



The Prototype HypsIRI Thermal Infrared Radiometer (PHYTIR)

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HypsIRI Background

Visible ShortWave InfraRed (VSWIR) Imaging Spectrometer
Multispectral Thermal InfraRed (TIR) Scanner

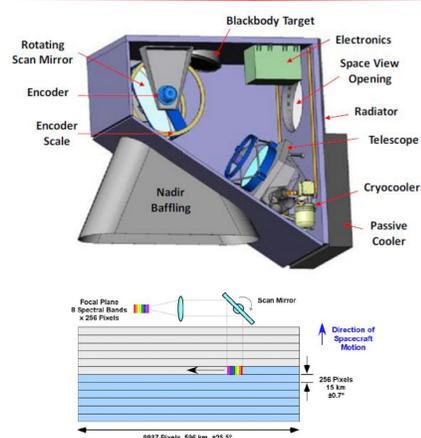
VSWIR: Plant Physiology and Function Types (PPFT)
 Multispectral TIR Scanner

Science Questions:
 TQ1. Volcanoes/Earthquakes (MA,FF)
 - How can we help predict and mitigate earthquake and volcanic hazards through detection of transient thermal phenomena?
 TQ2. Wildfires (LG,DR)
 - What is the impact of global biomass burning on the terrestrial biosphere and atmosphere, and how is this impact changing over time?
 TQ3. Water Use and Availability (MA,RA)
 - How is consumptive use of global freshwater supplies responding to changes in climate and demand, and what are the implications for sustainable management of water resources?
 TQ4. Urbanization/Human Health (DQ,GG)
 - How does urbanization affect the local, regional and global environment? Can we characterize this effect to help mitigate its impact on human health and welfare?
 TQ5. Earth surface composition and change, (AP,IC)
 - What is the composition and temperature of the exposed surface of the Earth? How do these factors change over time and affect land use and habitability?

Andean volcano heats up
 Urbanization
 Volcanoes
 Water Use and Availability
 Surface Temperature
 Evapotranspiration

Atlanta, GA - May 1997

HypsIRI-TIR Instrument Concept



HypsIRI-TIR Sensor Assembly

HypsIRI TIR Instrument Characteristics			
	Spectral		Spatial
Beams (B)	3.95 μm , 7.35 μm , 8.20 μm , 8.63 μm , 9.97 μm , 10.53 μm , 11.33 μm , 13.07 μm	IFOV	100 μrad , 60 m at nadir
Bandwidths	0.064 μm , 0.12 μm , 0.14 μm , 0.15 μm , 0.16 μm , 0.14 μm , 0.14 μm , 0.12 μm	MTF	>0.60 at F30
Accuracy	<0.03 ppm	Scan Type	Push-Whisk, 14.2 RPM mirror rotation
Temperature Range	Channel 1: 400-1300 K Channel 2-5: 300 K - 400 K	Cross-Whisk Samples	250
Resolution	< 0.05 K, linear conversions to 14 bits < 0.5 K, at 250 K	Samples in Whisk Direction (Cross Track)	9,300
Throughput (NETD)	< 0.2 K	Cross-Whisk Swath Width	15.4 km (at 7° at 613 km altitude)
Linearity	>99% characterized to 0.1%	Swath Length in Whisk Direction	596 km (at 17.5° at 613 km altitude)
		Read to Read Cycle Duration	0.2 seconds (11 Hz)
		Pointing Knowledge	10 arcsec (0.3 pixels, 30 m)

- MCT Detector Array – 256 elements cross-sweep
- 1 Bandgap to Cover Full Spectral Range
- > 4 Detector Columns per Spectral Channel to Allow Time Delay and Integration (TDI)
- Butcher-Block Filter Assembly
- Baffles to Prevent Crosstalk Between Spectral Channels
- CMOS Read-Out
- Integrated Circuit (ROIC)
- Multiple Output Signals to Enable Necessary Pixel Read Rate
- On-Chip Digitization Under Study
- 60 K Cold Tip of Cryocooler

HypsIRI-TIR will use a Butcher-block filter layout on top of focal plane. PHYTIR will not use focal plane filters but will spin a filter wheel in the optical path.

Instrument Optics

Optical Design Assumptions

- > Altitude: 623km (5-day repeat)
- > Ground Sample Distance: 60m (@ NADIR)
- > Pixel pitch: 40 μm
- > Aperture: F/2
- > IFOV: 96.308 μrad
- > FOV: 1.413° (stationary)
- > FOV: 51° (scanning)
- > Focal Length: 415.3mm
- > Aperture Size: 207.7m
- > Cross track pixels: 9242 pixels
- > Swath: 600km ($R_{\text{earth}} = 9378\text{km}$)
- > Swath overlap: 5% along track pixels
- > Dwell time: 32.5ms
- > Scan Mirror Rotation Rate: 14.15rpm (double sided scan mirror)
- > Spectral coverage (Passband) = 4 to 12 μm
- > MTF_{Nyquist} > 60% for all fields and wavelengths
- > Obscuration <15% (by area)
- > 3 aspheric mirrors (telescope and relay)
- > 2 flat mirrors (fold and scan)
- > 2 transmissive elements (window and interference filter)
- > chromatic aberration negligible

Summary	
Parameter	Value
Aperture Size	208 mm (<10% obstruction)
F/#	2
Focal Length	416mm
Optical Throughput	66%

HypsIRI-TIR Sensor Rational

Science Requirements
 60 m Resolution
 5-Day repeat

Instrument Requirements
 ~10,000 pixels cross track
 ~600 km swath
 51° Cross-track swath

Whiskbroom (Push-Whisk)
 • Single telescope with scanning mirror
 • Single detector array with 256 pixels per band

Pushbroom
 • ~10 detector arrays, each with ~1,000 pixels per band
 • >3 telescopes

Science Requirements
 0.5% Radiometric accuracy for 300 K scenes

Instrument Requirements
 Frequent 2-point calibrations (space and blackbody)

Whiskbroom (Push-Whisk)
 • Scanning mirror allows easy and frequent 2-point calibrations
 • No mapping gaps

Pushbroom
 • Calibration mechanism required – must enable multiple telescopes to view space and blackbody
 • Gap in mapping during calibration

HypsIRI-TIR Sensor Rational

Science / Instrument Requirement
 0.2 K resolution for 300 K scene

QWIPs
 • Quantum efficiency ~3%
 • > 0.3 K resolution at 40 K (225 W cooler power)

MCT Detectors
 • Quantum efficiency > 70%
 • 0.06 K resolution at 60 K (69 W cooler power)

Uncooled Microbolometers
 • Too slow for push-whisk method
 • Even with pushbroom, resolution ~0.8 K

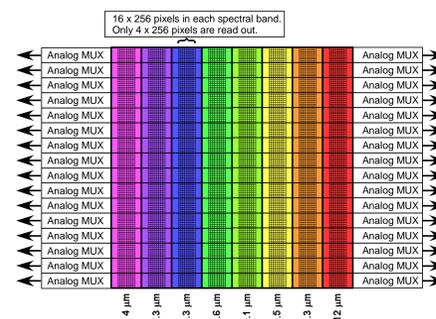
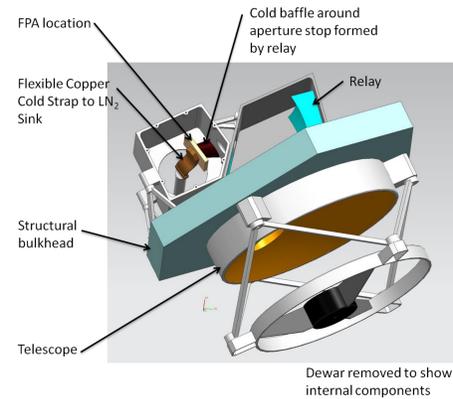
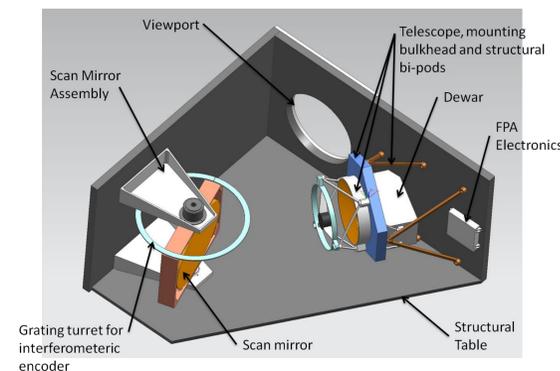
Science / Instrument Requirement
 8 spectral bands 4-12 μm

QWIPs
 • Multiple arrays required to cover all bands

MCT Detectors
 • Single band-gap material can cover full spectral range

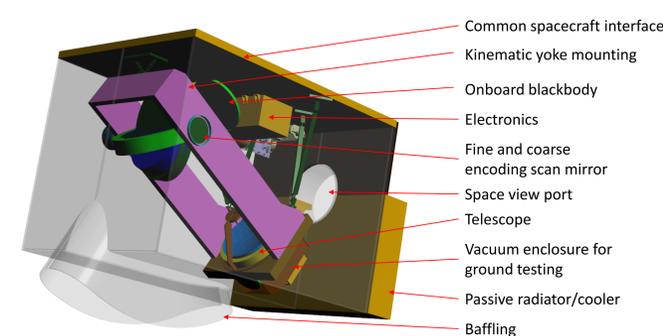
Uncooled Microbolometers
 • Not sensitive to 4 μm band

PHYTIR Implementation



PHYTIR will not have focal plane filters but will implement the identical ROIC design to HypsIRI-TIR. 32 parallel output at > 10 MHz allow 32 μs frame times.

PHYTIR Current Design



PHYTIR Calibration and Validation

PHYTIR Prototype Consists of

- Full HypsIRI TIR MCT detector array
- Spectral range 4-12 μm (TIR spectral range)
- Scan mirror prototype with precise encoder

Testing of PHYTIR Prototype

- Measuring response to two blackbody targets, combined with detector noise, will provide S/N (tested at full frame rate)
- Including target-projector slit while inducing T gradients will test pointing stability
- Increasing blackbody T will determine saturation T and high-T S/N
- Measuring background, noise, and drift will show effects of uncooled optics

300K-500K Blackbody - Simulation of nadir scene
 Target Projector - Simulation of nadir point source

PHYTIR Summary

The following steps are currently being undertaken to build PHYTIR:

- 1) Design and Build the Scan Mechanism
- 2) Design and Build a Scan Mirror
- 3) Integrate the Spectral Filters with Focal Plane Array and ROIC
- 4) Assemble the Dewar with external telescope, internal relay and focal plane assembly
- 5) Build the prototype Electronics
- 6) Assemble PHYTIR

Once PHYTIR is assembled it will be used to retire the four key risks as noted earlier. A key part of this effort is the final testing to prove these four key risks.

- a) Detectors and readout meet all signal-to-noise and speed specifications.
- b) Scan mirror and structure meet pointing knowledge requirements.
- c) Long-wavelength channels will not saturate below 480 K.
- d) Background from ambient temperature optics does not affect instrument performance.

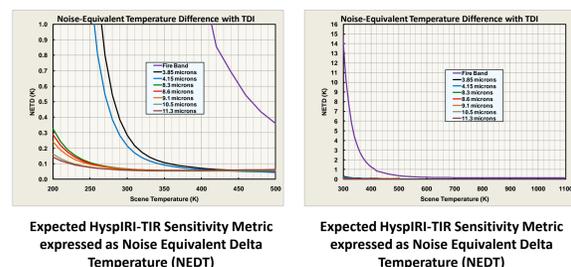
This activity will benefit the development of any airborne or spaceborne system that will utilize a high speed scanning mirror coupled with a MCT detector array to obtain a wide swath width, high spatial resolution, thermal infrared measurement with an NEAT of approximately 0.2K.

Similar systems have been used in the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS), Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS), Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission Radiometer (ASTER) and Landsat (TM5/ETM+) instruments (Barnes et. al. 1998; Mitchel 2008; Ohmae and Kitamura, 1994; Barsi et al. 2003).

However, none of these existing systems has sufficient performance to meet the measurement requirements of the HypsIRI-TIR instrument. PHYTIR will demonstrate that HypsIRI-TIR required high accuracy measurements can be made and help enable both the HypsIRI-TIR instrument as well as other future instruments built by Governments or Commercial Companies that utilize similar technology.

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HypsIRI-TIR Sensor Performance



PHYTIR Rational for HypsIRI-TIR

The technology for the HypsIRI-TIR instrument is mature but further work is needed to reduce risk. In particular, the proposed design requires a high sensitivity and high throughput Focal Plane Array (FPA), combined with a scanning mechanism that requires stringent pointing knowledge. The scanning approach, and the high sensitivity and high throughput FPA, are required to meet the revisit time (5 days), the high spatial resolution (60m), and the number of spectral channels (8) specified by the Decadal Survey, and the HypsIRI Science Study Group for the mission. The next step is to reduce the risk associated with the scanning mechanism and the FPA with the development of a laboratory prototype termed the Prototype HypsIRI Thermal Infrared Radiometer (PHYTIR).

PHYTIR will demonstrate that:

1. The detectors and readouts meet all signal-to-noise and speed specifications.
2. The scan mirror, together with the structural stability, meets the pointing knowledge requirements.
3. The long-wavelength channels do not saturate below 480 K.
4. The cold shielding allows the use of ambient temperature optics on the HypsIRI-TIR instrument without impacting instrument performance.