

# MOHA: the MIRAS Optical Harness for SMOS

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**Special Acknowledgement:**

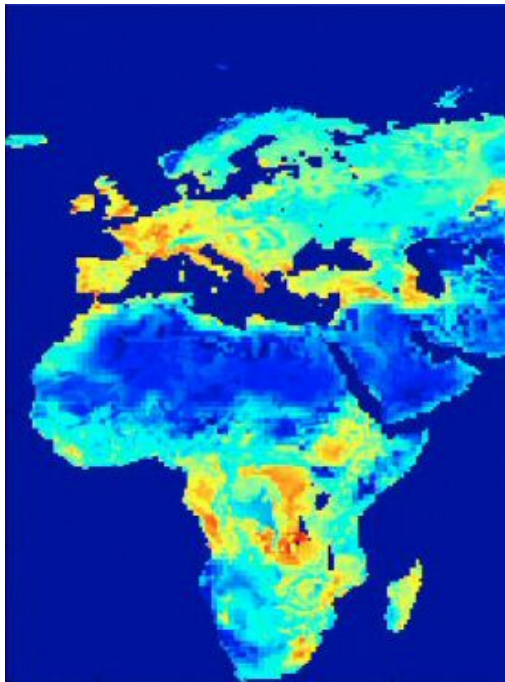
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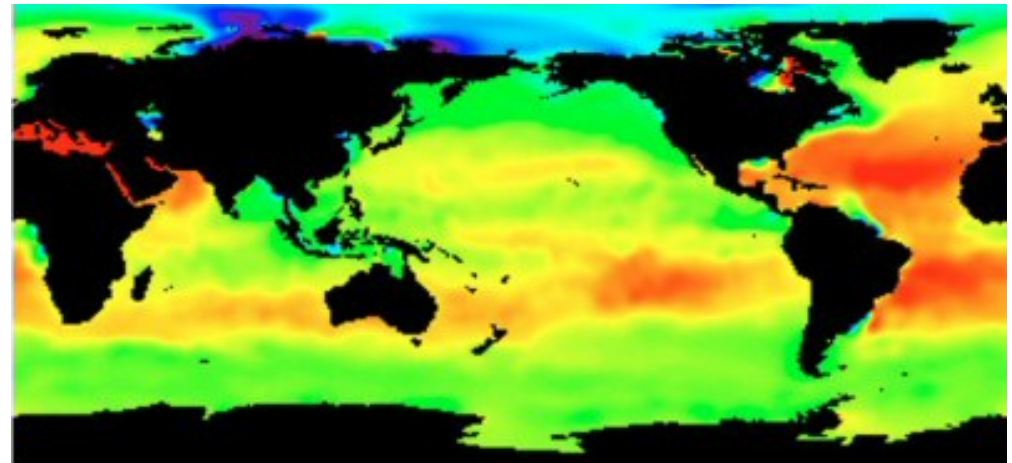
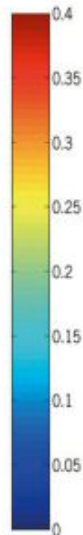
- **The SMOS mission and the MIRAS payload**
- **MOHA – The MIRAS Optical Harness**
  - Function
  - Hardware
- **Challenges and solutions**
- **MOHA status and test results**
- **Conclusion**

## To provide global maps of soil moisture and ocean salinity

- Global soil moisture and ocean salinity data are vital for improving our knowledge of Earth's water cycle.
- Better forecasts of weather, extreme events, and seasonal climate can be expected.

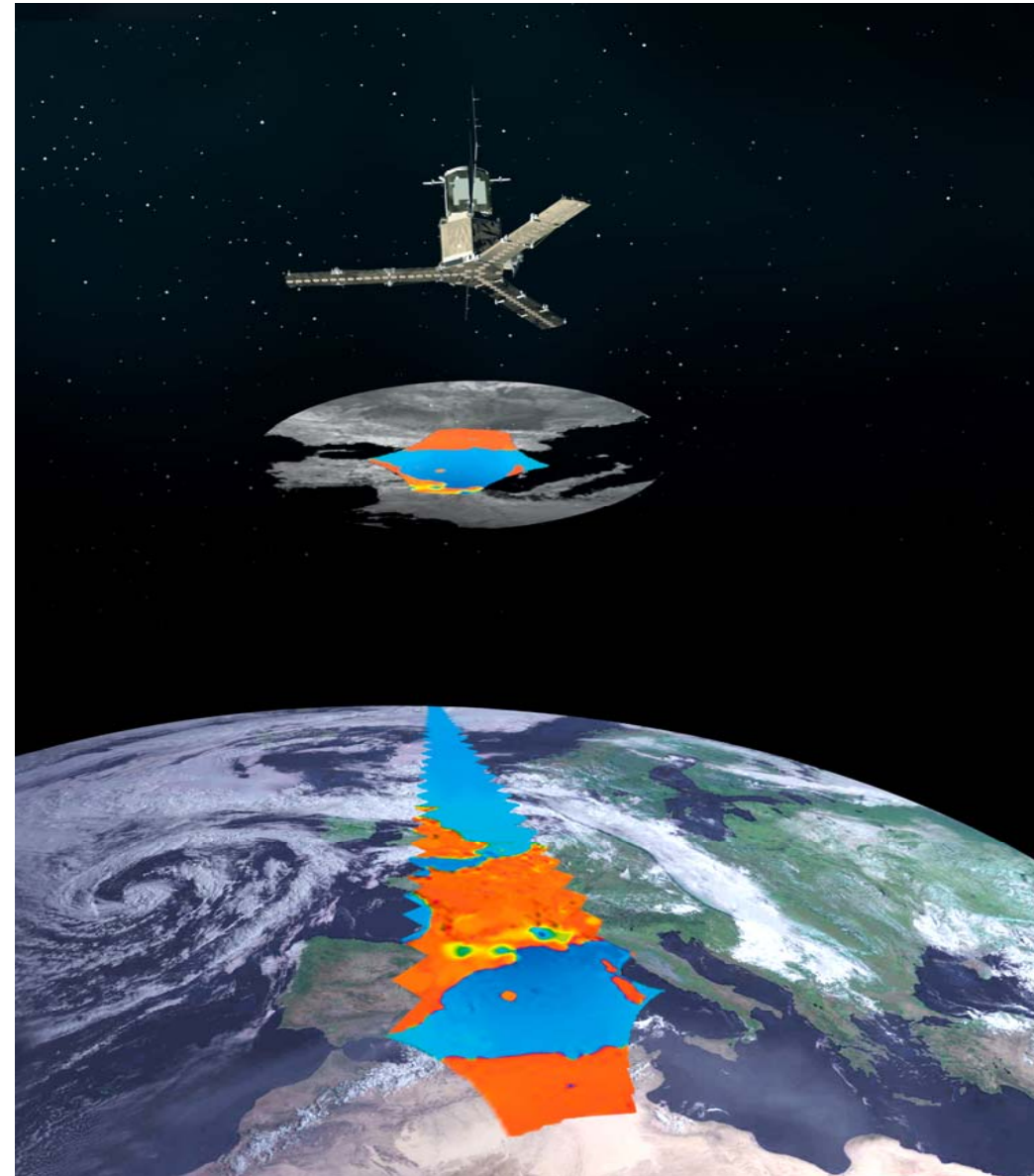


Soil moisture map



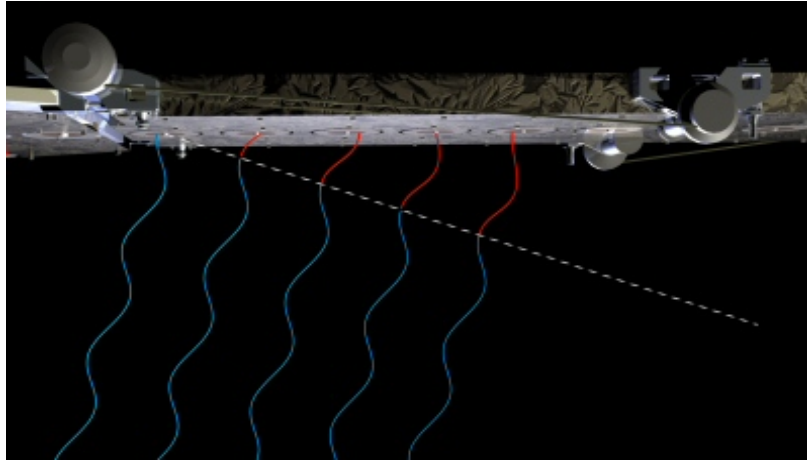
Ocean salinity map

- Moisture and salinity decrease the emissivity of soil and seawater respectively, and thereby affect microwave radiation emitted from the surface of the Earth.
- A two-dimensional 'measurement image' is taken every 1.2 seconds
- As the satellite moves along its orbital path each observed area is seen under various viewing angles
- Due to its polar orbit at 763km, SMOS will achieve global coverage every three days





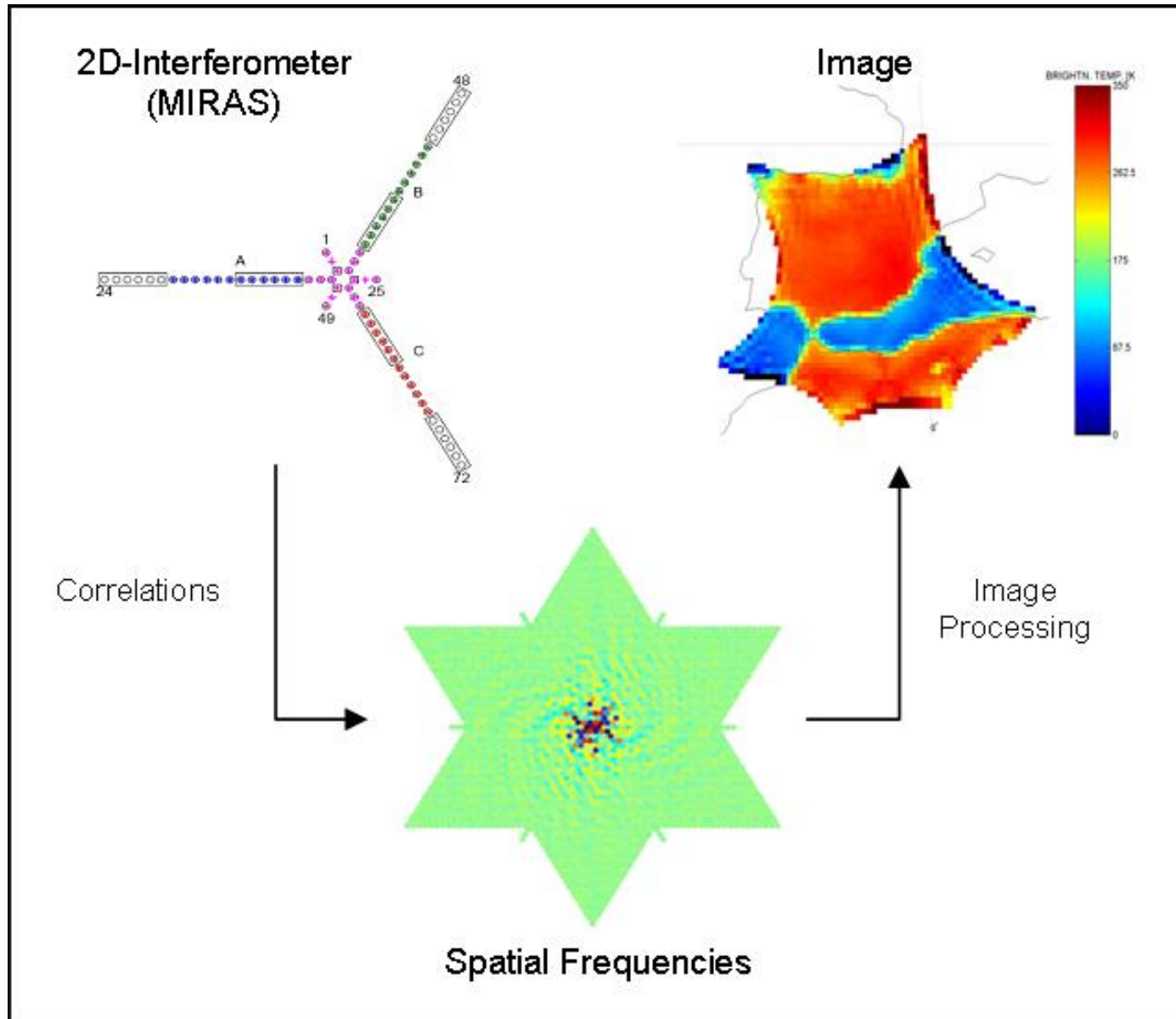
Photonic Technologies for Beam Forming Payloads, ESTEC, 21 Nov 2008



- The MIRAS payload: Microwave Imaging Radiometer with Aperture Synthesis
- Exploits the interferometry principle to obtain two-dimensional radiometric images
- Operates between 1400 and 1427 MHz

- 72 small receivers (LICEF) measure the phase difference of the incident thermal radiation
- Observations from all possible combinations of receiver pairs are cross-correlated using a correlator unit (CCU)
- The image is obtained by the two-dimensional Fourier transform of the map of correlation coefficients
- Prime of MIRAS: EADS-CASA Espacio (E)







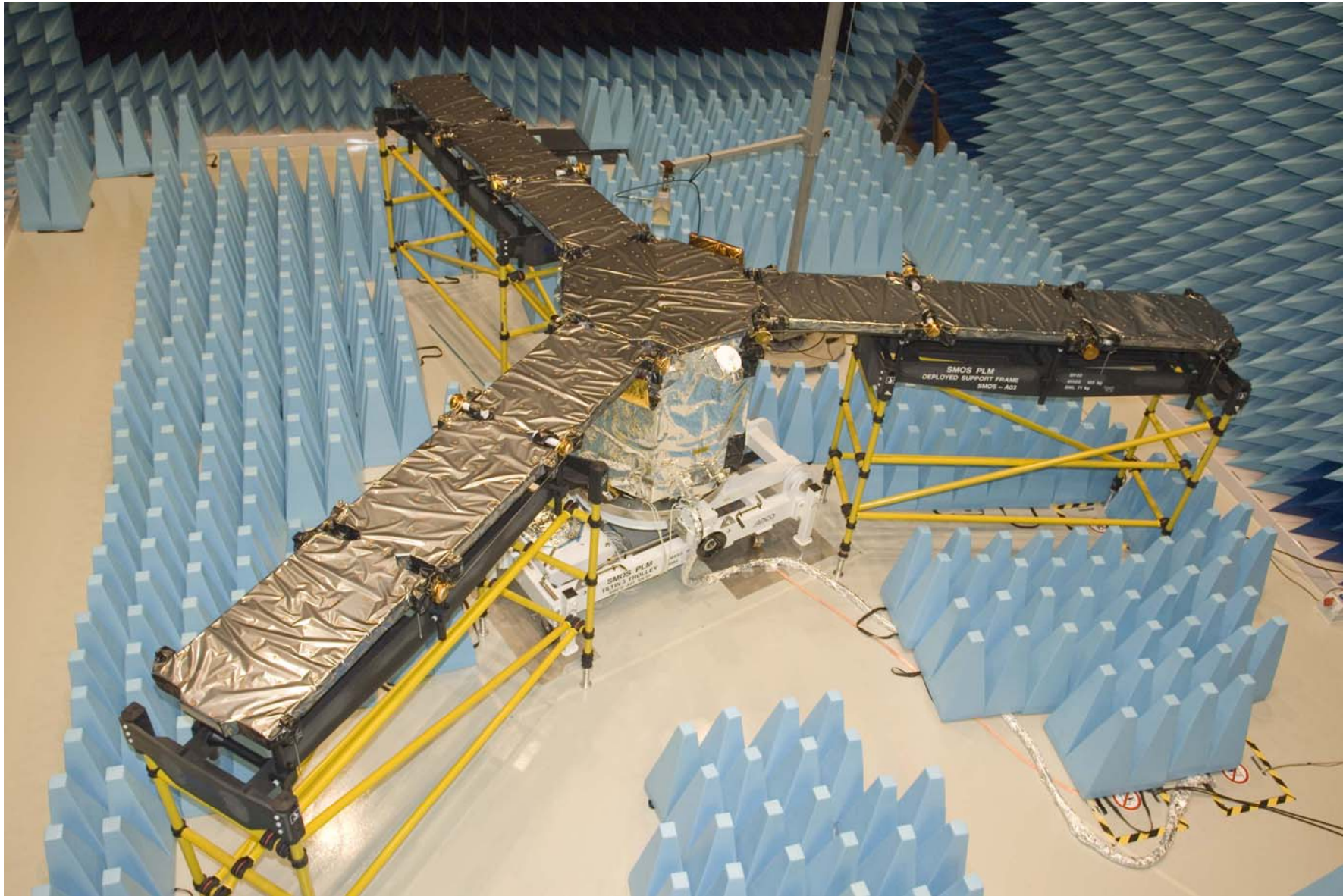
## The basic function of the MOHA Subsystem in SMOS is:

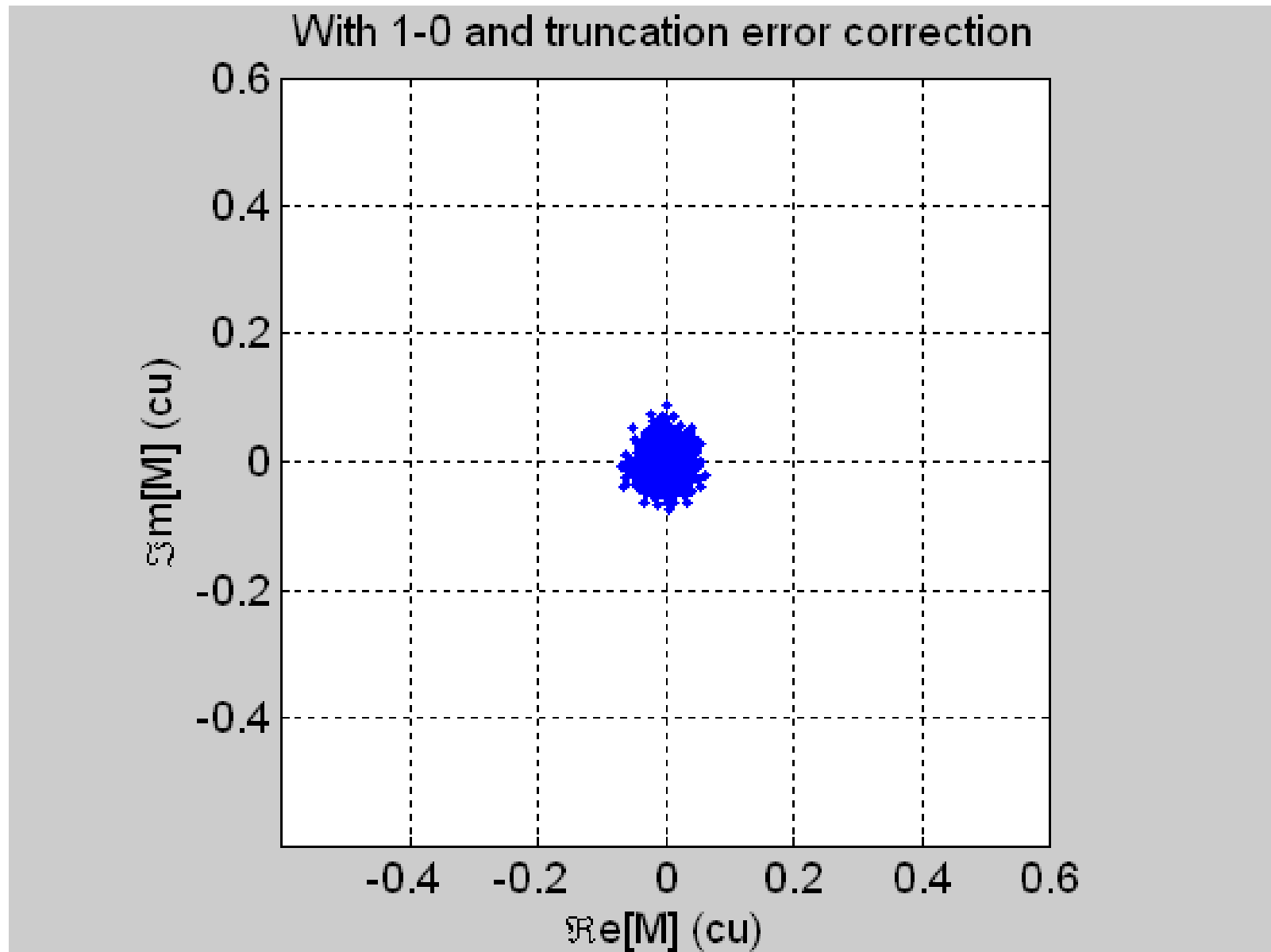
- To generate, and to optically disseminate a reference clock signal to 72 LICEF receivers, and to 12 auxiliary units
- To transmit the radiation data from the LICEF receivers to the CCU correlator unit, using 72 optical links in parallel
- To de-multiplex the data and to deliver it, in parallel, to the correlator via  $6 \times 72 = 432$  LVDS interfaces

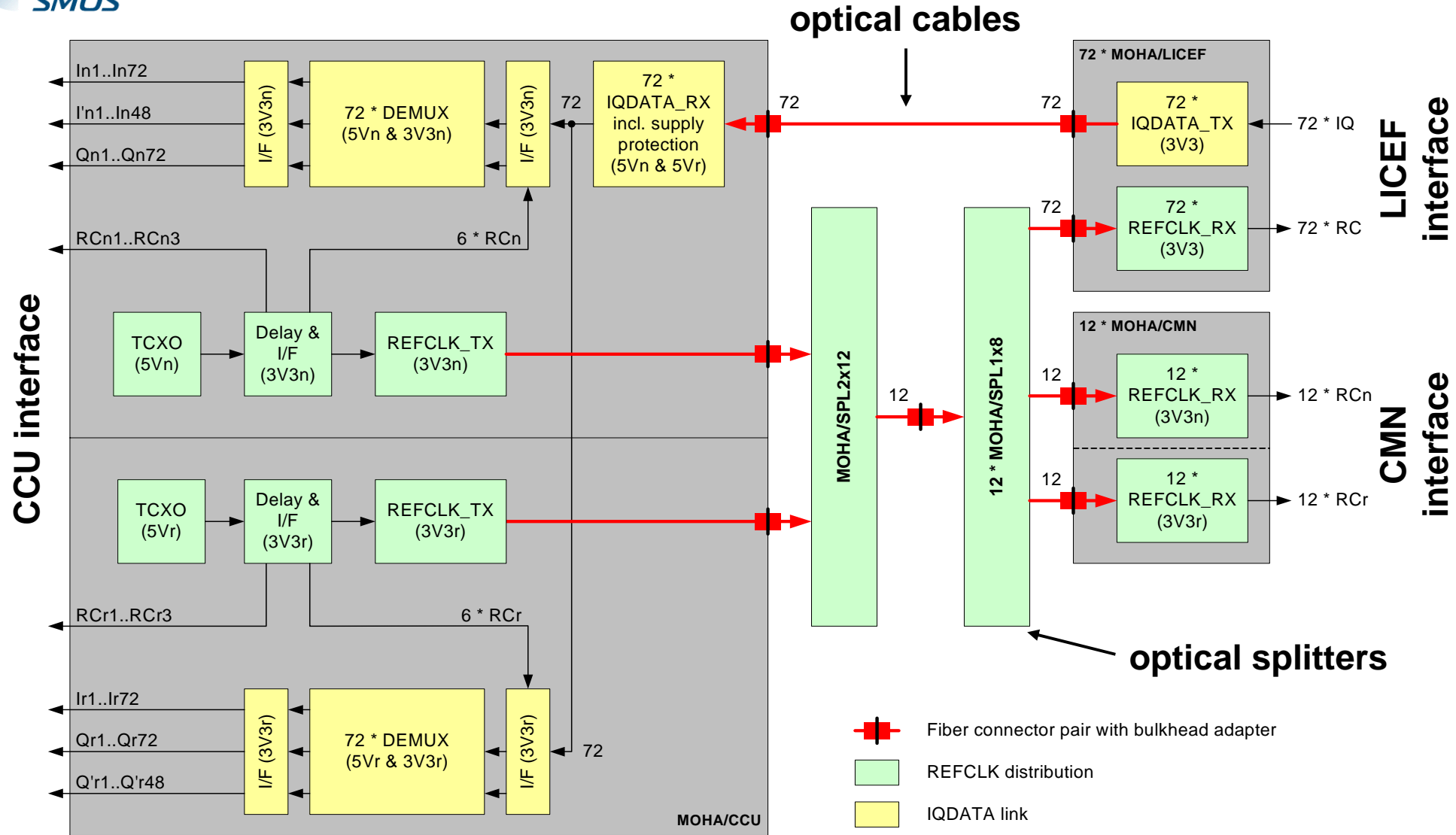
## The reasons for using an optical harness are:

- Very low electro-magnetic emission levels
- Insensitivity to ground differential voltages
- Galvanic isolation
- Optical cables are flexible and light-weight
- Better phase stability over temperature and if bended





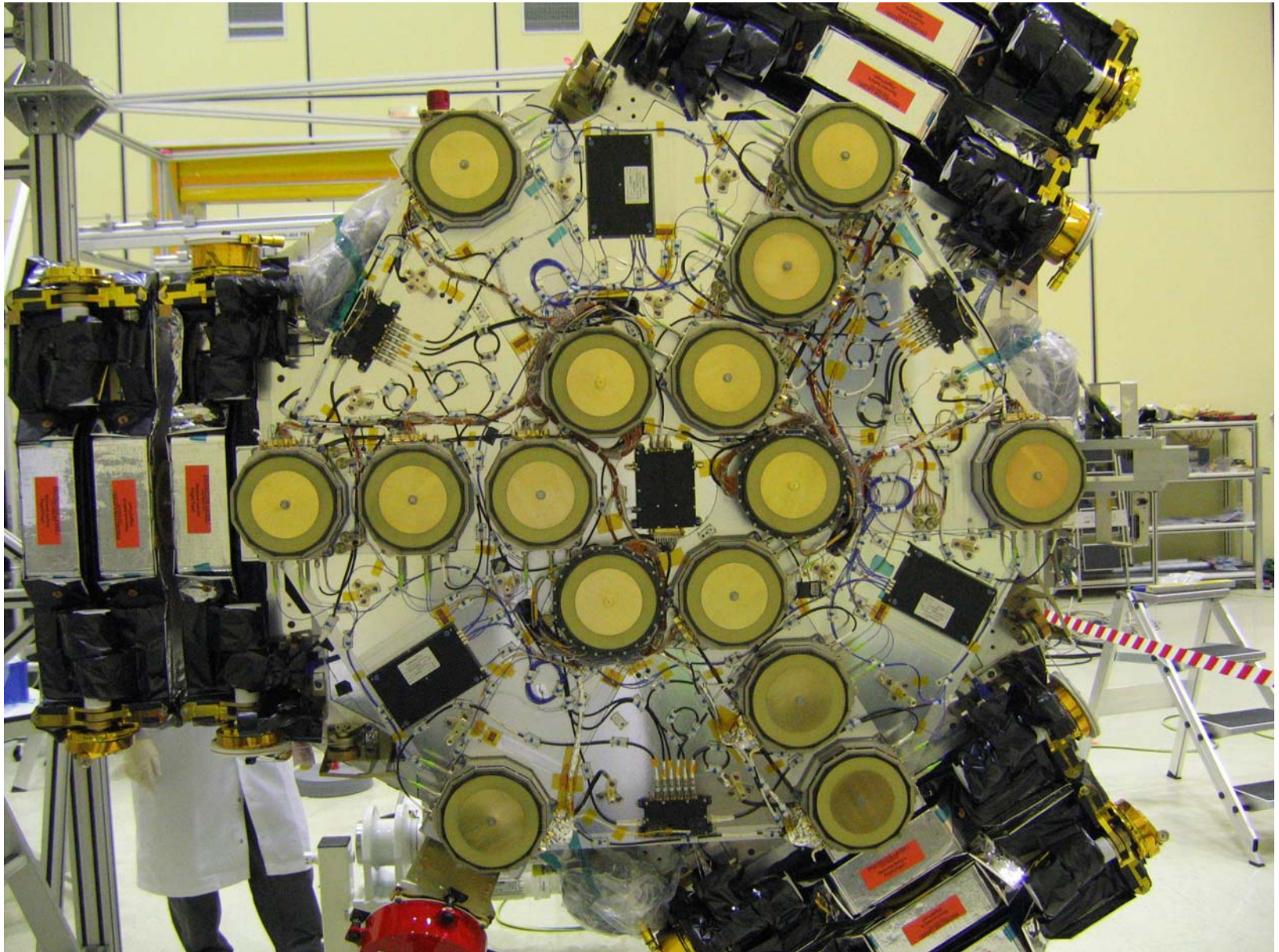






## The MOHA Flight Model consists of:

- 1 x MOHA/CCU – 2 reference clock transmitters and 72 data receivers / demultiplexers
- 1 x optical 2x12 splitter
- 12 x optical 1x8 splitters, resulting in 96 optical reference clock outputs
- 72 x MOHA/LICEF – 1 reference clock receiver, 1 radiation data transmitter
- 72 x optical data cable (7m)
- 12 x MOHA/CMN – 2 reference clock receivers (nominal and redundant)



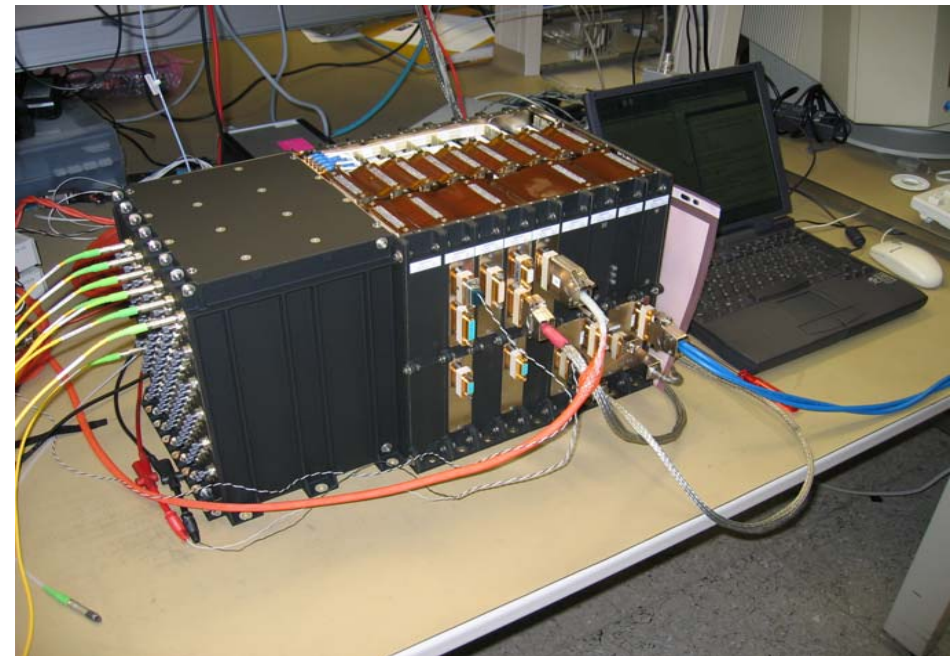
## Basic properties of all optical links:

- **Transmission band: 1310nm**
- **Transmission medium: single-mode optical fibre**
- **Optical connectors: AVIM**
- **Optical transmitters:  
semiconductor laser diodes with fibre pigtails**
- **Optical receivers:  
pin photodiodes / transimpedance amplifiers with fibre pigtails**
- **Optical splitters: fused fibre couplers**
- **Reference clock frequency: 55.84MHz**
- **Data rate per channel: 111.68Mbit/s**

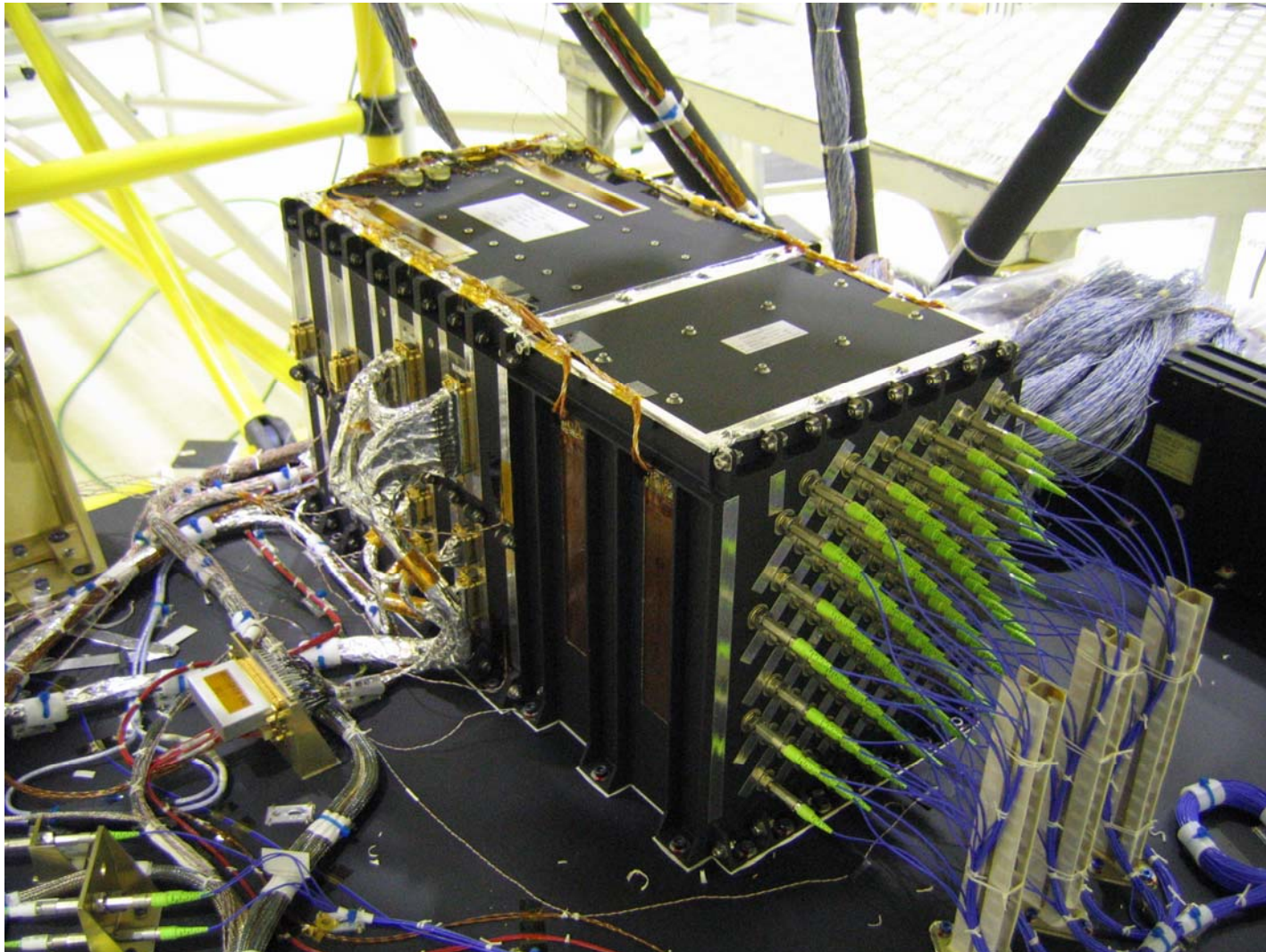
- 1 transmitter module and 6 receiver modules (12 channels each)
- 72 non-redundant optical receivers:  
individual supply cross-strapping and short-circuit protection
- Redundant data recovery and processing by FPGAs
- Power consumption: 17W (0.24W/channel)
- Mass: 6.6kg



**MOHA/CCU**



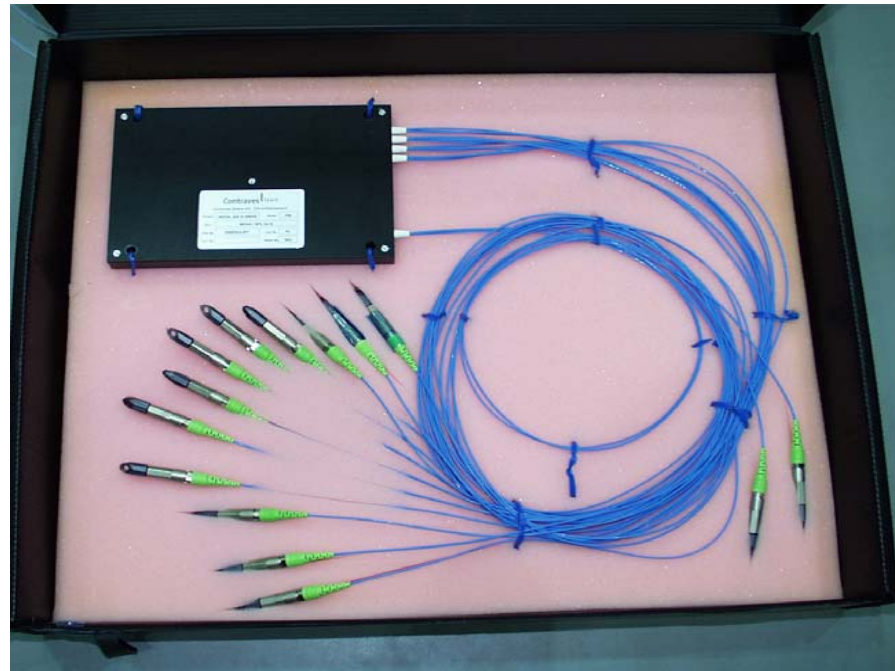
**MOHA/CCU, integrated with CCU,  
during functional testing**



**MOHA/CCU and CCU integrated in MIRAS**

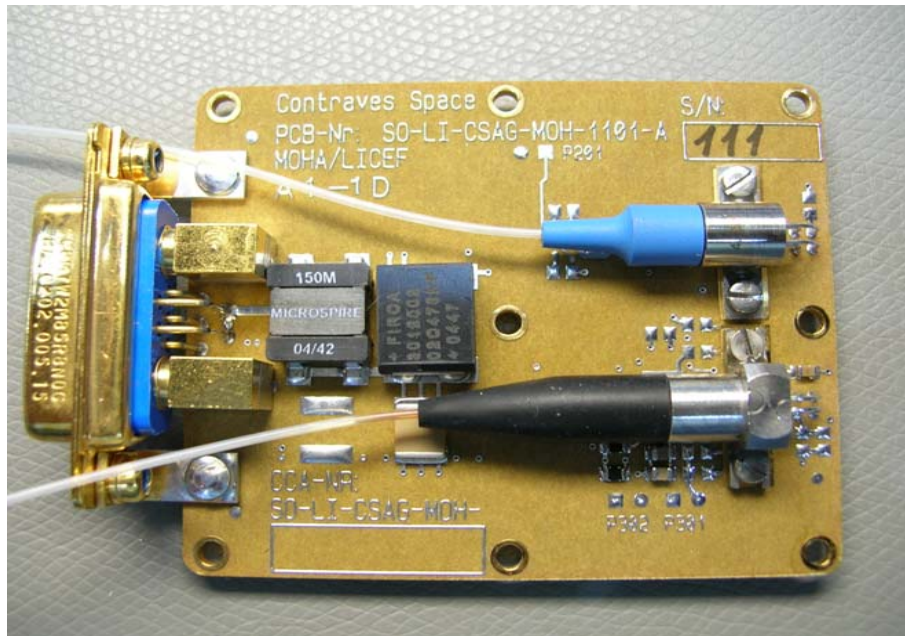


- 1x8 and 2x12 splitters are implemented by cascades of fused 2x2 couplers, interconnected by splices
- 2x12 splitter uses asymmetric couplers
- Aggregate excess loss: <math><1.3\text{dB}</math>
- Clock skew: all fibre lengths (input to output) are within  $\pm 10\text{mm}$
- Mass: 235g/270g



**2x12 optical splitter, with fibre pigtails and AVIM connectors**

- Worst-case clock skew across all 72 modules: 0.45ns p-p
- Nominal optical input power: -20dBm
- Jitter at minimum optical input power (-27dBm): <40ps RMS
- Envelope: 80x60x20mm<sup>3</sup>
- Power consumption: 0.5W
- Mass: 130g



**MOHA/LICEF circuit card, carrying an optical transmitter and an optical receiver**



**MOHA/LICEF module, ready to be plugged into a LICEF**

## (1) Component qualification

**Suitable fibre-optic and opto-electronic components were not available space-qualified off-the-shelf:**

- **Optical fibre cables**
- **Optical splitters**
- **Optical transmitters**
- **Optical receivers**

**For power consumption and performance reason, also some commercial electrical components had to be used:**

- **Laser drivers**
- **Discriminators**

## (1) Component qualification –cont. –

The large number of components justified a dedicated campaign consisting of:

- Commercial component evaluation testing, to find out – among several candidates – the component most suitable for the application
- Qualification testing, to demonstrate that each component can meet its performance requirements for the specified lifetime
- Procurement of the flight components and their constituents from a single production lot, in order to eliminate as far as possible any process variations
- 100% screening and burn-in of the flight components, in order to stabilise their characteristics and to detect early failures
- Lot acceptance testing on samples of the flight lot, to ensure that it meets the defined quality requirements



## (2) Clock skew and data recovery

- **There exist two important timing requirements on the MOHA S/S:**
  - Skew of reference clock distribution:  $< \pm 1 \text{ ns}$
  - Skew of reference clock distribution and data transmission:  $< \pm 3 \text{ ns}$   
(round-trip timing to facilitate proper data recovery)
- **In order to achieve these requirements, the delays of all modules are equalised using precise delay measurements and customised fibre cut-back**
- **Also, the parameters of all optical transmitters have to be configured by select-on-test resistors**
- **Consequently, each MOHA/LICEF passes a sequence of approx. 15 test/manufacturing steps**
- **In total, about 1500 separate test/manufacturing activities have to be performed, resulting in a very complex AIT flow**

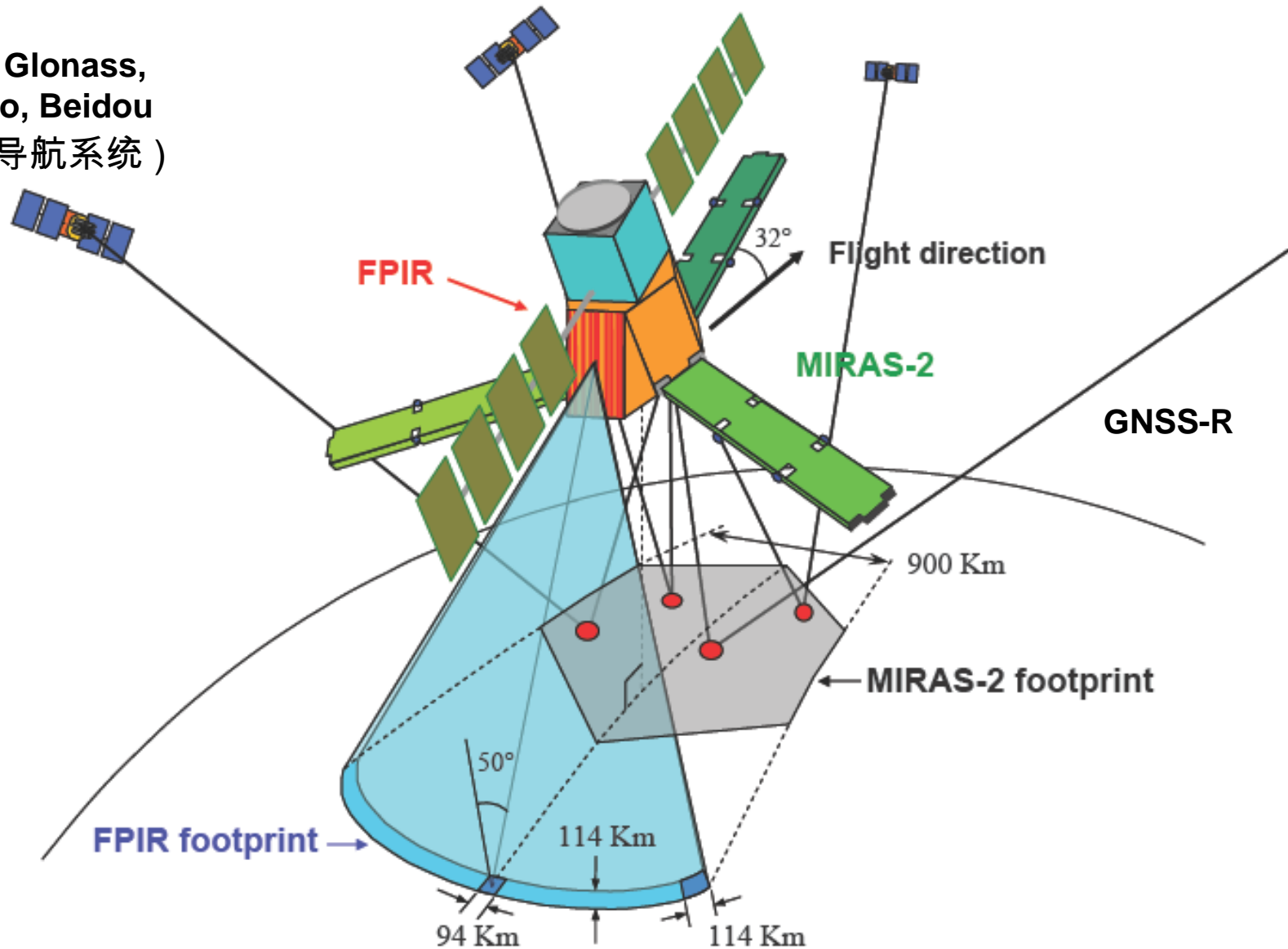
- All flight units and spare/qualification units had been successfully tested and delivered by end of September 2006

Parameter	Requirement	Result	Remark
Reference clock distribution: <b>skew</b>	$< \pm 1$ ns	$\pm 0.15$ ns $\pm 0.35$ ns	nominal worst-case
Reference clock distribution: <b>RMS jitter</b>	$< 50$ ps	12 ps 46 ps	nominal worst-case
<b>Bit error probability</b> of data transmission per channel	$< 10^{-10}$	$< 10^{-10}$	99% confidence (Note 1)
MOHA/CCU power consumption	$< 20$ W	17 W	
MOHA/LICEF power consumption	$< 0.75$ W	0.5 W	

Note 1:

Not a single bit error was detected during subsystem testing of all 72 channels

GPS, Glonass,  
Galileo, Beidou  
(北斗导航系统)





- **SMOS is the first European space mission to extensively employ on-board fibre-optic communications**
- **Very low electro-magnetic emission levels, as well as fibre cable flexibility and phase stability have been the main drivers**
- **The absence of correlation offsets is by large thanks to MOHA**
- **Several commercial fibre-optic and electrical components have been successfully qualified for the MIRAS Optical Harness**
- **For in total more than 100 MOHA modules to be delivered, a special production and test facility has been established and used**
- **Delivery of the last MOHA flight unit took place end of September 2006**
- **The launch of SMOS is scheduled for the second half of 2009**
- **An centralised calibration system being investigated for SMOSops**