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# **The Focal Plane Package of the Solar Optical Telescope**

## **Overview and Operations**

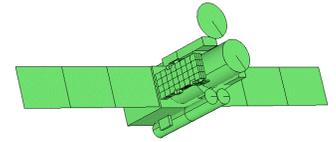
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**[tarbell@lmsal.com](mailto:tarbell@lmsal.com)**



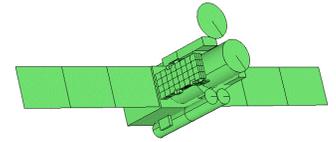
## The Solar-B Mission Goals

The primary goal of the Solar-B mission is to advance our understanding of the origin of the outer solar atmosphere, the corona, and of the coupling between the fine magnetic structure at the photosphere and the dynamic processes occurring in the corona.

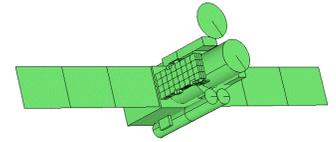
Solar-B is a Japanese national science project with international cooperation from the US and UK.



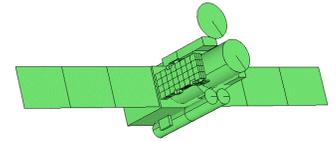
- **Solar-B will be launched from Japan in summer, 2005**
  - Prof. Takeo Kosugi of ISAS is the Solar-B Project Manager and PI
- **Solar Optical Telescope (SOT) -- 50 cm Gregorian Telescope provided by ISAS**
  - Built by Mitsubishi Electronics Company for ISAS & NAOJ
  - Japanese PI Prof. Saku Tsuneta
- **Focal Plane Package (FPP) -- Spectropolarimeter and Filtergraph Instrument provided by NASA**
  - Built at LMSAL in collaboration with HAO
  - US PI Alan Title
- **Other Solar-B Instruments**
  - X-Ray Telescope (XRT), by ISAS and NASA (SAO, Leon Golub is US PI)
  - EUV Imaging Spectrometer (EIS), by UK, ISAS, and NASA (NRL, George Doschek)



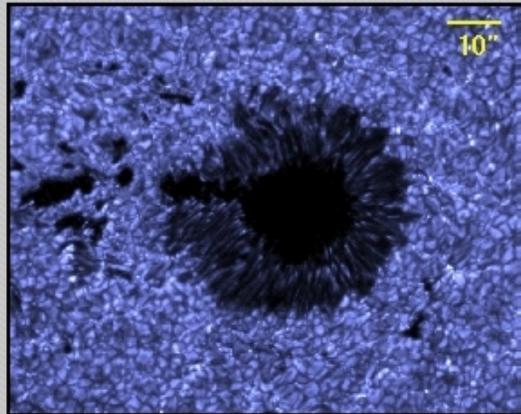
- **Magnetic Flux Transport**
  - Observe how magnetic flux emerges, disperses & disappears from the solar surface, including weak intranetwork fields ( $B < 400$  G).
  - Determine whether magnetic field is generated in or near the surface: *fast dynamo action*.
- **Scales of Convection**
  - Investigate the relationship of the granulation, mesogranulation, and supergranulation.
- **Sunspots and Active Regions**
  - Measure the vector magnetic field of sunspots and plage areas.
  - Observe the formation, dynamics & decay of entire active regions
- **Upper Atmospheric Connections**
  - Determine the role of the surface magnetic field on the structure and dynamics of the outer atmosphere
- **Solar Cycle Evolution**
  - Measure the effect of active regions on the solar cycle irradiance modulation.



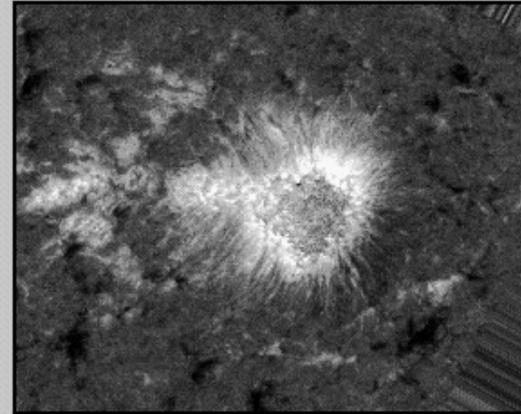
- **Spatial Resolution < 0.25 arcseconds**
  - Preserve imaging quality of SOT from 3880 — 6600 Å.
- **Field of view > 200 x 100 arcseconds**
  - Capture entire active region and significant portions of surrounding quiet network.
- **Image stabilization system < 0.02 arcseconds**
  - Stabilize S/C jitter to < 0.02 arcsec over range of 2 — 20 Hz.
- **Science Instruments**
  - Narrowband Tunable Filter: better than 1% precision magnetograms
  - Broadband Filter Instrument: 0.2 arcseconds 3880Å
  - Spectro-Polarimeter: better than 0.1% precision Stokes vector measurements.



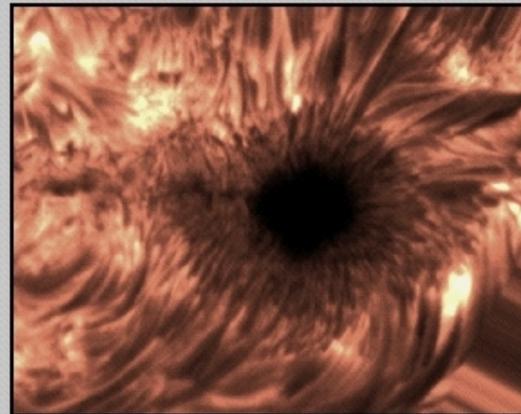
**Solar-B Focal Plane Package Imaging**  
SVST La Palma, 13-May-1998



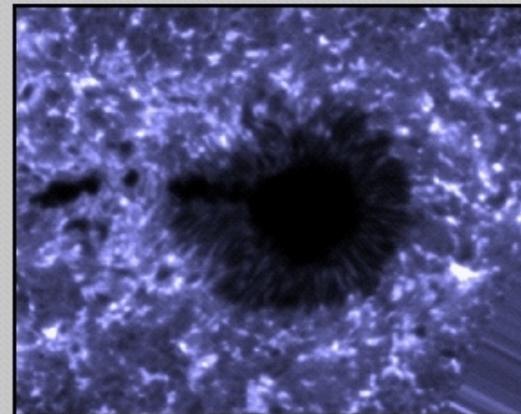
**G-band 4305A**



**Fe I 6302A Magnetogram**

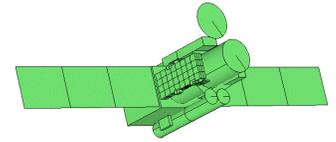


**H-alpha 6563A**



**Ca II K-line 3933A**

# SOT Major Components



- SOT: Solar Optical Telescope

- OTA: Optical Telescope Assembly

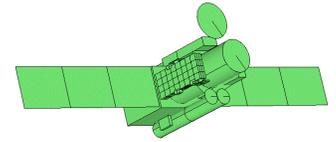
- 1/2-meter class for 0.2 arcsecond spatial resolution at 5000 Å.  
Axisymmetric design for minimal instrumental polarization.

- PMU: Polarization Modulator Unit

- Rotating waveplate for polarization modulation before any oblique reflections.

- TTM: Tip/Tilt Mirror

- PZT- actuated folding mirror for image stabilization.



- FPP: Focal Plane Package

- NFI: **Narrowband Filter Imager**

- Tunable Birefringent filter:  $\sim 0.1 \text{ \AA}$  bandwidth, vector magnetograph.  
Data similar to the SOUP filter images from La Palma, with higher sensitivity and spatial resolution.

- BFI: **Broadband Filter Imager**

- Interference filters for short exposures and highest image quality.  
Data similar to G- band movies from La Palma, with perfect seeing.

- SP: **Spectro-Polarimeter**

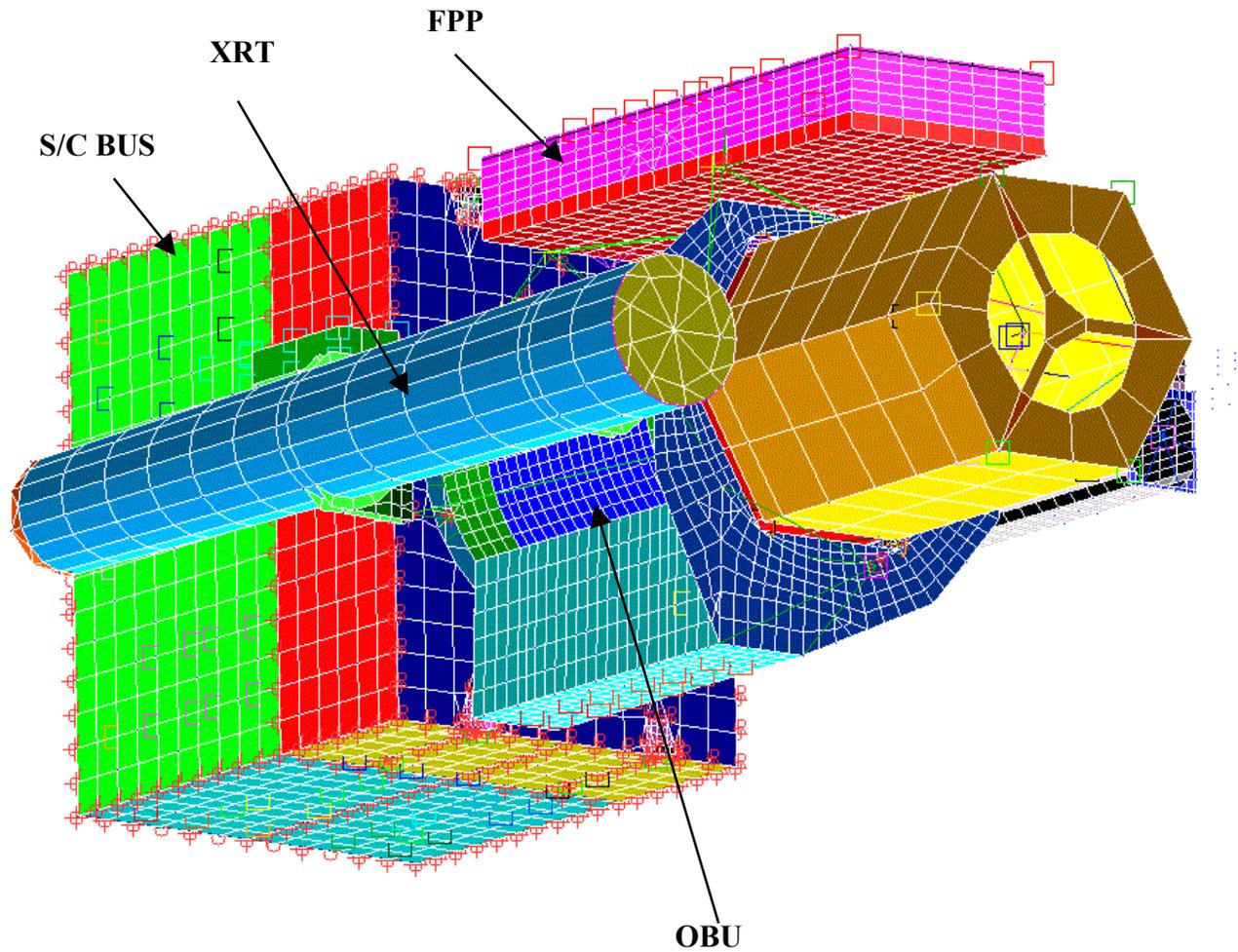
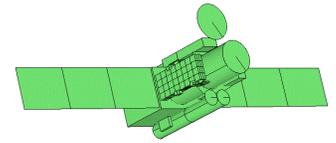
- Fe I 6301/2Å lines: dual-line dual-polarization spectra for high precision Stokes polarimetry.

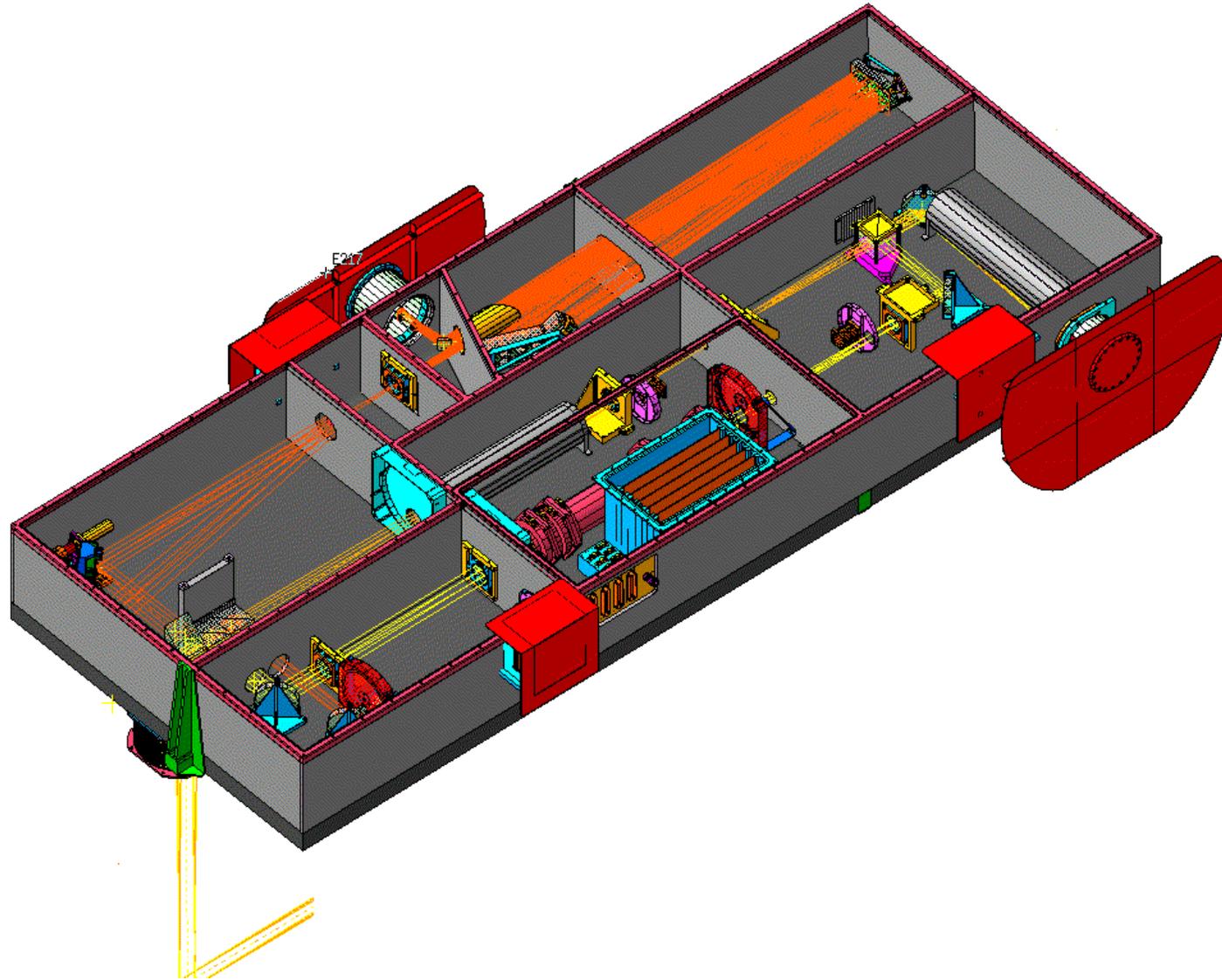
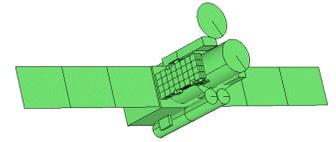
- Data similar to HAO Advanced Stokes Polarimeter, with much higher spatial resolution.

- CT: **Correlation Tracker**

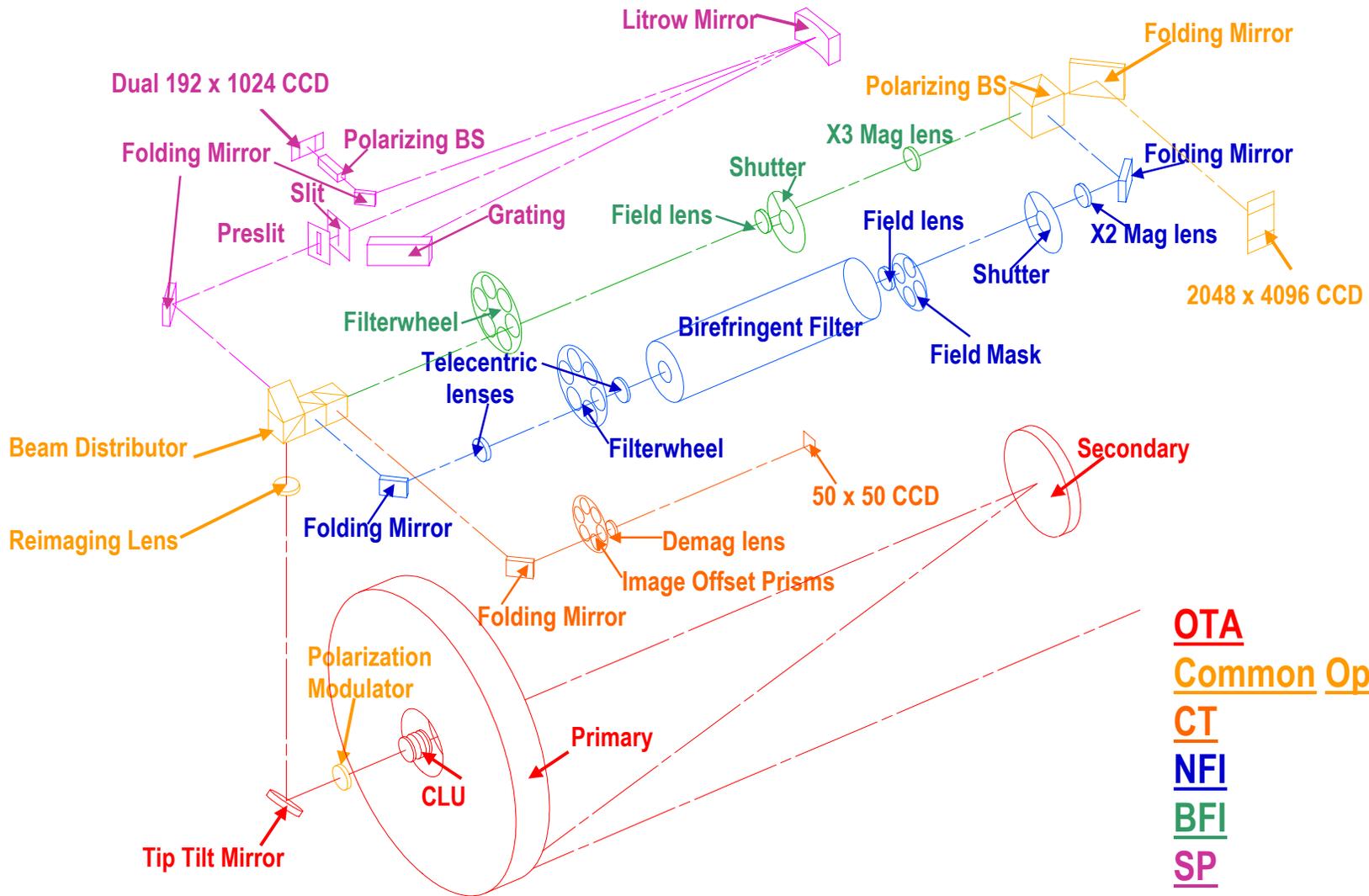
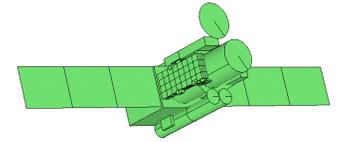
- Jitter sensor for image stabilization with tip/tilt mirror.

# SOLAR-B SYSTEM FINITE ELEMENT MODEL

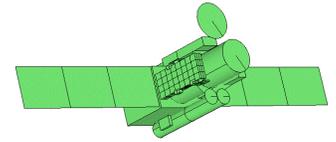




# Optical Schematic of SOT/FPP



**OTA**  
**Common Optics**  
**CT**  
**BFI**  
**SP**



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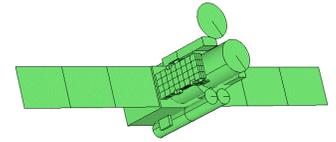
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- **Polarization Modulator: Rotating Waveplate**

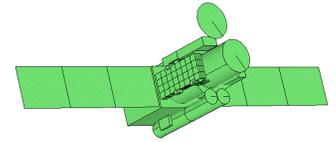
- Immediately follows telescope for minimal instrumental polarization.
- Quartz substrate retarder.
- Optimized retardation for linear and circular polarization at 6302 Å and 5173 Å .
- 1.6 second rotation period.
- DC hollow core motor - continual operation throughout mission lifetime.
- Multiple wedged optics to minimize beam wobble and reduce fringing.

- **Tip/Tilt Mirror System**

- ISAS/NAOJ/MELCO design and manufacture.
- Provides 2-axis image stabilization of <0.02 arcseconds up to 20 Hz bandwidth.



- **Littrow design**
  - Off-axis parabolic mirror.
- **Slit: 160'' x 0.16''**
  - Maximum map FOV = 320'' x 160''
  - Dual-beam polarization analysis
    - Calcite prism gives provides both modulated polarizations simultaneously for minimum crosstalk.
- **Fe I 6301.5 Å (g=1.67) and 6302.5 Å (g=2.5) lines**
- **Spectral resolution ~ 25 mÅ**
- **Spectral range ~ 2 Å**
- **Polarization precision better than 0.1 %**
- **Polarization S/N for map > 10<sup>3</sup>**



- **Normal Mapping Mode**

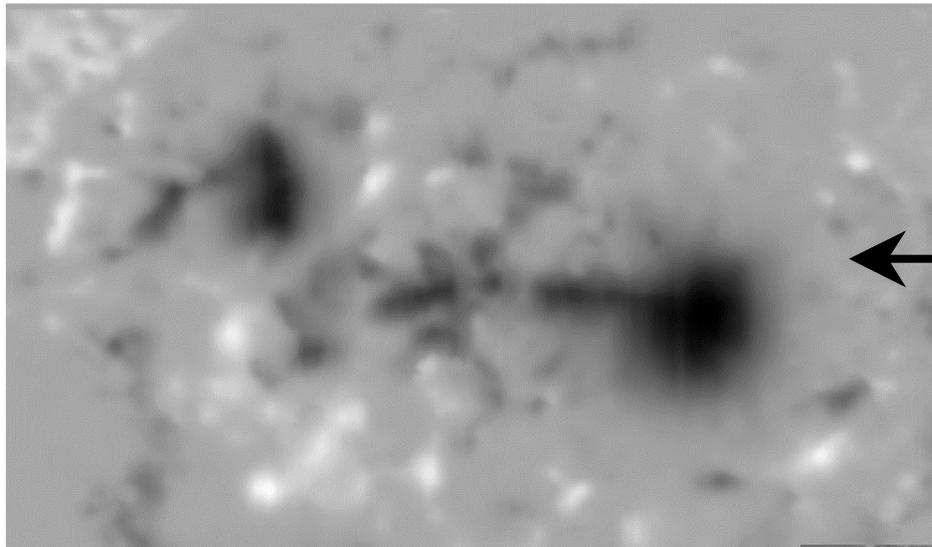
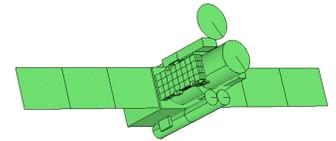
- Expose/read/demodulate for 3 modulator rotations (4.8 seconds).
- Move the slit one step of 0.16 arcsec (0.2 sec).
- Raw data rate ~200 kPixels/sec.
- Send to MDP for compression and downlink.
- 160" raster takes ~80 minutes, 320" raster takes ~160 minutes

- **Fast Map Mode**

- 0.32" spatial resolution, 3.4 seconds per slit position
- 5.1" raster takes 55 seconds, 160" raster takes ~ 30 minutes

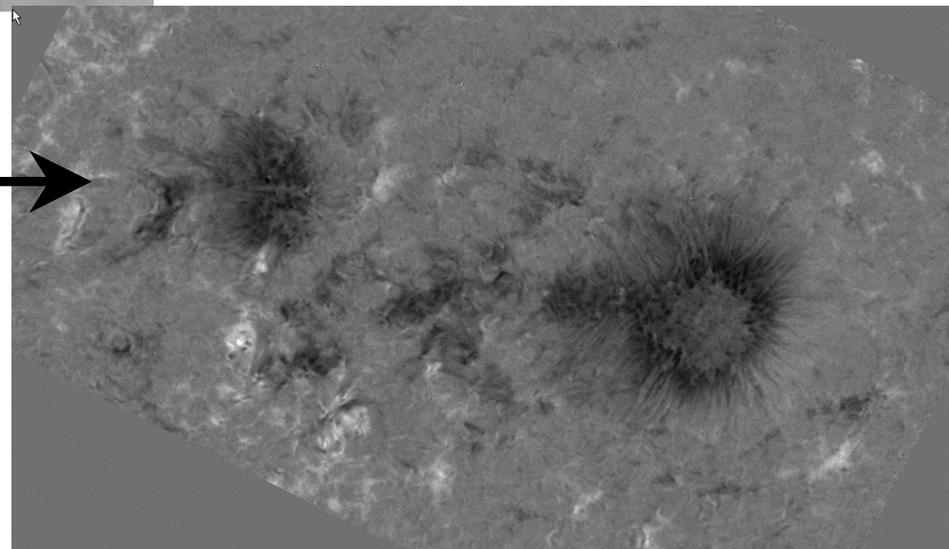
- **Other modes have higher cadence or higher sensitivity**

# Comparison of ASP and Filtergraph Magnetograms

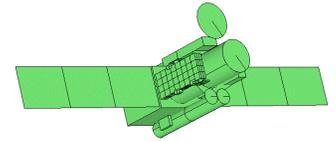


**Stokes Longitudinal Magnetogram obtained with the Advanced Stokes Polarimeter at the Dunn Solar Telescope (NSO/Sacramento Peak) on 13 May 1998, created from a sequence of Stokes spectra. Vector magnetic field and Doppler shift maps with high accuracy are also produced from this data.**

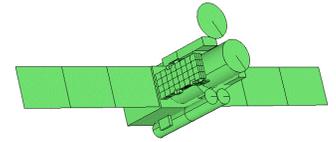
**Longitudinal Magnetogram obtained with the SOUP Filter at the Swedish Vacuum Solar Telescope (La Palma) on 13 May 1998, constructed from a pair of filtergrams.**



**FPP will make vector field maps with accuracy and sensitivity similar to the ASP's and with spatial resolution similar to these filtergrams'.**

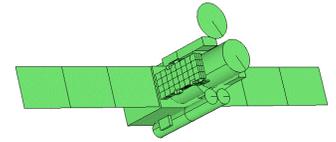


- **Filtergrams with highest spatial and temporal resolution**
- **Field of View: 216'' x 108'' maximum**
  - Partial readout and subarea selection in computer also possible
- **Spectral range 3880 - 6700 Å**
- **Temporal resolution < 5 sec for 108 x 108 arcsecond FOV**
- **Photometric accuracy better than 2% for continuum irradiance measurement.**
- **Common Focal Plane with NFI**
  - 2048 x 4096 back illuminated frame transfer CCD, 0.053 arcsecond pixels.



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<b>Center</b>	<b>FWHM</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
<b>3883.5 A</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>CN molecular band head: chromospheric network</b>
<b>3968.5 A</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Ca II H-line: magnetic elements in low chromosphere</b>
<b>4305.0 A</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>CH G-band molecular band head: magnetic elements in photosphere; convection flow mapping.</b>
<b>4505.5 A</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Blue continuum window for continuum irradiance</b>
<b>5550.5 A</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Green continuum window</b>
<b>6684.0 A</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Red continuum window</b>



## • Tunable Lyot Filter System

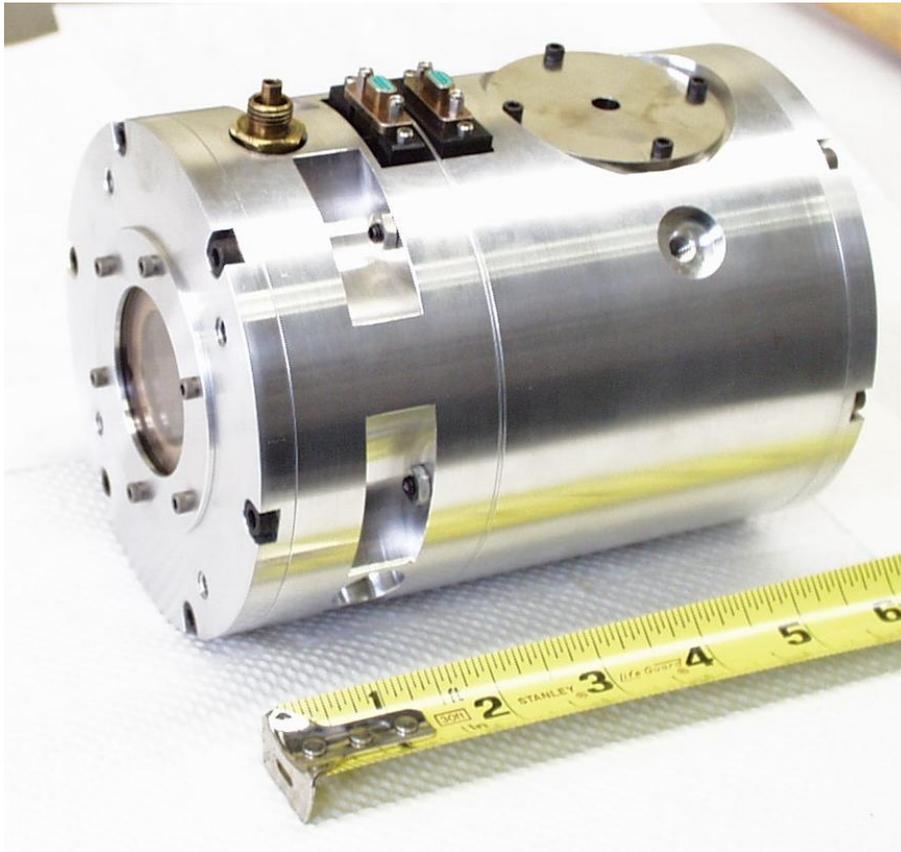
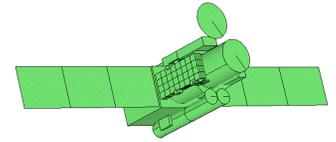
- 8-calcite wide-field elements.
- Temperature calibrated.
- 0.25 arcsecond spatial resolution over range from 5170 — 6570 Å.
- 0.1 - 1 second exposure times for filtergrams
- Spectral resolution 60 - 100 mÅ.
- Polarization precision better than 1 %.

## • FOV selectable via focal plane mask

- 320" x 160" wide FOV (some vignetting in corners) for filtergrams.
- 160" x 160" FOV for Dopplergrams & magnetograms made onboard
- 8, 16, 32" x 160" narrow FOV for most sensitive Stokes vector maps

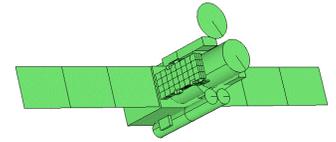
## • Common Focal plane with BFI

- 2048 x 4096 back illuminated frame transfer CCD, 0.08 arcsecond pixels.

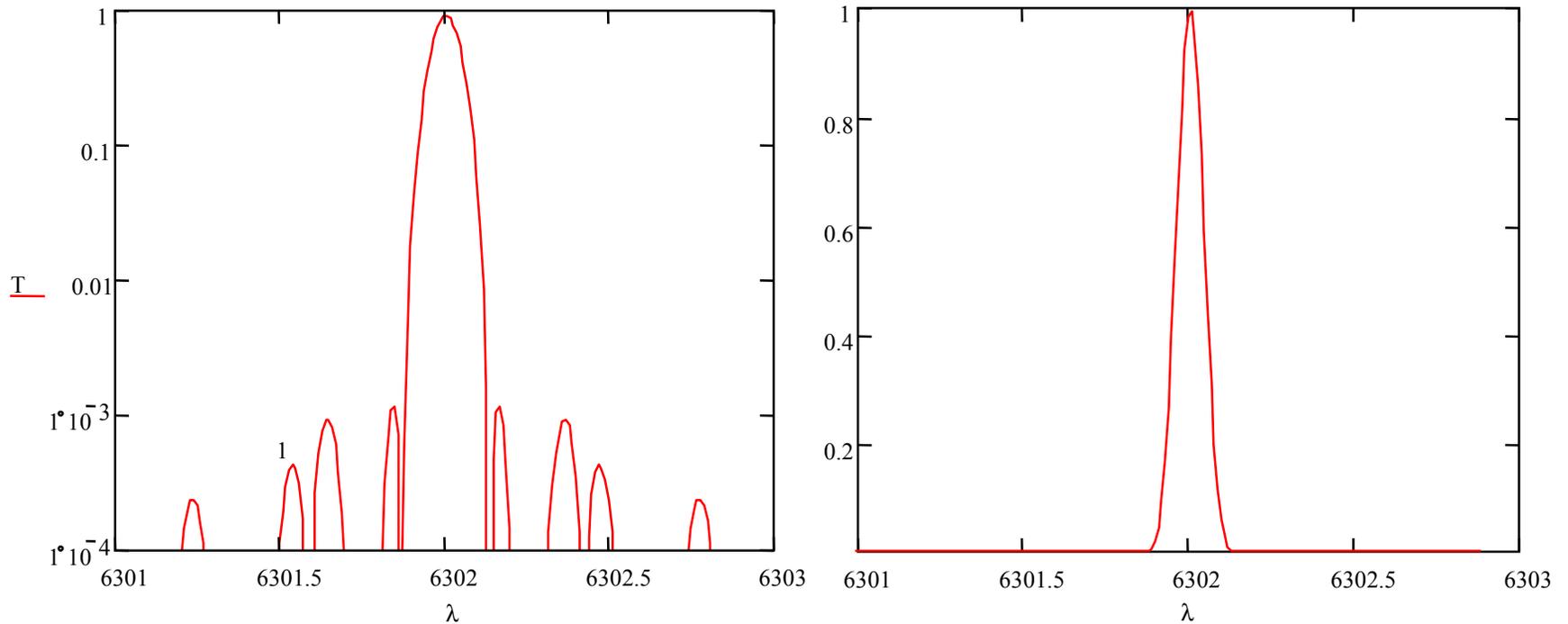
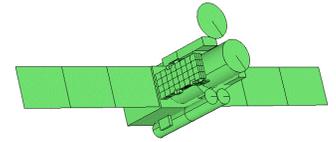


- **Prototype for space imaging missions such as Solar-B**
- **Two wide-field birefringent calcite elements**
- **Two integral, hollow core, tuning motors**
- **Oil filled to minimize internal reflection losses and ghost images**

# NFI Spectral Lines

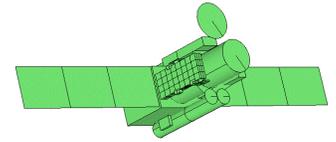


<b>Ion</b>	<b>Wavelength</b>	<b>g,eff</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
<b>Mg Ib</b>	<b>5172.7Å</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>Low chromosphere magnetograms, dopplergrams, Stokes vectors</b>
<b>Fe I</b>	<b>5247.1</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>Secondary photospheric magnetic line.</b>
<b>Fe I</b>	<b>5250.2</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>Used with 5247 line for ratio analyses.</b>
<b>Fe I</b>	<b>5250.6</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>“</b>
<b>Fe I</b>	<b>5576.1</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>Photospheric dopplergrams</b>
<b>Fe I</b>	<b>6301.5</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>Secondary photospheric magnetic line</b>
<b>Fe I</b>	<b>6302.5</b>	<b>2.50</b>	<b>Primary photospheric magnetic line.</b>
<b>Ti I</b>	<b>6303.8</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>Sunspot umbral magnetogram line</b>
<b>HeNe</b>	<b>6328.1</b>		<b>Laser alignment and testing line</b>
<b>H I</b>	<b>6563</b>		<b>H-alpha chromospheric filtergram and dopplergram line.</b>

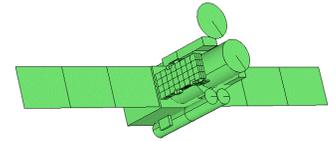


**FWHM: 100 mÅ at 6302 Å**

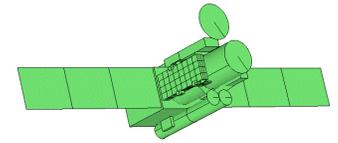
**Sidelobe level: < 1%**



- **Filtergrams**
  - **Broadband Filtergraph:** all bands, only observable made by BFI
  - **Narrowband Filtergraph:** all lines & nearby continuum
  
- **Dopplergrams**
  - Made onboard from 4 or more tunable filtergrams
  - Primary line is Fe I 5576 (g=0)
  
- **Longitudinal Magnetograms**
  - Made onboard from tunable filtergrams converted to Stokes I & V
  - Give the location, polarity and crude estimate of flux of magnetic field components along the line-of-sight
  - Primary lines are Fe I 6302.5 (photosphere) and Mg I 5172.7 (low chromosphere)



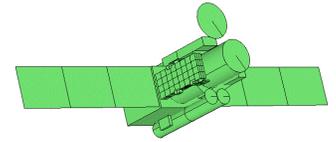
- I, Q, U, V made onboard from tunable filtergrams at 4 to 8 phases of the polarization modulator for each wavelength setting
- Stokes Parameters from filtergrams (using the shutter)
  - **0.4 sec exposures possible for V, 0.2 sec for Q & U**
  - **Noise sources due to time between frames & cross-talk between polarizations**
- Shutterless modes for higher time resolution & sensitivity, with tall narrow FOV: like the EIS “slot”
- Onboard processing very similar to that for Spectro-polarimeter
- Analysis of IQUV at multiple wavelengths yields vector magnetic field information



**Shuttered Polarimetry**

Observable	Line	Pixel (arcsec)	FOV (arcsec)	Time (s)	Sensitivity I / Sigma(V)
I, V	6302	.08"	164 x 164"	10	220
I, V	6302	.16"	328 x 164"	10	440
I,Q,U,V	6302	.08"	82 x 164"	13	140
I,Q,U,V	6302	.16"	164 x 164"	13	300
I,Q,U,V	5250	.16"	164 x 164"	13	180
I, V	5173	.32"	328 x 164"	10	380
I,Q,U,V	5173	.32"	328 x 164"	13	210

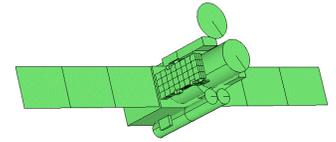
Time is for measurement at one wavelength



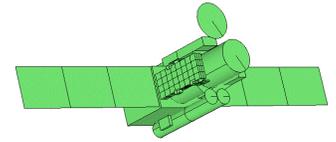
**Shutterless Polarimetry**

Observable	Line	Pixel (arcsec)	FOV (arcsec)	Time (s)	Sensitivity I / Sigma(V)
I, V	6302	.08"	32 x 164"	10	530
I, V	6302	.16"	64 x 164"	10	1080
I,Q,U,V	6302	.08"	8 x 164"	10	490
I,Q,U,V	6302	.16"	16 x 164"	10	1060
I,Q,U,V	5250	.16"	16 x 164 "	10	630
I, V	5173	.32"	128 x 164"	10	760
I,Q,U,V	5173	.32"	32 x 164"	10	730

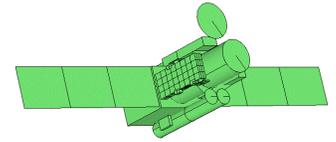
Time is for measurement at one wavelength



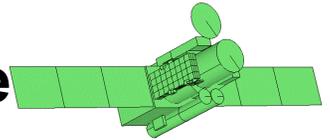
- All data compression is performed in the MDP, by ISAS-provided software and firmware
- Compression options are:
  - **No compression**
  - **Lossless DPCM compression**
  - **16 to 12 bit compression by lookup table, followed by 12-bit JPEG**
- Studies of compression quality & efficiency are ongoing
  - **Lites/Shine study of compression of Stokes spectra showed no loss of scientifically important information with JPEG compression to 1- 2 bits/pixel**
  - **Similar results found for examples of high resolution La Palma images**
  - **Sample FPP data products with known SNR have been made for compression software testing**
- Based on our TRACE experience with 12-bit JPEG and our studies to date, we have confidence in compression of most data to ~ 2 bits/pixel



- Photosphere/Chromosphere Connectivity & Flows
- Goals
  - Observe fast transients (micro-flares, transient X-ray brightenings) in an active region coordinated with XRT and EIS
  - Determine if changes in magnetic connectivity accompany these transients
  - Record the geometry of the field changes and flows for comparison with numerical models of reconnection.
- FOV: an active region and connections with its surroundings, say 164 x 164 arcsec in H-alpha and mgrams, smaller in G-band
- SP Observations: Fast Map mode, takes about 30 minutes per map

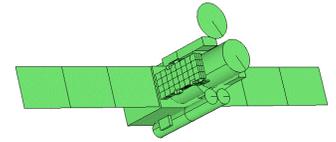


- Filtergraph Observations: overall cadence 256 seconds
- For four 12.8-second intervals every 64 seconds, take an H-alpha set consisting of
  - **-1500 mÅ, .16 arcsec px, for signs of energy deposition in the low chromosphere**
  - **-350 mÅ, line center, +350 mÅ: .16 arcsec px, for connectivity and flows**
- In the fifth 12.8-second interval, take:
  - **G band (4308) image, .053 arcsec px, for photospheric flows and flux tube evolution**
  - **For 3 cycles, Mg b (5173) Stokes parameters, .32 arcsec px, for field changes in low chromosphere, first in blue wing, then line center, then red wing; shutterless mode with smaller FOV (123 x 164 arcsec for IV, 61 x 164 for IQU)**
  - **For the next cycle, 6302 longitudinal magnetogram, .16 arcsec px, 164 x 164 arcsec**



	<b>To MDP</b>	<b>To Telemetry</b>
	Kpixels/sec	Kbits/sec
<b>SP Data</b>	146	219
<b>H-alpha</b>	262	393
<b>G-band</b>	65.5	98
<b>5173 Stokes</b>	9.2	13.8
<b>6302 Mgram</b>	4.1	6.1
<b>Totals</b>	487.	730.

- Assumes all data is compressed in the MDP to 1.5 bits/pixel
- Peak rate to MDP is much higher: limited to 1 Mpixel/sec
- 3.6 Gbit mass memory is filled in 82 minutes, less than 1 orbit;
  - **Therefore sequence must pause for telemetry passes**
  - **For some but not all science goals, 80 minute runs with gaps are acceptable**



- ISAS will play the leading role in defining Mission Operations concepts and procedures
  - Initial concepts presented at December 1999 Science Meeting
  - Experience from Yohkoh and TRACE is very relevant
  - Scientists in US will participate in science priorities & plans by email & telecon
  - LMSAL will provide SW and engineering support from Palo Alto as needed
  
- Science planners at ISAS for each instrument will:
  - Reach consensus on scientific plans and on coordinated vs. separate observing
  - Agree daily on Solar-B targetting schedule
  - Choose detailed observing programs and schedule them on ~ daily basis
  - Construct loads of observing programs and “timeline”
  - Monitor Solar-B status and quick look solar data during telemetry passes
  
- Key aspect will be managing mass memory & telemetry schedule
  - Planners must try to make observing programs consistent based on predicted data rates