

OPTICAL FIBER TESTING AT IEU

- This lecture is about my activities testing optical fibers for the BigBOSS (now known as MS-DESI) experiment, in the lab at the Institute for the Early Universe, Seoul.
- I hope you have an opportunity to visit a lab to see how optics measurements are performed.

FIBER SPECTROGRAPHS

- "Longslit" spectrographs are used to make one spectrum per pointing of telescope.
 - NO GOOD for large statistical studies or surveys with many objects
- Fiber-Feed spectrographs "multiplex" you put a fiber at the position of each galaxy, fibers carry light to spectrograph



KEY TO DESI INSTRUMENT: 5000 SPECTRA PER POINTING VIA ROBOT POSITIONERS

5000 positioners put fiber at target position



WHY TEST OPTICAL FIBERS?

Focal Ratio Degradation =

when a fiber spreads out the incoming beam too much.

- Beam spread is BAD in astronomy -multiplies read noise & background
- BOSS experiment had many runs of fibers w/ bad FRD - must test.



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Critical- all 5000 fibers must be tested for FRD!

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WHAT CAUSES FRD?

 Theory says microbends cause scattering of rays off of ideal path.



• the smaller the characteristic microbend radius, the worse the performance of the fiber. We measure this with the laser.

Measure-Collimated Light Test

- Shine LASER or other collimated source in fiber, look at ring pattern out
 - Width of ring must reflect variation of ray path through fiber
 - Can be translated into FRD measure



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Measurements

Laser "Rings" AKA coherent Source Annulus





EXERCISE

- How do you reduce these data to obtain this?
- How do you reduce these data to tell me the angular spread of the annulus (bagel)?
 - Hint: Draw the experiment, think about what you need to measure.
- Write the complete algorithm and program. Data are coming.





IBBOSS Lamp Setup (after Carrasco & Parry 94)



Simplified- Incoherent Beam Test



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2011-V3 Setup

• 2011 Hardware

- fibers are difficult to hold, need some special mounts
- alignment of small fibers requires some special mounts and thinking about setup.



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2011-V3 Setup

Development of Align Techniques

- Laser "cross-hairs" + Reflections for lenses
- Different color laser back-illumination for fiber align





Incoherent Source Profile



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Bad Fibers

- "Oh no, the alignment must be screwd up?"
- NO! Fiber 2 has an obviously non-round profile!



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Comparison

- Tests on BOSS 20-fiber bundle (rejected)
 - Variety of output profiles observed
 - Note: one fiber had zero output



How do you measure?

- How do you turn this profile into an f/#?
- Please write the program





Color Effects

• Easy to do with diode lasers



Now Checking Color Effects

• Diode laser test FRD performance for 3 wavelengths.



Fiber	Color/ incident angle	sigma fit width
Fib 6	Red/6 deg	6.25
Fib 6	Green/6 deg	6.85
Fib 6	Blue / 6 deg	6.71

preliminary -

Errors? Repeatability?Varies with fiber?λ dependence...?...working on it now.

Please note "6 deg" = label, only **rough** value of incident angle

What about twisting?

- After crude test (pre-twister) of 360 deg. twist in 10 cm, severe FRD results.
- But is this result of stress at holder, or twist?



Twist Testing Device

- Meijer-Grossan twister design
 - Isolates twist so you can learn about it independently.



Fatigue Testing

- Sholl "Spindle-Board" tests "realistic" bend + twist
 - can mimic theta-theta or r-theta motions
 - easily reproduced in large numbers
 - (thus far guessing on curvature)

Simple tests separate bend & twist

- bend over fixed radius of curvature
- mount fibers in disks, move disks synchronously





Cheap, scalable, programmable micromotors & controllers by Sholl.

Test large samples using IEU people/facilities

Next Step:Automate for 5000 tests

- replace plug block(input end), V-block (output end)holder with 1-d computer-controlled stages
 - align first and last fiber on block
 - scan over each (some?) fiber(s) to find align point @ max intensity.
 - 2011: Test Closed-Loop Feedback System



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Computer Controlled Stages

- Challenge is alignment; cannot adjust thumbscrew for every fiber
- Currently Validating µm stage performance: how bad hysteresis during max. align scans? Accumulation of errors?



QUESTIONS

- Spectra are recorded as "strips" of light on CCD detectors.
 Let's say we measured FRD that made the width of a spot of a fiber 2X as wide as that for a perfect fiber.
- What would be the effect on signal-to-noise ratio of this FRD?
- Draw the spectrum of the [OII]3727Å, 3729Å infinitesimally narrow lines, for a spectrograph with 0.3Å FWHM resolution, 0.3 Å pixels, fed by a fiber with a FWHM spot size of I pixel (Draw reduced spectrum and draw "strip" on CCD).
- Again, this time with an optical fiber with 5 pixel spot size. Does this fiber affect the spectroscopy? If so, how?

SUMMARY

- You can use optical fibers, positioned in the places where light from galaxies falls on a telescope focal plane, to take multiple spectra in a single exposure. This allows you to do millions of objects spectroscopic surveys
- Fibers have FRD, a kind of imperfection which causes light coming through the fiber to spread out over a large area.
- Shining coherent light into a fiber makes a ring the width of that ring tells you how much the fiber is spreading out the light.
- If you build a fiber spectrograph, make sure your fiber performance is good enough (FRD small enough) to get the answer you need!



- THANKS!

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