

## Review (unsolicited)

# Probing the high-redshift universe with SPICA: Toward the epoch of reionisation and beyond

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## Abstract

With the recent discovery of a dozen dusty star-forming galaxies and around 30 quasars at  $z > 5$  that are hyper-luminous in the infrared ( $\mu L_{\text{IR}} > 10^{13} L_{\odot}$ , where  $\mu$  is a lensing magnification factor), the possibility has opened up for *SPICA*, the proposed ESA M5 mid-/far-infrared mission, to extend its spectroscopic studies toward the epoch of reionisation and beyond. In this paper, we examine the feasibility and scientific potential of such observations with *SPICA*'s far-infrared spectrometer SAFARI, which will probe a spectral range (35–230  $\mu\text{m}$ ) that will be unexplored by ALMA and *JWST*. Our simulations show that *SAFARI* is capable of delivering good-quality spectra for hyper-luminous infrared galaxies at  $z = 5$ –10, allowing us to sample spectral features in the rest-frame mid-infrared and to investigate a host of key scientific issues, such as the relative importance of star formation versus AGN, the hardness of the radiation field, the level of chemical enrichment, and the properties of the molecular gas. From a broader perspective, *SAFARI* offers the potential to open up a new frontier

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in the study of the early Universe, providing access to uniquely powerful spectral features for probing first-generation objects, such as the key cooling lines of low-metallicity or metal-free forming galaxies (fine-structure and H<sub>2</sub> lines) and emission features of solid compounds freshly synthesised by Population III supernovae. Ultimately, *SAFARI*'s ability to explore the high-redshift Universe will be determined by the availability of sufficiently bright targets (whether intrinsically luminous or gravitationally lensed). With its launch expected around 2030, *SPICA* is ideally positioned to take full advantage of upcoming wide-field surveys such as LSST, SKA, *Euclid*, and *WFIRST*, which are likely to provide extraordinary targets for *SAFARI*.

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## Preface

The following set of articles describe in detail the science goals of the future *Space Infrared telescope for Cosmology and Astrophysics* (*SPICA*). The *SPICA* satellite will employ a 2.5-m telescope, actively cooled to below 8 K, and a suite of mid- to far-infrared spectrometers and photometric cameras, equipped with state-of-the-art detectors. In particular, the *SPICA* Far Infrared Instrument (*SAFARI*) will be a grating spectrograph with low ( $R=300$ ) and medium ( $R=3\,000\text{--}11\,000$ ) resolution observing modes instantaneously covering the 35–230  $\mu\text{m}$  wavelength range. The *SPICA* Mid-Infrared Instrument (*SMI*) will have three operating modes: a large field-of-view (12 arcmin  $\times$  10 arcmin) low-resolution 17–36  $\mu\text{m}$  spectroscopic ( $R=50\text{--}120$ ) and photometric camera at 34  $\mu\text{m}$ , a medium-resolution ( $R=2\,000$ ) grating spectrometer covering wavelengths of 18–36  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a high-resolution echelle module ( $R=28\,000$ ) for the 12–18  $\mu\text{m}$  domain. A large field-of-view (160 arcsec  $\times$  160 arcsec)<sup>a</sup>, three-channel (110, 220, and 350  $\mu\text{m}$ ) polarimetric camera (*POL*) will also be part of the instrument complement. These articles will focus on some of the major scientific questions that the *SPICA* mission aims to address; more details about the mission and instruments can be found in Roelfsema et al. (2018).

## 1. Introduction

Through a series of multi-wavelength observations from the UV to radio over the last few decades, it has been shown that the ‘observed’ UV star-formation rate density (SFRD, without any dust-extinction correction) is an order of magnitude smaller than that in the infrared at  $0 < z < 2$  (e.g., Madau & Dickinson 2014). This indicates that in the redshift range where robust measurements of the far-infrared luminosity density exist, most of cosmic star formation took place in dusty/dust-obscured environments, which absorb UV light from young stars and reradiate in the infrared. Although this is not necessarily a surprise if we consider that stars form in dusty molecular clouds locally, it suggests the likelihood that optical/near-infrared observations may miss a significant fraction of galaxies at high redshift due to dust extinction.

A case in point is Hubble Deep Field (HDF) 850.1, the brightest submillimetre source discovered in the very first deep 850- $\mu\text{m}$  map of the sky, taken over the HDF North (HDF-N) with Submillimeter Common-User Bolometer Array (SCUBA) on James Clark Maxwell Telescope (Hughes et al. 1998). Despite its brightness (7 mJy at 850  $\mu\text{m}$ ), it took 14 yr to localise this source and determine its redshift, which turned out to be  $z=5.18$  based on the CO and [C II] line detections (Walter et al. 2012). This is because its counterpart is not seen in the deep *Hubble Space*

*Telescope* optical and near-infrared images. At  $z > 5$ , even near-infrared observations are sampling the rest-frame UV light and are therefore susceptible to dust extinction. Such optical and near-infrared dropout sources have also been discovered with deep *Spitzer*/IRAC survey data, indicating the presence of a substantial population of massive dusty star-forming galaxies (DSFGs) at  $z > 3$  (e.g., Wang et al. 2016).

Note that the star-formation rate (SFR) of HDF 850.1 is quite large,  $850 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ , as derived from the total infrared luminosity ( $L_{\text{IR}}$ ) of  $8.7 \times 10^{12} L_{\odot}$  (conventionally defined as the integrated luminosity over 8–1 000  $\mu\text{m}$ ; see Sanders & Mirabel 1996), which qualifies this source as an ultra-luminous infrared galaxy (ULIRG:  $L_{\text{IR}} = 10^{12}\text{--}10^{13} L_{\odot}$ ). This clearly illustrates that even such an intrinsically luminous galaxy could be completely missed by optical/near-infrared observations due to dust extinction. Note, however, that not all  $z > 5$  infrared-luminous galaxies<sup>b</sup> are so optically faint. For example, AzTEC-3 at  $z=5.30$ , the first submillimetre galaxy (SMG) that has been identified at  $z > 5$  (Riechers et al. 2010; Capak et al. 2011) has a counterpart with  $i \sim 26$  mag, whose optical spectrum shows a Ly $\alpha$  emission line as well as a rest-frame UV continuum with metal absorption lines. This suggests that in some high-redshift infrared-luminous galaxies, UV-bright star-forming regions coexist with those that are heavily dust-obscured.

Recent Atacama large millimeter/submillimeter array (ALMA) observations have further reinforced the view that the infrared-luminous galaxy population plays an important role in the cosmic history. For example, ALMA 1.3-mm imaging of the Hubble Ultra Deep Field (HUDF) has indicated that about 85% of the total star formation at  $z \simeq 2$  is enshrouded in dust, about 65% of which is occurring in high-mass galaxies with an average obscured to unobscured star formation ratio of 200 (Dunlop et al. 2017). A subsequent analysis of these HUDF ALMA sources as well as those detected in a wider GOODS-S area (26 arcmin<sup>2</sup>) has shown a surprisingly large X-ray active galactic nuclei (AGN) fraction (Ueda et al. 2018), suggesting a possible connection between the dusty phase of massive galaxy evolution and growth of supermassive black holes (SMBHs). On the high-redshift front, ALMA has started to discover  $z > 8$  galaxies through the detection of the [O III] 88- $\mu\text{m}$  line, such as MACS0416-Y1 at  $z=8.31$  (Tamura et al. 2018), A2744-YD at  $z=8.38$  (Laporte et al. 2017), and MACS1149-JD1 at  $z=9.11$  (Hashimoto et al. 2018b), and surprisingly the first two galaxies were also detected in dust continuum with corresponding infrared luminosities of  $1\text{--}2 \times 10^{11} L_{\odot}$ . ALMA dust-continuum detections also exist for a few  $z=7\text{--}8$  galaxies,

<sup>a</sup>Some other *SPICA* papers refer to this *POL* field of view as 80 arcsec  $\times$  80 arcsec, but it is 160 arcsec  $\times$  160 arcsec according to the latest design.

<sup>b</sup>Also often referred to as ‘submillimetre galaxies’ (SMGs; Blain et al. 2002) or ‘dusty star-forming galaxies’ (DSFGs; Casey, Narayanan, & Cooray 2014). Here, we adopt the term ‘infrared-luminous galaxies’ for much of this paper, which refers to the property in the galaxy’s rest frame and includes AGN galaxies like quasars in the definition. See Sanders & Mirabel (1996) for an earlier review.

such as B14-65666 at  $z=7.15$  (Hashimoto et al. 2018a) and A1689-zD1 at  $z=7.5$  (Knudsen et al. 2017), with corresponding infrared luminosities of  $2\text{--}6 \times 10^{11} L_{\odot}$ . These recent discoveries confirm the existence of dusty, infrared-luminous ( $>10^{11} L_{\odot}$ ) galaxies well inside the epoch of reionisation, only about half a billion years after the Big Bang. These recent exciting developments clearly indicate the importance of probing the high-redshift Universe in the infrared, which will allow us to obtain the full picture of the earliest phases of galaxy evolution by mitigating the effects of dust extinction/obscuration.

*SPICA* is a proposed European Space Agency (ESA) M5 mission, whose main scientific goal is to explore the dusty/dust-obscured Universe, both near and far, by conducting sensitive imaging and spectroscopic observations in the mid-/far-infrared (Roelfsema et al. 2018). *SPICA* is expected to revolutionise a wide spectrum of research areas in astronomy/astrophysics, and it will be especially powerful for probing the dusty/dust-obscured Universe at high redshift through spectroscopy. On the extragalactic side, a key goal of the *SPICA* mission is to conduct large spectroscopic surveys of galaxies at  $z=1\text{--}4$  and characterise their physical properties through the analysis of spectral features in the mid-/far-infrared. For example, a 2 000-h SAFARI survey will obtain low-resolution (LR;  $R=300$ ) spectra for over 1 000 galaxies up to  $z \simeq 4$  (Spinoglio et al. 2017) while a 600-h SMI survey will identify about 50 000 galaxies in a  $10 \text{ deg}^2$  area through  $R=50\text{--}120$  spectroscopy of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) emission features (Kaneda et al. 2017). Such data sets will enormously advance our understanding of galaxy/AGN evolution and will shed light on key science topics such as chemical evolution/metal enrichment (Fernández-Ontiveros et al. 2017) and molecular outflows/inflows (González-Alfonso et al. 2017). Note that the great power of *SPICA* mainly resides in such spectroscopic observations, especially in the far-infrared ( $>100 \mu\text{m}$ ), where *Herschel*/Spectral and Photometric Imaging Receiver (SPIRE) has already achieved confusion-limited broad-band imaging sensitivities with a 3.5-m telescope. Another area of *SPICA*'s strength is its ability to conduct deep and wide imaging surveys with the SMI's slit-viewer camera at  $34 \mu\text{m}$ , where the confusion limit will be significantly lower (Gruppioni et al. 2017).

The goal of this paper is to examine *SPICA*'s potential for extending infrared spectroscopic studies toward the epoch of reionisation and beyond. More specifically, we will assess SAFARI's ability to obtain high-quality galaxy spectra (similar to those obtained by *Spitzer*/IRS at lower redshift) in a redshift range of  $z=5\text{--}10$ . A redshift of 5 defines a natural boundary for SAFARI because at  $z>5$  the  $6.2 \mu\text{m}$  PAH feature is redshifted into the SAFARI band, making SAFARI data sets self-sufficient for a variety of mid-infrared spectral analyses. In the current design, SAFARI will deliver LR ( $R=300$ ) spectra covering  $35\text{--}230 \mu\text{m}$  with a line-flux sensitivity of around  $5 \times 10^{-20} \text{ W m}^{-2}$  ( $5\sigma$ , 1 h). Based on this sensitivity estimate and recent discoveries of infrared-luminous galaxies/quasars at  $z>5$ , we will examine the detectability of various types of galaxies by simulating their SAFARI spectra and will discuss the scientific potential of such observations (Section 2). In addition, we will extend our discussion to a few exploratory science programs that are significantly more challenging but have the potential to open up a new frontier in the study of the early Universe (Section 3). In the final section (Section 4), we will review a variety of existing and future wide-field data, which can be used to select SAFARI targets effectively.

Throughout the paper, we assume a  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmology with  $H_0 = 70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ ,  $\Omega_m = 0.3$ , and  $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.7$ .

## 2. Probing the $z > 5$ Universe

As has been demonstrated by the large body of work with *ISO* and *Spitzer*, as reviewed by Genzel & Cesarsky (2000) and Soifer, Helou, & Werner (2008), respectively, the rest-frame mid-infrared spectral range is extremely rich in diagnostic information, with a variety of atomic fine-structure lines, molecular hydrogen ( $\text{H}_2$ ) lines, PAH features, and silicate emission/absorption features [e.g., see Genzel et al. (1998) for *ISO* and Armus et al. (2007) for *Spitzer* results, as well as the companion papers by Spinoglio et al. (2017) and Van der Tak et al. (2018)]. Some galaxies are so embedded in dust that rest-frame mid-infrared spectroscopy is crucial for identifying the dominant luminosity source (whether star formation or AGN). Without such spectral information, it is impossible to fully capture the landscape of the dust-obscured Universe at high redshift. Although ALMA and *James Webb Space Telescope* (*JWST*) will undoubtedly make great progress in the near future, they will leave the  $30\text{--}300 \mu\text{m}$  spectral range unexplored, that is, the rest-frame mid-infrared at  $z=5\text{--}10$ , requiring an infrared space mission like *SPICA* to fill this information-rich gap.

### 2.1. Dusty star-forming galaxies

One recent crucial development, which has opened up *SPICA*'s potential to probe the  $z > 5$  Universe, was a series of discoveries finding that a significant fraction of the brightest submillimetre/millimetre sources in a random blank sky field corresponds to gravitationally lensed infrared-luminous galaxies at high redshift (except for nearby galaxies and bright AGN). The discovery of the Cosmic Eyelash galaxy at  $z=2.3$  (Swinbank et al. 2010), which was the first of such *super-bright* ( $S_{870} > 100 \text{ mJy}$ )<sup>c</sup> lensed infrared-luminous galaxies to be found, allowed a variety of multi-wavelength observations even with those observing facilities that normally do not have the sensitivity to probe beyond the low-redshift Universe.

Although this first discovery was serendipitous, wide-field surveys with *Herschel*, South Pole Telescope (SPT), Atacama Cosmology Telescope (ACT), and *Planck* quickly followed with more discoveries of similarly bright infrared-luminous galaxies (e.g., Negrello et al. 2010; Combes et al. 2012; Vieira et al. 2013; Weiß et al. 2013; Marsden et al. 2014; Cañameras et al. 2015; Harrington et al. 2016), a small number of which have turned out to be at  $z > 5$ . Due to lensing, these  $z > 5$  galaxies are all substantially brighter than HDF 850.1 and AzTEC-3, so their redshifts were easily measured by blind CO searches. At the time of writing, the discoveries of ten such lensed infrared-luminous galaxies have been reported at  $z > 5$  (Table 1; SPT0311-58 W and SPT0311-58 E are counted as one), with the highest-redshift galaxy at  $z=6.90$  (Strandet et al. 2017; Marrone et al. 2018). Even when corrected for lensing magnification ( $\mu$ ), many of these objects are hyper-luminous infrared galaxies (HyLIRGs;  $L_{\text{IR}} > 10^{13} L_{\odot}$ ) but without any sign of a strong AGN, leading to their classification as DSFGs (Casey et al. 2014). Note that non-lensed  $z > 5$  galaxies that are significantly more luminous than HDF 850.1 and AzTEC-3 are also being discovered (Table 1). With a variety of wide-field surveys being conducted/planned (see Section 4), the list of such HyLIRGs at  $z=5\text{--}10$ , whether gravitationally lensed or intrinsically luminous, will grow rapidly over the coming years, providing excellent targets for SAFARI.

<sup>c</sup> $S_{870}$  denotes the flux density at  $870 \mu\text{m}$ . Similar notations will be used to indicate flux densities at specific wavelengths.

**Table 1.** Currently known infrared-luminous galaxies ( $\mu L_{\text{IR}} \gtrsim 10^{13} L_{\odot}$ ) at  $z > 5$  (non-quasars)

Object	$z$	$S_{500}$ (mJy)	$S_{870}$ (mJy)	$\mu L_{\text{IR}}^{\text{a}}$ ( $10^{13} L_{\odot}$ )	$\mu^{\text{b}}$	Survey	References
Gravitationally-lensed galaxies							
SPT0311-58 W	6.90	50	35 <sup>c</sup>	7.3	2.2	SPT	1, 2
SPT0311-58 E		5	4 <sup>c</sup>	0.6	1.3		
HFLS3	6.34	47	33 <sup>d</sup>	4.2	2.2	<i>Herschel</i> /HerMES	3, 4
H-ATLAS J0900	6.03	44	36 <sup>e</sup>	3.5	9.3	<i>Herschel</i> /HATLAS	5
SPT2351-57	5.81	74	35	11 <sup>h</sup>	$\sim 10^{\text{h}}$	SPT	6, 7
SPT0243-49	5.70	59	84	4.5	9.8	SPT	7, 8, 9, 10, 11
SPT0346-52	5.66	204	131	16	5.6	SPT	7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
SPT2353-50	5.58	56	41	7.8 <sup>h</sup>	$\sim 10^{\text{h}}$	SPT	6, 7
SPT2319-55	5.29	49	38	2.5 <sup>i</sup>	20.8	SPT	6, 7, 10
HLSJ0918	5.24	212	125 <sup>d</sup>	16	9	<i>Herschel</i> /HLS	14, 15
HELMS_RED_4	5.16	116	65 <sup>f</sup>	...	...	<i>Herschel</i> /HerMES	16
Non-lensed galaxies							
CRLE	5.67	31	17 <sup>e</sup>	3.2	1	ALMA/COSMOS	17
ADFS-27	5.65	24	25	2.4	1	<i>Herschel</i> /HerMES	18
AzTEC-3	5.30	<32	9 <sup>g</sup>	1.6	1	AzTEC/COSMOS	19, 20
HDF 850.1	5.18	<14	7	0.65	1	SCUBA/HDF-N	21

<sup>a</sup>Infrared luminosity  $L_{\text{IR}}$  (8–1000  $\mu\text{m}$ ) without a lensing correction.

<sup>b</sup>Magnification factor.

<sup>c</sup>At 869  $\mu\text{m}$  with ALMA.

<sup>d</sup>At 880  $\mu\text{m}$  with SMA.

<sup>e</sup>At 850  $\mu\text{m}$  with SCUBA-2.

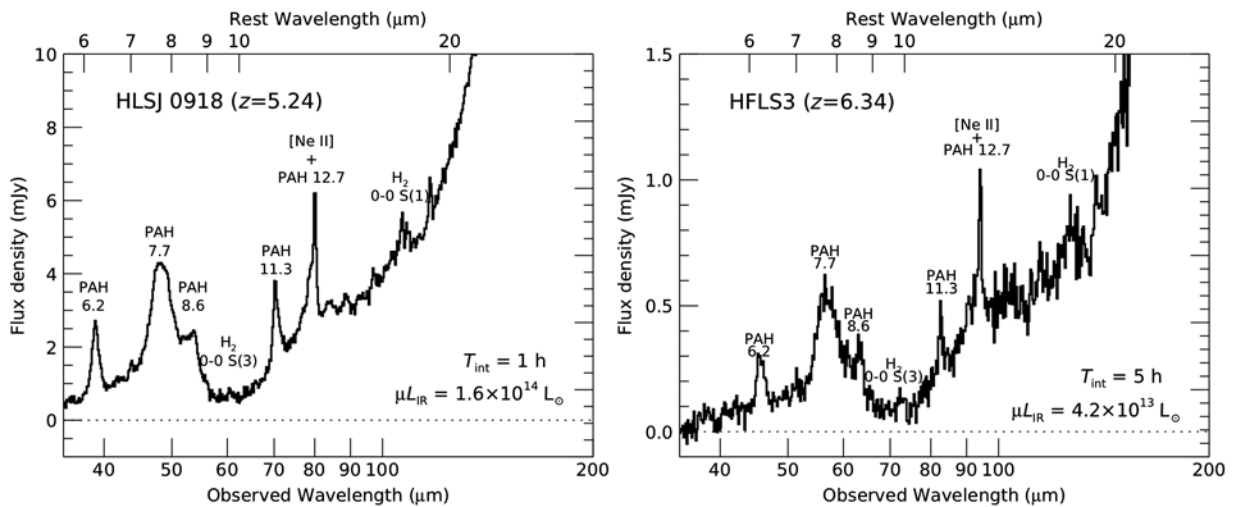
<sup>f</sup>At 920  $\mu\text{m}$  with CSO/MUSIC.

<sup>g</sup>At 890  $\mu\text{m}$  with SMA.

<sup>h</sup>J. Spilker 2018, private communication.

<sup>i</sup> $L_{\text{IR}}$  (42–500  $\mu\text{m}$ ).

**References:** (1) Strandet et al. (2017); (2) Marrone et al. (2018); (3) Riechers et al. (2013); (4) Cooray et al. (2014); (5) Zavala et al. (2018); (6) Strandet et al. (2016); (7) Spilker et al. (2016); (8) Vieira et al. (2013); (9) Weiß et al. (2013); (10) Gullberg et al. (2015); (11) Aravena et al. (2016); (12) Ma et al. (2015); (13) Ma et al. (2016); (14) Combes et al. (2012); (15) Rawle et al. (2014); (16) Asboth et al. (2016); (17) Pavese et al. (2018); (18) Riechers et al. (2017); (19) Younger et al. (2007); (20) Smolčić et al. (2015); (21) Walter et al. (2012).



**Figure 1.** Simulated SAFARI spectra of HLSJ0918 ( $z = 5.24$ ,  $\mu = 9$ ; Combes et al. 2012; Rawle et al. 2014) and HFLS3 ( $z = 6.34$ ,  $\mu = 2$ ; Riechers et al. 2013; Cooray et al. 2014) are shown in the left and right panels, respectively. The average local galaxy SED templates (Rieke et al. 2009) of  $L_{\text{IR}} = 10^{11.75}$  and  $10^{12.50} L_{\odot}$  were used, respectively, which produce good fits to the observed rest-frame far-infrared SEDs of these galaxies. The template SEDs were first scaled to the infrared luminosities without a lensing correction ( $\mu L_{\text{IR}}$  in each panel) and then fit with PAHFIT (Smith et al. 2007) with a pixel sampling of  $R = 600$ . These PAHFIT-produced model spectra were then redshifted and noise-added for corresponding integration times ( $T_{\text{int}}$  in each panel). Finally, the resultant spectra were resampled with  $R = 300$  pixels. However, the effective resolution of these simulated spectra is less than  $R = 300$  due to the low resolution ( $R \approx 60\text{--}130$ ) of the *Spitzer*/IRS data used by Rieke et al. (2009) to build templates. Note that the actual mid-infrared spectra of these  $z > 5$  galaxies may significantly differ from those of local LIRGs/ULIRGs (see Section 2.4 for more discussion).

To illustrate the power of SAFARI, we show in [Figure 1](#) the simulated SAFARI spectra of two gravitationally lensed infrared-luminous galaxies from [Table 1](#), HLSJ0918 at  $z = 5.24$  (Combes et al. 2012; Rawle et al. 2014) and HFLS3 at  $z = 6.34$  (Riechers et al. 2013; Cooray et al. 2014). These galaxies were discovered as *Herschel* sources showing red colours in the three SPIRE bands ( $S_{250} < S_{350} < S_{500}$ ), a technique that has proved to be effective for finding  $z > 4$  DSFGs (e.g., Dowell et al. 2014). The figure clearly shows that SAFARI is capable of detecting main spectral features in the rest-frame mid-infrared at these redshifts if the infrared luminosities of target galaxies are  $> 10^{13} L_{\odot}$ . If the PAH features and fine-structure lines in these galaxies are as strong as those seen at lower redshift, SAFARI will be able to detect them clearly, and the measured PAH strengths can be used to estimate SFRs. Compared to other SFR indicators, PAH features have the advantage of being less vulnerable to dust extinction (e.g., compared to  $H\alpha$ ) and being more luminous (e.g., compared to  $[\text{Ne II}] 12.8 \mu\text{m}$ ).

PAH equivalent widths are also a powerful diagnostic for assessing the AGN contribution to the rest-frame mid-infrared continuum emission (e.g., Pope et al. 2008; Riechers et al. 2014). Considering that many of the lensed infrared-luminous galaxies listed in [Table 1](#) are HyLIRGs even intrinsically (i.e., when corrected for the lensing magnification), it is important to examine if they harbour luminous AGN and therefore exhibit smaller PAH equivalent widths. For the detection of AGN, especially those heavily obscured by dust, the rest-frame mid-infrared range is optimal as the AGN contribution becomes most conspicuous there. Other mid-infrared spectral features that can be used to detect the presence of AGN are high excitation lines such as  $[\text{Ne V}] 14.3/24.3 \mu\text{m}$  and  $[\text{O IV}] 25.9 \mu\text{m}$ , which can be used to estimate the AGN contribution and black hole accretion rates (e.g., Spinoglio et al. 2017).

Other prominent mid-infrared spectral features include atomic fine-structure lines such as  $[\text{Ne II}]/[\text{Ne III}] 12.8/15.6 \mu\text{m}$  and molecular hydrogen ( $\text{H}_2$ ) lines such as  $0-0 \text{ S}(1)/0-0 \text{ S}(3) 17.0/9.66 \mu\text{m}$  (some of these lines are not seen in [Figure 1](#) because of their faintness and the low resolution of the template spectra). The  $[\text{Ne II}]/[\text{Ne III}]$  lines, for example, will serve as excellent indicators of SFRs and the hardness of ionising radiation (e.g., Thornley et al. 2000; Ho & Keto 2007), while  $\text{H}_2$  lines allow us to measure the temperature and mass of warm ( $T \gtrsim 100 \text{ K}$ ) molecular hydrogen gas directly (e.g., Rigopoulou et al. 2002; Higdon et al. 2006).

Note that high-redshift HyLIRGs are likely more luminous in the rest-frame mid-infrared than the local ones, which will help SAFARI detections of submillimetre/millimetre-selected DSFGs like those listed in [Table 1](#). This is because at  $z \gtrsim 1$ , many star-forming HyLIRGs/ULIRGs are spatially extended over kpc scales, exhibiting flatter and colder infrared spectral energy distributions (SEDs) that are more similar to those of local LIRGs [ $L_{\text{IR}} = 10^{11} - 10^{12} L_{\odot}$ ; see Rujopakarn et al. (2013) and references therein]. Indeed, the *Herschel*-observed far-infrared SEDs of HLSJ0918 and HFLS3 take shapes consistent with those of galaxies with much lower infrared luminosities (see the caption of [Figure 1](#)), supporting the validity of such an assumption.

## 2.2. UV-bright star-forming galaxies

At  $z \gtrsim 5$ , the majority of galaxies have been selected through robust optical (broad-band/narrow-band) colour selections and identified either as Lyman break galaxies (LBGs) or Lyman-alpha emitters (LAEs). LBGs and LAEs are inherently UV-bright

star-forming galaxies because they are selected through the detections of the Lyman break at  $912 \text{ \AA}$  and/or  $\text{Ly}\alpha$  break/emission at  $1216 \text{ \AA}$ . Unlike DSFGs discussed above, which can be extremely faint in the rest-frame UV (e.g., HDF 850.1), LBGs/LAEs are less dust-obscured as populations, especially at  $z \gtrsim 5$  where many of LBGs/LAEs are seen to exhibit extremely blue UV continuum slopes (e.g., Bouwens et al. 2012; Dunlop et al. 2012; Finkelstein et al. 2012; Jiang et al. 2013).

At  $z \sim 3$ , *Spitzer*/IRS spectra exist for a small number of bright gravitationally lensed LBGs, such as MS1512-cB58 at  $z = 2.73$  (Siana et al. 2008) and the Cosmic Eye at  $z = 3.07$  (Siana et al. 2009), giving a glimpse of what the mid-infrared spectra of UV-selected star-forming galaxies look like. The mid-infrared spectra of these particular LBGs are similar to those of typical infrared-luminous galaxies like those in [Figure 1](#), showing strong PAH features and resembling those of infrared-selected lensed galaxies at comparable redshift (Rigby et al. 2008). This is probably not surprising, considering that these LBGs are LIRGs in terms of their infrared luminosities and therefore are probably among the more infrared-luminous members of the LBG population. In fact, a significant fraction of  $z \simeq 3$  LBGs are thought to be infrared-luminous despite their rest-frame UV selection (e.g., Coppin et al. 2015; Koprowski et al. 2016). A recent *Herschel* stacking analysis of about 22 000  $z \simeq 3$  LBGs indicates that these galaxies are LIRGs on average (Álvarez-Márquez et al. 2016). It has also been shown that some of the  $z \simeq 3$  LBGs are even ULIRGs (e.g., Oteo et al. 2013; Magdis et al. 2017). Even at  $z \simeq 7$ , bright LBGs are thought to be LIRGs on average (Bowler et al. 2018).

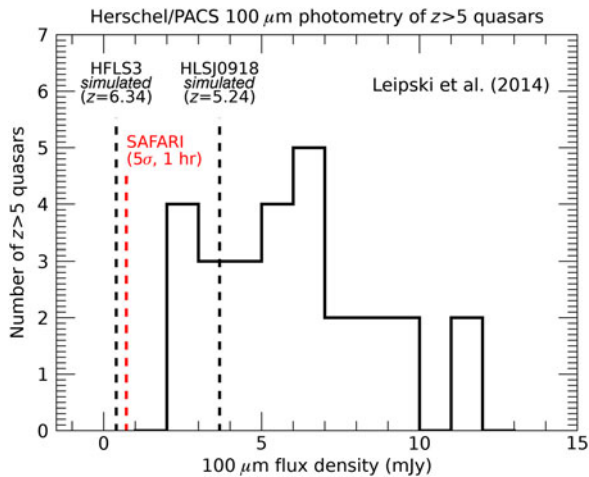
Because of the simple colour selection criteria, LBGs are known to constitute a heterogeneous sample of galaxies with a wide spectrum of physical properties, from dusty infrared-luminous galaxies to luminous LAEs with little dust extinction. One exciting prospect for SAFARI is that it will be able to detect the latter population (which likely dominates in number), making it possible to study both populations in a uniform way, using the same set of mid-infrared diagnostics.

In this context, particularly interesting are low-mass, low-metallicity, unreddened galaxies with strong emission lines at  $z \sim 2$ , which may be better analogues of  $z \gtrsim 5$  galaxies (e.g., Erb et al. 2010; Stark et al. 2014). These galaxies may be similar to low-metallicity blue compact dwarfs (BCDs) in the local Universe (e.g., Watson et al. 2011), and if so, their mid-infrared spectra are likely distinctly different from those of typical infrared-luminous galaxies shown in [Figure 1](#). We will discuss the mid-infrared spectra of these local BCDs in [Section 2.4](#).

## 2.3. Quasars/AGN

Compared to star-forming galaxies, quasars have much flatter infrared SEDs because of the power-law continuum produced by the central AGN. As a result, they are significantly brighter in the rest-frame mid-infrared and are easier to observe with SAFARI. [Figure 2](#) shows the  $100\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  flux-density distribution of 27  $z > 5$  Type-1 quasars (up to  $z = 6.4$ ) based on the *Herschel*/Photodetector Array Camera and Spectrometer (PACS) photometry reported by Leipski et al. (2014). Note that the PACS  $100\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  band directly measures the source brightness in the wavelength range that SAFARI will cover. The measured  $100\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  flux densities range from 2 to 12 mJy, indicating that SAFARI, with a  $5\sigma$  continuum sensitivity of 0.7 mJy in 1 h, will be able to obtain high-quality spectra for these quasars quickly.

Mid-infrared spectra of low-redshift Type-1 AGN are often characterised by a power-law continuum, silicate emission/



**Figure 2.** *Herschel/PACS* 100- $\mu\text{m}$  photometry of 27  $z = 5\text{--}6.4$  Type-1 quasars reported by Leipski et al. (2014). In comparison, the simulated 100- $\mu\text{m}$  flux densities of HLSJ0918 and HFLS3 (see Figure 1) are also shown, as well as the sensitivity of SAFARI LR-mode (0.7 mJy at 100  $\mu\text{m}$ ,  $5\sigma$  in 1 h). These  $z > 5$  quasars are bright enough to be observable with SAFARI in under an hour (each), providing details about the dust composition and distribution of dust around their nuclei.

absorption features, and PAH emission features (e.g., Siebenmorgen et al. 2005; Hao et al. 2005; Shi et al. 2006, 2007, 2009, 2014). The power-law continuum seen in the rest-frame mid-infrared is thought to be produced by the dusty torus around the central AGN (e.g., Leipski et al. 2014), allowing us to study the properties and geometry of the circumnuclear material. For example, the strengths of silicate emission/absorption features (at 9.7 and 18  $\mu\text{m}$ ) are thought to correlate (at least in the first order) with the orientation of the dusty torus (i.e., edge-on  $\rightarrow$  absorption; face-on  $\rightarrow$  emission) and can be used to infer the structure of the torus in the framework of unification models (e.g., Shi et al. 2006). At  $z \gtrsim 6$ , some quasars are found to be deficient in hot dust, suggesting that their dusty tori are not fully developed or are even absent (Jiang et al. 2010; Leipski et al. 2014). SAFARI spectroscopy of  $z > 5$  quasars therefore offers the possibility to investigate, through observations and modelling, the physical conditions and formation/evolution processes of AGN dusty tori.

Since the  $z > 5$  quasars plotted in Figure 2 are so bright, the quality of SAFARI spectra will be high enough to examine the composition of dust grains. For example, using the *Spitzer/IRS* data for 93 AGN at  $z \lesssim 0.5$  that exhibit the 9.7 and 18  $\mu\text{m}$  silicate emission features, Xie, Li, & Hao (2017) have determined that 60 of these AGN spectra can be well reproduced by ‘astronomical silicates’, while 31 sources favour amorphous olivine ( $\text{Mg}_{1.2}\text{Fe}_{0.8}\text{SiO}_4$ ) and two sources favour amorphous pyroxene ( $\text{Mg}_{0.3}\text{Fe}_{0.7}\text{SiO}_3$ ). They also concluded that all sources require micron-sized dust grains, which are significantly larger than the submicron-sized dust grains found in the Galactic ISM. By measuring the central wavelength, width, and relative intensity of the two silicate features, SAFARI will allow us to infer the chemical composition and grain properties of the circumnuclear dust around AGN at  $z > 5$  (see the companion paper by Fernandez-Ontiveros et al. (2017) for a further discussion of quasar mid-infrared spectra).

The PAH emission features, on the other hand, reveal star-forming activities in the quasar host galaxies (e.g., Shi et al. 2007, 2009). Among the sample of Leipski et al. (2014), there are seven  $z > 5$  Type-1 quasars that have been detected at 500  $\mu\text{m}$ . Although a significant fraction of  $z > 5$  quasar far-infrared luminosities are thought to be produced by AGN [estimated to be 30–70%

by Schneider et al. (2015) and Lyu, Rieke, & Alberts (2016)], the infrared luminosities powered by star formation could still be larger than  $10^{13} L_{\odot}$  (Leipski et al. 2014). Such infrared luminosities are comparable to that of HFLS3 ( $z = 6.34$ ) shown in Figure 1, suggesting that SAFARI will likely detect PAH emission features in many of these seven  $z > 5$  quasars superposed on the power-law AGN continuum. Quasars with vigorously star-forming hosts may also allow us to examine the interplay between AGN and star formation at these early epochs.

#### 2.4. Galaxies in the epoch of reionisation

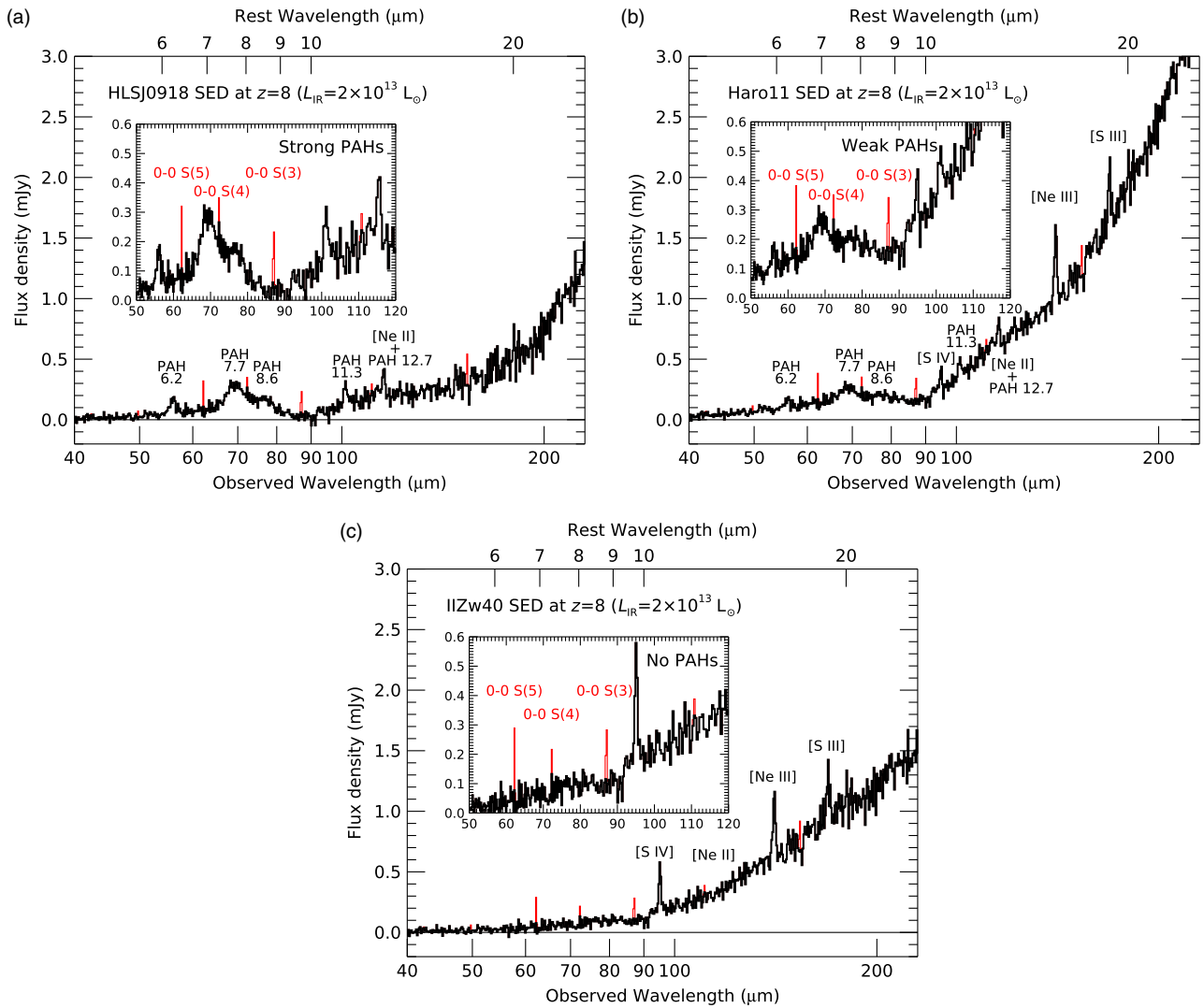
As shown in Figure 1, SAFARI will be able to deliver good-quality rest-frame mid-infrared spectra for HyLIRGs at least up to  $z \sim 6$ . The next question, therefore, is how much farther we can push SAFARI in redshift. The answer to this question depends on whether or not there exist HyLIRGs at  $z > 6$  that are sufficiently massive and luminous to be detectable with SAFARI. Note that such high-redshift HyLIRGs are not explicitly included in some models of infrared-luminous galaxy evolution. For example, the model by Béthermin et al. (2017), one of the most advanced and up-to-date, applies a sharp SFR limit of  $< 1000 M_{\odot} \text{yr}^{-1}$ , excluding HyLIRGs like those listed in Table 1.

In this respect, the discoveries of HFLS3 at  $z = 6.34$  (Riechers et al. 2013) and SPT0311-58 at  $z = 6.9$  (Strandet et al. 2017; Marrone et al. 2018) are encouraging. The halo masses ( $M_{\text{h}}$ ) of these high-redshift DSFGs have been estimated to be  $\gtrsim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  (Marrone et al. 2018), and therefore their existence provides a proof that such massive infrared-luminous galaxies do exist at  $z \sim 6\text{--}7$ , possibly marking the rare density peaks that would become present-day galaxy clusters and have a space density of only  $10^{-3}\text{--}10^{-4}$  times that of typical  $z \sim 6$  LBGs (Riechers et al. 2013).

Though rare, the existence of massive and luminous DSFGs is expected in overdense regions at  $z \sim 6\text{--}7$ . For example, the simulation by Yajima et al. (2015) has shown that overdense regions evolve at a substantially accelerated pace at high redshift, being able to produce DSFGs at  $z \sim 6$  inside a halo with a mass of  $M_{\text{h}} \sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ . This simulation, however, failed to reproduce the observed infrared luminosity of HFLS3, falling short by a factor of about 10. One possible explanation is that HFLS3 is experiencing a powerful starburst that boosts the infrared luminosity. The same simulation also predicts the existence of  $L_{\text{IR}} \sim 6 \times 10^{11} L_{\odot}$  galaxies at  $z \sim 10$ , and if their infrared luminosities are similarly enhanced by a strong starburst (i.e., by a factor of about 10), ULIRG-type galaxies may exist in some exceptional overdense regions even at  $z \sim 10$ .

Figure 3 shows simulated 10-h spectra of  $z = 8$  galaxies using the spectra/SEDs of the following three objects:

1. **HLSJ0918:** The  $z = 5.24$  gravitationally lensed infrared-luminous galaxy shown in Figure 1 (Combes et al. 2012; Rawle et al. 2014).
2. **Haro 11:** Local ( $D \approx 90$  Mpc) infrared-luminous ( $L_{\text{IR}} \approx 2 \times 10^{11} L_{\odot}$ ) low-metallicity ( $Z \approx 1/3 Z_{\odot}$ ) BCD (e.g., Cormier et al. 2012; Lyu et al. 2016).
3. **II Zw 40:** Another local ( $D \approx 10$  Mpc) low-metallicity ( $Z \approx 1/5 Z_{\odot}$ ) BCD with a significantly lower infrared luminosity of  $L_{\text{IR}} \approx 3 \times 10^9 L_{\odot}$  (see Consiglio et al. 2016 and Kopley et al. 2016 for recent ALMA studies and references). II Zw 40 is one of the two H II galaxies (along with I Zw 18) studied by Sargent & Searle (1970), which have defined BCDs as a distinct class of galaxies.



**Figure 3.** SAFARI 10-h LR ( $R = 300$ ) spectra for  $z = 8$  galaxies simulated for the following three-types of galaxies: (a) HLSJ0918, a HyLIRG at  $z = 5.24$  (see Figure 1 and Table 1); (b) Haro 11, a low-metallicity infrared-luminous local BCD; and (c) IIZw 40, another low-metallicity local BCD that is not infrared-luminous. For HLSJ0918, the  $L_{\text{IR}} = 10^{11.75} L_{\odot}$  LIRG SED from Rieke et al. (2009) was used in Figure 1, while for the two BCDs, the fully processed *Spitzer*/IRS low-resolution spectra were obtained from the Combined Atlas of Sources with *Spitzer* IRS Spectra (CASSIS; Lebouteiller et al. 2011). The infrared luminosities of these SEDs have been scaled to  $2 \times 10^{13} L_{\odot}$ , comparable to the intrinsic luminosity of HFLS3. See the caption of Figure 1 for how these SAFARI spectra were simulated. The red lines show simulated  $\text{H}_2$  emission lines (assumed to be unresolved) produced by  $2 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  of  $T = 200$  K gas and  $2 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$  of  $T = 1000$  K gas under the local thermodynamic equilibrium (LTE) assumption (an ortho-to-para ratio of 3:1 is also assumed). These  $\text{H}_2$  lines are hardly visible in the original galaxy spectra.

The *Spitzer*/IRS spectra of the two BCDs were analysed by Hunt, Bianchi, & Maiolino (2005) and Wu et al. (2006), while their broad-band SEDs (covering from near-infrared to submillimetre) were presented by Rémy-Ruyer et al. (2015). As already mentioned in Section 2.2, these local BCDs are often thought to be good analogues of high-redshift low-metallicity galaxies (although the metallicities of actual  $z = 8$  galaxies are likely even lower). The spectra of these BCDs were scaled up by assuming an infrared luminosity of  $2 \times 10^{13} L_{\odot}$ , comparable to the lensing-corrected luminosity of HFLS3.

As Figure 3 shows, 10-h integration SAFARI spectra will allow us to characterise the physical properties of such HyLIRGs at  $z \simeq 8$  in terms of the following characteristics: (i) PAH feature strengths; (ii) fine-structure line strengths; and (iii) underlying continuum shapes. For example, SAFARI will be able to test whether or not many of  $z > 5$  galaxies are scaled-up versions of local low-metallicity BCDs. The mid-infrared spectra of low-metallicity BCD are distinctly different from those of normal

infrared-luminous galaxies because of weak PAH features, strong high-excitation lines (e.g., [Ne III]  $15.5 \mu\text{m}$  and [S IV]  $10.5 \mu\text{m}$ ), and a sharply rising red continuum, as first reported by Madden et al. (2006) based on *ISO* observations. Weak (or even absent) PAH features are a common characteristic of low-metallicity galaxies while strong high-excitation lines are likely due to a harder UV radiation field (Hunt et al. 2005; Wu et al. 2006). The latter also explains the presence of the strong [O III]  $88\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  line (even more luminous than the [C II]  $158\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  line) in low-metallicity dwarf galaxies, as recently observed by *Herschel*/PACS spectroscopy (Cormier et al. 2015). A powerful way to discriminate between low-metallicity BCDs, ‘normal’ (solar-metallicity) starburst galaxies, and AGN has also been derived from specific mid-infrared line ratios as presented by Fernández-Ontiveros et al. (2016) (see their Figure 11) and Spinoglio et al. (2017).

The recent detections of high-ionisation UV lines in high-redshift galaxies (e.g., Stark et al. 2015a, 2015b; Stark et al. 2017; Mainali et al. 2017) suggest that their mid-infrared spectra may

also exhibit high-ionisation lines like those seen in these BCD spectra, and if so, that may support the idea that local BCDs are good analogues of high-redshift star-forming galaxies. A sharply increasing red continuum indicates a significantly warmer dust temperature (46.5 K in the case of Haro 11 by Lyu et al. 2016), and SAFARI will be effective for detecting such a warm-dust SED since its wavelength coverage extends to  $>20 \mu\text{m}$  in the rest-frame even at  $z = 8$ . The existence of such a warm-dust host galaxy has been suggested for  $z > 5$  quasars based on their SED analysis (Lyu et al. 2016).

## 2.5. Molecular hydrogen ( $\text{H}_2$ ) emission

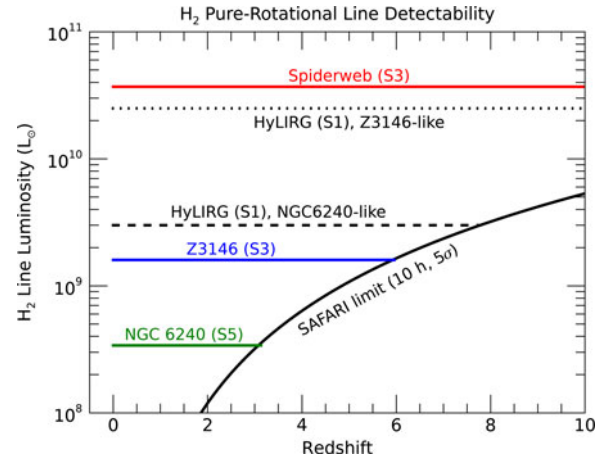
The rest-frame mid-infrared spectral range is uniquely important, since it contains  $\text{H}_2$  lines originating from the lowest energy levels (i.e., so-called  $\text{H}_2$  pure-rotational lines<sup>d</sup>), which allow us to measure the temperature and mass of the bulk of warm ( $T \gtrsim 100 \text{ K}$ ) molecular hydrogen gas in galaxies directly.

In local/low-redshift LIRGs and ULIRGs, the luminosities of the  $\text{H}_2$  0–0 S(1) line (which is normally one of the brightest pure-rotational lines) are typically around 0.005% of the total infrared luminosities [e.g., as estimated by Egami et al. (2006b) using the data from Rigopoulou et al. (2002) and Higdon et al. (2006)]. With a 10-h integration, SAFARI's  $5\sigma$  line detection limit will be  $\gtrsim 10^9 L_\odot$  at  $z > 5$ , so this means that for a successful detection of the  $\text{H}_2$  0–0 S(1) line at  $z > 5$ , we would need a galaxy with a total infrared luminosity of  $>2 \times 10^{13} L_\odot$ , that is, HyLIRGs like those listed in Table 1.

By combining CLOUDY calculations (Ferland et al. 2013) with a zoom-in, high-resolution ( $\simeq 30 \text{ pc}$ ) numerical simulation, it is now possible to examine the physical conditions and internal structures of the inter-stellar medium (ISM) in high-redshift galaxies including molecular hydrogen gases (e.g., Vallini, Dayal, & Ferrara 2012; Vallini et al. 2013, 2015; Pallottini et al. 2017a, 2017b). So far, these simulations have explored the properties of average  $z \sim 6$  LBGs, and their  $\text{H}_2$  line luminosities are predicted to be well below SAFARI's detection limit (see Appendix A). For a successful SAFARI  $\text{H}_2$  detection at such high redshift, we would therefore need a more massive galaxy undergoing a more violent  $\text{H}_2$  heating process.

From the observations of the nearby and lower-redshift Universe, it is known that there exist galaxies that exhibit exceptionally strong  $\text{H}_2$  emission. Examples include the local LIRG NGC 6240 (e.g., Lutz et al. 2003; Egami et al. 2006a; Armus et al. 2006), the brightest cluster galaxy (BCG) in the centre of the X-ray-luminous cluster Zwicky 3146 (Z3146;  $z = 0.29$ ; Egami et al. 2006b), and the radio galaxy PKS1138–26 at  $z = 2.16$  (the Spiderweb galaxy; Ogle et al. 2012). The  $L(\text{H}_2 \text{ 0–0 S}(1))/L_{\text{IR}}$  ratios of the first two galaxies are 0.03% and 0.25%, respectively, significantly larger than the typical value of 0.005% quoted above. No  $\text{H}_2$  0–0 S(1) measurement is available for the Spiderweb galaxy because of its high redshift, but the  $L(\text{H}_2 \text{ 0–0 S}(3))/L_{\text{IR}}$  ratio is comparably high (0.4%). Such luminous  $\text{H}_2$  emission lines are thought to be generated by mechanisms involving strong shocks, such as galaxy mergers (e.g., NGC 6240) and radio jets (e.g., the Spiderweb).

<sup>d</sup>The  $\text{H}_2$  line emission produced by transitions between two rotational energy states in the ground electronic ( $n=0$ )/vibrational ( $v=0$ ) level, such as 0–0 S(0) ( $v=0 \rightarrow 0$ ;  $J=2 \rightarrow 0$ ) at  $28 \mu\text{m}$  and 0–0 S(1) ( $v=0 \rightarrow 0$ ;  $J=3 \rightarrow 1$ ) at  $17 \mu\text{m}$ . Ro-vibrational lines are those that involve transitions between different vibrational levels, such as 1–0 S(1) ( $v=1 \rightarrow 0$ ;  $J=3 \rightarrow 1$ ) at  $2.12 \mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure 4.** Detectability of  $\text{H}_2$  pure-rotational lines for three known extreme  $\text{H}_2$  emitters: (1) the Spiderweb radio galaxy at  $z = 2.16$  with  $L(0-0 \text{ S}(3)) = 3.7 \times 10^{10} L_\odot$  (Ogle et al. 2012); (2) Z3146 BCG at  $z = 0.29$  with  $L(0-0 \text{ S}(3)) = 1.6 \times 10^9 L_\odot$  (Egami et al. 2006a); (3) NGC 6240 at  $z = 0.0245$  with  $L(0-0 \text{ S}(3)) = 3.4 \times 10^8 L_\odot$  (Armus et al. 2006). The brightest line was used for each case. With SAFARI's line sensitivity, which is also plotted (10 h,  $5\sigma$ ), the Spiderweb galaxy would be visible beyond  $z = 10$ , while the Z3146 BCG would be visible up to  $z \sim 6$ ; NGC 6240, on the other hand, would drop out at  $z \sim 3$ . Also shown are the visibilities of a HyLIRG ( $L_{\text{IR}} = 10^{13} L_\odot$ ) through the 0–0 S(1) line assuming  $L_{0-0 \text{ S}(1)}/L_{\text{IR}} = 0.25\%$  (Z3146-like) and  $0.03\%$  (NGC 6240-like).

Note that some of the reported warm  $\text{H}_2$  gas masses are exceptionally large,  $\sim 10^{10} M_\odot$  for the Z3146 BCG and  $\sim 2 \times 10^{10} M_\odot$  for the radio galaxy 3C 433 at  $z = 0.1$  (Ogle et al. 2010). However, their CO observations indicate that warm/cold  $\text{H}_2$  mass ratios are very different between these two galaxies:  $\sim 0.1$  for the Zwicky 3146 BCG, which is a typical value for infrared-luminous galaxies, while  $>3$  for 3C 433, likely indicating an abnormally strong  $\text{H}_2$  heating process.

Figure 4 shows the detectability of the brightest pure-rotational lines of three luminous  $\text{H}_2$  emitters (NGC 6240, the Z3146 BCG, and the Spiderweb galaxy) toward high redshift. Although the  $\text{H}_2$  0–0 S(5) line of NGC 6240 would drop out of SAFARI detection at  $z \sim 3$ , the  $\text{H}_2$  0–0 S(3) line of the Z3146 BCG would remain visible up to  $z \sim 6$ , and the  $\text{H}_2$  0–0 S(3) line of the Spiderweb galaxy would stay well above the SAFARI detection limit even at  $z = 10$ . The figure also shows that if we assume an NGC 6240-like  $L(\text{H}_2 \text{ 0–0 S}(1))/L_{\text{IR}}$  ratio (i.e., 0.03%), a HyLIRG with  $L_{\text{IR}} = 10^{13} L_\odot$  will produce an  $\text{H}_2$  0–0 S(1) line detectable up to  $z \sim 8$ , and with a Z3146 BCG-like ratio (i.e., 0.25%), it will be detectable beyond  $z = 10$ , just like the Spiderweb galaxy. The existence of these extreme  $\text{H}_2$  emitters suggests that  $\text{H}_2$  lines will likely serve as important probes for galaxies at high redshift, providing crucial observational constraints on theoretical models like the one presented for a  $z \simeq 6$  LBG in Appendix A.

It should be emphasised that  $\text{H}_2$  emission is sensitive only to warm ( $T \gtrsim 100 \text{ K}$ )  $\text{H}_2$  gas, meaning that it allows sampling of only a limited fraction ( $\sim 10$ – $20\%$ ) of the total molecular gas mass in a typical galaxy. However, it is also possible to estimate the total  $\text{H}_2$  gas mass from the measured warm  $\text{H}_2$  gas mass by making some assumptions. For example, Togi & Smith (2016) recently proposed such a method, estimating the total  $\text{H}_2$  gas mass from the observations of multiple  $\text{H}_2$  emission lines alone, assuming a continuous power-law distribution of rotational temperatures down to a certain cutoff value. For a sample of local galaxies with reliable CO-based molecular masses, this method has been shown to produce the total molecular gas mass within a factor of 2 of those



derived from CO when a cut-off temperature of around 50 K is adopted. Though indirect and dependent on some assumptions, methods like this have the potential to provide useful estimates for total H<sub>2</sub> gas masses, especially for low-metallicity galaxies, for which CO-/dust-based methods are known to underpredict molecular gas mass by a factor of approximately 100 locally, possibly due to the presence of CO-dark H<sub>2</sub> gas (Wolfire, Hollenbach, & McKee 2010; Togi & Smith 2016).

Taking these known extreme H<sub>2</sub> emitters as a guide, we also simulated the spectra of H<sub>2</sub> lines in Figure 3, by making the following two assumptions: (1) H<sub>2</sub> level populations are fully thermalised (i.e., in the LTE); and (2) the galaxy contains two warm H<sub>2</sub> gas components, one with a gas mass of  $2 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  and a gas temperature of  $T = 200$  K and the other with a gas mass of  $2 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$  and a gas temperature of  $T = 1000$  K. An ortho-to-para ratio of 3:1 is also assumed. Such a two-component LTE model is known to produce good fits to the excitation diagrams of H<sub>2</sub> pure-rotational lines for lower-redshift galaxies (e.g., Higdon et al. 2006), although this should probably be taken as a simple and effective parameterisation of more complex underlying gas temperature and mass distributions.

The red lines shown in Figure 3 indicate the H<sub>2</sub> emission lines produced by such a model. These simulated H<sub>2</sub> lines have luminosities of  $0.5\text{--}1 \times 10^{10} L_{\odot}$ , exceeding SAFARI's 10-h  $5\sigma$  line-flux limit of  $3 \times 10^9 L_{\odot}$  at  $z = 8$ . If detected, such luminous H<sub>2</sub> lines would indicate the existence of a large warm H<sub>2</sub> gas reservoir, as well as some mechanism that heats it (e.g., shocks), possibly marking the sites of galaxy formation/assembly.

### 3. Exploratory sciences

From a broader perspective, the 35–230- $\mu\text{m}$  window targeted by SAFARI has a singular importance over the coming decades, as we try to detect and study the first-generation objects that appeared in the early Universe. This spectral range, which samples the rest-frame mid-infrared at  $z > 5$ , is uniquely powerful for probing first-generation objects because it contains: (1) key cooling lines of low-metallicity or metal-free gas, especially H<sub>2</sub> lines; and (2) emission features of solid compounds that are thought to be abundant in the remnants of Pop III supernovae (SNe). Detections of such spectral features, if successful, will open up a new frontier in the study of the early Universe, shedding light on the physical properties of the first galaxies and first stars.

As soon as the Big-Bang cosmology was validated by the detection of the cosmic microwave background (CMB) radiation (Penzias & Wilson 1965), it was recognised that H<sub>2</sub> molecules must have played an important role as a coolant of pristine pre-galactic gas clouds (Saslaw & Zipoy 1967; Peebles & Dicke 1968; Hirasawa 1969; Matsuda, Satō, & Takeda 1969; Takeda, Satō, & Matsuda 1969). In the metal-free environment that existed in the early Universe, the only available coolants were hydrogen, helium, and molecular hydrogen; since the gas cooling curves of the former atomic species have a cutoff around  $10^4$  K (e.g., Thoul & Weinberg 1995), H<sub>2</sub> molecules must have been the dominant coolant in pristine primordial gas clouds that are not massive enough (e.g.,  $< 10^8 M_{\odot}$  at  $z \sim 10$ ) to have a virial temperature ( $T_{\text{vir}}$ ) of  $> 10^4$  K. Put in another way, H<sub>2</sub> cooling determines the minimum mass of a pristine gas cloud that can cool and contract at a given redshift (e.g., Tegmark et al. 1997). As a result, H<sub>2</sub> lines are considered to be the most powerful (and likely the only) probe of the first cosmological objects that appeared in the early Universe. In such pristine

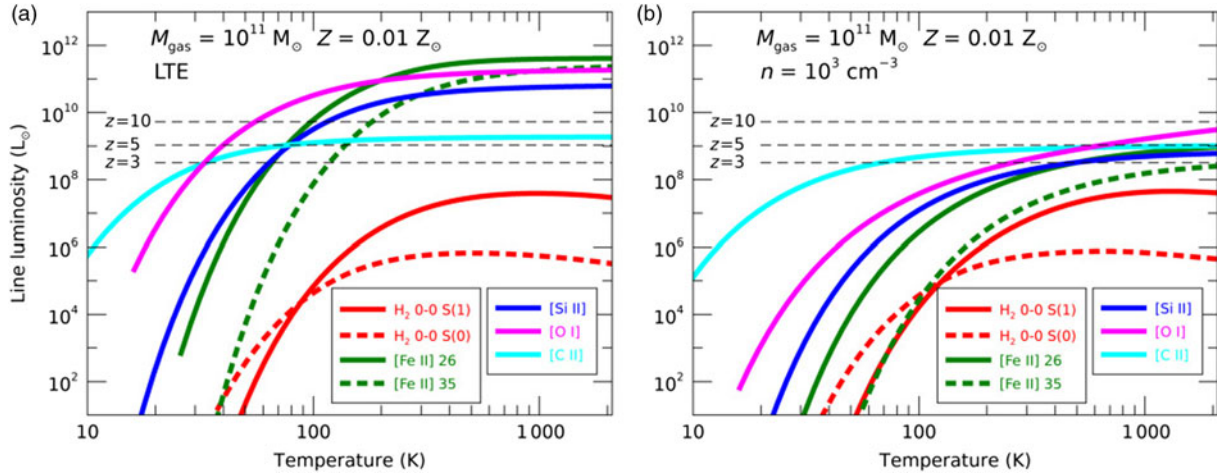
gas clouds, cooling is dominated by H<sub>2</sub> pure-rotational lines, and at the expected formation redshift of such first-generation objects,  $z \sim 10\text{--}30$ , these H<sub>2</sub> lines will fall in the far-infrared.

From the discussion in the previous section, it is clear that SAFARI can only detect exceptionally luminous systems at high redshift ( $\mu L_{\text{line}} > 10^9 L_{\odot}$  at  $z > 5$ ). However, the abundance and physical properties of such luminous (and therefore likely massive) systems at  $z > 5$ , not to mention those of the first-generation objects, are barely known at present, preventing us from making realistic predictions for what SAFARI may be able to detect and study. The goal of this section, therefore, is to *explore* (as opposed to *assess*) SPICA's potential to open up a new window towards the early Universe. Recognising that any current model predictions suffer from considerable uncertainties, we discuss various topics while allowing a gap of up to a factor of 100 between SAFARI's expected sensitivity and model-predicted source luminosities. This is because any theoretical prediction could easily be off by an order of magnitude and gravitational lensing could bridge a gap of another factor of 10 (or even more). The aim here is to present scientific ideas for further refinement rather than making a quantitative assessment, which is not yet possible given the lack of direct observational constraints.

#### 3.1. First objects: Current picture

Although first stars and galaxies are yet to be observed, they have been a major focus of theoretical studies over the years [see Ciardi & Ferrara (2005), Bromm & Yoshida (2011), Yoshida, Hosokawa, & Omukai (2012), Bromm (2013), Greif (2015), and Barkana (2016) for review]. In the framework of the standard  $\Lambda$ CDM model, we expect the first (i.e., Pop III) stars to form in dark matter (DM) minihalos of around  $10^6 M_{\odot}$  at redshifts  $z \simeq 20\text{--}30$ , cooling via H<sub>2</sub> molecular lines (Haiman, Thoul, & Loeb 1996; Tegmark et al. 1997; Yoshida et al. 2003). The first stars formed in such a metal-free environment are believed to be quite massive ( $> 100 M_{\odot}$ ; e.g., Hirano et al. 2015), and would emit strong H<sub>2</sub>-dissociating UV radiation (e.g., Omukai & Nishi 1999) and produce powerful supernova explosions (Bromm, Yoshida, & Hernquist 2003), essentially shutting off subsequent star formation. For this reason, these minihalos are not regarded as 'first galaxies' although they are the sites of the first star formation. The next generation of star formation will then take place in more massive halos ( $\sim 10^8 M_{\odot}$ ) collapsing at  $z \sim 10$ , whose virial temperature is high enough ( $> 10^4$  K) to sustain cooling due to atomic hydrogen (e.g., Oh & Haiman 2002). These so-called atomic cooling halos hosting the second generation of stars are often considered as 'first galaxies' (Bromm & Yoshida 2011).

Note that according to this current standard picture, first galaxies are not necessarily metal-free (Pop III), which is often taken as the observational definition of the first galaxies. In fact, 'This popular definition of a first galaxy may be misleading and may render any attempts to find first galaxies futile from the very outset' (Bromm & Yoshida 2011). This is because it is difficult to prevent minihalos, that is, the building blocks of first galaxies, from forming massive Pop III stars and chemically enriching their surroundings through SNe explosions. In other words, to produce genuine Pop III galaxies, it is necessary to inhibit star formation in the progenitor mini-halos by suppressing the formation of molecular hydrogen in them. This would require H<sub>2</sub>-dissociating Lyman–Werner (LW) background radiation in the Far-UV (11.2–13.6-eV photons) and the source of such radiation before the



**Figure 5.** Luminosities of H<sub>2</sub> lines (0–0 S(1) 17  $\mu\text{m}$  and 0–0 S(0) 28  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and fine-structure lines ([Fe II] 25.99/35.35  $\mu\text{m}$ , [Si II] 34.8  $\mu\text{m}$ , [O I] 63  $\mu\text{m}$ , and [C II] 158  $\mu\text{m}$ ) calculated for a low-metallicity ( $Z = 0.01 Z_{\odot}$ ) forming galaxy with a gas mass of  $10^{11} M_{\odot}$ . The left panel (a) assumes a gas density high enough for these lines to be thermalised (i.e., in LTE) while the right panel (b) corresponds to the case with a gas density of  $10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . A molecular fraction of  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  was assumed for both cases. The former is similar to the calculation presented by Santoro & Shull (2006) (see their Figure 11 for a similar model with a gas mass of  $10^9 M_{\odot}$ ). The horizontal dotted lines indicate the nominal  $5\sigma$  detection limit of SAFARI with a 10-h on-source integration time for  $z = 3, 5,$  and  $10$ . The LTE case on the left suggests that if the gas is sufficiently warm ( $T \gtrsim 200 \text{ K}$ ), fine-structure lines like [Fe II] 25.99/35.35  $\mu\text{m}$  and [Si II] 34.8  $\mu\text{m}$  can be quite luminous (note, however, that these lines will be redshifted out of the SAFARI window at  $z = 7.8/5.5,$  and  $5.6,$  respectively).

formation of Pop III galaxies. This leads to a scenario in which the first galaxies that appeared in the Universe (in the chronological sense) were mostly Pop II galaxies; Pop III galaxies would appear subsequently in underdense regions where the star formation in minihalos was suppressed by radiation emitted by stars/galaxies formed earlier in overdense regions. For this reason, Pop III galaxies may be considered as the second-generation galaxies containing first-generation stars (e.g., Johnson, Greif, & Bromm 2008; Trenti & Stiavelli 2009; Johnson 2010; Stiavelli & Trenti 2010; Johnson, Dalla Vecchia, & Khochfar 2013).

Adopting this theoretical picture as the baseline, we will discuss below the rest-frame mid-infrared spectral signatures of massive ( $M_{\text{h}} \sim 10^{11} - 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ ) forming galaxies containing low-metallicity or pristine (i.e., metal-free) gas clouds. By ‘forming’, we denote galaxies that are yet to form stars, meaning that the source of line luminosities is the gravitational energy released by the contraction of clouds under their self-gravity, rather than stellar radiation.

Production of the first dust by Pop III SNe would be another important scientific topic that could be uniquely addressed by rest-frame mid-infrared spectroscopy. However, considering that even larger uncertainties are involved in such a discussion, we limit ourselves here to providing a qualitative overview in Appendix B, deferring a more quantitative analysis to a forthcoming paper (R. Schneider et al., in preparation).

### 3.2. Massive forming galaxies

#### 3.2.1. Population II

As already discussed above, formation of Pop II galaxies may precede that of Pop III galaxies in the history of the Universe. When the gas metallicity exceeds a certain threshold<sup>e</sup>, gas cooling will be dominated by several key fine-structure lines, such as [C II] 158  $\mu\text{m}$  and [O I] 63  $\mu\text{m}$  in the far-infrared (Bromm & Loeb 2003) and [Si II] 34.8  $\mu\text{m}$  and [Fe II] 25.99/35.35  $\mu\text{m}$  in

the mid-infrared (Santoro & Shull 2006) if we assume that C, Si, and Fe atoms are photoionised by ambient UV radiation. The former far-infrared lines, when redshifted, can be studied with submillimetre/millimetre telescopes on the ground (e.g., ALMA), but the detection of the latter mid-infrared lines requires a space far-infrared telescope such as SPICA<sup>f</sup>.

For SAFARI to have any chance of detection, the target object must be exceptionally luminous and massive. As a maximal model, we consider here a Pop-II forming galaxy that has a gas mass ( $M_{\text{gas}}$ ) of  $10^{11} M_{\odot}$ . The corresponding halo mass ( $M_{\text{h}}$ ) would be  $\sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ , and such a massive halo has a comoving number density of  $\sim 10^{-5} \text{ Mpc}^{-3}$  at  $z \sim 6$ . The resultant gas mass fraction would be  $\sim 10\%$ , which is still well below the cosmic baryon fraction of  $\sim 0.19$  ( $f_b = \Omega_b / \Omega_c$ ; Planck Collaboration et al. 2016). Such a classical model of a massive forming galaxy containing a uniform gas is obviously an over-simplification, but it serves the purpose of illustrating the parameter space SAFARI could potentially probe.

Figure 5 plots the expected luminosities of key cooling lines from such a massive forming galaxy assuming a metallicity of  $Z = 0.01 Z_{\odot}$ . Figure 5(a) shows that if the gas is sufficiently warm ( $T \gtrsim 200 \text{ K}$ ) and dense ( $n_{\text{H}} \sim 10^5 - 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) to thermalise all these lines (i.e., in LTE), the mid-infrared fine-structure lines such as the [Fe II] 25.99/35.35- $\mu\text{m}$  and [Si II] 34.8- $\mu\text{m}$  lines can be quite luminous ( $\gtrsim 10^{11} L_{\odot}$ ) and detectable with SAFARI to high redshift (Note, however, that these lines will be redshifted out of the SAFARI window at  $z = 7.8/5.5,$  and  $5.6,$  respectively). On the other hand, if the typical gas density is more like  $\sim 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , these mid-infrared fine-structure lines will become undetectable beyond  $z \sim 5$  even for such a massive forming galaxy [Figure 5(b)].

As discussed by Santoro & Shull (2006), H<sub>2</sub> lines in these models are significantly fainter when compared to the fine-structure lines. This is because the molecular fraction was assumed to be  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  here, resulting in a total H<sub>2</sub> gas mass of only  $2 \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$ . As already shown in Figure 3, for SAFARI to detect H<sub>2</sub> lines at high redshift, the corresponding H<sub>2</sub> gas mass needs to be

<sup>e</sup>This critical metallicity ( $Z_{\text{crit}}$ ) has been estimated to be  $\sim 10^{-3.5} Z_{\odot}$  for dense gas ( $n \gtrsim 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) and  $\sim 10^{-3} - 10^{-2} Z_{\odot}$  for lower-density ( $n = 1 - 100 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) gas (e.g. Santoro & Shull 2006).

<sup>f</sup>At  $z \gtrsim 10$ , these mid-infrared lines will also be redshifted into the highest-frequency ALMA band (i.e., Band 10) although the sensitivity may be an issue.

$\gtrsim 10^{10} M_{\odot}$ . Note that the luminosities of  $H_2$  lines, as well as that of [C II]  $158 \mu\text{m}$ , do not change much between the two cases because a gas density of  $10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  is close to the critical densities of these transitions.

### 3.2.2. Population III

For the discussion of Pop-III forming galaxies, we refer to the model calculations by Omukai & Kitayama (2003) as a guide. Because of the reduced cooling efficiency due to the absence of metal lines, Pop III systems with  $M_h \gtrsim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  cannot cool appreciably within the halo merging timescale, constantly heated by infalling subhalos. As a result, the most  $H_2$ -luminous Pop-III forming galaxies are expected to be those with a halo mass of  $\simeq 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ ;  $H_2$  line luminosities will decline sharply for higher-mass systems. The  $z=8$   $M_h = 10^{11} M_{\odot}$  Pop-III forming galaxy model<sup>8</sup> by Omukai & Kitayama (2003) predicts the luminosity of the brightest  $H_2$  line (0–0 S(3)) to be  $3.3 \times 10^7 L_{\odot}$ , still two orders of magnitude below the SAFARI's nominal detection limit ( $\sim 3 \times 10^9 L_{\odot}$  at  $z=8$ , 10 h,  $5\sigma$ ). Other theoretical studies predicted similar  $H_2$  line luminosities (e.g., Mizusawa, Omukai, & Nishi 2005; Gong, Cooray, & Santos 2013), indicating that a successful detection of  $H_2$  lines will require some mechanism to boost the line luminosities (see Section 3.2.3) as well as magnification by lensing (see Section 4.1)<sup>h</sup>.

Note that the virial temperature of a  $M_h \simeq 10^{11} M_{\odot}$  halo is high enough ( $> 10^4$  K) to sustain H I atomic cooling. As a result, these massive forming galaxies are also expected to be strong  $\text{Ly}\alpha$  emitters (The source of  $\text{Ly}\alpha$  emission here is the release of gravitational energy due to the contraction of pristine gas clouds and not the radiation from young stars). In fact, the  $\text{Ly}\alpha$  line is more luminous ( $4.9 \times 10^7 L_{\odot}$ ) than any of the individual  $H_2$  lines, although the total  $H_2$  line luminosity is  $\sim 10^8 L_{\odot}$ , exceeding that of  $\text{Ly}\alpha$ . Even with *JWST*, however, such a  $\text{Ly}\alpha$  line will not be easy to detect. The estimated observed  $\text{Ly}\alpha$  line flux will be  $2.4 \times 10^{-22} \text{ W m}^{-2}$  at  $z=8$  while the line sensitivity of *JWST*/NIRSpec at the wavelength of the redshifted  $\text{Ly}\alpha$  ( $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ ) will be  $\simeq 2.5 \times 10^{-21} \text{ W m}^{-2}$  ( $5\sigma$ , 1 h, with the  $R=1000$  grating), which is one order of magnitude brighter. Furthermore,  $\text{Ly}\alpha$  emission may be resonantly scattered and absorbed by the intervening neutral IGM.

### 3.2.3. Other $H_2$ excitation mechanisms

The calculations above indicate that gravitational contraction of massive forming galaxies alone is unlikely to release enough energy to produce  $H_2$  lines that are detectable with SAFARI at high redshift. The next question is therefore if there could be any other  $H_2$  excitation mechanisms that would produce even more luminous  $H_2$  lines. Below, we discuss a few possibilities:

**Pop III SNe:** Explosions of Pop III SNe may produce strong  $H_2$  lines by blowing away the gas content of the parent galaxy and collecting it into a cooling shell where  $H_2$  rapidly forms (Ciardi & Ferrara 2001). Such SN blowouts are expected to happen in low-mass Pop III galaxies, whose gravitational potential is shallow (Ferrara 1998). According to the calculation by Ciardi & Ferrara (2001), a Pop III galaxy with a halo mass of  $10^8$ – $10^9 M_{\odot}$  could emit  $H_2$  lines with luminosities reaching  $10^6$ – $10^7 L_{\odot}$  at  $z \simeq 8$ – $10$ , corresponding to  $\sim 10\%$  of the explosion energy. These line luminosities are comparable to those of the  $M_h = 10^{11} M_{\odot}$  Pop-III forming

galaxy discussed in Section 3.2.2, but the halo mass here is  $10$ – $100\times$  smaller, signifying the power of SN explosions to enhance  $H_2$  luminosities. Given the significant uncertainties associated with the simple analytic model of Ciardi & Ferrara (2001), a further theoretical investigation is needed to assess this model more quantitatively.

One interesting aspect of this Pop III SNe explosion model is that the ro-vibrational line 1–0 S(1) ( $2.12 \mu\text{m}$ ) is expected to be significantly brighter than the pure-rotational line 0–0 S(1) ( $17 \mu\text{m}$ ), reflecting a hotter temperature of the  $H_2$ -emitting gas. Strong ro-vibrational lines would make shorter-wavelength observations effective. For example, the 1–0 S(1) line would be redshifted to  $19 \mu\text{m}$  at  $z=8$ , which is shortward of the SAFARI wavelength coverage but within those of *JWST*/Mid-Infrared Instrument (MIRI) and *SPICA*/SMI. However, the line-luminosity predicted by Ciardi & Ferrara (2001) is  $\sim 10^{-21} \text{ W m}^{-2}$ , still not bright enough for these instruments to make an easy detection.

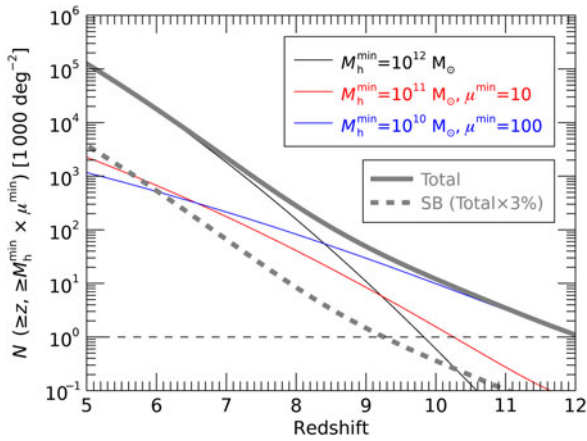
**Merging of massive halos:** In the high-redshift Universe, where halos are constantly merging to create more massive galaxies,  $H_2$  formation and excitation due to strong shocks are likely important. Such a mechanism has been seen to be at work in some systems in the local Universe. One particularly interesting example is the Stephan's Quintet, located in a compact group at 94 Mpc, which exhibits exceptionally luminous  $H_2$  emission ( $2 \times 10^8 L_{\odot}$  for 0–0 S(0) through S(5) combined) spreading over an area of approximately  $50 \times 35 \text{ kpc}^2$  (Appleton et al. 2006; Cluver et al. 2010; Appleton et al. 2013, 2017). It is believed that in this system, one high-velocity 'intruder' galaxy is colliding with the intergroup medium and generating shocks (Sulentic et al. 2001). According to the model presented by Guillard et al. (2009),  $H_2$  molecules form out of the shocked gas, and  $H_2$  emission is powered by the dissipation of kinetic turbulent energy of the  $H_2$  gas. A similar mechanism will likely generate luminous  $H_2$  lines through merging of massive halos (i.e., major mergers) at high redshift.

### 3.3. Pop III objects at lower redshift

Although detecting genuine Pop III objects at high redshift will likely require strong boosting of  $H_2$  line luminosities by some mechanism as well as lensing amplification, SAFARI may be able to probe the properties of such objects through the observations of similarly metal-poor objects that may exist at lower redshift. For example, a number of studies have suggested that Pop III star formation may continue towards low redshift and maybe even down to  $z \sim 3$  (e.g., Scannapieco, Schneider, & Ferrara 2003; Jimenez & Haiman 2006; Schneider et al. 2006a; Tornatore, Ferrara, & Schneider 2007; Ricotti, Gnedin, & Shull 2008; Trenti & Stiavelli 2009; Johnson 2010; Johnson et al. 2013; Pallottini et al. 2014, 2015a). According to the recent *Renaissance Simulations* (Xu et al. 2016), only 6% of the volume and 13% of the gas mass are enriched to  $[Z/H] > -4$  at  $z=7.6$  in the comoving survey volume of  $220 \text{ Mpc}^3$ , indicating that there is a large amount of pristine gas available for Pop III star formation at  $z < 7.6$  (although much of it likely resides in low-density diffuse IGM). Observationally, however, there has been no secure identification of a Pop III galaxy so far. Although there are indications of massive, low-metallicity stars in the nearby lowest-metallicity galaxy I Zw 18 (Kehrig et al. 2015), a clear detection of Pop III objects is still missing. Note that, at  $z=3$ , the line-luminosity detection limit of SAFARI will be lower by an order of magnitude ( $\sim 3 \times 10^8 L_{\odot}$ ,  $5\sigma$  in 10 h) compared to that at  $z=8$ , potentially enhancing the probability of detecting Pop III objects.

<sup>8</sup>The fiducial model with  $f_{\text{fb}} = 0.25$ .

<sup>h</sup>Mizusawa et al. (2005) presented a more optimistic view about the detectability of  $H_2$  lines because they assumed a line-flux sensitivity of approximately  $10^{-22} \text{ W m}^{-2}$ , which is about two orders of magnitude deeper than what we are assuming here for SAFARI.



**Figure 6.** Cumulative surface densities of DM halos per 1000 deg<sup>2</sup> as predicted by the standard  $\Lambda$ CDM model. The black line indicates the cumulative surface density of  $\geq 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  halos down to given redshifts while the blue and red lines plot the corresponding numbers for  $\geq 10^{11} M_{\odot}$  halos gravitationally lensed by a factor of  $\geq 10\times$  ( $\mu \geq 10$ ) and for  $\geq 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  halos lensed by a factor of  $\geq 100\times$  ( $\mu \geq 100$ ), respectively. According to the calculation by Zackrisson et al. (2015), when the source redshift is above  $\sim 5$ , the corresponding lensing probability is roughly constant and  $\sim 10^{-4}$  for  $\mu \geq 10$  and  $\sim 10^{-6}$  for  $\mu \geq 100$  along an average line of sight. These probabilities have been multiplied with the  $\geq 10^{11}$  and  $\geq 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  halo surface densities. The thick grey line plots the total surface density of the three halo populations combined while the thick dashed line plots 3% of the total number, comparable to the starburst fraction estimated at lower redshift (e.g., Béthermin et al. 2017). The halo comoving number density was computed with the Press–Schechter formalism (Press & Schechter 1974). The horizontal dashed line corresponds to  $N = 1$ .

#### 4. Finding targets for SAFARI

SAFARI will conduct spectroscopy in the single-object mode, targeting one source at a time. Since the surface density of luminous  $z > 5$  galaxies like those listed in Table 1 is small (e.g., the six SPT galaxies listed were discovered by a millimetre survey covering an area of  $\sim 2500$  deg<sup>2</sup>), the success of SAFARI in the high-redshift exploration will heavily depend on how we will be able to discover exciting targets with the existing and future wide-field survey data. Below, we discuss strategies for such a target selection.

##### 4.1. Surface density of massive halos at $z > 5$

Whether we try to detect hyper-luminous galaxies like HFLS3/SPT0311-58 (Section 2.4) or a massive Pop-II forming galaxy (Section 3.2.1), we will be searching for objects residing in massive halos with  $M_h \geq 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ . Figure 6 shows the cumulative surface density of  $\geq 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  halos per 1000 deg<sup>2</sup> (the black line). Together, we also plot the surface densities of  $\geq 10^{11} M_{\odot}$  halos gravitationally lensed by a factor of  $\geq 10\times$  (the red line) and  $\geq 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  halos lensed by a factor of  $\geq 100\times$  (the blue line). If we make a simple assumption that various physical properties of galaxies hosted by these halos (e.g., SFR,  $M_*$ ) roughly scale linearly with the halo mass at  $z > 5$  (i.e., maintaining a constant mass-to-light ratio<sup>1</sup>), these three populations of halos would contain galaxies that have comparable apparent brightnesses.

<sup>1</sup>Recent theoretical studies suggest that the SFR and  $L_{\text{IR}}$  of high-redshift galaxies are roughly proportional to stellar mass ( $M_*$ ) (e.g., Yajima et al. 2015), and that the stellar mass is proportional to the halo mass ( $M_h$ ), at least in the mass range of  $M_h = 10^{10} - 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  (e.g., Behroozi & Silk 2015), naturally leading to this assumption of a constant mass-to-light ratio. Note, however, that galaxies undergoing a strong starburst phase could be significantly over-luminous for a given stellar/halo mass, such as HFLS3 as discussed in Section 2.4. At  $M_h \gtrsim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ , the  $M_* - M_h$  relation flattens significantly with decreasing  $M_*/M_h$  ratios, likely due to AGN feedback suppressing star formation

The cumulative surface density of the three halo populations combined (the thick grey line) is about 2 200 at  $z \geq 7$ , 280 at  $z \geq 8$ , 50 at  $z \geq 9$ , and 12 at  $z \geq 10$  (per 1000 deg<sup>2</sup>). The figure also shows that lensed populations would start to dominate in number at  $z \gtrsim 8.5$ , especially  $\geq 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  halos magnified by a factor of  $\geq 100\times$ .

Note, however, that translating the surface density of halos into that of HyLIRGs ( $\mu L > 10^{13} L_{\odot}$ ) or massive forming galaxies is not trivial due to a number of astrophysical processes involved. In this sense, Figure 6 sets the upper limit on the number of possible detections (i.e., there cannot be more galaxies than there are halos). In practice, we may assume that only a fraction of these halos hosts luminous objects that are observable with SAFARI. As an illustration, we also plot a line denoting 3% of the total halo number, comparable to a starburst fraction assumed by some models (e.g., Béthermin et al. 2017). Although luminous objects may be more abundant at high redshift due to increased star/structure-formation activities, these simple calculations indicate that it will likely be necessary to survey hundreds/thousands of square degrees to find a handful of high-redshift objects that are luminous enough for SAFARI to observe, which is consistent with the outcomes of the wide-field *Herschel*/SPT surveys so far.

##### 4.2. Submillimetre/millimetre surveys

Wide-field submillimetre/millimetre surveys have proven to be extremely effective in finding gravitationally lensed infrared-luminous galaxies at high redshift (e.g., Negrello et al. 2010; Vieira et al. 2013; Weiß et al. 2013). This is because (1) the apparent brightnesses of infrared-luminous galaxies do not fade much in the submillimetre/millimetre to high redshift (up to  $z \sim 10$  at  $\sim 1$  mm) due to a strong negative K correction and (2) foreground galaxies are faint in the submillimetre/millimetre unless they contain strong AGN or they are at really low redshift. As a result, it is straightforward to identify lensed infrared-luminous galaxies at high redshift by just inspecting the brightest sources in the submillimetre/millimetre, 20–30% of which are typically lensed galaxies at  $z \gtrsim 1$  (Negrello et al. 2010).

Recent results from *Herschel*/SPIRE wide-field surveys show that the surface density of bright ( $S_{500} > 100$  mJy) lensed infrared-luminous galaxies ranges from 0.13 deg<sup>-2</sup> (80 sources over 600 deg<sup>2</sup>, Negrello et al. 2017) to 0.21 deg<sup>-2</sup> (77 sources over 372 deg<sup>2</sup>, Nayyeri et al. 2016). The surface density of SPT-selected galaxies has been shown to be consistent with that of these *Herschel*/SPIRE-selected galaxies (Mocanu et al. 2013). These low ( $< 1$  deg<sup>-2</sup>) surface densities clearly indicate that wide submillimetre/millimetre surveys covering hundreds/thousands of square degrees are needed to produce a large sample of such lensed infrared-luminous galaxies, only a limited fraction of which will be at  $z > 5$ .

The depth of *Herschel*/SPIRE wide surveys matches well with the spectroscopic sensitivity of SAFARI. HFLS3 ( $z = 6.34$ ) shown in Figure 1 has a SPIRE 500- $\mu$ m flux density of 47 mJy, while the corresponding  $5\sigma$  confusion limit is approximately 35 mJy (Nguyen et al. 2010). The figure indicates that it will be difficult for SAFARI to obtain good-quality spectra for sources much fainter than HFLS3. In this sense, SPICA will be a well-matched spectroscopic follow-up mission for *Herschel*-selected  $z > 5$  galaxies.

Note also that most of these submillimetre/millimetre-detected lensed galaxies are located at moderate redshift ( $z = 1-4$ ). Although these lower-redshift galaxies will make excellent SAFARI targets in general (with a typical magnification factor of 10, integration times will be reduced by a factor of 100),  $z > 5$  galaxies are much more scarce. Compared to the *Herschel* surveys, the

SPT survey has been more successful in finding  $z > 5$  galaxies (see Table 1) presumably because the effect of the negative K correction extends towards higher redshift in the millimetre. This suggests that future/ongoing millimetre surveys offer great potential for finding bright targets for SAFARI at the highest redshifts (e.g., Advanced ACT, SPT3G, as well as new cameras on the APEX, IRAM 30-m, and LMT telescopes).

A complementary approach would be to search for lensed infrared-luminous galaxies in the fields of massive lensing clusters. In fact, HLSJ0918, one of the most infrared-luminous galaxies at  $z \gtrsim 5$  identified so far (see Table 1 and Figure 1) was discovered by the *Herschel* Lensing Survey (HLS) targeting such lensing cluster fields<sup>1</sup> (Egami et al. 2010; Combes et al. 2012; Rawle et al. 2016).

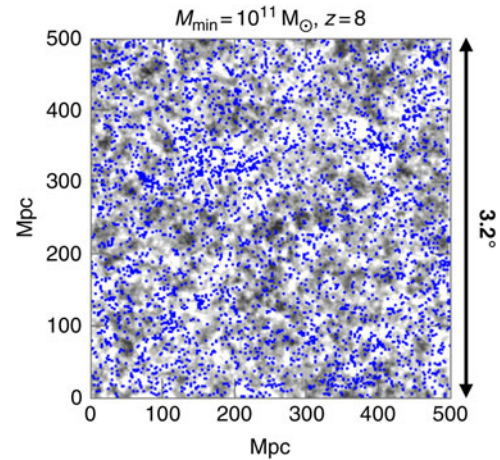
### 4.3. Ly $\alpha$ survey

Although submillimetre/millimetre surveys have been quite successful so far for finding luminous (often lensed) infrared-luminous galaxies at high redshift (up to  $z = 6.9$ ), the fraction of such an infrared-luminous galaxy population will likely decrease at higher redshift, where the metallicities of galaxies are significantly lower on average. For the detection of less dusty and therefore UV-bright galaxies, wide-field Ly $\alpha$  emitter surveys will be effective. Although Ly $\alpha$  emission can be strongly suppressed at  $z > 6$  by increasingly neutral IGM, the line may survive if the Ly $\alpha$ -emitting galaxy is located in a large H II bubble (e.g., Cen & Haiman 2000; Haiman 2002). In fact, the tentative detection of Ly $\alpha$  emission from the  $z = 9.1$  galaxy recently reported by Hashimoto et al. (2018b) supports this idea. In the next subsection (Section 4.4), we will discuss how we can find such H II bubbles with the Square Kilometer Array (SKA).

Search for strong Ly $\alpha$  emitters will be particularly powerful for finding massive forming galaxies discussed in Section 3.2. These objects will have little continuum emission before stars are formed, so strong emission lines like Ly $\alpha$  will be the only available tracers for such objects. As already discussed in Section 3.2.2, luminous Pop III H<sub>2</sub> emitters are likely luminous Ly $\alpha$  emitters as well.

In this sense, one particularly interesting recent example is CR7 at  $z = 6.6$  (Sobral et al. 2015). Its exceptionally bright but narrow Ly $\alpha$  line ( $2 \times 10^{10} L_{\odot}$ ), coupled with the detection of a strong He II 1640 Å line and a lack of any metal lines, was originally taken as the sign that this object might harbour a Pop III stellar population. Such a Pop III scenario, however, encountered many difficulties because of the extreme conditions required for the underlying Pop III stellar population (e.g., Pallottini et al. 2015b; Yajima & Khochfar 2017; Visbal, Bryan, & Haiman 2017) as well as of the possible presence of strong [O III] 4959/5007 Å lines inferred from the *Spitzer*/IRAC photometric data (Bowler et al. 2017). Although other interpretations were also put forth for the nature of CR7, such as a direct collapse black hole (DCBH, Pallottini et al. 2015b; Agarwal et al. 2016; Dijkstra, Gronke, & Sobral 2016; Smith, Bromm, & Loeb 2016; Agarwal et al. 2017; Pacucci et al. 2017), the recent ALMA observations by Matthee et al. (2017) with the detection of the [C II] 158- $\mu$ m line have concluded that CR7 is a system that is undergoing the build-up process of a central galaxy through complex accretion of star-forming satellites. The original He II line detection was also not reproduced by the reanalysis of the same data by Shibuya et al. (2018) although a re-analysis done by the CR7 discovery team still detects the line (Sobral et al. 2017), leaving the situation unclear.

<sup>1</sup>The dominant lens of this particular lensed object turned out to be a foreground galaxy rather than a galaxy cluster (Rawle et al. 2016).



**Figure 7.** Distribution of dark halos with  $M_h \geq 10^{11} M_{\odot}$  at  $z = 8$  (blue dots) superimposed on the background ionisation field (grey scale) taken from the simulated tomographic map at  $z = 8$  shown over an area of 500 Mpc (comoving) on a side, which corresponds to 3.2 deg. This map was smoothed over a scale of 30 Mpc. The darker (brighter) regions correspond to more neutral (ionised) regions. Both distributions were projected from a 100-Mpc thick slice at  $z = 8$ . The map of ionisation field was produced based on the FULL model of Sobacchi & Mesinger (2014).

Although CR7 is not likely to be a Pop III galaxy, identifying similarly luminous LAEs may prove to be the key to finding luminous H<sub>2</sub> emitters at high redshift. The most luminous H<sub>2</sub> emitters are those hosted by H I atomic cooling halos, which would also emit comparably luminous Ly $\alpha$  if the line is not significantly absorbed by the IGM (see Section 3.2.2). Since the typical line detection limit of current  $z \sim 6-7$  narrow-band LAE surveys is  $\sim 2 \times 10^9 L_{\odot}$  (e.g. Ouchi et al. 2018), if the corresponding H<sub>2</sub> line luminosities are on the same order, SAFARI should be able to detect such H<sub>2</sub> lines in  $\sim 10$  h ( $5\sigma$ ). Without having the capability to conduct a sensitive wide-field H<sub>2</sub> line survey in the mid-/far-infrared directly, Ly $\alpha$ -based surveys will likely play an important role for finding strong H<sub>2</sub> emitters (and strong mid-infrared line emitters in general) at high redshift.

### 4.4. SKA survey

In the coming decade, the SKA will start to provide tomographic views of the high-redshift Universe through the 21-cm emission line of neutral hydrogen (e.g., Koopmans et al. 2015). The wide-field SKA map will be ideal for identifying large bubbles of ionised (H II) gas at high redshift, marking the concentrations of star-forming galaxies in the early Universe. Multi-wavelength imaging observations targeting these H II bubbles and the area around them will likely provide interesting targets for SAFARI.

Figure 7 shows halos with  $M_h > 10^{11} M_{\odot}$  (the blue dots) superimposed on the background ionisation field from the simulated tomographic map at  $z = 8$ , both projected from a 100-Mpc thick slice (see Sobacchi & Mesinger 2014 for the methodology of the simulation). The figure shows that halos are significantly clustered towards the centre of H II bubbles (seen as bright white spots) because these halos are the sites of star formation and therefore the sources of ionising radiation. These H II bubbles have a size of 20–30 Mpc (comoving), corresponding to approximately 10 arcmin on the sky.

Such an SKA H I map can be used in two ways. First, we can look for hyper-luminous galaxies and massive Pop-II forming galaxies inside large H II bubbles, which mark rare high- $\sigma$  peaks of the background cosmic density field and harbour many

star-forming galaxies. Second, we can search for massive Pop-III forming galaxies *around* H II bubbles. The formation of massive Pop III galaxies would require not only pristine metal-free environments (i.e., outside H II bubbles) but also strong UV radiation to suppress H<sub>2</sub>/HI cooling and therefore star formation until minihalos are assembled into galaxy-size halos (i.e., *around* H II bubbles; see the discussion in Section 3.1).

#### 4.5. Next-generation optical/near-infrared wide-field surveys

If accepted as the ESA M5 mission, *SPICA* will be launched around 2030. From the *SPICA* high-redshift science point of view, this lead time will allow us to take advantage of the next-generation optical/near-infrared wide-field surveys for target selection, such as Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST), *Euclid*, and *Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST)*. For example, the High Latitude Survey of *WFIRST* is expected to detect around 100 bright ( $m_{160,AB} < 26$  mag) galaxies at  $z > 10$  over a survey area of  $2\,200\text{ deg}^2$  using the continuum drop-out technique (Spergel et al. 2015). Galaxies at such high redshift represent rare peaks in the cosmic density field, marking the underlying regions of large-scale density enhancement, where we can expect the existence of many more objects at the same redshift (e.g., Barkana 2016).  $z > 10$  objects discovered by *WFIRST* (as well as *Euclid*) will be strong rest-frame UV-continuum sources, which are likely unobscured star-forming galaxies, but the regions marked by these sources would likely harbour other types of high-redshift objects, such as infrared-luminous (dusty/dust-obscured) galaxies and massive forming galaxies. Grism slitless spectroscopic surveys with *Euclid* and *WFIRST* will also discover high-redshift Ly $\alpha$  emitters (e.g., Bagley et al. 2017; Marchetti, Serjeant, & Vaccari 2017), some of which may turn out to be genuine Pop III galaxies. These wide-field surveys will also be useful for finding exceptionally bright gravitationally lensed galaxies, which are expected to dominate the *WFIRST* sample of bright  $z > 10$  galaxies (Spergel et al. 2015).

Another exciting possibility is that these next-generation deep wide-field surveys may detect directly the explosions of massive Pop III SNe, so-called pair-instability SNe (PISNe; see Appendix B), at  $z \lesssim 7\text{--}8$  with LSST, out to  $z \sim 15\text{--}20$  with *WFIRST*, and out to  $z \gtrsim 30$  with *JWST*<sup>k</sup> (Whalen et al. 2013a; see also Wang et al. 2017). These observations will catch PISNe in the initial UV-bright unobscured phase, and if they are detected and studied, they will help us extend our understanding to the subsequent dust-enshrouded phase, which is directly relevant to SAFARI observations as further discussed in Appendix B. Furthermore, it is possible that some supermassive stars ( $\sim 10^5 M_{\odot}$ ) may explode as thermonuclear SNe with energies of  $\sim 10^{55}$  erg, 100 times higher than those of Pop III PISNe, making them the most energetic explosions in the Universe (Whalen et al. 2013b). Such energetic events, if they exist, may also produce objects that can be studied with SAFARI.

#### 4.6. SPICA/SMI surveys

*SPICA*/SMI (Kaneda et al. 2017; Roelfsema et al. 2018) has the ability to conduct low-resolution (LR;  $R = 50\text{--}120$ ) multi-slit prism spectroscopy covering  $17\text{--}36\ \mu\text{m}$  over a field of view of  $12\text{ arcmin} \times 10\text{ arcmin}$ . It also has a slit-viewer camera (CAM), which can perform  $34\ \mu\text{m}$  imaging over the same field of view.

<sup>k</sup>Note, however, that at such high redshifts, the time-dilation effect is substantial. For example, a 100-d transient event would become a 3-yr event when observed at  $z = 10$ , requiring a long-term monitoring effort.

These SMI modes will allow wide-field survey programs, and some preliminary ideas have been presented in the companion papers, such as the SMI/LR deep ( $1\text{ deg}^2$ ) and wide ( $10\text{ deg}^2$ ) spectroscopic surveys (Kaneda et al. 2017) and SMI/CAM ultra-deep ( $0.2\text{ deg}^2$ ), deep ( $1\text{ deg}^2$ ), and shallow ( $600\text{ deg}^2$ ) imaging surveys (Gruppioni et al. 2017).

For the purpose of finding bright  $z > 5$  targets for SAFARI, these SMI surveys are particularly effective for detecting AGN-dominated galaxies, which can be substantially brighter than star-forming galaxies in the rest-frame mid-infrared. At  $z > 5$ , SMI will observe  $< 6\ \mu\text{m}$  in the rest-frame, where the SEDs of typical star-forming galaxies exhibit a broad trough between a stellar continuum peaking in the near-infrared and a dust continuum peaking in the far-infrared (see Gruppioni et al. 2017). In the case of AGN-dominated galaxies, however, a bright power-law AGN continuum could fill this SED trough and could even overwhelm the light from the host galaxy all together. As a result, the SMI-selected sample of  $z > 5$  HyLIRGs is expected to be dominated by galaxies with AGN<sup>l</sup> (Gruppioni et al. 2017; Kaneda et al. 2017). Such a sample will be particularly useful for studying the interplay between star formation and black-hole accretion (Spinoglio et al. 2017; Gruppioni et al. 2017).

The SMI/CAM  $600\text{ deg}^2$  shallow survey offers the potential to discover exceptionally luminous  $z > 5$  galaxies for which SAFARI follow-up spectroscopy will be possible. Unlike submillimetre/millimetre surveys, in which high-redshift galaxies would often stand out in brightness, SMI mid-infrared surveys will see a large number of foreground galaxies, among which a small number of high-redshift objects will be hidden. Selecting  $z > 5$  galaxies will therefore require a detailed analysis of good-quality multi-wavelength data covering the same fields like those mentioned in Section 4.5. Follow-up submillimetre/millimetre observations will especially be useful for discriminating  $z > 5$  galaxies against lower-redshift galaxies.

It should also be noted that the SMI surveys have the potential to identify  $z > 5$  HyLIRGs that may be missing in submillimetre/millimetre surveys. The all-sky mid-infrared survey with the *Wide-Field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE)* has discovered hyperluminous versions of dust-obscured galaxies (DOGs; Dey et al. 2008), so-called Hot DOGs, up to a redshift of  $z = 4.59$  (Eisenhardt et al. 2012; Wu et al. 2012; Tsai et al. 2015). These mid-infrared-selected Hot DOGs have bolometric luminosities of  $\gtrsim 10^{14} L_{\odot}$ , as luminous as the brightest submillimetre/millimetre-selected lensed infrared-luminous galaxies listed in Table 1. However, most of these galaxies do not appear to be lensed, suggesting that Hot DOGs are likely dominated by AGN (Tsai et al. 2015). Such AGN-dominated galaxies like Hot DOGs may constitute an important population of infrared-luminous galaxies at high redshift, which may be difficult to detect in the submillimetre/millimetres surveys unless they are also forming stars vigorously. The SMI surveys will be sensitive to this type of AGN-dominated galaxies and can detect them to higher redshift.

## 5. Summary


*SPICA*/SAFARI will be a uniquely powerful instrument, allowing us to obtain good-quality rest-frame mid-infrared spectra of  $z > 5$  objects and to bridge the wavelength gap left unexplored by ALMA and *JWST*, which is so crucial for the studies of the high-redshift



<sup>l</sup>Note also that in the case of the SMI/LR surveys, all the major PAH features are redshifted out of the passband at  $z > 5$ , except for the much fainter  $3.3\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  feature, which makes SMI/LR detections of  $z > 5$  star-forming galaxies difficult.

Universe. In this paper, we have examined the scientific potential of SAFARI based on recent observational and theoretical studies. The following is a summary of the major points:

1. SAFARI is capable of delivering good-quality rest-frame mid-infrared spectra for HyLIRGs ( $L_{\text{IR}} > 10^{13} L_{\odot}$ ) at  $z = 5-10$ . Currently, there are about a dozen such DSFGs known at  $z = 5.2-6.9$  (mostly lensed) and around 30 quasars at  $z = 5.0-6.4$ . The list of potential targets will grow over the coming years in terms of number and redshift range, allowing SAFARI to conduct the first rest-frame mid-infrared spectroscopic survey of  $z > 5$  galaxies in a significant number.
2. To characterise the physical and chemical properties of  $z > 5$  galaxies, especially of those that are infrared-luminous (i.e., dusty/dusty-obscured), SAFARI's spectroscopic data will be essential, allowing us to examine a wealth of information, such as atomic fine-structure lines, molecular hydrogen lines ( $\text{H}_2$ ), PAH features, and silicate emission/absorption features. For example, low-metallicity galaxies will be easily recognised with distinct spectral characteristics such as weak PAH features, strong high-ionisation lines, and a sharply rising mid-infrared continuum as observed in local BCDs.
3. The rest-frame mid-infrared spectral range is particularly powerful for probing the first-generation objects because it contains (1) key cooling lines of low-metallicity or metal-free gas (e.g., [Si II], [Fe II], and  $\text{H}_2$  lines) and (2) emission features of solid compounds that are likely abundant in the remnants of Pop III SNe (e.g.,  $\text{SiO}_2$ ; see Appendix B). The feasibility of such SAFARI observations, however, is not yet clear, requiring more theoretical studies for further guidance, especially those focused on the most massive/luminous objects. SAFARI detections of such spectral features, if successful, will open up a new frontier in the study of the early Universe, shedding light on the physical properties of the first galaxies and first stars.
4. SAFARI's ability to explore the high-redshift Universe will be determined by the availability of sufficiently bright targets, whether intrinsically bright or gravitationally lensed. In this regard, a series of wide-field surveys taking place over the coming decade (e.g., Advanced ACT, SPT3G, LSST, SKA, *Euclid*, and *WFIRST*) as well as the *SPICA*/SMI surveys will greatly enhance our ability to discover extraordinary objects as exciting targets for SAFARI.

If we take various theoretical predictions at their face value, there will not be many first-generation objects that are bright enough for SAFARI to detect and study. However, it should also be remembered that among the hundreds of millions of objects that the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) has catalogued, it only took the detections of a handful of  $z \gtrsim 6$  quasars to completely change the landscape in extragalactic astronomy and open up our view towards the epoch of reionisation (Fan et al. 2001). With so many powerful wide-field surveys on the horizon, which will explore a new parameter space in terms of sensitivity and area coverage, we may be on the verge of witnessing some totally unexpected discoveries, which have always been the driver for astronomy. With its expected launch around 2030, *SPICA* is ideally positioned to take full advantage of these upcoming wide-field surveys and their surprising discoveries.

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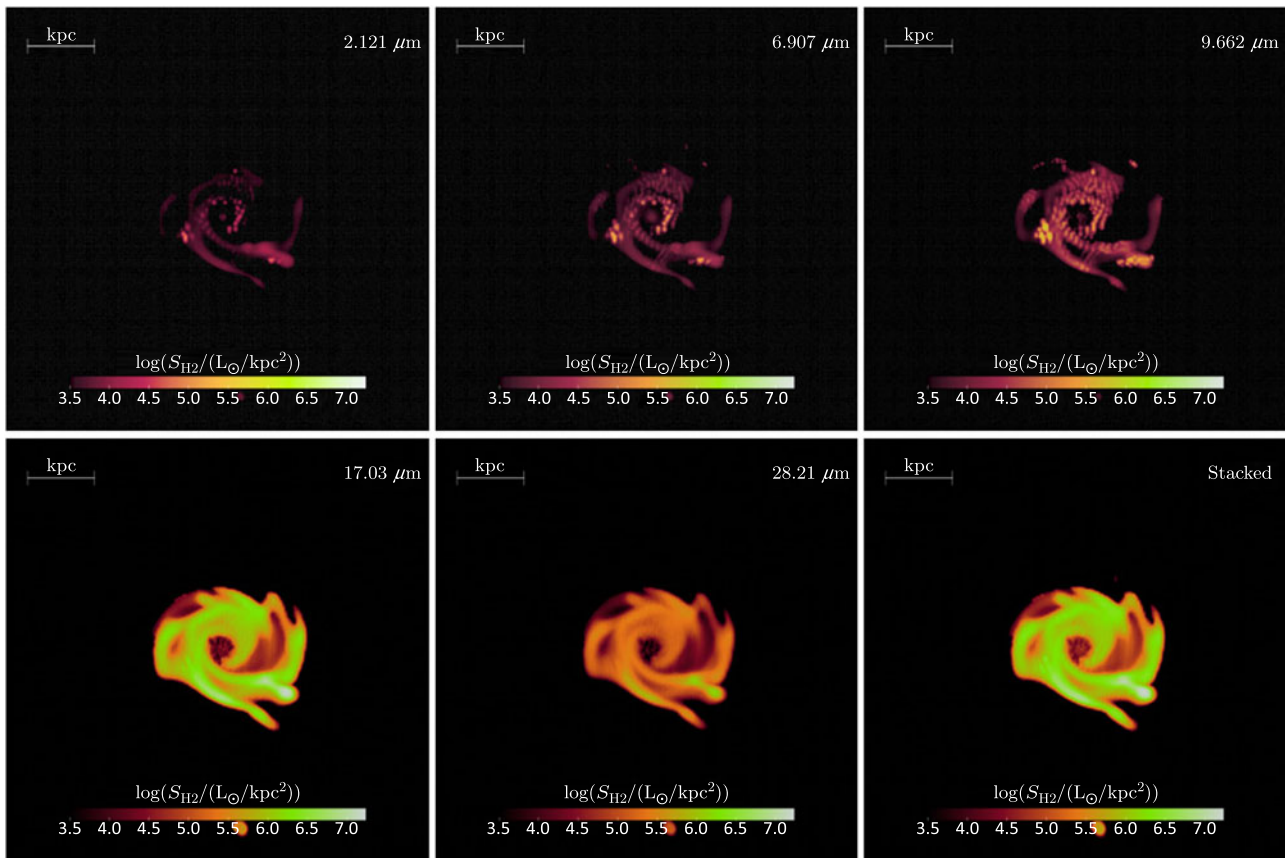
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## Appendix A. H<sub>2</sub> Emission: simulation for a $z \simeq 6$ LBG

Here, we use the model presented by Pallottini et al. (2017b) as an example to illustrate the basic properties of the warm H<sub>2</sub> gas component in a typical  $z \simeq 6$  LBG. The modelling methodology is fully described by Vallini et al. (2017), Pallottini et al. (2017b), and Vallini et al. (2018). The target halo has a mass  $M_{\text{h}} \simeq 10^{11} M_{\odot}$  and hosts a galaxy with a stellar mass  $M_{\star} \simeq 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  and SFR of about  $100 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ , consistent with typical  $z \sim 6$  LBGs (cf., Capak et al. 2015; Jiang et al. 2016). Following the convention of Pallottini et al. (2017b), we refer to this particular simulated galaxy as ‘Althæa’.



**Figure 8.** Synthetic H<sub>2</sub> line emission for the  $z = 6$  galaxy Althæa (Pallottini et al. 2017b). The lines shown are (from top left to bottom right) 1–0 S(1) 2.12  $\mu\text{m}$ , 0–0 S(5) 6.91  $\mu\text{m}$ , 0–0 S(3) 9.66  $\mu\text{m}$ , 0–0 S(1) 17.0  $\mu\text{m}$ , and 0–0 S(0) 28.2  $\mu\text{m}$ . The last panel at bottom right shows the stacked sum of all the lines, which is dominated by the 0–0 S(1) line.

The H<sub>2</sub> emission maps of Althæa are shown in Figure 8. It has a total H<sub>2</sub> mass of about  $10^8 M_{\odot}$ , which is seen to be mainly concentrated in a disk-like structure (effective radius  $\simeq 0.5$  kpc) that is pressure supported by radiation and composed of dense ( $n \gtrsim 10^{2.5} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ), metal-rich ( $Z \simeq 0.5 Z_{\odot}$ ) gas. The most luminous pure-rotational H<sub>2</sub> lines are the 0–0 S(1) line at 17  $\mu\text{m}$  and 0–0 S(0) line at 28  $\mu\text{m}$ . About 95% of the H<sub>2</sub> gas is characterised by a temperature of  $T \simeq 100$  K, while 1% (4%) has  $T \simeq 1000$  K (20 K). Because of the dominance of the  $\simeq 100$  K component, 0–0 S(0) and 0–0 S(1) transitions are the brightest, even though their oscillator strengths are small. The spatially integrated luminosity of 0–0 S(1), the brightest H<sub>2</sub> line emitted by Althæa, is  $3.3 \times 10^6 L_{\odot}$ , a factor of  $\sim 500$  below the SAFARI detection limit of  $1.6 \times 10^9 L_{\odot}$  at  $z = 6$  (5 $\sigma$ , 10 h).

## Appendix B. Formation of the first dust

The first stars are predicted to be very massive, possibly with masses over  $100 M_{\odot}$  (e.g., Abel, Bryan, & Norman 2002; Bromm, Coppi, & Larson 2002; Omukai & Palla 2003). Given that the initial mass function (IMF) of Pop III stars was likely top-heavy and extending to  $> 100 M_{\odot}$  (e.g., Hirano et al. 2015; Stacy, Bromm, & Lee 2016), among the main contributors of dust in the early Universe were likely the so-called pair-instability SNe<sup>m</sup> (PISNe), whose progenitors have main-sequence masses in the range of 140–260  $M_{\odot}$  (Heger & Woosley 2002). Pop III stars in the mass ranges just above ( $> 260 M_{\odot}$ ) or below (40–140  $M_{\odot}$ ) are thought to collapse directly into black holes, locking inside all the nucleosynthesis products, while those in the 140–260  $M_{\odot}$

<sup>m</sup>In these SNe, electron–positron pair production serves as the energy sink, reducing the internal pressure and accelerating the gravitational collapse (Barkat, Rakavy, & Sack 1967).

range are thought to end their lives as PISNe with powerful explosions, leaving no compact remnant behind and ejecting 15–30% of the PISN progenitor mass as dust (30–60  $M_{\odot}$  per star) into the surroundings (Nozawa et al. 2003; Schneider, Ferrara, & Salvaterra 2004; Cherchneff & Dwek 2010). Considering such a large dust production rate of PISNe, which is  $> 10$  times larger than the value for typical core-collapse (i.e., Type II) SNe, it is conceivable that clusters of Pop III stars would quickly enshroud themselves with dust and become strong mid-infrared sources as PISNe explode and the yet-to-explode less massive stars shine and heat the ejected dust. If such a scenario is correct, this implies that a significant fraction of Pop III star clusters may be faint in the optical/near-infrared (i.e., rest-frame UV/optical) but bright in the far-infrared (i.e., rest-frame mid-infrared). Far-infrared spectroscopy of such dust-enshrouded Pop III star clusters could detect spectral features produced by the first dust, revealing its composition and production mechanisms.

Observations of young supernova remnants in the Milky Way and in the Large Magellanic Cloud have provided evidence that dust can form in the ejecta a few hundred days after the explosion (e.g. Matsuura et al. 2009; Dunne et al. 2009; Gall et al. 2014; Matsuura et al. 2015; De Looze et al. 2017; Temim et al. 2017). Theoretical models are able to reproduce the observational data (Bocchio et al. 2016) and show that, depending on the progenitor mass and metallicity, a variety of dust species can form (Todini & Ferrara 2001; Schneider et al. 2004; Nozawa et al. 2007; Bianchi & Schneider 2007; Cherchneff & Dwek 2010; Marassi et al. 2014, 2015; S. Marassi et al., in preparation; Sarangi & Cherchneff 2015).

Since dust grains condense out of metals freshly synthesised by the stellar progenitor, the process is expected to work even at very high redshifts, right after the formation of the first generation of Pop III stars (Todini & Ferrara 2001; Schneider et al. 2004; Nozawa et al. 2007; Marassi et al. 2014, 2015). While the validity of these predictions relies on extrapolations of models that have been shown to work at  $Z \geq 0.4 Z_{\odot}$  (Bocchio et al. 2016), indirect support for an early phase of rapid dust enrichment comes from the analysis of the large dust

masses detected in the host galaxies of the first quasars (Valiante et al. 2009, 2011, 2014) and in the colour evolution of normal star-forming galaxies at  $z > 6$  (Mancini et al. 2015, 2016), as well as from the measurements of dust extinction in  $z > 4$  quasars (e.g., Maiolino et al. 2004; Gallerani et al. 2010). In addition, dust enrichment by Pop III SNe increases gas cooling at very low metallicity, opening a formation pathway to the first low-mass stars (Schneider et al. 2006b, 2012a, 2012b) and matching the constraints from stellar archaeology studies (De Bennassuti et al. 2014, 2017).

Dust enrichment by Pop III SNe occurs on very short timescales, comparable to the stellar evolutionary timescale of the most massive SN progenitor present in the Pop III star cluster. This, in turn, depends on the Pop III IMF, which is still very poorly constrained by ab-initio simulations (Hirano et al. 2015; Stacy et al. 2016). Dust production starts to affect the colours of Pop III galaxies a few Myrs after star formation, when PISNe from 140–260  $M_{\odot}$  stars or core-collapse SNe with  $M < 40 M_{\odot}$  release their chemical yields into the surrounding medium.

By combining a Pop III stellar population synthesis model (e.g., Zackrisson et al. 2011) with dust production models of Pop III SNe, such as that of

Schneider et al. (2004) for PISNe and Marassi et al. (2015) for Type-II SNe, it is possible to calculate the infrared spectral evolution of a Pop III star cluster and examine its spectral characteristics (R. Schneider et al., in preparation). In the rest-frame mid-infrared range, particularly prominent will be quartz ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) emission features at 9, 12.4, and 21.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , which can be quite strong because quartz is expected to be one of the most abundant solid compounds formed in the ejecta of PISNe (e.g., Nozawa et al. 2003; Schneider et al. 2004). Note that the detection of such spectral features, if successful, will allow us to investigate directly the properties of the first dust freshly produced by the first generation of SNe.

For SAFARI to be able to make such detection, the target Pop III star cluster needs to be extremely luminous. In practice, this would mean that the target star cluster must be maximally massive (the limit is thought to be  $\sim 10^5$ – $10^6 M_{\odot}$ ), very young (ages up to a few/several Myr), and gravitationally lensed by a large factor ( $\gg 100\times$ ). The detectability of such a luminous lensed Pop III star cluster was discussed by Zackrisson et al. (2015). Considering the challenge of detecting such Pop III objects at high redshift, an alternative approach may be to search for lower-redshift analogues (see Section 3.3).