SINGLE-APERTURE FAR-INFRARED SPACE TELESCOPES

CONCEPTS for MAJOR FIR SPACE MISSIONS

Paul F. Goldsmith

Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

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Question: What is the justification for a major far-infrared space mission?

Answer: Address a significant scientific question that can *only* be answered with data from an instrument in space

- Observing at a frequency that is blocked by the atmosphere
- Carrying out a survey that can only be done from space
- Utilizing unique capability of location of space observing platform

These 3 Concepts for Single-Aperture Far-Infrared Space Missions With Low-T (< 6 K) Optics are Being Developed







MILLIMETRON (MMSO)

Concepts for Large Aperture/Specialized FIR Missions



TALC

Thinned Aperture Light Collector



OSSO

Orbiting Submillimeter Spectroscopic Observatory

Context (1): Small Satellites for Far-Infrared (Spectroscopy)





SWAS





Context (2): Observatories with Major Impact on FIR Astronomy





Spitzer

04/01/2015

Planck



Context (3): Suborbital FIR Facilities

Kuiper Airborne Observatory (KAO) 91.5cm telescope 1974-1995

Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) NASA/DLR 2.5m telescope

More information on SOFIA in talk by E. Young

Information on balloons in talk by C. Walker

04/01/2015









Three Concepts for Cold Single Aperture Far-Infrared Space Missions

CALISTO NASA concept deriving from 2005 SAFIR study 4m x 6m to 30 μm



MILLIMETRON (MMSO)

Astro-Space Center of Lebedev Physical Institute (Moscow) with involvement of SRON and Italy (Space Agency & Univ. Sapienza, Rome). Launch 2019+ 10m to 50 µm MM & SubMM VLBI with ALMA & other ground-based telescopes

SPICA

JAXA Mission with major ESA involvement (telescope; SAFARI instrument). Additional information in talk by M. Bradford

All of above have optics cooled to < 6 K, use cryocoolers, and operate at L2

CALISTO INSTRUMENTATION

- CAMERA: 4 sub bands covering 30 μm to 251 μm
- 4096 pixels each
- MED-RES SPECTROMETER: 4 sub bands
- grating or WaFIRS technique with 4 spectrometers per sub band

Wavelength	Resolution	N _{pix}	Slit (")
30- 51	2000	12,000	1.4
51- 87	2000	12,000	2.3
87 – 147	2000	12,000	4.0
147 – 251	1500	9,000	6.7

(Also considering having many more spatial pixels with lower resolution; ~ same total # of detectors;; M. Bradford's talk)

- HIGH-RES (Heterodyne) SPECTROMETER
 - Focus on key transitions of H₂O and fine structure lines of C+, N+, OI with 16-pixel arrays
 - 557 GHz, 1126 GHz, 1460 GHz, 2000 GHz, 4700 GHz with ±10% tunability

MMSO INSTRUMENATION

- Short-wave Array Camera Spectrometer (SACS)
 - 4 camera bands: 70, 125, 230, 372 μm
 - long-slit grating spectrometers $50 450 \mu m$; R = 500-1000
- Long-wave Array Camera Spectrometer (LACS)
 - 4-band FTS optimized for S-Z observations R \sim 500

λ-range(µm) 3000-1500 1500-850 840-450 450-300

FWHM (")	42	22	12	7.5
# pixels	6	9	25	36

- Millimetron Heterodyne Instrument for the Far-IR (MHIFI) 550-650 GHz (3 pixels) 950-2100 GHz (7 pixels) 2450-3000 GHz (7 pixels) 4760-5360 GHz (7 pixels)
- Space VLBI; single pixel dual polarization HEMT/MMIC & SIS
 - 18-26; 33-50; 84-116; 211-275; 275-355; 602-720 GHz

Millimetron Development



Astronomical Background Limited Observations Requirement #1 : cool optical system to reduce contribution to NEP below that from the background



Astronomical Background Limited Observations Requirement #2: Reduce detector NEP to less than astronomical background NEP (or at least get close)

This is difficult for broadband detectors and very challenging for spectrometers $(\delta v/v = 0.001)$ since NEP varies as $\delta v^{0.5}$



With sufficiently low noise detectors and a cold telescope you are in great shape for photometry and low/med resolution spectroscopy



Every major FIR mission presentation has a figure like this one!

CAVEAT EMPTOR!!

Generally assume cold telescope with negligible emission "Goal" sensitivity or noiseless detectors Minimum (or no) astronomical background

From Bradford SPIE 2006

Achieving Astronomical Background Limit Operation – Impact on Telescope Design



TALC - Thinned Aperture Light Collector



Sunshield

Marc Sauvage CEA Saclay (France)

Key Features:

20 m diameter "thinned" aperture Operate to 100 μ m wavelength Collecting area = 20x Herschel Beam size equal to that of 27m filled aperture $\Delta \theta = 0.9$ " @ 100 μ m Elegant deployment scenario Ariane 5 launch vehicle

Significant Open Questions:

Impact of PSF Thermal behavior of telescope V-grove sunshade; 80 K temperature at L2 (similar to Herschel) uniformity? Instrumentation Illumination of thinned aperture

Considerations for FIR Spectroscopic Observatory

There is a major divergence in technology for a space observatory making continuum/low resolution observations and one doing FIR high-resolution spectroscopy

- For the former, as discussed above, a cold (< 6 K) telescope allows enormous improvement (compared to e.g. *Herschel*) and background-limited performance is within reach. This approach is adopted for 3 missions discussed
- For the latter, optics temperature is not important since emissivity is only few % adding only few to 10's of K to system noise temperatures of 100's 1000 K. The only way to significantly improve sensitivity is to have (1) larger telescope and (2) array receivers (for extended sources)

An uncooled (or passively cooled) LARGE telescope for high resolution (heterodyne) observation deserves consideration as it may not be overly expensive. Heterodyne detector systems are also much less demanding in terms of cooling (15 K or 6 K adequate, compared to sub-K for direct detectors)

Water Throughout the Solar System



Hartogh et al. (2011) 557 GHz 1₁₀-1₀₁ In **dwarf planet Ceres** Küppers et al. (2014) *Herschel*/HIFI 557 Ghz

Comet Shoemaker Levy impact July

Water and Heavy Water in Comets: Origin of the Earth's Oceans (?)



D/H ratio varies significantly within the solar system Earth's D/H ratio does NOT match that of Oort Cloud (very distant) comets

D/H ratio **DID** match that of first Jupiter-Family Comet observed in water

Ground state (557 GHz) water line in comet C.-G. measured by ROSETTA spacecraft on 6 July 2014 Different D/H ratio!

Water is a Key Molecule Throughout Critical Regions of ISM

- Diffuse Clouds unravel gas-grain chemistry
- Shocks and Photon Dominated Regions (PDRs)
- Collapsing cores forming New Stars major coolant and tracer of central velocity field
- Protostellar Disks The ``snow line" and water in forming planets



Protostellar Disk TW Hya

Hogerheijde et al. 2011



Protostellar Core L1544







Yang et al. 2013

OSSO

Orbital Submillimeter Spectroscopic Observatory

- Observe lowest water transitions between 500 GHz and 1100 GHz (650 μm 270 μm) with heterodyne system offering better than 1 km/s velocity resolution
- Collecting area an order of magnitude greater than that of Herschel, allowing study of representative sample of asteroids, comets, cloud cores, outflow regions, and protostellar disks
- Include broadband focal plane array receivers to accelerate imaging of extended sources

KEY QUESTION: How do you get habitable planets? KEY SCIENCE GOAL: Trace water from the solar system to distant star-forming regions

- Possibly include selected other lines of critical importance for which high spectral resolution is also required [CII] 158 μ m, HD 112 μ m
- Possibly include higher water lines for study of more active regions

Orbiting Submillimeter Spectroscopic Observatory (OSSO)



SPACECRAFT & TELESCOPE DESIGN

1000x Longer wavelength than JWST Optics temperature NOT critical

36 ~1.2m hexagonal panels Composite aluminum / CFRP construction (LDR heritage) CFRP space frame

Folds with two hinges and fits into FALCON 9 LV (5.2m dia) Mass estimate: 7000 kg (comparable to JWST)

Considerable JWST heritage in (simpler) sunshade and secondary deployment

Under study: orbit; panel alignment and control; instrument complement; upper frequency limit vs. cost

