

COSMOLOGY AND GRAVITATIONAL RESEARCH GROUP

BETWEEN 1965 -- 2007



Building 20 wing C and F



Building 20 wing F



Entrance to building 20 wing F



Machine shop and electronics shop of the Cosmology and Gravitational Research group



CMB spectrum experiment on ASCEND II



First CMB spectrum experiment transported to test



Dirk Muehlner in control room of the National Scientific Balloon Facility, Palestine, Texas



A great horned toad in the launch field. It has excellent inertial senses



Dirk Muehlner and the CMB anisotropy experiment



Rainer Weiss and CMB anisotropy experiment



Reel with 2000 ft of nylon line to separate payload and balloon



Launch sequence: lift off followed by two views of reel release



Termination with package on parachute



Landing in West Texas



National Scientific Balloon Facility recovery crew



Shaoul Ezekiel (Zeggy) and the iodine laser frequency reference experiment



Richard Beisford



D. Kingston Owens

1965

Edwin Jacobs BS 1965
Design and Construction of a Tilt Meter

Richard Vramek BS 1965
An Interferometric Linear Strain Seismometer

Thomas McDonough BS 1966
Analysis of a Theory of Jupiter's Decametric Radio Emissions

Thomas Seddon BS 1966
An Optical Gas Cell as an Interferometric Path Length Modulator

Jean Walker Jr BS 1967
Change in Magnetization on Ferromagnetic Resonance Absorption: Preliminary Work on the Einstein de Haas Effect

Michael Wandzilak BS 1967
Studies in Electrical Suspensions

Philip Chapman S.C.D. Astro 1967
Theoretical Foundations of Gravitational Experiments in Space
Co-supervised: Walter Wiggles, Felix Villars

Eric Sweetman BS 1968
Observation of Measurable Helium in an Atomic Beam

Peter Van Sickle BS 1968
Optical Mixing in Quartz: A Preliminary Study

Michael Blitch MS 1968
The Feasibility of a Gravitational Clock to Test the General Theory of Relativity

Shaoul Ezekiel PhD Astro/Astro 1968
A Molecular Beam Primary Reference for Long Term Laser Frequency Stabilization

Richard Johnson BS 1968
Investigation of the Einstein de Haas Effect Using Ferromagnetic Resonance Absorption

Terrance Jach BS 1969
Laser-Saturated Iodine Absorption at 5145Å

1970

Richard Beisford
Shaoul Ezekiel

Edward Hillman BS 1979
An Experimental Evaluation of a Free-Flowing Superconducting Solenoid as a Low Level Accelerometer

Hisashi Harada SB 1978
Photon Statistics of Thermal Light in an Intensity Interferometer

Gary Munson BS 1978
A Study of Solar Variability

Margaret Frerking PhD 1977
Heterodyne Detection of Infrared Molecular Lines
Supervised by Dirk Muehlner

Jonathan Lettvin BS 1976
Quick and Dirty Parabolic Reflectors for the Meter

Mark Halpern and Zachary Levine BS 1976
Design and Construction of Composite Bolometers

Michael Feder BS 1976
Gravitational Radiation from the Sun

John Anderson and Andrew Szymkowiak BS 1976
Far Infrared Diffraction Anomalous Cylinders
Supervised by Dirk Muehlner

Frederick Yung-Fung Wu PhD Astro 1976
Measurement of the Spectrum of Resonance Fluorescence Induced by a Monochromatic Fields
Supervised by Shaoul Ezekiel

D. Kingston Owens PhD 1976
A Sky Survey at Millimeter and Submillimeter Wavelengths

George Duerr BS 1975
A Fringe-Tracking Michelson Interferometer

David Trivett BS 1974
Studies of an Electrostatic Suspension

Fred Ore BS 1974
The Gravitational Lennard-Wiessner Potentials and Applications

David Little BS 1974
A Demonstration of Classical Physics Relevant to an Understanding of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

Ronald Waldron BS 1973
The Use of Cross-Correlation of Seismic Data to Detect Gravitational Radiation from Pulsars

Michael Gordon BS 1973
Detection of Rapid Fluctuations in the Earth's Magnetic Field

Daniel Morris BS 1973
Transmission of Far Infrared Radiation by Indium Antimonide Crystal

Nicholas Pierce MS 1973
Parametric Up-Conversion of Far-Infrared Radiation in Cadmium Sulfide

Frank Wentz BS 1971
The Critical Properties of a Far-Infrared Radiometer

Miles Wagner BS 1971
Rotation and Translation Sensitivity of a Spherical Mirror Cavity

Noah Bass and Gordon Legge BS 1971
A Far Infrared Interferometer and its Use in Solar Absorption and Sky Emission Studies

D. Kingston Owens BS and MS 1971
A Sensitive Inter-Cavity Polarization Interferometer

Andrew Mazzulla BS 1970
An Investigation of the Properties of a Spherical Mirror Fabry-Perot Interferometer

Alan Huber BS 1970
The Rowland Disk

Cerald Blum MS 1970
Non-Linear Thomson Scattering

Patrick Wallen BS 1970
Photon Counting in the Helium-Neon Laser at Threshold

Dirk Muehlner PhD 1970
A Measurement of the Background Radiation in the Far Infrared

Brittain Girard BS 1970
Normal Modes of Non-Radial Pulsations of a General Relativistic Stellar Model



Edward (Ned) Wright and David Shoemaker with the COBE FIRAS prototype instrument



Daniel Dewey



Jeffrey Livas



Jeffrey Livas, David Shoemaker and Daniel Dewey with completed 1.5 meter prototype



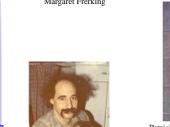
Paul Linsay and electronic chaos



Margaret Frerking



Bruce Allen



Patricia Downey and the Silicon Monolithic Bolometer



Peter Kramer and the 1.5 meter prototype interferometer



Mark Halpern



Stephan Meyer and Andrew Jeffries on Mauna Kea



Edward Cheng and Stephan Meyer



Stephan Meyer, Jeffrey Livas, Gregory Tucker, Elizabeth Buech, Peter Saulson



David Shoemaker



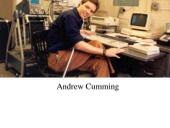
Me Electronics and Peter Saulson



Michael Burke



Lyman Page



Andrew Cumming

1980

Clifford Avey BS 1980
Time Dependence of Gravitational Lens Phenomena

David Shoemaker MS 1980
A Fourier Transform Spectrometer for Millimeter and Submillimeter Wavelengths

Patricia Downey PhD 1980
The Low Temperature Conductivity of Ion Implanted Silicon and its Application in a Cryogenic Far-IR Monolithic Bolometer

Bruce Allen BS 1980
An Intensity Interferometer for the Cosmic Background Radiation

Bruce Strawn BS 1980
Topics on the Harmonic Oscillator

Jeffrey Livas BS 1981
An Amplitude Noise Reduction System for a Laser

Marc Fischer BS 1981
Emissivity Dependence of Photon Noise Power

Christopher Lozinski BS 1982
An Active Seismic Isolation System

Lyman Dornish MS 1983
Design and Construction of Interference Filters for the Far Infrared

Mark Halpern PhD 1983
A Measurement of the Anisotropy of the Cosmic Background Radiation at Millimeter Wavelengths

Andrew Jeffries PhD 1983
Angular and Spatial Distributions of the Cosmic Background Radiation

James Hordern Jr BS 1984
The Transfer Functions of Fabry-Perot Interferometers and Their Application to One Proposed Gravitational Wave Detection Scheme

Martin Offutt BS 1985
Vibrational Quality of Support Rods in Modes of Flexure
Supervised by Peter Saulson

Seth Finkelstein BS 1985
An Investigation into the Fluctuation-Dissipation Theorem

Gregory Tucker BS 1985
High Frequency Vacuum Pressure Fluctuations

Daniel Zachary BS 1985
Force Displacement Physics for a Finned Fine Capacitor System

Robert Kusner BS 1986
The Temperature and Electric Field Dependence of Variable Range Hopping in Ion Implanted Silicon
Supervised by Stephan Meyer

Daniel Dewey PhD 1986
A Search for Astronomical Gravitational Radiation with an Interferometric Broad Band Antenna

John Evans BS 1987
Output Intensity Fluctuations of a Continuous Wave Nd:YAG Laser
Supervisor: Andrew Jeffries

Jeffrey Livas PhD 1987
Upper Limits for Gravitational Radiation from Some Astrophysical Sources
Supervised by David Shoemaker

Andrew Cumming PhD 1988
A Study of the Dynamics of an Electronic Oscillator Circuit with Three Coupling Frequencies
Supervised by Paul Linsay

Daniel J. Connelly BS 1988
A Magnetic Suspension for Vibration Isolation

Heather Patrick BS 1988
Reduction of Amplitude Fluctuations in a Laser Diode Pumped Nd:YAG Ring Laser
Supervised by Alan Oppenheim

Ron Dagbling BS 1989
Development of a Velocity Sensor for a Fourier Transform Spectrometer
Supervised by Stephan Meyer

Lyman Page PhD 1989
A Measurement of the Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation Anisotropy
Supervised by Stephan Meyer

Tao Hong Joo PhD EE 1989
Detection Statistics for Multichannel Data
Co-supervised by Alan Oppenheim

John Mraz Jr BS 1989
Coupling of Single-Mode Optical Fibers at 1.6µm Microns Using Graded Index Lenses
Supervised by Andrew Jeffries

1990

Brian Lantz PhD 1999
Quantum Limited Optical Phase Detection in a High Power Suspended Interferometer

Peter Costanzo MS 1999
LIGO Photodiode Characterization and Measurement of the Pre-stabilized Laser Intensity Noise

Brett Bochner PhD 1998
Modeling the Performance of Interferometric Gravitational Wave Detectors with Realistically Imperfect Optics

Sarah Veitch BS 1998
VLF Magnetic Field Correlation Measurements Between LIGO Sites

Partha Saha PhD 1997
Noise Analysis of a Suspended High Power Michelson Interferometer

Nergis Mavalvala PhD 1997
Alignment Issues in Laser Interferometric Gravitational Wave Detectors

Cathy Ann Inman PhD 1996
A Measurement of the Cosmic Background Radiation (CMBR) Anisotropy at the Half Degree Angular Scale
Supervised by Stephan Meyer

Joseph Gilme PhD 1995
Studies of Laser Interferometer Design and a Vibration Isolation System for Interferometric Gravitational Wave Detectors

Jason Puchalla PhD 1995
Measuring Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation Anisotropy on Medium Angular Scales
Supervised by Stephan Meyer

William Barnes PhD 1994
A Model of Galactic Dust and Gas from FIRAS
Supervised by Stephan Meyer

Joseph Kovalik PhD 1994
A Study of Thermal Noise

Erin Lawa BS 1992
The Behavior of a LIGO Proportioned Cylindrical Mirror
Supervised by David Shoemaker

Yusef Abdel Rehem BS 1991
Small Angle Scattering from Rough Surfaces

Meng Yong Goh PhD 1991
Radiometric Stability of the Far Infrared Absolute Spectrophotometer (FIRAS)
Supervised by Stephan Meyer

Michelle Eigrauber Stephens PhD 1991
Issues in the Detection of Gravitational Radiation

Nelson Christensen Jr PhD 1990
On Measuring the Stochastic Gravitational Radiation Background with Laser Interferometric Antennas

Boris Galushov BS 1990
A Fourier Transform Spectrometer System for Measurement in the Far Infrared Spectral Region
Supervised by Stephan Meyer

1990

Richard Beisford at the proposed Cherryfield, Maine LIGO site



The COBE payload



1.5 meter prototype collecting data



Edward, Anne and Georgia Daw



Michael Zucker and the 1.5 meter prototype



David Shoemaker at the LIGO Hanford site aligning a test mass

1990

David Shoemaker
Michael Zucker
Peter Fritschel
Edward Daw



Brett Bochner



Partha Saha and Peter Fritschel



Tom Evans, Peter Fritschel and Emma, Daniel Sigg



Gabriela Gonzalez



Building 20 concert with Joseph Gilme playing the saw, Joseph Kovalik singing solo and Nergis Mavalvala in the chorus



Nergis Mavalvala and Yaron Hefetz



Joseph Kovalik and the thermal noise jewel



Michelle Eigrauber Stephens and the double suspension



Nelson Christensen and Michelle Eigrauber Stephens



Sharon Salvester and Stephan Meyer



Virginie Landre and David Shoemaker

1990

Administrative Support
Elizabeth Busch 1984 - 1986
Susan Marullo 1988 - 1995
Jennifer Hilder 1998 - 2001
Maria Woods 2001



Richard Beisford at the proposed Cherryfield, Maine LIGO site

1990

Computer Support
Tom Evans 1986
Keith Bayer 2001 - 2006
Fred Dunnan 2007

1990

Technical Support
Charles Summers 1966 - 1968
Tam Evans 1986
Edward Krausz 1994 - 1998
Ralph Burgess 1995 - 2003
Matthew Smith 1997 - 2000
Myron MacIntosh 1998
John Ben 2003 - 2006
Robert Lalbertre 2006

1990

Editorial Note
The timeline of the Cosmology and Gravitational Research Group was assembled in September 2007. Although the student theses and the times associated with laboratory members are consistent with MIT records, there could well be errors. Furthermore, the pictures are not complete. I would very much appreciate receiving better pictures or missing pictures. The poster can be found at http://nrvp03.3.mit.edu/~weiss/group_poster/group_poster.pdf. Please send new information to weiss@ligo.mtu.edu

2000

Ken Mason



Brian Lantz



Robert Bennett BS 2001 Thermally Adaptive Optics for LIGO II



Phil Marfata BS 2001 Testing Dynamic Thermal Compensation of Optics for Use in LIGO II

