# What have we learned from FIRAS



Slide 1

# **Design of FIRAS**



# Calibration of FIRAS



Fixsen etal ApJ 420:457 1994

# Spectrum good to 50 ppm



Fixsen etal ApJ 473:576 1996

# Temperature is 2.72548 +/- .00057

BECAUSE spectrum "is" a black body it can be described with a single number: The Temperature

## Spectrum of dipole is dP/dT



Fixsen etal ApJ 473:576 1996

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# Spectrum of anisotropy is dP/dT



Fixsen ApJ 594L:67 2003



Spectrum of CIB



Fixsen etal ApJ 508:123 1998

# Full sky map of Major Galactic Lines



Fixsen, Bennet & Mather ApJ 526:20 1999

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## Calibration check of DIRBE



Fixsen etal ApJ 490:482 1997

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# Good Ideas

 $\diamond$ Fourier Transform Spectrometer (FTS) **Direct measurement of Spectrum Difference** ♦ Constant Frequency Sampling **Stationary Noise** ♦External Calibrator Needs to be Blacker for improved Measurement Look at it More ♦Winston Concentrator Needs to be Square to Maintain Polarization Hard to get less than 5 deg Tophat Beam ♦ Large Detector **Bigger is Better** Make it a Mesh to minimize Cosmic Rays Slide 12

Not so Good Ideas ♦ Rarely looked at external calibrator Limit is how well we see the Calibrator not Sky ♦Lots of modes of operation Most of useful data from SS ♦ Sampling in only One direction Limits phase separation between Det & Inst Averaging data before deglitching Reduces signal to find CR Increases amount of data contaminated  $\diamond$ Bad Detectors (RL, LH) RL is worth ~15% or LL; LH is worth 5% of RH ♦Internal Calibrator 94% Black: Metal cup?? ♦Vibrating Mirror

# Improvements?

- ♦Larger Etendu
- ♦Good Detectors (All 4)
- ♦Instrument to match CMB (2.725 K)
- ♦Use Telescope to fed FTS instead of Horn
- ♦Always look at Calibrator
- ♦Symmetrize Instrument
- ♦Record all Data

# **FIRAS** was a Great experiment Let's do it again This time with *feelin'*

### Kicp-workshops.uchicago.edu/CMB\_Distortion

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OVERVIEW

REGISTRATION APPLICATION

PARTICIPANTS PROGRAM

PRESENTATIONS LOGISTICS

#### **OVERVIEW**

#### PURPOSE

The Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics (KICP) at the University of Chicago is hosting a workshop on CMB spectral distortions.

The frequency spectrum of the Cosmic Microwave Background has been shown to be a blackbody to a precision of 50 parts per million. However, at higher sensitivity the CMB is expected to show distortions from the blackbody shape. These distortions contain the signatures of energy-



## **Calibrator Design**



### **PIXIE Nulling Polarimeter**



AC Readout Nulling Polarimeter: Zero = Zero

$$P_{Lx} = \frac{1}{2} \int \left( E_{Ay}^{2} + E_{Bx}^{2} \right) + \left( E_{Bx}^{2} - E_{Ay}^{2} \right) \cos(z\nu/c) \, d\nu$$

$$P_{Ly} = \frac{1}{2} \int \left( E_{Ax}^{2} + E_{By}^{2} \right) + \left( E_{By}^{2} - E_{Ax}^{2} \right) \cos(z\nu/c) \, d\nu$$

$$P_{Rx} = \frac{1}{2} \int \left( E_{Ax}^{2} + E_{By}^{2} \right) + \left( E_{Ax}^{2} - E_{By}^{2} \right) \cos(z\nu/c) \, d\nu$$

$$P_{Ry} = \frac{1}{2} \int \left( E_{Ay}^{2} + E_{Bx}^{2} \right) + \left( E_{Ay}^{2} - E_{Bx}^{2} \right) \cos(z\nu/c) \, d\nu$$
Det\_LL
$$P_{EL}$$

$$P_{EL}$$

$$P_{EL}$$

$$P_{EL}$$



### **Fourier Transform**

$$\begin{split} P_{Lx} &= \frac{1}{2} \int \left( E_{Ay}^2 + E_{Bx}^2 \right) + \left( E_{Bx}^2 - E_{Ay}^2 \right) \cos(zv/c) \, dv \\ P_{Lx}(\omega) &= g_{Lx}(\omega) \left( S_{Bx}(v) - S_{Ay}(v) \right) , \qquad \omega = v^* u/c \\ P_{Ly}(\omega) &= g_{Ly}(\omega) \left( S_{By}(v) - S_{Ax}(v) \right) \\ P_{Rx}(\omega) &= g_{Rx}(\omega) \left( S_{Ax}(v) - S_{By}(v) \right) \\ P_{Ry}(\omega) &= g_{Ry}(\omega) \left( S_{Ay}(v) - S_{Bx}(v) \right) \\ \end{split}$$

highest frequency set by sample spacing

### Systematic Error Control Multiple Instrumental Symmetries



#### Multiple Redundant Symmetries Allow Clean Instrument Signature

### **Blackbody Calibrator**



### **PIXIE Fourier Transform**

Phase delay L sets channel width  $\Delta v = c/L$ Number of samples sets frequency range N\_chan = N\_samp / 2 PIXIE: ~400 usable channels  $\Delta v = 15$  GHz 30 GHz to 6 THz (1 cm to 50 µm)  $S_{\nu} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} S_i \exp(2\pi i\nu k/N_s)$ 



Vary stroke length to apodize Fourier transform



### **Foreground Science**

Polarization depends on composition

- Silicate: Colder, More polarized
- Carbonaceous: Warmer, Less polarized

Sensitive probe of dust composition





PIXIE data from 30 GHz to 6 THz

- Temperature(s)
- Fractional polarization
- Chemical composition

Constrain dust properties for each line of sight

Hildebrand & Kirby 2004

### Secondary Science: Inflation



Silk damping of primordial perturbations

- Scalar index  $n_{s}$  and running dln  $n_{s}/dln\;k$
- Physical scale ~1 kpc (1  $M_{\odot})$

Daly 1991 Hu, Scott, & Silk 1994 Khatri, Sunyaev, & Chluba 2011

Blackbody calibrator: Spectral distortions

Chemical potential  $\mu = 1.4 \frac{\Delta E}{E}$ 

Energy release at  $10^6 < z < 10^8$ 

PIXIE limit  $\mu < 10^{-8}$ 



### Secondary Science: Reionization



### Same scattering for both signals: Combine to get n(z) and T<sub>e</sub>

- T<sub>e</sub> probes ionizing spectrum
- Distinguish Pop III, Pop II, AGN

### **Determine nature of first luminous objects**

Polarization: Optical depth ~ Electron density n(z)Angular scale  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  Horizon at redshift z Spectrum: y distortion ~ Electron pressure  $\int$  $nkT_{e} \cdot PIXIE limit y < 5 x 10^{-9}$ • Distortion must be present at  $y \sim 10^{-7}$ Frequency (GHz) 100 500 600 0 20030040030  $\mathrm{sr}^{-1}$ 1 x 10<sup>-</sup> y =20 Hz<sup>-1</sup> 10  $\mathrm{m}^{-2}$ 10<sup>-26</sup> W -10 $\mu = 5 \times 10^{-8}$ 

5

10

Wavenumber (cm<sup>-1</sup>)

15

20

-20

-30

0

 $\nabla \mathbf{I}$ 

### Secondary Science: Interstellar Medium



#### **Extremely Rich Data Set!**

### The FIRAS Experience

### Results Temperature to 2.72548

+/-57

Fixsen ApJ 707:916 (2009)

Black Body (+/- 50 PPM)

Fixsen etal ApJ 473:567 (1996)

Dipole Spectrum (+/- 1%) Fixsen etal ApJ 473:567 (1996)

CIB Spectrum (+/- 30%)

Fixsen etal ApJ 508:123 (1998)

CMB Anisotropy

Fixsen etal ApJ 486:623 (1997)

### Spectrum of CMB

Anisotropy Fixsen ApJ 594:L67 (2003) E Instrument Fourier Transform Spectrometer Cold External Calibrator Internal Nulling 1.4 K detector



Limitations 1.4 K detector (one good) Particle hits Averaged before fitting Limited Calibration Data Limited Thermometry

