

# CHALLENGES OF JAMES WEBB SPACE TELESCOPE ON ARIANE 5

**EUCASS-2022**

**Isabelle RONGIER**

*Technical Director Deputy, ArianeGroup*

# SUMMARY

**01 JWST PROGRAM**

**02 ARIANE 5 LAUNCHER CUSTOMIZATION & CHALLENGES**

**03 LAUNCH MISSION & RESULTS**

01

# JWST PROGRAM

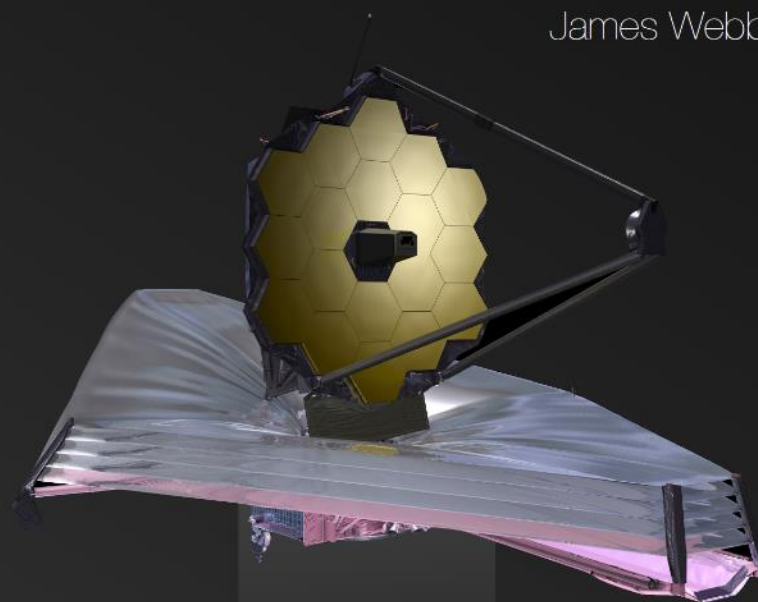
# HUBBLE/JWST COMPARISON

James Webb Space Telescope

NASA, ESA, CSA



Primary diameter: 2.4 metres  
Total mass: 12,137 kg  
Wavelength range: 0.15–2.5  $\mu\text{m}$   
Operating temp: 20°C  
Orbit: LEO, ~550 km  
Launch date: 1990  
Lifetime: > 31 years  
Launch vehicle: Discovery

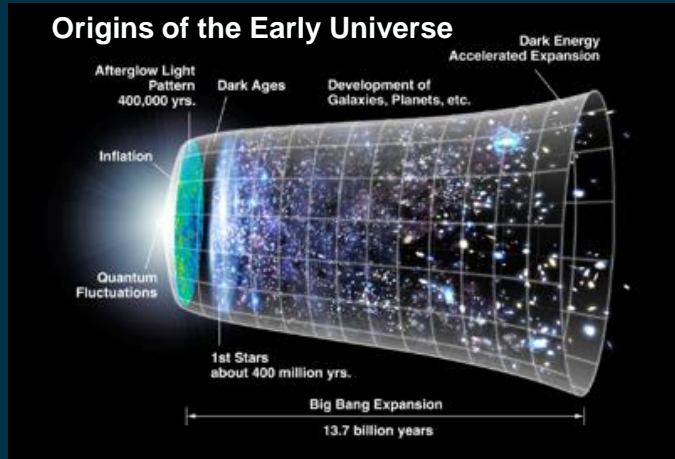


Primary diameter: 6.5 metres  
Total mass: 6,200 kg  
Wavelength range: 0.6–28.5  $\mu\text{m}$   
Operating temp: < -223°C  
Orbit: L2, ~1.5 million km  
Launch date: 2021  
Lifetime: 10 years  
Launch vehicle: Ariane 5 VA256



# SCIENCE OBJECTIVES

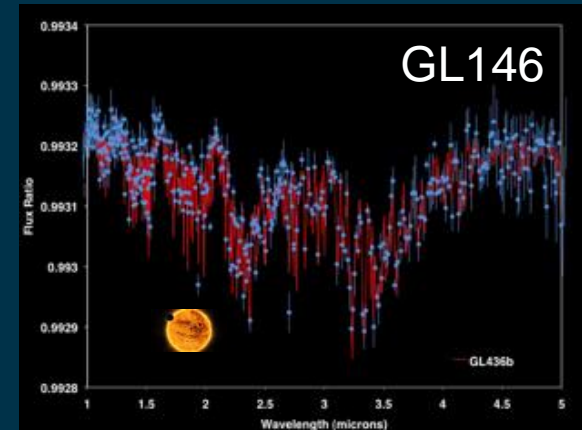
## Origins of the Early Universe



## Evolution of galaxies overtime



## Study of the lifetime of stars

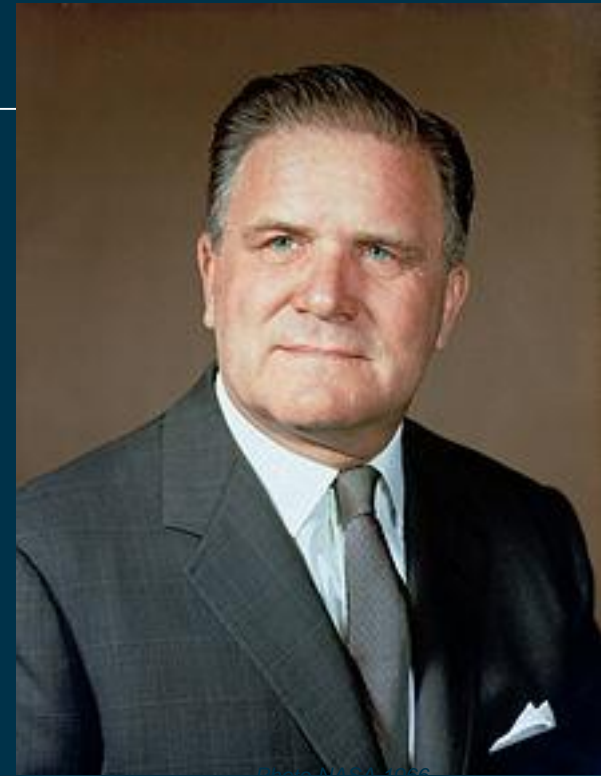


## Study of Planetary Systems and exoplanets



# WHO WAS JAMES WEBB ?

- ☐ James E. Webb (1906-1992) was the second NASA administrator, from 1961, February the 14th to 1968, October the 7th.
- ☐ He is mainly known for having managed the Apollo Program, in the sixties
- ☐ He also contributed to develop scientific program and interplanetary exploration in NASA
- ☐ During his mandate, NASA launched 75 rockets





# EUROPEAN CONTRIBUTION

Webb is an unique international cooperation  
with large European contribution



## Launch segment



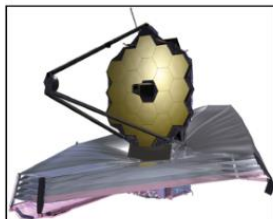
Payload  
adapter

Launcher  
(Ariane 5)

Launch site  
services



## Observatory segment



Spacecraft  
(bus,  
sunshield...)

Telescope

Payload module (ISIM) and instruments

NIRCam



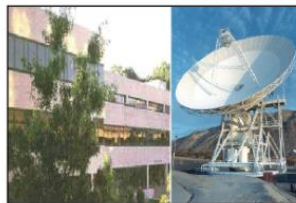
NIRSpec

FGS /  
NIRISS



MIRI

## Ground segment



Science and operation  
center (STScI)

15 ESA staff members

Common systems  
(deep space network)

Provided by NASA

Provided by ESA and Europe

Provided by CSA

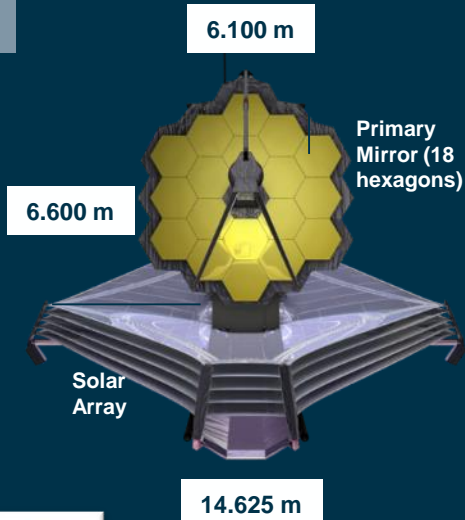
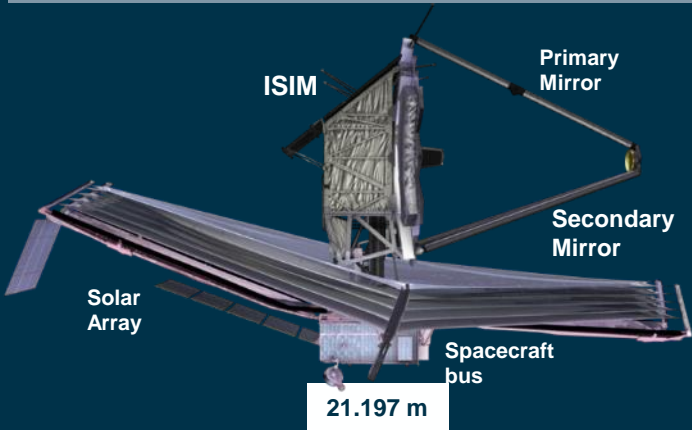


> 10 B\$ !

In return for this participation,  
ESA member state scientists  
will obtain **15% of the  
observing time** on JWST (on  
average over the lifetime of  
the mission)



## JWST Observatory Summary

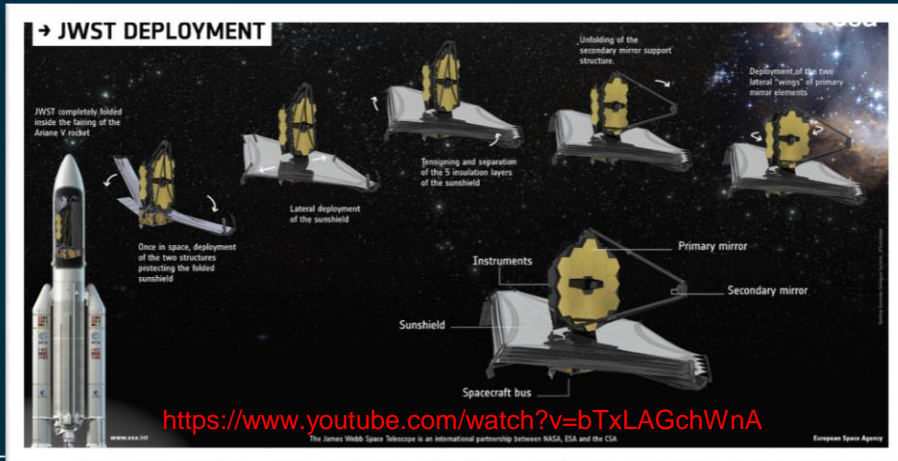


**Optical Telescope Element (OTE) diffraction limited at 2 micron wavelength.**

- 25 m<sup>2</sup>, 6.35 m average diameter aperture.
- Instantaneous Field of View (FOV) ~ 9' X 18'.
- Deployable Primary Mirror (PM) and Secondary Mirror (SM).
- 18 Segment PM with 6 Degree of Freedom (DOF) adjustability on each.

### Deployable sunshield for passive cooling of OTE and ISIM.

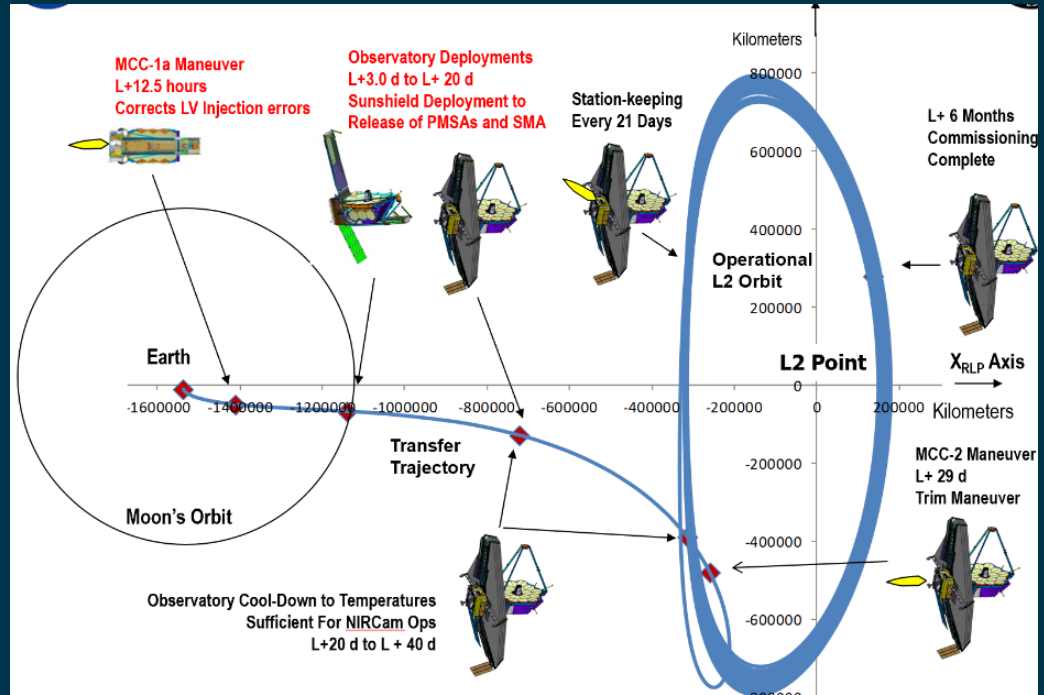
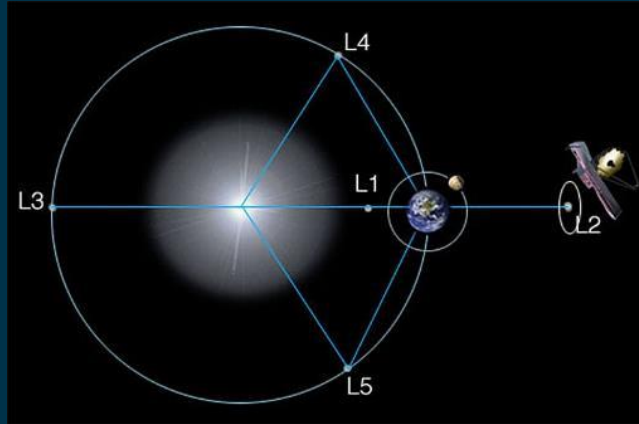
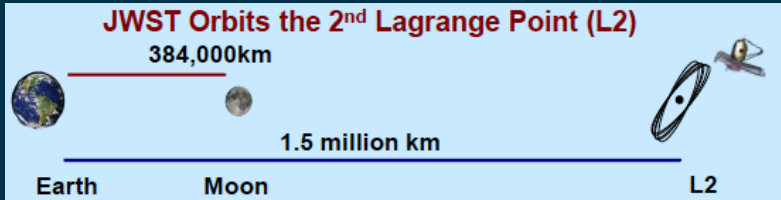
- **Mass:** < 6230 kg .
- **Power Generation:** 2000 Watts Solar Array.
- **Data Capabilities:** 471 Gbits on-board storage, 229 Gbits / 12 hours science data.
- **Science Data Downlink:** 28 Mbps.
- **Life:** Designed for 10 years of operation.



**150 deployment mechanisms ,  
“Origami” like!**



# JWST MISSION ORBIT & KEY EVENTS



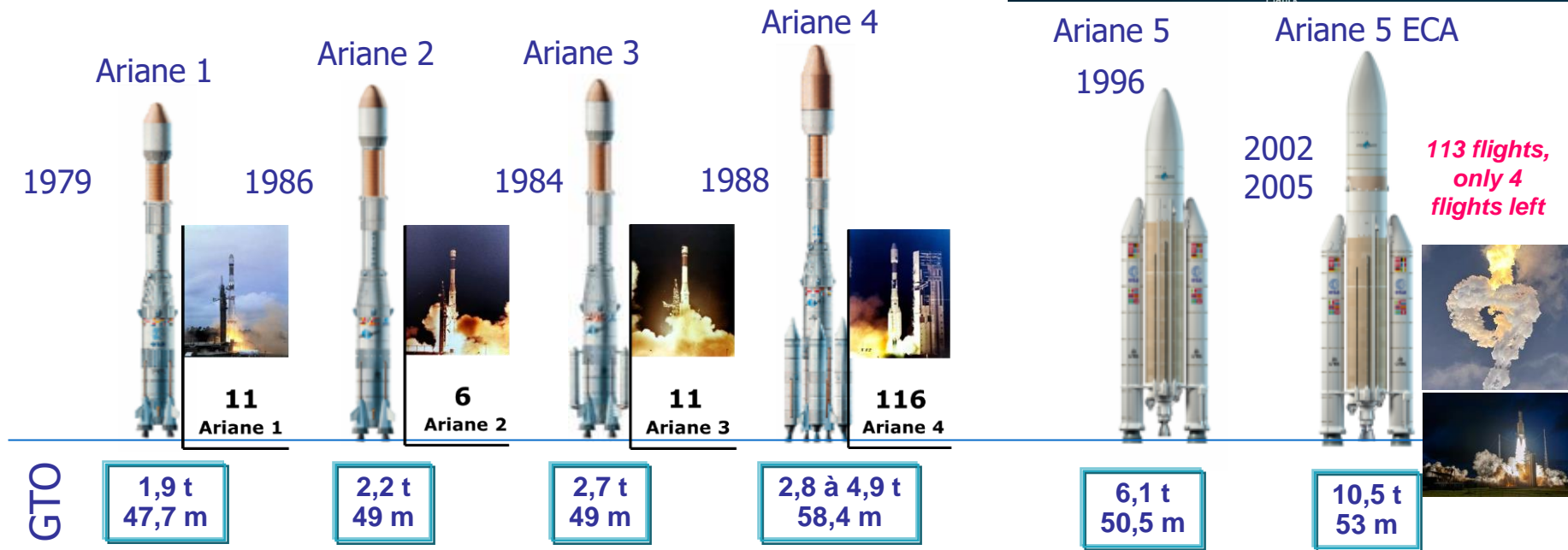
Halo orbit around L2 Lagrange point

02

# ARIANE 5 LAUNCHER CUSTOMIZATION & CHALLENGES

# FROM THE BEGINNING TILL NOW

## THE ARIANE FAMILY



Payload Mass in orbit  
Launcher height

445 satellites successfully injected into orbit

# OVERVIEW OF ARIANE 5 LAUNCHER...

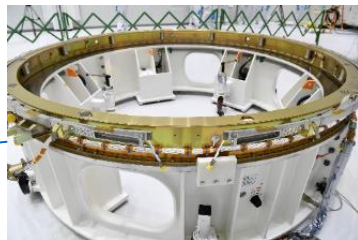
- **Heavy launcher with high reliability, single launch configuration, Day launch**



- **Orders of magnitude:**
  - ✓ Mass: **~770t at lift-off** / 5.4t at the end
  - ✓ ~50m high at lift-off
  - ✓ **~1600s up to JWST separation**

## Launch Vehicle / Observatory adapter

Optimized position of the separation springs



## Out of Autoclave fairing (RUAG)

- Specific venting system
- 2 fairing doors for late access
- 17-m high, 5.4m diameter

## JWST in stowed configuration

- 6.2t, 10.6m high, 4.7 diameter

## Upper cryogenic stage (ESC-D)

~2.7t LH2 / ~12.2t LOX loaded

## Main cryogenic stage (EPC)

~25t LH2 / ~149t LOX loaded

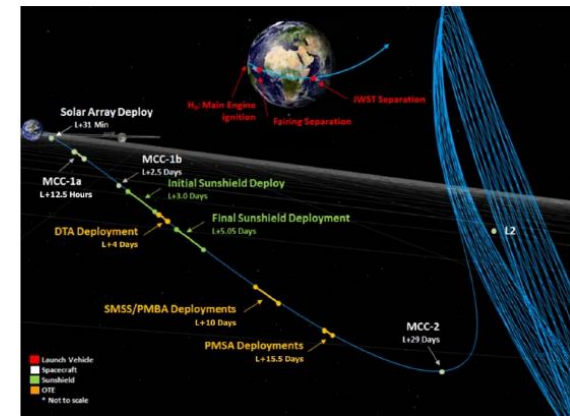
## 2 Solid Rocket Boosters

~ 240t of propellant each

# WHY IS THE JWST MISSION SPECIFIC?

## Specific trajectory and flight control requirements

- Injection on a semi-libration trajectory by Ariane 5
- Illumination requirements (roll control + orientation laws)
- Increased L/V acceleration
- Specific mass/centering/inertia configuration
- **Specific maneuver (End Of Life Manoeuvre) performed after JWST separation to ensure escape (space debris mitigation)**



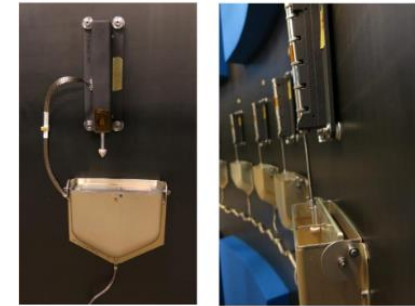
## Sensitivity to pressure inside the fairing

- **Specific venting system** developed for the JWST mission, which has flown on latest A5 ECA missions

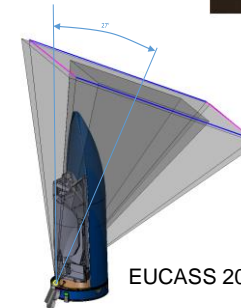
## Volume - Particular care on relative displacement of JWST wrt the fairing during integration and flight

**Cleanliness requirements** - Adaptations of the L/V maneuvers after JWST separation, taken as specification in EOLM

**For the pleasure of our eyes** - Real-time Video broadcast of JWST separation with use of a video kit implemented on-board

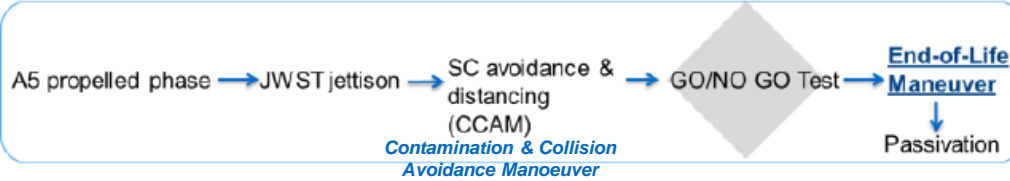


RUAG design and courtesy

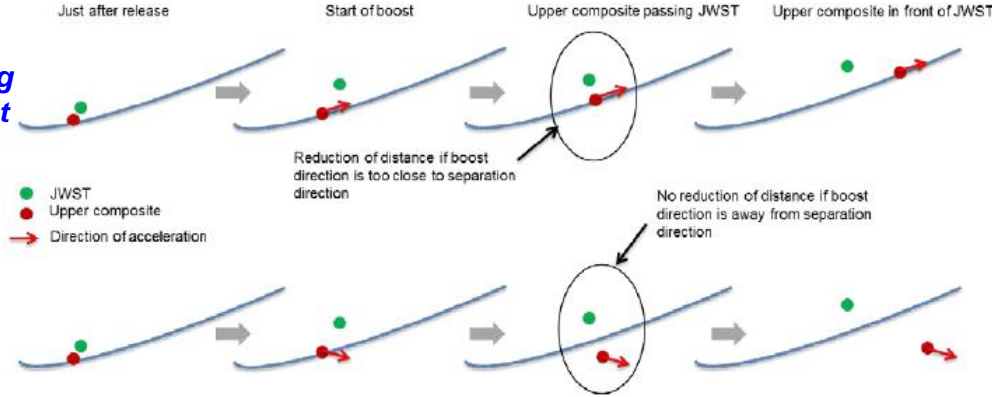




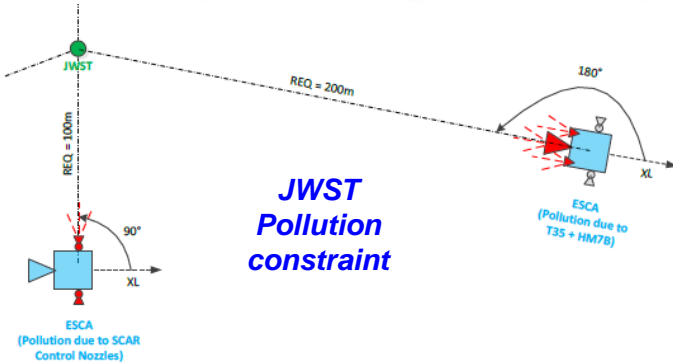
# END OF LIFE MANOEUVRE: A SMART GNC APPROACH



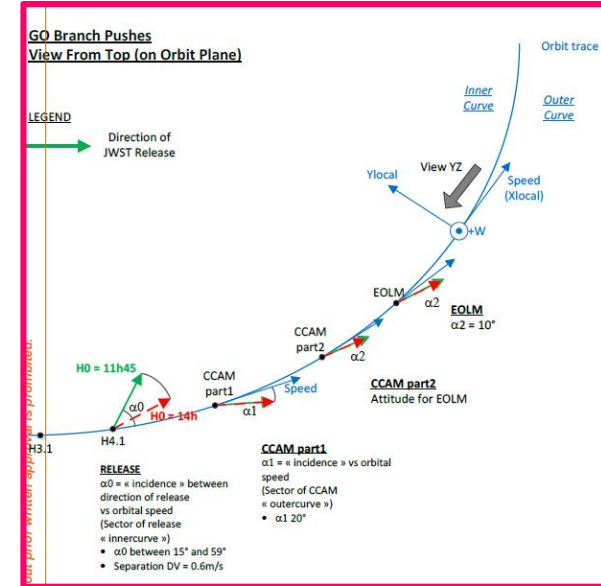
## JWST Distancing constraint



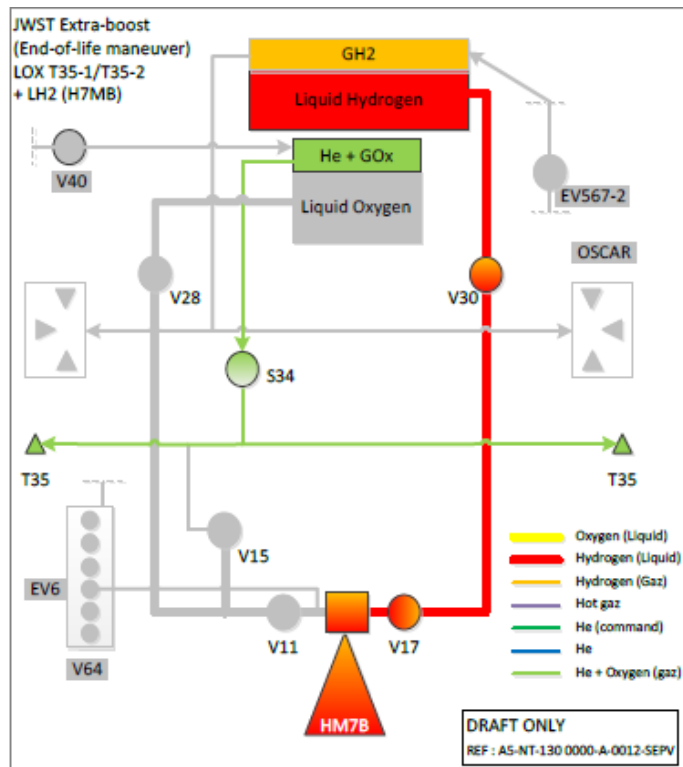
## JWST Pollution constraint



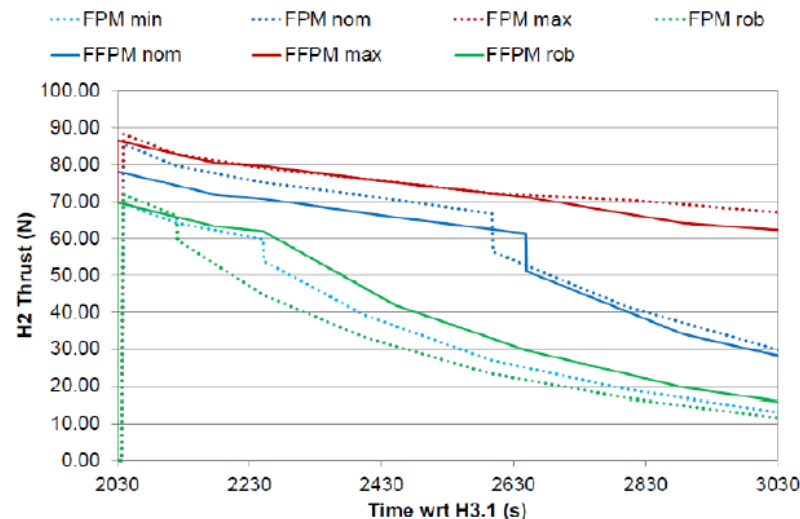
## Upper stage Liberation constraint (no impact on Earth nor on other planets)



# END OF LIFE MANOEUVRE: SPECIFIC PROPULSION



*Qualification of « idle » mode,  
tested on previous flights*



**In final, guarantee of:**

- absence of JWST collision @ 99,999%
- absence of ESCA come back to Earth @ 99,9%

**03**

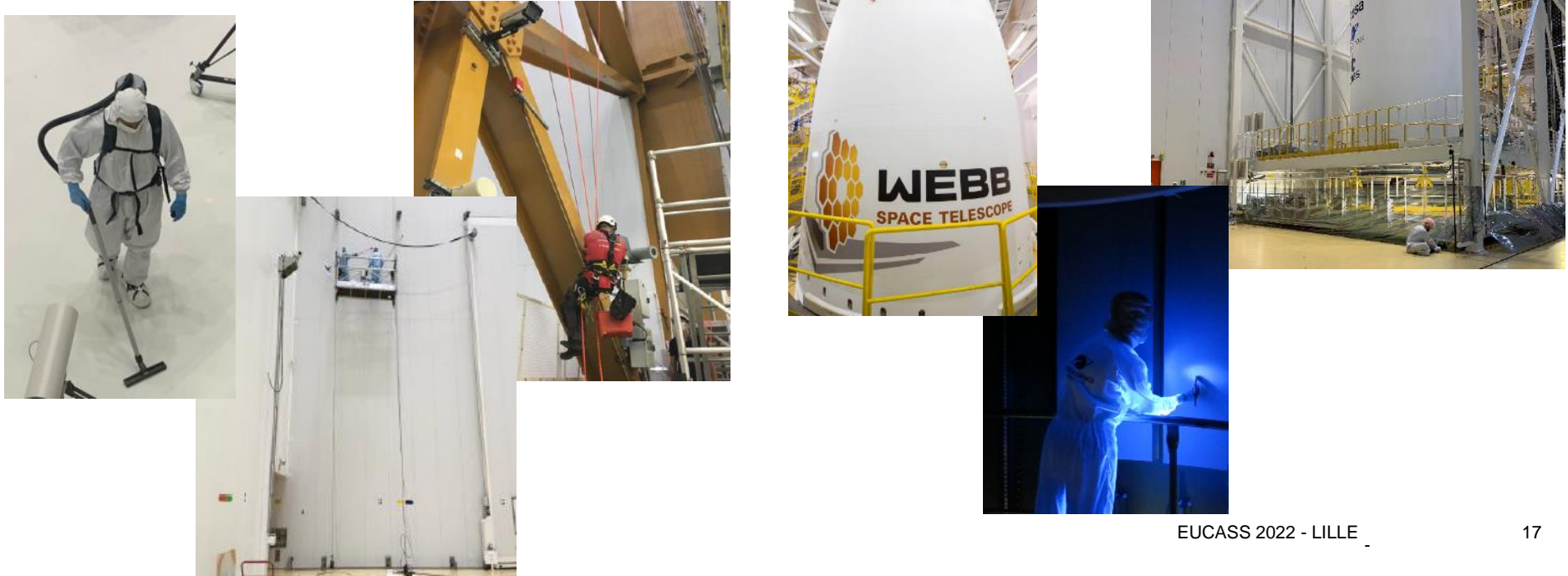
# LAUNCH MISSION

# SPECIFIC ADJUSTMENTS : CLEANLINESS

**ESA, NASA, ARIANESPACE and CNES teams ensure an adequate environment for JWST: specific cleanliness rules, special garments, complete and precise cleaning of the facilities and of all material entering inside the high bay**

- In the facilities from the ground to the ceiling ... and in every corner

- Inside the fairing, check with blue light to detect dust ... and also in existing equipment inside the facilities



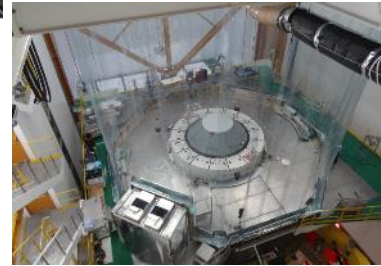
# SPECIFIC ADJUSTMENTS : CLEANLINESS

2 walls of High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters ensure an ISO7 cleanliness class airflow



Dedicated technical equipment's have been developed in Ariane 5's Final Assembly building:

- a protection around the Observatory when integrated on the launcher
- Integration of molecular filters inside the launch table for fairing ventilation





# ENCAPSULATION

A system to center and guide the fairing during the encapsulation

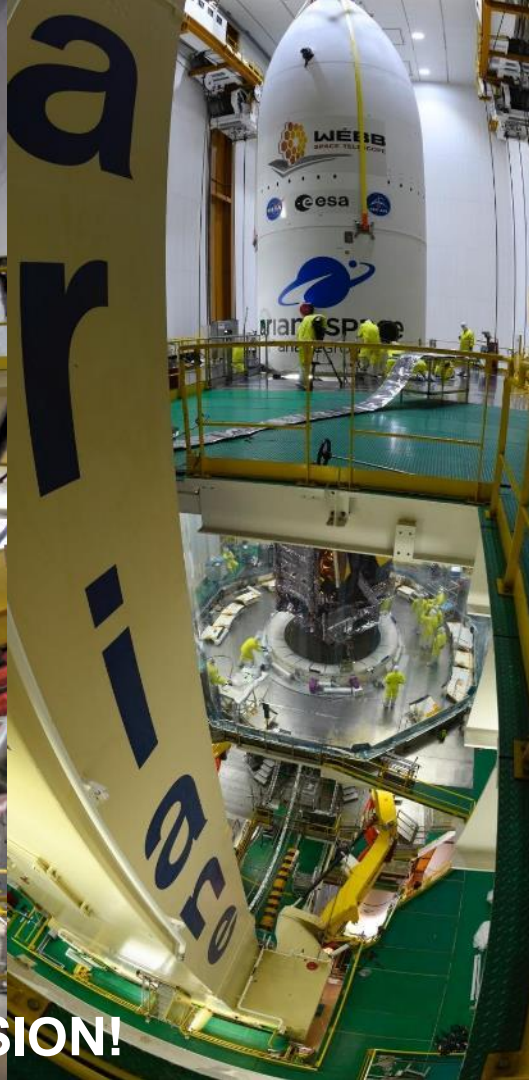


Specific rehearsal in previous flight



Millimetric  
precision with  
lasers





**JWST – A VERY SPECIFIC MISSION!**





24<sup>th</sup> of December, 2021





25<sup>th</sup> of December  
2021: Lift-off ...

VA256



... and Merry Christmas!



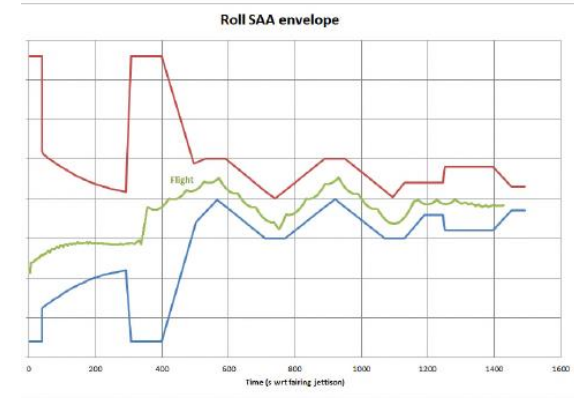




# FLIGHT RESULTS

## Smooth flight

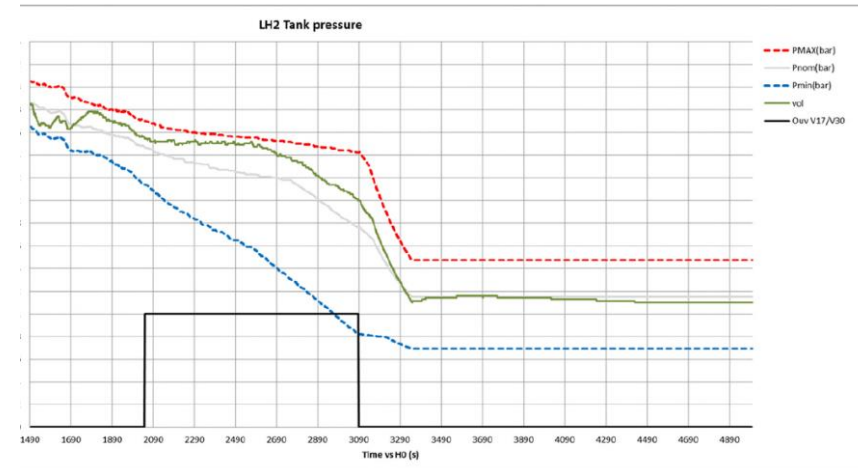
- No perturbation, low dynamic environment ( $< 0,5g$  in long axis)
- Fully nominal fairing separation, with **24 Pa** of residual pressure
- Perfect SAA requirement fulfilment
- Full success of EOLM manoeuvre: + 500 000 km Za



## Excellent injection precision

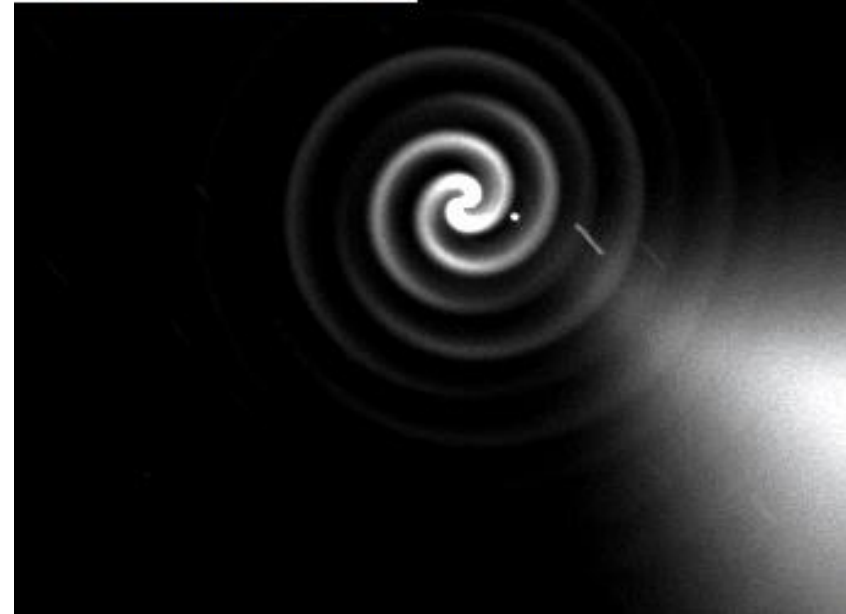
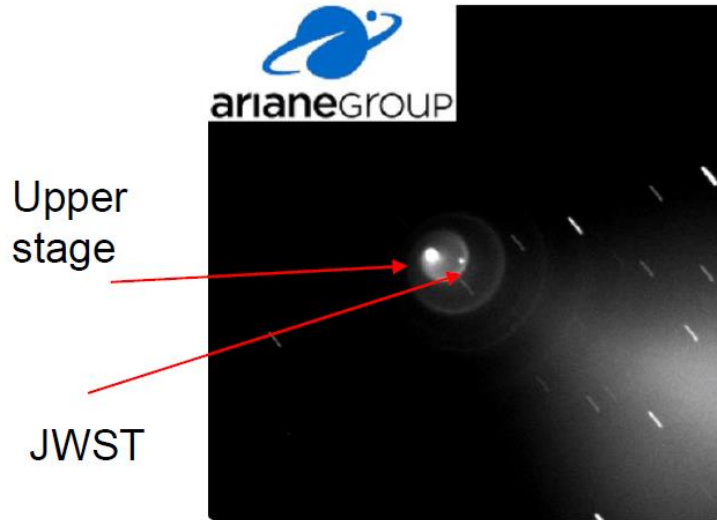
- Position:  $\approx 0,4 \sigma$  wrt specific DCI allocations on a, e, i
- Misalignment angle  $< 0,1^\circ$  (req  $1^\circ$ )
- Angular rates  $< 0,02^\circ/s$  (req  $0,5^\circ/s$ )

➔ Strong increase of JWST life duration



# JWST – EOL AND PASSIVATION

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THE PASSIVATION  
PHASE OF A STAGE ?



# JWST COMMISSIONING (1/2)

Spacecraft (radiator; sunshield) and telescope deployment (Jan 22)

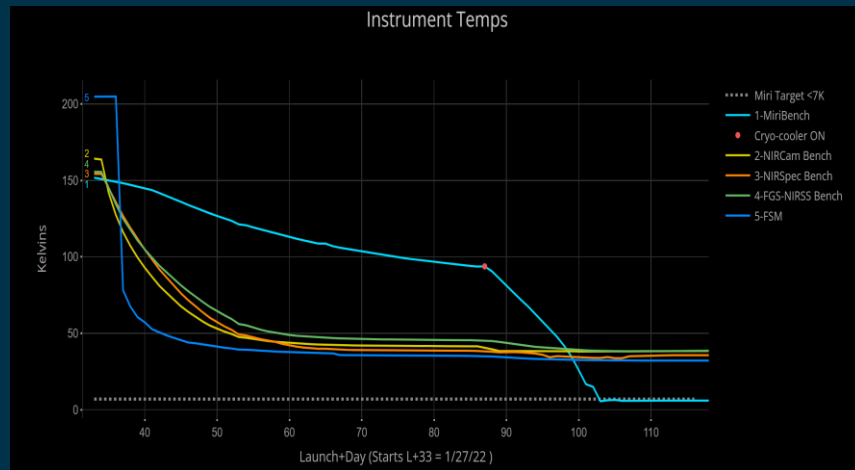
Webb placed on L2 Lagrange orbit (on 21 Jan 22)

- 2<sup>nd</sup> station-keeping thruster burn (end March 22 to maintain Webb's position in orbit around the second Lagrange point)

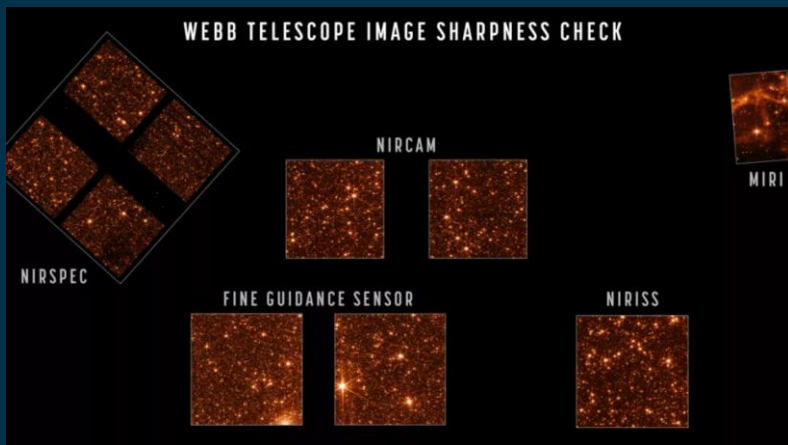
Telescope and instrument cooling

- all equipments and instruments have reached their operational temperature (even the MIRI instrument at 7 K with the help of a cryo-cooler)

Primary mirror alignment Alignment of telescope to the instruments completed for NIRCcam, NIRSpec and FGS



# JWST COMMISSIONING (1/2)

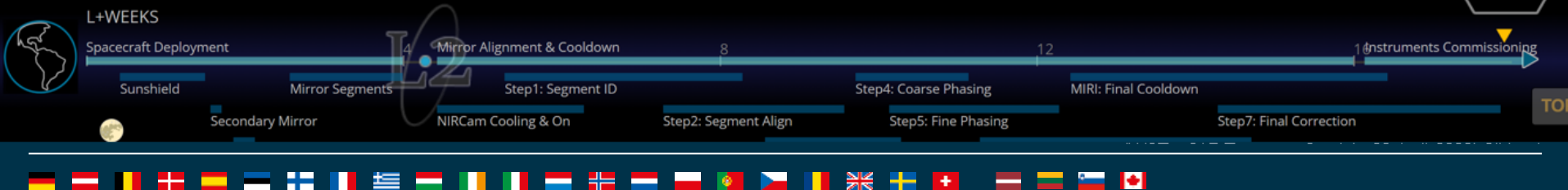


NASA's James Webb Space Telescope can now capture sharp images of celestial objects with multiple instruments, the agency announced April 28, 2022. (Image credit: NASA/STScI)

*In late May, Webb sustained a dust-sized micrometeroid impact to a primary mirror segment. Not to worry: Webb is still performing at a level that exceeds all mission requirements*

Telescope aligned, instruments on calibration process

→ First images announced on 12th of July 😊







National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



Goddard Space Flight Center  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

January 18, 2022

Reply to Ato of: 665

Stéphane Israël, CEO  
Arianespace  
Boulevard de l'Europe  
BP 177 91006 Evry-Courcouronnes CEDEX  
France

Dear Stéphane Israël and Arianespace:

The James Webb Space Telescope Science Working Group thanks you and your entire team for your magnificent work and perfect launch of the Webb on the Ariane 5, VA256. The Webb is the world's most powerful space telescope ever built, and the entire world placed their faith and trust in you and your team. The trajectory was exactly as desired, maximizing the observing lifetime of this most precious payload.

The extreme JWST requirements placed on the Ariane included tight clearances around the payload, which used every available centimeter of fairing clearance. They also included exceptional cleanliness and contamination control at the launch facility, and tight limits on the residual atmospheric pressure in the fairing. Some parts of the Webb are also very delicate, requiring special attention to vibration and acoustic analysis. The Arianespace team worked very closely with the NASA teams to ensure that all requirements were met.

As we begin the commissioning of the observatory, we look forward to brilliant scientific returns, for a mission lifetime considerably beyond the formal requirement of 10 years of scientific observations. Your success in achieving the perfect trajectory is an enormous contribution to science.

Sincerely,

John C. Mather  
Senior Project Scientist, JWST

Physics Nobel Prize!

# Thanks for your attention!