DTN Delay/Disruption Tolerant Networking
Example: Europa to Earth

Europa

Instrument transmits data to surface rover

Rover transmits data to orbiter above Europa

Orbiter transmits data to Mars relay node

Mars relay node stores data until Moon relay node available

Orbiter stores data until Mars relay node available

Mars

Mars relay node sends data to Moon relay node

Surface instrument on Europa gathers/stores data

Rover stores data until orbiter overhead

Moon

Moon relay node stores data until Earth relay node available

Earth relay node sends data to Ground Station

Moon relay node sends data to Earth relay node

Earth relay node stores data until Ground Station available

NASA JPL