



2091 - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin Phase

Cycle: 1, Proposal Category: GO

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JWST Proposal 2091 (Created: Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 6:01:04 PM Eastern Standard Time) - Overview

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OBSERVATIONS

<i>Folder</i>	<i>Observation</i>	<i>Label</i>	<i>Observing Template</i>	<i>Science Target</i>
Epoch 1				
	1	NIRCam	NIRCam Imaging	(1) KILONOVA
	2	MIRI	MIRI Imaging	(1) KILONOVA
Epoch 2				
	3	NIRCam	NIRCam Imaging	(1) KILONOVA

<i>Folder</i>	<i>Observation</i>	<i>Label</i>	<i>Observing Template</i>	<i>Science Target</i>
	4	MIRI	MIRI Imaging	(1) KILONOVA
Epoch 3				
	5	NIRCam	NIRCam Imaging	(1) KILONOVA
	6	MIRI	MIRI Imaging	(1) KILONOVA
Epoch 4				
	7	NIRCam	NIRCam Imaging	(1) KILONOVA
	8	MIRI	MIRI Imaging	(1) KILONOVA

ABSTRACT

Approximately half of all elements heavier than iron form through rapid-neutron capture. Yet the cosmic origin of these “r-process” elements has been debated for over 60 years. In 2017, the discovery of a kilonova associated with the gravitational wave source GW170817 partially unraveled this mystery---firmly establishing that neutron star mergers do synthesize r-process elements. However, in this discovery's wake many questions remain. In particular, it is unclear whether GW170817 synthesized any of the heaviest “third peak” or actinide elements. As a result, we are still uncertain whether NS mergers are the only – or even the dominant – site of r-process production. We propose to use JWST/NIRCam and JWST/MIRI to tackle this open question by observing a new kilonova discovered during LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA Observing Run 4. We will carry out our observations between ~30-120 days post-merger when the ejecta is optically thin. During this nebular phase, the bolometric luminosity will trace the instantaneous heating rate due to radioactive decay; with decline rates that vary depending how far up the periodic table the r-process proceeded. Constraining the bolometric luminosity at these epochs requires broad-band coverage between ~1-10 microns to depths of ~25-28 mag (AB). Hence, JWST is the only facility capable of carrying out these observations.

OBSERVING DESCRIPTION

This proposal will perform NIRCam and MIRI photometry of a new kilonova discovered within 150 Mpc during LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA Observing Run 4. Observations will be carried out at +30, +50, +80 and +120 days post-merger. This is a non disruptive ToO, with observations starting at least 20 days post-activation. At each epoch, images will be obtained in F090W, F150W2, F322W2, and F444W (NIRCam) as well as F770W (MIRI). Finally, a set of reference images in the same filters will be obtained during Cycle 2 once the kilonova has faded (~250 days post-merger).

Proposal 2091 - Targets - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin Phase

Generic Targets	#	Name	Criteria	Description
	(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc	

Proposal 2091 - Observation 1 - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin ...

Wed Jan 04 23:01:04 GMT 2023

Observation	<p>Proposal 2091, Observation 1: NIRCam</p> <p>Diagnostic Status: Error</p> <p>Observing Template: NIRCam Imaging</p>									
Diagnostics	<p>(NIRCam (Obs 1)) Error (Form): Observations using Generic targets must have an On Hold special requirement.</p> <p>(Visit 1:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.</p>									
Generic Targets	#	Name	Criteria	Description						
	(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc							
Template	Module					Subarray				
	ALL					FULL				
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size	Subpixel Positions	
	1	NONE				STANDARD			4	
Spectral Elements	#	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID
	1	F090W	F444W	BRIGHT2	3	1	4	4	257.682	
	2	F150W2	F322W2	BRIGHT2	3	1	4	4	257.682	
Special Requirements	<p>Offset 55.0 arcsec, 35.0 arcsec</p> <p>Target Of Opportunity response time 20 Days Long-Term ToO</p> <p>3 After 1 by 18 Days to 22 Days</p> <p>Group Observations 1, 2, Non-interruptible</p>									

Proposal 2091 - Observation 2 - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin ...

Wed Jan 04 23:01:04 GMT 2023

Observation	<p>Proposal 2091, Observation 2: MIRI</p> <p>Diagnostic Status: Error</p> <p>Observing Template: MIRI Imaging</p>																															
Diagnostics	<p>(MIRI (Obs 2)) Error (Form): Observations using Generic targets must have an On Hold special requirement.</p> <p>(Visit 2:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.</p>																															
Generic Targets	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>#</th> <th>Name</th> <th>Criteria</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>(1)</td> <td>KILONOVA</td> <td>Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>										#	Name	Criteria	Description	(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc															
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(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc																														
Template	<p>Subarray</p> <p>FULL</p>																															
Dithers	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>#</th> <th>Dither Type</th> <th>Starting Point</th> <th>Number of Points</th> <th>Points</th> <th>Starting Set</th> <th>Number of Sets</th> <th>Optimized For</th> <th>Direction</th> <th>Pattern Size</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>4-Point-Sets</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>5</td> <td>1</td> <td>POINT SOURCE</td> <td>POSITIVE</td> <td>DEFAULT</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>										#	Dither Type	Starting Point	Number of Points	Points	Starting Set	Number of Sets	Optimized For	Direction	Pattern Size	1	4-Point-Sets				5	1	POINT SOURCE	POSITIVE	DEFAULT		
#	Dither Type	Starting Point	Number of Points	Points	Starting Set	Number of Sets	Optimized For	Direction	Pattern Size																							
1	4-Point-Sets				5	1	POINT SOURCE	POSITIVE	DEFAULT																							
Spectral Elements	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>#</th> <th>Filter</th> <th>Readout Pattern</th> <th>Groups/Int</th> <th>Integrations/Exp</th> <th>Exposures/Dith</th> <th>Dither</th> <th>Total Dithers</th> <th>Total Integrations</th> <th>Total Exposure Time</th> <th>ETC Wkbk.Calc ID</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>F770W</td> <td>FASTR1</td> <td>40</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>Dither 1</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> <td>444.006</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>										#	Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Exposures/Dith	Dither	Total Dithers	Total Integrations	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID	1	F770W	FASTR1	40	1	1	Dither 1	4	4	444.006	
#	Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Exposures/Dith	Dither	Total Dithers	Total Integrations	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID																						
1	F770W	FASTR1	40	1	1	Dither 1	4	4	444.006																							
Special Requirements	<p>Target Of Opportunity response time 20 Days Long-Term ToO</p> <p>Group Observations 1, 2, Non-interruptible</p>																															

Proposal 2091 - Observation 3 - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin ...

Wed Jan 04 23:01:04 GMT 2023

Observation	<p>Proposal 2091, Observation 3: NIRCam Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: NIRCam Imaging</p>									
Diagnostics	(Visit 3:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.									
Generic Targets	#	Name	Criteria	Description						
	(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc							
Template	Module					Subarray				
	ALL					FULL				
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size	Subpixel Positions	
	1	NONE				STANDARD			4	
Spectral Elements	#	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID
	1	F090W	F444W	BRIGHT1	6	1	4	4	472.418	
	2	F150W2	F322W2	BRIGHT1	6	1	4	4	472.418	
Special Requirements	<p>Offset 55.0 arcsec, 35.0 arcsec On Hold until kilonova associated with NS merger is identified</p> <p>3 After 1 by 18 Days to 22 Days 5 After 3 by 28 Days to 32 Days Group Observations 3, 4, Non-interruptible</p>									

Proposal 2091 - Observation 4 - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin ...

Wed Jan 04 23:01:04 GMT 2023

Observation	<p>Proposal 2091, Observation 4: MIRI Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: MIRI Imaging</p>										
Diagnostics	(Visit 4:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.										
Generic Targets	#	Name	Criteria	Description							
	(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc								
Template	<p>Subarray FULL</p>										
Dithers	#	Dither Type	Starting Point	Number of Points	Points	Starting Set	Number of Sets	Optimized For	Direction	Pattern Size	
	1	4-Point-Sets				5	1	POINT SOURCE	POSITIVE	DEFAULT	
Spectral Elements	#	Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Exposures/Dith	Dither	Total Dithers	Total Integrations	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID
	1	F770W	FASTR1	110	1	1	Dither 1	4	4	1221.018	
Special Requirements	<p>On Hold Until Kilonova Associated with NS Merger is Identified. Group Observations 3, 4, Non-interruptible</p>										

Proposal 2091 - Observation 5 - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin ...

Wed Jan 04 23:01:04 GMT 2023

Observation	<p>Proposal 2091, Observation 5: NIRCam Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: NIRCam Imaging</p>									
Diagnostics	(Visit 5:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.									
Generic Targets	#	Name	Criteria	Description						
	(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc							
Template	Module					Subarray				
	ALL					FULL				
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size	Subpixel Positions	
	1	NONE				STANDARD			4	
Spectral Elements	#	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID
	1	F090W	F444W	SHALLOW4	5	1	4	4	1030.73	
	2	F150W2	F322W2	SHALLOW4	5	1	4	4	1030.73	
Special Requirements	<p>Offset 55.0 arcsec, 35.0 arcsec On Hold until kilonova associated with NS merger is identified 5 After 3 by 28 Days to 32 Days 7 After 5 by 38 Days to 42 Days Group Observations 5, 6, Non-interruptible</p>									

Proposal 2091 - Observation 6 - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin ...

Wed Jan 04 23:01:04 GMT 2023

Observation	<p>Proposal 2091, Observation 6: MIRI Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: MIRI Imaging</p>										
Diagnostics	(Visit 6:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.										
Generic Targets	#	Name	Criteria	Description							
	(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc								
Template	<p>Subarray FULL</p>										
Dithers	#	Dither Type	Starting Point	Number of Points	Points	Starting Set	Number of Sets	Optimized For	Direction	Pattern Size	
	1	4-Point-Sets				5	1	POINT SOURCE	POSITIVE	DEFAULT	
Spectral Elements	#	Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Exposures/Dith	Dither	Total Dithers	Total Integrations	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID
	1	F770W	FASTR1	170	1	1	Dither 1	4	4	1887.027	
Special Requirements	<p>On Hold Until Kilonova Associated with NS Merger is Identified. Group Observations 5, 6, Non-interruptible</p>										

Proposal 2091 - Observation 7 - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin ...

Wed Jan 04 23:01:04 GMT 2023

Observation	<p>Proposal 2091, Observation 7: NIRCam Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: NIRCam Imaging</p>									
Diagnostics	(Visit 7:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.									
Generic Targets	#	Name	Criteria	Description						
	(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc							
Template	Module					Subarray				
	ALL					FULL				
Dithers	#	Primary Dither Type		Primary Dithers		Subpixel Dither Type		Dither Size	Subpixel Positions	
	1	NONE				STANDARD			4	
Spectral Elements	#	Short Filter	Long Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Total Integrations	Total Dithers	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID
	1	F090W	F444W	SHALLOW4	5	1	4	4	1030.73	
	2	F150W2	F322W2	SHALLOW4	5	1	4	4	1030.73	
Special Requirements	<p>Offset 55.0 arcsec, 35.0 arcsec On Hold until kilonova associated with NS merger is identified</p> <p>7 After 5 by 38 Days to 42 Days Group Observations 7, 8, Non-interruptible</p>									

Proposal 2091 - Observation 8 - Detecting the Synthesis of the Heaviest Elements with Photometry of a Kilonova in the Optically Thin ...

Wed Jan 04 23:01:04 GMT 2023

Observation	<p>Proposal 2091, Observation 8: MIRI Diagnostic Status: Warning Observing Template: MIRI Imaging</p>										
Diagnostics	(Visit 8:1) Warning (Form): Overheads are provisional until the Visit Planner has been run.										
Generic Targets	#	Name	Criteria	Description							
	(1)	KILONOVA	Kilonova Associated with and LVK GW event at < 150 Mpc								
Template	<p>Subarray FULL</p>										
Dithers	#	Dither Type	Starting Point	Number of Points	Points	Starting Set	Number of Sets	Optimized For	Direction	Pattern Size	
	1	4-Point-Sets				5	1	POINT SOURCE	POSITIVE	DEFAULT	
Spectral Elements	#	Filter	Readout Pattern	Groups/Int	Integrations/Exp	Exposures/Dith	Dither	Total Dithers	Total Integrations	Total Exposure Time	ETC Wkbk.Calc ID
	1	F770W	FASTR1	170	1	1	Dither 1	4	4	1887.027	
Special Requirements	<p>On Hold Until Kilonova Associated with NS Merger is Identified. Group Observations 7, 8, Non-interruptible</p>										