

SOFIA Instrumentation and Goals for Planetary Science

Bill Reach

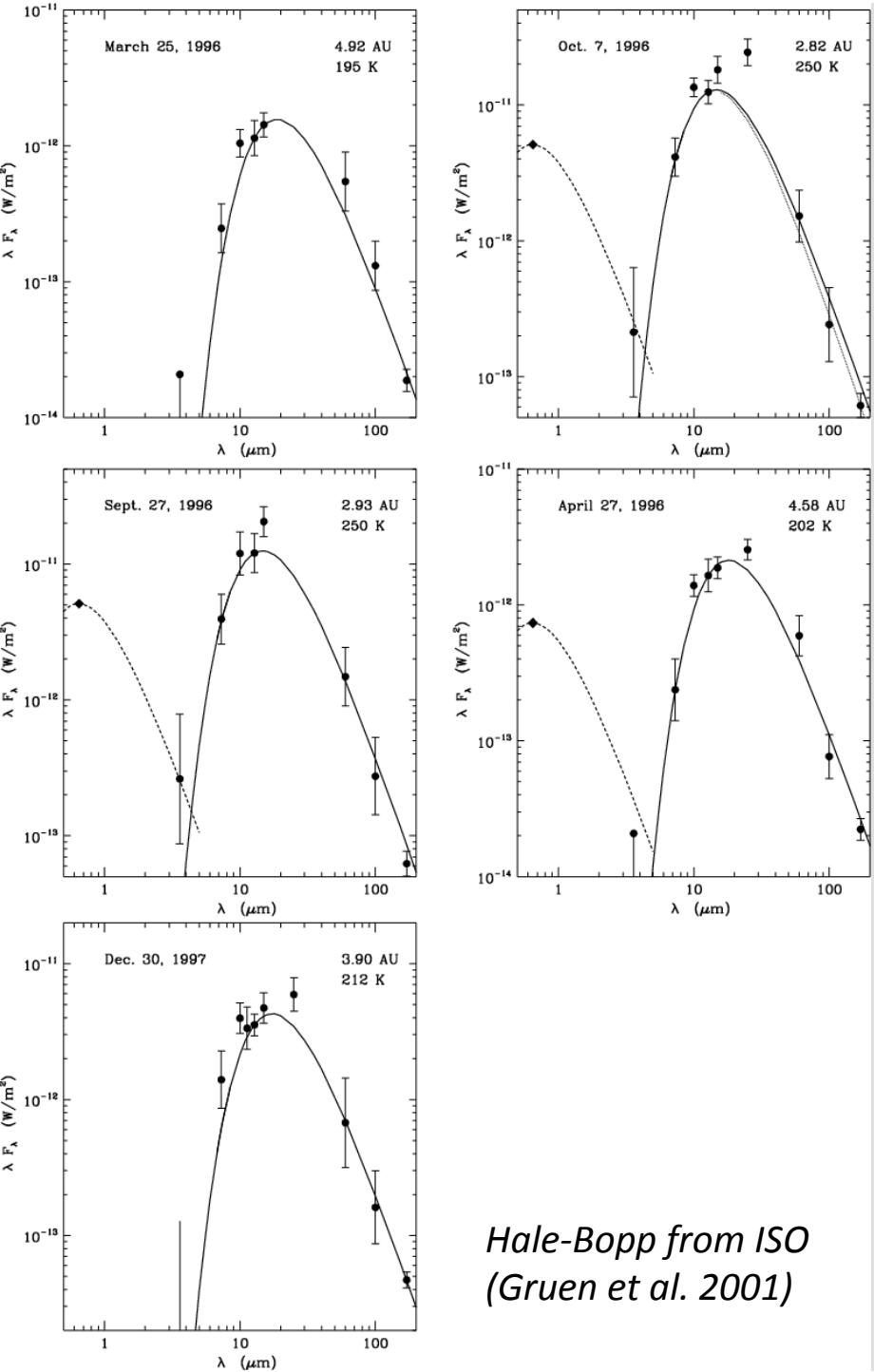
SOFIA Associate Director for Science

SOFIA Instruments

Instrument	Wavelength	Capability	Availability
GREAT	60-200 μm	High-resolution spectra	Jan 2011
FIFI LS	42-210 μm	Integral field spectra	early 2013
HAWC	50-240 μm	Filter images	end 2012
EXES	5-28 μm	High-resolution spectra	mid 2013
FORCAST	5-40 μm	Filter images, grism spectra	Oct 2010
FLITECAM	1-5 μm	Filter images, grism spectra	mid 2012
HIPO	0.3-1.1 μm	High-time-resolution photometry	mid 2012

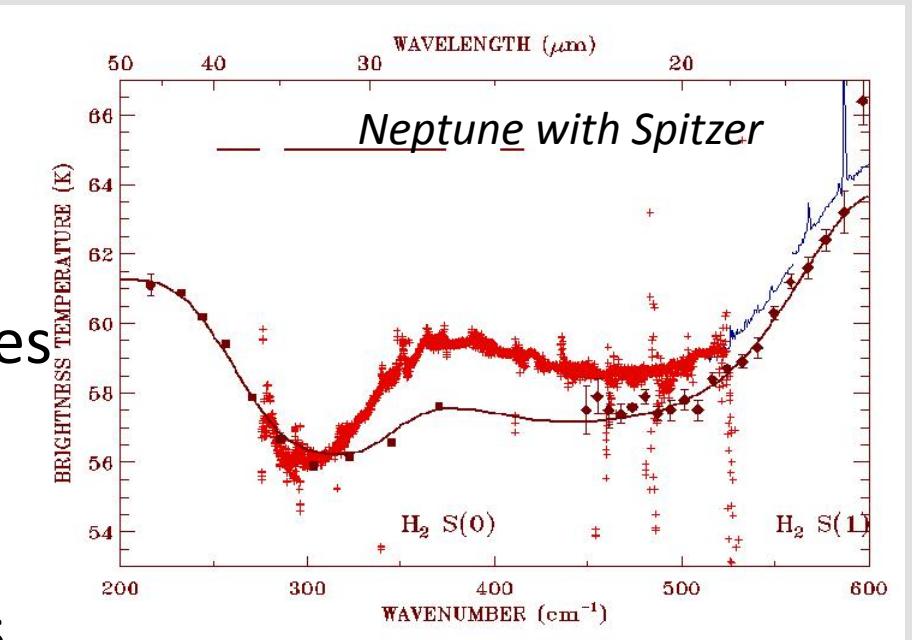
Thermal Emission

- Infrared spectral energy distribution from 1-200 μm
 - Size $F_\nu = \pi(R/\Delta)^2 B_\nu(T)$
 - Albedo $F_{vis} = \pi(R/\Delta)^2 F_{solar} A$
- SOFIA sensitive to asteroids of size >10 km
- Planetary satellites



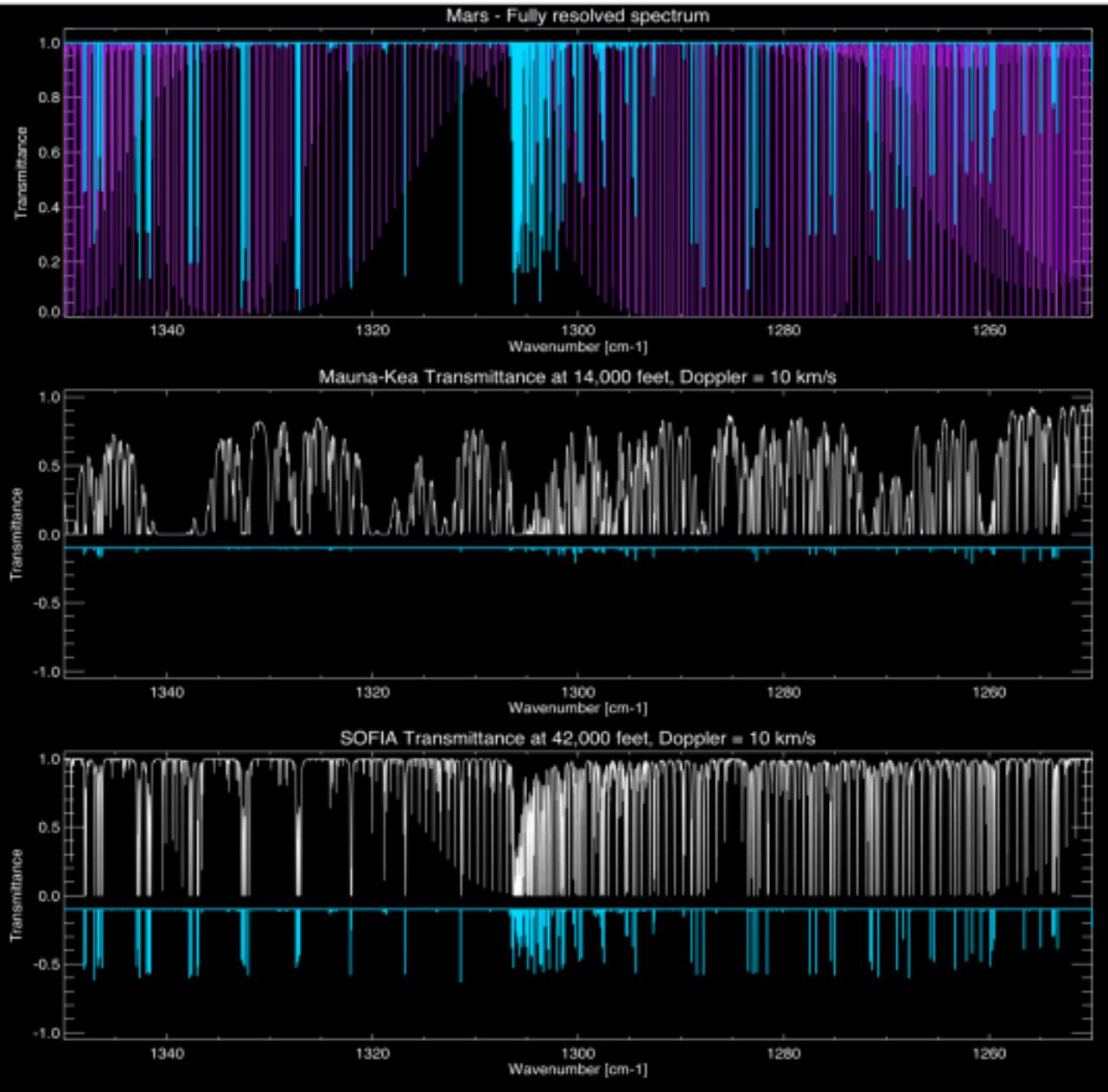
Planetary Atmospheres

- Giant planets
 - Opacity sources
 - monitoring
 - Temperature-sensitive species
- Venus
 - Inaccessible from space based infrared telescopes
 - Achieve part of science objectives of *Venus Express* (Planetary Fourier Spectrometer)
 - mid-infrared CO₂, DCI, SO₂

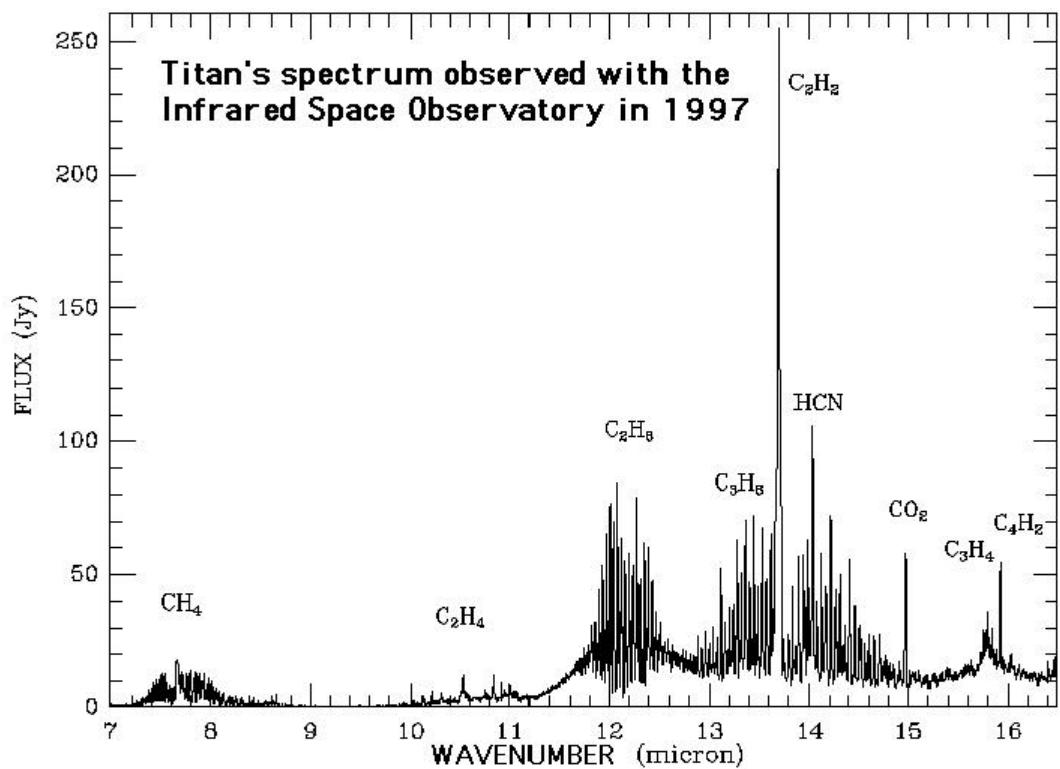
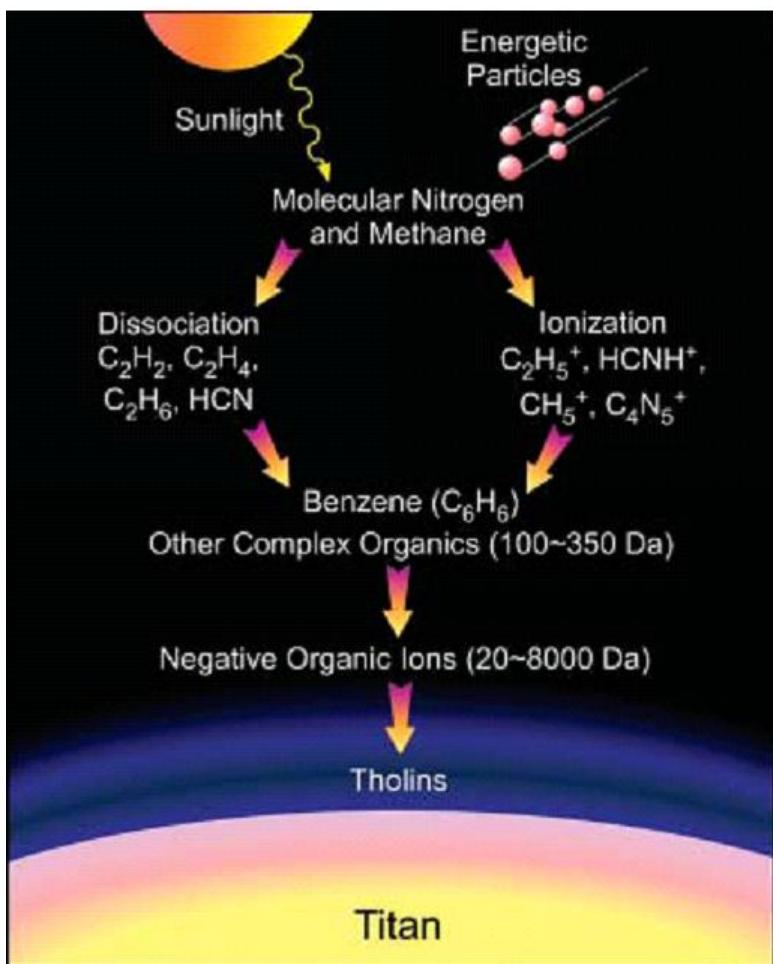


A Niche For SOFIA

CH_4
 CO_2
 N_2O



Titan

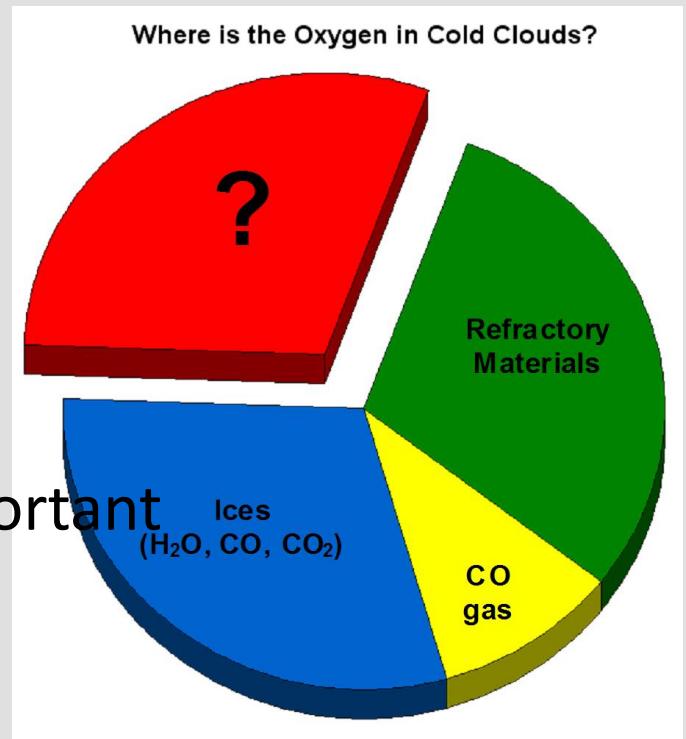


EXES, FORCAST grism, GREAT, FIFI LS

High-resolution mid-infrared spectroscopy

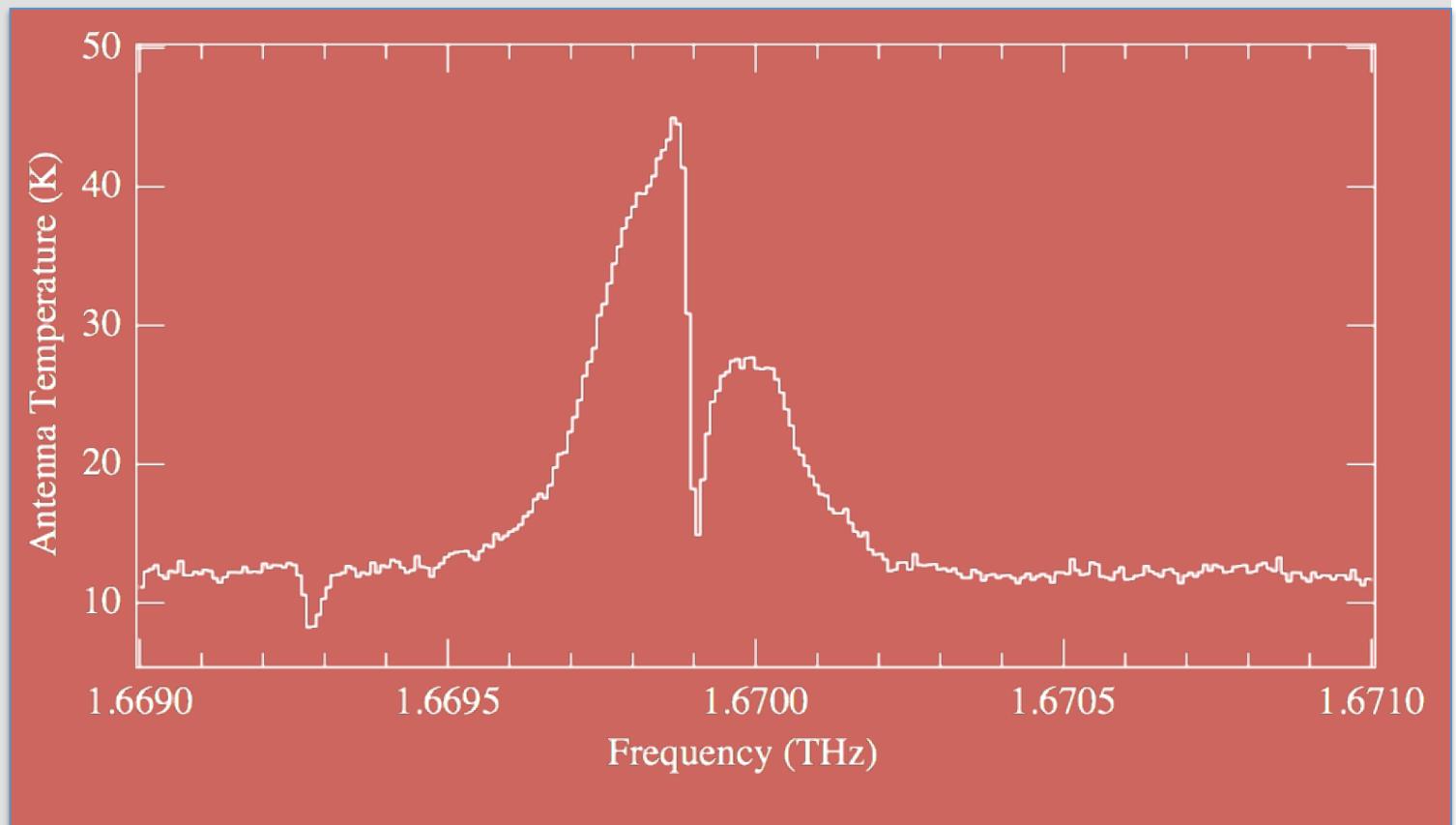
Astrochemistry

- Oxygen
 - O I lines at 63 and 145 μm
 - OH 119 μm
- Water
 - Where water forms, it is an important coolant and solvent
 - Shock chemistry, water survival
- Dark gas (not traced by HI or CO)
 - HD in the diffuse ISM
 - 112 μm ground rotational state

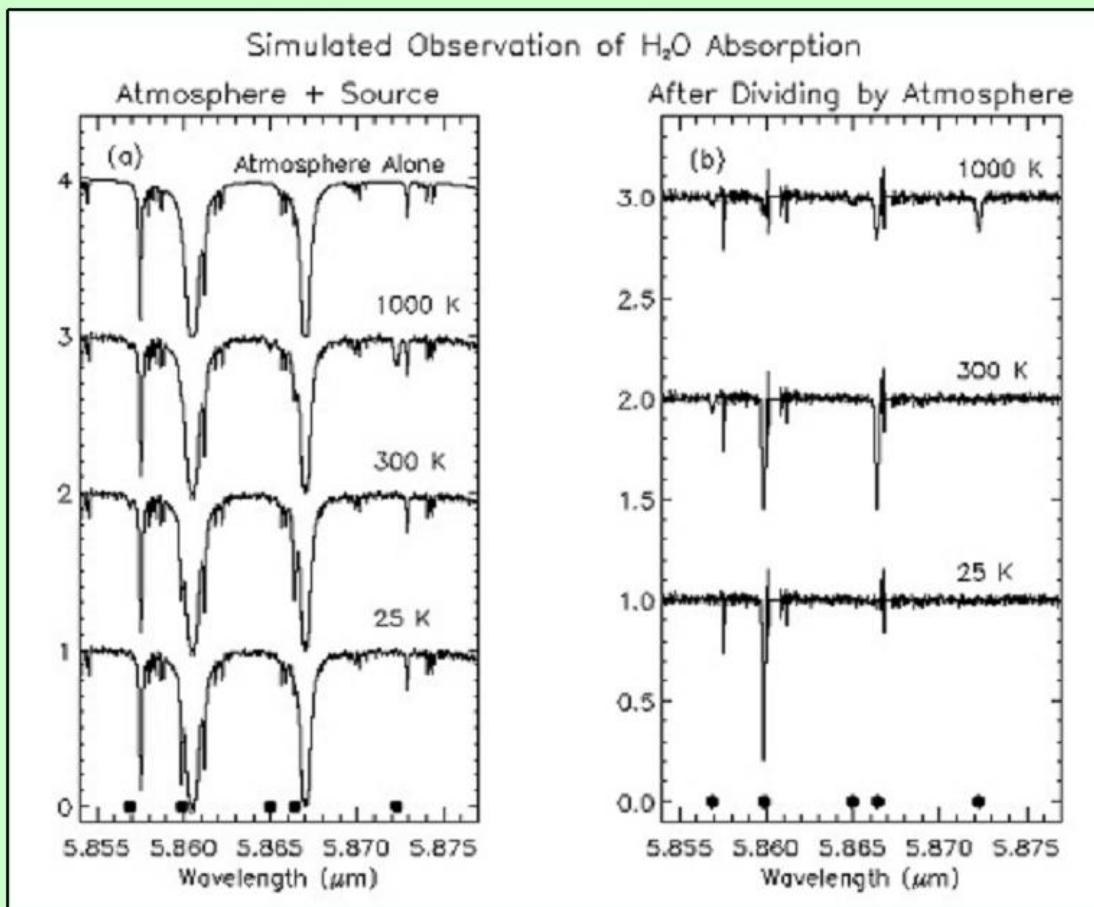


Water Spectroscopy w/*Herschel*

- H₂18O Orion KL
- Warm outflow gas plus cold line-of-sight absorption



Water with SOFIA

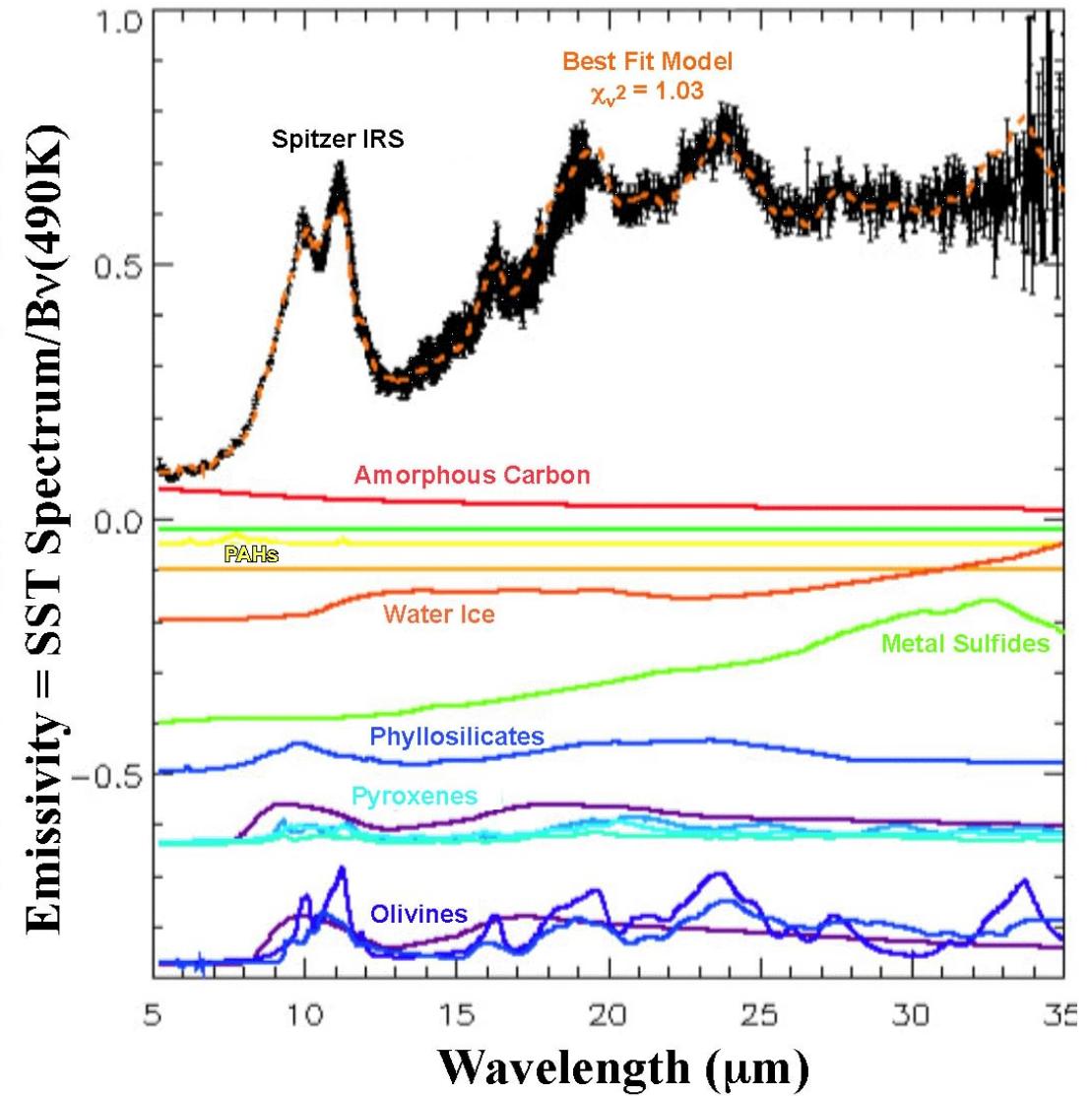


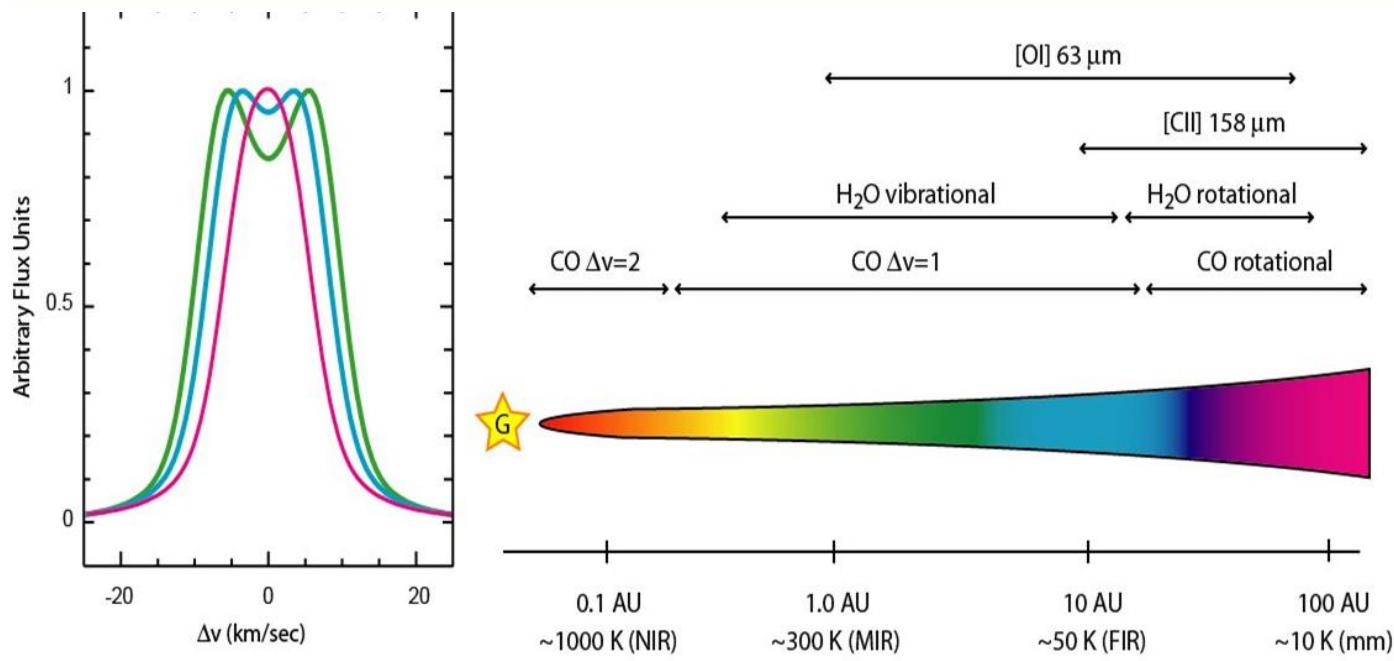
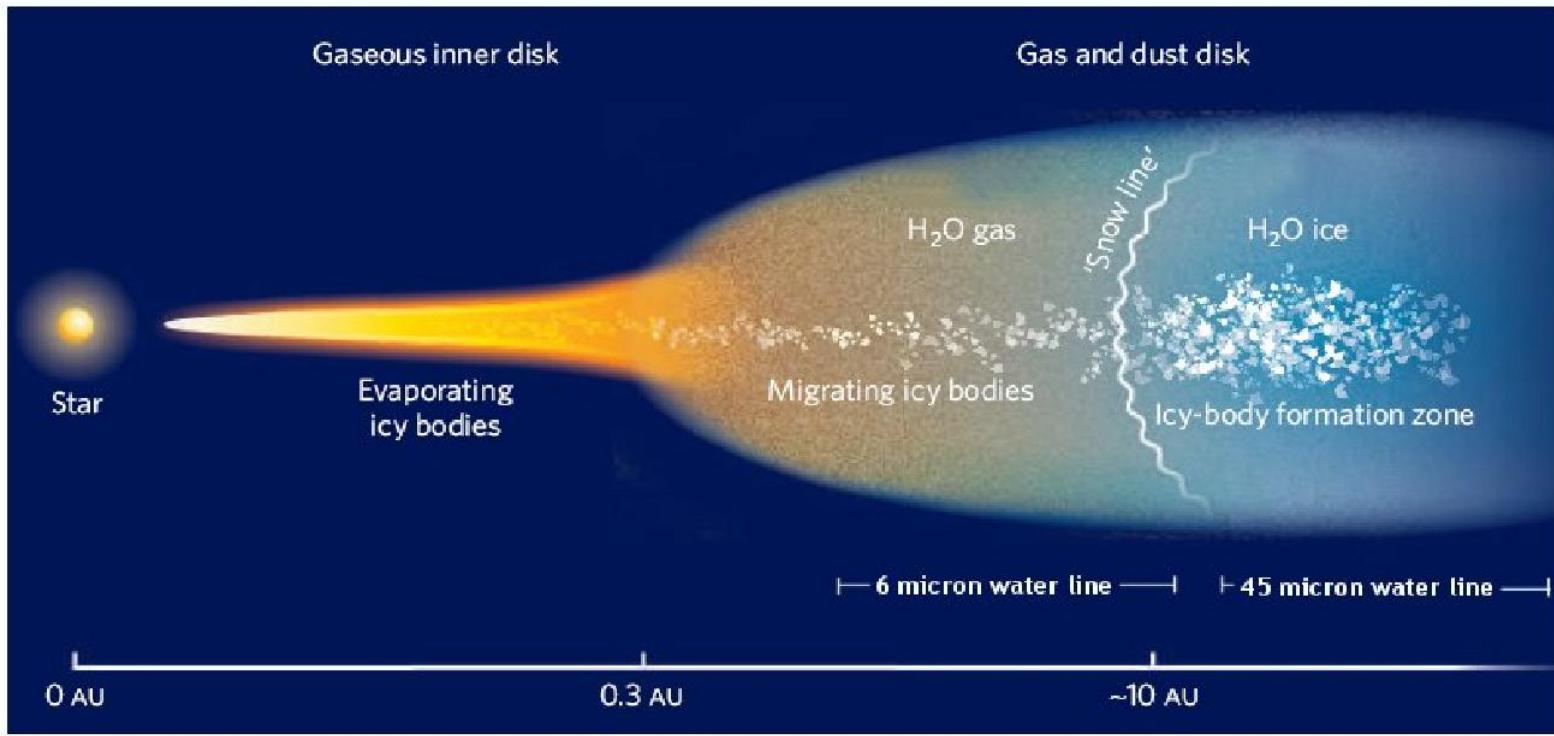
Detecting Water with SOFIA

Though SOFIA will fly above 99% of the water vapor in the Earth's atmosphere, there still will be enough telluric water present to require special observations to be employed for studying the 6 μm water features from astronomical sources. (a) The top spectrum is of the atmospheric transmission appropriate for 7 μm of precipitable water and a 45 degree zenith angle. Subsequent curves simulate the addition of water gas absorption from astronomical sources with temperatures of T=1000, 300, and 25 K and N(H₂O)=10¹⁸ cm⁻². The black dots on the bottom of the plot denote the locations of the water lines in the astronomical source. The model assumes that the flight is constructed to create a Doppler shift of -30 km/s between the astronomical and telluric lines. (b) The same spectra after dividing by the atmosphere. The water lines from the astronomical source are clearly resolved. The spectral resolving power used in the simulation was R=10⁵, and the plots represent the wavelength coverage of a single EXES setting. (From Richter et al. 2000)

Debris Disks and Comet Dust

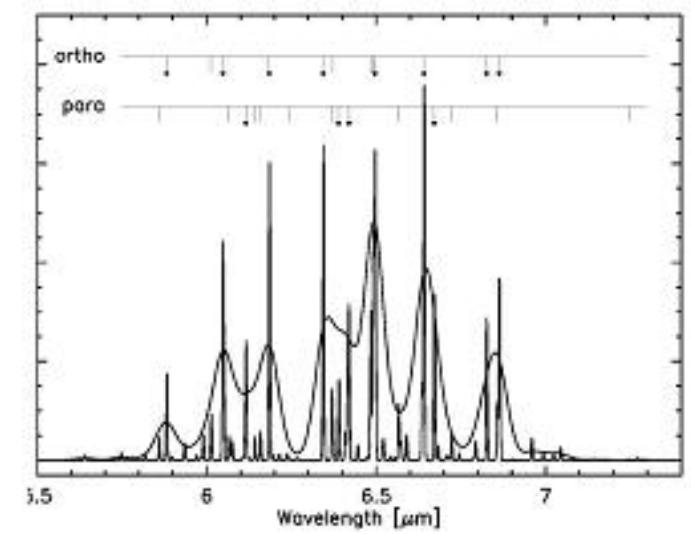
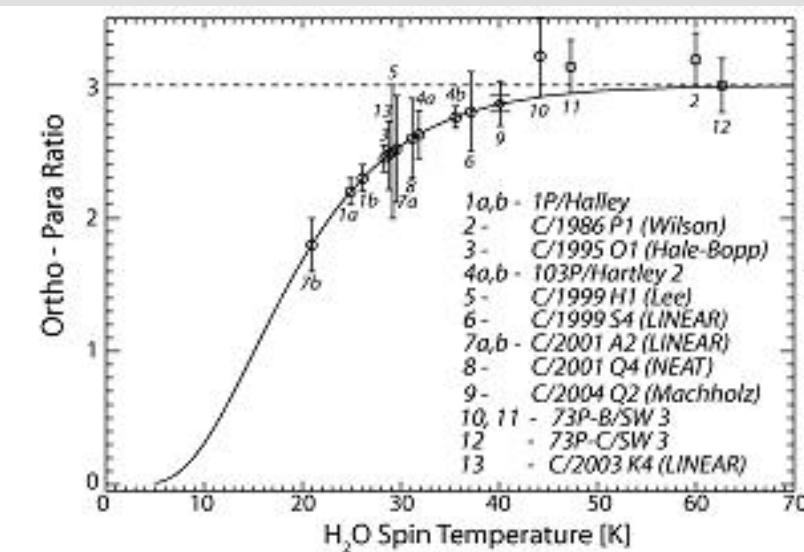
- SED
- Filters
- Low-res spectroscopy





Cometary gas

- High-res spectra
- Water: ortho/para ratio
- D/H



Occultations and transits

- KBOs and Exoplanets using high-speed photometry [talk by Dunham]

