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## **ARM Climate Research Facility Instrumentation Status and Information**

JW Voyles

March 2010



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## **Abstract**

The purpose of this report is to provide a concise but comprehensive overview of Atmospheric Radiation Measurement Climate Research Facility instrumentation status. The report is divided into the following five sections: (1) new instrumentation in the process of being acquired and deployed, (2) field campaigns, (3) existing instrumentation and progress on improvements or upgrades, (4) proposed future instrumentation, and (5) Small Business Innovation Research instrument development. [New information is highlighted in blue text.](#)

## **Acknowledgments**

This report is developed largely from the information submitted to and managed within our Instrument Mentor Monthly Summary (IMMS) reporting system (<http://www.db.arm.gov/IMMS/>). Special thanks to our Instrument Team for providing timely and complete updates to the IMMS, to Kathy Doty, our developer and administrator of IMMS, and Rolanda Jundt, who ensures this information is posted accurately on the ARM website.

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## 1.0 New Instrumentation

This section describes approved new instrument deployment and upgrade activities for the current fiscal year (FY).

### 1.1 ARM Initiative – Recovery Act Instrumentation



Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science received \$1.2 billion. In late May 2009, DOE released approximately \$54 million—90 percent—of the \$60 million allocated to the ARM Climate Research Facility. The remaining 10 percent of the Recovery Act funds (\$6 million) was released in August. During the next 18 months, ARM will purchase and deploy dual-frequency scanning cloud radars to all ARM sites, enhance several sites with precipitation radars and energy flux measurement capabilities, and invest in new aerosol sampling and aerial instrumentation. This is just a small sample of the planned enhancements that will result in 143 new instruments for the ARM user community. Please visit the ARM Recovery Act webpage for updates: <http://www.arm.gov/about/recovery-act>.

Contact Jimmy Voyles at [jimmy.voyles@pnl.gov](mailto:jimmy.voyles@pnl.gov) for specific details related to Recovery Act tasks.

### 1.2 Rotating Shadowband Spectrometer (RSS) Overhaul

Please refer to Engineering Change Order ECO-00661, *RSS Refurbishment*, in the RSS section of this report.

### 1.3 Add Scanning Capability to the W-Band ARM Cloud Radar (WACR)

Please refer to Engineering Change Order ECO-00658, *WACR-Add Scanning Capability*, in the W-Band ARM Cloud Radar (WACR) section of this report.

### 1.4 Next-Generation Microwave Radiometers (MWRs)

Please refer to Engineering Change Order ECO-00664, *Next Generation MWR Procurement/Deployment*, in the Microwave Radiometers (MWR) section of this report.

### 1.5 Photoacoustic Soot Spectrometer (PASS)

The Science and Infrastructure Steering Committee (SISC) approved the Working Group's recommendations to deploy an instrument that provides photoacoustic extinction of aerosols. The PASS instrument and associated measurements will be added to the existing ARM Aerosol Observing System (AOS) at the Southern Great Plains (SGP). A science objective is to produce a high-quality data set to investigate the reported bias in the absorption measurements made by the particle/soot absorption photometer instruments.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00663, *Photoacoustic Instrument to Enhance Aerosol Optical Data Quality at ARM*, is approved and in process to document this specification, procurement, and deployment. Dubey Manvendra is the leader. The procurement requisition is complete, and discussions are ongoing related to field installation details. The PASS instrument has been received and is undergoing characterization. The PASS system is installed and operational. Data collections are operational, and ingest development is ongoing.

## 2.0 Field Campaigns

Contact: Jimmy Voyles, ARM Instrument and Field Campaign Coordinator

This section provides information for ARM field campaigns that have a significant impact on instrumentation and instrument team resources. Please refer to the ARM field campaign web page at <http://www.arm.gov/campaigns> for approved activities.

FY2010–2011

**ARM AMF1 – Azores: Clouds, Aerosol and Precipitation in the Marine Boundary Layer (CAP-MBL).** Scientists will take advantage of the ARM Mobile Facility (AMF1)—a heavily instrumented portable atmospheric laboratory—to study low marine clouds and aerosols in the Azores. Led by Robert Wood from the University of Washington, the new award extends the original 9-month project duration on Graciosa Island from March 2009 to November 2010. Doubling the length of the deployment will provide significantly greater statistical reliability of the relationships between aerosol and cloud properties required for evaluation of climate and process models.

**ARM – Alaska: Arctic Lower-Troposphere Observed Structure (ALTOS).** This 2-month campaign in 2010 will focus on the fall transition season, when sea ice begins to form and dramatic changes in aerosol and cloud properties occur. Led by Johannes Verlinde from The Pennsylvania State University, the science team will use a heavily instrumented tethered balloon to make routine ascents and descents in the lower 2 km of the atmosphere at Oliktok Point, Alaska. Supplemented with measurements from an instrumented ground station, this campaign will be the first to capture a full atmospheric profile of in situ cloud microphysics, aerosols, and radiative measurements during the Arctic transition season. The unique data set will provide a thorough case for testing Arctic cloud processes used in climate models and for testing the algorithms used to retrieve these measurements.

**ARM AAF – SGP: Small Particles in Cirrus Clouds (SPARTICUS).** Mid-latitude cirrus clouds are the focus of this study that will use instrumented aircraft to sample clouds above the user facility's SGP site in Oklahoma. Led by Jay Mace from the University of Utah, this field campaign will occur between January 2009 and April 2010, spanning the time of year when cirrus clouds are shown to be most prevalent above the site. Data from the campaign will help scientists to address many outstanding questions regarding mid-latitude cirrus properties and processes and to validate and implement improved algorithms for measurements of cirrus clouds at all the user facility's research sites.

An intensive phase of the project will focus more on microphysical processes and field a more extensive set of experimental probes that observe the aerosol and ice nuclei properties of the upper troposphere. DOE and NASA will jointly conduct the intensive phase of the experiment.



**ARM AMF2 – Colorado: Storm Peak Lab Cloud Property Validation Experiment (STORMVEX).**

Jay Mace is also the lead scientist for the study of liquid and mixed-phase clouds at the Storm Peak Laboratory near Steamboat Springs, Colorado. This campaign will debut the user facility's second mobile unit (AMF2), which is currently under development. It will be deployed from approximately October 2010 through March 2011 at a location near the laboratory, which operates at an elevation of 3210 m above sea level. The close proximity of the mobile facility and the laboratory's instrument platform is expected to result in a correlative data set equivalent to between 200 and 300 aircraft flights in liquid and mixed-phase clouds.

FY2011–2012

**ARM AMF1 and AAF G1 Aircraft – India: Ganges Valley Aerosol Experiment (GVAX).** AMF1 and the G-1 aircraft will support the Ganges Valley Aerosol Experiment to study the impact of increasing aerosols on the Indian Summer Monsoon, specifically the impact on precipitation. Many in-country collaborators will provide valuable complementary measurements.

**ARM TWP – Manus: ARM Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) Investigation Experiment (AMIE).**

A major campaign at the Manus site (ARM Tropical Western Pacific site), the ARM Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) Investigation Experiment, will be coordinated with a large international MJO initiation field campaign called CINDY2011 (Cooperative Indian Ocean experiment on intraseasonal variability in the Year 2011). The mechanism and cause of the MJO, an equatorial traveling pattern of anomalous rainfall that is planetary in scale, is not well-understood and has the distinction of not being accurately simulated in any current model.

**ARM SGP – Oklahoma: Midlatitude Continental Convective Clouds Experiment (MC3E).** The Midlatitude Continental Convective Clouds Experiment will be a joint campaign with the NASA Global Precipitation Measurement Project. This experiment, conducted at the ARM Southern Great Plains site, will study cloud and precipitation transitions and environmental quantities that are important for convective parameterization in large-scale models and cloud-resolving model simulations. The location of the experiment will be centered on the SGP Central Facility to take advantage of the new radars that will have just been installed.

### 3.0 Existing Instrumentation

This section describes activities that are ongoing to improve the performance of or maintain existing instrumentation, including any planned or in-progress upgrades. The information is abstracted primarily from the Instrument Mentor Monthly Summary (IMMS) reports database (<http://www.db.arm.gov/IMMS/>), which can be used for a collective and historical view of instrument status. Individual IMMS reports may be reviewed by following links to specific instruments from instrument web pages (<http://www.arm.gov/instruments>). ARM Mentors provide updates to the IMMS under these categories:

1. Data Review
2. Instrument Performance Issues and Trends
3. Current Task Status

4. Near-Term Plans
5. Accomplishments

Information related to the progress and status of instrument engineering is available from the Engineering Change Order (ECO) database (<http://eco.arm.gov>).

Helpful links to instrument-related ARM web pages are listed below:

- Instrument Systems and Mentors, <http://www.arm.gov/instruments/contacts>
- Instrument Locations, <http://www.arm.gov/instruments/location>
- Instrument Mentor Monthly Summaries, <http://www.db.arm.gov/IMMS/>
- Data Quality Reports, <http://www.db.arm.gov/cgi-bin/PIFCARDQR2/SignIn.pl?form=dqr>
- Data Quality Program, <http://dq.arm.gov/>.

### 3.1 Aerosol Measurements

#### Aerosol Observing System (AOS)

Mentor: John Ogren and Anne Jefferson, NOAA/ESRL/Global Monitoring Division (GMD)

There are no open engineering tasks related to the AOS instrument suite.

#### Tandem Differential Mobility Analyzer (TDMA)

Mentor: Don Collins, Texas A&M University

Engineering Change Request ECO-00640, *Replace AOS Optical Particle Counter with Aerodynamic Particle Sizing Spectrometer*, is in process. The ARM Working Groups and Science and Infrastructure Steering Committee (previously known as the ARM Science Team Executive Committee) approved the addition of an aerodynamic particle-sizing spectrometer (APS) in FY2008 to replace the Optical Particle Counter (OPC) component of the TDMA. Don Collins, TDMA Instrument Mentor, has responsibility for integrating the APS with the SGP AOS. The APS has now been installed and is functioning properly (thanks largely to Pat Dowell). A permanent shelf is being constructed and will be shipped to SGP soon. The TDMA control software has been updated to record and graph the APS data. A few initial glitches had to be worked through, but everything seems to be working very well now. The unprocessed size distributions measured by the TDMA and APS agree surprisingly well in the overlap size range. Work has begun on the software that will be used to process the two data sets together and merge them into a single-size distribution.

Engineering Change Request ECO-00587, *Develop Collection and Ingest for TDMA*. Data from the TDMA currently are acquired and processed by Don Collins. Processed data are then delivered to ARM on a monthly basis and stored in the IOP area of the ARM Data Archive as “beta data.” An ingest is being developed to produce netCDF files for inclusion in the main Data Archive. The communications group is contacting Don Collins to develop a web area, enter instrument metadata, and edit the instrument handbook. The TDMA needs to have an entry added to the IMMS reporting system. TDMA raw data are now available at the Data Archive.

## 3.2 Atmospheric State

### Balloon-Borne Sound System (BBSS)

Mentor: Rich Coulter (with Mike Ritsche and Donna Holdridge), Argonne National Laboratory

Engineering Change Request ECO-00769, *Add Cryogenic Frostpoint Hygrometer Launches at the SGP in support of GRUAN*, is approved. Mike Ritsche is the lead. The GCOS Reference Upper Air Network (GRUAN) is an international reference-observing network, designed to meet climate requirements and to fill a major void in the current global observing system. Upper air observations within the GRUAN network will provide long-term high-quality climate records, will be used to constrain and validate data from space-based remote sensors, and will provide accurate data for the study of atmospheric processes. GRUAN has been identified by the climate community as being required to generate long-term high-quality climate records, to constrain and calibrate data from more spatially comprehensive global observing systems (including satellites and current radiosonde networks), and to fully characterize the properties of the atmospheric column. The GRUAN requirement is to provide one cryogenic frostbite hygrometer (CFH) sounding per month. ARM is working with NOAA and the GRUAN Lead Center to establish support for the launches at the SGP by providing base stations, supplies, balloons, gases, cryogenics, and storage containers for cryogenics, calibration supplies, and CFH sondes to obtain water vapor profile measurements into the lower stratosphere once per month.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00691, *Update all Digi-Cora-I and DigiCora-II Chipsets*, was approved for FY2008 implementation and is in process. Donna Holdridge is the leader. Due to changes with Vaisala radiosonde booms, new radiation correction tables must be added via updated chipsets. The radiation corrections are required due to the increase in structural integrity of the temperature (T) and relative humidity (RH) booms. Increased surface area leads to an increased solar heating on the booms. The new chipset corrects for this increased heating. DigiCora-III systems already have the new software upgrades that address this issue. This request is only to upgrade spares and backup systems, which are used when the DigiCora-IIIs fail, or for field campaigns such as RHUBC-II. To date, four of the eight systems have been upgraded. The NSA DigiCORA-II was upgraded by Mike Ritsche while he was on site in June 2009. One of the spare DigiCORA-II systems was upgraded while it was at Vaisala for repair. Two DigiCORA-I systems have been upgraded so far. Tim Grove is in the process of upgrading the remainder of the systems resident at the SGP site.

Engineering Change Request ECR-00694, *Characterize the Temperature Dependency of the RH Sensor in the SurTHRef System*, is under review. Mike Ritsche is the leader. The goal, if initial analysis and review show promise, are to improve the initial conditions (T, RH) of the RS-92 sondes at launch time while providing NIST tractability of sensor calibrations. This request is on hold until further analysis and results of the technique are available.

### SuomiNet Global Positioning System (SuomiNet)

Mentor: None (external data provided by SuomiNet/COSMIC). Rick Wagener, Brookhaven National Laboratory, is the infrastructure contact.

Please see <http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/data/suominet/> and <http://www.arm.gov/data/vaps/suomigps> for the details on the SUOMIGPS data.

### **3.3 Carbon Measurements**

#### **Carbon Dioxide Flux System (CO<sub>2</sub>FLX)**

Mentor: Marc Fischer, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the Carbon Dioxide Flux System (CO<sub>2</sub>FLX) instrument suite.

#### **Carbon Monoxide (CO) System**

Mentor: Sebastien Biraud, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the Carbon Monoxide (CO) instrument suite.

#### **Precision Carbon Dioxide Mixing Ratio System (PGS)**

Mentor: Sebastien Biraud, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the Precision Carbon Dioxide Mixing Ratio System (PGS) instrument suite.

### **3.4 Lidars**

#### **Micropulse Lidar (MPL)**

Mentor: Rich Coulter, Argonne National Laboratory

Engineering Change Request ECR-00698, *Update MPLs to Fast Switching Polarization*, submitted by Rich Coulter, is approved. The ECR proposes to upgrade each of ARM's MPLs to add fast-switching polarization. If approved, a plan will be developed to have Sigma Space modify all six installed MPL systems.

#### **Raman Lidar (RL)**

Mentor: Rob Newsom, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the Raman Lidar (RL) instrument suite.

#### **Vaisala Ceilometer (VCEIL)**

Mentor: Vic Morris, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the Vaisala Ceilometer (VCEIL) instrument suite.

## 3.5 Meteorology

### Surface Meteorological Instrumentation

Mentor: Mike Ritsche, Argonne National Laboratory (SMET, SMOS, SURTHREF, THWAPS, MET, METTWR [NSA Site])

Engineering Change Request ECR-00672, *Upgrade Dynamic Rain Gauge Calibration System*, is approved. This task is in process to improve the characterization and performance of ARM's precipitation measurements. Component evaluation and testing continues.

### Tower – Meteorological Tower Systems (TWR)

Mentor: David Cook, Argonne National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the TWR instrument suite.

## 3.6 Microwave Radiometers

### Microwave Radiometer (MWR)

Mentor: Maria Cadeddu, Argonne National Laboratory

The MWR provides microwave radiances (expressed as “brightness temperatures”) obtained in the range of 23.8 and 31.4 GHz.

There are no open engineering tasks related to the MWR instrument suite.

### Next-Generation Microwave Radiometer 3-Channel System (MWR3C)

Mentor: Maria Cadeddu, Argonne National Laboratory

The MWR provides microwave radiances (expressed as “brightness temperatures”) obtained in the range of 22 to 30 and 90 GHz.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00664, *Next-Generation MWR Procurement/Deployment*, is approved for action. The ARM Working Groups and Science and Infrastructure Steering Committee (previously known as the ARM Science Team Executive Committee) have approved the competitive procurement of next-generation 3-channel microwave radiometers (MWR3Cs). The systems are specified to provide three channels operating at 23, 31, and 90 GHz. The strategy is to replace the current aging MWRs with systems that broaden ARM's measurement performance parameters and provide an economic product life cycle for the future. A procurement specification is in development based on the outcomes of the November 2007 “ACRF MWR Futures” workshop. The contract for the MWR3C was awarded to Radiometrics Corporation. A preliminary design review was conducted at the Radiometrics facility in Boulder, CO. Component availability for the 89 GHz receiver is causing some delay in the build and integration of the instrument. The pan-tilt positioner has been received and is being integrated in the design. The software is almost complete; the RF deck, lenses, and antenna systems are completed. The

enclosure required for the IRT is ready for integration, and rain mitigation subsystem design will continue as final dimensions are finalized. The first systems were delivered to the SGP during September 2009. Inter-comparison testing is ongoing and the initial review of the data looks good.

### **High-Frequency Microwave Radiometer (MWRHF)**

Mentor: Maria Cadeddu, Argonne National Laboratory

The MWRHF provides microwave radiances (expressed as “brightness temperatures”) obtained in the range of 90-150 GHz.

There are no open engineering tasks related to the MWRHF instrument suite.

**NOTE:** The two high-frequency microwave radiometers (MWRHFs) are new instruments from Radiometer Physics GmbH that are still under testing.

### **Microwave Radiometer Profiler (MWRP)**

Mentor: Maria Cadeddu, Argonne National Laboratory

The MWRP provides microwave radiances (expressed as “brightness temperatures”) obtained at twelve frequencies in the range of 22-30 GHz (K-band) and 51-59 GHz (V-band).

There are no open engineering tasks related to the MWRP instrument suite from Radiometrics.

### **Microwave Radiometer, G-Band (183.3 GHz) Water Vapor Radiometer (GVR)**

Mentor: Maria Cadeddu, Argonne National Laboratory

The GVR provides microwave radiances (expressed as “brightness temperatures”) obtained in the range of 183.3 GHz.

There are no open engineering tasks related to the G-band (183 GHz) Vapor Radiometer (GVR) instrument suite from ProSensing Inc.

**NOTE:** There is also a G-band (183 GHz) Vapor Radiometer Profiler (GVRP) radiometer developed by Radiometrics under the U.S. DOE Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) program. This system is also known as the MP183. The GVRP has 15 channels between 170 GHz and 183.31 GHz. This system has not completed the ARM baseline processes.

## **3.7 Radars**

### **Millimeter Wave Cloud Radar (35 GHz) (MMCR)**

Mentors: Kevin Widener, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; Karen Johnson, Brookhaven National Laboratory

Engineering Change Order ECO-00680, *MMCR - External Calibration Source*, is approved and assigned to Kevin Widener to design a relative calibration source that can be mounted outside the field of view of MMCR antennas. If successful, this enhancement will provide an indication that the sensitivity of the radar receivers is changing. [This ECO has been suspended in light of the procurement of scanning cloud radars for each site where there is a MMCR. Comparisons between the SACRs \(all sites get a Ka-band SACR\) and MMCR will allow calibration verification. This ECO is completed.](#)

Engineering Change Order ECO-00655, *MMCR - End-to-End Calibration Analysis*, is in process to provide a calibration study of the ARM MMCR systems, as recommended and approved by the SISC for FY2008. A contract was awarded to ProSensing to perform an end-to-end characterization of the MMCR transmitter/receiver calibration. There are two analysis tasks related to this ECO: one for the MMCR and one for the WACR. The WACR analysis is complete. Kevin Widener has recently received the draft calibration analysis for the MMCR, which is under review. [The MMCR and WACR calibration reports have been turned into ARM Technical Documents and have been posted to the ARM website. This ECO is completed.](#)

Engineering Change Order ECO-00552, *Barrow MMCR-Polarization Upgrade*, is on hold (waiting). Because the PIRAQ-III processor does not support polarization, the installation of the orthomode transducer at Barrow is on hold while calibration issues are being reconciled. [This ECO is closed; the Recovery Act reengineering will provide this functionality.](#)

Engineering Change Order ECO-00551, *Refurbish Millimeter Wave Cloud Radar Antennas*, was begun in 2007, and over a 3-year period, the MMCR antennas will be refurbished and characterized on an antenna range. The spare antenna is complete, and the contract for the new feed and subreflector has been placed. Once these are completed, they will be installed on the antenna reflector and calibrated. The Barrow MMCR antenna will be refurbished first to avoid impacting planned field campaigns at SGP. Contract negotiations are in process for new antennas with a new contractor. For FY2008, two antennas with engineering and fabrication costs are approved for procurement and installation at the SGP and TWP sites. The SGP antenna is 10 ft in diameter, while antennas used at ARM's tropical sites are 6 ft in diameter. Two additional antennas are planned for FY2009 to support upgrades to ARM's TWP sites. The first two antennas (6 ft) are about to be delivered from Millitech, Inc. The first will replace the 10-ft antenna while it is being evaluated for refurbishment at Millitech. If it is "refurbishable," it will get a new feed, subreflector, and radome and won't be gone too long from the site. If not, Millitech will build a new antenna, which will take considerably longer (~6-7 months). Either way, once a good 10-ft antenna is back, we will reinstall it and forward the 6-ft antenna currently being used at SGP to Darwin. Antennas were damaged in route to the SGP and are being returned to the vendor, Millitech, for re-characterization. Turnaround time is estimated to be 3 weeks for the 6-ft antennas. When the 10-ft antenna is sent for refurbishment or new manufacture, the turnaround time will be approximately 4-5 months for refurbishment or approximately 6-8 months if we have to have a new antenna built. [The Darwin MMCR had its new antenna installed \(January 28, 2010\). The Manus antenna is still in transit \(as of March 11, 2010\) and will be installed during the next BoM visit. The 10-ft antenna for SGP is due in July 2010. The spare 6-ft antenna will go with the ex-Nauru MMCR.](#)

Engineering Change Order ECO-00420, *Software I/Q Balancing on MMCRs*, was approved to remedy a problem with balance of the MMCR I and Q channels. This slight imbalance makes spectral analysis very difficult under certain conditions. Radar data provided by the site scientist office at NSA are being analyzed to evaluate software fixes. Millitech has determined that their antenna test range will not be able

to handle the 10-ft antenna for characterization. They found two other test ranges (Air Force) that are available for rent. However, this increases the cost of characterization from ~\$7K to ~\$40K.

Kevin surveyed a select group from the ARM Radar Group, and the consensus is that we should keep a 10-ft antenna at SGP and buy a new one without characterizing the old antenna. We placed a new contract with Millitech for a new 10-ft antenna and a 6-ft antenna. The two 6-ft antennas that we had were sent to Manus and Darwin for installation at those sites.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00391, *Millimeter Wave Cloud Radar Spectra Processing*, is in process to filter the spectra files produced by the upgraded MMCRs (C40 or PIRAQ-III processors), which range from 8–15 GB per day. Engineering Change Order ECO-00575, *Study Network Transfer of MMCR and WACR Spectra to Archive*, is active for data system engineering to support this task. Algorithms for eliminating clear-sky periods and compressing the files need to be developed and implemented locally. The data are collected, processed, and shipped hourly. The MMCR spectra compression software has been running at the SGP site since October 1, 2007. Baseline Change Request BCR-01301, *Install MMCR\_Spec\_Filter (Compress Spectra for MMCR)*, tracks this effort. The compression results are monitored via plots posted at <http://c1.dmf.arm.gov/data/process/sgp/sgpmmcrspecmaskC1.a0/2007/>. SGP is complete. This ECO will remain open until NSA and TWP are updated with the new processing.

Overall, the results look very good. There is concern that spectra for some very thin potential clouds are being removed. Approaches to identify these features and retain the spectra at such time-height points without saving very large hydrometeor-free regions of data are under evaluation. All raw (uncompressed) spectra data are being retained for 90 days to allow time to review the compression results. Discussion is ongoing to determine when the shipping of spectra on hard drives will be halted.

### **W-Band (95-GHz) ARM Cloud Radar (WACR)**

Mentor: Kevin Widener, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Engineering Change Order ECO-00681, *SWACR: Sampling Strategy, Software, Products*, is approved and assigned to Pavlos Kollias to define scanning strategies, the operational modes, and the value-added products (VAP) that the SWACR is envisioned to produce. The final statement of work with Pavlos is in place.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00658, *WACR–Add Scanning Capability*, is in process to plan the initial science, operational, and technical objectives of the development and lead to a procurement specification. Kevin Widener is the leader. The system is now operational at Graciosa Island, Azores. [The SWACR was deployed on Graciosa in late September 2009. It was packed up and shipped to SGP early in December 2009. It was installed at SGP in February 2010. There were some computer failures, and the system became operational again in March 2010. We are currently supporting STORMVEX by running RHI scans for Jay Mace when the aircraft is flying. We are also testing additional scan strategies from Pavlos Kollias. Nitin Bharadwaj is working on getting the intricacies of the scanning worked out with ProSensing. Several bugs have been identified in the software and fixed. The plan is to test some of the STORMVEX scanning strategies before the radar goes back to ProSensing for modification to 45-degree slant range operation.](#)



Engineering Change Order ECO-00654, *WACR–Spectra Notch Filter*. The WACR has a software deficiency in the way that the direct current (DC) signal is processed in the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT). ProSensing has identified a method for handling this by incorporating a notch filter taking many averages of the I/Q signal and using this in the FFT. The datastream will remain unchanged. The software was installed and tested on the SGP WACR and was installed on the AMF1 WACR as the system was routed through ProSensing from China on the way to the Azores. [A bug with the coherence filter has shown up in the Azores data. This causes spectral artifacts to appear. ProSensing is now working on a fix.](#)

Engineering Change Order ECO-00391, *Millimeter Wave Cloud Radar Spectra Processing*, proposes an evaluation of the feasibility of implementing data reduction algorithms at each MMCR and WACR installation and shipping the resulting files to the ARM Data Archive via the Internet. A version of this software is in the release process to test ECO-00391 and ECO-00575. Implementation is underway and documented in BCR-1349, *Install WACR\_Spec\_Filter in Production*.

### **Radar Wind Profiler – 915, 1290 MHz (RWP)**

Mentor: Rich Coulter, Argonne National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the 915- and 1290-MHz Radar Wind Profilers (RWPs) instrument suite.

## **3.8 Radiometric Measurements, Broadband**

### **Broadband Radiometer Station (BRS, SIRS, SKYRAD, GNDRAD, BSRN)**

Mentor: Tom Stoffel, National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Engineering Change Request ECR-00781, *Establish Pyrgeometer Calibrations Traceable to the WISG*, is in discussion to update the calibration technique for Precision Infrared Radiometers (PIR) (Pyrgeometers). Tom Stoffel is the engineering lead. The purpose of this ECR is to implement a new pyrgeometer calibration scheme as described in the work by Stoffel T, I Reda, J Hickey, E Dutton, and J Michalsky. 2006: Pyrgeometer calibrations for the ARM Program - updated approach (Presented at Sixteenth Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) Science Team Meeting. Albuquerque, NM). [Based on discussions during the ASR Science Team Meeting, held in March 2010, the Broadband Radiometry instrument focus group, chaired by Chuck Long, has provided an update to the ECR outlining recommendations.](#)

### **Narrow Field-of-View (NFOV) Radiometer**

Mentor: Gary Hodges, NOAA/ESRL/GMD

There are no open engineering tasks related to the Narrow Field-of-View (NFOV) instrument suite.

### **Infrared Thermometer (IRT)**

Mentor: Vic Morris, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Engineering Change Order ECO-00616, *Install IRTs in Ventilated Enclosures*, is in process to update our IRT enclosures. In implementing ECO-00345, *Install Zenith-Pointing IRT Network at SGP*, a HEPA-

filtered, ventilated enclosure for the IRTs was designed that keeps debris and, incidentally, most rain, off the gold mirror and IRT lens. This enhancement is being implemented on the TWP and NSA IRT instruments. Vic Morris is leading this ECO. Danny Nelson, Jeff Zirzow, and Krzysztof Krzton are tasked under Morris's direction to provide designs for SGP, NSA, and TWP respectively. Morris has recommended an enclosure solution for TWP; details are available within the ECO.

ECO-00345 has been completed, and the final upgrades to the NSA and TWP enclosures are tracked under EWO-12790, *Design IRT Enclosure for NSA*, and EWO-12791, *Design IRT Enclosure for TWP*, respectively. Enclosure design for NSA and TWP systems are complete and will be similar to the SGP system.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00368, *Increase Sample Rate of Infrared Thermometers*, is in process to increase the IRT sampling rate to 5 Hz. All systems are functioning except Nauru (see EWO-12288, *Update IRT Data Acquisition Software*). Communications latency issues are being resolved with the RocketPorts and fiber optic line drivers that are resulting in data collection problems.

### **3.9 Radiometric Measurements, Spectral**

#### **Atmospherically Emitted Radiance Interferometer (AERI)**

Mentor: Dave Turner, Space Science and Engineering Center, University of Wisconsin

There are no open engineering tasks related to the Atmospherically Emitted Radiance Interferometer (AERI) instrument suite.

#### **Cimel Sun Photometer (CSPOT)**

Mentor: None (external data provided by NASA AERONET). Laurie Gregory, Brookhaven National Laboratory, is the infrastructure contact.

There are no open engineering tasks related to the Cimel Sun Photometer (CSPOT) instrument suite.

#### **Multi-Filter Rotating Shadowband Radiometer and Related Systems (MFRSR, MFR)**

Mentor: Gary Hodges, NOAA/ESRL/GMD

Engineering Change Order ECO-00659, *Add Two MFRs to the AMF Instrument Suite*, was entered to guide and document the addition of upwelling MFRs to the AMF. Gary Hodges is the leader. Some preparation to provide this measurement is expected this year. The first radiometer will be installed and verified during the AMF Azores experiment in FY2009, even though surface albedo at the AMF main site will not be representative of the local scale due to the dominant effects of the surrounding sea surface. A second upwelling MFR is proposed for addition to the AMF supplemental site during FY2010; a spare MFR head will be purchased then. Components are available, and the tower details are being finalized.

Engineering Change Request ECR-00688, *Add Functionality for MFRSR Campbell System at Latitudes > 50 deg*, submitted by Gary Hodges is approved for a FY2010 implementation. This revision to the MFRSR logger software will provide the capability of the MFRSRs to operate at latitudes greater than 50° latitude. Also, there are ongoing discussions related to an enhancement of the shadowband

positioning to enable higher quality retrievals of aerosol optical depth. Also, the need to expand the memory of the MFRSR data logger is under consideration to extend buffering capabilities when communication to data collectors is not available.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00692, *Purchase Data Loggers and Heater Controllers for MFRSRs*, is approved and assigned to Gary Hodges. The task is to build and/or procure the spares necessary to support all ARM MFRSRs/MFRs. Components are on order.

### **Rotating Shadowband Spectrometer (RSS)**

Mentor: Peter Kiedron, NOAA/ESRL/GMD

Peter Kiedron demonstrated that the rotating shadowband spectrometer (RSS), built by Yankee Environmental Systems, Inc., is capable of providing valuable measurements of direct, diffuse, and global spectral irradiance. Kiedron has also identified problems with the RSS that affect the stability of its calibration and the linearity of its response. Peter has recommended that the RSS be removed from service and sent to him for a complete overhaul.

Engineering Change Request ECR-00661, *RSS Overhaul: Perform Maintenance and Overhaul of RSS*, was submitted and approved to perform the upgrade and overhaul of the RSS. Peter Kiedron is the lead. The ARM Working Groups and SISC recommended the re-engineering of the RSS for implementation in FY2008. A BCR is in process (BCR-01457, *Defield RSS and Ship to NOAA and Boulder*) that has removed and shipped the RSS to NOAA for refurbishment. A data quality report was filed to document the outage, and a message is posted on the RSS instrument web page. The disassembly, analysis, reassembly, and characterization of the RSS have identified a series of component and configuration re-engineering issues that were not anticipated. Additional effort and testing are required; parts are on order. The vacuum chamber that houses the CCD was successfully tested. Additional components are being tested prior to final assembly, alignment, and characterization. The RSS was returned to service at the SGP and is undergoing performance testing and analysis. The RSS system continues to work well, and automated processing software is near completion.

### **Shortwave Spectrometer (SWS)**

Mentor: Connor Flynn, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Engineering Change Order, ECO-00697, *SWS Baffle*, has been approved and assigned to Connor Flynn. This task will redesign and evaluate the optical/measurement of the SWS. The SWS exhibits sensitivity to direct-beam contamination. A new design for the baffle is complete and has been reviewed. Manufacturing and testing of the baffle is approved. A re-engineered SWS baffle and sun shade were built and tested with good results. Testing also confirmed that the SWS has sufficient detection sensitivity in the long wavelength range in the absence of solar contamination. A final system calibration at NASA Ames was successfully completed, and the system was returned to operations at the SGP.

## 3.10 Precipitation and Rain

### Disdrometer (DISDROMETER)

Mentor: Mary Jane Bartholomew, Brookhaven National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the disdrometer instrument suite.

### Optical Rain Gauge SGP (ORG)

Mentor: Mary Jane Bartholomew, Brookhaven National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the Optical Rain Gauge (ORG) SGP instrument suite.

**NOTE:** There are also ORGs installed on the TWP and AMF metrological towers. Mike Ritsche is the mentor for these systems.

### Total Precipitation Sensor NSA (TPS)

Mentors: Mark Ivey, Sandia National Laboratory; Jessie Cherry, International Arctic Research Center and Institute of Northern Engineering, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Engineering Change Order ECO-00773, *Improvements to Total Precipitation Infrastructure at the NSA*, is approved and assigned to Jesse Cherry. This provides an upgrade to the communications system for the Total Precipitation Sensor at Barrow. Currently the system depends on a wireless connection to both transmit and record the data. This ECO provides the addition of a data logger so that it can record the data even when the transmission system is disabled. The objective is to reduce the amount of data lost.

## 3.11 Sky Imaging

### Total Sky Imager (TSI)

Mentor: Vic Morris, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Engineering Change Order ECO-00674, *Tasks Associated with TSI Camera and Software Upgrade*, is approved for implementation to provide an upgraded camera for the Total Sky Imager (TSI). This ECO is approved with a hold pending the design review to ensure that cost and overall impacts are reasonable. An environmental housing for the Axis 211 camera was purchased for testing and design purposes. Assembly and testing continues.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00644, *Subcontract to Upgrade TSI Software*, was approved to upgrade the TSI software to allow use of new versions of the Axis camera. Concepts to incorporate the packaging and mechanical design of the new version of the Axis camera will be covered in a new ECR. Progress continues: five of the six tasks are now completed. The final task to refine clear-sky reference images and seasonal azimuth angles is ongoing.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00625, *Upgrade TSI Control Boards*, was approved and is in process to update the control boards of the TSI-880 systems. This update will reconcile issues with the real-time

clock and power supplies. The subcontract has been placed with Remote Measurement & Research Company (RMRCo), and the repairs and testing are successfully complete—two boards were repaired and eight additional boards are being fabricated for spares.

## 3.12 Surface Fluxes

### Eddy Correlation Station (ECOR)

Mentor: David Cook, Argonne National Laboratory

Engineering Change Order ECO-00633, *Improve Eddy Correlation Station Software*, is in process. Tim Martin, in association with David Cook, has proposed to systematically evaluate, document, and reorganize the instrument software to allow for code maintenance and more flexible incorporation of additional logic and sensors, such as the proposed wetness sensor. In addition, the user interface needs to be improved to give access to more debugging and diagnostic messages from the ECOR program. The Version 2.1 software is being installed on the SGP E14 ECOR to document the current configuration of unused analog channels.

Engineering Change Request ECO-00536, *Add Wetness Sensors to ECOR System*, is in process. Periods of dew, frost, and precipitation often cause data from the CO<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O sensor and sonic anemometer to be incorrect. Adding a wetness indication would provide the data user with a more reliable source of information concerning this condition. Wetness sensor testing began at Argonne in mid-January on an ECOR system similar to the ARM ECORs. Testing so far indicates that different phases of water and types of dew/frost/precipitation produce different voltage levels from the wetness sensor. [This ECO is completed.](#)

### Energy Balance Bowen Ratio (EBBR) Station

Mentor: David Cook, Argonne National Laboratory

There are no open engineering tasks related to the EBBR instrument suite.

### Soil Water and Temperature System (SWATS)

Mentor: Daniel Hartsock, University of Oklahoma

The soil water and temperature system (SWATS), deployed at the SGP site, is designed to provide information about the temperature of the soil and the status of water in the soil profile. Because the SWATS array is aging, the sensor arrays are undergoing a replacement program.

Engineering Change Order ECO-00493, *Replace Failing SWATS Sensors*, is in process to add new redundant sensor arrays that will be installed at all SGP extended facility sites. These will be installed in a phased manner: five sites per year over four years, beginning in 2005 with the sites having multiple failed sensors given highest priority. After the soil recovers from the installation process in 6-12 months, the new sensor array will be connected to the existing SWATS data acquisition system in place of the old sensor array. Sensor arrays for FY2009 from Campbell Scientific have arrived at the SGP and are calibrated and ready for installation. Daniel Hartsock has prepared a status report on

the SWATS refurbishment, which is attached to ECO-00493. Baseline Change Request BCR-01508 to update calibration coefficients is complete. The new sensors at E19 were hooked up on December 11, 2008, and the ingest has been turned back on at both sites. Data now look good for all three SWATS refurbishments. Plans are underway to bury and install new profiles of sensors this spring, starting with E16 (Vici, Oklahoma) in March.

## 4.0 Future Instrumentation Planning

The instrument planning activities of the ARM Climate Research Facility are dynamic processes driven by the unmet measurement needs of contributing scientists, maintenance, calibration, simulation fidelity, and performance improvement/evolution of instrument and measurement systems. The spatial and temporal configurations of ARM's instrument systems and associated research sites are reviewed against science/measurement needs—these are important discussions and provide input to future instrument planning. Instrument plan recommendations and priorities are deliberated by the ASR science working groups and vetted through the ARM Infrastructure Management Board for action.

Please contact Jimmy Voyles at [jimmy.voyles@pnl.gov](mailto:jimmy.voyles@pnl.gov) for additional information related to ARM instrument planning.

## 5.0 Small Business Innovation Research

The U.S. DOE Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) web page is available at <http://www.er.doe.gov/sbir/>. The DOE SBIR program develops instrumentation that can be applied to the science and measurement objectives of the ARM Climate Research Facility.



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