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SPICA-SAFARI calibration challenges and lessons learned from Herschel

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Overview

- SPICA mission
- Key science questions
- Safari instrument design
- Calibration challenges





SPICA – overview

- Telescope: 3.2m , cooled to 6K
 - Superior sensitivity
 - Spatial resolution
- Core wavelengths: 5-210um
 - MIR-instrument
 - Far-infrared instrument (SAFARI)
- Orbit: Sun-Earth L2
- Mission life 3 years nominal, 5 years goal
- Launch ~2022
- International mission: Japan, Europe, Korea, Taiwan









SPICA – key science questions

• How do stars and galaxies form and evolve over cosmic ages?

Observe thousands of obscured, far away galaxies and determine what processes govern their evolution

• How does our solar system relate to other planetary systems and could life evolve elsewhere?

Characterise exoplanet systems, characterise oxygen, water, ice and rock in young planet forming systems and study their relation to the rocks and ice in our own Solar System











SPICA – the next far-IR mission

SPICA (< 5 K) \rightarrow "Cooled Herschel":

- Much lower background \rightarrow deep spectroscopy possible
- Closing the far-IR gap in the JWST ALMA sensitivity ballpark





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Spectro-imaging of young stellar objects



Physical conditions, gas, dust & ice composition

- cold regions in our Milky Way & local group galaxies
- transition embedded -> protoplanetary disk

SPICA – mineralogy of protoplanetery and debris disks



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- Large surveys of faint protoplanetary disks
 - sensitivity to solid state features
 - gas lines (H2O, OI, CII, ...)
- Spectral mapping of resolved objects \rightarrow determine snow line in debris disks

Acke et al. 2012 Fomalhaut Herschel 70um

SPICA – mineralogy of protoplanetery and debris disks





SAFARI FoV: 2"x2"



Kuiper belt & asteroid belt analogs in exosolar systems





- Detect asteroid belts around solar-type stars at d<20pc (n~400)
- Detect kuiper belts around solar-type stars at d<140pc (n~1.4E5)

Resolving our own Kuiper belt spectrally



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• Mineral and ice characterisation of significant sample of masses

Evolved stars – the dust factories of the milky way dust cycle





Alpha Ori Herschel/PACS [Decin 2012]

The deep universe – the Herschel leap



SPICA – deep cosmological spectral surveys down to z=4



SPICA/SAFARI: Spectral survey of 1x1° in 900 hours down to 5E-19 W/m²





Herschel-SPIRE 250um – Hermes consortium

 Compare: HERSCHEL-PACS : 1800 hours for 1'x1'
 to same depth

Millennium simulation z=1.4 (Springel et al 2006)

High throughput surveys

Example Blind spectroscopic survey

0.5 square degrees, ~500 hours obsering time sigma few 10-19W/m2 Models predict 2000 sources in at least 4 lines



Line		# sources
PAH		
	11.25μm	715
[Nell]	12.81µm	228
[NeV]	14.32μm	60.7
[NeIII]	15.55µm	113
[SIII]	18.71µm	55.8
[NeV]	24.32μm	37.8
[OIV]	25.89µm	232
[SIII]	33.48µm	1753
[SIII]	34.81µm	2713
[0111]	51.81µm	2983
[NIII]	57.32μm	567
[OI]	63.18µm	5611
[0111]	88.35µm	4274
AGN PDR HII region		





Breaking the confusion limit





SAFARI photometry at 120 micron



SAFARI imaging spectroscopy at 63.2 micron



SAFARI imaging spectroscopy at 58.3 micron

Science case summary

- Solar system formation
 - our solar system
 - exosolar systems in all development phases
- Dust cycle, our milky way & local universe
- Spectrally resolving the cosmological background
- All this requires Imaging spectroscopy



The limits in Infrared sensitivity

- All starlight is "recycled" to Infrared by the dust and the gas
 → we only see the complete picture by observing the Infrared
- We want to be limited only by the natural background in the universe
- For signals in the FarInfrared this means a telescope colder than ~6K SPICA provides the low background...

...and SAFARI has to provide the extreme sensitivity



Scientific instrument requirements





SAFARI instrument summary



- Scanning Fourier Transform Spectrometer with 2'x2' FoV
- Simultaneously observing in 3 bands (34-210μm)
- Ultra sensitive TES detectors/SQUID read out at 50 mK
 → almost 200 times more sensitive than Herschel
- Frequency Domain Multiplexing
- To be built by an NL-led consortium PI Peter Roelfsema
 - ~15 institutes in Europe, Canada, Japan cost ~170M€



The SAFARI optics

- Mach-Zehnder interferometer
- Two symmetrical sets of FTS ports
 - Input port 1 \rightarrow sky
 - Input port 2 \rightarrow calibrator
 - Output port 1 \rightarrow LW band
 - Output Port 2 \rightarrow MW/SW bands







Transition Edge Sensors - TES



• Phonon-noise NEP= $\sqrt{(4\gamma k_B T^2 G)}$ Watt/ \sqrt{Hz}

Absorber, T

Heat sink, T

Radiation

Small pixels (480 µm) → low G is difficult
 → make layout with 'long legs'







Calibration challenges

- Sub-Jy flux standards
- Detector drift monitoring
- Linearity, TES speed with flux
- Beam characterisation
- Pointing jitter and broadband spectral shape



Sub-Jy flux standards



- SAFARI will saturate on point sources of ~1Jy (brighter sources accessible via neutral density filters)
- Primary standards for Herschel are too bright for SPICA
- New network of spectrophotometric stellar standards is being established for JWST-MIRI and SPICA
- Small asteroids
- Cross-calibration with Herschel via PACS faint star observations (Calibration programme and archive search)

Detector response

- TBD: High frequency modulation TES bath temperature
- <15min use of redundant data (sky scans, overlapping scan legs & rasters, FTS up&down, ...) and blind pixels
- ~15min internal flasher
- ~day internal response flat, cold shutter
- ~week reproducibility flux sources
- ~mission dozens of absolute flux calibrator measurements, systematic error SQRT(n)







Linearity & flux dependent time constant



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- Non-linearity of the detectors translates into harmonics in the spectrum
- The TES becomes slower with higher flux



AM modulated RF FTS / TES simulator



Gert De Lange, Bruce Sibthorpe

IFFT





Frequency (THz)

Power (au)

Beam characterisation



- In-orbit full beam characterisation over the entire field of view on point source not feasible:
 - FTS scan ~15min
 - 2'x2' field nyquist sampling ~ 120 x 120 raster positions
 ~ 150 days
- Detailed characterisation on instrument level, using multihole image plane mask, cryogenic x-y-z stage
- Translate to in-orbit (with SPICA telescope) through spotchecks across the field + modeling

Pointing jitter



- Modulation over the beam due to pointing jitter introduces a baseline modulation in the interferogram.
- In the spectral domain, this can lead to spectral slope / broadband features
- Control pointing jitter (cfr risk mitigation phase JAXA), keep jitter frequency out of critical frequency
- Detailed beam characterisation
- Prepare for ground reconstruction from raw gyro data



Conclusions



- SPICA/SAFARI brings the far-infrared sensitivity into the JWST – ALMA ball park
- This leap in sensitivity brings specific calibration challenges
- These challenges are
 - Difficult enough to be exciting
 - Sufficiently under control not to panic (yet)