

(Incomplete) review of inner Milky Way science drivers

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Var I





(Note none of the approved DDFs are in the Plane.)



Deep-drilling fields (4 approved)

Mini-surveys, *currently*:

- Galactic Plane
- South Celestial Cap and Magellanic Clouds
- Northern Ecliptic Spur

Additional "Special programs," e.g.

- Twilight Survey
- Mini-moons
- Meteor-sized impactors



Select field(s)



"Static science"

Astrometric and Photometric calibration for the main survey

(Photometric) Variability

Planetary microlensing

Red-giant variability

Transiting extrasolar planets

New short-timescale transients

Accretion/outflow in X-ray binaries

Dwarf Novae and Type Ia SNe

Microlensing constraints on black hole Dark matter

Thick-disk structure (RR Lyrae) ISM (RR Lyrae)

Extend Gaia-type investigations to the Bulge

Many-fields

Optical-waveband constraints on the ISM (synergy with NIR)

Kinematic sample of Red Clump Giants in the inner MW for Galactic Structure





DECam shows that a seeing-limited imager *can* reach the
Bulge MS turn-off even in highly crowded regions. Berry et al. 2012

Example: Reddening - With a few exposures per field, can use the $\{r,i,z\}$ color-color method of <u>Berry et al. (2012 ApJ 757, 166</u>) to estimate reddening from static photometry

(This {r,g-r} CMD from <10 images of a single DECam field, by UM-Dearborn undergrad Mike Conrad, from the Blanco DECam Bulge Survey, PI Mike Rich)



With a more WFD-like allocation , can use RR Lyrae to estimate reddening.

(From Saha et al. 2017 in prep)

Can imagine doing this all over the Bulge...







- Example wide-field surveys:
 - VPHAS+ (u,g,r,i,Ha, 2011-ongoing); <u>http://www.vphasplus.org/</u>)
 - VVV (Z,Y,J,H,Ks, 2009-2014); <u>https://vvvsurvey.org/</u>
 - (and its extension, VVVX, observations ~2016-2019)
 - With 9 year baseline VVV+VVVX should provide a proper motion precision of ~200 μas/yr: 1) the longer baseline; 2) benefit of more epochs







Galactic Structure (e.g. RR Lyrae, Cepheids, RCGs); observe regions difficult for Gaia.

Right: prediction for r-band apparent magnitude of Red Clump Giants (RCGs) in the inner 20x15 degrees of the Milky Way, using the VVV extinction model. RCG in the white regions are either confusion-limited, depth-limited or are brighter than LSST's expected saturation limit at 15s.

Figure prepared by Oscar Gonzalez, STFC









Variability on months-years; transient outbursts, microlensing (of various types of object) Events rare → wide

"Slow"-microlensing by nearby compact objects (Wyrzykowski et al. 2016 MNRAS 458, 3012)



-0.1

0.1

<Δi, ΔR>

Events rare \rightarrow wide-field Long-term \rightarrow photometric stability Want to push to fainter objects \rightarrow sensitivity \rightarrow all LSST

Optical *precursor* rise for (black hole) X-ray transient outbursts?



 Can trace the compact object mass function and thus stellar evolution





 Constraints on intermediate-mass black hole Dark Matter through microlensing







 Dwarf Novae duty cycles (fraction of time in a bright state) as a probe of the stellar luminosity function



University; see also Britt et al. (2015 MN)





- Examples of short-timescale variability in the Szkody et al. (2011) DDF whitepaper (<u>Magellanic clouds and select Galactic</u> <u>globular clusters</u>)
 - Compact objects and the accretion/outflow process
 - Cataclysmic Variables and AM CVn systems
 - Supersoft X-ray sources
 - RGB variability









 E.g. <u>Jacklin et al. (2015)</u> comparison of transit recovery in Baseline (left) to Deep drilling (right; also <u>Jacklin et al. 2017</u>);:



(a) Regular Cadence

(b) Deep Drilling Cadence

"At the same time, we find that the LSST deep drilling cadence is extremely powerful: the BLS algorithm successfully recovers at least 30% of sub-Saturn-size exoplanets with orbital periods as long as 20 d, and a simple BLS power criterion robustly distinguishes ~98% of these from photometric (i.e. statistical) false positives."





- Example from the <u>Observing Strategy Whitepaper</u> chapter 10.3:
 - 15-30min cadence with LSST simultaneous with WFIRST
 - 1-day cadence with LSST 1 year before and after WFIRST



Category	$100M_\oplus$	$10M_\oplus$	$1 M_{\oplus}$	Total
WFIRST-events	417	127	33	577
$i \leq 23$	88	30	13	131
$\pi_{\rm E}$ measured	22	8.2	2.7	32.9
$M_{\rm L}$ measured	5.9	3.4	1.5	10.8





 Figure 8.6 from the <u>LSST Science Book</u>: Discovery timescales for luminous optical transients and variables







"Static science"

Many-fields

	"Static science"		(Photometric) Variability	
Astrometric and Photometric calibration for the main survey		Planetary microlensing		
			Red-giant variabilit	у
			Transiting extrasolar planets	
Legacy datasets		for new le transients		
	Extend Gaia-type			X-ray binaries
	to the Bulge			
	0		Dwarf Novae and T	ype la SNe
Optical-waveband constraints on				
the ISM (synergy with NIR)		Microlensing constraints on black		
			hole Dark matter	
	Kinematic sample of Red Clump		Thick dick structure	
Galactic Structure		ISM (RR Lyrae)		
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