Technical Page

Proposal Type: Regular
General Category: Astronomy
Sub-Category: Spectroscopy
Observation Category: Galactic
Total Time Requested: 20 Hours

Proposal Title: Kinematic Distances to Massive Star Formation Regions in the Inner Galaxy

ABSTRACT:

The SIRTF/GLIMPSE Legacy Science Program plans to image the inner 2/3 of the Galactic disk. Distances of the sources along the line of sight will be inferred by coincidence with known objects, which all suffer from distance ambiguity. In the pilot survey of 21 massive SFR in the first quadrant of the Galaxy, the H110a line in emission and the 110-111 line of H2CO in absorption were observed simultaneously using the Arecibo antenna. The H110a line was used to establish the velocity of the HII regions and the H2CO absorption components were used to distinguish between near and far distances. It was possible to establish unambiguous distance for 95% of the sample. In preparation to the SIRTF mission we propose to observe 45 UC HII regions in the SIRTF survey region to attempt to resolve their distance ambiguity. A by-product of our observations will be information about the spiral structure in our Galaxy.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edward Churchwell</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin - Madison</td>
<td><a href="mailto:churchwell@astro.wisc.edu">churchwell@astro.wisc.edu</a></td>
<td>(608) 262-4909</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
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I do NOT want to do remote observing.

Instrument Setup

C

Atmospheric Optical Instruments:

Special Equipment or setup: none

RFI Considerations

Frequency Ranges Planned