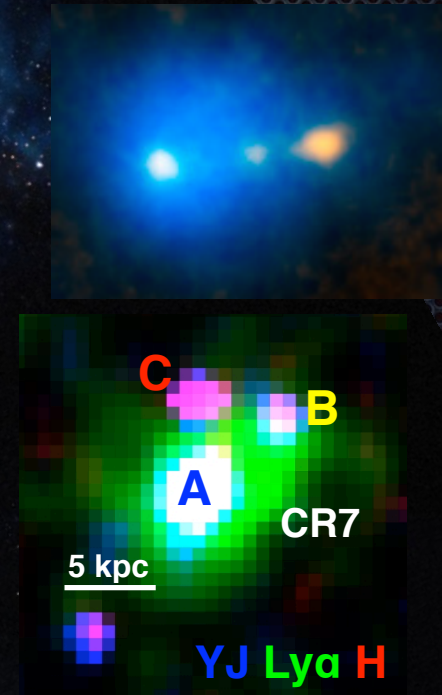


The first 1-2 Gyrs of cosmic time with the widest Lyman- α surveys

David Sobral

Lancaster University

Leiden Observatory



*Jorryt Matthee, Sérgio Santos, Behnam Darvish, Daniel Schaerer,
Bahram Mobasher, Huub Rottgering, Shoubaneh Hemmati*

Lancaster
University



VENI
VIDI
VICI



Matthee, Sobral et al. 2015, MNRAS

Sobral, Matthee et al. 2015, ApJ

Sobral et al. in prep.

Santos et al. in prep.

Take home messages

- Luminous Ly α emitters ($\sim 10^{43.5}$ erg/s) at $z=5.7-6.6$
 $1.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ Mpc}^{-3}$ much more common than thought

- Evolution of the Ly α LF is at the faint end

- Discovery of the most Luminous Ly α emitters at $z=6.6$: surprises!



From the Dark ages to the end of re-ionisation

Can we find and study the first stars and galaxies?

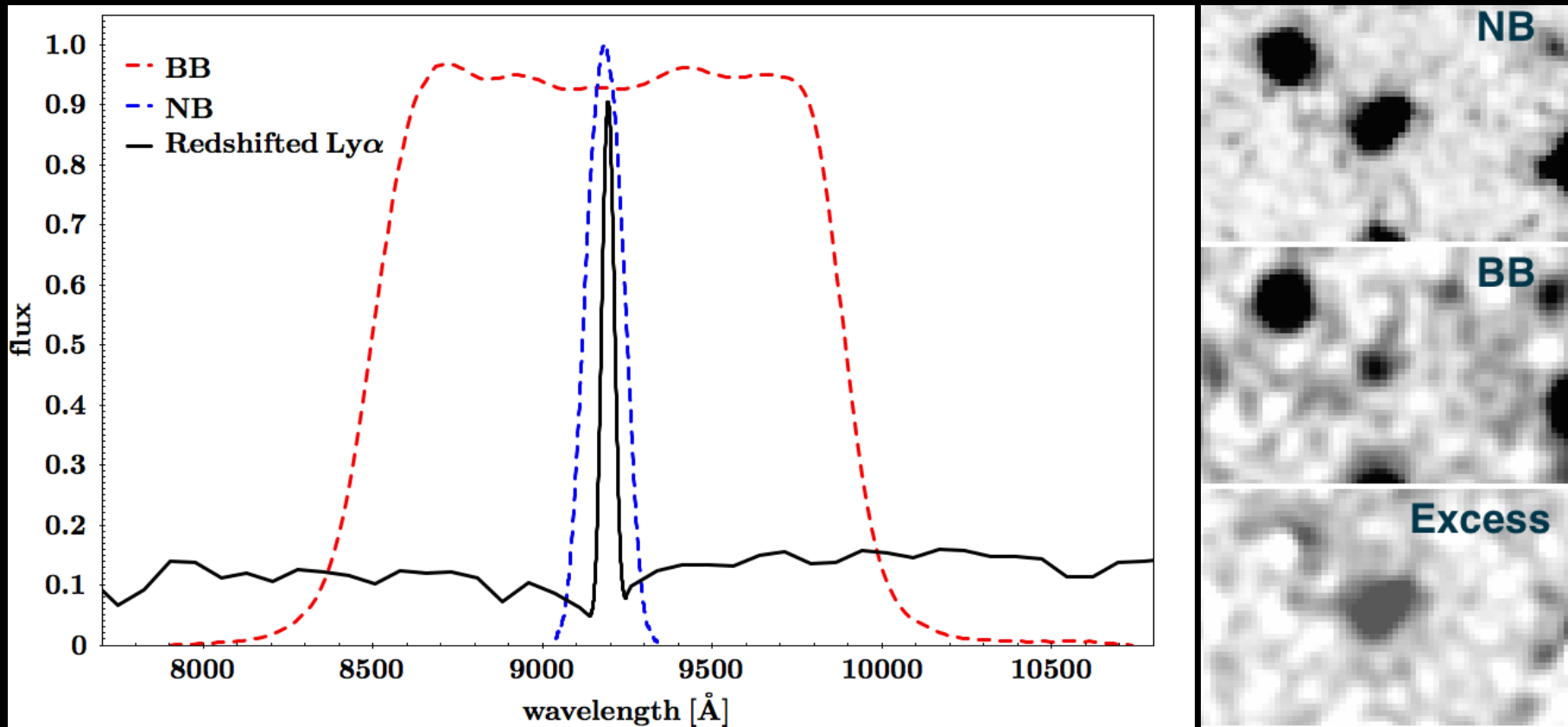
What are their properties and stellar populations? ISM?



- See talks by e.g. : R. Bowler, D. Stark, G. Brammer

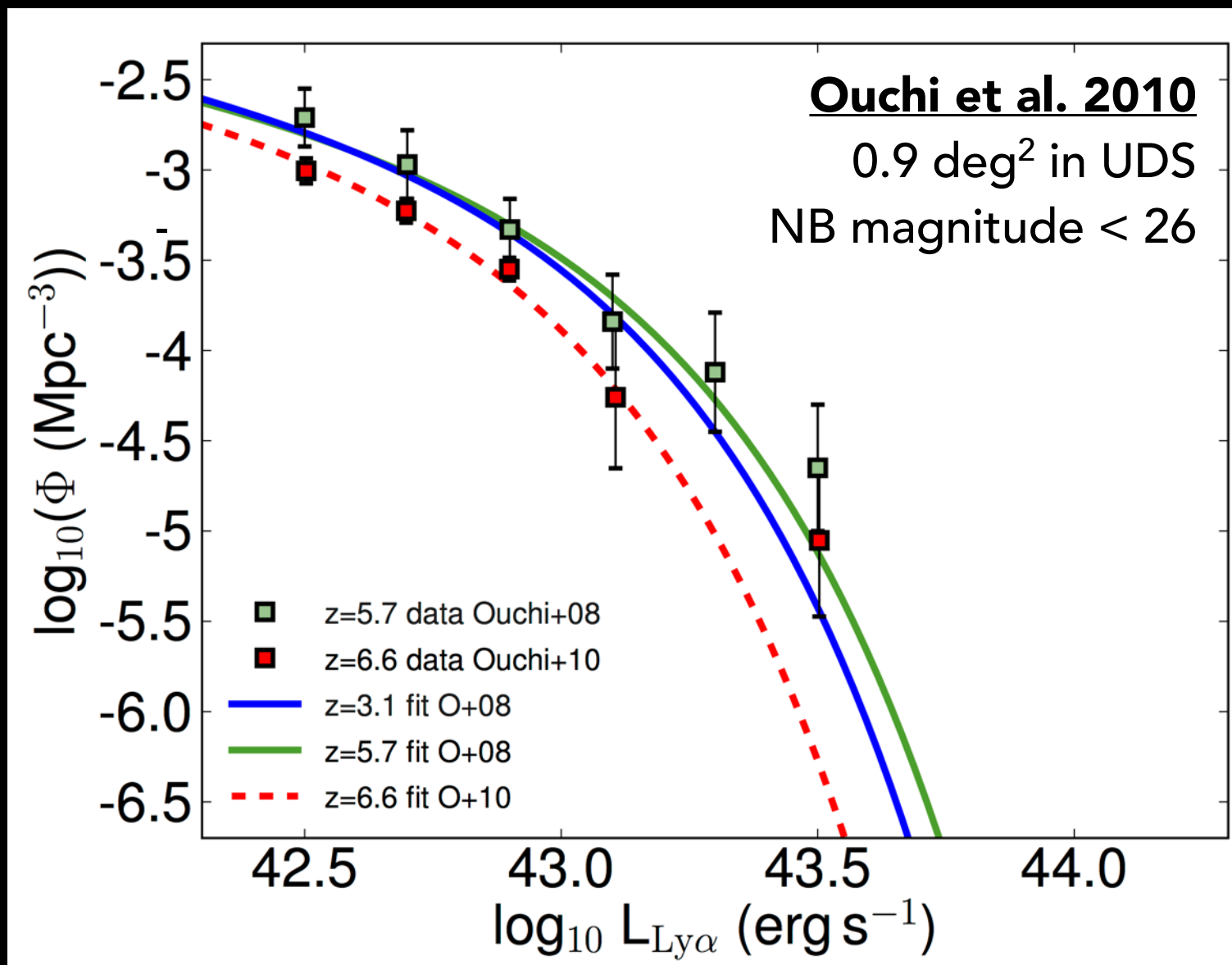
Lyman- α as a tool to study young galaxies and re-ionisation

- narrow-band selects redshifted 1216 Å emission (optical at $z > 2$)



- Ly α emitted by young galaxies (high EW)
- Ly α absorbed in more neutral IGM (test for re-ionisation)

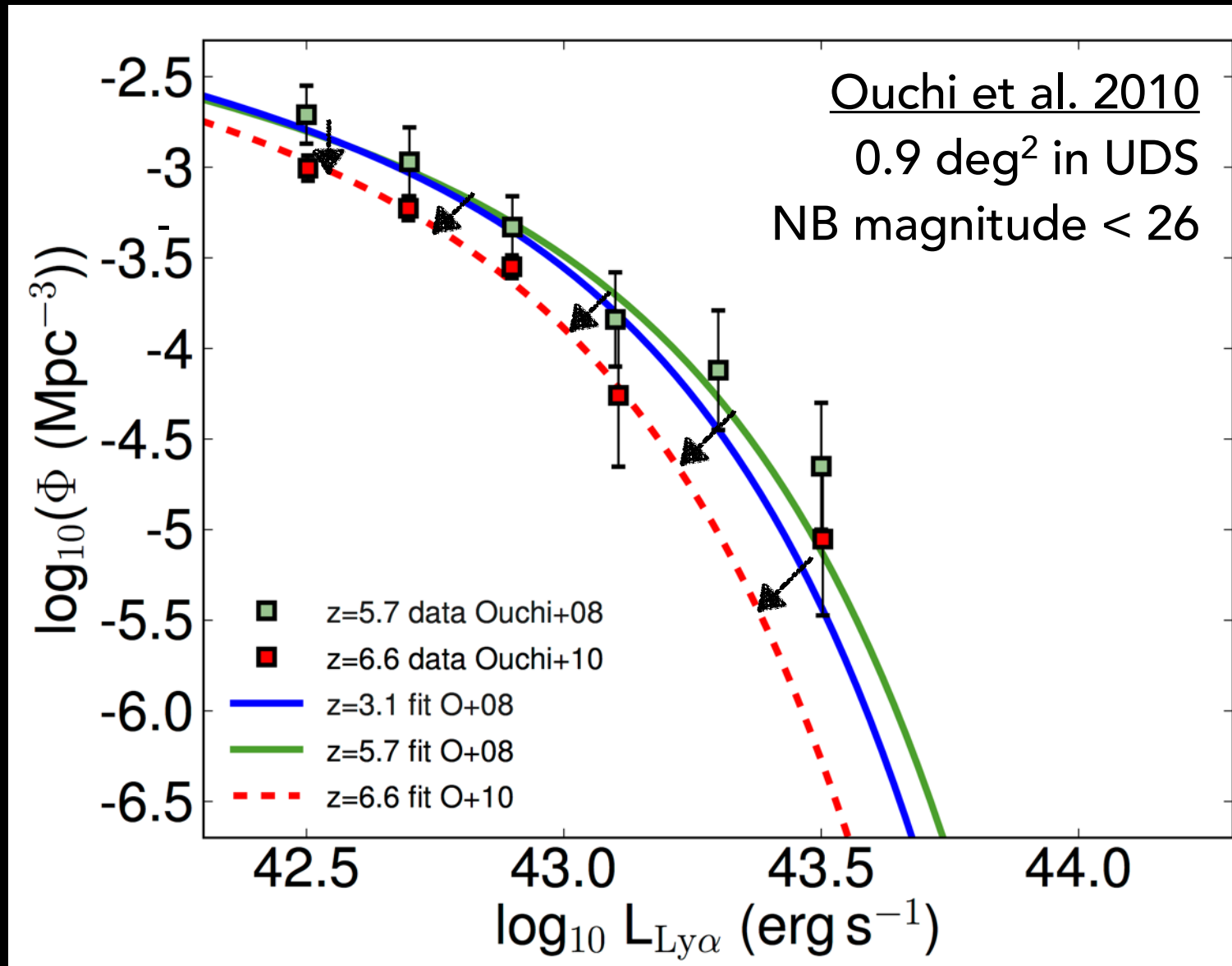
Lyman- α Luminosity function $z \sim 3-6$ roughly constant



Lyman- α Luminosity function at $z=6.6$

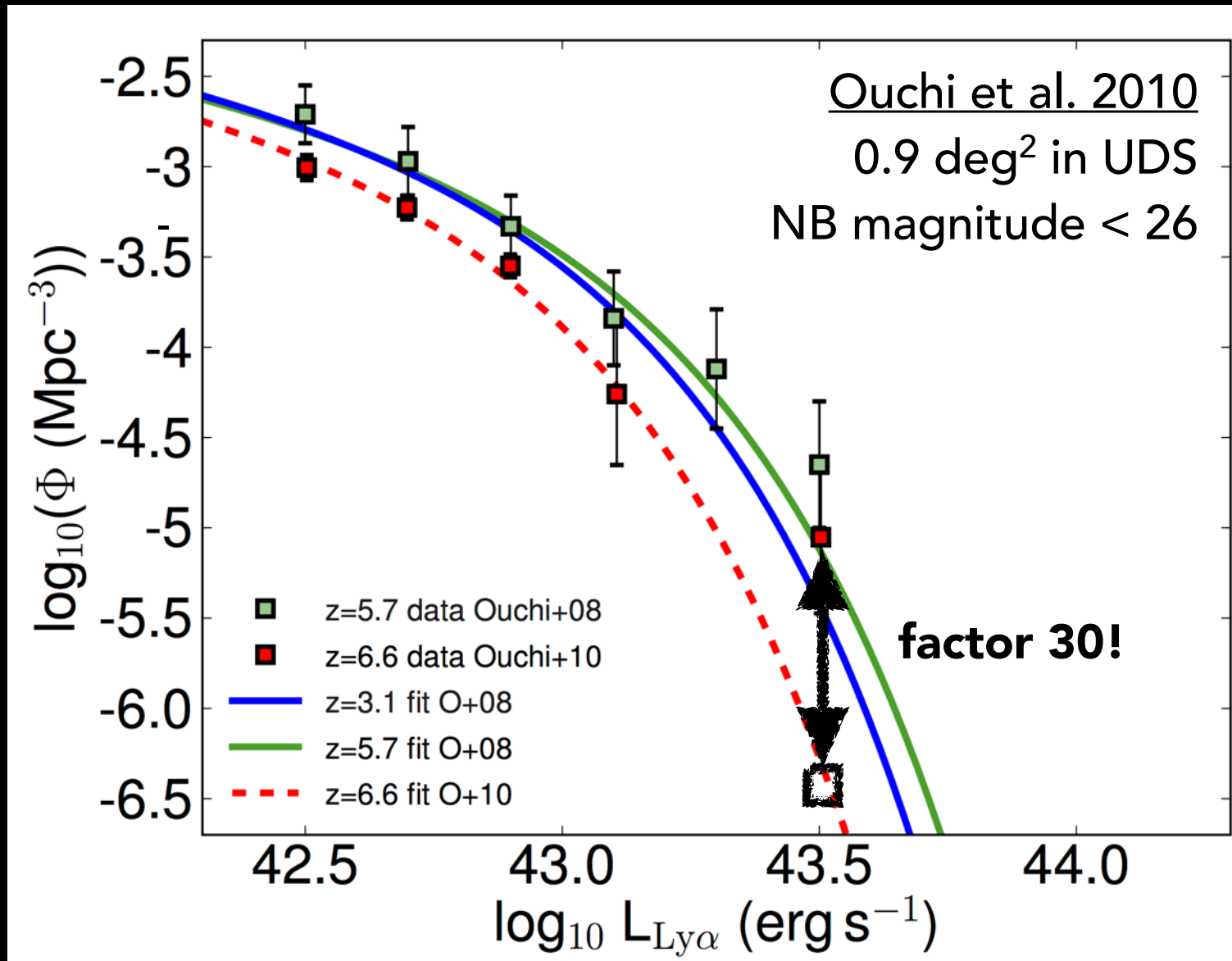
Re-ionisation not complete?

Evolution at all Luminosities (?)

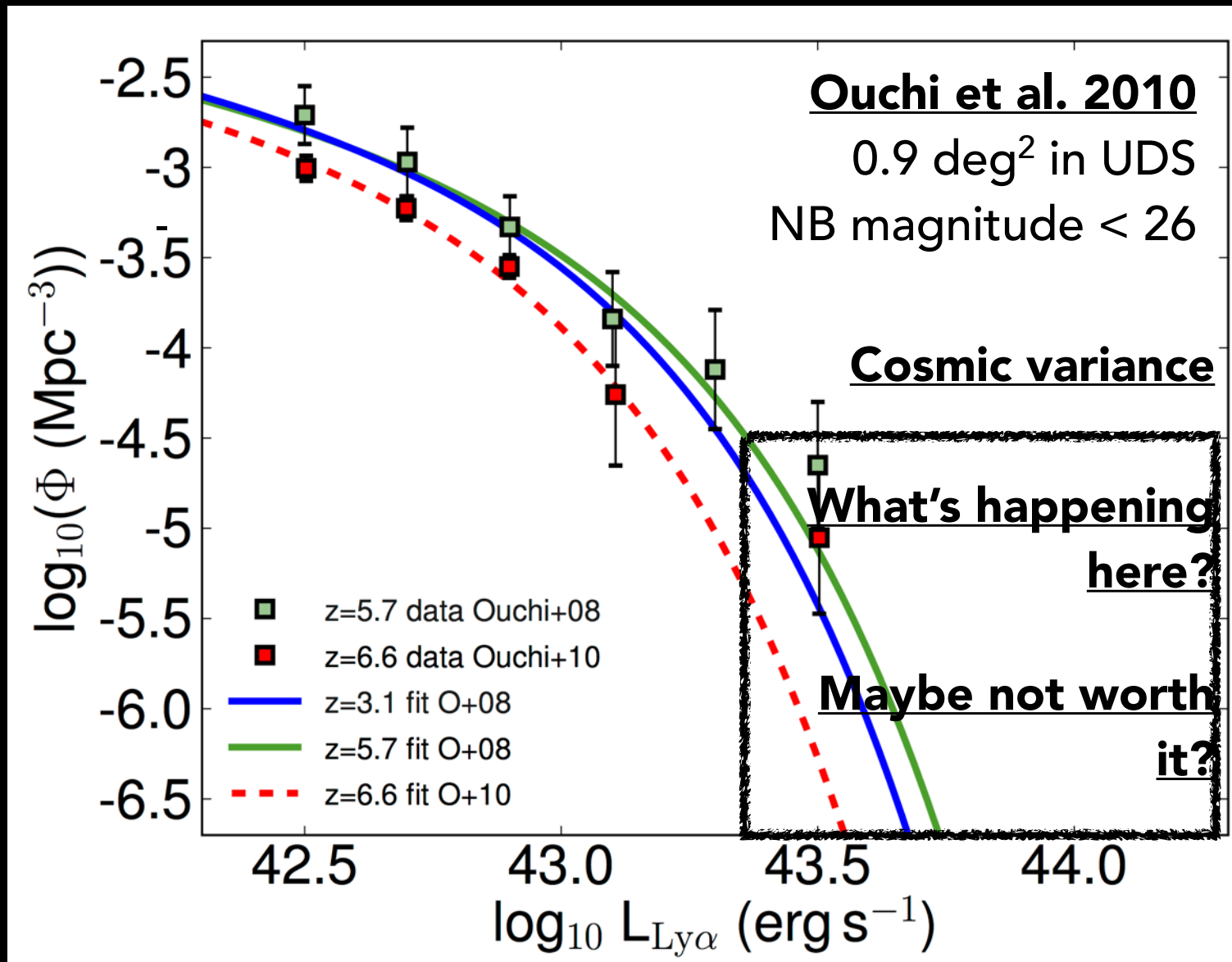


Lyman- α Luminosity function at $z=6.6$

Surveys limited by cosmic variance ($<1\text{deg}^2$)



Lyman- α Luminosity function $z \sim 3-6$ roughly constant \rightarrow “decline” at $z > 6$?

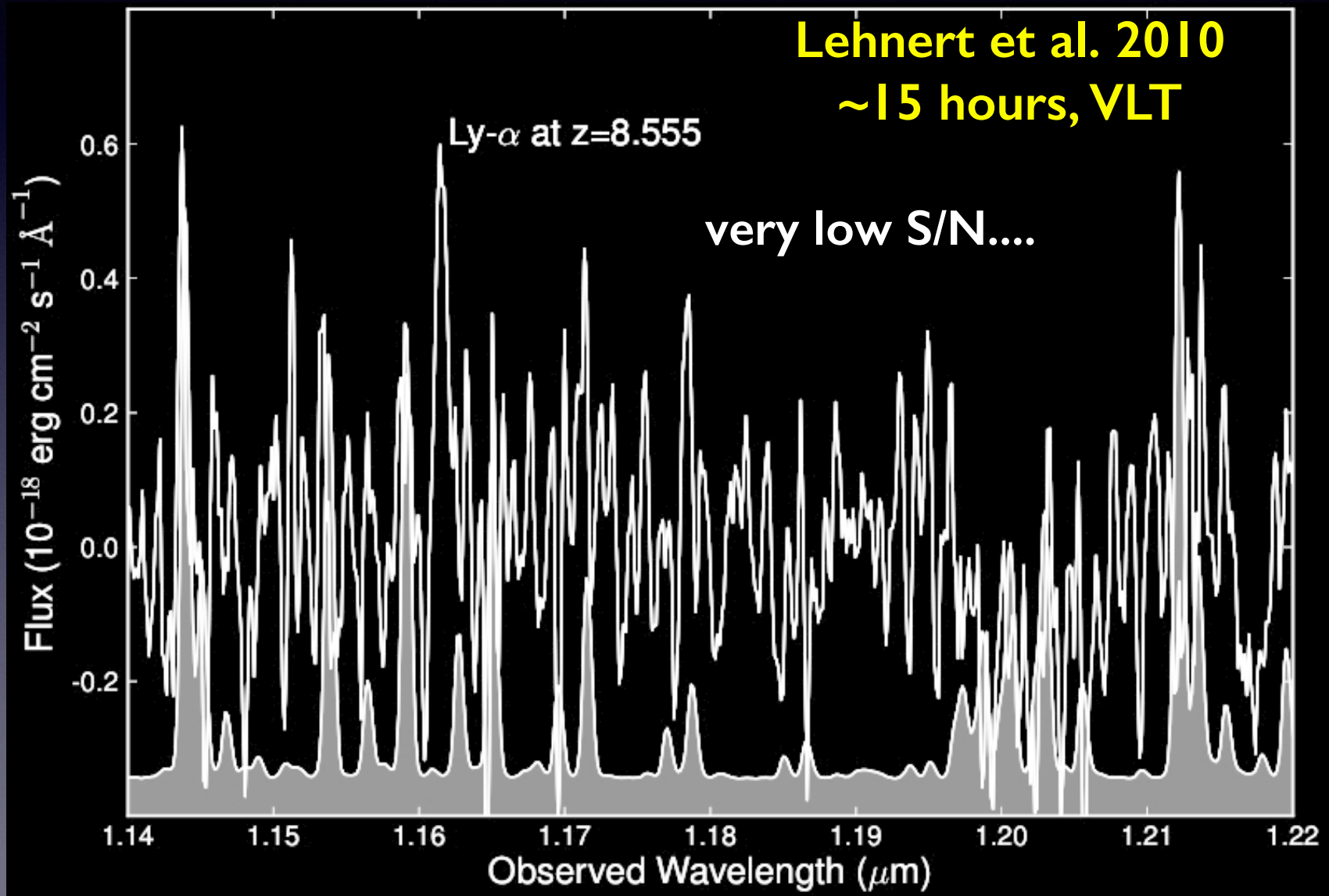


Key things to address

- **Need much larger (and multiple!) volumes. Most luminous sources may be visible much earlier on (first ionised bubbles?)**
- **Need to spectroscopically confirm the results**
- **Find the most luminous sources: allowing for actual detailed studies to be conducted without having to wait for JWST and/or E-ELT. e.g. ISM, gas, metallicities**

The big advantage for spectroscopic follow-up is that they will *not* look like this:

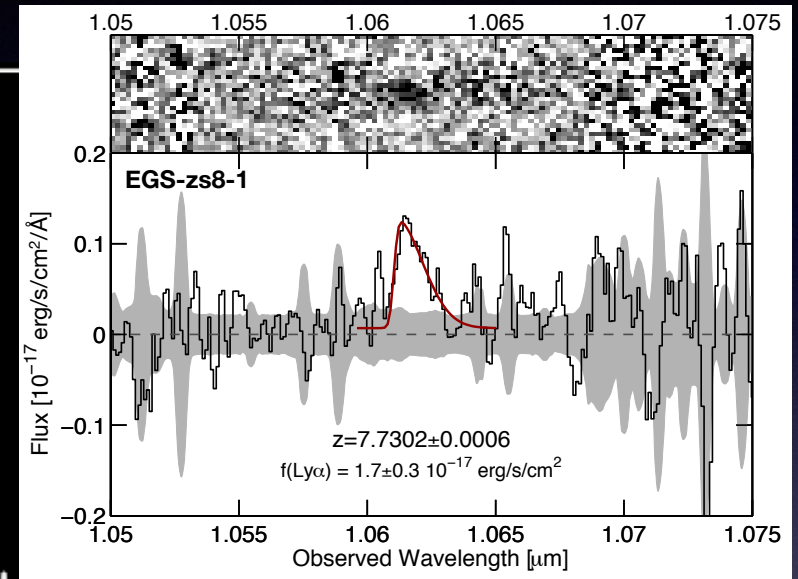
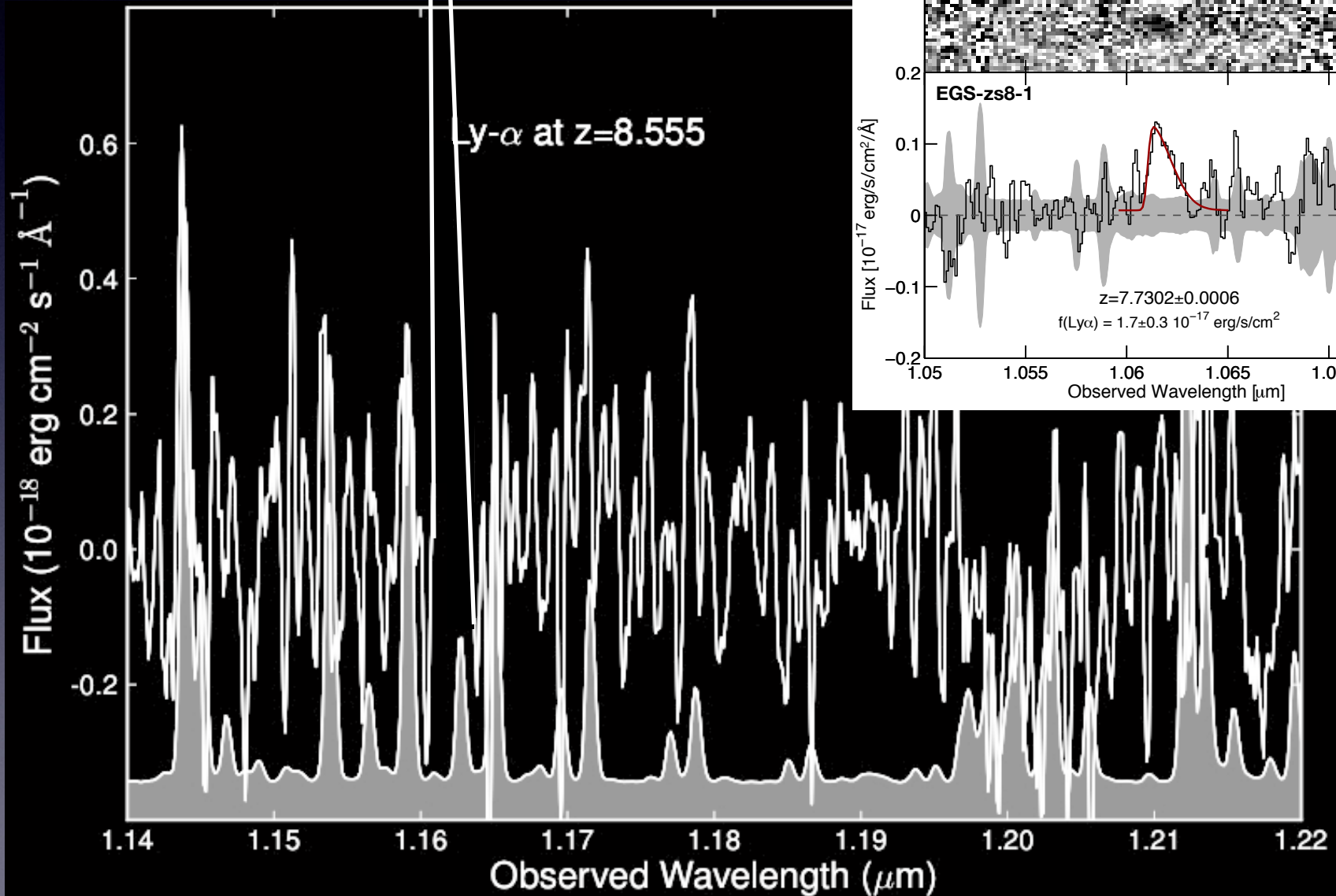
(see Bunker et al. 2013)



In \sim couple of hours

They will look like this!

See also: Oesch+2015; Zitrin+2015

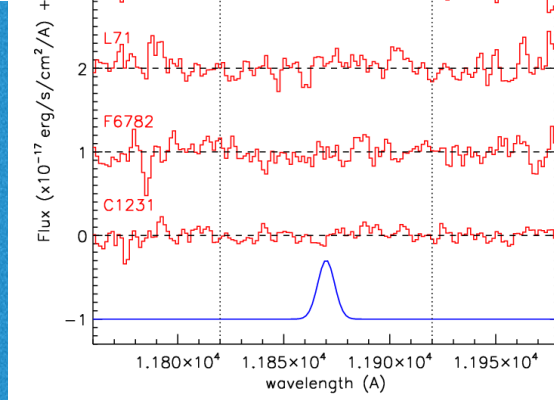


**Spectroscopic
follow-up is
absolutely crucial!!!**

variable sources

~2 per deg² at any time

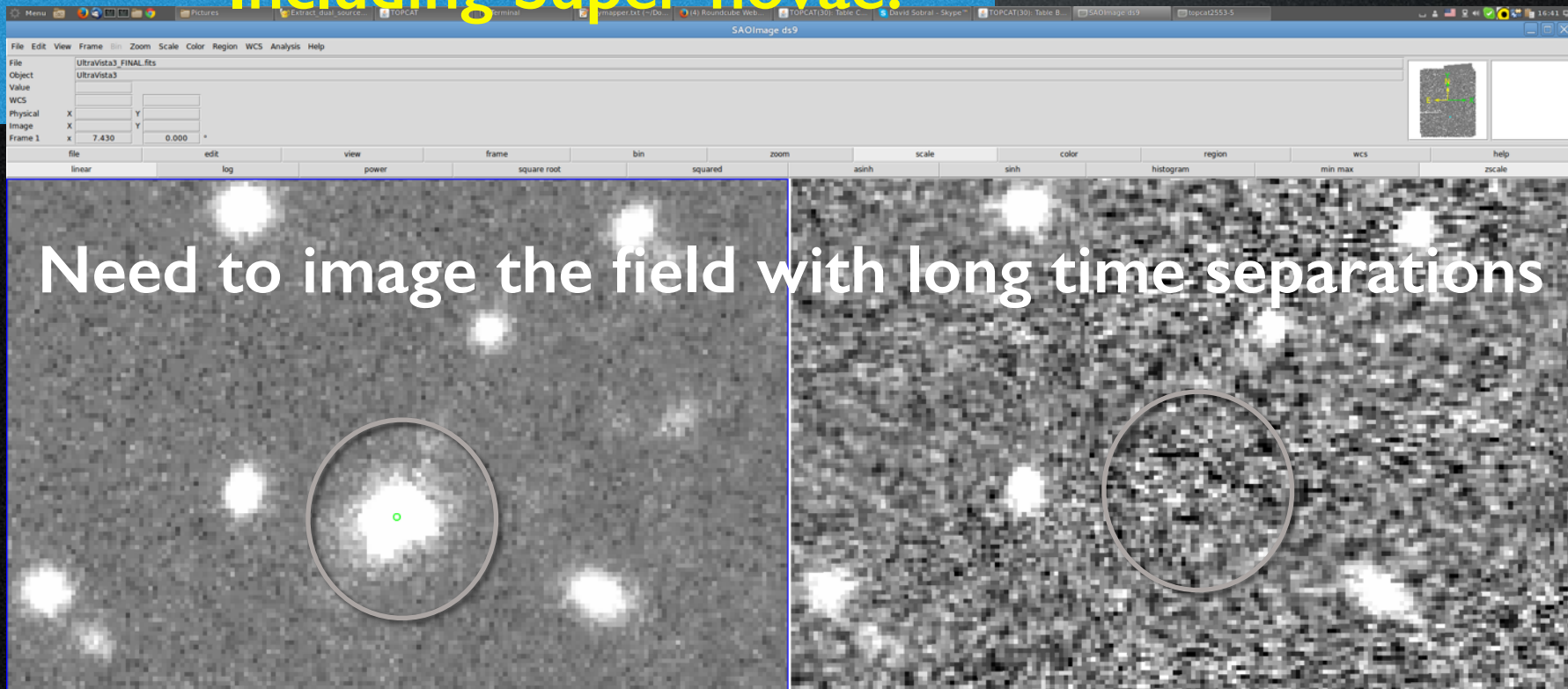
Including Super-novae!



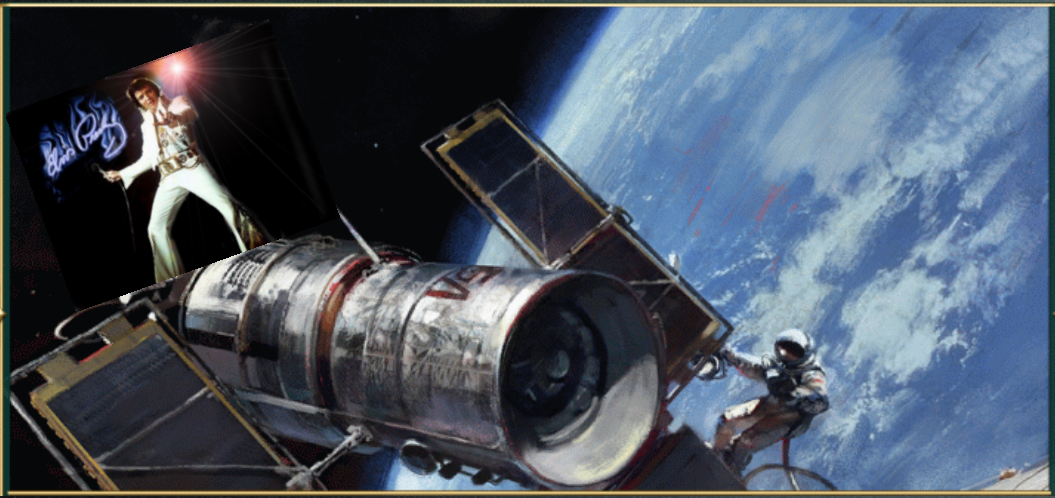
Super-cold sources

Sobral+09b,

Matthee, Sobral+14,15

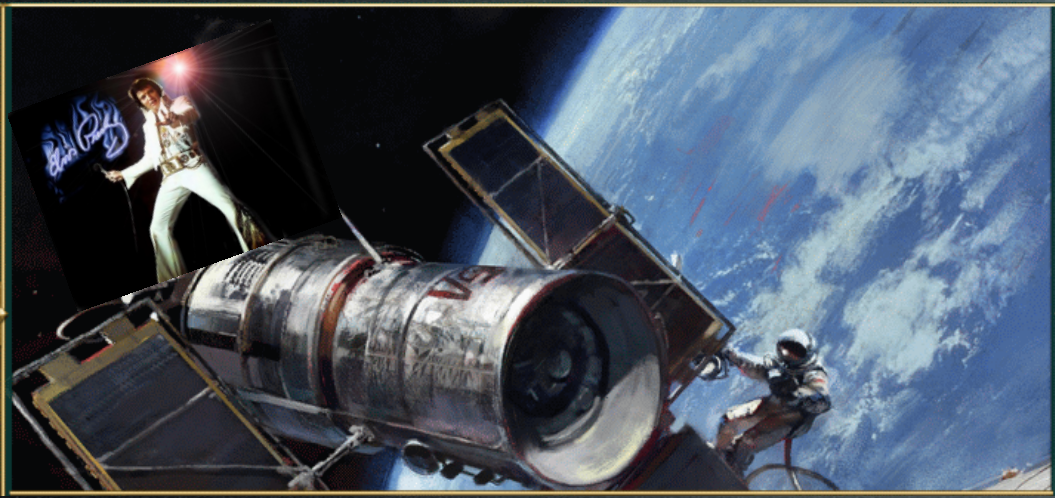


Need to image the field with long time separations



CANDELS





CANDELS

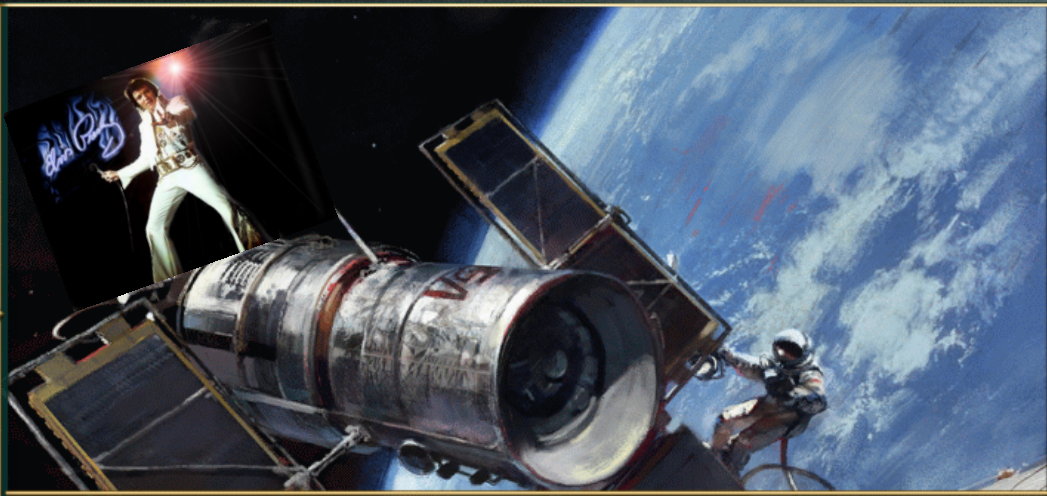


**Our approach explores uniqueness of
narrow-band surveys**

**INT+VST+WHT+HSC
+VISTA**

Largest Ly α surveys $2 < z < 8$

(still detect galaxies $> 25-26$ in J)



Moon



**All CANDELS
combined**

**Galaxies still
too faint to be
studied in
detail and
have statistics**

**Our approach: $V=10^7$ Mpc³
per redshift slice**

**INT+VST+WHT+HSC
+VISTA**

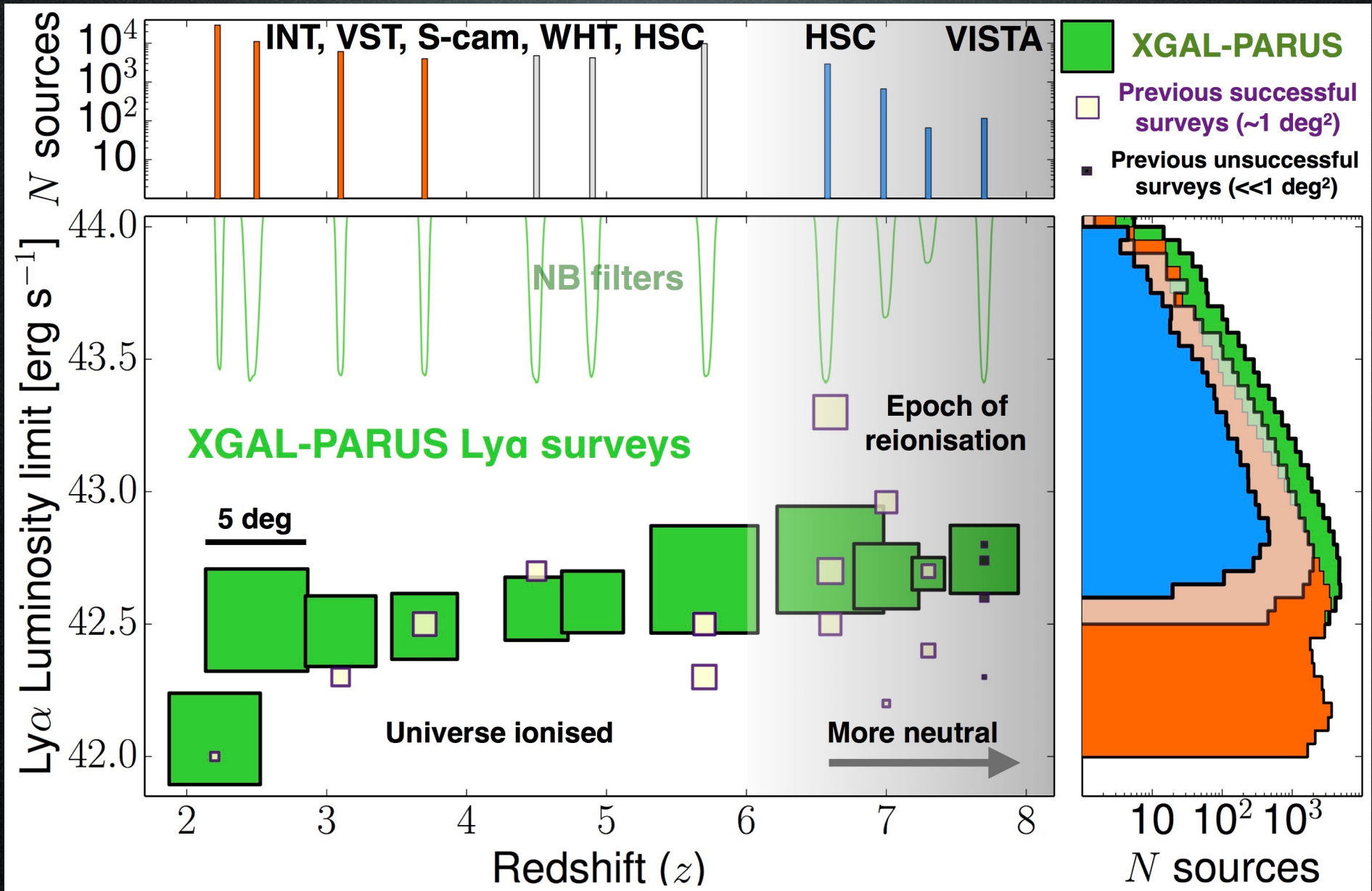
Largest Ly α surveys $2 < z < 8$

(still detect galaxies as faint $> 25-26$ in J)

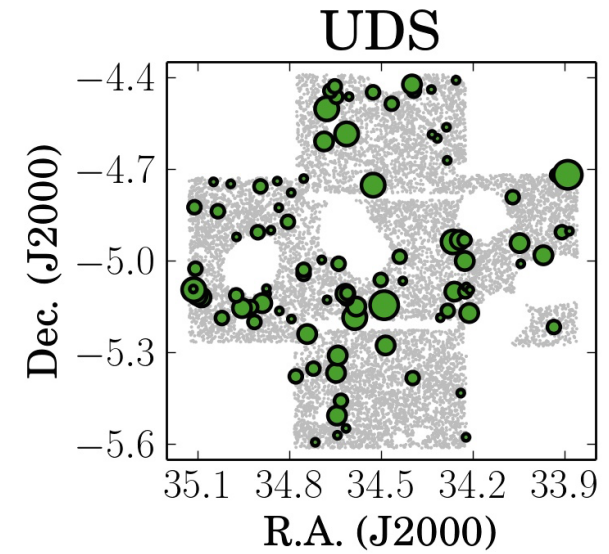
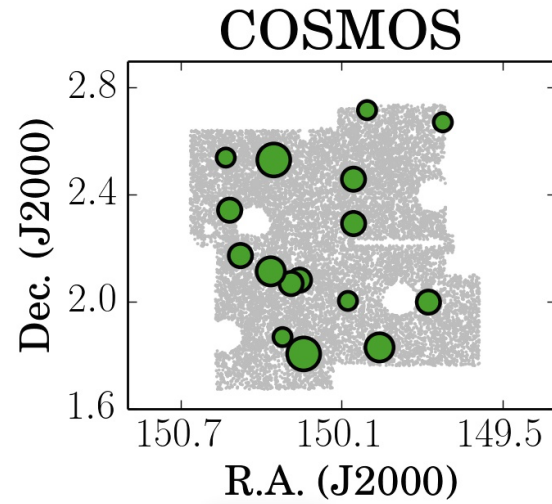
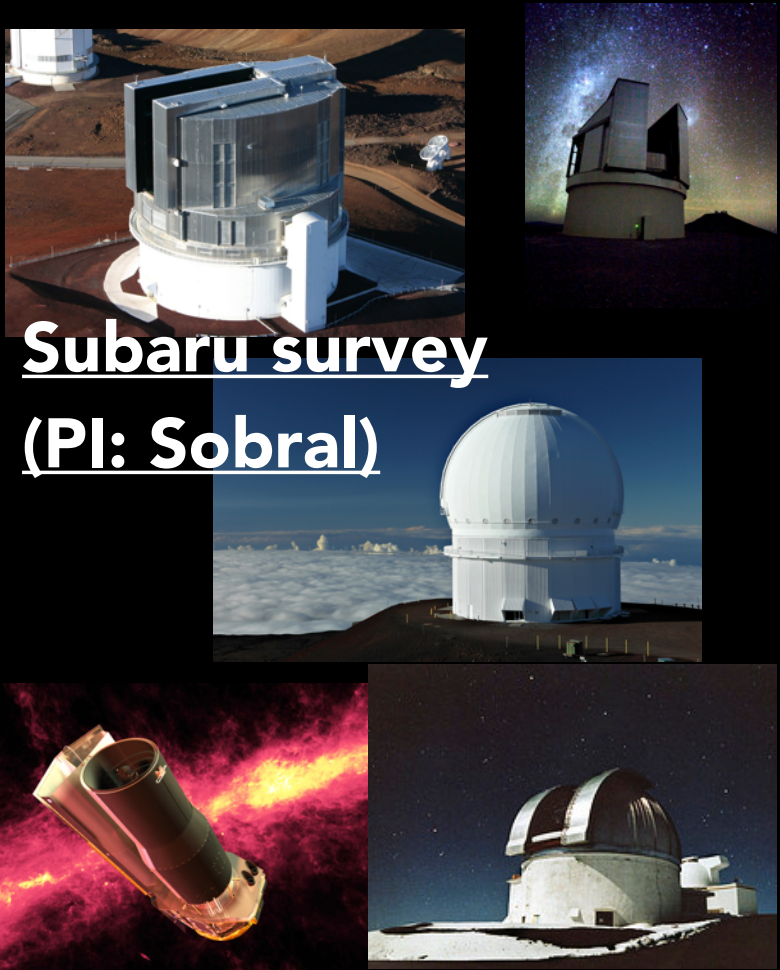
Our on-going and planned surveys

Largest Ly α surveys $2 < z < 8$

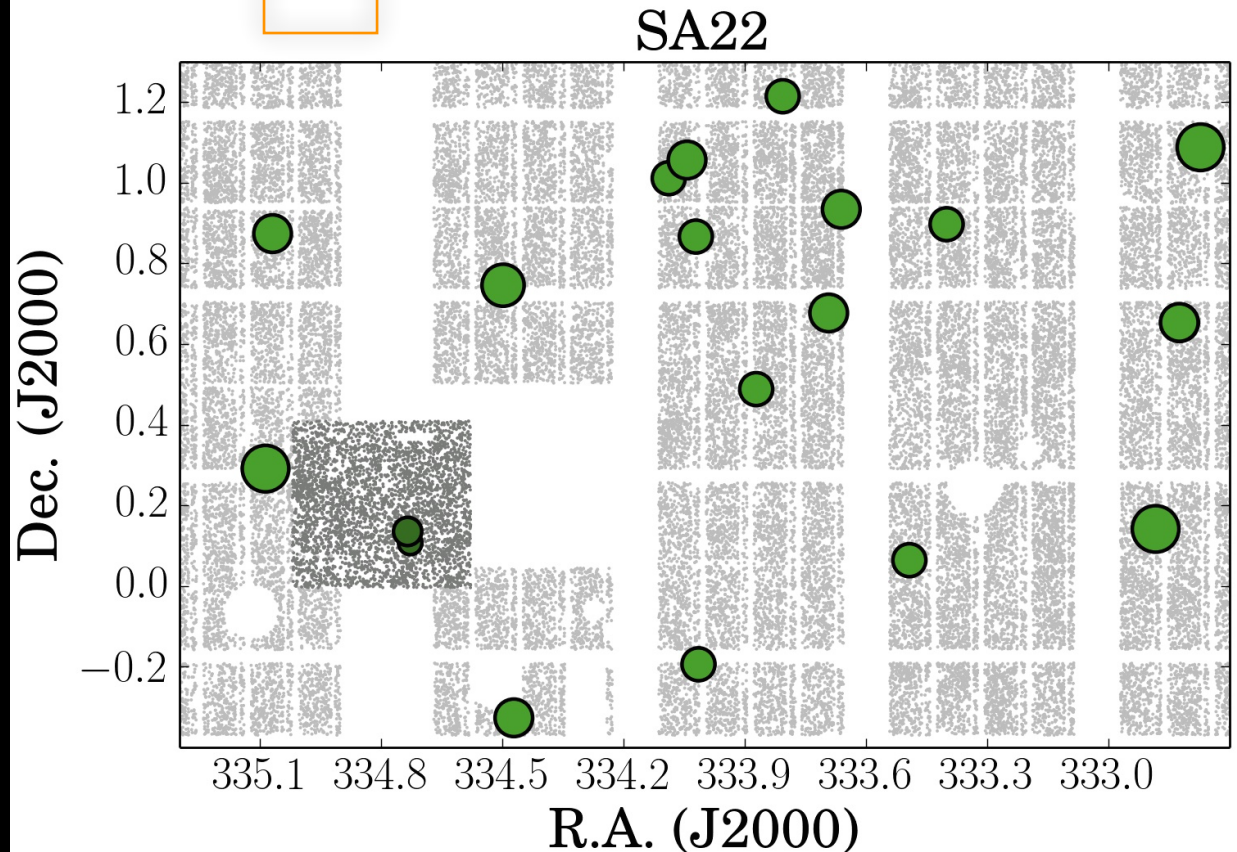
PI: Sobral



Some highlights of the
 $z=6.6$ survey (~800
Myr after Big Bang), 1
of 10 different "time
slices"



 All CANDELS combined



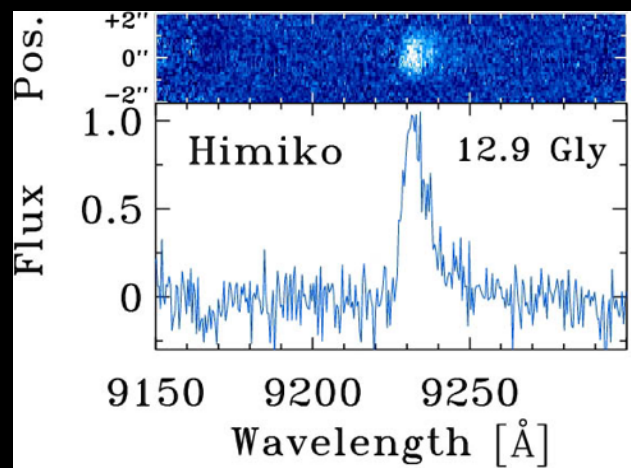
Results:

99 LAEs in UDS

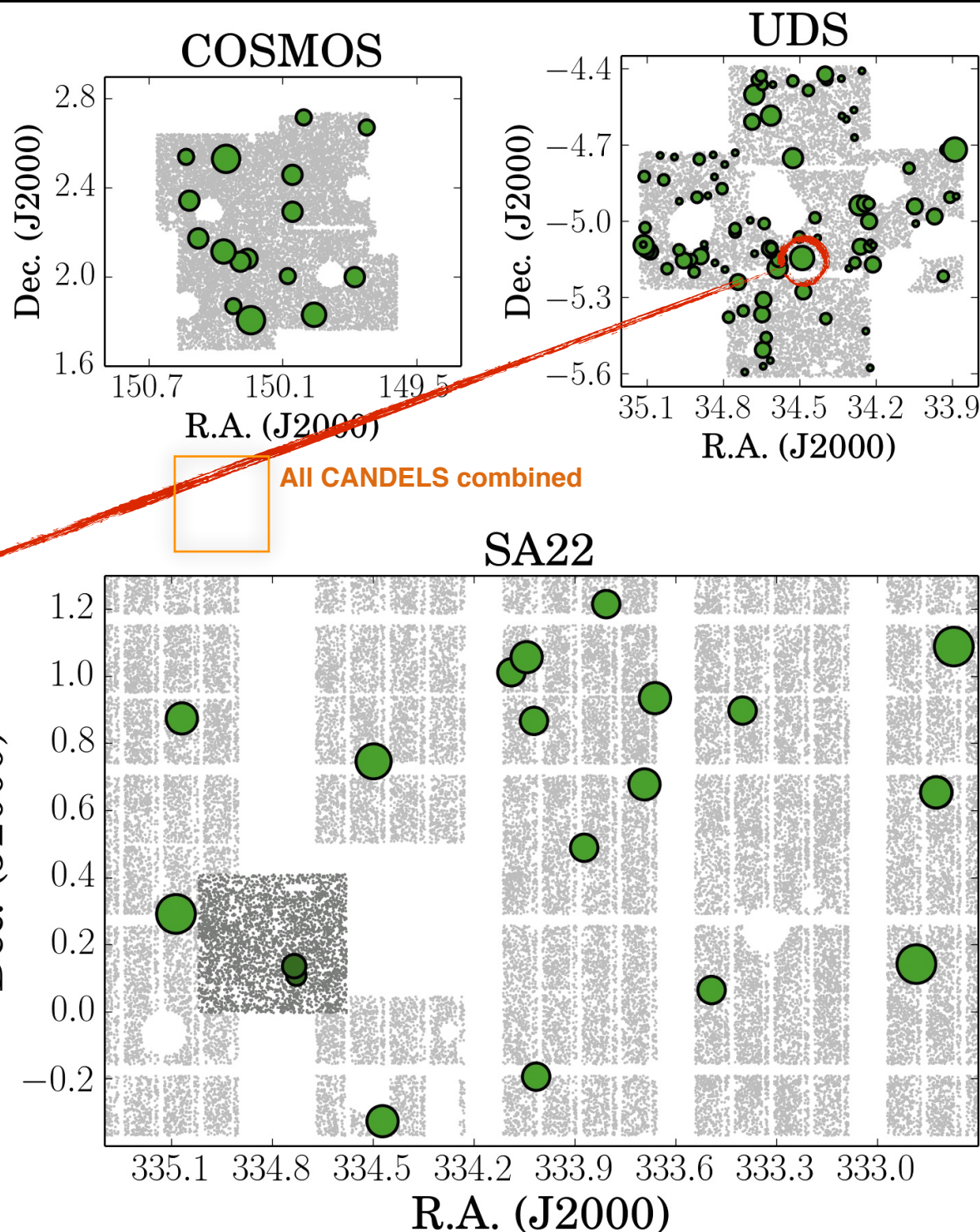
15 LAEs in COSMOS

2 LAEs in SA22-Deep

18 LAEs in SA22-Wide



Ouchi et al. 2009, 2013



Results:

99 LAEs in UDS

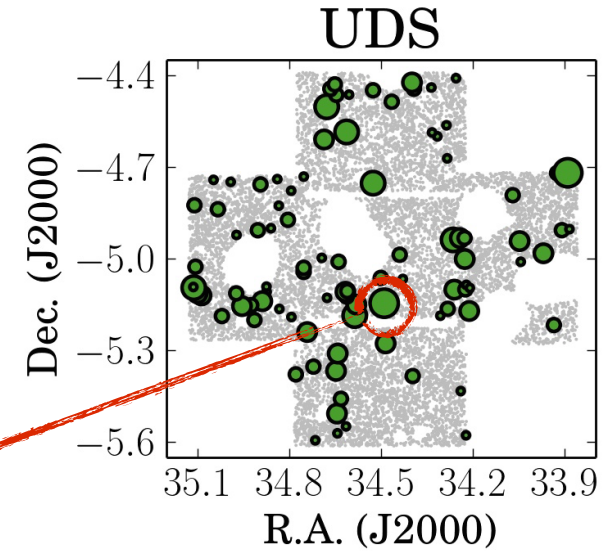
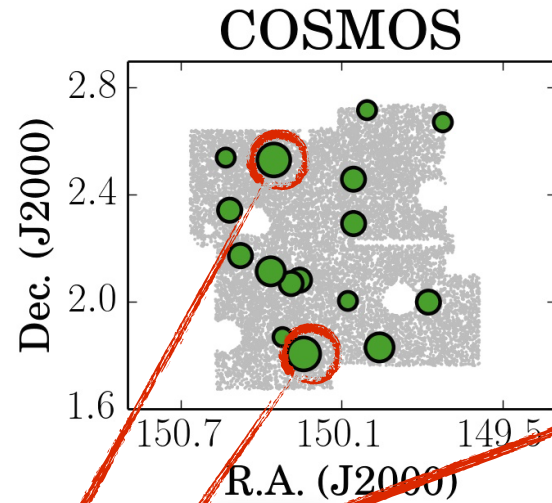
15 LAEs in COSMOS

2 LAEs in SA22-Deep

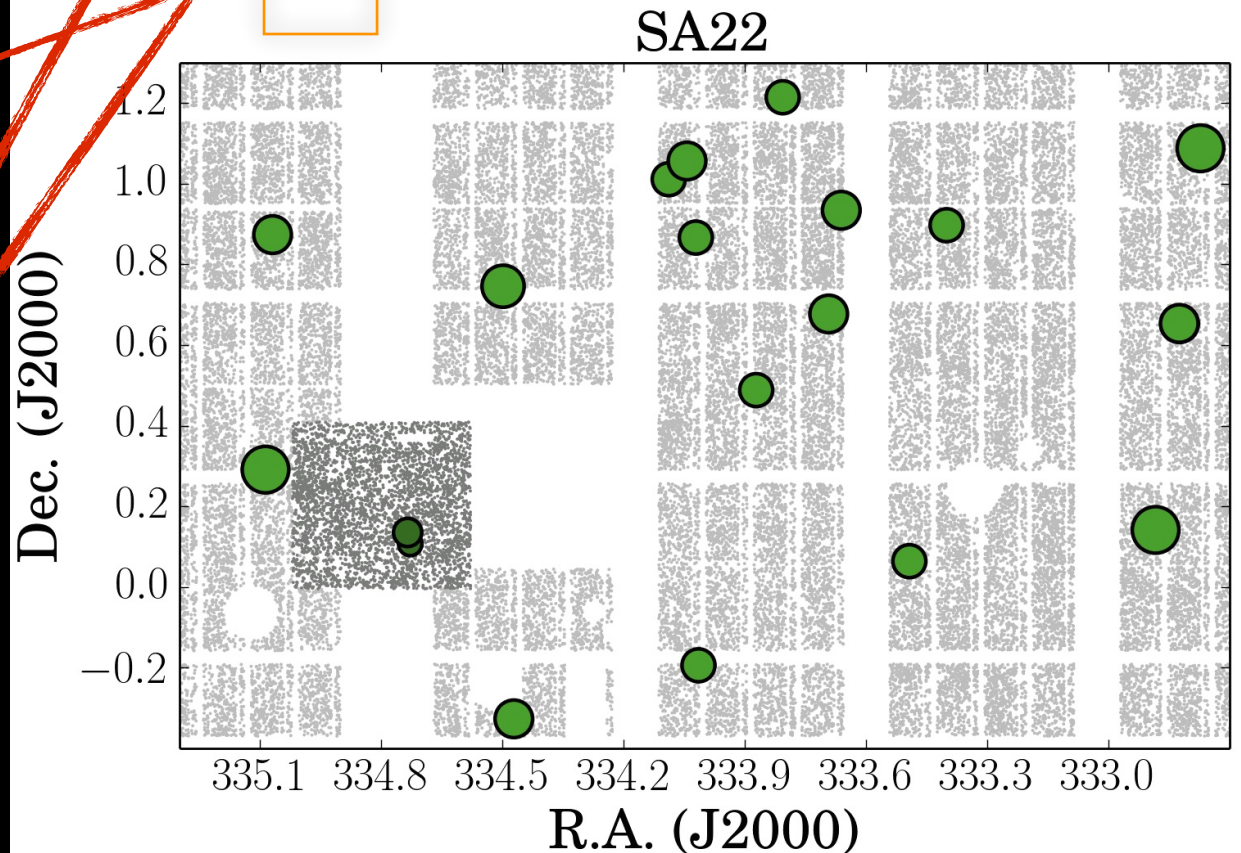
18 LAEs in SA22-Wide

“Himiko”

Even brighter!
Sobral et al. 2015



All CANDELS combined



Results:

99 LAEs in UDS

15 LAEs in COSMOS

2 LAEs in SA22-Deep

18 LAEs in SA22-Wide

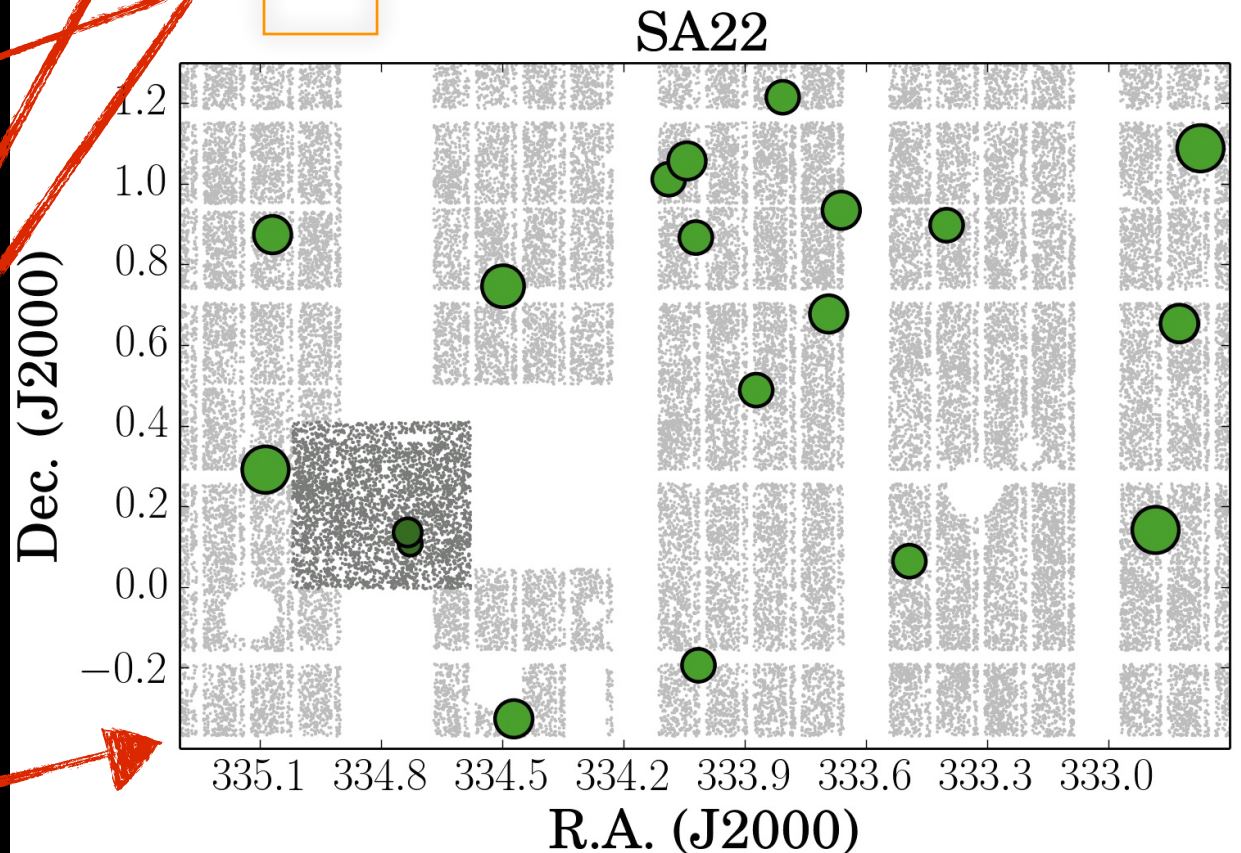
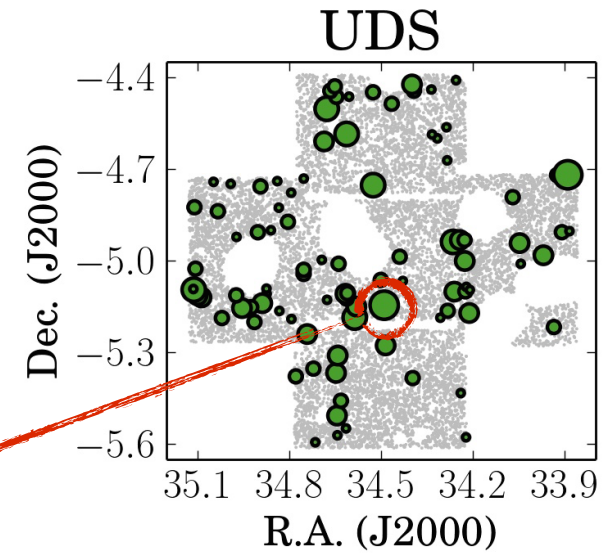
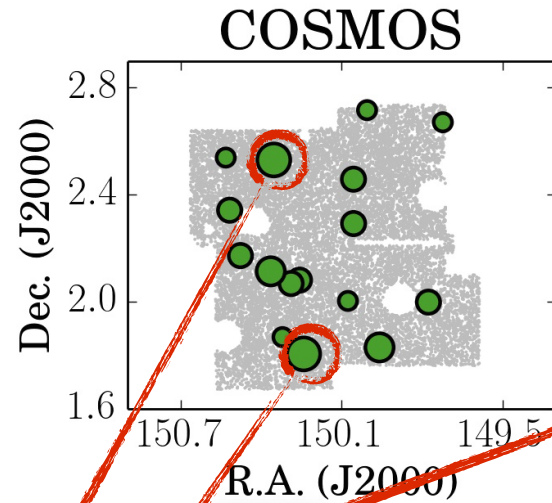
“Himiko”

Even brighter!

Even brighter! ~20

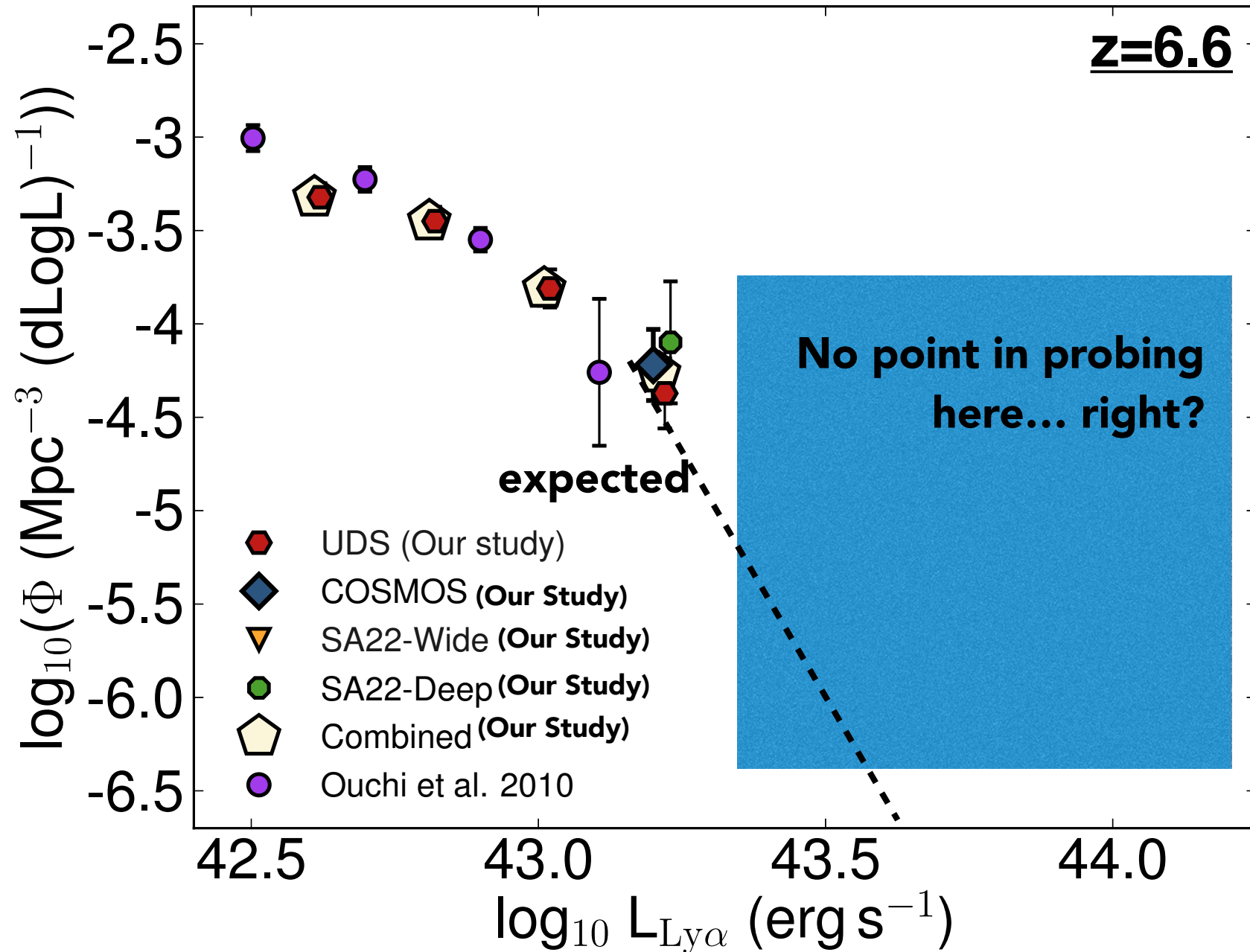
Confirms number density

Matthee, DS+ et al. 2015



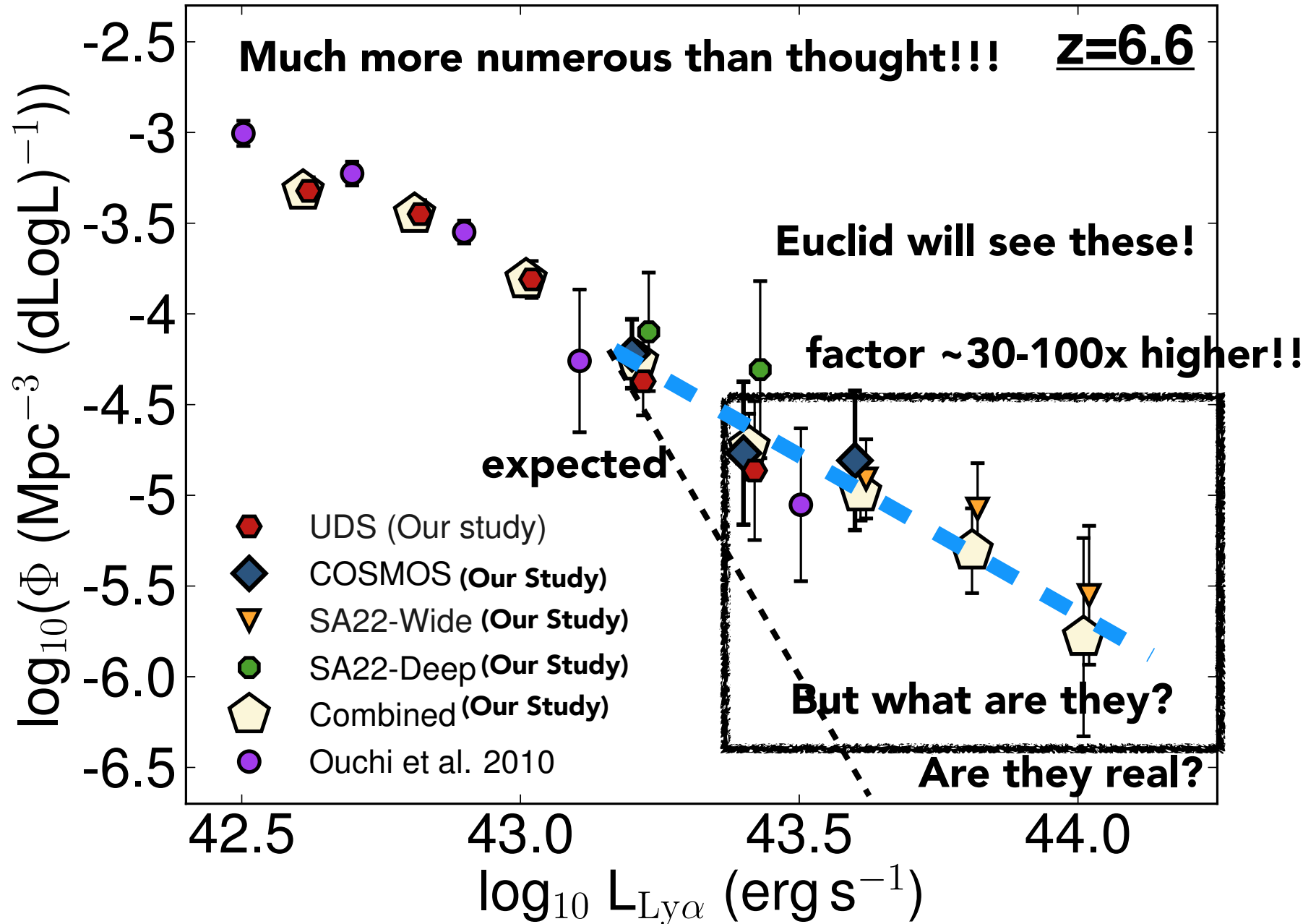
Lyman- α emitters 12.9 Gyrs ago: number counts

Matthee, Sobral et al. 2015

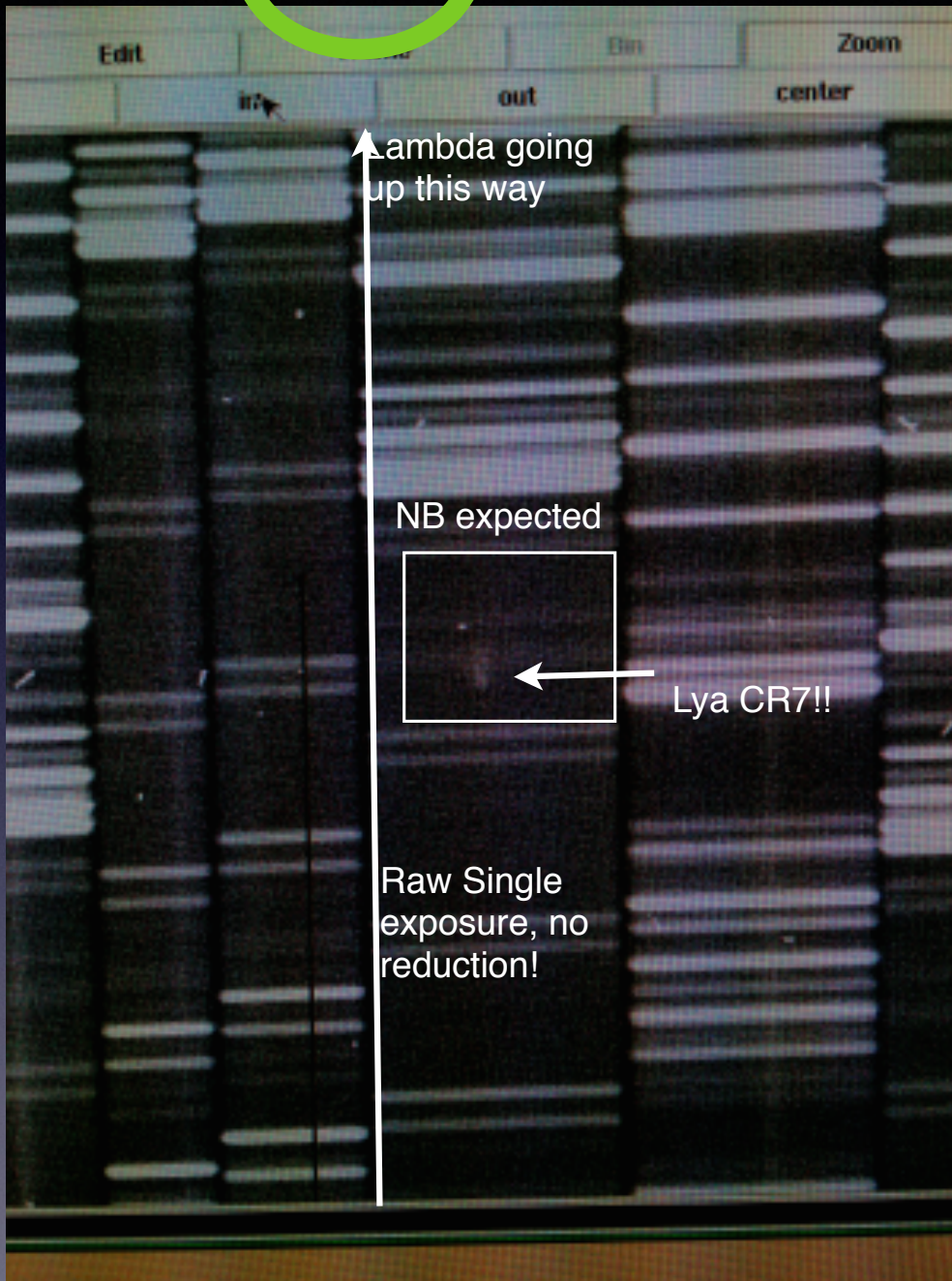


Lyman- α emitters 12.9 Gyrs ago: number counts

Matthee, Sobral et al. 2015



15 min $z=6.6$



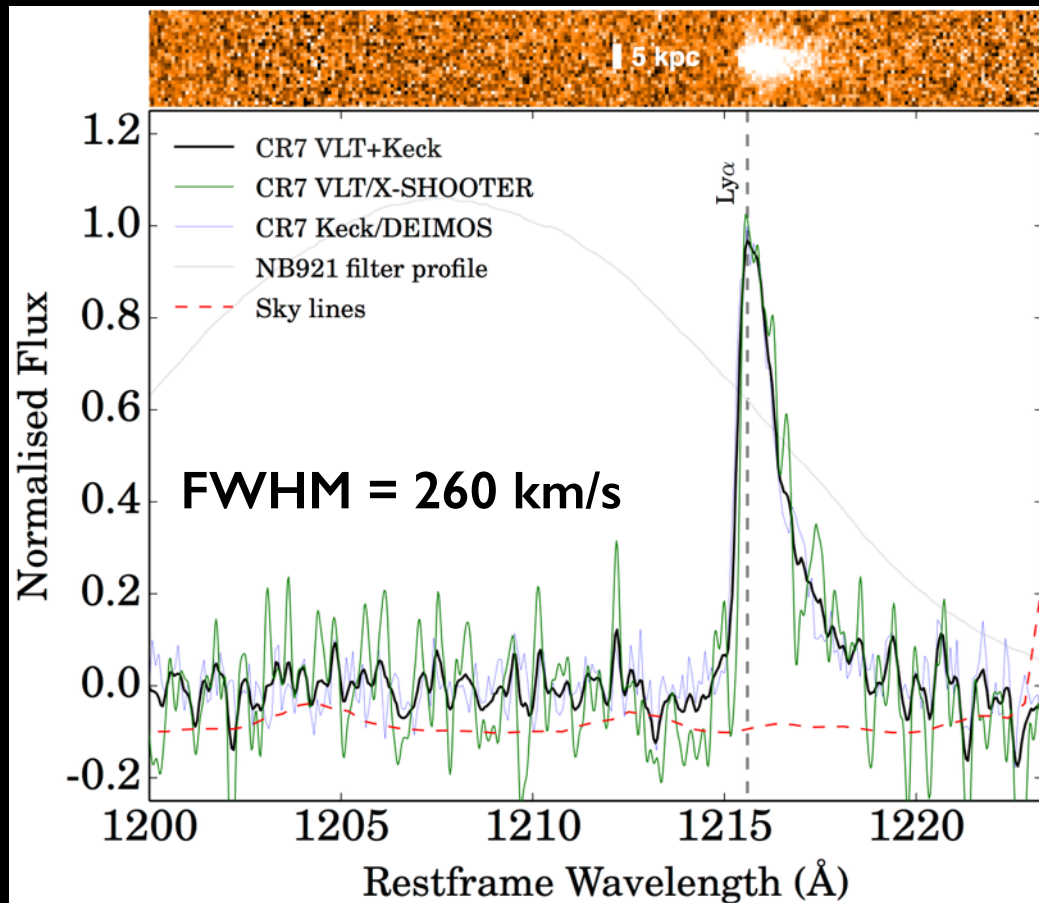
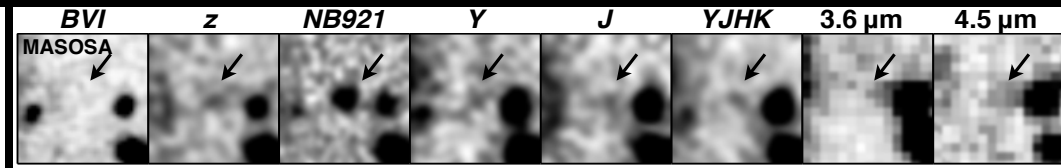
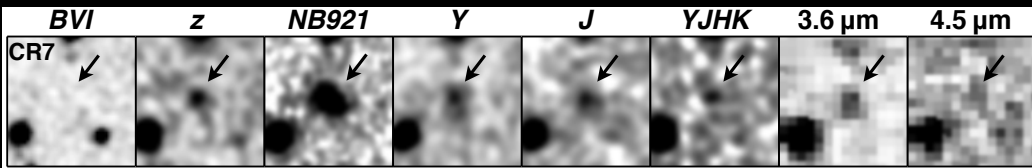
Spectroscopic confirmation with Keck/DEIMOS



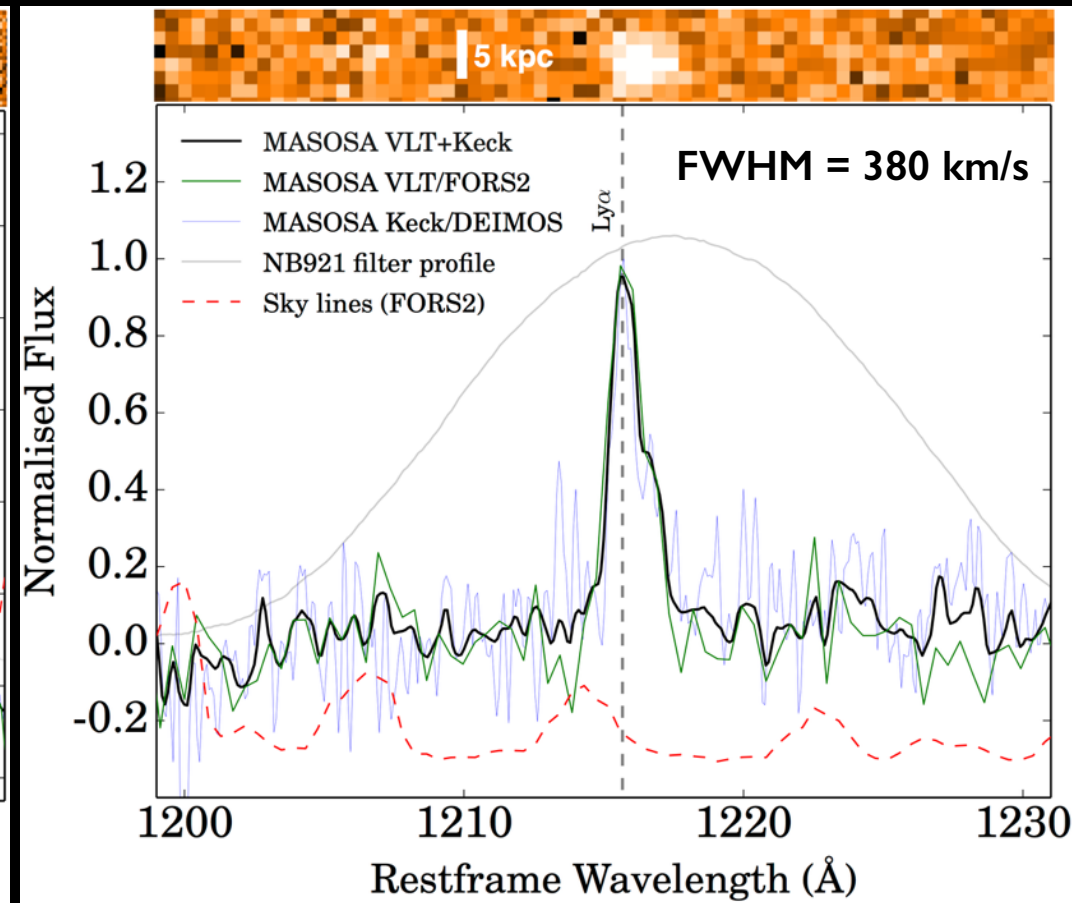
Spectroscopic confirmation with VLT/X-SHOOTER + FORS2



'Cosmos Redshift 7' (CR7) and 'MASOSA' the brightest $z=6.6$ LAEs

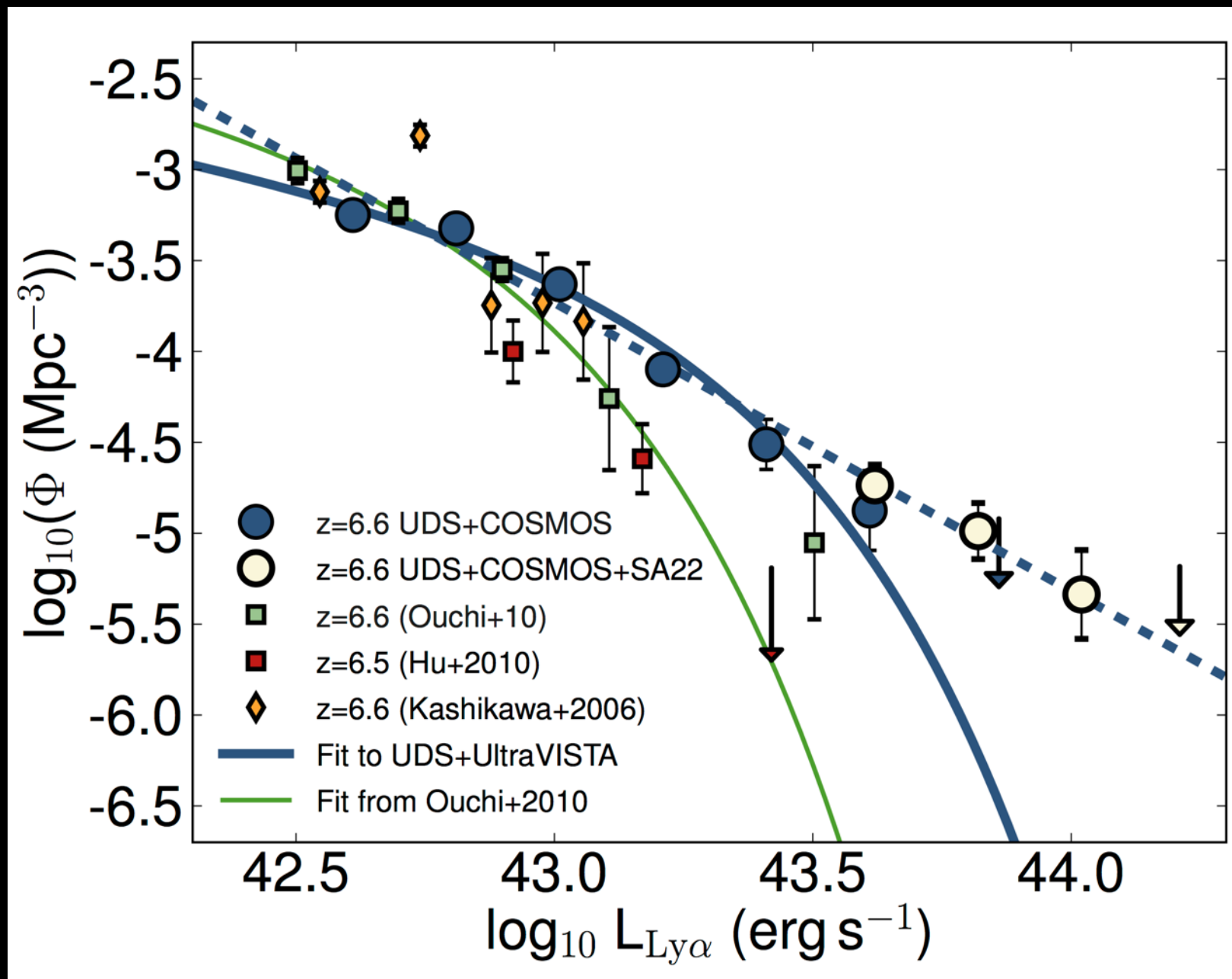


VLT/X-Shooter + Keck/DEIMOS (~3.8 hours)

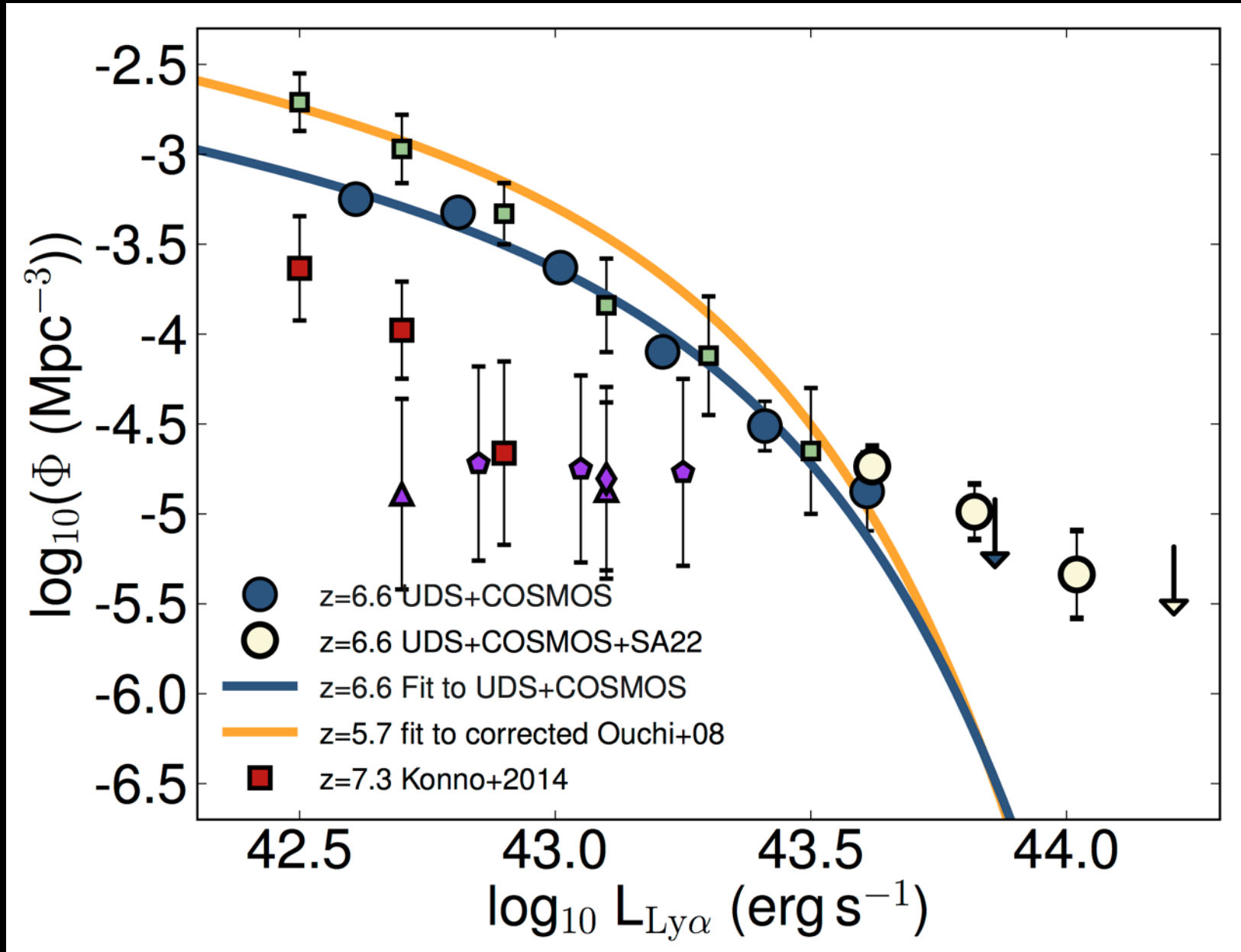


VLT/FORS2 + Keck/DEIMOS (~2.4 hours)

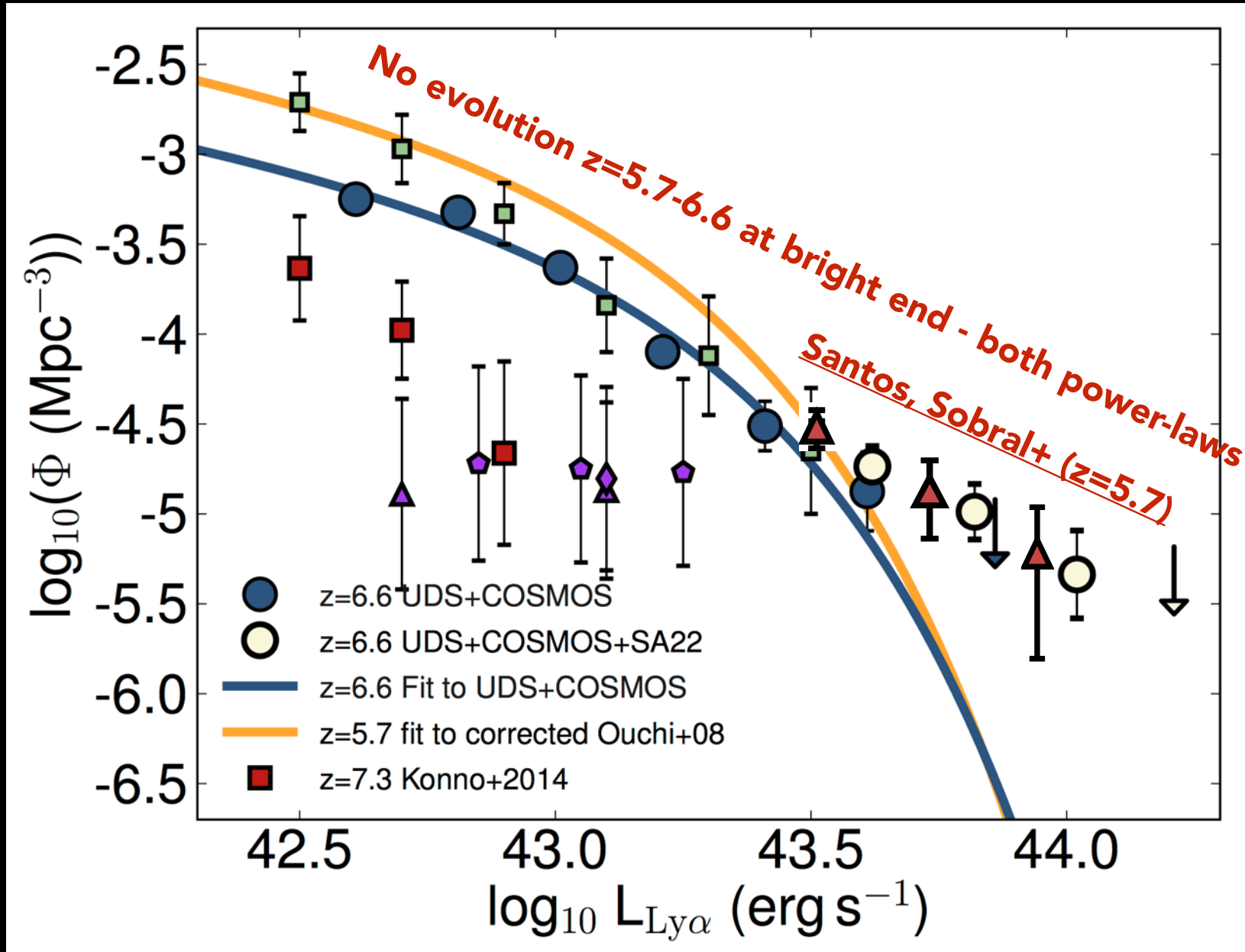
Lyman- α Luminosity function at $z=6.6$



Evolution from $z=5.7$ to 6.6 to 7.3

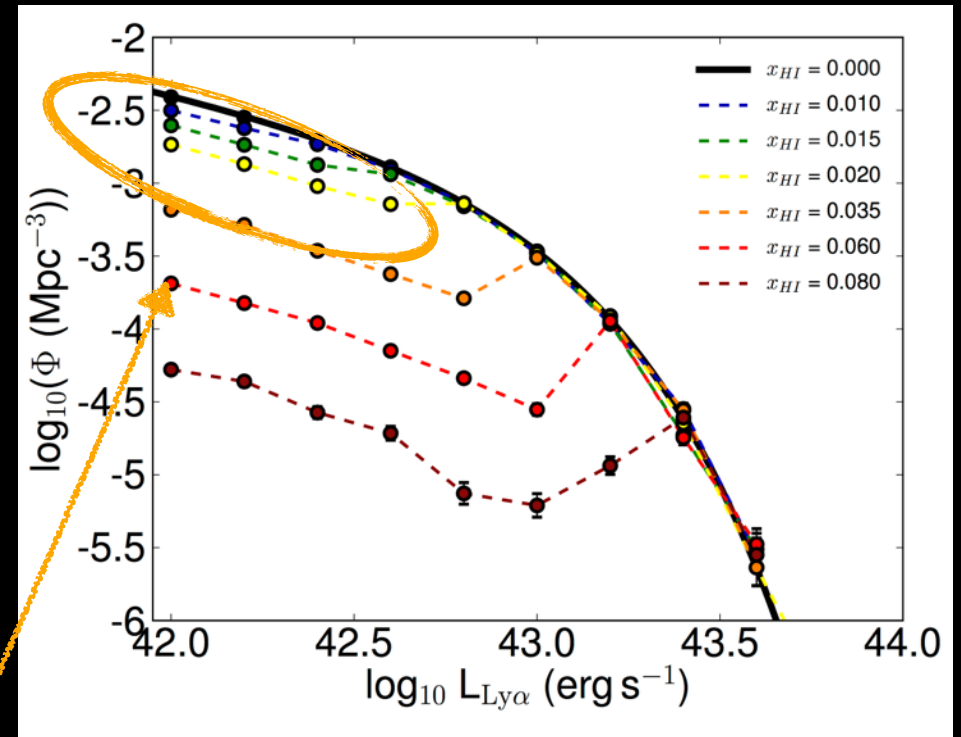
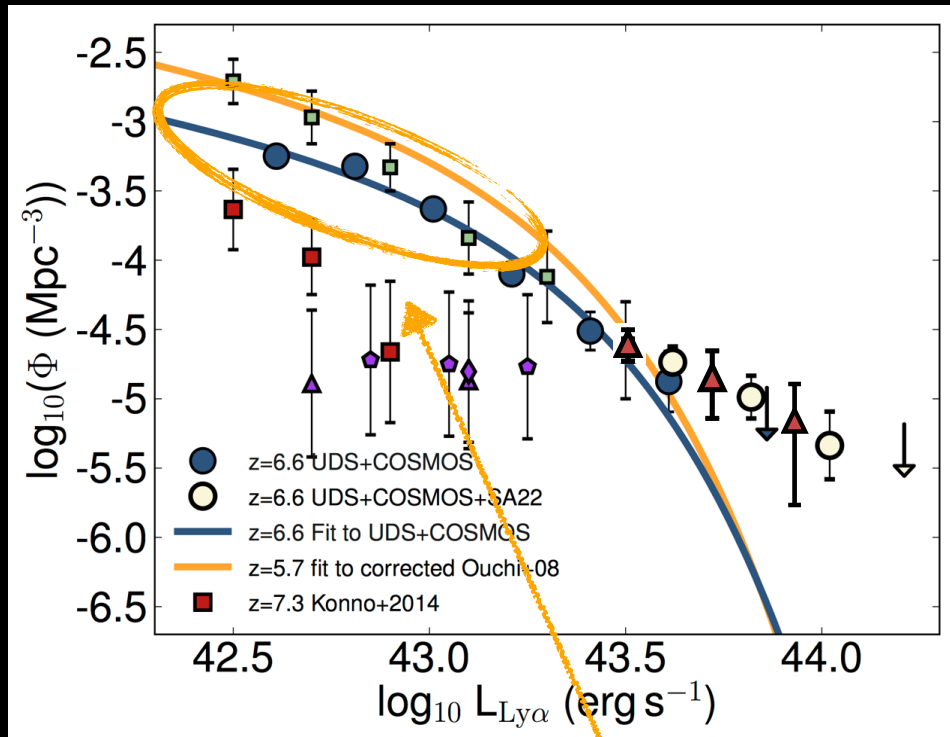


Evolution from $z=5.7$ to 6.6 to 7.3



Evolution from $z=5.7$ to 6.6

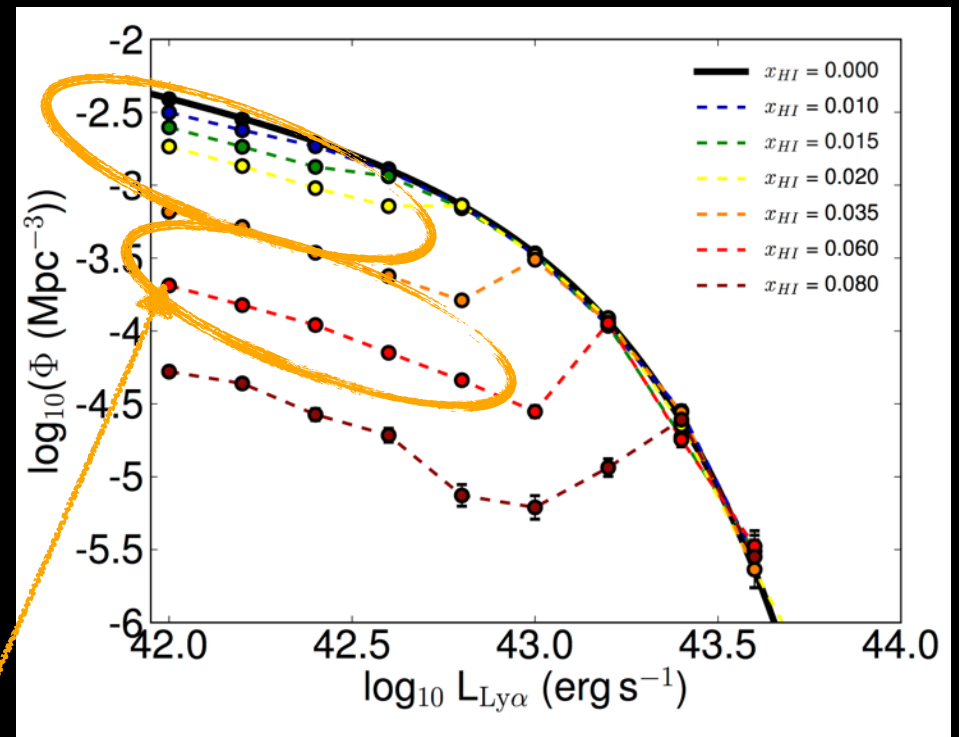
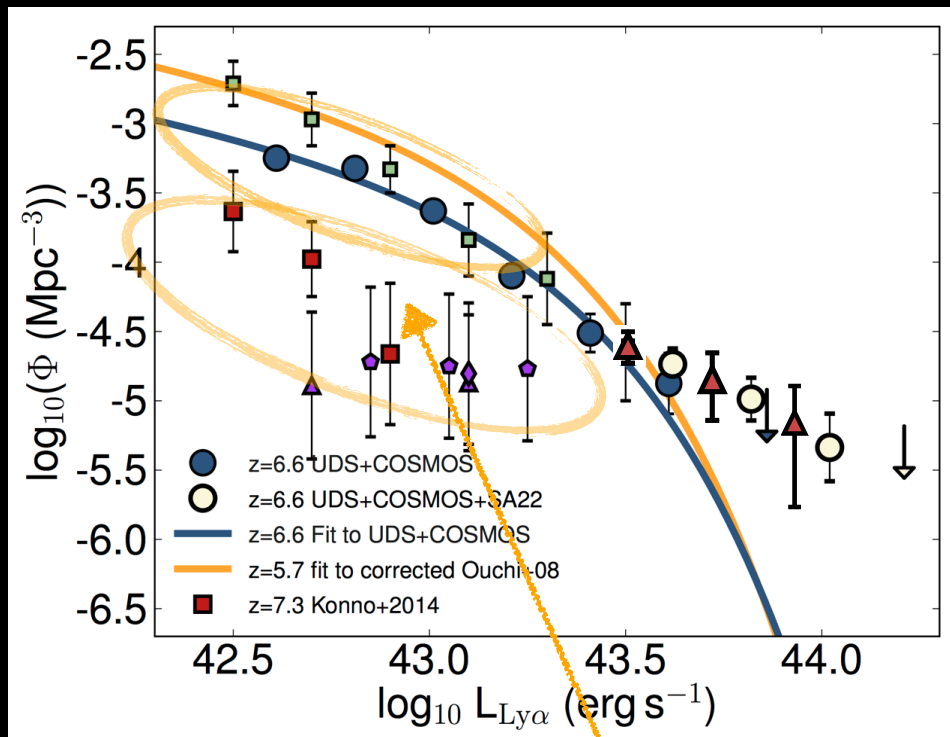
$z=5.7$ to $z=6.6$ evolution



Bulk of the evolution happens at the faint end!

Evolution from $z=6.6$ to 7.3

$z=6.6$ to $z=7.3$ evolution



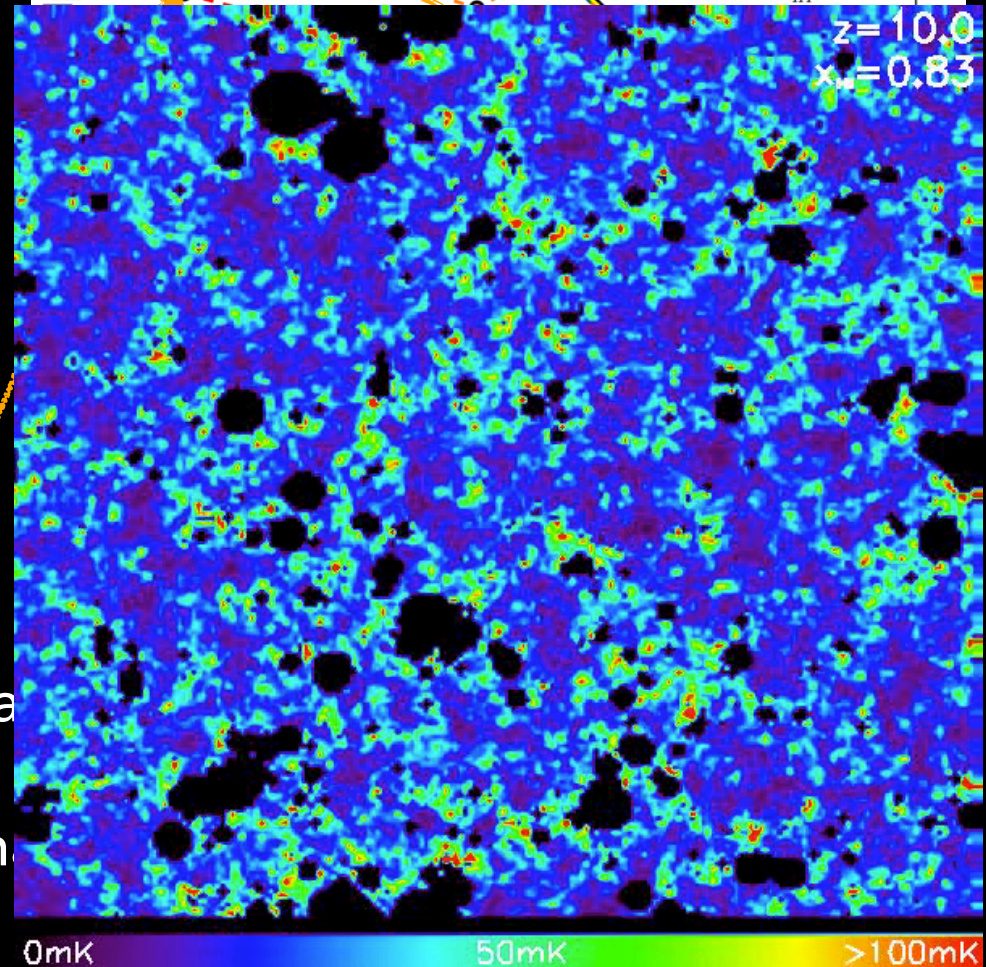
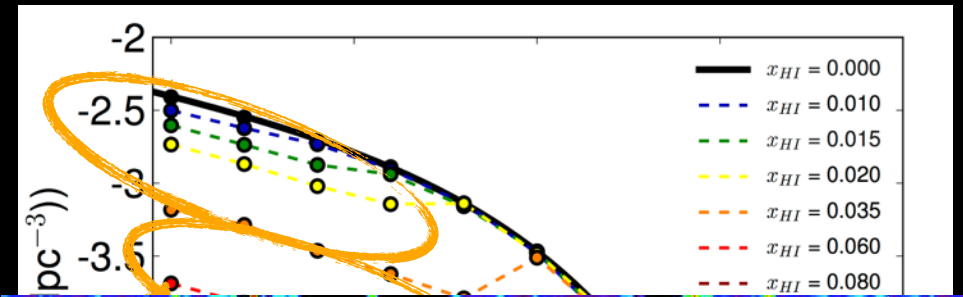
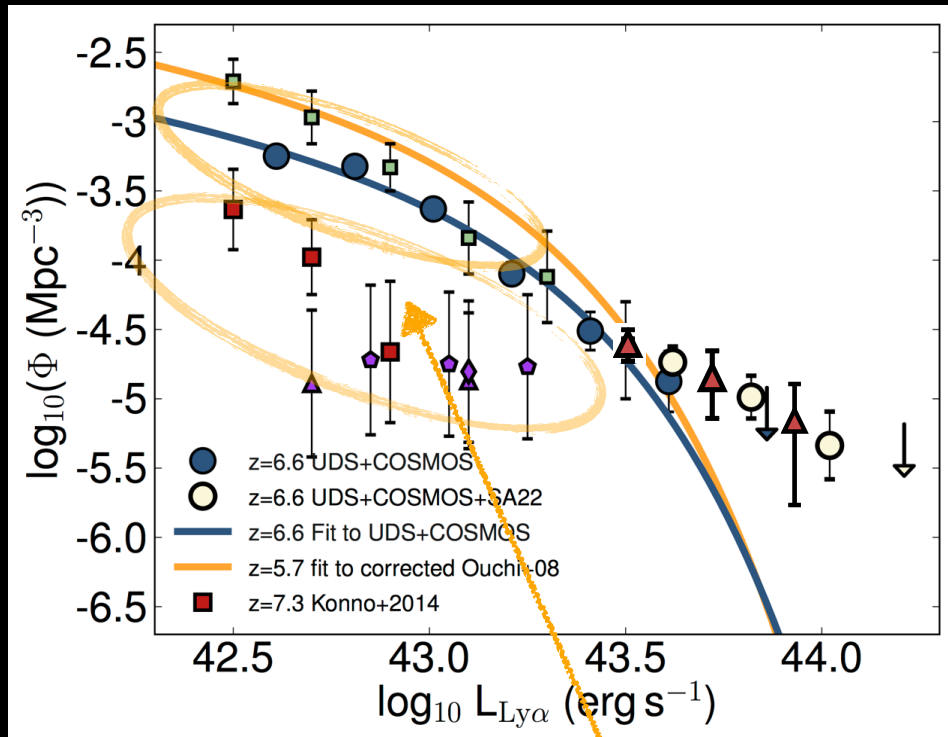
Matthee et al. 2015

Bulk of the evolution happens at the faint end!

Oesch et al. 2015; Zitrin et al. 2015 (narrowness of Ly α up to $z \sim 8.6$)

Evolution from $z=6.6$ to 7.3

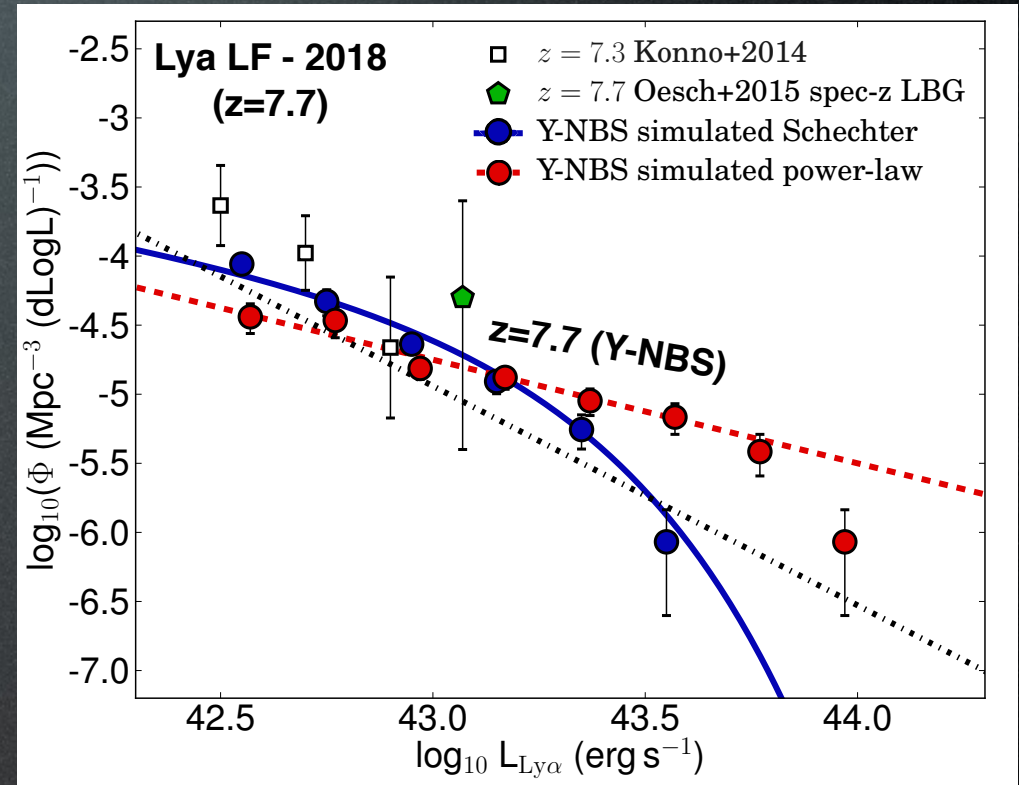
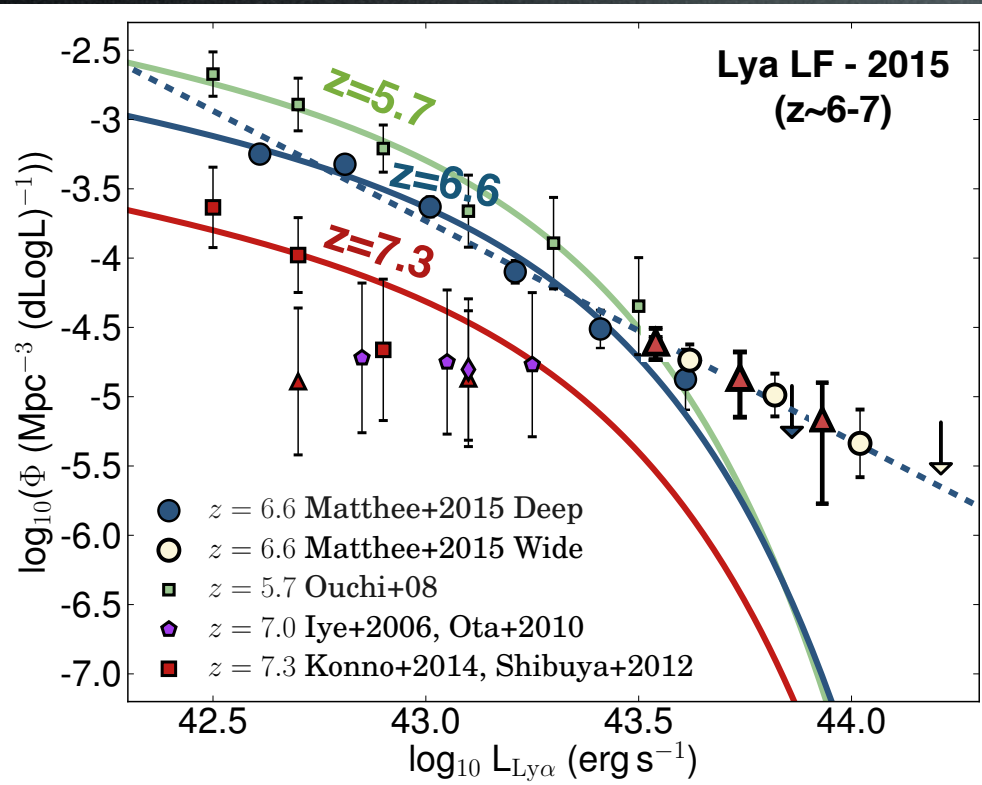
$z=6.6$ to $z=7.3$ evolution



Bulk of the evolution happens at the faint end

Oesch et al. 2015; Zitrin et al. 2015 (n

Needs to be tested: easy to do up to $z \sim 7.7$... if we don't waste all the time just going ultra-deep on small volumes



How far back can we find large enough re-ionised bubbles? And how big are they?

**What is the nature of these luminous
Ly α emitters?**

**Uniqueness: we can go beyond just
getting a redshift**

What is the nature of CR7?



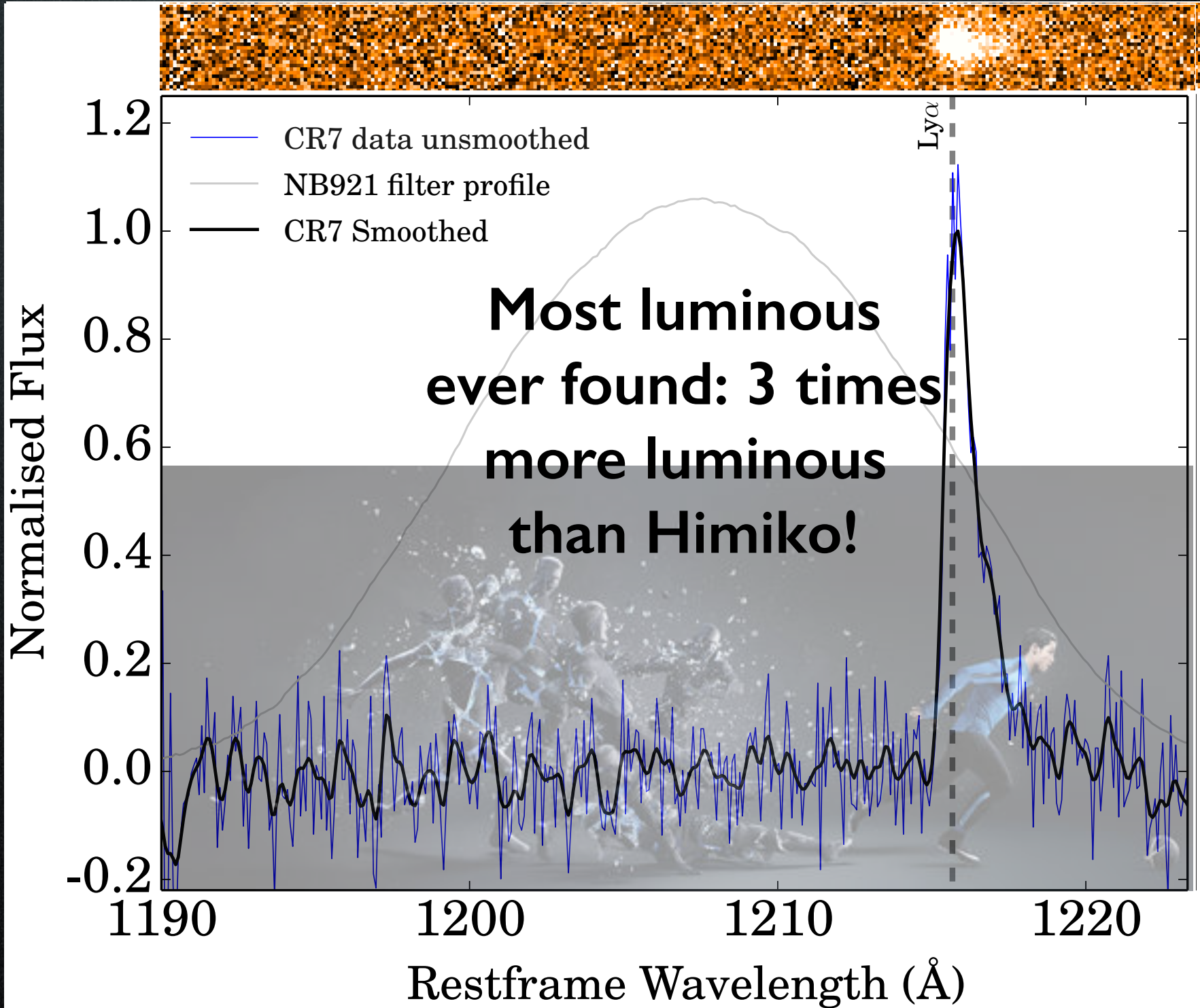
Ly α

**Keck/
DEIMOS**

1 hour!

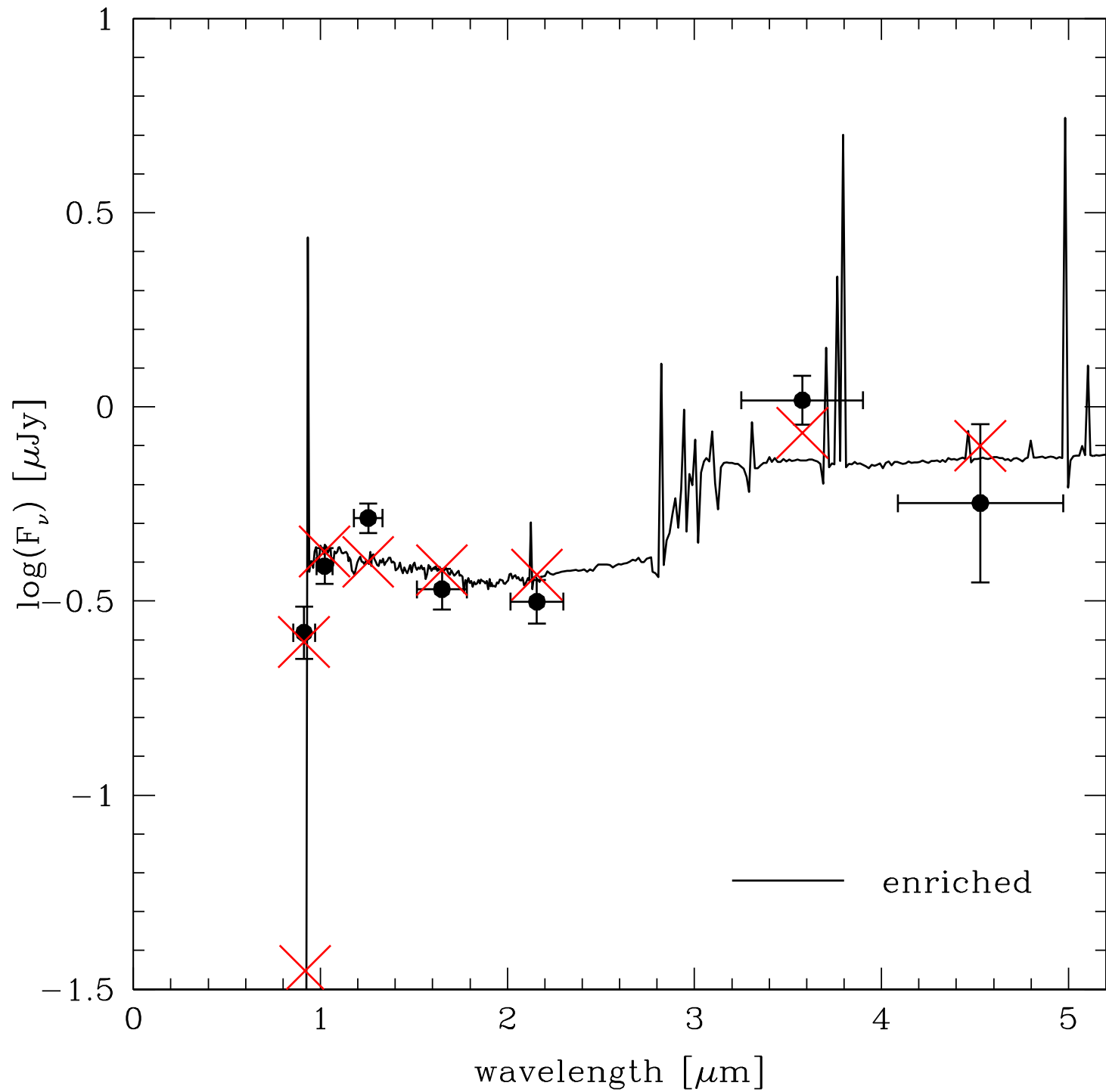
z=6.6

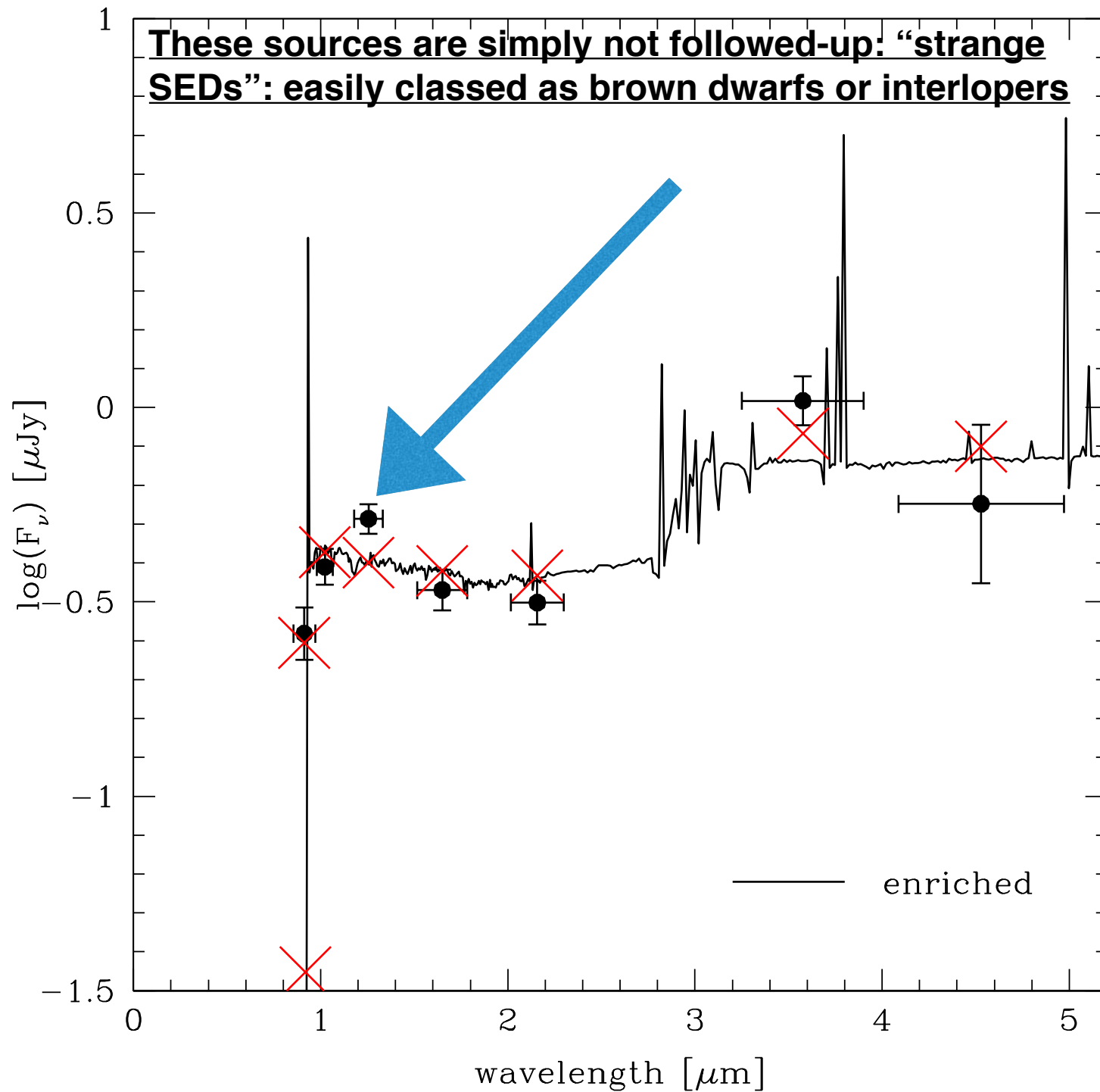
**L $\sim 10^{44}$
erg/s/cm 2**



No evidence for AGN

Sobral et al. 2015c.



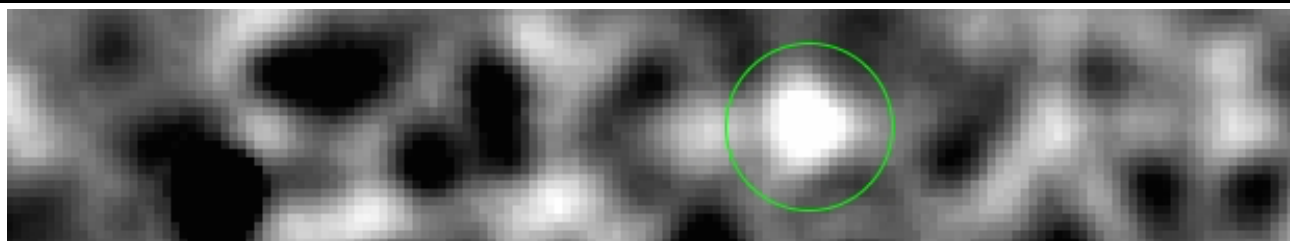


CR7: X-SHOOTER: 2 hours

Anything interesting to explain J excess?

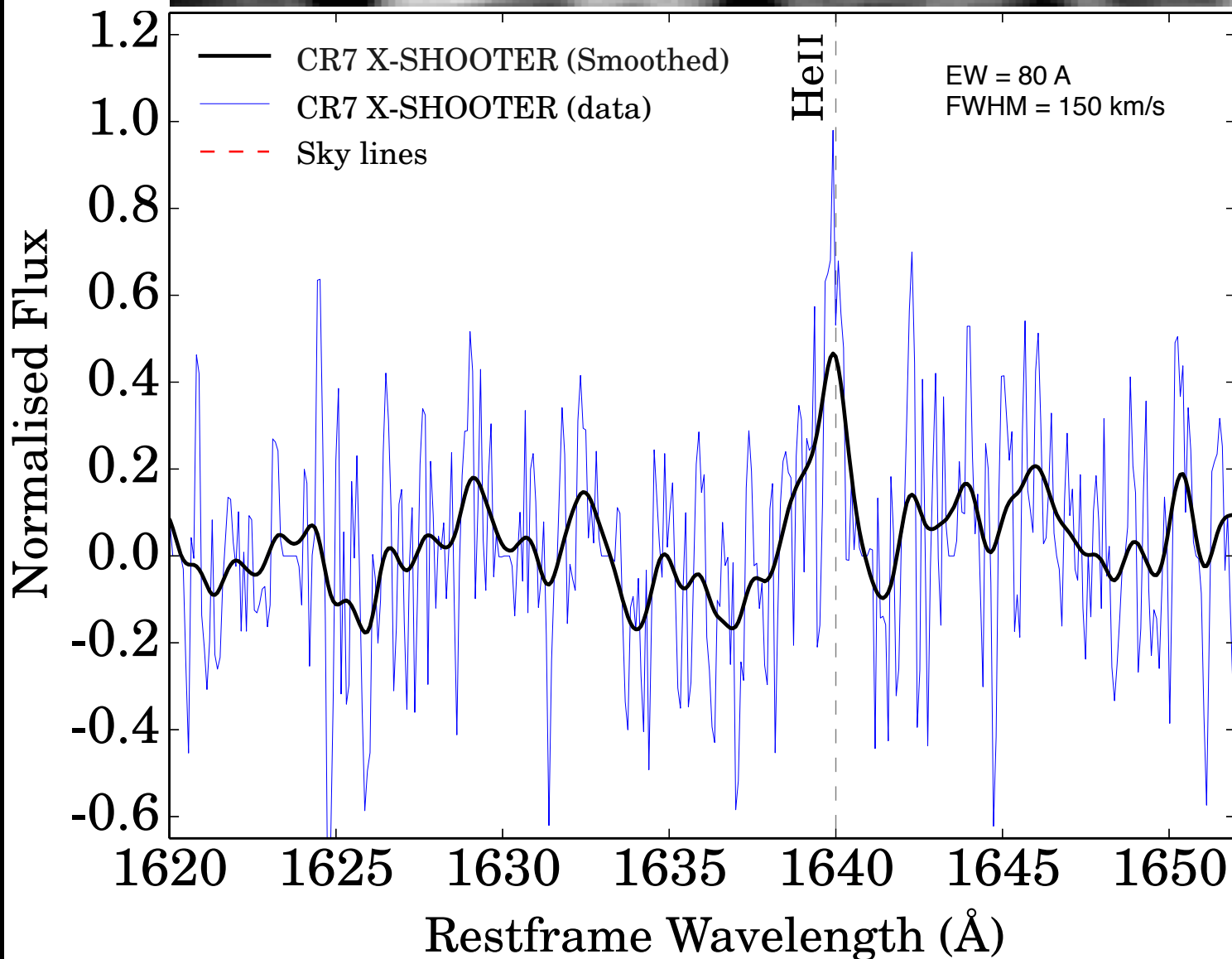
CR7: X-SHOOTER: 2 hours

HeII 1640!



FWHM = 130 km/s

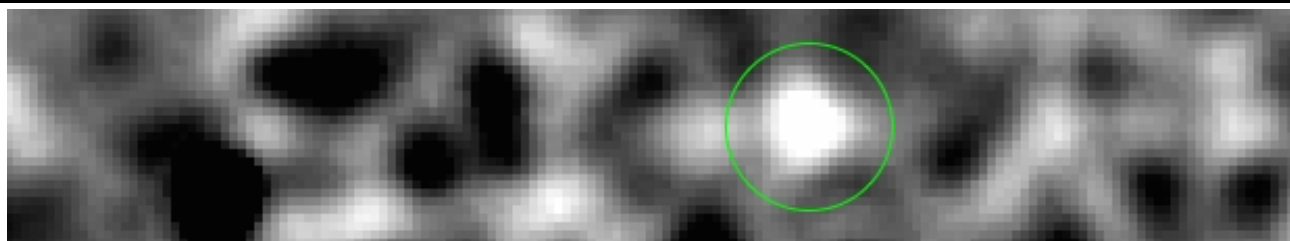
HeII/Lya = 0.23±0.10



Sobral et al. 2015c

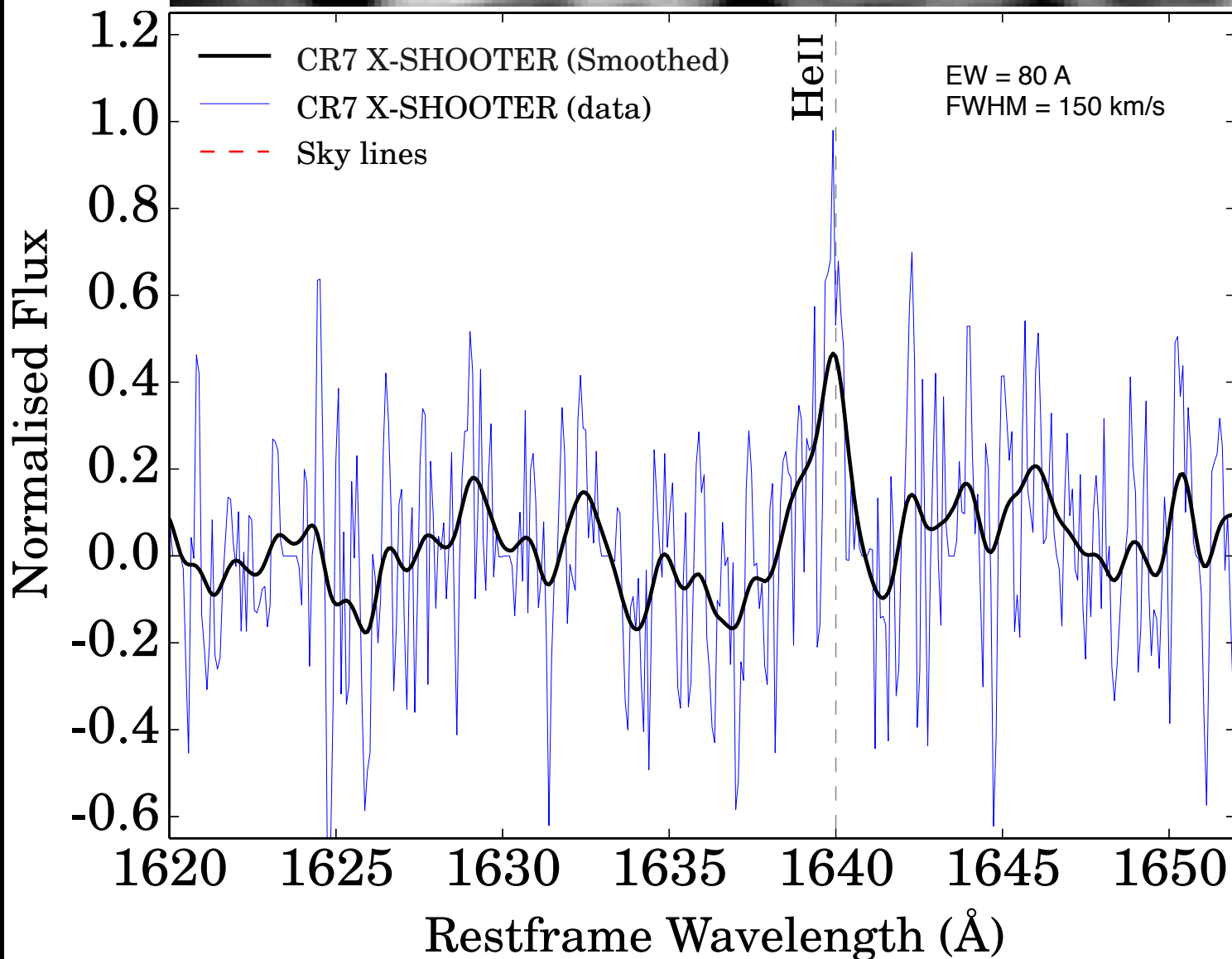
CR7: X-SHOOTER: 2 hours

HeII 1640!



FWHM = 130 km/s

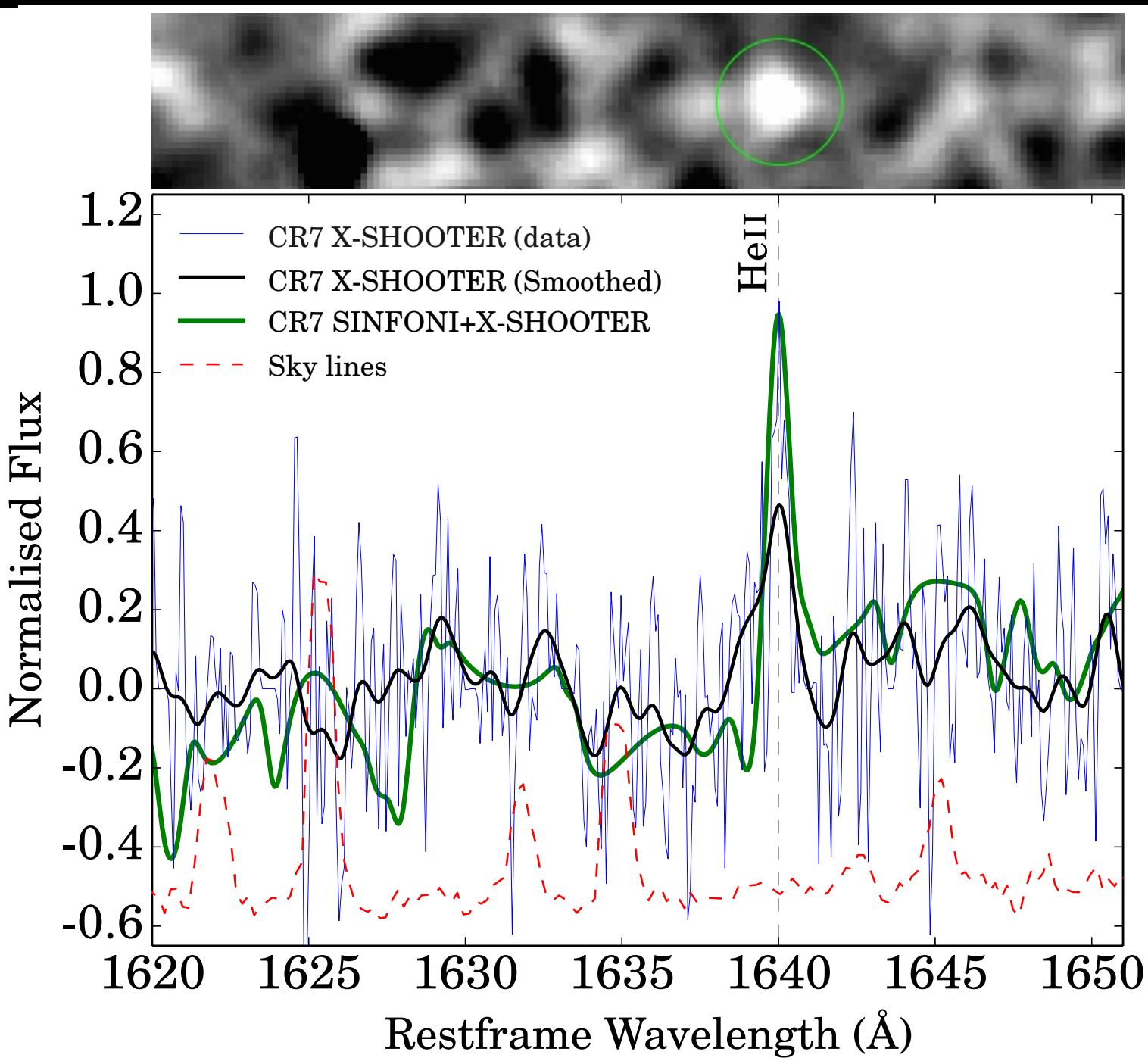
HeII/Lya = 0.23 ± 0.10



>>> DDT time
on SINFONI/VLT
to fully confirm

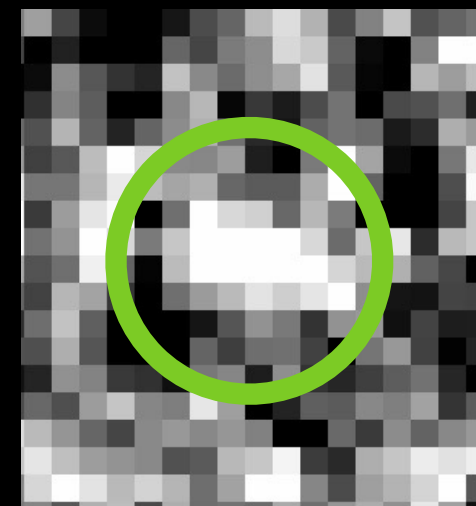
PI: Sobral

Sobral et al. 2015c



SINFONI

HeII 1640A in 2D!



~6 sigma!

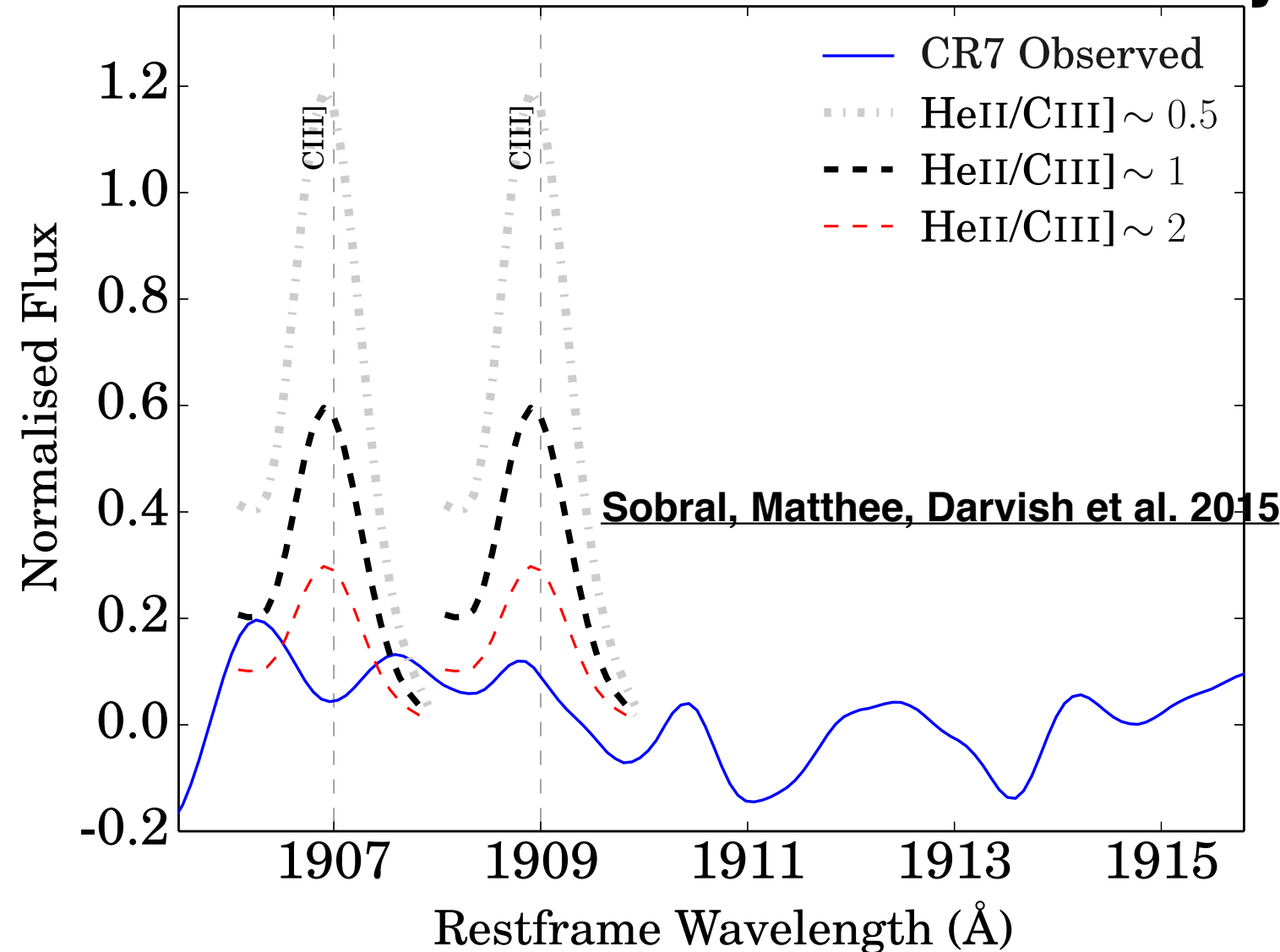
HeII $EW_0 > 70 \text{ \AA}$

**HeII $FWHM_0 =$
130 km/s**

HeII/Lya = 0.23 ± 0.10

Apart from bright narrow Ly α and HeII1640: no other emission lines detected

HeII/Ly α ~ 0.10 +/- 0.05?



EW HeII > 70!!

E.g.:

No CIII] 1908

No OIII] 1663

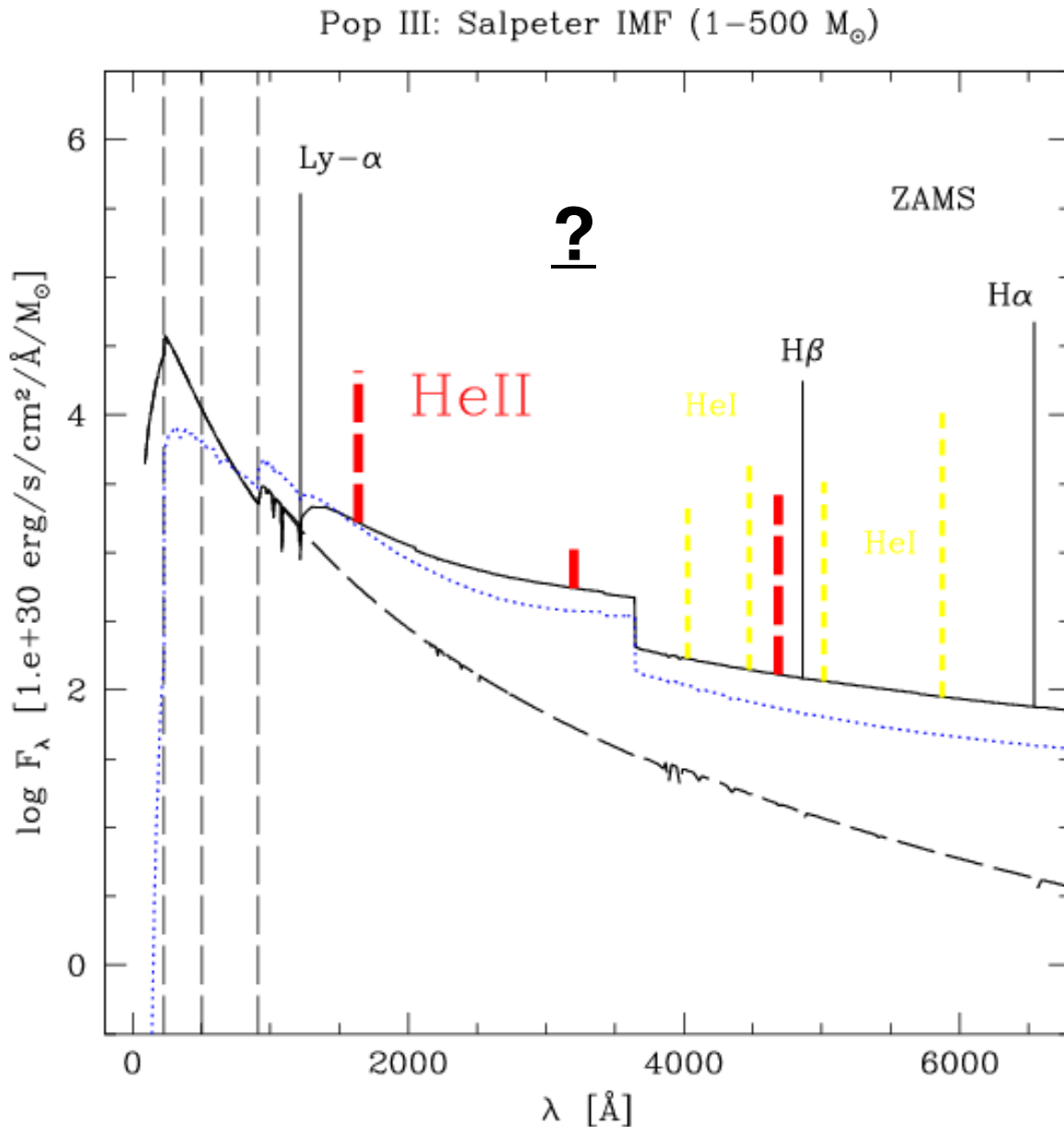
No NV

Ly α /NV > 70

HeII/OIII] > 3

HeII/CIII] > 2.5

This is what we have:



Ly α EW > 230 Å
(likely > 1000 Å)

HeII EW ~ 80 Å!

HeII/Ly α ~ 0.1

**No lines except Ly α
and HeII (so far!)**

Narrow Ly α and
narrow HeII

“Talks” like it

“Looks” like it

“Moves” like it

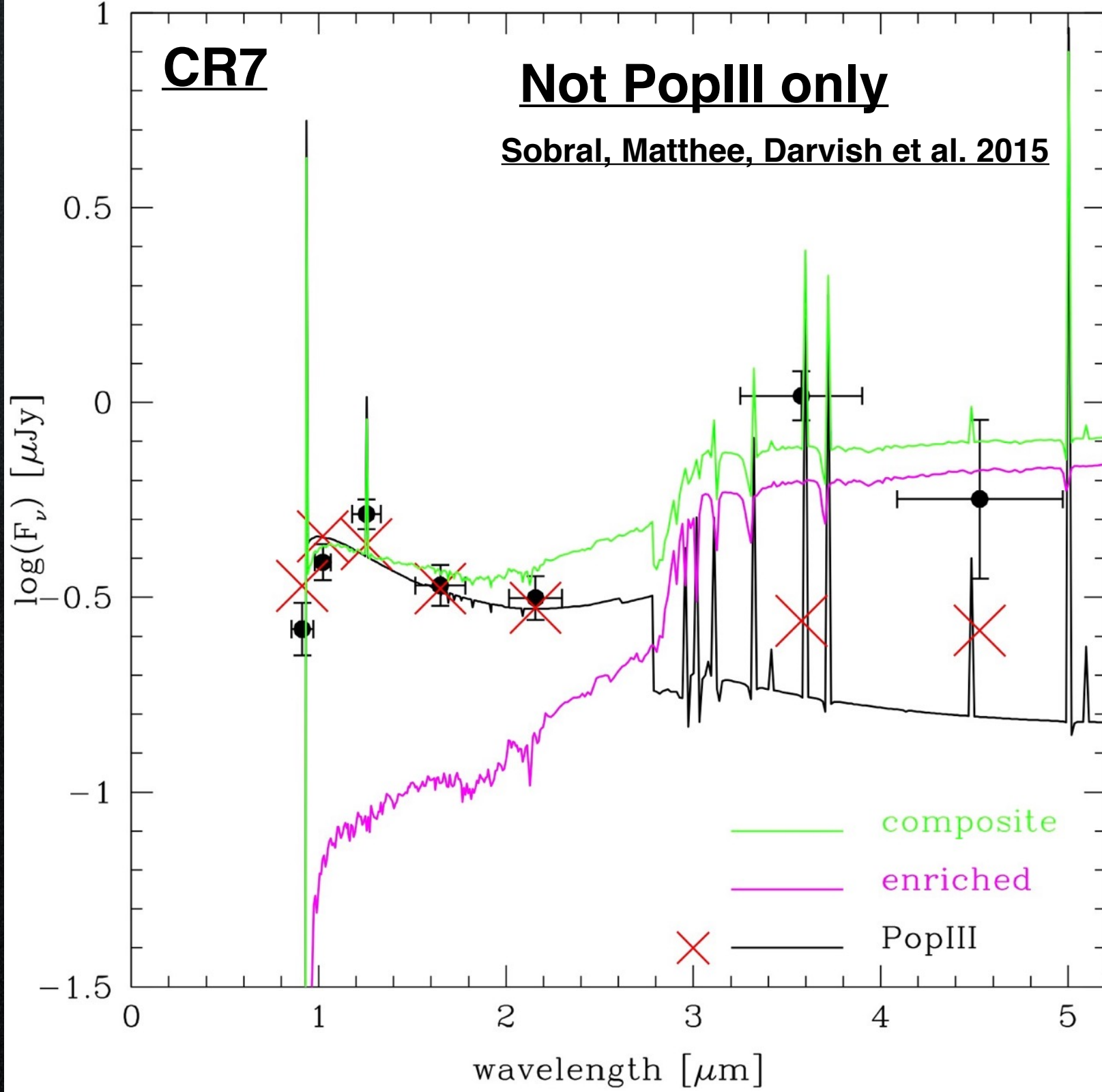
“Smells” like it

Schaerer 2002

CR7

Not PopIII only

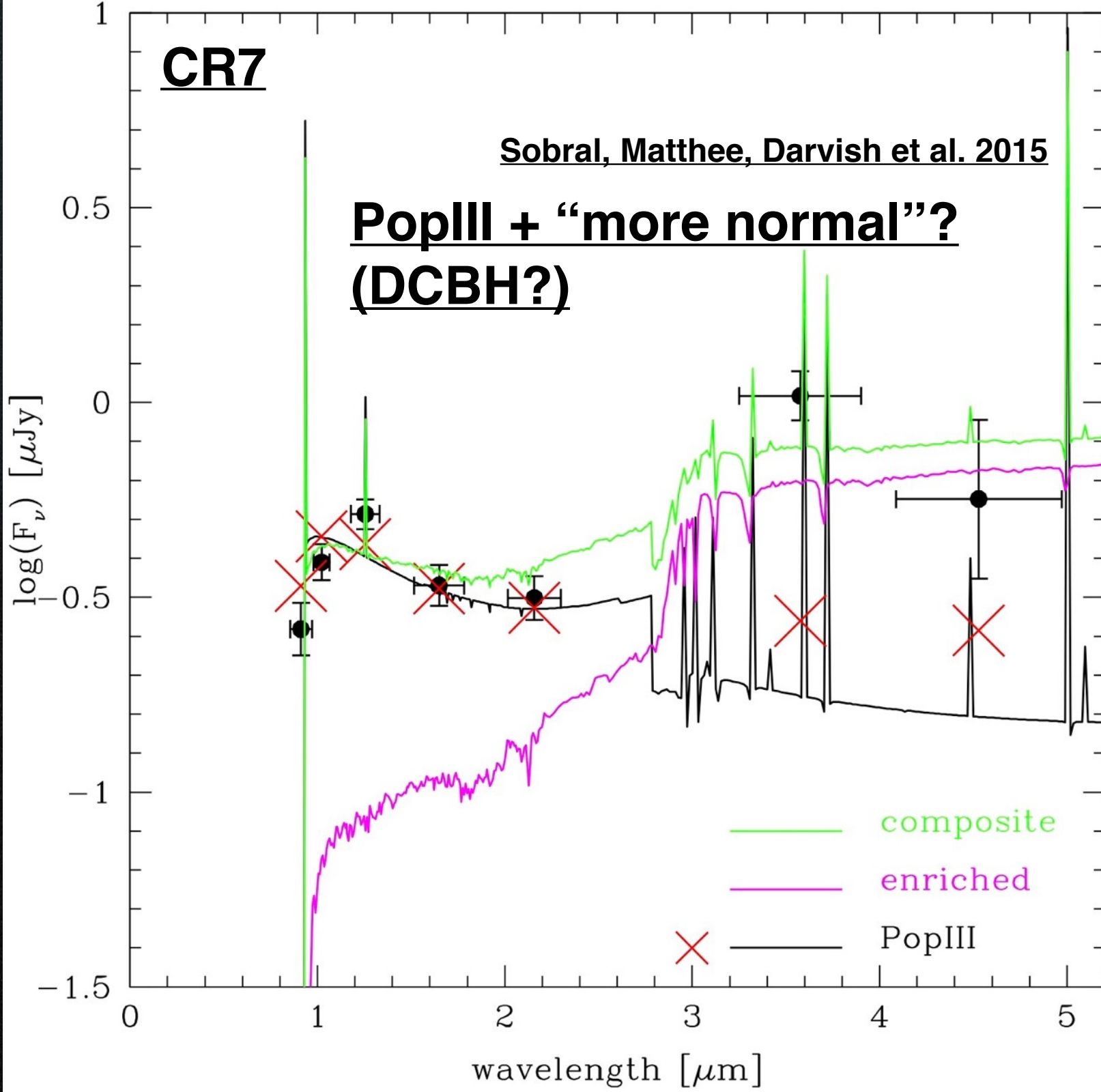
Sobral, Matthee, Darvish et al. 2015



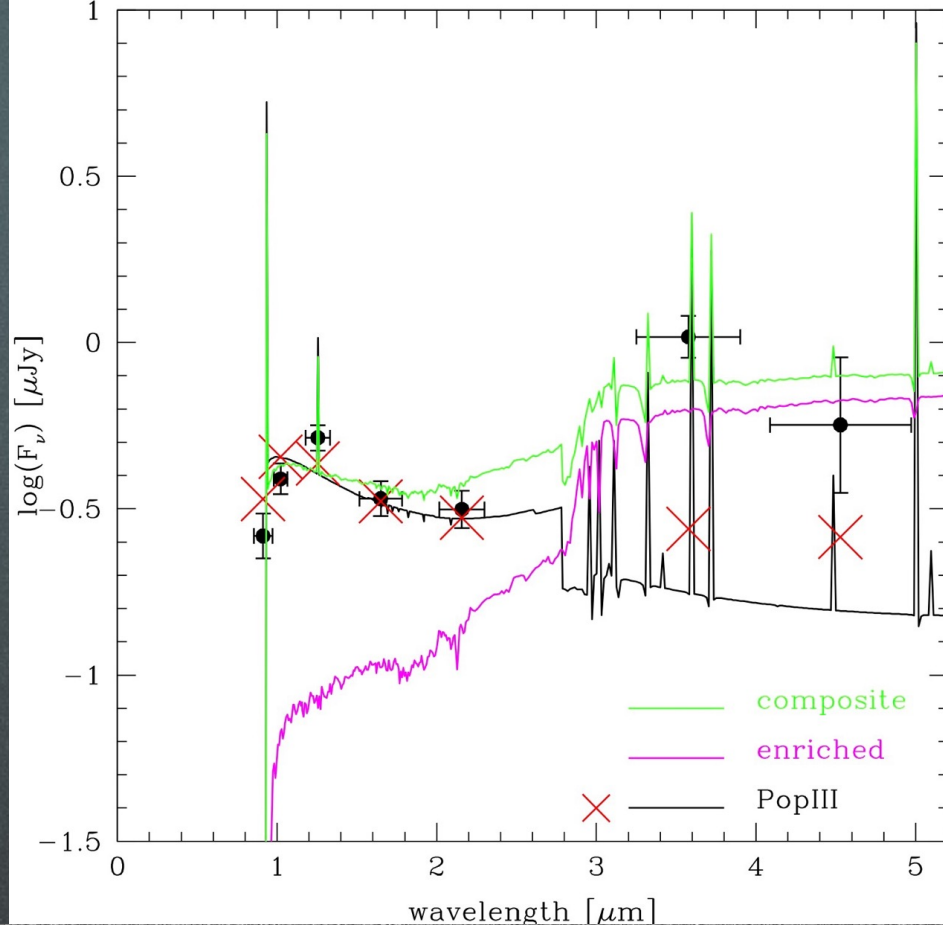
CR7

Sobral, Matthee, Darvish et al. 2015

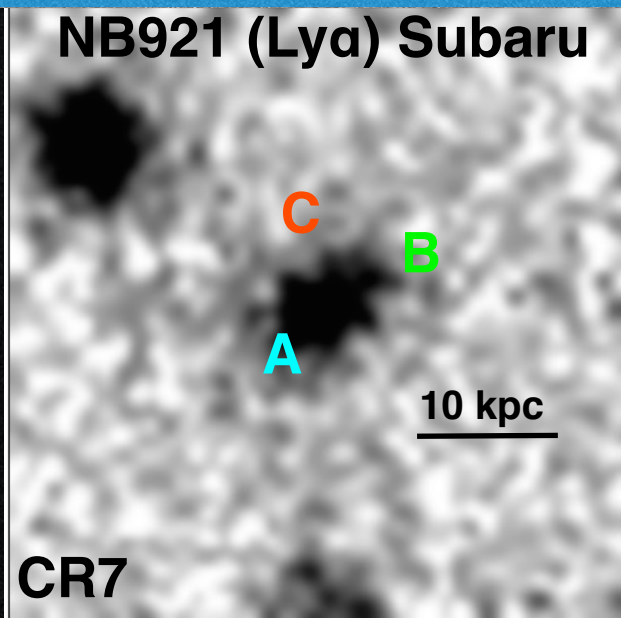
PopIII + “more normal”?
(DCBH?)



From ground-
based + Spitzer
photometry: single
source

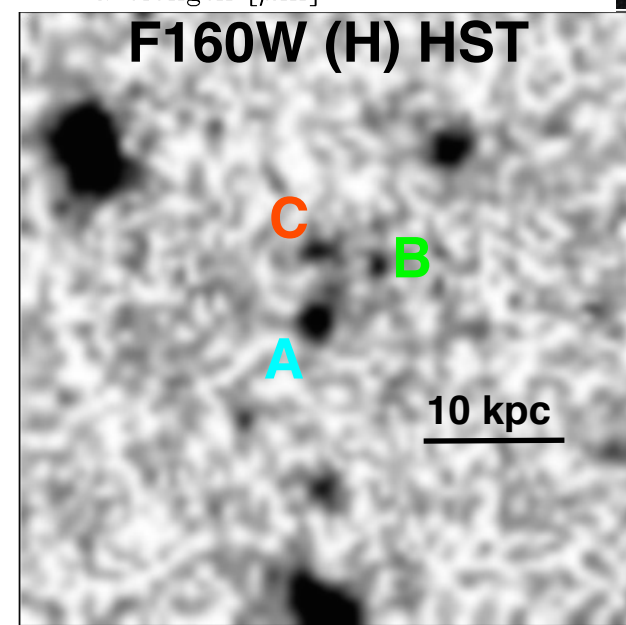
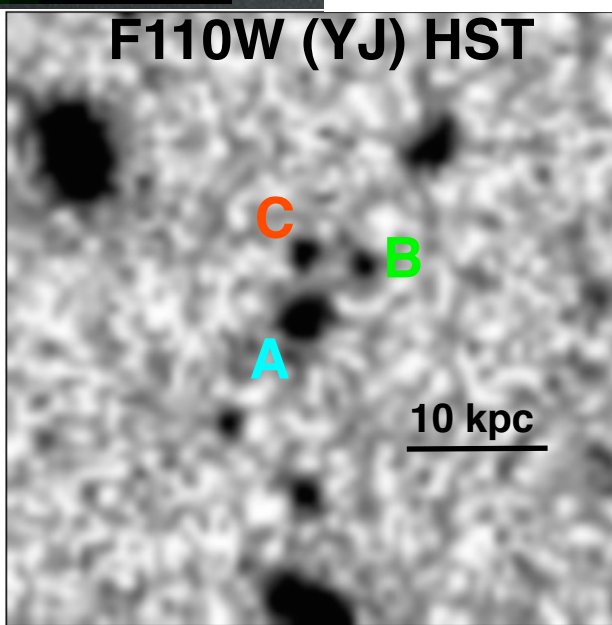
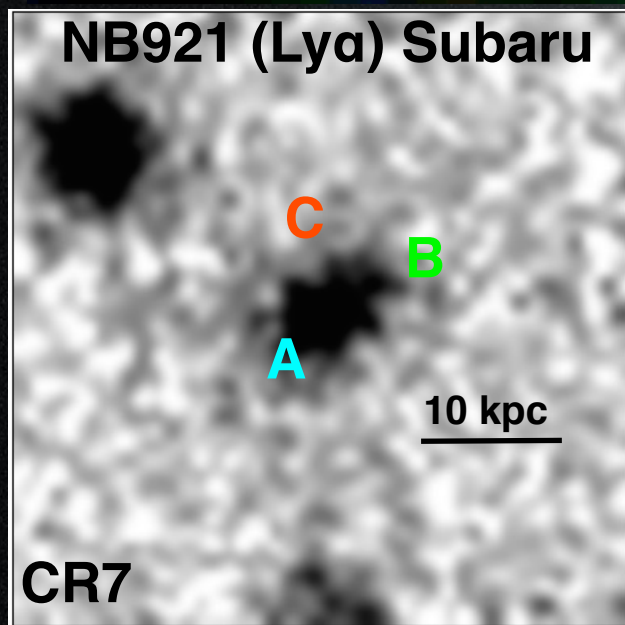
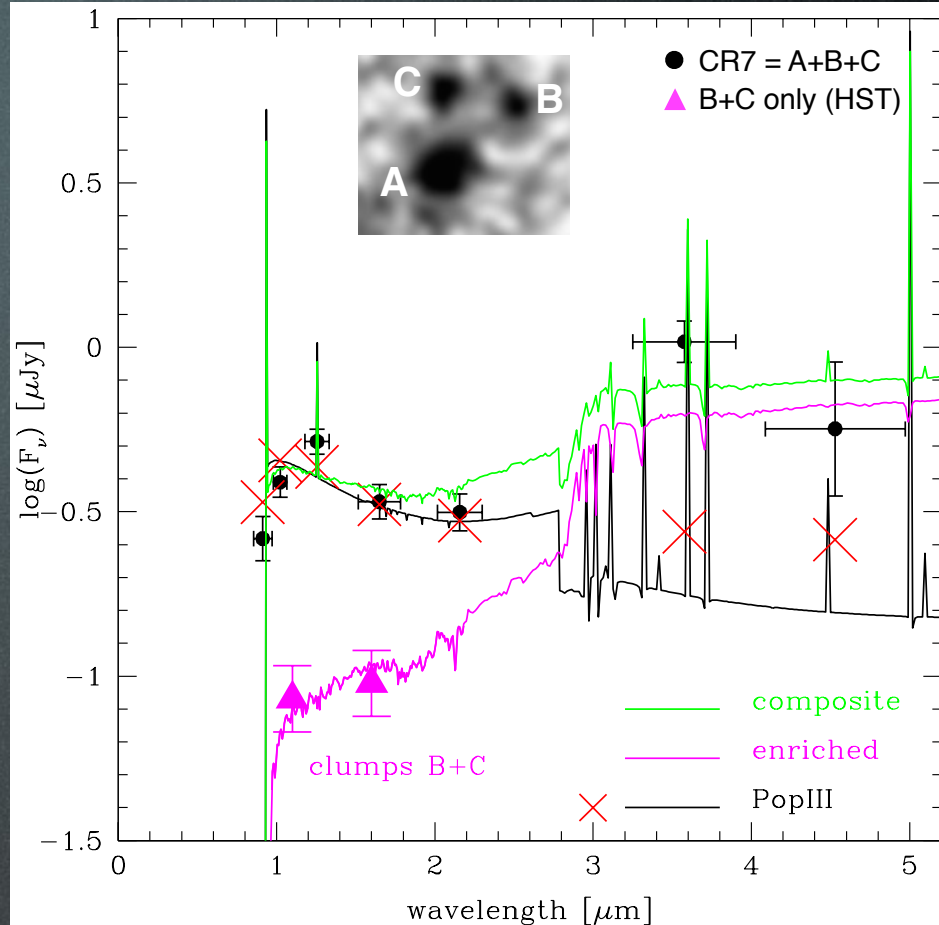
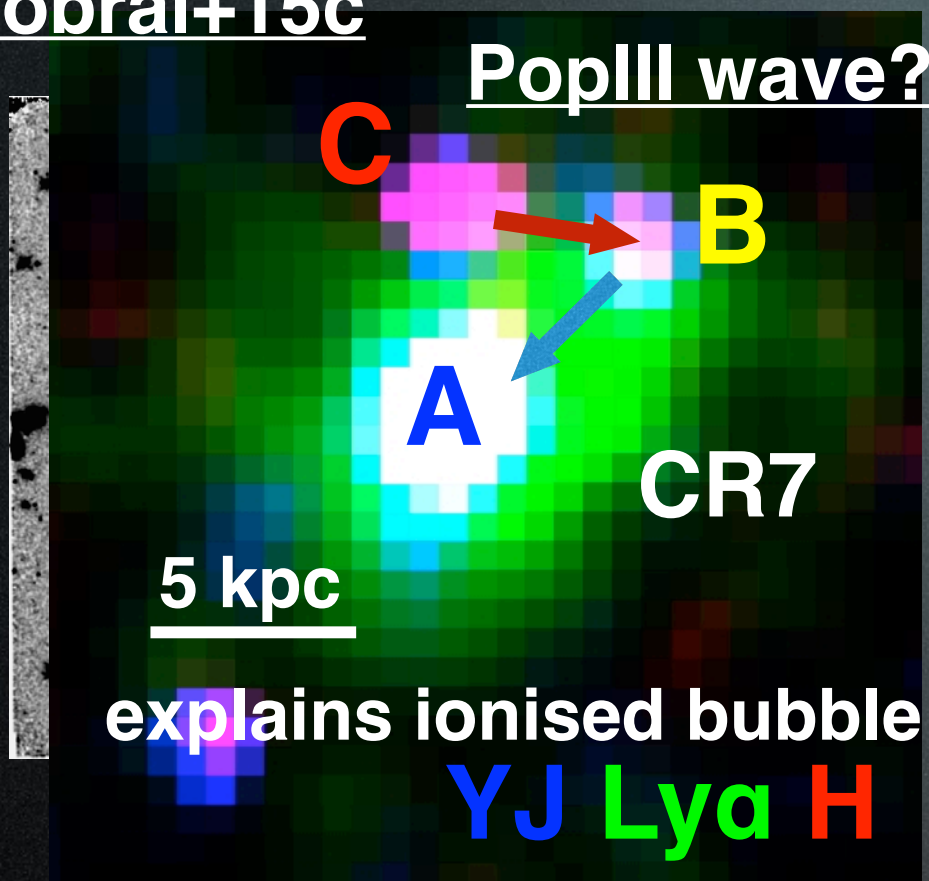


NB921 (Ly α) Subaru



Sobral+15c

PopIII wave?



Sobral+15c

PopIII wave?



5 kpc

explains ionised bubble

YJ Ly α H

**COSMOS Redshift 7
CR7**



ESO/M. Kornmesser

Sobral, Matthee, Darvish, Schaerer, Mobasher, Röttgering, Santos, Hemm

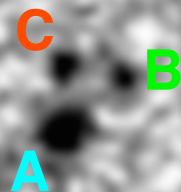
NB921 (Ly α) Subaru



10 kpc

CR7

F110W (YJ) HST



10 kpc

F160W (H) HST



10 kpc

Sobral+15c

PopIII wave?



CR7

5 kpc

explains ionised bubble

YJ Ly α H

**COSMOS Redshift 7
CR7**

For the DCBH fans:



ESO/M. Kornmesser

Sobral, Matthee, Darvish, Schaerer, Mobasher, Röttgering, Santos, Hemmeler

NB921 (Ly α) Subaru

C B A

10 kpc

CR7

F110W (YJ) HST

C B A

10 kpc

F160W (H) HST

C B A

10 kpc

Sobral+15c

PopIII wave?



A

B

CR7

5 kpc

explains ionised bubble

YJ Ly α H

To think about:

**Himiko (Ouchi+10)
Similar to CR7?**

A

B

C

Luminous Ly α emitters all multi-component?

HST can test!

NB921 (Ly α) Subaru

F110W (YJ) HST

F160W (H) HST

C B A

C B A

C B A

10 kpc

10 kpc

10 kpc

CR7

What is the nature of CR7?

Sobral+15

Throughout this conference



See talks by e.g.
E. Visbal

See talks by e.g.:
J. Johnson
M. Dijkstra
A. Smith

PopIII(-like)

vs

DCBH

Other alternatives at low metallicity

Also e.g.: Pallottini+15; Agarwal+15; Hartwig+15

What is the nature of CR7?

Sobral+15



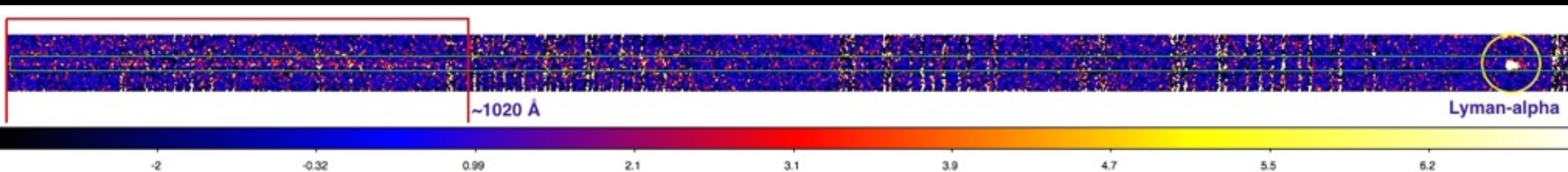
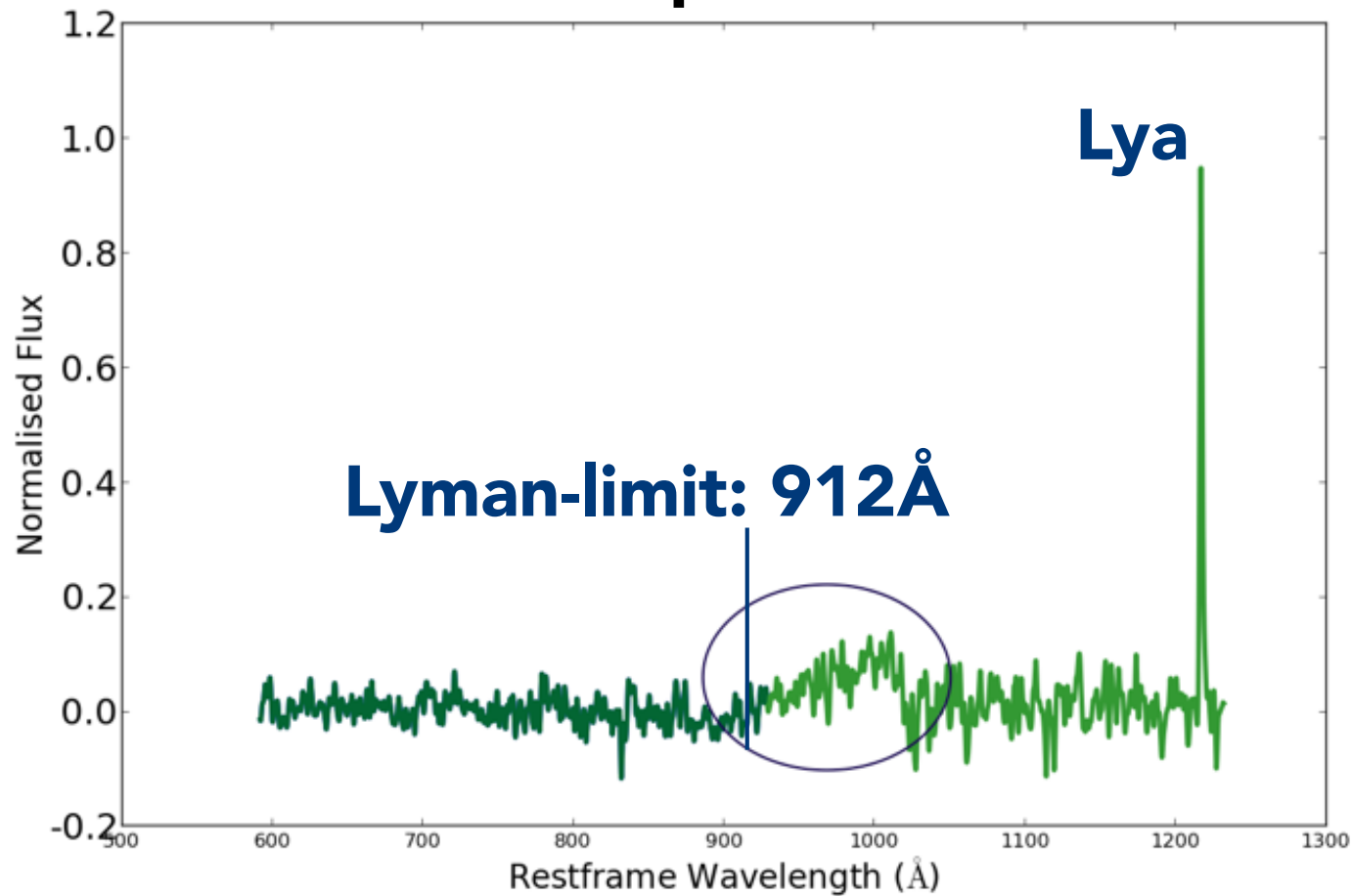
More/better observations needed + confirm an actual sample of CR7-like sources + understand redshift evolution of this potential population

LYMAN-WERNER FLUX FROM CR7 ?

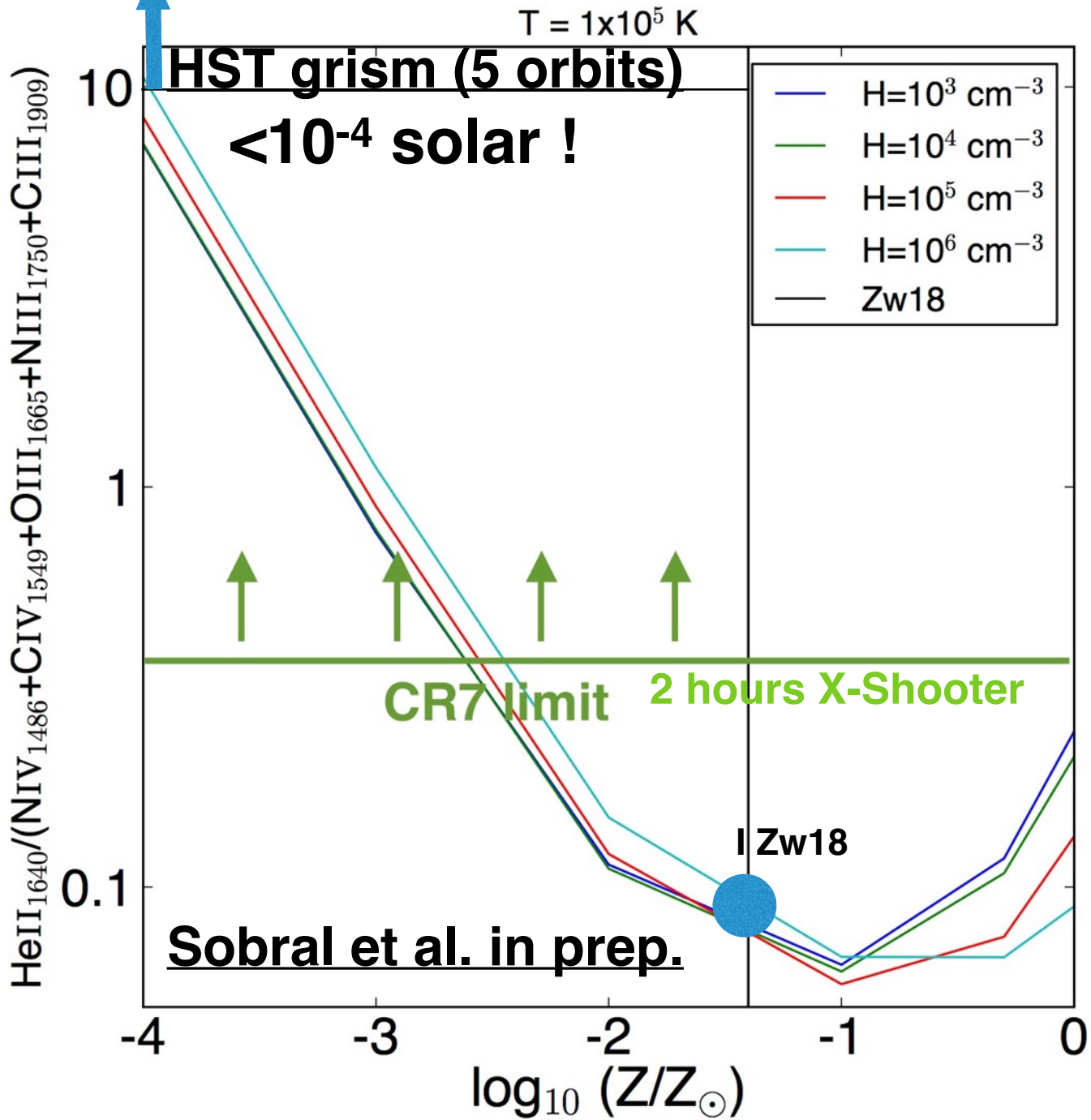
Unseen in other $z > 6$ galaxies

Escaping Lyman-Werner+ *hole* in the IGM?

Needs to be explained/understood



New (cheap!) observations needed to clarify metallicity



CLOUDY
modelling
exploring
large range of
physical
conditions,
temperatures,
densities

**Current limit
on CR7
metallicity
 $< 10^{-2.5}$ solar**



Stay tuned... spectroscopic follow-up on-going

**Up to a full team (~10-20) of CR7-like
and even super-CR7 candidates...**

2015

Number densities 10^{-6} Mpc^{-3}



Stay tuned... spectroscopic follow-up on-going

Up to a full team (~10-20) of CR7-like and even super-CR7 candidates...

Number densities 10^{-6} Mpc^{-3}



**Fully done by
~June-July 2016**

Diversity? All bright enough for detailed follow-up and actual statistics.

Selection very well known

ALMA time to clearly reveal any traces of metals

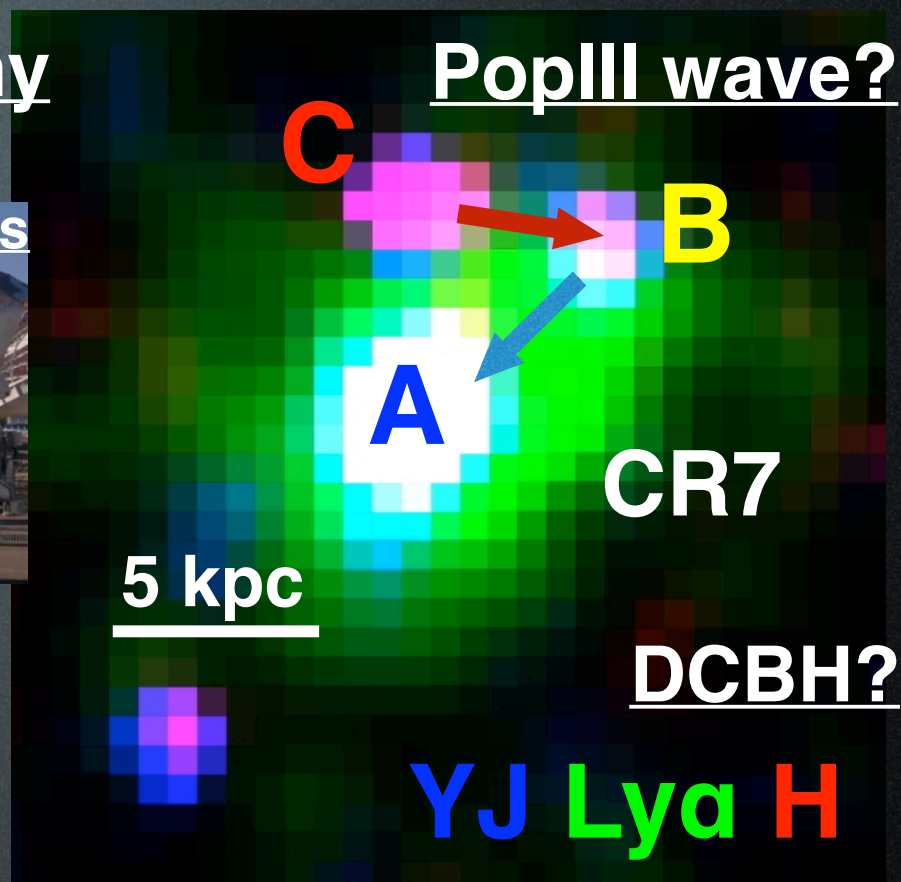
Cycle 3. PI: Sobral

May 2016



X-SHOOTER + Keck for CR7-like sources on-going

Ideal target(s) for JWST



Go beyond 1-2 objects and explore the actual population...

Up to 20 candidates + our surveys at lower and higher-z

Take home messages

Matthee, Sobral et al. 2015, MNRAS

Sobral, Matthee et al. 2015, ApJ

Sobral et al. in prep.

Santos et al. in prep.

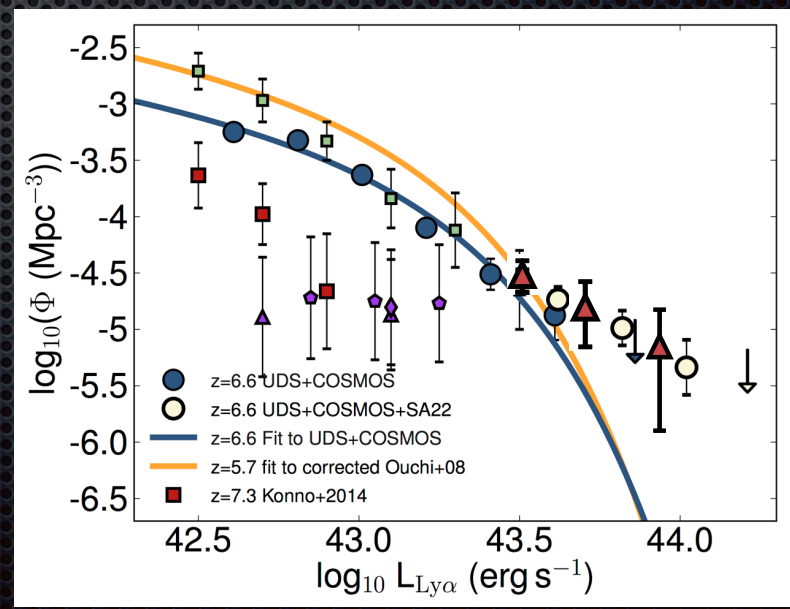
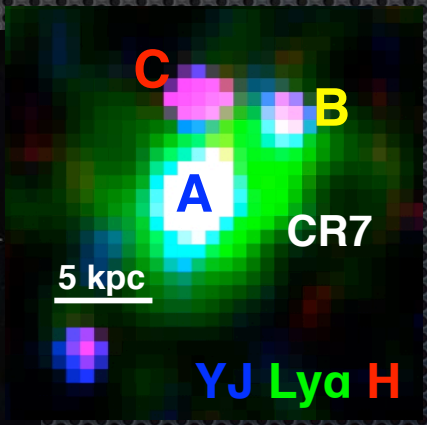
● Stay tuned!

- Luminous Ly α emitters ($\sim 10^{43.5}$ erg/s) at $z=5.7-6.6$

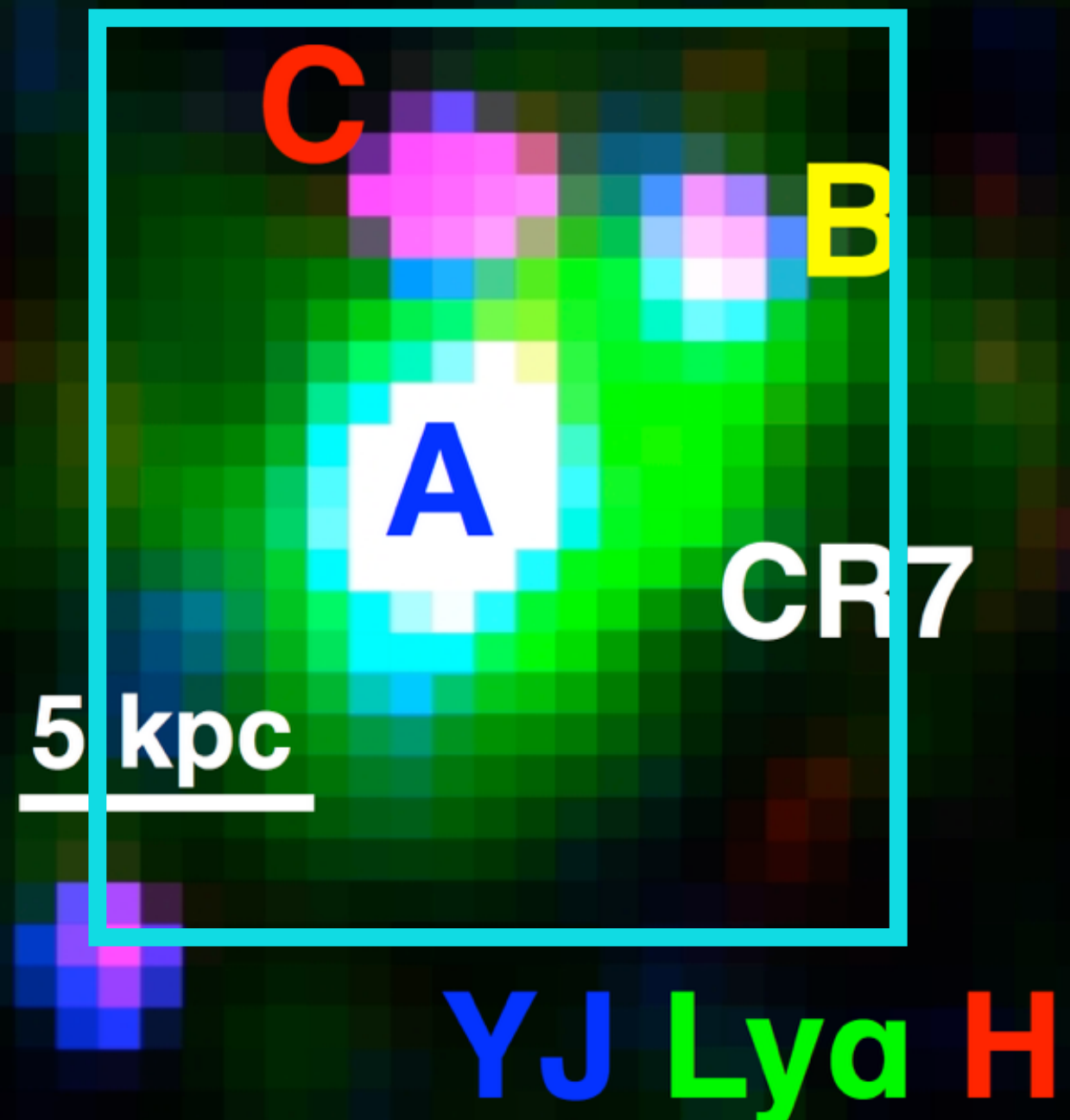
$$1.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ Mpc}^{-3}$$

much more common than thought

- Evolution of the Ly α LF is at the faint end
- PopIII-like (PopIII or DCBH?) stellar populations in luminous Ly α emitters at $z=6.6$



JWST/NIRCam IFU FoV (Ly α , HeII, HeI, H α , H β , [OIII]?)

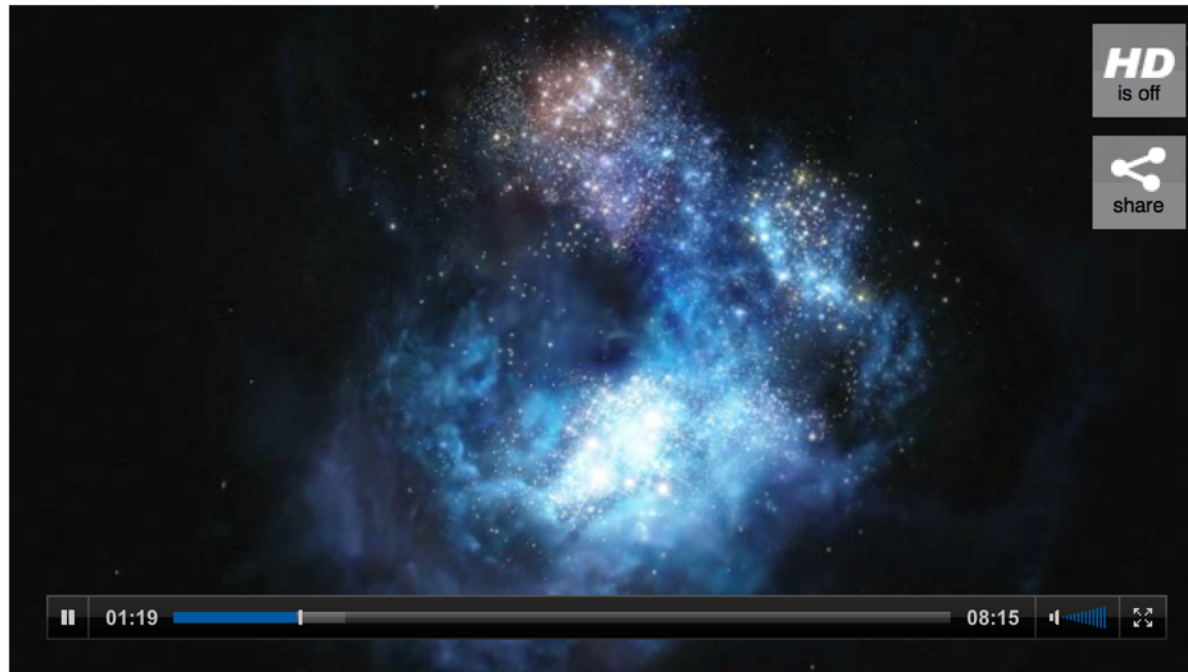


HST+Subaru image of CR7



European
Southern
Observatory

ESO Top 10 Astronomical Discoveries



ESOcass 75: ESO's Top 10 Discoveries. [Download and more info](#)

Observations with ESO telescopes have led to many breakthroughs in astronomy, and, over the years, have been responsible for some truly remarkable findings. Here is our list of ESO's Top 10 astronomical discoveries so far.

Best observational evidence of first generation stars in the Universe

Astronomers using ESO's Very Large Telescope have discovered by far the brightest galaxy yet found in the early Universe and found strong evidence that examples of the first generation of stars lurk within it — stars that were previously only theoretical. These massive, brilliant objects were the creators of the first heavy elements in history — elements that are necessary to forge the stars we see around us today, the planets that orbit them, and life as we know it.

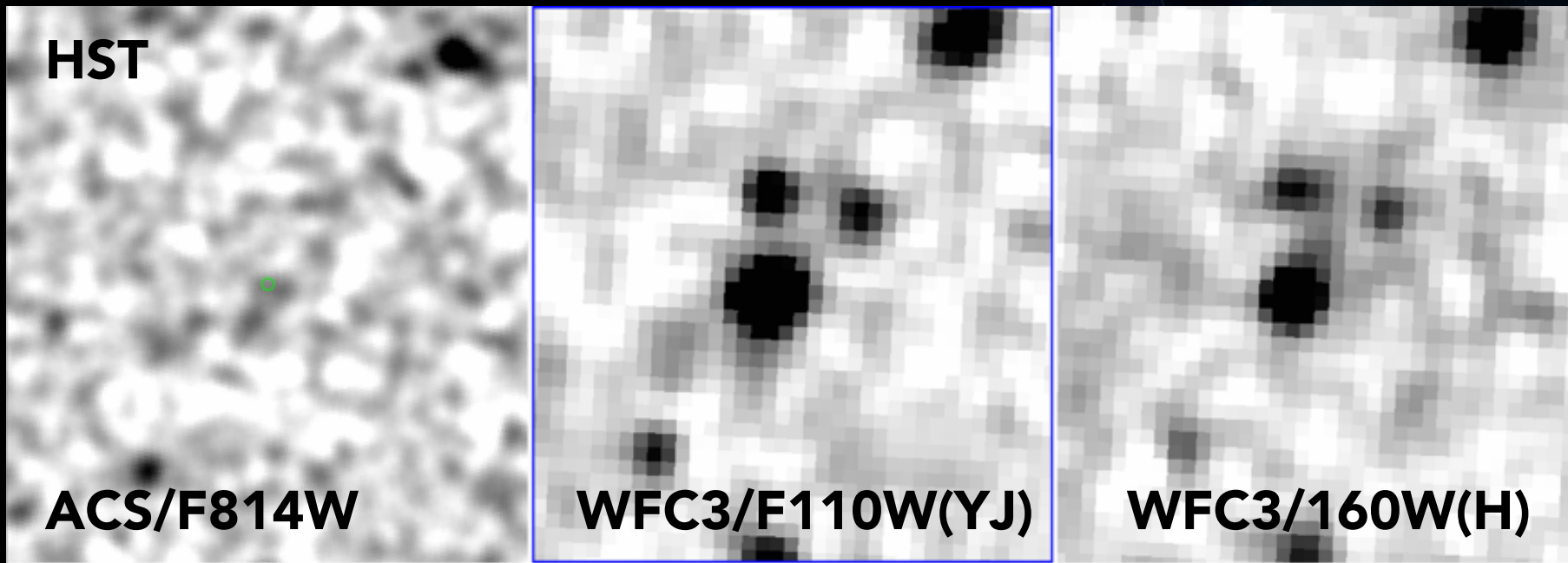
Science paper:

[Sobral, D., et al., 2015, ApJ](#)

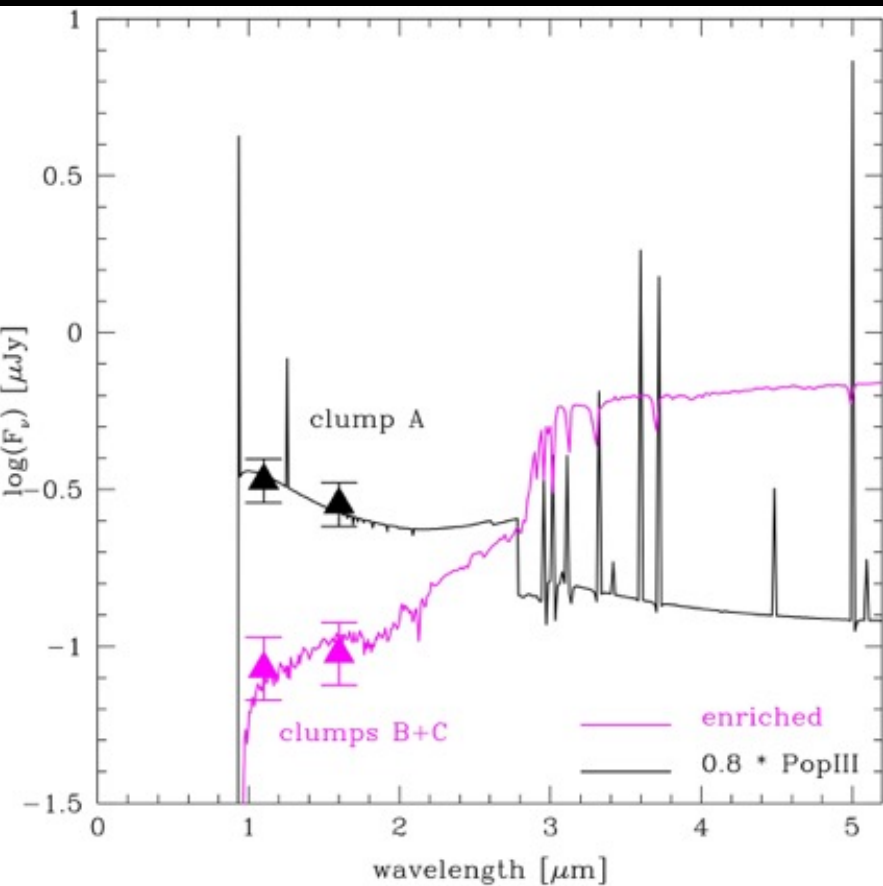
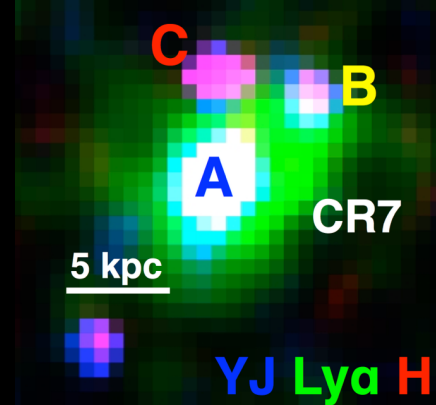
Read more in the [ESO press release eso1524](#)

CLUMP B & C AT SAME REDSHIFT?

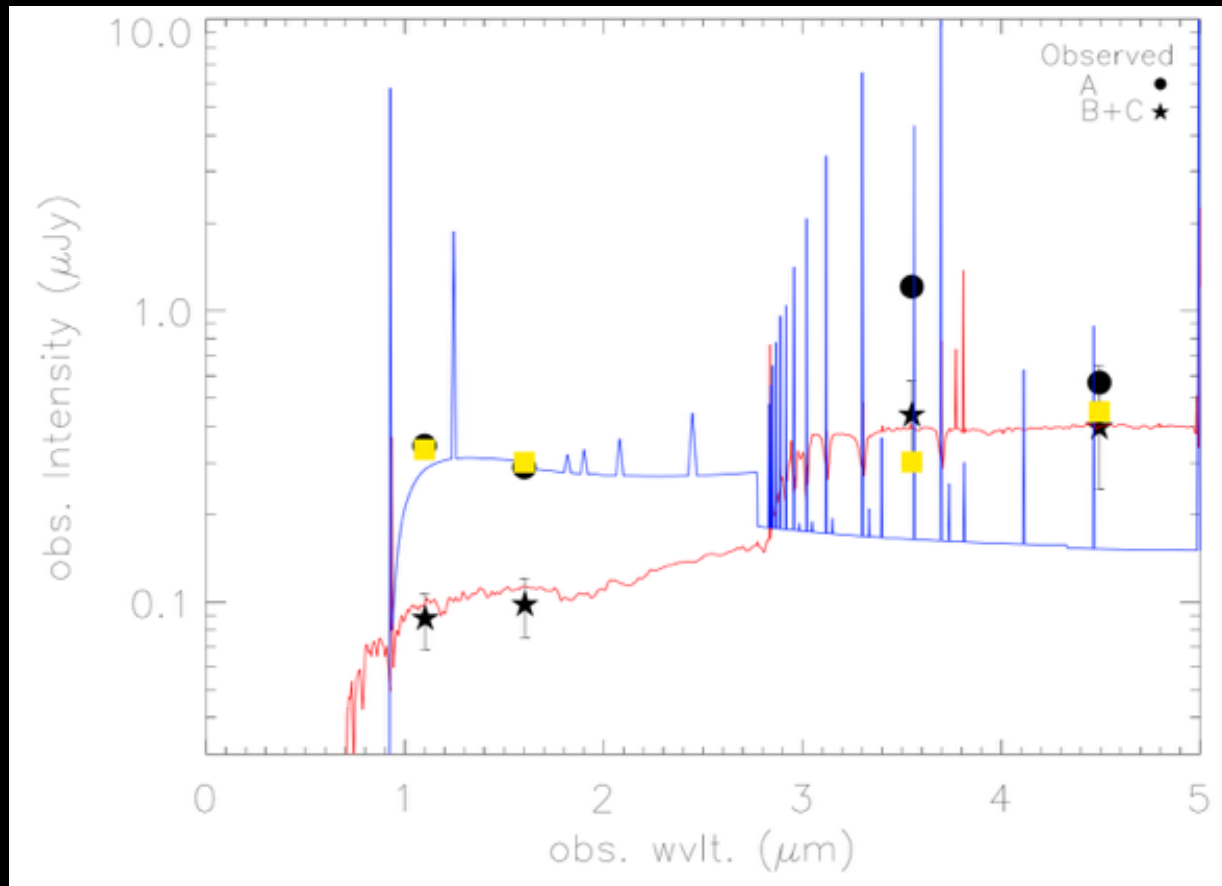
Clump B+C are not yet spectroscopically confirmed, but are z-dropouts, so photo- $z > 6.5$ most likely



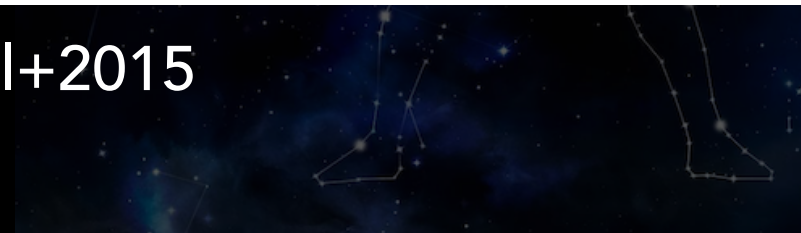
SEDs PopIII vs DCBH



Sobral, JM+2015



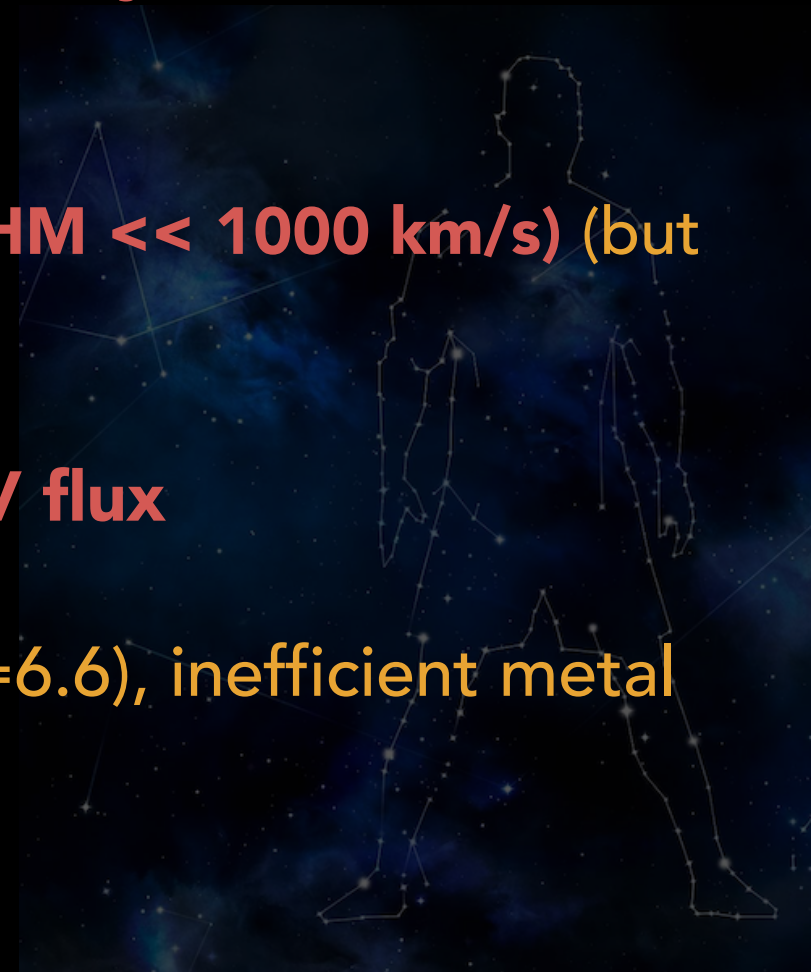
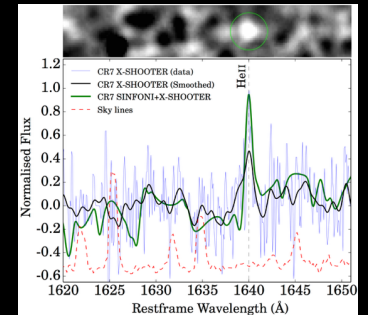
Agarwal+2015



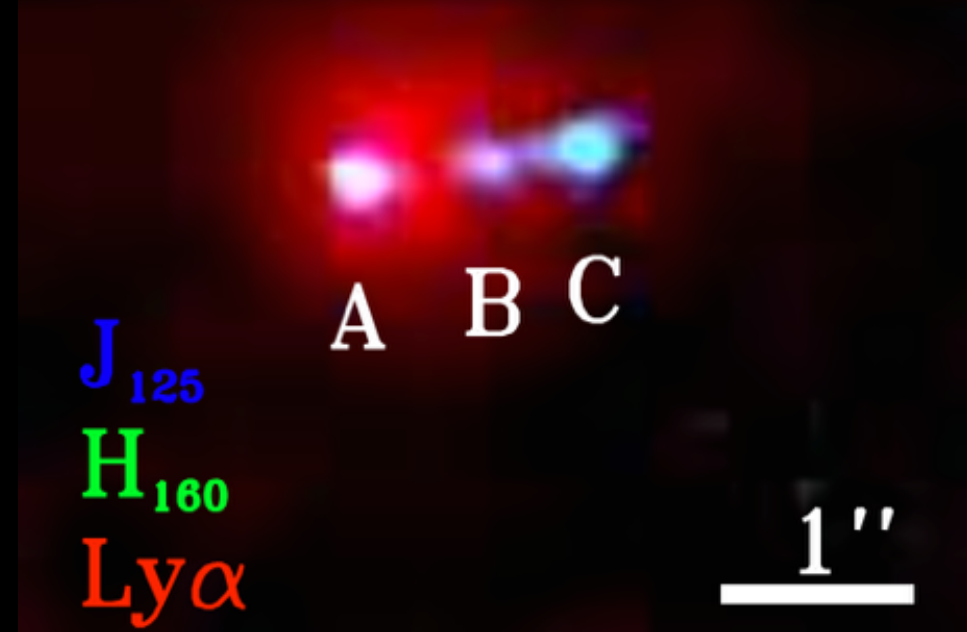
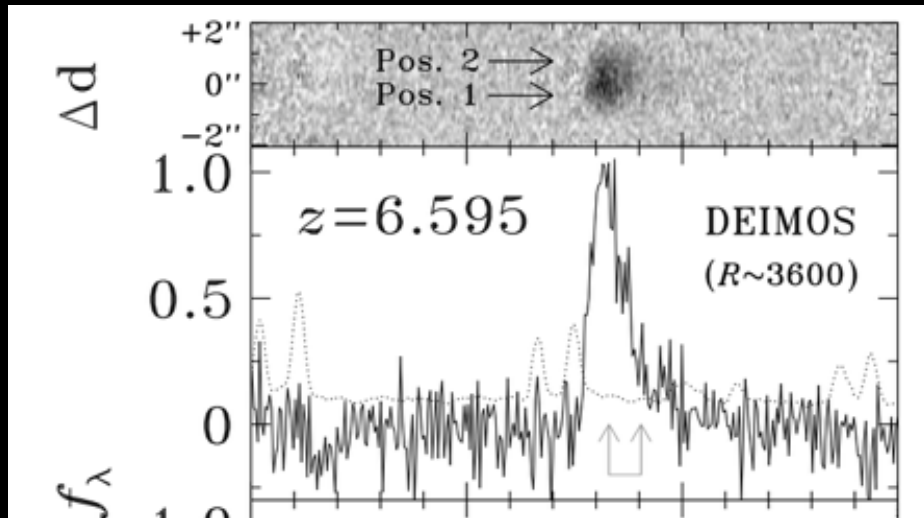
IONISING ENERGY OF HEII = 54.4 EV

Sources:

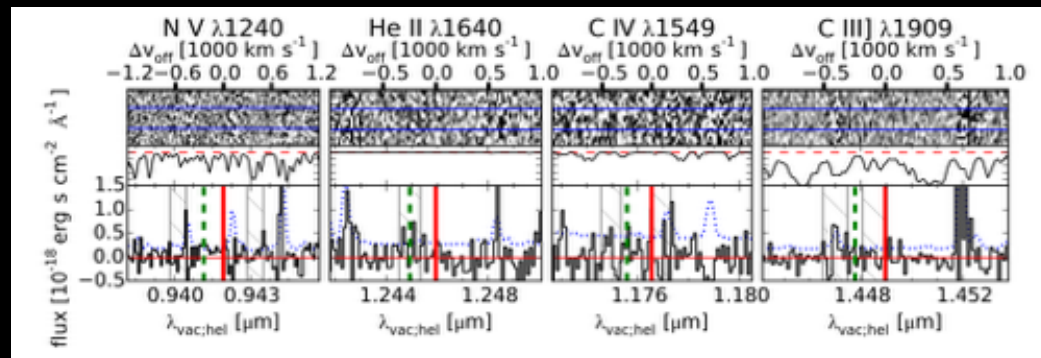
- AGN - **no metal lines, lines narrow, no X-ray, blue UV colours,** (although maybe direct collapse??)
- Wolf-Rayet stars - **HeII narrow (FWHM \ll 1000 km/s)** (but also the case at low metallicity??)
- Cooling radiation - **width lines, EUV flux**
- PopIII-like stars - **but why so late ($z=6.6$), inefficient metal mixing?**



Is *Himiko* also a DCBH if *CR7* is one?



- Extended, luminous $Ly\alpha$
- Similar $Ly\alpha$ FWHM, lower EW
- 3 clumps, the brightest is very blue
- separation $\sim 0.5-1''$
- no $H\alpha$, nor any other line



Ouchi+2009, Ouchi+2013, Zabl+2015

Take home messages I

Contrarily to “common-sense”, bright galaxies are really worth it: we get way more per second than thought

- ✦ See previous talks by e.g. : R. Bowler, D. Stark, G. Brammer

Ideal to prepare for JWST (way beyond number counts)

PopIII searches with JWST: “find Hell”.

Clearly that’s not even the start of it.

CR7 is already showing that.