The epoch of Reionization in the JWST Era

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CMB Dark Ages Epoch of Reionization

JWST: a major stride in discovery power



Thomson optical depth as a function of "time"



- Wide Field surveys probe the brightest of the luminosity function at z>7
- Large uncertainties still affect the slope (shape ?) of the bright end.



Constraints from Deep Blank Field Surveys

more than 800 galaxies at z >7 from all HST legacy fields

better constraints on the overall shape of the luminosity function.

Bouwens et al. (2014)

see also Bunker et al. (2010), Oesch et al. (2012) McLure et al. (2013), Schmidt et al. (2014), Finkelstein et al. (2014)

redshift evolution of the UV LF faint-end slope



With a Little Help From Gravitational Lensing





0.9 1.8 2.7 3.6 4.5 5.4 6.3 7.2 8.1



Star-forming Galaxies and Cosmic Reionization

Contribution of star-forming galaxies to the ionizing background Universe mostly (90%) ionized at z~6







Measuring the ionizing emissivity of galaxies







UV Luminosity density and Reionization

- Evolution of the UV luminosity density: depends on faint-end slope + integration limit
- lonizing emissivity from galaxies :

depends on fesc, clumping factor, ionizing conversion factor



HST/WFC3 & ACS reaching AB=28-29.0 mag (5- σ) at 0.06–0.13" FWHM from 0.2–1.7 μm

JWST adds 0.03–0.2" FWHM imaging to AB=31.5 mag (1 nJy) at 1–5 μm , and 0.07–1.2" FWHM at 5–29 μm



JWST Imaging: Wide wavelength coverage and very reliable photometry requirement for accurate photometric redshifts and SED fitting to access the formation of early galaxies z>20 Crucial for the Stellar mass estimate Dominguez et al. (2014), Mobasher et al. (2015)

The Faint-end of the UV LF at z>6



JWST Spectroscopic Performances

- NIRSpec: 1) to confirm candidates for very high-redshift galaxies (z>10) and look for spectral signatures of young, extremely-metal-poor stellar populations.
- NIRISS observations: slitless spectroscopy enables a blind search for z>7 galaxies (is the Lyman-alpha emission still a good tracer beyond z=7 ?)
- candidates selected from NIRCam and/or NIRISS observations
- MIRI: Optical emission line diagnostics at z>7





Evolution of the SFR Density at z>8



see also Zheng et al (2012), McLure et al. (2013), Coe et al. (2013), Bouwens et al. (2015), Ishigaki et al. (2015)

The brightest high-z galaxies

IRAC-selected candidates



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The prevalence of Lya Emitters

Disentangle the effects of the ISM from those in the IGM:

--> The need for high-resolution spectra

Stark et al. (2012) -20.25 < M_{UV} < -18.75 Verhamme et al. (2008) -21.75 < M_{UV} < -20.25 15 0.6 observed spectrum FDF5215 input spectrum V_{exp}=400 km.s⁻¹ output spectrum b=20 km.s-1 10 ×[×]0.4 N_{HI}=7×10²⁰ cm⁻² $\tau_{-} = 1.0$ FWHM=100 km.sš EW=120 Å _z=3.138 5 0.2 0 0.0 -20002000 0 velocity (km/s) 5 7 8 4 6 Redshift