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Abstract

Hierarchical models of galaxy formation predict evolution in galaxy luminosities masses scale sizes and morphologies as a function of cosmic time. In order to study the physics of galaxy evolution GEMS has taken the largest area deep image ever taken with the Hubble Space Telescope a ~30'x30' ACS mosaic in the F606W and 850LP bands. It contains around 20000 galaxies 10000 with known redshifts in the interval 0.2<z<1.2 . In order to unlock the potential of this unprecedented dataset accurate automated and well understood measures of galaxy morphology and scale size are required. We use GALFIT a software package that fits the two-dimensional image information with a single or multiple-component fits. In this talk we discuss the completeness properties of the GEMS survey and the systematic and random uncertainties inherent to single and multiple-component galaxy fitting.

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