



CFOSAT Orbit Status and Platform In-orbit Performance Introduction



DFH SATELLITE CO.,LTD

Page 1





- Since launch till 2022.9.5, CFOSAT made the following routine orbit maneuver to maintain the ground track within a range of \pm 20km, on the following dates :
 - **2019**, **01.04**, **04.18**, **08.29**, **12.06**,
 - **2020**, **04.02**, **07.17**, **09.03**, **12.03**,
 - **2021**, **02.23**, **04.27**, **07.22**, **09.23**, **11.10**,
 - **2022**, 01.18, 03.03, 04.08, 05.07, 06.21, 08.02
- The maneuver frequency in 2022 is higher than previous years, mainly due to year 2022 is the peak point of solar activity under the 11 years cycle period. Space air density is now at the highest level.
- The fuel cost for orbit ground track keeping each time is less than 0.1kg. And the fuel left onboard right now is around 17.668kg.



Ground Track Keeping





- The ground track was kept within the range of \pm 22km.
- It means that the ground strips of adjacent orbits have enough overlap margin to prevent remote sensing observation gap.
- The maneuver on 2022.03.03 (red circle) was postponed by about 1 week, due to avoiding space debris collision risk, and caused ground track exceed +20km border



Orbit Inclination





Orbit inclination keeps decreasing in the last 4 years. It's normal drift for orbit characteristics.



Orbit Altitude Changing





- The orbit altitude was kept near the normal value through orbit maneuver for ground track keeping.
- It is clearly to see, the altitude trend is dropping(red line) slowly.
- This trend is compliant with Inclination change in the last slide. As the inclination decreases, the satellite altitude need to be adjusted negatively to maintain orbit sun synchronization.



LTDN drifting





- The LTDN (Local Time Descending Node) is drifting.
- It started from 07:02:25AM on 2018.10.29 (the launch day), kept drifting towards noon; then after reaching the peak point, it turned back towards morning. It reached 07:10:48AM peak (blue circle) in mid 2020.
- Right now LTDN is at 06:59:12AM, earlier than launch day, and still drifting towards morning.







At the end of 5 years (2023.10.29), LTDN is estimated to reach 06:43:47AM.



Umbra Duration Estimation





- In the future, comparing to the previous years, due to the drift of LTDN, there will be no winter umbra phase since 2022, only summer umbra phase left.
- The umbra period will get shorter and shorter in the future. (E.g: 25 mins per orbit in 2022 summer, 24.5 mins per orbit in 2023 summer)
- It means the onboard temperature will rising gradually year by year.



- This is the curve of solar array current since launch day.
- The current value keeps stable in the last 4 years. Satellite power supply is guaranteed without degeneration.
- Also we can see, 2021 winter (yellow dual-arrow line) is shorter than 2020 winter (green dual-arrow line). This trend is compliant with LTDN drift.

Power Supply – Battery capacity





The lowest capacity in 2021 is about 58.35Ah. This value is almost the same as the one in 2020 (58.2Ah) and 2021(58.3Ah), indicating that there is no degeneration in battery.

The DOD in winter in 2021 (yellow circle) is lower than the one in 2020 (green circle), the duration is shorter. This phenomenon complies with the LTDN drift.

It is estimated that, there will be no winter umbra on CFOSAT orbit since 2022.







• This is the curve of **SWIM TWT & EPC onboard temperature** since launch day.

- ✓ TWT temperature varies between 10° C and 25° C;
- ✓ EPC temperature varies between 12° C and 22° C;
- All the temperatures are within normal range.







- SCAT was switched from nominal part to redundant part on 2019.12.30. So SCAT curve was plotted starting since 2020.01.01.
- This is the curve of **SCAT TWT & EPC** onboard temperature since then.
 - ✓ TWT temperature varies between 17° C and 32° C;
 - ✓ EPC temperature varies between 16° C and 28° C;
- All the temperatures are within normal range.

DFH SATELLITE CO.,LTD

SCAT Temperature(°C)



Onboard Temperature: Higher and Higher





• If we enlarge the temperature curve to check more detail, e.g. SWIM TWT temp1, we will see that, the peak temperature (black circles) is getting higher and higher, year by year, increased by more than 1°C from 2019 to 2022.

Onboard Temperature: Higher and Higher





- ◆ For some other onboard equipment, the temperature increased by higher value than SWIM TWT in the last 4 years in similar way, e.g. star sensor (purple) from 10.86°C to 12.42°C, fuel tank (brown) from 26.16°C to 30.02°C, sun sensor (blue) from 19.62°C to 24.82°C₀
- This phenomenon complies with the orbit LTDN drift trend.
- As we mentioned, there will be no winter umbra since 2022. So the temperatures onboard is estimated to be much higher than the values in previous years.
- However, there is still enough margin (>10°C) to the equipment upper temperature threshold. So satellite right now is still safe under thermal control.





- 2022.08.07, SCAT antenna stopped rotation;
- 2022.08.25, after trying several times, SCAT antenna retrieved to normal status;
- 2022.09.07, unfortunately, SCAT antenna stopped rotation again.
- Right now, it is still under retrieval process by Chinese team.









- In the last 46.5 months after launch, CFOSAT orbit meets requirement. Orbit ground track keeping maneuver was performed successfully. There are enough onboard fuel margin;
- The battery DOD and temperature are maintained within normal range, which benefit a lot for long life time;
- The onboard equipment temperature are maintained within normal range with enough margin, which means onboard thermal control function works well without big degeneration.
- The temperatures onboard is estimated to be much higher since 2022, but there is still enough thermal margin.
- The satellite platform is under health and safe condition till now.
- SCAT is facing antenna stuck problem. It's still under retrieval process.





