

# Using Fault Injection on the Nanosatellite Subsystems Integration Testing

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# Introduction

## Facts as of 2017 January 8

Nanosats launched in total: 580  
CubeSats launched in total: 510  
Nanosatellites in orbit: 293  
Operational nanosatellites: 213  
Nanosats destroyed on launch: 70

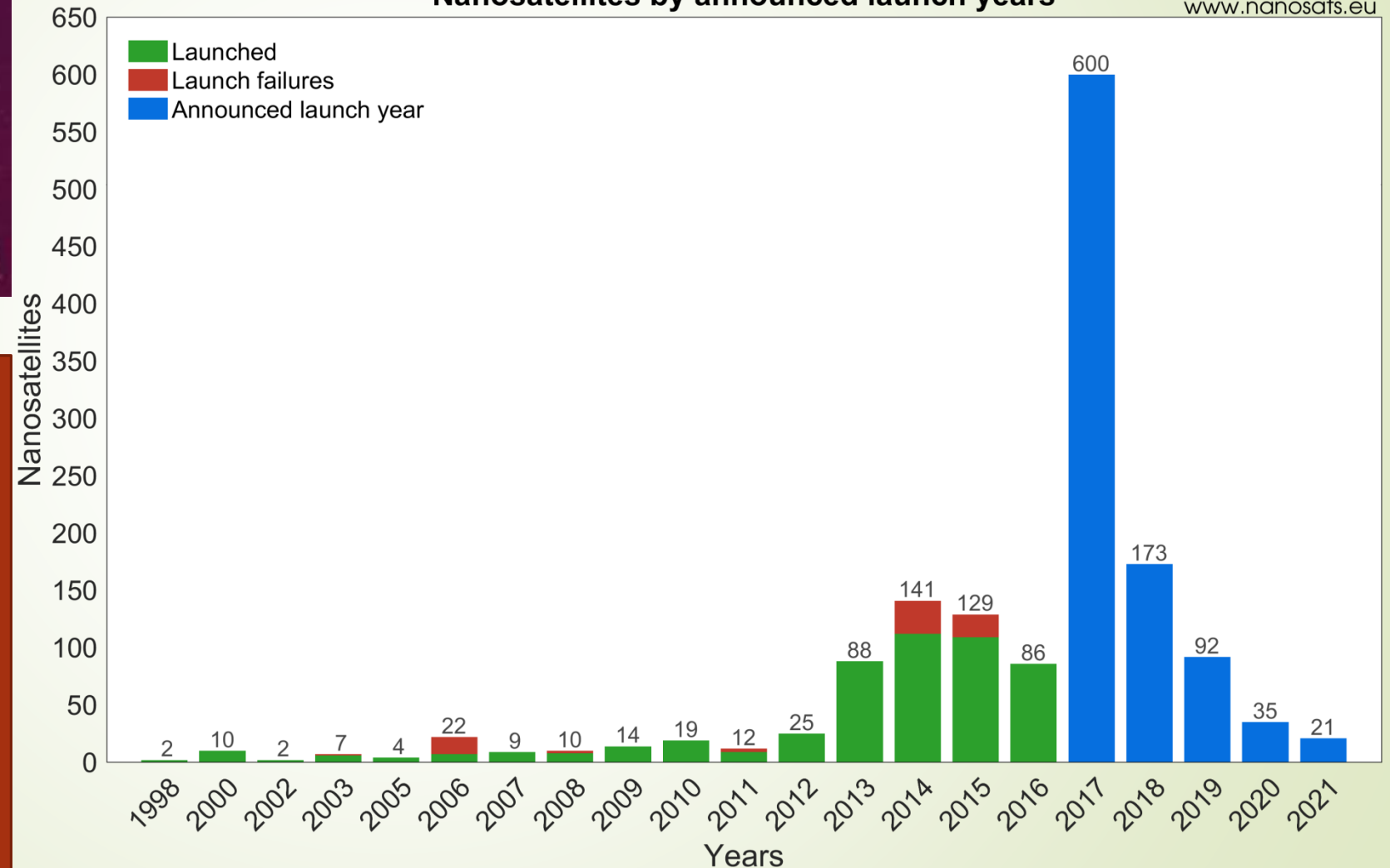
A great number of mission failures from hobbyists projects (60%)

VS

Failure Rates from traditional satellite developers around 10%.

### Nanosatellites by announced launch years

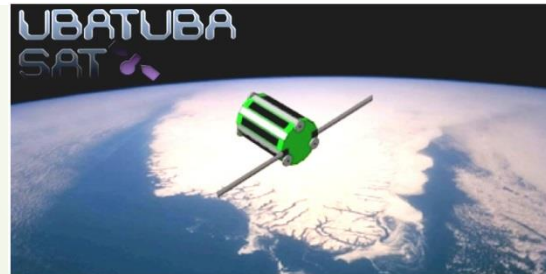
[www.nanosats.eu](http://www.nanosats.eu)



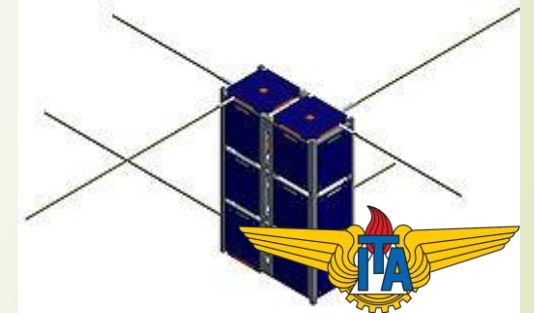
# Introduction



**CONASAT**  
CONSTELAÇÃO DE NANO SATÉLITES AMBIENTAIS



**NANOSATC-BR,**  
**Programa de Desenvolvimento**  
**de Cubesats**



The best hope for improving the performance [...] is to have system implement, best-practices in design, assembly and test that other developers utilize.  
(Swartwout, 2016)

# Concepts



Due to a SUE, the A/D converter reads a wrong temperature measure.

The Thermal Control Subsystem doesn't heat up the batteries.

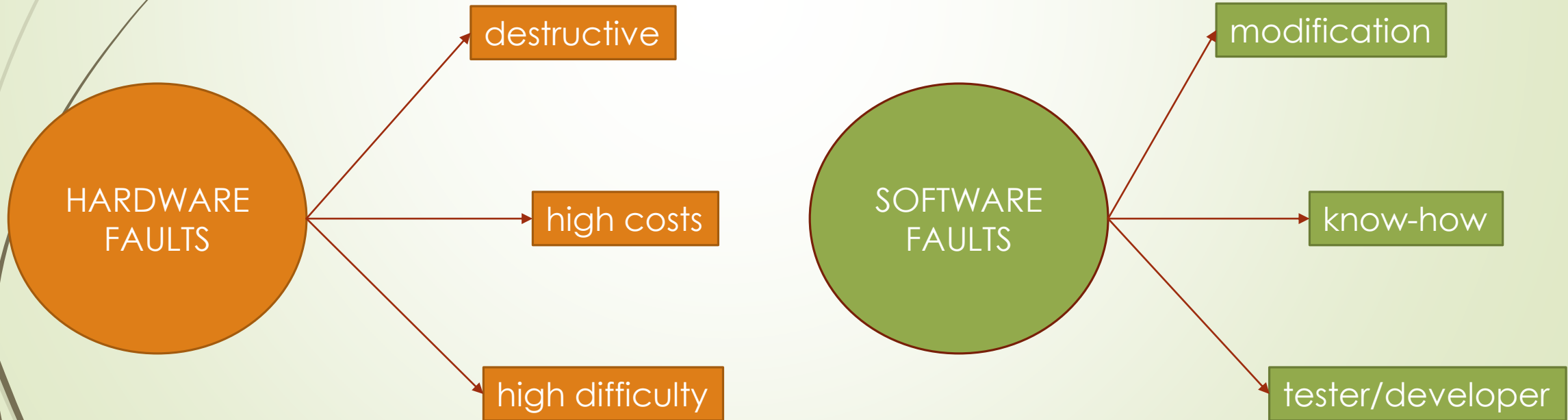
The batteries get too cold and stop working properly. System's Failure.



# Concepts

## FAULT INJECTION

Consists on deliberate inserting faults into a system in a way that emulates faults present in the system (Arlat, 1989)

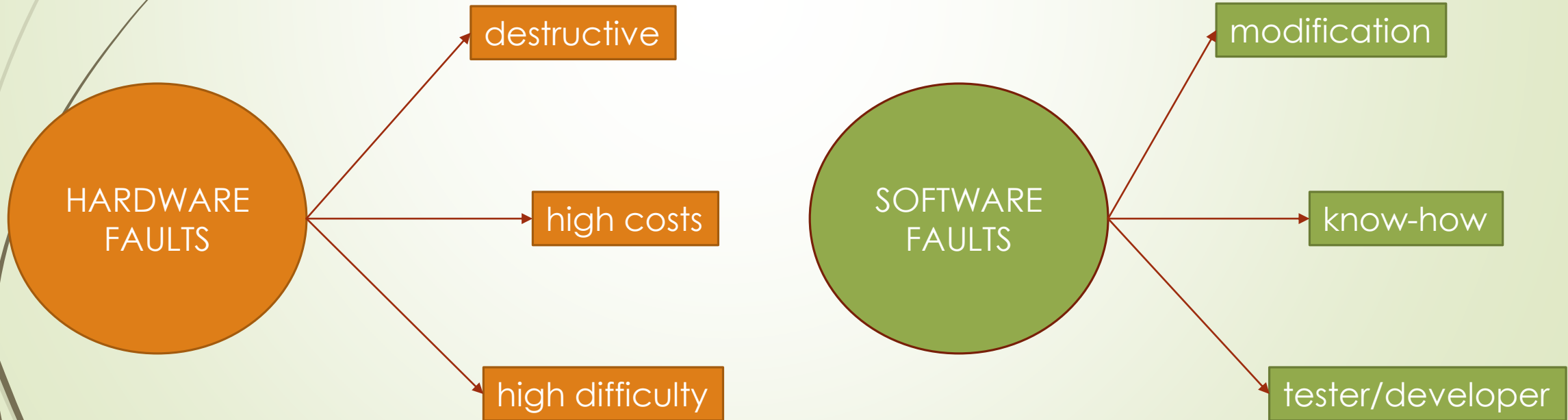


# Concepts

## FAULT INJECTION

Consists on deliberate inserting faults into a system in a way that emulates faults present in the system (Arlat, 1989)

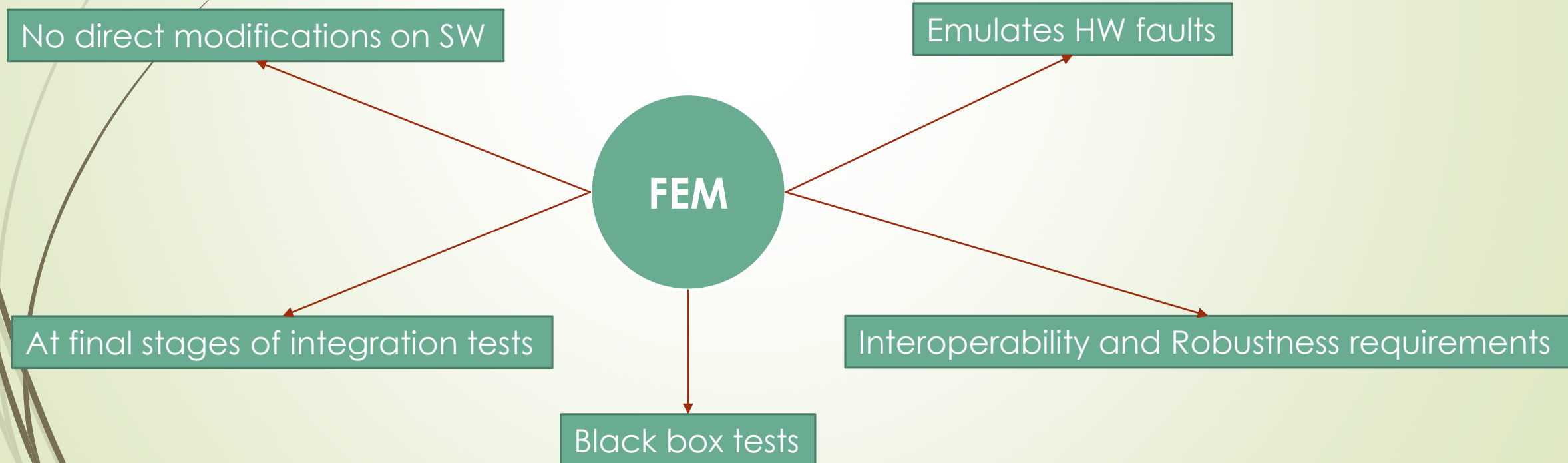
How to embarrass the developing team?



# Concepts

## FAILURE EMULATOR MECHANISM

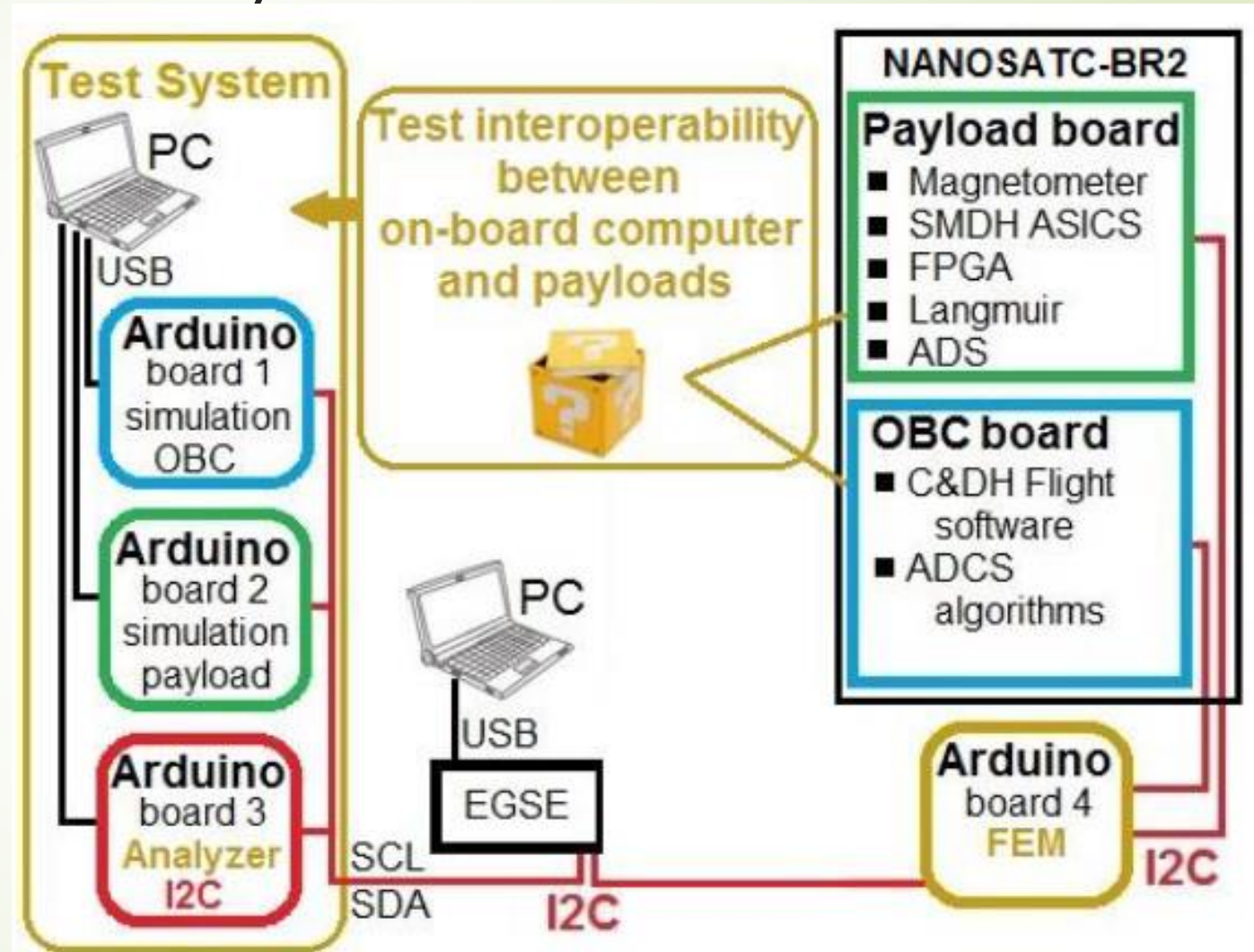
A test execution mechanism that can inject faults into the message exchanged between two software intensive subsystems at the communication channel.



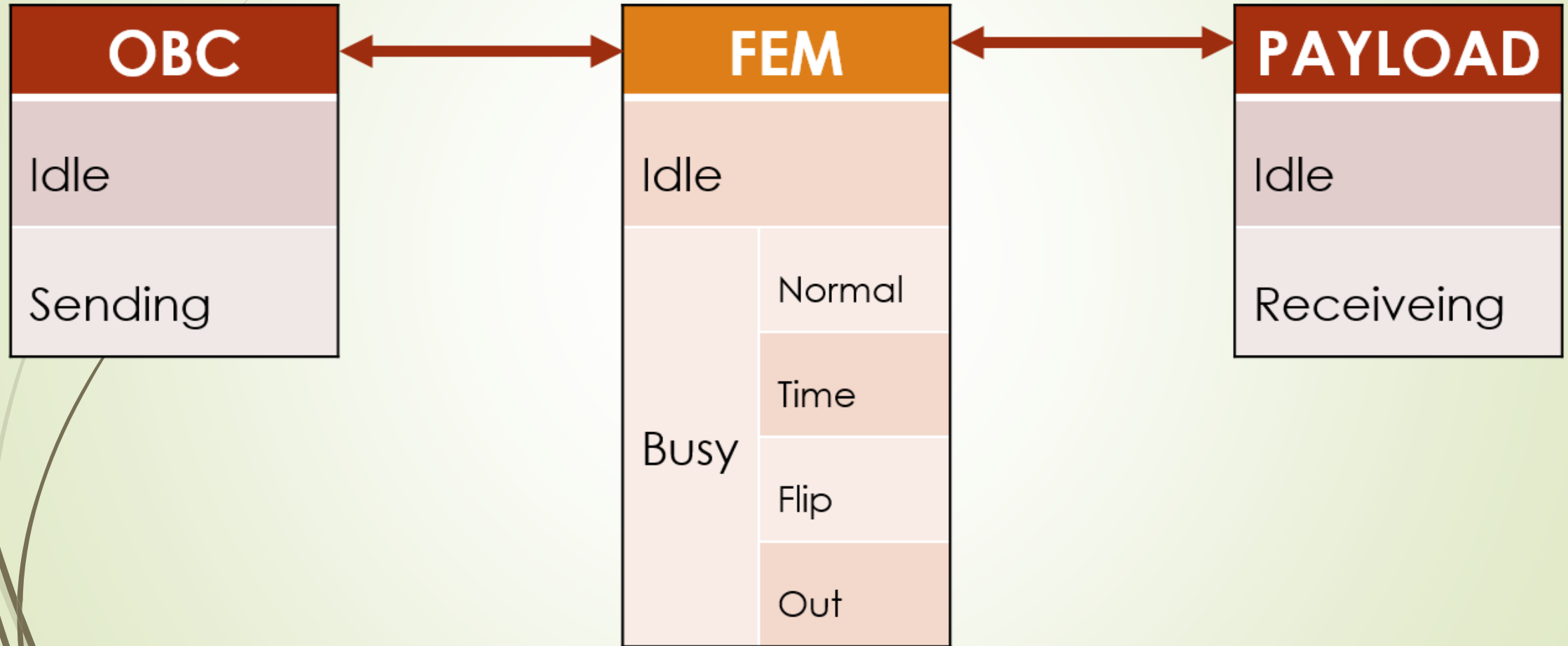


# Proposed Test System

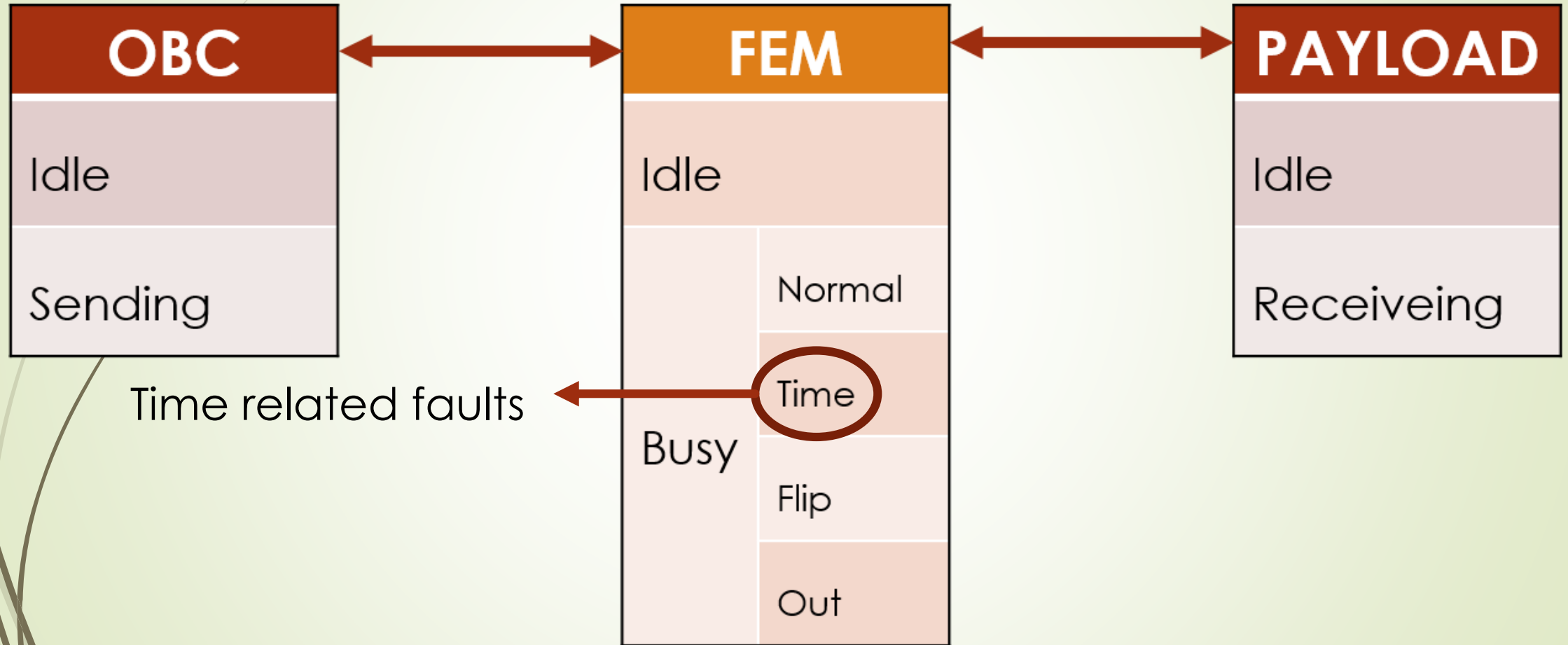
- Reusable Test System
- Support the On-Board SW development and
- Arduino Based
- CubeSat Backbone – I<sup>2</sup>C
- Different stages of development
- Derive test suites using MBT approach



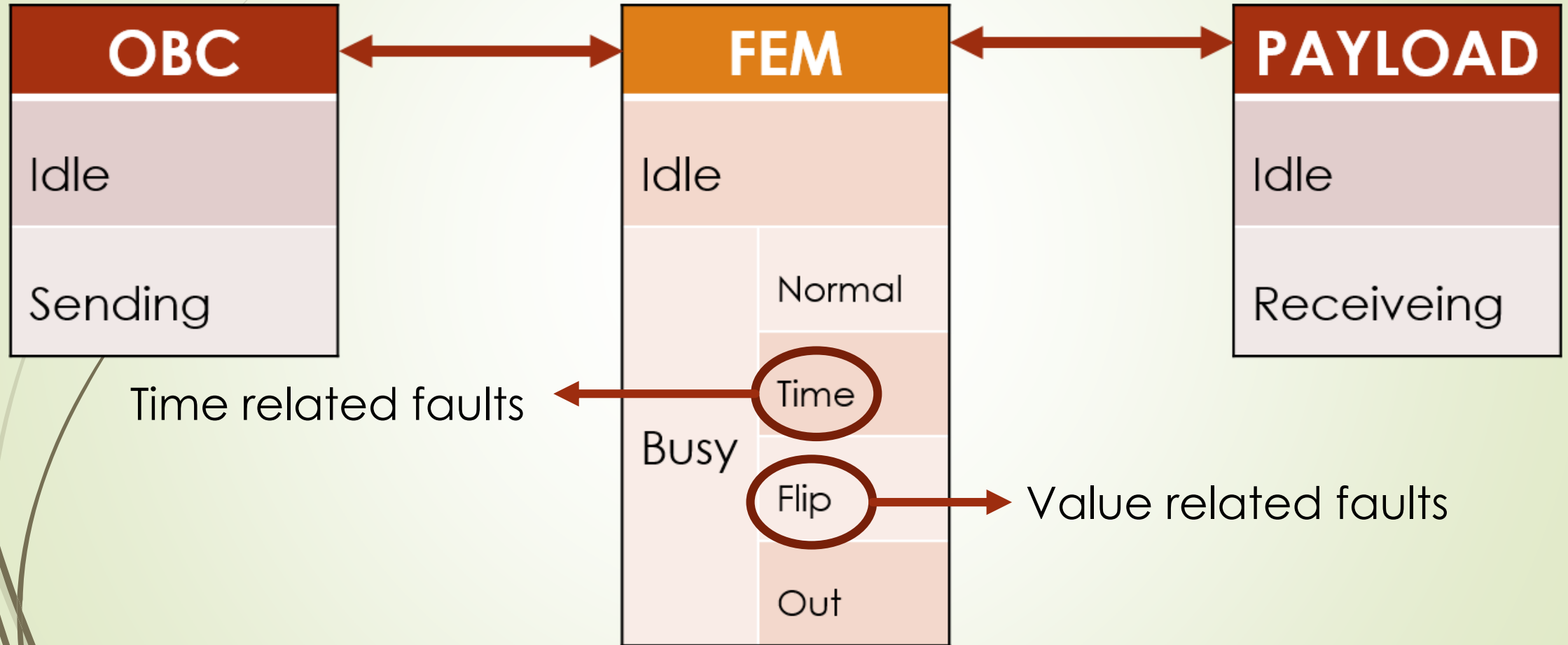
# Development: Model



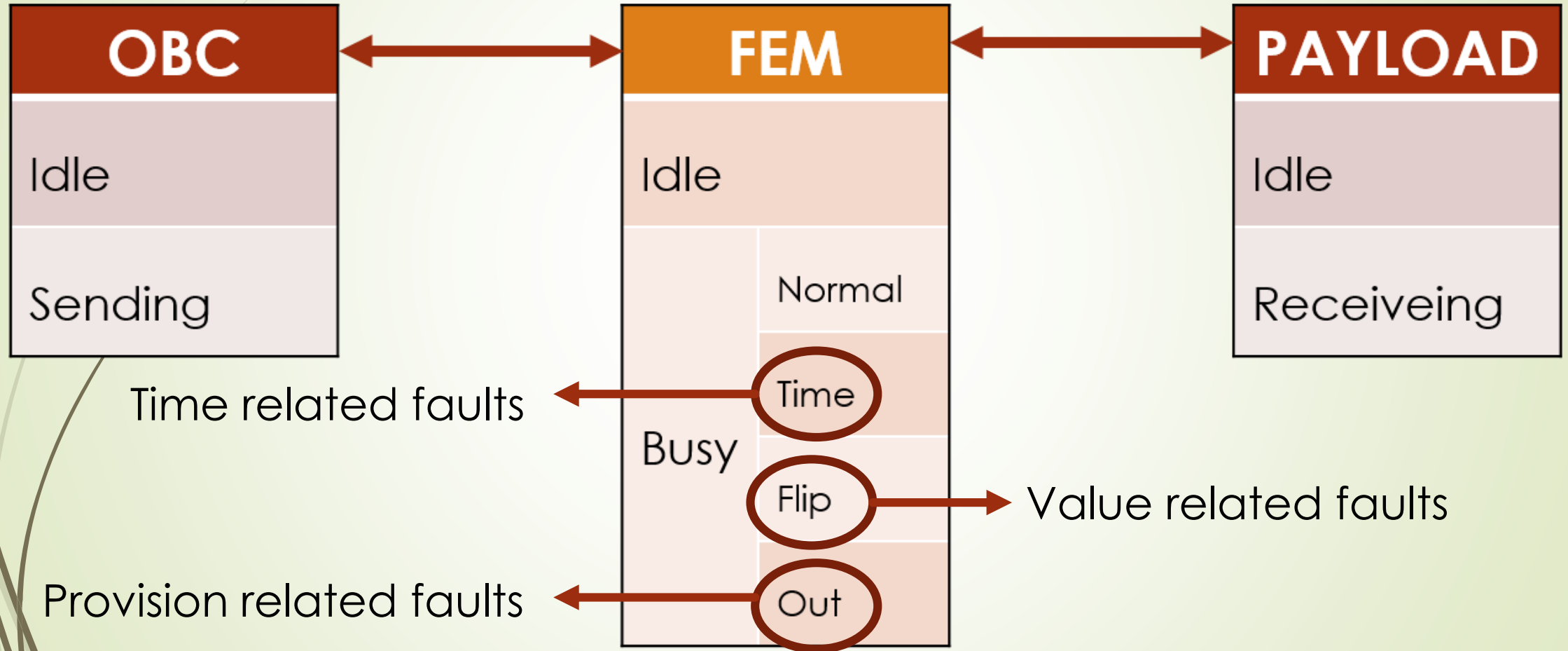
# Development : Model



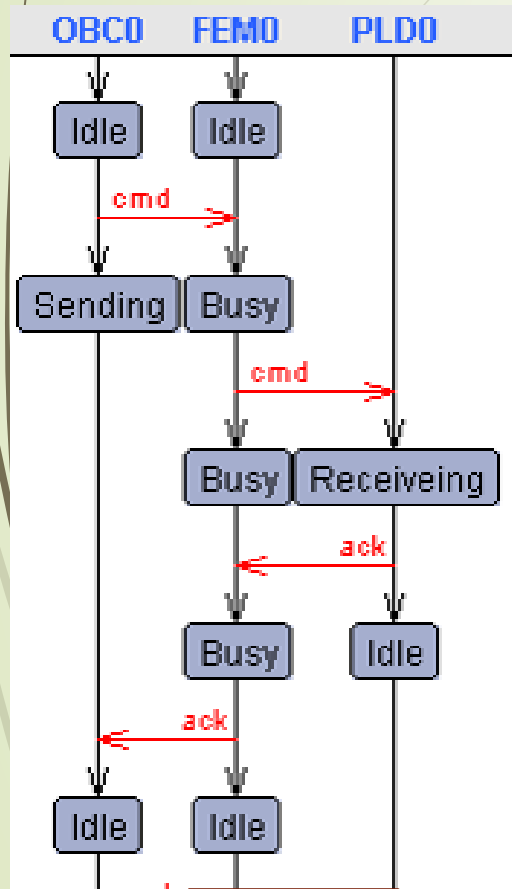
# Development : Model



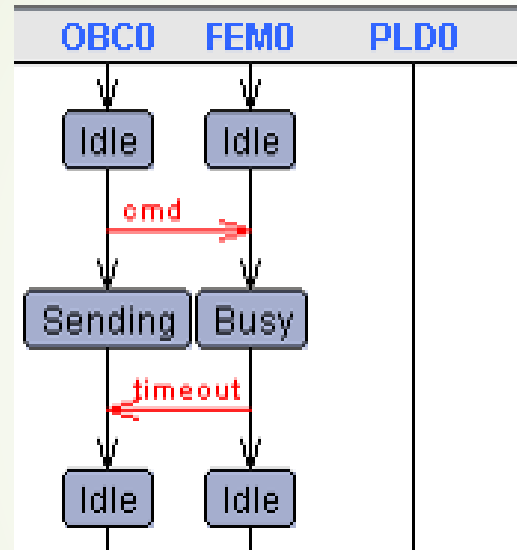
# Development : Model



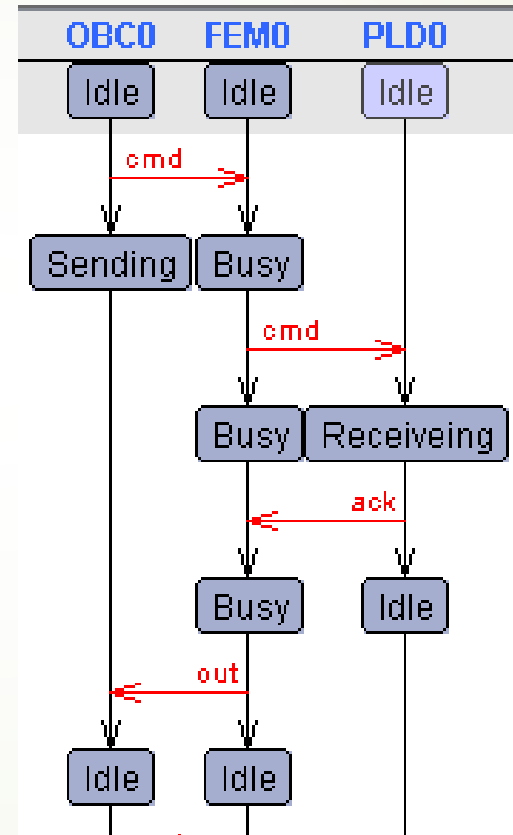
# Development : Model



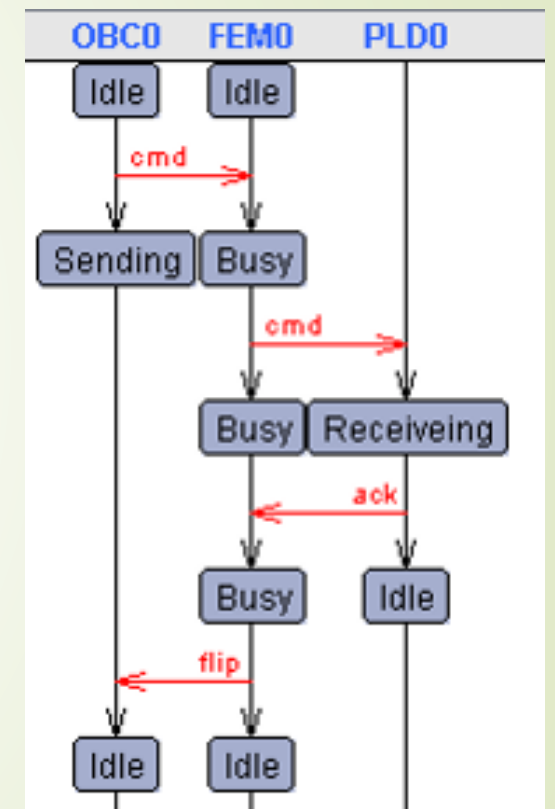
Normal



Timeout



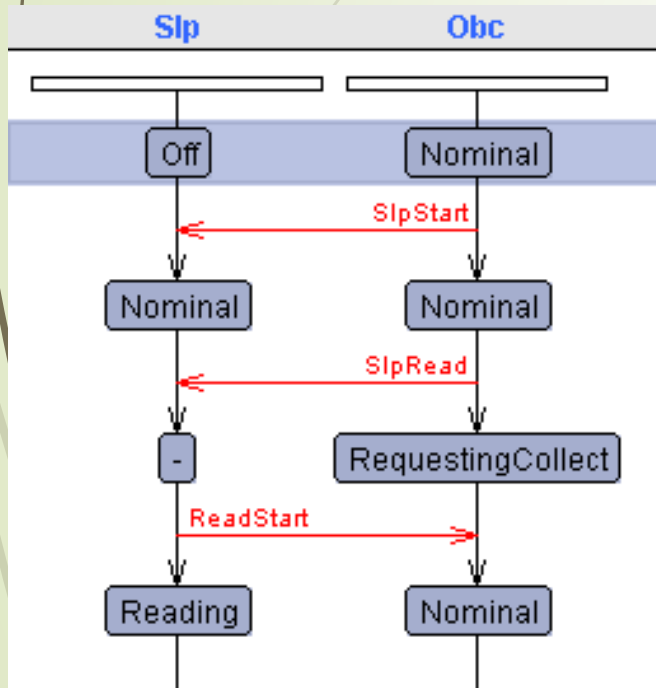
Out of Range



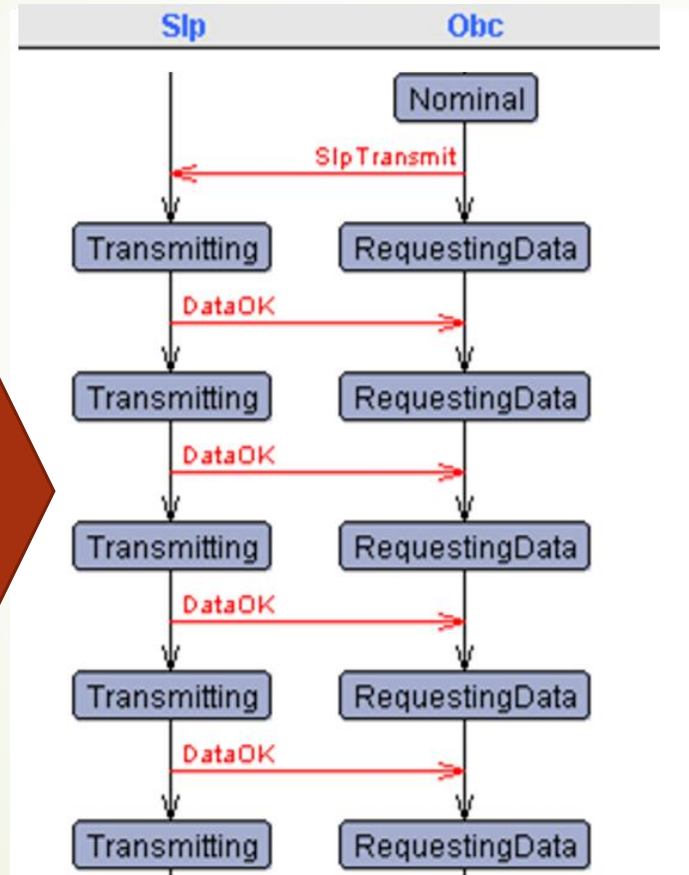
Bit-Flip



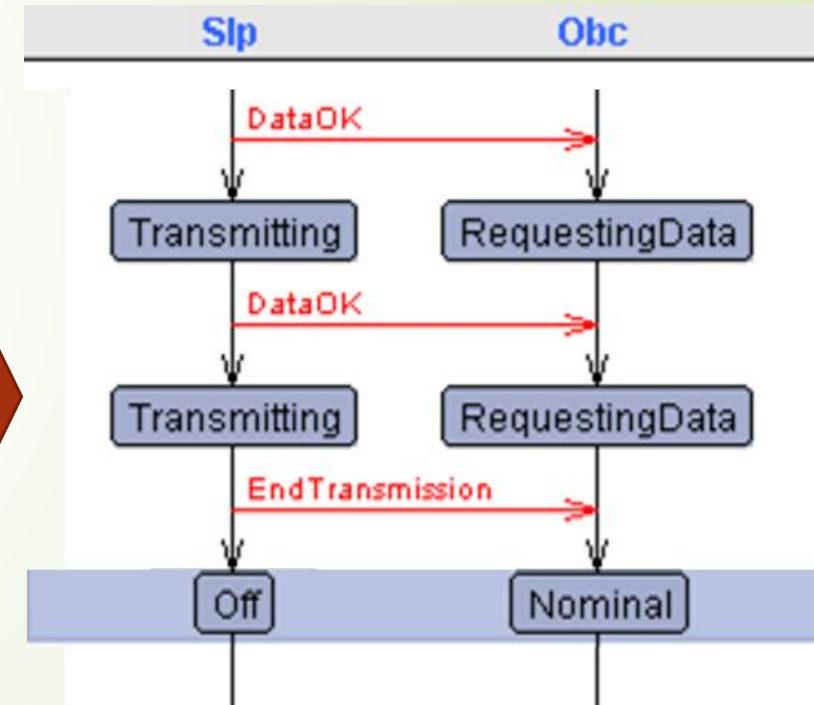
# Development : Model



OBC cmd SLP Start



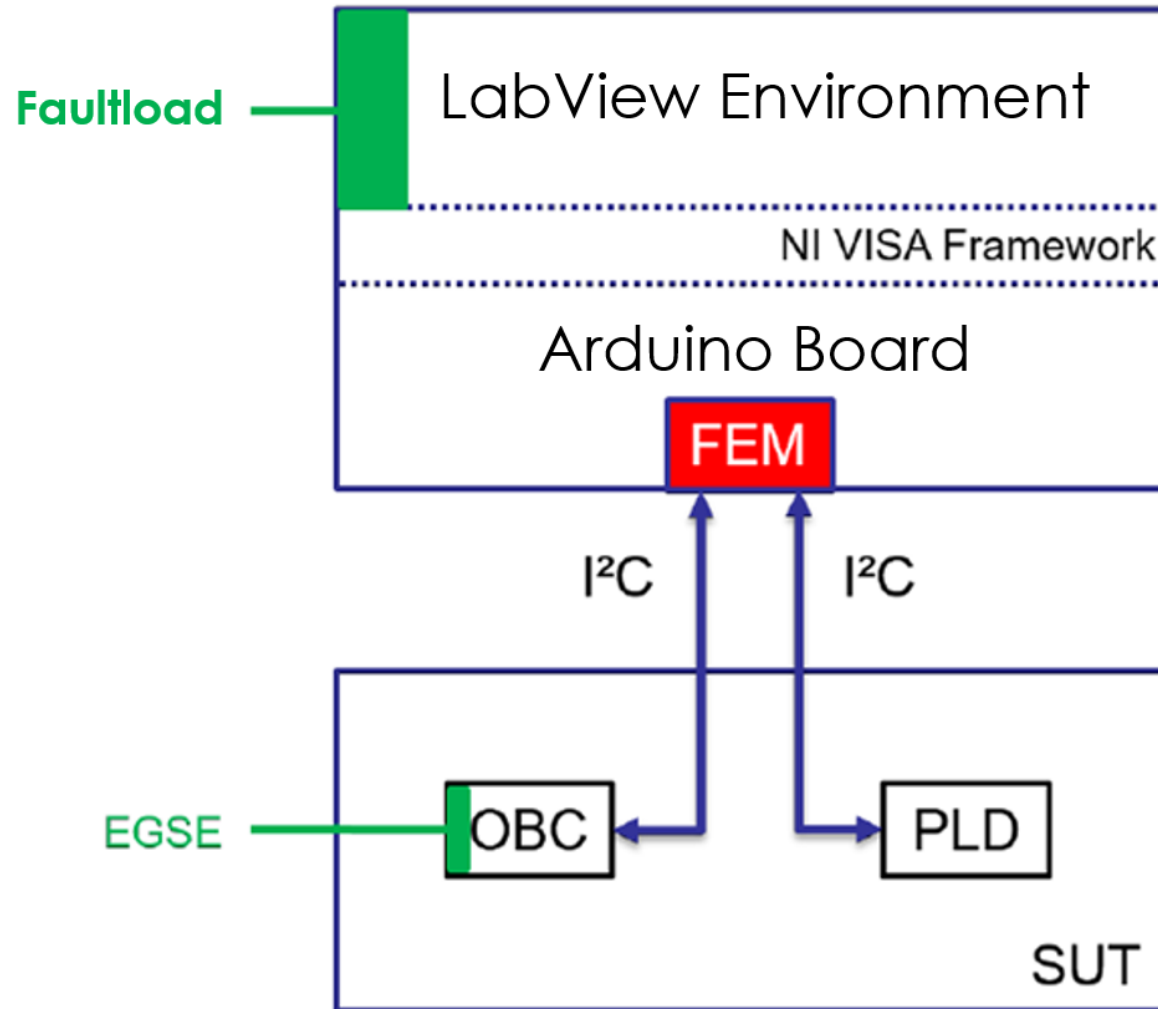
OBC request data



SLP end transmission

# Development: Architecture

## Test System



Tester Interface  
Upload Faultload to Arduino  
**Where? When? What?**

Automatic Testing  
**Cheap**  
**Fast Implementation**  
**OpenSource**

# First Results

## MASTER

```
STATE 01 - SLP Ready
Sending cmd... 0xF0
Receiving... 0xFA !OK!OK!
STATE 02 - Sending Time
Time... 0x74A260EA3E8C42A4
STATE 03 - Requesting Data
Data 0x74
Data 0xA2
Data 0x60
Data 0xEA
Data 0x3E
Data 0x8C
Data 0x42
Data 0xA4
Data 0x7
Data 0x31
Data 0x49
```

```
Write 1 Read 1
Write 2 Read 1
Write 3 Read 2
```

## SLAVE

```
!OK!OK!OK!OK! 0xF0
TimeStamp 0x74A260EA3E8C42A4
Data to Send 0 to 32 bytes.
Data 0x74
Data 0xA2
Data 0x60
Data 0xEA
Data 0x3E
Data 0x8C
Data 0x42
Data 0xA4
Data 0x7
Data 0x31
Data 0x49
```

OBC Serial Monitor  
States  
Requests  
Commands

FEM Serial Monitor  
Busy Mode  
Normal Activ  
Monitoring

SLP Serial Monitor  
Received  
Confirmation  
Data



# First Results

## MASTER

## SLAVE

```

STATE 01 - SLP Ready
Sending cmd... 0xF0
Receiving... 0xFA !OK!OK!
STATE 02 - Sending Time
Time... 0x74A260EA3E8C42A4
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Data 0x31
Data 0x49

```

```

!OK!OK!OK!OK! 0xF0
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Data 0xA2
Data 0x60
Data 0xEA
Data 0x3E
Data 0x8C
Data 0x42
Data 0xA4
Data 0x7
Data 0x31
Data 0x49

```

Commands

Write	1	Read	1
Write	2		
Write	3	Read	2

OBC Serial Monitor  
States  
Requests  
Cammands

FEM Serial Monitor  
Busy Mode  
Normal Activ  
Monitoring

SLP Serial Monitor  
Received  
Confirmation  
Data



# First Results

OBC (master)

SLP (slave)

```
STATE 01 - SLP Ready
Sending cmd      0xFE0
Receiving...    0xFA  !OK!OK!
STATE 02 - Sending Time
Time...        0x74A260EA3E8C42A4
STATE 03 - Requesting Data
Data           0x74
Data           0xA2
Data           0x60
Data           0xEA
Data           0x3E
Data           0x8C
Data           0x42
Data           0xA4
Data           0x7
Data           0x31
Data           0x49
```

```
!OK!OK!OK!OK!  0xFE0
TimeStamp      0x74A260EA3E8C42A4
Data to Send   0 to 32 bytes.
Data           0x74
Data           0xA2
Data           0x60
Data           0xEA
Data           0x3E
Data           0x8C
Data           0x42
Data           0xA4
Data           0x7
Data           0x31
Data           0x49
```

Requests

Write	1	Read	1
Write	2	Read	2
Write	3		

OBC Serial Monitor  
States  
Requests  
Commands

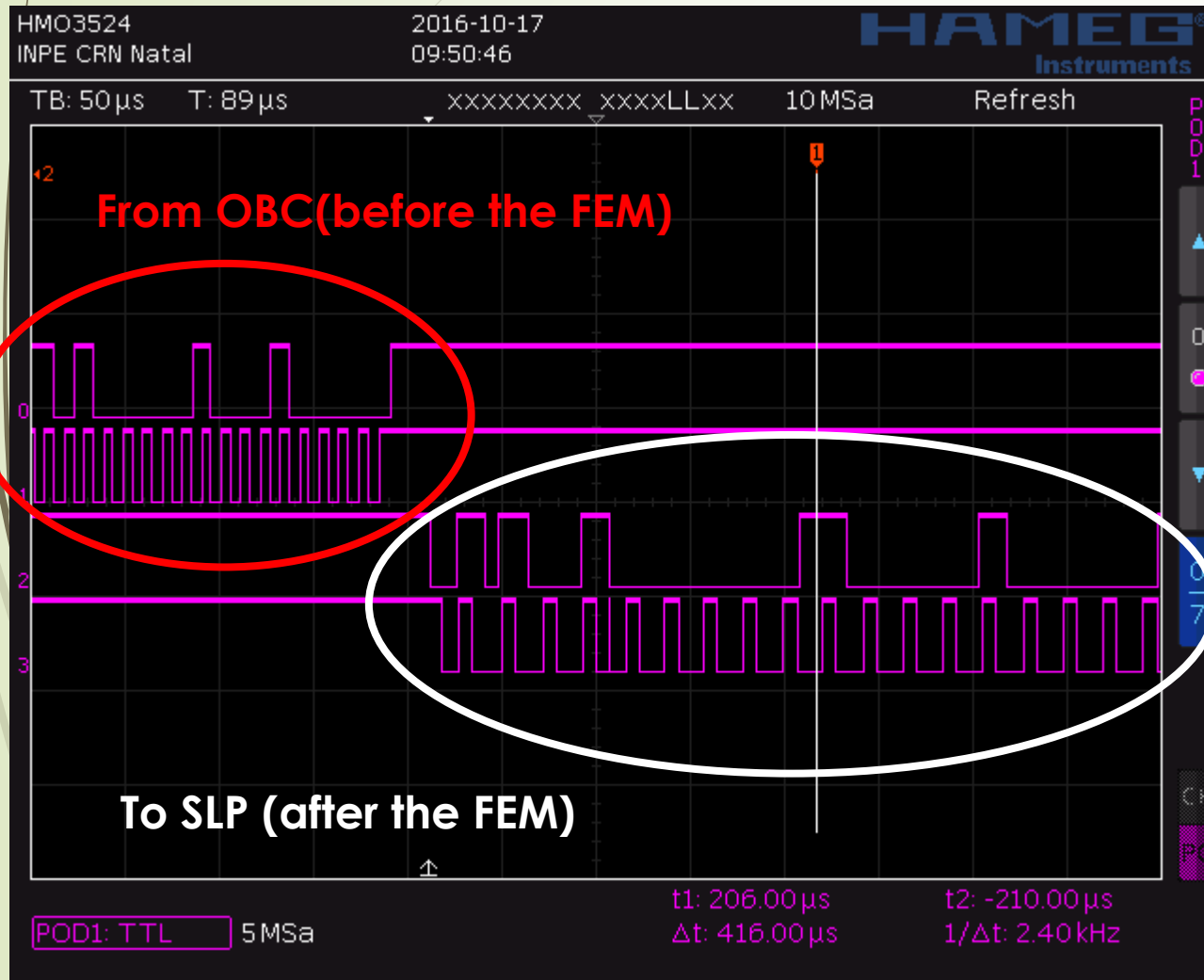
FEM Serial Monitor  
Busy Mode  
Normal Activ  
Monitoring

SLP Serial Monitor  
Received  
Confirmation  
Data





# First Results



- First attempt to see how delay faults actually works on I2C bus
- Due to the resolution of the oscilloscope, the result is inconclusive

- **Low resolution causes the lost of data (the oscilloscope doesn't read all bits)**
- **High resolution narrows the window (impossible to see the complete message)**



# Conclusions

**The fault injection has already proved itself as an efficient tool for software requirements verification but its use on integration tests of space systems is still a step to be reached.**

- With a good model driven design it is possible to reach the agility and quality level required for a good V&V process on Nanosat/CubeSat mission even with a low budget.
- **The use of models and FEM prototyped in Arduino on I2C bus highlights the problems inherent to I2C protocol itself.**
- Efforts on improving the FEM model and the NI LabView interface are necessary
- FEM as a whole will be tested with real satellite subsystems in the loop

# Using Fault Injection on the Nanosatellite Subsystems Integration Testing



**Thank you!**

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Questions ?

**1st IAA LATIN AMERICAN  
SYMPOSIUM ON SMALL SATELLITES**  
7-10th March 2017  
Buenos Aires, ARG