

A SPECTACULAR TITLE

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ABSTRACT

State problem. Briefly describe method and data. Summarize main results.

Subject headings: cosmic microwave background — cosmology: observations — methods: statistical

1. INTRODUCTION

2. METHOD

2.1. Color Camera and White Light

For this first experiment a white light was shined on and focus by a thin single lens. In the focal point of the lens a microscope objective was placed. The focal point of the lens was found by holding a piece white paper in front of the lens and finding the distance where the light is most concentrated.

The CCD was then placed in front of the objective. Here we wanted to look at the properties of the different colors in the white light, so a RGB CCD was used¹.

We could now use out Graphical User Interface(GUI) to look at the resulting pattern. The result can be described as a histogram showing the amount of light received by the three sensors in the CCD *REF THEORY*. Due to chromatic aberration *REF TO THEORY* the different colors focus at different focal length, so to look at this effect we moved the CCD carefully back- and forwards to focus the different colors; red, green and blue.

The GUI gave the possibility of viewing the pixel count of a slice of the image, for the different colors. These values were not saved, but the image itself was. The images were then used to make a plot showing the mean pixel count of each color over each column.

The GUI of the CCD also allowed us to adjust the pixel count, frame rate and exposure time, giving us the ability to study the effect this had on the picture.

Filters to filter out some of the colors in the white light was placed in front of the light, so we could look on the effect this would have on the light on the CCD.

2.2. Monochromatic Camera and Single Slit

2.2.1. Setup

The white light was now switched out with a monochromatic red laser with wavelength $\lambda = (641 \pm 12.3)$ nm *REF MY SELF*. To ensure that the laser didn't destroy the CCD, a damping filter was placed in front of the laser. Much of the same setup as above was then used for the rest: a thin lens was used to focus the laser, and in the focal point a objective was placed. The focused laser light was then captured by a monochromatic CCD².

The camera and lens was then adjusted until a sharp diffraction pattern appeared in the middle of the computer screen. The distance from the slit to the CCD was so measured carefully with a ruler. A picture of the

diffraction pattern was then taken. To clean the picture the following series of pictures were taken *REF TO THEORY ABOUT CLEANING*. All of the apparatuses, the laser, lens and objective, were removed, and for all of the pictures except the flat frames (see below) the dust cover was placed on the camera:

- 2 bias frames with minimum exposor
- 5 dark frames with the same exposor as the diffraction pattern
- 1 dark frame with maximum exposor
- 16 flat frames – see method below – with exposor set so that the average pixel value is about half that of max.
- 5 dark frames with the same exposor as for the flat frames

The flat frames are taken as follows: The dust cover was removed, then a white piece of paper was placed in front of the CCD and a white light was shined on the paper. The white paper ensured a homogeneous, white gradient over the whole CCD chip. With these axillary pictures we could clean the picture of the diffraction pattern.

2.2.2. Statistical Analysis

This part was done in Python *REF CODE*, but could be found with most other scripting languages, like R or IDL:

First a bias frame and the maximum exposor dark frames has converted to an array. From these arrays the max, min, mean and distribution of the pixel values was found and compared.

To find the readout noise we first looked at the two bias frames. To exclude the possibility of strange results near the edge of the picture, a symmetric 300x300 central part was extracted out of the two images and used. The two images (the central parts) were then added, and the mean pixel value was found. This is the same value as $\bar{B}_1 + \bar{B}_2$ *REF THEORY*. We then calculated the noise for the biases. This was done by first subtracting the images *REF THEORY*, then finding the standard deviation of the resulting image $\sigma_{B_1 - B_2}$. *REF THEORY FOR $\sqrt{2}$* .

The same was then done for two flat frames *WRITE WHICH*: first the central regions of the images were found. A mean of the sum of the images was found

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¹ For this a Edmund Optics color USB camera was used.

² A monochromatic Edmund Optics USB camera

$\bar{F}_1 + \bar{F}_2$, and then the noise of the difference of the images was found $\sigma_{F_1 - F_2}$.

From this the conversion factor then consequently the readout noise can be calculated *REF THEORY*.

To see how the number of flat frames taken improved the normalized noise, the following was calculated with the same approach as the noise above: $\sigma_{F_1 - F_2}$, $\sigma_{(F_1 + F_3) - (F_2 + F_4)}$ and so on until all the flat frames were used. For each time a new σ as calculated it was normalized with the number of pairs of flat frames used, then saved. The saved values for the noises were then plotted and compared.

To clean the image of the diffraction pattern we generally want to subtract away the noise from the dark frames, and divide away the noise from the flat frames. This was done as follows:

First an average of the 16 flat frames was found $F_{average}$. An average of the 5 dark frames corresponding to the flat frame $D_{F,average}$ was then found. We then removed the noise in the average flat frame made by the dark current, giving us the master flat frame $F_{master} = F_{average} - D_{F,average}$. This was then normalized with the scalar mean, giving us $F_{norm.master}$.

Secondly the dark frames corresponding to the image of the diffraction pattern was average to find $D_{I,raw,average}$.

Finally the final, clean image of the diffraction pattern was given as *REF THEORY*

$$I_{corrected} = \frac{I_{raw} - D_{I,raw,average}}{F_{norm.master}} \quad (1)$$

With a clean image of the diffraction pattern, the values of the middle of the images was plotted, and the distance, in pixels, to the first minima was found. From this distance the size of the pixels could be found *REF THEORY*.

2.3. Uncertainties

2.3.1. Color Camera and White Light

To get a sharp diffraction pattern, the lens, objective and CCD has to be normal to the direction of the path of the light. If the lens is off the normal, we will get a coma, and due to the chromatic aberration in the lens (even thou it is thin, it has a physical thickness) the coma will be enhanced, leading to a smear out of colors (as seen here *REF PIC*). This means that it might be difficult to get a sharp pattern, and the Airy disk might be larger then expected due to this coma, unless the lens is completely normal to the light (fortunately we are not measuring the Airy disk, so this uncertainty is only a curiosity).

When looking at the pixel counts for the different colors, we wanted to look at the pixel count when green dominated. But since green is a mix of blue and yellow, the blue is quite high when ever green is high. So there is quite a small range where green dominates all other colors, including blue. This range was difficult to find by only moving the camera back and forth, so the resulting image does not show very good results.

3. DATA

4. RESULTS

5. CONCLUSIONS