

PDK

Bring mission capability to Space Edge through a unified foundation for integration, deployment, and operations.

- Accelerated payload integration
- Scalable architecture for mission compute
- Intelligent workload orchestration

ACCELERATE DEVELOPMENT

SIMPLIFY INTERGRATION

MAXIMIZE CAPABILITIES

THE FOUNDATION FOR MISSION COMPUTE

PDK transforms Space Edge into a mission-aware computing platform with the hardware reference designs, platform software, and intelligent orchestration infrastructure needed to integrate, deploy, and operate mission capabilities. The architecture scales from card-level compute to coordinated operations across spacecraft.

INTEGRATE

Bring hardware and software together into an integrated payload environment.

DEPLOY

Package and validate mission workloads for consistent deployment across Space Edge.

OPERATE

Orchestrate workloads with resource scheduling, health monitoring, and fault management.

4-LAYER SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE

CARD

Fault-tolerant, high-performance compute onboard

PAYLOAD

Orchestration and management across payload compute resources

INTRA-SPACECRAFT

Intelligent coordination of multiple payloads within a spacecraft

INTER-SPACECRAFT

Distributed operations across multiple spacecraft for collaborative missions

INSIDE PDK

Hardware Integration

- BSP
- Device Drivers
- Bootloader
- Device Trees
- Reference Bitstreams
- Hardware Test Apps

Platform Software

- Containerized Workloads
- Mixed OS Support
- Heterogenous Compute
- Dynamic Reconfiguration
- Resilient Boot & Recovery

Workload Deployment

- Processor Emulation
- APIs and Code Examples
- Mission Workload Packaging
- Test & Validation
- Deployment Manifests

Mission Operations

- Workload Orchestration
- Resource Scheduling
- Health Monitoring
- Fault Management
- Power Management

FIGURE 1 | SPACE EDGE SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE

CARD-LEVEL STACK

Voyager Nebula Software Core		
Containerization and App Reliability:	Docker and k3s support for isolated, multi-tenant, and resilient workload execution	
Mixed OS Support:	Concurrent operation across real-time and general-purpose operating environments	
Heterogeneous Compute:	Unified software interface across diverse on-card processing resources	
Dynamic Reconfiguration:	Reconfigure on-card compute resources (e.g. FPGA bitstreams, power modes, memory allocation)	
Fault Management:	Monitors, logs, and corrects on-card faults (e.g. radiation-induced bit flips, hardware anomalies)	
IPMC / RHM API:	Card-specific commands for power, health, and fault management	
Resilient Boot and Recovery:	Redundant boot images, watchdog integration, and chain of trust	
Board Reference Design		
BSP/OS Image	Device tree	Boot loader
Standard drivers	Reference Bitstreams	Base Card Test App
Processors		
VSPARC	FLEXO	CORTEX
VC1902 [Versal ACAP]	LX2160 [16-Core ARM] KU115 [Large-Size FPGA]	LS1046A [Quad Core] KU040 [Large-Size FPGA] Jetson Orin Nano [GPU]
		& more
Intelligent Platform Management Controller (IPMC) and Radiation-Hardened Monitor (RHM) [PolarFire SoC]		

PAYLOAD ORCHESTRATION & MANAGEMENT

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WORKLOAD DISTRIBUTION AND SCHEDULING
 Intelligently map mission workloads to processing resources to maximize on-orbit capability.
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APPLICATION FAULT TOLERANCE AND ANOMALY RESPONSE
 Detect, isolate, and respond to application faults in real time to maintain mission continuity.
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POWER AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
 Dynamically optimize compute and power allocation to maximize performance and efficiency.
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SYSTEM HEALTH MONITORING
 Maintain visibility into system and payload health to enable rapid response and recovery.

Intelligent orchestration extends the card-level software stack across payload compute, enabling workloads and resources to be dynamically managed as mission needs evolve.

