

KITP, 03-06 October 2006

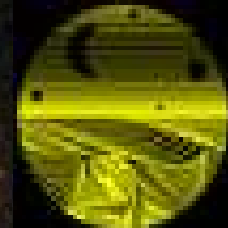
Gravitational Lensing: Unique Insights Into Galaxy Formation And Evolution.

Galaxies Surveys at the Epoch of Reionization with Gravitational Telescopes

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Marseille)- E. Egami (Tucson) - M. Wise (MIT/NL) - F. Boone, F.
Combes (O. Paris) - A. Ferrara (Trieste)*



**Observatoire
Midi-Pyrénées**

OUTLINE

- Looking for high- z galaxies: Motivation
- Lensing clusters as Gravitational Telescopes
- A first attempt to constrain the abundance and properties of star-forming galaxies at $6 < z < 10$ using Gravitational Telescopes



Richard, Pello, Schaerer, Le Borgne & Kneib (2006)

- Discussion & Perspectives:
 - *Lensing or blank fields?*
 - *Future surveys with the new generation of near-IR spectrographs (EMIR/ Goya Survey at GTC, Flamingos II, MOIRCS, KMOS, ...)*



**Looking for high- z galaxies:
Motivation**

What is the Reionization Era?

A Schematic Outline of the Cosmic History

Time since the Big Bang (years)

~ 300 thousand

~ 500 million

~ 1 billion

~ 9 billion

~ 13 billion



← The Big Bang

The Universe filled with ionized gas

← The Universe becomes neutral and opaque

The Dark Ages start

Galaxies and Quasars begin to form
The Reionization starts

The Cosmic Renaissance
The Dark Ages end

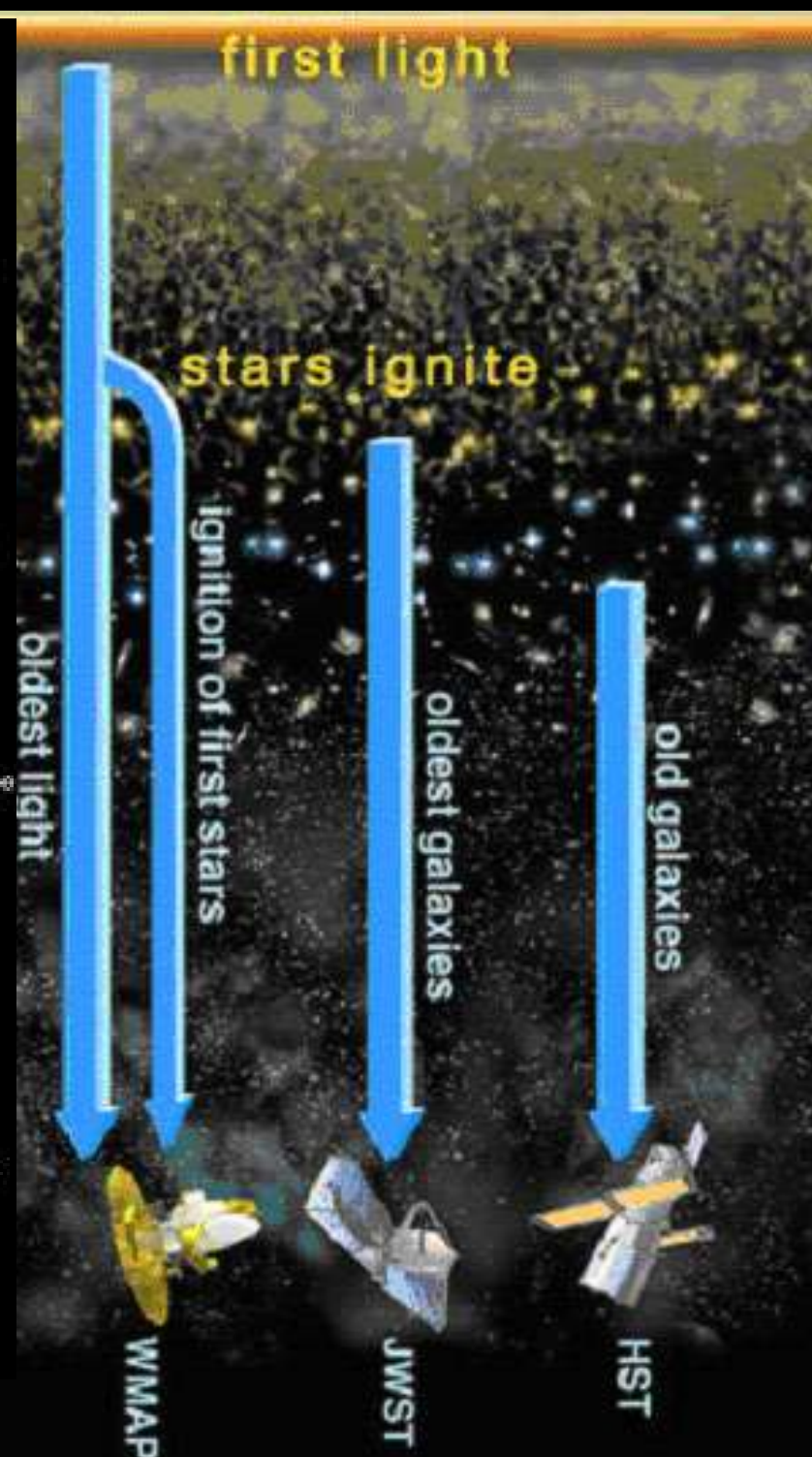
← Reionization complete, the Universe becomes transparent again

Galaxies evolve

The Solar System forms

Today: Astronomers figure it all out!

S. G. Djorgovski et al. & Digital Media Center, Caltech



first light

stars ignite

bldest light

ignition of first stars

oldest galaxies

old galaxies

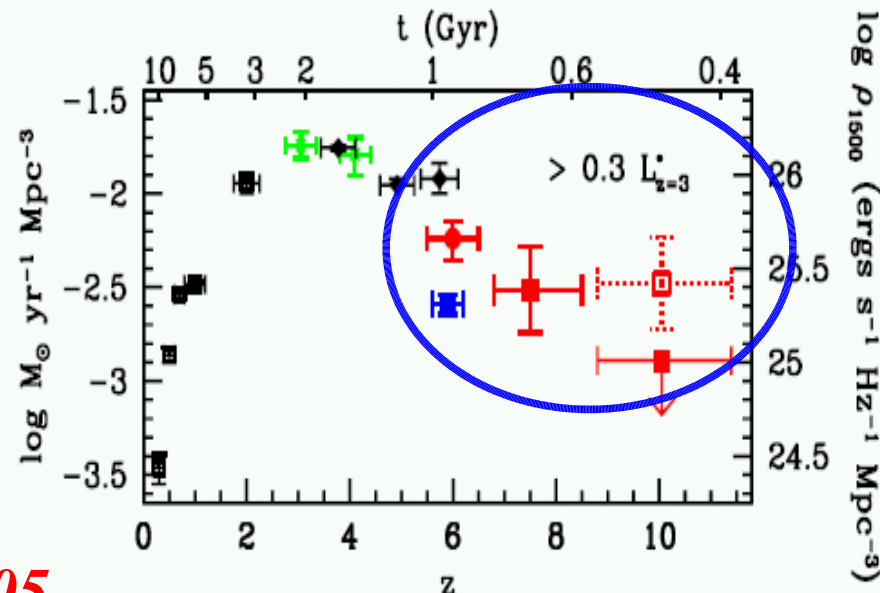
WMAP

JWST

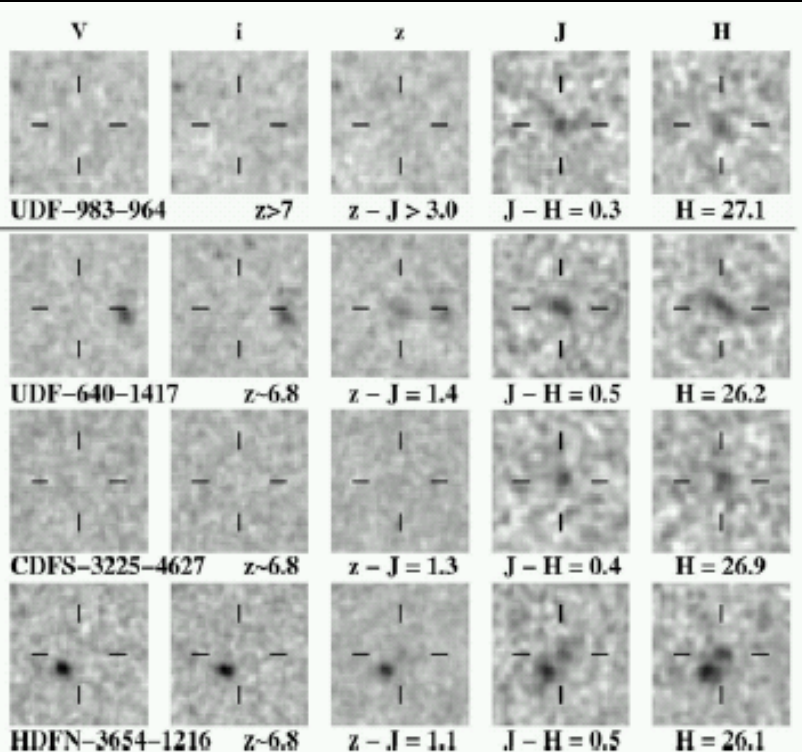
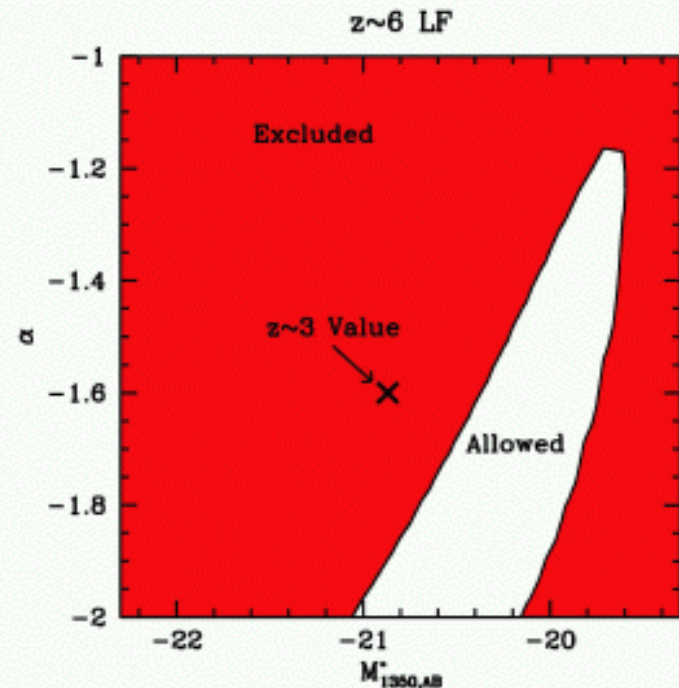
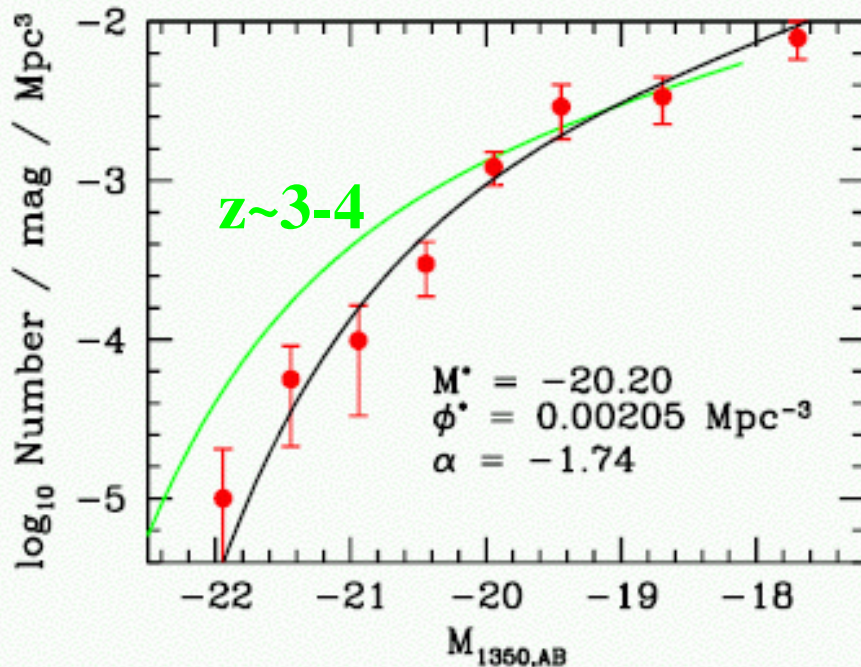
HST

from Djorgovski et al & NASA/WMAP Science Team.

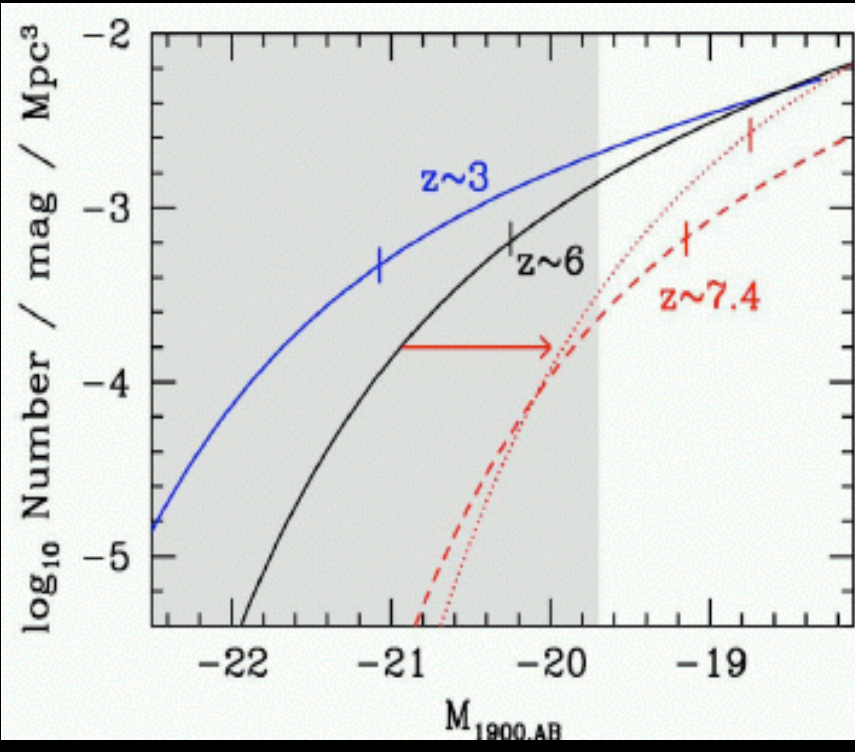
- **WMAP results: reionisation epoch $z \sim 9-13$** (Spergel et al. 2006) \longrightarrow **end ionisation: $z \sim 6-6.5$** (Fan et al. 2002).
 \implies *contribution of star-forming systems to cosmic reionization*
- **What are the physical properties of these objects: SFR, extinction, metallicity, IMF, ...?**
- **Start exploring a new domain and prepare for future studies on global properties: number counts, LF of Ly α emitters, clustering ...**



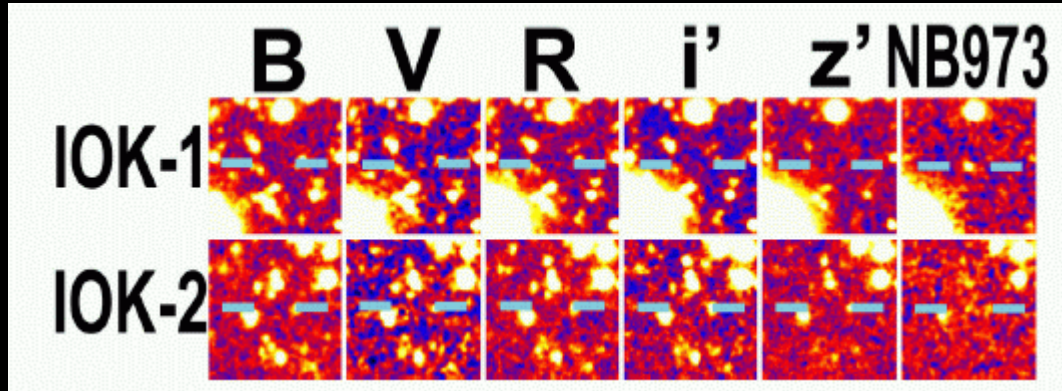
From Bouwens et al. 05: ~500 i-band dropouts (GOODS) z~6 photometric candidates



From Bouwens et al. 05: 4 photometric candidates at $z > \sim 7$ (see also Bouwens & Illingworth 06)



Iye et al. 2006:



- 2 Lyman α emitters (LAEs) at $z \sim 7$ ($z=6.96$; 1 + 1 candidate)

- NB 973 identification (last OH window) with Subaru Suprime-Cam

- SFR $\sim 10 M_{\text{sol}}/\text{yr}$

- Density of LAEs at $z \sim 7$ seems to be $\sim 18\text{-}36\%$ of the density at $z \sim 6.6$

- The **ZEN** (“z equals nine”) survey reports a non detection of $z \sim 9$ sources in the HDFs up to a flux limit in the NB(1.187 micron) $> 3.28 \times 10^{-18}$ erg/cm²/s (*Willis et al.06*)

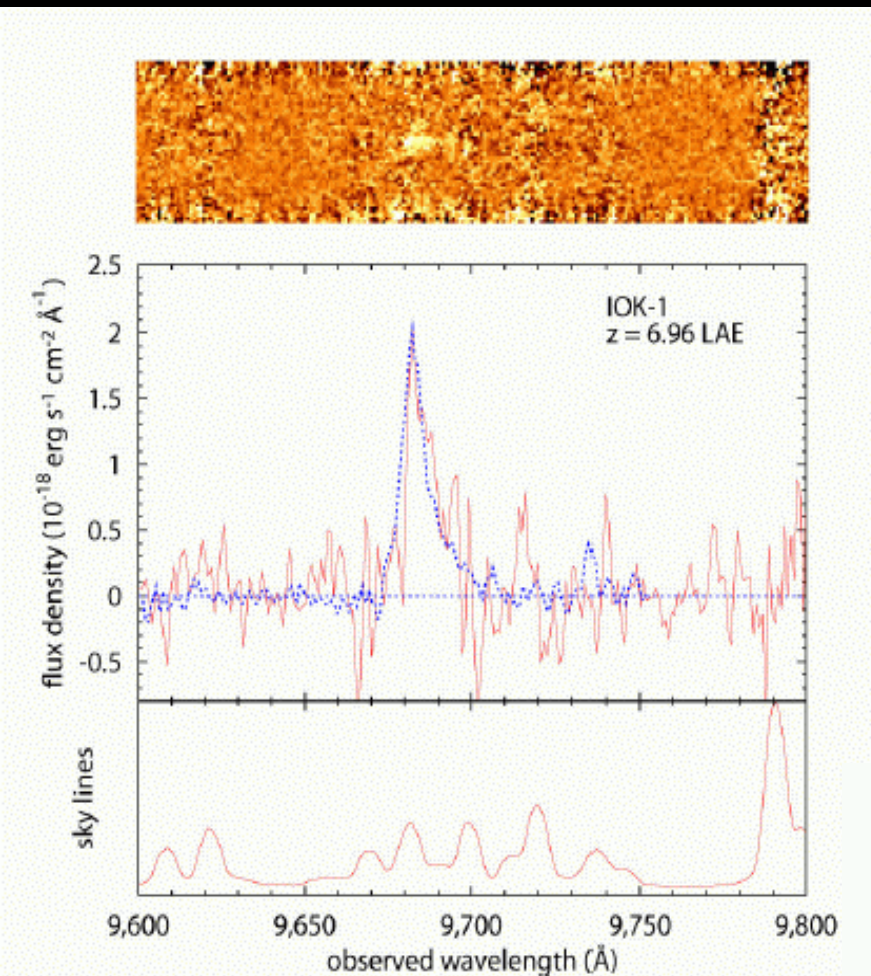
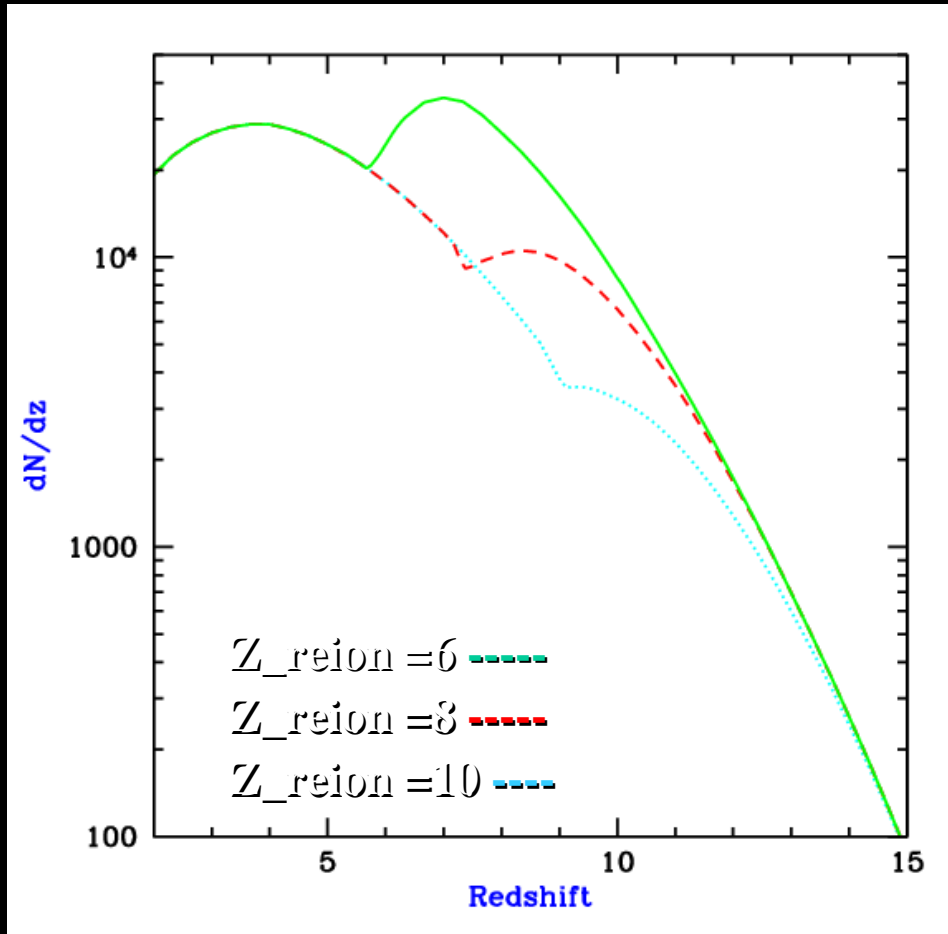


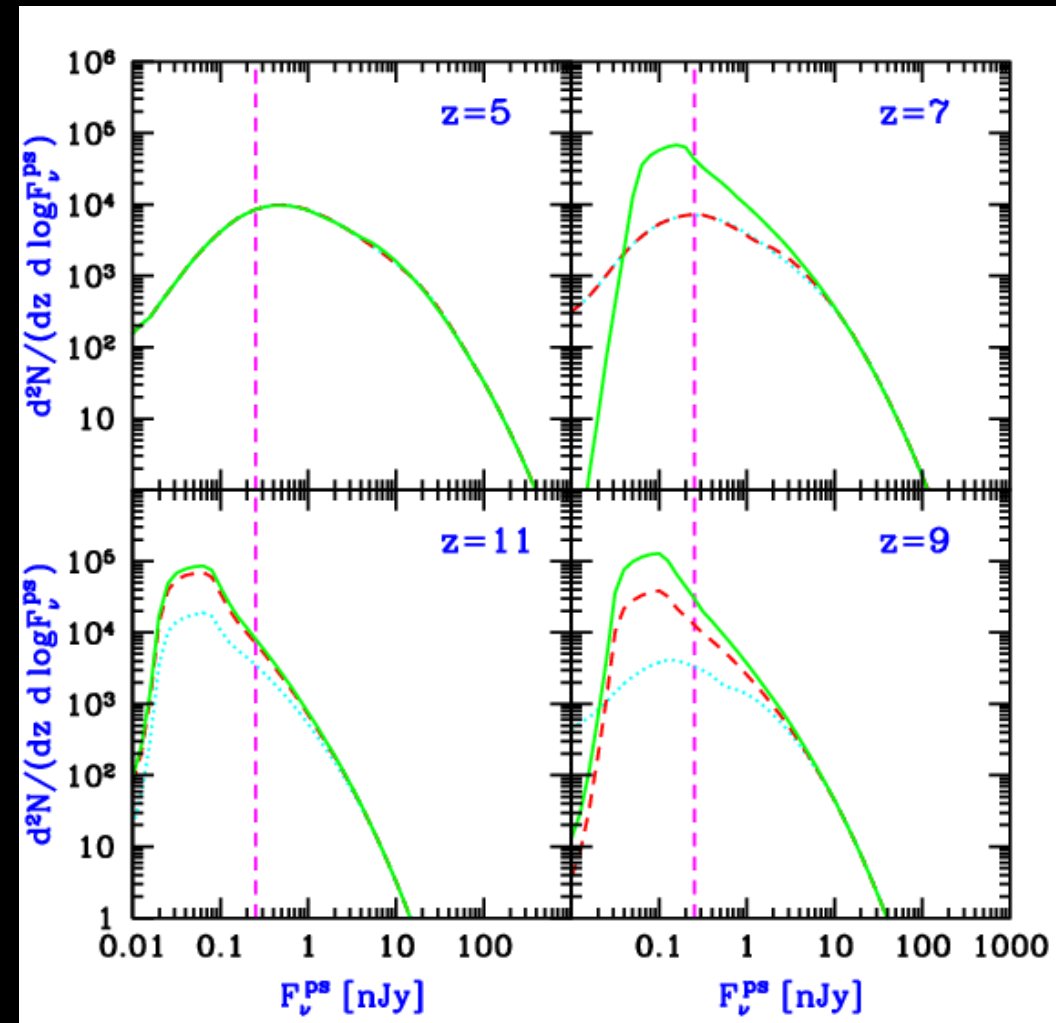
Table 1 Properties of $z \sim 7$ Lyman- α emitter candidates

ID	Position(J2000)	i' (mag)	z' (mag)	NB973 (2'')	NB973 (total)	$L(\text{Ly}\alpha)$ (10^{43} erg s ⁻¹)	SFR($\text{Ly}\alpha$) ϵ (M_{\odot} yr ⁻¹)
IOK-1	$\alpha=13^{\text{h}} 23^{\text{m}} 59.^{\text{s}}8$ $\delta=+27^{\circ} 24' 55.''8$	>27.84	>27.04	24.60	24.40	1.1 ± 0.2	10 ± 2
IOK-2	$\alpha=13^{\text{h}} 25^{\text{m}} 32.^{\text{s}}9$ $\delta=+27^{\circ} 31' 44.''7$	>27.84	>27.04	25.51	24.74	$<1.1 \pm 0.2$	$<10 \pm 2$

Theoretical models: Abundance of star-forming galaxies

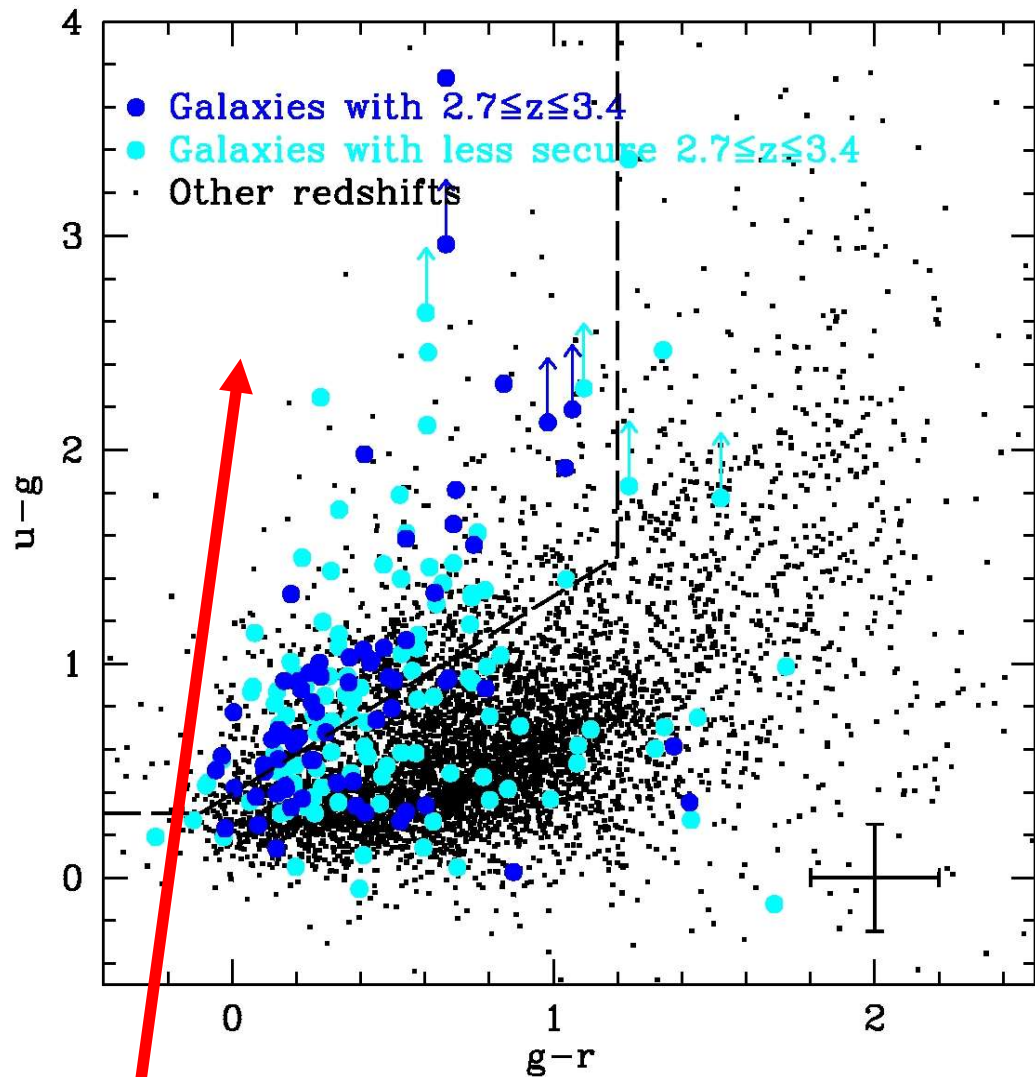


Redshift distribution of sources observed on 1deg2, up to the limits of JWST (0.25 nJy) (Barkana & Loeb 01)



Luminosity Functions

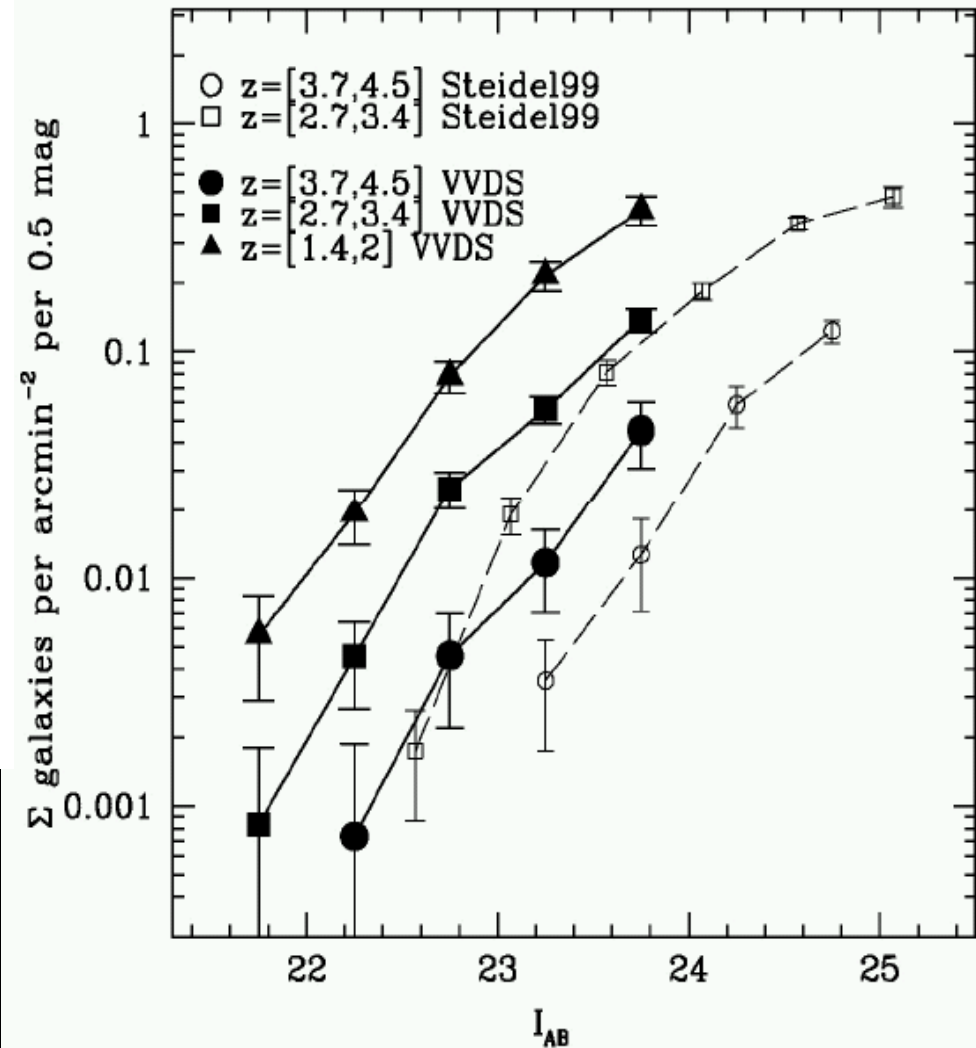
A complete census of $z \sim 1.4-5$ galaxies



LBG selection window at $z \sim 3$

Le Fèvre et al. (Nature, 2005)

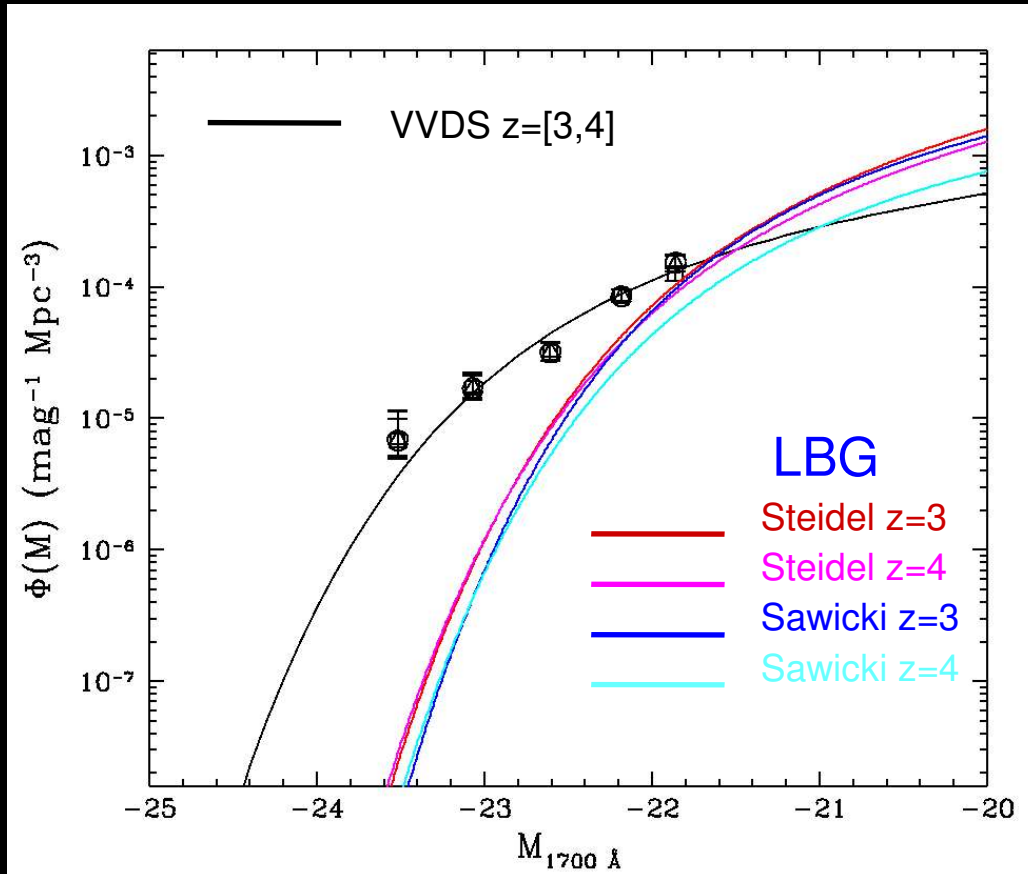
Color selection bias at high- z :
 Comparison between usual color selection and the VVDS magnitude selection in the I band





Luminosity Function of galaxies with $3 < z < 4$

I-band selected sample



- VVDS: 970 galaxies with $1.4 < z < 5$
- A large purely magnitude-selected sample in the high redshift universe
- An unbiased census of the star-forming galaxy population
- Luminosity function shows M^* at least 0.5 mag. brighter than LBG selected sample

$$\text{LD (VVDS)} / \text{LD (LBG)} = 2.8$$

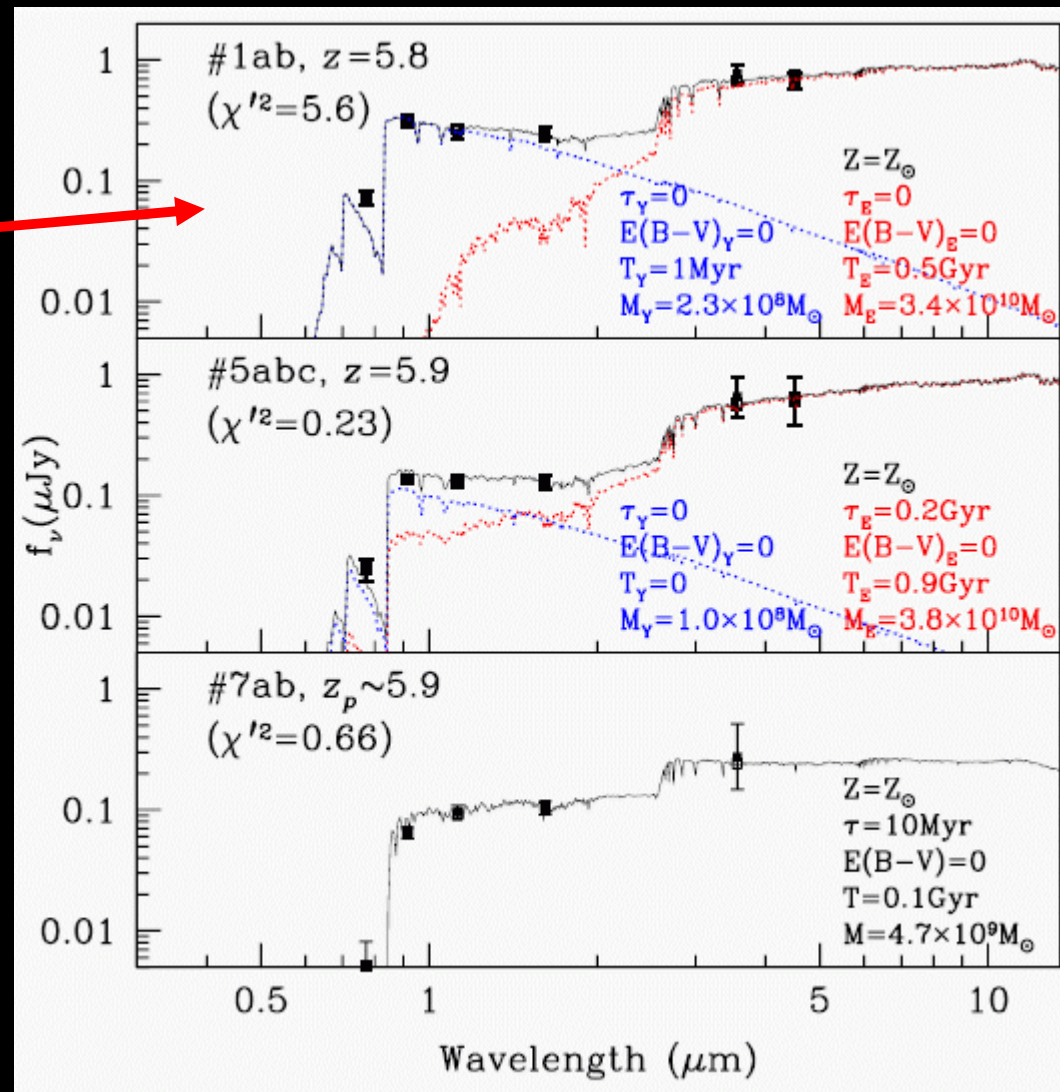
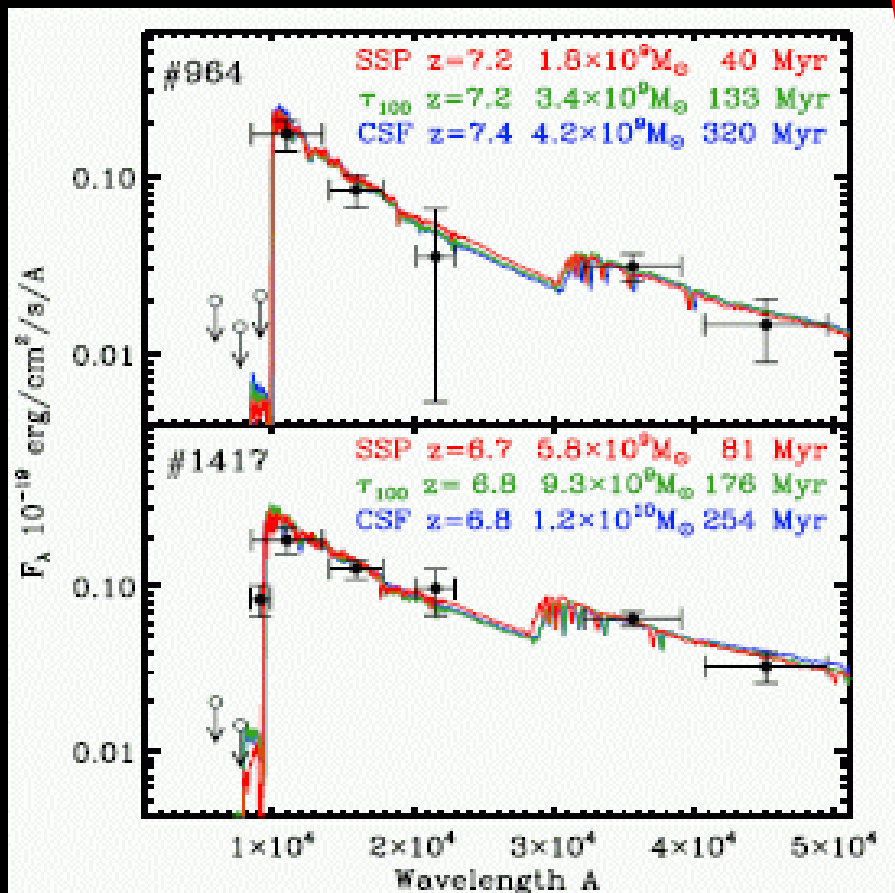
($\alpha=1.4, M_{1700} < -21, z=[3,4]$)

For integrated LD down to $M_{1700} = -17$, significant uncertainty remains (unconstrained slope α)

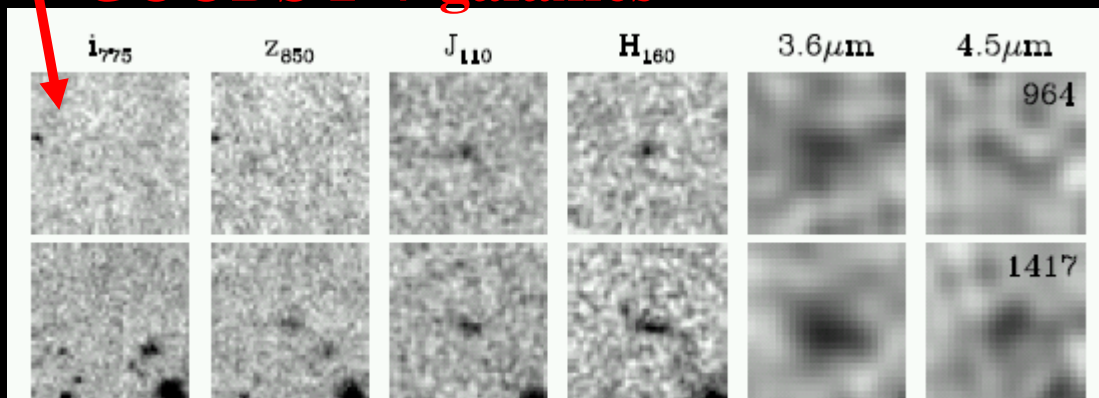
Paltani et al., submitted

« Massif » objects are observed at $z \sim 5-6$. (Mobasher et al. 05; Yan et al. 05, 06; McLure et al. 06; Labbé et al. 06)

==> early star formation at $z > 7-9$?



GOODS $z \sim 7$ galaxies

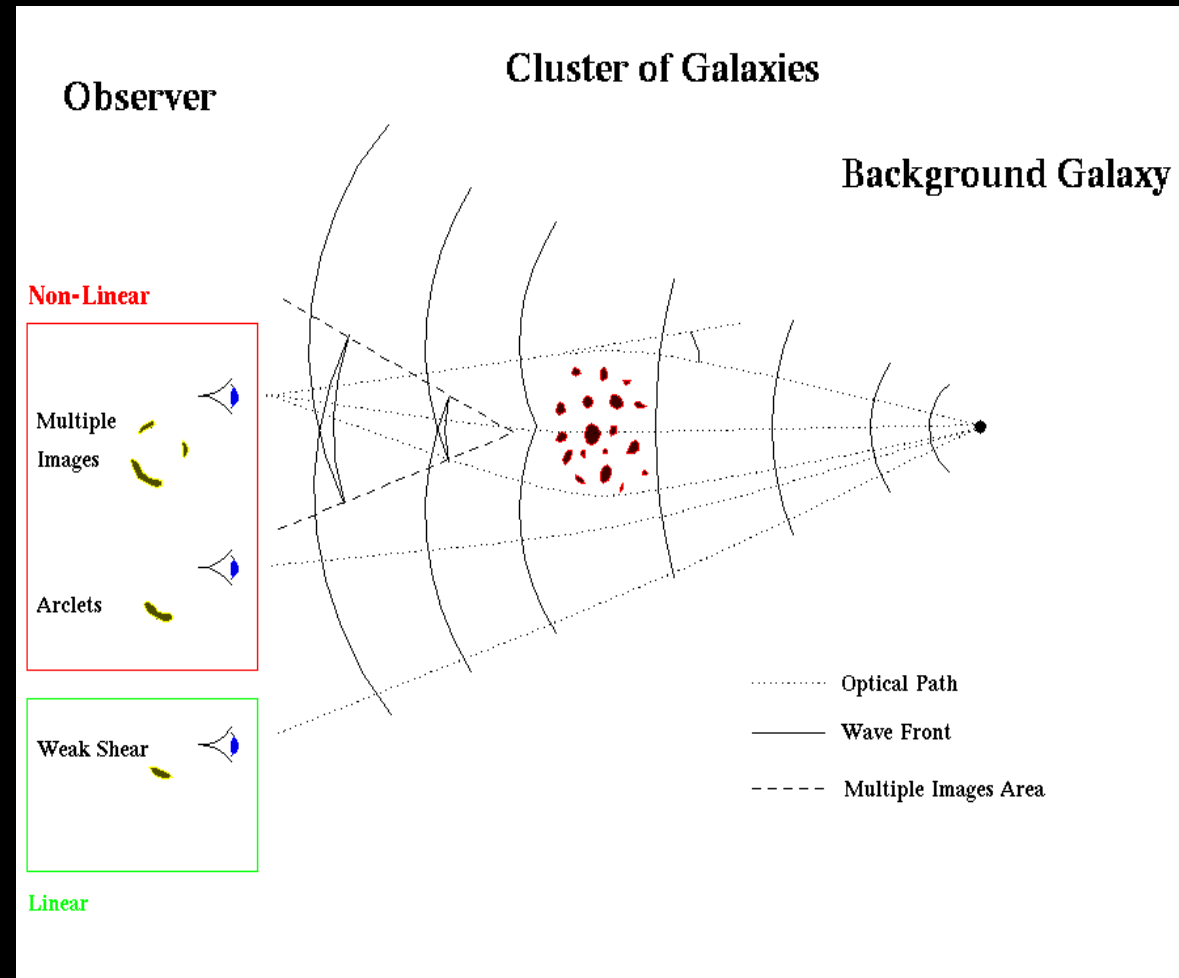




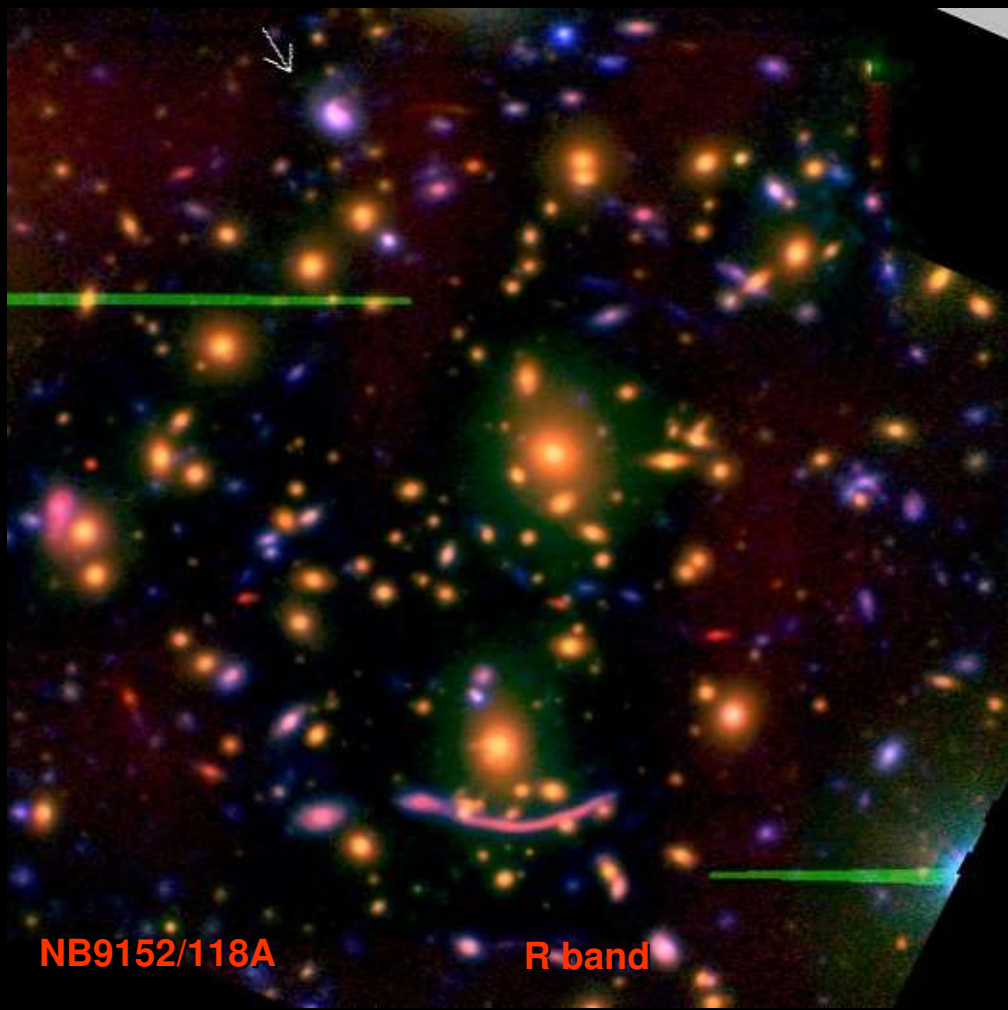
**Lensing Clusters as
Gravitational Telescopes**

Lensing Clusters : genuine “gravitational telescopes”

- **Lensing Clusters as Gravitational Telescopes (GTs, Zwicky):** taking benefit from the magnification factor in the core of lensing clusters (**typically 1 → 3 magnitudes**) to study the properties of the background population of lensed galaxies → Spectroscopic follow up.
- GTs allow to construct and to study an **independent sample** of high-z galaxies, **less biased in luminosity** than the standard field (large) samples.
- GTs : an efficient tool to derive the **physical properties of galaxies**, and thus to set strong constraints on the scenarios of galaxy formation and evolution.



Magnification in the core of lensing clusters ~1 to 3 magnitudes



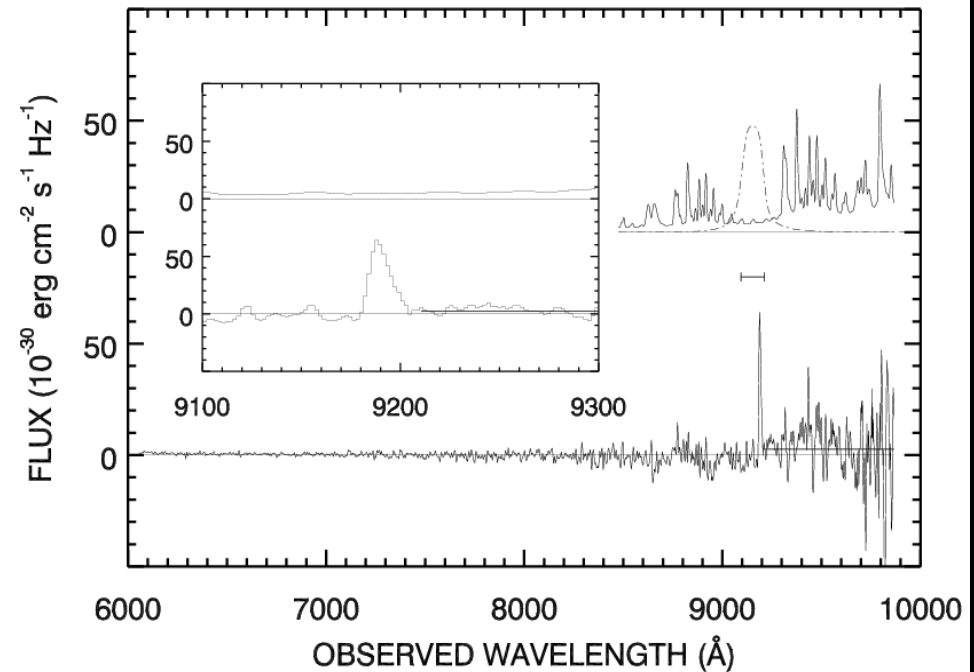
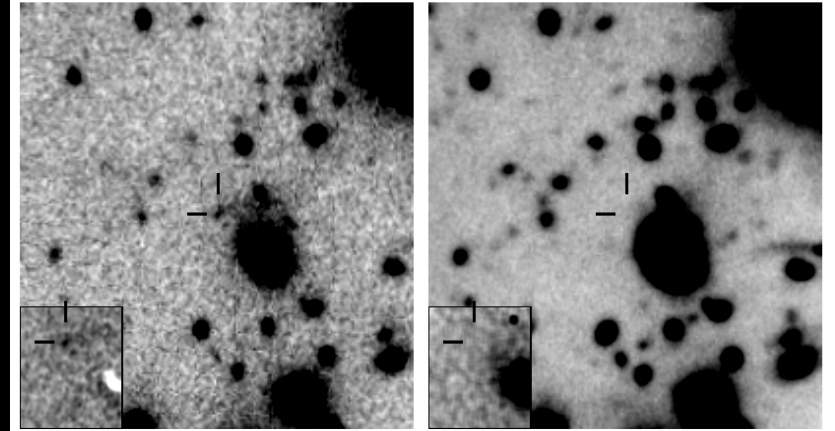
NB9152/118A

R band

Lensed galaxy at $z=6.56$ behind the cluster A370

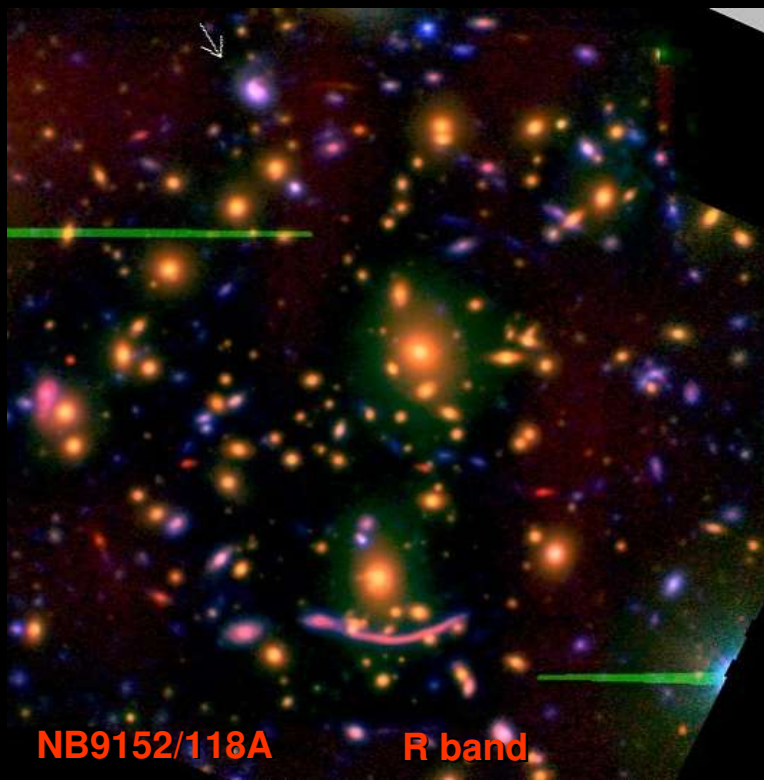
- NB research technique
- recent analysis of it's stellar populations:
Schaerer & Pello (2005, MNRAS 362, 1054)

Hu et al. 2002 / A370



Chary et al. 06:

- SPITZER/IRAC observations at 3.6 and 4.5 microns
- SFR > 140 M(solar)/yr; $A_V \sim 1$ mag
- First star-formation at $z \sim 20$

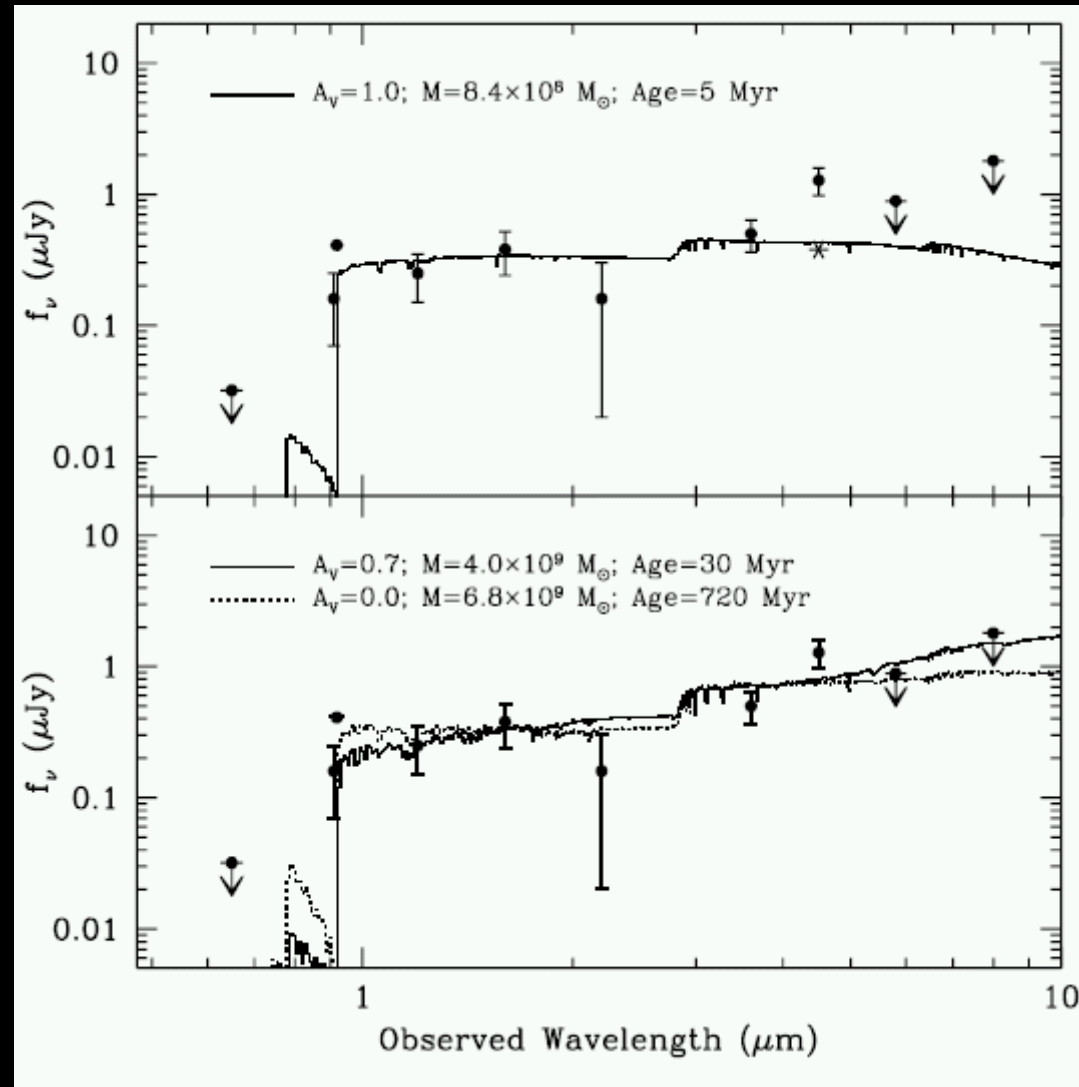
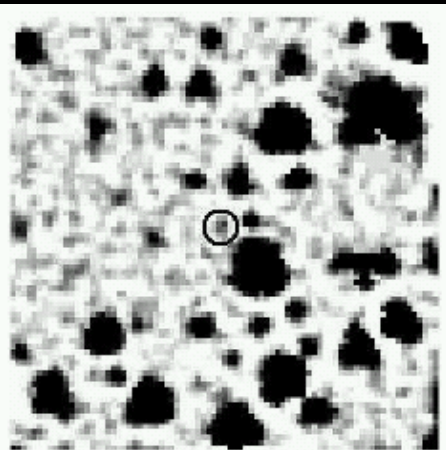
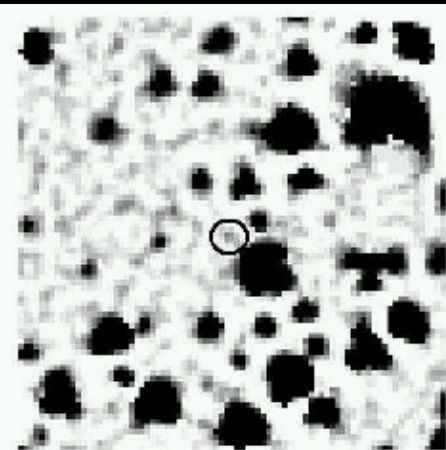


NB9152/118A

R band

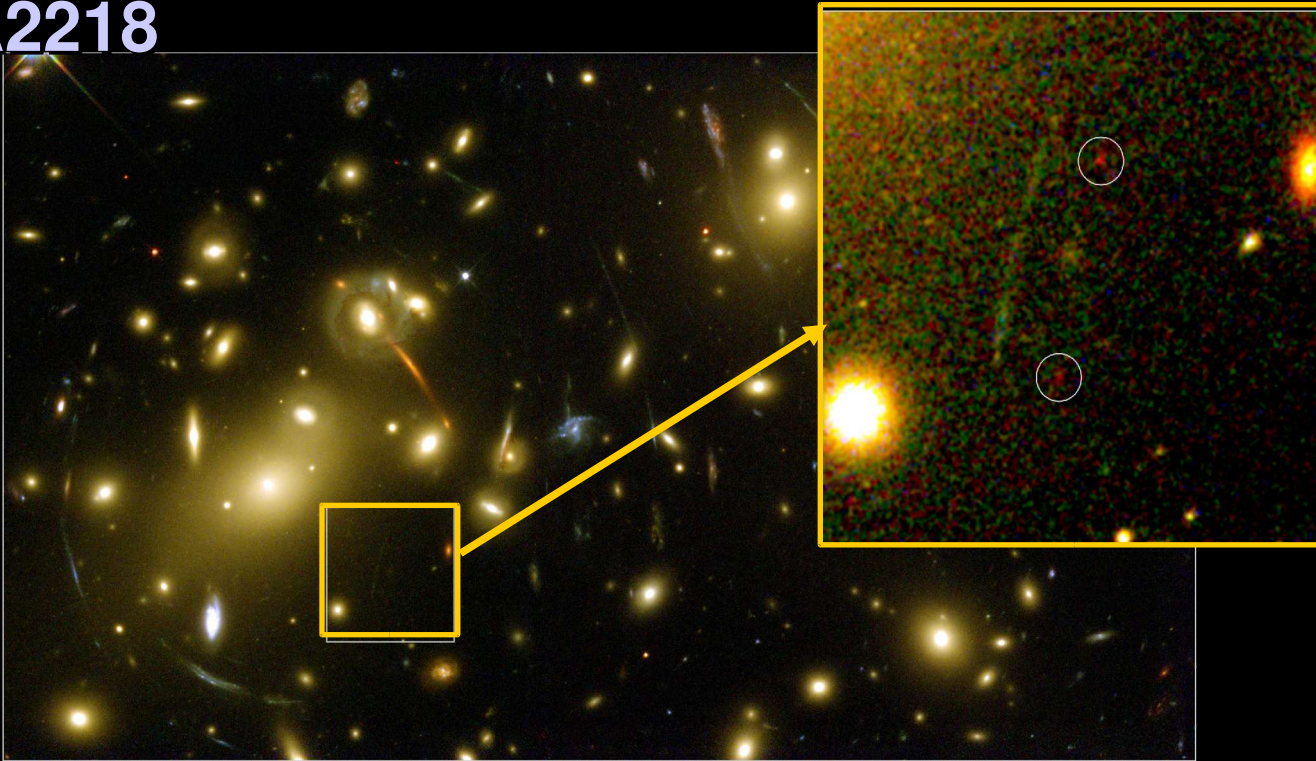
IRAC/3.6 micron

IRAC/4.5 micron



Systematic Research around the critical lines

A2218



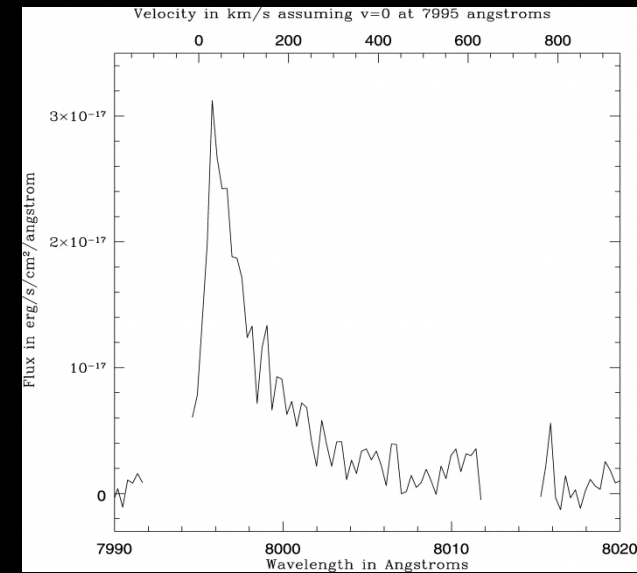
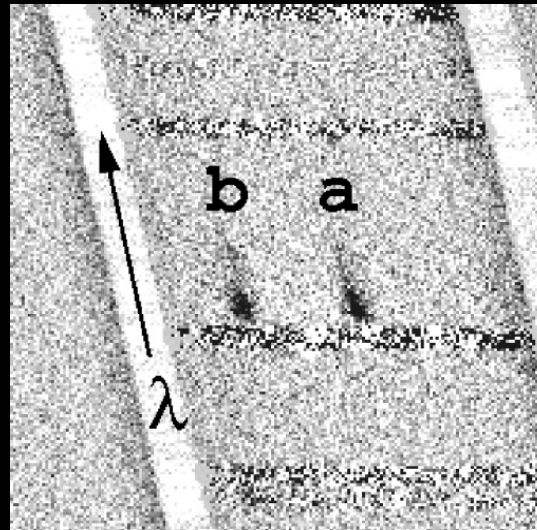
*Ellis et al., 2001, ApJ
560, L119*

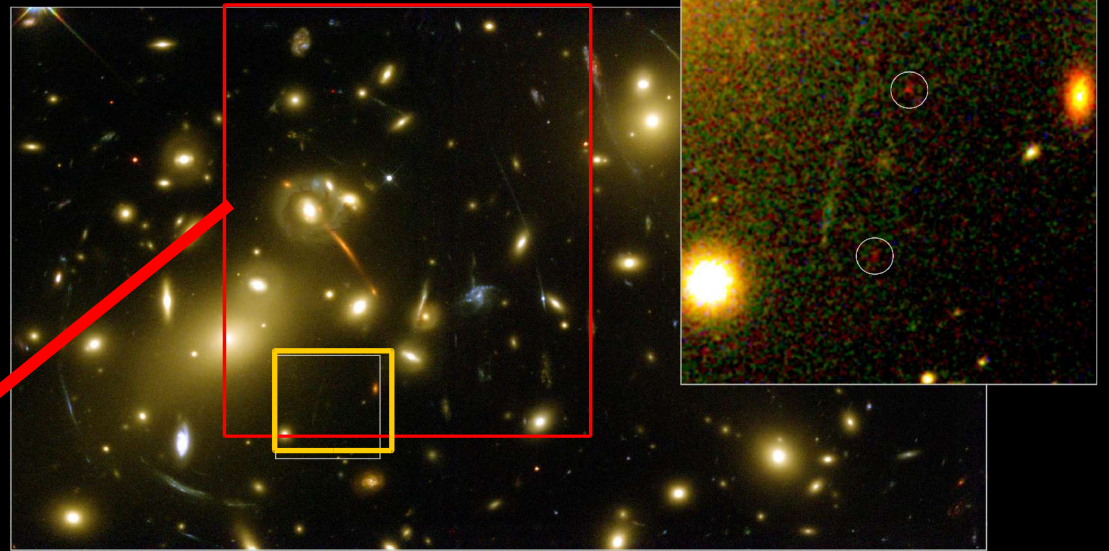
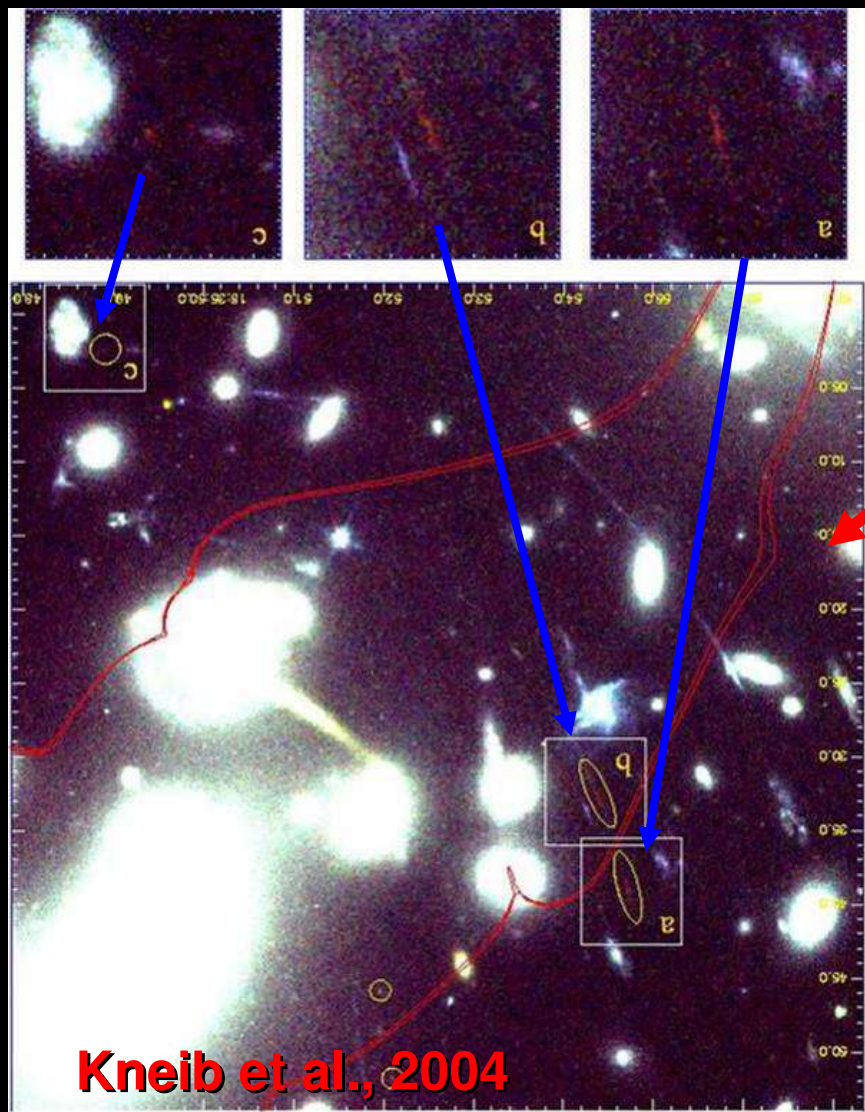
Lensed Galaxy at

$z=5.58$ behind

A2218.

- *Multiple images/ highly magnified source*
- *Lyman α emission line*

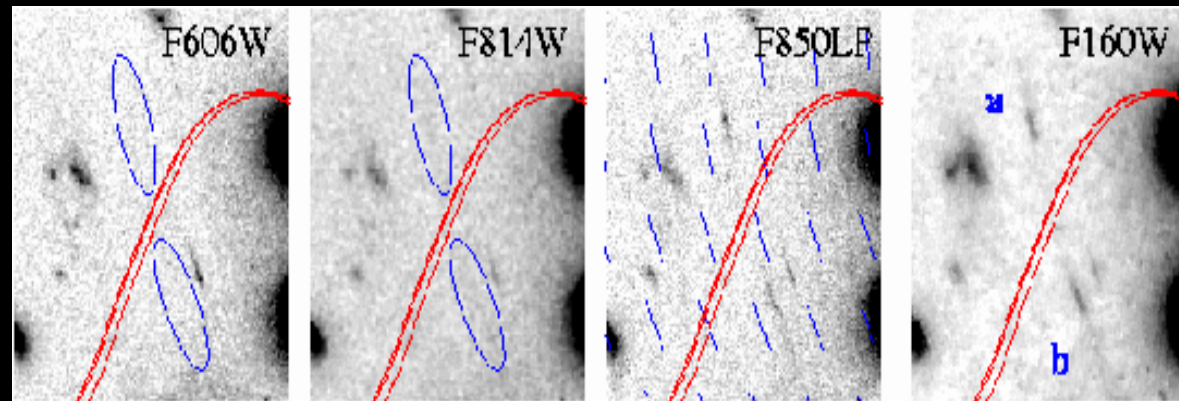




A2218

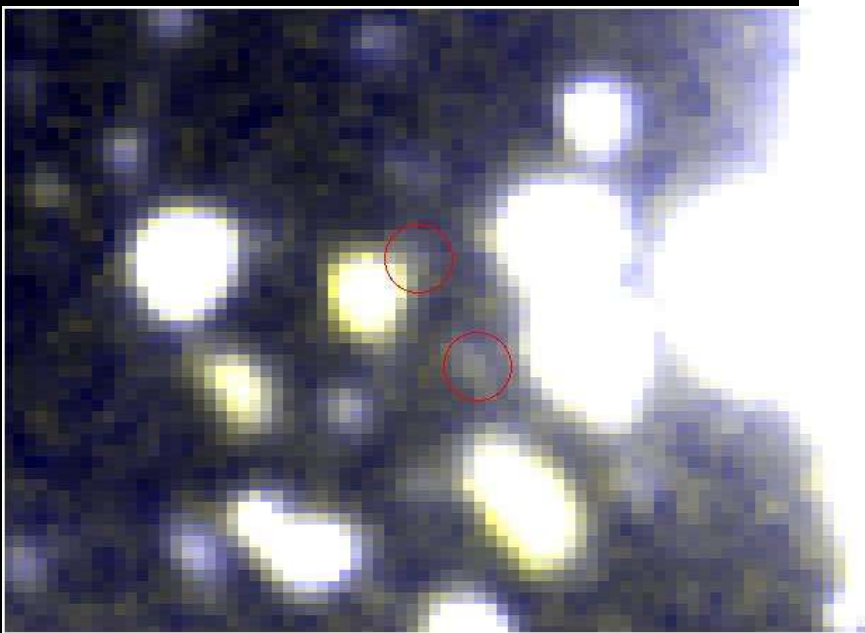
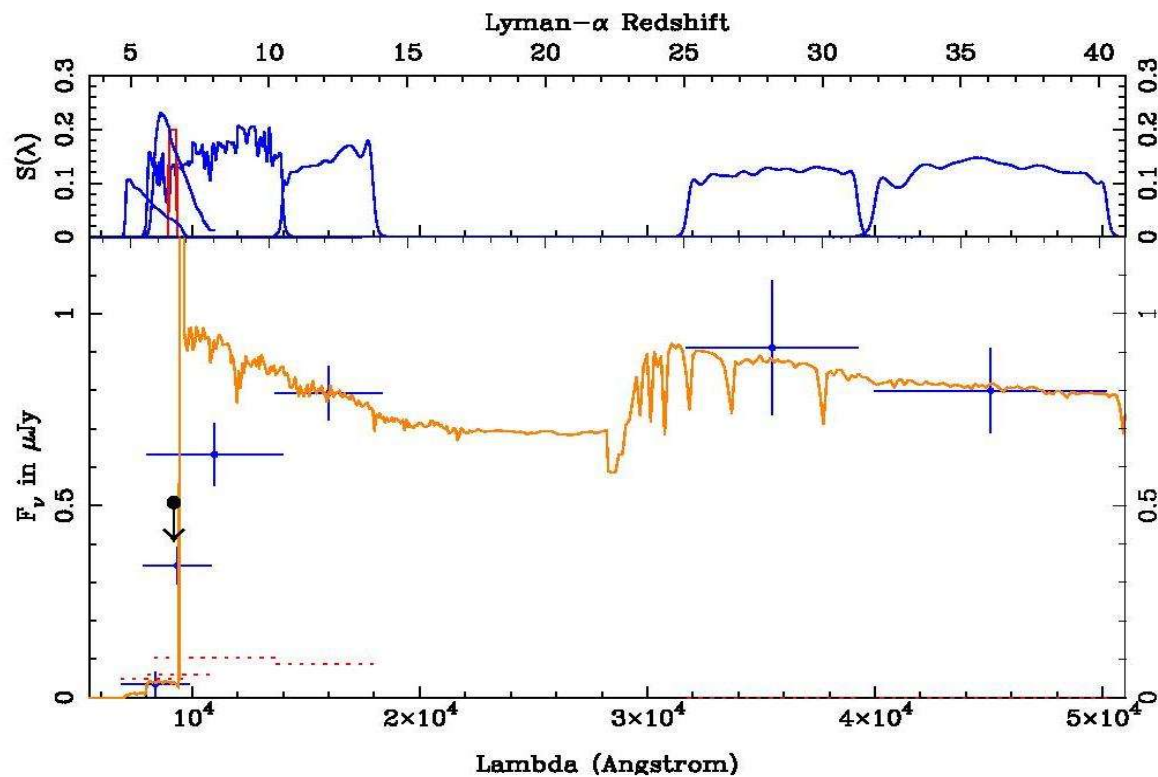
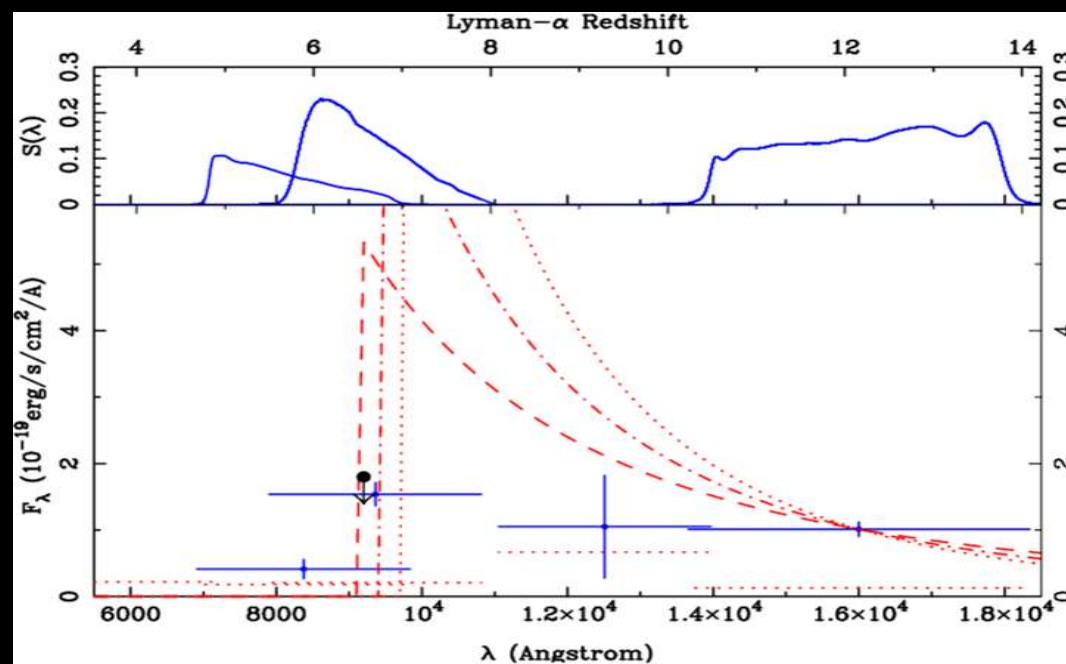
- Compact Lensed Galaxy at $z \approx 7$
- Multiple imaged
- No emission line detected. Robust photometric & lensing identification

Detection by *Spitzer* of the $z \sim 7$ pair in 2 bands of the IRAC camera: 3.6 mm and 4.5 mm (Egami et al. 05)



Combined with new observations from HST/NICMOS in the J band new constraints on the overall broad-band SED.

Example given is a $z=6.75$ model of 150 Myr continuous star formation (Egami et al. 05)

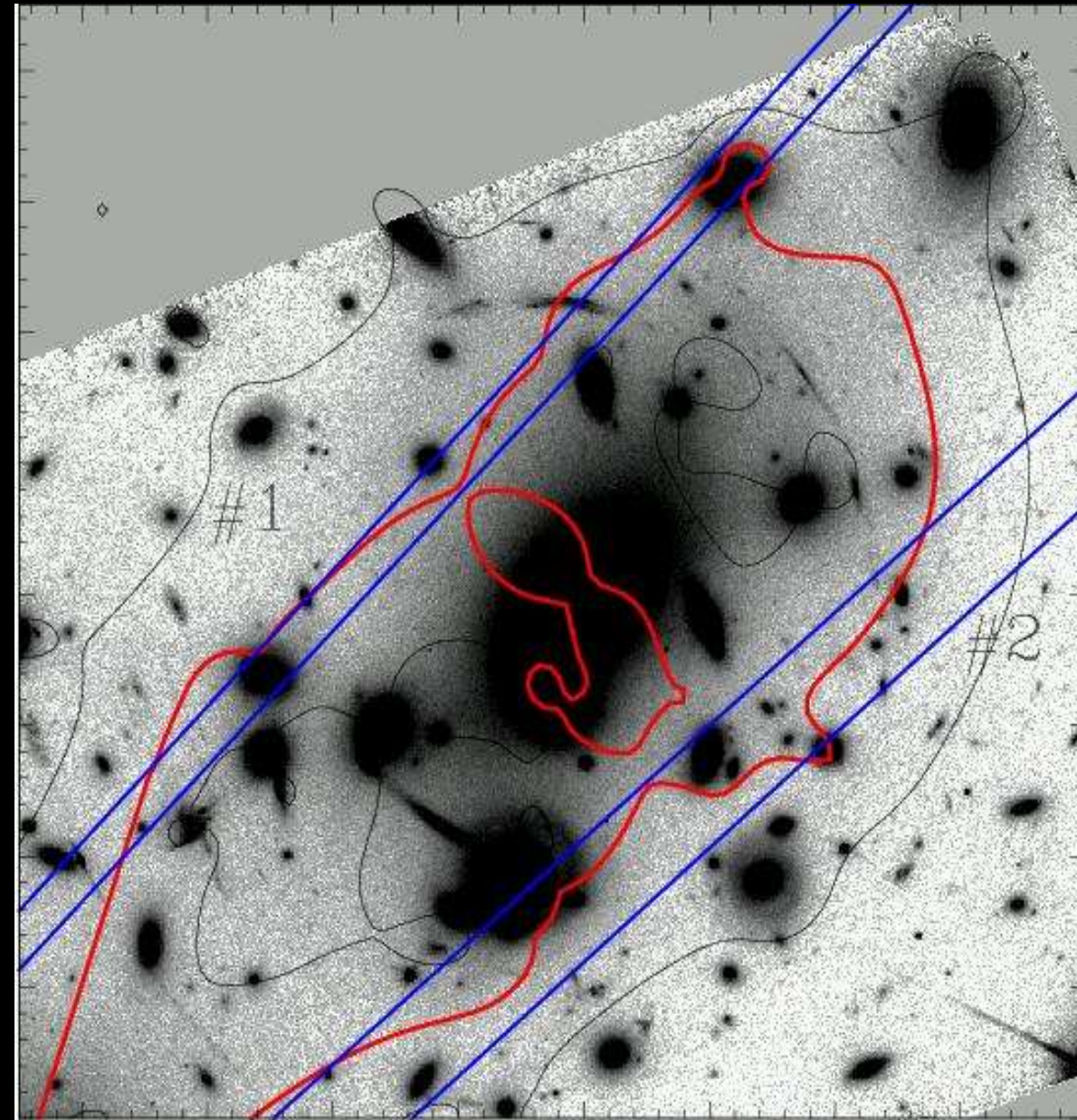


Santos et al. 2003:

- "Blind" survey around the critical lines
- 9 clusters; magnification > 10 at $4.5 < z < 6.7$
- Keck / LRIS long-slit spectra + Keck / ESI : higher resolution to resolve the [OII]3727 doublet or Lyman-a asymmetric line
- 11 candidates confirmed at $2.2 < z < 5.6$

see also Ellis et al.06 (JDIAU06) and Stark & Ellis 05

==> see R. Ellis's talk



**A first attempt to constrain the
abundance of star-forming galaxies
at $6 < z < 10$ using Gravitational
Telescopes**

See also the paper by Richard et al. (2006, *astro-ph/0606134*)

Observational Strategy

- **2001 -> SpectroPhotometric Simulations:**
 - * broad-band colors for “drop-out” selection at various redshifts ($z > \sim 6-7$, $z > \sim 7-8$, $z > \sim 8$)
 - * expected magnitudes for normal, low metallicity, and PopIII starbursts with different IMF, SF histories
 - * Feasibility studies: lensing vs. blank fields; pilot studies for the new generation of near-IR instruments
- **2002-> - Deep near-IR (JHK, SZ) Imaging** of well studied lensing clusters with ISAAC/VLT combined with deep optical imaging, including HST imaging
- **2003 -> High-z Candidate Selection (different detection criteria; final sample is H-band selected):**
 - * selection of optical drop-outs + blue rest-frame UV spectrum
 - * objects detected in at least 2 bands longward of Ly-a break
- **2003 -> Spectroscopic Follow-up of best candidates**
- **2005/06 -> Multi-wavelength follow up (Spitzer-IRAC, Chandra, IRAM, ...)**

Properties of $z > 7$ galaxies and observing strategy

Initial mass function (IMF):

Existence of very massive stars: up to $\sim 1000 M_{\text{solar}}$?!

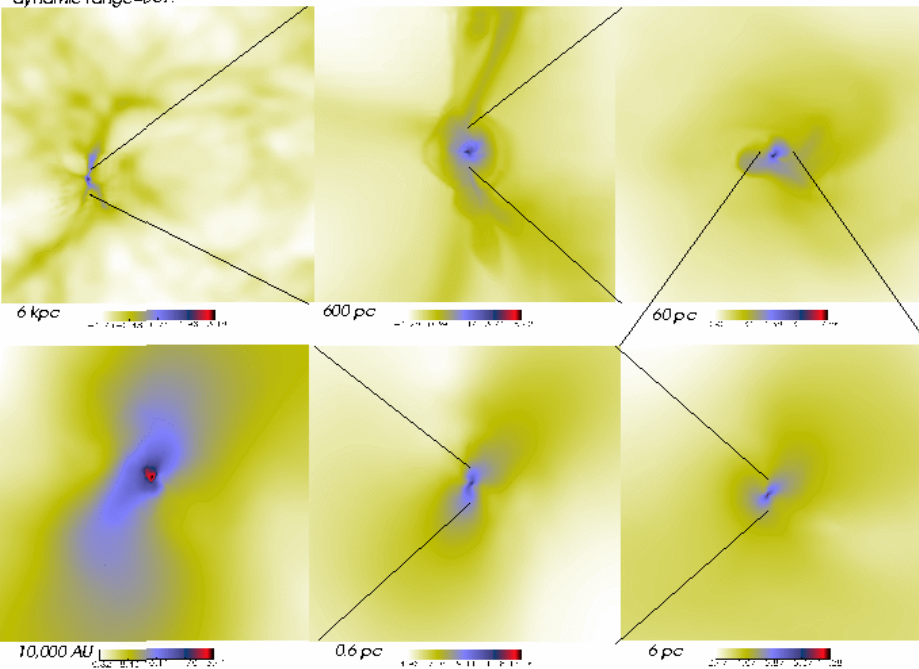
(e.g. Abel et al. 1998...,

Nakamura & Umemura 1999,
2001, Bromm et al. 1999, ...)

Nebular continuous emission dominates the spectrum at $\lambda > 1400 \text{ \AA}$
+ Strong HeII lines?: HeII $\lambda 1640$, HeII $\lambda 3203$, HeII $\lambda 4686$, ...

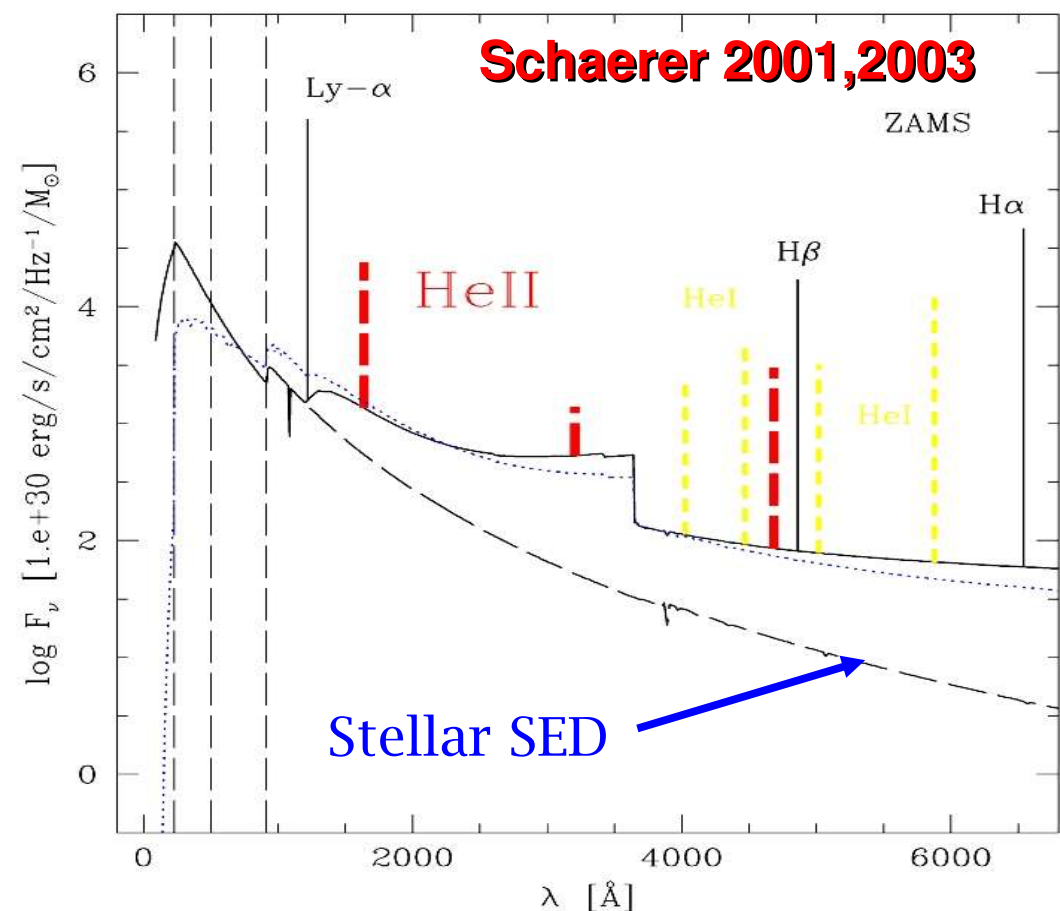
$z=20$, $R_{200}=90 \text{ pc}$, $M_V=4e5 M_{\text{sun}}$
dynamic range= $3e7!$

The First Star in the Universe

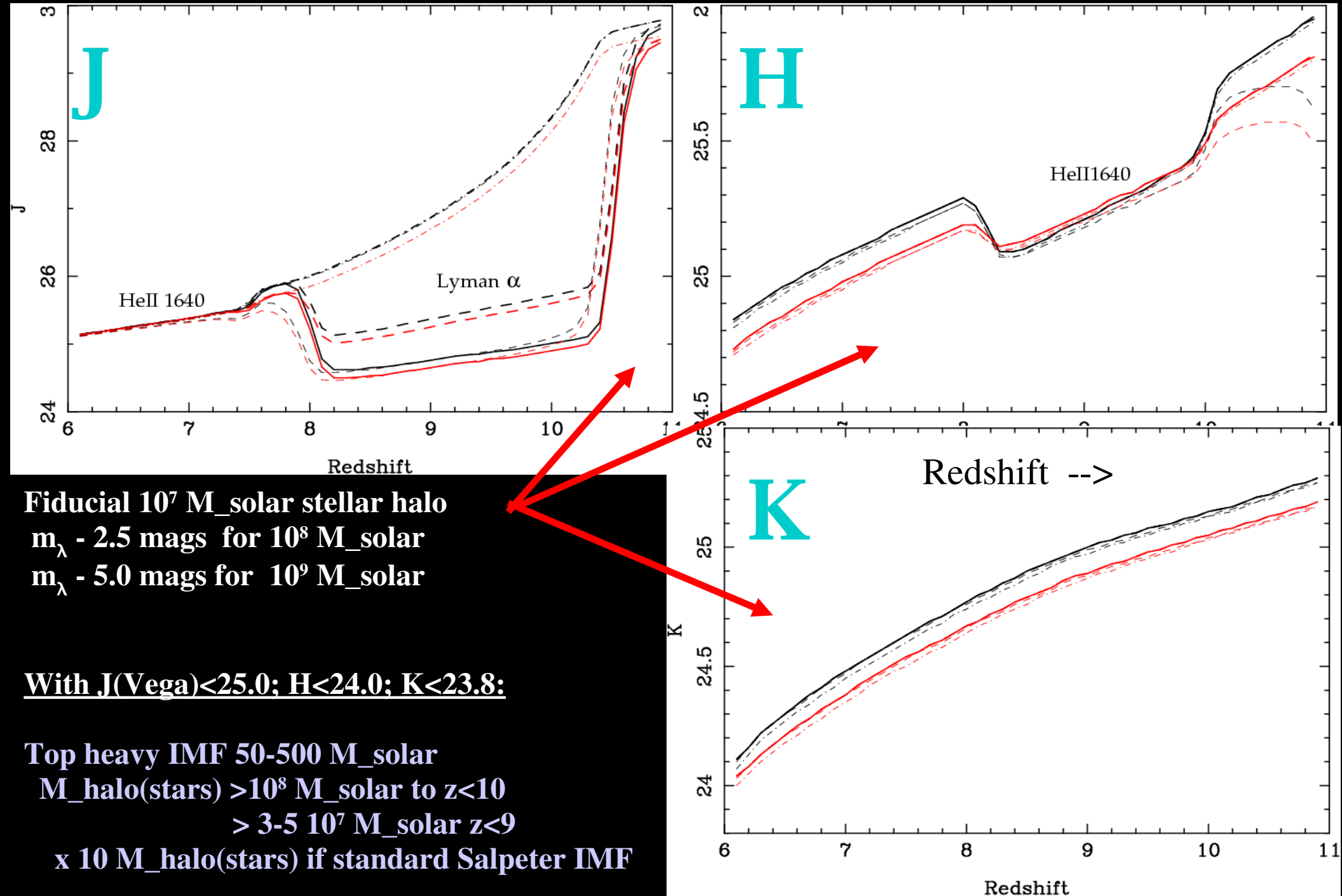


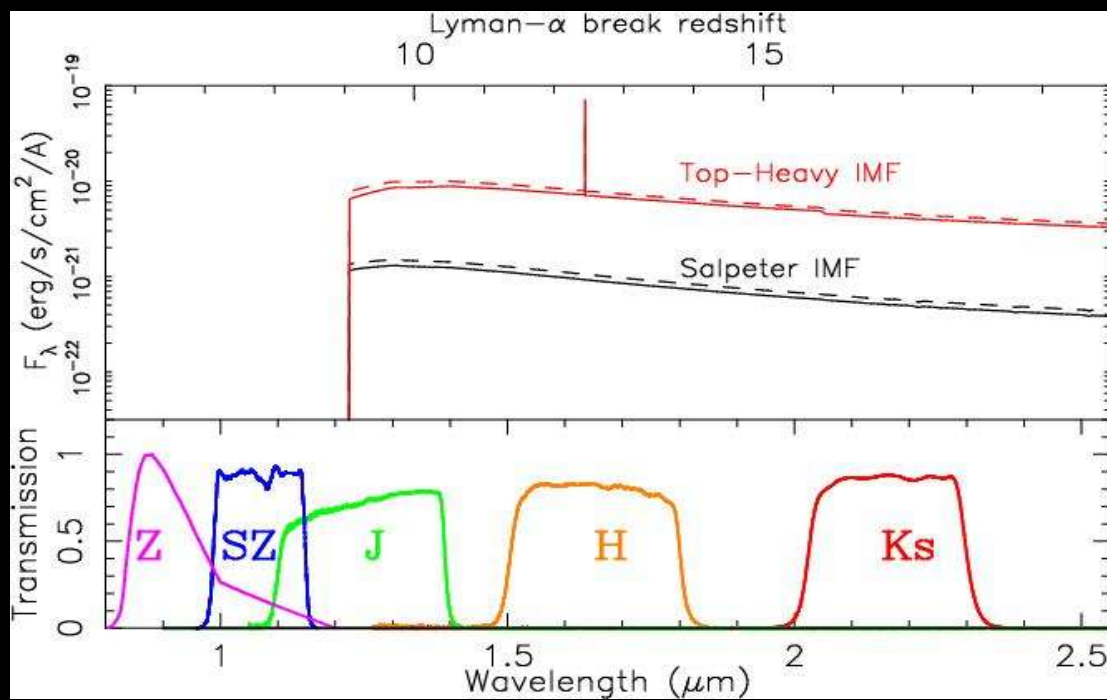
© Abel, Bryan and Norman 1999

Pop III: Salpeter IMF ($1-500 M_{\odot}$)



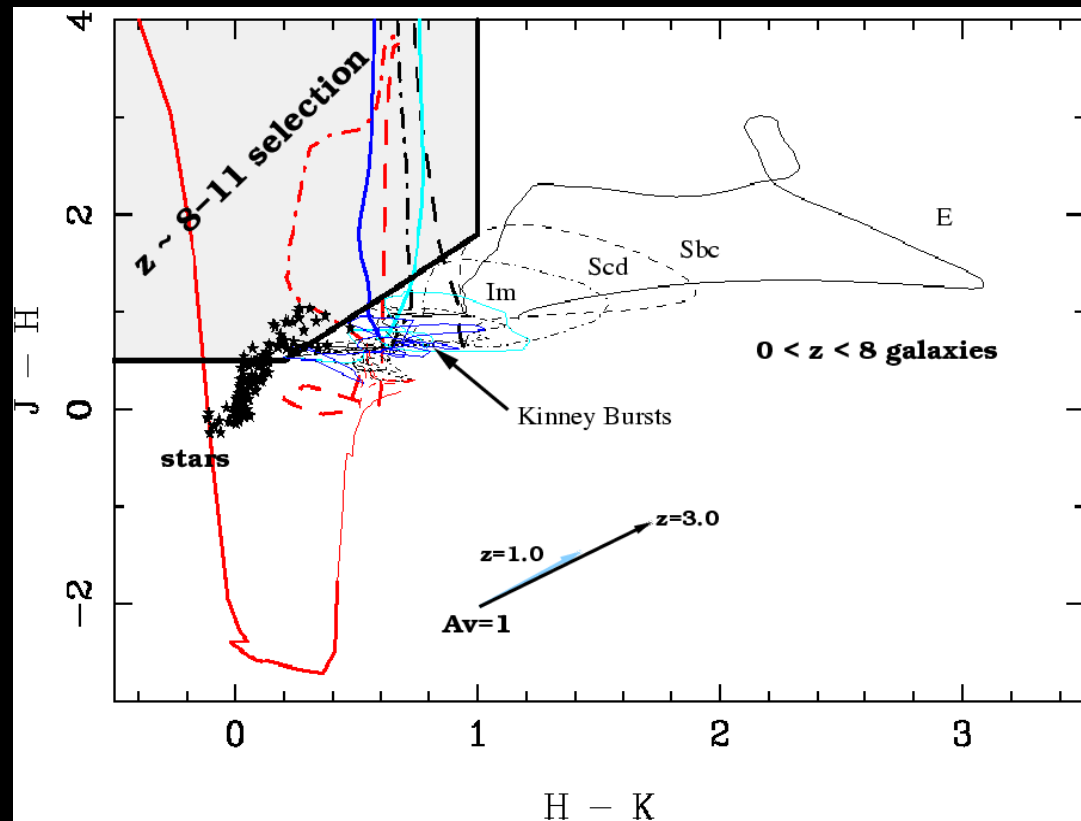
Near-IR Broad-Band magnitudes





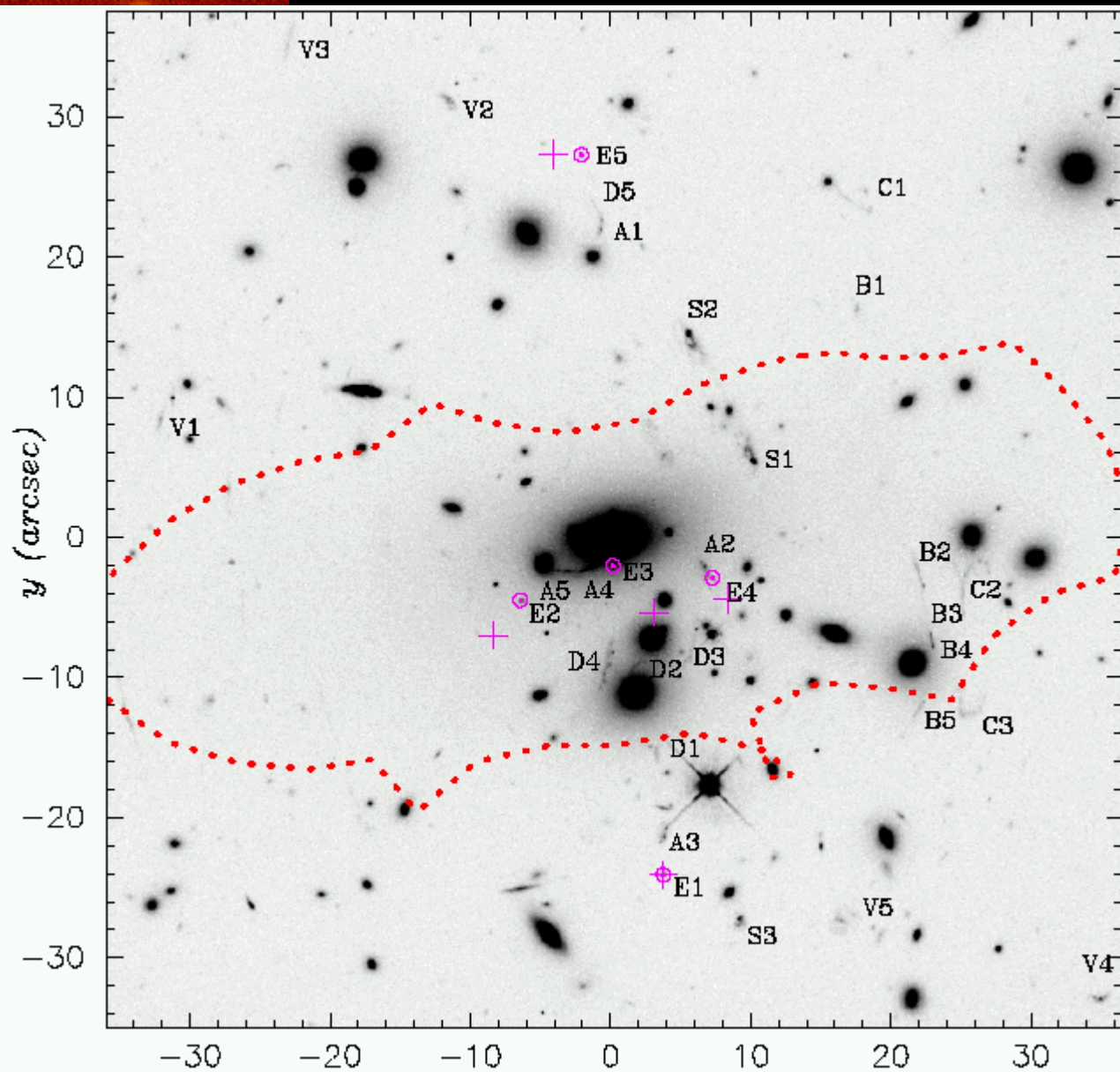
Broad-band Color Selection of high- z candidates (+ spectroscopic confirmation)

- Optical dropouts + near-IR colors
- Filter combinations:
 - $z \sim 6-7$: zYJ
 - $z \sim 7-8$: YJH
 - $z > 8$: JHK



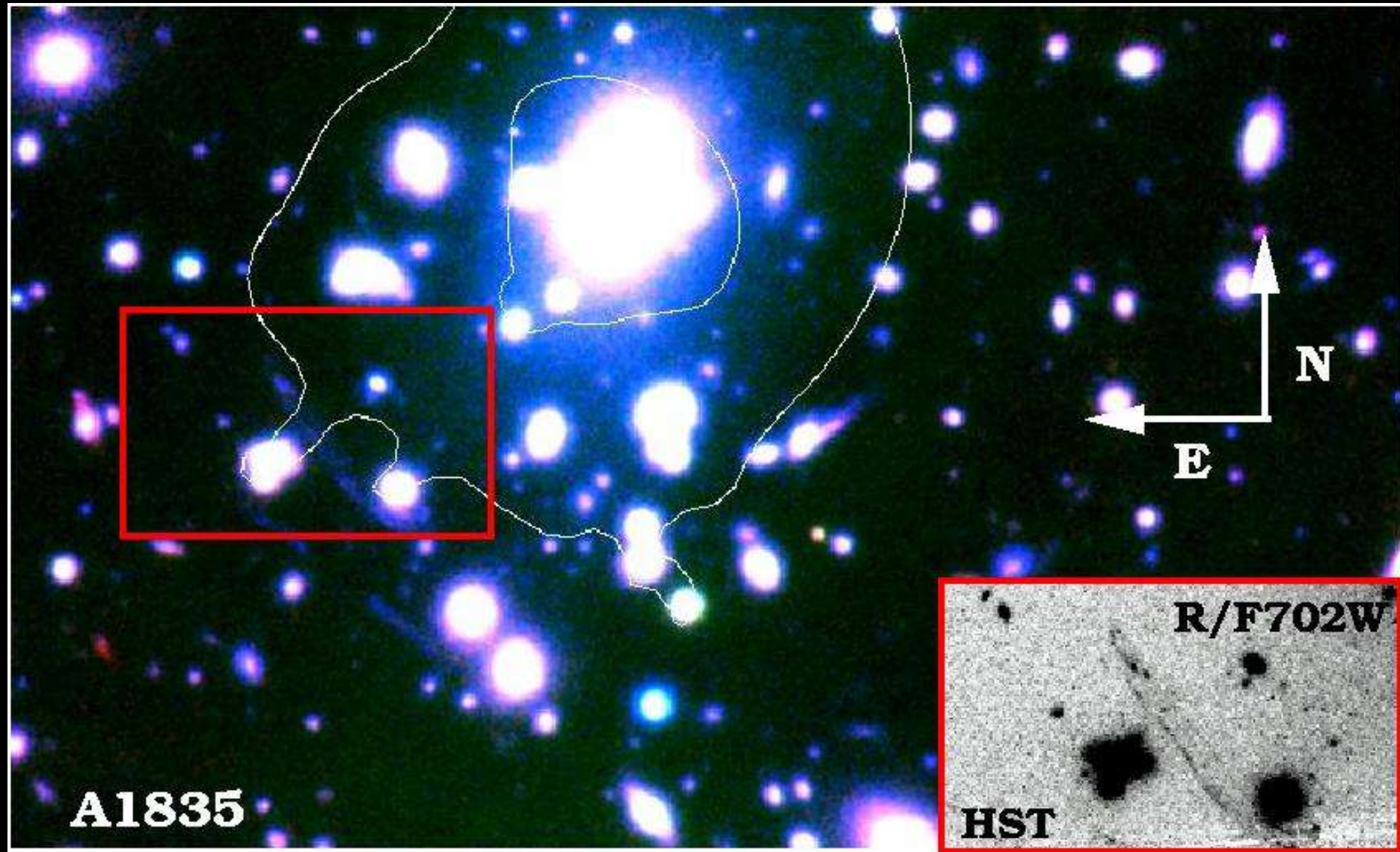
Multiple arcs systems with $z \sim 1$ to 4:
Smail et al. 95; Natarajan et al. 1998;
Campusano et al. 01; Lemoine-
Busserolle et al. 03

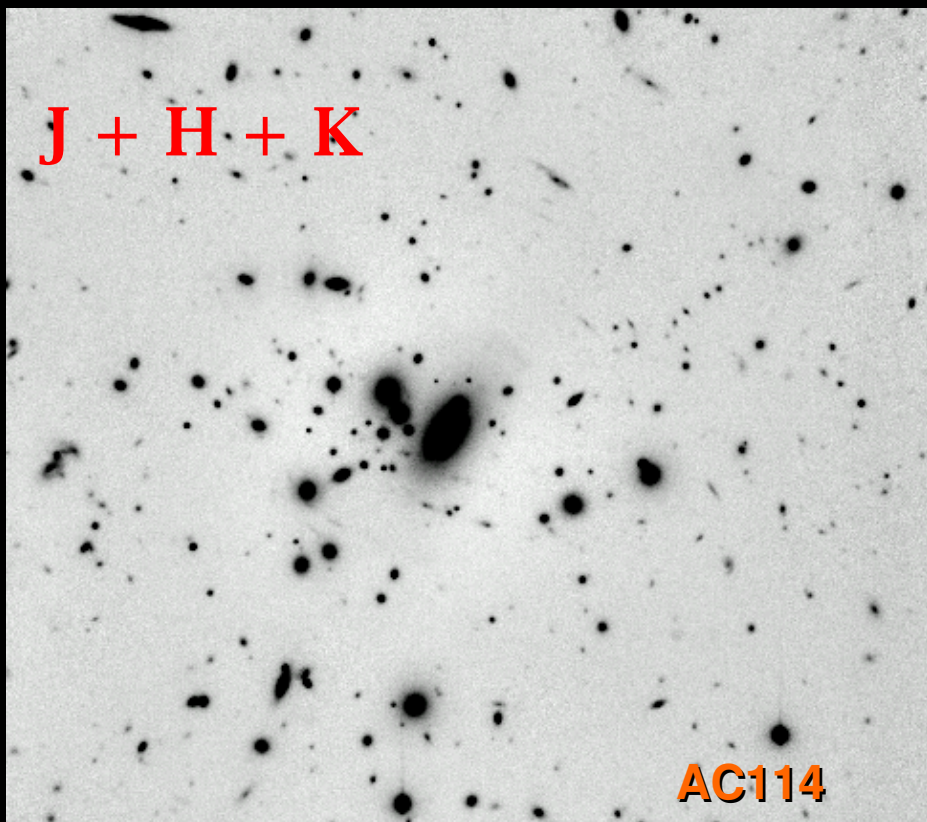
AC114 ($z=0.312$)



A1835 ($z=0.252$):

- The most luminous X-ray cluster in the ROSAT Bright Cluster Survey (Ebeling et al. 98).
- Spectroscopic survey (Czoske et al. 04): $R < 23$, VIMOS, $\sigma = 1500$ km/s (~ 600 gal.)
- Strong lensing (Smail et al. 99; mass model: J.P. Kneib)
- Weak shear analysis (Limousin et al., in preparation)





AC114 (z=0.312):

ISAAC/VLT photometry (Vega system):

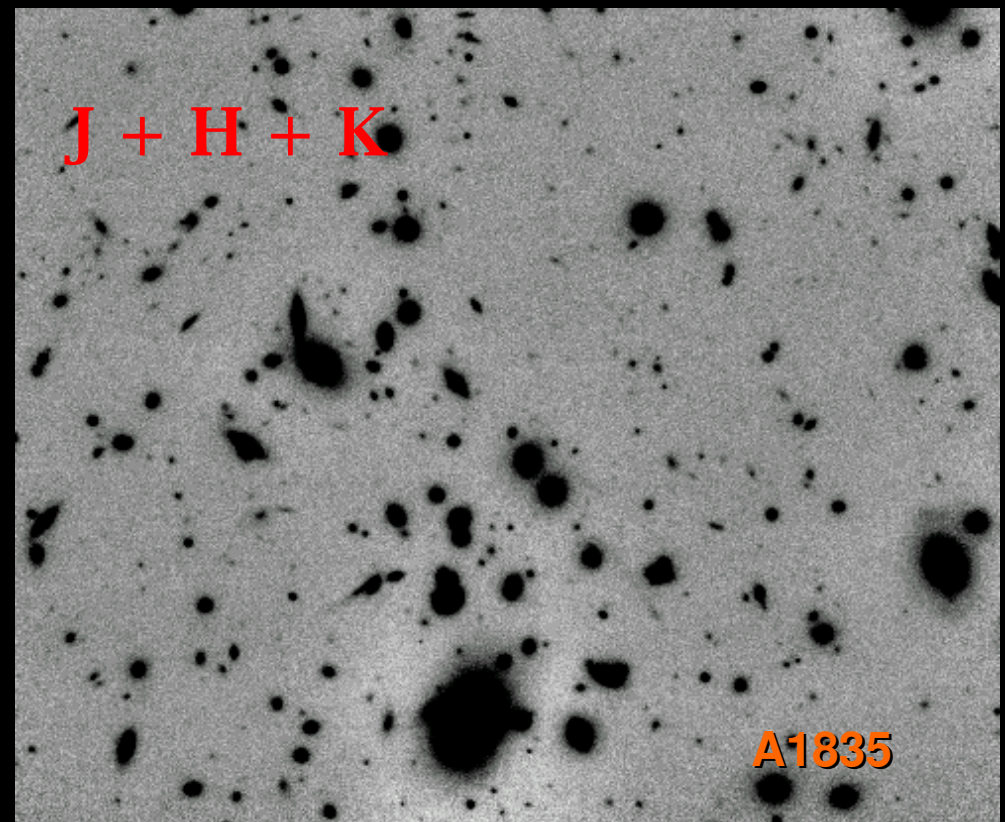
J : 2h (→ J = 24.3)

H : 4h (→ H= 23.5, 3 σ)

K' : 5.5 h (→ K'=23.1 → K(AB)=25.0)

seeing ~0.4-0.6"

+ UBVR Optical data + HST R band



A1835 (z=0.253):

ISAAC/VLT photometry (Vega system):

J : 2h (→ J = 24.4)

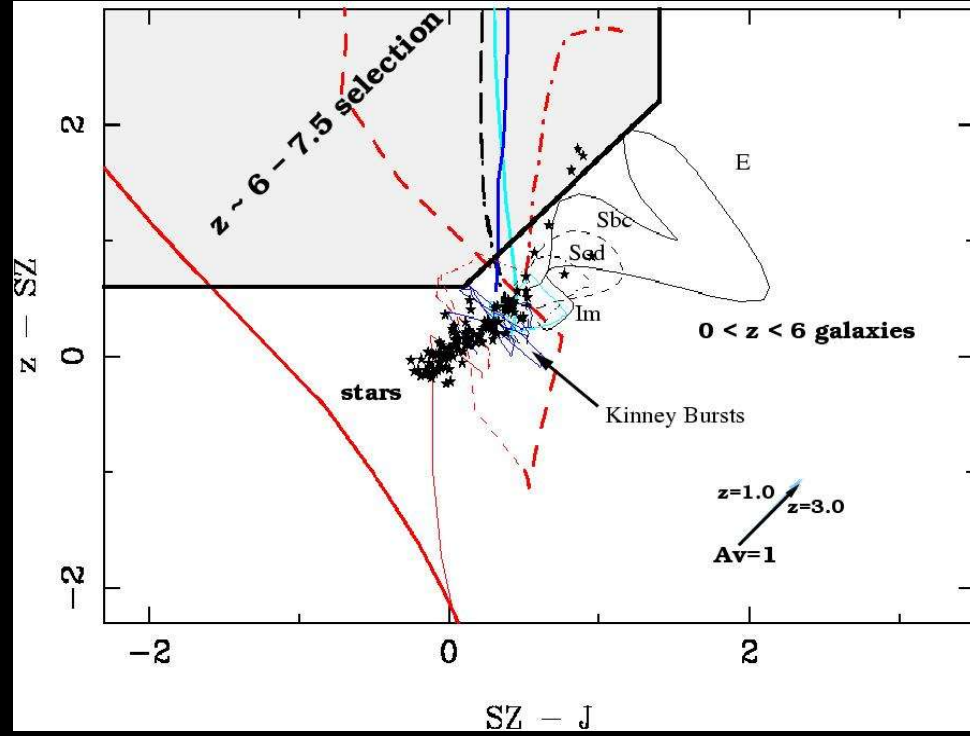
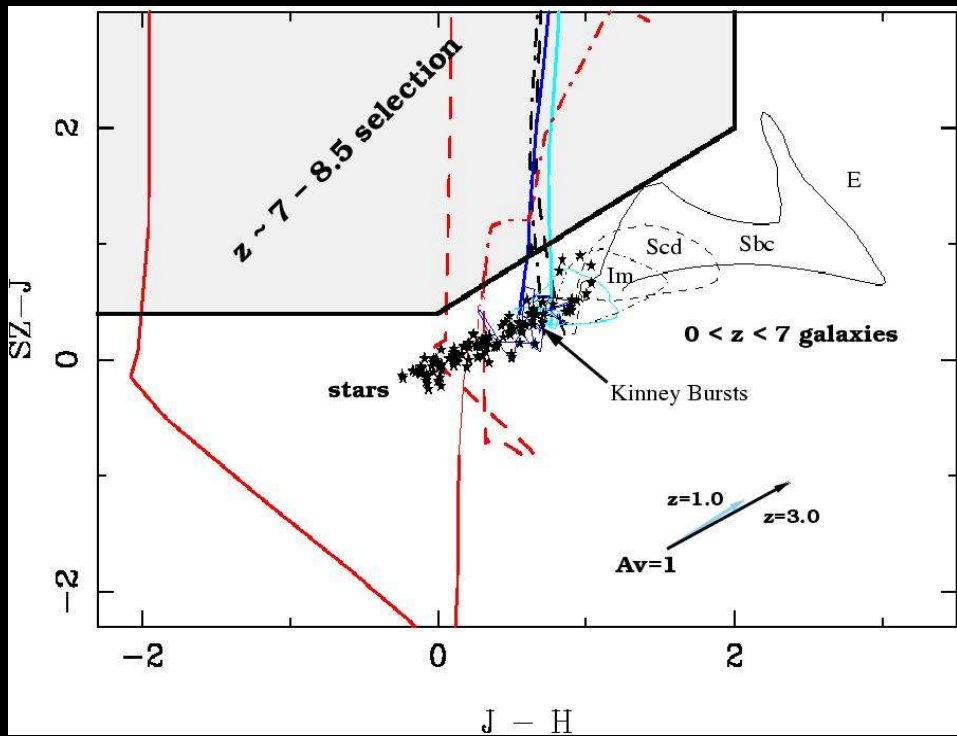
H : 4h (→ H= 23.5 , 3 σ)

K' : 5.5 h (→ K'=23.5 → K(AB)=25.4) +

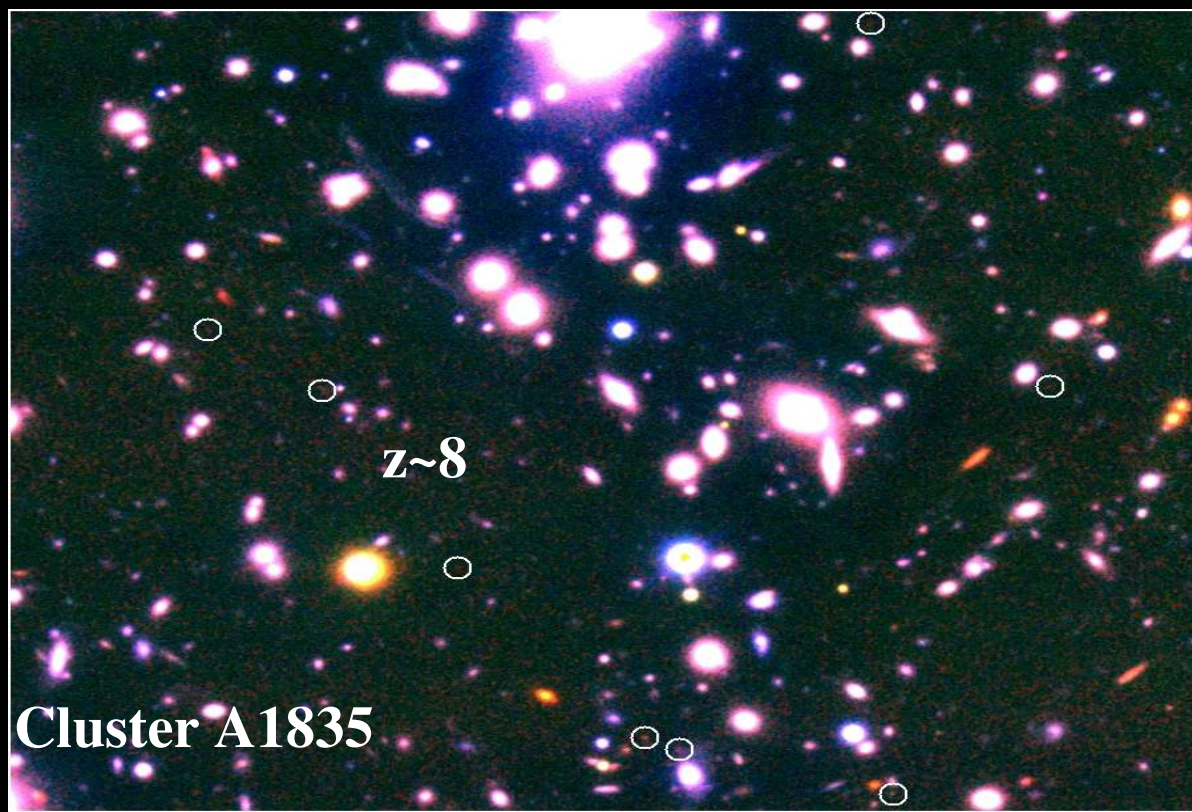
z/FORS (→ z=25.5) + SZ (→ Z=25.7)

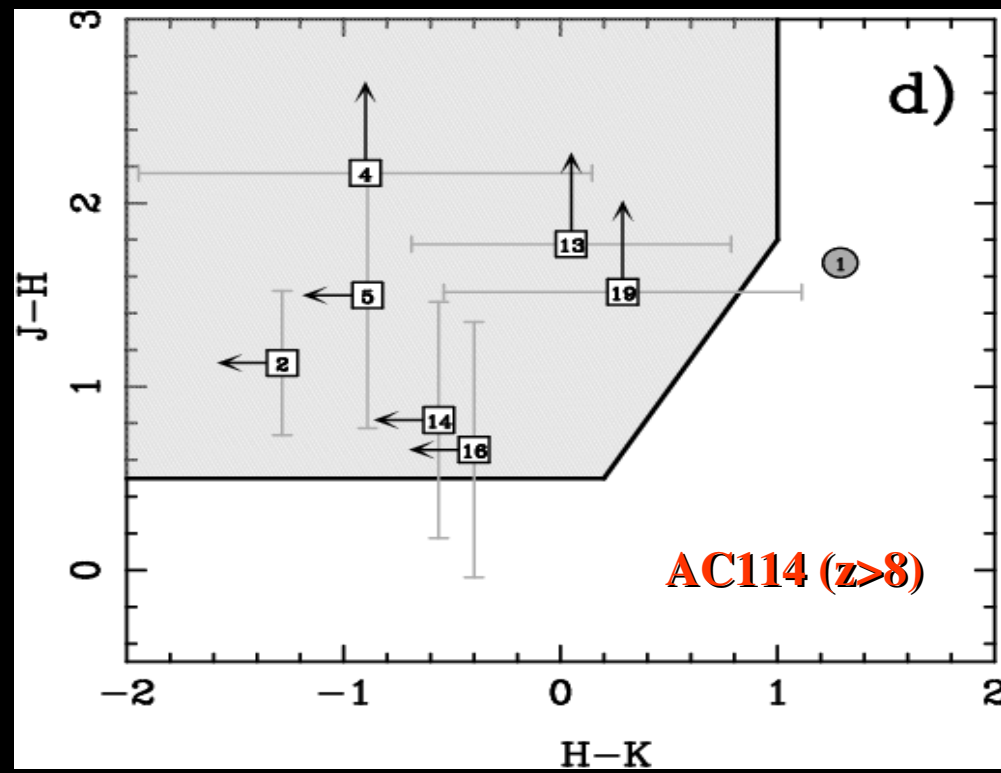
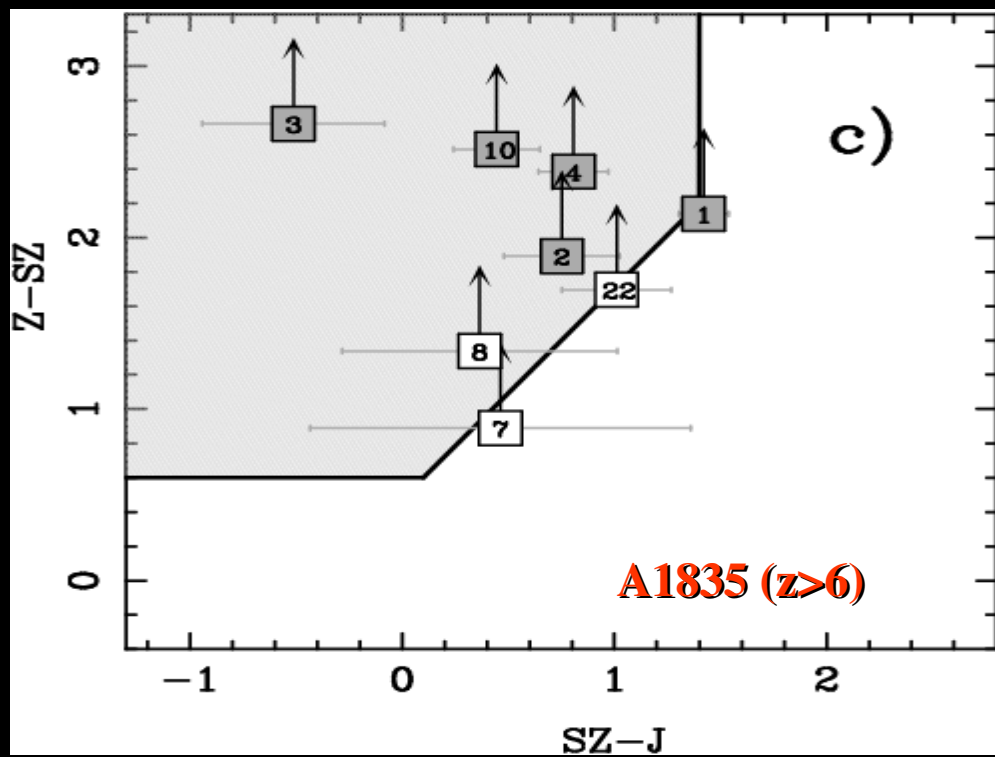
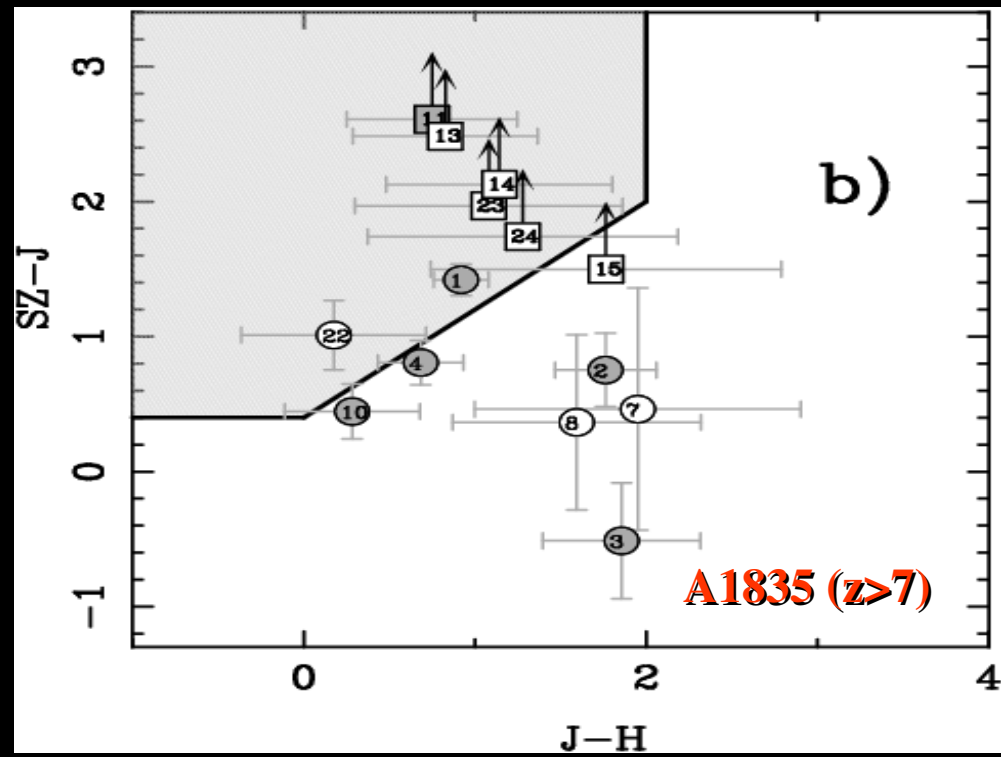
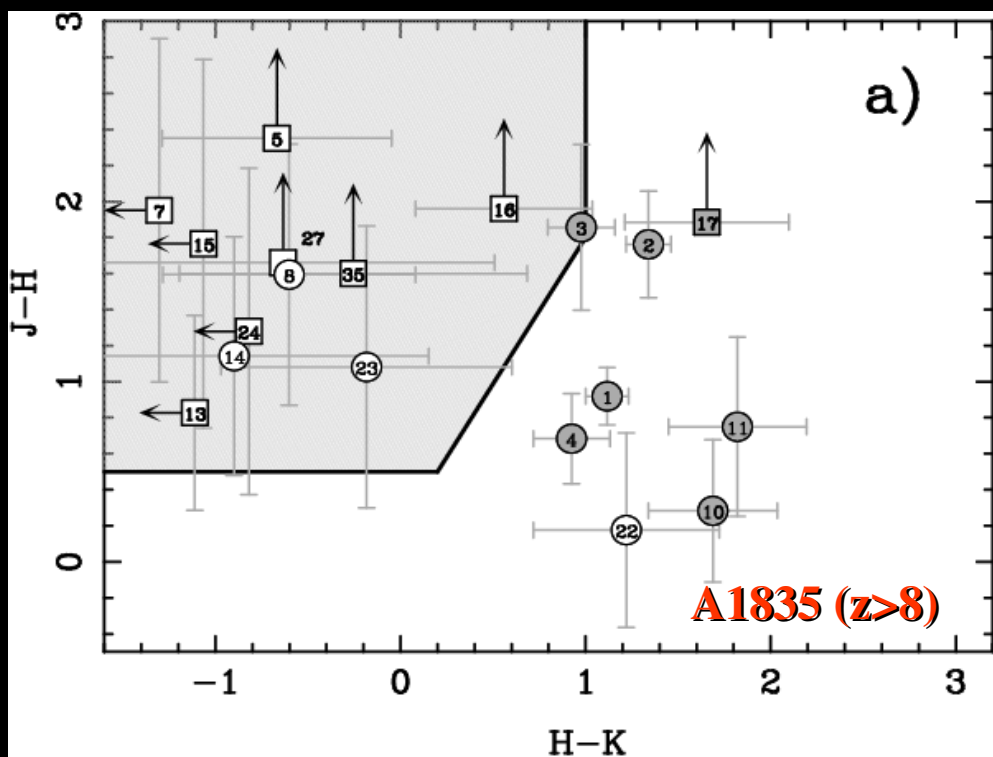
seeing ~0.4-0.6"

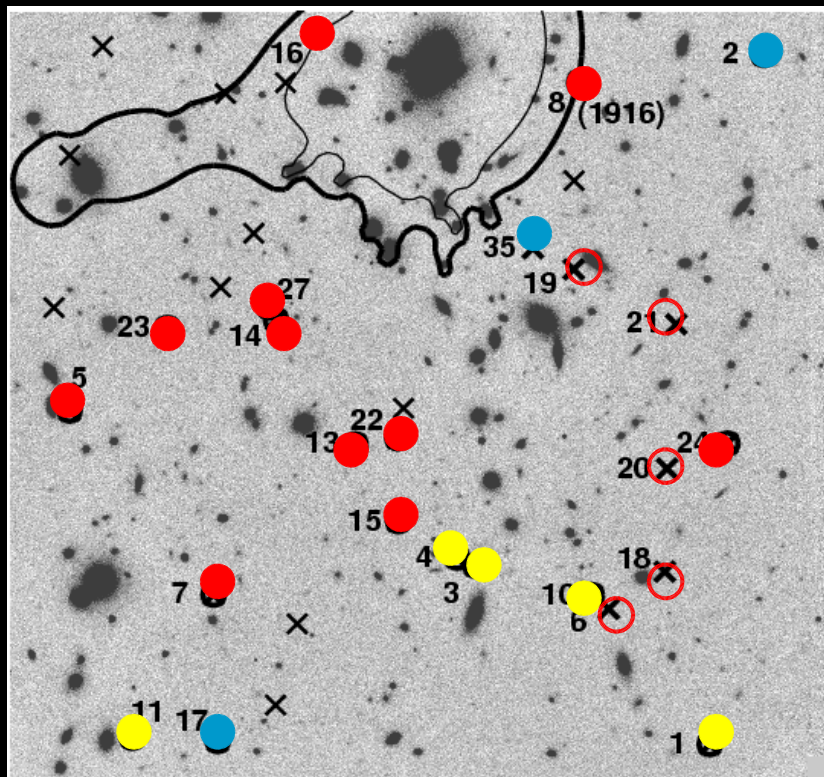
+ VRI Optical data + HST R band



RZK composite image (0.65 à 2.5 microns) of A1835. Several « bright » optical dropouts are identified in this image





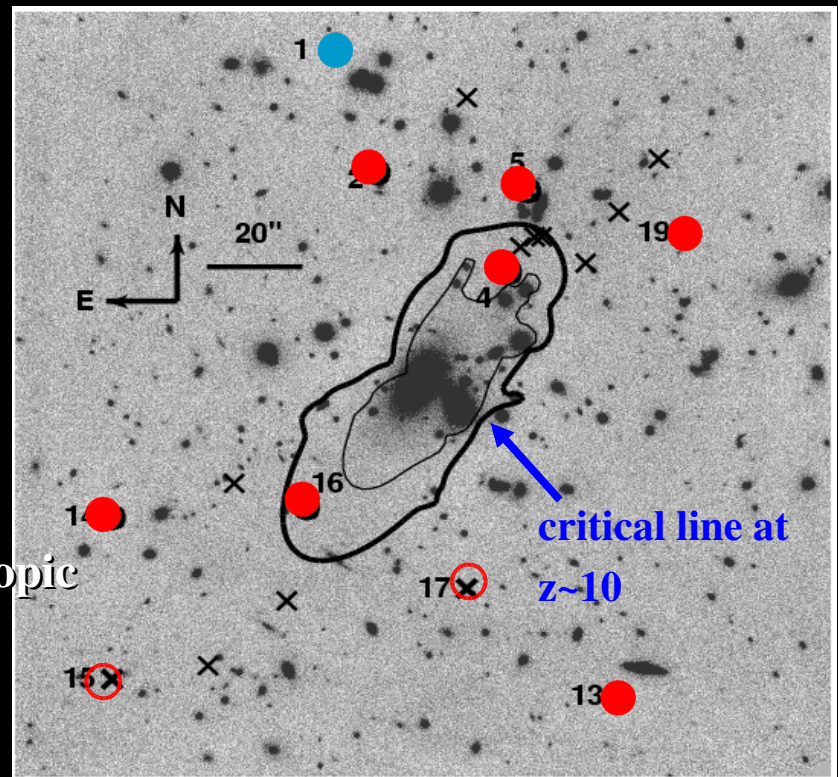


$z=1.5$ and 10
Critical lines
+
Magnification
Lines=1-2-3-...
magnitudes

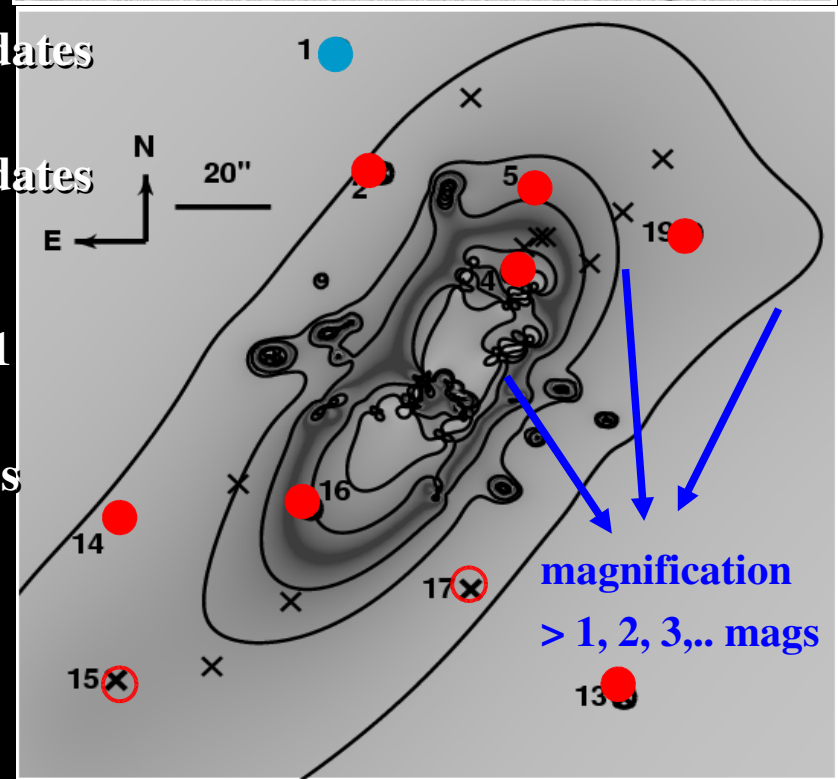
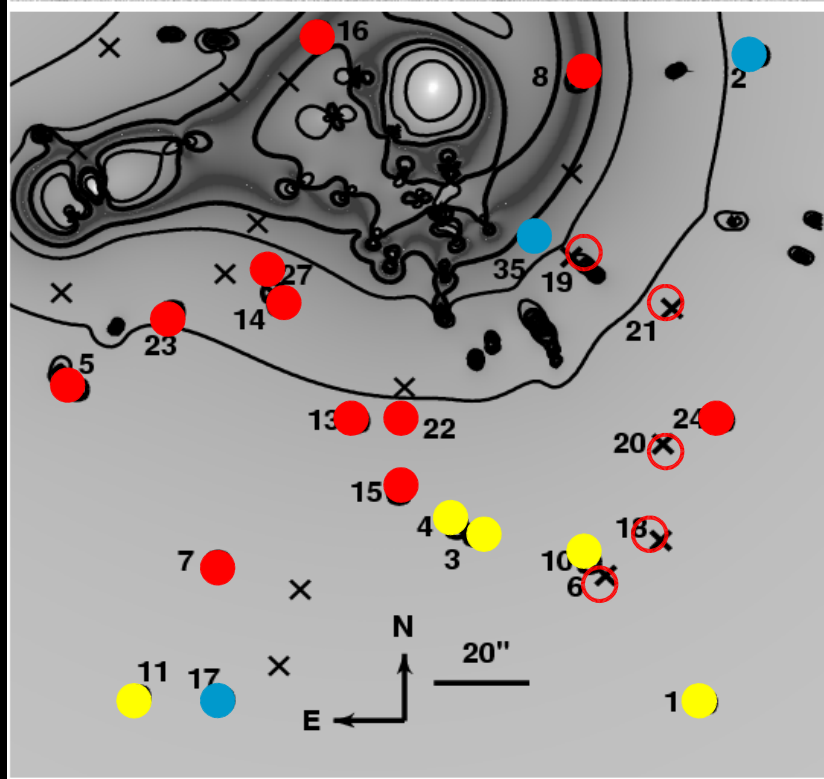
● **Photometric**
 Or spectroscopic
 Low- z

● **1st category**
 High- z candidates
 ○ **2nd category**
 High- z candidates

● **$22.3 < H < 23.7$**
 $23.7 < AB < 25.1$
EROs &/or
Atypical SEDs



critical line at
 $z \sim 10$

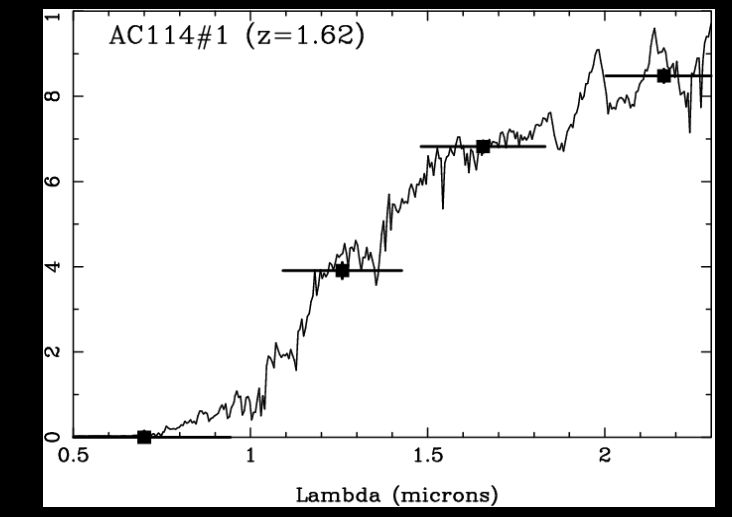
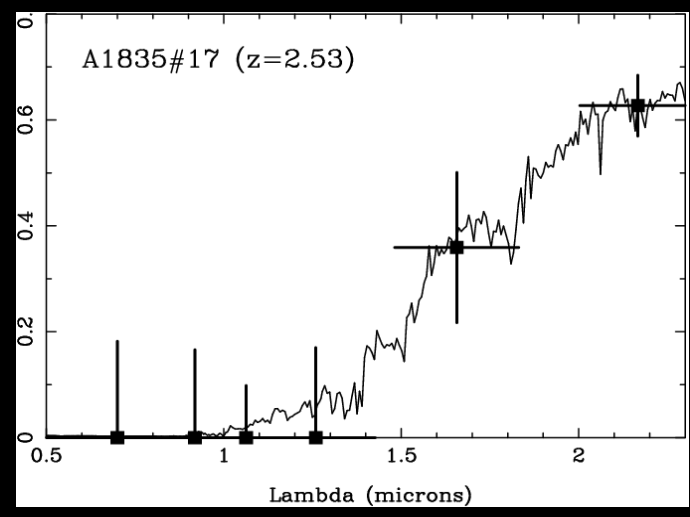
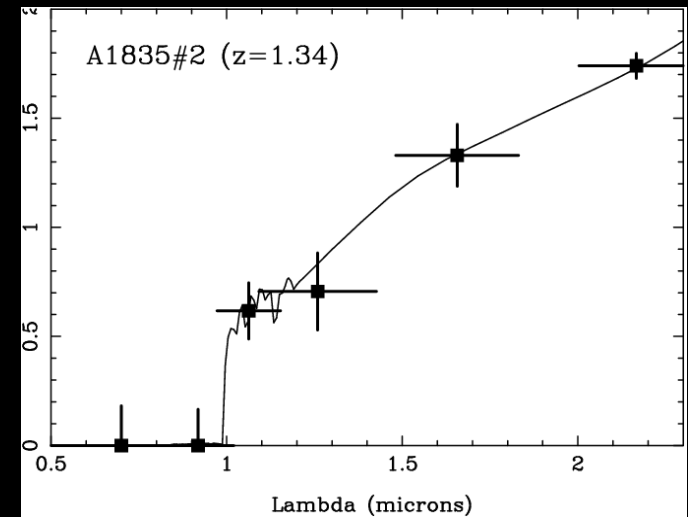
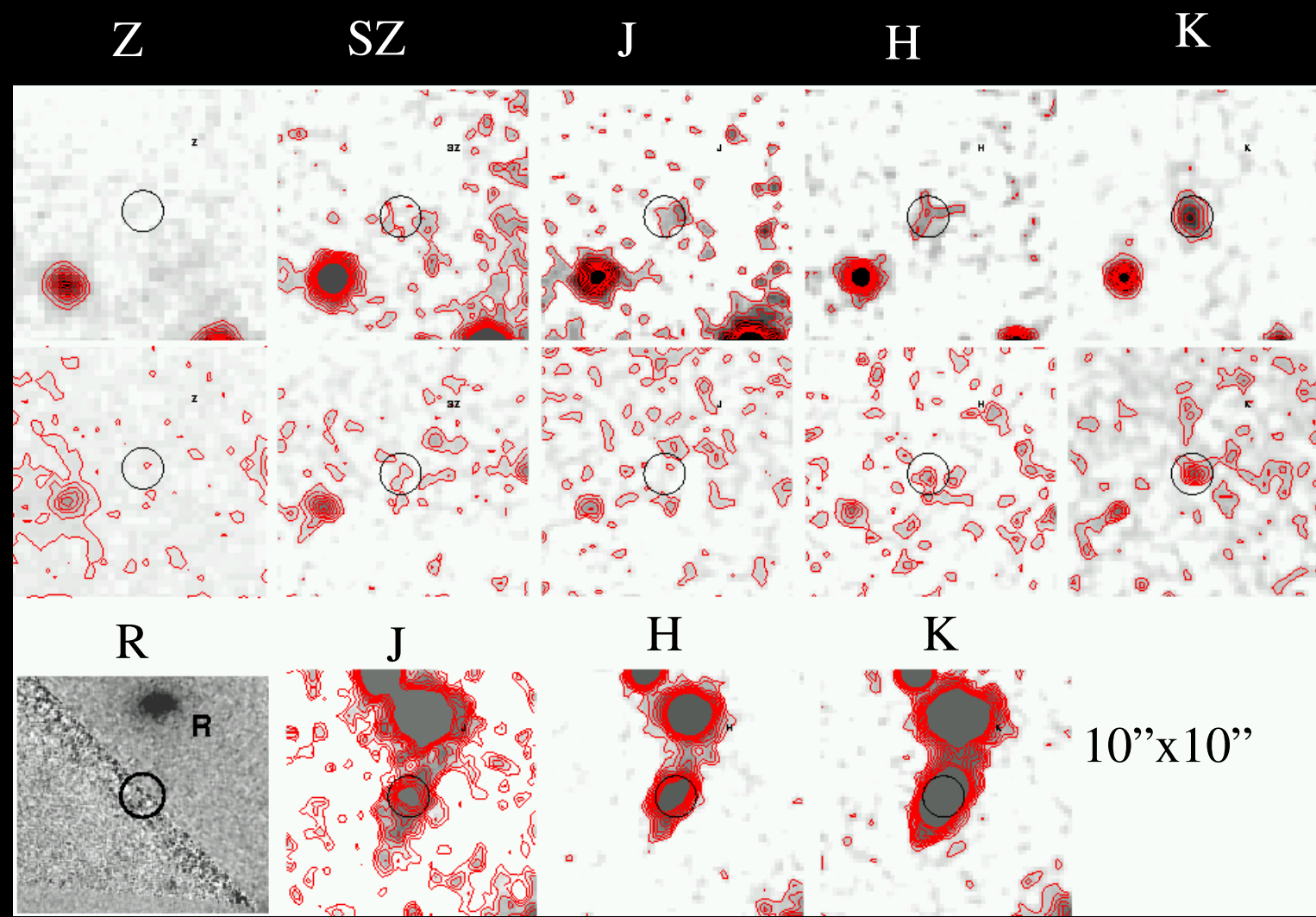


magnification
 $> 1, 2, 3, \dots$ mags

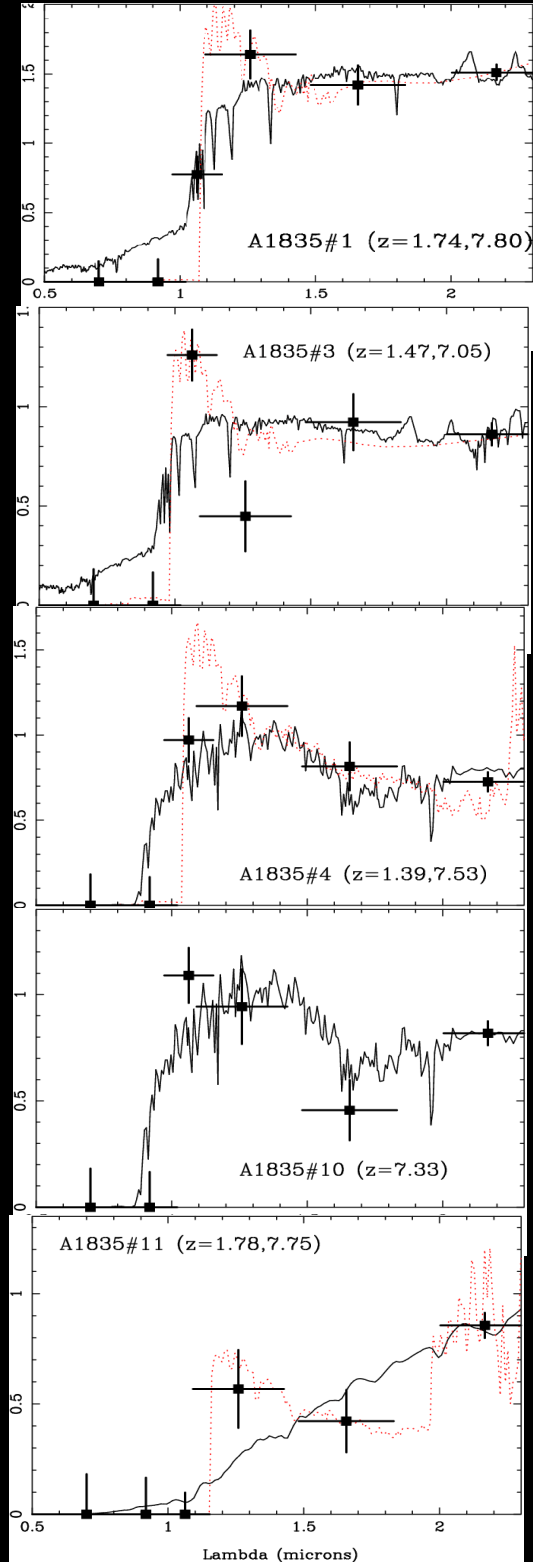
A1835-#2
J5/SCUBA-selected
galaxy SMMJ14009+0252
(Iverson et al. 2000, Smail
et al. 2002)

A1835-#17
+A1835-#35:
spectroscopic
determination
(Richard et al. 03)

AC114-#1

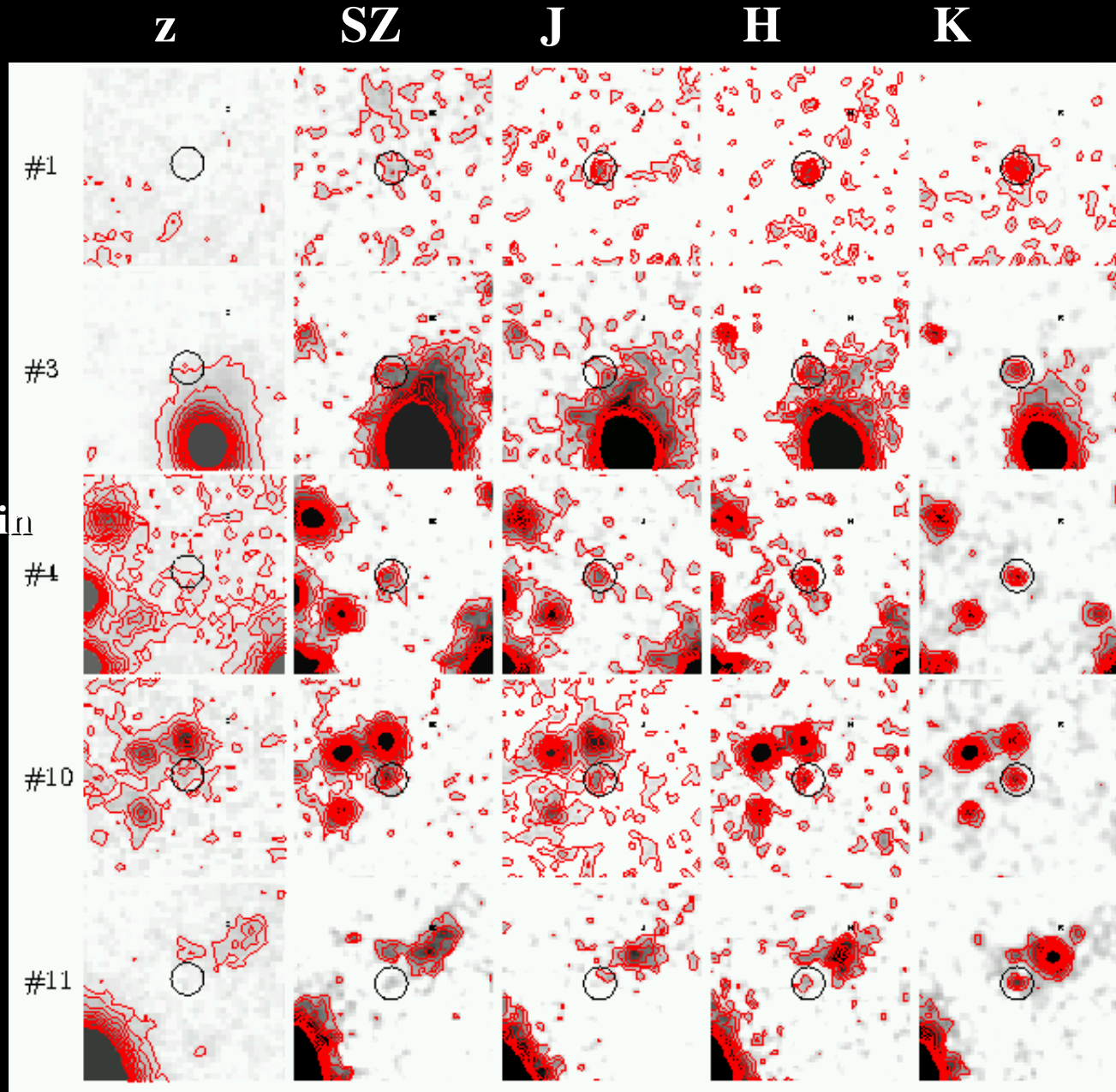


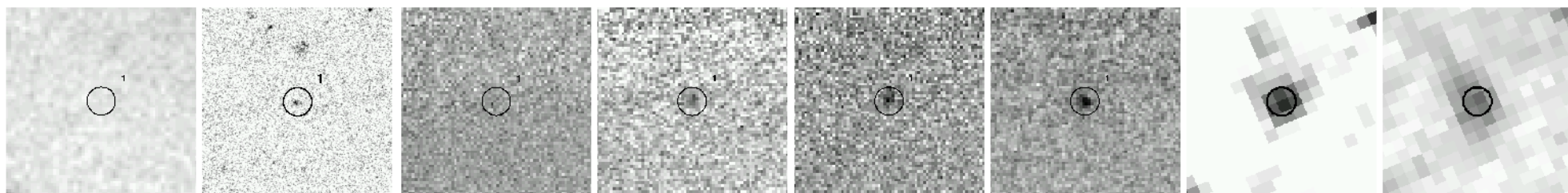
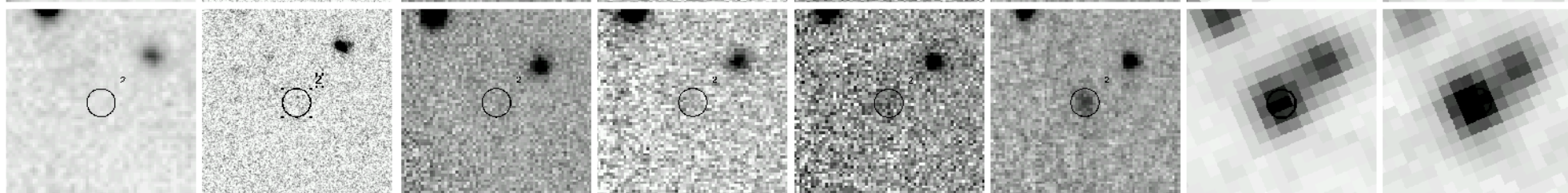
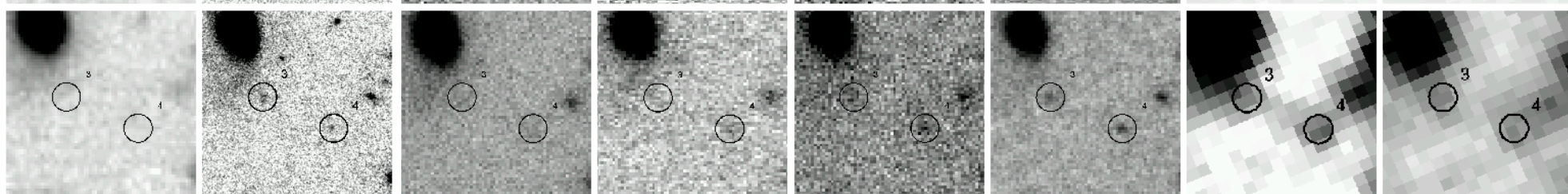
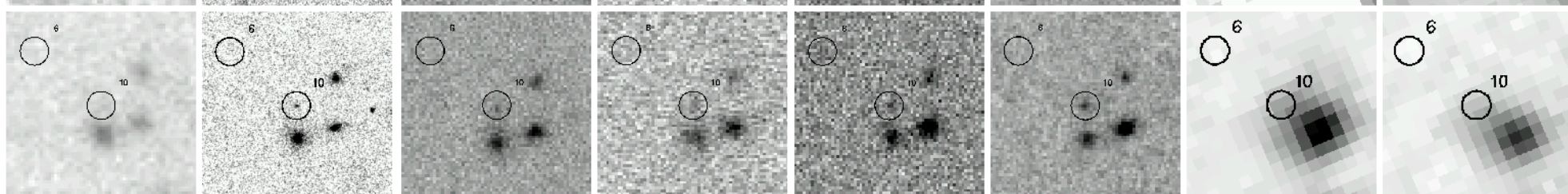
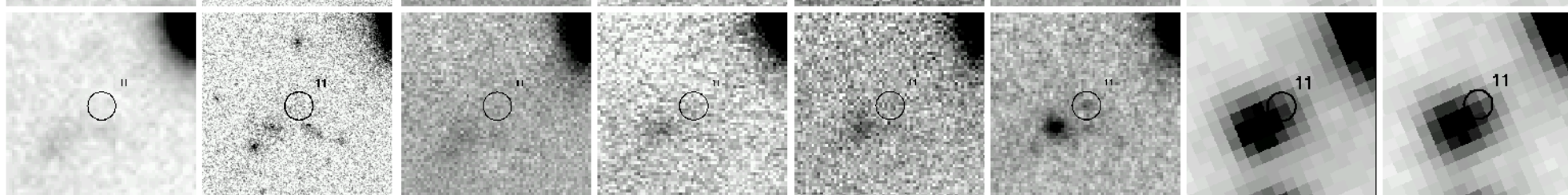
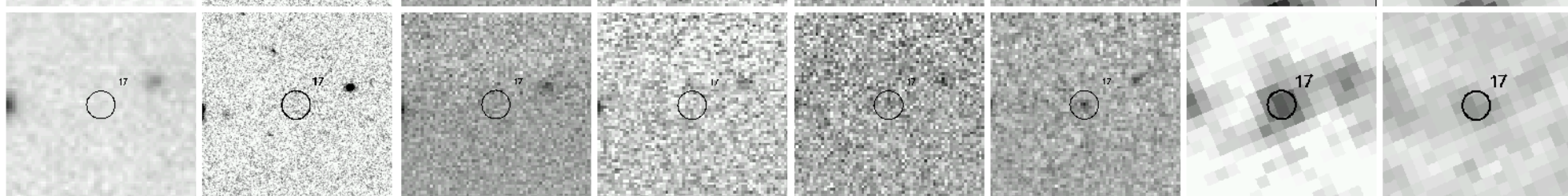
EROs & ambiguous SEDs



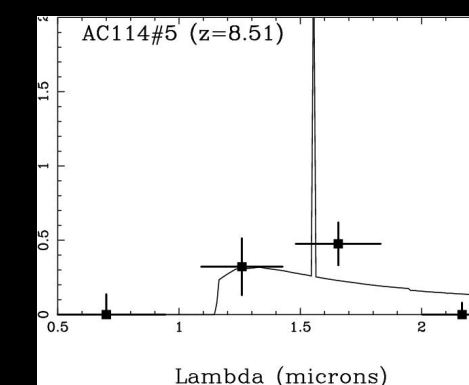
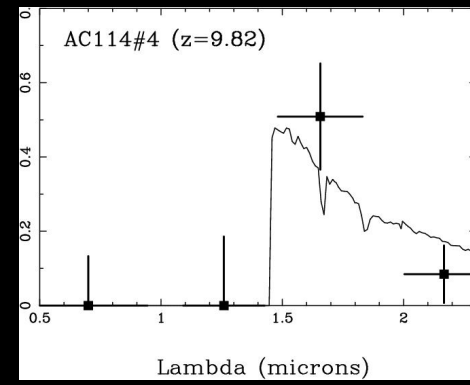
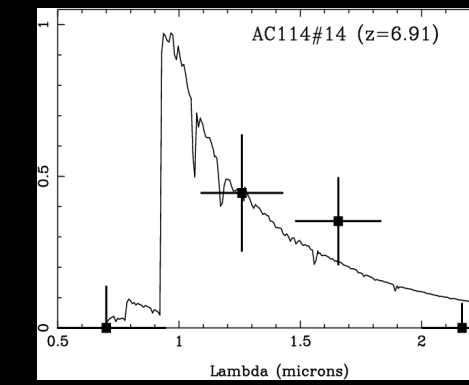
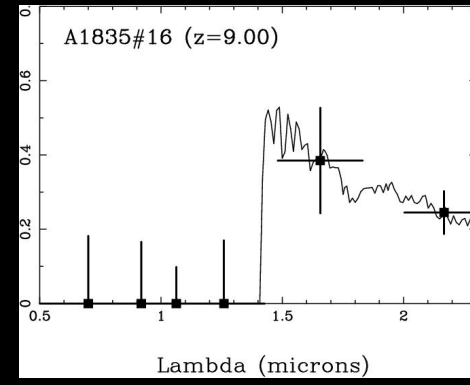
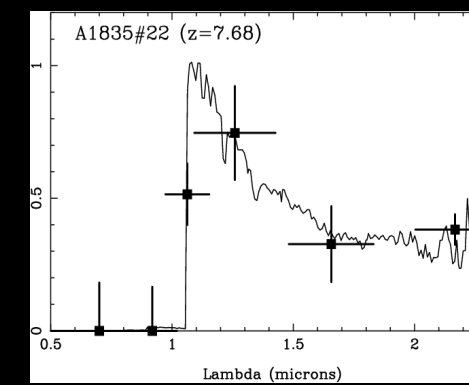
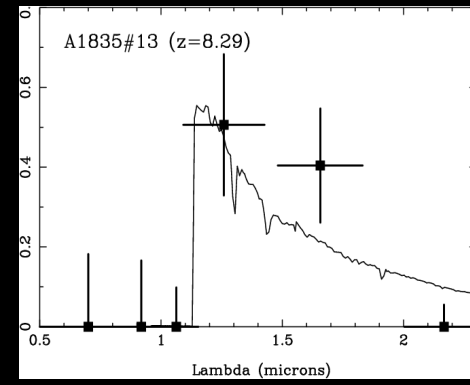
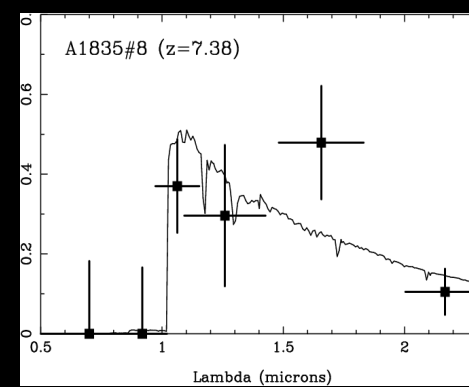
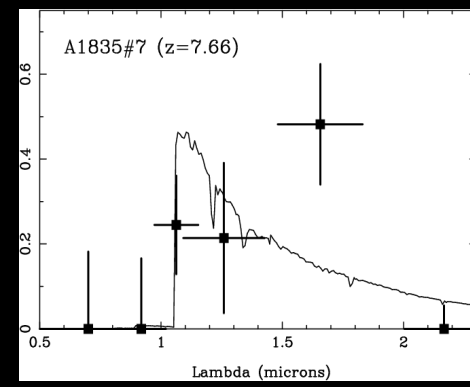
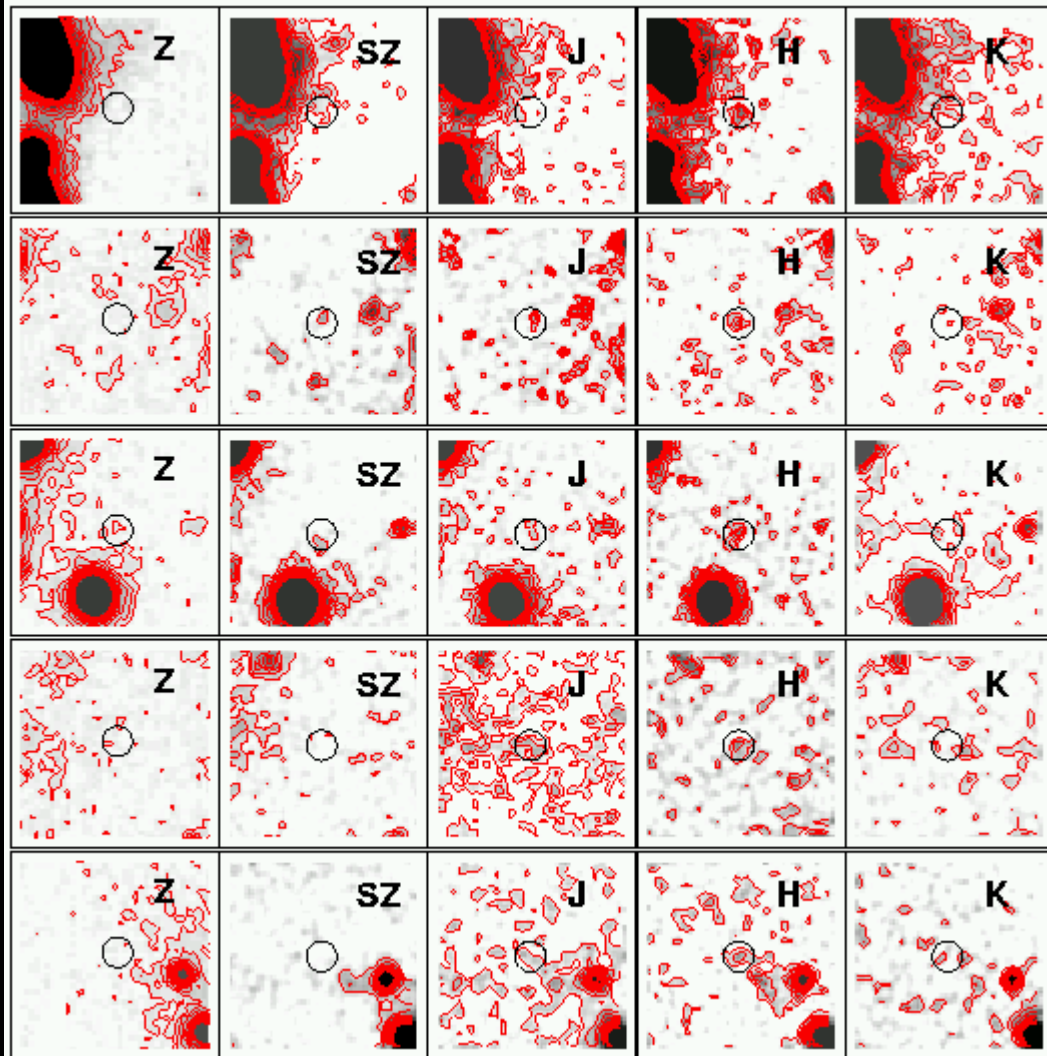
A1835

**0.5 mags
variability in
SZ band**



z/FOR2**F850W/ACS****SZ/ISAAC****J****H****Ks****IRAC/ch1****IRAC/ch2****#1****#2****#3
#4****#10****#11****#17**

Some examples in A1835:



Examples of SEDs for faint sources in A1835 & AC114

Stacked images of high- z candidates

Corrections applied to these data

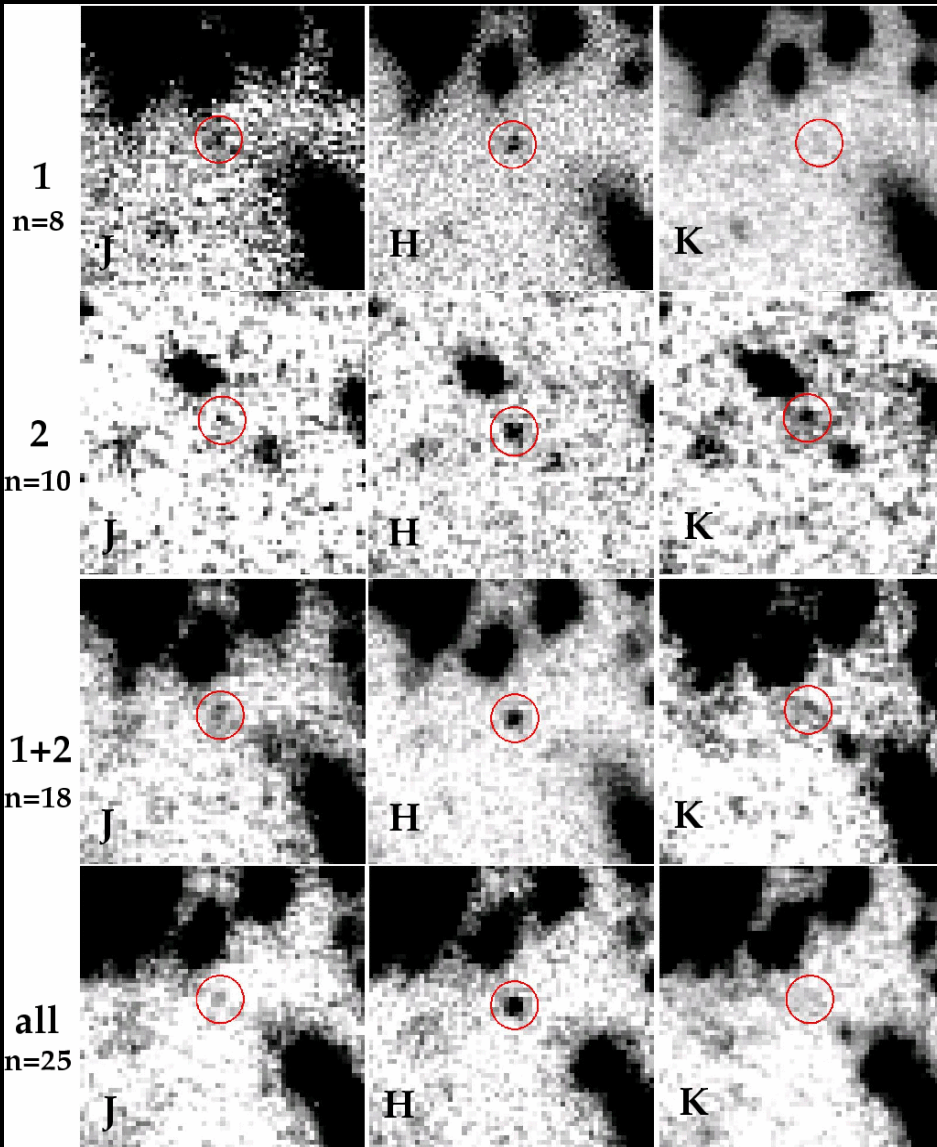
• Lensing:

$$\eta(H_e, z) = \frac{N_o(H_e, z)}{N(H_e, z)}$$

= observed number counts up to He/
number counts in a blank field
(same depth and FOV)

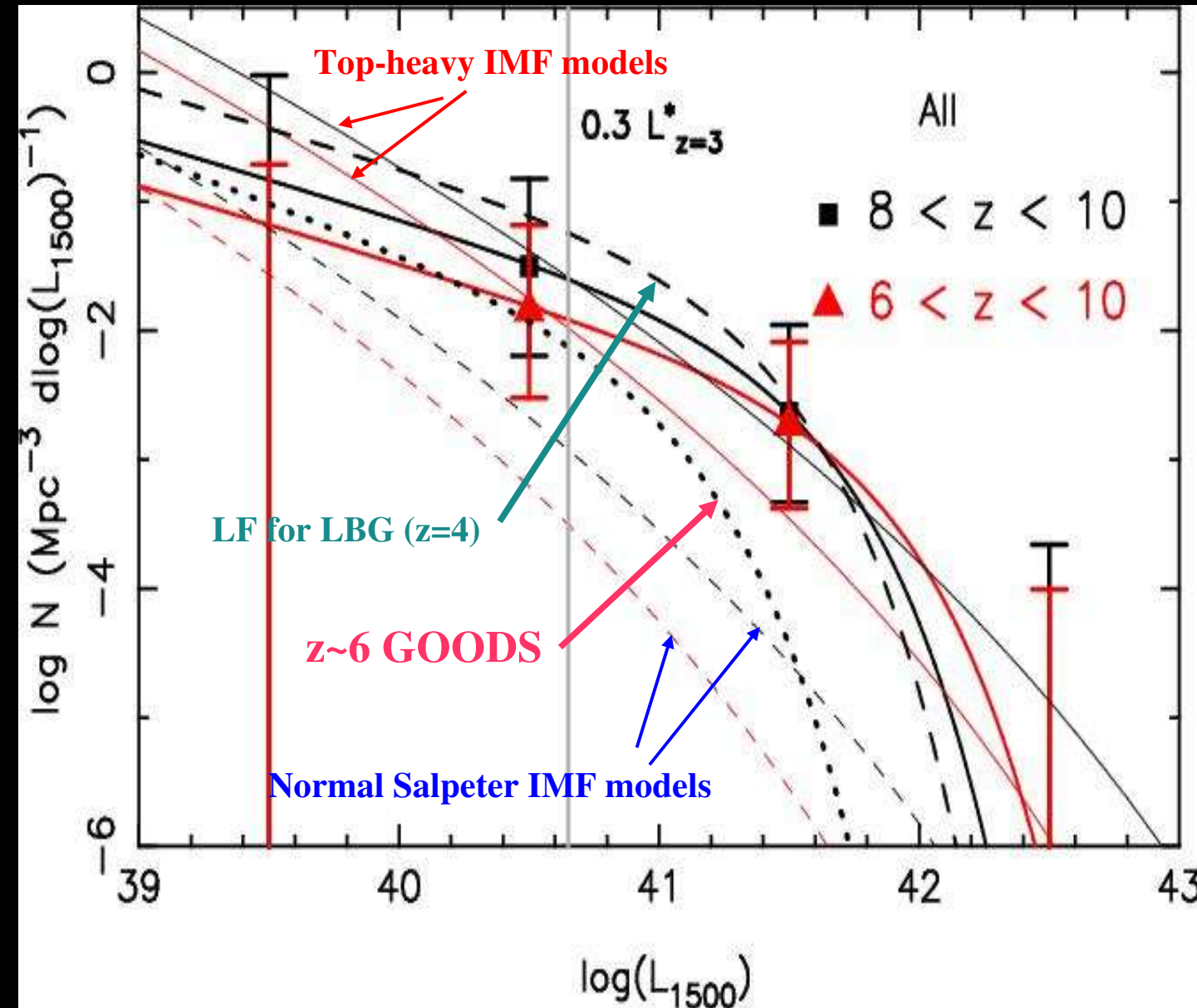
$$\begin{aligned} \eta(H_e, z) &= \frac{\int_{\Delta\Omega} \frac{N(H_e, z)}{M(\Omega, z)} C(H_o) d\Omega}{\int_{\Delta\Omega} N(H_e, z) d\Omega} = \\ &= \frac{1}{\Delta\Omega} \int_{\Delta\Omega} \frac{C(H_e - 2.5 \log_{10} M(\Omega, z))}{M(\Omega, z)} d\Omega \end{aligned}$$

+ Photometric incompleteness
+ False positive detections (depending
on the detection filters)



Luminosity Functions

- Correction for lensing effects and incompleteness using the lensing model:



LF fit with

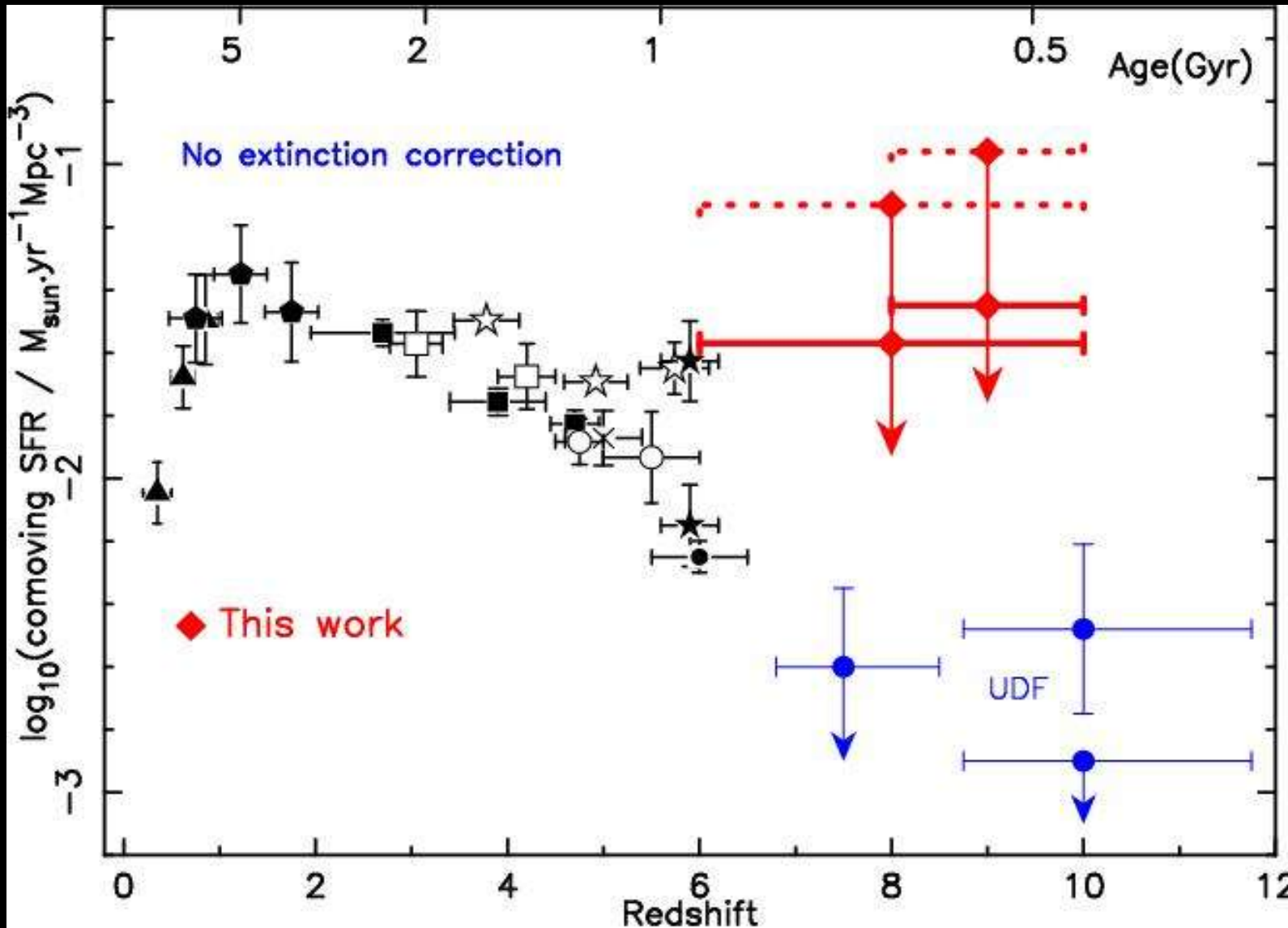
$\alpha = -1.6$ fixed (as for LBGs $z \sim 3-4$ (Steidel et al. 99):

- STY fit to LF gives: $L^* \sim 10^{41.5} \text{ erg/s/A}$

- Compatible with Steidel's LF ($z \sim 4$) without any renormalization

- The turnover observed by Bouwens et al. 05 in the UDF, towards the bright end of the LF is not observed in this sample.

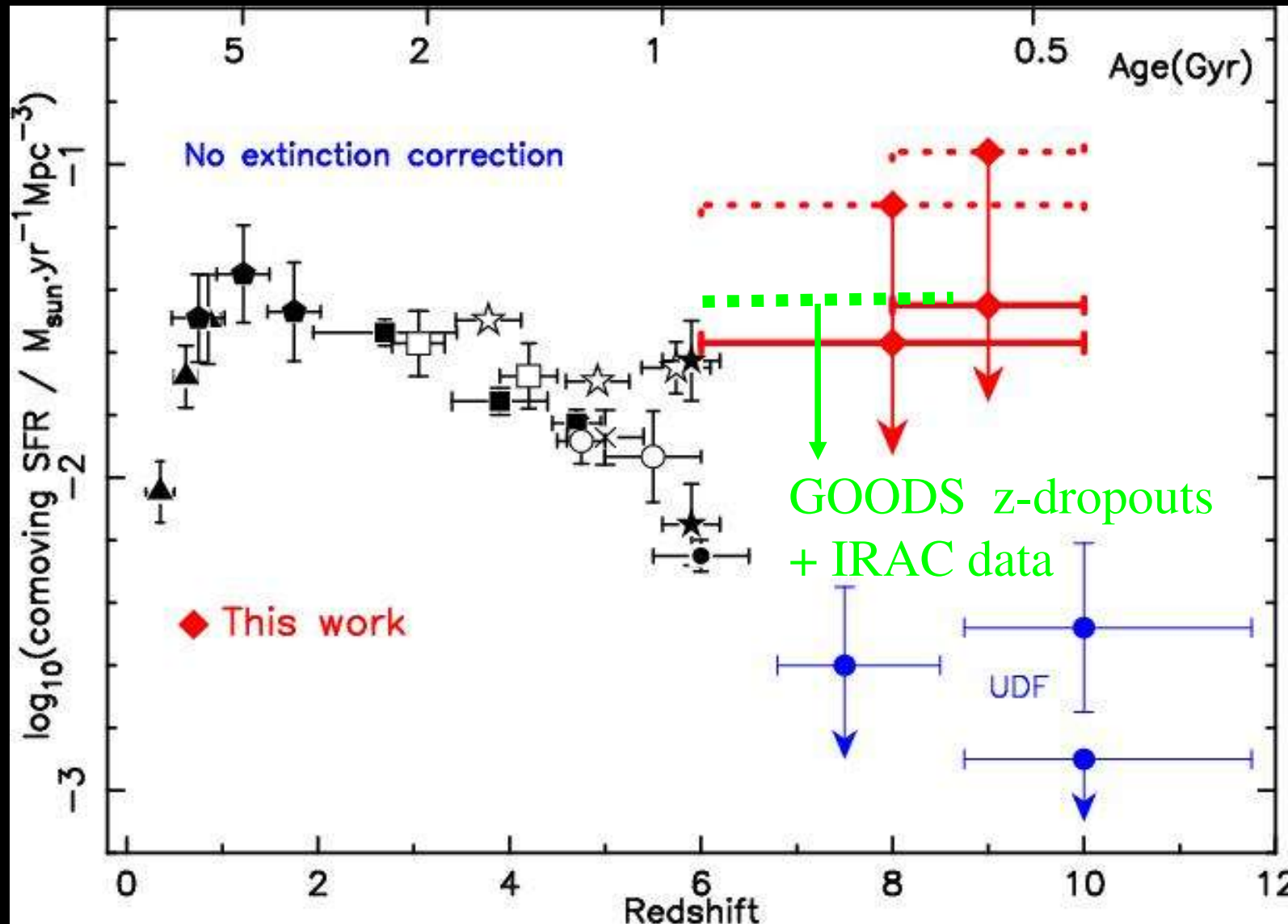
Cosmic SFR at $z \sim 6-10$



Plot adapted from Bunker et al. 04, normalized to our settings and adopted cosmology.

- LF integrated up to $0.3 L^*$ $\{z=3\}$
- Results fairly compatible with previous findings at $z < 6$, but a factor ~ 10 higher than present $z \sim 6-10$ studies (UDF, (Bouwens et al. 2004, 2005).

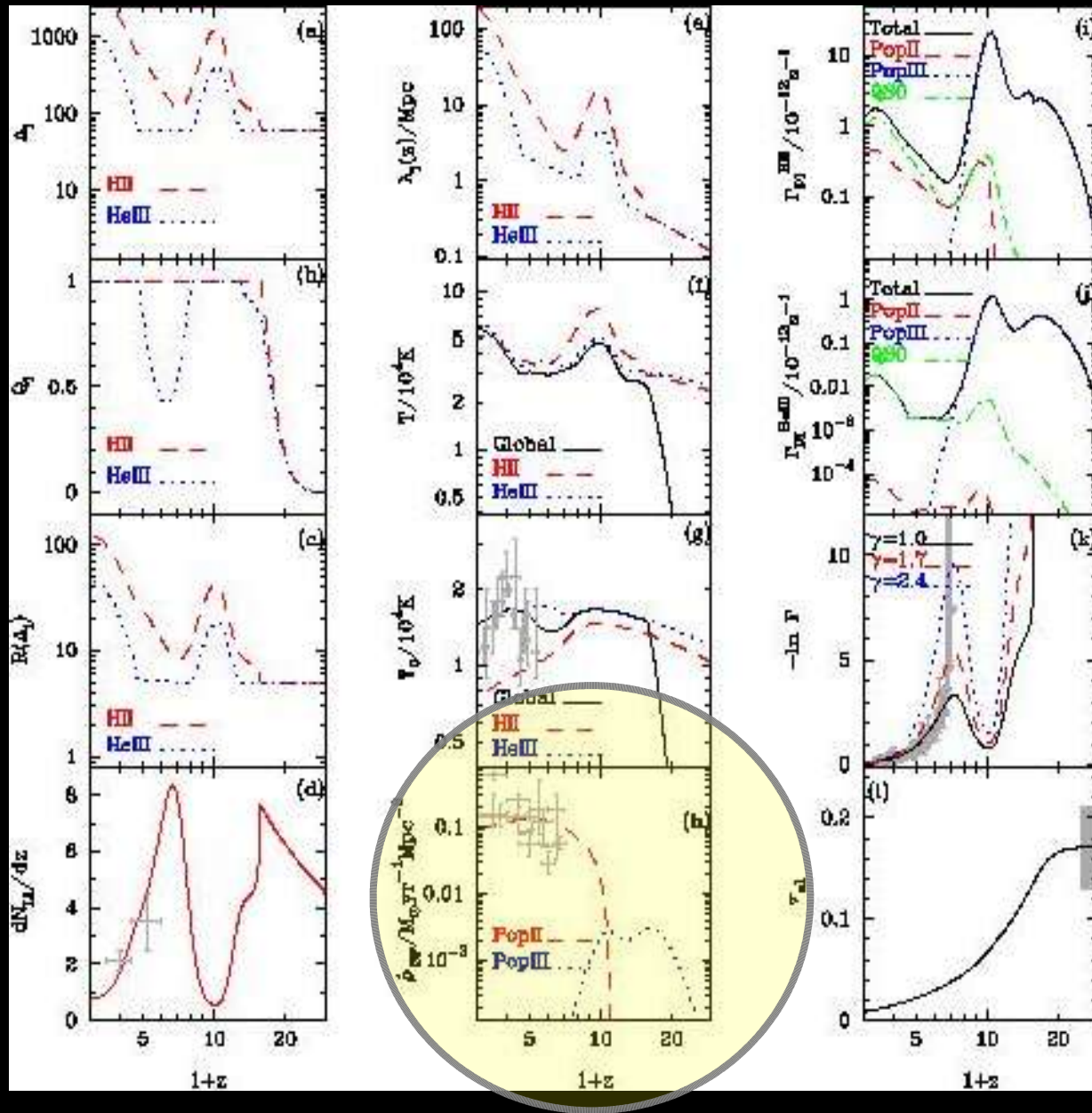
Cosmic SFR at $z \sim 6-10$



- Results in agreement with maximum SFR density derived from GOODS $z \sim 7$ z -dropout sources with IRAC data (Labbé et al. 06)

Plot adapted from Bunker et al. 04, normalized to our settings and adopted cosmology.

Cosmic SFR at $z \sim 6-10$

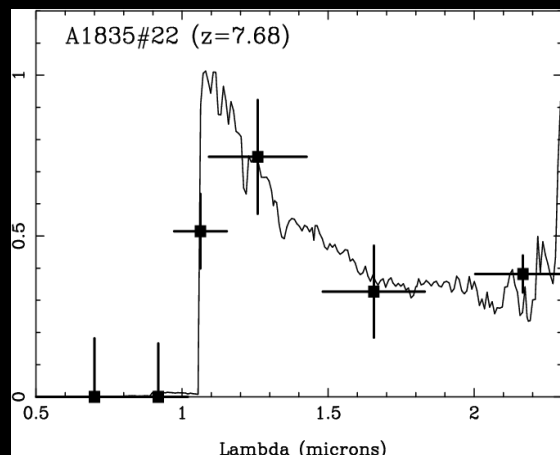


- Fair agreement e.g. with SFR density from Choudhury & Ferrara (2005) models of consistent cosmic reionization and thermal history of IGM predicting quite high SFR up to $z_{trans} \sim 10$
- **Discrepancies with other determinations in blank fields.** Some possible explanations:
 - **Sample variance:** strong field-to-field variance expected in small fields.
 - **Positive magnification bias in our sample** due to mid-z interlopers.
 - **Residual contamination by fake detections**

Fiducial model from Choudhury & Ferrara(2005)

Intrinsic properties of high-z candidates

- Selection criteria based only on near-IR colors irrespective of magnitudes, *but most* photometric candidates turn out to be *fainter* than $H = 23.0$ (AB ~ 24.5). If $z \sim 6-10$, young starbursts are typically a few $10^8 M_{\text{solar}}$ (standard IMF).
- Using Kennicutt 1998 relation $L_{1500} \rightarrow$ SFR ranging between a few units and $20 M_{\text{solar}}/\text{yr} \dots$. But equilibrium conditions are not necessarily reached in these objects!



candidates in lensing fields

From Schaerer & Pello 05

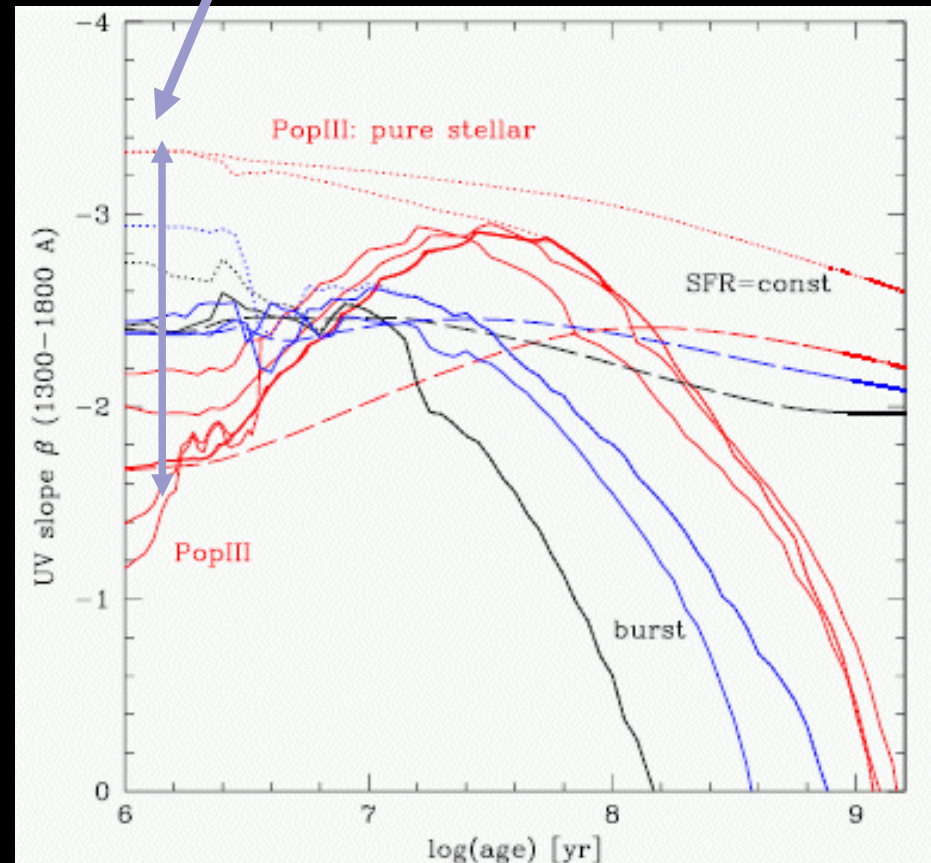


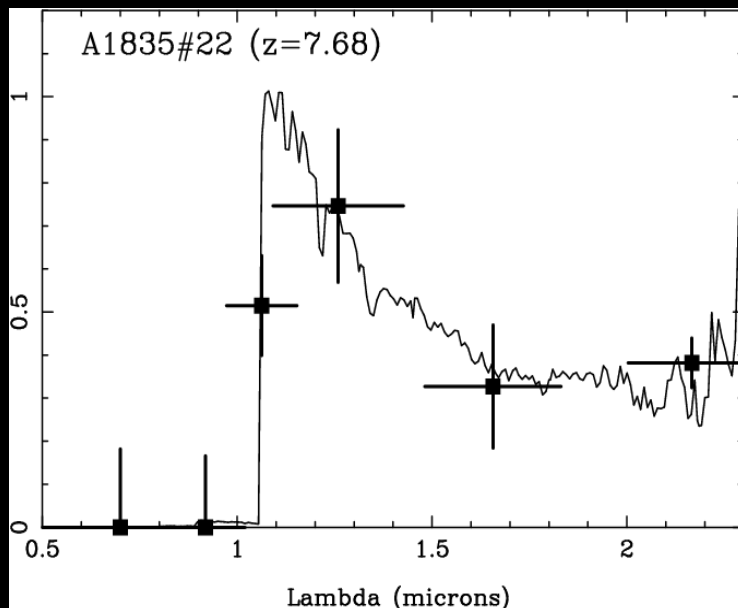
Figure 1. Temporal evolution of the UV slope β measured between 1300 and 1800 Å from synthesis models of different metallicities and for instantaneous bursts (solid lines) and constant SF (long dashed lines). Black lines show solar metallicity models, red lines metallicities between $Z = 10^{-5}$ and zero (PopIII), blue lines intermediate cases of $Z = 0.004$ and 0.0004 . The dotted lines show β if nebular continuous emission is neglected, i.e. assuming

Intrinsic properties of high-z candidates

- **Very blue UV slope:**
($\beta \sim -1.5$ to -3.5)

Cf. GOODS, UDF... surveys

==> INDICATION OF LITTLE OR NO EXTINCTION



candidates in lensing fields

From Schaerer & Pello 05

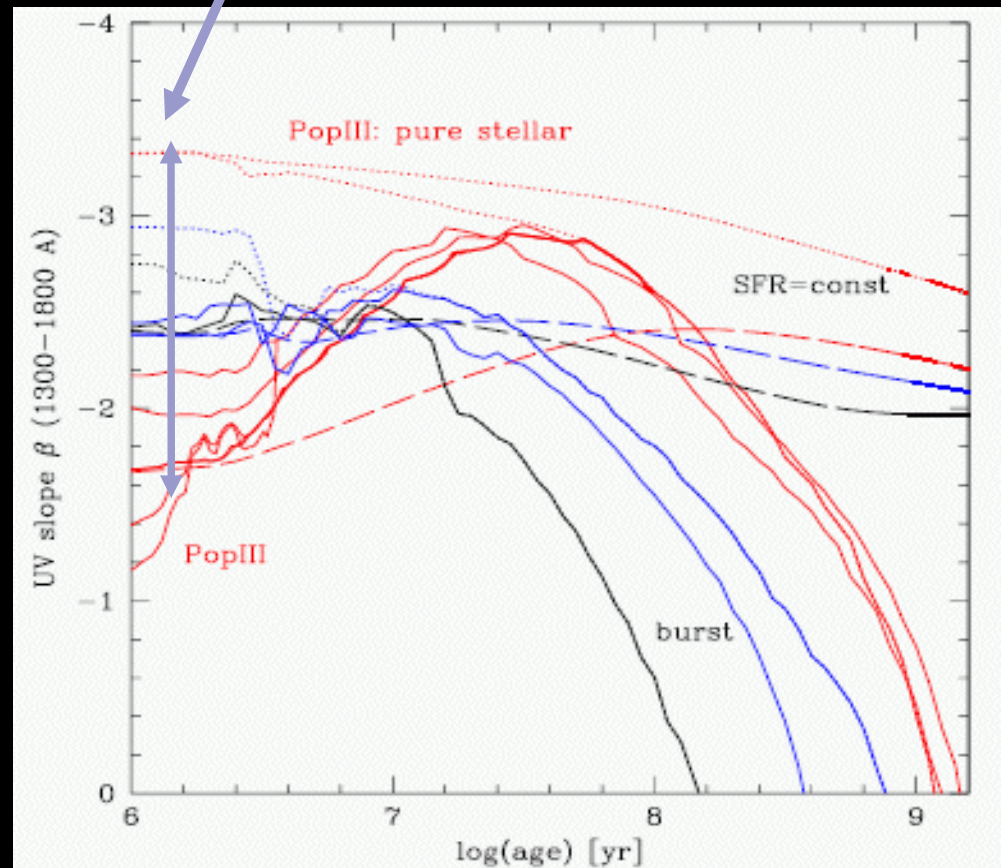
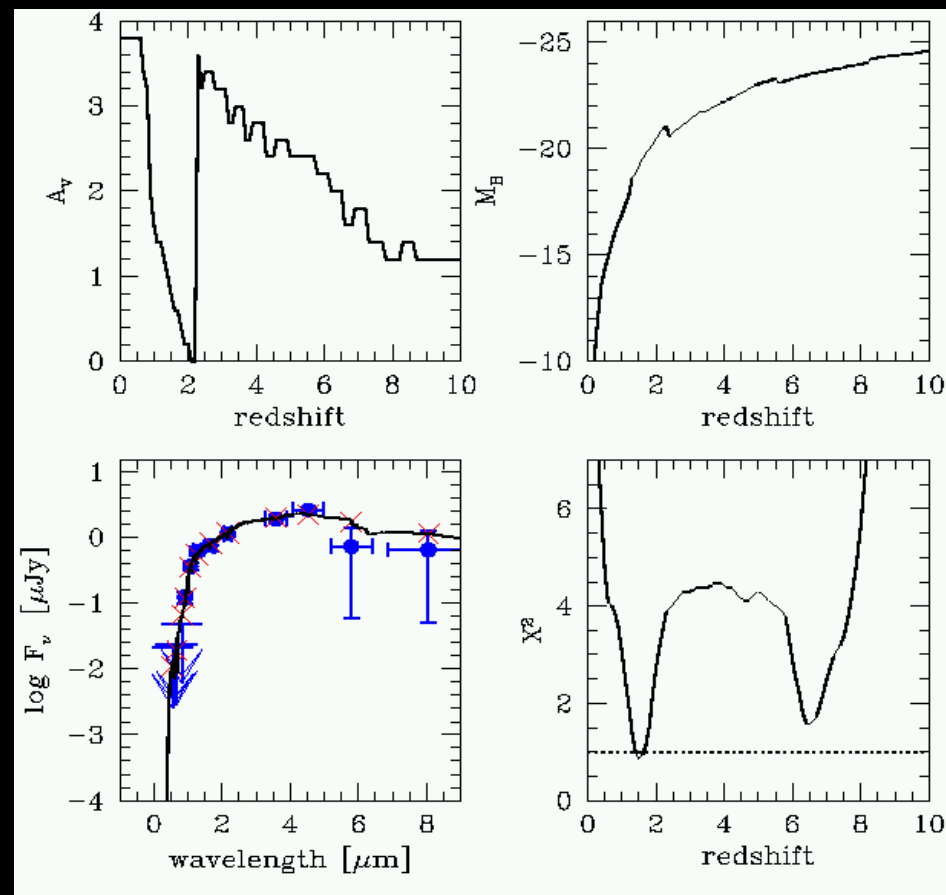
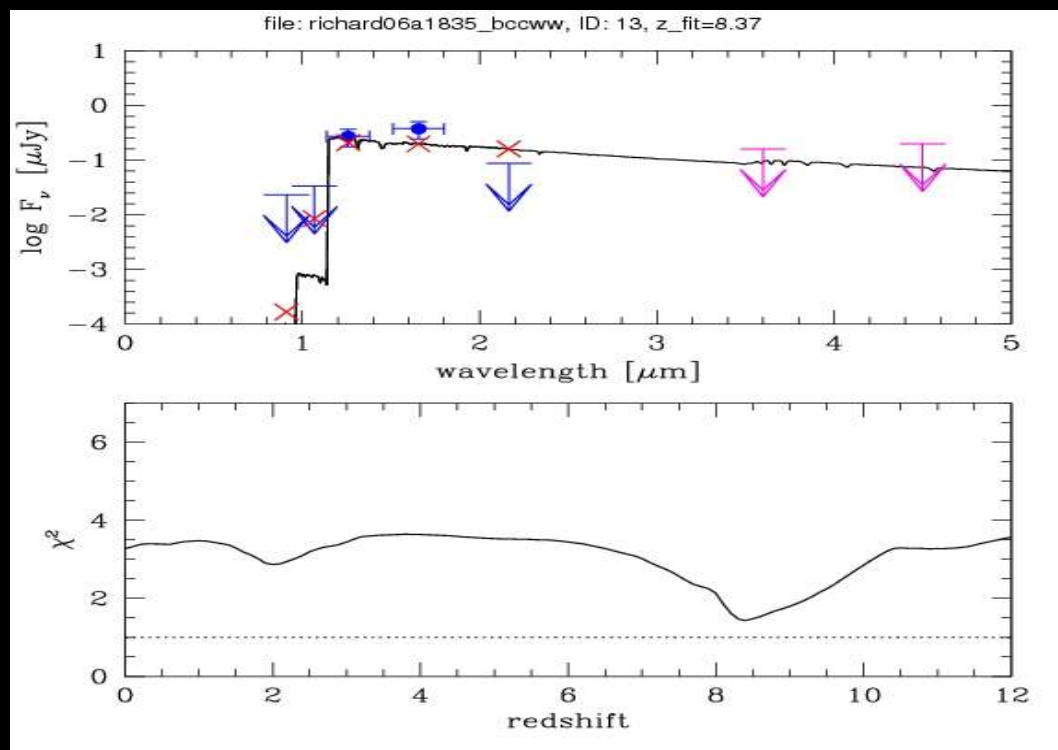


Figure 1. Temporal evolution of the UV slope β measured between 1300 and 1800 Å from synthesis models of different metallicities and for instantaneous bursts (solid lines) and constant SF (long dashed lines). Black lines show solar metallicity models, red lines metallicities between $Z = 10^{-5}$ and zero (PopIII), blue lines intermediate cases of $Z = 0.004$ and 0.0004 . The dotted lines show β if nebular continuous emission is neglected, i.e. assuming pure stellar emission. Note especially the strong degeneracies of

Intrinsic properties of high-z candidates

- **ACS/HST** z-band observations (non-detection $Z850_{AB} > 28$ to 28.3) confirm « dropout » nature of $z > \sim 7$ candidates behind A1835 and AC114.
- **IRAC/Spitzer** detection of brightest objects (ERO) between 3.8 and 8 μm --> new constraints on their **nature and redshift**



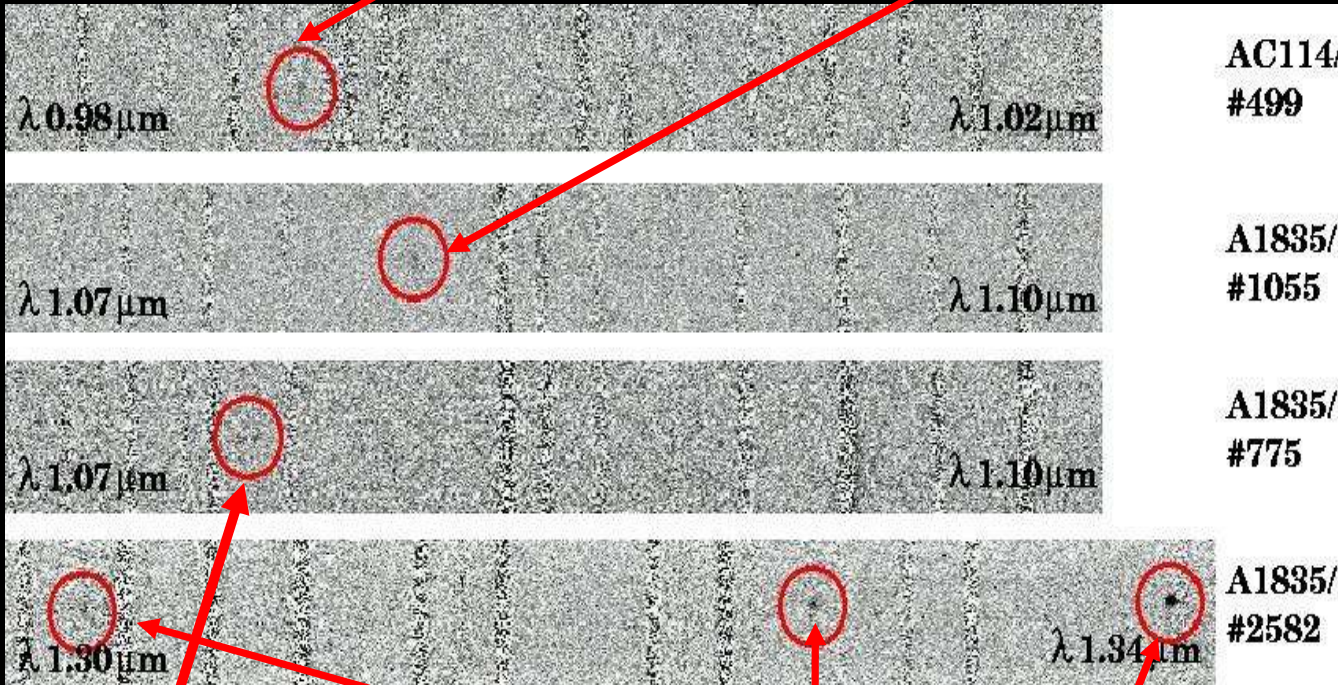
- **IRAC/Spitzer:** high-z candidates not detected as expected: beyond the detection limits if high-z or spurious

(Schaerer et al. 06, Hempel et al. 06)

Spectroscopic follow-up. Present state of the art

$z=7.17$ candidate if Ly α

$z=7.89$ Candidate if Ly α



$z=1.89$, doublet of [OII]3727

$z=1.67$, 3 lines detected
(Richard et al. 2003)

- Ongoing Spectroscopic follow-up with ISAAC/VLT
- We explore the 0.9-1.4 microns domain, $R \sim 3100$.
- Targets: 2 priority candidates in AC114, and 7 in Abell 1835 (4 "first priority" targets and 3 secondary ones). From this sample of 9 targets, **2/3 of the objects observed display emission lines.**
- A large majority of our high- z candidates still need to be (re)confirmed, either by a redetection of a faint emission line, or by the non-detection of other lines expected at low- z .

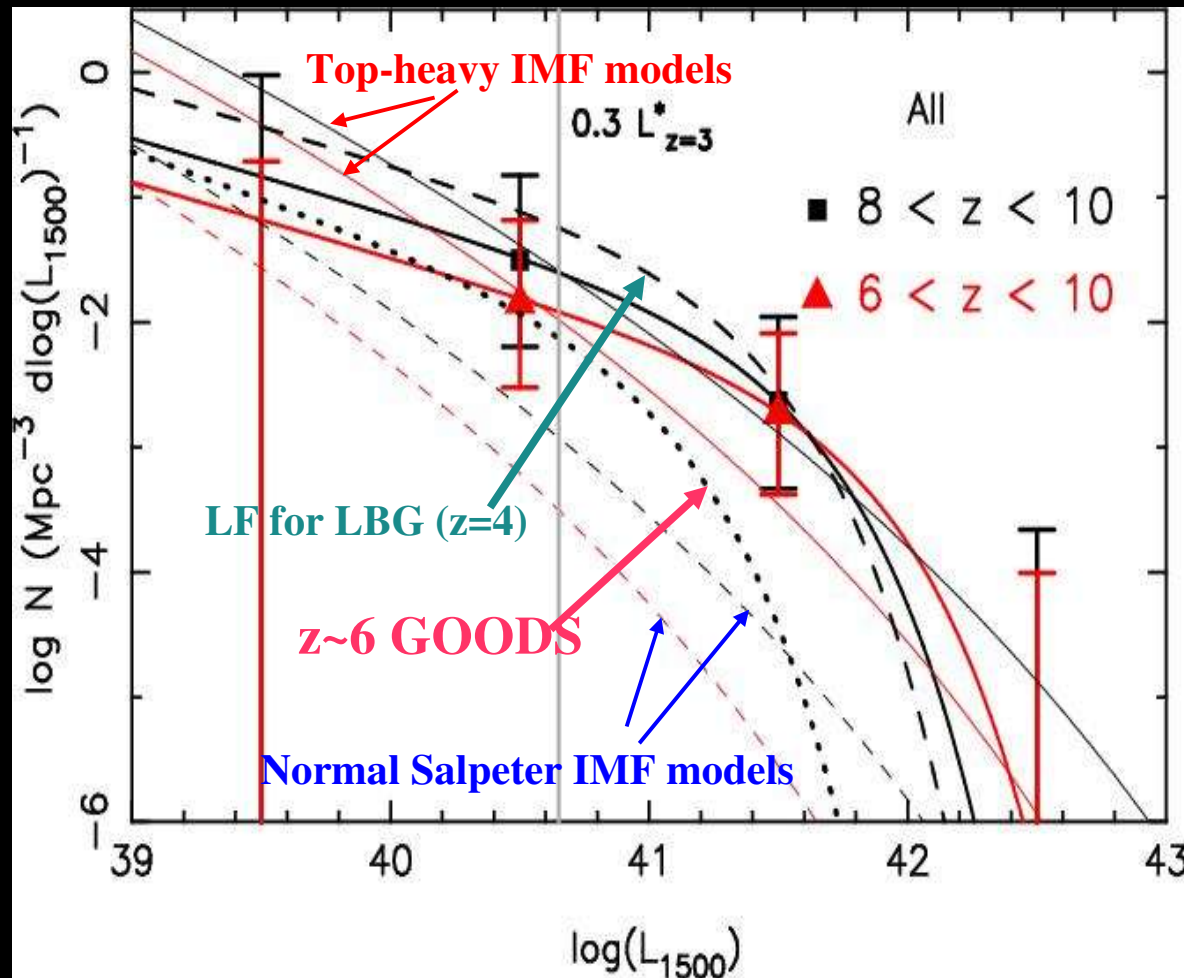
See also Pello et al 04, A&A 416, L35; and astro-ph/0410132



Discussion & Perspectives

Lensing or Blank fields?

- Evaluation of lensing clusters efficiency to find $z > 6$ galaxies with model expectations and simple assumptions. A lensing field introduces 2 opposite trends on the observed sample as compared to blank fields: 1) gravitational magnification and 2) reduction of the effective surface by the same factor (dilution).



- A toy model to estimate the expected number counts:

- Press-Schechter formalism (Press & Schechter 1974)
- 10% of the baryonic mass converted into stars between $6 < z < 17$
- 2 extreme assumptions for the IMF: standard Salpeter & top-heavy IMF
- Visibility time estimated according to a “duty-cycle”:

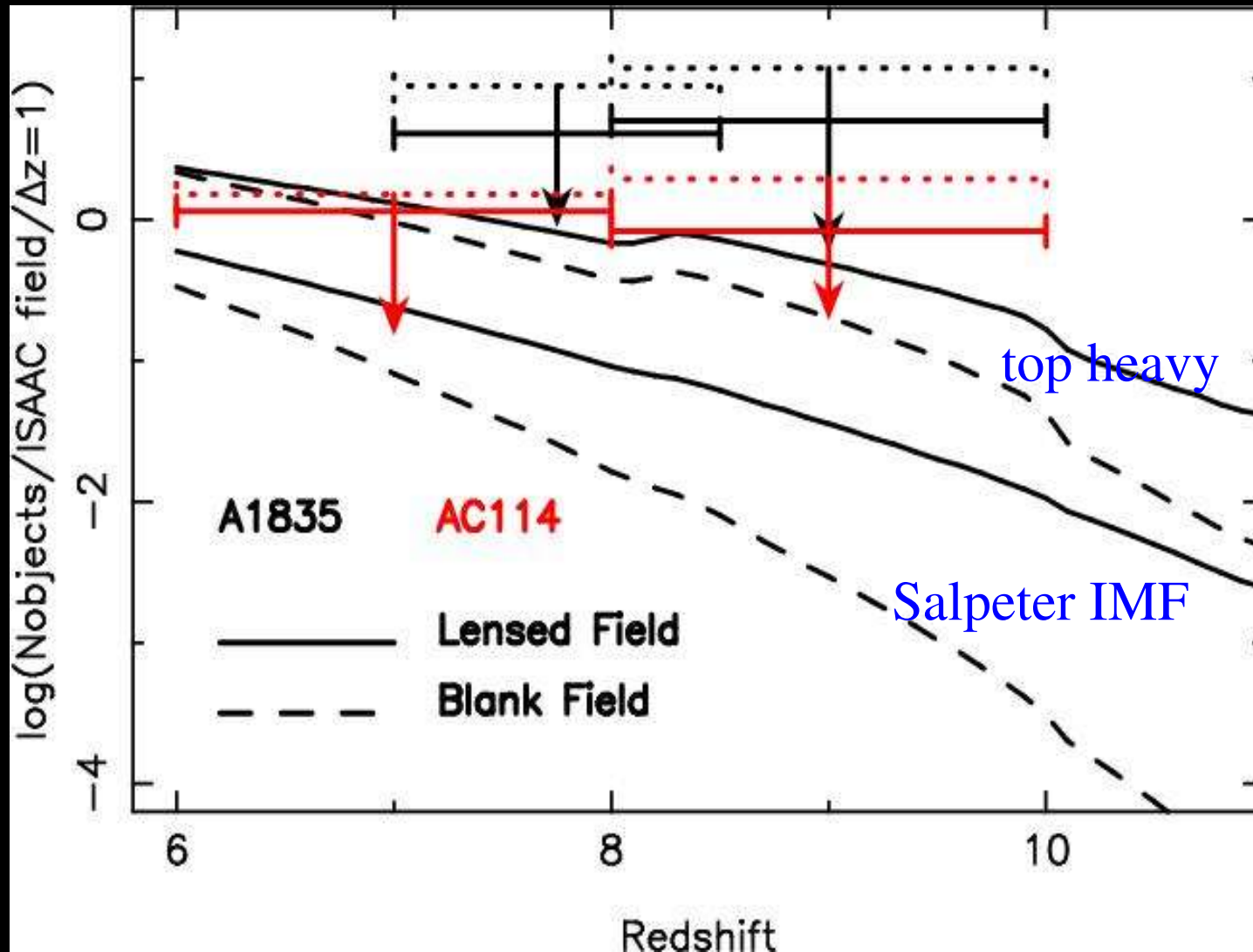
$$t_* (1+z) / (t_H(z) - t_H(17))$$

$t_H(z)$: age of the universe at

- Positive magnification bias is expected from this simple model:

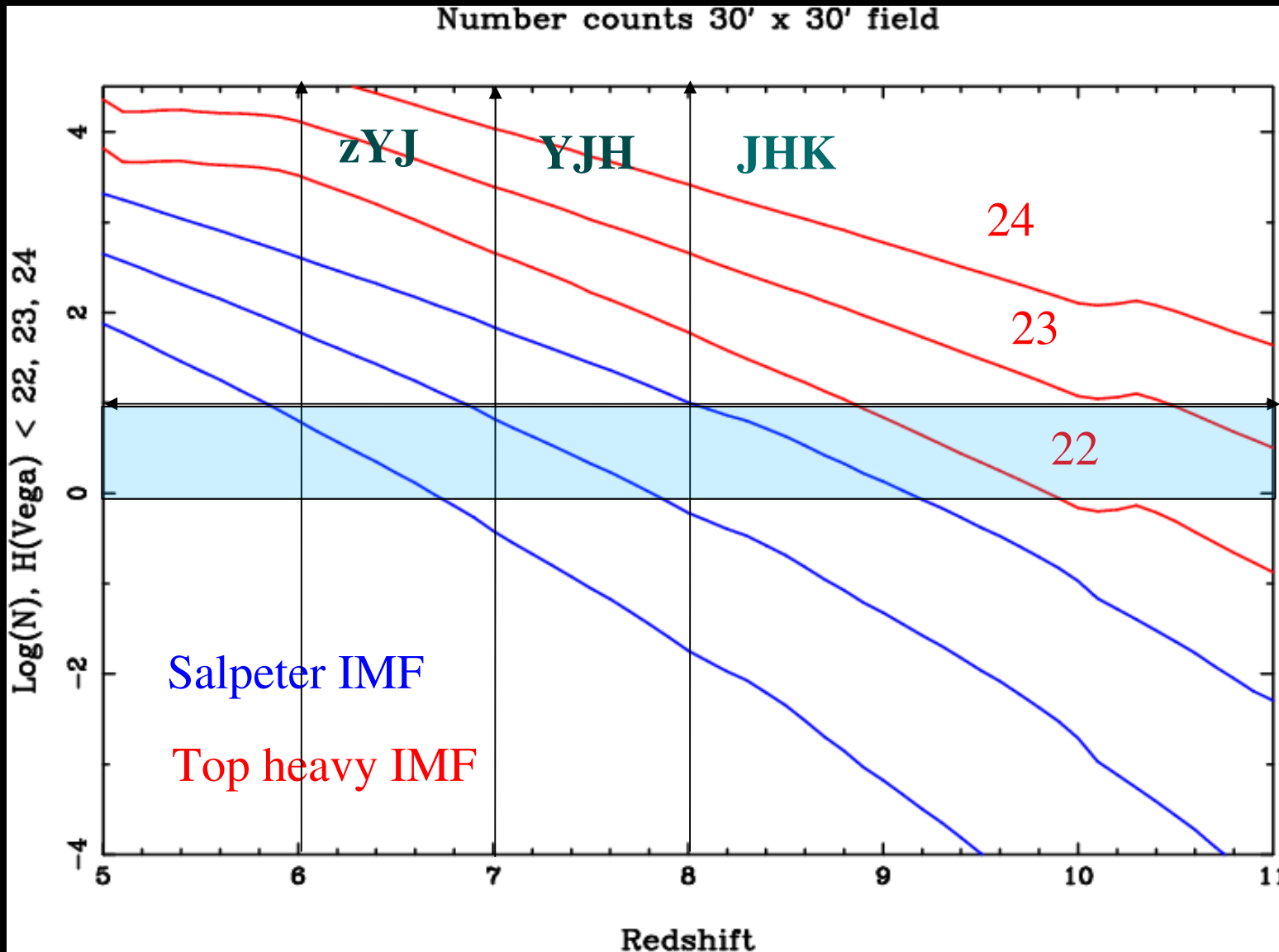
$$N_{lensed}(> L) = N(> L) \times \mu^{\alpha-1} \quad \text{with} \quad \alpha = -d(\log n)/d(\log L)$$

(see e.g. Broadhurst et al. 95)



- Number of sources with $H < 24$, within a redshift bin $dz=1$.
- Pixel-to-pixel integration of magnification maps, with the same lensing models and bright-objects masking.
- Lensing clusters are expected to be a factor of 5-10 more efficient than blank fields in the $7 < z < 11$ domain

Lensing or Blank fields?



- Number counts within $dz=1$, for different depth in the H-band.

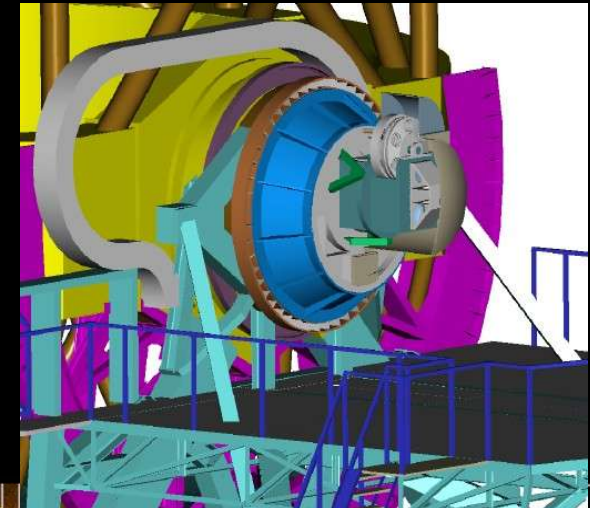
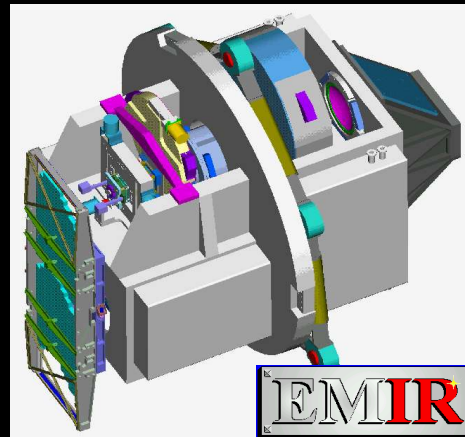
- FOV similar to CFHT/ WIRCAM

Constraining the bright end of the LF at $z > \sim 7$ with a « reasonable » exposure time...

WIRCAM/
WUDS,
UKIDSS, ...

A new generation of near-IR spectrographs

The GOYA/EMIR Survey at GTC



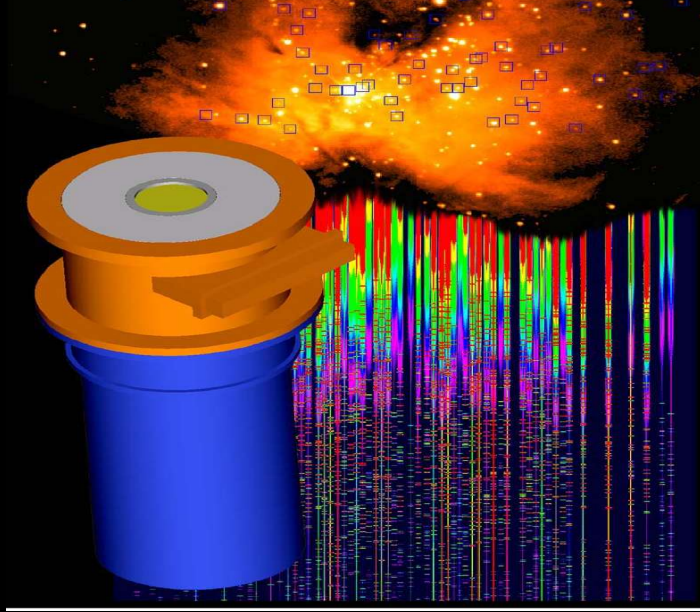
~50 objects/field

GTC -EMIR (~2008):

Spectral Range	0.9-2.5 μm [1.1-2.5 μm]	MOS mode	
Top priority	MOS in K band	FOV	6x4 arcmin (~50 slitlets)
Spectral Resol.	5000,4250,4000 (\mathcal{R})	Sensitivity	$\mathcal{K} \sim 20.1$ in 2h @ $S/\mathcal{N} = 5$ (continuum)
Spectral coverage	1 single window/exp.		1.4×10^{-18} erg/s/cm 2 / \AA @ $S/\mathcal{N} = 6$ (line)
Detector	HAWAII2 2048 2	Image mode	
Plate Scale	0.2 arcsec/px	FOV	6x6 arcmin
Image quality	$\theta_{80} < 0.3$ arcsec	Sensitivity	$\mathcal{K} \sim 22.8$ in 1h @ $S/\mathcal{N} = 5$ in 0.6 arcsec aperture

Gain : a factor of ~50 in lensing clusters with respect to ISAAC/VLT

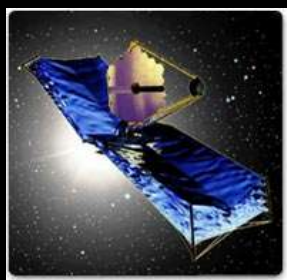
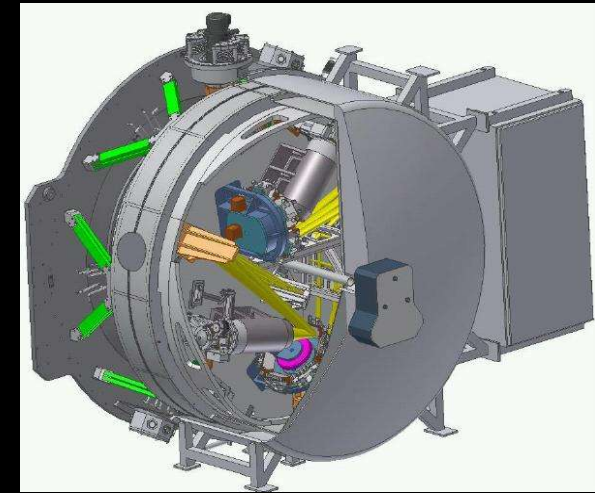
- Similar Instruments:
- *Subaru/MOIRCS (2007A - shared risk)*
- *GeminiS/Flamingos2 (~2007 commissioning)*



VLT 2nd generation (t>~2010)
Kmos High priority for ESO community

Requirement	Baseline Specification
Optical Throughput	J>20%, H>30%, K>30%
Wavelength coverage	1.0 to 2.5 μm
Spectral Resolution	R~3400,3800,3800 (J,H,K)
Number of IFUs	24
Extent of each IFU	2.8 x 2.8 sq. arc seconds
Spatial Sampling	0.2 arc seconds
Patrol field	7.2 arcmin diameter circle
Close packing of IFUs	≥ 3 within 1 sq arcmin
Closest approach of IFUs	≥ 2 pairs of IFUs separated by 6 arcsec

Table 2: Summary of baseline technical requirements for the KMOS instrument



JWST (>~2012)
 + **ELTs**

Summary/Conclusions

- First $6 < z < 10$ results consistent with a **~constant SFR density up to $z \sim 10$** . The turnover towards the bright end of the LF is not observed. However:
 - > *strong field-to-field variance*
 - > *large corrections have been applied to a relatively small sample*
 - > *contamination (with respect to blank fields) cannot be excluded*
 - ==> spectroscopic/photometric confirmation is needed**
- **Gravitational lensing clusters** seem more **efficient** than blank fields to explore the **$z \sim 6-12$** domain (same photometric depth and FOV). Positive magnification bias expected from simulations + our first results.
 - > *potential problem: mid- z interlopers*
- Spectroscopic follow up **optimized in lensing fields** with the new generation of **near-IR multi-object spectrographs** (FOV, multiplexing and spectral resolution).
- Large field-to-field variance in the strong magnification regime and towards the bright end of the LF **==> Wide Field Surveys needed.**

A dark, starry night sky with faint constellations and bright stars. The stars are scattered across the frame, with some appearing as bright, multi-pointed diffraction patterns. Faint lines of light connect some of the stars, suggesting a constellation. The overall tone is black and white, with the stars providing the primary light source.

The end