

SPT

The South Pole Telescope Galaxy Cluster Survey

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South Pole Telescope in Operation

PI: John Carlstrom (U Chicago)

- Funded by NSF in 2002
- Feb 16, 2007 SPT first light
- Science survey began May 2007 and continues today
- Deep, arcminute resolution maps now "routinely" produced



180 mm; ~1 degree on sky



http://spt.uchicago.edu



2

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SPT Collaboration

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SZE Signature of Galaxy Clusters

Unique spectrum



Unique angular scale



Simulations provided by M. White

Cluster SZE flux proportional to total thermal energy in the electron population.

Promise: clean, low scatter, redshift independent cluster selection technique!

5

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Full Depth Solid Angle 2008 171deg²

2009 567deg²

2010 737deg²

2011 1015deg²

Total 2491deg²





SPT Optical Followup



We examine DSS around each candidate

- Image w/Medium aperture for z>0.5 Blanco 4m, Magellan 6.5m, (SOAR, NTT)
- Image w/Small aperture for z<0.5 Swope 0.9m, ESO/MPG 2.2m
- We use multiband photometry to get red sequence cluster redshifts
- We obtain Spitzer IRAC imaging for all candidates at S/N>4.8
 - NIR Imaging for any nonconfirmation or z>0.9







Photometric Redshifts

- Two sub-teams work pseudo independently to provide a crosscheck
- We calibrate photometry using the distribution of stars in colorcolor space (stellar locus)
 See High et al 2009 for overview
- Spectroscopic followup program has allowed good cross-checks, and photo-z performance is good
 - Characteristic accuracy is ~0.03(1+z)









• At present we are followup limited

<5% Contamination

~20% Contamination

Year	Candidates >5σ	Followed Up >5σ	Candidates >4.5σ	Followed Up >4.5σ
2008	22	22	40	40
2009	98	98	184	184
2010	172	122	259	>153
2011				~100
Total:	455	242	777	>490

2011 has been similar to 2010, so in full sample we expect:

• ~450 clusters at >5 σ and ~600 clusters at >4.5 σ over 2500 deg²





Characteristics of SPT Cluster Sample from 750deg² Followup-Complete Region

- 171 clusters S/N>4.5
- Mean redshift is ~0.55
- ~20% of sample is at z>0.8
- Mass selection is approx M₅₀₀>3x10¹⁴ (Andersson et al 2011)
- With 2500 deg² solid angle the SPT survey provides unique window on rare, high mass clusters at any redshift!





Characteristics of SPT Cluster Sample from 750deg² Followup-Complete Region

- Offsets between SPT candidate position and Brightest Red Cluster Galaxy
- Contamination
 - Filtered CMB maps exhibit Gaussian noise. Easy to calculate sky density of noise peaks at >4.5σ, >5σ
 - Together with cluster S/N distribution one can estimate contamination fraction
 - Sims: <5% (S/N>5), ~20% (S/N>4.5)
 - Measurements-> agree



SPT-only selection produces >95% pure sample at S/N>5 *SPT+optical* followup produces ~100% pure sample at S/N>4.5

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Implications for Cosmology

- The final cluster sample can now be reliably estimated
- To take advantage of the ~600 cluster sample, we need to push the mass calibration below the 5% level
 - Redshift evolution
 - Full S/N range
- Multi-wavelength approach
 - X-ray: leverage existing calibrations (secondary cal)
 - Weak lensing: direct cal
 - Velocity dispersions: direct cal



Initial Cluster Mass Calibration

- Gravitational collapse leads to T_x/Y_x/M_{icm}mass relations
 - X-ray mass-obs relation well studied nearby
 - Low scatter (~10%), complex systematics
 - Strategy:
 - Obtain ~2000 source photons to enable $Y_{x\prime}$ T_x and M_{icm} mass estimates
 - Use published calibration of mass-obs relations
 - Note: extrapolate from nearby calibration

Status

 Chandra/XMM obs of complete sample of 15 SPT selected clusters indicate cluster masses should be ~25% higher (Andersson et al 2011)



Future Data:

- XMM observations of 9 high-z systems (z>0.8) accepted
- Chandra X-ray Visionary Program *accepted* to complete observations of 80 most massive systems (S/N>6.9) over full 2500deg² survey.



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Preliminary Cosmology Results (including X-ray Mass Calibration)

- Using A11 mass calibration, Benson et al reanalyze sample of 21 clusters within initial 178deg² survey
- Initial X-ray mass cal tightens constraints
- Results in good agreement with previous cluster constraints (Mantz et al, Vikhlinin et al)





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Rarest, Most Massive Clusters

- About a year ago SPT finished shallow "preview" scans of the full 2500deg²
 - Adequate to select the 26 most massive clusters, independent of redshift
- Mortonson analysis suggests no single cluster in tension with ΛCMD
- Constraints on non-Gaussianity parameter f_{NL}=20+/-450 from Likelihood analysis over full sample

Williamson et al 2011





Summary

- SPT cluster survey to 18 μK-armin over 2500 deg² drawing to a close
- Optical/NIR followup effort to measure redshifts and remove contamination will wind down over the next year
 - Final sample will be ~400 clusters at S/N>5, ~600 clusters at S/N>4.5
 - SPT-only selection has low contamination (~5% at S/N>5, ~20% at S/N>4.5)
 - SPT+optical followup sample has extremely high purity (~100%)

• Cosmology

- Uniform selection with mass (~independent of redshift) over large solid angle opens new window on rare, massive clusters at high z
- Initial cosmology tests with small sample promising
- Next test is with sample of 171 (2008+2009 sample)

Mass calibration effort using X-ray, dispersions and weak lensing underway

