

# Advancement of Pulsed 2-Micron Coherent Wind Lidar Technology Towards Space Readiness

Michael Kavaya

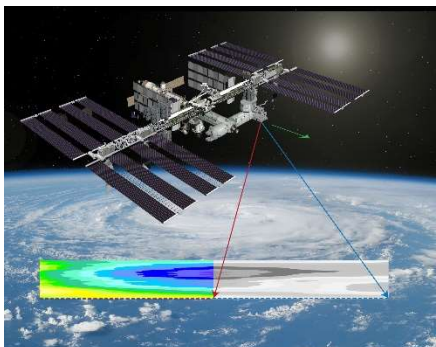
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Working Group on Space-Based Lidar Winds

Boulder, CO

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# Wind-SP Project

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- Funded by NASA HQ Earth Science Division
  
- Project Goals:
  - ✓ 1. Determine feasibility of a coherent space wind lidar
  - ☐ 2. Advance coherent space wind lidar components
  - ☐ 3. Ground demonstration
  
- Collaborative effort between:

**NASA LaRC**  
**Beyond Photonics**  
**Simpson Weather Associates**

# Wind-SP Key Team Members

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## Langley

Michael Kavaya  
John Marketon  
Jirong Yu  
Zhaoyan Liu

## Beyond Photonics

Sammy Henderson  
Charley Hale

Larry Petway  
Songsheng Chen  
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## Simpson Weather Associates

Dave Emmitt



# **FEASIBILITY OF COHERENT SPACE WIND LIDAR**



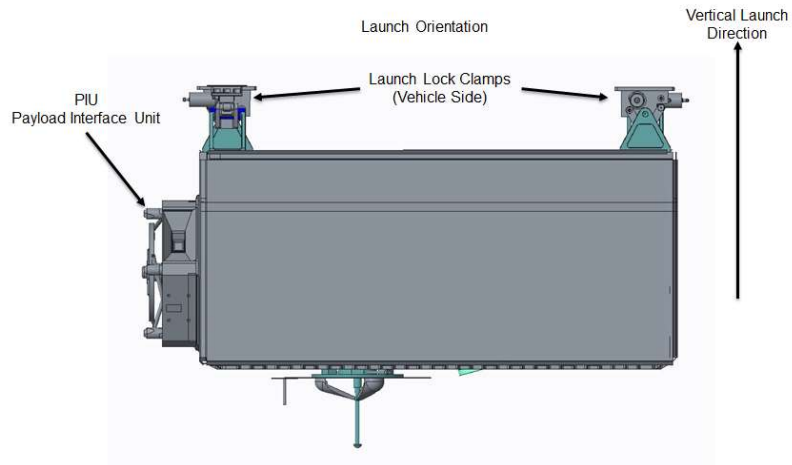
## 3D Wind Space Pathfinder Conceptual Design Study

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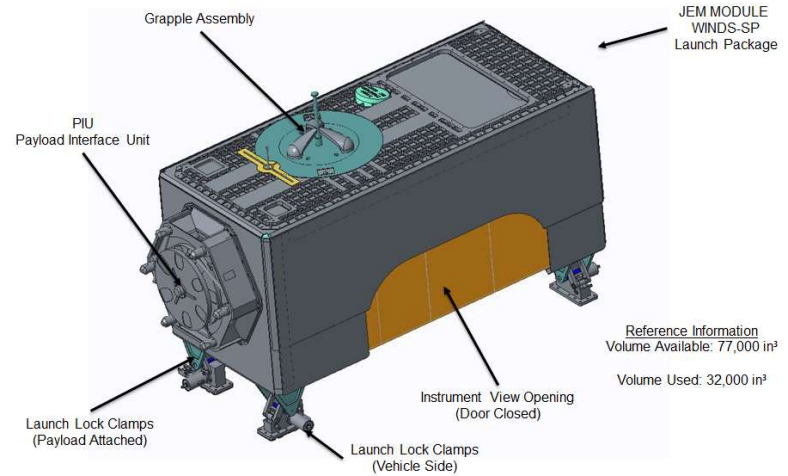


- LaRC Engineering Design Studio (EDS) session to determine feasibility of operating a Wind Space Pathfinder (Wind-SP) instrument on ISS
  
- ISS JEM-EF selected as the study “bounding box”  
***All results apply equally to a freeflyer***
  
- Session Objectives:
  - Develop a Wind-SP conceptual point design for ISS JEM-EF
  - Define system and subsystem designs and interfaces that meet JEM-EF constraints (mass, power, volume, look angles, and data rates)
  - Define technical risks for this concept
  - Develop parametric mission cost estimate
  - Assess achievable science based on closed point design for ISS

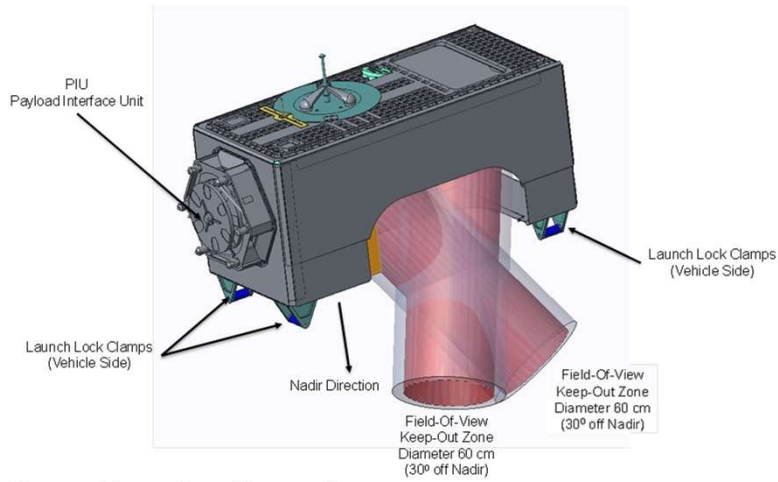
# Wind-SP Payload Overview



**Launch Configuration**  
for installation in SpaceX Dragon Trunk



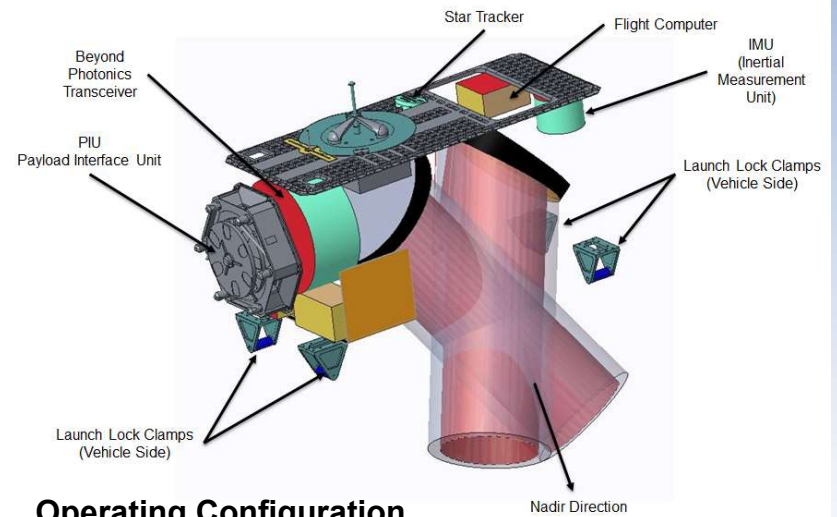
**Installation Configuration**  
Aperture door closed



## Operating Configuration

Aperture door open

Telescope field of view shown for illustrative purposes



## Operating Configuration

JEM-EF enclosure removed for illustrative purposes

# EDS Session Summary



Resource	Allocation*	EDS Conceptual Design
Mass*	1,150 lb (550 kg)	1010 lb (458.3 kg) (w/30% margin)
Volume	~73 x 32 x 41 in	Standard JEM-EF enclosure with ISS interface hardware. No envelope violations.
Power*	500-700 W, 120 V	720 W, 120 V (w/25% margin)
Thermal	Active cooling via fluid loop. Active heating (120 V heaters)	Active cooling via fluid loop during operation. Active survival heaters.
Data	1 Mbps 1553B ~50 Mbps Ethernet	< 1 Mbps system data ~30 MBS science data rate (>40% margin on science data)

- *\*Most JEM-EF resources are shared and actual allocations are negotiated with services varying at different sites.*

- **Conceptual design developed for Wind-SP instrument installed on the ISS JEM-EF platform.**
- **Design complies with all major ISS and JEM-EF design constraints**
  - Mass, power, volume, instrument beam path, and data rates
- **Design complies with all major instrument design constraints**
  - Power, look angles, pointing knowledge and stability
  - Instrument support subsystems: power; data processing, storage, and transmission; instrument control; thermal control
- **Technical risks and a parametric mission cost estimate were defined**

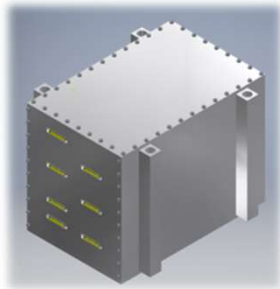
# Transceiver Elements & Power



## ➤ Main power consumers:

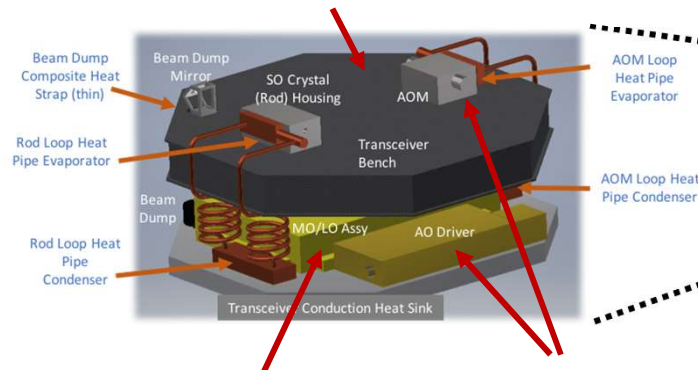
- Pump laser (Fibertek SBIR): ~20% efficiency, 470W max, run at 200W
- Q-Switch: AOM 252W (current), moving to EOM 20W

**Transceiver Control Electronics**  
 9.6x7.4x7.8 in, 28 lbs,  
 ~150 W Power, ~130 W Heat



**LO, MOs Control**  
**Offset Lock Electronics**  
**Xcvr Health Monitoring**  
**Electronics**  
**Injection Seed Servo Electronic**  
**Transmitter Crystal TEC Control**

**Transceiver and MO/LO Benches**  
**Transmitter + Bulk Optic**  
**T/R Small Beam Assy.**  
 20" dia x 6", 32 lbs  
**Laser Crystal /TEC Heat Load**  
**~50W**



**LO / Mos Head + Fiber**  
**Route/Mix & Det Module**  
 9x13x2 in, 11 lbs, 13 W

**AO Shown – 252 W**  
**EO Planned - <20 W**

**Transceiver Pressurized Enclosure**  
 23" dia. x,10.5"high,  
 30 lbs empty, 87 lbs fully loaded

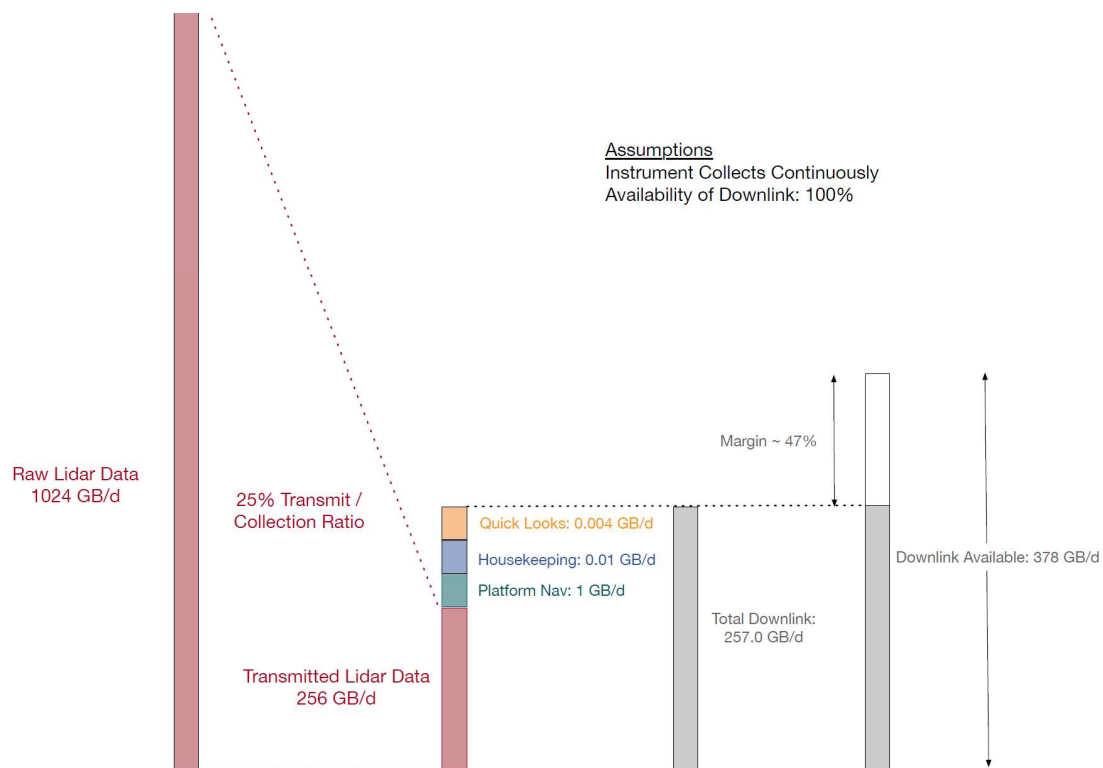


# Data Downlink Bottleneck



## ➤ ConOps to reduce data volume:

- Data collected and processed continuously: **~1TB/day**, 2 looks, 50% duty cycle
- On-orbit processing of QuickLook wind product required
- Downlink raw data only for regions of interest
- Algorithms to be developed/tested/demonstrated

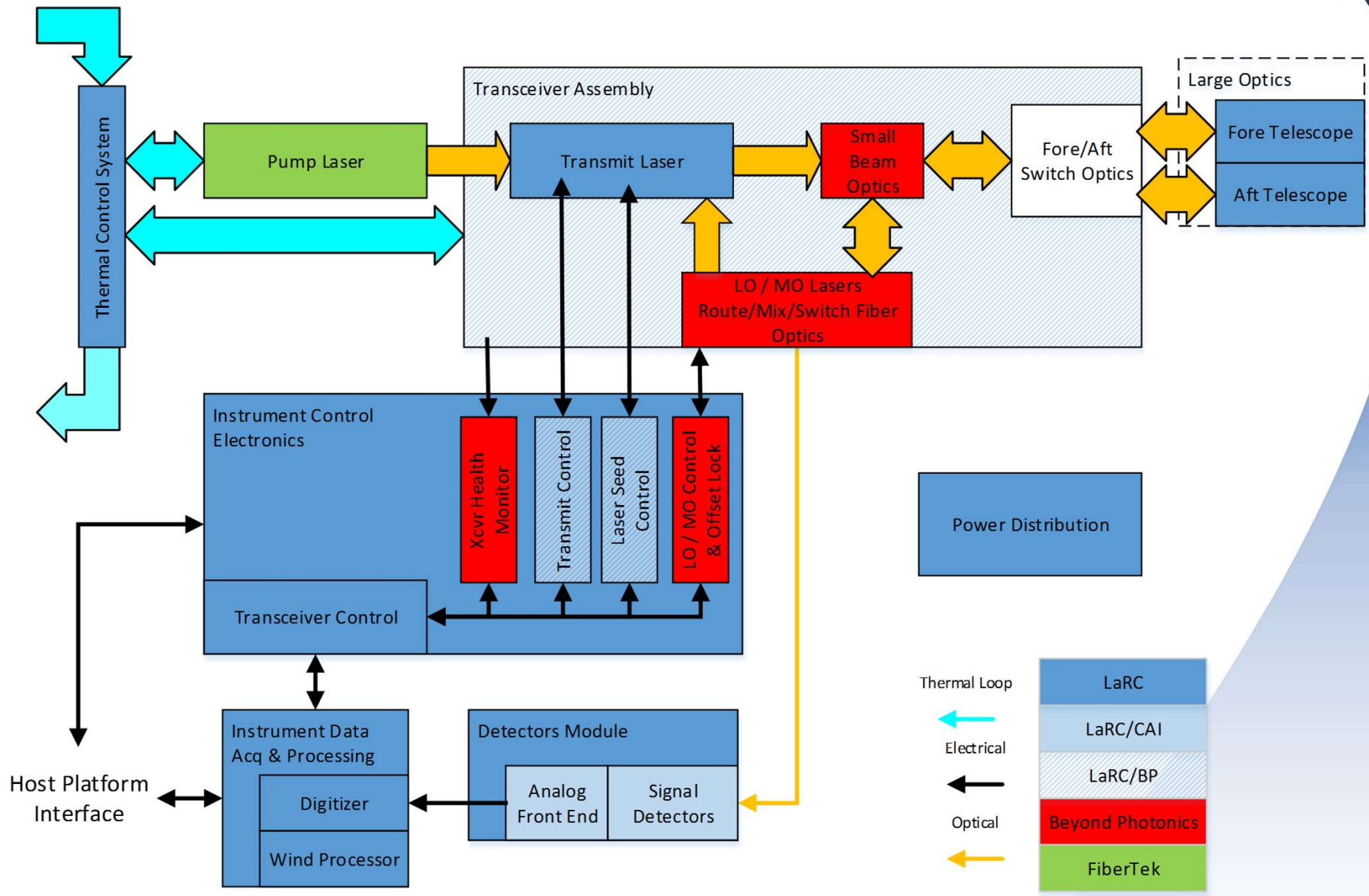




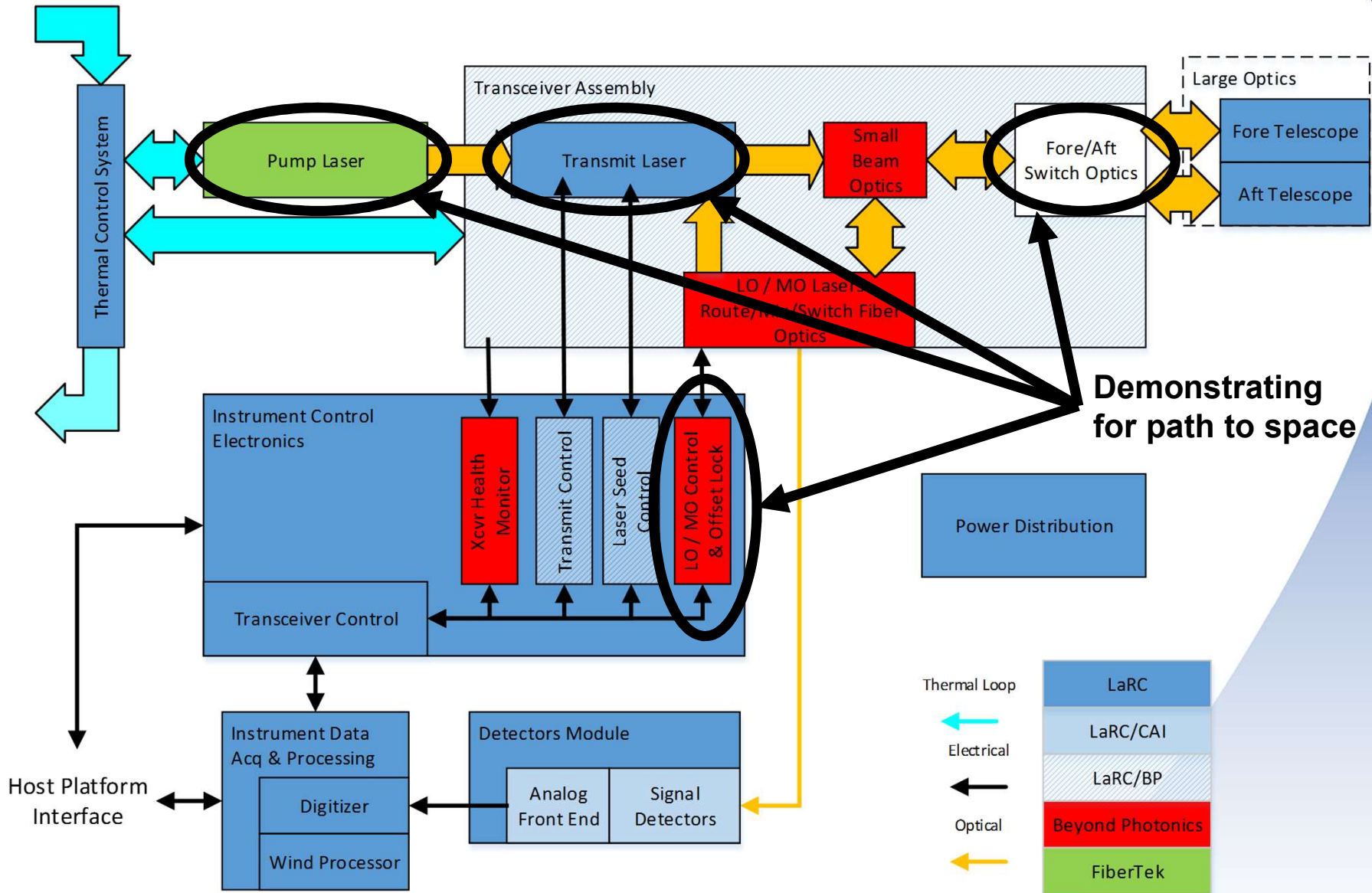
# ADVANCE COHERENT SPACE WIND LIDAR COMPONENTS



# Wind-SP Simplified Block Diagram



# Wind-SP Simplified Block Diagram





# Main Component Advancement Effort

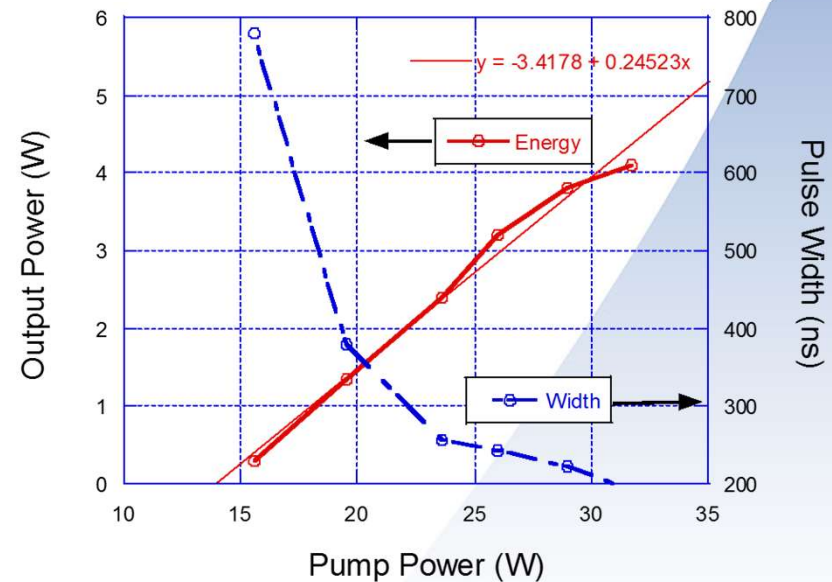
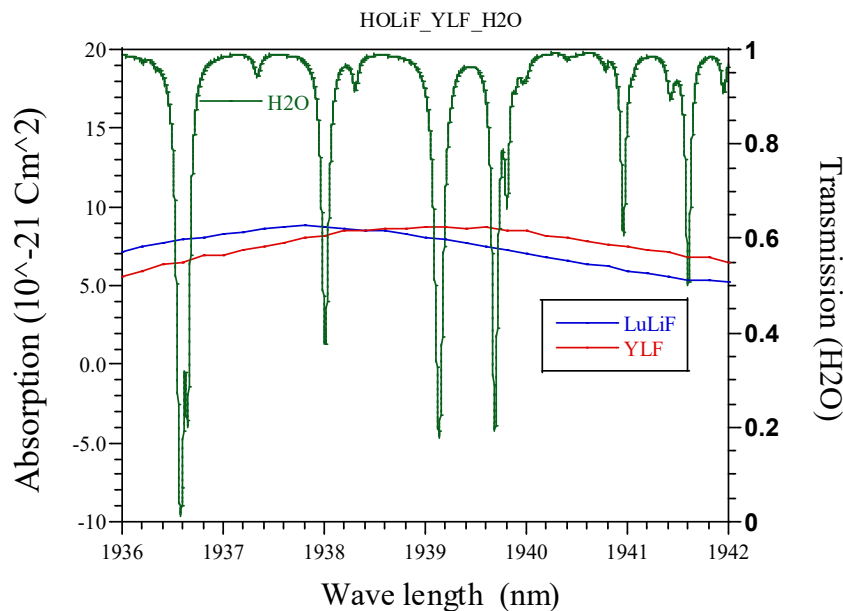


## 1. Medium pulse rate, end-pumped 2-micron transmit laser

- Tm pumped Ho:LuLiF laser (low quantum defect, low thermal loading)
- Oscillator only design (amplifier design backup)

Laser Figure of Merit:

Goal	200 Hz	56 mJ	180 ns	$M^2 = 1.04$
Threshold	200 Hz	40 mJ	150 ns	$M^2 < 1.2$



# Main Component Advancement Effort



## 2. MO/LO controllable offset frequency

- Revised approach: AOM (MHz offsets) vs Offset-Locked MO (GHz offsets)

## 3. Optical Switching

### 1. RTA material characteristics and suitability at 2 $\mu$ m

### 2. Optical switches

#### 1. Q-Switch to reduce heat/power

- Currently using AO (power est ~252 W)
- Replace AO with EO Q-Switch (power est ~20W)

#### 2. Fore/Aft optical switch

## 4. Additional components/subsystems

### 1. Stable, efficient LO/MO CW lasers (BP SBIR)

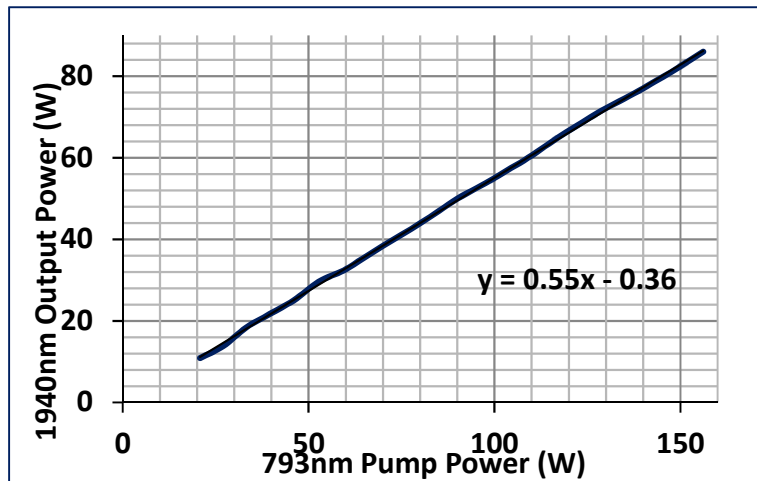
### 2. Auto-Alignment for transmit laser and lag angle compensation (BP SBIR)

### 3. High efficiency pump laser at 1.9 $\mu$ m (Fibertek SBIR)

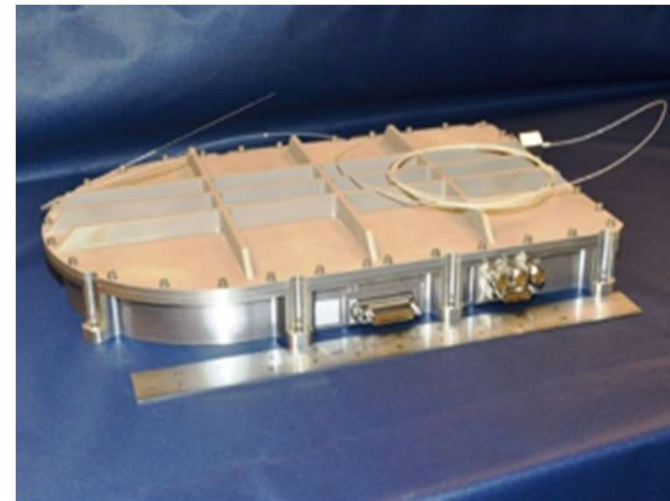
# High Efficiency, Space Qualified, Tm Fiber Pump Laser



- Tm Fiber laser, 793nm pumped
- 86W, Diffraction limited, 55% Optical to Optical efficiency.
- Estimated 20% Electrical to Optical Efficiency (from power into the diode pump laser)
- Polarization Maintaining.
- Will be packaged inside TRL 6, GEVS Tested, Space EDFA Package (25W at 1.57um)
- Thermal Analysis and Structure show good performance and meets margin of safety.
- High Reliability, redundant pump diodes.
- Expect radiation testing will confirm acceptable performance for 3 Year ISS mission



**Laser Efficiency 55% Optical to Optical.  
Estimate 20% Electrical to Optical  
3X better than COTS Tm lasers**



**Tm Laser will fit inside Fibertek 25W  
EDFA TRL6 Tested Space Laser Package  
Size: 14" x 8.5" x 2.1". Mass is <8.5 lbs.**

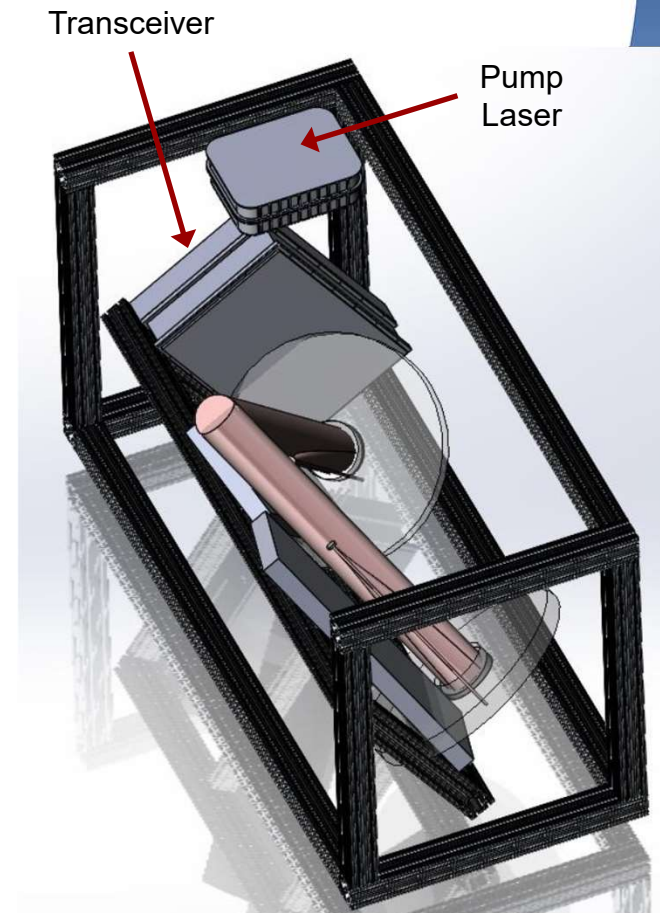


# **GROUND TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATOR**

# Ground Demonstrator



- Geometry matches JEM-EF concept – but *upside down*
- Enclosure ~73 x 32 x 41 inches
- Two looks (Fore/Aft), 30° off nadir
  - Space: 60cm off axis beam expander telescopes  
*Cost prohibitive for project*
  - Ground/Air: 15cm off axis beam expander  
*Use DAWN prototype beam expanders*
- Liquid coolant loop to enclosure
  - Simulated JEM-EF coolant loop
- All electronics “COTS Behind the curtain”



## Summary

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- No obvious showstoppers for coherent lidar space form/fit/function
  
- Focused component advancement:
  - Transmit Laser
  - LO/MO Offset Lock
  - Fore/Aft Switch
  - LO/MO Lasers
  - Auto-alignment
  - Pump Laser

# LaRC Roadmap to 3-D Coherent Doppler Lidar Global Wind Measurement

