



Comets

II. WSO-UV prospects

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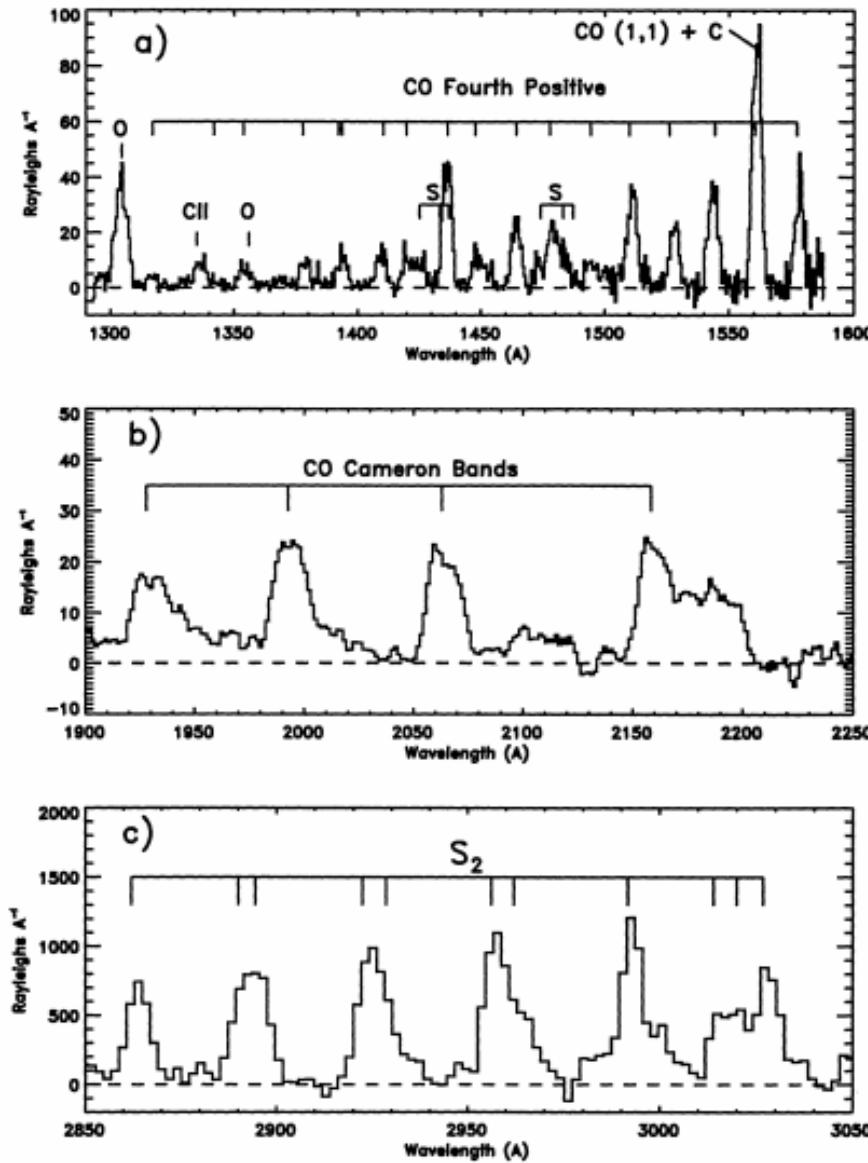
WUVS & FCU main parameters:

- **VUVES: R=50000, 115-176 nm**
- **UVES: R=50000, 174-310 nm**
- **LSS: R=1000, 115-305 nm**
- **FUV channel (FCU) with MCP detector, 115-176 nm**
 - Solar blind detector
 - Diffraction-limited imaging in FUV
 - High sensitivity in photon-counting mode
 - High time resolution
- **NUV channel (FCU) with CCD detector, 174-310 nm**
 - Wide field of view
 - High dynamic range
 - High angular resolution
 - Low resolution field spectroscopy
 - Possibility for extended spectral range: 115-1000 nm

A sample of comets observed by HST:

Comet	Albedo	R (km)	References
Hale Bopp	0.03-0.07	29-41	Lamy et al. (1999)
Encke	>0.04	<2.9	Campins (1988)
	0.02–0.08	2.2–4.9	Luu and Jewitt (1990)
	0.06	2.4	Fernández et al. (2000)
GS	0.08	1.5	Boehnhardt et al. (1999), Licandro et al. (2000)
Borelly	0.03	2.4	Britt (2001)
Hyakutake	0.01–0.015	2.1–2.4	Sarmecanic et al. (1997), Fernández et al. (1996), Lisse et al. (1999)
	>0.06	<1.05	Altenhoff et al. (1999)

Spectra obtained by HST:



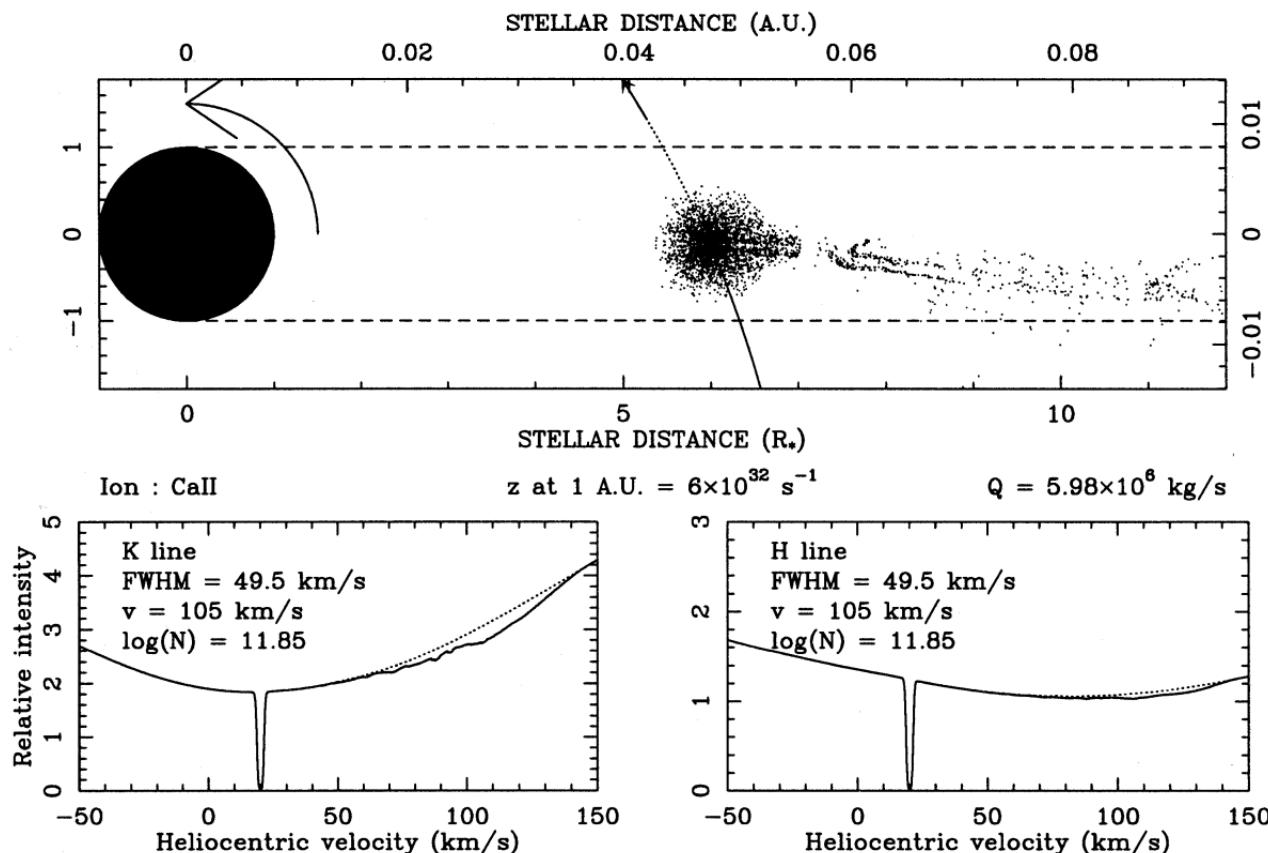
Volatile Abundances in Comets

Molecule	Abundance ^a	Relevant Remote Observations
H ₂ O	100	IR; OH from UV, radio
CO	1–10	IR, UV, radio
CO ₂	2–9	IR from space; CO Cameron from UV
CH ₃ OH	0.8–7	IR, radio
CH ₄	0.7–2	IR; CH from VIS
C ₂ H ₆	0.4–1	IR
C ₂ H ₂	0.3–0.9	IR
H ₂ CO	0.03–4	IR, radio
OCS	0.3	radio, IR
NH ₃	0.1–1	radio; NH ₂ from VIS
H ₂ S	0.1–0.3	radio
CS ₂	~0.1	CS from UV, radio
HCN	0.03–0.3	radio; CN from VIS
HNC	0.002–0.02	radio
N ₂	~0.01	N ₂ ⁺ /CO ⁺ from VIS
S ₂	0.005–0.03	UV

Weaver, 1998

HST Spectra of C/1996 B2
(Hyakutake)

Exocomets:



$R=50000$
exactly what is
needed to
detect
Mg II lines!

- Detectable when a comet passes in front of a star
- A doppler-shifted absorption appears in volatile element lines (Ca II, Na I, Mg II...)
- Falling Evaporating Bodies: FEBs

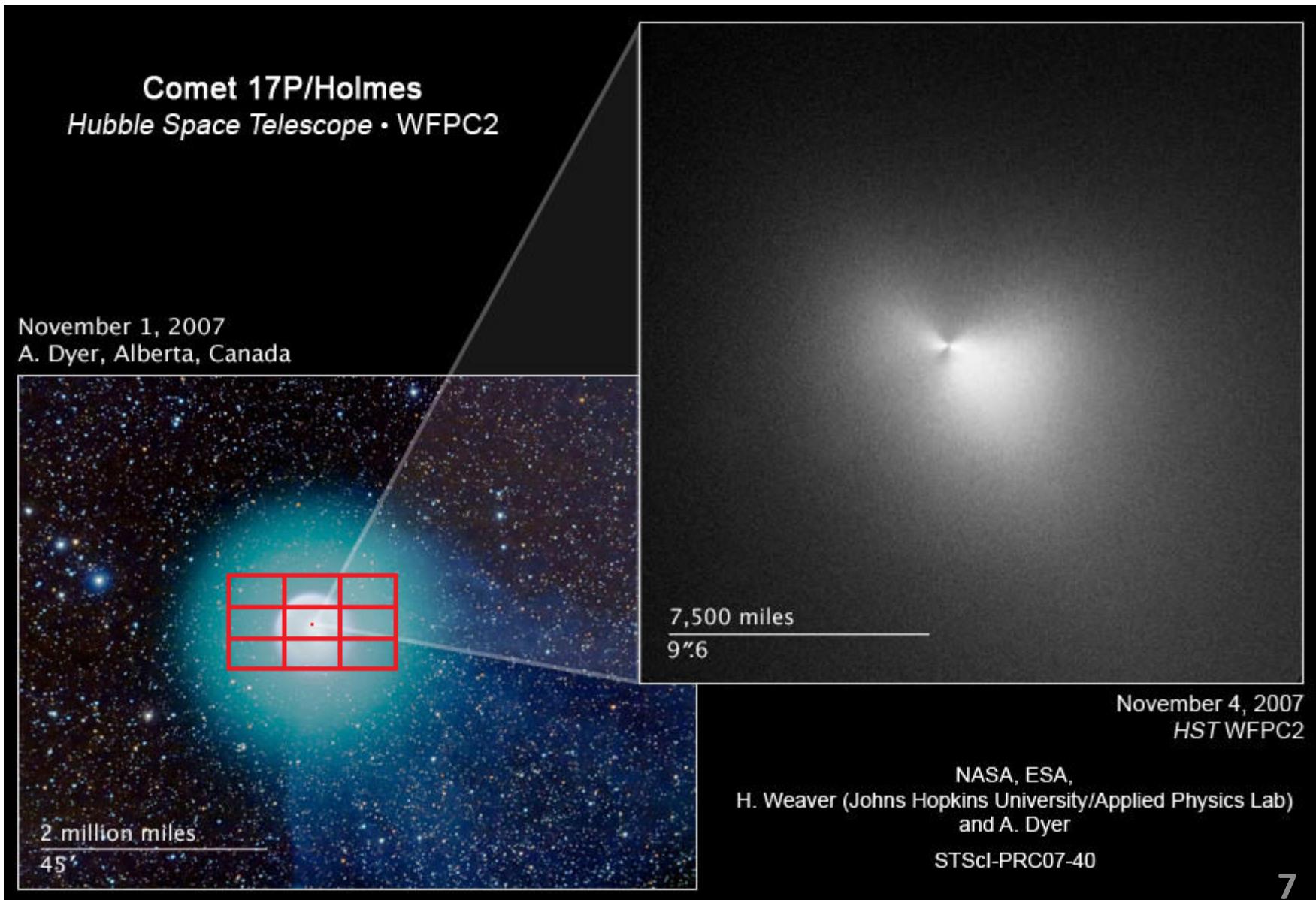
Beust et al. (1998)

Features of the FCU, compared with peers:

Parameters	Far-UV	Near-UV	HST/ACS/SBC	HST/WFC3/UVIS
Detector	MCP, analogue of UVIT (Spain)	CCD	MCP, MAMA	CCD
Spectral range, nm	115-176	174-310 (115-1000)	115-170	200–1000
D (primary mirror), m	1.7	1.7	2.4	2.4
Total throughput, %	3	12	4	10
Effective area, m ²	0.068	0.27	0.18	0.45
Field of view, arcsec×arcsec	121×121	597×451	34.59×30.8	162×162
Ω , degree ²	8.9×10^{-4}	0.021	5.8×10^{-5}	0.002
GRASP (etendue), deg ² × m ²	6×10^{-5}	5.7×10^{-3}	1.1×10^{-5}	9×10^{-4}
Scale, arcsec/pixel	0.08 (20μm)	0.146	0.033×0.030 telescope: 0.1	0.0395
Transmittance *	0.5 3 reflections	0.8 1 reflections	0.64 2 reflections	0.5* 3 reflections
Detector size, mm	30	49×37	25	61×61
Detector format	2k×2k *	4k×3k	1k×1k	4k×4k
Number of filters	Up to 10	Up to 15	6 + 2 prism	42+5

*Chamber transmittance without a telescope

Field of view:

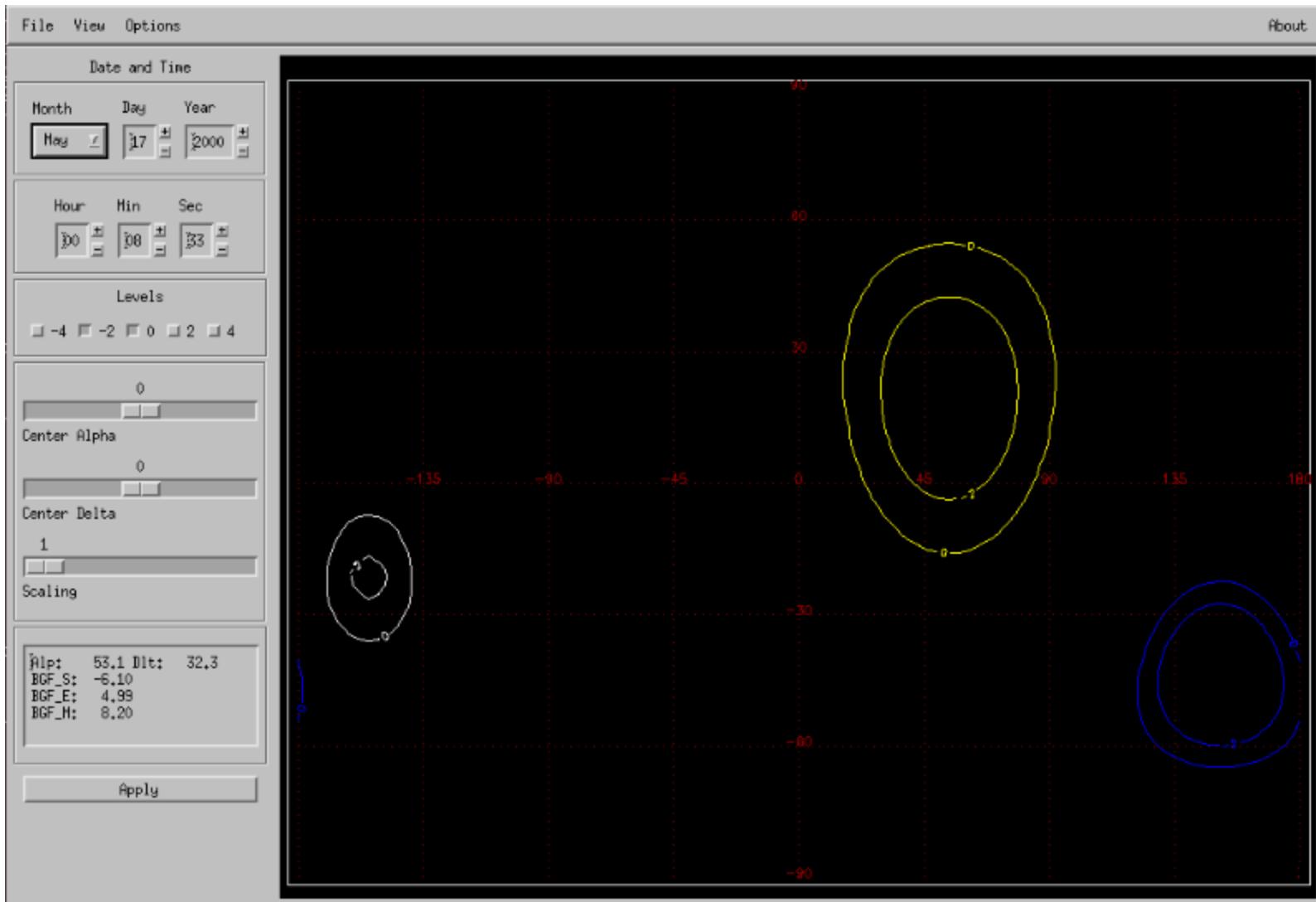


Comets:

- move
- rotate
- vary

So they should be observed many times.
The most important phase is close to
periastre.

Avoiding zones:



Limitations related to orbital properties of HST and WSO-UV :



	HST	WSO-UV
Avoiding angles:		
- Sun	50 deg	40 deg
- Earth	>180 deg	20-24 deg
- Moon	9 deg	9 deg
Orbital Period	95.47 min	24h
Maximum exposition	~6 min	6 min x 100 times continuously



WSO-UV

World Space Observatory – Ultraviolet



Thank you for attention!
Gracias por su atención