

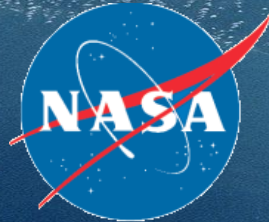
# Technology advancements in the CubeSat Infrared Atmospheric Sounder (CIRAS)

Earth Science Technology Forum  
Pasadena, California  
Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Thomas S. Pagano

PI: CubeSat Infrared Atmospheric Sounder (CIRAS)

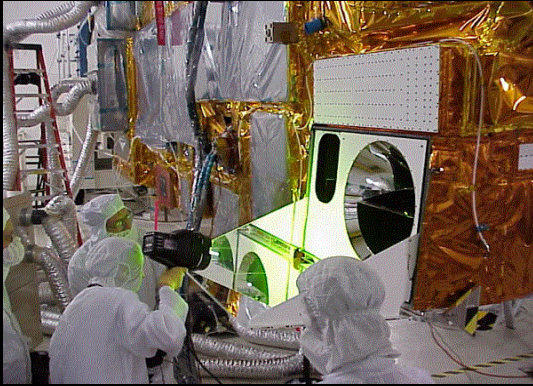
Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology  
4800 Oak Grove Dr., Pasadena CA 91109; (818) 393-3917



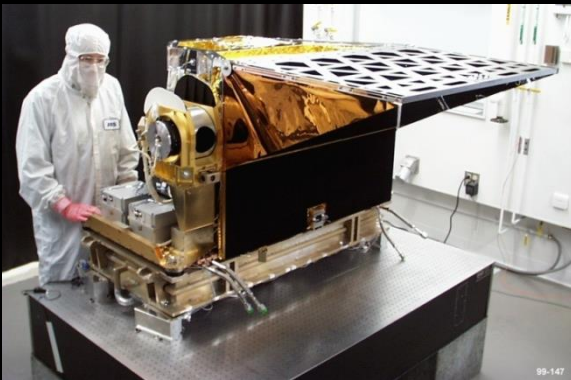


# The Aqua Spacecraft ("BigSat")

Launched May 4, 2002



Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS)  
GSFC/Raytheon



Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS)  
JPL/BAE SYSTEMS



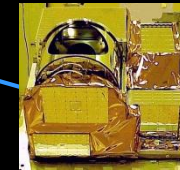
AQUA Spacecraft  
GSFC/NGST



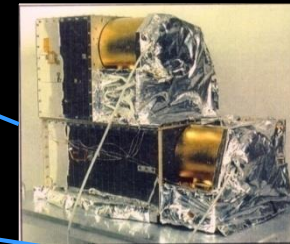
Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer (AMSR-E)  
MSFC/JAXA



Advanced Microwave Sounding Units (AMSU-A/B)  
JPL/Aerojet



Humidity Sounder from Brazil (HSB)  
JPL/Aerojet



Clouds and Earth Radiant Energy System (CERES)  
2LaRC/NGST

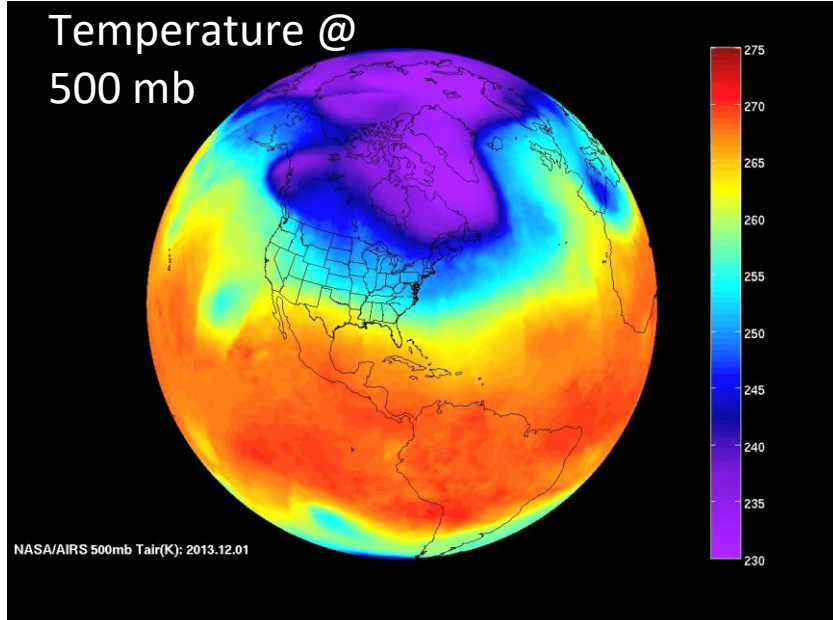
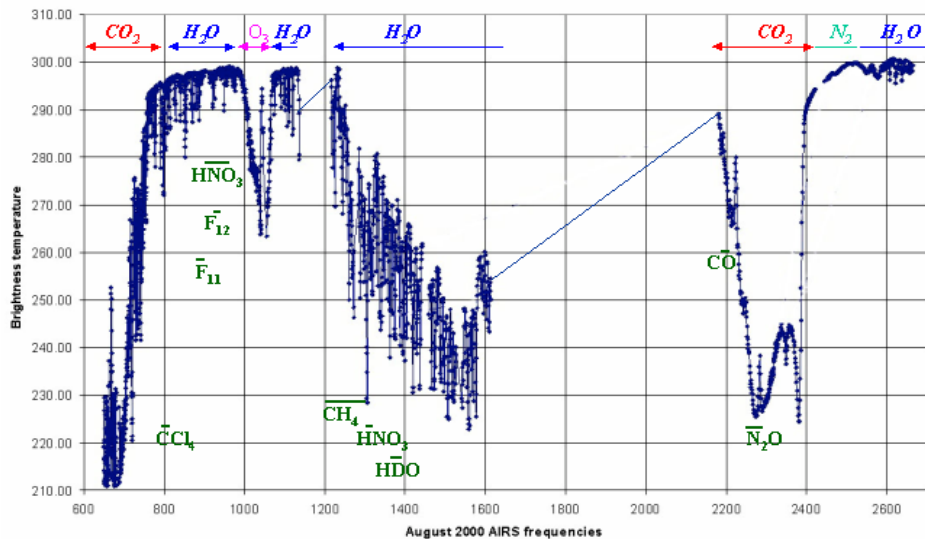




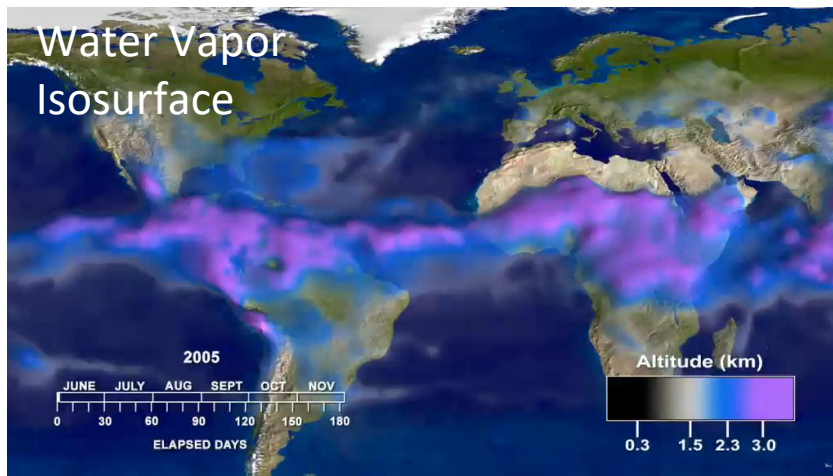
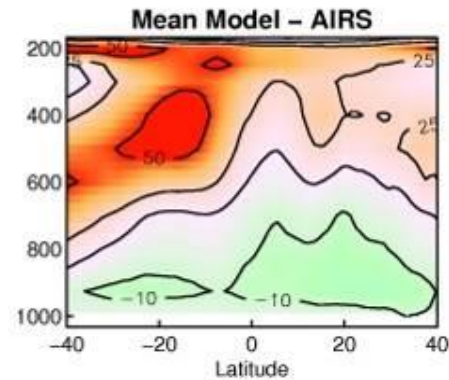
# IR Sounders Support Weather Forecasting and Climate Science

### AIRS Channels for Tropical Atmosphere with T<sub>surf</sub> = 301K

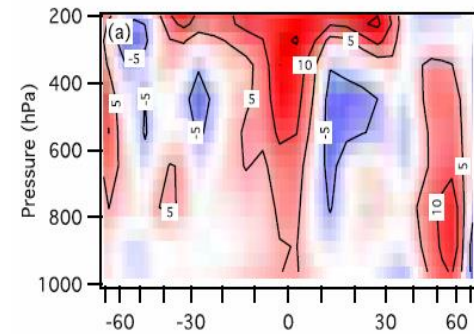
Full Spectrum



### Water Vapor Climatology (Pierce, Scripps, 2006)



### Water Vapor Feedback (Dessler, Texas A&M, 2008)



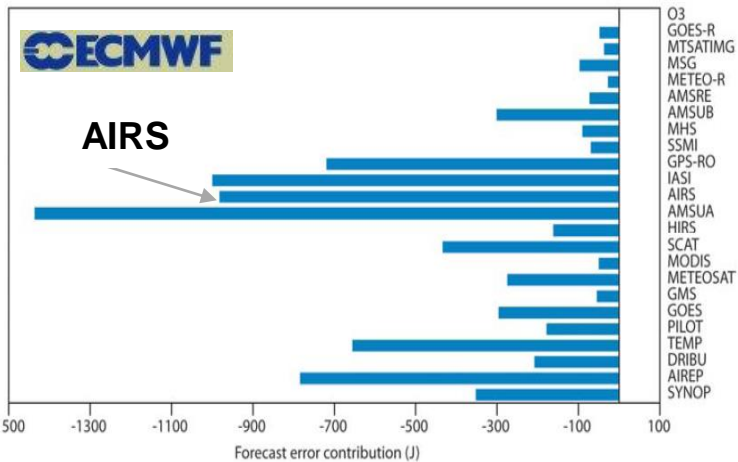
JPL/GSFC



NOAA NESDIS/NCEP



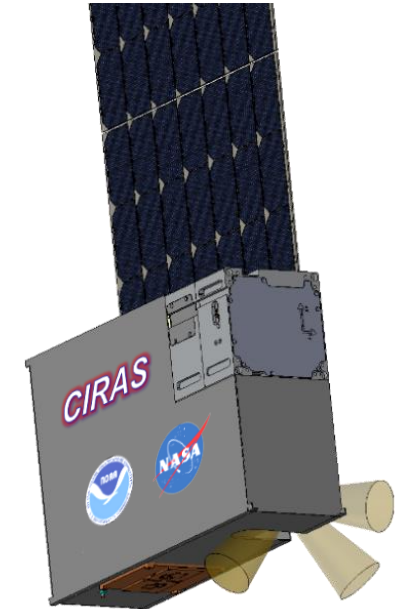
JCSDA





# CubeSat Infrared Atmospheric Sounder (CIRAS) Mission Overview

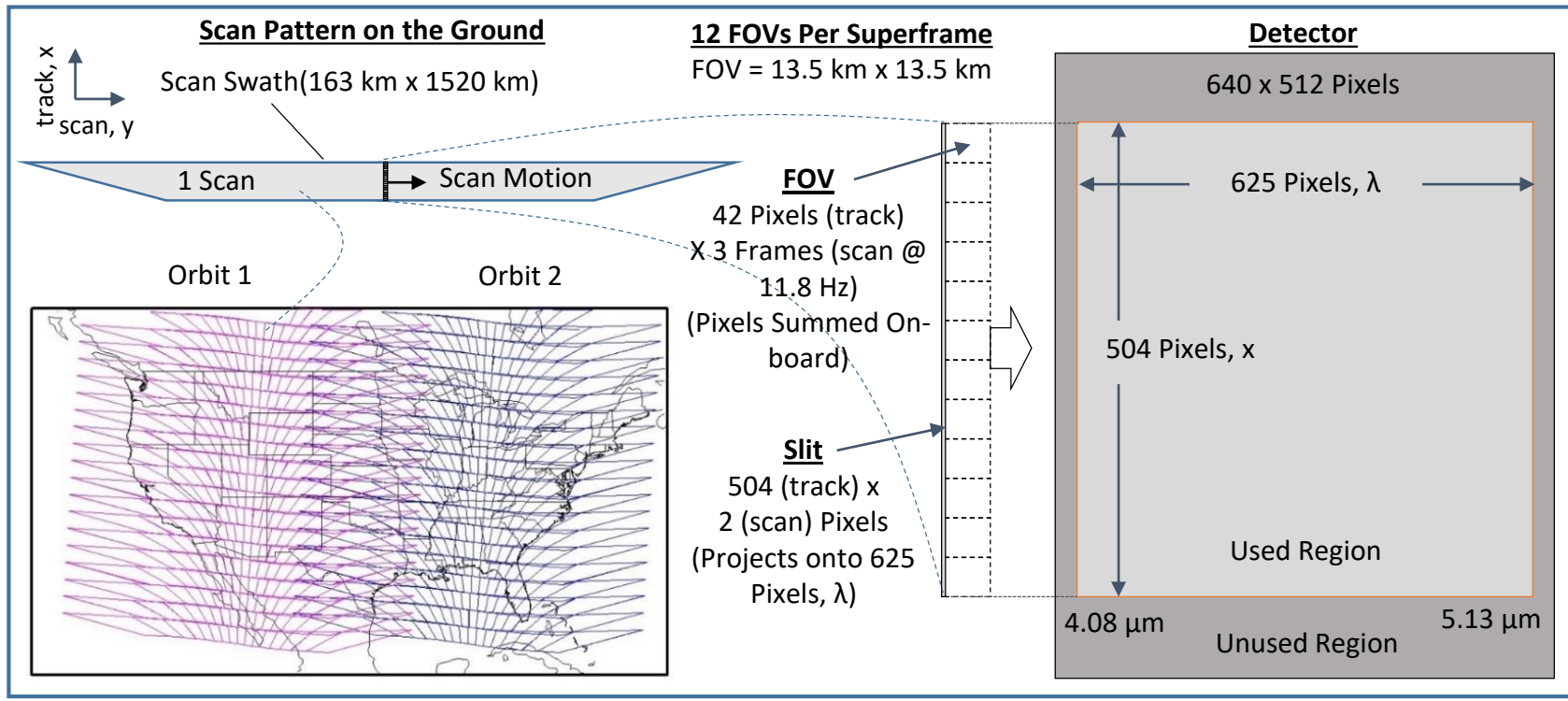
- Mission Objectives
  - In-Space Technology demonstration for key infrared subsystems: HOT-BIRD IR Detectors, Immersion Grating Spectrometer, Black Silicon Blackbody
  - Demonstration of Mid-wavelength Infrared (MWIR) temperature and water vapor sounding. Comparable sensitivity to AIRS/CrIS in the lower troposphere.
  - All technologies will be advanced to TRL 7 at the end of experiment
- Implementation Summary
  - JPL Lead + HOTBIRD + Immersion Grating + Black Si, Ball Optics, IR Cameras Camera, Blue Canyon Technologies (BCT) Spacecraft
  - 6U CubeSat (approx. 30 x 20 x 10 cm, <14 kg)
  - LEO Sun Synchronous Morning Orbit (450 km – 600km)
  - Minimum Mission Duration: 3 months
- Programmatic Summary
  - Sponsored by NASA Earth Science Technology Office (ESTO) In-flight Validation of Earth Science Technologies (InVEST) Program, Awarded 2015
  - Design performed in collaboration with the EON-IR Study sponsored by the NOAA Office of Projects, Planning, and Analysis (OPPA)
  - Selected on 2/18/16 for a launch opportunity by the NASA CubeSat Launch Initiative .
  - Interim Review 1 on February 10, 2017
  - Launch no earlier than January 2019



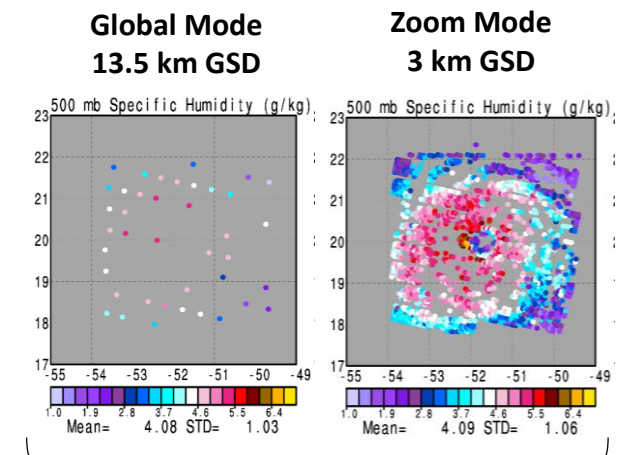


# CIRAS spatial resolution comparable to AIRS, CrIS + Zoom

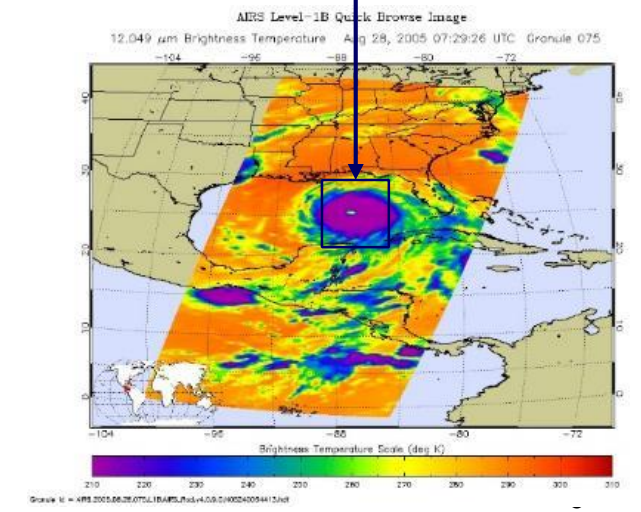
- Programmable Pixel Binning and Scan Rate Allow Global and Zoom Modes
- CIRAS Binning Scheme (600 km Orbit):



## Zoom Mode Improves Yield



Susskind (GSFC)



AIRS Global Mode



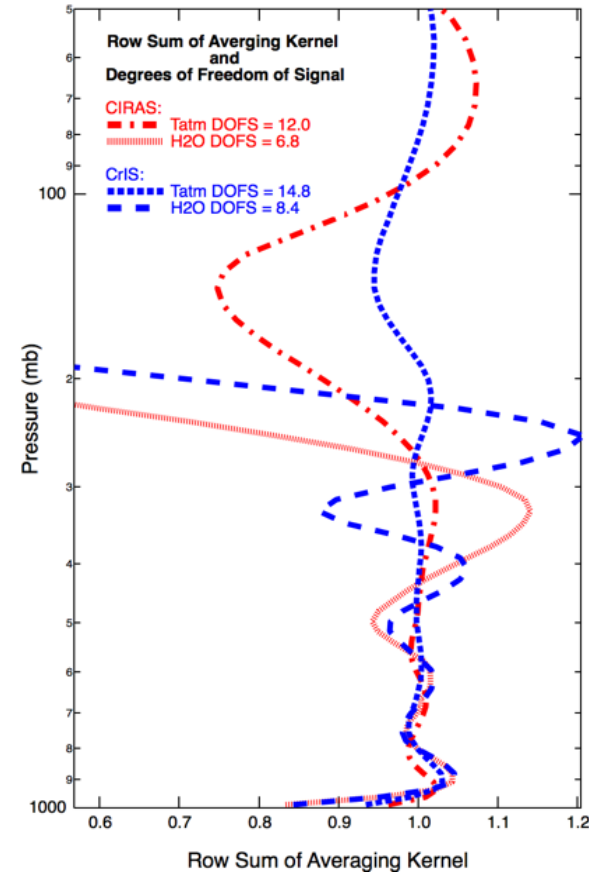
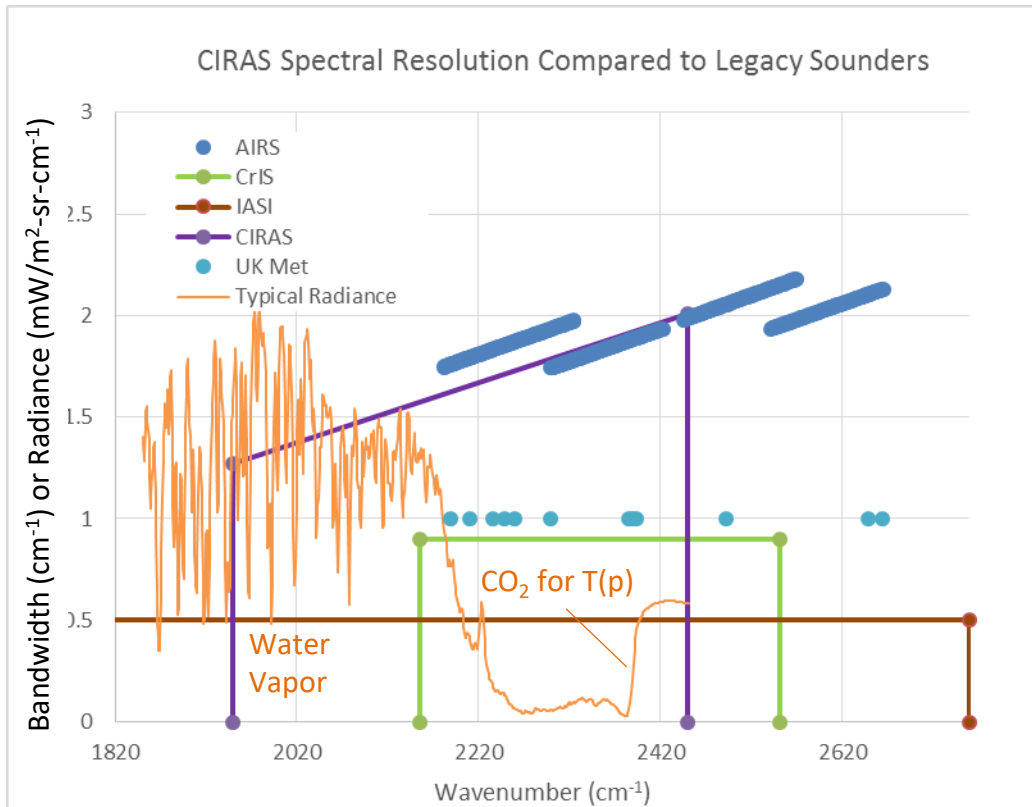
# CIRAS spectral performance comparable to AIRS in the MWIR

**CIRAS Spectral like AIRS but Extends into the Water Band**

1950  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  – 2450  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

$\Delta v = 1.2\text{-}2.0 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $N_{\text{ch}} = 625$

**CIRAS Information  
Content Extends from the  
Surface to 300 mb**





# Infrared Grating Spectrometer Atmospheric Sounder Technology

## AIRS

### Spectrometers



**AIRS**  
BAE Systems  
Pupil-Imaging  
Grating Spectrometer  
FOV = 1.1°  
D = 2 mm

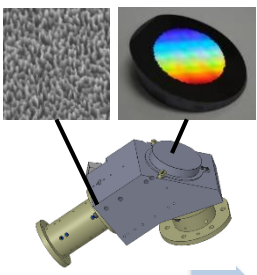
## MIRIS



**ESTO**  
SIRAS, SIRAS-G  
Ball Aerospace  
Imaging MWIR  
Grating Spectrometer  
FOV = 16°  
D = 25 mm

## CIRAS

### ESTO

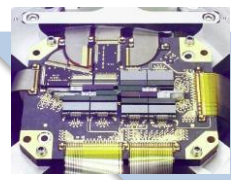


**CIRAS**  
Ball Aerospace /  
JPL Imaging  
MWIR Immersion  
Grating Spectrometer  
FOV = 16°  
D = 15 mm

AIRS  
2002



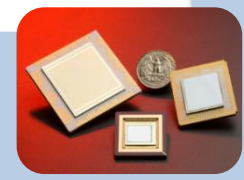
### Detectors



**AIRS**  
BAE Systems  
PV/PC HgCdTe  
17 modules  
2 x ~180  
100 x 50 um

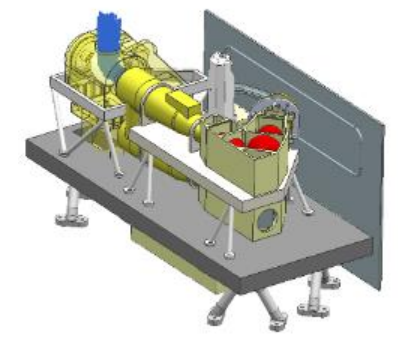


**CHROMA**  
Teledyne  
PV HgCdTe  
13.5 um Cutoff  
480 x 1280  
30 x 30 um

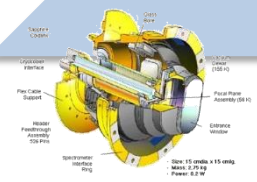


**HOTBIRD**  
JPL  
5.5 um Cutoff  
640x512  
24 x 24um

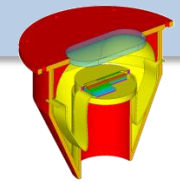
MIRIS  
2010  
(Concept)



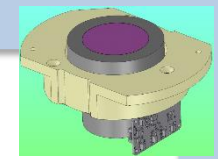
### Dewars



**AIRS**  
BAE Systems  
Cryo Dewar



**ESTO**  
SIRAS  
Ball Aerospace  
Reflecting  
Warmshields



**CIRAS**  
IR Cameras  
IDCA

### Cryocoolers



**AIRS**  
Northrop  
Grumman  
Pulse Tube  
Cryocoolers



**ABI / OCO-2**  
Northrop  
Grumman  
Smaller  
Pulse Tube  
Cryocoolers



**Ricor**  
K508  
Integral Sterling  
Cryocooler

CIRAS  
2019





# CIRAS Key Technologies Development Status

- **HOT-BIRD Detectors (TRL 6)**

- The new High Operating Temperature Barrier Infrared Detector (HOT-BIRD) detector materials developed at JPL provide superior uniformity and operability, higher operating temperature, and low 1/f noise.
- Detector/ROIC (Sensor Chip Assembly, SCA) complete. SCA's under test.

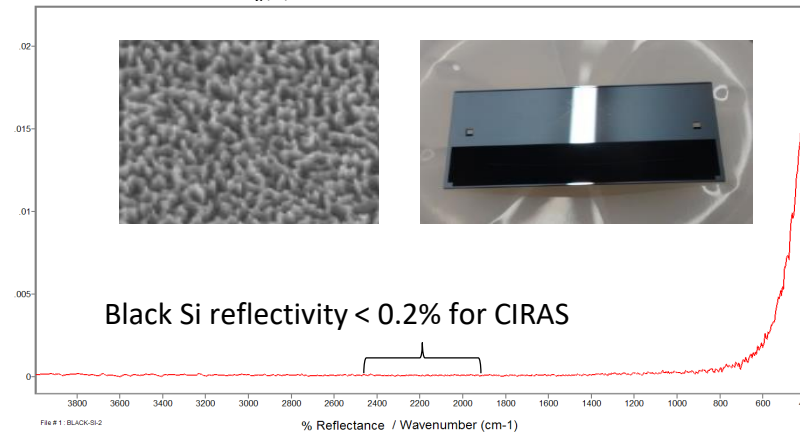
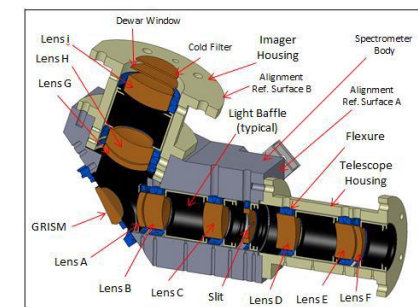
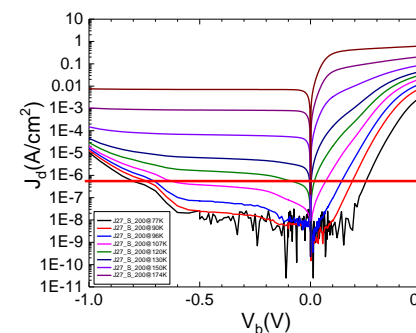
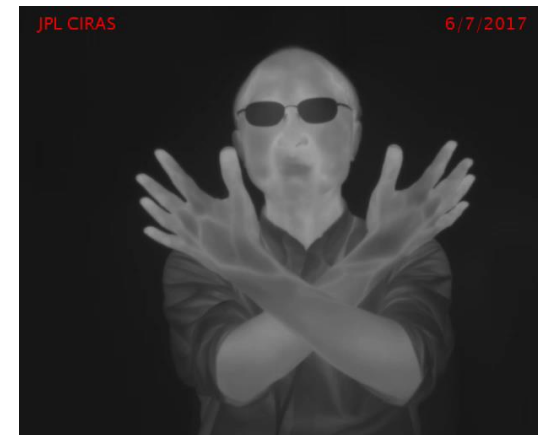
- **MWIR Grating Spectrometer (MGS) (TRL 5)**

- All refractive grating spectrometer with a 16 degree Field of View. Covers 4.08-5.13  $\mu\text{m}$  and 625 channels. MGS design complete. Build by Ball Aerospace with immersion grating and slit by JPL.
- MGS in final design and parts procurement phase at Ball. Slit in design, procuring immersion grating substrate.

- **Black Silicon IR Blackbody (TRL 5)**

- A cryo-etched silicon surface that exhibits less than 0.2% reflectance across a broad spectral band. Developed at JPL
- CIRAS Black Si Slit and Blackbody currently in the design phase.

- **All technologies will be advanced to TRL 7 at the end of the spaceflight mission**

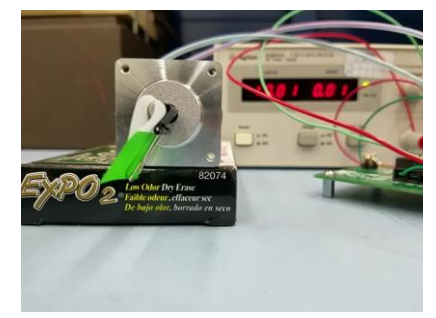
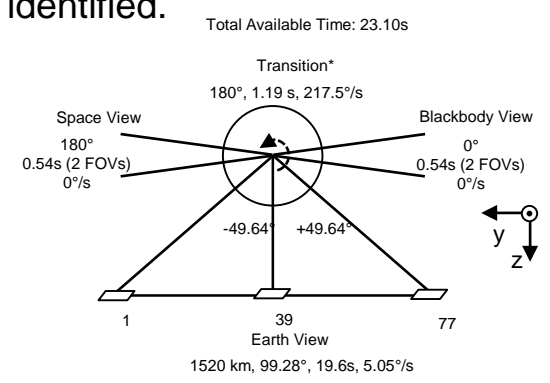
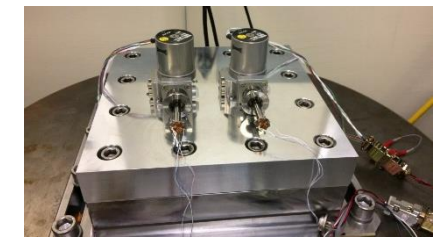
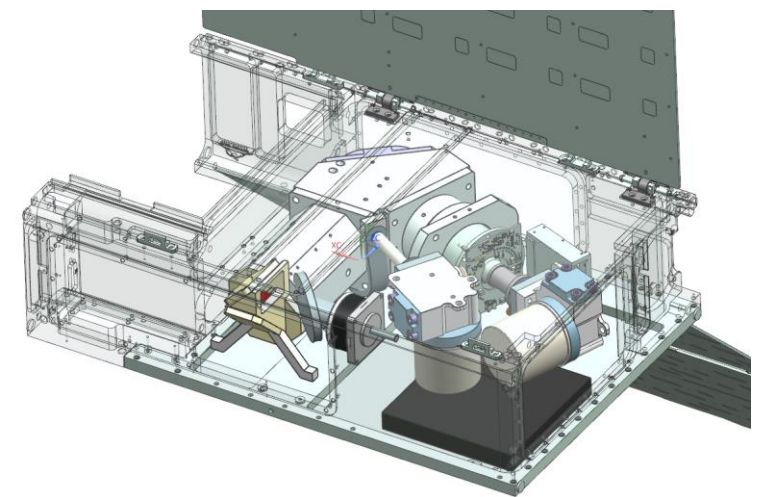






# CIRAS Project Status

- Management
  - Project completed SRR. PDR/CDR in August 2017
  - On schedule for May 2018 Payload Delivery.
- Systems Engineering
  - System Requirements Review complete. All trades complete.
- Optics
  - Ball under contract for phase 2, optics development.
- Mechanical
  - Preliminary packaging complete. Interfaces, structural analysis and mounts in progress.
- Thermal
  - Dynamic thermal model of payload complete. Thermal isolation requirements defined. Vibration levels of coolers measured
- Electrical
  - Commercial camera boards procured. Latchup sensitive parts identified. Payload controller PWB board procurement in place. Mechanical packaging requirements identified. Scan motor procured. Required profile demonstrated.
- Detectors and Dewar
  - SCA Fab complete, SCA's in Test. IDCA procurement in place.
  - Commercial IDCA by IR Cameras.
- Spacecraft
  - Contract established with BCT for September 2018 spacecraft delivery.





# CIRAS Future Mission Concepts

## Gap Mitigation:

- Support the NOAA Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) project as a gap mitigation of infrared sounding in the event of a loss of the Cross-track Infrared Sounder (CrIS) instrument.
- NOAA has identified the Earth Observation Nanosatellite-Infrared (EON-IR) as a potentially valuable instrument for gap mitigation
- CIRAS is a technology pathfinder for EON-IR

## Improved Timeliness:

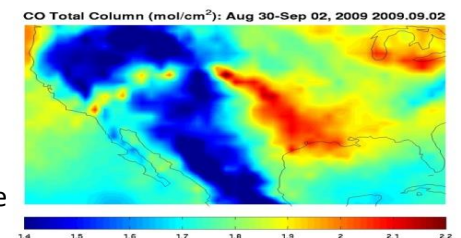
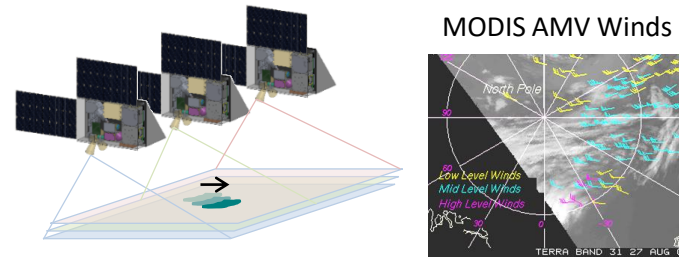
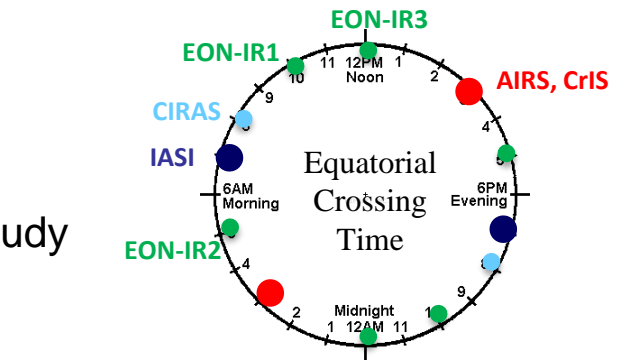
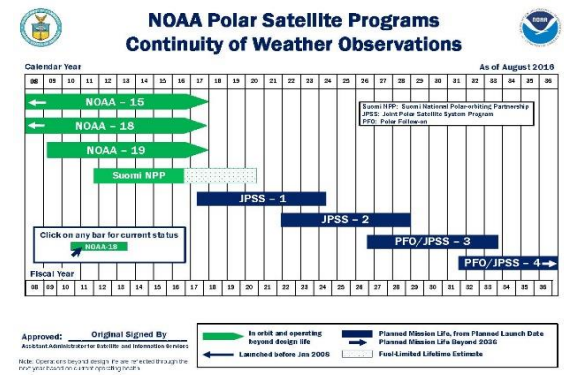
- Low cost of CIRAS lends itself to placement in orbits to complement existing sounders and improve revisit time
- This application could be used to improve Numerical Weather Prediction worldwide, or to study the diurnal properties of hydro-thermodynamic processes in the lower troposphere.

## 3D AMV Winds:

- Each CIRAS sounder provides imagery of water vapor in 3D since each horizontal pixel contains a vertical sounding profile.
- 3 CIRAS instruments flown in formation and separated in time by 15 min – 1 hr would allow measurement of the data needed to produce 3D Atmospheric Motion Vector (AMV) winds

## AIRS Pollution Studies

- The CIRAS band from 1950-2450  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  can measure lower tropospheric Carbon Monoxide (CO)





# Summary and Conclusions

- The CubeSat Infrared Atmospheric Sounder (CIRAS) is a 6U CubeSat under development at JPL sponsored by the NASA ESTO In-Flight Validation of Earth Science Technologies (InVEST), 2015
- CIRAS undergoing detailed design. Major procurements in place.
- Extensive use of commercial technologies including the camera boards, Ricor K508 cryocoolers, LIN engineering scan motor with TI controller, Blue Canyon Technologies spacecraft technologies.
- Key technologies progressing well: HOTBIRD SCA's fabricated, spectrometer design complete and procurements in place, black silicon slit and blackbody in design phase
- Project PDR/CDR in August with I&T starting in January. Payload complete in May 2015.
- Spacecraft procurement in place. Expect delivery of completed CIRAS spacecraft with integrated payload ready for launch in September 2018.
- Design will meet all major technology demonstration objectives and function as a good IR sounder.
- Several possible applications with this technology including gap mitigation, improved timeliness, 3D IR AMV winds, atmospheric composition