



International Committee on
Global Navigation Satellite Systems

Interference Detection and Mitigation and GNSS Jammers

ICG Experts Meeting:
Global Navigation Satellite Systems Services
Vienna International Center
17 December 2015

Overview

- Why Protect GNSS Frequencies
- What are Jammers?
- How do Jammers Work?
- Proliferation of jammers
- Illegal use
- Coordinated government response to interference events
- Regulations to prohibit manufacture, import, export, sale and use of jammers

Very Weak Space-to-Earth Signal (-163 dBW) Needs Protection

HOW GPS WORKS

GPS

IS A CONSTELLATION OF 24 OR MORE SATELLITES FLYING 20,350 KM ABOVE THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH. EACH ONE CIRCLES THE PLANET TWICE A DAY IN ONE OF SIX ORBITS TO PROVIDE CONTINUOUS, WORLDWIDE COVERAGE.


- 1** GPS satellites broadcast radio signals providing their locations, status, and precise time $\{t_1\}$ from on-board atomic clocks.
- 2** The GPS radio signals travel through space at the speed of light $\{c\}$, more than 299,792 km/second.
- 3** A GPS device receives the radio signals, noting their exact time of arrival $\{t_2\}$, and uses these to calculate its distance from each satellite in view.

To calculate its distance from a satellite, a GPS device applies this formula to the satellite's signal:

distance = rate x time


where **rate** is $\{c\}$ and **time** is how long the signal traveled through space.

The signal's travel **time** is the difference between the time broadcast by the satellite $\{t_1\}$ and the time the signal is received $\{t_2\}$.
- 4** Once a GPS device knows its distance from at least four satellites, it can use geometry to determine its location on Earth in three dimensions.



The GPS Master Control Station tracks the satellites via a global monitoring network and manages their health on a daily basis.

Ground antennas around the world send data updates and operational commands to the satellites.



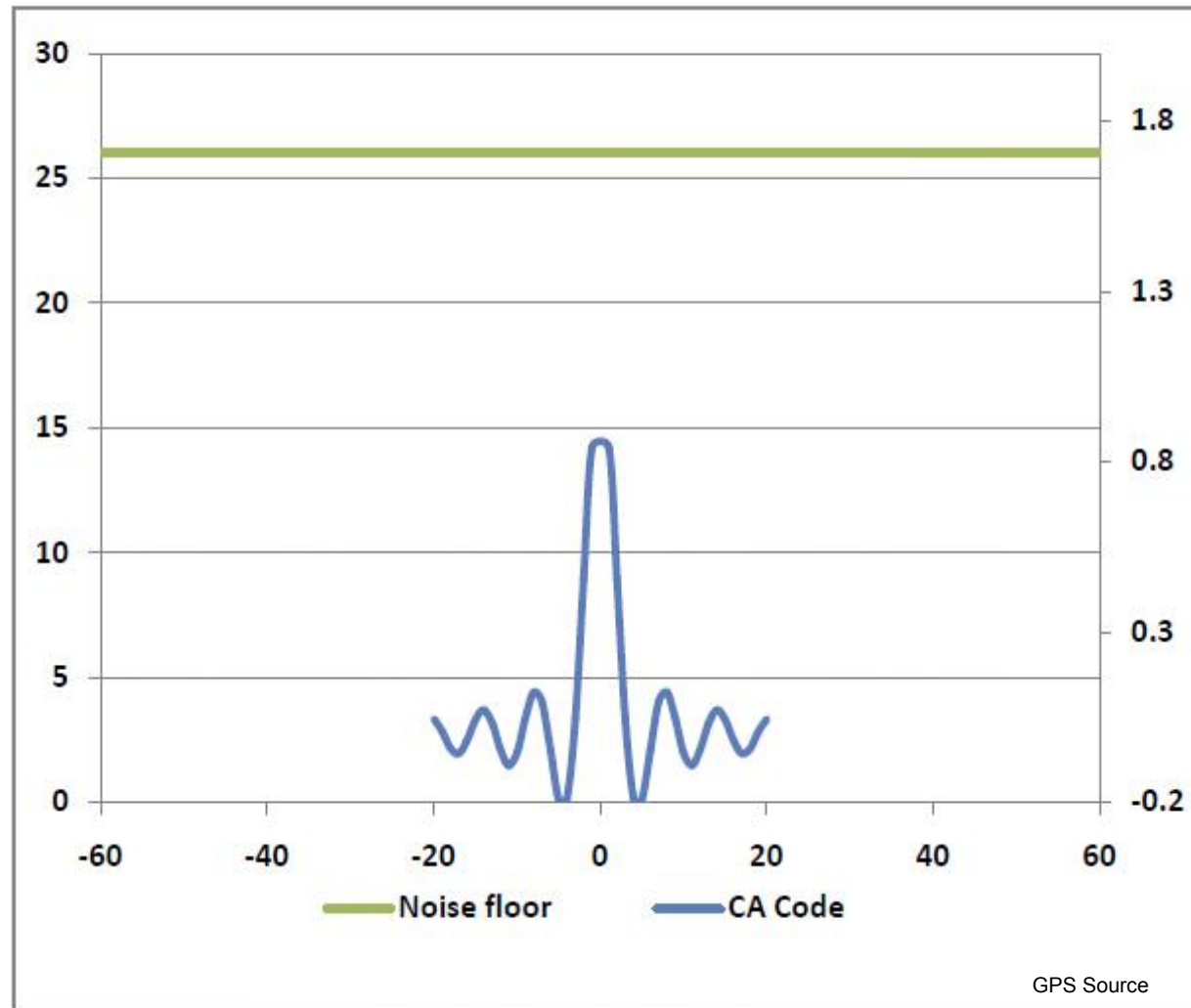
The Air Force launches new satellites to replace aging ones when needed. The new satellites offer upgraded accuracy and reliability.

How does GPS help farmers? Learn more about the Global Positioning System and its many applications at

www.gps.gov

This poster is a product of the National Civilian Coordinator for Global-Based Positioning Navigation and Timing, an official policy of the United States Department of Defense, under the authority of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services.

GPS Signal is Hidden Beneath the Noise Floor



What Are Jammers?

Generally includes devices commonly called signal blockers, GPS jammers, cell phone jammers, text blockers, etc

- Illegal radio frequency transmitters
- Designed to block, jam, or otherwise interfere with authorized radio communications



Why Are Jammers Prohibited?

- **Jammers do not just weed out noisy or annoying conversations and disable unwanted GPS tracking.**



Jammers can prevent 9-1-1 and other emergency phone calls from getting through



Can interfere with ambulance, police and other law enforcement communications.



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How do jammers work?

- A jammer can *block all radio communications* on any device that operates on radio frequencies within its range.
- *Emits radio frequency waves* that prevent the targeted device from establishing or maintaining a connection.
- Generally *does not discriminate* between desirable and undesirable communications.
- Jammers can:
 - prevent your cell phone from making or receiving calls, text messages, and emails;
 - prevent your Wi-Fi enabled device from connecting to the Internet;
 - prevent your GPS unit from receiving correct positioning signals; and
 - prevent a first responder from locating you in an emergency.



We are not talking about Government sponsored use and testing



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Nation State



Intentional High-Power GPS Jamming

[The Central Radio Management Office, South Korea]

Dates	Aug 23-26, 2010 (4 days)	Mar 4-14, 2011 (11 days)	Apr 28 – May 13, 2012 (16 days)
Jammer locations	Gaesong	Gaesong, Mt. Gumgang	Gaesong
Affected areas	Gimpo, Paju, etc.	Gimpo, Paju, Gangwon, etc.	Gimpo, Paju, etc.
GPS disruptions	181 cell towers, 15 airplanes, 1 battle ship	145 cell towers, 106 airplanes, 10 ships	1,016 airplanes, 254 ships

Prof. Jiwon Seo -Yonsei University, South Korea Resilient PNT Forum II, Dana Point, California - January 26, 2015



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Interference at a “Highly Automated Container Port facility



One ship can bring as many as 19,000 20ft containers



Shanghai Harbor: 33.62 million TEUs in 2013.



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Known incidents of Interference

- Jammers' overwhelm anti-theft devices on cars and Trucks. 46 luxury cars returned to Port of Los Angeles discovered with GPS jammers attached to the batteries
- Have been used in vicinity of airports disrupting air traffic
- Establishing quiet zones and text-free zones in Churches and Schools



- Used to disrupt communications during commission of a robbery
- Used in vicinity of a major port disabling GPS on large cruise ships attempting to dock



- Used to defeat the fleet tracking devices in company cars and trucks for theft of high value pharmaceuticals
- Used to defeat attempts to document road use for taxes
- **These uses of jammers are all illegal**



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Interference Reporting

- U.S. process starts with problem report to NAVCEN or FAA
- Different than ITU form
 - Problem rpt vs After action Rpt
- Service Center triage to confirm problem
- Initial interagency conference call to provide for a coordinated government response/consensus on way fwd
- Priority assigned will determine level of response and agencies involved
- Phone system automatically connects all involved with that level of priority event



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Purpose: The Coast Guard Navigation Center will use this information to disseminate navigation safety notices and updates to individuals upon request and to receive reports of aid to navigation outages, issues or discrepancies.

Routine Uses: Coast Guard personnel will use this information to disseminate safety notices and updates and to aid in the repair or investigate reports of navigation outages, issues or discrepancies. Any external disclosures of data within this record will be made in accordance with DHS/ALL-002, Department of Homeland Security General Contact Lists, 73 Federal Register 71659, November 25, 2008, and DHS/USCG-013, Marine Information for Safety and Law Enforcement System of Records, 74 Federal Register 30305, June 25, 2009.

Disclosure: Furnishing this information is voluntary; however, failure to furnish the requested information may hinder your request for navigation safety related information.

* Denotes a required field

- 1) * Your Name:
- 2) * Email Address:
- 3) * Telephone number: [i.e. - (703) 313-5900]
- 4) Preferred method and time to be contacted if additional information is necessary:
- 5) * What was the start time and date of the GPS disruption?
- 6) * Is the GPS disruption ongoing?
- 7) * Where did the disruption occur? (LAT/LONG; Nearest City or landmark)
- 8) GPS user equipment make and model (receiver manufacturer and model, antenna type, etc...)?
- 9) GPS installation type (aviation, marine, surveying, agriculture, transportation, timing)?
- 10) What was the elevation of the GPS antenna?
- 11) What GPS frequency are you using? (press Ctrl while selecting to select multiple satellites)
- 12) How many satellites were being tracked at the time of the disruption?
- 13) Which satellites were being tracked at the time of the disruption? (press Ctrl while selecting to select multiple satellites)
- 14) What was the GPS receiver being used for at the time of occurrence?
- 15) Summary (Please provide any additional information, unusual screen display indicating a problem and/or operator intervention that may have helped)?

Click Here For Choices

Click Here For Choices

Date: 10/28/2015 Time:

Zone: Select Time Zone

Select

Lat	Long	City/Landmarks
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Remaining Characters 3000

Click Here For Choices Other:

Click Here For Choices

Above Ground Level
 Above Sea Level

L1 (1575.42 MHz)
L2 (1227.6 MHz)

Click Here For Choices

Don't Know
SVN23/PRN32
SVN24/PRN24

Remaining Characters 3000

Operational impact of disruption determines priority level assigned

- **Priority 1 (Active or Intermittent)**
 - Operational Effects: **SEVERE**
 - GPS anomalies or disruptions affecting one or more user segments or Critical Infrastructure
 - **Priority 2 (Active or Intermittent)**
 - Operational Effects: **Moderate**
 - **Priority 3 (Active or Intermittent)**
 - Operational Effects: **Minimal (or No)**
- » E-mail lists provide for situation report distribution to all who sign up for that level of priority event
- » Initial Priority level assigned may be upgraded once operational impacts are confirmed.
- » Additional interagency conference calls may raise level of priority and determine additional resources/agencies required



Radio Frequency Interference Tracking (RFIT)

- **RFIT Currently (Initial Operating Capabilities (IOC) 2015) Currently testing functionality and capabilities:**
- Collaboration tool to tie all involved agencies together in Near Real-Time.
- Text based Log displays entries so all can follow activities and add additional information as appropriate.
- Allows for attachments in all manner of format (.jpg, .gif, .bmp, .pdf, etc.)
- Archives all events for documentation and later analysis. (Serves as a Central Data Repository of reported interference events)
- **RFIT to Be (Full Operating Capabilities (FOC)) plan to include the following features:**
- Automatic e-mail distribution when new Events are reported Based on priority Level
- Ability to view data geographically in a Web-Based Map viewer (Common Operating Picture(COP))



Regulations in the U.S.

U.S. Federal statutes and regulations generally prohibit the manufacture, importation, sale, advertisement, or shipment of devices, such as jammers, that fail to comply with FCC regulations.

Four different authorities:

- U.S. Federal Statutes – Communications Act
- Telecom Agency Rules – FCC
- The Criminal Code
- International Treaties



U.S. Federal Statutes – Communications Act

47 U.S.C. § 301 Unlicensed (unauthorized) operation prohibited.

“No person shall use or operate any apparatus for the transmission of energy or communications or signals by radio within the United States except under and in accordance with the Communications Act and with a license granted under the provisions of the Communications Act.”

U.S. Federal Statutes – Communications Act

47 U.S.C. § 302a(b) Manufacturing, importing, selling, offer for sale, shipment or use of devices which do not comply with regulations are prohibited

- “No person shall manufacture, import, sell, offer for sale, or ship devices or home electronic equipment and systems, or use devices, which fail to comply with regulations promulgated pursuant to this section.”

U.S. Federal Statutes – Communications Act

47 U.S.C. § 333 – Interference to authorized communications prohibited

– “No person shall willfully or maliciously interfere with, or cause interference to, any radio communications of any station licensed or authorized by or under this Act or operated by the United States Government.”

U.S. Federal Statutes – Communications Act

47 U.S.C. § 503: Forfeitures

“Any person who is determined by the Commission, in accordance with paragraph (3) or (4) of this subsection, to have—(A) willfully or repeatedly failed to comply substantially with the terms and conditions of any license, permit, certificate, or other instrument or authorization issued by the Commission; (B) willfully or repeatedly failed to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter or of any rule, regulation, or order issued by the Commission under this chapter or under any treaty, convention, or other agreement to which the United States is a party and which is binding upon the United States; (C) violated any provision of section 317 (c) or 509 (a) of this title; or (D) violated any provision of Section 1304, 1343, 1464, or 2252 of title 18; shall be liable to the United States for a forfeiture penalty. “



U.S. Federal Statutes – Communications Act

47 U.S.C. § 510: Forfeiture of communications devices

“Violation with willful and knowing intent Any electronic, electromagnetic, radio frequency, or similar device, or component thereof, used, sent, carried, manufactured, assembled, possessed, offered for sale, sold, or advertised with willful and knowing intent to violate section 301 or 302a of this title, or rules prescribed by the Commission under such sections, may be seized and forfeited to the United States. “

Regulations in the U.S.

Telecom Agency Rules – FCC

47 C.F.R. § 2.803(a)

- marketing is prohibited unless devices are authorized and comply with requirements or
- (2) “In the case of a device that is not required to have a grant of equipment authorization issued by the Commission, but which must comply with the specified technical standards prior to use, such device also complies with all applicable administrative (including verification of the equipment or authorization under a Declaration of Conformity, where required), technical, labeling and identification requirements specified in this chapter.”



Telecom Agency Rules – FCC

47 C.F.R. § 2.803(e)

- 47 C.F.R. § 2.803(e)(4) – marketing is defined as “sale or lease, or offering for sale or lease, including advertising for sale or lease, or importation, shipment, or distribution for the purpose of selling or leasing or offering for sale or lease.”

The Criminal Code

(Enforced by the Department of Justice)

- Title 18 of the U.S. Code (U.S.C.) contains the criminal and penal code of the U.S. government. It addresses federal crimes, criminal procedures, and general provisions.
- Section 32(a) includes a prohibition on acts that destroy or endanger an aircraft, including:
 - Interference with a navigation facility with intent to endanger the safety of any person or with a reckless disregard for the safety of human life
 - Communication of information known to be false and endangering the safety of any such aircraft in flight.



The Criminal Code

- Title 18, Section 35 - prohibits communication of information known to be false regarding an attempt made to do any act prohibited by 18 U.S.C.
- Title 18, Section 1030 (a)(5) – prohibits damaging a computer system.

The Criminal Code

- Title 18, Section 1362 - prohibits willful or malicious interference to U.S. government communications; subjects the operator to possible fines, imprisonment, or both (18 U.S.C. § 1362)
- Title 18, Section 1367(a) - prohibits intentional or malicious interference to satellite communications; subjects the operator to possible fines, imprisonment, or both (18 U.S.C. § 1367(a))

The Criminal Code

- Section 46308 of 49 U.S.C. stipulates that “a person shall be fined under title 18, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both, if the person:
 - (1) with intent to interfere with air navigation in the United States, exhibits in the United States a light or signal at a place or in a way likely to be mistaken for a true light or signal established under this part or for a true light or signal used at an air navigation facility;
 - (2) after a warning from the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, continues to maintain a misleading light or signal;
 - (3) knowingly interferes with the operation of a true light or signal.”



The Criminal Code

- 49 U.S.C. section 46308 and 18 U.S.C. sections 32(a)–35 are referenced within FAA Order 6050.22c [5-3], which contains procedures for investigating and reporting radio frequency interference affecting the NAS.
- FAA Order 6050.22c includes an interagency agreement between the FAA, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and FCC on procedures the three agencies should follow to effectively interact in an attempt to locate, identify, and resolve any deliberate RFI acts such as “phantom controller” incidents.



International

- The United Nations Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation is a multilateral treaty that was adopted by the International Conference on Air Law at Montreal on 23 September 1971.
- The Convention signatories agree to prohibit and punish acts that threaten the safety of civil aviation. It entered into force on 26 January 1973 after ratification by 10 nations. As of today, the Convention has 188 signatories.
- Several of the U.S. laws relevant to intentional interference and spoofing of civil aviation GNSS applications mentioned above were enacted to satisfy obligations made per this Convention.



GNSS Jammers – National Legal Status (As Reported at ICG-9)

Jammers	US	RU	China	EU
manufacture	illegal	illegal	illegal	Nation-by-nation
sell	illegal	illegal	illegal	illegal
export	illegal	illegal	illegal	Nation-by-nation
purchase	Undefined (consumer import illegal)	illegal	illegal	illegal
own	legal	Undefined	Undefined	legal
use	illegal	illegal	illegal	illegal

Interference Detection Task Force (as of 12 June 2015)

- **Co-Chairs:**

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IDM Geolocation Systems

ICG Interference Detection and Mitigation Workshops

- Workshop participants encourage system providers and user community members to evaluate the interference detection and characterization capabilities of the EU-funded DETECTOR project and consider testing a similar capability in other regions.
- Chronos Technology presented a briefing on the UK Sentinel Project targeting small jammers being used to defeat road use/tax monitoring.
http://www.chronos.co.uk/files/pdfs/gps/SENTINEL_Project_Report.pdf
- Design Bureau «Vektor», Russia presented general guidelines and practical example of the analysis of spatial distribution of emissions in the frequency bands of GNSS
- China presented an overview of a grid detection capability they are experimenting with to protect certain critical infrastructure facilities.
- Harris Corporation presented information about their Signal Sentry 1000 system, demonstrating a real-time geo-location system



Conclusion

- The threat from jammers is real and growing.
- Jammers are being used to commit crimes
- “Personal Privacy Jammers” are being used to defeat company tracking and road use monitoring
- To fully utilize all the benefits and efficiencies of GNSS, it is in all our best interests to consider enacting laws to combat the proliferation and use of illegal jammers in our countries