# Advances in multiangular and polarimetric imaging: Application to boundary layer clouds and aerosols

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## Introduction

- IPCC AR4: "The shortwave impact of changes in boundary-layer clouds, and to a lesser extent midlevel clouds, constitutes the largest contributor to inter-model differences in global cloud feedbacks."
- IPCC AR4: "There remain large uncertainties in both measurements and modelling of [aerosol-cloud interaction] processes." Issues with satellite observations:
  - Insufficient spatial resolution
  - Cloud heterogeneity
  - Particle type sensitivity
- Observations aided by multiangular and polarimetric imagery:
  - Cloud-top heights
  - Dynamical environment (horizontal winds)
  - Aerosol and cloud microphysical properties
  - Cloud 3D structure

#### Current multiangle satellite sensors



#### MISR

- 9 view angles
- 275 m spatial resolution, 400 km swath
- 4 VNIR spectral bands



#### ATSR-2/AATSR

- 2 view angles
- 1 km spatial resolution, 512 km swath
- 3 VNIR, 1 SWIR, 3 TIR spectral bands

## Current/near-term polarimetric satellite sensors



#### POLDER/PARASOL

- Up to 14 view angles
- 7 km spatial resolution, 2400 km swath
- 9 VNIR spectral bands (3 polarimetric)



#### **Glory APS**

- Hundreds of view angles
- 6-20 km spatial resolution, non imaging
- 6 VNIR, 3 SWIR spectral bands
  - (all polarimetric)

# "Geometric" multiangle measurement approach

Geometric (stereoscopic) approach keys on parallax and time lapse





#### Stereo heights are independent of temperature...



Marine stratocumulus off western coast of S. America (2001, 2003, 2006 data)



Garay et al. (2008), *JGR* **113**; Harshvardan et al. (2009), *TGARS* **47**; Marchand et al. (2010), *JGR* **115** 

#### ...and very sensitive to low- and mid-level clouds



MISR zonal mean cloud(-top) fraction vs. altitude

#### MISR cloud fraction by altitude

Stereo recovers increase in cloud heights associated with SST increase and deepening of the boundary layer



## Cloud height and precipitation during RICO



Fusion of MISR and ground-based radar data localize the type and altitude of dominant rain-producing trade wind cumuli

Snodgrass et al. (2009), JAMC 48

## Height-resolved stereo wind retrievals from MISR



Hurricane Earl 8/30/2010

### Marine stratocumulus winds



## Boundary layer dynamics at high resolution



MISR heights and winds retrieved at 1.1 km resolution

Precision: height: ~100 m wind: ~0.3 – 1.0 m/s



### Stereo also retrieves aerosol heights

27.6°S, 167.1°W



## WindCam multi-stereo camera

MISR	WindCam
9 narrow angle cameras,	1 wide angle camera,
4 VNIR bands	1 red band
View angles:	View angles:
Nadir, 26°, 46°, 60°, 70°	Nadir, 40°, 60°, 70°
Mass: 150 kg	Mass: 17 kg
Power: 75 W	Power: 23 W
Data rate: 7 Mbps	Data rate: <3 Mbps
Spatial resolution: 275 m 400 km swath Global coverage - 9 days	Spatial resolution: 250 m or less 1000 km swath Daily global coverage from 3 platforms

Use of multiple angles and subpixel image matchers will provide ~100 m vertical resolution

Long focal length will improve resolution further

#### WindCam



Flight direction

### Multiwavelength stereo from ATSR-2



1.6 µm

11 µm

As a geometric technique, stereo can operate at many wavelengths 

- Midwave/thermal IR provides day/night coverage
- Currently spatial resolution from ATSR-2 is ~1 km

Naud et al. (2007), *IJRS* 28

## Technology challenge: high-resolution IR stereo

- Initial look at 3.7 µm multi-stereo camera with 250 m resolution
  - Optics 2-3 larger than visible camera
  - Heavy lens elements with complex prescription
  - Optics cooled to 200°K
  - Large format focal plane cooled to 120°K

#### Technology needs

- Higher temperature detectors with low noise in appropriate pixel layouts, e.g., Barrier Infrared Detector (BIRD) technology
  - Eliminates one source of dark current (generationrecombination noise) without impeding the photocurrent
  - Achieves similar SNR at warmer temperatures than conventional photodetectors such as HgCdTe
  - Active area of research at JPL's Microdevices Lab



Hill et al. (2010), Electron. Lett 46

## "Radiometric" multiangle measurement approach

Radiometric (non-polarimetric or polarimetric) approach keys on variation of radiance with view angle





# Aerosol particle properties



MISR views of Eyjafjallajökull – 4/19/2010

## Polarimetry helps distinguish aerosol type



	r <sub>eff</sub> (μm)	V <sub>eff</sub>	m <sub>2250</sub>	m 865
	0.25	2.0	1.32	1.39
$\triangle$	0.35	1.5	1.37	1.48

Chowdhary et al. (2001), GRL 28

### Sensitivity to aerosol height

Intensity

#### Degree of linear polarization

0-2 km 2-4 km 4-6 km

80

80



AOD= 0.3 Black surface

Dust aerosol at different heights

#### Particle properties sensitivity



To add high-accuracy information content to multiangle intensity data, uncertainty of 0.005 or better in degree of linear polarization is required

Hasekamp and Landgraf (2007), Appl. Opt. 46

## Polarimetry using temporal modulation

- We have developed a design that rapidly modulates the input polarization using photo-elastic retardance modulators (PEMs)
  - Enables retrieval of q = Q/I (and u = U/I) as relative measurements, providing high sensitivity and accuracy



# Mutiangle SpectroPolarimetric Imager (MSPI)

MISR	MSPI
9 cameras, 4 VNIR bands	5 - 9 cameras, UV-VNIR-SWIR bands Polarimetry in selected bands
View angles (9): Nadir, 26°, 46°, 60°, 70°	View angles (7): Nadir, 38º, 60º, 70º
Mass: 150 kg Power: 75 W Data rate: 7 Mbps	Mass: ~140 kg Power: ~100 W Data rate: 15 Mbps
Spatial resolution: 275 m 400 km swath Global coverage - 9 days	Spatial resolution: 275 m, less at nadir 700 km swath, 1800 km at nadir (depends on orbit) Global coverage - 4 days



### Two prototype UV/VNIR cameras are built

GroundMSPI is operating in the field





Spectral bands 355, 380, 445, 470\*, 555, 660\*, 865\*, 935 nm (\*polarimetric)

AirMSPI is operating and flight ready, awaiting ER-2 availability







Will fly in nose of ER-2, pointable to multiple angles

# High polarimetric image quality - GroundMSPI





# GroundMSPI cloud imagery



Polarization orientation

Intensity

DOLP

#### **POLDER cloud drop size retrieval**



![](_page_26_Figure_2.jpeg)

Polarimetry in cloudbow is sensitive to droplet size distribution

Angular density restricts technique to homogeneous clouds

Bréon and Goloub (1998), GRL 25

#### Cloud droplet size retrieval comparison

POLDER (polarimetric) and MODIS (multispectral)

![](_page_27_Figure_2.jpeg)

polluted areas

Requirement of homogeneity may bias POLDER results Multispectral technique problematic for broken clouds

Bréon and Doutriaux-Boucher (2005), TGARS 43; Rosenfeld and Feingold (2003), GRL 30

### Cloudbow imaging polarimetry concept

- Dual PEM technology enables a wide-angle polarimetric camera with dense angular coverage in a single spectral band, up to 1000km swath, and ~250 m resolution
- Polarimetric adaptation of the visible wavelength WindCam concept

![](_page_28_Figure_3.jpeg)

High angular density is possible by using many detector lines in the focal plane

This would permit applying the cloudbow technique at high spatial resolution, avoiding requirement of large-scale homogeneity

#### Current binary treatment of aerosols and clouds

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

MODIS example Aerosols and clouds treated independently Secondary illumination from clouds ignored

![](_page_29_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### MISR example

Plane parallel assumption violated in plume core; retrievals not performed due to spatial heterogeneity

#### Cloud optical depth inconsistencies with angle

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Specific example

#### Marine water clouds in NE Pacific

![](_page_31_Figure_2.jpeg)

Mean cloud optical depth Angular COD inconsistency (percent of mean COD)

Liang et al. (2009), *GRL* 36

#### Plane-parallel biases and errors

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

Cloud optical depth retrievals using LES models show significant reduction in bias and RMS error using 3D vs. 1D RT

Multiple view angles provide additional modest improvements to this statistical characterization – deterministic solutions need to be explored

Evans et al. (2008), JAS 65

## Optical tomography (OT)

- Recovers "the cross-sectional distribution of optical parameters inside a highly scattering medium from information contained in measurements...performed on the boundaries" [Klose and Hielscher (2003), *Inverse Problems* 19]
- Pioneered in biomedical imaging uses scattered near-IR light to study brain hemorrhages, breast cancer, and rheumatoid arthritis
- In atmospheric context, combines the "geometric" and "radiometric" multiangle measurement approaches

![](_page_33_Figure_4.jpeg)

# MISR multiangle cloud reconstruction

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

Cornet and Davies (2008), JGR 113; Seiz and Davies (2006), RSE 100

# Aerosol tomographic reconstruction case study

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)

MISR image of N. California smoke

![](_page_35_Figure_3.jpeg)

### Conclusions

- New technology innovations provide the building blocks for advanced boundary layer cloud and aerosol passive imagers
- Example instrument approaches include:
  - A stereo wide-angle camera with at least 5 view angles for height and wind measurements with high horizontal and vertical resolution – scalable in resolution. Extension to the IR is a technology challenge
  - A polarimetric wide angle camera with high angular density for cloud droplet size measurements using the cloudbow
  - Multispectral, high-accuracy polarimetry at multiple angles for detailed aerosol characterization
- Algorithm advances will be needed to take advantage of these instrument technologies
  - Practical, fast 3D radiative transfer-based retrievals
  - Adapting optical tomography to multiangular observations of clouds and aerosols