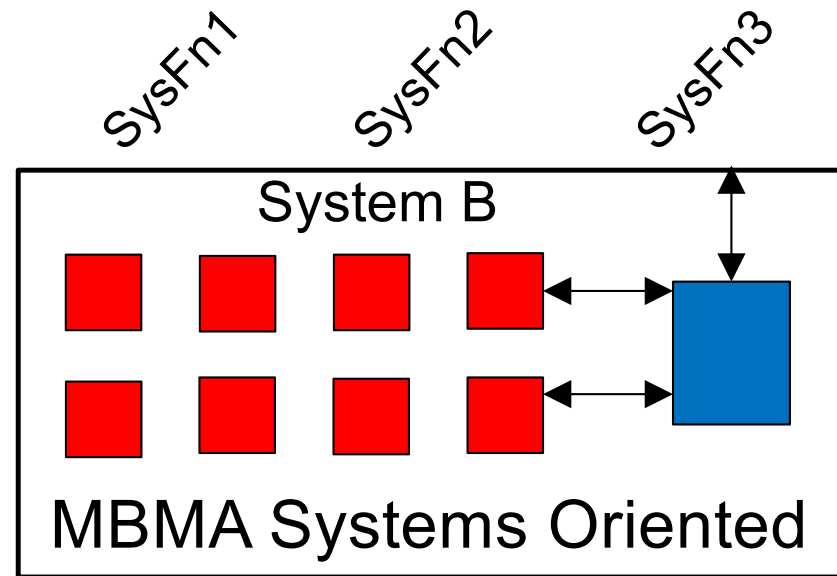
If Parts Rad-Hard,

→ System Rad Hard



If System Rad-Tolerant,

→ Part params allowed to vary,  
or mitigation is added



Components: Hardened COTS Rad Mitigation Fn 3

# Radiation Assurance Approaches for Space Systems



*Vanderbilt Engineering*

## **Classical Radiation Analysis:**

- Widespread use of radiation-hardened components
- Deep knowledge of components
- Several heavy-ion beam test campaigns
- Informed use of physics-based radiation modeling tools
- Relatively high budget and long-term development schedule
- Formal documentation of test procedures and results

## **“New, Commercial Space”**

- Widespread, if not 100% use of Commercial (COTS) parts
- Little insight into components
- Minimal testing, possibly only proton testing of sub-systems
- Little use of radiation modeling tools
- Low budget, accelerated development schedule
- Little formal documentation or evidence of radiation behavior

**Class A** ←—————→ **Class D**

# Pros and Cons of Radiation Assurance Approaches



Vanderbilt Engineering

## Classical Radiation Analysis:

- Rock-solid hardness
- Justifiable by testing/analysis
- Extensive knowledge base
- Don't need to estimate part lifetimes or degradation
- Testing expensive, time-consuming
- Must be repeated if parts change
- Over-subscribed beam facilities
- Rad-hard parts expensive, long lead times, lag commercial performance curve

## Model-Based Systems Approach

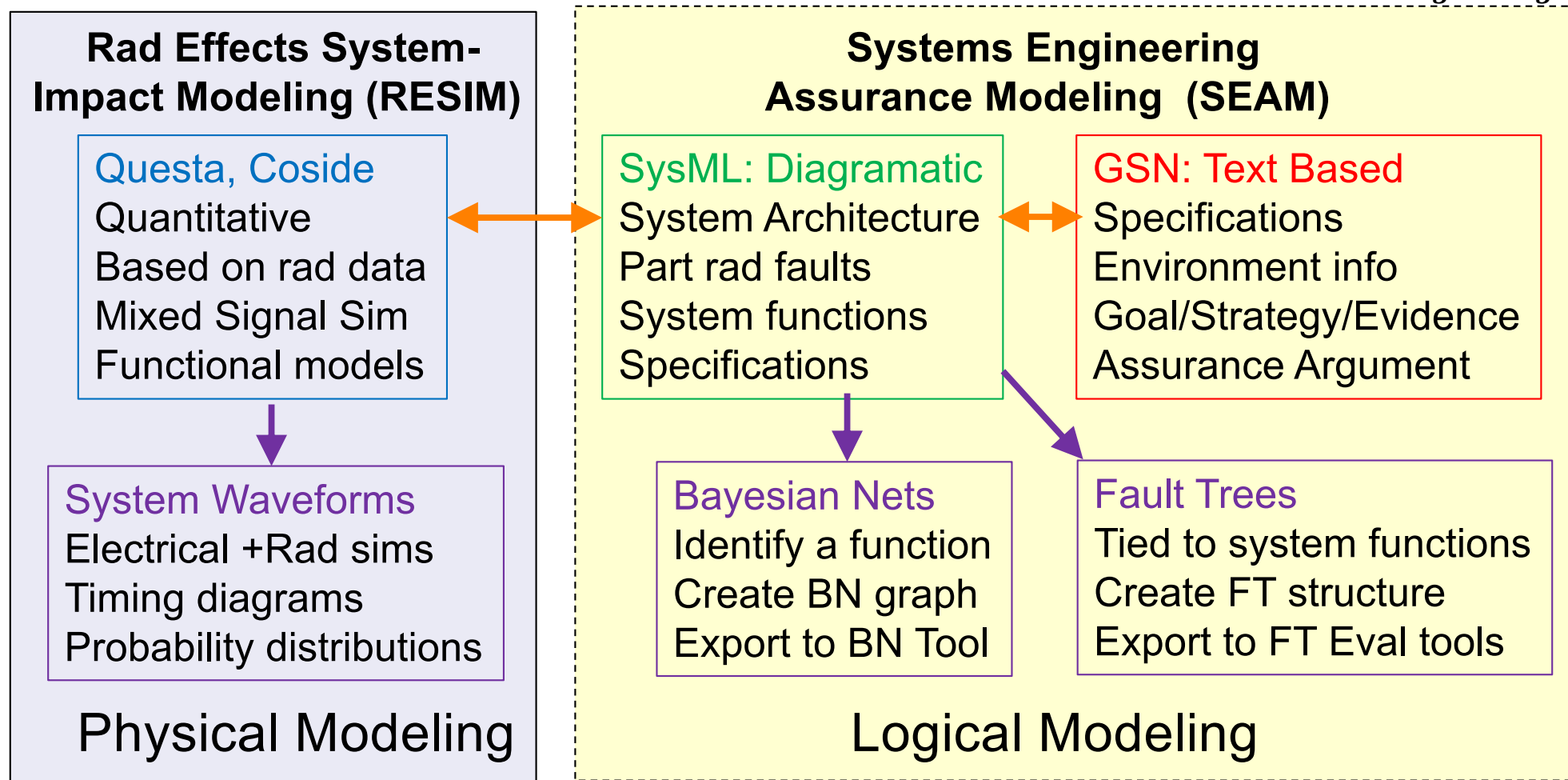
- Enables use of COTS parts
- Can be started early in design cycle, then iterated
- Easily changed
- Gives estimate of part degradation, impact on system
- Requires knowledge of system
- Inadequate modeling info available
- Difficult to model system in detail
- Requires learning of tools

**Class A** ←

→ **Class D**



# Two System Radiation Characterization Flows

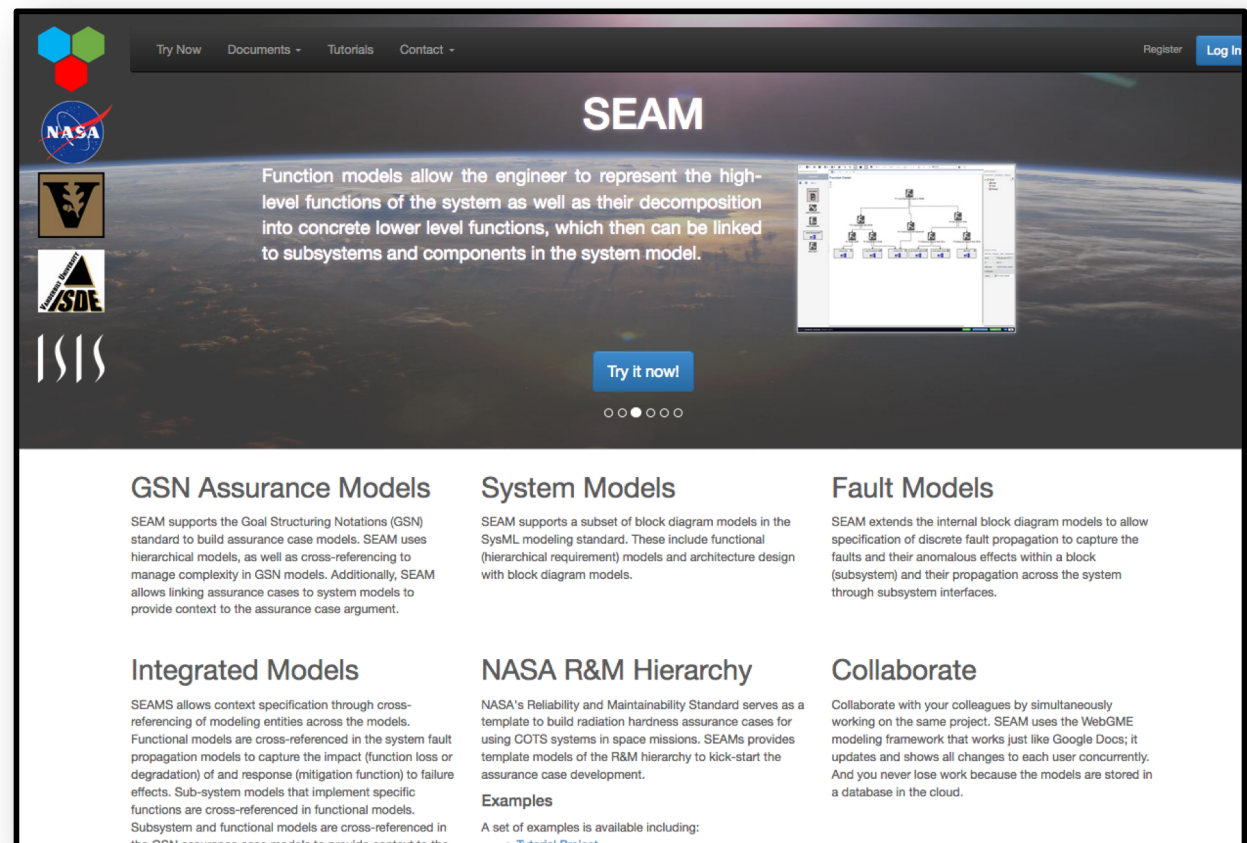


# SEAM Systems Engineering Assurance Modeling



Vanderbilt Engineering

- Dedicated software platform
- Access as guest or create account
- Maintained by Vanderbilt University
- Contains examples and tutorial information
- Diagrams in following presentations



<https://modelbasedassurance.org>

# RESIM Radiation Effects Systems-Impact Modeling



*Vanderbilt Engineering*

- Software Modeling Flow that can be implemented on several platforms
- Requires modeling of several kinds of blocks: analog, digital, mixed, power, software
- All models simulated on same time base
- Physical or math-based modeling
- Quantitative system impacts of rad effects

Behavioral Models for Subsystems

Radiation models for parameters of Behavioral Models

Vary radiation parameters to obtain variation in system outputs

Reference:  
A. F. Witulski, et al,  
“Simulation of Transistor-Level Radiation Effects On System-Level Performance Parameters,” IEEE Transactions on Nuclear Science, July 2019, Volume: 66, Issue: 7, pp. 1634-1641.



# SEAM: Characteristics of Logical Modeling

---

## Logical Models:

- Description-Based, not equation-based
  - Relates system functions to components
  - Describes system architecture
  - Describes fault origination in a component and how it propagates through a system
- Especially useful in early stages of a design
- Does not require detailed component knowledge
- Intermediate stage between physical models and reliability models

# RESIM: Characteristics of a Physical Model

---

## Physical Modeling:

- Equation or algorithm based
- System modeling requires many kinds of models
  - Analog-continuous differential equations
  - Digital: combinational and sequential logic
  - Software and algorithms (e.g. ECC)
  - Other physical domains (mechanical, optical, etc.)
  - Interfaces between domains (binary-digital-analog)
- Questa can run many kinds of models together, all on the same simulation time steps.
- Use for quantitative estimation of radiation degradation



# Structural Components of SEAM

- **Three structural components in SEAM**

- Goal: Describe system structure and make logical argument for system radiation hardness or tolerance.

- **Functional Model (SysML)**

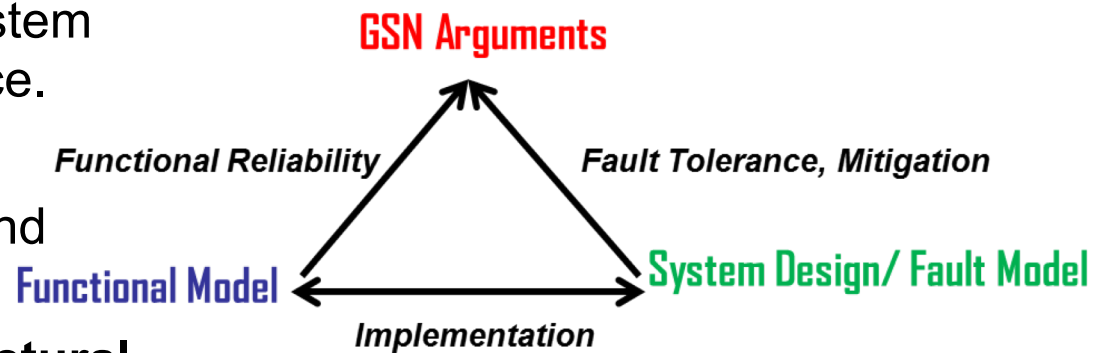
- Connects System functions and components

- **Fault propagation and Architectural Models:**

- Captures relationships between part failure modes and cascading effects

- **Goal Structuring Notation:**

- Visual representation of assurance argument



**Structural Components  
of SEAM**



# Reliability Components of SEAM

- **Three structural components in SEAM**

- Goal: Describe system structure and make logical argument for system radiation hardness or tolerance. *Radiation Hardness Assurance Case*

- **Functional Model (SysML)**

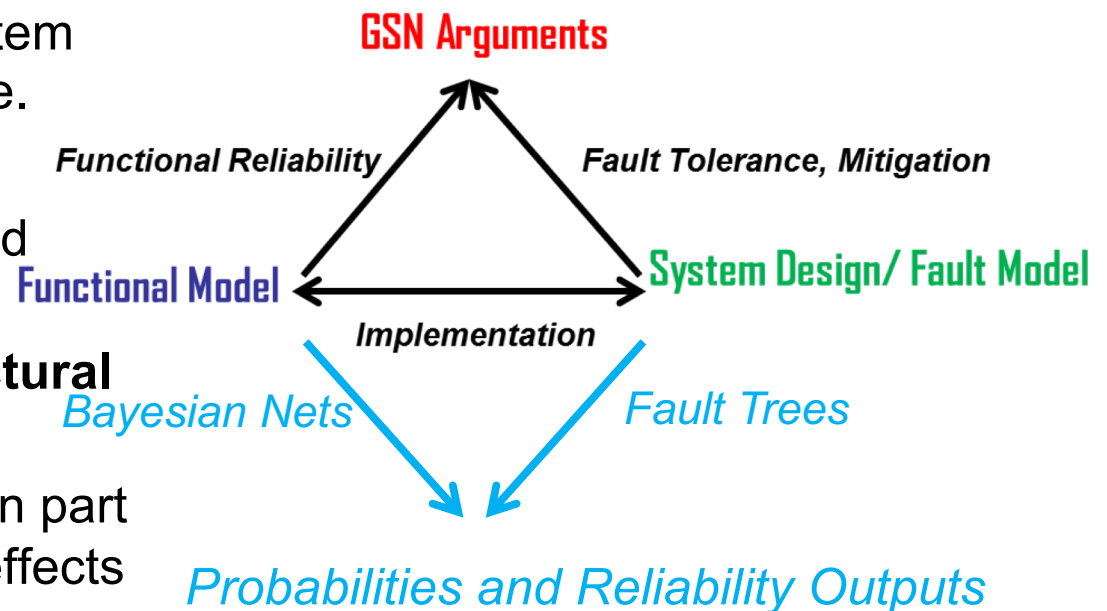
- Connects System functions and components

- **Fault propagation and Architectural Models:**

- Captures relationships between part failure modes and cascading effects

- **Goal Structuring Notation:**

- Visual representation of assurance argument

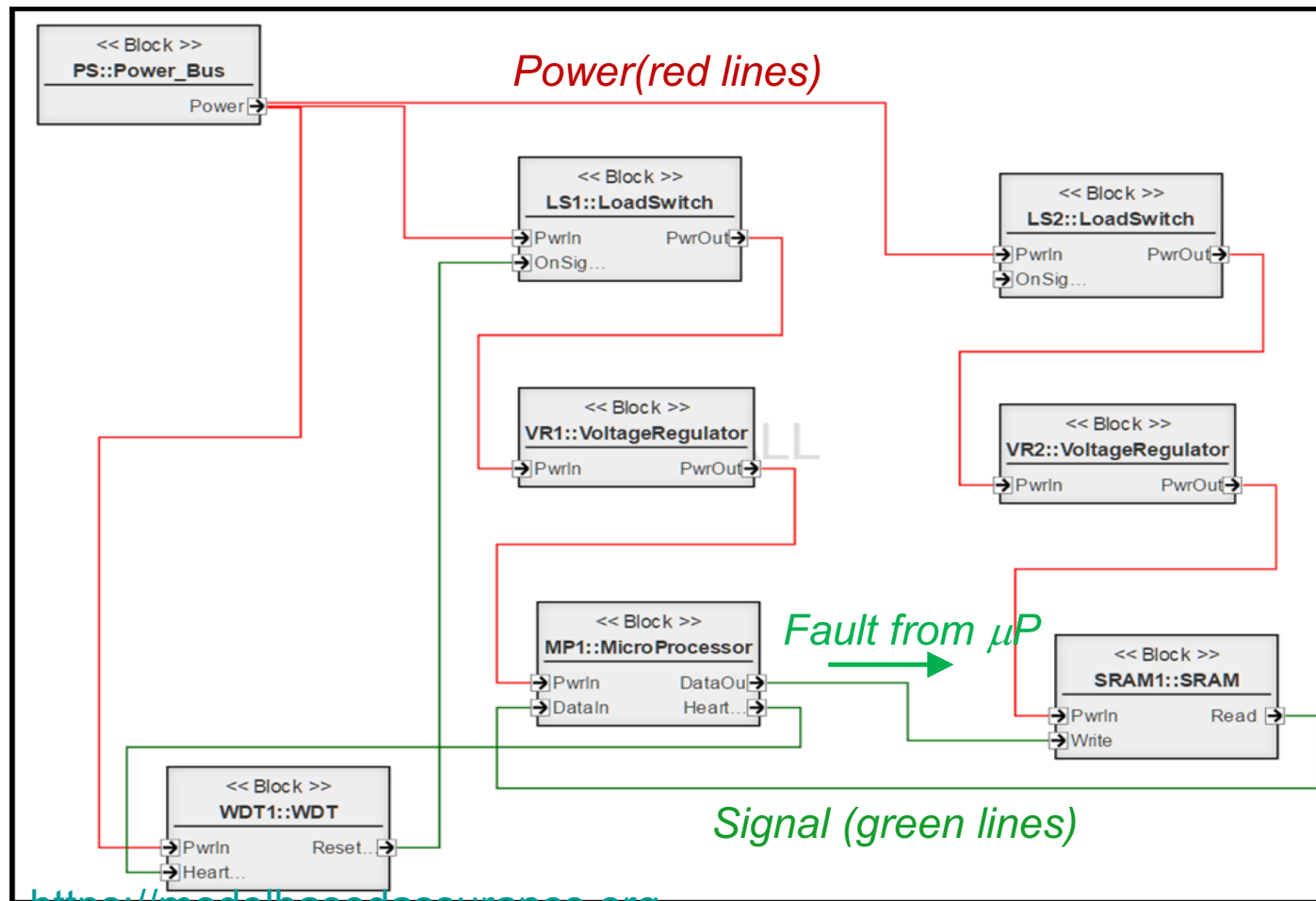


# SEAM/SysML: Fault Propagation Through Ports

## Example: Block Diagram/Architectural Model of Circuit Board



Vanderbilt Engineering



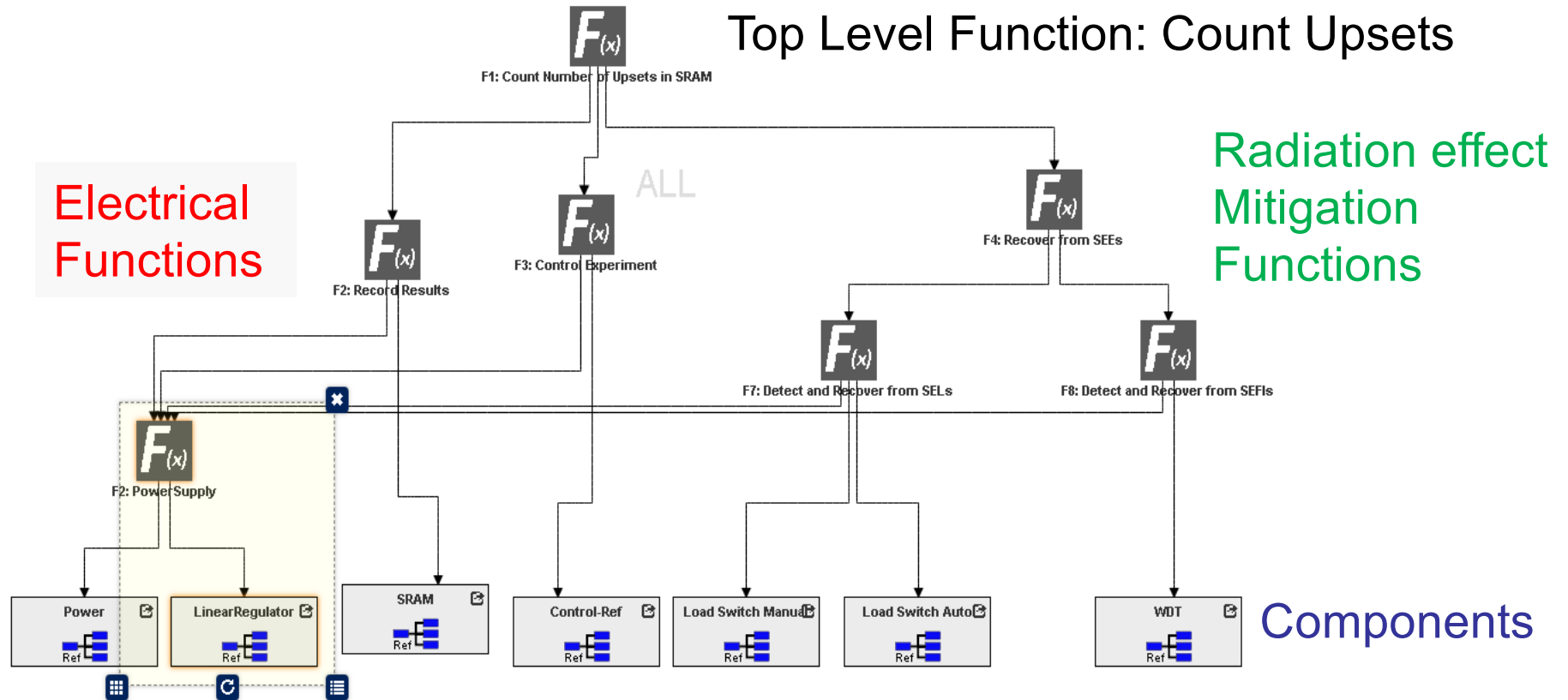
*Architectural Models capture the structure and interconnection of the system and fault propagation*

# SEAM/SysML: Functional Decomposition Model

## Example: Cubesat Experiment Board: Count Upsets in SRAM



Vanderbilt Engineering



*Functional Decomposition associates functions with component blocks*

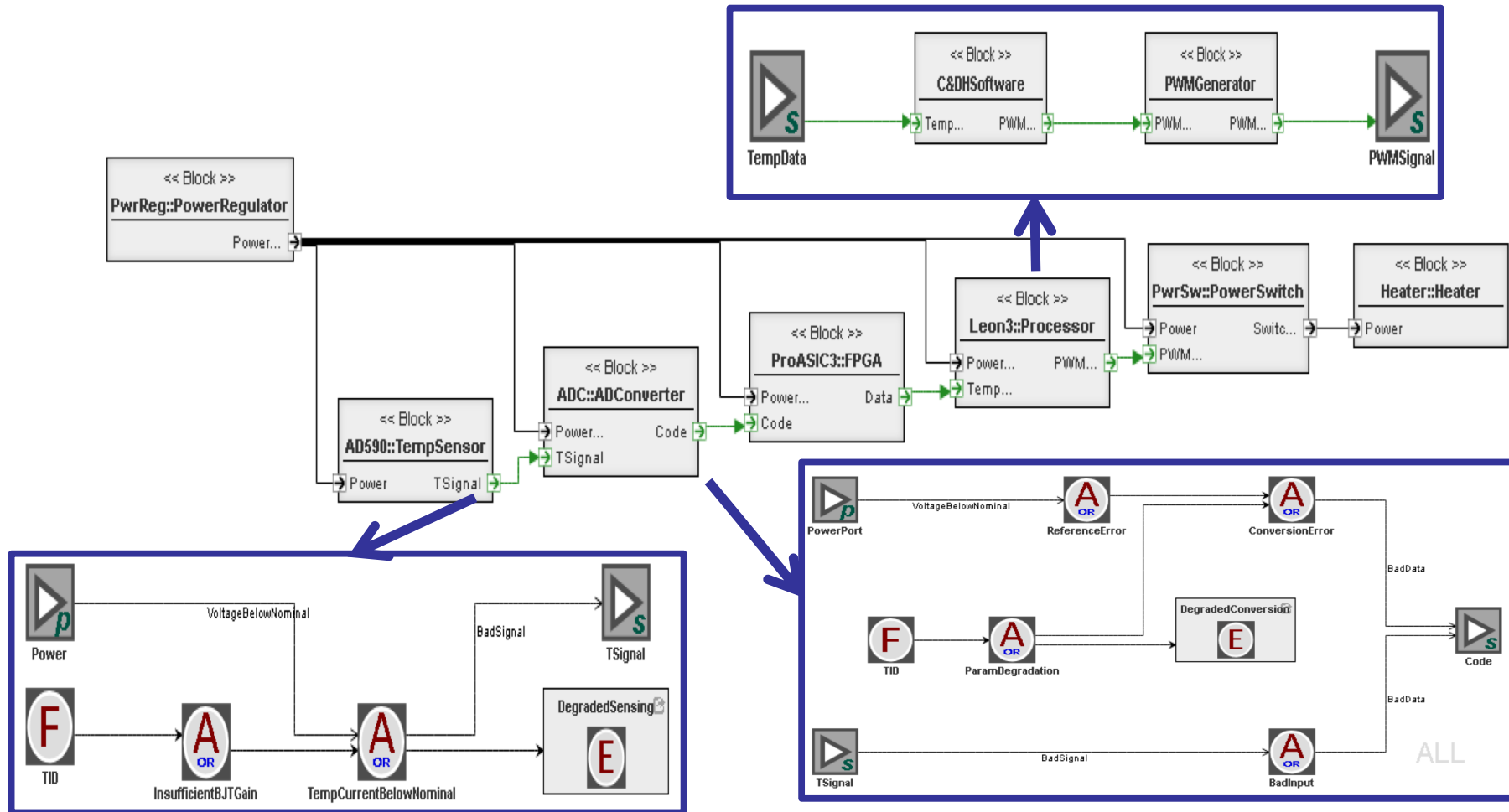
<https://modelbasedassurance.org>

# SEAM Example: Internal Fault Diagrams

## Thermal Control Loop – System Model



Vanderbilt Engineering



Witulski Radiation Assurance Paper 13.0106

# SEAM Example: Assembling FT Topology

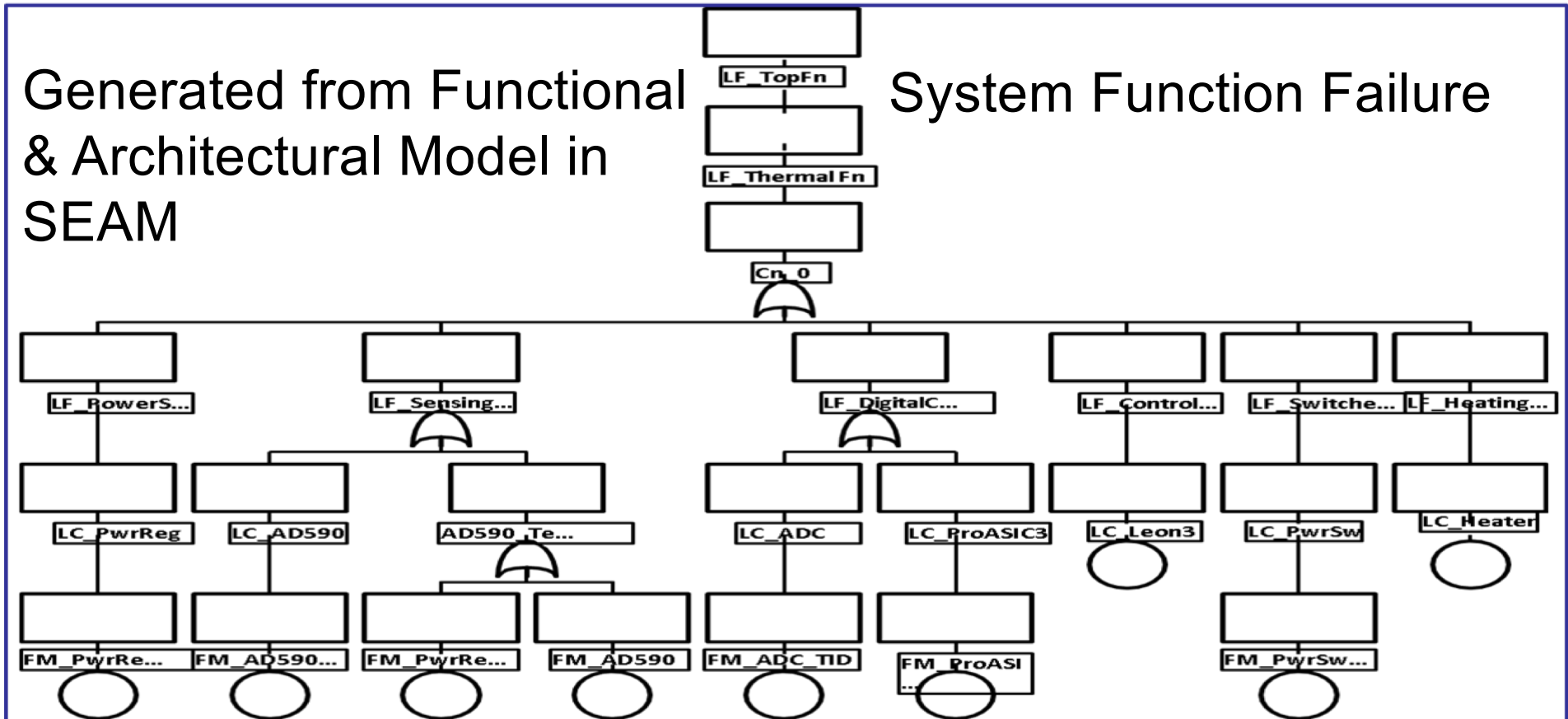
## Thermal control loop – Generated Fault Tree



Vanderbilt Engineering

Generated from Functional  
& Architectural Model in  
SEAM

System Function Failure



Component failure modes

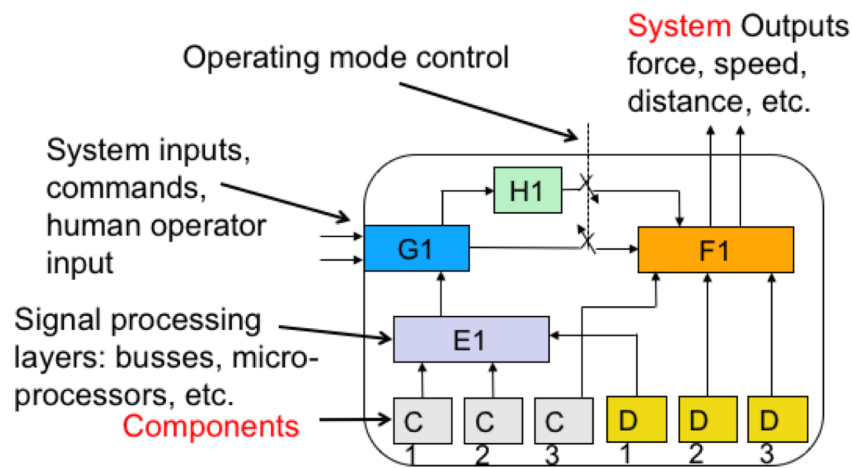


# RESIM Example: Radiation Impact on System or Circuit Board-Level Variables



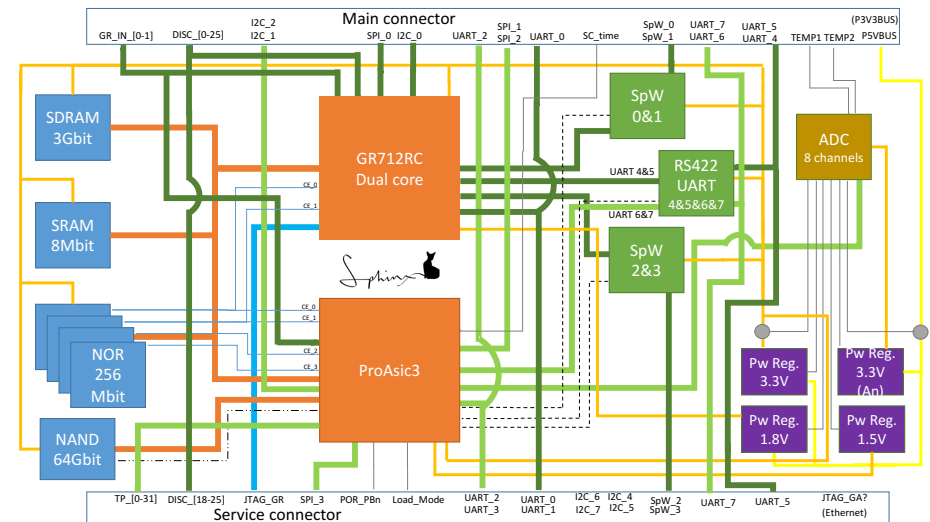
Vanderbilt Engineering

## One System, Many Components



Radiation effect at component level  
Variable of interest at System level

## One System, Many Functions



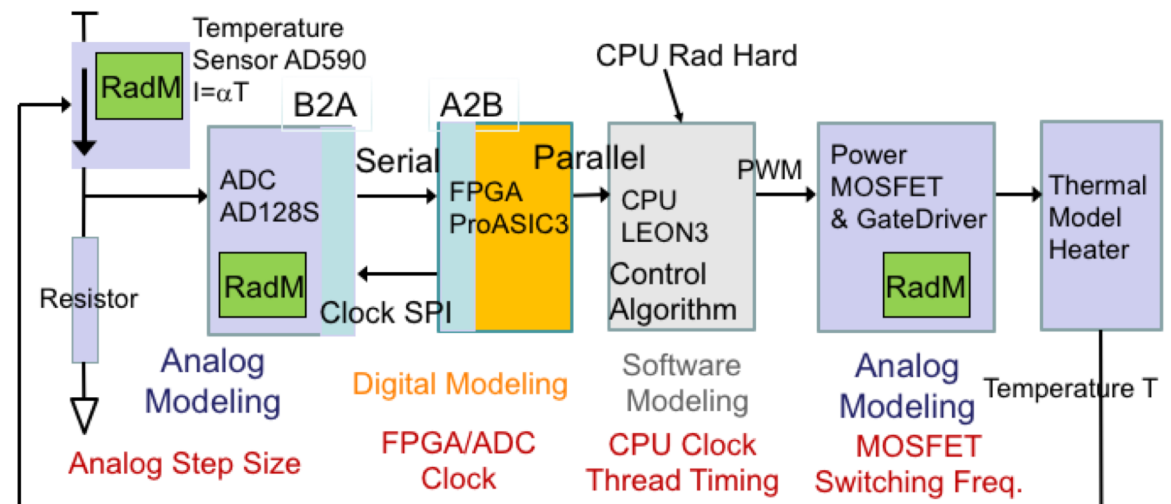
Demonstration vehicle is the JPL  
Sphinx C&DH board flight computer

# Modeling Thermal Regulation Loop Sphinx Board



Vanderbilt Engineering

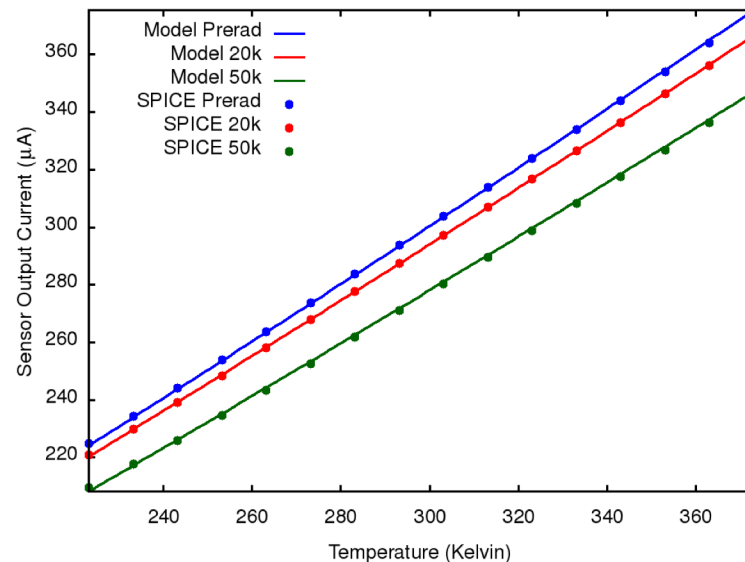
- Want deterministic model of system
  - Find right level of abstraction
  - Model subsystems or components with behavioral models
  - Incorporate radiation models into the behavioral models
  - Need different kinds of functional models for digital, analog, mixed-signal parts
- We chose the temperature loop regulation function of C&DH board



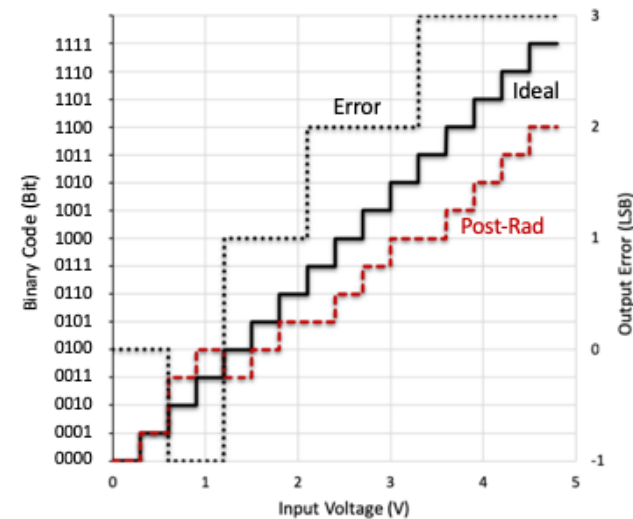
# Thermal Loop Example: Behavioral Radiation Models Functional Models of Components



Vanderbilt Engineering



Analog functional model of AD590 temperature sensor



Mixed-signal functional of A/D converter in Verilog AMS

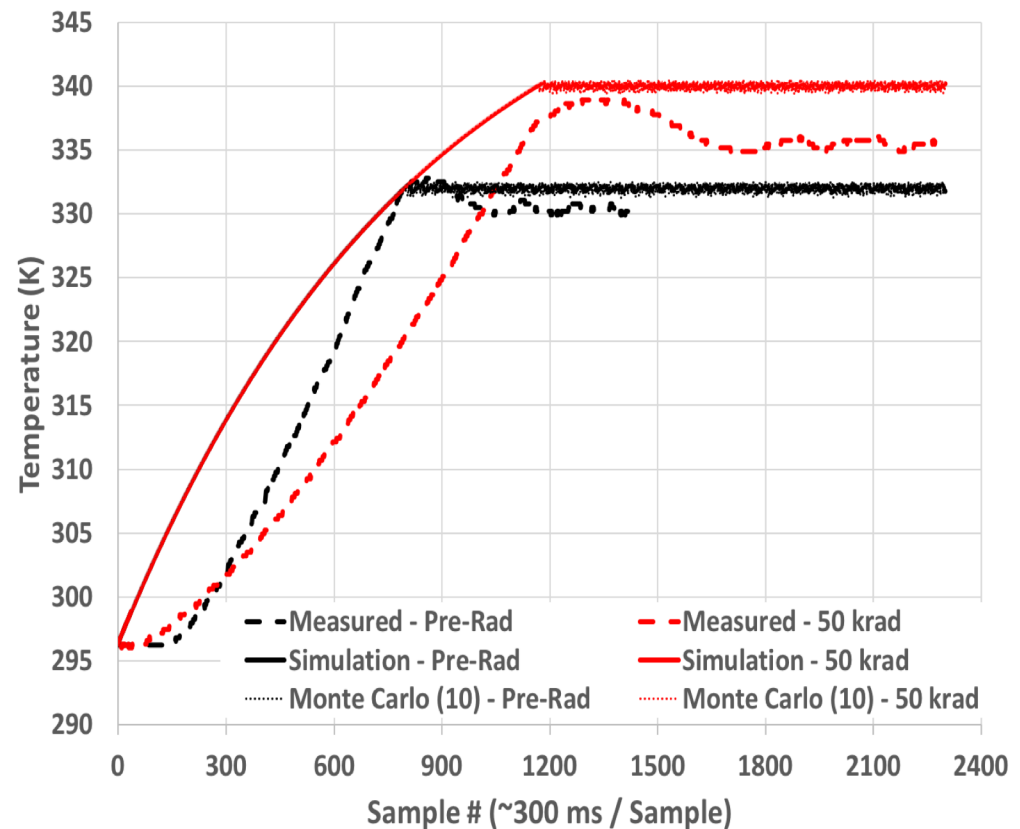
# Thermal Loop Example: -Final Result

## Simulation and measurement of temp. step and regulation



*Vanderbilt Engineering*

- Comparison of RESIM simulation flow to simulation
- Relates system performance (temperature regulation) to TID degradation of parts



# NEPP Project: Model Based Mission Assurance for Spacecraft Reliability



*Vanderbilt Engineering*



## Program History

- FY16: Started as collaboration of NASA OSMA, HQ, NEPP
  - Work on Goal Structuring Notation Safety Cases
- FY17: collaboration of NASA OSMA, HQ, NEPP, JPL
  - Added SysML and Bayesian Nets (BN) to platform
- FY18: NASA OSMA, HQ, NEPP, JPL
  - Coverage Checks, Requirements, Compatibility Magic Draw, Fault Trees
- FY19: NASA OSMA, HQ, NEPP, JPL
  - Import of radiation modeling tools, Application of SEAM to development lifecycle, User interface
- FY 20: NASA NEPP
  - Interface with R-Gentic, Tutorials, Templates, Risk Quantification

# Overview of ADC Modeling Task in JPL Concurrent Qualification Program

---



*Vanderbilt Engineering*

- Make it easy for new users to start models in SEAM
    - Interface with R-Gentic mission planning tool
    - Use output of R-Gentic to generate templates of part times used in mission
  - Use SEAM to facilitate Quantification of Risk
    - Risk is probability of event times consequence
    - Use SEAM tools to locate and define failure modes
    - Find a model for comparing consequence of various kinds of risk
      - Terrestrial Testing
      - On-orbit data
-

# STTR Phase I : Testing of COTS Systems in Space Radiation Environments

---



Vanderbilt Engineering

- NASA STTR 2019 Phase I Solicitation from Langley Research Center
- T6.05 Testing of COTS Systems in Space Radiation Environments

RFP: Investigate the feasibility of COTS electronics for *High Performance Computing (HPC)* in *space environments which are already heavily shielded*. It seeks strategies *based on a complete system analysis of HPC COTS* that include, but not limited only to, *failure modes* to mitigate radiation induced impacts to potential HPC systems in those highly shielded space environments.

---

# STTR Phase I : Testing of COTS Systems in Space Radiation Environments

---



*Vanderbilt Engineering*



**Robust High  
Performance  
Microelectronics**

Alphacore. Inc.



Vanderbilt

Small Business

Research Partner

## Alphacore Inc. (Phoenix AZ)

- Radiation Hardened by Design (RHBD) approach
- Integrated Circuits specifically designed for Space, Medical, Homeland Security, Scientific Experiment, and Defense applications that operate in hazardous high-radiation environments

## Institute for Space and Defense Electronics (Vanderbilt)

- Engineers, faculty members, graduate students
  - Research expertise in radiation transport, IC and device radiation hardening, system impacts of radiation, and radiation testing.
-



# Identifying Faults in COTS Systems in Shielded Env.



*Vanderbilt Engineering*

- Use Beagle Bone Black Open-source single-board computer as a COTS demonstration system
- Use SEAM to identify the most significant and likely faults for a highly-shielded environment in space
- Estimate probabilities of faults
- Design assembly-language level routines to exercise the components most likely to fail
- Test the routines in situ in a proton beam to find most sensitive areas of processor and most common fault behaviors
- Look for low cost mitigation solutions

# JPL Program on Concurrent Qualification



*Vanderbilt Engineering*



- Collaboration on SEAM/RESIM since 2017
- New 3-year program on Model-Based Concurrent Qualification with VU and UCLA
  - First year in FY2020
  - Aim to make radiation modeling and prediction more systematic, iterative, and practical for early use in flight development programs
- Vanderbilt provides modeling for system impacts of radiation with SEAM and Quest flows
- UCLA incorporates SEAM/Questa information into overall subsystem reliability assessment using their HCLA tool.

# Overview of ADC Modeling Task in JPL Concurrent Qualification Program



*Vanderbilt Engineering*

- Big Picture: Intend to make decisions involving radiation impacts on system early in design cycle,
  - Update as more information becomes available.
  - Also need some idea of how certain/uncertain the answers are: Uncertainty Quantification
- Can use system tools like Mentor Questa (or Coside or Saber) to bring together many kinds of models
- For this simulation plan to be useful, we need a large repository of rad-aware models for designers to use
- Start with ADC models-take an architectural approach
- Incorporate TID degradation inside model
- Find quick, low cost way to validate models

# Outline of Presentations



*Vanderbilt Engineering*

Topic	Presenter	Modeling Tool	Comment
SEAM Interface	K. Ryder	SEAM	R-Gentic Interface
Risk Quantification	R. Austin	SEAM	Cube Sat Example
COTS Computing	M. Reaz	SEAM	Highly Shielded Environments
A-D Converters	M. Rony	RESIM/Questa	Example of Behavioral Modeling

# Bibliography



*Vanderbilt Engineering*

---

## **Systems Engineering Model-Based Assurance (SEAM)**

- R. Austin, “A Radiation-Reliability Assurance Case Using Goal Structuring Notation for a CubeSat Experiment,” M.S. Thesis, Vanderbilt University, 2016.
  - Evans, J. Cornford, S., Feather, M. (2016). “Model based mission assurance: NASA's assurance future,” Reliability and Maintainability Symposium, p. 1-7. RAMS. 2016.
  - Sanford Friedenthal, Alan Moore, Rick Steiner, “OMG SysML™ Tutorial,” [www.omgsysml.org/INCOSE-OMGSysML-Tutorial-Final-090901.pdf](http://www.omgsysml.org/INCOSE-OMGSysML-Tutorial-Final-090901.pdf), INCOSE, 2009.
  - A. Witulski, R. Austin, G. Karsai, N. Mahadevan, B. Sierawski, R. Schrimpf, R. Reed, “Reliability Assurance of CubeSats using Bayesian Nets and Radiation-Induced Fault Propagation Models,” NEPP Electronic Technology Workshop (ETW), 2017, [nepp.nasa.gov/workshops/etw2017/talks.cfm](http://nepp.nasa.gov/workshops/etw2017/talks.cfm).
  - GSN Community Standard Version 2, Assurance Case Working Group (ACWG), SCSC-141B, Jan. 2018.
  - J. W. Evans, F. Groen, L. Wang, R. Austin, A. Witulski, N. Mahadevan, S. L. Cornford, M. S. Feather and N. Lindsey, “Towards a Framework for Reliability and Safety Analysis of Complex Space Missions” Session 269-NDA-06, 2017 AIAA SciTech Conference, Grapevine, Texas, January 11, 2017.
-



# Bibliography

*Vanderbilt Engineering*

- A. Witulski, B. Sierawski, R. Austin, G. Karsai, N. Mahadevan, R. Reed, R. Schrimpf, K. LaBel, J. Evans, P. Adell, “Model-Based Assurance for Satellites with Commercial Parts in Radiation Environments,” Paper SSC18-WKV-04, AIAA Small Satellite Conference, Ogden, Utah, August 2018, available online in Small Sat archive.
- B. Sierawski, R. Austin, A. Witulski, N. Mahadevan, G. Karsai, R. Schrimpf, R. Reed, “Model-Based Mission Assurance,” 27th Annual Single Event Effects (SEE) Symposium, May 21-24, 2018, San Diego, CA.
- R. Austin, N. Mahadevan, J. Evans, A. Witulski, “Radiation Assurance of CubeSat Payloads Using Bayesian Networks and Fault Models,” 64th IEEE Annual Reliability and Maintainability Symposium, Reno, NV, January 22-25, 2018.

## **Radiation Effect System Impact Modeling (RESIM) (Mentor Questa Flow)**

- A. F. Witulski, N. Mahadevan, Jeff Kauppila, Gabor Karsai, Philippe Adell, Harald Schone, Ronald D. Schrimpf, “Simulation of Transistor-Level Radiation Effects On Board-Level Performance Parameters,” IEEE Radiation Effects on Components and Systems, (RADECS), Sept. 2018.
- A. F. Witulski, N. Mahadevan, Jeff Kauppila, Gabor Karsai, Philippe Adell, Harald Schone, Ronald D. Schrimpf, A. Privat, and H. Barnaby, “Simulation of Transistor-Level Radiation Effects On System-Level Performance Parameters,” Accepted for publication in the IEEE Transactions on Nuclear Science. Available on IEEE Xplore Early Access