

# On-orbit performance of the Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer (*FUSE*)

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## ABSTRACT

The *Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer* (*FUSE*) satellite was launched into orbit on June 24, 1999. *FUSE* is now making high resolution ( $\lambda/\Delta\lambda = 20,000 - 25,000$ ) observations of solar system, galactic, and extragalactic targets in the far ultraviolet wavelength region (905 - 1187 Å). Its high effective area, low background, and planned three year life allow observations of objects which have been too faint for previous high resolution instruments in this wavelength range.

In this paper, we describe the on-orbit performance of the *FUSE* satellite during its first nine months of operation, including measurements of sensitivity and resolution.

**Keywords:** Astronomy, ultraviolet, spectroscopy, Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer, *FUSE*.

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