Observing the most distant Galaxies through Lenses





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- Motivation
- How lensing helps ?
- Recent results
- Future

How to find the Sources of Re-ionization?



L* galaxy at z~6 have AB~26 with density of 1 per sq.armin



• What sources ended Dark Ages?

- Sources with intense UV flux
- First stars are thought to be: Very massive/Low metallicity/UV luminous

• Mass of first DM halos?

- At z~10: halo mass of 10¹⁰ to 10¹¹ solar mass
- First objects could form at z~50 with at most 10⁶ solar mass (Reed et al 2006)

• Current exploration in UV restframe:

- Rapid decline in UV luminosity density 3<z<6? (Bouwens vs. Bremer)
- Possible steepening of LBG LF faint end slope with increasing z?
- No evolution of the LAE LF at high-z observed yet
- ⇒ Importance to probe low-luminosity galaxies

How to locate the "first" galaxies?

Features expected for a distant star-forming galaxy:

- Continuum: rest-frame UV redshifted to the NIR, contribution from old stars beyond 3 micron? Dust emission in the FIR?
- *Emission lines*: Ly α (?) OII, H α , possibly HeII if metal-free stars, CO emission lines in the millimeter.



How Gravitational Lensing can help?



• Basics of lensing:

- Important mass density locally deform the Space-Time,
- A pure geometrical effect, no dependence with photon energy
- Multiple-images with large magnification >10

Lensing by a (massive) galaxy

- Deflection of ~1 arcsec
- strongly lens only ~one background source
- ~10 galaxy-lens per sq.degree
- Lensing by a (massive) cluster
 - Deflection of ~10-50 arcsec
 - strongly lens many background sources
 - ~1 cluster-lens per ~50 sq. degree

History of searching hi-z lensed galaxies



- **1987**: Cl2244 one of the first gravitational arc, latter recognized as a z=2.2 galaxy
- Ebbels et al **1996**: a z=2.5 LBG in a2218
- cB58 z=2.7 recognized as a strongly lensed source (Seitz et al 1998)
- Franx et al **1997**: a LAE at z=4.9
- Ellis et al **2001**: LAE at z=5.6
- Kneib et al 2004, Egami et al 2005: LBG at z~6.8
- Bradley et al 2008: LBG at z~7.6
- ... and more ...

Lens Modeling and Errors



Jullo et al 2007, Jullo & Kneib 2008 LENSTOOL public software http://www.oamp.fr/cosmology/lenstool

Constraints:

- Multiple images (position, redshift, flux)
- Single images with known redshift
- Light distribution

Model parameterization

- Need to include small scales: galaxy halos (parametric form scaled with light)
- Large scale: DM/X-ray gas (parametric form or multi-scale grid)

Model optimization

- Bayesian approach
- Not a unique solution, most likely model and errors
- Predict amplification value and errors



Clusters as a Cosmic Telescope



7x7 arcmin² Herschel simulation



Unlensed field

Lensed field

 Source plane, Image plane transformation

$N_L(f)=N_0(f/A)/A$

- Magnification of sources
- Dilution of area
- Benefits of cluster-lens obs:
 - 1. Magnification, makes spectroscopic follow-up/size measurement possible for rare and most amplified sources
 - 2. Observe below the usual detection limit (faint luminosity)
 - 3. Multiple images confirmation of strongly lensed sources
 - 4. Avoid confusion (important in FIR/Submm)

Clusters as a Cosmic Telescope



Source plane view of a cluster lens field (non-linear mapping)

-Dilution effect (surveyed area is smaller)

- Magnification effect (larger sensitivity)

- Larger amplification concern smaller area

Clusters as a Cosmic Telescope

Recipe to unfold lensing magnification:

- 1. Properly compute lens model and errors
- Determine catalogue of lensed (z>7) sources, similarly as in blank field (including detection errors)
- 3. Unlens catalogue
- Unlens surveyed area (remove area blocked by cluster galaxies) => allowing to compute surveyed volume for a given detection limit
- 5. Compute number density of galaxies detected as a function of their un-lensed flux and corresponding surveyed volume.
- 6. Fold-in completeness issues & spurious detections

Critical Line Mapping: finding LAEs



Utilizing strong magnification (10-30) of clusters, probe much fainter than other methods in small areas (<0.1 arcmin2 cluster-1)

Low-luminosity z~9.5 Ly- α emitters

Cluster critical line for $z_s > 7$

Wavelength sensitivity (1.5hr)



• 9 clusters with well-defined mass models & deep ACS imaging

- Obs. sensitivity ~ $3-9.10^{-18}$ cgs; mag > $\times 15-20$ throughout
- Sky area observed: 0.3 arcmin²; V(comoving) ~ 50 Mpc³
- 6 promising lensed emitter candidates (>5 σ)
- 8.6 < z < 10.2; L ~ 2 10. 10^{41} cgs; SFR ~ 0.2 -1 M $_{\odot}$ yr⁻¹

z~9.5 Candidates

8.6 < z < 10.2; L ~ 2 - 10. 10^{41} cgs; SFR ~ 0.2 - 1 M_{\odot} yr⁻¹



Definitely proving that these are $z \sim 9.5$ emitters is hard. Each detection is > 5 σ , seen in independent exposures/visits

Candidates continuum limits



Very deep ACS and NICMOS imaging is available for most clusters with z~9.5 candidates:

- no optical detections to $m_{AB} > 27$
- two marginal J, H detections: still consistent with high z & modest SFR

Spectroscopic elimination of interlopers

Various explanations for a single emission line in the J-band

Line	Redshift	$\lambda_{ m Lylpha} \ (\mu { m m})$	$\begin{array}{c} \lambda \end{array}_{[OII]} \ (\mu \mathrm{m}) \end{array}$	$\lambda_{\mathrm{H}\beta}$ ($\mu\mathrm{m}$)	$\begin{array}{c} \lambda \end{array}_{[OIII]} \ (\mu \mathrm{m}) \end{array}$	$\lambda_{\mathrm{H}\alpha}$ ($\mu\mathrm{m}$)
Η [CTI] [CTI] Lyα	$0.91 \\ 1.51^{b} \\ 1.53^{c} \\ 1.58 \\ 2.37 \\ 9.3$	$\begin{array}{r} 0.2324 \\ 0.3047 \\ 0.3076 \\ 0.3138 \\ 0.4093 \\ 1.2545 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.7124^{\rm a} \\ 0.9338 \\ 0.9428 \\ 0.9618 \\ 1.2545 \\ 3.8388 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.9292 \\ 1.2179 \\ 1.2297 \\ 1.2545 \\ 1.6362 \\ 5.0149 \end{array}$	0.9479/0.9571 1.2425/1.2545 1.2545/1.2666 1.2797/1.2922 1.6692/1.6854 5.1160/5.1655	$1.2545 \\ 1.6444 \\ 1.6603 \\ 1.6937 \\ 2.2091 \\ 6.7708$

- Deeper LRIS spectroscopy (Santos et al 2004) from 4000-9400Å eliminates Hα and [O II] as source of emission (4/6 candidates)
- H-band spectra eliminates [O III] as source (3/6 candidates)
- IRS spectroscopy (~7 μ m) is in progress to verify H α at z~9.5 (2/6 candidates)

Now believe >3/6 candidates likely to be 8<z<10 sources

Low-luminosity sources responsible of reionisation?



Lensed dropout galaxies



UV continuum SFR $\approx 3 \text{ M}_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ Stellar Mass: ~10⁹ M_{\odot} Size: 1.2kpc x 0.5 kpc Number density: ~1 / arcmin2

- First detection of a z~6.8 dropout galaxies in Abell 2218
- Redshift confirmed by multiple image detection
- Source identified in Spitzer data, showing an already "old" population of stars, arguing for a formation redshift of z~10

Kneib et al 2004, Egami et al 2005

z>7 lensed dropout with Hubble

- Systematic extension: Study of 6 well-constrained clusters with optical (ACS/F850LP), near-infrared (HST/NICMOS+Ground-based) and mid-infrared (Spitzer/IRAC)
- Identification of "dropout" candidates

Richard et al 2008



Combining ACS, NICMOS & Spitzer

MS1358: 5σ limit: J_{AB}=26.7, H_{AB}=26.7



Importance of foreground removal

z>7 lensed dropout with Hubble





- 10 candidate z-drops with H \sim 26 26.8
- Implied SFR ~ 0.1 2 M_{\odot} yr⁻¹ (unlensed)
- spectroscopic follow-up with NIRSPEC
- z~2 luminous red galaxies expected to be main contaminants

Richard et al 2008

2 candidates J-drops (J-H>1.8) with $H_{AB}{\sim}25.6$ SFR ~0.1 - 1 M_{\odot} yr^1 (unlensed)



Reliability and redshift estimation (1)

• False positive detections : tests on "noise image"



• Estimation: in the magnitude range of the dropouts, we expect ~ 10 % spurious detections (i.e. 1 out of the 10 dropouts)

Reliability and redshift estimation (2)

• detector remanence : measurements from the archive: no effect

• Low-mass stars : L and T dwarfs are expected to contaminate the survey. Predictions: 1 star in entire survey.

• Photometric redshifts

Contamination by lower z galaxies: estimation of 25 % from P(z)

 \Rightarrow 5 out of 10 dropouts truly at high z



Search for multiple images

- Counter-images predictions from lensing model
- 2 candidates with possibly "merging" images



Proof of Method:

we do see z~2 multiple sources...

Properties of stacked SED for the z-dropouts





Average photometry z=28.59±0.21 J=25.72±0.14 H=25.70±0.14

UV spectral slope best fit: $\lambda = \lambda^{-\beta}$ $\beta \sim 2.7-2.8$ Optimization to follow-up both a candidate and its predicted counter-image



- NIRSPEC slit : 0.76 x 42 arcsecs
- Follow-up in the Z band (6.8<z<8.3 for Lyman-alpha)
- 3 to 4 hours on 7 candidates

Sensitivity to lyman a flux: should detect an emission line at 5 sigma down to an escape fraction between 20 and 40%. Derived Luminosity Function z~7.5



- •No significant overlap between UDF and lensed survey although in good agreement !
- Probing already 50% of the luminosity density !

Impact on re-ionization

Strong lensing permits us to probe z-band dropouts ~1-1.5 magnitudes deeper than the UDF in a field of ~2.5 arcmin²



- High surface density of z/J-drops (contamination to be checked)
- suggests significant contribution to reionization from low luminosity galaxies
- lensing survey valuably extends constraints set by UDF

Current Status

- Lensed z>7 searches provide complementary approach to blank field survey at lower cost (in observing time - not in terms of modeling !)
- Low-luminosity sources seem to be numerous and may contribute significantly to reionization
- Limited volume surveyed => very sensitive to cosmic variance
 - Need to increase number of cluster surveyed (~50 well-known massive cluster-lenses can be explored)
- Limited depth => some candidates may have biased photometry or even be spurious (lower-z, stellar objects etc)
 - Dedicate more time and use more efficient instruments/telescopes
- No strongly magnified and bright example yet found above z>8
 - Should be found eventually and will make possible detailed analysis

Future: LAE lensing survey



Future: WFC3 z~7 lensing survey



Red : critical line at z=7 Blue: multiple image region Black: amplification larger than 5 Red : NICMOS lens survey (Richard et al 2008) Blue: WFC3 cluster survey Dotted blue: WFC3 field survey

Conclusion & Prospects

- Fast progress in identifying the most distant lensed galaxies, low-luminosity objects may play important role in the reionization.
- Further search are possible with the new facilities coming on line now and in the near future:
 - HAWK-I, HST/WFC3, VISTA, KMOS, JWST, JDEM/SNAP, TMT/ELT
- Short term projects: (identification of the first galaxies)
 - **LAE:** DAZLE in lensing clusters [some candidates],
 - Hawk-I NB (Courbin's talk), SINFONI, MOIRCS spectroscopy
 - LBG: WFC3, Hawk-I (Pello's talk)
- Longer term projects: (physics of the first galaxies)
 - EMIR, MOSFIRE, KMOS
 - JWST/NIRSPEC+MIRI
 - SNAP/JDEM-SPACE (rarer objects lensed z>7 QSOs)
 - ELT (EAGLE consortium to build a NIR multi-IFU spectrograph)