Astronomy at Submillimeter Wavelengths with the Cornell Caltech Atacama Telescope

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CCAT 2. Summary of CCAT Telescope and Project

1. Science drivers for

Cornell Caltech Atacama Telescope



Cosmic Far-Infrared Background Radiation

COBE (1996): The Cosmic FIR background nearly equals the extragalactic optical/UV background \rightarrow dust-obscured galaxy formation (stars & AGN)



Submillimeter Emission from Starbursts

Hubble Space Telescope: Visible Spitzer Space Telescope: Mid-Infrared Caltech Submillimeter Observatory: 350 µm

NGC 4038/4039

Starburst triggered as galaxies collide
Star formation obscured in the visible, brighter in the mid-infrared, completely revealed in the submillimeter

Submillimeter Galaxies as High-z Probes

For $I_v \propto v^{3.5}$, flux density is (nearly) independent of redshift



CCAT •Catalog of 100,000s of galaxies ·Sensitivity to the highest redshifts ·Resolve the bulk of the CFIRB into galaxies ·Complete FIR SEDs • Excellent source catalogs for ALMA

Adapted from A. Blain

Bolocam 1.1 mm Observations of the Lockman Hole



Results • $N(S) \propto S^{-\delta}$; $\delta = 2.7 \pm 0.18/-0.15$ • SHADES: $\delta = 2.7 \pm 0.2 \text{ mJy} @$ 850 μm • Resolved ~10% of background • Need > Large surveys > Better angular resolution > Deeper surveys > CCAT + ALMA

Laurent et al. (2005) Maloney et al. (2005)

University of Colorado, Caltech, JPL, Cardiff

A Taste of CCAT: Bolocam CSO Galactic Plane Survey



Structures coherent over 2°!!

To understand star formation on Galactic scales (e.g., cloud collapse and triggering) will require large maps and cross correlation across wavebands

Colorado, Caltech, Texas, Hawaii





Above: Bolocam map (right) of the I=30 region with the 8 µm Spitzer-GLIMPSE map (left). **Right:** InfraRed Dark Cloud (IRDC) in the Galactic center region; MSX Band A image (Left) and Bolocam 1.1 mm image. (Right)

CCAT: Deeper flux-limited surveys Break up cores



CCAT Site: In the Atacama Desert, 500 meters above the ALMA Plateau



Site: Chile, Above Chajnantor Plateau

5,600 m: Superb atmospheric transmission Proximity to facilities – notably ALMA



Dietrich/Caltech





Cryogenic
 waveguide coupled grating
 Bolometer array
 Next: Flexible
 waveguides ⇒
 reconfigurable
 MOS



Detector Technology: Multicolor "MKID" Camera Microwave Kinetic Inductance Detectors



Prototype camera (Caltech Submillimeter Observatory)

- 592 pixels
- Each 4 colors (750 um, 850 um, 1.1 mm, 1.3 mm)

Colorado, Caltech, JPL



CCAT Specifications

•25-m diameter

- ⇒3" beams @ 300 µm •20' FOV
- Active open-loop surface
- Instrumentation
 - ≻Short-wave camera: 200 µm 750 µm
 - ≻Long-wave camera: 850 µm 2 mm
 - >Heterodyne receivers
 - Multiobject spectrograph

Schedule

> Detailed engineering design commencing

- Construction begins 2009
- Commissioning 2013



Vertex Antenna Design

CCAT Parntership

•Still forming

Initial partners

U.S.: Cornell University,
Caltech, University of Colorado
UK: Astronomy Technology
Centre

Canada: University of
 Waterloo, University of British
 Columbia
 Potentially Germany:

University of Cologne



Interested in discussions with more potential partners
Fundraising still underway:

 \succ Expected cost \$100M (700 million 元)

Student Training and Exchange



CCAT Spectroscopy Workshop May 13-14, Boulder

