# Satellite Broadband in the Asia Pacific

**Panel Session** 

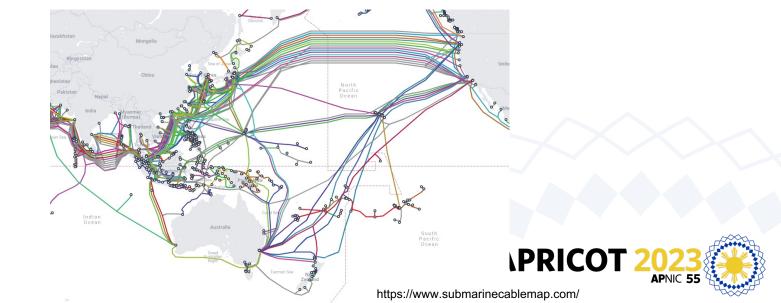
**Geoff Huston** 

**APNIC** 

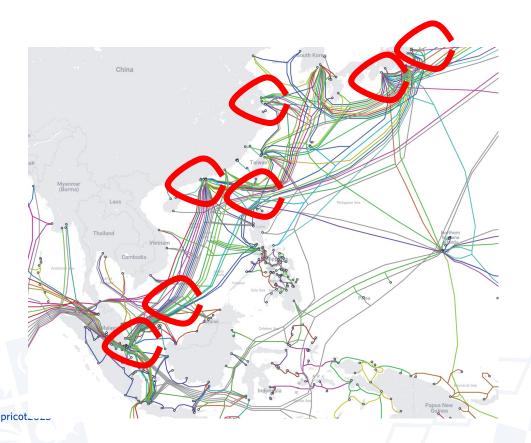


## Why use Satellite services?

We have deployed so much undersea fibre in the past couple of decades! Why does the region need more capacity?



#### **Submarine Route Choke Points**

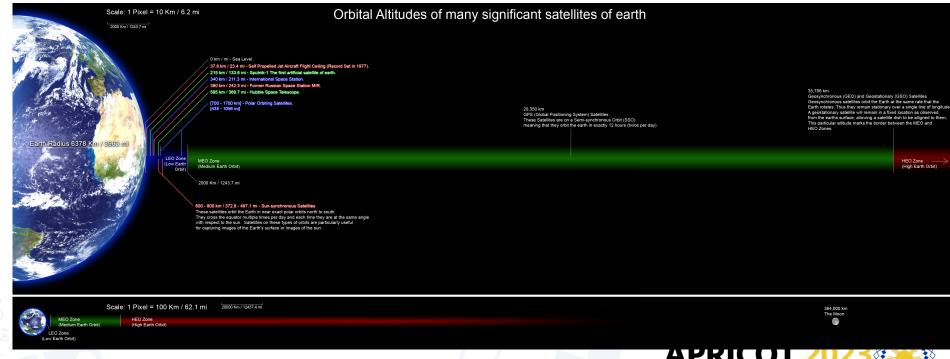


Hazards for submarine cables include:

- Landings at busy port locations (Singapore, Hong Kong)
- Shallow water (South China Sea)
- Active Plate boundaries (Luzon Strait, Japan East Coast, Sunda Arc)
- Political Tensions (Hong Kong, Shanghai, South China Sea)

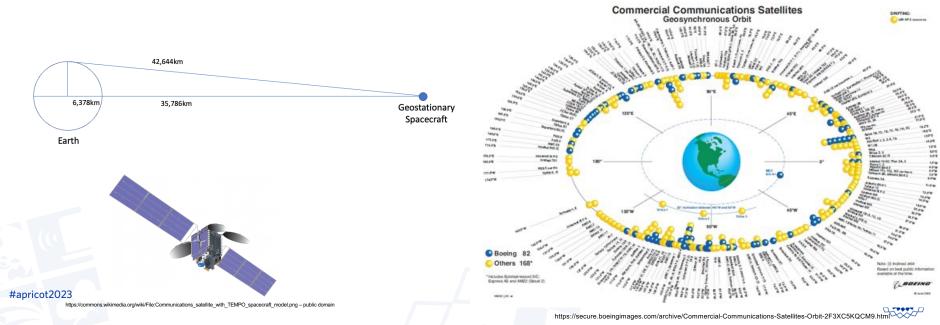


#### Satellites: GEOs and LEOs



# **Geostationary Earth Orbit**

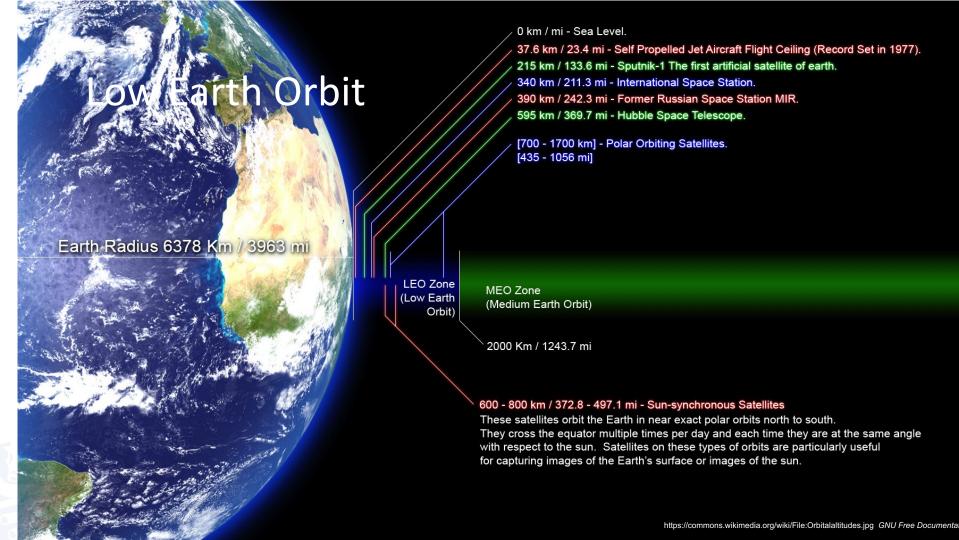
 At an altitude of 35,786km a satellite will orbit the earth with the same period as the earth's rotation – from the earth it will appear to be stationary in the sky



#### **GEO Services**

- Requires earth station investment
- Limited capacity
  - Limited orbital slots
  - Constrained frequency allocation
- High delay
  - Challenging for network use
- Remote Reach





#### Leo Services

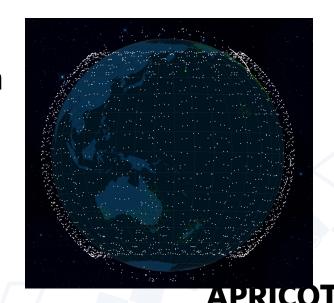
- Historically high launch costs
  - This has changed significantly with SpaceX reusable launch vehicles
- High angular velocity, small footprint
  - Requires active tracking and inter-satellite handover
  - Requires a large constellation to provide continuous service
- Regulatory hurdles
  - Terrestrial licenses



#### **LEO Constellations: Starlink**

- 3,773 satellites, 3,129 in service (Planned total: 12,000)
- inclined orbit (53°), 550km
- Retail Services

Satellite-to-Satellite coming with V2 satellites



Starlink Satellite Map (from https://satellitemap.space)

#### **LEO Constellations: Oneweb**

- 542 operational satellites (planned total: 648)
- polar orbit, altitude: 1,200km, business and government clients





# LEO Constellations: Project Kuiper (Amazon)

- Currently still in planning
- 3,276 planned satellites, altitude: 590km,610km, 630km
- Planned retail services



#### **Others**

- China?
- Others?



#### **LEOs**

- It's a big money play, and without the ability to make head roads into high value service markets its probably an exercise with no prospect of a positive cash flow
  - Remember Iridium?
  - And Oneweb has already gone bankrupt once!
- Is this a niche market or a massive game changer for terrestrial access services?



## **Today's Panel**

- Dan York, ISOC overview of issues and concerns
- Mike Puchol, Africa Rural and Remote challenging environments in Africa
- Debopam Bhattacherjee, Microsoft Research model of satellite-to-satellite SDN routing
- Dr Ulrich Speidel, Univ Auckland Pacific Experiences with satellite services



