

A photograph of a GOES-R satellite launch. The rocket is ascending vertically from a launch pad, surrounded by a massive, billowing cloud of white smoke and fire. The launch pad is supported by several tall, lattice-structured towers. The scene is set against a dark sky, and the ground below shows some industrial buildings and a road.

# An Overview of the Design and Development of the GOES R-Series Space Segment

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Alexander Krimchansky, NASA/GSFC  
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October 2017

*GOES-R Launch, 19 November 2016*



# GOES-R Series Overview



Mission: Provide continuous imagery and atmospheric measurements of Earth's Western Hemisphere and space weather monitoring.

- GOES-R is the newest generation of United States geostationary weather satellites
  - Provides the first update in sensor technology since the GOES-I launch in 1994
- Four satellites in the series: GOES-R, S, T and U
- Joint mission between NASA and NOAA
  - Continuing the successful partnership on weather satellite programs since the 1970s

## GOES-R Mission Key Requirements

|   |
|---|
| Earth observation from 68°N to 68°S latitude & 150°E to 2°W longitude |
| Full Earth disk image every 15 minutes                                |
| Key Performance Parameter (KPP): Cloud and Moisture Imagery           |
| Data Latency less than or equal to product refresh rate               |
| 34 atmospheric, land, ocean, space, and solar weather products        |
| Replacement for failed spacecraft with on-orbit spare: 3 weeks        |
| Mission availability for East and West stations: 0.80                 |
| Data outages <=6 hours per year                                       |
| 7 day satellite autonomy  |

## Earth Weather

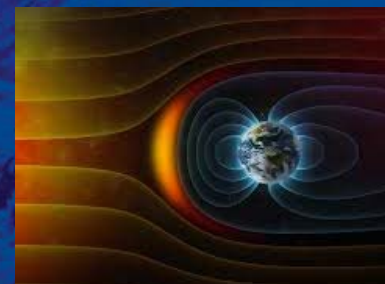


Advanced Baseline Imager



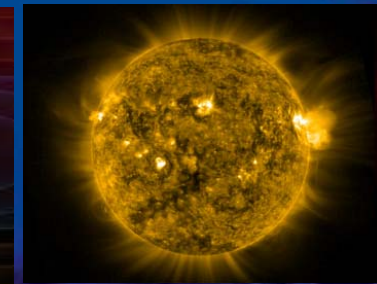
Geostationary Lightning Mapper

## Space Weather



Space Environment In-Situ Suite & Magnetometer

## Solar Weather

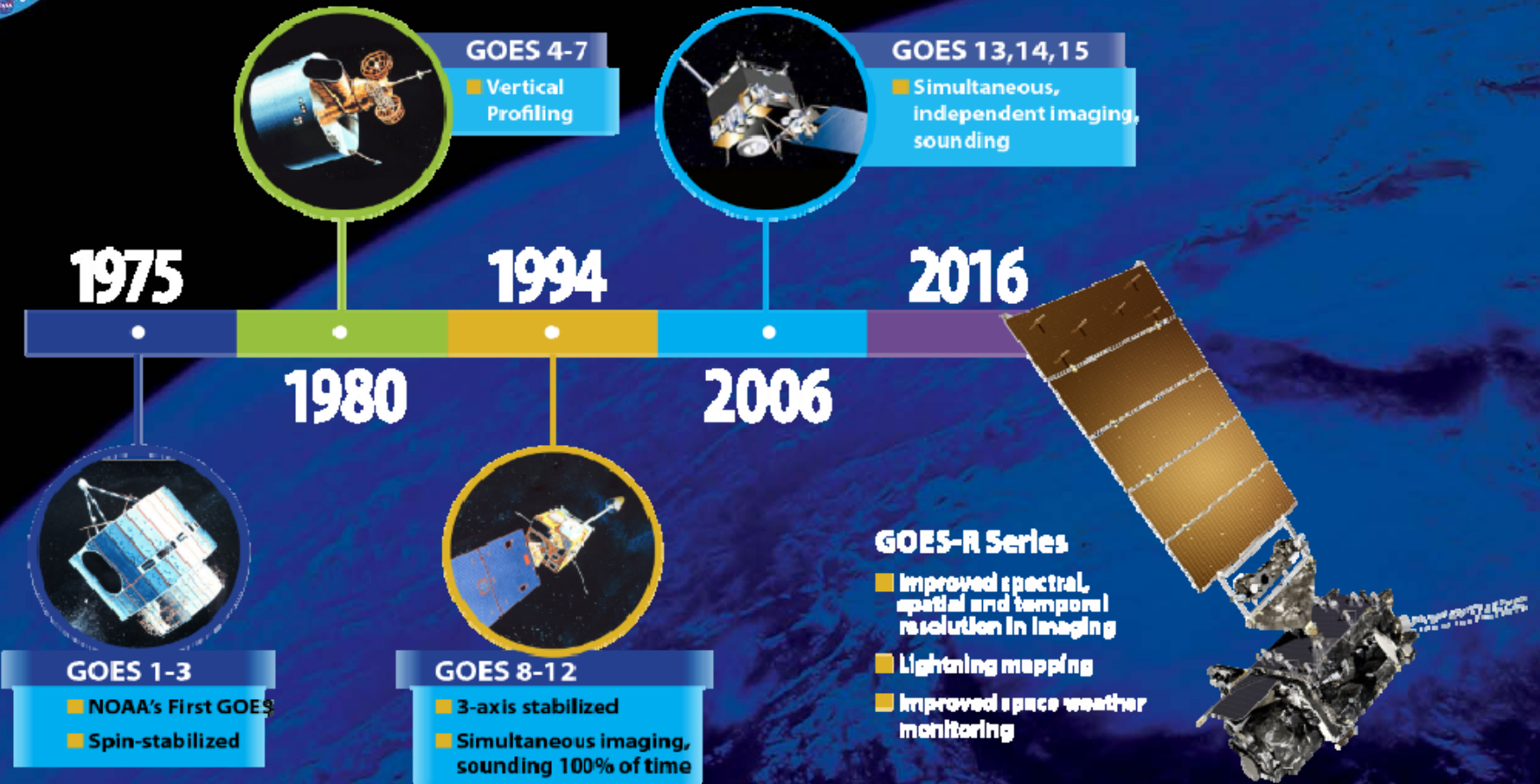


Solar Ultraviolet Imager & Extreme UV & X-ray Irradiance Sensors



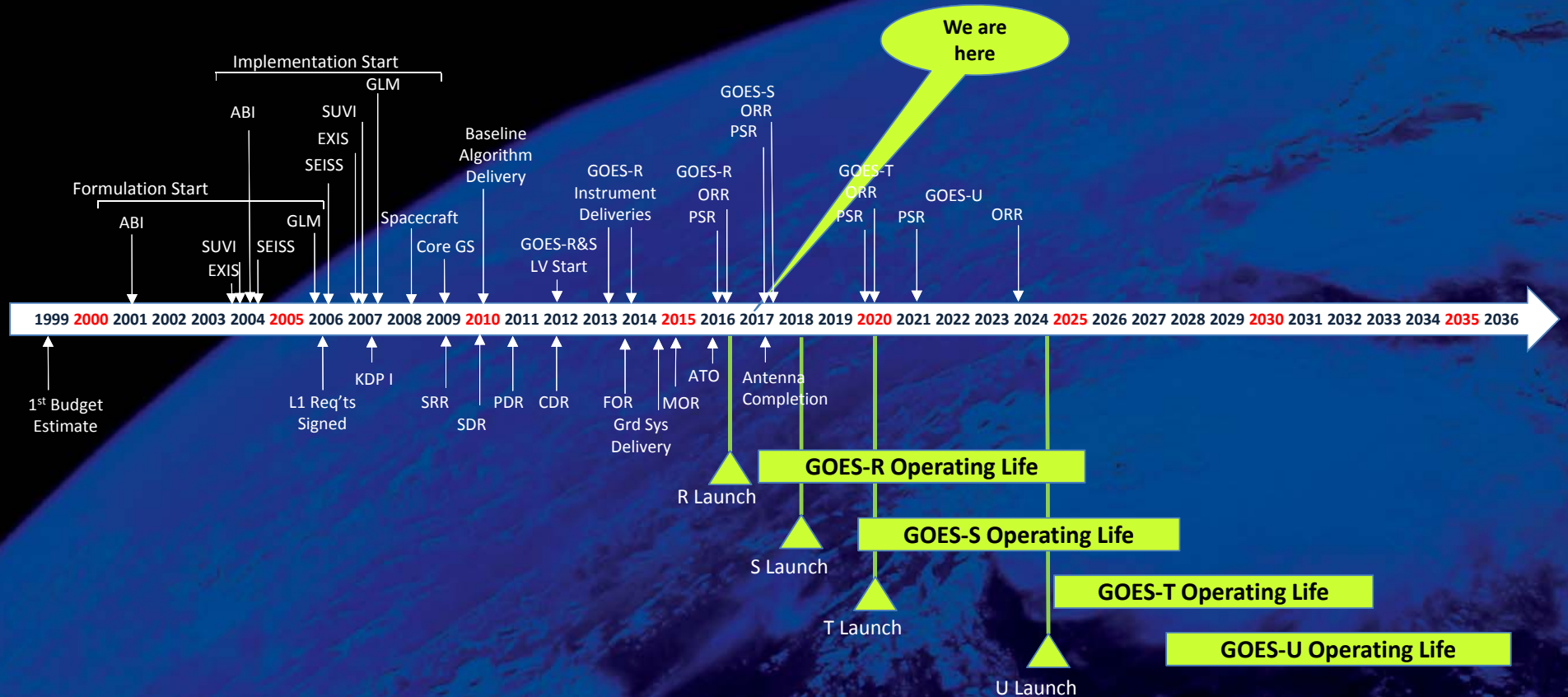


# A History of GOES Weather Satellites





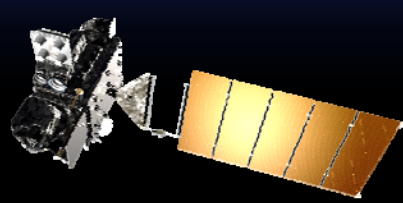
# GOES-R Program Timeline



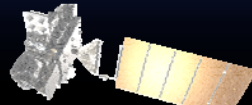




# GOES-R Architecture Overview



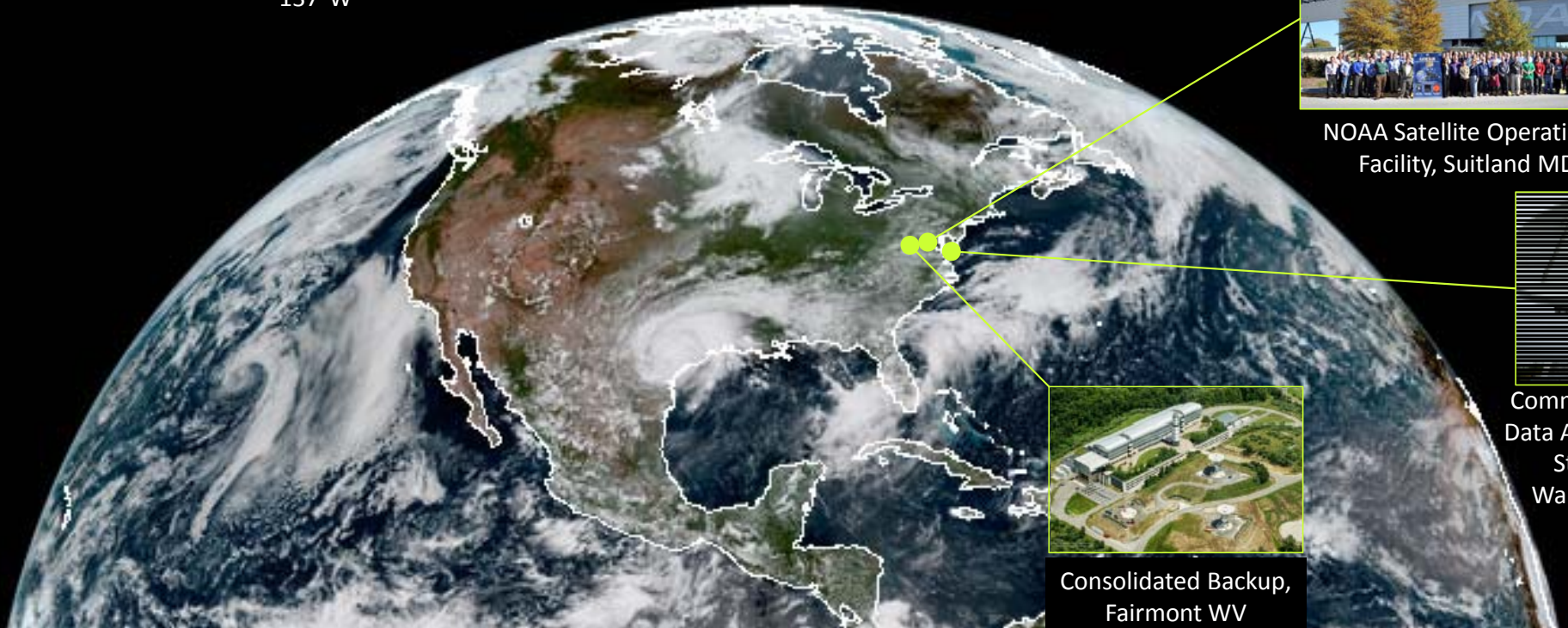
GOES-West  
137°W



On-orbit Storage  
105°W



GOES-East  
75°W



NOAA Satellite Operations  
Facility, Suitland MD



Consolidated Backup,  
Fairmont WV

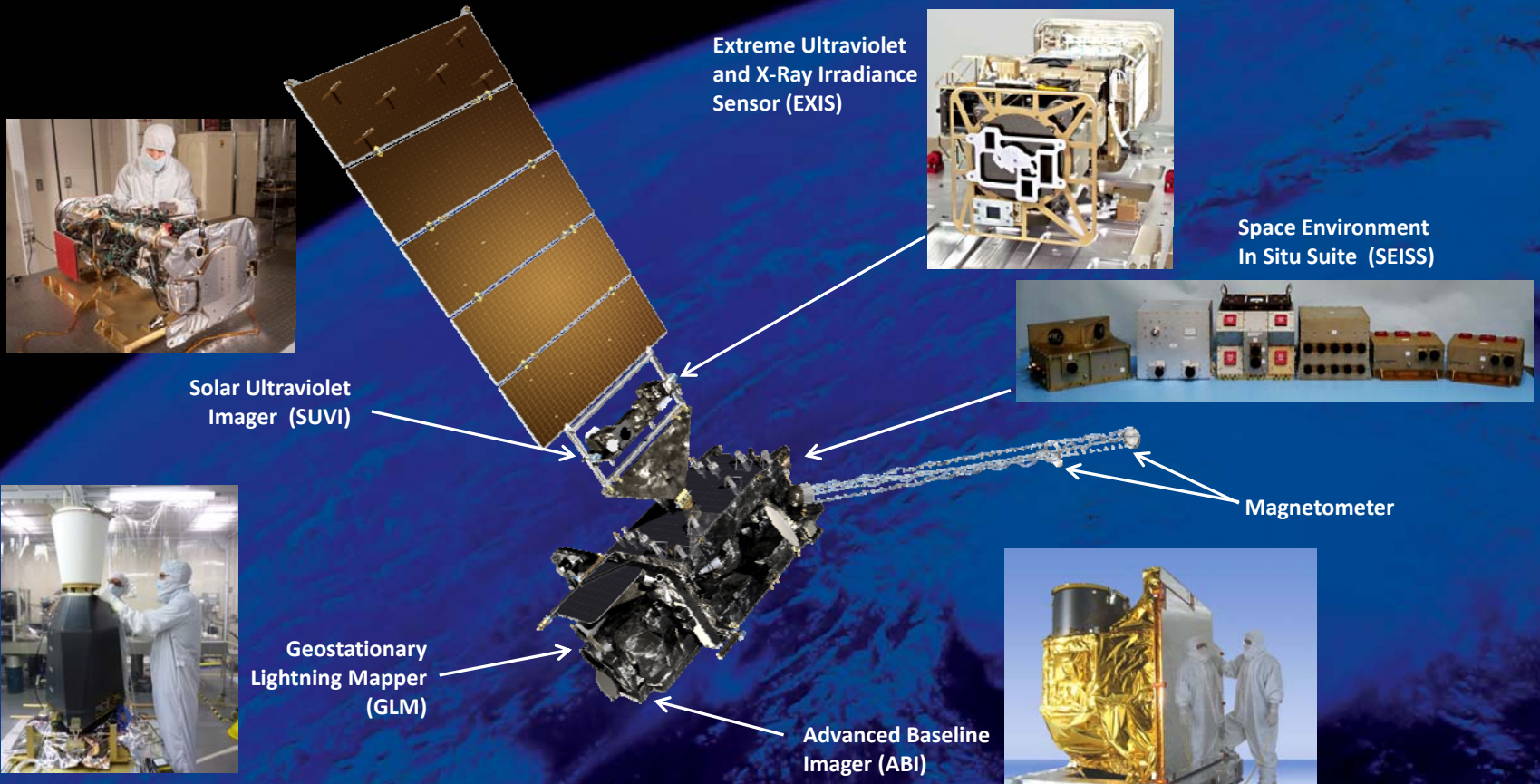


Command and  
Data Acquisition  
Station,  
Wallops VA





# GOES-R Space Segment Overview





# Advanced Baseline Imager (ABI)



- Primary instrument in GOES-R series
- 16 channel imager
- Measures radiances in the visible and near-infrared wavelengths
- Improves upon current capabilities in spectral (3X), spatial (4X), and temporal resolution (5X)

|                              | Band | Central Wavelength | SNR or NEΔT | Pixel Size (at nadir) | Band Name/Use                        |
|------------------------------|------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Visible/<br>Near<br>Infrared | 1    | 0.47               | 300:1       | 1km                   | Blue                                 |
|                              | 2    | 0.64               | 300:1       | 0.5km                 | Red                                  |
|                              | 3    | 0.86               | 300:1       | 1km                   | Vegetation                           |
|                              | 4    | 1.38               | 300:1       | 2km                   | Cirrus                               |
|                              | 5    | 1.6                | 300:1       | 1km                   | Snow/Ice                             |
|                              | 6    | 2.2                | 300:1       | 2km                   | Cloud Particle Size                  |
| Mid-<br>Wave<br>Infrared     | 7    | 3.9                | 0.1K        | 2km                   | Shortwave Window                     |
|                              | 8    | 6.2                | 0.1K        | 2km                   | Upper-Level Tropospheric Water Vapor |
|                              | 9    | 6.9                | 0.1K        | 2km                   | Mid-Level Tropospheric Water Vapor   |
|                              | 10   | 7.3                | 0.1K        | 2km                   | Lower-level Water Vapor              |
|                              | 11   | 8.4                | 0.1K        | 2km                   | Cloud-Top Phase                      |
| Long-<br>Wave<br>Infrared    | 12   | 9.6                | 0.1K        | 2km                   | Ozone                                |
|                              | 13   | 10.3               | 0.1K        | 2km                   | Clean IR Longwave Window             |
|                              | 14   | 11.2               | 0.1K        | 2km                   | IR Longwave Window                   |
|                              | 15   | 12.3               | 0.1K        | 2km                   | Dirty Longwave Window                |
|                              | 16   | 13.3               | 0.3K        | 2km                   | CO2 longwave infrared                |



ABI at Harris Corp

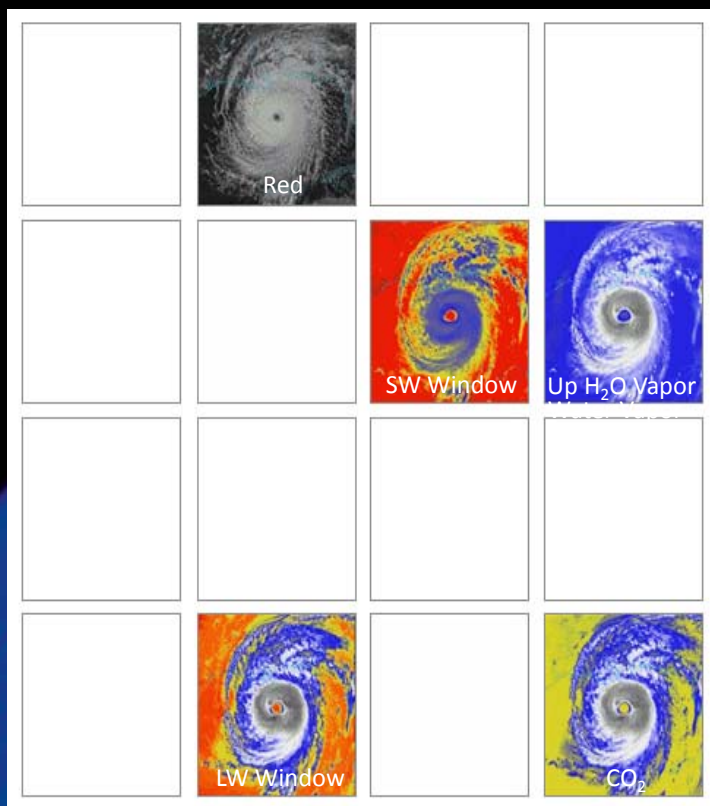




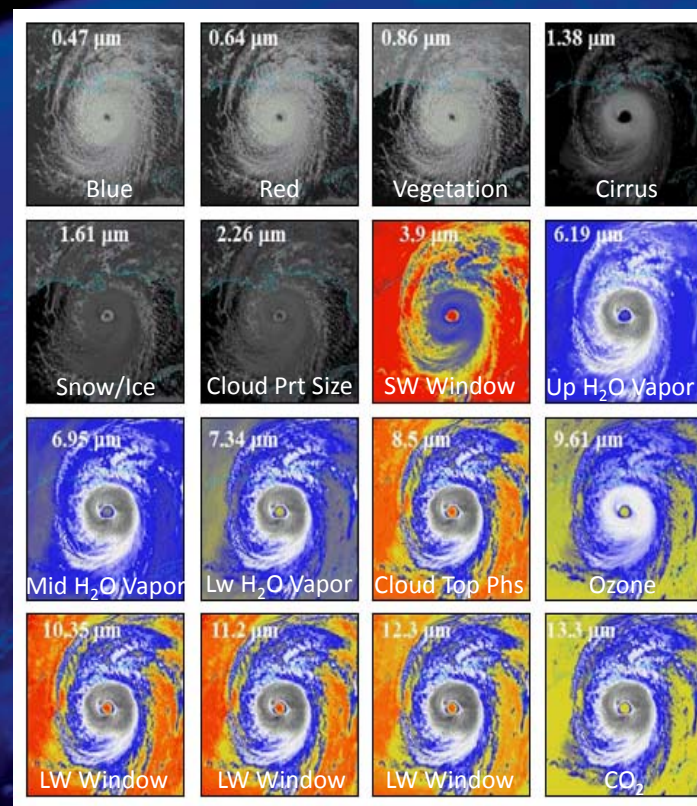
# GOES-R ABI Provides 3X More Spectral Information



GOES-N Series Imager



GOES-R Series ABI

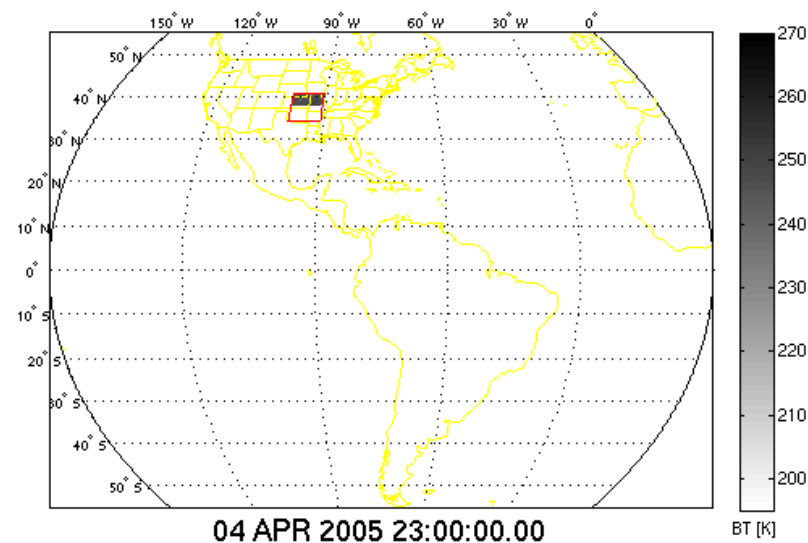
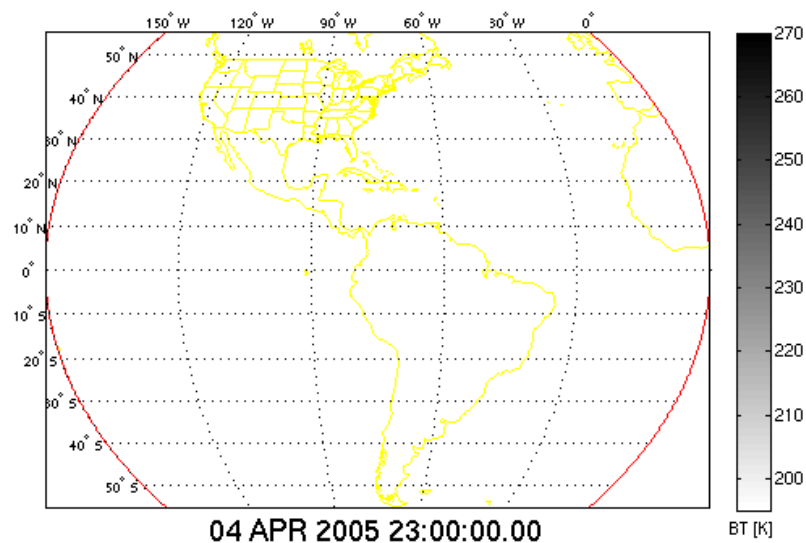


Courtesy: NOAA/NESDIS STAR, CIMSS and GOES-R Imagery Team





# GOES-N vs GOES-R Temporal Coverage



In 15 Minutes, GOES-N Imager can scan:

- Most (3/5) of a Full Disk Image

In 15 Minutes, GOES-R ABI can scan:

- 15 Mesoscale Images
- 3 CONUS Images
- 1 Full Disk Image



# Geostationary Lightning Mapper (GLM)



- GLM is a high speed CCD camera that detects ozone emissions at 777.4nm
- Detects total lightning activity across the Western Hemisphere: in cloud, cloud-to-cloud, and cloud-to-ground
  - Provides coverage over oceans and land
  - Complements today's land based systems that only measures cloud to ground (~15% of the total lightning)
- Improves forecaster situational awareness and confidence resulting in more accurate storm warnings (improved lead time, reduced false alarms) to save lives and property



GLM at Lockheed Martin ATC



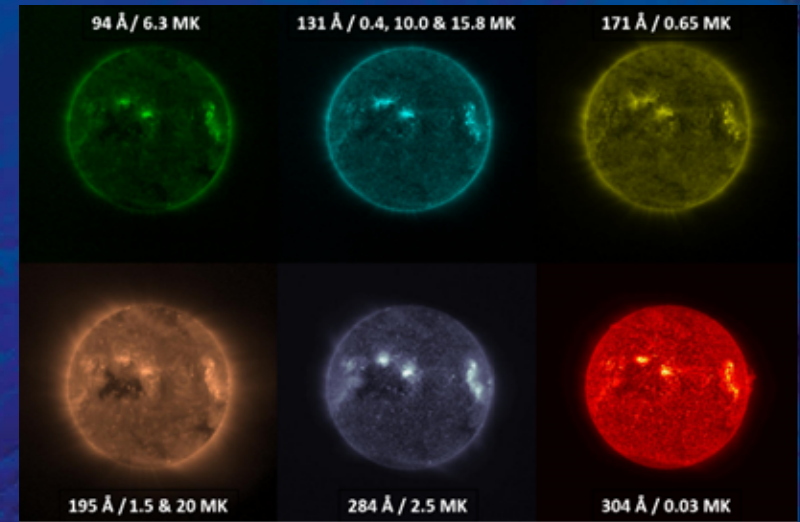


# Solar Ultraviolet Imager (SUVI)

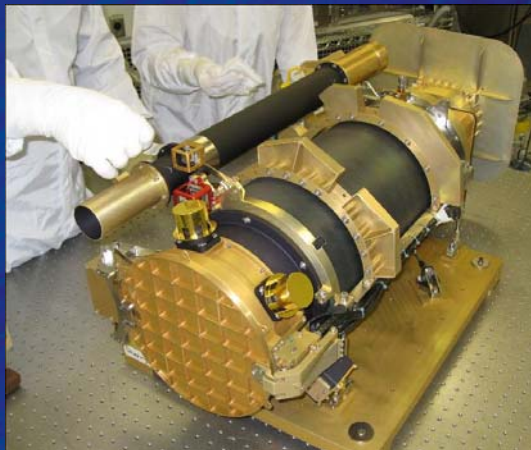


- Continuously images the sun in 6 extreme ultraviolet wavelengths to characterize active region complexity
- Locates coronal holes, flares and coronal mass ejection source regions
- Thematic maps will be used to automate the identification and location of bright regions, flares and coronal hole boundaries in solar images
- Improves geomagnetic storm forecasting

1<sup>st</sup> SUVI Data Release



SUVI at  
Lockheed Martin  
ATC



| Wavelength                        | 94Å     | 131Å    | 171Å  | 195Å   | 284Å   | 304Å  |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| Primary Ions Observed             | Fe XVII | Fe VIII | Fe IX | Fe XII | Fe XIV | He II |
| Filaments                         |         |         |       |        |        |       |
| Coronal Holes                     |         |         |       |        |        |       |
| Active Region Complexity          |         |         |       |        |        |       |
| Coronal Mass Ejections            |         |         |       |        |        |       |
| Flare Location and Identification |         |         |       |        |        |       |
| Quiet Regions                     |         |         |       |        |        |       |

Thematic

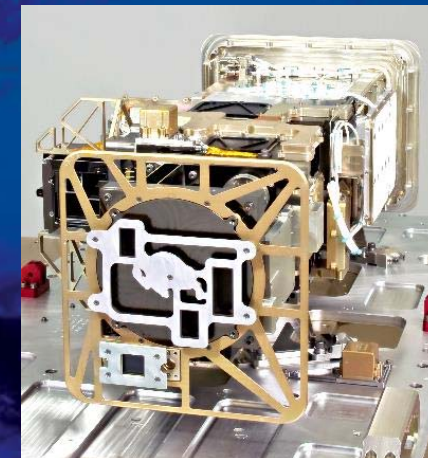
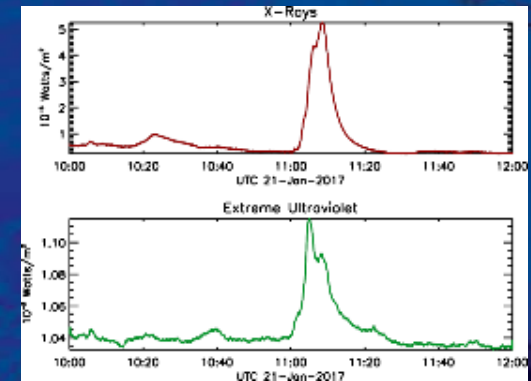


# Extreme Ultraviolet and X-ray Irradiance Sensors (EXIS)



- EXIS has two sensors to measure solar radiation:
  - Extreme Ultraviolet Sensor (EUVS): monitors solar variations that affect satellite drag, and ionospheric changes impacting communication and navigation operations
  - X-Ray Sensor (XRS): detects the beginning, duration, and magnitude of solar X-ray flares
- Provides improved solar flare warnings for communications and navigation disruption
- Provides input to models predicting impacts on satellites, astronauts, and airline passengers on polar routes, and power grid performance

## EXIS Observes a Solar Flare



EXIS at the University of Colorado LASP





# Space Environment in-Situ Sensor Suite (SEISS)



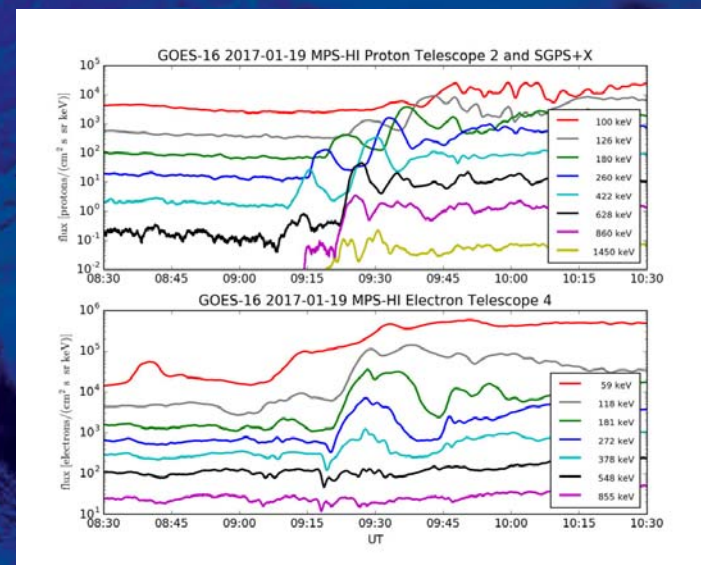
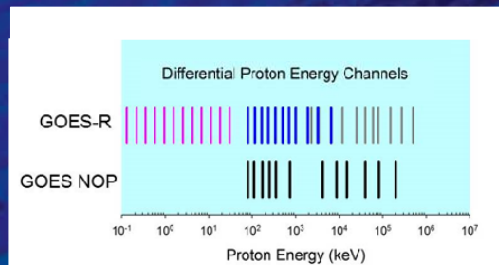
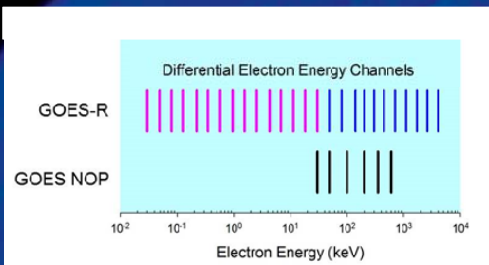
- SEISS consists of energetic particle sensors to monitor proton, electron and alpha particle fluxes
- SEISS provides:
  - More accurate monitoring of energetic particles responsible for radiation hazards to humans and spacecraft
  - Better monitoring of ionizing responsible for spacecraft charging
  - Improved warning of high flux events, mitigating damage to radio communication

SEISS at Assurance Technology Corp



1<sup>st</sup> SEISS Data Release

## SEISS Monitors more Electron and Proton Energy Levels than GOES-N





# Magnetometer



- Consists of two sensors located on an 8 meter deployable boom structure that distances them from the magnetic signature of the spacecraft
  - Each sensor uses 3 flux gate magnetometers to measure the orthogonal vector components of the Earth's mag field
- **Magnetic field measurements provide information on the general level of geomagnetic activity, and enable detection of sudden storm commencements, substorms, & magnetopause crossings**

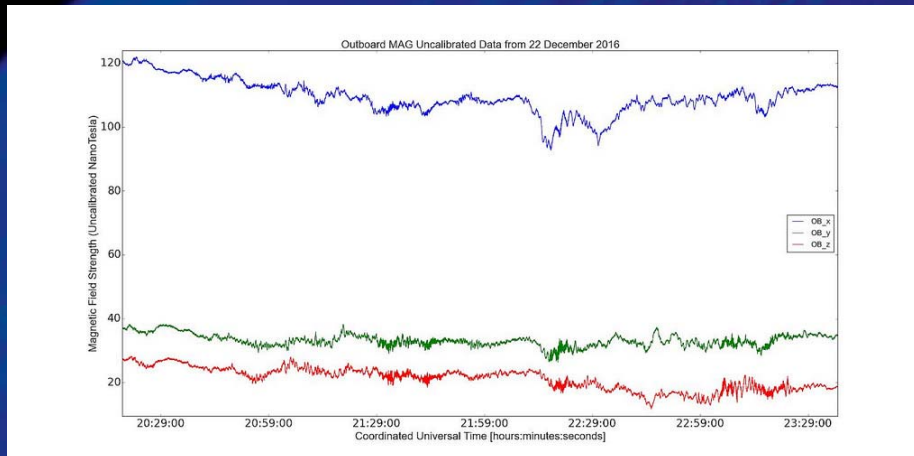
Magnetometer Sensor at MEDA



Mag Boom at ATK



1<sup>st</sup> Mag Data Release







# GOES-R Communications Services



- **Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking (SARSAT)**
  - All GOES-R satellites support the SARSAT system by relaying distress signals from 406 MHz emergency beacons
- **Information Network (HRIT/EMWIN)**
  - Delivers selected imagery, charts, other environmental data products, and text messages (NWS Watches and Warnings) to hemispheric users.
  - Combination of today's LRIT (Low Rate Information Transmission) and Emergency Managers Weather Information Network services
- **Data Collection System (DCS)**
  - GOES-R spacecraft relay data transmissions for ~20,000 in-situ environmental data platforms from across the hemisphere
- **GOES Rebroadcast (GRB)**
  - GRB will contain the Level 1b data from each of the GOES-R Series instruments and is the GOES-R Series version of today's GOES Variable format (GVAR)

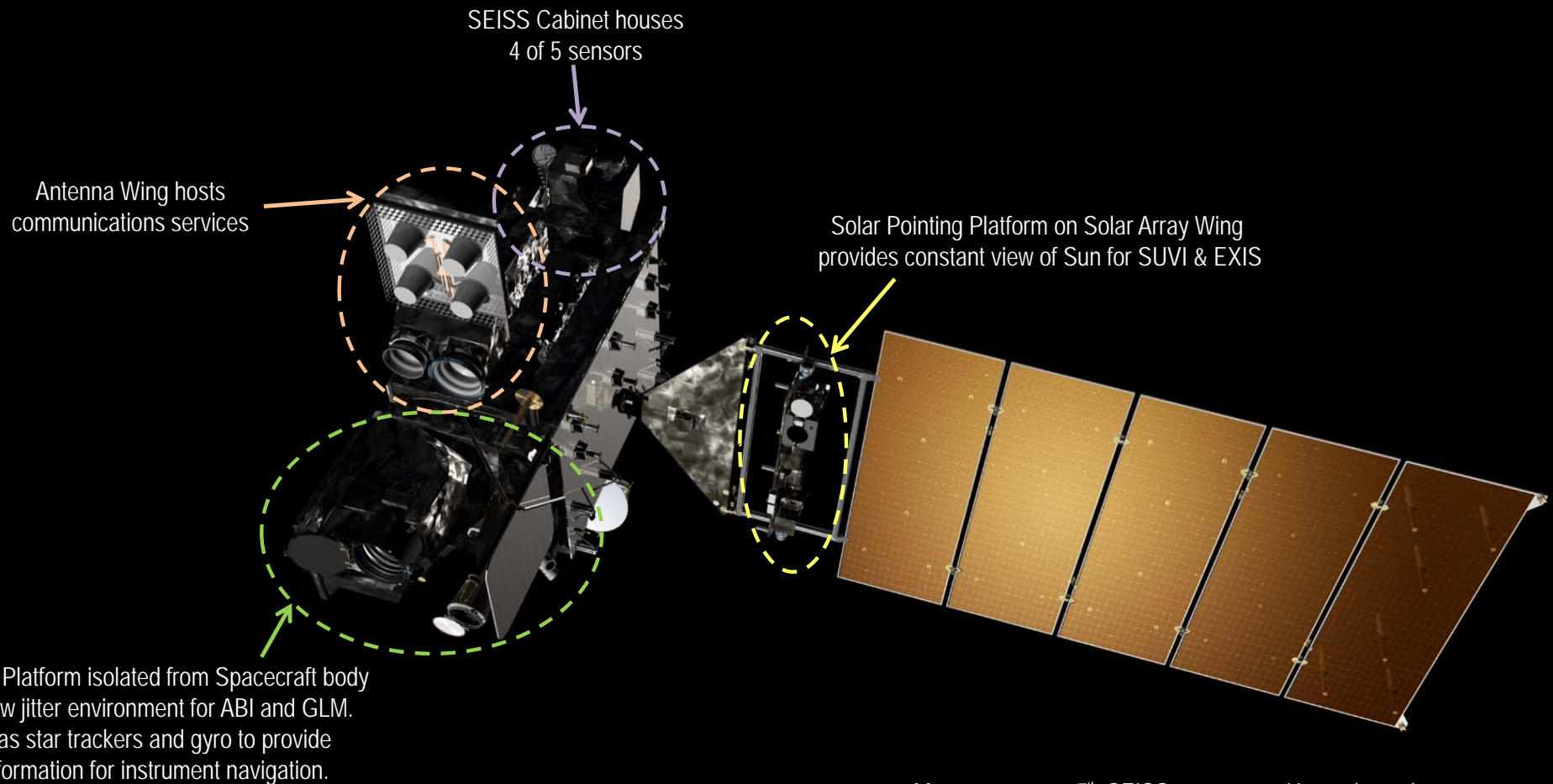


Emergency Beacons



Remote Automated Weather Stations transmitting to GOES

# GOES-R Spacecraft Overview







# GOES-R Spacecraft Design

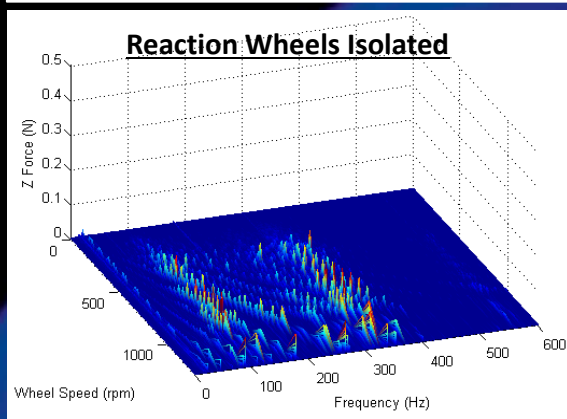
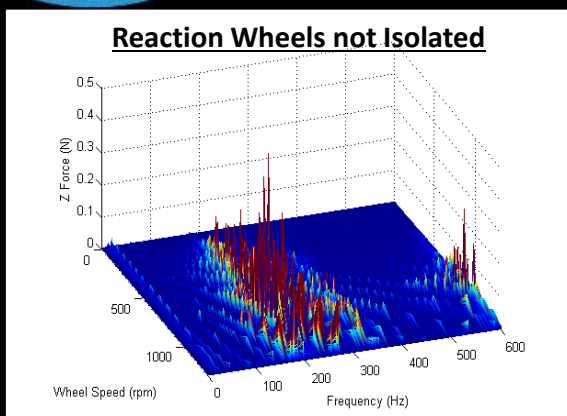


- Customized Lockheed Martin A2100 spacecraft with upgrades to meet GOES-R requirements
  - Stable and accurate pointing achieved with:
    - Isolated Earth Pointing Platform
    - Isolated Reaction Wheels
    - Correction of spacecraft-induced torques with reaction wheel speed changes
    - Accurate attitude sensing with gyro, star tracker, and diagnostic accelerometers
  - No observing time lost to station keeping or momentum adjustment maneuvers
    - Low thrust rocket engines with correction of applied torques
  - Onboard orbit determination
    - 1<sup>st</sup> civilian use of GPS in geo orbit
  - High speed, error free data transmission
    - SpaceWire data bus
    - GOES-R Reliable Data Delivery Protocol
  - EMI compatibility with UHF payloads
    - Stringent EMI design and test methods

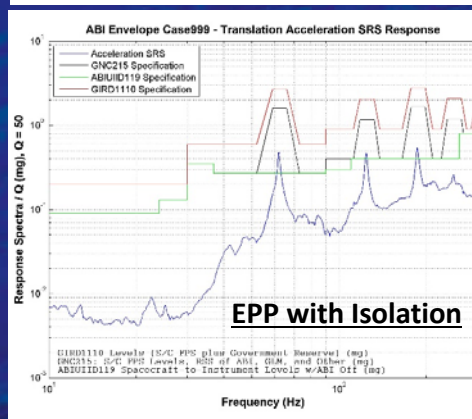
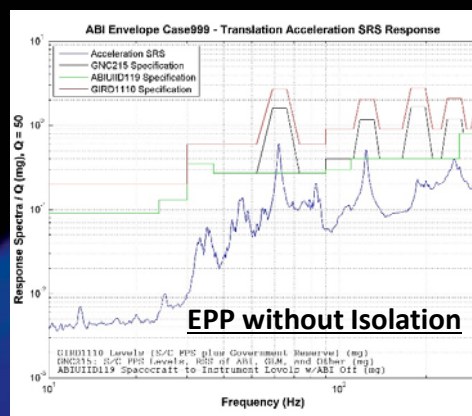
| Key GOES-R Space Segment Performance Parameters |  |  |                            |
|---|--|--|----------------------------|
|   |  | Requirement  | Performance                |
| <b>Pointing</b>                                 | Attitude Knowledge - Diurnal                             | 45 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$                            | 26 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$    |
|   | Attitude Integrated Rate Error provided to ABI - 1 Sec   | 1 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$ X&Y, 1.5 $\mu$ 3 $\sigma$ Z | 0.8 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$   |
|   | Attitude Integrated Rate Error provided to ABI - 30 Sec  | 2 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$ X&Y, 2.5 $\mu$ 3 $\sigma$ Z | <1.0 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$  |
|   | Attitude Integrated Rate Error provided to ABI - 300 Sec | 7 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$ per axis                    | <=1.8 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$ |
|   | Attitude Integrated Rate Error provided to ABI - 900 Sec | 18.5 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$ per axis                 | <=2.7 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$ |
| <b>Orbit Knowledge</b>                          | In-Track Position  | 75m 3 $\sigma$                                     | 13m 3 $\sigma$             |
|   | Cross-Track Position                                     | 75m 3 $\sigma$                                     | 7.3m 3 $\sigma$            |
|   | Radial Position  | 100m 3 $\sigma$                                    | 20m 3 $\sigma$             |
|   | Velocity   | 6 cm/sec 3 $\sigma$                                | 0.85 cm/sec 3 $\sigma$     |
| <b>Navigation Accuracy</b>                      | ABI  | 28 $\mu$ rad (1km at nadir) 3 $\sigma$             | 20 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$    |
|   | GLM  | 140 $\mu$ rad (5km at nadir) 3 $\sigma$            | <90 $\mu$ rad 3 $\sigma$   |
| <b>EMI</b>                                      | EMI (for SAR and DCPR) in UHF band                       | -12 dB $\mu$ V/m                                   | -24 dB $\mu$ V/m           |
| <b>Raw Data Transmission</b>                    | Transmit Data Rate                                       | 120Mbps  | 120Mbps                    |
|   | Raw Data Link Margin                                     | 3dB  | 9dB                        |
| <b>Availability</b>                             | Lost observation time                                    | <120 min per year                                  | 0 min per year             |
| <b>Fuel Lifetime</b>                            | For on-orbit storage + operations                        | 15 years   | 20 years                   |



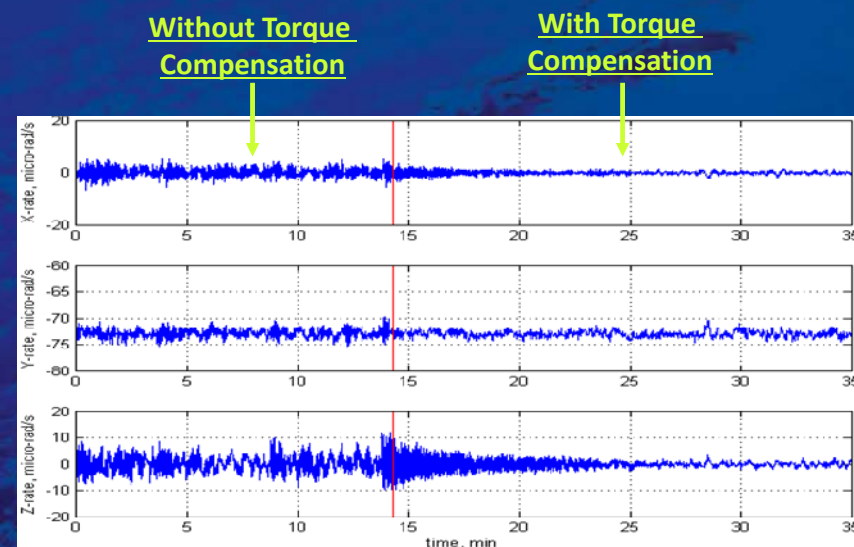
# GOES-R Techniques for Stable Pointing



Reaction Wheels Isolation to Minimize Disturbances Transmitted to Spacecraft



Earth Pointing Platform Isolated to Minimize Disturbances to ABI & GLM



Spacecraft Body Rates during ABI Scanning, before and after Enabling Torque Compensation



***GOES-16***  
***Imagery***

ABI 1<sup>st</sup> Light, January 7, 2017  
RGB using 0.47um, 0.64um, 0.86um

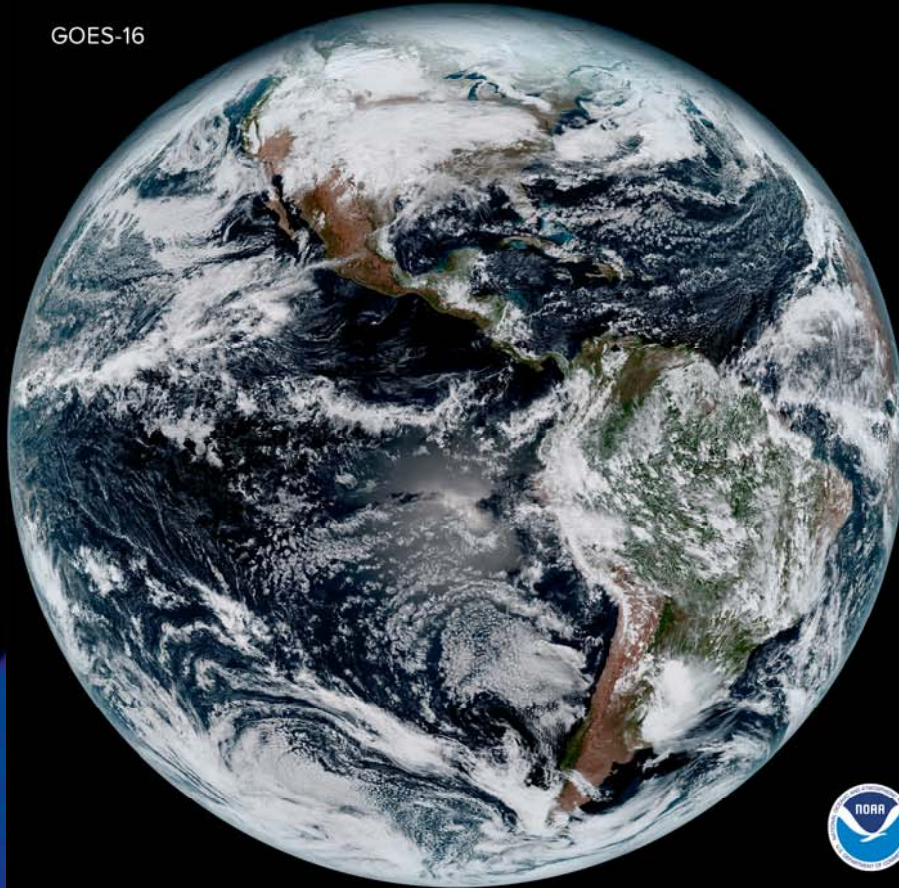




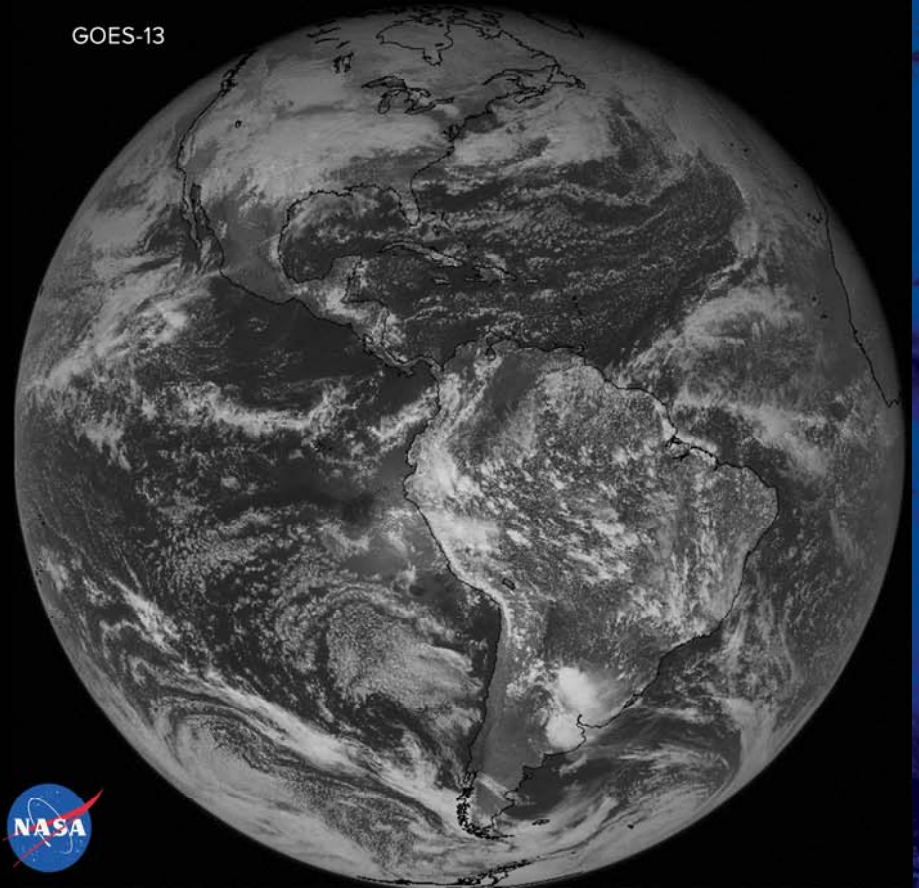
# First ABI Public Release



GOES-16



GOES-13



GOES-16 vs GOES-13 on January 15, 2017



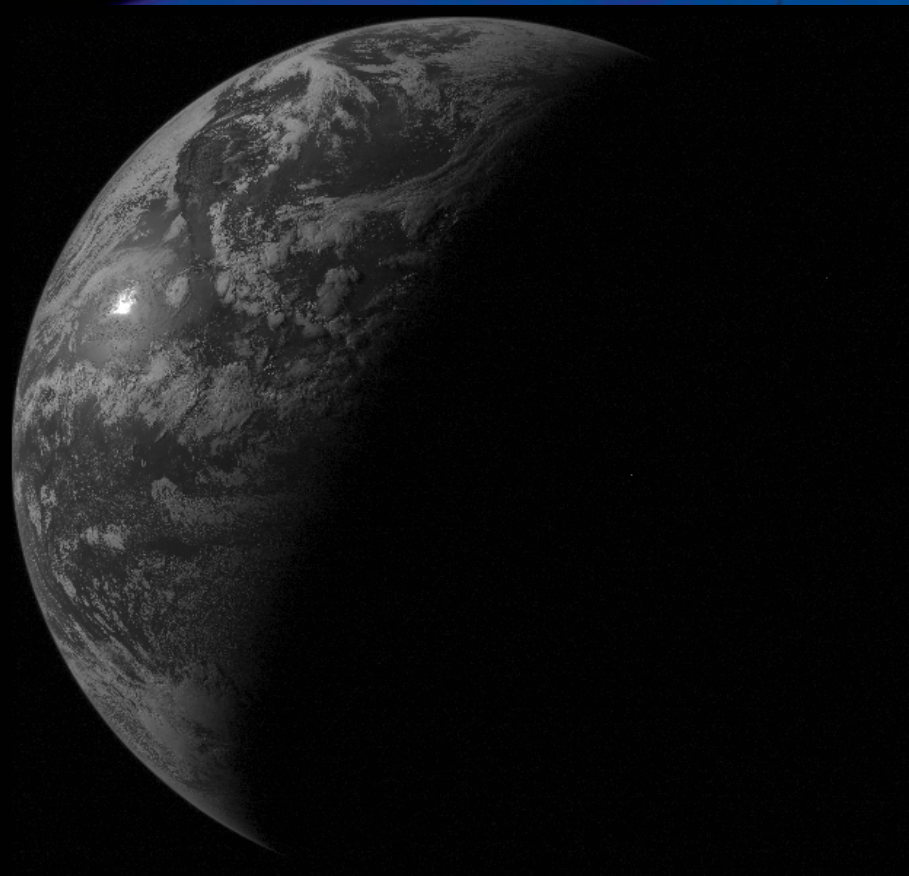
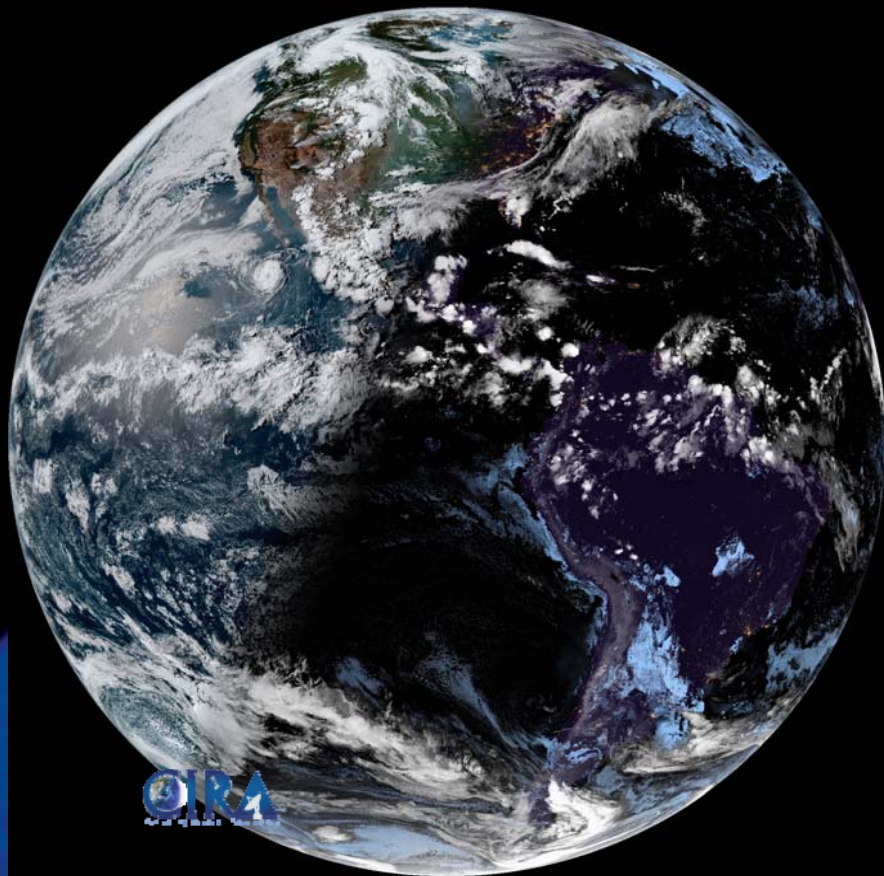


# Full Disk Imagery Increased From 8X to 96X per Day



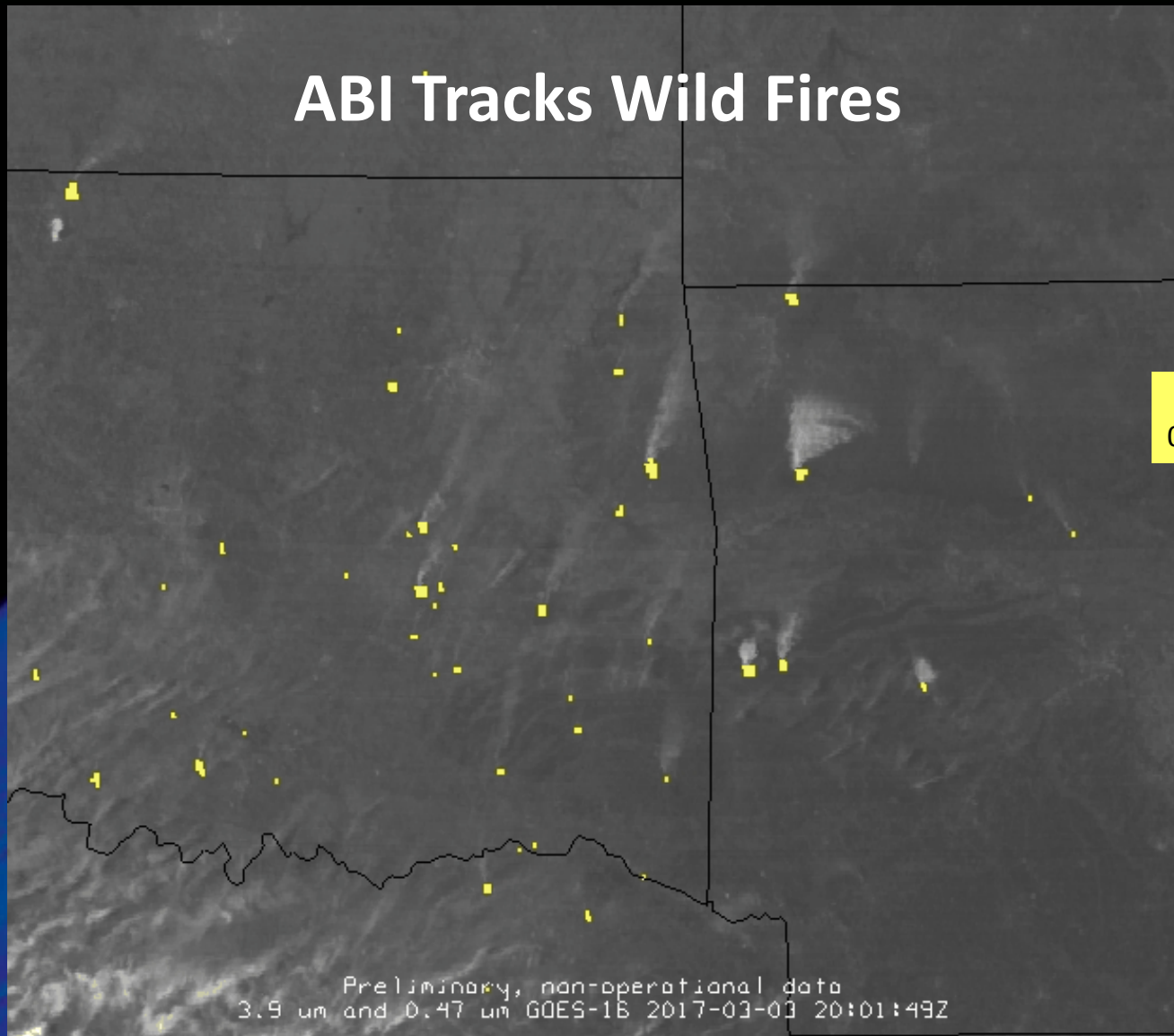
GOES-R every 15 minutes

GOES-N every 3 hours





# ABI Tracks Wild Fires

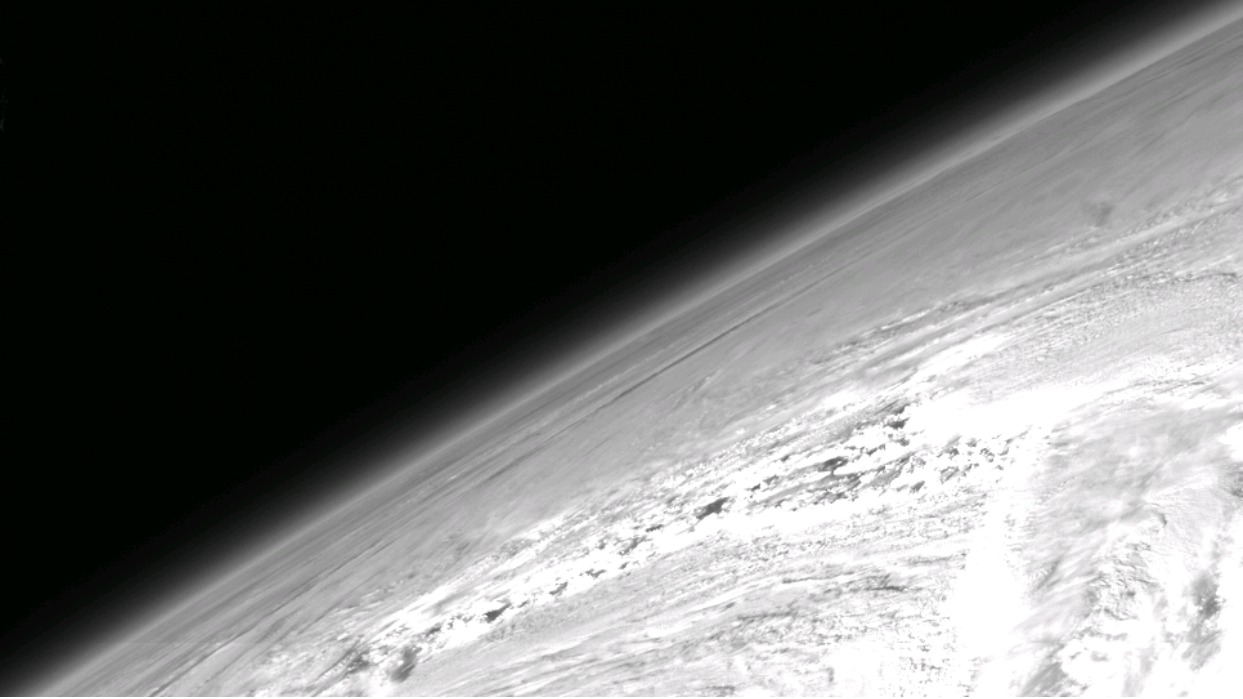


3.9 um (hotspots)  
0.47 um (smoke plumes)

Preliminary, non-operational data  
3.9 um and 0.47 um GOES-16 2017-03-03 20:01:49Z

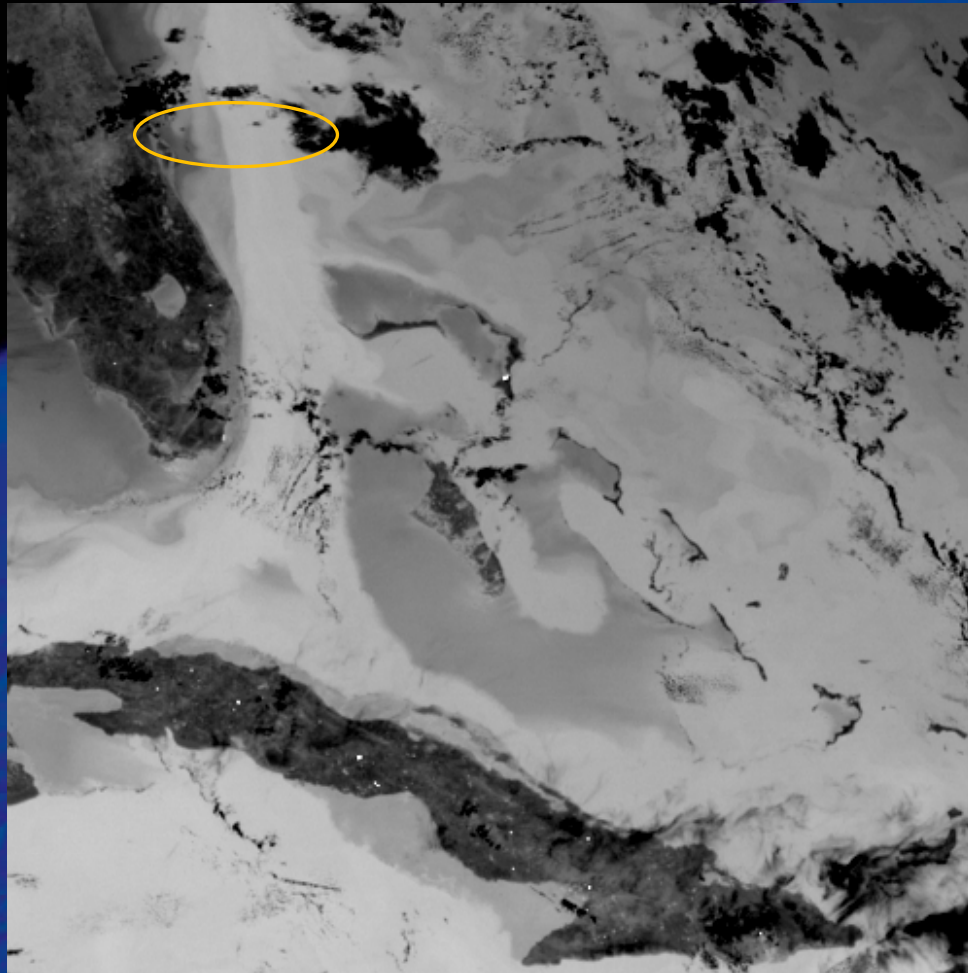
Courtesy Bill Line,  
National Weather Service







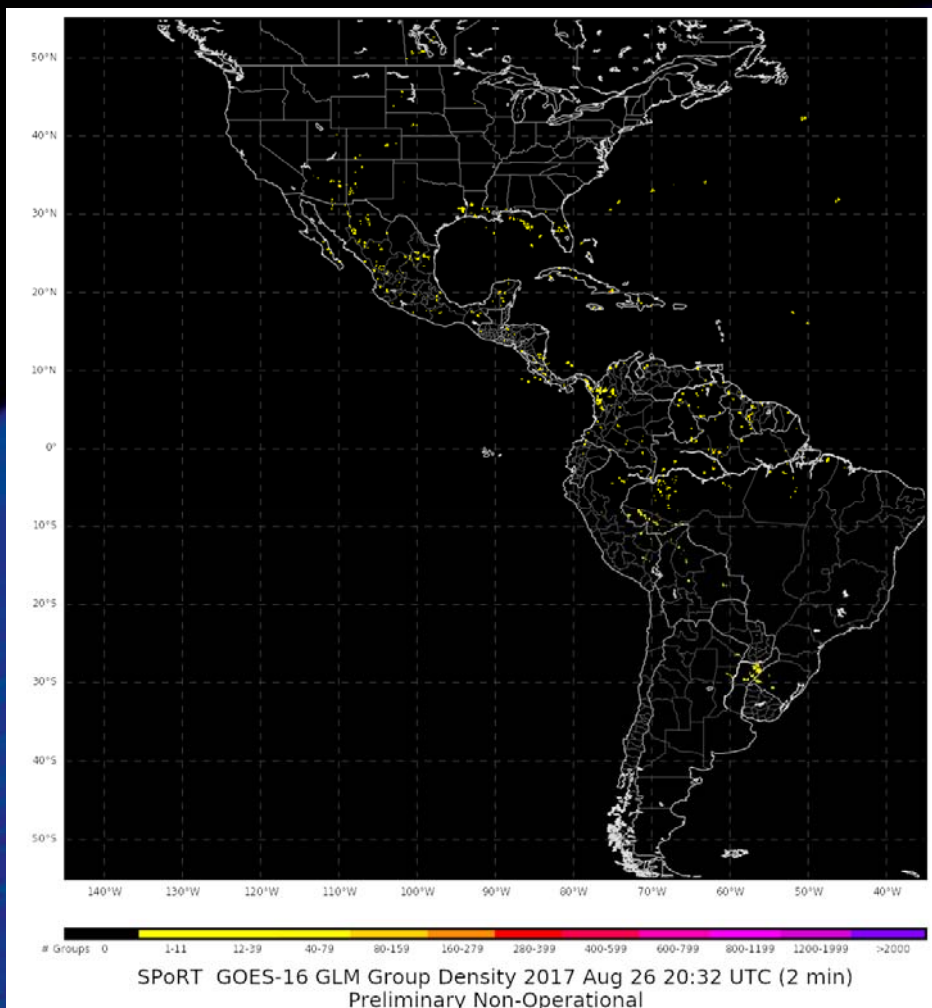
# ABI 3.9um Channel Sees Atlas V Launch







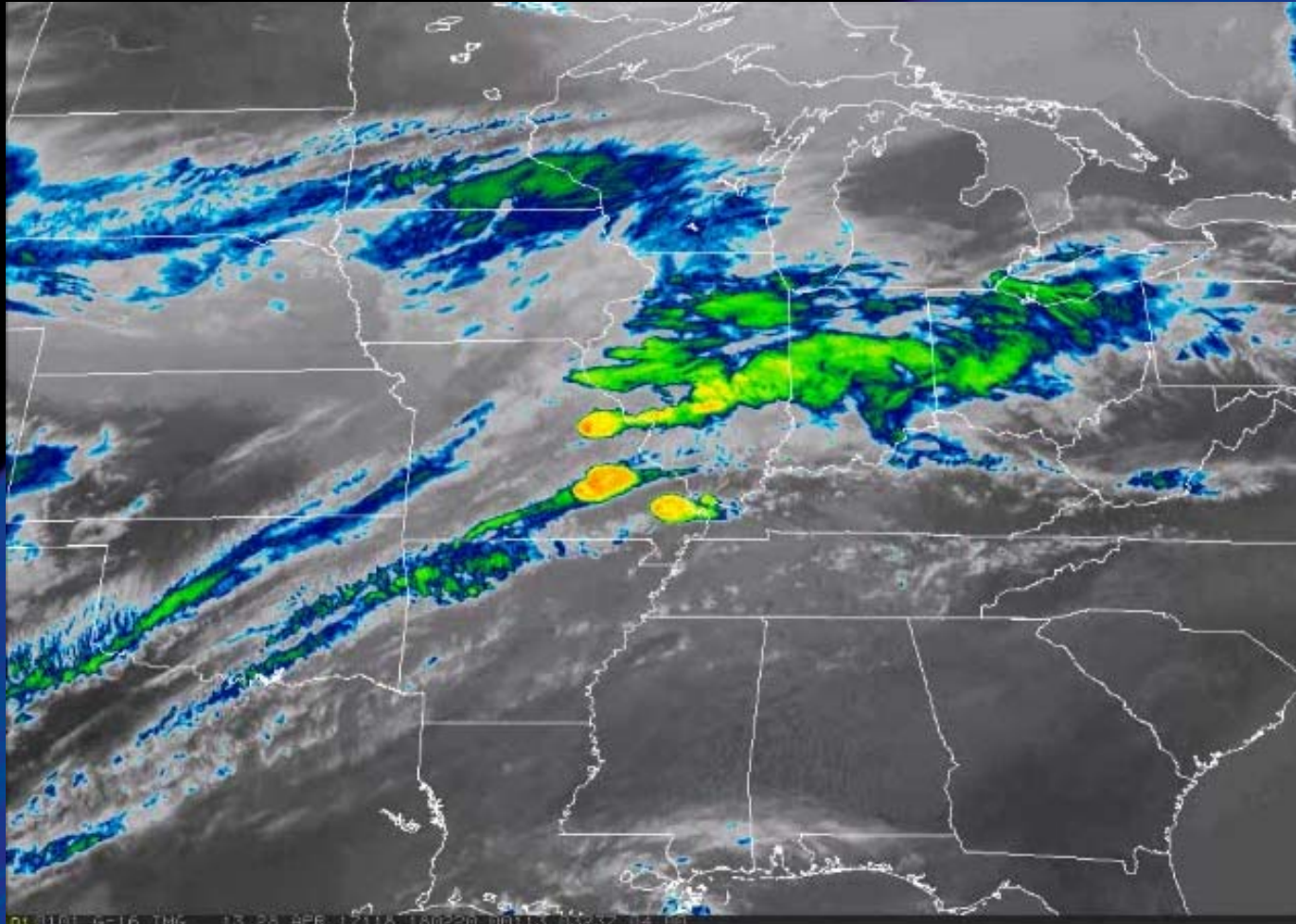
# GLM Lightning Map



Courtesy NASA Short-term Prediction  
Research and Transition Center

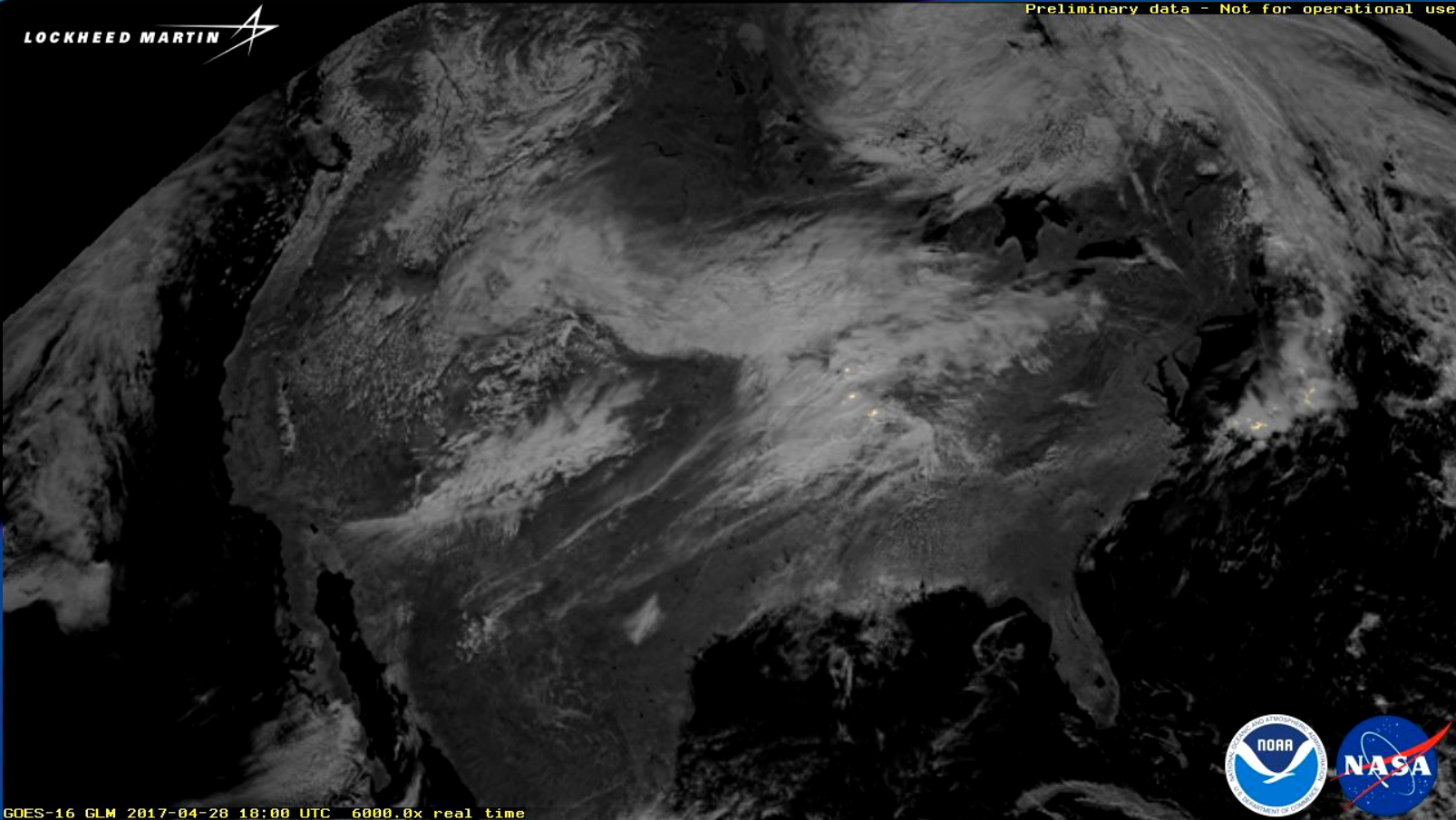


# ABI Band 13 Infrared Imagery Severe Weather in Eastern U.S.





# GLM Lightning Detected during Severe Weather in Eastern U.S.

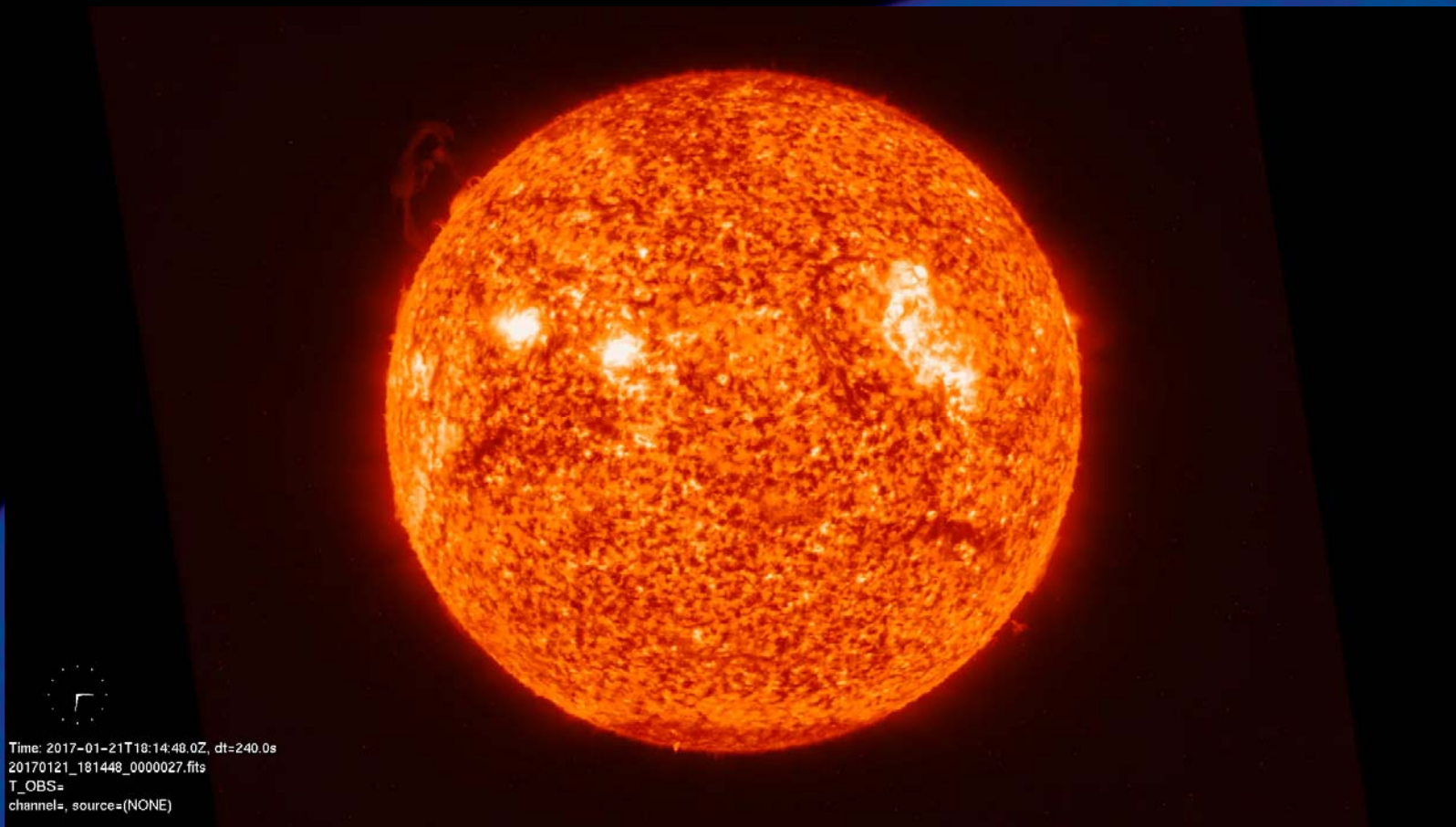


Courtesy  
Lockheed Martin

GLM lightning superimposed on GLM background



# SUVI 304Å Channel



Time: 2017-01-21T18:14:48.0Z, dt=240.0s  
20170121\_181448\_0000027.fits  
T\_OBS=  
channel=, source=(NONE)

Courtesy  
Lockheed Martin

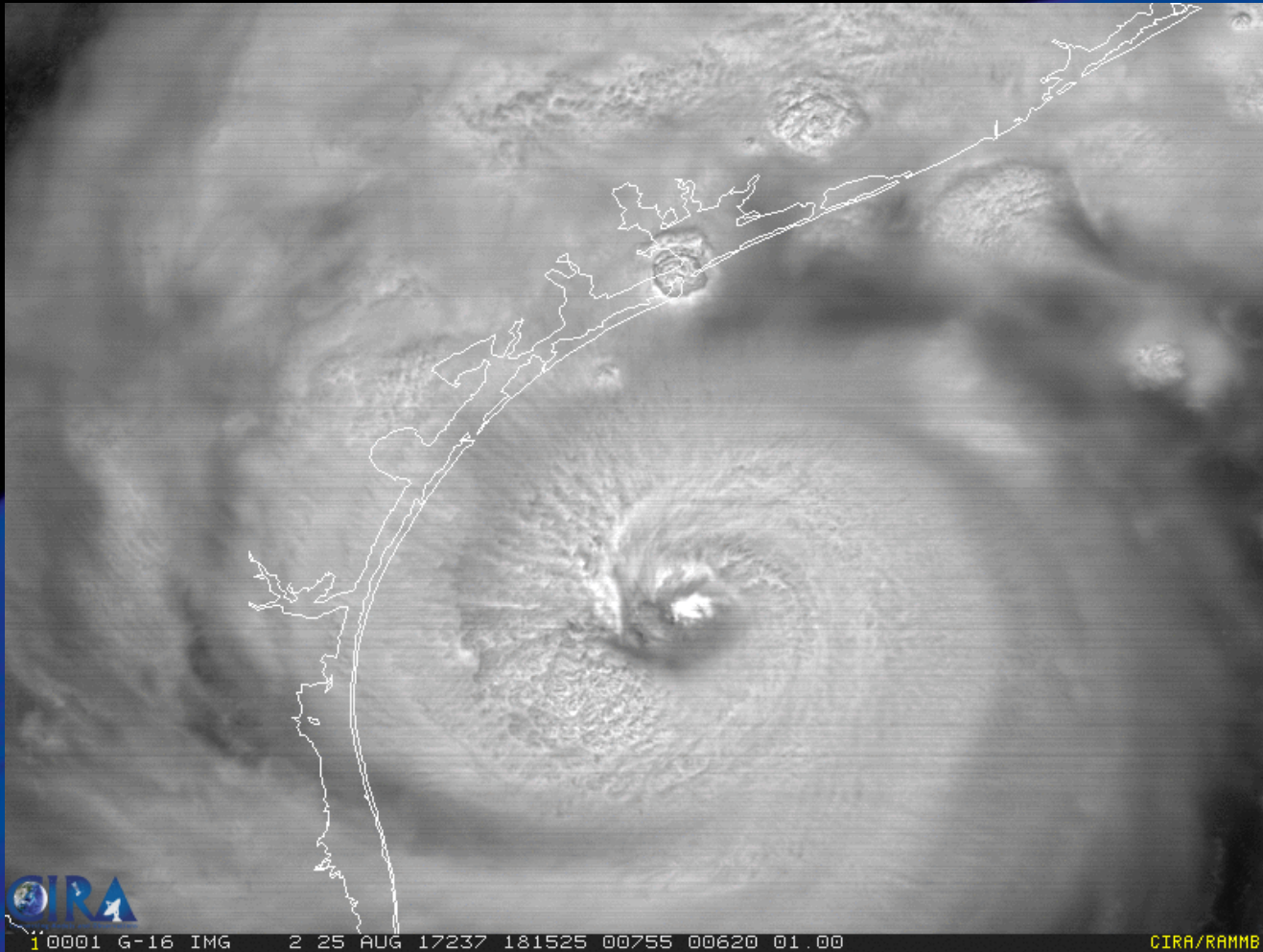




# Hurricane Harvey Strikes Texas Coast



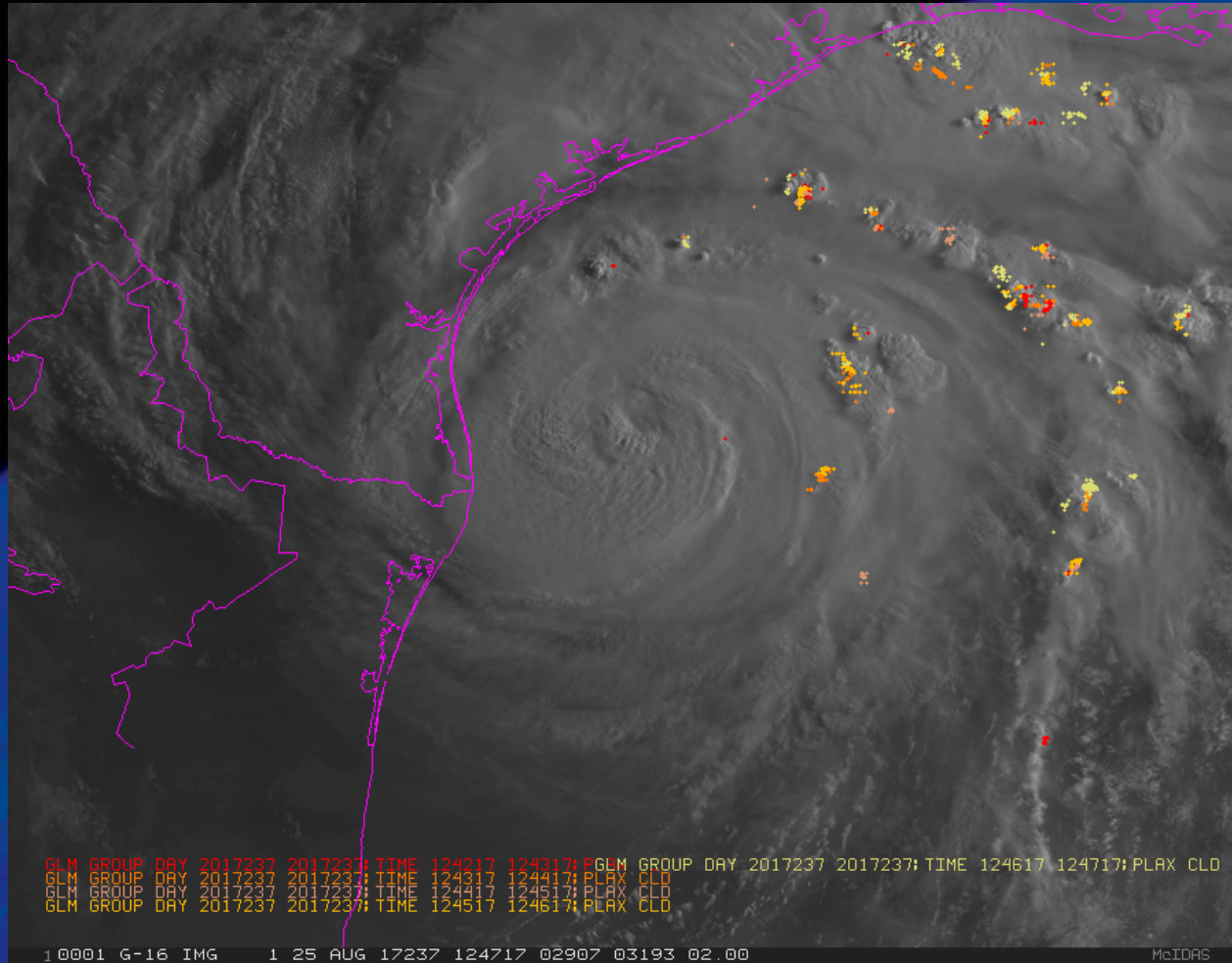
ABI 0.64um



Courtesy CIRA



# Lightning in Hurricane Harvey



ABI 0.47um Imagery  
with  
GLM lightning groups

Courtesy UW CIMSS





# GOES-S Getting Ready for Launch



GOES-S Satellite  
at Lockheed Martin





Many thanks to the GOES-R Team!



Check out the latest GOES-16 Imagery at:

[www.goes-r.gov](http://www.goes-r.gov)

Twitter.com: #GOES16

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/goes/blog/>

[http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/ramsd/online/loop\\_of\\_the\\_day/](http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/ramsd/online/loop_of_the_day/)