



9022 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCcam Persistence Characterization

Cycle: 4, Proposal Category: CAL/NIRCAM

INVESTIGATORS

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OBSERVATIONS

<i>Folder</i>	<i>Observation</i>	<i>Label</i>	<i>Observing Template</i>	<i>Science Target</i>
Observation Folder				
	1	Module A - Sub160	NIRCcam Engineering Imaging	(1) JUPITER
	2	Module A - Sub320	NIRCcam Engineering Imaging	(1) JUPITER
	3	Module B - Sub160	NIRCcam Engineering Imaging	(1) JUPITER
	4	Post-illumination darks	NIRCcam Dark	NONE
	5	Module A - Sub160	NIRCcam Engineering Imaging	(1) JUPITER
	6	Module A - Sub320	NIRCcam Engineering Imaging	(1) JUPITER
	7	Module B - Sub320	NIRCcam Engineering Imaging	(1) JUPITER
	8	Post-illumination darks	NIRCcam Dark	NONE
	9	Residual persistence check	NIRCcam Dark	NONE

ABSTRACT

This program characterizes NIRCam persistence (latent images) and checks for changes since ground, Cycle 1 and 3 calibration persistence analysis. Persistence is significant in NIRCam detectors, and its characterization needs to be improved. This measurement strategy involves capturing images of Jupiter on both modules, ensuring coverage across all four SW detectors while enabling efficient well saturation. The imaging sequence includes exposures on Module A followed by Module B, with seven hours of full-frame dark exposures to track persistence decay.

Building on previous findings, this program aims to compare spatial structure to portions of ground test data, enhance current analysis, and strengthen JWST's operational capabilities. The implementation of this calibration program seeks to provide an in-depth understanding of persistence and lay the foundation for effective solutions. Rooted in established HST methodologies, these efforts are essential for optimizing JWST observations.

This calibration program may change in response to system developments and the final Cycle 4 science program.

OBSERVING DESCRIPTION

This persistence measurement strategy involves obtaining images of Jupiter on both modules, ensuring the target is positioned in the extended source aperture (sub160, sub320) so that portions of the disk span all four SW detectors in each module. Filters are selected that reveal discernible structure (higher and lower count rates) on the disk while enabling the wells to fill rapidly, ensuring the target can reach approximately 1000 times the full well depth efficiently. The imaging sequence involves capturing an image first on module A and then on module B, followed by seven hours of full-frame dark exposures to measure the persistence decay. This process requires exclusive use (using APT engineering and dark templates) of the instrument and, potentially, the entire observatory for the seven-hour duration. While it is theoretically acceptable to integrate other instruments' programs during the dark exposures, the feasibility of scheduling such optimization appears low. Sequencing will begin by:

Illuminated exposure (Jupiter):

1. ModuleA(SUB160) -> (F200W + F410M, 6 Groups) -> (F150W + F277W, 6 Groups) ->

a) First filter pair will provide a lower count rate, paired with Sub160 allows several groups to measure the count rate before saturation

b) Second filter pair is a higher count rate, and allows for one group before saturation. This will define scaling from (F200W-> F150W and F410M -> F277W)

2. ModuleA(SUB320) -> (F200W + F410M, 4 Groups) -> (F150W + F277W, 1000 Groups)->

JWST Proposal 9022 (Created: Monday, April 27, 2026, 2:00:10PM Eastern Standard Time) - Overview

- a) First filter pairs will provide one group before saturation, so the count rate can still be measured. This will also expose a much larger portion of the planets disk.
 - b) Scaling factors derived from Obs 1 are used to compute the fluence for (F150W + F277W, 1000 Groups)
3. ModuleB(SUB320) -> (F150W + F277W, 1000 INTS) ->
- a) Scaling factors derived from Obs 1 are used to compute the fluence for (F150W + F277W, 1000 Groups)

Following the illuminated exposure, three set of darks can be taken:

- 1) First, BRIGHT1 integrations for all detectors; this must be limited to 10 groups each and will be used to capture the initial strong decay of persistence.
 - 2) Second, SHALLOW4 integrations with 10 groups. The first integration, starting after the BRIGHT1 set, captures the more typical case: a delay of a few tens of seconds corresponds to the time needed to dither the telescope.
 - 3) Third, a longer exposure made of 7 MEDIUM8 integrations with 10 groups moving to longer times the persistence becomes lower.
- During the darks the telescope can be moved around.

Proposal 9022 - Targets - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCcam Persistence Characterization

Solar System Targets	#	Name	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	(1)	JUPITER	STD=JUPITER		
<i>Comments: Extended=YES</i>					

Proposal 9022 - Observation 1 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCcam Persistence Characterization

Mon Apr 27 19:00:10 GMT 2026

Observation	<p>Proposal 9022, Observation 1: Module A - Sub160</p> <p>Diagnostic Status: Warning</p> <p>Observing Template: NIRCcam Engineering Imaging</p>											
	<p>(Visit 1:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.</p> <p>(Module A - Sub160 (Obs 1)) Informational (Form): The Visit Planner and Spike may produce different schedulability results.</p>											
Diagnostics												
Solar System Targets	#	Name	Level 1	Level 2				Level 3				
	(1)	JUPITER	STD=JUPITER									
<p><i>Comments: Extended=YES</i></p>												
Template	Module	Subarray					No. of Output Channels					
	A	SUB160					1					
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size		Subpixel Positions		
	1	NONE				STANDARD				1		
Spectral Elements	#	Short Pupil	Long Pupil	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	Optional ETC ID
	1	CLEAR	CLEAR	F200W	F410M	RAPID	6	1	1	1	1.956	
	2	CLEAR	CLEAR	F150W	F277W	RAPID	6	1	1	1	1.956	
Special Requirements	<p>Group Observations 1, 2, 3, 4, Non-interruptible, Exclusive Use Of Instrument</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY IO FROM JWST</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY EUROPA FROM JWST</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY GANYMEDE FROM JWST</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY CALLISTO FROM JWST</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER IO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10"</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER EUROPA FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10"</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER GANYMEDE FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10"</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER CALLISTO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10"</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: ANGULAR RATE JUPITER FROM JWST LESS THAN 0.075</p>											

Proposal 9022 - Observation 2 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCcam Persistence Characterization

Mon Apr 27 19:00:10 GMT 2026

Observation	Proposal 9022, Observation 2: Module A - Sub320 Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: NIRCcam Engineering Imaging											
	(Visit 2:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run. (Module A - Sub320 (Obs 2)) Informational (Form): The Visit Planner and Spike may produce different schedulability results.											
Diagnostics												
Solar System Targets	#	Name	Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			
	(1)	JUPITER	STD=JUPITER									
Comments: Extended=YES												
Template	Module	Subarray				No. of Output Channels						
	A	SUB320				1						
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size		Subpixel Positions		
	1	NONE				STANDARD				1		
Spectral Elements	#	Short Pupil	Long Pupil	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	Optional ETC ID
	1	CLEAR	CLEAR	F200W	F410M	RAPID	4	1	1	1	5.366	
	2	CLEAR	CLEAR	F150W	F277W	RAPID	1000	1	1	1	1070.13	
Special Requirements	Group Observations 1, 2, 3, 4, Non-interruptible, Exclusive Use Of Instrument DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY IO FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY EUROPA FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY GANYMEDE FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY CALLISTO FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER IO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER EUROPA FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER GANYMEDE FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER CALLISTO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: ANGULAR RATE JUPITER FROM JWST LESS THAN 0.075											

Proposal 9022 - Observation 3 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCcam Persistence Characterization

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Observation	Proposal 9022, Observation 3: Module B - Sub160 Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: NIRCcam Engineering Imaging											
	(Visit 3:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run. (Module B - Sub160 (Obs 3)) Informational (Form): The Visit Planner and Spike may produce different schedulability results.											
Diagnosics												
Solar System Targets	#	Name	Level 1				Level 2			Level 3		
	(1)	JUPITER	STD=JUPITER									
Comments: Extended=YES												
Template	Module	Subarray				No. of Output Channels						
	B	SUB320				1						
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size		Subpixel Positions		
	1	NONE				STANDARD				1		
Spectral Elements	#	Short Pupil	Long Pupil	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	Optional ETC ID
	1	CLEAR	CLEAR	F150W	F277W	RAPID	1000	1	1	1	1070.13	
Special Requirements	Group Observations 1, 2, 3, 4, Non-interruptible, Exclusive Use Of Instrument DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY IO FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY EUROPA FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY GANYMEDE FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY CALLISTO FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER IO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER EUROPA FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER GANYMEDE FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER CALLISTO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: ANGULAR RATE JUPITER FROM JWST LESS THAN 0.075											

Proposal 9022 - Observation 4 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCcam Persistence Characterization

Mon Apr 27 19:00:10 GMT 2026

Observation	<p>Proposal 9022, Observation 4: Post-illumination darks</p> <p>Diagnostic Status: Warning</p> <p>Observing Template: NIRCcam Dark</p>							
Diagnostics	<p>(Post-illumination darks (Obs 4)) Warning (Form): PARALLEL requirement expected.</p> <p>(Visit 4:1) Warning (Form): Data Excess over lower threshold</p> <p>(Visit 4:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.</p>							
Template	Module	Subarray	Science Template	Occulting Mask	No. of Output Channels			
	ALL	FULL	Imaging		4			
Spectral Elements	#	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Exposures/Dith	Total Integrations	Total Exposure Time	Optional ETC ID
	1	BRIGHT1	10	10	1	10	2136.617	
	2	SHALLOW4	10	5	1	5	2673.456	
	3	SHALLOW4	10	10	1	10	5357.648	
	4	MEDIUM8	10	7	1	7	7429.845	
	5	MEDIUM8	10	7	1	7	7429.845	
Special Requirements	<p>Group Observations 1, 2, 3, 4, Non-interruptible, Exclusive Use Of Instrument</p>							

Proposal 9022 - Observation 5 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCcam Persistence Characterization

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Observation	Proposal 9022, Observation 5: Module A - Sub160 Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: NIRCcam Engineering Imaging											
	(Visit 5:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run. (Module A - Sub160 (Obs 5)) Informational (Form): The Visit Planner and Spike may produce different schedulability results.											
Diagnostics												
Solar System Targets	#	Name	Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			
	(1)	JUPITER	STD=JUPITER									
Comments: Extended=YES												
Template	Module	Subarray				No. of Output Channels						
	A	SUB160				1						
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size		Subpixel Positions		
	1	NONE				STANDARD				1		
Spectral Elements	#	Short Pupil	Long Pupil	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	Optional ETC ID
	1	CLEAR	CLEAR	F200W	F410M	RAPID	6	1	1	1	1.956	
	2	CLEAR	CLEAR	F150W	F277W	RAPID	6	1	1	1	1.956	
Special Requirements	Sequence Observations 5, 6, 7, 8, Non-interruptible, Exclusive Use Of Instrument											
	DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY IO FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY EUROPA FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY GANYMEDE FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY CALLISTO FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER IO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER EUROPA FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER GANYMEDE FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER CALLISTO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: ANGULAR RATE JUPITER FROM JWST LESS THAN 0.075											

Proposal 9022 - Observation 6 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCam Persistence Characterization

Mon Apr 27 19:00:10 GMT 2026

Observation	Proposal 9022, Observation 6: Module A - Sub320 Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: NIRCam Engineering Imaging											
	(Visit 6:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run. (Module A - Sub320 (Obs 6)) Informational (Form): The Visit Planner and Spike may produce different schedulability results.											
Diagnostics												
Solar System Targets	#	Name	Level 1				Level 2			Level 3		
	(1)	JUPITER	STD=JUPITER									
Comments: Extended=YES												
Template	Module	Subarray				No. of Output Channels						
	A	SUB320				1						
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size		Subpixel Positions		
	1	NONE				STANDARD				1		
Spectral Elements	#	Short Pupil	Long Pupil	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	Optional ETC ID
	1	CLEAR	CLEAR	F200W	F410M	RAPID	4	1	1	1	5.366	
	2	CLEAR	CLEAR	F150W	F277W	RAPID	1000	1	1	1	1070.13	
Special Requirements	Sequence Observations 5, 6, 7, 8, Non-interruptible, Exclusive Use Of Instrument											
	DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY IO FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY EUROPA FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY GANYMEDE FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY CALLISTO FROM JWST DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER IO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER EUROPA FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER GANYMEDE FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER CALLISTO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10" DEFAULT WINDOW: ANGULAR RATE JUPITER FROM JWST LESS THAN 0.075											

Proposal 9022 - Observation 7 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCam Persistence Characterization

Mon Apr 27 19:00:10 GMT 2026

Observation	<p>Proposal 9022, Observation 7: Module B - Sub320</p> <p>Diagnostic Status: Warning</p> <p>Observing Template: NIRCam Engineering Imaging</p>											
Diagnostics	<p>(Visit 7:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.</p> <p>(Module B - Sub320 (Obs 7)) Informational (Form): The Visit Planner and Spike may produce different schedulability results.</p>											
Solar System Targets	#	Name	Level 1			Level 2			Level 3			
	(1)	JUPITER	STD=JUPITER									
	<i>Comments: Extended=YES</i>											
Template	Module	Subarray				No. of Output Channels						
	B	SUB320				1						
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size		Subpixel Positions		
	1	NONE				STANDARD				1		
Spectral Elements	#	Short Pupil	Long Pupil	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	Optional ETC ID
	1	CLEAR	CLEAR	F150W	F277W	RAPID	1000	1	1	1	1070.13	
Special Requirements	<p>Sequence Observations 5, 6, 7, 8, Non-interruptible, Exclusive Use Of Instrument</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY IO FROM JWST</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY EUROPA FROM JWST</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY GANYMEDE FROM JWST</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: NOT ECLIPSE PENUMBRAL PARTIAL OF JUPITER BY CALLISTO FROM JWST</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER IO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10"</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER EUROPA FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10"</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER GANYMEDE FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10"</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: SEPARATION OF JUPITER CALLISTO FROM JWST GREATER THAN 10"</p> <p>DEFAULT WINDOW: ANGULAR RATE JUPITER FROM JWST LESS THAN 0.075</p>											

Proposal 9022 - Observation 8 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCcam Persistence Characterization

Mon Apr 27 19:00:10 GMT 2026

Observation	<p>Proposal 9022, Observation 8: Post-illumination darks</p> <p>Diagnostic Status: Warning</p> <p>Observing Template: NIRCcam Dark</p>							
Diagnostics	<p>(Post-illumination darks (Obs 8)) Warning (Form): PARALLEL requirement expected.</p> <p>(Visit 8:1) Warning (Form): Data Excess over lower threshold</p> <p>(Visit 8:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.</p>							
Template	Module	Subarray	Science Template	Occulting Mask	No. of Output Channels			
	ALL	FULL	Imaging		4			
Spectral Elements	#	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Exposures/Dith	Total Integrations	Total Exposure Time	Optional ETC ID
	1	BRIGHT1	10	10	1	10	2136.617	
	2	SHALLOW4	10	5	1	5	2673.456	
	3	SHALLOW4	10	10	1	10	5357.648	
	4	MEDIUM8	10	7	1	7	7429.845	
	5	MEDIUM8	10	7	1	7	7429.845	
Special Requirements	<p>9 After 8 by 6 Hours to 2 Days, Exclusive Use Of Instrument</p> <p>Sequence Observations 5, 6, 7, 8, Non-interruptible, Exclusive Use Of Instrument</p>							

Proposal 9022 - Observation 9 - CAL-NRC-424: NIRCcam Persistence Characterization

Mon Apr 27 19:00:10 GMT 2026

Observation	<p>Proposal 9022, Observation 9: Residual persistence check</p> <p>Diagnostic Status: Warning</p> <p>Observing Template: NIRCcam Dark</p>							
Diagnostics	<p>(Residual persistence check (Obs 9)) Warning (Form): PARALLEL requirement expected.</p> <p>(Visit 9:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.</p>							
Template	Module	Subarray	Science Template	Occulting Mask	No. of Output Channels			
	ALL	FULL	Imaging		4			
Spectral Elements	#	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Exposures/Dith	Total Integrations	Total Exposure Time	Optional ETC ID
	1	MEDIUM8	10	1	1	1	1052.203	
Special Requirements	<p>9 After 8 by 6 Hours to 2 Days, Exclusive Use Of Instrument</p>							