

Airborne Measurements Programs

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Summary

- **Why airborne measurements**
- **Available platforms in Europe and USA**
- **Ongoing and future activity**
- **Outlook**

Observation Systems

- **Satellite: global coverage**
- **Ground remote sensing: fixed location**
- **Instrumented aircraft: mobile, in situ**

Airborne platforms vastly extend the range of scientific exploration that can fill critical gaps in data about our atmosphere and earth system

Instrumented aircraft: Constraints

- ATC and Air Worthyness limitations
- Fly almost horizontally (± 15 m/s max ascent/descent rate)
- Airflow disturbance
- Limited payload, space, endurance
- Speed: 100 m/s (turboprop)
 200 m/s (jet)

A survey of european research aircraft: EUFAR - Toward an integrated European fleet

EUFAR is an Integrating Activity of the 7th EU Framework Program for
Research Infrastructures

Objectives: To provide scientists with access at equal terms to the most
complete range of research infrastructures

To develop trans-national access to national infrastructures

To reduce redundancy and fill the gaps

To promote the use of research infrastructures, especially for
young scientists from countries where such infrastructures are
lacking

25 aircraft or instruments, 205 users, 520 flight hours
Networking (2 M€) , TA (3 M€), JRA (2,3 M €), MGT (0,7 M€)
TOTAL : 8 M€

Aims of Transnational Access in EUFAR

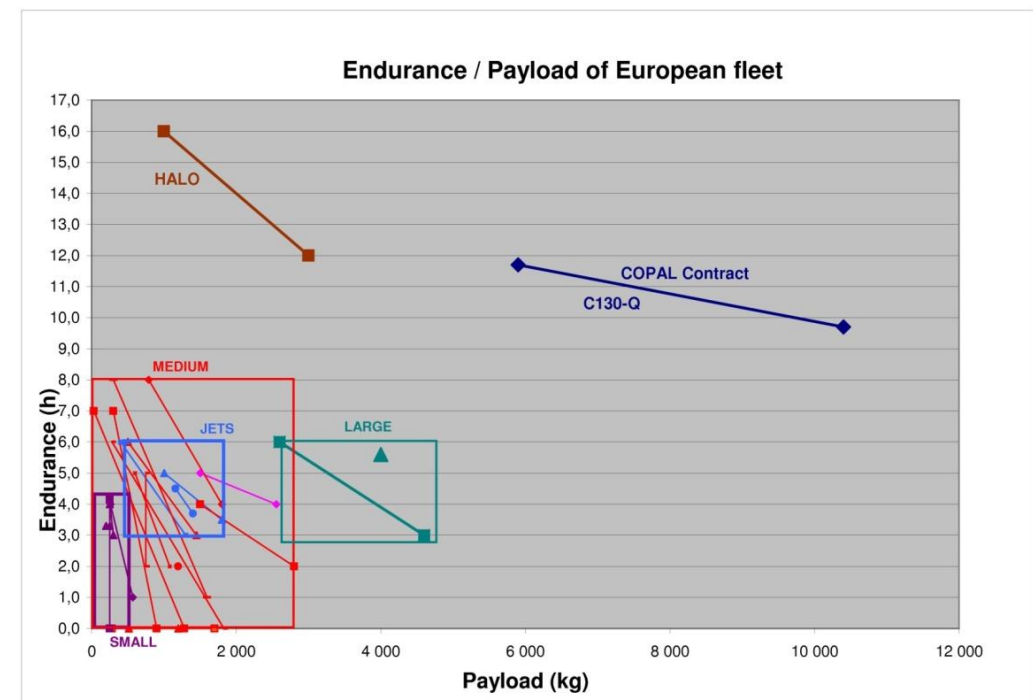
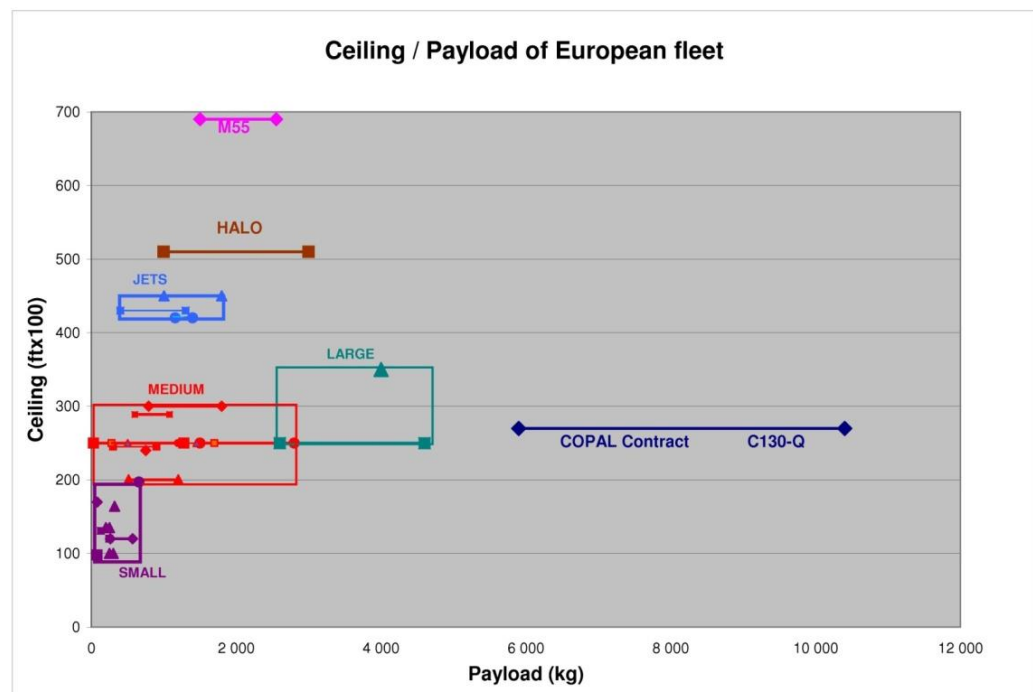
- To provide access to research aircraft or instrumentation that is not available via the user's own national research funding.
- Available to both expert and non-expert users
- Principal eligibility criteria:
- The proposer and the majority of the user group should be employed at institution in an EU Member State or Associated State
- The infrastructure (aircraft or instrumentation) to which they propose access should be from a different EU Member State



OPERATORS	CATEGORIES				
	1. Strato. jet	2. Jets	3. Large A/C	4. Medium A/C	5. Small A/C
Geophysica EEIG	Geophysica				
DLR		HALO		Cessna 208B	
NLR		Citation			
ENVISCOPE		Learjet			Partenavia
SAFIRE		F-20	ATR-42		Piper-Aztec
MetOffice			BAe-146		
NERC				Do-228	
INTA				2 CASA-212	
TAU				King-Air 200	
GTK				Twin-Otter Caravan	
TU-BS				Do-128	
FUB					Cessna 207 TMG-ASK-16
UNIMAN					C-182
CNR-IBIMET					ky-Arrow
IFU					Microlight
TOTAL AIRCRAFT : 24	1	4	2	8	9

k€ /flight hour:	16	9 - 28	9 - 11	3 to 6	0.8 to 3
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Strato-jets : M55 Geophysica

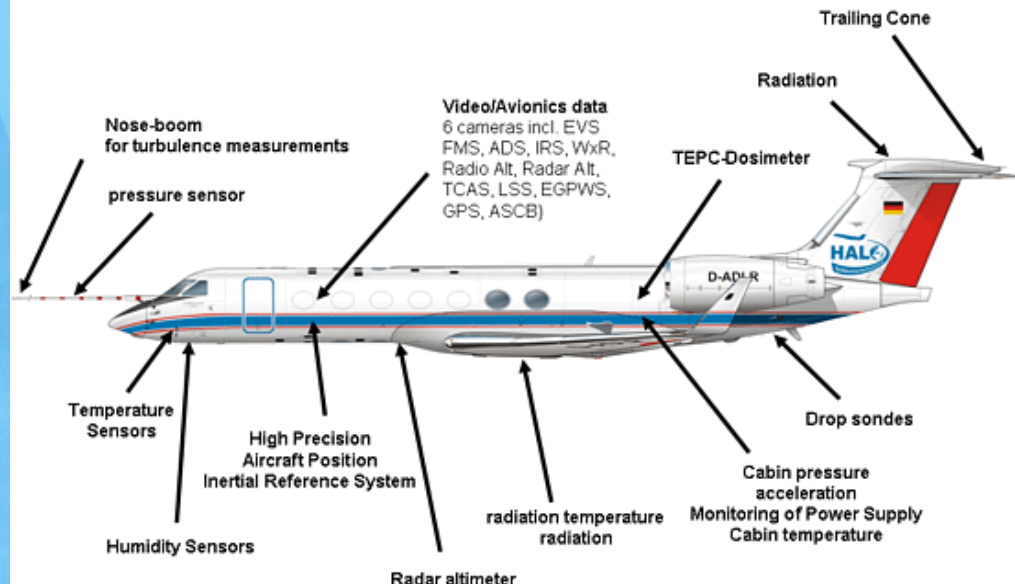


Ceiling: 65,000 ft
Range: 4000 km
Endurance: 5 hrs
Payload: 2250 kg
www.geophysica-eeig.eu

Currently an MoU has been signed between MDB and key users defining the frame of the cooperation, while contracts are negotiated for the individual missions.

High altitude jets: G-550 Halo

Basic sensors and data Acquisition
Integration and Operation: DLR-FB



50,000 ft

Range: 12000 km

Endurance : 10 hrs

Payload: 3000 kg

<http://www.halo.dlr.de/>

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DLR (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt) and MPG (Max-Planck-Gesellschaft) are the main promoters of this major research facility that will be open to German as well as international users.

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High altitude jets: Falcon F-20



42,000 ft

Range: 8000 km

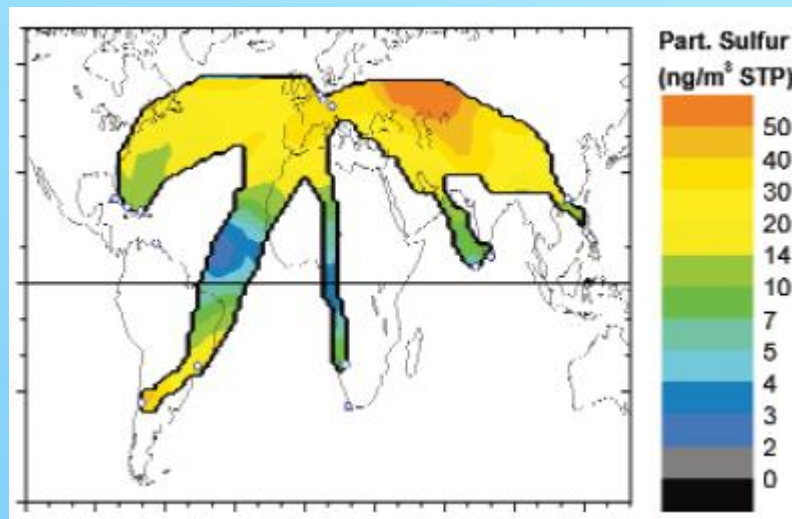
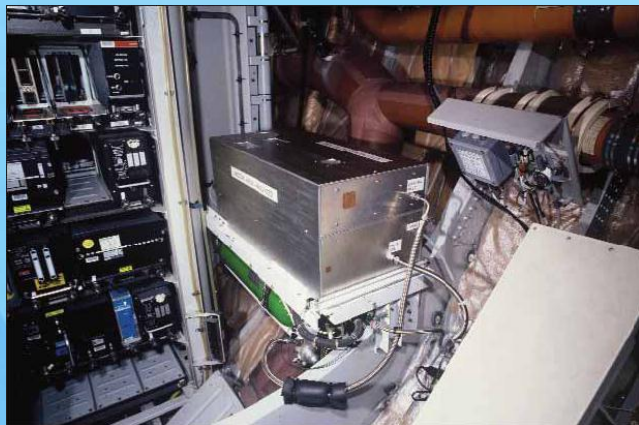
Endurance : 5 hrs

Payload: 1200 kg

<http://www.safire.fr/>

The SAFIRE Falcon 20 is available for research experiment for the French and international community since the beginning of 2006. It is an original Dassault Falcon 20 GF specially modified to scientific use. It is registered as F-GBTM.

Commercial aircraft



IGAC newsletter 37



IAGOS-ERI is one of the new European Research Infrastructures on the [ESFRI Roadmap 2006](#), to establish and operate a distributed infrastructure for long term observations of atmospheric composition, from a fleet of 10-20 aircraft.



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USA platforms



ER-2 NASA Dryden Flight Center:

70,000 ft

Range: 8000 km

Endurance : 10 hrs

Payload: 1300 kg

<http://www.nasa.gov/centers/dryden/aircraft/ER-2/index.html>



WB-57 NASA Johnson Space Flight Center:

60,000 ft

Range: 4000 km

Endurance : 8 hrs

Payload: 3000 kg

<http://www.JSC-aircraft-ops.jsc.nasa.gov/wb57/index.html>



PROTEUS Northrop Grumman Corp.:

55,000 ft

Range: 4000 km

Endurance : 8 hrs

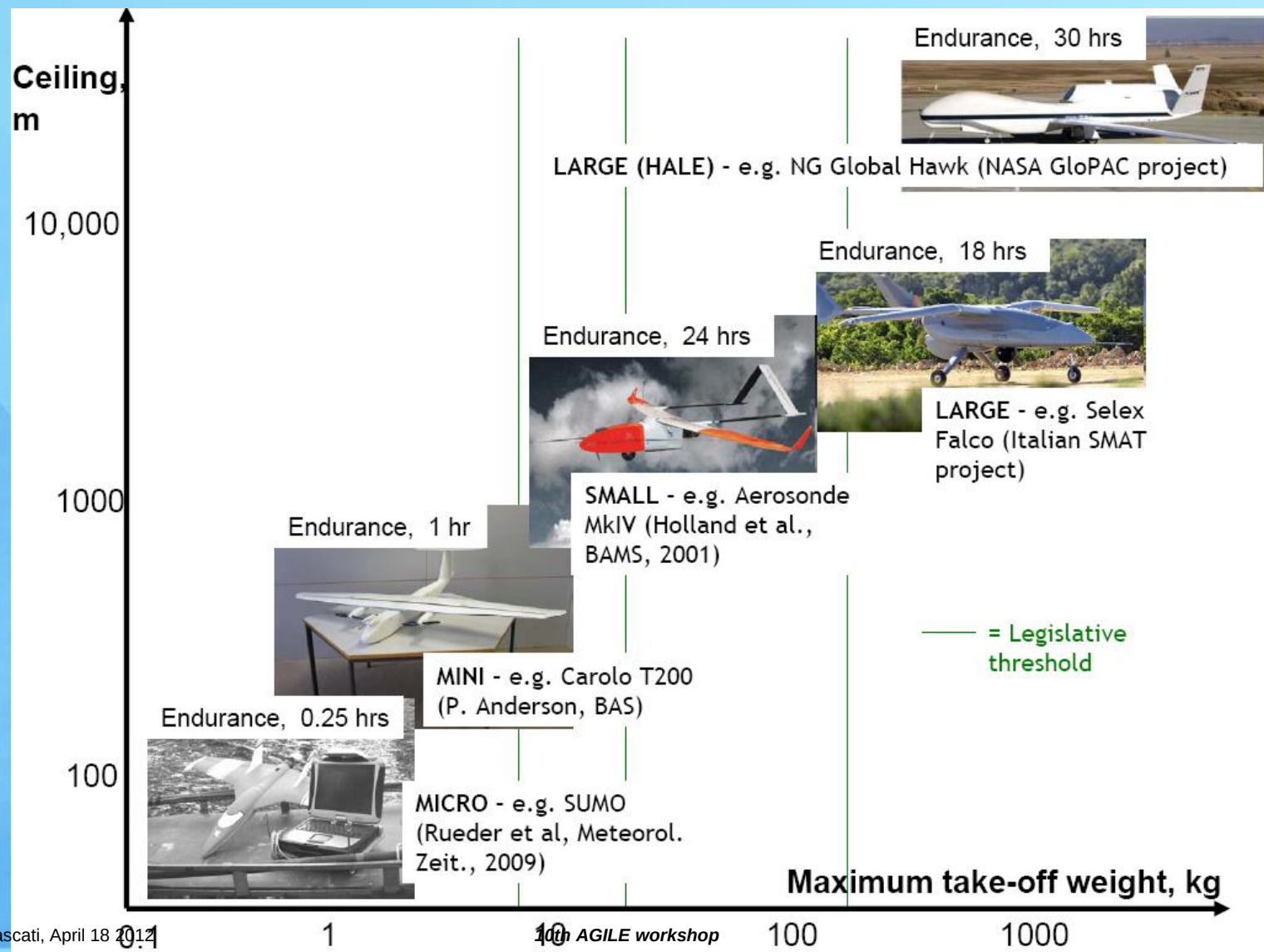
Payload: 1000 kg

<http://www.scaled.com/projects/proteus/>

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Toward the scientific use of UAS



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1

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100

1000

Global Hawk – New Capability for High Altitude, Long Endurance Earth Science



NASA has acquired two Global Hawk aircraft for Earth Science missions

Configuration

- Wingspan: 116 ft
- Length: 44 ft
- Unmanned vehicle
- Highly reliable, fully autonomous control

Performance

- Endurance > 30 hours
- Range > 20,000 km
- Altitude > 19 km

LEO satellites:

global coverage few minutes of observational time on target, twice per day

vertical ($> 1\text{-}2\text{ km}$) horizontal (10 km) resolution

GEO satellites:

coverage over a vast regions ($1/6\text{th}$ of Earth) continuous coverage, vertical ($>5\text{ km}$) horizontal (1 km) resolution

development $\sim 5\text{-}10$ years

Aircraft:

sub-synoptic coverage, few hours of observational time on target, vertical ($> 0.01\text{km}$) horizontal ($> 0.1\text{ km}$) resolution

development $\sim 5\text{-}10$ months

Global Hawk

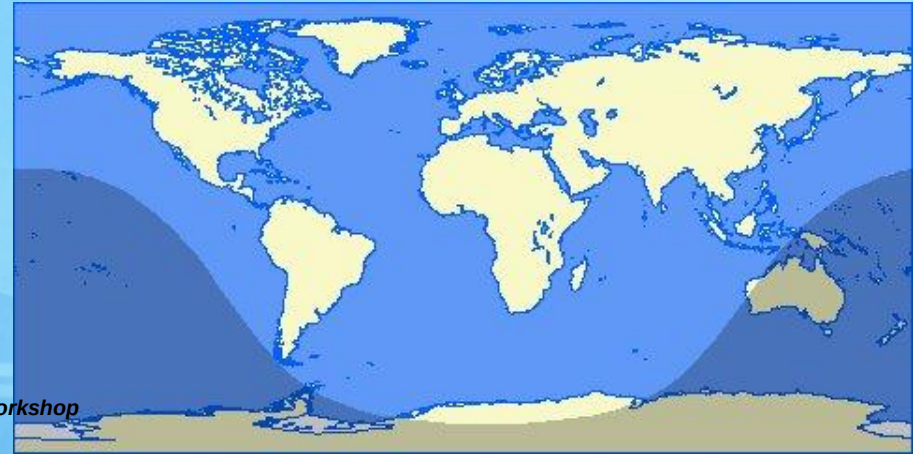
synoptic coverage, several hours of observational time on target,
vertical ($> 0.01\text{km}$) horizontal ($> 0.1\text{ km}$) resolution

development ~12-24- months

GH has the great potential to fill gaps between space-borne and aircraft-borne observations and to provide a fast demonstration for future satellite sensors

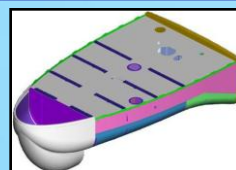
Outstanding research fields in climate change studies have been considered :

- Upper Troposphere – Lower Stratosphere processes
- Earth Radiation Budget
- Greenhouse gases
- Air Quality
- Ecosystems and Climate
- Water Cycle
- Atmospheric Dynamics



Mission support features

- Payload ~ 680 kg
- Experiment power
 - 2.0 KW DC
 - 8.8 KVA AC
- In-flight command and control of instruments



Bay Under the Nose



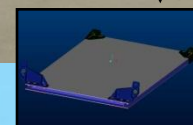
Mounting Rails



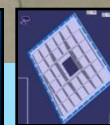
Multiple Payload Options



Wing Pods (future capability)



Pallets and Hatches



Mounting Hard Points

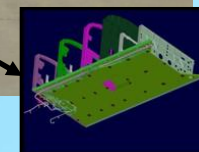


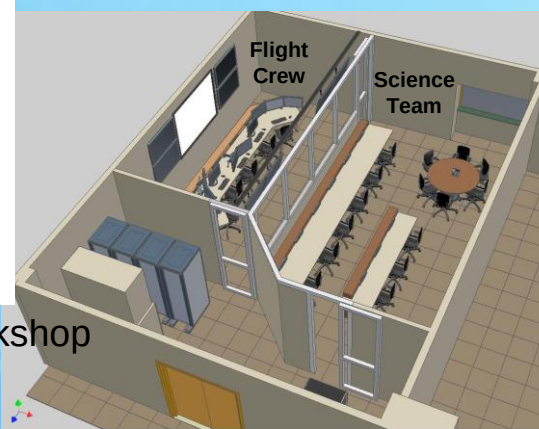
Table 1. Global Hawk *In Situ* Instrument Payload

In situ Instruments	Technique	Payload location	Principal Investigator	Institution
Water vapor (H₂O): JPL Laser Hygrometer (JLH)	Tunable diode laser absorption	Fuselage (Zone 11)	R. Herman	Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Ozone (O₃): NOAA UAS Ozone	UV absorption	Fuselage (Zone 12)	R. Gao D. Fahey	NOAA/ ESRL
Long-lived gases: Unmanned aircraft systems Chromatograph for Atmospheric Trace Species (UCATS) Channel 1: N ₂ O, SF ₆ Channel 2: CO, H ₂ , CH ₄ or CFC-11, CFC-12, Halon-1211	Gas chromatography	Fuselage (Zone 16)	J. Elkins	NOAA/ ESRL
Aerosol particles (0.008 - 2 µm diameter): Condensation Nuclei Counter (CNC)	Supersaturation & growth	Lower fuselage (Zone 25)	J. Wilson	University of Denver
Aerosol particles (0.09 - 1 µm diameter): Focused Cavity Aerosol Spectrometer (FCAS)	Laser scattering	Lower fuselage (Zone 25)	J. Wilson	University of Denver
Aerosol particles (0.05 - 200 nm diameter): Ultra-High Sensitivity Aerosol Spectrometer (UHSAS)	Laser scattering	Lower fuselage (Zone 25)	G. Kok B. Gandrud	Droplet Measurement Technology, Inc.
Aircraft state parameters (pressure, temperature, winds): Micrometeorological Measurement System (MMS)	Aircraft probes and inertial navigation system	Forward fuselage (Zone 1)	P. Bui	NASA Ames

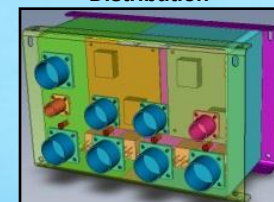
Table 2. Global Hawk Remote Instrument Payload

Remote instruments	Technique	Payload location	Principal Investigator	Institution
Boundary layer nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) retrieval: Airborne Compact Atmospheric Mapper (ACAM)	Scanning spectrographs & cloud cameras	Rear fuselage (Zone 61)	S. Janz	NASA/ GSFC
Cloud and aerosol properties: Cloud Physics Lidar (CPL)	3-wavelength backscatter lidar	Forward fuselage (Zone 3)	M. McGill	NASA/ GSFC
Vertical temperature profiles: Microwave Temp Profiler (MTP)	Passive microwave sensor	Upper fuselage (Zone 22)	M. Mahoney	Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Atmospheric radiation (infrared and solar emission): Autonomous Modular Sensor (AMS) System	Scanning multispectral sensor system	Lower fuselage (Zone 25)	J. Myers	NASA Ames
Flight path and scene content documentation: MVIS Video Camera	Nadir-viewing color digital video camera	Lower fuselage (Zone 51)	J. Myers	NASA Ames
Under development Pressure, temperature, relative humidity, and wind vertical profiles to the surface: Dropsonde launch system	Release of disposable sondes with pressure, temperature, relative humidity sensors, GPS	Rear fuselage (Zone 61)	D. Fahey T. Hock	NOAA/ ESRL NCAR

Global Hawk Operations Center Standardized Instrument Interface



Data and Power Distribution



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The involvement of Italy

WHITE BOOK FOR A JOINT U.S.A. - ITALY PROGRAM FOR THE SCIENTIFIC USE OF THE GLOBAL HAWK TO STUDY GLOBAL CHANGE

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... the concept for the use of these or other NASA aircraft on a reimbursable basis would require a review by, and approval of, NASA Headquarters.

This process could be initiated.

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One example from a past mission



ADELE

Gulfstream V

Nine flights for 37 hours in the air

**10 km horizontal distance from
lightning area**

1213 discharges seen

One interesting event detected

The low frequency of events may suggest measurement on a routine basis more than an event-chasing approach. An agreement with commercial airliners may be sought for.

Air traffic policies toward flying over intense thunderstorms may hamper the chances of detection.

Thank you!