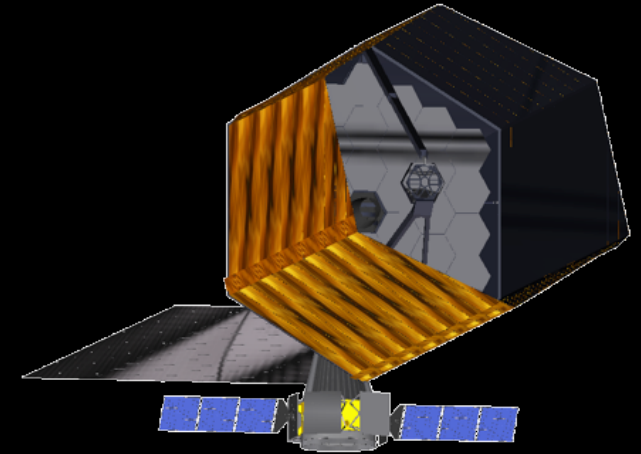




UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER



UK Instrument Interests

Martin Barstow, Jon Lapington &
Chris Evans



Science & Technology Facilities Council
UK Astronomy Technology Centre



Introduction

- University of Leicester – detectors
- Underpinned by industrial collaborations with
 - e2v, CCD/CMOS manufacturers
 - Photonis, MCP manufacturers
 - Photex, device packagers
- UK ATC – optomechanical design



Detectors

- LUVVOIR UV Detector requirements
- MCP UV-Imager demonstrator
 - Photocathode developments
 - ALD-enhanced MCPs
 - Square format MCP detectors
- High speed readout techniques
 - Capacitive division image readout (C-DIR)
 - Intensified CMOS detector
- Study goals



LUVOIR UV Detector Requirements

Parameter:	Goal:	State-of-the-Art:	
Operational Bandpass	90 nm – 400 nm	< 90 nm – 300 nm	MCP
		< 90 nm – 400 nm	EMCCD
		TBD	sCMOS
Read Noise	0	0	MCP
		N/A for multi. mode	EMCCD
		0.8 – 1.0 e ⁻	sCMOS
Dark Current and/or Spurious Count Rate	≤0.1-1 counts/cm ² /s ≤1-10e-3 e ⁻ /resol/hr	0.05-0.5 counts/cm ² /s	MCP
		> 0.005 e ⁻ /resol/hr	EMCCD
		> 0.005 e ⁻ /resol/hr	sCMOS
Quantum Efficiency (Peak)	75% (Far UV – Near UV)	45-20% FUV - NUV	MCP
		30-50% FUV - NUV	EMCCD
		TBD	sCMOS
Resol Size	≤ 10 μm	20 μm	MCP
		20 μm	EMCCD
		10-20 μm	sCMOS
Dynamic Range (Max. Count Rate)	≥ 10 ⁴ Hz / resol (as needed)	2kHz / resol 5 MHz global	MCP
		Readout dependent	EMCCD
		10 ⁵ Hz / resol	sCMOS
Time Resolution	≤ 100 ms (as needed)	<< 1 ms	MCP
		< 10 ms	EMCCD
		< 10 ms	sCMOS
Format	≥ 8–16k pixels per side with high fill factor	8k × 8k	MCP
		3.5k × 3.5k	EMCCD
		3.5k × 3.5k	sCMOS
Radiation Tolerance	Good	Good	MCP
		TBD	EMCCD
		Good	sCMOS



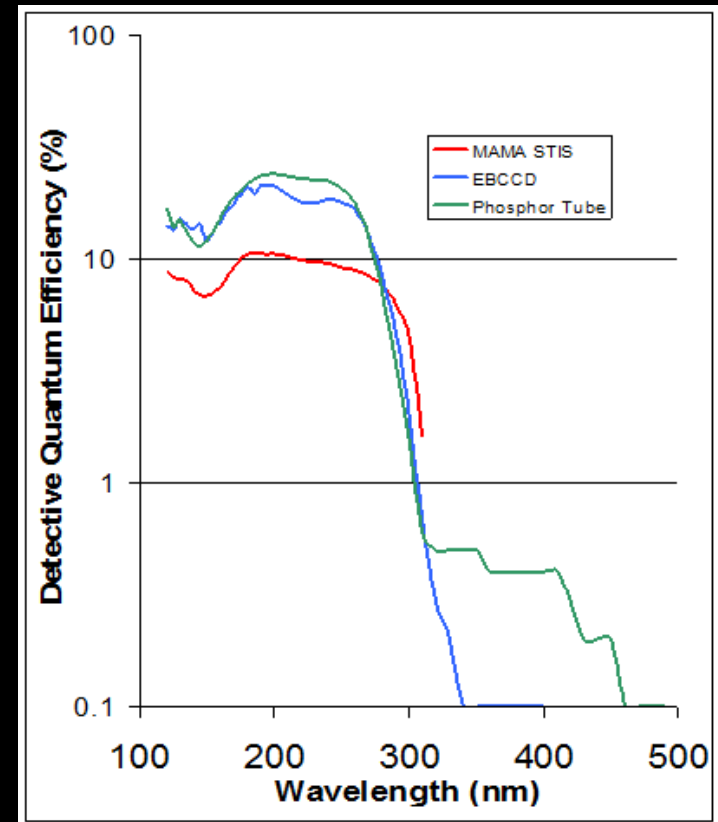
MCP UV Imager for Space

- Leicester Technology demonstrator system
 - TRL 6 demonstrator already developed in UK-CEOI funded project
- Performance goals:
 - Resolution: $\leq 10 \mu\text{m}$, rate: $\geq 5 \text{ Mcount/s}$, lifetime $> 10\text{C/cm}^2 \equiv \sim 10^{14} \text{ event/cm}^2$
- UV solar-blind photocathode technology
 - Demonstrator uses sealed window Cs_2Te photocathode
- Enhanced MCP performance using atomic layer deposition (ALD)
 - Enhanced lifetime, higher PDE, lower noise, higher dynamic range, lower HV
- Square format sealed tube, thin wall, low mass detector design
 - high fill factor detector arrays
- Image readout alternatives
 - Capacitive division centroiding image readout
 - Intensified CMOS device



Photocathode developments

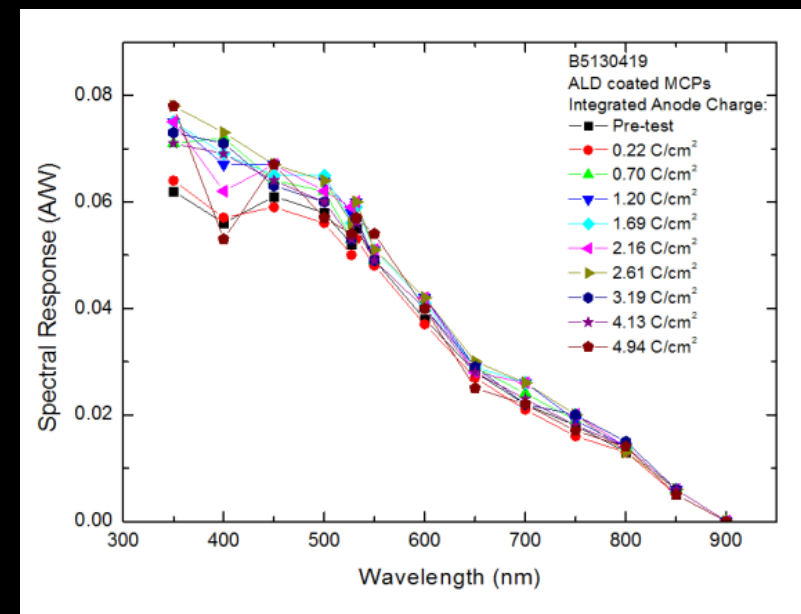
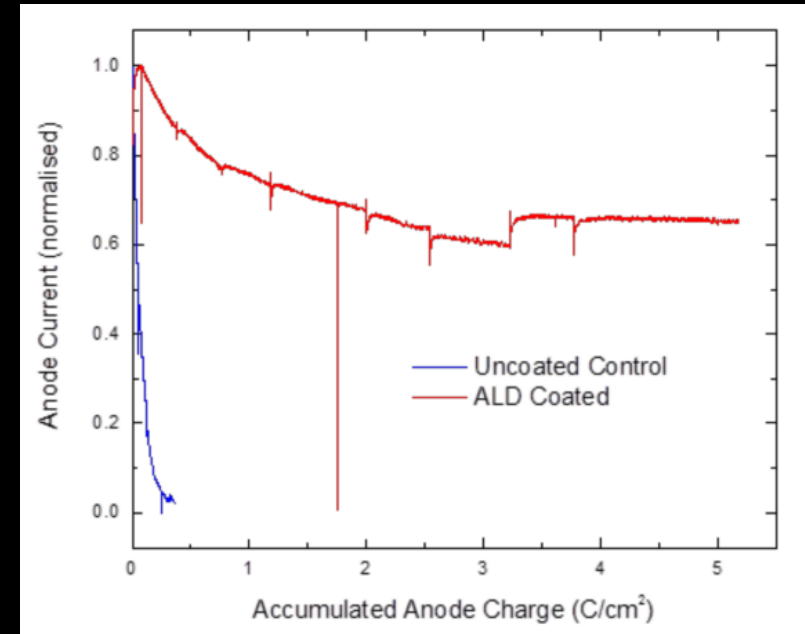
- Solar-blind Cs_2Te photocathode (Photek)
 - QE: 34% at 254 nm
 - cf. HST-STIS QE: 9%
 - Optical wavelength rejection
 - two orders of mag. >350 nm
 - zero red leak
 - Cut-off wavelength can be tuned
 - Sealed tube
 - No door mechanism or contamination
 - Lower mass, complexity, cost
 - Downside: 1100 \AA window cut-off





ALD enhanced MCPs

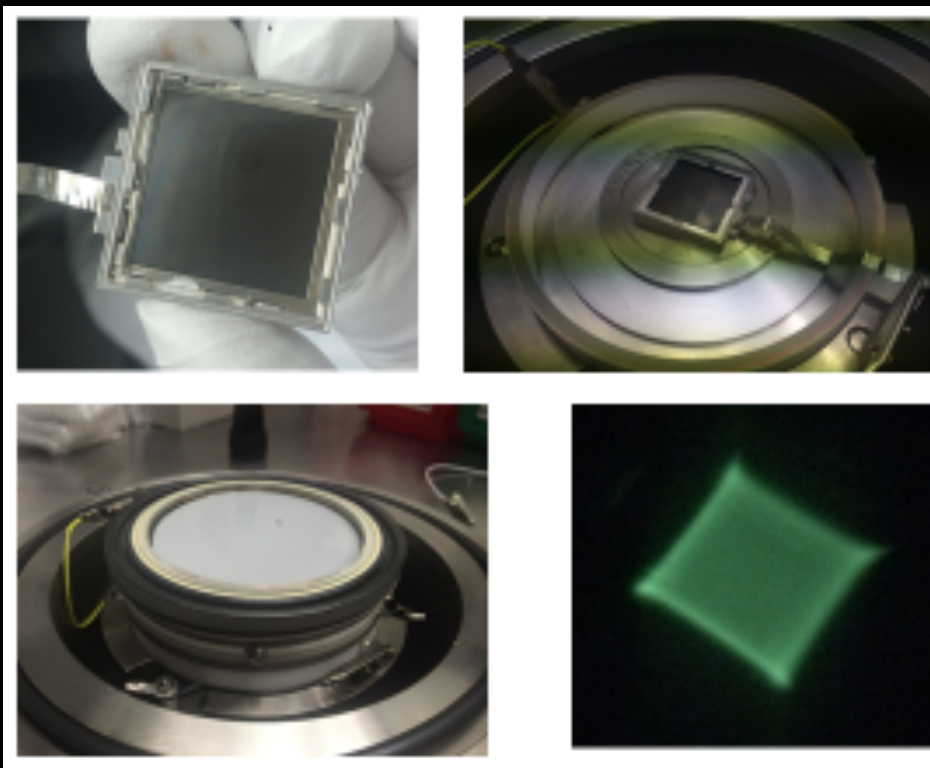
- ALD coated conventional MCPs
- Enhanced secondary electron emission
 - Higher QE due to higher photoelectron detection efficiency
 - Lower operating voltage due to higher gain per bounce
- Increased detector lifetime due to reduced MCP outgassing
 - ALD seals in MCP adsorbates
 - Reduces ion feedback events
 - Reduces photocathode QE fatigue
 - Reduces MCP gain loss





Square format MCP detector

- Thin-walled square tube developed for LHCb upgrade
- Allows close packing of tube arrays
- Minimal dead space between active regions
- LHCb programme has enhanced TRL





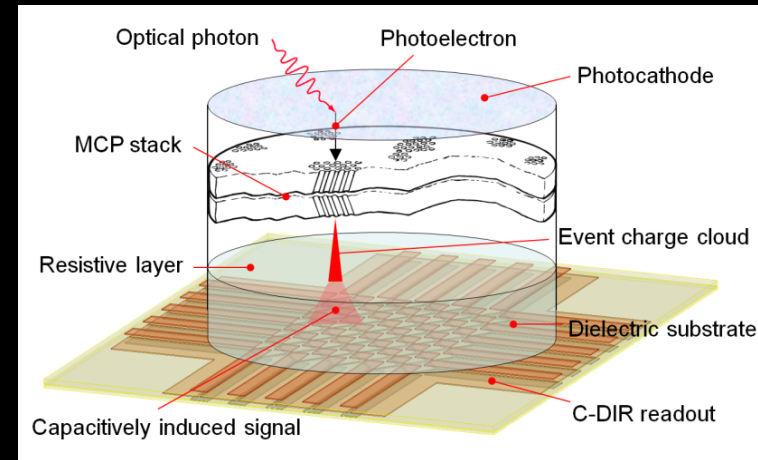
High Speed Image Readouts

- Capacitive division image readout with adaptive digital electronics
 - Proposed for ESA-JUICE UV Imager
 - High speed, low noise centroiding readout
 - Combines high spatial/time resolution & count rate capability
 - Low cost/complexity for sealed or open-faced MCP detector
 - Digital filtering provides real-time count rate vs image resolution trade-off
 - Adaptive electronics allow scene dependent optimisation
- Intensified CMOS readout
 - Uses low power, high frame rate CMOS imager
 - ASTROSAT-UVIT iCMOS detector developed in the UK
 - Sub-pixel centroiding → large pixel formats
 - 6 μm pore MCPs → high spatial resolution
 - Photon counting & analogue modes → high dynamic range
 - CMOS windowing allows higher rate ROI observations



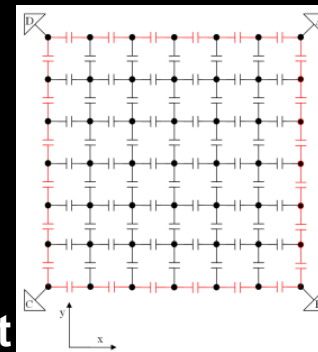
Capacitive division image readout

- Charge signal divided by capacitor array
- Charge readout at 4 nodes
- Capacitance array intrinsic in geometry
- Typical pattern capacitance < 8 pF
 - No resistive or partition noise
 - low noise, high spatial/time resolution
- Very low readout noise
 - Less than 200 e- rms at $\tau_{\text{shape}} = 250\text{ns}$
- Spatial resolution
 - 4000 × 4000 pixel² at 5x10⁶ electrons
- Simple linear encoding algorithm
 - minimal digital processing
- Excellent linearity
 - utilize >80% of anode
- Optimal performance
- → adaptive digital electronics

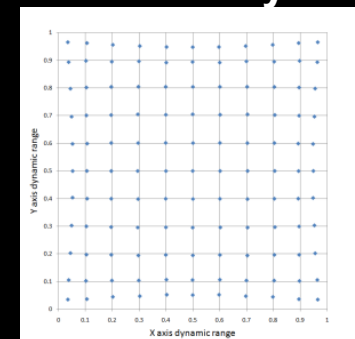


- Event charge is localized on resistive layer
- Transient signal induced through dielectric
- Dielectric substrate part of vacuum housing
- Induced signal sensed by C-DIR readout
- C-DIR - a capacitively coupled electrode array

Equivalent circuit



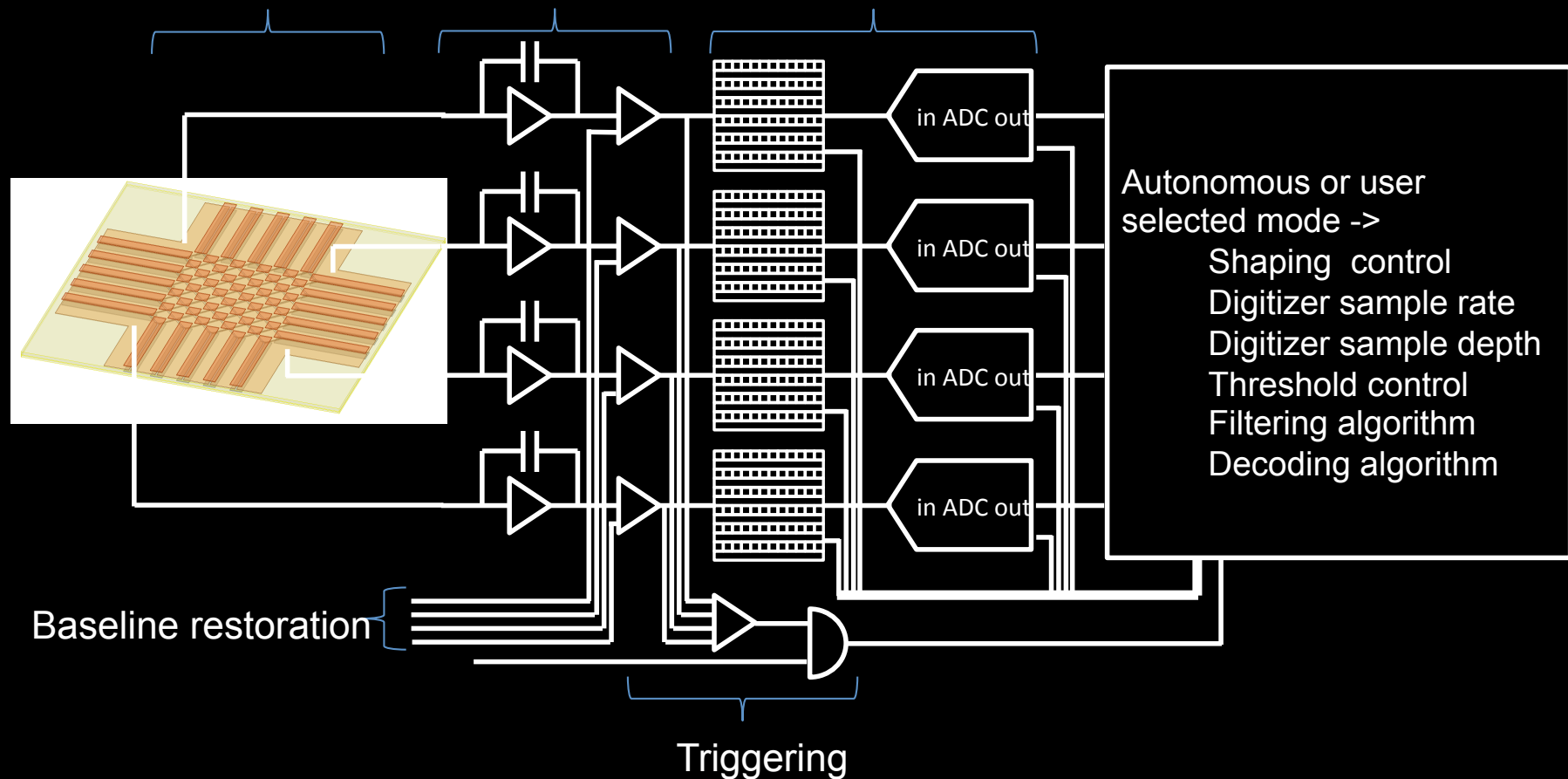
Linearity





C-DIR Adaptive Electronics

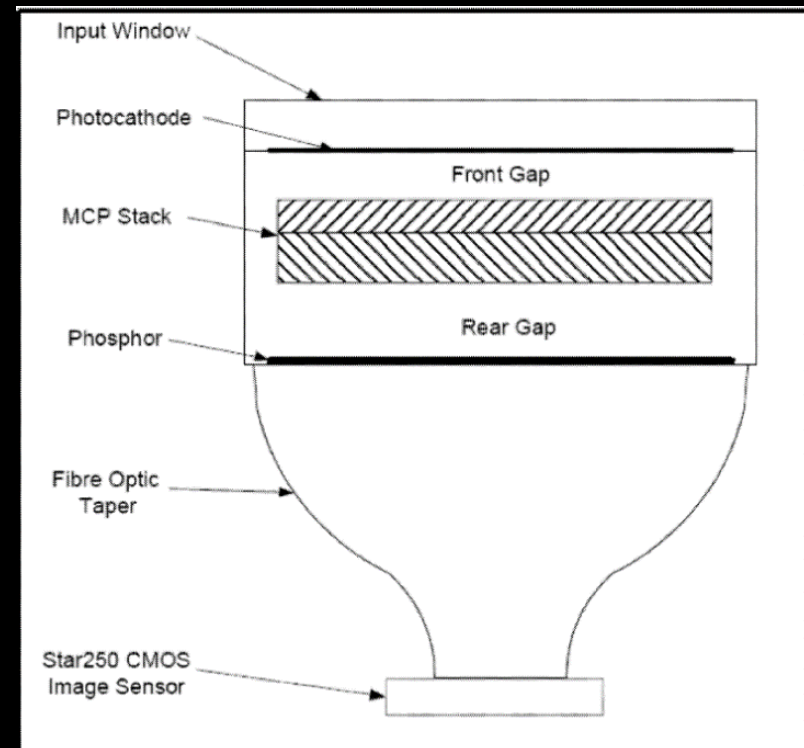
C-DIR readout Digitizer Signal processing FPGA





Intensified CMOS detector

- Many benefits shared with iCCD
 - sub-pixel resolution
 - flight heritage (XMM-OM, SWIFT etc.)
- Advantages of CMOS technology
 - no charge transfer
 - no shutter
 - no blooming
 - rad-hard
 - high frame rate
 - low power
- Easy integration
 - image acquisition & DPU functionality on FPGA
- Designs already space qualified
 - Astrosat UVIT (Photek)
 - Solar Orbiter SPICE





Study questions

- Tradeoff between MCP and the various CMOS/CCD approaches
 - E.g direct imaging vs intensified imaging
 - Matching spatial resolution to telescope
 - Dynamic range of sensors
 - Quantum efficiency



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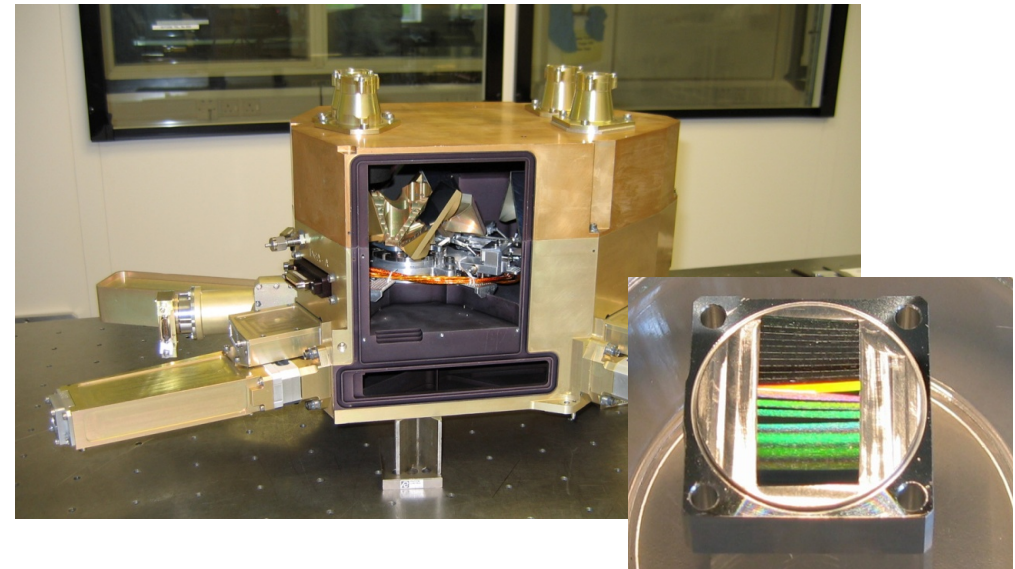
- ~ 70 staff – engineers, managers, scientists
 - Matrix management structure
 - Staff allocated to projects as needed
- Long heritage in delivery of state of the art, “facility class” instruments and telescopes.
- Current ground-based projects:
 - Lead institute for VLT-MOONS
 - Lead on IR camera for VLT-ERIS
 - Coordinating institute for UK E-ELT programme
 - Lead technical institute for E-ELT HARMONI
 - LM-band spectrograph lead for E-ELT METIS
 - Significant roles in E-ELT MOSAIC & HIRES studies
 - Lead for ALMA observing software (& toward SKA)



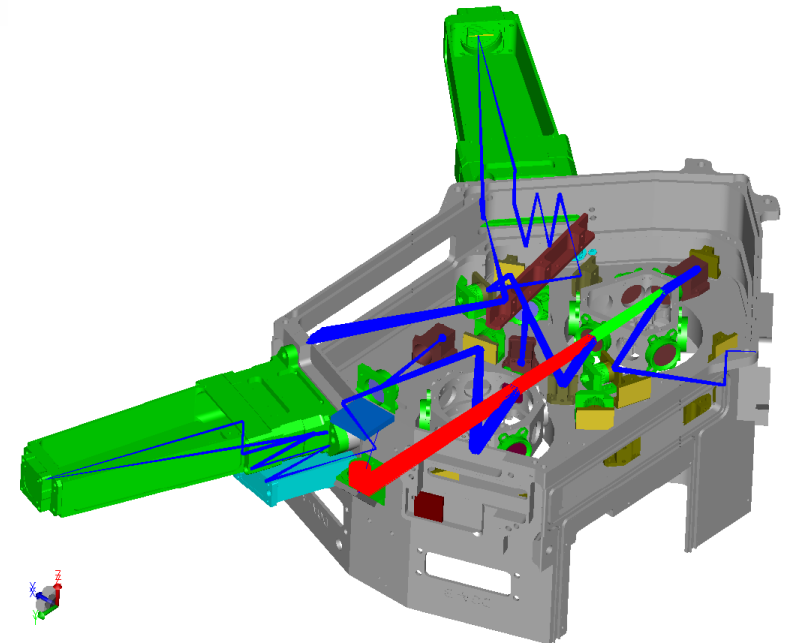
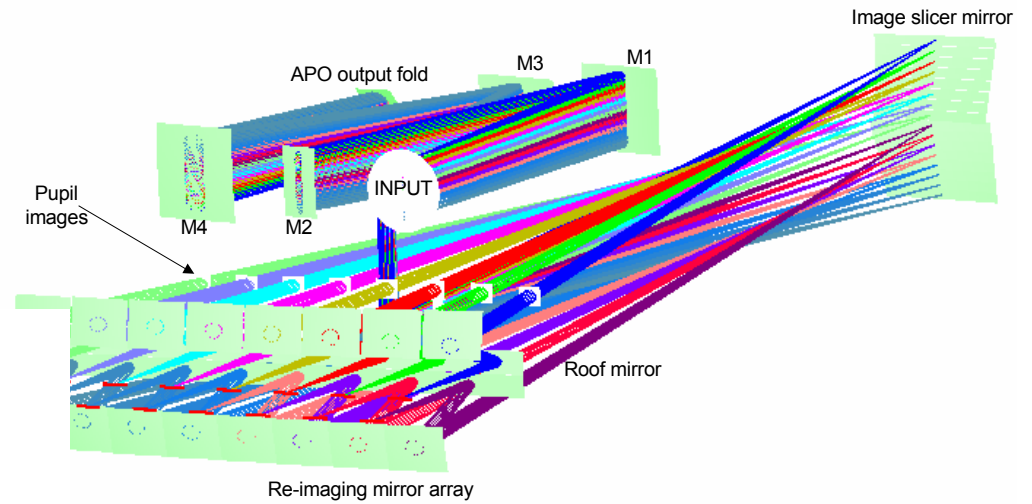
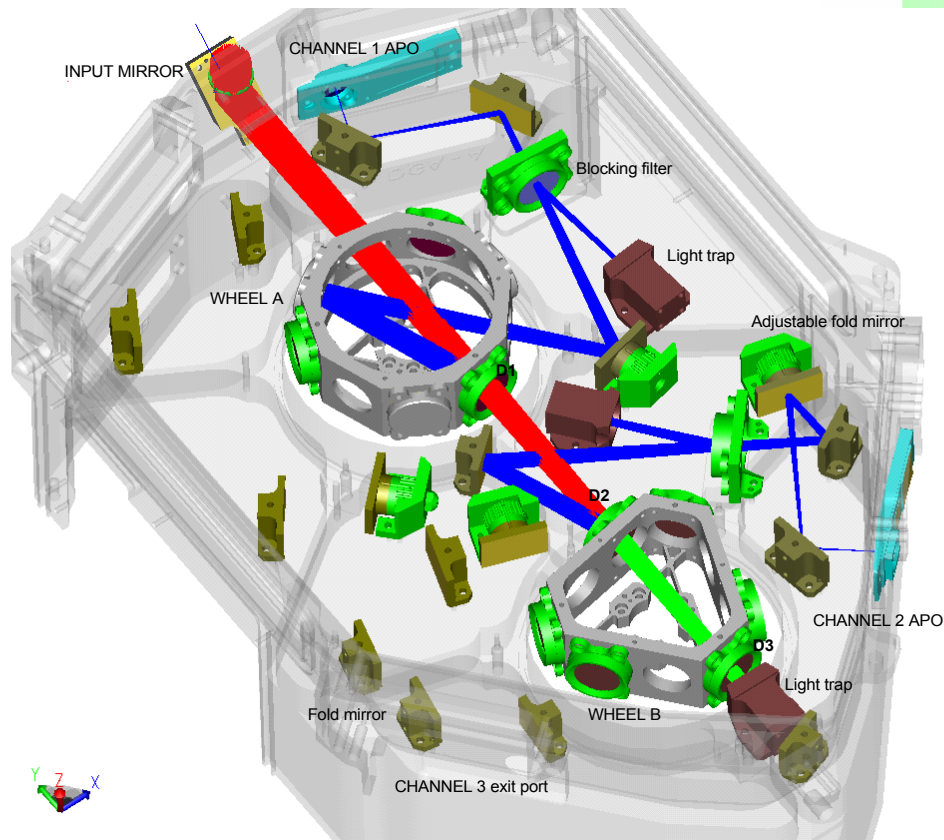
UK ATC: Instrumentation for NASA & ESA

JWST MIRI

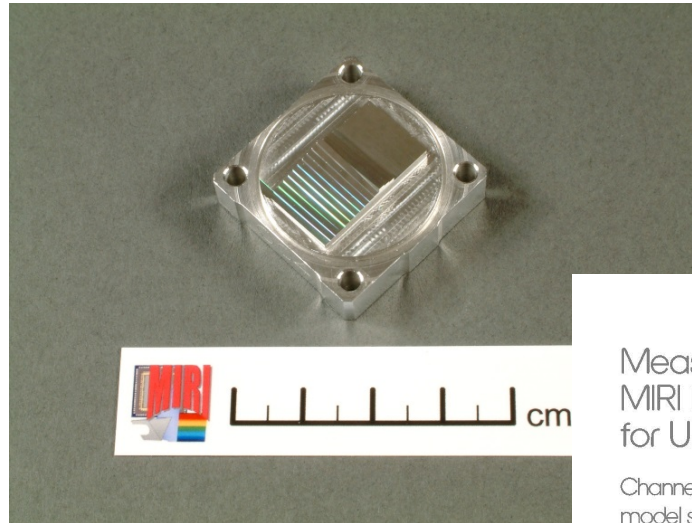
- 27 European institutes (incl. Leicester) + JPL
- UK ATC – overall project lead, optical system design, Spectrometer Pre-Optics
- Now working closely with STScI to develop user support tools and & calibration pipeline



JWST-MIRI: Spectrometer & image slicers



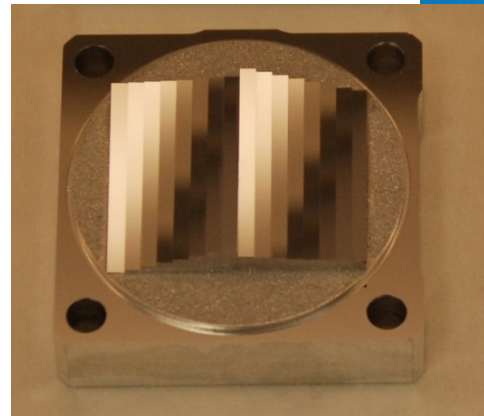
JWST-MIRI: Spectrometer & image slicers



Measurement of
MIRI IFU Mirrors
for UK ATC

Channel 1: candidate flight
model slicers and
reimagers

Cranfield
UNIVERSITY

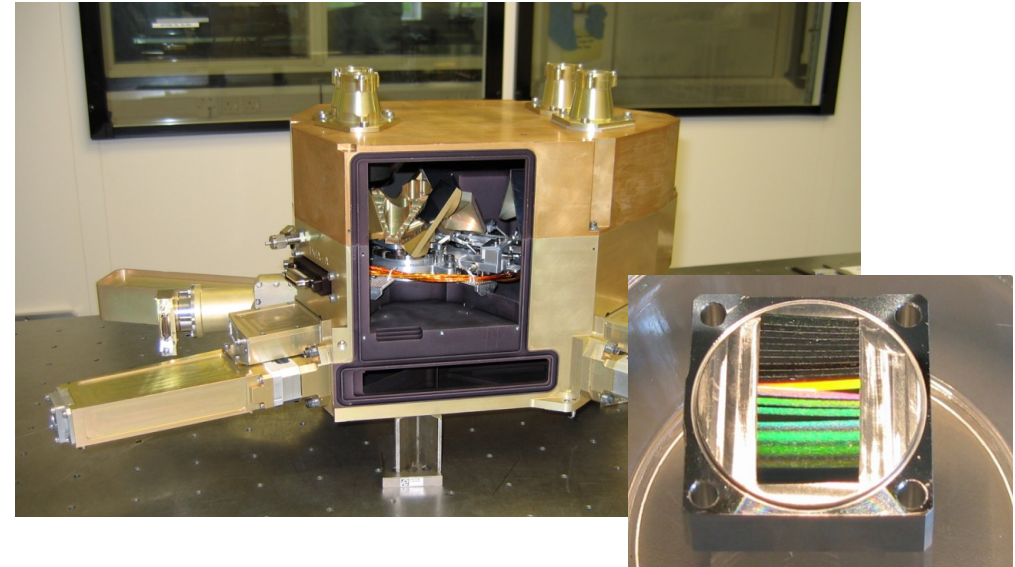


Report compiled by:

UK ATC: Instrumentation for NASA & ESA

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Herschel SPIRE

- Initial opto-mechanical design of photometer channels
- Development of beam-steering mirror for chopping

Current Development Studies

- European IR detectors for future missions with Selex UK
- Ariel exoplanet study for ESA (M4)
- NSTP funded cubesat design studies (mostly EO focussed)

