

NTU team studies satellite

By Serene Luo

HEAVY rain is usually one of the culprits of disturbances in satellite communications.

For critical defence missions or in countries where natural disasters like typhoons may have cut off other means of communication, satellites may be their only link to the rest of the world.

This has spurred a team of 10 researchers from the Nanyang Technological University, led by assistant Professor Lee Yee Hui, 36, to look into how to improve the connection.

They are working with the Japan Aerospace eXploration Agency (Jaxa) and the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (Nict), which has launched a satellite that gives the world's fastest satellite Internet connection.

The superfast connection of up to 155 Mbps - faster than most home broadband networks - can support high-definition video between two countries, say Singapore and Japan, with virtually no lag.

Dr Lee has received about \$600,000 in grants for the four-year research programme from the Defence Science and Technology Agency.