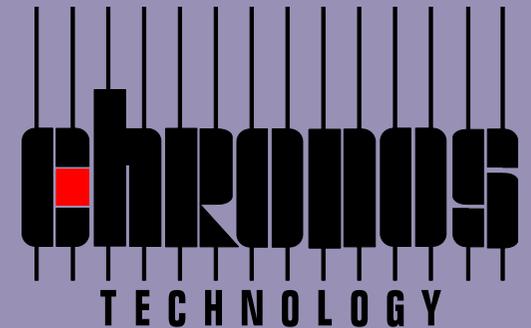


ITSF 2021 – Brighton, UK

## Turning the Tables on the Spoofers

- “self-spoofing” systems supplying secure signals to augment existing PNT receivers.



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Technical Services Manager @ChronosTechno

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# Chronos: Sync & Timing Expertise since 1986

- Professional Services
- Training, Install/Commission & Support
- Network Sync Audits – Time & Timing
- Network Design & Test
- Consultancy
  
- ITU Standards Committee (SG15/Q13)
- Steering Groups – ITSF, WSTS & RIN
  
- R&D, product development
- Expert Advisory Groups (Blackett, RAEng)
  
- Resilient Synchronisation & Timing Solutions
- GNSS Vulnerability & Mitigation Solutions
  
- Markets
  - Telecom
  - Power
  - Financial Services
  - Defence & Security
  - Law Enforcement
  - Broadcast



# Chronos Technology



- Global reach – installations + support
- ***Extensive experience of how GNSS timing systems behave in the real world***



## ***Chronos Installation Team***

Since 1999: over 15 Million miles +7,000 installs,



UNCLASSIFIED EFTO 27100-  
TOTAL P.02 3 OH//CC//CV//XRSS//  
PETERSON AFB CO//J3/J36//  
HQ SMC LOS ANGELES AFB CA//CC//CV//C1//  
HQ AFOTEC KIRTLAND AFB NM//CC//  
HQ 14AF VANDENBERG AFB CA//CC//  
50 SW FALCON AFB CO//CC//  
50 OG FALCON AFB CO//CC//  
2 SOPS FALCON AFB CO//CC//  
ZEN HQ AFSPC PETERSON AFB CO//DO//DR//SC//LG//XP//

FOC  
DECLARED  
ON  
27 APR 95

UNCLAS E F T O  
SUBJ: GPS FULL OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY (FOC)  
1. THE GPS TEAM HAS ATTAINED A MAJOR MILESTONE WITH THE COMMISSIONING OF 24 OPERATIONAL BLOCK II/IIA SATELLITES AND THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF OPERATIONAL TESTING. REQUEST YOU ADVISE APPROPRIATE OSD OFFICES THAT WITH THIS ACHIEVEMENT, GPS MEETS THE

JOHN A. GORDON, BGEN  
HQ AFSPC/DO, DSN 492-5218  
GENERAL ASHY, COMMANDER  
CRG: 5834

UNCLASSIFIED EFTO 271004ZAPR95

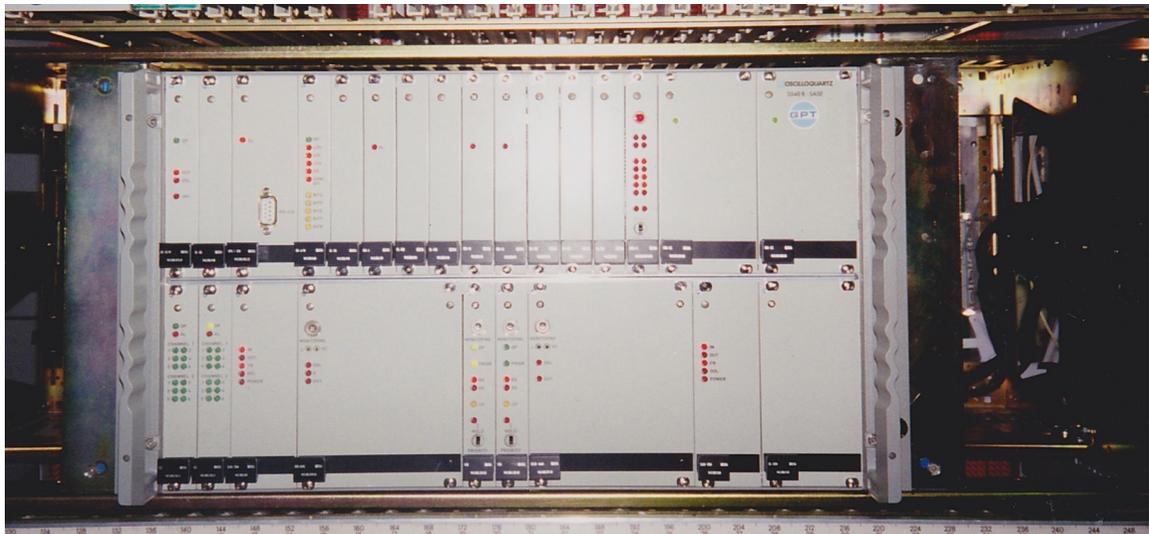
# GNSS – the GPS success story

- Originally US Military Missile-Guidance system
- FOC 27APR95

UNCLASSIFIED EFTO 271004ZAPR95  
RR RR EEEE ZFW AFSPC/CC  
LEVELS OF SERVICE FOR FOC AS STATED IN THE C1CS MASTER NAVIGATION PLAN AND THE FEDERAL RADIONAVIGATION PLAN.  
ENSURING THE ACCURACY, AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE GPS CONSTELLATION REMAINS A TOP PRIORITY OF AFSPC AND WE ARE CONFIDENT OF CONTINUED MISSION SUCCESS.

# Mid-1990s

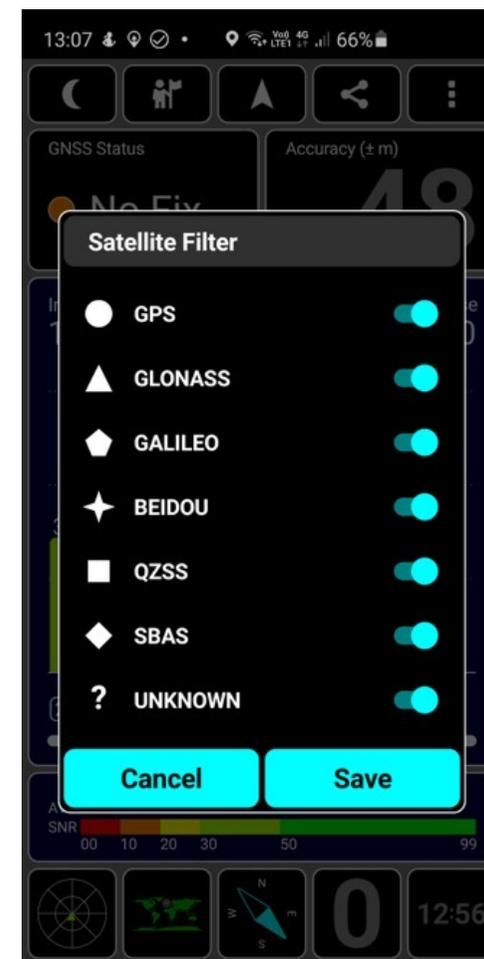
- Civilian applications emerge:
  - Telecom Frequency reference
  - Handheld personal Nav receivers



# The commoditisation of GNSS



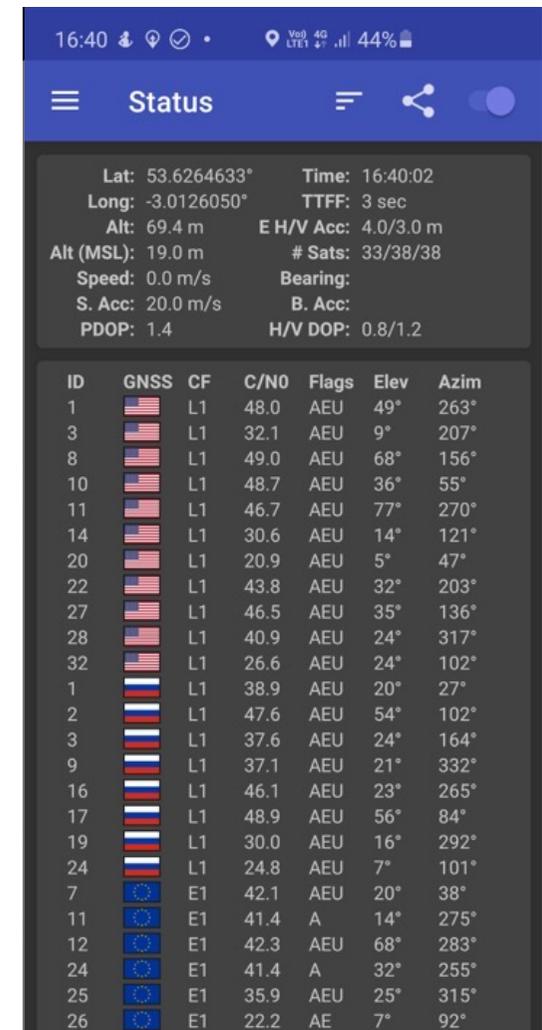
- Approx. 60 million smartphones in use in the UK (2019)
- 2019 Android handset with multi-constellation receiver sees:
  - GPS, GLONASS, GALILEO, BEIDOU, SBAS (+QZSS)
- Mass use of GNSS for positioning has spread the knowledge of location spoofing to a much wider audience
  - *From app level to actual GNSS radio signal spoofing*



# 1999 vs. 2019



- 1999
  - Handheld GPS only “12 channel” (custom ASIC)
  - TTFF ~ several minutes
- 2019
  - Android Samsung Galaxy S10+ (Broadcom BCM47752KLB1G)
  - TTFF 3s



ID	GNSS	CF	C/N0	Flags	Elev	Azim
1	USA	L1	48.0	AEU	49°	263°
3	USA	L1	32.1	AEU	9°	207°
8	USA	L1	49.0	AEU	68°	156°
10	USA	L1	48.7	AEU	36°	55°
11	USA	L1	46.7	AEU	77°	270°
14	USA	L1	30.6	AEU	14°	121°
20	USA	L1	20.9	AEU	5°	47°
22	USA	L1	43.8	AEU	32°	203°
27	USA	L1	46.5	AEU	35°	136°
28	USA	L1	40.9	AEU	24°	317°
32	USA	L1	26.6	AEU	24°	102°
1	RUS	L1	38.9	AEU	20°	27°
2	RUS	L1	47.6	AEU	54°	102°
3	RUS	L1	37.6	AEU	24°	164°
9	RUS	L1	37.1	AEU	21°	332°
16	RUS	L1	46.1	AEU	23°	265°
17	RUS	L1	48.9	AEU	56°	84°
19	RUS	L1	30.0	AEU	16°	292°
24	RUS	L1	24.8	AEU	7°	101°
7	EU	E1	42.1	AEU	20°	38°
11	EU	E1	41.4	A	14°	275°
12	EU	E1	42.3	AEU	68°	283°
24	EU	E1	41.4	A	32°	255°
25	EU	E1	35.9	AEU	25°	315°
26	EU	E1	22.2	AE	7°	92°

# 1999 vs. 2019



13/10/2021

Samsung S2D0S05  
Display Driver

Samsung Shannon  
E201 DAC

Samsung  
CEM01 DVC

Samsung  
S2MIS01

1107MB  
Diversity  
FEM

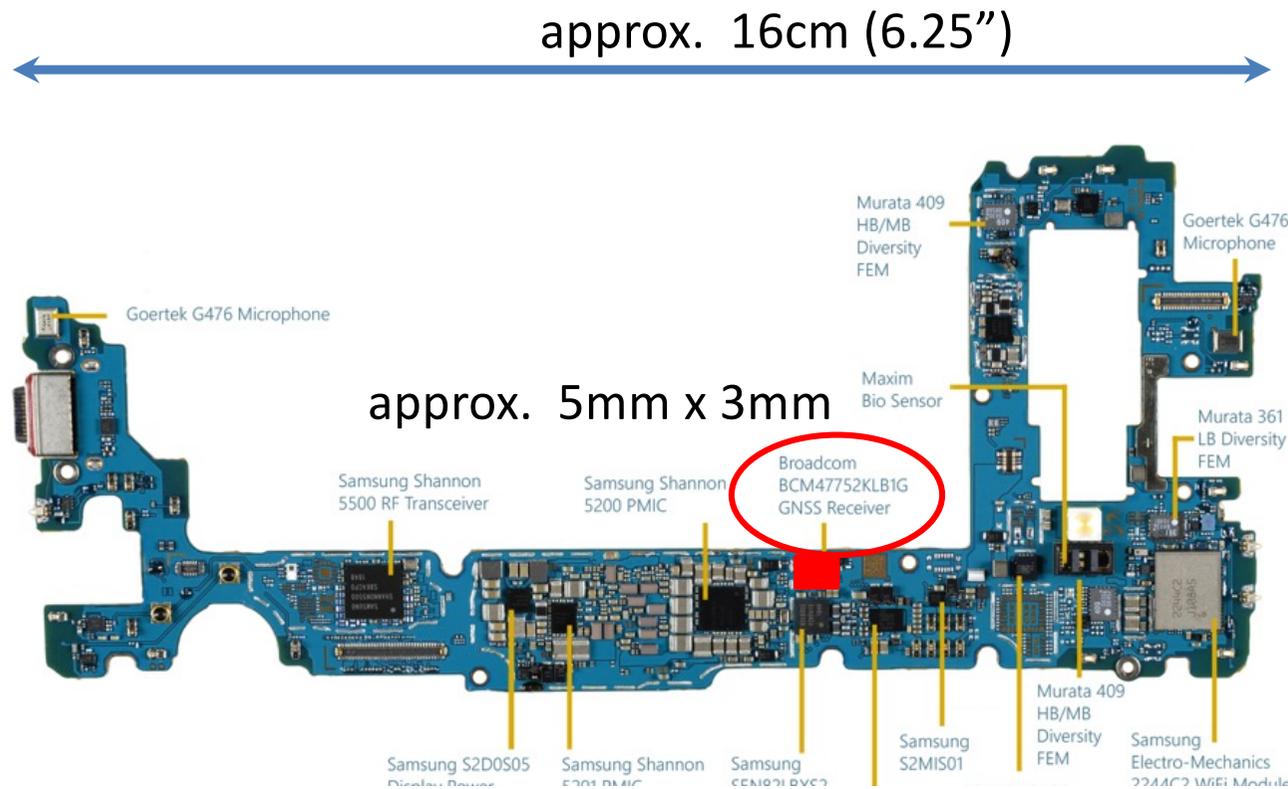
Samsung  
Electro-Mechanics  
224AC2 WiFi Module

# 1999 vs. 2019

- GPS315 PCB vs. BCM47752KLB1G (1/500<sup>th</sup> area)



approx.  
11.5cm  
(4.5")



# Using GNSS for PNT



## MEO Satellites:

BEIDOU – 21,150 km

GALILEO – 23,222 km

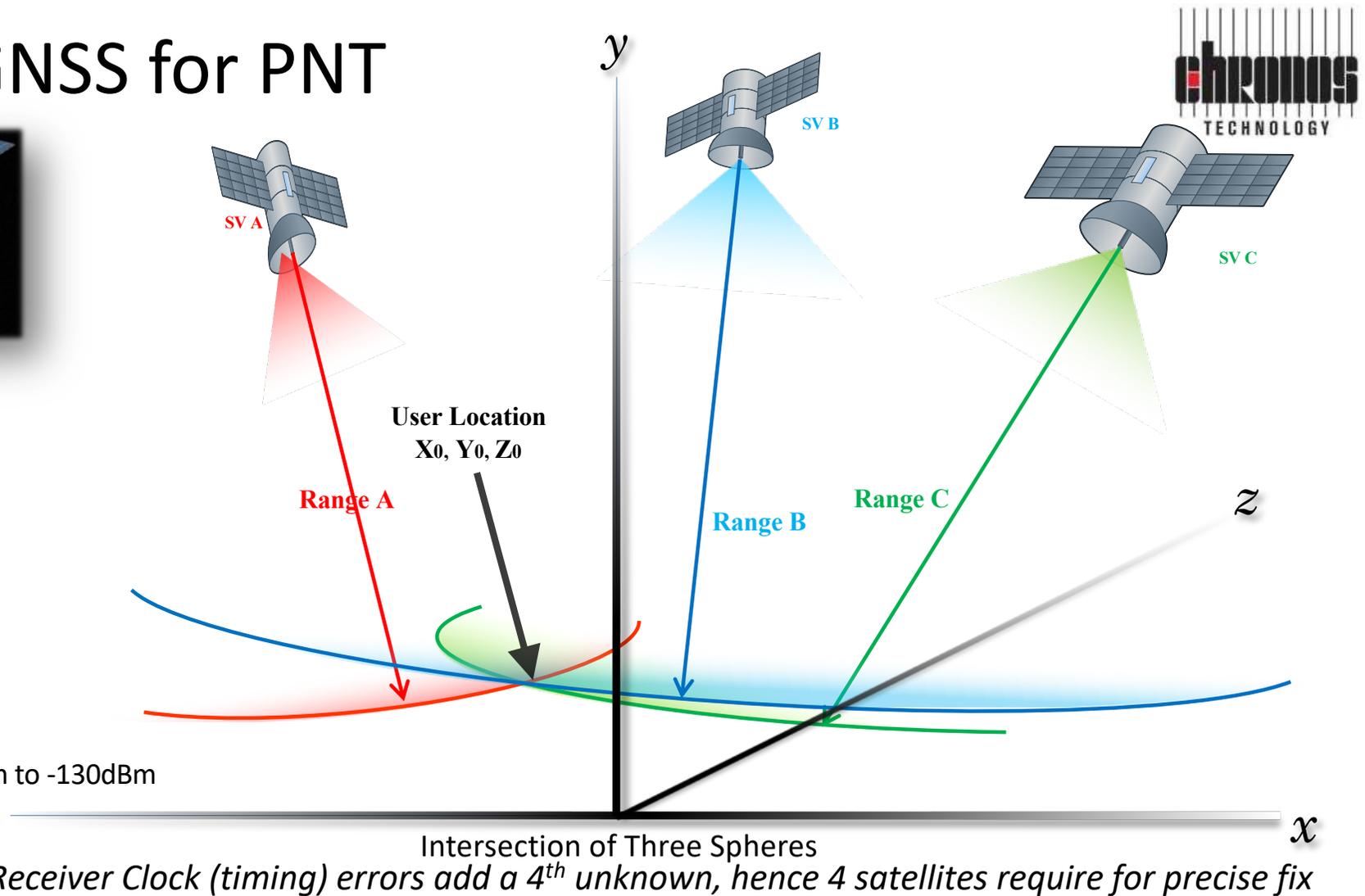
GLONASS – 19,100 km

GPS – 20,200 km

Orbital period: 11-14hrs

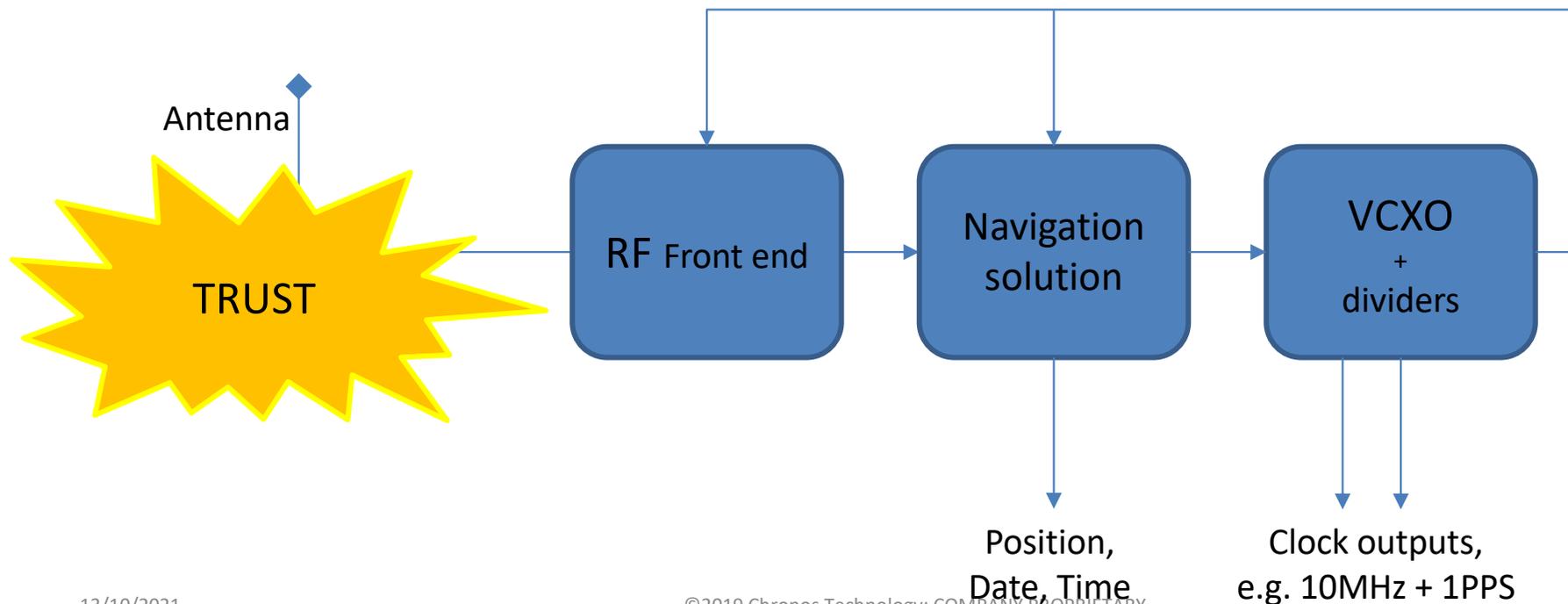
Power output: 20-265W

Received signal: -125dBm to -130dBm



# GNSS receiver – simplified view

- Uses the navigation solution to steer/control a local oscillator
- Timing output ultimately controlled by the RF signal input



# The Problem

- “it’s free and it works everywhere”
  - Proliferation of GPS receivers used for time
  - More than a billion GNSS receivers
- “it’s free and it works everywhere all the time”
  - Phenomenal System uptime – a few major issues (e.g SVN23)
  - Fit-and-forget module/component/subsystem
- “GPS has us all addicted to Stratum 1 time”
  - NTP is everywhere – one of the oldest internet protocols
    - De-facto time sync service over packet networks



# Jamming now a civilian activity



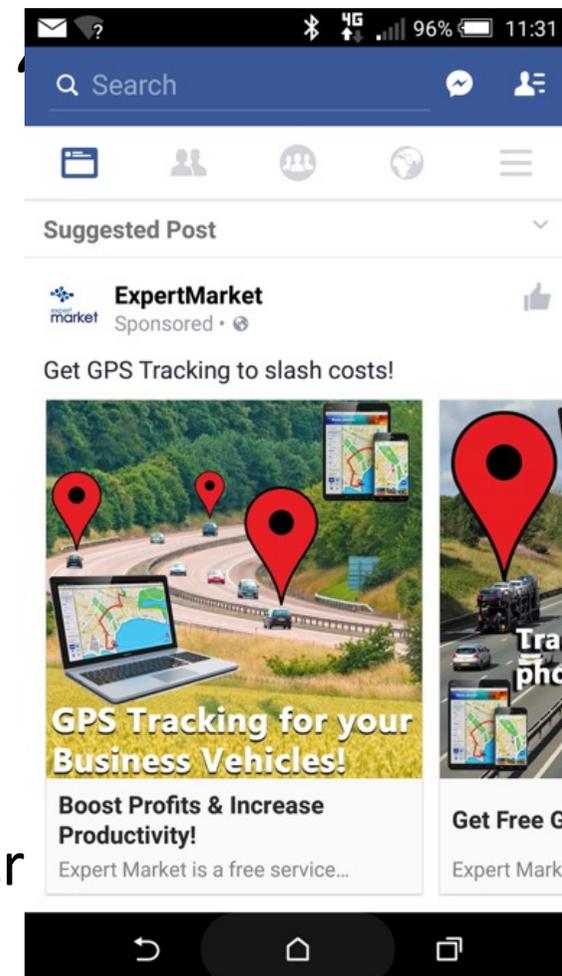
- Privacy concerns have led to an explosion of “GPS Jammers”
  - Business/Fleet vehicle tracking
  - Offender tracking
  - Freight Tracking
  - High-value cars fitted with trackers
  
  - “Privacy Jammers” for sale on the internet
    - Some also jam GSM/3G/4G/WiFi/Bluetooth etc.
  
  - Personal privacy – criminal activity – organised crime



# Jamming now a civilian activity

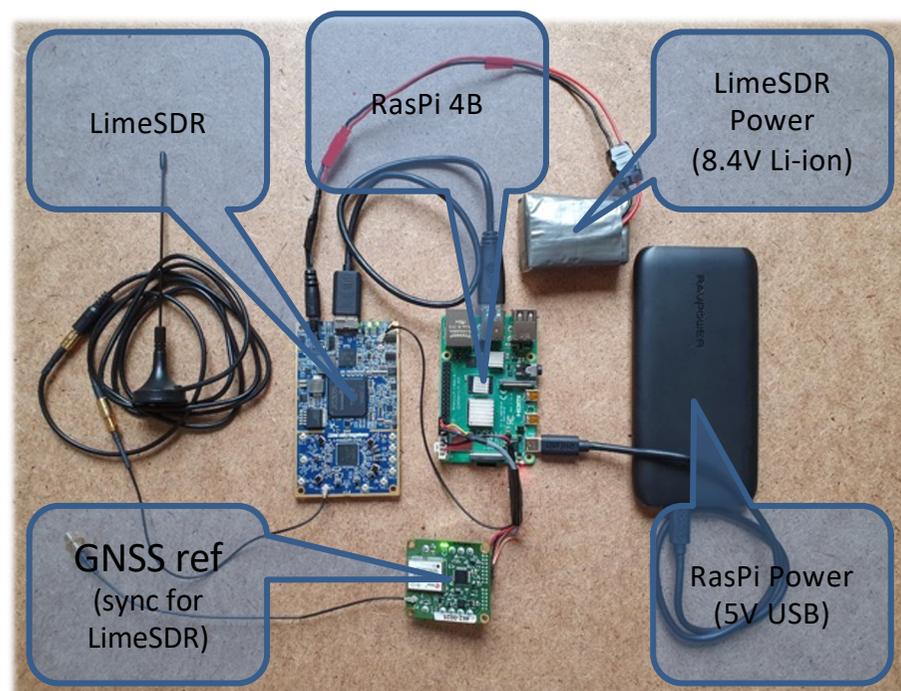


- Privacy concerns have led to an explosion of “Jammers”
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  - Offender tracking
  - Freight Tracking
  - High-value cars fitted with trackers
  - “Privacy Jammers” for sale on the internet
    - Some also jam GSM/3G/4G/WiFi/Bluetooth etc.
  - Personal privacy – criminal activity – organised cr



# Spoofing now a civilian activity

- Spoofing now trivial with COTS hardware & open-source software
  - Raspberry Pi + SDR + github code + electronics
- Increased use of location services has lead to widespread awareness of “Location Spoofing” techniques
- Of the receivers we tested
  - Some failed and needed power off/on reset
  - Some failed catastrophically needed to be re-flashed



# But how common is it?



gps spoofing reports



All News Videos Images Maps More Settings Tools

About 793,000 results (0.47 seconds)

**Spoofing**, is an intelligent form of interference which makes the receiver believe it is at a false location. During a **spoofing** attack a radio transmitter located nearby sends fake **GPS signals** into the target receiver. For example, a cheap SDR (Software Defined Radio) can make a smartphone believe it's on Mount Everest!

<https://www.septentrio.com> > insights > what-spoofing-an...

[What is GPS Spoofing and how to secure GPS Security ...](#)

About featured snippets Feedback

<https://www.linkedin.com> > pulse > thousands-gnss-jammi...

[Thousands of GNSS jamming and spoofing incidents reported ...](#)

2 Dec 2020 — Aviation association Eurocontrol says it received 3,500 **reports** of **GPS** disruption in 2019, an all-time high. **Jamming** is widespread across the central and Eastern Mediterranean, likely due to electronic warfare between conflicting factions in Syria, Libya and elsewhere in the region.

<https://safety4sea.com> > cm-understanding-gps-spoofin...

[Understanding GPS spoofing in shipping: How to stay ...](#)

31 Jan 2020 — Concerning the incident, a master that was sailing in the Black Sea contacted the US Coast Guard Navigation Center (NAVCEN) to **report** the ...

<https://www.csoonline.com> > Security

[What is GPS spoofing? And how you can defend against it ...](#)

7 May 2019 — Instead of showing the accurate **location**, the cars were **reporting** that they were in Buckingham, England, in the year 2036. **GPS spoofing** is ...

<https://www.cs.ox.ac.uk> > files > gps > PDF

[On the Requirements for Successful GPS Spoofing Attacks](#)

by NO Tippenhauer · Cited by 440 — In 2001, the Volpe **report** [8] identified that (malicious) interference with the civilian **GPS** signal is a serious problem. Starting with this **report**, practical **spoofing** ...

## People also ask



gps spoofing reports



## People also ask

Does GPS spoofing still work?



Can Fake GPS be detected?



Can you tell if someone is spoofing their location?



Can you still GPS spoof Pokemon go?



Can you trick iPhone GPS?



Can you still spoof in Pokemon Go 2021?



Feedback

<https://www.bbc.co.uk> > news > technology-47786248

[Study maps 'extensive Russian GPS spoofing' - BBC News](#)

2 Apr 2019 — Thousands of incidents have been logged of Russia **spoofing** navigation signals, a **report** suggests.

<https://www.maritimeglobalsecurity.org> > media > PDF

[Jamming and Spoofing of Global Navigation Satellite Systems ...](#)

Meaconing countermeasures. 8. APPENDIX A: **Reporting** of jamming and **spoofing** events. 9. **GPS** problem **reporting**. 9. Galileo incidents **report** form. 9. Tracking ...

<https://www.gpsworld.com> > spoofing-in-the-black-sea...

[Spoofing in the Black Sea: What really happened? - GPS World](#)

11 Oct 2017 — Between June 22-24, a number of ships in the Black Sea **reported** anomalies with their **GPS**-derived position, and found themselves located at ...

<https://www.zdnet.com> > Topic > Security

[Report deems Russia a pioneer in GPS spoofing attacks | ZDNet](#)

28 Mar 2019 — C4ADS concluded that **GPS spoofing** attacks are emerging as a viable disruptive strategic threat and are now at high risk of proliferation among ...

<https://www.wired.co.uk> > article > russia-gps-spoofing

[To protect Putin, Russia is spoofing GPS signals on a massive ...](#)

27 Mar 2019 — C4ADS's **report** focussed on **GPS spoofing** in Russia but also says it has seen the technology used in Crimea and Syria. **\*GPS spoofing** or ...

# But how common is it?

Google

gps spoofing reports

All News Videos Image

About 793,000 results (0.47 seconds)

**Spoofing**, is an intelligent form of interfere false location. During a **spoofing** attack a **signals** into the target receiver. For exam make a smartphone believe it's on Mount

<https://www.septentrio.com> > insights > what-s  
**What is GPS Spoofing and how t**

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<https://www.linkedin.com> > pulse > thousands-  
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by NO Tippenhauer · Cited by 440 — In 2001 interfere- ence with the civilian GPS signal is a practical spoofing ...

People also ask

## Ghost ships, crop circles, and soft gold: A GPS mystery in Shanghai

15 Nov 2019 — On a sultry summer night in July 2019, the MV Manukai was arriving at the port of Shanghai, near the mouth of ...



<https://www.thedrive.com> > chinas-...

## China's Mysterious Spoofed GPS "Crop Circle" Has Something ...

19 Nov 2019 — China's Mysterious Spoofed GPS "Crop Circle" Has Something Interesting At Its Center. Something appears to be physically ...

<https://radionavlab.ae.utexas.edu> > i...

## Mystery GPS 'Crop Circles' in Shanghai

Mystery GPS 'Crop Circles' in Shanghai. December 2019: Researchers at the Center for Advanced Defense Studies (C4ADS), a nonprofit ...

ports

ask

spoofing still work?

GPS be detected?

someone is spoofing their location?

GPS spoof Pokemon go?

iPhone GPS?

spoof in Pokemon Go 2021?

bbc.co.uk > news > technology-47786248 >  
**Study maps 'extensive Russian GPS spoofing'**  
Thousands of incidents have been logged of R  
rt suggests.

ritimeglobalsecurity.org > media > PDF  
**and Spoofing of Global Navigation**  
ntermeasures. 8. APPENDIX A: Reporting of  
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world.com > spoofing-in-the-black-sea-... >  
**the Black Sea: What really happe**  
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net.com > Topic > Security >  
**ms Russia a pioneer in GPS spoo**  
- C4ADS concluded that GPS spoofing attack  
agic threat and are now at high risk of prolifera

ed.co.uk > article > russia-gps-spoofing >  
**Putin, Russia is spoofing GPS sigr**  
- C4ADS's report focussed on GPS spoofing  
ology used in Crimea and Syria. "GPS spoofir

## To protect Putin, Russia is spoofing GPS signals on a massive scale

27 Mar 2019 — To protect Putin, Russia is spoofing GPS signals on a massive scale ... Russian-linked electronic warfare ...

BBC News app · *Installed*

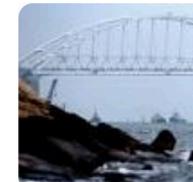
## Study maps 'extensive Russian GPS spoofing' - BBC News

2 Apr 2019 — Study maps 'extensive Russian GPS spoofing' · Russian President Vladimir Putin has a bubble of spoofed GPS signals ...

www.nbcnews.com

## Russia 'spoofing' GPS to keep drones away from Putin, report says

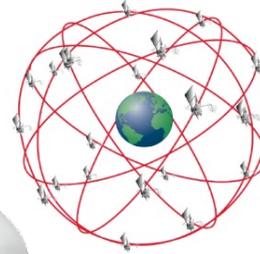
26 Mar 2019 — Russia manipulates global navigation systems by sending out false location data to civilian ships or other ...



# GNSS Firewall

- Provides a much deeper level of signal analysis
  - Simple spoofers have many data fields left at defaults
  - Detects anomalies in power, time, position, data
- Contains a GPS signal simulator, accurately sync'd to GNSS to maintain PNT for any downstream devices

# GNSS Firewall



Live Sky  
(not secure)

Optional  
(inside)



or



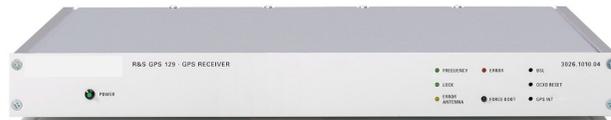
Hardened Output  
(secure and resilient  
using atomic holdover)

Validated Output

Holdover  
(resilient)



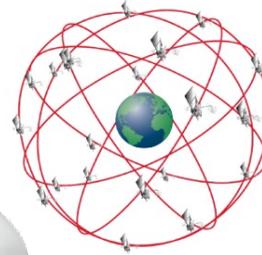
13/10/2021



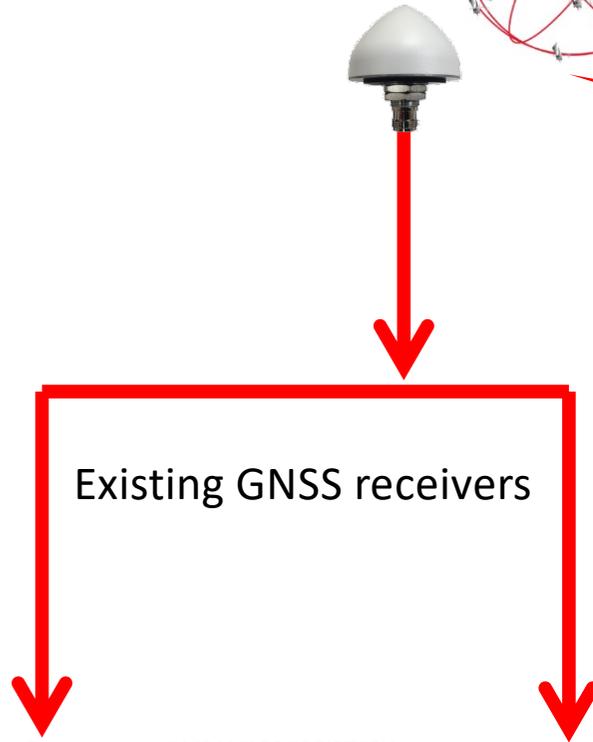
COMPANY PROPRIETARY

19

# GNSS vulnerable



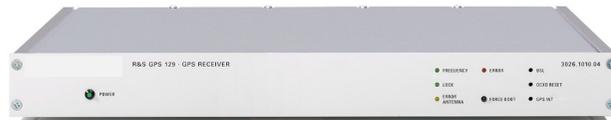
Live Sky  
(not secure)



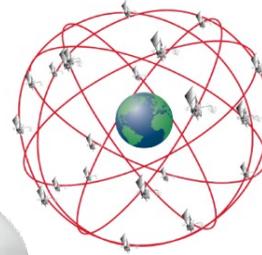
13/10/2021

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20



# GNSS Firewall



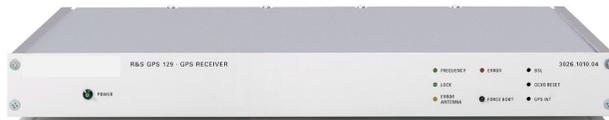
Live Sky  
(not secure)



Hardened Output  
(secure and resilient  
using atomic holdover)

Validated Output

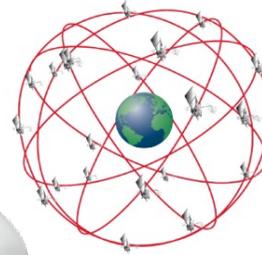
13/10/2021



COMPANY PROPRIETARY

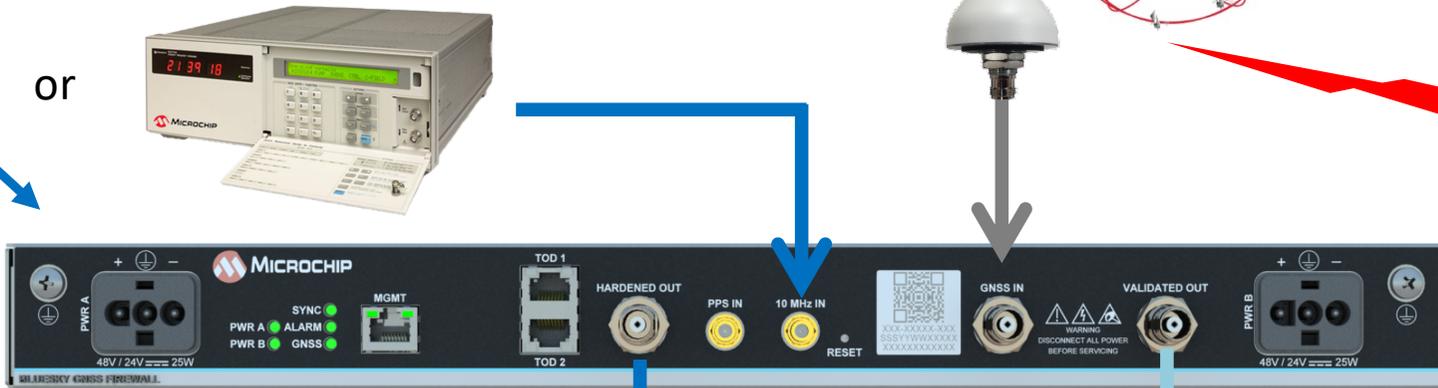
21

# GNSS Firewall



Live Sky  
(not secure)

Optional  
(inside)



Hardened Output  
(secure and resilient  
using atomic holdover)

Validated Output

Holdover  
(resilient)

13/10/2021



COMPANY PROPRIETARY

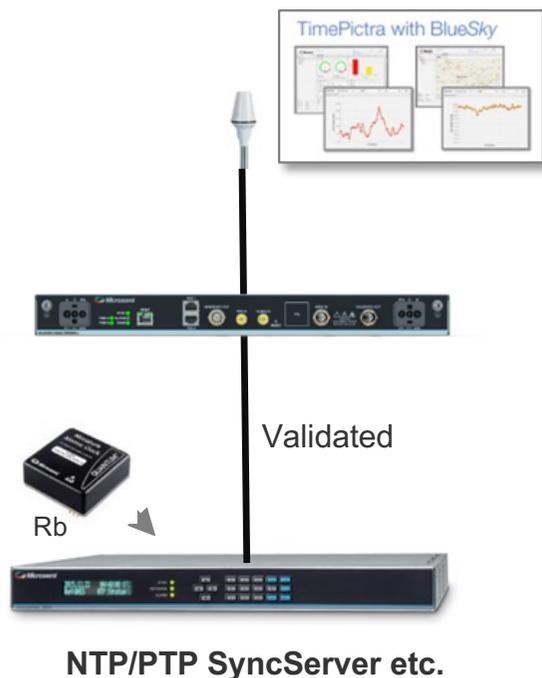
22

# GNSS Firewall Deployment models

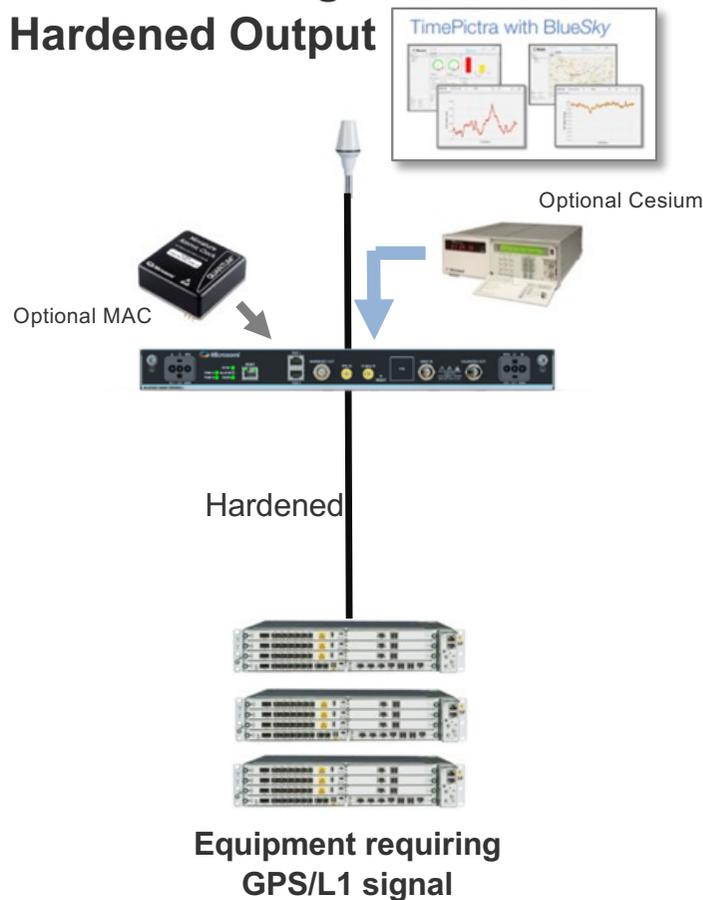


Firewall deployed for monitoring, not in GPS signal path

Firewall using Validated Output



Firewall using Hardened Output



Equipment requiring GPS/L1 signal

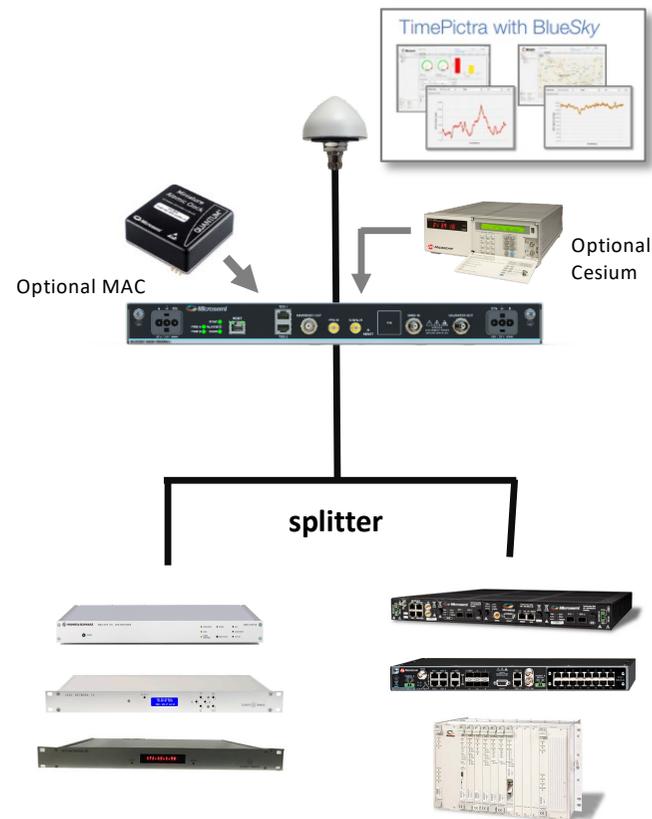
# Resilient Timing Deployment models



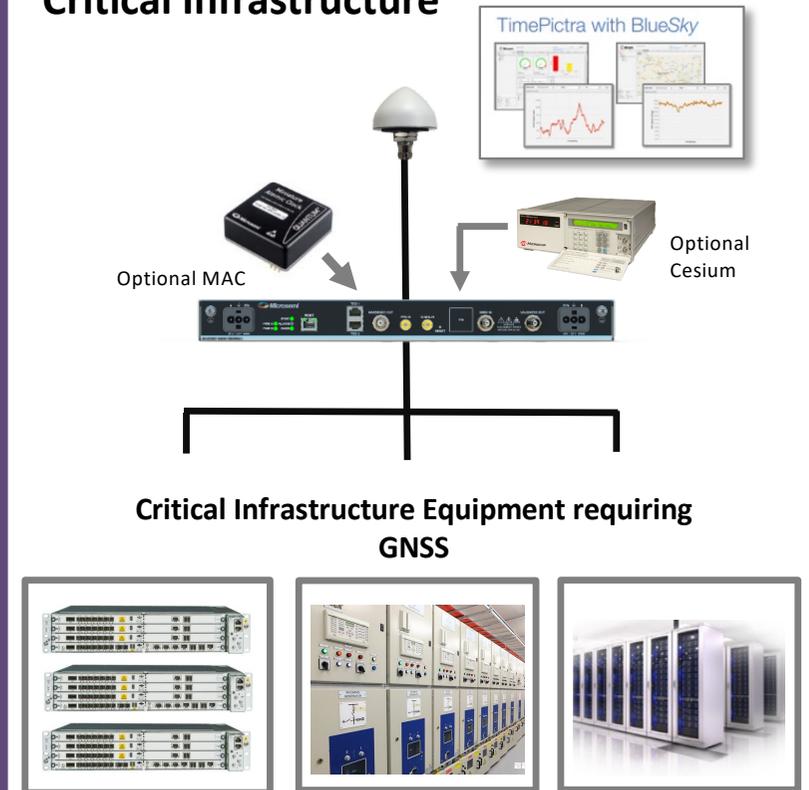
Time Server with  
GNSS firewall  
features inside



Firewall for timing protection of  
"legacy" products



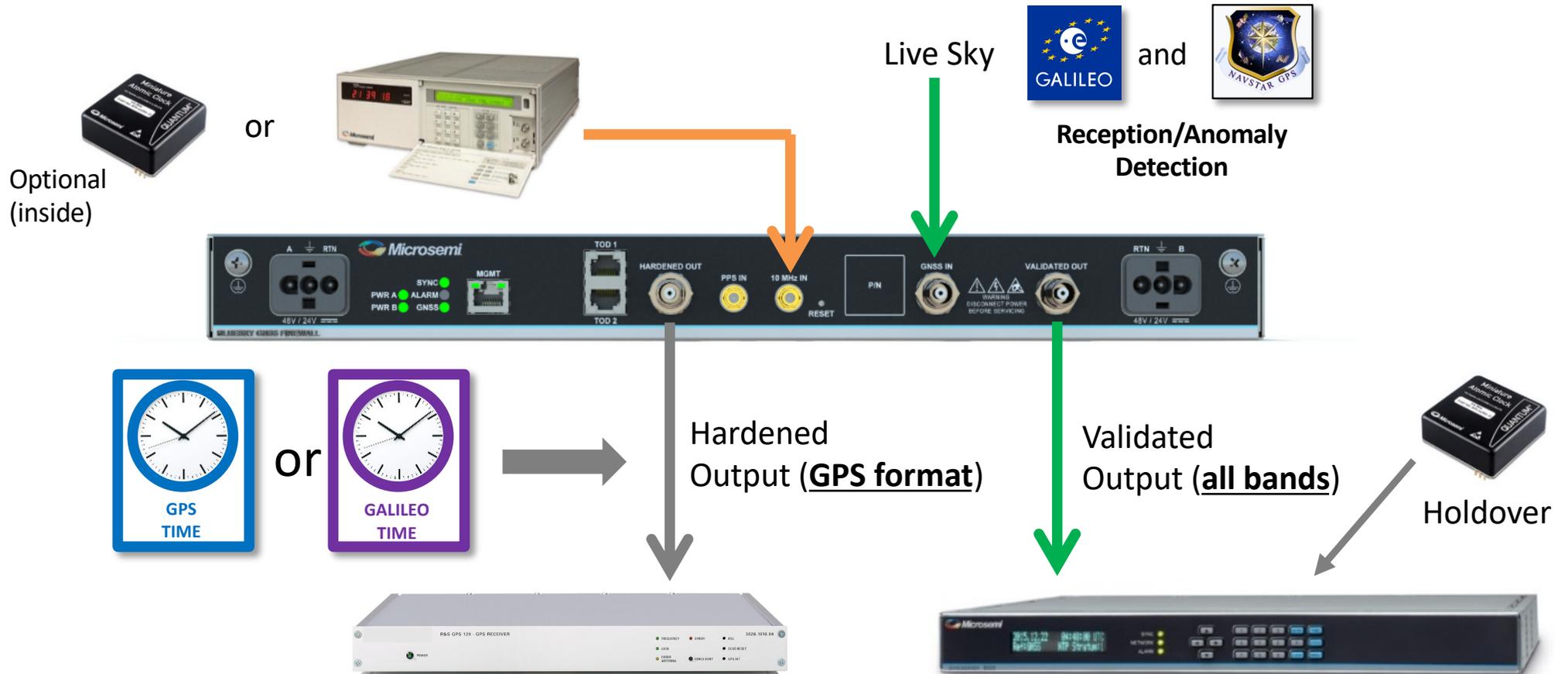
Firewall for PNT  
protection of  
Critical Infrastructure



Critical Infrastructure Equipment requiring  
GNSS



# Support for Galileo



# Positioning - Underground



- Many solutions to positioning inside
  - Proprietary solutions/signals/”Sensor fusion”  
wi-fi/Bluetooth/Optical(camera)/gyro
  - Need dedicated receiver h/w & s/w
- But, what about using GPS-like signals?
  - Compatibility with millions of hand-held devices  
(Smartphones, NAV receivers, TETRA radios etc.)

# Using a “spoofers” for positioning?



- Tunnels – transport (road/rail)
- Existing infrastructure may already be there –  
“leaky feeders” used to re-broadcast FM/DAB/4G radio
- Broadcast a simulated signal that you would see at that location if the sky were visible (i.e. altitude adjusted)
- Time/Date sync’d to real GNSS from the sky
  
- Broadcast an additional unused PRN-code (not contained in real GPS almanac so ignored by receivers) as a test signal to make sure simulated signal can’t be seen outside of the underground space

# Zone based

## DEPLOYMENT INSIDE BUILDINGS



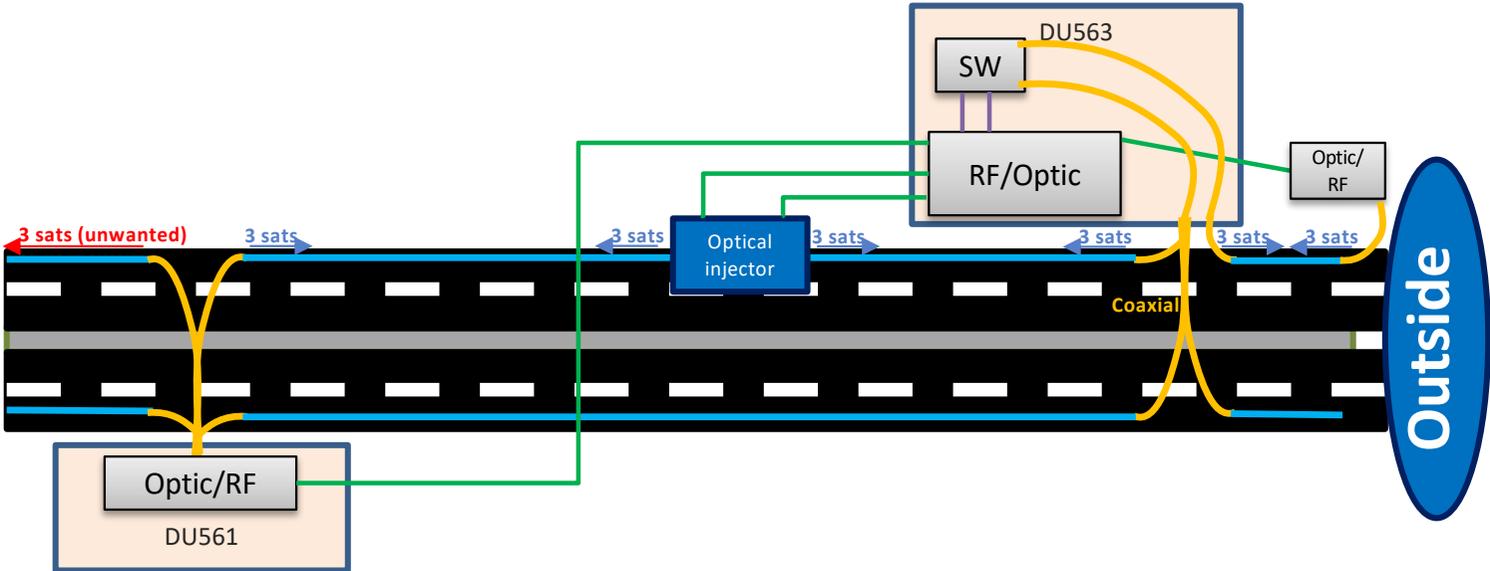
- Simulated static position is the centre of each zone

Example of installation of SW in building basement:

- ✓ Zone 1 ● SW
- ✓ Zone 2 ● SW
- ✓ Zone 3 ● SW
- ✓ Zone 4 ● SW
- ✓ Zone 5 ● SW
- ✓ Zone 6 ● SW
- ✓ Zone 7 ● SW

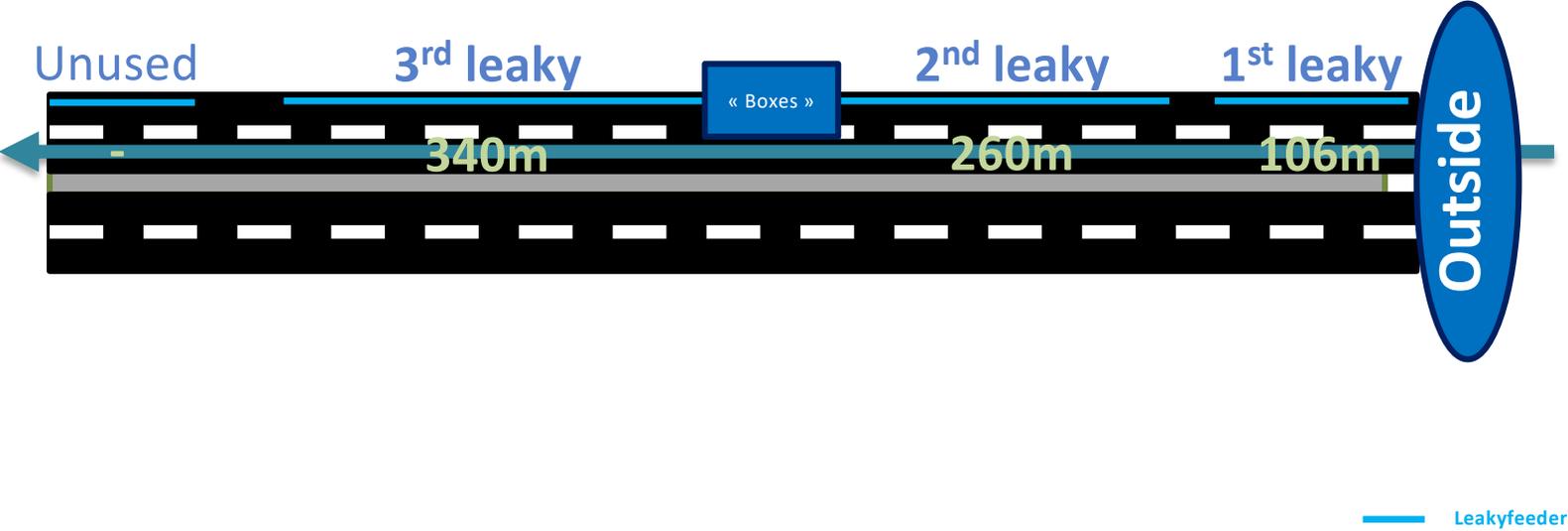
In Zones 1 to 7, the GPS value given by your receiver corresponds to the room center

# GNSS Continuous - Road Tunnels



— Leakyfeeder

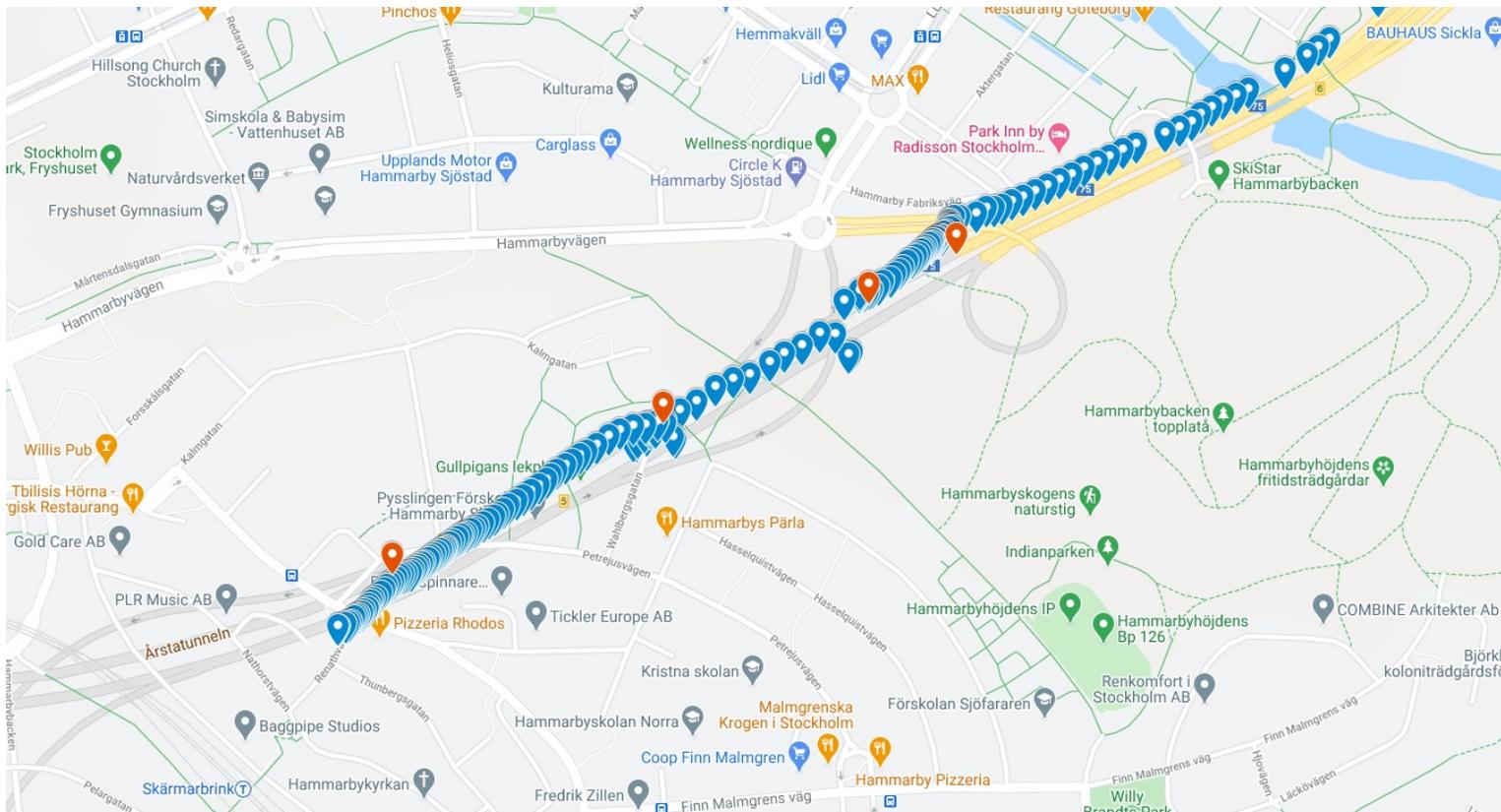
# GNSS Continuous - Road Tunnels



# GNSS Continuous - Road Tunnels



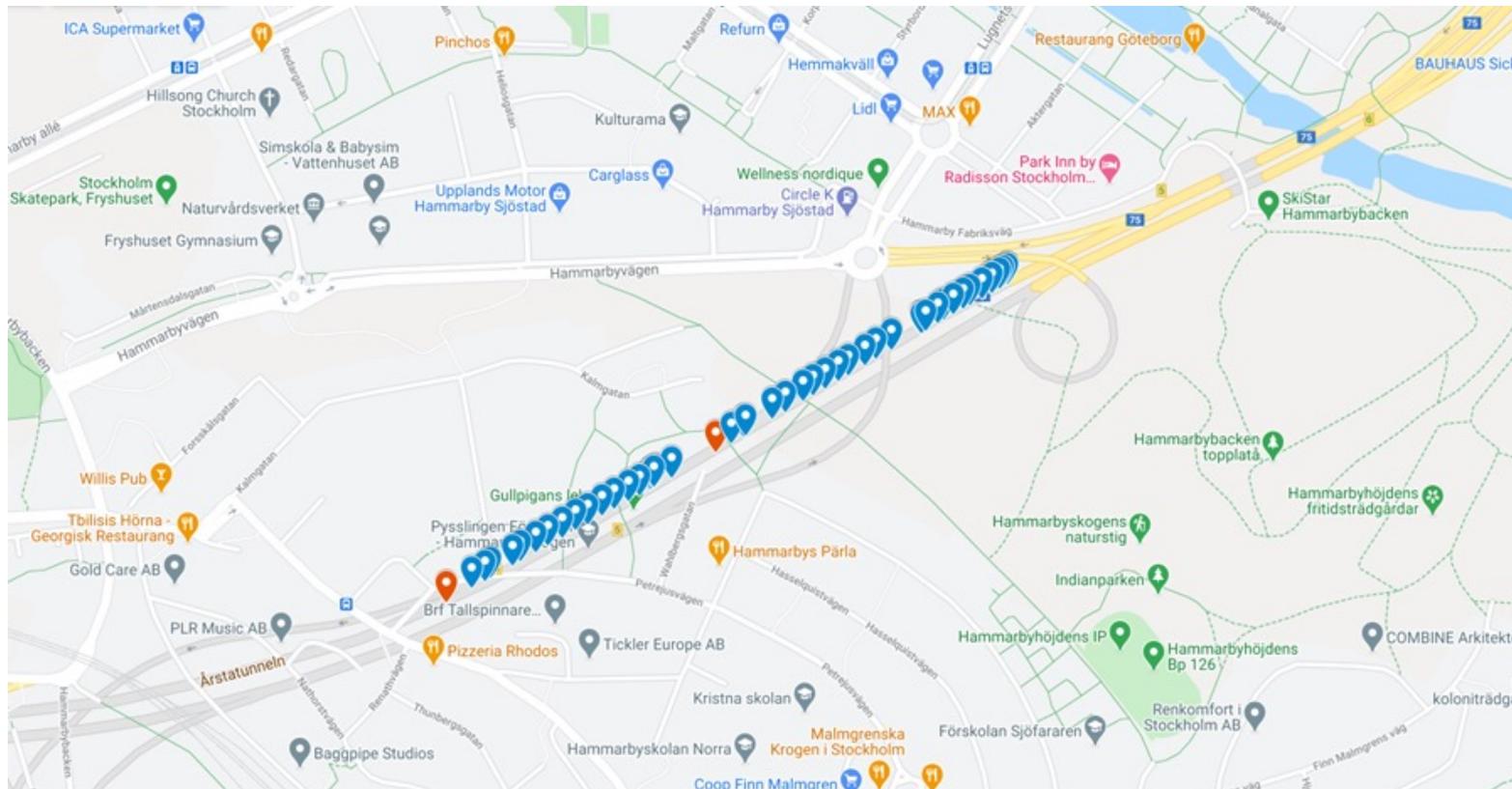
- High-speed test - 60-70km/h drive



# GNSS Continuous - Road Tunnels



- Android smartphone ~70km/h drive



# Conclusions

- Simulation of GNSS signals has become (almost) trivial
  
- But - “controlled spoofing” can provide
  - Protection to Critical Infrastructure that relies on GNSS
  - New opportunities to increase the safety of emergency workers/civilians and enable continuous asset-tracking in GNSS-denied areas

# ITSF 2021 – Brighton, UK

Christian Farrow B.Sc. (Hons) MinstP MIET  
Technical Services Manager

   @ChronosTechno

## Turning the Tables on the Spoofers

- “self-spoofing” systems supplying secure signals to augment existing PNT receivers.

