

British Computer Society



Surely Mars is a Big Enough Target?

(Or a Brief Overview of Failure in Space Missions)

Prof. Chris Johnson,
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Over the last decade, Chris has worked with several groups inside NASA to develop techniques to improve the reporting and analysis of systems failures in space missions. In this talk he will present an overview of his work and identify the risks that are associated with future mission proposals being developed both by NASA and ESA. In particular, Chris will explain why software failures and human error have combined in several recent failures and why current techniques may not be sufficient to meet the ambitious targets that are being established for future space exploration.

If there is time, Chris will also describe related work to write software to diagnose mental illness in crews during the cruise phase to Mars... and will also explain why most of these proposed programs would probably induce mental illness in any crews that had to suffer them.

DATE: Monday
28th January 2008

TIME: 18:30

COST: FREE

LOCATION:

Room C47
The Robert Gordon University
St Andrews St
Aberdeen

Refreshments will be available from 18:00.

To help us estimate numbers please email norman.bain@bcs.org.uk if you plan to attend.