



# 3767 - Characterizing the Sources of Ionizing Photons in the Epoch of Reionization

Cycle: 2, Proposal Category: GO

## INVESTIGATORS

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## OBSERVATIONS

<i>Folder</i>	<i>Observation</i>	<i>Label</i>	<i>Observing Template</i>	<i>Science Target</i>
Observation Folder				
	1	COLA1-IFU	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(2) COLA1
	2	NEPLA4-IFU	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(3) NEPLA4
	3	AerithB-IFU	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(4) AERITHB
	4	A370-IFU	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(1) A370PZ1

## ABSTRACT

The nature of the sources emitting sufficient Lyman continuum photons to conclude cosmic reionization by  $z \sim 6$  remains elusive. Models of the reionization process governed by either abundant faint galaxies or rare luminous ones can each account for the evolving neutrality of the intergalactic medium. Here we aim to characterize the physical properties of the only four  $z > 5.8$  galaxies whose Lyman continuum leakage can be inferred from the double-peaked profile of their Lyman alpha emission. This sample represents an unique laboratory to determine if these sources are solely capable of reionizing their local environment or whether additional fainter sources are required, as well as to compare their properties with those of lower redshift Lyman Continuum leakers. In this NIRSpec IFU proposal, we will detect and spatially map for the first time the rest-frame optical

lines of the only reionization-era galaxies with measured escape fractions. We will measure the integrated and spatially resolved rest-frame optical line fluxes and line ratios, the systemic redshift, star-formation rates and history, metallicity, ionizing photon production rates, dust properties and kinematics. This dataset will provide important constraints on their role in reionizing their associated HII bubbles, the physics of ionizing photon leakage in reionization-era galaxies and their evolution with respect to low-redshift Lyman Continuum leakers.

### **OBSERVING DESCRIPTION**

The goal of this program is characterize the properties of the only four  $z > 5.8$  galaxies with inferred escape fractions. Each target will be observed with NIRSpec IFU at medium resolution (G235M + G395M,  $R=1000$ ) to detect and spatially map their rest-frame optical lines. The medium resolution is needed to resolve individual lines necessary to compute key line ratios characterizing their properties and derive kinematics from the bright H $\alpha$  line. One galaxy at  $z=6.804$  is only observed with the G395M/F290LP grism as all the lines of interest all fall into the grism wavelength range. These unprecedented observations of the rest-frame optical of reionization-era galaxies with known escape fraction will enable us to characterize the sources emitting enough hydrogen-ionizing photons to drive cosmic reionization.

Proposal 3767 - Targets - Characterizing the Sources of Ionizing Photons in the Epoch of Reionization

#	Name	Target Coordinates	Targ. Coord. Corrections	Miscellaneous
(1)	A370PZ1	RA: 02 40 14.0550 (40.0585625d) Dec: -01 37 14.27 (-1.62063d) Equinox: J2000		
<i>Comments:</i> <i>Category=Galaxy</i> <i>Description=[High-redshift galaxies]</i> <i>Extended=YES</i>				
(2)	COLA1	RA: 10 02 35.3800 (150.6474167d) Dec: +02 12 13.93 (2.20387d) Equinox: J2000		
<i>Comments:</i> <i>Category=Galaxy</i> <i>Description=[High-redshift galaxies]</i> <i>Extended=YES</i>				
(3)	NEPLA4	RA: 17 53 10.1064 (268.2921100d) Dec: +65 06 34.49 (65.10958d) Equinox: J2000		
<i>Comments: RADEC: 268.29211 +65.109581</i> <i>Category=Galaxy</i> <i>Description=[High-redshift galaxies]</i> <i>Extended=YES</i>				
(4)	AERITHB	RA: 08 36 46.2800 (129.1928333d) Dec: +00 54 10.55 (.90293d) Equinox: J2000		
<i>Comments: 08:36:46.28 00:54:10.55</i> <i>Category=Galaxy</i> <i>Description=[High-redshift galaxies]</i> <i>Extended=YES</i>				

Fixed Targets

Proposal 3767 - Observation 1 - Characterizing the Sources of Ionizing Photons in the Epoch of Reionization

Sat Feb 03 00:00:28 GMT 2024

<b>Observation</b>	<p><b>Proposal 3767, Observation 1: COLA1-IFU</b></p> <p><b>Diagnostic Status: Warning</b></p> <p>Observing Template: NIRSspec IFU Spectroscopy</p>											
<b>Diagnostics</b>	(Visit 1:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.											
<b>Fixed Targets</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Target Coordinates</b>			<b>Targ. Coord. Corrections</b>			<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
	(2)	COLA1	RA: 10 02 35.3800 (150.6474167d) Dec: +02 12 13.93 (2.20387d) Equinox: J2000									
	<p><i>Comments:</i>  <i>Category=Galaxy</i>  <i>Description=[High-redshift galaxies]</i>  <i>Extended=YES</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>											
	NONE											
<b>Dithers</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Dither Type</b>		<b>Size</b>	<b>Starting Point</b>			<b>Number of Points</b>	<b>Points</b>			
	1	4-POINT-DITHER										
<b>Spectral Elements</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Grating/Filter</b>	<b>Readout Pattern</b>	<b>Groups/Int</b>	<b>Integrations/Exp</b>	<b>Leakcal</b>	<b>Dither</b>	<b>Autocal</b>	<b>Total Dithers</b>	<b>Total Integrations</b>	<b>Total Exposure Time</b>	<b>ETC Wkbk.Calc ID</b>
	1	G235M/F170LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	40	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	2392.578	
	2	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	40	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	2392.578	

Proposal 3767 - Observation 2 - Characterizing the Sources of Ionizing Photons in the Epoch of Reionization

Sat Feb 03 00:00:28 GMT 2024

<b>Observation</b>	<p><b>Proposal 3767, Observation 2: NEPLA4-IFU</b></p> <p><b>Diagnostic Status: Warning</b></p> <p>Observing Template: NIRSspec IFU Spectroscopy</p>											
<b>Diagnostics</b>	(Visit 2:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.											
<b>Fixed Targets</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Target Coordinates</b>			<b>Targ. Coord. Corrections</b>			<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
	(3)	NEPLA4	RA: 17 53 10.1064 (268.2921100d) Dec: +65 06 34.49 (65.10958d) Equinox: J2000									
	<p><i>Comments: RADEC: 268.29211 +65.109581</i></p> <p><i>Category=Galaxy</i></p> <p><i>Description=[High-redshift galaxies]</i></p> <p><i>Extended=YES</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>											
	NONE											
<b>Dithers</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Dither Type</b>		<b>Size</b>	<b>Starting Point</b>			<b>Number of Points</b>	<b>Points</b>			
	1	4-POINT-DITHER										
<b>Spectral Elements</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Grating/Filter</b>	<b>Readout Pattern</b>	<b>Groups/Int</b>	<b>Integrations/Exp</b>	<b>Leakcal</b>	<b>Dither</b>	<b>Autocal</b>	<b>Total Dithers</b>	<b>Total Integrations</b>	<b>Total Exposure Time</b>	<b>ETC Wkbk.Calc ID</b>
	1	G235M/F170LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	40	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	2392.578	
	2	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	40	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	2392.578	

Proposal 3767 - Observation 3 - Characterizing the Sources of Ionizing Photons in the Epoch of Reionization

Sat Feb 03 00:00:28 GMT 2024

<b>Observation</b>	<p><b>Proposal 3767, Observation 3: AerithB-IFU</b></p> <p><b>Diagnostic Status: Warning</b></p> <p>Observing Template: NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy</p>											
<b>Diagnostics</b>	(Visit 3:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.											
<b>Fixed Targets</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Target Coordinates</b>			<b>Targ. Coord. Corrections</b>			<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
	(4)	AERITHB	RA: 08 36 46.2800 (129.1928333d) Dec: +00 54 10.55 (.90293d) Equinox: J2000									
	<p><i>Comments: 08:36:46.28 00:54:10.55</i></p> <p><i>Category=Galaxy</i></p> <p><i>Description=[High-redshift galaxies]</i></p> <p><i>Extended=YES</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>											
	NONE											
<b>Dithers</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Dither Type</b>		<b>Size</b>	<b>Starting Point</b>			<b>Number of Points</b>	<b>Points</b>			
	1	4-POINT-DITHER										
<b>Spectral Elements</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Grating/Filter</b>	<b>Readout Pattern</b>	<b>Groups/Int</b>	<b>Integrations/Exp</b>	<b>Leakcal</b>	<b>Dither</b>	<b>Autocal</b>	<b>Total Dithers</b>	<b>Total Integrations</b>	<b>Total Exposure Time</b>	<b>ETC Wkbk.Calc ID</b>
	1	G235M/F170LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	40	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	2392.578	
	2	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	40	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	2392.578	

Proposal 3767 - Observation 4 - Characterizing the Sources of Ionizing Photons in the Epoch of Reionization

Sat Feb 03 00:00:28 GMT 2024

<b>Observation</b>	<p>Proposal 3767, Observation 4: A370-IFU</p> <p><b>Diagnostic Status: Warning</b></p> <p>Observing Template: NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy</p>											
<b>Diagnostics</b>	(Visit 4:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.											
<b>Fixed Targets</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Target Coordinates</b>			<b>Targ. Coord. Corrections</b>			<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
	(1)	A370PZ1	RA: 02 40 14.0550 (40.0585625d) Dec: -01 37 14.27 (-1.62063d) Equinox: J2000									
	<p><i>Comments:</i>  <i>Category=Galaxy</i>  <i>Description=[High-redshift galaxies]</i>  <i>Extended=YES</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>											
	NONE											
<b>Dithers</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Dither Type</b>		<b>Size</b>	<b>Starting Point</b>			<b>Number of Points</b>	<b>Points</b>			
	1	4-POINT-DITHER										
<b>Spectral Elements</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Grating/Filter</b>	<b>Readout Pattern</b>	<b>Groups/Int</b>	<b>Integrations/Exp</b>	<b>Leakcal</b>	<b>Dither</b>	<b>Autocal</b>	<b>Total Dithers</b>	<b>Total Integrations</b>	<b>Total Exposure Time</b>	<b>ETC Wkbk.Calc ID</b>
	1	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPID	81	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	4785.156	