

# UKSA-CNES Bilateral Carbon Mission (BCM) Support Study

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*CEOI Technology Conference 2015, Cosener's House, Abingdon, 21-22 April 2015*



# Global Measurements from Space are Essential for Monitoring Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>

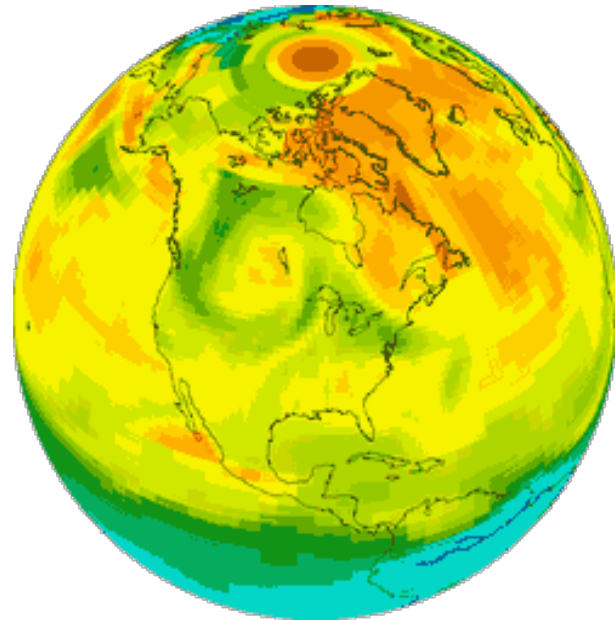
To limit the rate of atmospheric carbon dioxide buildup, we must

- Control emissions associated with human activities
- Understand & exploit natural processes that absorb carbon dioxide

We can only manage what we can measure



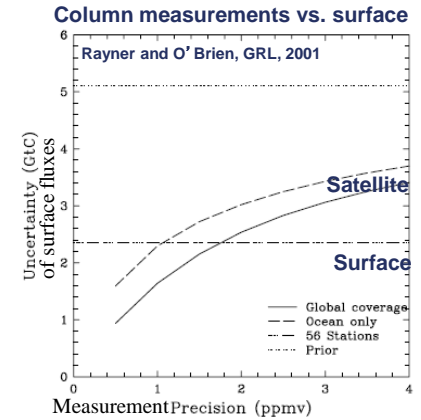
Plumes from medium-sized power plants (4 MtC/yr) elevate  $X_{\text{CO}_2}$  levels by ~2 ppm for 10's of km downwind [Yang and Fung, 2010].



These variations are superimposed on a background of "CO<sub>2</sub> weather"

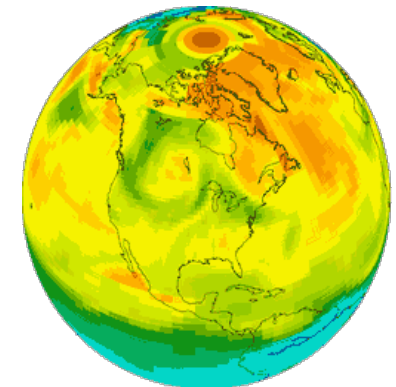
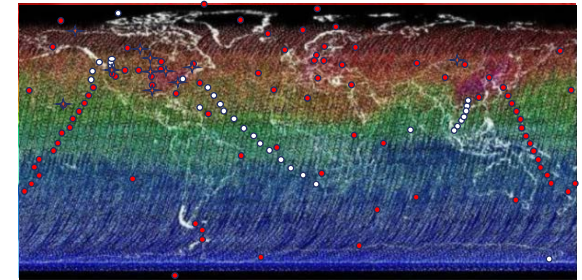
# Driving Requirements for Space-based CO<sub>2</sub> Measurements

- Precision and accuracy
  - High precision required to resolve small (0.2-0.3%) variations in CO<sub>2</sub> associated with sources and sinks
  - High accuracy essential to avoid regional-scale biases
- Spatial coverage
  - Near-global sampling required over continents and ocean
- Spatial resolution and sampling
  - Small measurement footprints reduce impacts of clouds
- Temporal sampling
  - Synoptic-scale sampling with a 1-4 day repeat cycle needed to resolve transport of CO<sub>2</sub> by local weather systems



Surface network

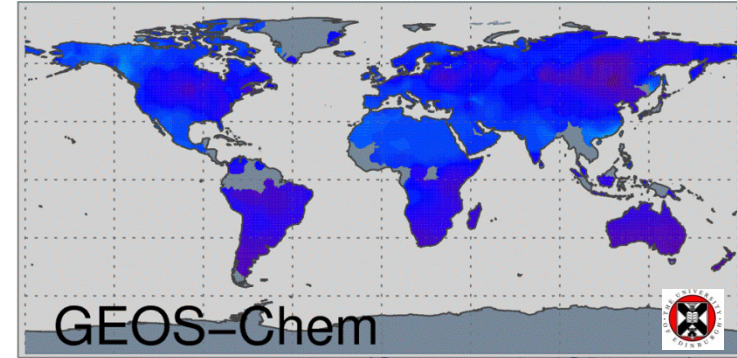
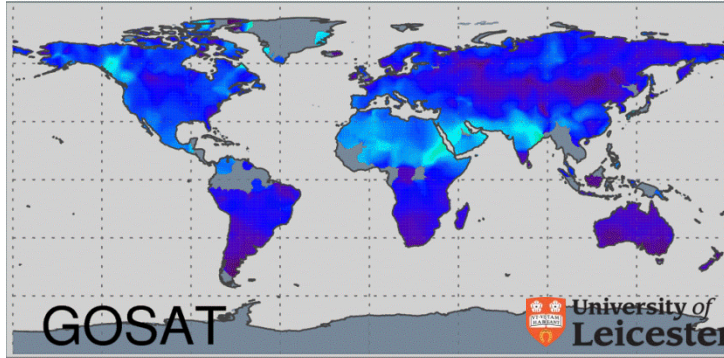
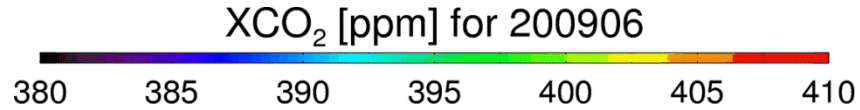
Satellite coverage



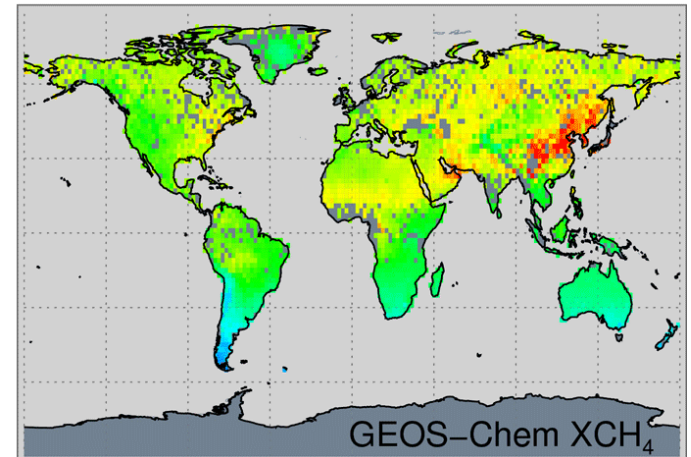
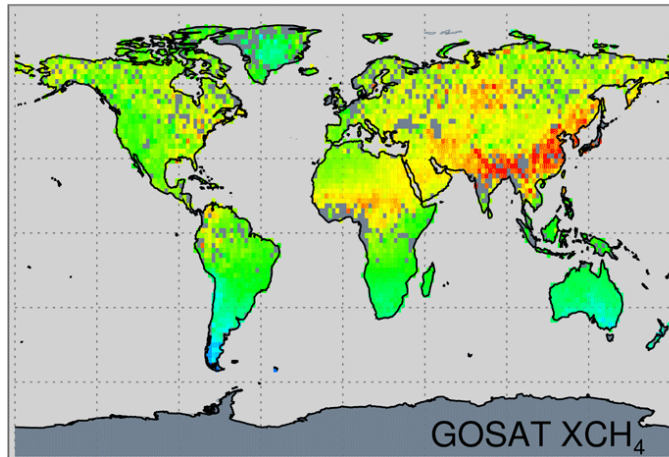
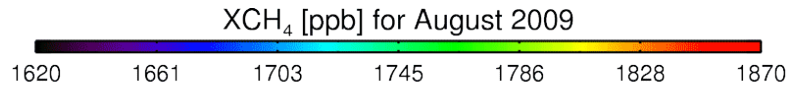
# Feasibility of space-based CO<sub>2</sub> & CH<sub>4</sub> observations is well established by GOSAT & OCO-2 demo missions



GOSAT - first dedicated GHG satellite



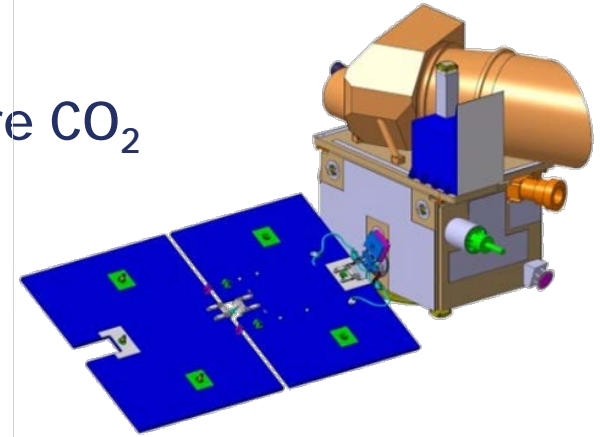
(Cogan et al., JGR, 2012)



(Parker et al., GRL, 2011)



- MicroCarb is a CNES mission concept to measure CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> concentrations
  - To quantify CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> surface fluxes at regional scales
  - To identify and monitor global carbon sources and sinks
- CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> concentration will be retrieved by measurements of absorption of reflected sunlight by CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> in near infrared
- Mission design will use technology with moderate development schedule and risks:
  - **A compact and low cost concept mission**
- Payload is based on a passive optic instrument compatible with a MicroSatellite bus accommodation
  - **Opens the way for long-term monitoring of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> using a constellation of MicroSat platforms**



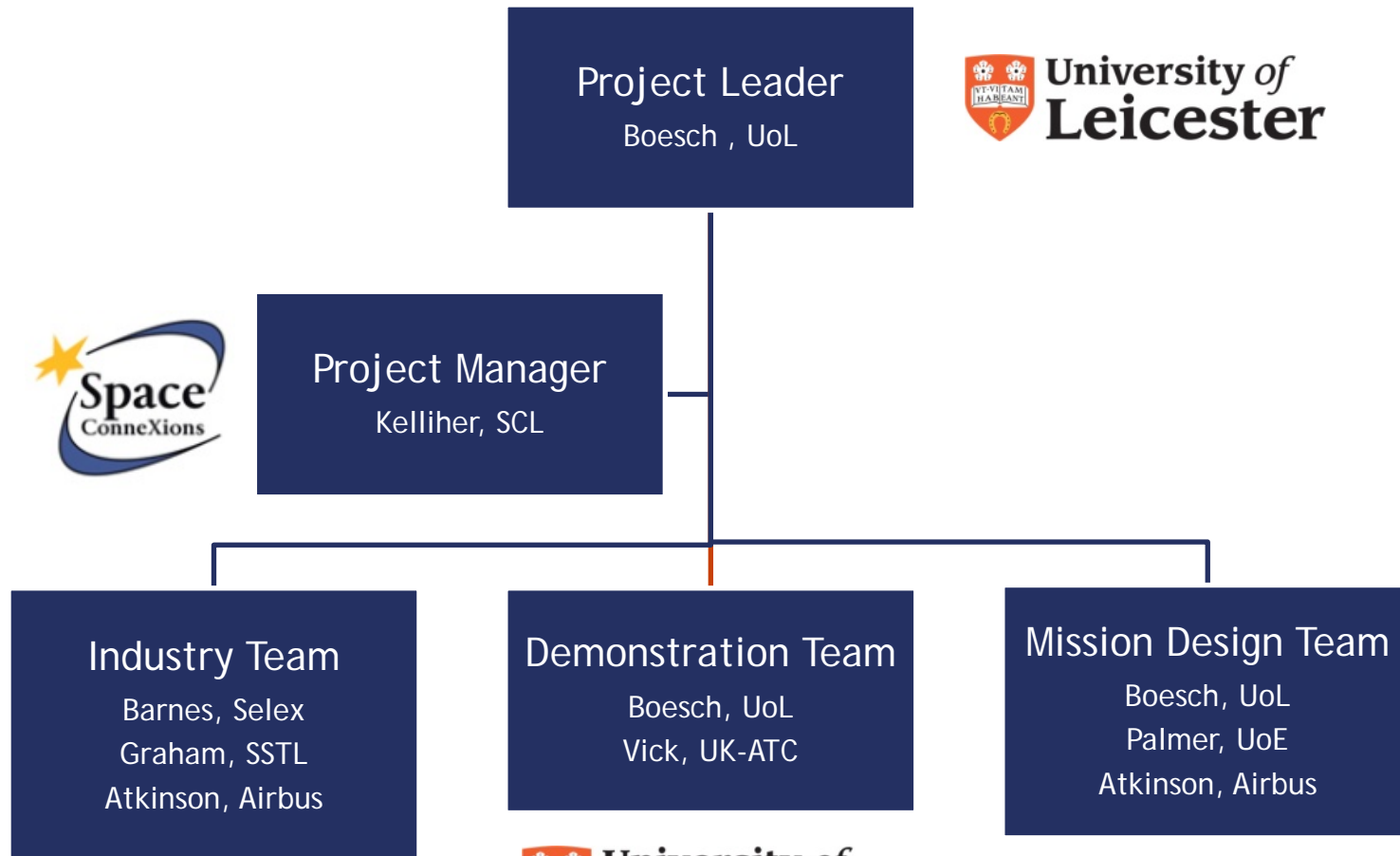
# UKSA-CNES Bilateral Carbon Mission Support Study

The study consists of three major tasks:

- 1) **Investigation of potential UK contributions to bilateral UK-French mission**
  - Develop specific options for UK contributions to the MicroCarb mission based on the assumption that the instrument itself will be provided by France.
- 2) **Demonstration of UK technology with an airborne demonstrator**
  - Demonstrate cutting-edge UK instrument technology for GHG observations.
- 3) **Assessment of Mission Design**
  - Evaluate and optimize the science return.
  - Assess the potential of constellation concepts and for commercial downstream services.

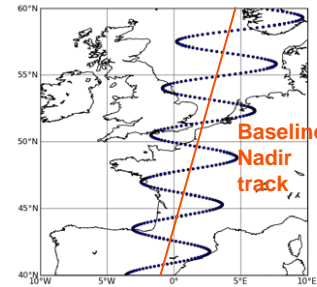
**The study started in April 2014 and will finish in September 2015.**

# Study team Structure

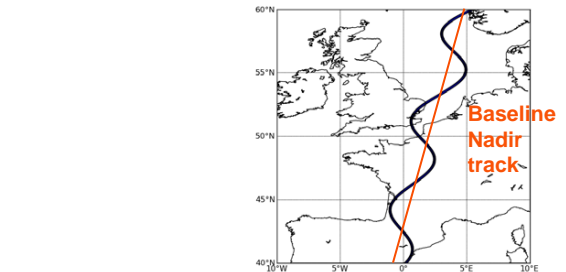


# Orbit and Sampling Strategy

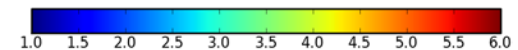
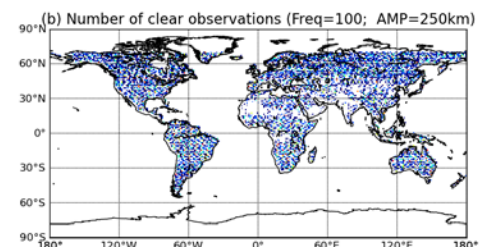
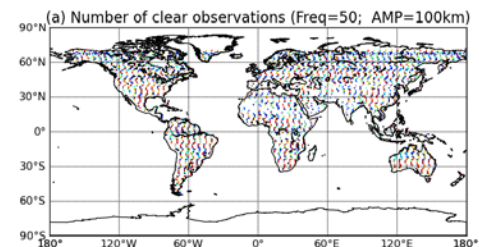
- MicroCarb missions uses 3 observation modes:
  - Nadir mode is primary mode over land with narrow nadir track with 10 km swath
  - Sun glint tracking- LoS pointing toward sun glint on ocean to maximise SNR performance
  - Target mode- instrument is pointed towards target e.g. on-ground power station
- MicroCarb baseline concept assumes pointing of dedicated platform
- A payload pointing device would allow:
  - Scientific gains by spreading out nadir ground pixels to obtain more independent observations
  - Relax the pointing requirements on the platform
  - Piggy-backing the MicroCarb payload as a secondary payload (constellations)



Spreading out Soundings with Pointing Device



## Coverage for 2 Pointing Options





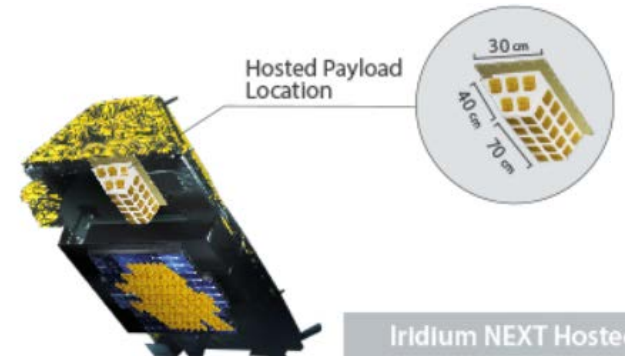
# Instrument Pointing and Steerability Trade-off

## Hosting:

- Cost effective way by piggy-backing payload as secondary payload by sharing S/C bus between two (or more) payloads with own financial backing
  - Investigate possibility of sharing spacecraft platform considering requirements on volume, mass, power, data rate, interfaces and pointing needs
- identify future candidate missions that could host the BCM payload

*Conclusion: a number of options look interesting (e.g. Iridium NEXT constellation). However, few options meet current instrument mass and volume requirements although efforts are underway to decrease these demands*

Iridium NEXT constellation consisting of 66 LEO spacecraft

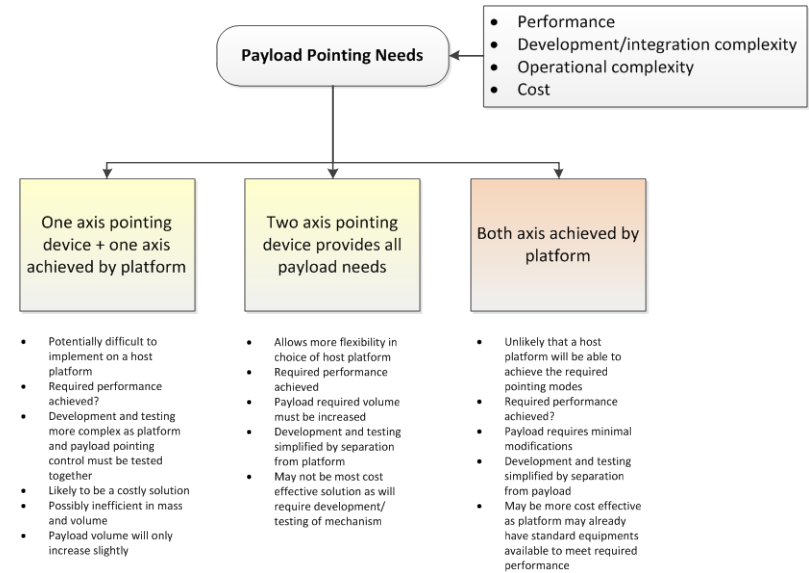


# Instrument Pointing and Steerability Trade-off

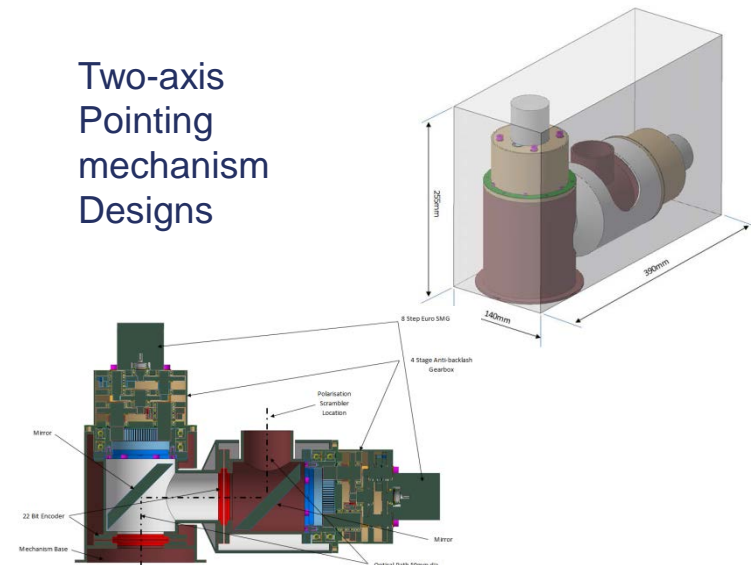
## Pointing:

- Investigate options for pointing device for MicroCarb to allow:
  - sharing spacecraft platform
  - additional scientific gains by spreading out ground pixels
  - Technology trade-off based on pointing accuracy & knowledge, agility, mass, power, pointing range

*Conclusion: Several devices investigated to meet agility requirements relating to across track sampling. A stepper motor based two axis system may be best to meet both axis requirements with low mass (< 6kg) and low power use (4W)*

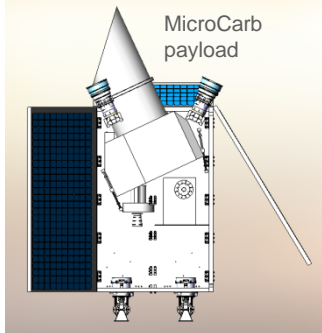
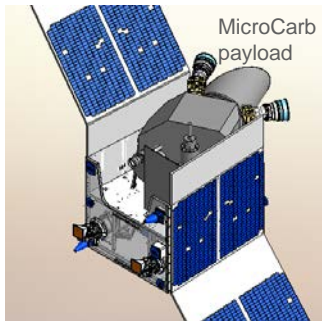


## Two-axis Pointing mechanism Designs



# Hosting MicroCarb Payload on UK Platform

- Evaluated SSTL platforms for hosting the MicroCarb payload
- Main trade-offs: mass, power and thermal budgets, accommodation, pointing requirement,  $\Delta V$  (orbit maintenance and de-orbiting), launcher options, operational assumptions, data budgets



	SSTL-X50	SSTL-150	SSTL-150L
Mass	219kg	275 kg	326 kg
Solar array configuration	Two deployed fixed wings	Two deployed fixed wings	One deployed sun tracking wing
OAP generated	211W	211W	319W
$\Delta V$ capability	15.5m/s	20.2m/s	80m/s
Deorbit method	Passive device	Passive device	Propulsion system
Operations concepts supported	b) and c)	a), b) and c)	a), b) and c)

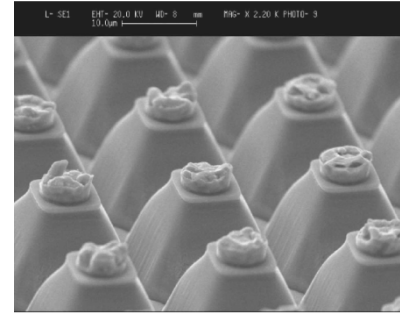
Table 5-8: Summary table

	SSTL-X50	SSTL-150	SSTL-150L
Meets the 200kg limit?	No - provisionally	No	No
CCSDS compatibility?	No	Yes	Yes
Meets the pointing requirements?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meets the $\Delta V$ requirements?	No	No	Yes
Meets the 100% duty cycle requirement?	No	Yes	Yes
Risk level	High	Medium	Low

Table 5-9: Trade off table

- SSTL-150 is a potential option with low cost
- A lower operational orbit to the OCO A-train orbit and a de-orbit device (e.g. solar sail) would be needed
- More work would be needed to reduce launch mass
- SSTL-150L option is a strong option which meets all requirements except the launch mass requirement
- Higher cost

# UK SWIR Detector Options



Selex ES has developed a technology to manufacture large NIR/SWIR arrays based on MCT heterostructures grown by MOVPE on GaAs substrates

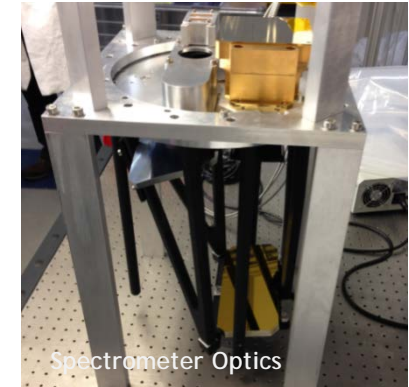
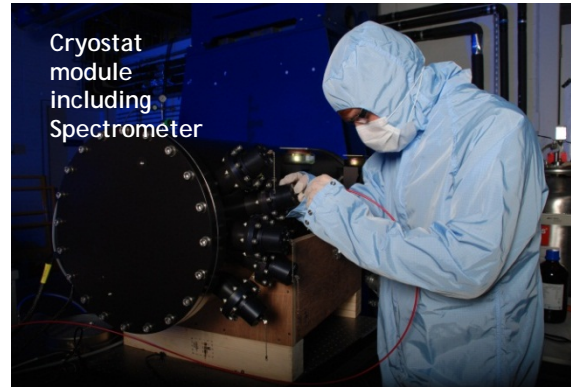
- Baseline CNES MicroCarb instrument design has 2 detectors - band 1 and bands 2/3 with demanding performance requirements
- Performance of Selex detectors has been analysed against requirements and compared to other detectors from Sofradir, Teledyne, and Raytheon
- Selex large format NIR array (over) achieves most requirements for bands 2/3. Main exception is linearity, owing to source follower design.
- Selex has provided recommendations for further work to achieve TRL5 incl.
  - Gamma and proton testing of ESA large format array
  - Package development
  - Optional re-spin of ROIC to include CTIA

Parameter	Units	Requirement	Compliance	Selex Achievement
Pixel pitch	µm	15 - 30 TBC	Y	15
Array width	pixels	>1000 TBC	Y	1274
Array height	pixels	>1000 (goal) TBC >256 (threshold)	Y	1024
FWC	e/pix	90k TBC	Y	100k
B1 QE	%	>50 TBC	N	Not currently achieved by Selex MCT but under development. Possible with a separate detector such as a CCD
B2 QE	%	>70 TBC	Y	75% demonstrated in H band
B3 QE	%	>70 TBC	Y	75% demonstrated in H band
PRNU	%	<5 TBC	N	6% demonstrated in H band
Cut-on wavelength	µm	TBD	Y (B2, B3)	1.3 for B2 and B3 response
Cut-off wavelength	µm	TBD	Y (B2, B3)	2.15 demonstrated but easily adapted to 2.3 or higher. The same dark current should be achieved for 2.3 cut-off at temperatures 7% lower.
Dark current	e/pix/s	<2000 @ 150K	Y	8 predicted. Operating temperature could be increased, although read noise has a weak increasing trend with operating temperature
DSNU	%	< 20 TBC	N	50 but note low mean value
Readout noise	e	<50 (goal) TBC <150 threshold	Y	20 CDS
Reading/Integrating mode		Rolling possible	Y	Rolling possible. At nominal 100kHz clock speed, read time per frame is 0.42s (in 32-output mode) up to 3.3s (in 4-output mode)
Operability	%	>99.5	Y	>99.9% routinely achieved with 3-5µm MOVPE arrays
MTF		> 0.4 at Nyquist TBC	Y	Predict 0.6 for B2/B3
Power consumption	mW	<200 TBC	Y	34 with 4 outputs 54 with 32 outputs
Linearity	%	0.5 peak to valley 2ke - 70ke	N	3, but see note 1

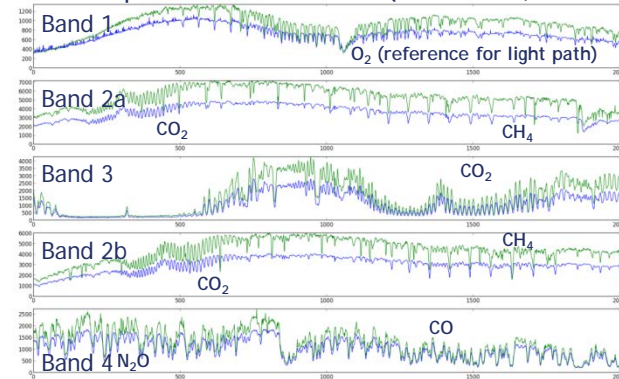
Compliance Table

# Demonstration of UK Instrument Technology using GHOST

- GHOST is a novel SWIR spectrometer designed to simultaneously measure total column observation of carbon gases  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{CO}$ 
  - Similar technology to MicroCarb and other space-based mission
- GHOST is a joint development by U Leicester, U Edinburgh and UK ATC, funded by NERC and STFC
- GHOST has been successfully operated on the NASA Global Hawk with data obtained during 2 science flights over the Pacific Ocean (March 2015)



First Solar Spectrum from the Ground (uncalibrated, 12 Dec 2015)





# Airborne Demonstration over UK

**GHOST will be installed and flown in April/May on ARSF aircraft over selected UK emission targets (city, power plants, landfill sites)**

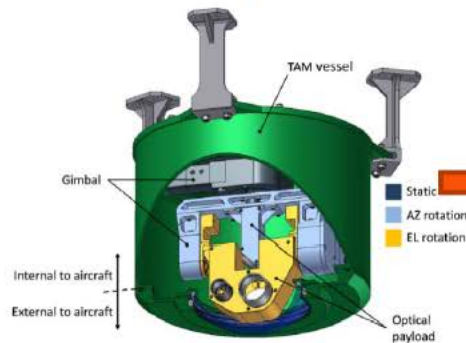
Designed to fly on the Global Hawk UAV at ~53000FT in unpressurised bay (min temp -65°C)



Objective is to fly re-fly instrument on ARSF Aircraft at low altitude (~1000ft)  
**4 x 2 hour flights in April 2015**  
**MUST BE A CLEAR SUNNY DAY FOR BEST SCIENCE!**

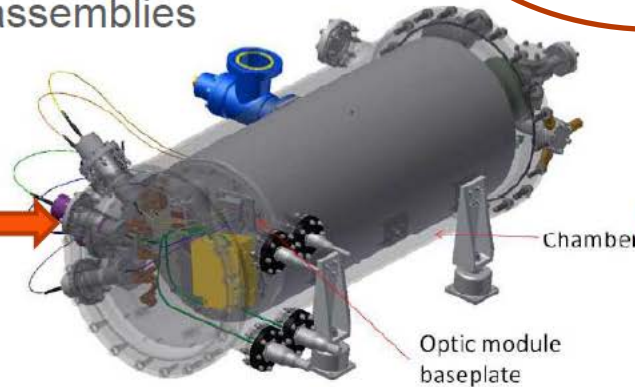


## GHOST – 3 independent subassemblies



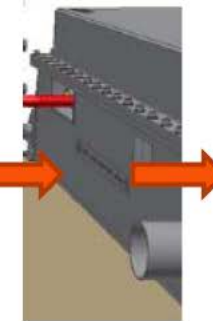
### Target Acquisition Module (TAM) ~30kg

- Preference is to use existing TAM on Dornier. However, option to replace with a simplified unit:
  - Only needs to point downwards
  - Environmental controls should not be necessary



### Spectrograph ~140kg

- For 20 hour mission cooled with 9.7kg of LN<sub>2</sub>
- Chamber has a vacuum pump to operate at low pressure



### Air Transport Rack (ATR)~110kg

- Communications and control system
- Mass attributable to environmental controlled housing

Aircraft communications and control

~10kg of harness supplied by NASA to suit Global Hawk electrical layout and configuration  
Total mass ~290kg  
Electrical Power ~645W (max. 15A 28V DC).

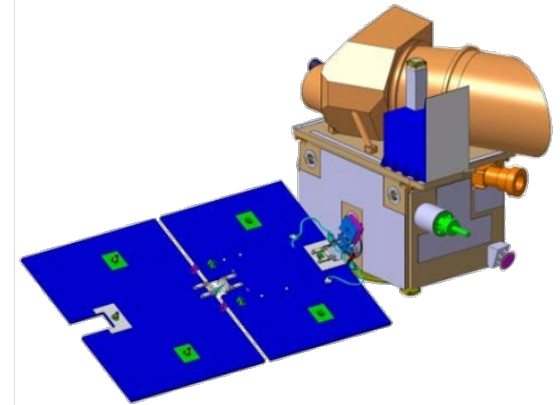
# The Business Case

Two business cases have been investigated:  
a carbon measurement service and a societal benefit service

- First business case looked at providing carbon measurement service focussed on anthropogenic emissions → lack of regulations at present make this case difficult. However UNFCCC COP 2015 may significantly change this.
- Alternative business case, 'societal benefit', focuses on:
  - Measuring natural sources and sinks
  - Achieving a more accurate understanding of the global carbon cycle through improved identification and classification (e.g. type, magnitude) and also evolution with time
- Information derived from satellite data will help us to:
  - Understand processes and help to predict the evolution of CO<sub>2</sub> levels
  - See how changing concentrations will impact the Earth's climate and help policymakers to form effective strategies to mitigate impacts
  - Manage mitigation and adaptation strategies (monitor effectiveness of policy)
- Investigating single BCM satellite but could be augmented by constellation → OSSE calculations underway to investigate benefit of 2 satellites at similar or different orbits (e.g. TRMM or ISS).

# Conclusions

- The collaboration between CNES and UKSA is a great opportunity for a bilateral carbon mission that can act as a demonstrator for a space-based carbon monitoring system.
- MicroCarb could act as a key gap filler between OCO and the next major carbon mission e.g. Carbonsat?
- The BCM project has shown that UK industry can make key technology contributions to the MicroCarb mission.
- We will also demonstrate UK instrument technology with an airborne demonstrator (GHOST) to be flown in the UK.
- The final project meeting is planned for September and a full project report will become available shortly after.



# Any Questions?

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