NASA's Hubble Space Telescope and Ball Aerospace

Dennis Ebbets



With Space Shuttle Discovery, February, 1997



Edwin Hubble Was An American Astronomer In The Early 20th Century



The 100 inch Hooker Telescope at Mt. Wilson Observatory was the most powerful in the world in the early 1900s.



Hubble's Discoveries Revolutionized Our Understanding Of The Universe

The "spiral nebulae" are "island universes" similar to our Milky Way. The universe is expanding.



Billions of stars outside our galaxy more than 1 million light years away



There Are Two Basic Designs For Astronomical Telescopes



Refracting telescopes use lenses to collect and focus light.

Reflecting telescopes use mirrors.

The HST is a reflecting telescope.



Reflecting Telescope



These Telescopes Were Invented In The 17th Century



Galileo demonstrated the refractor in 1611





Isaac Newton developed the reflector in 1668



Refractors Are Quality Telescopes For Amateurs And Professionals





Yerkes 40 inch is world's largest. Hubble PhD





The World's Largest Telescopes Are All Reflectors These Days





Keck observatory, 10m diameter 36 hexagonal segments Gemini observatory, 8m diameter circular monolith



A Space Telescope Was First Proposed In 1946



Princeton University Astronomy Faculty 1949



Lyman Spitzer 1914 - 1997



NASA Studied How A Large Space Telescope Could Be Built



The Apollo program developed the capabilities to consider large projects.

Advantages of a telescope in space:

- Sharper images
- All wavelengths
- Fainter objects

A 1965 design by Boeing included a 3 m telescope in a space station with astronauts and astronomers.



By The Mid 1970s The Basic Design Issues Had Been Settled



Robotic observatory Reflecting telescope Shuttle launched Low earth orbit 15 year mission Periodic servicing Largest space telescope

Named in honor of Edwin Hubble



The Primary Mirror Is 2.4 Meters In Diameter



It was built by Perkin-Elmer corporation in Danbury, CT in the early 1980s



Architecture is monolith Rigid with no figure control



The Optical Concept Is Similar To All Reflecting Telescopes

Space Telescope Light Path





Ball Aerospace Builds Scientific Instruments For Space Astronomy







Eat. Drink. Imagine.

We Built One Of The First Generation Instruments For HST

1m x 1m x 2m 800 lbs on earth 5 years to build

Ultraviolet spectra high precision data physical properties of stars, galaxies & matter in between

1990 - 1997

Goddard High Resolution Spectrograph



The Instruments Were Integrated Into The Telescope





Ball's STIS, NICMOS and COSTAR were installed by astronauts in orbit.

Ball's Goddard High Resolution Spectrograph was installed before launch.





HST was flown to Florida and prepared for launch at Kennedy Space Center



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HST Was Launched by Space Shuttle Discovery in April, 1990





It was placed into orbit by Shuttle astronauts





Launched from Cape Canaveral Altitude about 600 km Circular orbit 96 minute period Traveling nearly 18000 mph



HST is Operated From The Space Telescope Science Institute



Observations are planned, scheduled and monitored. Data are processed and archived. Guest observers. EPO activities





Servicing Missions Will Ensure A Productive 20 Year Lifetime

Replace limited-lifetime items Repair malfunctions Update with new technology Reboost orbit

> December 1993 February 1997 December 1999 February 2002

Fall 2008





COSTAR Was The First Replacement Instrument



- Corrective Optics
 Space Telescope Axial Replacement
- Designed quickly to repair optical aberration
- Installed on first service
 mission in 1993



STIS Was An Advanced Spectrograph That Replaced GHRS



It's data provided the best proof of the existence of black holes in the centers of galaxies.





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NICMOS Was The First Cryogenic Infrared Instrument On HST

(It's Still Active)



Much of its work involves the formation of stars and planets.



Young Stellar Disks in Infrared Hubble Space Telescope • NICMOS

PRC99-05a • STScI OPO • D. Padgett (IPAC/Caltech), W. Brandner (IPAC), K. Stapelfeldt (JPL) and NASA



Eat. Drink. Imagine.

The Advanced Camera For Surveys Was Built At Ball As The Third Generation Imaging Instrument









Eat. Drink. Imagine.

ACS Has Taken Some Of Hubble's Most Spectacular Images

Sombrero Galaxy • M104



Hubble Heritage

NASA and The Hubble Heritage Team (AURA/STScI) • Hubble Space Telescope ACS • STScI-PRC03-28



WFC3 Will Be The Primary Imaging Instrument After 2008



- It provides both visible and near infrared access
- It uses the most modern detectors available to astronomers
- Collaboration between Ball and NASA GSFC



COS Will Be The Most Sensitive UV Spectrograph Ever Flown



- It will replace COSTAR
- It will record spectra of faint quasars, and study the intergalactic medium along the line of sight



We Deliver Fully Qualified Hardware to NASA







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Astronauts Train Underwater To Simulate Weightlessness





Eat. Drink. Imagine.

Astronauts Work In Pairs To Carry Out The Servicing Tasks





EVA Astronauts Install New Equipment







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HST's Scientific Mission Includes All Areas Of Astronomical Research



Mars

June 26, 2001 43 million miles



Eat. Drink. Imagine.

The Aurorae of Jupiter and Saturn







Saturn Aurora HST • STIS PRC98-05 • ST Scl OPO • January 7, 1998 • J. Trauger (JPL) and NASA

The Earth's aurora

(not Hubble pictures)





As seen from the shuttle. As seen from Fairbanks AK. We can now study several examples of the interaction of a planet with its star.





Star Formation Is An Important Field Of Study



Our sun probably formed 4.5 billion years ago in a cluster that has since dispersed.



The Orion Nebula Is A Nearby Region Where New Stars Are Forming

Hubble has discovered the raw material from which planetary systems may form around more than 150 young stars.



Edge-On Protoplanetary Disk Orion Nebula PRC95-45c · ST Scl OPO · November 20, 1995 M. J. McCaughrean (MPIA), C. R. O'Dell (Rice University), NASA





Many Stars Eject Matter Into Space In Their Old Age



Globular Clusters Contain Some Of The Oldest Stars Globular Cluster MIS

May have been first objects to form as the universe cooled after the Big Bang

They appear to be about 13 billion years old

About 100000 stars

Several hundred near our Milky Way galaxy



NASA and The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA) · Hubble Space Telescope WFPC2 · STScI-PRC00-2



Eat. Drink. Imagine.

Galaxies May Contain 100 Billion Stars



We are part of the Milky Way galaxy. We are about 2/3 of the way out from the center, near the inner edge of a spiral arm. One 'lap' takes about 250 million years!





Galaxies Interacted With Each Other When The Universe Was Younger And Smaller



The Mice • Interacting Galaxies NGC 4676

HST • ACS

NASA, H. Ford (JHU), G. Illingworth (UCSC/LO), M. Clampin (STScl), G. Hartig (STScl) and the ACS Science Team STScl-PRC02-11d



Eat. Drink. Imagine.

There Are Billions Of Galaxies In The Universe



Galaxy Cluster Abell 2218 NASA, A. Fruchter and the ERO Team (STScl, ST-ECF) • STScl-PRC00-08 HST • WFPC2



Eat. Drink. Imagine.

The Hubble Deep Field Discovered Very Distant Galaxies

2 weeks of exposure time

galaxies are several billion light years away from us

light left them several billion years ago

young star-forming regions in the early universe





HST Will Continue Past 2010





Eat. Drink. Imagine.

JWST Will Be The Scientific Successor To HST When Launched In 2013



Ball is developing the telescope optical system as a subcontractor to Northrop-Grumman 1/10 scale model testbed



