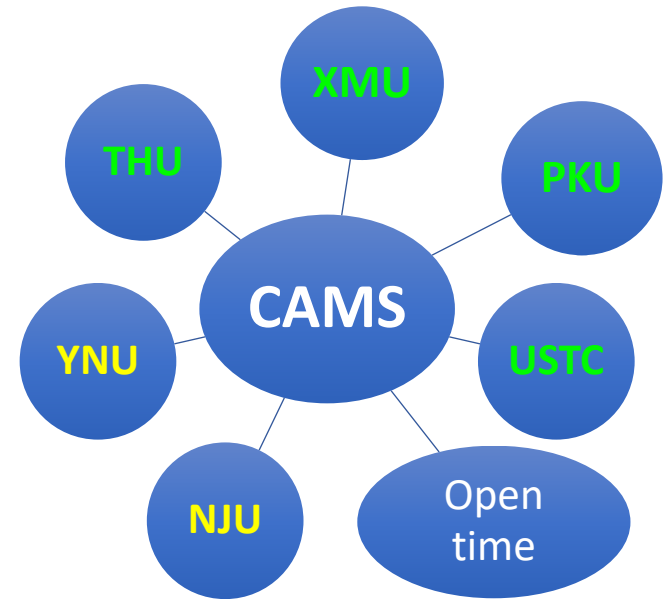
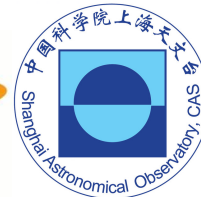
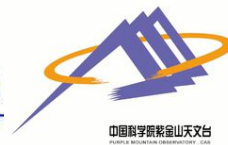


# China's Telescope Access Program (TAP)



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NAOC



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XINJIANG ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY, CAS



# Why TAP?

## Science

- Compensates China's lack of **medium- & large-aperture** multi-purpose optical telescopes ( $> 2.4$  m) and cutting-edge infrared instrumentation
- Facilitates international collaboration and competitiveness
- Allows complementary observation facilities to ongoing large projects
- Yields China-based high impact research results

## Education

- Builds the base of experienced observers in China to *propose, execute, and lead* observational investigations
- Provides student training on large telescopes for China's next generation astronomers in observation and instrumentation (41)



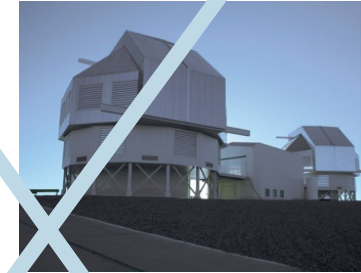
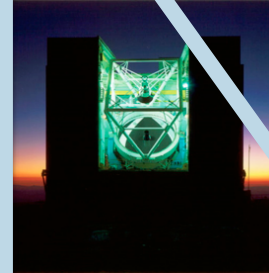
# TAP Telescopes at a glance

Canada-France-Hawaii  
Telescope (CFHT) 3.6m  
Mauna Kea  
~15 nights/year

Hale 5.1m  
Mt. Palomar  
(Caltech)  
~45 nights/year

MMT 6.5m  
Mt. Hopkins  
Steward Obs.)  
12 nights/year

Magellan 2x6.5m  
Las Campanas (Chile)  
(Steward Obs.)  
4 nights/year



- Wide-field imaging (optical, IR) – MegaCam, WIRCam
- High-res spectropolarimeter - EsPaDons, SPIRou
- Optical Imager spectroscopy (FTS)-- SITELLE
- Queue Service Observation

- Optical, IR, long-slit spectrographs (DBSP, TriSpec)
- Imaging (WaSP/LFC, WIRC)
- High-throughput IFU/S (CWI\*)
- High-res IR imager (PHARO)

- Wide field spectroscopy (Hectospec/chelle, IMACS, M2FS, Finospec)
- Long slit blue/red spectroscopy
- Echelle spectroscopy (MagE)
- MMIRS, FIRE

2020 (Feb~Jul)

CFHT: 4-8 nights

Palomar: ~ 22-23 nights

LCOGT: ~450 hours (Apr-Aug)

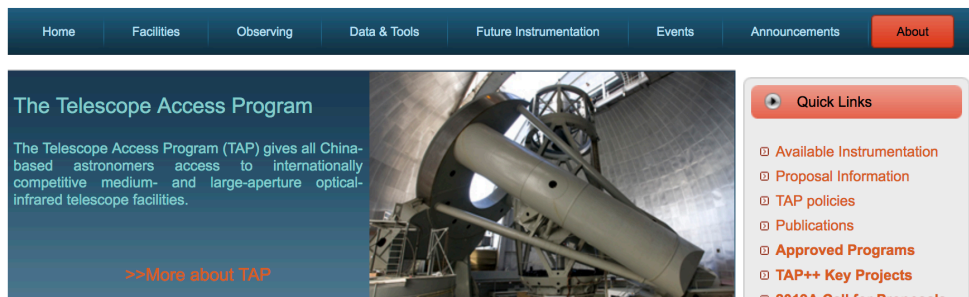


LCOGT 9x1m  
450+ hours/year

- Time-domain imaging

# Milestones of Telescope Access Program (TAP)

## Telescope Access Program

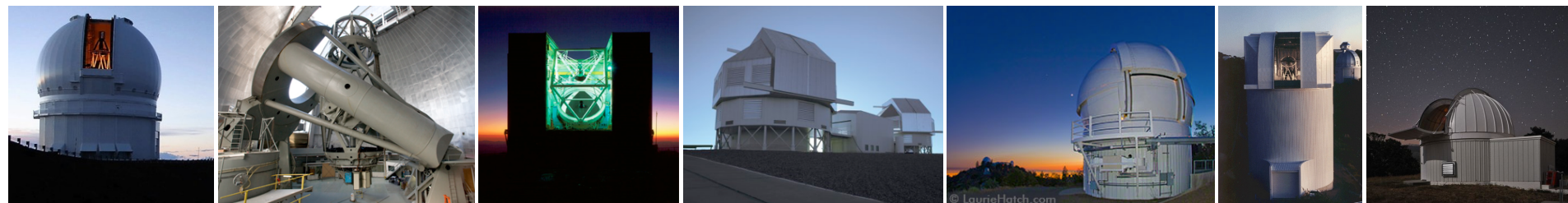


The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with links for Home, Facilities, Observing, Data & Tools, Future Instrumentation, Events, Announcements, and About. The main content area features a large image of a telescope and a 'Quick Links' sidebar with items such as Available Instrumentation, Proposal Information, TAP policies, Publications, Approved Programs, TAP++ Key Projects, 2019A Call for Proposals, Contact TAP, and 3rd TAP Workshop. A text box on the left describes the program's purpose and includes a link to 'More about TAP'.

With the rapid development of astronomy in China, including many future projects that will benefit from a broad base of experienced optical-IR astronomers, we initiated the Telescope Access Program (TAP). China-based astronomers have previously accessed international telescopes either through collaboration, going abroad for a time, or applying for small amounts of open time on a few facilities. Although these efforts should and will continue, TAP is a different kind of program. TAP will, for the first time, give all China-based astronomers direct access to optical-infrared facilities with apertures of 3.6m-6.5m. This time is not predetermined for specific projects, but is allocated through an open and competitive basis.

<http://info.bao.ac.cn/tap>

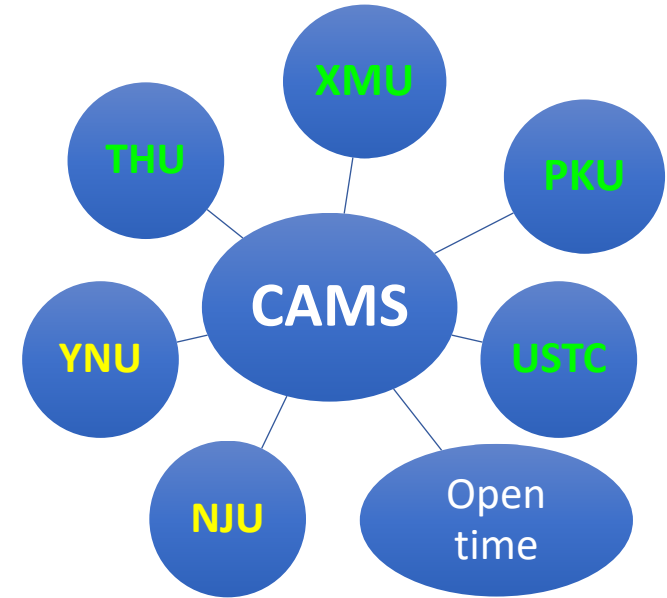
- 2008/11: Initial evaluation
- 2009/12: China-TMT Science Meeting
- 2010/09: TAP created
- 2011/03: First TAP proposal deadline
- 2014/01: TAP++ Advisory committee
- 2014/07: TAP/Pilot B Key Projects
- 2017B: Last semester for Steward MOU
- 2017/10: Renewal of Palomar MOU +6
- 2018/01: New Advisory Board
- 2018/10: Confirmed partnership of XMU
- 2018/11: Renewal of CFHT MOU +4
- 2018/11: Initiation of committee board
- 2019/02: 1st Board Meeting, THU, PKU, USTC confirmed membership
- 2019/08: 2<sup>nd</sup> Board Meeting, NJU, YNU confirm membership
- 2019/12: TAP Workshop at XMU



# TAP Structure

Starting 2019B, TAP employed a new committee board system:

- Updated time allocation policy (~80% GT + ~20% OT)
- Potential Funding expansion (more nights & more telescopes)
- Committee board structure
- Semi-annual meeting (e.g. coordinate with China's next generation optical-IR telescopes: 12m, TMT, EAO, ...)



CAMS: Center for Astronomical Mega-Science, CAS  
 Incl. NAOC, PMO, SHAO, XAO, YNAO...  
 中国科学院大科学中心



# TAP Time Allocation Process

2019B: <http://info.bao.ac.cn/tap/?q=node/14#TAC>

Cong Kevin Xu (NAOC, chair), Jianning Fu(BNU), Bo Ma(SYSU), Jianghui Ji(PMO), Jirong Mao(YNAO) Lulu Fan(SDU), Ling Zhu(SHAO), Weihao Bian(NJNU)

2019A:

Jianfeng Wu (XMU, co-chair), Cheng Li (THU, co-chair), Licai Deng (NAOC), Bin Luo (NJU), Li Ji (PMO), Yinghe Zhao (YNO), Hongxin Zhang (USTC), Lulu Fan (SDU)

2018B:

Cong Kevin Xu (NAOC, chair), Jianghui Ji (PMO), Keping Qiu(NJU), Junfeng Wang (XMU), Junzhi Wang (NJU), Xiaoyang Xia (TJNU), Yirong Yang (SYSU), Zhenya Zheng (SHAO),

2018A:

Greg Herczeg (KIAA-PKU, chair), Yu Sophia Dai (NAOC), Hongliang Yan (NAOC), Zhenya Zheng (SHAO), Martin Smith (SHAO), Li Ji (PMO), Yong Shi (NJU), Xu Kong (USTC), Jianfeng Wu (XMU)

2017B:

Taotao Fang (XMU, chair), Licai Deng (NAOC), Lulu Fan (SDU), Xi Kang (PMO), Guilin Liu (USTC), Maria Messineo (USTC), Yingjie Peng (KIAA-PKU), Shiyin Shen (SHAO), Jianrong Shi (NAOC), Stijn Wuyts (Bath)

2017A:

Cheng Li (THU, chair), Wiphu Rujopakarn (IPMU, co-chair), Jiasheng Huang (NAOC), Shiyin Shen (SHAO), Lulu Fan (SDU), Zhibo Jiang (PMO), Maria Messineo (USTC), Ran Wang (PKU)

2016B:

Lei Hao (SHAO, chair), Taotao Fang (XMU, co-chair), Stijn Wuyts (Bath), Junfeng Wang (XMU), Ran Wang (PKU), Chao Liu (NAOC), Yanmei Chen (NJU), Hu Zou (NAOC), Li Ji (PMO)

- **The TAP TAC proposal review process is one of TAP's strengths**
- TAC is broadly representative of astronomy in China (7-8)
- 66 unique individuals, many serving multiple times, over 15 TACs
- NAOC (31), SHAO (12), PMO (11), YNAO (2), USTC (6), PKU (16), NJU (10), XMU (6), SJTU (3), BNU (1), SDU (2), THU (2), TJNU (1), SYSU (1), **International (13)**
- **Every proposal gets an international external review**
- TAC ranking is purely based on science merit and quality of the proposal
- TAP-VO platform starts for 2019A semester

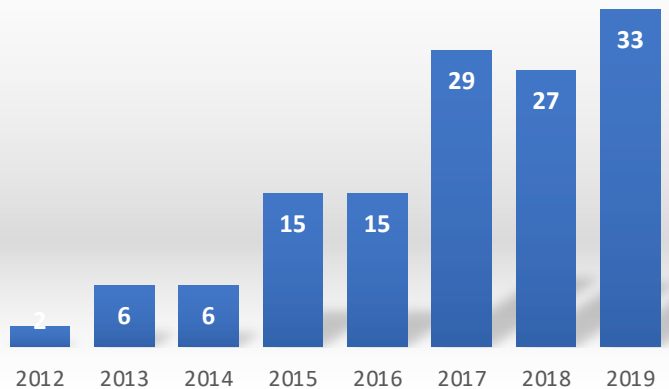


# TAP Publications

Observations started in 2011B. As of Nov, 2019:

- 133 refereed publications (<http://info.bao.ac.cn/tap/?q=publications>)
- total: 1200 citations
- 14 papers with 20 or more citations
- 2 Nature, 1 Science, 61 ApJ, 5 ApJS, 2 ApJL, 9 MNRAS, 14 AJ, 4 PASP, 1 RAA, 3 on arXiv ...

TAP Publications

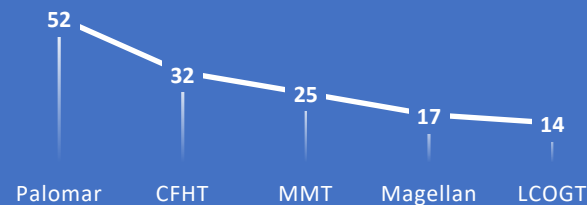


↑ TAP begins 2011B

↑ TAP expansion 2015A

↑ Nov 2019

TAP PUBLICATIONS BY TELESCOPE



- Palomar (52)
- CFHT (32)
- MMT (25)
- Magellan (17)
- LCOGT (14)





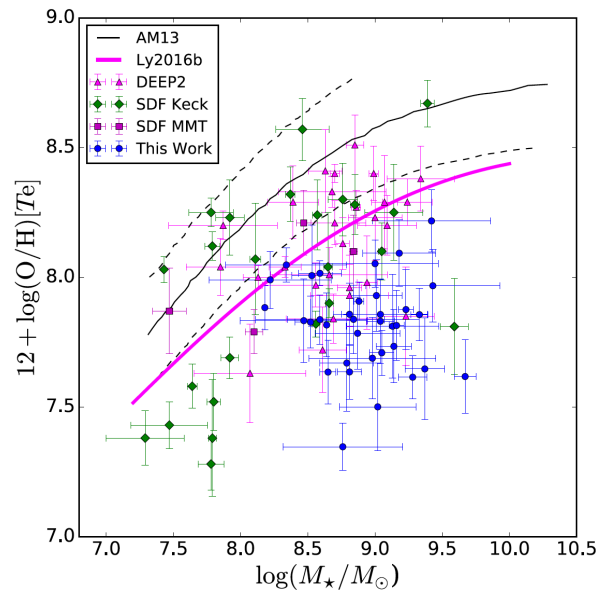


# TAP Science Summary – other than AGNs

## Galaxy Formation and Evolution

### - Mass-Metallicity Relation

- \* Metal poor star-forming galaxies via BASS (Gao et al. 2018, below)
- \* Blue compact dwarfs (Lian et al. 2016, ApJ, 819, 73)



### - Mass-Size Relation

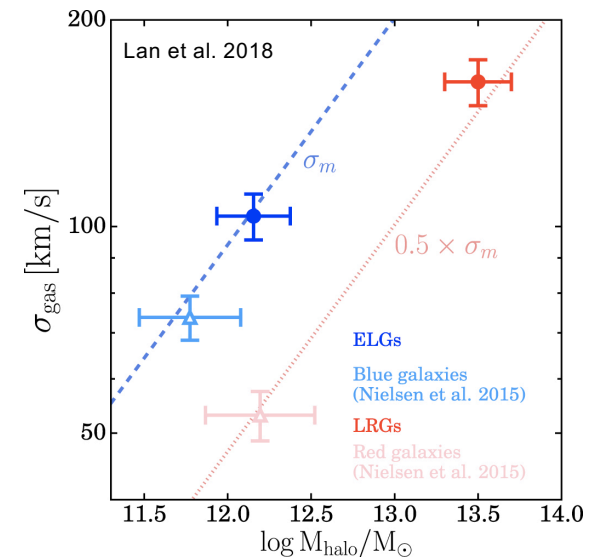
- \* in red galaxies (Favole et al. 2018)

### - Lyman Alpha Emitters

- \* Confirmation of  $z \sim 7$  LAE in the large area narrowband survey Lyman-Alpha Galaxies at the End of Reionization (LAGER) survey (Hu et al. 2017, 845, 16)
- \* LAE Survey (e.g. Hao et al. 2018, ApJ, 864, 145; Jiang et al. 2017, 846, 134)
- \* Damped Lyman alpha system (e.g. Xie et al. 2018, ApJ, 858, 32)

## Galaxy properties

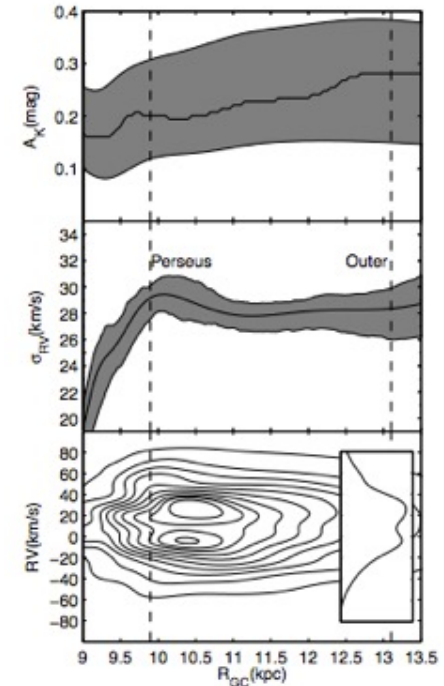
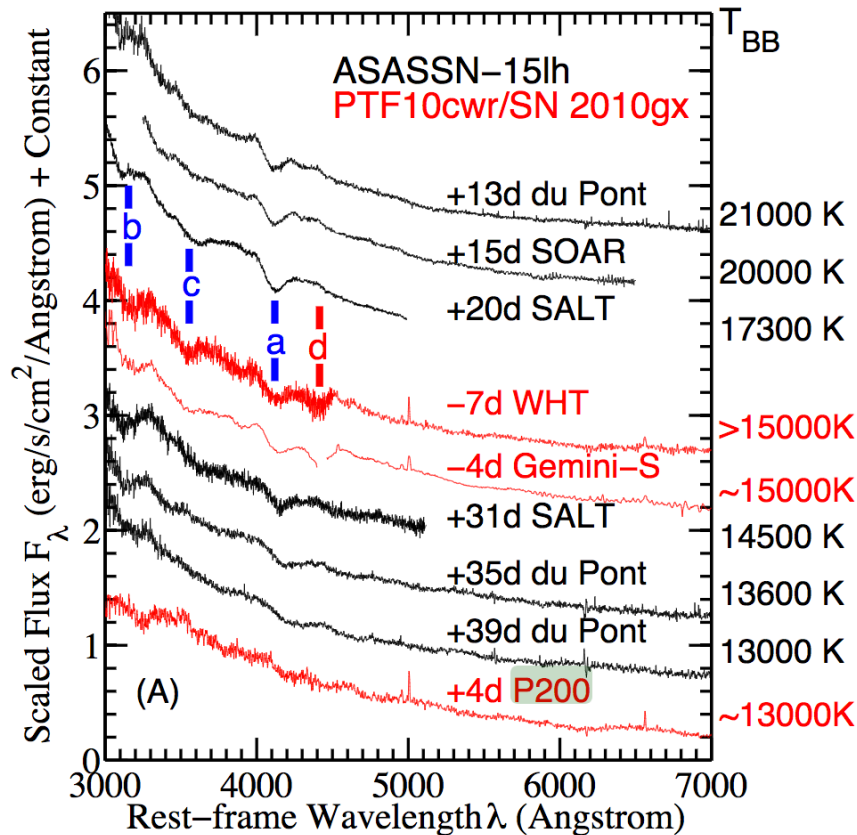
- Dwarf Galaxies (e.g. Liu et al. 2017, 837, 109)
- Low surface brightness galaxies (e.g. Du et al. 2017, 837, 152)
- Emission Line galaxies via BASS (e.g. Lan et al. 2018, 866, 36; An et al. 2014, 784, 152)



# TAP Science Highlights

## Luminous Supernova

## Stars, Planets, and other subjects



- The **most luminous Supernova** (ASASSN-15lh), Dong et al. (2016), Science, TAP-Magellan/LCO/Palomar
- Supernova catalog & follow-ups, Boss et al. (2018), Holoiën et al. (2017), Godoy-Rivera et al. (2017), TAP-LCO
- Extragalactic tidal disruption events with TAP-MMT (Yang et al., 2013)

- **Resonant feature** in the Perseus arm of the Milky Way discovered with TAP-MMT (Liu, C. et al. 2012)
- **Super metal-poor** stars with LAMOST & TAP-Magellan (Li, H. et al. , 2015)
- Extragalactic tidal disruption events (TDE) with TAP-MMT (Yang et al., 2013)

# Telescope Access Program (TAP Optical-IR)

## Key Programs - Adding Value to Domestic Programs

### Chemical tagging of outlying populations of the Milky Way detected by the LAMOST survey

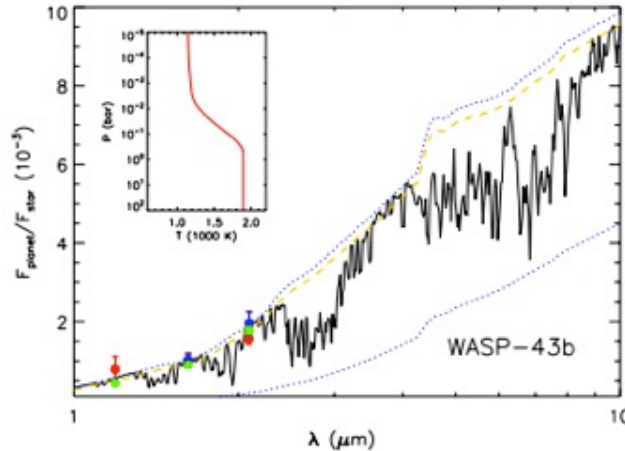
- PI: Gang Zhao (NAOC)
- High resolution spectroscopic follow-up of interesting LAMOST stars
- Extremely metal-poor stars, Carbon-enhanced metal-poor stars
- High-[alpha/Fe] metal-rich stars, Li-rich stars

Automated Planet Finder (2.4m)  
Mt. Hamilton  
(UCO/Lick Obs.)  
~30 nights



### Systematic characterization of exoplanetary atmosphere

Canada-France-Hawaii  
Telescope (CFHT) 3.6m  
Mauna Kea  
15 nights



Wang et al. (2013), exoplanets

High-throughput, high-resolution spectroscopy  
(R~100,000)

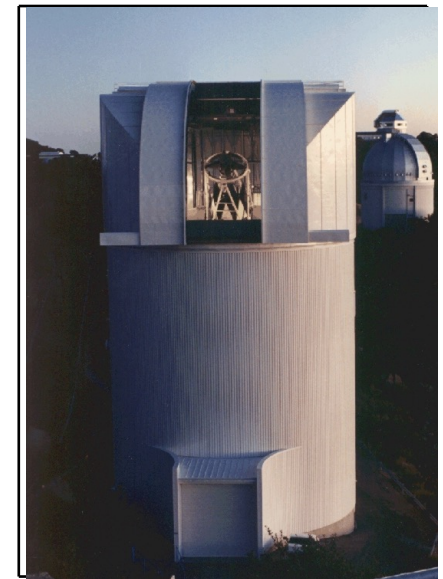
- PI: Wei Wang (NAOC)
- Infrared transit photometry
- Uses Mauna Kea's high altitude to observe CO band at 2.3um.

# Telescope Access Program (TAP Optical-IR) Key Programs - Joining International Surveys

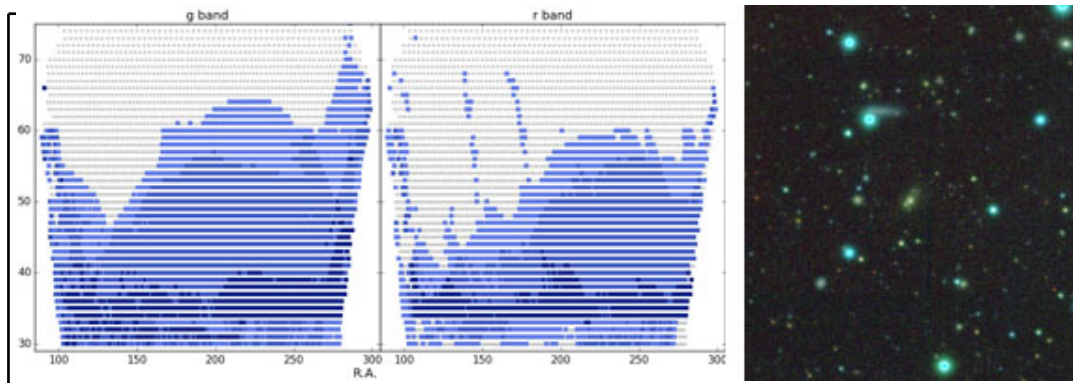


Bok Telescope (2.3m)  
Kitt Peak  
(U. Arizona/Steward Obs)  
240 nights

- PIs: Xu Zhou (NAOC), Xiaohui Fan (Arizona)
- Following the successful model of SCUSS (PI: Xu Zhou)
- An imaging survey of the North Galactic Cap; pre-imaging for the Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI)
- DESI will be a leading dark energy experiment
- 5 Chinese team members will be full DESI members, total value is USD \$1m



90Prime - wide field  
broadband imaging



# Telescope Access Program (TAP Optical-IR)

## Large programs: access to International Collaborations

### CLAUDS: CFHT Large Area U-band Deep Survey



- Jiasheng Huang (NAOC), Yipeng Jing (SJTU), Chengze Liu (SJTU), collaboration with Canada, France, Japan (2014B-2016B)
- $u^*$ -band imaging to 27 mag of 27 deg<sup>2</sup> of HSC Deep fields
- Chinese team gains access to HSC deep fields, a Subaru Strategic Program
- Galaxy evolution at intermediate and high redshift

Canada-France-Hawaii  
Telescope (CFHT) 3.6m  
Mauna Kea  
17.5 nights



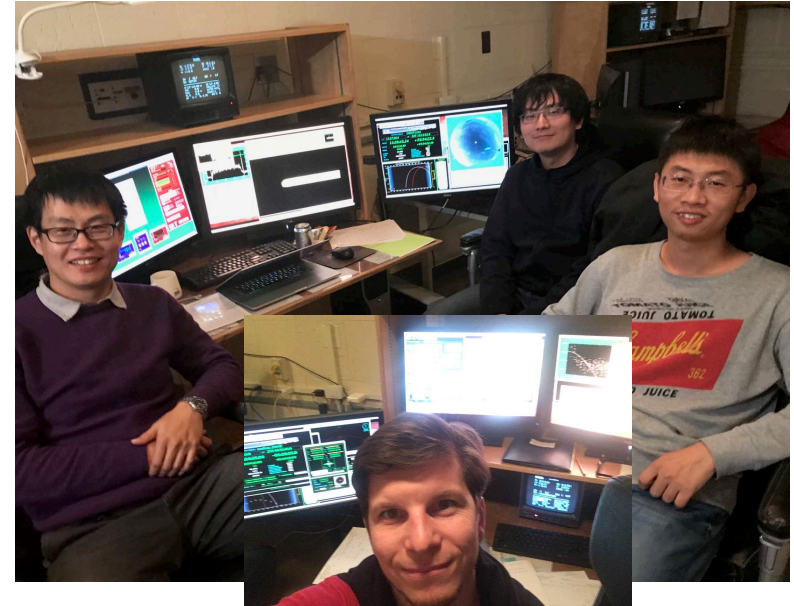
MegaCam: Wide-field  
imaging with  $u^*$ -band  
sensitivity

Largest LBG samples at  $z \sim 3$  (million), Liu et al. in prep

## TAP - Training the next generation of observers



NAOC grads doing remote observation at NAOC, 2019



NAOC staff/postdoc/grad observing at Palomar, Jan, 2018

- ~45 student PIs of TAP proposals
- Opportunities for students and postdocs to observe at the TAP telescopes
- China's next generation of observers
- Training : 2016- now, PhD × 10, PhD Candidates × 22, M.S. × 1, M.S. in progress × 6

# TAP - What have we learned?

## TAP Successes

- High demand for telescope time
- High quality science programs
- Student training
- add value to domestic programs
- gain **access to international teams** and surveys via TAP
- lead **high-value follow-up** programs to large surveys via TAP

## TAP + Palomar + CFHT +??

- Proposal process and evaluation makes for better science.
- International observatories want consistent, regular partners.
- China **needs** a portfolio of medium- to large-aperture optical-IR telescopes now.

Tap has made great contribution to the Chinese astronomy community, and we look forward to more future success, within China and with EA collaborations

