Paper Session II-B - Prospects for the NICMOS Cryocooler

Ed Cheng

Prospects for the NICMOS Cryocooler

Dr. Ed Cheng

Abstract

The NICMOS Cooling System (NCS) is due to be installed in the Hubble Space Telescope during the Third Servicing Mission in late 1999. This mechanical cooling system will extend the operating lifetime of the Near-Infrared Camera and Multi-Object Spectrometer (NICMOS) instrument which was installed during the last servicing mission in February 1997. This will be the first space application for a high-capacity (10 W cooling), reverse Brayton cycle mechanical cryogenic cooler. Development is on track for a demonstration STS flight in late 1998.