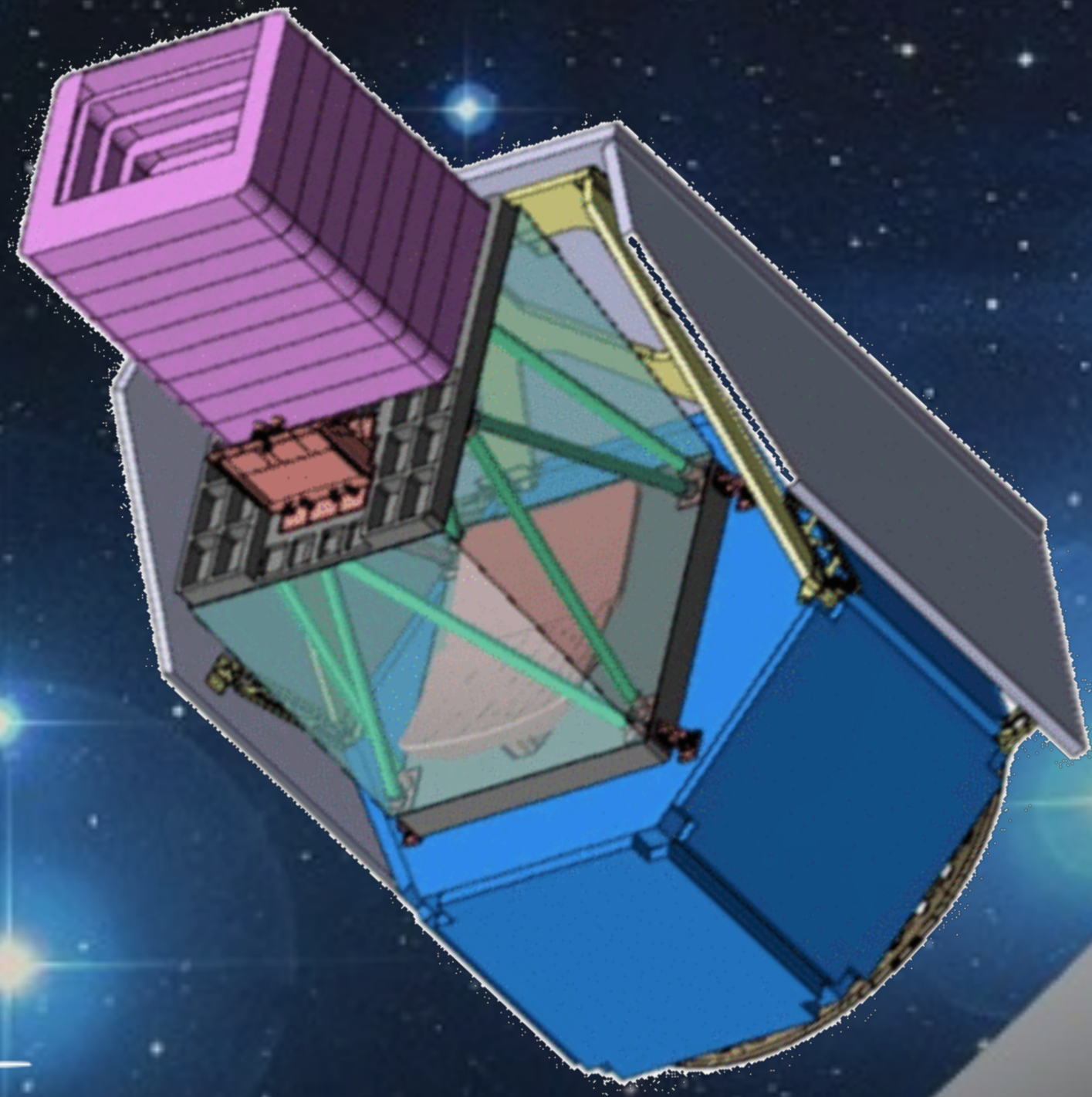


# Darkness revealed

The ultra-low surface brightness universe



THE MESSIER SURVEYOR

David Valls-Gabaud

CNRS - Observatoire de Paris

*Journées SF2A — Nice*

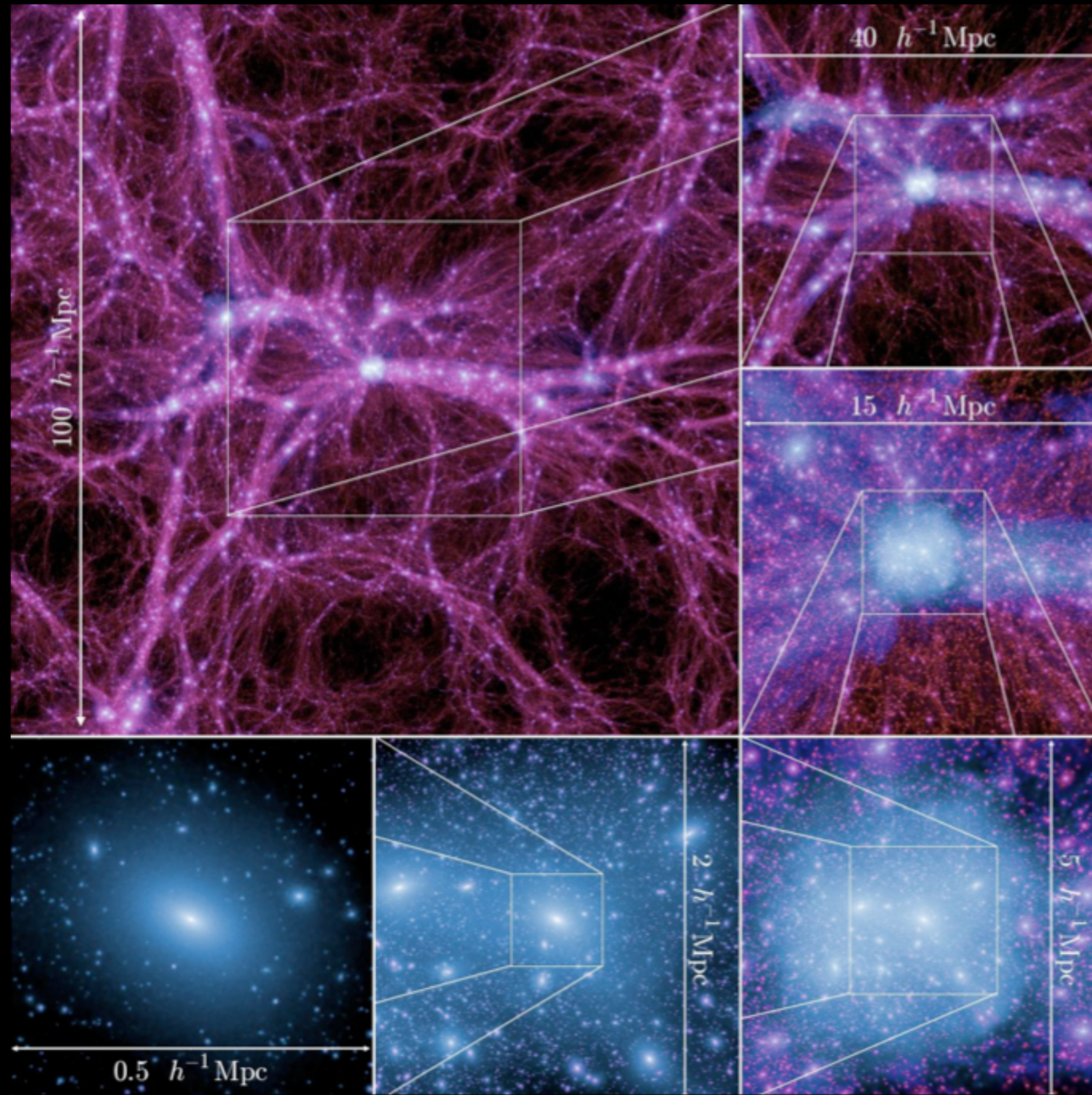
*2019 May 15*





# Current $\Lambda$ CDM paradigm of cosmological structure formation

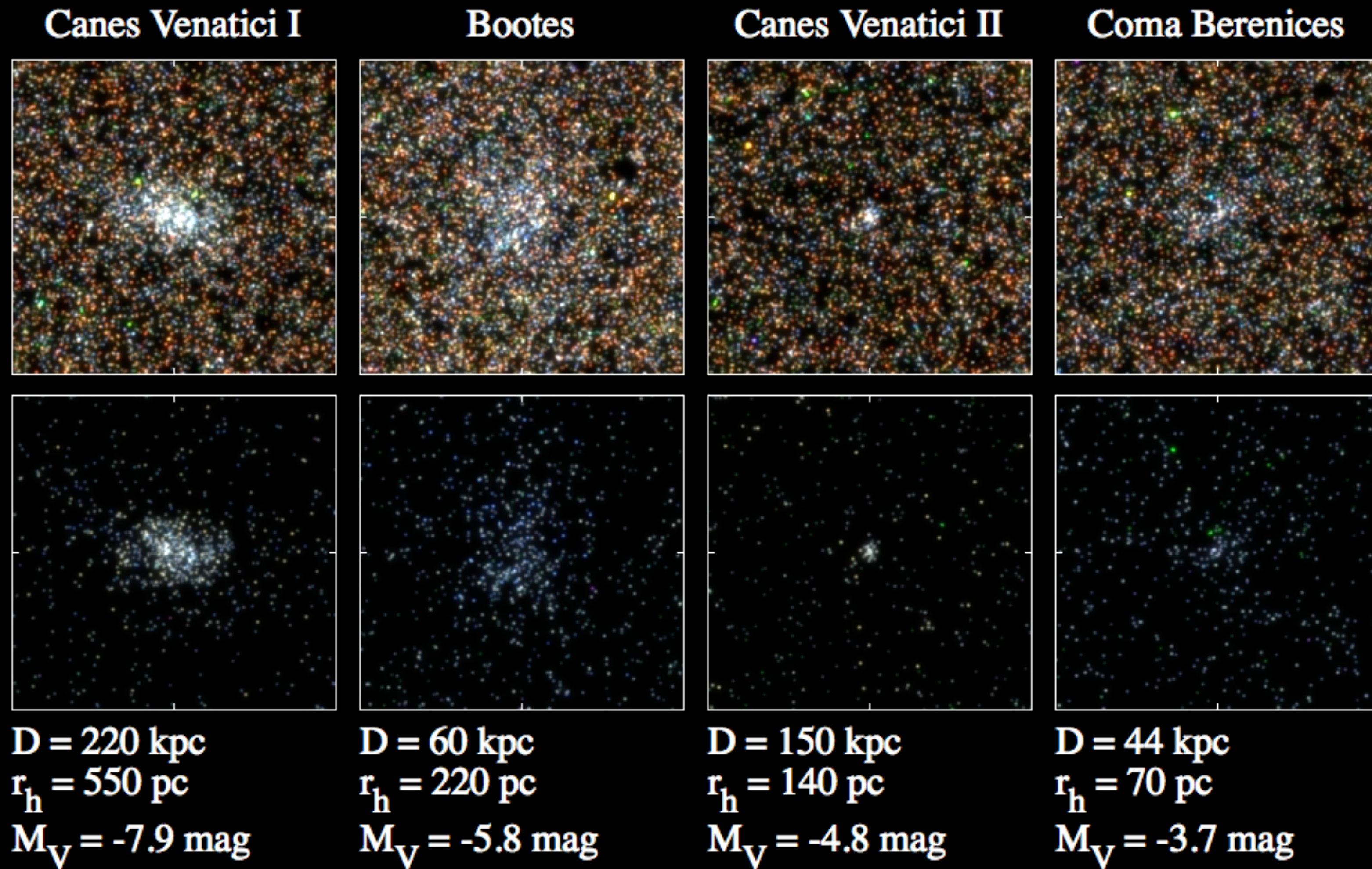
linear  
&  
weakly nonlinear





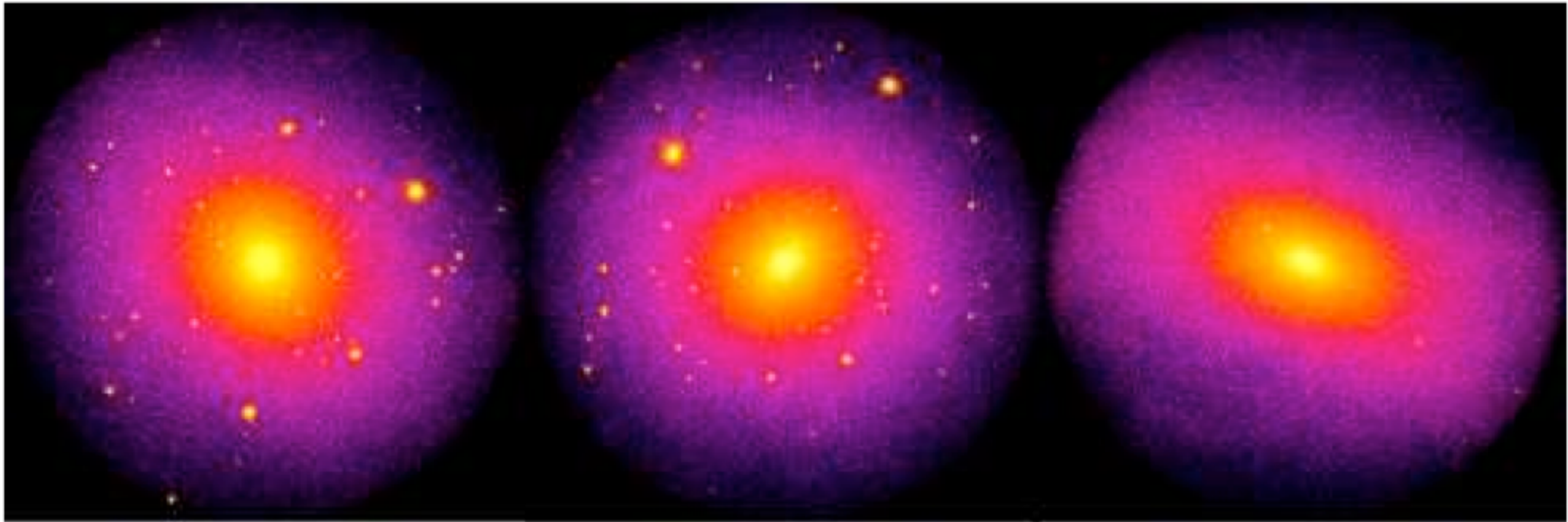
## Driving science case #1

Key prediction of the  $\Lambda$ CDM paradigm :  
The over abundance of dwarf satellites





# Tension in the CDM paradigm ?



Brooks *et al.* (2014)

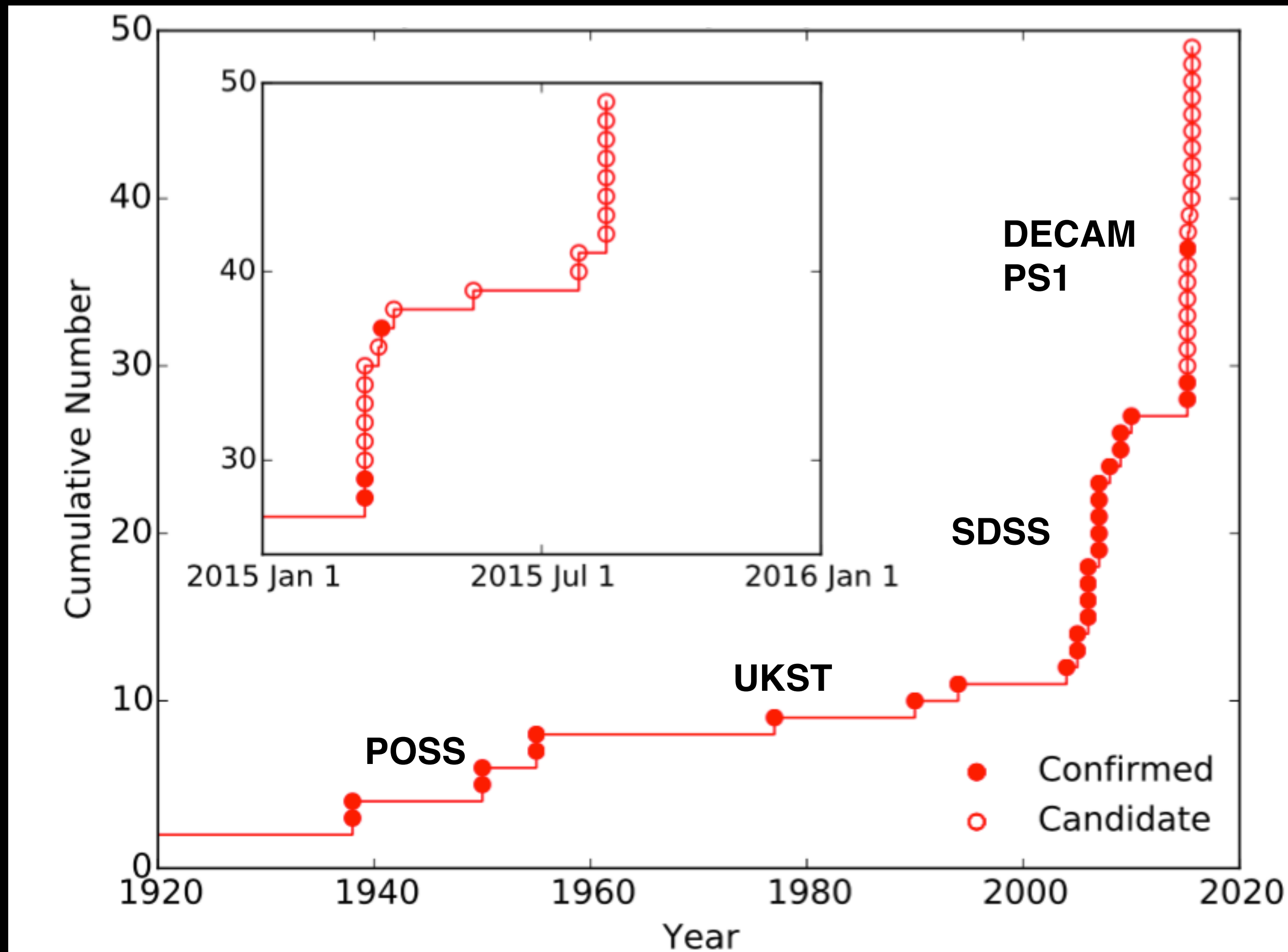
Self-Interacting  
dark matter

Cold  
dark matter

Warm  
dark matter

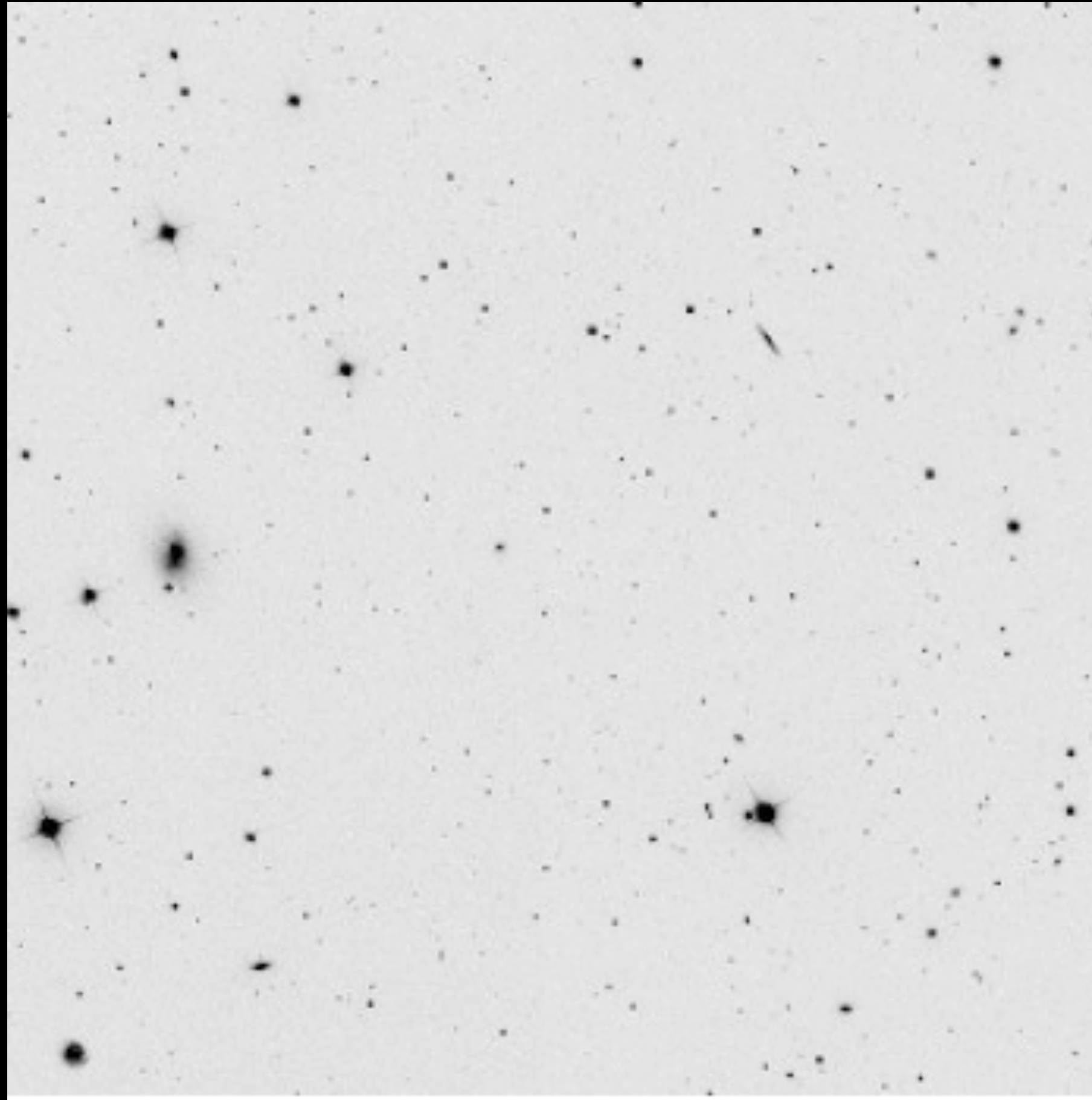


# Discovery rate of Milky Way satellites





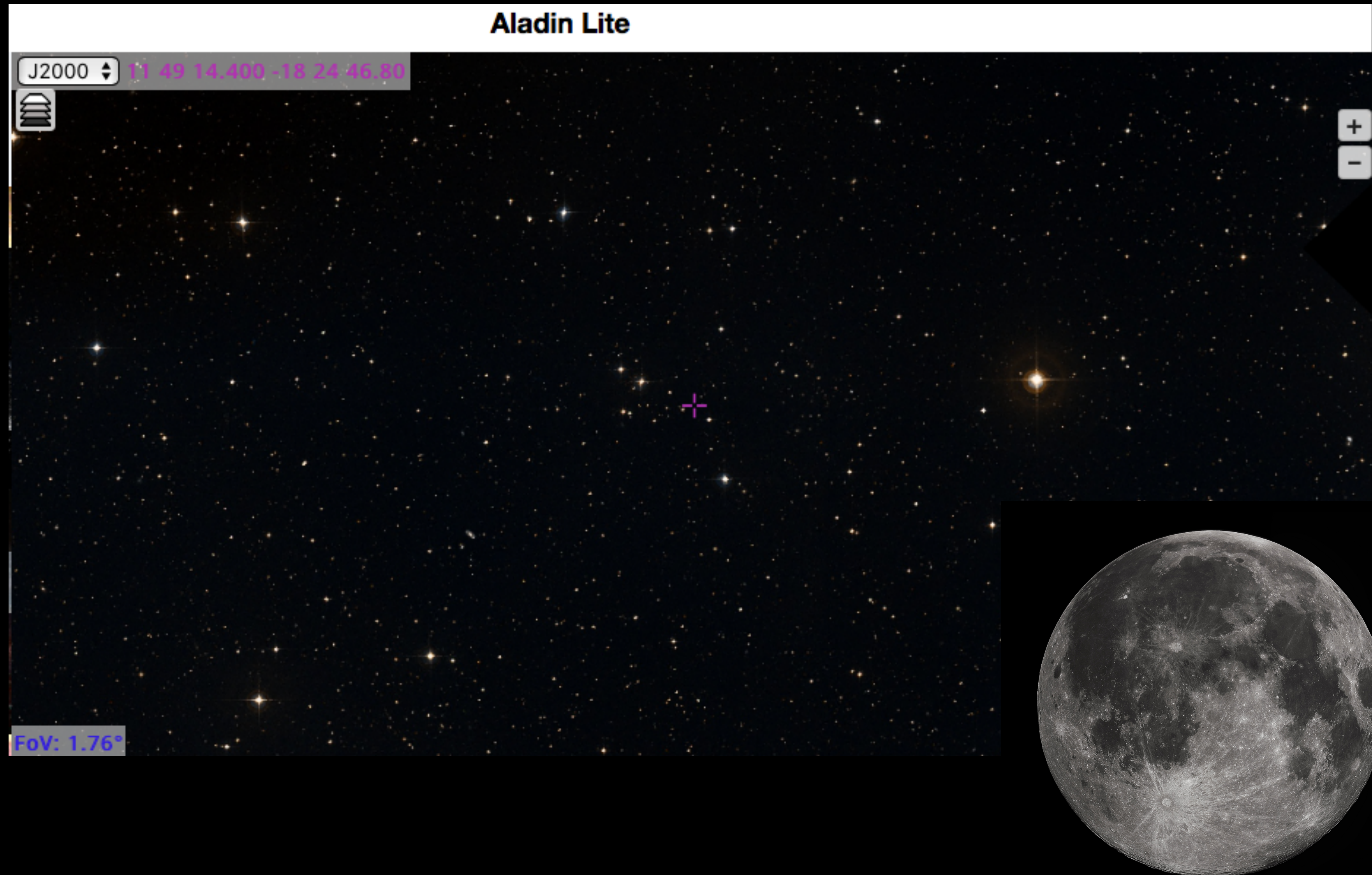
# The case of Segue I



Belokurov *et al.* (2007)



# *Crater II* : The 5<sup>th</sup> largest satellite of the Milky Way





# *Crater II* : The 5<sup>th</sup> largest satellite of the Milky Way



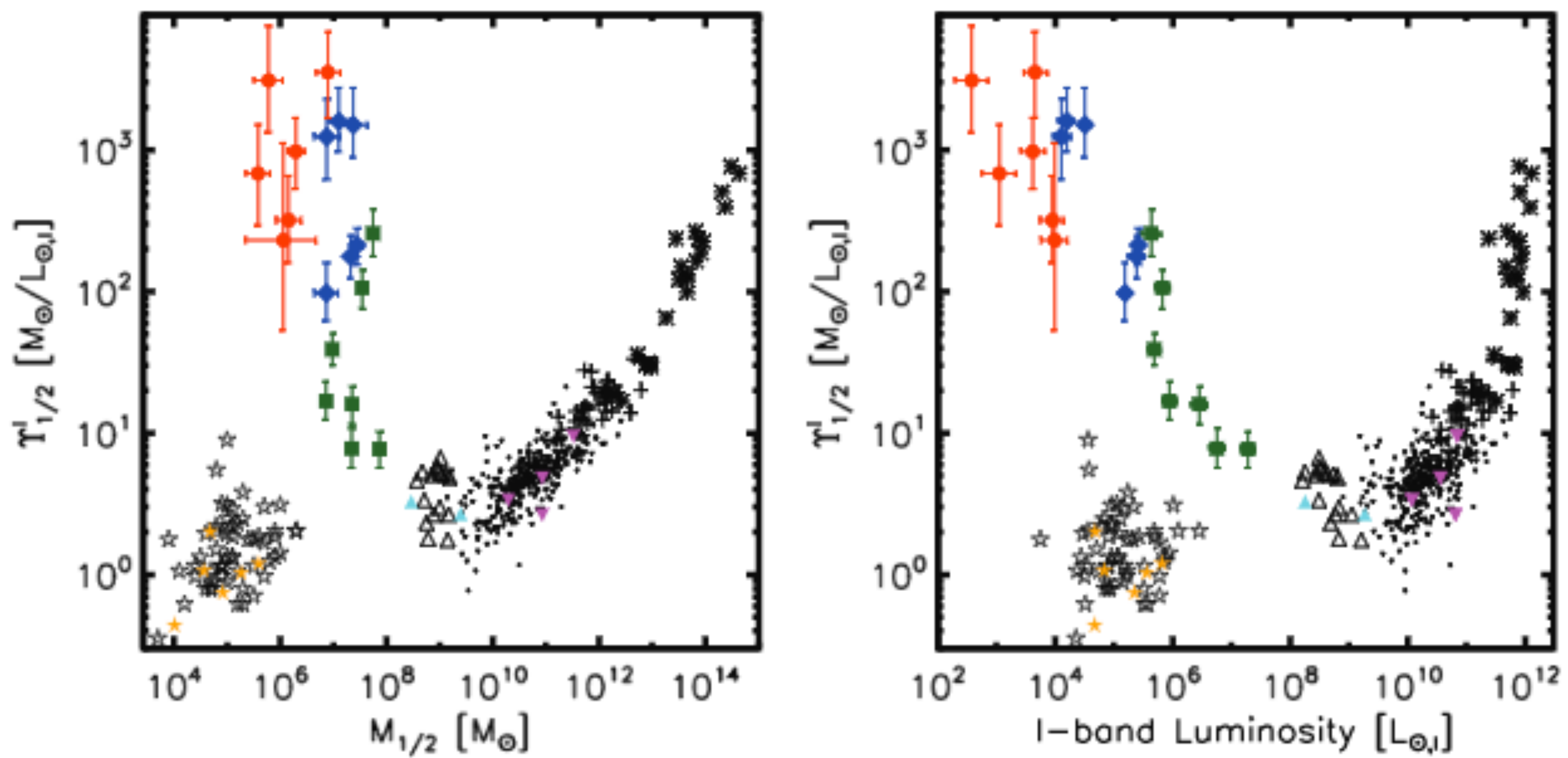
$d = 120 \text{ kpc}$

$r_h = 1.06 \text{ kpc } (31')$

$\mu_V(r_h) = 30.9 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$

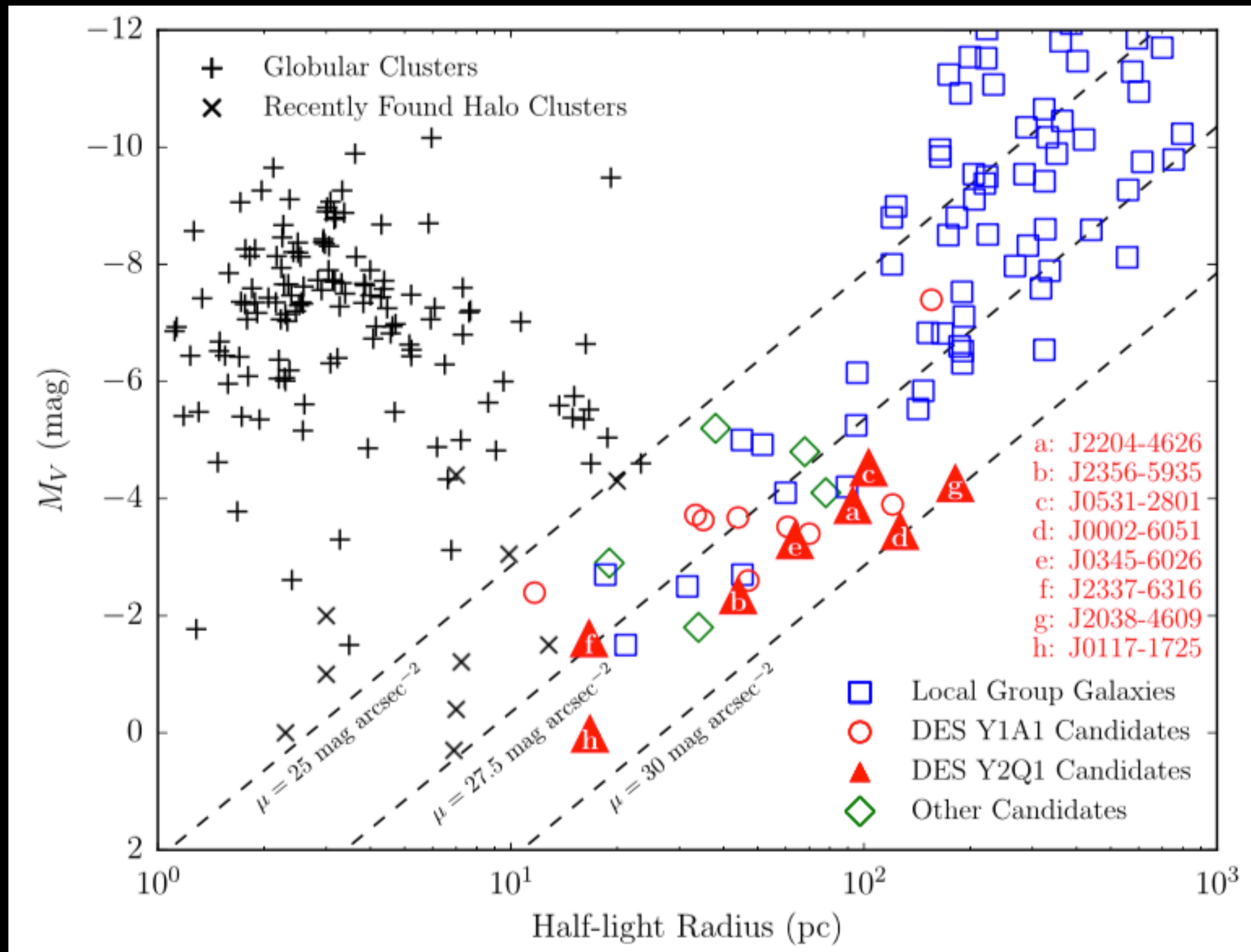
Torrealba et al. (2016)





Wolf et al. (2011)







# Current instrumentation is *not* adequate for LSB observations

Flux received from a *point* source:

$$F_{\text{point}} = \epsilon \pi \left( \frac{D}{2} \right)^2 t_{\text{exp}} 10^{-0.4 m}$$

→ drives telescopes with *large* diameters and *large* focal lengths

Surface brightness received from an *extended* source:

$$SB_{\text{extended}} = \epsilon \pi^2 \left( \frac{f}{D} \right)^{-2} t_{\text{exp}} s_{\text{pix}}^2 N_{\text{pix}} 10^{-0.4 \mu}$$

→ requires *fast* optics with *minimal* ( $f/D$ ) ratio



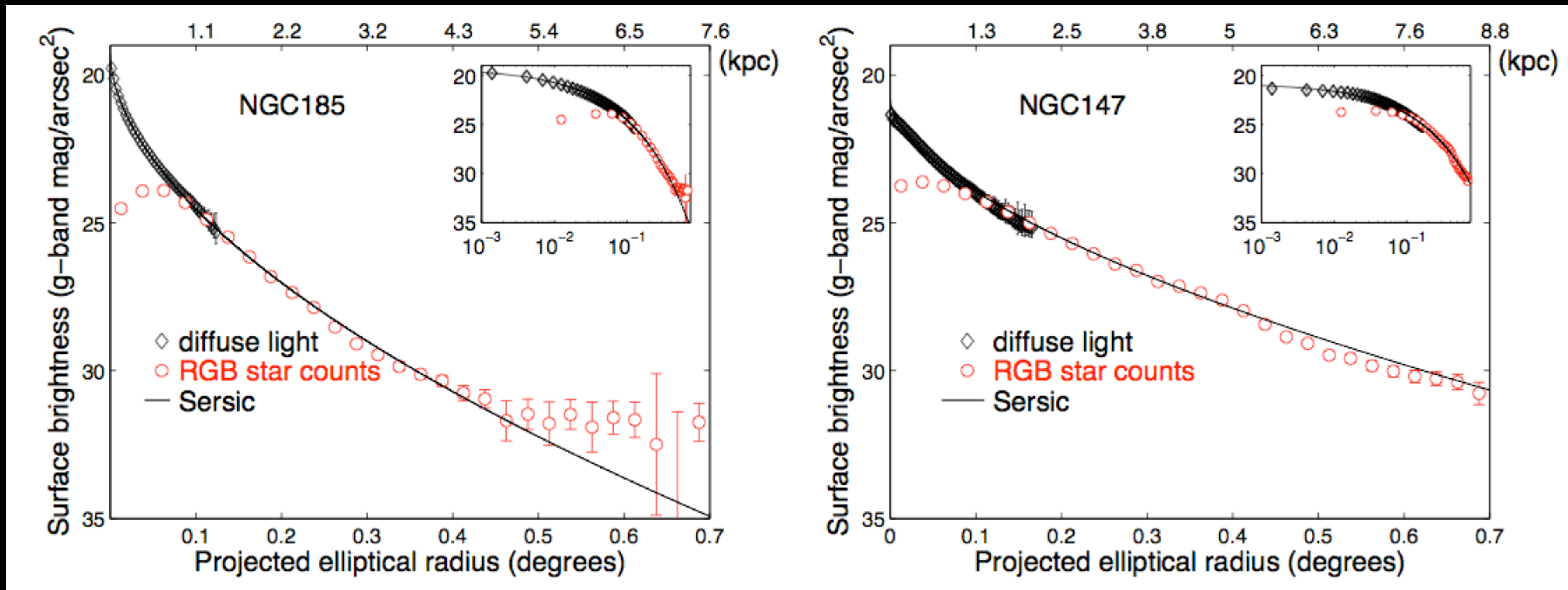






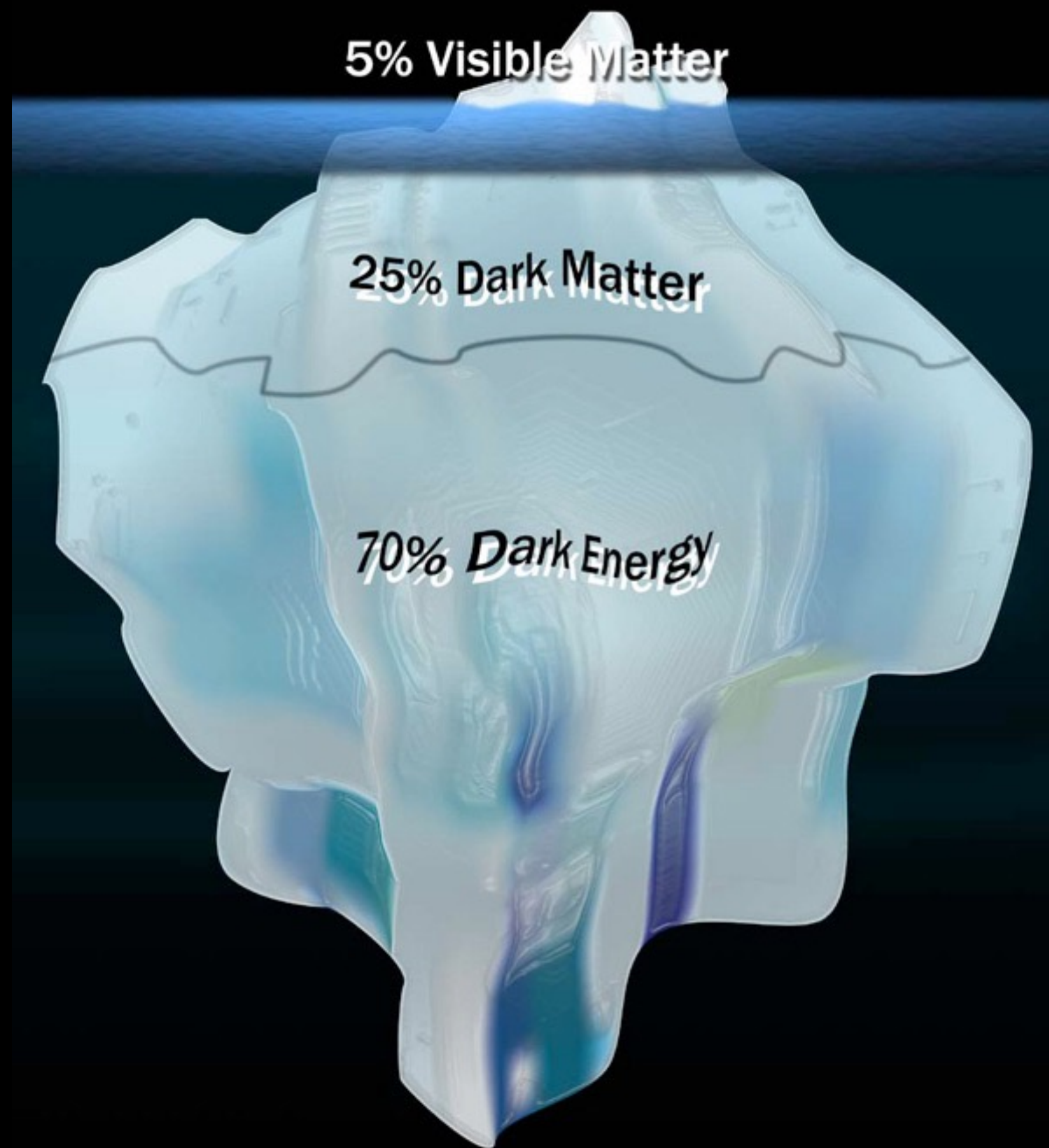


## Resolved star counts vs diffuse light



Crnojević *et al.* (2015)





*[...] galaxies are like icebergs and what is seen above the sky background may be no reliable measure of what lies underneath.*

Michael Disney (1976)



# The unprobed realm of the ultra-low surface brightness universe

$$\mu(V) < 21.5 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$$



Mihos *et al.* (2005)

Limited by *systematics*

- sky variability
- straylight
- flat field accuracy
- extended PSF wings



# The Dragonfly array telescope



Abraham & Van Dokkum (2014)

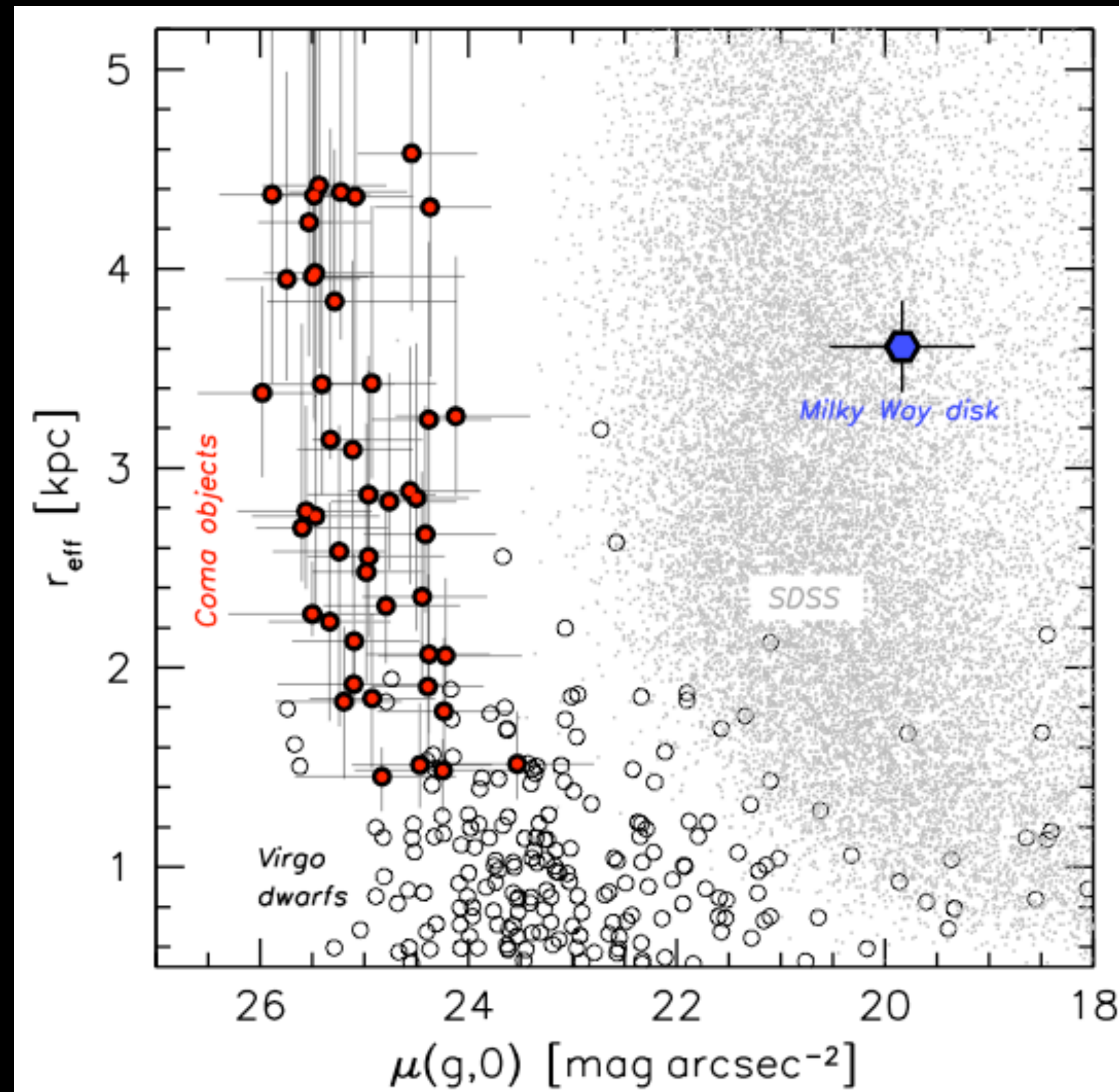


# 47 new Milky Way-sized galaxies in the Coma cluster

26 hours

6'' FWHM

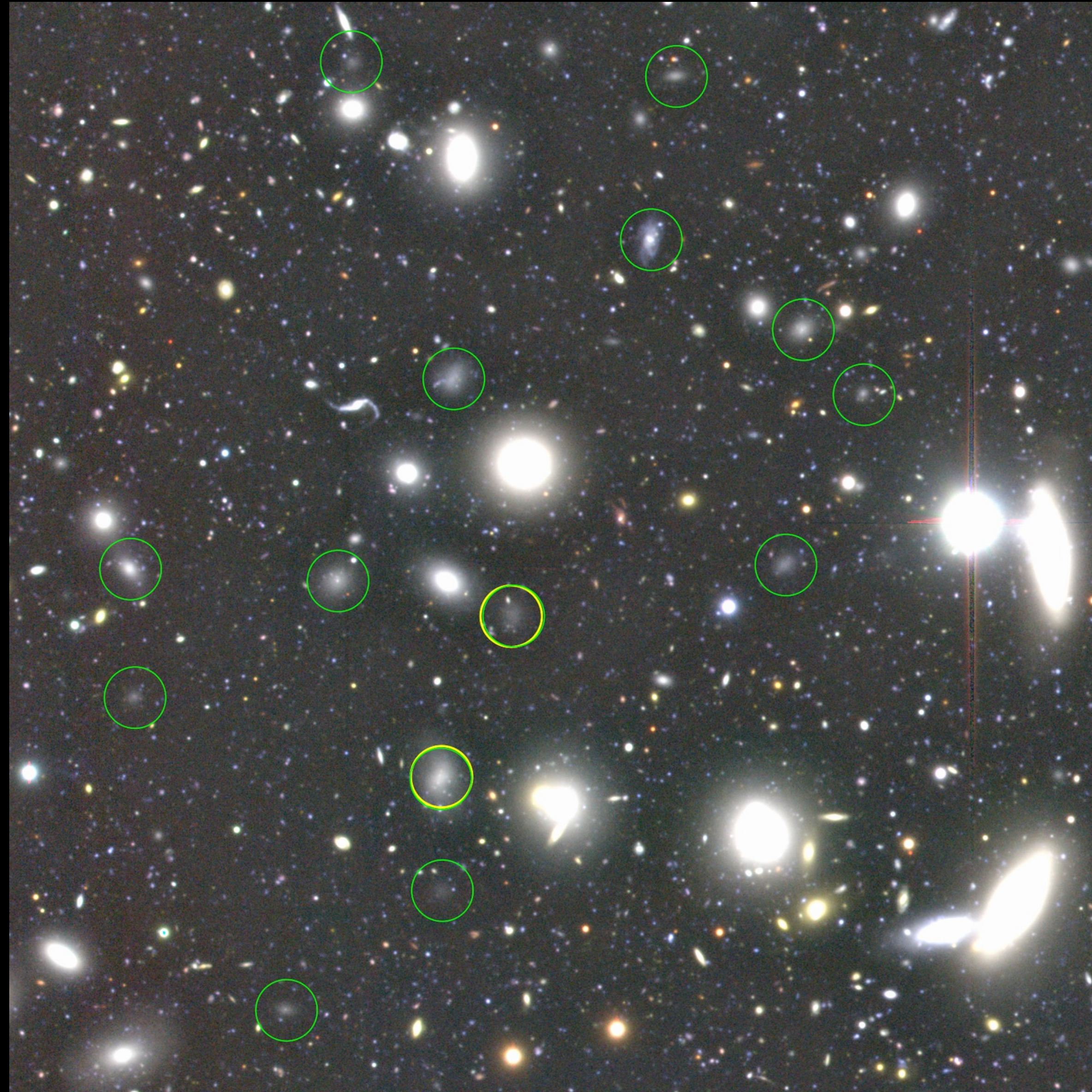
SB(g)  $\sim 29.3$  mag arcsec<sup>-2</sup> @ 10''



Van Dokkum et al. (2015)



## Discovery of ~1000 new galaxies in the Coma cluster

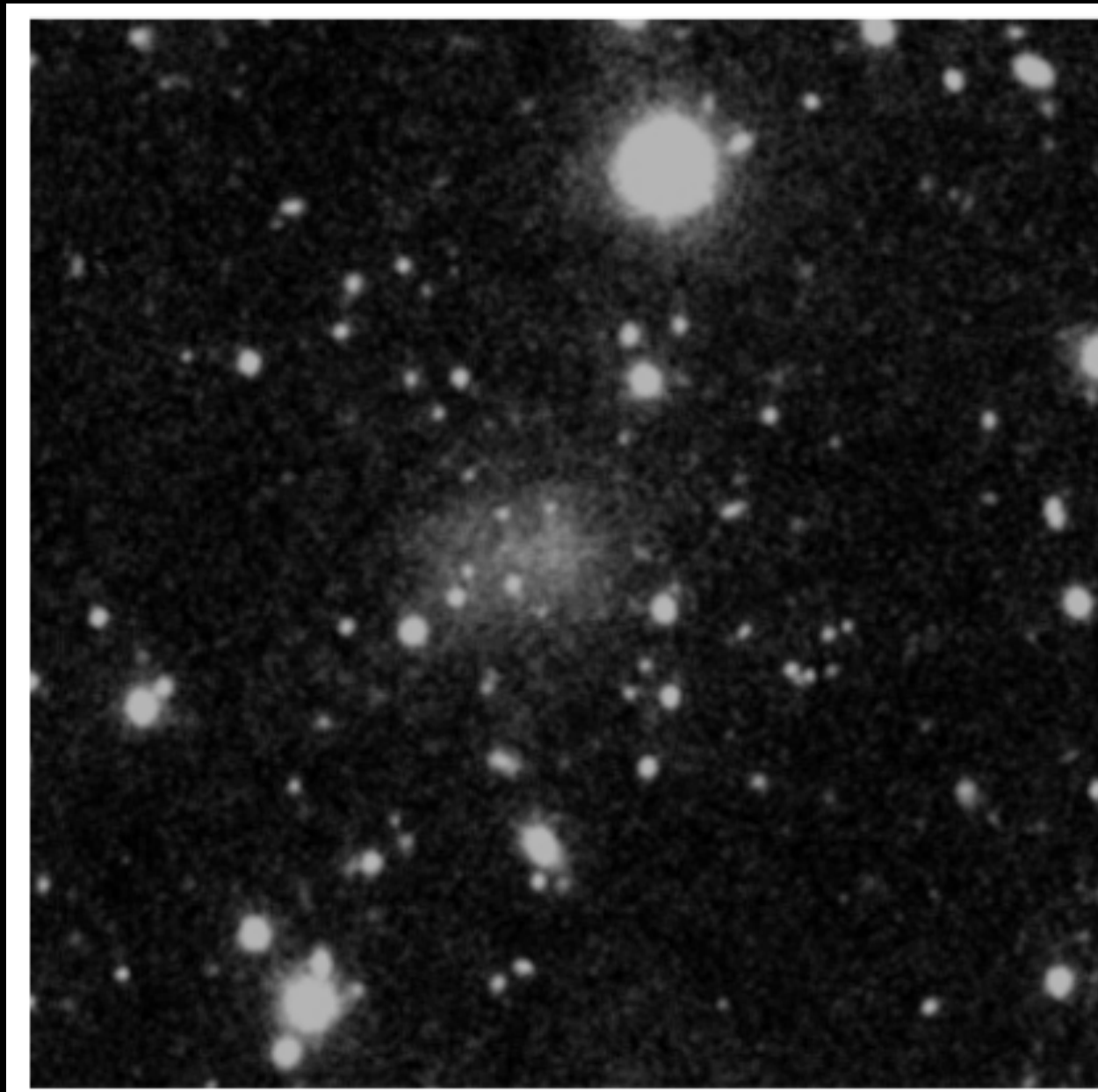


Koda *et al.* (2015)



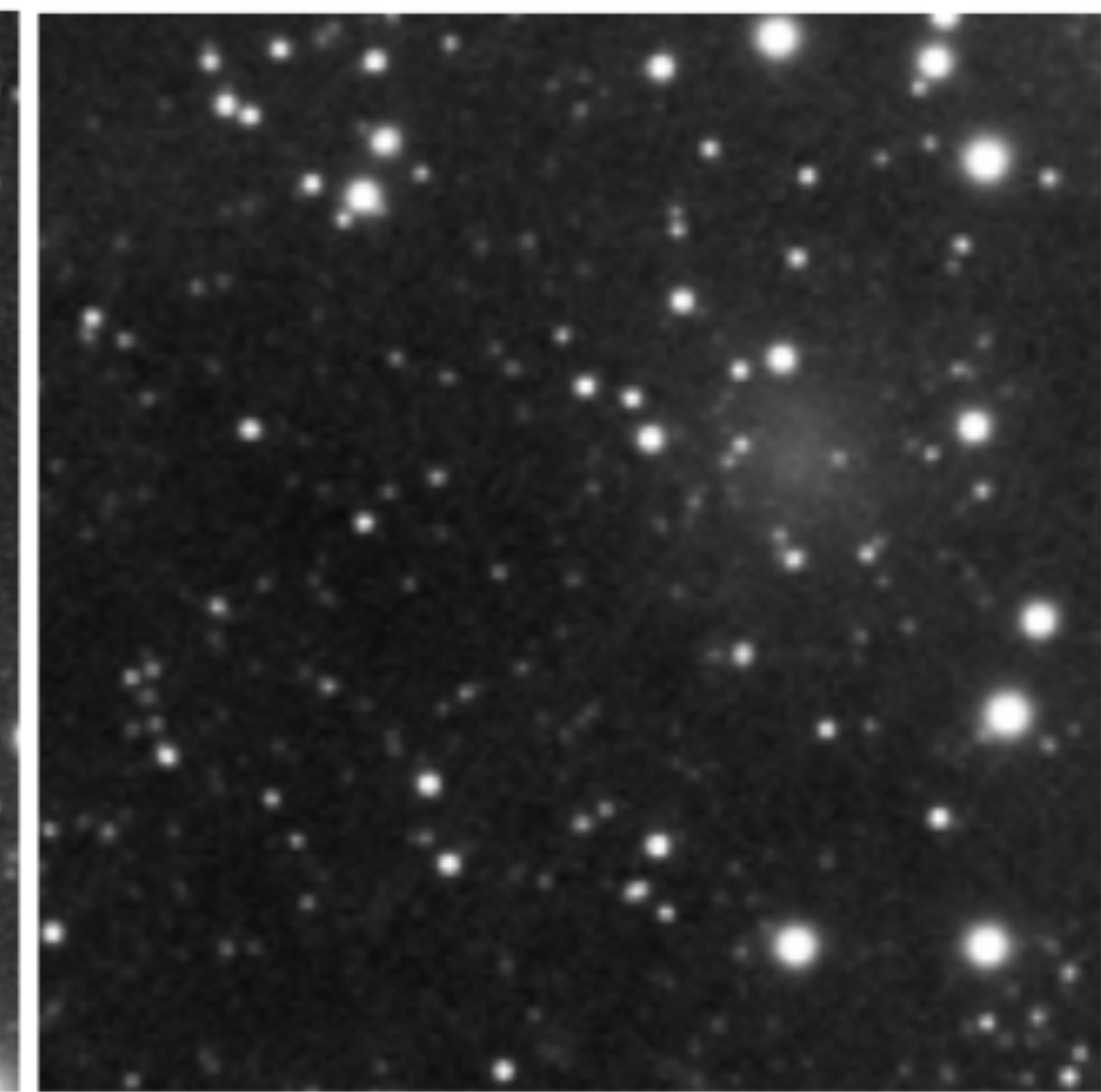
# A new population of hitherto unknown galaxies *ultra-diffuse galaxies*

Virgo cluster



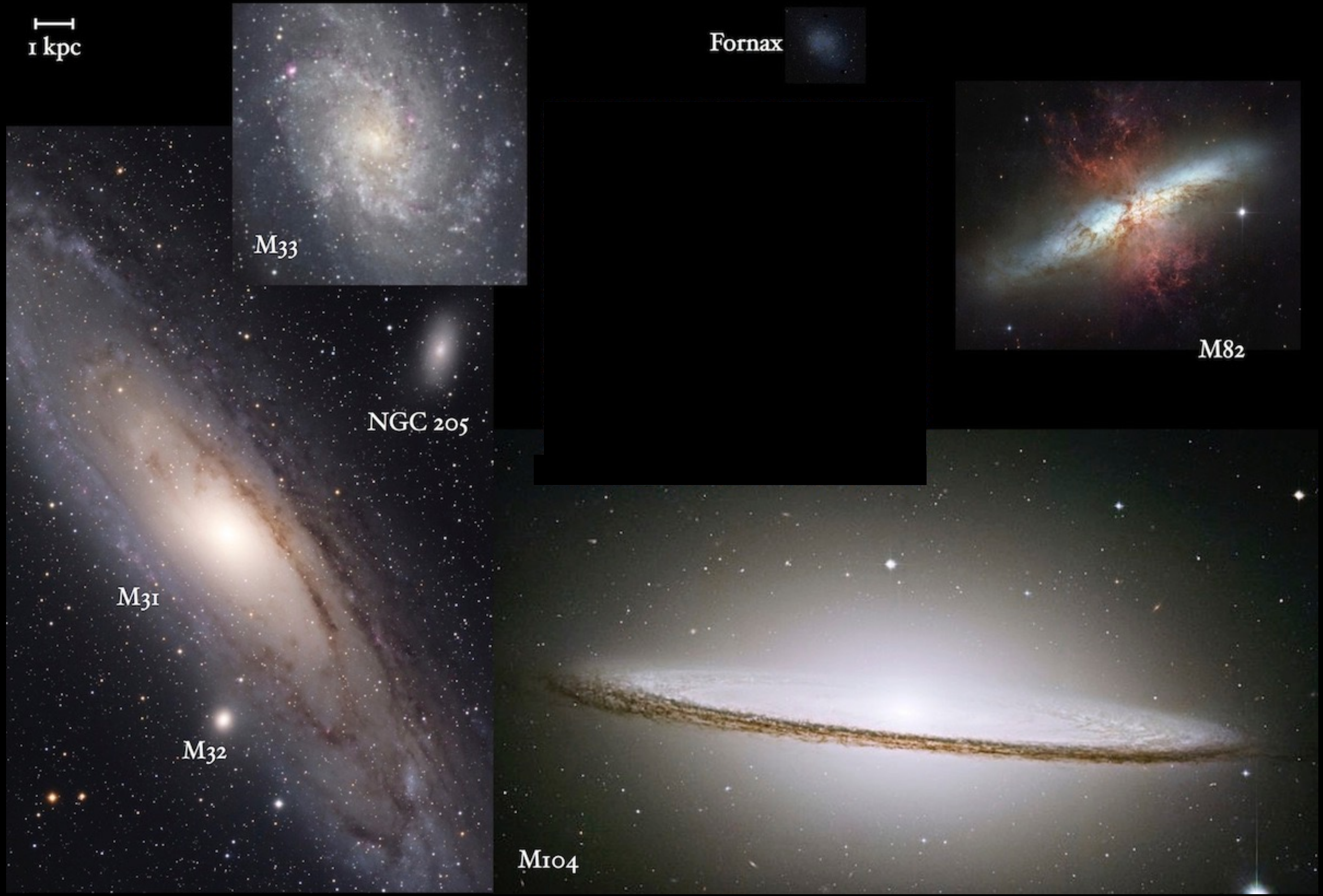
Merritt *et al.* (2014)

Perseus-Pisces filament

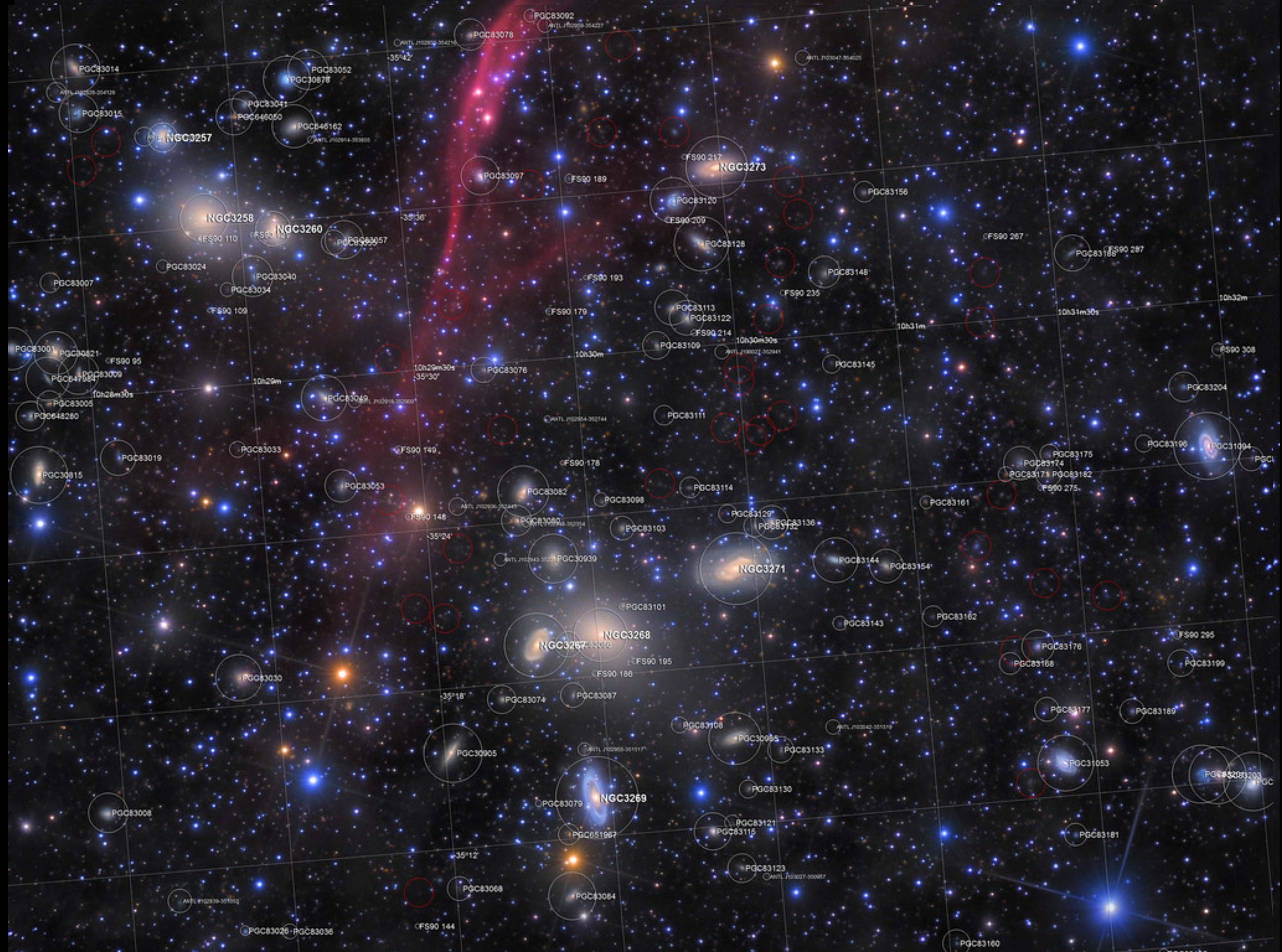


Martinez Delgado *et al.* (2016)





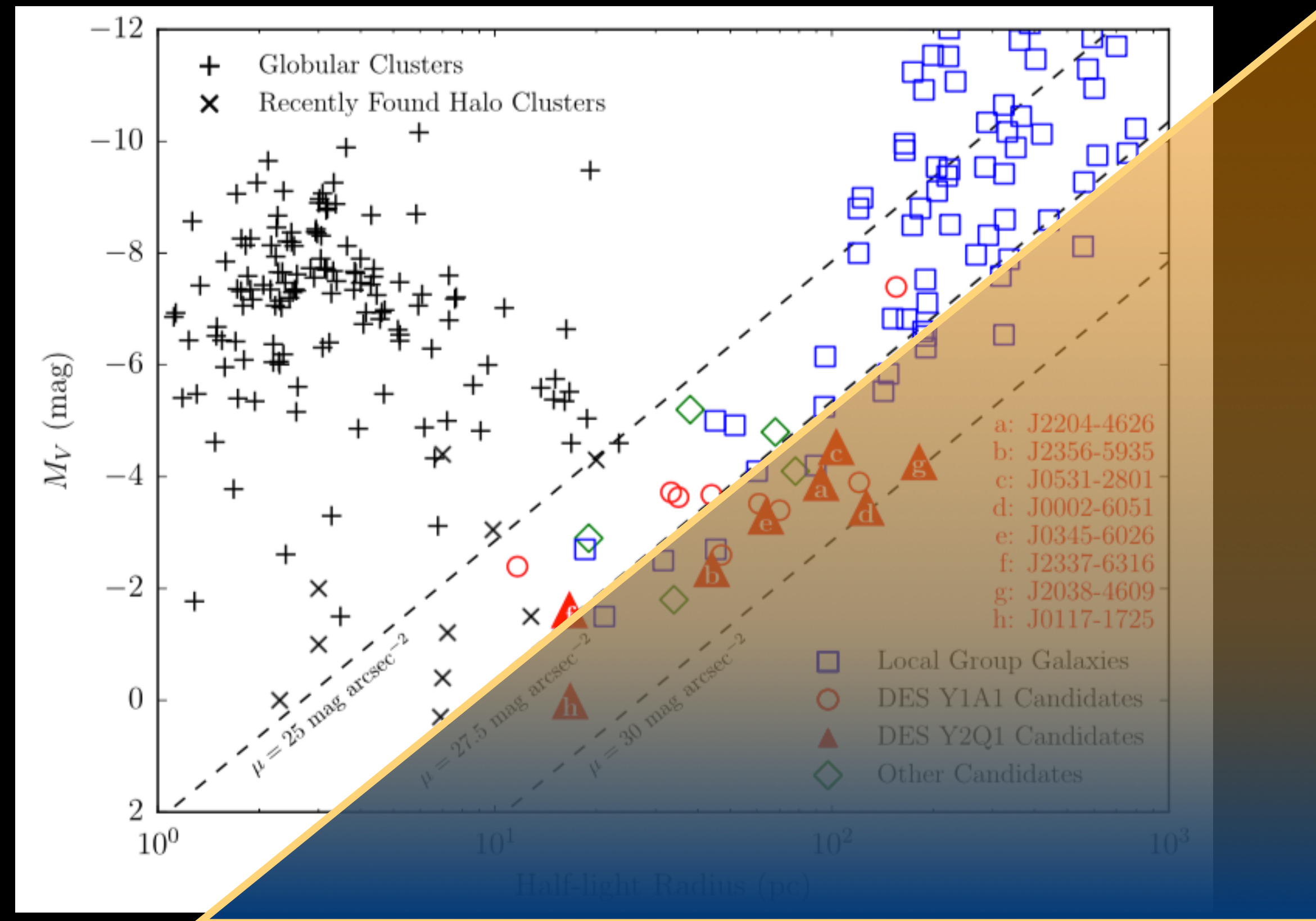






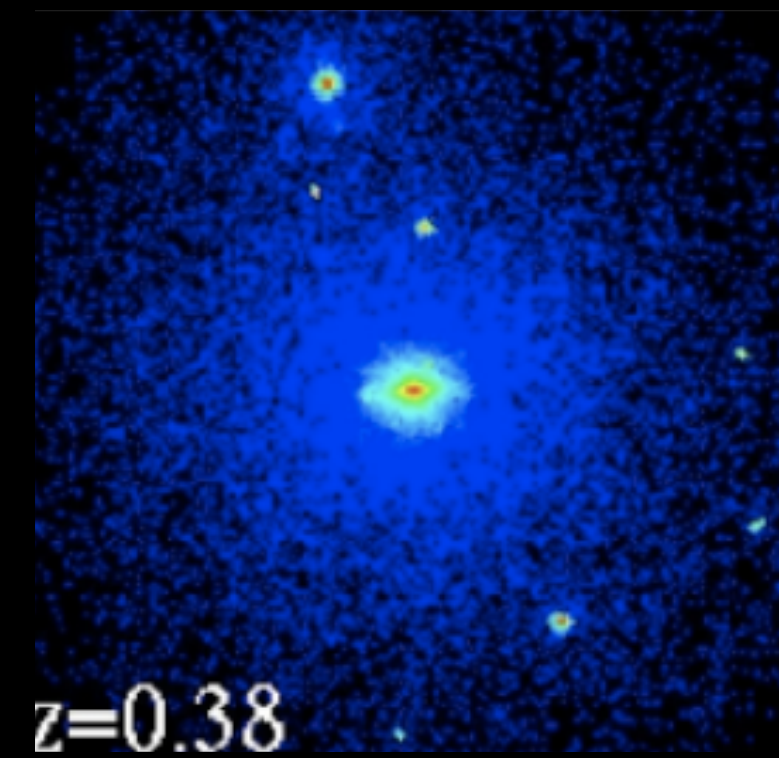
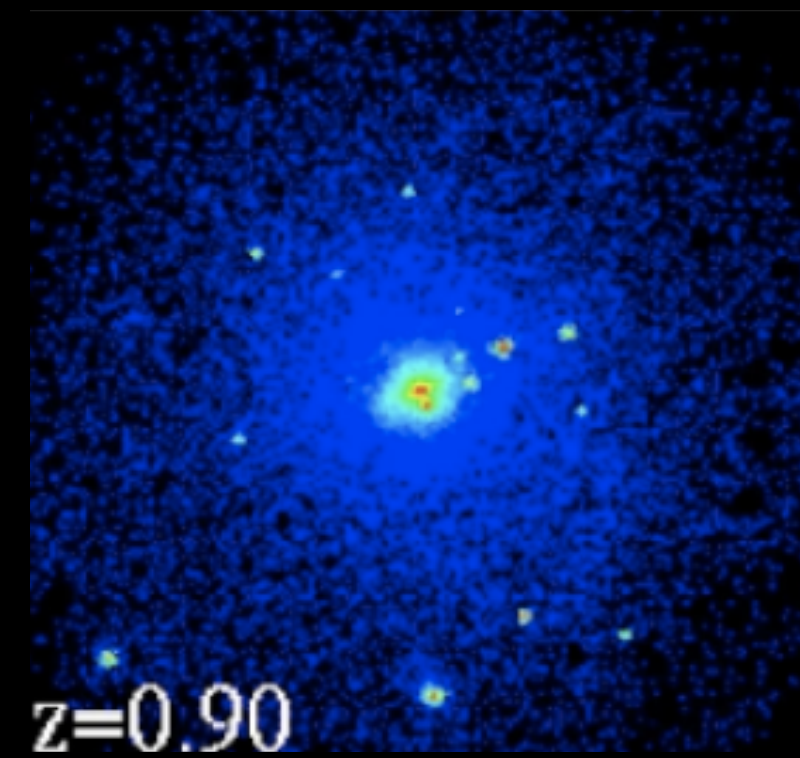
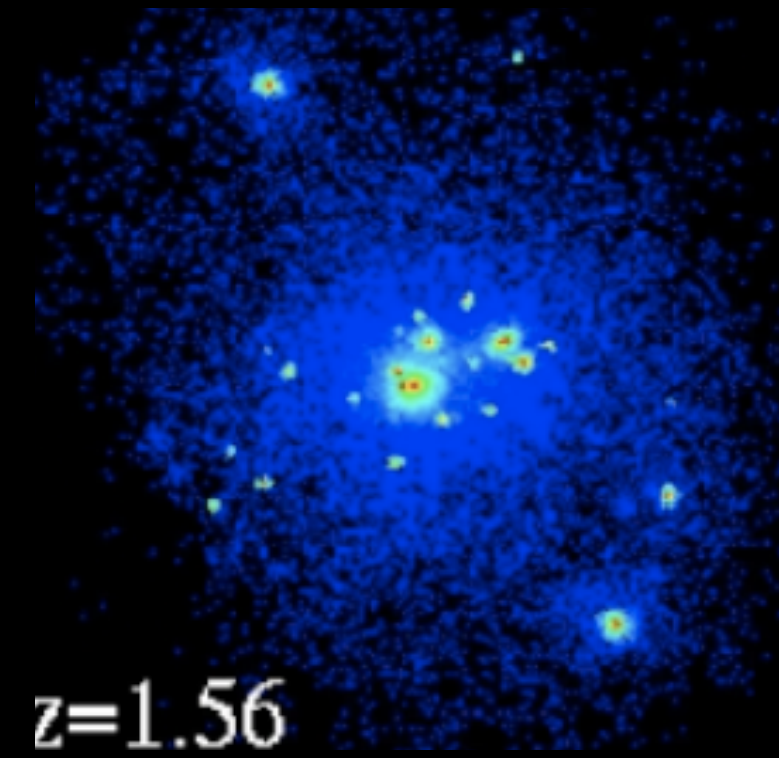
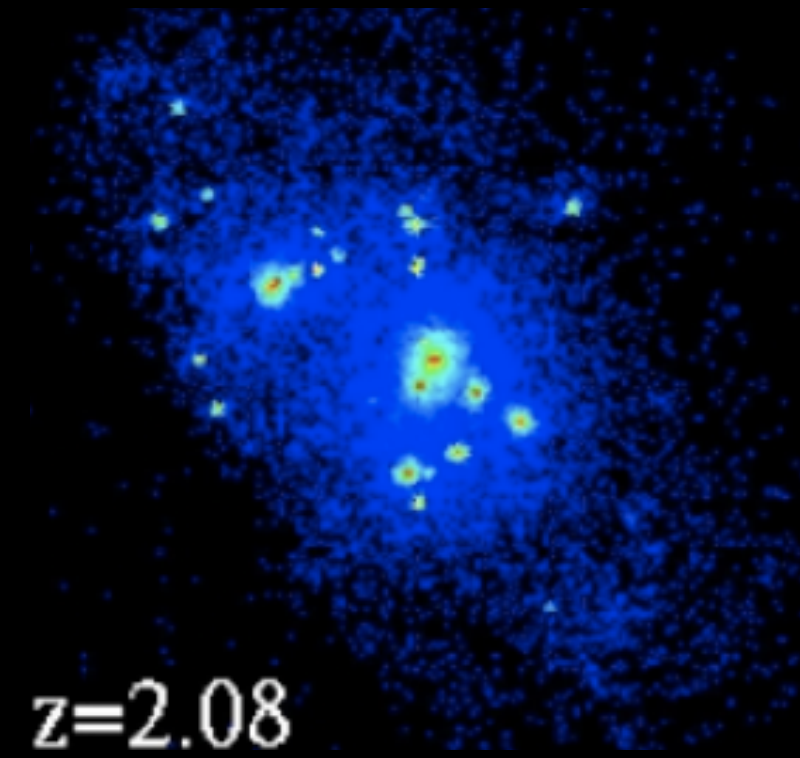
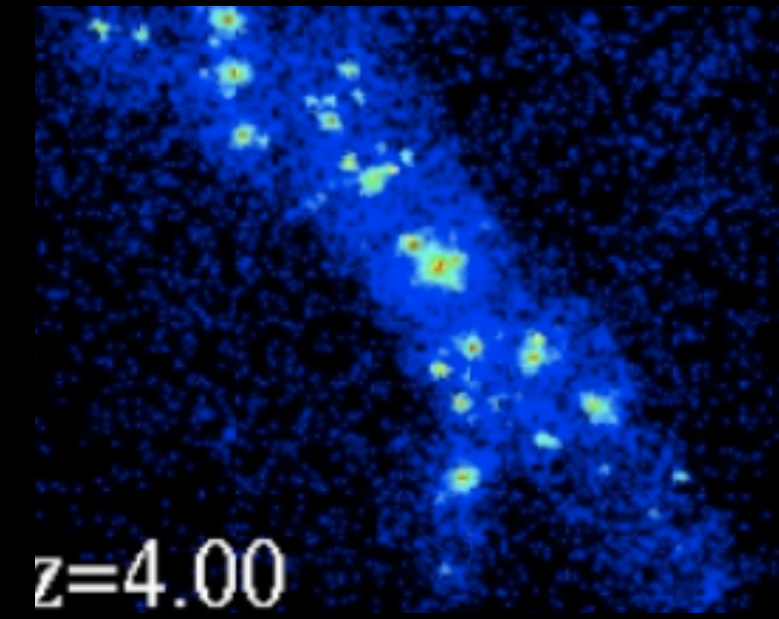
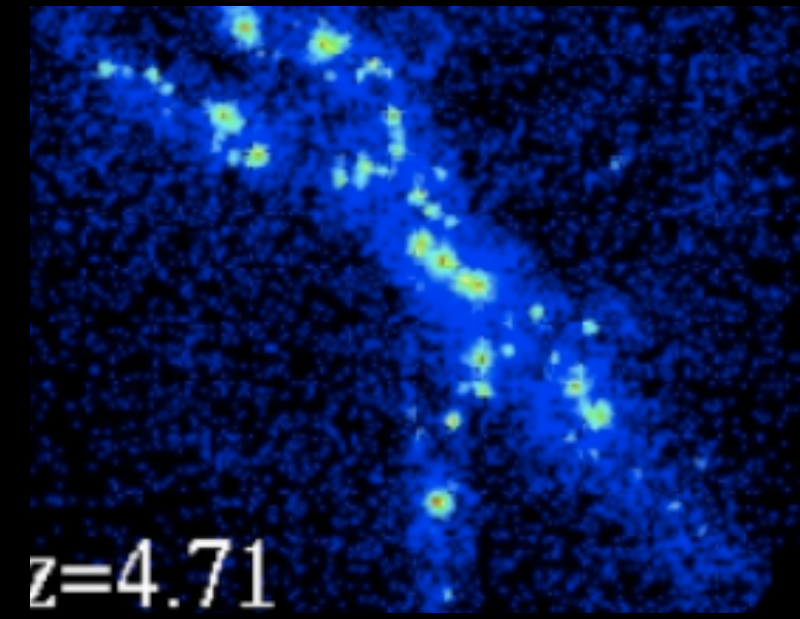
# Driving science case #1

## The complete inventory of galaxies (without surface brightness bias)



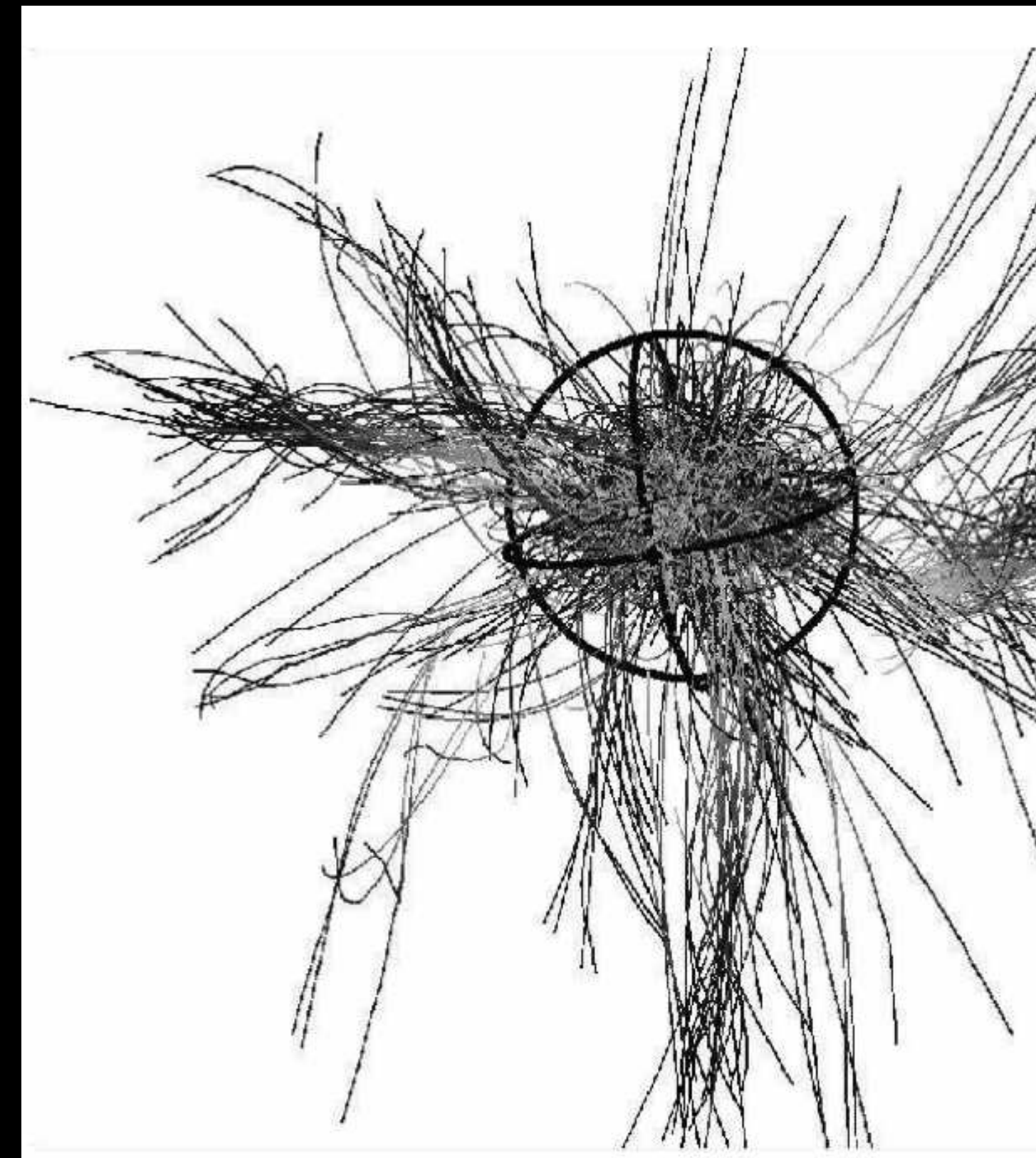
Drlica-Wagner et al. (2015)





Formation histories  
of galactic haloes

Anisotropic accretion  
from filaments





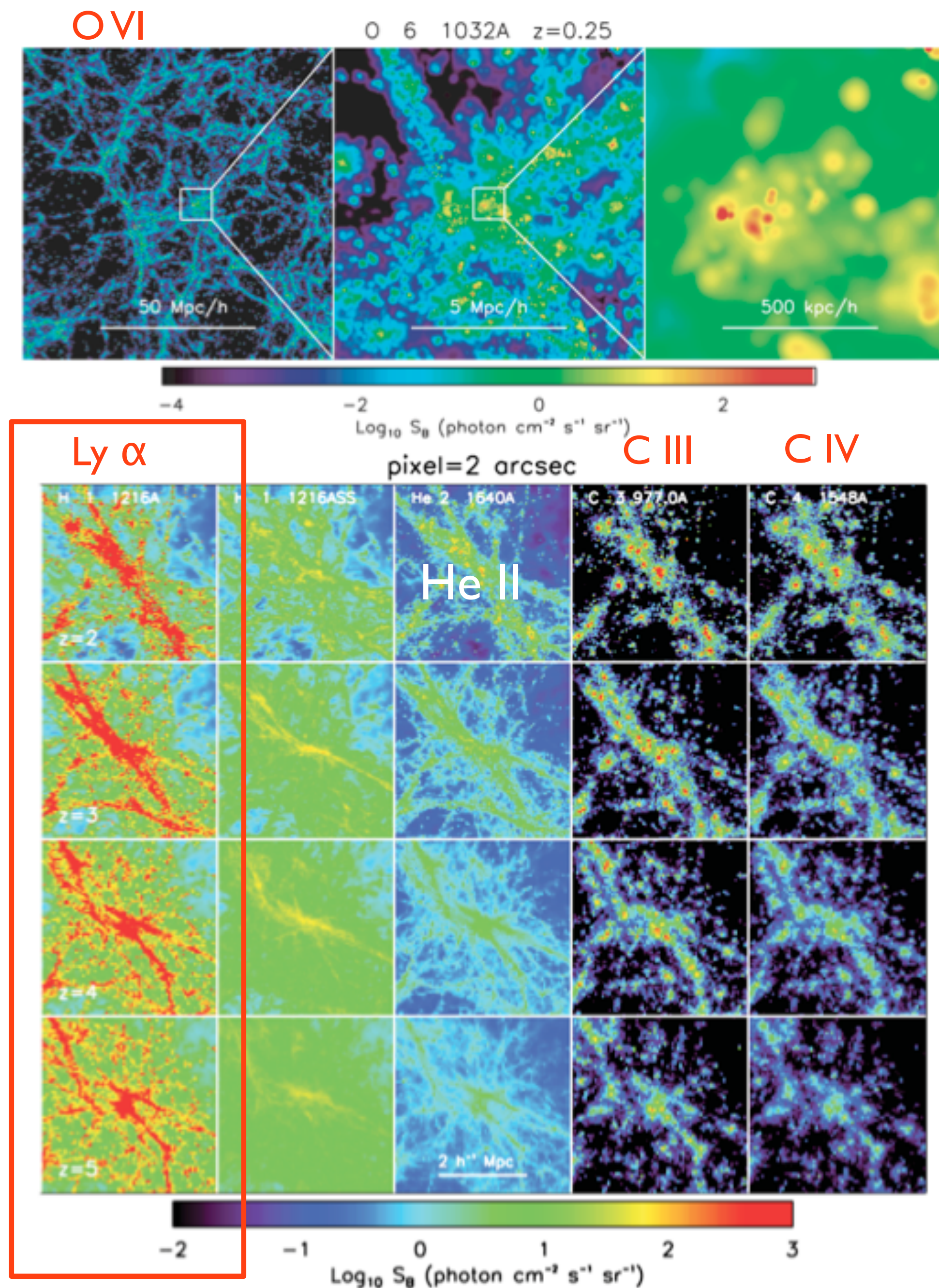
# Driving science case #2

## The Cosmic Web

Strongest in Lyman  $\alpha$   
by  $>1000 \times$

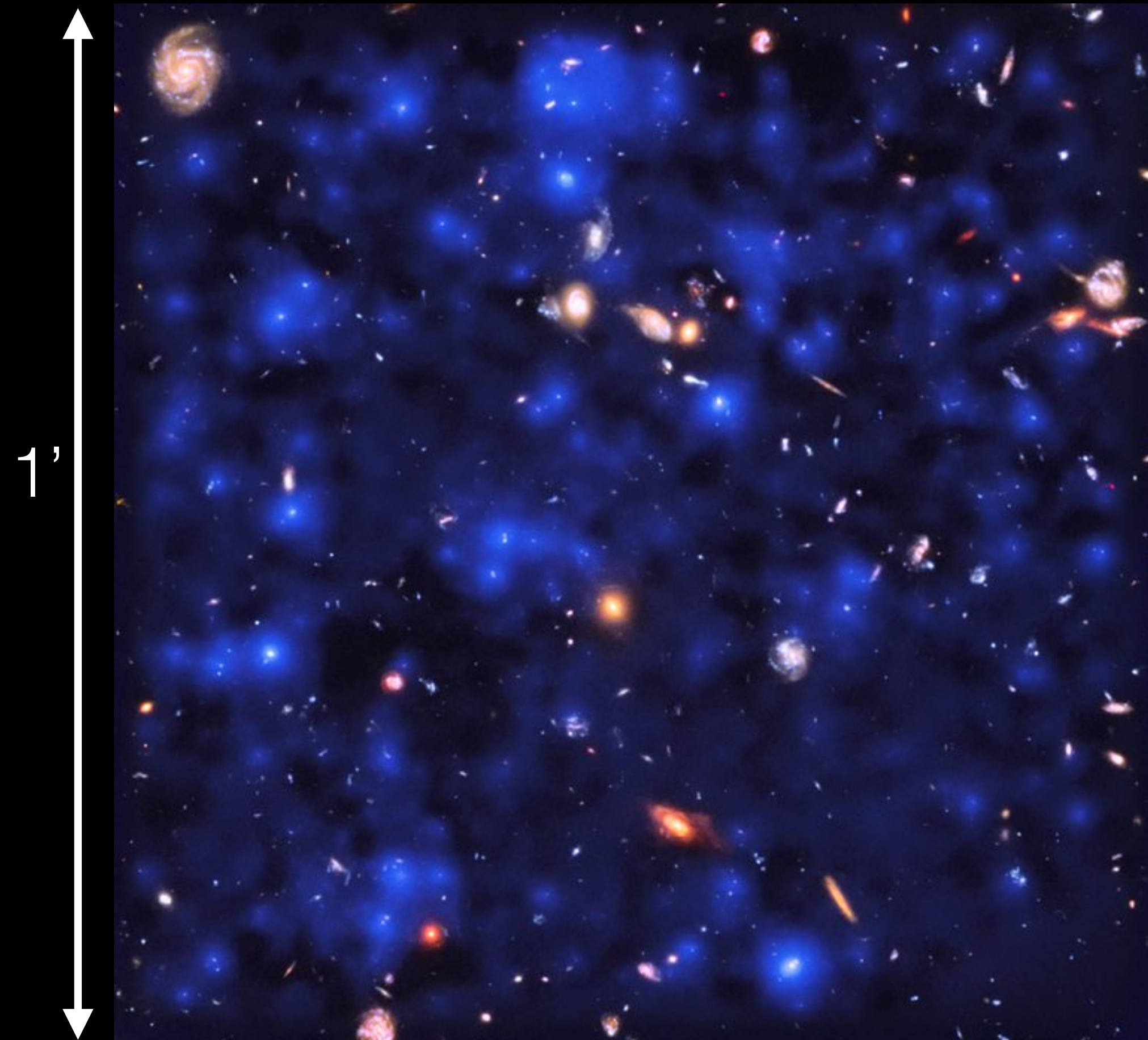
The case for low  $z$   
observations :

- (i) stronger filaments
- (ii) minimise cosmological dimming  $\sim (1+z)^4$
- (iii) efficient UV detectors





# The MUSE Hubble Deep Field



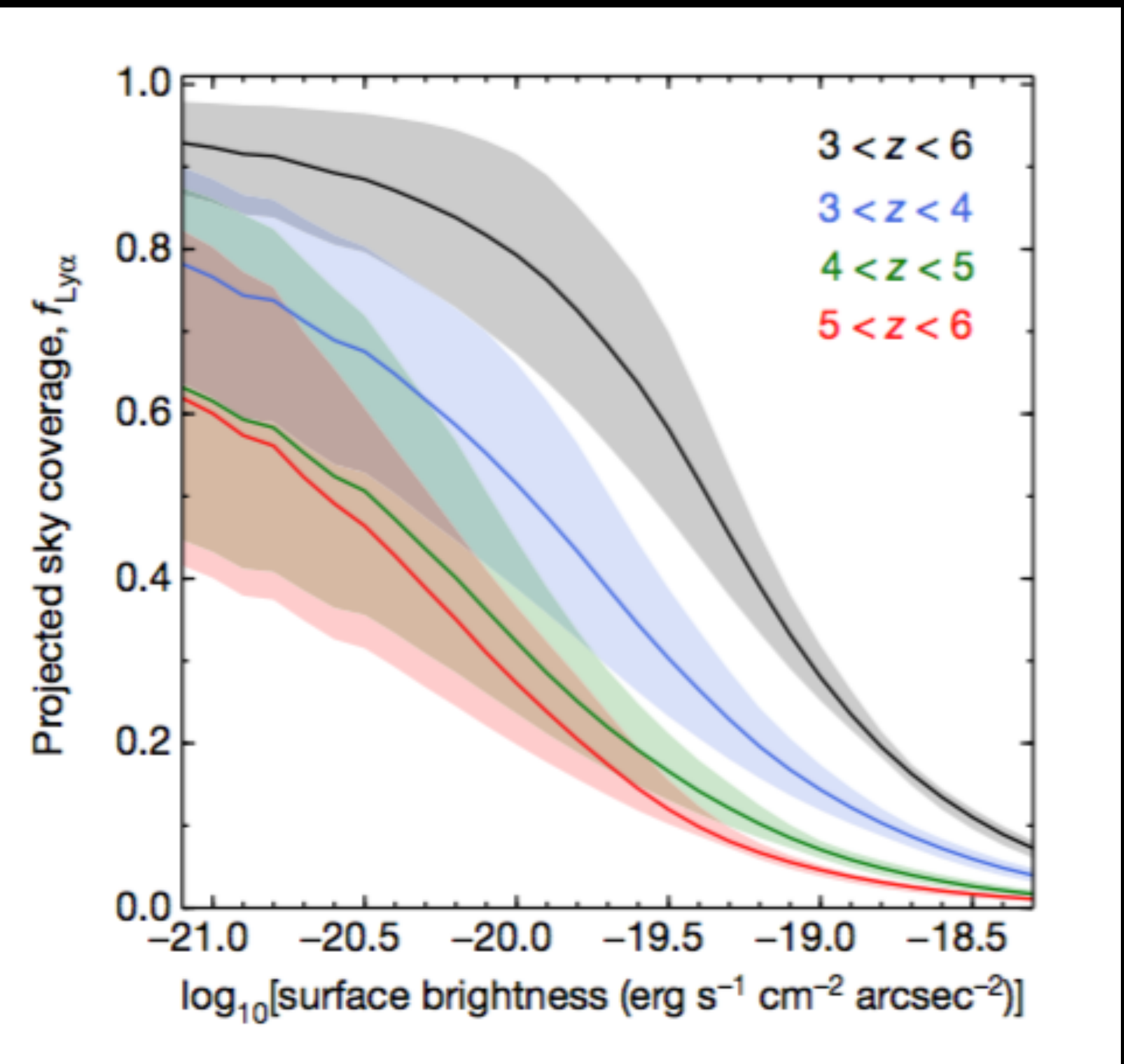
$$S(\text{Ly}\alpha) > 10^{-19} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ arcsec}^{-2}$$

## LETTER

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-018-0564-6>

### Nearly all the sky is covered by Lyman- $\alpha$ emission around high-redshift galaxies

L. Wisotzki<sup>1\*</sup>, R. Bacon<sup>2</sup>, J. Brinchmann<sup>3,4</sup>, S. Cantalupo<sup>5</sup>, P. Richter<sup>6</sup>, J. Schaye<sup>3</sup>, K. B. Schmidt<sup>1</sup>, T. Urrutia<sup>1</sup>, P. M. Weilbacher<sup>1</sup>, M. Akhlaghi<sup>3</sup>, N. Bouché<sup>7</sup>, T. Contini<sup>7</sup>, B. Guiderdoni<sup>2</sup>, E. C. Herenz<sup>8</sup>, H. Inami<sup>2</sup>, J. Kerutt<sup>1</sup>, F. Leclercq<sup>2</sup>, R. A. Marino<sup>5</sup>, M. Maseda<sup>3</sup>, A. Monreal-Ibero<sup>9,10</sup>, T. Nanayakkara<sup>3</sup>, J. Richard<sup>2</sup>, R. Saust<sup>1</sup>, M. Steinmetz<sup>1</sup> & M. Wendt<sup>1,6</sup>



Wisotzki *et al.* (2018)



# The future of ultra-low surface brightness imaging

## Large telescopes (LSST, GMT, TMT, ELT)

- ✗ not optimal  $f/D$  + lens correctors
- ✗ complex, extended, anisotropic PSF
- ✗ high pressure (TAC)

## Small telescopes (Super Dragonfly, Huntsman)

- ✓ massive array of telephoto lenses
- ✗ low efficiency (Moon, weather)

## Fundamental limits

- ✗ the sky is (very) bright and highly variable
- ✗ high PSF wings due to scattering by atmosphere
- ✗ straylight contamination amplifies surface brightness
- ✗ limits to the flat-field accuracy



## The (obvious) solution:

a space observatory with a purpose-built telescope

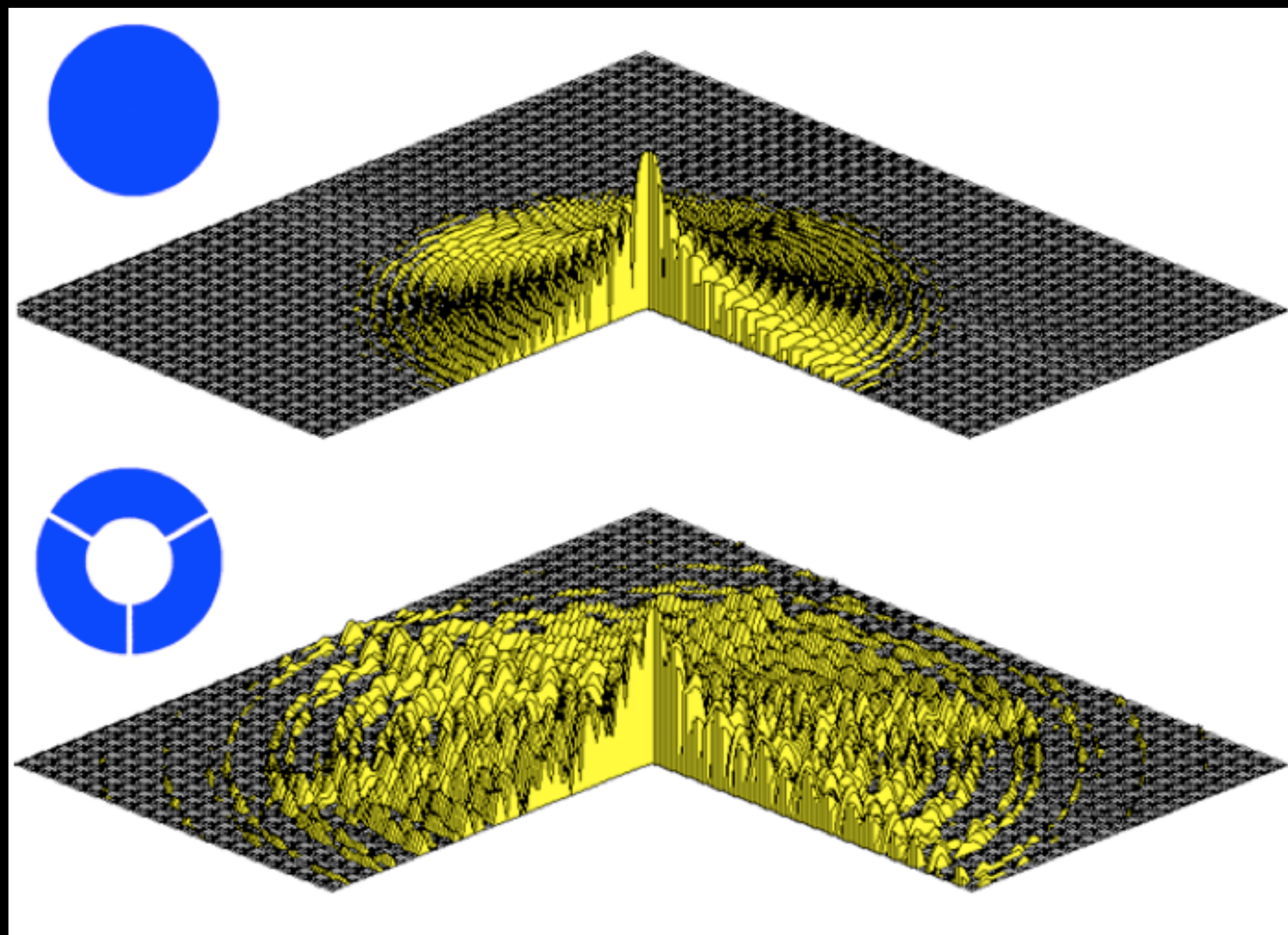


# Top-level design requirements

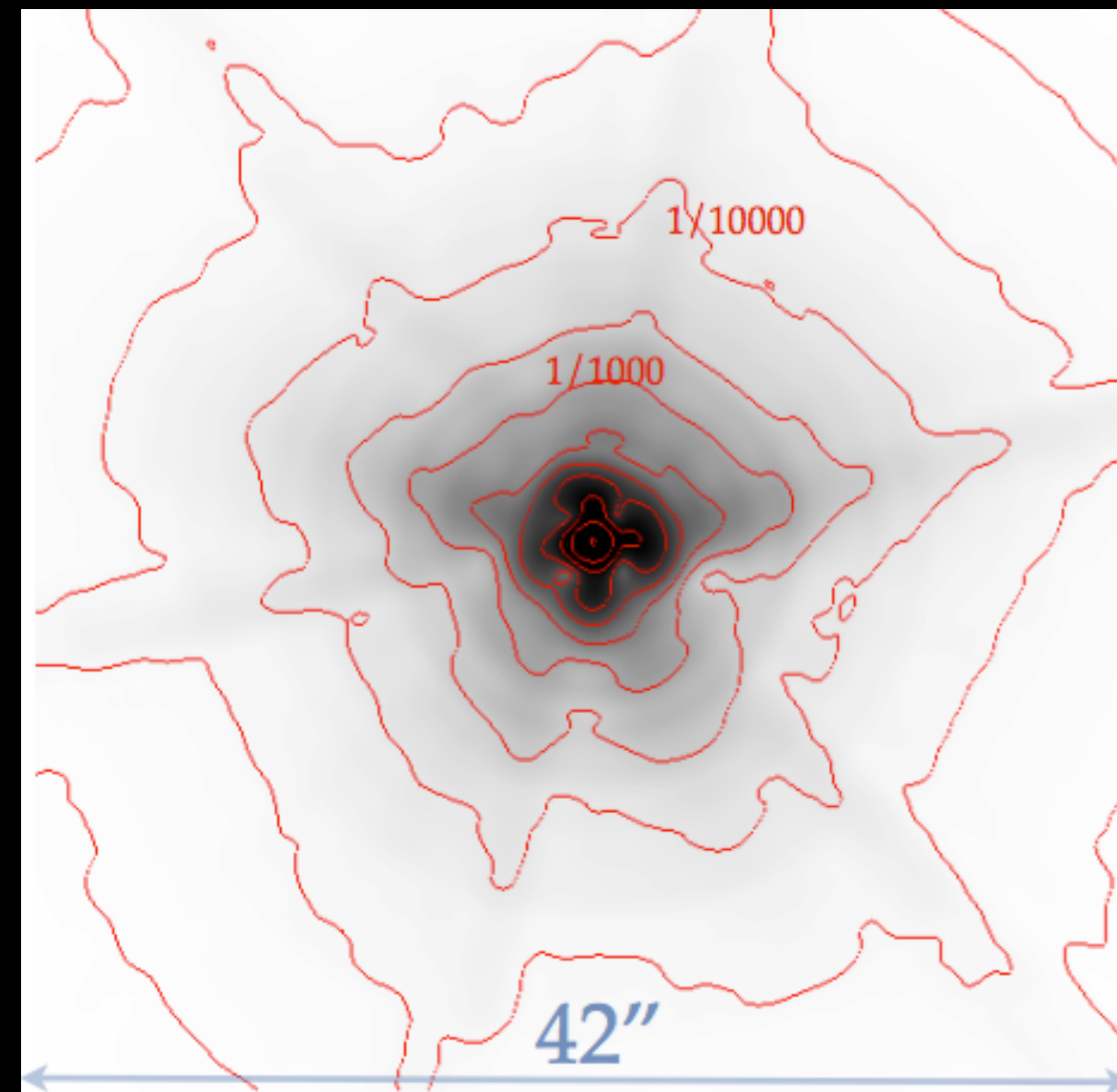
- FOV  $2^\circ \times 4^\circ$  (*lifetime of satellite*)
- Focal ratio  $f / 2$  (*200x better than HST*)
- Central obscuration none (*minimal PSF wings*)
- Spatial resolution  $1''$  per pixel (*matches ground*)
- Roughness  $< 0.5$  nm (*UV to optical*)
- Flat field rms  $< 0.0025\%$  (*TDI / drift scan*)
- Distortion  $< 0.5\%$  (*in one direction*)
- Diameter 50 to 150 cm (*set by platform*)
- Survey all sky (*unique*)



Obstruction by secondary mirrors yields very extended, anisotropic and complex PSFs



LSST



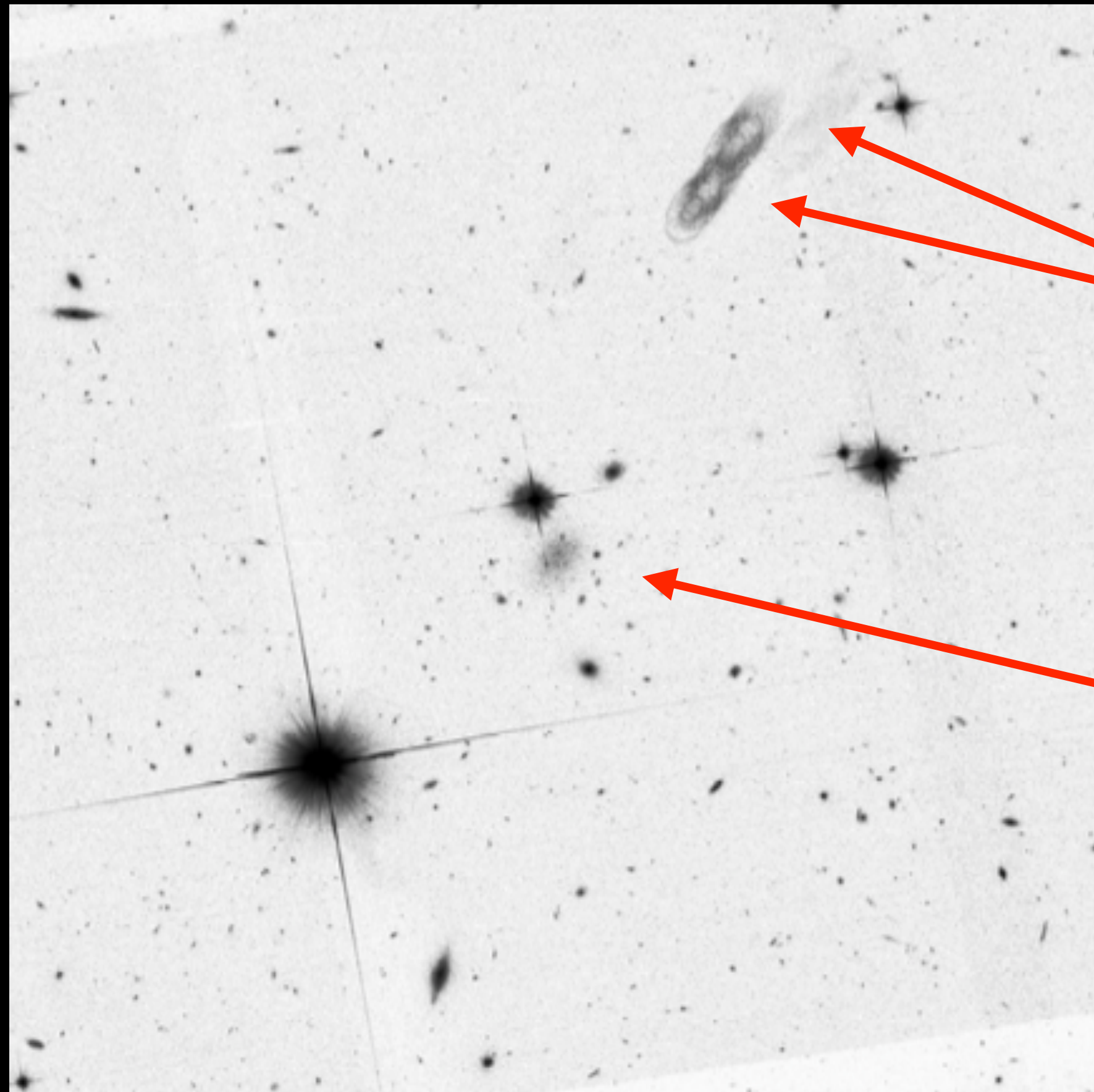
EUCLID



NO LENSES ALLOWED

(1) multiple internal scattering

(2) Čerenkov emission

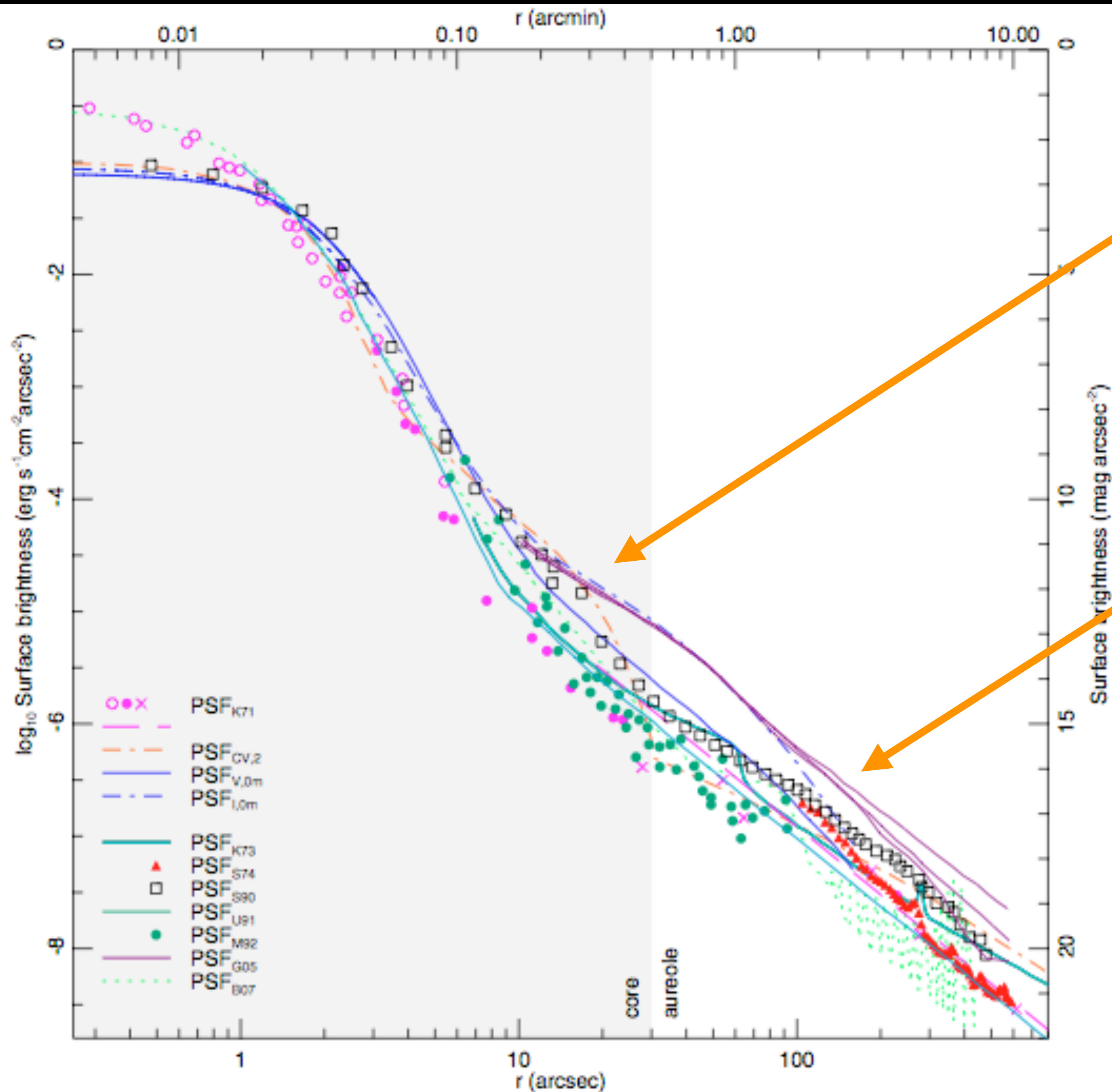


GHOSTS produced by  
ACS/HST

New ultra-diffuse galaxy (2019)  
师冬冬 & 郑宪忠老师  
Shi Dongdong & Zheng Xiangzhong

ACS





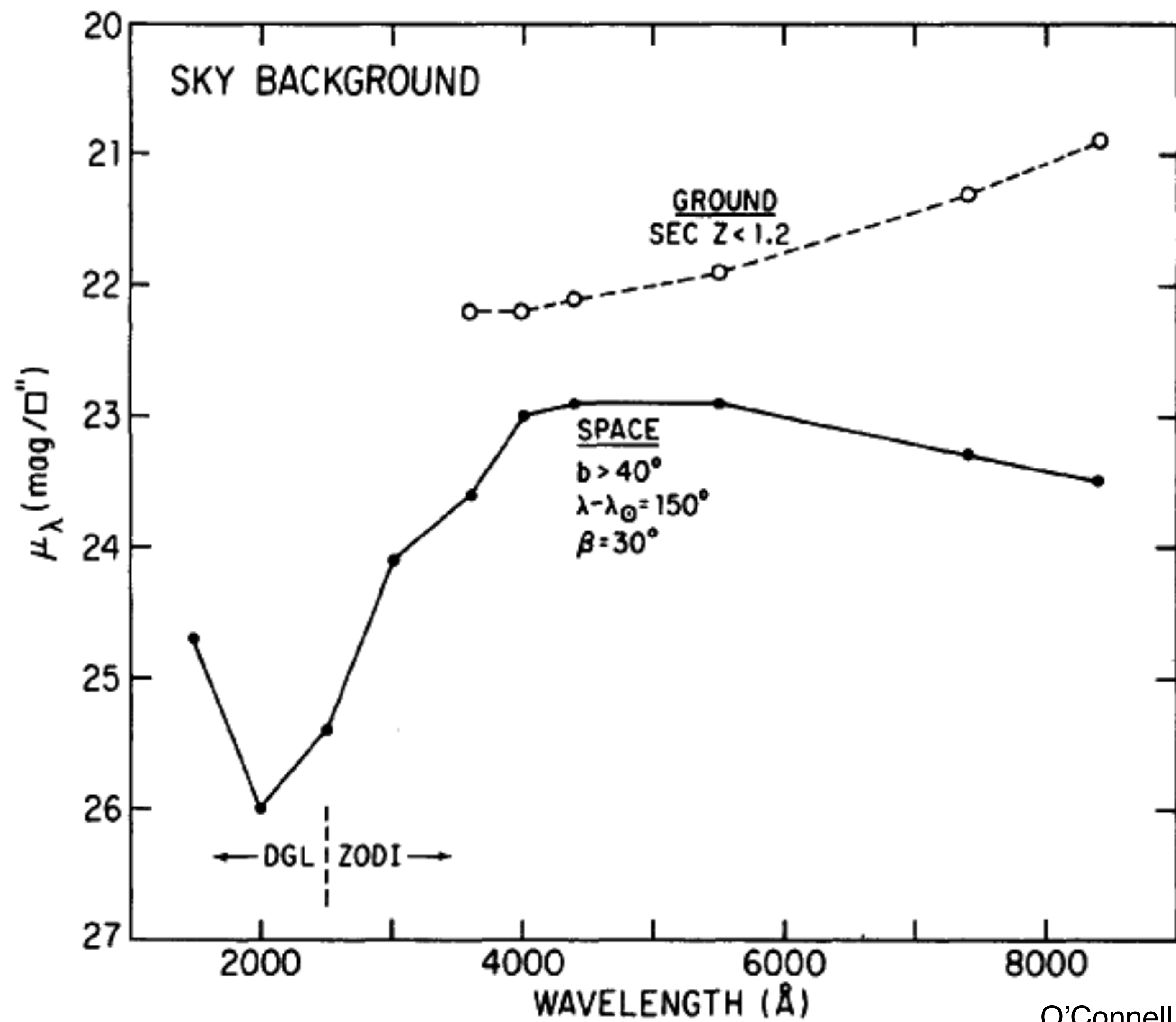
Internal scattering in optics  
(prime focus corrector, filters)

+

Scattering by  
atmospheric molecules

*Major limitations*  
for ground-based detections





O'Connell (1986)



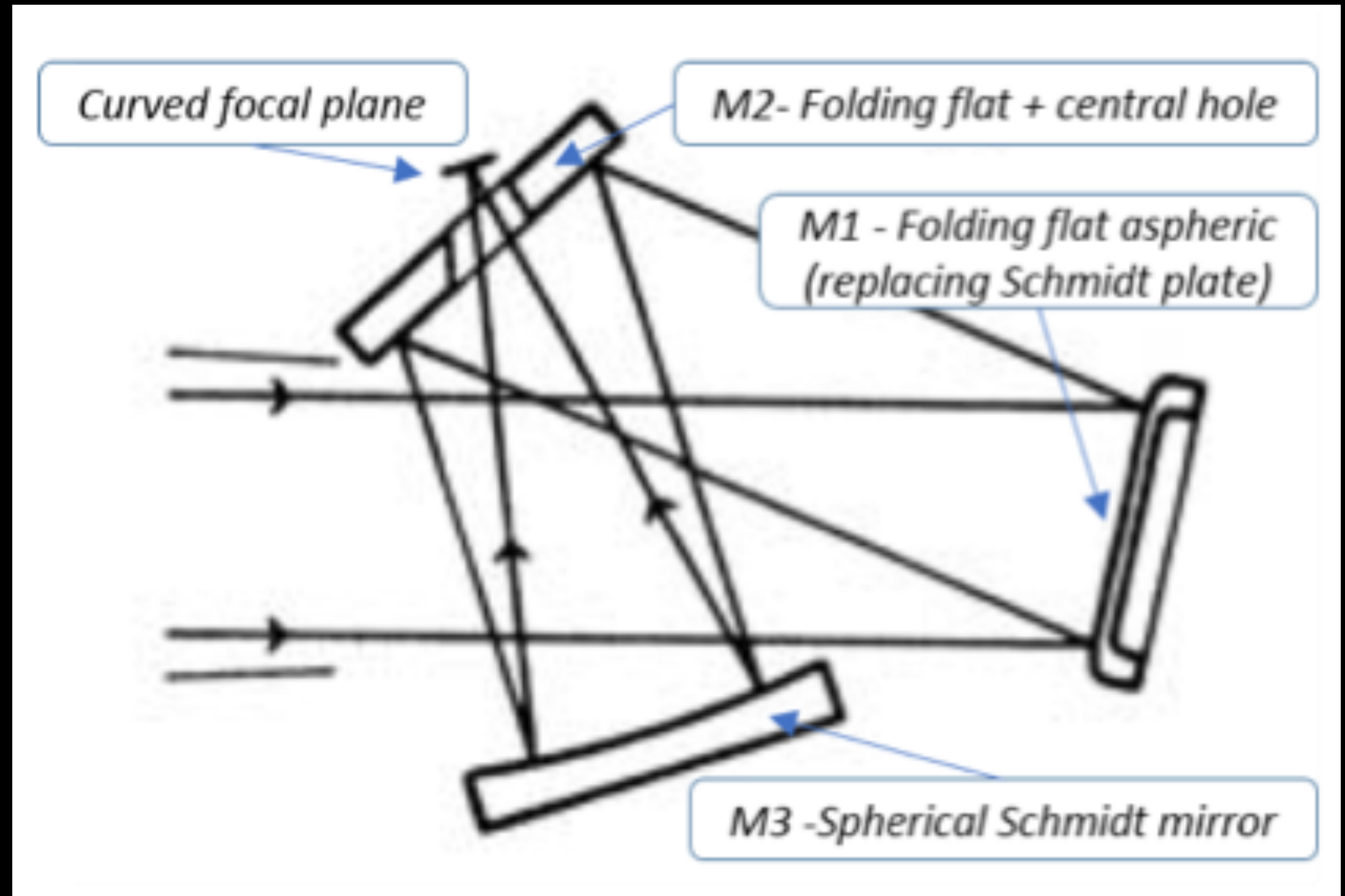
## Key additional requirement for MESSIER :

- no lenses (to avoid internal scattering and Čerenkov radiation)
- ~~flat focal plane~~

Optimal off-axis  
mirror-only solution

*curved focal surface  
tiled with curved CCDs*

*Space Surveillance Telescope  
by MIT for DARPA (\$75M)  
(but huge obscuration by M2)*



Muslimov, Valls-Gabaud, Lemaître et al. (2017)

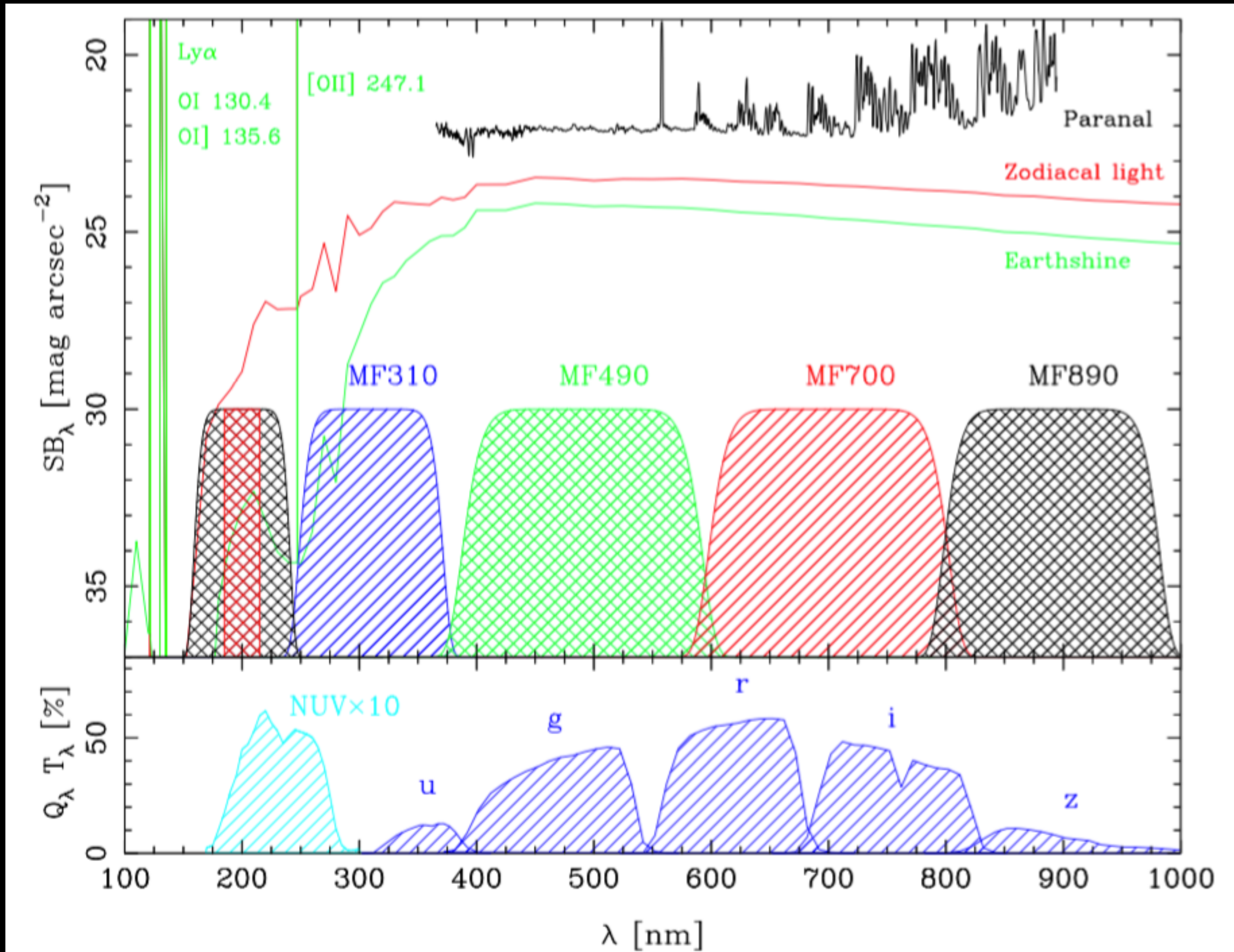
**TWO DISRUPTIVE BREAKTHROUGHS : Off-axis purely reflective Schmidt  
Curved CCDs**



# Requirements for filters

Broad filters :  
characterise SEDs of  
stellar populations

Narrow + broad filters :  
Lyman- $\alpha$  intensity  
mapping



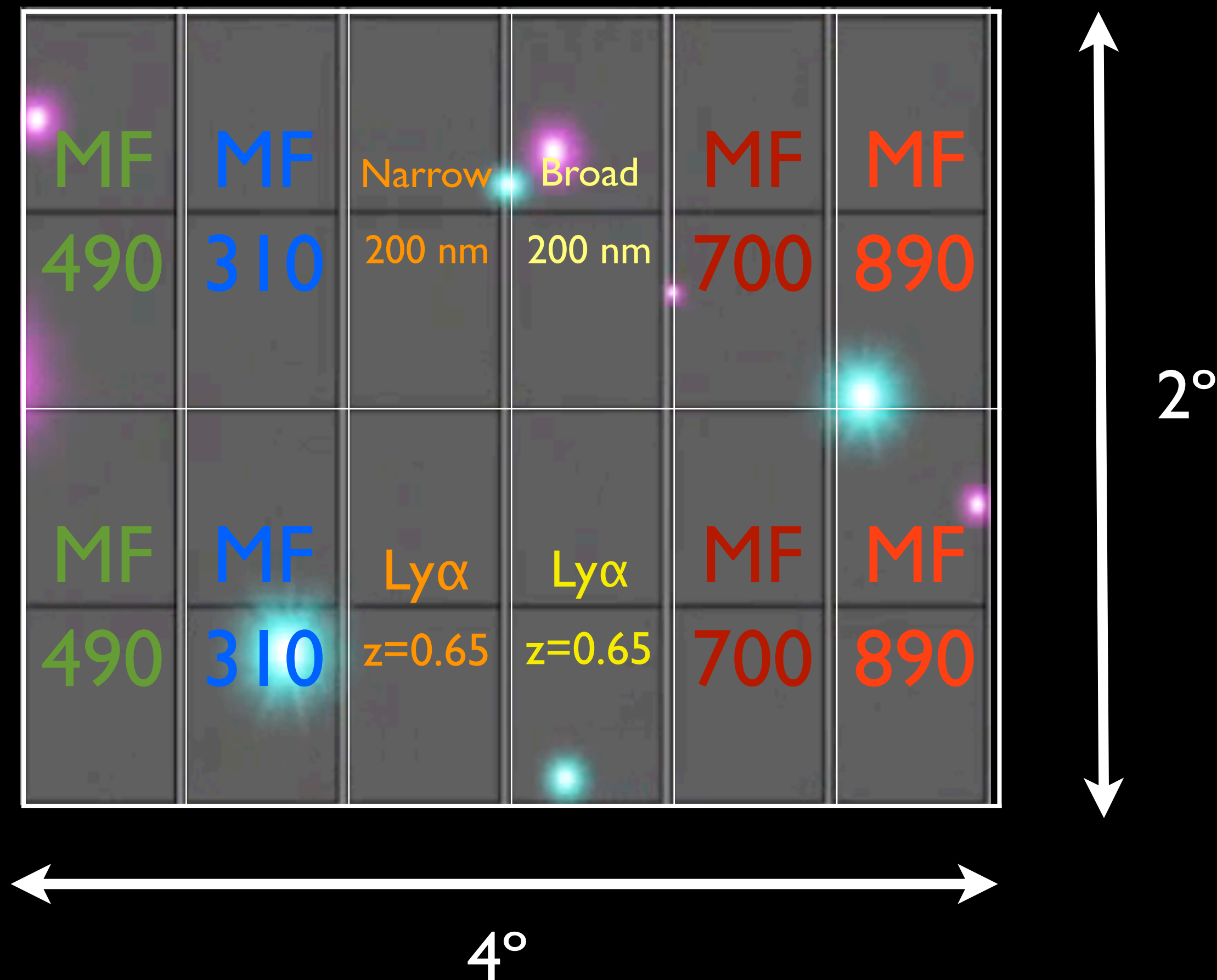


# Curved focal surface configuration

6 x 2 independent controllers in drift-scan mode, coatings as filters

QE of each curved CCD optimised for each filter (TQ>85%)

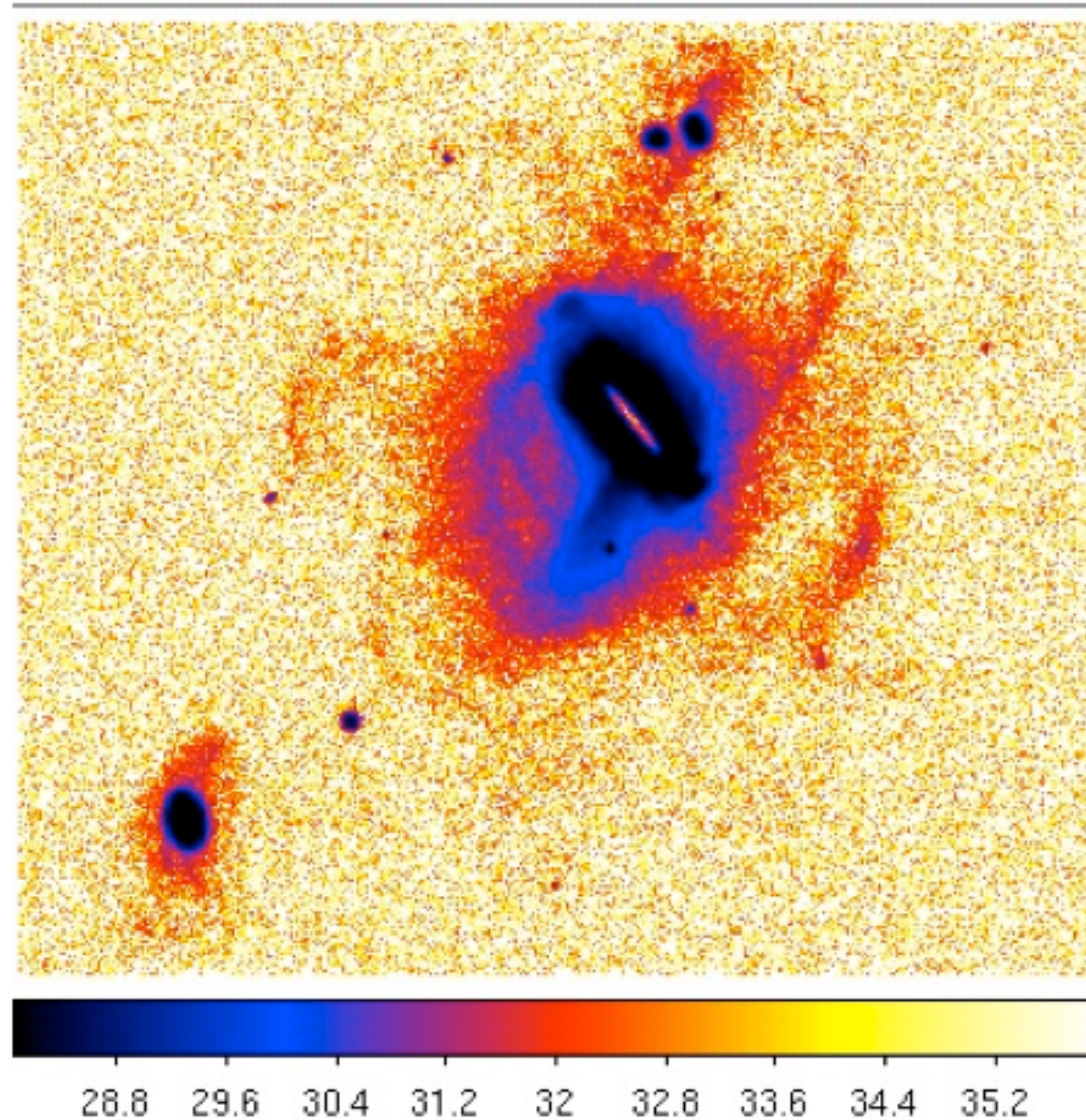
Highly efficient: *no moving parts, passive cooling*



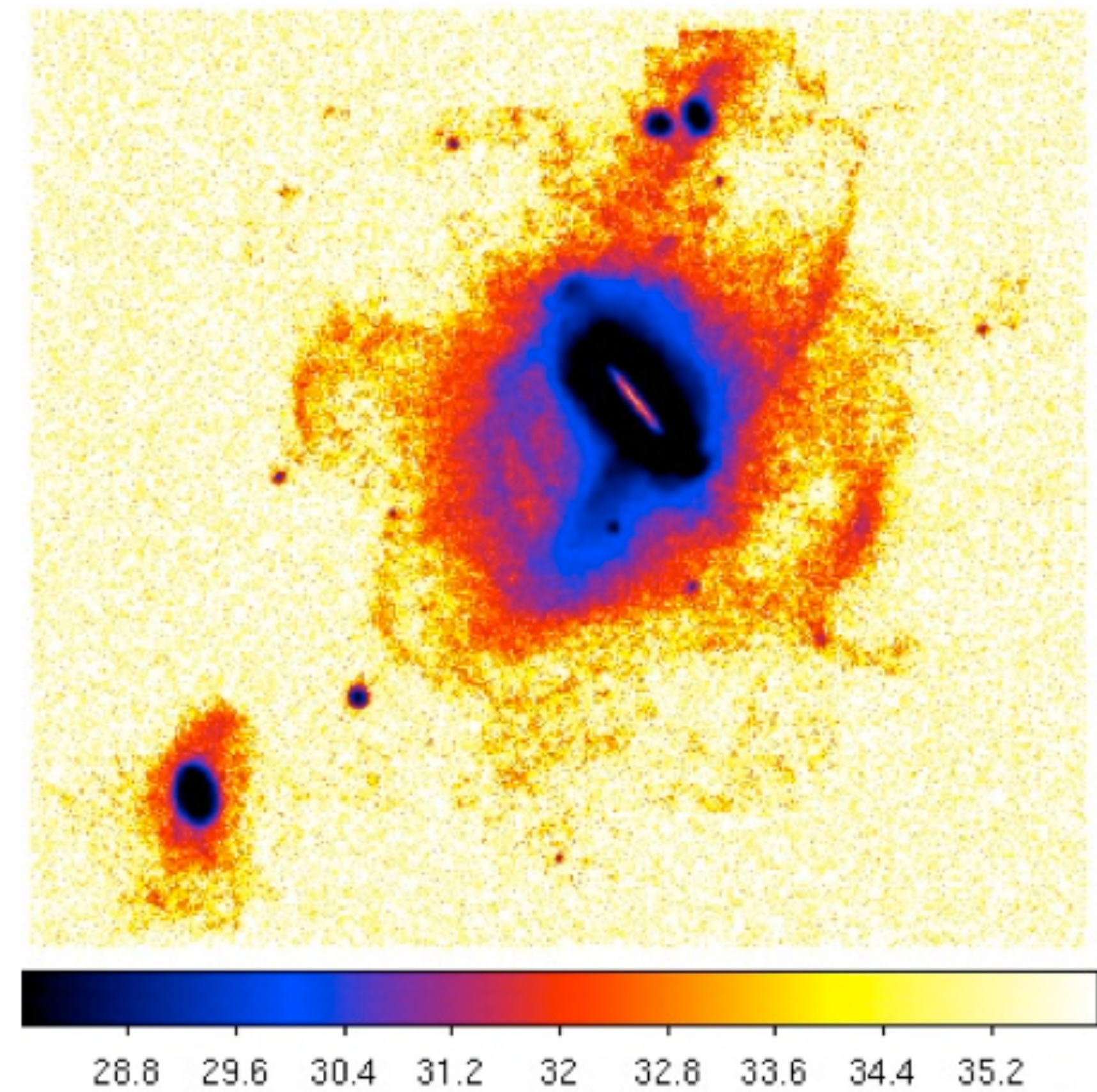


# Expected performances - I Optical bands

Simulated MESSIER images of a real galaxy (M31) seen at 150 Mpc



1 Msec

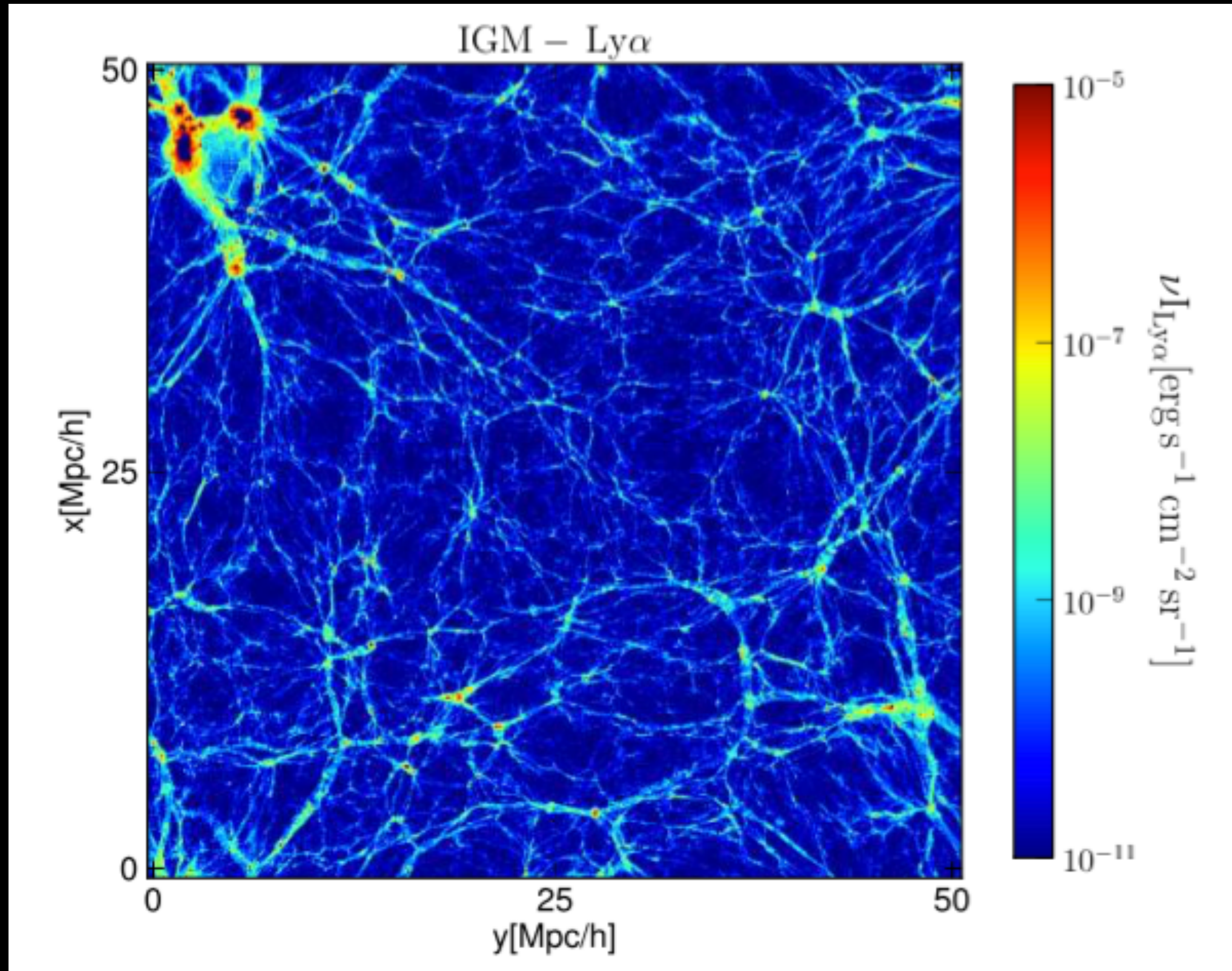


10 Msec

R. Ibata



## Expected performances - II UV bands



Credit: J. Fonseca & M. Silva / F. van de Voort & J. Schaye

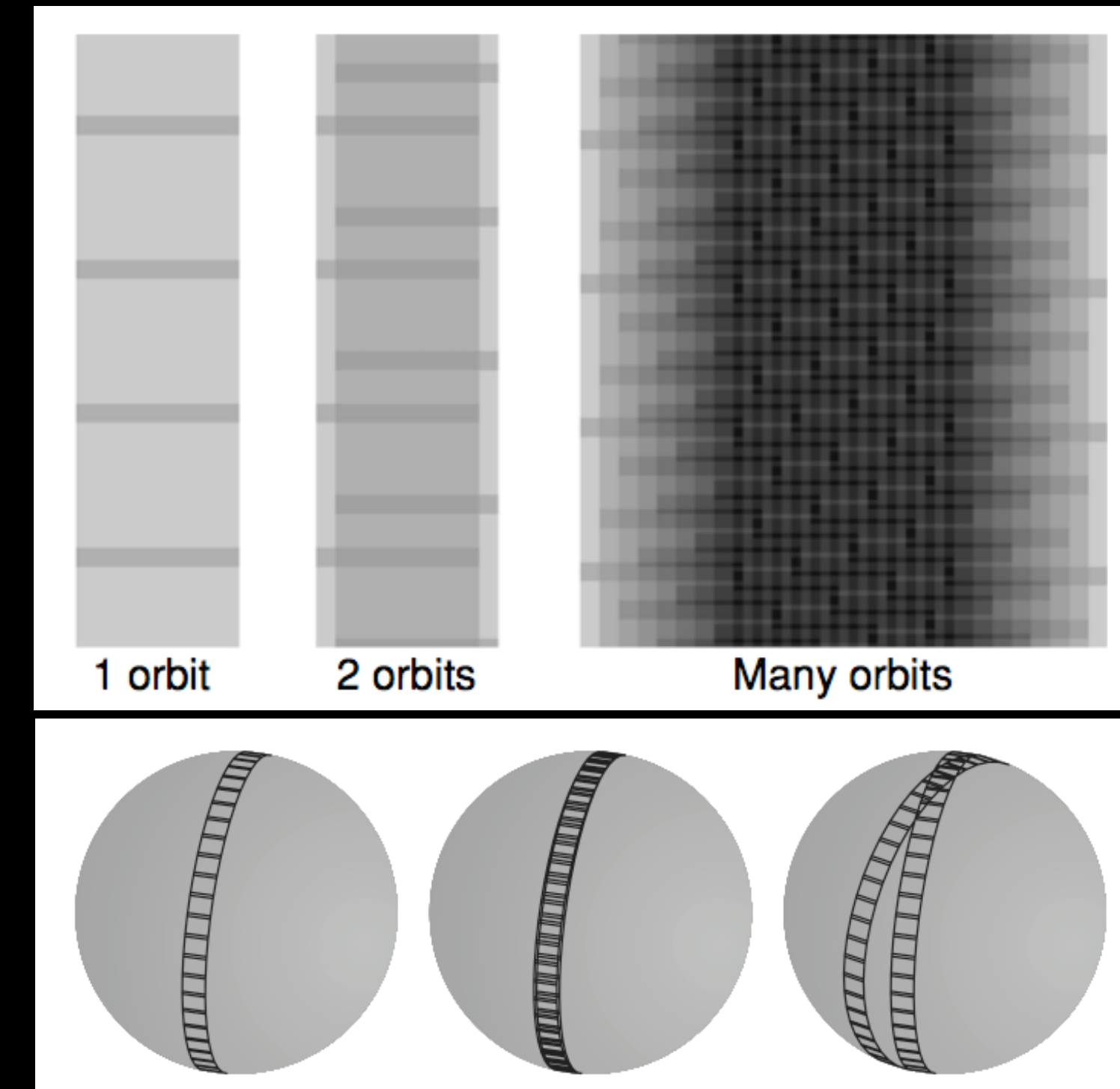
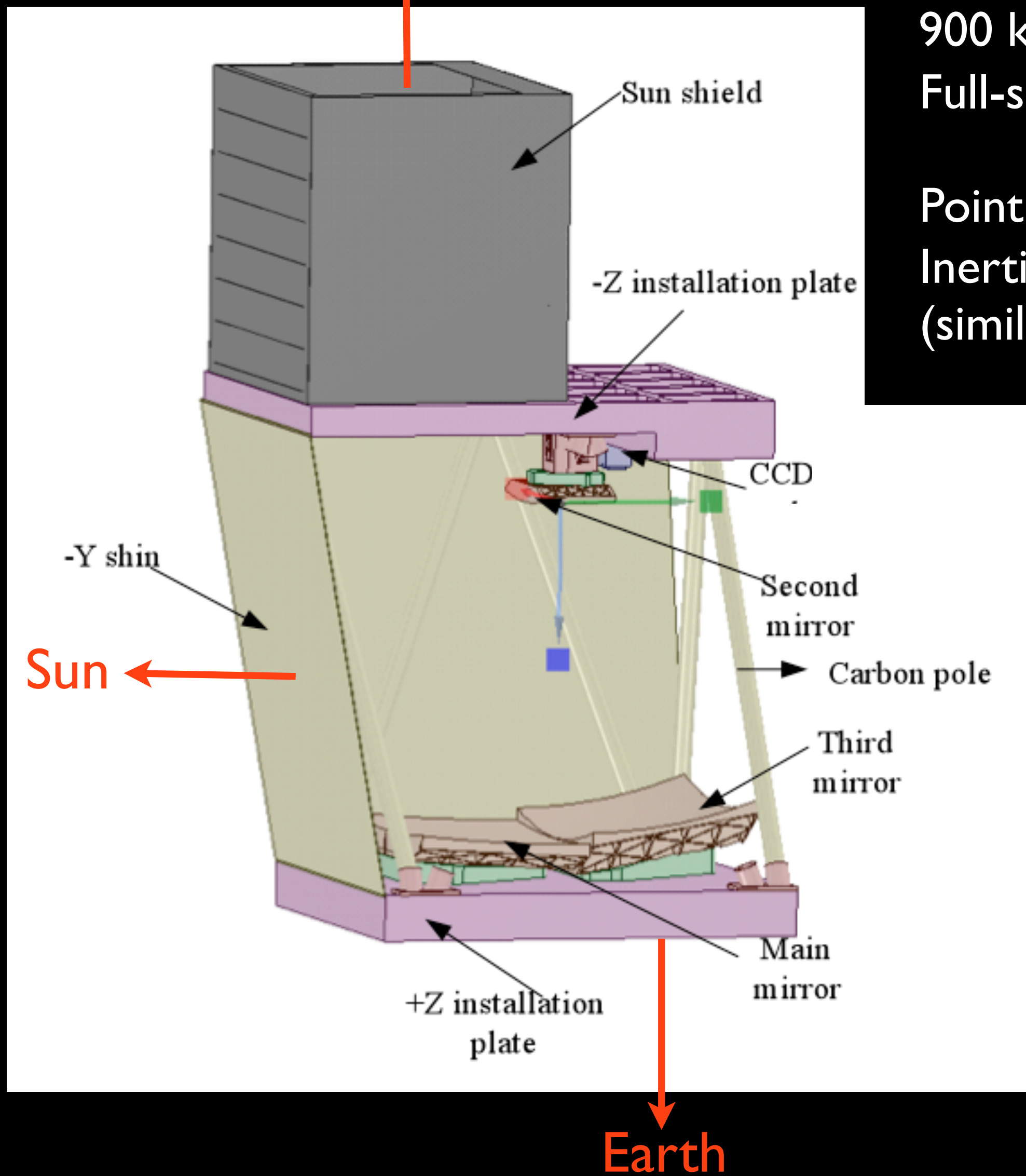


## Sun-Synchronous Orbit

900 km, 98° inclination, LTAN 6h

Full-sky survey in 6 months

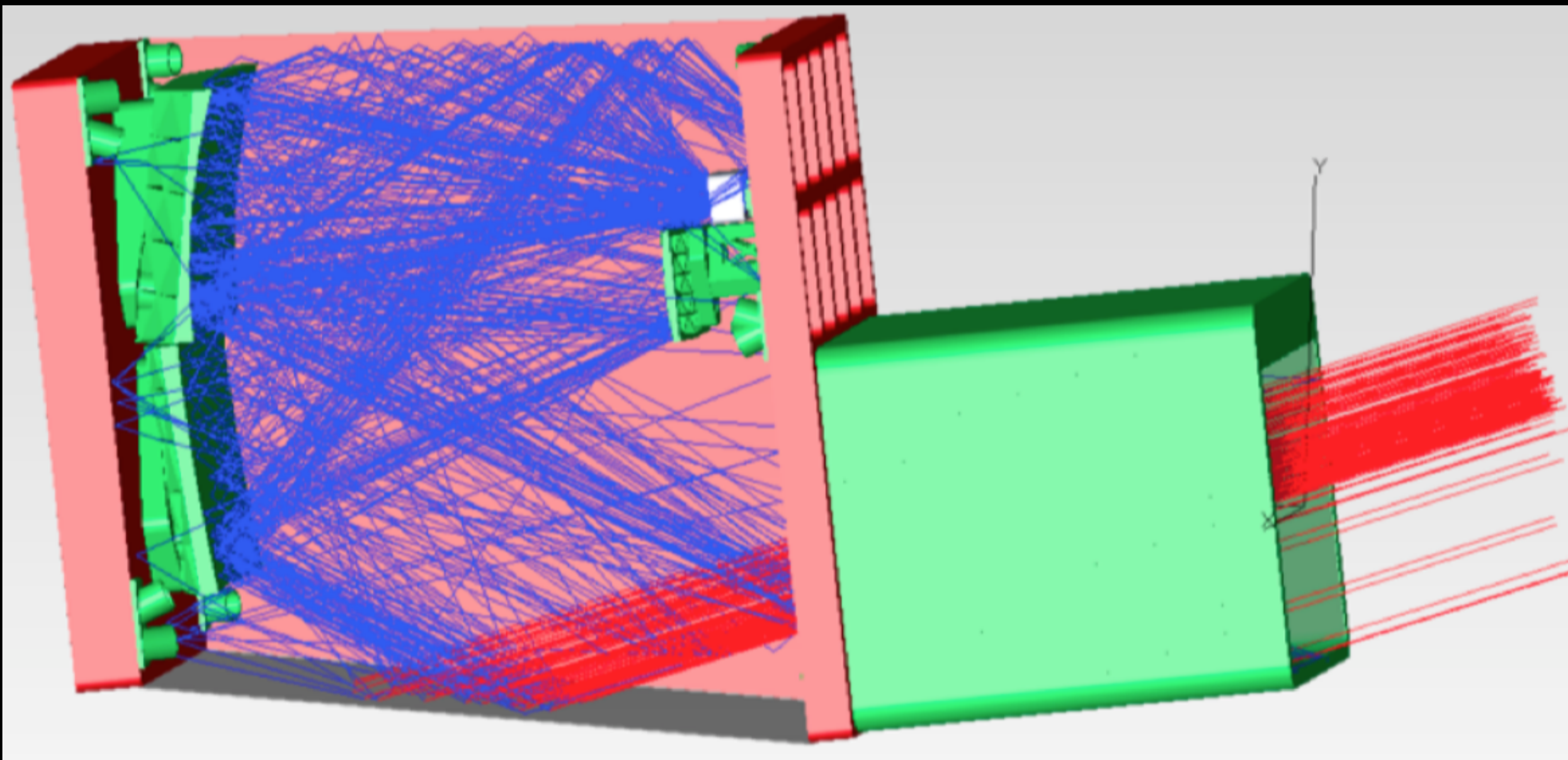
Pointing  $\perp$  Sun-Earth direction (no Earthshine)  
Inertial great-circle drift scan centred at the Sun  
(similar to COBE, WISE, PROBA-V)





# Straylight analysis

Items	Absorption	Mirror reflection	Mirror refraction	Scatter
mechanical arm	0.095	0.01	0	0.04
Optical mirror face	0.05	0.9487	0	0.0013
The edge of reflector and back face	0.1	0.05	0	0.85





# CSC Collateral Science Cases (*free by-products*)

## Solar System

- Comet tails, interplanetary and cometary dust grains

## Stellar physics

- The extent of mass loss in giant and massive stars
- Debris discs + exozodi (optical/UV scattering by dust grains)
- Nature of orphan SN and GRB
- Time-domain stellar astronomy: simultaneous multi-wavelength variability tidal disruption events, SNIa, GW UV counterparts
- *Legacy*: Ultimate multi-band photometric full-sky survey of point sources

## Interstellar medium

- Properties of interstellar dust grains + Interstellar radiation field

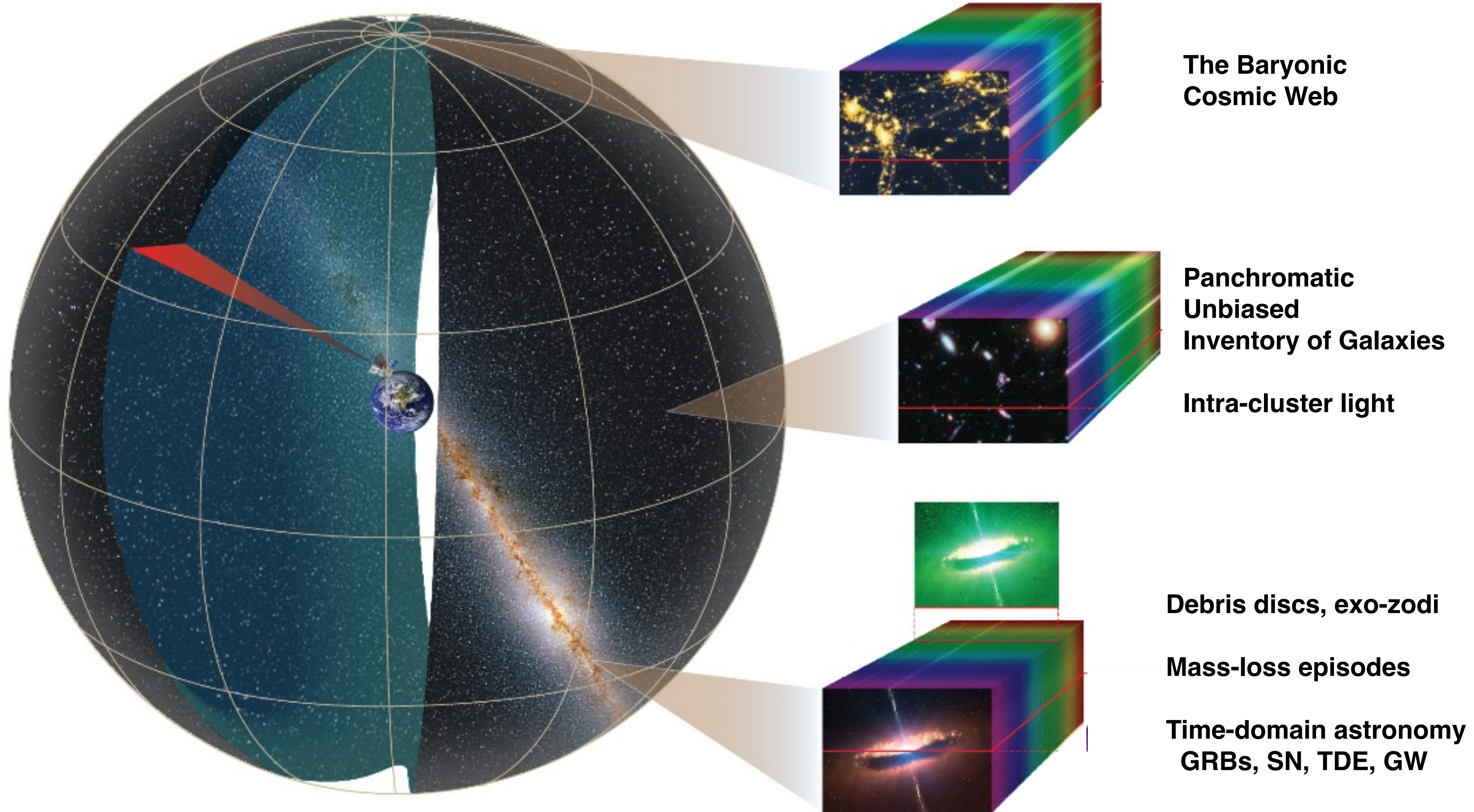
## Extragalactic

- What is the true luminosity function of galaxies ?
- What is the warm molecular content of galaxies in the low- $z$  universe ?
- What is the role of intracluster light and the accretion history in clusters ?

## Cosmology

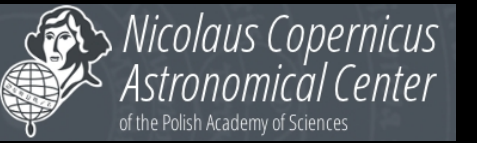
- The fluctuations of the optical / UV cosmological background radiation
- Calibration of the cosmological distance ladder with Surface Brightness fluctuations
- Baryonic acoustic oscillations with  $3 \times 10^6$  galaxies in a thin shell at  $z=0.65$





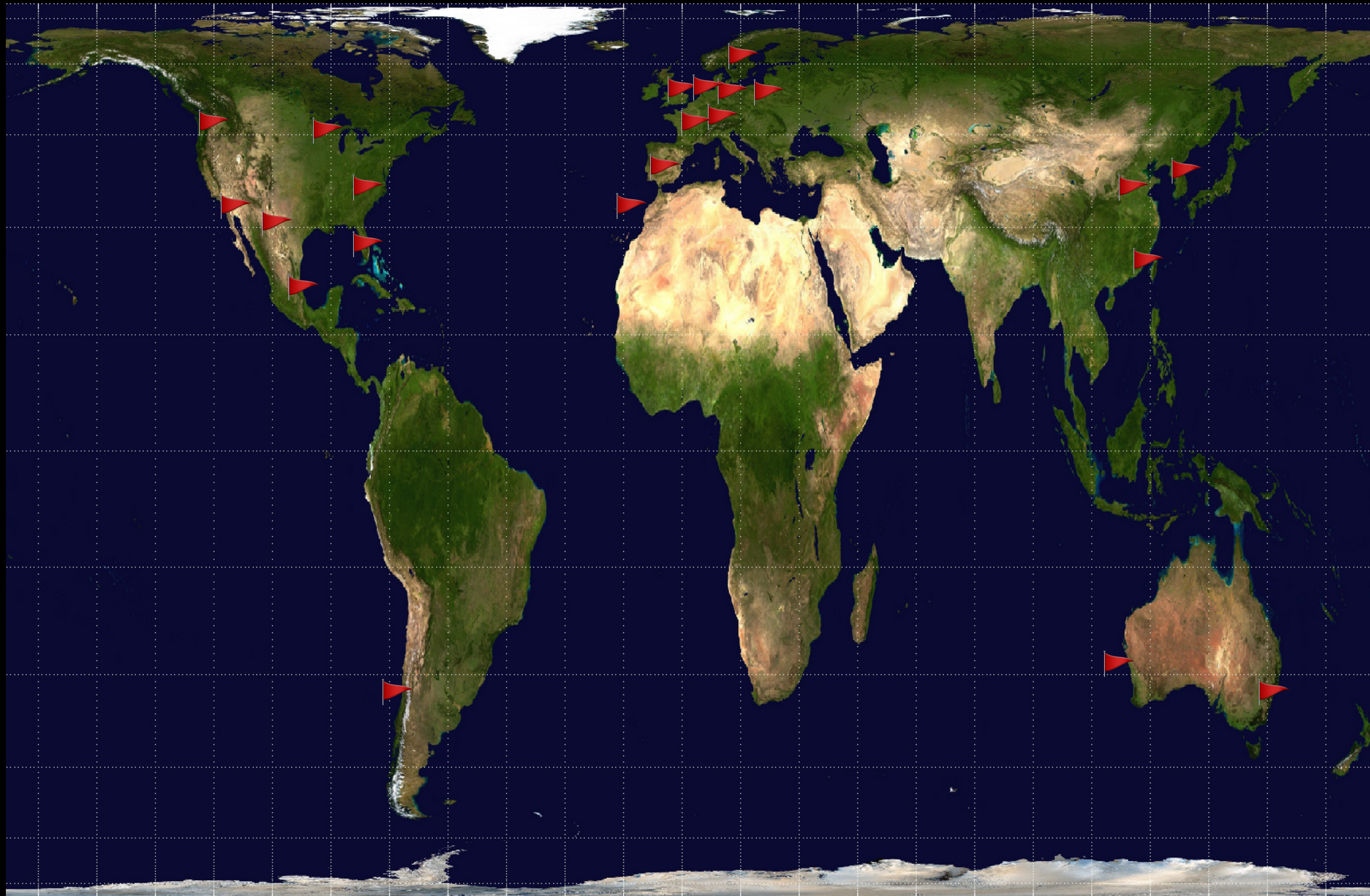
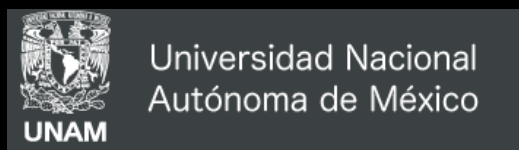


# The MESSIER collaboration



JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY  
IN KRAKÓW

KIAS





# MESSIER Overview of Subsystems

## Thermal Subsystem

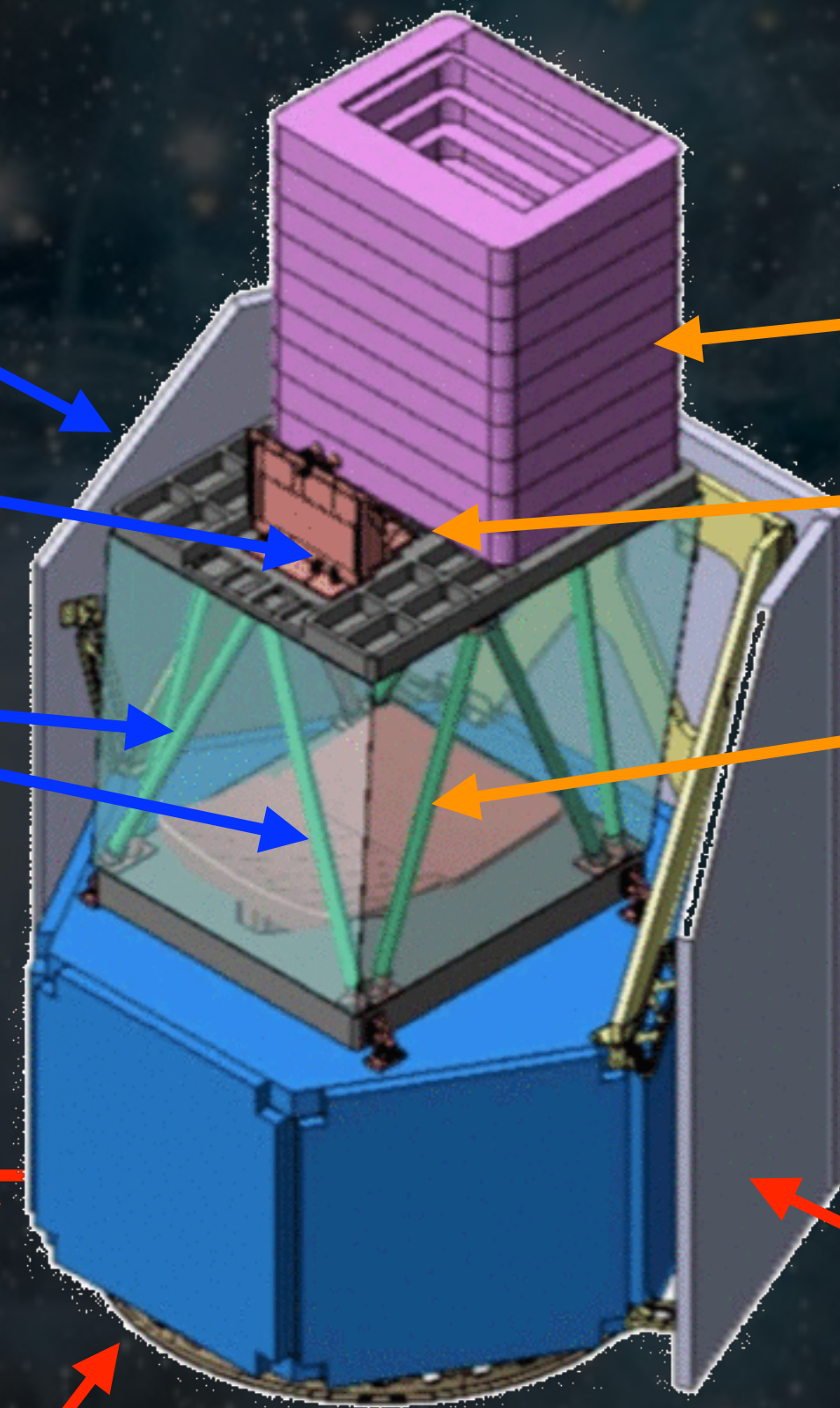
- Shield
- Focal plane radiator
- Bipods
- 3-Stage Radiators (not shown)

## Optical Subsystem

- Pop-up Baffle
- Focal Plane Assembly
- Optical Bench

- Star trackers
- S-band antenna
- Solar panels
- X-band antenna

## Spacecraft bus

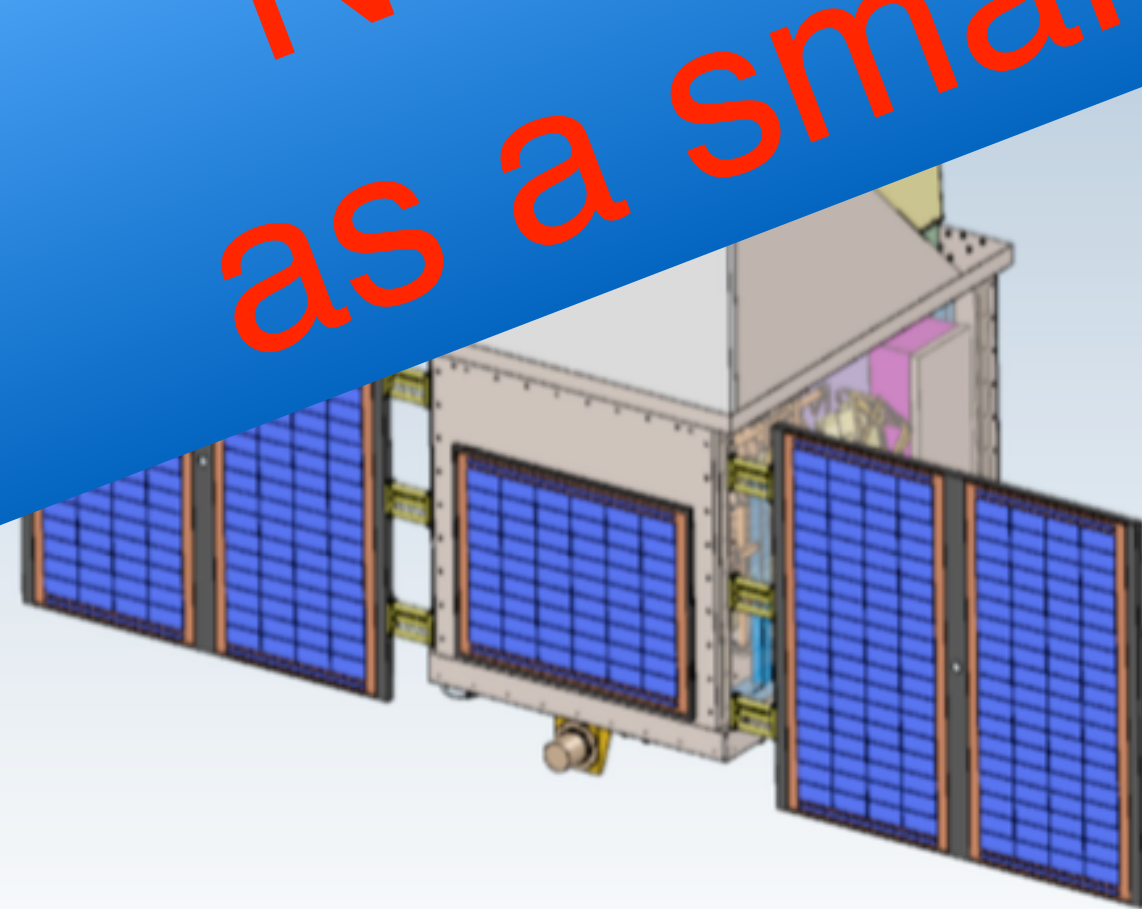




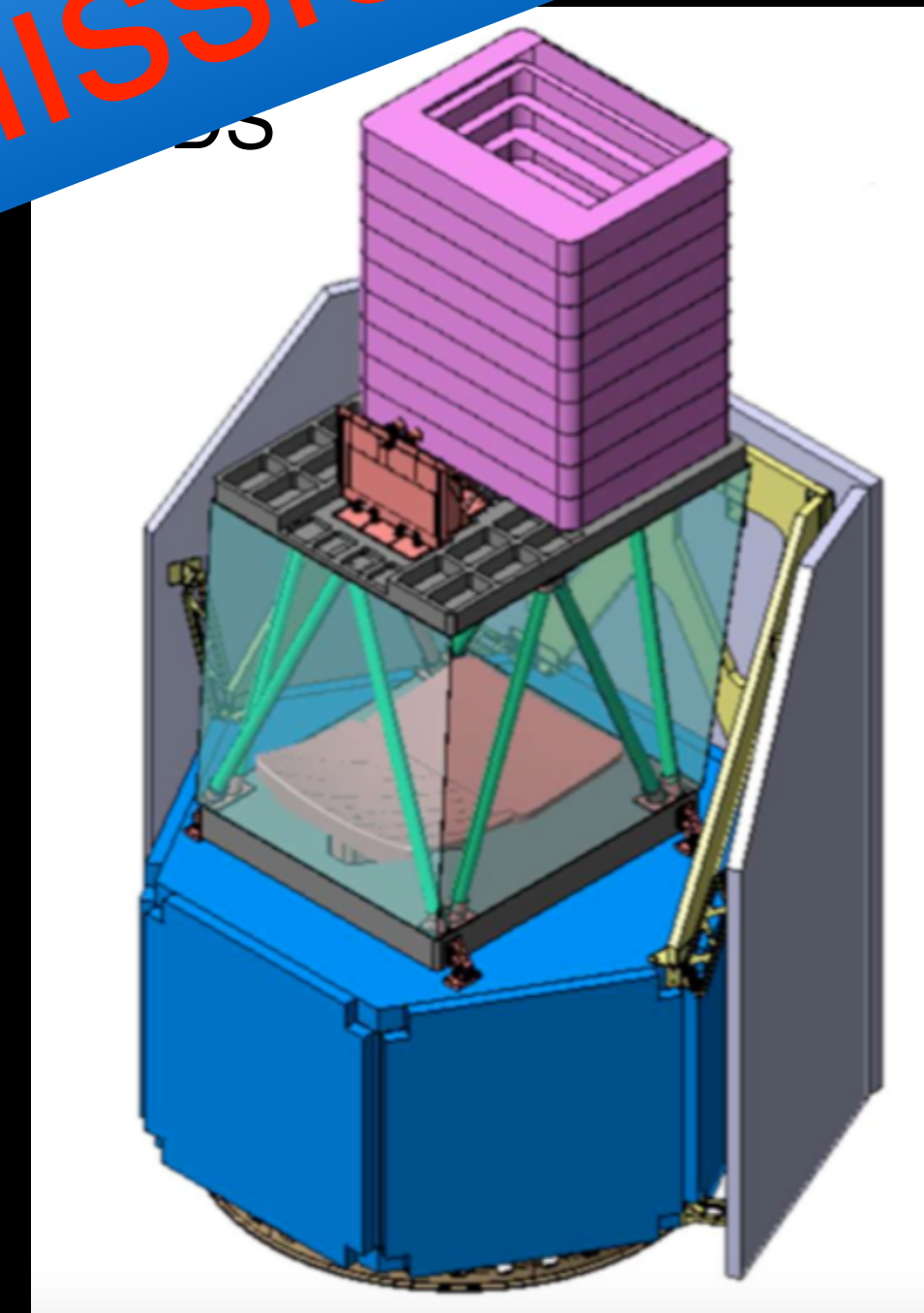
# Designs by two competing industrial contractors (EADS/CASA & QinetiQ)

- Platform : heritage from CHEOPS or PROBA-V
- Payload constraints: 65 kg and 60 W TRL > 6
- Total budget : 120 M€ (cost at completion)
- 150+ scientists in 16 countries

PROBA  
QinetiQ



**QinetiQ**



**AIRBUS**  
DEFENCE & SPACE

**SENER**

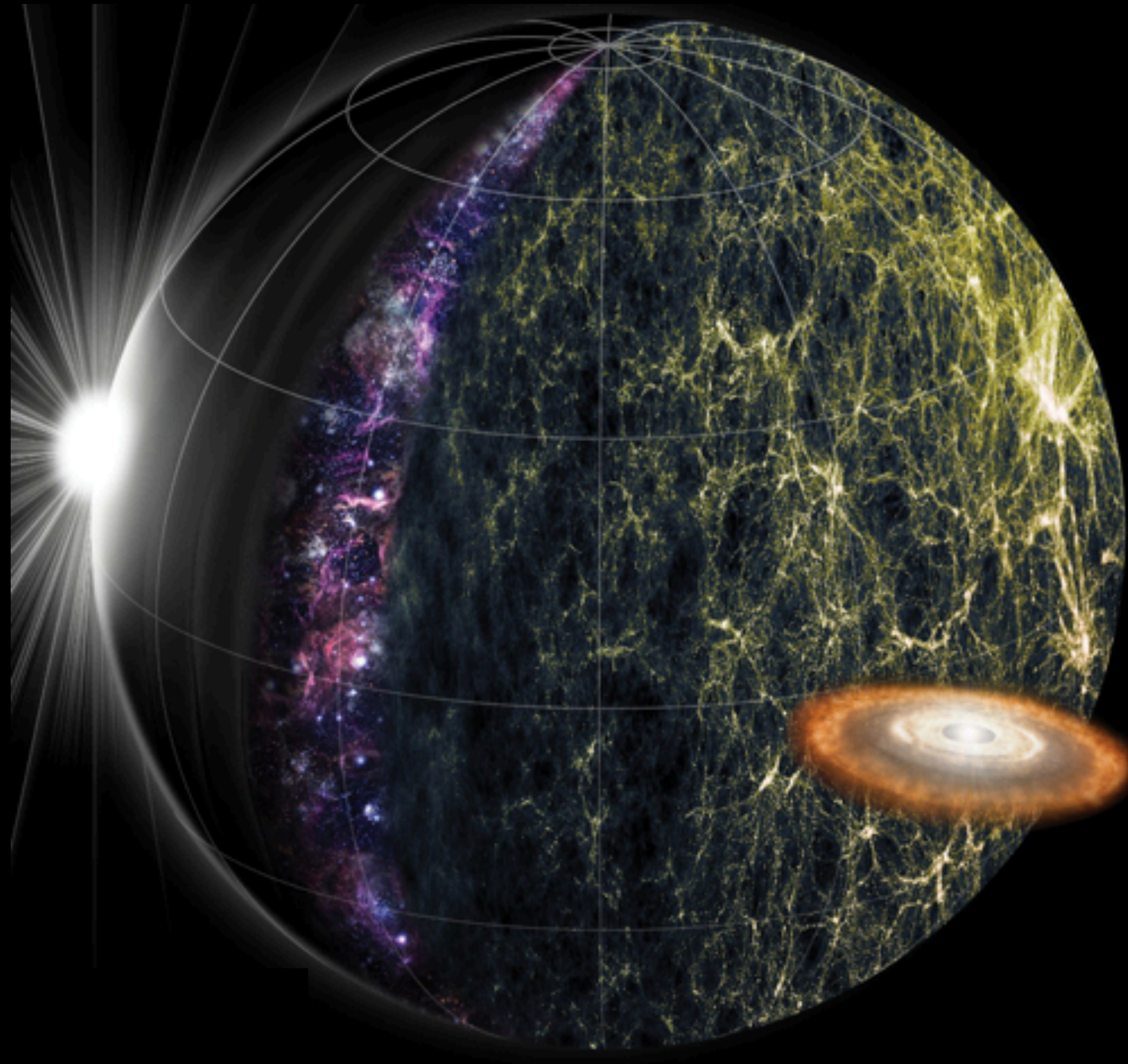


# Timeline

- ✓ **October 2018**      ESA F(fast) Mission
  - ESA-led mission
  - cost at completion: cap fixed at 150 M€ + free/shared launch
  - TRL > 5–6
  - contributions by partners (Canada, Korea, China, Australia)
  - launch in 2026/28
- ✓ **June 2019**      MESSIER White Book
- ✓ **July 2019**      Astro–2020 Decadal + ESA Voyage 2050
- ✓ **August 2019**      NASA SMEX



# MESSIER: An All-Sky Ultra-Low Surface Brightness Survey



## Designed for New Science

- The Complete Inventory of Galaxies
- The Baryonic Cosmic Web
- From the Zodiacal Light to the Cosmological Optical/UV backgrounds

## The First All-Sky Optical-UV LSB Survey

A Unique Legacy Archive for the Astronomy Community with 100s of Millions of Stars and Galaxies

## Low-Risk Implementation

- Single Observing Mode
- No Moving Parts
- Passive Cooling







IAU Symposium 355

*The Realm of the Low Surface Brightness Universe*

Tenerife

8 –12 July 2019

<http://www.iac.es/congreso/iaus355>





# ESA Voyage 2050 White Paper call

Workshop: 14 June 2019

Observatoire de Paris

Contact: [martina.wiedner@obspm.fr](mailto:martina.wiedner@obspm.fr)