

18th IAA SYMPOSIUM ON BUILDING BLOCKS FOR FUTURE SPACE EXPLORATION AND
DEVELOPMENT (D3)

Systems and Infrastructures to Implement Sustainable Space Development and Settlement - Systems (2A)

Author: Mr. Daniel Wischert

Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Germany, daniel.wischert@spacegeneration.org

Ms. Daria Stepanova

Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Russian Federation, Stepanova.d@phystech.edu

Mr. Marco Romero

ISAE - Institut Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, France, marco_romero_6@hotmail.com

Mr. Ricardo Colpari Carrizo

ISAE - Institut Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, France,
luis-ricardo.colpari-carrizo@student.isae-superaero.fr

Mr. Krishna Soni

Tohoku University, Japan, krinut7@gmail.com

Ms. Kanchan Bhale

Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), India, kanchanbhale18@gmail.com

Ms. Rida Zainab

Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), United Kingdom, rida.e.zainab.w@gmail.com

Ms. Elena López-Contreras

Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC), Spain, elenalcontreras@gmail.com

Ms. Prerna Baranwal

Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), India, f2016568@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Mr. George Steve Fajardo Soria

Jicamarca Radio Observatory - ROJ, Peru, george.fajardo.s@uni.pe

Mr. Suraj Parasuram

Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Canada, sooraj.parasuram@gmail.com

Mr. Marco Casanova Álvarez

University of Vigo, Spain, marcocasanovaalvarez@gmail.com

Mr. Harshal More

Sapienza University of Rome, Italy, harshal.more@spacegeneration.org

Mr. Joshit Mohanty

Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology, Russian Federation, joshit.mohanty@skoltech.ru

Mr. Kathiravan Thangavel

Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Italy, kathiravan199@gmail.com

Ms. Simran Mardhani

Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), United Kingdom, simran.mardhani@gmail.com

Mr. Sébastien Bonnard

Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), United States, sgac@sbonnard.fr

Ms. Shreya Santra

Tohoku University, Japan, shreya.santra@spacegeneration.org

Mr. Shubham Desai

Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), India, desaishubham.96@gmail.com

Mr. Héctor Ortega-González

ISAE-Supaero University of Toulouse, France, ortegagonzalez.hector@gmail.com
Mr. Bhavin Faldu
Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), India, bhavinfaldu6474@gmail.com
Mr. Apoorv Somkuwar
Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, India, apoorvmac99@gmail.com
Mr. Purichmun Low
Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Austria, purichmunlow123@gmail.com
Mr. Pablo Miralles
Institut Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace (ISAE), France, pmirallesr@gmail.com
Mr. Kai Malcolm
Vanderbilt University, United States, kdmalc@gmail.com
Ms. Sondes Morchedi
Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Italy, sondesmorchedi@gmail.com
Ms. Simran Dhoju
The University of Alabama, United States, sdhoju@crimson.ua.edu
Ms. Mohaddese Daryabari
Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Iran, mohaddese.daryabari@spacegeneration.org

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF A MARS CONSTELLATION FOR GLOBAL COMMUNICATION SERVICES USING SMALL SATELLITES

Abstract

In this unprecedented time for Martian exploration, with missions from the USA, China, UAE and Europe all launching towards the red planet this year, it is evident, that Mars will continue to remain the focus of interest for many years to come. Current technological developments and long-term spaceflight programmes, such as Artemis supporting future missions to send astronauts to Mars, show a clear tendency that space exploration is evolving from purely robotic to human exploration. Based on the perceived demand, this paper investigates the need for future satellite constellations around Mars to provide an infrastructure for future Mars servicing missions. It foresees that providing complete and continuous coverage around Mars will prove beneficial in supporting future human and robotic operations. Different applications are discussed including communication and positioning systems, remote sensing, space traffic management and space weather monitoring. With a focus on small satellite technology, the feasibility and practicality of developing Mars constellations that are dedicated Mars servicing missions is assessed in a conceptual design study. Based on the assumed demand, a constellation providing global communication services around Mars with a decreased reliance upon data received from Earth has been chosen as a case study. This paper covers the technical results of the study, including trade-offs for mission architecture, constellation configuration, transfer strategy and mission analysis optimization.