Space Interferometry Mission (SIM)

Flight System

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Agenda

- SIM Overview
- How SIM Works
- SIM Flight System Conceptual Design
- SIM Top-Level Requirements
- SIM Technology Testbeds
- System Engineering Process
- Overall Flight System Configuration
- SIM Instrument Subsystems
- Technical Challenges
- Summary
Three collinear interferometers mounted on a 10 meter long structure
Mission Overview

- Precisely measure angles between stellar objects
- 10 meter rigid baseline interferometer
  - Single instrument Flight System
- Flight Environment
  - Atlas V 421 Launch Vehicle
    => 5307 kg launch capability
  - Earth-trailing orbit - 1 AU
    - Like SIRTF
  - 5 year lifetime

Earth-Trailing Solar Orbit

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SIM Configuration

- Spacecraft Backpack
- Solar Array
- External Metrology Boom (9.0 Meter)
- Internal Metrology Baseline (10.0 Meter)
- Metrology Kite
- Metrology Kite Vertices (4)
- MET Beams shown for one Sid Bay only
- Siderostat Bays (7)
- Precision Support Structure (PSS)
- Instrument Backpack
Key Flight System Requirements

- **Science Objectives**
  - Astrometry
    - 4 uas wide angle (15 degrees) mission accuracy => 10.5 uas single measurement accuracy
    - narrow angle (1 degree) mission accuracy => 1 uas measurement accuracy per hour
  - wavelength - 0.4 - 0.9 um
  - minimum brightness - 20th mag
  - sensitivity => 4 uas for 16th mag in 13.3 hours

- **Technology Objectives**
  - Imaging => ~0.5 meter to ~10 meter baselines with "uniform" u-v coverage
  - Nulling Technology Demonstration => $10^{-4}$ null over 5 minutes
The peak of the interference pattern occurs when the internal path delay equals the external path delay.
Internal Metrology

*Laser gauge measures internal delay (adjusted by delay line, sensed by fringe detector)*

Laser path retraces starlight path from combiner to telescopes
Relationship Between Baselines

Measure baseline B using laser triangulation

Metrology reference structure & optical fiducials

telescope 1

Science baseline

Guide baseline (1 of 2)

telescope 2

telescope 3

telecope 4

The Guide baseline attitude information is used to stabilize the science interferometer
External Metrology Implementation

Intra-vertex metrology
(6 beams)

- Measures relative orientation of science and guide baselines
- Allows accurate transfer of attitude information from guides to science interferometer
  - Science interferometer stabilized by commanding its delay line
  - Provides long integration time for faint stars
Imaging with an Interferometer

- The interferometer measures the Fourier transform of the object.
- Each baseline orientation selects one point in the (u,v) plane.
  - The data for this point is the fringe visibility and phase.
- With many baseline orientations, you fill in the (u,v) plane.
- The image is reconstructed from these Fourier-domain measurements.
How SIM Performs Nulling

- In the nulling beam combiner, flip the phase of one arm of the interferometer before combining the beams
- Stabilize the null to about 1 nm (pathlength)
- Measure the starlight extinction at the center of the null
- Verify requirements have been met
Programmatic Overview

- Integrated Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) / Industry team
  - Assembled to formulate a reference design
- JPL
  - Leads the overall system development and Real-time Control Subsystem
- Lockheed Martin
  - Responsible for development of the instrument Starlight and Metrology Subsystem and the Interferometer Integration & Test
- TRW
  - Responsible for the Precision Structure, Spacecraft and ATLO (Assembly, Test and Launch Operations)
Flight System Responsibilities

Flight System Engineering (JPL)

- Leads the development and verification of the system and subsystem-level requirements and design

Integrated Modeling (JPL)

- Develops nanometer and picometer level models of the flight interferometer design to predict on-orbit performance

Starlight Subsystem (LM)

- Develops the optics, delay lines, cameras and beam combiners to gather the starlight and interfere the signals from each arm to produce a fringe

Metrology Subsystem (LM)

- Develops the laser source, fiber distribution system, beam launchers and corner cubes to achieve picometer level sensing of the interferometer baseline lengths and starlight pathlength differences
Flight System Responsibilities (Cont’d)

Real Time Control Subsystem (JPL)

- Develops the electronics and software to control the interferometer actuators and sensors

Spacecraft (TRW)

- Develops the spacecraft subsystems (telecom, CDS, ACS, power/pyro, propulsion)

Precision Structure (TRW)

- Develops the precision structure wing and metrology boom, spacecraft and instrument backpacks and deployment mechanisms

Integration and Test (LM/TR W)

- Integrates and tests the interferometer, spacecraft and flight system. Performs functional, environmental, dynamics & control and astrometric performance tests.
SIM Design Summary

- Three simultaneously operated Michelson interferometers
  - 2 “guide” interferometers used as high precision star trackers
  - 1 Science interferometer
    - 10-meter maximum science baseline
- Switchyard interferes any combination of collectors
  - allows measurements at different baseline lengths
- External Metrology Truss
  - Monitors relative orientation of the three baselines
  - Determines absolute distances between reference fiducials
- Internal Metrology gauging system
  - Measures optical path differences between arms
  - Subaperture metrology scheme - metrology only measures central portion of starlight beam
- External and internal metrology share common fiducial
SIM Technology Program - Testbeds
SIM System Ground Testbeds: PTI

Palomar Testbed

Interferometer
- Fully functioning 110 m baseline interferometer
- Science data processing
SIM System Ground Testbeds: STB-1

Nanometer stability on a flexible structure
Nanometer Testbed Closed Loop Results

- Proven positional stability of less than 10 nm in ambient air
  - Use to validate predictive modeling techniques
  - Induced mechanical disturbances via attitude control system reaction wheels
- Use to characterize interferometer stability and control systems
SIM System Ground Testbeds: STB-3

SIM System Testbeds

- Nanometer stability on flexible structure
- Full scale
- Full complexity
- Up to Three baselines
Micro Arcsecond Metrology Testbed

- Sub-nanometer metrology
- 1/5 Scale - vibration isolated
- Operation in vacuum
- Demo $\mu$-arcsec measurement
## Mapping of Flight Risk to Technology Program

### TRDV Matrix

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**TRDV = Technology Readiness Design Verification**
System Engineering Process

- Establish the requirements and design on the mission and instrument
- Allocation of requirements based on key Astrometric and Dynamics & Control Error Budgets
- Utilize a traditional requirements flowdown and design approach
  - Developing a comprehensive set of System and Subsystem requirements
  - Using computerized requirements tracing tool
- Cross-cutting working groups define complex functional interface requirements
- Identify and address Technology risks early
  - Matrix of Flight requirements to technology challenges
    - Technology Readiness Developments Matrix (TRDV)
- Use System Modeling Extensively
  - Flight System integrated Modeling Effort
• System-level modeling approach
• Reduced versions of the integrated Flight System modeling used as input
• Forms basis for the design of the ground processing
SIM
Flight System Layout
SIM Configuration

Precision Support Structure (PSS Wing)

External Metrology Truss (MET Kite)

Siderostat Bays

MET Beams shown for one Sid Bay only

Solar Panels

Spacecraft components & Instrument Electronics embedded in Backpacks behind PSS Wing

MET Kite stowed
1. All beams exit Siderostat Bays in +Y direction.
2. 180 deg reversal at U-Turn Mirror pairs.
3. Enter Switchyard with zero Optical Path Differences (OPDs).

1. All beams exit Switchyard in -Y direction.
2. Enter ODLs, correcting baseline OPDs.
3. Exit ODLs in +Y direction.
4. Pass through Switchyard unvignetted.
5. Enter Combiner.
Instrument Layout

- U-Turn (Roof) Mirror Pairs (8)
- Sid Bay Optical Bench (ref only)
- PSS
- ODL - High Bandwidth (4) (hidden under Sid Bay Bench)
- ODL - Low Bandwidth (4) (Long Stroke)
- Siderostat Bay (8)
- Combiner (4)
- Switchyard

Note: the Nuller will be mounted to one Combiner
Siderostat Bay Configuration

Siderostat Az/El Gimbal & X-axis Translation Drive

Siderostat Bay (0.535m wide, 0.6m high, 1.9m long)

Siderostat Bay Z-axis Translation Drive (3)

Two Side Panels removed for clarity

15 deg FOR
27.5 deg nominal elevation

Camera

Siderostat Bay Rod Flexure (3)
Optical Delay Line (ODL)
Astrometric Beam Combiner

- ABC Functions
  - interferes light from two arms of the interferometer
  - provide feedback from the star tracker for pointing control
  - measure dispersed white light fringes to determine starlight pathlength differences
  - launch point for internal metrology including a common fiducial
  - provide internal calibration and alignment (stimulator) including diffraction effects, alignment of starlight path to cameras, and alignment knowledge between the metrology and starlight paths
Detectors and Cameras

- EEV-39 CCD Detector Characteristics
  - commercial device
  - 80 x 80 pixels
  - 4 quadrants
  - 1 kHz frame rate
  - QE - 0.7
  - 3 e- readnoise at 50kpix/sec
  - region of interest capability

- Separate detectors for angle and fringe tracker
  - allows different PSF sizes and clocking rates

- Fringe tracking detector
  - 80 channel spectrometer for acquisition and measurement of science fringes
  - on-chip binning to suppress read noise on dim stars
Metrology Kite & Boom

- Triple Corner Cube
- 2-Axis Translation Stage
- Beam Launcher on 2-axis tip/tilt stage (2 per Kite vertex)
- Spacecraft
- Boom
Real-Time Control Subsystem Design

- Interferometer Electronics and Computers
  - Instrument Flight Computers (4 @ 500 MIPS ea)
    - Two x2000 PPC750s per IFC
  - Shared-Memory Interconnect
  - Spacecraft bus interface
  - Interconnect I/O Nodes (25)
  - Electronics Cages for Kite (4), Sid (7), Met (1), Combiner (4)

- Control Algorithms and Testbeds
  - Interferometer Real Time Control Algorithms
  - Control Analysis Testbed

- Interferometer Flight Software and Testbeds
  - Software Simulation Testbed
  - SIM Flight System Testbed

- RTC Integration Support Equipment H/W, S/W, & Test
Interferometer Software Implementation

- Software Functionality
  - provides for autonomous sequencing for science observations
  - provides for instrument diagnostics functions
  - provides functionality and servo control for interferometers
  - provides data reduction and compression for downloads

- Software Implementation
  - centralized architecture with exceptions (e.g. metrology pointing
  - four CPUs all running same software
  - highly synchronous with hardware
  - VME based
  - written in C++ (w/ possibility of Lisp for sequencer)

- Fault Protection
  - will handle some instrument anomaly condition (e.g. can't see star)
  - for high-level faults will call home

- Critical Design Issues
  - processor throughput
  - bus bandwidth
  - fault protection design
Precision Support Structure Construction

-Y Wing Shown

Switchyard

Combiner (4)

Hinge Line

Sid Bay

Flat Panel Construction
Spacecraft Subsystem Avionics

- All S/C avionics has heritage from flight programs; planned as build-to-print for SIM
  - ACS, Electrical Power, Thermal from EOS
  - DMS from SBIRS-low
  - Telecom from EOS, DS-1
- Instrument interfaces
  - Data interface with Instrument Flight Computers (4) via 1553
  - Switched primary power (36 "wall switches"
  - Survival heaters
- X band telecom fully compatible with DSN
Spacecraft Flight Software

- Instrument interfaces
  - Attitude and rate data
  - Pointing requests from instrument
  - Solid state recorder and link management
  - Survival thermal control
  - Coordinated attitude, solar array, HGA slews
  - Data transmission to Ground

- CCSDS capabilities included
Flight System Development Flow

- FS ATLO Assembly and Test Operations
- Launch 06/01/06
- ATLO Launch Operations
- PSS Design, Build and Test
- Spacecraft Design, Build and Test
- Unscheduled Work

Timeline:
- 2002
- 2003
- 2004
- 2005
- 2006
SIM Performance Testing

- Two types of system level performance tests
  - Functional (nanometer control) test
    - test functionality/dynamics&control
    - tests the ability to acquire and track stellar fringes on dim targets
  - Performance (picometer) vacuum test
    - tests the ability to measure the fringe position and metrology at the required levels
    - tests measurement accuracy
    - single baseline test only
Picometer Performance Test

Test Planned for LM Delta TV Chamber (11 m x 24 m)
Constraints & Margins - Mass & Power

- SIM Mass (CBE) = ~3200 kg
- Launch Vehicle Capability = 5307 kg

- SIM Power (CBE) = ~3000 W
- Solar Array Output = 4000W
Mission System
Flight Operations Data Flow

**Interferometer Science Data Center**
- SIM Science Team & Science Community (ISDC & Distributed)
- Science Request
- Sci Data Products
- Science Planning & Analysis Operations (ISDC)
- Interferometer Operations (ISDC)
- Spacecraft Operations (TRW)
- Inst. Packets
- Science & Inst. Engr. Packets

**Mission Operations System**
- Observation Requests
- IFR Engr Requests
- S/C Engr Requests (JPL)
- Mission Planning & Sequence Integration (JPL)
- Cmd Load
- Flight Control Service (TMOD)

**TMOD Ground Services**
- Data System Ops
- Data Archival (Level 0)
- Multi-Mission Nav (JPL)
- Flight Control Service
- Telemetry Monitor Data
- Radiometric Data

**Deep Space Network**
SIM Tall Tentpoles
SIM Interferometer Tall Tentpoles - Nanometer Control

- SIM must have the ability to acquire and measure white light fringes in the presence of multiple disturbance sources
  - ACS drifts
  - RWA jitter
  - Microdynamic events
  - Self induced disturbances (metrology dither, delay line motion)
- Pointing on dim targets
  - less than 30 mas pointing error on guide stars
  - angle feed forward information to science star to produce less than 30 mas pointing error
- Fringe stability on dim targets
  - less than 10 nm OPD jitter on guide stars
  - pathlength feed forward on science star with less than 10 nm OPD jitter
SIM Interferometer Tall Tentpole Thermal Design and Control

- Milli-kelvin stability of starlight optics and optical systems
  - errors arise from subaperture metrology system
  - temperature change and spatial gradients are more important than absolute temperature control

- Milli-kelvin control of metrology beam launchers
  - errors due to OPD changes in launcher optics
  - beam launchers will use an athermalized design

- Sub-kelvin control of PSS wing and metrology boom
  - ~10-100 um mechanical stability of wing and boom

- Traditional thermal issues
  - heat contamination between components
  - methods of heat rejection
SIM Tall Tentpole - System Complexity

- SIM is a complex instrument
  - many actuators
  - many sensors
  - lots of high bandwidth control loops
  - high precision components
  - 5 year lifetime

- Need to demonstrate ability to design, build, and test systems of SIM's complexity
  - How to divide the design job?
  - How to monitor and manage fabrication?
  - How to test for system function and performance?
  - How to maintain performance over mission life?
Summary

- SIM will increase Astrometric performance nearly two orders of magnitude over current capability
- A technology program suite of testbeds and models
  - Tied to Flight System development
  - Reduce risk
  - Validate that SIM meets on-orbit performance requirements
- SIM is developing state-of-the-art electro-optical devices within a complex instrument configuration
  - Picometer-class metering gauges
  - Precision optics and structures
  - Millikelvin thermal control
- SIM has numerous System challenges ahead
  - Performance
  - Interfaces
  - Complex modeling activities
- Will produce great science results