Envisioned PRIMA Capabilities

Matt Bradford

Far-Infrared Astronomy



~Half of the remnant electromagnetic light from stars and galaxies is in the far-IR.

Far-IR background is a cosmological background, not a low-redshift phenomenon.

Mechanisms driving these transformative processes, and the results are inaccessible in the optical / NIR.

Earth's atmosphere is largely opaque.

Cryogenic telescope is a powerful opportunity.





Comparing low-emissivity 300 K system to zodiacal light background is about a factor of 1 million, e.g. at 60 microns. Sensitivity is the square root of brightness, speed is this ratio. Daytime to darkest 20% at Mauna Kea: V-band brightness ratio is 30 million

Reminder of Herschel – beautiful multiband imaging of dust heated by starlight



~6 degrees

70, 160, 250, 350, 500 micron composite. PACS and SPIRE instruments

Martin Hennemann & Frédérique Motte, Laboratoire AIM Paris-Saclay, CEA/Irfu - CNRS/INSU - Univ. Paris Diderot, France

Low-surface brightness Line mapping.



R. A.

Dec

NGC 7331 [CII] map from SOFIA FIFI-LS. Sutter & Fadda 2022 4.5 hours flight time.

Single line, Limited to bright, dense gas.

PRIMA will be thousands of times faster, measuring CII cooling in galaxy halos and outer disks.
Comparison with HI provides cooling per baryon. Other lines also measured at the same time.

10 sigma, 1 second, PRIMA, per beam!

HI from THINGS VLA sur



HerMES Lockman Survey Field with Herschel SPIRE: 250, 350, 500 microns S. Oliver, J. Bock et al.

Every pixel in the map has emission Dusty galaxies at redshifts of ~1 to ~3 – the peak of cosmic star formation history.



Low-resolution spectroscopy with PRIMA





Low-resolution spectroscopy with PRIMA





Wideband Survey Spectroscopy with the PRIMA



Key requirements

- Modest resolving power. Most important attribute is detecting lines, so looking at integrated line sensitivity. Sensitivity dependence on resolving power is modest, but resolving power drives mass and pixel count.
- Large spatial coverage (limited by practicalities such as mass / size and array format)
- Also require ability to go deep on single objects when necessary.
- → Drives us to wideband, R~200 long-slit grating modules.
- Wavelength coverage under study. Longer is larger.

Alexandra Pope (for Origins, but same idea) ⁹ JpL

Low-resolution spectroscopy with PRIMA





Low-resolution spectroscopy with PRIMA











0.25 deg





PRIMA

THE PROBE FAR-INFRARED MISSION FOR ASTROPHYSICS

A community-driven general-observer-accessible far-IR-optimized observatory for 2030.

- JPL implementation lead, GSFC key contributions.
- International partnerships in development. ٠
- A cryogenic telescope with a target aperture of 2-3 meters.

Science and hardware formulation underway – inputs welcome.

Potential instrumentation capabilities:

Imaging / Polarimetry: ~10 to 300 µm

• Mapping speed: ~10 $\left(\frac{\text{deg}^2}{\text{hour}}\right) \left(\frac{F}{1 \text{ mJy}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{\text{SNR}}\right)^2$ (Extragalactic confusion limited for λ >70 µm).

Base low-resolution spectroscopy w/ wideband gratings: ~25 to 330 µm.

- Resolving power 60 to 250.
- Unprecedented line surface brightness sensitivity (bottom center figure).
- Spectral-line sensitivity when pointed: 5σ , 1 hour of $5x10^{-20}$ to $2x10^{-19}$ W/m² (top right).
- Full instantaneous coverage of at least one ~octave bandwidth spectrometer band at a time, multiple bands simultaneously on source is a goal.
- Mapping speed: 10⁻¹ to 10⁻⁴ sq degrees per hour to 3x10⁻¹⁹ W/m² (bottom right figure).



same 25-330 µm band.

- Available resolving power: up to 5000-8000.
- Sensitivity range: 5σ , 1 hour of 10^{-19} to $2x10^{-18}$ W/m² per spectral resolution element (or unresolved line).
- Mapping speed in medium-res mode: modest, to be determined, depends on R desired.

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 10^{-17}

 10^{-1}

10⁻¹⁹

10⁻²⁰

 5σ 1-hour Line Sensitivity [W/m²]



Slit spectrometer maps to 2-D array with spatial & spectral dimensions

Slit: 1 x N beams on the sky. N > 30. Circles indicate individual detector power patterns on the sky

Spatial direction e.g. 10 arcminutes at 100 microns

Spectral direction: e.g. 70-120 microns in 100 bins

Slit spectrometer maps to 2-D array with spatial & spectral dimensions



Key Enabling Technology is Detector Arrays

Sensitive detectors for the far-IR have no commercial providers – must be build by science / technology community

JPL and NASA have invested over the last 2 aecades – now paying dividends.



Bolometer arrays for the microwave background work. Fielded on the ground and in balloons. Here 512 total pixels Works great, but PRIMA requires greater sensitivity & number_{4/12/22}



Example devices built for far-IR space sensitivities.

Sensitive Far-IR Detectors:

- Use superconductivity in one form or another
- Operate at temperatures of 50, 100 m Kated
- Require microdevices fabrication istics et al. 2016).
 professionals and low-temperature physics expertise.
 # channels / circuit Carrier frequency management

channels / circuit176Carrier frequency range1–4 MHzFrequency spacing16 kHzLC filter quality Q, unloaded> 20000LC filter quality, loadedL81300Available signal bandwidth500 Hz

Key Enabling Technology is Detector Arrays









KID Sensitivities now hitting background limit



- KID sensitivities now below 10⁻¹⁹ W/sqrt(Hz), very close to PRIMA-spectrometer background limit.
- SRON / Delft also showing similar results
- Work still to do for full-band coverage, coupling optics (lenses / horns).

High Resolution Spectroscopy with PRIMA



Water spectrum and HD (mass tracer) unique to far-IR Question for PRIMA: how does this science scales with spectral resolving power. Integrate with observatory in optimized manner. One approach: Pick off small field common to all slits. Process through FTS and re-insert into beam to be detected by grating spectrometers.

Targeting R of a few thousand across the band.



Line sensitivity will be degraded somewhat relative to grating: e.g. 2x

R value to be determined. Larger R increases instrument volume, mass



Infrared Space Observatory (ISO) dual etalon





OriginsF138

SOFIA HIRMES etalon from Stacey group @ Cornell: R=100,000 at 112 microns, F=50. Scanning Piezoelectric Capacitor Transducer (PZT) Sensor Element Plates -



- Powerful opportunity for:
 - Wide-field coverage: tens to hundreds of square degrees.
 - Excellent depth, can resolve the CIB at ~50-100 microns.
 - Narrow-band spectrophotometry (figure), can provide PAH redshifts.
 - Multi-band dust polarimetry.
- Collaborating with French (D. Burgarella / L. Ciesla, et al.) / Dutch (W. Jellema / P. Roelfsema) consortium that is working to develop PRIMA imager in Europe.