

Polarimeter to Unify the Corona and Heliosphere

NFI Instrument Status Overview

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NFI Instrument Lead

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This work is supported by NASA



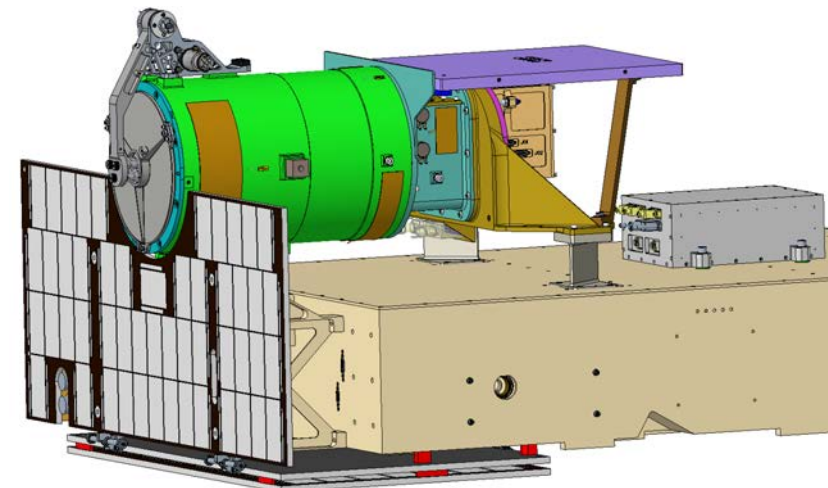
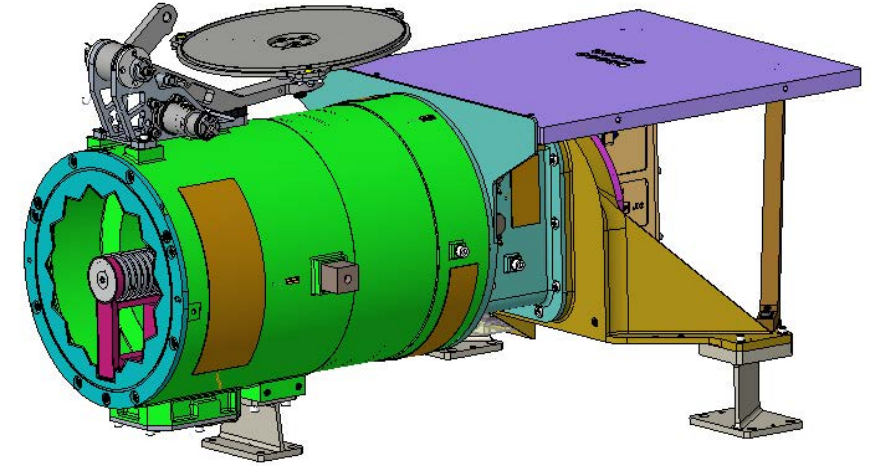
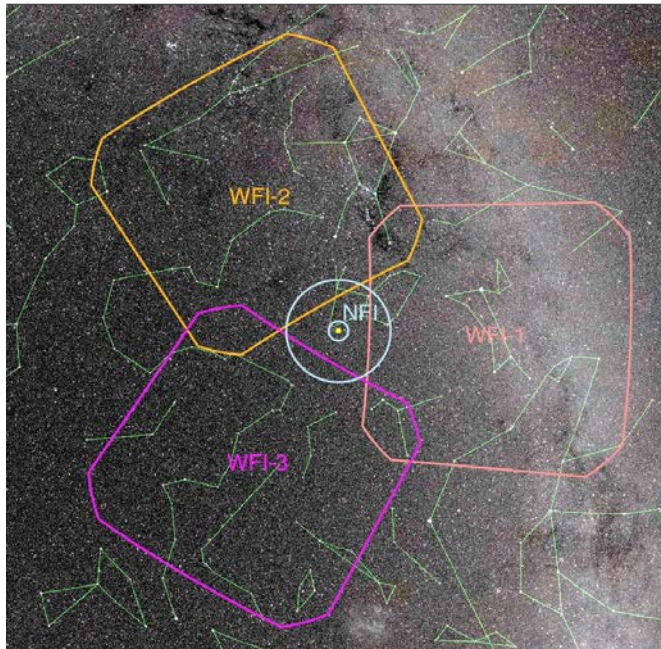
PUNCH 4 Science Meeting
July 6-7, 2023
Boulder, CO





NFI Overview

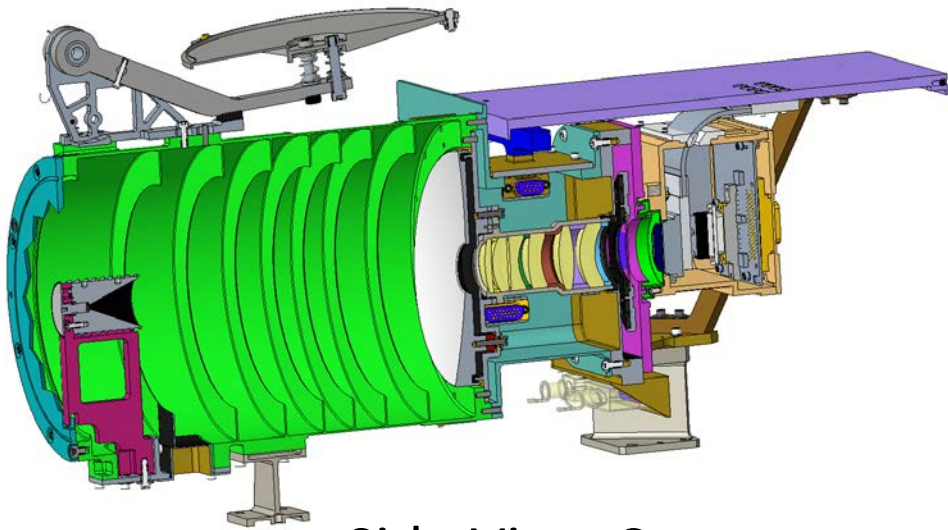
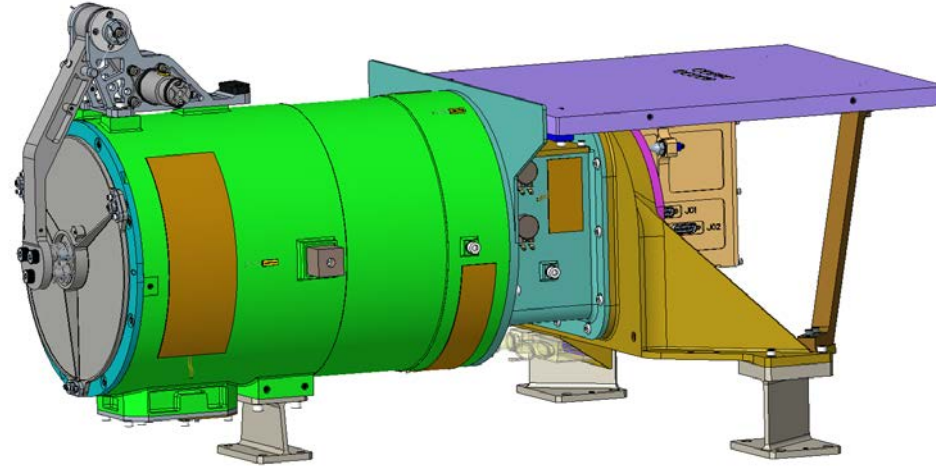
- Combined NFI & WFI FOV provide first:
 - Wide-field, polarimetric, high resolution views of corona-solar wind transition
 - NFI: 5.75 -32 R_{\odot} , WFI: 20-180 R_{\odot}
- Provides high spatial/temporal resolution in the inner FOV
 - 1 observatory in polar orbit
 - Continuous 4 min observing cadence





NFI Instrument Layout

Side View

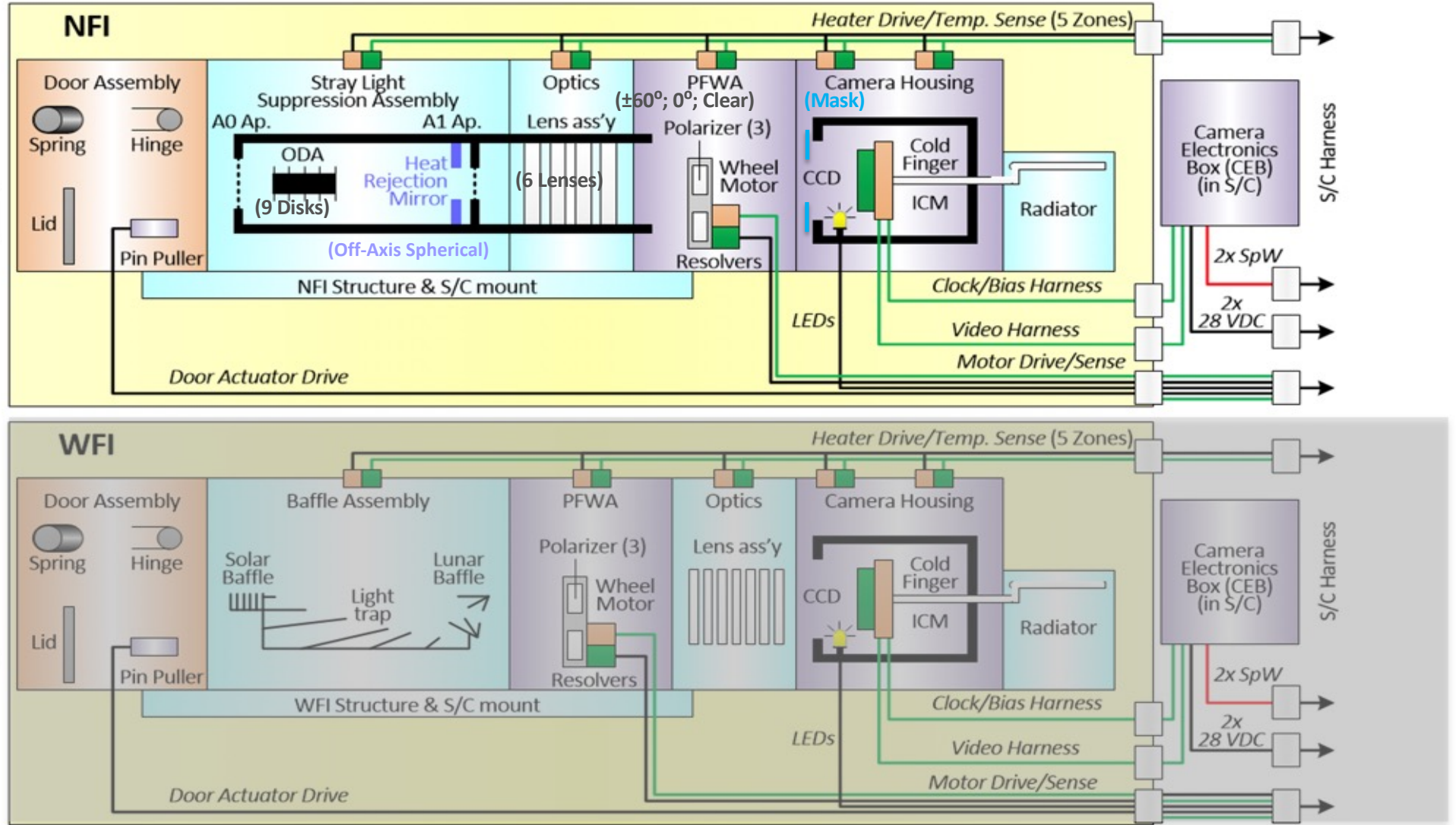
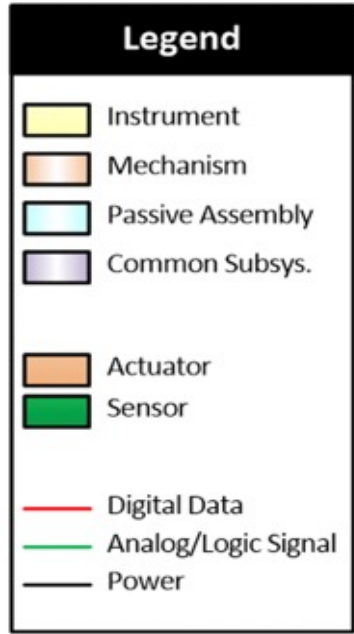


Side View Cutaway

Top View Cutaway



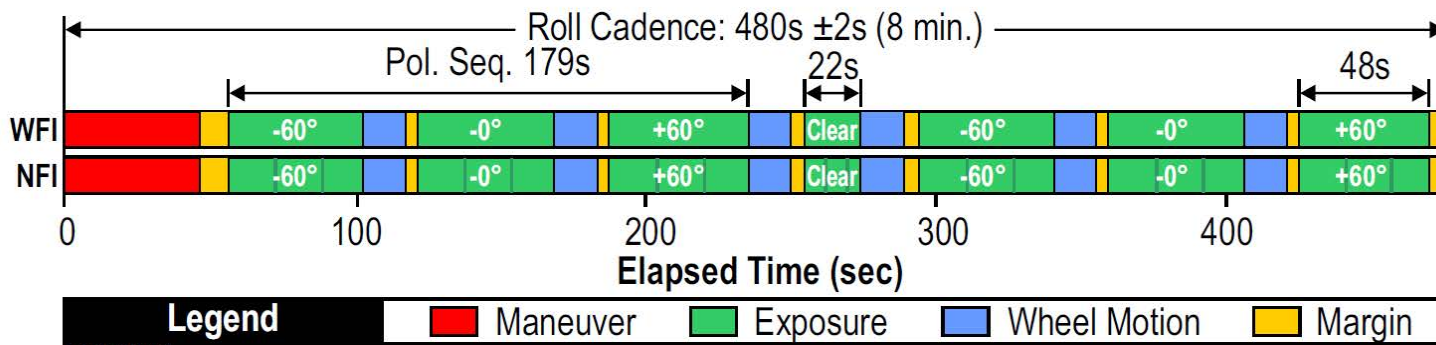
NFI Physical Block Diagram





NFI Observing Plan

- Conops common to WFI & NFI
- Two sets of polarization sequences per 8 min roll cadence
- Each image a summation of 3 exposures



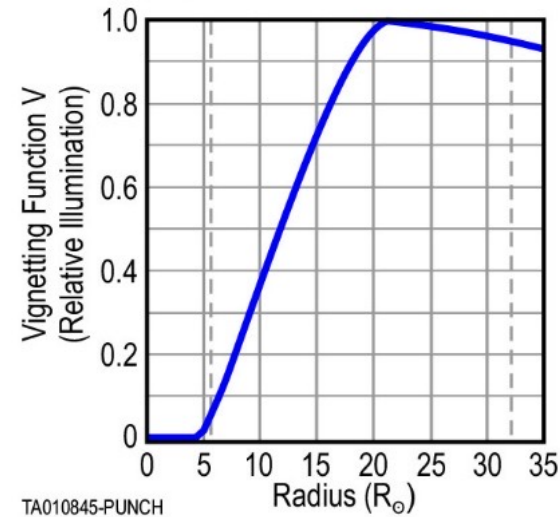
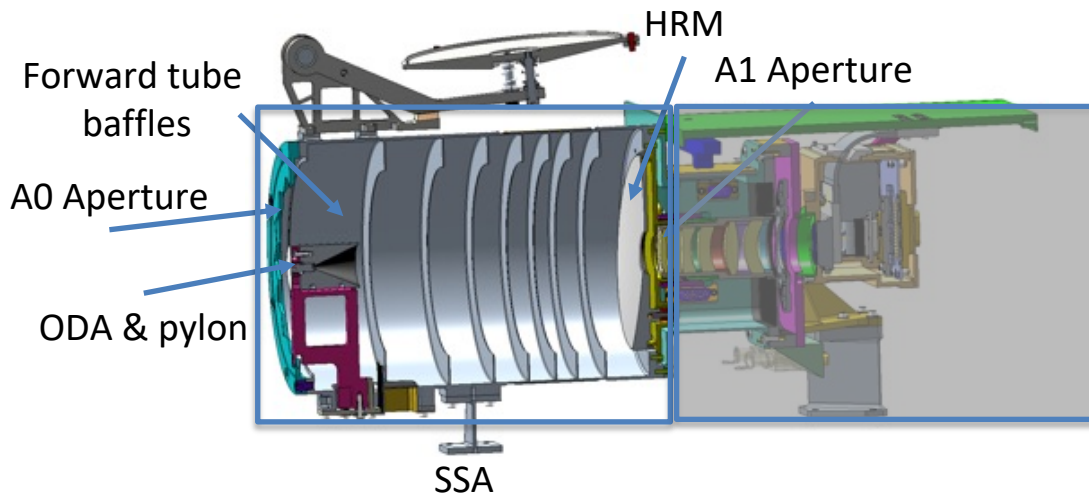
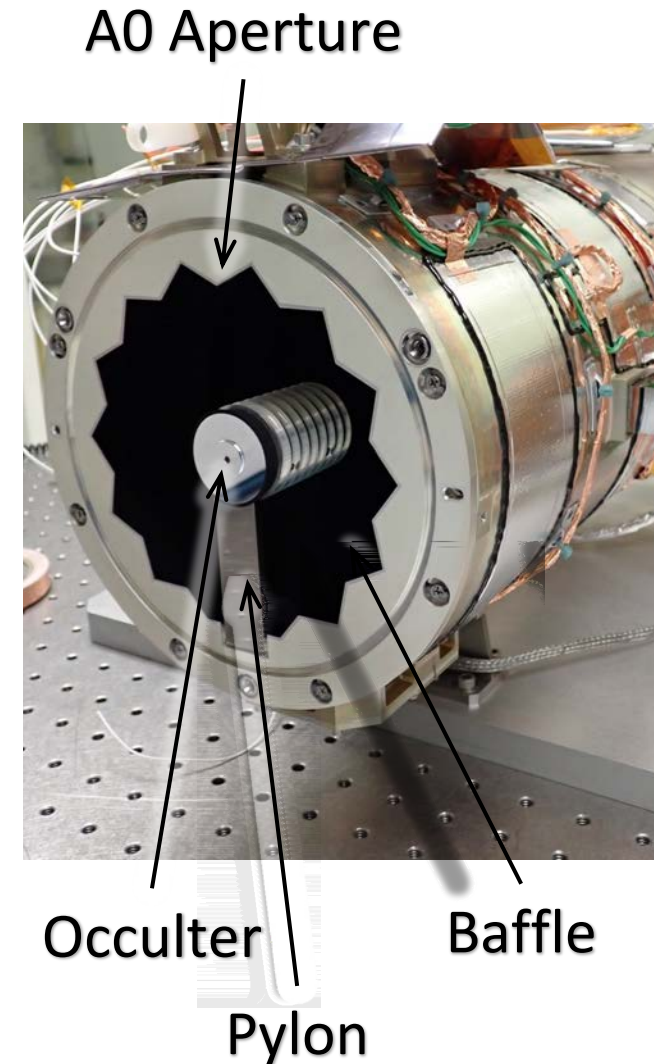
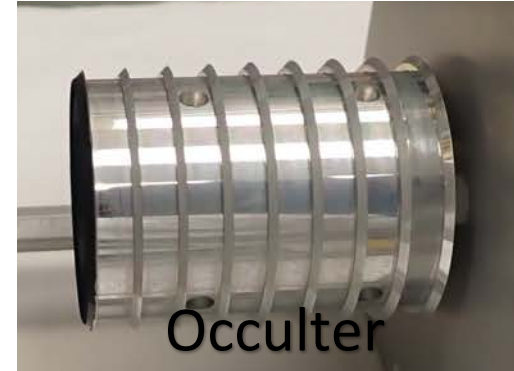
| PUNCH Observing Sequence Schedule | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Time (s) | Length + margin | NFI Action | WFI Action |
| 0 | 47+4 | Roll & set PFW to -60° | Roll & set PFW to -60° |
| 51 | 48+1(*) | Expose 3x13s at -60° | Expose 45s at -60° |
| 98 | 15+5 | Set PFW to 0° & settle | Set PFW to 0° & settle |
| 118 | 48+1(*) | Expose 3x13s at 0° | Expose 45s at 0° |
| 165 | 15+5 | Set PFW to 60° & settle | Set PFW to 60° & settle |
| 185 | 48+1(*) | Expose 3x13s at 60° | Expose 45s at 60° |
| 232 | 15+5 | Set PFW to CL & settle | Set PFW to CL & settle |
| 252 | 22+1(*) | Expose 3x5s at CL | Expose 19s at CL |
| 273 | 15+5 | Set PFW to -60° & settle | Set PFW to -60° & settle |
| 293 | 48+1(*) | Expose 3x13s at -60° | Expose 45s at -60° |
| 340 | 15+5 | Sep PFW to 0° & settle | Sep PFW to 0° & settle |
| 360 | 48+1(*) | Expose 3x13s at 0° | Expose 45s at 0° |
| 407 | 15+5 | Set PFW to 60° & settle | Set PFW to 60° & settle |
| 427 | 48+1(*) | Expose 3x13s at 60° | Expose 45s at 60° |
| 474 | 1 to 11 | Sync for next roll | Sync for next roll |

(*) 2-second overlap with following event



NFI Stray-Light Suppression Assembly (SSA)

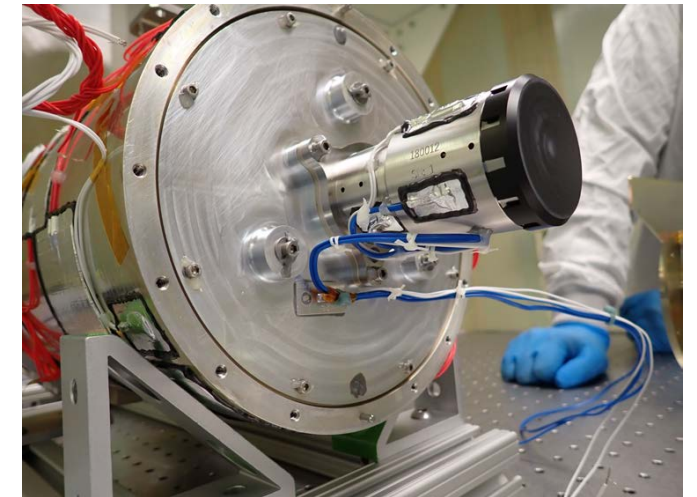
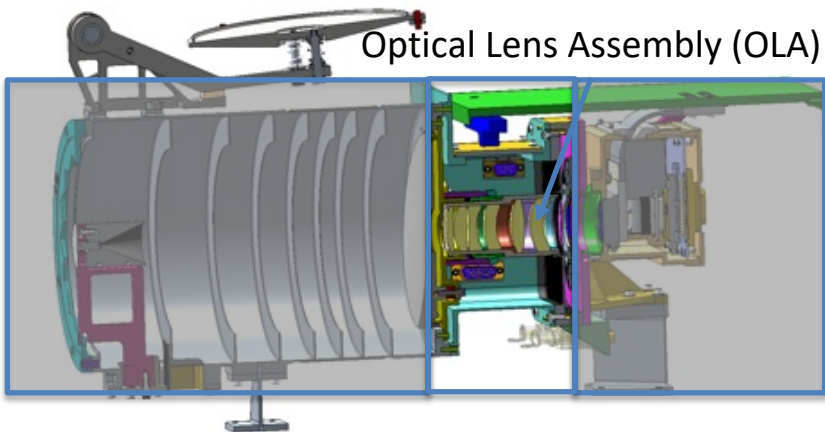
- SSA design has:
 - Occulter Disk Assembly (ODA) & pylon
 - Forward tube baffles
 - Front aperture A0
 - Heat Rejection Mirror (HRM)
 - Entrance aperture A1
- Vignetting from the ODA ends at $21.9 R_{\odot}$
 - Optimized for the coronal brightness gradient and overlap with the WFI FOV





NFI Optical Lens Assembly (OLA)

- NRL developed design
 - Six optical elements
 - Achromaticity between 450-750nm
 - >85% throughput, includes bandpass filters
 - F/4.5 lens
 - Plate scale 30"/15 μm pixel.



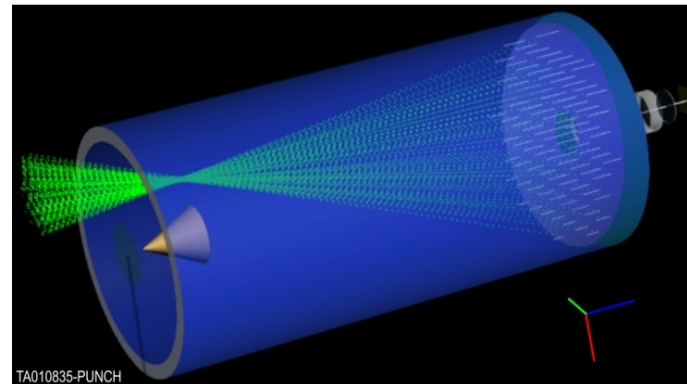
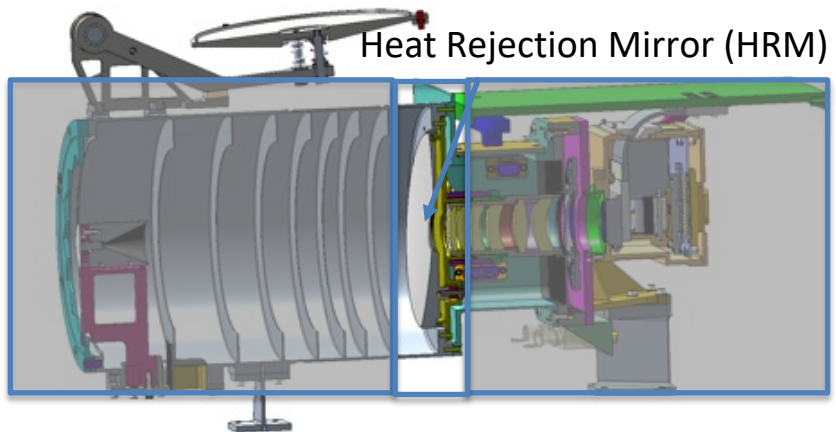
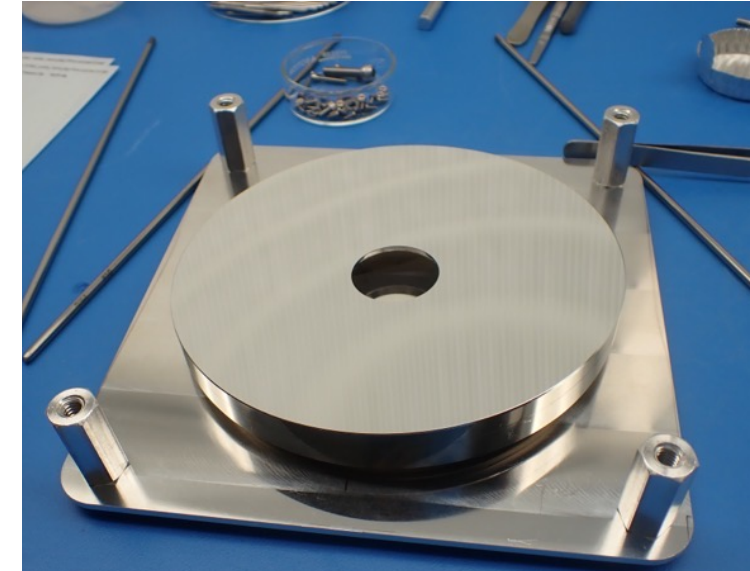
Lens assembly integrated onto the baffle and A1 bulkhead.



NFI Heat Rejection Mirror

- Minimizes scattered light in SSA and heating of instrument
 - Off-centered, parabolic mirror
 - 255-mm focal length
 - Creates an image of the Sun opposite the occulter pylon
 - Scatter due to surface imperfections 8.8×10^{-12} CBE+C

HRM



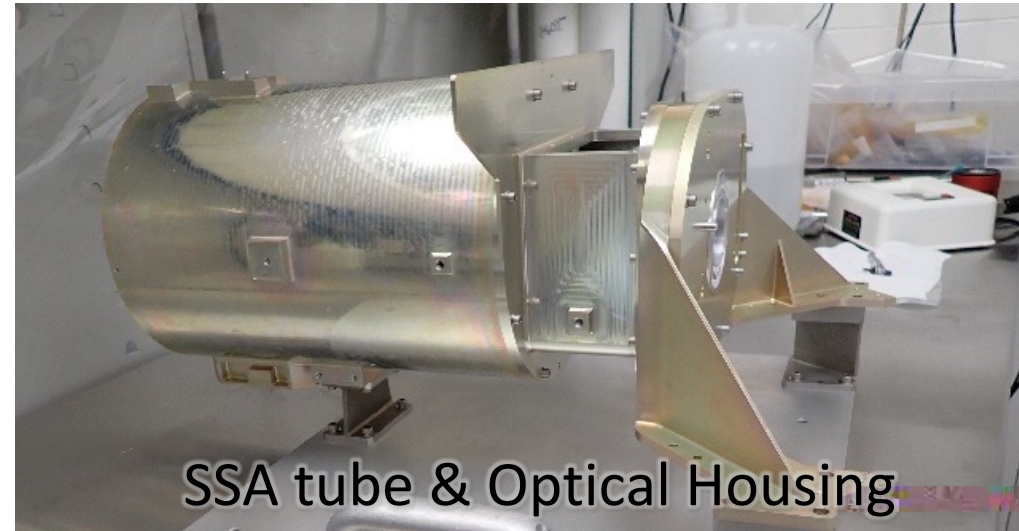
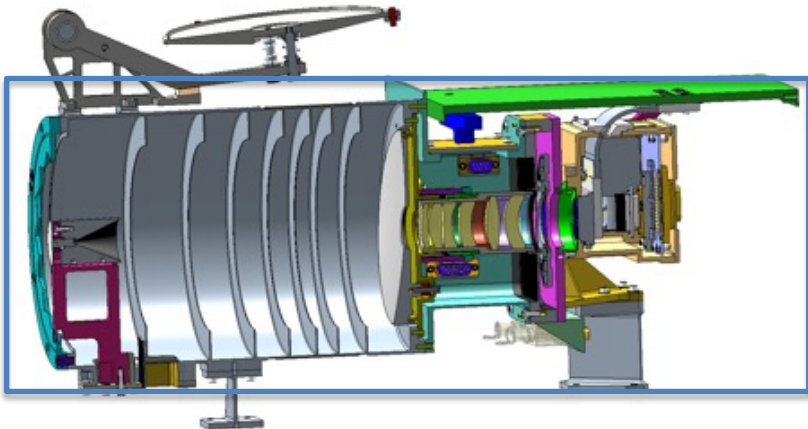
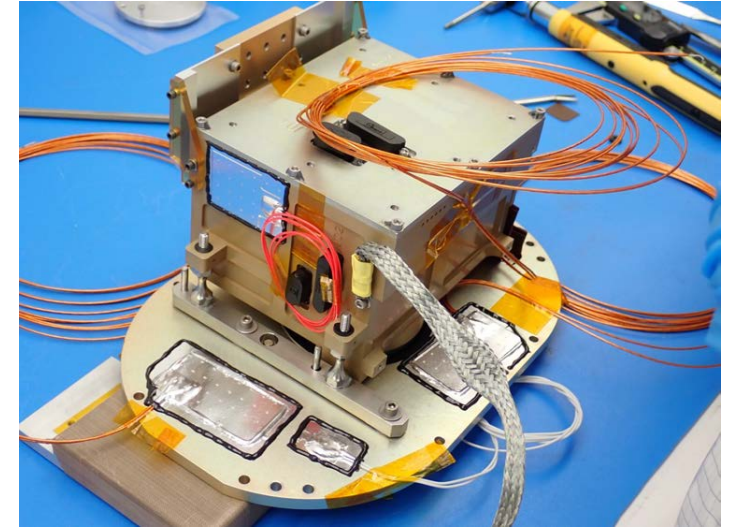
HRM Focal Point



NFI Structure

- Aluminum tube construction
- Three piece design
 - SSA tube, optical housing, camera box
- Alignment determined by shims at the interfaces
- NFI Structure mounts to S/C via 3-point Ti kinematic mount
 - Thermally isolated from S/C
 - Provides alignment with S/C

FM camera box



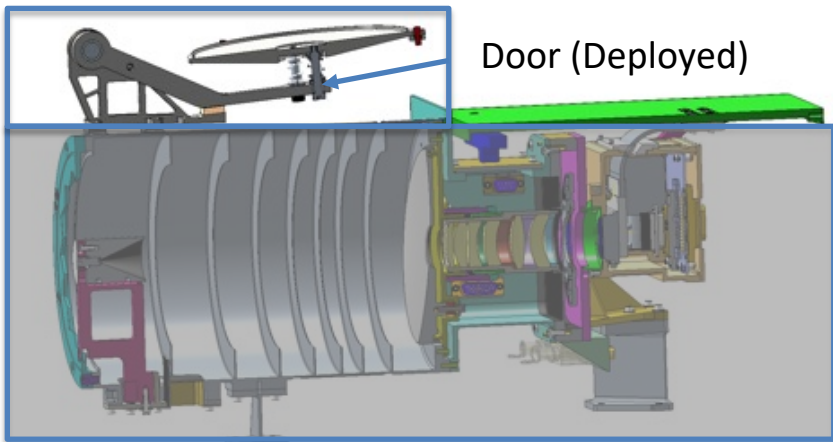
SSA tube & Optical Housing



NFI Door

- Single one-time-open door
 - Provides contamination protection during S/C I&T, launch and early operations
 - All elements behind A0 for clear 180° field of regard
- Paraffin Wax Resettable Pin-Puller
 - Common to NFI and WFI

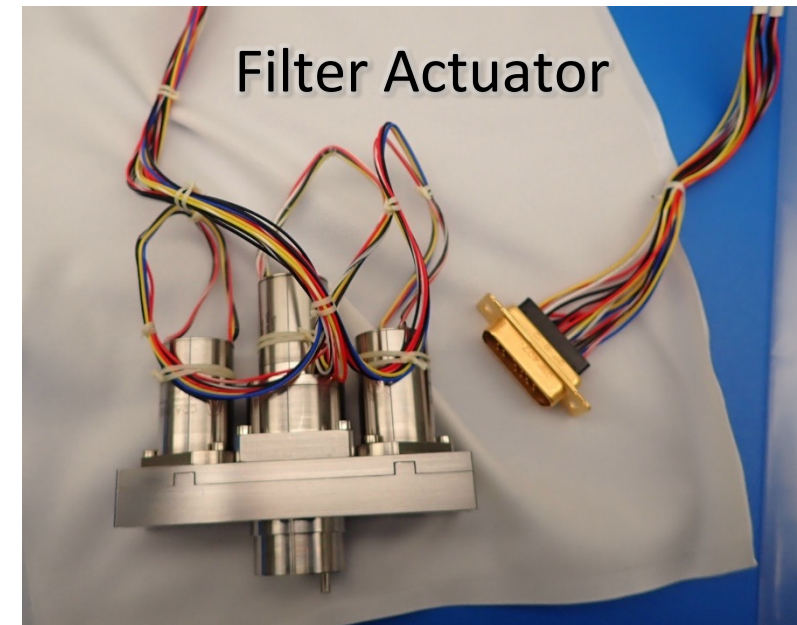
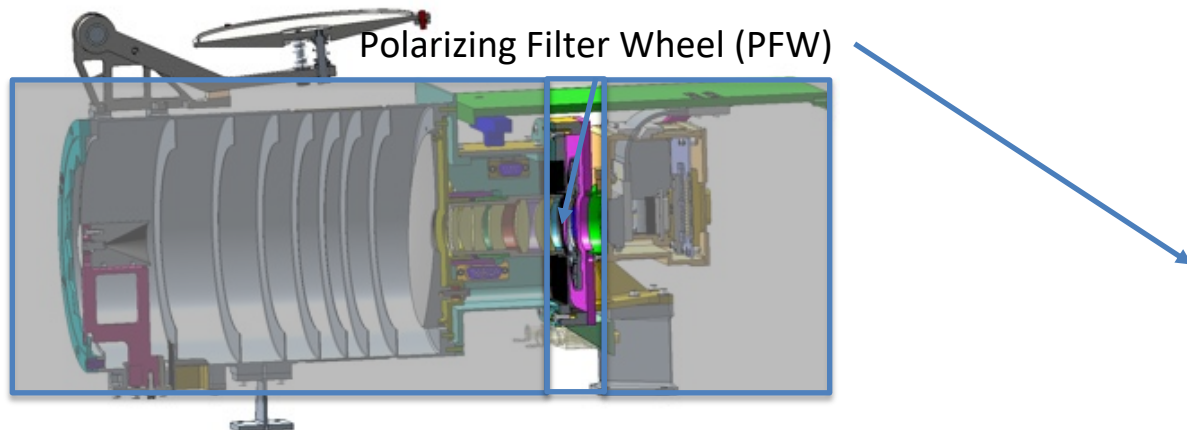
Door Integration Test





Polarizing Filter Wheel (PFW)

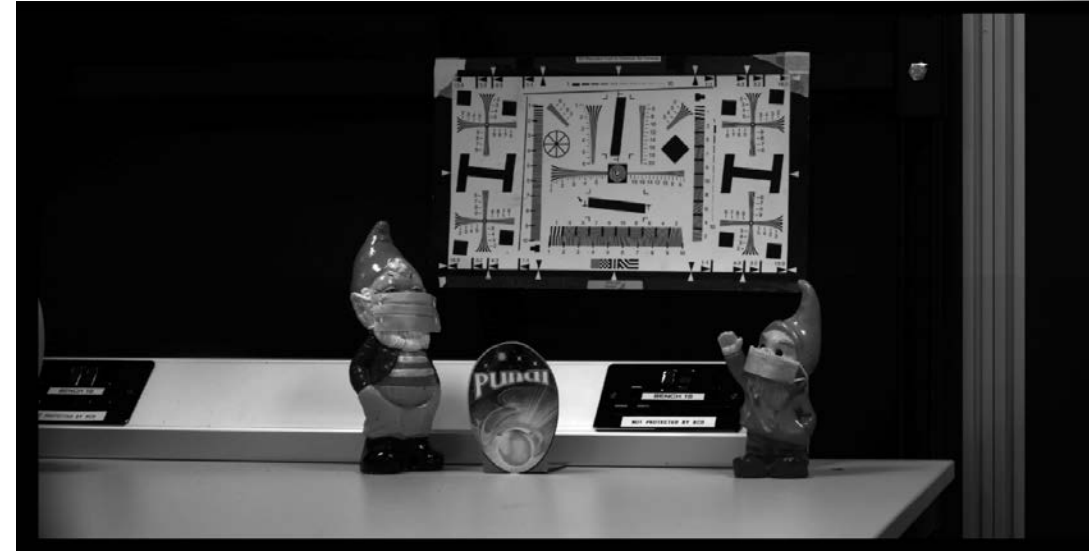
- PFW is common to WFI & NFI
- Provided by NRL to NFI & WFI
- 5-position filter wheel
 - Filters: -60° , 0° , $+60^\circ$ linear polarizers
 - Clear glass (optical focus consistency)
 - Blank (for Safing, Stim LED lamp)
- Linear Polarizers
 - Al nanowire lithographically applied to glass
 - Superior contrast ratio ($>1000:1$) and transmittance ($>85\%$)



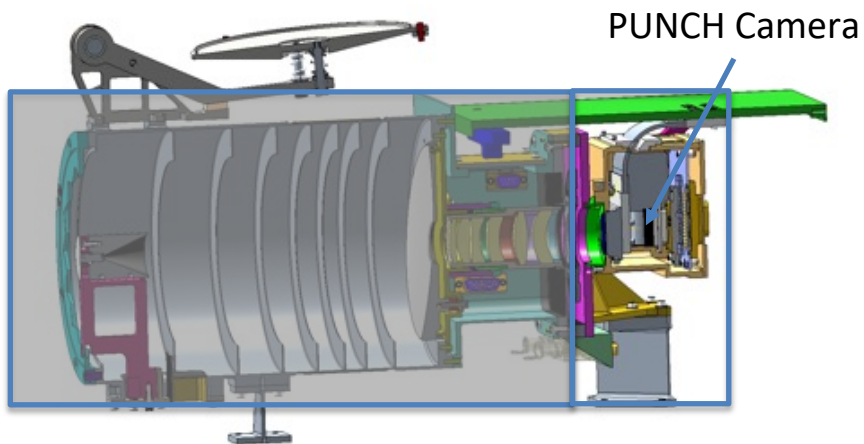


PUNCH Camera

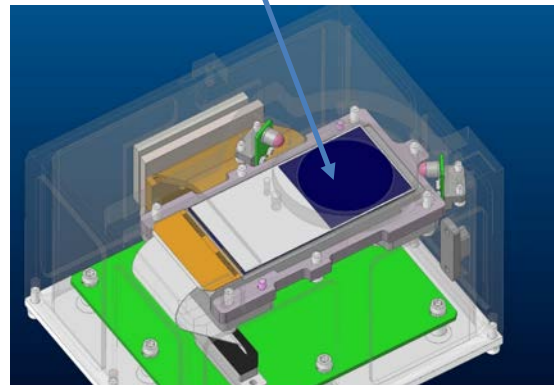
- Camera system identical in WFI & NFI
- Build by RAL, STEREO Heritage
- Teledyne-E2V CCD
 - 2k x 2k Imaging Area
 - 2k x 4k pseudo-charge-transfer CCD



PUNCH EM CCD - full-frame readout with frame-transfer storage area 4200 x 2148 pixels



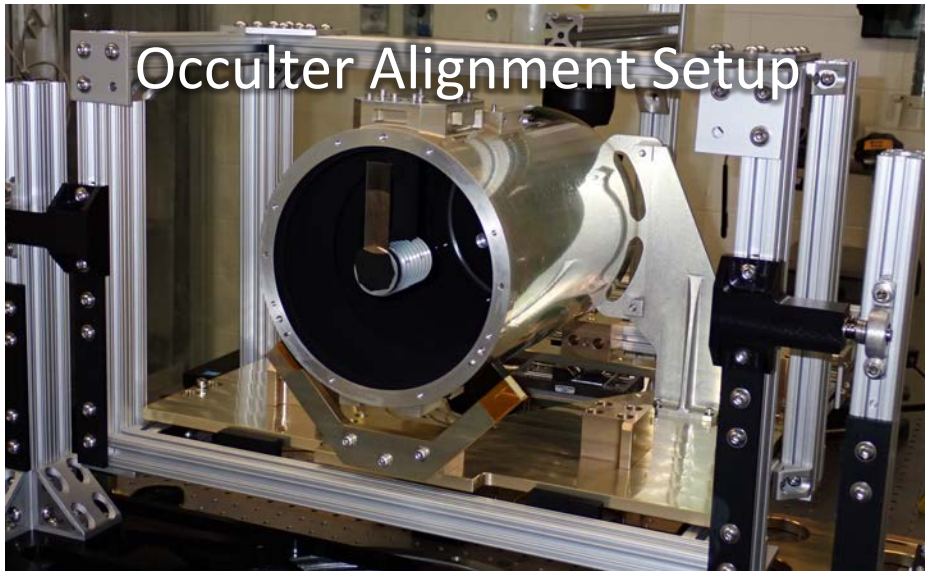
Imaging Area





Optical Testing

- Sub system optical testing
 - Occulter and pylon scattering
 - HRM scatter and focus
 - Lens transmission, passband, and resolution
- Optical Alignment
 - Occulter to A1 aperture alignment
 - HRM Return alignment
 - Lens alignment and focus check



Lens Testing Setup

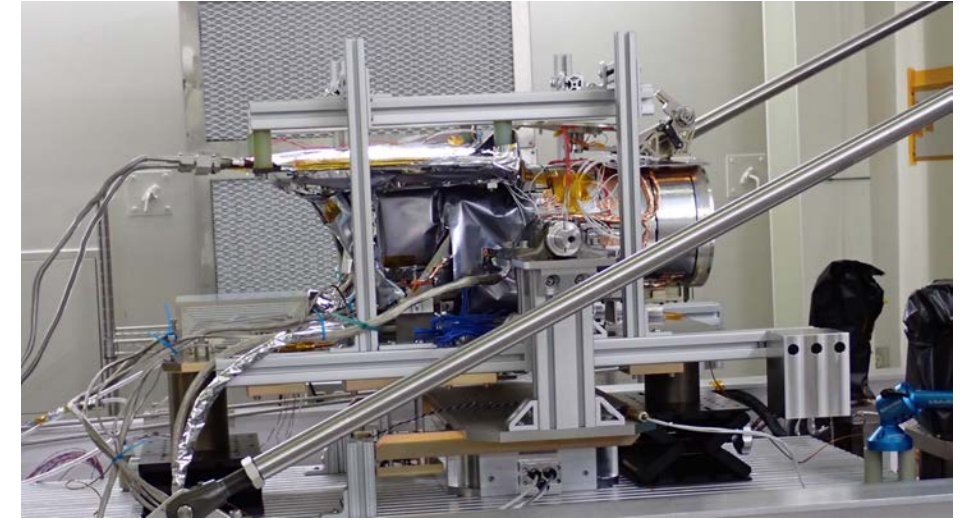
Baffle Illuminated with Alignment Target





Pre-Environmental Testing: SCOTCH Testing

- Optical Testing of Complete instrument
 - In vacuum at operational temperatures
 - Solar simulator provides collimated light





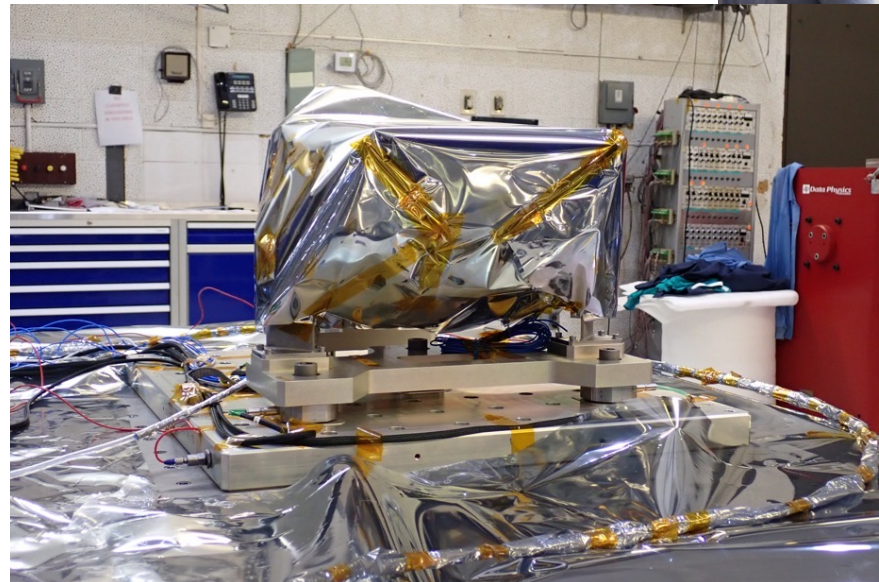
Environmental Testing: Vibration

- Simulates vibrations seen at launch
 - Each axis of the instrument is tested independently

X-axis

Y-axis

Z-axis

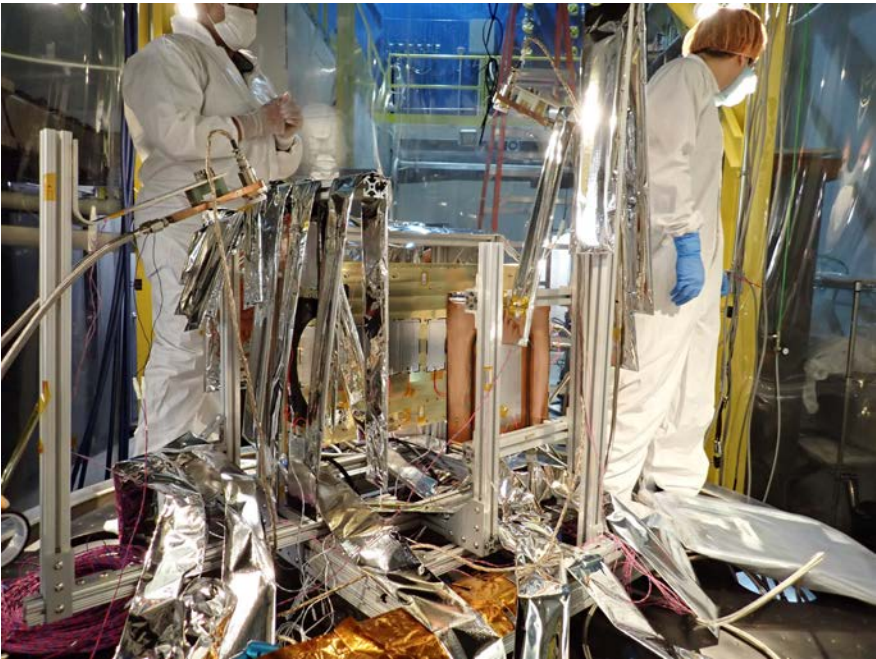




Environmental Testing: TVAC

- Thermal Vacuum Testing
 - Simulates the temperatures seen on-orbit in vacuum

Pre-TVAC Bakeout





Summary

- NFI Design Meets Driving Requirements and Science Objectives
- NFI is currently in TVAC
- NFI will be verified after environmental testing.
- NFI is on target for S/C delivery and integration in August

GO NFI
GO PUNCH



Polarimeter to Unify the Corona and Heliosphere

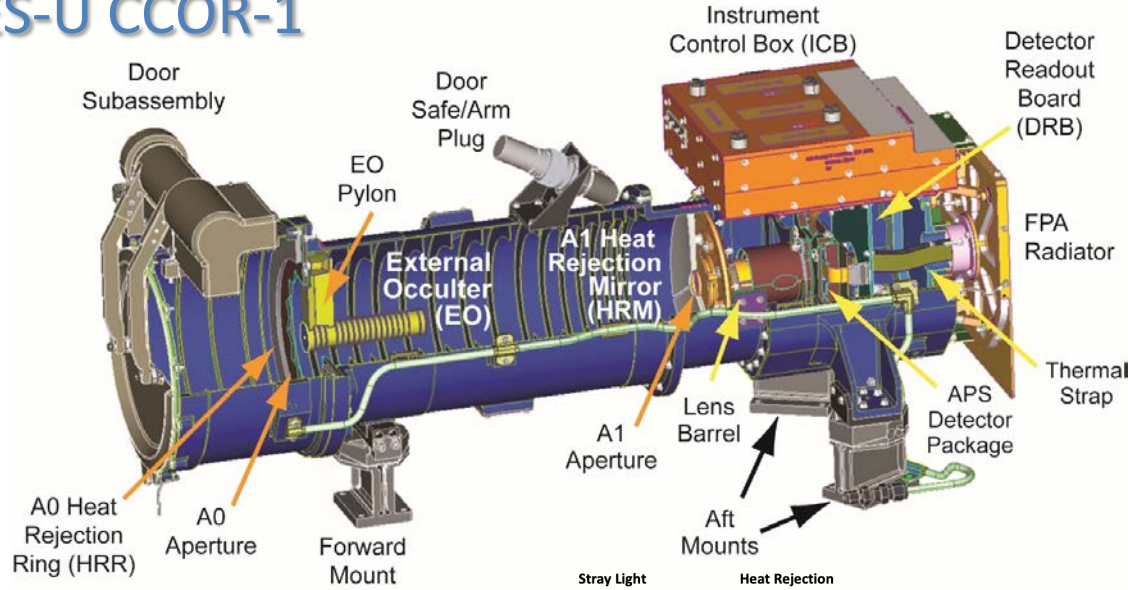


Backups

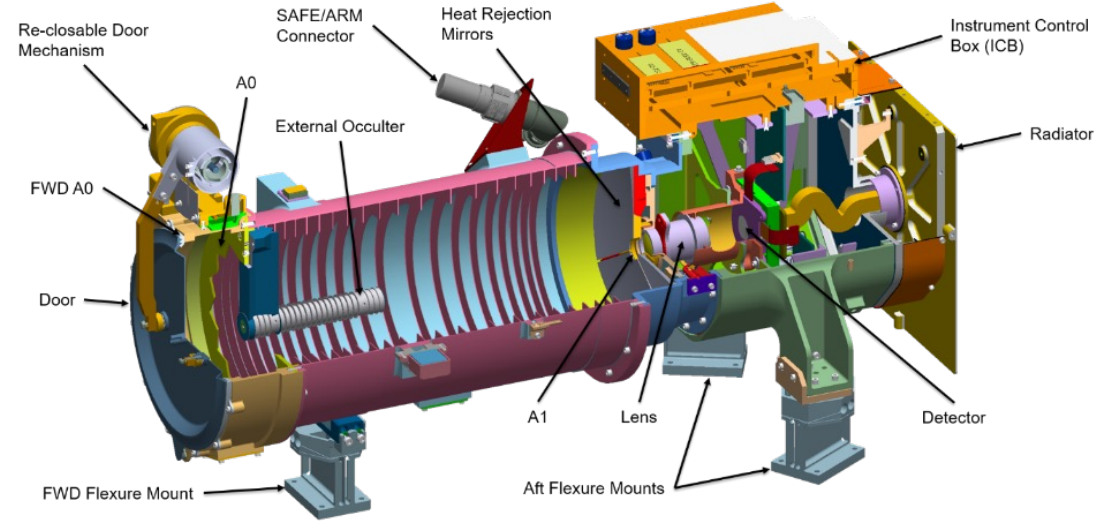


Instrument Layout

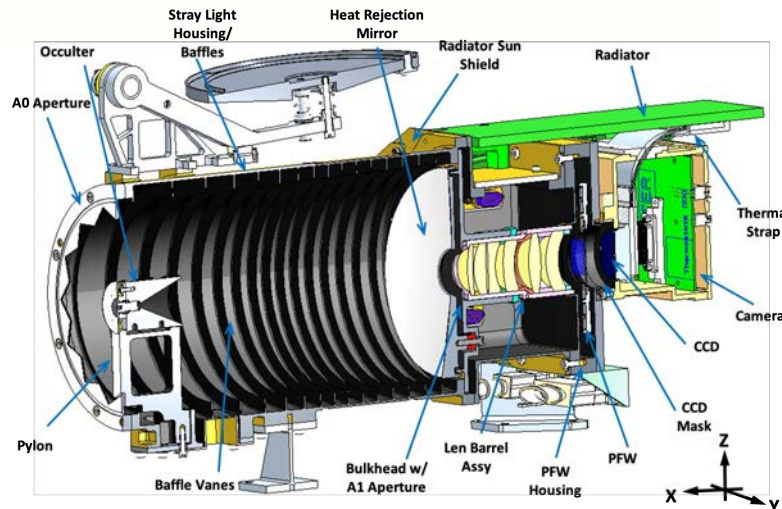
GOES-U CCOR-1



SWFO CCOR-2



PUNCH NFI



ESA vigil CCOR-3





Project Overview

| | PUNCH NFI | GOES-U CCOR-1 | SWFO CCOR-2 | vigil CCOR-3 |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Mission | NASA PUNCH | NOAA GOES Program | NOAA SWFO-L1 | ESA vigil |
| Classification | Class D | Tailored Class C | Tailored Class C | -- |
| Focus | Research/Science | Operations | Operations | Operations |
| Phase | Start of Integration | S/C Environmental Testing | Integration | Development |
| LV | Falcon 9 - SPHEREx ride share | Falcon Heavy | Falcon 9 Full Thrust - IMAP ride share | -- |
| Orbit | LEO 6am/6pm | Geosynchronous | Lagrange 1 | Lagrange 5 |
| Lifetime | 2 years | 15 years | 5 years | -- |
| FOV | 6 - 32 R _☉ | 3.5 – 17 R _☉ | 3.0 – 22.0 R _☉ | 3.0 – 22.0 R _☉ |
| Detector | RAL provided CCD | NRL APS | NRL APS | NRL APS |
| C&DH/FSW | SwRI provided | NRL provided | NRL provided | NRL provided |
| Data Resiliency | 50% | 100% | 100% | -- |
| Cadence | 8 min | 12 minutes | 12 minutes | -- |
| Data Latency | 12 hours (SSC-US) | 15 minutes | 15 minutes | -- |

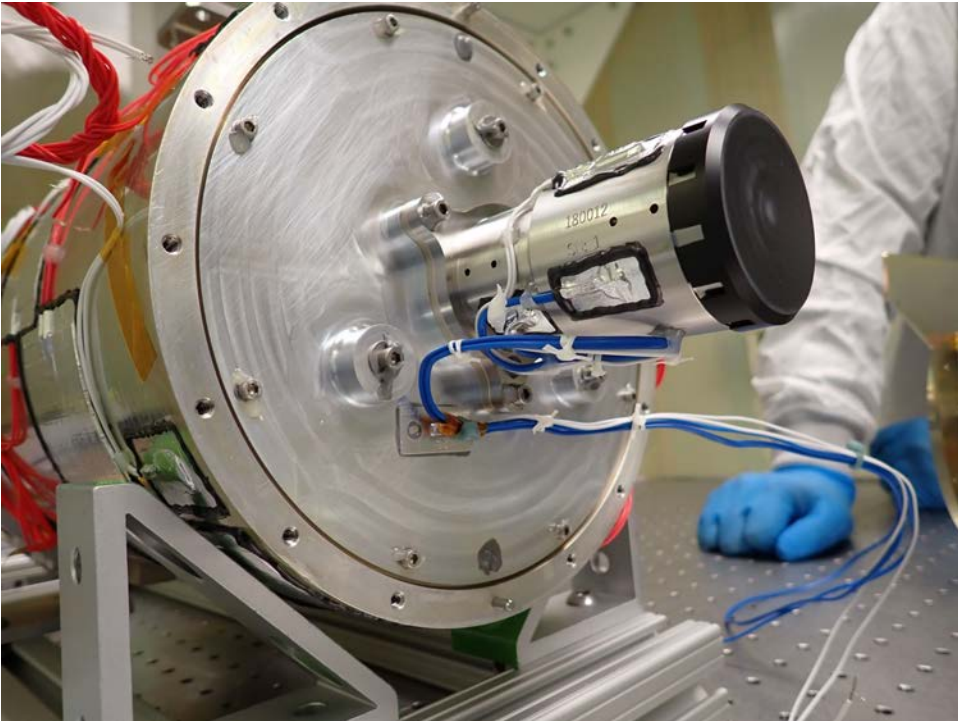


Lens Assembly Inspections and Testing



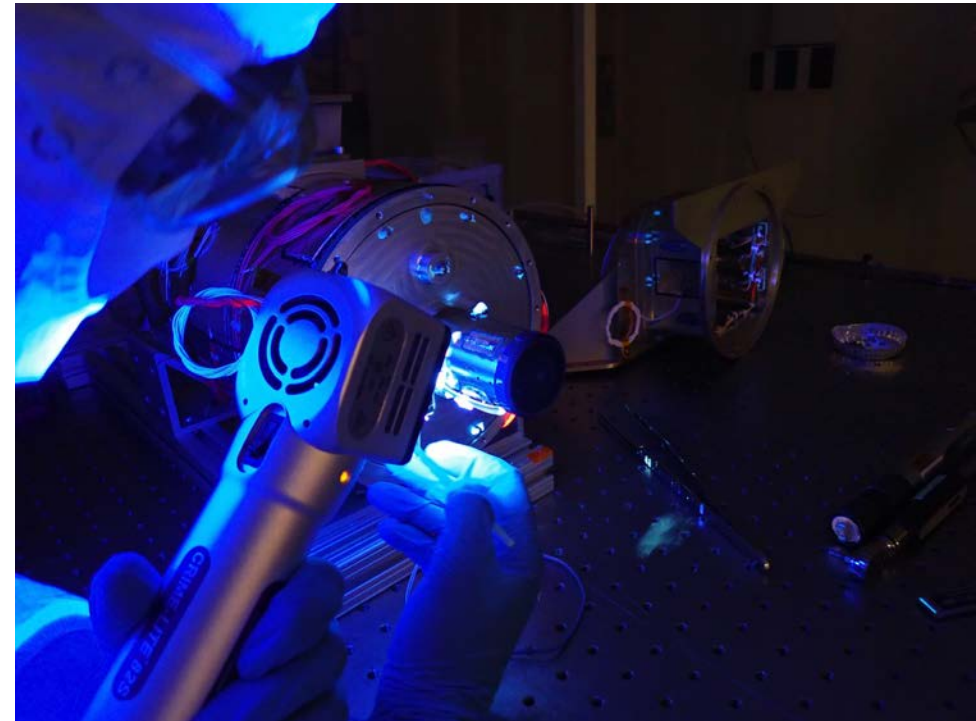


Lens Integration



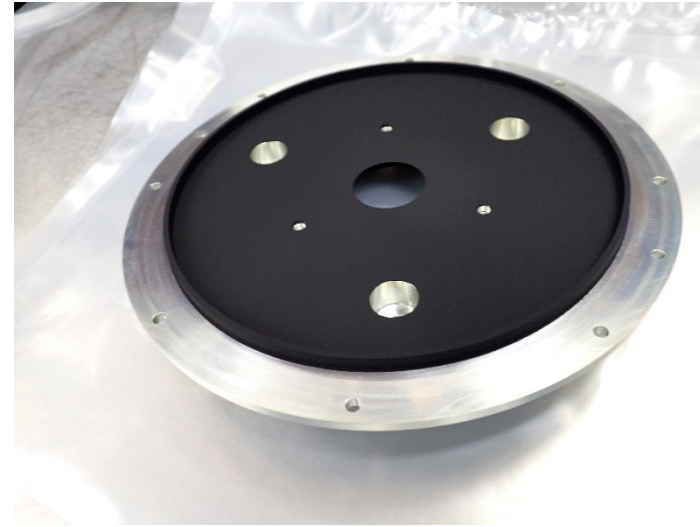
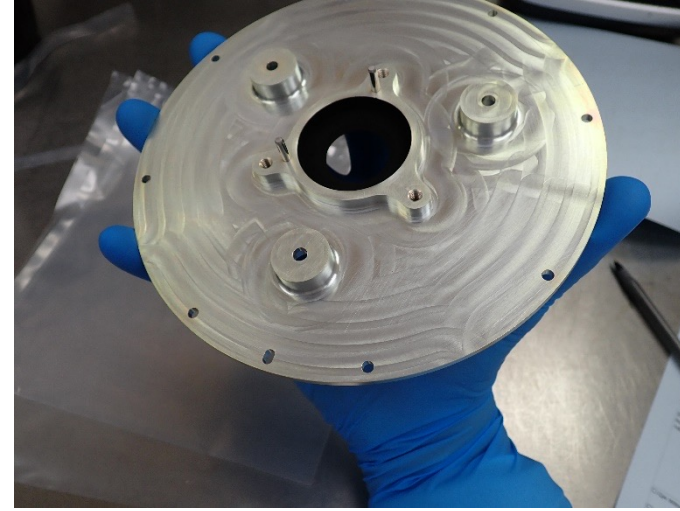
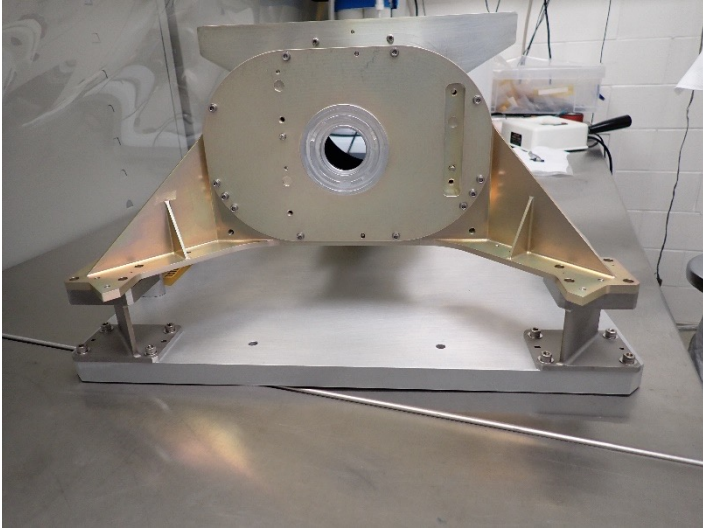
Lens assembly integrated onto the baffle and A1 bulkhead.

Black light inspection of lens assembly after installation.



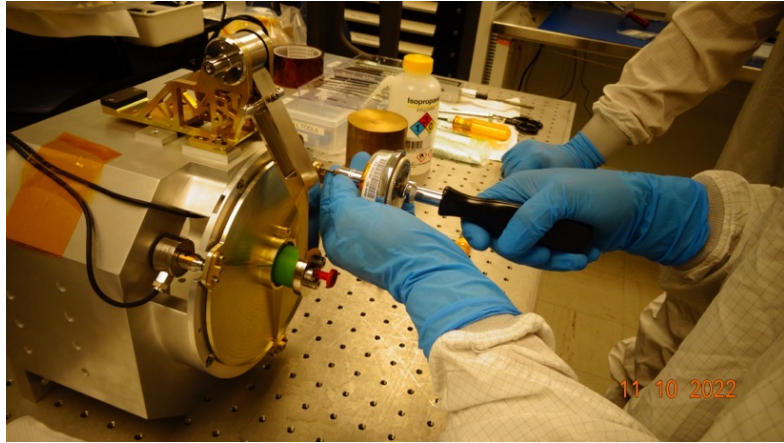


FM Hardware

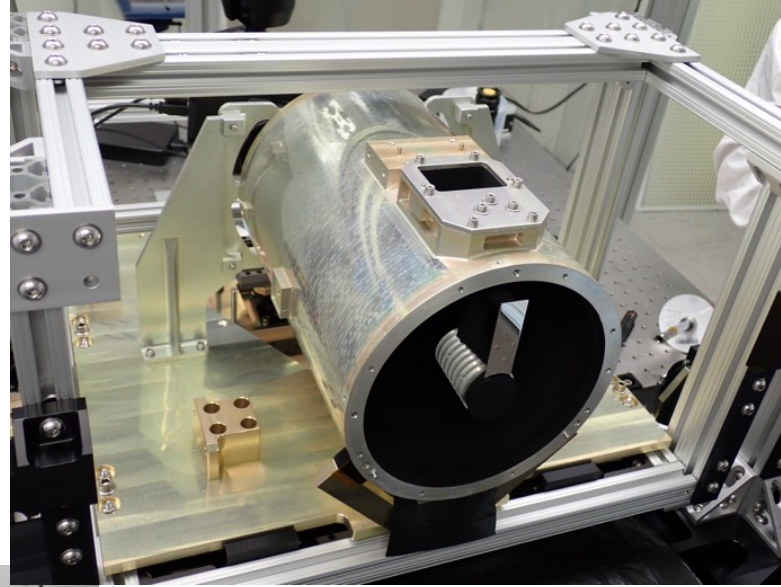




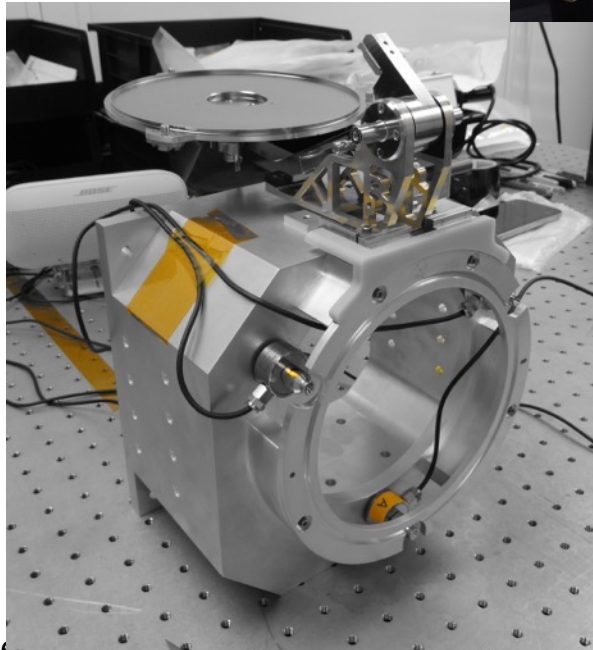
AI&T Highlights



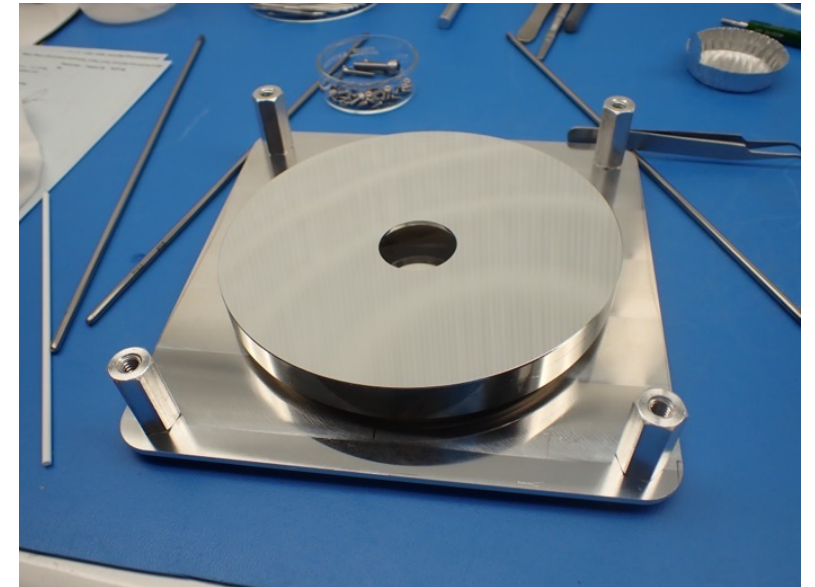
Torquing of Door Cone to GSE Force Gauge Interface



Assembled Baffle for HRM Alignment Testing



Assembled Flight Door on GSE Fixture



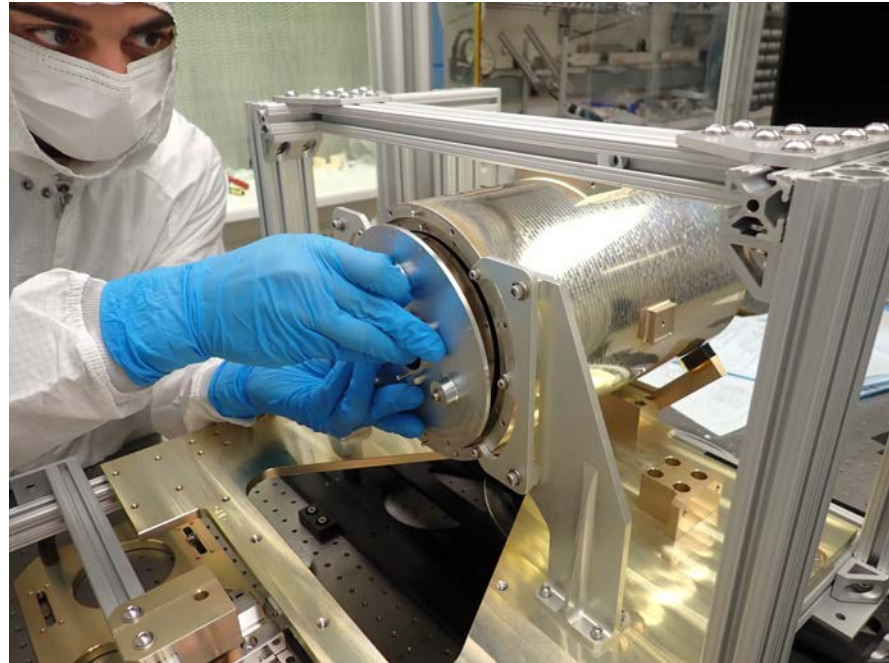
Flight HRM After Helicoil Installation



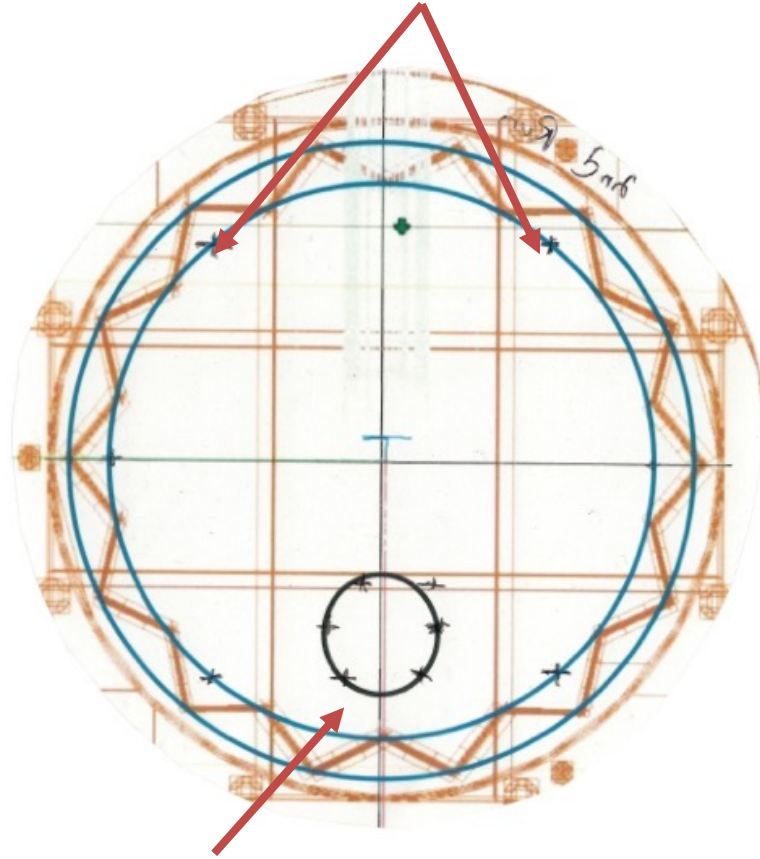
HRM Installation and Alignment Testing

Melinex Target for HRM Alignment Testing
Incoming LASAR Points at Outer Field of View

Baffle Illuminated with Alignment Target



HRM and Bulkhead Installation



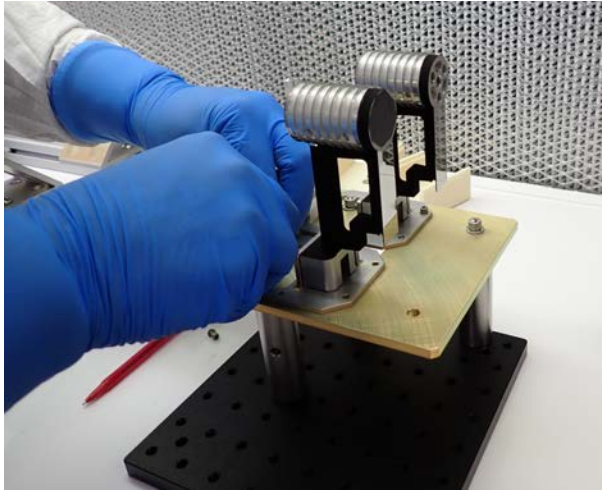
Focus Ring with LASAR Return Measurements Marked Meets Requirements



Focus Ring with Return All light reflected off the HRM focused into return ring. Meets Requirements

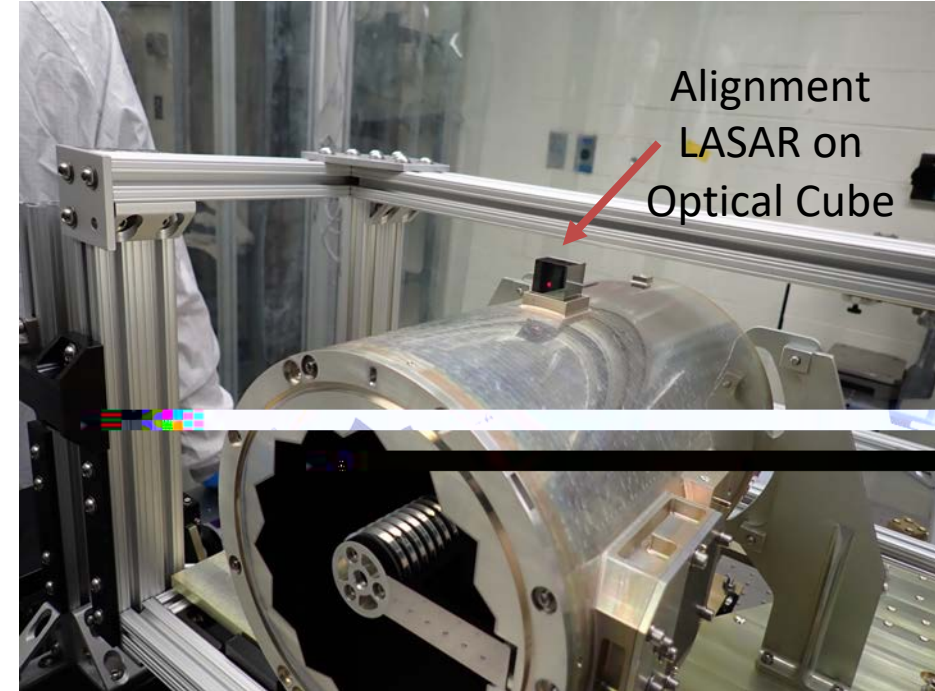


Pylon and Occulter Installation and Alignment



Flight and Spare Pylon and Occulter

Occulter Alignment Setup

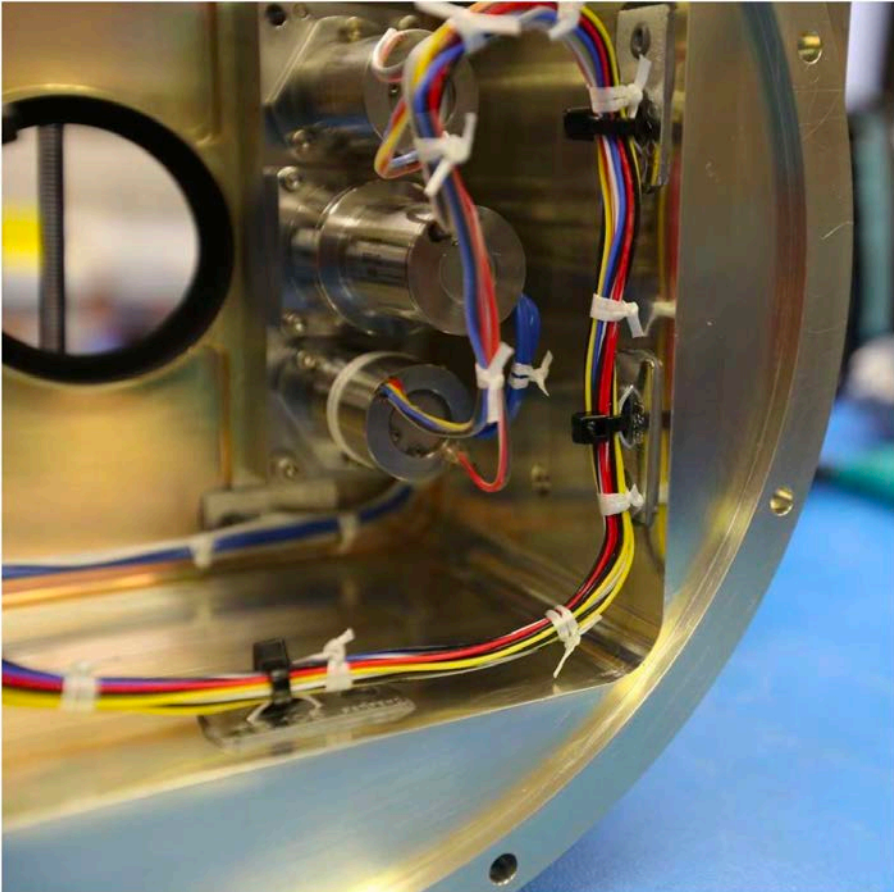


Boresight to Optical Cube Measurement



AI&T Highlights

Actuator Harness Routing Inspection
(not flight tie downs)

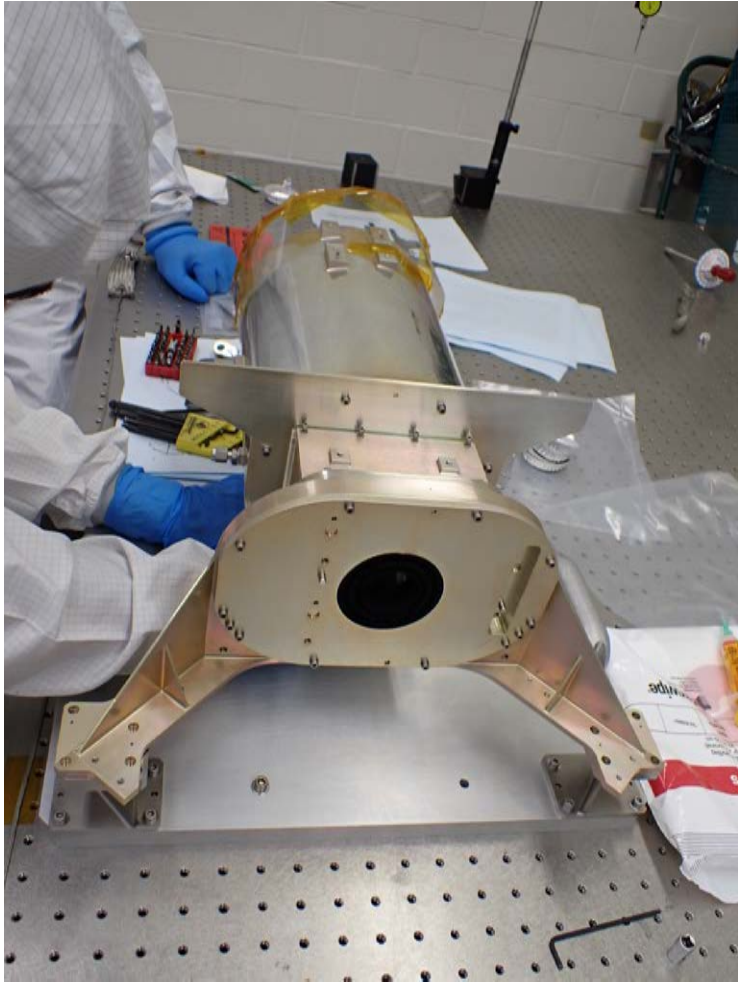


Door Functional Test



Match Drilling and Pinning for S/C Interface

Mechanical Assembly



Double Bagging

Drilling



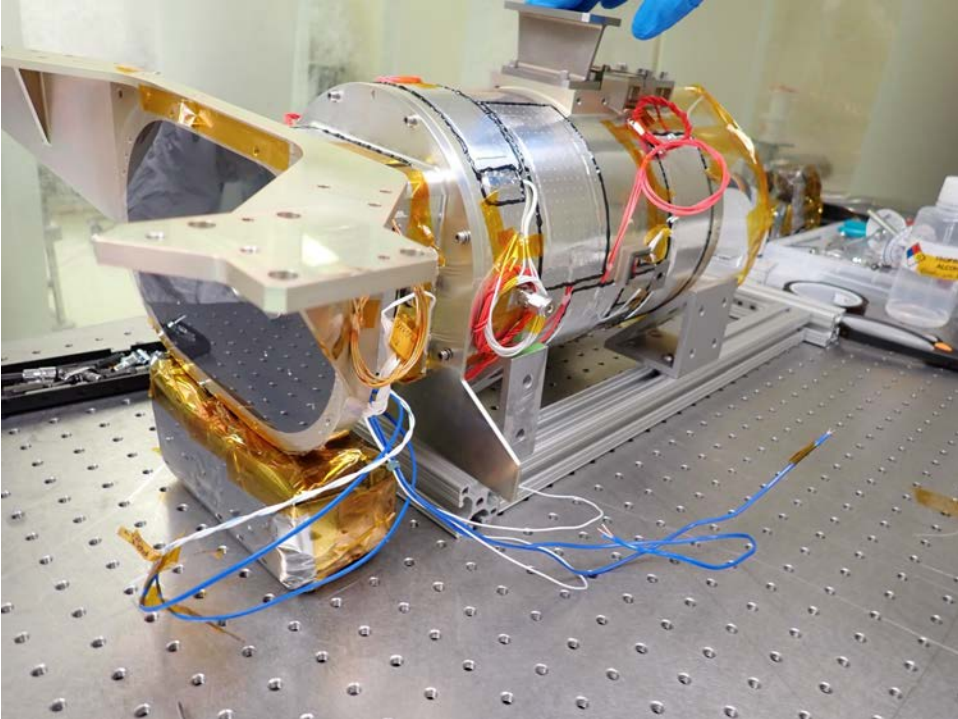


Backend Weight

- NFI backend with PFW actuator installed and interior harness completed.
- Weighting sub-assembly before integration with NFI baffle.

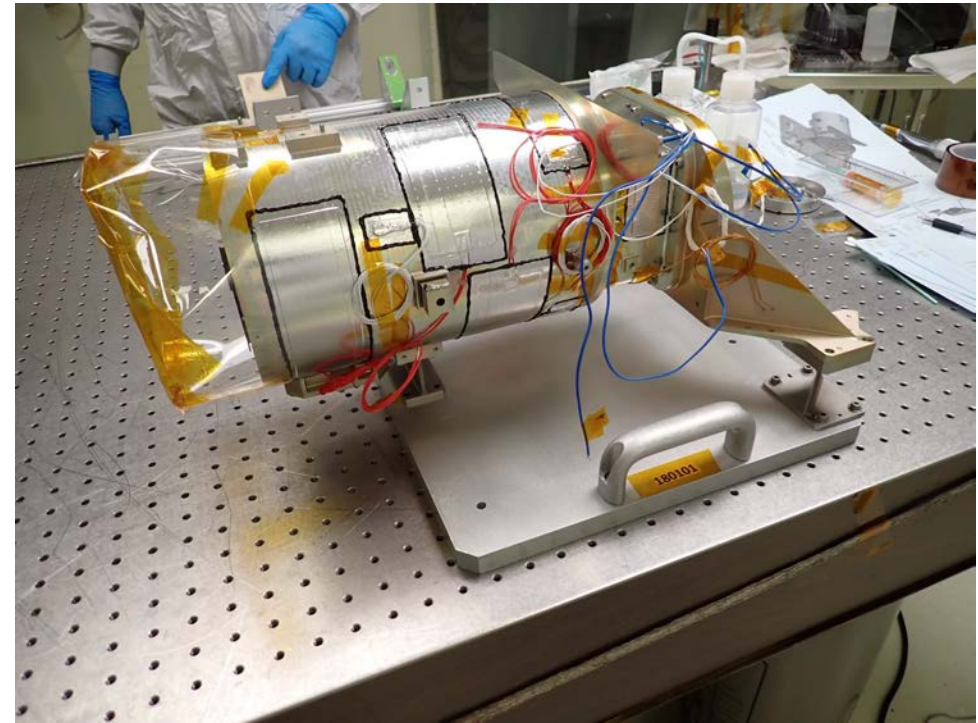


Backend and Baffle Integration



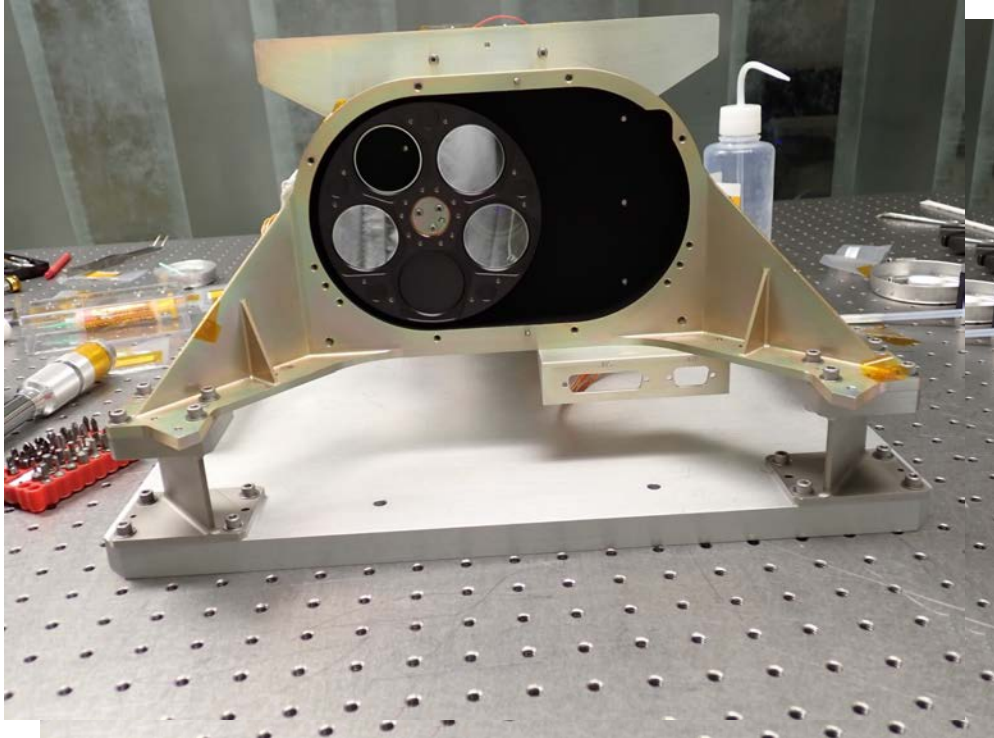
NFI baffle and backend integration - instrument flipped to access fasteners.

NFI baffle and backend integration completed.



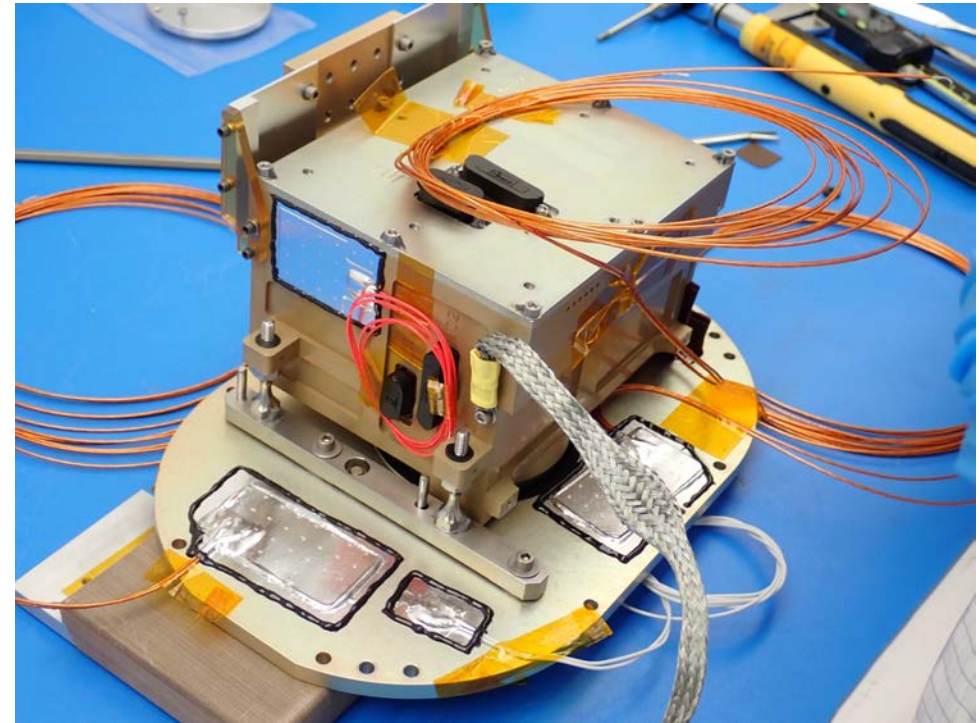


Filter Wheel Integration / FM Camera Pre-Bakeout



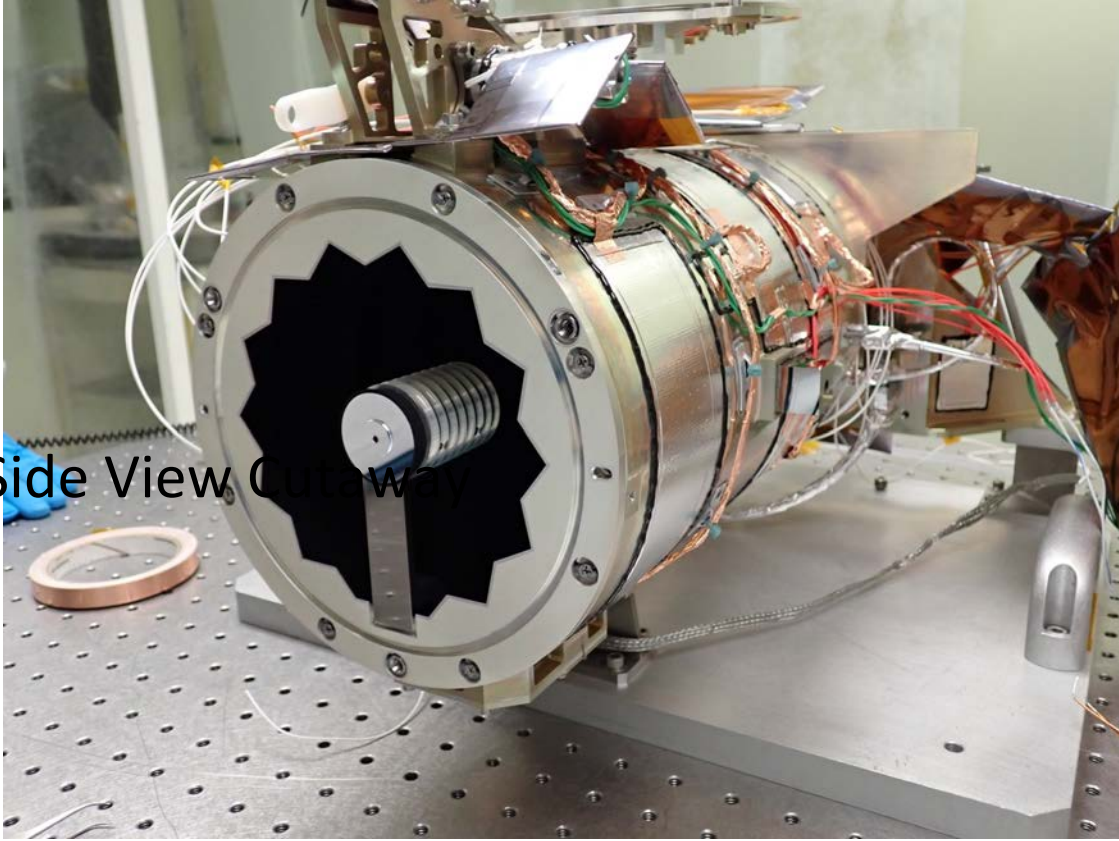
Filter wheel integrated to NFI housing and actuator prior to characterization testing.

FM camera pre-bakeout inspection.





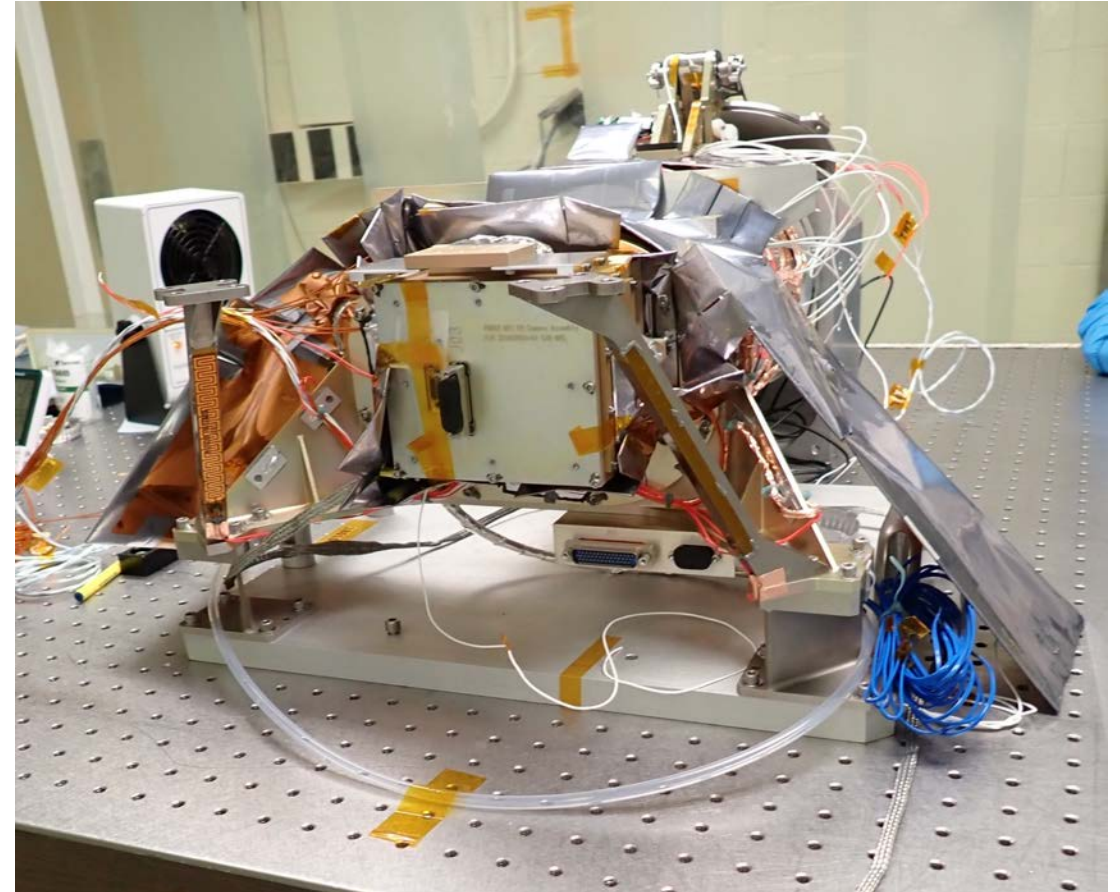
NFI Integration



Side View of NFI

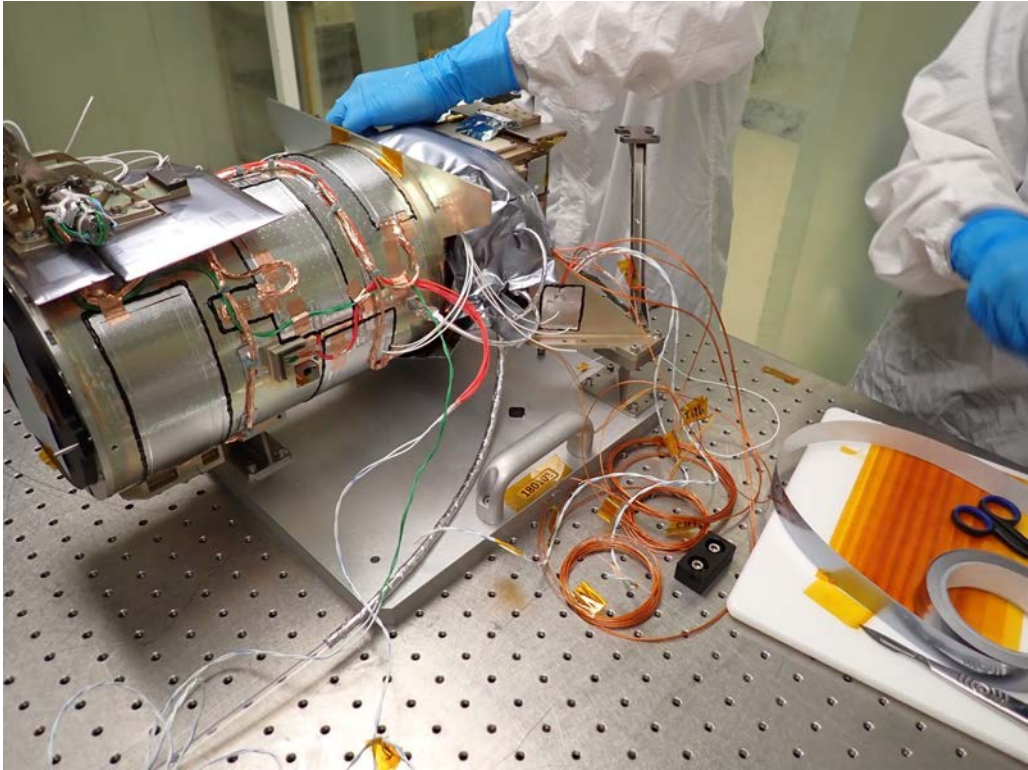
NFI front end with integrated door prior to blanket installation.

NFI backend prior to blanket and radiator installation.





NFI Integration



NFI during final flight and GSE harness closeout.



GO Team NFI. GO PUNCH.



NFI Integration complete ahead of SCOTCH Testing



NFI Transportation to SCOTCH Facility

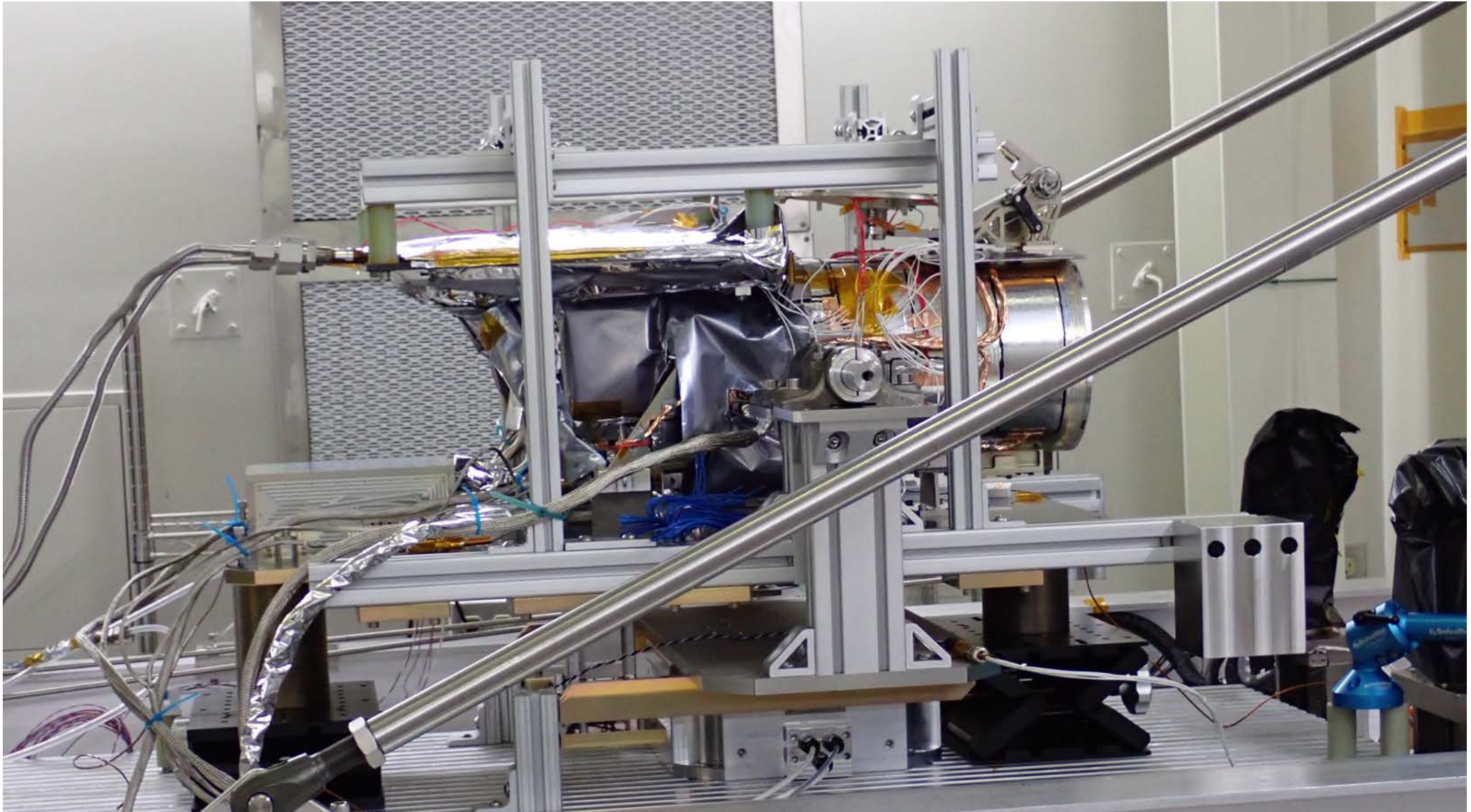


NFI Installation in SCOTCH





NFI Installation in SCOTCH





NFI Optical Alignment in SCOTCH