

IRT CU Status

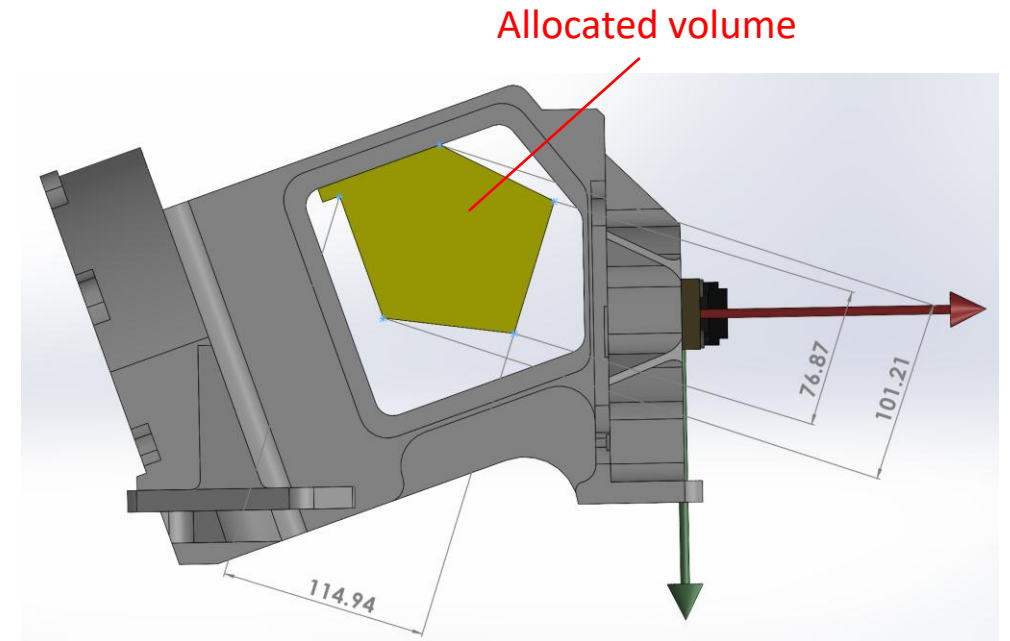
András Péter Joó

and the Hungarian IRT CUA PRODEX team



Goal of the Calibration Unit

- Goal: characterise the detector across the five photometric bands of the Infrared Telescope (IRT)
- Using LEDs as light sources
 - Redundancy: 2 sources for each of the 5 bands, 10 LEDs
- Off-axis alignment inside Camera cavity
 - No moving parts needed
 - Smaller volume
- High spatial uniformity
 - < 1% small-scale, 10% on whole detector surface
- Low straylight level
 - No emission when switched off
- EUCLID NISP calibration unit as a “model”

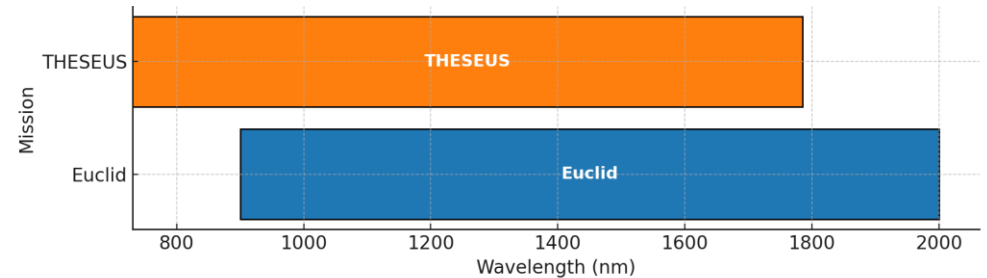


I	731 – 881 nm
Z	825 – 975 nm
Y	960 – 1080 nm
J	1115 – 1325 nm
H	1475 – 1785 nm

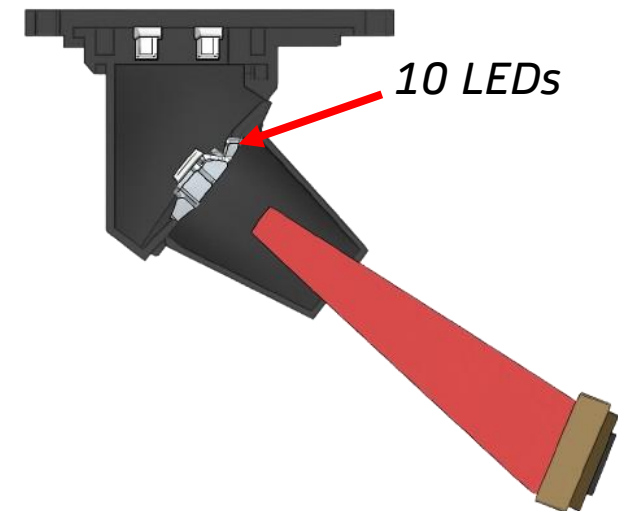
Major challenges

- **1st challenge:** we can't use the Euclid NISP calibration LEDs (wavelength range, provider) ✓
- **2nd challenge:** IRT_CUA volume < EUCLID NISP, but we need to fit in the same functions ✓
- **3rd challenge:** required high homogeneity at the detector ✓
- **4th challenge:** minimizing straylight ✓
- **5th challenge:** finding H space industry partners ✓

Note: It will be the 2nd time to build an LED based calibration unit in Europe, but we can not simply “copy and paste”.



Wavelength Coverage



IRT CUA M5 baseline design

The LED substitution challenge and the solution – LED manufacturers

Market research -> Potential manufacturers:

- Euclid heritage: [Epigap](#)
- HUN Team market research: [Thorlabs](#), [TechLED](#)
- ESA - Alter study: [InPhenix](#), [Hamamatsu](#), [Superlum](#)



Baseline requirements met:

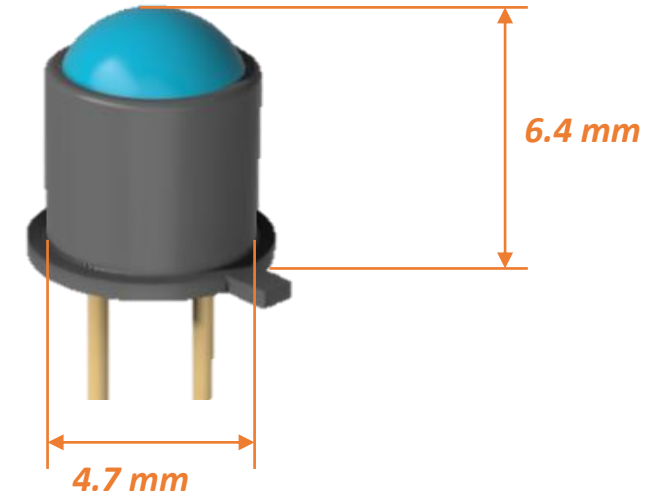
- Spectral coverage (I - H bands)
- Packaging available (TO-CAN or after packaging)



Space requirements still unverified:

- Cryogenic operation
- Lifetime & ON/OFF cycling
- Flux stability over mission lifetime
- Radiation tolerance (TID, TNID)
- Mechanical robustness (vibration, shock)

TO-18 LED packaging



All manufacturers require testing + development of test electronics

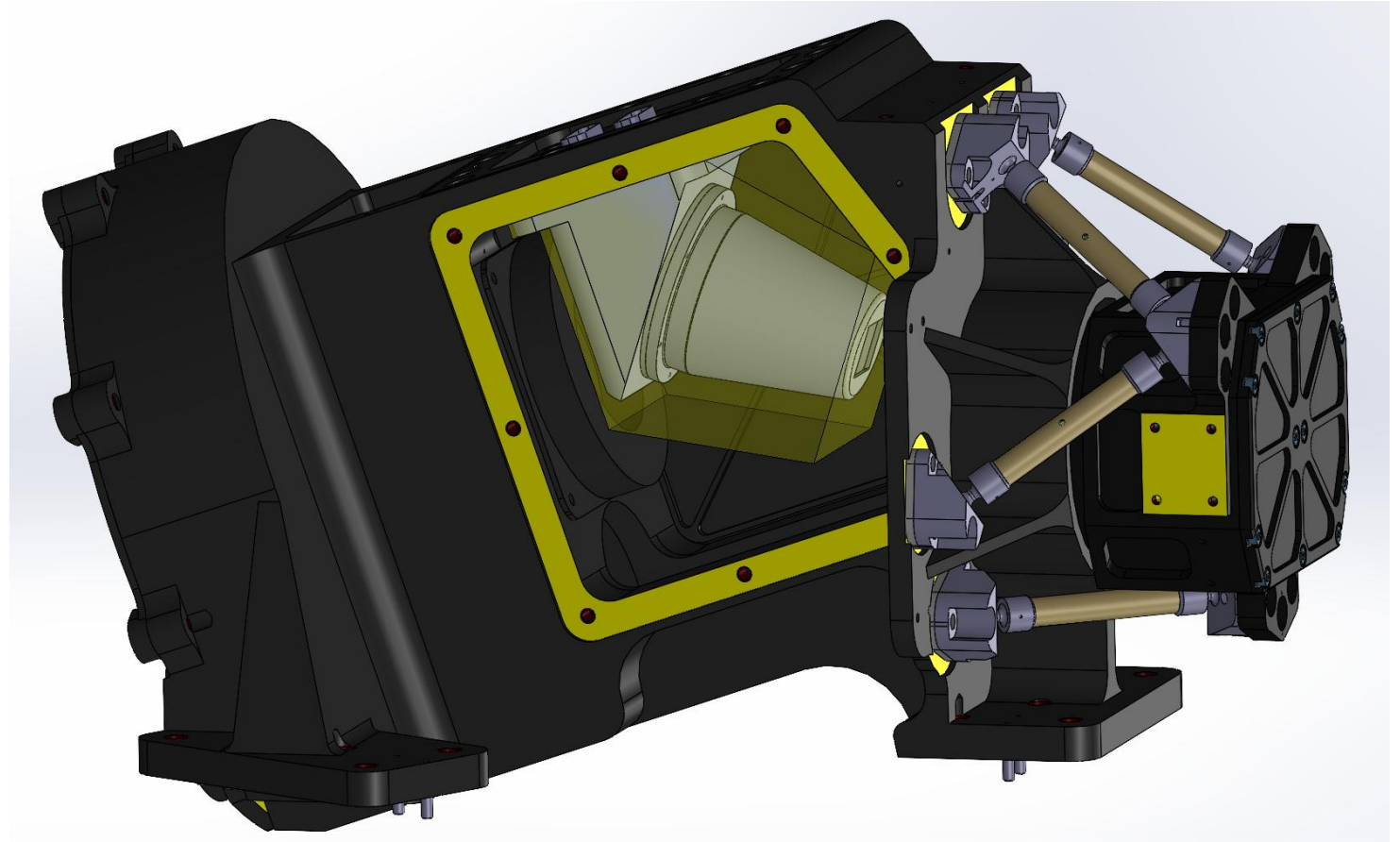
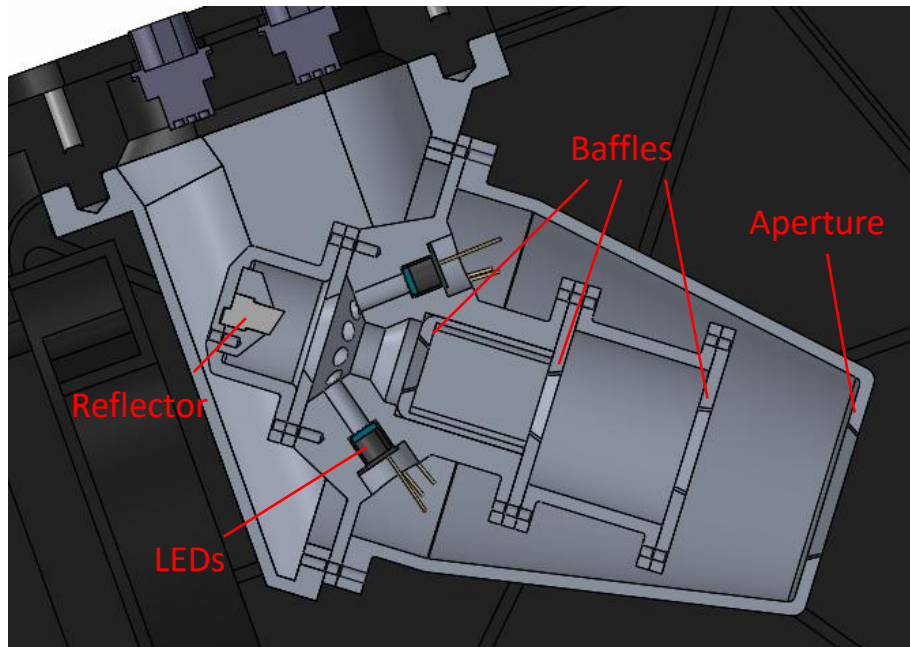
LED Selection Matrix

Good / Completed
In progress
Minor issues
Needs further attention
New info

Manufacturer	Spectral band	Peak wavelength (nm)	Spectral width (nm)	Tested operating temperature	Cryogenic & mechanical compatibility	Packaging	Availability		Price/ 1 pc (EUR)	Lead time
Epigap	I band	770	27	Depends on packaging	Needs packaging & qualification	Bare die, 365 um x 365 um	In-stock		1.00	1-3 business days
	Z band	910	60			Bare die, 365 um x 365 um			1.00	
	Y band	970	35			Bare die, 365 um x 365 um			1.05	
	J band	1200	59			Bare die, 350 um x 350 um			4.70	
	H band	1550	98			Bare die, 350 um x 350 um			4.60	
Thorlabs	I band	770	28	-40 - 100 °C	Needs qualification	TO-18, glass lens	In-stock		10.32	1-3 business days
	Z band	910	44	-40 - 100 °C					9.14	
	Y band	1050	50	-20 - 90 °C					27.73	
	J band	1200	70	-20 - 90 °C					28.54	
	H band	1550	120	-20 - 90 °C					26.92	
TechLED	I band	810	35	-40 - 80 °C	Needs qualification	TO-18, glass lens	Partially not in stock:	1	26.50	8-10 weeks after receipt of an order
	Z band	870	40	-30 - 80 °C				11	Obsolete	
	Y band	1050	50	-40 - 100 °C				180	31.40	
	J band	1200	90	-40 - 100 °C				25	31.40	
	H band	1550	110	-40 - 100 °C				2	31.40	
InPhenix	I band	750	10	Manufacturer contacted	Needs qualification	TO-8, TO-9, TO-56	MOQ: 5 Recommended packaging: TO-8 or Butterfly with TEC Packaging without TEC: TO-9, TO-56 Next step: Submit spec form for quote			
	Z band	900	30							
	Y band	1020	60							
	J band	1310	55							
	H band	1550	50							
Hamamatsu	I band	860	35	-30 - 85 °C	Needs qualification	TO-CAN	Request clarified – awaiting reply			
	Z band	945	60	-30 - 85 °C		TO-CAN				
	Y band	-	-	-		-				
	J band	1200	80	-30 - 85 °C		TO-CAN				
	H band	1550	120	-30 - 85 °C		TO-CAN				
Superlum	I band	770 - 890	40	-55 - 85 °C	Needs qualification	DIL or TOSA	Reply: Complimentary sample of TOSA packaging, no price or stock info			
	Z band	930	60 - 80	-55 - 80 °C						
	Y band	1000 - 1020	80 - 100	-55 - 65 °C						
	J band	1300	70	-55 - 75 °C						
	H band	1560	120	-55 - 70 °C						

Preliminary mechanical design

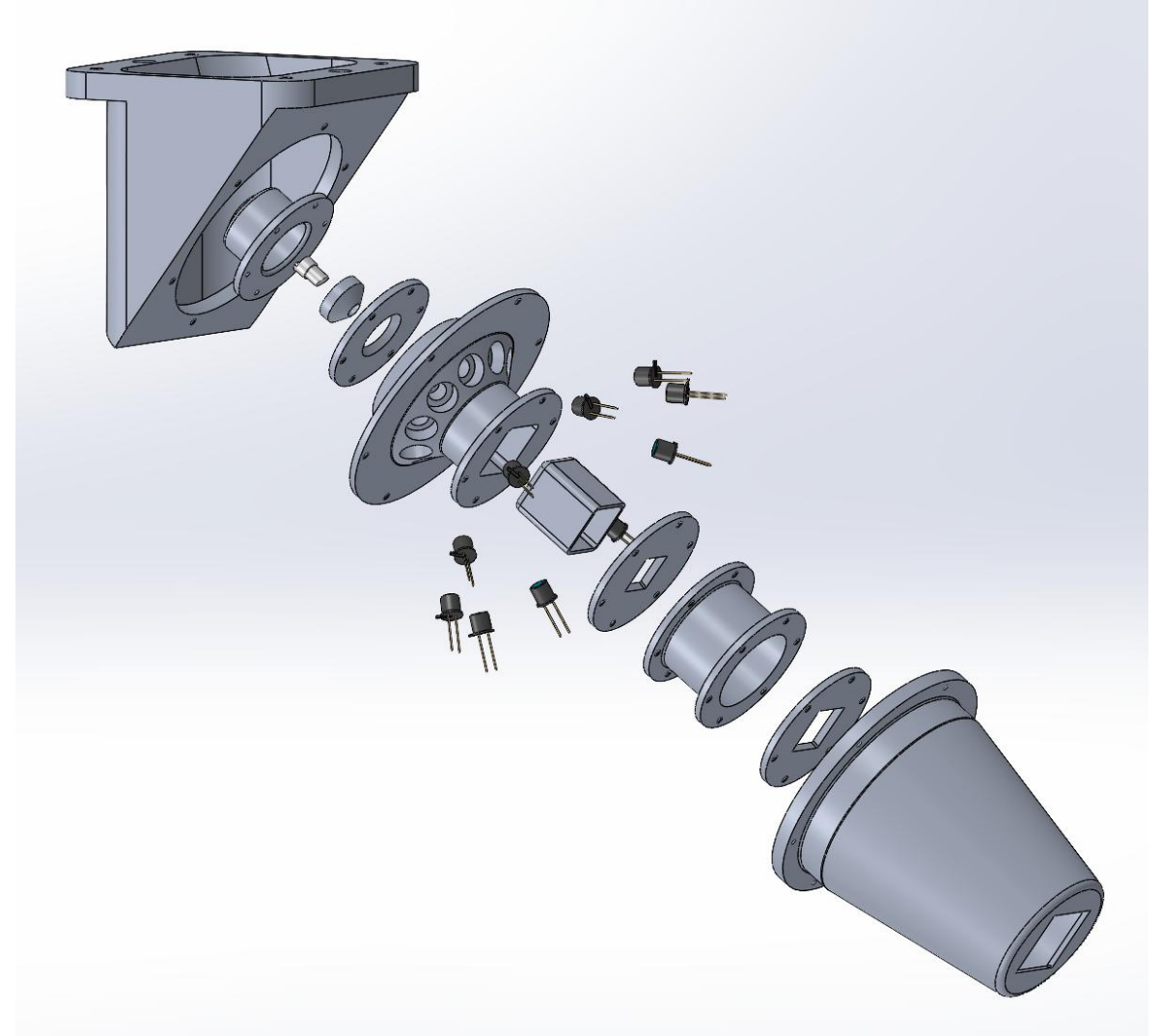
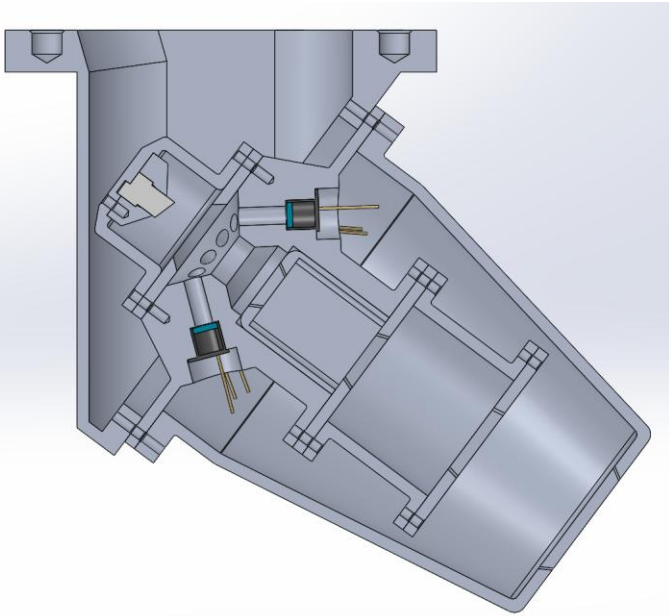
- 3rd iteration (v03b)
- Fixed mount to trap door interface
 - Also considering bipods
- Structure: heritage from NICU



- Alignment plan: larger illuminated surface
 - Measurement still to decide

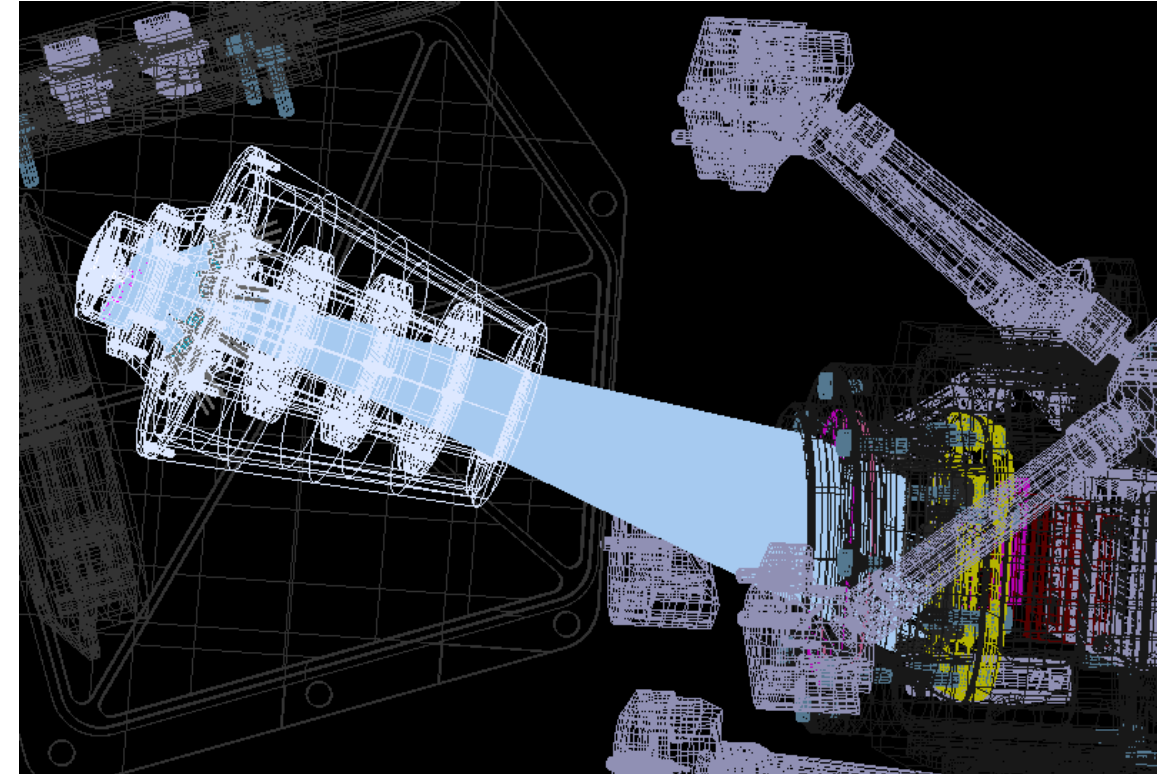
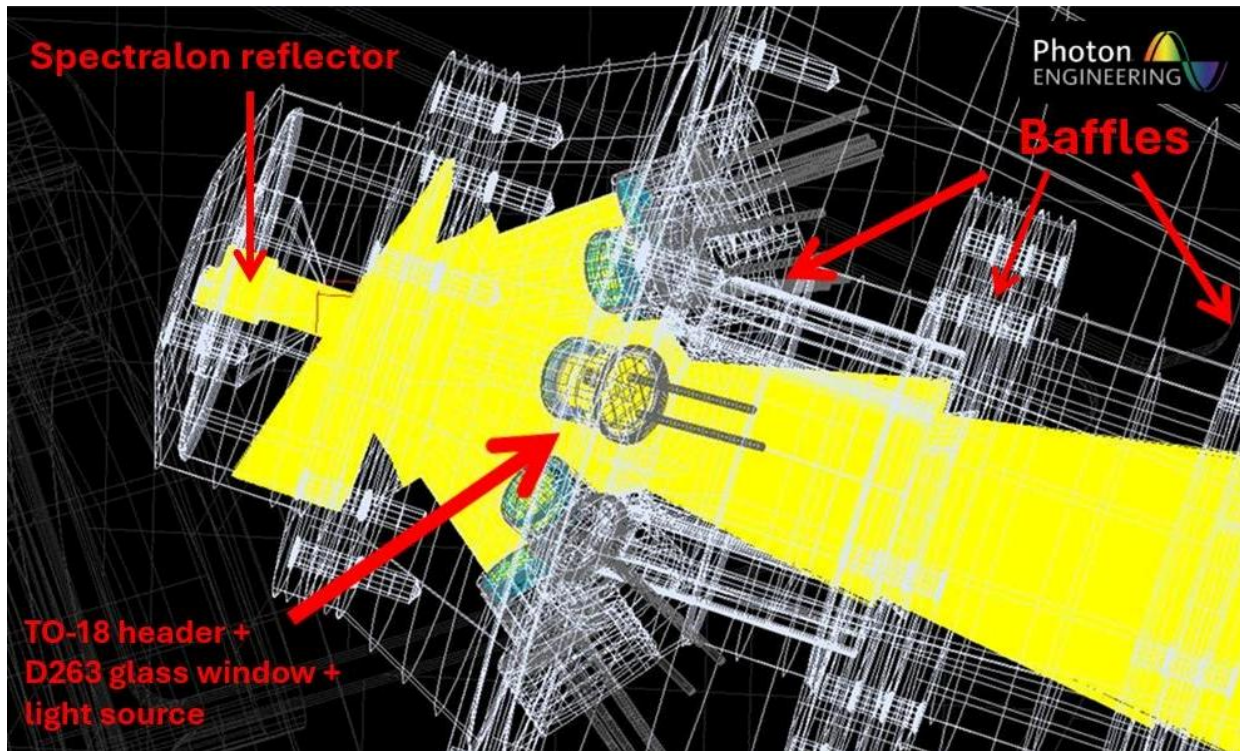
Preliminary mechanical design

- Details to be added:
 - Fastenings, Positioning and Conducting elements (pins, washers...)
 - PCB and harness (from Electrical Design)
- Mass so far: 331 g (Alu 6061 T6)
 - We estimate to fit the 0.7 kg budget + margin



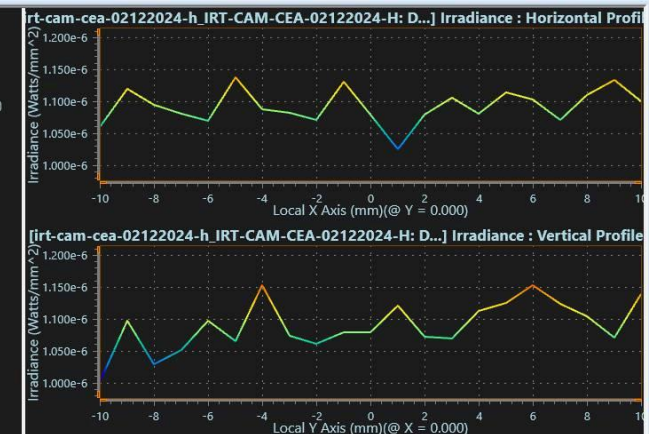
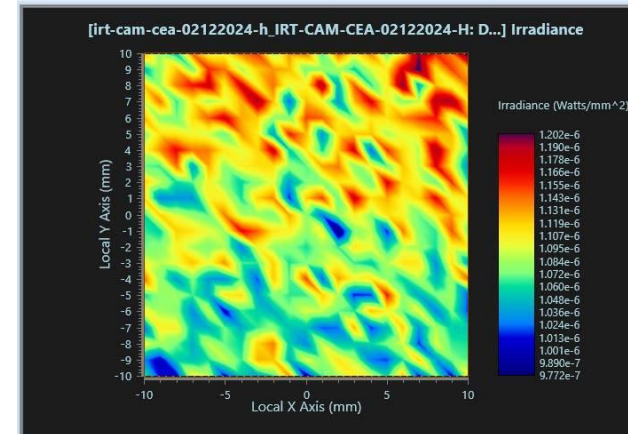
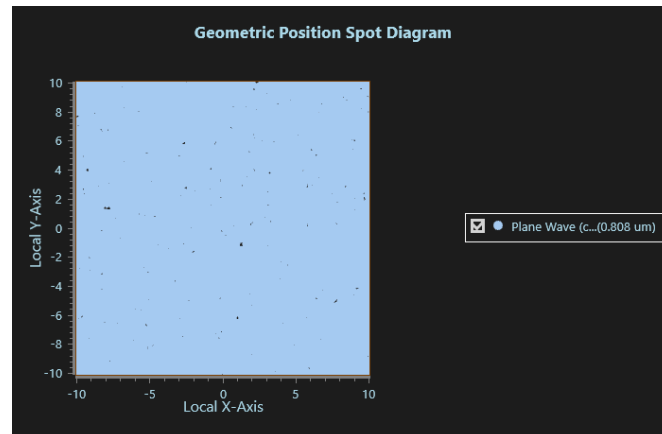
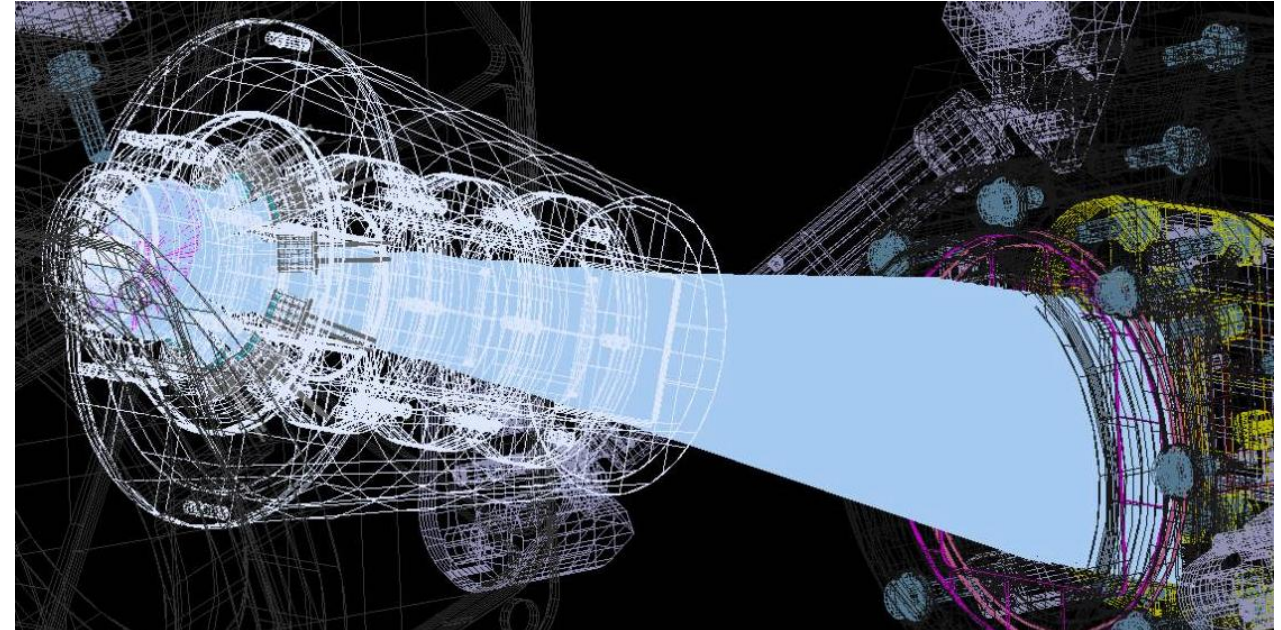
Optical modelling

- CUA, CAM and FPA in model
- Point light source @ 0.808 μm
- LED TO-18 header window (Borosilicate glass)
- Spectralon reflector (Lambertian profile)
- Series of baffles, aperture



Optical modelling

- Detector surface analysis
- Low-resolution simulations for baffle design and coverage
 - Next step: high-resolution simulations for homogeneity
- Feedback to Mechanical Design



Documentation

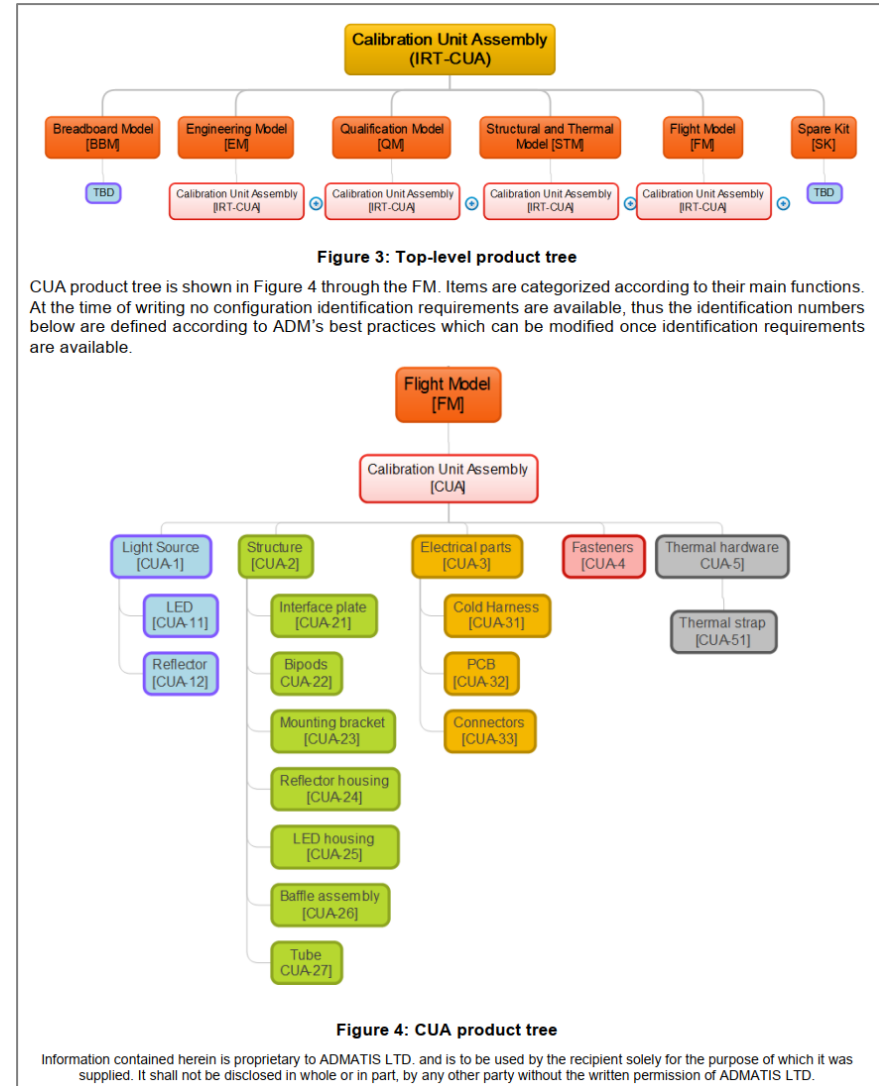
Interface Requirement Document

Elements	Camera body	Interface plate	Bipods	Mounting bracket	Reflector housing	Reflector	LED housing	LED	Baffle assembly	Tube	PCB	Cold harness	Connector	Thermal strap	Detector
Camera body		M, Tc	M, Tc	Tr	Tr					Tr					
Interface plate			M, Tc										M, Tc	M, Tc	
Bipods				M, Tc											
Mounting bracket					M		M			M				M, Tc	
Reflector housing						M, Tc									
Reflector							O	O	O	O					O
LED housing								M, Tr	M		M	M			
LED											E				
Baffle assembly															
Tube															
PCB												E			
Cold harness													E, Tc		
Connector															
Thermal strap															
Detector															

Legend:

- M: Mechanical
- Tc: Thermal (conductive)
- Tr: Thermal (radiative)
- E: Electrical
- O: Optical

Product tree



Documentation

RSD suggestions, verification methods, risk identification

- To be discussed with CEA

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Ongoing work

- Mechanical design all parts (PCB, harness, fasteners)
- Optical design refinement (baffle and aperture optimization, alignment sensitivity, preliminary straylight analysis)
- Preliminary thermal and structural analysis
- Requirement Specification Document additions/suggestions
- Phase B test definitions – facilities & equipment, setups

Publications, conferences

- Star Formation, Stellar Feedback, and the Ecology of Galaxies, Visegrád, Hungary, May 2025
 - THESEUS (András JOÓ +)
- IBWS Zatec Czechia, May 2025
 - THESEUS IRT_CUA (András JOÓ +) → paper submitted to Astronomische Nachrichten
- Cold Cores 2025 Helsinki Finland, June 2025
 - THESEUS and the Study of YSOs (Áron JUHÁSZ +)
- Meeting of Hungarian Astronomers, Budapest, Sept 2025
 - THESEUS IRT_CUA (Rebeka KISS +)
- Planned: Granada March 2026

Phase B1 workplan – Involving Hungarian partners

- Main space industrial partner: ADMATIS – already in phase A
- Optical tests: eCon
- Irradiation tests: ATOMKI
- Vibration tests: REMRED
- LED spectral & cryogenic tests: Institute of Technical Physics and Materials Science
- Scientific program
 - Early Universe: Eötvös Loránd University, HUN-REN Konkoly Observatory
 - Transients (GRB, SN, etc.): Eötvös Loránd University, HUN-REN Konkoly Observatory, Ludovica University of Public Service
 - YSOs: Eötvös Loránd University, HUN-REN Konkoly Observatory
- + Foreign consultative partners in engineering in France and Germany

