

Re: How many satellites are in geosynchronous orbit by now?

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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.space.history/2005-12/msg00269.html>

- *From:* Jonathan Silverlight <jsilverlight@xx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 7 Dec 2005 08:19:55 +0000
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In message <1133935551.532512.212050@xx>, Stuf4 <tdadamemd-spamblock-@xxxxxxxxxxx> writes

From Jim Davis:

Stuf4 wrote:

```
>> Radar is not very useful up there -- the strength of a radar
>> echo drops as the distance to the fourth power, barring some
>> special cases.
>
> Actually, the strength of a radar echo drops as the inverse of
> distance *squared*...
>
> But everyone probably knows what was meant!
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No, Henry is correct. Power recieved / power transmitted is proportional to $1 / (\text{range}^{**4})$.

My feedback was offered in the interest of careful wording. It's easy to have a perfectly accurate thought, but then put that thought into words that are completely inaccurate.

It's even easier to express an inaccurate thought, and it's often better not to express a thought..

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