CSI: THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW SPACE INSTRUMENT CALIBRATION FACILITY AT TNO

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OUTLINE

- > TNO Space heritage
- > Why is calibration needed?
- Introduction CSI
- > Design of CSI Thermal Vacuum Chamber
- > Instrument Mechanical Manipulation System
- > Conclusion

50+ YEARS OF SPACE HERITAGE



OUR HERITAGE

MORE THAN 45 YEARS OF FLIGHT HERITAGE WITH 100% RELIABILITY





RECENT TNO HERITAGE IN THE SPACE DOMAIN



TROPOMI on Sentinel 5P





WHY IS CALIBRATION NEEDED

- The received data on earth would have two unknowns if there were no calibration
 - Earth
 - Instrument
- Instruments need calibration on the generated output, this requires a realistic space environment:
 - > Temperature
 - Pressure
 - And known (optical) input conditions



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TRENDS IN SPACE INSTRUMENTS

- Better ground resolution
- Constellations of multiple instruments
- Dedicated missions







CURRENT FACILITY AT TNO



- Vacuum Calibration Facility (VCF)
- TVC in a dark clean room
 - Diameter shroud 1,5 meter, length 2 meter







CSI: THERMAL VACUUM SYSTEM

- Thermal Vacuum Chamber
 - > Size: vertical cylinder of 2.7 m diameter and 2.5 m height
 - > Shroud covering the full volume of the vessel
 - > temperature range: -80 °C to + 80 °C
 - > temperature rate of change: up to 3 °C/min
 - > Two independent cold plate systems (or inner shroud)
 - temperature range: -173 °C to + 80 °C
 - Anticipated temperature stability of the instrument: <0.2 °C</p>
 - Bake-out temperature: >100 °C
 - Ultimate pressure chamber: < 1x10-7 mbar</p>
 - Cleanliness: cold trap, RGA, and QCM











MECHANICAL MANIPULATION SYSTEM

- Rotation stage and Hexapod in vacuum
- Maximum mass 300 kg
- Rotation stage:
 - Instrument rotation: +/- 175°
- > Hexapod:
 - > Translation and rotation in 6 DOF
 - Maximum tilt is >15°
- Instrument pointing accuracy: < 0.001°</p>





THERMAL CONSTRAINS MANIPULATION SYSTEM

- TVC temperature range -80°C to +100°C during bake-out
- Hexapod and rotation table operation window +10° to +50°C
- Hexapod and rotation table survival temperature +10°C to +100°C





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CONCLUSION

- TNO has a long heritage in the development of optical earth observation instruments, calibration units and calibrations
- > TNO is investing in a new calibration system to remain a frontrunner in the space domain
- CDR for both the TVC and Manipulation system are scheduled for July 2019
- CSI fully integrated and functional 1st of January 2021

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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THE PARTY P

Take a look: TNO.NL/TNO-INSIGHTS

