Beyond the Visible --Exploring the Infrared Universe Prof. T. Jarrett (UCT)

- Infrared Window
- Telescopes
- ISM -- Galaxies



The Elegant Universe Infrared Sublime

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Infrared





www.jpl.nasa.gov

















Large Scale Structure in the Local Universe



Multi-wavelength Astronomy

TO UNDERSTAND THE UNIVERSE ASTRONOMERS USE A VAST ARRAY OF TOOLS, INCLUDING MULTI-FREQUENCY DETECTORS AND MODELING/SIMULATIONS

Infrared == Heat Thermal Emission!!

Infrared Window

Near-infrared: 1 to 5 μ m Mid-infrared: 5 to 50 μ m Far-Infrared: 50 to 500 μ m





National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Jet Propulsion Laboratory California Institute of Technology Pasadena, California

Infrared Astronomy: More than Our Eyes Can See





These views of the constellation Orion dramatically illustrate the difference between the familiar, visible-light view and the richness of the universe that is invisible to our eyes, though accessible in other parts of the electromagnetic spectrum.







Bolometric Luminosity



Starburst in the mid-IR Window



Discovery of the Infrared

Discovery of the Infrared



Gauging the temperature of "color"



William Herschel (1738-1822)

Discovery of the Infrared



Fig. 1: Herschel used a prism and thermometers in his experiment that eventually led to the discovery of the infrared region of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Infrared Window is accessible through conventional & space telescopes

(with some modification)



Infrared Space Telescope: Spitzer



Telescopes --The Astronomer's Time Machine





When the first optical telescope appeared in the 1570s, the refracting telescope, the design was simple - one concave and one convex lens fitted inside a tube



Refracting Telescope

Galileo improved upon the design and by 1609 had developed a 20-power refracting telescope. Galileo made the telescope famous when he discovered the valleys and mountains of the moon and spotted four of Jupiter's satellites.



Isaac Newton invented the first reflecting telescope in 1671. By using a curved mirror to reflect and focus the light inside the tube, he was able to reduce the length of the telescope dramatically. The reflecting telescope solved another problem inherent in

the refracting telescope: chromatic aberration.



















DAVID PARKERISCENCE PARTE LEMAN





AURANOAO/NSF













A radio telescope reflects radio waves to a focus at the antenna. Because radio wavelengths are very large, the radio dish must be very large.





SKA-Africa





Chemical signatures tell us about the composition of the source; emission lines can also be used for "redshift" information ...



In the star which is at rest with respect to us, or in a laboratory standard, the line wavelengths are 393 & 397 nm from Ca II [ionized calcium]; 410, 434, 486 & 656 nm from H I [atomic hydrogen]; 518 nm from Mg I [neutral magnesium]; and 589 nm from Na I [neutral sodium]. By measuring the amount of the shift to the red, we can determine that the bright galaxy is moving away at 3,000 km/sec, which is 1 percent of the

speed of light, because its lines are shifted in wavelength by 1 percent to the red.

Infrared Astrophysics

Near/Mid-Infrared Emission Sources



- photospheres of evolved stars
- thermal tracers of ionised gas
- non-thermal (e.g. shocks) fine structure lines; H_2
- ♦ dust grains (small) : continuum > 10µm
- dust grains (large) : absorption features at 9.7µm,18µm
- polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- molecular gas

Slide courtesy of M. Cluver

Near-Infrared Emission Lines

- ◆ Paschen-Beta 1.28 µm >> Recombination
- ♦ [FeII] at 1.64 µm >> shock-excited tracer of energic phenom
- ♦ H2 at 2.12 µm >> direct measure of molecular hydrogen; shocks
- ◆ Br-g at 2.17 µm >> recombination (lower extinction)
- ♦ CO bands at >2.2 µm >> ISM & circumstellar dust

Molecules in the Infrared

- Emission and absorption lines of most molecules and many atoms
- Primary detection method for elements in space



http://www.wag.caltech.edu/home/jang/genchem/infrared.htm



PAH molecules

Polycyclic = multiple loops Aromatic = strong bonds Hydrocarbons = hydrogen and carbon

- emission bands 3 20 microns (** 3.2, 6.2, 7.7, 11.3 μm **)
- thought to originate in star forming regions
- linked to dust formation (precursors?)

PAHs -- Easily destroyed – environment diagnostic (AGN; low metallicity)

- PAHs suppressed in low metallicity environments
- weak or absent in AGN environment (either destroyed by hard radiation or possibly drowned out by continuum
- associated with PDRs (photodissociation regions) of molecular clouds
- PDR = interface between molecular and ionised regions of the ISM

Photodissociation Regions (PDRs)



Energetic photons create HII regions

• Less energetic photons cause dissociation of H₂ and CO (dominant) at interface with molecular cloud



Galaxies

Self-contained "island universe" provide a means to understand the Milky Way and its relationship to the greater universe



Break it down ----

Stellar light traces the galaxy "mass"

"warm dust" and emission from molecules trace the star formation birth cradles



Galaxies Through the OPT-IR Window



 Tracing old stellar population = bulk of stellar mass

Interstellar medium

 continuum +
 PAH emission +
 silicate absorption

→ star formation + AGN activity

Slide courtesy of M. Cluver

Southern Pinwheel Galaxy

M 83 (Southern Pinwheel Galaxy)

Looking Through the UV-IR Glass (window)

massive stars

molecules

- WISE

Jarrett et al. 2013

5 arcmin

dust

W4

old stars

M 83 (Southern Pinwheel Galaxy)



Obscured Star Formation

PAH

Young Stars

ratio



Fig. 17.— (left)WISE W3 comparison with GALEX NUV of M83 (NGC 5236). The first panel shows a log-stretch of the WISE W3 image, the (middle) panel a log-stretch of the GALEX NUV image, and the (right) panel is the flux ratio between the two bands. Dark grey-scale values indicate strong NUV, while light values indicate relatively strong W3; e.g., the arrow points to high NUV and low W3. The nucleus is denoted with an × symbol.

PAH vs HI Reservoir



ATCA high-resolution (Koribalski)



M33: Far-IR vs 12µm



M31 Through the UV-IR Looking Glass

Andromeda Galaxy — WISE (Jarrett & Masci)

Slide courtesy of M. Cluver

The Big Picture



Panoramic view of the entire near-infrared sky reveals the distribution of galaxies beyond the Milky Way. The image is derived from the 2MASS Extended Source Catalog (XSC)--more than 1.5 million galaxies, and the Point Source Catalog (PSC)--nearly 0.5 billion Milky Way stars. The galaxies are color coded by "redshift" or photometrically deduced from the K band (2.2 um). Blue are the nearest sources (z < 0.01); green are at moderate distances (0.01 < z < 0.04) and red are the most distant sources that 2MASS resolves (0.04 < z < 0.1). (Jarrett 2004)



Final Word:

IR astronomy is one component ...

<u>Multi-wavelength</u> Astronomy – the future of astrophysics research



"Cigar" Galaxy M82 Spitzer Space Telescope • IRAC NASA / JPL-Caltech / C. Engelbracht (Steward Observatory) and the SINGS team ssc2006-09a



Optical-Infrared-Xray (central xray)





Radio continuum