

federica b. bianco
she/her

University of Delaware
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Biden School of Public Policy and Administration
Data Science Institute

Rubin Legacy Survey of Space and Time
Deputy Project Scientist, Rubin Construction
Interim Head of Science, Rubin Operations

**Applications of and
opportunities for AI in the
new era of time-domain
astronomy**



federica b. bianco
she/her

University of Delaware
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Biden School of Public Policy and Administration
Data Science Institute

Rubin Legacy Survey of Space and Time
Deputy Project Scientist, Rubin Construction
Interim Head of Science, Rubin Operations

this slide deck is live at

<https://slides.com/federicabianco/aimlaw>

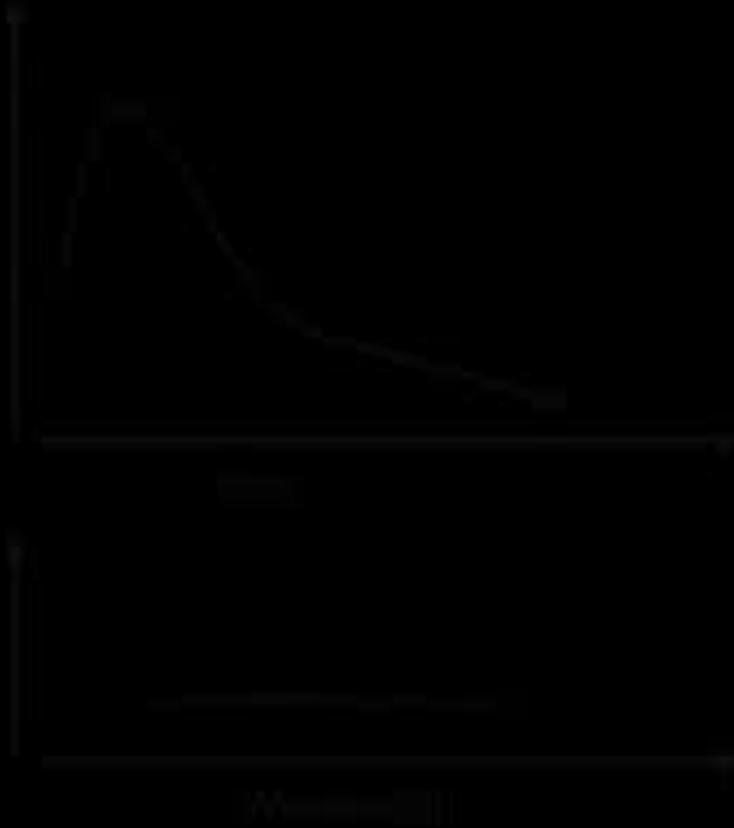
The best way to view the slides is on the web (to see videos and animations). A flat (PDF) version of this deck would be largely diminished

Applications of and opportunities for AI in the new era of time-domain astronomy

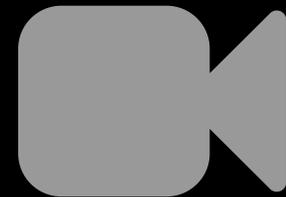
explosions in the sky



how we study SNe

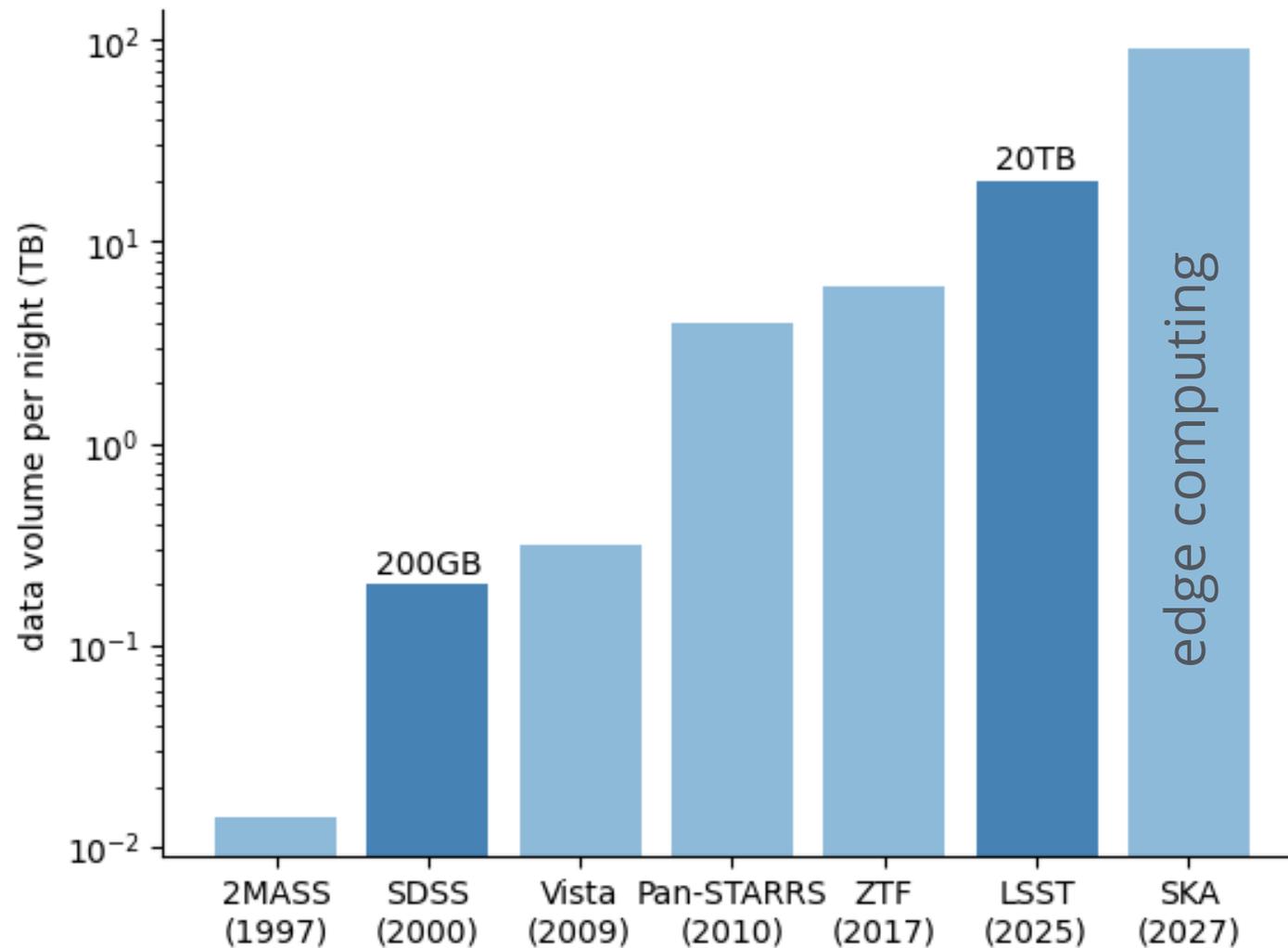


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1AQz1B-08>



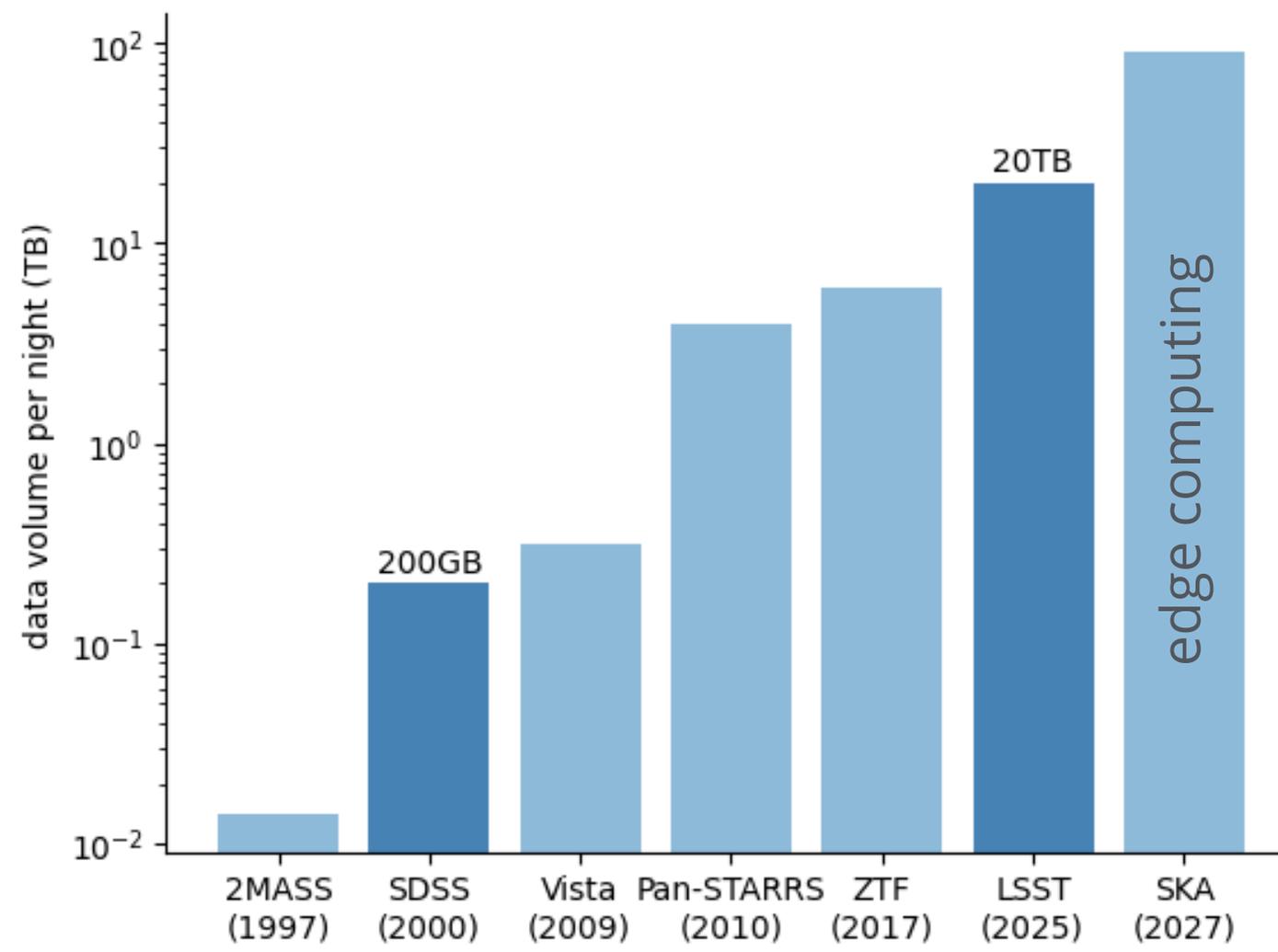
Do we want more data??

HELL YEAH!



Rubin LSST Transients by the numbers

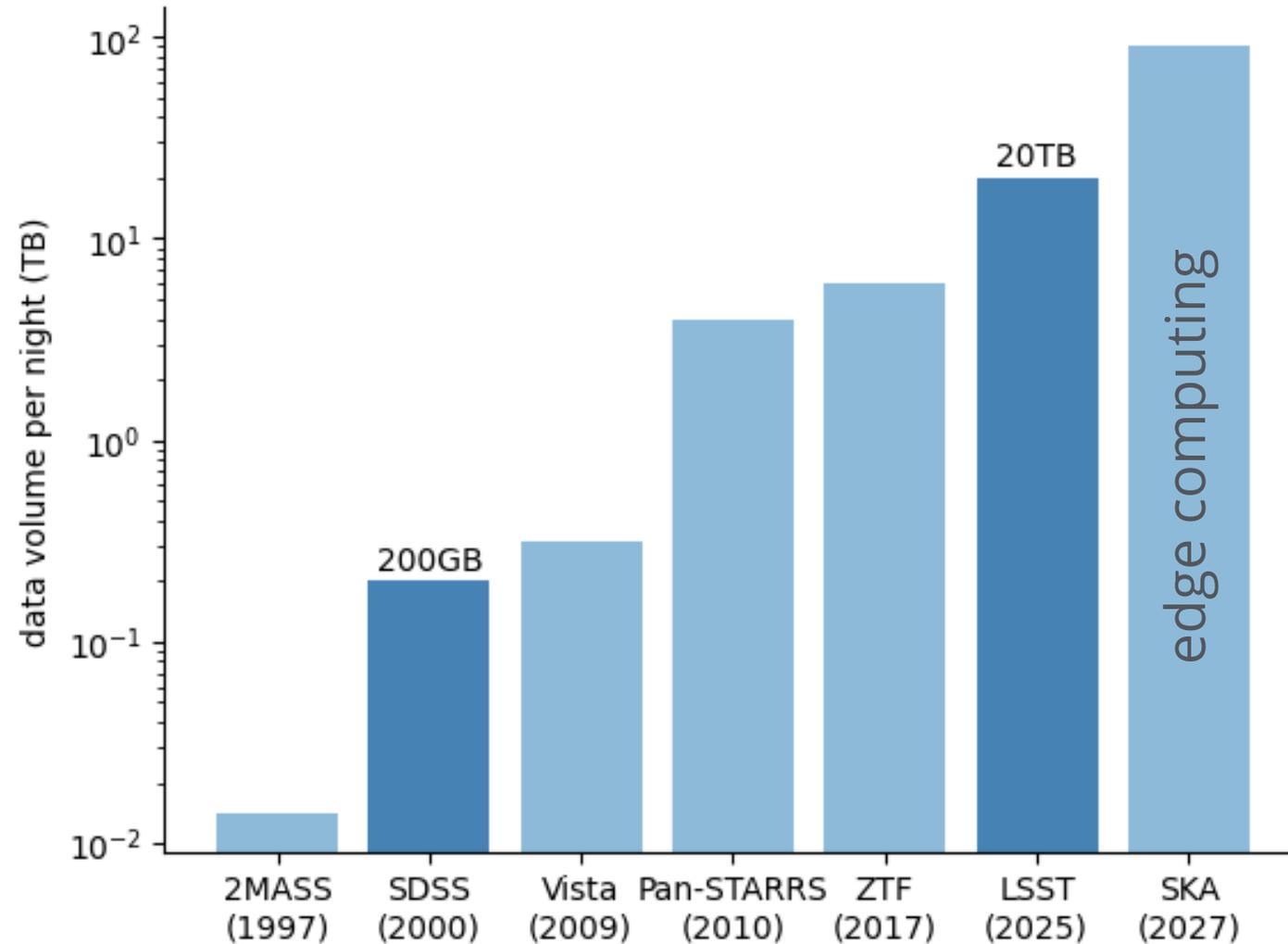
17B stars [Ivezic+19](#)



Rubin LSST Transients by the numbers

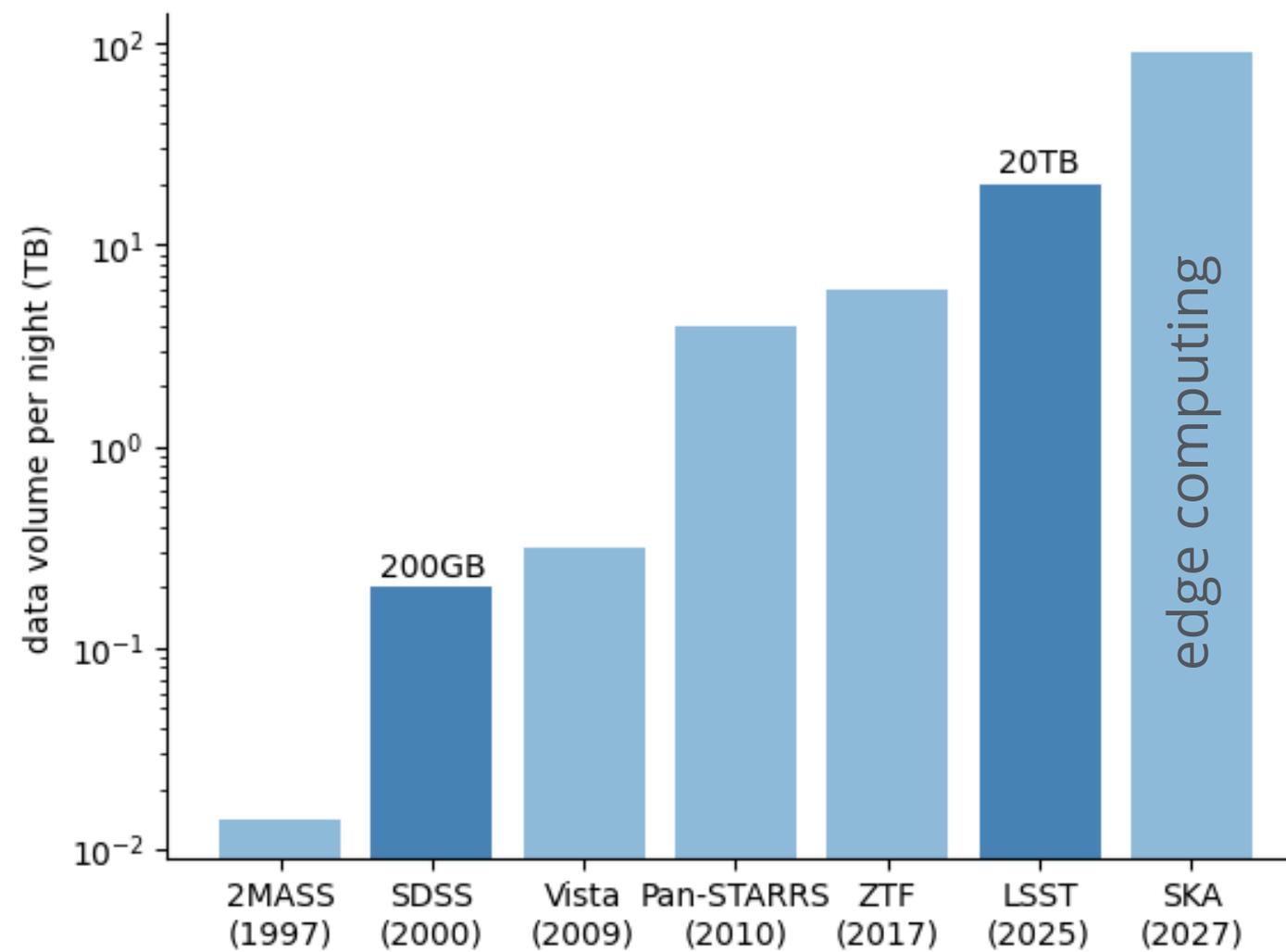
17B stars [Ivezic+19](#)

~10 million QSO [Mary Loli+21](#)



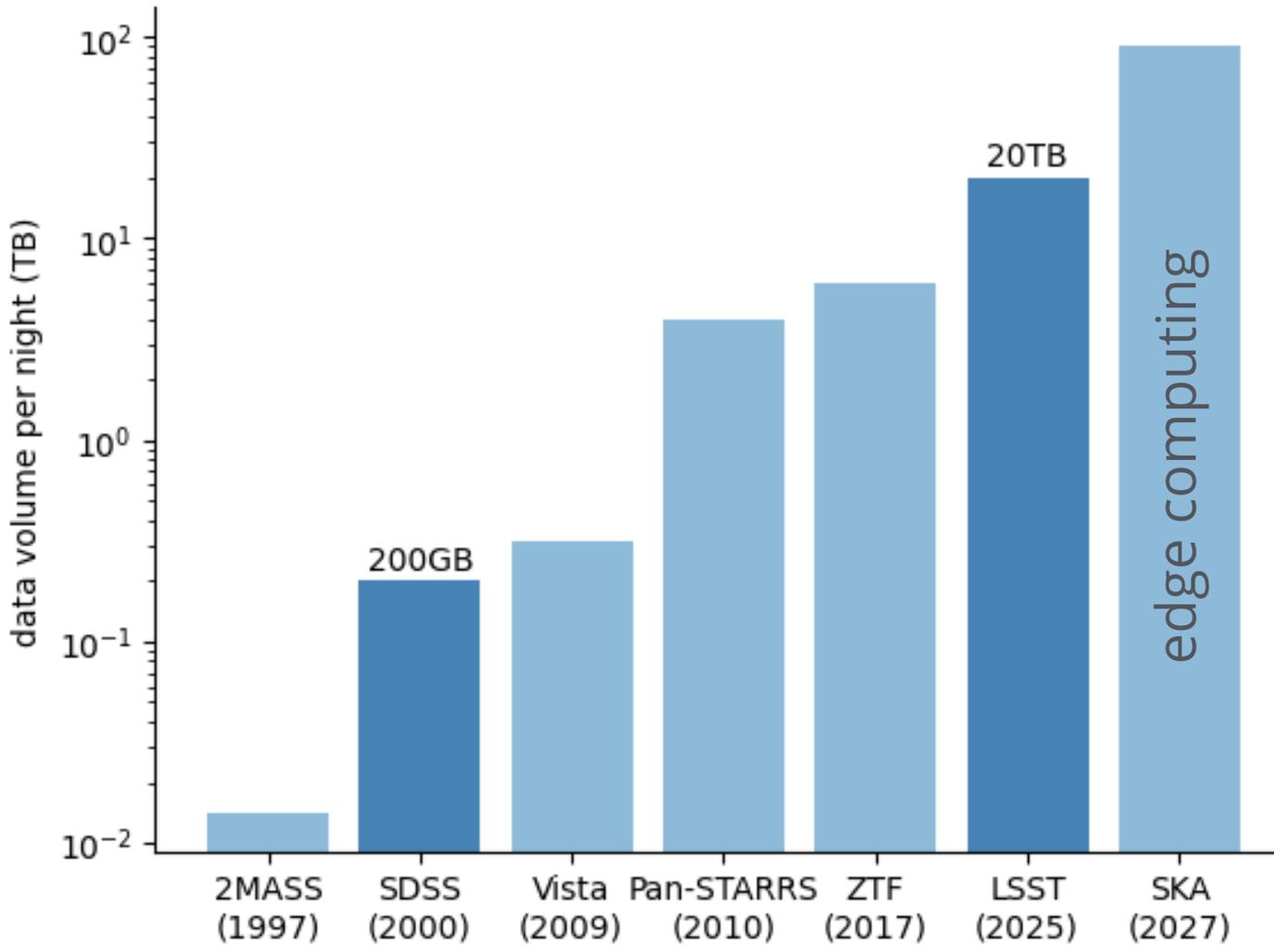
Rubin LSST Transients by the numbers

17B stars [Ivezic+19](#)
~10 million QSO [Mary Loli+21](#)
~50k Tidal Disruption Events [Brickman+ 2020](#)



Rubin LSST Transients by the numbers

- 17B stars [Ivezic+19](#)
- ~10 million QSO [Mary Loli+21](#)
- ~50k Tidal Disruption Events [Brickman+ 2020](#)
- ~10k SuperLuminous Supernovae [Villar+ 2018](#)



Rubin LSST Transients by the numbers

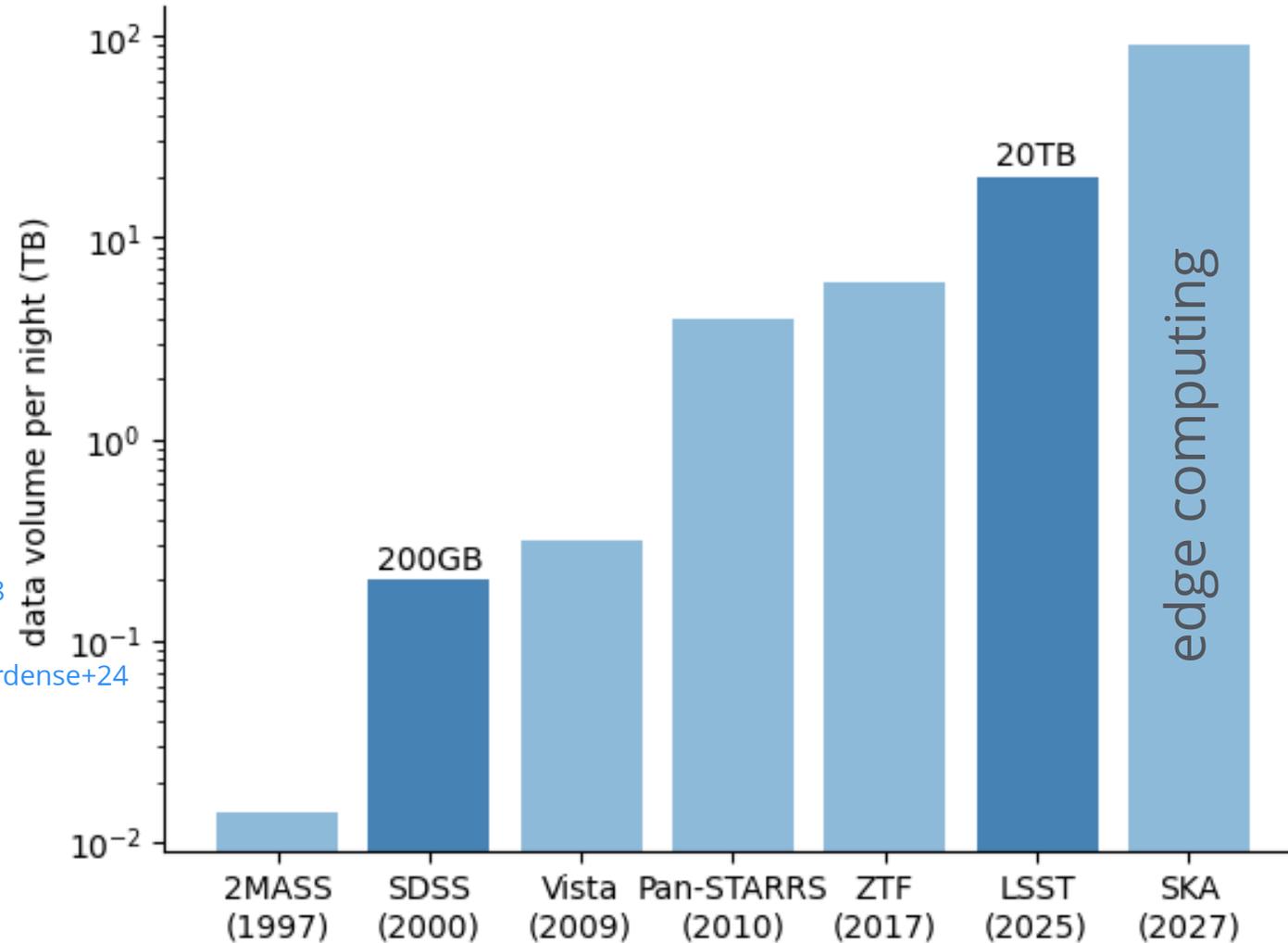
17B stars [Ivezic+19](#)

~10 million QSO [Mary Loli+21](#)

~50k Tidal Disruption Events [Brickman+ 2020](#)

~10k SuperLuminous Supernovae [Villar+ 2018](#)

~200 quadruply-lensed quasars [Minghao+19](#) [Ardense+24](#)



Rubin LSST Transients by the numbers

17B stars [Ivezic+19](#)

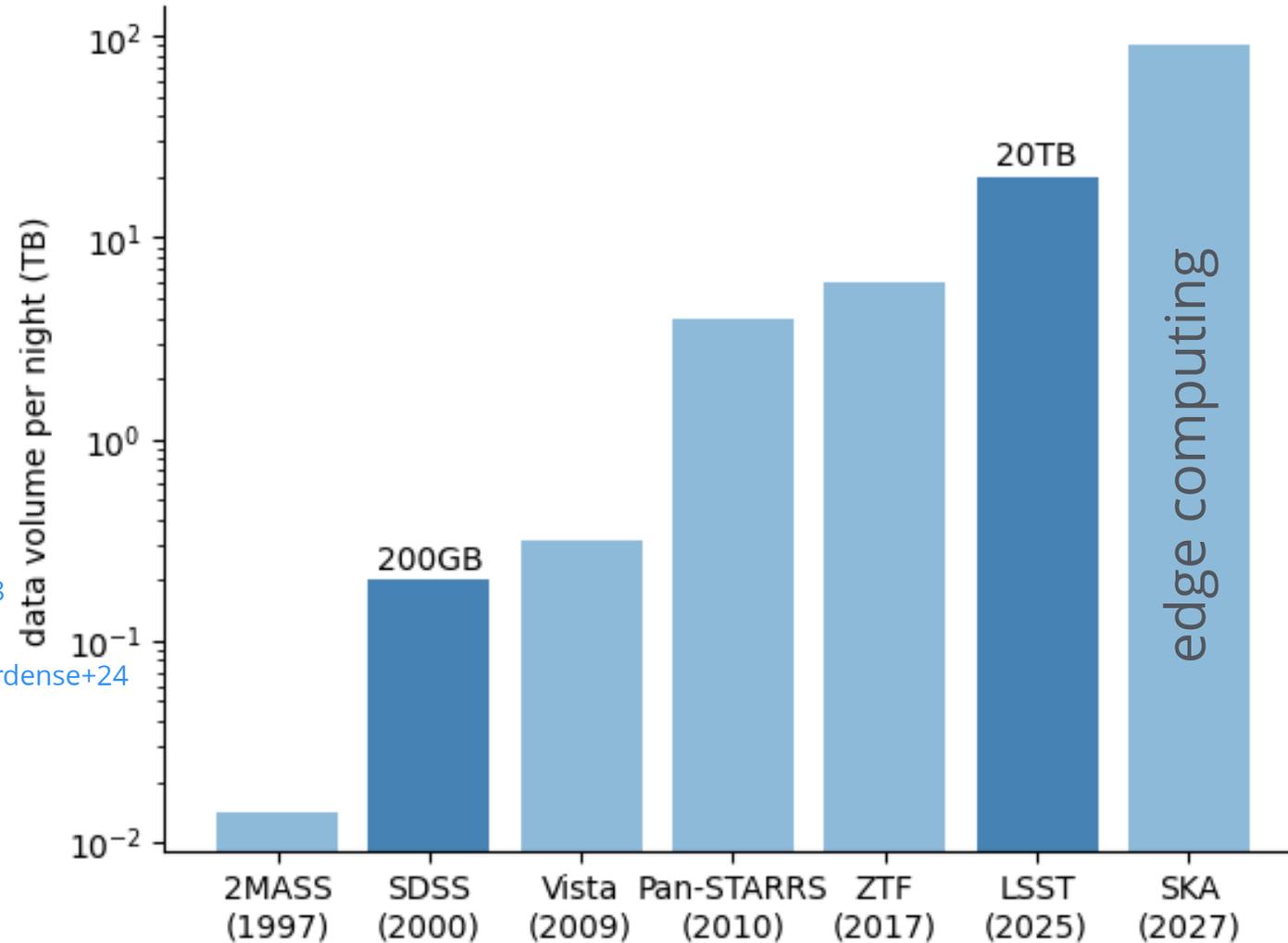
~10 million QSO [Mary Loli+21](#)

~50k Tidal Disruption Events [Brickman+ 2020](#)

~10k SuperLuminous Supernovae [Villar+ 2018](#)

~200 quadruply-lensed quasars [Minghao+19](#) [Ardense+24](#)

~50 kilonovae [Setzer+19](#), [Andreoni+19](#) (+ ToO)



Rubin LSST Transients by the numbers

17B stars [Ivezic+19](#)

~10 million QSO [Mary Loli+21](#)

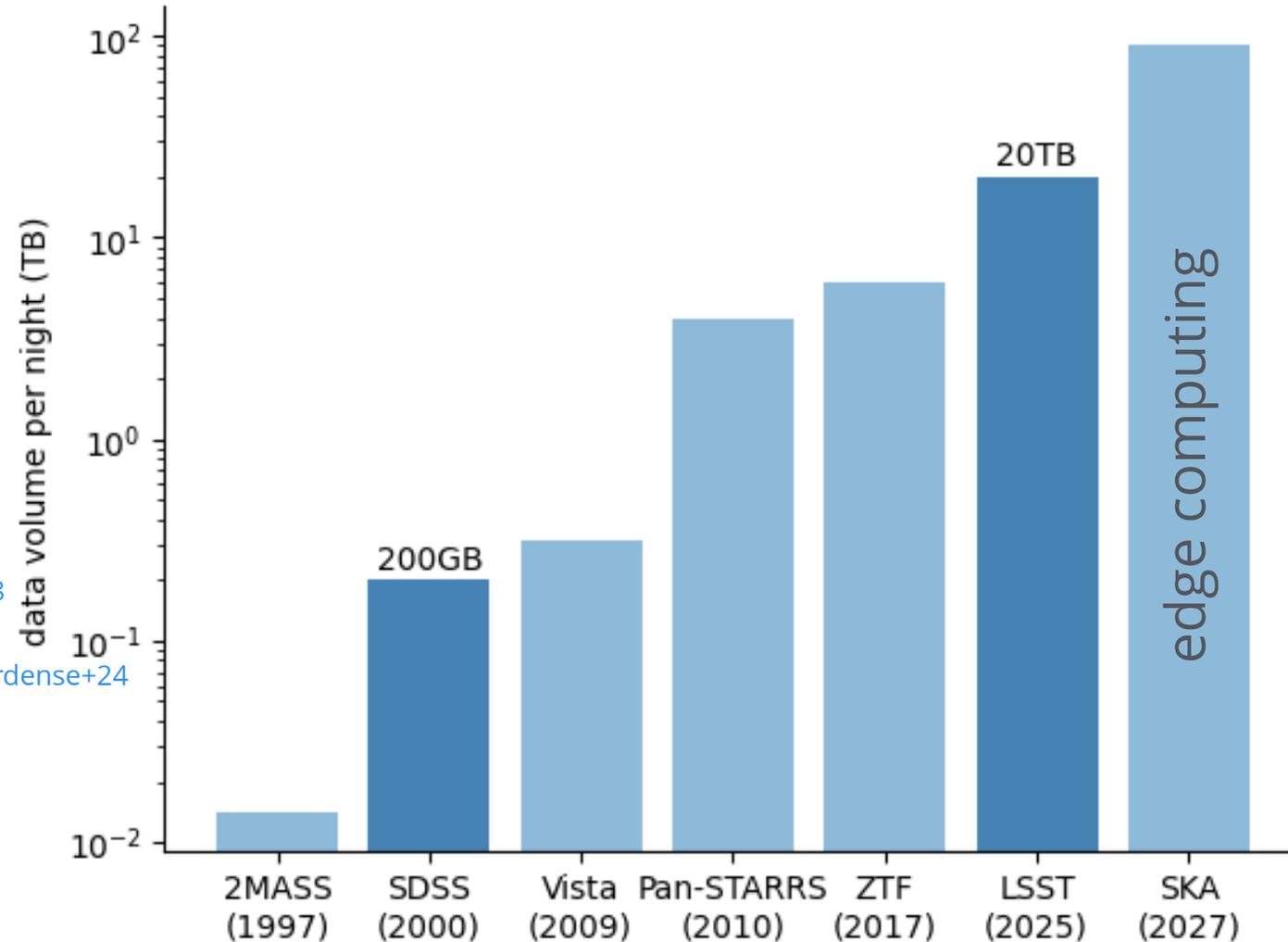
~50k Tidal Disruption Events [Brickman+ 2020](#)

~10k SuperLuminous Supernovae [Villar+ 2018](#)

~200 quadruply-lensed quasars [Minghao+19](#) [Ardense+24](#)

~50 kilonovae [Setzer+19](#), [Andreoni+19](#) (+ ToO)

> 10 Interstellar Objects (👁️?)



Rubin LSST Transients by the numbers

17B stars [Ivezic+19](#)

~10 million QSO [Mary Loli+21](#)

~50k Tidal Disruption Events [Brickman+ 2020](#)

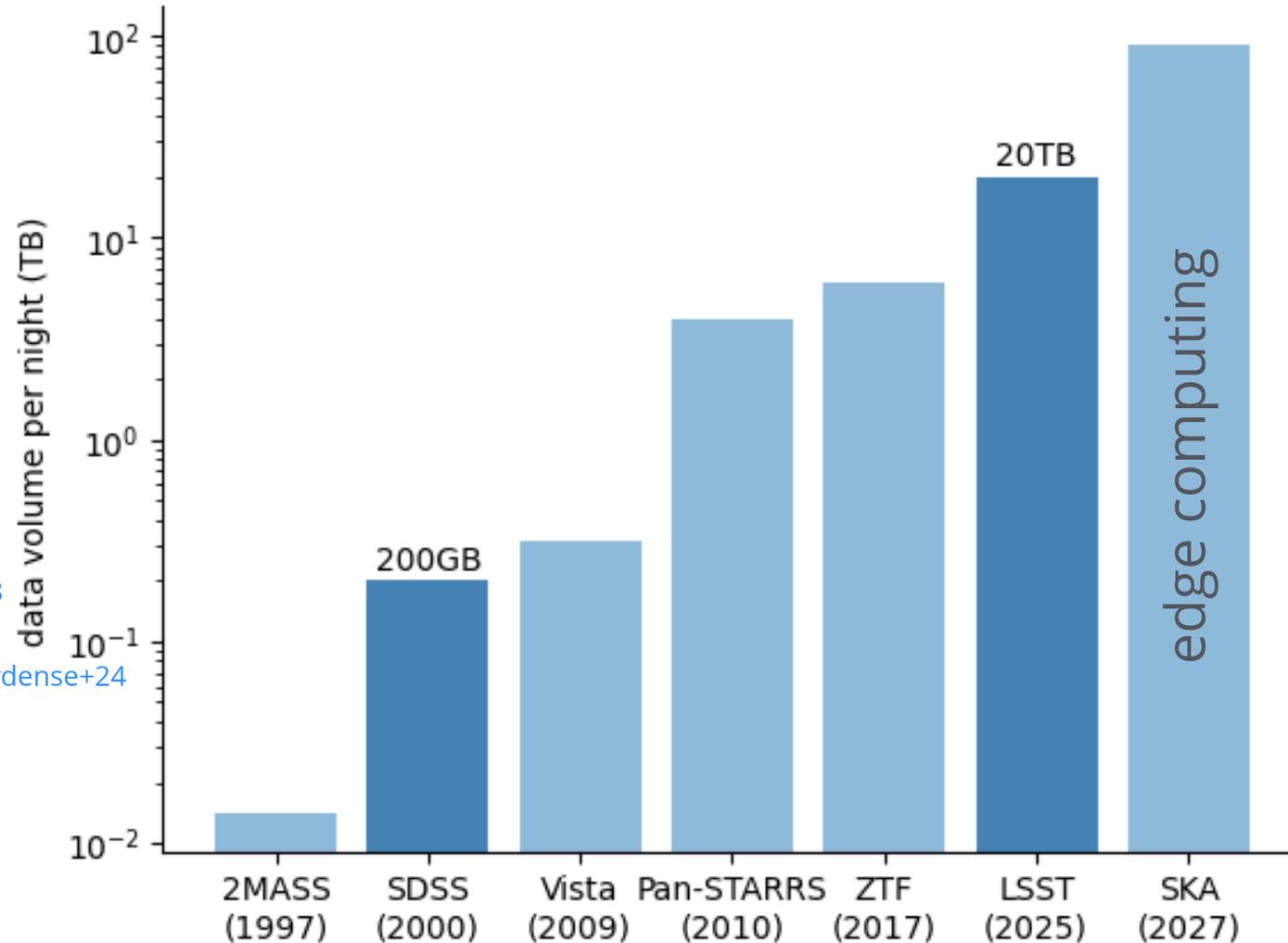
~10k SuperLuminous Supernovae [Villar+ 2018](#)

~200 quadruply-lensed quasars [Minghao+19, Ardense+24](#)

~50 kilonovae [Setzer+19, Andreoni+19](#) (+ ToO)

> 10 Interstellar Objects (👁️?)

True Novelties!



Rubin Transients by the numbers

17B stars [Ivezic+19](#)

~10 million QSO [Mary Loli+21](#)

~50k Tidal Disruption Events [Brickman+ 2020](#)

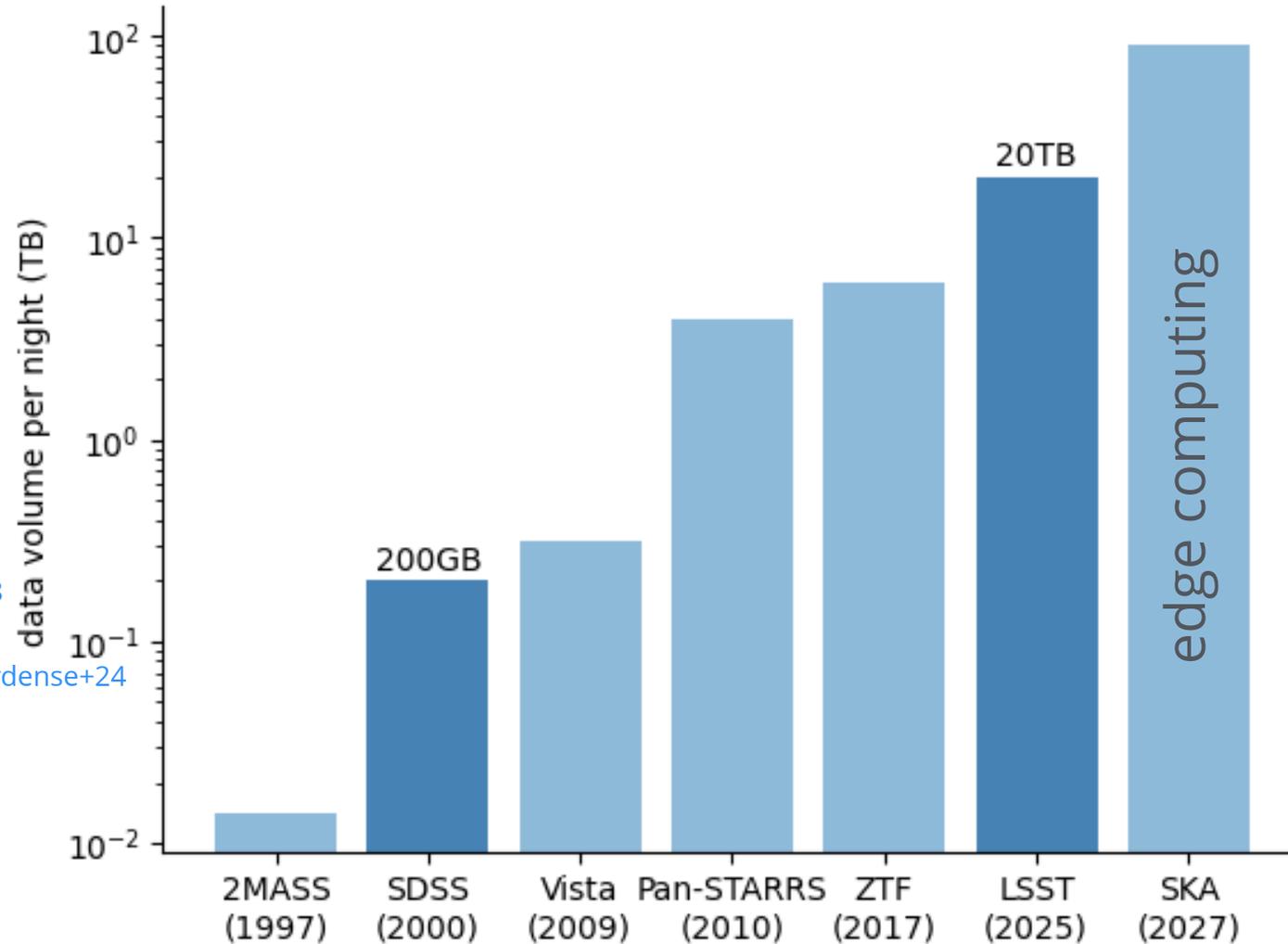
~10k SuperLuminous Supernovae [Villar+ 2018](#)

~200 quadruply-lensed quasars [Minghao+19, Ardense+24](#)

~50 kilonovae [Setzer+19, Andreoni+19](#) (+ ToO)

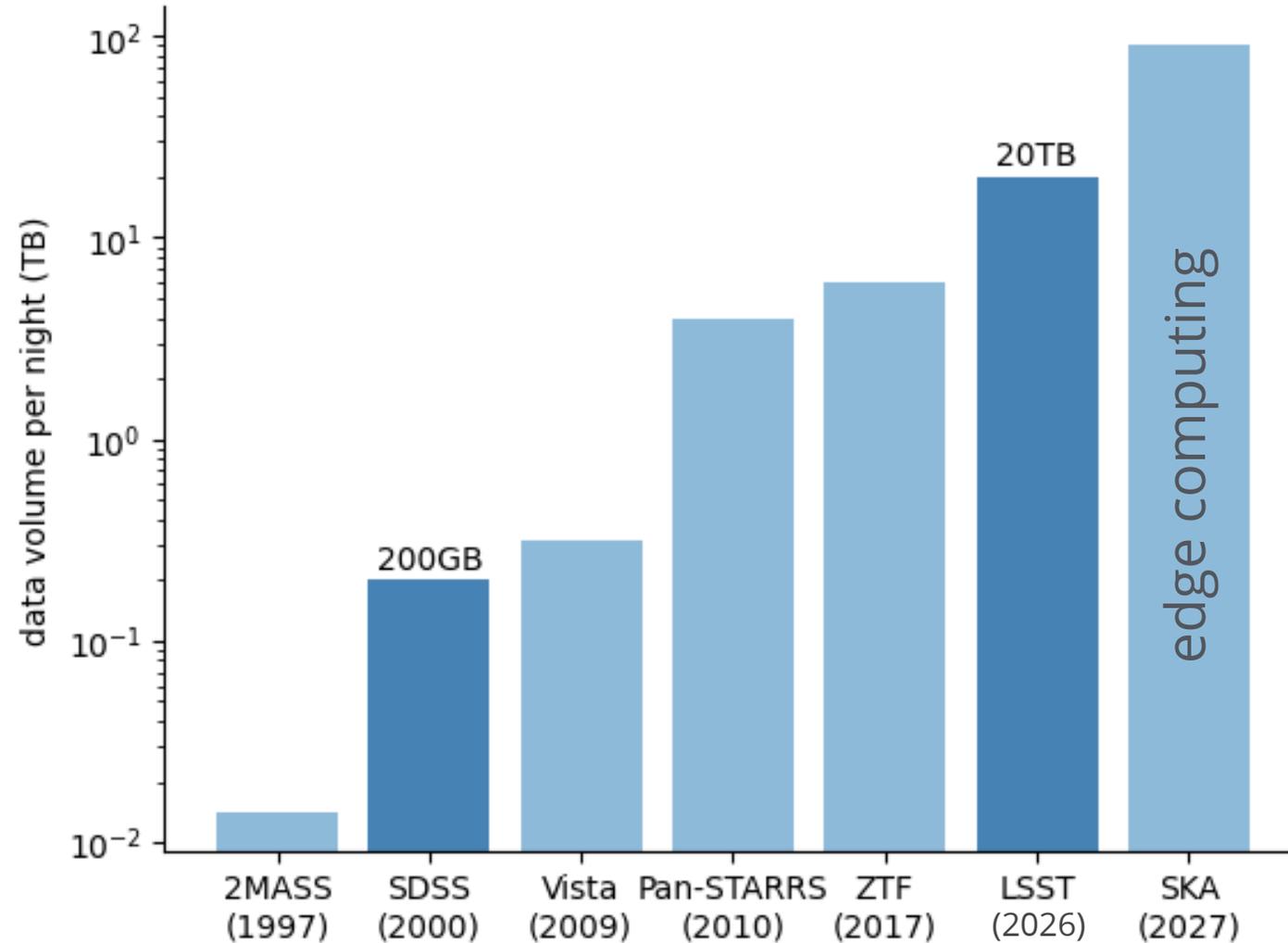
> 10 Interstellar Objects (👁️?)

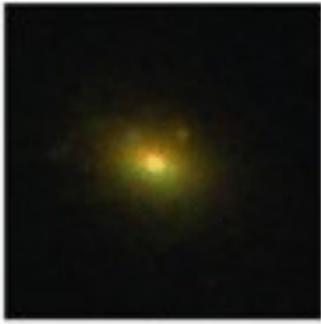
True Novelties!



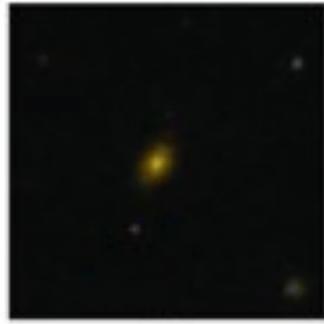
Is the data gonna also be better?

well... it depends





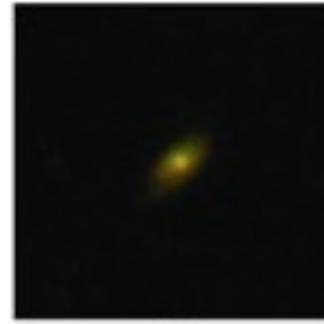
I



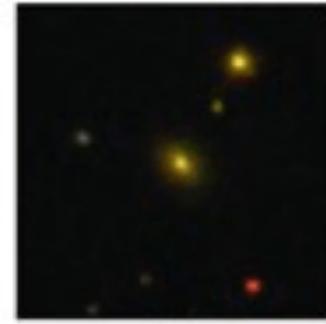
II



III



IV



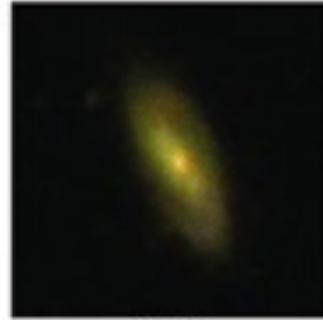
V



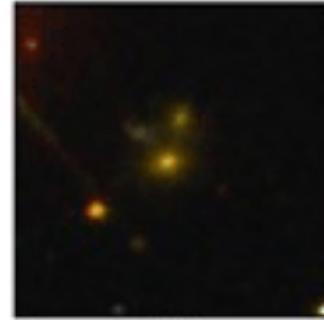
VI



VII



VIII



IX



X



XI



XII



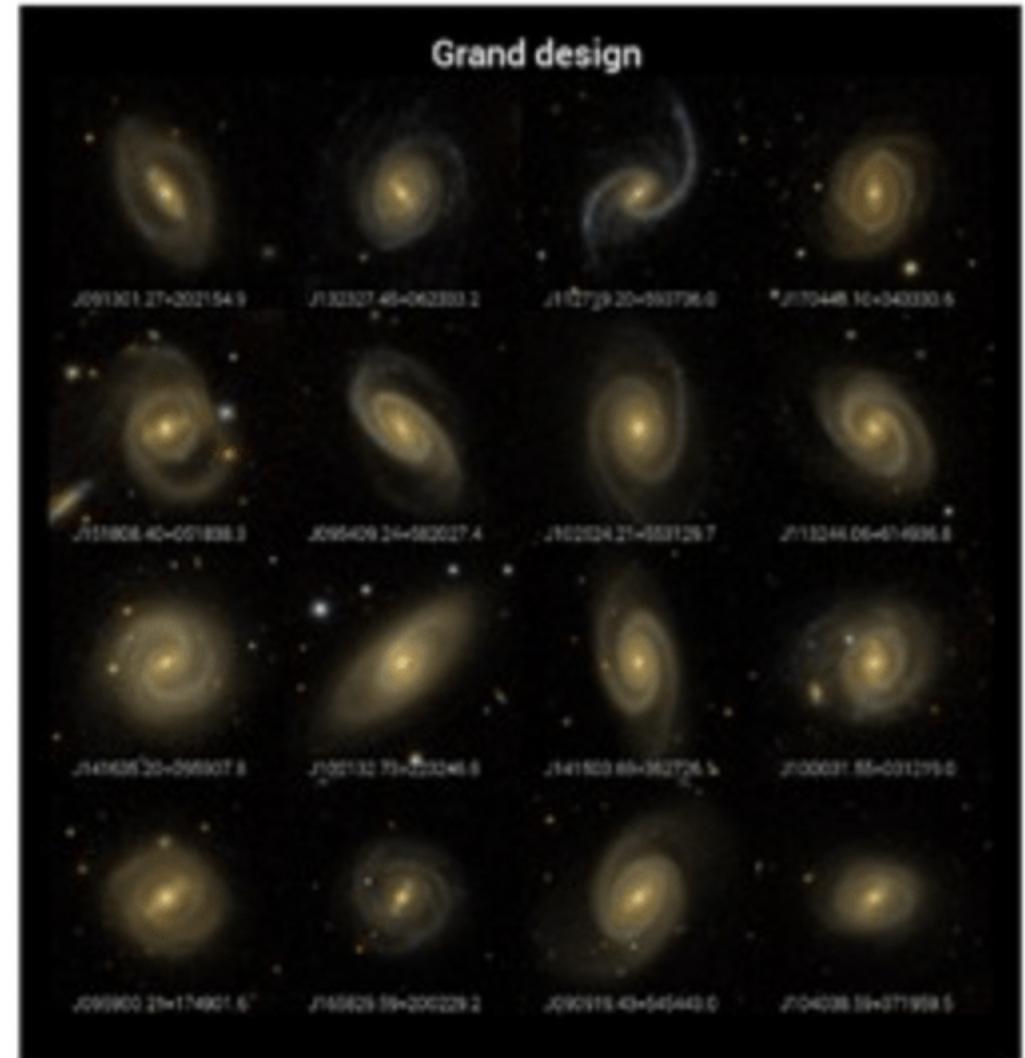
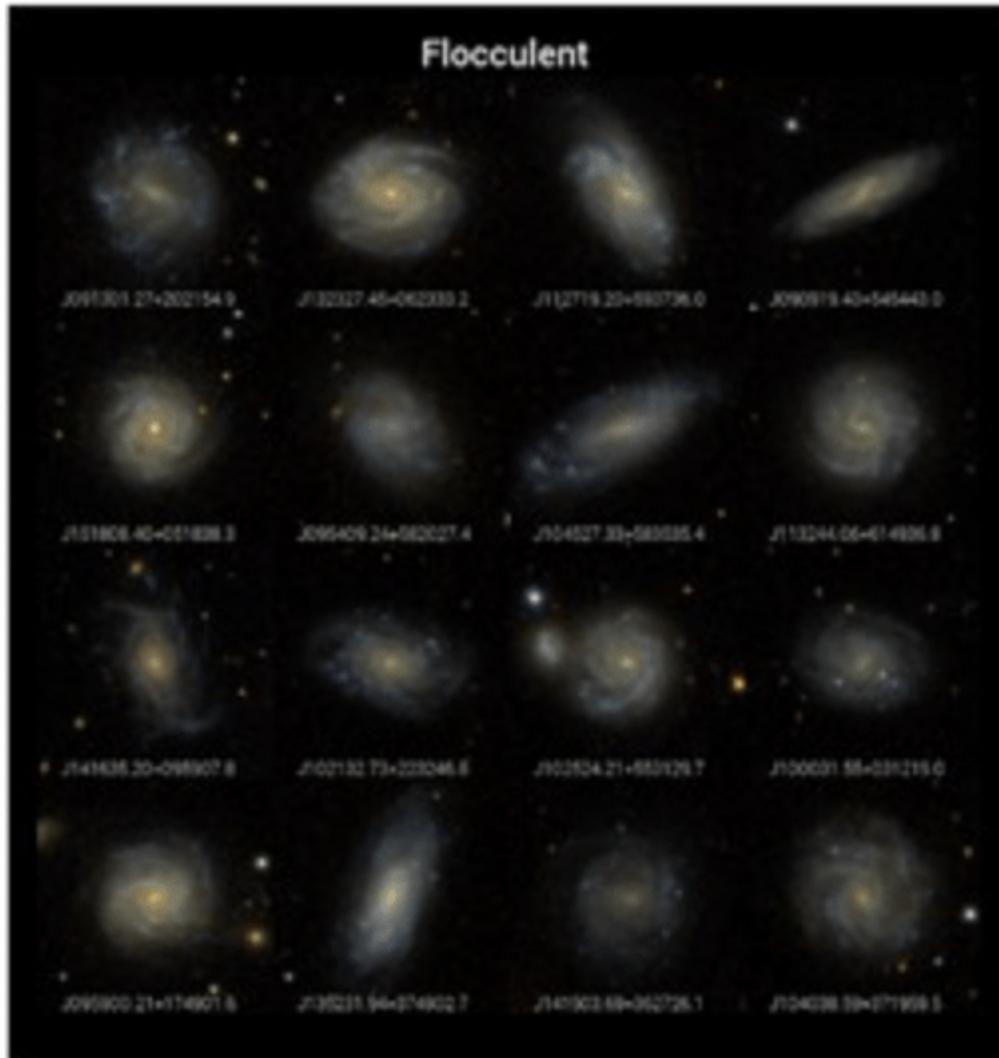
XIII



XIV

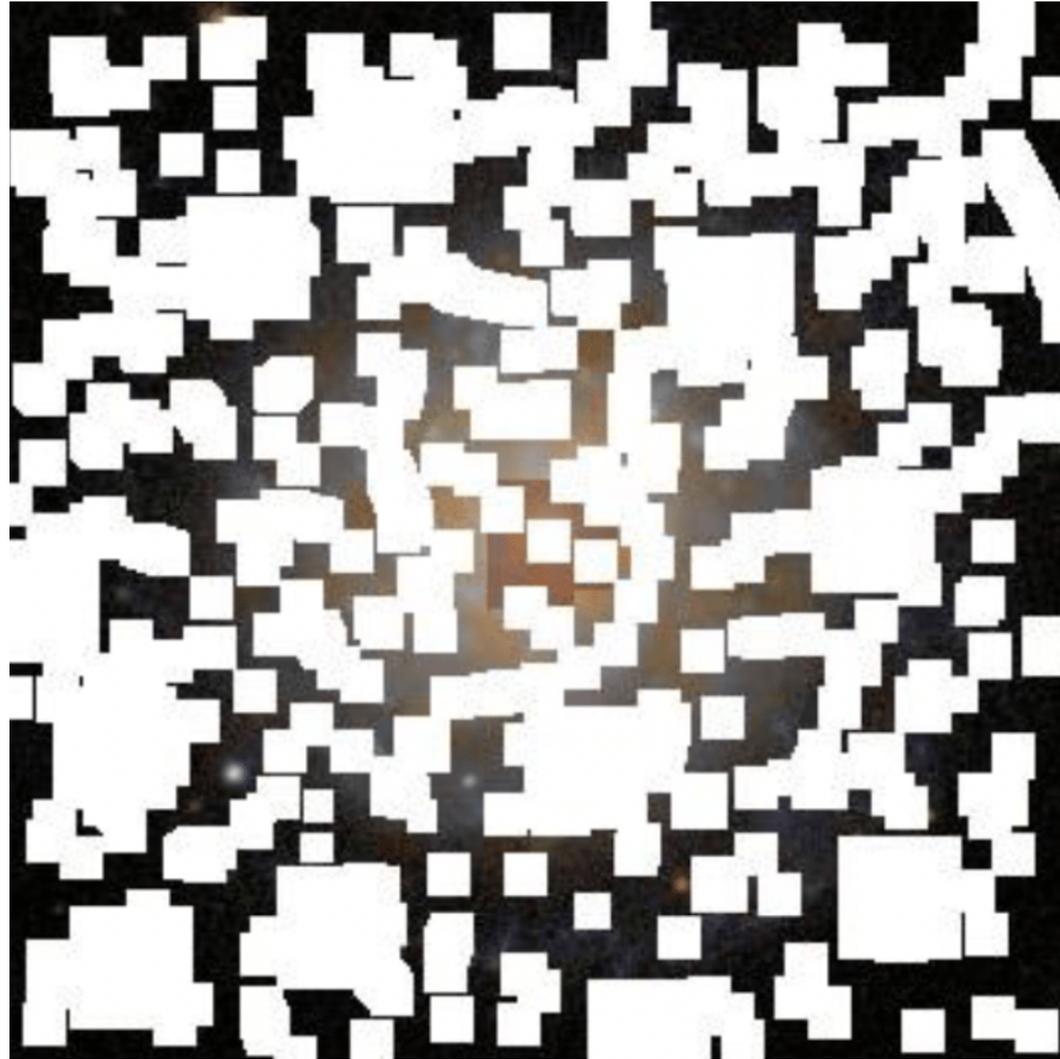


XV

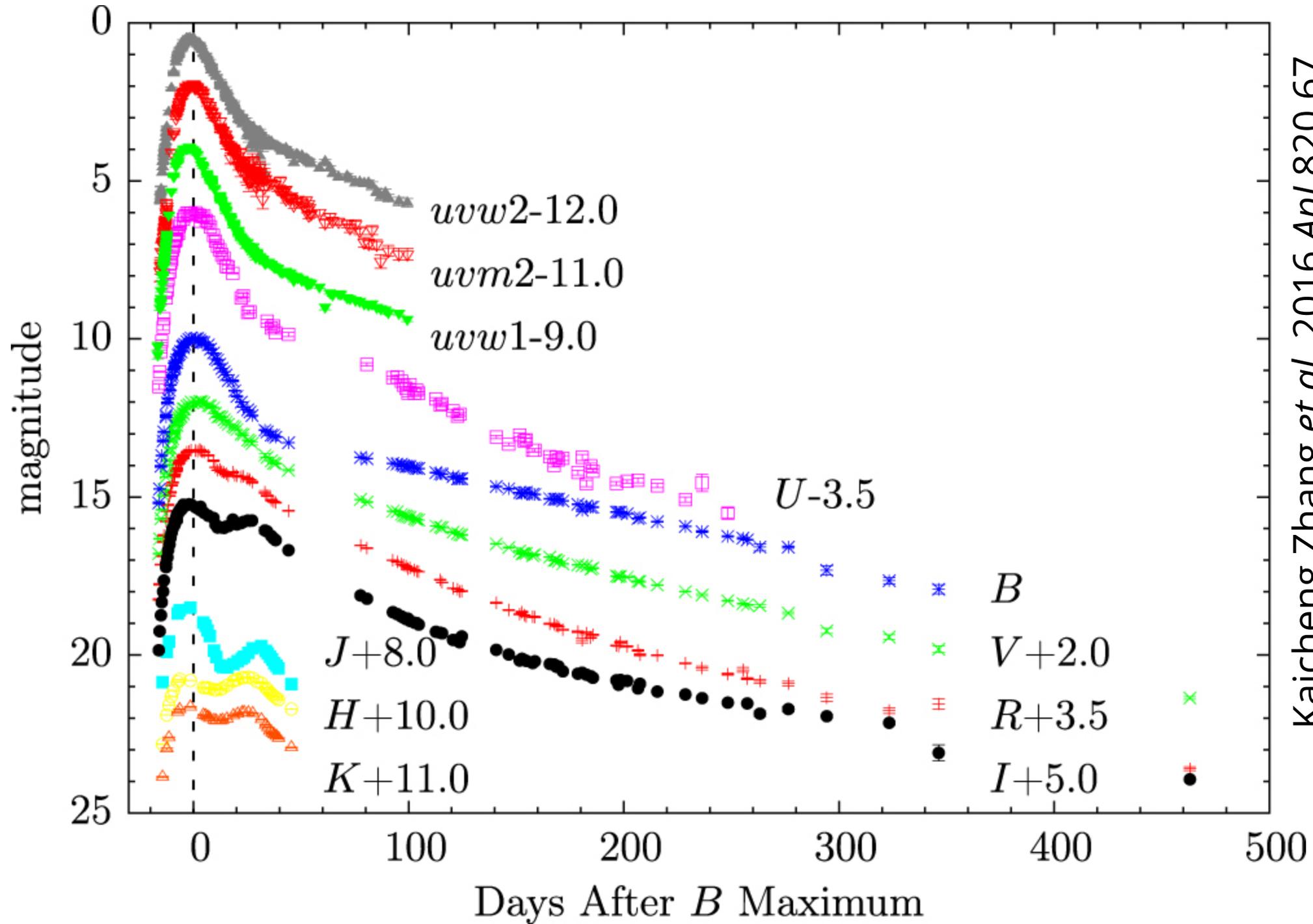


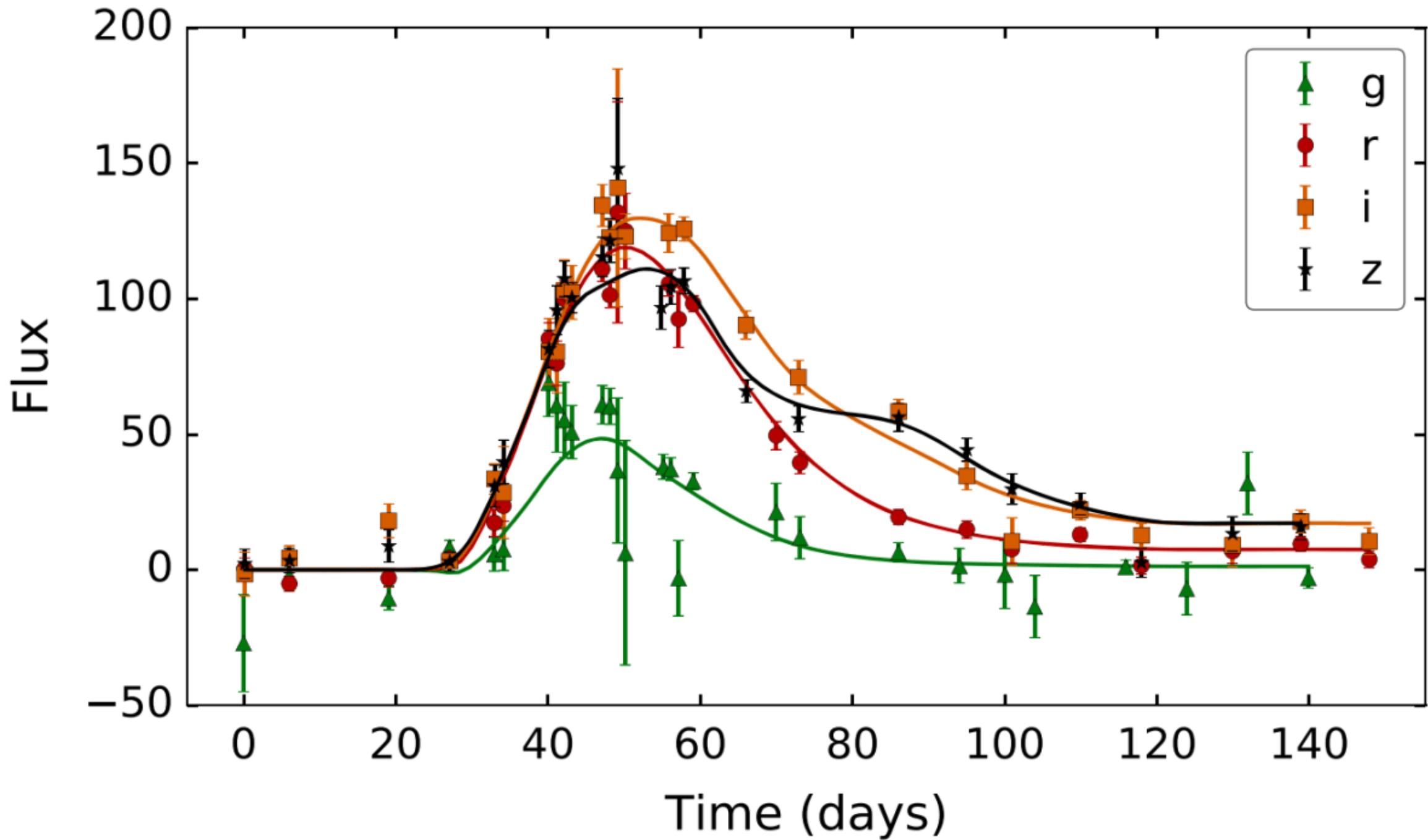
Sarkar+ 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stac3096>

thank you Arumina

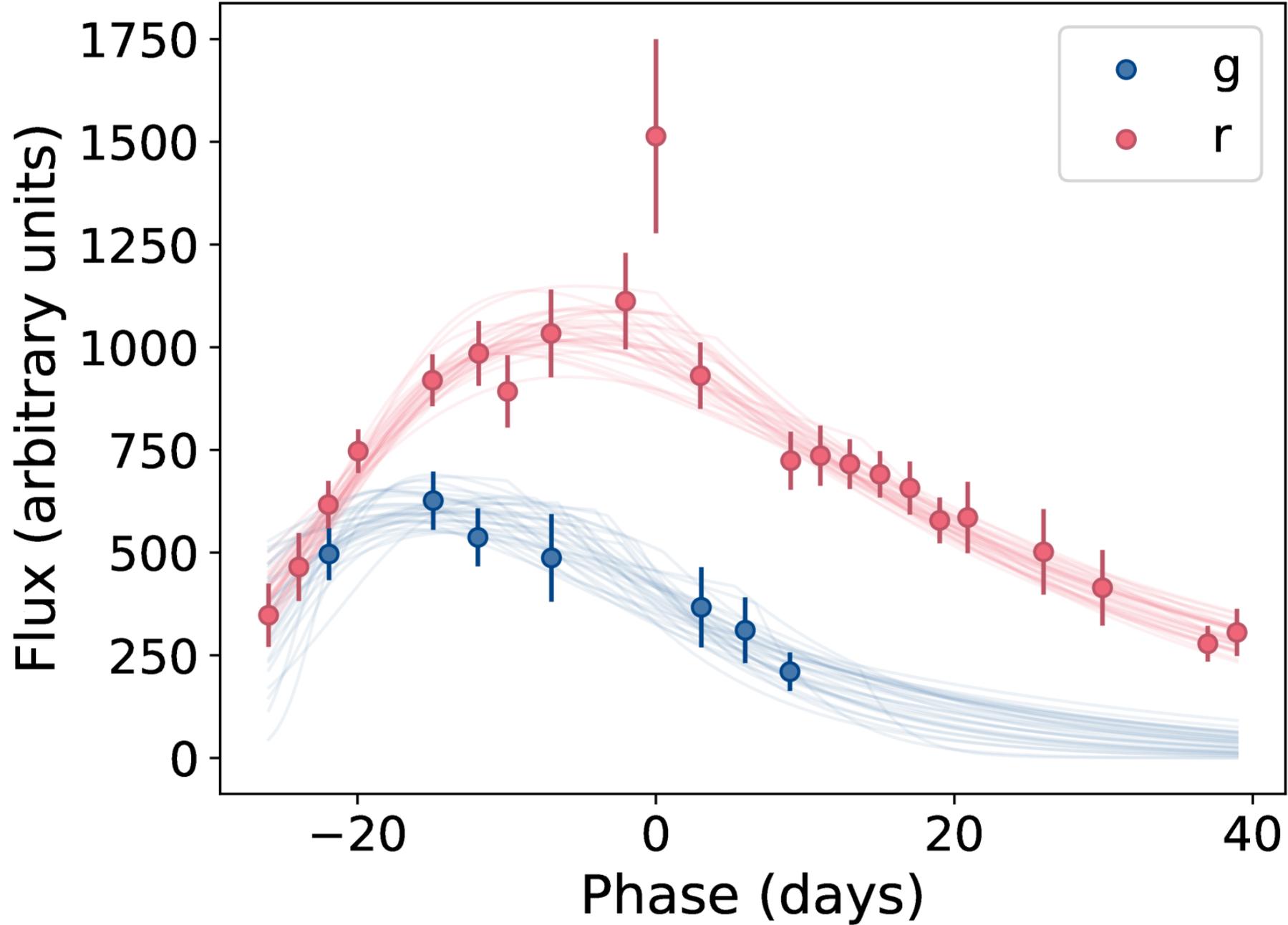


visualizatoin and concept credit: Alex Razim

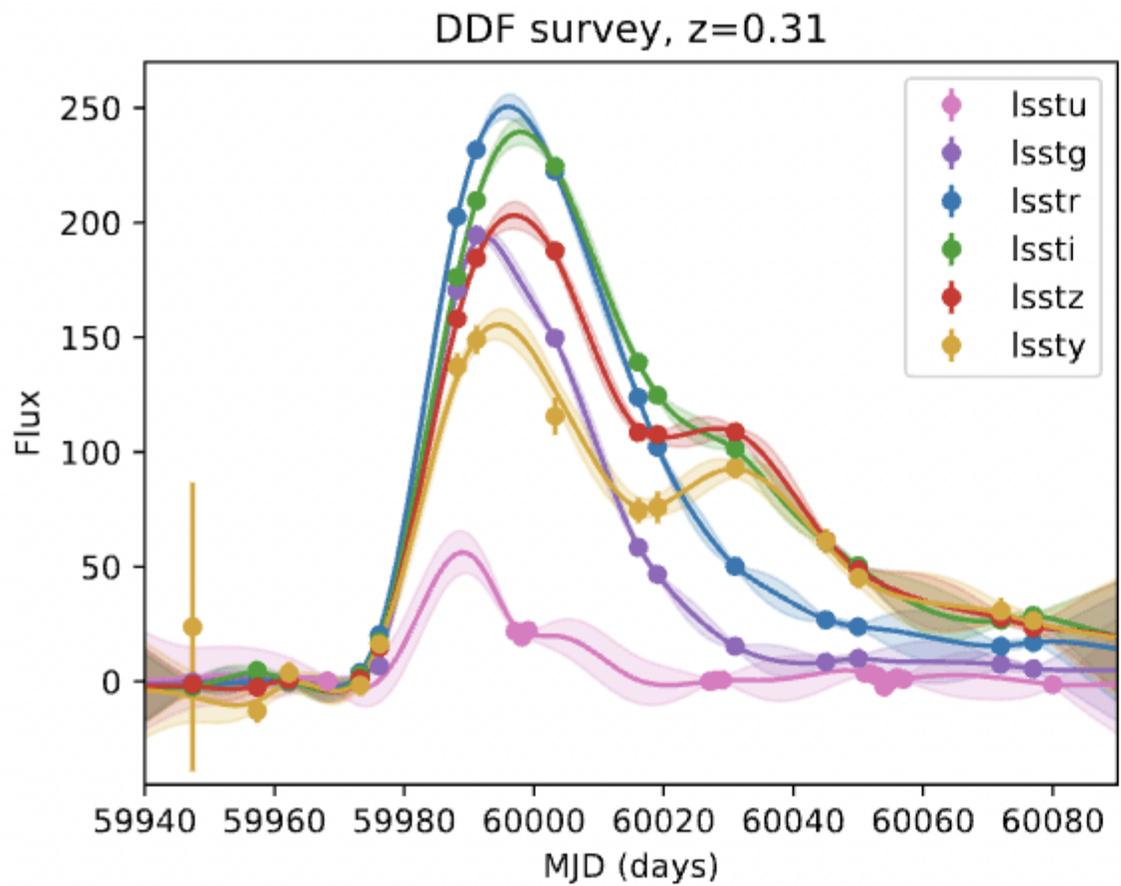




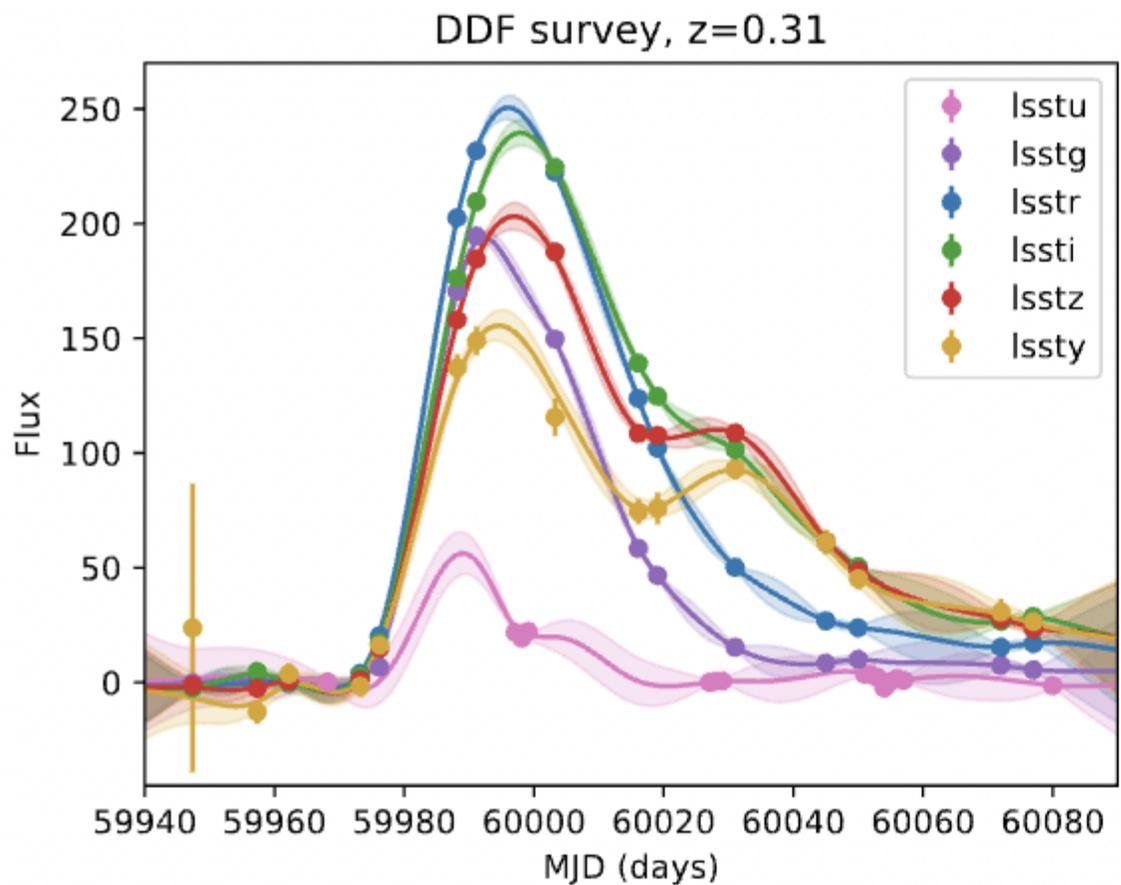
ZTF21abpwtde (SN Ibc)



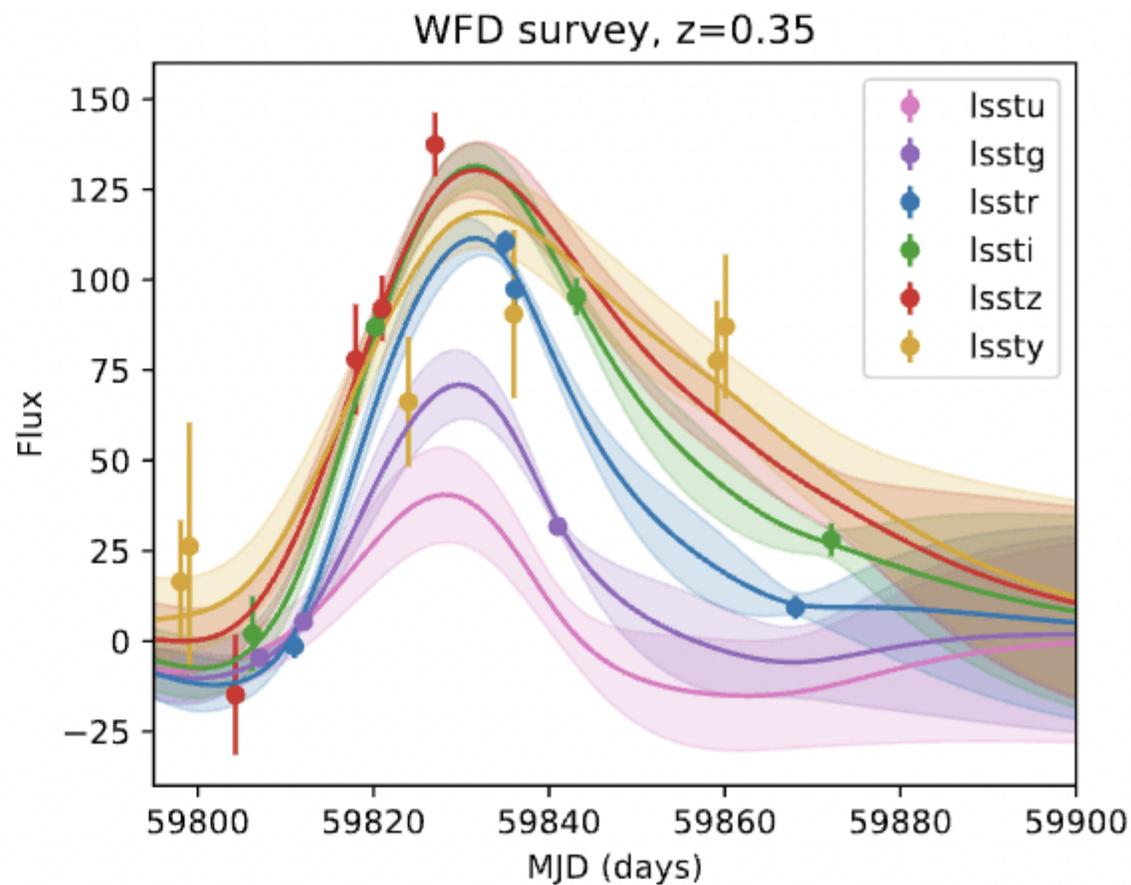
deSoto+2024



7% of LSST data

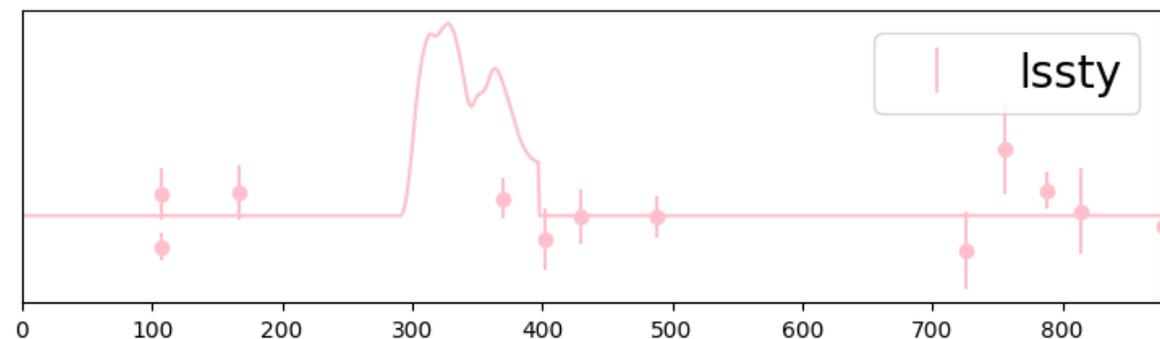
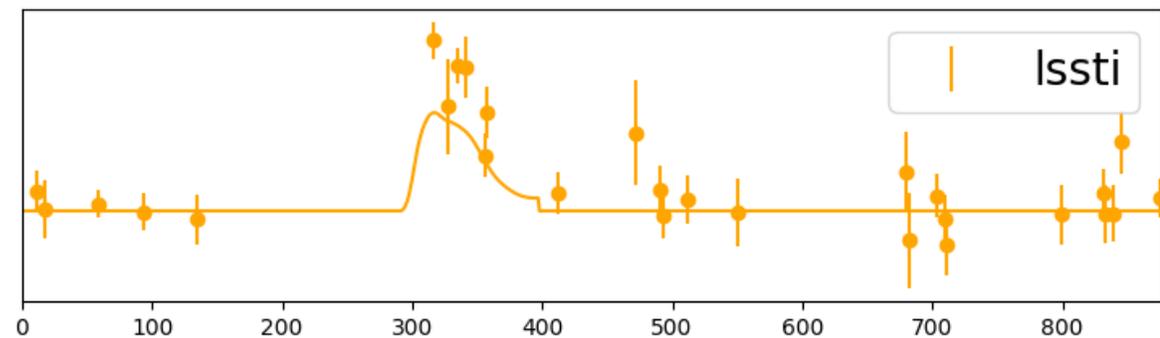
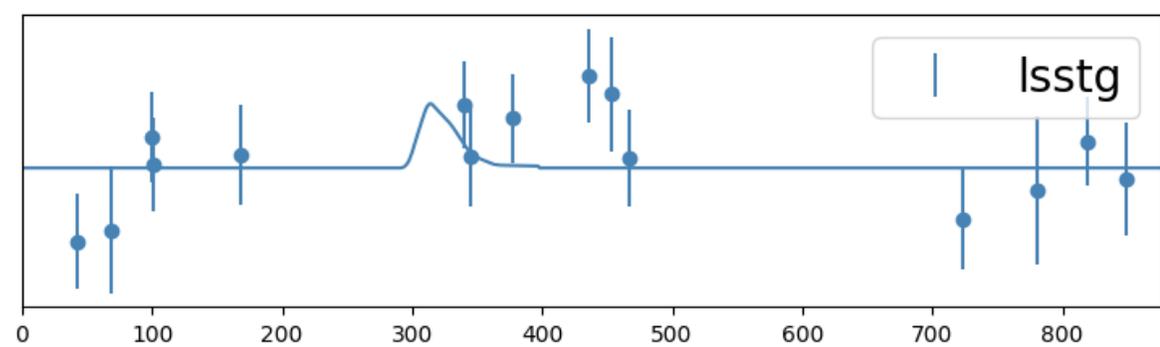
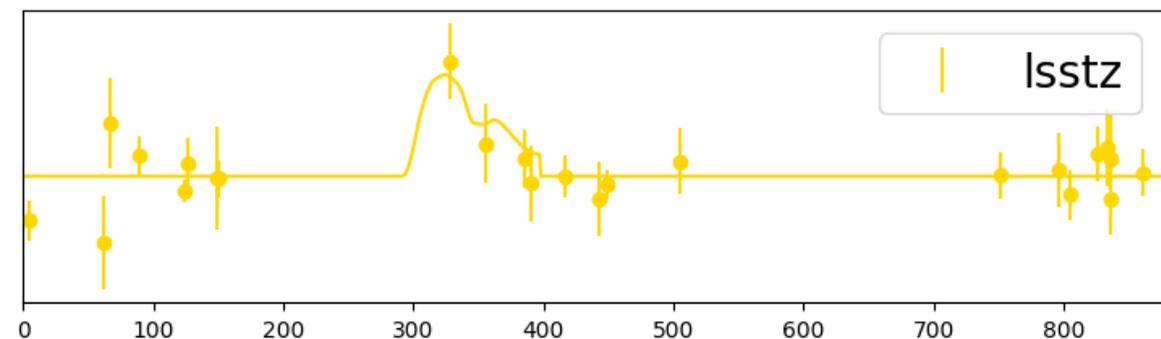
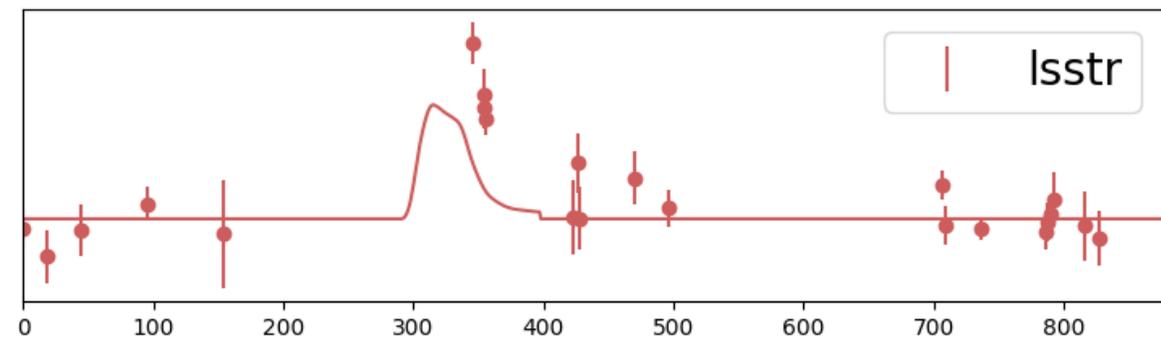
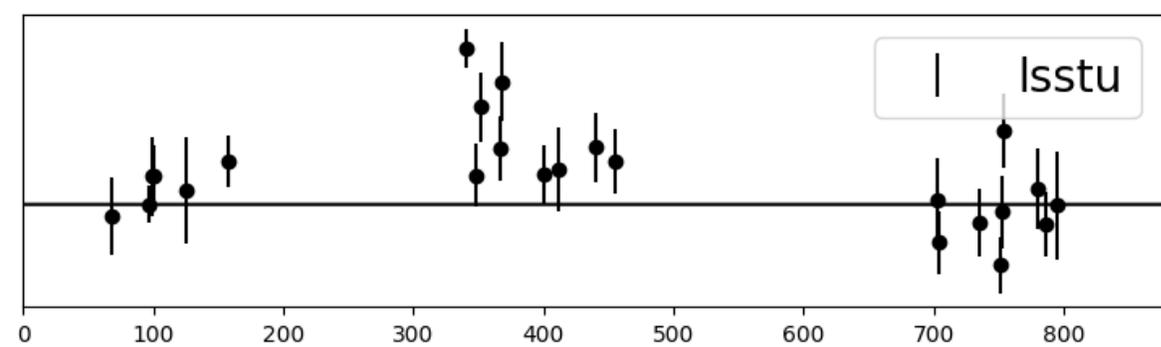


7% of LSST data



The rest

Boone 2017



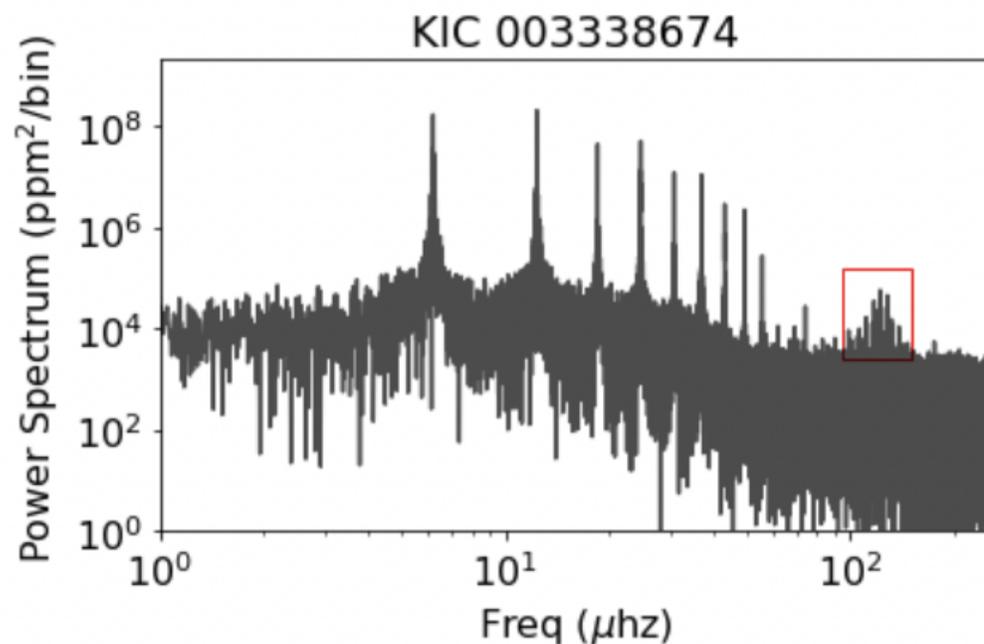
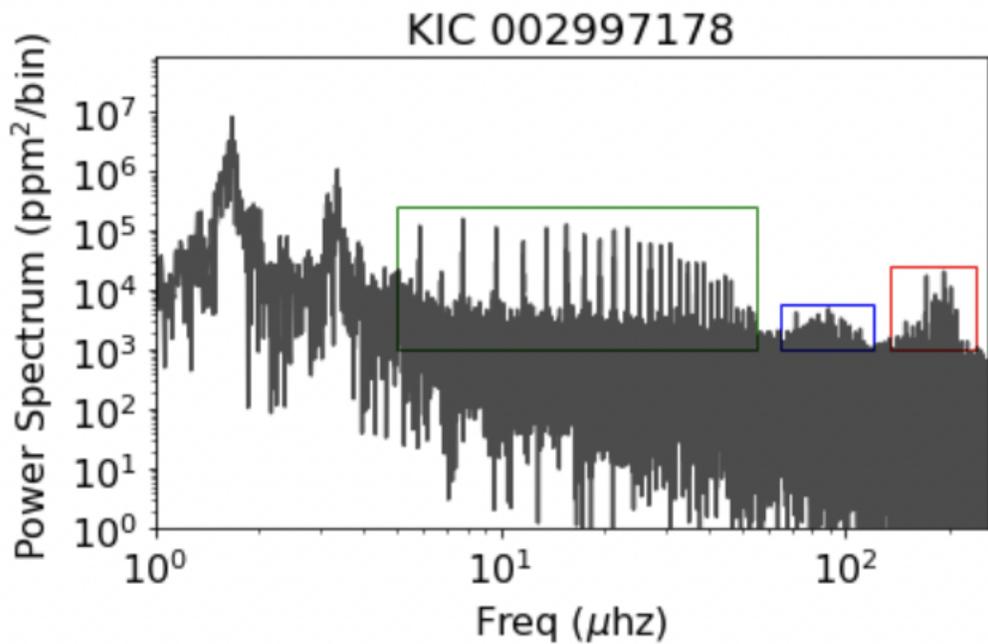
Data: PLAsTiCC

Model: *salt2* (Guy+07) implemented with
SNCOSMO (Barbary+2012)

transient data AI ready (see Alex's talk)

lightcurves make really bad tensors

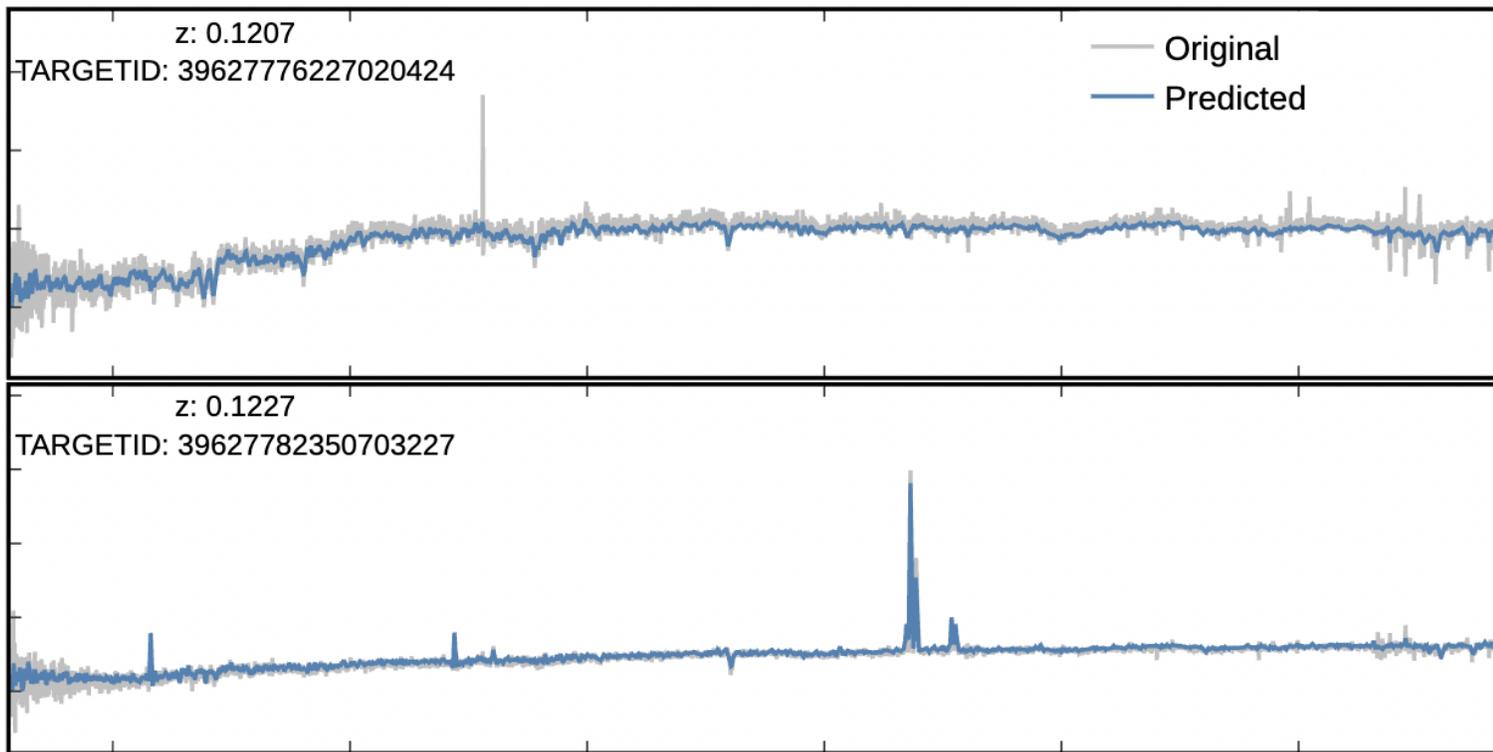
- Variable sizes of data vectors
- Uneven sampling
- Different sampling at different wavelengths
- Phase gaps can be months long over ~1 year relevant time scales
- Multiple relevant time scales (Long Sort Medium.... need all memory)
- Heteroscedastic errors



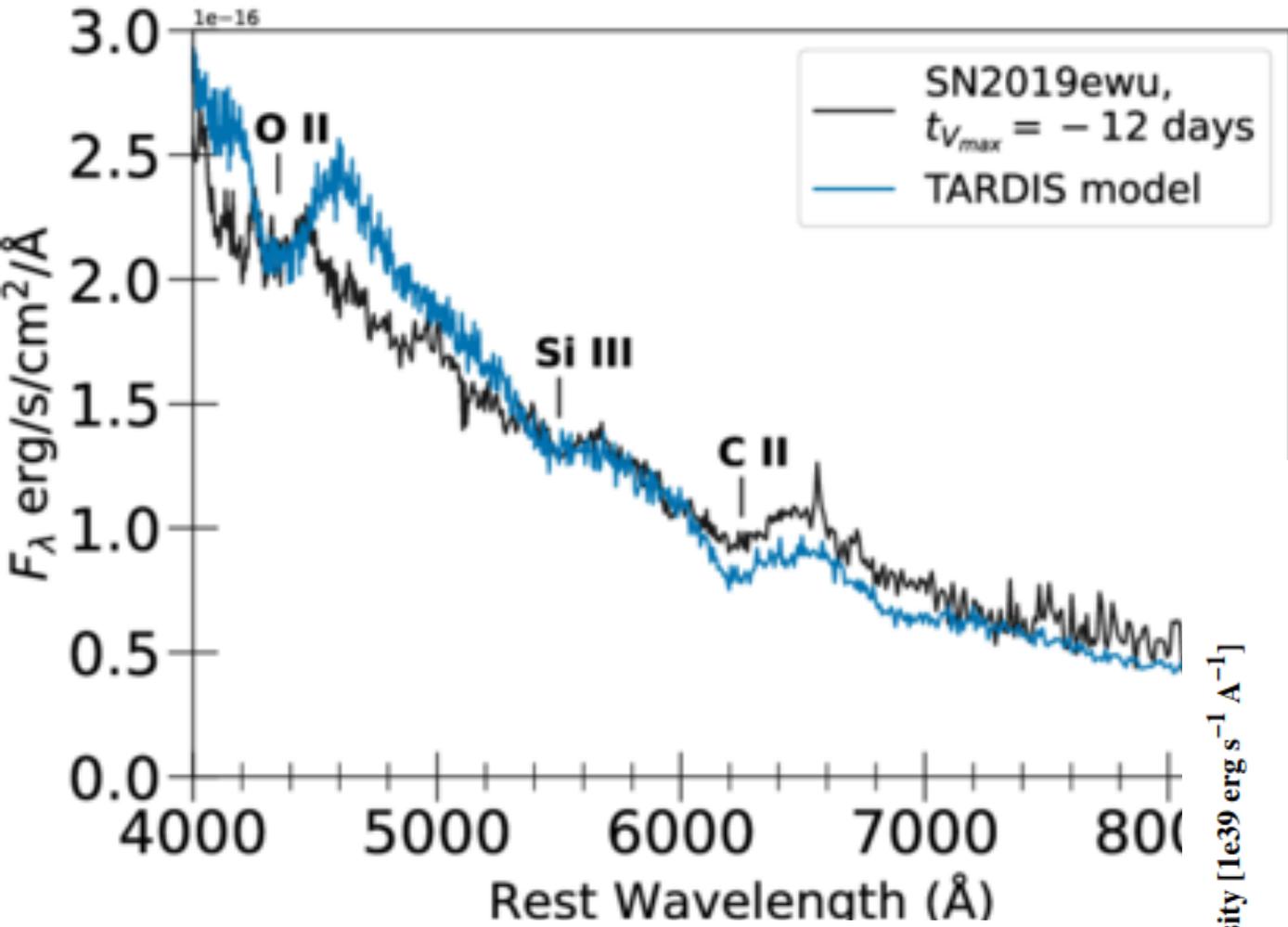
Dhanpal+2022

thank you Shravan

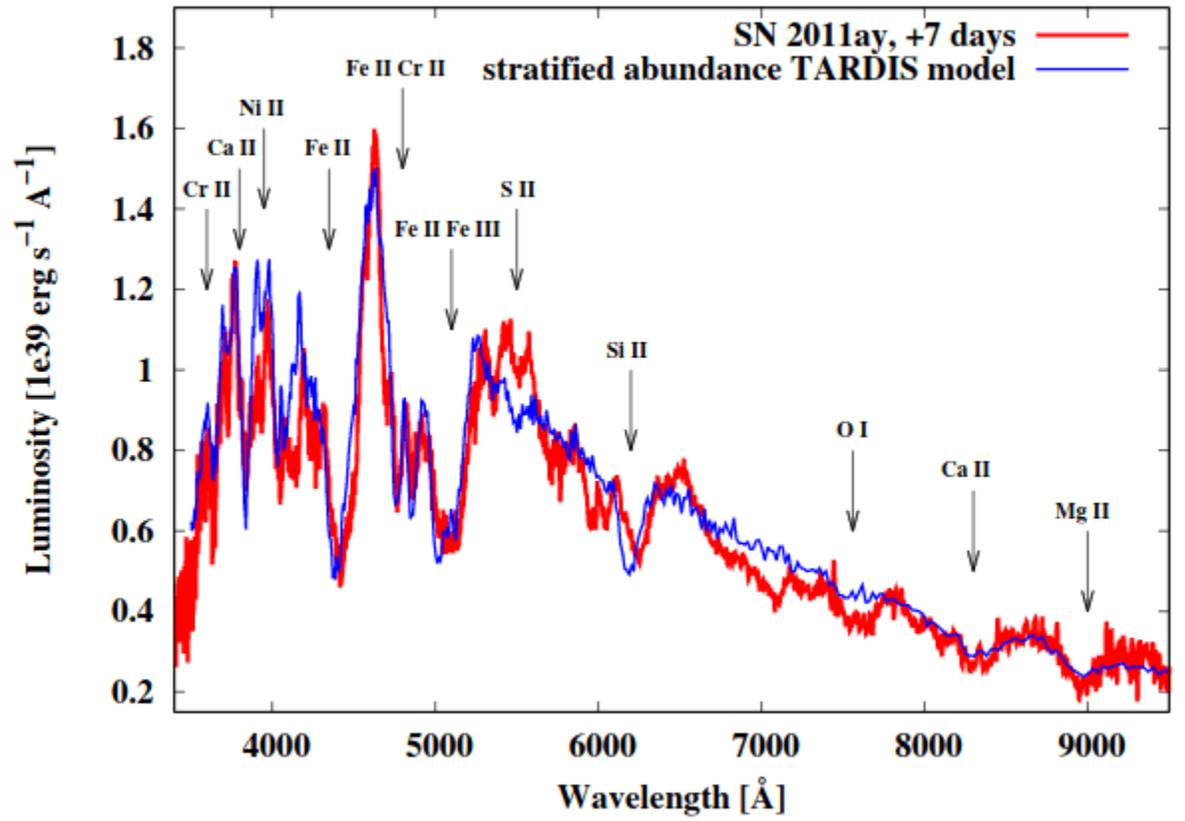
Rohan Pattnaik+ 2025



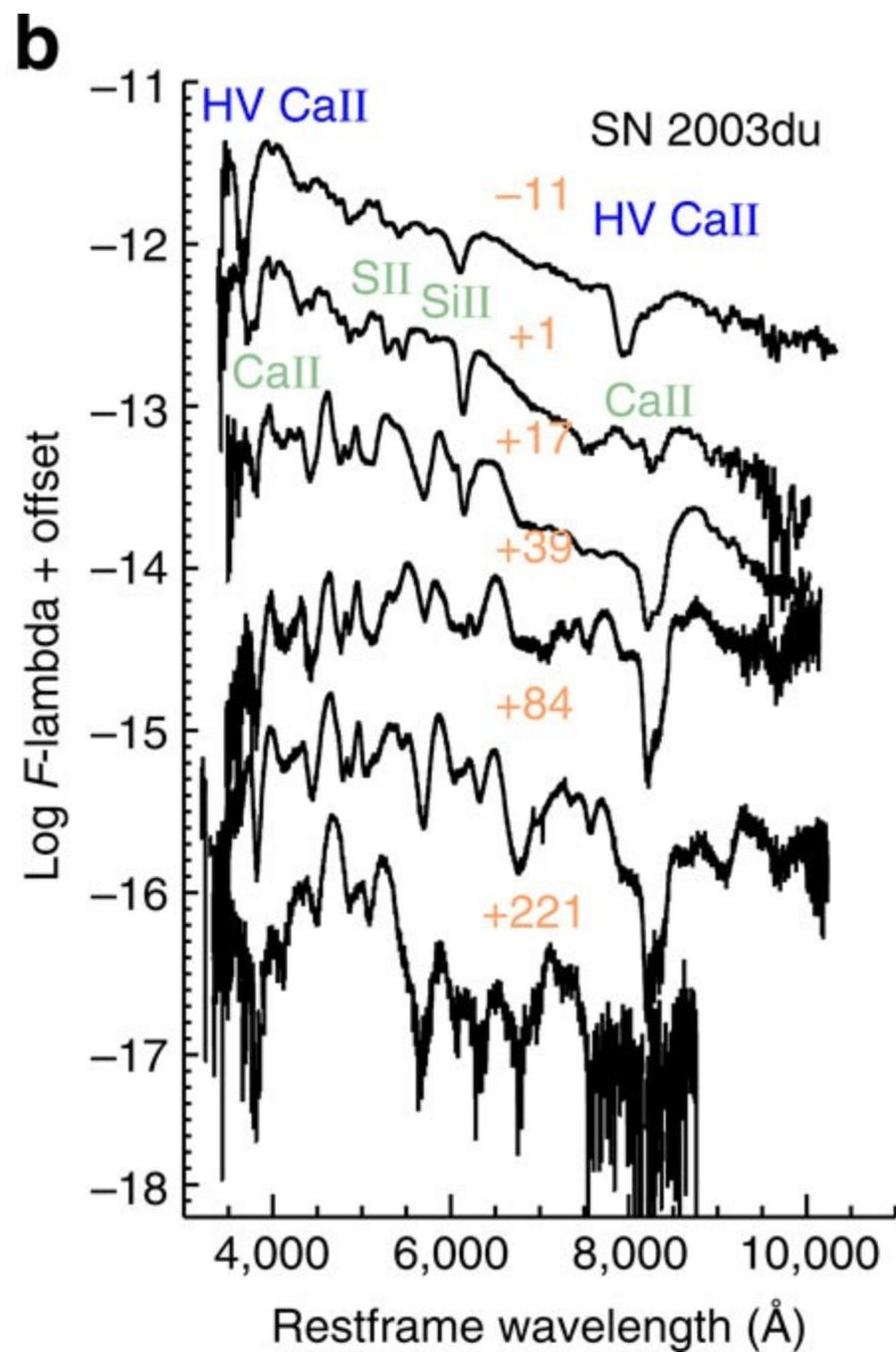
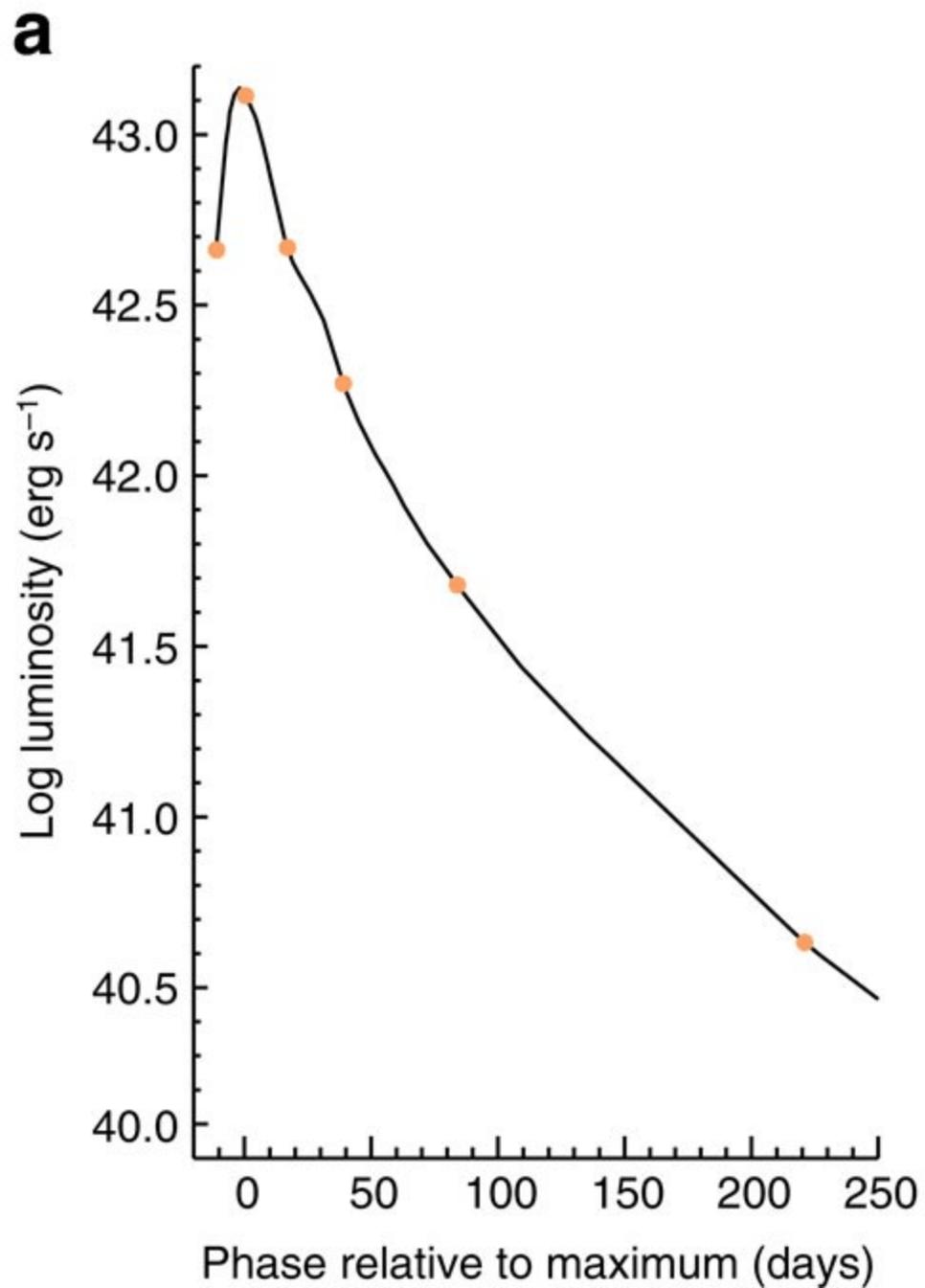
thank you Rohan



Willimamson+23



Barna+ 2017



Howell 2011

time-domain spectra are just painful

transients spectra are just painful

- feature broadening -> blending
- time evolving
- redshift moves features in different regions of a detector (systematics)
- in the LSST era we work at the limit of SNR
- we do not nearly have enough glass in the sky to collect spectra!

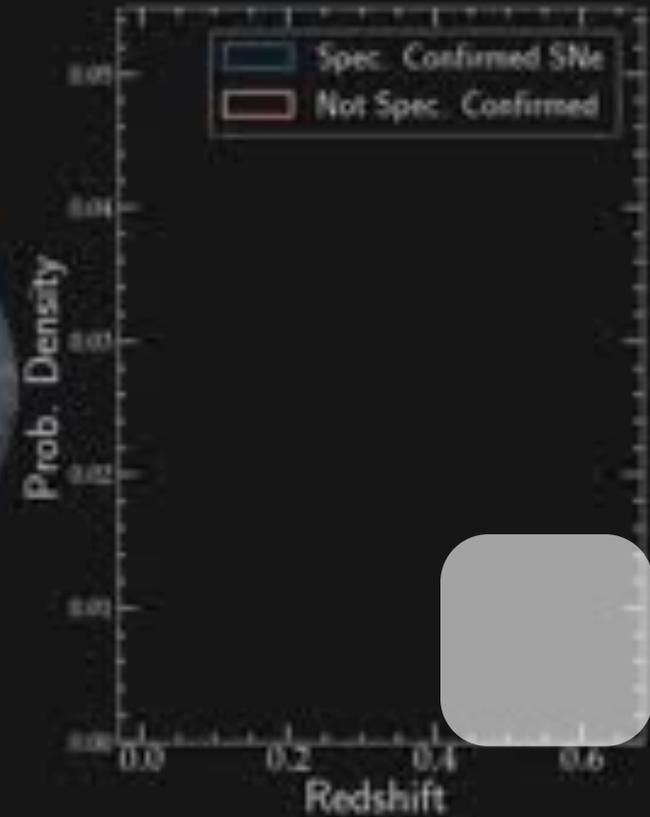
Rubin will see ~1000 SN every night!

Year: 1800

$N_{\text{tot}}: 12$



Alex Gagliano



Credit: Alex Gagliano IAIFI fellow MIT/CfA

Rubin Observatory

Site: Cerro Pachon, Chile

Funding: US NSF + DOE

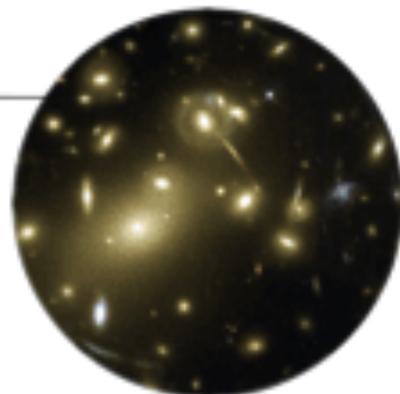


LSST Science Drivers

Four science programs as the key drivers of the science requirements

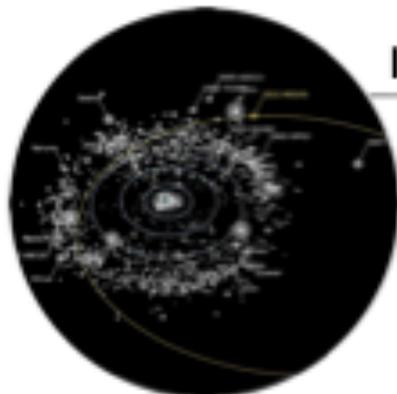
Probing Dark Matter & Dark Energy

- Strong & Weak Lensing
- Large Scale Structure
- Galaxy Clusters, Supernovae



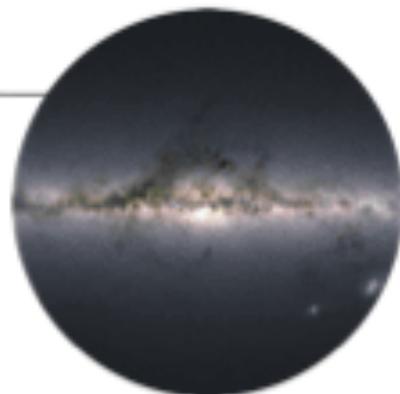
Inventory of the Solar System

- Comprehensive small body census
- Comets & ISOs
- Planetary defence



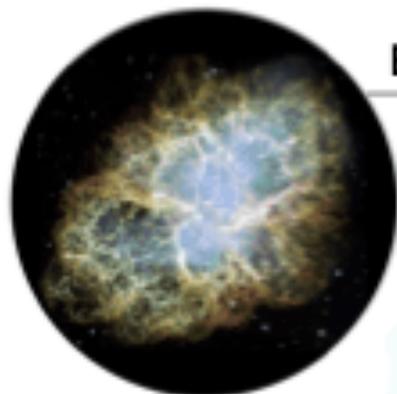
Mapping the Milky Way

- Structure and evolutionary history
- Spatial maps of stellar characteristics
- Reach well into the halo



Exploring the Transient Optical Sky

- Variable stars, Supernovae
- Fill in the variability phase-space
- Discovery of new classes of transients

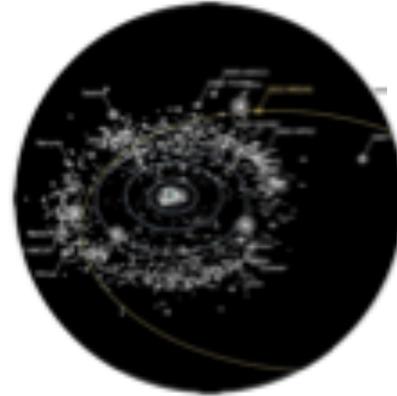
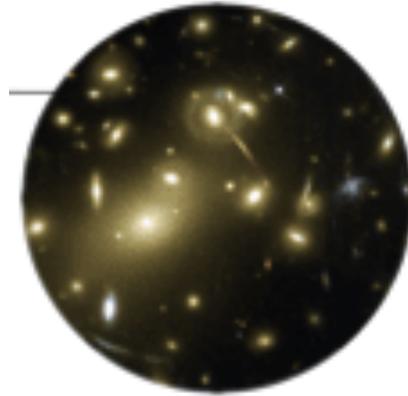


Four science programs as the key drivers of the science requirements

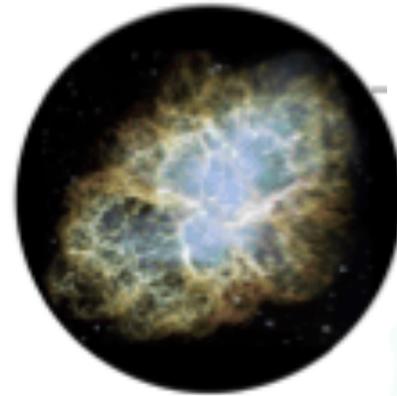
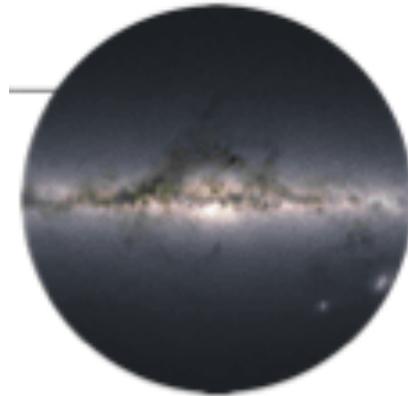
To be transformational simultaneously
in the four scientific areas Rubin needs:

1) a large telescope mirror to be
sensitive - 8m (6.7m) **deep survey**

2) a large field-of-view for sky-scanning
speed - 10 deg² **wide survey**



3) high spatial resolution, high
quality images - 0.2"/pixels
exquisite image quality



4) process images in realtime
and offline to produce live alerts
and catalogs of all 37B objects
massive time domain dataset

Rubin Observatory Status

September 2016

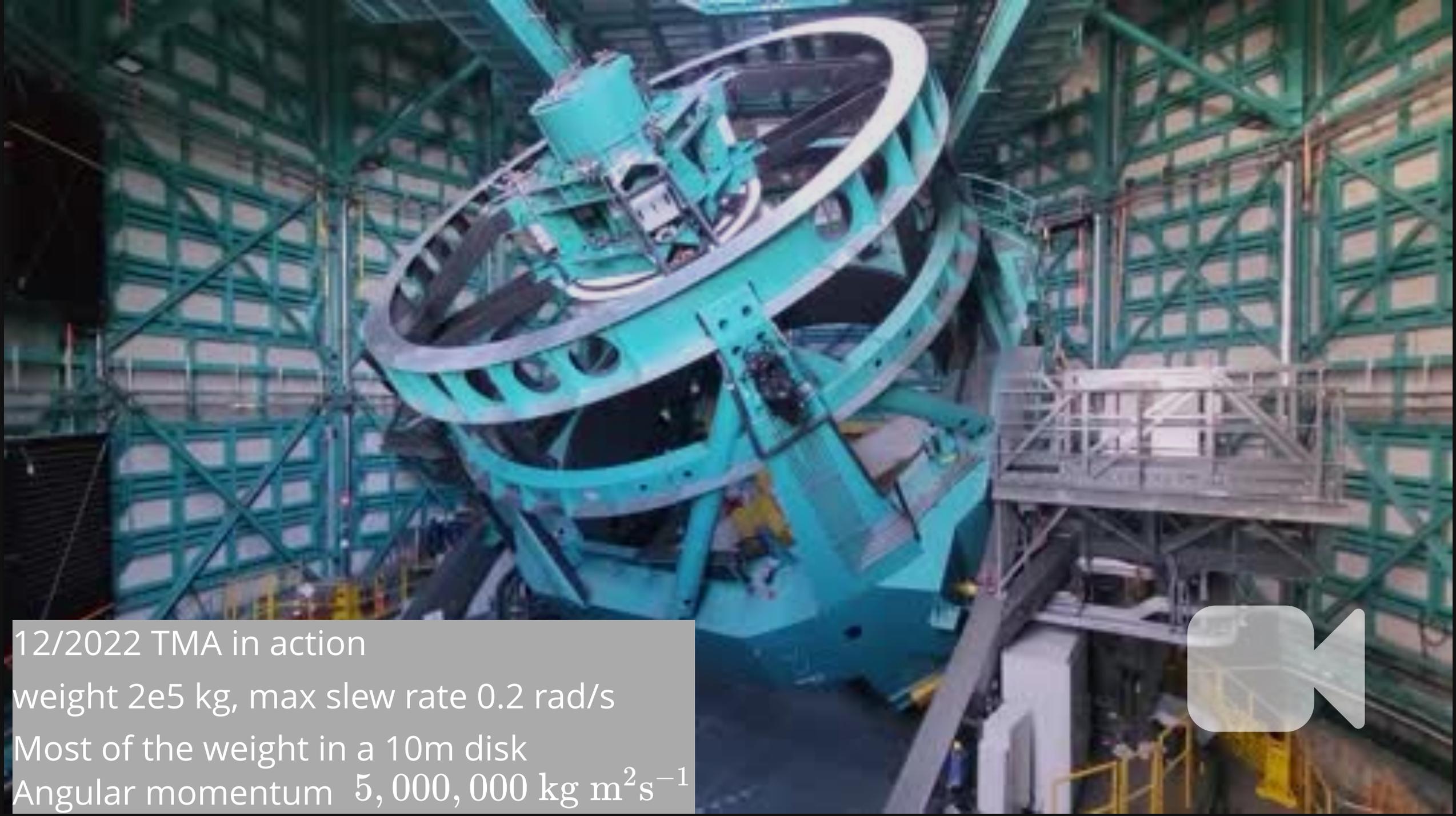




5 / 2019



May 2022 - Telescope Mount Assembly



12/2022 TMA in action

weight 2×10^5 kg, max slew rate 0.2 rad/s

Most of the weight in a 10m disk

Angular momentum $5,000,000 \text{ kg m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$



The DOE LSST Camera - 3.2 Gigapixel

3024 science raft amplifier channels

Camera and Cryostat integration completed at SLAC in May 2022,

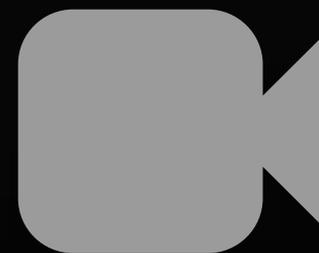
Shutter and filter auto-changer integrated into camera body

LSSTCam undergoing final stages of testing at SLAC





**The Company behind the
\$2.3 billion concert venue ...**







rgill Ranpal Gill LSST

Oct 25

Versión en Español más abajo

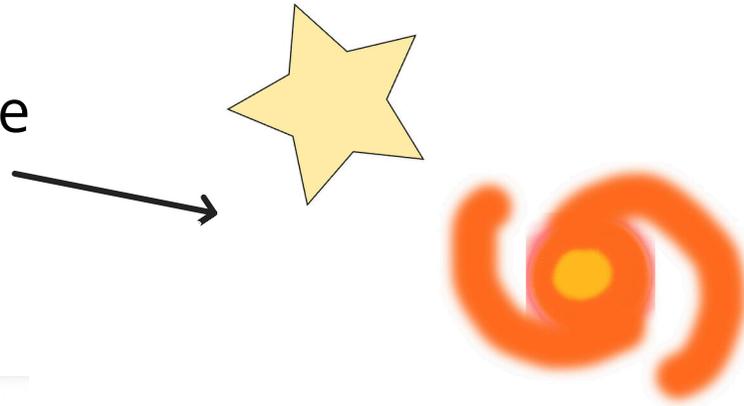


All,

<https://ls.st/comcamcommissioning>

What an incredible milestone we've reached together! Last night, on October 24, 2024, we passed our first end-to-end engineering test, marking a historic moment for all of us. Using the Commissioning Camera, we successfully captured and transferred our first on-sky data from Chile to the US Data Facility at SLAC. The excitement in the control rooms and online was electric, as decades of dedication and innovation came to life. Look out for the public announcement coming soon.

artist (me) impression of the first image
taken by ComCam



rgill Ranpal Gill LSST

Versión en Español más abajo

All,

<https://ls.st/comcamcommissioning>

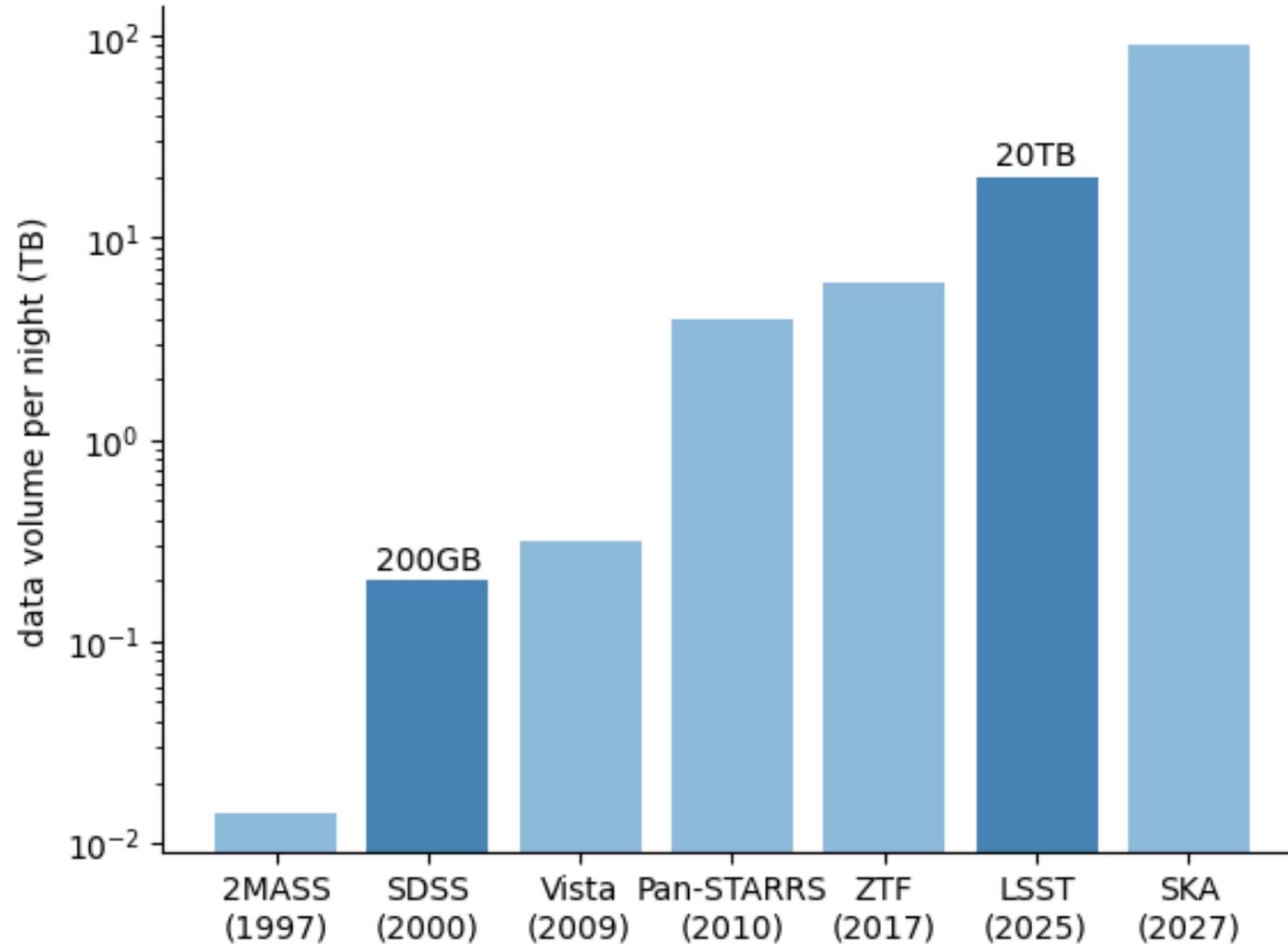


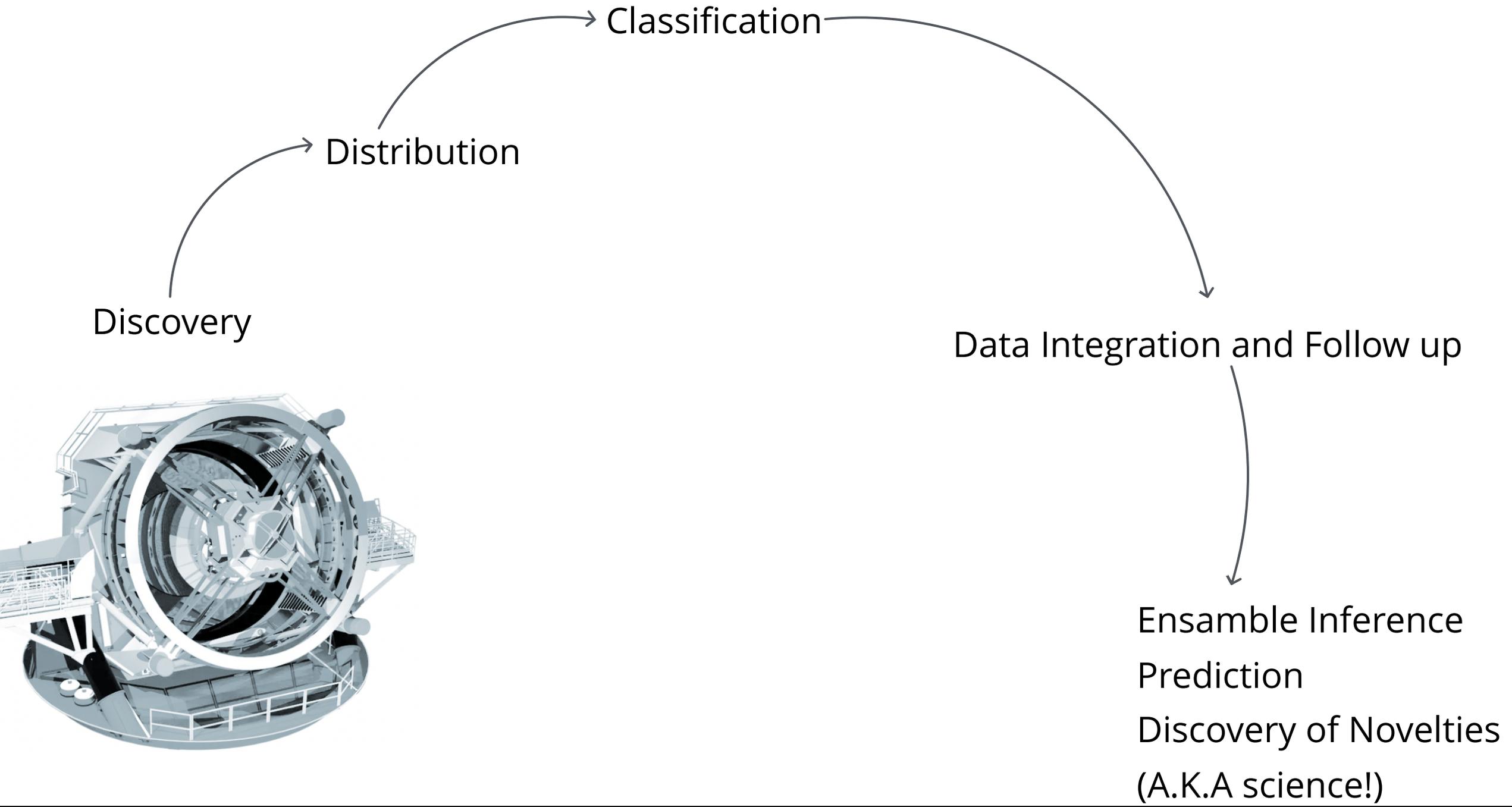
What an incredible milestone we've reached together! Last night, on October 24, 2024, we passed our first end-to-end engineering test, marking a historic moment for all of us. Using the Commissioning Camera, we successfully captured and transferred our first on-sky data from Chile to the US Data Facility at SLAC. The excitement in the control rooms and online was electric, as decades of dedication and innovation came to life. Look out for the public announcement coming soon.

Is the data gonna also be better?

magnitude limit single image $r \sim 24$
magnitude limit 10 year stacks $r \sim 27$
spatial resolution 0.2" (seeing limited)
photometric precision 5mmag
photometric accuracy 10mmag

cadence.... that's a long story





Discovery

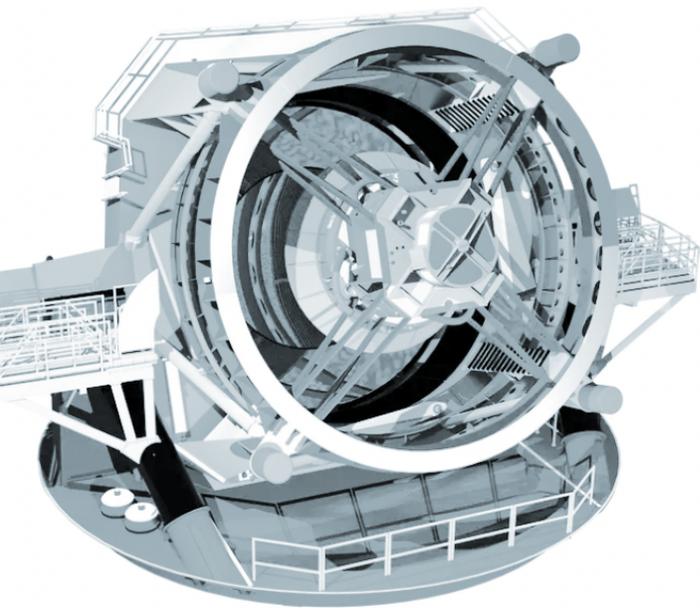


Distribution

Classification

Data Integration and Follow up

Ensamble Inference
Prediction
Discovery of Novelities
(A.K.A science!)





in <60 seconds:

Difference Image Analysis

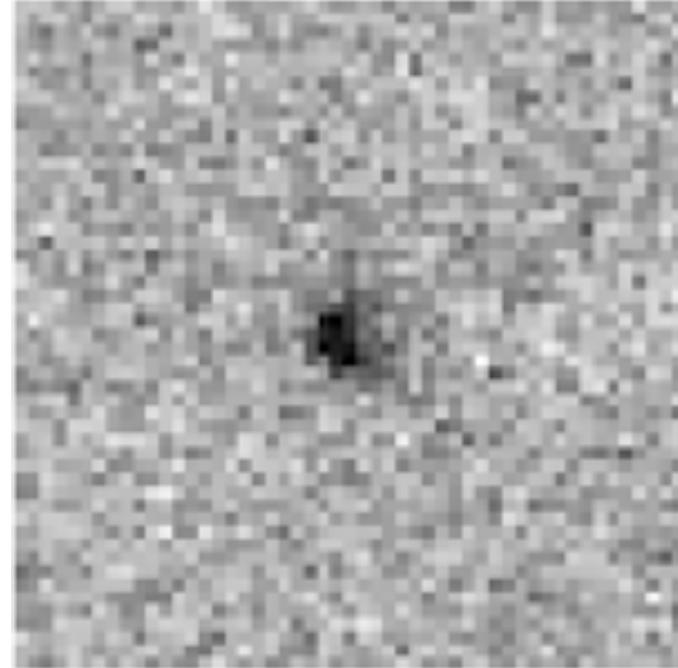
temp



srch



diff



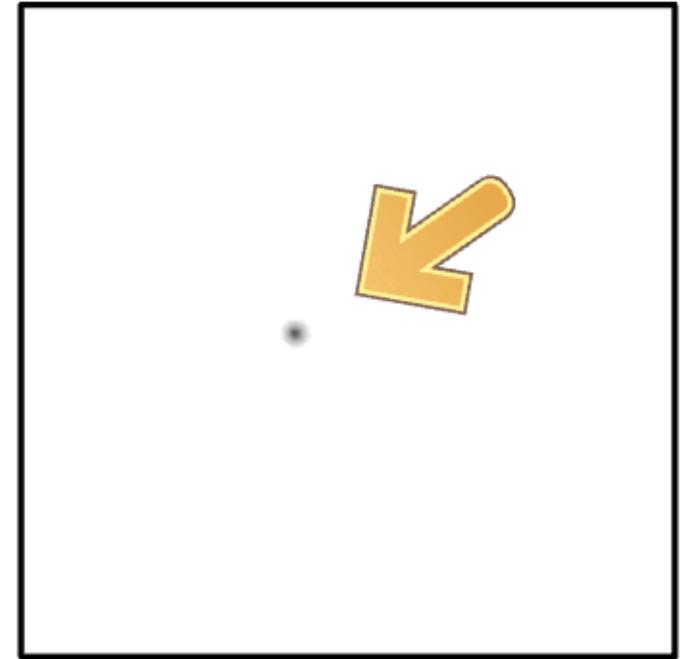
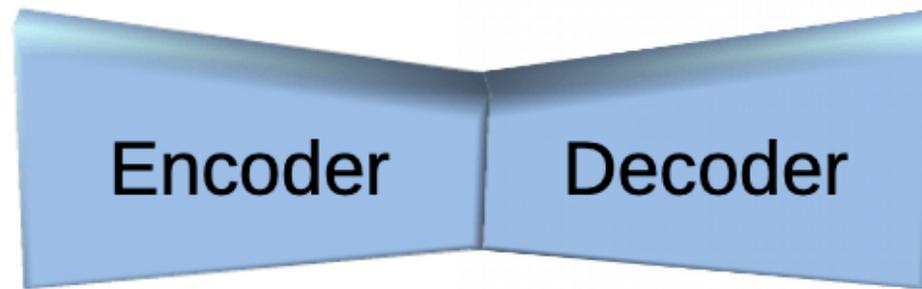
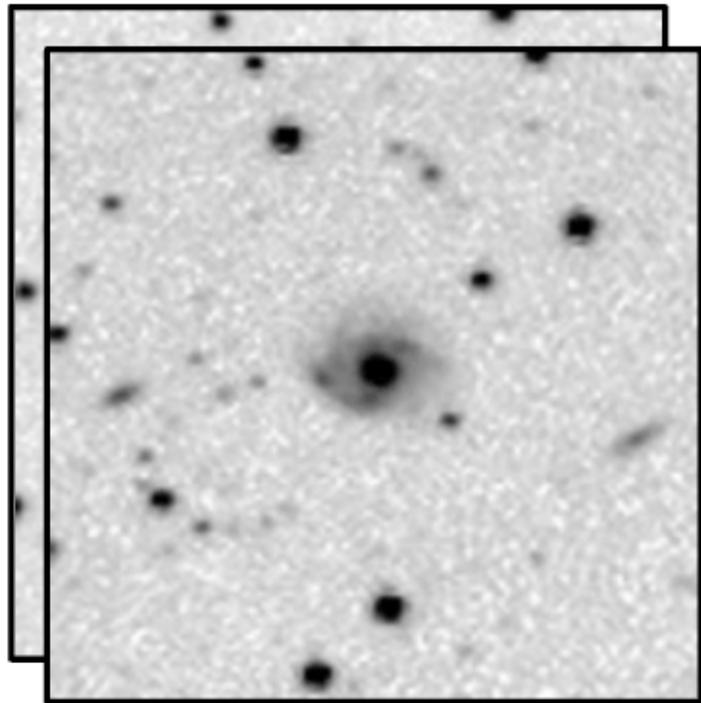
$$\text{templ}(x, y) \otimes \text{Kernel}(x, y, u, v) = \text{srch}(x, y)$$

$$\text{Kernel}(x, y, u, v) = \sum_n \sum_{d_n^x} \sum_{d_n^y} \sum_{\delta^x} \sum_{\delta^y} a_k x^{\delta^x} y^{\delta^y} \times e^{-(u^2+v^2)/2\sigma_n^2} u^{d_n^x} v^{d_n^y}$$

in <60 seconds:

Difference Image Analysis

Can we replace DIA with ANN?



TANSINET: Sedhagat + Mahabal 2017

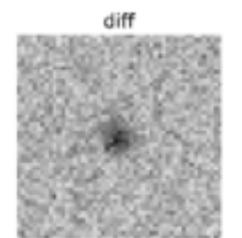
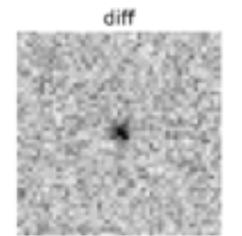
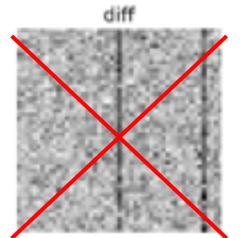
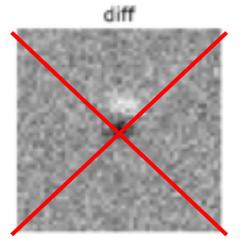
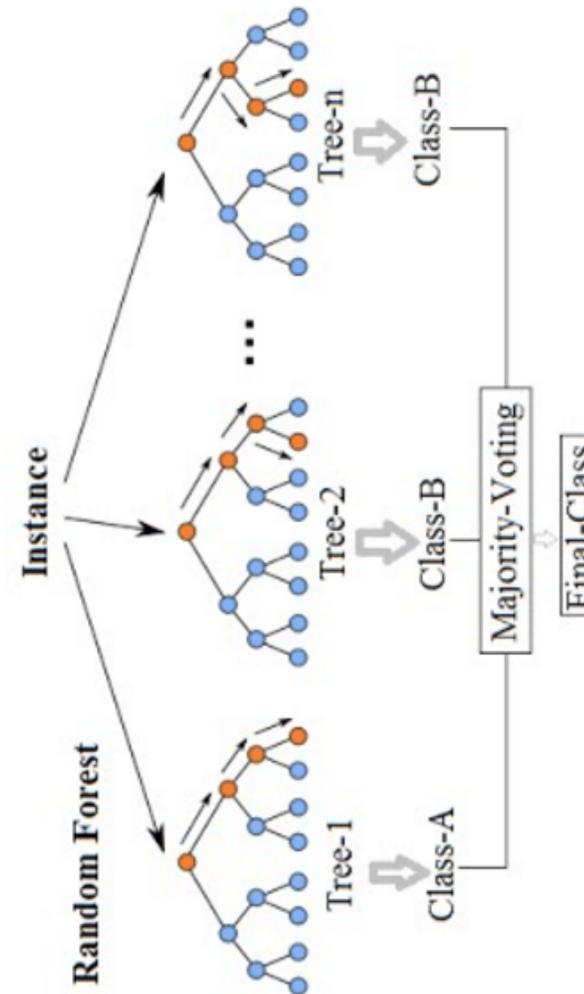
in 60 seconds:

Difference Image Analysis + Bogus rejection

feature extraction + Random Forest

Object	MAG	...	30.0	Mag
	A_IMAGE	...	1.5 pix.	Len
	SPREAD_MODEL	...	$3\sigma_S + 1.0$	SEx
	CHISQ	...	10^4	Stat
	SNR	3.5	...	from
	VETOMAG ^a	21.0	...	SPR
	VETOTOL ^a	Magnitude-dependent	...	χ^2
	DIPOLE6	...	2	aroi
	DIPOLE4	...	20	Flu
	DIPOLE2	...	200	cut

Random Forest Simplified



What's the Difference? The Potential for Convolutional Neural Networks for Transient Detection without Template Subtraction

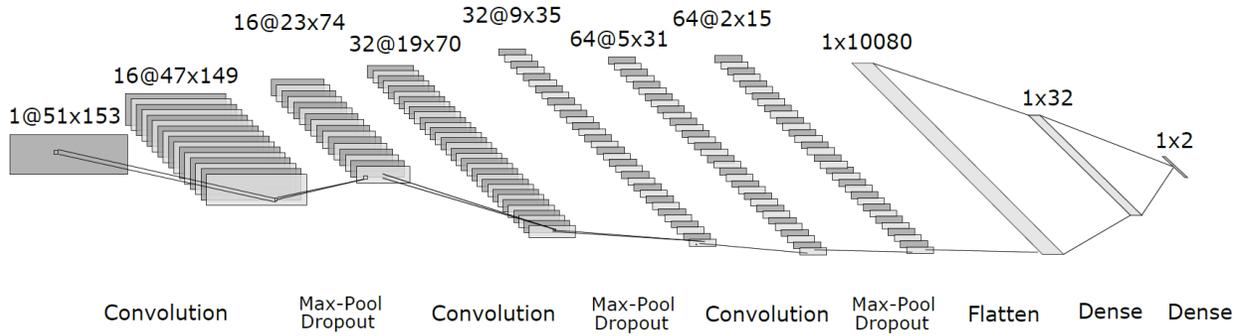
Tatiana Acero-Cuellar^{1,2} , Federica Bianco^{1,3,4,5} , Gregory Dobler^{1,3,4} , Masao Sako⁶ , Helen Qu⁶ , and The LSST Dark Energy Science Collaboration

Published 2023 August 18 · © 2023. The Author(s). Published by the American Astronomical Society.

[The Astronomical Journal, Volume 166, Number 3](#)

Citation Tatiana Acero-Cuellar et al 2023 AJ 166 115

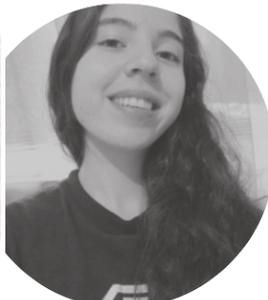
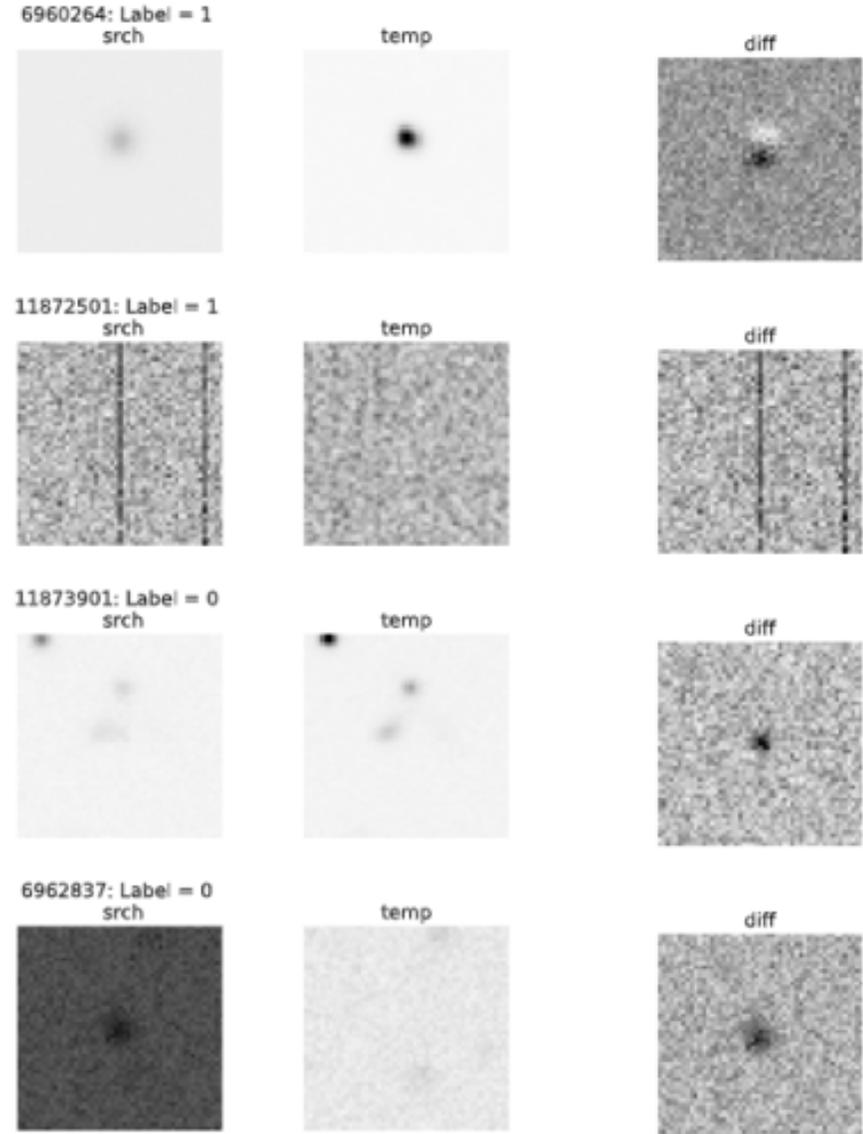
DOI 10.3847/1538-3881/ace9d8



Model	Accuracy		Train time (CPU hours)	Prediction* (Clock-time, ms)
	Train	Test		
DIA-based	0.962	0.959 ± 0.004	~35	1.00 ± 0.03

96% accurate

search - template = difference



What's the Difference? The Potential for Convolutional Neural Networks for Transient Detection without Template Subtraction

Tatiana Acero-Cuellar^{1,2}, Federica Bianco^{1,3,4,5}, Gregory Dobler^{1,3,4}, Masao Sako⁶, Helen Qu⁶, and The LSST Dark Energy Science Collaboration

Published 2023 August 18 · © 2023. The Author(s). Published by the American Astronomical Society.

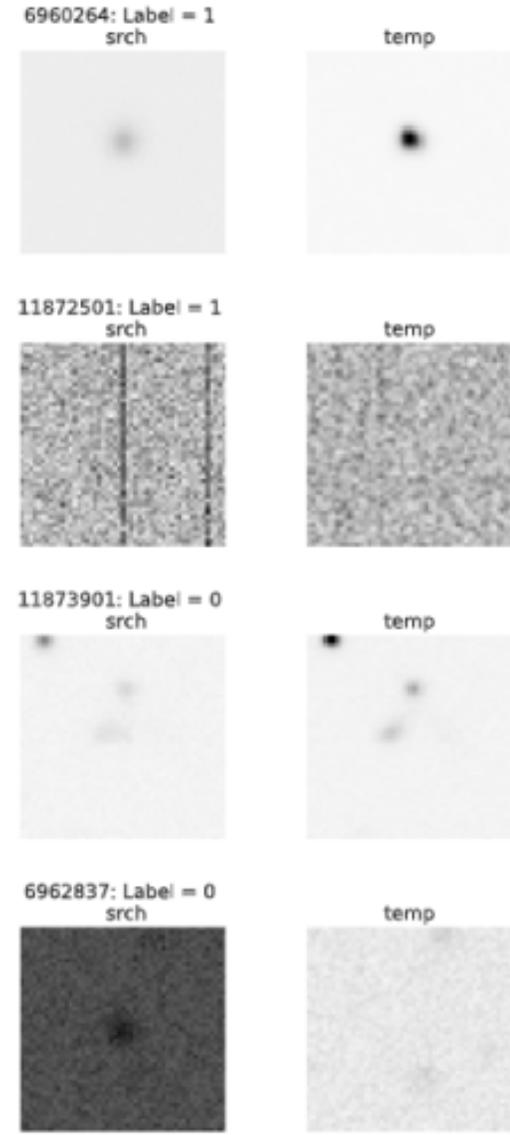
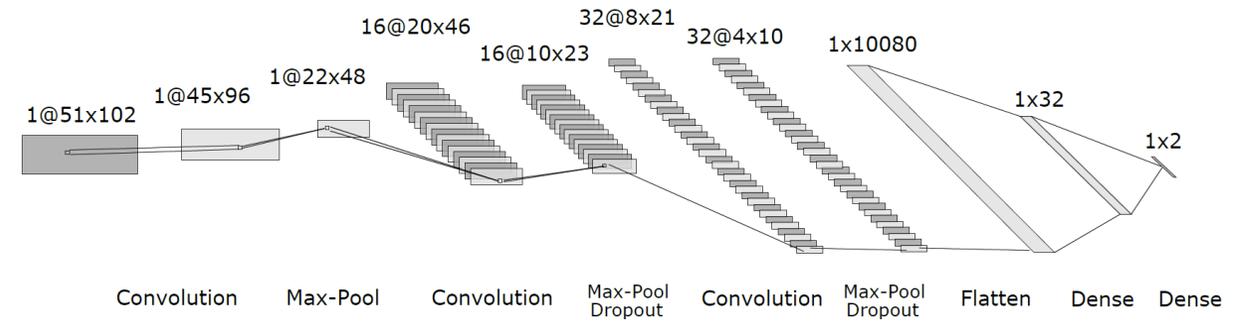
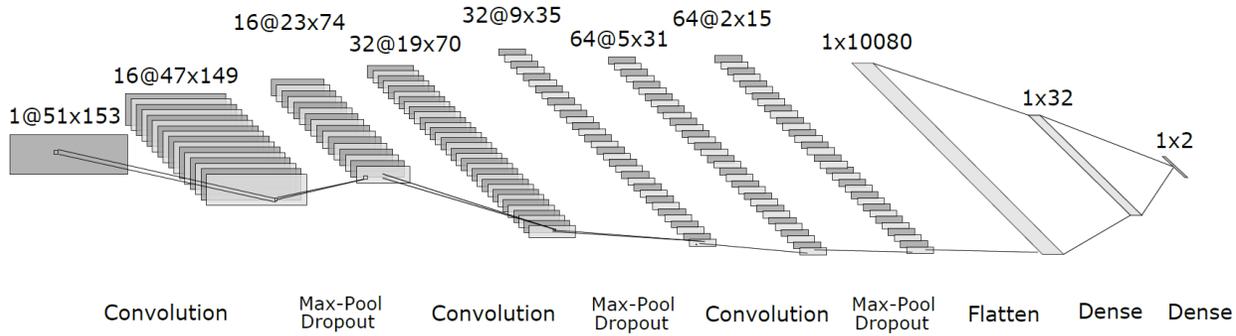
[The Astronomical Journal](#), Volume 166, Number 3

Citation Tatiana Acero-Cuellar et al 2023 AJ 166 115

DOI 10.3847/1538-3881/ace9d8



92% accurate
search - template = difference



Model	Accuracy		Train time (CPU hours)	Prediction* (Clock-time, ms)
	Train	Test		
DIA-based	0.962	0.959 ± 0.004	~35	1.00 ± 0.03
noDIA	0.915	0.916 ± 0.007	~56	0.30 ± 0.01



What's the Difference? The Potential for Convolutional Neural Networks for Transient Detection without Template Subtraction

Tatiana Acero-Cuellar^{1,2} , Federica Bianco^{1,3,4,5} , Gregory Dobler^{1,3,4} , Masao Sako⁶ ,

Helen Qu⁶ , and The LSST Dark Energy Science Collaboration

Published 2023 August 18 · © 2023. The Author(s). Published by the American Astronomical Society.

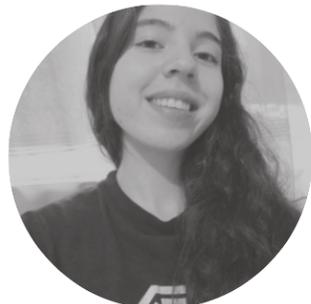
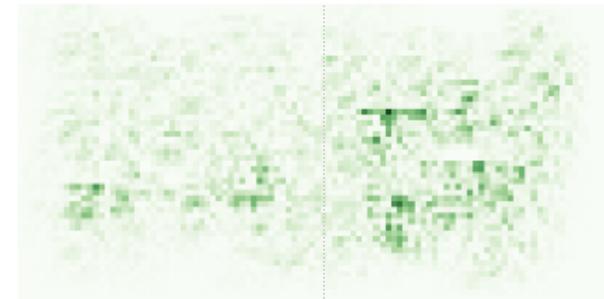
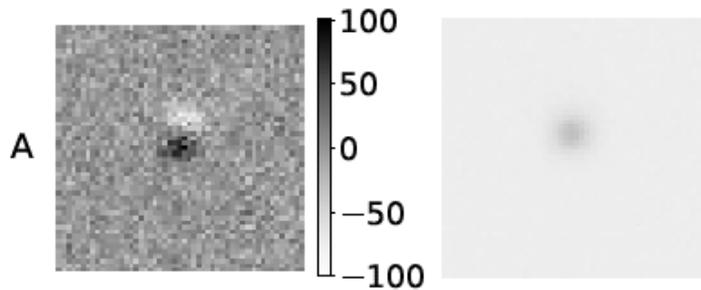
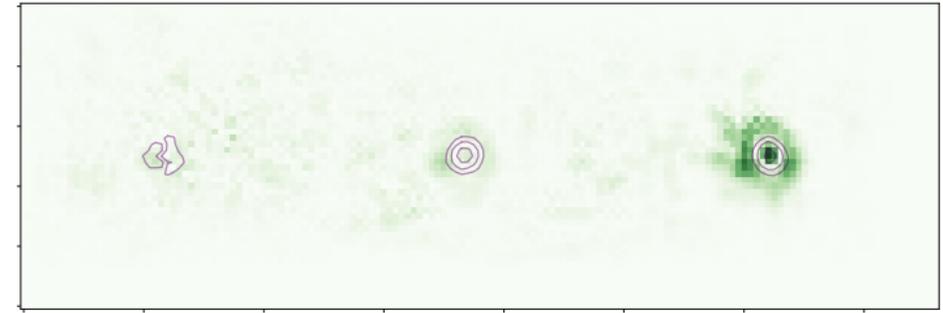
[The Astronomical Journal](#), Volume 166, Number 3

Citation Tatiana Acero-Cuellar et al 2023 AJ 166 115

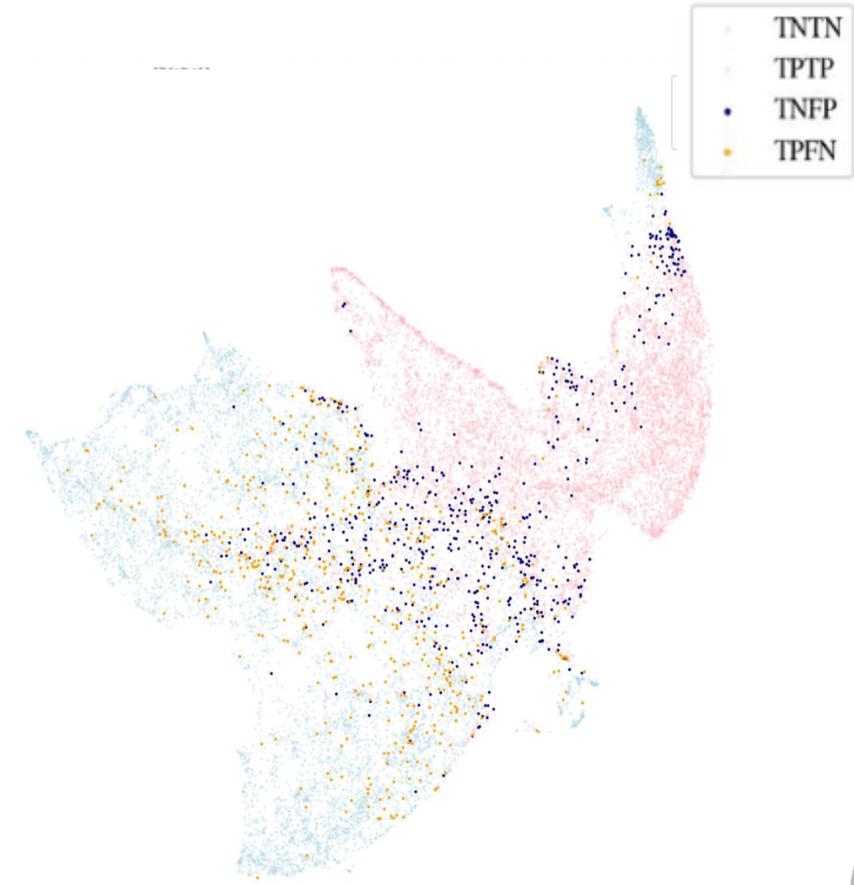
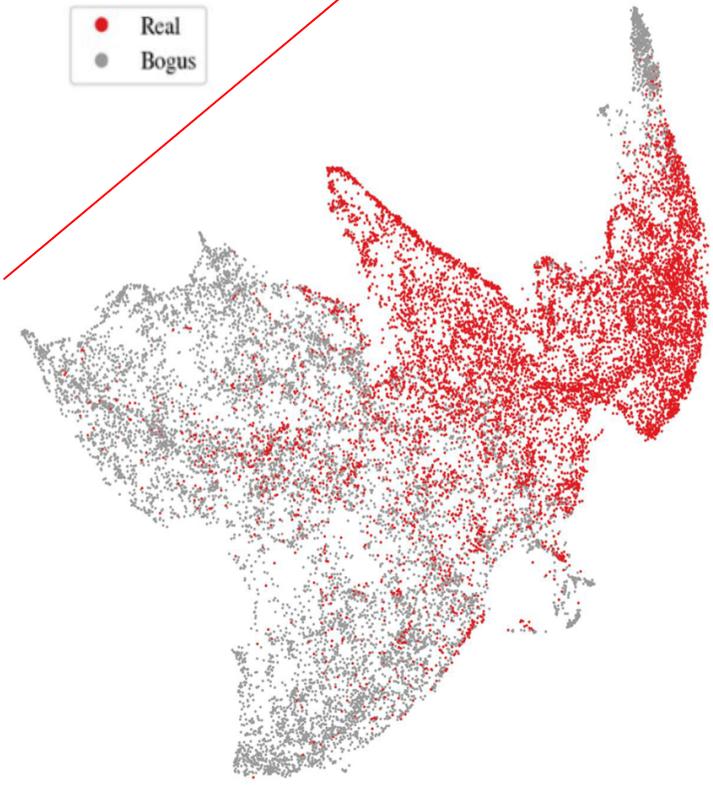
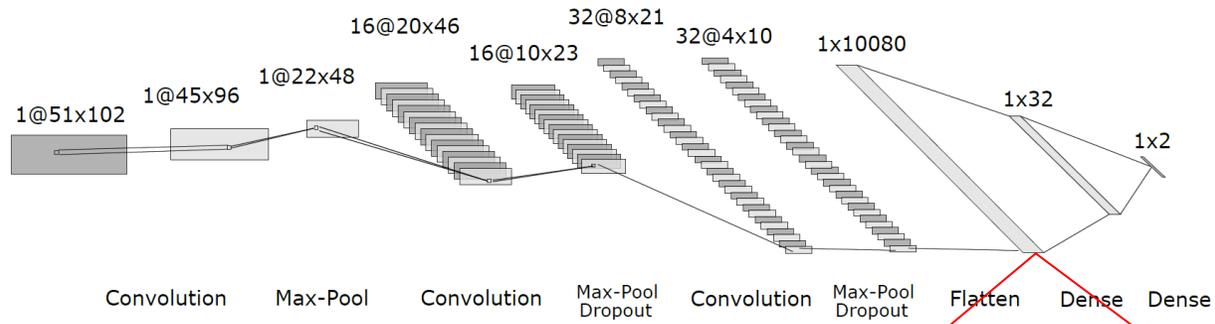
DOI 10.3847/1538-3881/ace9d8

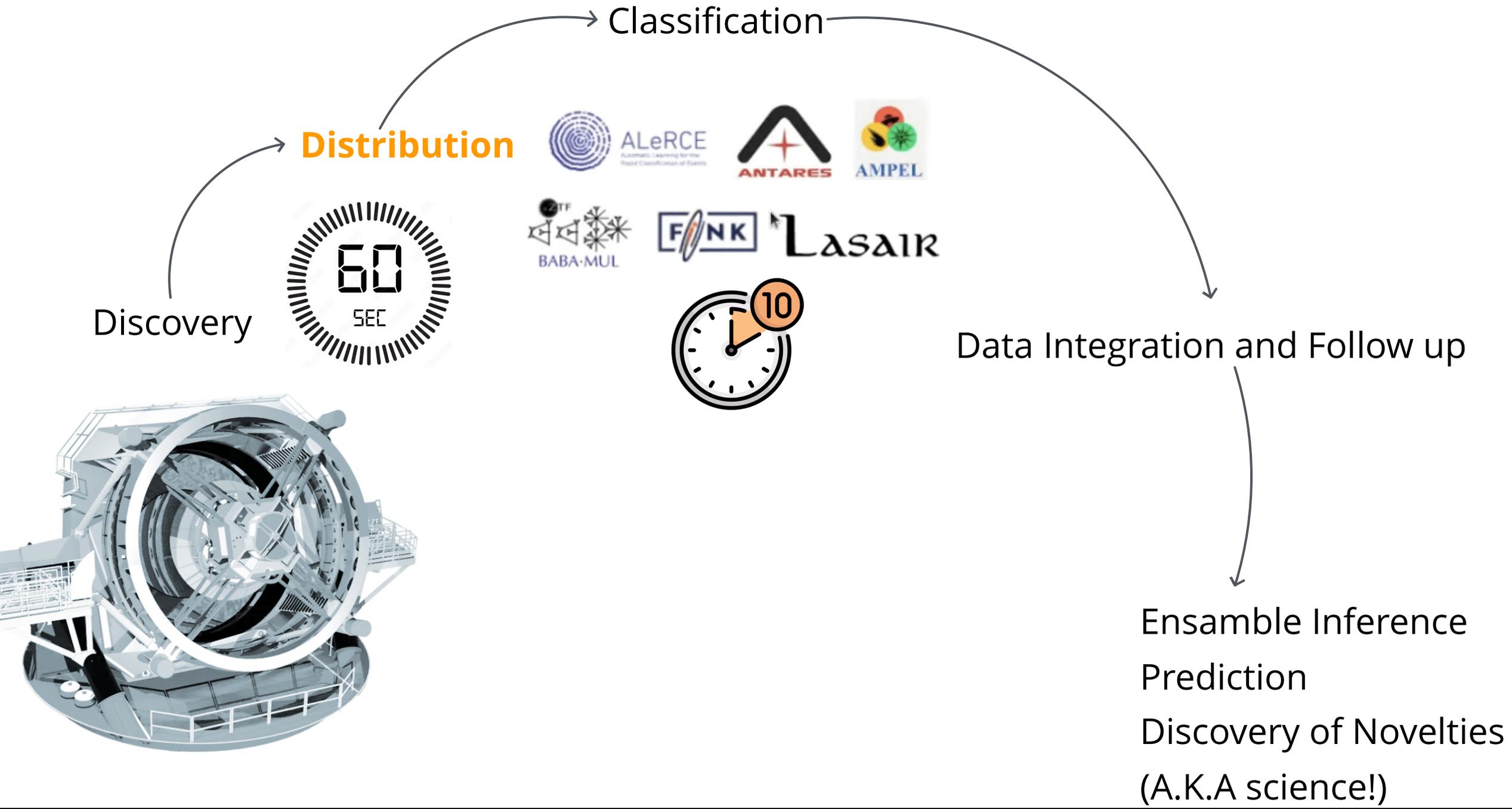


What is the network learning? What can we learn from the AI?



What is the network learning? What can we learn from the AI?





Classification

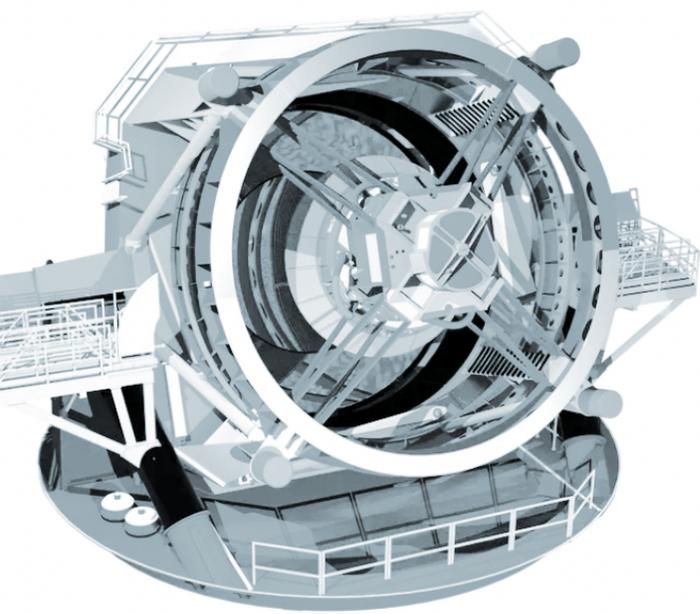
Distribution

Discovery



Data Integration and Follow up

Ensamble Inference
Prediction
Discovery of Novelties
(A.K.A science!)



Alert information

C1 ZTF20aagiips

First Detection Information

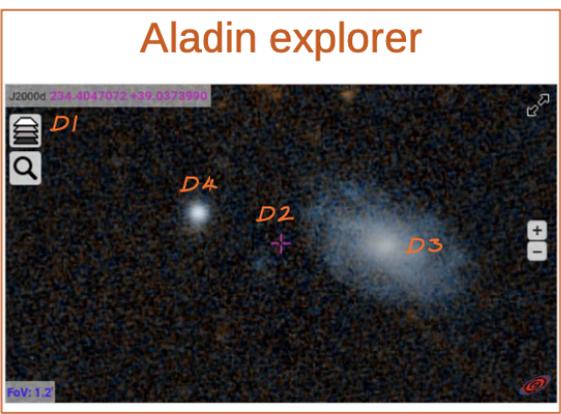
C2 RA: 234.4047072 C3 Band: r C4 Mag: 19.6247253417969
 DEC: 39.037399 MJD: 58864.5171296

PanSTARRS X-Match Information.

C5 ObjectID : 154842344086146850 C6 Distance : 11.588 arcsec C7 Star Galaxy Score : 0.979

C8 ALeRCE C9 NED C10 TNS C11 SIMBAD

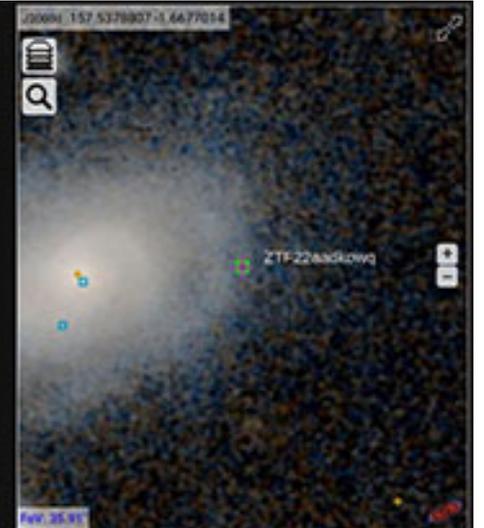
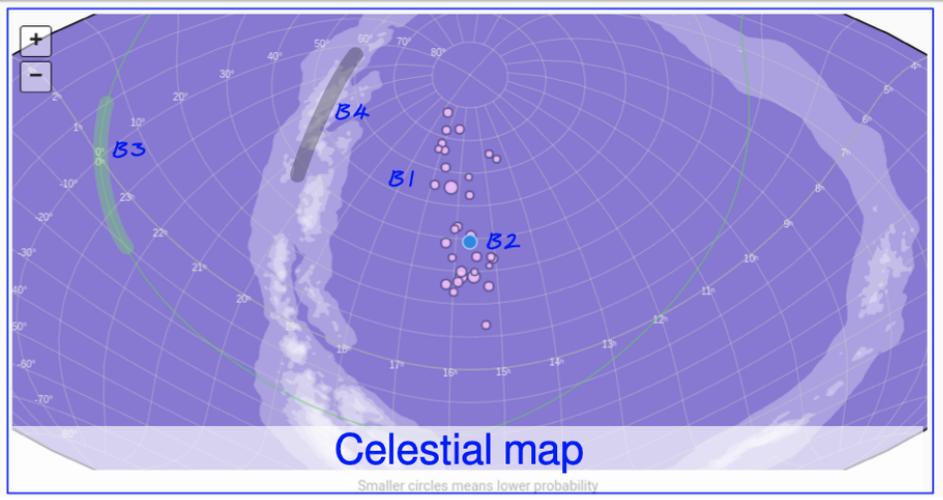
C12 FULL ALERT INFORMATION



Stamps & user feedback

Discovery Stamps ?

E4 POSSIBLE SN E5 REPORT BOGUS



date: Sat, 02 Apr 2022 06:41:28 UT

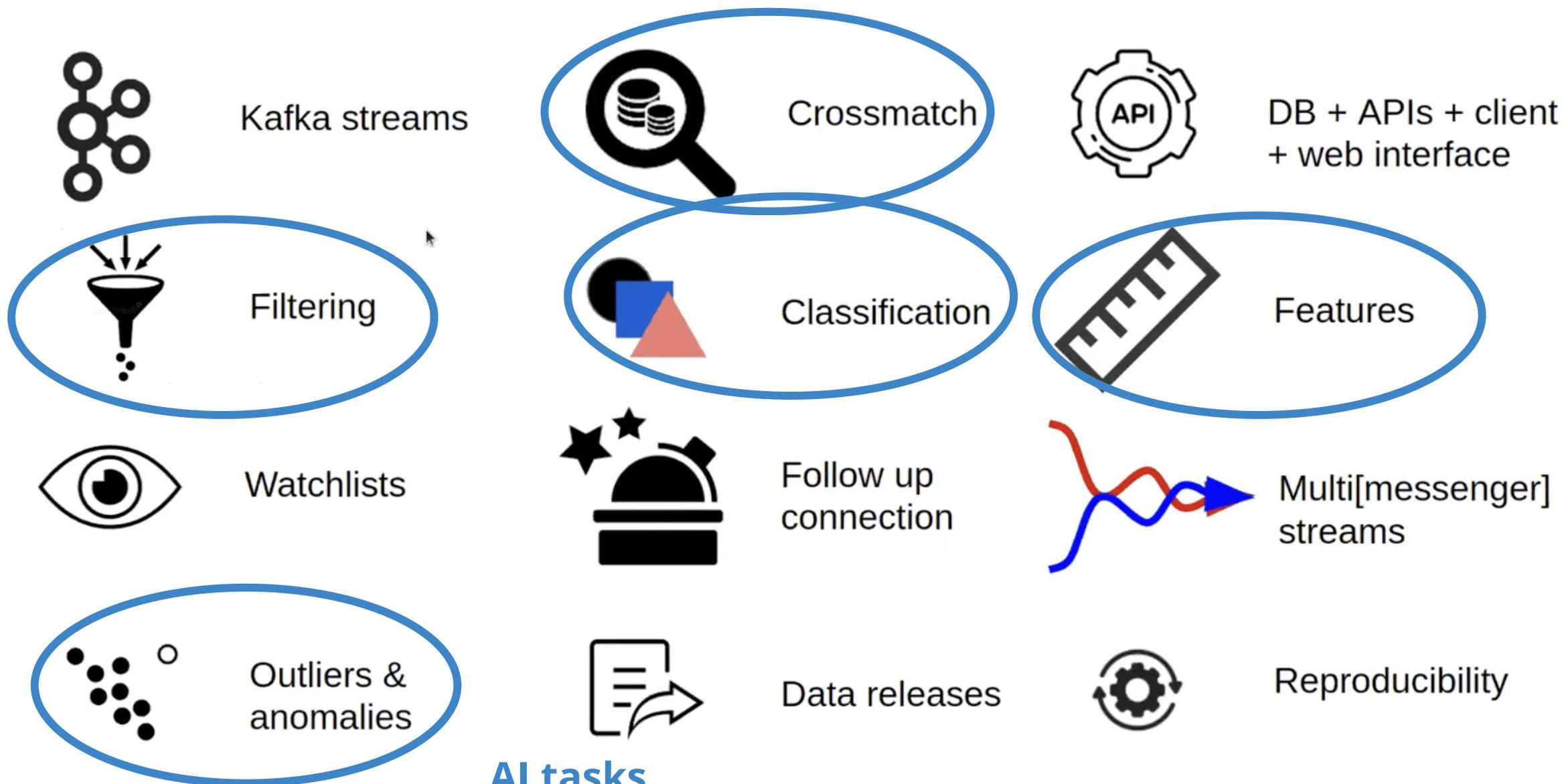
AVRO

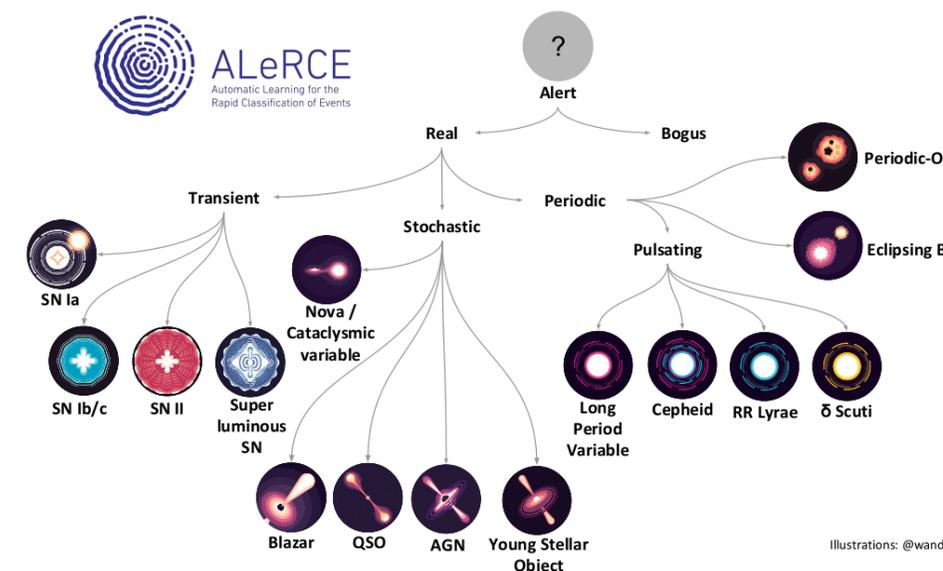
Science DOWNLOAD Template DOWNLOAD Difference DOWNLOAD

The Automatic Learning for the Rapid Classification of Events (ALeRCE) Alert Broker

F. Förster et al 2021 AJ 161 242

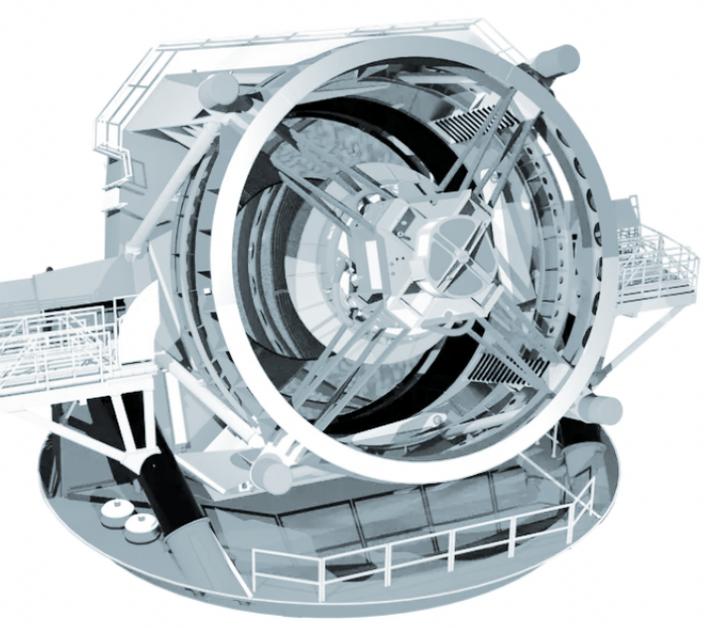
Products / services offered by brokers





Data Integration and Follow up

Ensamble Inference
 Prediction
 Discovery of Novelties
 (A.K.A science!)



Photometric Classification of transients

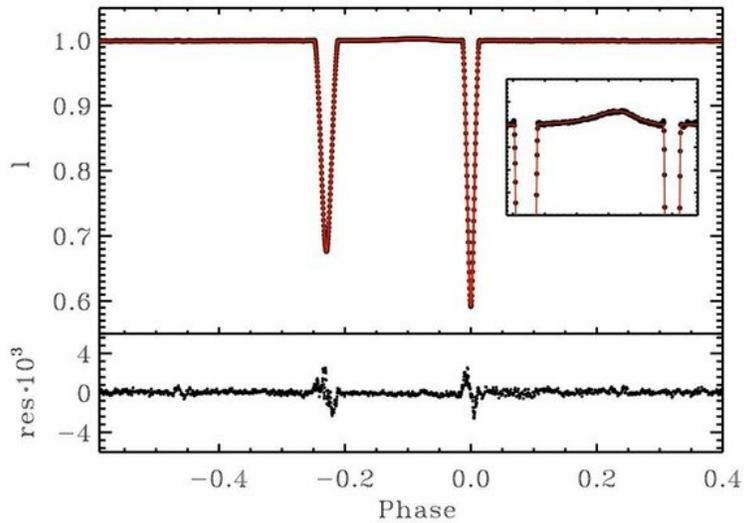
Featured Prediction Competition

PLAsTiCC Astronomical Classification

Can you help make sense of the Universe?

LSST Project · 1,094 teams · 2 years ago

\$25,000
Prize Money



KIC 3858884: A hybrid δ Scuti pulsator in a highly eccentric eclipsing binary

Photometric Classification of transients

Featured Prediction Competition

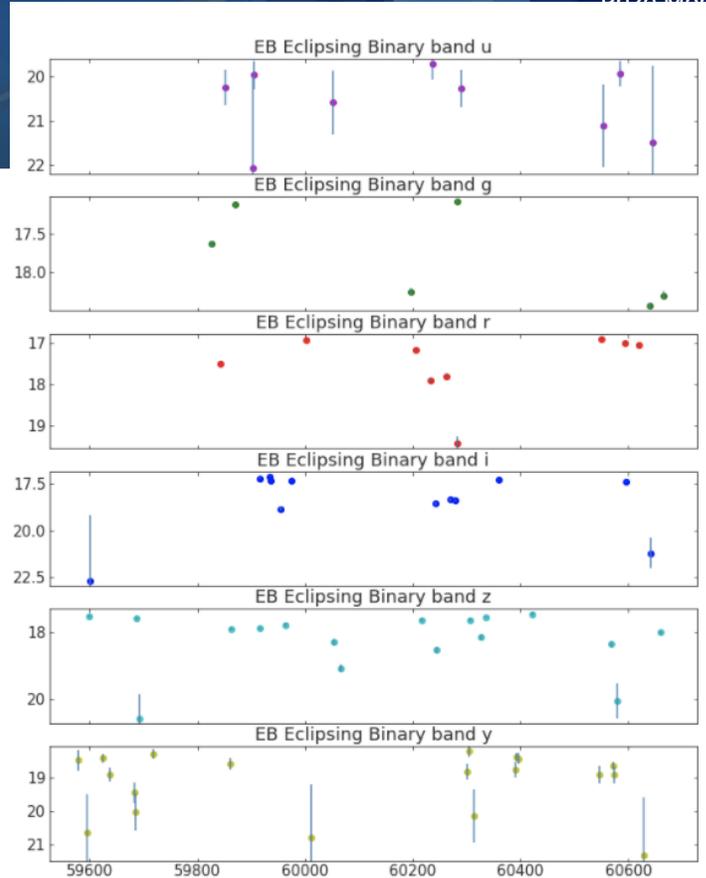
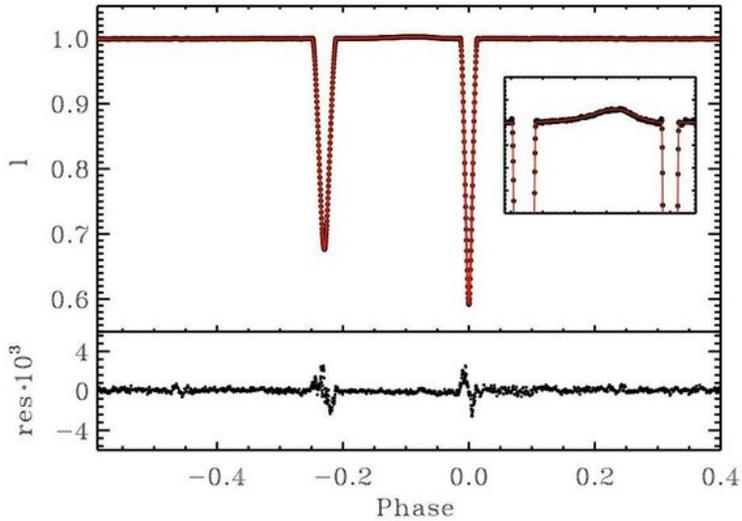
PLAsTiCC Astronomical Classification

Can you help make sense of the Universe?

LSST Project · 1,094 teams · 2 years ago

\$25,000

Prize Money

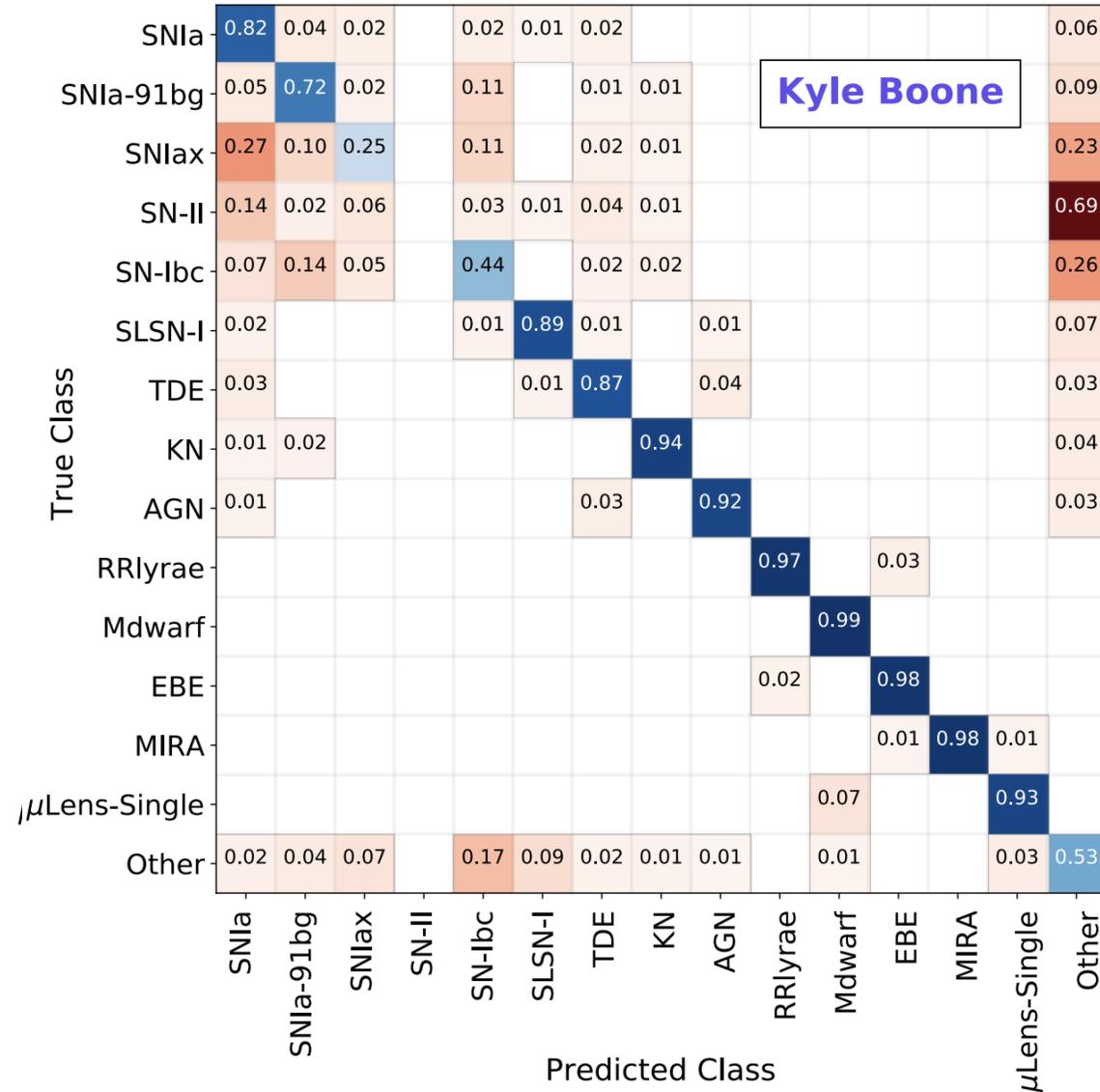


Classification from sparse data: Lightcurves

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1907.04690>

The PLAsTiCC challenge winner, Kyle Boone was a grad student at Berkeley, and did not sue a Neural Network!

He won \$2,000



Classification from sparse data: Lightcurves

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1907.04690>

Avocado: Photometric Classification of Astronomical Transients with Gaussian Process Augmentation

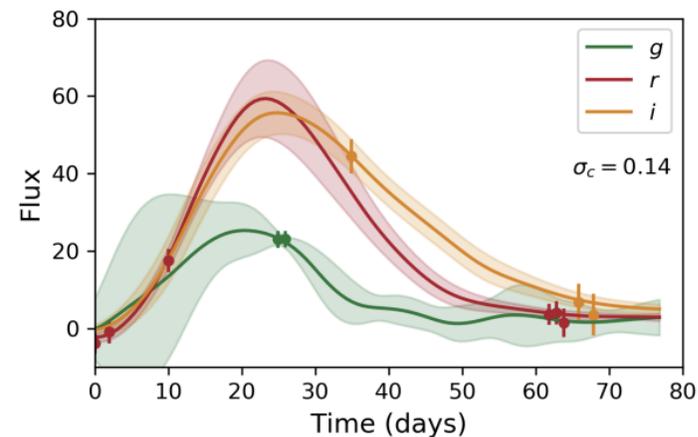
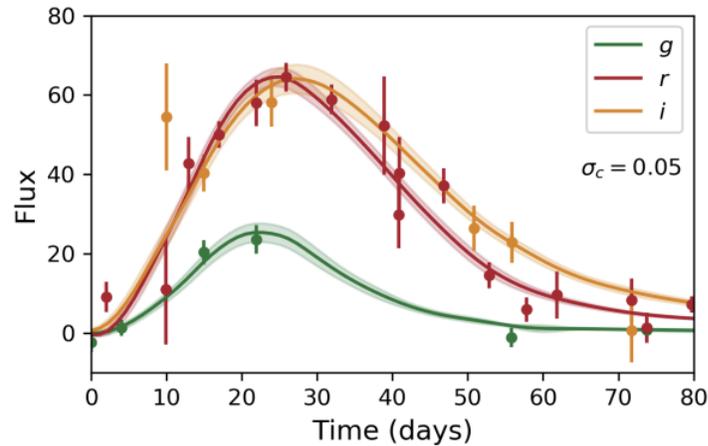
KYLE BOONE^{1,2}

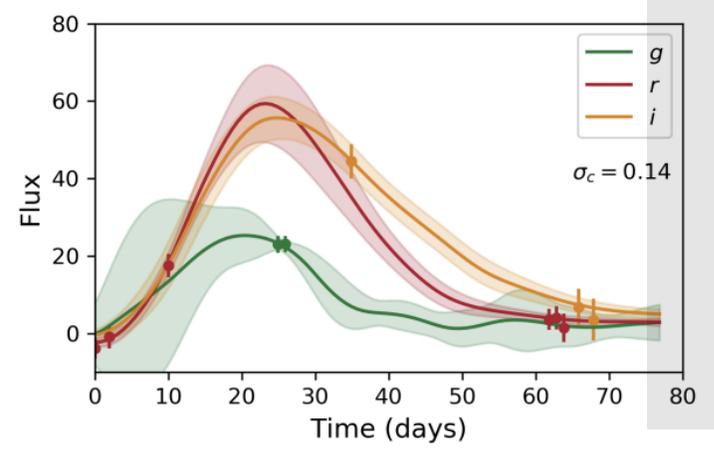
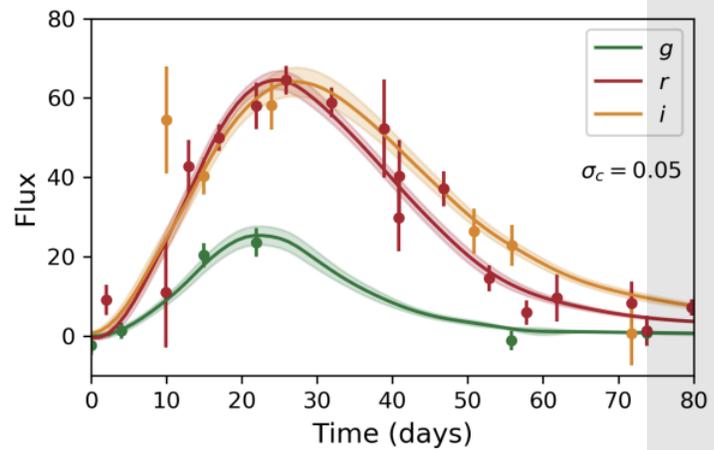
¹Physics Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, 1 Cyclotron Road, Berkeley, CA, 94720, USA

²Department of Physics, University of California Berkeley, 366 LeConte Hall MC 7300, Berkeley, CA, 94720-7300, USA

ABSTRACT

Upcoming astronomical surveys such as the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST) will rely on photometric classification to identify the majority of the transients and variables that they discover. We present a set of techniques for photometric classification that can be applied even when the training set of spectroscopically-confirmed objects is heavily biased towards bright, low-redshift objects. Using Gaussian process regression to model arbitrary light curves in all bands simultaneously, we “augment” the training set by generating new versions of the original light curves covering a range of redshifts and observing conditions. We train a boosted decision tree classifier on features extracted from the augmented light curves, and we show how such a classifier can be designed to produce classifications that are independent of the redshift distributions of objects in the training sample. Our classification algorithm was the best-performing among the 1,094 models considered in the blinded phase of the Photometric LSST Astronomical Time-Series Classification Challenge (PLAsTiCC), scoring 0.468 on the organizers’ logarithmic-loss metric with flat weights for all object classes in the training set, and achieving an AUC of 0.957 for classification of Type Ia supernovae. Our results suggest that spectroscopic campaigns used for training photometric classifiers should focus on typing large numbers of well-observed, intermediate redshift transients instead of attempting to type a sample of transients that is directly representative of the full dataset being classified. All of the algorithms described in this paper are implemented in the [avocado software package^{a\)}](#).





<https://smlbook.org/GP/>

Classification from sparse data: Lightcurves

Photometric Classification of Early-Time Supernova Lightcurves with SCONE

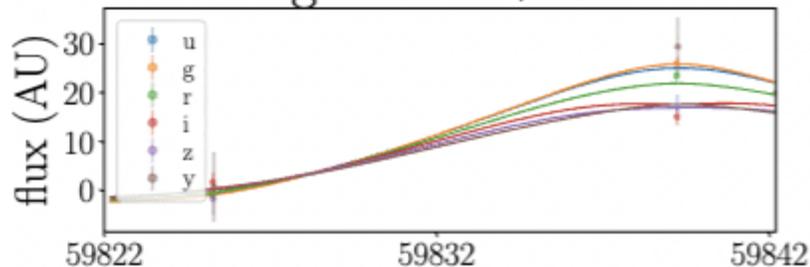
HELEN QU¹ AND MASAO SAKO¹

¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA

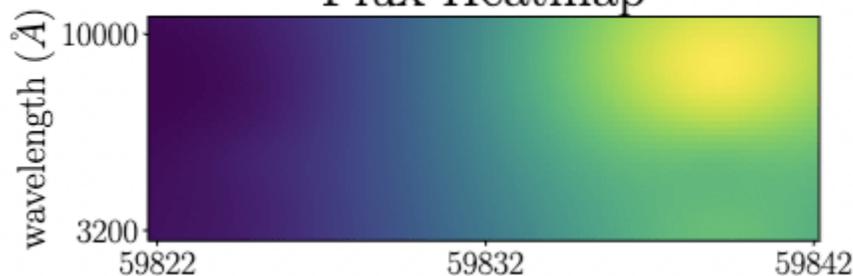
ABSTRACT

In this work, we present classification results on early supernova lightcurves from SCONE, a photometric classifier that uses convolutional neural networks to categorize supernovae (SNe) by type using lightcurve data. SCONE is able to identify SN types from lightcurves at any stage, from the night of initial alert to the end of their lifetimes. Simulated LSST SNe lightcurves were truncated at 0, 5, 15, 25, and 50 days after the trigger date and used to train Gaussian processes in wavelength and time space to produce wavelength-time heatmaps. SCONE uses these heatmaps to perform 6-way classification between SN types Ia, II, Ibc, Ia-91bg, Iax, and SLSN-I. SCONE is able to perform classification with or without redshift, but we show that incorporating redshift information improves performance at each epoch. SCONE achieved 75% overall accuracy at the date of trigger (60% without redshift), and 89% accuracy 50 days after trigger (82% without redshift). SCONE was also tested on bright subsets of SNe ($r < 20$ mag) and produced 91% accuracy at the date of trigger (83% without redshift) and 95% 5 days after trigger (94.7% without redshift). SCONE is the first application of convolutional neural networks to the early-time photometric transient classification problem. All of the data processing and model code developed for this paper can be found in the [SCONE software package](#) located at github.com/helenqu/scone (Qu 2021).

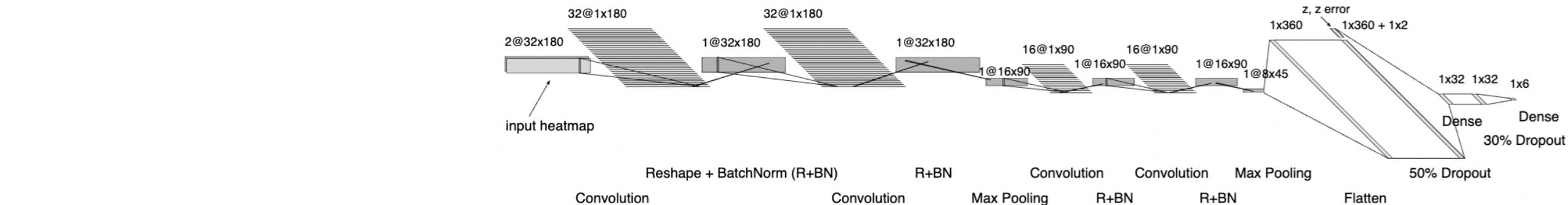
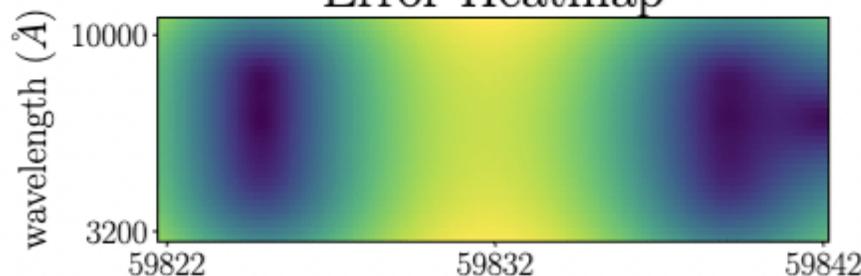
Lightcurve + GP



Flux Heatmap



Error Heatmap

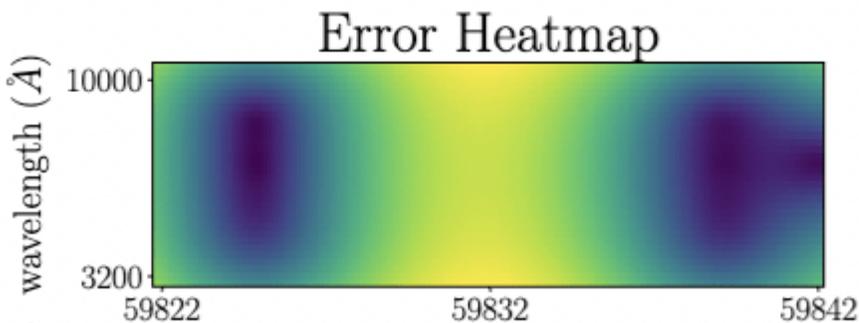
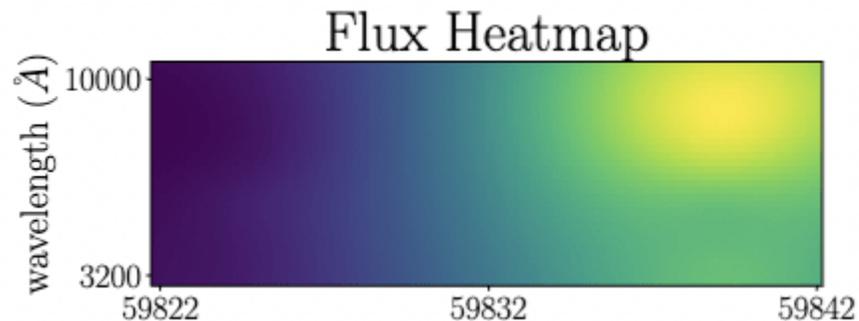
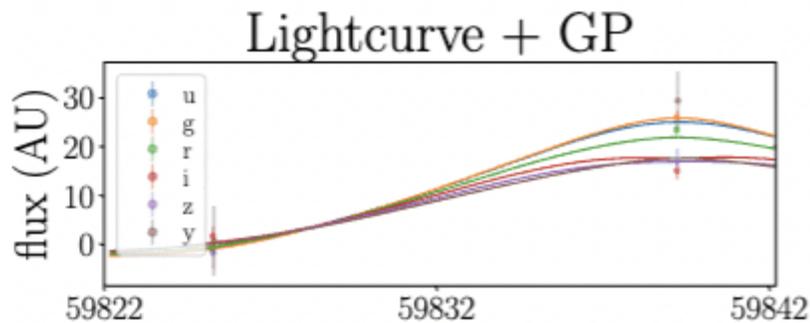


Classification from sparse data: Lightcurves

Photometric Classification of Early-Time Supernova Lightcurves with SCONE

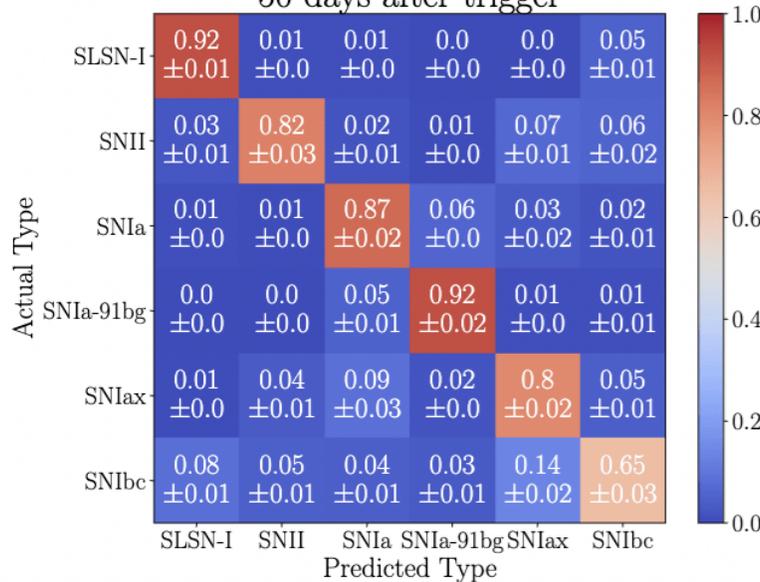
HELEN QU¹ AND MASAO SAKO¹

¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA



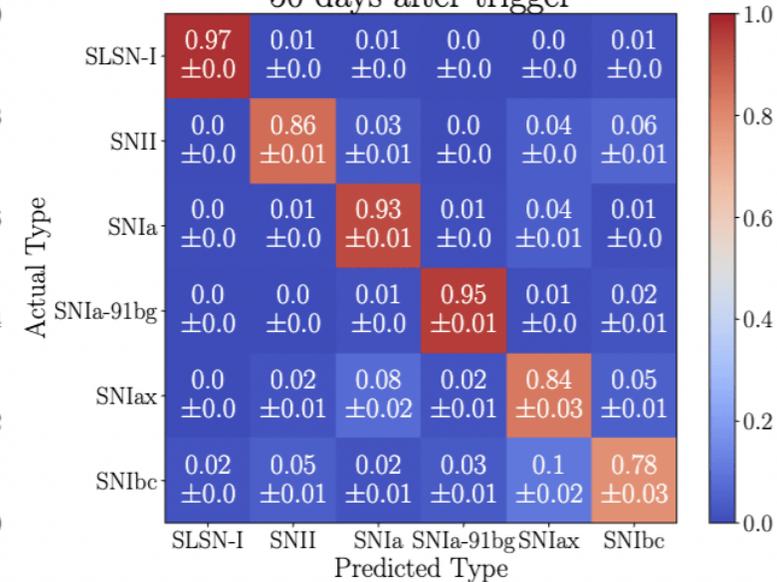
without redshift

50 days after trigger



with redshift

50 days after trigger

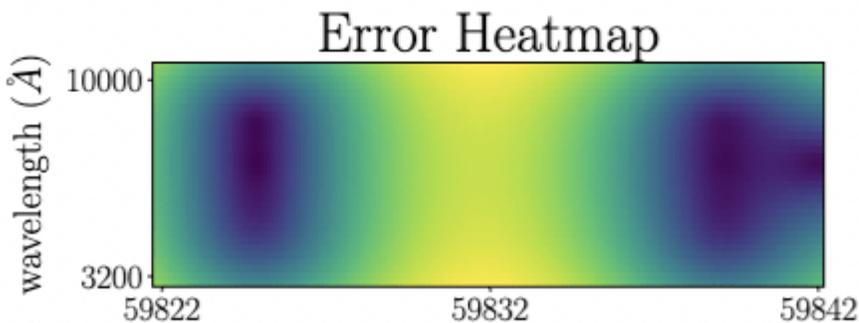
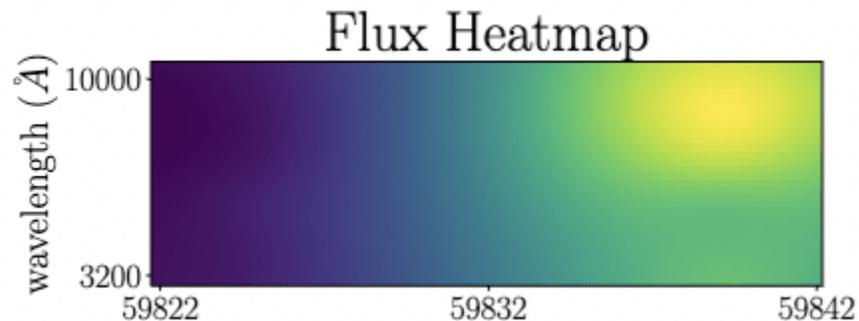
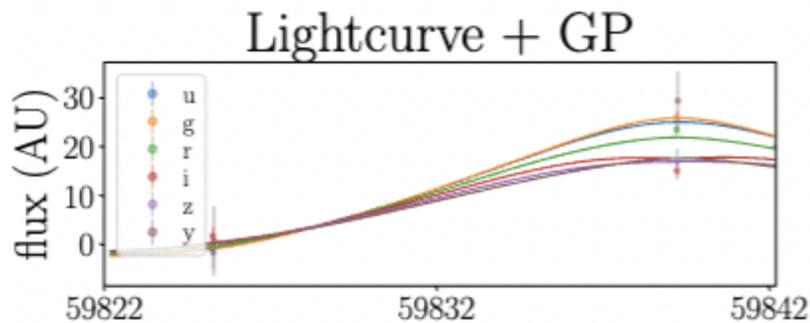


Classification from sparse data: Lightcurves

Photometric Classification of Early-Time Supernova Lightcurves with SCONE

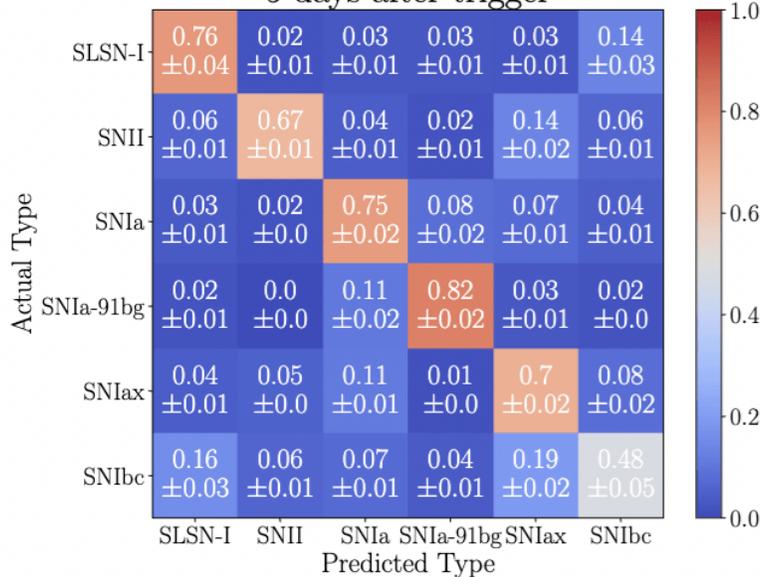
HELEN QU¹ AND MASAO SAKO¹

¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA



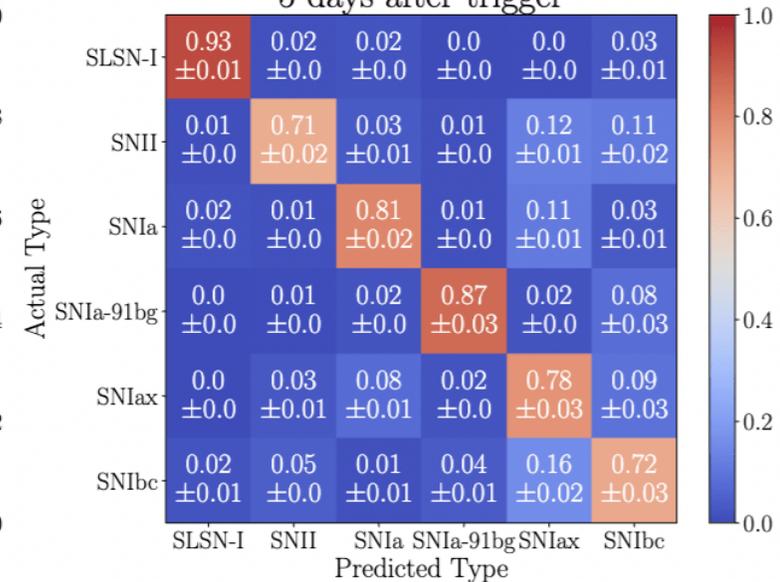
without redshift

5 days after trigger



with redshift

5 days after trigger

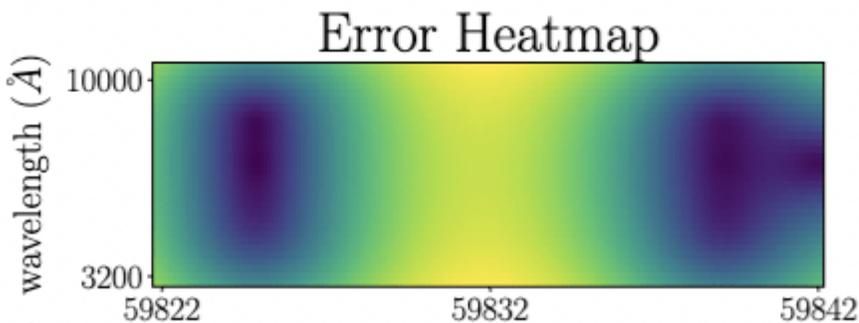
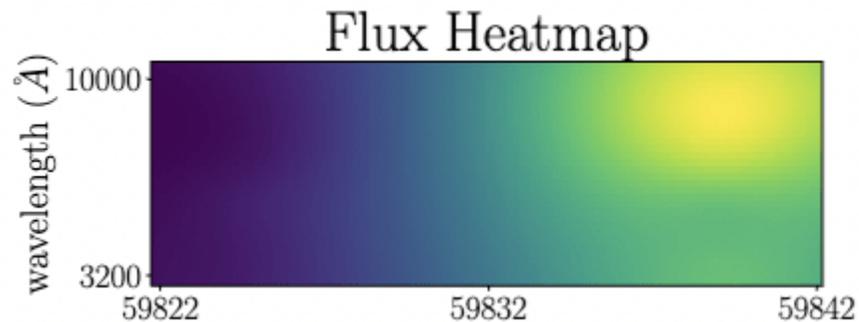
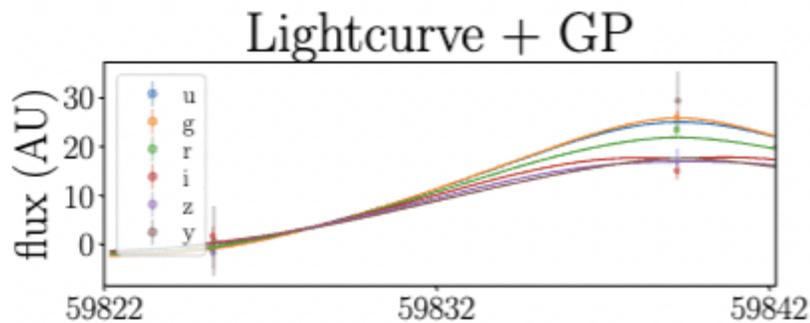


Classification from sparse data: Lightcurves

Photometric Classification of Early-Time Supernova Lightcurves with SCONE

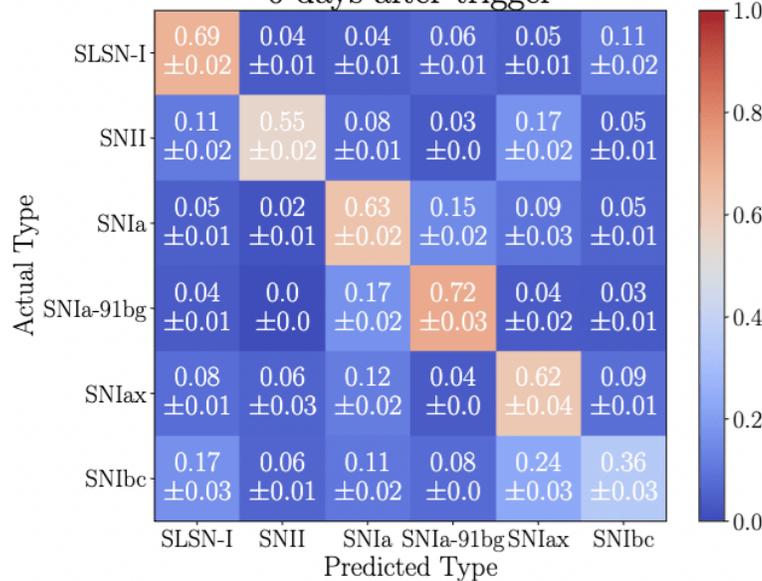
HELEN QU¹ AND MASAO SAKO¹

¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA



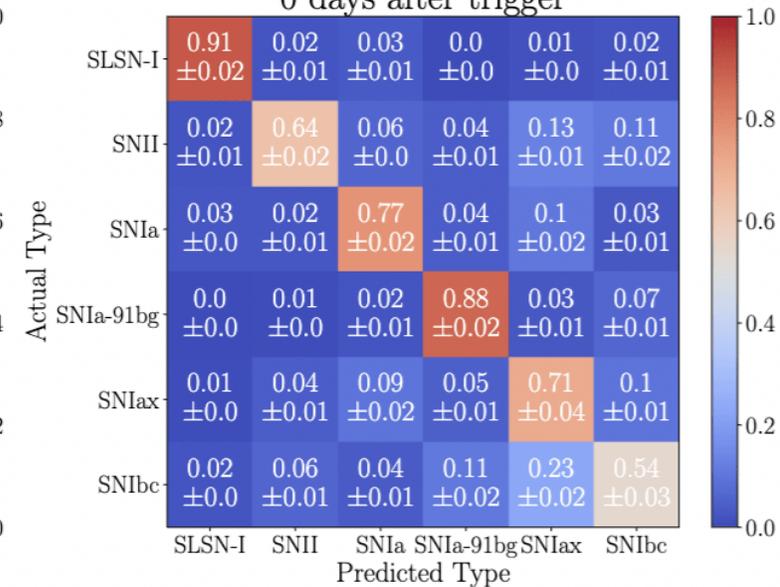
without redshift

0 days after trigger



with redshift

0 days after trigger



OPEN ACCESS

Deep Attention-based Supernovae Classification of Multiband Light Curves

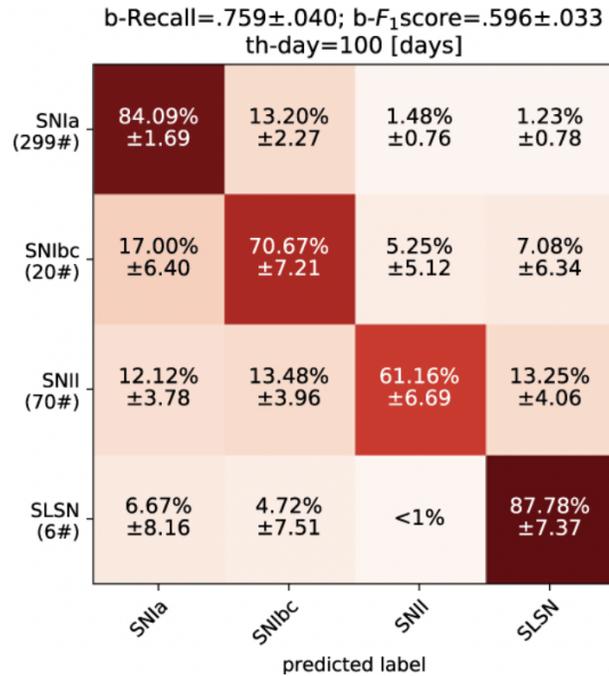
Óscar Pimentel, Pablo A. Estévez, and Francisco Förster

Published 2022 December 16 • © 2022. The Author(s). Published by the American Astronomical Society.

[The Astronomical Journal](#), Volume 165, Number 1

Citation Óscar Pimentel et al/ 2023 AJ 165 18

DOI 10.3847/1538-3881/ac9ab4

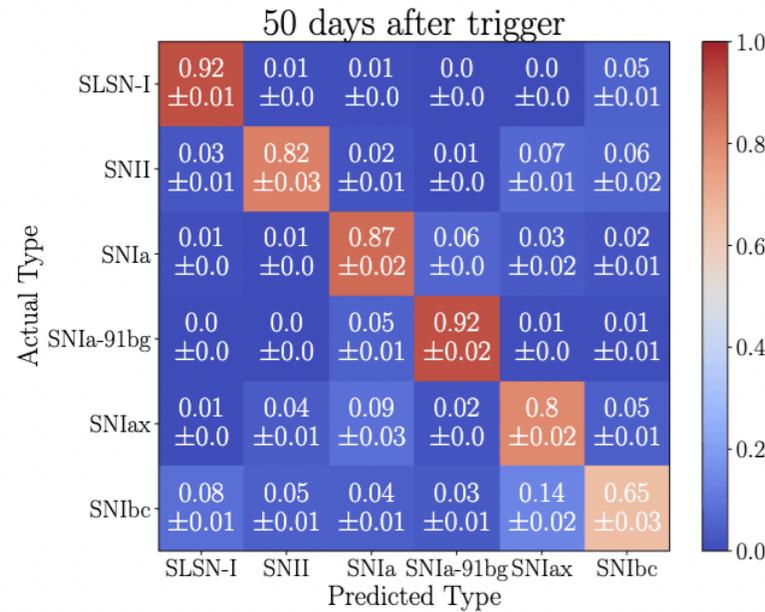


Classification from sparse data: Lightcurves

Photometric Classification of Early-Time Supernova Lightcurves with SCONE

HELEN QU¹ AND MASAO SAKO¹

¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA



Methodological issues with these approaches

CNNs are not designed to ingest uncertainties. Passing them as an image layer "works" but it is not clear why since the convolution on the flux and error space are averaged after the first layer

Methodological issues with these approaches

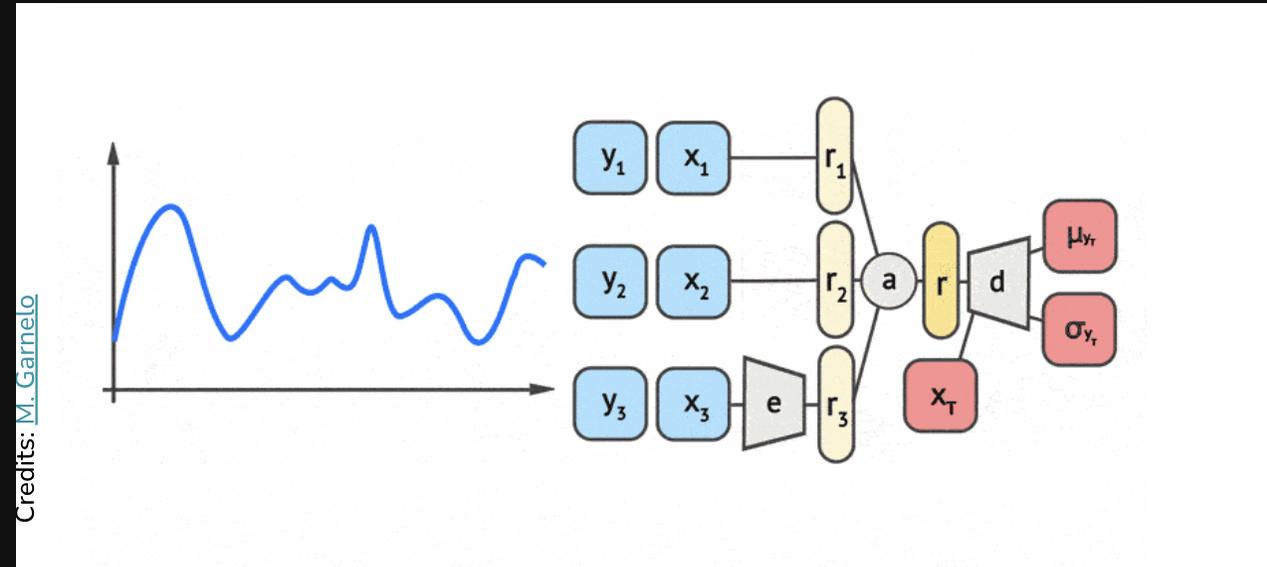
Gaussian processes work by imposing a kernel that represents the covariance in the data (how data depend on time or time/wavelength). Imposing the same kernel for different time-domain phenomena is principally incorrect

=> bias toward known classes!

Methodological issues with these approaches

Gaussian processes work by imposing a kernel that represents the covariance in the data (how data depend on time or time/wavelength). Imposing the same kernel for different time-domain phenomena is principally incorrect

=> bias toward known classes!

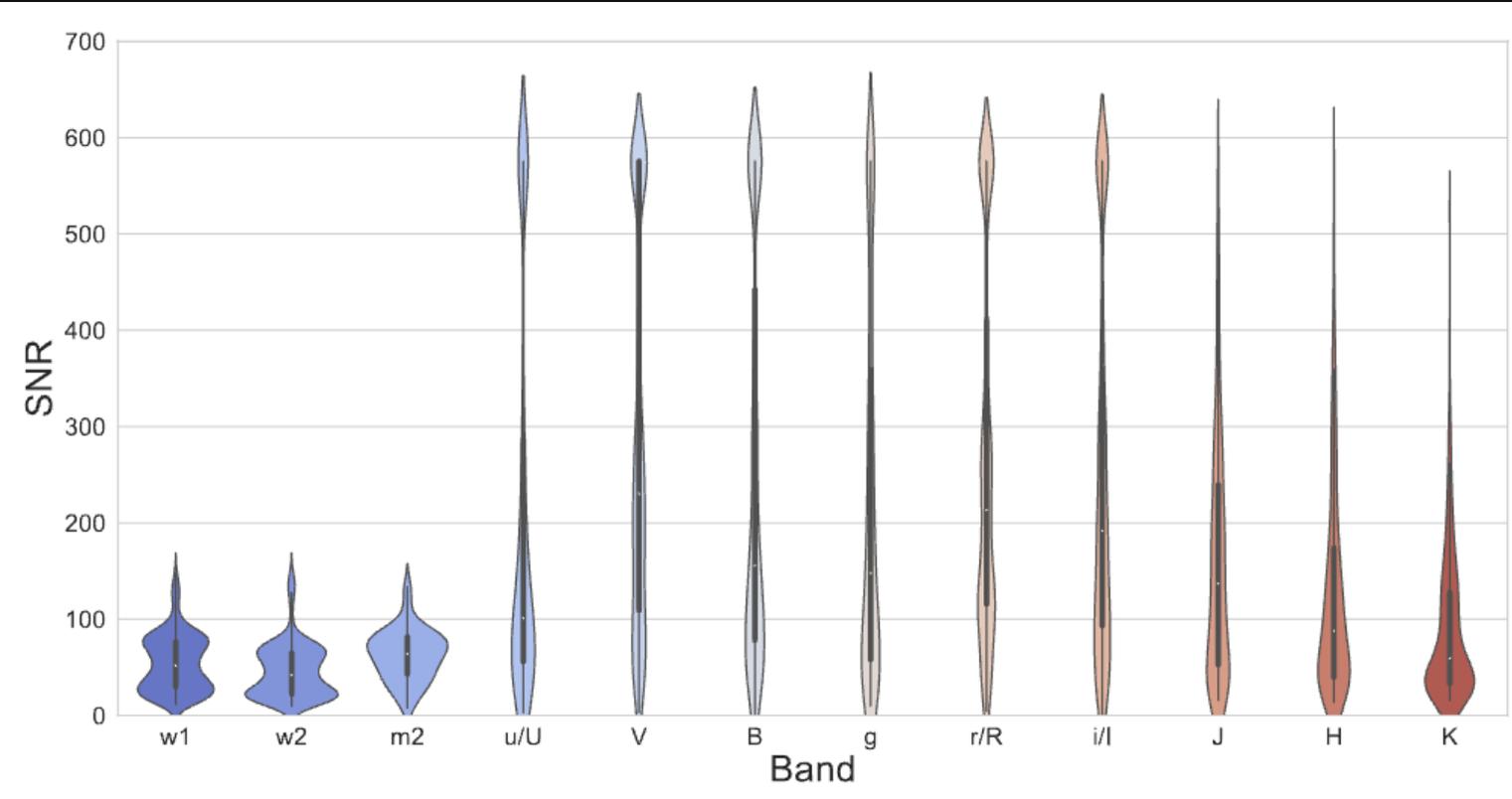


Neural processes replace the imposed kernel with a learned one - ask Siddharth Chaini!

Data-Driven Photometric Templates for stripped SESN



FASTlab Flash highlight



Multi-filter UV to NIR Data-driven Light Curve Templates for Stripped Envelope Supernovae

SOMAYEH KHAKPASH,^{1,2,3} FEDERICA B. BIANCO,^{2,4,3,5} MARYAM MODJAZ,⁶ WILLOW F. FORTINO,^{2,3}
ALEXANDER GAGLIANO,^{7,8,9} CONOR LARISON,¹ AND TYLER A. PRITCHARD¹⁰

¹Rutgers University, Department of Physics & Astronomy, 136 Frelinghuysen Rd, Piscataway, NJ 08854, USA

²University of Delaware Department of Physics and Astronomy 217 Sharp Lab Newark, DE 19716 USA

³University of Delaware Data Science Institute

⁴University of Delaware Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration, 184 Academy St, Newark, DE 19716 USA

⁵Vera C. Rubin Observatory, Tucson, AZ 85719, USA

⁶University of Virginia, Department of Astronomy, 530 McCormick Road Charlottesville, VA 22904

⁷The NSF AI Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions

⁸Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian, 60 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138-1516, USA

⁹MIT Laboratory For Nuclear Science, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139, US

¹⁰NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20771 USA

Khakpash et al. 2024 ApJS

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2405.01672>

Rare classes will become common, but how do we know what we are looking at and classify different objects for sample studies?

on the job market!

Dr. Somayeh Khakpash

LSSTC Catalyst Fellow, Rutgers



Methodological issues with these approaches

Attention requires positional encoding

Positional Encodings for Light Curve Transformers: Playing with Positions and Attention

Daniel Moreno-Cartagena¹ Guillermo Cabrera-Vives^{1 2 3 4} Pavlos Protopapas⁵ Cristobal Donoso-Oliva^{3 2}
Manuel Pérez-Carrasco^{2 1 4} Martina Cádiz-Leyton¹

Table 1. Performance of different positional encodings in the pretraining stage and classification task.

PE TYPE	MACHO UNLAB.		MACHO LAB.				OGLE	ATLAS
	RMSE	TIME (EPOCHS)	FULL	3/4	1/2	1/4	F1 (%)	F1 (%)
			F1 (%)	F1 (%)	F1 (%)	F1 (%)		
BASELINE	.170	6D 14H (523)	71.6 ± 1.9	69.2 ± 1.9	66.2 ± 1.9	63.3 ± 1.5	71.3 ± 1.1	65.8 ± 1.4
TRAINABLE	.169	2D 13H (202)	72.9 ± 2.1	72.3 ± 1.0	71.0 ± 1.0	69.0 ± 0.5	74.9 ± 1.4	65.4 ± 1.8
FOURIER	.170	1D 20H (142)	73.0 ± 1.1	70.2 ± 1.9	67.8 ± 0.9	62.9 ± 2.0	72.0 ± 0.8	69.6 ± 0.1
RECURRENT	.197	0D 16H (048)	67.1 ± 1.8	63.5 ± 2.5	59.7 ± 1.9	54.6 ± 1.3	70.7 ± 1.1	68.3 ± 0.9
TUPE-A	.219	0D 17H (084)	67.3 ± 1.6	66.1 ± 1.4	64.9 ± 1.0	60.8 ± 0.9	71.0 ± 1.0	67.5 ± 0.9
CONCAT	.170	3D 01H (237)	73.4 ± 1.1	73.1 ± 1.7	70.9 ± 1.7	69.0 ± 1.8	74.5 ± 1.3	68.1 ± 0.6
PEA	.199	0D 17H (058)	69.7 ± 0.9	68.9 ± 1.8	68.0 ± 1.0	65.5 ± 2.5	76.3 ± 1.2	66.9 ± 1.0

***we badly need better
benchmark datasets***

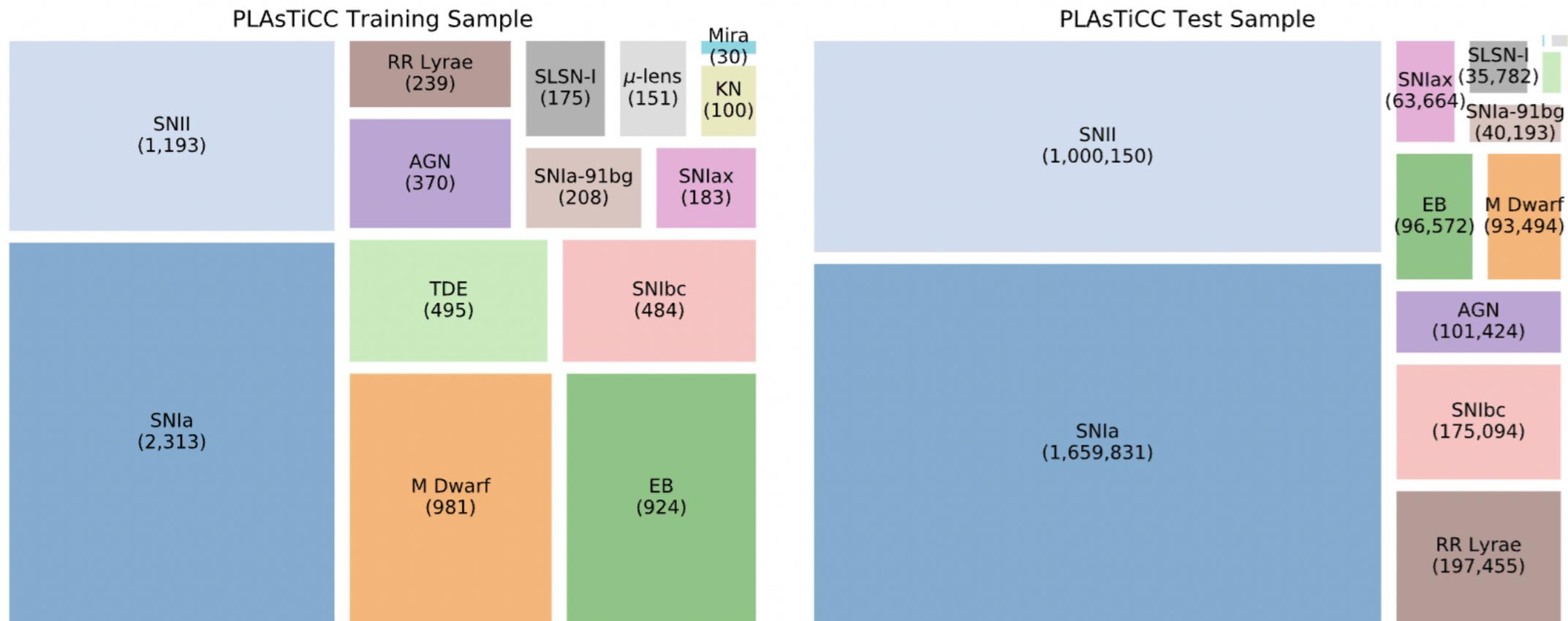


Figure 1. Relative numbers of objects of each class between the training (left) and test (right) data of PLAsTiCC. The size of the boxes are proportional to the relative numbers in each set and the absolute numbers are in parentheses. The simulated $\simeq 8000$ objects in the training set were distributed across the data classes in a different ratio compared to the test data of over 3.5 M objects.

DATA CURATION IS THE BOTTLE NECK

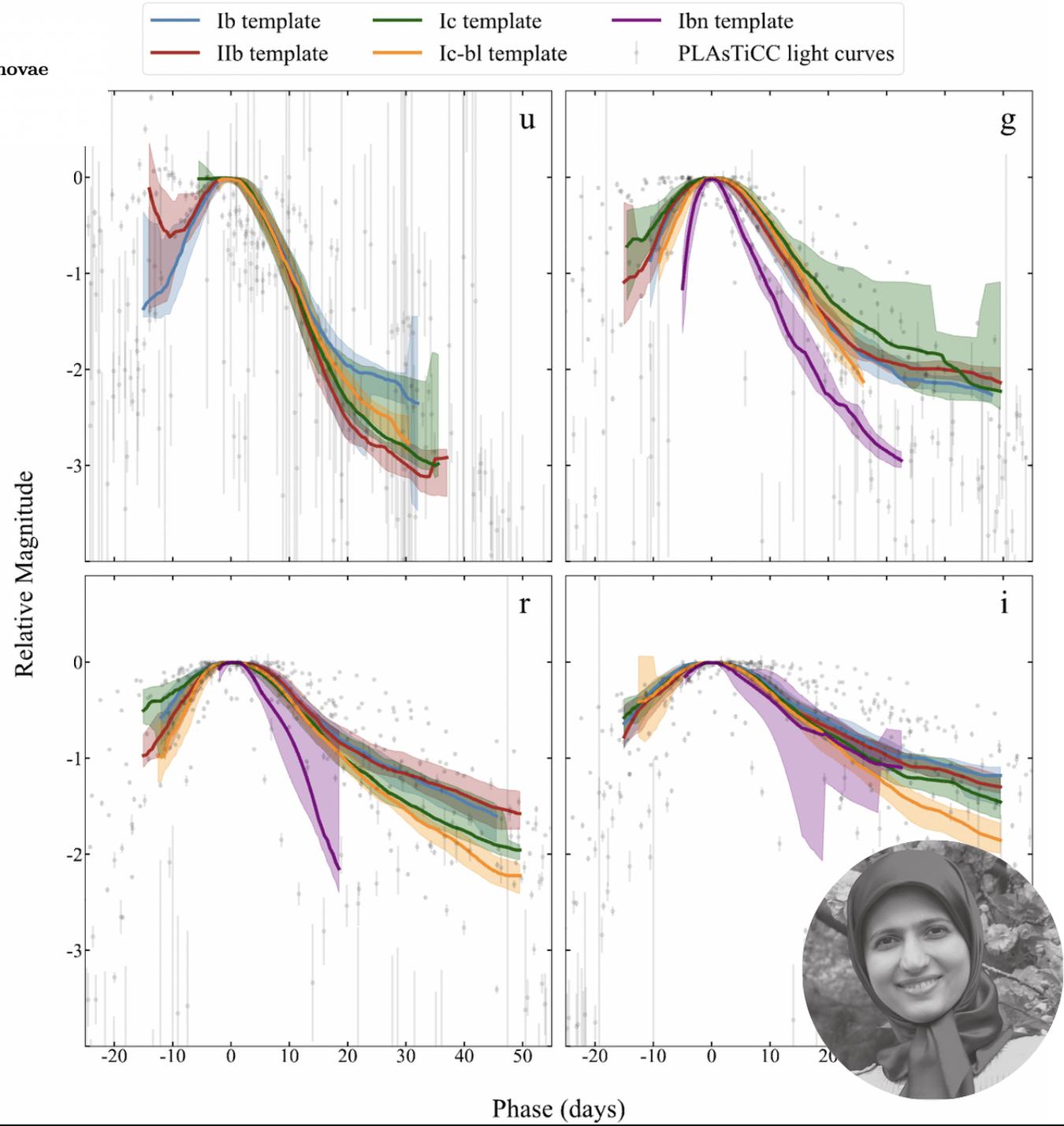
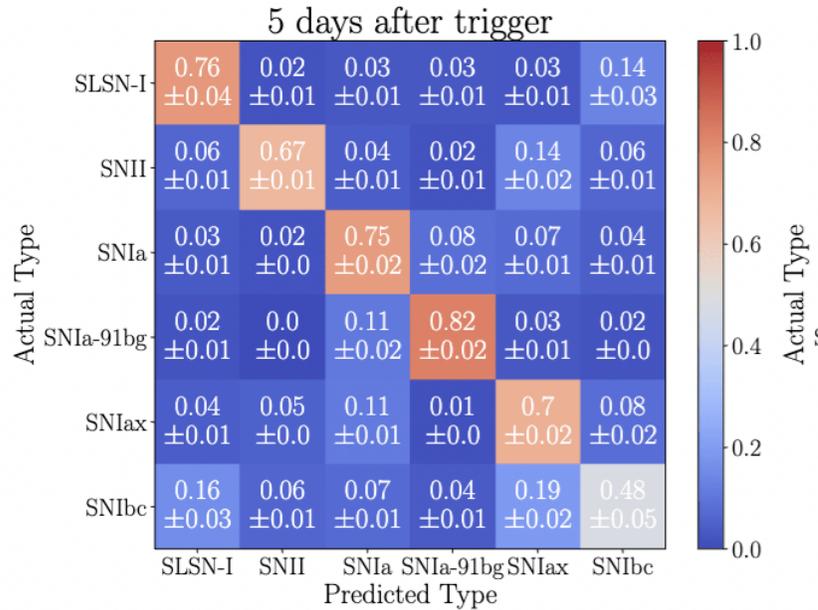
models contributed by the community were in

- different format (spectra, lightcurves, theoretical, data-driven)
- the people that contributed the models were included in 1 paper at best
- *incompleteness*
- *systematics*
- *imbalance*

Ibc data-driven templates vs PLAsTiCC

khakpash+ 2024 showed that the models were biased for SN Ibc

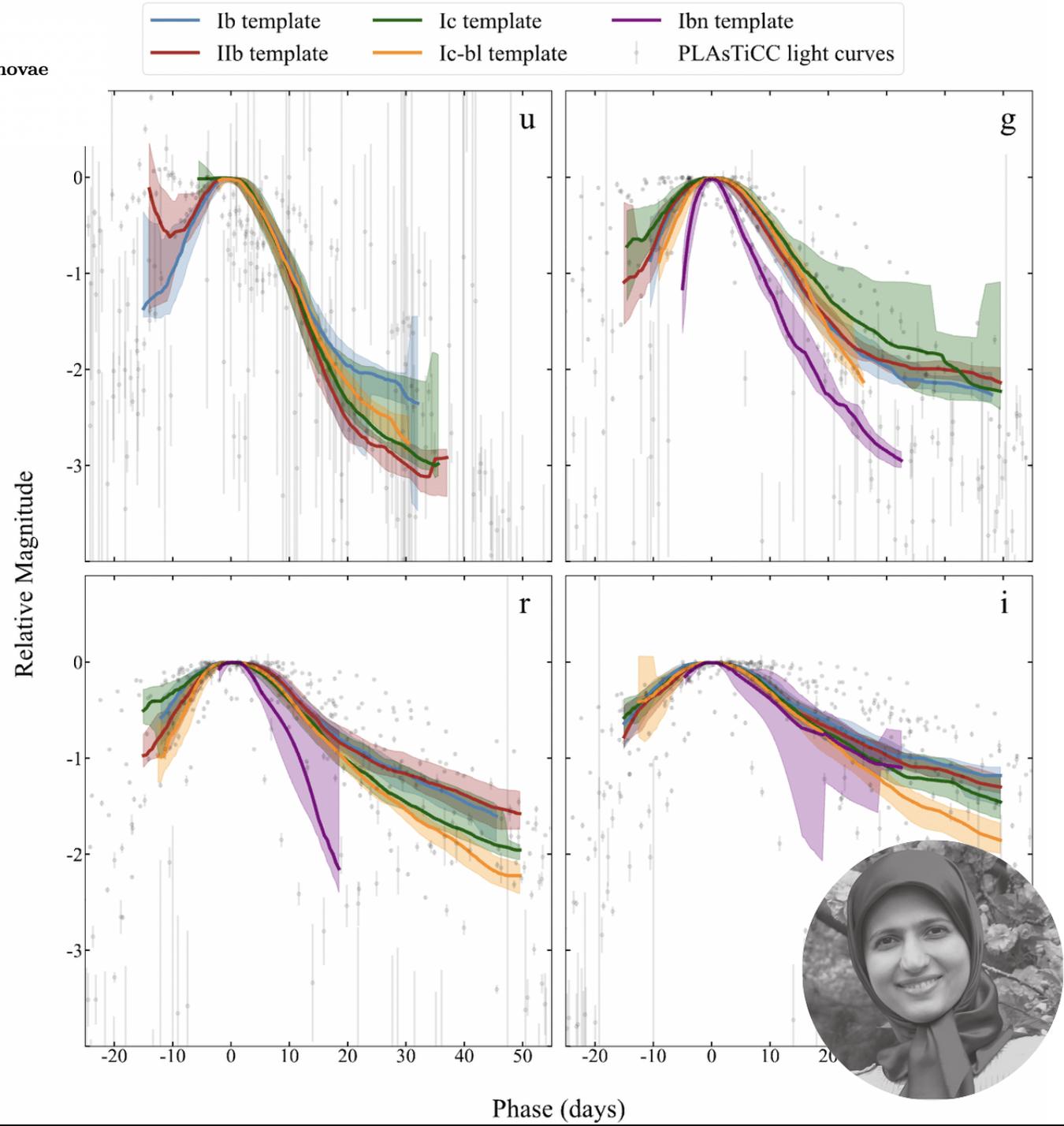
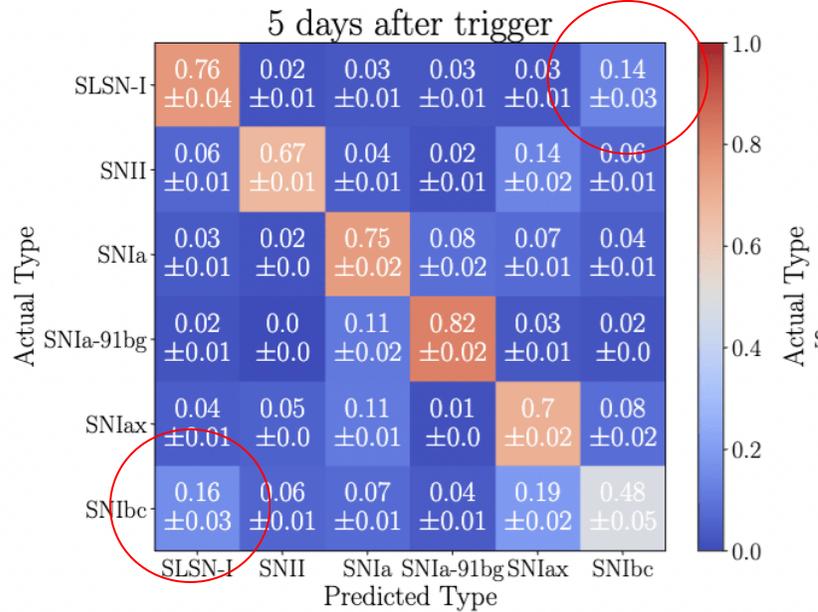
AVOCADO, SCONE, all these models are trained on a biased dataset and are being currently used for classification



Ibc data-driven templates vs PLAsTiCC

khakpash+ 2024 showed that the models were biased for SN Ibc

AVOCADO, SCONE, all these models are trained on a biased dataset and are being currently used for classification

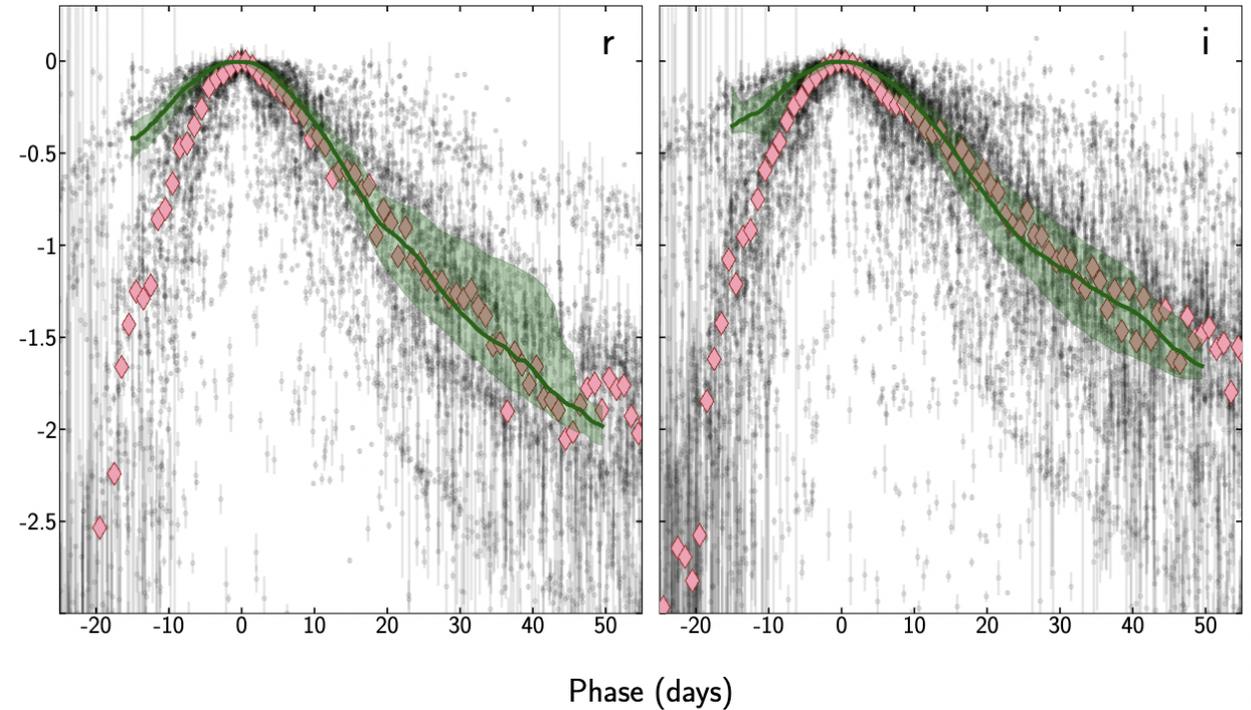


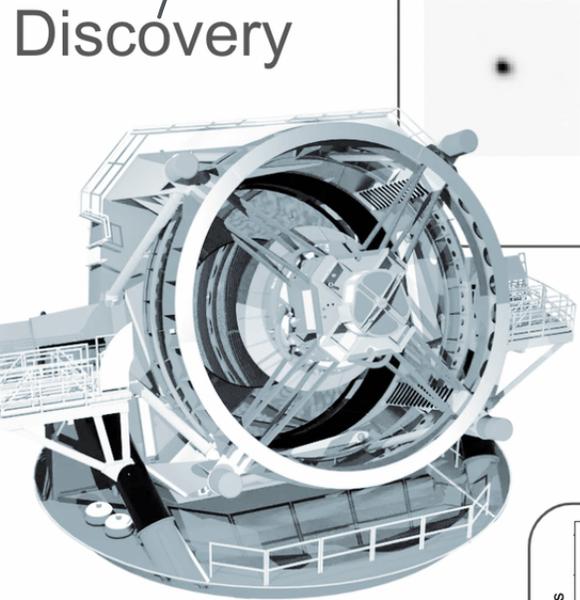
Ibc data-driven templates vs PLAsTiCC

khakpash+ 2024 showed that the models were biased for SN Ibc

AVOCADO, SCONE, all these models are trained on a biased dataset and are being currently used for classification

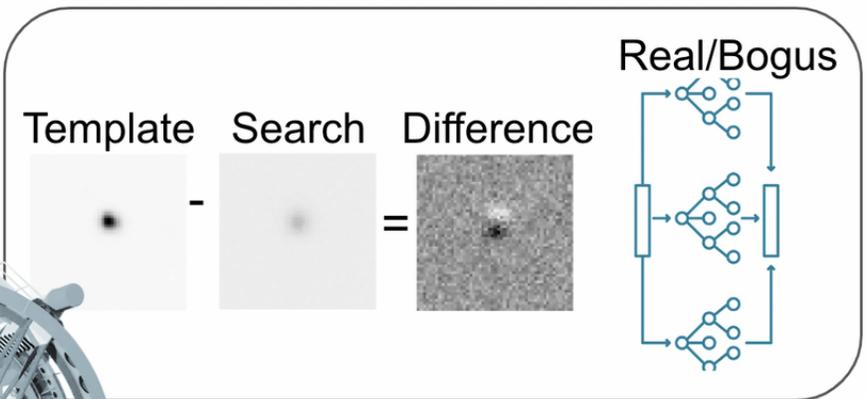
Ic templates vs ELAsTiCC



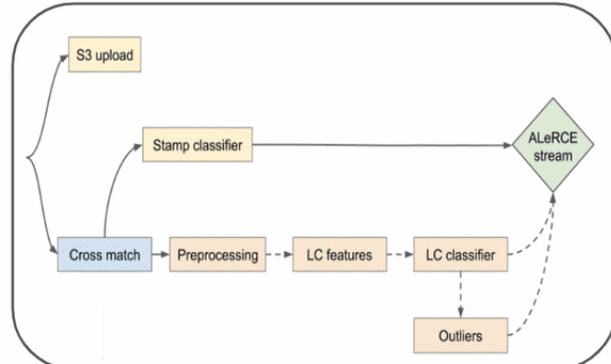


LSST
10M alerts/night

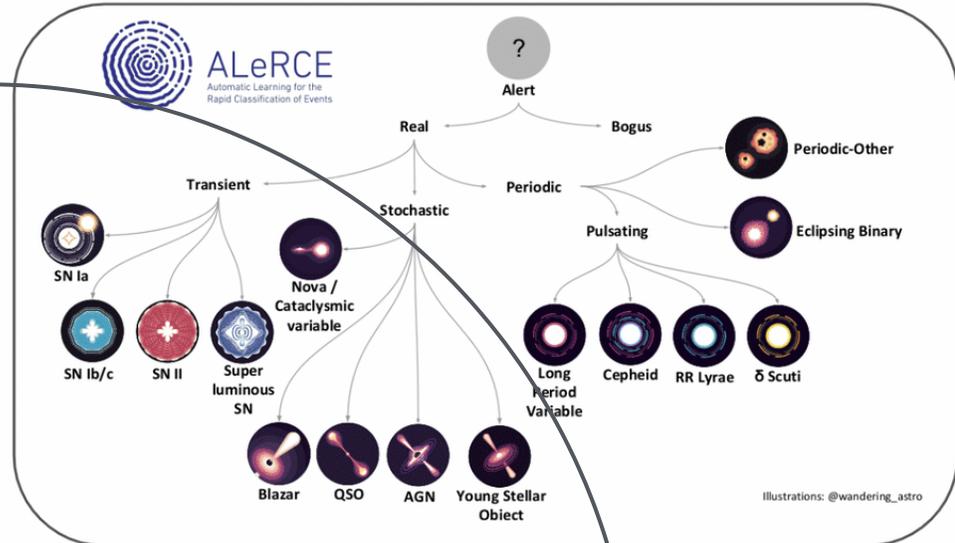
Discovery



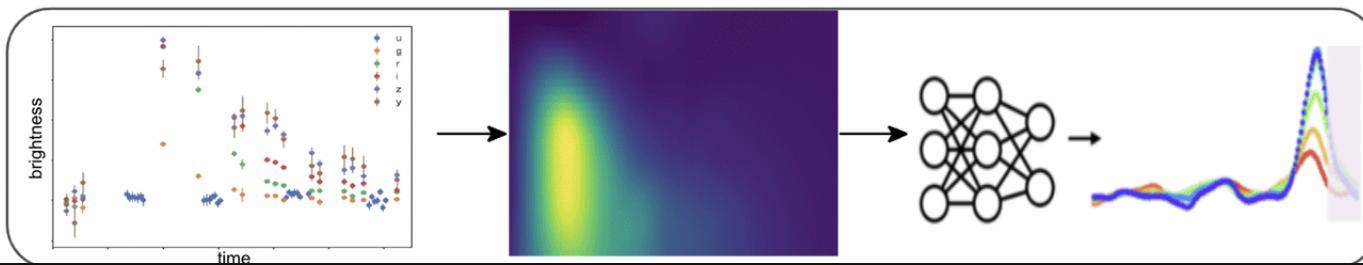
Distribution



Classification



Data Integration + Follow up

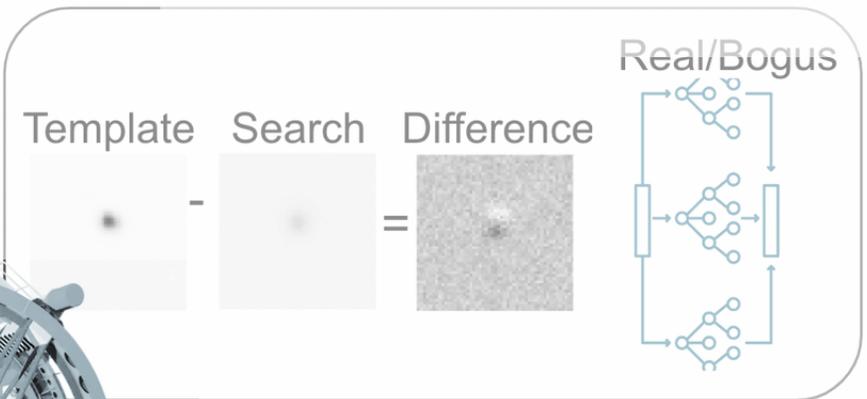


*Ensamble Inference
Prediction
Discovery of novelties*

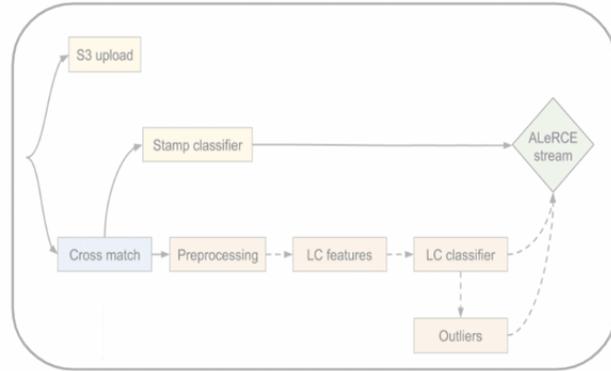


LSST
10M alerts/night

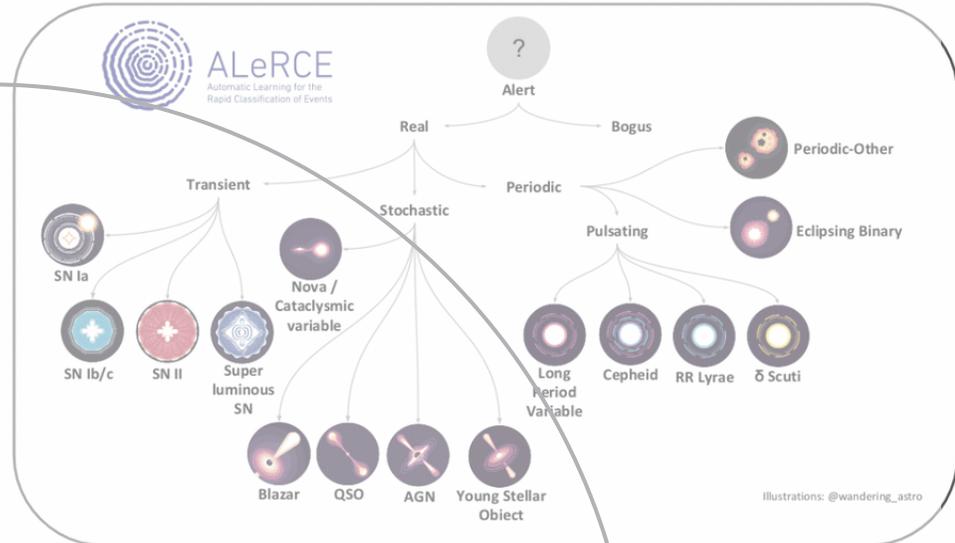
Discovery



Distribution



Classification



Data Integration + Follow up



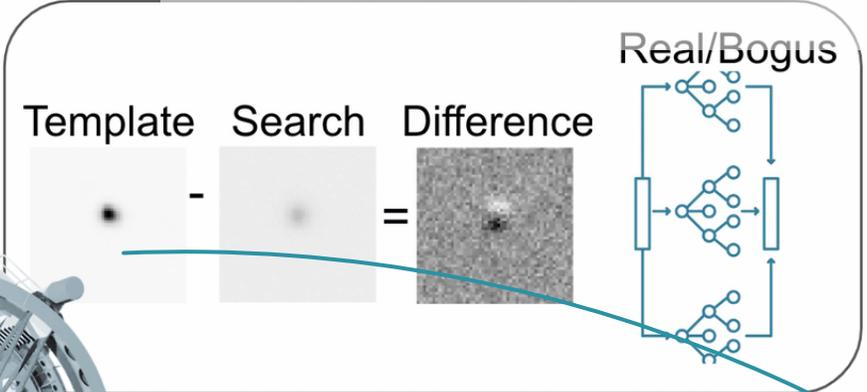
survey optimization





LSST
10M alerts/night

Discovery

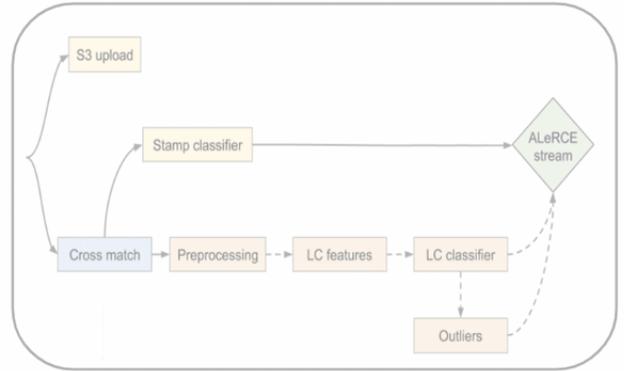


multimodal data analysis
and pixel to science

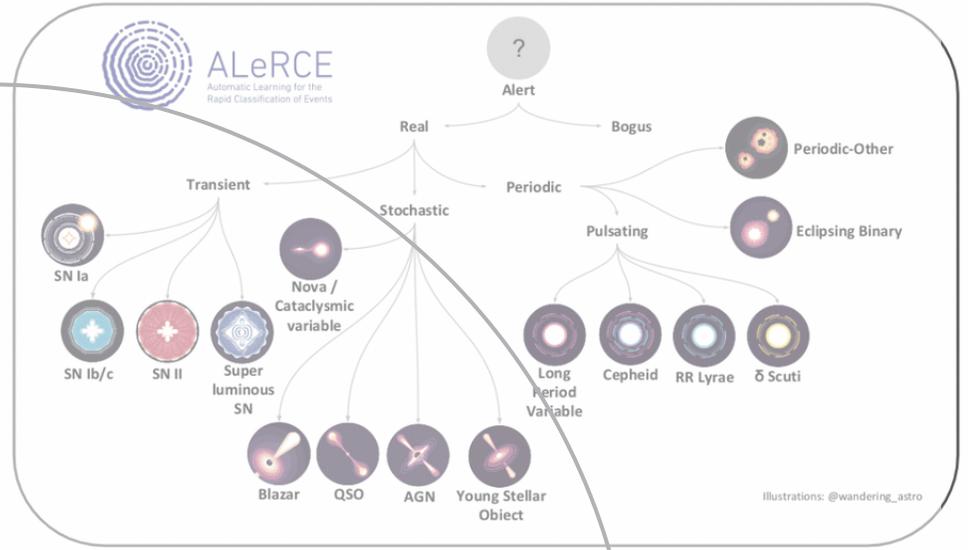


*Ensamble Inference
Prediction
Discovery of novelties*

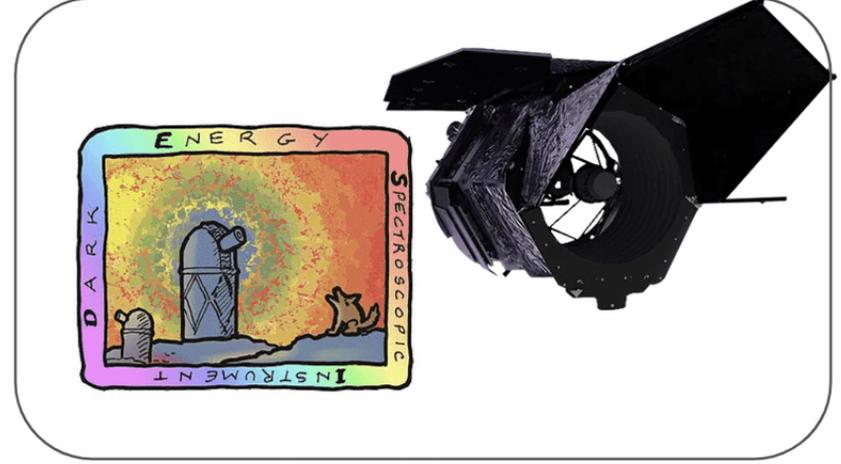
Distribution



Classification



Data Integration + Follow up



PAPER • OPEN ACCESS

Maven: a multimodal foundation model for supernova science

Gemma Zhang^{7*}, Thomas Helfer^{7*}, Alexander T Gagliano, Siddharth Mishra-Sharma⁸ and V Ashley Villar

Published 19 December 2024 • © 2024 The Author(s). Published by IOP Publishing Ltd

[Machine Learning: Science and Technology, Volume 5, Number 4](#)

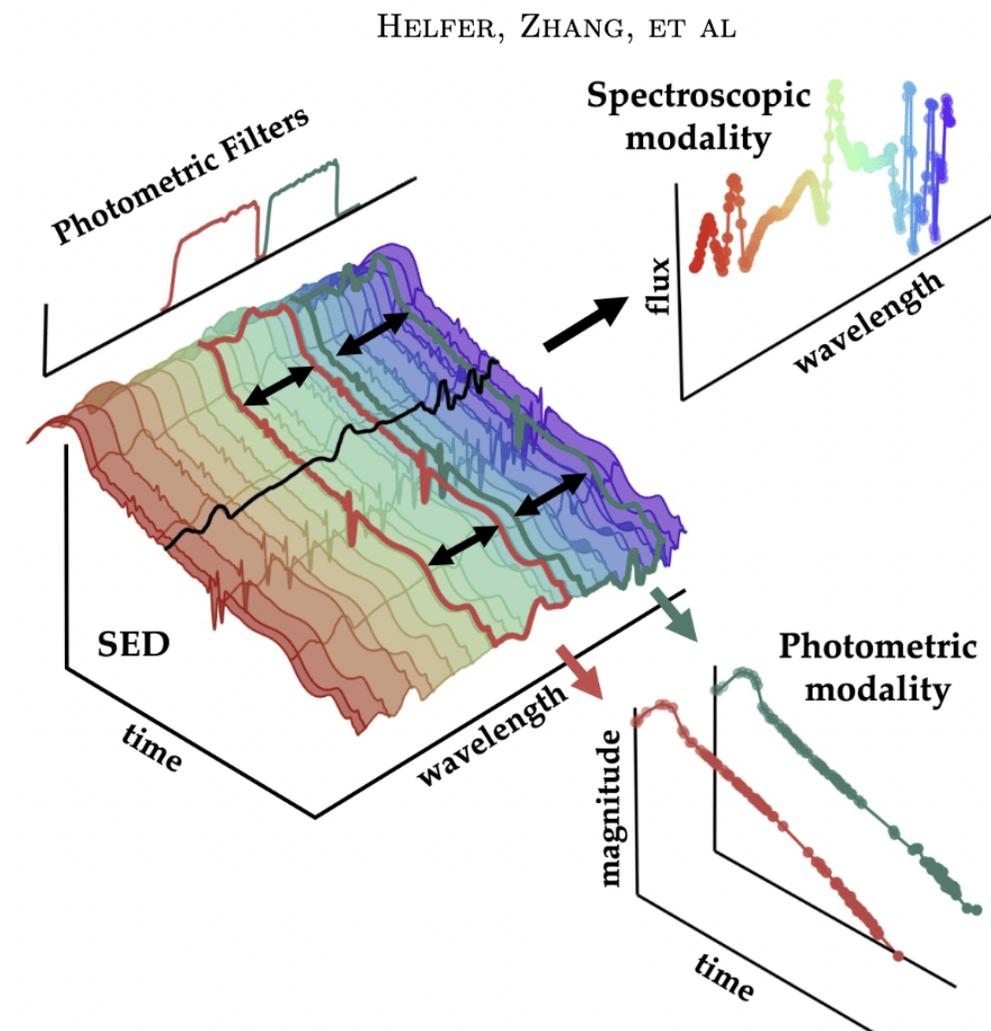
[Focus on ML and the Physical Sciences](#)

Citation Gemma Zhang et al 2024 *Mach. Learn.: Sci. Technol.* 5 045069

DOI 10.1088/2632-2153/ad990d

Abstract

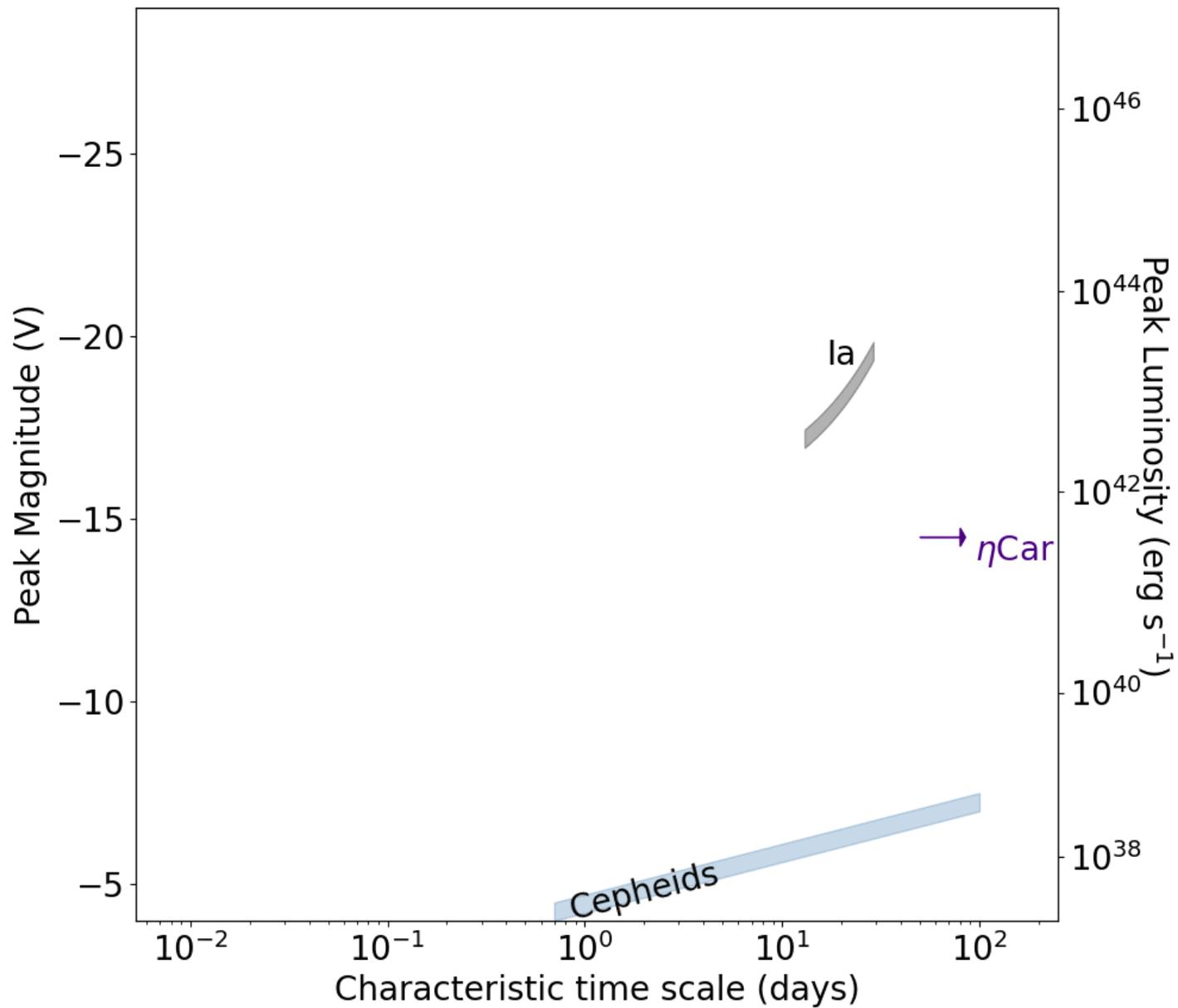
A common setting in astronomy is the availability of a small number of high-quality observations, and larger amounts of either lower-quality observations or synthetic data from simplified models. Time-domain astrophysics is a canonical example of this imbalance, with the number of supernovae observed photometrically outpacing the number observed spectroscopically by multiple orders of magnitude. At the same time, no data-driven models exist to understand these photometric and spectroscopic observables in a common context. Contrastive learning objectives, which have grown in popularity for aligning distinct data modalities in a shared embedding space, provide a potential solution to extract information from these modalities. We present Maven, the first foundation model for supernova science. To construct Maven, we first pre-train our model to align photometry and spectroscopy from 0.5M synthetic supernovae using a contrastive objective. We then fine-tune the model on 4702 observed supernovae from the Zwicky transient facility. Maven reaches state-of-the-art performance on both classification and redshift estimation, despite the embeddings not being explicitly optimized for these tasks. Through ablation studies, we show that pre-training with synthetic data improves overall performance. In the upcoming era of the Vera C. Rubin observatory, Maven will serve as a valuable tool for leveraging large, unlabeled and multimodal time-domain datasets.



*LSST survey strategy
optimization*

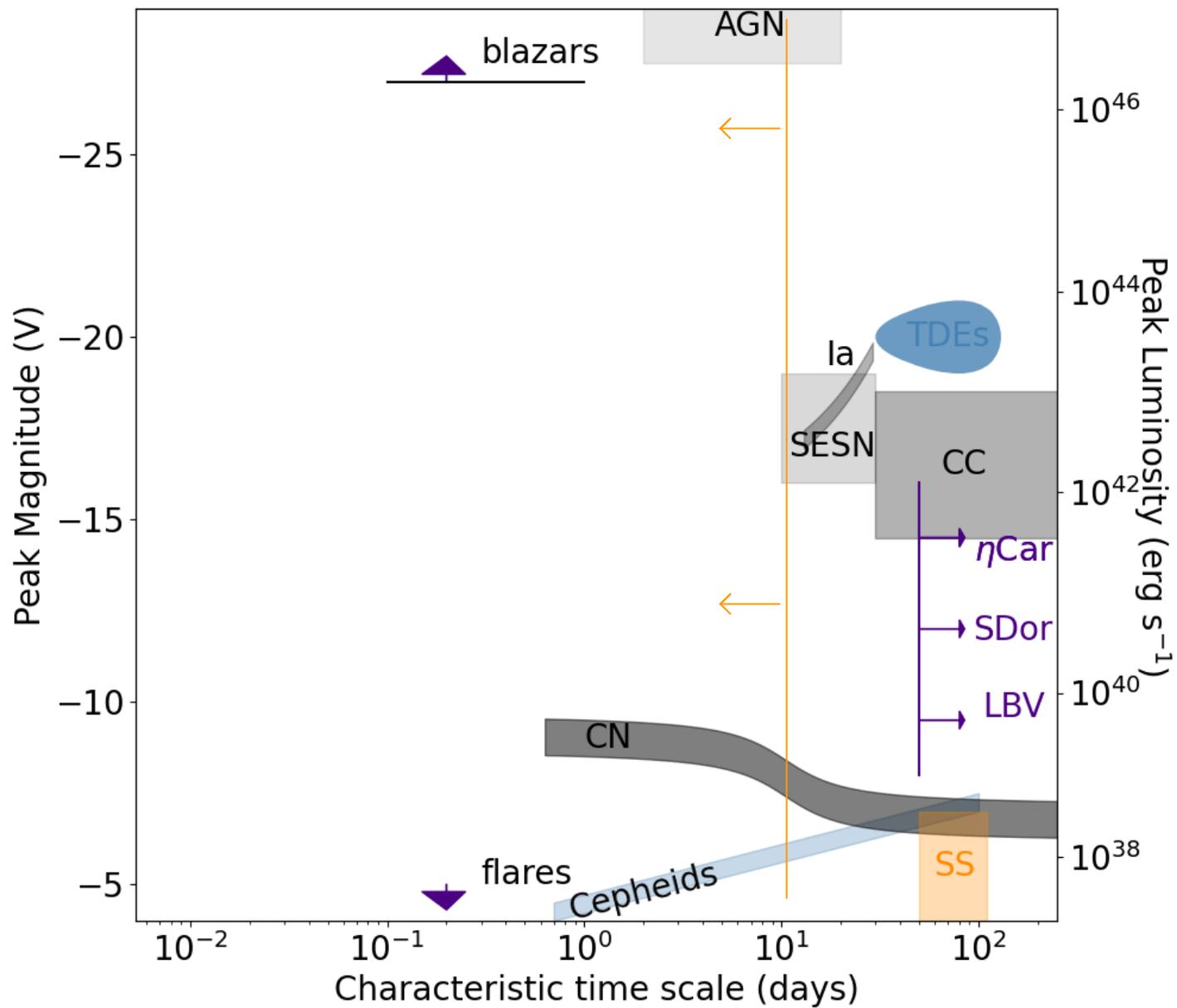
Exploring the Transient and Variable Optical Sky

1900



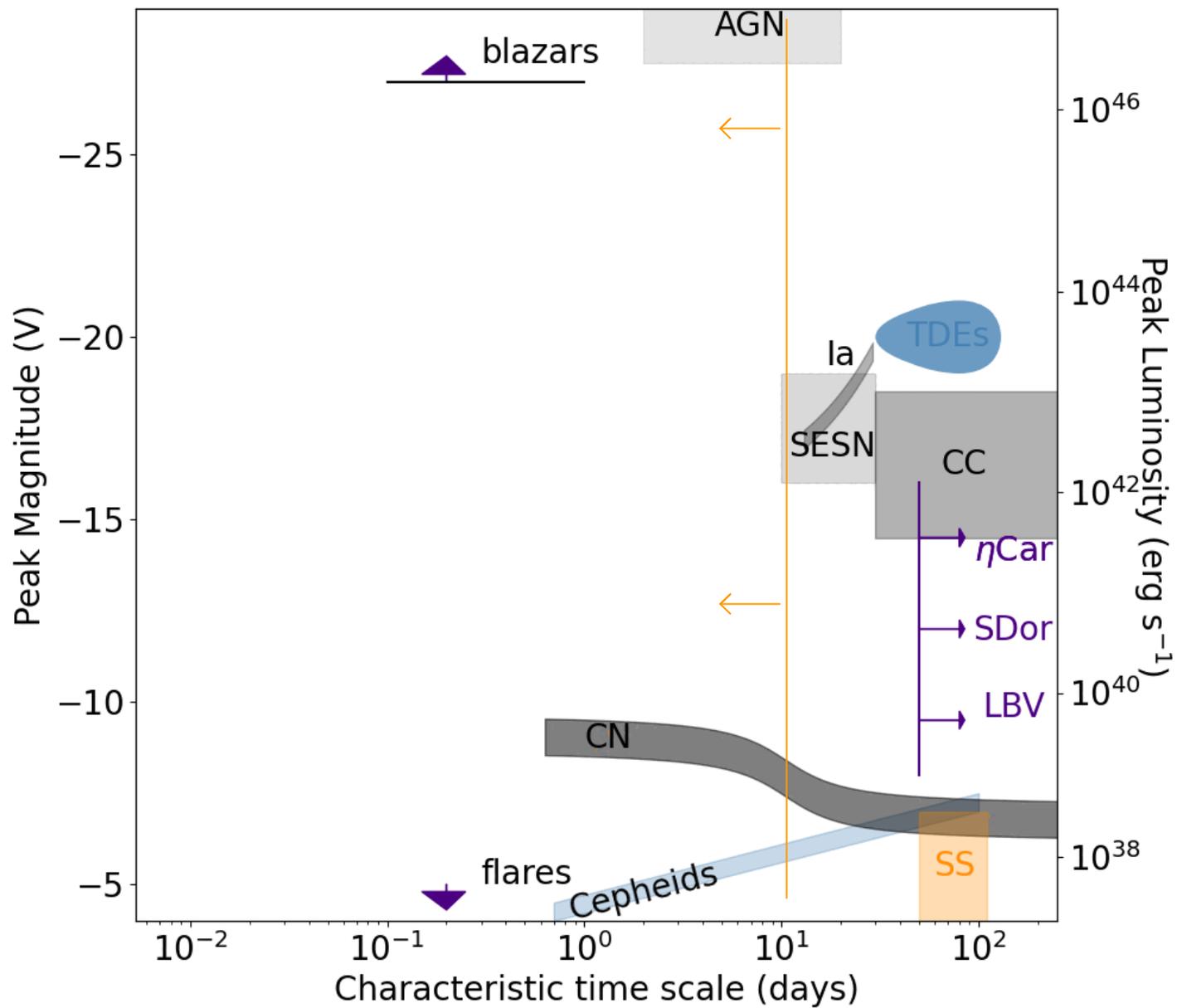
Exploring the Transient and Variable Optical Sky

2000



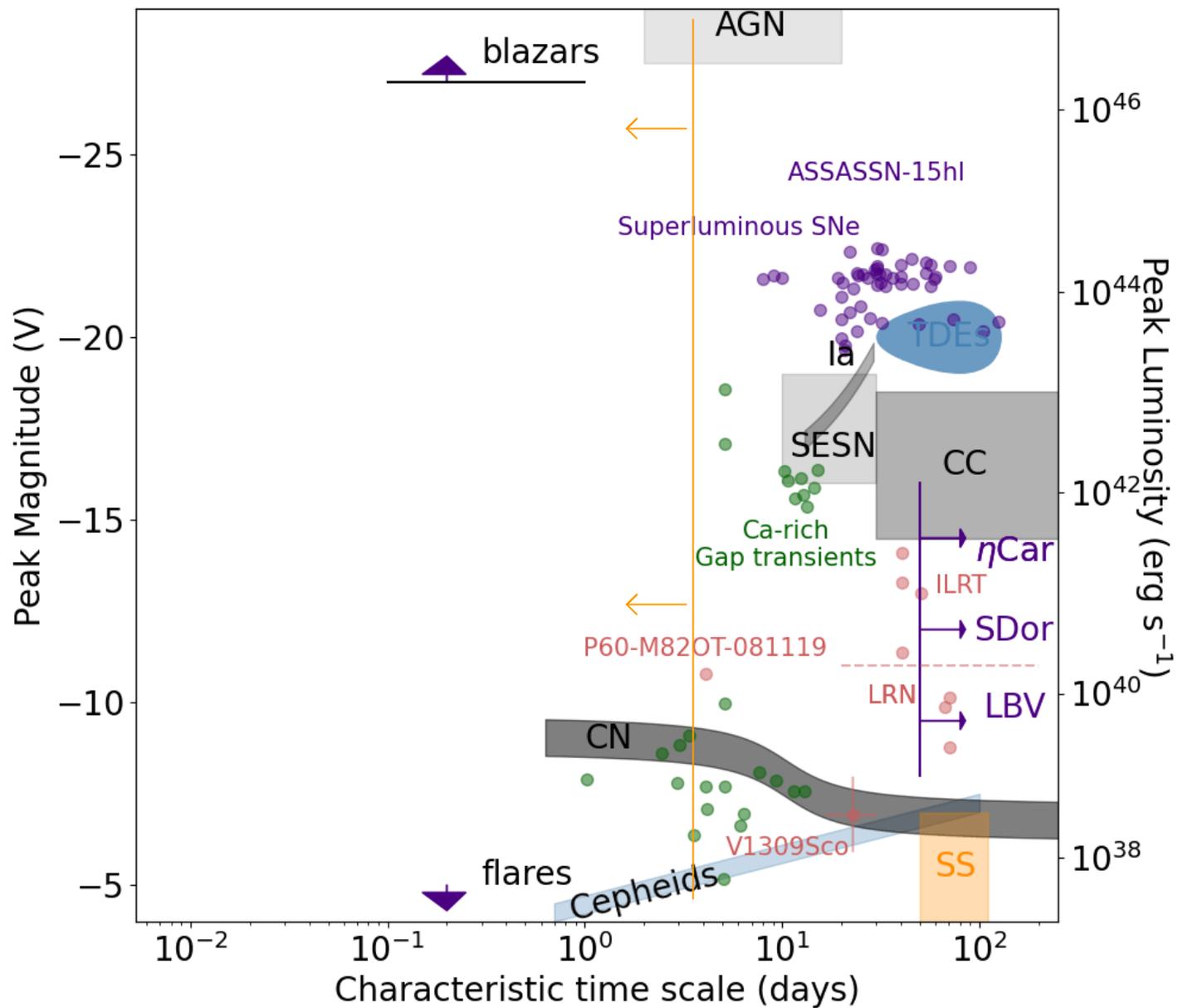
Exploring the Transient and Variable Optical Sky

2000



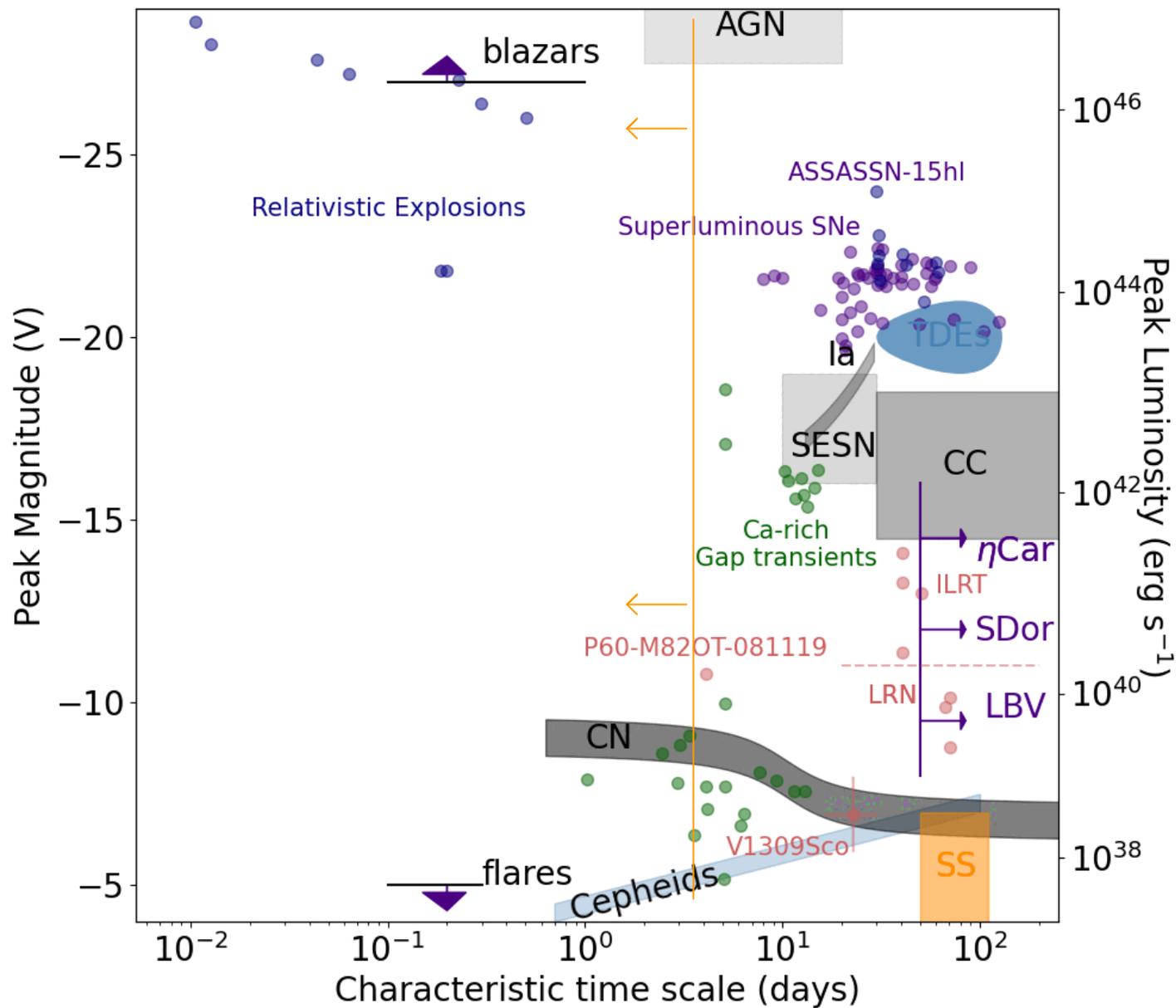
Exploring the Transient and Variable Optical Sky

2009



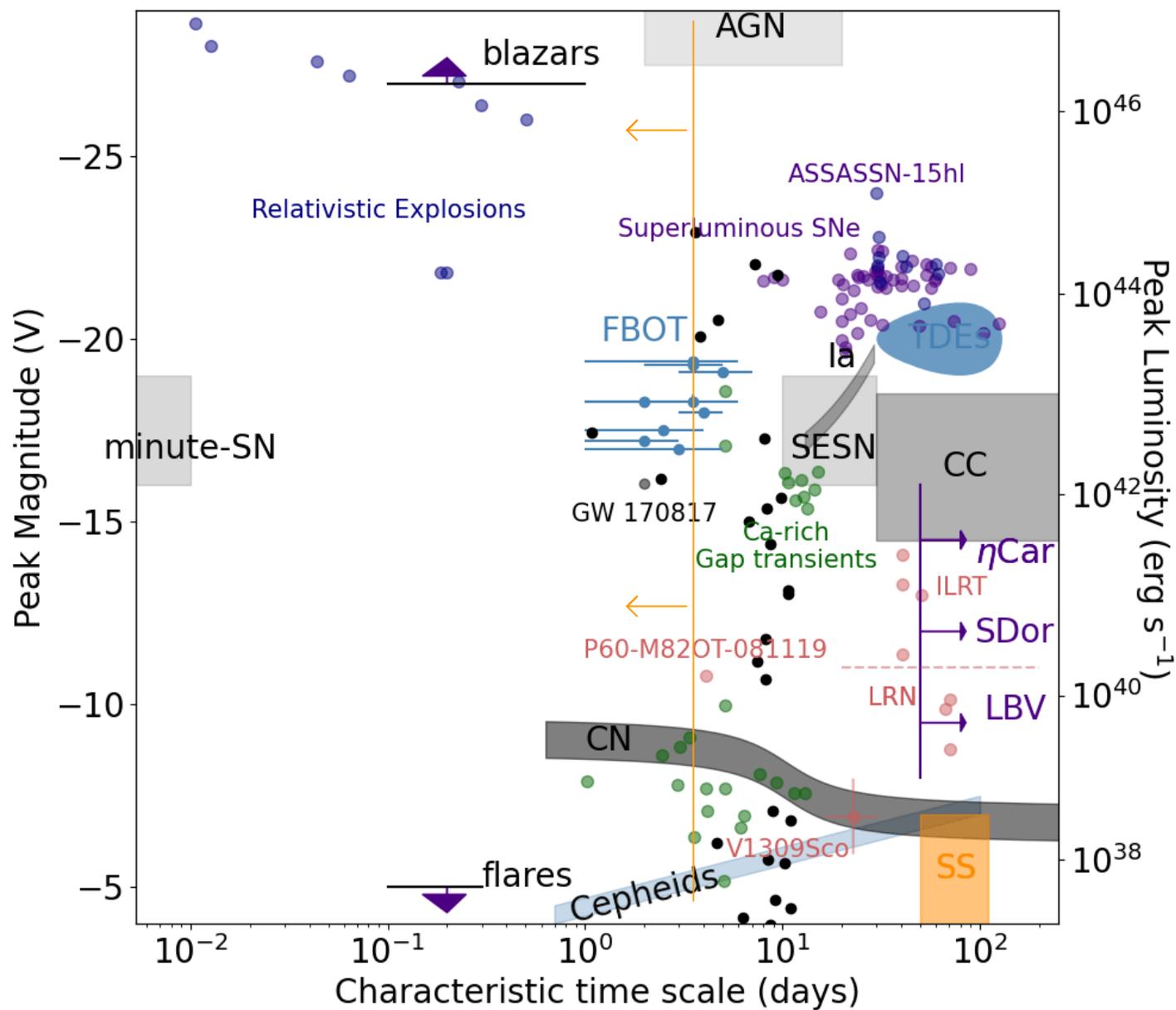
Exploring the Transient and Variable Optical Sky

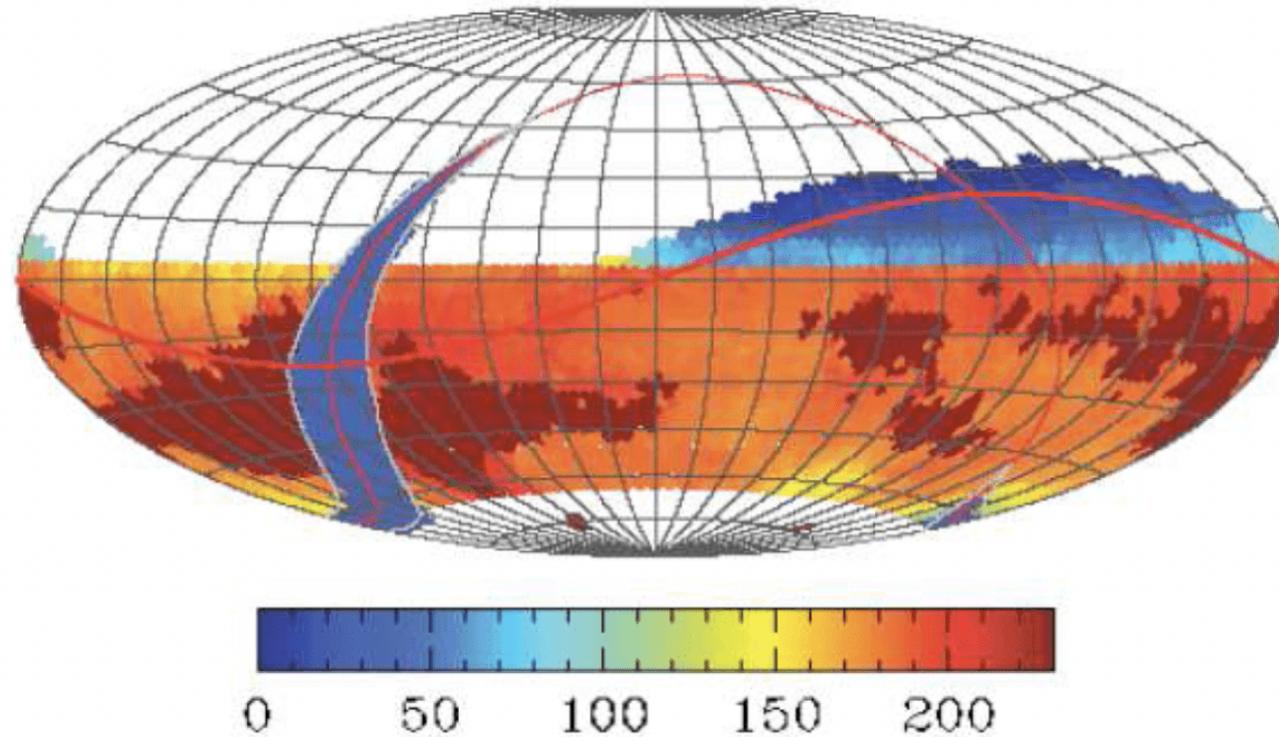
2010



Exploring the Transient and Variable Optical Sky

2024

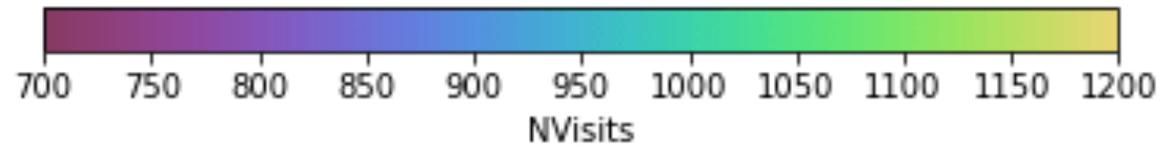
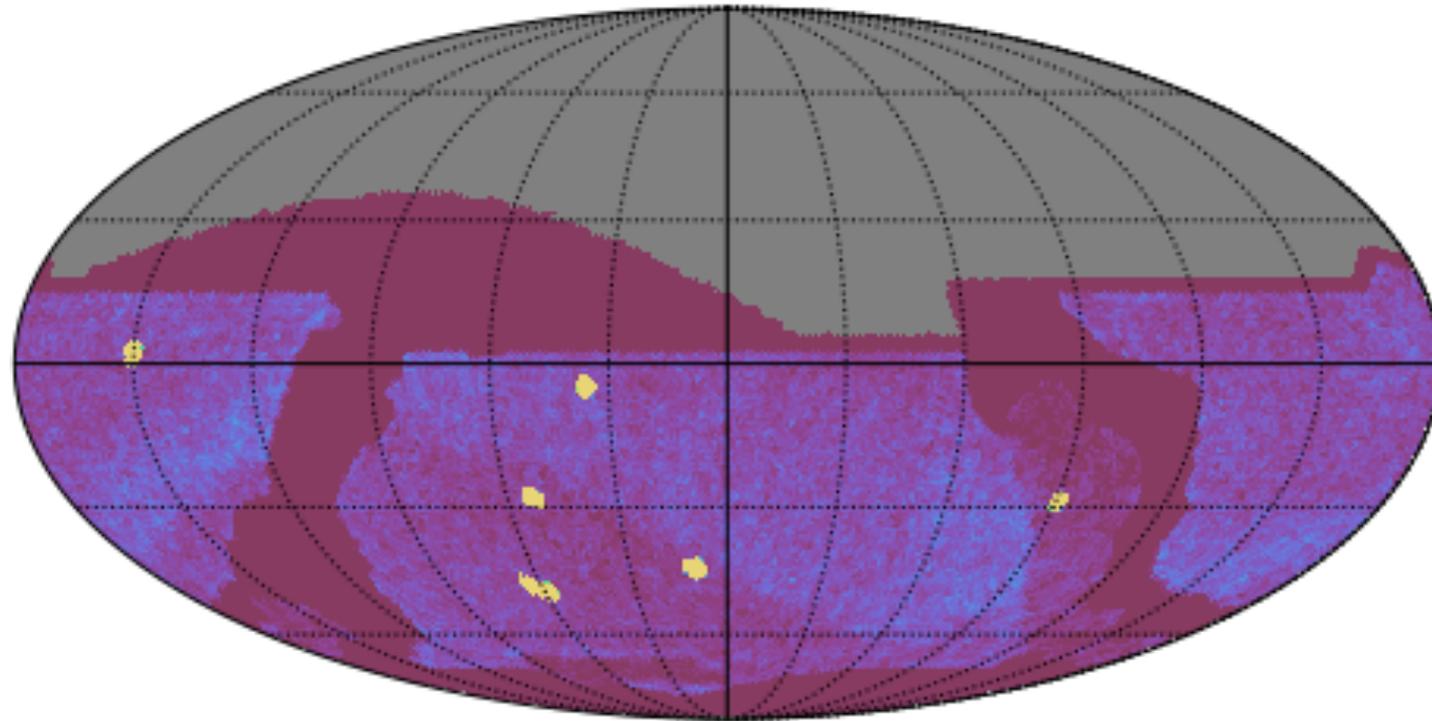




A vigorous and systematic research effort is underway to explore the enormously large parameter space of possible survey cadences, using the Operations Simulator tool described in § 3.1. The commissioning period will be used to test the usefulness of various observing modes and to explore alternative strategies. Proposals from the community and the Science Collaborations for specialized cadences (such as mini-surveys and micro-surveys) will also be considered.

Rubin LSST survey design

baseline_v4.0_10yrs All sky all bands: NVisits



ethics of AI in astro

the butterfly effect

NGC 4565 is an edge-on spiral galaxy about 30 to 50 million light-years away. The faculty at the IUCAA used a AI model (emulator) to predict the hidden physical parameters of the Galaxy wrongfully estimating the DM content of NCG 4565 and claimed a novel process for Galaxy formation should be taken under consideration.



the butterfly effect

NGC 4565 is an edge-on spiral galaxy about 30 to 50 million light-years away. The faculty at the IUCAA used a AI model (emulator) to predict the hidden physical parameters of the Galaxy wrongfully estimating the DM content of NCG 4565 and claimed a novel process for Galaxy formation should be taken under consideration.

Unfortunately, this was the result of a model hallucination.



the butterfly effect

NGC 4565 is an edge-on spiral galaxy about 30 to 50 million light-years away. The faculty at the IUCAA used a AI model (emulator) to predict the hidden physical parameters of the Galaxy wrongfully estimating the DM content of NCG 4565 and claimed a novel process for Galaxy formation should be taken under consideration.

Unfortunately, this was the result of a model hallucination.

The galaxy was featured in many social media posts gaining rapid notoriety, but upon retraction it was canceled. The galaxy is suing IUCAA claiming emotional damage and loss of revenue



the butterfly effect

Robert Williams, a 43-year-old father who resides in the Detroit suburb of Farmington Hills, was arrested in early January on charges that he stole watches from Shinola, a trendy accessories store in the city. Detroit Police used facial recognition software on the store's surveillance camera footage and wrongfully identified him as the thief.



Robert Williams has sued Detroit Police after a false facial recognition match led to him being wrongfully identified and subsequently arrested as a shoplifting suspect. (ACLU)

the butterfly effect

We use astrophysics as a neutral and safe sandbox to learn how to develop and apply powerful tool.

Deploying these tools in the real worlds can do harm.

Ethics of AI is essential training that all data scientists should receive.

models are neutral, the bias is in the data (or is it?)

Why does this AI model whitens Obama face?

Simple answer: the data is biased. The algorithm is fed more images of white people

But really, would the opposite have been acceptable? *The bias is in society*



<https://www.theverge.com/21298762/face-depixelizer-ai-machine-learning-tool-pulse-stylegan-obama-bias>

models are neutral, the bias is in the data (or is it?)

Why does this AI model whiten Obama face?

Simple answer: the data is biased. The algorithm is fed more images of white people

But really, would the opposite have been acceptable? *The bias is in society*



<https://www.theverge.com/21298762/face-depixelizer-ai-machine-learning-tool-pulse-stylegan-obama-bias>

models are neutral, the bias is in the data (or is it?)

Why does this AI model whiten Obama face?

Simple answer: the data is biased. The algorithm is fed more images of white people



<https://www.theverge.com/21298762/face-depixelizer-ai-machine-learning-tool-pulse-stylegan-obama-bias>

models are neutral, the bias is in
the data (or is it?)

Joy Boulamwini

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/TWWsW1w-BVo?enablejsapi=1>



thank you!

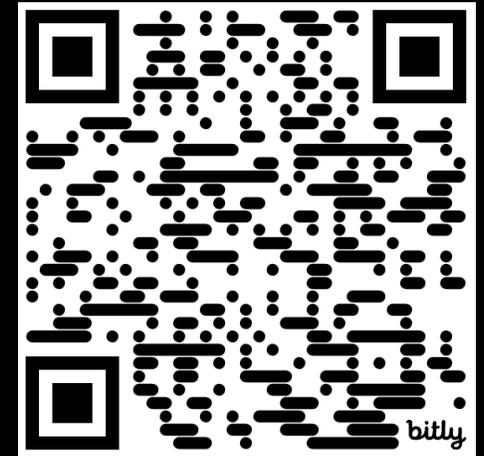
federica bianco

Rubin Construction

Deputy Project Scientist

University of Delaware	Biden School of Public
Department of Physics and	Policy and Administration
Astronomy	Data Science Institute

fbianco@udel.edu



<https://slides.com/federicabianco/aimlaw>