# The Merian Survey: characterizing dark matter and feedback in star-forming dwarf galaxies with medium-band filters on DECam



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July 9, Chicago Dwarf Galaxies, Star Clusters, and Streams in the LSST Era



# The Merian Survey

- Two medium-band filters (N708/N540) for H $\alpha$ and OIII in order to find ~100,000 dwarf galaxies  $(10^8 - 10^9 M_{\odot})$  at  $z \sim 0.1$
- 64 full nights on the CTIO-4m Dark Energy Camera (DECam) to cover 800 deg^2 in HSC-SSP field
- Core science goals: constrain dark matter and • feedback in star-forming dwarf galaxies



HSC+Merian



# Weak gravitational lensing

- Constrain dark matter halo out to Rvir
- Need large sample of lenses



Leauthaud et al. 2020





# Simulations shows HSC can already detect enough low-mass galaxies down to 10^8 Msun with high completeness to get a decent lensing signal



#### Leauthaud et al. 2020



# Improve photo-z's at z<0.2

- Optical broad-band photo-z's are not optimal for dwarf galaxies at z<0.2
- Quenched fraction for galaxies in mass range  $10^8 - 10^9 M_{\odot}$  is low (~ 5%)
- Emission lines from HII regions can provide additonal information to improve the photo-z precision



Mao et al. 2024





Danieli et al. submitted to ApJ

# Tradeoffs in the central wavelength & filter width

Wavelength

- higher lensing S/N
- $\bullet$ time = less volume with fixed survey time
- dwarfs detected



• longer central wavelength & wider filter width = larger volume =

longer central wavelength = fainter dwarf galaxies = longer exposure

• wider filter width = weaker S/N of emission line detection = fewer

# Optimize lensing S/N for different filter design



Luo+2024



# Merian filter transmission across the DECam focal plane





#### Luo+2024

# Merian Wide (~800 deg^2): Merian Deep (~2 deg^2):

- $4x10 \min \text{ for N708 (Halpha)}$  40x
- 4x15 min for N540 (OIII)



#### Danieli et al. submitted to ApJ

• 40x10 min for N708 (Halpha)

## • 40x15 min for N540 (OIII)



# Merian has finished >500 deg^2 with decent depth





Danieli et al. submitted to ApJ

# Merian data reduction pipeline: LSSTpipe

- Merian DR1: 230 deg^2: full depth full color region •
- Photometry on HSC broad-bands based on Merian footprint •
- Gaussian-aperture-and-PSF (GAAP) photometry •
- One of the first survey reduced with LSSTpipe •



### Danieli et al. submitted to ApJ



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![](_page_12_Figure_4.jpeg)

# Merian spec-z calibration sample

- DESI down to i~23 mag
- >6000 spectra for Merian objects have been collected (and increasing)
- SDSS, etc.)

# • Collecting spec-z's with Keck/DEIMOS, Magellan/IMACS and

# • Combining redshifts from previous surveys (COSMOS, GAMA,

# Merian template fitting photo-z's achieve a precision of ~0.015

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

Luo et al. in prep

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

## High SSFR

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Beyond photo-z point estimation

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Credit: Yue Pan

 $f_{\lambda}[10^{-19} \text{ erg/s/cm}^2]$ 

![](_page_17_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_6.jpeg)

# First Merian dwarf lensing signal

- ~~~30% of the Merian final footprint lensing S/N > 10
- More modeling is underway

![](_page_18_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

- Medium-band surveys for LSST should be considered

• LSST can constrain dwarf lensing with much higher lensing S/N

# Merian filters N708/N540 + DESI-2 filters

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Summary

- cover 800 square deg in the HSC SSP wide field
- galaxies  $(10^8 10^9 M_{\odot})$  at 0.05<z<0.1
- •
- Merian total footprint
- More Merian early science papers will be out soon! •

• Merian is a new medium-band imaging survey with 64 nights on DECam to

• Two new medium-band filters N708 and N540 will find ~100,000 dwarf

Merian photo-z's provide a precision of  $\sim 0.015$ , could be improved with p(z)

We have detected weak lensing signal around dwarf galaxies within 30% of

![](_page_21_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_12.jpeg)