



Group of Astrodynamics for the Use of Space Systems

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HERCULES: A RELIABLE OBC SAVING SPACE ON YOUR CUBESAT

G.A.U.S.S. Srl – IAA-AAS-CU-17-09-11



ABACUS OBC vs Hercules OBC

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□ **ABACUS OBC**

- ▣ MSP430 (up to 25MHz)
- ▣ FPGA 500K Gates (up to 100MHz)
- ▣ Flight heritage:
 - 5 satellites
 - Already gained more than 3 years of continuous operation

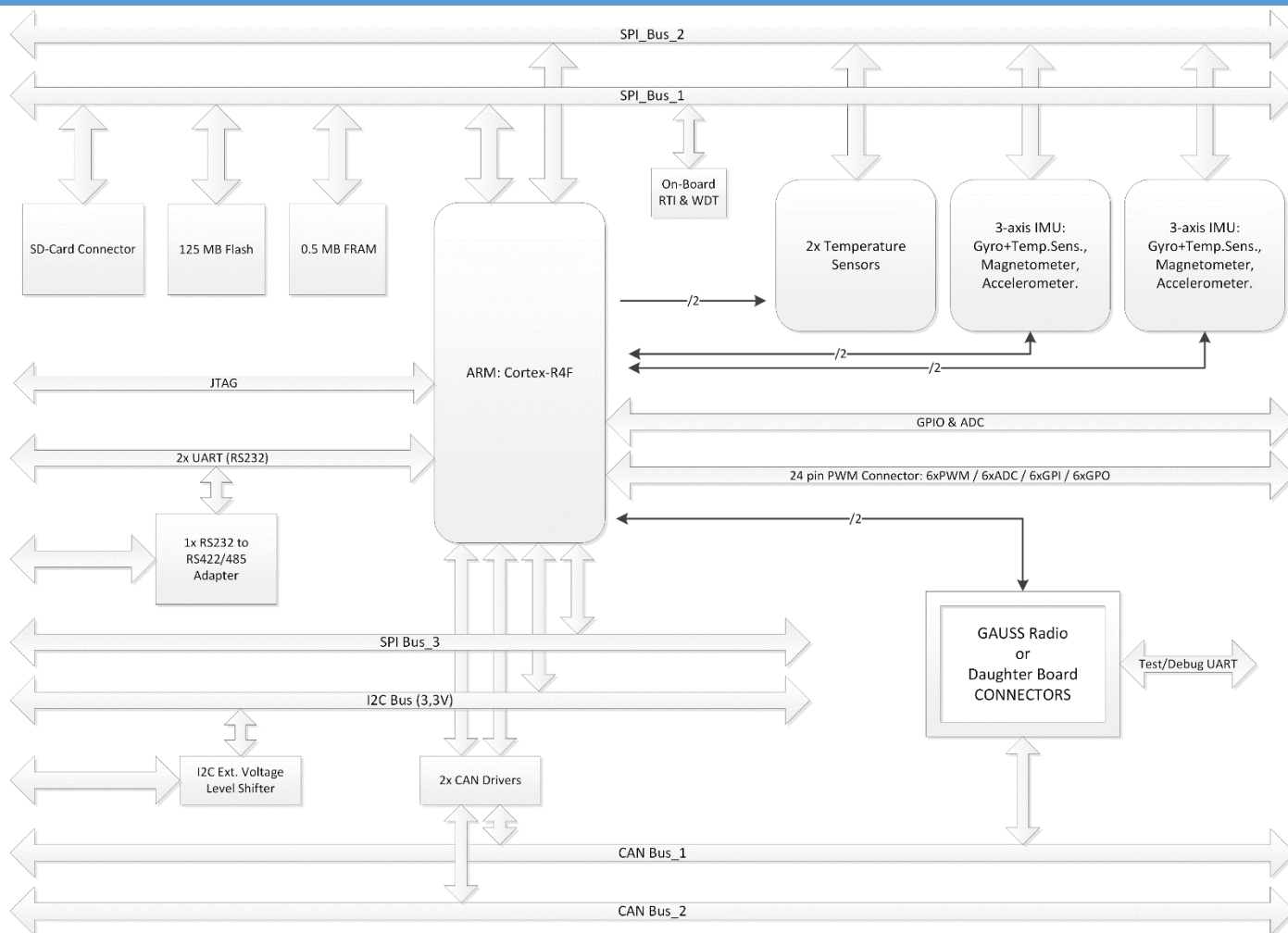
□ **Hercules OBC**

- ▣ ARM (up to 220MHz) for Safety & Critical applications
- ▣ Reliable design
- ▣ Offers compact solution for small satellites
- ▣ Usable as Payload Computer



Hercules OBC Blocks System

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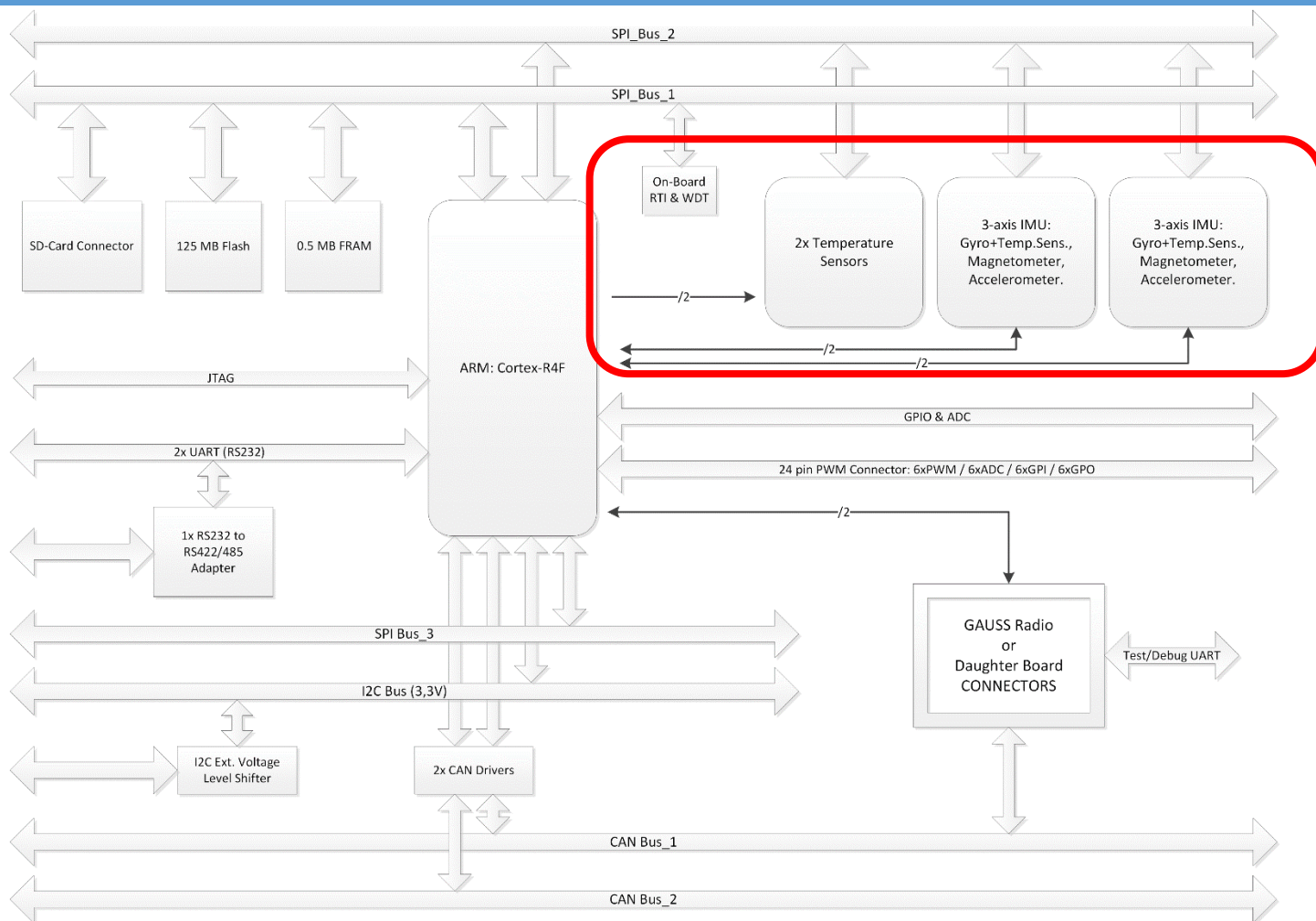
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On Board Sensors

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On Board Sensors

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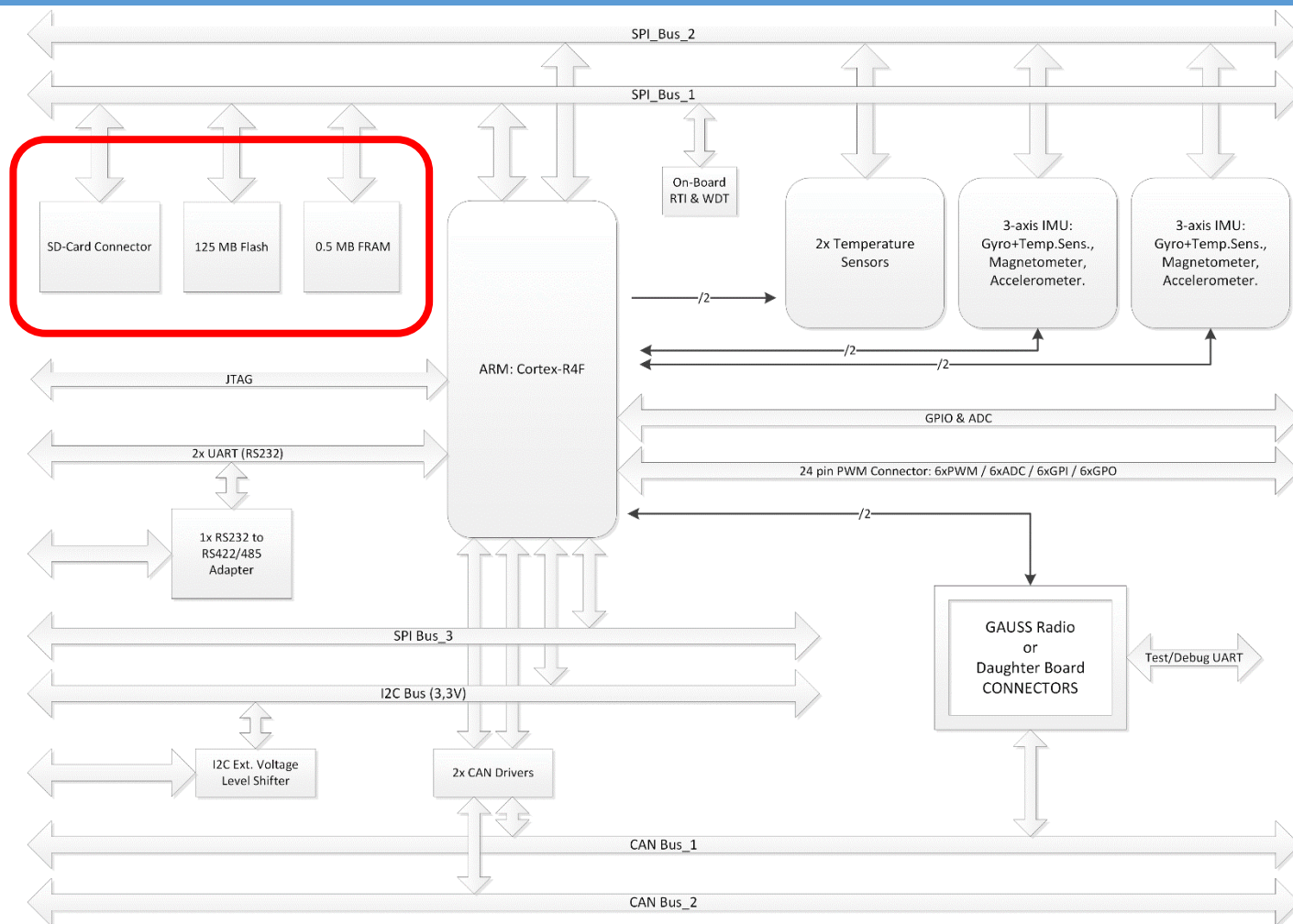
- All sensors connected on dedicate SPI bus
- 2 x complete 9 DoF IMU
 - ▣ Redundancy
 - ▣ Noise reduction
 - ▣ General features:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Acc Full Scale | ±16 [g] |
| Acc Max Resolution | 16 [bit] |
| Mag Full Scale | ±4800 [μT] |
| Mag Max Resolution | 16 [bit] |
| Gyro Full Scale | ±2000 [°/s] |
| Gyro Max Resolution | 16 [bit] |
| Gyro Noise Spectral Density | 0.01 [°/s/√Hz] |



On Board Memory Mass Storage

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On Board Memory Mass Storage

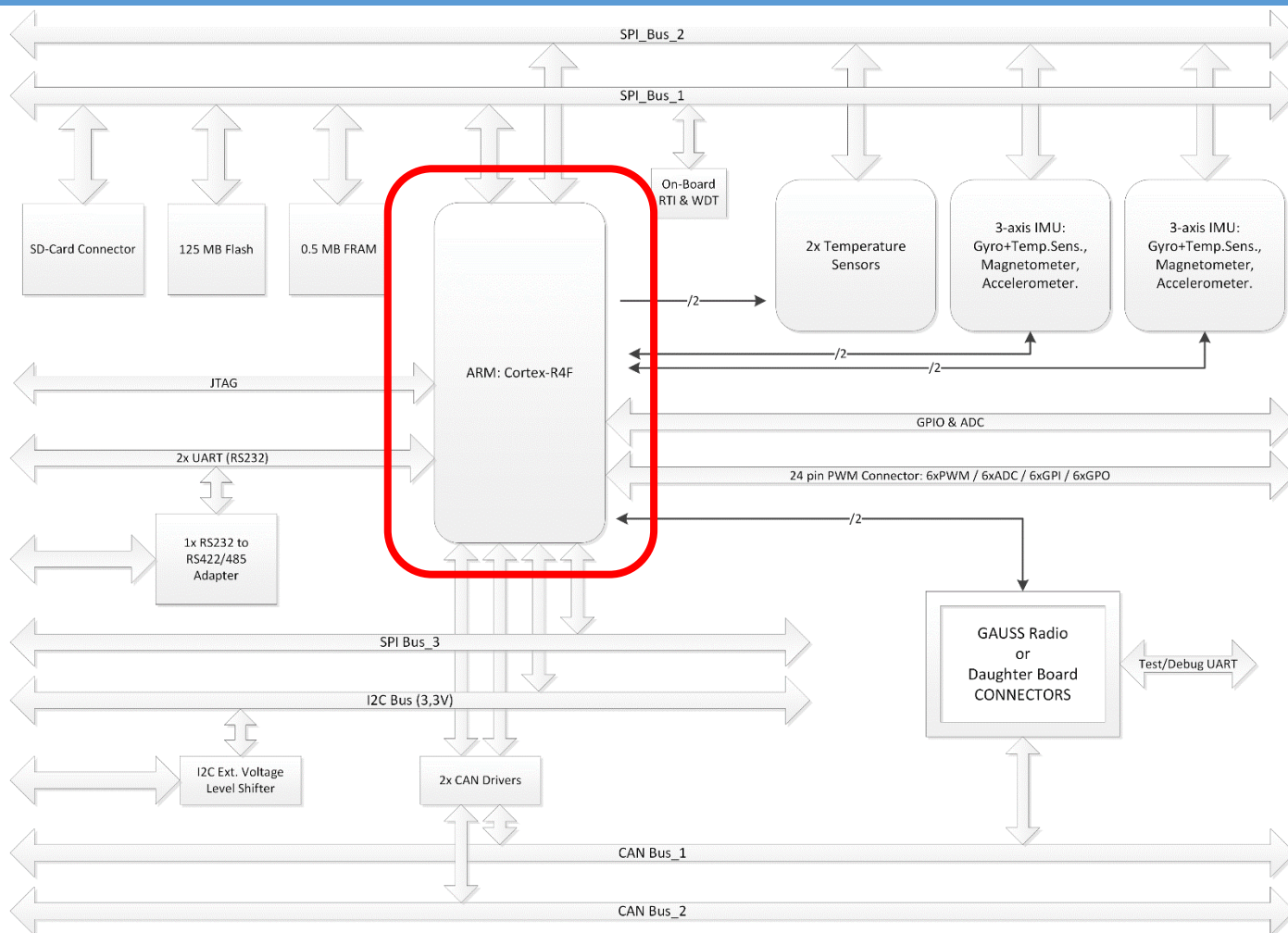
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- ❑ All memories connected to a separate SPI bus
- ❑ Ferroelectric Ram (FRAM) non volatile memory
 - ▣ Radiation and Electric Field Tolerant
 - ▣ Data retention of more than 10 years @ 85°C
 - ▣ R/W cycles greater than Flash memory (10^{14} vs 10^6)
 - ▣ Faster than Flash memory
 - ▣ Usable for critical data or recovery system data
 - ▣ Capacity 0.5 MB
- ❑ Flash Memory
 - ▣ On board memory mass storage
 - ▣ Capacity 125 MB
- ❑ SD Card socket connector



Hercules CPU core

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CPU & Safety Features

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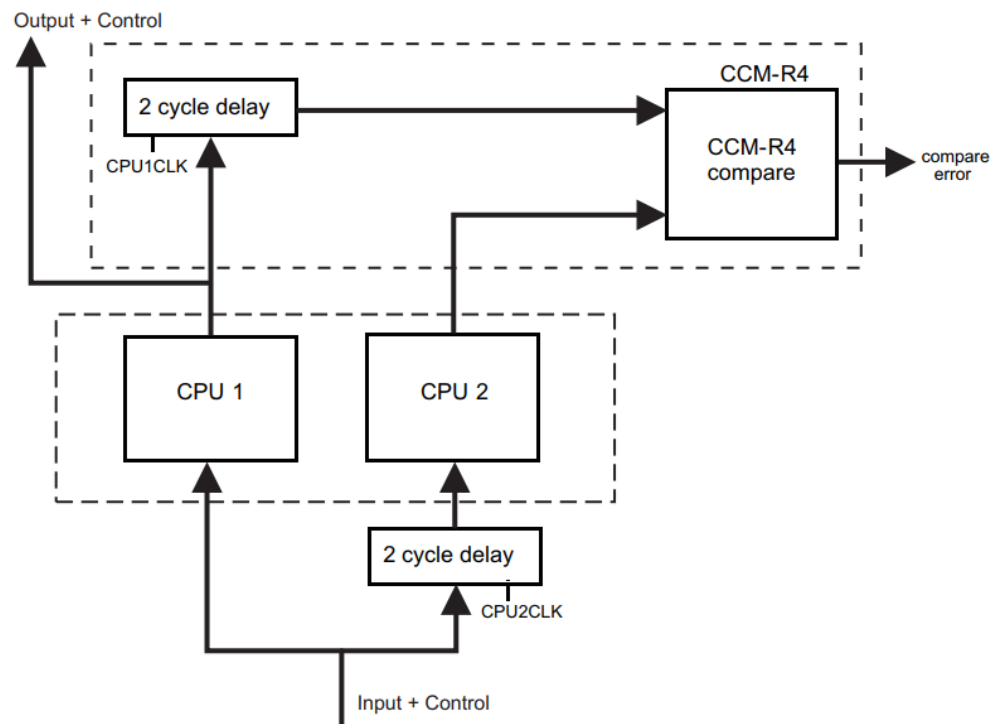
- ❑ 32 bit RISC Floating Point CPU
 - ▣ 1.66 DMIPS/MHz, up to 220MHz
- ❑ Designed for Safety-Critical applications (“Hercules” family CPUs of Texas Instruments)
- ❑ Dual ARM Cortex-R4F CPUs running in lockstep:
 - ▣ CPUs perform same operation, then compare the results for each clock cycle
 - ▣ in case of fault it can enter in a defined safe mode (safe island approach)



CPU & Safety Features

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- Common mode impact protections:
 - ▣ Signals of the CPUs to be compared delayed by 2 clock cycles

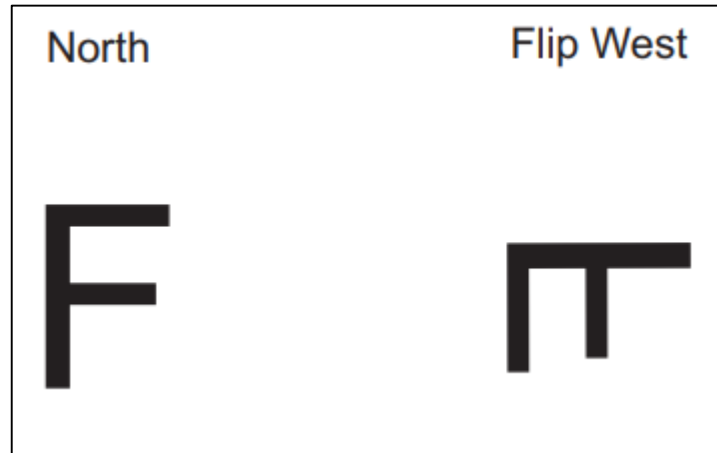




CPU & Safety Features

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- CPUs have a different physical placement on the chip and a dedicated guard ring for each CPU



CPU1 = "north" orientation

CPU2 = "flip west" orientation



CPU & Safety Features

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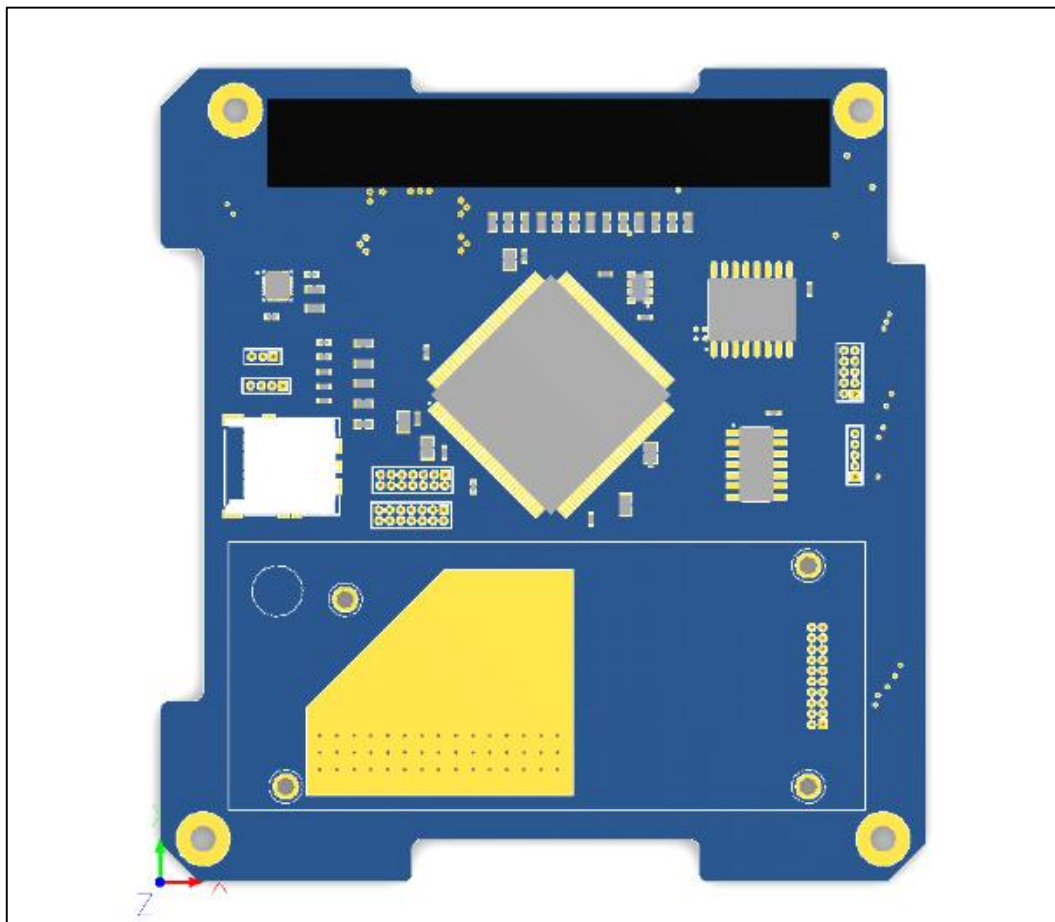
- Other safety features:
 - ▣ Integrated Flash and RAMs all with ECC
 - ▣ Built-In Self-Test (BIST) for CPU and on-chip RAMs
 - ▣ Cyclic Redundancy Checker module (CRC)
 - ▣ Parity diagnostics on all peripheral memories
 - ▣ Analog and digital loopback to test for shorts on I/O
 - ▣ etc...

Currently studied by Airbus-DS and ESA



Hercules OBC (render)

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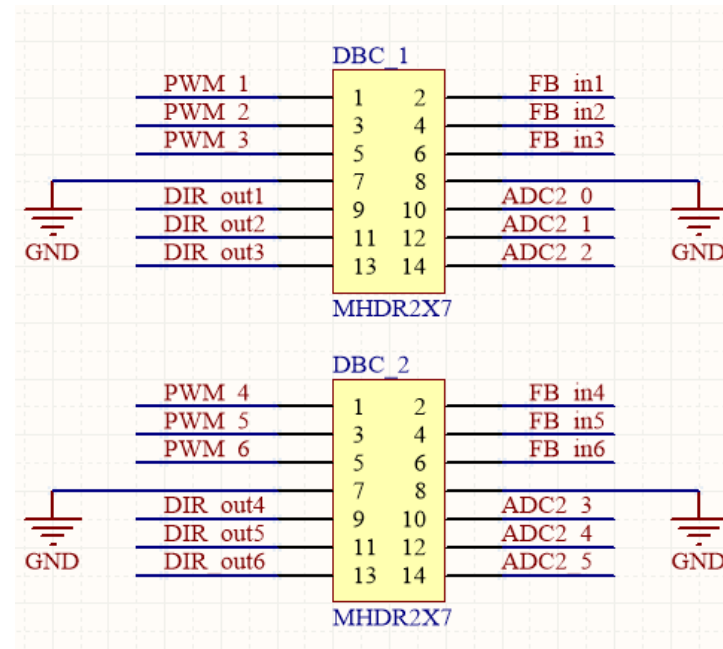
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Daughter Board Connectors

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- ❑ Connector for a Customer Daughter Board
 - ❑ 18 pins usable as GPIO
 - ❑ 6 ADC Input
- ❑ May be used for motors & coils control
 - ❑ 6 PWM Output
 - ❑ 6 Direction Output
 - ❑ 6 Feedback input
 - ❑ 6 ADC for current measurement
- ❑ Digital Pins are reported also on H1/H2 connector

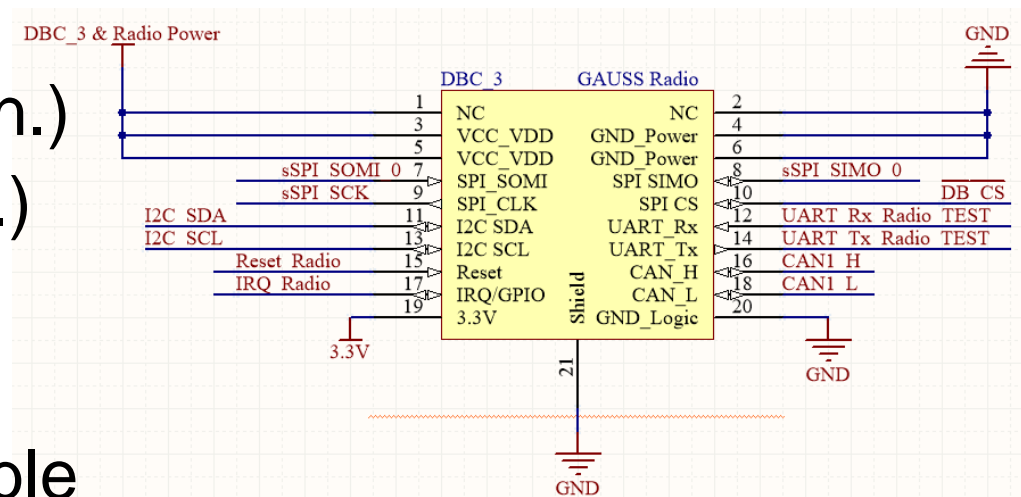




Daughter Board & Radio connector

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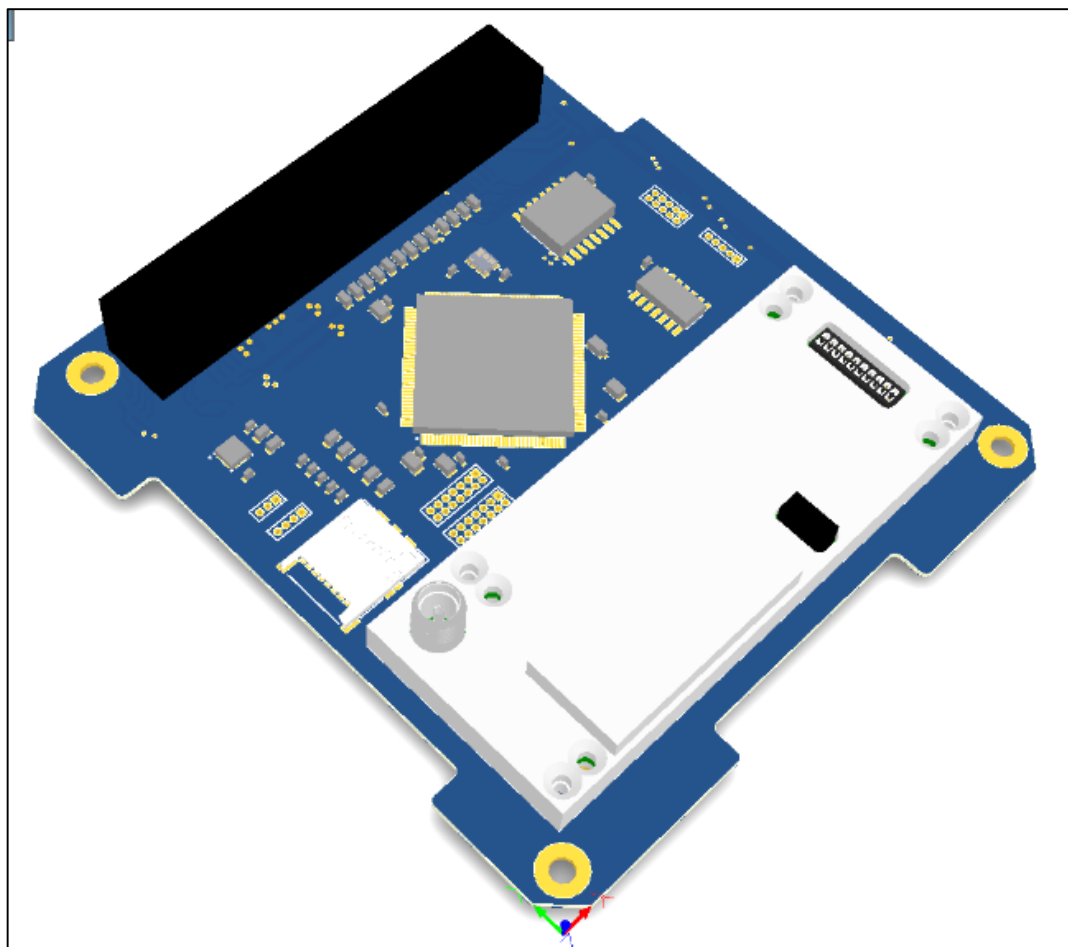
- Connector GAUSS Radio Compatible
 - ▣ 1x CAN (H1/H2 conn.)
 - ▣ 1x I2C (H1/H2 conn.)
 - ▣ 1x SPI bus (shared)
 - ▣ 3x GPIO
 - ▣ Power pins (selectable source)
 - ▣ Direct Radio TEST UART Connection





GAUSS OBC & Radio: 2 in 1 System

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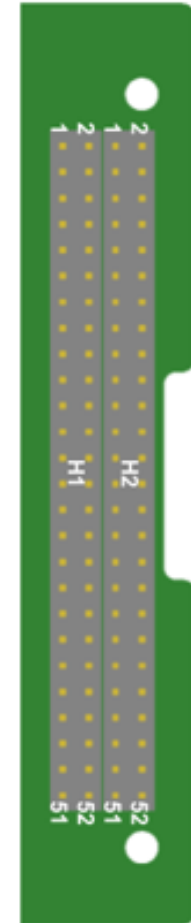
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CubeSat Connector (H1/H2)

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- ❑ Digital Bus available
 - ❑ 2x CAN 2.0B
 - ❑ 2x RS232 (configurable as slave)
 - ❑ 1x RS422/485 adapter (from one RS232)
 - ❑ 1x I2C (+ a shifted voltage connector)
 - ❑ 1x SPI
- ❑ Other pins
 - ❑ 10x ADC Channels
 - ❑ Several GPIOs
 - ❑ MCU specific features (N2HET, PWM, etc.)
- ❑ Selectable Power source pins





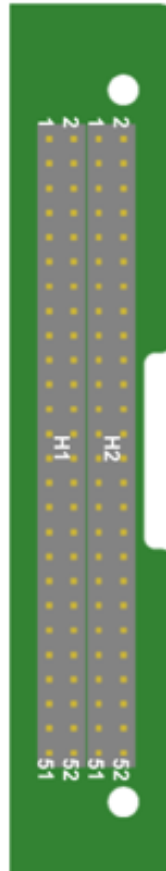
Reconfigurable Connector (H1/H2)

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| H1 Connector | | | |
|---------------------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Description | Pin # | Pin # | Description |
| CAN1_L | 1 | 2 | GPIO / NC |
| CAN1_H | 3 | 4 | GPIO / NC |
| GPIO / NC | 5 | 6 | GPIO / NC |
| GPIO / NC | 7 | 8 | GPIO / NC |
| GPIO / NC | 9 | 10 | GPIO / NC |
| GPIO / NC | 11 | 12 | ADC / NC |
| ADC / NC | 13 | 14 | ADC / NC |
| ADC / NC | 15 | 16 | ADC / NC |
| UART2_b_TX / RX | 17 | 18 | UART2_a_TX / RX |
| UART2_d_TX / RX | 19 | 20 | UART2_c_TX / RX |
| SPL_SCK / GPIO | 21 | 22 | SPL_SDL_SOMI / GPIO |
| SPL_SDO_MOSI / GPIO | 23 | 24 | SPL_CS0 / NC |
| SPL_CS1 / GPIO | 25 | 26 | SPL_CS2 / GPIO |
| SPL_EN / CS3 / GPIO | 27 | 28 | |
| | 29 | 30 | |
| | 31 | 32 | |
| | 33 | 34 | WDT_INT / NC |
| | 35 | 36 | |
| | 37 | 38 | |
| UART1_a_RX / TX | 39 | 40 | UART1_b_TX / RX |
| I2C_SDA | 41 | 42 | |
| I2C_SCL | 43 | 44 | |
| GPIO / NC | 45 | 46 | GPIO / NC |
| VCC_1 Power | 47 | 48 | VCC_4 Power |
| VCC_2 Power | 49 | 50 | VCC_5 Power |
| VCC_3 Power | 51 | 52 | VCC_6 Power |

NC = Not Connected

| | |
|--|------------|
| | Mandatory |
| | Selectable |



| H2 Connector | | | |
|--------------|-------|-------|----------------------|
| Description | Pin # | Pin # | Description |
| CAN2_L / NC | 1 | 2 | |
| CAN2_H / NC | 3 | 4 | |
| | 5 | 6 | GPIO / NC / Test LED |
| ADC / NC | 7 | 8 | ADC / NC |
| ADC / NC | 9 | 10 | ADC / NC |
| ADC / NC | 11 | 12 | GPIO / NC |
| GPIO / NC | 13 | 14 | GPIO / NC |
| GPIO / NC | 15 | 16 | GPIO / NC |
| GPIO / NC | 17 | 18 | GPIO / NC |
| GPIO / NC | 19 | 20 | GPIO / NC |
| | 21 | 22 | |
| 12V / NC | 23 | 24 | 12V / NC |
| 5V / NC | 25 | 26 | 5V / NC |
| 3.3V / NC | 27 | 28 | 3.3V / NC |
| GND | 29 | 30 | GND |
| A_GND | 31 | 32 | GND |
| | 33 | 34 | |
| | 35 | 36 | |
| | 37 | 38 | |
| | 39 | 40 | |
| | 41 | 42 | |
| | 43 | 44 | |
| | 45 | 46 | |
| | 47 | 48 | |
| | 49 | 50 | |
| | 51 | 52 | |

NC = Not Connected

| | |
|--|------------|
| | Mandatory |
| | Selectable |



Other features

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- ❑ PC/104 CubeSat form factor compatible
- ❑ Powered using 3.3V or 5V and from different configurable pins
- ❑ Off the shelf industrial/automotive grades components
- ❑ Operating temperature range -40°C to +85°C



Conclusion

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□ OBC Hercules

- ▣ Based on a Safety-Critical application designed processor
- ▣ Radiation tolerant FRAM memory
- ▣ Complete 9DoF redundant IMU
- ▣ Versatile CubeSat connector & Daughter connectors
- ▣ Possibility to create a compact system for small satellites including the GAUSS Radio on the same board



Thank you

❑ G.A.U.S.S. S.r.l.:

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