Extragalactic Science with SALTUS

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NGC1365 JWST/MIRI. NASA/ESA/CSA/J. Schmidt.

SALTUS Exgal

The Bottom Line

 SALTUS will be an extraordinarily powerful and versatile observatory for extragalactic science

• Orders of magnitude more sensitive than previous far-IR telescopes

AND

• Arcsecond spatial resolution



The Landscape for SALTUS

We don't have to choose between high sensitivity and high resolution!



The Landscape for SALTUS



- SALTUS accesses key far-IR spectral diagnostics from the present day to z > 4
- Will measure the underlying continuum as well!
- Bridges the gap between JWST and ALMA without sacrificing angular resolution or sensitivity

A wealth of IR diagnostics

 SALTUS accesses key diagnostics of PDRs, HII regions, and AGN accretion to z > 1

 Key complement to JWST and X-ray diagnostics of very hot gas, ALMA access to coldest molecular phase



What can SALTUS do for you?

- Sensitive far-IR mapping on ~5arcmin scales at ~1arcsec resolution
- No confusion! No de-blending! No cross-matching!
- Blank-field surveys over ~30arcmin² without long slew times
- Deep targeted followup of individual interesting galaxies mid/far-IR lines, PAH features, deep confusion-free continuum limits
- High spectral resolution of water, HD, far-IR lines to z~1 in bright targets
- Imaging capabilities

SALTUS Exgal Science Themes

- 1. Small-scale feedback in the local universe
- 2. Black hole galaxy co-evolution over cosmic time
- 3. Connecting feeding black holes to cosmic ecosystems
- 4. First production and growth of small dust grains
- 5. Guest observing your ideas here!

1. Map GMC-scale feedback in galaxies at <100pc resolution

- SALTUS / SAFARI-Lite resolution well-matched to star clusters and GMCs to D ~ 20Mpc
- Measure impacts of feedback locally, where energy and momentum are injected into ISM
- Resolve feedback on scales of individual star-forming regions and BH spheres of influence
- Highly complementary to multiwavelength local galaxy surveys



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Other low-z science goals

G04-1

- Anchor high-z measurements
 - Appropriate comparison samples, analogs, and case studies
- Leverage spatial resolution to understand detailed physics (SAFARI-LITE & HIRX)
- Samples of galaxies to understand how diagnostics change as a function of environment and physical conditions
- Synergies with other surveys and facilities

mage credit: ESO/ALMA

(ESO/NAOJ/NRAO)/PHANGS



2. Track Dust-Immune Galaxy and Black Hole Growth

- Most star formation and black hole growth over cosmic history has been obscured behind dust
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- SALTUS accesses key tracers of SF and BH accretion
 - detectable to z ~ 1-4 simultaneously in the same galaxies
 - z >5 in the most luminous systems
- Key lines:
 - Black hole accretion rates: [OIV] 25.9µm, [NeV] 7.65/14.3µm
 - Star formation rates: [Nell] 12.8µm, [NellI] 15.6µm, [OIII] 88µm, [CII] 158µm



3. Directly constrain AGN Feedback to Cosmic Noon

- SALTUS/SAFARI-Lite accesses tracers of multi-phase gas inflows and outflows within galactic ecosystems to z ~ 2
 - Molecular phase: OH absorption 119/84/79/65um, H₂O
 - Neutral phase: [CII] 158μm, [SiII] 35μm, [SII] 18μm
 - Ionized phase: [OIII] 52/88μm, [OIV] 26μm
- AGN drive fast >1000km/s outflows with T = 10 -10⁷ K and n = 10⁻³ - 10² cm⁻³, detectable even at R~300
- Links Athena measurements of ultra-fast X-ray winds at the nuclear launch sites to the Mpc-scale gas reservoirs



Markarian 231 Outflow Gonzalez-Alfonso+2017

4. Chart the Growth of Dust from Reionization to Today

- ALMA now routinely detects dust-obscured galaxies to z > 9. Where does this dust come from, and how do small grains grow over time?
- SALTUS access rich suite of PAH features at z > 1, detectable in ~1-10h to z > 6 in IRluminous systems
- SALTUS will extend JWST observations at z ~ 0.5 out to z > 6, measuring grain size distributions in dusty starbursts and (lensed) normal galaxies



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SPT01418-47 (z=4.22) with JWST/MIRI



Spilker+2023



Tracing Galaxy Evolution with SALTUS

Map the feedback between galaxy growth and cosmic ecosystems

Chart the rise of metals and small dust grains from the early universe to today

Wide variety of other science programs! Your ideas here!

Blank-Field Surveys with SAFARI-Lite

- High sensitivity and spatial resolution of SALTUS, plus ability to map within ~5arcmin without repointing, allows deep unbiased surveys
- Wavelength coverage very well suited to peak epoch of star formation z ~ 1-3, earlier times possible with deeper 'wedding cake' tiers
- Example: map the entire Hubble deep field in ~100hrs; detect galaxies spectrally or bin for pseudo-imaging



Effective SAFARI-Lite 10sigma / 1hr / 1arcmin² imaging depth = 3mJy

Feeding and Feedback in Dusty Nuclei

- SALTUS can measure local injection of feedback energy and momentum in dusty IRluminous galaxies using HiRX observations of water
- Measure robust molecular masses using HD 112um, cosmic ray impacts on ISM using OH⁺, H₂O⁺, H₃O⁺
- Large gain in sensitivity over Herschel HIFI allows less luminous, more distant targets



Herschel/HIFI; van der Tak 2016

Measure Chemical Enrichment of the Universe to z > 3

- Optical estimates of metallicity are subject to ~1dex uncertainties due to unknown HII region temperatures, dust extinction
- JWST will help, but only a little: crucial Tsensitive OIII 4363A line is very weak
- SALTUS far-IR abundances are insensitive to temperature, immune to extinction





How to get involved

- The SALTUS Exgal working group is always recruiting!
- Are you an expert in one of these brief science highlight areas?
 Do you have other cool ideas that need a sensitive, high-resolution far-IR mission?
- Contact Justin Spilker, jspilker@tamu.edu, to get added to our science interest group

Questions and Comments?