

# USGS Agency Update

**Presented to CEOS WGCV**  
**October 1, 2014**

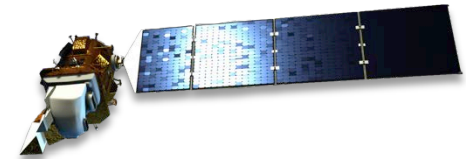
# Agenda

- Follow up to USGS Welcome from Tom Cecere, *International Liaison, USGS Land Remote Sensing Program, 9/30/14*
- *Landsat -7 Status and Calibration*
- *Landsat-8 Status and Calibration*
- *Landsat IGS*
- *Sustainable Land Imaging*
- *EO Requirements Capabilities and Analysis*
- *System and Data Characterization (and Quality)*

# Operational Status

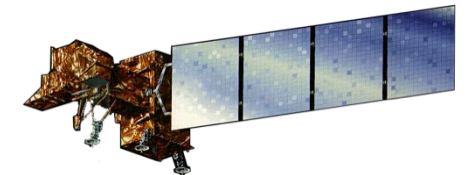
## ***Landsat 8***

- Collection increased from approximately 550 to 725 new scenes per day; supports 8-day revisit cycle
- Improvements: better signal-to-noise, new bands (coastal blue, cirrus, thermal)
  - Crisper images; less color saturation
  - Better resolution of snow and ice-covered regions
  - Detection of water-column constituents
  - Better cloud screening



## ***Landsat 7***

- Collecting over 400 new scenes per day; about 22% of pixels missing per scene (faulty scan-line corrector)
- L7 collection strategy modified to concentrate on continental coverage; L8 capturing islands & reefs
- Sufficient fuel until 2018; limited subsystem redundancy; satellite could fail at any time



***8-day revisit cycle is at significant risk of interruption***

# Operational Status

*(continued)*

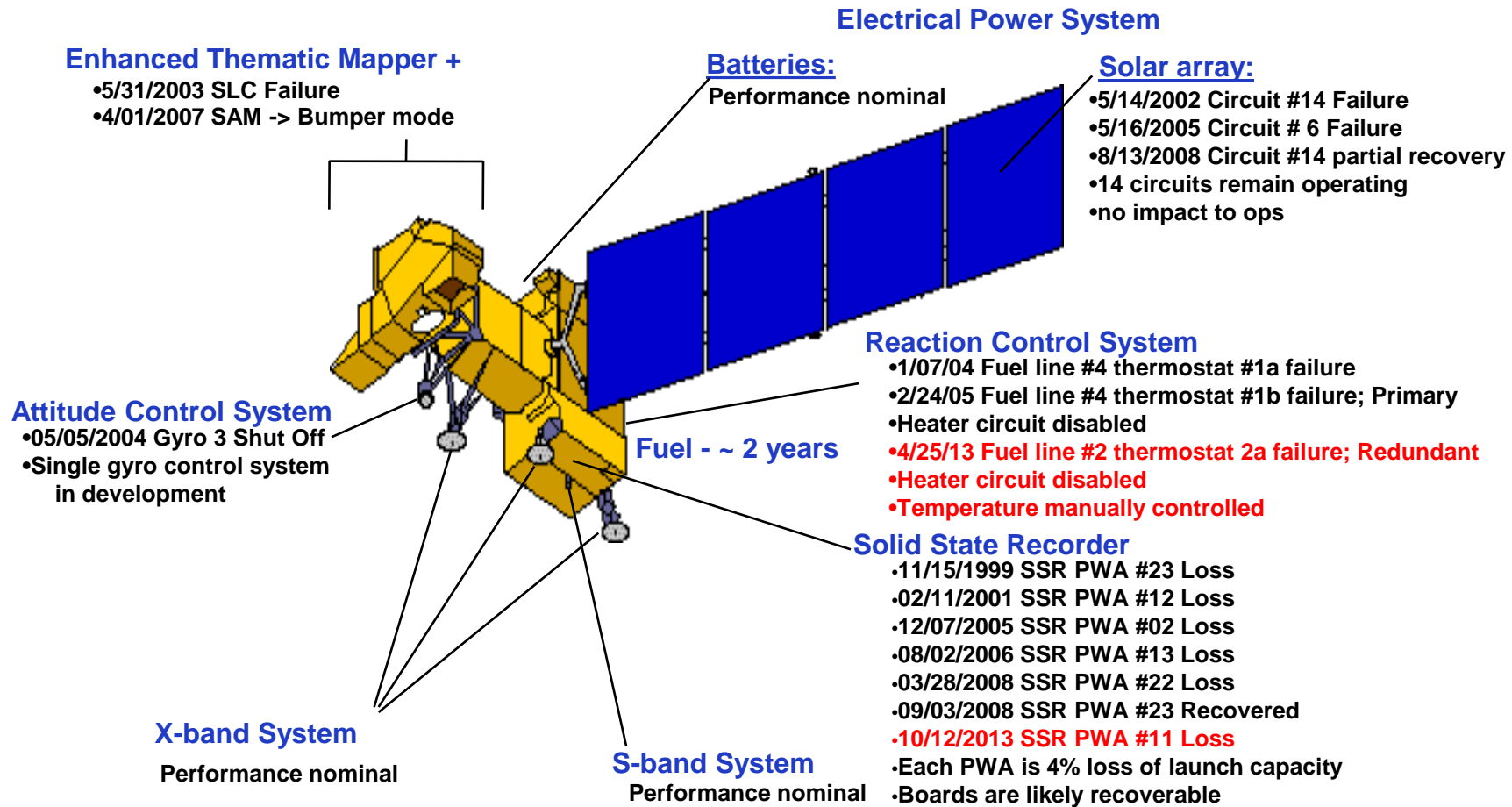
## ***Landsat-based Information Products***

- Standard orthorectified L1T calibrated radiance Landsat scenes
- LandsatLook (full-resolution JPEGs browse/print images)
- New TM/ETM+ surface reflectance Climate Data Record (CDR) products currently available on-demand for any WRS-2 path/row
- New TM/ETM+ surface temperature CDR products under development; will soon be available for evaluation on-demand for North America
- New OLI surface reflectance CDR in development and will be made available on-demand for any WRS-2 path/row
- New OLI surface temperature CDR in development and will be made available on-demand for North America
- Surface Water Extent, Burned Area Extent Essential Climate Variable (ECV) products available soon for evaluation for CONUS and Alaska
- Snow-covered area ECV due late next year for CONUS and Alaska

# Landsat 7 Spacecraft Status

Launched 15 Apr 1999

> 14 years of on-orbit operations



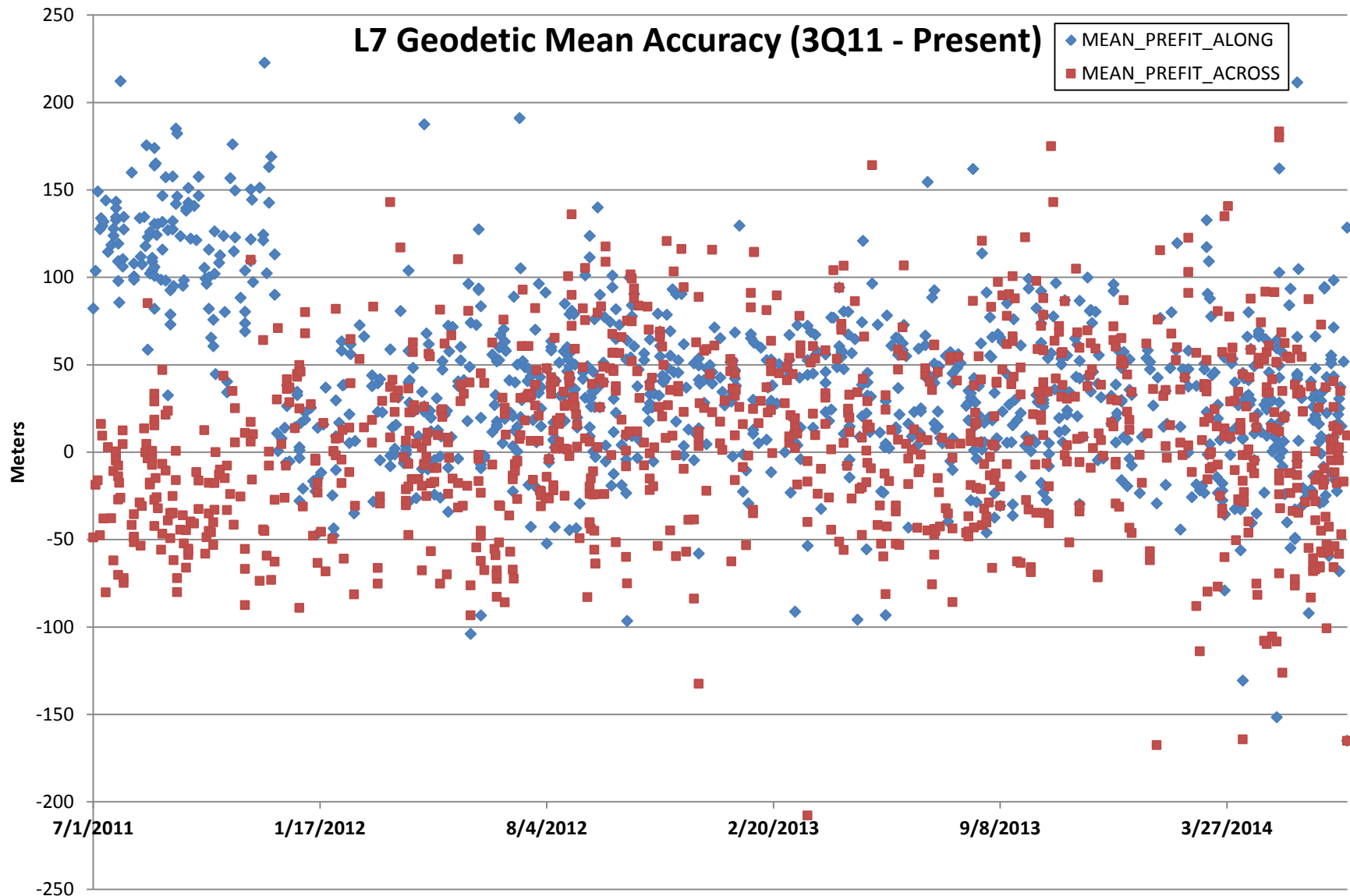


# L7 Geodetic Characterization

- **Sensor Alignment update issued 1Q2012 has corrected large offsets observed in 2010 and 2011**
- **Both along and across scans have remained stable since last sensor alignment update**

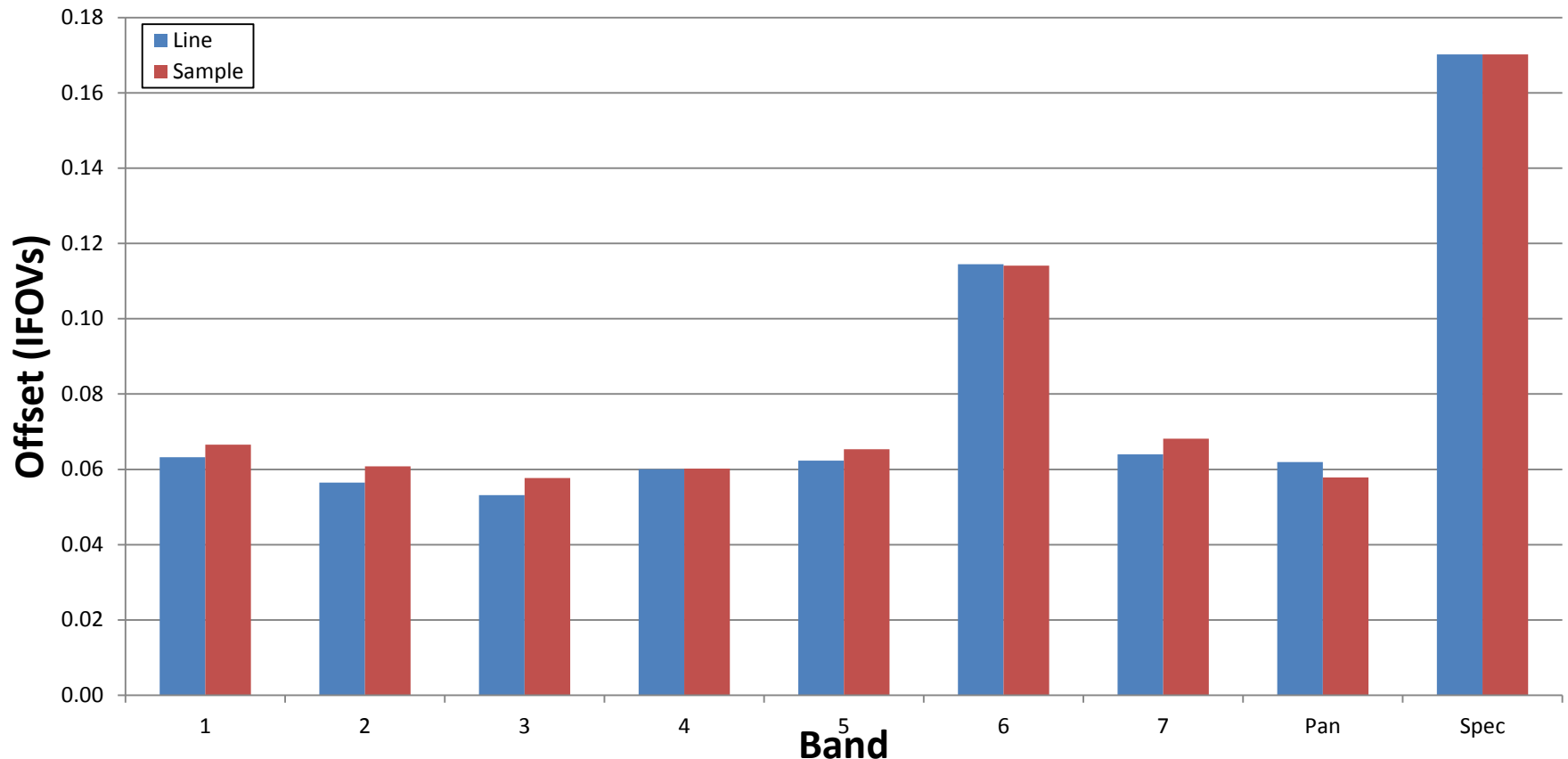
Quarter	Along Scan Mean (m)	Across Scan Mean (m)	Along Scan RMSE (m)	Across Scan RMSE (m)
2Q11	102.758	-13.456	107.538	42.366
3Q11	123.087	-23.747	126.379	39.406
4Q11	84.282	-8.082	101.346	43.329
1Q12	13.782	6.320	35.402	48.470
2Q12	29.281	-5.289	51.082	44.816
3Q12	36.130	14.949	53.002	46.594
4Q12	39.139	27.906	52.634	57.910
1Q13	32.158	23.453	47.287	52.665
2Q13	32.393	13.142	52.497	50.438
3Q13	30.985	10.871	49.649	50.911
4Q13	36.324	24.873	49.403	53.100
1Q14	24.651	16.036	50.260	59.789
2Q14	19.670	-1.513	51.610	56.232
3Q14	5.943	-19.739	68.194	55.001

# L7 Geodetic Accuracy Characterization



# L7 Band to Band Characterization

- All bands within spec as of July 2014  
Band Average RMS Registration Error Since Launch

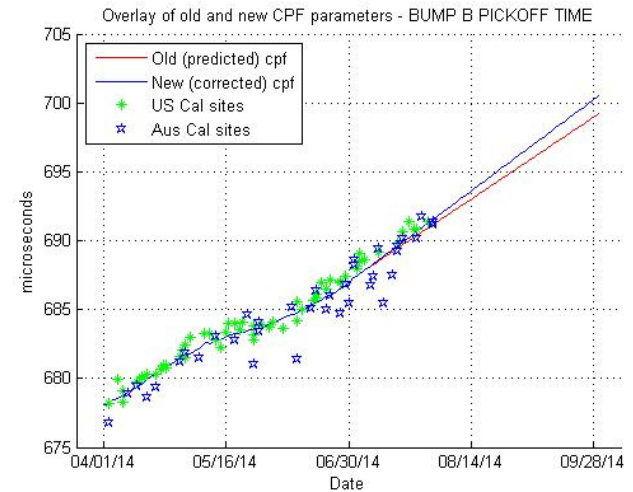
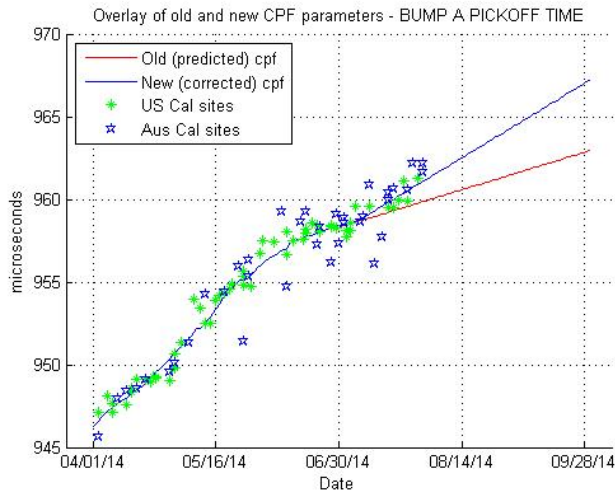
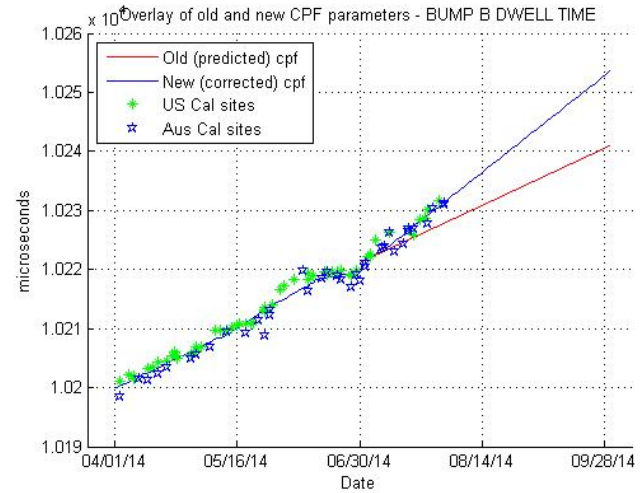
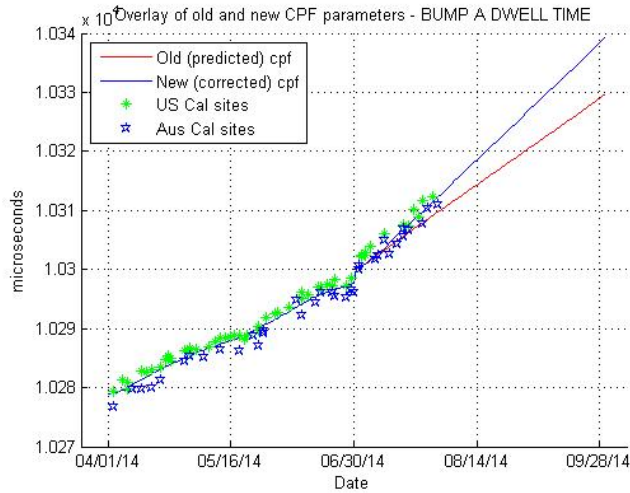




# L7 Bumper Mode Mirror Calibration

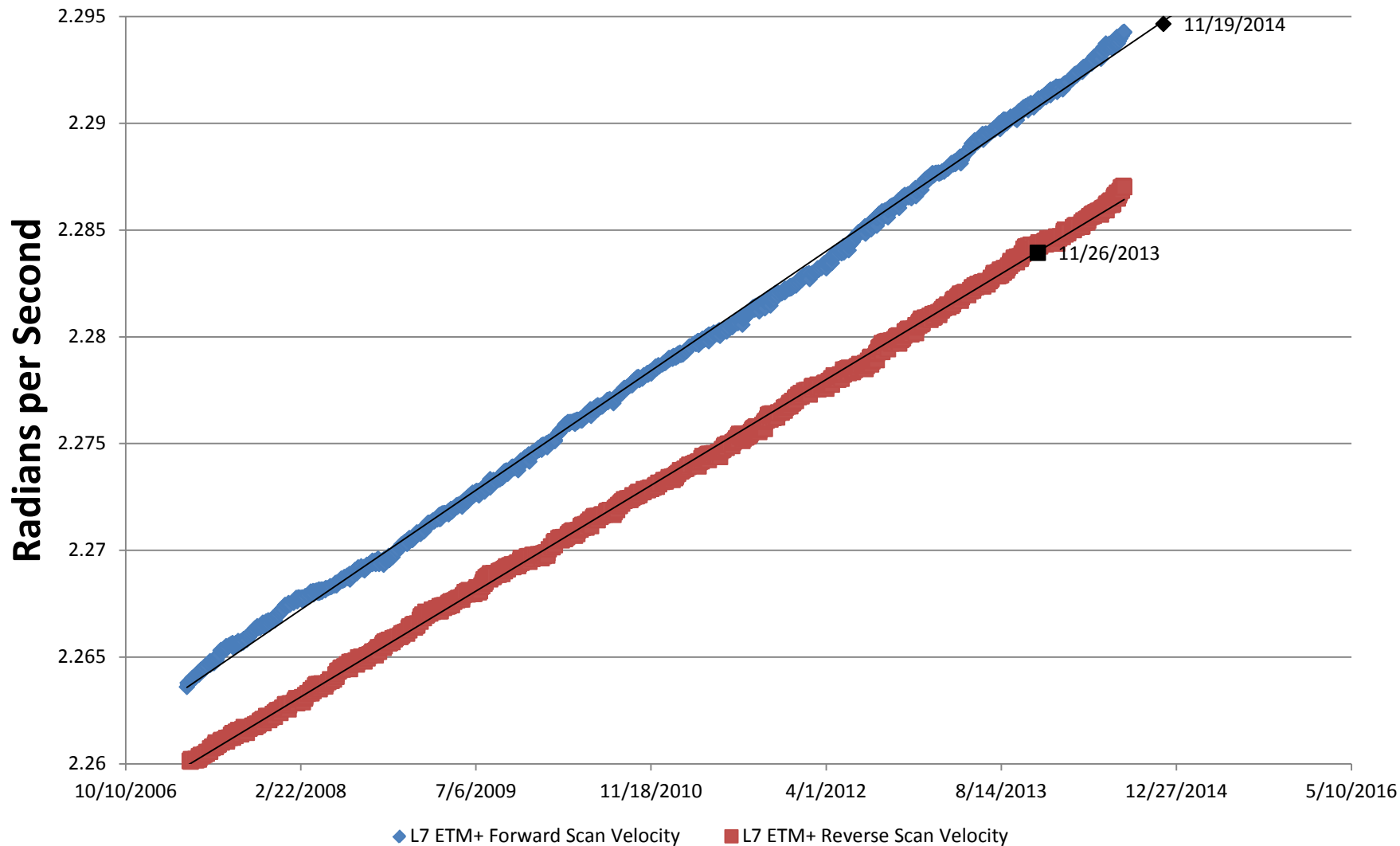
- ETM+ bumper mode parameters have remained stable since switch from SAM mode
- Both US and Australian geometric supersites are used for calibration
  - Dwell times for Australian sites trend shorter than those for US sites
- Predicted bumper mode parameter updates are issued as needed, typically every 2 weeks or 6-7 times per quarter
  - Monitoring of bumper mode parameters is constant and on-going
  - 0 updates so far this quarter (initial prediction holding)

# L7 Bumper Mode Mirror Calibration Trended Scenes as of July 31, 2014



# L7 Bumper Mode Mirror Calibration

## L7 ETM+ Bumper Mode Mirror Scan Velocity



# Landsat 8 Spacecraft

## COMMUNICATIONS

- S-band to LGN: 1, 32kbps uplink: and 2k, 16k, 32k, or 1 Mbps downlink
- Omni antennas
- TDRSS - SA: 1 kbps return and 2 or 32 Kbps forward
- X-band: 384 Mbps science data

## PROPULSION

- Hydrazine blow-down propulsion module
- Eight 22N Redundant Thrusters

## GUIDANCE, NAVIGATION & CONTROL

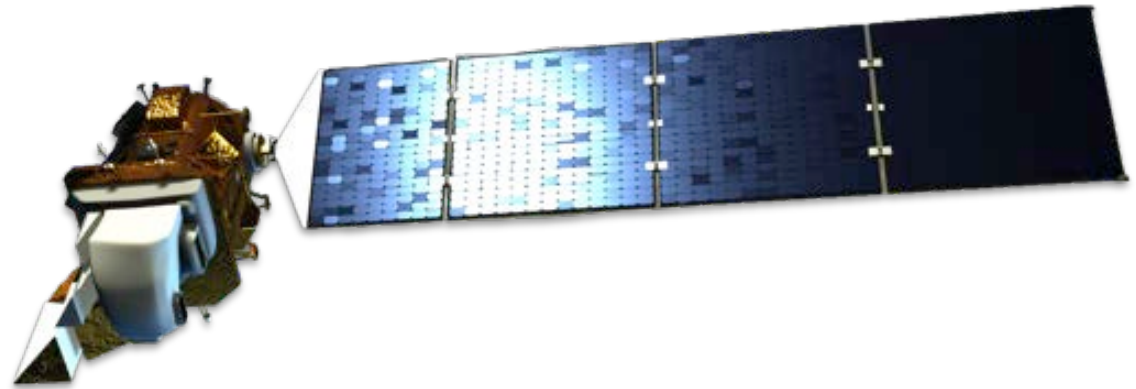
- 1 of 2 star trackers active
- High precision IRU
- Honeywell reaction wheels
- SADA with damper
- 3-axis stabilized
- Zero momentum biased

## THERMAL CONTROL

- Passive with heaters
- Constant conductance heat pipes

## STRUCTURE

- Aluminum primary structure
- Externally mounted components
- Clear instrument FOVs
- Clear instrument radiative paths



## ELECTRICAL POWER

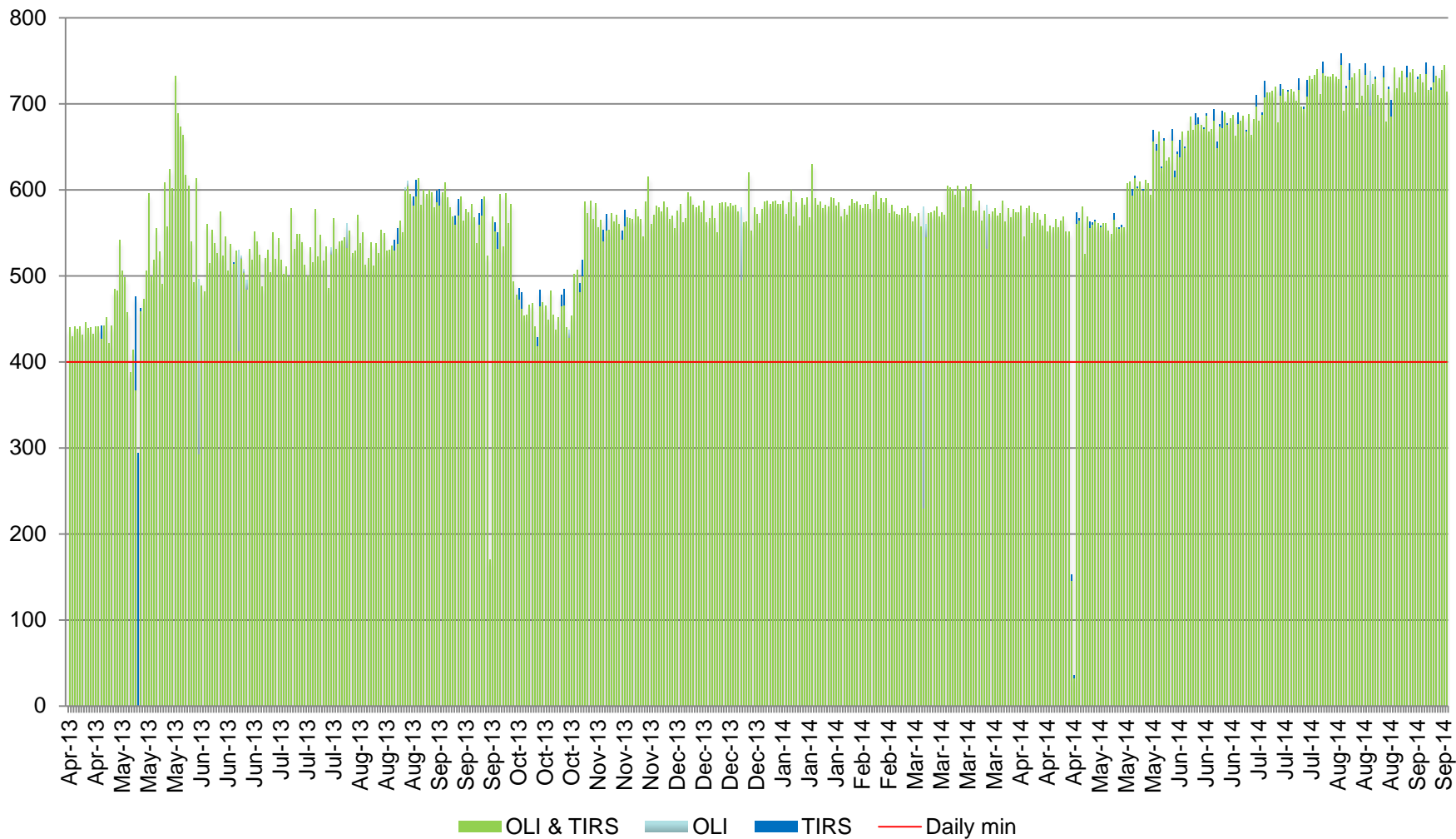
- Single wing single axis articulated Gallium Arsenide (GaAs) solar array provides 4300 W at EOL
- 125 amp-hour Nickel hydrogen NiH<sub>2</sub> battery
- Unregulated 22 V - 36 V power bus
- Two power distribution boxes

## COMMAND & DATA HANDLING

- cPCI architecture; RAD750 CPU
- 4.0 Tbit (BOL) 3.1 Tbit (EOL) solid state recorder
- 265 Mbps peak OLI data transfer
- 26.2 Mbps peak TIRS data transfer
- High rate PB at 384 Mbps

All systems working

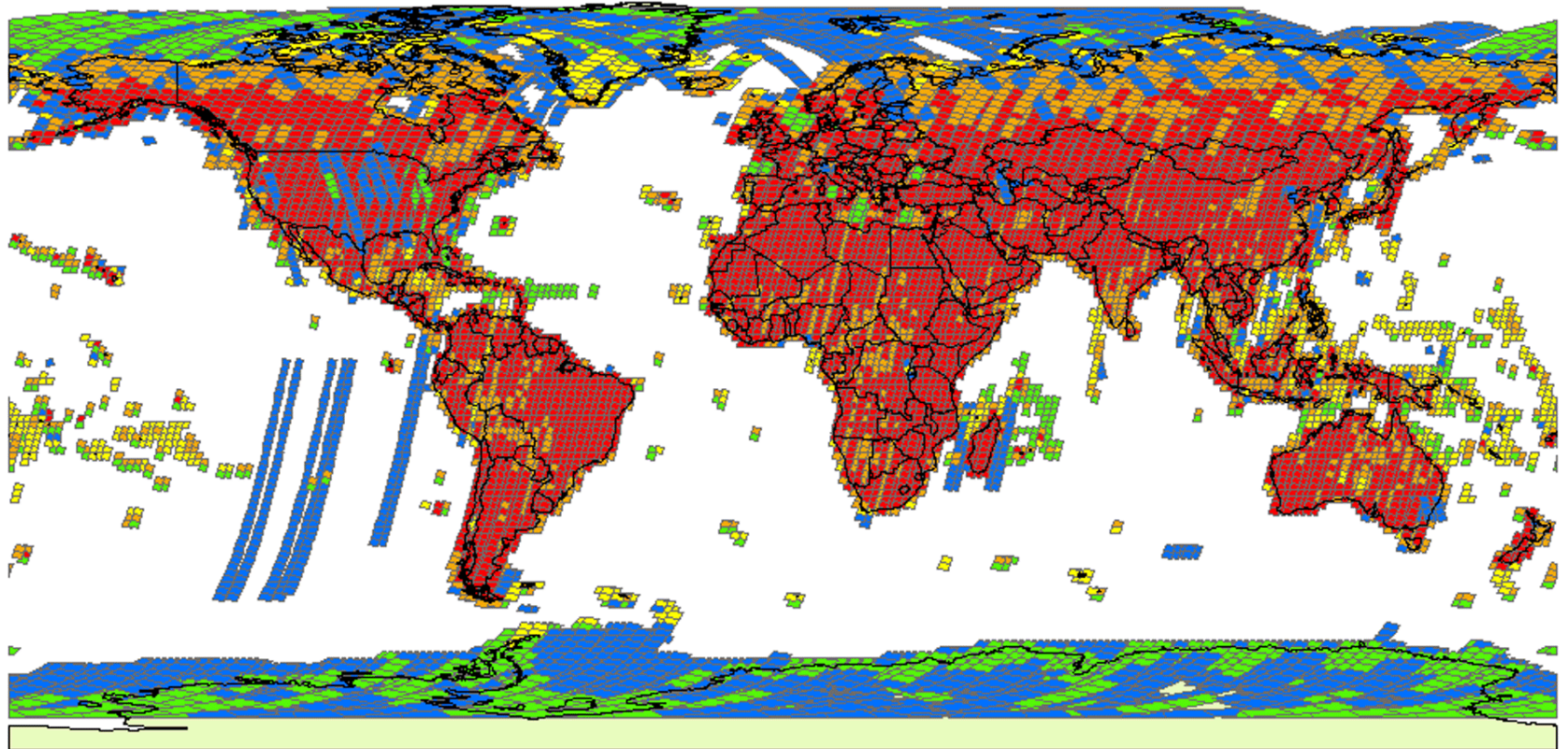
# Landsat 8 Scenes Acquired per day





# L8 OLI TIRS processed scenes

## L8 OLI and TIRS Processed Scenes DOY 13101 through DOY 14261



April 11, 2013 through September 18, 2014

303,721 L8 OLI and TIRS Scenes

887 OLI Scenes

1,216 TIRS Scenes

301,618 OLI\_TIRS Scenes

17,637 Unique L8 OLI and TIRS Scenes

1-5   6-13   14-22   23-28   29-33



# New Landsat 8 Capabilities

## Spectral band improvements

- Landsat 7 has 8 spectral bands (3 VIS, 1 NIR, 2 SWIR, 1 TIR, and pan band)
- Landsat 8 has 11 spectral bands (4 VIS, 1 NIR, 3 SWIR, 2 TIR, and a pan band)
  - New VIS “coastal aerosol” band allows detection of water column constituents (e.g., chlorophyll, suspended materials, etc.)
  - New SWIR “cirrus” band will improve overall image quality because of better cloud screening
  - Addition of a 2<sup>nd</sup> thermal band will improve the accuracy and precision of temperature measurements. Note, however, that TIR resolution decreases from 60m to 100m.
  - Changes in panchromatic band spectral range will increase the overall use of this band for image sharpening and other applications.

Detection, quantification, and mapping of surface (land and water) characteristics will improve because of:

- 5x improvement of signal-to-noise ratios of spectral measurements
- 12 bit quantization of spectral signals (Landsat 7 was 8 bit)

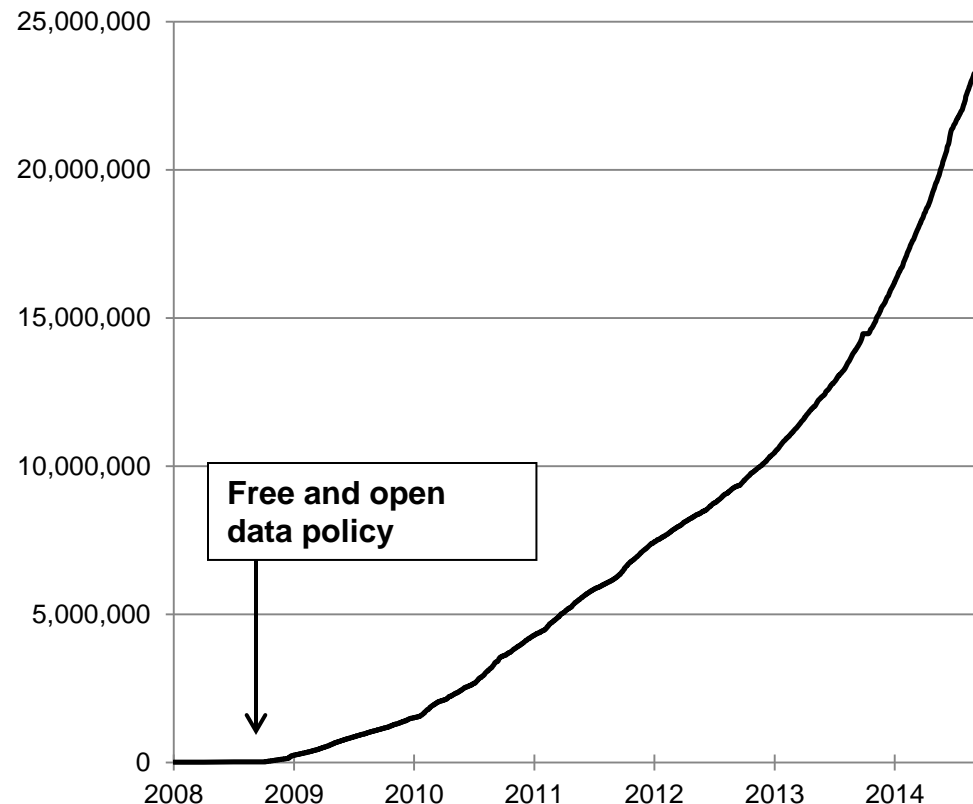
# Users and uses are rapidly increasing

Before the free data policy, the USGS distributed approx. 20,000 Landsat scenes/year. In the last 6 months alone (Mar-Aug 2014), the USGS distributed over 5 million Landsat scenes; the rate of downloads is still increasing.

The free data policy is relatively new, but Landsat is already critical to many operational applications.

- Landsat ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> “most critical” of 362 observing systems in the National Plan for Civil Earth Observations largely because it’s relied on in almost every societal benefit area. <sup>1</sup>

**Landsat Scenes Downloaded from USGS EROS Center<sup>2</sup> (Cumulative)**



<sup>1</sup> OSTP 2014, National Plan for Civil Earth Observations

<sup>2</sup> Includes only downloads from the USGS EROS. (Google Earth delivers approximately 1 billion Landsat scenes to users per month.)

# Sample findings on users' needs for spectral bands and 8-day revisit

Green: Required for application

Blue: Helpful for application

Application	Landsat Information Product	Spectral Requirements				Revisit (days)			
		VIS	NIR	SWIR	TIR	4d	8d	16d	30d
USGS/MRLC National Land Cover Database	Cover type/change	Green	Green	Green	Green			Green	
	% Tree cover	Green	Green	Green	Green			Green	
	% Impervious surface	Green	Green	Green	Green			Green	
USGS/USFS Landfire	Vegetation characteristics	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
	Disturbance	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
USGS/USFS Burned Area Emergency Resp.	Burn severity maps (dNDVI, dNBR)	Green	Green	Green	Green	Blue			
UN FAO Global Forest Resources Assess.	Forest change maps	Green	Green	Green	Green			Green	
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Crop area	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
	Crop production	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
	Crop health	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service	National cropland data layer (crop type)	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
USDA Risk Management - Crop Insurance	Verify crop insurance/damage claims	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
Western States Evapotranspiration	Land surface temperature				Green	Blue		Green	
	Surface reflectance	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
	NDVI	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
	Cloud/shadow mask	Green	Blue	Green	Green		Green		
USDA Ag. Research - Tillage/crop residue	Tillage/Crop residue		Green	Green	Green		Green		
Landsat Image Mosaic of Antarctica (LIMA)	Ice sheet features		Green				Blue		Green
Minnesota Lake Clarity Monitoring	Water clarity	Green				Blue	Green		
USFS Forest Management	Terrestrial Ecological Unit Inventory	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
	Mid-level Vegetation Classification	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
	National insect disease risk map (NIDRM)	Green	Green	Green	Green	Blue			
	Post-storm damage assessments	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green			
	Rapid Assessment of Vegetation (RAVG)	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green			
MDA/NGA Land Change	Correlated land change (new construction)	Green	Green	Green	Green	Blue		Blue	Green
Ohio Agricultural Tax Verification	NDVI (to establish presence of crops)	Green	Green	Green	Green		Blue	Green	
USGS Volcano monitoring	At-sensor radiance (plumes, minerals)	Green	Green	Green	Green		Blue	Green	
	Surface temperature				Green		Blue	Green	
USGS Flood monitoring	At-sensor radiance (flooded area)	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
USGS Landsat science products (Essential Climate Variables)	Surface reflectance	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		
	Surface temperature				Green		Green		
	Land Cover / Surface Water	Green	Green	Green	Green			Green	
	Leaf Area Index/fPAR	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green		

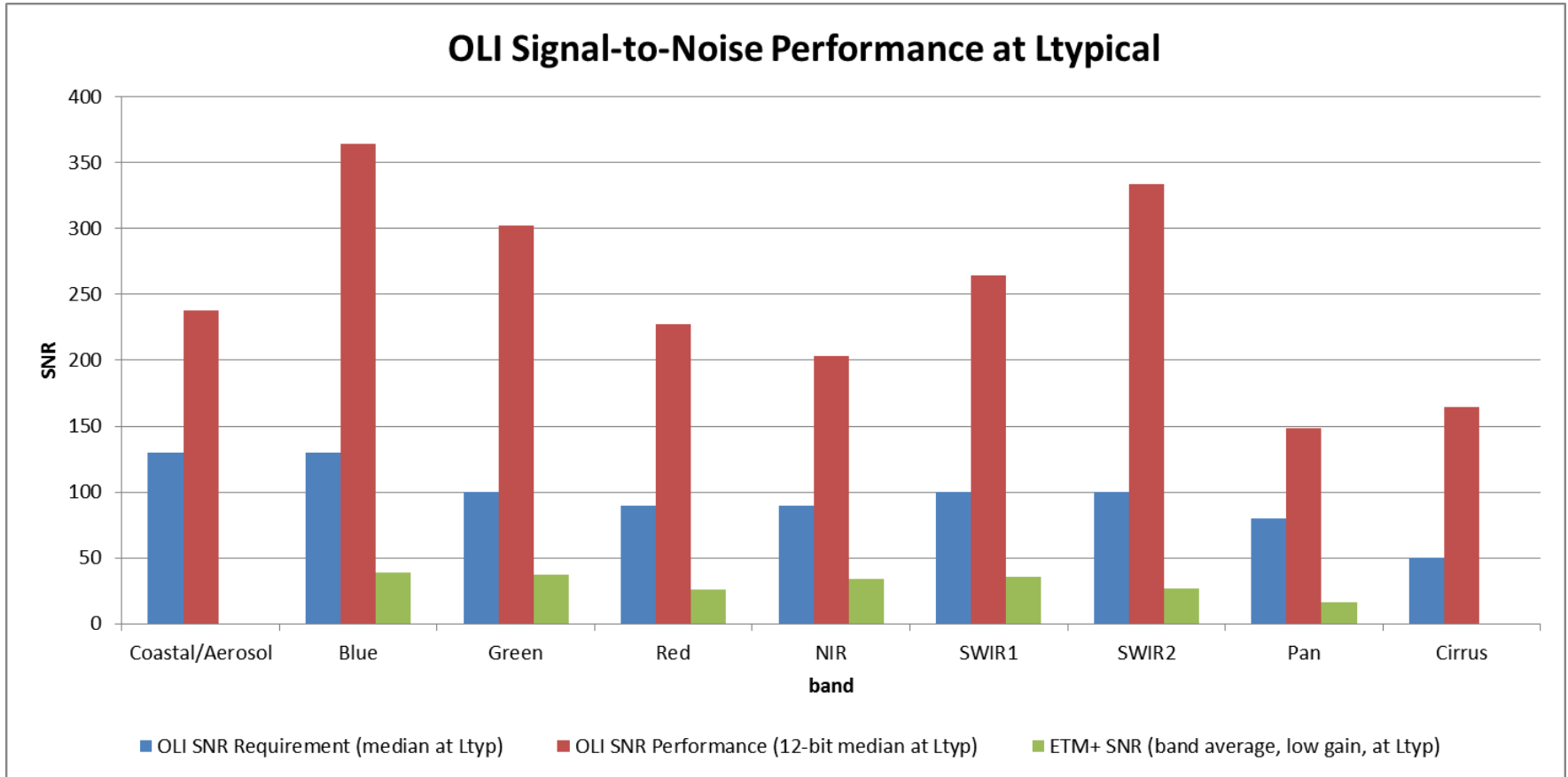
# L-8 OLI Overview

- Pushbroom sensor with eight 30m spectral bands and one 15m panchromatic band
- 6916 detectors per 30m band, distributed over 14 staggered SCAs
- Total: 69160 operational detectors (to characterize)
- Acquires data with 14 bits of radiometric precision, but only 12 bits are sent to the ground systems
  - For normal Earth images – upper 12 bits
  - For dark shutter collects – lower 12 bits
- The ground processing system converts all input data to the equivalent 14 bits
  - The output (L1T product) is in 16 bits precision
- Processing and characterization data are stored to the database for consequent assessment

# L-8 OLI On-orbit Performance Summary

- OLI maintains high SNR, well above requirements
- Noise sources are generally low and do not significantly impact the product quality
- Bias is stable, which helps maintain uniformity
- Impulse noise behaves as expected with a negligible impact on Landsat products
- Saturation and oversaturation do happen, but their occurrences are very uncommon
- Spectral crosstalk between Cirrus and SWIR 1 bands does not violate any requirements
- SCA discontinuities occasionally visible in images
  - New approaches are being developed to try to improve it
- Detector Select Anomaly resolved

# Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR)



**OLI SNR consistent with pre-launch; typically 2-3x better than requirements; 8x better than heritage**



# Dynamic Range

- With 12 bits dynamic range, OLI is designed to measure all Earth Lambertian targets without saturation
- However, some specular targets (clouds, fire, volcanos, other objects under specific viewing and illumination geometry) do saturate the sensor

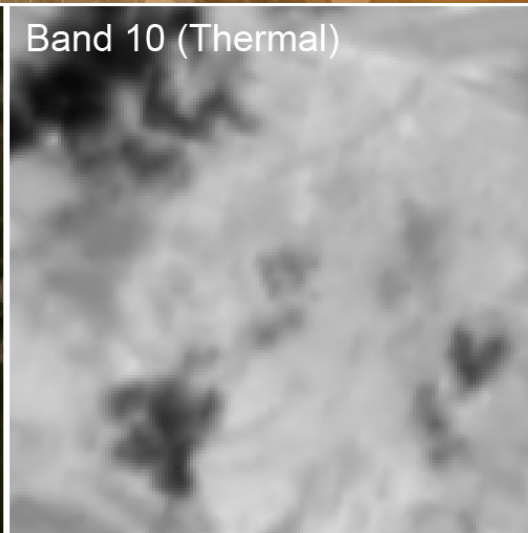
# Greenhouse in Novosibirsk region

- Three complexes with total area of 25 hectares, including 16, 24-hectare greenhouses
- p149r22, 2013, 234

OLI Bands 4,3,2 (RGB)



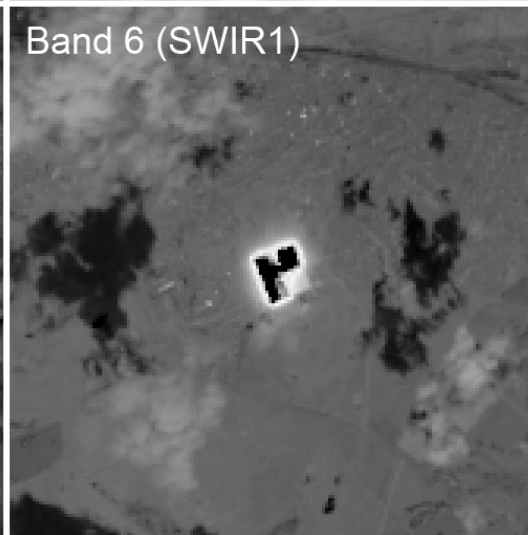
Band 10 (Thermal)



Band 7 (SWIR2)

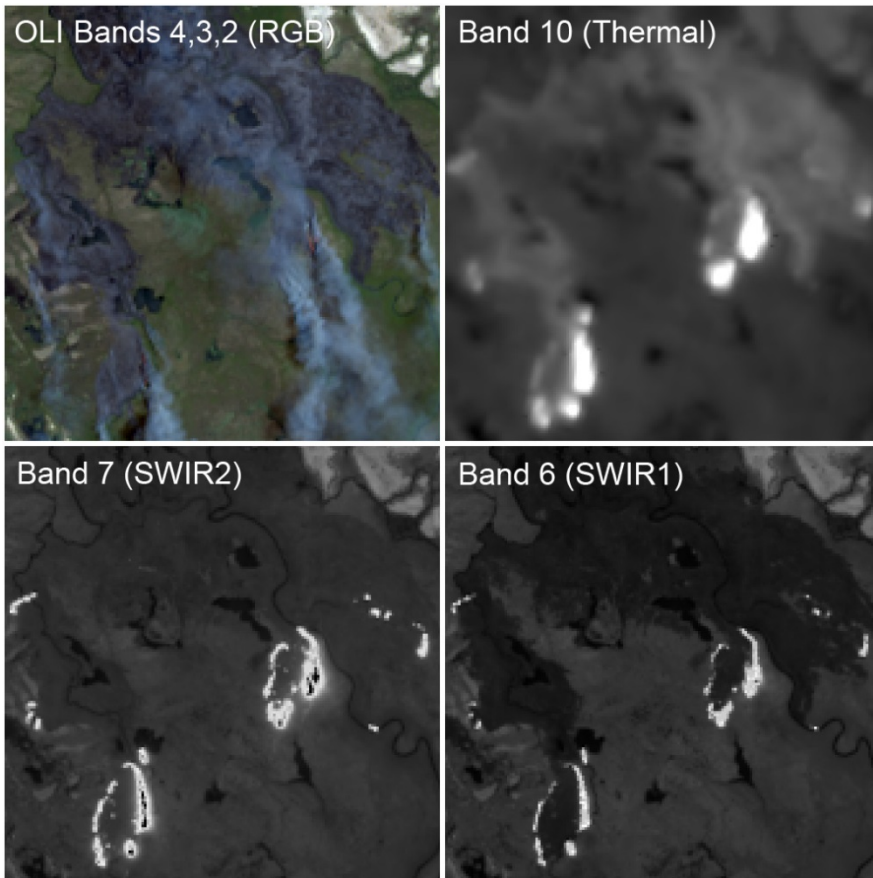


Band 6 (SWIR1)

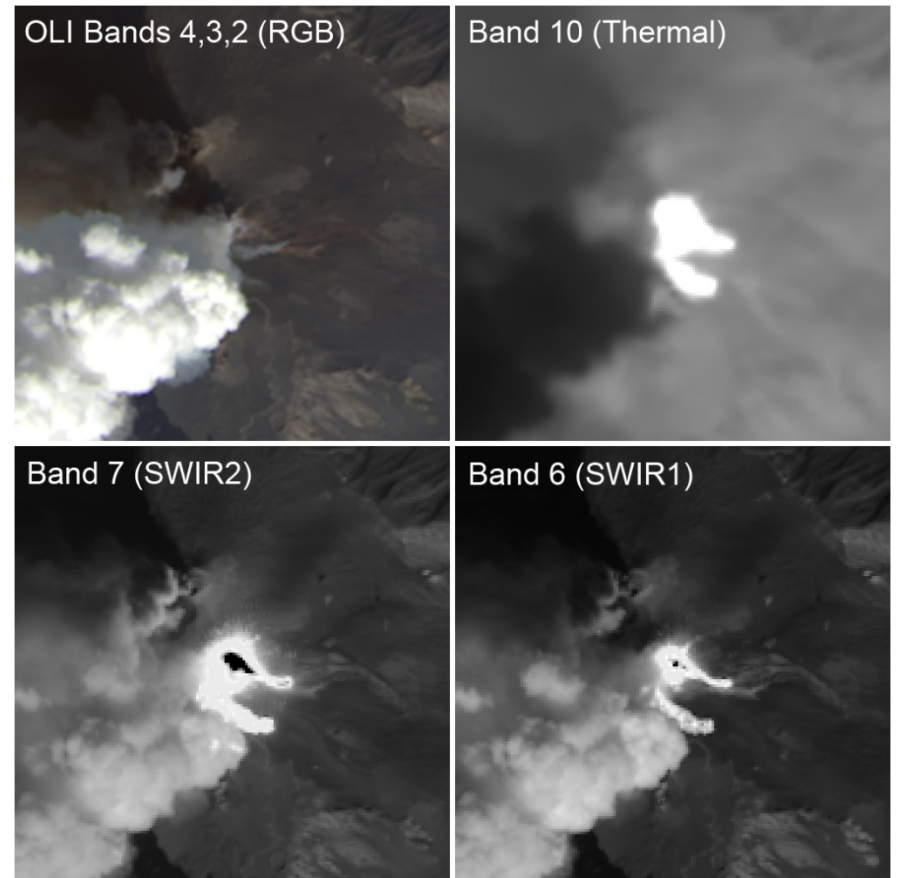


# More Saturation / Oversaturation

Volcano  
p175r73, 2013, day 304



Fire  
p188r34, 2013, day 299



# L8 Geometric Performance Summary

- Landsat 8 on-orbit geometric performance is excellent and meets all requirements

Requirement	Measured Value	Required Value	Units	Margin
OLI Swath	190.2	>185	kilometers	2.8%
OLI MS Ground Sample Distance	29.934	<30	meters	0.2%
OLI Pan Ground Sample Distance	14.932	<15	meters	0.5%
OLI Band Registration Accuracy (all bands)	4.07	<4.5	meters (LE90)	9.6%
OLI Band Registration Accuracy (no cirrus)	3.31	<4.5	meters (LE90)	26.4%
Absolute Geodetic Accuracy	34.9	<65	meters (CE90)	46.3%
Relative Geodetic Accuracy	20.1	<25	meters (CE90)	19.6%
Geometric (L1T) Accuracy	11.0	<12	meters (CE90)	8.3%
OLI Edge Slope	0.03070	>0.027	1/meters	13.7%
TIRS Swath	185.9	>185	kilometers	0.5%
TIRS Ground Sample Distance	103.424	<120	meters	13.8%
TIRS Band Registration Accuracy	8.3	<18	meters (LE90)	53.9%
TIRS-to-OLI Registration Accuracy	19.5	<30	meters (LE90)	35.0%



# On-Orbit Calibration Updates

- Initial on-orbit geometric cal was performed during commissioning
- Several additional on-orbit calibration updates have been issued since the end of commissioning
  - All are minor and none involve internal image geometry

Calibration Parameter	Date of Update	Effective Date	Magnitude	Reason for Update
OLI-to-S/C Alignment	07/01/2013	Launch	17 $\mu$ rad (pitch)	Analysis of additional data from WRS-2 orbit
Ground Control Thresholds	08/21/2013	Launch	100 m -> 200 m	Allow scenes with GLS control errors > 100m to process to L1T
TIRS-to-OLI Alignment	09/27/2013	09/21/2013 – 09/30/2013	25 $\mu$ rad (pitch)	Step change following late-September spacecraft anomaly
TIRS-to-OLI Alignment	11/27/2013	10/01/2013 -	10 $\mu$ rad (pitch)	Account for recovery of TIRS alignment following anomaly
TIRS-to-OLI Alignment	11/27/2013	04/01/2013 - 09/20/2013	12 $\mu$ rad (pitch)	Improve accuracy for period from arrival in WRS-2 orbit to spacecraft anomaly
OLI-to-S/C Alignment	02/03/2013	10/01/2013 -	13 $\mu$ rad (roll)	Account for seasonal drift in alignment of both instruments to the spacecraft

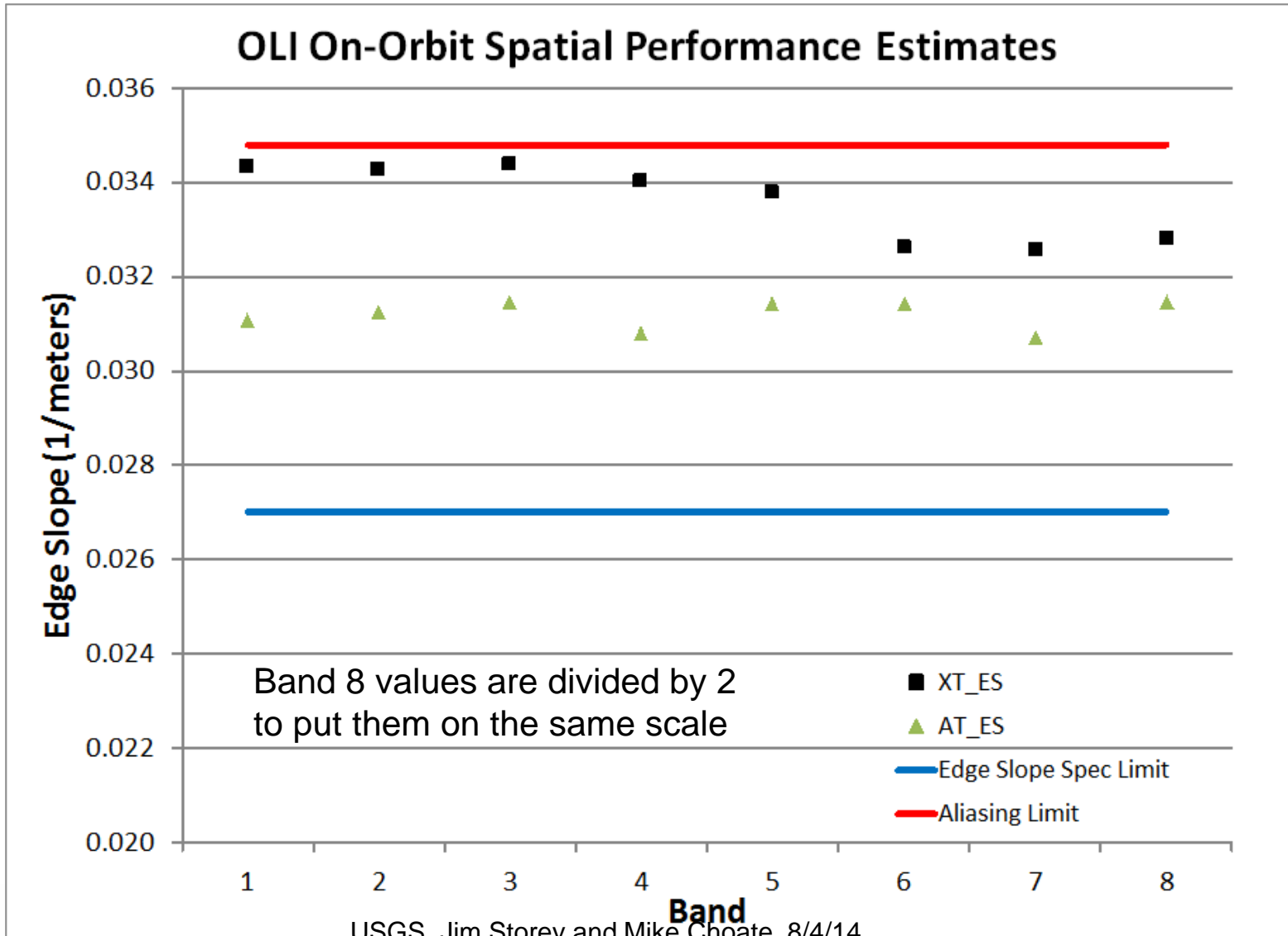


# Geometric Accuracy

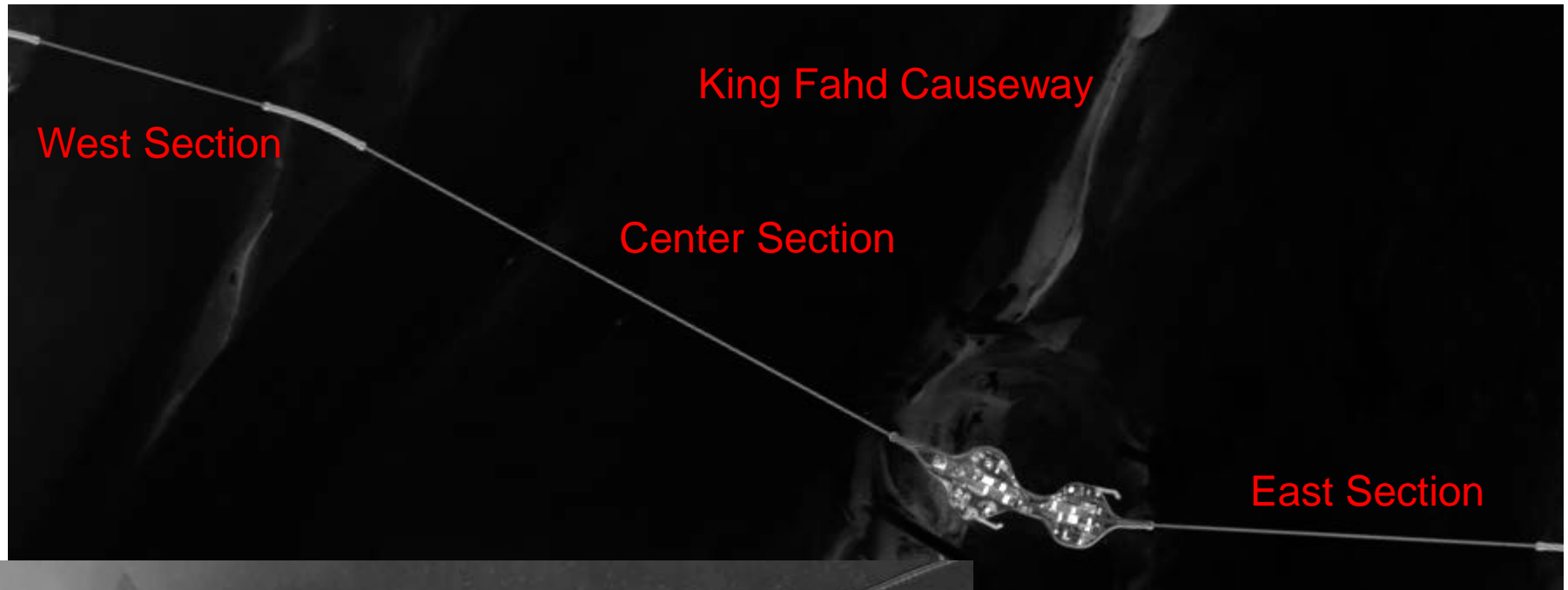
- Geometric (Level 1T product) accuracy is evaluated by measuring the accuracy of L1T products using independent validation GCPs
  - Sites with sufficient GCPs have a subset withheld from the precision correction process to serve as independent validation points
    - Only NGA anchor sites are used for geometric accuracy characterization
- OLI Geometric Accuracy using data acquired since last MMO
- Based upon 75 cal site scenes (DOQ control):
  - L1T Accuracy: 6.7 meters CE90
- Based upon 2678 anchor site scenes (GLS control):
  - L1T Accuracy: 11.0 meters CE90
  - **Specification: 12.0 meters CE90**



# OLI Edge Slope By Band



# Bahrain and China Bridge Targets



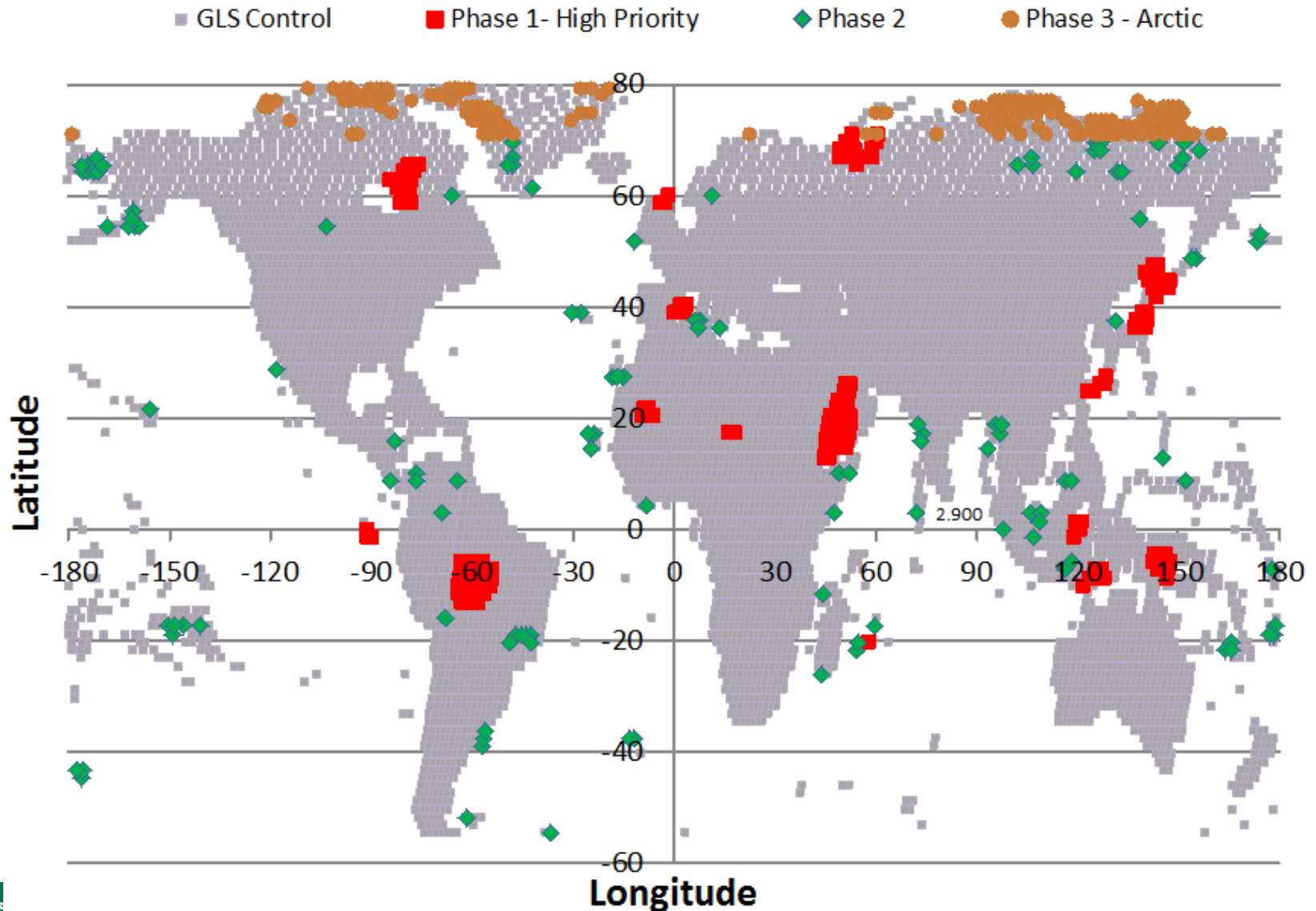
Panchromatic Band Images

Single Span Bridges

# Landsat GCP Improvement Goals

- The highly accurate absolute geolocation of Landsat 8 has allowed us to identify areas where the GLS-derived global control point library is deficient
  - This is manifested as repeatable large (tens of meters) offsets for particular WRS path/row locations
- The existing control library image chips are all Landsat 7 ETM+ (8-bit) circa 2000
  - We want to extract up-to-date 16-bit OLI chips for the GCPs in any event
- A GLS control improvement activity is now underway to upgrade the problem areas
  - Regions of poor accuracy are being re-triangulated using Landsat 8 data, while holding the surrounding area fixed to ensure that scene-to-scene consistency is maintained

# GCP Problem Area Locations



# L-8 Radiometry Summary

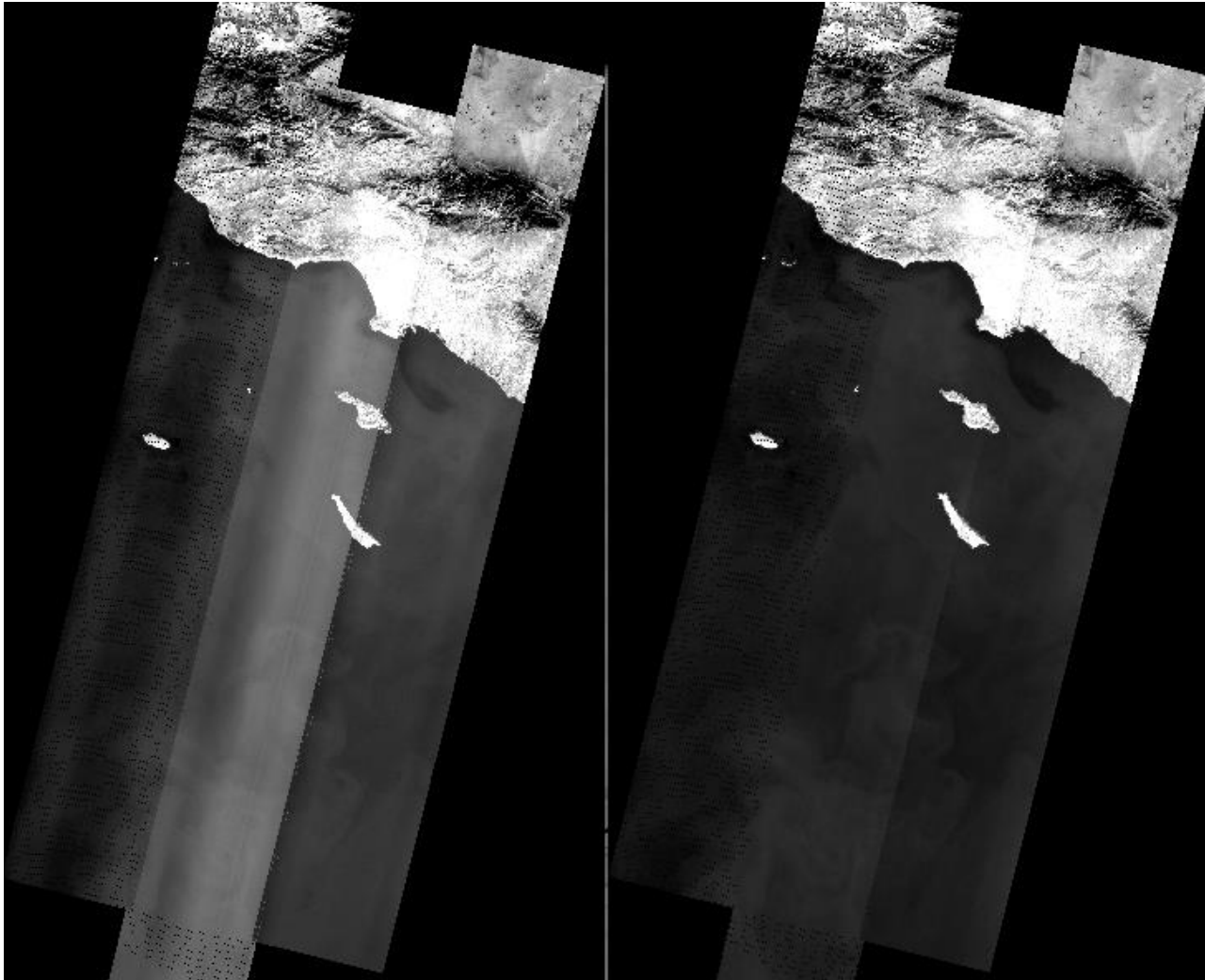
- Planning to update relative gains quarterly
  - Effect typically less than 0.1%
  - Worst case individual detectors about 0.4%
    - SWIR2 (2 detectors) and Cirrus bands (1 detectors)
  - Will update all quarterly CPFs with next reprocessing
- TIRS stray light improvements progressing
  - Still hoping for initial correction algorithm this Fall
- All bands continue to be stable
  - No significant change since last reported

# TIRS Stray Light Update

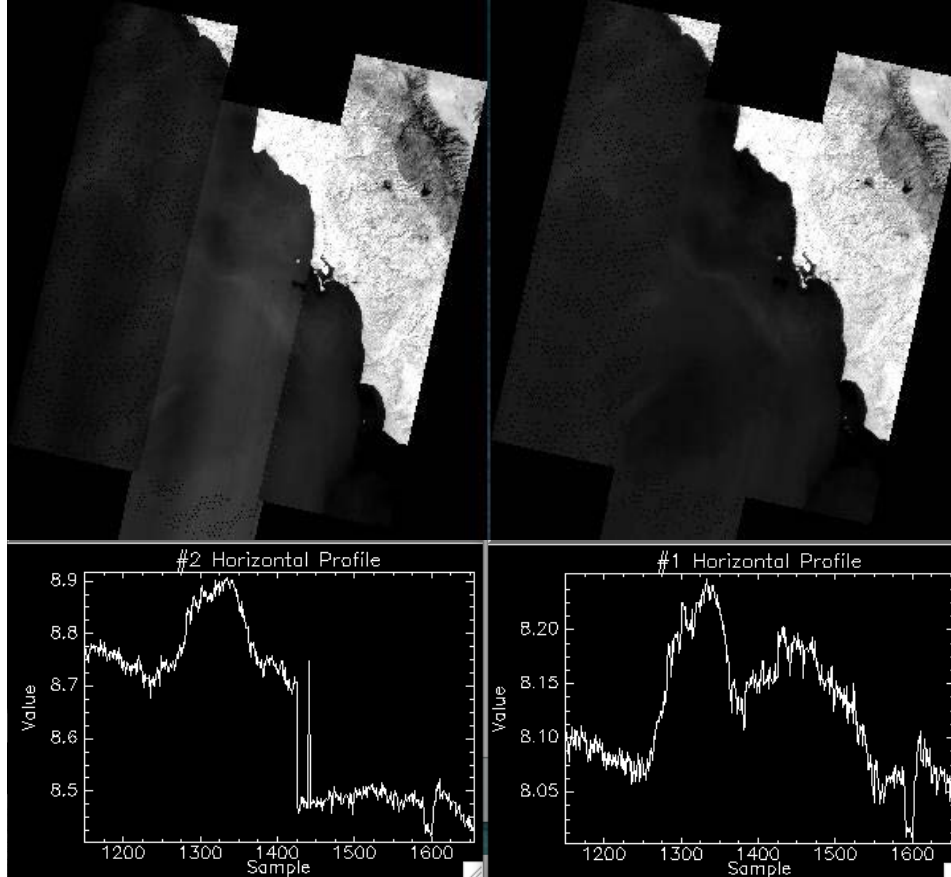
- Aaron (RIT) and Matt (GSFC) developed initial method
- Slow processing
  - Around 5 hours but includes home-built resampler
  - Slow IDL code
  - Not optimized
- Needs external data
  - Near-coincident GOES TOA radiance
  - Near-coincident MODIS sea surface temperature
  - Atmospheric parameters for L8 overflight time
- Results promising
  - Reduces banding
  - Correction in right direction—still looking into absolute accuracy



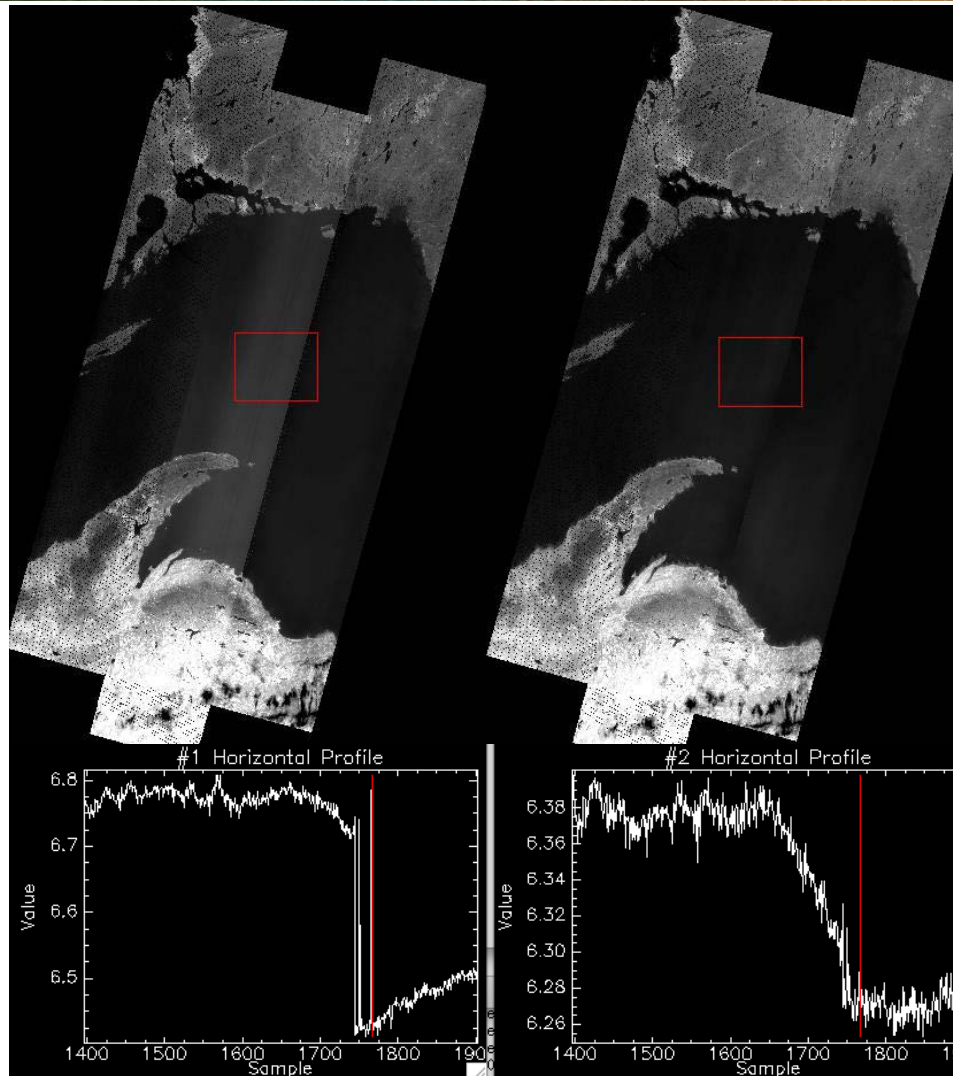
# Initial Stray Light Correction



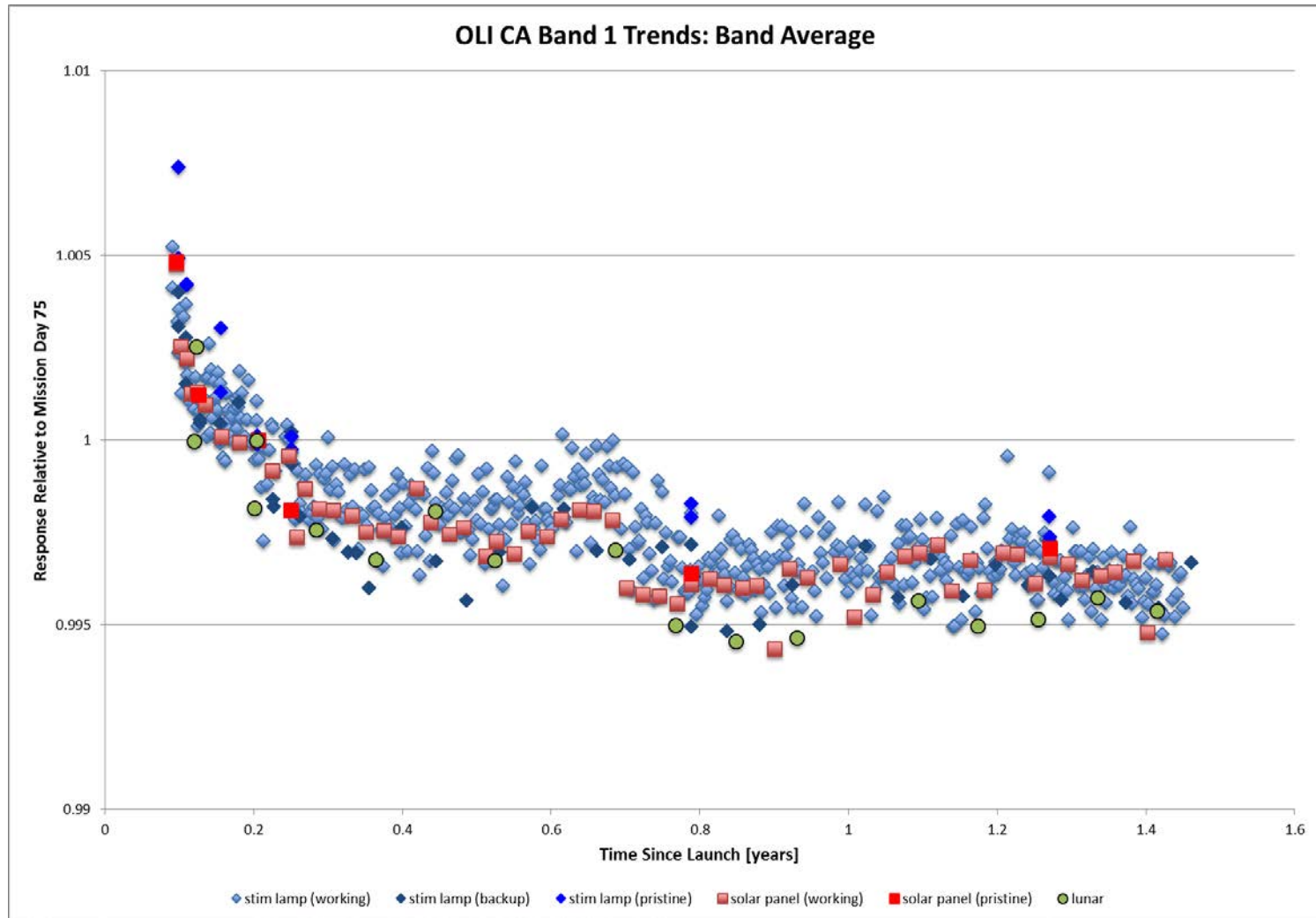
# Initial Stray Light Correction



# Initial Stray Light Correction

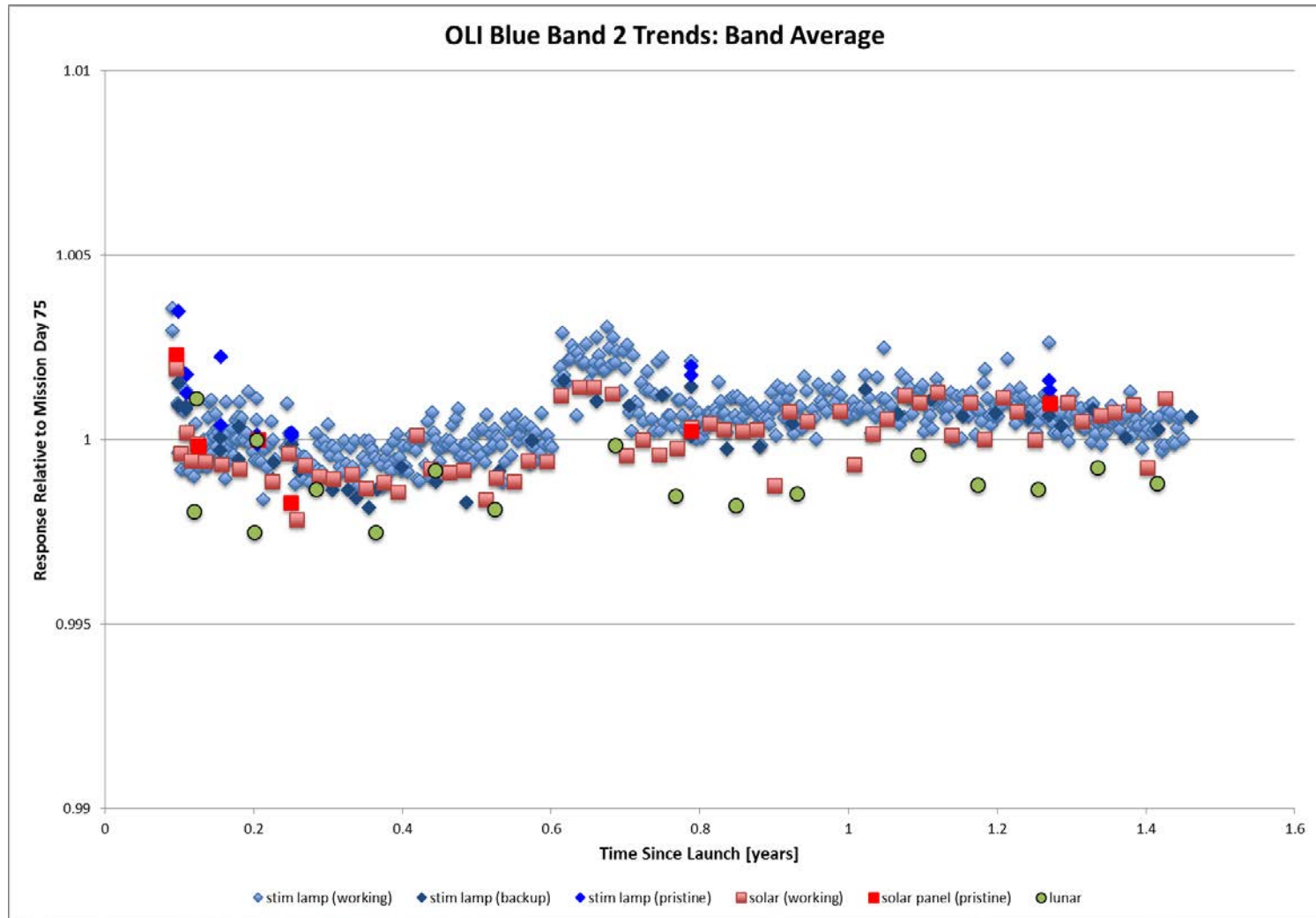


# Coastal Aerosol

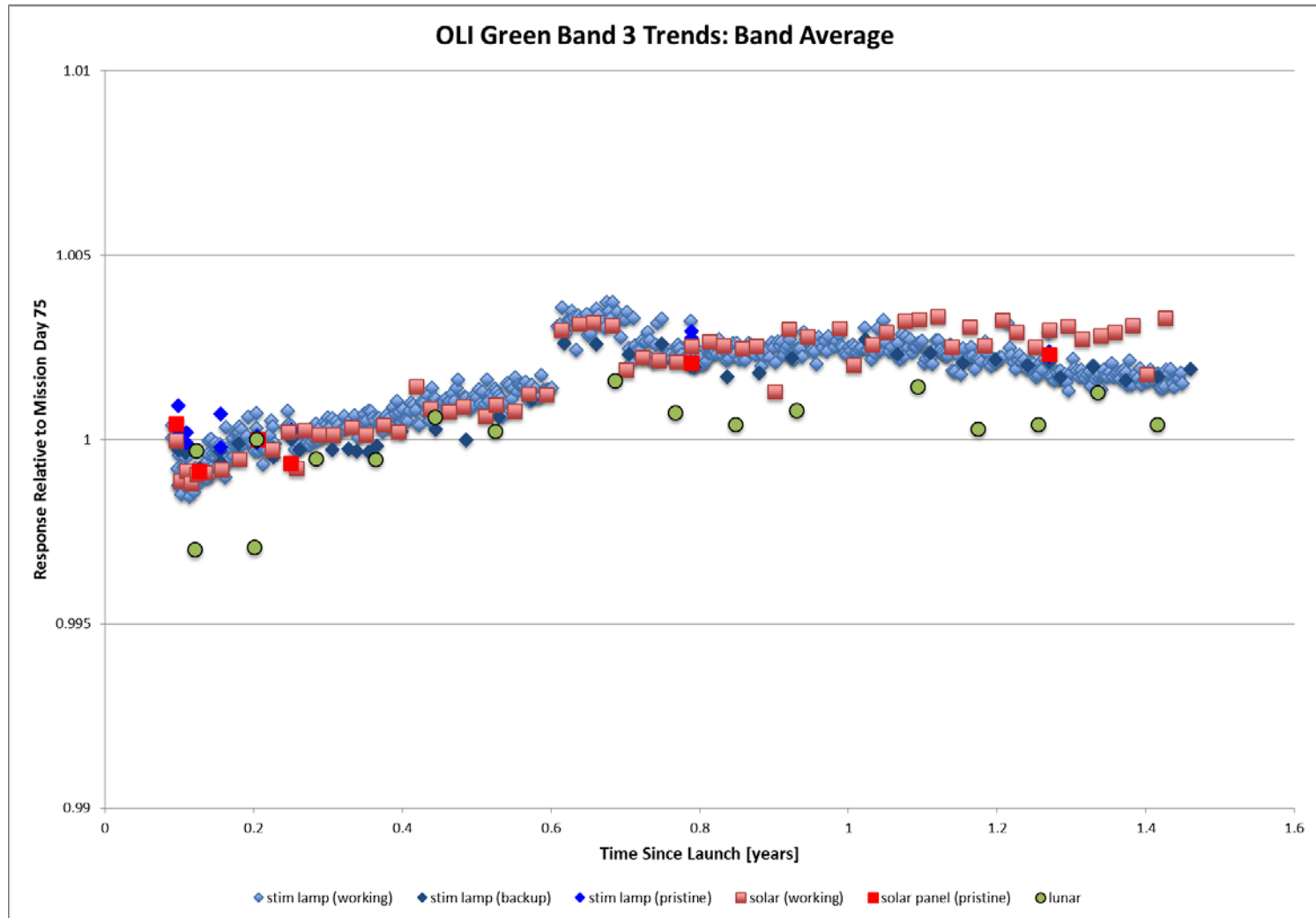




# Blue

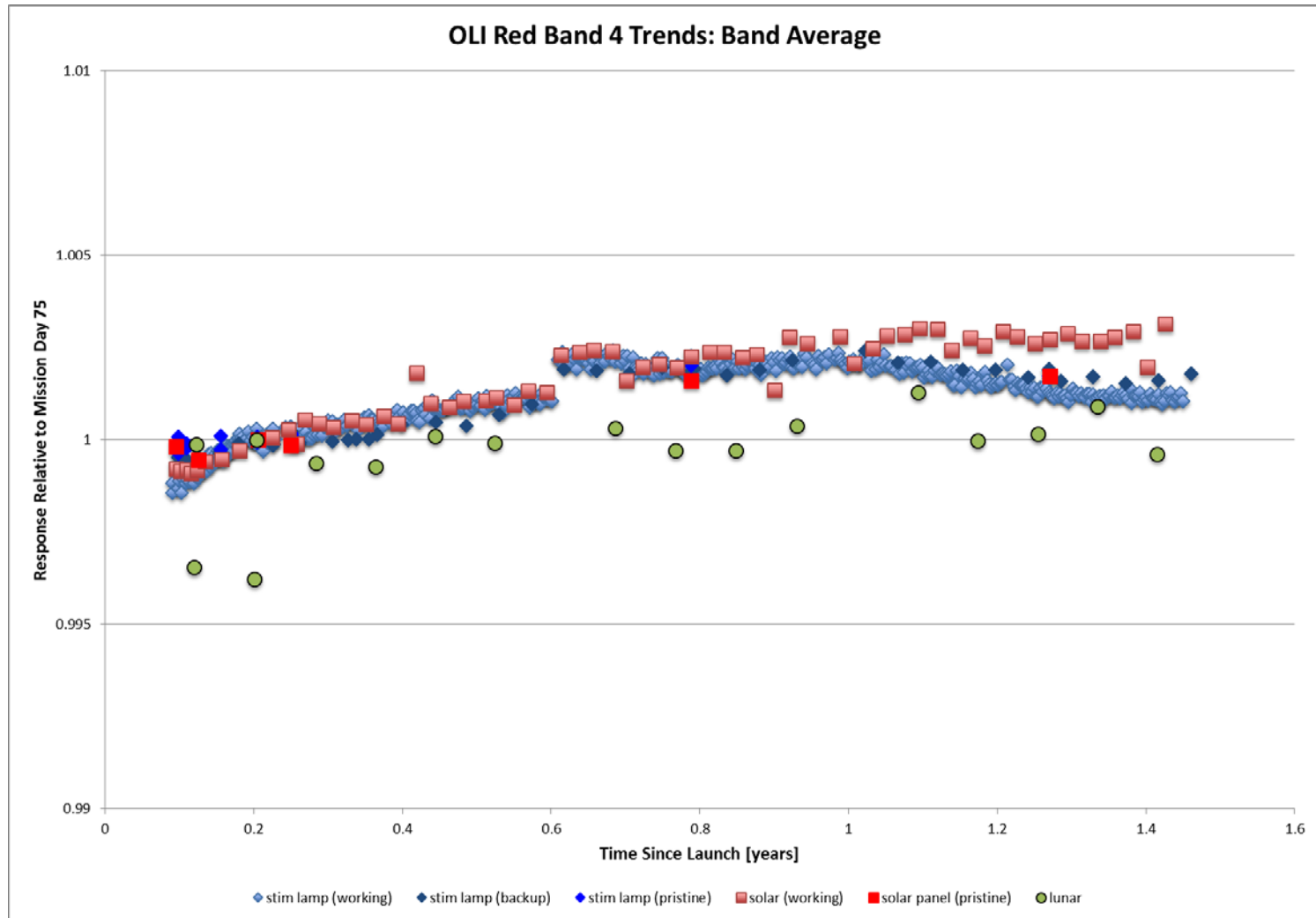


# Green

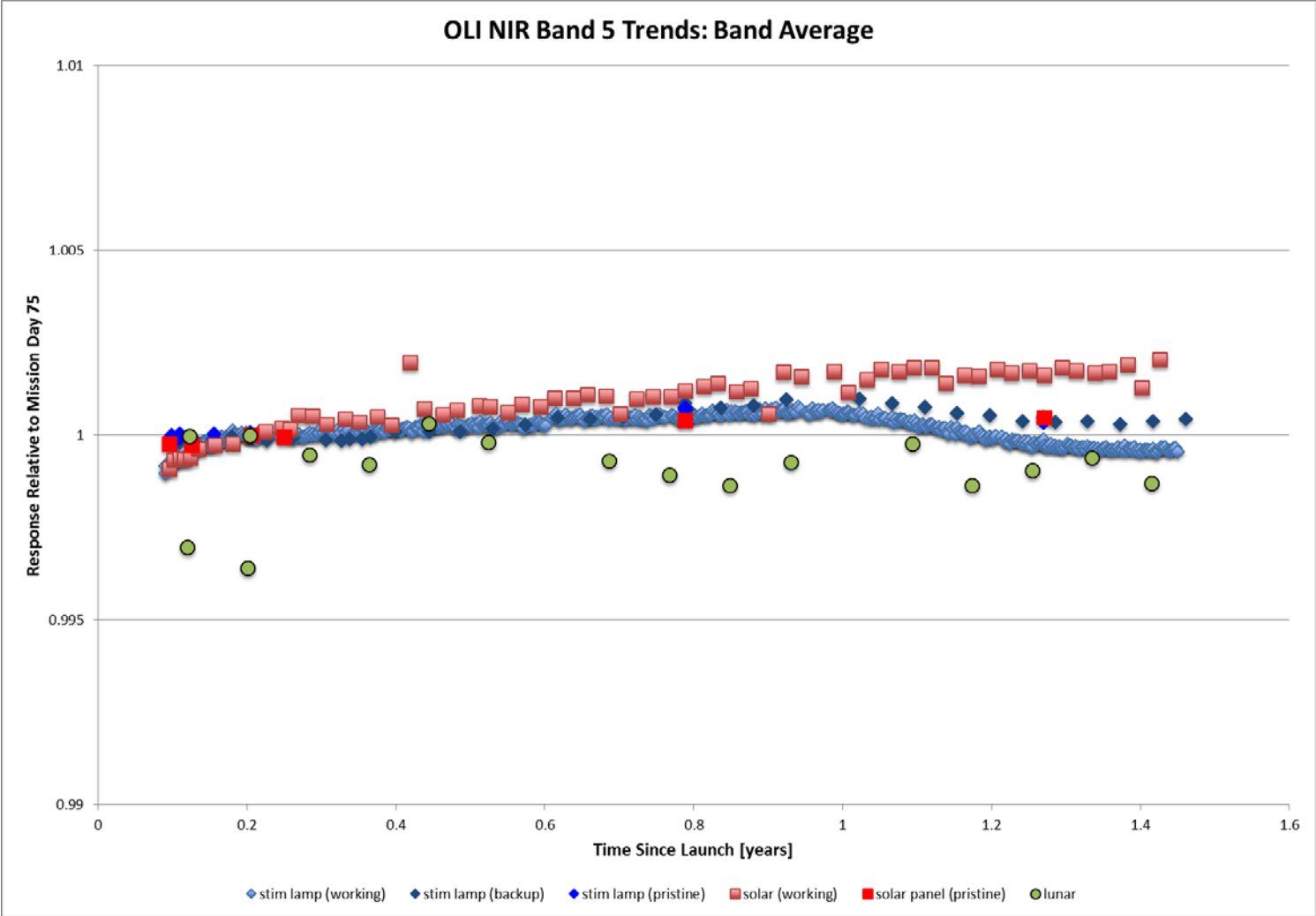




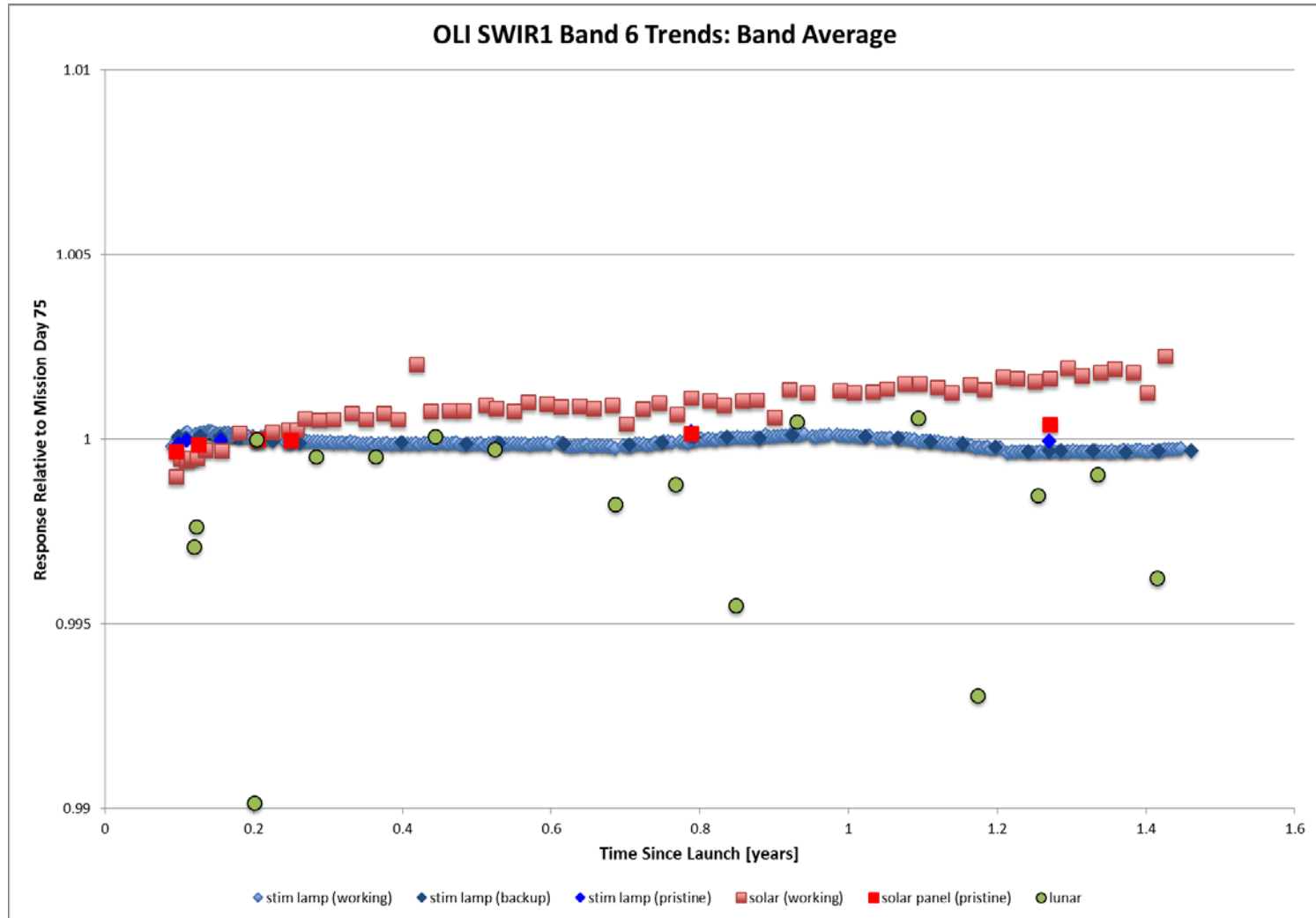
# Red



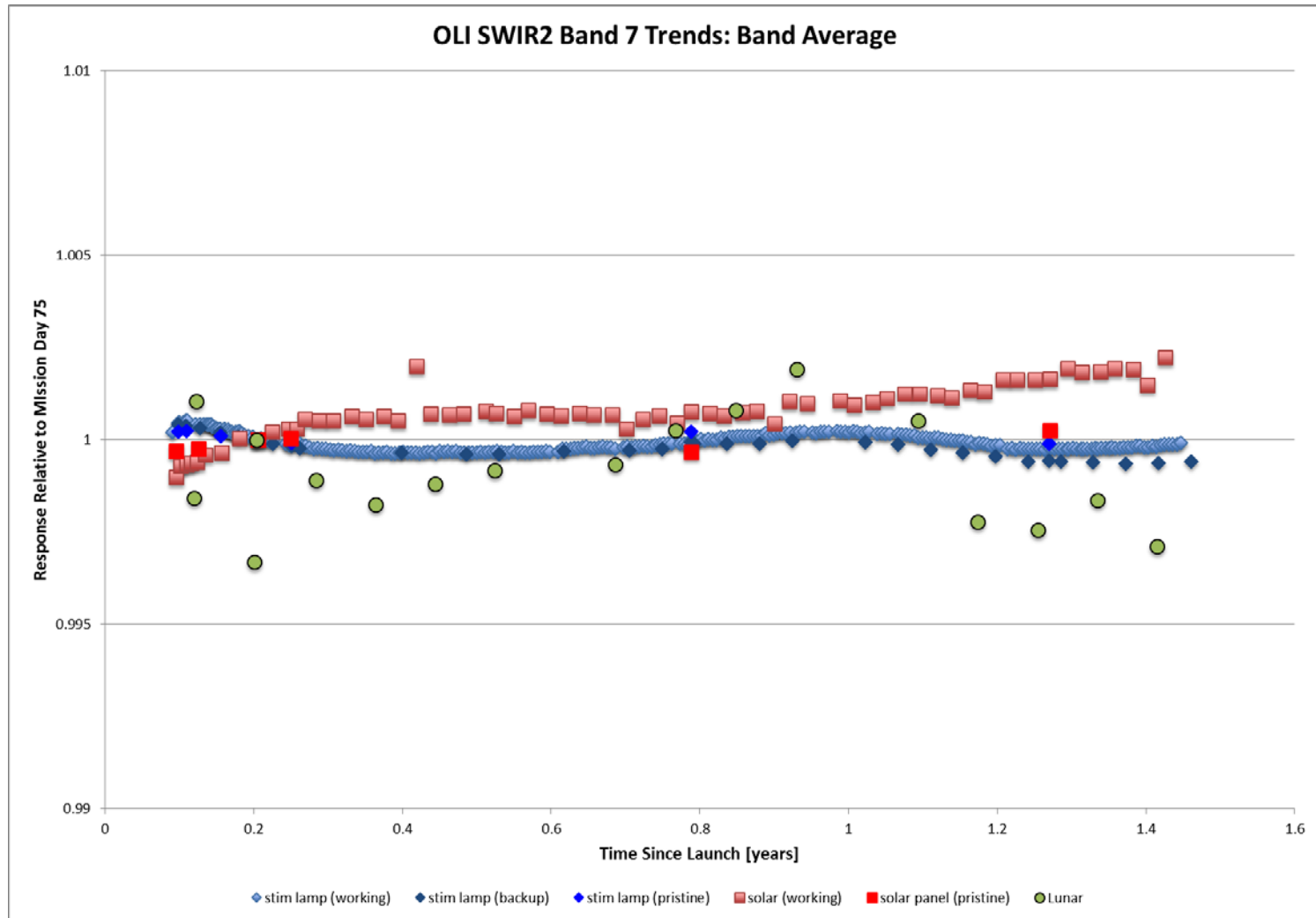
# Near InfraRed



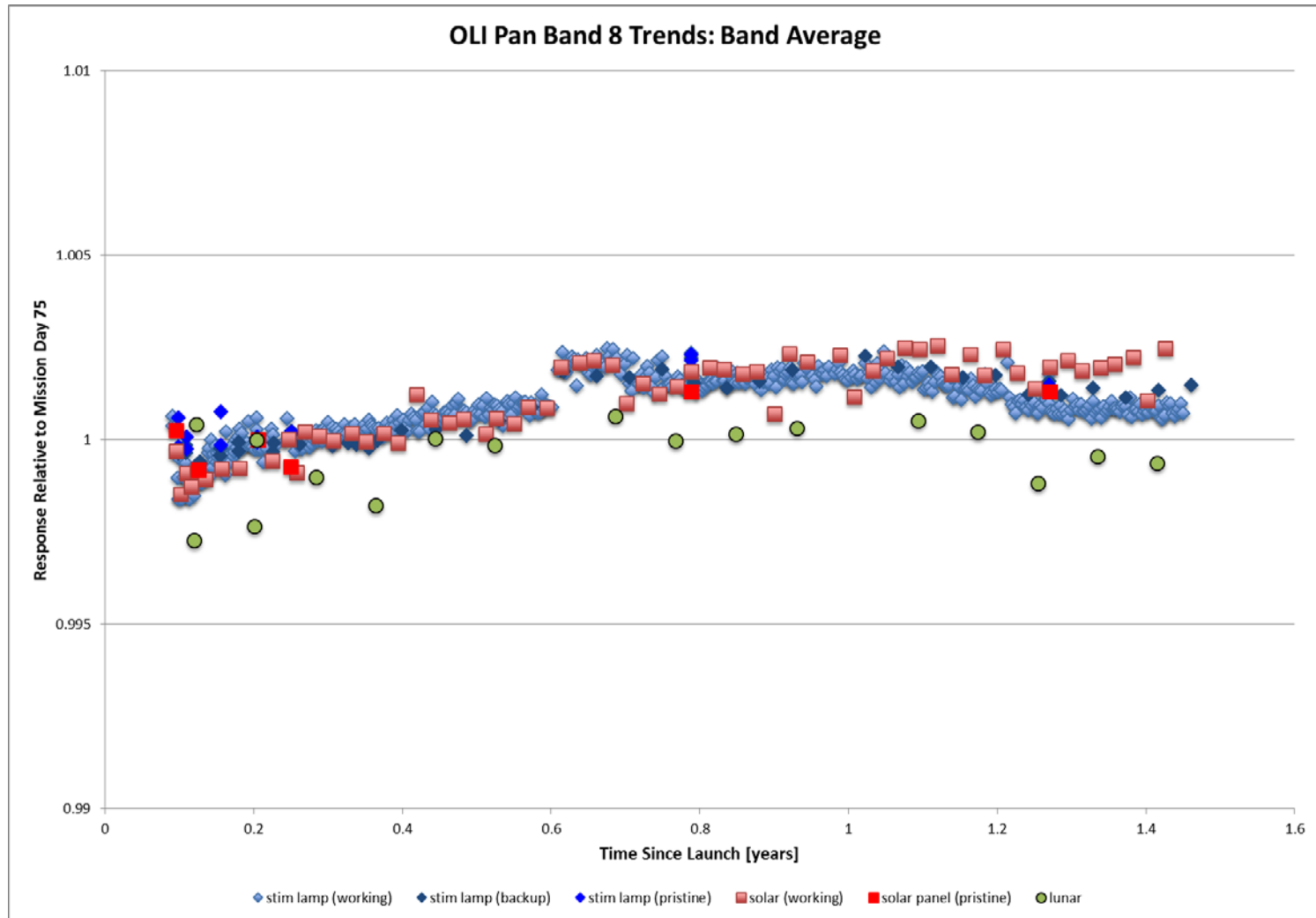
# Short Wave InfraRed 1



# Short Wave InfraRed 2

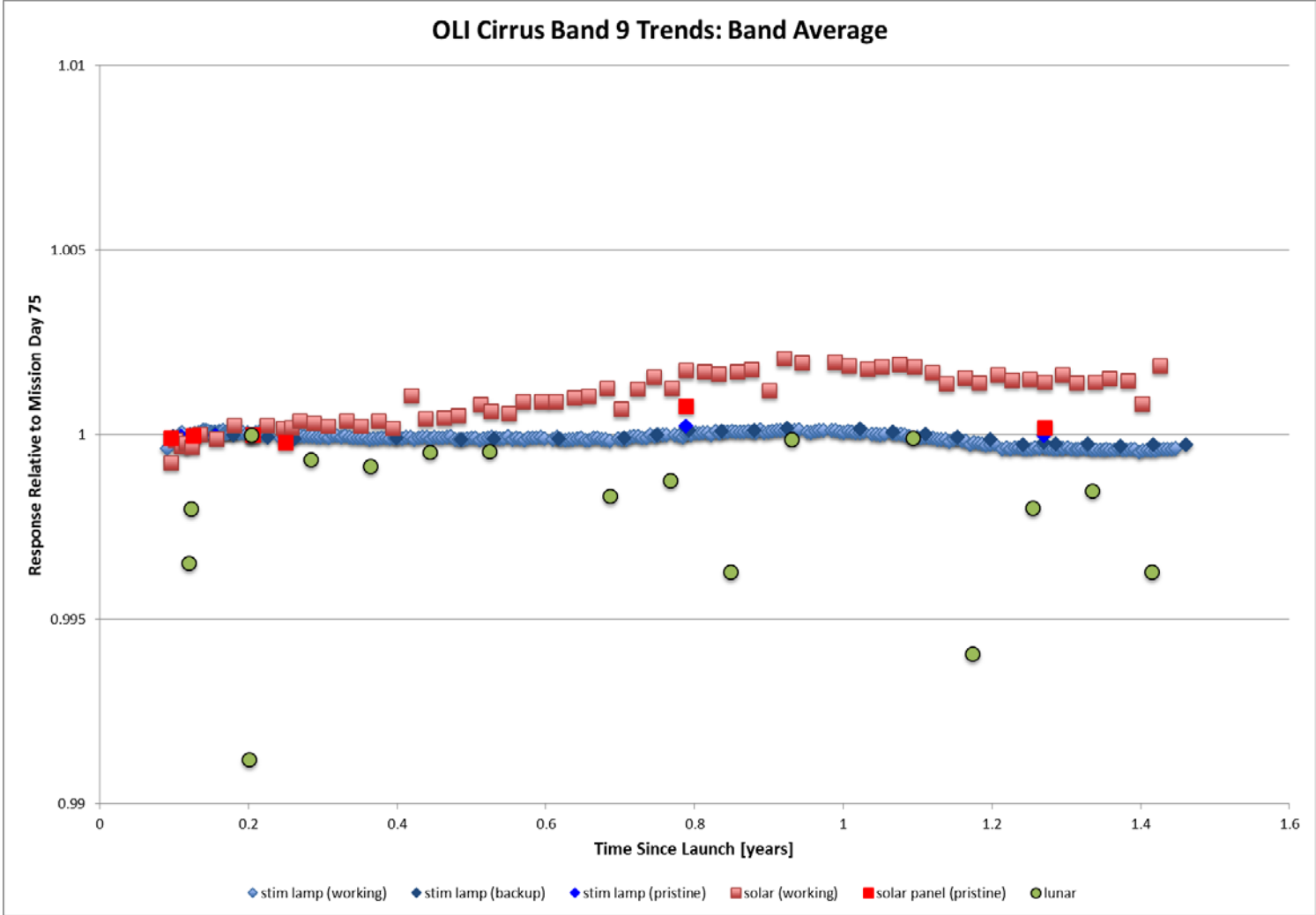


# Pan

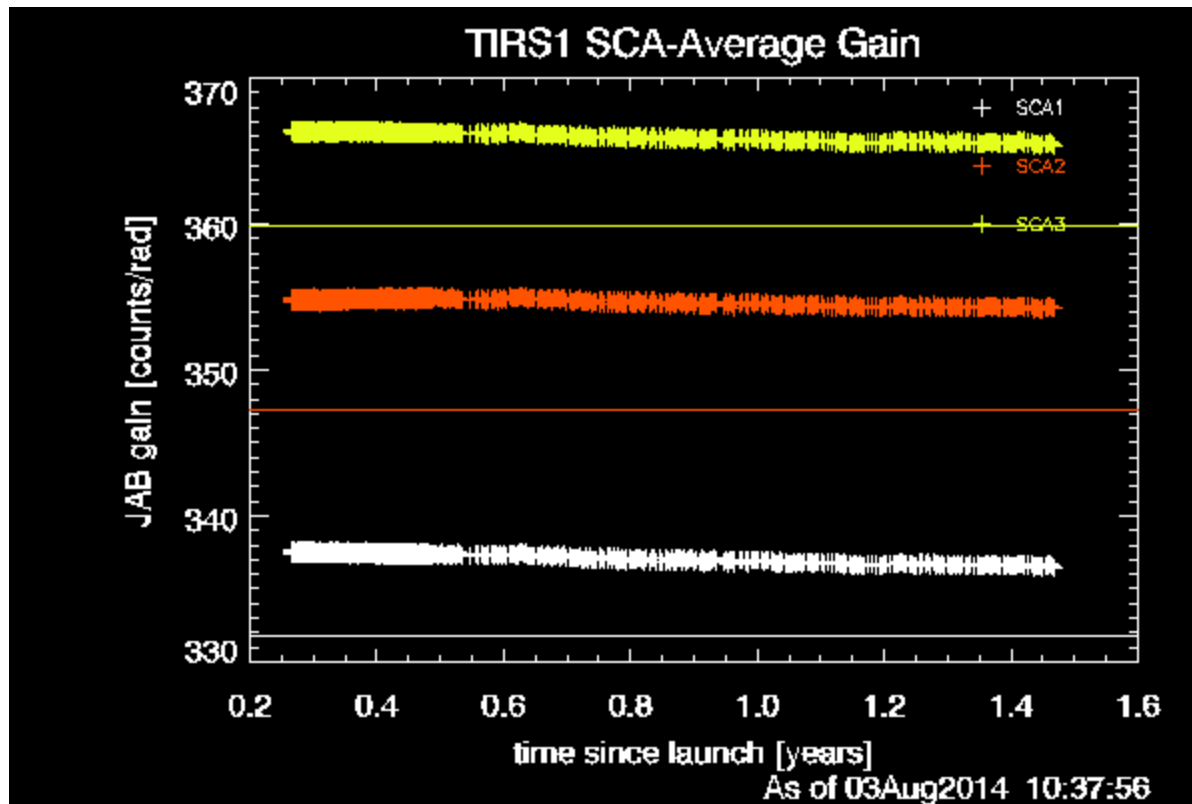




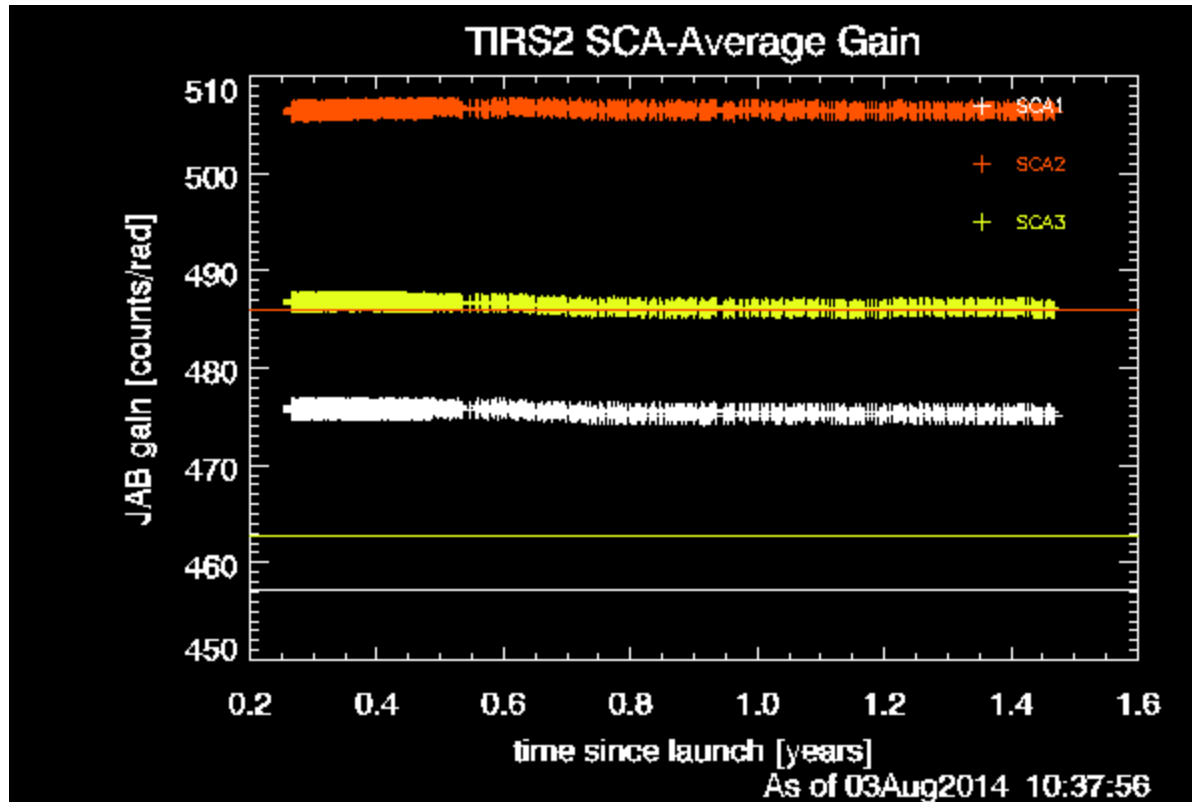
# Cirrus



# Thermal 1



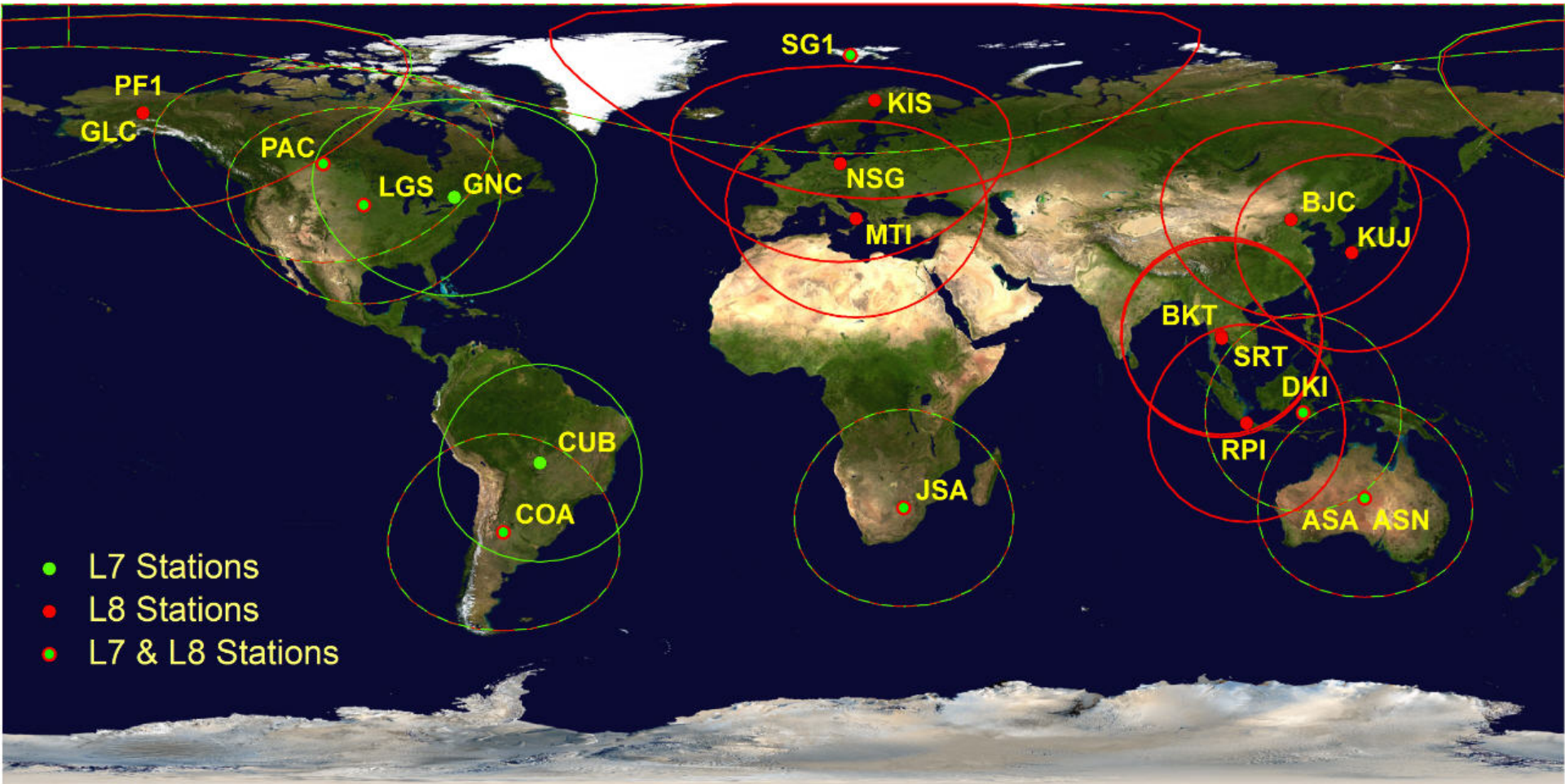
# Thermal 2



# Active Landsat International Ground Stations

10 Active L7 Stations

16 Active L8 Stations



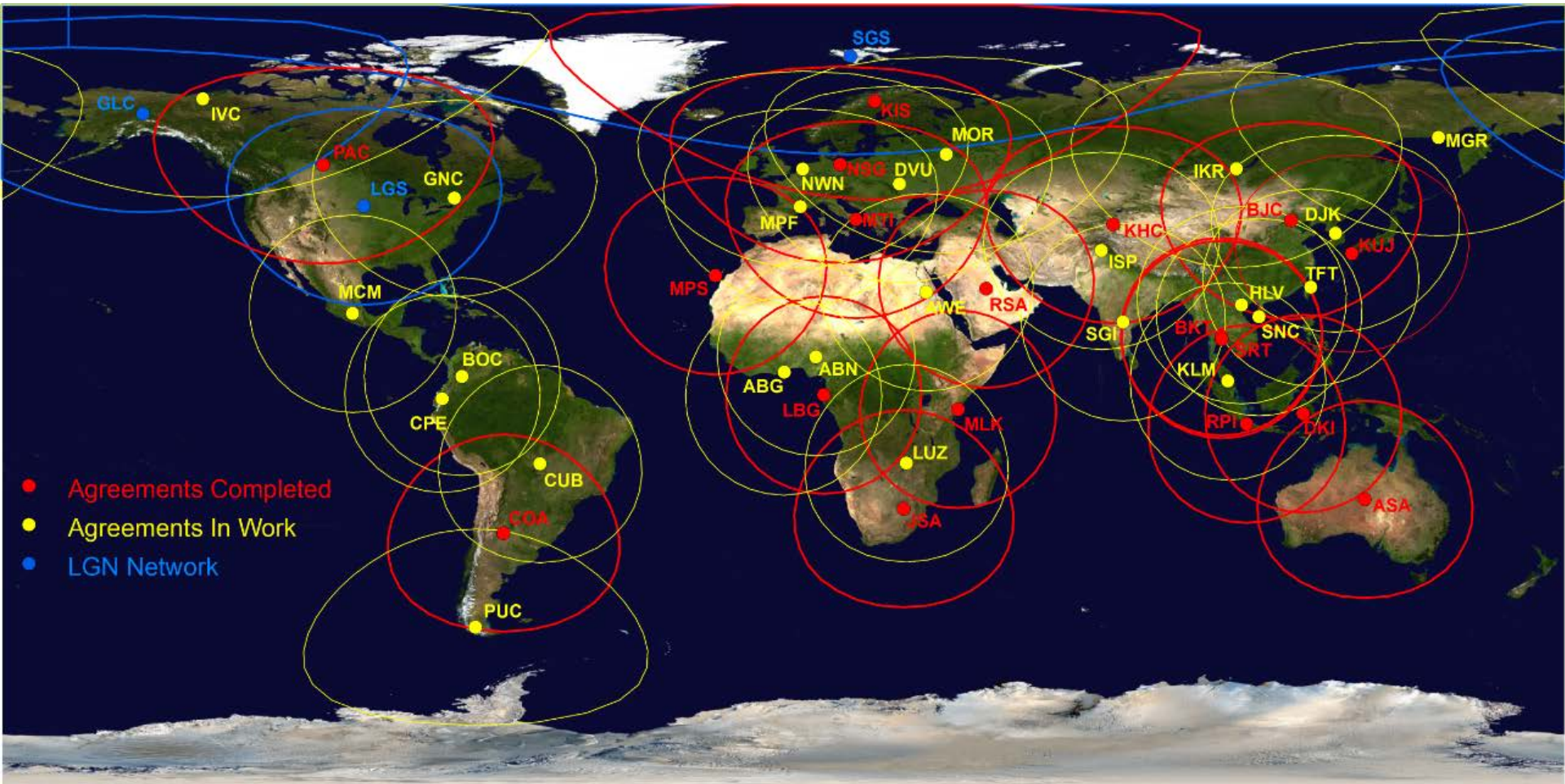


# Potential Landsat 8 International Ground Stations

36 Countries

38 Organizations














46 Ground Stations





# Landsat 8 Agreement Overview

## Signed (22 ground stations):

1.		Australia (GA)	ASA, DWA, HOA	15 June 2012
2.		Europe (ESA)	KIS, MLK, MTI, MPS, NSG	22 August 2012
3.		China (RADI)	BJC, KHC	20 October 2012
4.		Indonesia (LAPAN)	DKI, RPI	2 November 2012
5.		Gabon (AGEOS)	LBG	11 February 2013
6.		Argentina (CONAE)	COA	15 February 2013
7.		Canada (CCMEO)	PAC	22 March 2013
8.		Norway (NSC / KSAT)	SGS	22 March 2013
9.		Saudi Arabia (KACST)	RSA	27 April 2013
10.		Thailand (GISTDA)	BKT, SRT	29 April 2013
11.		South Africa (SANSA)	JSA	29 May 2013
12.		Japan (AIST)	KUJ	21 November 2013
13.		Brazil (INPE)	CUB	<b>TBD</b>

# Landsat 8 Ground Station Certification

## Certified (13 ground stations):

1.		Germany (DLR)	Neustrelitz (NSG)	8 July 2013
2.		Japan (AIST-GSJ)	Kumamoto (KUJ)	9 July 2013
3.		China (RADI)	Miyun / Beijing (BJC)	15 July 2013
4.		Australia (GA)	Alice Springs (ASA)	1 August 2013
5.		Indonesia (LAPAN)	Parepare (DKI)	4 September 2013
6.		Canada (CCMEO)	Prince Albert (PAC)	30 September 2013
7.		Argentina (CONAE)	Córdoba (COA)	20 December 2013
8.		Europe (ESA)	Matera (MTI)	9 January 2014
9.		South Africa (SANSA)	Hartebeesthoek (JSA)	10 February 2014
10.		Indonesia (LAPAN)	Rumpin (RPI)	28 February 2014
11.		Europe (ESA)	Kiruna (KIS)	3 April 2014
12.		Thailand (GISTDA)	Bangkok (BKT) – Backup	22 August 2014
13.		Thailand (GISTDA)	Si Racha (SRT)	3 September 2014

# RCA-EO Project

- **Requirements Capabilities and Analysis for Earth Observations (RCA-EO)**
  - RCA-EO was structured from the NLIR Project, which began as part of the CRSSP Requirements and the OSTP Future of Land Imaging efforts
  - RCA-EO is being used to support civil EO requirements and the EOP Earth Observations Assessments (EOAs) as define in the National Strategy for Earth Observations
- **3 key areas – Earth Observations Requirements Capabilities and Analysis – tied together via an information evaluation system**

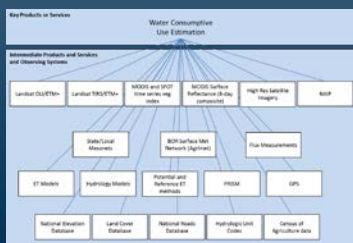
## Requirements Elicitation

Gathering and Understanding



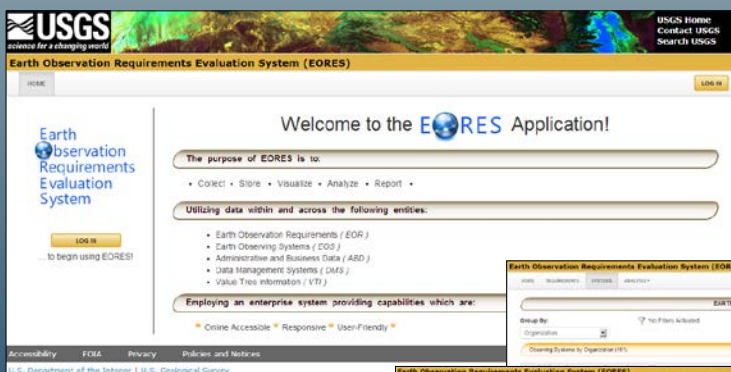
- Customizable to agency needs
- Broad and diverse user community
- Traceability via Value Tree
- Repeatable and transparent process

Performance / Satisfaction Scale		
100	Fully satisfied	Meets all requirements
90	Satisfied	Meets all major requirements with minor limitations
80	Satisfactory	Meets most major requirements, with significant limitations
70	Fair	Meets most major requirements, with significant limitations
60	Fair	Fails to meet many major requirements, but provides some value
50	Not Satisfactory	Fails to meet most major requirements, but provides some value
40	Not Satisfactory	Fails to meet most major requirements, but provides some value
30	Not Satisfactory	Fails to meet most major requirements, but provides some value
20	Not Satisfactory	Fails to meet most major requirements, but provides some value
10	Not Satisfactory	Fails to meet most major requirements, but provides some value
0	Not Satisfactory	Fails to meet most major requirements, but provides some value



## Earth Observation Requirements Evaluation System (EORES) Application

Web Enabled Application



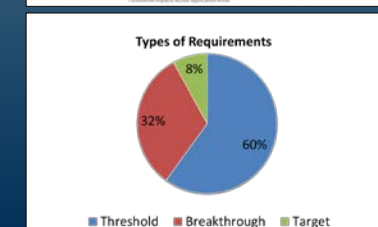
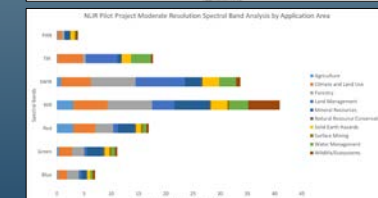
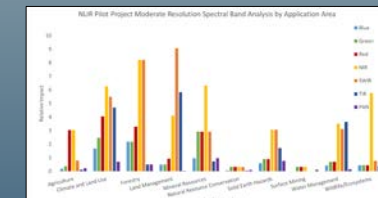
Earth Observation Requirements Evaluation System

- Agile development process
- Earth Observation Requirements
- Earth Observing Systems
- Analytical tools
- Graphical User Interface and Central Repository for requirements and capability information

## Assessment / Reporting

Analysis and Export

▪ Examples from NLIR Pilot Project Summary Report



# Joint Approach USGS in Partnership with NOAA : Two Complementary Components

## System Development

### Joint Unified Architecture

- Earth Observation Requirements Evaluation System (EORES)
  - Repository for requirements and capability information
  - Analytical tools



Joint development with NOAA/TPIO  
And USGS/LRS

## Requirements Elicitation

### Customizable to Agency Needs

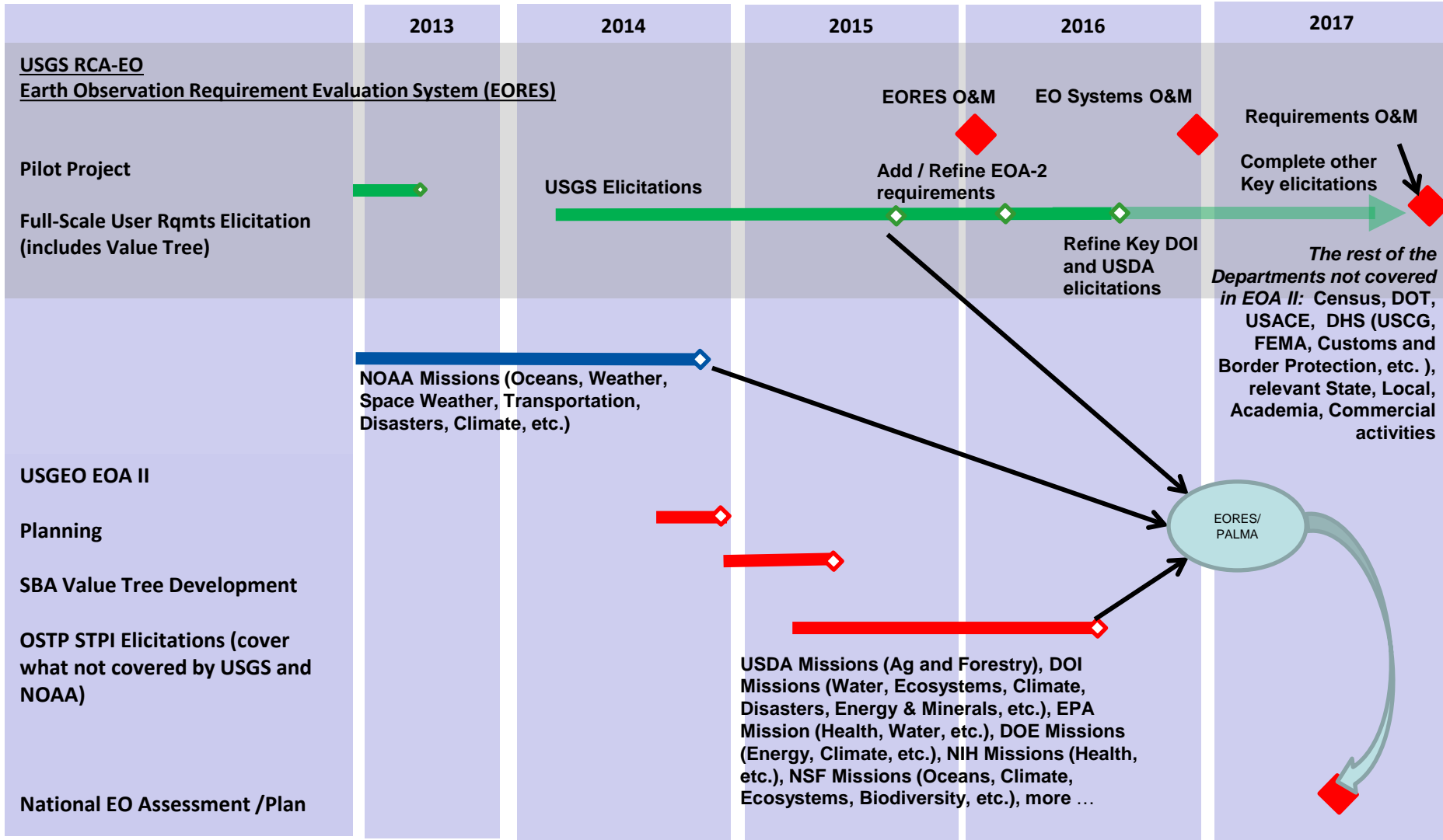
#### User Requirements Elicitation

- All earth observation needs – broad and diverse user community
- Traceability via value tree
- Repeatable and transparent process



Developed from previous and current efforts: NOSIA, EOA 1, NOSIA II, NLIR Mod Resolution Pilot.  
(Value Tree) + Requirements

# Integrated Plan

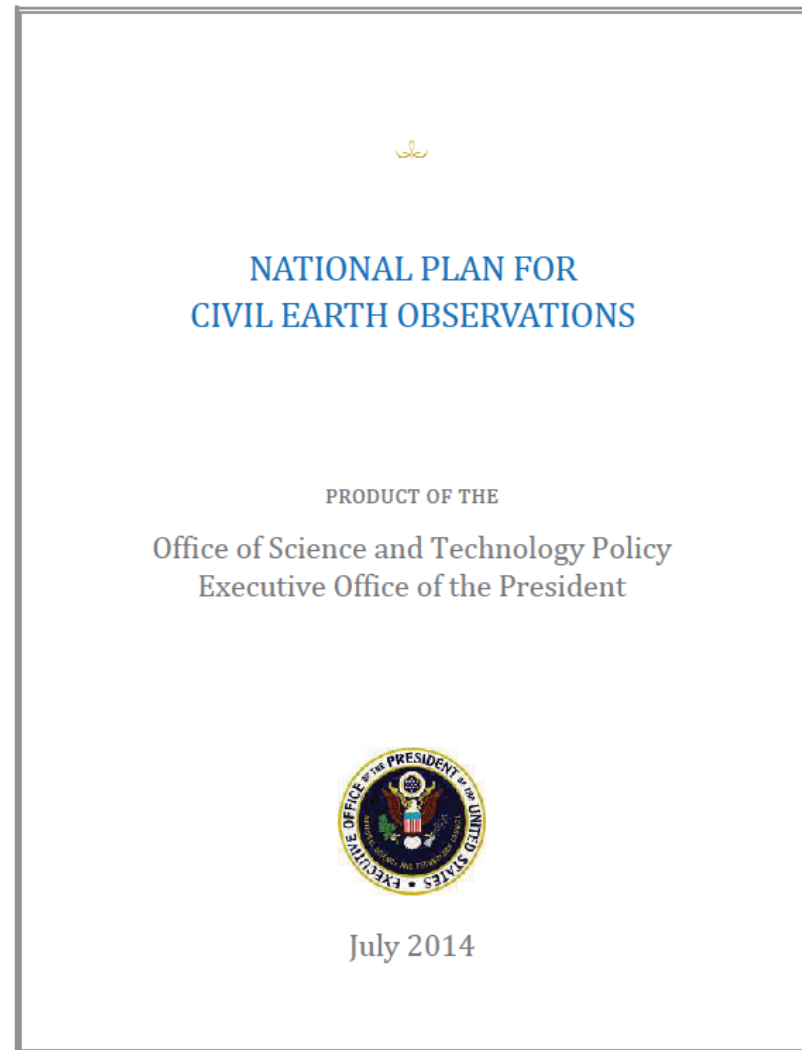




# EOP's NATIONAL PLAN FOR CIVIL EARTH OBSERVATIONS

- National Earth Observation Assessment (EOA II) and National Plan due every 3 years to EOP OSTP
  - OSTP STPI has defined EO SBA teams

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/NSTC/2014\\_national\\_plan\\_for\\_civil\\_earth\\_observations.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/NSTC/2014_national_plan_for_civil_earth_observations.pdf)



## Annex I: 2012 EOA Results

This annex provides results for the 145 high-impact observation systems identified from the 362 observation systems assessed by the 13 SBA teams of approximately 300 Federal subject-matter experts. These 145 observation systems are listed in two tiers in the tables below. Impact is indicated with respect to each of the 13 societal themes (12 SBAs and reference measurements), as described in Section 2.2.

*Table 1: Tier 1 High-Impact Observation Systems (Ranked Order)*

Observation System (Ranked Order)	Agency	Ag&Frst	BioDiv	Climate	Disasters	Ecosys	Energy	HumanHlth	Ocn&Gstl	Space Wx	Trans	WaterRes	Wx	Ref/Meas
1. Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites	DOD/USAF	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
2. Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD)	DOC/NOAA	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
3. Landsat satellite	DOI/USGS, NASA	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
4. Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite System (GOES-NOP)	DOC/NOAA	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
5. National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)	USDA/FSA	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
6. Airborne LIDAR	DOC/NOAA, DOD/USACE, DOI/USGS, NSF	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
7. Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA)	USDA/USFS	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High



# NASA – USGS Collaboration for Land Imaging

## Landsat System Architecture Study Phase

- NASA is leading the overall system architecture study, utilizing its space systems engineering expertise
- USGS is supporting all aspects of the study; USGS represents the consolidated needs and desires of the Landsat user community and provides expert analyses of the data processing and dissemination aspects of the system

## Landsat System Architecture Implementation Phase

- NASA will be responsible for the overall system design, as well as the implementation, launch, and commissioning of the system's space-borne elements
- USGS will provide unique expertise and guidance in the design of the operations, ground network, data processing, and data dissemination components of the complete system
- USGS will operate the space-borne assets after NASA commissioning, as well as the downlink, ground processing, archiving, and distribution of the system's information and data products
- USGS will maintain the National Satellite Land Remote Sensing Data Archive, distribute data to users, and administer, on behalf of U.S. Government, data acquisition by foreign ground stations



# Sustainable Land Imaging Architecture Study

Introduction

Reference Documents

Frequently Asked Questions

Event Archive

*September 5, 2014* - The SLI Office is preparing to issue a competitive opportunity in the September/October time frame via [FedBizOpps](#) to investigate the potential use of innovative business models to reduce the costs of future land imaging missions. The focus of the study will be to explore contractor experience implementing both commercial and government satellite development efforts to compare business, management, and technical practices for effectiveness and cost efficiency. The study will also solicit feedback on some specific business model ideas. This study will concentrate primarily on acquisition of spacecraft buses and related services rather than science instrument payloads.

*September 5, 2014* - We are pleased to announce that the following companies have been awarded contracts under Solicitation Number NNG14518373Q to carry out the Sustainable Land Imaging (SLI) Reduced Instrument Envelope Study:

- > Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corporation of Boulder, CO
- > Exelis Inc., Geospatial Systems of Fort Wayne, IN
- > Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company of Greenbelt, MD
- > Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation, Aerospace Systems of Redondo Beach, CA
- > Raytheon Company of El Segundo, CA
- > Surrey Satellite Technology US LLC of Englewood, CO

The study focuses on investigating mid-term capabilities and technologies for instruments that may enable more efficient implementation of the SLI program objectives to continue Landsat heritage measurements. The study contract awards are intended to enable contractors to perform a more detailed analysis of techniques and trends that lead to reduction in size and mass of spaceborne Earth-imaging instruments, potentially resulting in cost savings to the U.S. Government while still meeting the SLI program objectives. These studies will be of 6-month duration.

## Additional Reference Documents

- > [Operational Land Imager \(OLI\) Top of Atmosphere Radiance Spectra \(.xls\) \[Updated 09.05.2014\]](#)
- > [Landsat Worldwide Reference System-2 \(WRS-2\) Definition](#)





# About NASA Sustainable Land Imaging

For the past 42 years, Landsat satellites and associated U.S. Government ground processing, distribution, and archiving systems have acquired and made available global, moderate-resolution (5-120m), multispectral measurements of land and coastal regions, providing humankind's longest record of our planet from space. NASA and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) of the Department of the Interior (DOI) fully recognize that this information is a national asset, providing an important and unique capability that benefits a broad community, including Federal, state, and local governments; global change science, academia, and the private sector. Landsat data provide a consistent and reliable foundation for research on land use change, forest health, and carbon inventories, and changes to our environment, climate, and natural resources. Additionally, the free and open availability of the Landsat data enables the measurements to be used routinely by decision makers both inside and outside the Government, for a wide range of natural resource issues, including water resource management, wildfire response, agricultural productivity, rangeland management, and the effects of climate change.

The Administration has committed to continue the Landsat program and its invaluable data stream. To continue data collection beyond Landsat-8, the Administration proposes to design and implement a spaceborne system to provide global, continuous Landsat-quality multispectral and thermal infrared measurements for at least the next 25 years. The satellite system may be combined with alternative sources for Landsat-quality data, either procured through commercial approaches or through partnership agreements, as they become available. In accordance with Administration objectives, NASA will lead the system design study in close collaboration with the USGS and be informed by existing knowledge of current and desired capabilities. The aim of the study will be to define a programmatically sustainable system that balances measurement capability, likelihood of data continuity (minimizing risks of gaps to the extent possible), and cost/affordability over the lifetime of the program. Technology infusion over the lifetime of the program will be considered as a feature of the long-term sustainable program.

In FY 2014, NASA will initiate the definition of a sustained, space-based, global land imaging capability for the nation, ensuring continuity following LDCM. Near-term activities led by NASA, in cooperation with USGS, will focus on studies to define the scope, measurement approaches, cost, and risk of a viable long-term land imaging system that will achieve national objectives. Evaluations and design activities will include consideration of stand-alone new instruments and satellites, as well as potential international partnerships. It is expected that NASA will support the overall system design, flight system implementation, and launch of future missions, while USGS will continue to fund ground system development, post-launch operations, and data processing, archiving, and distribution.

The basic guidance for the Sustainable Land Imaging Architecture Study is summarized by the following three basic tenets:

## Sustainability

- > The SLI program should provide the data products for the long haul, without extraordinary infusions of funds, within the budget guidance provided.
- > It should also ensure that the technology required for the program is available and appropriate for the long haul.

## Continuity

- > The SLI program should continue the long term Landsat data record. This does not necessarily mean the imagery per se, but the usable products that define the utility of the data record.
- > Understanding how the data are used is essential when considering potential architectures.

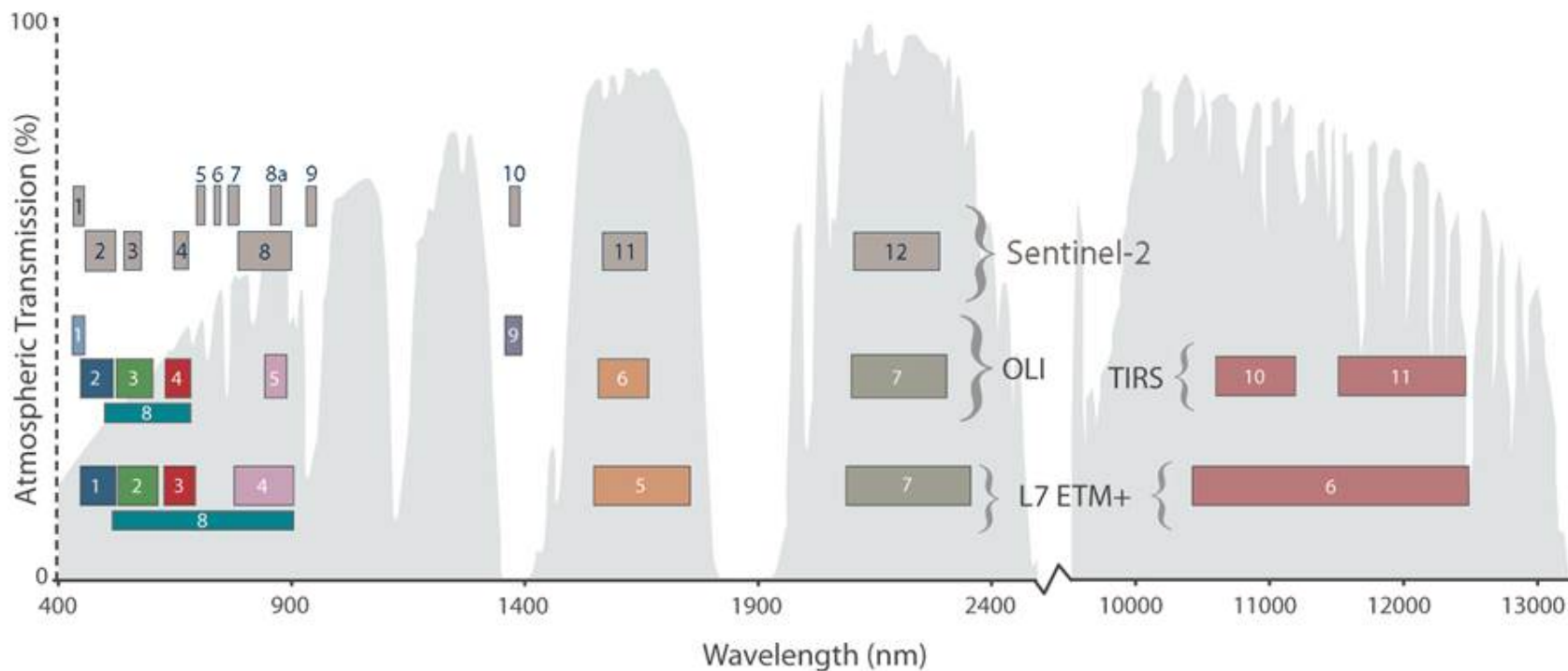
## Reliability

- > The SLI program should exhibit a form of functional redundancy. The data sets should be able to draw on equivalent or near equivalent deliverables from different sources to provide the data for the highest priority land imaging data products.
- > With these "near equivalent" data sources identified in advance, the loss of a single satellite or instrument on orbit should not cripple the program or significantly impact users, and the program will exhibit graceful degradation.

 <http://sustainablelandimaging.gsfc.nasa.gov/>



# Comparison of Landsat & Sentinel-2



# EO Systems Database Support

- Supports RCA-EO Requirements vs System Solutions
- The Number of satellites is growing fast!
- Nearly 200 EO satellites to be launched in 2014!

Satellite Name	Sensor	Nominal Swath	Bits	GSD (m)	Spectral Coverage Representation and Ground Sample Distance (in meters)			
					Visible and Near-IR (0.4-1.0 μm)	Short-Wave IR (1.0-2.5 μm)	Mid-Wave IR (3.5-8.0 μm)	Thermal IR (8.0-14.5 μm)
Landsat 8	OLI	185km	12	30	[Spectral coverage bars]			
	TIRS	185km	12	100	[Spectral coverage bars]			
Landsat 7	ETM+	185km	8	15	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				30	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				60	[Spectral coverage bars]			
Landsat 4 & 5	MSS	185km	8	79	[Spectral coverage bars]			
	TM	185km	8	30	[Spectral coverage bars]			
Landsat 1-2	RBV	183km		80	[Spectral coverage bars]			
Landsat 3	RBV	183km		40	[Spectral coverage bars]			
Landsat 1-3	MSS	183km	8	79	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				240	[Spectral coverage bars]			
CBERS-3 (lost on launch, 9 Dec. 2013)	MuxCAM	120km	8	20	[Spectral coverage bars]			
	PanMUX	60km	8	5	[Spectral coverage bars]			
	IRS	120km	8	40	[Spectral coverage bars]			
	WFI	866km	10	64	[Spectral coverage bars]			
KOMPSAT3	AEISS	16.8km	14	0.7	[Spectral coverage bars]			
NPP (and future JPSS)	VIIRS Day-Night Moderate Imaging	3000km	12	750	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				375	[Spectral coverage bars]			
Pleiades 1A & 1B	HIRI	20km	12	0.7	[Spectral coverage bars]			
ResourceSat-2	AWiFS	740km	10	56	[Spectral coverage bars]			
	LISS-3	141km	10	23.5	[Spectral coverage bars]			
	LISS-4	70km	10	5.8	[Spectral coverage bars]			
Sentinel-2	MSI	290km	12	10	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				20	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				60	[Spectral coverage bars]			
SPOT-6	NAOMI (2x)	60km	12	2.2	[Spectral coverage bars]			
Terra	MODIS	2330km	12	250	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				500	[Spectral coverage bars]			
	ASTER	60km	8	15	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				30	[Spectral coverage bars]			
WorldView-2	WV110	16.4km	11	0.46	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				1.84	[Spectral coverage bars]			
WorldView-3	CAVIS Atm. Corr.	13.1 km	11	0.31	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				1.24	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				3.7	[Spectral coverage bars]			
				30	[Spectral coverage bars]			

# Many More Planned



**CEOS** 

Home Foreword Preface Informing International Environmental Conventions Case Studies Earth Observation Satellite Capabilities Annexes

## → THE EARTH OBSERVATION HANDBOOK

Special Edition for Rio+20  
Updated for 2014

[Database Online Now](#)

[2014 Tables PDF](#)

CEOS, the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites, coordinates civil spaceborne observations of the Earth. Participating agencies strive to address critical scientific questions and to harmonise satellite mission planning to address gaps and overlaps.

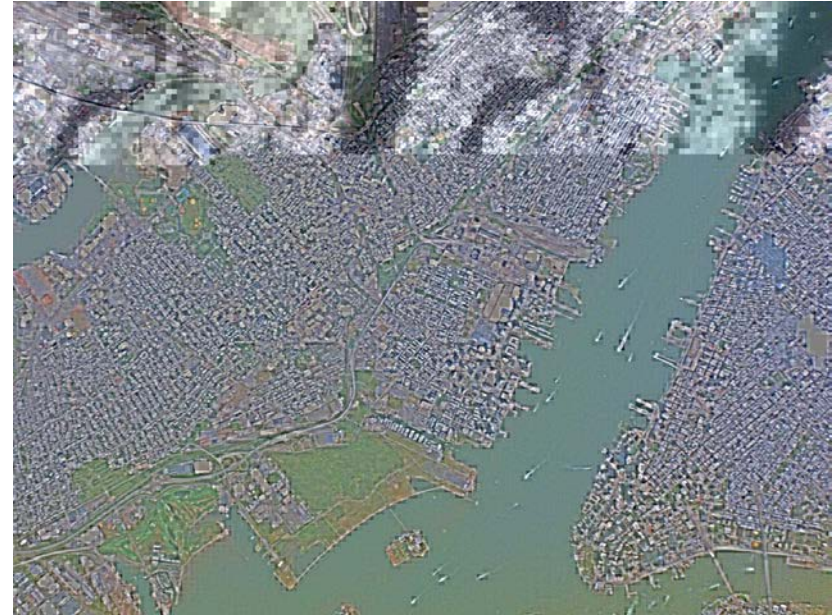
[www.ceos.org](http://www.ceos.org)

ESA, the European Space Agency, is Europe's gateway to space. It is an international organisation with 20 Member States. ESA's mission is to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the citizens of Europe and the

Agency		Agency Website	# Missions	# Instruments
<a href="#">ASI</a>	Italy	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">13 - timeline</a>	16
<a href="#">BELSPO</a>	Belgium	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">1 - timeline</a>	-
<a href="#">CAST</a>	China	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">12 - timeline</a>	36
<a href="#">CDTI</a>	Spain	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">3 - timeline</a>	3
<a href="#">CNES</a>	France	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">26 - timeline</a>	32
<a href="#">CONAE</a>	Argentina	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">9 - timeline</a>	21
<a href="#">CRESDA</a>	China	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">8 - timeline</a>	6
<a href="#">CSA</a>	Canada	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">15 - timeline</a>	13
<a href="#">CSIRO</a>	Australia	<a href="#">click here</a>	-	2
<a href="#">DLR</a>	Germany	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">10 - timeline</a>	8
<a href="#">EC</a>	Europe	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">14 - timeline</a>	8
<a href="#">ESA</a>	Europe	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">37 - timeline</a>	38
<a href="#">EUMETSAT</a>	Europe	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">23 - timeline</a>	22
<a href="#">GISTDA</a>	Thailand	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">1 - timeline</a>	2
<a href="#">INPE</a>	Brazil	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">5 - timeline</a>	6
<a href="#">ISRO</a>	India	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">26 - timeline</a>	32
<a href="#">JAXA</a>	Japan	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">14 - timeline</a>	13
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<a href="#">NOAA</a>	U.S.A.	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">35 - timeline</a>	49
<a href="#">NRSCC</a>	China	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">17 - timeline</a>	20
<a href="#">NSAU</a>	Ukraine	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">1 - timeline</a>	5
<a href="#">NSC</a>	Norway	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">4 - timeline</a>	2
<a href="#">NSMC-CMA</a>	China	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">17 - timeline</a>	22
<a href="#">ROSHYDROMET</a>	Russia	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">17 - timeline</a>	28
<a href="#">ROSKOSMOS</a>	Russia	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">17 - timeline</a>	33
<a href="#">SANSA</a>	South Africa	<a href="#">click here</a>	-	-
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<a href="#">UKSA</a>	United Kingdom	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">2 - timeline</a>	4
<a href="#">USGS</a>	U.S.A.	<a href="#">click here</a>	<a href="#">2 - timeline</a>	3
<b>Totals</b>			<b>393</b>	<b>532</b>

# USGS Assessments 2013-2014

- ResourceSat-2 AWiFS-2
- VNREDSat-1
- KOMPSAT-3
- \*WorldDEM™
- PROBA-V
- Planet Labs
  - Doves-3 & 4, Flock-1a, Flock 1-c (sun-synch)
- WorldView-3
- SkyBox-1 & 2
- SPOT-7



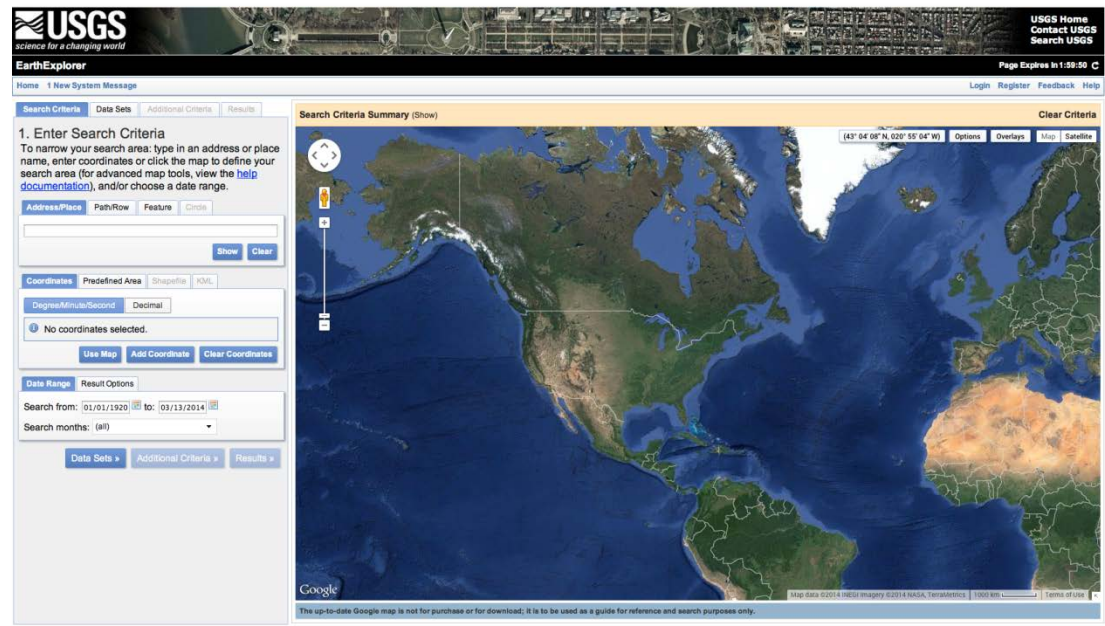
**Dr. DongHan Lee, Kari at USGS EROS for 1 year, lunar calibration and spatial resolution efforts for Landsat and System Characterization efforts**



# Remote Sensing Data Sets from USGS (EROS)

Currently, more than 286 Data Sets (10 petabytes) are available online through USGS Earth Explorer website

- Aerial Images – 7.5M Dating from 1937
- Landsat Images – 5.2M Dating from 1972
- Commercial Satellite Images – 1.5M Dating from 1986
  - SPOT, Digital Globe, GeoEye, etc.
- Other Satellite Data:
  - MODIS, ASTER, AVHRR, SRTM, Declassified systems, etc.



<http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>



# Aerial Photography Collection – Archive

- **Contains over 7.5 Million frames acquired by numerous Federal agencies**
- **The archive contains frames ranging from 1937 to the present**
- **The collection is made up of natural color, color IR, and black & white photography in both vertical and oblique orientations**
- **Scales range from 1:1,000 to 1:200,000**





# UAS Imagery

## Elwha Dam Removal and River Restoration

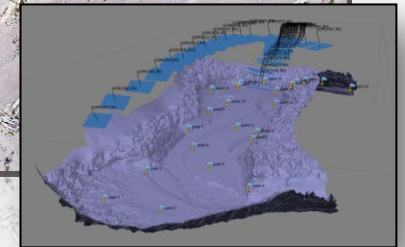
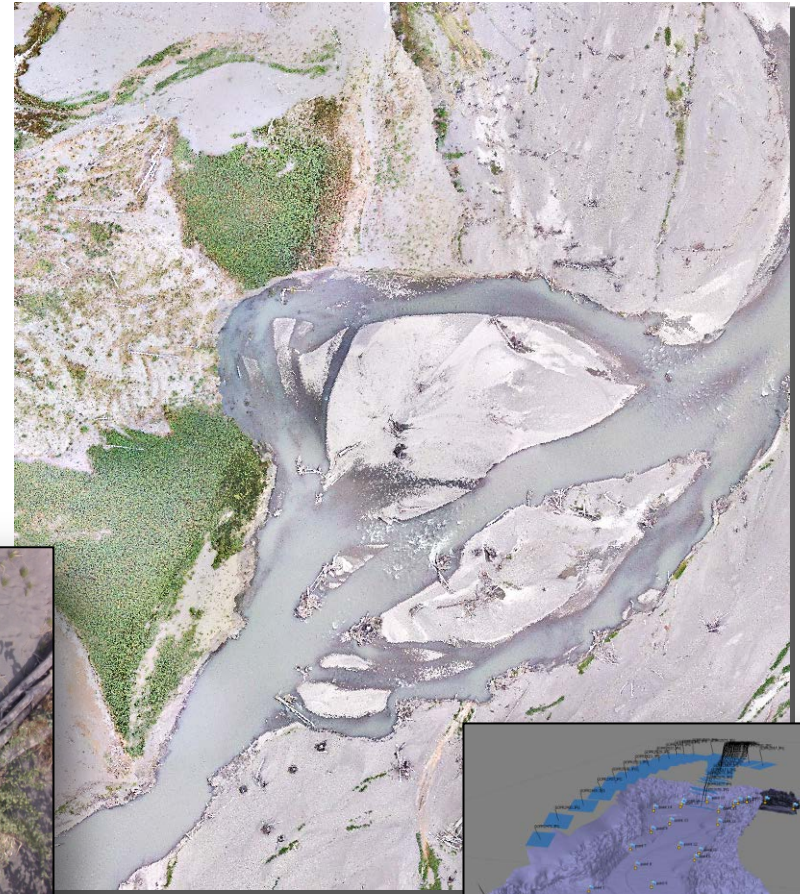
Olympic National Park, Washington



RQ 11A Raven



Monitoring sediment volumes eroded from the reservoir and deposited downstream, where the mobile sediment can potentially affect salmon habitat and flood-stage elevation.



# Other Activities

- Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation (JACIE) collocated with ASPRS
  - <http://calval.cr.usgs.gov/jacie/>
  - Continue to present system/sensor/data quality (adding GSICS session)
  - Gov't satellite operators outnumbered by commercial!
  - How do we use all the system information to support CEOS/GEOSS?
- Building, coordinating Test Ranges
  - Added spatial test sites to Worldwide Test Site Catalog
  - [http://calval.cr.usgs.gov/rst-resources/sites\\_catalog/spatial-sites/](http://calval.cr.usgs.gov/rst-resources/sites_catalog/spatial-sites/)
- Elevation
  - Lidar Data Quality – USGS ASPRS Lidar Data Quality Group and Guideline
  - 3DEP
  - WorldDEM
  - 30 meter NED release (global)
  - and others
- Data and Product Uncertainty and Maturity