



# 6161 - Following the water throughout star formation via its deuteration ratio in ices

Cycle: 3, Proposal Category: GO

## INVESTIGATORS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Institution</i>
<b>Katerina Slavicinska (PI) (ESA Member)</b>	<b>Universiteit Leiden</b>
Dr. Ewine F. Van Dishoeck (CoI) (ESA Member)	Universiteit Leiden
Dr. Will Rocha (CoI) (ESA Member)	Universiteit Leiden
Ms. Marina Gomes Rachid (CoI) (ESA Member)	Universiteit Leiden
Dr. Martijn van Gelder (CoI) (ESA Member)	Universiteit Leiden
Prof. Harold Linnartz (CoI) (ESA Member)	Universiteit Leiden
Lukasz Tychoniec (CoI) (ESA Member)	
Dr. Tom Megeath (CoI) (US Admin CoI)	University of Toledo
Dr. Mayank Narang (CoI)	Academia Sinica, Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics
Mr. Himanshu Tyagi (CoI)	Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay

## OBSERVATIONS

<i>Folder</i>	<i>Observation</i>	<i>Label</i>	<i>Observing Template</i>	<i>Science Target</i>
Prestellar cores				
	1	2MASS J12014301-6508422	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(1) 2MASS-J12014301-6508422
	2	2MASS J17112005-2727131	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(2) 2MASS-J17112005-2727131
	3	2MASS J18171181-0814012	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(3) 2MASS-J18171181-0814012
LYSOs				
	4	BHR 71 IRS1	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(4) BHR-71-IRS1

<i>Folder</i>	<i>Observation</i>	<i>Label</i>	<i>Observing Template</i>	<i>Science Target</i>
	5	L483	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(5) L483
	6	IRAS 15398-3359	NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy	(6) IRAS-15398-3359

## ABSTRACT

The question of how water forms and evolves throughout star and planet formation is not only crucial for understanding how life was able to evolve on Earth, but also whether life can evolve in other solar systems. Due to the sensitivity of deuteration processes to physicochemical conditions, the deuterium abundance of water provides a window into the environment in which it formed and existed. Recent JWST data show that the unprecedented sensitivity of the NIRSpec IFU at 4.1  $\mu\text{m}$  enables robust measurement of the HDO/H<sub>2</sub>O ratio of interstellar ices for the first time, providing a clear path to characterizing the link between prestellar water ice and the water found in solar system bodies such as our Earth, comets, moons, and water-rich asteroids.

We propose to search for HDO ice with NIRSpec IFU in three prestellar cores and three low-mass protostars. In these objects, we will constrain the column densities and morphologies of H<sub>2</sub>O ice via the O-H stretching band at 3  $\mu\text{m}$  and HDO ice via the O-D stretching band at 4.1  $\mu\text{m}$ , which can only be observed via G395M when observing with NIRSpec IFU. We will also constrain the CH<sub>3</sub>OH ice column density via the 3.53  $\mu\text{m}$  band to ensure that any observed absorptions at 4.1  $\mu\text{m}$  cannot be attributed instead to CH<sub>3</sub>OH. The use of the IFU will enable correlation of ice morphologies in extended sources. In two of the low-mass protostars, the ratios measured in the ices will be compared to their gas-phase HDO/H<sub>2</sub>O ratios obtained by ALMA. The proposed observations will probe more deeply than before the physicochemical history of water and evaluate if prestellar water ice is inherited by protoplanetary disks and bodies that form within them.

## OBSERVING DESCRIPTION

We propose to observe three prestellar cores and three isolated low-mass protostars with NIRSpec IFU single pointing using the G395M grating to cover the 2.87-5.14  $\mu\text{m}$  range relevant for quantifying HDO ice via its band at 4.1  $\mu\text{m}$  as well as the G235M grating (for bright sources) or PRISM (for dimmer sources) to define the short-wavelength continuum  $<2.87 \mu\text{m}$ , enabling quantification of the H<sub>2</sub>O water ice via its 3  $\mu\text{m}$  band. The G395M observations aim for SNR  $>400$  in order to detect the predicted HDO column densities above 3 sigma levels. These observations will result in quantification of the HDO/H<sub>2</sub>O ratio in the ices located along the lines of sight in the selected targets. Target acquisition is not needed due to the use of the IFU. A 4-point dither was selected for all observations to optimize spatial and spectral sampling. Leakcal is not requested as no particularly bright objects are located in the vicinity of our selected targets. We select NRSIRS2RAPID readout for all objects except one, which requires the NRSRAPID readout due to saturation issues.

Proposal 6161 - Targets - Following the water throughout star formation via its deuteration ratio in ices

#	Name	Target Coordinates	Targ. Coord. Corrections	Miscellaneous
(1)	2MASS-J12014301-6508422	RA: 12 01 42.9640 (180.4290167d) Dec: -65 08 42.53 (-65.14515d) Equinox: J2000	Epoch of Position: 2000	
<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i>  <i>Category=ISM</i>  <i>Description=[Dense interstellar clouds]</i></p>				
(2)	2MASS-J17112005-2727131	RA: 17 11 20.0500 (257.8335417d) Dec: -27 27 13.10 (-27.45364d) Equinox: J2000	Epoch of Position: 2000	
<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i>  <i>Category=ISM</i>  <i>Description=[Dense interstellar clouds]</i></p>				
(3)	2MASS-J18171181-0814012	RA: 18 17 11.8110 (274.2992125d) Dec: -08 14 1.29 (-8.23369d) Equinox: J2000	Epoch of Position: 2000	
<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i>  <i>Category=ISM</i>  <i>Description=[Dense interstellar clouds]</i></p>				
(4)	BHR-71-IRS1	RA: 12 01 36.4890 (180.4020375d) Dec: -65 08 49.40 (-65.14706d) Equinox: J2000	Epoch of Position: 2000	
<p><i>Comments:</i>  <i>Category=ISM</i>  <i>Description=[Protostars]</i>  <i>Extended=YES</i></p>				
(5)	L483	RA: 18 17 29.9832 (274.3749300d) Dec: -04 39 39.87 (-4.66107d) Equinox: J2000	Epoch of Position: 2000	
<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i>  <i>Category=ISM</i>  <i>Description=[Protostars]</i>  <i>Extended=YES</i></p>				
(6)	IRAS-15398-3359	RA: 15 43 2.2102 (235.7592092d) Dec: -34 09 7.71 (-34.15214d) Equinox: J2000	Epoch of Position: 2000	
<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i>  <i>Category=ISM</i>  <i>Description=[Protostars]</i>  <i>Extended=YES</i></p>				

Fixed Targets

Proposal 6161 - Observation 1 - Following the water throughout star formation via its deuteration ratio in ices

Wed Apr 09 19:01:06 GMT 2025

<b>Observation</b>	<p><b>Proposal 6161, Observation 1: 2MASS J12014301-6508422</b></p> <p><b>Diagnostic Status: Warning</b></p> <p>Observing Template: NIRSpec 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>			
	(1)	2MASS-J12014301-6508422	RA: 12 01 42.9640 (180.4290167d) Dec: -65 08 42.53 (-65.14515d) Equinox: J2000			Epoch of Position: 2000						
	<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i></p> <p><i>Category=ISM</i></p> <p><i>Description=[Dense interstellar clouds]</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>						<b>HFF Readout Mode</b>					
	NONE						false					
<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	NRSIRS2RAPID	5	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	350.133	176698.1
	2	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPID	5	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	350.133	176698.2
	3	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPID	5	1	true	true	NONE	4	4	350.133	

Proposal 6161 - Observation 2 - Following the water throughout star formation via its deuteration ratio in ices

Wed Apr 09 19:01:06 GMT 2025

<b>Observation</b>	<p><b>Proposal 6161, Observation 2: 2MASS J17112005-2727131</b></p> <p><b>Diagnostic Status: Warning</b></p> <p>Observing Template: NIRSpec 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>			
	(2)	2MASS-J17112005-2727131	RA: 17 11 20.0500 (257.8335417d) Dec: -27 27 13.10 (-27.45364d) Equinox: J2000			Epoch of Position: 2000						
	<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i></p> <p><i>Category=ISM</i></p> <p><i>Description=[Dense interstellar clouds]</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>						<b>HFF Readout Mode</b>					
	NONE						false					
<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	NRSIRS2RAPID	5	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	350.133	176698.3
	2	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPID	5	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	350.133	176698.4

Proposal 6161 - Observation 3 - Following the water throughout star formation via its deuteration ratio in ices

Wed Apr 09 19:01:06 GMT 2025

<b>Observation</b>	<p><b>Proposal 6161, Observation 3: 2MASS J18171181-0814012</b></p> <p><b>Diagnostic Status: Warning</b></p> <p>Observing Template: NIRSspec 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>			
	(3)	2MASS-J18171181-0814012	RA: 18 17 11.8110 (274.2992125d) Dec: -08 14 1.29 (-8.23369d) Equinox: J2000			Epoch of Position: 2000						
	<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i></p> <p><i>Category=ISM</i></p> <p><i>Description=[Dense interstellar clouds]</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>						<b>HFF Readout Mode</b>					
	NONE						false					
<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	5	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	350.133	176698.5
	2	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	5	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	350.133	176698.6
	3	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	5	1	true	true	NONE	4	4	350.133	

Proposal 6161 - Observation 4 - Following the water throughout star formation via its deuteration ratio in ices

Wed Apr 09 19:01:06 GMT 2025

<b>Observation</b>	<p><b>Proposal 6161, Observation 4: BHR 71 IRS1</b></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>			
	(4)	BHR-71-IRS1	RA: 12 01 36.4890 (180.4020375d) Dec: -65 08 49.40 (-65.14706d) Equinox: J2000			Epoch of Position: 2000						
	<p><i>Comments:</i>  <i>Category=ISM</i>  <i>Description=[Protostars]</i>  <i>Extended=YES</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>						<b>HFF Readout Mode</b>					
	NONE						false					
<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	PRISM/CLEAR	NRSIRS2RAPI D	20	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	1225.467	176698.7
	2	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	8	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	525.2	176698.8
	3	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	8	1	true	true	NONE	4	4	525.2	

Proposal 6161 - Observation 5 - Following the water throughout star formation via its deuteration ratio in ices

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<b>Observation</b>	<p><b>Proposal 6161, Observation 5: L483</b></p> <p><b>Diagnostic Status: Warning</b></p> <p>Observing Template: NIRSpec IFU Spectroscopy</p>											
<b>Diagnostics</b>	(Visit 5:1) 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>			
	(5)	L483	RA: 18 17 29.9832 (274.3749300d) Dec: -04 39 39.87 (-4.66107d) Equinox: J2000			Epoch of Position: 2000						
	<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i></p> <p><i>Category=ISM</i></p> <p><i>Description=[Protostars]</i></p> <p><i>Extended=YES</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>						<b>HFF Readout Mode</b>					
	NONE						false					
<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	NRSIRS2RAPID	16	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	992.045	176698.10
	2	G395M/F290LP	NRSRAPID	4	2	false	true	NONE	4	8	429.471	176698.11
	3	G395M/F290LP	NRSRAPID	4	2	true	true	NONE	4	8	429.471	

Proposal 6161 - Observation 6 - Following the water throughout star formation via its deuteration ratio in ices

Wed Apr 09 19:01:06 GMT 2025

<b>Observation</b>	<p><b>Proposal 6161, Observation 6: IRAS 15398-3359</b></p> <p><b>Diagnostic Status: Warning</b></p> <p>Observing Template: NIRSspec IFU Spectroscopy</p>											
<b>Diagnostics</b>	(Visit 6:1) 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>			
	(6)	IRAS-15398-3359	RA: 15 43 2.2102 (235.7592092d) Dec: -34 09 7.71 (-34.15214d) Equinox: J2000			Epoch of Position: 2000						
	<p><i>Comments: This object was generated by the targetselector and retrieved from the SIMBAD database.</i></p> <p><i>Category=ISM</i></p> <p><i>Description=[Protostars]</i></p> <p><i>Extended=YES</i></p>											
<b>Template</b>	<b>TA Method</b>						<b>HFF Readout Mode</b>					
	NONE						false					
<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	PRISM/CLEAR	NRSIRS2RAPI D	9	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	583.556	176698.12
	2	G395M/F290LP	NRSIRS2RAPI D	9	1	false	true	NONE	4	4	583.556	176698.14