SYMPOSIUM ON STEPPING STONES TO THE FUTURE: STRATEGIES, ARCHITECTURES, CONCEPTS AND TECHNOLOGIES (D3)
Joint Session on Space Technology and Systems Management Practices and Tools" – Part I (4)

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THE COST OF SPIN-IN IN SPACE

Abstract

One of the key functions of the European Space Agency is to support the development of advanced space technologies to satisfy the needs of the envisaged space missions. This is done via a number of dedicated RD programmes that cover all the application domains (Earth Observation, Science, Telecom, Launchers. . .), and all the TRL levels from 1 to 9. In addition, the possibility of "spinning-in" technologies from non space applications to provide space solutions is being actively pursued.

In this context, an activity has recently been concluded with the aim of identifying the difficulties encountered when spinning-in a given non space technology. One of the results of this activity has been an attempt to model the cost related to the spinning-in process.

In this talk, we first outline the key elements identified for facilitating the spin-in. We then give an overview of the cost model derived discussing a number of possible scenarios, and we conclude by illustrating the conditions for "break even" if spinning-in is considered from a cost-benefit point of view.