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J/ApJ/792/76 Lensed z~6-8 galaxies behind CLASH clusters (Bradley+, 2014)

CLASH: a census of magnified star-forming galaxies at $z \sim 6-8$.

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ADC_Keywords: Clusters, galaxy ; Gravitational lensing ; Galaxies, photometry ; Photometry, HST ; Redshifts

Keywords: galaxies: evolution - galaxies: high-redshift - gravitational lensing: strong

Abstract:

We utilize 16 band Hubble Space Telescope (HST) observations of 18 lensing clusters obtained as part of the Cluster Lensing And Supernova survey with Hubble (CLASH) Multi-Cycle Treasury program to search for $z \sim 6-8$ galaxies. We report the discovery of 204, 45, and 13 Lyman-break galaxy candidates at $z \sim 6$, $z \sim 7$, and $z \sim 8$, respectively, identified from purely photometric redshift selections. This large sample, representing nearly an order of magnitude increase in the number of magnified star-forming galaxies at $z \sim 6-8$ presented to date, is unique in that we have observations in four WFC3/UVIS UV, seven ACS/WFC optical, and all five WFC3/IR broadband filters, which enable very accurate photometric redshift selections. We construct detailed lensing models for 17 of the 18 clusters to estimate object magnifications and to identify two new multiply lensed $z \geq 6$ candidates. The median magnifications over the 17 clusters are 4, 4, and 5 for the $z \sim 6$, $z \sim 7$, and $z \sim 8$ samples, respectively, over an average area of 4.5 arcmin² per cluster. We compare our observed number counts with expectations based on convolving "blank" field UV luminosity functions through our cluster lens models and find rough agreement down to ~27 mag, where we begin to suffer significant incompleteness. In all three redshift bins, we find a higher number density at brighter observed magnitudes than the field predictions, empirically demonstrating for the first time the enhanced efficiency of lensing clusters over field surveys. Our number counts also are in general agreement with the lensed expectations from the cluster models, especially at $z \sim 6$, where we have the best statistics.

Description:

CLASH is a 524 orbit multi-cycle treasury program to observe 25 galaxy clusters to a total depth of 20 orbits each, incorporating archival HST data for our cluster sample whenever possible (Postman et al. 2012, [J/ApJS/199/25](#)). Each cluster is observed using WFC3/UVIS, ACS/WFC, and WFC3/IR to obtain imaging in 16 broadband filters spanning from 0.2 to 1.7 μ m (for the throughput curves of each filter, see Postman et al. 2012, [J/ApJS/199/25](#) or Jouvel et al. 2014, [J/A+A/562/A86](#)). We used SExtractor version 2.5.0 (Bertin & Arnouts 1996A&AS...117..393B) in dual-image mode to perform object detection and photometry. For each of our 18 clusters, we constructed a detection image by performing an inverse-variance weighted sum of the images in all five WFC3/IR bands: Y105, J110, J125, JH140, and H160. The local background was measured within a rectangular annulus (default width 24 pixels) and sources were required to be detected at $>1\sigma$ significance over a minimum area of nine contiguous pixels.

File Summary:

FileName	Lrecl	Records	Explanations
ReadMe	80	.	This file
table1.dat	93	18	Observational Details for the Cluster Sample
table4.dat	133	196	Lensed z~6 Candidates Identified Behind 17 CLASH Clusters
table5.dat	133	43	Lensed z~7 Candidates Identified Behind 17 CLASH Clusters
table6.dat	133	12	Lensed z~8 Candidates Identified Behind 17 CLASH Clusters
table7.dat	133	21	Lensed Candidates Identified Behind RXJ1532.9+3021

See also:

[J/ApJS/199/25](#) : CLASH sources for MACS1149.6+2223 (Postman+, 2012)

[J/A+A/562/A86](#) : CLASH. Photometric + photo-z catalog (Jouvel+, 2014)

[J/ApJ/801/44](#) : HST lensing analysis of the CLASH sample (Zitrin+, 2015)

Byte-by-byte Description of file: [table1.dat](#)

Bytes	Format	Units	Label	Explanations
1- 16	A16	---	Cluster	Cluster Name
18- 22	A5	---	n_Cluster	Notes on Cluster (1)
24- 31	A8	---	Alias	Shortened cluster names used in the paper
33- 34	I2	h	RAh	Rigth ascension (J2000) (2)
36- 37	I2	min	RAm	Rigth ascension (J2000) (2)
39- 43	F5.2	s	RA s	Rigth ascension (J2000) (2)
44	A1	---	n_RAs	[g] Note on position (3)
46	A1	---	DE-	Declination sign (J2000) (2)
47- 48	I2	deg	DEd	Declination (J2000) (2)
50- 51	I2	arcmin	DEm	Declination (J2000) (2)
53- 56	F4.1	arcsec	DEs	Declination (J2000) (2)
57	A1	---	n_DEs	[g] Note on position (3)
59- 63	F5.3	---	z	Cluster redshift
65- 69	F5.3	mag	E(B-V)	Reddening
71- 81	A11	"date"	Start.Date	Observation starting date
83- 93	A11	"date"	End.Date	Observation ending date

Note (1): Notes as follows:

- c = Ebeling et al. ([2007ApJ...661L..33E](#))
- d = High-magnification cluster
- e = Hubble Frontier Fields (HFF) cluster
- f = Ebeling et al. ([2010MNRAS.407...83E](#))
- h = Mann & Ebeling ([2012MNRAS.420.2120M](#))

Note (2): Cluster coordinates derived from X-ray data, except where noted.

Note (3): g when cluster coordinates derived from optical data.

Byte-by-byte Description of file: [table4.dat](#) [table5.dat](#) [table6.dat](#) [table7.dat](#)

Bytes	Format	Units	Label	Explanations
1- 13	A13	---	ID	Object identifier (1)
14- 18	A5	---	f_ID	Flag on ID (2)
20- 30	F11.7	deg	RAdeg	Right Ascension in decimal degrees (J2000)
32- 42	F11.7	deg	DEdeg	Declination in decimal degrees (J2000)
44	A1	---	l_I814mag	Limit flag on I814mag
45- 48	F4.1	mag	I814mag	The HST I band AB magnitude; 0.814 microns
50- 53	F4.2	mag	e_I814mag	? Uncertainty in I814mag
55	A1	---	l_z850mag	Limit flag on z850mag
56- 59	F4.1	mag	z850mag	The HST z band AB magnitude; 0.850 microns
61- 64	F4.2	mag	e_z850mag	? Uncertainty in z850mag
66- 69	F4.1	mag	Y105mag	? The HST Y band AB magnitude; 1.05 microns
71- 74	F4.2	mag	e_Y105mag	? Uncertainty in Y105mag
76- 79	F4.1	mag	Y110mag	? The HST Y band AB magnitude; 1.10 microns
81- 84	F4.2	mag	e_Y110mag	? Uncertainty in Y110mag
86- 89	F4.1	mag	J125mag	? The HST J band AB magnitude 1.25 microns
91- 94	F4.2	mag	e_J125mag	? Uncertainty in J125mag
96- 99	F4.1	mag	J140mag	? The HST J band AB magnitude; 1.40 microns
101-104	F4.2	mag	e_J140mag	? Uncertainty in J140mag
106-109	F4.1	mag	H160mag	The HST H band AB magnitude; 1.60 microns
111-114	F4.2	mag	e_H160mag	Uncertainty in H160mag
116-118	F3.1	---	zphot	Photometric redshift (3)
120-122	F3.1	---	E_zphot	Upper limit uncertainty in zphot
124-126	F3.1	---	e_zphot	Lower limit uncertainty in zphot
128	A1	---	l_mu	Limit flag on mu
129-133	F5.1	---	mu	Magnification (4)

Note (1): Object identified as Alias-NNNN.

Note (2): Flag as follows:

- c = Unresolved object with FWHM<0.22 arcsec in the image plane. There is a small chance that brighter unresolved candidates could be low-mass stars even though we explored such possibilities (see Section 5.3).
- d = Using LePhare, we find that these unresolved candidates have a good fit with stellar templates, with χ^2_{star} comparable or less than χ^2_{galaxy} .
- e = While BPZ prefers a high-redshift solution, we note that LePhare slightly prefers a low-redshift solution ($z \sim 1$) over the high-redshift solution for these three galaxies. Given this and the possible fit with stellar templates, these candidates should be considered less confident than the others.
- f = Spectroscopically confirmed multiply-imaged galaxy at $z=6.027$ Richard et al. ([2011MNRAS.414L..31R](#)).
- g = Quadruply lensed galaxy at $z \sim 6.2$ (Zitrin et al. [2012ApJ...747L...9Z](#)).
- h = Zitrin et al. ([2013ApJ...762L..30Z](#)) report that MACS0419-0419 is part of a visually-identified double system at $z_{\text{phot}} \sim 6.1$. The second candidate (at RA=04:16:09.946, DE=-24:03:45.31) fell below our S/N threshold and thus does not appear in this catalog.
- i = MACS1115-0352 and MACS1720-1114 have very blue SEDs. While our best-fit photometric redshifts suggest that these are high-redshift

candidates, a possible alternative solution is that they could be low-redshift extreme emission-line galaxies with rest-frame equivalent widths of ~ 2000 Angstroms (Huang et al. in prep).

- j = Quadruply lensed galaxy at $z_{\text{phot}} \sim 5.6$ ($z_{\text{spec}} = 5.701$) (Zitrin et al. 2012, [J/ApJ/749/97](#)).
- k = VLT/VIMOS spectroscopy confirms this galaxy at $z = 5.701$ (see Section 5).
- l = Monna et al. ([2014MNRAS.438.1417M](#)) found that these two candidates, along with three others, are part of a quintuply-lensed system with $z_{\text{phot}} \sim 5.9$. Based on their lens model, the magnifications for RXCJ2248-0401 and RXCJ2248-1291 (ID4 and ID3, respectively in Monna et al. ([2014MNRAS.438.1417M](#))) are 2.4 ± 0.2 and 6.0 ± 1.5 , respectively.
- m = In the recent Hubble Frontier Fields data, this candidate is detected in the ultra-deep optical data and therefore it is very unlikely to be a high-redshift galaxy.
- n = MACS0717-0859 and MACS0717-1730 are spectroscopically confirmed at $z = 6.387$ (Vanzella et al. [2014ApJ...783L..12V](#)).
- o = Despite having a best-fit photometric redshift of $z_{\text{phot}} = 7.2$, we suspect this unresolved object is most likely a star. Based on our current understanding of the $z \sim 7$ LF (e.g., Bouwens et al. [2011ApJ...737...90B](#)), the probability of detecting a slightly-magnified $z \sim 7$ galaxy with $H160 = 23.6$ in the small area covered by the clusters in this paper is exceedingly small. We list this candidate for completeness, but do not use it for subsequent analysis given its suspect nature.
- p = The lens models suggest that this is likely a multiple system at $z \sim 6.5$.
- q = The lens models suggest that this is likely a multiple system at $z \sim 6.6$.
- r = In the recent Hubble Frontier Fields data, this candidate is detected in the ultra-deep optical data and therefore it is very unlikely to be a high-redshift galaxy.

Note (3): Photometric redshift estimate with 2σ (95%) confidence intervals (see Section 4). Objects with large lower bounds have a secondary peak at lower redshift ($z \sim 1-2$) that contains at least 5% of the posterior probability.

Note (4): Magnification estimate from the lens models (see Section 6). Because of uncertainties in the precise location of the critical curves, objects with magnifications > 100 are simply quoted as such. Objects outside the region constrained by the strong lensing models have been assigned a magnification of 1.1.





History:

From electronic version of the journal

(End) Prepared by [AAS], Tiphaine Pouvreau [CDS] 06-Apr-2017

The document above follows the rules of the [Standard Description for Astronomical Catalogues](#); from this documentation it is possible to generate *f77* program to load files [into arrays](#) or [line by line](#)

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