GPM Mission Concept

Unify and advance precipitation measurements from space to provide next-generation global precipitation products within a consistent framework

Low Inclination Observatory (40°)

GMI (10-183 GHz)
(NASA & Partner, 2014)

- Enhanced capability for near real-time monitoring of hurricanes & midlatitude storms
- Improved estimation of rainfall accumulation

GPM Core Observatory (65°)

DPR (Ku-Ka band)
GMI (10-183 GHz)
(NASA-JAXA, LRD 2013)

- Precipitation physics observatory
- Transfer standard for inter-satellite calibration of constellation sensors

Partner Satellites:

GCOM-W1
DMSP F-18, F-19
Megha-Tropiques
MetOp, NOAA-19
NPP, JPSS (over land)

Coverage & Sampling

- 1-2 hr revisit time over land
- < 3 hr mean revisit time over 90% of globe

Key Advancement

Using an advanced radar/radiometer measurement system to improve constellation sensor retrievals

1st NOAA Workshop on GPM, 18-19 August 2010
GPM Observations from Non-Sun-Synchronous Orbits

Near real-time observations filling gaps between those of polar orbiters at fixed time of the day for:

- Intercalibration of polar-orbiting sensors over wide range of latitudes
- Near real-time monitoring of hurricanes & midlatitude storms
- Improved accuracy of rain volume estimation
- Resolving diurnal variability in rainfall climatology

Monthly Samples as a Function of the Time of the Day

(1° x 1° Resolution)

TRMM: 3652 “asynoptic” samples

GPM Core+LIO: 6175 samples

Core+LIO: 4298 samples

1st NOAA Workshop on GPM, 18-19 August 2010
Next-Generation Global Precipitation Products

- Intercalibrated constellation radiometric data reconciling differences in center frequency, viewing geometry, resolution, etc.
  
  - Converting observations of one satellite to virtual observations of another using non-Sun-synchronous satellite as a transfer standard
  - GMI employs an encased hot load design (to minimize solar intrusion) and noise diodes for nonlinearity removal to attain greater accuracy & stability

- Unified precipitation retrievals using a common cloud database constrained by DPR+GMI measurements from the Core Observatory

  Optimally matching observed $T_b$ with simulated $T_b$ from an a priori cloud database

  TRMM uses a model-generated cloud database
  
   **GPM uses a DPR/GMI-constrained database**

Prototype GPM Radiometer Retrieval

Comparison of TRMM PR surface rain with TMI rain retrieval using an cloud database consistent with PR reflectivity and GMI multichannel radiances

1st NOAA Workshop on GPM, 18-19 August 2010
**Inter-Satellite Calibration of Microwave Radiometers**

- **Objective:** Quantify and reconcile differences between similar but not identical microwave radiometers to produce self-consistent global precipitation estimates

- **X-Cal (Imagers):** Convert observations of one satellite to virtual observations of another using non-Sun-synchronous satellite as a transfer standard (e.g. TMI or GMI)
  - Develop corrections for recurring instrument errors and implementation strategy for routine intercalibration of constellation radiometers
  - Bias correction a function of orbital phase and solar beta angle
  - Agreement between different methods ~ 0.3 K

- **X-Cal (Sounders):**
  - Double differencing using forecast residual as primary transfer standard to provide a basis for calibration consistency
  - Collaboration with NWP centers

**Figures:**
- TMI Bias Correction Table (K)
- NOAA 17 183 ±3 GHz (Ocean)

GPM International X-Cal Working Group (NASA, NOAA, JAXA, CNRS, EUMETSAT, CMA, CONAE, GIST, & universities) in coordination with WMO/CGMS GSICS

1st NOAA Workshop on GPM, 18-19 August 2010
GPM Ground Validation

Pre-launch algorithm development & post-launch product evaluation

- Refine algorithm assumptions & parameters
- Characterize uncertainties in satellite retrievals & GV measurements

Three complementary approaches:

• **Direct statistical validation (surface):**
  - Leveraging off operational networks to identify and resolve first-order discrepancies between satellite and ground-based precipitation estimates

• **Physical process validation (vertical column):**
  - Cloud system and microphysical studies geared toward testing and refinement of physically-based retrieval algorithms

• **Integrated hydrologic validation/applications (4-dimensional):**
  - Identify space-time scales at which satellite precipitation data are useful to water budget studies and hydrological applications; characterization of model and observation errors

“Truth” is estimated through the convergence of satellite and ground-based estimates

1st NOAA Workshop on GPM, 18-19 August 2010
Direct Statistical Validation
Identify systematic regional or regime issues

Geometrically matches ground and spaceborne radar volumes (TRMM PR used as pre-launch proxy for GPM DPR)

- Radar reflectivity comparison
  - Systematic regime variability in reflectivity between space and ground radars can be detected with existing operational networks
  - Stable PR supports ground radar calibration
  - Scalable and Platform-Adaptive Matching Software available as open source

(In use in Korea, Taiwan, Australia, & Europe)

• Surface rain-rate comparison
  - Compare satellite rain products with NOAA National Mosaic & QPE (NMQ) data at 0.01° resolution updated every 5 min.
  - Integrate satellite rainfall data into NMQ

1st NOAA Workshop on GPM, 18-19 August 2010
Physical Validation: Field Campaigns (2010-2012)

- **2010**: Pre-CHUVA: GPM-Brazil & NASA field campaign targeting warm rain retrieval over land, Alcântara Launching Center, 3-24 March.
- **2010**: Light Precipitation Validation Experiment (LPVEx): CloudSat-GPM light rain in shallow melting layer situations, Helsinki Testbed & Gulf of Finland, Sept-Oct.
- **2011**: Mid-Latitude Continental Convective Clouds Experiment (MC3E): NASA-DOE field campaign at DOE-ASR Central Facility in Oklahoma, Apr-May.
- **2012**: High-Latitude Cold-Season Snowfall Campaign: GPM-Environment Canada campaign on snowfall retrieval, Ontario, Canada, Jan-Feb.

Algorithm developers directly engaged in design, execution, & analysis
**Integrated Hydrological Applications/Validation**

Identify space-time scales at which satellite precipitation data are useful to water budget studies and hydrological applications

- Characterization of uncertainties in satellite and ground-based (radar, dense gauge networks) rainfall estimates over a broad range of space/time scales
- Characterization of uncertainties in hydrologic models and understanding propagation of input uncertainties into model forecasts
- Assessing performance of satellite rainfall products in hydrologic applications over a range of space-time scales
- Using data from synergistic missions (e.g. SMOS, SMAP, GRACE) to refine hydrologic model parameters and improve predictions driven by GPM input data

Joint field campaign with NOAA HMT-SE under planning for 2013

1st NOAA Workshop on GPM, 18-19 August 2010
GPM Dynamically-Downscaled High-Resolution Product

Using CRM to downscale satellite precipitation observations

Assimilate satellite precipitation data into cloud-resolving model to produce observation-constrained dynamically-balanced precipitation analysis at 1-2 km for hydrological applications

- NASA Unified WRF model (9-3-1 km nesting)
- NOAA conventional observations (radiosonde, aircraft) and operational clear-sky satellite data
- Precipitation-affected satellite radiances
- NASA Satellite Data Simulation Unit
- CSU Maximum Likelihood Ensemble data assimilation scheme

1st NOAA Workshop on GPM, 18-19 August 2010
## GPM Data Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1B GMI, GMI-2</td>
<td>Geolocated Brightness Temperature and intercalibrated brightness temperature</td>
<td>Swath, instrument field of view (IFOV)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 1C GMI, GMI-2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Latency ~1 hour</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 1B DPR</td>
<td>Geolocated, calibrated radar powers</td>
<td>Swath, IFOV (produced at JAXA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 1C, partner radiometers</td>
<td>Intercalibrated brightness temperatures</td>
<td>Swath, IFOV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 GMI, GM12</td>
<td>Radar enhanced (RE) precipitation retrievals</td>
<td>Swath, IFOV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Latency ~1 hour</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 partner radiometers</td>
<td>RE precipitation retrievals from 1C</td>
<td>Swath, IFOV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 DPR</td>
<td>Reflectivities, Sigma Zero, Characterization, DSD, Precipitation with vertical structure</td>
<td>Swath, IFOV (Ku, Ka, combined Ku/Ka)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Latency ~3 hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 combined GMI/DPR</td>
<td>Precipitation</td>
<td>Swath, IFOV (initially at DPR Ku swath and then at GMI swath)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Latency ~3 hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3 Latent Heating (GMI, DPR, Combined)</td>
<td>Latent Heating and associated related parameters</td>
<td>0.1 x 0.1 monthly grid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3 Instrument Accumulations</td>
<td>GMI, partner radiometers, combined and DPR</td>
<td>0.1 x 0.1 monthly grid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3 Merged Product</td>
<td>Merger of GMI, partner radiometer, and IR</td>
<td>0.1 x 0.1 hourly grid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4 Products</td>
<td>Model assimilated data</td>
<td>Fine temporal and spatial scale TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Science Partnership with NOAA on GPM

• Level 1 radiometer intercalibration (partnership through GSICS & PMM)
  - Using NWP forecast residuals for sounder intercalibration
• Level 2 precipitation algorithms (NOAA PI’s on PMM Science Team)
  - Land surface characterization for physically based retrieval
  - Precipitation microphysical properties
• Statistical validation
  - Collaboration with NOAA NMQ for validation and product enhancement
• Hydrological applications/validation
  - Joint field campaigns with NOAA HMT (e.g. HMT-SE)
• Level 3 multi-satellite product development
  - Moving towards U.S. national products (global & regional)
  - Combined satellite & ground-based measurements
• Level 4 dynamic downscaling
  - WRF ensemble data assimilation using NOAA operational data streams
Additional Slides
GPM Constellation Sampling and Coverage

Baseline Constellation Schedule

Current Capability:
\( \leq 3\text{h over }45\% \text{ of globe} \)

GPM (2015): \( \leq 3\text{h over }90\% \text{ of globe} \)

1-2 hr revisit time over land with inclusion of sounders

1\textsuperscript{st} NOAA Workshop on GPM, 18-19 August 2010
LPVEx Field Campaign (Sept. 15 – Oct. 24, 2010)
Target: Light rain in cold low altitude melting layer environment

GV Science:
- a) Quantify column DSD/precip variability over inland, coastal, sea regimes
- b) Melting layer physics coupled to water below and ice above
- c) Reconstructed Ka-Ku band (DPR) data for DFR algorithm testing
- d) Observationally-validated model databases for radiometer algorithms

Approach:
- • Heavily instrument surface sites + 1 Ship under radar/aircraft/satellite coverage at Järvenpää (inland), Harmaja (Island), Emasalo (coast), and R/V Aranda (sea)
- • 3 Dual-pol radars, 6-8 disdrometers/4-MRRs/ADMIRARI radiometer/3 POSS U. Wyoming King Air Airborne microphysics + W-band radar

Helsinki-Testbed & Gulf of Finland
MC3E Field Campaign (April 15 – May 31, 2011)
Target: Mid-latitude convective and stratiform rainfall over land

**Location:** DOE-ASR Central Facility, Oklahoma

**GV Science Priorities**

1. **Coordinated Airborne [high altitude/in situ]**
   a. High altitude Ka/Ku-band radar, multi-freq. radiometer with in-situ ice microphysics
   b. Pre/post storm surface properties

2. **3-D Mapping of hydrometeor distribution/type**
   a. Unified framework for retrieving 3-D DSD
   b. Sub pixel scale DSD variability
   c. Cross validation/comparison of multi-frequency (Ka-Ku) and dual-pol. retrievals

3. **Satellite simulator models (CRM/LSM/RT)**
   a. High quality sounding-based forcing data
   b. Microphysical and kinematic validation.
   c. Land surface impacts

**Confirmed Instruments:**

- **Aircraft:** ER-2, UND Citation (microphysics)
- **Radars:** NPOL, D3R, DOE X-band(s), C-band, Ka/W, S/UHF profiler
- **Surface:** Dense disdrometer/gauge net. ASR surface met, radiometer, flux and aerosol instruments
- **Soundings:** ASR array 6 – 8 launches/day

**Status:** Pre-field deployment sampling and logistics planning
NASA-EC Snowfall Campaign (Jan.-Feb. 2012)

**Target: Snowfall retrieval algorithms**

**GV Science**

1. Radiometer/DPR Snowfall measurement sensitivities to snow type, rate, surface and tropospheric characteristics
2. Physics of snowfall in the column and relation to extinction characteristics
3. Model databases for forward modeling and retrieval development.

**Approach**

- Network observations of SWE and PSD
- In-situ and high-altitude airborne sampling
- Ground-based radar/profiling components
- Soundings for column T and Water Vapor

**Status: Planning phase**

**Site chosen:** Environment Canada CARE site in Ontario, Canada

**Instruments planned:** DC-8 (Ka-Ku band radar, CoSMIR radiometer), microphysics aircraft (TBD), D3R Ka-Ku radar, C-band dual-pol radar, numerous snow-gauge/disdrometer clusters, profiling radars at S/UHF, X, K, and W-bands.