Cosmology using strong lensing

Towards a 1000-lens sample
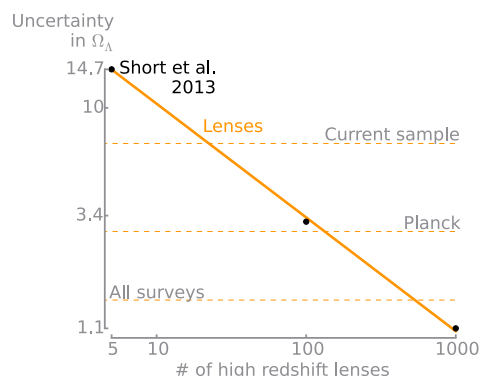
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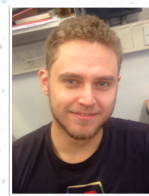
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Cosmology

A 1000-lens sample offers better cosmological detail than the **Planck mission**.

Lens and lensed galaxies' **mass** and **distance** provide cosmological information.

Currently, the largest high-redshift lens samples consist of **26 sources**.

Lens finding

Current **lens finding** strategies aim at galaxies with a $S_{500\mu m}$ **> 100 mJy** and **z > 2**.
Studies suggest **1.5 to 2 lenses** per square degree, making the **H-ATLAS** survey a perfect **precursor** for a lens survey.
It detected **300,000 galaxies** over 550 sqr. deg. with *Herschel*'s PACS and SPIRE.

100 µm	250 µm
160 µm	350 µm
	500 µm

Observation

The *H*-ATLAS survey might suffer from **source confusion** at long wavelengths and poor **redshift** estimates.

To verify the **potential** of *H*-ATLAS, we observed ~220 possible lenses at **850 µm** with **SCUBA-2** on the James Clerck Maxwell Telescope (**JCMT**).

Source confusion can be studied because of JCMT's smaller beam size:

	Herschel			JCMT
λ [µm]	250	350	500	850
Angular size	18"	25"	36"	14"
Surface	158%	306%	634%	100%
Beam size	◯	◯	◯	◯

Results

We have observed 215 galaxies, where 13% are contaminants, and **87%** are potential lenses.

Potential lenses 87%

Local galaxies 5.5%

Quasars 7.5%
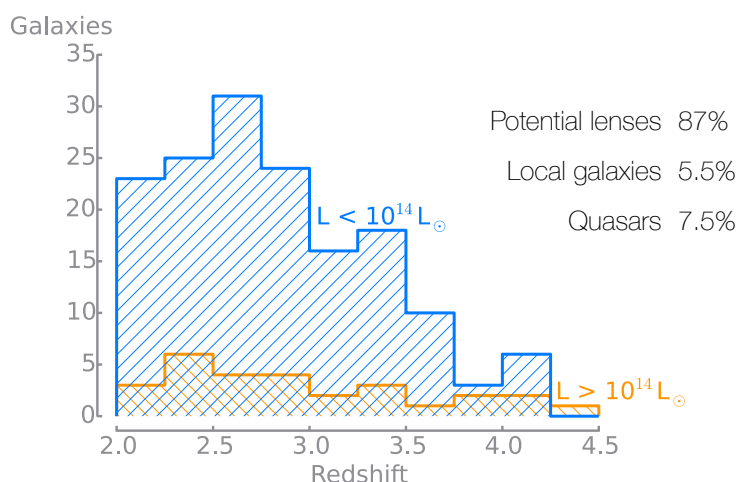
Future work

We will determine **lensing probabilities** by comparing lensed and unlensed **luminosity functions**,

spectral imaging will provide **spectroscopic redshifts**,

and we will look for associated galaxies in **optical** and **near-infrared** VIKINGS and KIDS surveys.