FORNAX DEEP SURVEY: Unveiling the faint stellar halos of the early-type galaxies in the Fornax Cluster

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on behalf of the FDS core Team:

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FORNAX DEEP SURVEY with VLT Survey Telescope

- new deep survey of the Fornax Cluster to obtain imaging in the u, g, r, i bands at VST
- join project based on INAF & OmegaCam GTO



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main scientific aims

- SB and color profiles out to 8-10 Re
- GCs and compact galaxies
- satellite galaxies
- Long-lived external structures, ICL, connection with the environment

the up-to-date largest mosaic of the Fornax Cluster 5 x 5 degrees that extends up to the virial radius of the cluster



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tot exp time for each 1 deg² field: 17.8 hrs *u* band 12.8 hrs *g* band 12.8 hrs *r* band 7.8 hrs *i* band

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seeing 0.6 - 1.1



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pipeline developed by A.Grado & L. Limatola at INAF-OAC Naples

- from raw data to fully calibrated images
- reports on data reduction
- background estimate --> for the ON-OFF strategy an average background image is obtained for each night





CTIO Mosaic by Dirsch et al. 2003





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Surface Photometry: method

• as a first step, every bright sources on all scales (from stars to galaxies and background objects) were accurately masked, thus excluded from the fit

 \bullet estimate the outer radius R_{lim} where the galaxy light blends into the sky level

• the **azimuthally averaged SB profiles**, PA and ellipticity profiles, are obtained by the fit of isophotes in elliptical annuli, up to the R_{lim}





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Where galaxies ends? the halo "around" NGC1399



Where galaxies ends? the halo "around" NGC1399



Where galaxies ends? halos of galaxies in the core of the Fornax cluster



Light distribution: NGC1399





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Light distribution: NGC1399



Light distribution: NGC1399



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Light distribution: NGC1399




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Light distribution: NGC1404



Light distribution: NGC1404



-20

damage

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Light distribution: Elliptical galaxies



Light distributic



Light distributic Elliptical galaxies







Light distribution: Elliptical galaxies





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34-30

R1/4 [arcsec]



shallow light profile for R> 4R_e and $27 \leq \mu_g \leq 31 \text{ mag/arcsec}^2$









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Light distribution: S0 galaxies in the South







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Light distribution: S0 galaxies in the South



Light distribution: S0 galaxies in the South



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Conclusive Remarks

The large FOV, high efficiency, and spatial resolution of OmegaCAM @ VST allow us

to obtain the largest mosaic of the Fornax Cluster of ~ 3 x 2 deg²

► to map the surface brightness of galaxies to an unprecedent galactocentric distance, i.e. $\mu_g^{lim} \sim 28-32 \text{ mag/arcsec}^2$ at $R \sim 15 R_e$ and the g-i color profiles up to 6-10 R_e

▶ to derive the **light profiles** of NGC1399 up to ~ 150 kpc from the center, and confirm the **change in the slope** at R~5R_e and 28 ≤ µ_g ≤ 31 mag/arcsec²

▶ to found that most of **ETGs** "around" NGC1399 show a **change in the slope** of light profile at $4R_e \leq R \leq 9R_e$ and $27 \leq \mu_g \leq 31 \text{ mag/arcsec}^2$, and SB matches that of NGC1399 for $R \geq 5R_e$

Conclusive Remarks

The large FOV, high efficiency, and spatial resolution of OmegaCAM @ VST allow us

these new and very preliminary results are crucial to unveil the structure of the Fornax Cluster

next steps:

- reduce and study the others 2 VST fields on NE side of NGC1399 to go further out from the galaxy center

- study the extended halo "around" NGC1399 (by making 2D model) and compare it with the predictions from simulations

► to derive the **light profiles** of NGC1399 up to ~ 150 kpc from the center, and confirm the **change in the slope** at R~5R_e and 28 ≤ $\mu_g \le 31 \text{ mag/arcsec}^2$

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