SOFIA Present and Future

Margaret Meixner Director

Science Mission Operations

August 12, 2020



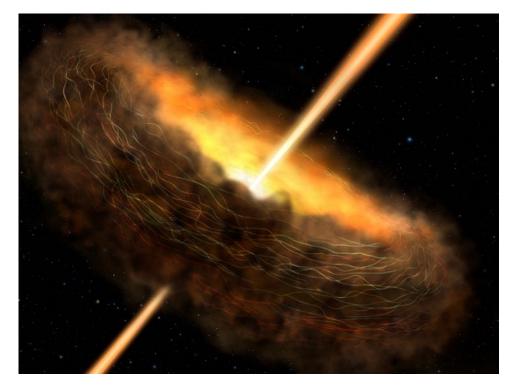


SOFIA's HAWC+ view of galaxies



Magnetic Fields May Be Keeping Milky Way's Black Hole Quiet

Image credits: Dust and magnetic fields: SOFIA Star field: Hubble Space Telescope



Magnetic Fields May Be Feeding Active Black Holes – Cygnus A

Illustration credit: NASA/SOFIA/Lynette Cook

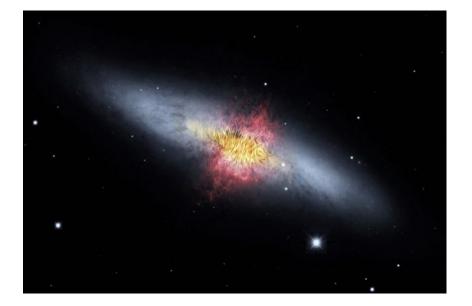


SOFIA's HAWC+ view of galaxies



Magnetic field alignment over an entire galaxy, NGC 1068

Image credits: NASA/SOFIA; NASA/JPL-Caltech/Roma Tre Univ.



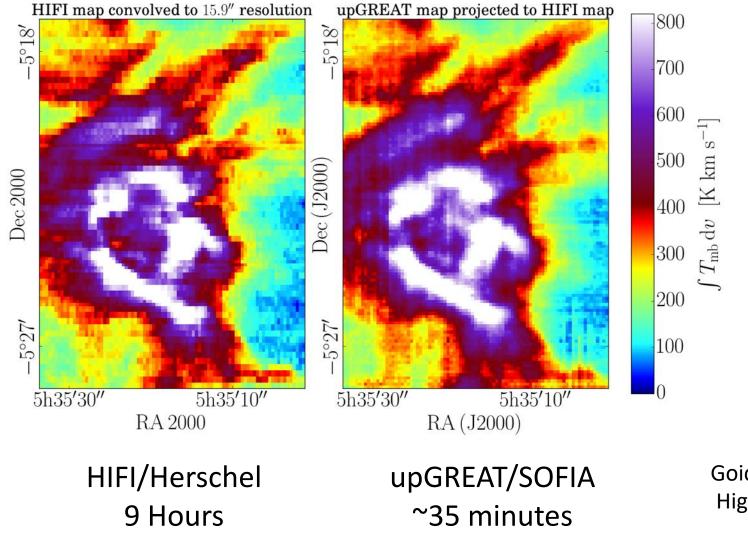
Weighing a Galactic Wind Provides Clues to the Evolution of Galaxies

Image credits: NASA/SOFIA; NASA/JPL-Caltech

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SOFIA's upGREAT View of Orion



Goicoechea et al, 2015, ApJ, 812, 75 Higgins et a 2020, to be submitted

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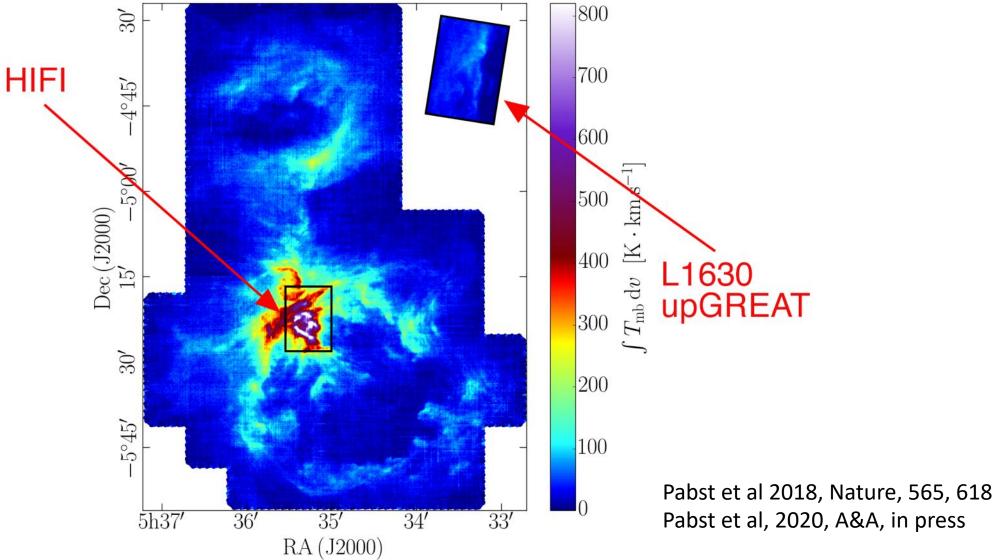


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SOFIA's upGREAT View of Orion



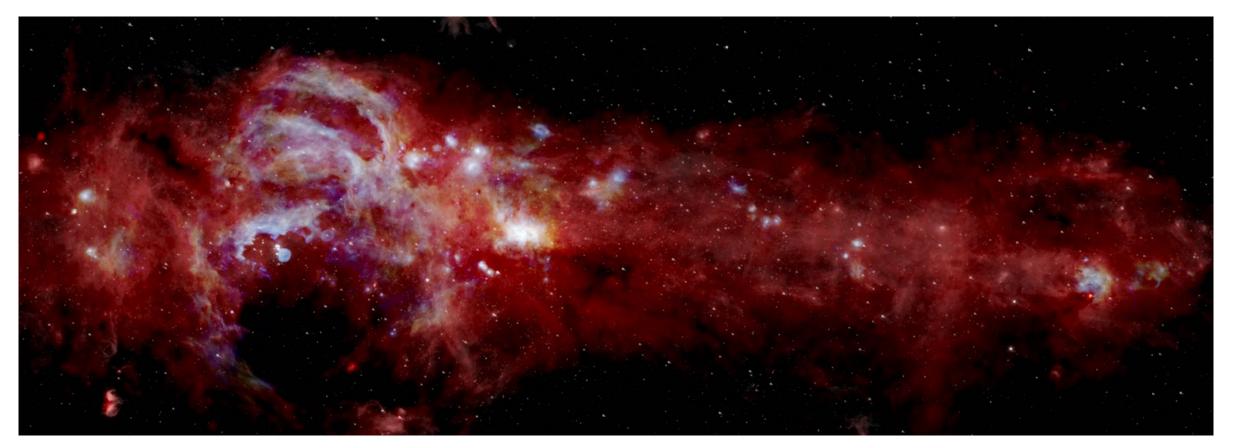


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SOFIA Legacy Programs: Galactic Center mapping Matt Hankins

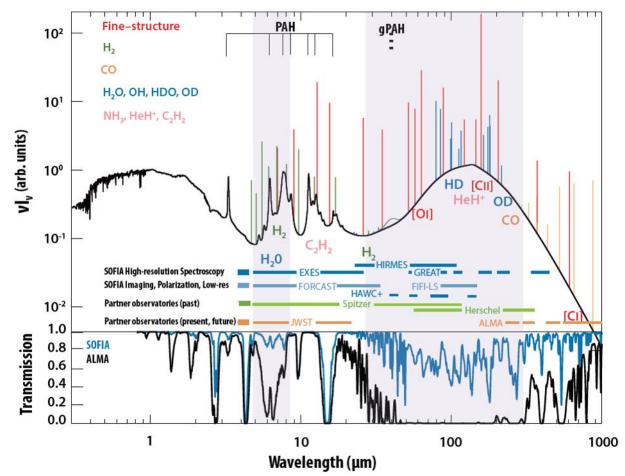






Vision for SOFIA's Science Mission

• SOFIA holds a critical unique science capability for astronomers





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Vision for SOFIA's Science Mission

• SOFIA has a hard working and dedicated staff – operational protocols are in place for operation this complex observatory







Vision for SOFIA's Science Mission

- Flagship Mission Review provides some clear guidance on where to make improvements
- SOFIA needs to invest in and emphasize science, science, science
- Community building is essential to SOFIA's future
- Partnerships on science with other NASA great observatories and assets to improve community engagement
 - Cycle 9 supports JWST Early Release Science Programs
- Partnerships with ground base observatories:
 - Cycle 9 call has joint programs with GBO



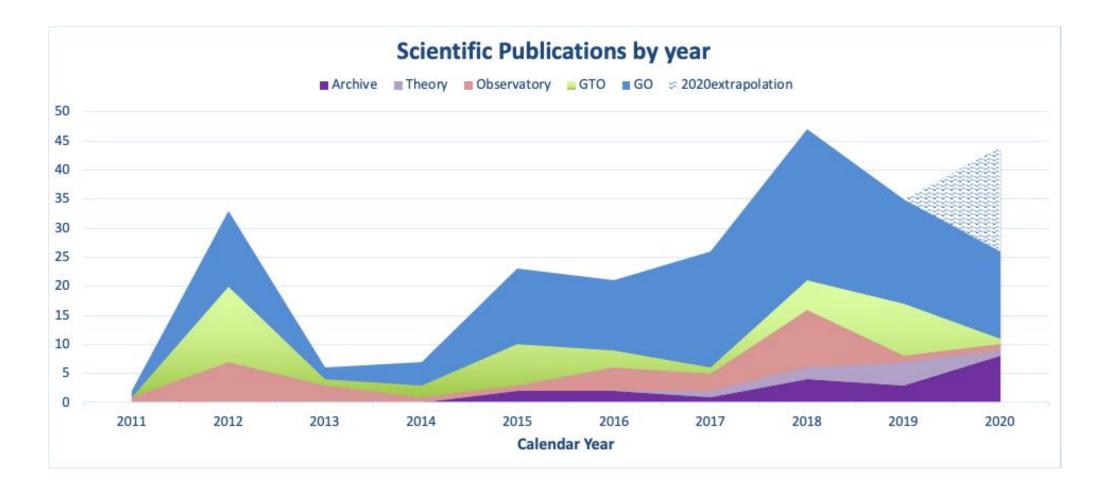
Science Metric Goals for SOFIA by 2022

Science Metric	Goal, stretch	Science Metric	Goal
Publications: Science: Archival: (per year)	≳ 75, 100 > 55, 70 >20, 30	Completion Rate High-Priority Programs	> 80%
Scientific Impact Citation H-Index: Citations per year	>30, 44 >750, 1000	Fraction of Completed High-priority Programs Resulting in Publications	> 80%
Oversubscription:	> 5	High-quality Observing Time % research hours at precipitable water vapor < 15 μm on-sky efficiency at precipitable water vapor < 15 μm	> 90%





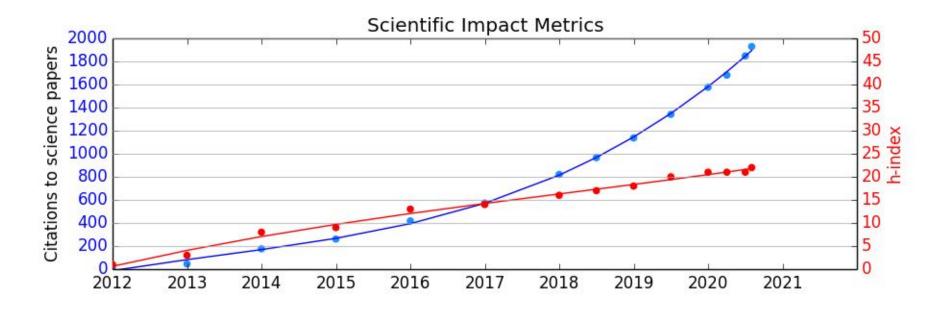
Science Metrics: number of refereed publications







Science Metrics: impact



	1/1/12	1/1/13	1/1/14	1/1/15	1/1/16	1/1/17	1/1/18	1/1/19	1/1/20	3/30/20	6/30/20	7/31/20
Citations	8	45	176	261	418	573	821	1137	1576	1681	1848	1929
h-index	1	3	8	9	13	14	16	18	21	21	21	22

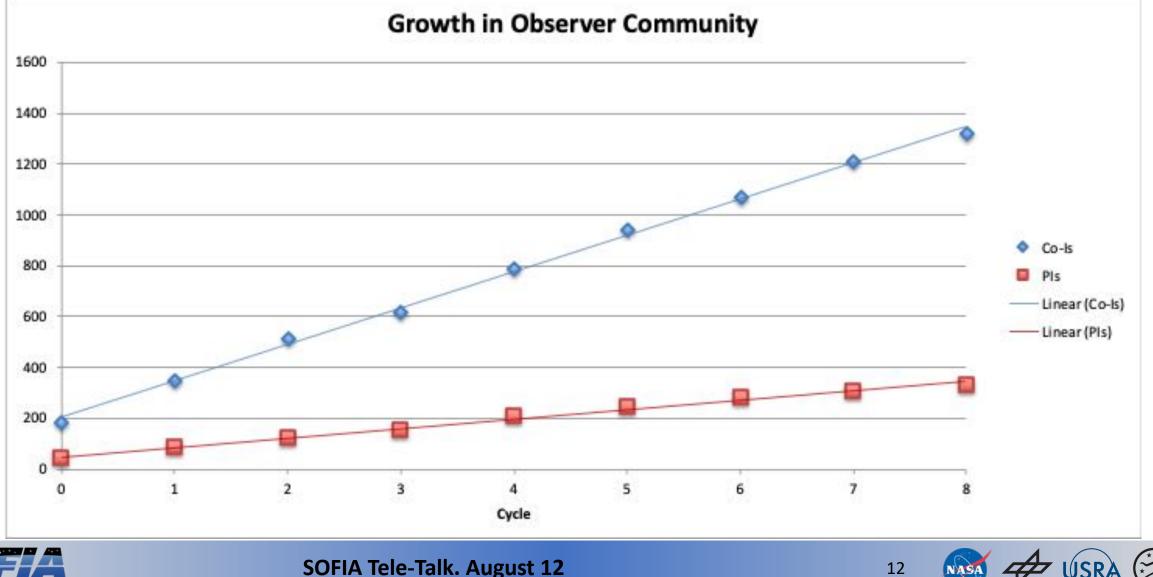


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Unique PIs and Co-Is have increased



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Community participation is essential

- Make SOFIA data publication your number one priority
 - Tell your colleagues to do the same
- Write papers with archival SOFIA data
- Write papers using SOFIA data in combination with ALMA, Chandra, Hubble....
- Cite yours and other papers about SOFIA data
- Invite people to conferences to talk about their SOFIA results
- Science Organizing Committee members: Give SOFIA results talk slots, not just posters





Community participation is essential

- What are your ideas to
 - Expand the SOFIA community
 - Increase SOFIA publications
 - Increase citations for SOFIA papers
 - Increase impact of SOFIA science in astronomy





Cycle 9 Call for Proposals: Key Dates

Milestone	Date
Release (US GO)	June 2, 2020
Update on Website	July 24, 2020
Proposals Due	September 4, 2020 (9:00 pm PDT)
US TAC	October 7-10, 2020
Selections Announced	December 2020
Observing Period	July 6, 2021 – September, 2022



