SIRTF and the Early Universe

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Abstract

SIRTF and the Early Universe

SIRTF, the Space Infrared Telescope Facility, will complete NASA's family of Great Observatories when it is launched in December 2001. Studies of the early universe have been a defining scientific objective for SIRTF. SIRTF will be capable of measuring rest frame two micron emission from ordinary galaxies to redshift of three. The most luminous presently known examples of infrared starburst galaxies will be observable by SIRTF to z -10, if they exist at such redshifts. Simulations of these observations will be presented and discussed.