

Title: Anomalous Dynamics in the Solar System: Investigation of the Pioneer and Earth Flyby Anomalies

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Abstract: The radio-metric tracking data received from the Pioneer 10 and 11 spacecraft from the distances between 20--70 astronomical units from the Sun has consistently indicated the presence of a small, anomalous, blue-shifted Doppler frequency drift that limited the accuracy of the orbit reconstruction for these vehicles. This drift was interpreted as a sunward acceleration of $a_P = (8.74 \pm 1.33) \times 10^{-10} \text{ m/s}^2$ for each particular spacecraft. This signal has become known as the Pioneer anomaly; the nature of this anomaly is currently being investigated. Recently new Pioneer 10 and 11 radio-metric Doppler and flight telemetry data became available. The newly available Doppler data set is much larger when compared to the data used in previous investigations and is the primary source for new investigation of the anomaly. In addition, the flight telemetry files, original project documentation, and newly developed software tools are now used to reconstruct the engineering history of spacecraft. With the help of this information, a thermal model of the Pioneer vehicles is being developed to study the contribution of thermal recoil force acting on the two spacecraft. The goal of the ongoing efforts is to evaluate the effect of the on-board systems on the spacecrafts' trajectories and possibly identify the nature of this anomaly. The current status of these investigations will be discussed. Besides the Pioneer anomaly, there are other intriguing puzzles in the solar system dynamics still awaiting a proper explanation, notably the, so-called, "fly-by anomaly", that occurred during Earth gravity assists performed by several interplanetary spacecraft. We will discuss the observed effect, the conditions that led to its observation and will elaborate on the potential causes of this anomaly. This work was carried out at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology under a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

*Talk at the Perimeter Institute,
Waterloo, Canada, 26 January 2010*

Anomalous Dynamics in the Solar System:

*Investigation of
the Pioneer and Earth Flyby Anomalies*

Slava G. Turyshev

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THE STUDY OF THE PIONEER ANOMALY

It's all began 11 years ago...



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PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

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Indication, from Pioneer 10/11, Galileo, and Ulysses Data, of an Apparent Anomalous, Weak, Long-Range Acceleration

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Study of the anomalous acceleration of Pioneer 10 and 11

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Our previous analyses of ra
cated that an apparent anom
 $\times 10^{-8}$ cm/s², directed toward
origins of the residuals, but r
nal to the spacecraft, as w
discuss the methods, theoretic
acting on interplanetary space

The Study of the Pioneer Anomaly: New Data and Objectives for New Investigation

Slava G. Turyshev,^a Viktor T. Toth,^b Larry R. Kellogg,^c Eunice L. Lau,^d and Kyoung J. Lee^e

The Pioneer Anomaly: Summary

■ Anomalous acceleration of Pioneers 10 and 11:

$$a_P = (8.74 \pm 1.33) \times 10^{-10} \text{ m/s}^2$$

- A constant acceleration of both Pioneers *towards* the Sun
- **No mechanism** or **theory** that unambiguously explains the effect
- Most likely cause is on-board systematics, yet to be demonstrated



Phys. Rev. D 65 (2002) 082004, gr-qc/0104064

■ The Pioneer anomaly, taken at its face value:

- Pioneers conducted the largest-scale-ever gravitational experiment in the solar system... that failed to confirm Newton's gravity...
- The Pioneer anomaly constitutes a departure from the Newton's $1/r^2$ gravity law in regions farther than 25 AU from the Sun....

Possible Origin of the “Dark Force”?

- New Physics [many proposals exist, some interesting]
- We focus on **conventional physics**, as the cause:
 - Gas leaks, drag force, **thermal recoil force**, etc...



Agency: NASA	Pioneer 10	Pioneer 11
Launch	2 March 1972	5 April 1973
Planetary fly-bys	Jupiter: 4 Dec 1973	Jupiter: 2 Dec 1974 Saturn: 1 Sep 1979
Last data point received	27 Apr 2002 distance ~80.2 AU	1 Oct 1990 distance ~30 AU

Parameters for Pioneer 10 (Pioneer 11 – identical)

Total spacecraft mass		259 kg
SNAP-19 RTG: mass/distance		13.6 kg / 3 m
High Gain Antenna, diameter		2.74 m
Attitude control: spin-stabilized		~4.28 rpm
Communication system		Data available
S-band, up-link	S-band, down-link	($\lambda \simeq 13$ cm)
2110 MHz	2292 MHz	Doppler
Spacecraft transmits continuously @ 8 W		



Pioneer 10: pre-launch testing

The Pioneers are still the most precisely navigated deep-space vehicles:

- Spin-stabilization and design permitted acceleration sensitivity $\sim 10^{-10}$ m/s², unlike a Voyager-type 3-axis stabilization that were almost 50 times worse;
- Precision celestial mechanics – a primary objective of the Pioneers' extended missions – search for gravitational waves, Planet X, trans-Neptunian objects, etc.



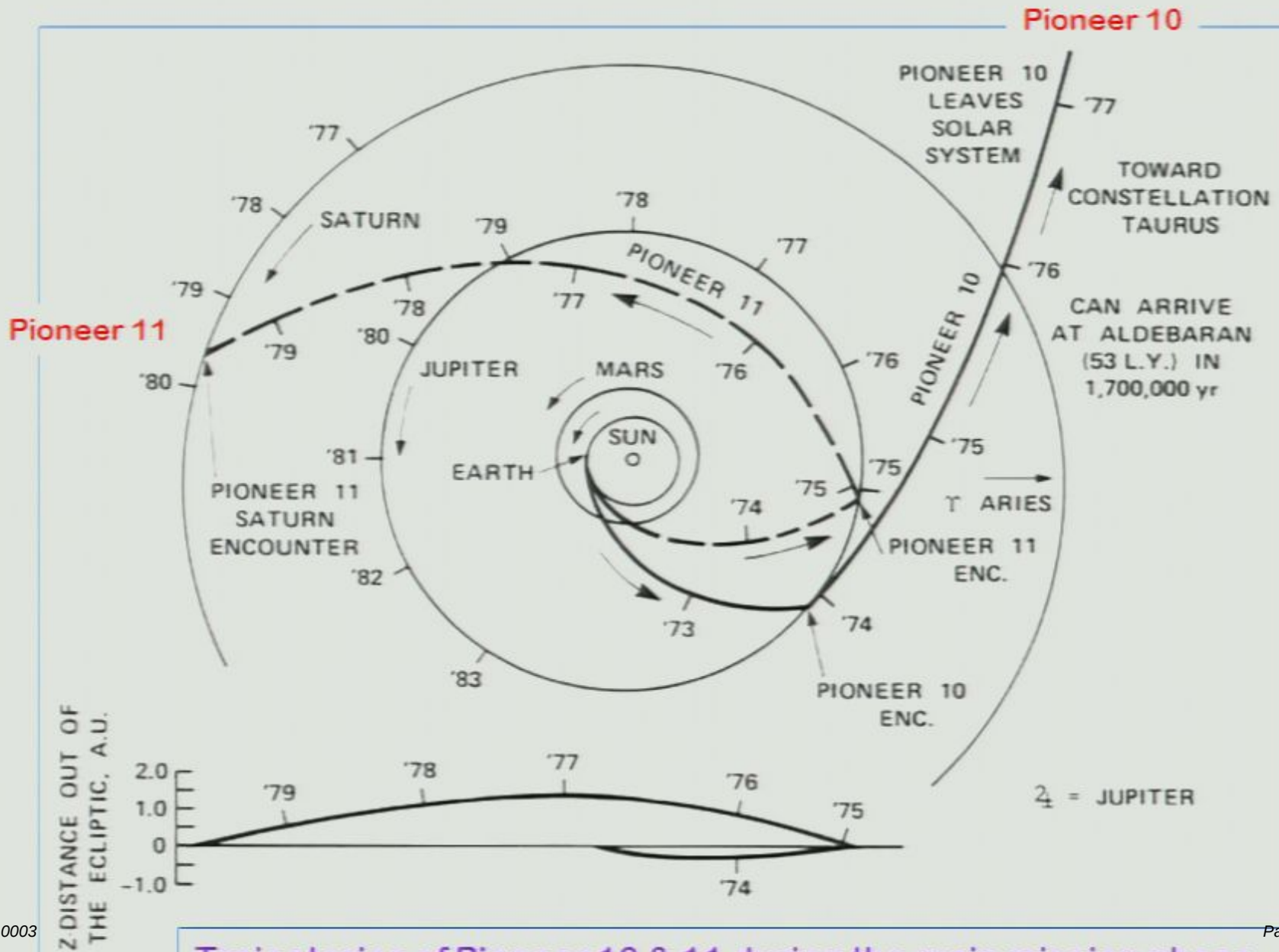
THE STUDY OF THE PIONEER ANOMALY

Pioneer 10 Launch: 2 March 1972



Pioneer 10 Launch: 2 March 1972



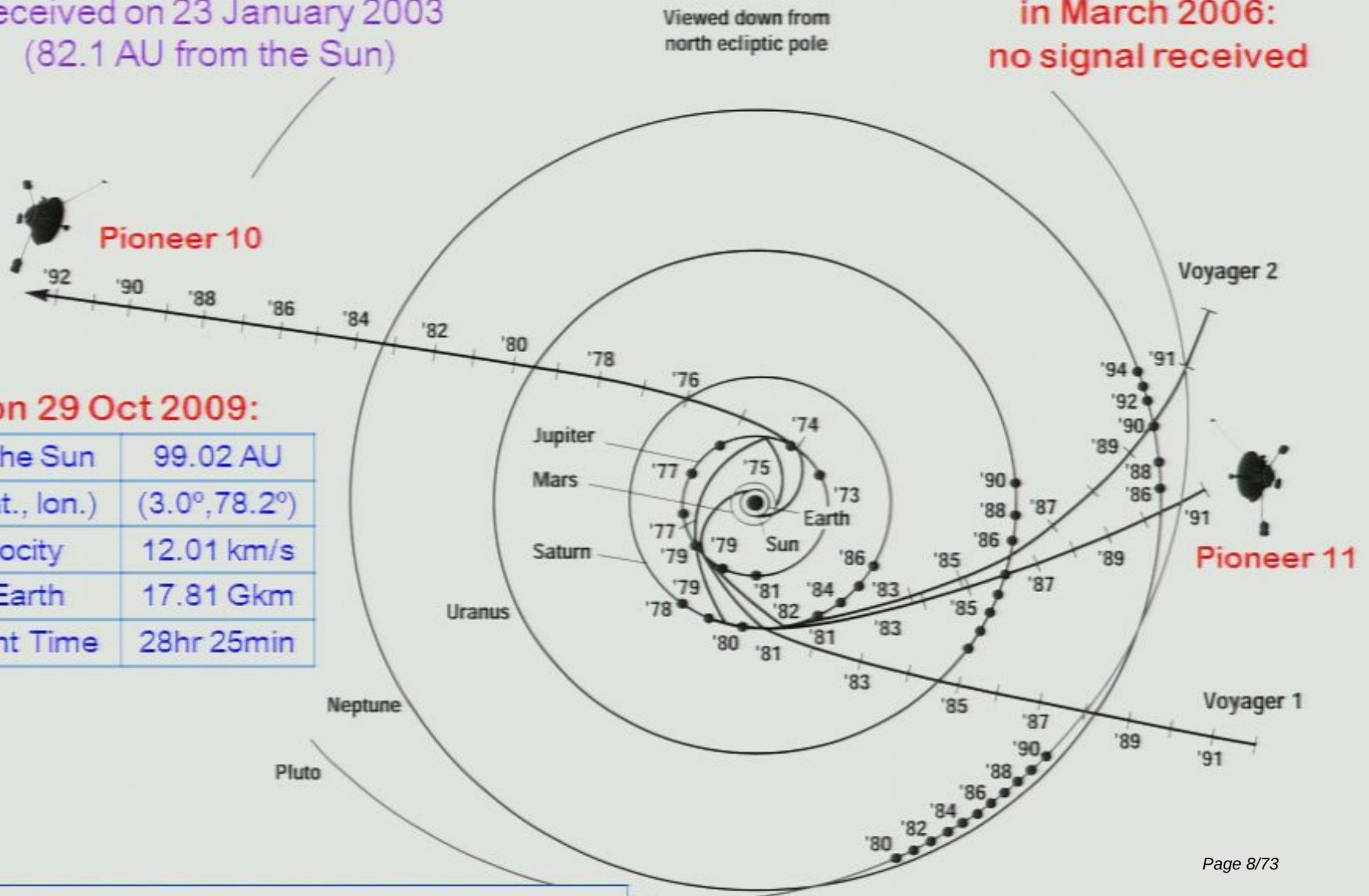


Last signal from Pioneer 10 was received on 23 January 2003 (82.1 AU from the Sun)

Pioneer 10 last contacted in March 2006: no signal received

Pioneer 10 on 29 Oct 2009:

Distance from the Sun	99.02 AU
Position, SE (lat., lon.)	(3.0°, 78.2°)
Heliocentric velocity	12.01 km/s
Distance from Earth	17.81 Gkm
Round-Trip Light Time	28hr 25min



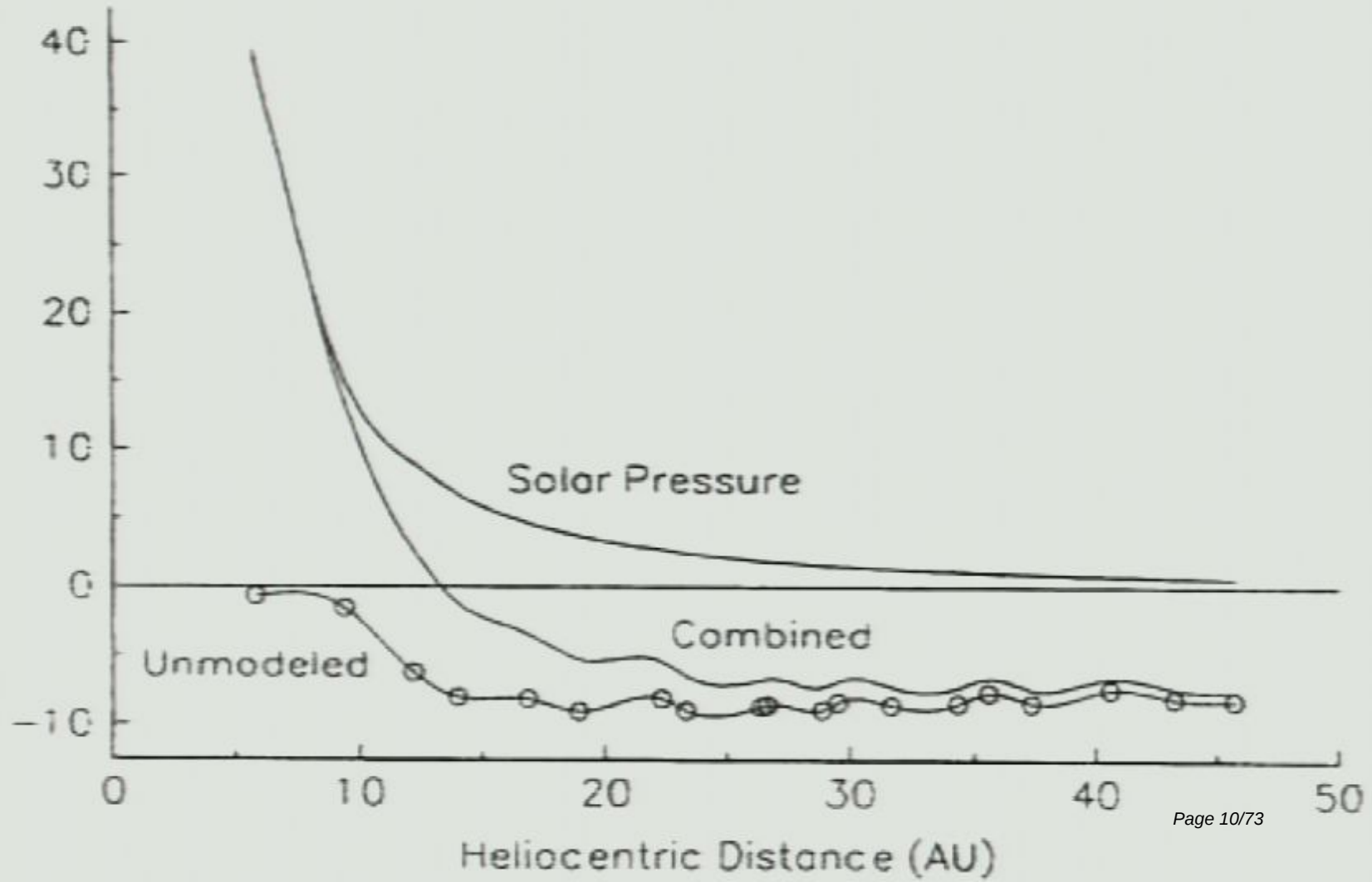
History: Detection of the Effect and Earlier Studies

- 1979: search for unmodeled accelerations w/ Pioneers began:
 - Motivation: Planet X; initiated when Pioneer 10 was at 20 AU;
 - Solar-radiation pressure **away** from the Sun became $< 5 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m/s}^2$
- 1980: navigational anomaly first detected at JPL:
 - The biggest systematic error in the acceleration residuals – a constant bias of $(8 \pm 3) \times 10^{-10} \text{ m/s}^2$ directed **towards** the Sun

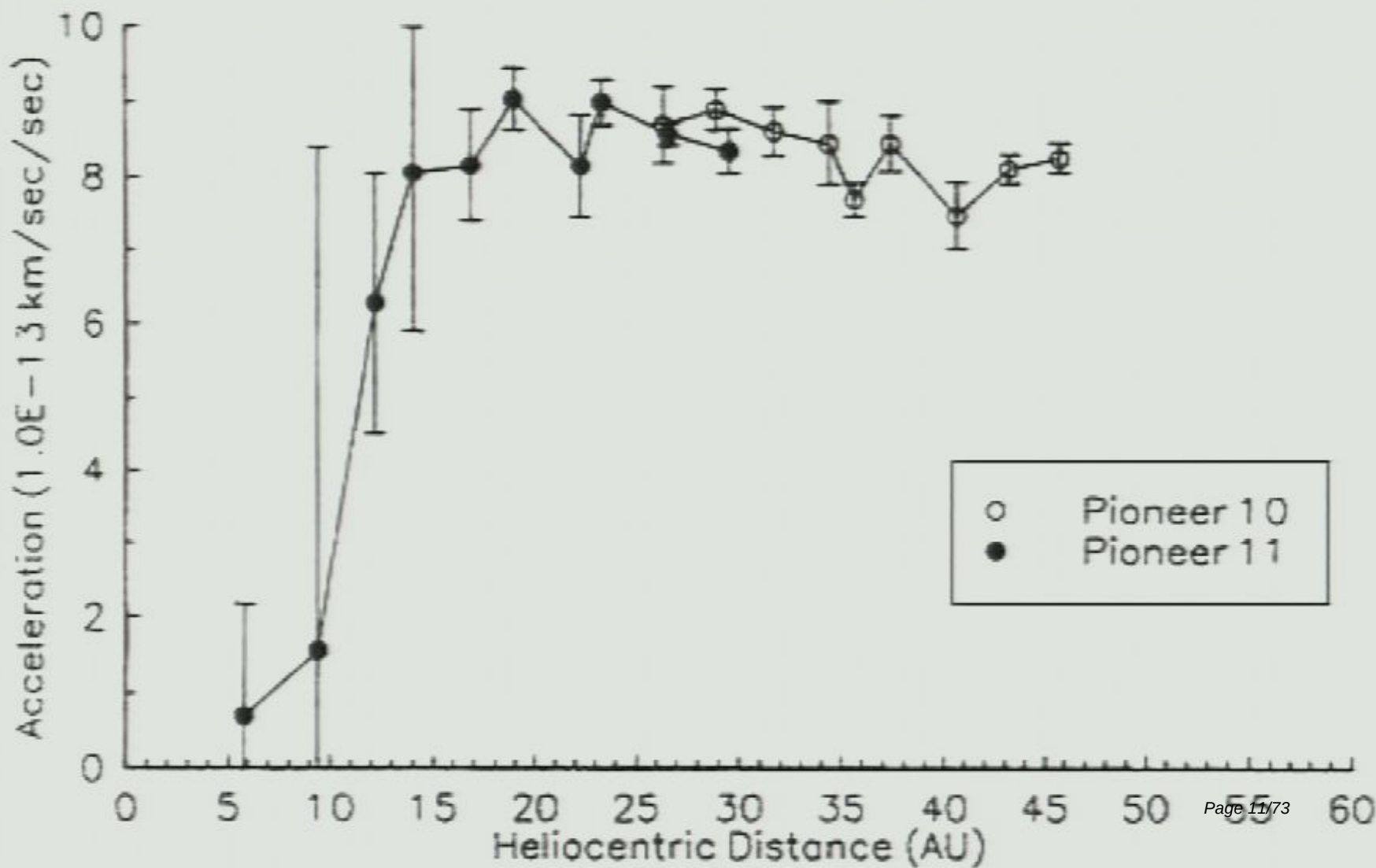


ACCELERATIONS ON PIONEER 10 AND 11 Positive Along Sun-Spacecraft Line

Acceleration ($1.0E-13$ km/sec/sec)



UNMODELED ACCELERATIONS ON PIONEER 10 AND 11 Acceleration Directed Toward the Sun



History: Detection of the Effect and Earlier Studies

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- Initial JPL-ODP analysis in 1990-95: PRL 81(1998) 2858-2861, gr-qc/9808081
 - $(8.09 \pm 0.20) \times 10^{-10} \text{ m/s}^2$ for Pioneer 10
 - $(8.56 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-10} \text{ m/s}^2$ for Pioneer 11
 - NO magnitude variation with distance over a range of 40 to 70 AU
 - The error is from a batch-sequential & filter-smoothing algorithm

- **An Error in JPL's ODP?** – Numerous internal checks at JPL
- NASA Grant to The Aerospace Corporation: 1996-1998

Data used for the analysis conducted during 1996-1998:

- Pioneer 10: 11.5 years; distance = 40–70.5 AU $\Rightarrow$ 20,055 data points
- Pioneer 11: 3.75 years; distance = 22.4–31.7 AU $\Rightarrow$ 19,198 data points



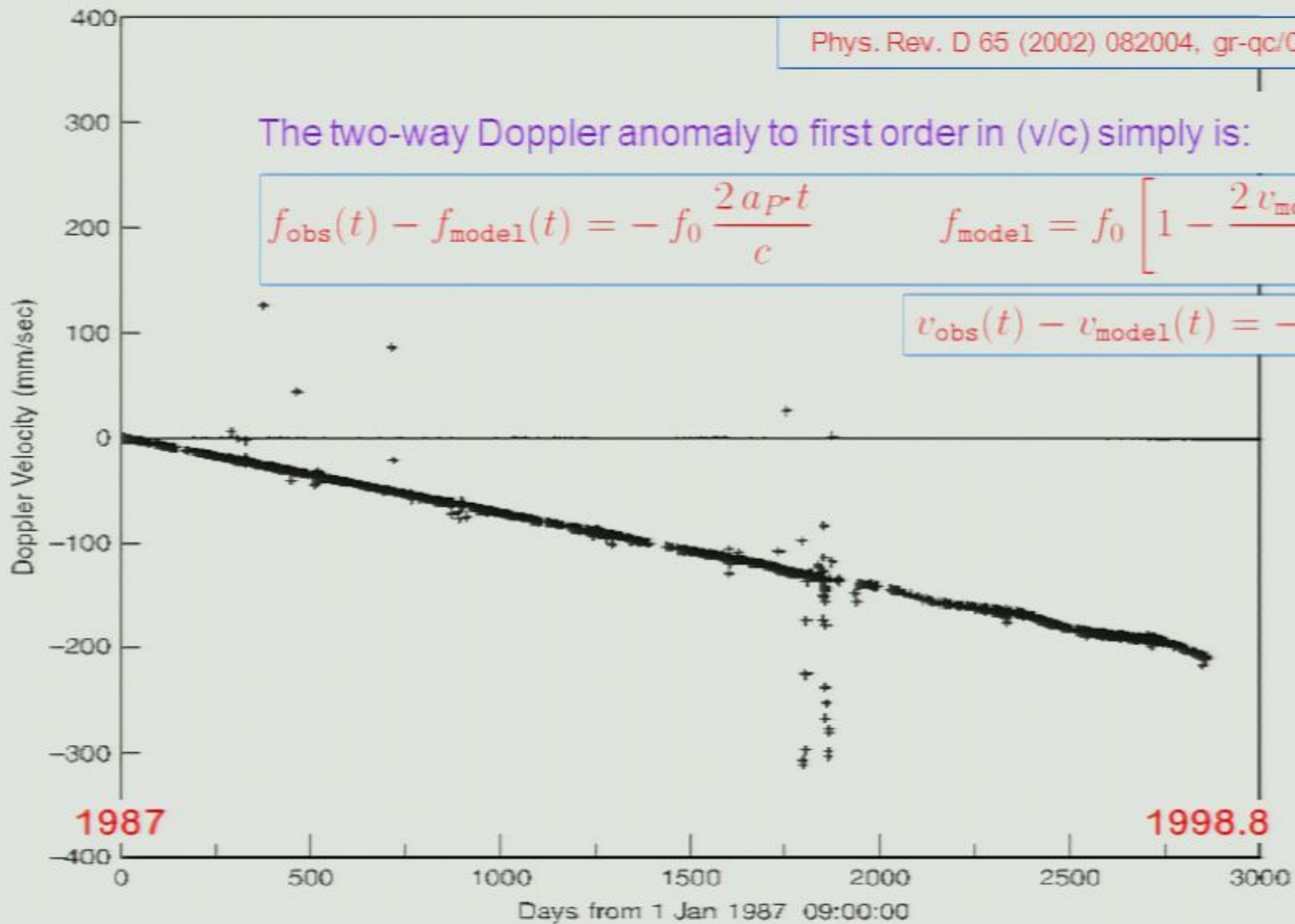
Phys. Rev. D 65 (2002) 082004, gr-qc/0104064

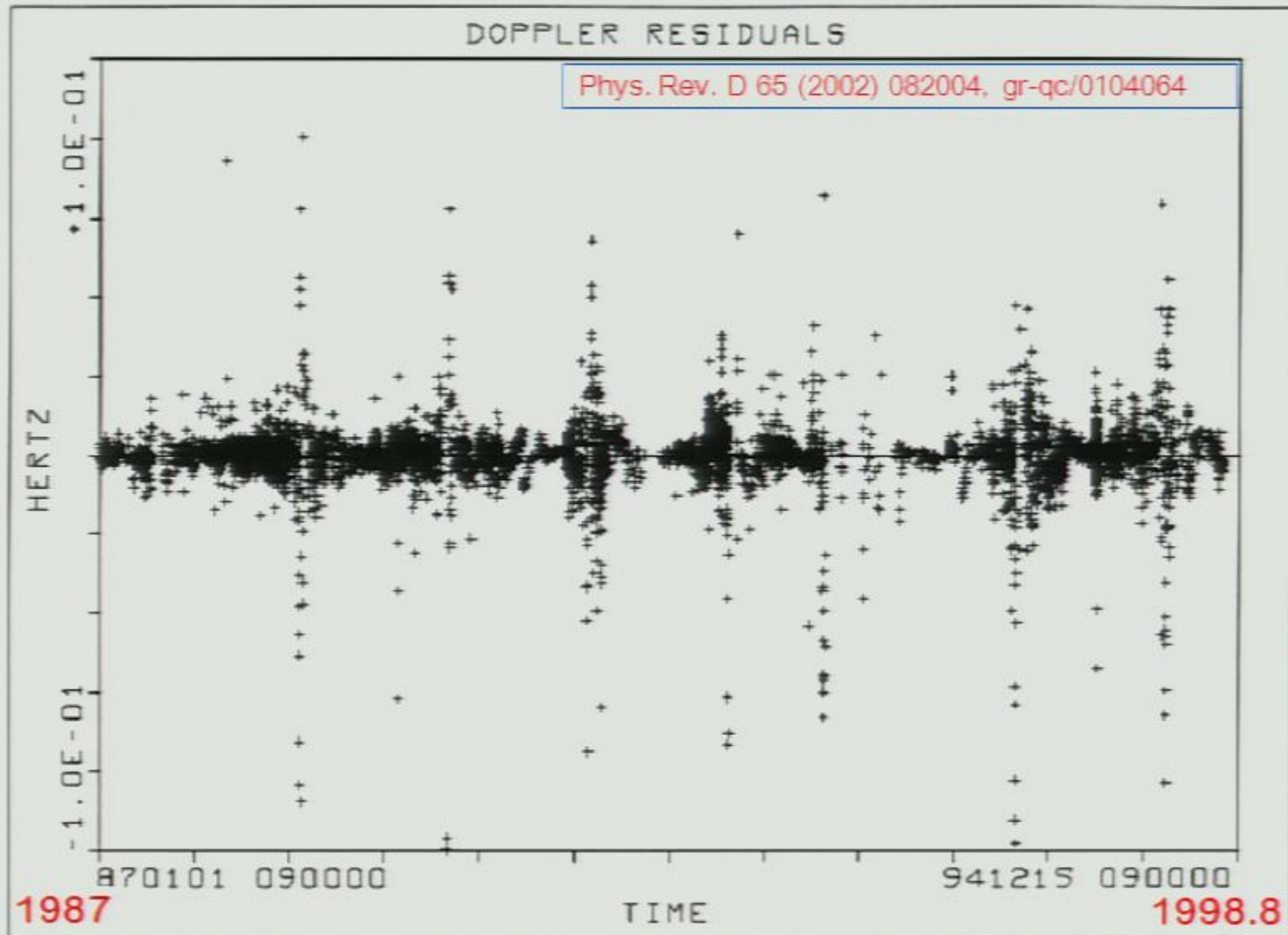
The two-way Doppler anomaly to first order in (v/c) simply is:

$$f_{\text{obs}}(t) - f_{\text{model}}(t) = -f_0 \frac{2a_P t}{c}$$

$$f_{\text{model}} = f_0 \left[1 - \frac{2v_{\text{model}}(t)}{c} \right]$$

$$v_{\text{obs}}(t) - v_{\text{model}}(t) = -2a_P t$$



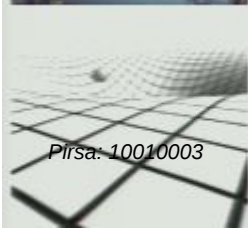


Adding only one more parameter to the model – a constant radial acceleration – led to residuals distribution ~ zero Doppler velocity with a systematic variation ~3.0 mm/s. Quality of the fit is determined by ratio of residuals to the downlink carrier frequency, $y_r \sim 2.29$ GHz



- Relativistic eq.m. for celestial bodies are correct to $(v/c)^4$:
 - Relativistic gravitational accelerations (EIH model) include: Sun, Moon, 9 planets are point masses in isotropic, PPN, N-body metric;
 - Newtonian gravity from large asteroids; terrestrial, lunar figure effects; Earth tides; lunar physical librations.
- Relativistic models for light propagation are correct to $(v/c)^2$
- Model accounts for many sources of non-grav. forces, including:
 - Solar radiation and wind pressure; the interplanetary media;
 - Attitude-control propulsive maneuvers and propellant (gas) leakage from the propulsion system;
 - Torques produced by above mentioned forces;
 - DSN antennae contributions to the spacecraft radio tracking data.
- Orbit determination procedure, includes:
 - Models of precession, nutation, sidereal rotation, polar motion, tidal effects, and tectonic plates drift;
 - Model values of the tidal deceleration, non-uniformity of rotation, polar motion, Love numbers, and Chandler wobble are obtained observationally via LLR, SLR and VLBI (from ICRF).

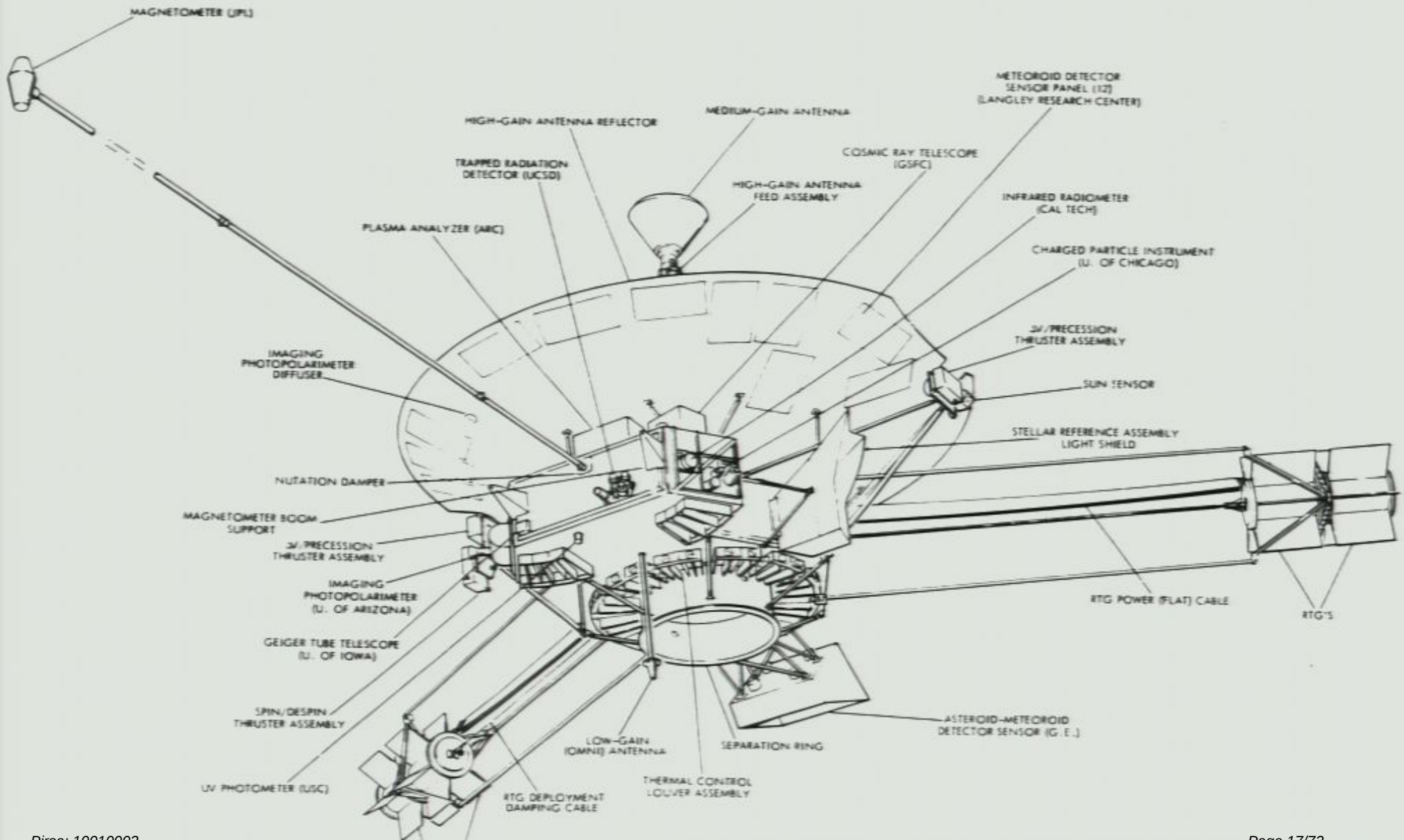
Sources of Systematic Error: External



Error budget constituents	Bias 10^{-10} m/s^2	Uncertainty 10^{-10} m/s^2
1 Sources of external systematic error:		
⇒ Solar radiation pressure		± 0.001
⇒ From the mass uncertainty	+0.03	± 0.01
⇒ Solar wind contribution		$\pm < 10^{-5}$
⇒ Effects of the solar corona		± 0.02
⇒ Electro-magnetic Lorentz forces		$\pm < 10^{-4}$
⇒ Influence of the Kuiper belt's gravity		± 0.03
⇒ Influence of the Earth orientation		± 0.001
⇒ DSN Antennae: mechanical/phase stability		$\pm < 0.001$
⇒ Phase stability and clocks		$\pm < 0.001$
⇒ DSN station location		$\pm < 10^{-5}$
⇒ Effects of troposphere and ionosphere		$\pm < 0.001$
2 Computational systematics:		
⇒ Numerical stability of least-squares estimation		± 0.02
⇒ Accuracy of consistency/model tests		± 0.13
⇒ Mismodeling of maneuvers		± 0.01
⇒ Mismodeling of the solar corona		± 0.02
⇒ Annual/diurnal terms		± 0.32

THE STUDY OF THE PIONEER ANOMALY

The Pioneer 10/11 Spacecraft



Error budget constituents

Bias

10^{-10} m/s^2

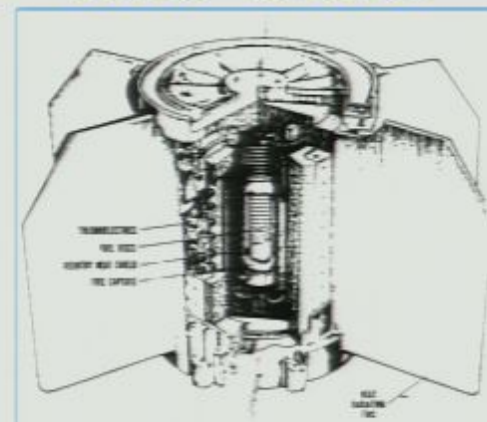
Uncertainty

10^{-10} m/s^2

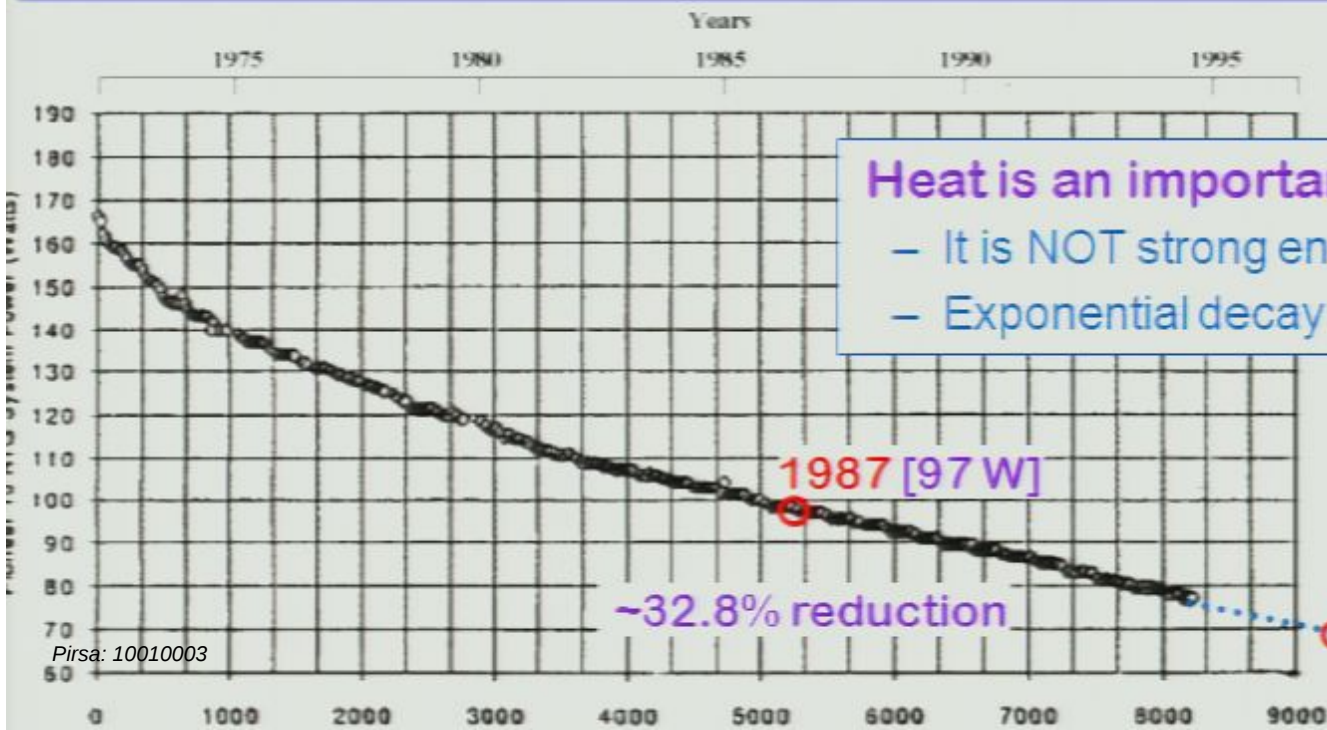
3 Sources of external systematic error:

⇒ Radio beam reaction force	+1.10	± 0.11
⇒ Thermal/propulsion effects from RTGs:		
⇒ RTG heat reflected off the craft	-0.55	± 0.55
⇒ Differential emissivity of the RTGs		± 0.85
⇒ Non-isotropic radiative cooling of s/c		± 0.16
⇒ Expelled He produced within the RTGs	+0.15	± 0.16
⇒ Propulsive mass expulsion: gas leakage		± 0.56
⇒ Variation between s/c determinations	+0.17	± 0.17

SNAP-19 RTG



SNAP 19/PIONEER RADIO ISOTOPE THERMOELECTRIC GENERATOR



Heat is an important source, but:

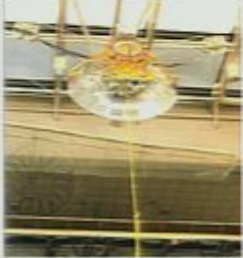
- It is NOT strong enough to explain the anomaly;
- Exponential decay or linear decrease – NOT seen





- On-board systematic & other hardware-related mechanisms:
 - Precessional attitude control maneuvers and associated “gas leaks”
 - Nominal thermal radiation due to ^{238}Pu decay [half life 87.75 years]
 - Heat rejection mechanisms from within the spacecraft
 - Hardware problems at the DSN tracking stations
- Examples of the external effects (used GLL, ULY, and Cassini):
 - Solar radiation pressure, solar wind, interplanetary medium, dust
 - Viscous drag force due to mass distribution in the outer solar system
 - Gravity from the Kuiper belt; gravity from the Galaxy
 - Gravity from Dark Matter distributed in halo around the solar system
 - Errors in the planetary ephemeris, in the Earth’s Orientation, precession, polar motion, and nutation parameters
- Phenomenological time models:
 - Drifting clocks, quadratic time augmentation, uniform carrier frequency drift, effect due to finite speed of gravity, and many others
- All the above were rejected as explanations

Most of the systematics are time or/and space dependent!



- By 2009 existence of the anomaly is confirmed by 7 codes:
 - JPL's Orbit Determination Program [various versions 1979-2009];
 - The Aerospace Corporation code POEAS [during 1995-2001];
 - Goddard Space Flight Center's study in 2003 [data from NSSDC];
 - Institute for Theoretical Astronomy, Norway, Oslo [2002-2008];
 - Viktor Toth, Canada [2005-2009]; GAP, France [2006-2008], others.

- Observed frequency drift can be interpreted as acceleration of

$$a_P = (8.74 \pm 1.33) \times 10^{-10} \text{ m/s}^2$$

- **Constant** acceleration of the spacecraft **towards** the Sun...
 - This interpretation has become known as the Pioneer Anomaly.
- Observation $a_P \simeq cH$, stimulated many suggestions (>200!):
 - Kinematical realization of local cosmological frame; momentum-dependent gravitational coupling; MONDian mechanism, modified inertia; non-uniformly-coupled scalar field(s); Brane-worlds; higher-dimensional gravitational models, $f(R)$ models, etc.

- Primary focus of new analysis: “**the heat or not the heat?**”

Somewhere in JPL...



Data used for the Analysis (1996-1998):

- Pioneer 10: 11.5 years; distance = 40–70.5 AU $\Rightarrow$ 20,055 data points
- Pioneer 11: 3.75 years; distance = 22.4–31.7 AU $\Rightarrow$ 19,198 data points

Pioneer 10/11 Doppler Data available (since October 2009):

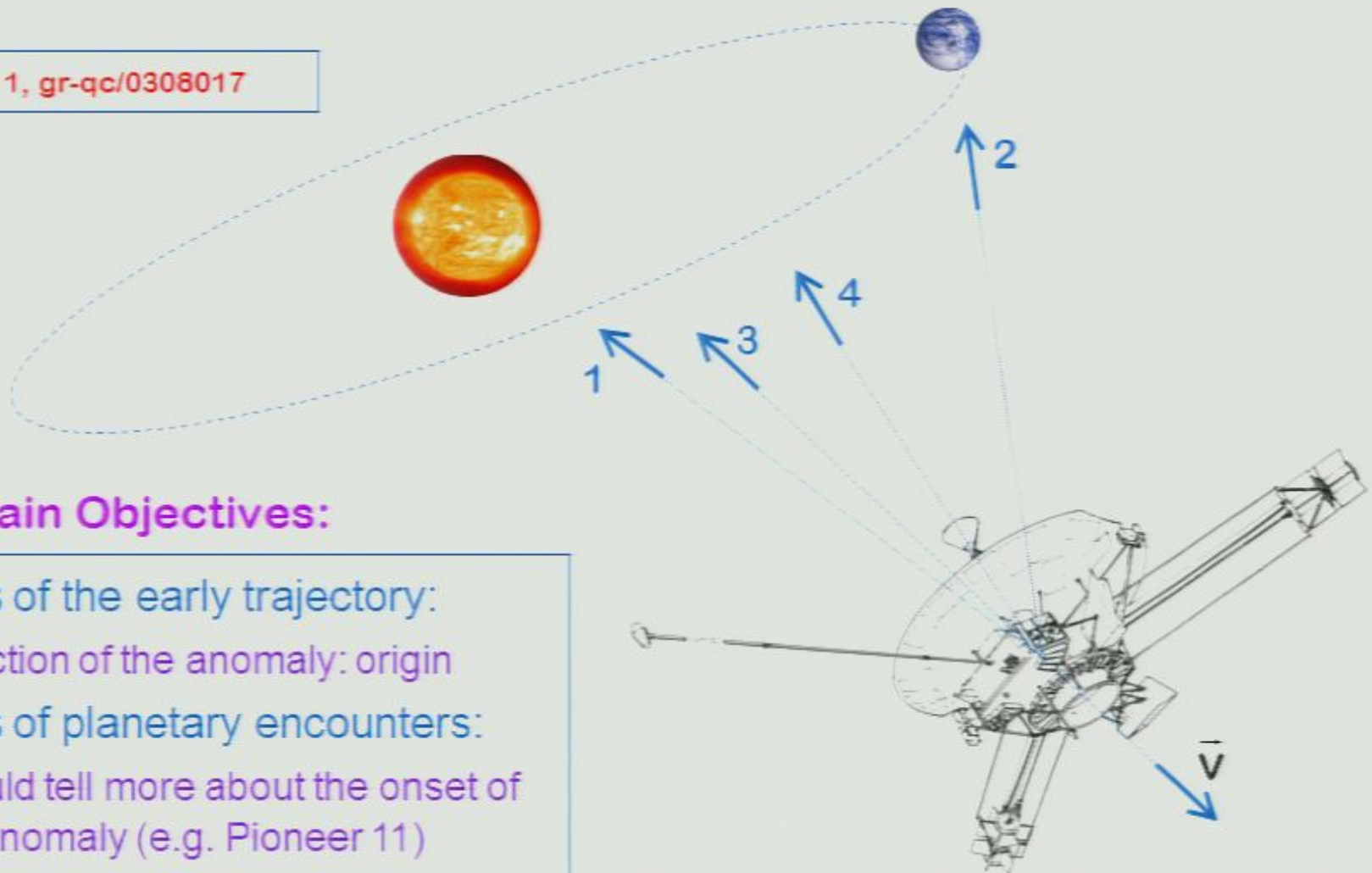
- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pioneer 10: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1973-2002: ~30 years – Distance range: 4.56–80.2 AU – Jupiter encounter – ~150,000+ data points – Maneuvers, spin, initial cond. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pioneer 11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1974-1994: ~ 20 years – Distance range: 1.0–41.7 AU – Jupiter & Saturn encounters – ~120,000+ data points – Maneuvers, spin, initial cond. |
|---|---|

- All 600+ ATDFs went through radio-metric data conditioning (2006-2009)
- The entire set of Doppler data is available since the end of Sept 2009

Significant volume of the data never analyzed to study the anomaly



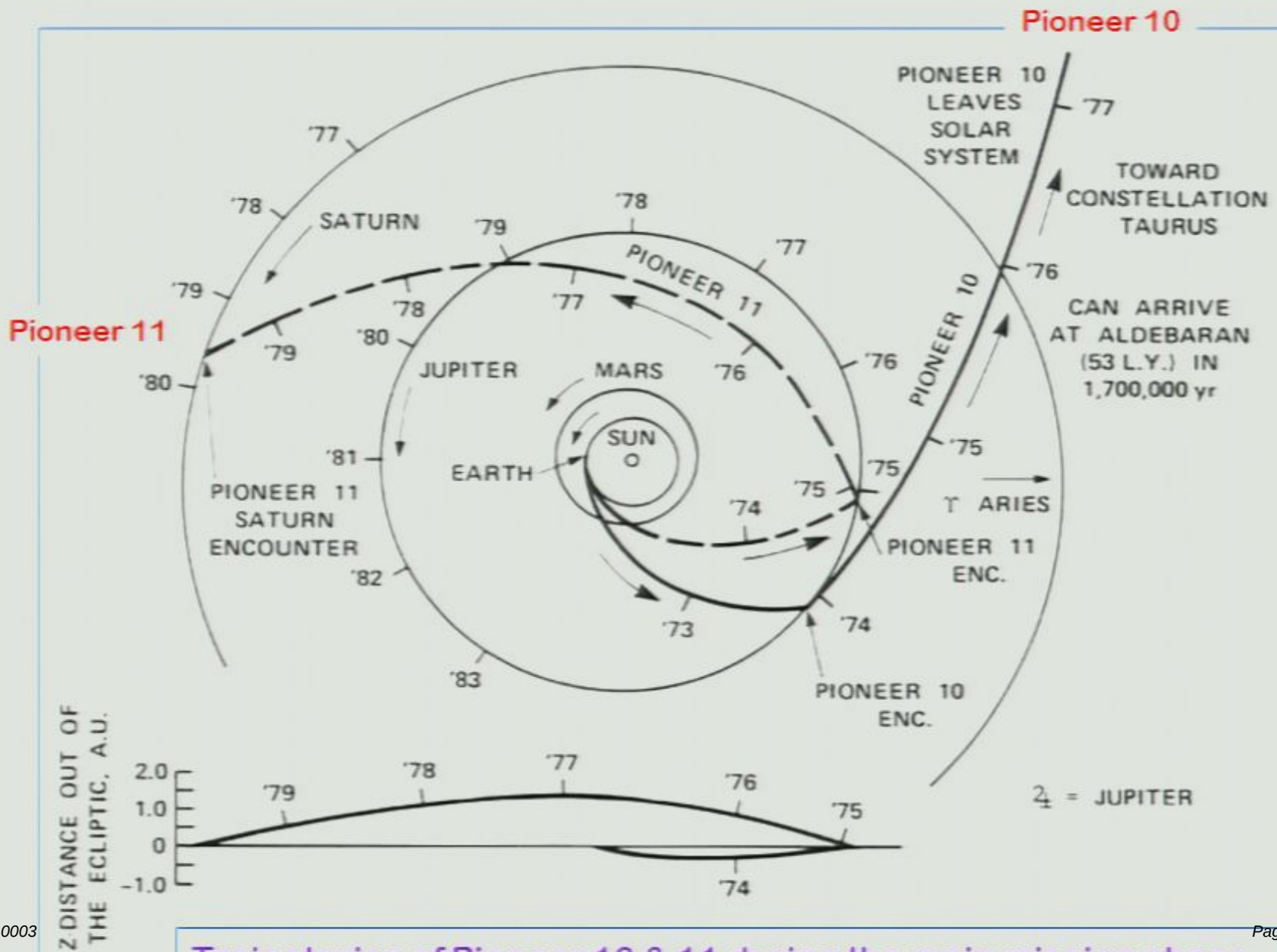
CQG 21 (2004) 1, gr-qc/0308017



Four Main Objectives:

- Analysis of the early trajectory:
 - Direction of the anomaly: origin
- Analysis of planetary encounters:
 - Should tell more about the onset of the anomaly (e.g. Pioneer 11)
- Analysis of the entire dataset:
 - Temporal evolution of the anomaly
- Focus on on-board systematics:
 - Thermal modeling using telemetry

- Towards the Sun: gravitational models?
- Towards the Earth: frequency standards?
- Along the velocity vector: drag or inertia?
- Along the spin axis: internal systematics?

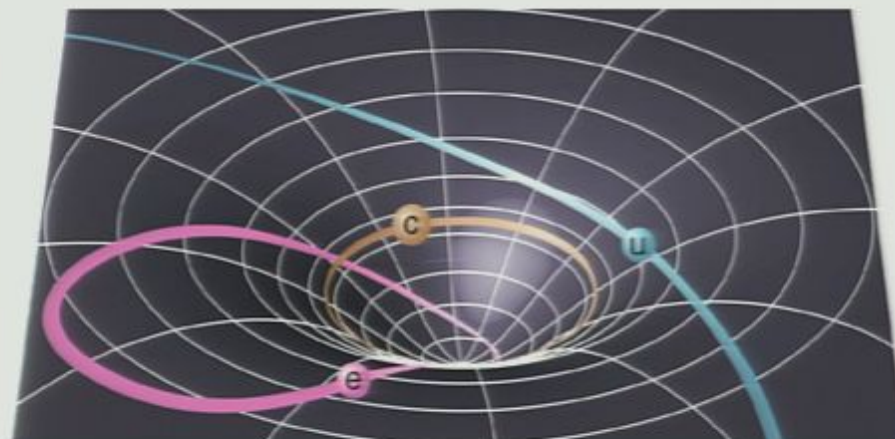


■ Navigational Anomalies during Earth fly-byes were observed with multiple spacecraft:

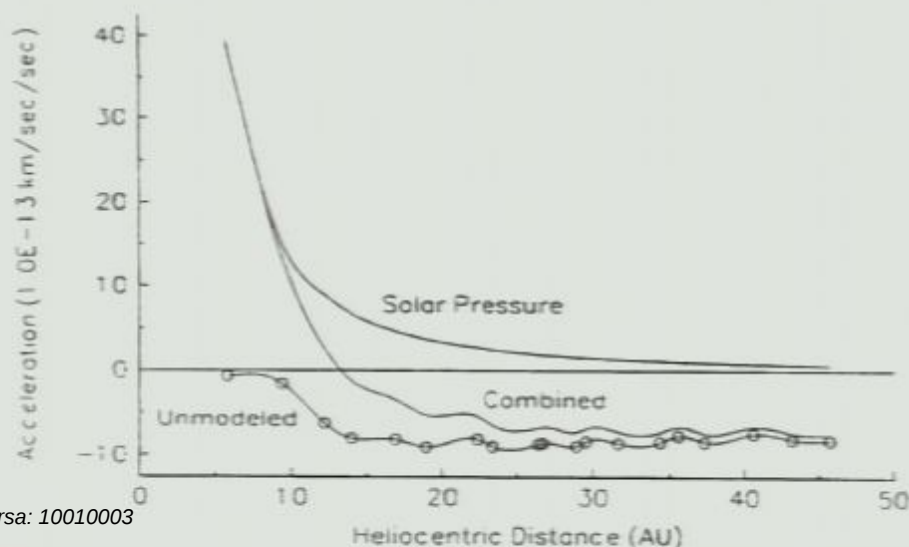
- Galileo: #1 on 10/8/1990 @ altitude of ~960 km;
#2 on 12/8/1992 @ altitude of ~305 km;
- NEAR: 01/22/1998 @ altitude of ~550 km;
- Cassini: 08/19/1999 @ altitude of ~1,171 km;
- Stardust: 01/15/2001 @ altitude of ~6,000 km;
- Rosetta: 03/04/2005 @ altitude of ~1,900 km.

■ Are they relevant to the Pioneer anomaly?

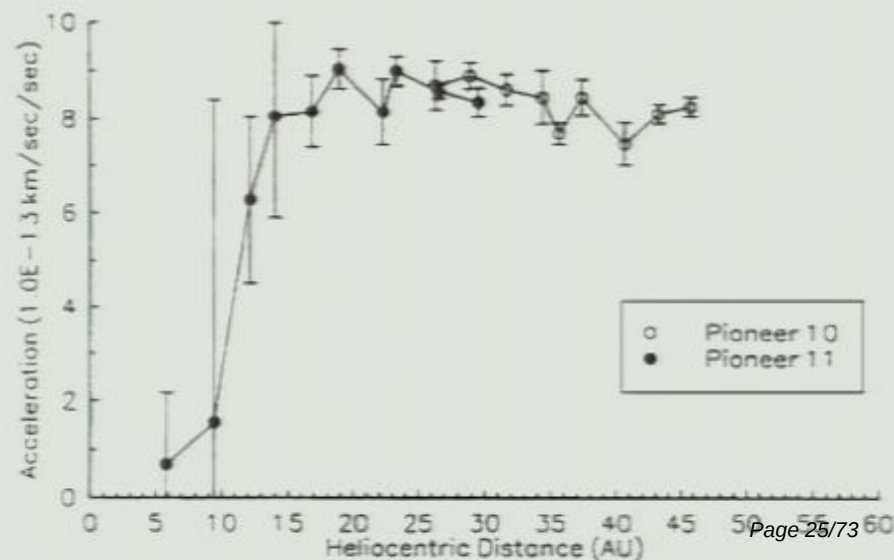
c circular orbit
e elliptical orbit
u unbound orbit



ACCELERATIONS ON PIONEER 10 AND 11
Positive Along Sun-Spacecraft Line



UNMODELED ACCELERATIONS ON PIONEER 10 AND 11
Acceleration Directed Toward the Sun



Observed Shifts in Hyperbolic Excess Velocity (V_{∞})

- For Earth flybys, the Galileo, NEAR, and Rosetta spacecraft show an anomalous orbital energy increase in the geocentric system.
- Increase in asymptotic velocity v_{∞} is 3.92 ± 0.3 mm/s for Galileo, 13.46 ± 0.01 mm/s for NEAR, and 1.80 ± 0.03 mm/s for Rosetta.

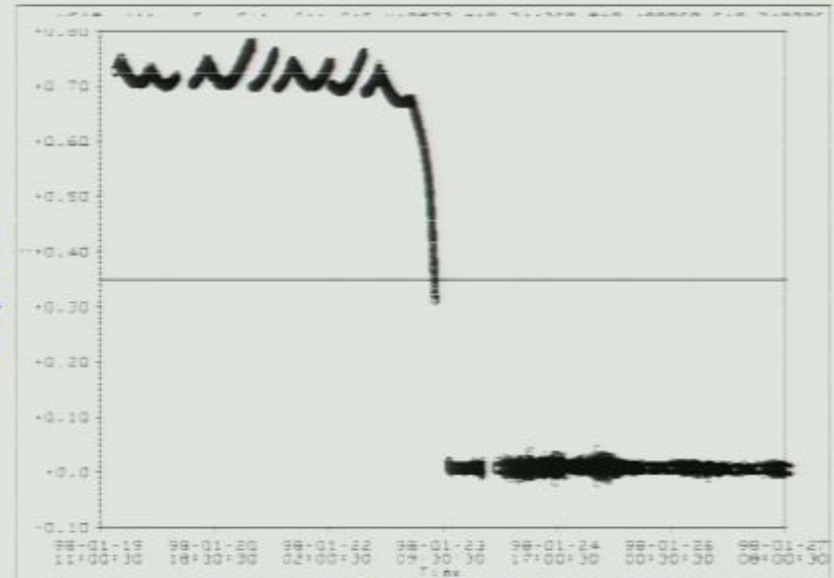
Spacecraft (Date)	Nominal V_{∞} (km/s)	Shift in V_{∞} (mm/s)
Galileo I (1990)	8.95	3.92 ± 0.3
Galileo II (1992)	8.88	-4.6 ± 1.0
NEAR (1998)	6.85	13.46 ± 0.01
Cassini (1999)	16.01	-2.0 ± 1.0
Rosetta (2005)	3.86	1.8 ± 0.03
Messenger (2005)	4.06	0.02 ± 0.01

Δf , Hz



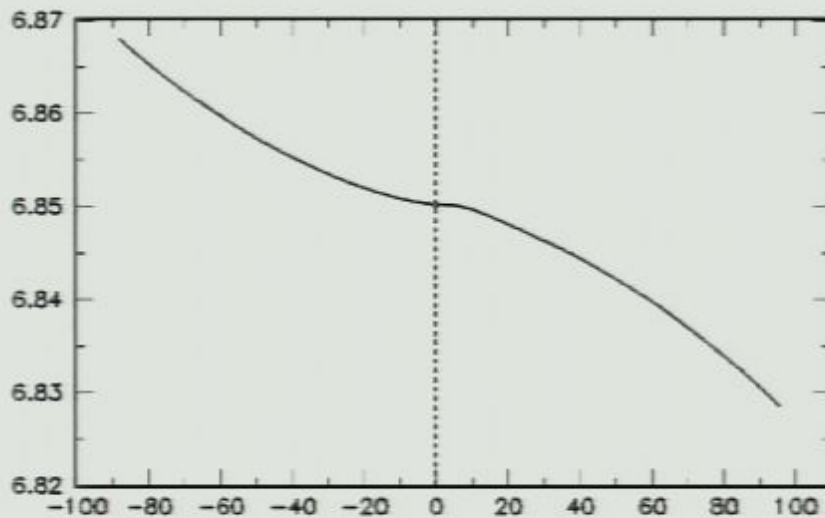
Fit to 4 days of data before periapsis

Δf , Hz



Fit to 4 days of data after periapsis

Hyperbolic Velocity (km/s)

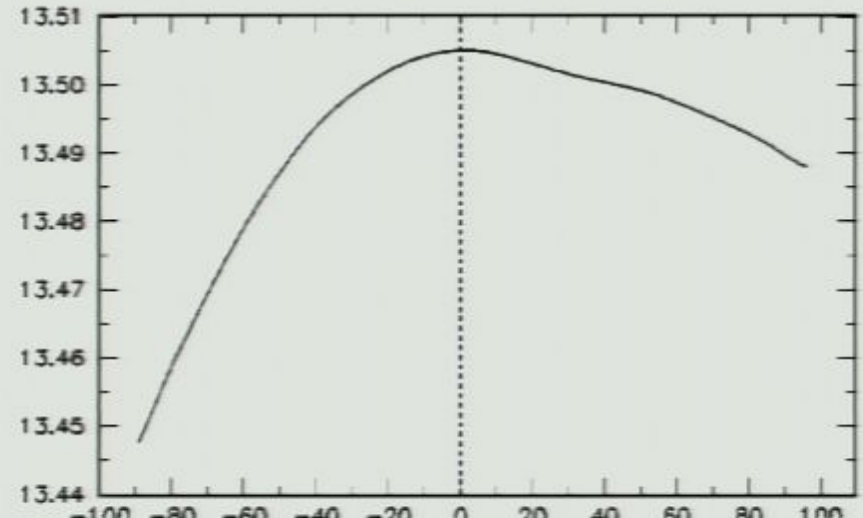


Pirsa: 10010003

Time from Closest Approach (hr)

Nominal hyperbolic excess velocity

Velocity Anomaly (mm/s)



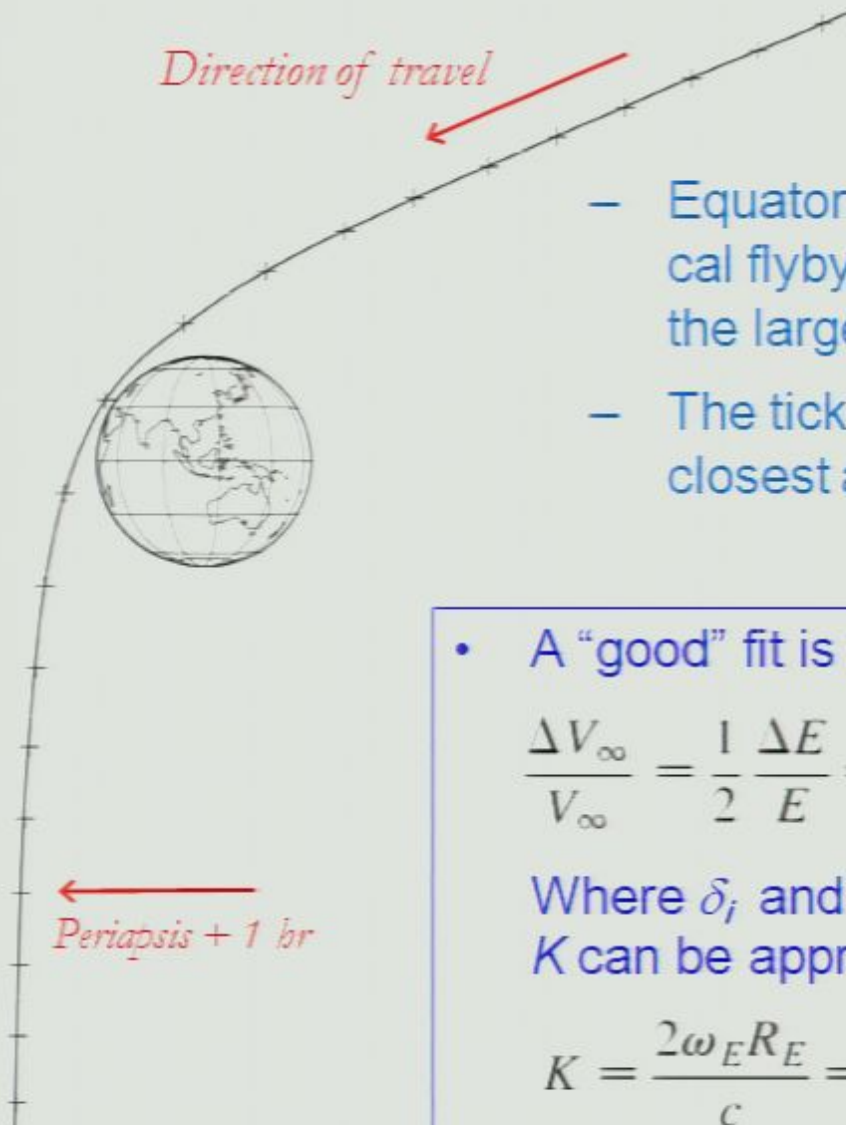
Page 27/73

Time from Closest Approach (hr)

ΔV : Data fits after 8 before periapsis

Equatorial Side View of NEAR Earth Flyby (1998)

(Incoming V_{∞} Declination -21° , Outgoing V_{∞} Declination -72°)



- Equatorial view of the NEAR flyby, the most asymmetrical flyby with respect to the equator and the flyby with the largest energy change.
- The tick marks are at 10-min intervals as measured from closest approach. Other five other flybys are similar.

- A “good” fit is achieved with the following empirical formula:

$$\frac{\Delta V_{\infty}}{V_{\infty}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta E}{E} = K(\cos \delta_i - \cos \delta_o) \quad \text{where} \quad V_{\infty}^2 = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} - \frac{2\mu}{r}$$

Where δ_i and δ_o are relative to Earth’s equatorial plane.

K can be approximated by

$$K = \frac{2\omega_E R_E}{c} = 3.099 \times 10^{-6}$$

ω_E = Earth’s rotation rate (rad/s)

R_E = Earth’s radius (km)

c = speed of light (km/s)

Summary of Orbital Parameters

TABLE I. Earth flyby parameters at closest approach for Galileo, NEAR, Cassini, Rosetta, and MESSENGER (M'GER) spacecraft. The altitude H is referenced to an Earth geoid, the geocentric latitude ϕ and longitude λ are listed for the closest approach location, V_f is the inertial spacecraft velocity at closest approach, V_∞ is the osculating hyperbolic excess velocity, the deflection angle (DA) is the angle between the incoming and outgoing asymptotic velocity vectors, the angle I is the inclination of the orbital plane on the Earth's equator, the next four rows represent the right ascension α and declination δ of the incoming (i) and outgoing (o) osculating asymptotic velocity vectors, and M_{SC} is a best estimate of the total mass of the spacecraft during the encounter. The last three rows of the table give the measured change in V_∞ , the estimated realistic error in ΔV_∞ , and the prediction of ΔV_∞ by Eq. (1). The measured ΔV_∞ for GLL-II is actually -8 mm/s, but it is reduced in magnitude after subtracting out an estimated atmospheric drag of -3.4 mm/s.

Parameter	GLL-I	GLL-II	NEAR	Cassini	Rosetta	M'GER
Date	12/8/90	12/8/92	1/23/98	8/18/99	3/4/05	8/2/05
H (km)	960	303	539	1175	1956	2347
ϕ (deg)	25.2	-33.8	33.0	-23.5	20.20	46.95
λ (deg)	296.5	354.4	47.2	231.4	246.8	107.5
V_f (km/s)	13.740	14.080	12.739	19.026	10.517	10.389
V_∞ (km/s)	8.949	8.877	6.851	16.010	3.863	4.056
DA (deg)	47.7	51.1	66.9	19.7	99.3	94.7
I (deg)	142.9	138.7	108.0	25.4	144.9	133.1
α_i (deg)	266.76	219.35	261.17	334.31	346.12	292.61
δ_i (deg)	-12.52	-34.26	-20.76	-12.92	-2.81	31.44
α_o (deg)	219.97	174.35	183.49	352.54	246.51	227.17
δ_o (deg)	-34.15	-4.87	-71.96	-4.99	-34.29	-31.92
M_{SC} (kg)	2497	2497	730	4612	2895	1086
ΔV_∞ (mm/s)	3.92	-4.6	13.46	-2	1.80	0.02
σ_{V_∞} (mm/s)	0.3	1.0	0.01	1	0.03	0.01
Equation (1) (mm/s)	4.12	-4.67	13.28	-1.07	2.07	0.06

Search for the origin of the anomaly



- Non-Dependences

- Asymptotic right ascension: incoming or outgoing
- Direction to sun or moon
- Close approach distance
- Orbital deflection
- Orbital inclination

- Possible Causes?

- A true force (non-Newtonian) ?
- Doppler modeling error ?
- Coordinate frame problem ?
- Earth-bound dark matter ?
- Other ?

— The cause is yet unknown

- Possible Cause: Since GLL1 (1990) many models were investigated:

- Earth's gravity; Earth's geo-magnetic field; Earth's albedo radiation; Earth's atmospheric drag; Earth ocean tides; Earth solid tides
- Third body effects; solar radiation pressure
- Spacecraft forces; Spacecraft spin biases
- General relativity; non-Newtonian (Yukawa potential)
- Spin-rotation coupling
- Expansion of the universe

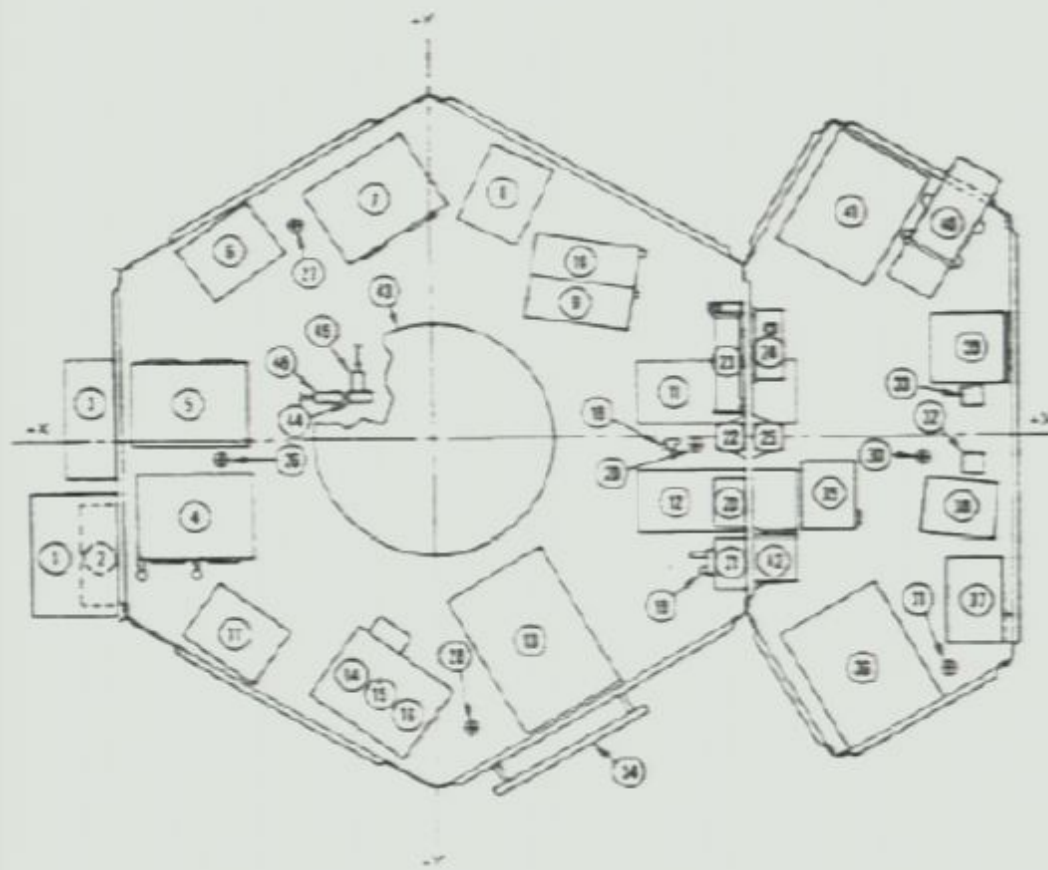
— All Dismissed

Recovery of the Pioneers' Telemetry Data



- Pioneer Project Documents (1966-2003) @ Ames:
 - All Pioneer 10 and 11 Project documents (design, fabrication, testing, calibrations, quarterly reports, memoranda, etc.)
 - Maneuver records, spin-rate data, significant events of the craft, etc.
 - Lack of funding resulted in improper storage, near destruction
- Master Data Record (MDR): 40GB spacecraft telemetry
 - All housekeeping data for both Pioneer 10 & 11 – the only available data on their behavior through the missions
 - Developed a C++ code to read the MDRs and distribute the data
 - MDRs will be used together with the Doppler data to study on-board systematics (e.g. finite-element thermal model, etc.)
- Project documents and data are saved in Ames' Archives!
 - The Pioneer anomaly saved the Pioneer Project archive!
- Late 2006 started development of a finite-element thermal model that uses the recovered telemetry to estimate recoil force

Each craft: ~114 parameters



INTERNAL EQUIPMENT ARRANGEMENT

Figure 3.1-1

EQUIPMENT IDENTIFICATION

ITEM NO.	TITLE	REFERENCE SUBSYSTEM	REFERENCE DESIGNATOR*
1	Data Storage Unit (DSU)	Data Handling	0804
2	Asteroid/Meteoroid Detector Electronics (IGE/Sobremont)	Instruments	0809
3	Battery	Electrical Power	0407
4	Power Control Unit (PCU)	Electrical Power	0402
5	Central TRP Unit	Electrical Power	0414
6	Inverter Assembly No. 2	Electrical Power	0406
7	Command Distribution Unit (CDU)	Electrical Distributor	0501
8	Stellar Reference Assembly (SRA)	Attitude Control	0231
9	Receiver No. 1	Communications	0540
10	Receiver No. 2	Communications	0541
11	TWT No. 1	Communications	0536
12	TWT No. 2	Communications	0537
13	Digital Telemetry Unit (DTU)	Data Handling	0403
14	Control Electronics Assembly (CEA)	Attitude Control	0230
15	Command Signal Processor	Communications	0533
16	Digital Decoder Unit	Data Handling	0617
17	Inverter Assembly No. 1	Electrical Power	0405
18	Attenuator TWT No. 1	Communications	0536A
19	Attenuator TWT No. 2	Communications	0537A
20	Transmitter Driver No. 1	Communications	0534
21	Transmitter Driver No. 2	Communications	0535
22	Transfer Switch - Receive	Antenna	0549
23	Diode No. 2/Coupler	Antenna	0543
24	Diode No. 1	Antenna	0542
25	Transfer Switch - Transmit	Antenna	0549
26	Thermistor No. 1	Thermal	0782
27	Thermistor No. 2	Thermal	0783
28	Thermistor No. 3	Thermal	0784
29	Thermistor No. 4	Thermal	0785
30	Thermistor No. 5	Thermal	0786
31	Thermistor No. 6	Thermal	0787
32	Despin Sensor No. 1	Attitude Control	0288
33	Despin Sensor No. 2	Attitude Control	0291
34	Shunt Radiator Assembly	Electrical Power	0408
35	Magnetometer Electronics (JPL/Smith)	Instruments	0850
36	Imaging Photo - Polarimeter (U/Arizona/Genzel)	Instruments	0857
37	Galileo Tube Telescope (U/lowe/Van Allen)	Instruments	0853
38	Ultraviolet Photometer (USC/Judge)	Instruments	0856
39	Trapped Radiation Detector (UCSD/Fittus)	Instruments	0855
40	Infrared Radiometer (CIT/Wunch)	Instruments	0858
41	Charged Particle Instrument (U/Chicago/Singapore)	Instruments	0852
42	Meteoroid Detector Electronics (LARC/Kiward)	Instruments	0860
43	Propellant Tank	Propulsion	0999
44	Temperature Transducer	Propulsion	0999
45	Filter - Propellant	Propulsion	0999
46	Pressure Transducer	Propulsion	0999

*The reference designator is used to correlate the unit with telemetry and command word assignments.



THE STUDY OF THE PIONEER ANOMALY

Master Data Records Web-Retrieval Form



Pioneer-10/11 MDR retrieval form - Netscape

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Window Help

http://www.vttoth.com/PIONEER/getmdr.htm

New Tab Pioneer-10/11 MDR retrieval form

Pioneer-10/11 MDR retrieval form

Use the form below to select the spacecraft, desired field, and date range below. Output is limited to a maximum of 10,000 records, or up to 3 minutes of processing time. No output means the requested field was not present in MDRs within the selected date range.

WARNING: The present version of this program has passed some formal testing. It correctly retrieved values from a test file, and its calibration coefficients have been successfully compared (at least for Pioneer-10) against original documentation. Having said that, the warning still applies: use the results obtained from here with caution.

Please use this program sparingly. Though it may not be evident from the appearance of this page, every time you click the submit button, potentially several gigabytes worth of files are scanned to produce the requested result. As this runs on my main server, which has other things to do, I ask that you do not use this program unnecessarily, and do not needlessly submit large queries. Having said that, please feel free to use the program, just keep my request in mind. Thank you!

Spacecraft: Pioneer-10

Subsystem: All Subsystems

Parameter: C-101 DTU A/D Calibration Voltage (Low) 168 mVdc

From: 1972 January 1 00 00 00 to 1972 December 31 23 59 59

Skip every 1 records ☐ Show only changed values

☐ Display results graphically

Submit Trajectories * Reset

Or, go to the [thermal readings form](#)

*Heliocentric trajectory plots based on daily coordinate values obtained from [JPL Horizons](#), with the Z coordinate suppressed, and the selected date range highlighted.

Spacecraft: Pioneer-10

Subsystem: All Subsystems

Parameter: All Subsystems

From: 1972

Skip every 1

☐ Display results graphically

Submit

Spacecraft: Pioneer-10

Subsystem: Thermal Subsystem

Parameter: C-201 RTG 1 Fin Root Temperature

From: 1972

Skip every 1

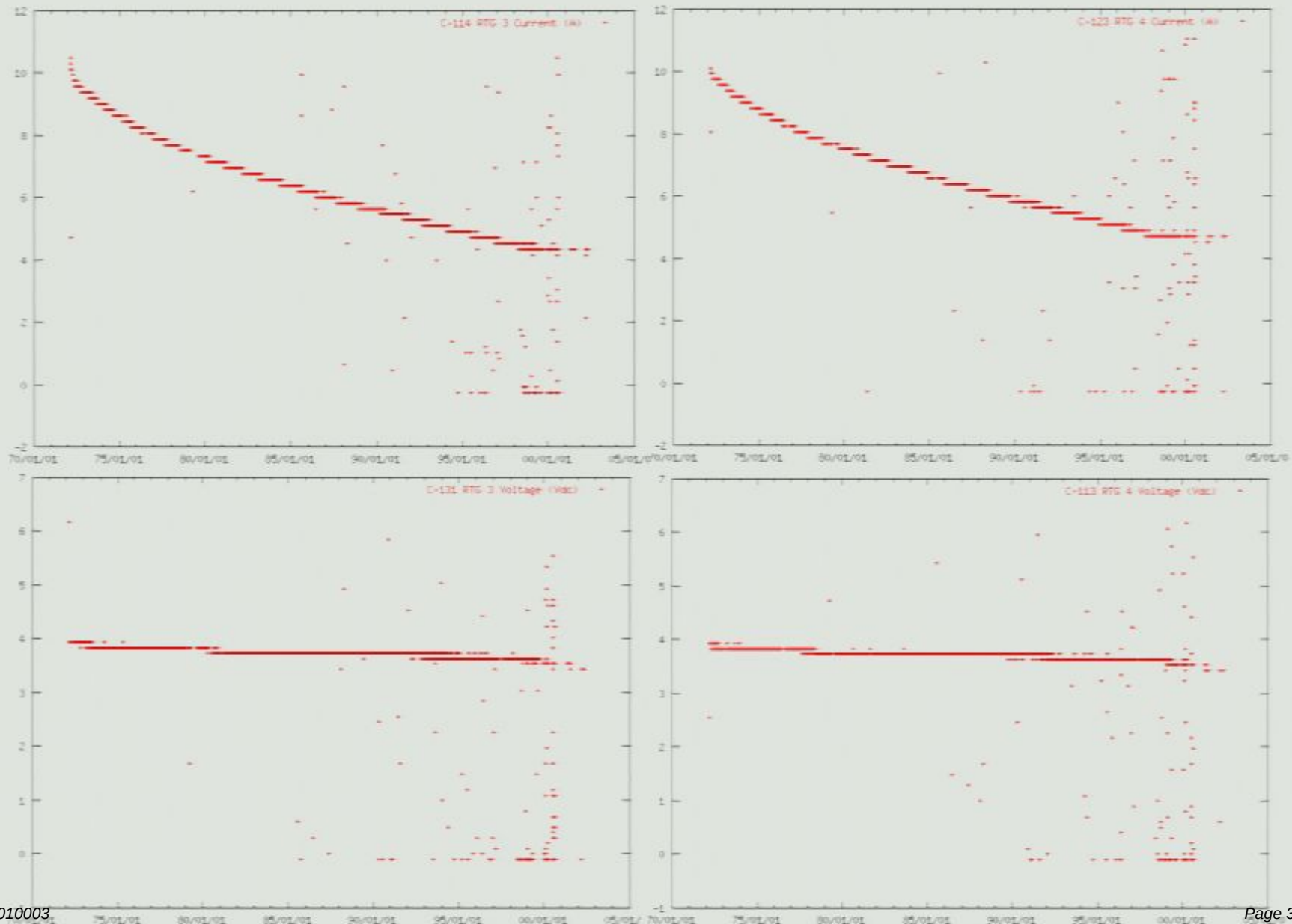
☐ Display results graphically

Submit

Or, go to the

*Heliocentric trajectory plots

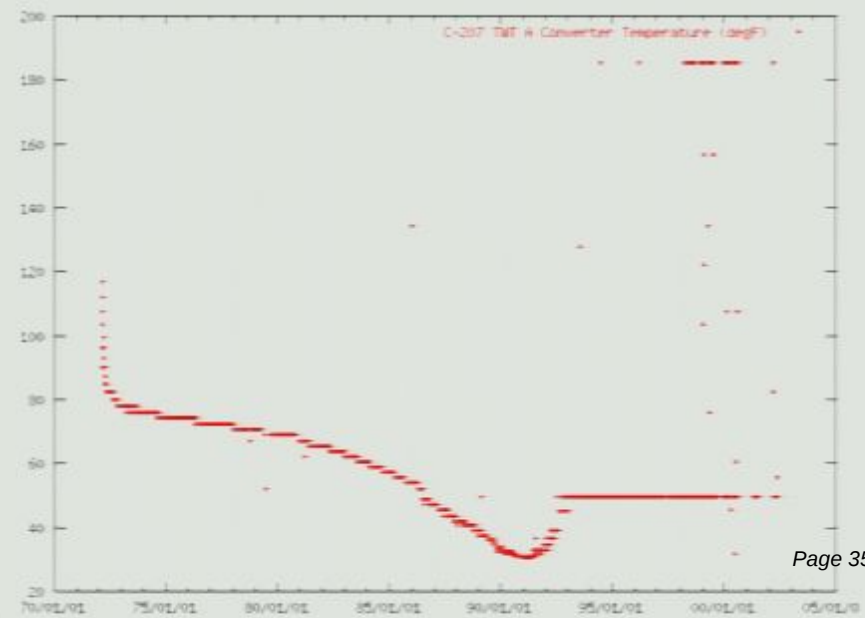
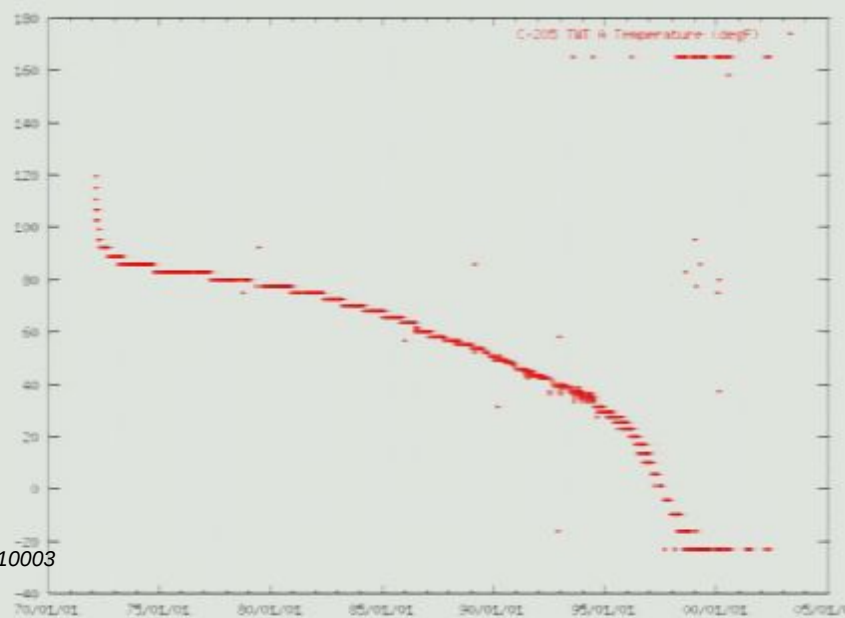
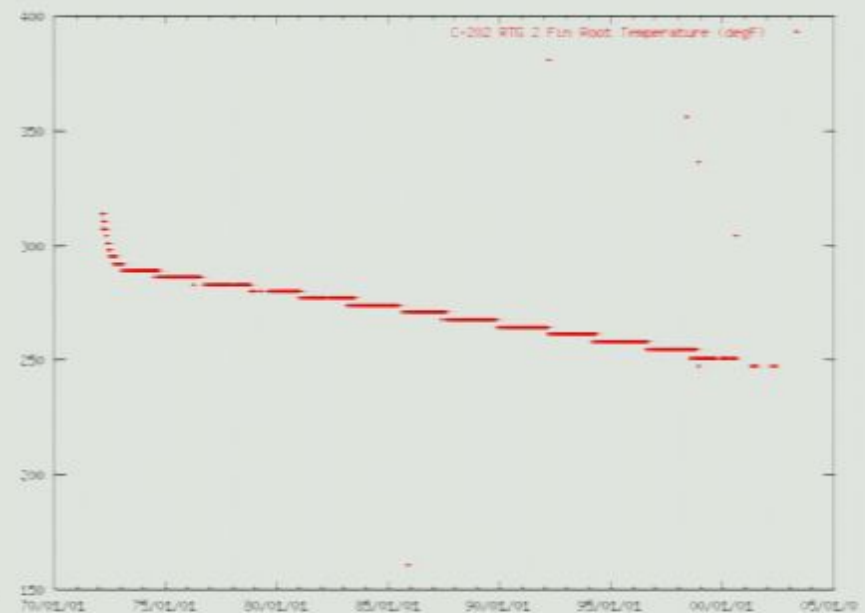
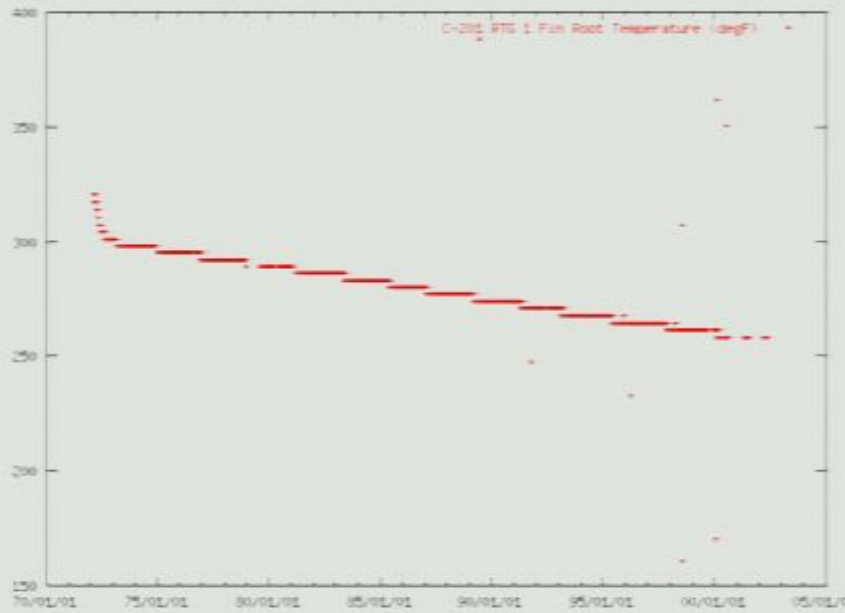
range highlighted





THE STUDY OF THE PIONEER ANOMALY

Thermal History on Pioneer 10

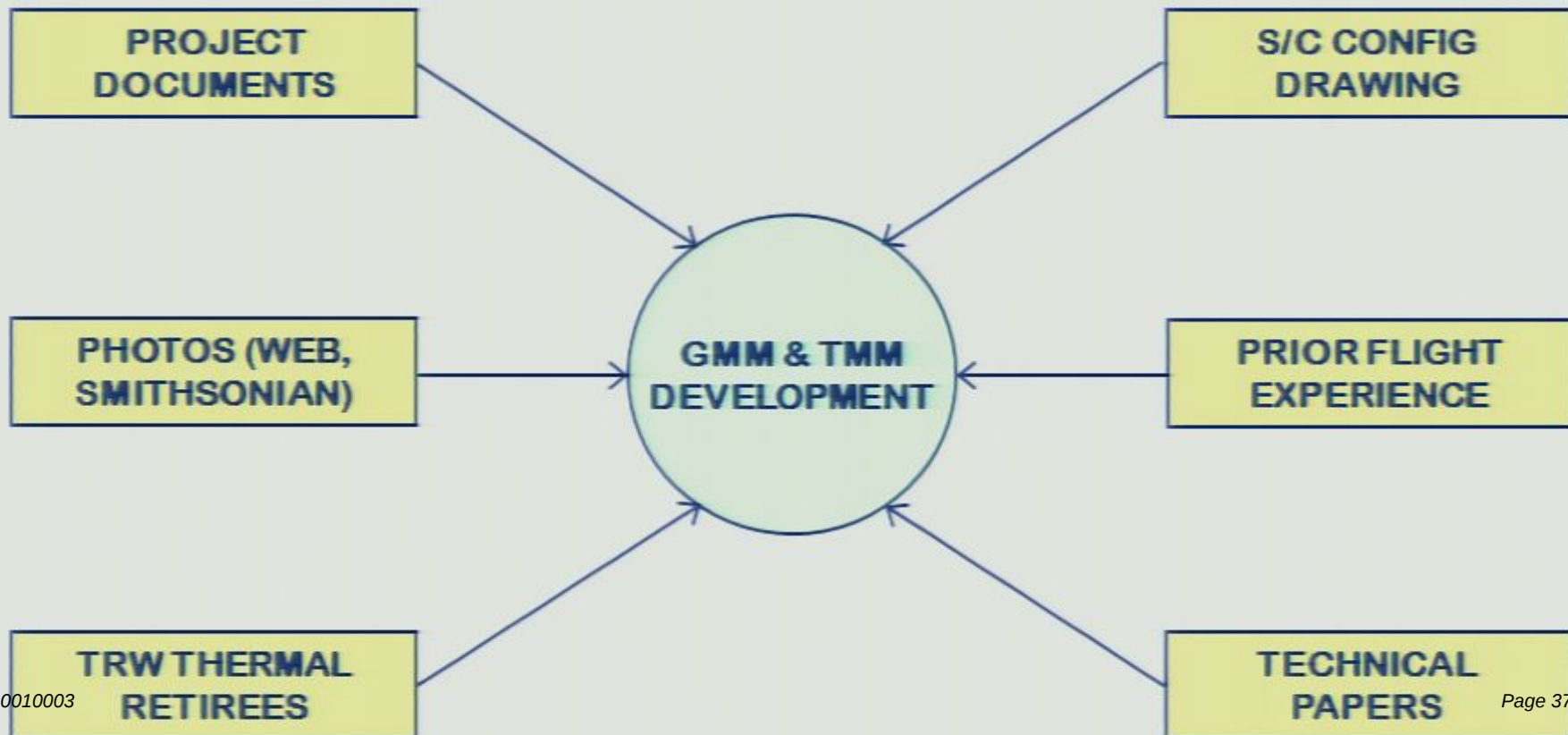


Evaluate if anisotropic S/C thermal radiosity can explain the anomaly

- Radiosity includes emissive power plus reflected thermal irradiation
- Develop geometric math model (GMM) to:
 - Calculate radiative exchange among all modeled S/C surfaces
 - Calculate absorbed solar loads on S/C (although tiny at 25 AU)
- Develop thermal math model (TMM) to:
 - Calculate predicted temperatures for all modeled S/C surfaces
 - Calculate predicted heat flows for all modeled S/C surfaces
- Develop modeling method to calculate directional components of radiative heat flow
 - Focus on radiative loading parallel to S/C spin axis
- Primary objective:
 - To achieve ample model fidelity needed to either confirm or eliminate thermal emission as an explanation for the Pioneer anomaly

- Pioneer anomaly work is interesting ... and like a treasure hunt
 - Modeling a 37+ year old spacecraft is challenging due to limited info

MODEL DEVELOPMENT SOURCES





Pirsa: 10010003

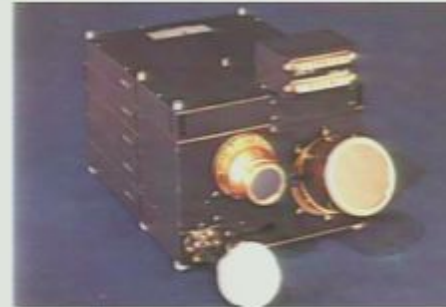
Flight S/C (Courtesy of Jim Moses, TRW Retiree)



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Pioneer in the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum

CHARGED PARTICLE DETECTOR (UC)



UV PHOTOMETER (USC)



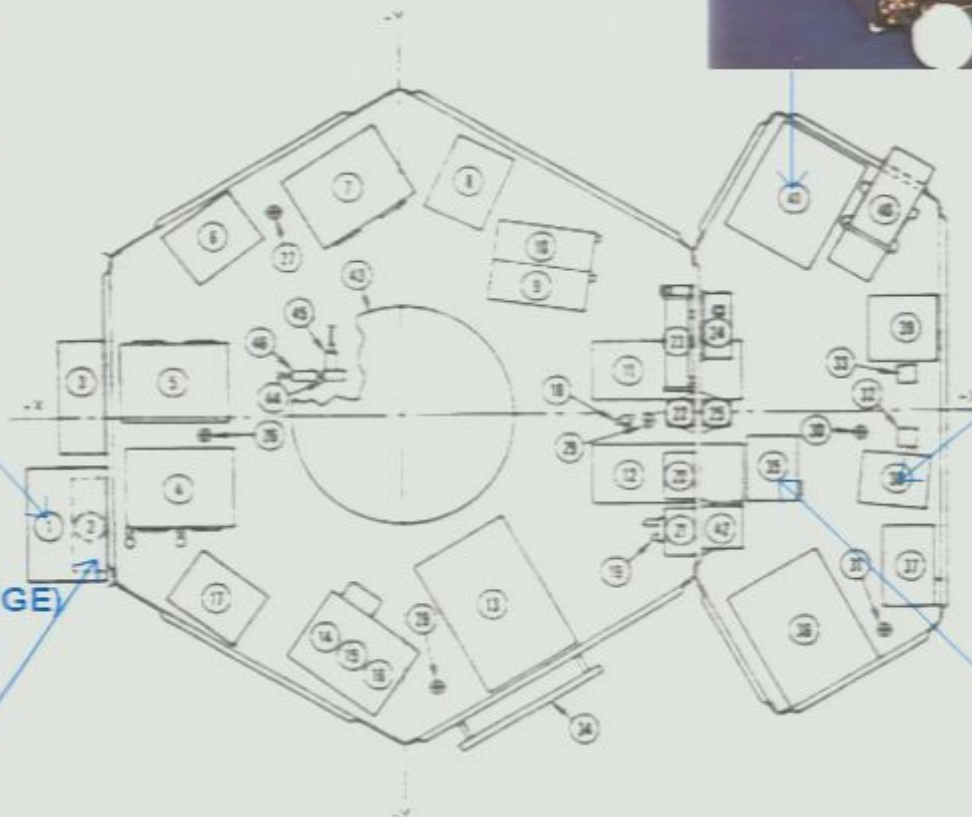
X-RAY TELESCOPE (GE)



X-RAY ELECTRONICS (GE)



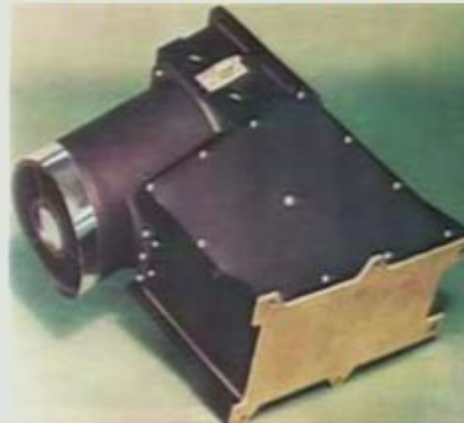
MAGNETOMETER ELECTRONICS (JPL)



IMAGING PHOTOPOLARIMETER (UA)



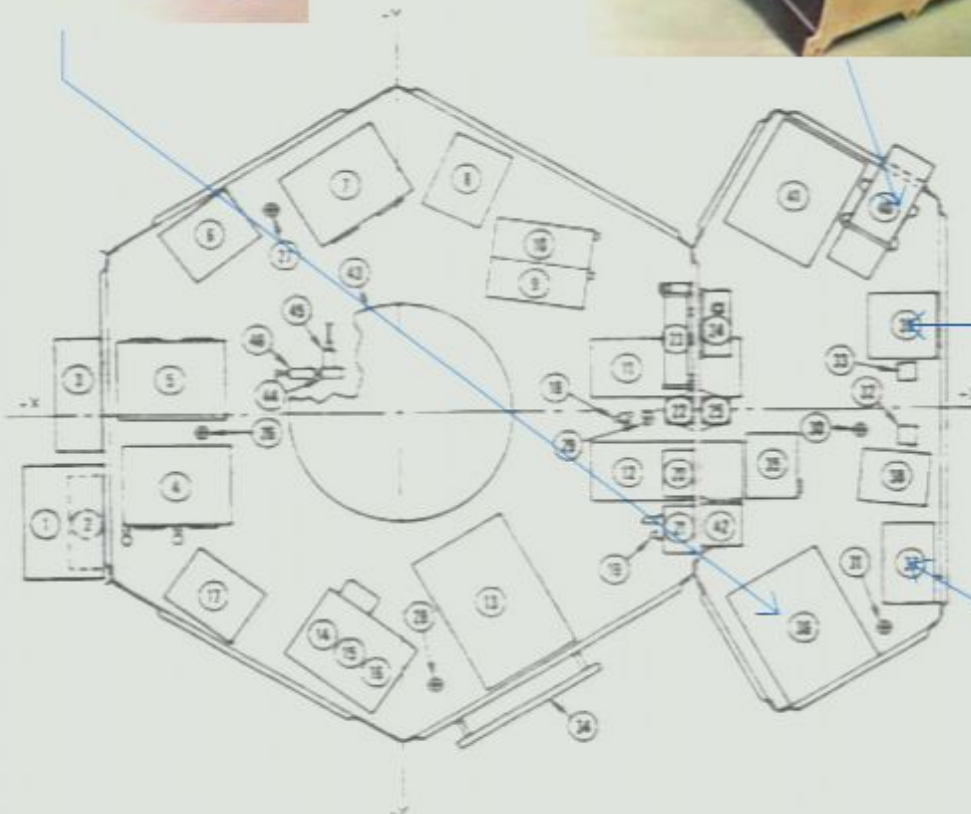
IR RADIOMETER (CIT)



TRAPPED RADIATION DETECTOR (UCSD)

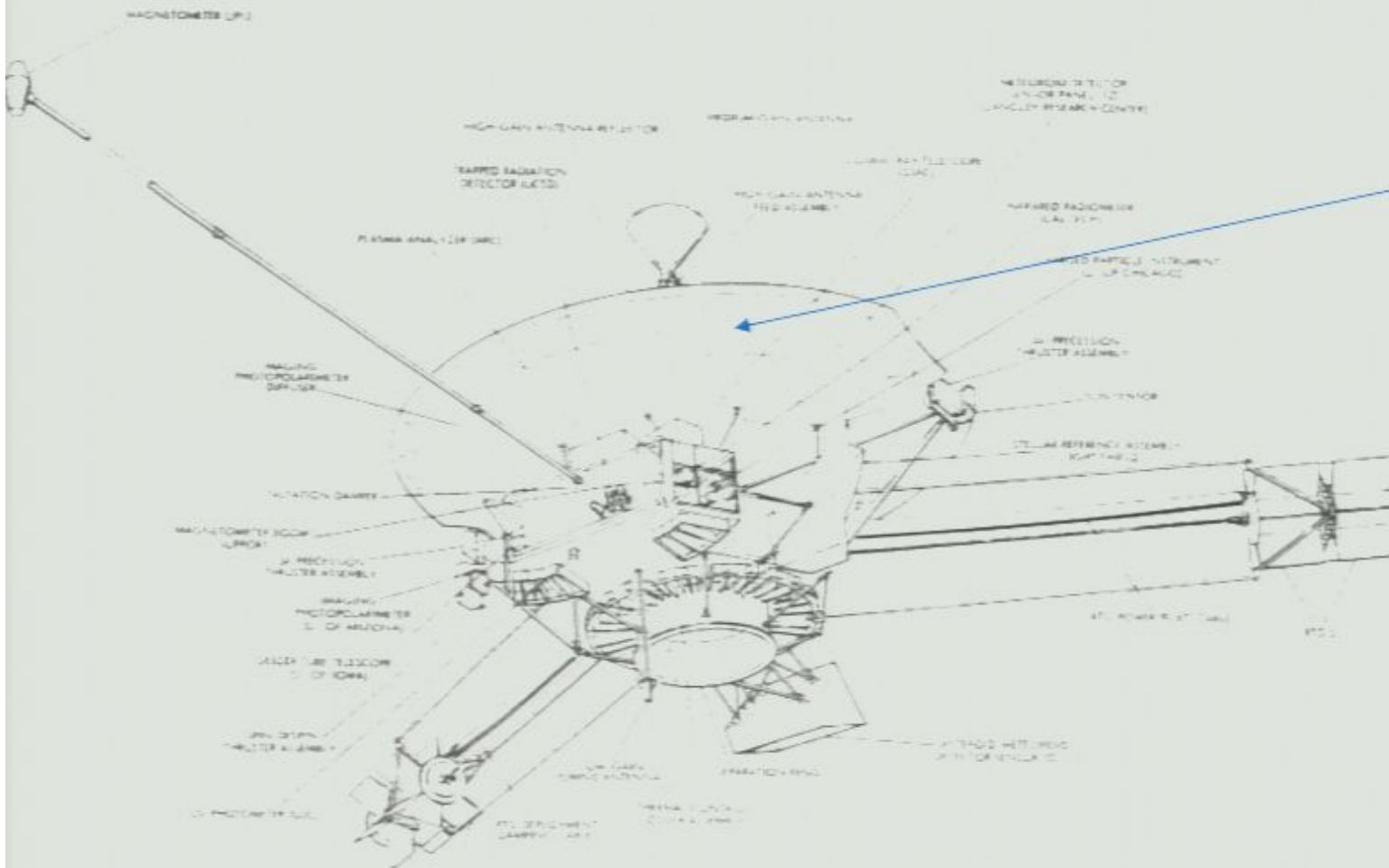


GEIGER TUBE TELESCOPE (UI)



THE STUDY OF THE PIONEER ANOMALY

Pioneer Spacecraft Configuration



METEOROID DETECTOR (LeRC)

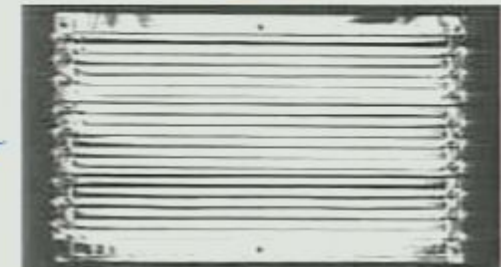
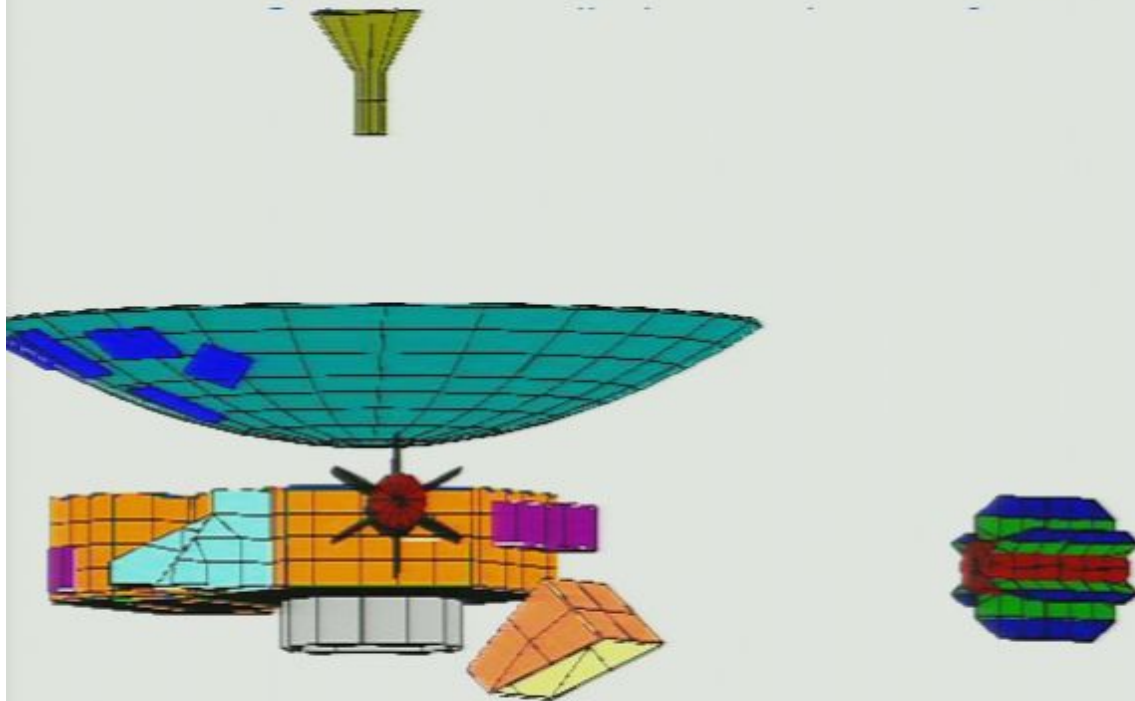


FIGURE 2-3. PIONEER F/G SPACECRAFT

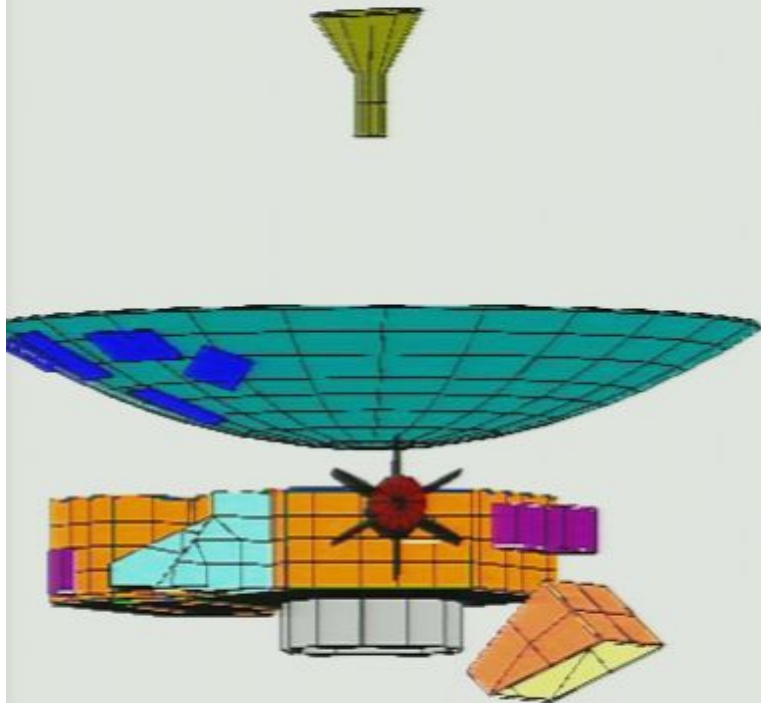
- Used TSS (Thermal Synthesizer System) – one of the standard thermal industry tools



Pioneer 10 GMM



Test Article in Thermal Model Test
(Mix of Flight and Non-flight H/W)

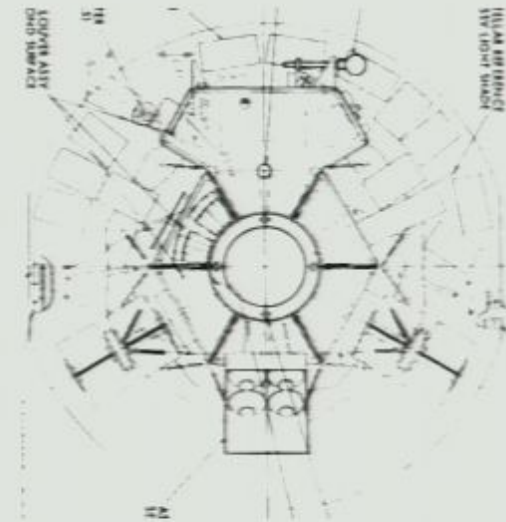
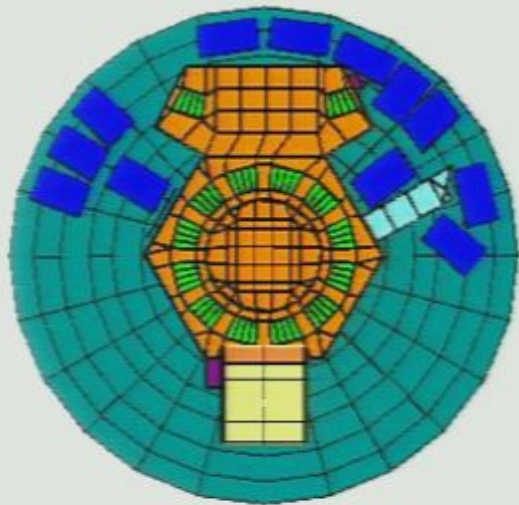


Pioneer 10 GMM

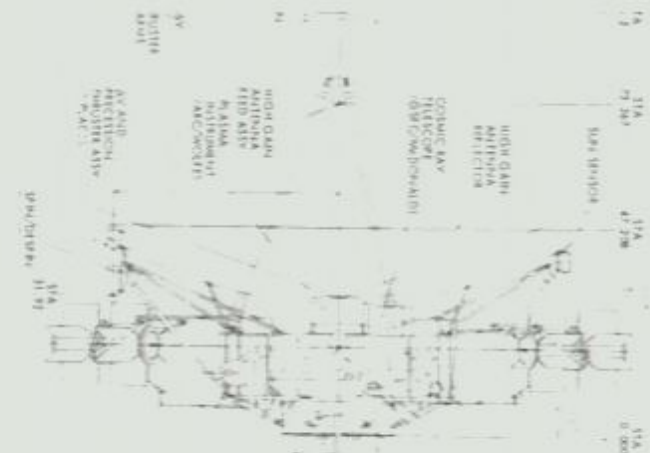
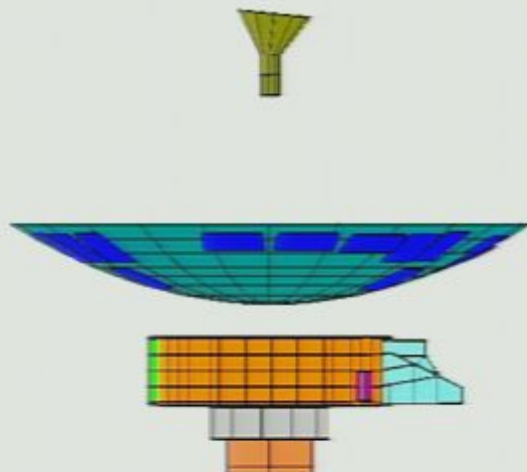


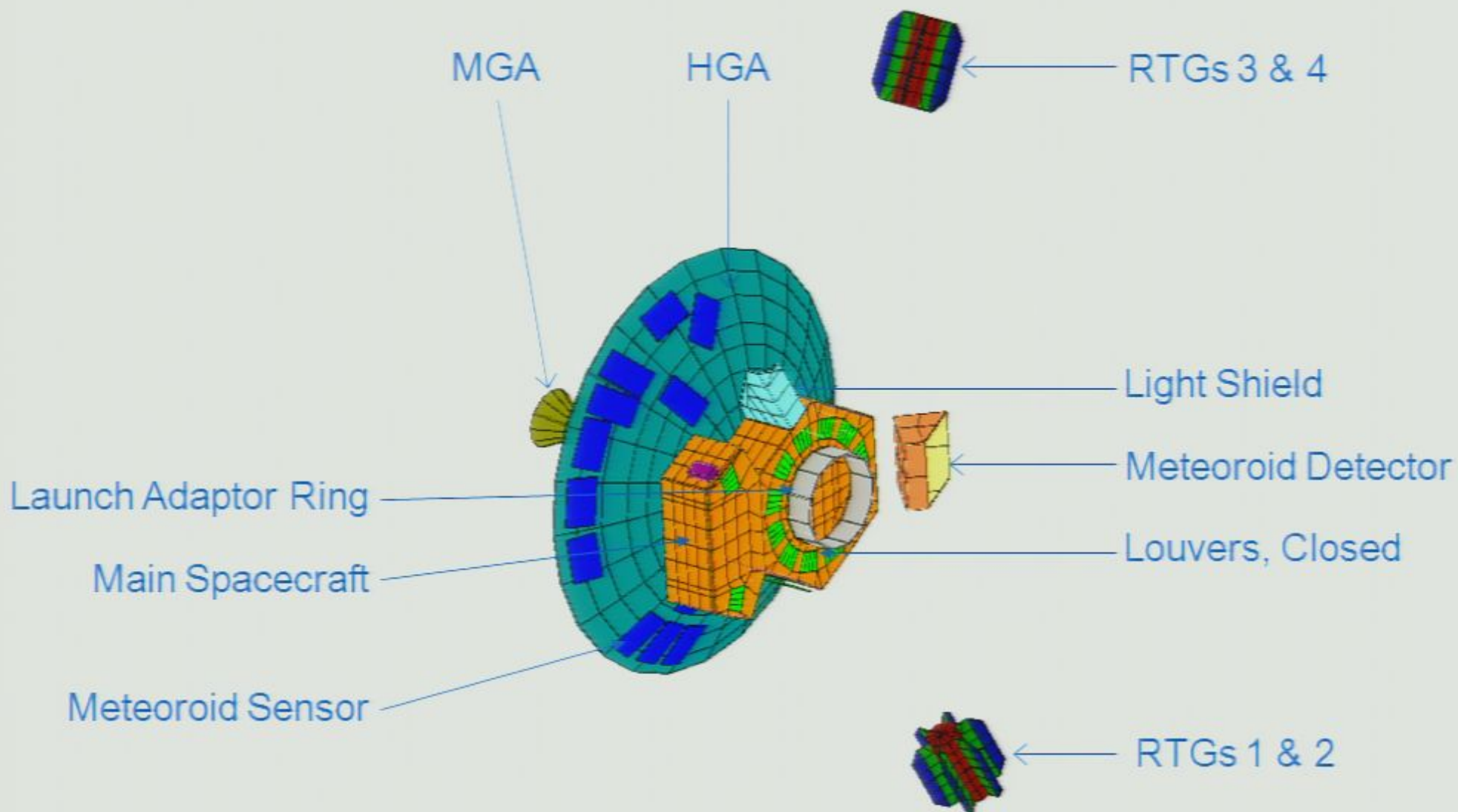
Test Article in Thermal Model Test
(Mix of Flight and Non-flight H/W)

S/C BOTTOM VIEW

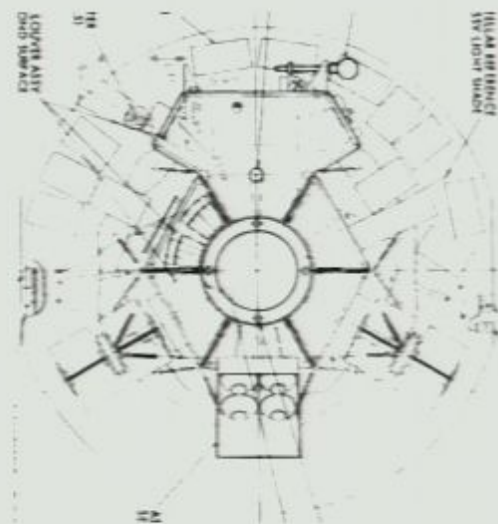
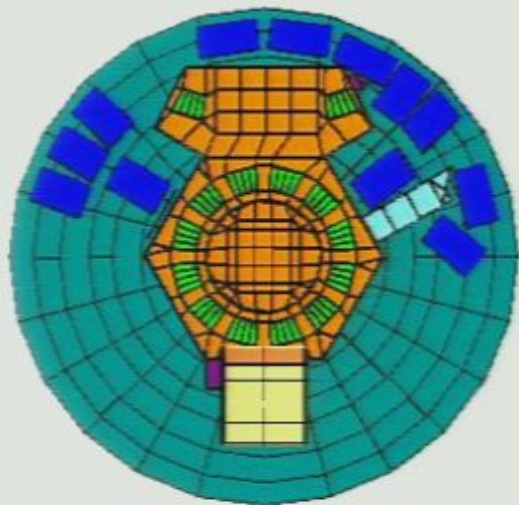


S/C SIDE VIEW

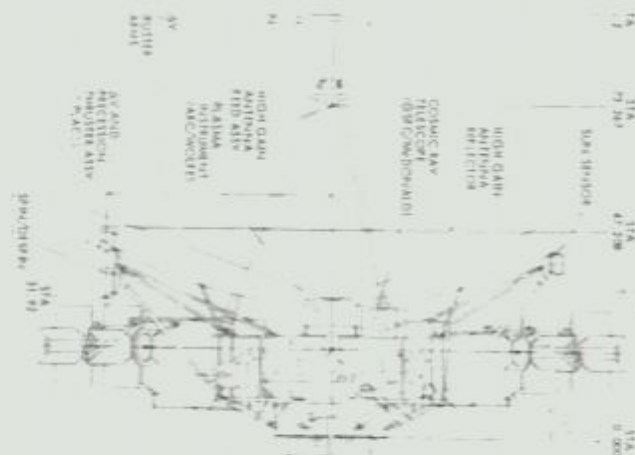
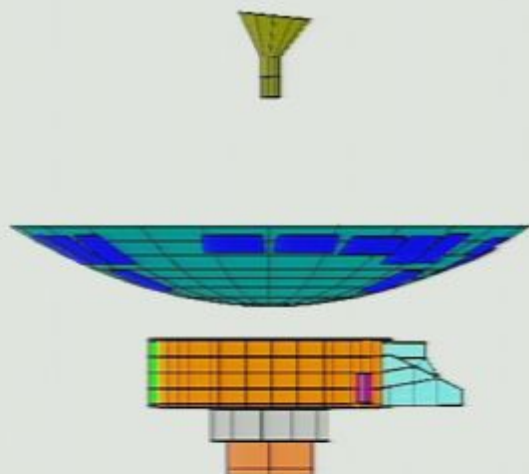




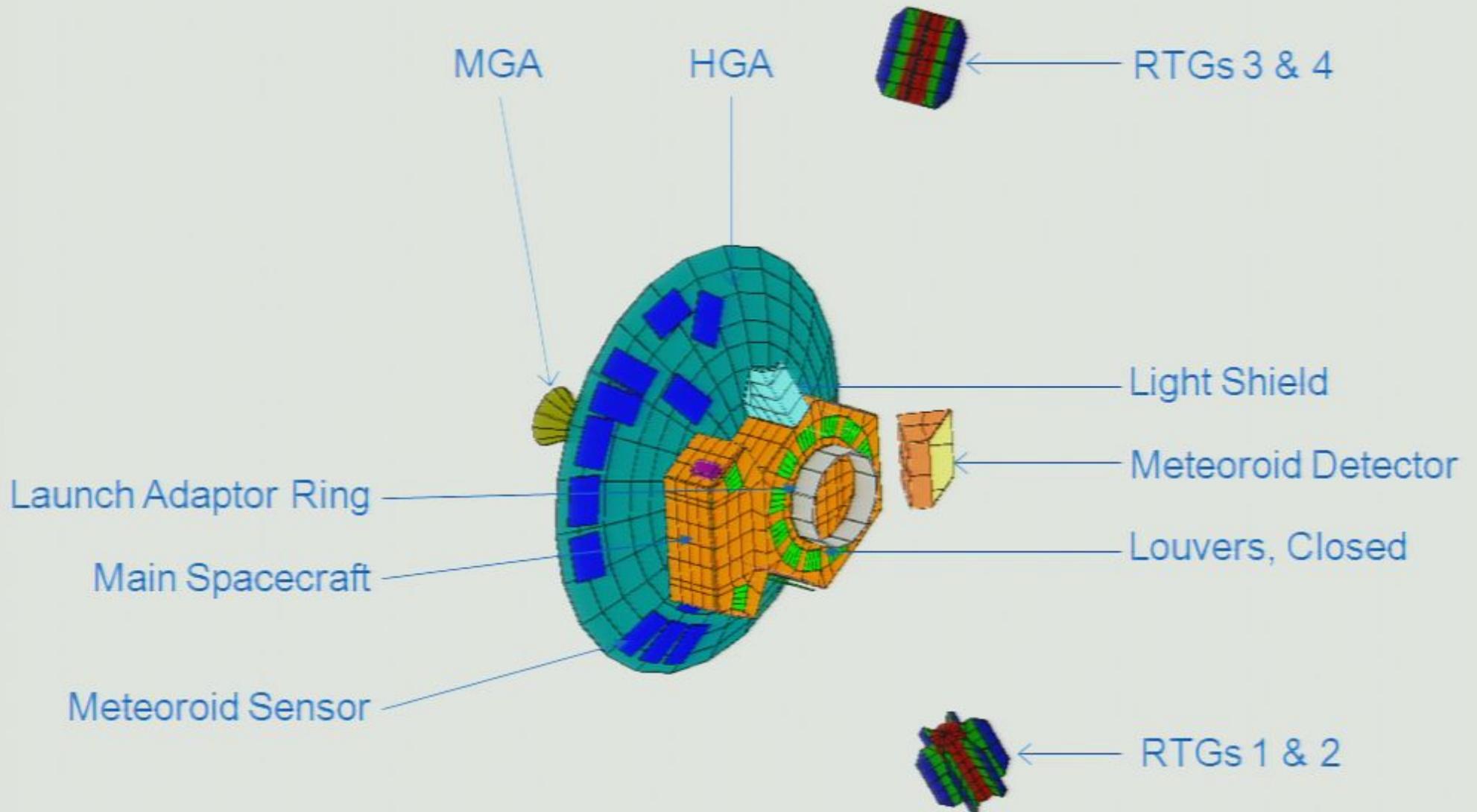
S/C BOTTOM VIEW

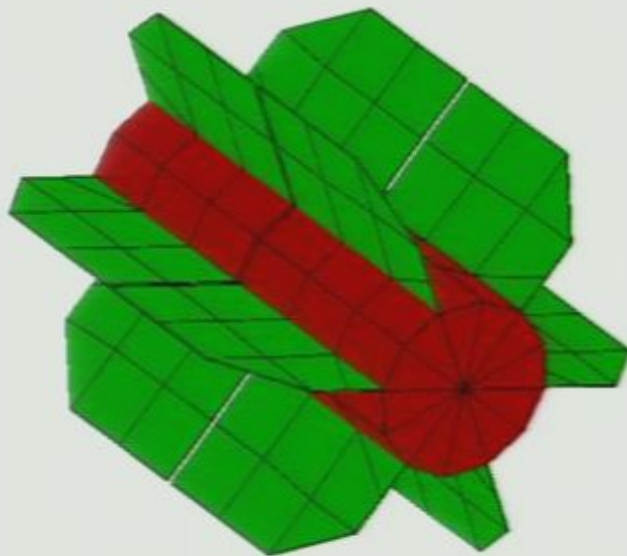


S/C SIDE VIEW

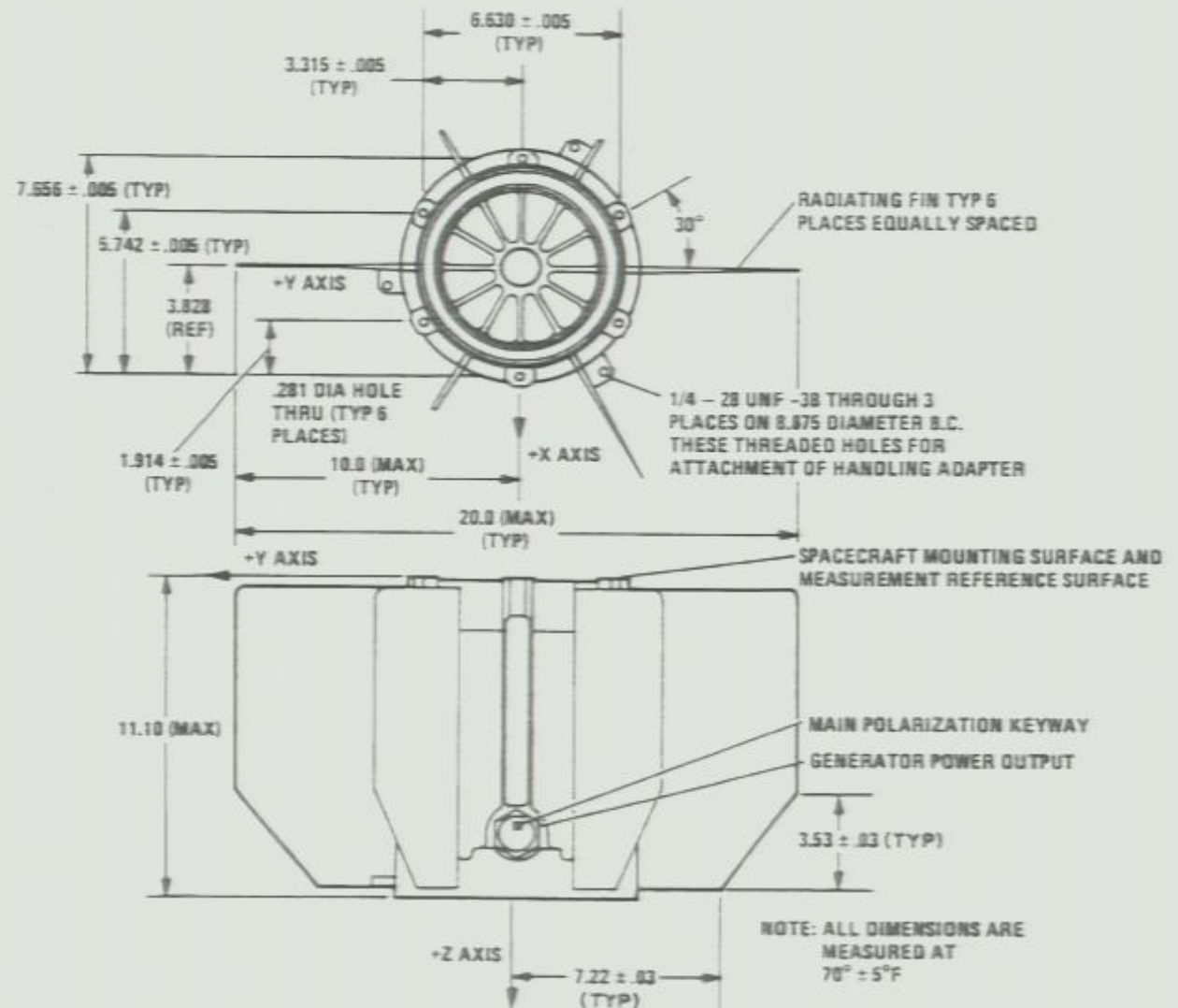


Thermal Geometric Model (Closed Louvers)



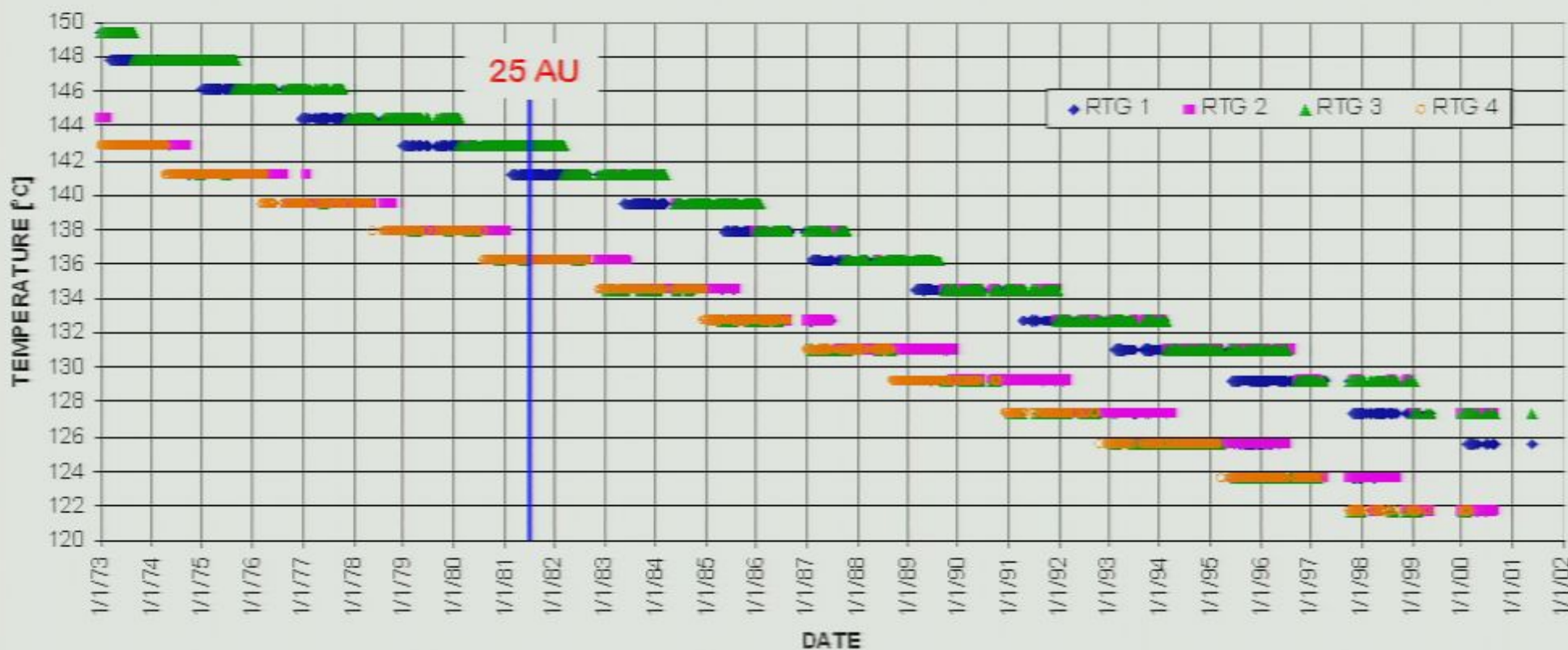


Pioneer 10/11 GMM



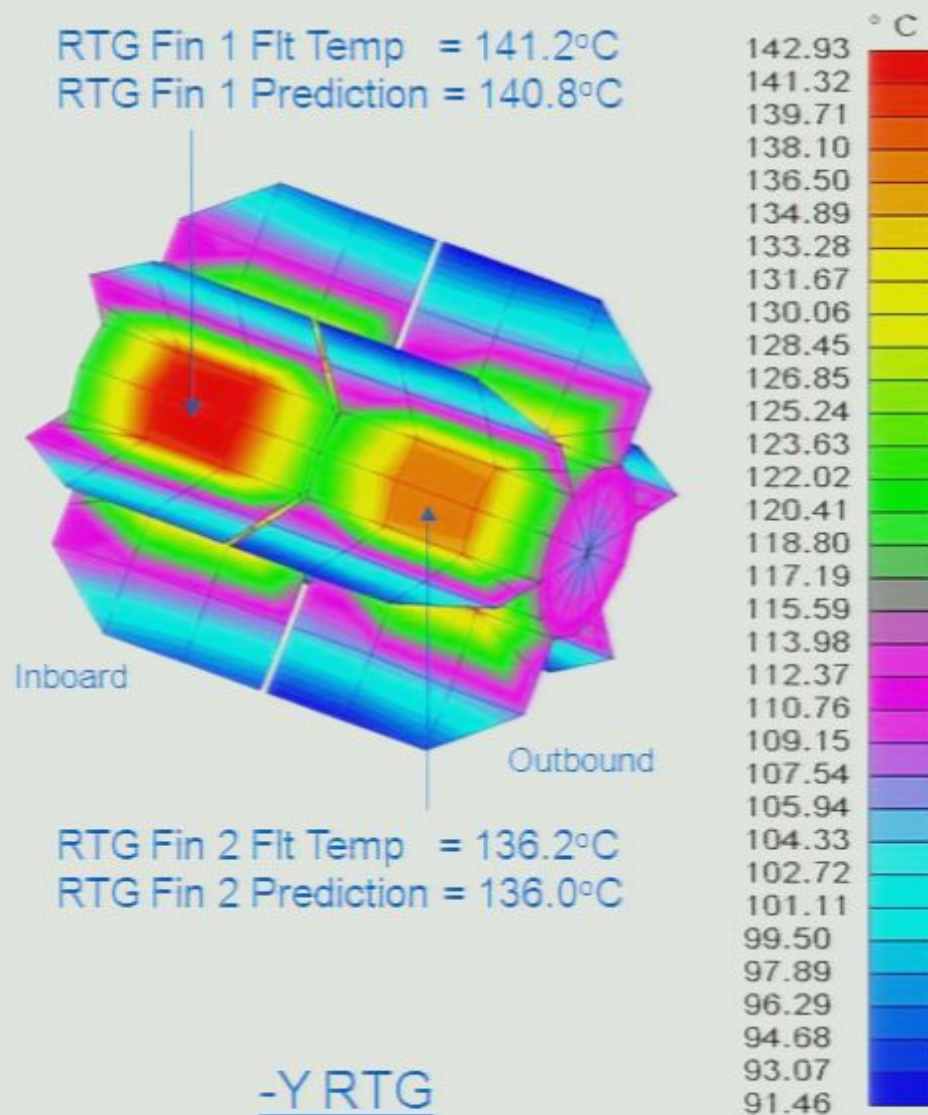
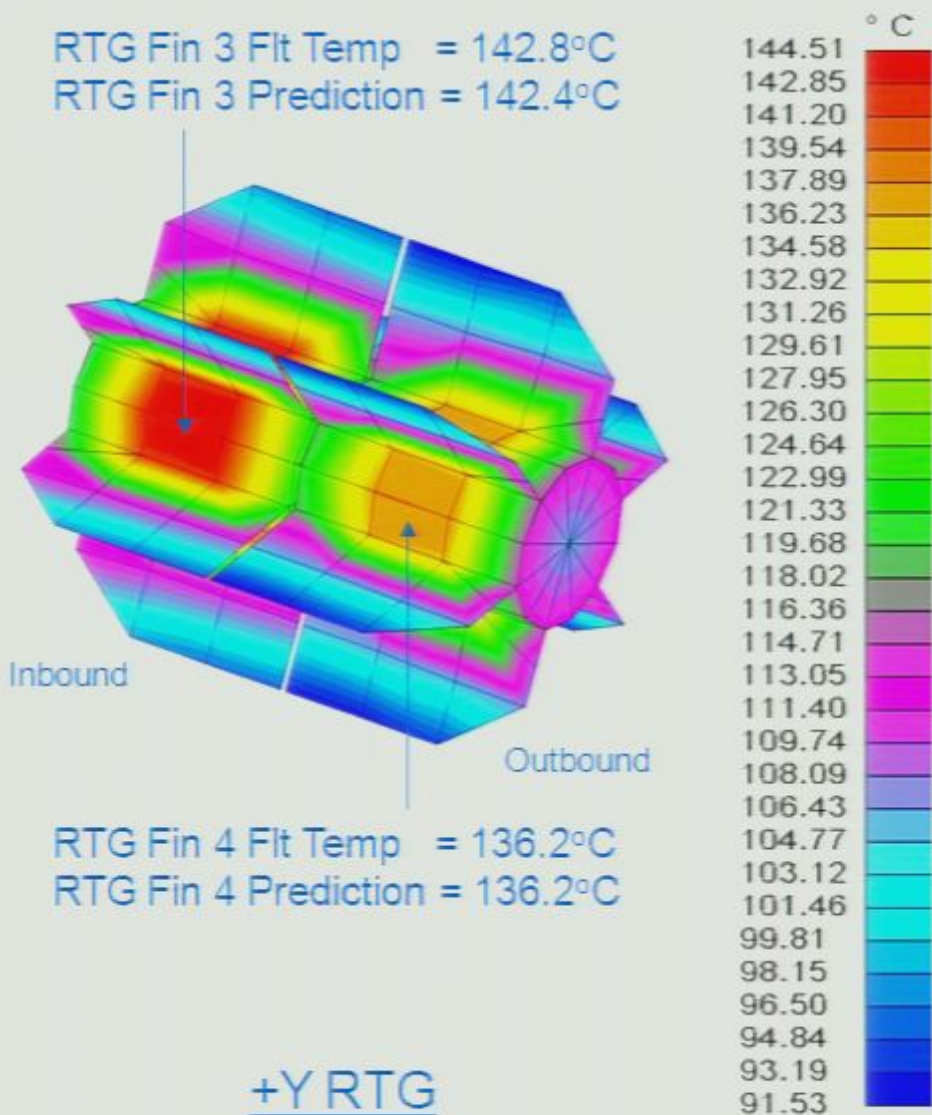
- Used SINDA/3D (S3D): One of the standard thermal industry tools
 - S3D is a FEM thermal analyzer consists of a GUI & the SINDA-G solver
 - Used on many JPL flight projects the past ten years
- Pioneer spacecraft thermal mathematical model (TMM)
 - Models material property values and thicknesses, power, thermal boundary conditions.
 - ~3000 nodes and 2600 plate elements.
 - 3.4 million radiation conductors, ~7000 linear conductors
- TMM checkout process includes multiple distances and solar load cases, and RTG temperatures
- TMM boundary conditions include space + S/C surfaces using flight telemetry
 - Used telemetry for **4 RTG fin roots**, **6 panels** (equipment/science compartments), & **various science instruments**.

PIONEER 10 S/C: RTG FIN ROOT TEMPERATURES

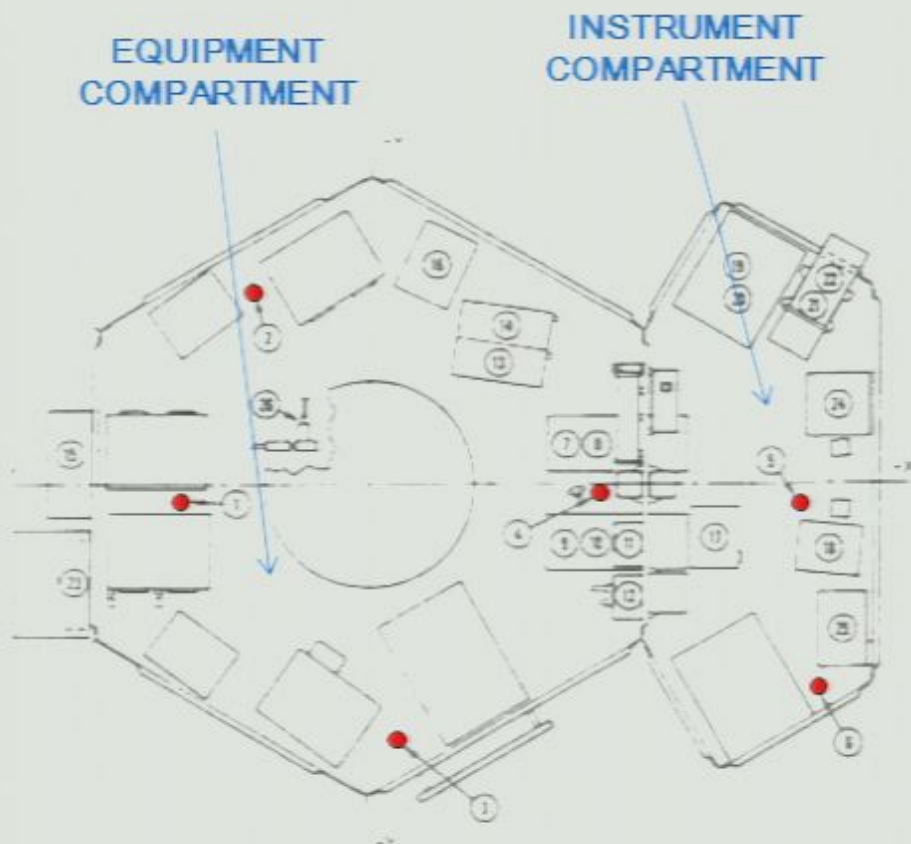


RTG fin root temperature telemetry is used as boundary condition nodes in the TMM (RTGs 1 & 3 are inboard, RTGs 2 & 4 are outboard RTGs)

Measured Versus Predicted RTG Temps



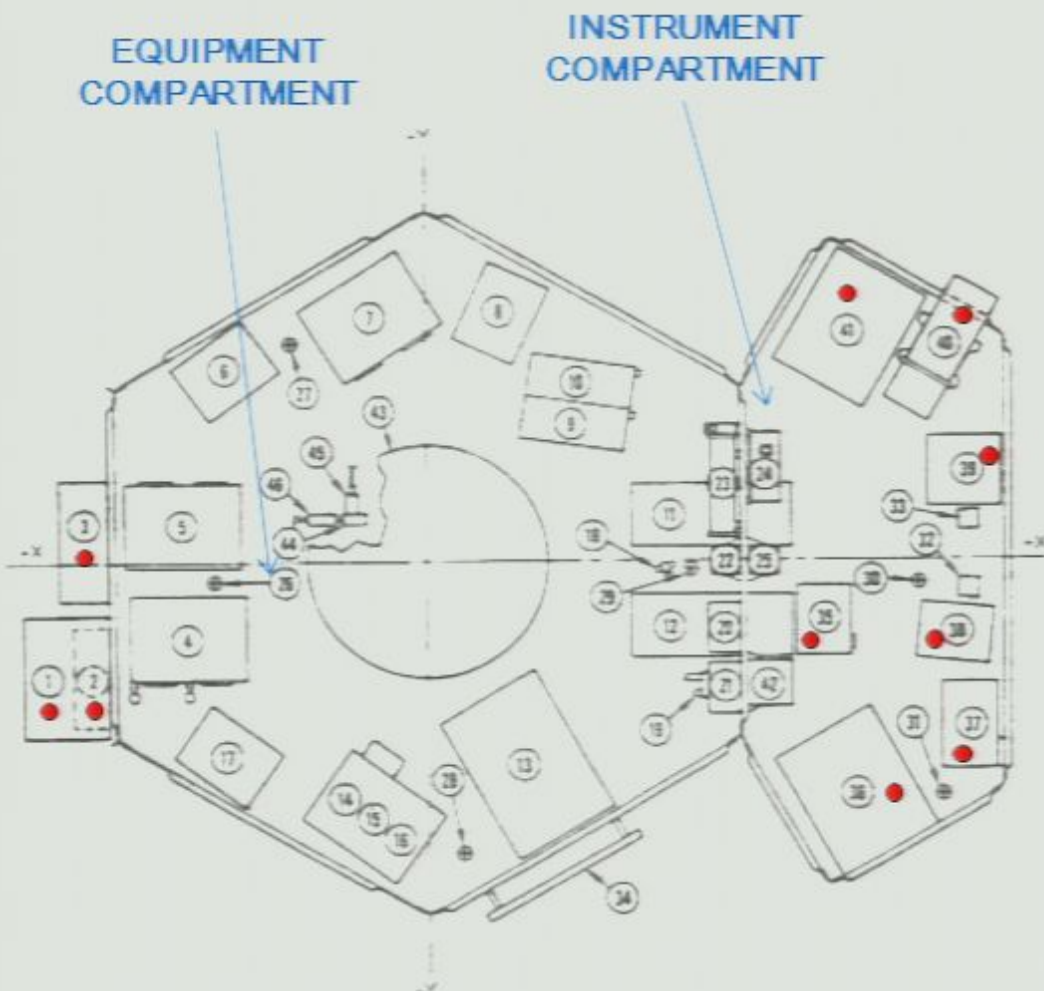
TEMPERATURE SENSOR LOCATION



S/C Bottom View, -Z Side

IDENTIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
NO.	TEMP. Word	
1	C-301 Thermal	
2	C-302 Equipment Platform	On platform
3	C-303 Equipment Platform	On platform
4	C-304 Equipment Platform	On platform
5	C-305 Equipment Platform	On platform
6	C-306 Equipment Platform	On platform
7	C-209 Communications	
8	C-207 TWT-A	Collector, TWT-A
9	C-208 Converter, TWT-A	Power Supply, TWT-A
10	C-209 TWT-B	Collector, TWT-B
11	C-210 Converter, TWT-B	Power Supply, TWT-B
12	C-206 Driver-A, Auxiliary Oscillator	OSC Subassembly
13	C-207 Driver-B, Auxiliary Oscillator	OSC Subassembly
14	C-202 Receiver-A	VCO Subassembly
15	C-207 Receiver-B	VCO Subassembly
16	C-115 Power	
17	C-116 Battery	On housing near connector
18	C-203 Attitude Control	
19	C-204 Stellar Reference Assembly (SRA)	On amplifier board
20	C-205 Sun Sensor Assembly (SSA)	Between circuit boards in SSA
21	C-102 Instruments	
22	C-103 Magnetometer Electronics (JPL/South)	Internal to unit
23	C-104 Ultraviolet Photometer (USC/Judge)	Internal to unit
24	C-105 Charged Particle (Chicago/Simpson)	Internal to unit
25	C-106 Charged Particle (Chicago/Simpson)	Internal to unit
26	C-107 Infrared Radiometer, Low Range (CIT/Munch)	Internal to unit
27	C-108 Infrared Radiometer, High Range (CIT/Munch)	Internal to unit
28	C-109 Asteroid/Meteoroid Detector Electronics	Internal to unit
29	C-110 Preamp. (GSI/Seibman)	Internal to unit
30	C-209 Trapped Radiation Detector (UCSD/Frillius)	Internal to unit
31	C-210 Seliger Tube Telescope (Ulow/Ken Allen)	Internal to unit
32	C-125 Cosmic Ray Detector (GSFC/McDonald)	Internal to unit
33	C-126 Cosmic Ray Detector (GSFC/McDonald)	Internal to unit
34	C-101 Arc Plasma Detector (Arc/Wolfe)	Internal to unit
35	C-327 Propulsion	
36	C-309 Propellant Supply	Propellant liquid at filter
37	C-308 VPT Propellant Inlet Manifold	VPT Assembly No. 1, -Y axis
38	C-306 VPT Propellant Inlet Manifold	VPT Assembly No. 2, -Y axis
39	C-310 SCT Propellant Inlet Manifold	SCT Assembly, -Y axis
40	C-311 VPT No. 1, TGA No. 2	Catalyst bed, -Y axis (Top)
41	C-312 VPT No. 2, TGA No. 2	Catalyst bed, -Y axis (Bottom)
42	C-313 VPT No. 3, TGA No. 1	Catalyst bed, -Y axis (Top)
43	C-314 VPT No. 4, TGA No. 1	Catalyst bed, -Y axis (Bottom)
44	C-201 RTGs	
45	C-202 RTG No. 1 Fin Root	Cylindrical Case, Inboard RTG, -Y axis
46	C-203 RTG No. 2 Fin Root	Cylindrical Case, Outboard RTG, -Y axis
47	C-204 RTG No. 3 Fin Root	Cylindrical Case, Inboard RTG, -Y axis
48	C-205 RTG No. 4 Fin Root	Cylindrical Case, Outboard RTG, -Y axis
49	C-217 RTG No. 4 Hot Junction	Hot junction thermocouple, Outboard RTG, -Y axis
50	C-218 RTG No. 3 Hot Junction	Hot junction thermocouple, Inboard RTG, -Y axis
51	C-219 RTG No. 2 Hot Junction	Hot junction thermocouple, Outboard RTG, -Y axis
52	C-220 RTG No. 1 Hot Junction	Hot junction thermocouple, Inboard RTG, -Y axis

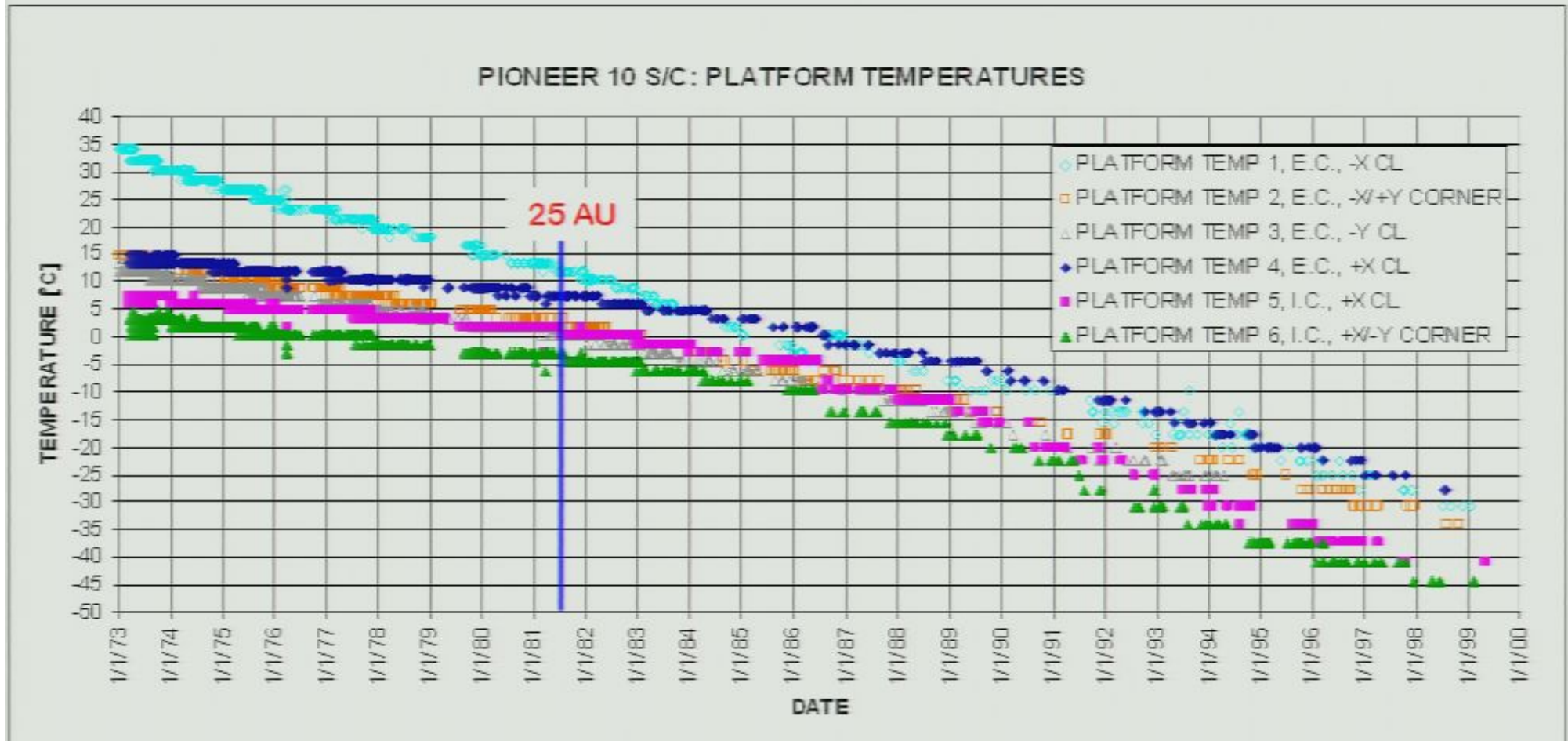
EQUIPMENT IDENTIFICATION



S/C Bottom View, -Z Side

ITEM NO.	TITLE	REFERENCE SUBSYSTEM	REFERENCE DESIGNATOR*
1	Data Storage Unit (DSU)	Data Handling Instruments	0604
2	Asteroid/Meteoroid Detector Electronics (AGS Saberman)		0859
3	Battery	Electrical Power	0407
4	Power Control Unit (PCU)	Electrical Power	0402
5	Control TRF Unit	Electrical Power	0414
6	Inverter Assembly No. 2	Electrical Power	0406
7	Command Distribution Unit (CDU)	Electrical Distributor	0307
8	Stellar Reference Assembly (SRA)	Attitude Control	0331
9	Receiver No. 1	Communications	0540
10	Receiver No. 2	Communications	0541
11	TWTA No. 1	Communications	0536
12	TWTA No. 2	Communications	0537
13	Digital Telemetry Unit (DTU)	Data Handling	0603
14	Control Electronics Assembly (CEA)	Attitude Control	0330
15	Conscan Signal Processor	Communications	0533
16	Digital Decoder Unit	Data Handling	0617
17	Inverter Assembly No. 1	Electrical Power	0405
18	Attenuator TWTA No. 1	Communications	0538A
19	Attenuator TWTA No. 2	Communications	0537A
20	Transmitter Driver No. 1	Communications	0534
21	Transmitter Driver No. 2	Communications	0535
22	Transfer Switch - Receive	Antenna	0539
23	Diplexer No. 2, Coupler	Antenna	0543
24	Diplexer No. 1	Antenna	0540
25	Transfer Switch - Transmit	Antenna	0539
26	Thermistor No. 1	Thermal	0782
27	Thermistor No. 2	Thermal	0783
28	Thermistor No. 3	Thermal	0784
29	Thermistor No. 4	Thermal	0785
30	Thermistor No. 5	Thermal	0786
31	Thermistor No. 6	Thermal	0787
32	Depth Sensor No. 1	Attitude Control	0338
33	Depth Sensor No. 2	Attitude Control	0337
34	Shunt Radiator Assembly	Electrical Power	0408
35	Magnetometer Electronics (JPL Smith)	Instruments	0850
36	Imaging Photo - Polarimeter (U. Arizona, Geneva)	Instruments	0857
37	Geiger Tube Telescope (U. Iowa, van Allen)	Instruments	0853
38	Ultraviolet Photometer (USC, Jagger)	Instruments	0855
39	Trapped Radiation Detector (UCSD, F. Lux)	Instruments	0858
40	Ultraviolet Photometer (CIT, Munich)	Instruments	0852
41	Charged Particle Instrument (U. Chicago, Simpson)	Instruments	0860
42	Meteoroid Detector Electronics (LARC, Kinard)	Instruments	0859
43	Propellant Tank	Propulsion	0429
44	Temperature Transducer	Propulsion	0429
45	Fitter - Thrustant	Propulsion	0429
46	Pressure Transducer	Propulsion	0429

*The reference designator is used to correlate the unit with telemetry and command word.



TMM predicted panel temperatures compared to this thermal telemetry at 25 AU
 E.C. is Equipment Compartment, I.C. is Instrument Compartment



THE STUDY OF THE PIONEER ANOMALY

Modeled Surface Properties



Component	Surface Coating	Material	Thickness [Inch]	K [W/m-K]	Density [kg/m ³]	Cp [J/kg-K]	ϵ^*	EOL =	EOL =
Electronics Boxes	black paint	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--		0.86
ϵ^* of MLI on Electronics Box	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.03		
MLI on Electronics Box	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.17	0.70
Exterior Electronic Box (Battery and DSU)	silver backed Teflon	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--	0.17	0.65
Equipment Compartment, Interior	black paint	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--		0.86
Science Compartment, Interior	black paint	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--		0.86
S/C panel ($h=0.0183$ W/in ² -K)	--	Al honeycomb	0.25	--	--	--	--		
S/C surface below louvers	second surface mirrors (5 MIL AgFEP?)	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--	0.09	0.81
Outer SC Body (panel that divides the two hexagonal S/C Bodies)	black paint	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--		0.86
ϵ^* of MLI on SC	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.02		
MLI (+Y -X, -Y -X Side Panel, & Side Facing Aft) on S/C	2 mil alum Kapton	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.46	0.69
MLI (+X, -X, +Y +X, -Y +X & +Z Side Panels) on S/C	2 mil alum Mylar	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.20	0.69
Louvers (facing both sides)	bare	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--	0.17	0.04
Shunt Radiator	white paint	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--	0.24	0.84
ϵ^* of MLI behind Shunt Radiator	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.03		
Light Shield (Exterior)	bare	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--	0.17	0.04
Light Shield (Interior)	black paint	Al 6061	0.1	169	2770	961.2	--	0.95	0.84

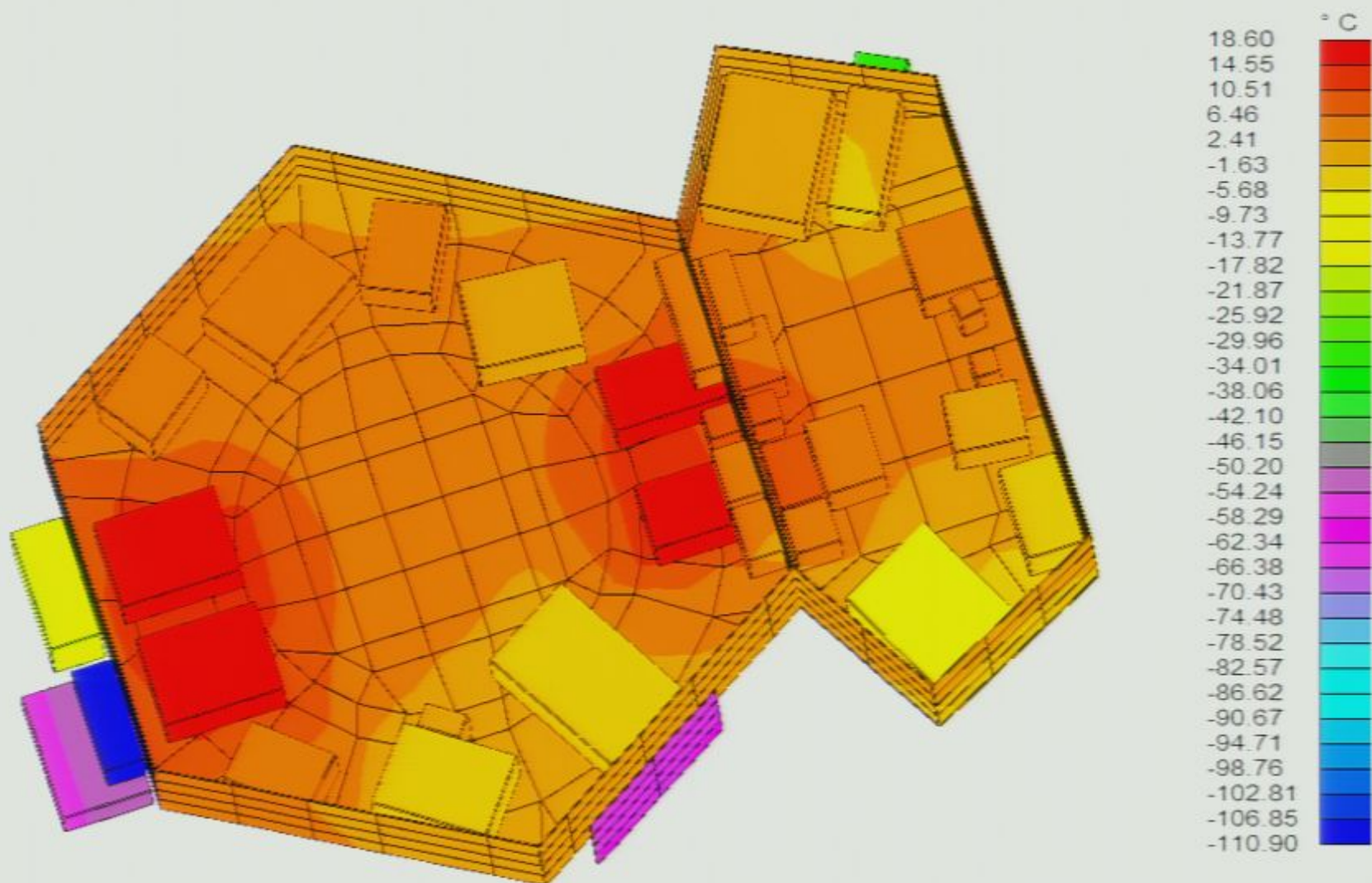


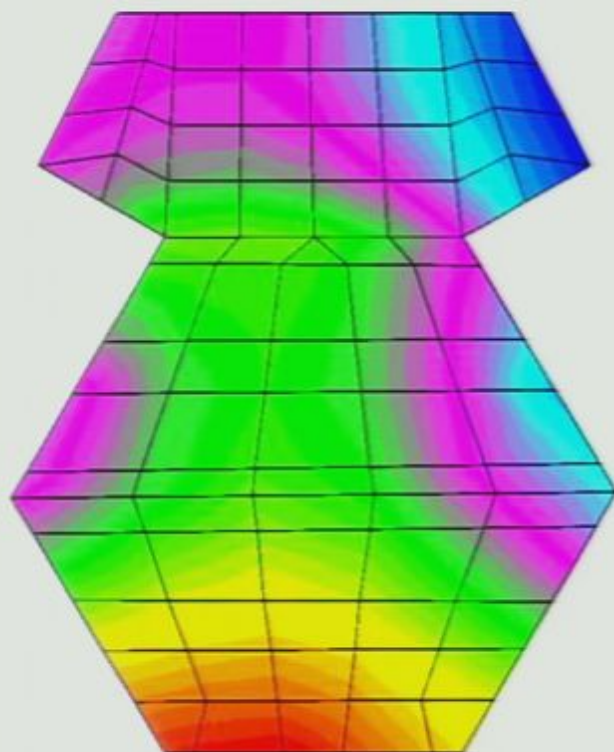
THE STUDY OF THE PIONEER ANOMALY

Modeled Surface Properties (Cont'd)

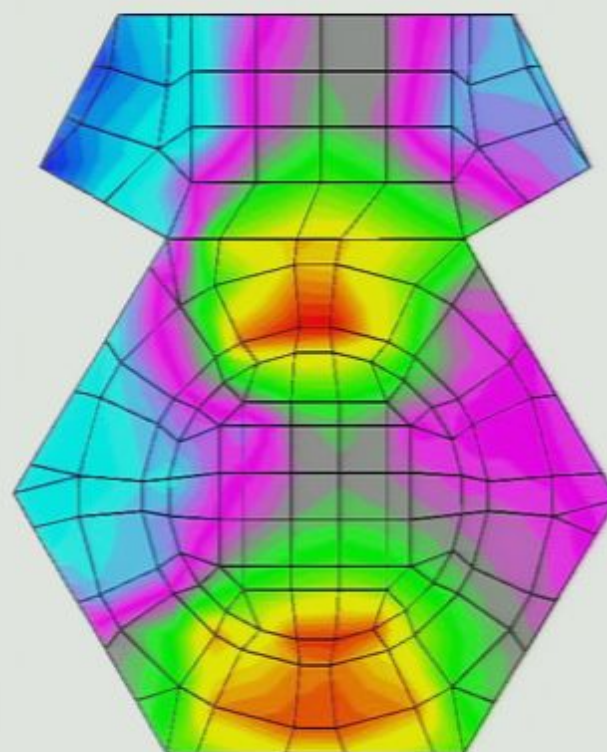


Component	Surface Coating	Material	Thickness [Inch]	K [W/m-K]	Density [kg/m ³]	Cp [J/kg-K]	e*	EOL a	EOL e
Launch Support Ring (Exterior)	bare	Al 6061	0.1	169.0	2770	961.2	--	0.24	0.10
Launch Support Ring (Interior)	black paint	Al 6061	0.1	169.0	2770	961.2	--	0.95	0.84
Meteoroid Detector (Inside Facing)	black paint	Al 6061	0.1	169.0	2770	961.2	--	0.95	0.84
e* of MLI on Meteoroid Detector	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.03		
MLI on Meteoroid Detector	2 mil Alum Mylar	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.17	0.70
Meteoroid Sensors (facing space)		Al 6061	0.1	169.0	2770	961.2	--	0.36	0.09
Meteoroid Sensors (facing HGA)	black paint	Al 6061	0.1	169.0	2770	961.2	--	0.98	0.90
HGA (facing Earth)	DC92-007 white paint, 1% specular	Al 6061	0.1	169.0	2770	961.2	--	0.50	0.84
HGA Honeycomb (h=0.0183 W/in ² -K)	--	Al honeycomb	0.25"	--	--	--	--		
HGA (facing S/C)	bare	Al 6061	0.1	169.0	2770	961.2	--	0.17	0.04
MGA (Exterior)	white paint	Al 6061	0.1	169.0	2770	961.2	--	0.50	0.84
MGA (Interior)	black paint	Al 6061	0.1	169.0	2770	961.2	--	0.95	0.84
RTG Body	white paint	HM31A-F Mg Alloy	0.16	104.6	1800	1047.6	--	0.50	0.82
RTG Fin (from root fin to mid fin)	white paint	HM21A-T8 Mg Alloy	0.1	136.6	1800	1047.6	--	0.50	0.82
RTG Fin (from mid fin to fin tip)	white paint	HM21A-T8 Mg Alloy	0.1	136.6	1800	1047.6	--	0.50	0.82

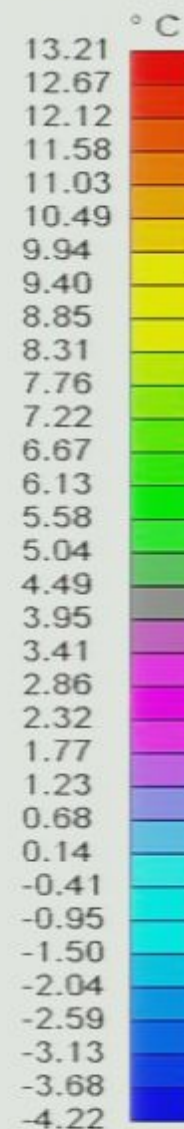


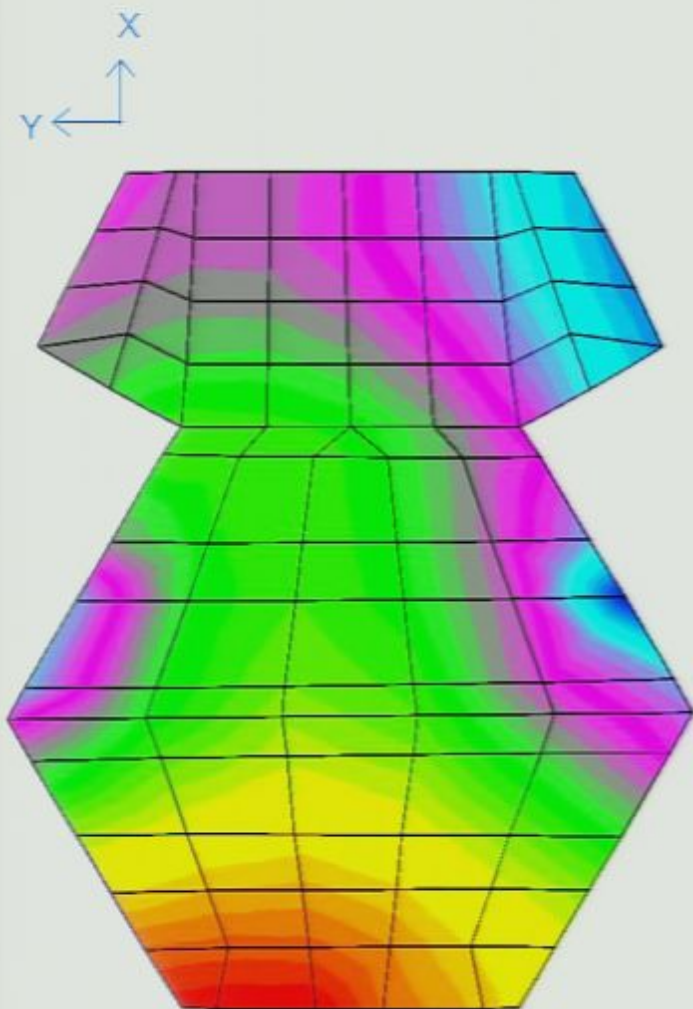


S/C Top View, +Z Side

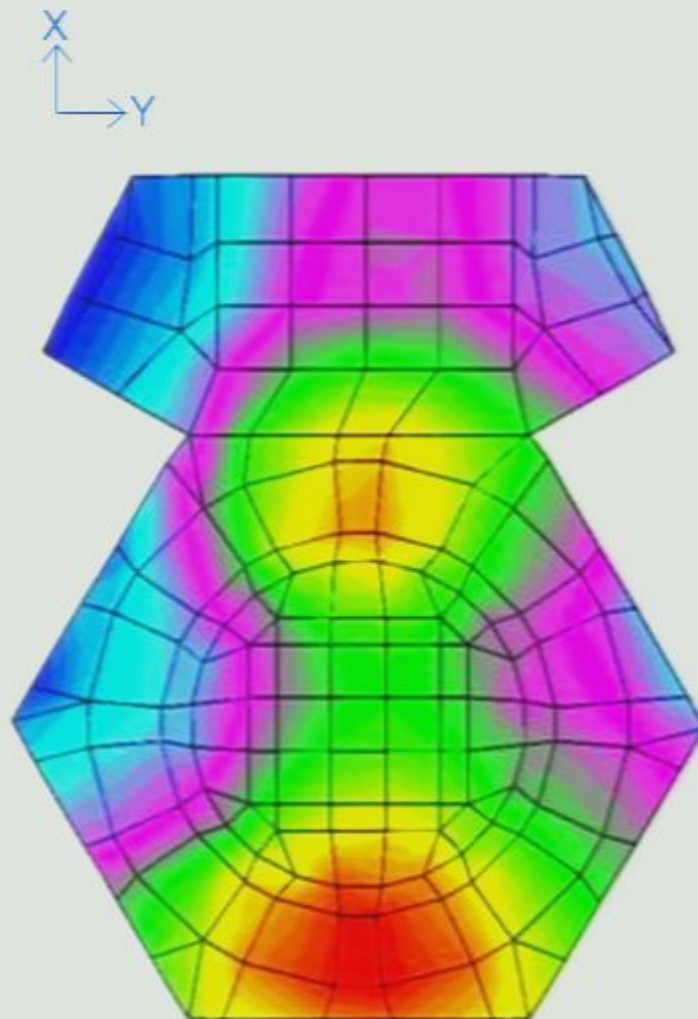
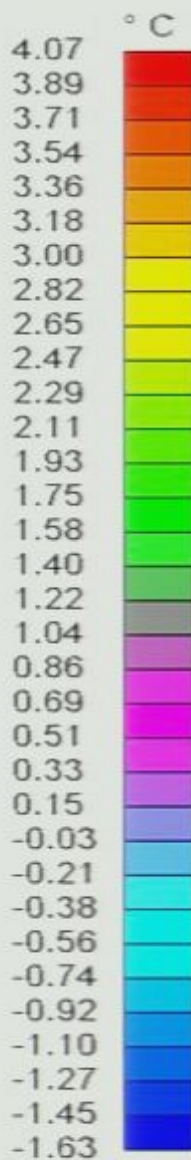


S/C Bottom View, -Z Side





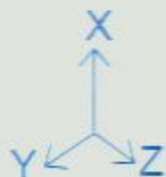
S/C Top View, +Z Side



S/C Bottom View, -Z Side



Measured Versus Predicted Compartment Temps



Platform 5 Flt Temp = 0.2C
Platform 5 Prediction = 1.7C

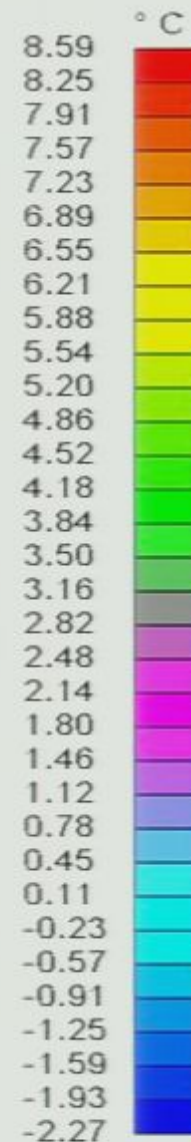
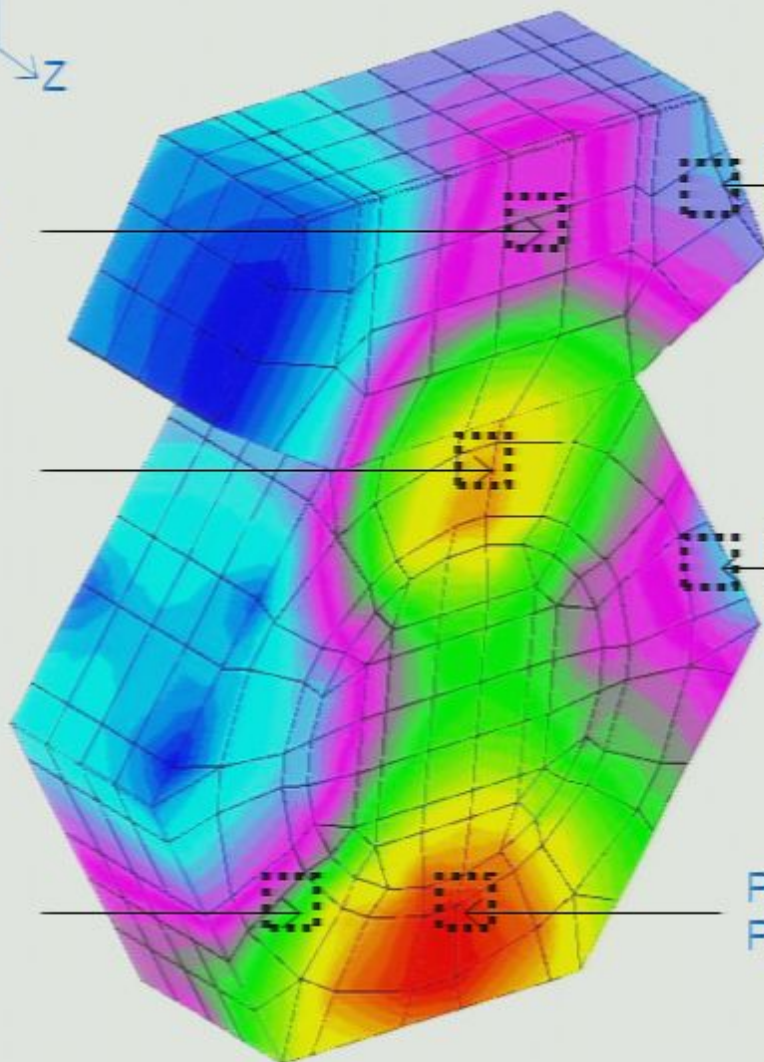
Platform 4 Flt Temp = 7.5C
Platform 4 Prediction = 7.3C

Platform 2 Flt Temp = 3.2C
Platform 2 Prediction = 3.2C

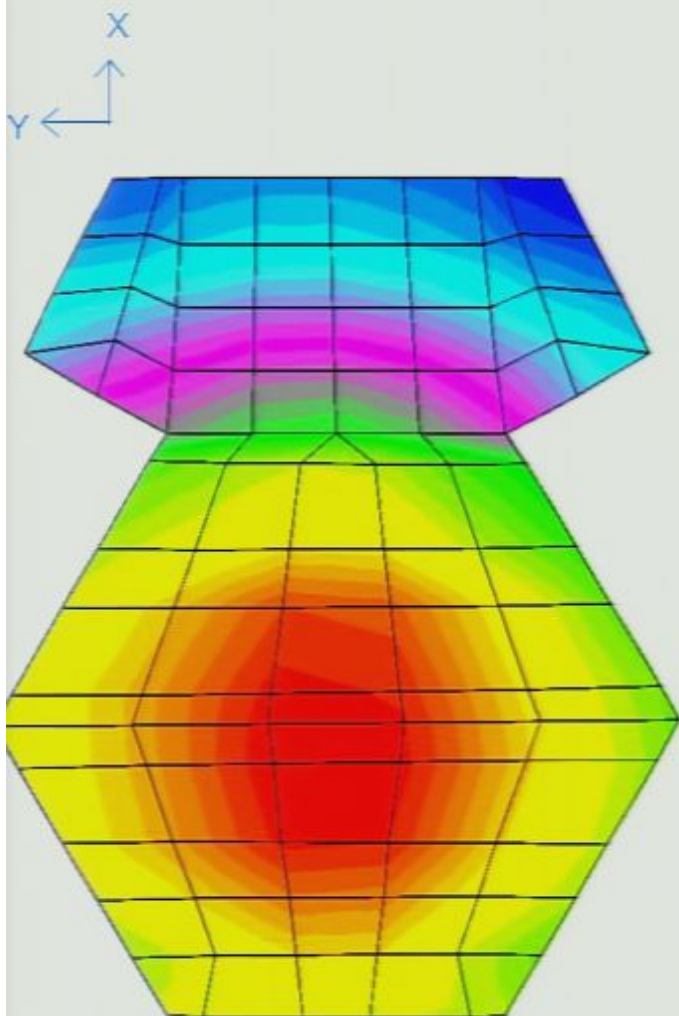
Platform 6 Flt Temp = -2.9C
Platform 6 Prediction = -1.9C

Platform 3 Flt Temp = 0.2C
Platform 3 Prediction = -0.2C

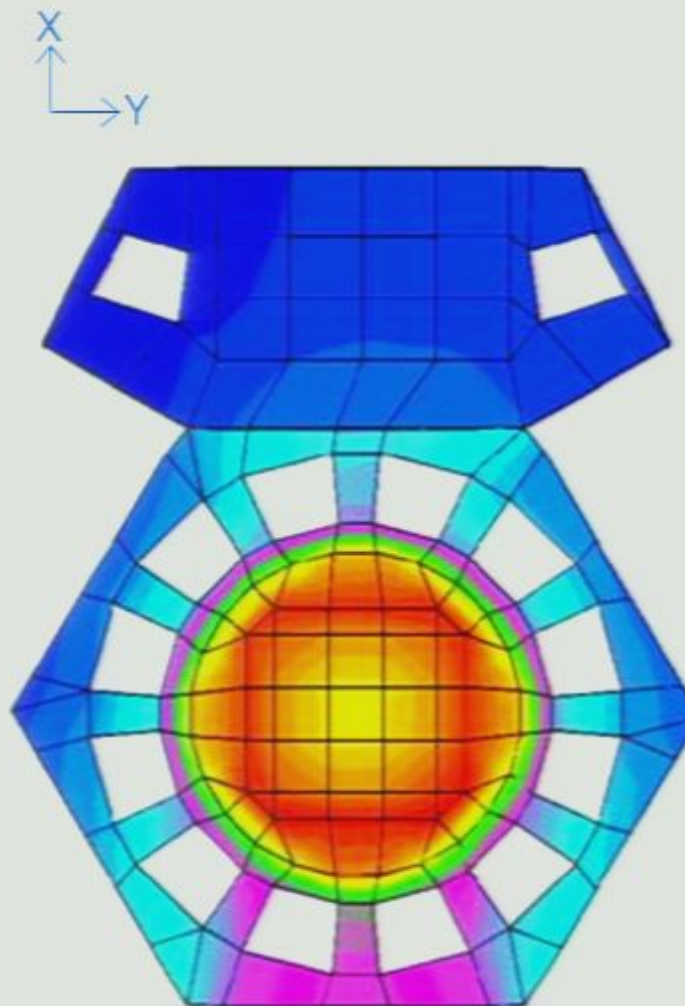
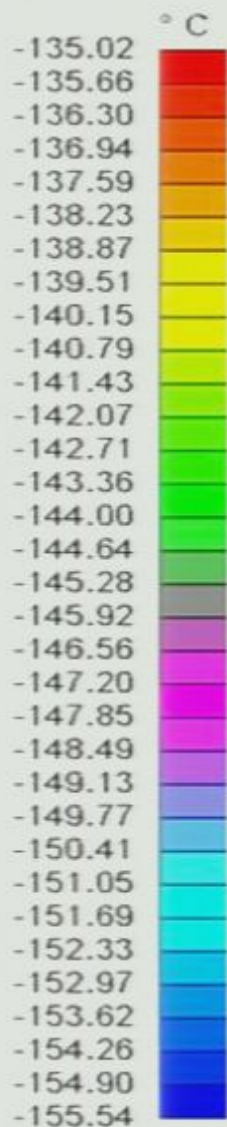
Platform 1 Flt Temp = 11.9C
Platform 1 Prediction = 8.6C



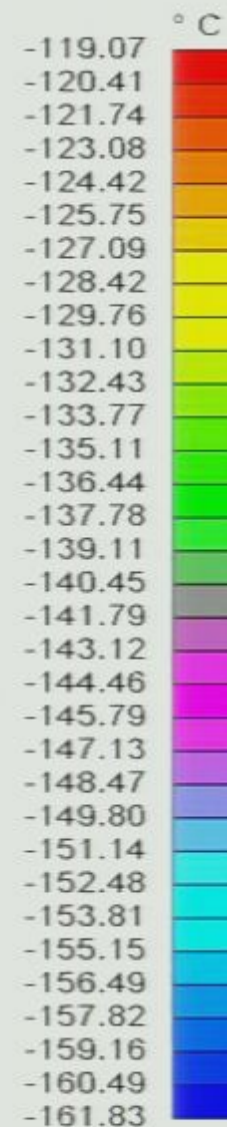
EQUIPMENT AND INSTRUMENT COMPARTMENTS

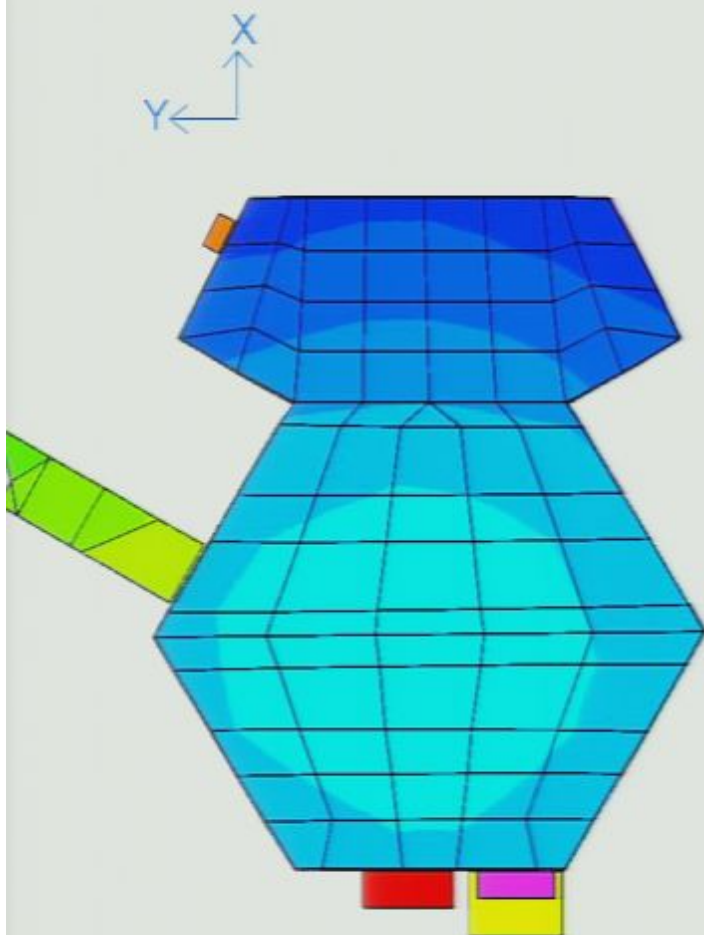


S/C Top View, +Z Side

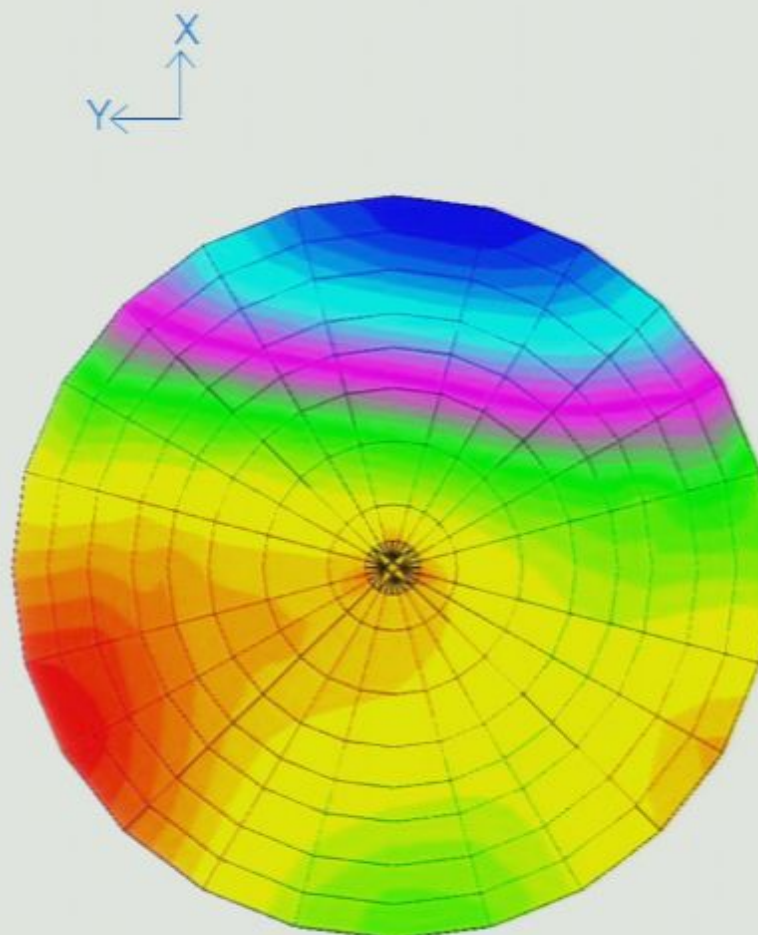
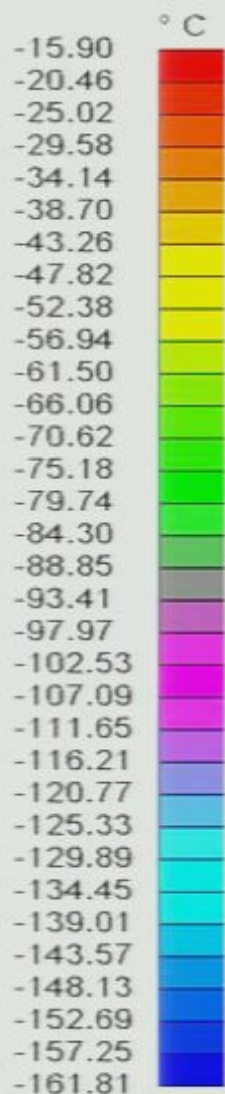


S/C Bottom View, -Z Side

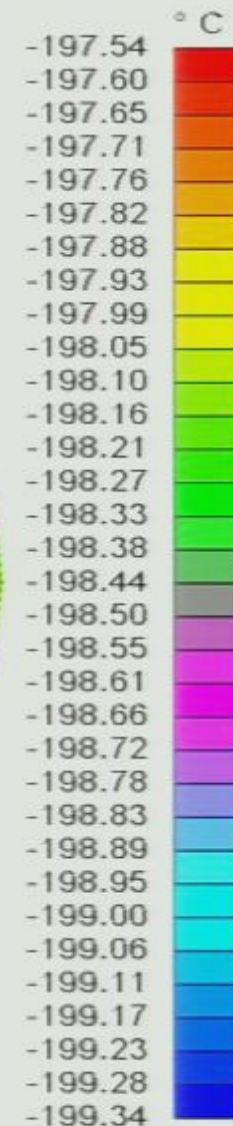




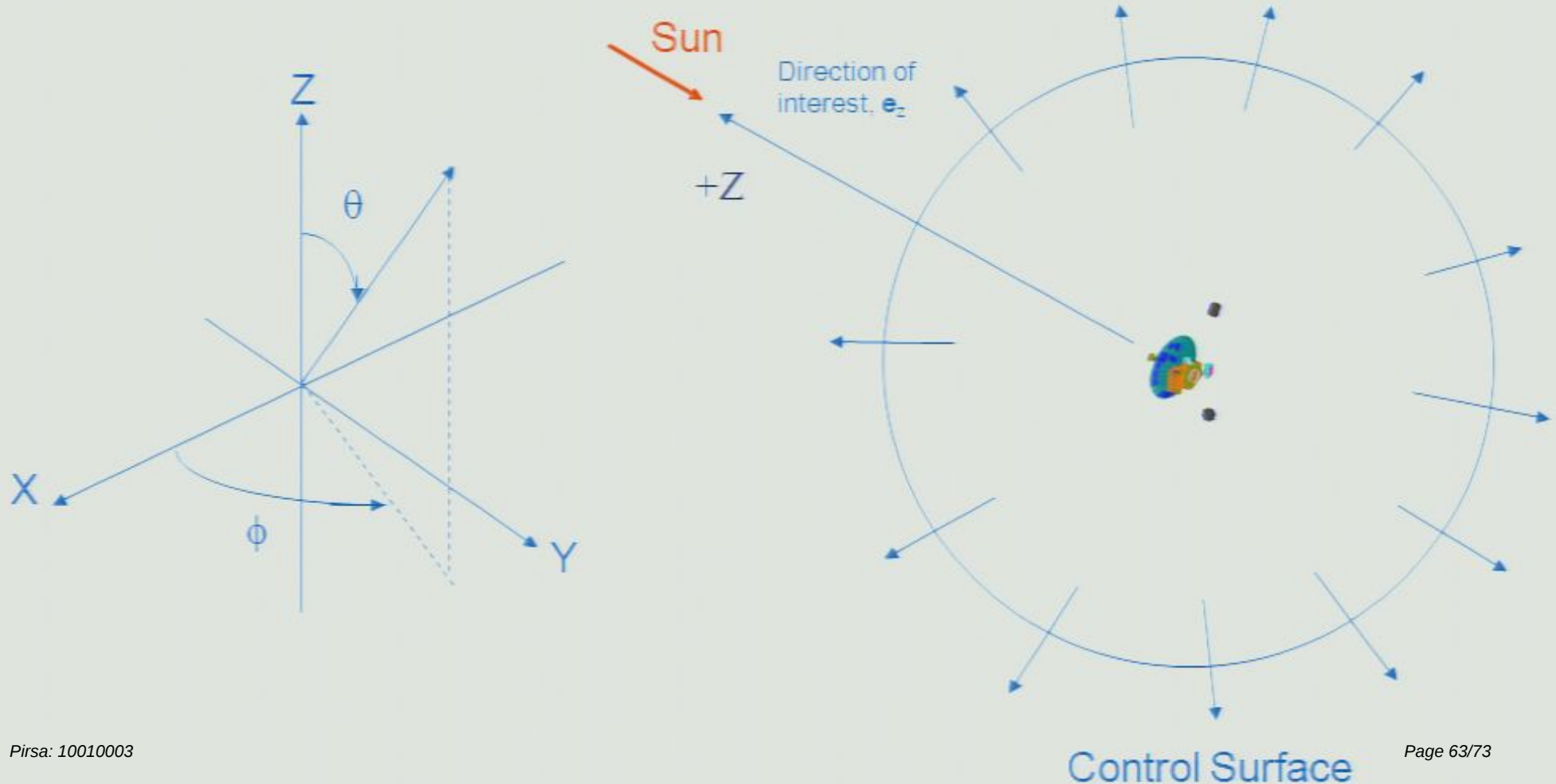
S/C Top View, +Z Side

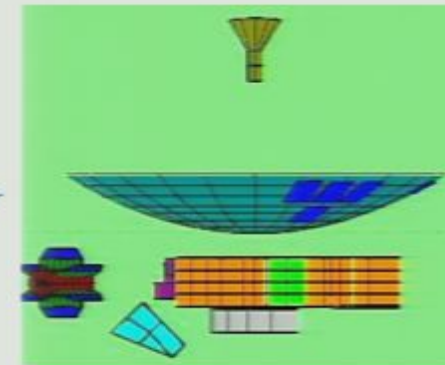
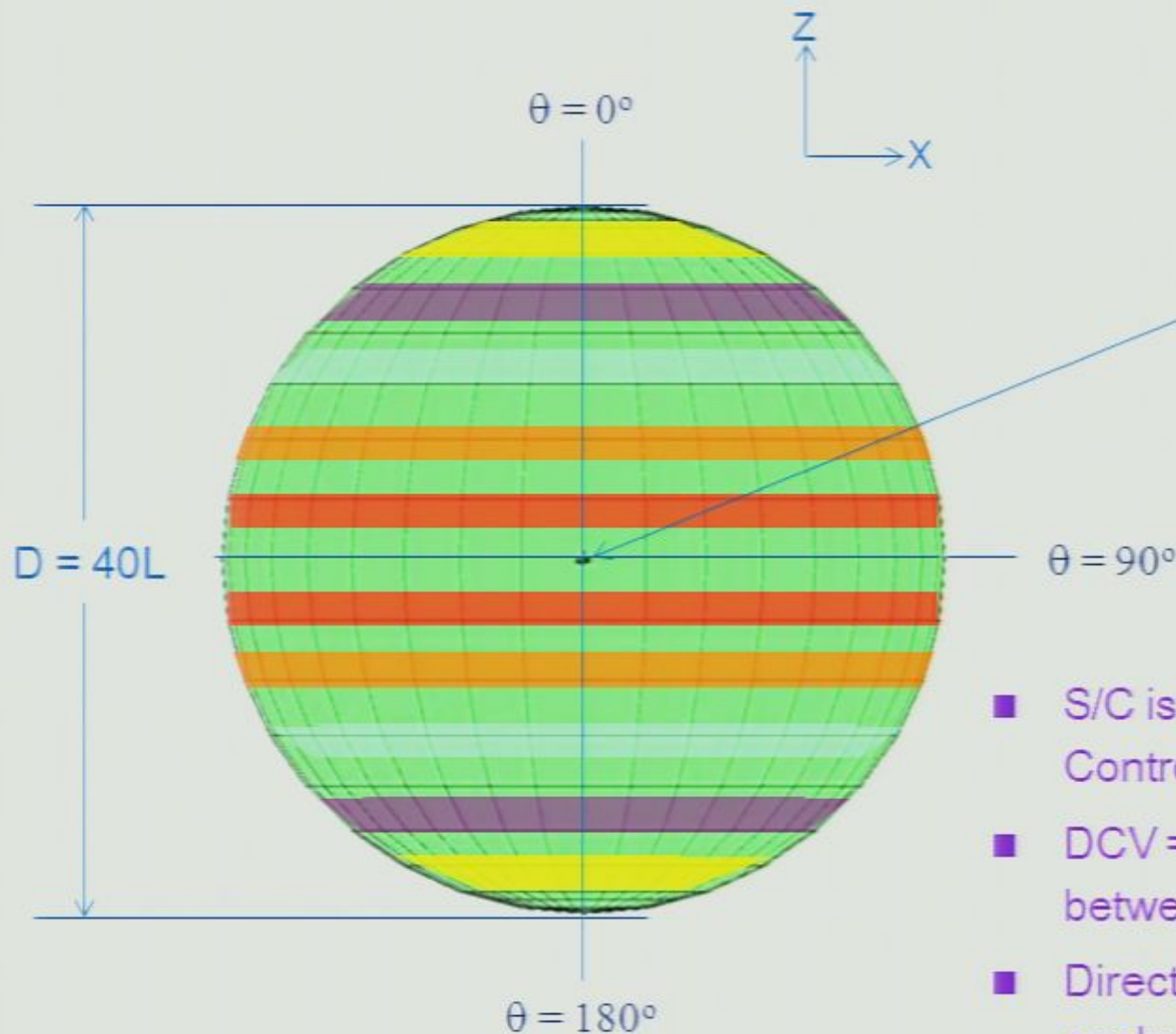


HGA Top View, +Z Side



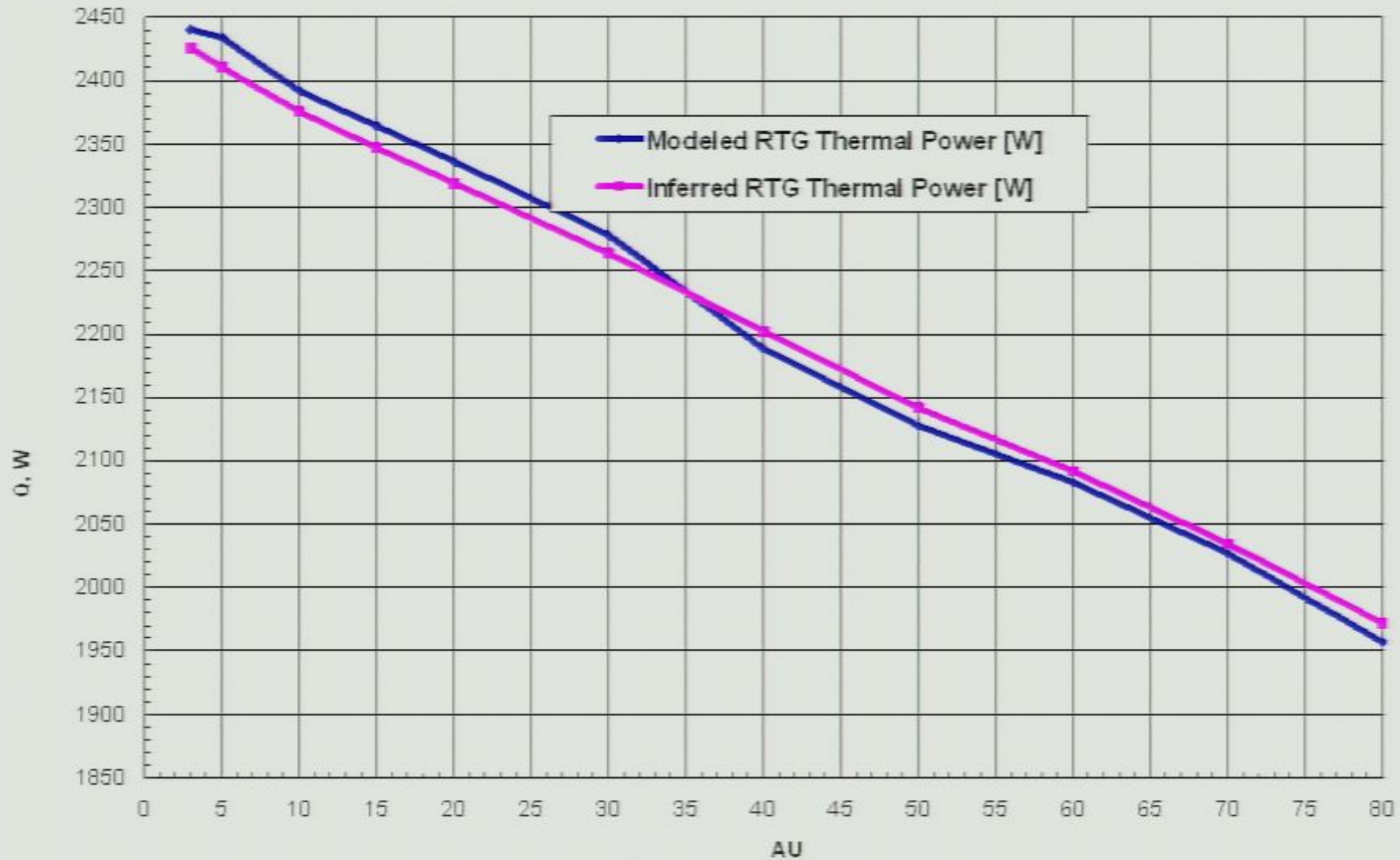
- Spacecraft emits in all directions, but only the component parallel to the spin axis is relevant





- S/C is located at the center of a Large Control Volume
- $DCV = 40L$, L is the radial distance between the S/C centerline and the RTG
- Directional radiative heat flow is evaluated at 5° polar angle intervals (5° wide latitude bands)

RTG Thermal Power: Modeled vs. Inferred



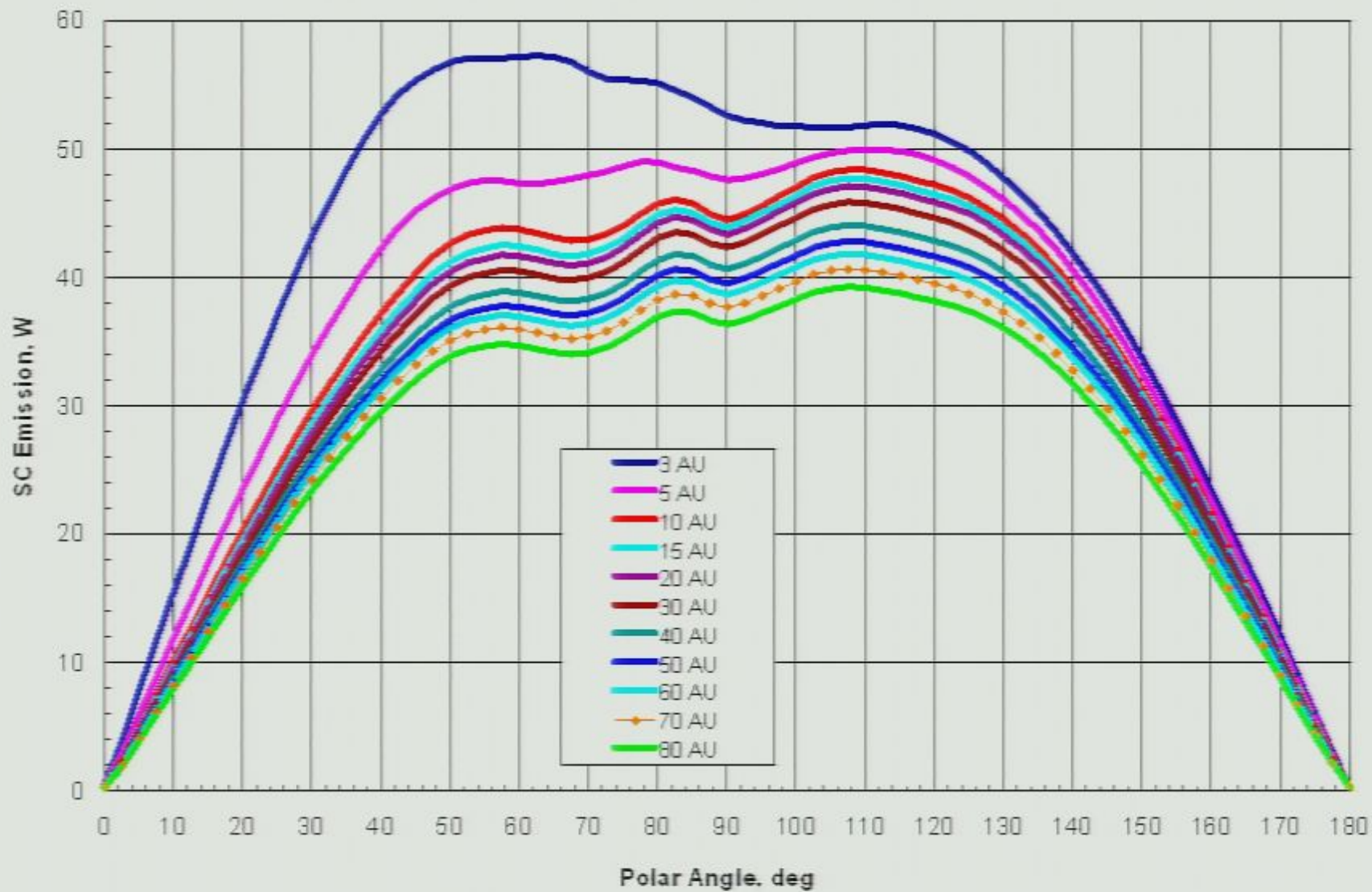
- Net thermal emission in the direction of the Z-axis:

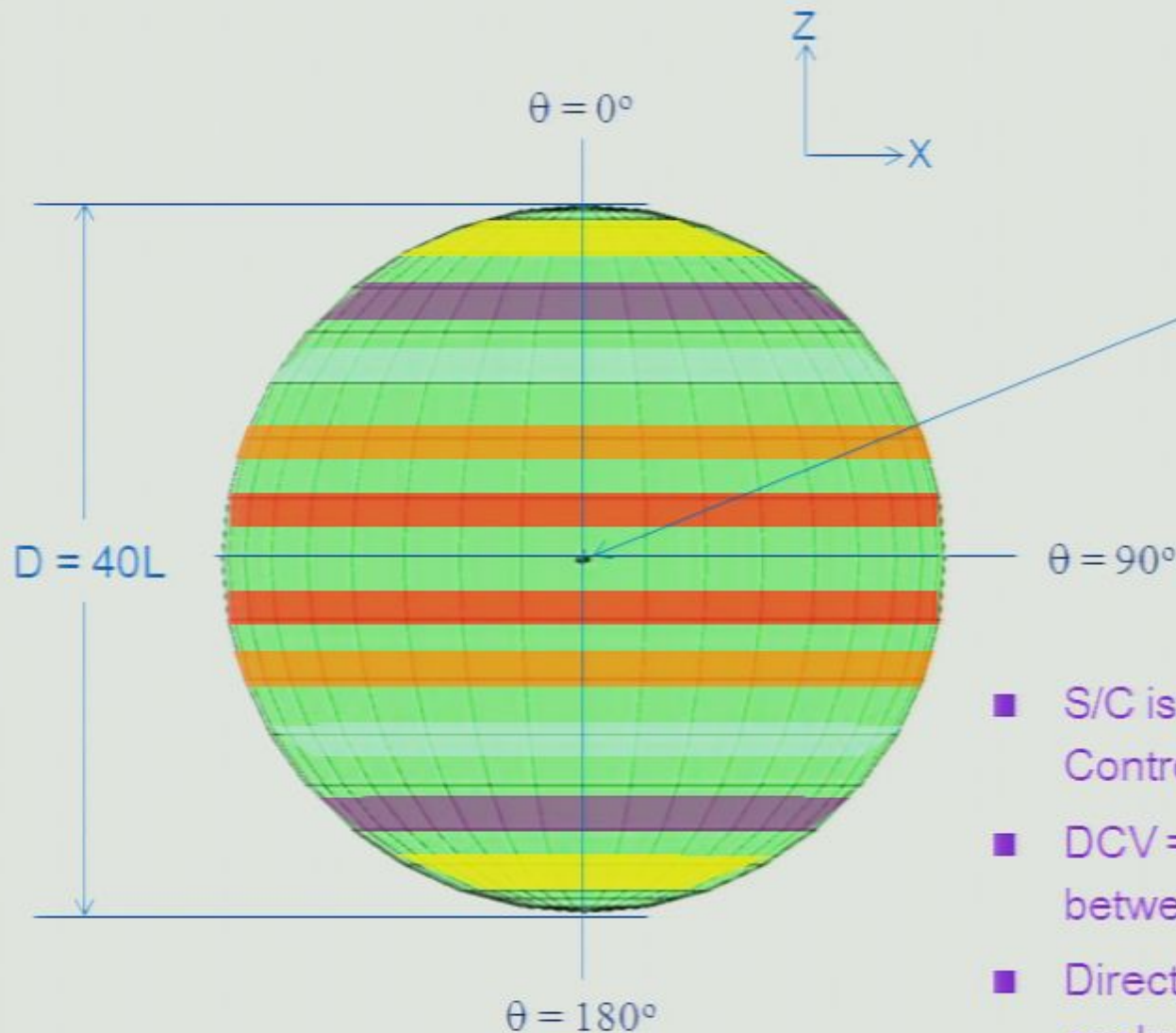
$$Q_z = \int_A \bar{q} \cdot d\bar{A}_z + \bar{S} \cdot \bar{e}_z$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^K \varepsilon_i A_i \sigma T_i^4 B_{i,jk} \cos \theta_j + \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{k=1}^K (1 - \alpha_i) A_i B_{i,jk} \frac{S_{1AU}}{R_{AU}^2} \cos \theta_j$$

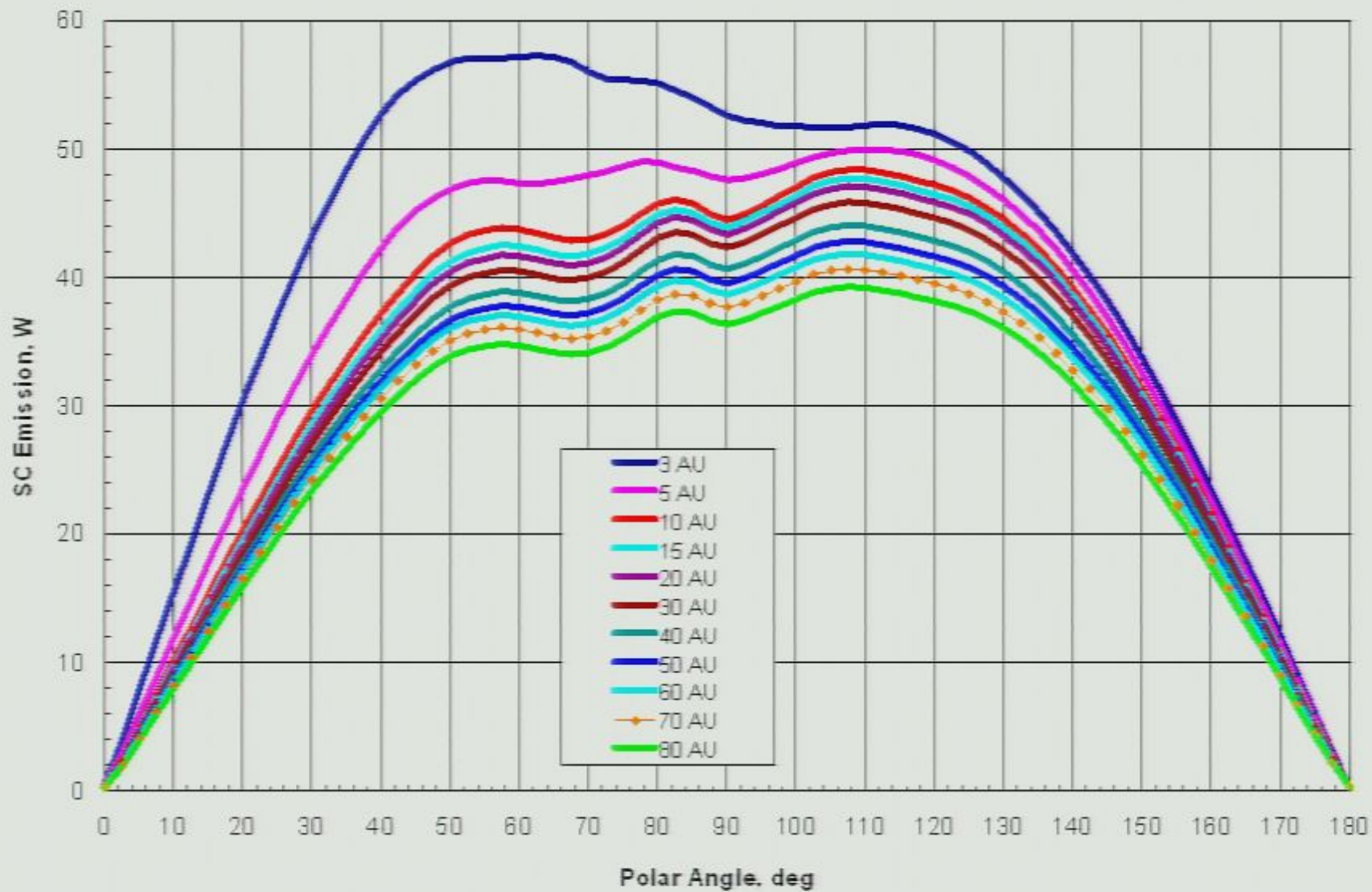
- S_{1AU} is the solar constant at 1 AU
- R_{AU} is the distance in AU of the spacecraft from the sun
- Subscripts j,k refer to the element located at (θ_j, ϕ_k) on the spherical control volume

- Net directional emission = 0 for an isothermal, isotropic emitter when external sources are absent (i.e., uniform S/C temp & e)





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THE STUDY OF THE PIONEER ANOMALY

Predicted P-10 Q(-Z) from 3-80 AU



AU DISTANCE	Modeled S/C IR Emission [W]	Q(-Z) Excludes Reflected Solar [W]	HGA Reflected Solar in +Z [W]	HGA Reflected Solar in -Z [W]	Q(-Z) Includes HGA Reflected Solar [W]	HGA Absorbed Solar [W]	S/C + HGA Absorbed Solar [W]
3	2943.7	-149.2	293.0	-293.0	-442.2	427.3	503.5
5	2616.2	-11.5	105.5	-105.5	-117.0	159.0	182.4
10	2437.7	40.5	26.4	-26.4	14.1	40.5	46.1
15	2384.5	51.8	11.7	-11.7	40.1	18.0	20.5
20	2347.5	54.3	6.6	-6.6	47.7	10.1	11.5
30	2282.9	52.8	2.9	-2.9	49.9	4.5	5.1
40	2191.1	51.5	1.6	-1.6	49.9	2.5	2.9
50	2129.4	50.0	1.1	-1.1	48.9	1.6	1.8
60	2084.1	45.8	0.6	-0.6	45.1	1.1	1.3
70	2027.6	43.5	0.5	-0.5	43.0	0.8	0.9
80	1957.4	42.3	0.4	-0.4	41.9	0.6	0.7

Sign Convention: 293 W in +Z Direction $\equiv$ -293 W in -Z Direction so Column F = Column C - Column D = Column C + Column E

Propellant Tank Treated as a Diffusion Node, Not a Boundary Node

Absorbed Solar Load Calculations Account for the Larger Off-Sun Angles at Smaller AU Distances

Conclusions and Next Steps



- High fidelity Thermal Model of the Pioneers is available and evolving
 - Ideal tool for future analysis
 - Capable of examining all heliocentric distances and off-sun angles
 - Capable of identifying anisotropic thermal contributions from individual spacecraft subsystems
- As of October 2009 the new Doppler data is available, thus
 - Certification of the extended Pioneer 10 and 11 Doppler data set
 - Focus on the determination of the true direction of the anomaly and its behavior as a function of distance from the Sun
- Next Steps: focus on the Anomaly using all available data:
 - Analysis of Pioneer 11 Doppler data (proceed with early data, then entire mission)
 - Then proceed with Pioneer 10....
 - Combined analysis of Doppler and telemetry data
- Stay tuned... the fun part of the analysis has just began!

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