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Title:	Structure and Evolution of Bars at Intermediate Redshifts
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Abstract

Non-axisymmetric features such as bars drive the dynamical and secular evolution of disk galaxies by exerting gravitational torques which redistribute mass and angular momentum. While most (> 70 %) spirals are barred in the local Universe early studies of the HDF suggest a remarkably low bar fraction (< 20%) at intermediate redshifts (z=0.5--0.8) suggesting that disks at these epochs are fundamentally different from present-day spirals. With the overall goal of constraining the dynamicsevolution and mass assembly of disk galaxies we re-assess the bar fraction using the multi-band Advanced Camera for Surveys (ACS) data in the two largest HST extragalactic surveys to date: the Great Observatories Origins Deep Survey (GOODS) and Galaxy Evolution from Morphology and SEDS (GEMS). We anlayse the relationship between the disk/bar properties central mass concentrations and activity level in disk galaxies. We present first results to analyze stability of bars embedded in massive halos of various central concentrations and asymmetries.

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