



3849 - A Pristine IMF Probe of the Star-Forming Conditions in the Early Universe

Cycle: 2, Proposal Category: GO

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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		NIRCam Imaging	(1) BOOI

ABSTRACT

Ultra-faint dwarfs (UFDs) are exquisite relics of the high-redshift Universe. Their remnant stellar populations preserve the star-formation conditions from a time prior to the epoch of reionization. Using these fossils, we can quantify how the state of the early interstellar medium affected the process of star formation.

The impact of this primordial setting, with gas kinematics and metallicity distinct from today's Milky Way environments, is expected to be encoded in the Initial Mass Function. However, before the advent of JWST, it has been impossible to robustly probe IMF variations beyond the Milky Way using the simple and direct method of counting stars. Resolved stellar population studies with HST have only scratched the surface of possible IMF variations within the Local Group. We propose deep JWST/NIRCam imaging observations to study the stellar initial-mass function (IMF) of the Bootes I UFD satellite, using resolved star counts.

JWST/NIRCam can improve our knowledge of the IMF by providing the necessary sensitivity to go beyond the IMF peak, as well as a large field of view in the infrared. Deep and wide IR imaging is necessary to precisely estimate IMF parameters. Bootes I is the ideal candidate in terms of proximity and luminosity, and its ancient star-formation history ended before the onset of reionization. Our study will provide a benchmark for interpreting JWST observations of high-redshift galaxies caught in the act of forming stars, allowing a better characterization of the cosmic history of baryons.

OBSERVING DESCRIPTION

We request JWST/NIRCam imaging observations of the dwarf Milky Way satellite Bootes I.

The target will be observed in full frame with the 2 NIRCam modules A and B.

JWST Proposal 3849 (Created: Friday, May 10, 2024 at 5:00:42 PM Eastern Standard Time) - Overview

We will obtain simultaneous observations in the F150W (Short wavelength channel) and F332W2 (Long Wavelength channel) passbands.

Bootes I is close to the Milky Way (66 kpc) and subtends a large area on the sky. We thus request a mosaic of $2 \times 3 = 6$ pointings.

To reach our required SNR, we will execute 20 dithers for each mosaic tile.

Each exposure consists in 9 groups, with the MEDIUM8 readout pattern.

We do not request any coordinated parallel observations.

Proposal 3849 - Targets - A Pristine IMF Probe of the Star-Forming Conditions in the Early Universe

Fixed Targets	#	Name	Target Coordinates	Targ. Coord. Corrections	Miscellaneous
	(1)	BOOI	RA: 14 00 4.0000 (210.0166667d) Dec: +14 30 47.00 (14.51306d) Equinox: J2000		
Comments: Category= <i>Galaxy</i> Description= <i>[Dwarf spheroidal galaxies]</i>					

Proposal 3849 - Observation 1 - A Pristine IMF Probe of the Star-Forming Conditions in the Early Universe

Fri May 10 22:00:42 GMT 2024

Observation	Proposal 3849, Observation 1 Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: NIRCam Imaging									
Diagnostics	(Visit 1:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run. (Visit 1:2) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run. (Visit 1:3) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run. (Visit 1:4) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run. (Visit 1:5) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run. (Visit 1:6) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.									
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<i>Comments:</i> Category=Galaxy Description=[Dwarf spheroidal galaxies]										
Template	Module		Subarray			Target Placement				
ALL		FULL			Module Gap					
Mosaic	Rows	Columns	Row Overlap %	Column Overlap %	Row shift (deg)	Column shift (deg)	Tile Order			
3	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	DEFAULT				
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size	Subpixel Positions	
1	NONE				STANDARD			20		
Spectral Elements	#	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID
1	F150W	F322W2	MEDIUM8	9	1	20	20	18896.715		

Proposal 3849 - Observation 1 - A Pristine IMF Probe of the Star-Forming Conditions in the Early Universe

Special Requirements

Group Visits within 53.0 Days
Visits Same PA