

# THE NANCY GRACE ROMAN SPACE TELESCOPE

## Wide Field Instrument Updates

Ami Choi Deputy WFI Scientist – NASA GSFC Community Forum December 13<sup>th</sup> 2023

Based on contributions from many!!

NASA





- WFI fully integrated at Ball Aerospace and completed first of two 60-day instrument thermal vacuum test campaigns (TVAC1)
- Goals of TVAC1:
  - Test the functionality of all instrument systems
  - Establish a pre-environmental (vibration, acoustics) instrument performance baseline with a focus on optical performance
  - Perform risk reduction activities for further characterization and performance tests in the second TVAC campaign in Spring 2024 (TVAC2)
- In the current schedule, WFI will undergo environmental testing over the next few months and start TVAC2 in March 2024



## What goes in the TVAC chamber?







## What goes in the TVAC chamber?









- Stimulus of ray cones (SORC)
- Key Capabilities
  - **Projector** to place point sources at any point on focal plane.
  - Diffuser to illuminate across the field.
  - Blackbody to block/thermally illuminate WFI.
  - Metrology to register SORC to WFI, WFI element wheel.



SORC in the Space Environment Simulator at GSFC, 3/23









#### WFI moving to SORC/fixture







#### WFI mated to SORC with radiator exposed







#### WFI+SORC moving to face cold target in Titan chamber







### Another view of WFI+SORC moving into the Titan chamber







#### **Completed TVAC1 test profile**



#### WFI TVAC-1 Profile







#### Slide credit: Eric Switzer

- Goals:
  - Verify GSE+WFI system meets requirements or is requirements capable
  - Establish instrument cryo performance baseline prior to environmental tests
  - TVAC1 performed risk reduction tests to further prepare for TVAC2
    - Key for TVAC2 tests that are used to verify science requirements and produce calibration reference files
- Types of Science Data obtained:
  - Focal Plane System performance
  - Optics performance backgrounds, element blocking, and stray light characterization
  - Calibration system (sRCS) performance
  - Risk reduction tests
- High heritage tools used for data acquisition and analysis
  - Test Planning Tool (TPT) / Optical Test Procedure (OTP from JWST testing for test scripting
  - Quicklook and longer-term analysis tools from WFI subsystem testing (e.g. SCAs, FPS, sRCS)
- 270 data collects performed during TVAC1, longest script ran for 9 hours



Excellent fidelity for data volume requirements and test plan

Comparison of pre-TVAC data volumes per test plan and schedule to actual accumulated test volume.





- 1. FPS performance and reliability was remarkable
  - Multiple WFI level requirements met
  - Performance baseline established
- 2. In-band stray light performance is excellent
  - Multiple WFI level requirements either met or data demonstrates that system is requirements capable
  - Some thermal leaks were identified, review board convened, and corrective action in progress
  - Performance baseline established
- 3. sRCS flat field smoothness appears excellent
  - Data demonstrates system is requirements capable
  - Performance baseline established with full characterization planned for TVAC2
- 4. Confocality between elements across the field is excellent
  - All elements focus in the same plane, except for prism which might be slightly out of tolerance (also a bit more forgiving – analysis underway)
- 5. Focus-corrected wavefront error performance is excellent
  - Sensing the instrument wavefront with SORC went well beyond expectations.
  - Overall performance is met with margin for all elements
- 6. Executed a very successful campaign of risk reduction tests
  - Data demonstrates that system is requirements capable
  - Data is immensely helpful and critical for developing final characterization plans in TVAC2



### **Preliminary test highlights**









- Full analyses of TVAC1 data ongoing in parallel with preparations for environmental testing and TVAC2
- Working with the Science Operations Center (Space Telescope Science Institute) to host and archive these integration and test (I&T) data for community use, stay tuned
- TVAC1 results are precursors to full characterization from TVAC2 that are important ingredients for instrument performance reference files and calibration

Longer term: delivery of WFI back to Goddard next year





followed by integration into the Instrument Payload Assembly!