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Exploring the Universe… One Electron at a Time

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Exploring the Universe… One Electron at a Time

J.R. Dennison

Materials Physics Group Physics Department, Utah State University

Supported by the NASA Space Environments & Effects Program and various other sources

Exploring the Universe with IR Space Telescopes

The James Webb Space Telescope will be a giant leap forward in our quest to understand the Universe and our origins. The Webb will examine every phase of cosmic history: from the first luminous glows after the Big Bang to the formation of galaxies, stars, and planets to the evolution of our own solar system. The science goals for the Webb can be grouped into four themes:

IR Space Telescopes

- **SDL's Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer**
- **Herschel Space Observatory**
- **Spitzer Space Telescope**
- **James Webb Space Telescope**

The End of the Dark Ages: First Light and Reionization seeks to identify the first bright objects that formed in the early Universe, and follow the ionization history.

Assembly of Galaxies will determine how galaxies and dark matter, including gas, stars, metals, physical structures (like spiral arms) and active nuclei evolved to the present day.

The Birth of Stars and Protoplanetary Systems focuses on the birth and early development of stars and the formation of planets.

Planetary Systems and the Origins of Life studies the physical and chemical properties of solar systems (including our own) and where the building blocks of life may be present.

What Is Different About JWST?

Extremely Faint Objects Large sensitive optics

Large Open Structure **Size and weight constraints Minimal shielding Large fluxes**

Observations in IR Penetration through intergalactic dust clouds Optimized for (0.6 –28 um)

Very Low Temperature Passive cooling Virtually all insulators go to infinite resistance—perfect charge integrators

Large Sunshield

Large areas Constant eclipse with no photoemission

Stable, Low Light Environment **Orbit at L2 Large solar activity variations In and out of magnetotail**

Long Mission Lifetime (10-20 yr) **No repairs Very long integration times**

Complex, Sensitive Hardware **Large sensitive optics Complex, cold electronics**

Paradigm Shift in Design Methods **To big for conventional ground tests**

Images from JWST

NASA's concern for spacecraft charging is caused by plasma environment electron, ion, and photon-induced currents. Charging can cause performance degradation or complete failure.

Majority of all spacecraft failures and anomalies due to the space environment result from plasmainduced charging

- • *Single event interrupts of electronics*
- • *Arching*
- • *Sputtering*
- • *Enhanced contamination*
- • *Shifts in spacecraft potentials*
- • *Current losses*

Solar panel damaged by localized charging event

National Aeronautics and Space Administrat Lowie Research Cente

A Simplified Approach to Space Environment Interactions Modeling…

JWST

Sunshield Space Passive Cooling Light Flux Charge Flux Low Flux Mission Lifetime (~20 yr)

USU Lab

Small Test Samples (~1 cm²) UHV Chamber (~10-9 Torr) Cryo Cooling (>30 K) No Light (dark room & chamber) Monoenergetic e-Beam (20eV to 30keV) Low Flux $(-0.05 \text{ nA/cm}^2 \text{ to } >500 \text{ nA/cm}^2)$ **Fountain of Youth and Pot of Au Accelerated Testing**

Materials Physics Group Measurement Capabilities

Electron Emission Ion Yield

Photoyield Luminescence

Conductivity Electrostatic Discharge

Radiation Induced Cond. Radiation Damage

Dependence on: Press., Temp., Charge, E-field, Dose, Dose Rate

USU Arc/Glow Test Configuration

Sample cooled with I-N₂ to 100-135 K. **Chamber walls at ambient.**

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MATERIALS PHYSICS GROUP

Diversity of Emission Phenomena in Time Domain

1

Glow Increases with Increasing Flux, Energy and Power

• **Surface Glow, Edge Glow, and Arcing Frequency are all found to increase with increasing incident electron flux and energy.**

How full is the bucket?

Problem complicated by:

- **The incident electron and ion fluxes acts to fill the bucket.** • **Two types of charge**
	- **Charge interactions**
- **•** Electron distributions of **emission determines how** • **Different incident species much charge splashes out of** • **Materials properties of** the bucket as it is showng filled.
- **Conductivity of insulating materials determines: Where charge will Semiconductors—Sieves** Leaky **fist that the Caky buckets How charge will redistribute Good insulators—Good buckets** Extreme insulators^{aceproz}en buckets **Conductors—Grates**
	- **Time scale for charge transport and dissipation.**

Range Electron Yield Conduction

Depth electrons penetrate is energy dependent

Conductivity determines deposited charge layer movement

It's all about where the electrons are--n_e(z)

Three Critical Processes in Charging

It's all about where the electrons are--n_e

Electron Beam

Charging Scenarios

- **Low Energy**
	- **Grounded**
	- **Ungrounded**
- \bullet High Energy
	- **Grounded**
	- **Ungrounded**

1 cm Mirror sample

Low Energy - Grounded

$$
V_o = \frac{\bar{J}_0[1 - Y(E_b)]}{\sigma_{DC}} R(E_b) \frac{[D - R(E_b)]}{D}
$$

Low Energy - Ungrounded

High Energy - Grounded

High Energy - Ungrounded

Ungrounded POM Mirror Test Results

Example of POM Arc-Video

Frame before

arc

Frame after arc

Frame of

Difference between frame before and frame of arc

Complete set of dynamic transport equations

$$
J = q_e n_e(z, t) \mu_e F(z, t) + q_e D \frac{dn_{tot}(z, t)}{dz}
$$
 {Sum of electron drift and diffusion current densities J_i }
\n
$$
\frac{\partial}{\partial z} F(z, t) = q_e n_{tot} / \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r
$$
 {1D Gauss's Law}
\n
$$
\frac{\partial n_{tot}(z, t)}{\partial t} - \mu_e \frac{\partial}{\partial z} [n_e(z, t) F(z, t)] - q_e D \frac{\partial^2 n_e(z, t)}{\partial z^2} = N_{ex} - \alpha_{er} n_e(z, t) n_{tot}(z, t) + \alpha_{et} n_e(t) [N_t(z) - n_t(z, t)]
$$

{1D Continuity equation with drift, diffusion and source terms}

$$
\frac{dn_h(z.t)}{dt}=N_{ex}-\alpha_{er} n_e(z,t)n_h(z,t)
$$

{1D hole continuity equation with Generation and recombination terms}

$$
\frac{dn_t(z,\varepsilon,t)}{dt} = \alpha_{et} n_e(z,t) [N_t(z,\varepsilon) - n_t(z,\varepsilon,t)] - \alpha_{te} N_e exp\left[-\frac{\varepsilon}{kT}\right] n_t(z,\varepsilon,t)
$$

{1D trapping continuity equation for electrons}

A quantum mechanical model

of the spatial and energy distribution of the electron states

Band Theory of (Crystalline) Conductors, Insulators and Semiconductors

Conductor Insulator Semiconductor Partially filled bands Completely filled bands Insulators at finite T

Disorder introduces localized states

Momentum q

Drift and hopping conductivity

Dispersive transport

RIC and Luminescence

Beam off Beam on

Luminescence: Excitation and Relaxation

Luminescence: Temperature Dependence

-4 C -80 C -110 C

Red decreases with increasing T

Temperature Dependent UV-Vis Spectra

UtahState

Low Temperature Model

High Temperature Model

Effective Fermi Level

Fermi Energy

- **Identify specific defect mechanisms**
- **Quantify luminescence intensities, peak positions, and peak shifts with T**
- **Study initial time dependence as traps fill to Efeff**
- **Make lower T (<30 K) and higher (<400 K) T measurements**

Materials Physics Group Measurement Capabilities

Electron Emission Ion Yield Conductivity Electrostatic Discharge Photoyield Luminescence

Radiation Induced Cond. Radiation Damage

Dependence on: Press., Temp., Charge, E-field, Dose, Dose Rate

Just a drop in the bucket…

A quantum mechanical model of the spatial and energy distribution of the electron states

USU Physics Department Colloquium

November 15, 2011

