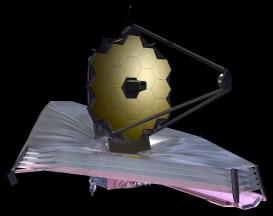
First Light, Galaxy Assembly, & Supermassive Blackhole Growth: Hubble, Webb and other Future Telescopes

Rogier Windhorst (ASU) — JWST Interdisciplinary Scientist

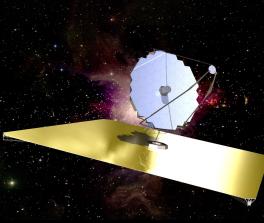
Collaborators: S. Cohen, L. Jiang, R. Jansen (ASU), C. Conselice (UK), S. Driver (OZ), & H. Yan (U-MO)

(Ex) ASU Grads: N. Hathi, H. Kim, M. Mechtley, R. Ryan, M. Rutkowski, B. Smith, & A. Straughn









 $1973 \sim 2020 + ;$

1996~2031;

 $2000 \sim 2050^+$

 $2020 \sim 2050 + ?$

Invited Lecture in the SES 121 class (ASU, Tempe, AZ; via Zoom)

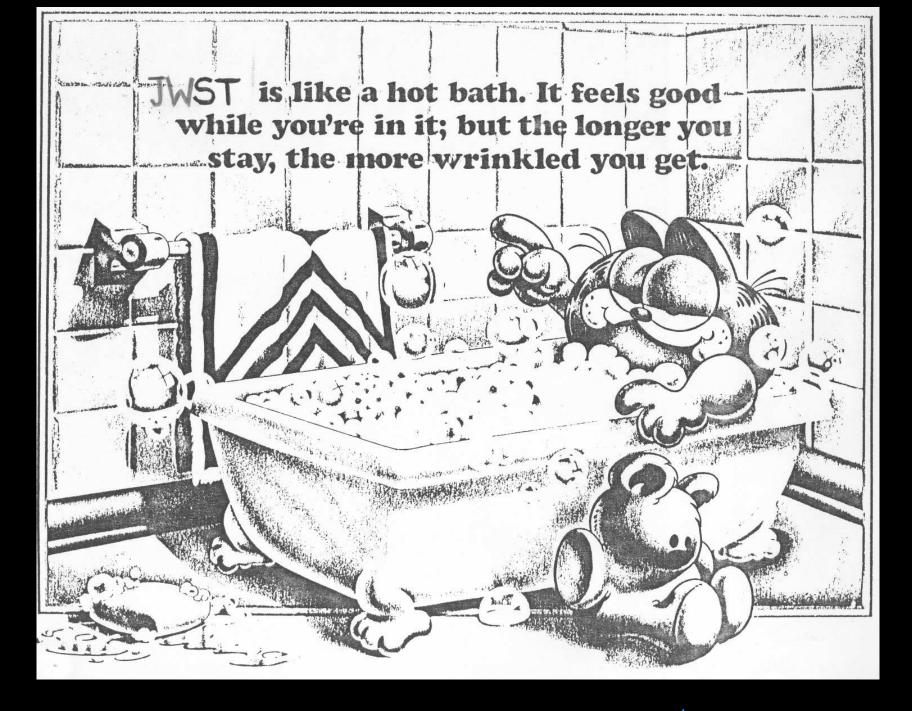
Wednesday Sept. 1, 2021. All presented materials are ITAR-cleared.

Outline

- (1) Update on the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), 2021.
- (2) What Hubble has done: Galaxy Assembly & SMBH Growth
- (3) How can JWST measure the Epochs of First Light & Galaxy Assembly, and Supermassive Black-Hole Growth?
- (4) The Future: Next generation 20–40 m telescopes & ATLAST
- (5) Summary and Conclusions
 - (6) Update of JWST programmatics as of 2021.
 - (7) How can JWST measure Star-formation & Earth-like exoplanets?
 - (8) Where do our students end-up? Possible NASA Careers



Sponsored by NASA/HST & JWST



WARNING: Both Hubble and James Webb are 30–40⁺ year projects:

You will feel wrinkled before you know it ... :)



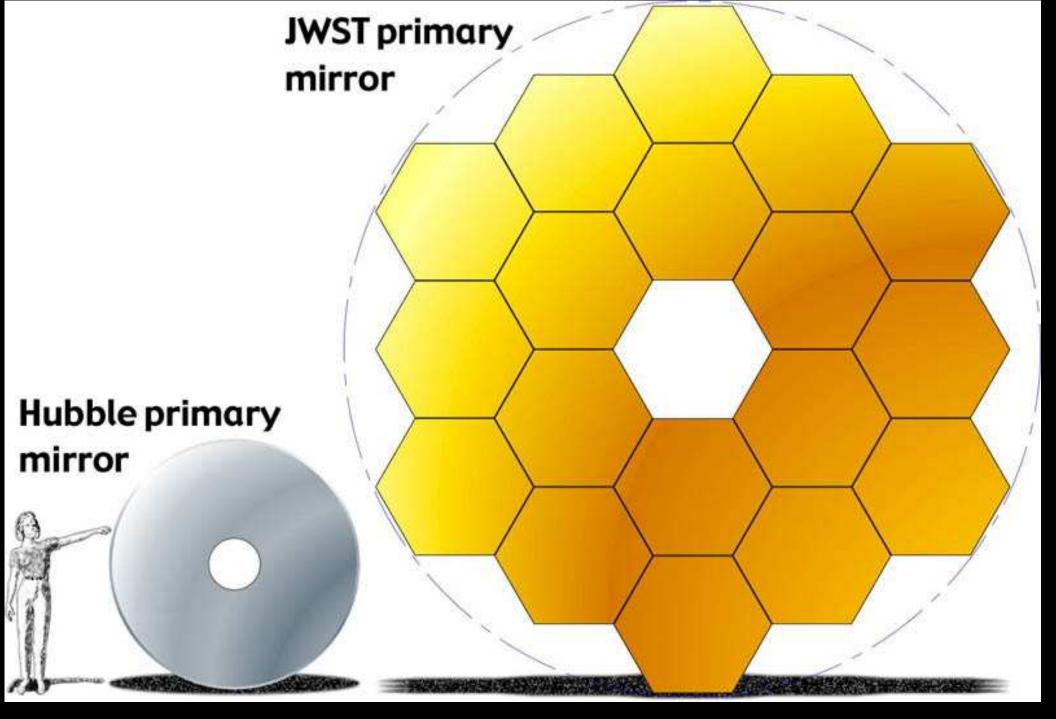


Edwin P. Hubble (1889–1953) — Carnegie astronomer

James E. Webb (1906–1992) — Second NASA Administrator

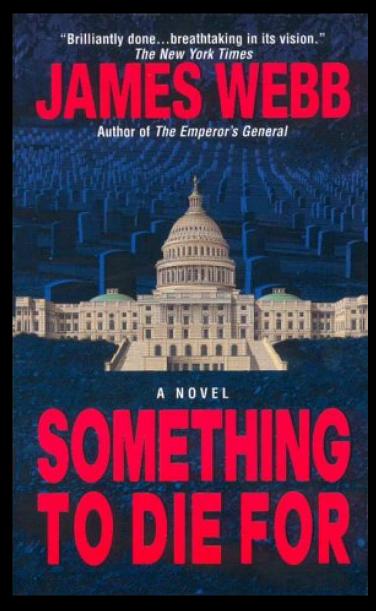
Hubble: Concept in 1970's; Made in 1980's; Operational 1990– \gtrsim 2021?.

JWST: The infrared sequel to Hubble from 2021–2026 (-2031?).



JWST $\simeq 2.5 \times$ larger than Hubble, so at $\sim 2.5 \times$ larger wavelengths: JWST has the same resolution in the near-IR as Hubble in the optical.

(1) Update of the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), 2021

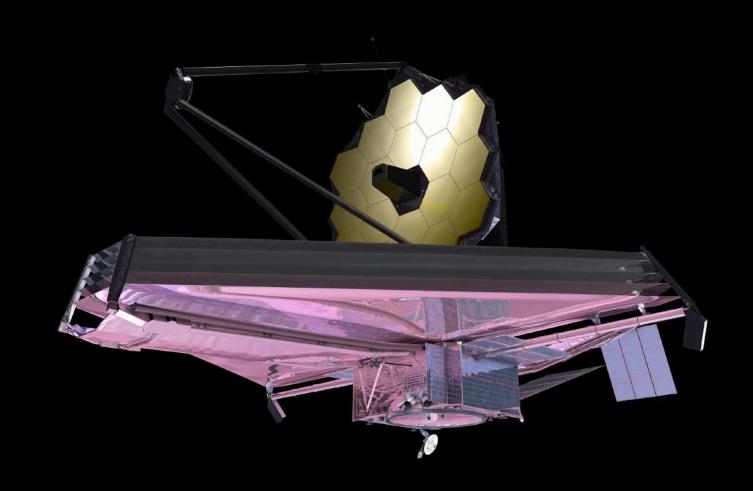




To be used by students & scientists starting 2021 ... It'll be worth it.

(RIGHT) Life-size JWST prototype on the Capitol Mall, May 2007.

(1) Update of the James Webb Space Telescope as of 2021



- A fully deployable 6.5 meter (25 m²) segmented IR telescope for imaging and spectroscopy at 0.6–28 μ m wavelength, to be launched in Fall 2021.
- Nested array of sun-shields to keep its ambient temperature at 40 K, allowing faint imaging (31.5 mag \sim 1 FF from Moon), and spectroscopy.

THE JAMES WEBB SPACE TELESCOPE

JWST LAUNCH

- LAUNCH VEHICLE IS AN ARIANE 5 ROCKET, SUPPLIED BY ESA
- SITE WILL BE THE ARIANESPACE'S ELA-3 LAUNCH COMPLEX NEAR KOUROU, FRENCH GUIANA







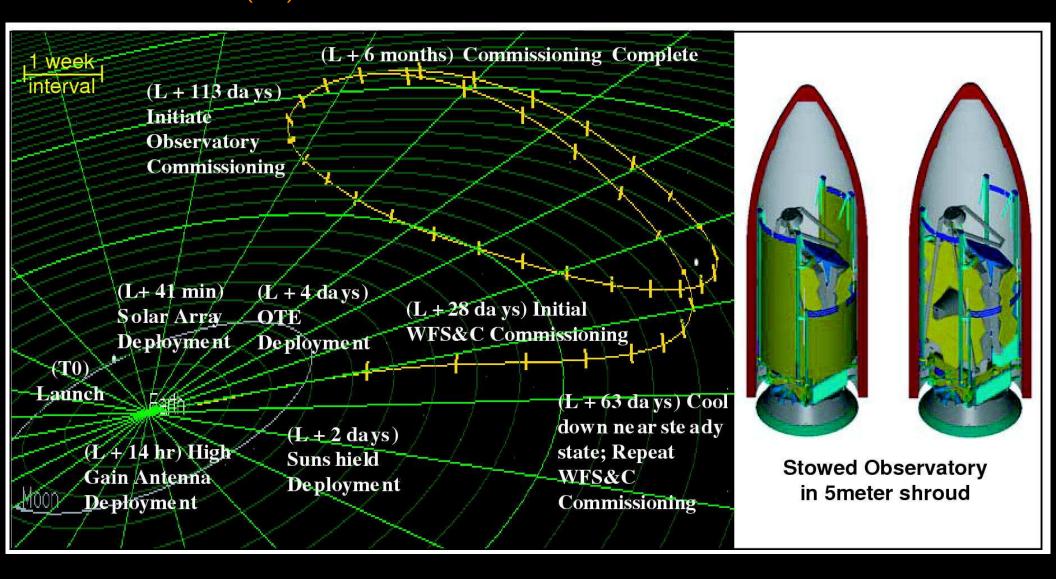




ARIANESPACE - ESA - NASA

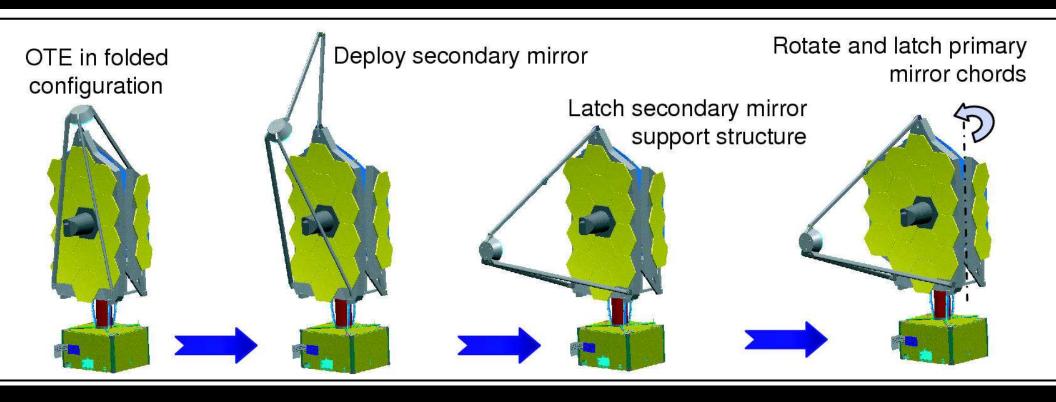
• The JWST launch weight will be $\lesssim 6500$ kg, and it will be launched to L2 with an ESA Ariane-V launch vehicle from Kourou in French Guiana.

(1a) How will JWST travel to its L2 orbit?

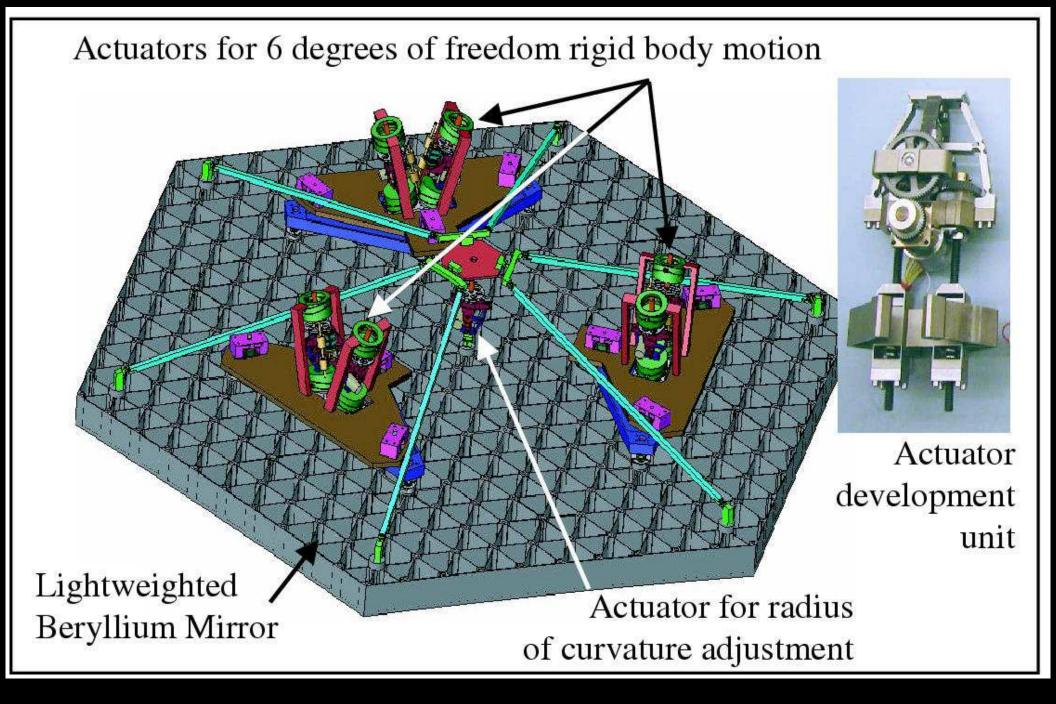


- After launch in Fall 2021 with an ESA Ariane-V, JWST will orbit around the Earth-Sun Lagrange point L2, 1.5 million km from Earth.
- JWST can cover the whole sky in segments that move along with the Earth, observe $\gtrsim 70\%$ of the time, and send data back to Earth every day.

• (1b) How will JWST be automatically deployed?



- During its two month journey to L2, JWST will be automatically deployed, its instruments will be cooled, and be inserted into an L2 orbit.
- The entire JWST deployment sequence is being tested several times on the ground but only in 1-G: component and system tests in 2014–2019 at GSFC (MD), Northrop (CA), and JSC (Houston).
- Component fabrication, testing, & system integration: 18 out of 18 flight mirrors completely done, and meet the 40K specifications.



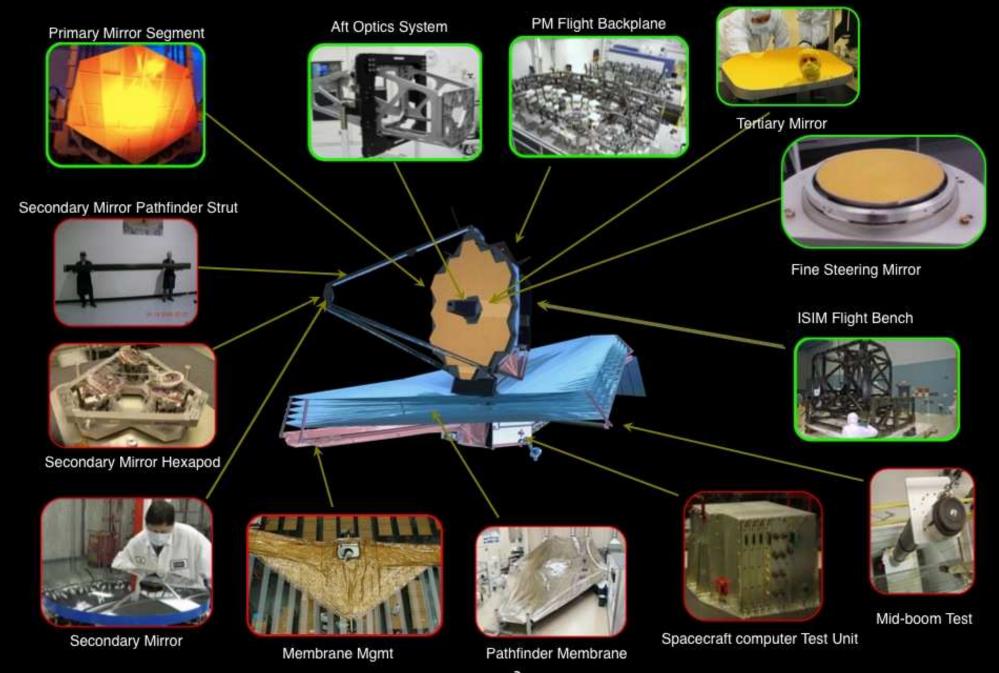
Active mirror segment support through "hexapods", similar to Keck.

Redundant & doubly-redundant mechanisms, quite forgiving against failures.



JWST Hardware Status



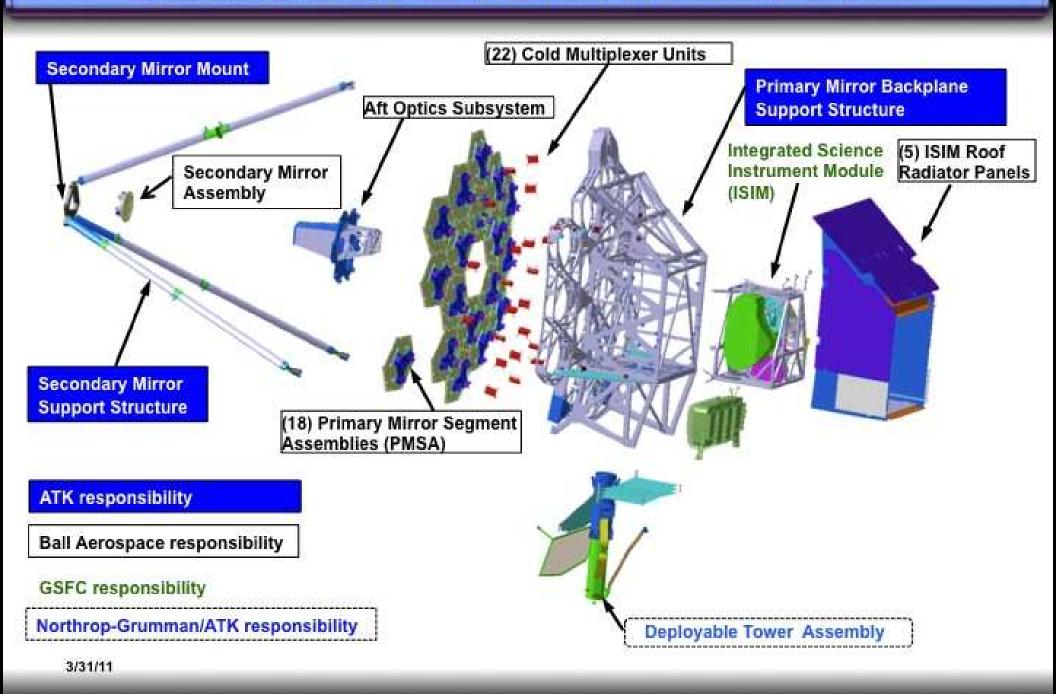


2021: 100% of launch mass designed and built (100% weighed).



TELESCOPE ARCHITECTURE





2014–2021: Complete system integration at GSFC and Northrop.



JWST Hardware Progress



JWST remains on track for an October 2018 launch within its replan budget guidelines

July 2014: • Secondary Mirror Support deployment successfully tested. 2015: • Engineering sunshield successfully deployed at Northrop (CA).



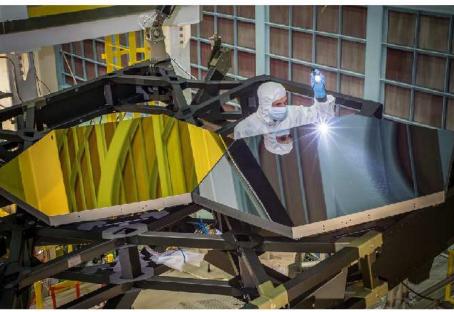
Telescope Pathfinder – Risk Reduction









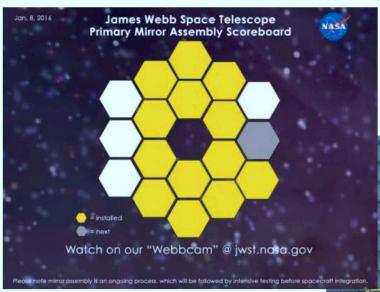


JWST Pathfinder is a partial telescope that is intended to reduce the implementation risk of the assembly, integration, and cryogenic optical test of the JWST optical assembly





Much progress has been made in OTE integration 577



Where we were at last month's call

Current: all 18 PMSAs installed, liquid-shim-cured, & metrologized. Alignments meet specifications, and actuator motions verified Big milestone!



8 February 2016 JWST Monthly Telecon 8



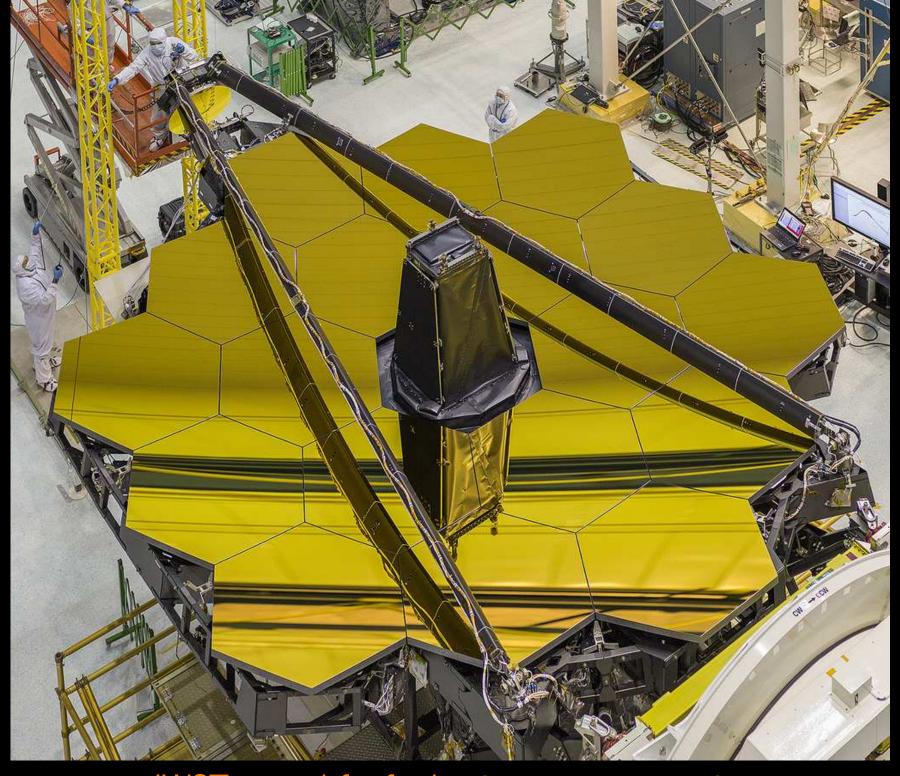
NASA team-work to take JWST mirror covers off!



JWST being tilted into the right position



Webb mirrors finally mounted and ready!



JWST stowed for further instrument mounting



All Instruments Integrated

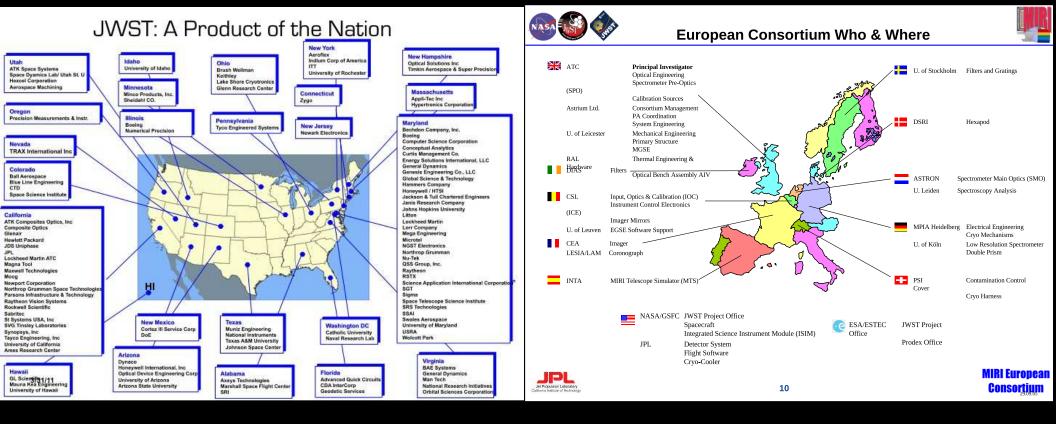












- JWST hardware made in 27 US States: 100% of launch-mass finished.
- Ariane V Launch & NIRSpec provided by ESA; & MIRI by ESA & JPL.
- JWST Fine Guider Sensor + NIRISS provided by Canadian Space Agency.
- JWST NIRCam made by UofA and Lockheed.

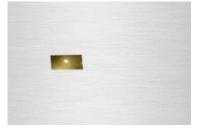


Micro Shutters

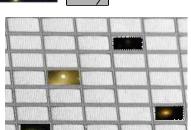






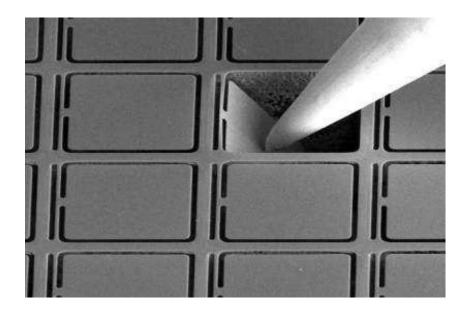


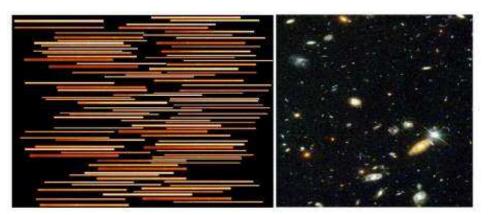




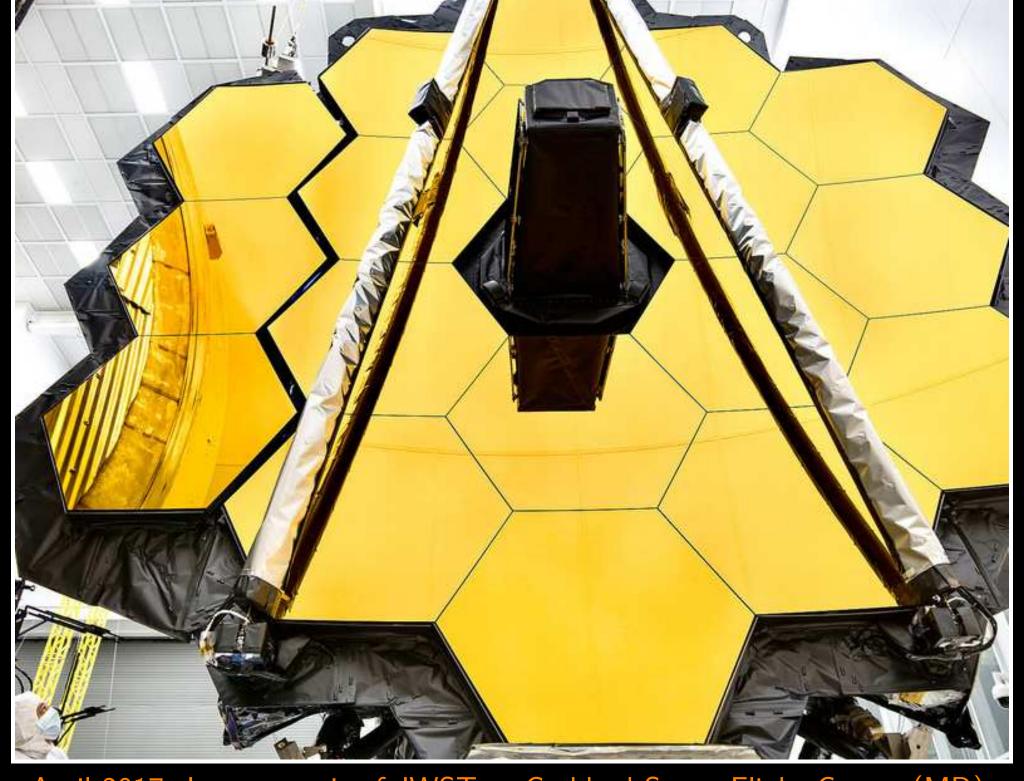


Shutter Mask







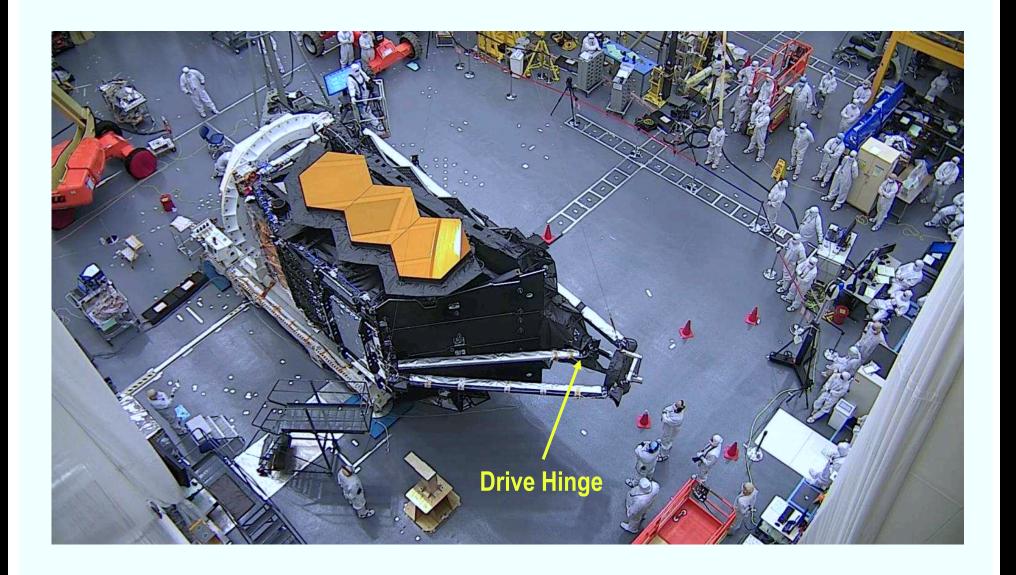


April 2017: Last portrait of JWST at Goddard Space Flight Center (MD).



SMSS Deployment Sequence (1)







SMSS Deployment Sequence (2)







SMSS Deployment Sequence (3)







May 2017: JWST in enclosure at Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Program Update: OTIS





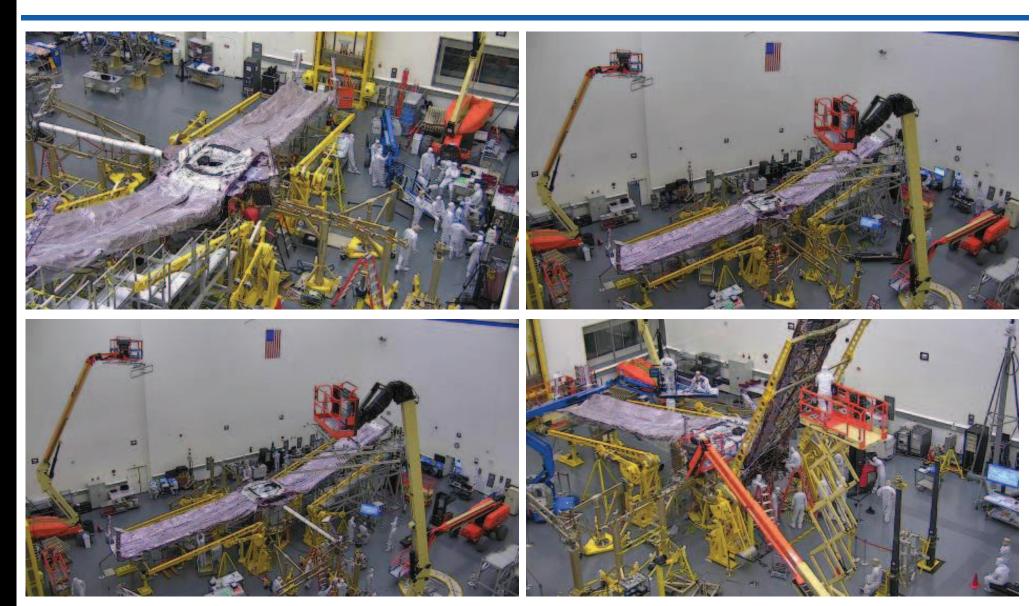


3

170612 JWST Monthly Telecon 29

Program Updates: Spacecraft and Sunshield



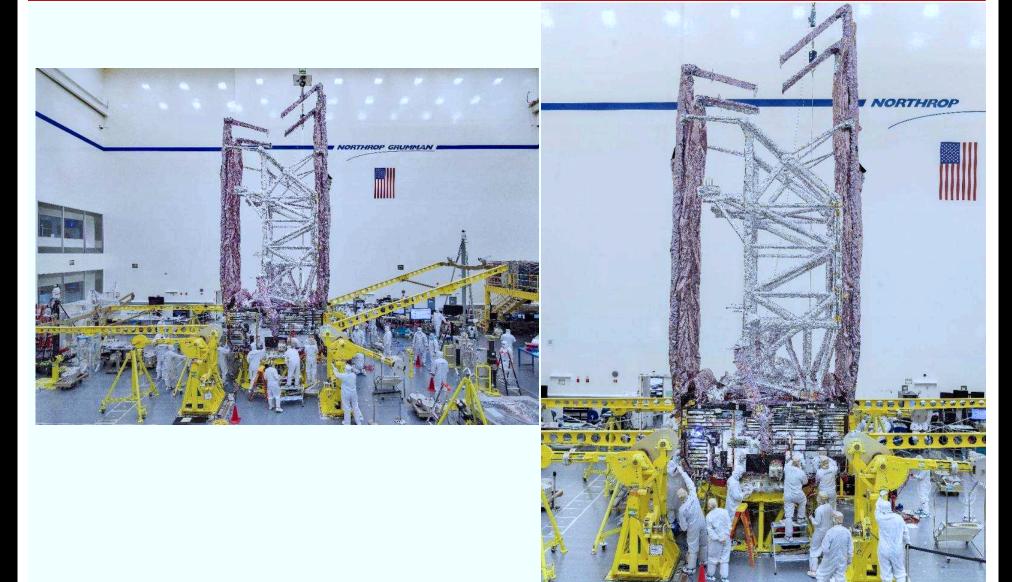




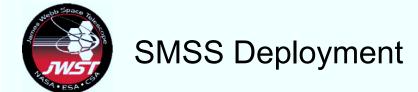
SCE to Elephant Stand



190812 JWST Monthly Telecon 36



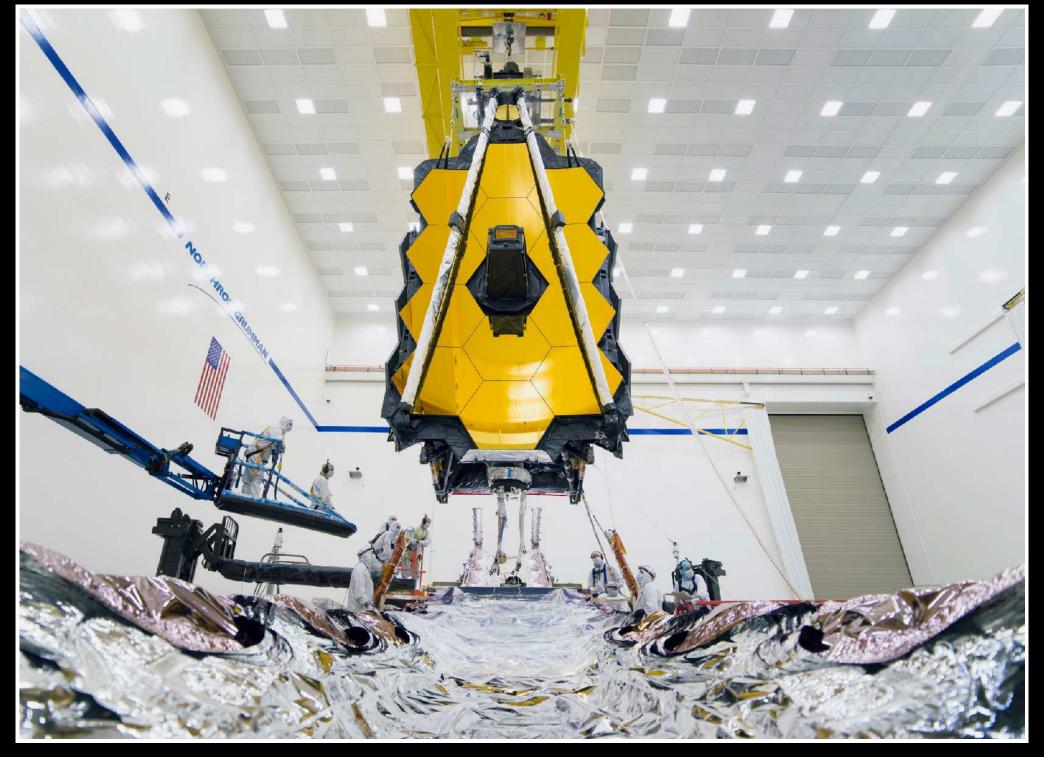
Aug. 2019: Stowed flight sunshield before integration with JWST OTE.







Aug. 2019: OTE before final integration with Sunshield & spacecraft.



Aug. 2019: JWST OTE+ISIM lowered into Sunshield+Spacecraft



August 2019: JWST OTE+ISIM integrated with Sunshield+Spacecraft!

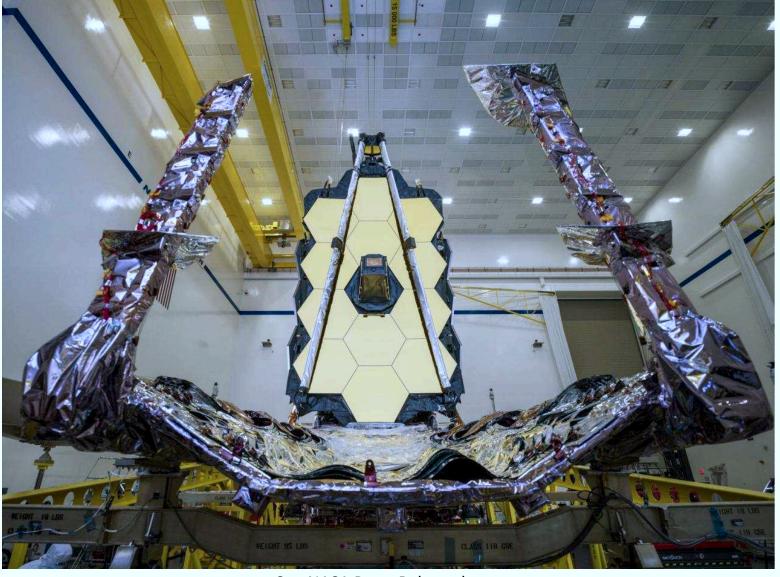


August 2019: JWST OTE+ISIM integrated with Sunshield and Spacecraft!



Meet the JWST Observatory 1





See NASA Press Release here:

https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2019/nasa-s-james-webb-space-telescope-has-been-assambleduserwthen first-time



Solar Array Deployment 1









Solar Array Deployment 2







Solar Array Deployment 3

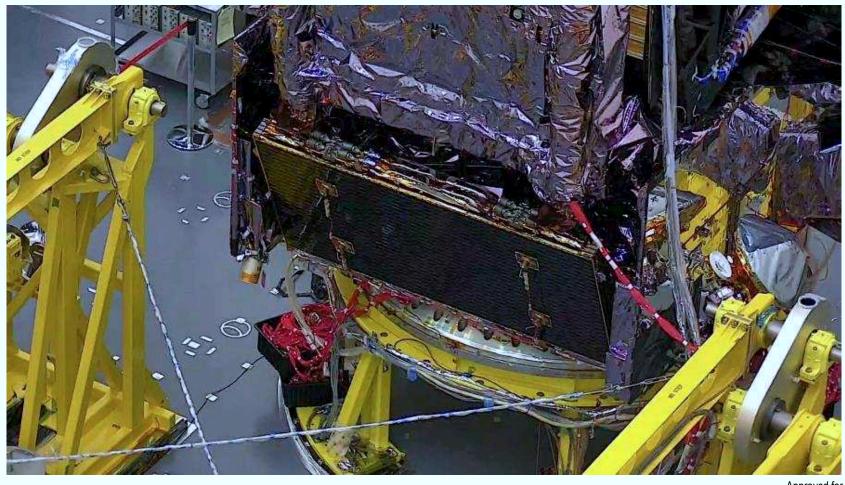








7/26/20: Solar Array Installed for Environments



Approved for Public Release; NG20-1503 200810 JWST Moznatoly Treles Carush Man



5/28/20: DTA Deployment



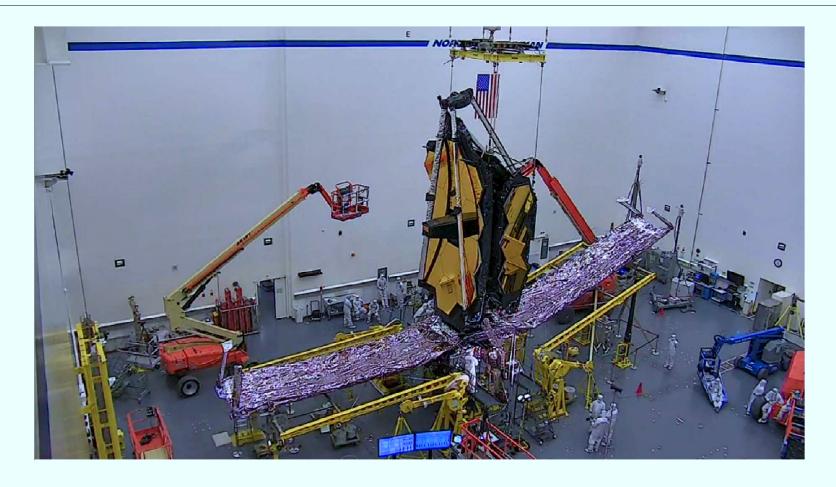
Approved for Public Release; NG20-106 200608 JWST **MonthlyNJele6 ന**െമി6a

June 2020: Deployable Tower Assembly test





5/28/20: DTA Deployment



Approved for Public Release; NG20-100 200608 JWST MonthlyNJelecon 277a

June 2020: Deployable Tower Assembly test with gravity off-loading.





5/29/20: DTA Deployment



Approved for Public Release; NG20-106 200608 JWST MoznatolyNJele6con 28a

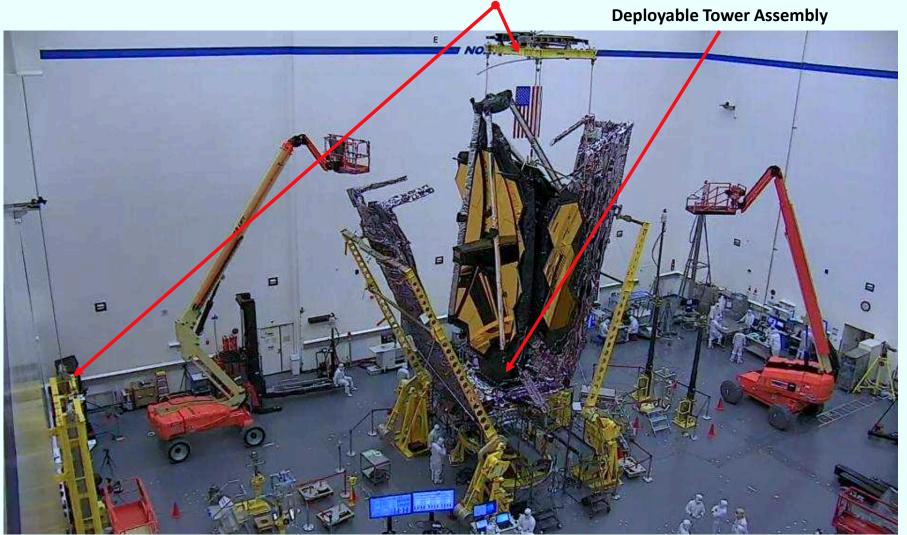
June 2020: Deployable Tower Assembly motor tested in 1G



DTA Stow 1



Offloading System





DTA Stow 2







Transport to the Large Acoustic Test Facility



Primary Mirror Wing

Contamination Tent

Secondary Mirror



En route through the Space Park, Credit: NGSS

Unitized Pallet Structure

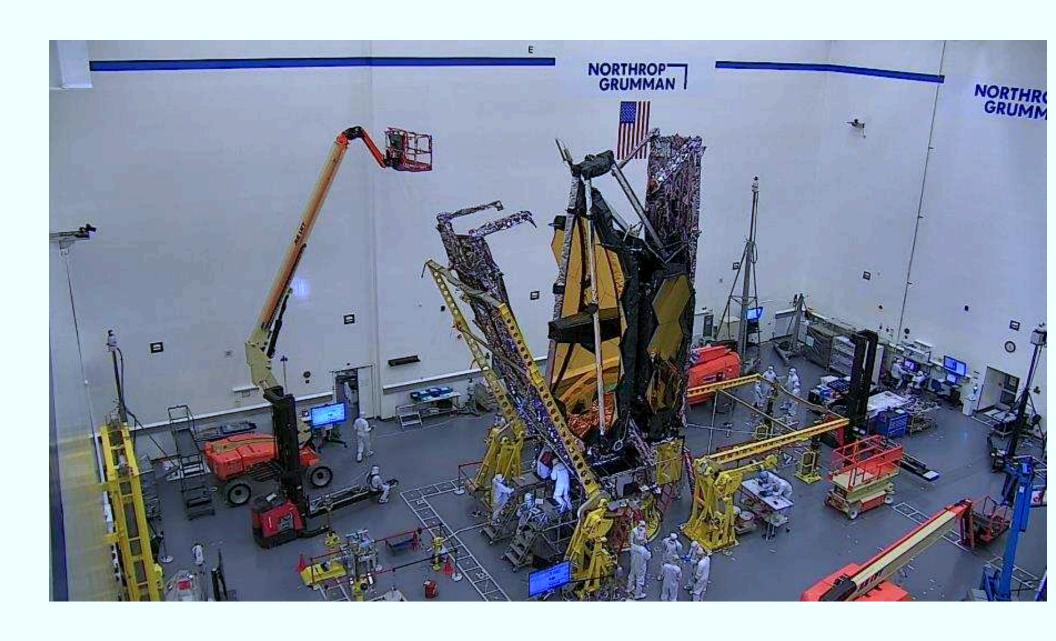


Arriving at the LATF Airlock 12 Fredit MGSS relecon 12

7/13/21: **AFT UPS Full Stow**



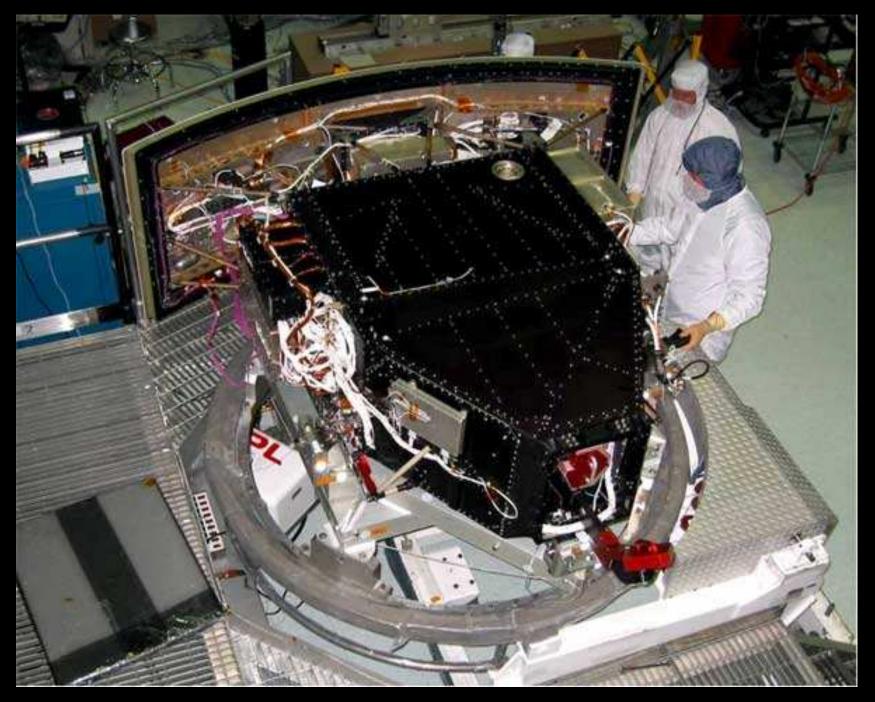
7/13/21: **AFT UPS Full Stow**



7/14/21: FWD UPS Full Stow



(2) WFC3: Hubble's new Panchromatic High-Throughput Camera



HST WFC3 and its IR channel: a critical pathfinder for JWST science.

(2) Hubble WFC3: Measuring Galaxy Assembly and SMBH Growth?

10 filters with Hubble WFC3 & ACS reaching AB=26.5-27.0 mag over 40 arcmin² with 0.07–0.15" images from 0.2–1.7 μ m (UVUBVizYJH). JWST adds 0.05–0.2" FWHM imaging to AB \simeq 31.5 mag (1 FF) at 1–5 μ m, with 0.2–1.2" images at 5–29 μ m, tracing young+old stars & dust.

Black Hole growth — Waves that happen in Nature: 1) Sounds Waves:



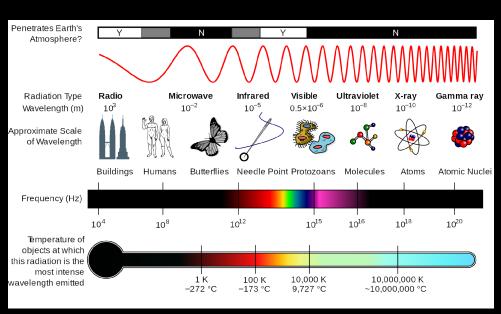


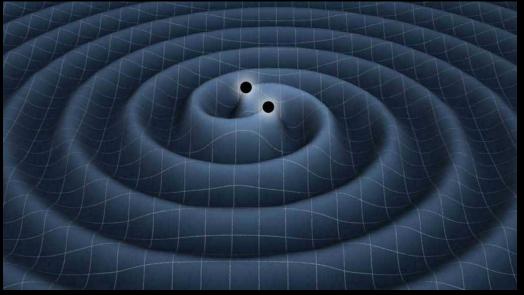


In solids: Earthquakes

In liquids: Surf!

In gasses: Sound





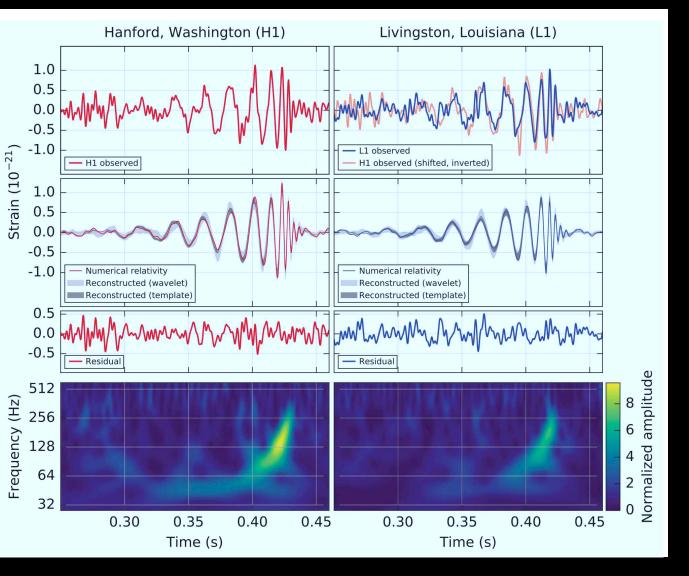
2) Electromagnetic Waves

3) In space-time: Gravity Waves

Sept. 2015: LIGO added Gravity Waves as a new way to observe Nature!







- (1) LIGO first observed Gravitational Waves on Sept. 14, 2015.
- (2) These were caused by two merging $(29+36 M_{\odot})$ black holes about 1 Gyr ago!
- E= Mc^2 : 3 M_{\odot} was converted to energy in a fraction of a second!



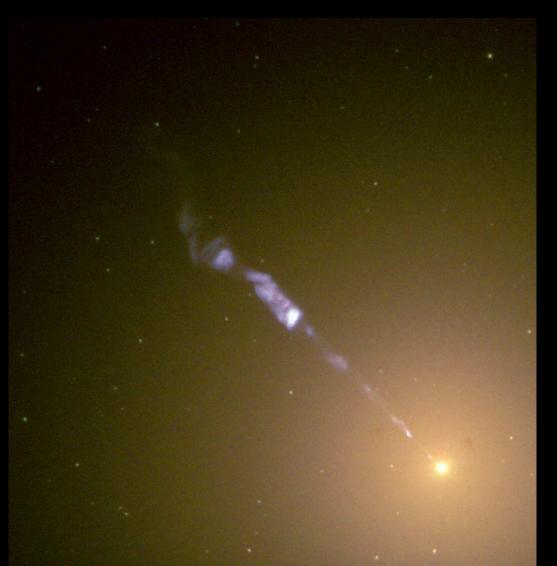
Ordinary massive stars (10–30 M_{\odot}) leave modest black holes (\sim 3–10 M_{\odot}).

Conclusion 1: Most low-mass black holes today are small, slow eaters:



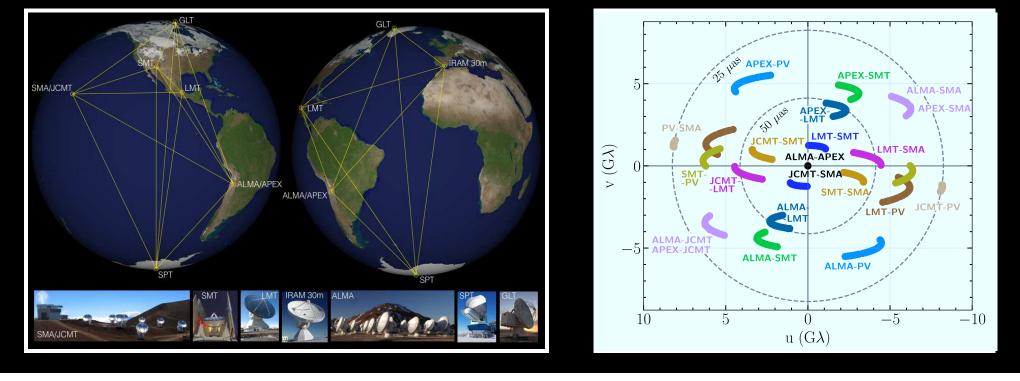
- 29–36 M_{\odot} blackholes may be leftover from First Stars (first 500 Myr).
- Likely too massive to be leftover from ordinary Supernova explosions, ...
- How come only now seen merging by LIGO (12.5 Byr after BB)?
- They were likely not fast & efficient eaters, but slow and messy ...

Elliptical galaxy M87 with Active Galactic Nucleus (AGN) and relativistic jet:





The danger of having Quasar-like devices too close to home ... They are EXTREMELY bright sources if viewed "down-the-pipe". $\sim 0.5\%$ of the baryonic mass, but produce most of the photons!



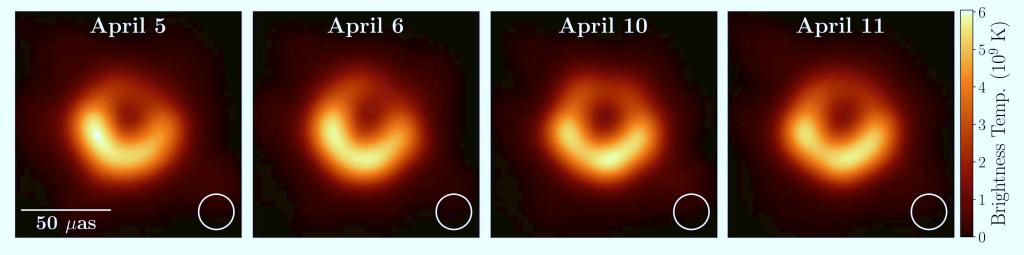
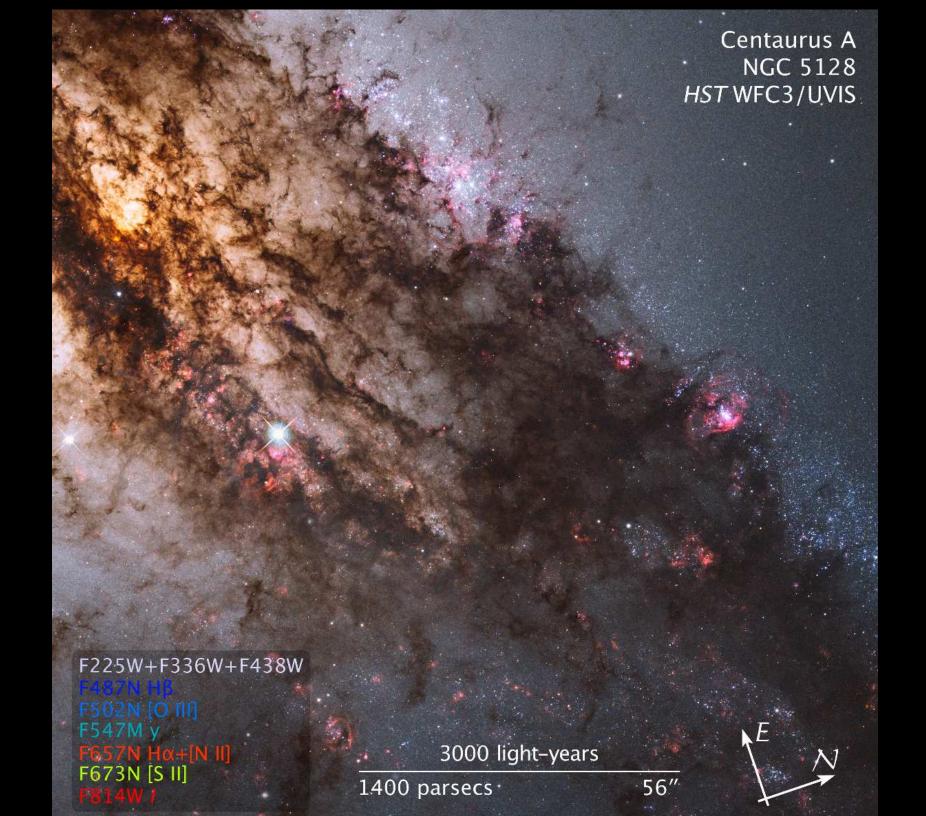
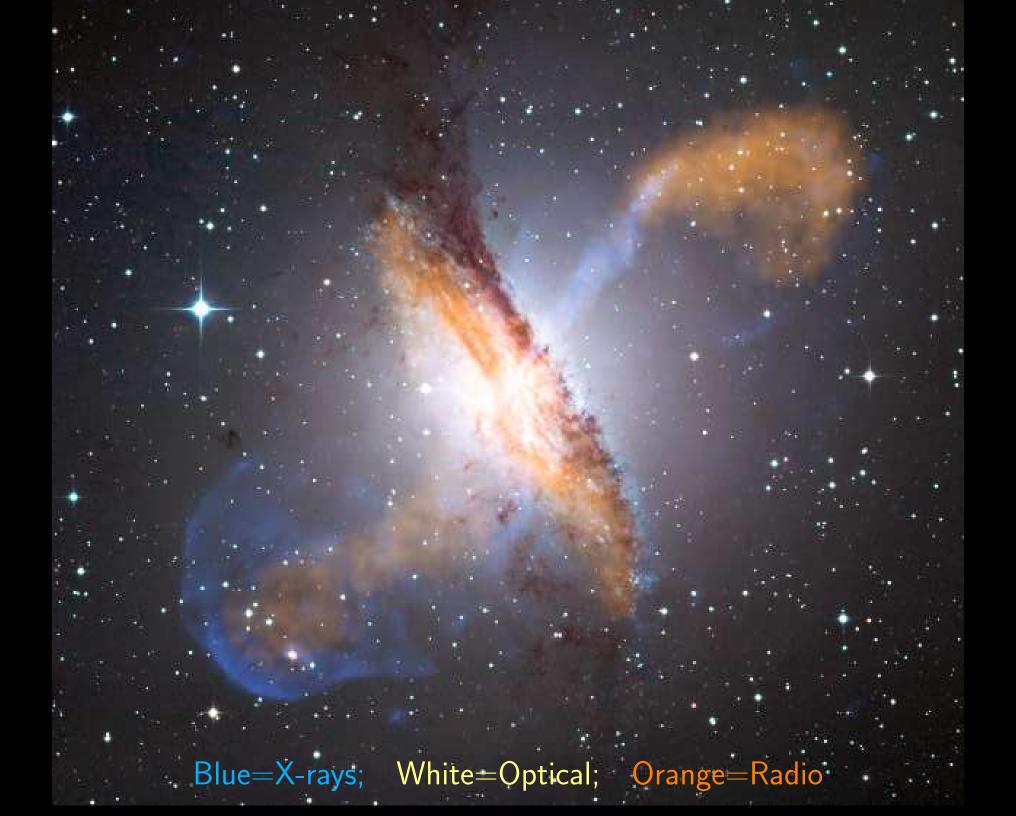


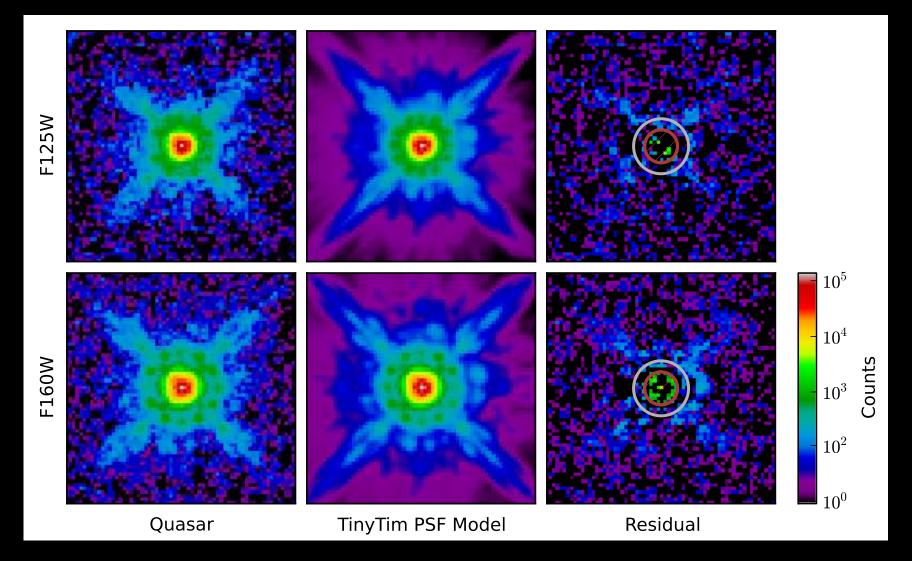
Figure 15. Averages of the three fiducial images of M87 for each of the four observed days after restoring each to an equivalent resolution, as in Figure 14. The indicated beam is $20 \mu as$ (i.e., that of DIFMAP, which is always the largest of the three individual beams).

2019 discovery of Black Hole Shadow in M87 by Event Horizon Telescope: M87 at 55 Mlyr distance has a black hole mass of $\sim 6.5 \times 10^9~M_{\odot}!$





Quasars: Centers of galaxies with feeding supermassive blackholes:



- Hubble IR-images of the most luminous Quasar known in the universe.
- Seen at redshift 6.42 (universe 7.42× smaller than today), 900 Myr old!
- ullet Contains 10^{14} solar luminosities within a region as small as Pluto's orbit!
- A feeding monster blackhole ($>3\times10^9$ solar mass) 900 Myr after BB!

Conclusion 2: Supermassive black holes started early & were very rapid eaters:



- Massive galaxies today contain a super-massive blackhole, no exceptions!
- Masses $\sim 3 \times 10^9$ solar, leftover from the First Stars (first 500 Myr)?
- Must have fed enormously rapidly in the first 1 Byr after the Big Bang.
- ullet Were eating cat-astrophically (and secretly) until they ran out of food ...
- JWST can image the First Quasars to $z \gtrsim 10$ (if we can find them).



Illustration Sequence of the Milky Way and Andromeda Galaxy Colliding

Will this ever happen to our own Galaxy?

YES! Hubble showed no lateral motion of Andromeda:

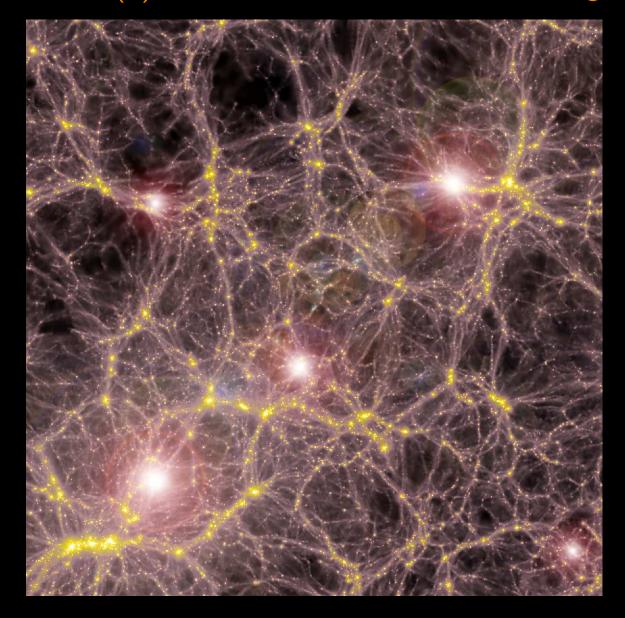
Approaches at -110 km/s.

Hence, Andromeda will merge with Milky Way!

The two blackholes (10^6-10^7 suns) will also merge!

Not to worry: only 4–5 Byr from today!

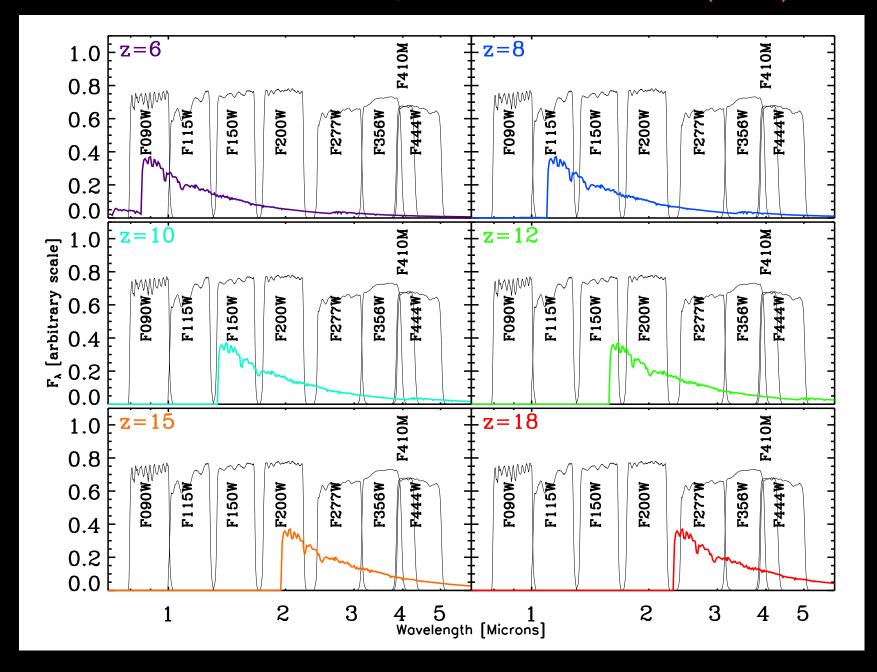
(3) How will JWST Observe First Light and Reionization?



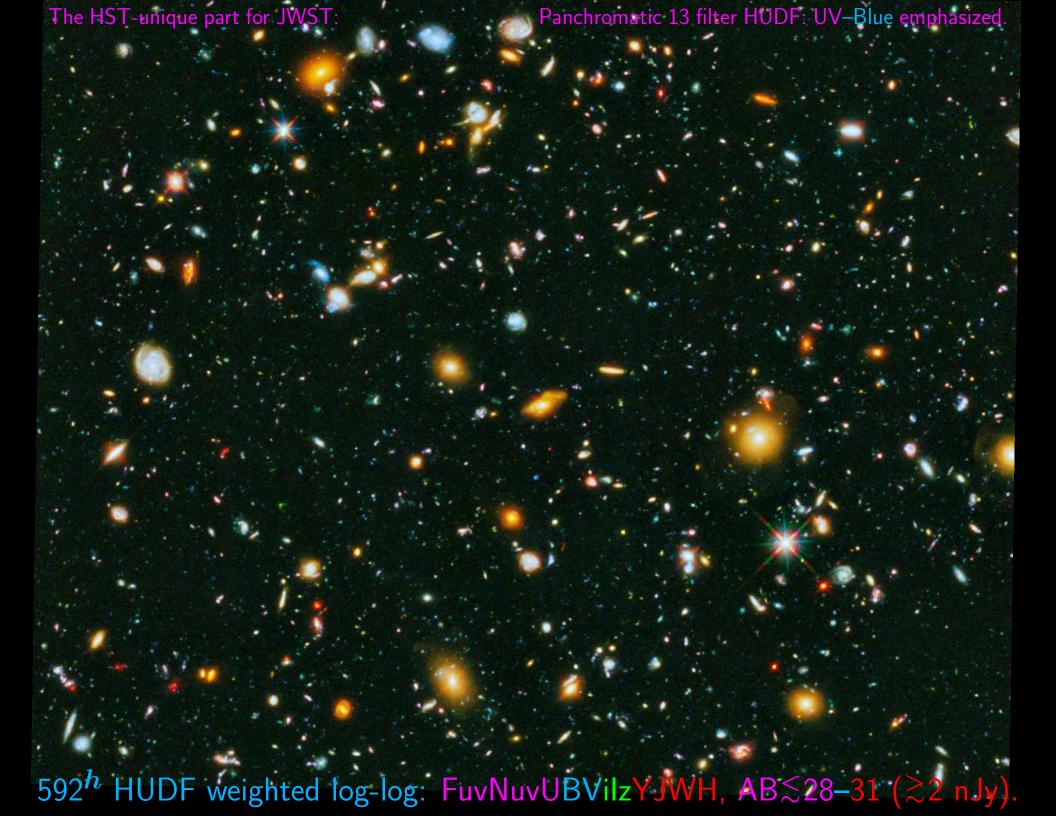
- Detailed cosmological models (V. Bromm) suggest that massive "Pop III" stars ($\gtrsim 100~{\rm M}_{sun}$) started to reionize the universe at z $\lesssim 10$ –30 (0.1–0.5 Gyr; "First Light").
- This should be visible to JWST as the first Pop III stars or surrounding (Pop II.5) star clusters, and perhaps their extremely luminous supernovae at $z\simeq 10 \rightarrow 30$.

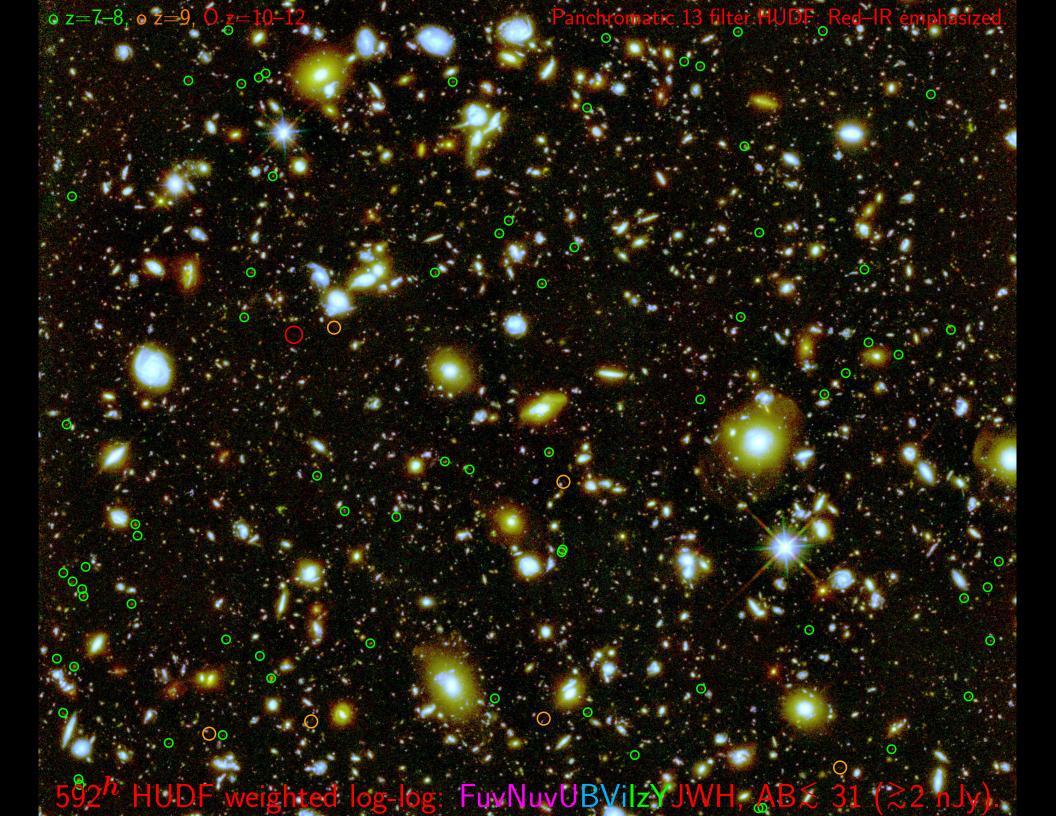
We must make sure that we theoretically understand the likely Pop III mass-range, their IMF, their duplicity and clustering properties, their SN-rates, etc., before JWST flies, so we know what to look for.

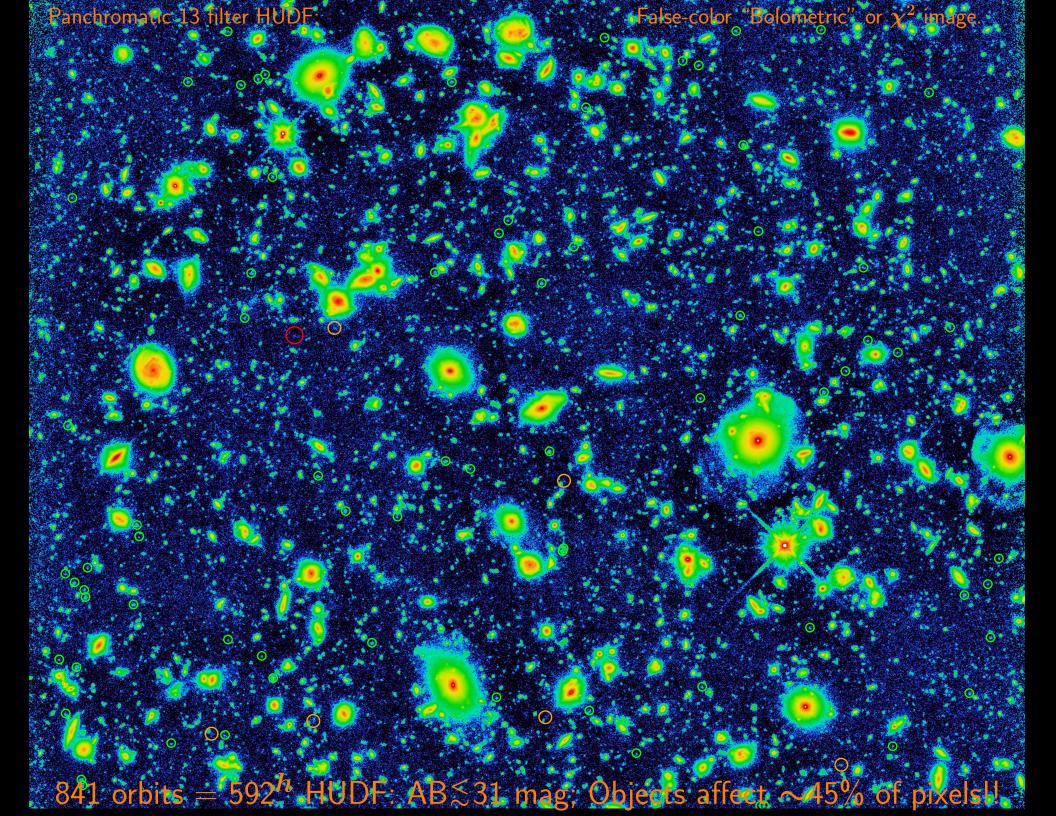
3) How will Webb measure First Light: What to expect in (Ultra) Deep Fields?

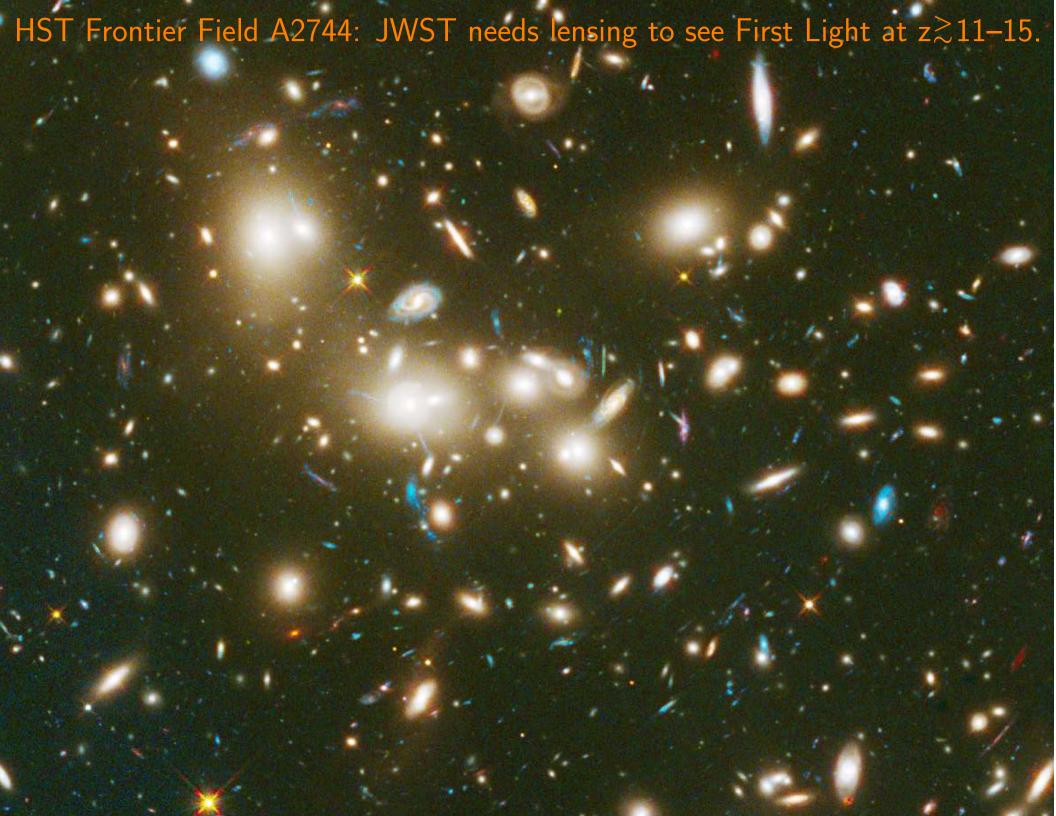


- Can't beat redshift: to see First Light, must observe near-mid IR.
- \Rightarrow This is why JWST needs NIRCam at 0.8–5 μ m and MIRI at 5–28 μ m.











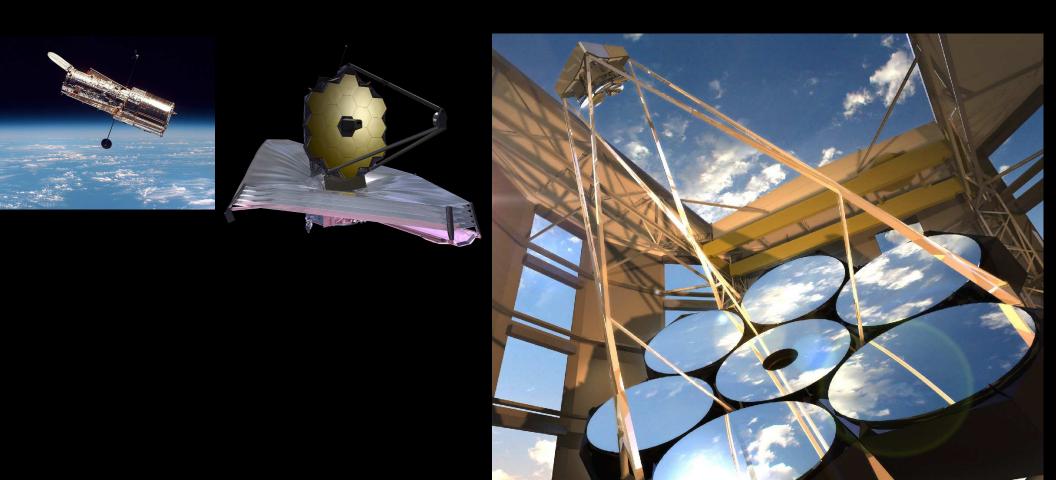


Conclusion: JWST First Light strategy must consider three aspects:

- (1) The catastrophic drop in the object density at $z \gtrsim 8$ ($\lesssim 0.5$ Gyr).
- (2) Cannot-see-the-forest-for-the-trees effect ["Natural Confusion" limit]: Background objects blend into foreground because of their own diameter.
- (3) House-of-mirrors effect ["Gravitational Confusion"]:
- JWST needs to find most First Light objects at $z \gtrsim 10-15$ through the best cosmic lenses (this will make the images even more crowded):
- Lensing is needed to see what Einstein thought was impossible to observe!

(4) Future: Next generation 20–40 m ground-based telescopes and ATLAST

True relative size: Hubble, James Webb, & Giant Magellan Telescope

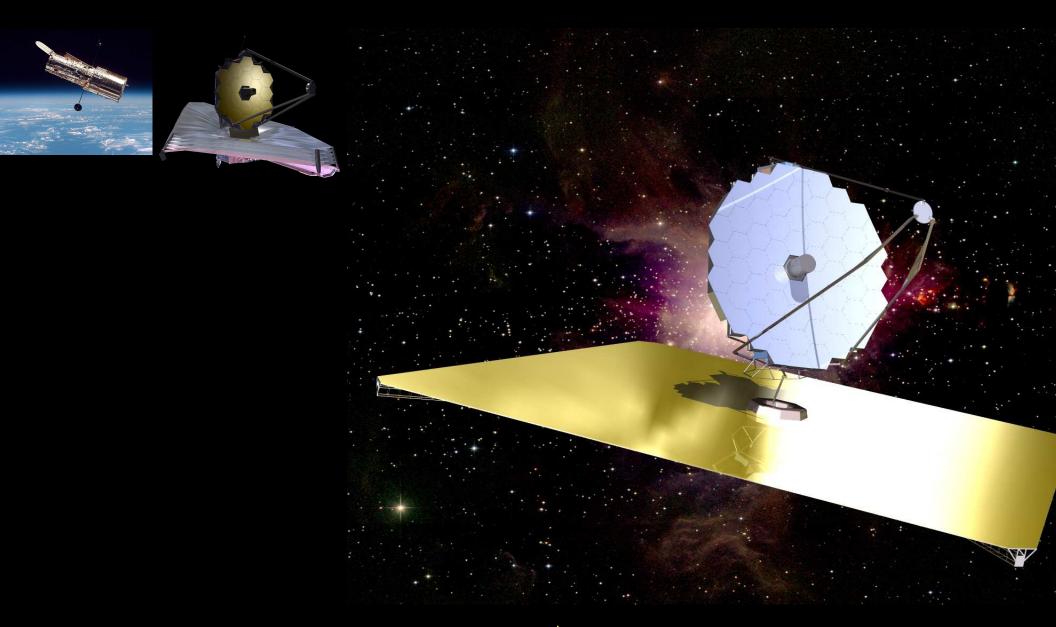


 $(1973\sim2020^+);$ $(1996\sim2031);$

 $(2000\sim2050^{+}).$

- JWST has superbly dark L2-sky & SB-sensitivity, and stable PSF.
- GMT has $4 \times$ higher Res (AO), high-Res spectra, long-term time-domain.

(4) Future: Next generation 20–40 m ground-based telescopes and ATLAST True relative size: Hubble, James Webb, and ATLAST ...



 $(1973\sim2020^{+});$ $(1996\sim2031);$ $(2020\sim2050^{+}?).$

(4) Future: How can we knock it out of the ball-park in the next 30 years?



Each of GMT and ATLAST facility nearly fills the whole Yankee ballpark ...

- New paradigm: They are too large for an individual university to take on.
 - Universities need to collaborate nation-wide to make this happen.

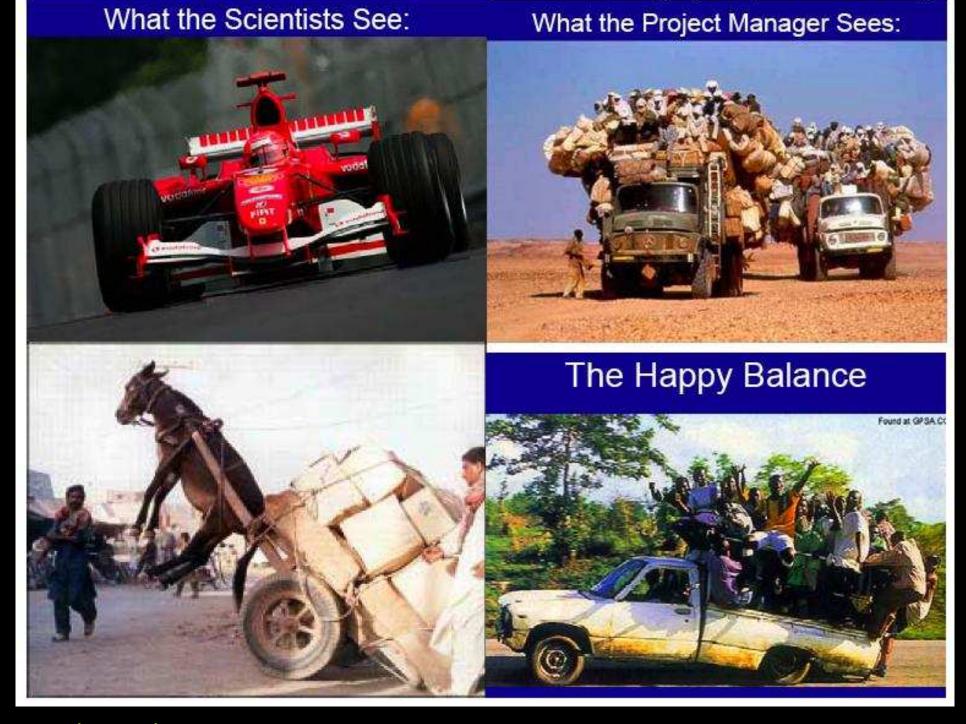
(5) Summary and Conclusions

- (1) HST set stage to measure galaxy assembly in the last 12.7-13.0 Gyrs.
- (2) JWST passed Preliminary & Critical Design Reviews in 2008 & 2010. Management replan in 2010-2011. No technical showstoppers thus far:
- 100% of JWST H/W built, & meets/exceeds specs. Final I&T.
- (3) JWST is designed to map the epochs of First Light, Reionization, and Galaxy Assembly & SMBH-growth in detail. JWST will determine:
- Formation and evolution of the first star-clusters after 0.2 Gyr.
- How dwarf galaxies formed and reionized the Universe after 1 Gyr.
- (4) JWST will have a major impact on astrophysics this decade:
- IR sequel to HST starting 2021: Training next generation researchers.
- JWST will define the next frontier to explore: the Dark Ages at $z \gtrsim 20$.

SPARE CHARTS

• References and other sources of material shown:

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http://www.asu.edu/clas/hst/www/jwst/ [Talk, Movie, Java-tool]
                                    [Hubble at Hyperspeed Java-tool]
http://www.asu.edu/clas/hst/www/ahah/
                                               [Clickable HUDF map]
http://www.asu.edu/clas/hst/www/jwst/clickonHUDF/
http://www.jwst.nasa.gov/ & http://www.stsci.edu/jwst/
http://ircamera.as.arizona.edu/nircam/
http://ircamera.as.arizona.edu/MIRI/
http://www.stsci.edu/jwst/instruments/nirspec/
http://www.stsci.edu/jwst/instruments/fgs
Gardner, J. P., et al. 2006, Space Science Reviews, 123, 485–606
Mather, J., & Stockman, H. 2000, Proc. SPIE Vol. 4013, 2
Windhorst, R., et al. 2008, Advances in Space Research, 41, 1965
Windhorst, R., et al., 2011, ApJS, 193, 27 (astro-ph/1005.2776).
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Any (space) mission is a balance between what science demands, what technology can do, and what budget & schedule allows ... (courtesy Prof. R. Ellis).

• (6) Update of JWST programmatics as of 2021

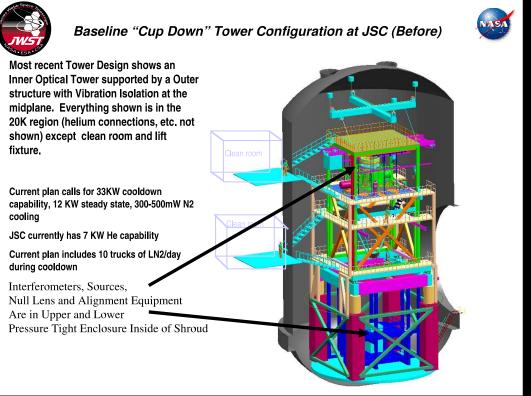
Northrop Grumman Expertise in Space Deployable Systems

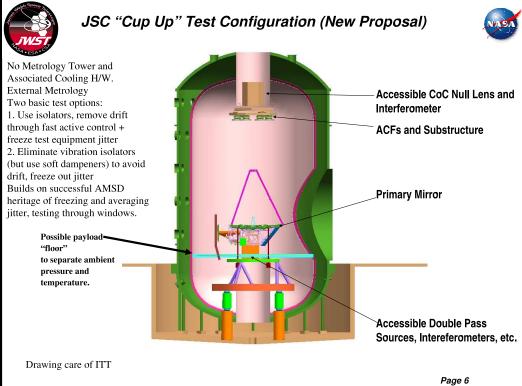
- Over 45 years experience in the design, manufacture, integration, verification and flight operation of spacecraft deployables
- 100% mission success rate, comprising over 640 deployable systems with over 2000 elements









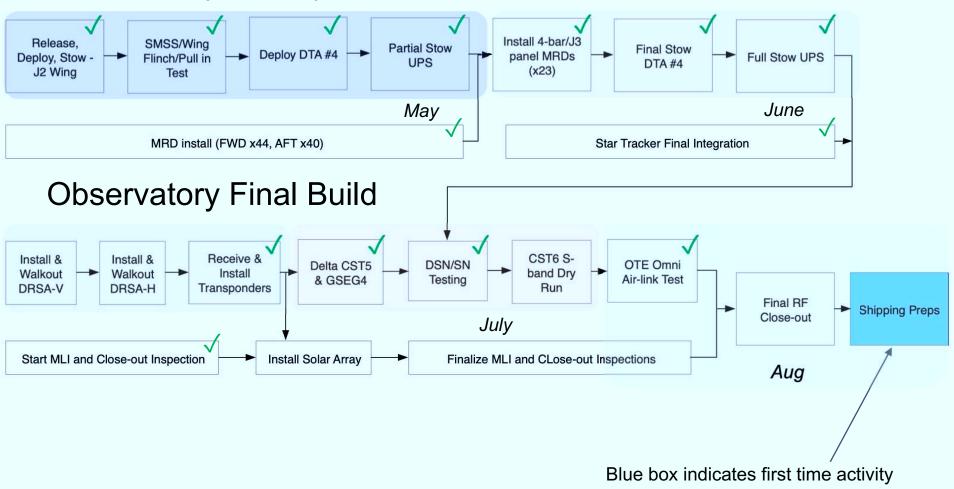


JWST underwent several significant replans and risk-reduction schemes:

- \lesssim 2003: Reduction from 8.0 to 7.0 to 6.5 meter. Ariane-V launch vehicle.
- 2005: Eliminate costly 0.7-1.0 μ m performance specs (kept 2.0 μ m).
- 2005: Simplification of thermal vacuum tests: cup-up, not cup-down.
- 2006: All critical technology at Technical Readiness Level 6 (TRL-6).
- 2008: Passes Mission Preliminary Design & Non-advocate Reviews.
- 2010, 2011: Passes Mission Critical Design Review: Replan Int. & Testing.
 - 2017–2018: Replan final Integration & Testing \Rightarrow Fall 2021 launch.

Remaining I&T Steps

Observatory Deployments

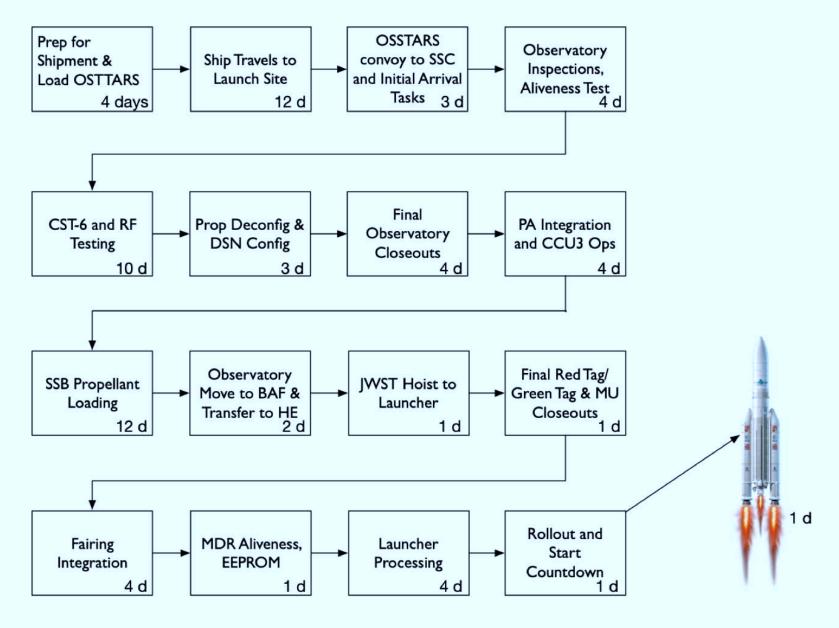


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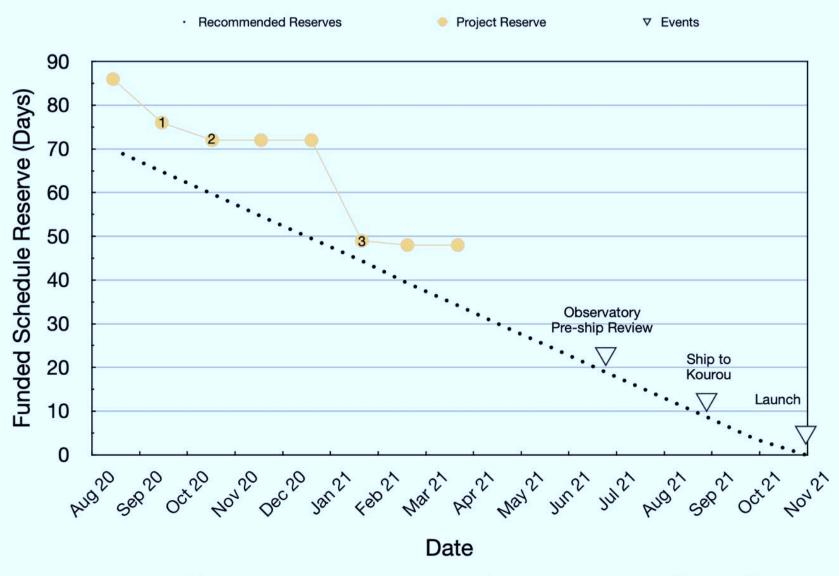
Flowchart of Project tasks for FY21.

Blue = First-time operation (all others done before at sub-system level).

Kourou Activities



Current Funded Schedule Reserve



Reserve uses: (1) Bldg M4 issues, additional Z-axis vibe run, (2) Ka-band measurements, APCO adapter (3) Planned sunshield repairs and patching

Fiscal Year 2021 JWST HQ Milestones

Month	Milestone	Comment	
Oct-20	1 Complete Observatory Envronmental Testing	Completed 10/2/20	
Nov-20			
Dec-20	2 Complete Post Environmental Testing Spacecraft Bus Deployments	Completed 11/12/20	
Jan-21	3 Complete Post Environmental Testing Sunshield Deployments	Completed 12/16/20	
Feb-21	4 Complete Comprehensive System Test #5	Completed 2/13/21	
Mar-21	5 Complete Cycle 1 Geneal Observer Proposal Reviews	Completed 3/30/21	
	6 Sunshield Fold Complete	Completed 4/6/21	
	7 Launch Readiness Exercise #2	Completed 3/8/21	
Apr-21			
May-21	8 Final Deployable Tower deployment	Completed 6/8/21	
Jun-21		(3)	
Jul-21	9 Final Observatory Stow Complete	Completed 7/15/21	
	10 Observatory Pre-Ship Review	Completed 7/29/21	
	11 Launch Readiness Exercise #4	Completed 6/22/21	
Aug-21	12 Operational Readiness Review		
	13 Ship Observatory to Launch Site		
Sep-21			

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Milestones left to go as of Summer 2021.

Operational Readiness Review passed in Aug. 2021.

Milestone Performance

 Since the September 2011 replan JWST reports high-level milestones monthly to numerous stakeholders

	Total Milestones	Total Milestones Completed	Number Completed Early	Number Completed Late	Deferred to Next Year	Deferred more than one quarter
FY2011	21	21	6	3	0	0
FY2012	37	34	16	2	3	3
FY2013	41	38	20	5	3	2
FY2014	36	23	10	8	11	10
FY2015	48	44	22	12	4	3
FY2016	45	39	25	7	6	2
FY2017	38	32	12	13	8	5
FY2018	31	18	7	2	13	13
FY2019	25	19	8	9	2	1

^{*} Milestone accounting in FY2014 was complicated by the government shutdown and multicomponent milestones

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FY14: 8 milestones late by 1 mo due to Oct 2013 Government shutdown.

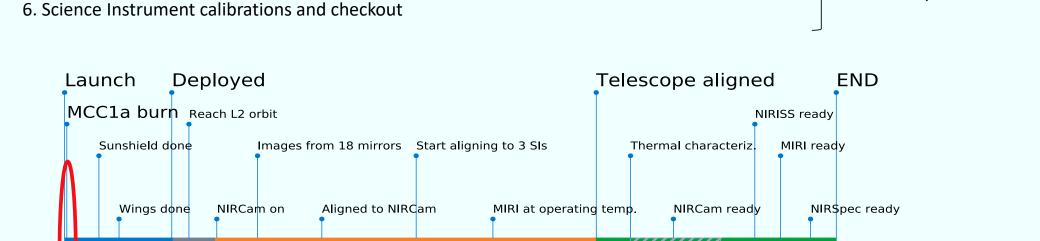
FY15: Most "Lates" not on critical path.

FY17: Lates started to outnumber Early's \Rightarrow Replan Integration & Testing.

Commissioning At A Glance

Commissioning begins at launch and is ~180 days long, including the following key events:

- 1. Launch and Ascent power positive, safe attitude, and communications established
- 2. Mid Course Correction MCC1 (a and b) corrects launcher dispersions for proper L2 trajectory
- 3. Deployments
- 4. Cool-Down/Cryo-Cooler Activation
- 5. Mirror segment deploy and wave-front control



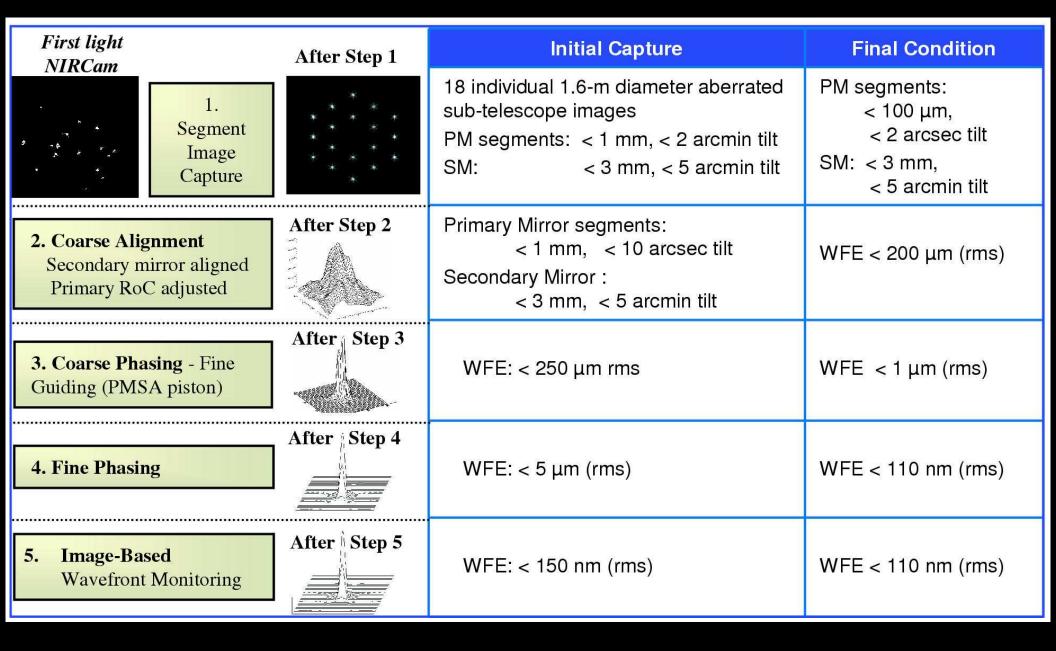
Deploy cooling Telescope commissioning issioning LRE-1 40 60 20 80 120 140 160 100 180 Days after launch Image credit: NASA/ Jane Rigby

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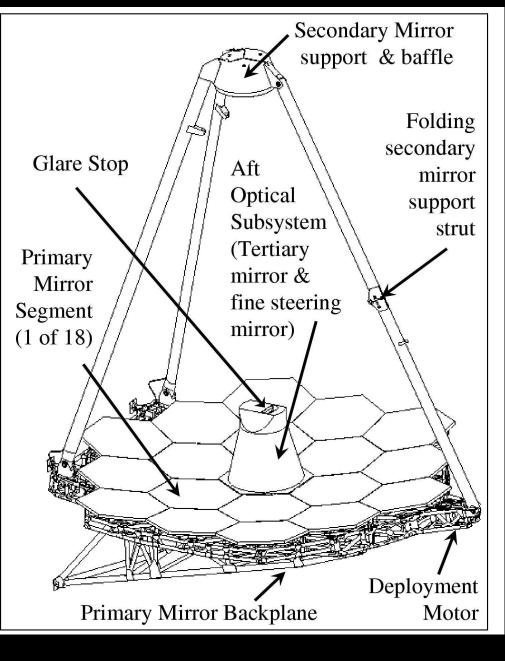
Launch and Deploy Phase

Cool-Down/OTIS Phase

JWST Commissioning Plan after launch from Kourou in Fall 2021.

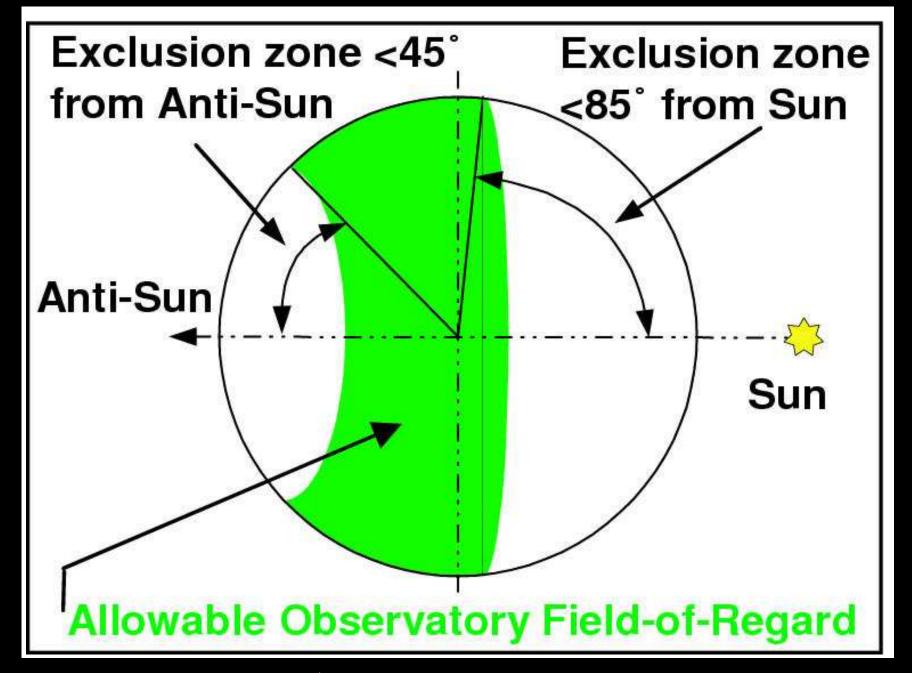


JWST's Wave Front Sensing and Control is similar to the Keck telescope. In L2, need WFS updates every 10 days depending on scheduling/illumination.





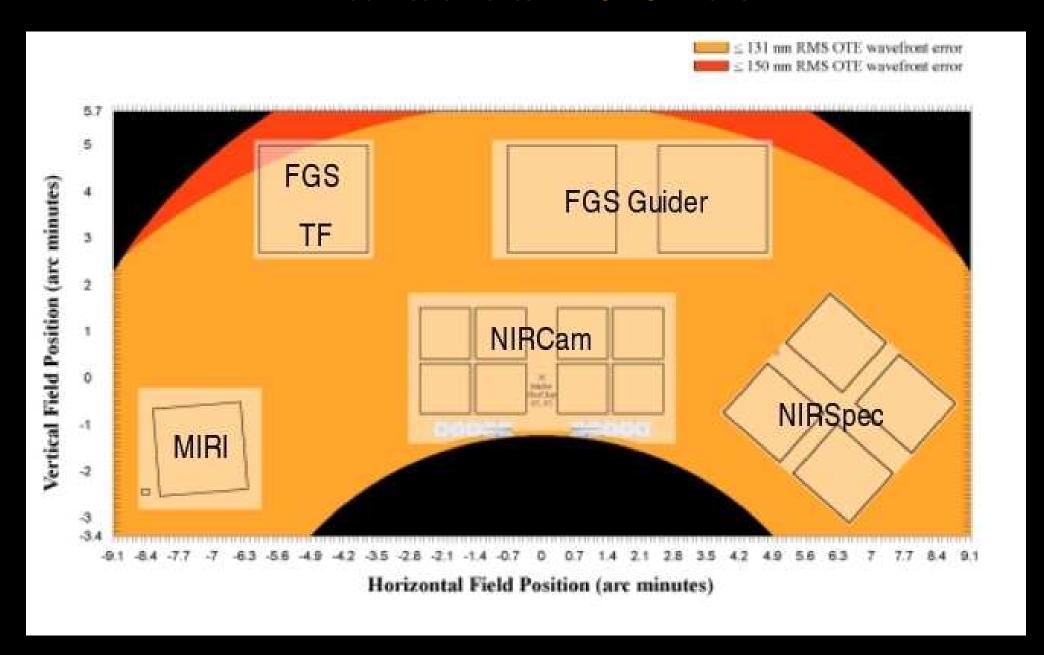
Wave-Front Sensing tested hands-off at 40 K in 1-G at JSC in 2015–2017. Ball 1/6 scale-model for WFS: produces diffraction-limited 2.0 μ m images.



JWST can observe North/South Ecliptic pole targets continuously:

- 1000-hr JWST projects swap back/forth between NEP/SEP targets.
- JWST gets the very best reaction wheels (Rockwell Collins; Heidelberg).

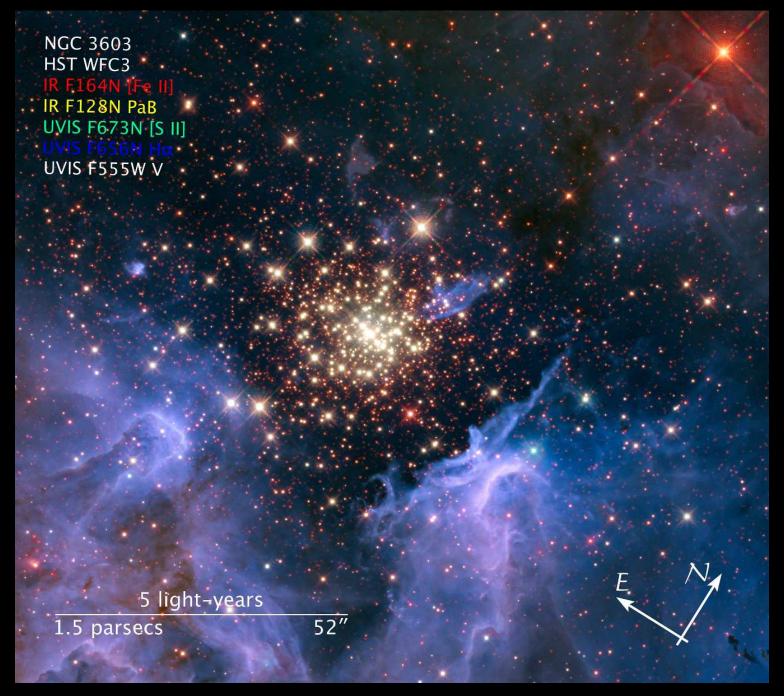
• What instruments will JWST have?



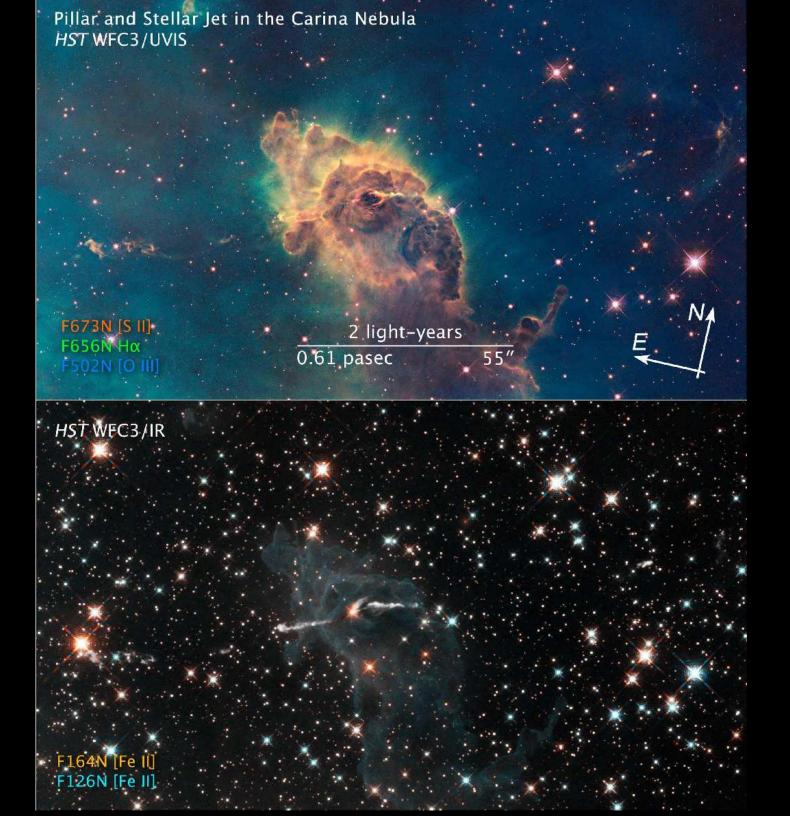
All JWST instruments can in principle be used in parallel observing mode:

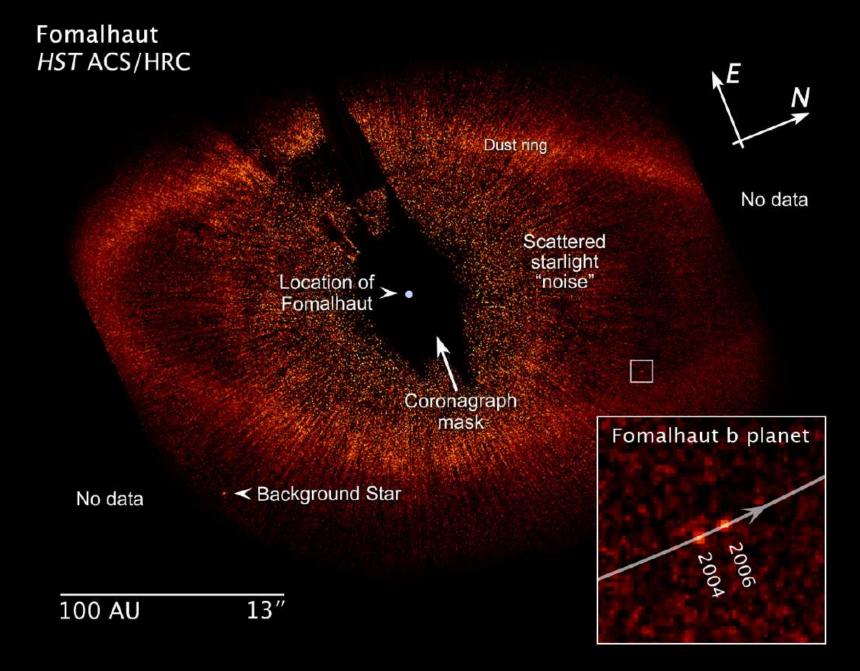
• Currently only being implemented for parallel *calibrations*.

(7) How can JWST measure Star-Formation and Earth-like exoplanets?



NGC 3603: Young star-cluster triggering star-birth in "Pillars of Creation"



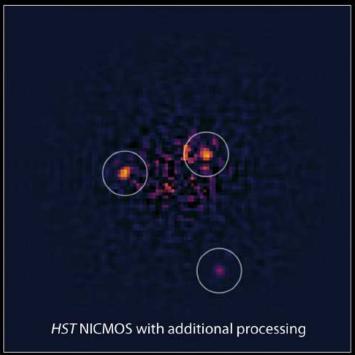


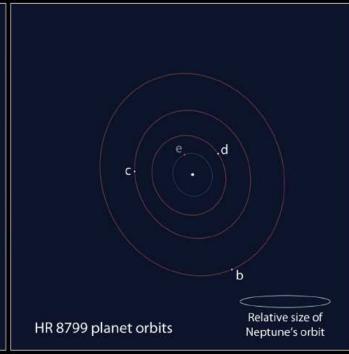
HST/ACS Coronagraph imaging of planetary debris disk around Fomalhaut: First direct imaging of a moving planet forming around a nearby star!

JWST can find such planets much closer in for much farther stars.

Exoplanet HR 8799 System







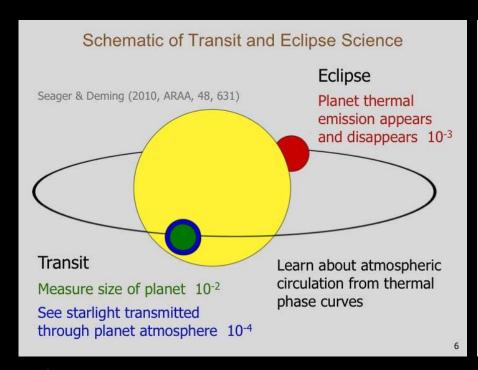
NASA, ESA, and R. Soummer (STScI)

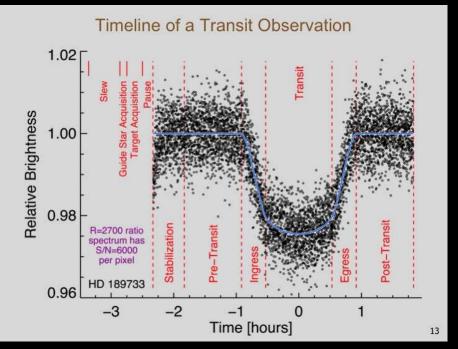
STScI-PRC11-29

HST/NICMOS imaging of planetary system around the (carefully subtracted) star HR 8799: Direct imaging of planets around a nearby star.

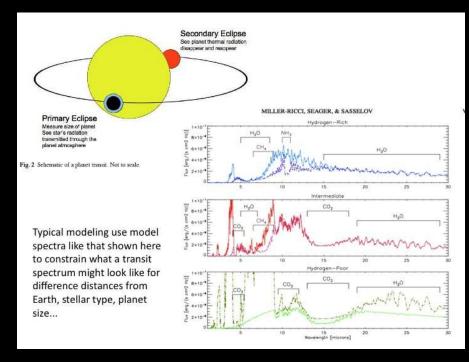
Press release: http://hubblesite.org/newscenter/archive/releases/2011/29/

JWST can find such planets much closer in for much farther-away stars.



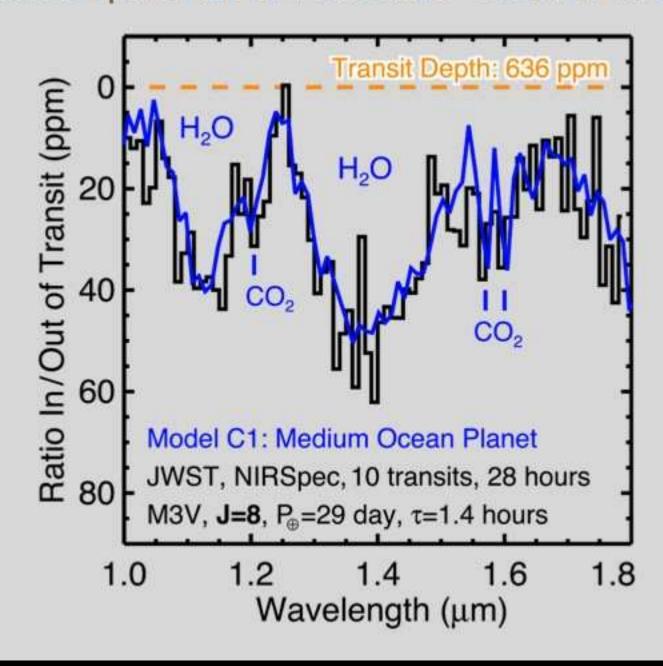


JWST can do very precise photometry of transiting Earth-like exoplanets.



JWST IR spectra can find water and CO_2 in (super-)Earth-like exoplanets.

Transit Spectrum of Habitable "Ocean Planet"



17

Visible Infrared



30 Doradus Nebula and Star Cluster Hubble Space Telescope • WFC3/UVIS/IR

NASA, ESA, F. Paresce (INAF-IASF, Italy), and the WFC3 Science Oversight Committee

STScI-PRC09-32b

30 Doradus: Giant young star-cluster in Large Magellanic Cloud (150,000 ly), triggering birth of Sun-like stars (and surrounding debris disks).

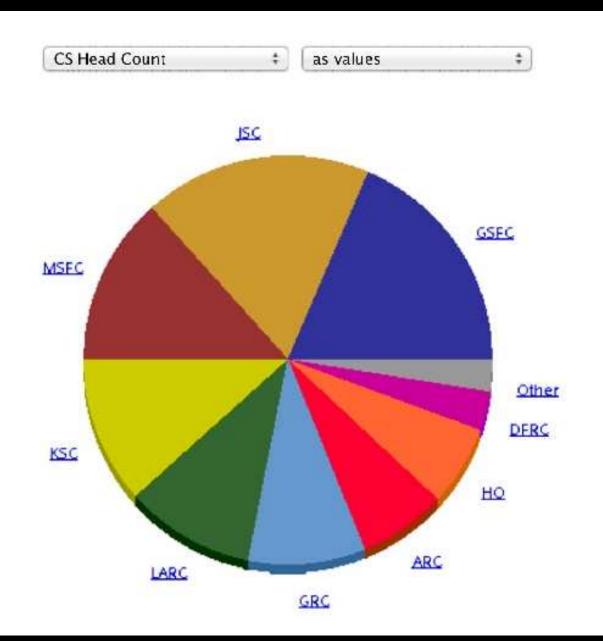




(8) What do our Astrophysics College Graduates do? Future Careers at NASA:

- Over the last 25 years, (ASU) Astrophysics College Graduates typically:
- (0) Have very low unemployment (\lesssim few %).
- (1) About 30% are faculty at Universities or 4-year colleges.
- \bullet (2) About 30% are researchers at NASA or other government centers.
- (3) About 20% work in Aerospace or related industries.
- (4) About 20% are faculty at Community Colleges or Highschools.

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See also: http://aas.org/learn/careers-astronomy
http://www.aip.org/statistics/astronomy/
https://webapp4.asu.edu/programs/t5/careerdetails/19-2011.00?init=false&nopassive=true
http://scitation.aip.org/content/aip/magazine/physicstoday/article/68/6/10.1063/PT.3.2815
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Centers & NSSC	CS Head Count
<u>GSFC</u>	3,354
<u>JSC</u>	3,203
MSFC	2,432
KSC	2,055
LARC	1,881
<u>GRC</u>	1,640
ARC	1,215
HQ	1,152
DFRC	558
Other	454

NASA workforce as pie-chart and in numbers — 2013 total: about 18,000). Nation-wide NASA contractors (Northrop, Lockheed, Boeing, etc): 150,000.

See also: https://wicn.nssc.nasa.gov/generic.html

Some of our ASU grad students do important outreach events:





Annual Girl Scout Stargazing at the White House South lawn (July 2015).

Our own Amber Straughn (right; now at NASA GSFC working for Nobel Laureate Dr. John Mather) informs the Obama's about NASA.