Scientific Results from Early Science

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2011 was a good year for SOFIA!!

• 35 SOFIA flights
  – 6 Short Science flights (3 FORCAST & 3 GREAT)
  – Basic Science 1 provided 9+ FORCAST flights for the science community (mostly US)
  – Basic Science 2 another 7 flights with GREAT for both the US and German astronomy community
  – And flights for the instrument teams (GREAT consortium plus one FORCAST flight shared with the community)
Two special SOFIA issues

- **FORCAST** decided to write up all the Short Science results in a special *ApJ* Letter issue.
  - 8 papers in total including one on SOFIA (Young et al. 2012) and one on FORCAST (Herter et al. 2012)
  - Another FORCAST Short Science Paper has since then been accepted in *ApJ* (Hirsch et al. 2012), Calibration paper, Herter et al ready to be submitted
  - No papers yet on Basic Science 1 data!
Two special SOFIA issues

- GREAT decided to combine both Short Science 2 and Basic Science 2 in a special A&A issue. This resulted in:
  - 22 papers of which 4 were technical
    - Of the 6 US proposals that flew, 3 were published (one paper published later with some GREAT data)
    - Of the 8 successful German proposals 5 were published in the special issue
  - A total of 9 Basic Science 2 papers from 7 GREAT flights
What is happening with Basic Science 1 data?

• These are the 9+ community flights with FORCAST (not insiders – although some are)

• Are the results being written up? How many papers can we expect?
  – We sent out a questionnaire to all 20 successful BS1 GIs
    • 15 replies
      – 6 will definitely publish
      – 2 maybe
      – 5 (source not detected or not enough signal-to-noise)
      – 2 no, not enough for a paper
Discussion

• Why so few papers from the 10 Basic Science flights?

• Some explanations (multiple choice)
  • No deadline
  • No pressure
  • More challenging programs that push or exceed the performance of the observatory (SS1 observed bright, easy targets)
  • other