

Standards approach to satellite interference

Andy Lawrence al@roe.ac.uk

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Treaties

vs

Standards

vs

Regulations

*crucial but
not detailed*

*community
agreed*

*concrete
but national*

*international
glue*

*v. hard to achieve
global cohesion*

←
*“for license,
comply with ISOXXX”*

ITU does this
for radio interference

can we do it for optical brightness?

→ report to UKSA*

*Edinburgh
Imperial
Eutelsat
3S Northumbria*

cf ESSI **

but needs debate by
a like minded gang

*Astronomers
Builders
Operators
Policy makers*

* UK Space Agency

** Earth-Space Sustainability Initiative

Beyond Seventh Magnitude



IAU CPS^{*} recommend $V > 7$

but

now mandated in
French Space Act
and draft EU Space Act

ALL satellites cause streaks
need
per-mission not just per-satellite

- streaks per sq.degree per unit time
- probability of glints
- multi-wavelength behaviour

could allow for flexibility
eg some bright if most faint

study and debate needed

agreed metrics of astronomical damage
trade-off studies: mass budget, thermal issues, operations

^{*} International Astronomical Union Center for Protection of the Dark and Quiet Sky

Infrastructure and tools



Public and private
brightness prediction models

eg Lumos-SAT
Glint Evader
Eutelsat Tool

Standardised satellite
structure specification

surfaces, sizes,
composition, orientation

Public and private
BRDF^{*} databases

i.e. companies trust
agency with proprietary
data, and regulators trust
agency certification

Trusted certification
agencies

Validation programme

to calibrate tools and
confirm post launch
compliance

*Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function