NASA Langley Research Center





ARCSTONE: Calibration of Lunar Spectral Reflectance

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Partners:

Resonon, NIST, LASP Colorado U, Blue Canyon Technologies





NRC Decadal Survey 2017: Accuracy

Lukashin et al., "Accurate Inter-Calibration of Spaceborne Reflected Solar Sensors" input to NRC Decadal Survey, 2017.



Effect of measurement accuracy on both climate trend accuracy (Y-axis) as well as the time to detect trends (X-axis): (a) Relationship between reflected solar spectra and changes in broadband CRF and cloud feedback. (b) The estimated time to detect a relative cloud optical thickness trend (left y-axes) from natural variability is shown here linked to the SW Cloud Feedback and the equilibrium climate sensitivity (right y-axes).



Moon: Solar Diffuser For Instrument Calibration In-orbit



Reflectance of Lunar surface stable to < 10⁻⁸

Calibration reference: Lunar irradiance (entire disk)



Lunar Calibration On-Orbit: State of the Art - SeaWIFS Example

SeaWiFS gain stability 0.13% (k=1) achieved with Lunar calibration monthly ! Absolute biases up to 3% (k=1)







- SeaWIFS scatter due to oversampling corrections.
- MODIS scatter due to lower lunar signal at higher lunar phase angle.

Need: Absolutely accurate irradiance for all lunar phase and libration states !







The Figure shows the Lunar views from currently operational sensors on-orbit. The Lunar calibration is an available reference source for most sensors in LEO and GEO.





Lunar Calibration Applications

Team	Satellite	Sensor	G/L	Dates	Number of obs	Phase angle range (°)
СМА	FY-3C	MERSI	LEO	2013-2014	9	[43 57]
СМА	FY-2D	VISSR	GEO	2007-2014		
СМА	FY-2E	VISSR	GEO	2010-2014		
CMA	FY-2F	VISSR	GEO	2012-2014		
JMA	MTSAT-2	IMAGER	GEO	2010-2013	62	[-138,147]
JMA	GMS5	VISSR	GEO	1995-2003	50	[-94,96]
JMA	Himawari-8	AHI	GEO	2014-	-	
EUMETSAT	MSG1	SEVIRI	GEO	2003-2014	380/43	[-150,152]
EUMETSAT	MSG2	SEVIRI	GEO	2006-2014	312/54	[-147,150]
EUMETSAT	MSG3	SEVIRI	GEO	2013-2014	45/7	[-144,143]
EUMETSAT	MET7	MVIRI	GEO	1998-2014	128	[-147,144]
CNES	Pleiades-1A	PHR	LEO	2012	10	[+/-40]
CNES	Pleiades-1B	PHR	LEO	2013-2014	10	[+/-40]
NASA-MODIS	Terra	MODIS	LEO	2000-2014	136	[54,56]
NASA-MODIS	Aqua	MODIS	LEO	2002-2014	117	[-54,-56]
NASA-VIIRS	NPP	VIIRS	LEO	2012-2014	20	[50,52]
NASA-OBPG	SeaStar	SeaWiFS	LEO	1997-2010	204	(<10, [27-66])
NASA/USGS	Landsat-8	OLI	LEO	2013-2014	3	[-7]
NASA	OCO-2	000	LEO	2014		
NOAA-STAR	NPP	VIIRS	LEO	2011-2014	19	[-52,-50]
NOAA	GOES-10	IMAGER	GEO	1998-2006	33	[-66, 81]
NOAA	GOES-11	IMAGER	GEO	2006-2007	10	[-62, 57]
NOAA	GOES-12	IMAGER	GEO	2003-2010	49	[-83, 66]
NOAA	GOES-13	IMAGER	GEO	2006	11	
NOAA	GOES-15	IMAGER	GEO	2012-2013	28	[-52, 69]
VITO	Proba-V	VGT-P	LEO	2013-2014	25	[-7]
KMA	COMS	MI	GEO	2010-2014	60	
AIST	Terra	ASTER	LEO	1999-2014	1	-27.7
ISRO	OceanSat2	OCM-2	LEO	2009-2014	2	
ISRO	INSAT-3D	IMAGER	GEO	2013-2014	2	

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Instruments with lunar observation capabilities From GSICS Lunar Calibration Workshop, December 2014, EUMETSAT.



Lunar Calibration On-Orbit: Effect of Libration

From Lorentz et al., LUSI Concept, 2009

Effect of Libration on Lunar Irradiance: 2% variation in amplitude



Threshold requirement for covering lunar libration space: measurements over approximately 3 years time period of daily sampling !





ARCSTONE Mission Concept

Concept of Operations and Data Products:

- Data to collect: Lunar spectral irradiance every 12 hours.
- Data to collect: Solar spectral irradiance TBD (at least weekly).
 Collection within 10 min each day to achieve combined accuracy < 1% (k=2).
 Spectrometer with single field-of-view about 0.5° (no scanning !).
- Preferred orbit 90° inclination polar (best sampling).
- Spectral range from 350 nm trade to 2300 nm, spectral sampling 3 nm.

After 1 year: Improvement of current Lunar Calibration Model (factor > 2);
After 3 years: New Lunar Irradiance Model, improved accuracy level (factor > 6).
Longer time: More Lunar geometries covered – better model reliability.

Key Technologies to Enable the Concept:

- Approach to orbital calibration via referencing Sun:
 Demonstration of lunar and solar measurements with the same optics/detector using *integration time to reduce solar signal*
- Pointing ability (precision & accuracy) of small spacecraft now permits obtaining required measurements





ARCSTONE: Key Mission Performance Parameters

Key Performance Parameters (KPP)	Threshold Value	Goal Value
Accuracy (reflectance)	1.0% (k=1)	0.5% (k=1)
Stability	< 0.15% (k=1) per decade	< 0.1% (k=1) per decade
Orbit	Sun-synch orbit	Sun-synch orbit
Time on-Orbit	1 year	3 years
Frequency of sampling	24 hours	12 hours
Instrument pointing	< 0.2° combined	< 0.1° combined
Spectral Range	380 nm – 900 nm	350 nm – 2300 nm
Spectral Sampling	8 nm	4 nm

Reference for radiometric requirements (ROLO, T. Stone): Lunar Phase Angle = 75°; Irradiance = 0.6 (micro W / m² nm) Wavelength = 500 nm





ARCSTONE: Mission Development Roadmap







ARCSTONE: Mission Concept





ARCSTONE: Bus and Payload Concept

*Optical Design: Resonon, Inc * Spacecraft: Blue Canyon Technologies XB6







Optics Design: UVVNIR Spectrometer







Packaging – UVVNIR Channel





Current mechanical CAD model:

Titanium – grey-brown, aluminum – grey, optical glass – blue-green. Nuts and bolts, also shaded grey-brown, alloy steel.



Optics Design: SWIR Spectrometer









Major milestones (6 month intervals):

September 2017

- MCT Detector/cryocooler assemblies and BCT bus simulator delivered
- Initial instrument design (DAC 1 and DAC 2) and initial analysis (STOP analysis) completed

March 2018

 Custom parts fabrication started, optic fabrication started, assembly hardware/ components ordered (build phase)

September 2018

Instrument assembled and aligned

March 2019

- NIST calibration/characterization
- LASP calibration/characterization

September 2019

- Simplified environmental testing
- Documentation and closeout



ARCSTONE: Summary

(1) What is needed from the mission?

Accurate SI-traceable calibration source on-orbit for past, current and future Earth Science missions in LEO and GEO.

(2) What can we do ?

ARCSTONE mission shall obtain the accurate Lunar spectral irradiance to enable reference calibration of weather and climate operational sensors in the reflected solar wavelength range.

(3) Who will care ?

- NASA Missions: SeaWIFS, MODIS, CERES, RBI, CLARREO, PACE, ACE;
- NOAA Missions: VIIRS, GOES-R ABI;
- International Space Agencies: ESA, EUMETSAT, etc., LEO and GEO imagers;
- GSICS Lunar Calibration community.