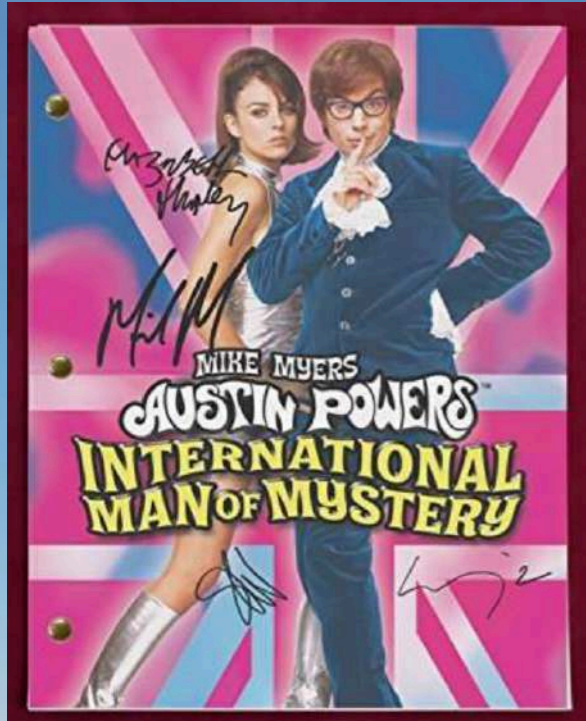


# LSST survey: millions and millions of quasars

Željko Ivezić (pronounced as Bill)

LSST/University of Washington

LSST Project Scientist and Deputy Director



**FIRST LIGHT: STARS, GALAXIES AND BLACK HOLES IN THE EPOCH OF REIONIZATION**  
Advanced School, São Paulo, Brazil, July 28 – August 7, 2019

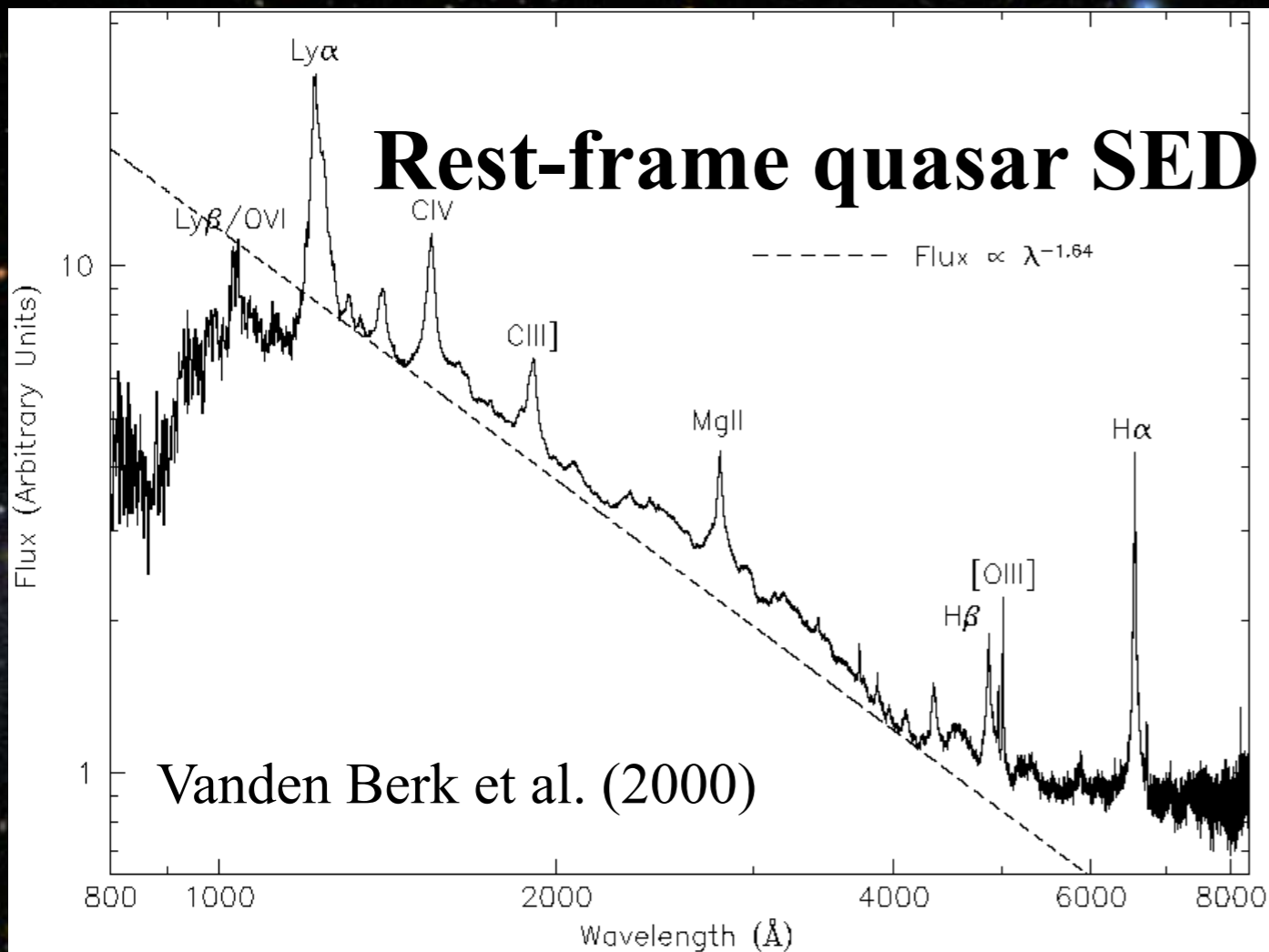
# OUTLINE

Terminology hereafter: a **quasar** is a point source in ground-based seeing, while an **AGN** is a resolved galaxy

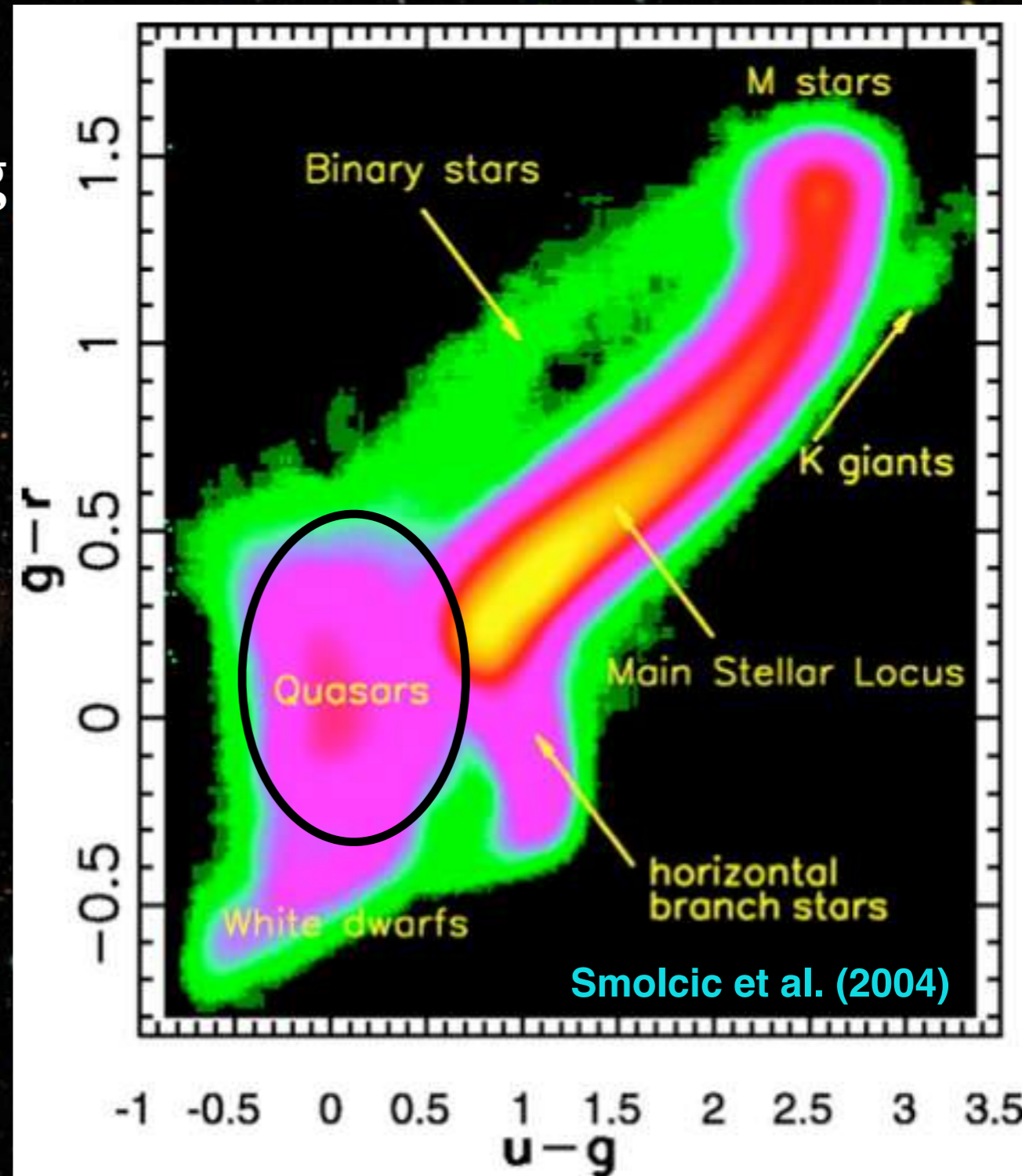
- **Finding quasars/AGNs with SDSS**  
color selection of quasars (but skipping AGN selection using galaxy spectra)
- **Brief introduction to LSST**  
science drivers, system overview, expected survey data products, status report
- **Finding quasars/AGNs with LSST**  
photometry (colors, variability) and astrometry (no proper motion, DCR)

# Finding Quasars...

Observed SEDs greatly differ because a given observed wavelength range samples varying rest-frame wavelength range

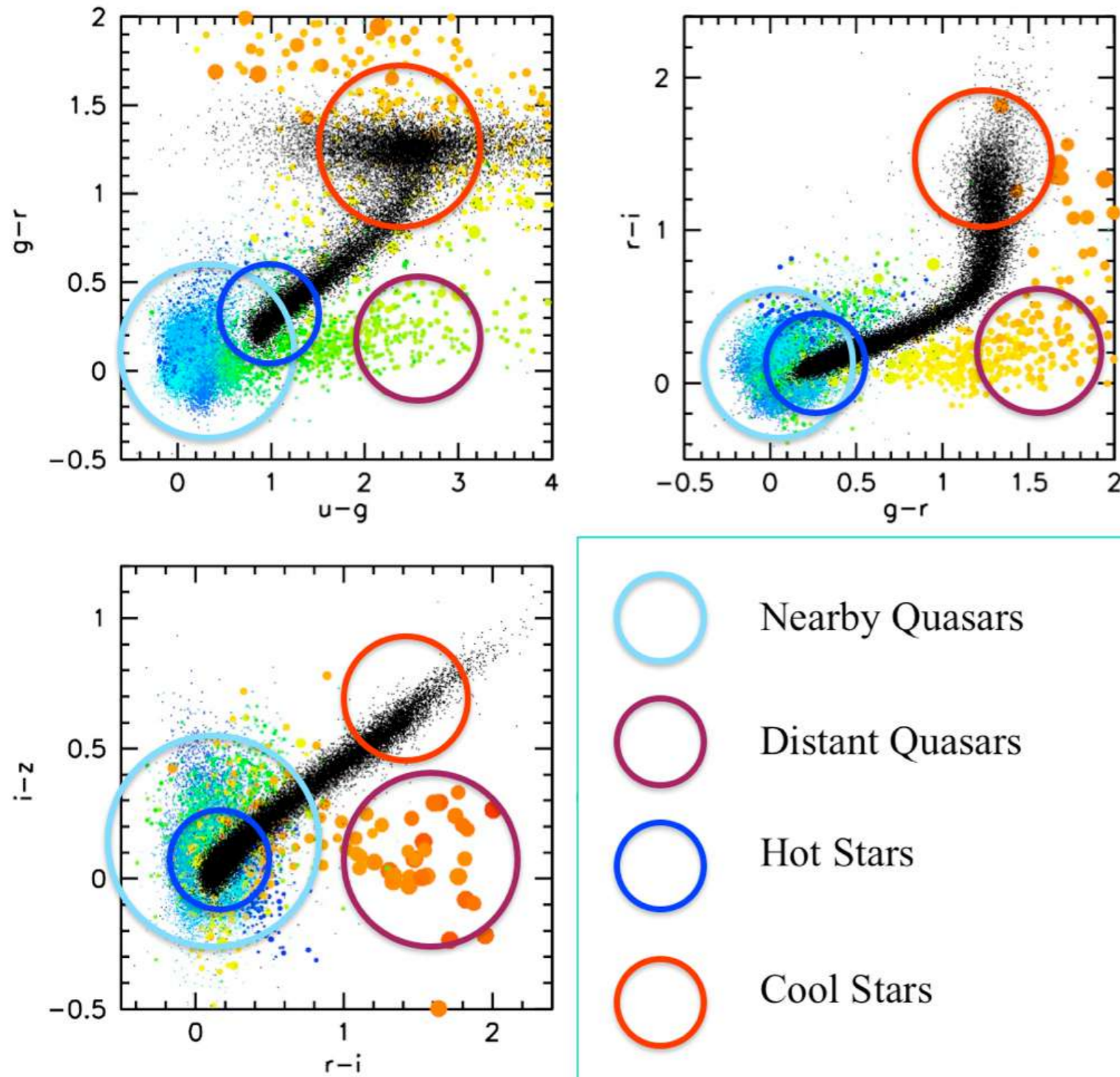


Quasars with  $z < 2.2$  have UV excess (e.g. U-B, u-g) compared to stars with similar blue colors (e.g. B-V, g-r):



# Sloan Digital Sky Survey Quasar Catalogs:

- about 1/4 of the sky, spectroscopically confirmed
- SDSS I & II: 105,783 (Schneider et al. 2010)
- SDSS III: + 78,086 (Paris et al. 2012)



- mostly color-selected, but also radio (FIRST), see Richards et al. (2002)
- over half with  $i < 19$
- 56 with  $z > 5$

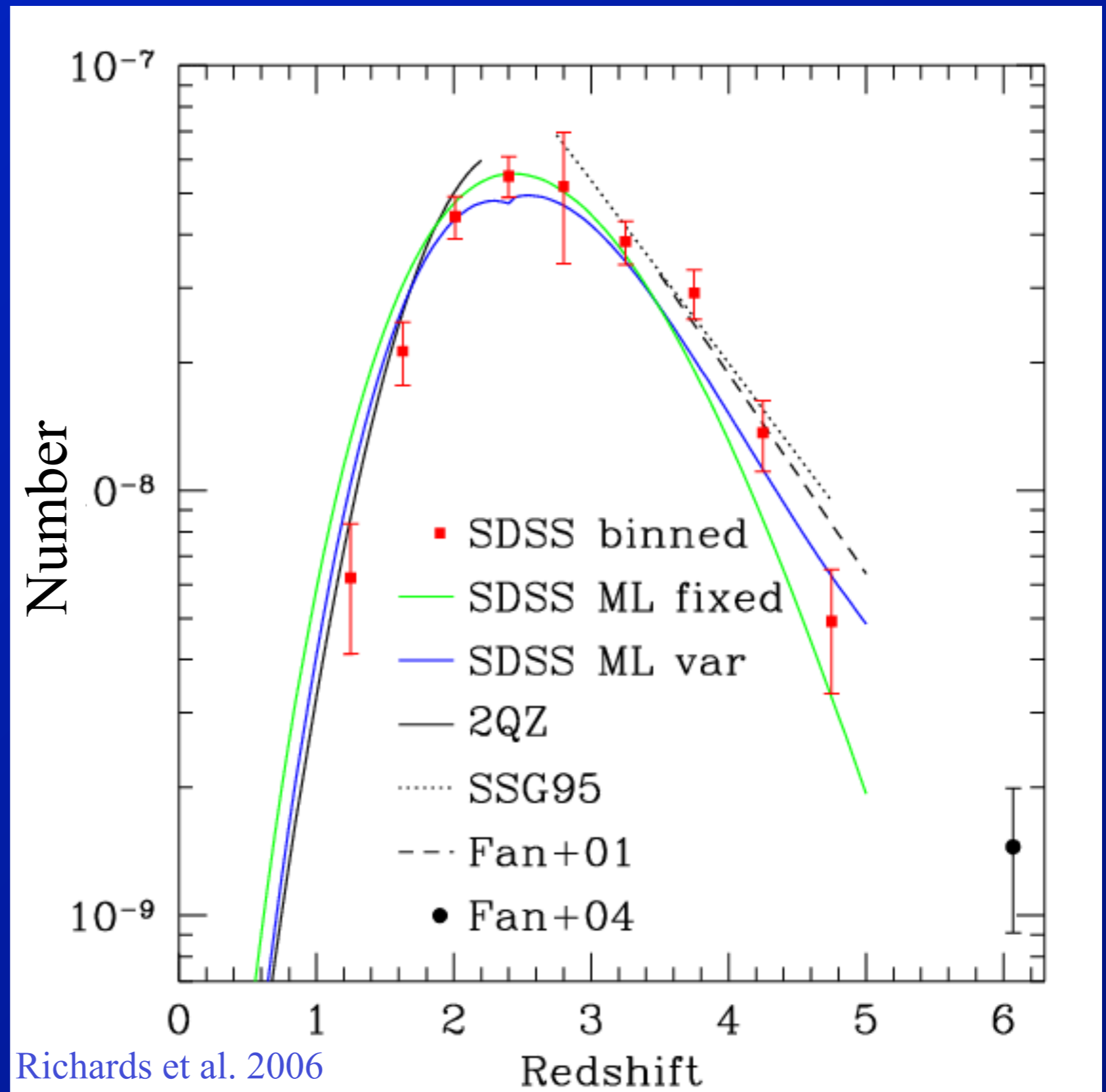
**~200,000 quasars!**

**Completeness: >90%**

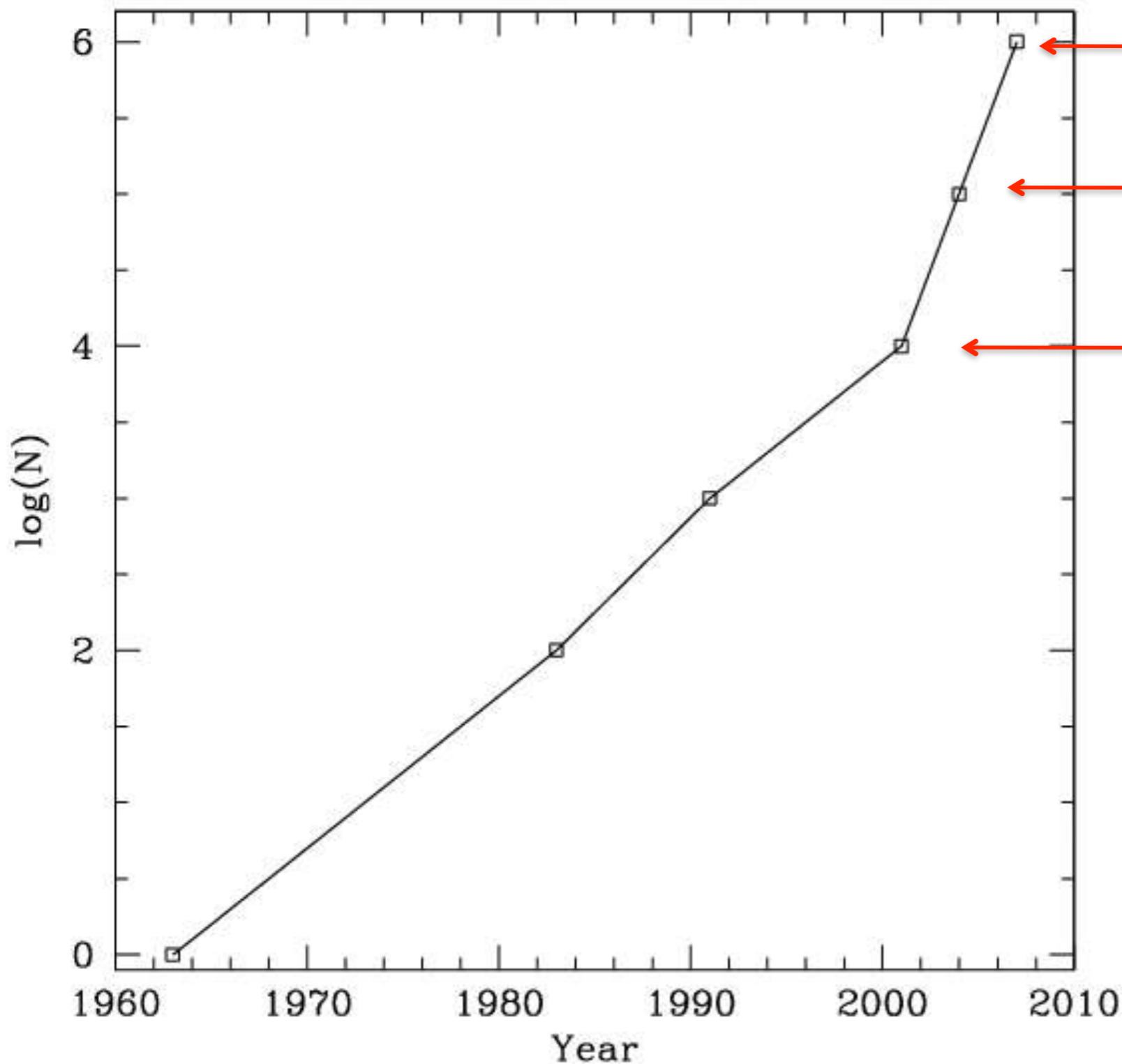
**Efficiency of color selection: >65%**

# Quasar Luminosity Function

Previous measurements were for nearby or far away quasars, but not both. SDSS spanned the whole range.



# Breaking the 1,000,000 Mark



Richards et al. 2009

Richards et al. 2004

Croom et al. 2000  
Schneider, Richards et al. 2002

Can we get to  
10 million?

# Can we get to 10 million?



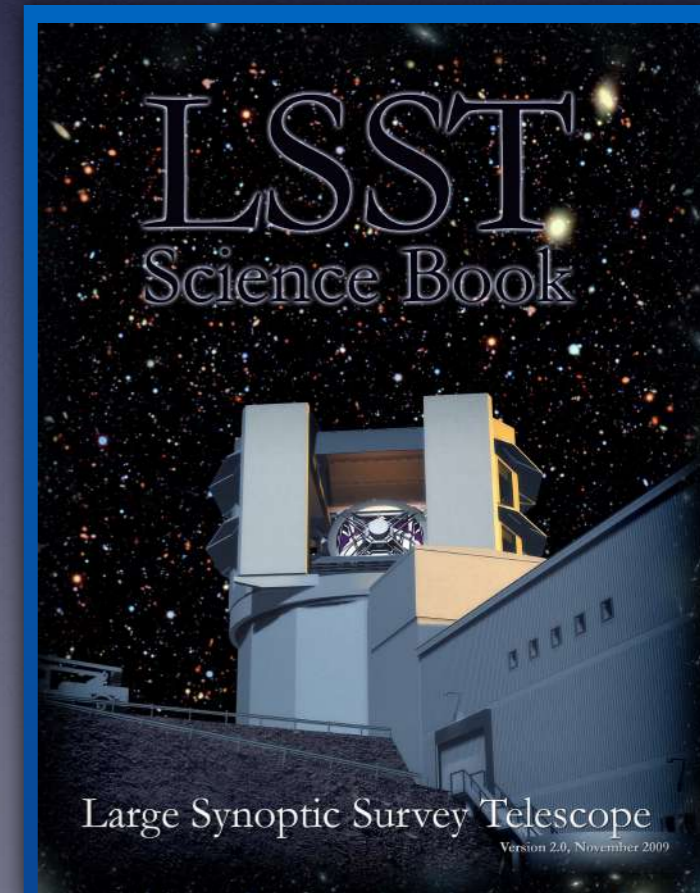
# LSST Science Themes

- Dark matter, dark energy, cosmology  
(spatial distribution of galaxies, gravitational lensing, supernovae, quasars)
- Time domain  
(cosmic explosions, variable stars)
- The Solar System structure (asteroids)
- The Milky Way structure (stars)

## LSST Science Book: [arXiv:0912.0201](https://arxiv.org/abs/0912.0201)

Summarizes LSST hardware, software, and observing plans, science enabled by LSST, and educational and outreach opportunities

**245 authors, 15 chapters, 600 pages**



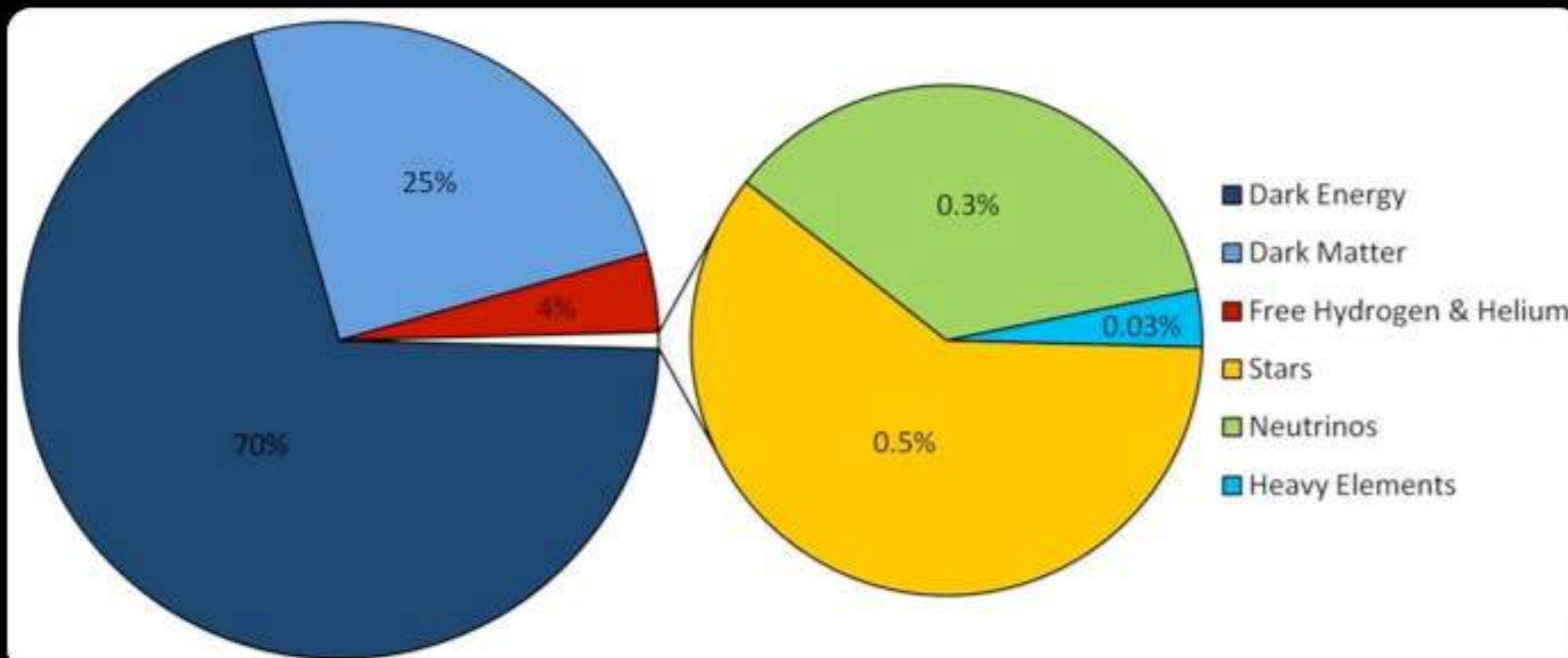
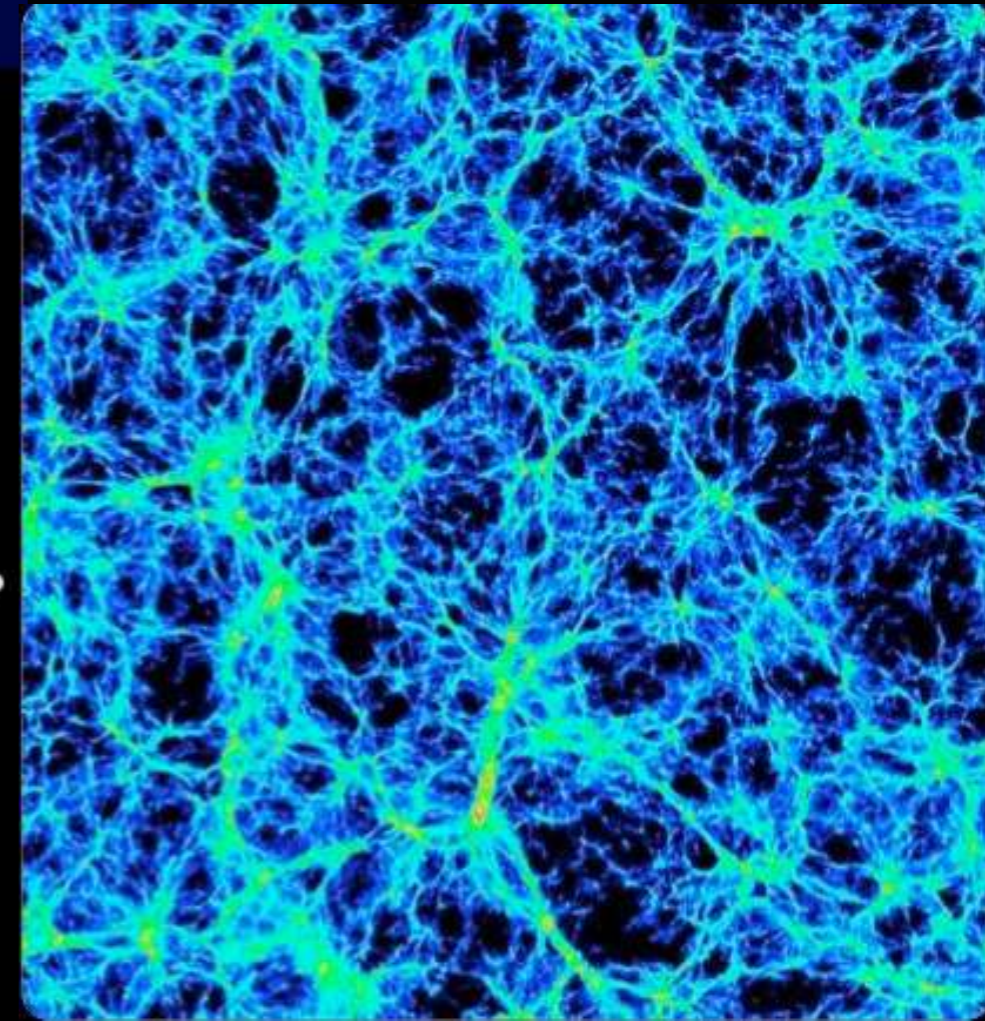
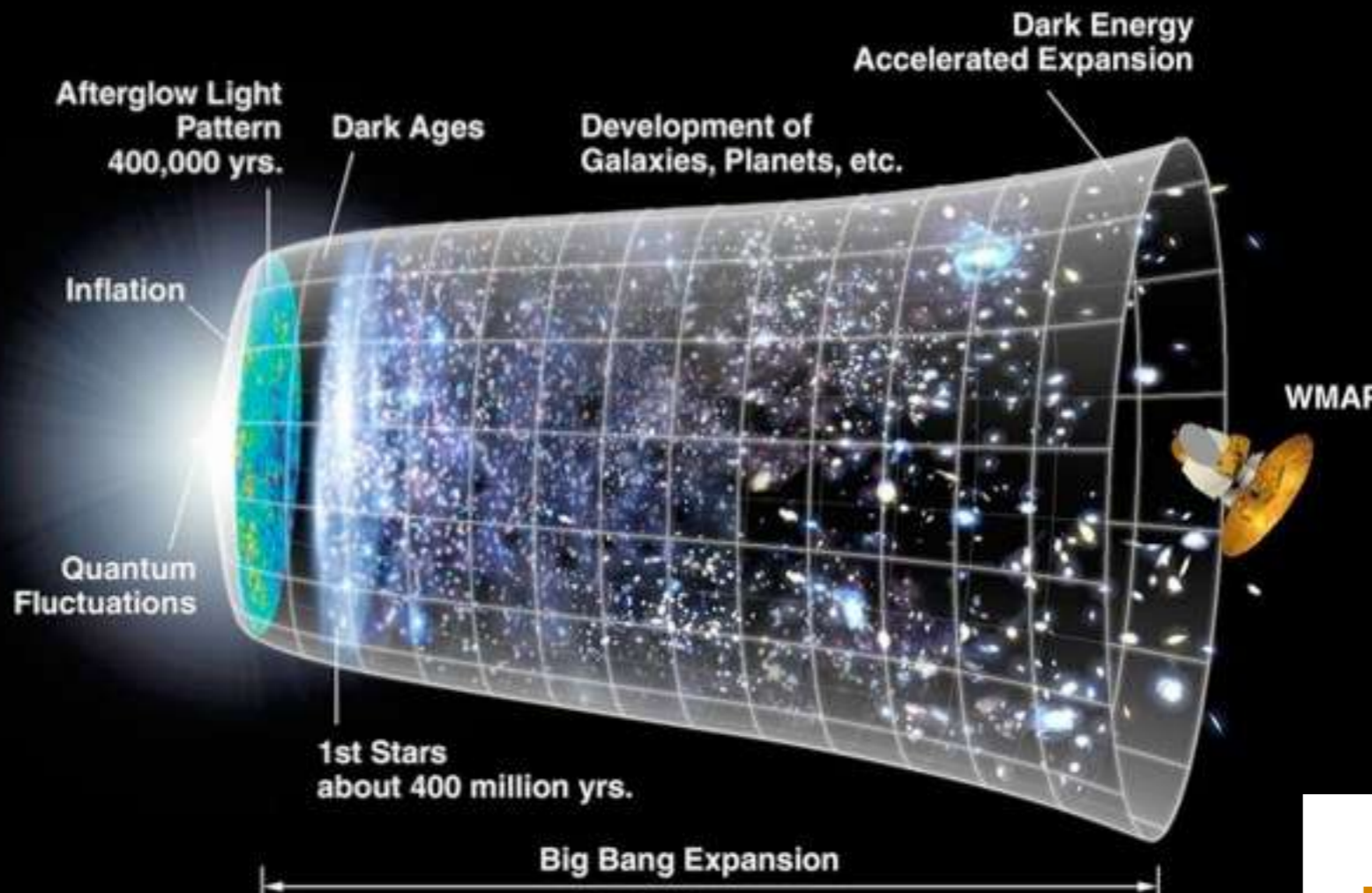


# Required system characteristics

- Large primary mirror (at least 6m) to go faint and to enable short exposures (30 s)
- Agile telescope (5 sec for slew and settle)
- Large field of view to enable fast surveying
- Impeccable image quality (weak lensing)
- Camera with 3200 Mpix
- Sophisticated software (20,000 GB/night, 20 billion objects, 20 trillion measurements)

# New Cosmological Puzzles

## $\Lambda$ CDM: The 6-parameter Theory of the Universe



The modern cosmological models can explain all observations, but need to **postulate** dark matter and dark energy (though gravity model could be wrong, too)

# Modern Cosmological Probes

- Cosmic Microwave Background  
(the state of the Universe at the recombination epoch, at redshift  $\sim 1000$ )
- Weak Lensing: growth of structure
- Galaxy Clustering: growth of structure
- Baryon Acoustic Oscillations: standard ruler
- Supernovae: standard candle

Except for CMB, measuring  $H(z)$  and growth of structure  $G(z)$

$$H(z) \sim d[\ln(a)]/dt, \quad G(z) = a^{-1} \delta\rho_m / \rho_m, \quad \text{with } a(z) = (1+z)^{-1}$$

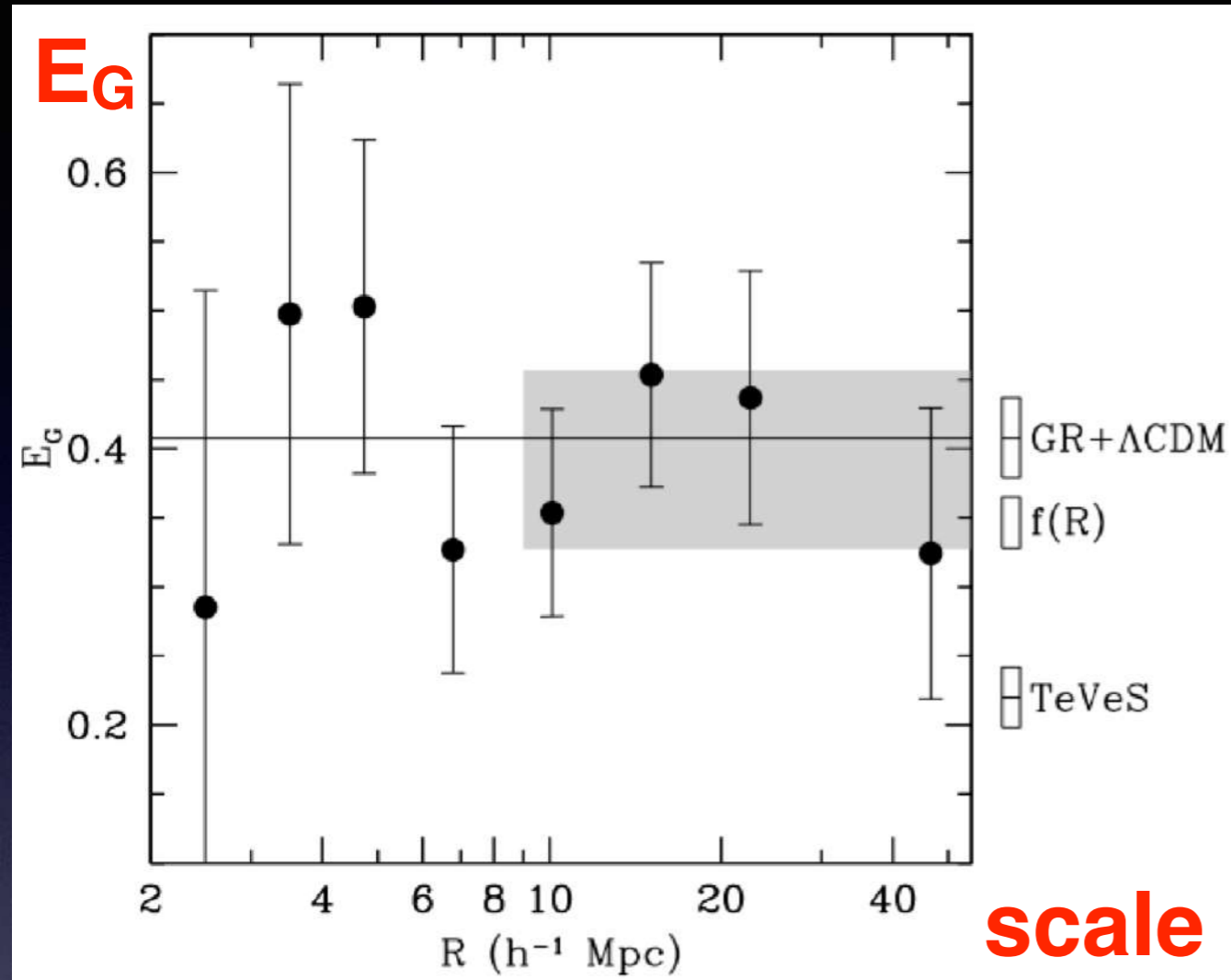
# Cosmology with LSST: dark energy vs. modified gravity

- Even for a model with modified gravity, it is possible to assume that GR is correct and always find DE with suitable  $w(z)$  to explain data for  $H(z)$ . 😱
- However, the growth of structure will be different and thus when **both**  $H(z)$  and  $G(z)$  are measured, the degeneracy can be broken and DE vs. modified gravity models distinguished (Jain & Zhu 2008, PhysRevD 78, 063503)

$$ds^2 = -(1 + 2\psi) dt^2 + (1 - 2\phi) a^2(t) d\vec{x}^2$$

- $\phi$  is the curvature perturbation and  $\psi$  is the potential perturbation.
- In General Relativity  $\phi = \psi$  in the absence of anisotropic stresses. A metric theory of gravity relates the two potentials above to the perturbed energy-momentum tensor. 😊  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  can be constrained with astronomical observations.

# Cosmology with LSST: dark energy vs. modified gravity



Reyes et al. (2010, Nature 464, 256)

- $E_G$  combines 3 measures of large-scale structure: galaxy-galaxy lensing ( $\varphi+\psi$ ), galaxy clustering ( $\varphi$ ) and galaxy velocities (from galaxy redshifts; measures  $G(z)$ )

- SDSS data enabled a test of GR at 15% level: it passed!

- SDSS data already excludes a model within the tensor-vector-scalar gravity theory, which modifies both Newtonian and Einstein gravity.

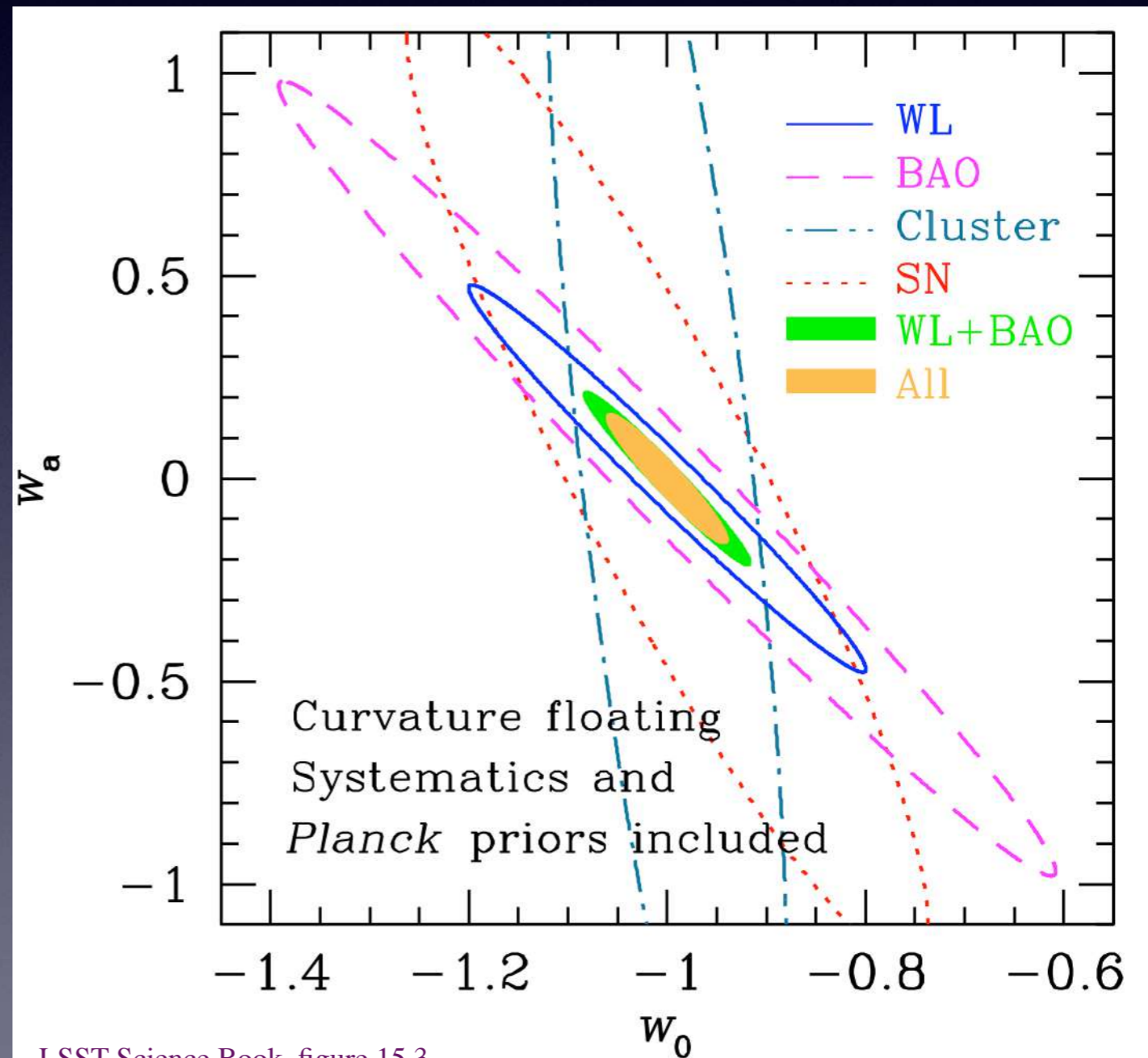
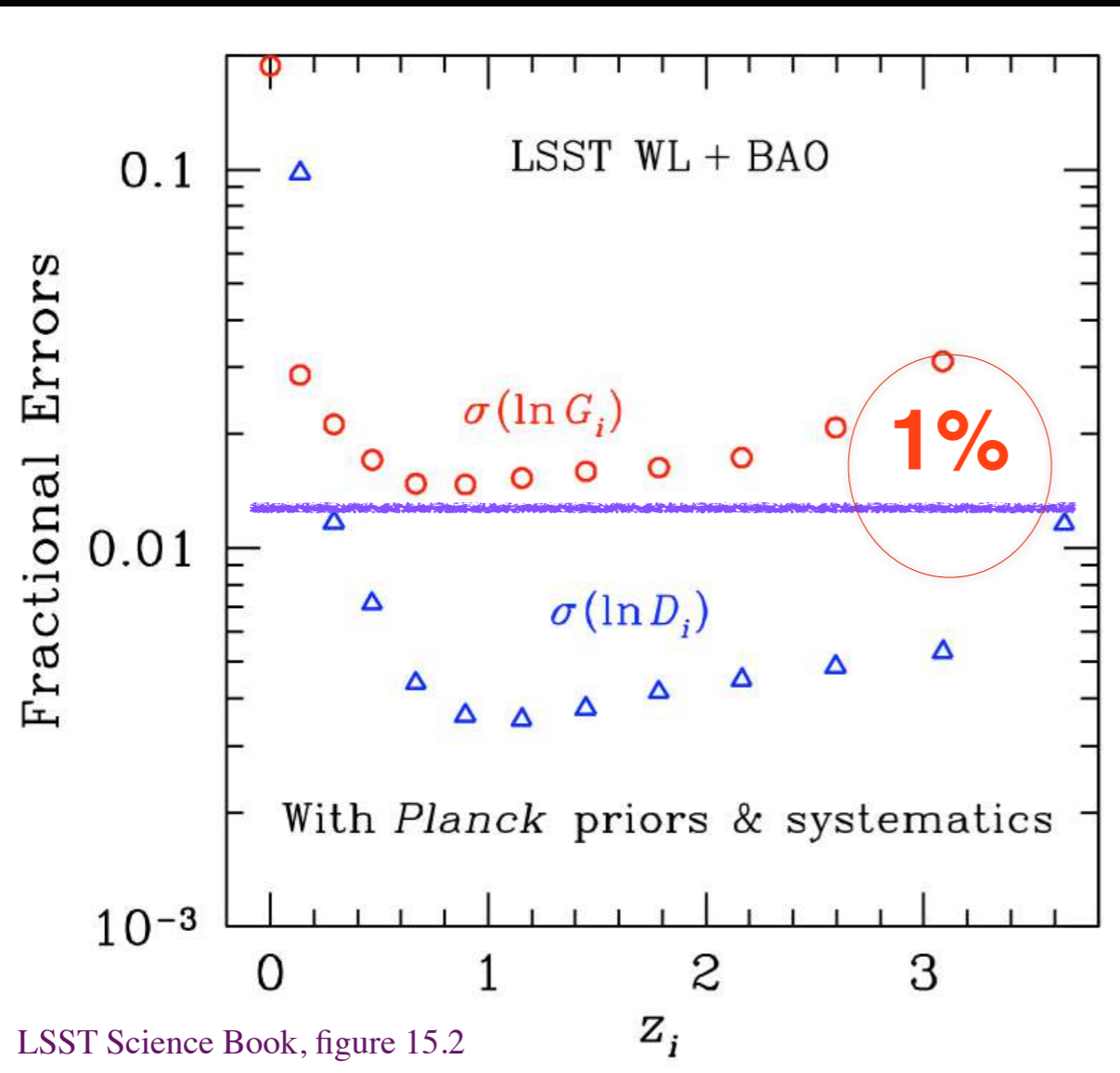
- Five times better precision needed to rule out  $f(R)$

LSST will measure  $E_G$  about 10 times more precisely and will be able to rule out a large class of modified gravity theories (or GR!)

# Cosmology with LSST: high precision measurements

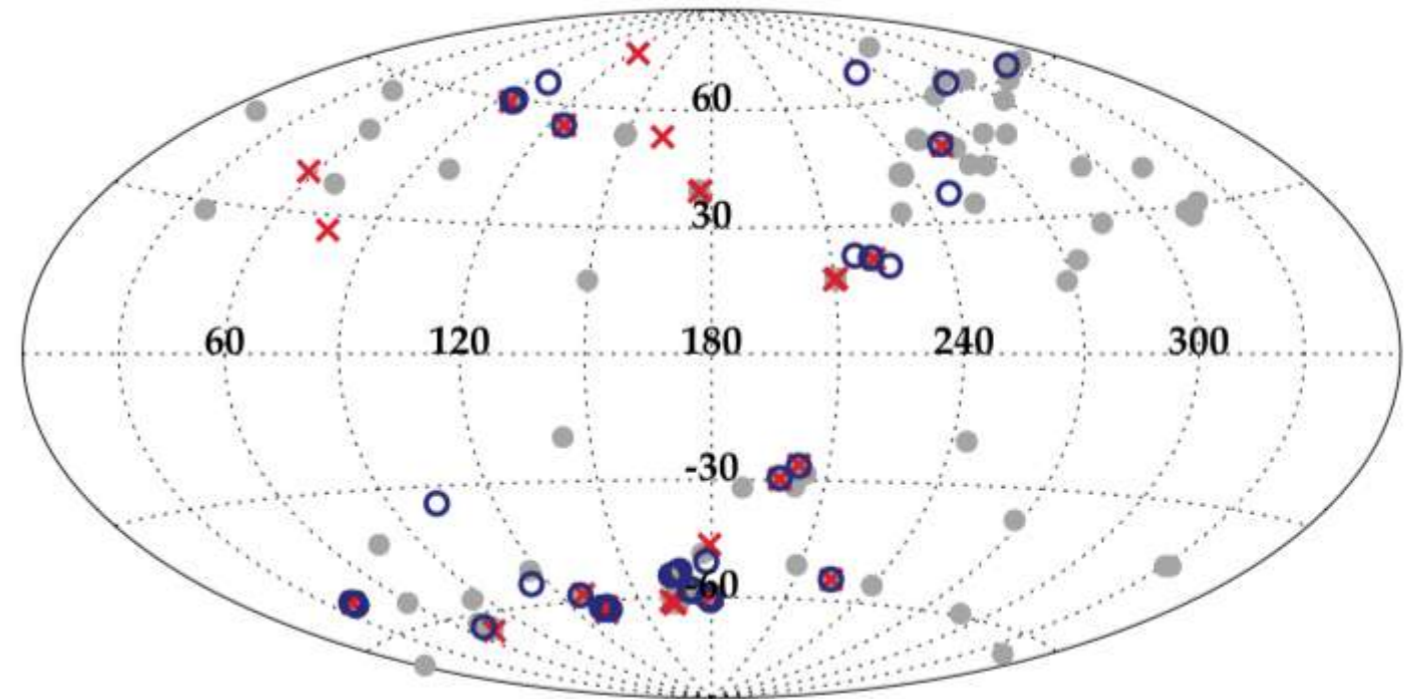
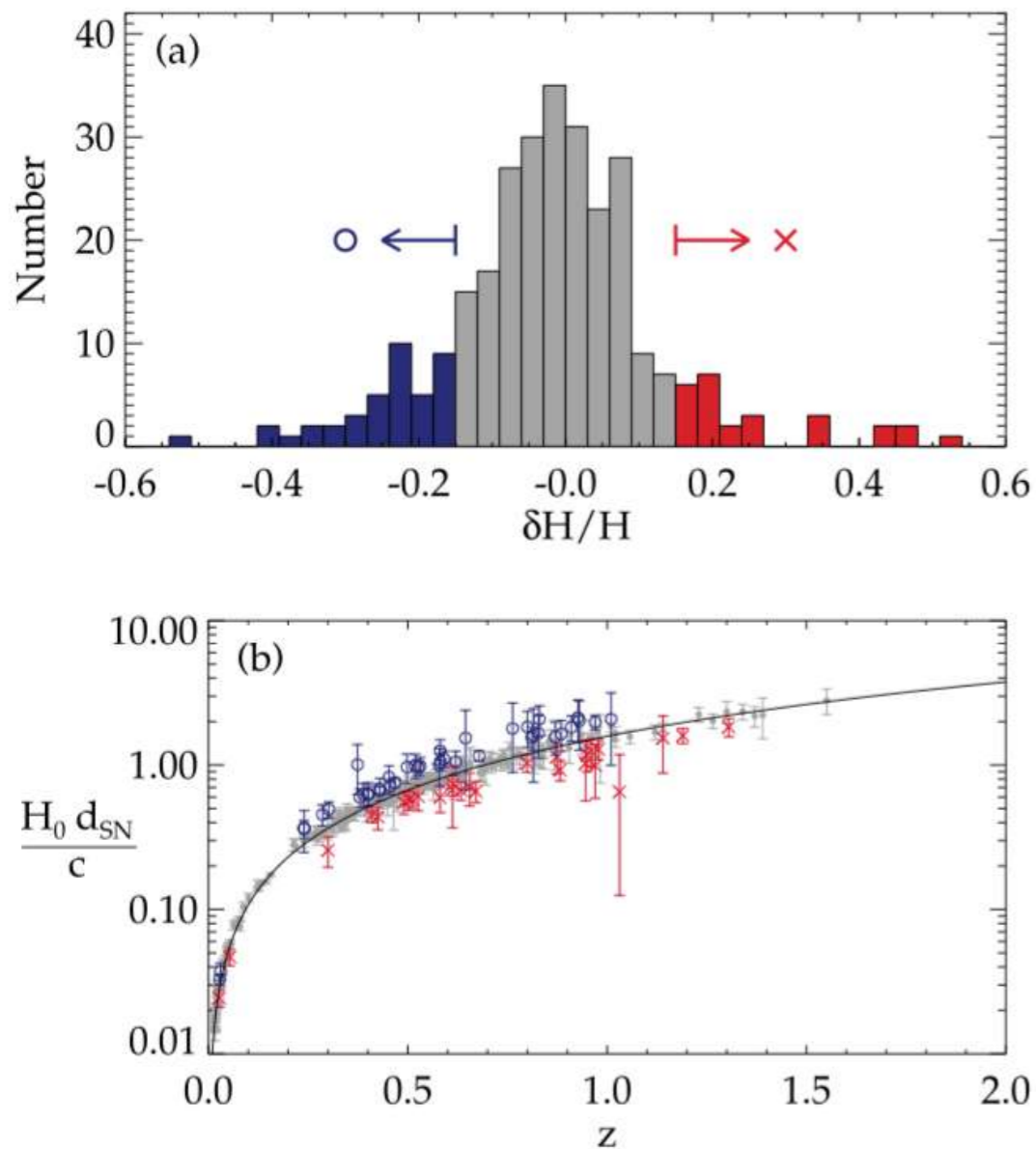
- Measuring distances,  $H(z)$ , and growth of structure,  $G(z)$ , with a percent accuracy for  $0.5 < z < 3$

- Multiple probes is the key!



By simultaneously measuring growth of structure and curvature, LSST data will tell us whether the recent acceleration is due to **dark energy or modified gravity**.

# Cosmology with LSST SNe: is the cosmic acceleration the same in all directions?



**Figure 1.** A projection of the spatial distribution of the Union SNe Ia sample in Galactic coordinates. Note the relative uniformity of the points, except around the Galactic plane. The symbols correspond to those in Fig. 2, and are explained in Section 3.1.

Cooke & Lynden-Bell (2009, MNRAS 401, 1409)

Is there spatial structure in the SNe distance modulus residuals for the concordance model?

- Even a single supernova represents a cosmological measurement!
- LSST will obtain light curves for several million Type Ia supernovae!

# LSST, WFIRST and Euclid are highly complementary missions.

## WFIRST:

2,200 sq.deg

$m_5 \sim 27$

$\sim 0.12$  arcsec

$\sim 2025-2031$

$r_{1/2}$

PSF

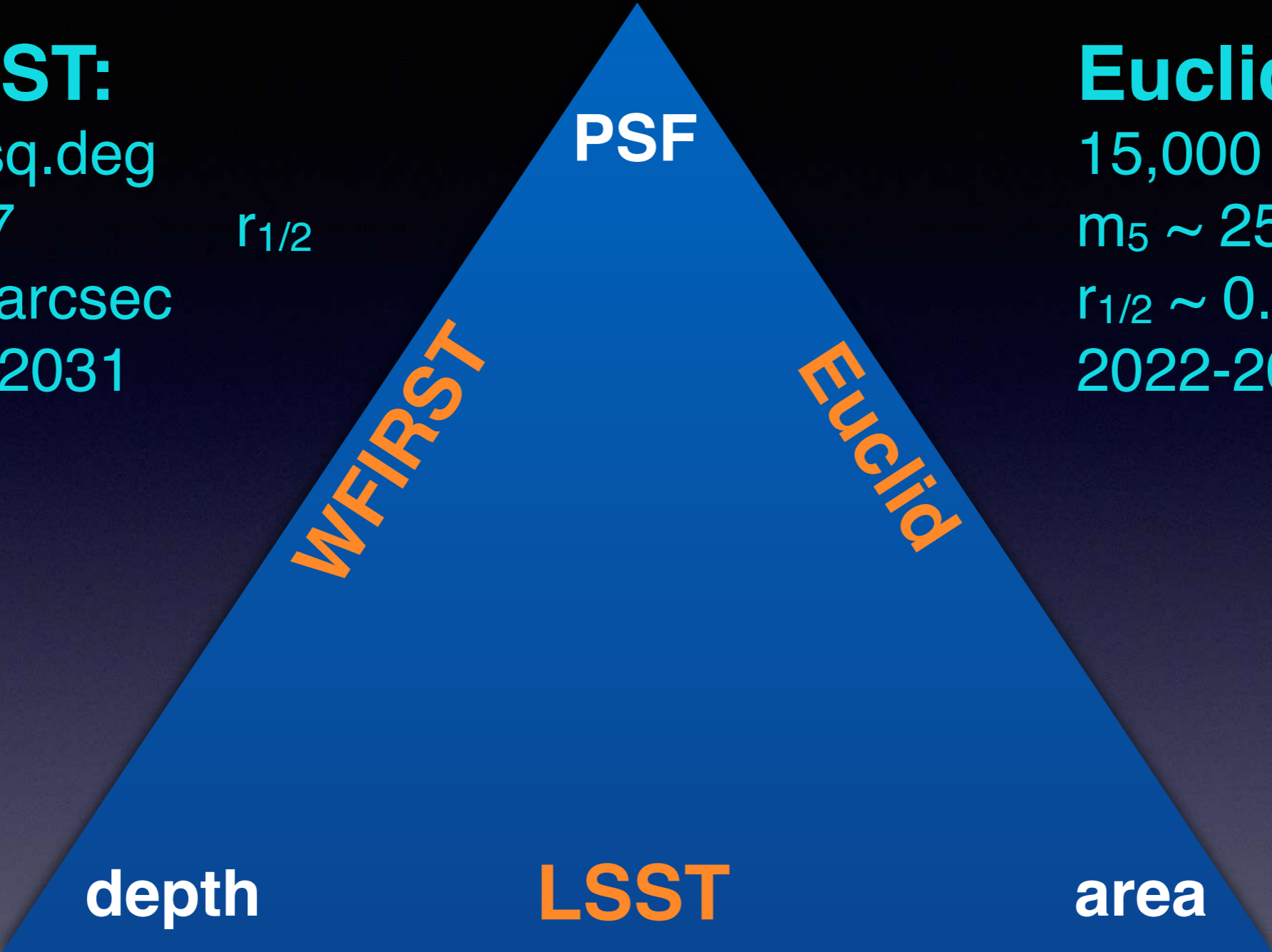
## Euclid:

15,000 sq.deg

$m_5 \sim 25$

$r_{1/2} \sim 0.13$  arcsec

2022-2028



## LSST

18,000 sq.deg

$m_5 \sim 27$

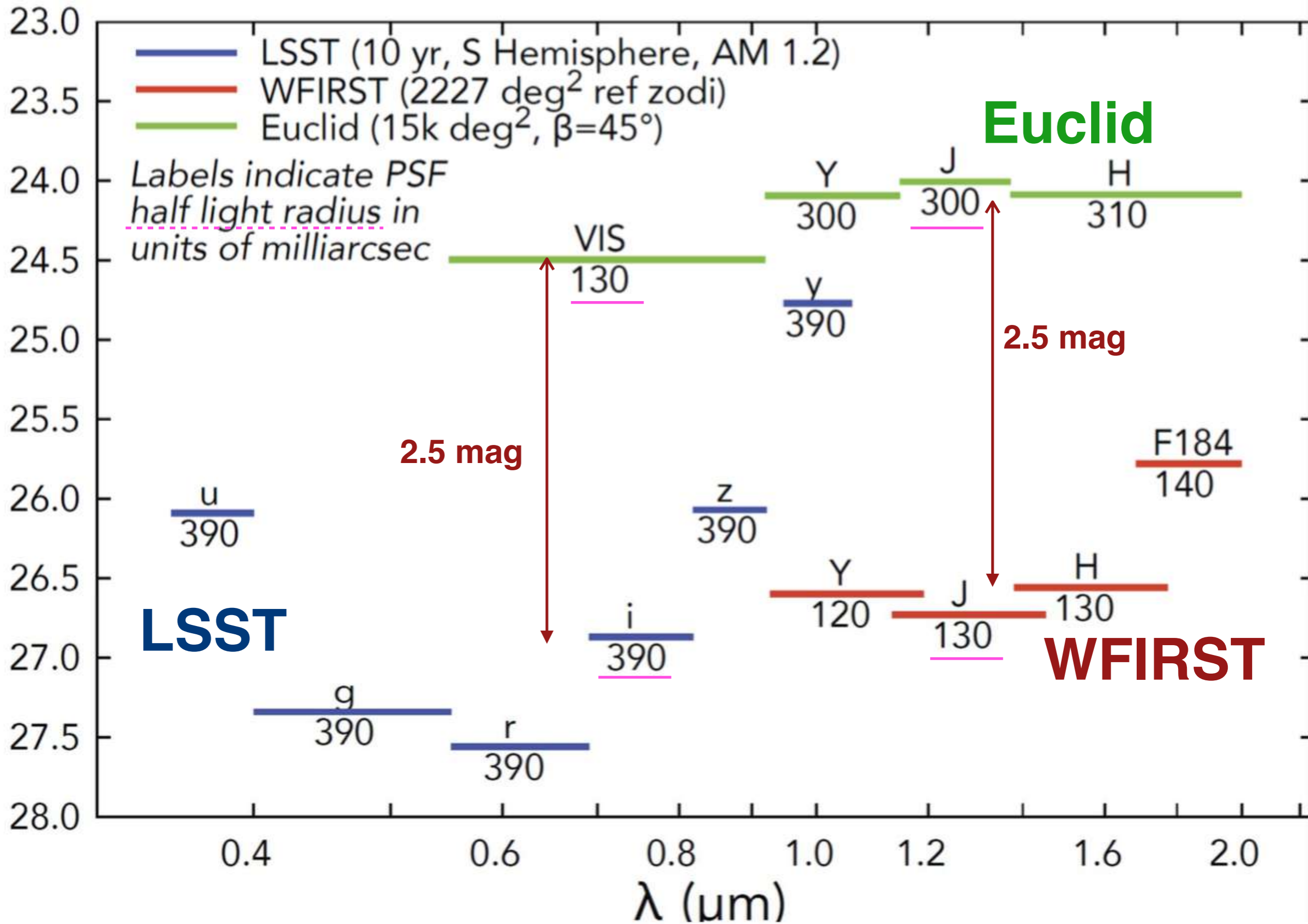
$r_{1/2} \sim 0.4$  arcsec

2022-2032



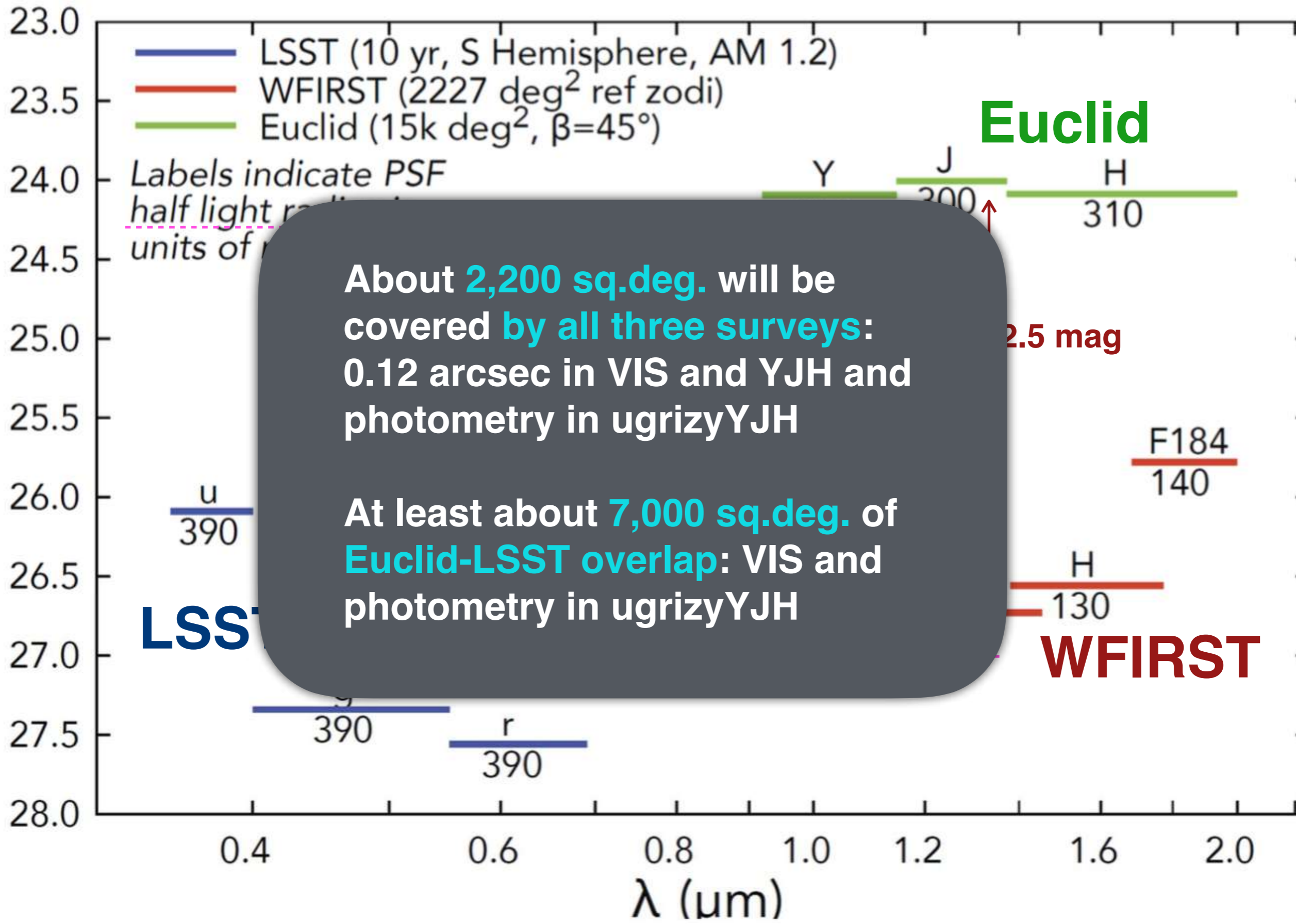
# Sensitivities of LSST, WFIRST, and Euclid

5 $\sigma$  pt src threshold (AB mag)



# Sensitivities of LSST, WFIRST, and Euclid

5 $\sigma$  pt src threshold (AB mag)



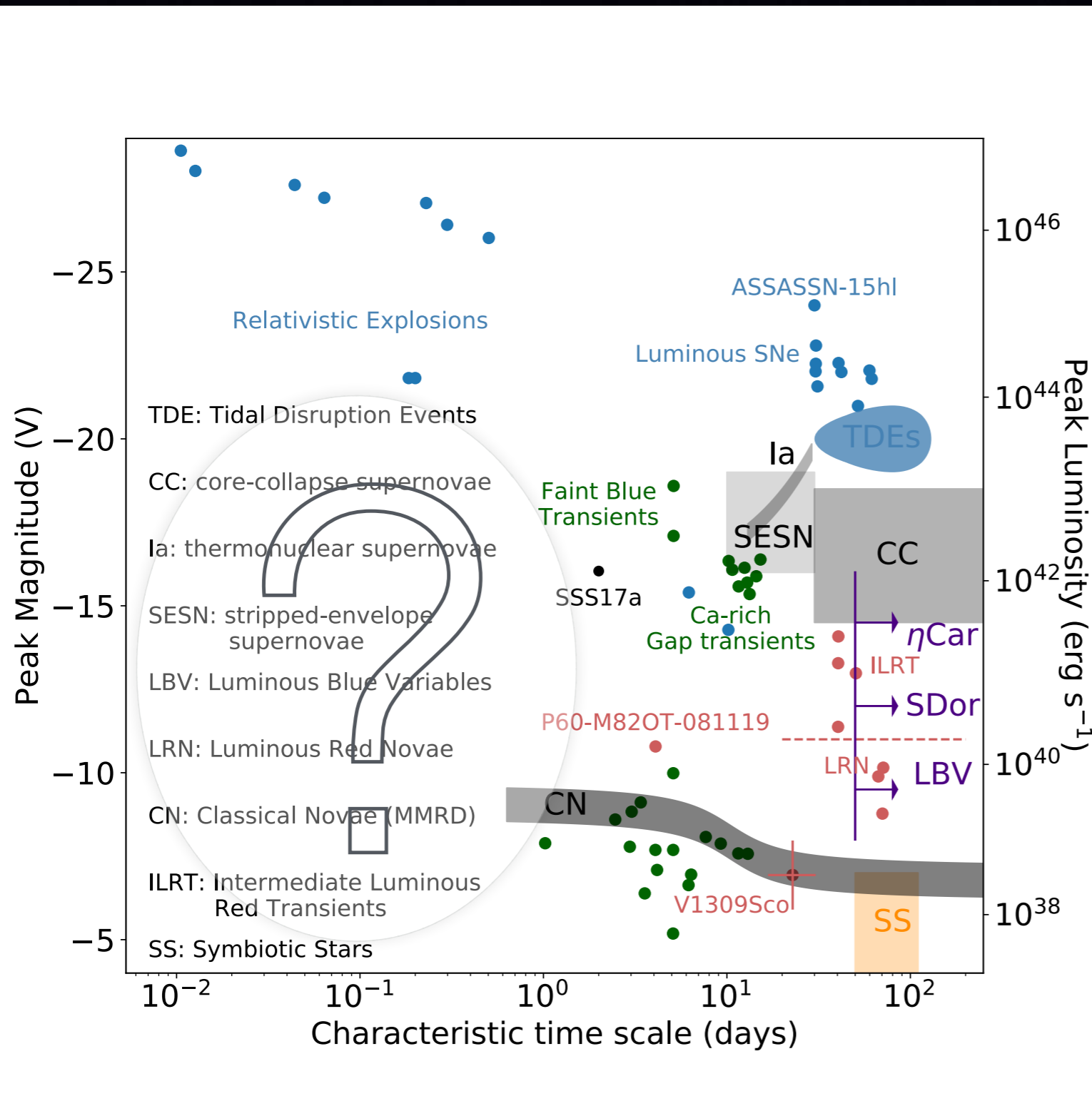
About **2,200 sq.deg.** will be covered **by all three surveys:** 0.12 arcsec in VIS and YJH and photometry in ugrizyYJH

At least about **7,000 sq.deg.** of **Euclid-LSST overlap:** VIS and photometry in ugrizyYJH

# Time Domain: objects changing in time

positions: asteroids and stellar proper motions

brightness: cosmic explosions and variable stars



LSST will extend time-volume space a hundred times over current surveys (new classes of object?):  
**multi-messenger astrophysics**

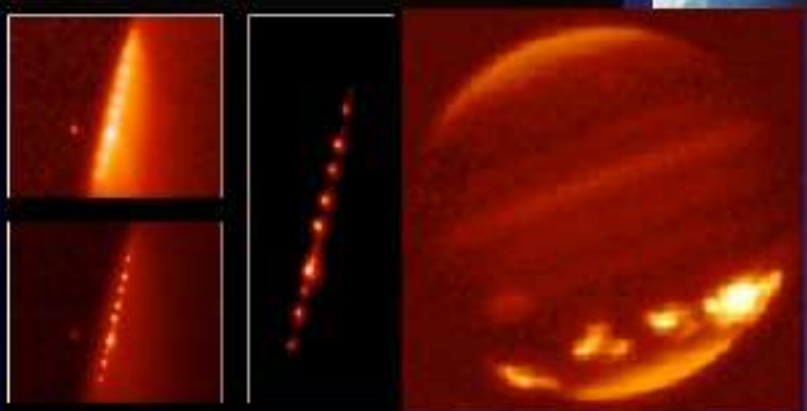
known unknowns  
unknown unknowns

# Killer asteroids: the impact probability is not 0!



photomontage!

LSST is the only survey capable of delivering completeness specified in the 2005 USA Congressional NEO mandate to NASA (to find 90% NEOs larger than 140m)



Shoemaker-Levy 9 (1994)

Tunguska (1908)

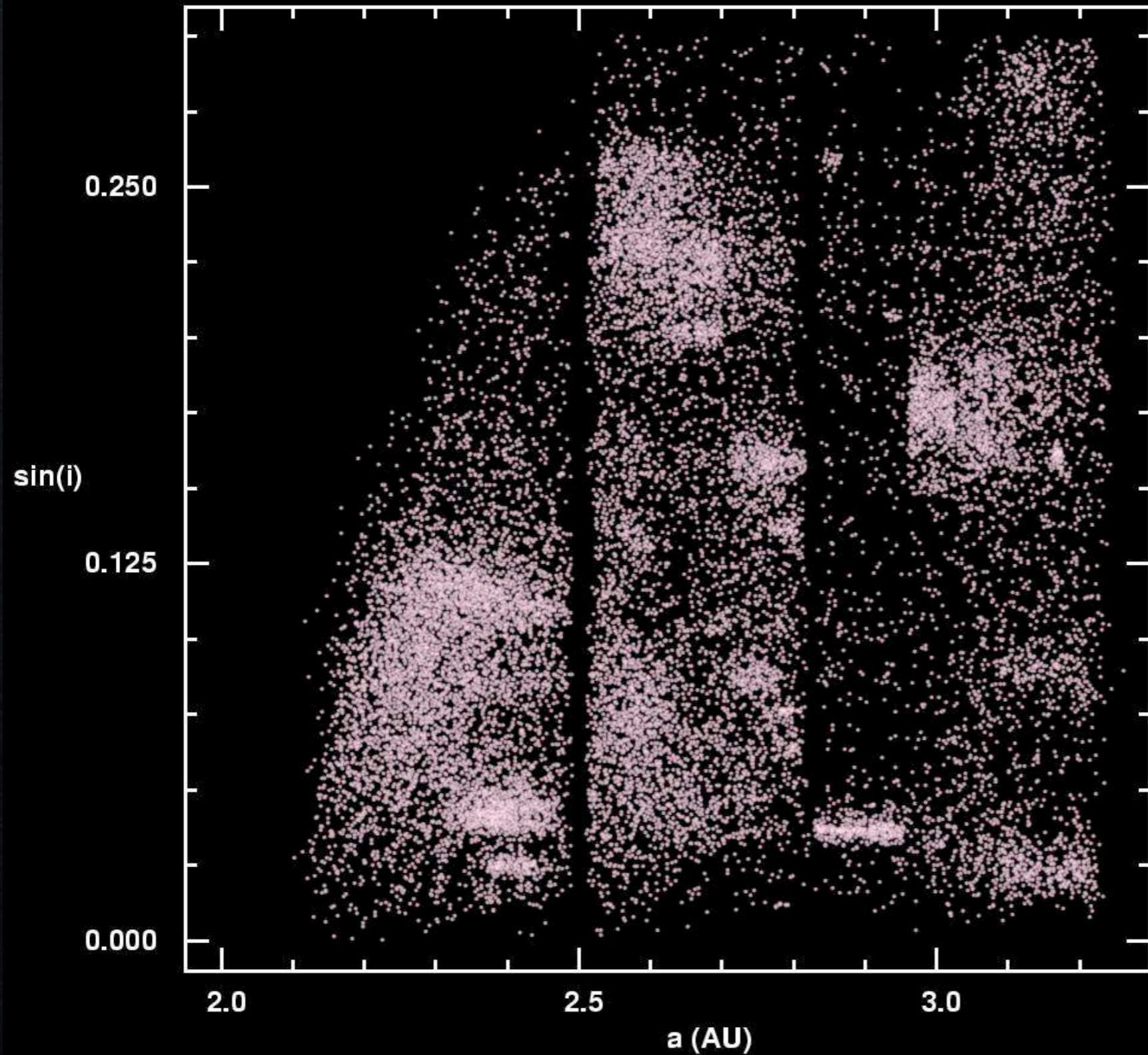


The Barringer Crater, Arizona: a 40m object 50,000 yr. ago



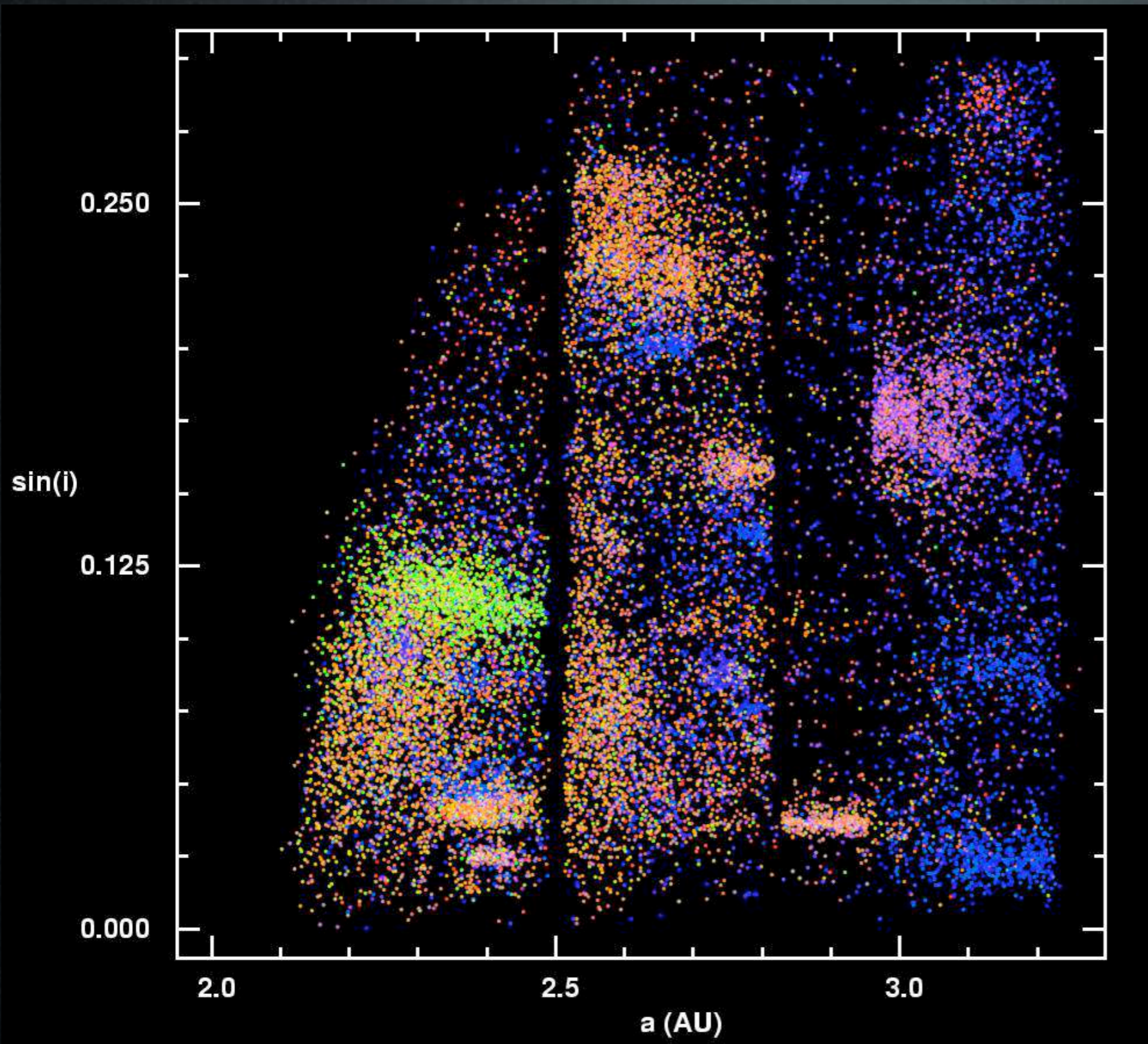
photomontage!

# Main-belt Inventory



30,000  
Asteroids with  
SDSS colors and  
proper  
orbital elements  
(Ivezic, Juric, Lupton 2002)

# Main-belt Inventory

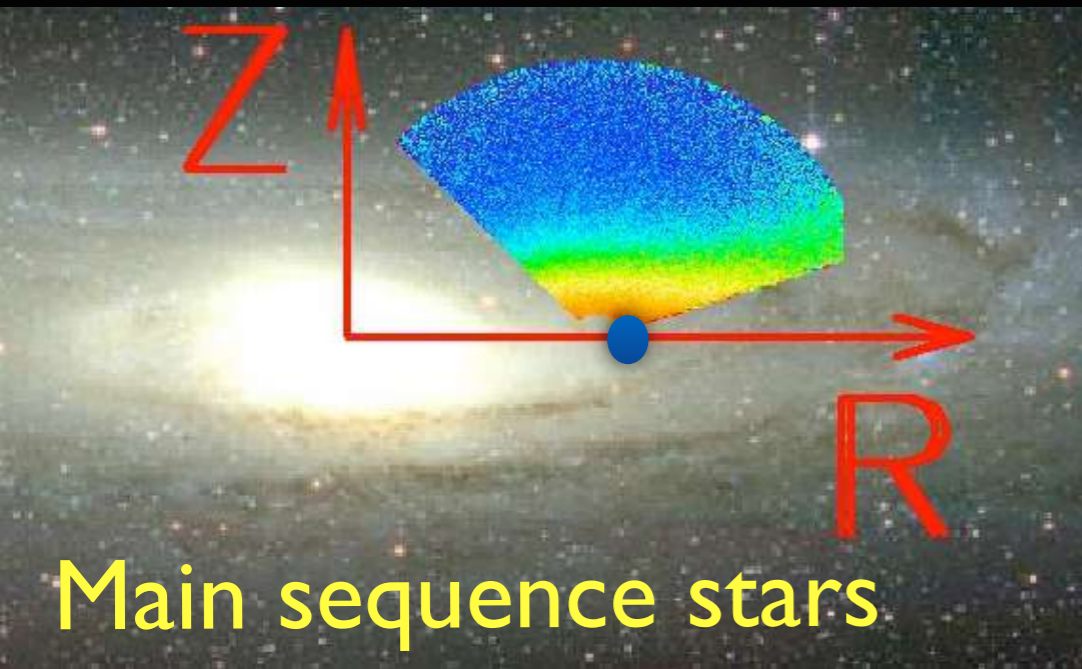


30,000  
Asteroids with  
SDSS colors and  
proper  
orbital elements  
(Ivezic, Juric, Lupton 2002)

Color-coded with  
SDSS colors

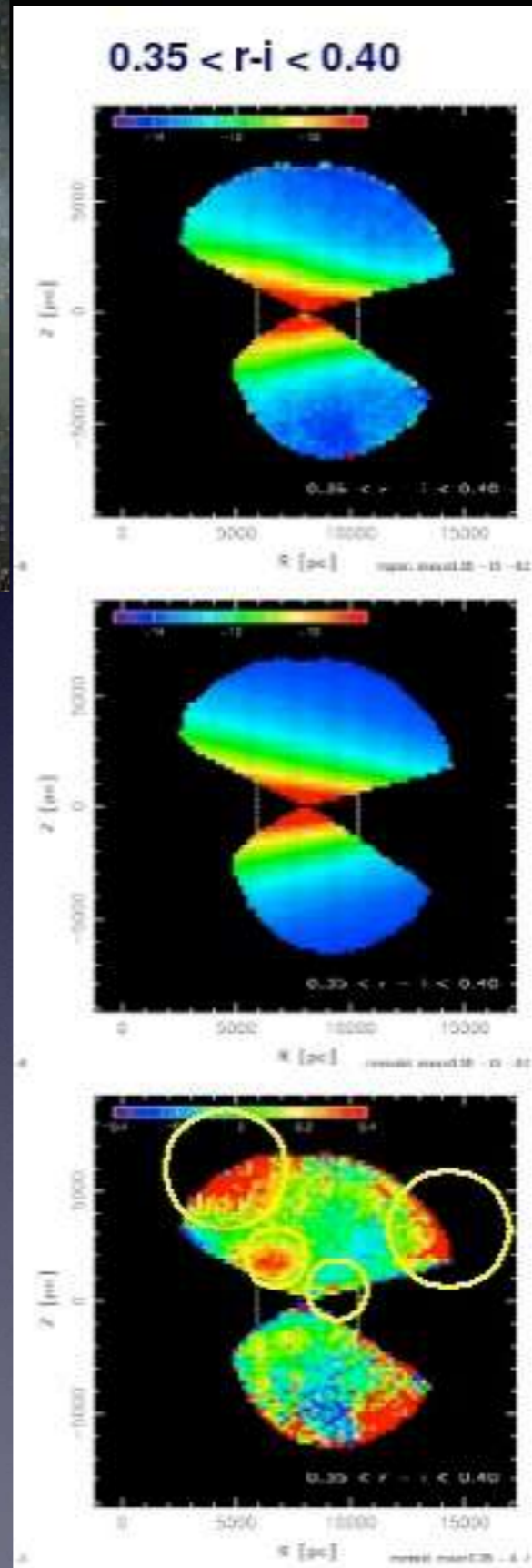
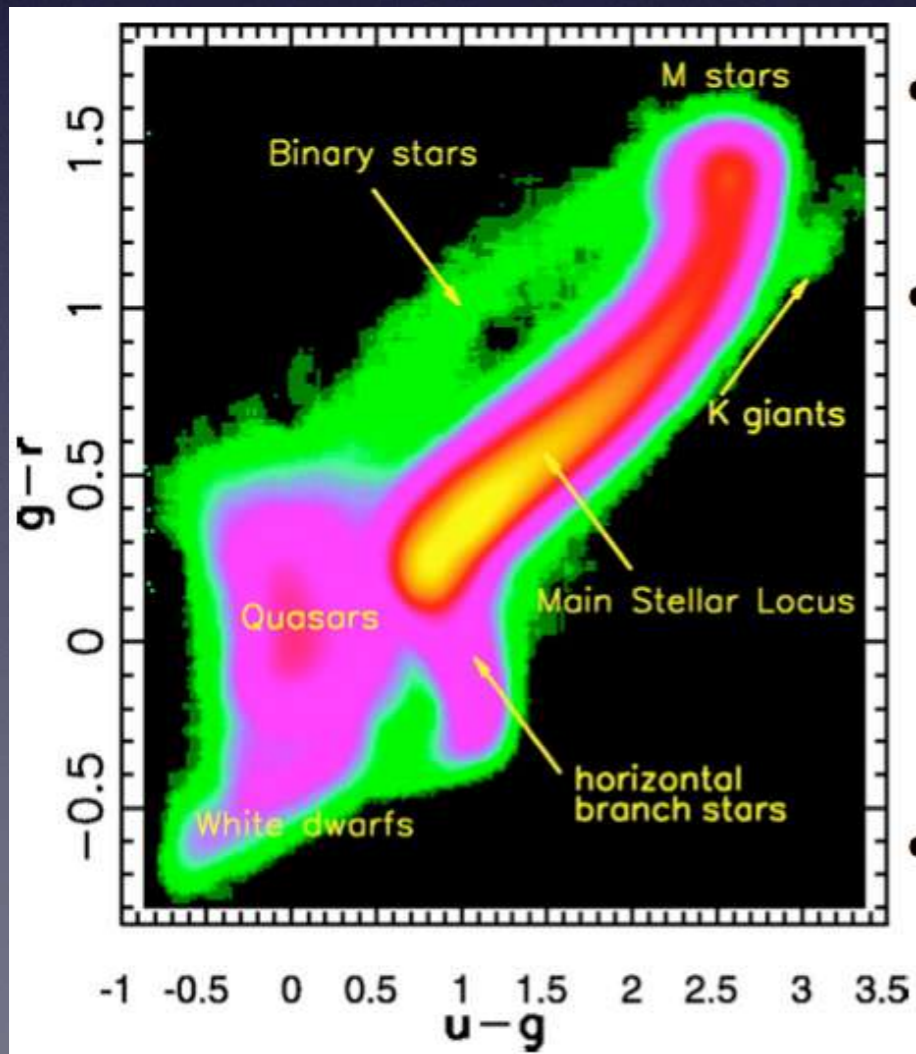
Colors help with the definition of asteroid families.  
LSST will also provide color light curves!

# The Milky Way structure: 20 billion stars, time domain massive statistical studies!



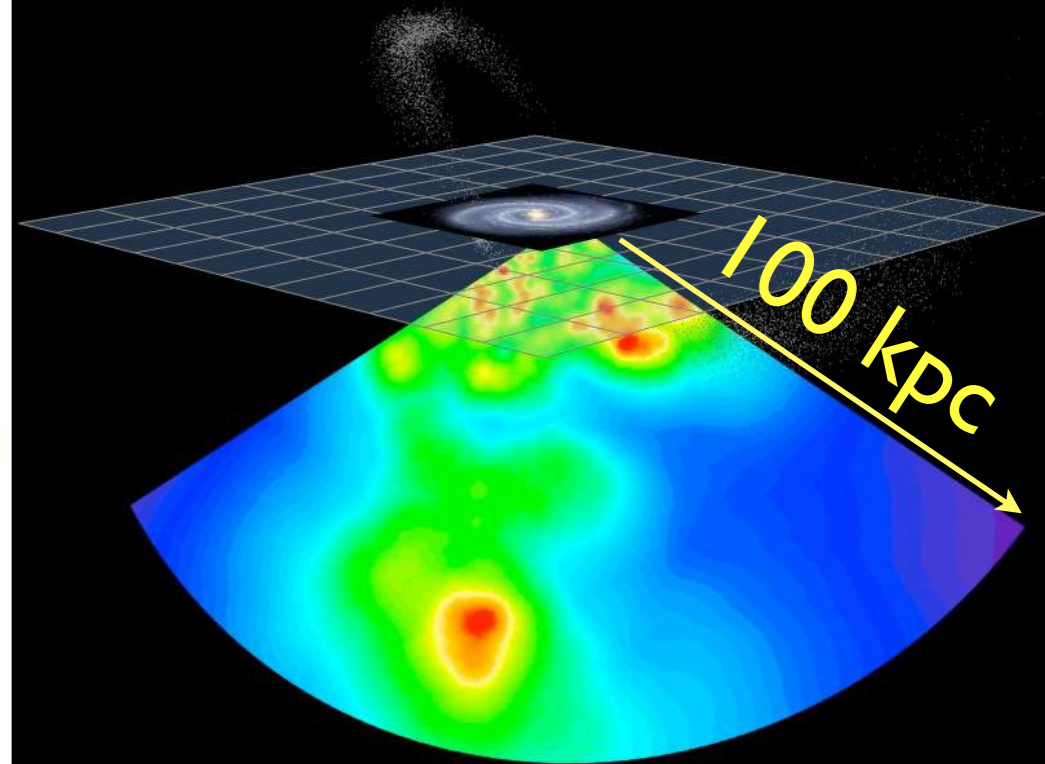
Main sequence stars

Distance and [Fe/H]:



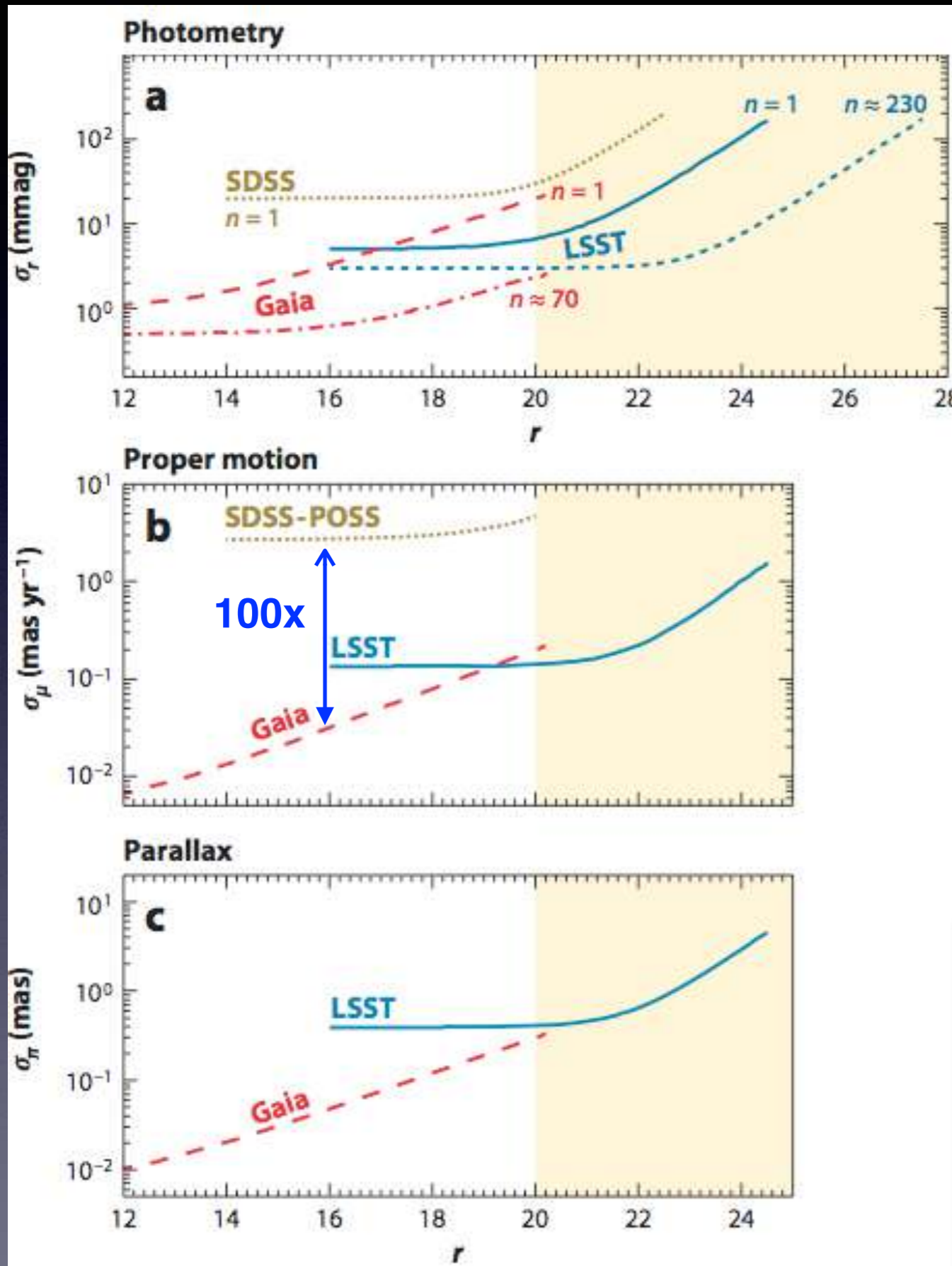
Sesar et al. (2009)

Compared to SDSS: LSST can “see” about 40 times more stars, 10 times further away and over twice as large sky area



SDSS RR Lyrae

# Gaia vs. LSST comparison



- **Gaia:** excellent astrometry (and photometry), but only to  $r < 20$
- **LSST:** photometry to  $r < 27.5$  and time resolved measurements to  $r < 24.5$
- Complementarity of the two surveys: photometric, proper motion and trigonometric parallax errors are similar around  $r=20$

The Milky Way disk “belongs” to Gaia, and the halo to LSST (plus very faint and/or very red sources, such as white dwarfs and LT(Y) dwarfs).



The large blue circle: the  $\sim 400$  kpc limit of future LSST studies based on RR Lyrae

The large red circle: the  $\sim 100$  kpc limit of future LSST studies (and the current limit)

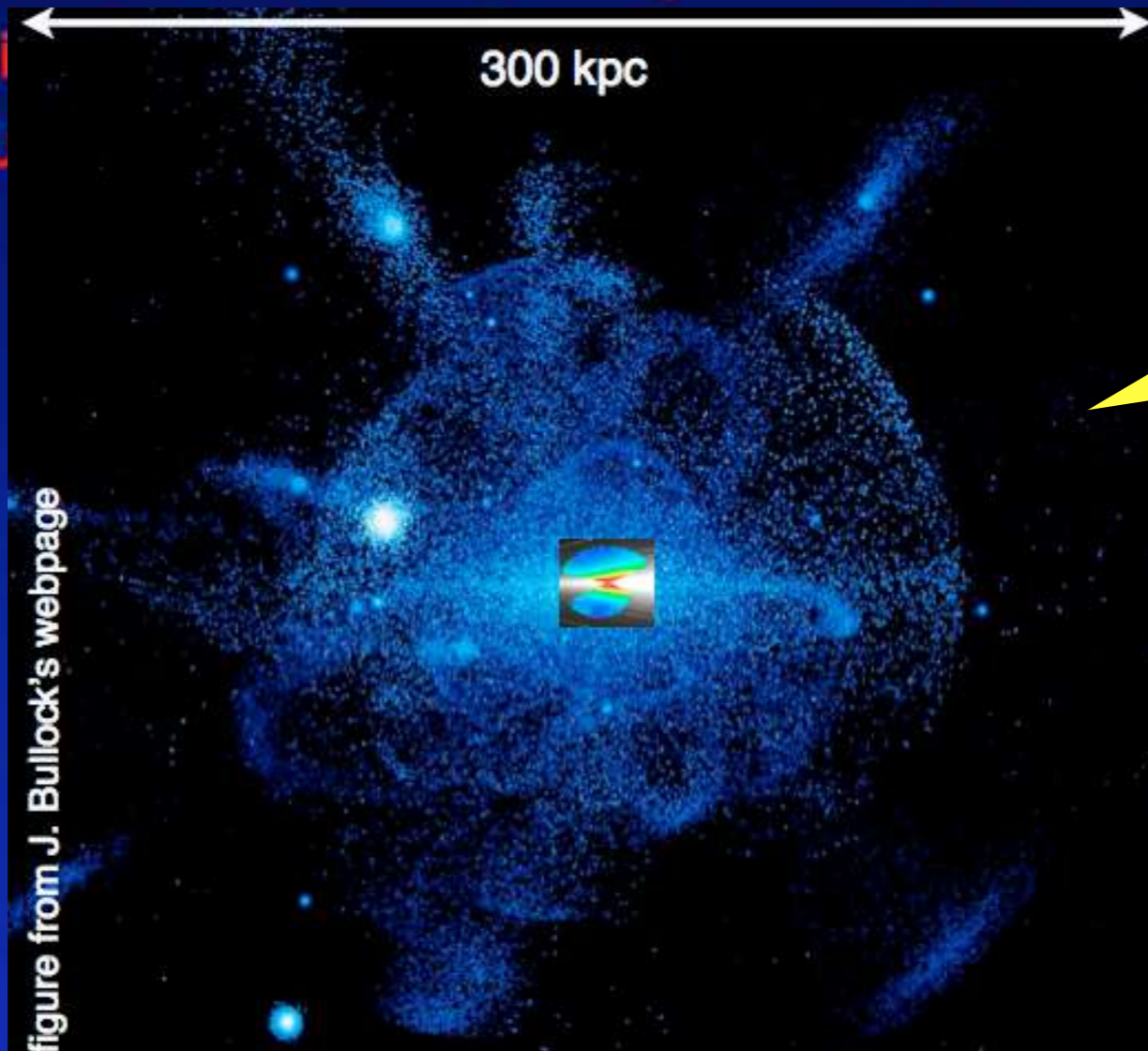


figure from J. Bullock's webpage

LSST limit for RR Lyrae: 400 kpc

200 million stars from LSST!

The small insert:  $\sim 10$  kpc limit of SDSS and future Gaia studies for kinematic &  $[Fe/H]$  mapping with MS stars



LSST: a digital color movie of the Universe...

$3.6 \times 10^{-31}$  erg/s/cm<sup>2</sup>/Hz  
36 nJy  
100x fainter than SDSS

**LSST in one sentence:**

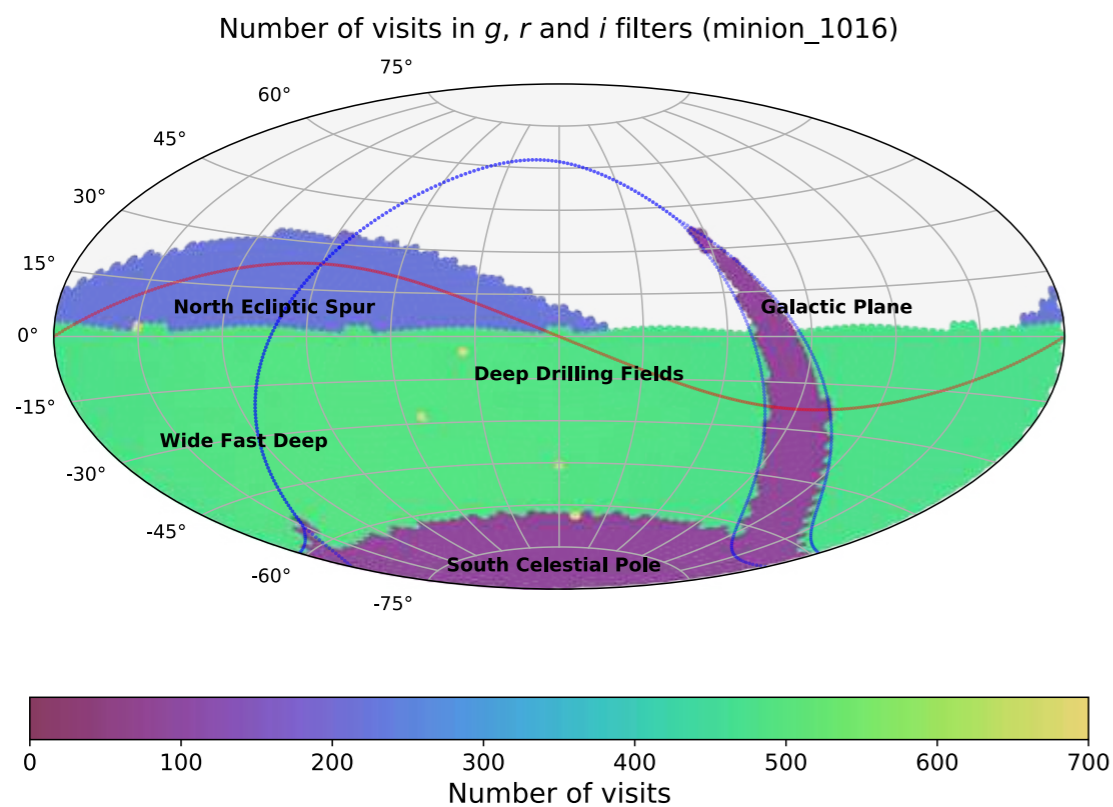
An optical/near-IR survey of half the sky in ugrizy bands to  $r \sim 27.5$  based on  $\sim 1000$  visits over a 10-year period:

A catalog of 20 billion stars and 20 billion galaxies with exquisite photometry, astrometry and image quality!

**More information at**  
**[www.lsst.org](http://www.lsst.org)**  
**and [arXiv:0805.2366](https://arxiv.org/abs/0805.2366)**

# Basic idea behind LSST: a **uniform sky survey**

- **90% of time will be spent on a uniform survey:** every 3-4 nights, the whole observable sky will be scanned twice per night
- **after 10 years, half of the sky will be imaged about 1000 times (in 6 bandpasses, ugrizy):** a digital color movie of the sky
- **~100 PB of data:** about a billion 16 Mpix images, enabling **measurements for 40 billion objects**



## **LSST in one sentence:**

An optical/near-IR survey of half the sky in ugrizy bands to  $r \sim 27.5$  (36 nJy) based on 825 visits over a 10-year period: **deep wide fast.**

**Left:** a 10-year simulation of LSST survey: the number of visits in the *r* band (Aitoff projection of eq. coordinates)

SDSS

gri

3.5'x3.5'

r~22.5

3 arcmin is  
1/10 of  
the full  
Moon's  
diameter

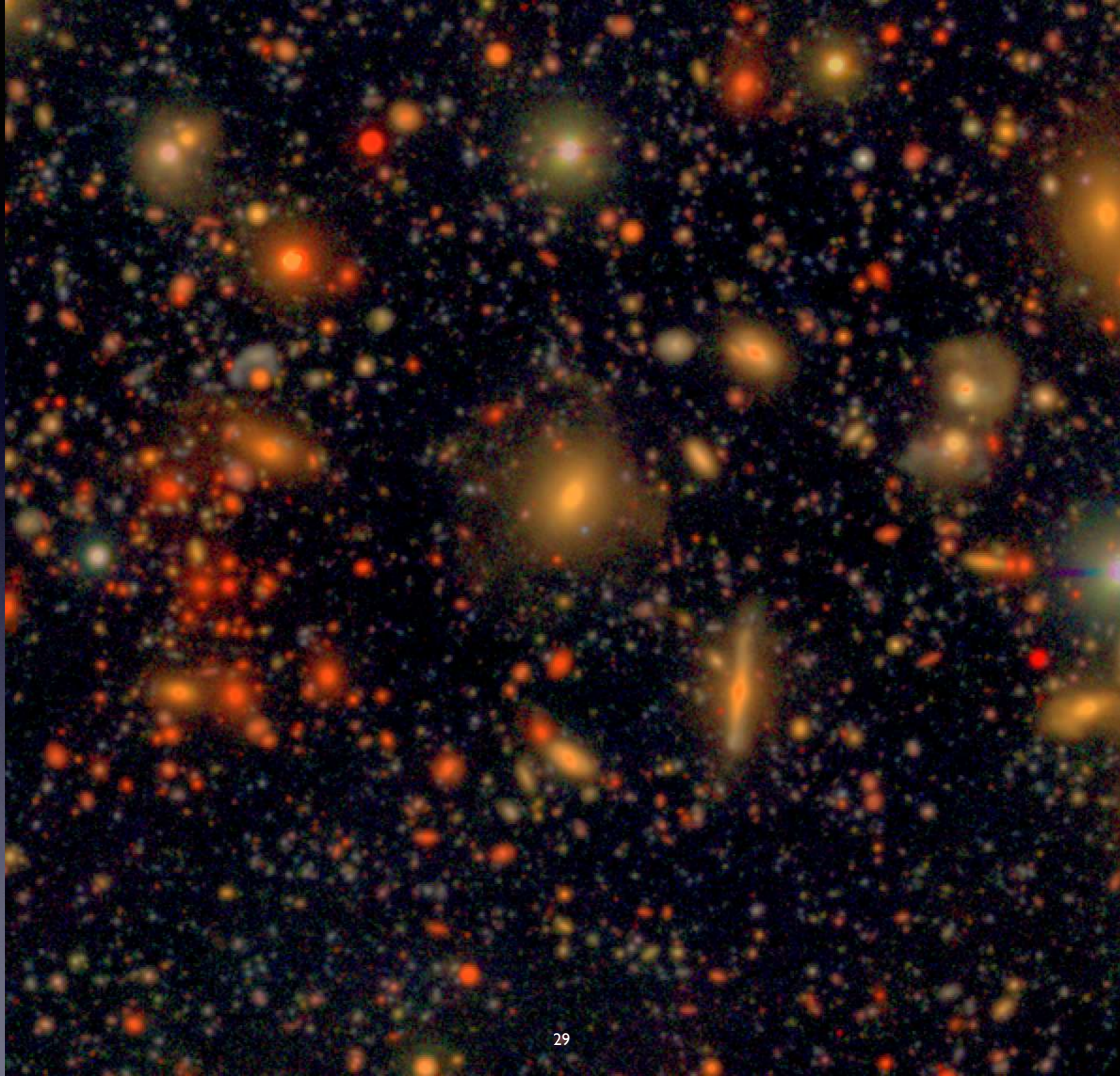


HSC  
gri  
3.5'x3.5'  
r~27

3 arcmin is  
1/10 of  
the full  
Moon's  
diameter

like LSST  
depth (but  
tiny area)

LSST will  
deliver 5  
million  
such  
images



# Extragalactic astronomy: faint surface brightness limit

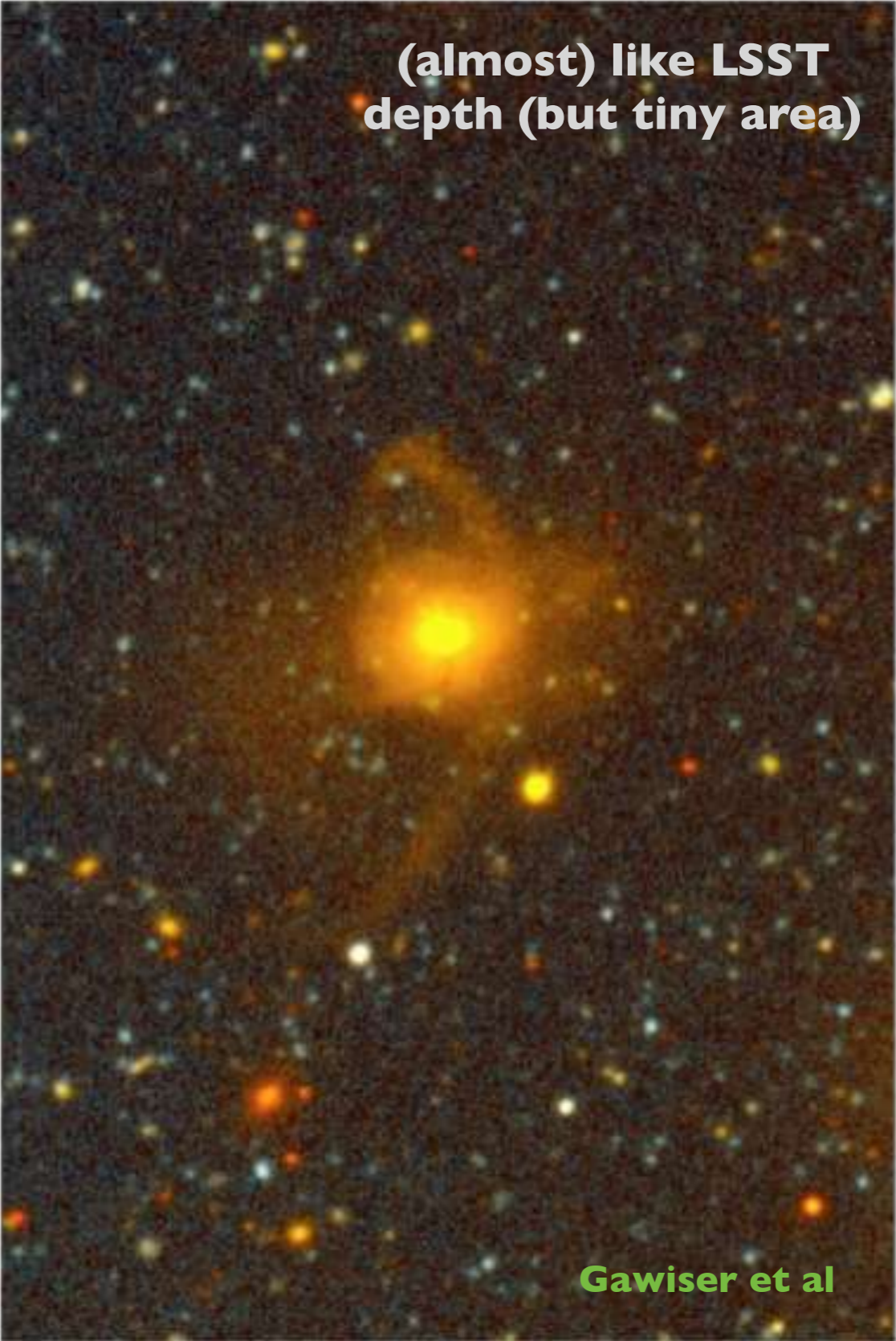
SDSS

3x3 arcmin, gri



MUSYC  $r \sim 26$

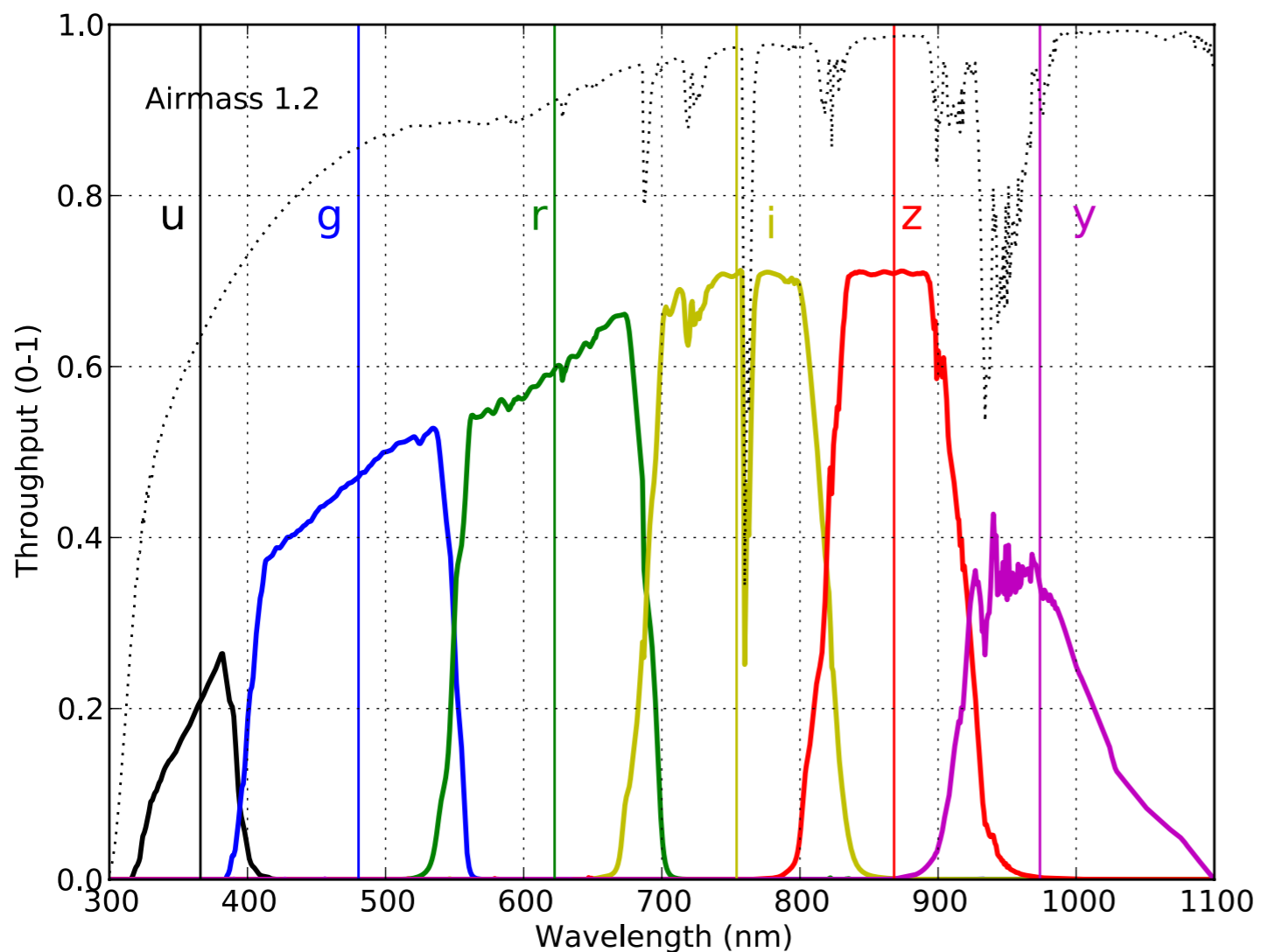
(almost) like LSST depth (but tiny area)



Gawiser et al

# Filter complement

- **Photometric redshifts for galaxies:** random errors smaller than 0.02, bias below 0.003, fewer than 10%  $>3\sigma$  outliers
- These photo-z requirements are one of the primary **drivers for the photometric depth and accuracy** of the main LSST survey (and the definition of filter complement)



**Photo-z requirements correspond to  $r \sim 27.5$**

with the following per band time allocations:

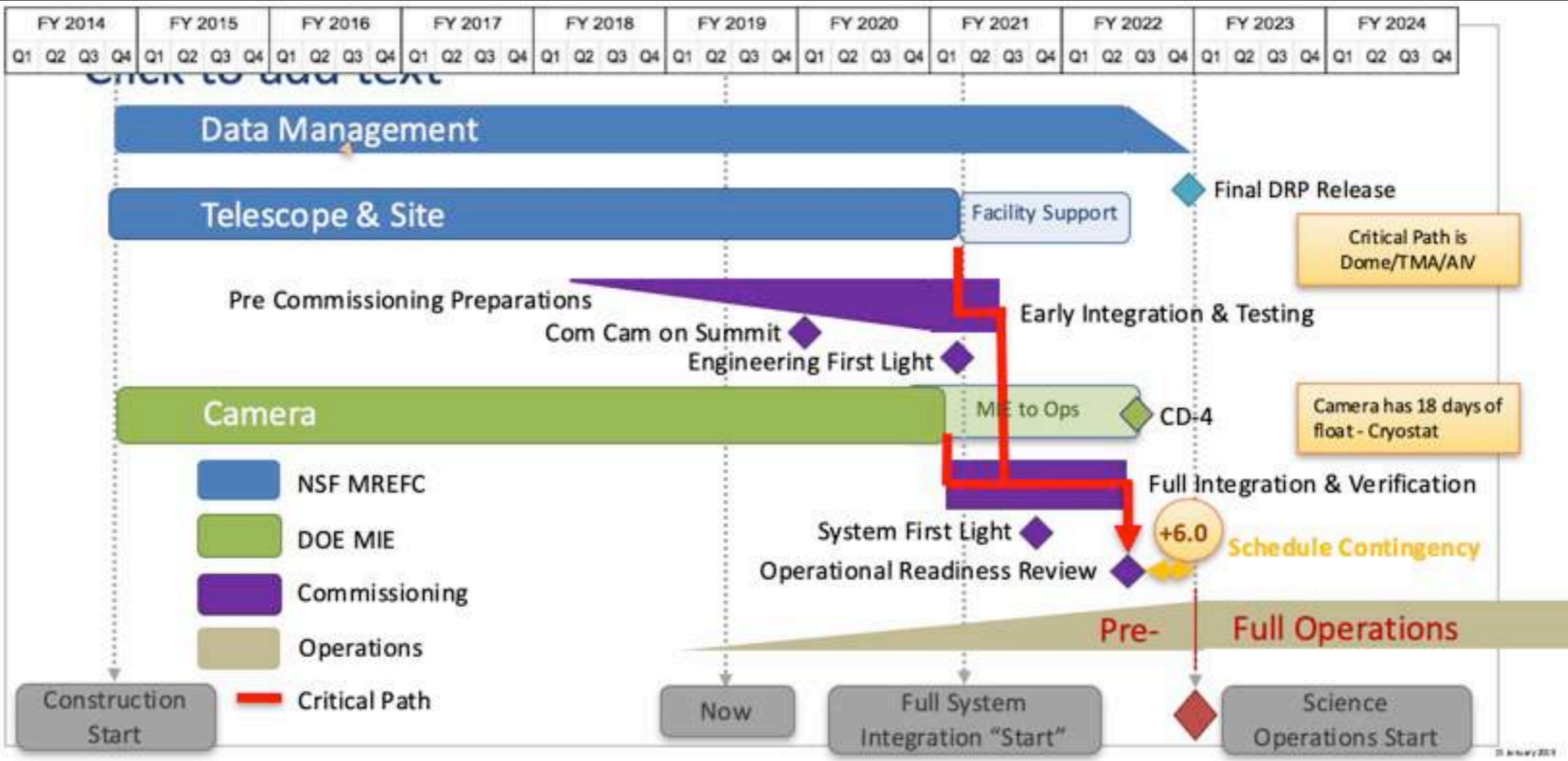
u: 8%; g: 10%

r: 22%; i: 22%

z: 19%; y: 19%

**Consistent with other science themes (stars)**

# Project Schedule as of April 28, 2019



**Start of Operations: Oct 1, 2022**



April 14, 2015



February 15, 2016



Provisional  
plywood  
walkways

Excavation for telescope  
pier foundation - rebar  
placed for pour Feb 22 to  
24

Excavation for lower  
enclosure foundation

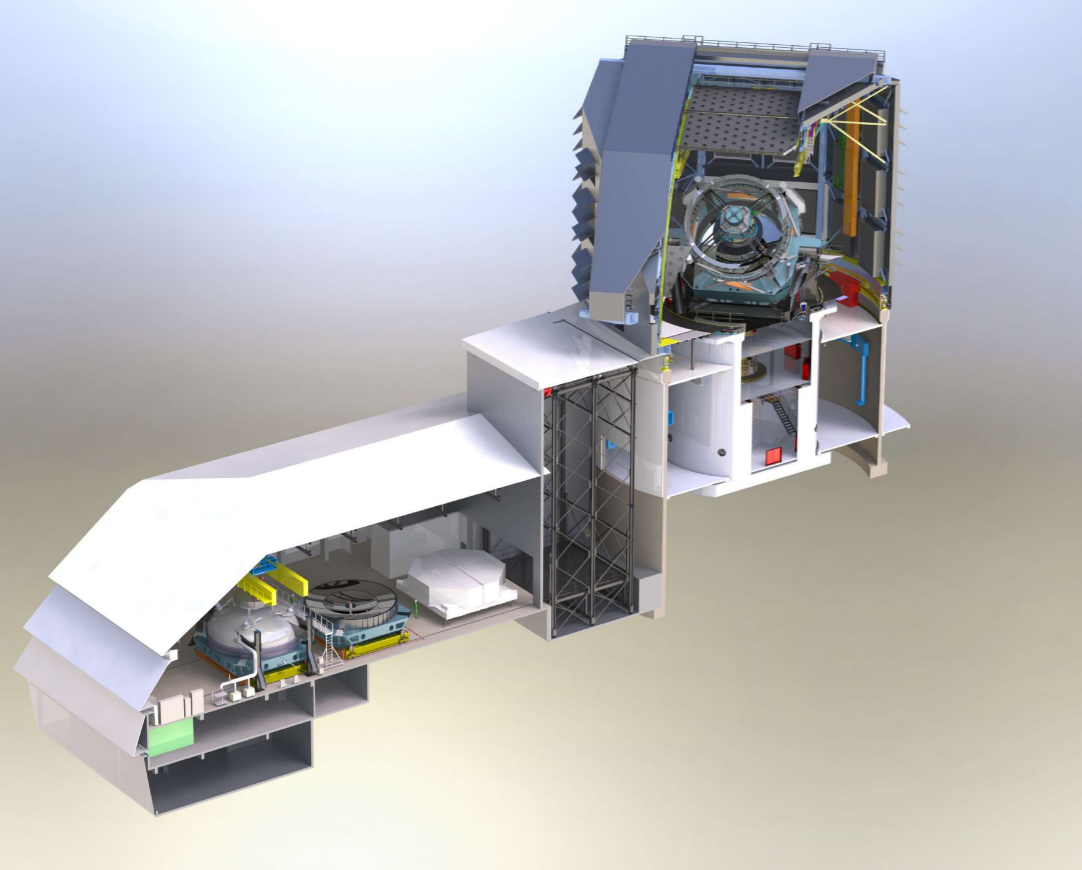
Excavation  
for platform  
lift

material  
staging

Service  
building  
concrete  
structure in  
progress

Elec.  
&  
tank  
area

Formwork for beams to  
support level 3 floor & mirror  
cart rails



Oct 17, 2017

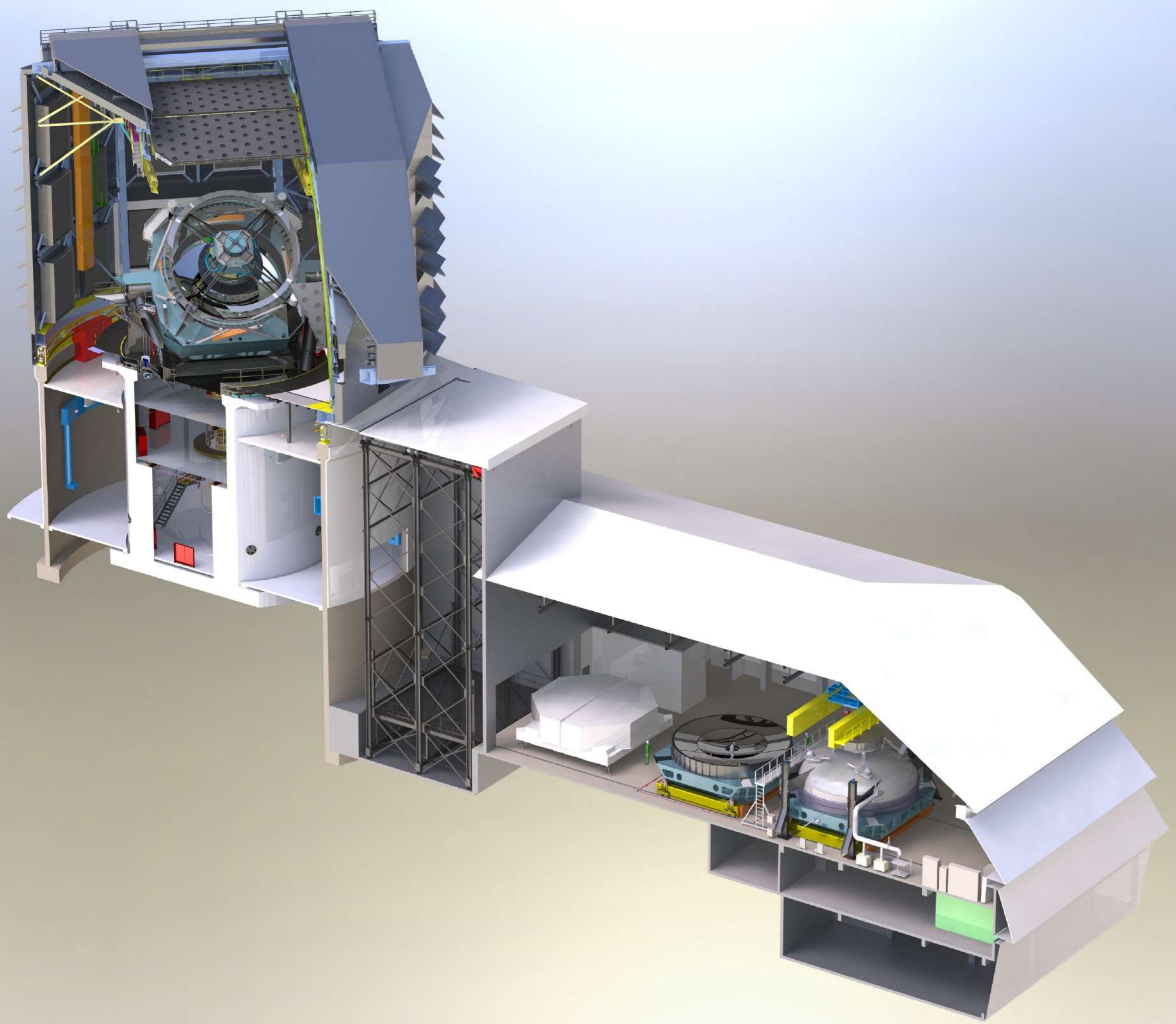


Mar 10, 2019



First light: 2021

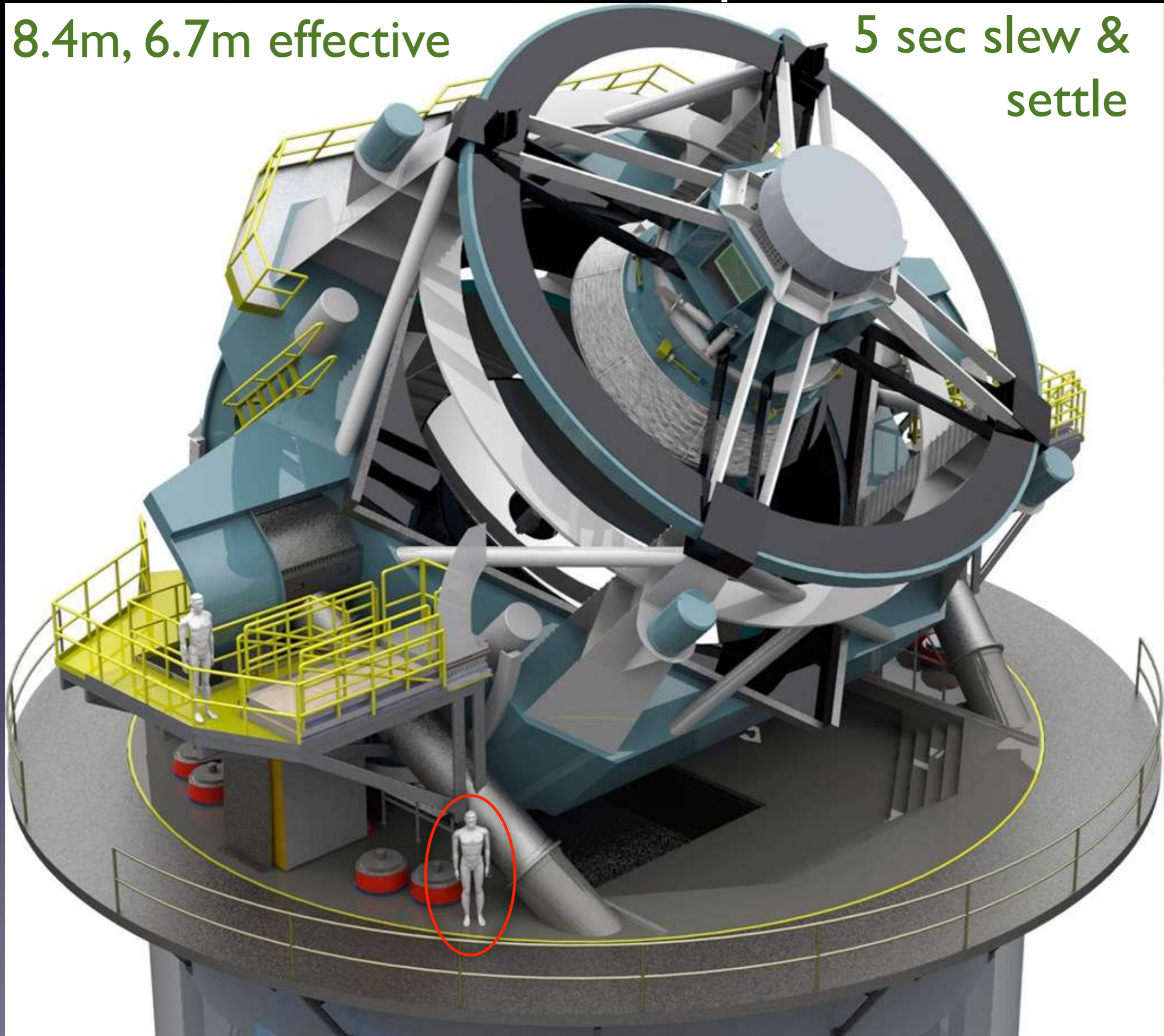




# LSST Telescope

8.4m, 6.7m effective

5 sec slew & settle





**Telescope Mount Assembly is on its way from Spain to Chile**



# The field-of-view comparison: Gemini vs. LSST

Primary Mirror Diameter

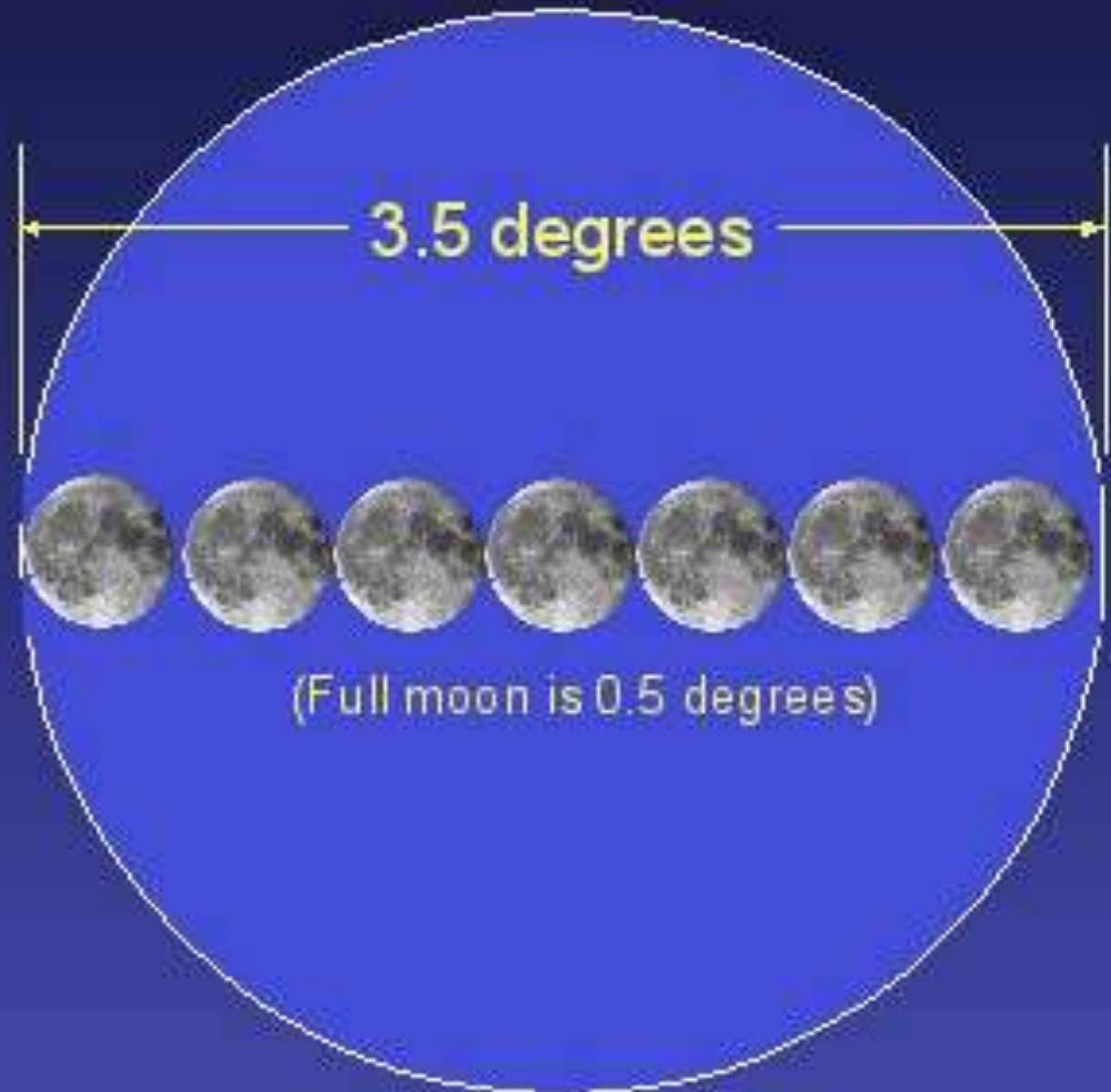
Field of View



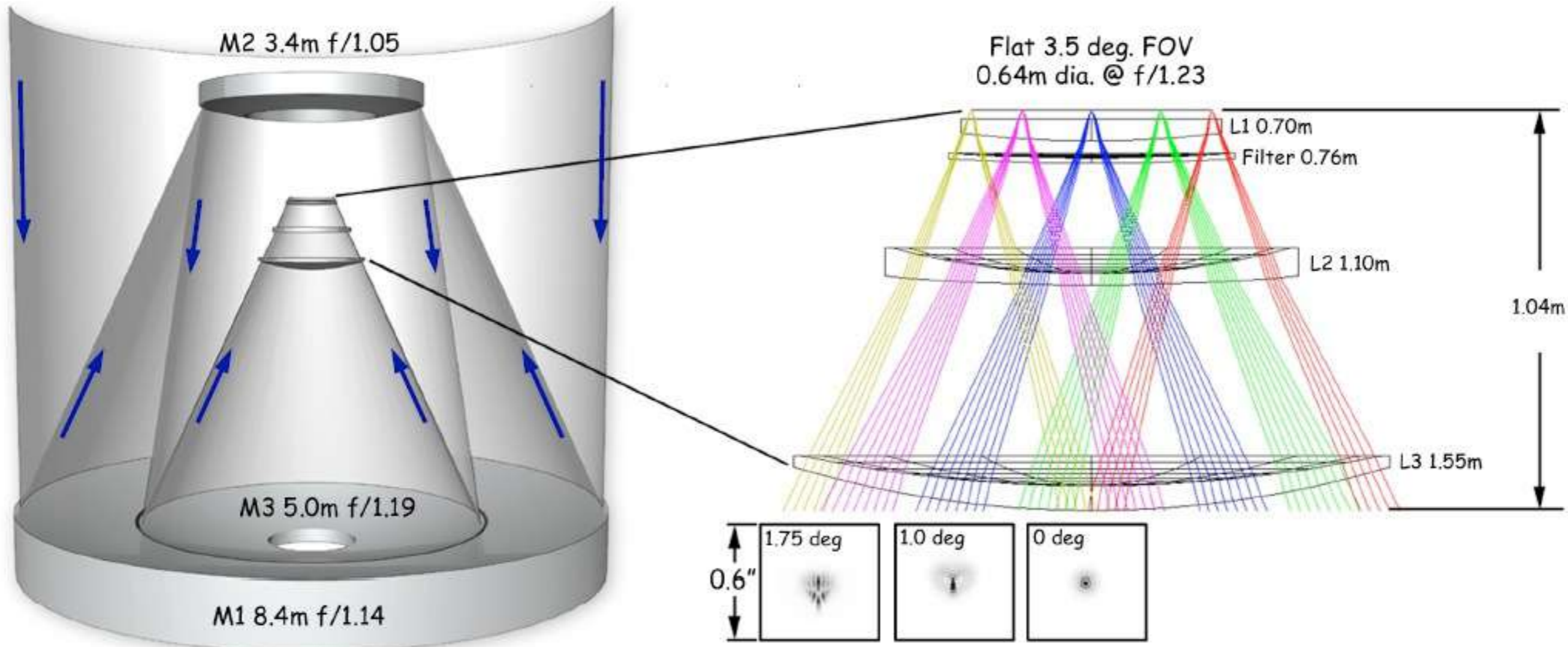
Gemini South Telescope



LSST



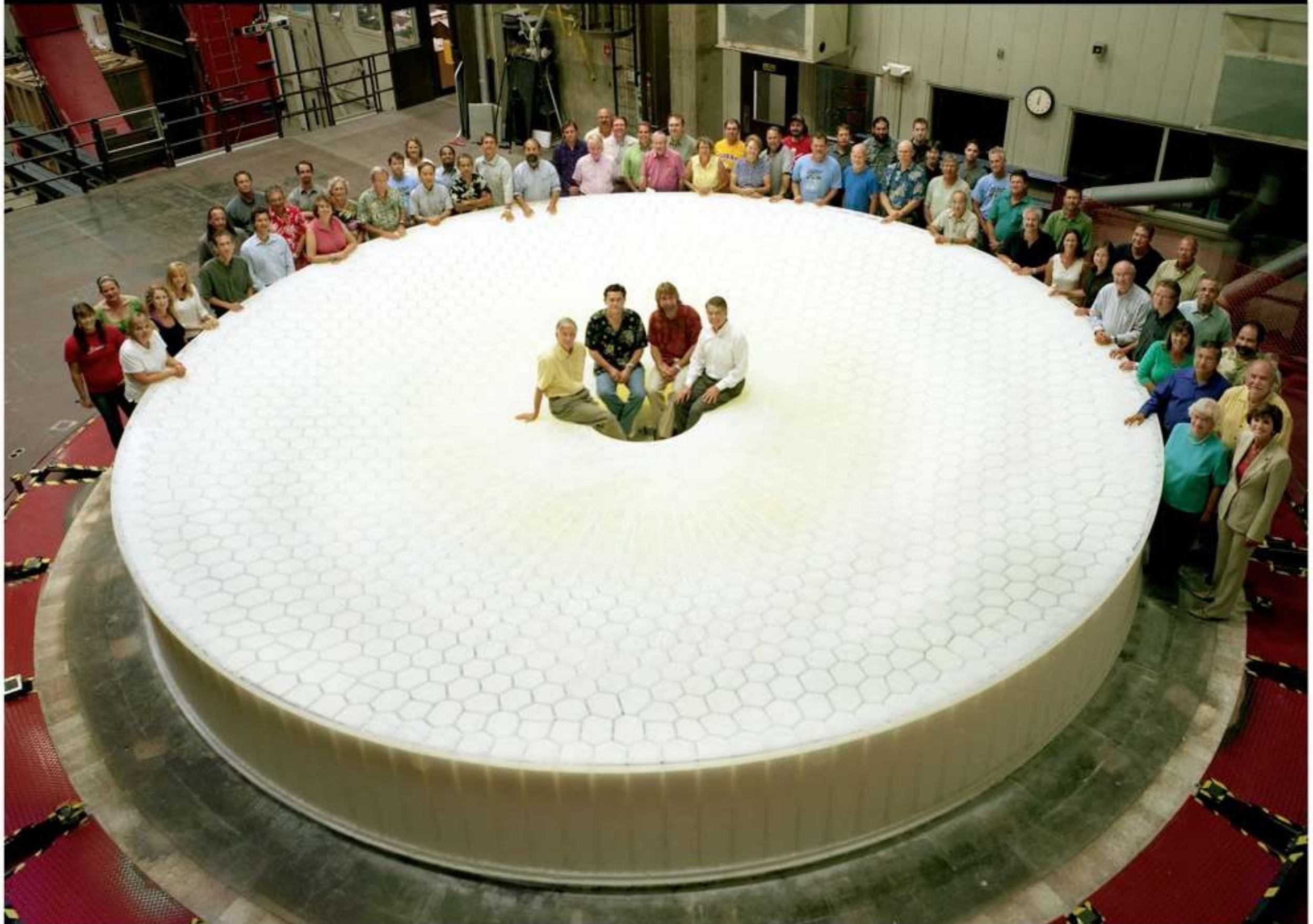
# Optical Design for LSST



Three-mirror design (Paul-Baker system)  
enables large field of view with excellent image quality:  
delivered image quality is dominated by atmospheric seeing



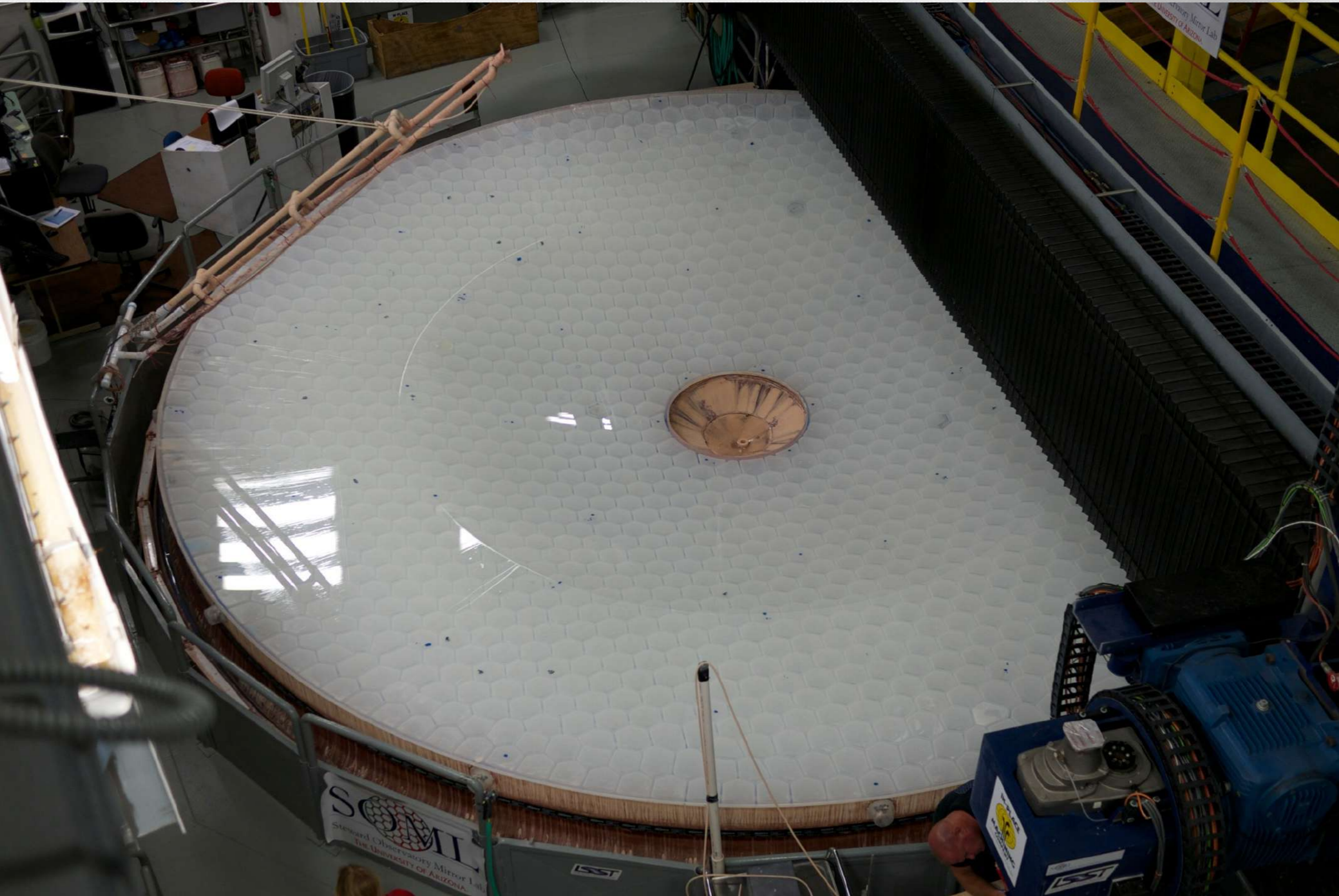
# Large Synoptic Survey Telescope



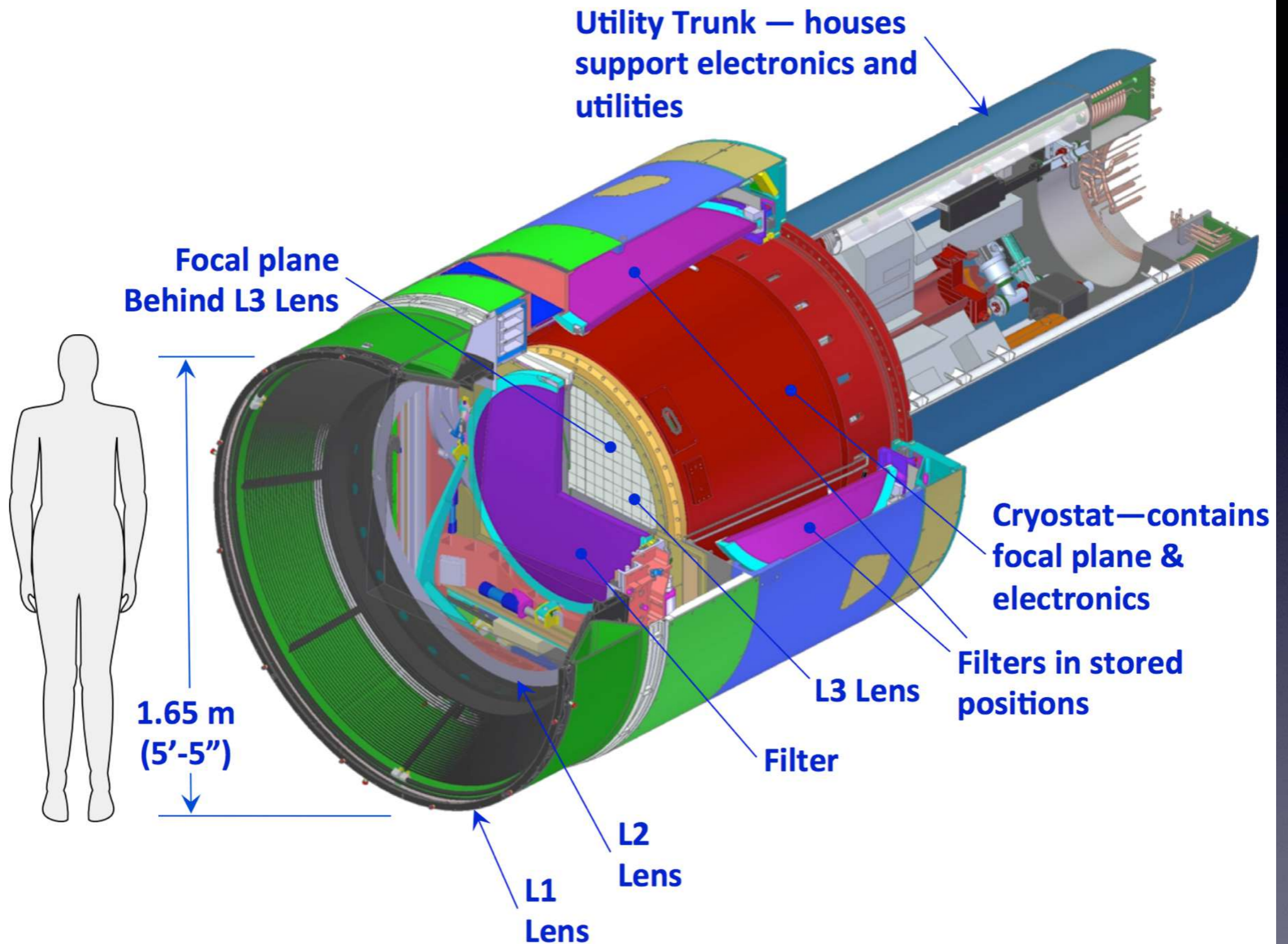


# Large Synoptic Survey Telescope



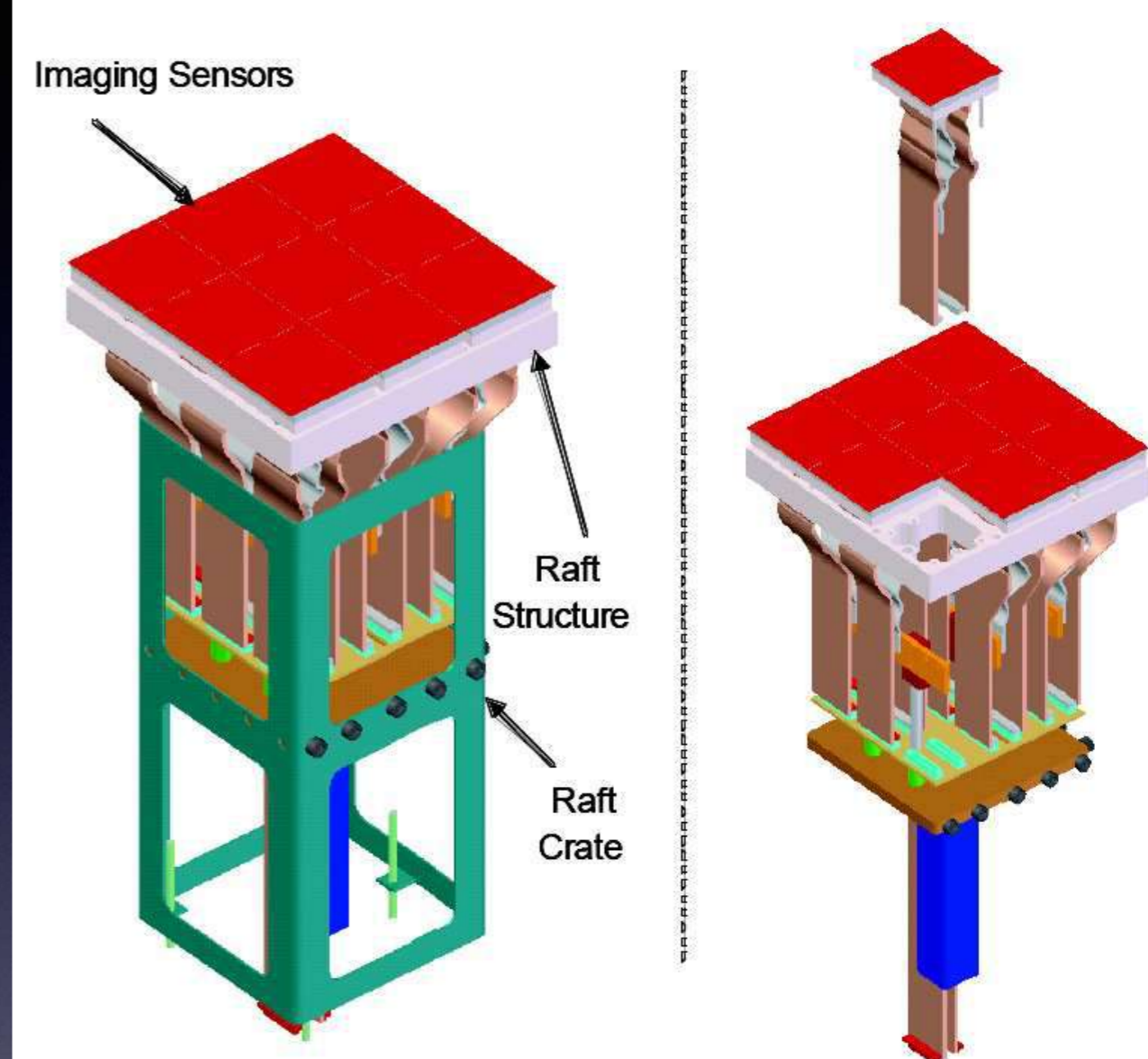
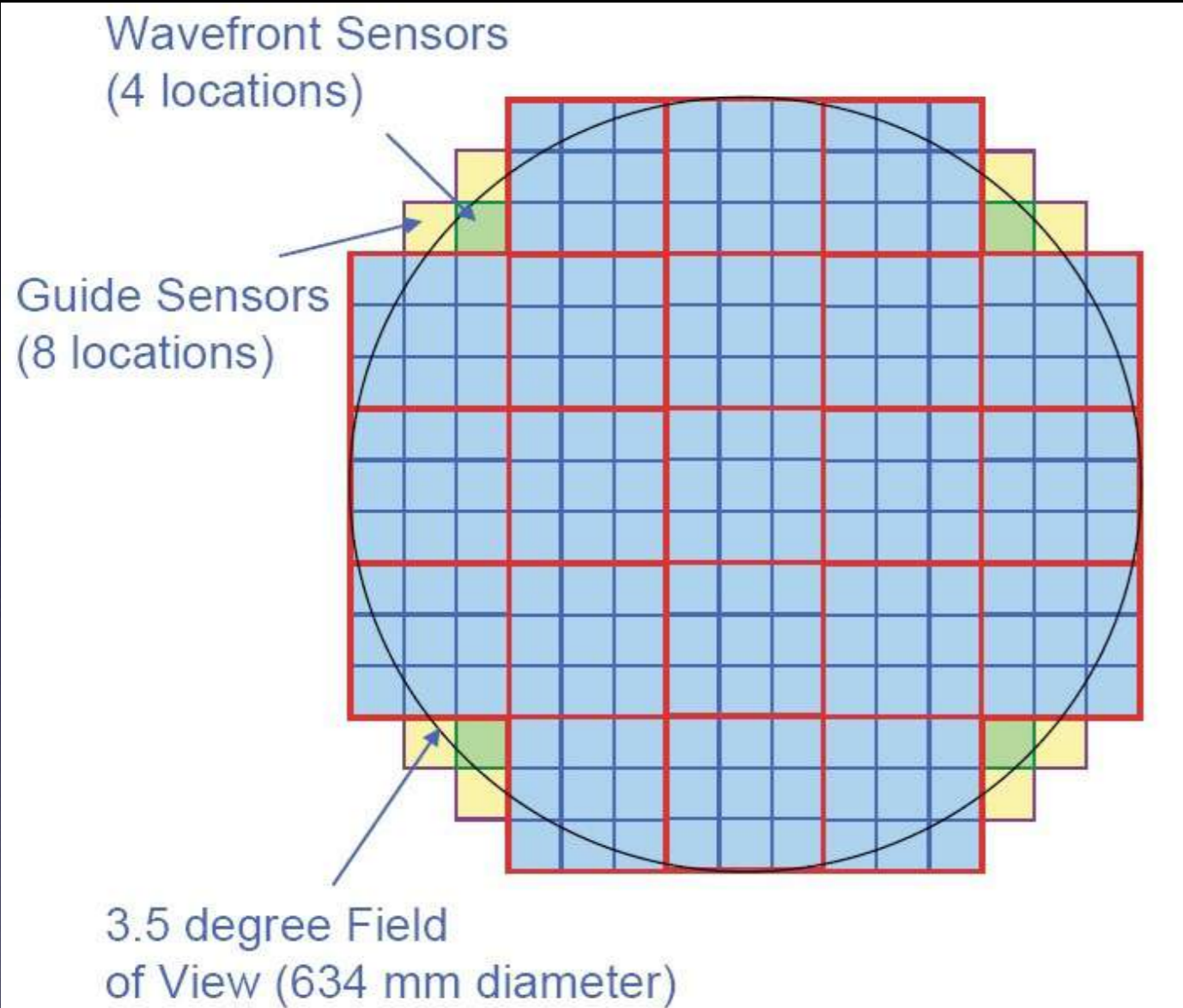


# LSST camera



The largest astronomical camera: 2800 kg, 3.2 Gpix

# LSST camera

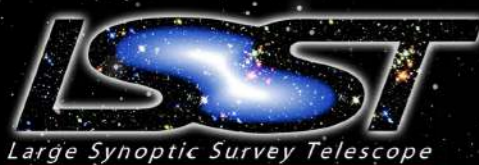


Modular design: 3200 Megapix = 189 x 16 Megapix CCD  
9 CCDs share electronics: raft (=camera)  
Problematic rafts can be replaced relatively easily

LSST Science Sensor procurement is complete!

# Start of LSST Operations: Oct 3, 2022

# GET READY!



## LSST Operations: Sites & Data Flows



**HQ Site**  
Science Operations  
Observatory Management  
Education & Public Outreach

**Base Site**  
Base Center  
Long-term storage (copy 1)  
Data Access Center  
Data Access & User Services

**French Site**  
Satellite Processing Center  
Data Release Production  
Long-term Storage (copy 3)

**Archive Site**  
Archive Center  
Alert Production  
Data Release Production  
Calibration Products Production  
EPO Infrastructure  
Long-term Storage (copy 2)  
**Data Access Center**  
Data Access and User Services

**Summit Site**  
Telescope & Camera  
Data Acquisition  
Crosstalk Correction

Google

Imagery ©2017 Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO, Landsat / Copernicus, IBCAO, U.S. Geological Survey, PGC/MASA, Map data ©2017 Google, INEGI, United States, Terms, Send feed





## At the highest level, LSST objectives are:

- 1) Obtain about 5.5 million images, with 189 CCDs (4k x 4k) in the focal plane; this is about **a billion 16 Megapixel images of the sky**
- 2) Calibrate these images (and provide other metadata)
- 3) Produce catalogs (“model parameters”) of detected objects (37 billion)
- 4) **Serve** images, catalogs and all other metadata, that is, **LSST data products to LSST users**

**The ultimate deliverable of LSST is not just the telescope, nor the camera, but the fully reduced science-ready data as well. Software!**

- 20 TB of data to process every day (~one SDSS/day)
- Existing tools and methods do not scale up to LSST data volume and rate (100 PB!)
- About 5-10 million lines of new code (C++/python)



## LSST data products are organized into 3 categories:



### Prompt Data Products

Real Time Difference Image Analysis (DIA)

- A stream of ~10 million time-domain events per night (Alerts), transmitted to event distribution networks within 60s of camera readout.
- Images, Object and Source catalogs derived from DIA, and an orbit catalog for ~6 million Solar System bodies within 24h.
- Enables discovery and rapid follow-up of time domain events



### Data Release Data Products

Reduced single-epoch & deep co-added images, catalogs, reprocessed DIA products

- Catalogs of ~37 billion objects (20 billion galaxies, 17 billion stars), ~7 trillion sources and ~30 trillion forced source measurements.
- 11 Data Releases, produced ~annually over 10 years of operation
- Accessible via the LSST Science Platform & LSST Data Access Centers.



### User Generated Data Products

User-produced derived, added-value data products

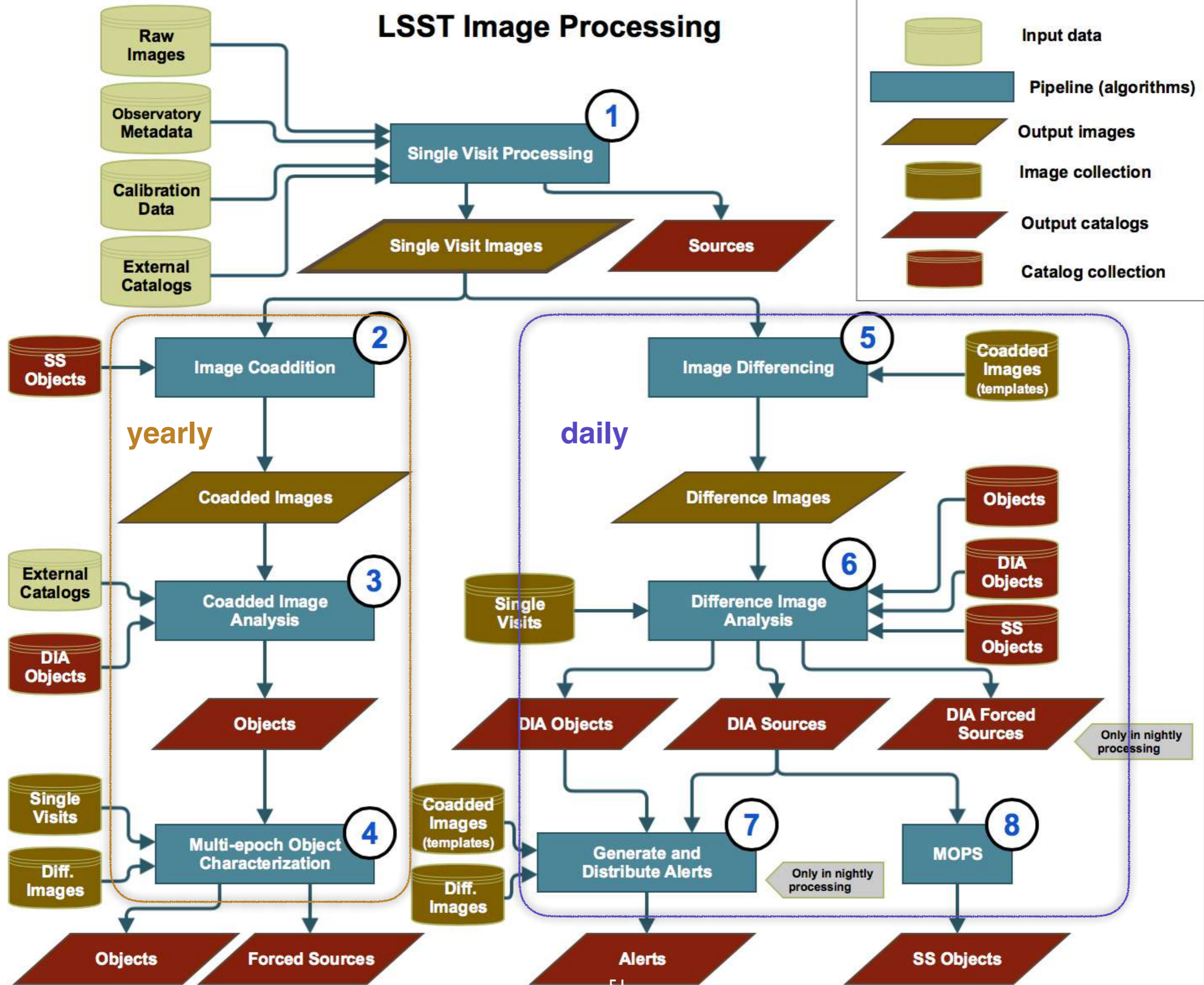
- Deep KBO/NEO, variable star classifications, shear maps, etc ...

...y services & computing resources at the LSST DACs and via the LSST Science Platform (LSP).

- 10% of LSST computing resources will be allocated for User Generated data product storage & processing.


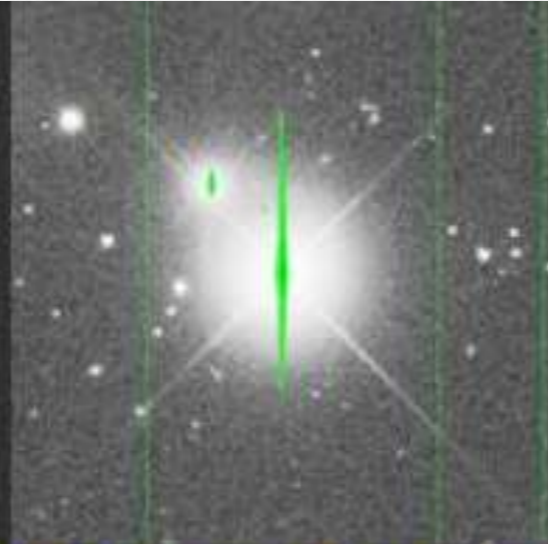

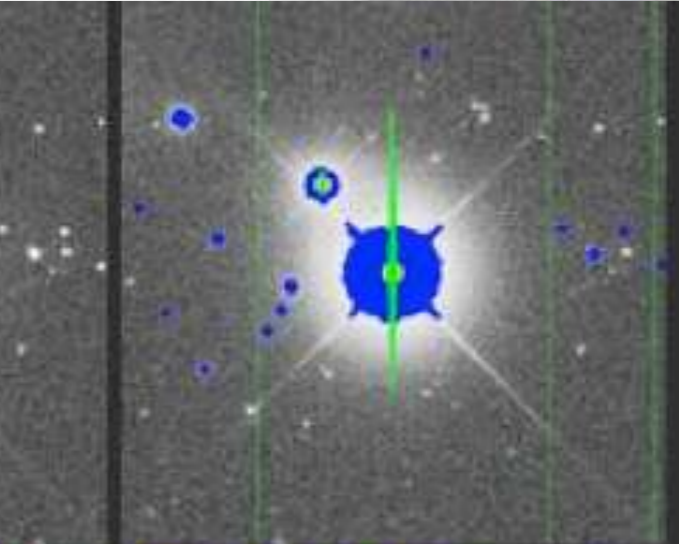
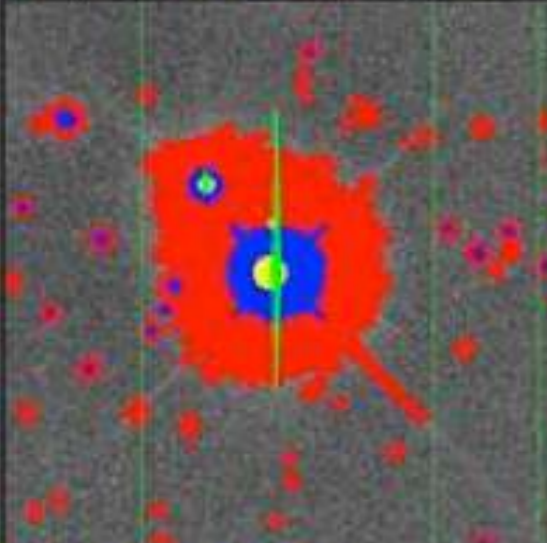
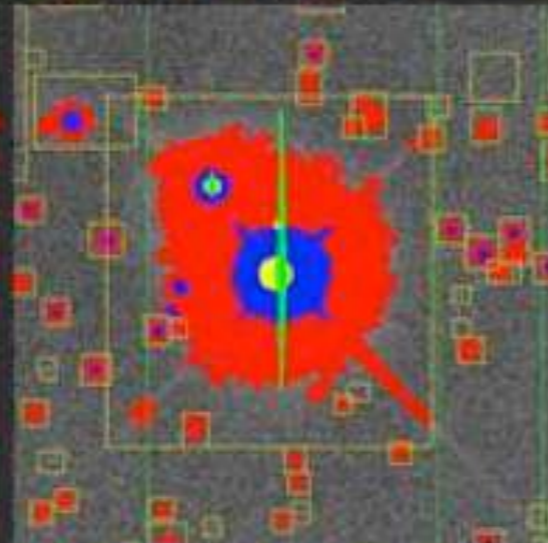
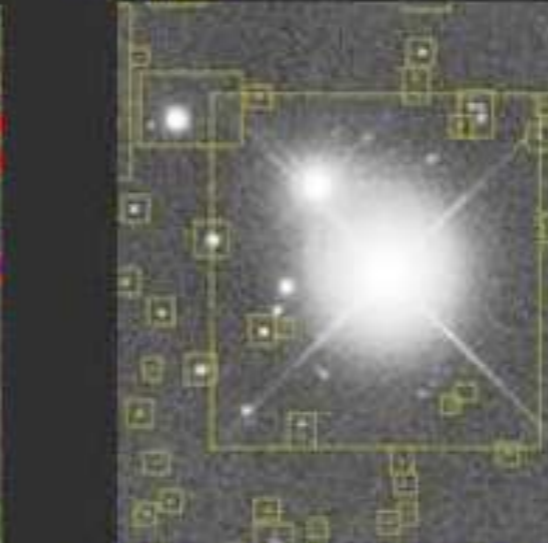

**LSST Data Products: see <http://ls.st/dpdd>**

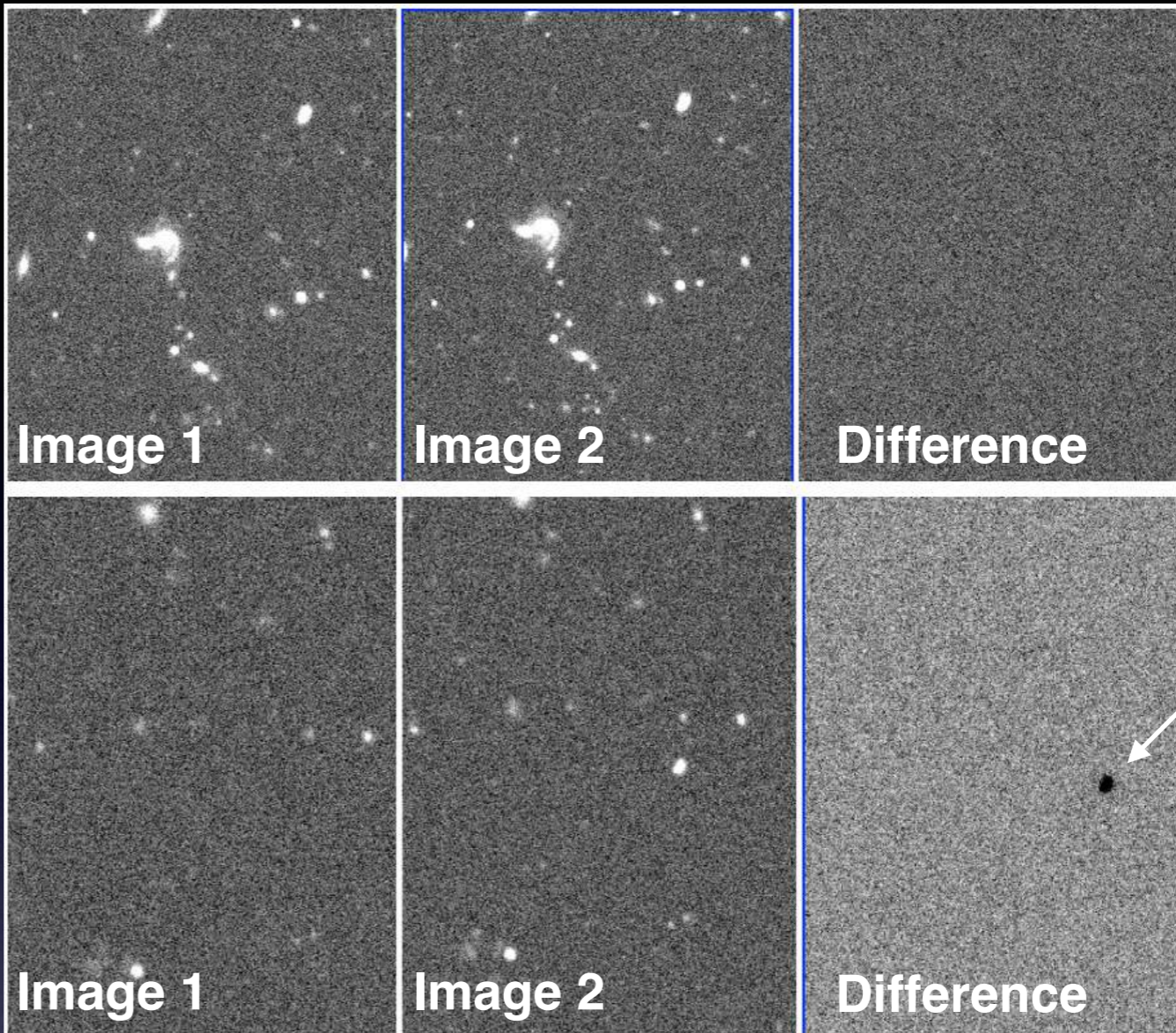
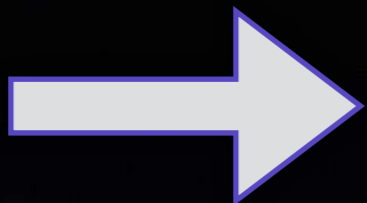
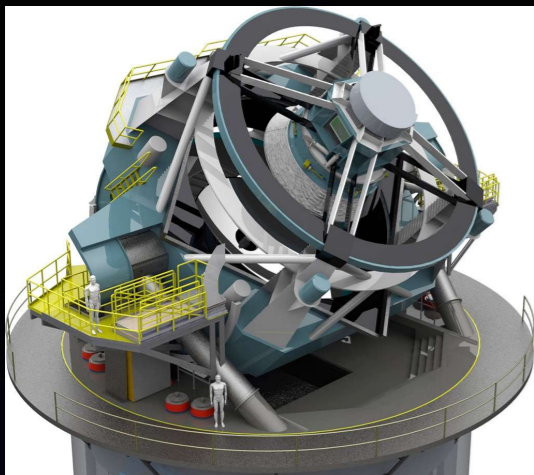
# LSST Image Processing



# Basic steps in astronomical image processing



			
<p><b>A raw data frame.</b> The difference in bias levels from the two amplifiers is visible.</p>	<p><b>Bias-corrected frame</b> with saturated pixels, bad columns, and cosmic rays masked in green.</p>	<p><b>Frame corrected</b> for saturated pixels, bad columns, and cosmic rays.</p>	<p><b>Bright object detections</b> marked in blue.</p>
			
<p><b>Faint object detections</b> marked in red.</p>	<p><b>Measured objects</b>, masked and enclosed in boxes. Small empty boxes are objects detected only in some other band.</p>	<p><b>Measured objects</b> in the data frame.</p>	<p><b>Reconstructed image</b> using postage stamps of individual objects and sky background from binned image.</p>



**Alert!**

**Additional “followup” data obtained to:**

- confirmation and classification
- provide better temporal resolution
- use different filters/wavelengths
- obtain spectra (distance!)
- other measurements (e.g. polarimetry)

**Alerts can trigger “Followup” observations:**



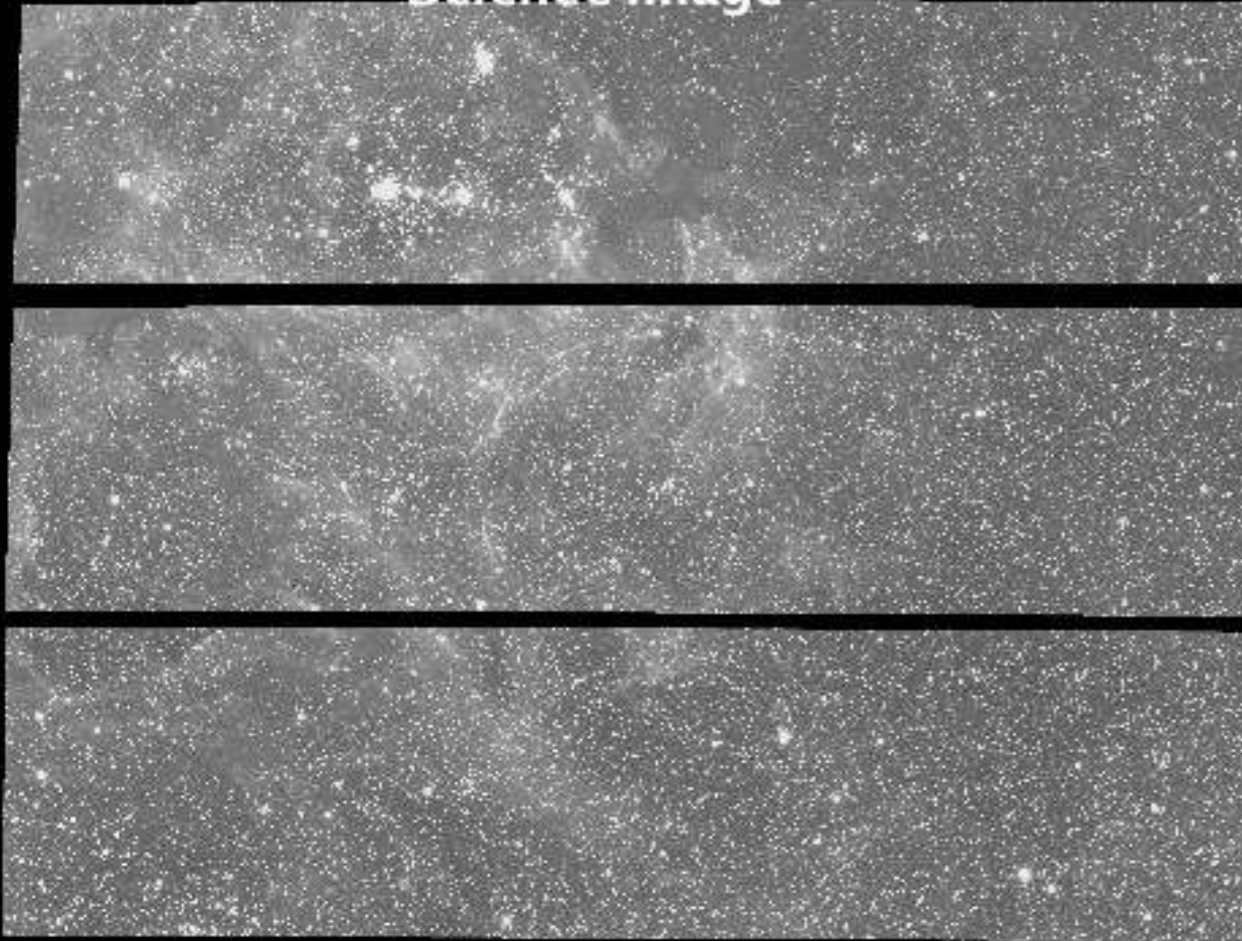
# Time Domain: objects changing in time

positions: asteroids and stellar proper motions

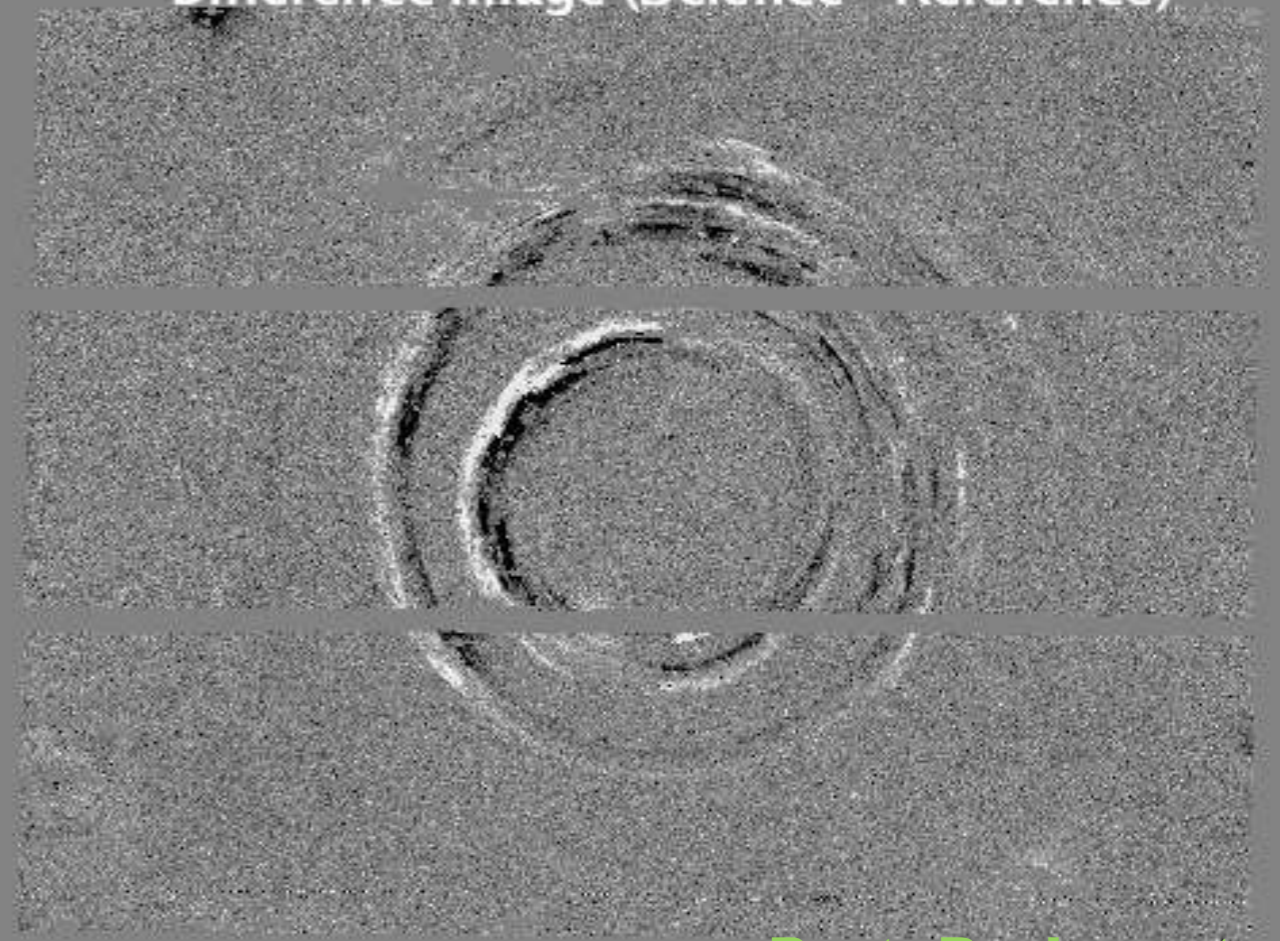
brightness: cosmic explosions and variable stars

Not only point sources - echo of a supernova explosion:

Science Image



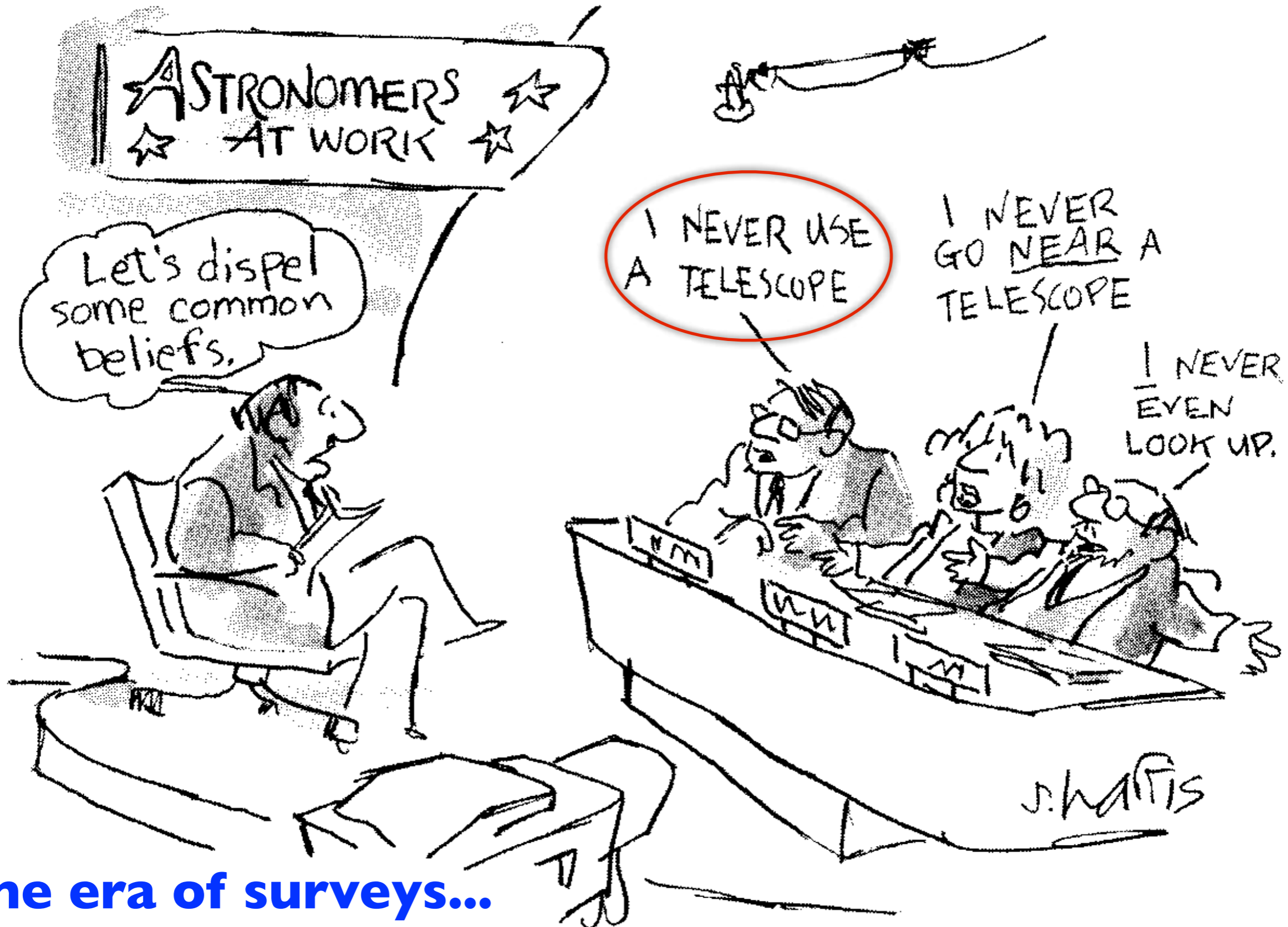
Difference Image (Science - Reference)



Rest, Becker, et al.

As many variable stars from LSST, as all stars from SDSS  
Web stream with data for transients within 60 seconds.  
Real time alerts!

“Ask Not What Data You Need To Do Your Science, Ask What Science You Can Do With Your Data.”



## The era of surveys...

- Standard: “What data do I have to collect to (dis)prove a hypothesis?”
- Data-driven: “What theories can I test given the data I already have?”

# Extragalactic astronomy: AGNs

From LSST Science Book (arXiv:0912.0201):

## 10 Active Galactic Nuclei

*W. N. Brandt, Scott F. Anderson, D. R. Ballantyne, Aaron J. Barth, Robert J. Brunner, George Chartas, Willem H. de Vries, Michael Eracleous, Xiaohui Fan, Robert R. Gibson, Richard F. Green, Mark Lacy, Paulina Lira, Jeffrey A. Newman, Gordon T. Richards, Donald P. Schneider, Ohad Shemmer, Howard A. Smith, Michael A. Strauss, Daniel Vanden Berk*

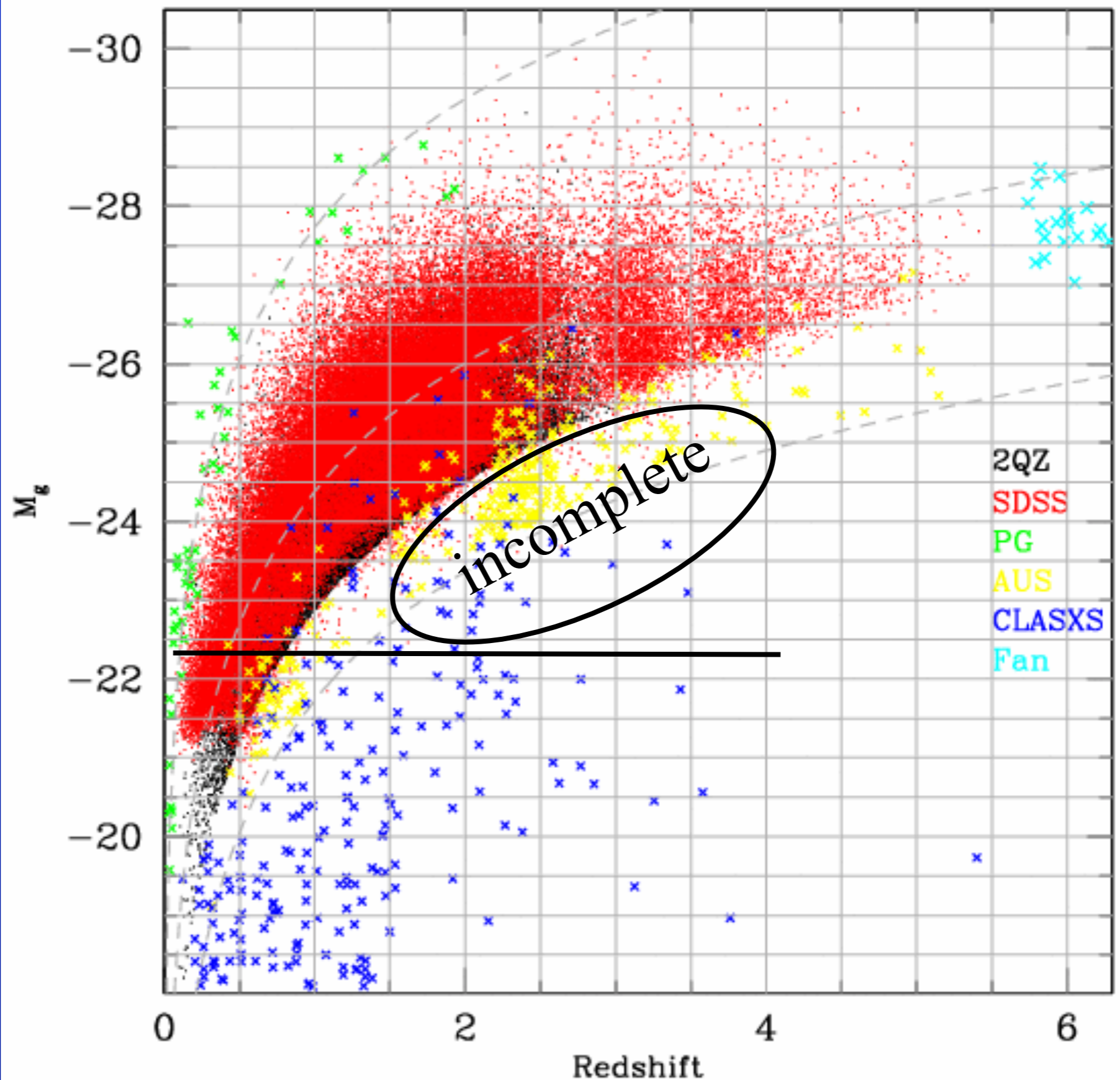
Although the numbers of known quasars and active galactic nuclei (AGN) have grown considerably in the past decade, a vast amount of discovery space remains to be explored with much larger and deeper samples. LSST will revolutionize our understanding of the growth of supermassive black holes with cosmic time, AGN fueling mechanisms, the detailed physics of accretion disks, the contribution of AGN feedback to galaxy evolution, the cosmic dark ages, and gravitational lensing. The evolution of galaxies is intimately tied with the growth and energy output from the supermassive black holes which lie in the centers of galaxies. The observed correlation between black hole masses and the velocity dispersion and stellar mass of galaxy bulges seen at low redshift (Tremaine et al. 2002), and the theoretical modeling that suggests that feedback from AGN regulates star formation, tell us that AGN play a key role in galaxy evolution.

The goal of AGN statistical studies is to define the changing demographics and accretion history of supermassive black holes (SMBHs) with cosmic time, and to relate these to the formation and

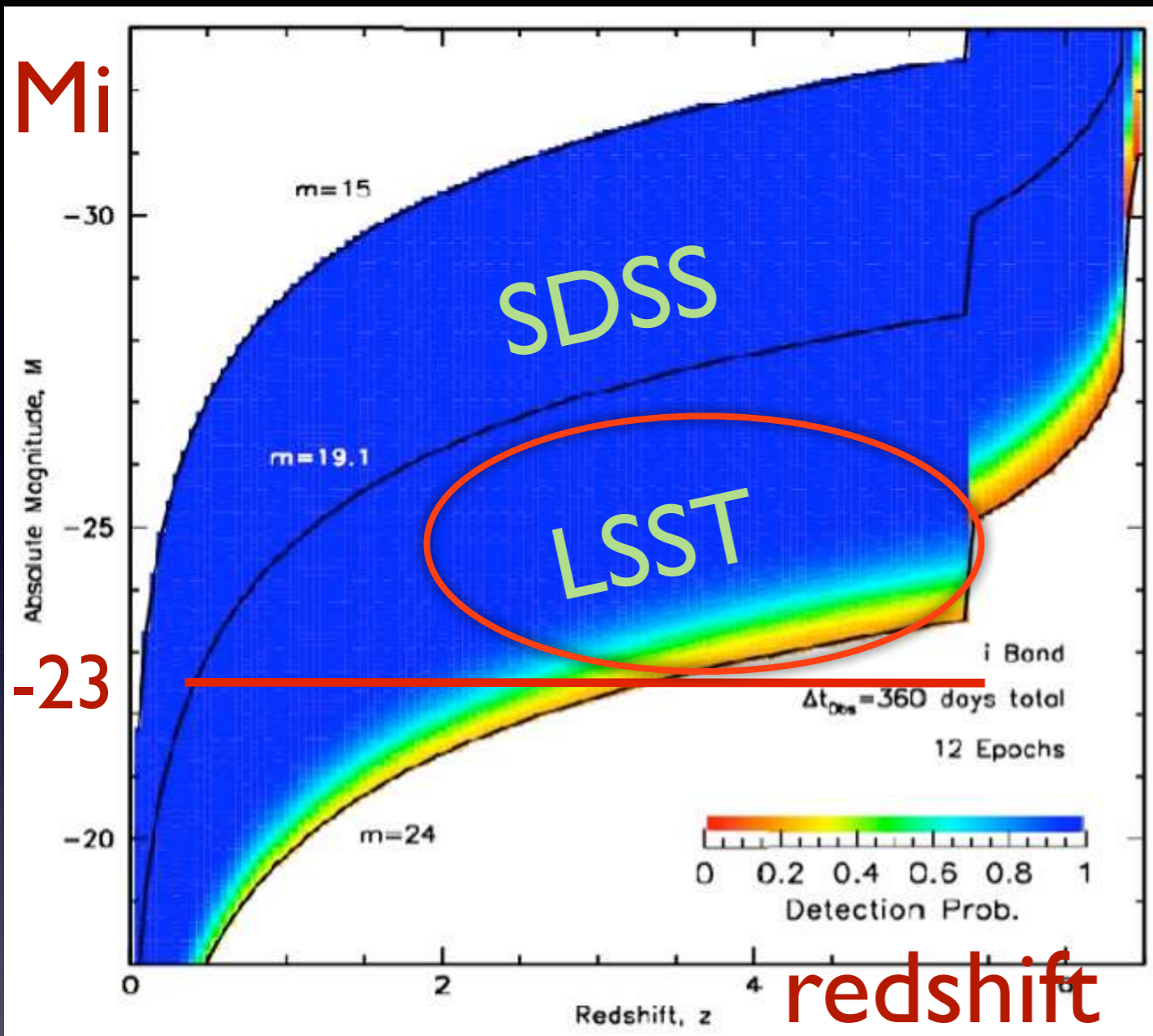


# Quasar Surveys Status

Great progress over the last decade, but: still incomplete for low-L objects already at  $z \sim 1$ !



# Extragalactic astronomy with LSST: quasars



**Top:** absolute magnitude vs. redshift diagram for quasars

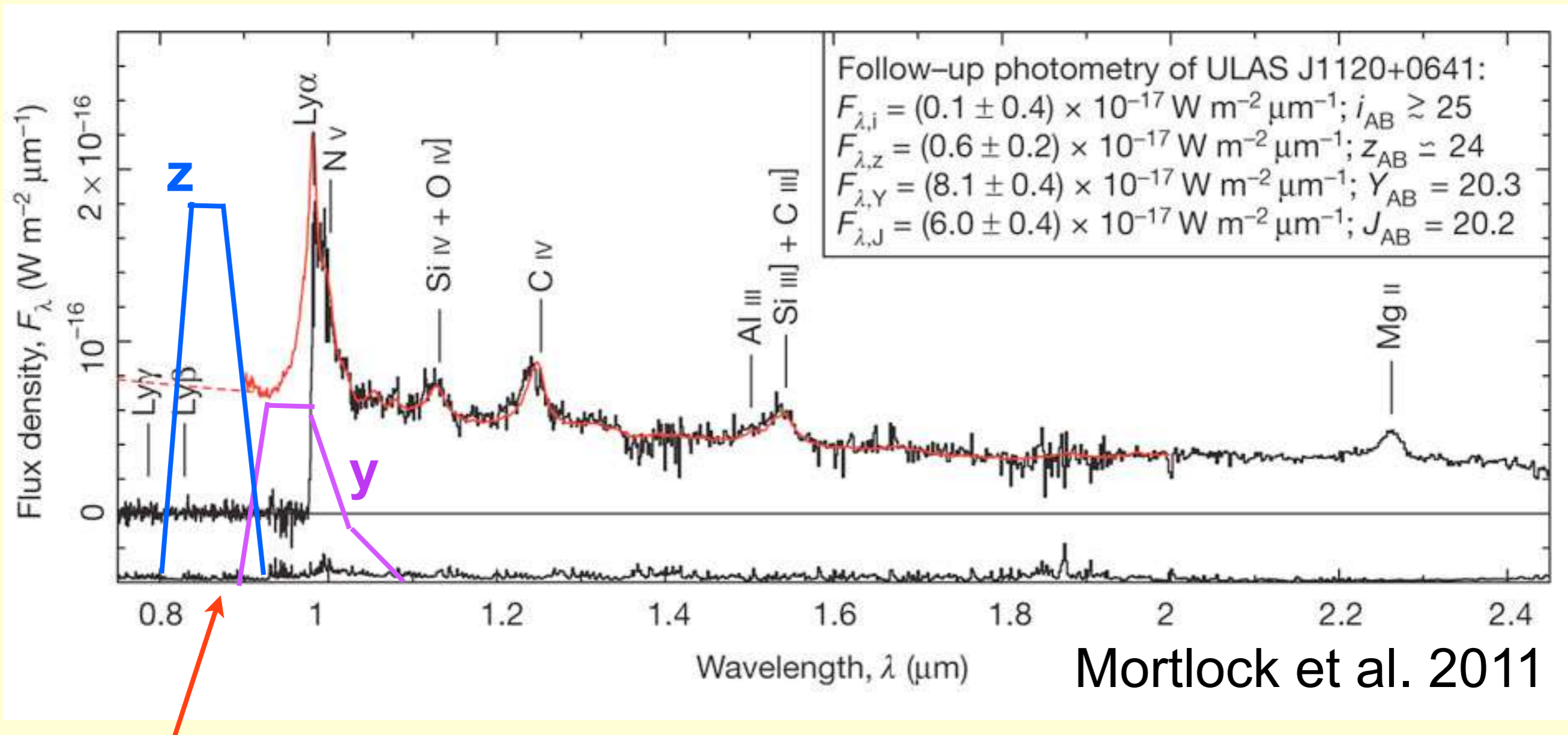
- About **10 million quasars** will be discovered using variability, colors, and the lack of proper motions  
Really?? SDSS: yes!

- The sample will include  $M_i = -23$  objects even at redshifts beyond 3
- Quasar variability studies will be based on millions of light curves with 1000 observations

Today:  $< 100$  quasars with  $6 < z < 7.5$  over 10 yrs

**LSST will detect  $\sim 10,000$  quasars with  $6 < z < 7.5$ !**

# A High-Redshift Quasar at $z=7.085$ from UKIDSS



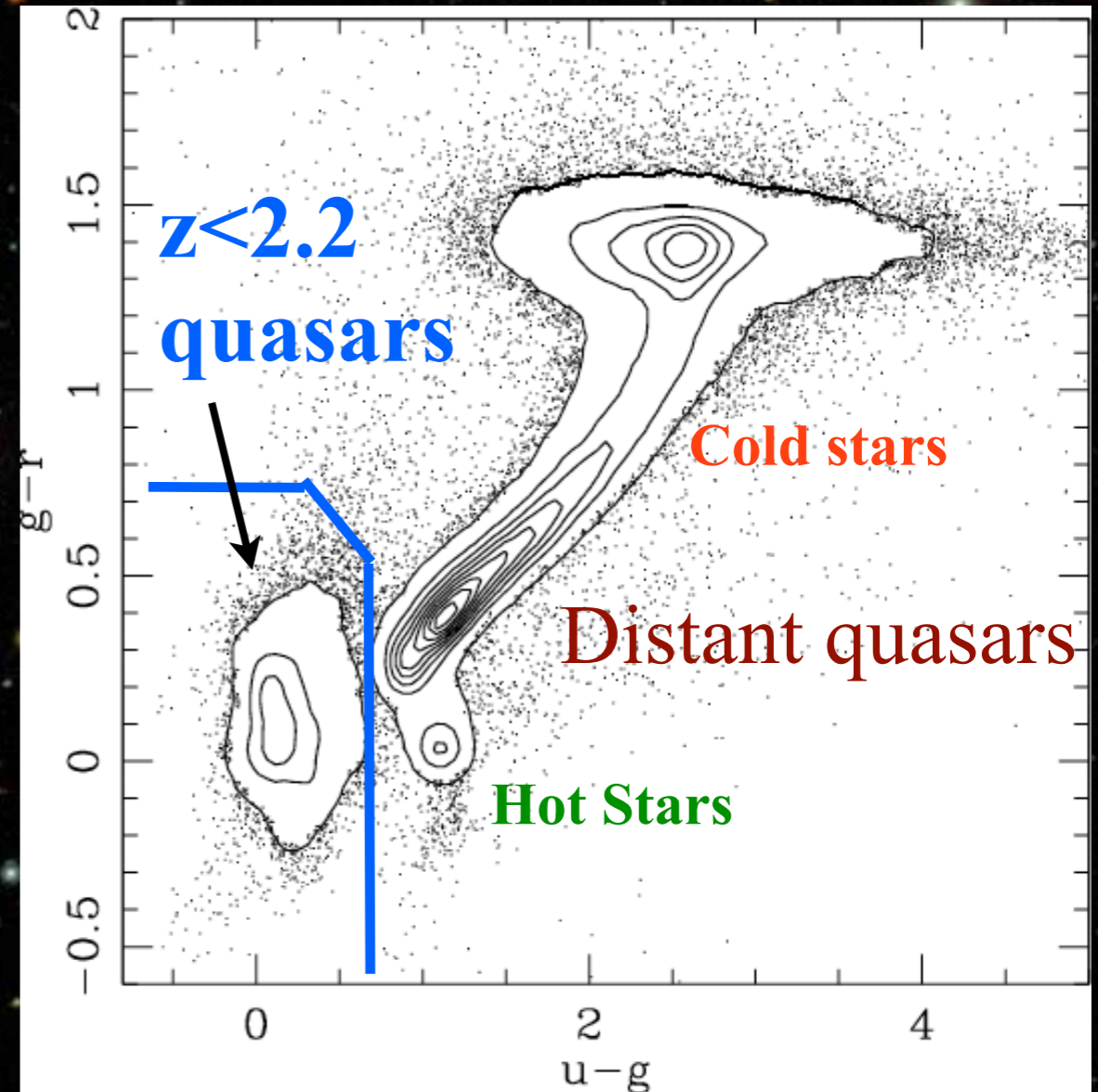
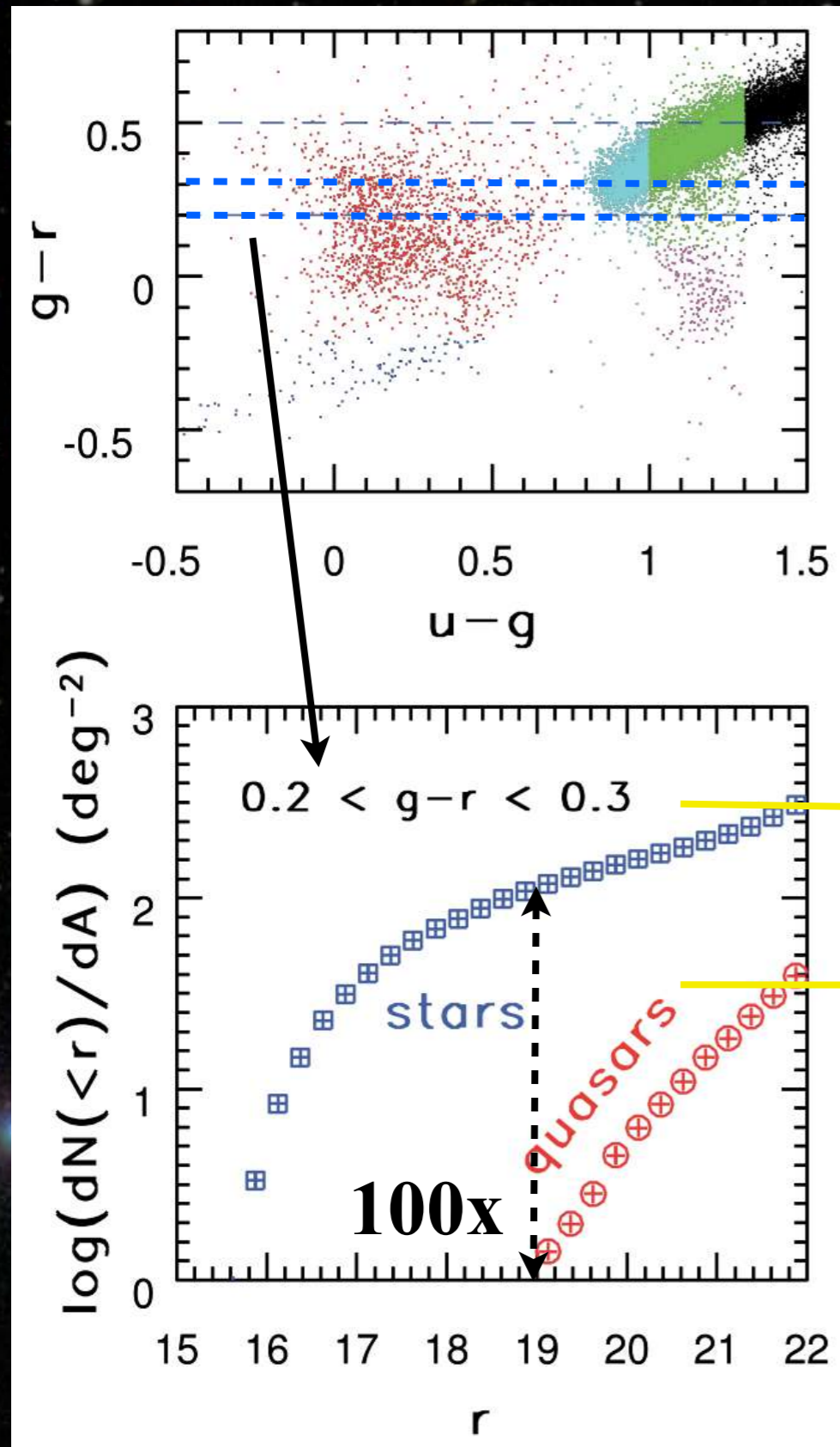
Such a quasar would be detected by LSST as a z-band dropout (multi-epoch data will greatly help with false positives)

**LSST will discover about 1,000 quasars with  $z > 7$**   
Today:  $< 10$  quasars with  $z > 7$

# Finding Quasars...

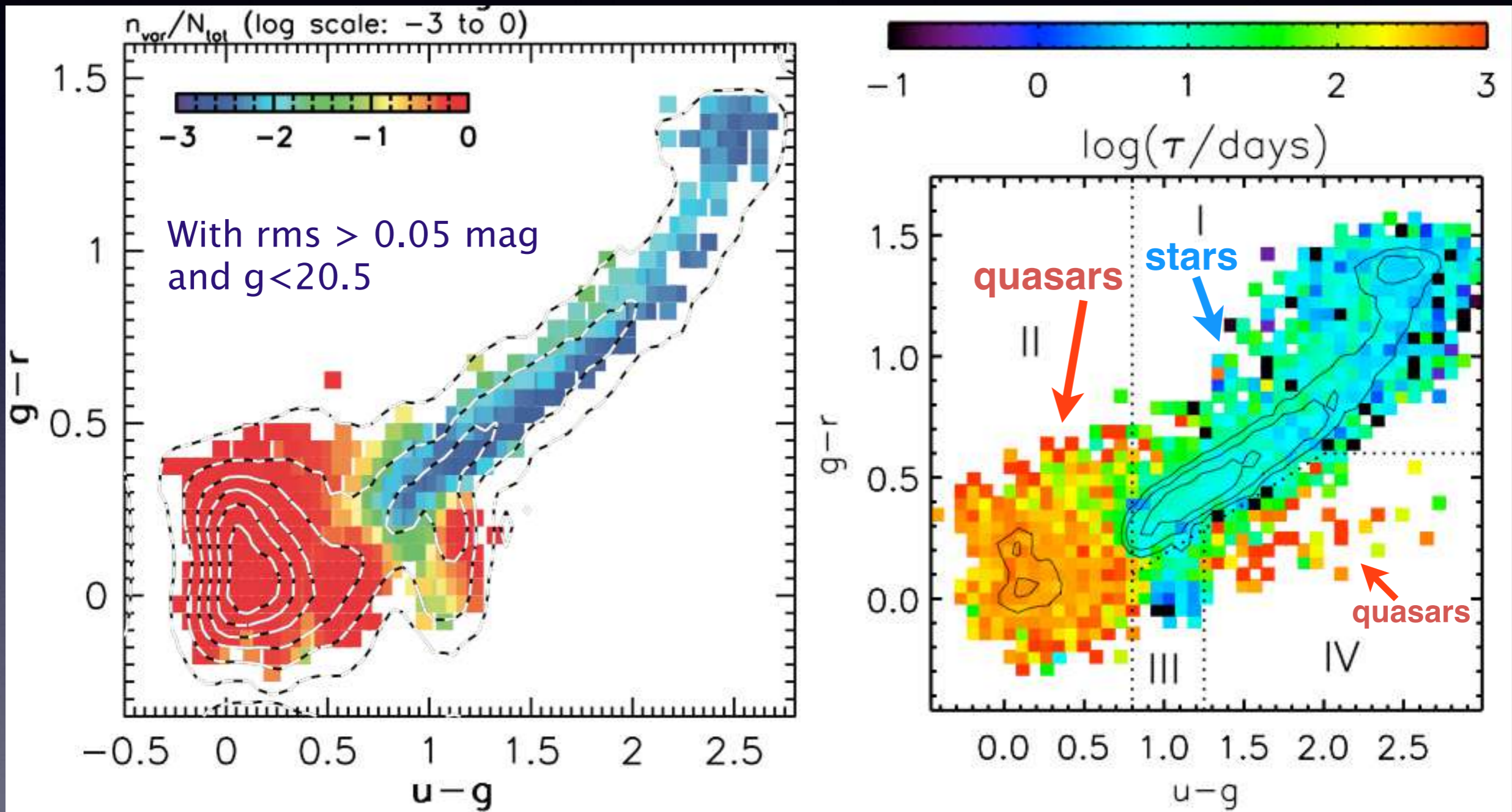
Static sky!  
More information in  
time domain..

Traditionally need  
spectroscopic confirmation

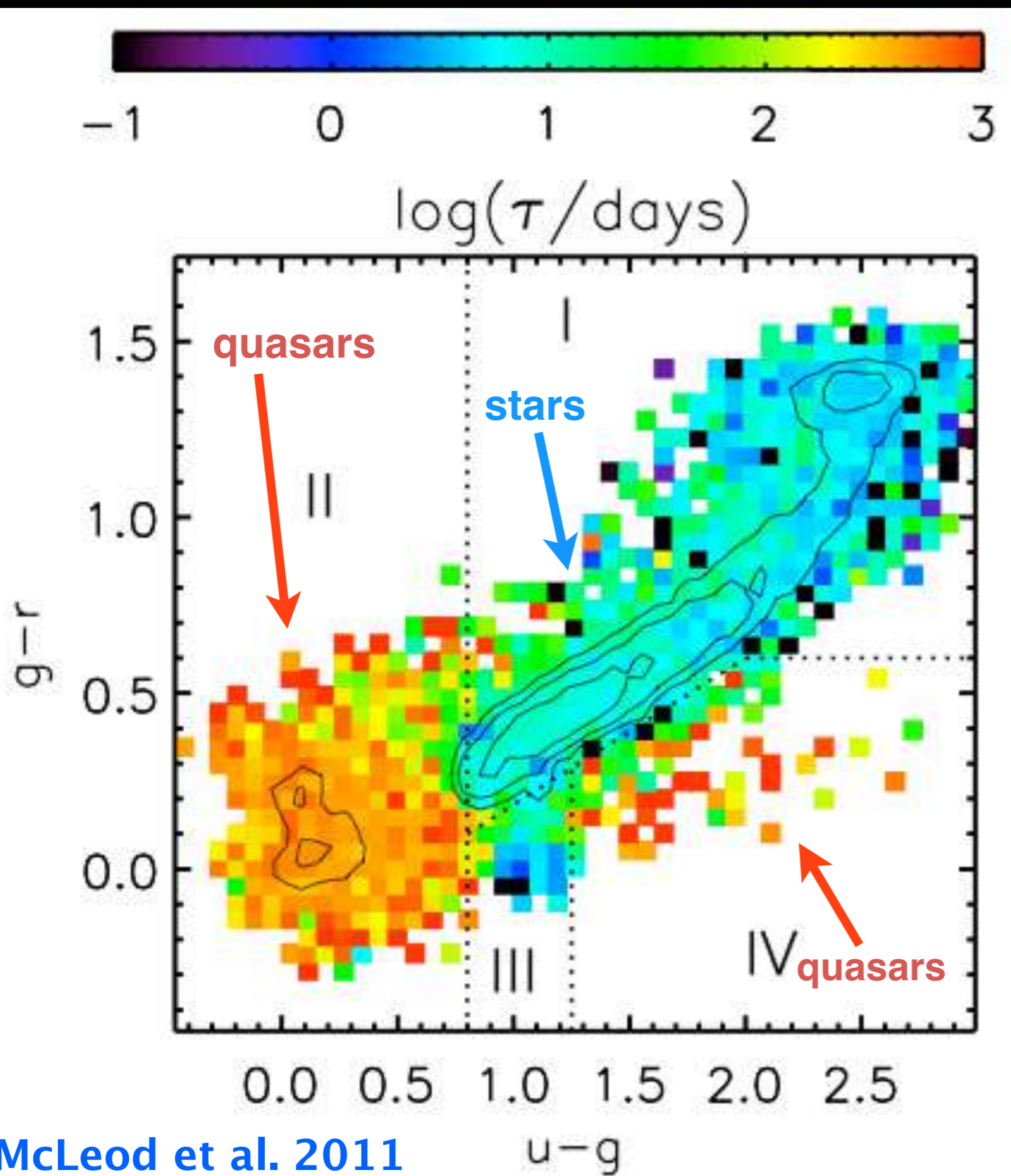


# Practically all quasars are variable!

The fraction of variable objects in SDSS Stripe 82:



# The variability time scales



Time scale  $\tau$  is defined via **damped random walk** (because not all variable sources are periodic)

Quasars are easily distinguished from stars by their long time scales.

**Variability is even better than color selection!**

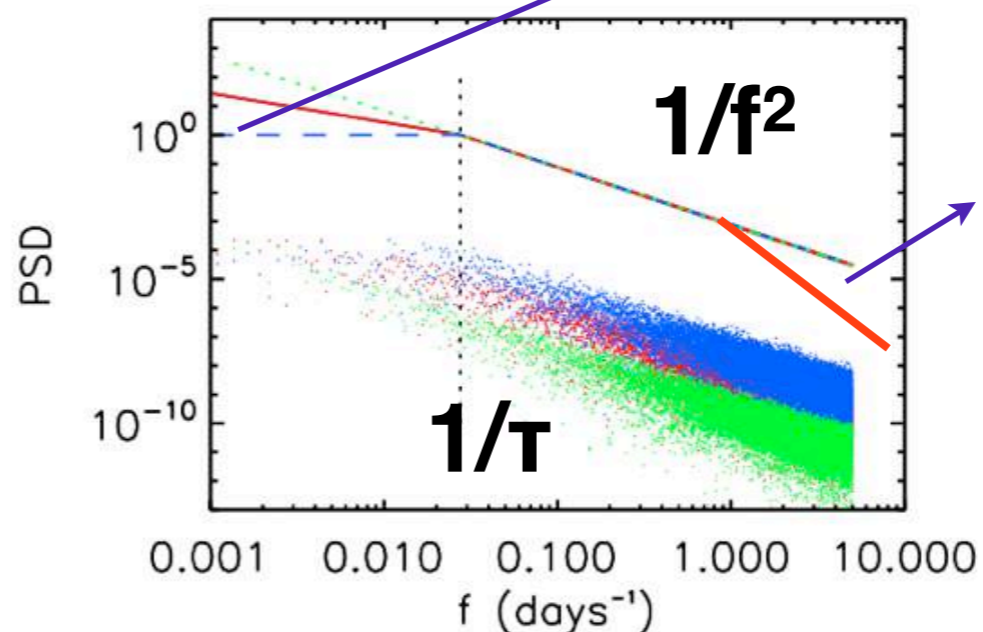
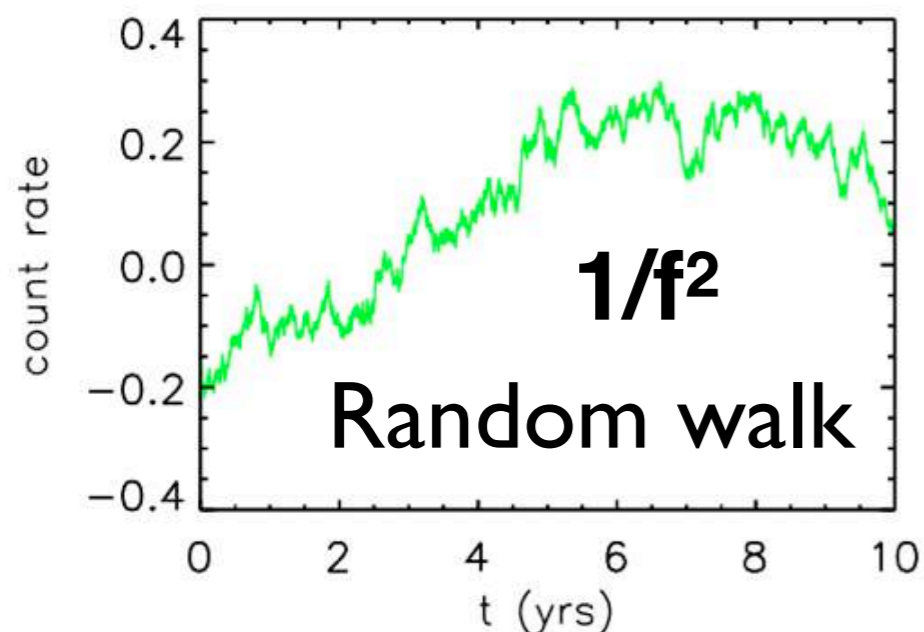
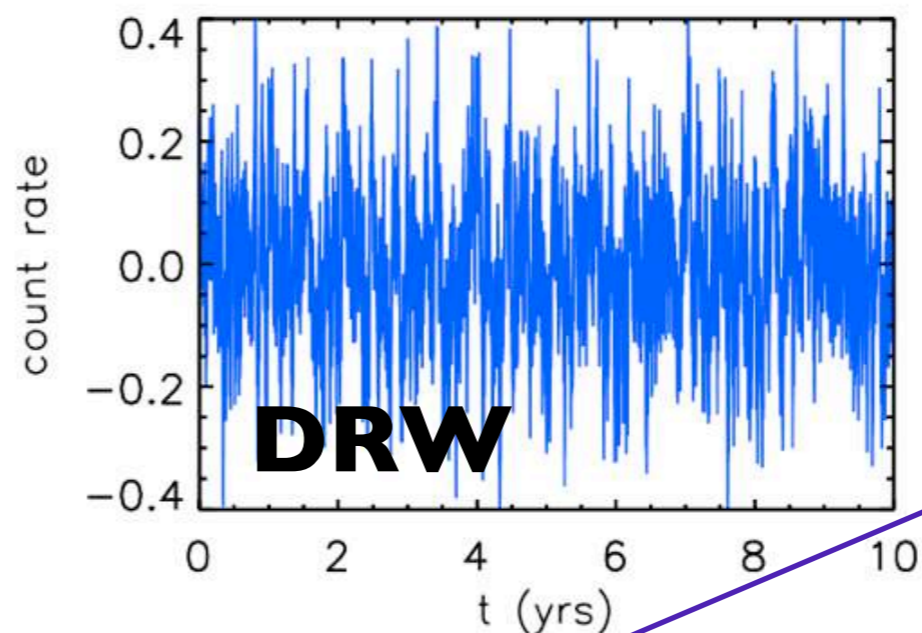
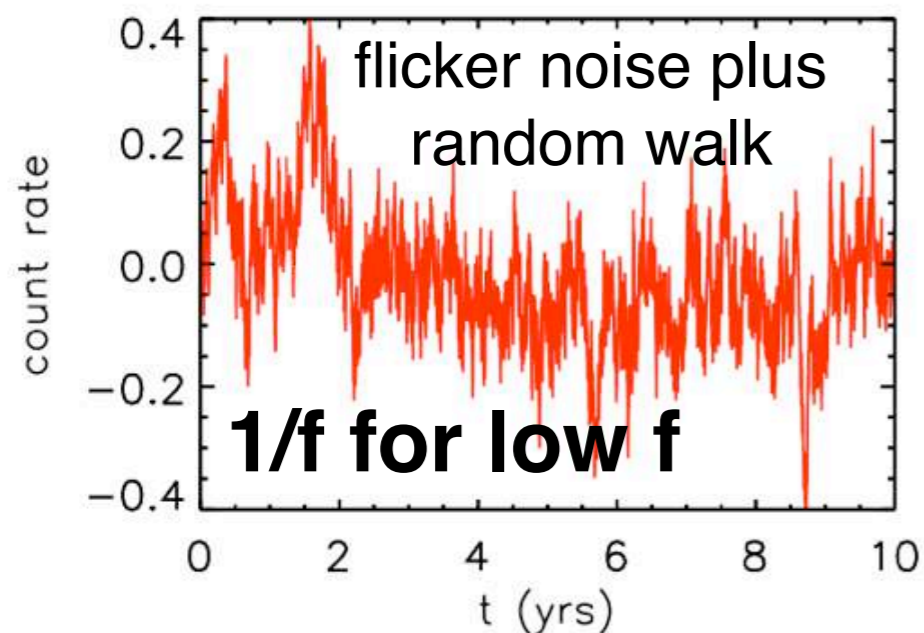
**Case study:** light curve data and proper motion data for over 1 million sources from SDSS Stripe 82 (all are publicly available)

# Damped random walk

also known as Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process and as CAR(1) process; it has exponentially decaying ACF and it is a

Stochastic process with

**PSD(f) = 1/f<sup>2</sup> for f > 1/τ, and PSD(f)=const. for f < 1/τ**

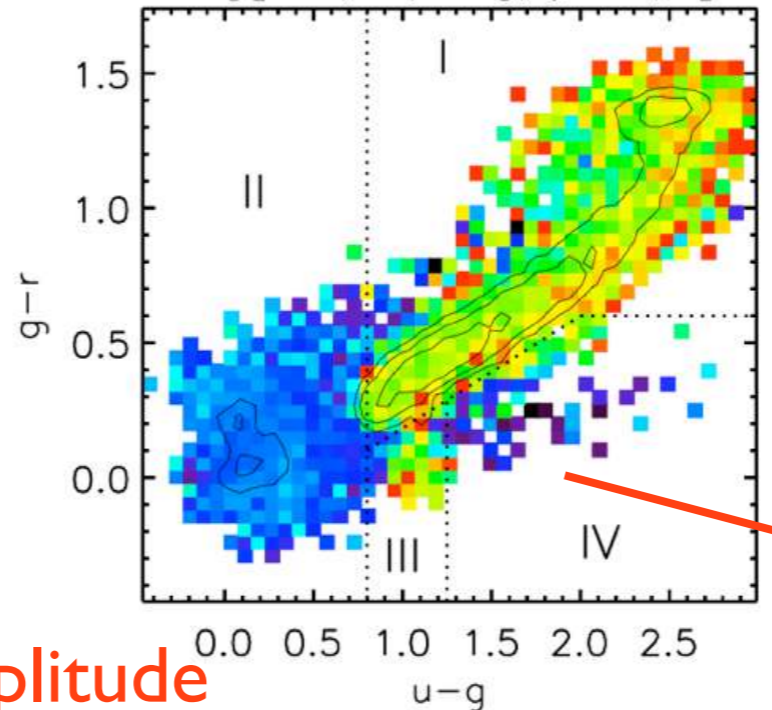
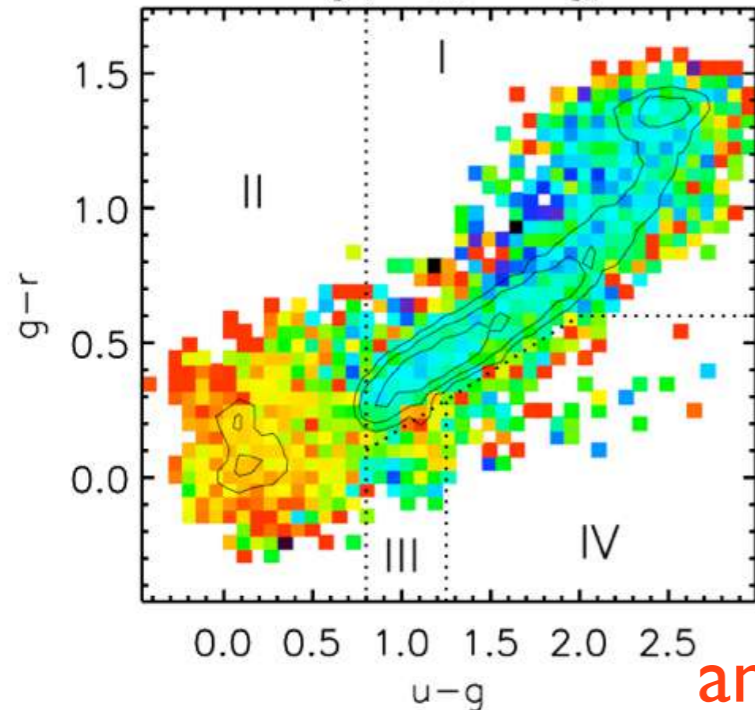
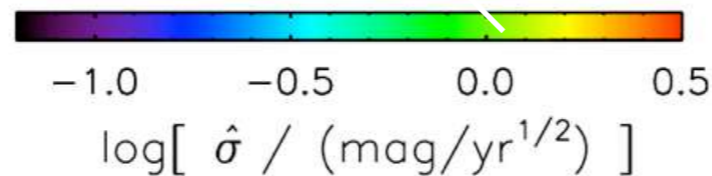
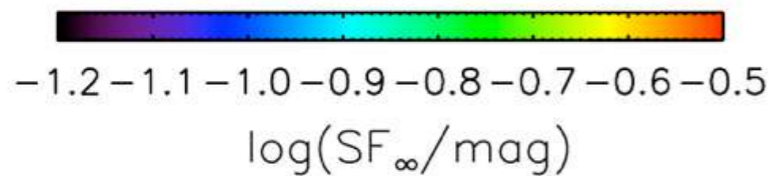
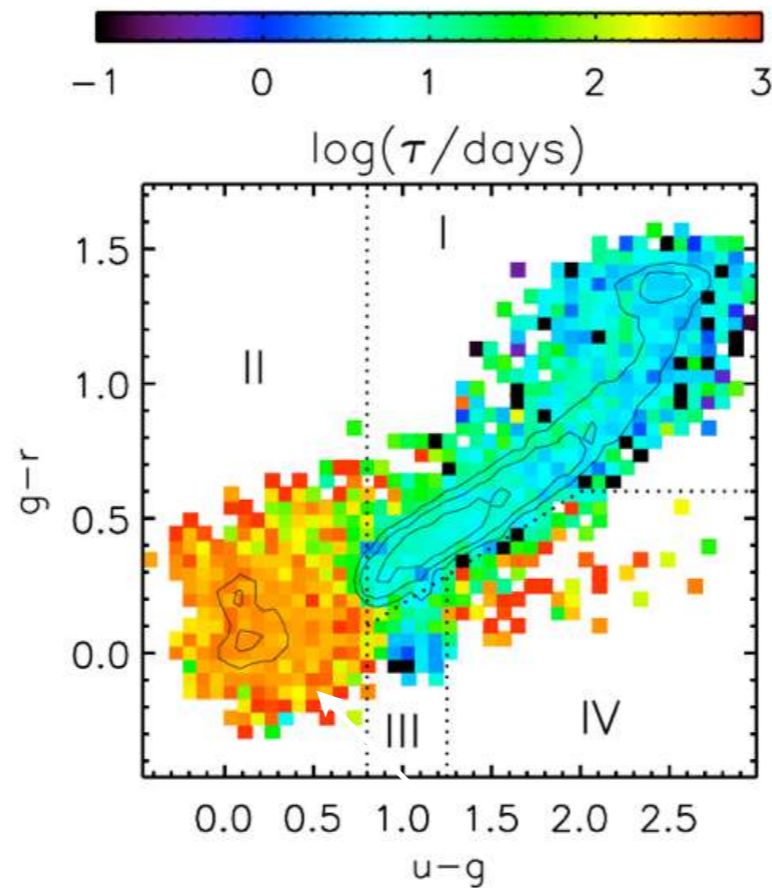
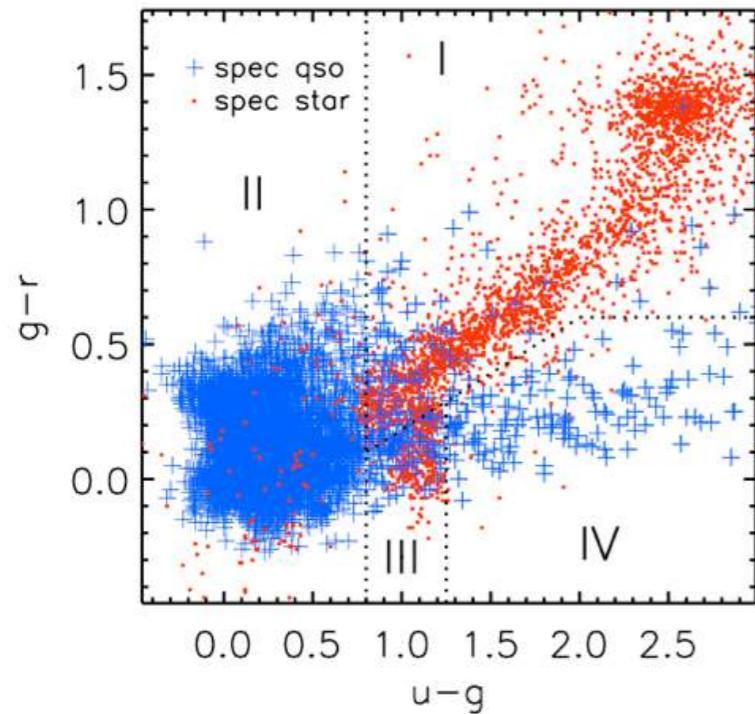


**RDW cannot be rejected**  
(MacLeod+201x)  
(Zu+2012)

**Kepler data: 1/f<sup>3</sup>**  
for high frequencies i.e.  
short time scales  
(Mushotzky+2011)

# Damped random walk fits to SDSS Stripe 82

## Spectroscopy



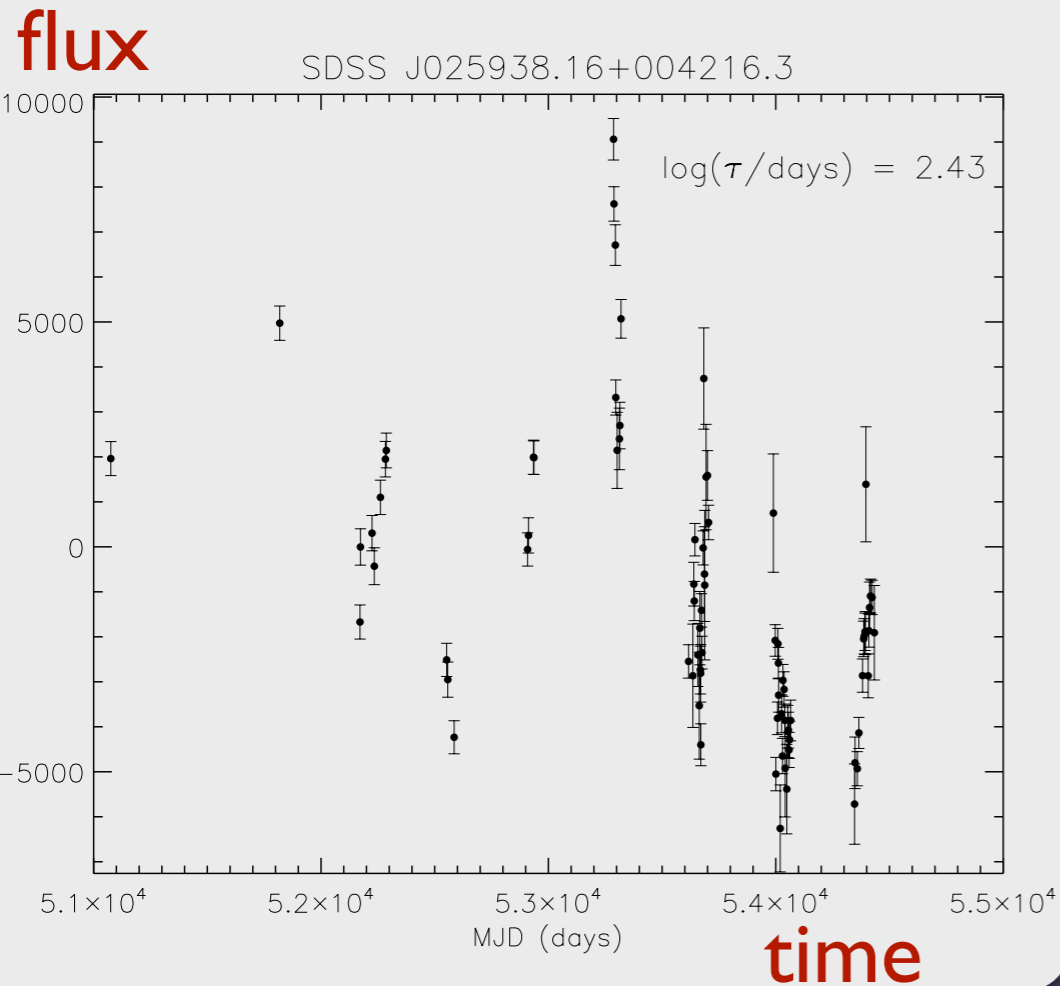
3-parameter fits:  
DRW time scale,  
amplitude, and  
mean magnitude

Using variability,  
one gets the same  
morphology in the  
 $g-r$  vs.  $u-g$  diagram  
as when using  
spectroscopy!

True even for short  
observation spans

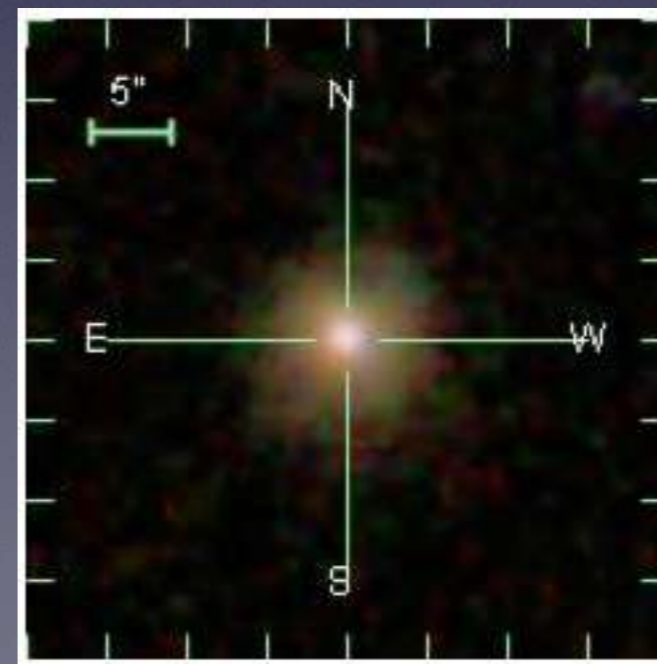
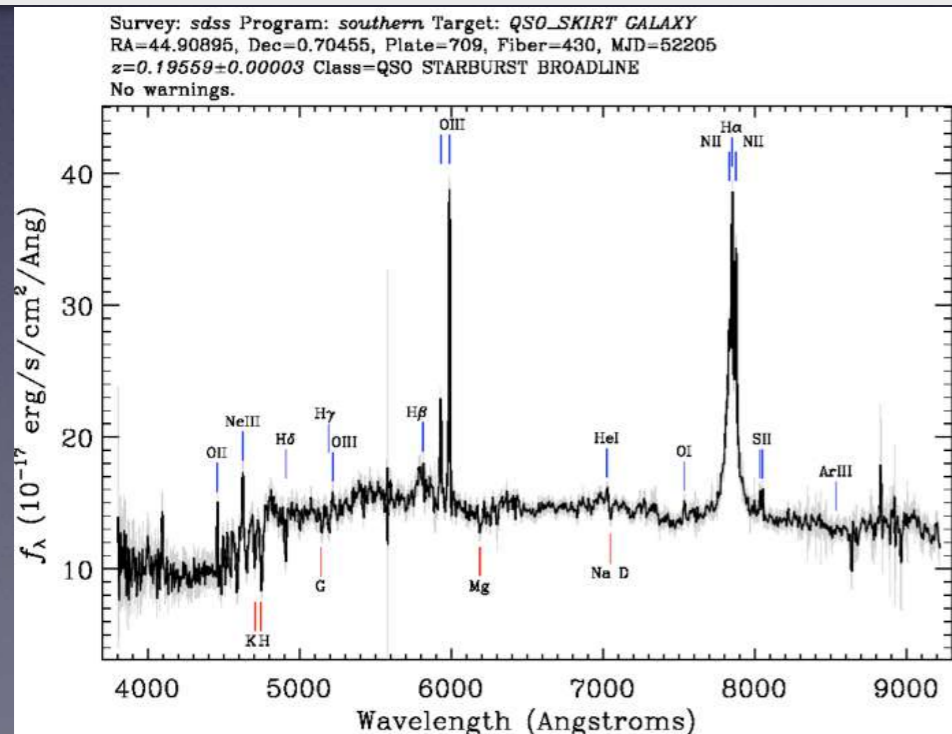


# Wonderful, but can we do variability selection with extended sources? YES!



**Image differencing** can be used to extract light curves for extended sources with nearly the same SNR as for unresolved sources

**Case study:** image differencing using SDSS Stripe 82 (Choi+2014, ApJ 782, 37): light curves that have time scales as long as AGNs are independently confirmed as AGNs using X-ray data and optical emission lines (BPT diagram)!

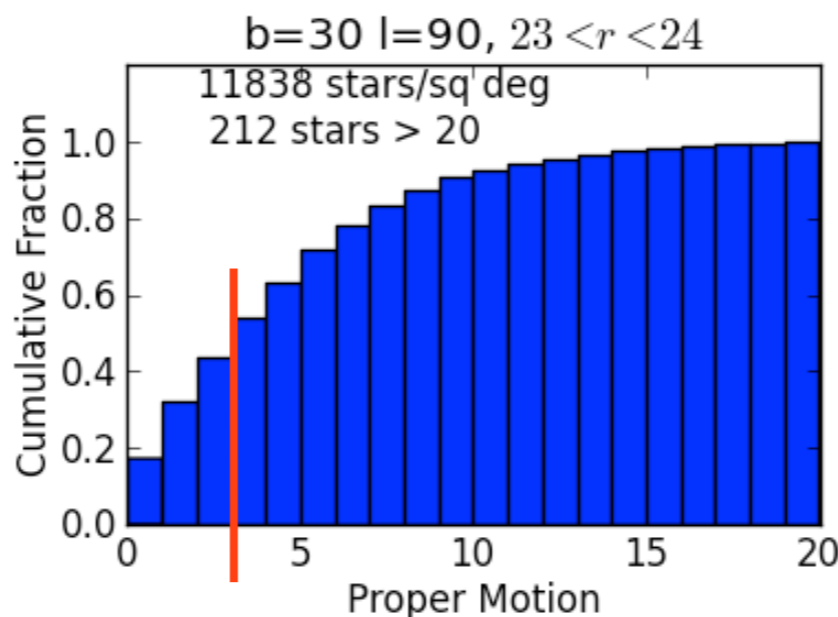
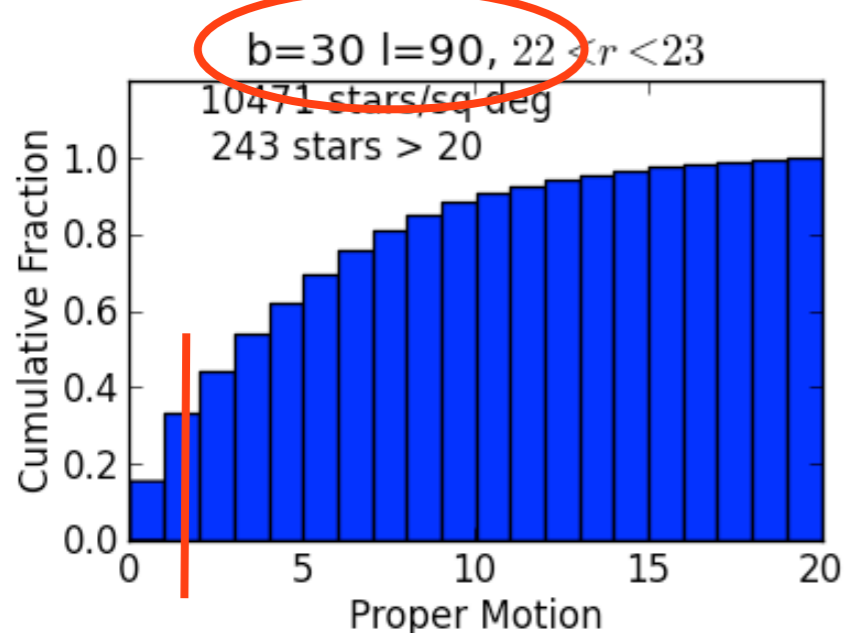
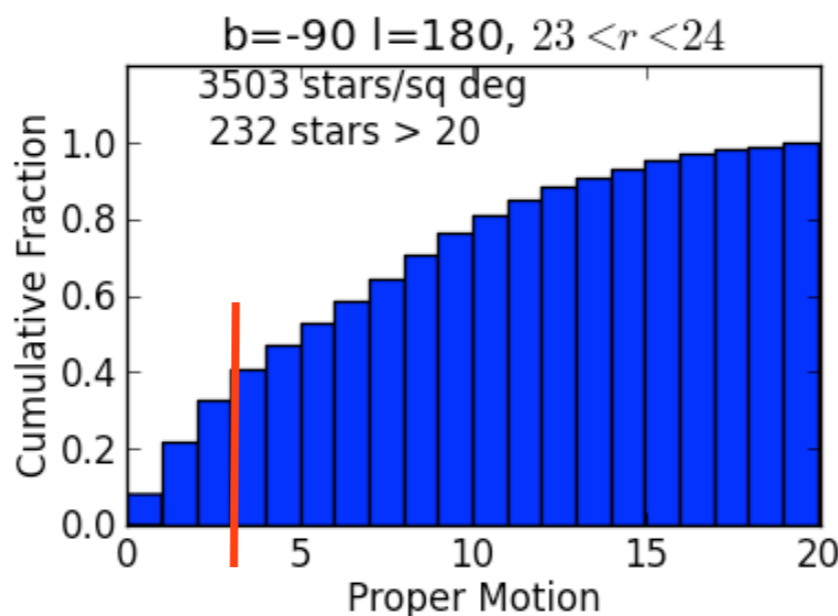
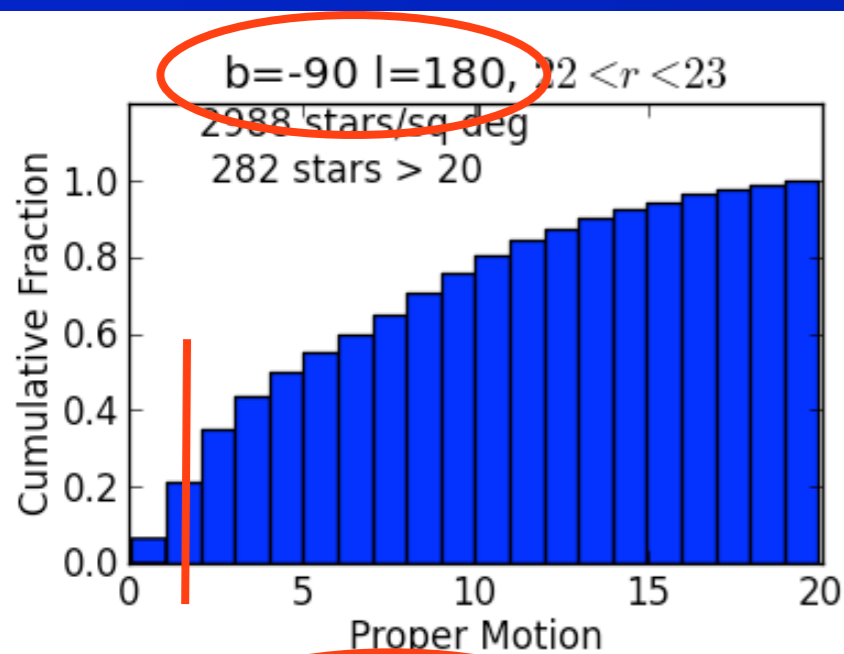


# How will LSST proper motion measurements help with the selection of faint quasars?

LSST proper motion errors: 0.5 mas/yr for  $r=23$  and 1.0 mas/yr for  $r=24$ .

$22 < r < 23$

$23 < r < 24$



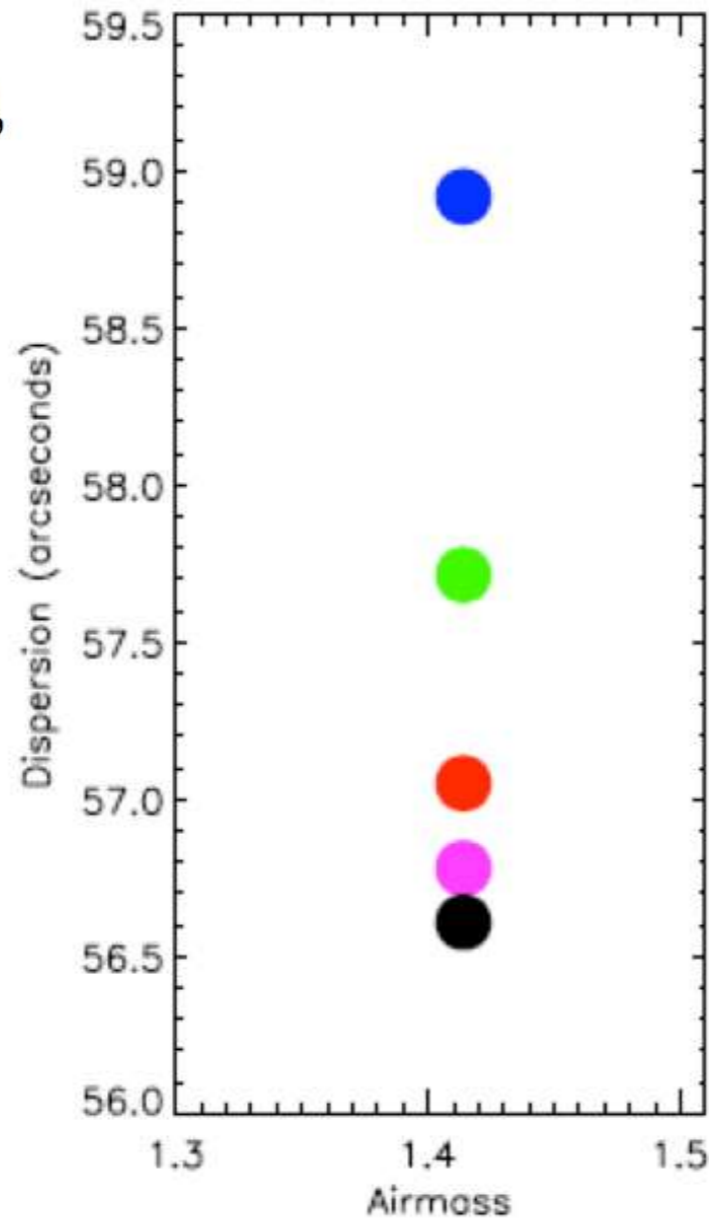
By adopting a 3sigma rejection cut:  
**About 2/3 of faint stars rejected due to proper motions without any selection by color or photometric variability, even at the faint end!**

# Astrometric Classification Kaczmarczik et al. (2009)

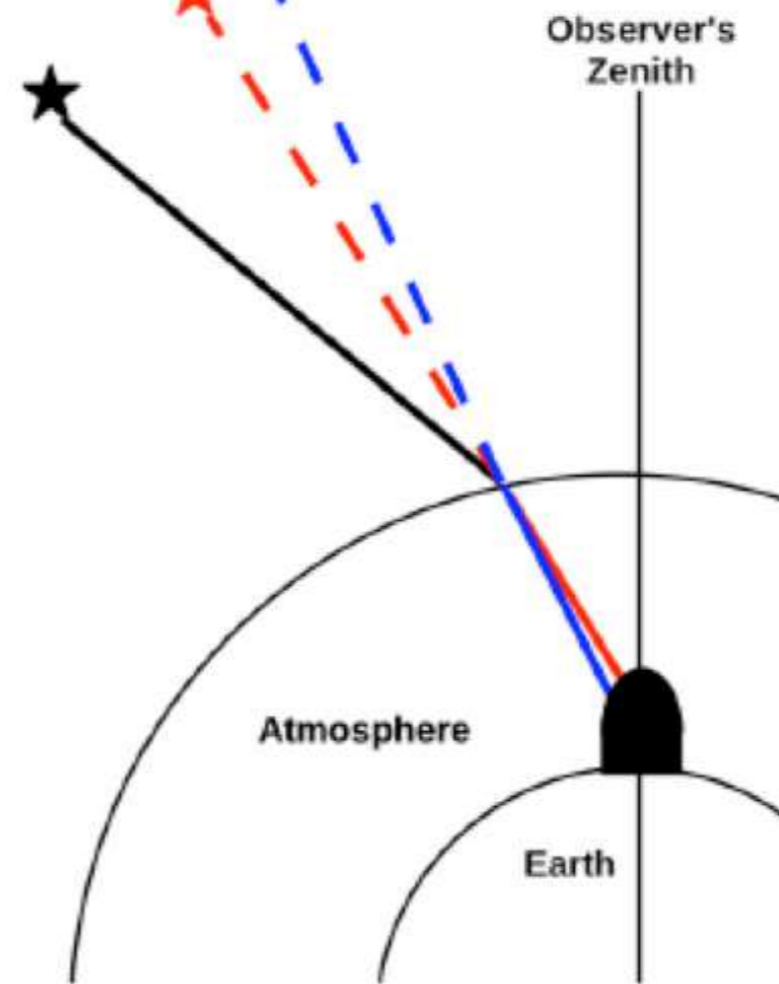
- 1) Atmospheric refraction depends on object's SED (within a passband)
- 2) Astrometric solution is derived using stars (with different SEDs than quasars')
- 3) Quasar's calibrated position will change with airmass of observation:

$$R \simeq R_0 \tan(Z),$$

$$R_0 = \frac{n^2 - 1}{2n^2}$$



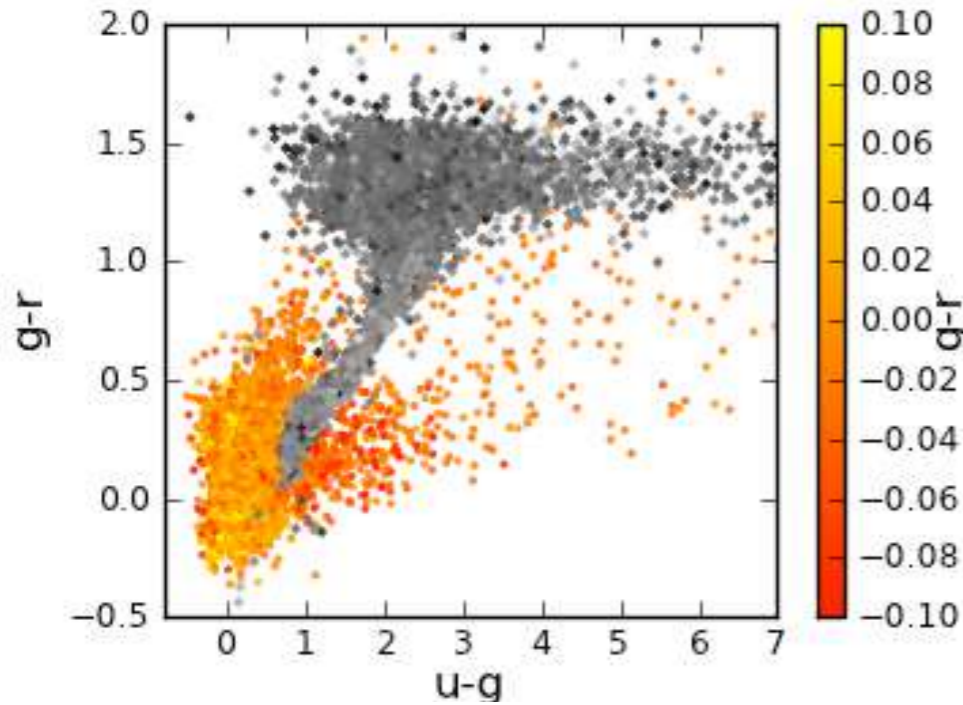
$$[n(\lambda) - 1]10^6 = 64.328 + \frac{29498.1}{146 - (1/\lambda)^2} + \frac{255.4}{41 - (1/\lambda)^2}$$



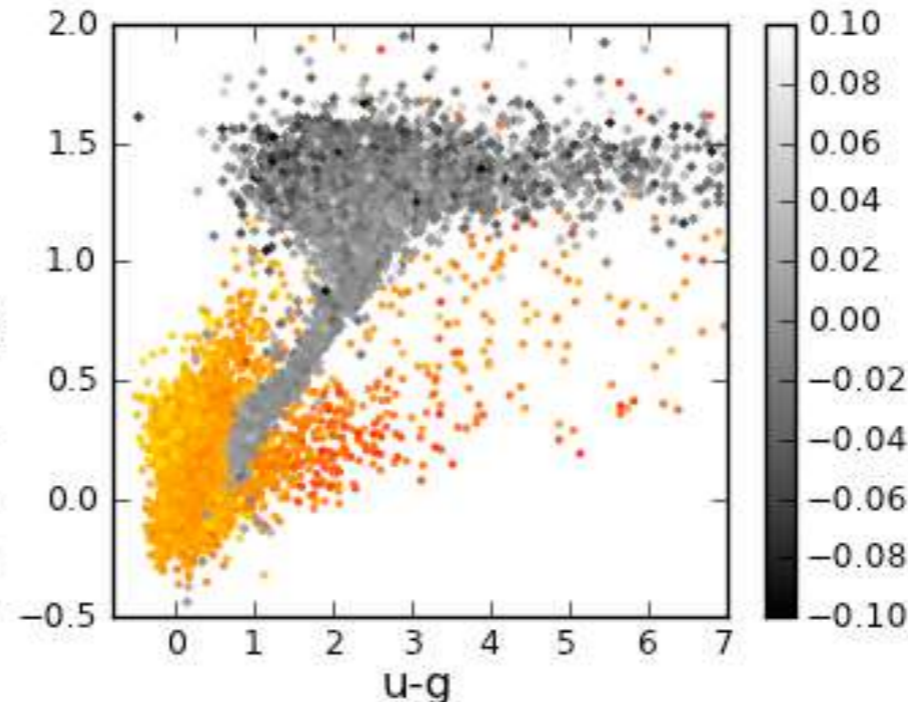
**Figure 1.** Left: DCR for a flat-spectrum object observed in the SDSS photometric system at a zenith angle of  $45^\circ$  ( $AM = 1.414$ ). The color coding is  $u =$  blue,  $g =$  green,  $r =$  red,  $i =$  magenta, and  $z =$  black. Objects appear higher in the sky when observed in blue bandpasses than in red bandpasses. Right: DCR schematic example. The solid black line indicates the incoming multi-chromatic light rays. The solid red and blue lines indicate the DCR of the incoming beam, with blue light rays being bent more than red. The dashed blue and red lines indicate the apparent location on the sky of the object as seen by the blue and red filters.

- 1) Atmospheric refraction depends on object's SED (within a passband)
- 2) Astrometric solution is derived using stars (with different SEDs than quasars')
- 3) **Quasar's calibrated position will change with airmass of observation:**  
**The slope of the change of the object's position with the airmass of observation clearly differentiates quasars and stars:**

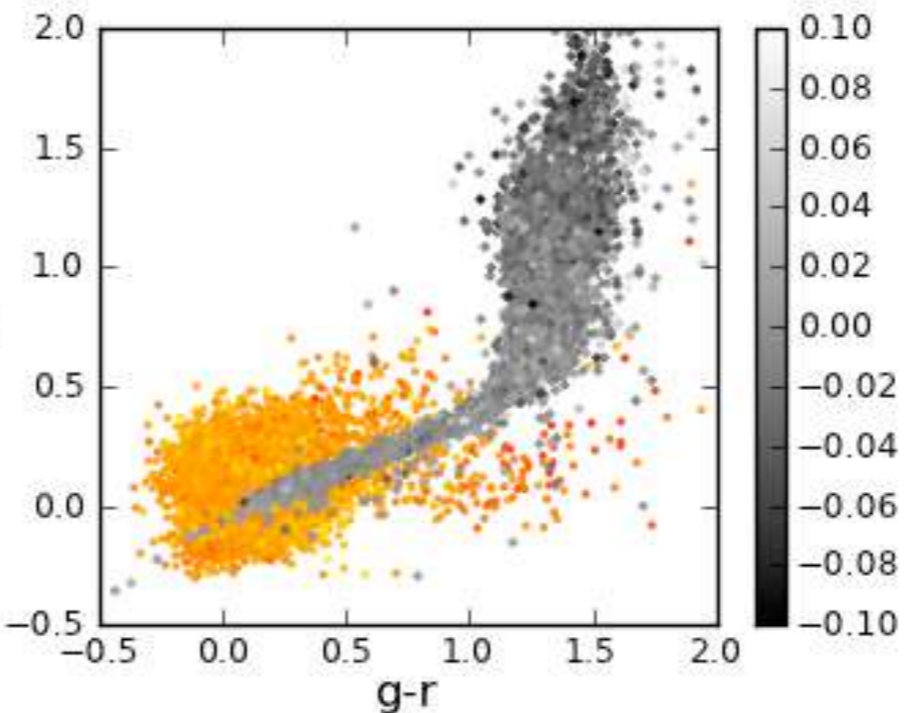
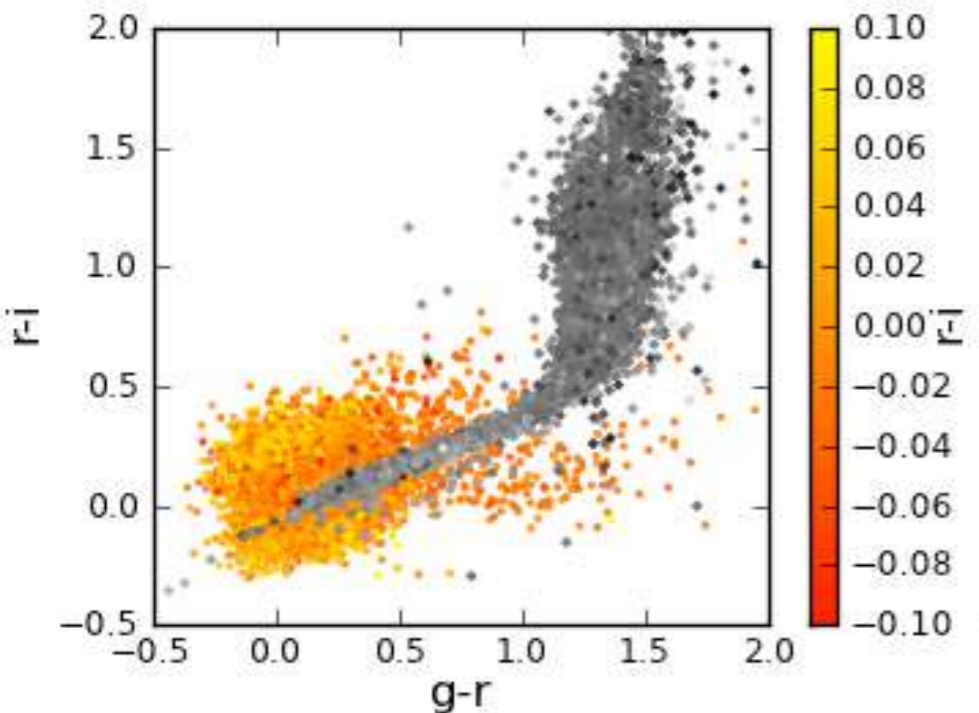
uSlope



gSlope



**Additional quasar selection method:**  
**DCR**  
**the variation of position with airmass (relative to the reference frame set by stars)**



**Kaczmarczik et al.:**  
**it is sufficient to sample airmass <1.4**  
**(which is consistent with the baseline LSST survey cadence)**

# Plausible LSST Yields

## Variability Selected Quasar Predictions from Palanque-Delabrouille et al. (2013)

**Table 8.** Predicted number of quasars over  $15.5 < g < 25$  and  $0 < z < 6$  for a survey covering  $10\,000 \text{ deg}^2$ , based on our best-fit luminosity function.

$g/z$	0.5	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.5	5.5	Total
15.75	76	15	0	0	0	0	92
16.25	174	55	11	0	0	0	239
16.75	402	172	61	0	0	0	635
17.25	939	535	180	6	0	0	1661
17.75	2163	1630	508	21	1	0	4323
18.25	4740	4720	1409	57	2	0	10 928
18.75	9456	12 380	3784	156	5	0	25 781
19.25	16 612	27 796	9409	422	14	0	54 255
19.75	25 537	51 561	20 579	1128	39	1	98 846
20.25	35 185	80 209	38 096	2923	107	4	156 523
20.75	45 008	110 341	59 939	7085	289	10	222 671
21.25	54 980	141 918	82 650	15 386	779	27	295 740
21.75	64 988	176 959	103 733	28 916	2036	74	376 706
22.25	74 189	217 815	122 861	46 636	5064	201	466 766
22.75	80 370	266 716	141 310	65 652	11 408	545	566 001
23.25	79 024	325 945	160 621	82 972	22 419	1436	672 417
23.75	61 347	398 006	182 048	97 320	37 756	3632	780 110
24.25	15 976	480 676	206 510	109 295	55 090	8401	875 949
24.75	0	492 283	234 874	120 118	71 481	17 111	935 866
Total	571 169	2 789 734	1 368 583	578 092	206 489	31 444	5 545 510

**LSST:  
10  
million  
!**

**Notes.** Bins are centered on the indicated magnitude and redshift values. The ranges in each bin are  $\Delta g = 0.5$  and  $\Delta z = 1$ .

where we call “quasar” an object with a luminosity  $M_i[z = 2] < -20.5$  and either displaying at least one emission line with FWHM greater than  $500 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  or, if not, having interesting/complex absorption features.

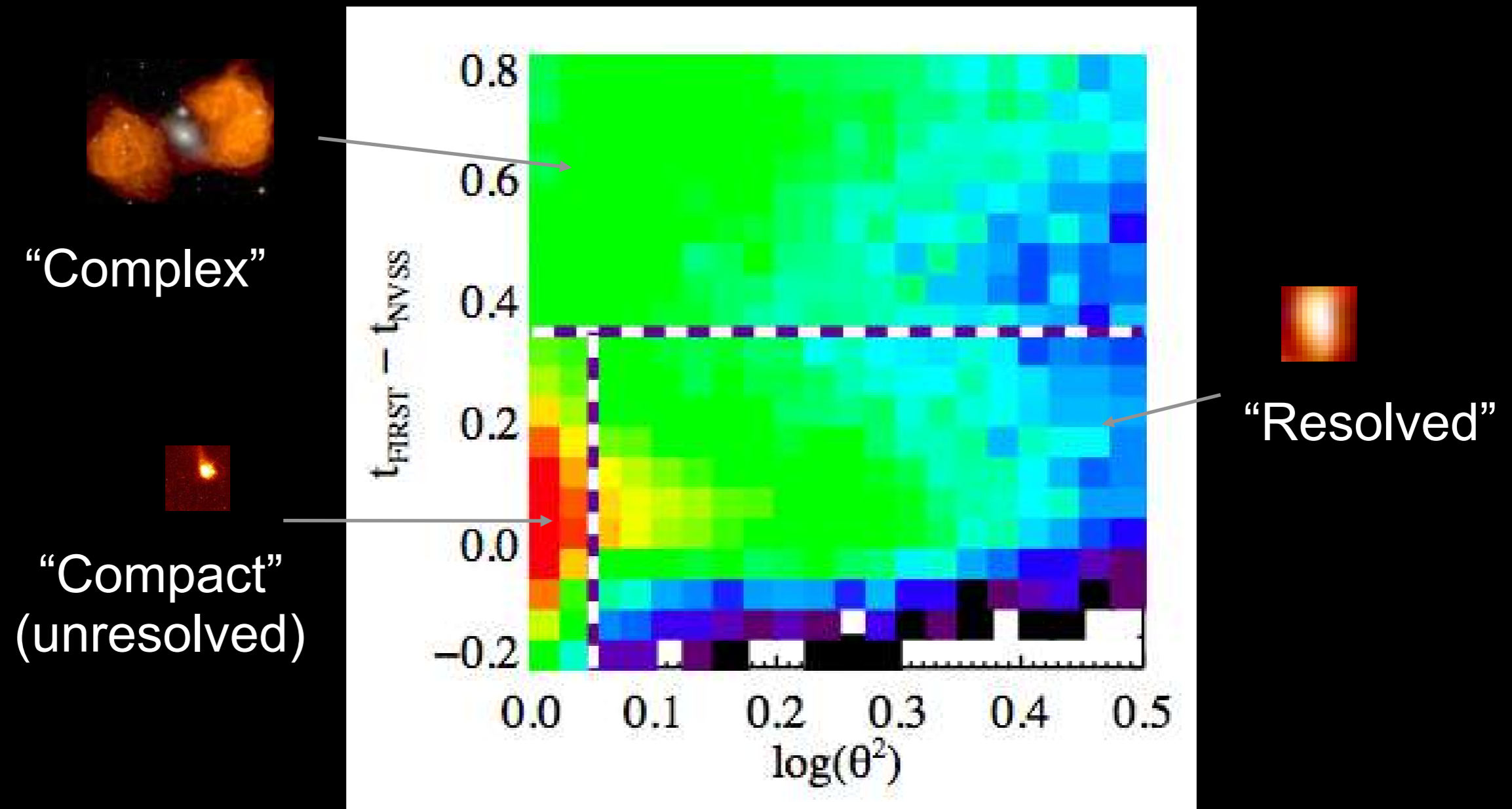


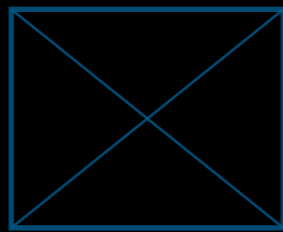
## **The connections between optical and radio regimes:**

- 1) Science Results (asking similar and often same questions; e.g. stellar and galaxy formation and evolution, dark energy)
- 2) Tools and Methods (e.g. massive databases)
- 3) Supplemental data (identification, physical processes, HI)

# AUTOMATED radio morphology classification for over 100,000 radio sources

**FIRST vs. NVSS flux, and FIRST peak vs. integrated flux:**





71%

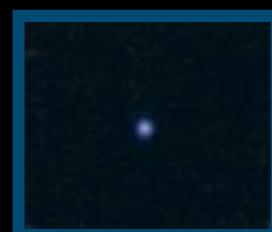
Optical:

No SDSS



22%

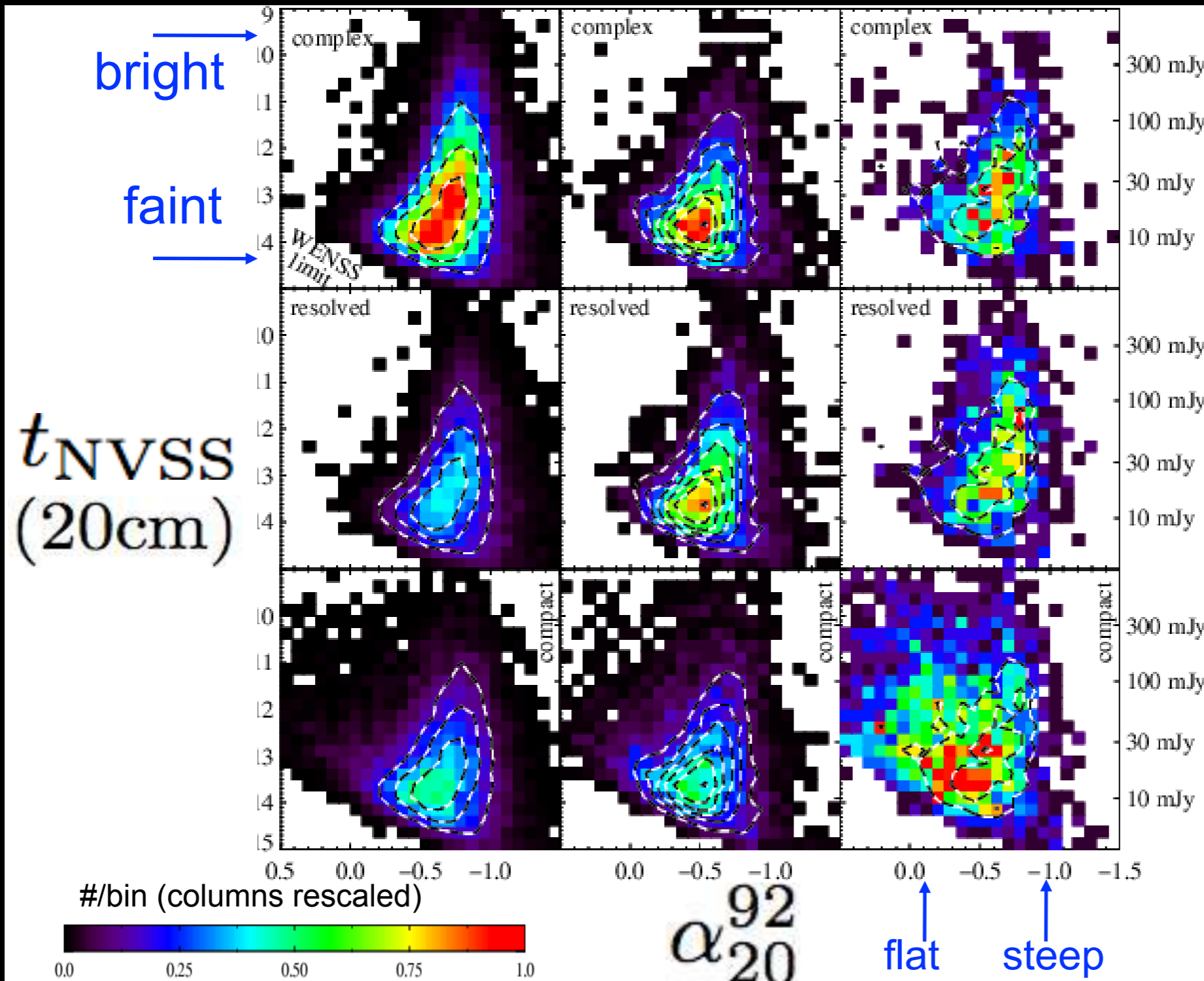
Galaxies



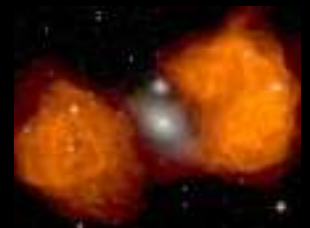
7%

Point sources

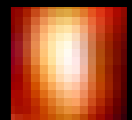
# Radio "color"-mag. diagrams



Complex  
45%



Resolved  
25%



Compact  
30%



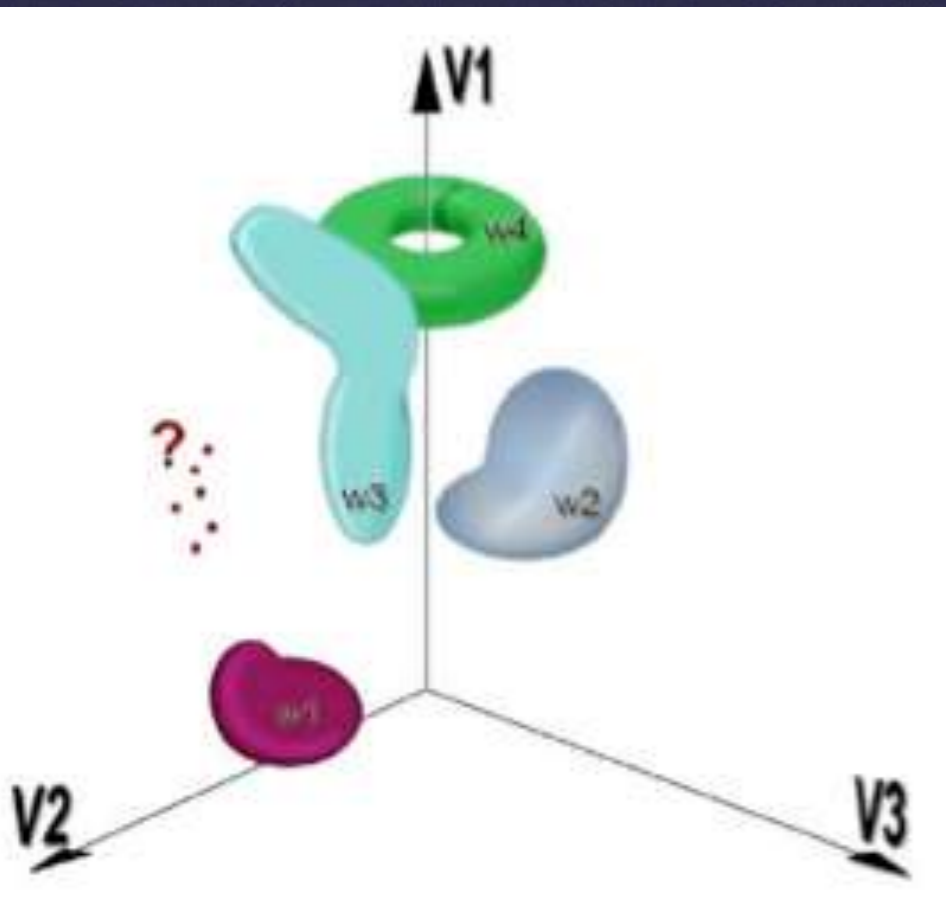
**massive  
statistical  
studies!**



# Statistical analysis of a massive LSST dataset

- A large (100 PB) database and sophisticated analysis tools: for each of 40 billion objects there will be about 1000 measurements (each with a few dozen measured parameters)

## Data mining and knowledge discovery



- 10,000-D space with 40 billion points
- Characterization of known objects
- Classification of new populations
- Discoveries of unusual objects

Clustering, classification, outliers

## News

October 2012: astroML 0.1 has been released! Get the source on Github

Our Introduction to astroML paper received the CIDU 2012 best paper award.

## Links

astroML Mailing List

GitHub Issue Tracker

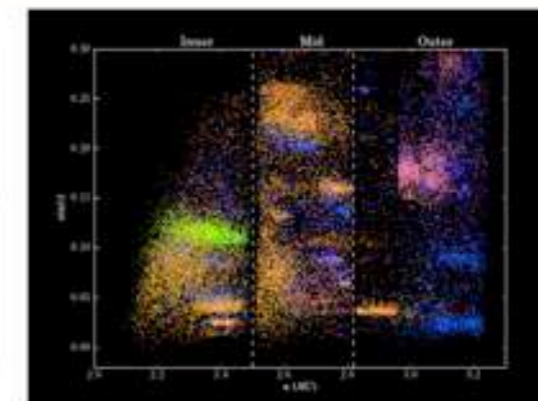
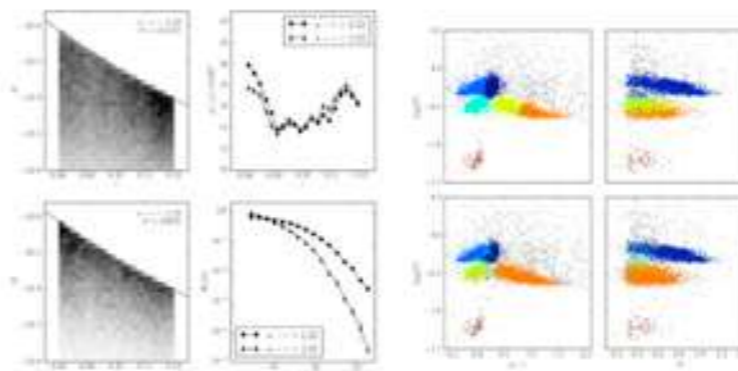
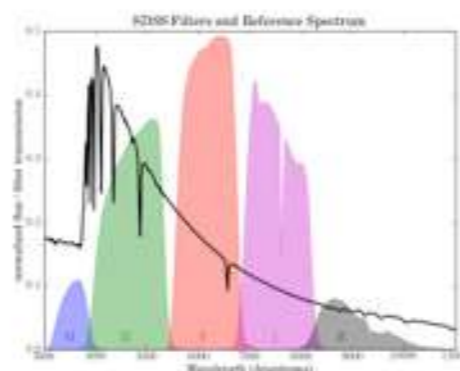
## Videos

Scipy 2012 (15 minute talk)

## Citing

If you use the software, please consider citing astroML.

# AstroML: Machine Learning and Data Mining for Astronomy



AstroML is a Python module for machine learning and data mining built on numpy, scipy, scikit-learn, and matplotlib, and distributed under the 3-clause BSD license. It contains a growing library of statistical and machine learning routines for analyzing astronomical data in python, loaders for several open astronomical datasets, and a large suite of examples of analyzing and visualizing astronomical datasets.

The goal of astroML is to provide a community repository for fast Python implementations of common tools and routines used for statistical data analysis in astronomy and astrophysics, to provide a uniform and easy-to-use interface to freely available astronomical datasets. We hope this package will be useful to researchers and students of astronomy. The astroML project was started in 2012 to accompany the book **Statistics, Data Mining, and Machine Learning in Astronomy** by Zeljko Ivezic, Andrew Connolly, Jacob VanderPlas, and Alex Gray, to be published in late 2013. The table of contents is available here: [here \(pdf\)](#).

## Downloads

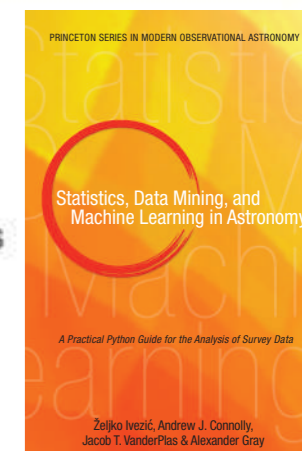
- Released Versions: [Python Package Index](#)
- Bleeding-edge Source: [github](#)

## User Guide

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Philosophy

**Open source!**  
[www.astroML.org](http://www.astroML.org)



# Textbook Figures

This section makes available the source code used to generate every figure in the book *Statistics, Data Mining, and Machine Learning in Astronomy*. Many of the figures are fairly self-explanatory, though some will be less so without the book as a reference. The table of contents of the book can be seen [here \(pdf\)](#).

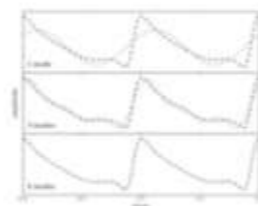
## Figure Contents

Each chapter links to a page with thumbnails of the figures from the chapter.

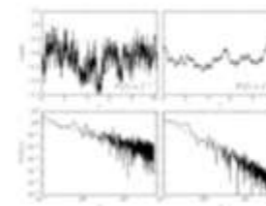
- Chapter 1: Introduction
- Chapter 2: Fast Computation and Massive Datasets
- Chapter 3: Probability and Statistical Distributions
- Chapter 4: Classical Statistical Inference
- Chapter 5: Bayesian Statistical Inference
- Chapter 6: Searching for Structure in Point Data
- Chapter 7: Dimensionality and its Reduction
- Chapter 8: Regression and Model Fitting
- Chapter 9: Classification
- Chapter 10: Time Series Analysis
- Appendix

## Chapter 10: Time Series Analysis

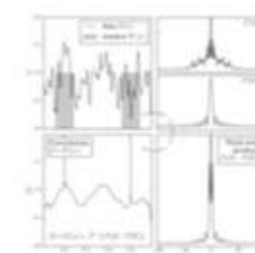
This chapter covers the analysis of both periodic and non-periodic time series, for both regularly and irregularly spaced data.



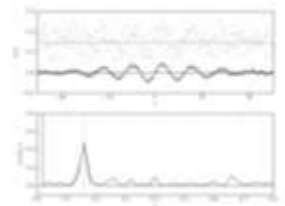
*Fourier Reconstruction of RR-Lyrae Templates*



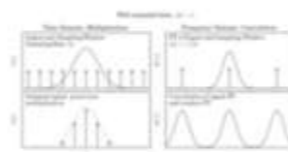
*Generating Power-law Light Curves*



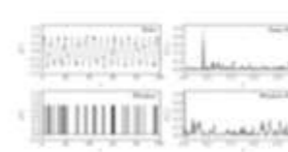
*Plot a Diagram explaining a Convolution*



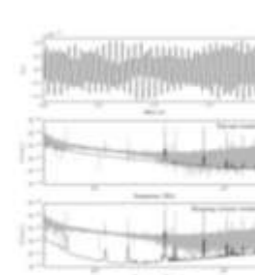
*Fast Fourier Transform Example*



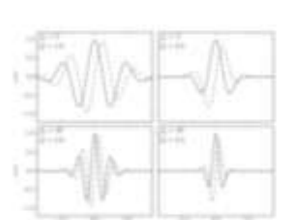
*The effect of Sampling*



*The effect of Sampling*



*Plot the power spectrum of the LIGO big dog event*



*Examples of Wavelets*

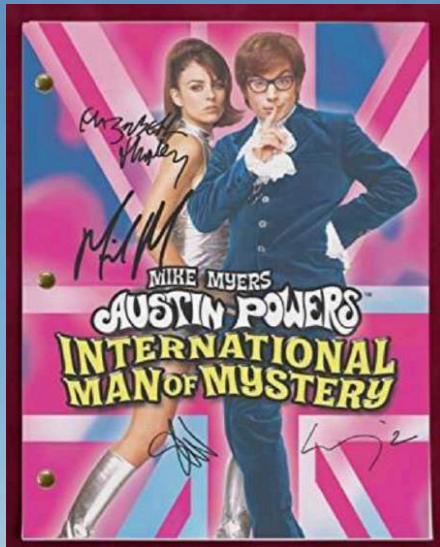
# SUMMARY

- **Finding quasars/AGNs with SDSS**  
color selection of quasars produced samples with  $\sim 200,000$  spectroscopically confirmed objects, and  $\sim 1$  million quasar candidates!
- **Finding quasars/AGNs with LSST**  
a combination of photometry (colors and variability) and astrometry (no proper motion and DCR) will yield a highly clean and complete sample of 10 million objects, including  $\sim 10,000$  quasars at redshifts exceeding  $\sim 6$  (and 1,000 with  $z > 7$ )!

SDSS: a digital color **map** of the night sky

LSST: a digital color **movie** of the sky

“If You Liked SDSS, You will Love LSST!”



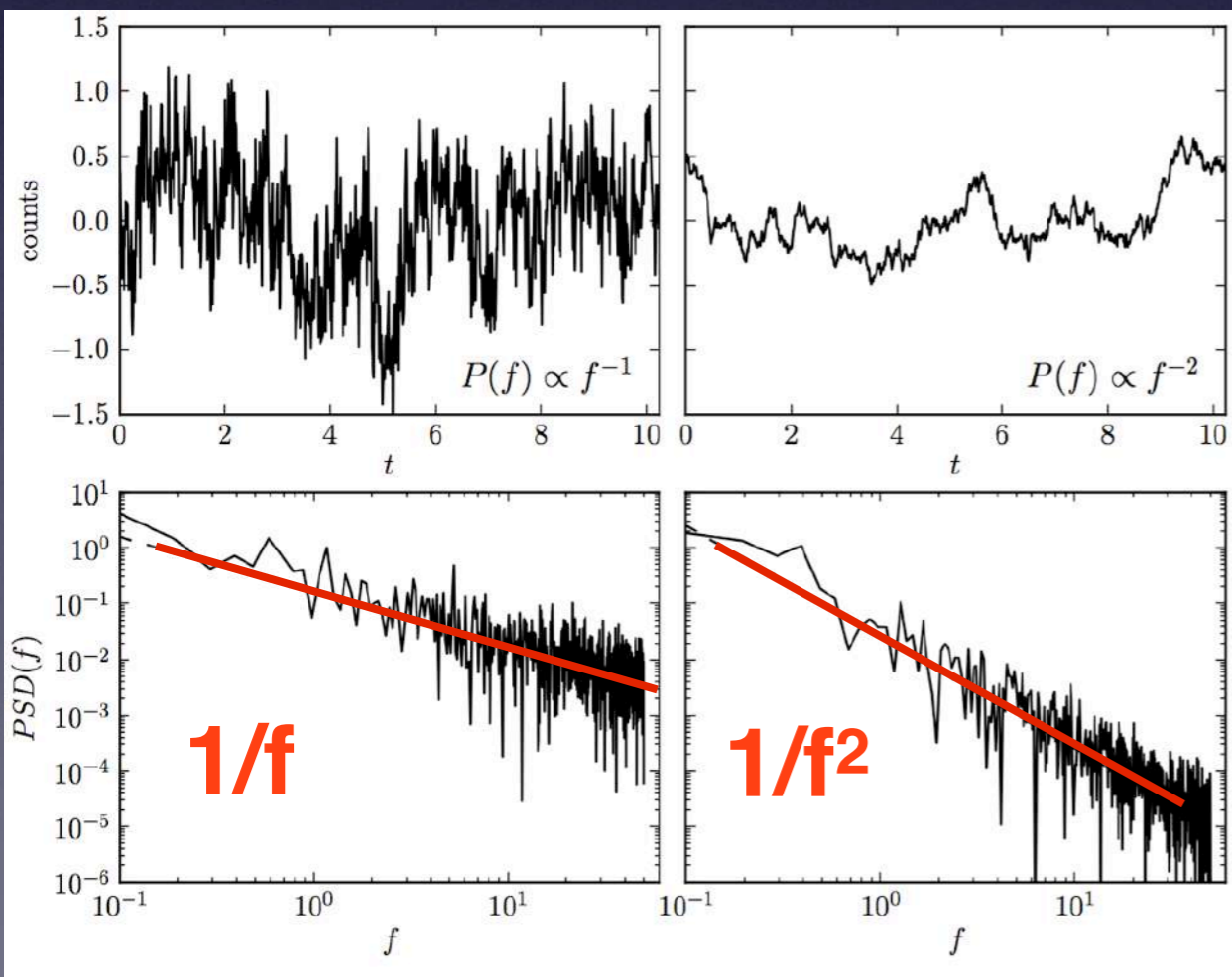
Quasar variability is stochastic - how can we describe it mathematically?

# Damped random walk

also known as Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process and as CAR(1) process; it has exponentially decaying ACF and it is a **Stochastic process with**

**PSD( $f$ ) =  $1/f^2$  for  $f > 1/\tau$ , and PSD( $f$ )=const. for  $f < 1/\tau$**

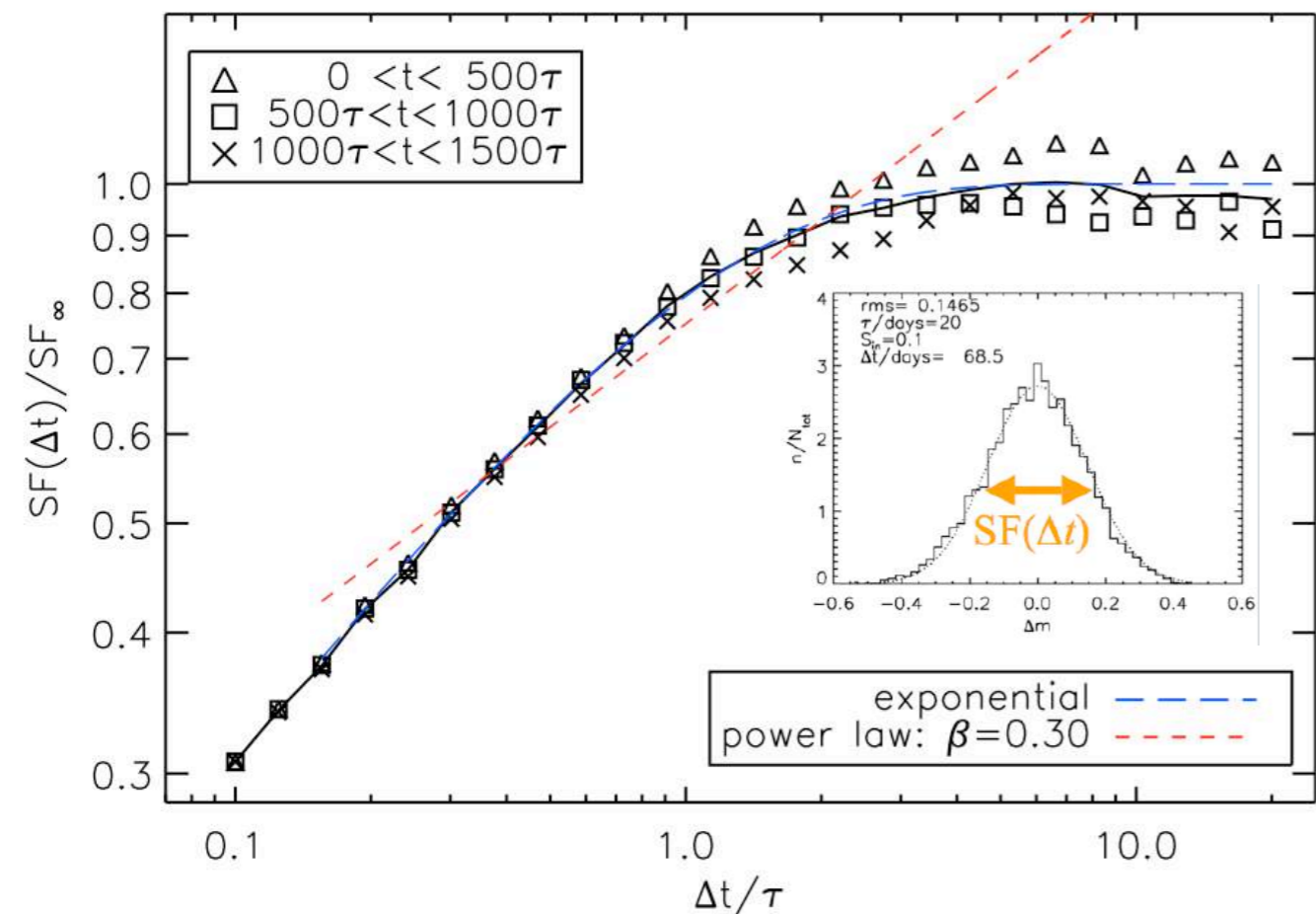
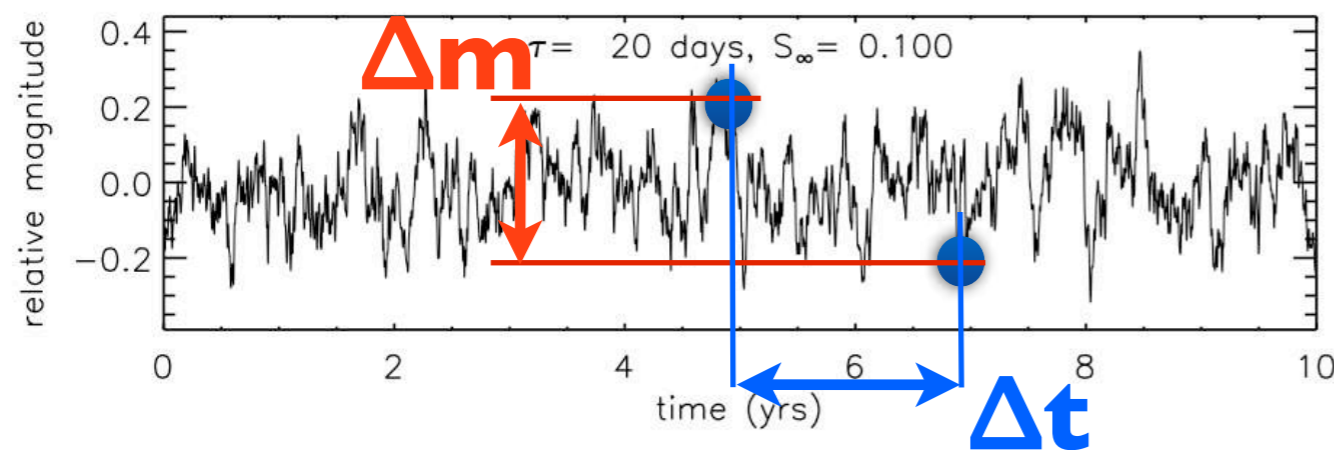
So, like ordinary random walk at high frequencies, but less power at low frequencies: the process tends towards its mean value and doesn't drift away



**LEFT:**  
Both PSDs have equal power at low frequencies; the  $1/f$  on the left has more power at high frequencies and thus the light curve in the top left panel appears more “noisy”

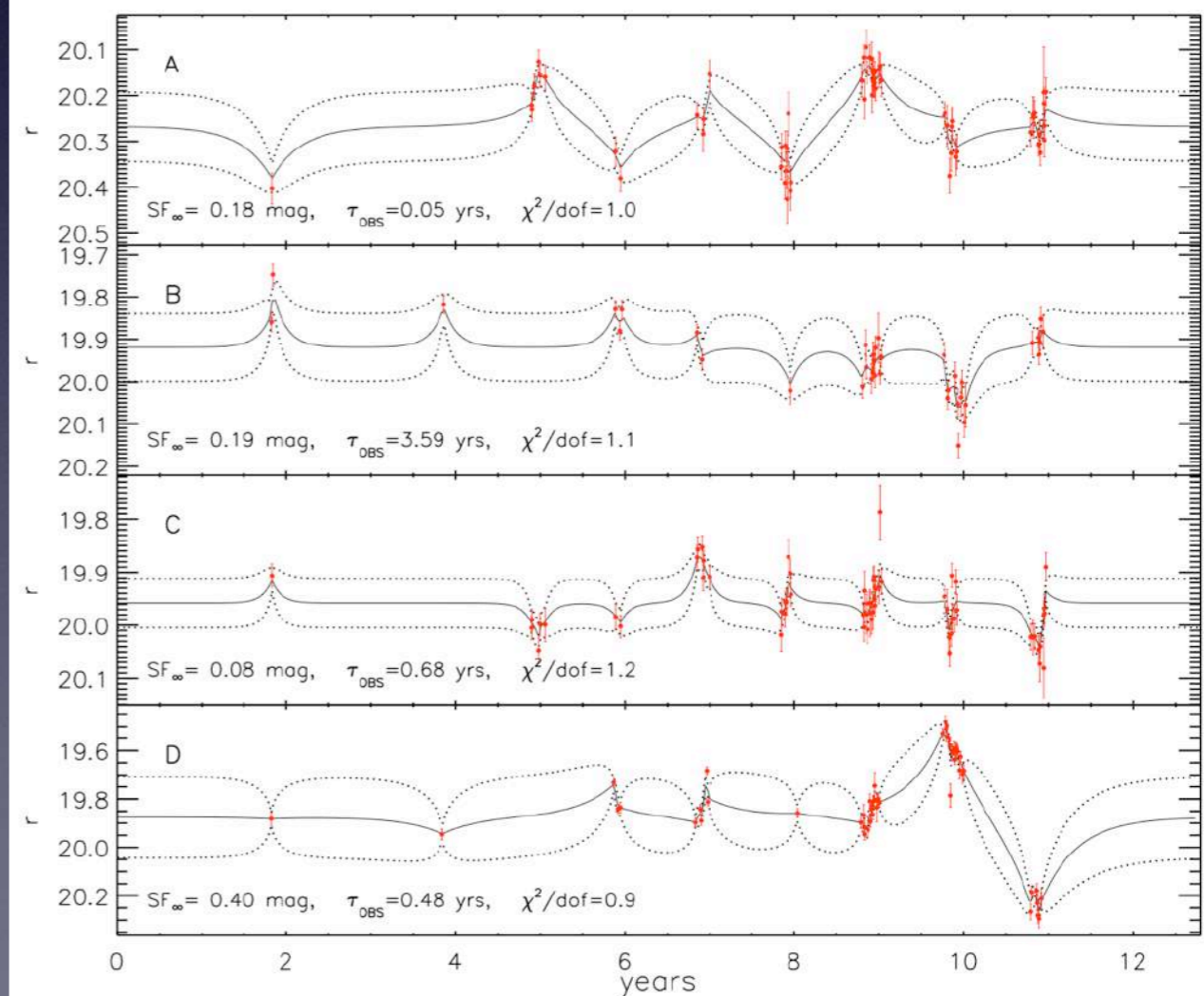
# Damped random walk

For irregularly sampled data, best analyzed using **the structure function**, or alternatively by **fitting individual light curves** for the best-fit time scale  $\tau$  and variability long-term variance (e.g. see “Gaussian Processes” in Numerical Recipes, or Kozłowski, S., et al. 2010, ApJ, 708, 927)



auto-correlation function

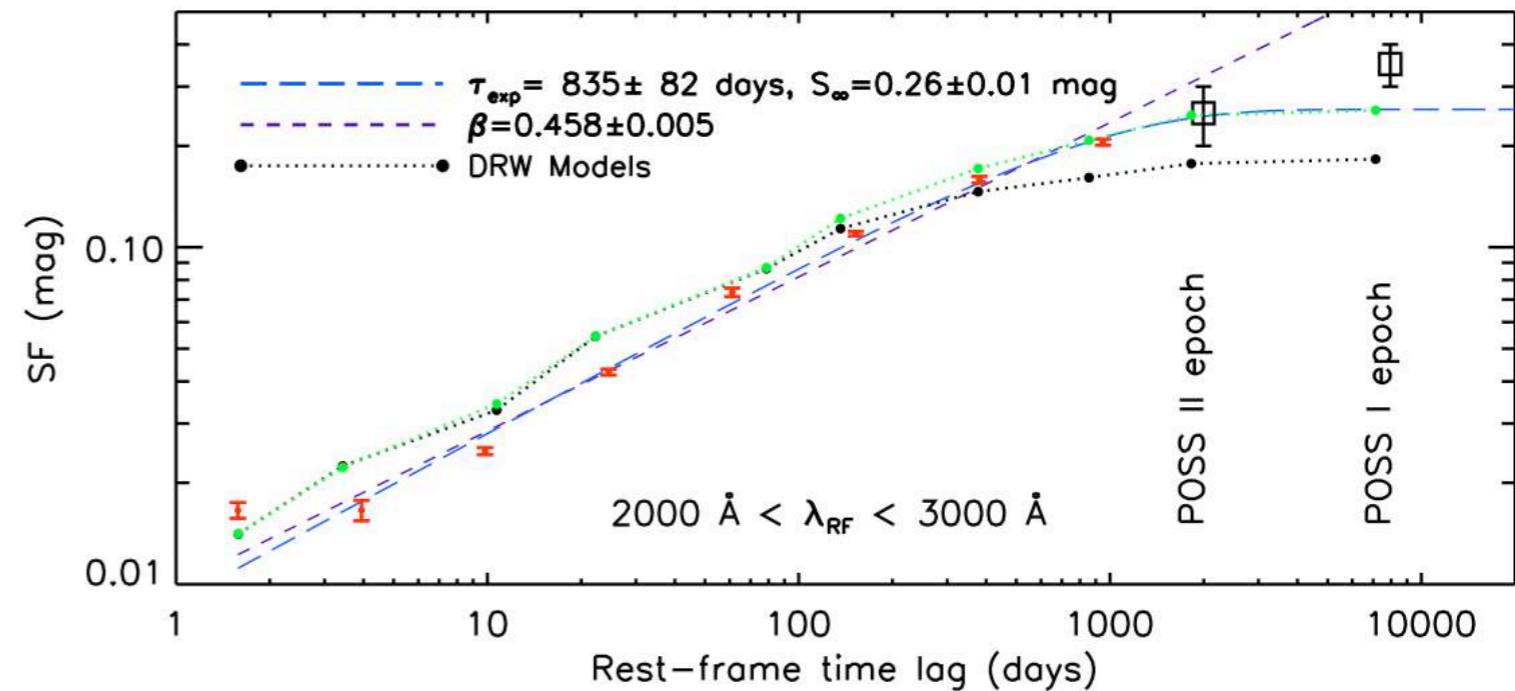
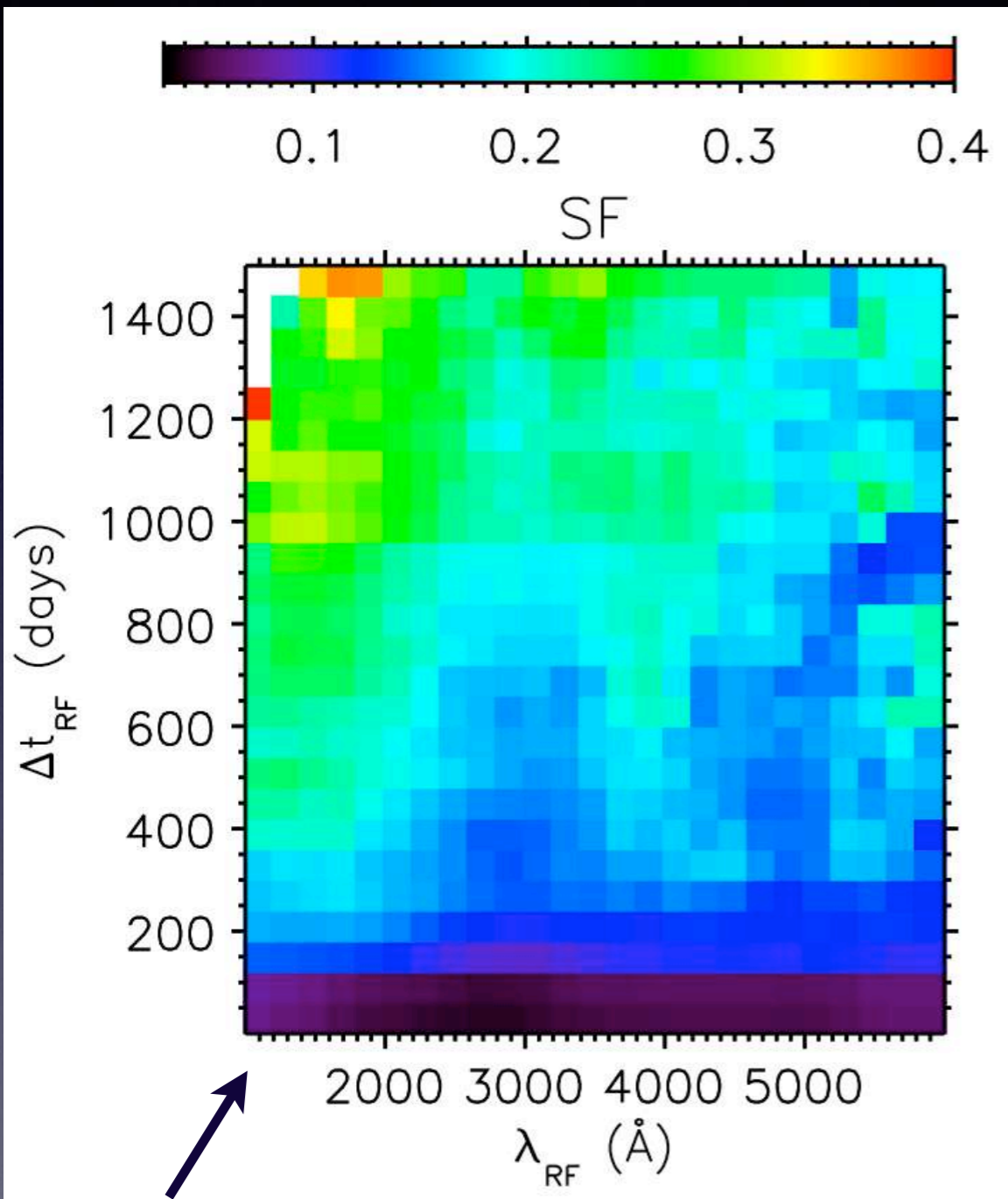
$$SF(\Delta t) = SF_\infty (1 - e^{-|\Delta t|/\tau})^{1/2}$$



# Damped random walk

For irregularly sampled data, statistical samples are best analyzed using the (model-independent) structure function

$$SF(\Delta t) = SF_{\infty} (1 - e^{-|\Delta t|/\tau})^{1/2}$$



Observing baseline of 10 years (SDSS) is sufficient to constrain variability time scale for the majority of quasars

Variability rms decreases with wavelength and increase with time

McLeod et al. 2012