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Abstract

The advent of super and mega constellations is creating great challenges to the design and test of propulsion systems for small satellites. From maintaining the phase of a constellation to executing complex orbital maneuvers mission designers are increasingly demanding more performance from ever smaller propulsion systems. The success of the new space era depends in no small manner of our success in coming up with the right solutions. How do we design, manufacture, test and operate the required systems? What breakthroughs are we going to require and how do we prove them? And what does the small satellite community actually needs?