

# New National Capability in NIMR: Rational, Development and Application of Meteorological Sensors for HALE UAV

Reno K.Y. Choi<sup>1</sup>, Seunghyun Min<sup>2</sup>, Marian Klein<sup>3</sup>, Jong-Chul Ha<sup>1</sup>,  
Young-Jun Cho<sup>1</sup>, and ChunHo Cho<sup>1</sup>

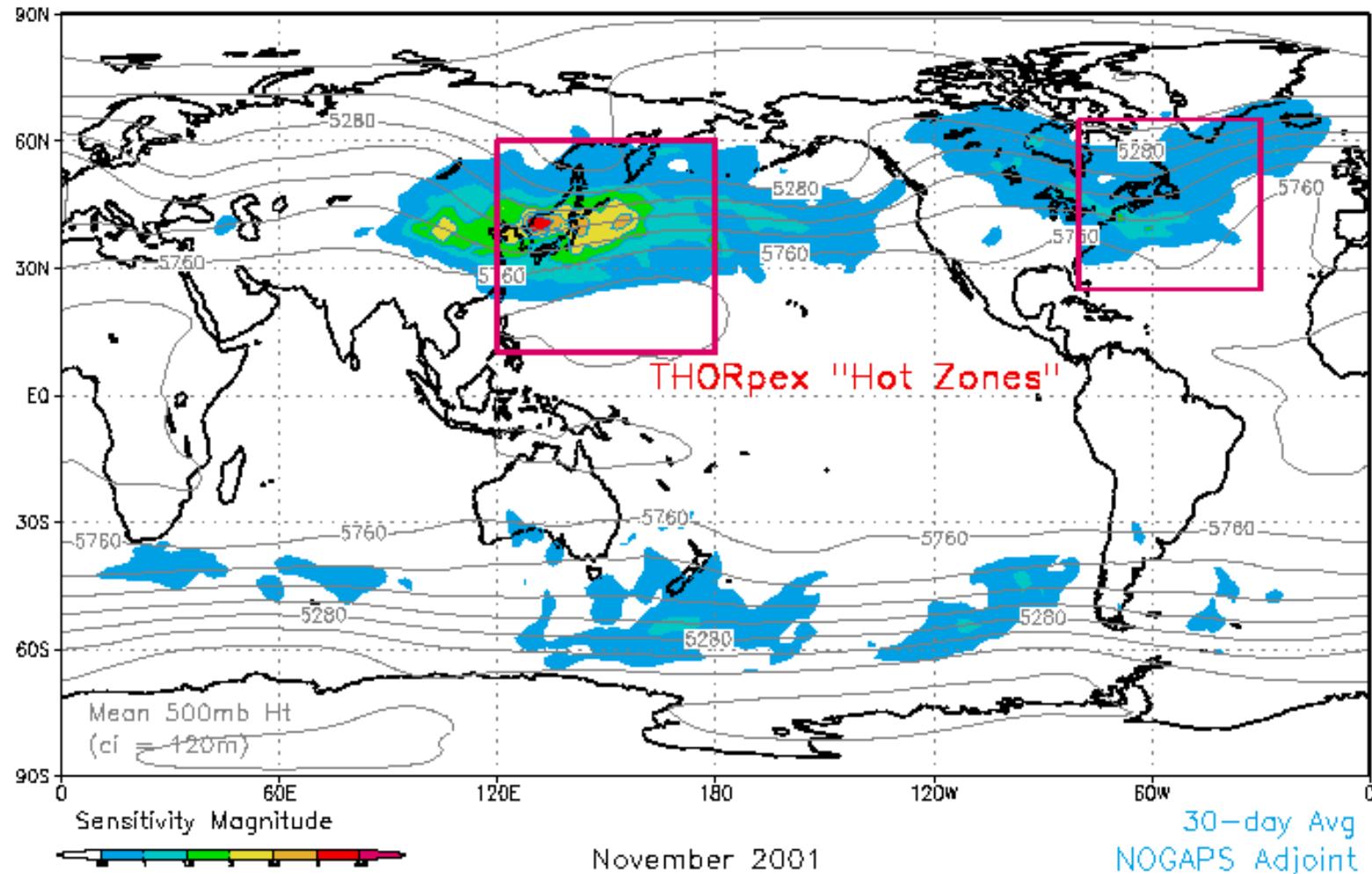
(1) National Institute of Meteorological Research, KMA, Seogwipo-si, Korea

(2) Satrec Initiative Co., Ltd, Daejeon, Korea

(3) Boulder Environmental Sciences And Technology, Boulder, USA

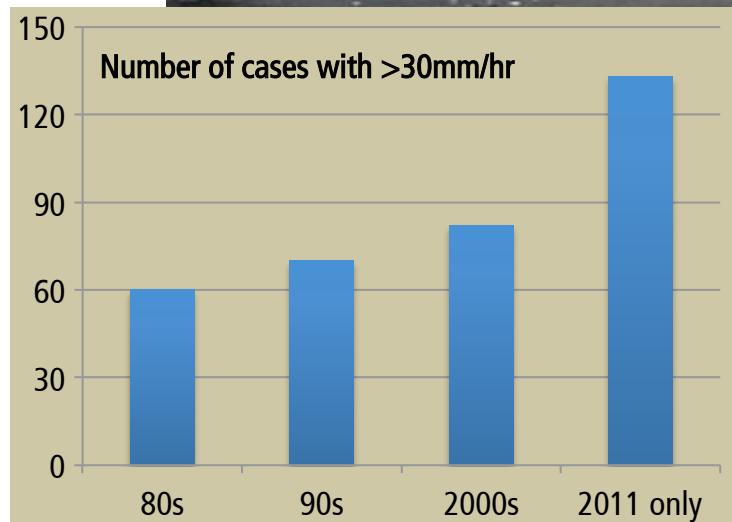


# Regional significance

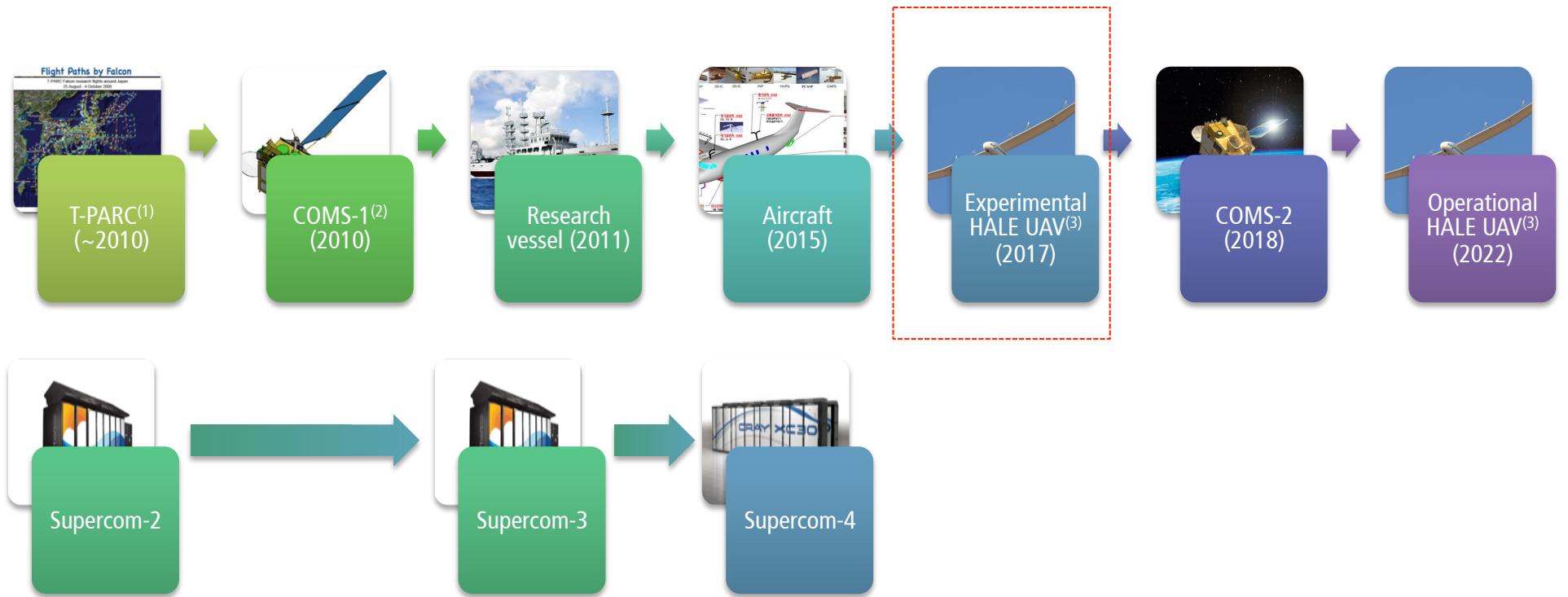


# Regional significance

- Torrential rains



# National Capability in KMA/NIMR

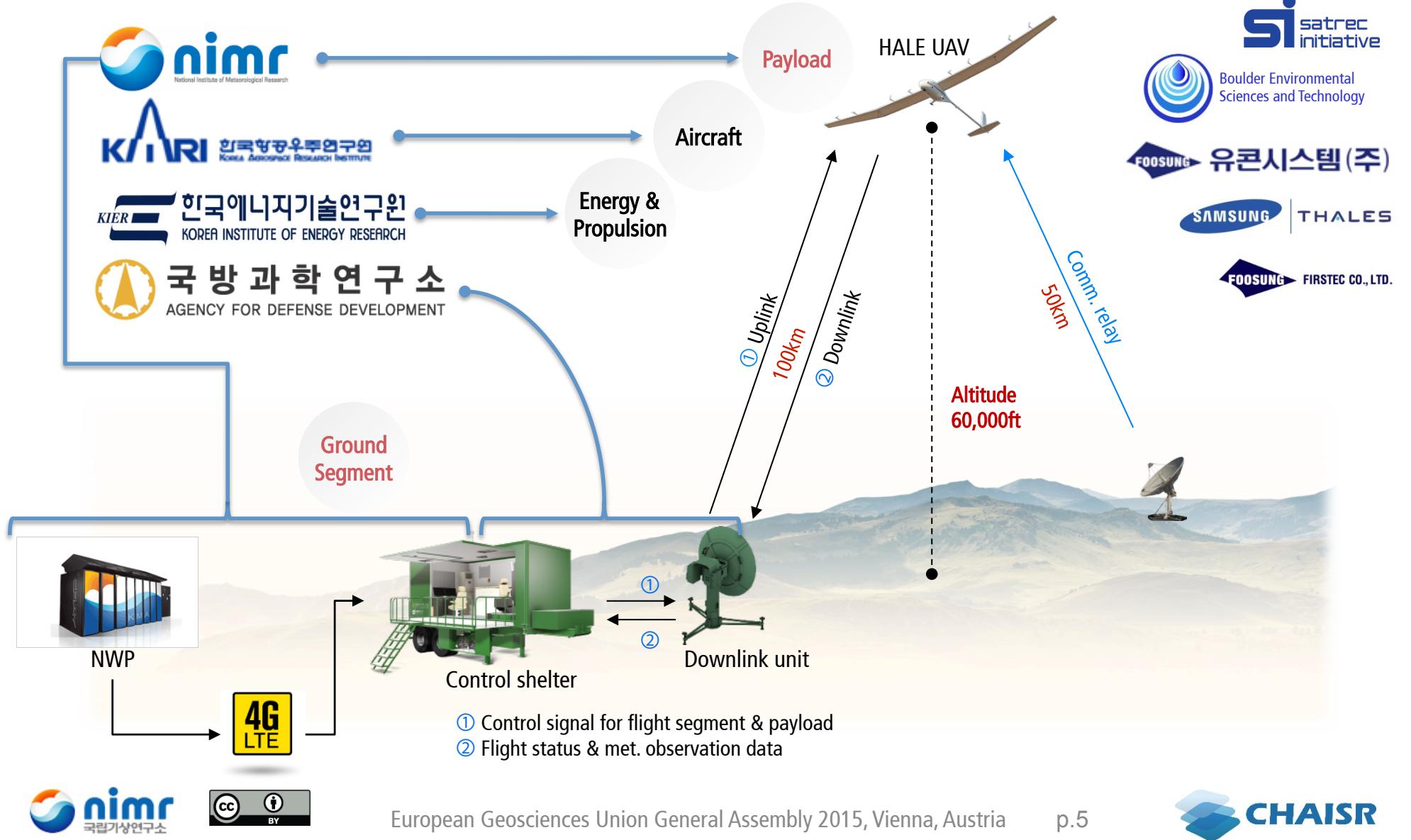


(1) THORPEX-Pacific Asian Regional Campaign (T-PARC), THORPEX (The Observing-System Research and Predictability Experiment)

(2) Communication, Ocean and Meteorological Satellite

(3) High Altitude Long Endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

# The "HyBird"



# Comparable instruments

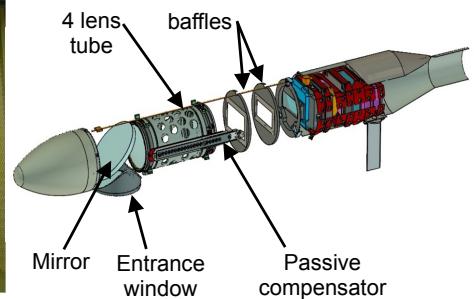


- HAMSR (High Altitude MMIC Sounding Radiometer)
- Developed for Global Hawk
- Observation range
  - Up to around 20 km altitude
  - 2~3 km vertical resolution
  - ~ 2 km horizontal resolution
  - ~ 40 km wide swath
- Frequencies of microwave radiometer
  - 8ch @ 50GHz: primary T
  - 10ch @ 118GHz: secondary T
  - 7ch @ 183GHz: Water vapour
- Accuracy
  - Calibrated: 0.2~0.4K (Abs. 0.5K)
  - Processed: <0.2K or 1.5~2%W

HAMSR about to be installed. Courtesy NASA JPL.

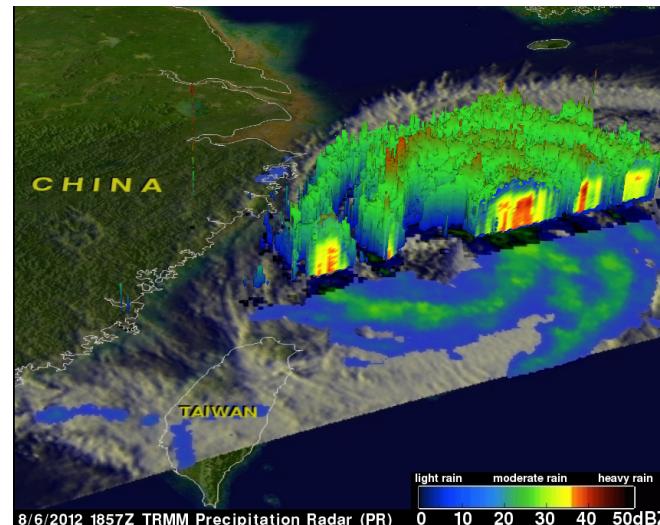


- MEDUSA (Monitoring Equipment and Devices for Unmanned Systems at high Altitude)
- Developed by VITO, Belgium, through ESA
- Photogrammetric camera
  - FOV: +/- 5.2 degrees
  - Total weight < 2 (to 3) kg
  - Length of the payload < 1m
  - Storage temp.: -70°C
  - Low pressure: 60 mbar
  - Power consumption < 50 W

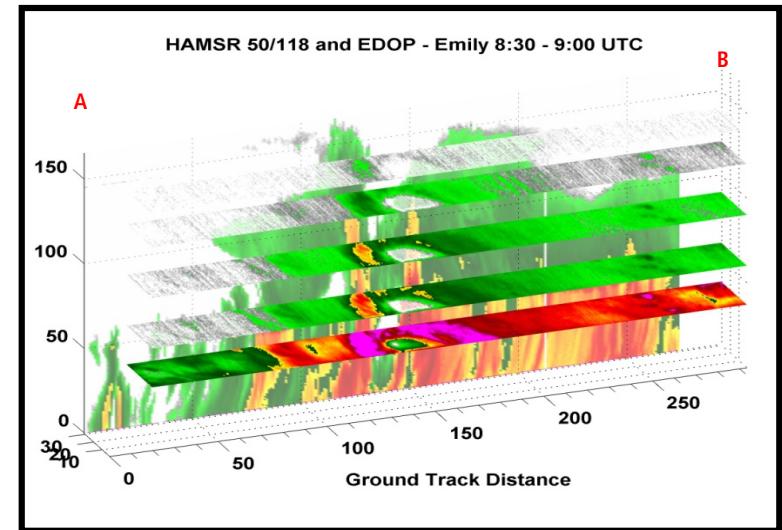
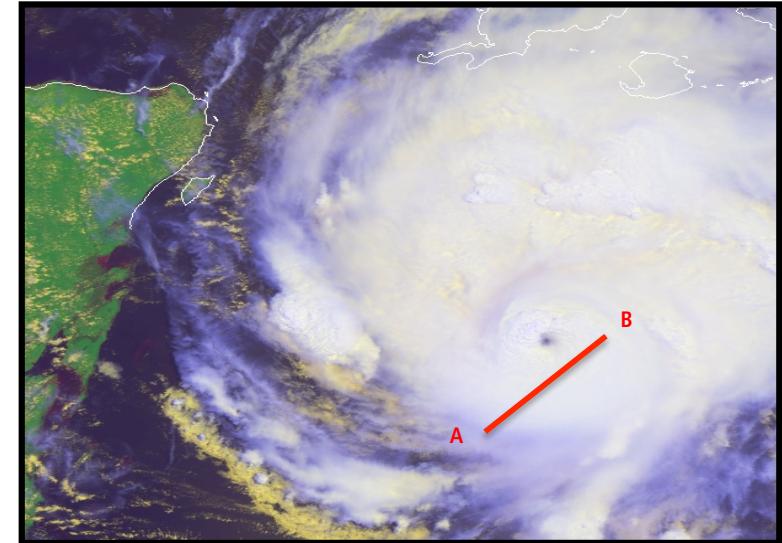


# CHAISR: Top-level requirements

- Continuous operation >3days
- Temperature & humidity profiles
  - Swath width >40 km
  - Horizontal resolution >2 km
  - Vertical resolution 2~3 km
- Cloud top height & distribution
  - Swath width >20 km
  - Horizontal resolution <100 m
- Near-realtime data delivery & display



Typhoon HaiKui on August 6, 2012 at 1857 UTC as it was moving toward China, which lasted for 8 days on 11 Aug (<http://pmm.nasa.gov/mission-updates/trmm-news/typhoon-haikui-heading-toward-china>)



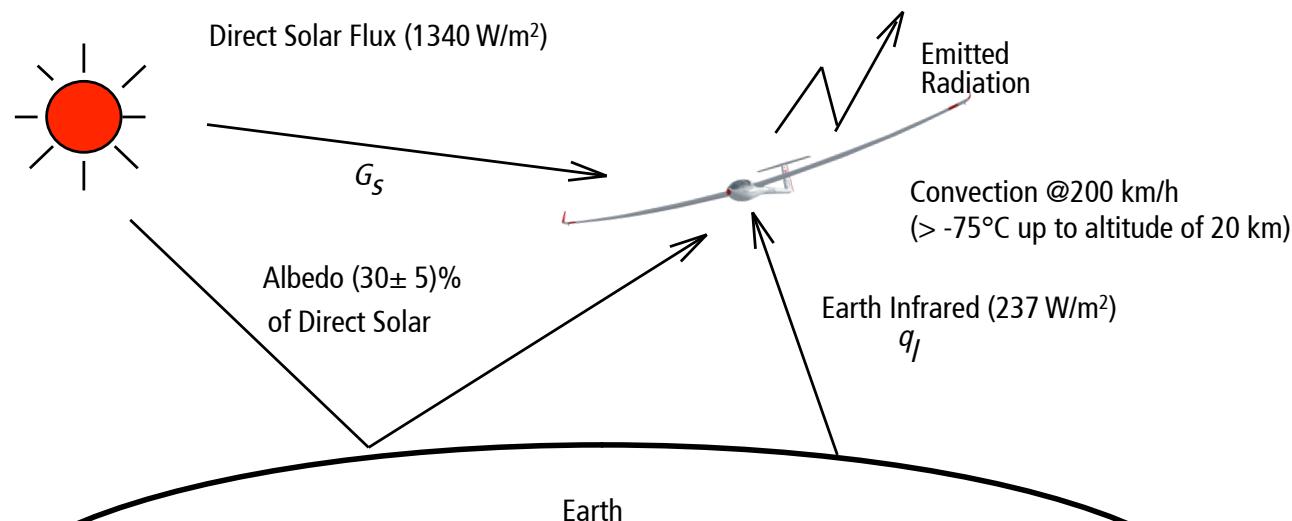
Hurricane Emily (17 July 2005). Courtesy NASA JPL.

# CHAISR: Design constraints



- Mounted on front of UAV fuselage
- Attitude behavior of the platform
- Mass **4 kg**
- Available power **50 W (24h)**
- Pressure **50 mbar**
- Temperature
  - For storage **-75°C~+63°C**
  - For operation **-65°C~+43°C**
  - Varying operational thermal environment

Category	Ground	Target altitude
Altitude	0km	20km
Temperature	-32~+43 °C	>-75 °C
Pressure	1013 hPa	50 hPa
Density	1.205 kg/m3	0.08816 kg/m3
Gravity	9.8 m/s2	9.733 m/s2
Solar radiation	1000 W/m2	1366 W/m2
Wind speed	Varying	Ave. : 6 m/s Max : 40~50 m/s
Flight speed	0~200 km/h	200 km/h

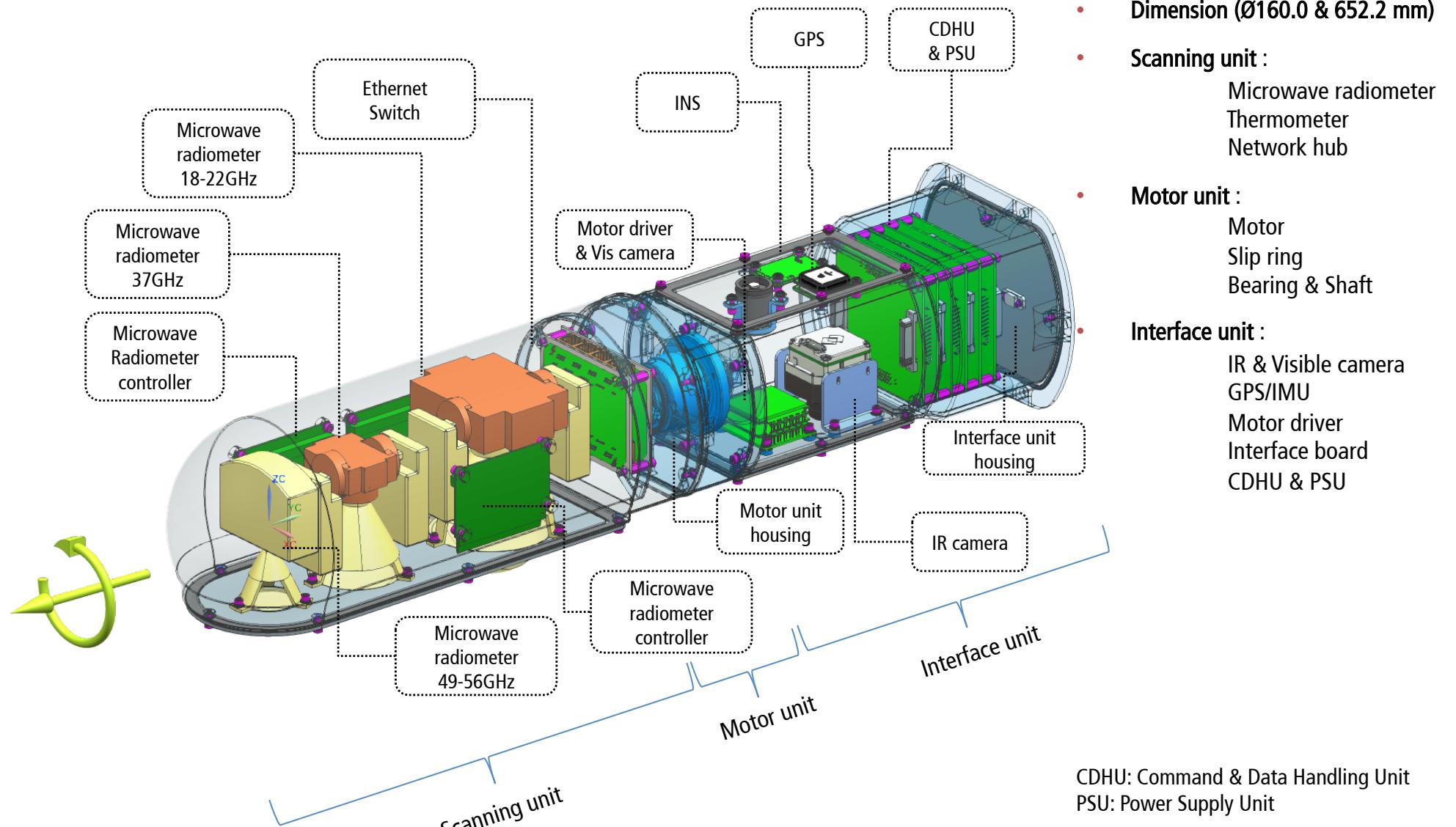


# Meteorological sensors



Types	Sensor	Specifications	Notes
Remote sensors	Radiometer	Band #1, 2ch @ 22GHz Band #2, 2ch @ 37GHz Band #3, 7ch @ 50GHz	- Scan angle 0~55° - Cross-track width 22 km - Horizontal/Vertical resolution ~2 km / 2~3 km
	Visible camera	Spectral range 0.55 ~ 0.80 μm Channel no. ≥1 Sensor type CMOS or CCD Pixels ≥ 800 × 600 Dynamic range ≤ 14 bit Spatial resolution ≤ 100 m	
	IR camera	Spectral range 10 ~ 12 μm Channel no. ≥ 1 Sensor type Uncooled micro-bolometer Pixels ≥ 640 × 480 Dynamic range 14 bits Sensitivity ≤ 50 mK Spatial resolution ≤ 100 m	- Micro-bolometer - MI (Meteorological Imager) in KMA's COMS-1 Channel 1: 10.8 μm (Centre wavelength) Channel 2: 12 μm (Centre wavelength) - Detailed specification may change due to weight & power constraint
In situ sensors	Thermometer	Range -80°C ~ 60°C Resolution 0.01°C Accuracy ±0.226°C	
	Humidity	Range 0 ... 100 %RH Resolution 0.1% RH Accuracy ±1.7% RH	- Standard for meteorological sensors in high altitude (KMA Ref. 2012-1) - Standard for automatic weather station (KMA Ref. 2010-5)
	Pressure	Range 5~1050hPa Accuracy < ±1.0hPa Operational temp. -90~+60°C Resolution 0.1hPa	

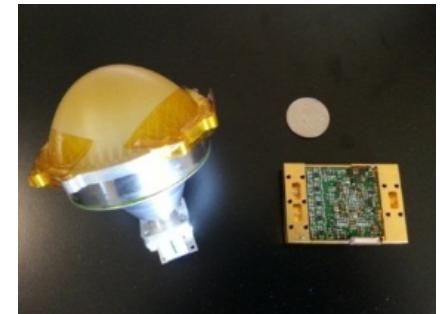
# Preliminary design Mk1



CDHU: Command & Data Handling Unit  
PSU: Power Supply Unit

# Scanning Unit: Microwave Radiometer

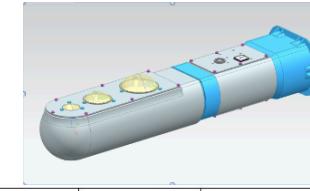
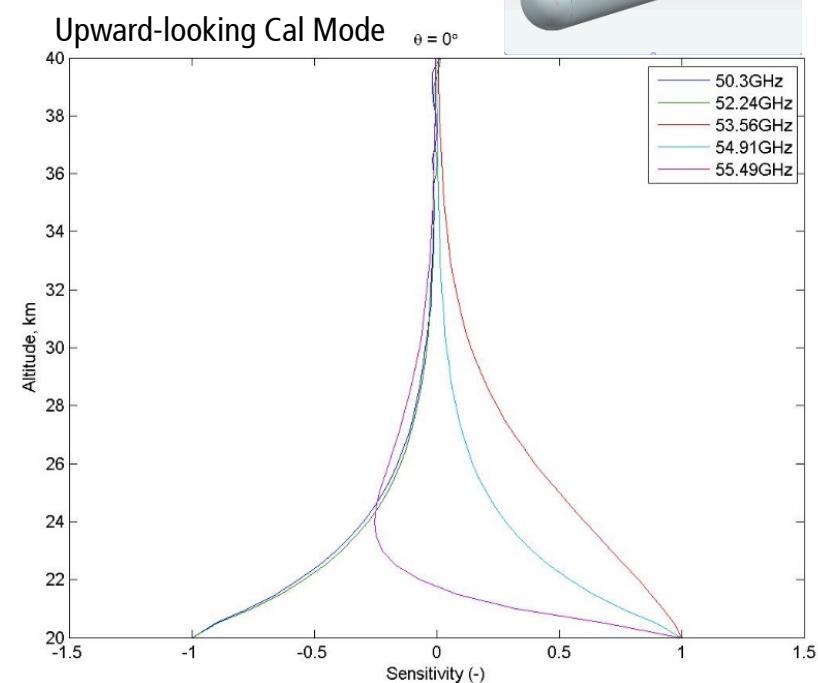
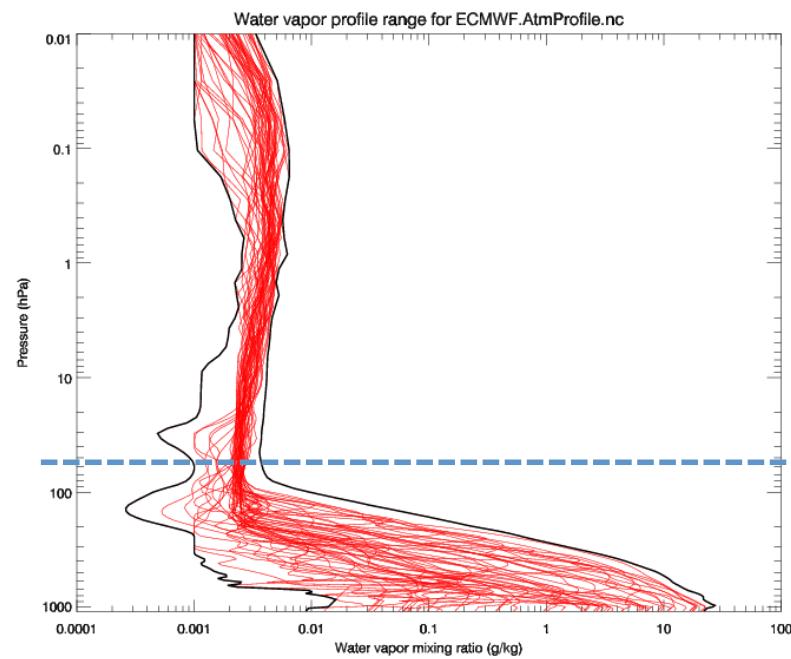
- Weight & power constraints - Avoid onboard blackbody
- Pseudo correlation receiver
  - Continuous & simultaneous evaluation of a “scene” and “reference”
  - Maximizing integration time leads lower instrument noise
  - Used in radio astronomy  
(Tuiari, 1964; Mennella et al., 2003; Harris, 2005)
- Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuits (MMICs)
  - x4 types of custom MMICs per radiometer
  - Hybrid, Phase shifter, Detectors, and LNA



#	Frequency (GHz), (bandwidth MHz)	Polarisation	No of channels	Beam width	Footprint (km)	Satellite instrument	Weight (Antenna, Receiver)	Power
1	18.7 (750) 22.235 (400)	V,H	4	16	10.29 x 18.01	WindSat (AMSR2, GMI, SSM/I)	352.8 g, 240.0 g	4.8 W
2	37 (1600) 40 (1600)	V,H	4	11	6.88 x 12.06	SSMIS (SSM/I, GMI, AMSR2)	133.6 g, 170.0 g	5.2 W
3	50.3 (2000) 52.24 (1280) 53.56 (960) 54.91 (340) 55.49 (340)	V	5	11	6.88 x 12.06	SSMIS (ATMS, AMSU-A, Lipton 2003)	65.2 g, 133.0 g  Mass: 1,094.6 g	2.8 W  Power: 12.8 W

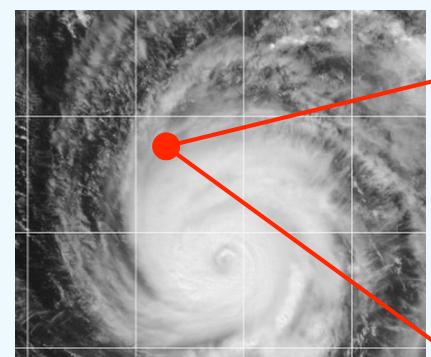
# Scanning Unit: Radiometer calibration

- Weight & power constraints - Avoid onboard blackbody
- Pseudo correlation receiver
- Upward-looking scan for sky temperature
  - Assuming atmosphere above flight altitude is comparably stable
  - Water vapour above flight altitude (50 hPa) is <1%
  - Radiometer tends to be less sensitive above flight altitude (Band #3)



# Interface Unit: IR camera

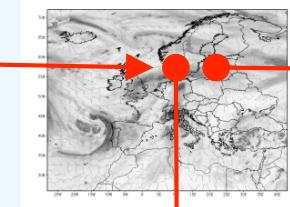
- Monitoring spatial distribution of clouds
- Acquiring cloud top height
- Additional information for retrieval of vertical profiles of temperature & humidity from microwave radiometers



Pixel positions

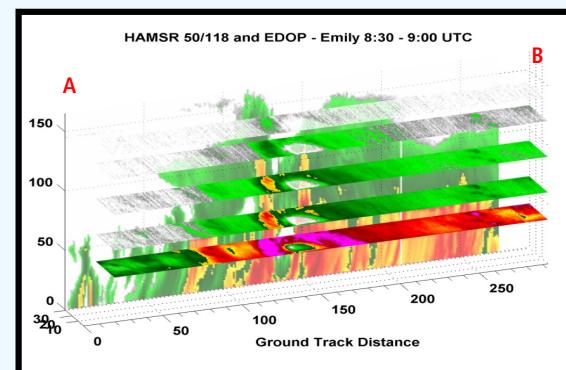
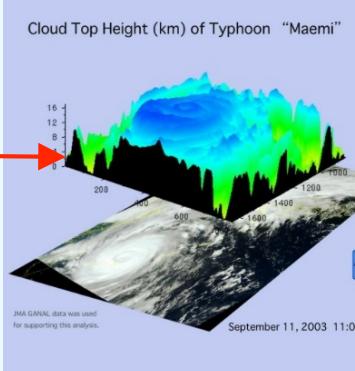
IR image

Comparison with NWP

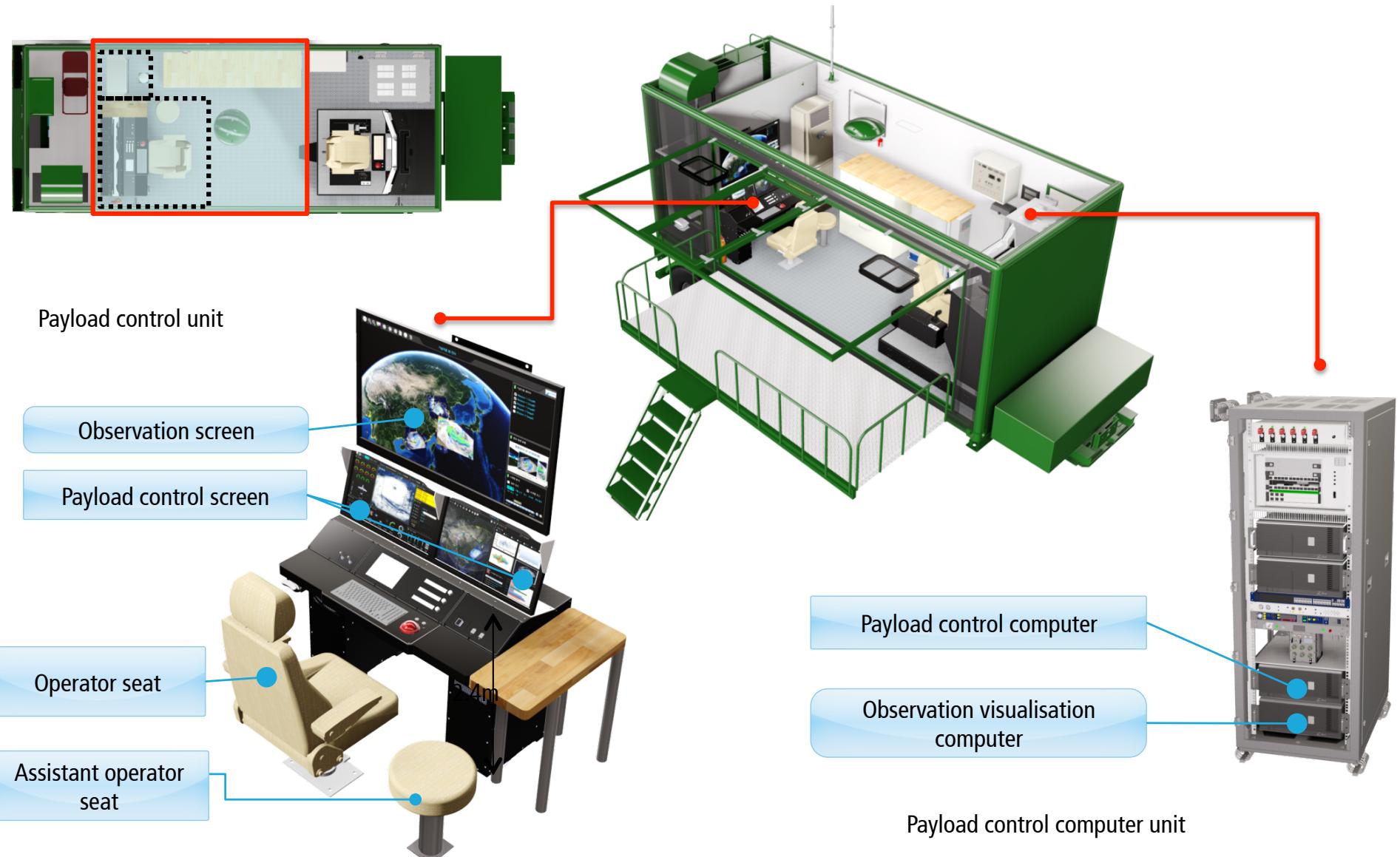


Temperature

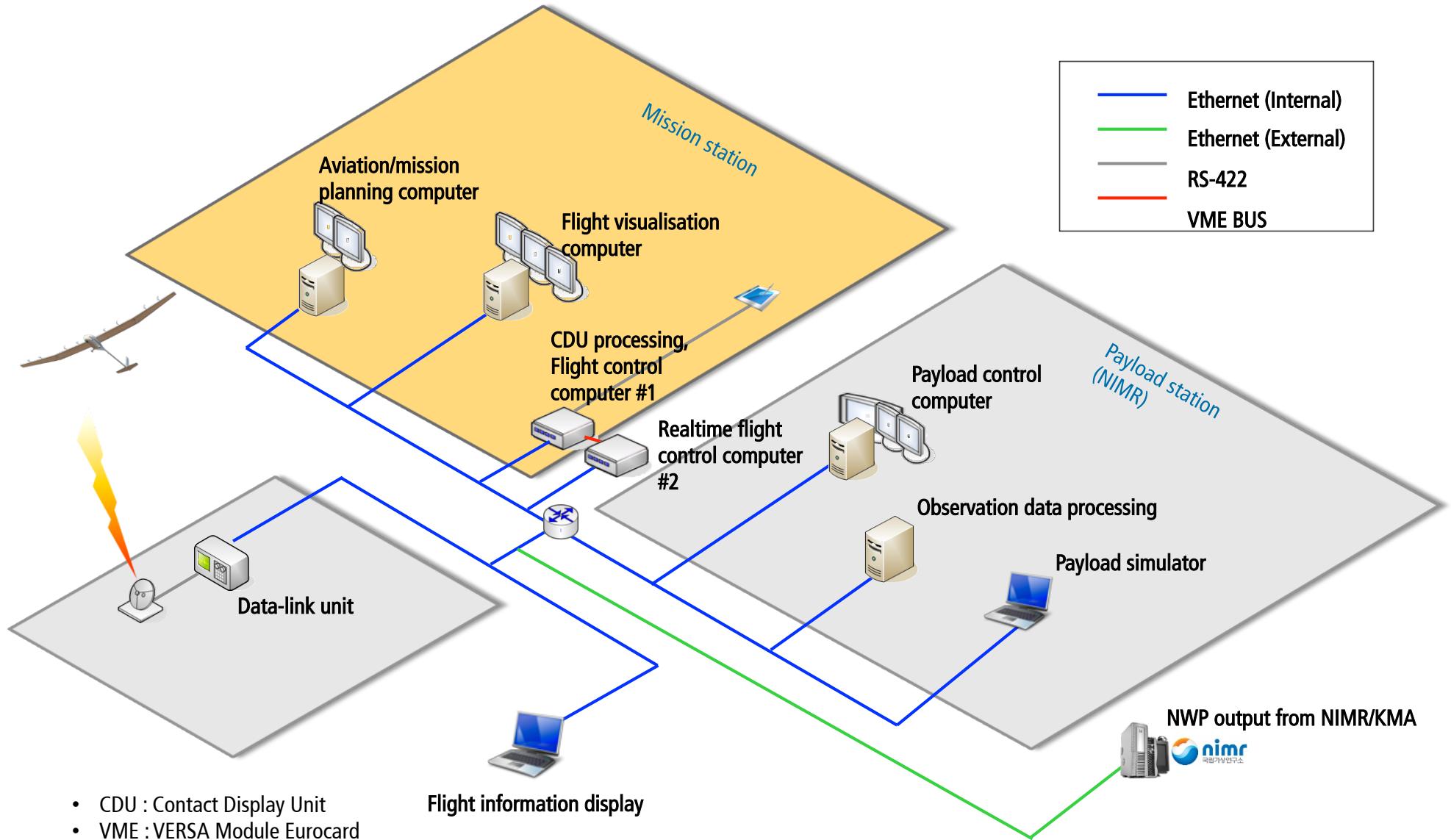
Determination of  
cloud height



# Conceptual design of ground segment

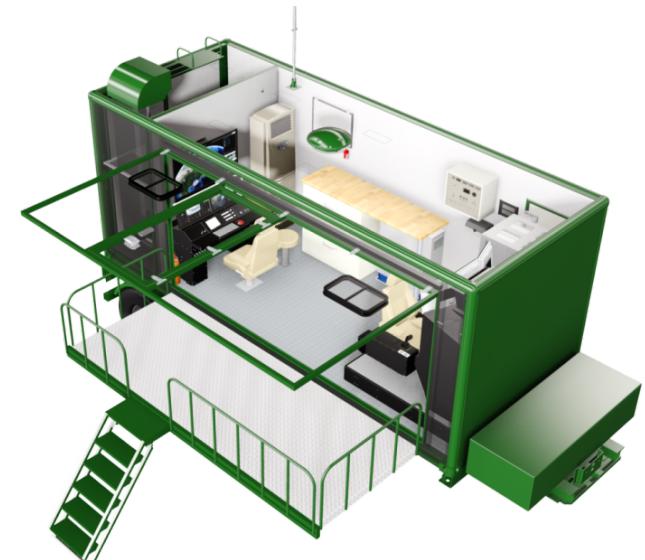
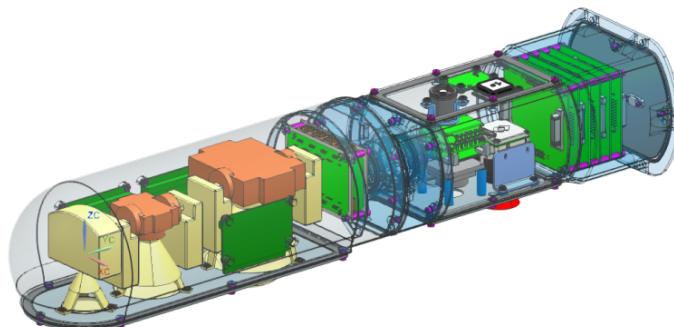


# Conceptual design of ground segment



# Conclusions

- Light-weight compact meteorological remote sensing payload for HALE UAV(s)
- Objectives:
  - Meteorological observation (Temperature & humidity sounding & clouds)
  - Unmanned air planning for UAV operations
- Decision criteria for final design
  - Extreme operational environment and conditions (low pressure, thermal cycle, etc)
  - Mass and power constraints
- Future milestones
  - Critical Design Review (CDR): January 2016
  - Test Readiness Review (TRR): December 2016
  - Flight Readiness Review (FRR): May 2017



# Q&A

For further information:

Reno K.Y. Choi, PhD  
T. +82 (0)64 780 6618  
E. [renochoi@korea.kr](mailto:renochoi@korea.kr)

Austrian skydiver Felix Baumgartner is well on the way to setting a world record for the highest free-fall jump on 15 March 2012. Later, broke the record in July 2012 (97,063 feet / 29,584 meters)

Altitude reached: 71,615.2 ft / 21,828.3 meters  
Parachute opened at: 8,210.6 ft / 2,502.6 meters  
Freefall time: 3 minutes and 40 seconds  
The fastest ascent rate of the capsule: 1,200 feet per minute (estimate)  
Speed reached in freefall: 364.69 mph / 586.92 km per hour

Photo credit: Jay Nemeth / Red Bull Stratos / AP  
<http://www.redbullstratos.com/>

