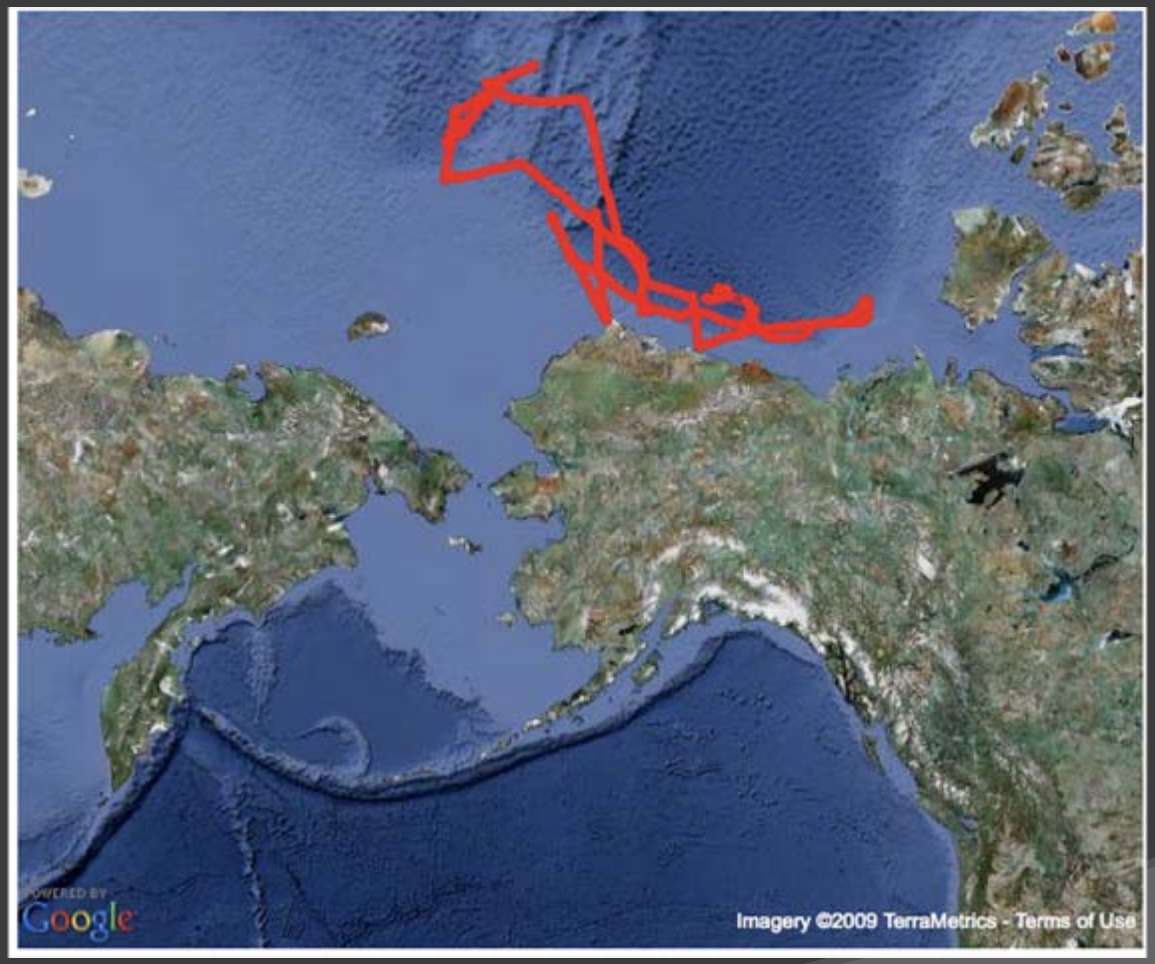
IRIDIUM OPEN PORT REAL WORLD TESTING

On Board the CGC Polar Sea – September 25 – November 1 2009 Beaufort and Chukchi Seas

OPAREA 72 – 74 N



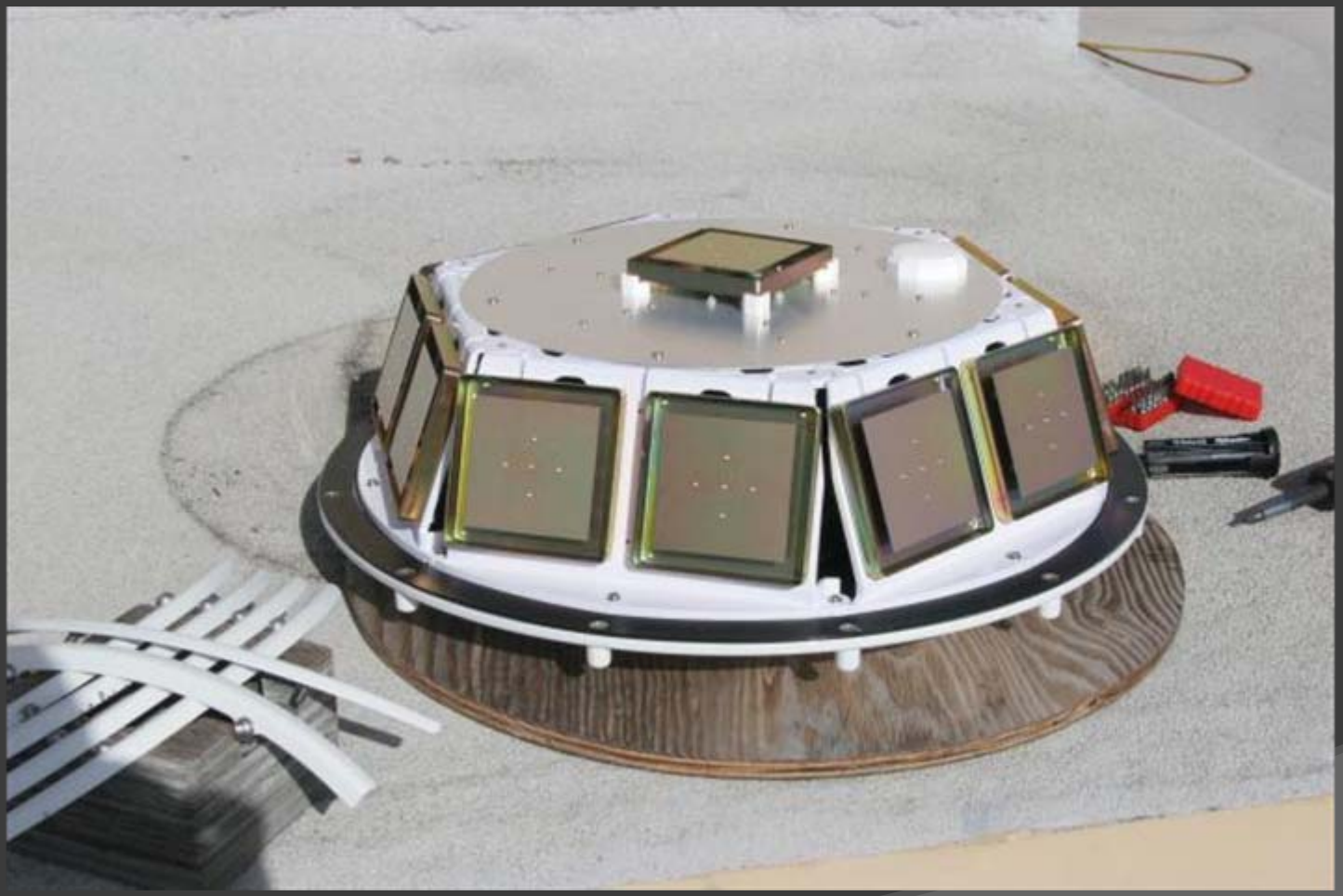
Open Port Features

- Ease of installation
- No antenna stabilization required
- Suitable Bandwidth 32, 64, 128 KB/s
- 3 POTS lines simultaneous with data

BDE

ADE

Seven Antennas + GPS



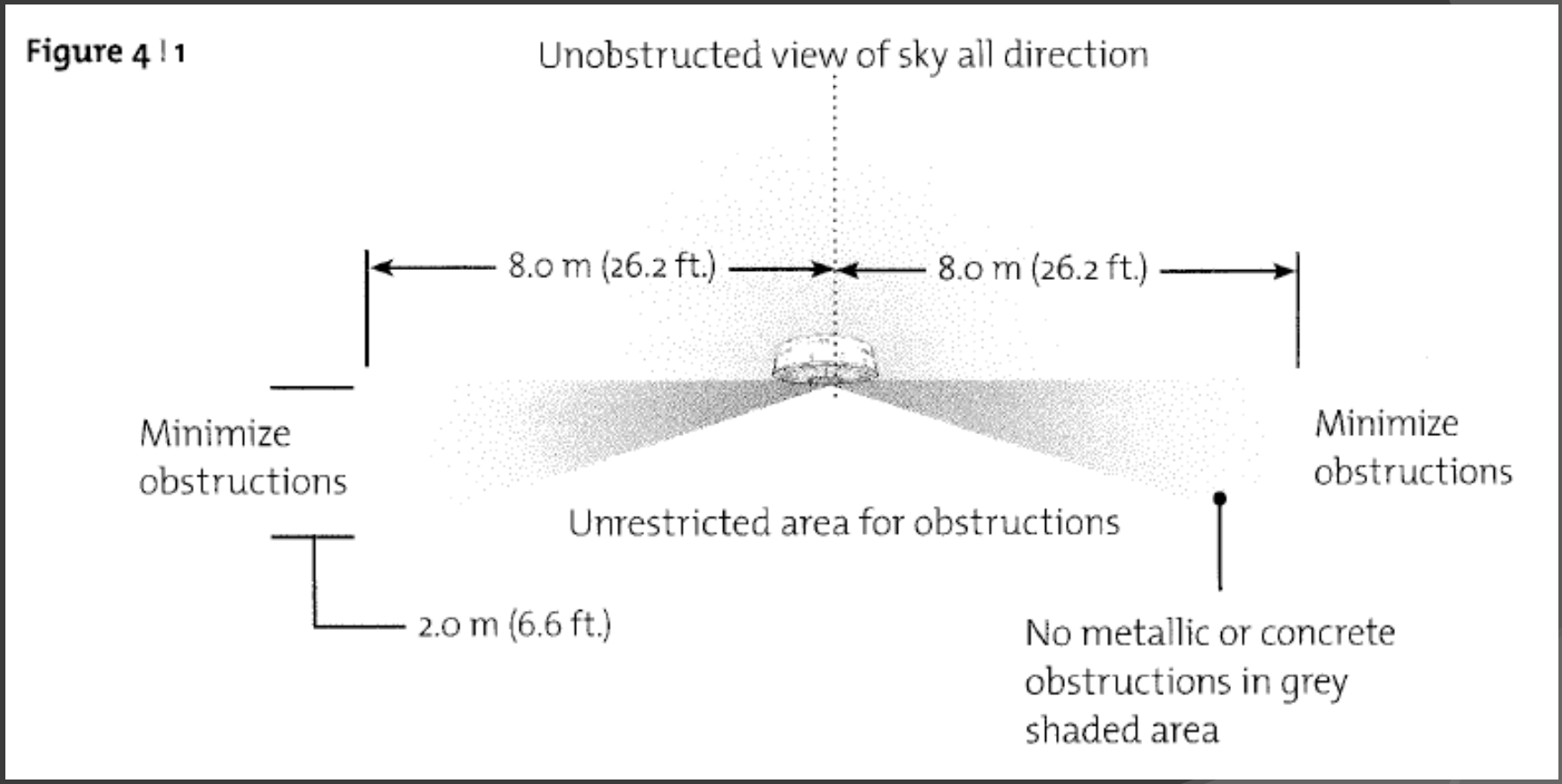
Deficits

- One way data initiation
- HTML only interface
- HTML interface occasionally fails
- No direct management control
- No support for 802.11q tagging
- Connections subject to failure
- Upper level protocols must be efficient
- You'll still pay for overhead.

Usage

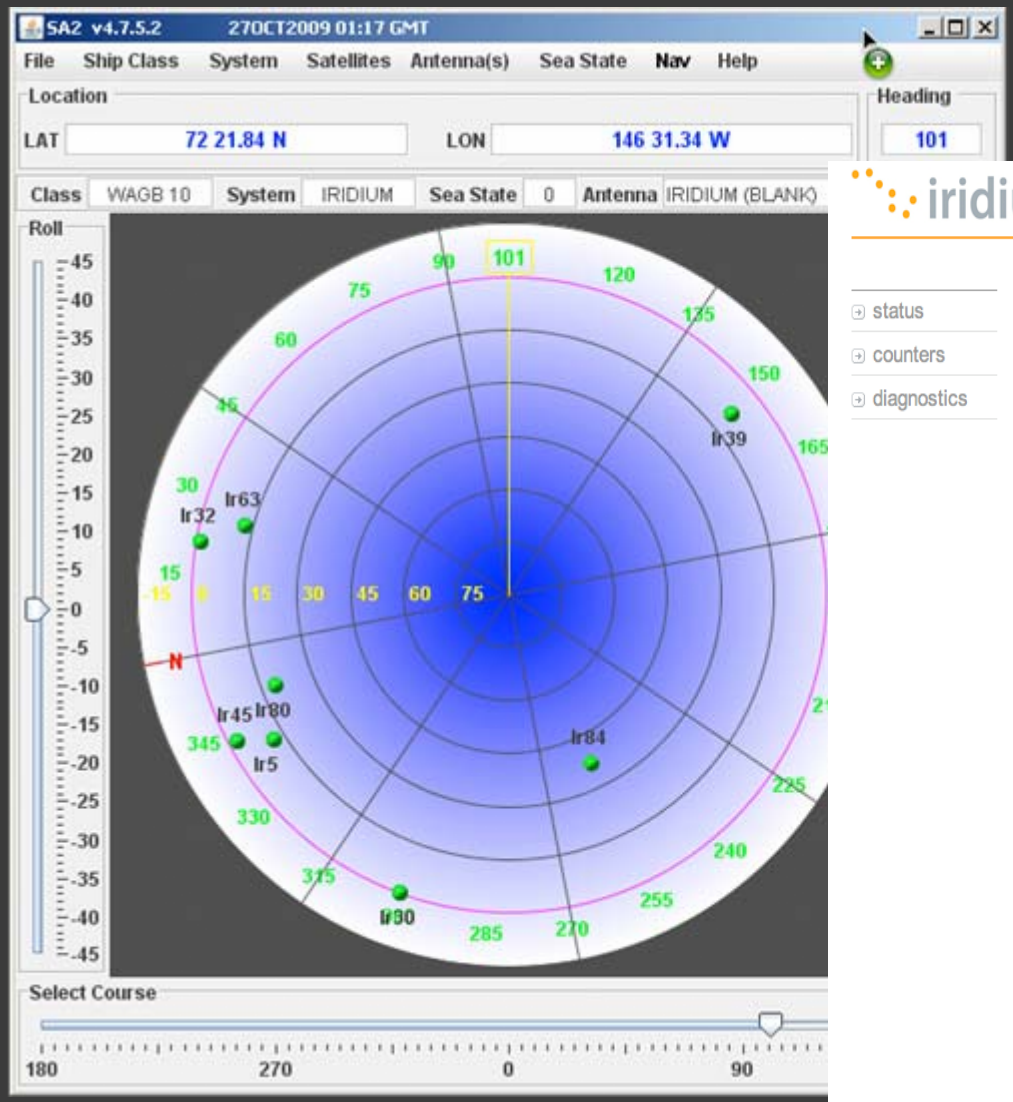
- FTP
- Email
- Telnet or SSH sessions.
- Web (if you really have to) = $$$
- VPN (supported, not tested)
- Speeds of 32, 64, 128 KB

Installation Requirements



Our Installation location

Lost Connection 5 sats visible



Email

- Requires a shore side gateway
- Must support store/forward de-spooling
- Strict quota management on both ends

File Transfers

- Highly variable success and speeds
- Many stalled transfer sessions
- Asynchronous throughput
- Latency of roughly 1000 – 1300msec

My Experience

- Good solution for high latitudes
- Placement of ADE Critical
- 128Kb is generally not necessary
- Sweet spot for FTP around 4mb/file at high latitudes
- Quickly deployable network solution for smaller platforms or camps.
- It will (generally) get the job done.