Open Source Lessons Learned with Open MCT

Jay Trimble
NASA Ames Research Center
Silicon Valley

Open Source CubeSat Workshop 2018



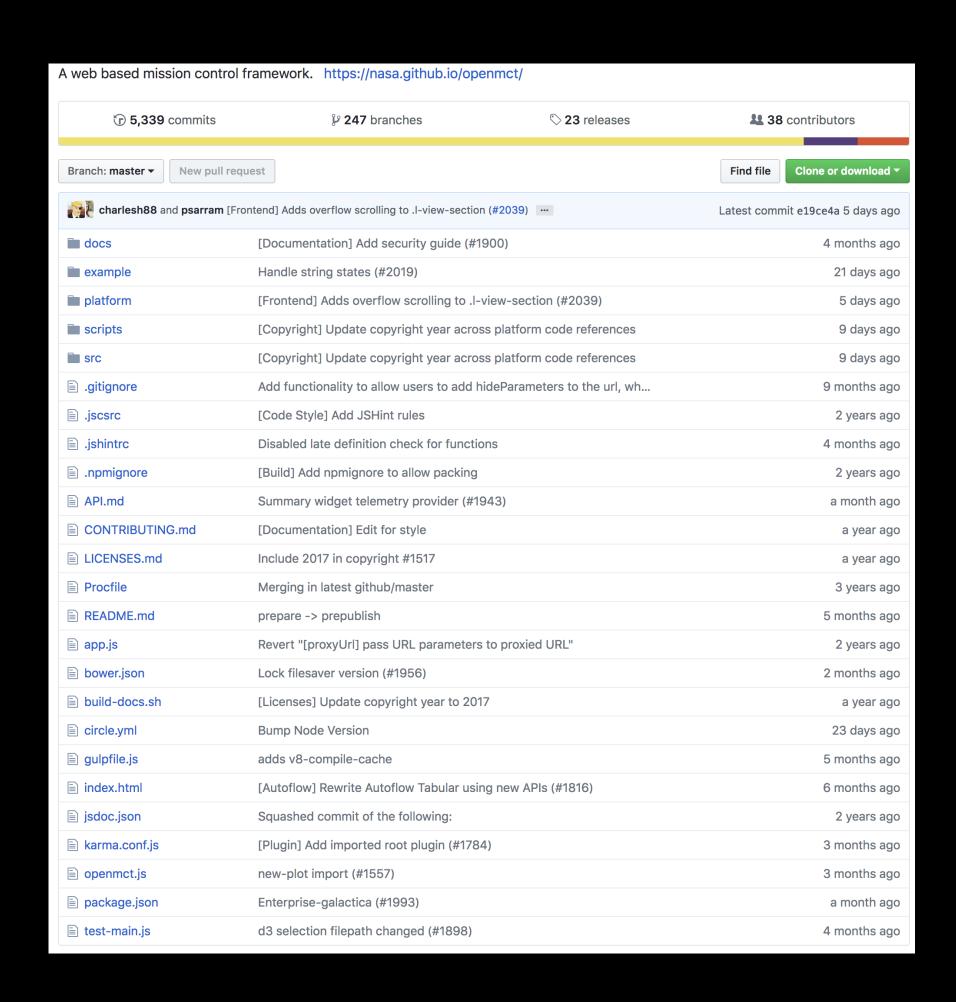
The Vision

- Closed —> Open
- Ground systems have traditionally been built on proprietary systems.
 - Duplication of effort we continually re-create the same thing
- Let's move to a shared model for ground systems and build on each others work
- The internet economy as an analogy companies may focus on their core differentiators and use existing infrastructure



Immediate Benefits

- Collaboration that works
- Use, adopt, make it your own, contribute
- No ownership issues
- Instant access
- Fork/Pull



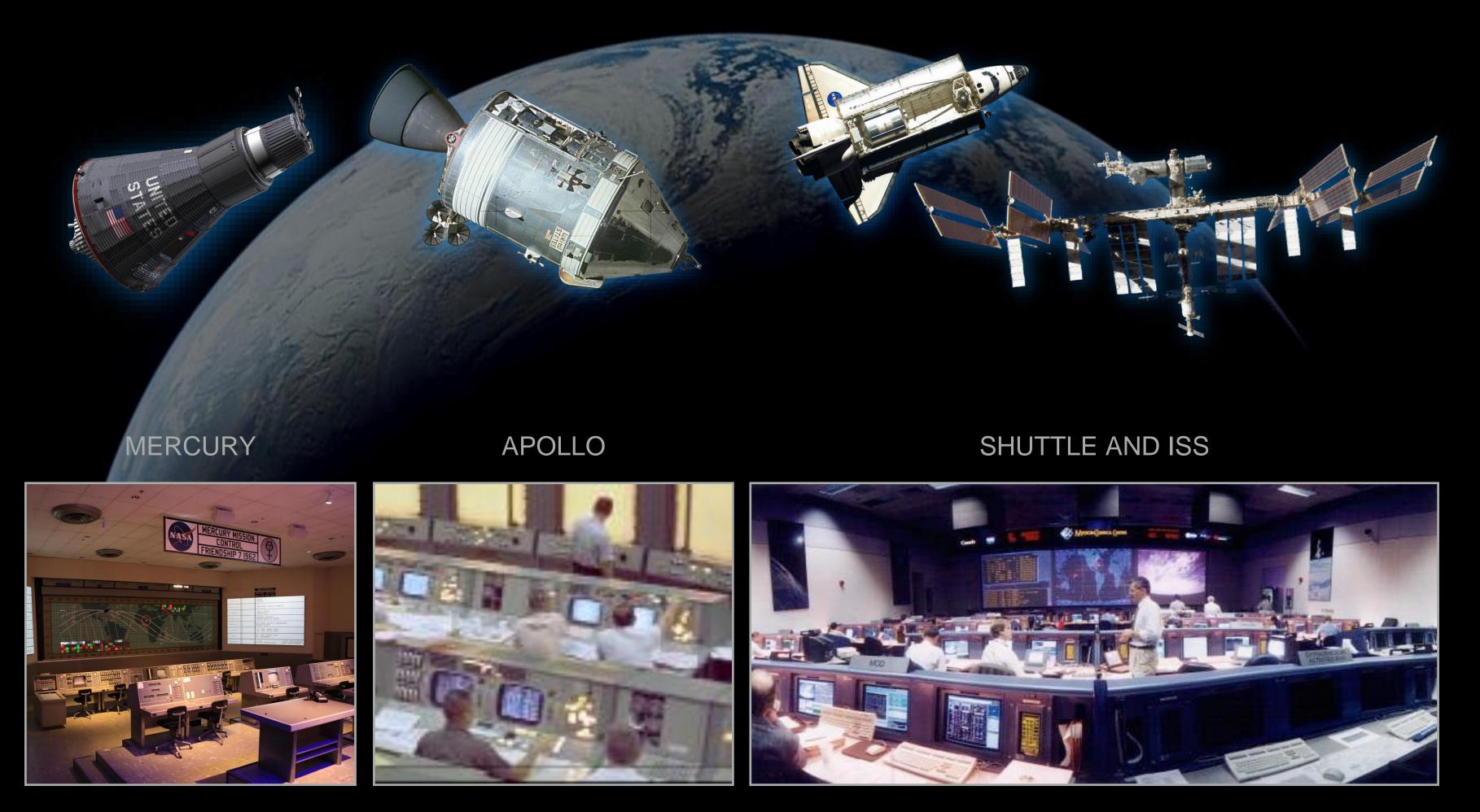


More benefits

- Better software
 - More eyes on your software
 - More users
 - A community that drives you to be better
 - Yes, missions do some of this, but the environment is somewhat insular so there are benefits to a broader group of users and contributors



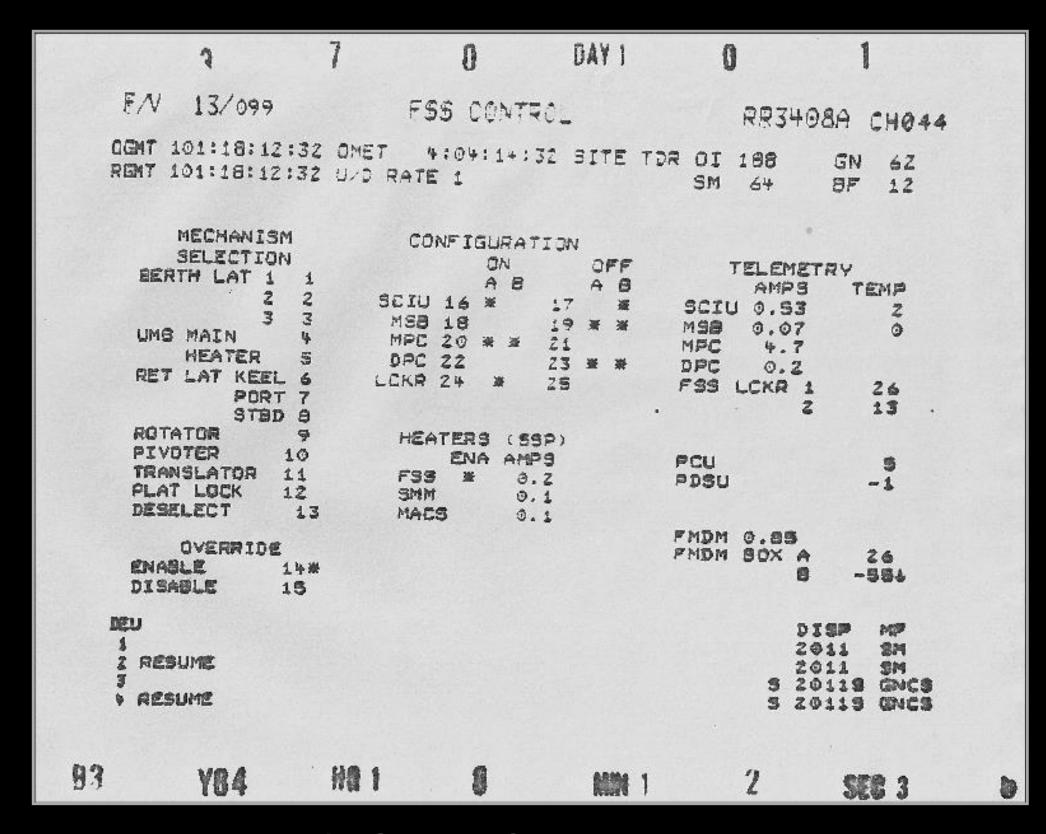
How have we advanced since the 1960's?

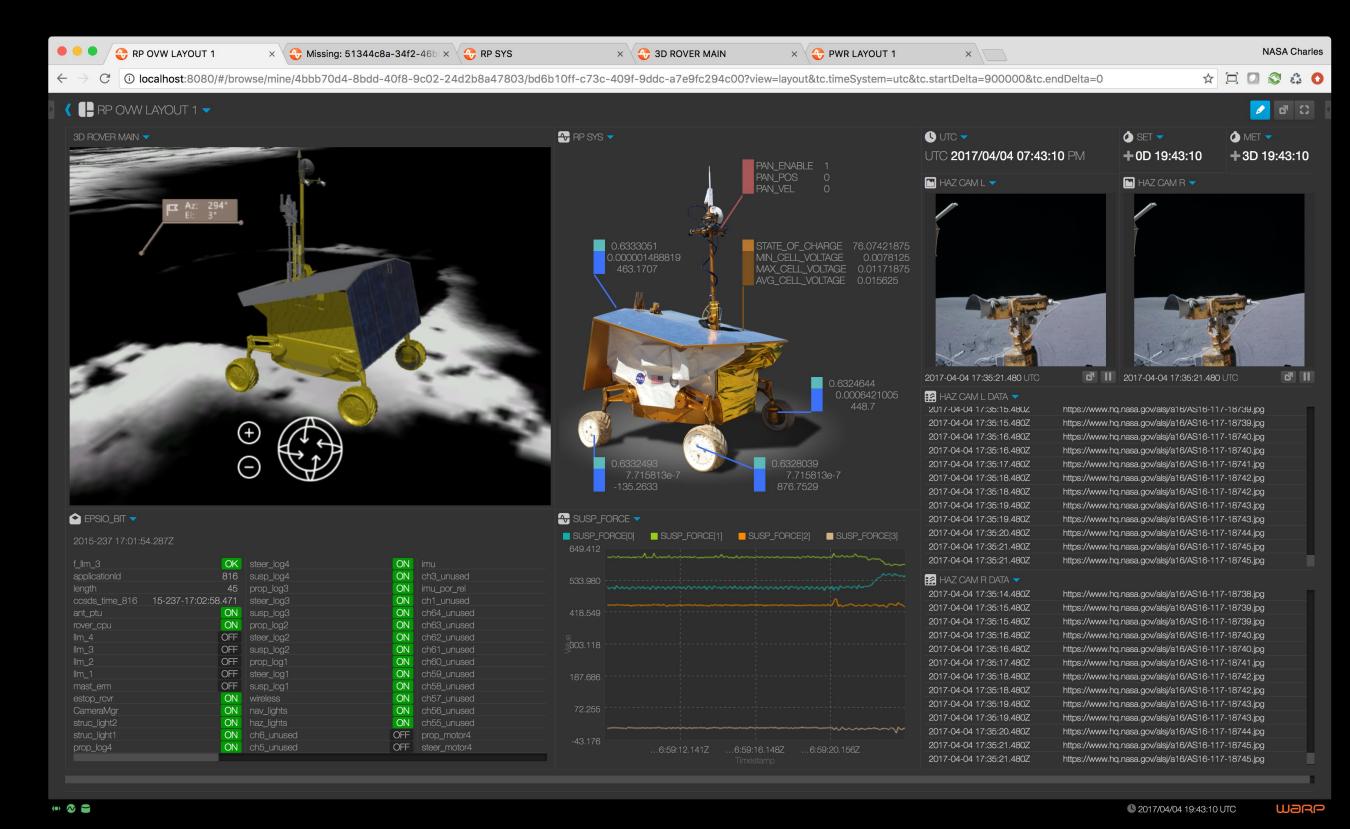


1960's 2000 and beyond



Can open source be a vehicle for advancing technology?





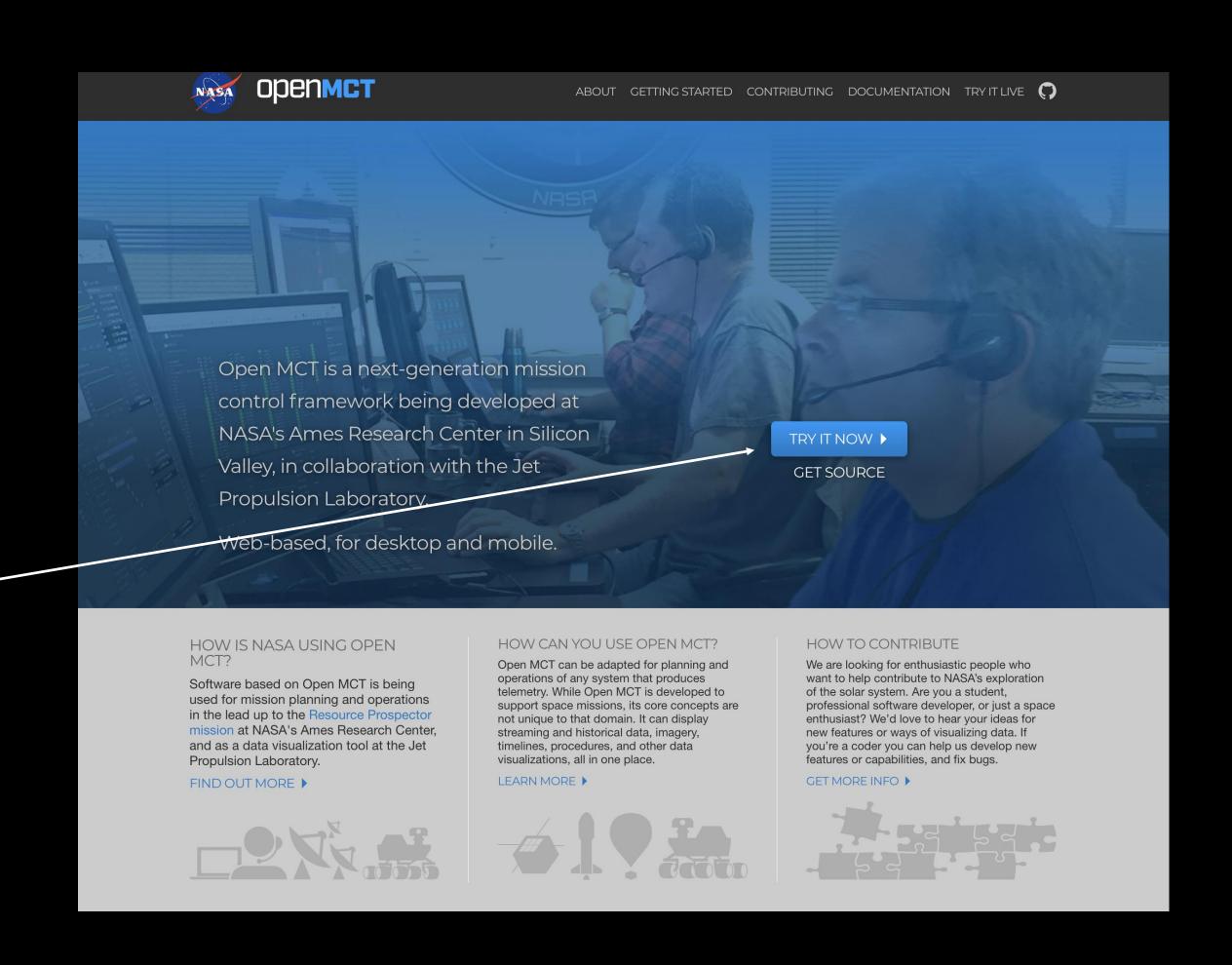
1980's Space Shuttle Display

Open MCT Display



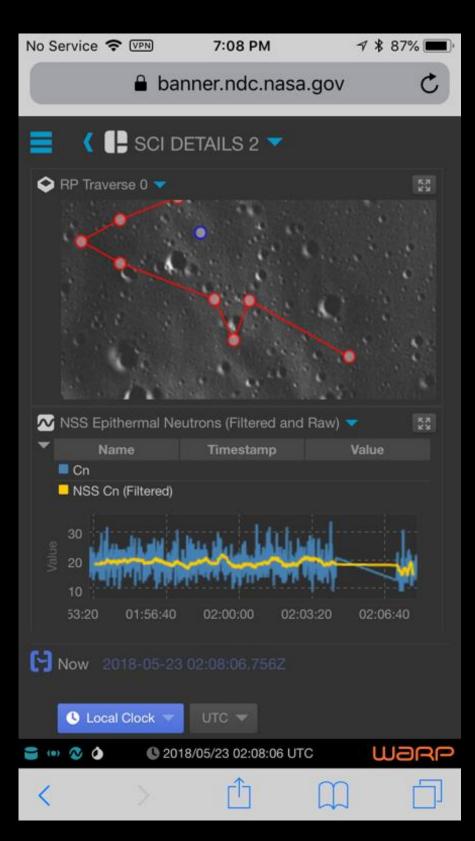
The platform

- Open Mission Control Technologies Open MCT
- Info
 - https://nasa.github.io/openmct/
 - From info site, click on Try it Now
- Code
 - https://nasa.github.io/openmct/

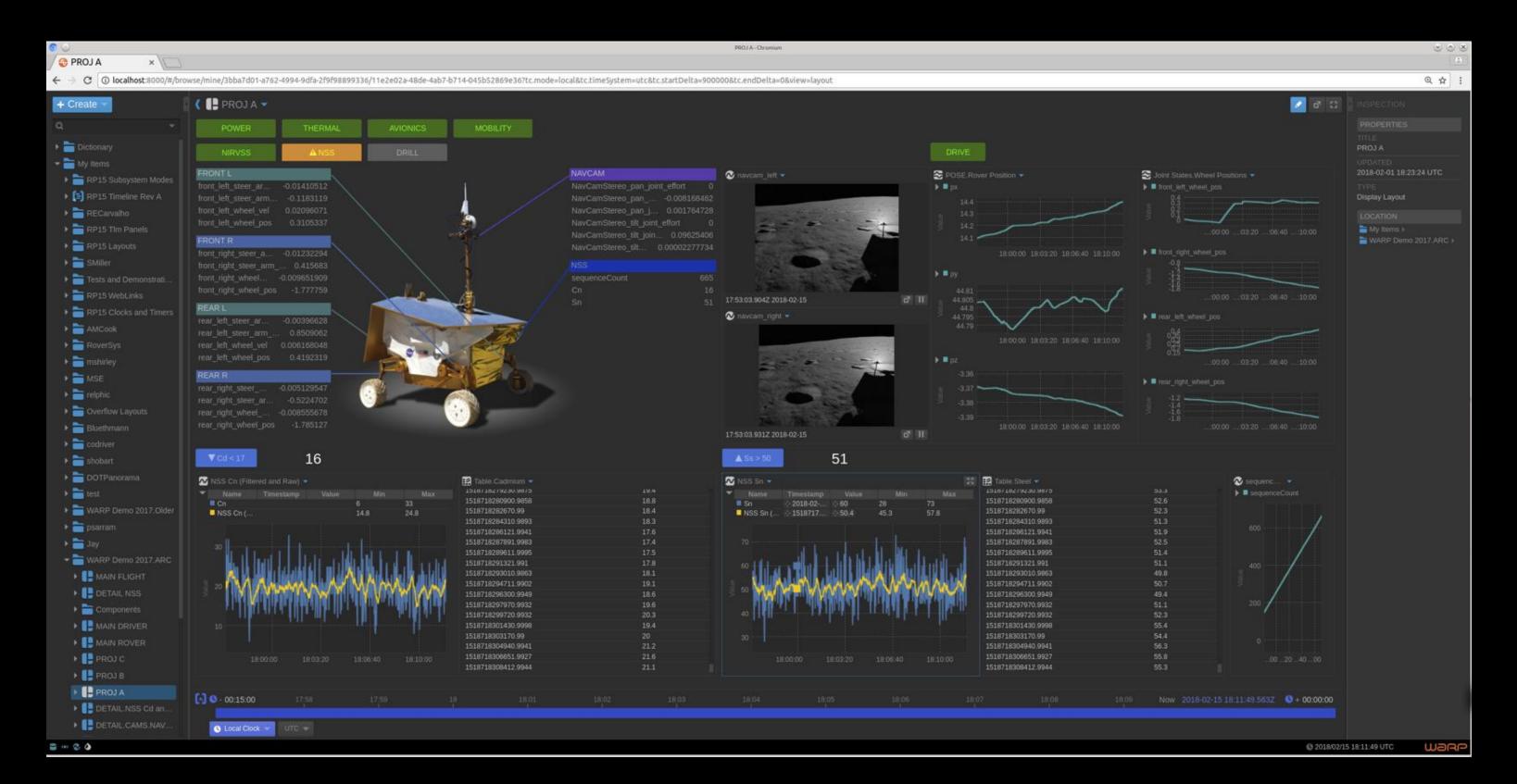




The Platform



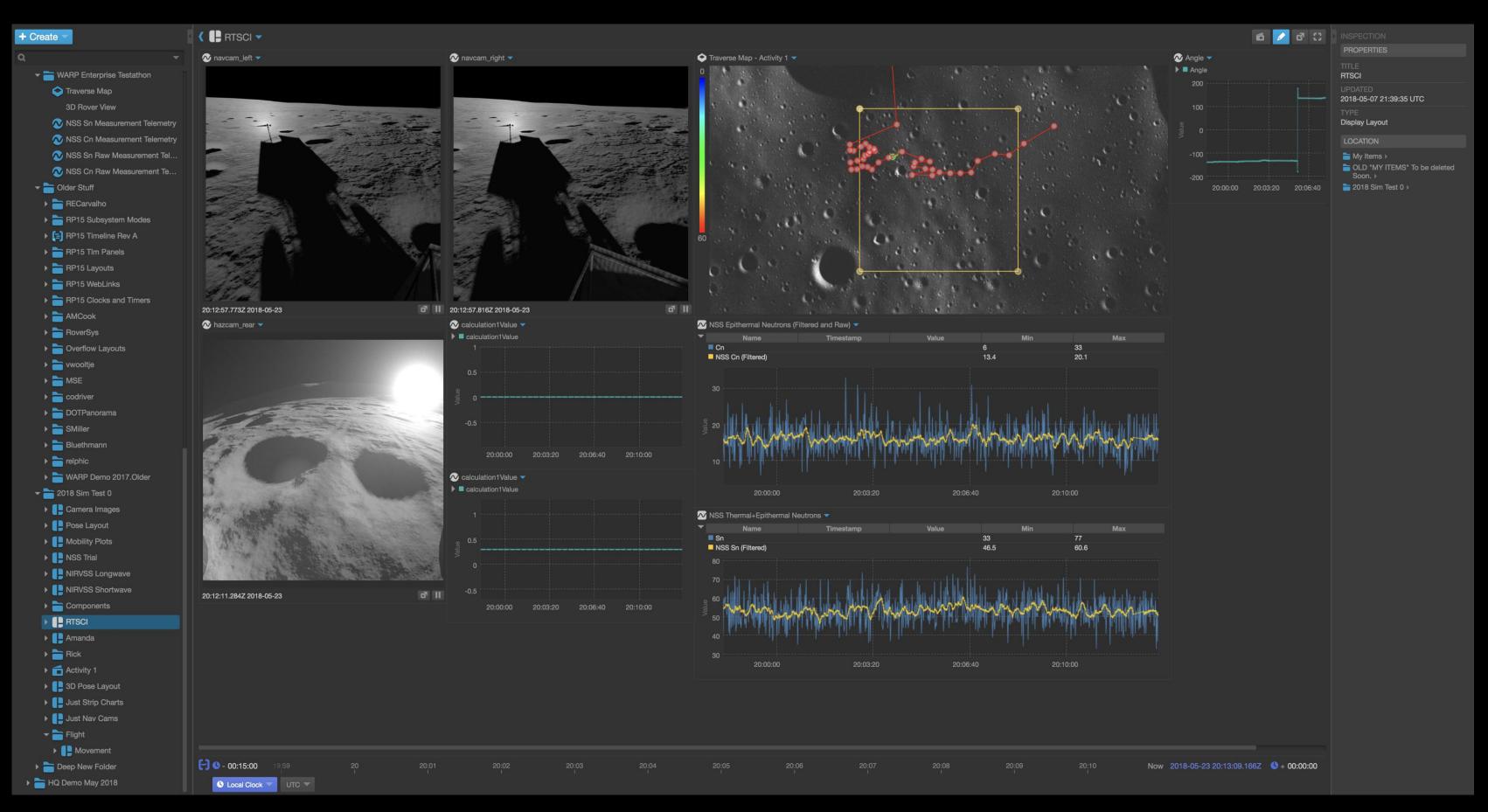
Mobile



Desktop



All Your Data in One Place



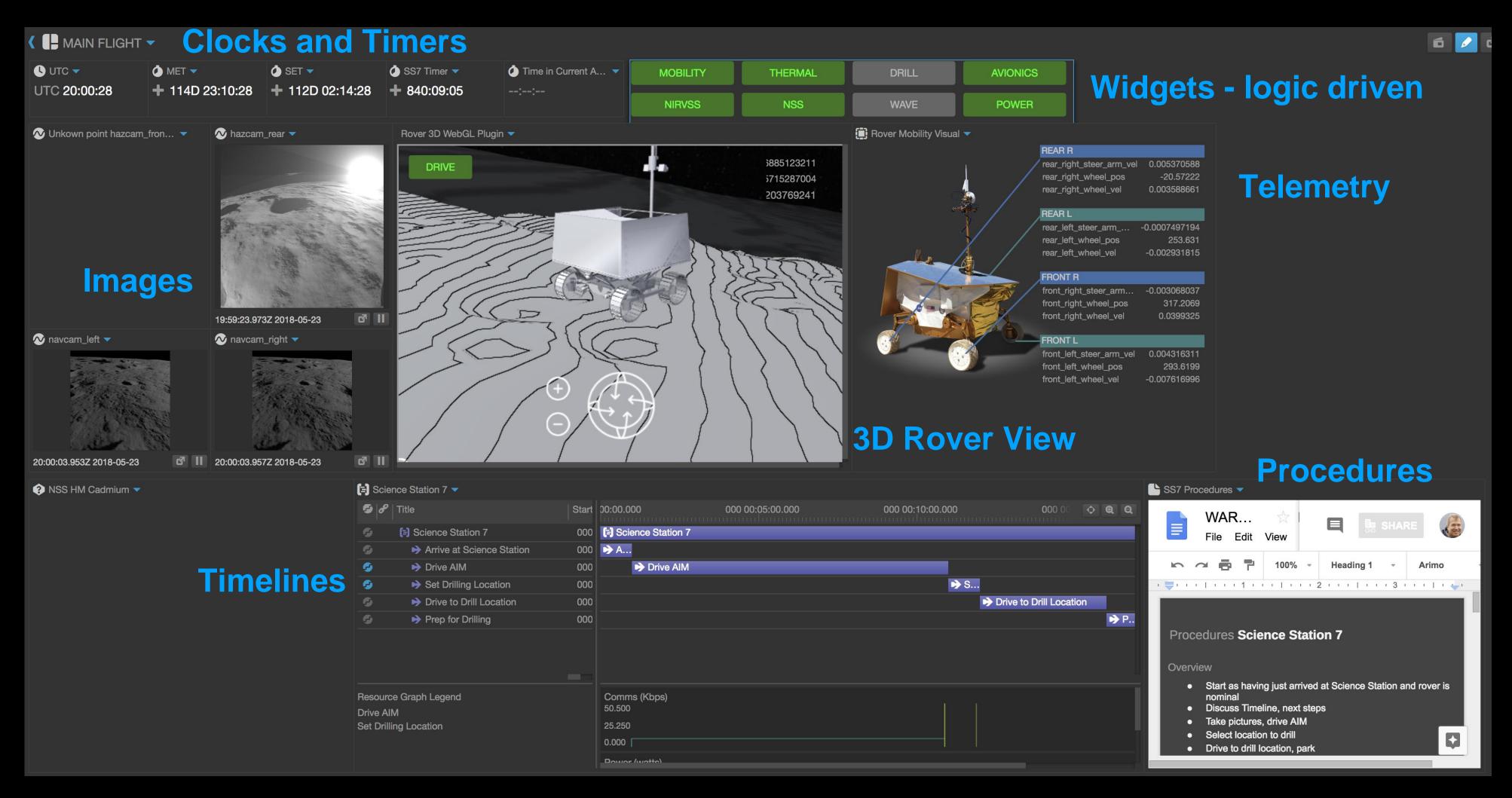
All your data here

Data Visualizations, cross domain

Inspector



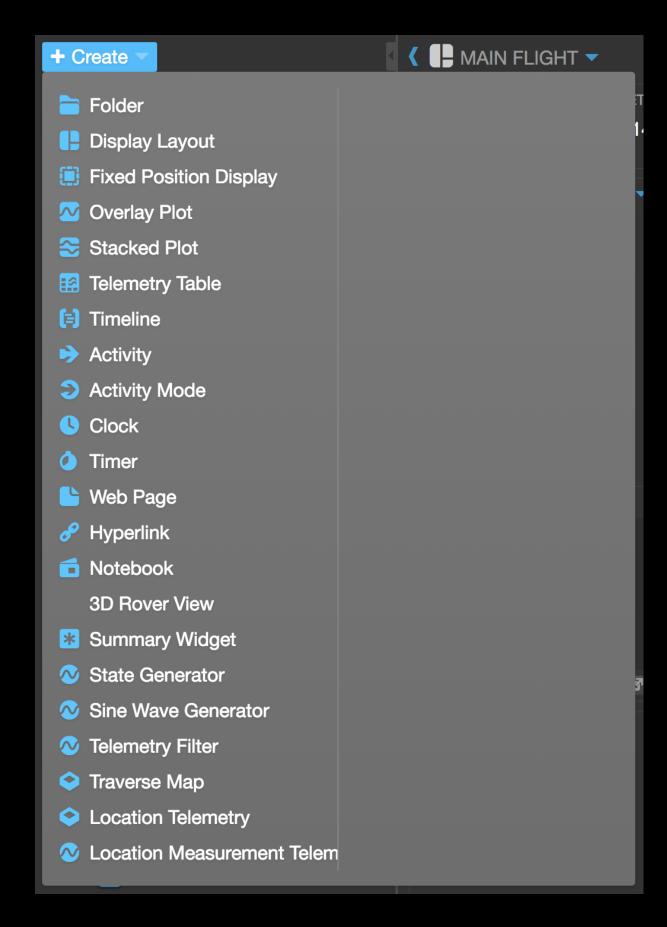
Mix Data Across Domains

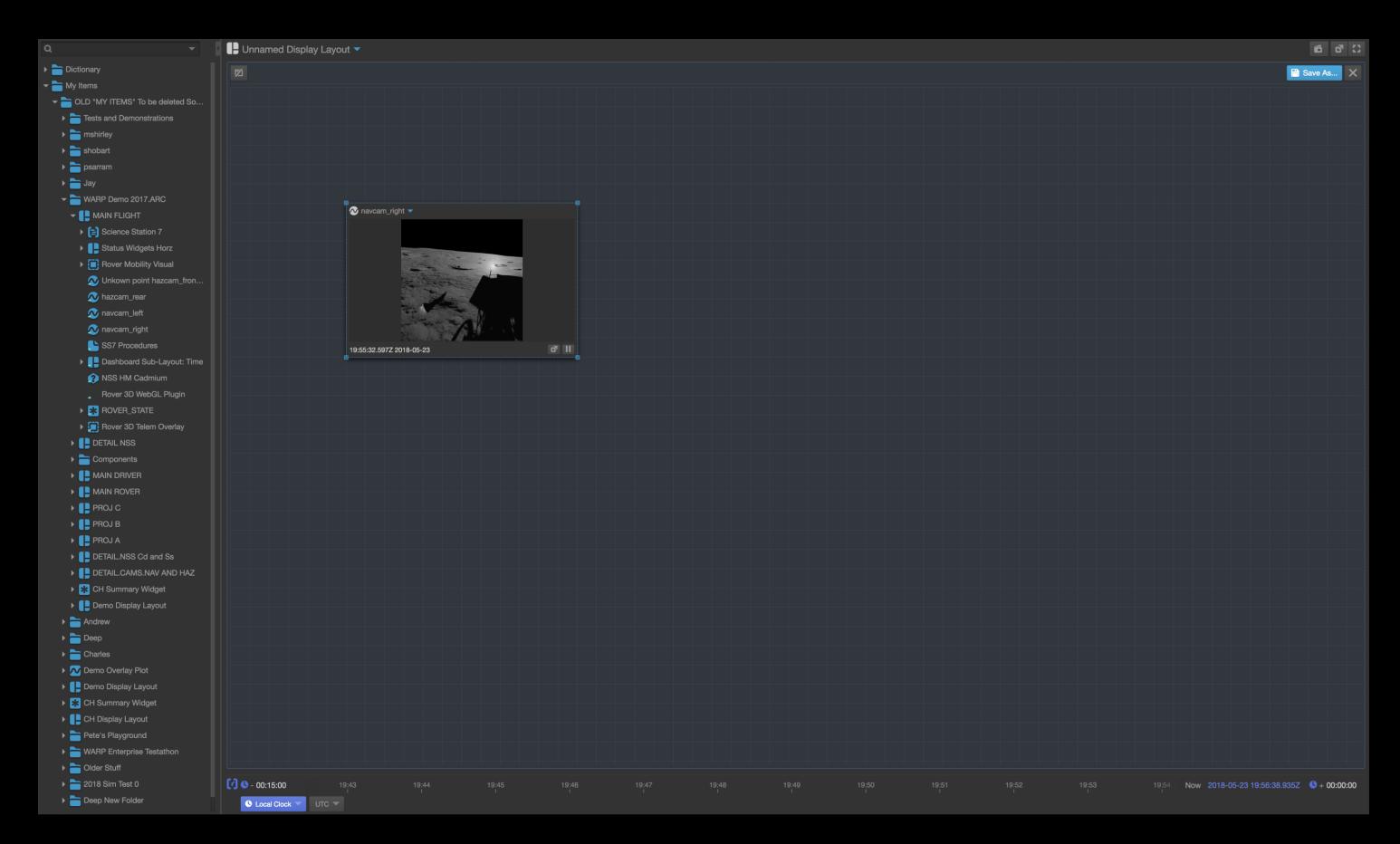


Add capabilities with plugins



Make Your Own Displays





Create

Build a display layout



Who has Open MCT in NASA









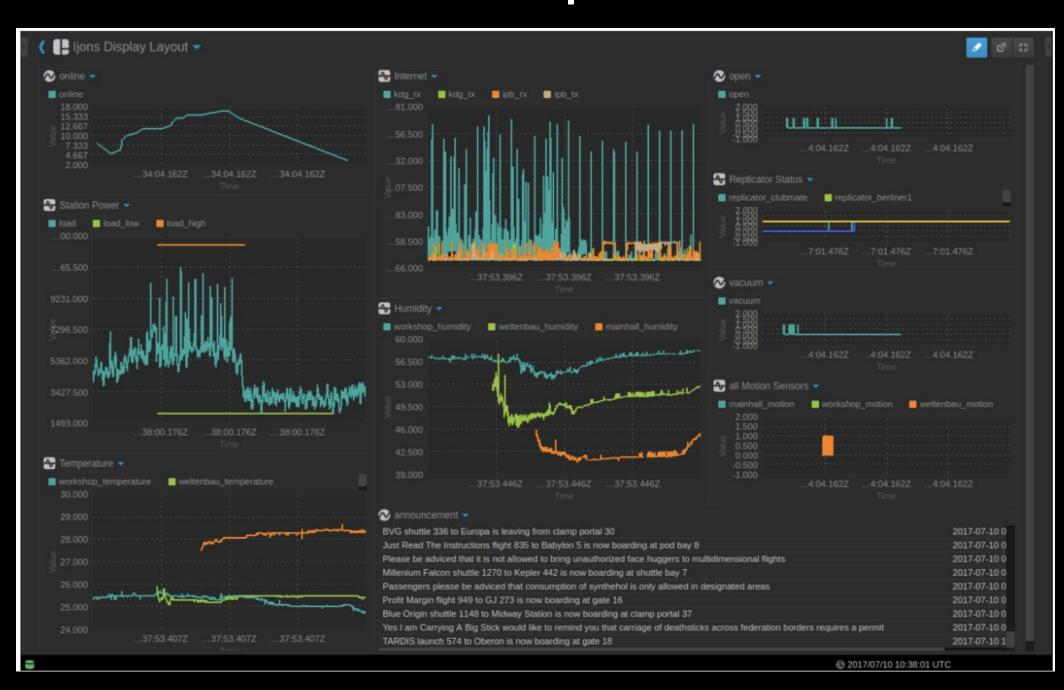


More...



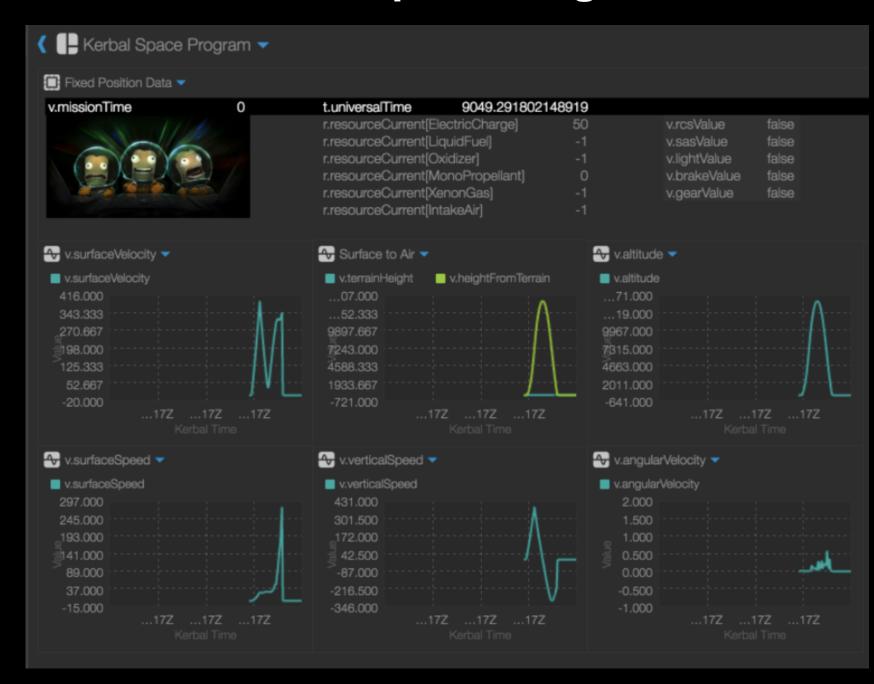
Samples from the community outside NASA

C-base backspace Berlin



https://bergie.iki.fi/blog/nasa-openmct-iot-dashboard/

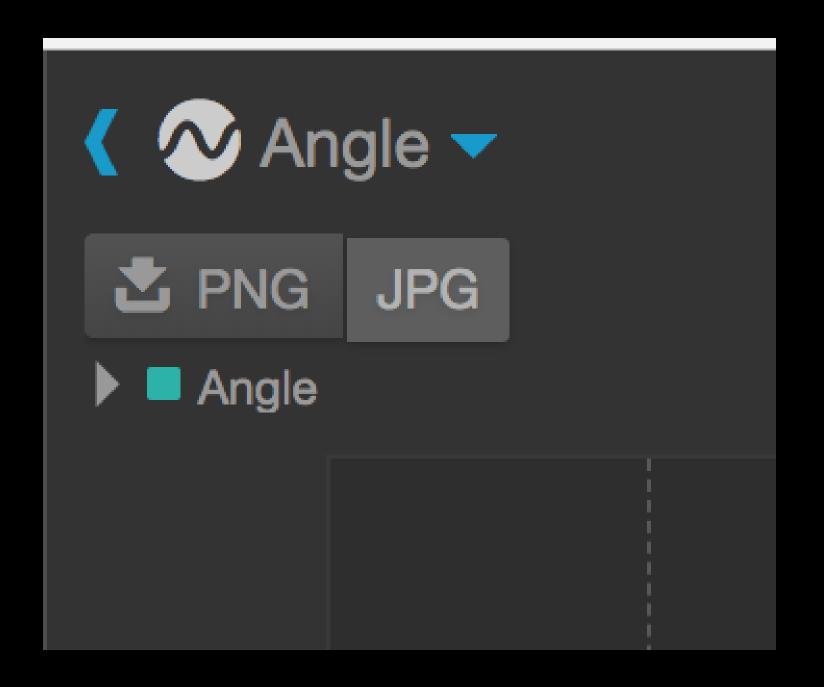
Kerbal Space Program





Example Contribution

- Export plot as image
- Based on user requests
- Implemented by open source contributor





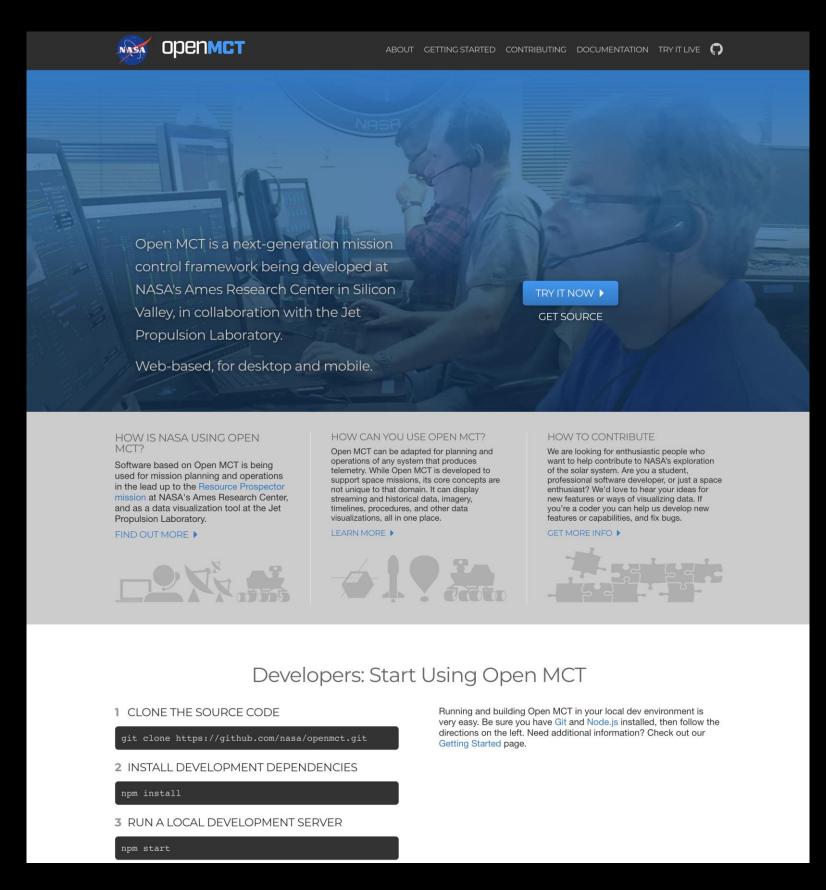
Contribution Process

- Sign Contributor License Agreement
- Make changes
- Submit Pull Request (PR)
- Circle CI runs unit tests, enforces code standards through tooling
- Code review by core team member
- Feedback or Merge



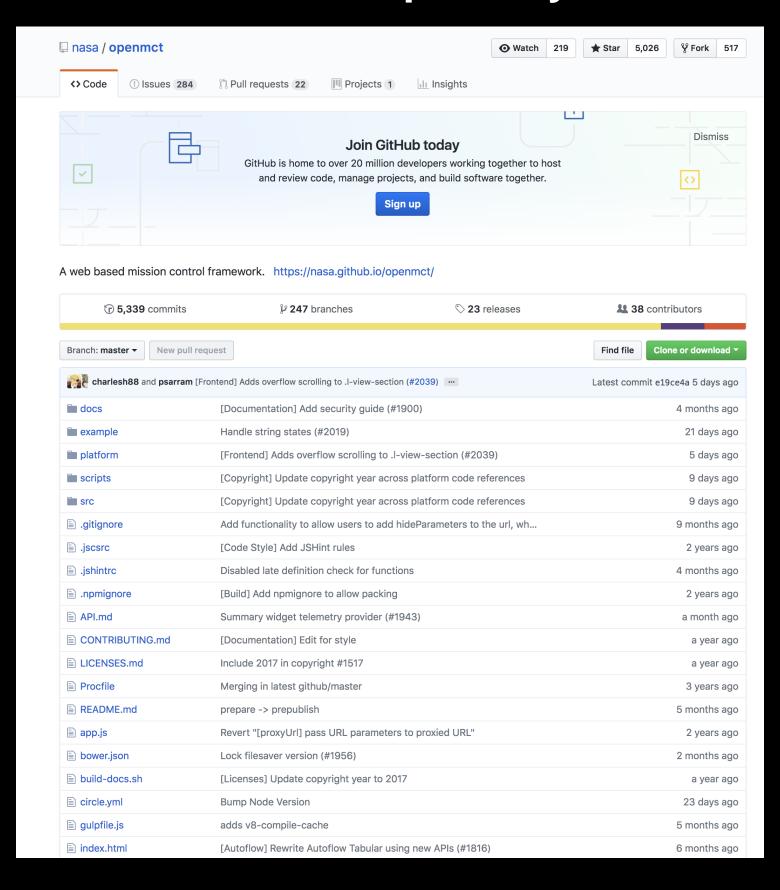
Building a Community 1

Active Web Presence



https://nasa.github.io/openmct/

Active Repository

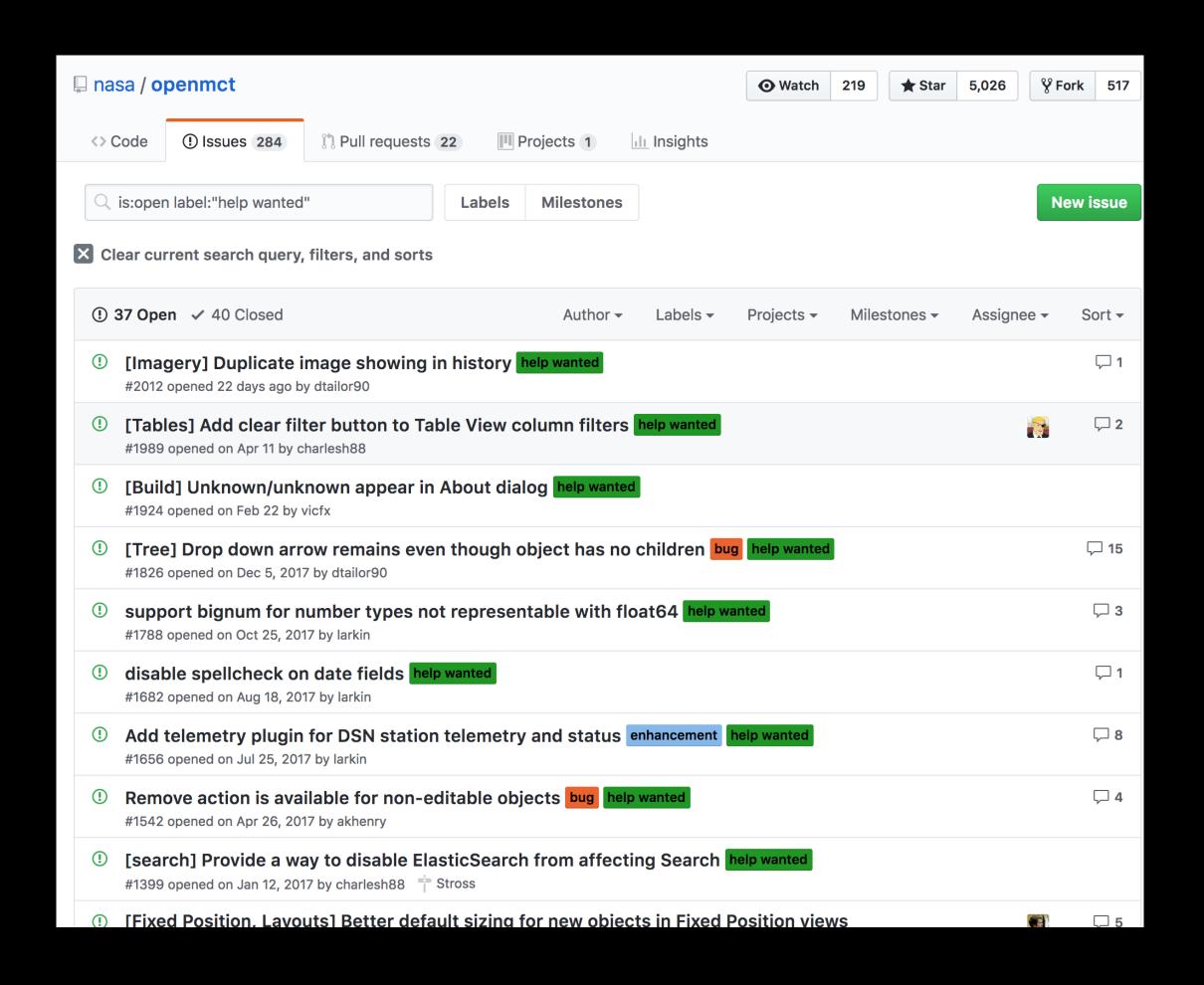


https://github.com/nasa/openmct



Building a Community 2

- Provide a codebase that is clean, and fun to develop for
- Provide clear and comprehensive developer documentation
- Provide a simple and powerful Application Programming Interface (API)
- Tutorials for extending Open MCT with a focus on common use-cases.
- "Help-wanted" issues that cater to a range of abilities





Status & What's Next

- Open source is a proven means to enhance collaboration and adoption of mission operations software
- It is possible to build an "outside" community of contributors who add value to the software through contributions and feedback
- Future goals
 - Build an active community of mission contributors building on each other's work
 - Use open source as a vehicle for advancing technology