

Kurtis John Thome

**Educational background:**

University of Arizona PhD, Atmospheric Sciences	Dec. 1990
University of Arizona MS, Atmospheric Sciences	May 1989
Texas A & M University BS, Meteorology	May 1985

**Dissertation title:** *Radiative transfer model for a spherical atmosphere*

**Employment history:**

University of Arizona, Optical Sciences Center	Professor	2006 - Present
	Associate Professor	2000 - 2006
	Assistant Professor	1994 - 2000
	Assistant Research Scientist	1991 - 1994

**Professional society affiliations, activities, and honors:**

National Research Council, Committee on Earth Studies  
Landsat Continuity Project Working Group  
Landsat Calibration Science Team  
Landsat-7 Science Team  
ASTER Science Team  
Global Aerosol Climatology Project Science Team  
MODIS Science Team  
NPOES Prepatory Project Science Team  
Earth Observer-1 Science Team  
New Millennium Project, Earth Observer-1 Science Advisory Team  
University of Arizona Committee on Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis  
University of Arizona Committee on Global Change  
American Geophysical Union  
American Meteorological Society  
IEEE Geosciences and Remote Sensing Society  
Optical Society of America  
Fellow, Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers

**Current Research Activities:**

Current research activities include work in support of NASA's Earth Sciences Enterprise. I am currently a member of the Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection radiometer (ASTER), MODerate-resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) Science Teams, and the NPOESS Preparatory Project (NPP) Science Team, and the Landsat Calibration Team. The work involves developing algorithms for the absolute radiometric calibration of these sensors and developing atmospheric correction schemes for ASTER in the solar reflective portion of the spectrum to derive surface reflectance from the satellite measurements.

Other interests include developing radiative transfer algorithms for remote sensing applications to more realistically model the scattering of light in the earth's atmosphere and improving ground-based methods for determining atmospheric constituents. This work is primarily

associated with using solar radiometer measurements to determine atmospheric water vapor and aerosol properties.

### **Teaching Activities:**

Optical Design and Instrumentation II (OPTI 509)- Graduate level course discussing optical systems via radiometric analysis by ray trace codes, ray fans, and spot diagrams. Radiometric concepts such as projected area and solid angle, generation and propagation of radiation, absorption, reflection, transmission and scattering, and radiometric laws such as inverse square and cosine laws. The effects of optical aberrations, both chromatic and monochromatic, and methods for balancing the effects of various aberrations are described. Radiometric analysis of and impact of aberrations on imaging systems.

Fundamentals of Remote Sensing (OPTI 450/550)- Combined Undergraduate/Graduate level course to introduce remote sensing, from the standpoint of the radiometry of optical systems; target reflectance and emission characteristics; and effects from intervening media such as the atmosphere. These tools are used to examine spectroradiometric instruments and satellite optical sensors.

Remote sensing for the study of planet Earth (OPTI 490/590)- Combined undergraduate and graduate level course intended to provide an in-depth review of the principles, techniques, and applications of remote sensing. The course gives students an introduction to the physical basis of electromagnetic remote sensing, the concepts and practices of information extraction, and a review of a wide range of applications pertinent to earth-systems science.

Image Processing Laboratory for Remote Sensing (ECE/OPTI 531) - Core course requirement for the Ph.D. minor program in Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis describing techniques and applications of digital image processing in remote sensing, multispectral image enhancement and analysis, classification, feature extraction for cartography, and rule-based systems for mapping from imagery.

Remote sensing instrumentation and techniques (ECE 583) - Course that covers measurement, instrumentation, and signal conditioning techniques required for remote sensing applications in the optical to microwave wavelength range with emphasis on atmospheric remote sensing. The course examines examples of active and passive remote sensing applications such as visible, IR, and microwave radiometry, lidar, radar, and satellite experiments.

### **Publications:**

#### **Peer Reviewed:**

Teillet, P.M., G. Fedosejevs, K. Thome, J. L. Barker, "Impacts of spectral band difference effects on radiometric cross-calibration between satellite sensors in the solar-reflective spectral domain," *Remote Sensing of Environment*, **110**, pp.393-409, 2007

Cattrall, C., J. Reagan, K. Thome, and O. Dubovik, "Variability of aerosol and spectral lidar and backscatter and extinction ratios of key aerosol types derived from selected Aerosol Robotic Network locations," *J. Geophys. Res.*, **110**, D10211, doi:10.1029/2004JD005124, 2005.

Galbraith, A. E., J. Theiler, K. J. Thome, R. W. Ziolkowski, "Resolution enhancement of multilook imagery for the Multispectral Thermal Imager," *IEEE Trans. On Geosciences and Remote Sensing*, **43**, pp. 1964-1977, 2005.

Yoshida, M., H. Murakami, Y. Mitomi, M. Hori, **K. J. Thome**, D. K. Clark, and H. Fukushima, “Vicarious calibration of GLI by ground observation data,” *IEEE Trans. On Geosciences and Remote Sensing*, **43**, pp. 2167-2176, 2005.

Thome, K. J., D. L. Helder, D. Aaron, and J. D. Dewald, “Landsat-5 TM and Landsat-7 ETM+ absolute radiometric calibration using the reflectance-based method,” *IEEE Trans. On Geosciences and Remote Sensing*, **42**, pp. 2777-2785, 2004.

Markham, B. L., K. J. Thome, J. A. Barsi, E. Kaita, D. L. Helder, J. L. Barker, and P. L. Scarmuzza, “Landsat-7 ETM+ on-orbit reflective band radiometric stability and absolute calibration,” *IEEE Trans. On Geosciences and Remote Sensing*, **42**, pp. 2810-2820, 2004.

Chander, G., D. L. Helder, B. L. Markham, J. D. Dewald, E. Kaita, K. J. Thome, E. Micijevic, and T. A. Ruggles, “Landsat-5 TM reflective band absolute radiometric calibration,” *IEEE Trans. On Geosciences and Remote Sensing*, **42**, pp. 2747-2760, 2004.

Teillet, P.M., D.L. Helder, T. A. Ruggles, F. J. Ahern, N. J. Higgs, J. Barsi, B.L. Markham, J.L. Barker, K.J. Thome, J.R. Schott, and F.D. Palluconi,, “A definitive calibration record for the Landsat-5 Thematic Mapper anchored to the Landsat-7 radiometric scale,” *Canadian J. of Rem. Sens.*, **30**, pp. 631-643, 2004.

Thome, K. J., “In-flight intersensor radiometric calibration using vicarious approaches,” *Post-Launch Calibration of Satellite Sensors*, Edited by S. A. Morain and A. M. Budge, Balkema Publishers, Philadelphia, pp. 93-102, 2004.

Thome K. J., S. F. Biggar, W. T. Wisniewski, “Cross-comparison of EO-1 sensors and other Earth Resources Sensors to Landsat-7 ETM+ Using Railroad Valley Playa,” *IEEE Trans. On Geosciences and Remote Sensing*, **41**, pp. 1180-1188, 2003.

Biggar, S. F., K. J. Thome, W. T. Wisniewski, “Vicarious radiometric calibration of EO-1 sensors by reference to high-reflectance ground targets,” *IEEE Trans. On Geosciences and Remote Sensing*, **41**, pp. 1174-1179, 2003.

Bryant, R. , M. S. Moran, S. A. McElroy, C. D. Holifield, K. J. Thome, T. Miura, S. F. Biggar, “Data continuity of Earth Observing 1 (EO-1) Advanced Land Imager (ALI) and Landsat TM and ETM+,” *IEEE Trans. On Geosciences and Remote Sensing*, **41**, pp. 1204-1213, 2003.

Kuester, M. A., K. J. Thome, J. A. Reagan, “Automated statistical approach to Langley evaluation for a solar radiometer,” *Applied Optics*, **42**, pp. 4914-4920, 2003.

Pagnutti, M., R. E. Ryan, M. Kelly, K. Holekamp, V. Zanoni, K. Thome, S. Schiller, “Radiometric characterization of IKONOS multispectral imagery,” *Remote Sensing of Environment*, **88**, pp. 53-68, 2003.

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- Bruegge, C. J., N. L. Chrien, R. R. Ando, D. J. Diner, W. A. Abdou, M. C. Helmlinger, S. H. Pilorsz, K. J. Thome, "Early validation of the Multi-angle Imaging Spectroradiometer (MISR) radiometric scale," *IEEE Trans. On Geosciences and Remote Sensing*, **40**, pp. 1477-1492, 2002.
- Cattrall, C., K. L. Carder, K. J. Thome, H. R. Gordon, "Solar-reflectance-based calibration of spectral radiometers," *Geophysical Res. Letters*, **29**, 1941, doi:10.1029/2002GL015130, 2002.
- Thome, K. J., "Absolute radiometric calibration of Landsat-7 ETM+ using the reflectance-based method," *Remote Sensing of Environment*, **78**, pp. 27-38, 2001.
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- Brown, S. W., B. C. Johnson, H. W. Yoon, J. J. Butler, R. A. Barnes, S. Biggar, P. Spyak, K. Thome, E. Zalewski, M. Helmlinger, C. Bruegge, S. Schiller, G. Fedosejevs, R. Gauthier, S. Tsuchida, and S. Machida, "Radiometric characterization of field radiometers in support of the 1997 Lunar Lake, Nevada experiment to determine surface reflectance and top-of-atmosphere radiance," *Remote Sensing of Environment*, **77**, pp. 367-376, 2001.
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- Moran, M. S., R. Bryant, K. Thome, W. Ni, Y. Nouvellon, M. P. Gonzalez-Dugo, J. Qi, and T. R. Clarke, "A refined empirical line approach for reflectance factor retrieval from Landsat-5 TM and Landsat-7 ETM+," *Remote Sensing of Environment*, **78**, pp. 71-82, 2001.
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Thome, K. J. and P. Nandy, "Accuracy of ground-reference calibration of imaging spectroradiometers at large sensor view angles", *Journal of Remote Sens. Soc. Of Japan*, **20**, pp. 112-124, 2000.

Arai, K., K. J. Thome, "An error budget analysis of the vicarious calibration for visible to near infrared radiometers onboard satellites based on the reflectance based method" *Journal of Japan Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*, **39**, pp. 99-105, 2000.

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Thome, K., S. Schiller, J. Conel, K. Arai, and S. Tsuchida, "Results of the 1996 Earth Observing System vicarious calibration campaign at Lunar Lake Playa, Nevada (USA)," *Metrologia*, **35**, pp. 631-638, 1998

Thome, K., K. Arai, S. Hook, H. Kieffer, H. Lang, T. Matsunaga, A. Ono, F. Palluconi, H. Sakuma, P. Slater, T. Takashima, H. Tonooka, S. Tsuchida, R. Welch, E. Zalewski, "ASTER preflight and in-flight calibration and the validation of Level 2 products," *IEEE Trans. On Geos. and Rem. Sens.*, **36**, pp. 1161-1172, 1998.

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- Slater, P. N., S. F. Biggar, K. J. Thome, D. I. Gellman, and P. R. Spyak, "Vicarious radiometric calibrations of EOS sensors," *J. of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology*, **13**, pp. 349-359, 1996.
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- Moran, M. S., R. D. Jackson, T. R. Clarke, J. Qi, F. Cabot, K. J. Thome, and B. L. Markham, "Reflectance factor retrieval from Landsat TM and SPOT HRV data for bright and dark targets," *Rem. Sens. of Environment*, **52**, pp. 218-230, 1995.
- Reagan, J., K. Thome, B. Herman, R. Stone, J. DeLuisi, and J. Snider, "A comparison of columnar water vapor retrievals obtained with near-IR solar radiometer and microwave radiometer measurements," *J. Appl. Meteorology*, **34**, pp. 1384-1391, 1995.

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Thome, K. J., M. W. Smith, J. M. Palmer, and J. A. Reagan, "Three-channel solar radiometer for determining atmospheric columnar water vapor," *Appl. Optics*, **33**, pp. 5811-5819, 1994.

Herman, B. M., A. Ben-David, and K. J. Thome, "Numerical technique for solving the radiative transfer equation for a spherical-shell atmosphere," *Appl. Optics*, **33**, pp. 1760-1770, 1994.

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#### **Conference Proceedings and Other Publications:**

Thome, K., J. Czapla-Myers, J. McCorkel, "Retrieval of surface BRDF for reflectance-based calibration," *Proc. SPIE Vol. 6677*, San Diego, Calif., 2007.

Anderson, N., S. Biggar, K. Thome, and N. Leisso, "Solar radiation-based calibration of laboratory grade radiometers," *Proc. SPIE Vol. 6677*, San Diego, Calif., 2007.

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Czapla-Myers, J. S., K. J. Thome, N. P. Leisso, "Calibration of AVHRR sensors using the reflectance-based method," *Proc. SPIE Vol. 6684*, San Diego, Calif., 2007.

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Thome, K., "Vicarious calibration of ASTER backward-looking telescope," *Proc. SPIE Vol. 6296*, San Diego, Calif., 629611, 2006.

Thome, K., J. D'Amico, and C. Hugon, "Intercomparison of Terra ASTER, MISR, and MODIS, and Landsat-7 ETM+," *International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium*, Denver, Colorado, 2006

Dobler, J. and K. Thome, "Methods for validation of the on-orbit calibration of CALIOP and for establishing a bond with MODIS for enhancing future retrievals," *Proceedings 15<sup>th</sup> Annual CALCON Technical Conference*, Logan, Utah, 2005.

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Buchanan, J. H., J. Dobler, K. Thome, S. Biggar, "Validation of a laser-based system for ground measurement of backscatter surface reflectance," *Proc. SPIE Vol. 6296*, San Diego, Calif., 629613, 2006.

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McCorkel, J., K. Thome, S. Biggar, M. Kuester, "Radiometric calibration of Advanced Land Imager using reflectance-based results between 2001 and 2005," *Proc. SPIE Vol. 6296*, San Diego, Calif., 62960G, 2006.

Thome, K., J. Czapla-Myers, K. Scott, "Automated ground system for reflectance-based calibration," *Proceedings 14<sup>th</sup> Annual CALCON Technical Conference*, Logan, Utah, 2005.

Thome, K. J., "Sampling and uncertainty issues in trending reflectance-based vicarious calibration results" *Proc. SPIE Conf. #5882*, San Diego, Calif., 2005.

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