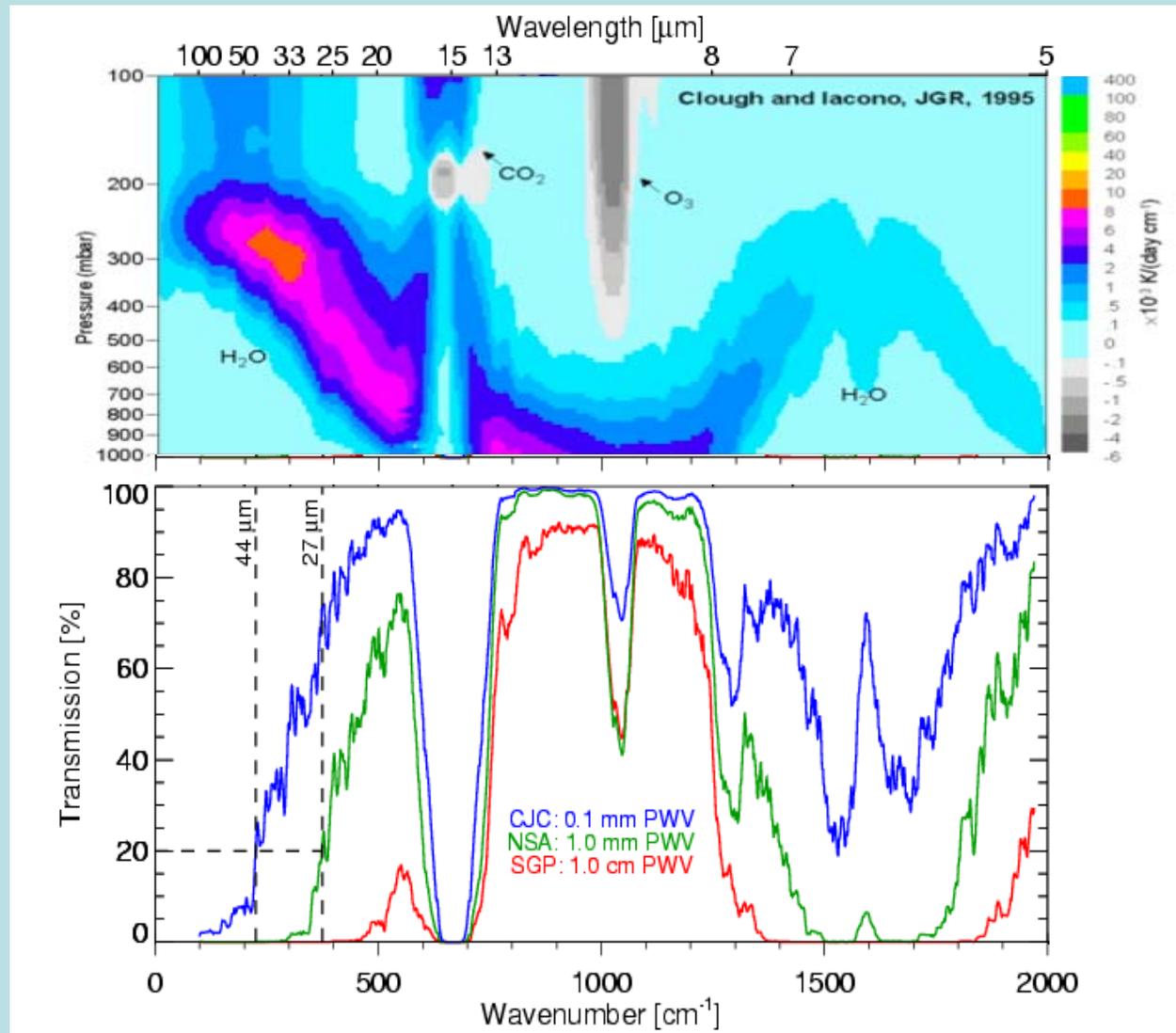


QuickTime™ and a
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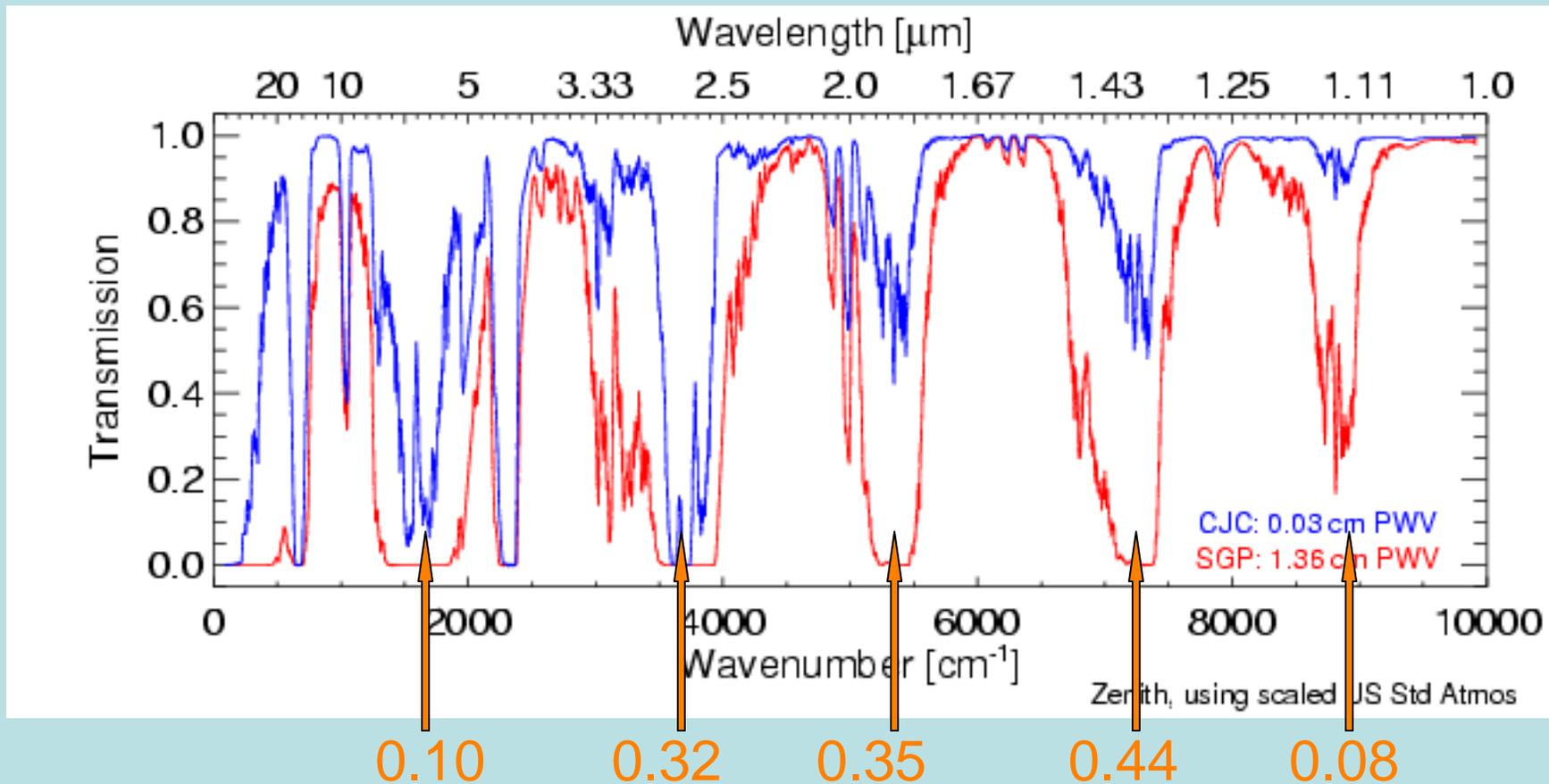
Status of the RHUBC-II Campaign
Pls: Dave Turner and Eli Mlawer

The Importance of Underexplored Spectral Bands



Thermal
Radiation

Transparency of the Atmosphere in the Near-Infrared



Heating rate ~ 400 mb = 1.45 K/d

Motivation for Radiative Heating in Underexplored Bands Campaign (RHUBC)

- Radiative heating/cooling in the mid-troposphere modulate the vertical motions of the atmosphere
 - This heating/cooling occurs primarily in water vapor absorption bands that are opaque at the surface - **essentially unvalidated**
- Approximately 40% of the OLR comes from the far-IR
 - Until recently, the observational tools were not available to evaluate the accuracy of the far-IR radiative transfer models
 - Spectrally resolved far-IR radiances, accurate PWV

RHUBC-II Essential Facts

- August - October 2008
- Cerro Toco (~5400 m), Atacama Science Preserve, Chile
 - Expected water vapor column amounts - 0.3 mm (as low as 0.1?)
- Scientific objectives
 - Conduct clear sky radiative closure studies in order to reduce uncertainties in WV spectroscopy
 - Line parameters (e.g. strengths)
 - WV continuum models
 - Investigate the radiative properties of cirrus in the far-IR (few cloudy cases expected - 85% clear)







Atacama Large Millimeter / Submillimeter Array - Taiwan

General Information

ALMA Science

ALMA CSV

ALMA Engineering

Image Gallery

People

Administration

Internal Document

NEWS

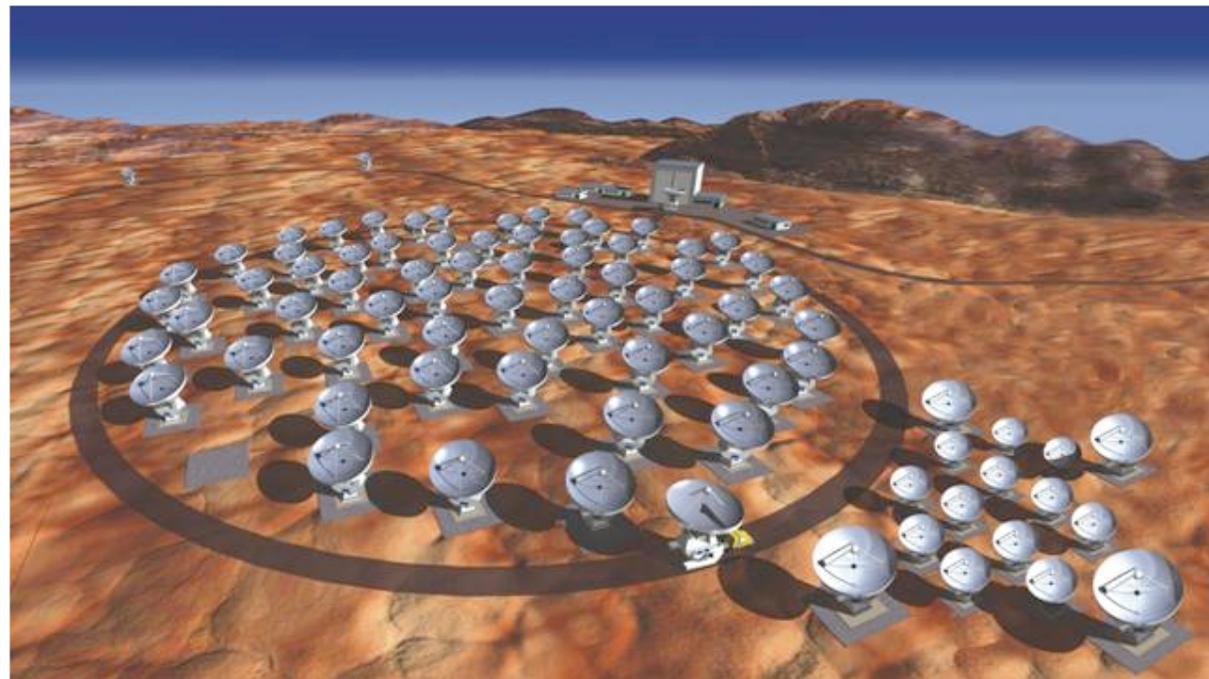
LINKS

CONTACT

ASIAA

ALMA IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST, MOST SENSITIVE RADIO TELESCOPE OPERATING AT MILLIMETER WAVELENGTHS:

The Atacama Large Millimeter/Submillimeter Array (ALMA) is the largest ground based, international astronomical observational facility ever built. It is currently under construction in the Chajnantor area in the Atacama desert in northern Chile. ALMA is designed to cover the wavelength range from 0.3mm to 9mm with an angular resolution of up to 0.004 arcsec. The baseline project consists of the 12-m array of up to 64 12-m telescopes, and the Atacama Compact Array (ACA) of 4 12-m telescopes and 12 7-m telescopes. ALMA will be studying a broad range of exciting science, such as weather patterns on solar system planets, the formation of planets and stars in our galaxy, the motions within active galactic nuclei, and the formation of the earliest galaxies at $z \sim 10$.



Artist's conception of the ALMA antennas in a compact array. Image courtesy of NRAO/AUT and ESO. ALMA/Chajnantor Video Clip, Backgrounds & Photos (from [ESO Press Release](#), 10 June 1999)

SCIENCE PRESERVE RESERVA CIENTIFICA



RHUBC-II Trip Objectives

- 1) Evaluate sites for experiment
- 2) Develop contacts with government, scientists
- 3) Contacts with area astronomical installations
- 4) Evaluate local technical infrastructure
- 5) Assess altitude health issues
- 6) Evaluate local area accommodations, etc.

Cerro Toco site approved
CONICYT, Univ. de Chile
ALMA, CBI, ...

Contract with Astronorte
Heartrate, O2 data for 4 people
Astronorte 'dorm', Patagonia



QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (LZW) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.









ARM Instruments for RHUBC-II



GVRP

MPL



AERI-ER



Radiometers

Vaisala Ceilometer



Sondes



Met station

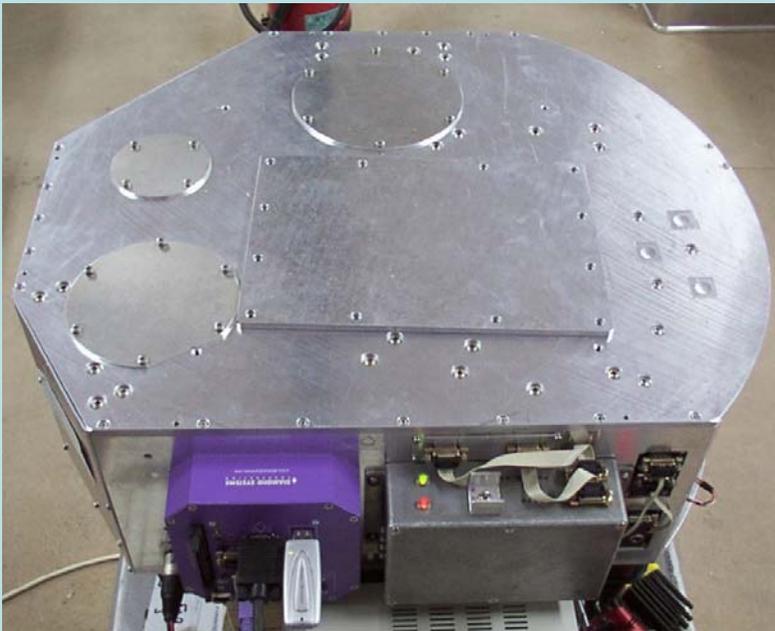
MFRSR

Far-infrared Spectroscopy of the Troposphere (FIRST)



- PI - Marty Mlynczak, NASA-LaRC
- Michelson interferometer
- 100 - 1600 cm^{-1}
- Unapodized resolution $\sim 0.64 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
- Cooled by liquid helium, nitrogen
- Successful high-altitude balloon flight in 2005 from NM - first time the nearly complete thermal emission spectrum of the Earth was observed from a space-like vantage point

Radiation Explorer in the Far Infrared (REFIR)



- Developed - Italian collaboration
- Fourier Transform Spectrometer
- 100 - 1500 cm^{-1}
- Resolution $\sim 0.50 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
- Detectors do not need cooling
- Data from balloon showed good agreement with IASI in overlapping spectral region

Tropospheric Airborne Fourier Transform Spectrometer (TAFTS)



- PI - Paul Green, Imperial College
- Martin-Puplett polarizing FTS
- 80-650 cm^{-1}
- Resolution $\sim 0.12 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
- Cooled by liquid helium, nitrogen
- Primarily an aircraft instrument
- Participated in RHUBC-I

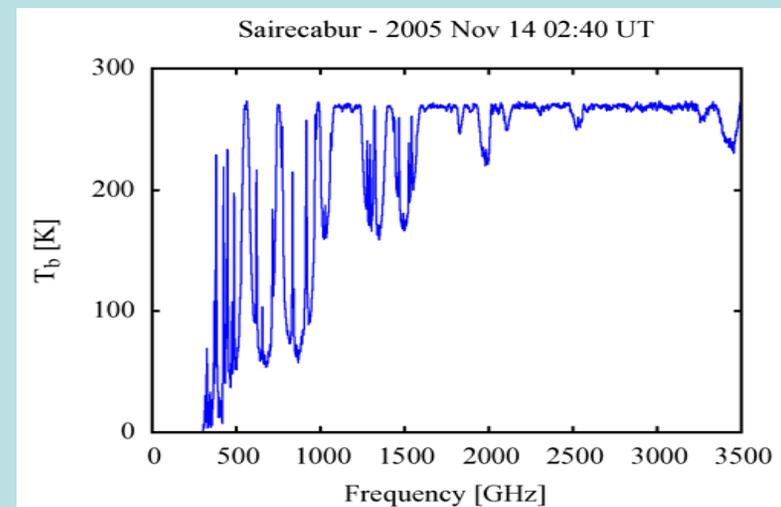
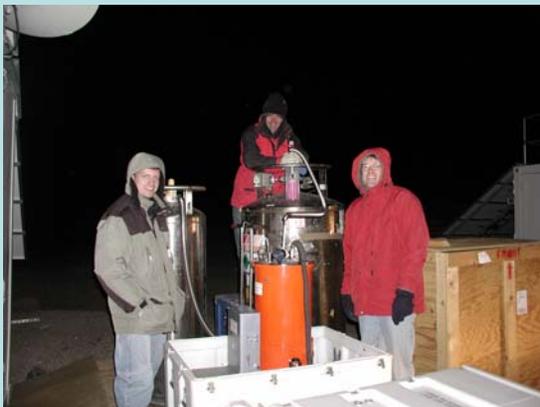
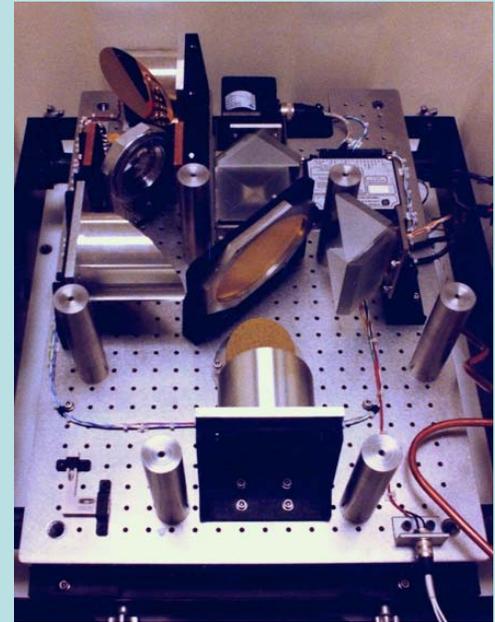
Absolute Solar Transmittance Interferometer (ASTI)



- PI - Tom Hawat, Univ. of Denver
- 2000 - 10000 cm^{-1}
- Resolution $\sim 0.6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
- Views central 16% of solar disk
- Calibrated using a reference tungsten lamp with a maximum temperature of 2800 K.
- Absolute uncertainty $< 5\%$;
relative uncertainty $\sim 1\%$.
- Data from SGP used to determine $\text{O}_2\text{-O}_2$ continuum (Mlawer et al., 1998)

Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory FTS

- PI- Scott Paine
- Polarizing Michelson FTS
- 300 GHz – 3.5 THz
- Apodized resolution: 3 GHz
- Typical SNR at 650 GHz, 100 K:
~30 in 10 minutes at full resolution
- Sairecabur (5525 m) 2000 – 2008
- Outdoor operation to -25 C



Upcoming Milestones

- Contract arrangements for Chilean contractors being negotiated through University of Chile
- Decisions on guest instruments' funding and participation
- Beta test for two weeks April-May 2009 at the Pagosa Springs (CO) Staging Facility
 - instrument vans are being prepared and modified at the PSSF
 - oxygen enrichment units and power generators have been purchased and are being integrated into the 'Portable Instrument Platform' (PIP)
- Health, safety, and operations procedures being developed



Safety!

QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (LZW) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.



Safety!!





RHUBC-II: A Unique Location For a Remarkable Campaign