

# Quasars at the dawn of cosmic time

Roberto Decarli

INAF – Osservatorio di Astrofisica e Scienza dello Spazio di Bologna

***High- $z$  Quasar Hunters:***

F. Walter, X. Fan, B.P. Venemans, E. Banados, E.P. Farina,  
F. Bertoldi, C. Carilli, T. Diaz-Santos, M. Dotti, A.C. Eilers,  
R. Gilli, J.F. Hennawi, J. Li, A. Lupi, C. Mazzucchelli,  
M. Mignoli, R. Nanni, M. Novak, M. Onoue,  
M. Rauch, D. Riechers, T. Sbarrato, R. Simcoe, D. Stark,  
M. Strauss, B. Uzgil, M. Volonteri, R. Wang, F. Wang,  
J. Yang, Y. Yang

Quasars at  $z > 6$ : Why should we care?

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$z=6$   $\rightarrow$  age of the universe:  $< 1$  Gyr



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- put galaxies together

- form metals and dust

- form structures



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put galaxies together

form metals and dust

form structures

ionize the Universe

# Quasars at $z > 6$ : Why should we care?

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Not much time

Extremely luminous and star-forming

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ideal signposts for structures

ideal background sources for abs studies

conditions absent in the local universe



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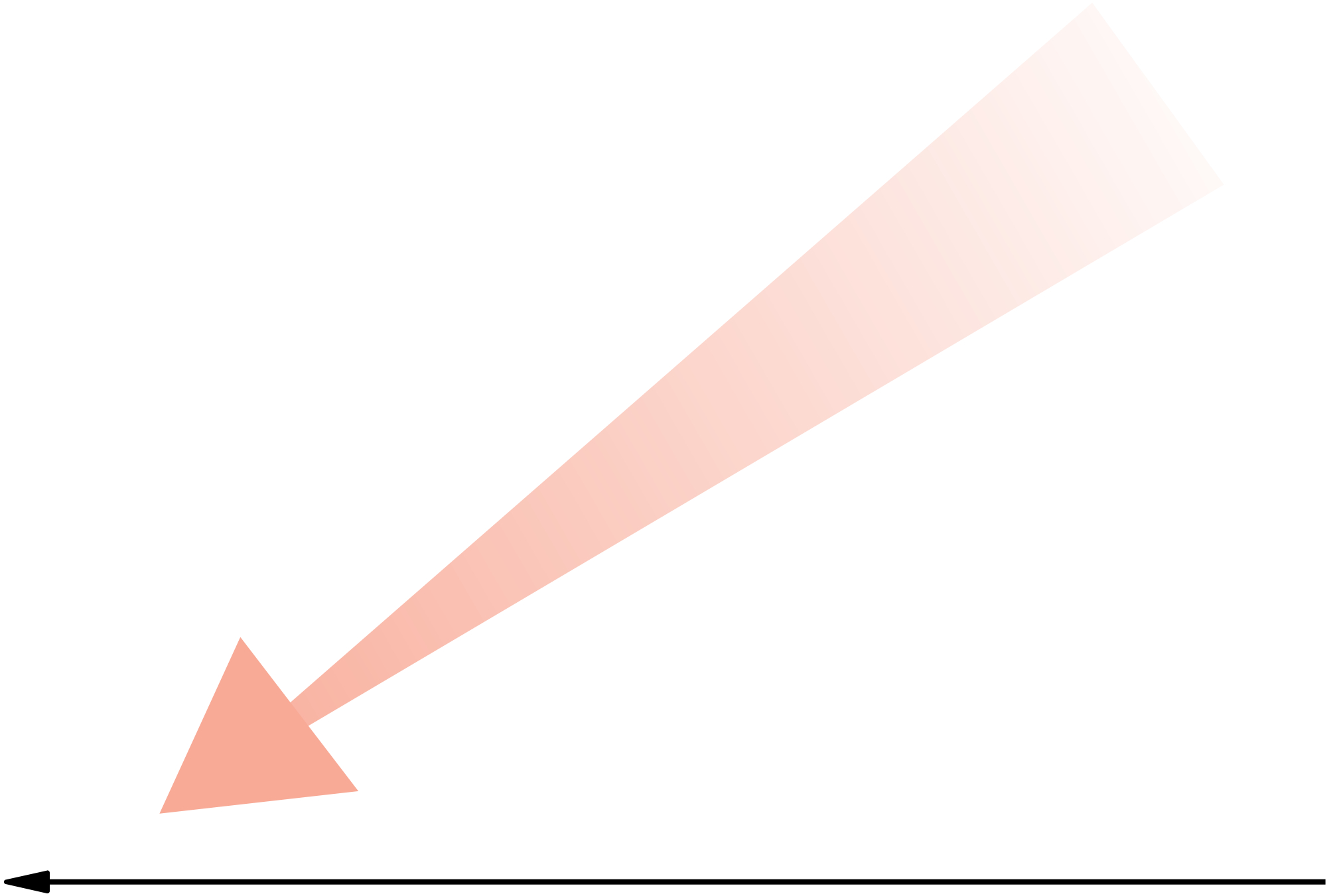
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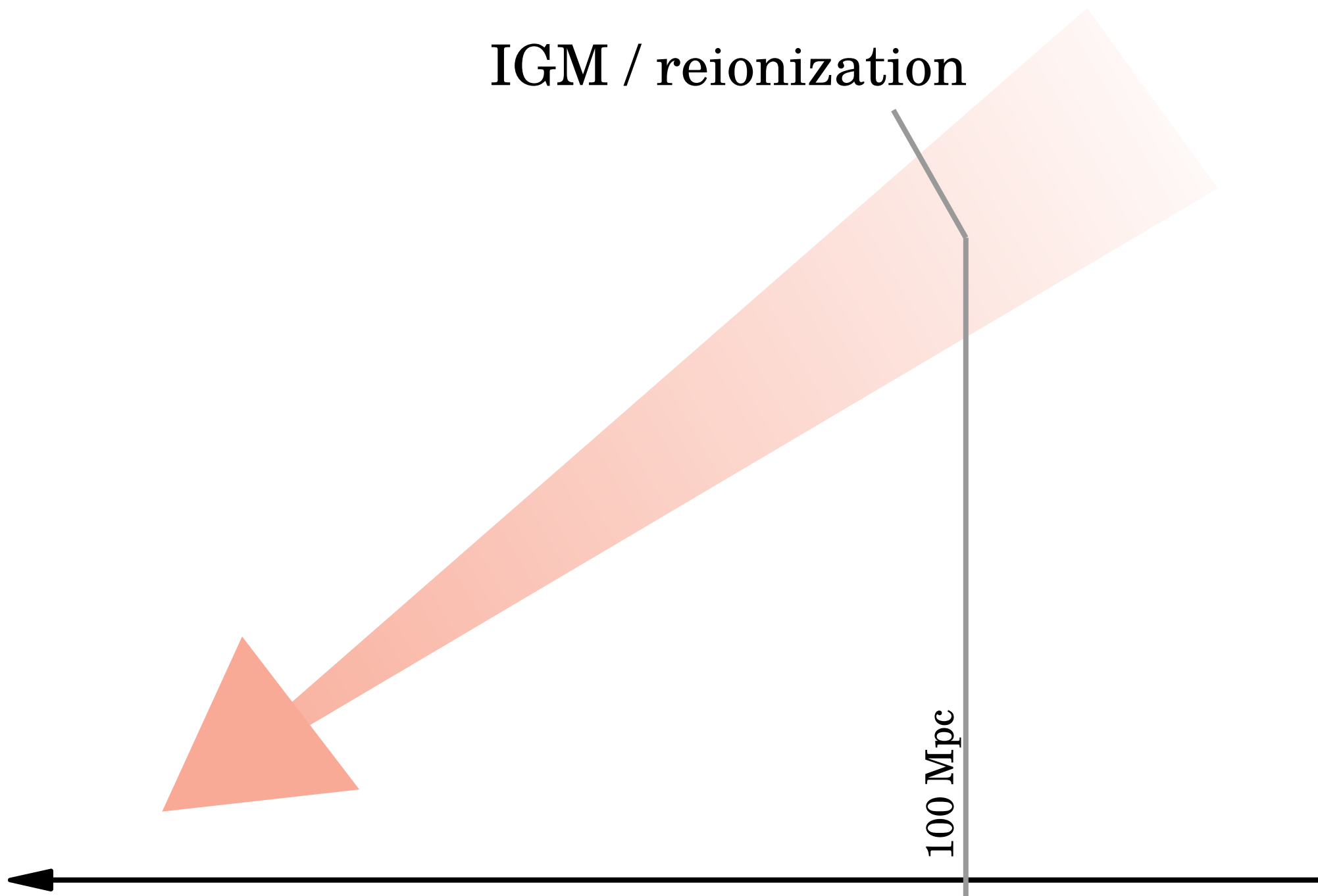
$\text{FIR} \times (1+z) = \text{mm (sky transparency)}$

# Quasars at $z > 6$



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IGM / reionization





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IGM / reionization

Black  
hole

0.1 mpc

100 Mpc



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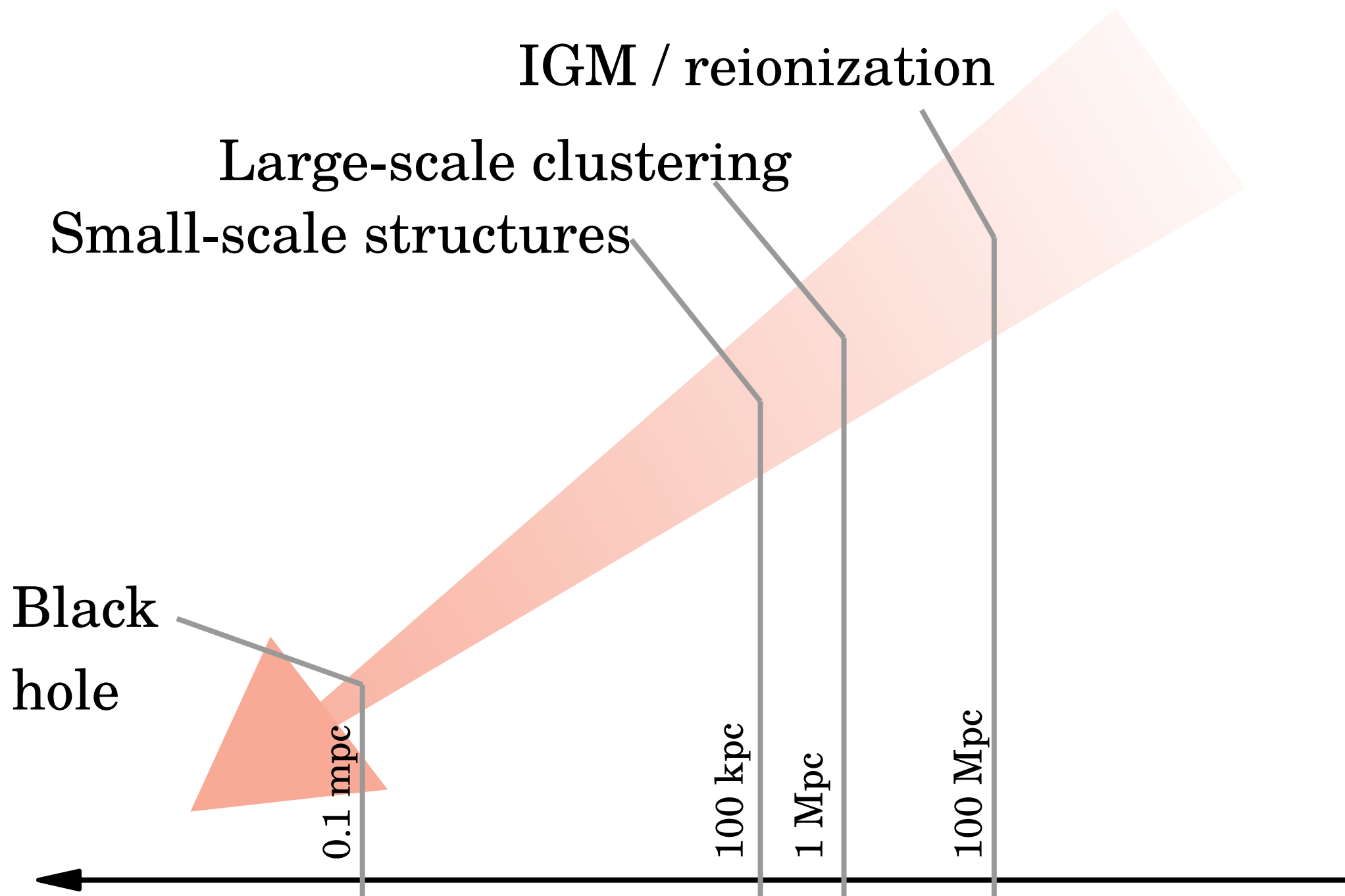
0.1 mpc

12 dex!!!

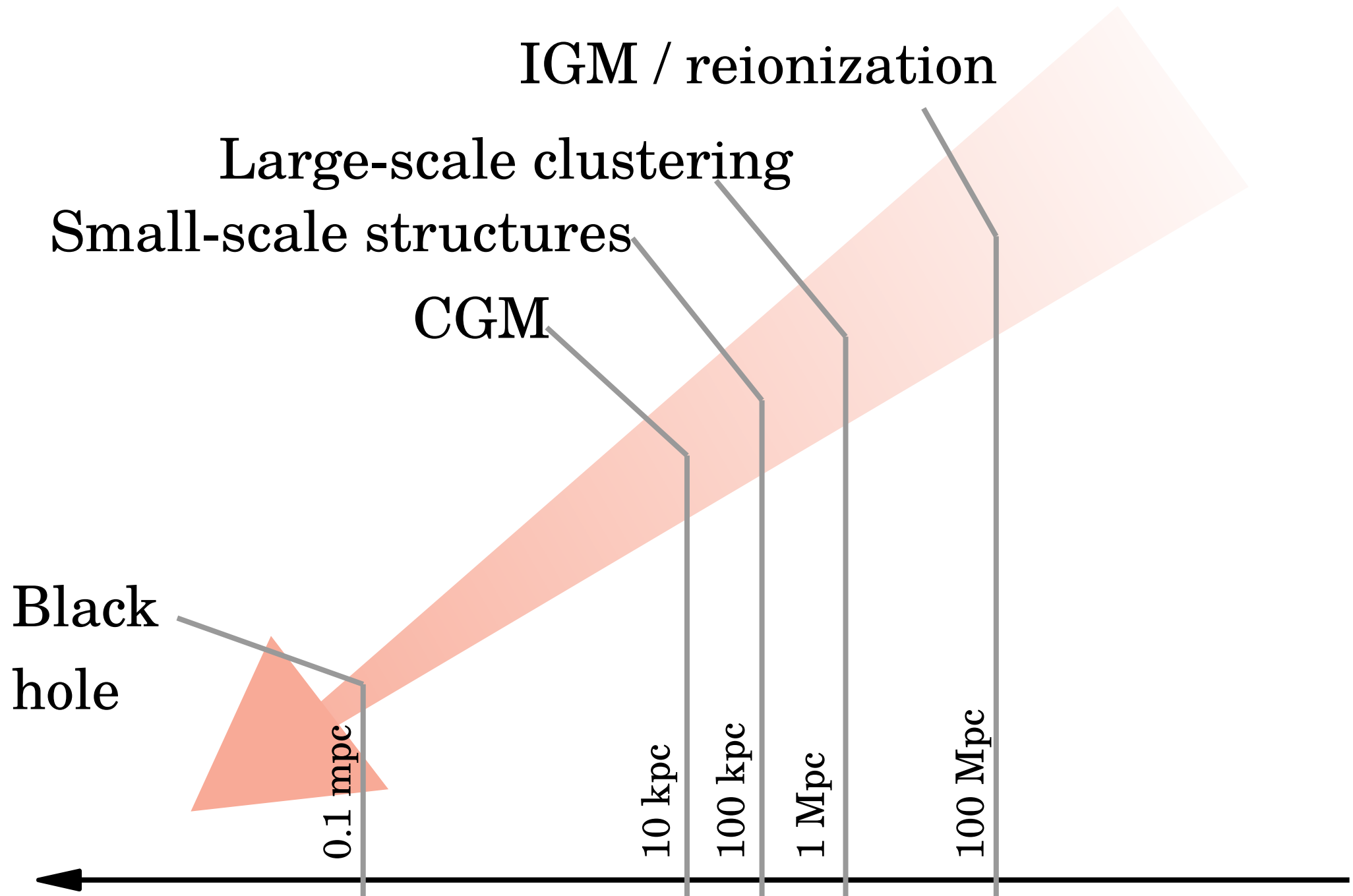
100 Mpc



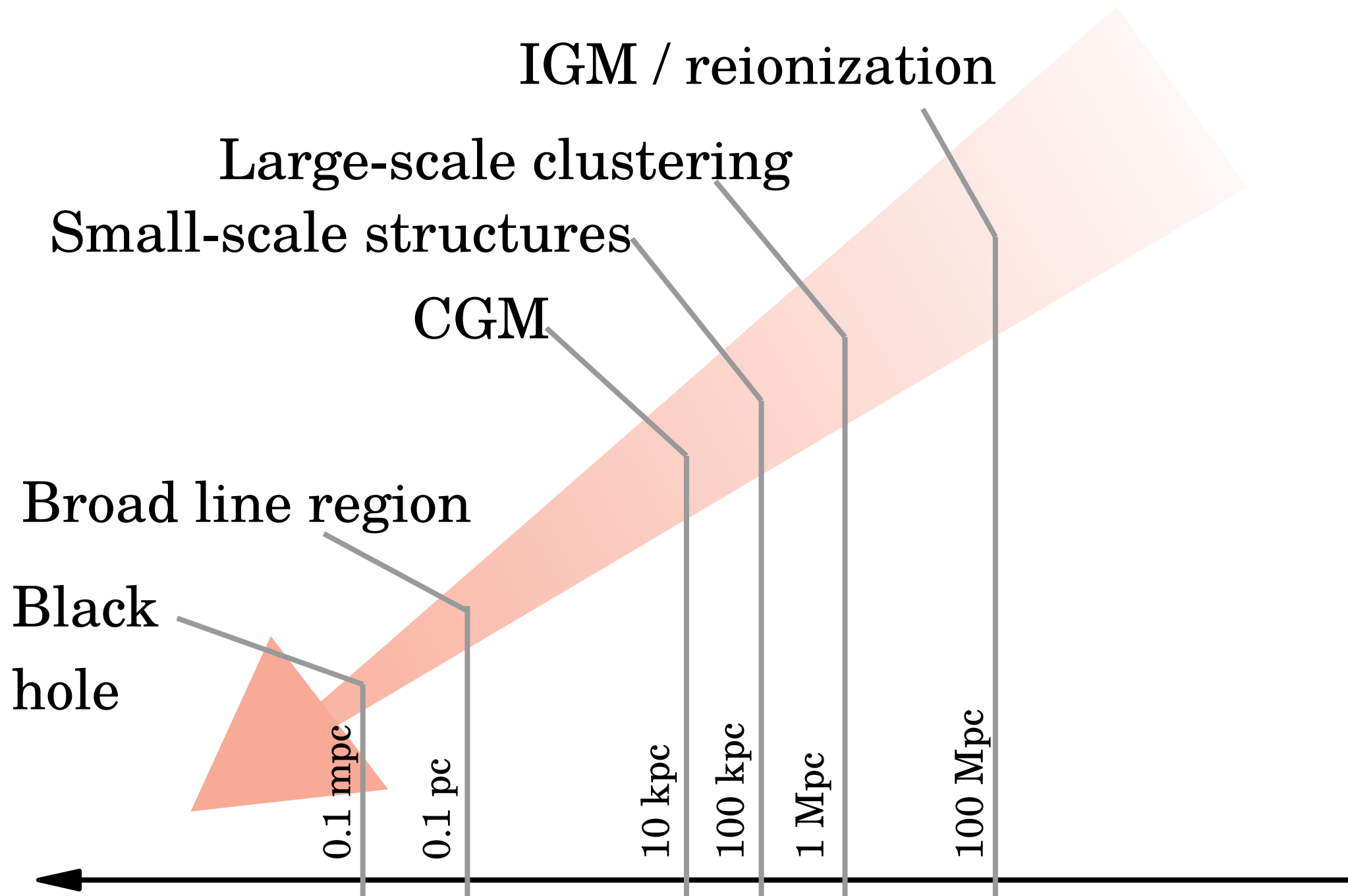
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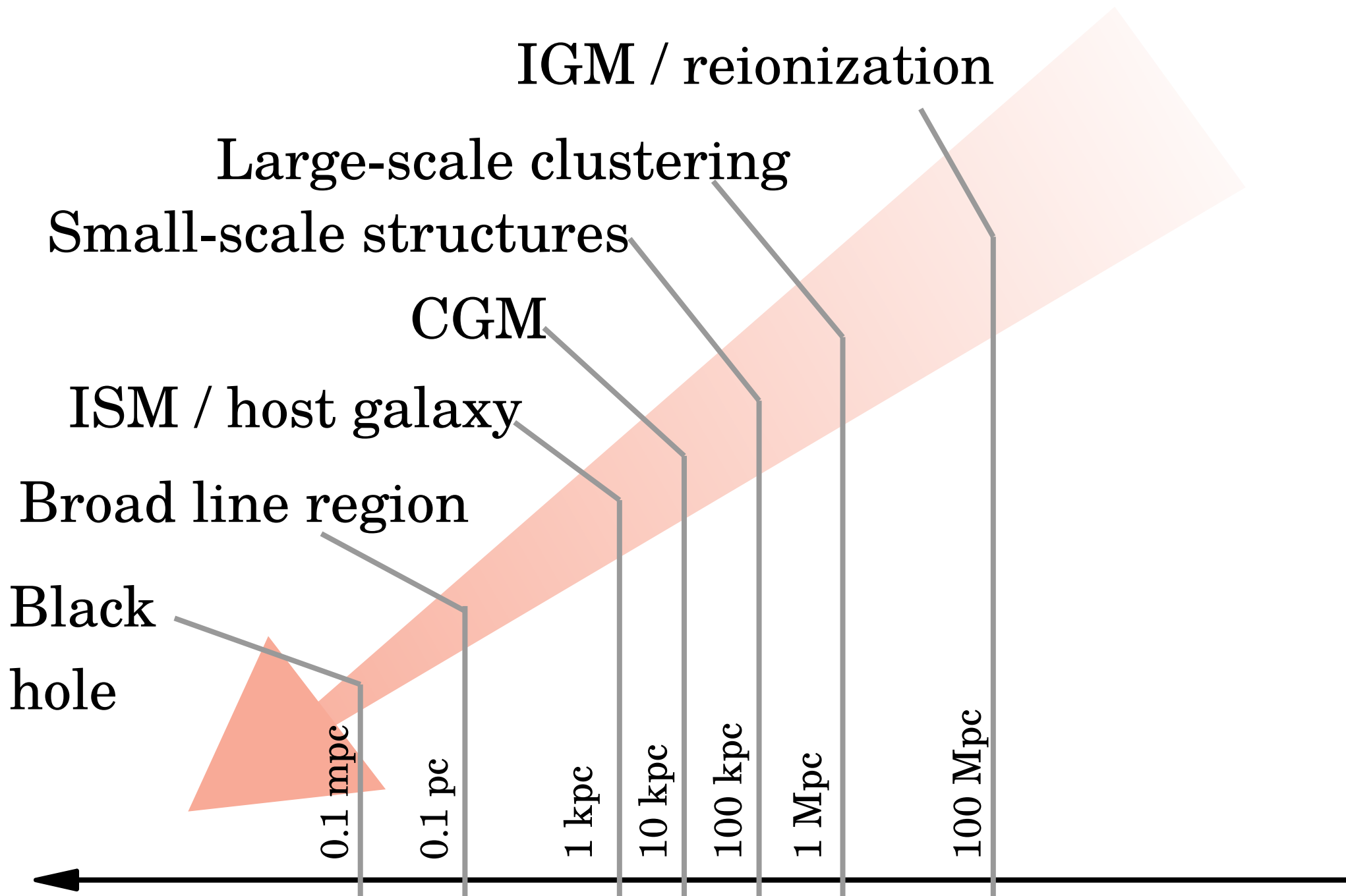


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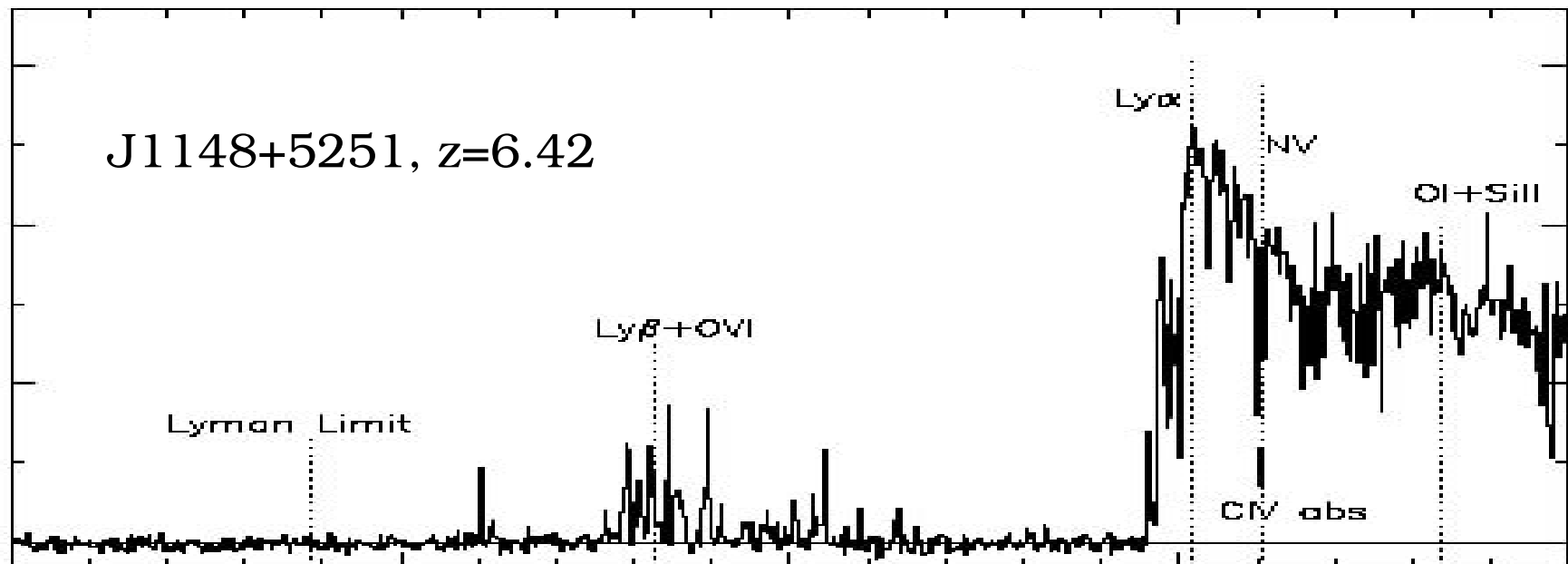
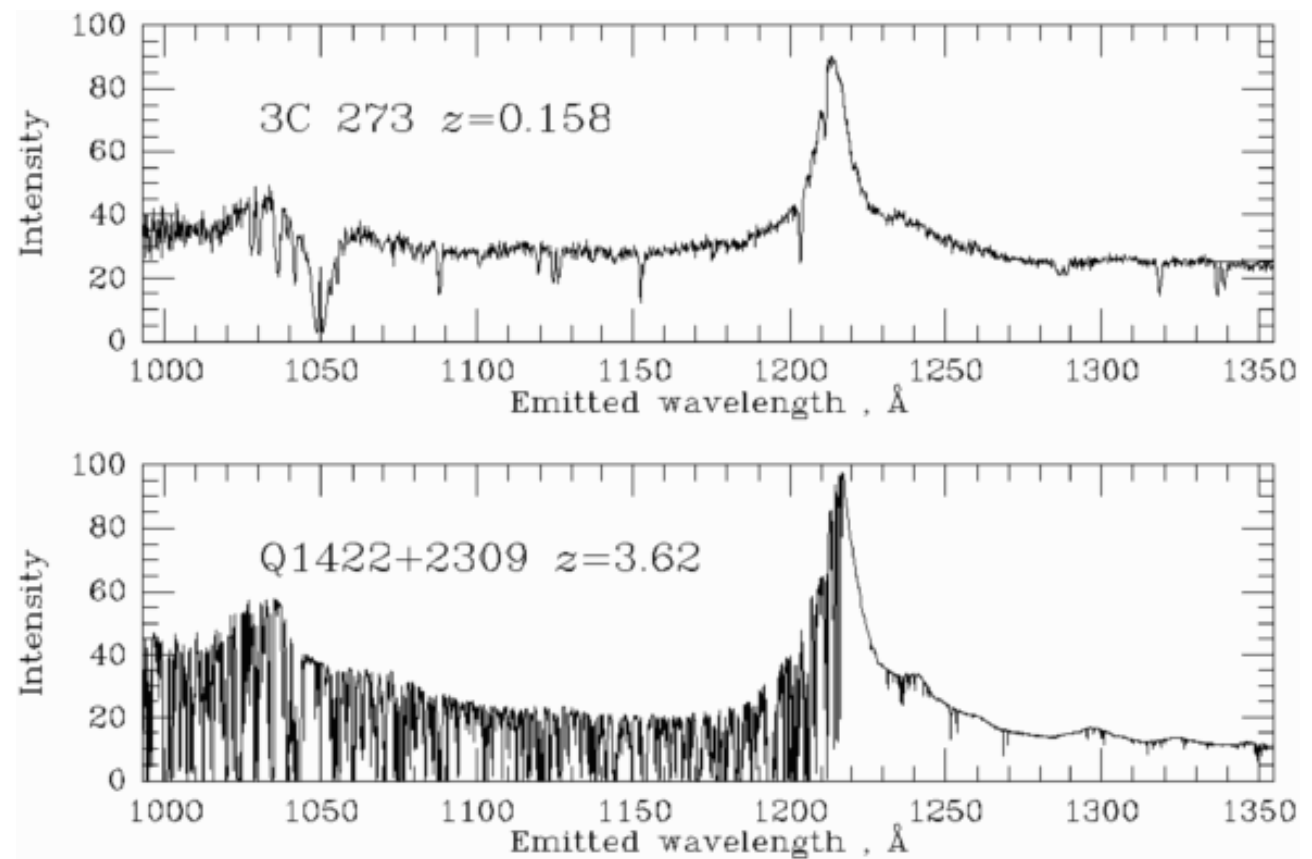




# Quasars at $z > 6$



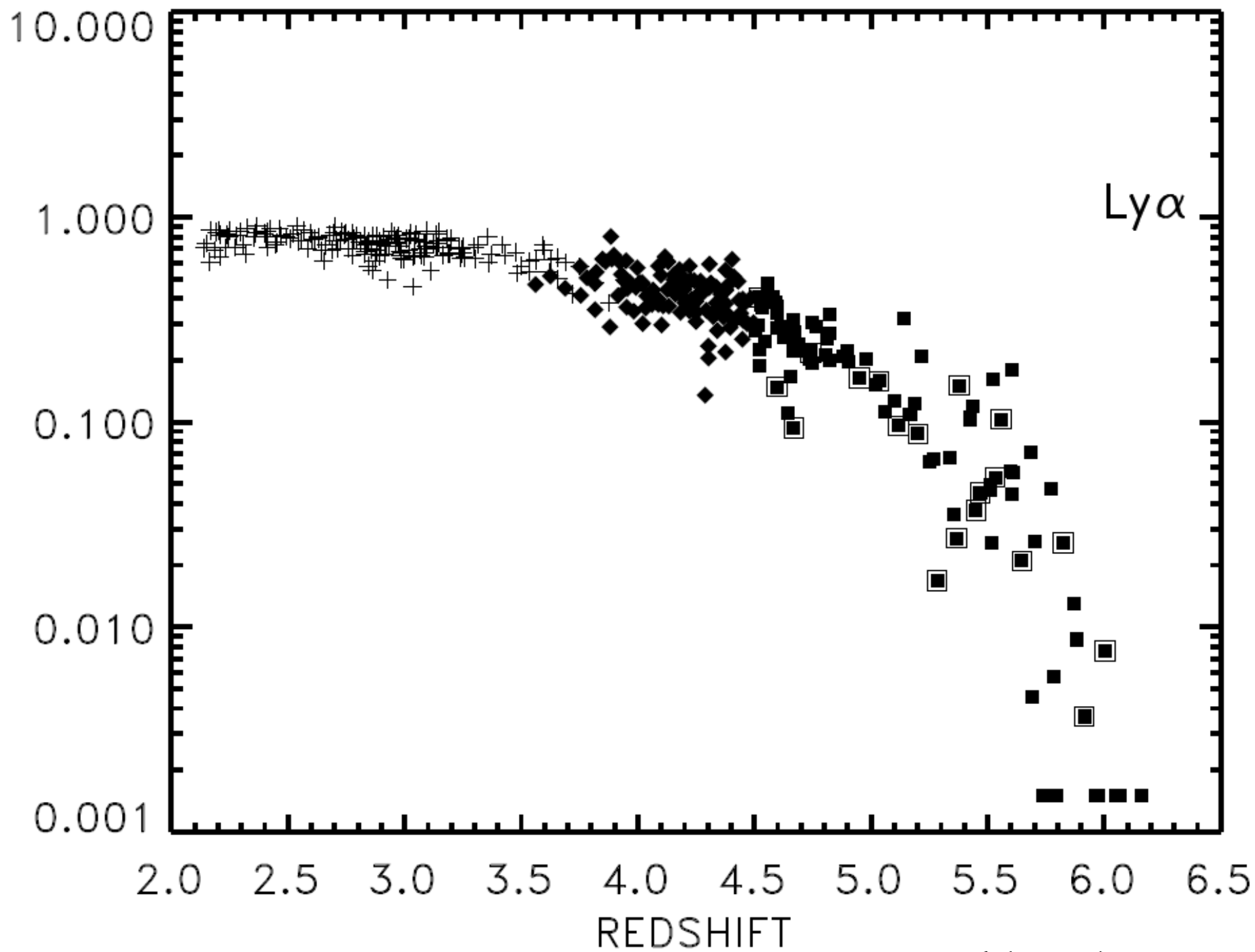
GP absorption  
→ unique colors



Redshift

TRANSMITTED  
FRACTION

$\text{Ly}\alpha$



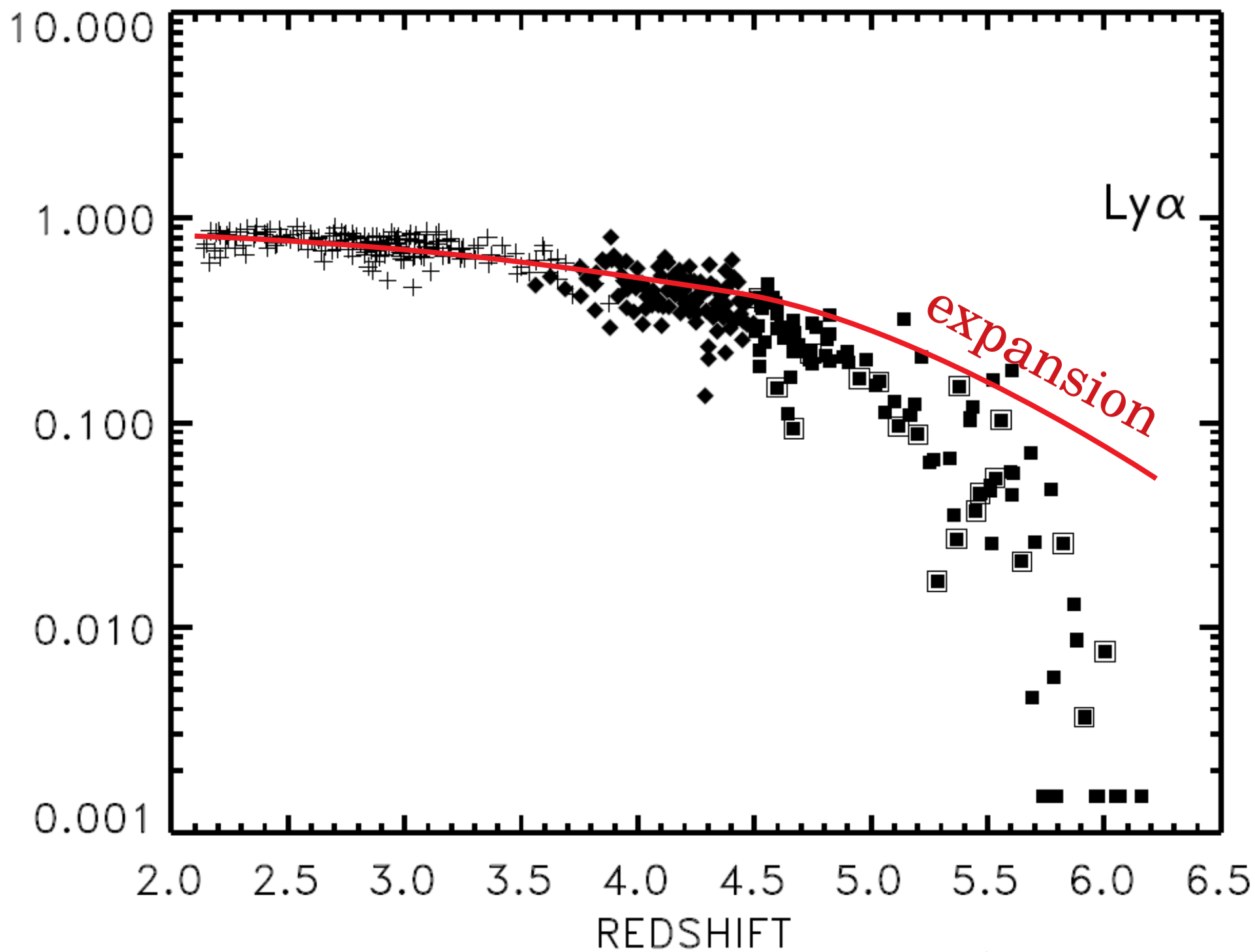
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*expansion*

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Fan et al (2006) ARA&A



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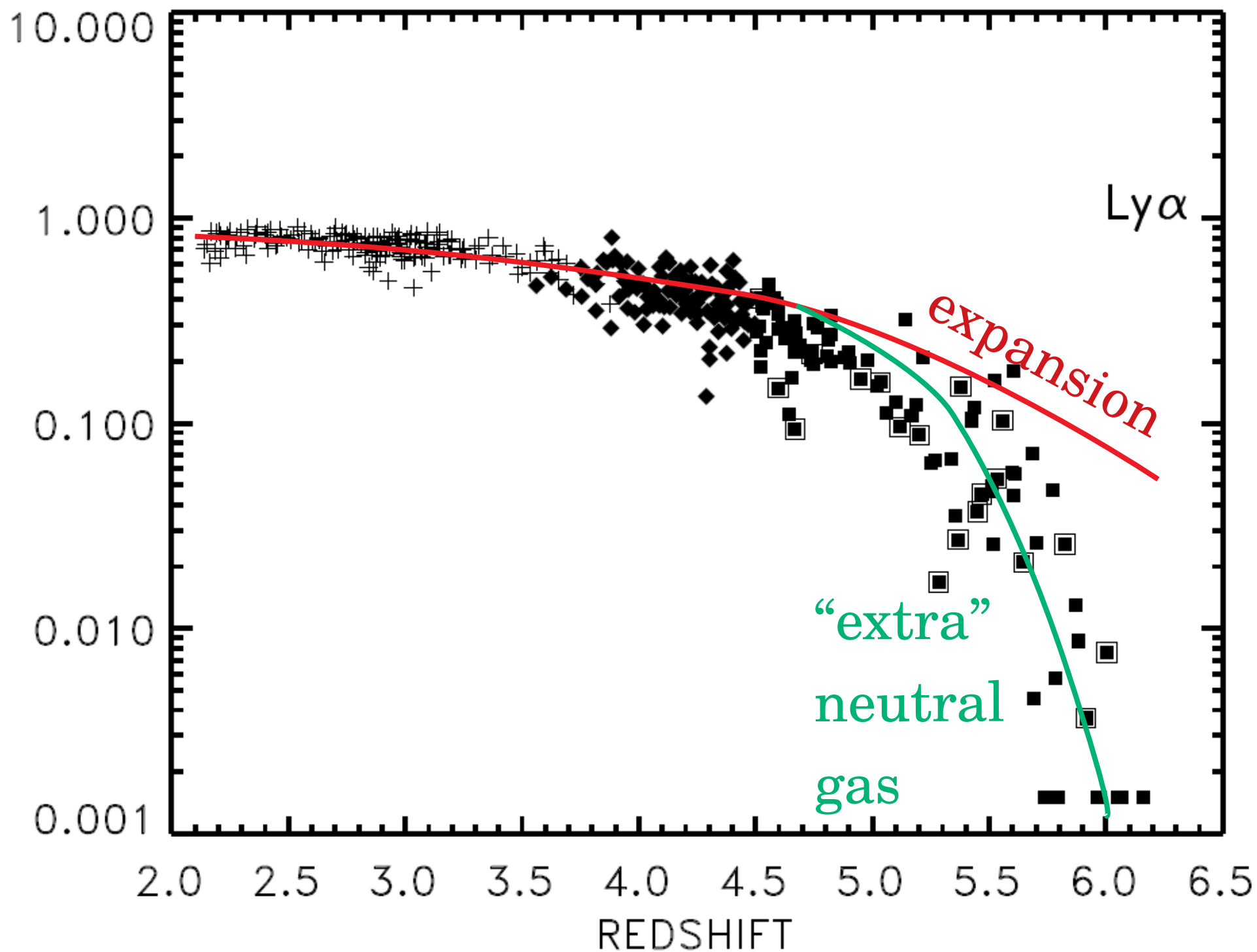
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*expansion*

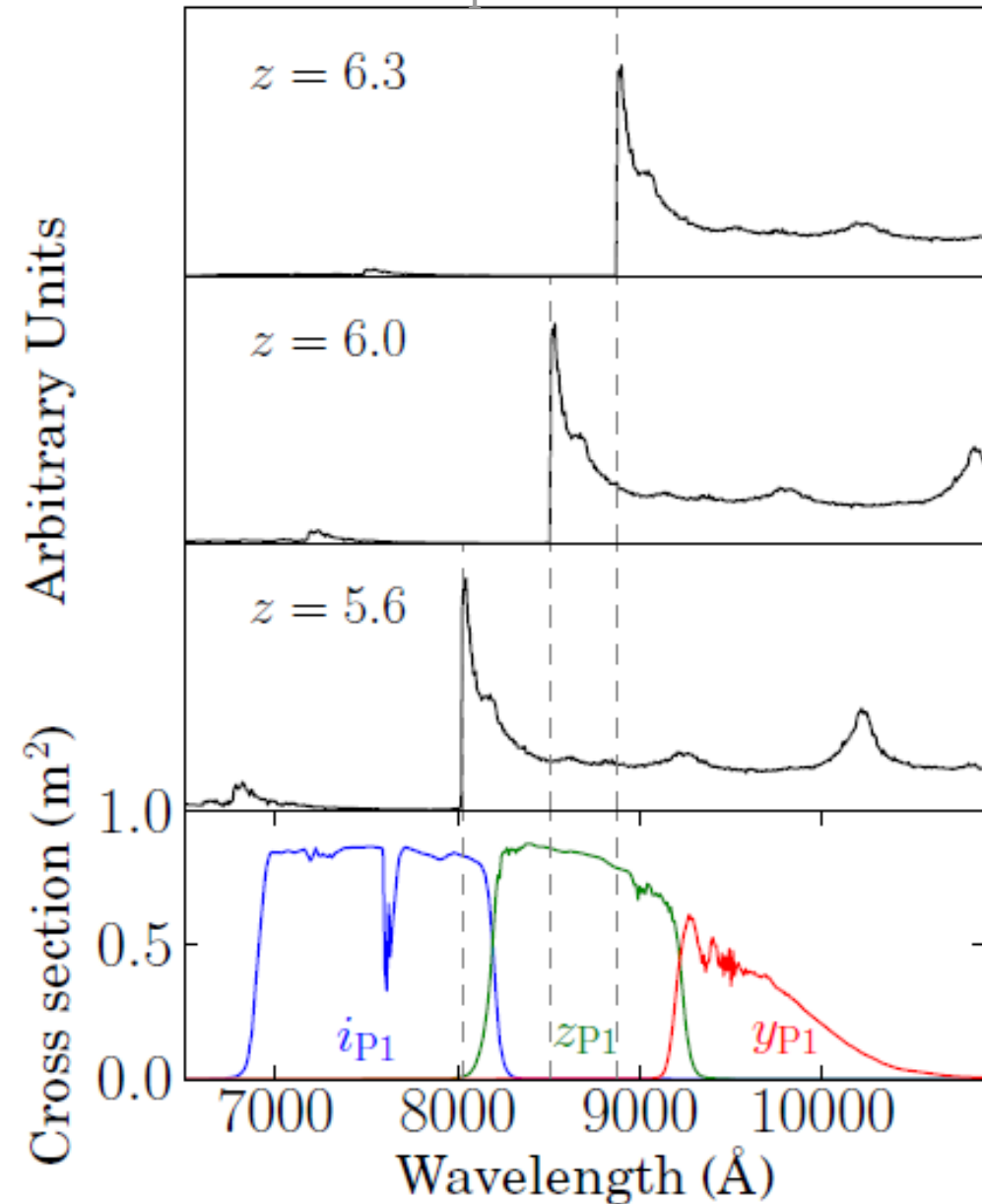
“extra”  
neutral  
gas

REDSHIFT

Fan et al (2006) ARA&A



Adapted from Bañados+2016



From broad-band i, z, y, NIR  
photometry

→ quasar candidates

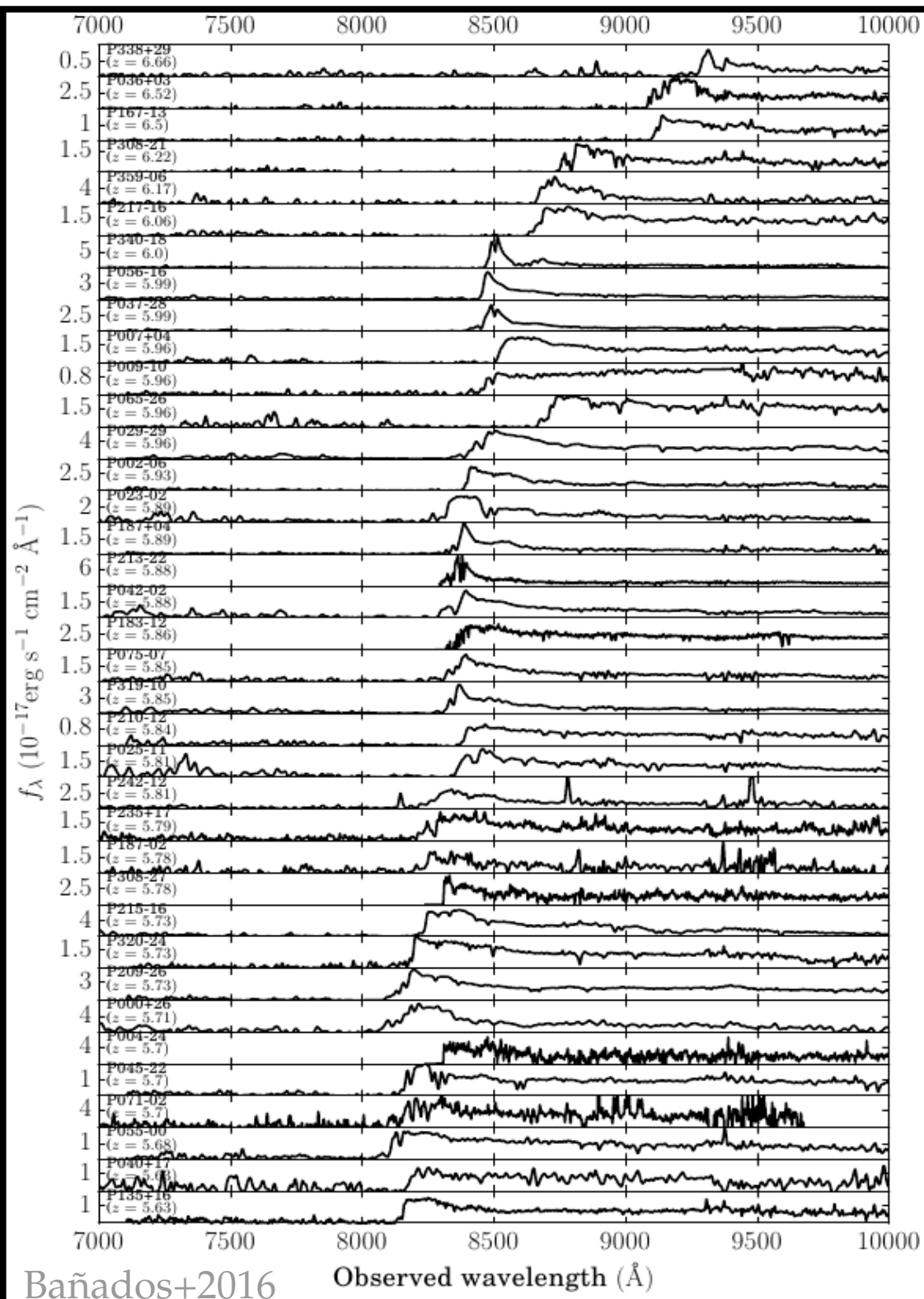
Discovery of

~320 quasars at  $z > 5.5$

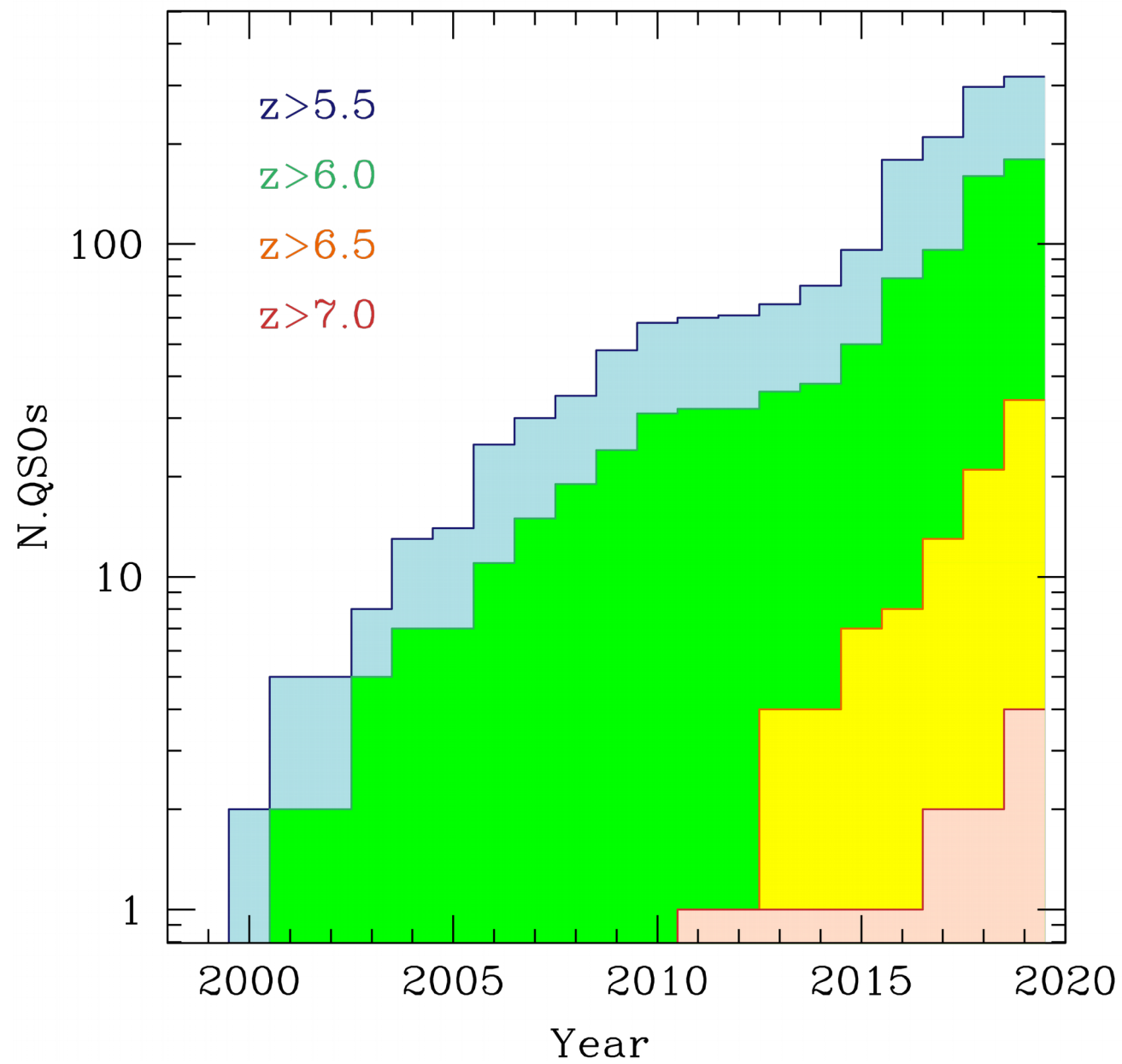
~180 at  $z > 6.0$

22(+6) at  $z > 6.5$

2(+2) at  $z > 7.0$



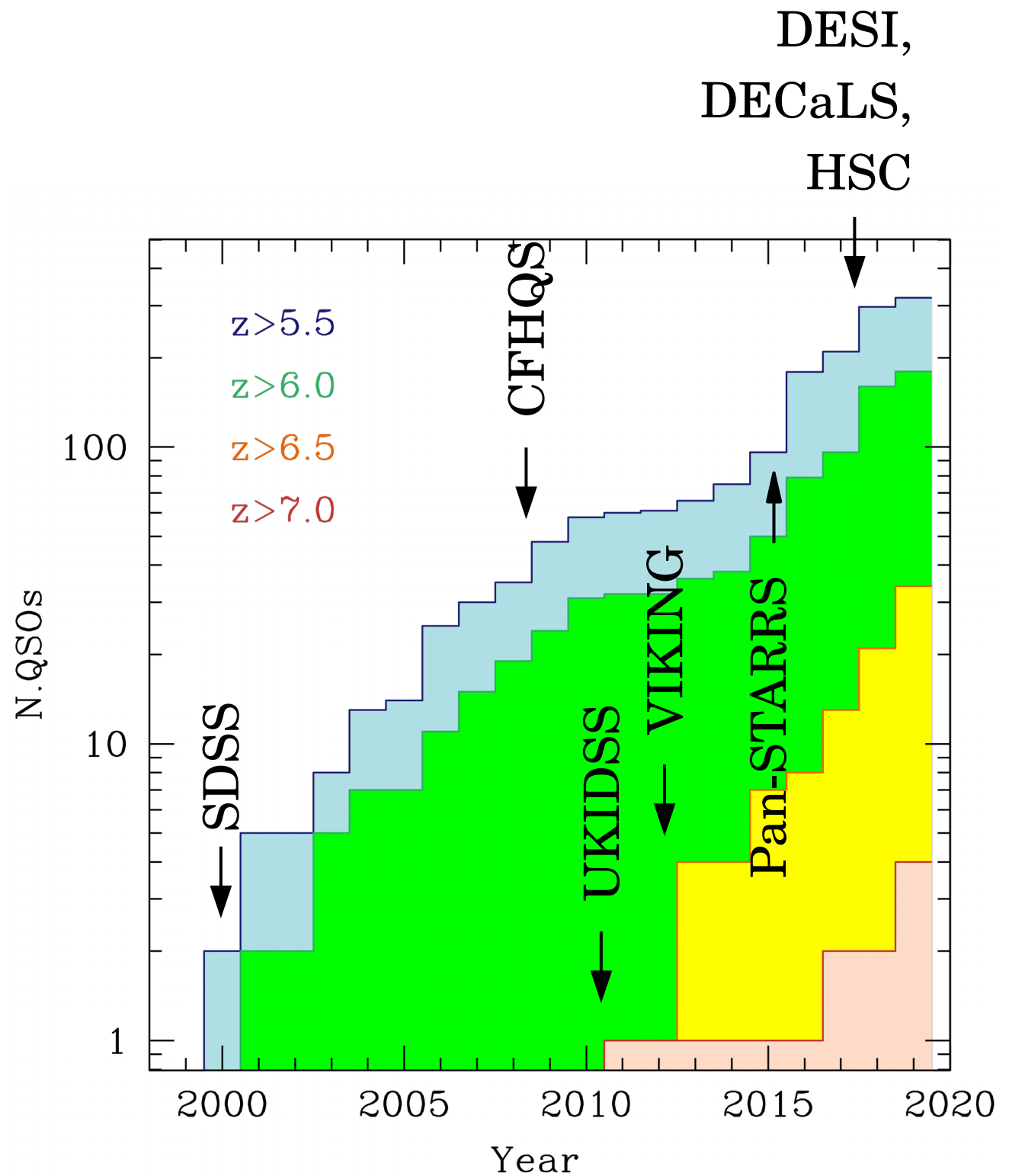
The time is now!





The time is now!

Wide area  
( $>1000 \text{ deg}^2$ )  
opt/NIR surveys  
are in full swing



From Eduardo Banados★

Reply

Reply All

Forward

Archive

Junk

Delete

More

Subject **pisco sour quasar**

10/03/2017 11:21

To Fabian Walter <walter@mpia.de>★, Venemans Bram <venemans@mpia-hd.mpg.de>★, Me <decarli@mpia.de>★, Chiara Mazzi 4 more

Dear all,

We are concluding the last night at Magellan. We observed more than 100 objects and we are happy to tell you that we have a winner! See attached the 'pisco sour'  $z > 7.2$  quasar.

This quasar came from my selection and I'd kindly ask you to keep it quiet for now and not to share the good news outside this group.

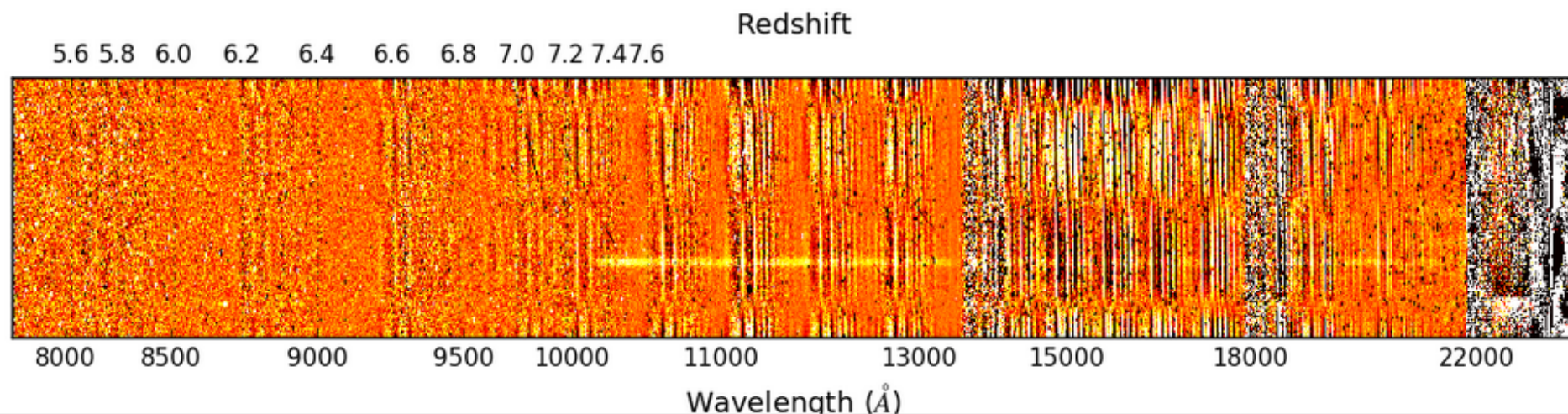
Let's think what we can do with it and what proposals to write over the weekend and perhaps we skype next week to discuss how to proceed.

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Cheers,

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— piscosour\_quasar.png —



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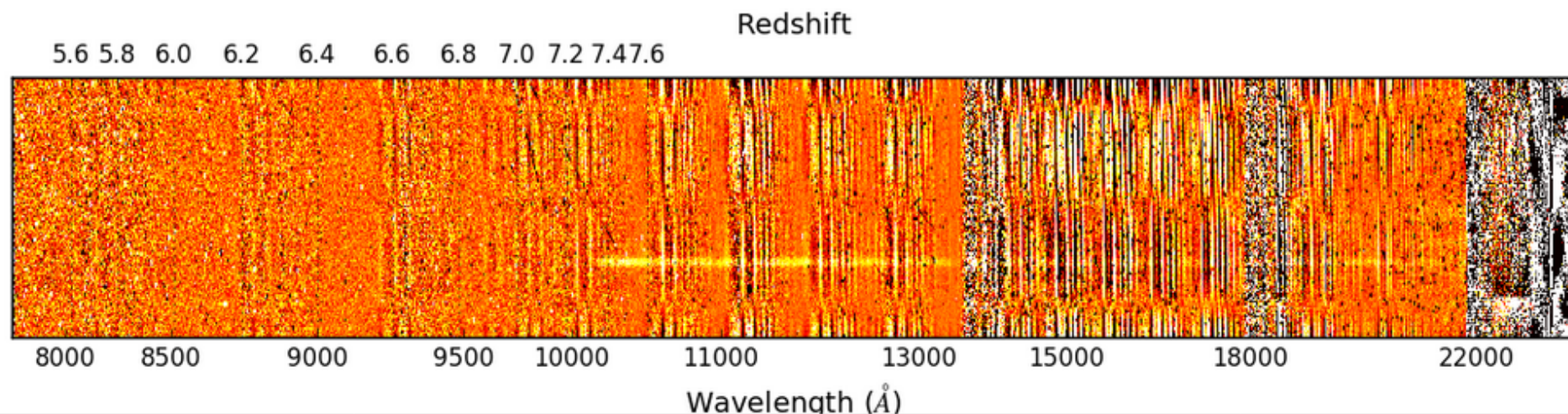
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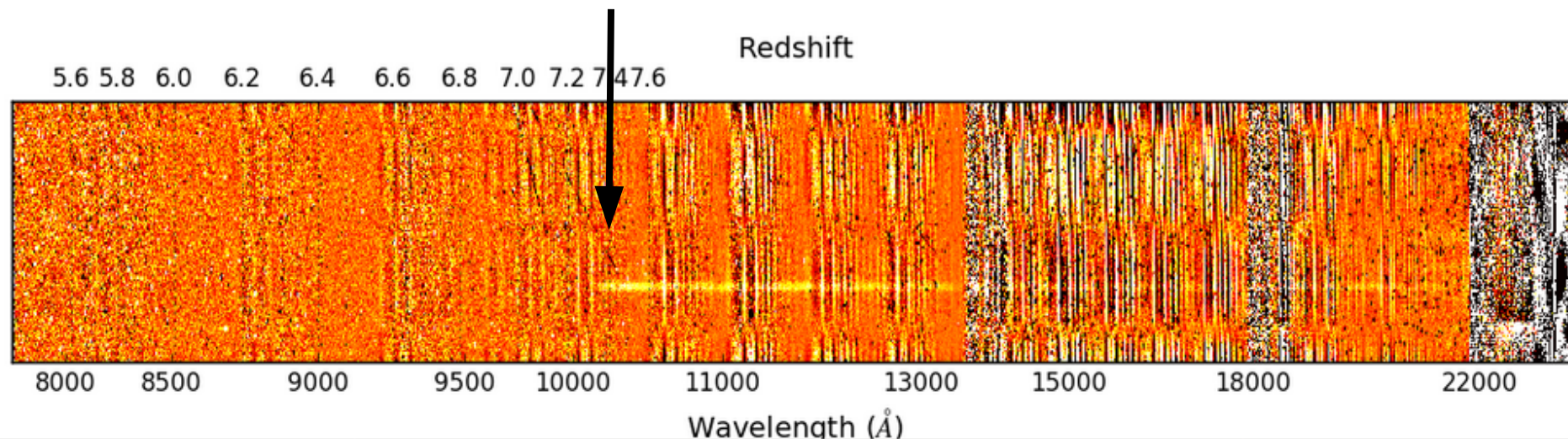
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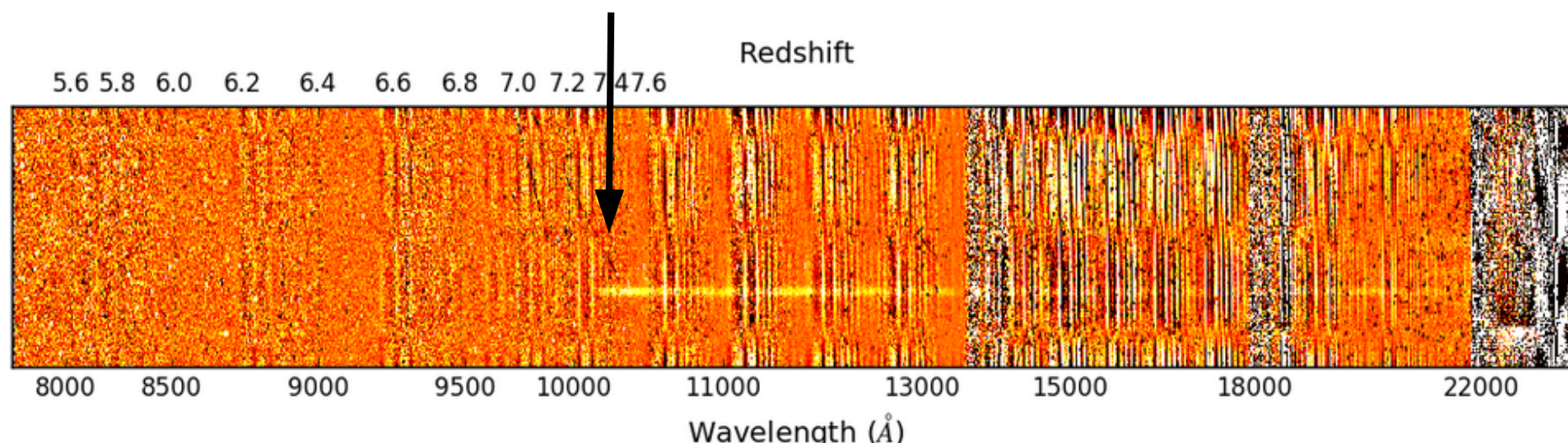
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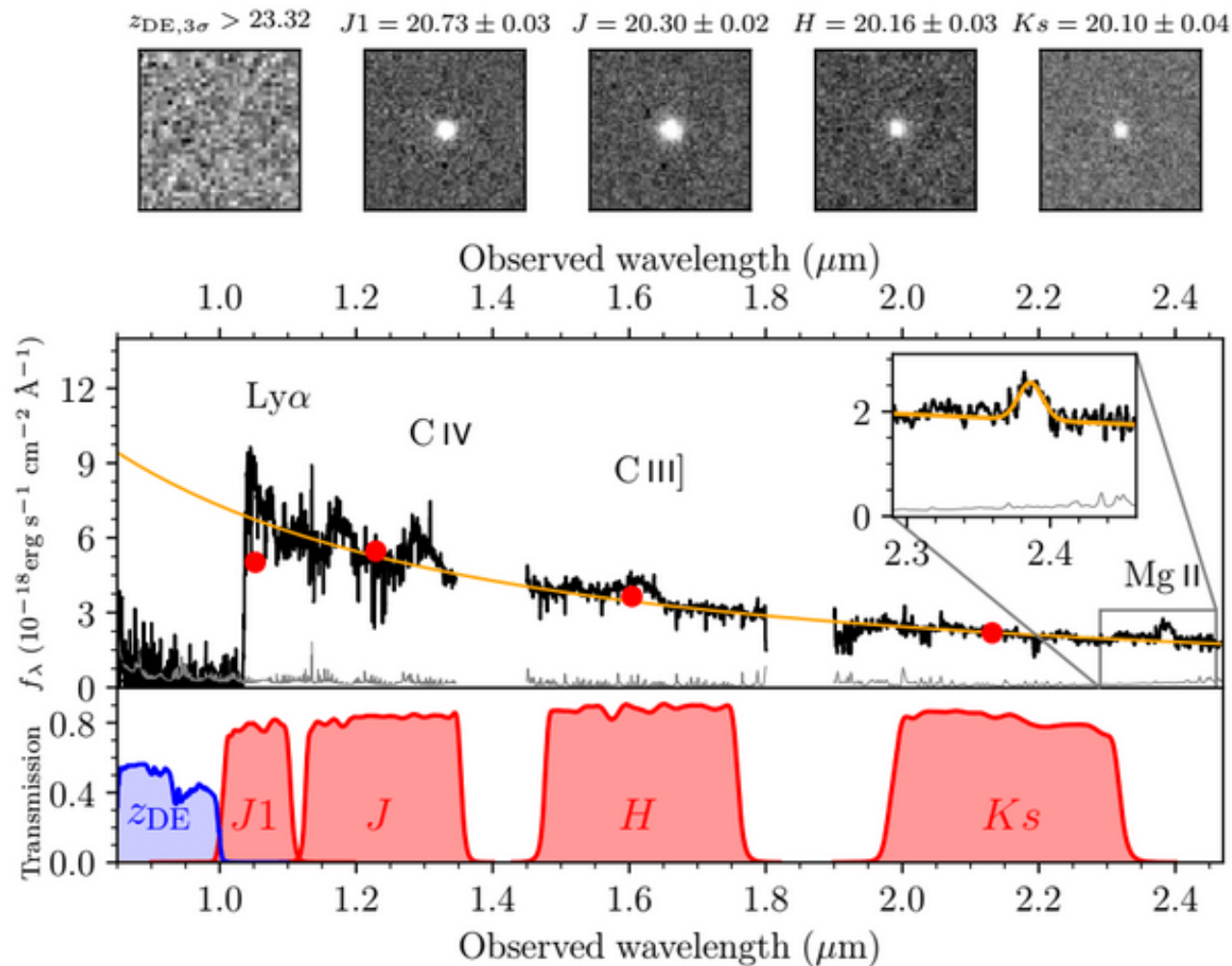
Eduardo & Dan

— piscosour\_quasar.png —



# The most distant quasar

“Pischo” @  $z=7.54$

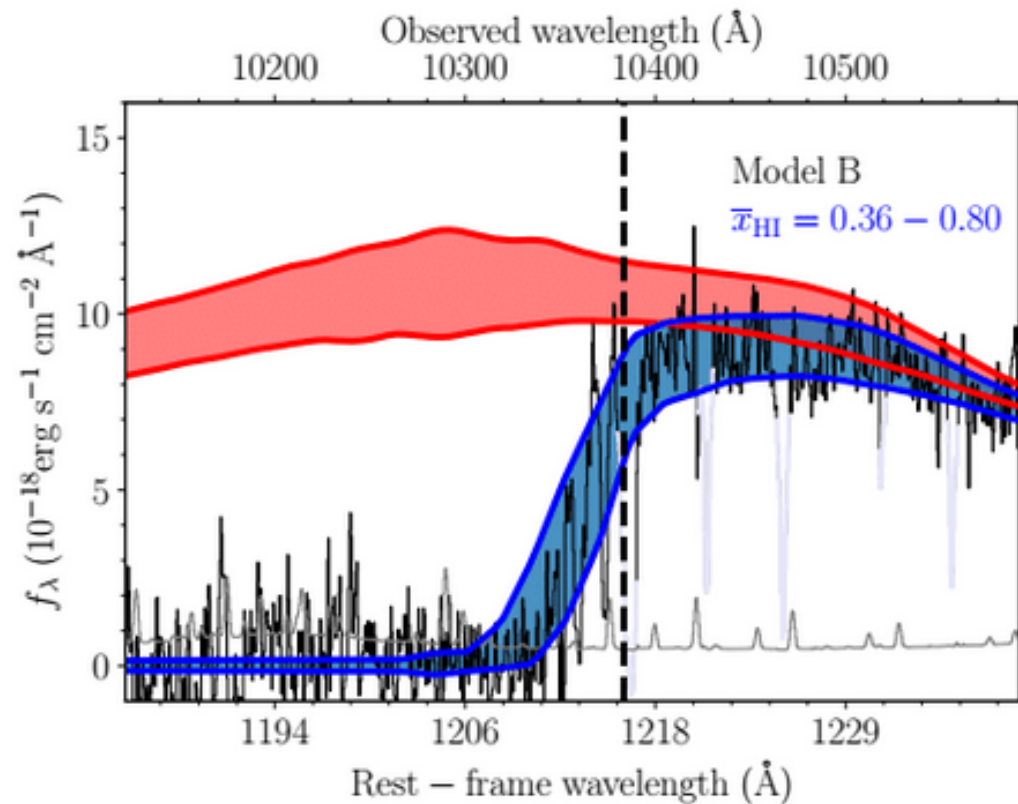
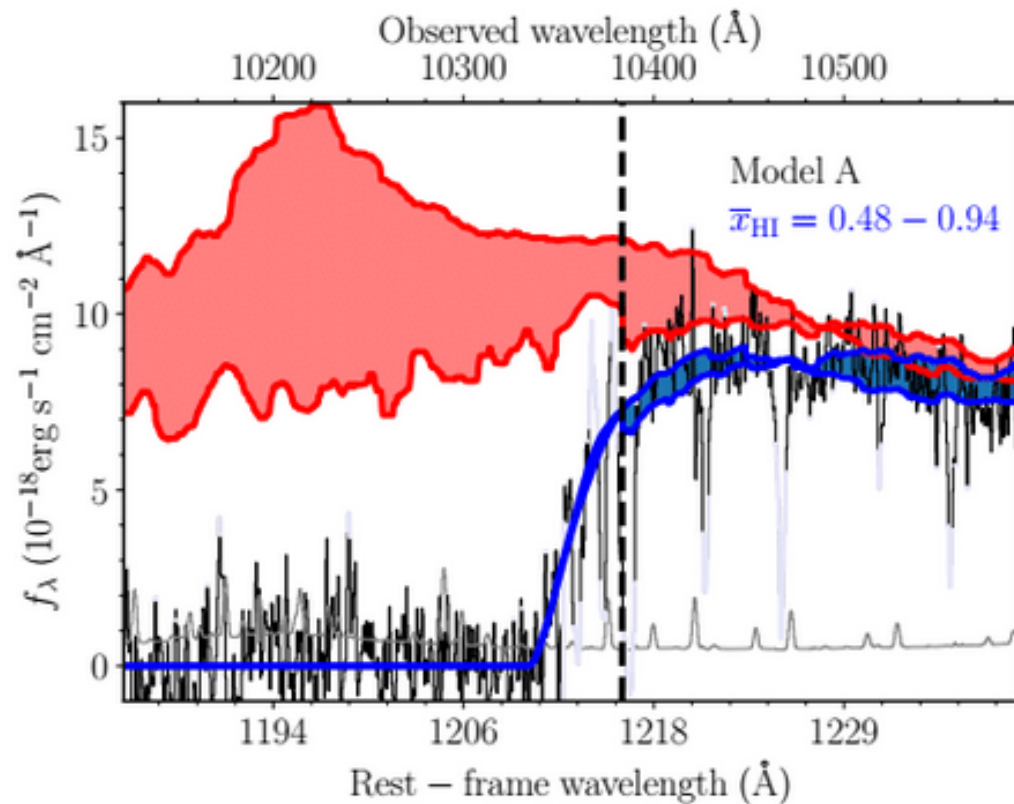


Banados et al. (2018)

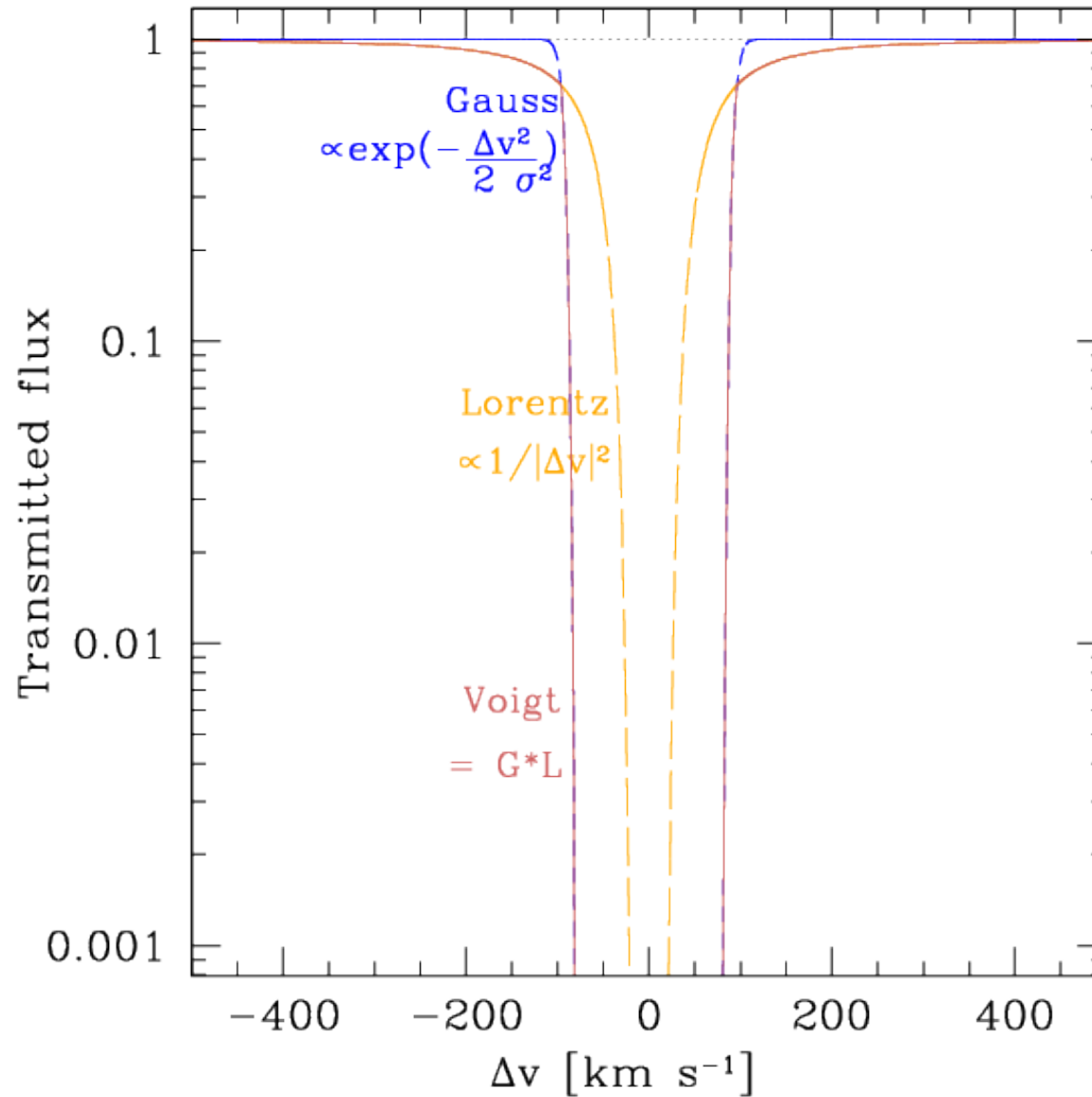


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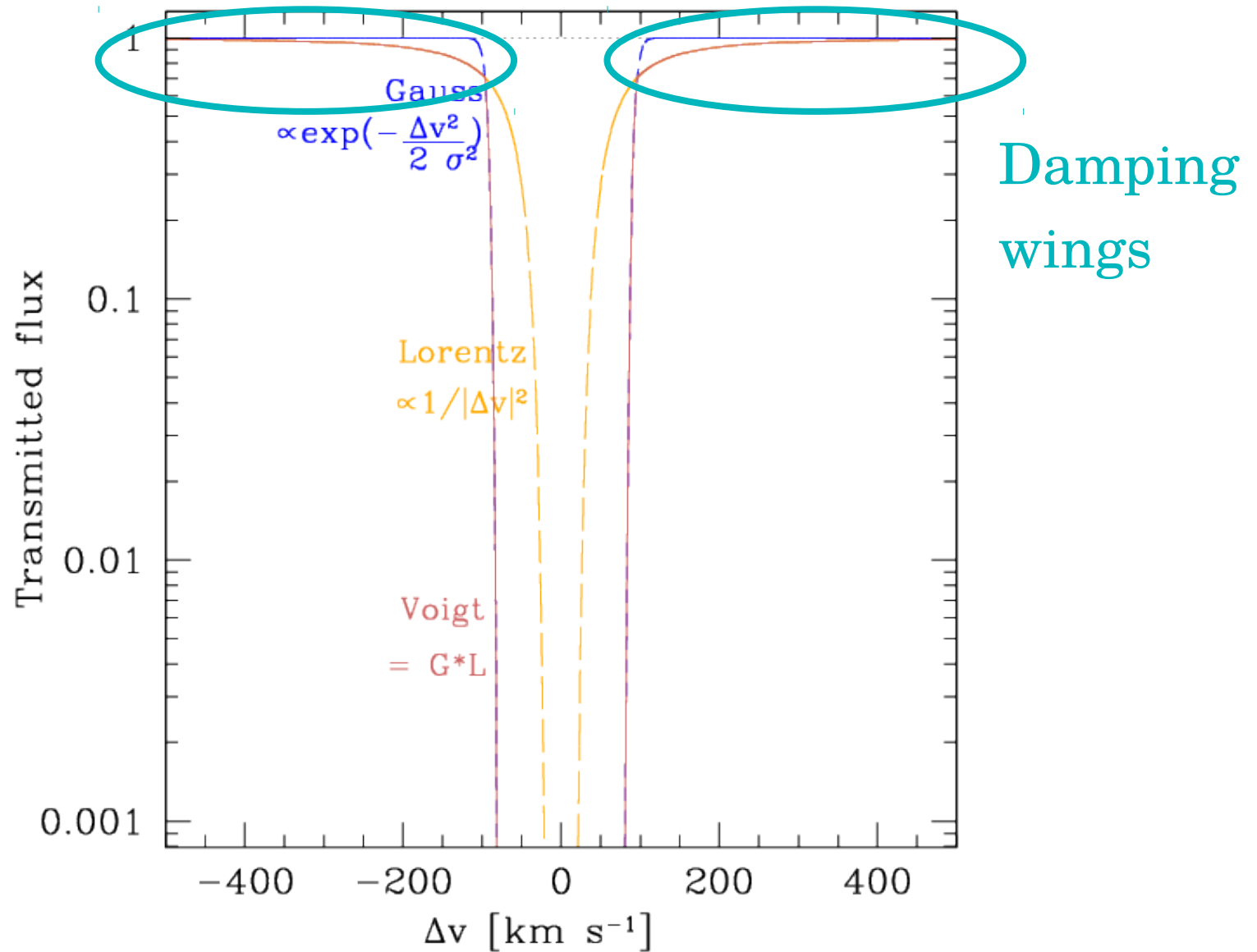


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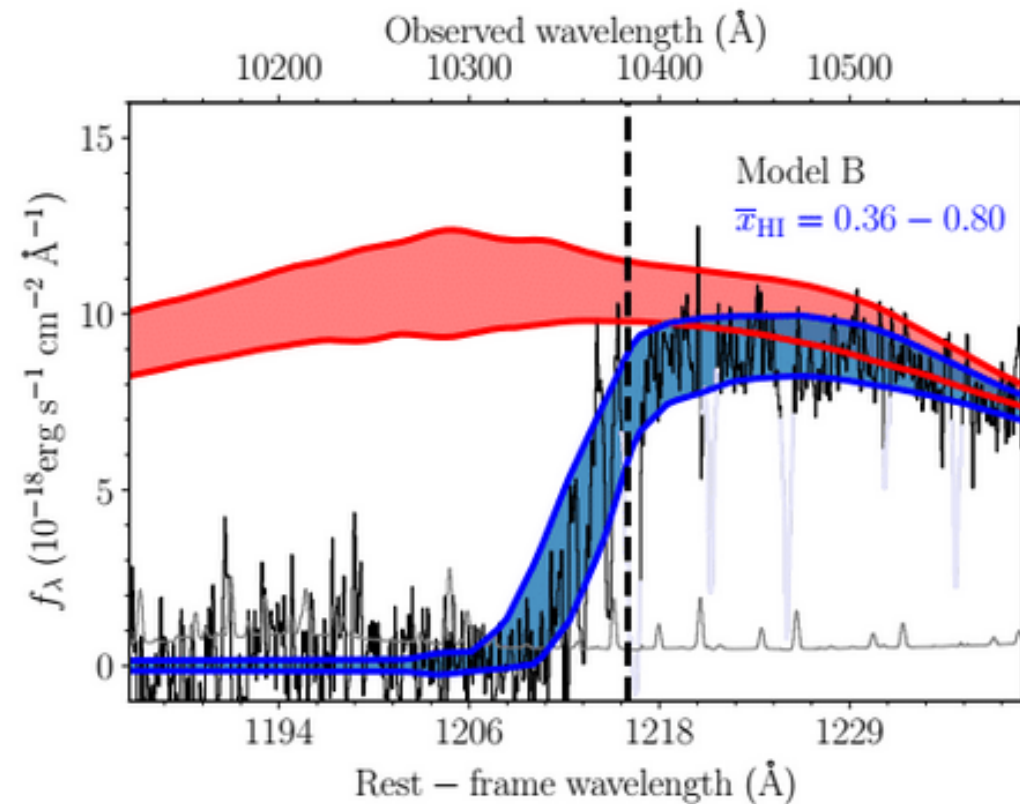
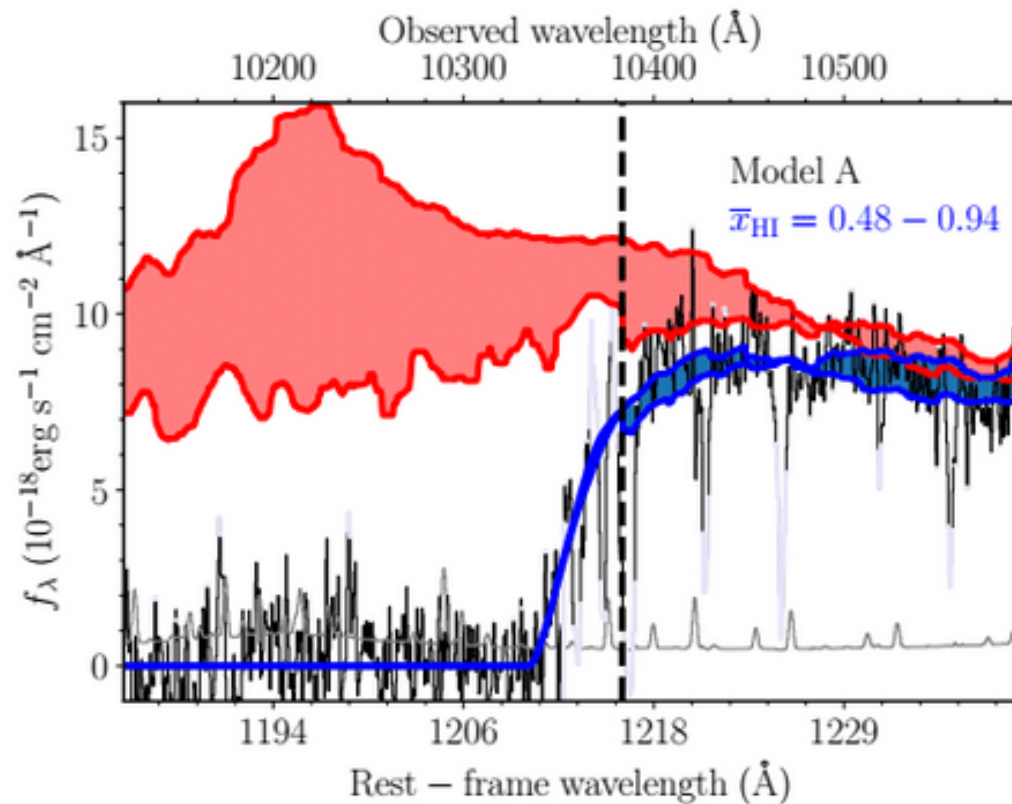


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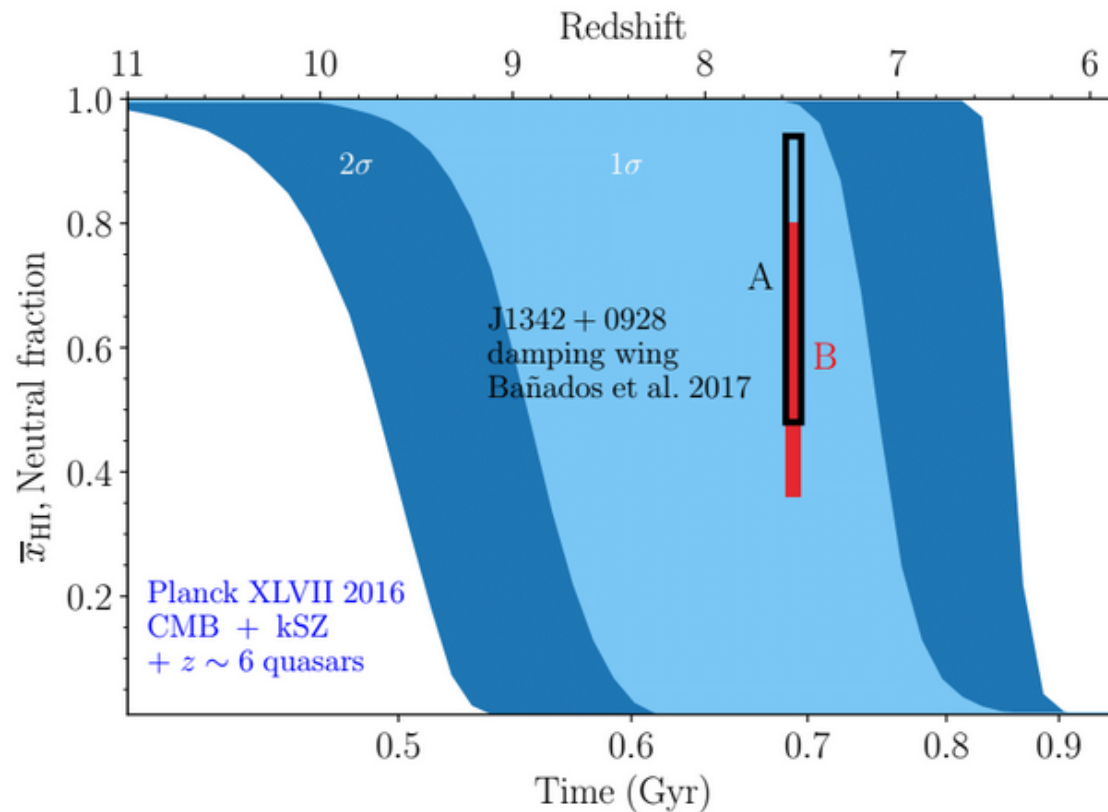
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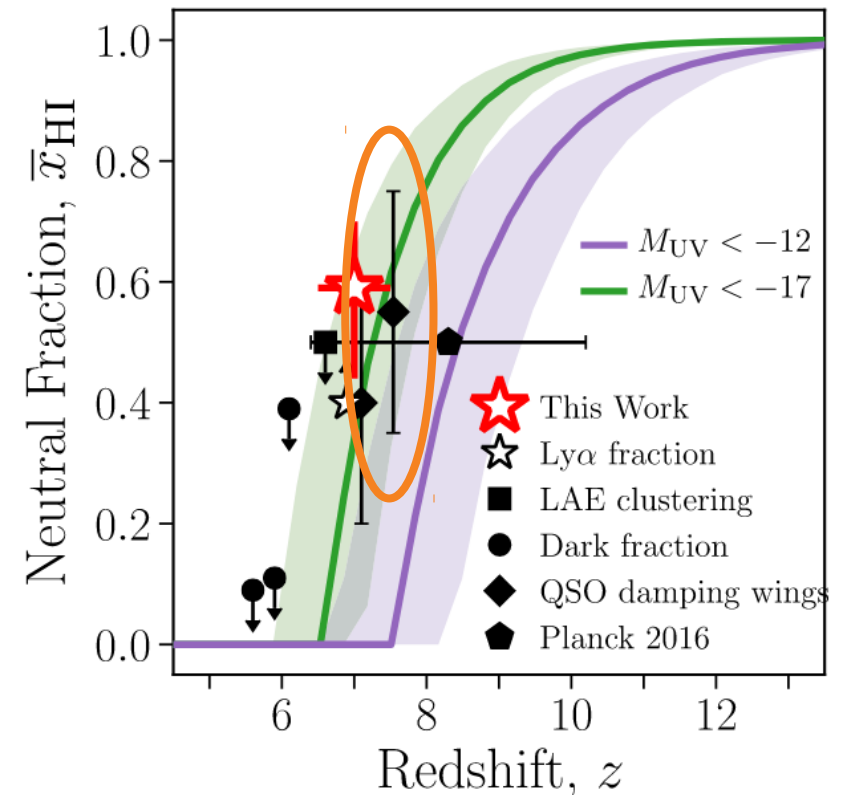


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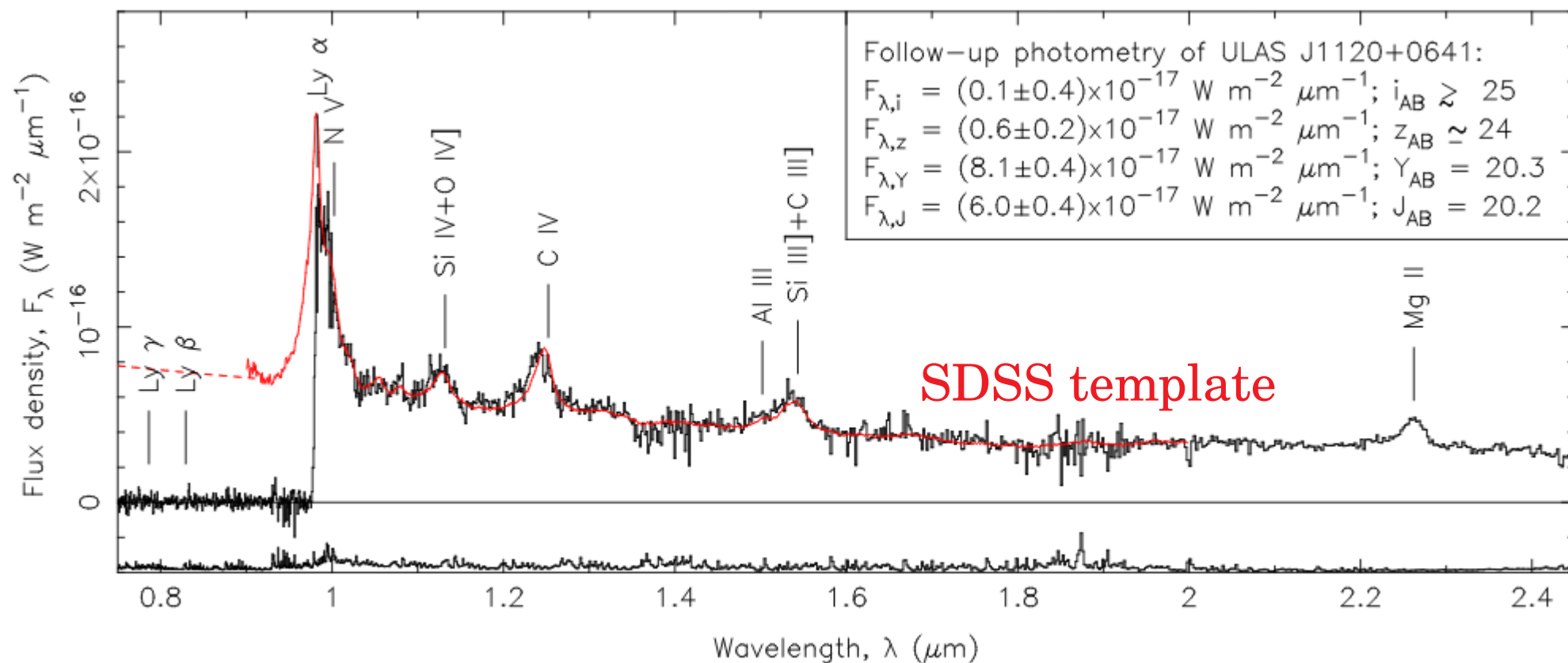


Bañados et al. (2018)



Mason et al. (2018)

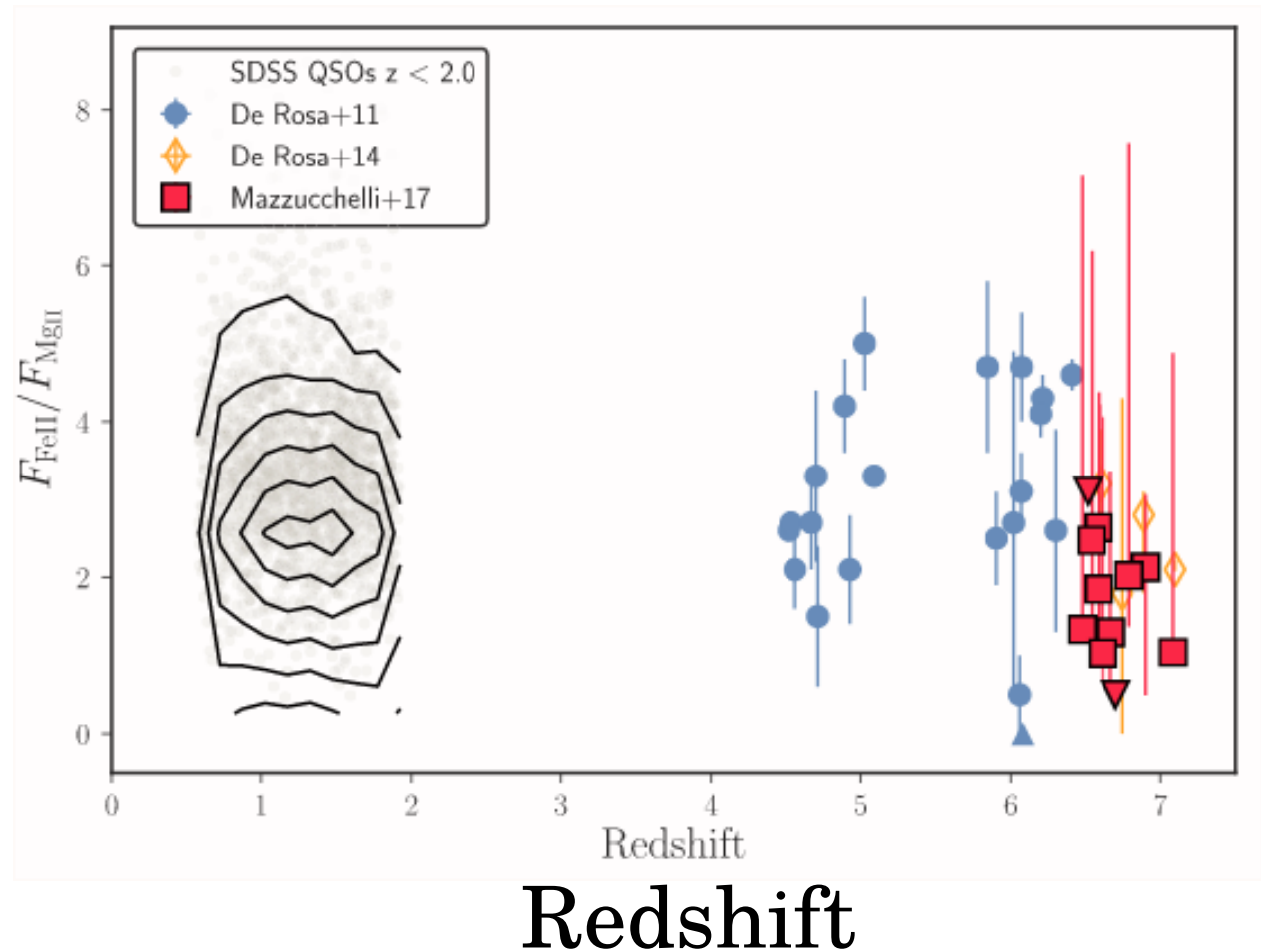
# Evolution is in the details



# Evolution is in the details

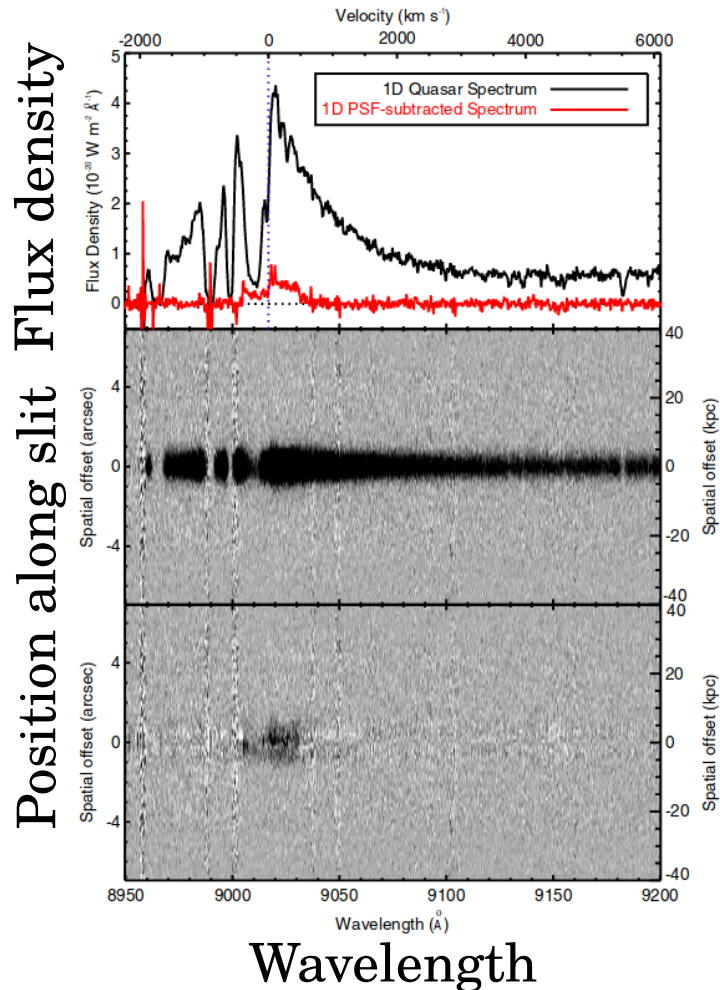
FeII/MgII:  
tentative proxy for  
abundance of  
 $\alpha$ -elements

No clear evolution  
between  $z \sim 7$  and  
 $z \sim 1$



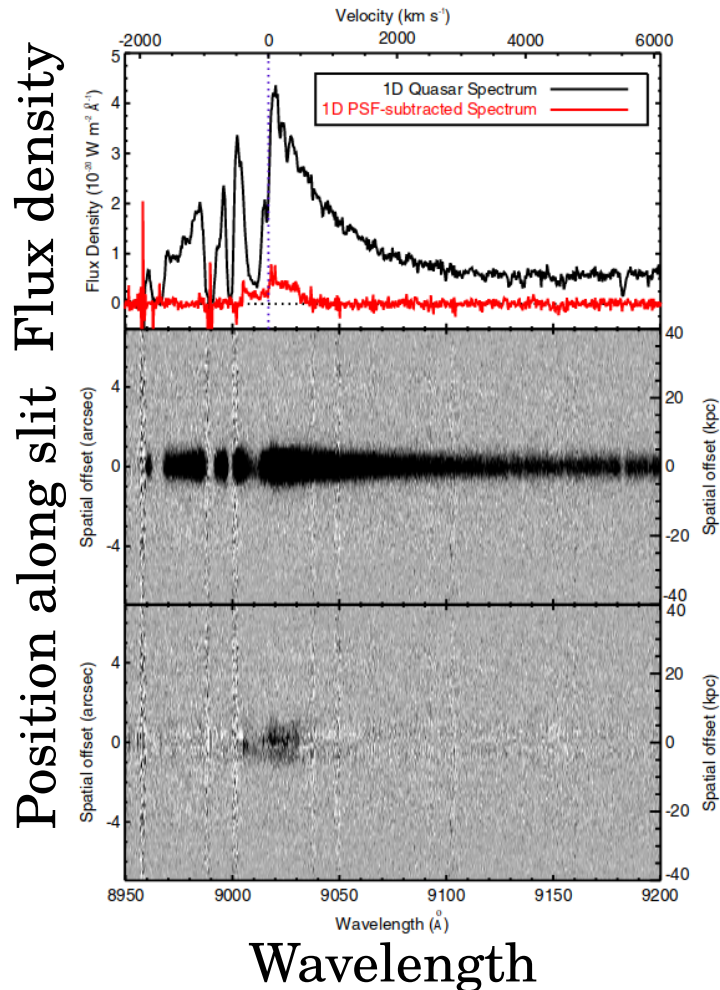
# Light on the CGM at $z \sim 6.6$

## Extended Ly $\alpha$ ?

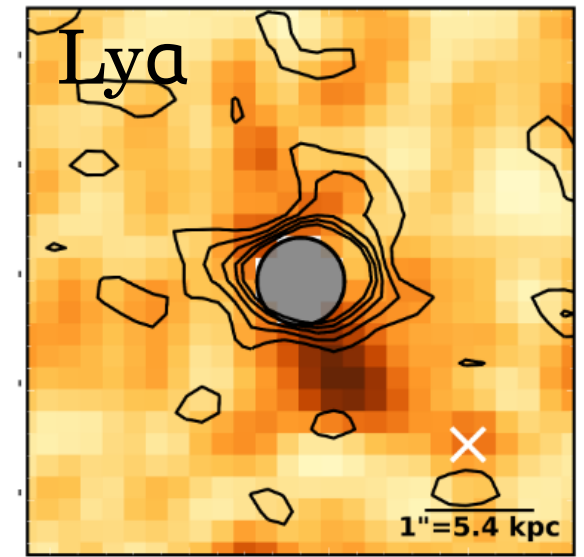


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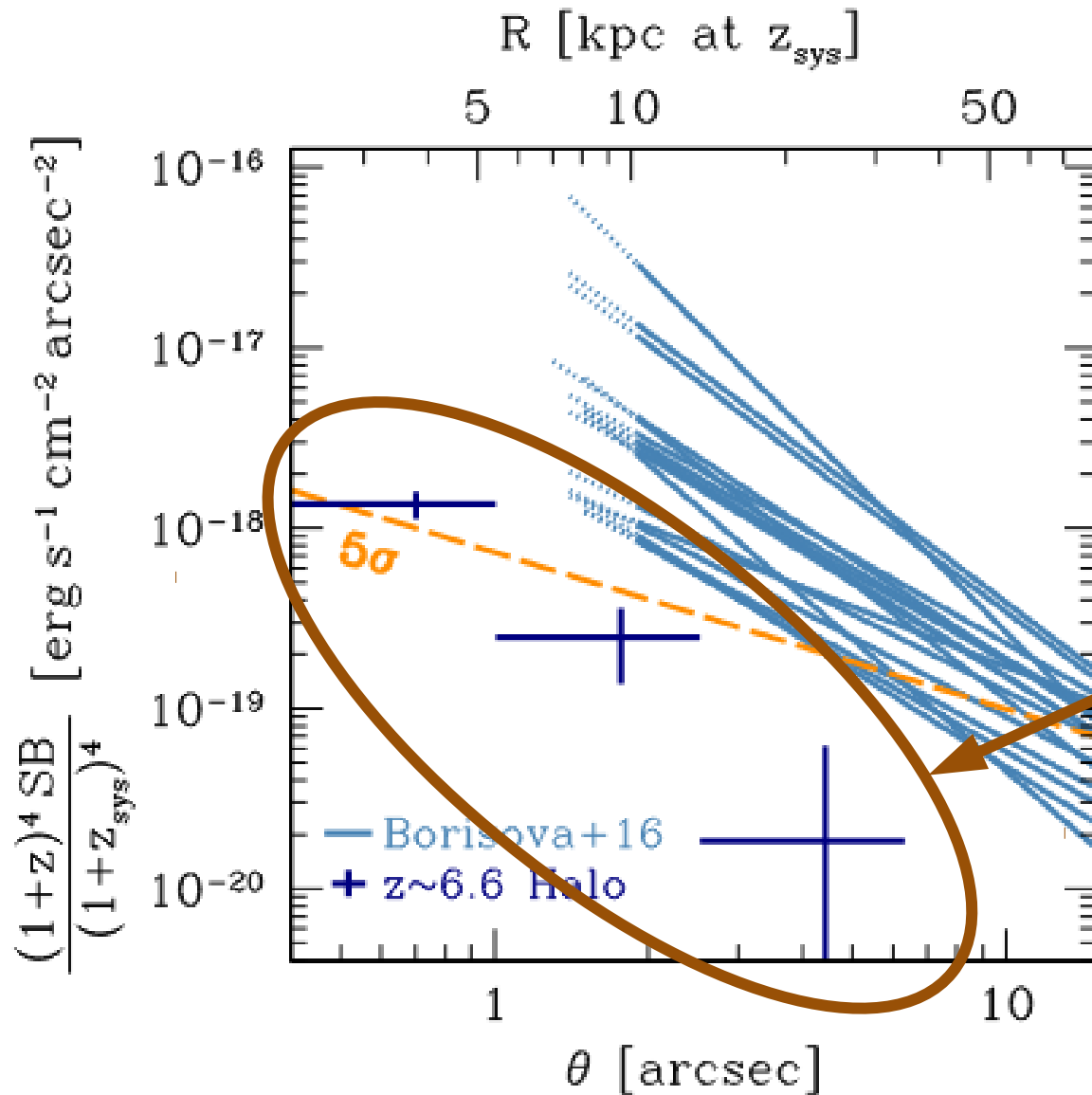
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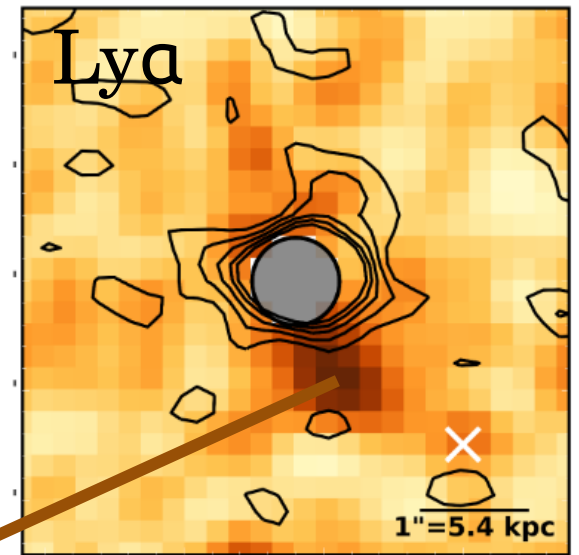
## First map (MUSE)



# Light on the CGM at $z \sim 6.6$



First map (MUSE)

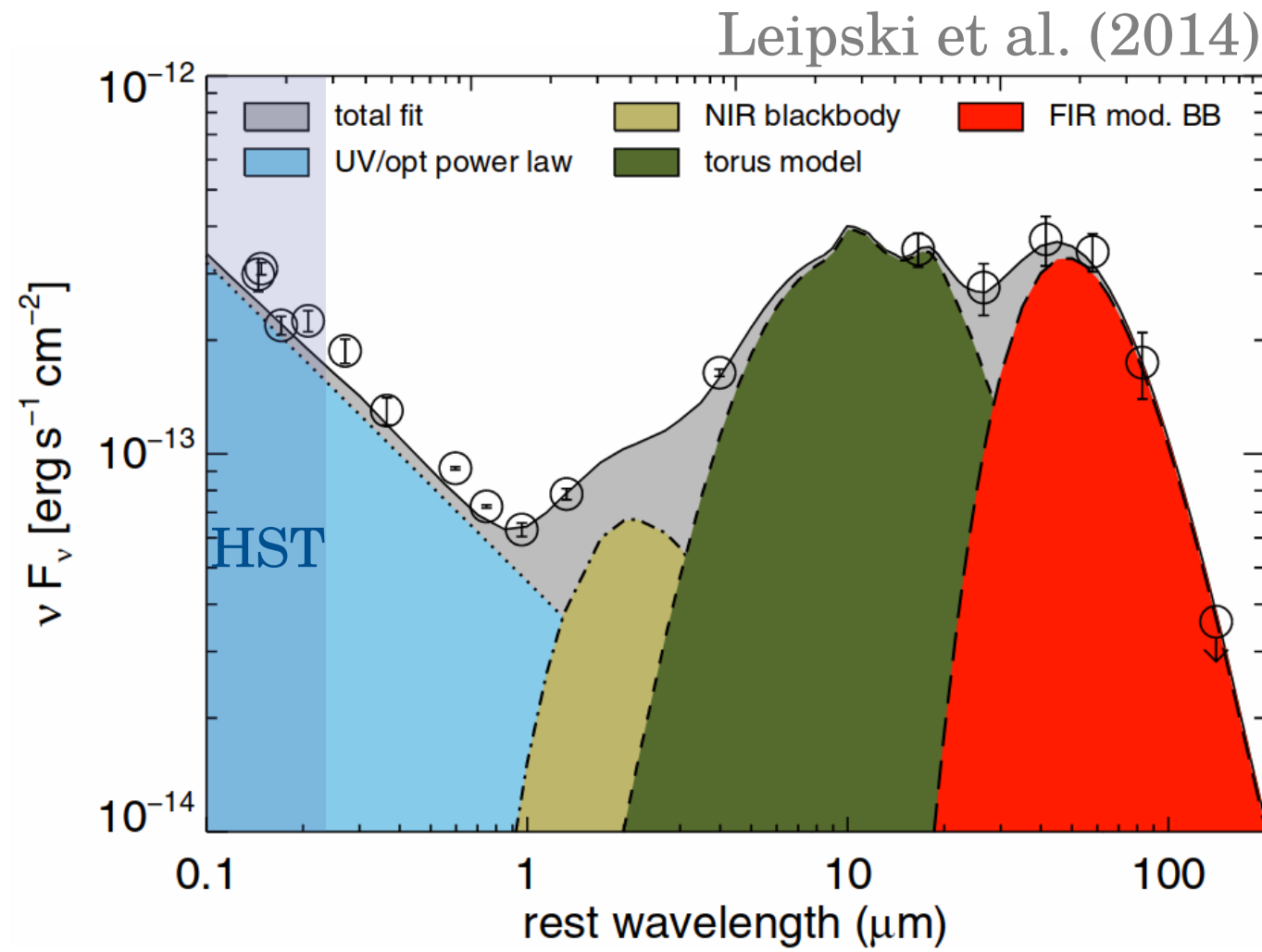


Farina et al. (2017)



# What about their host galaxies?

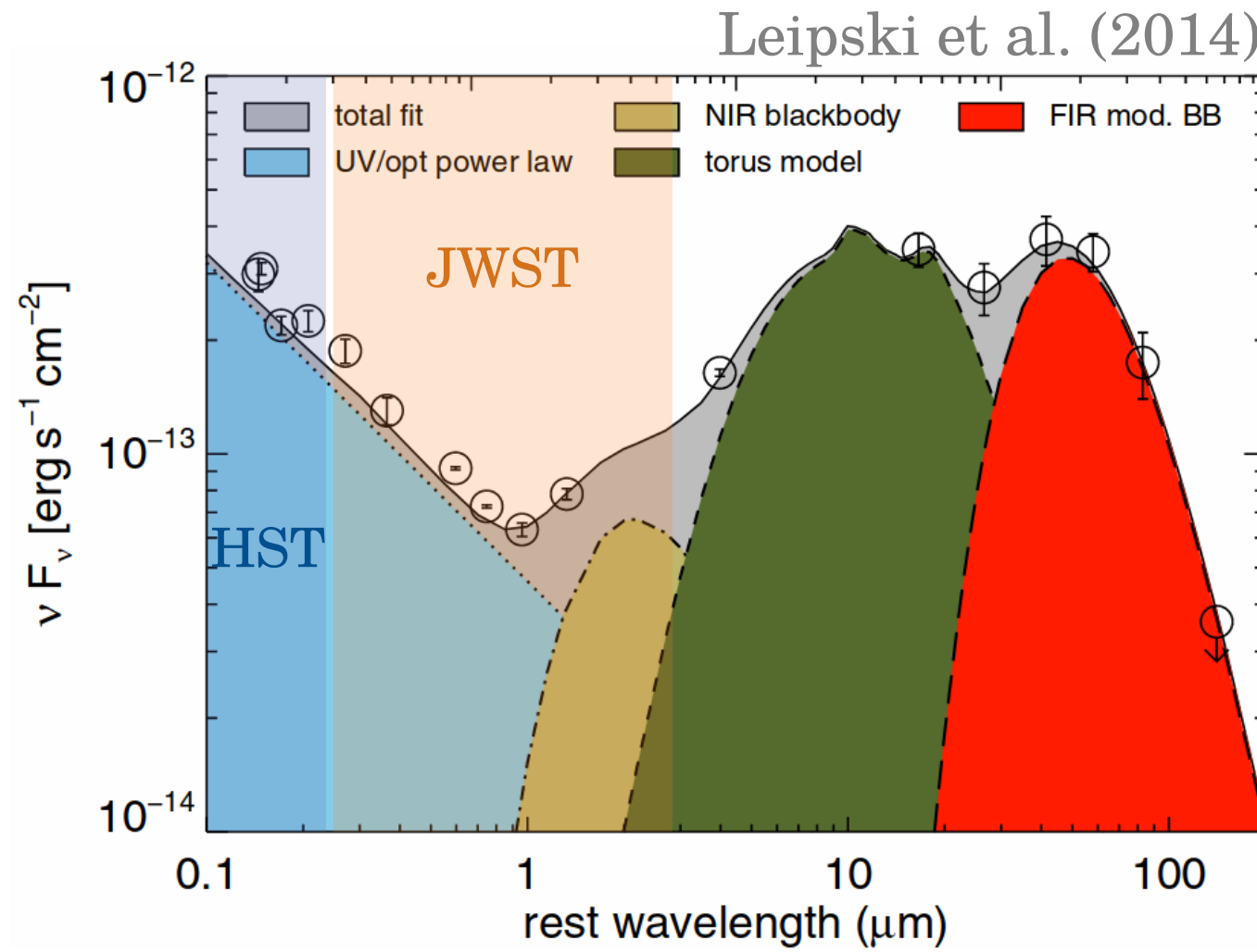
Starlight is  
outshone by  
the quasar



# What about their host galaxies?

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Need JWST

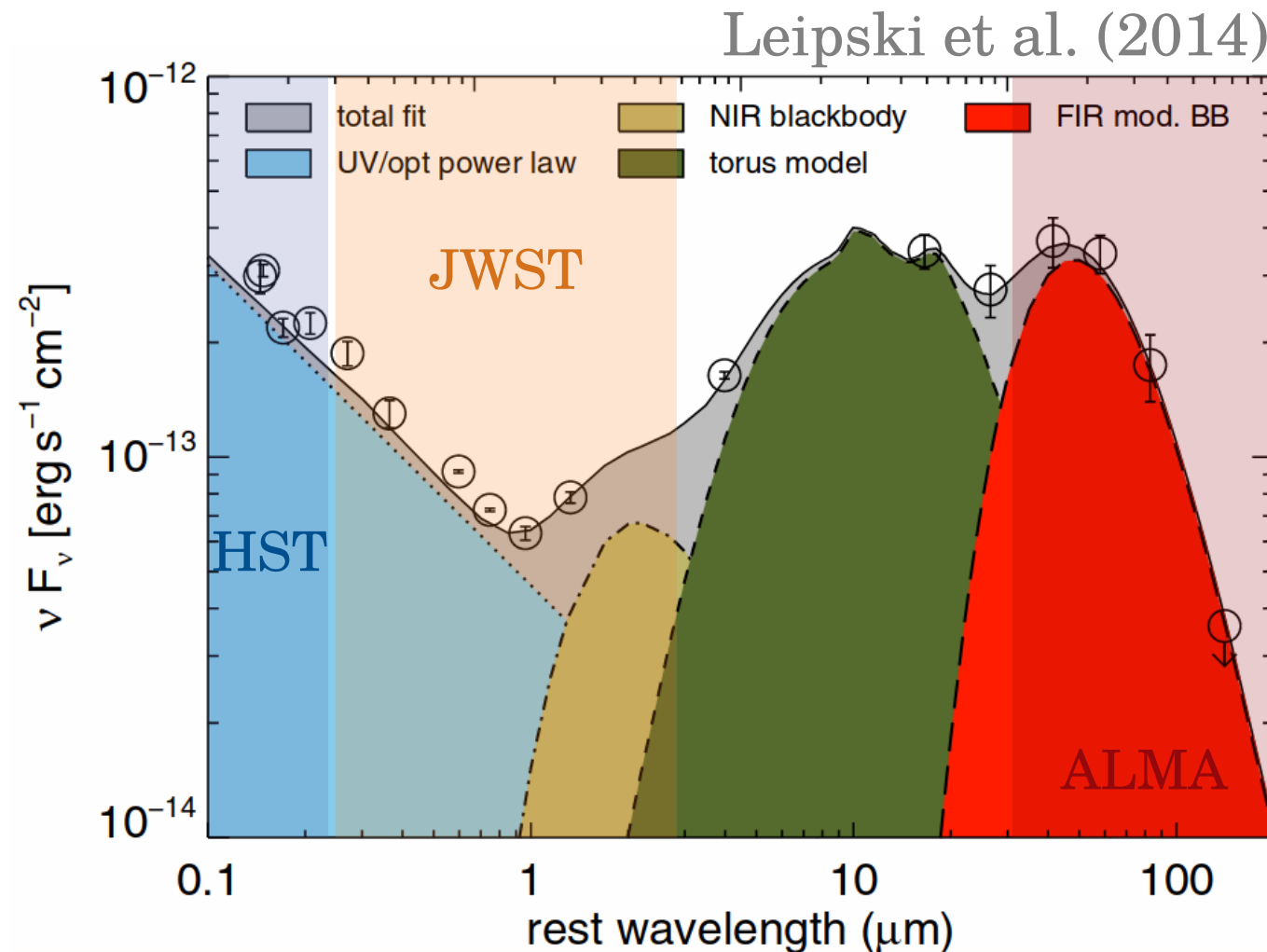


# What about their host galaxies?

Starlight is  
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the quasar

Need JWST

Dust & gas FIR  
emission is  
accessible!

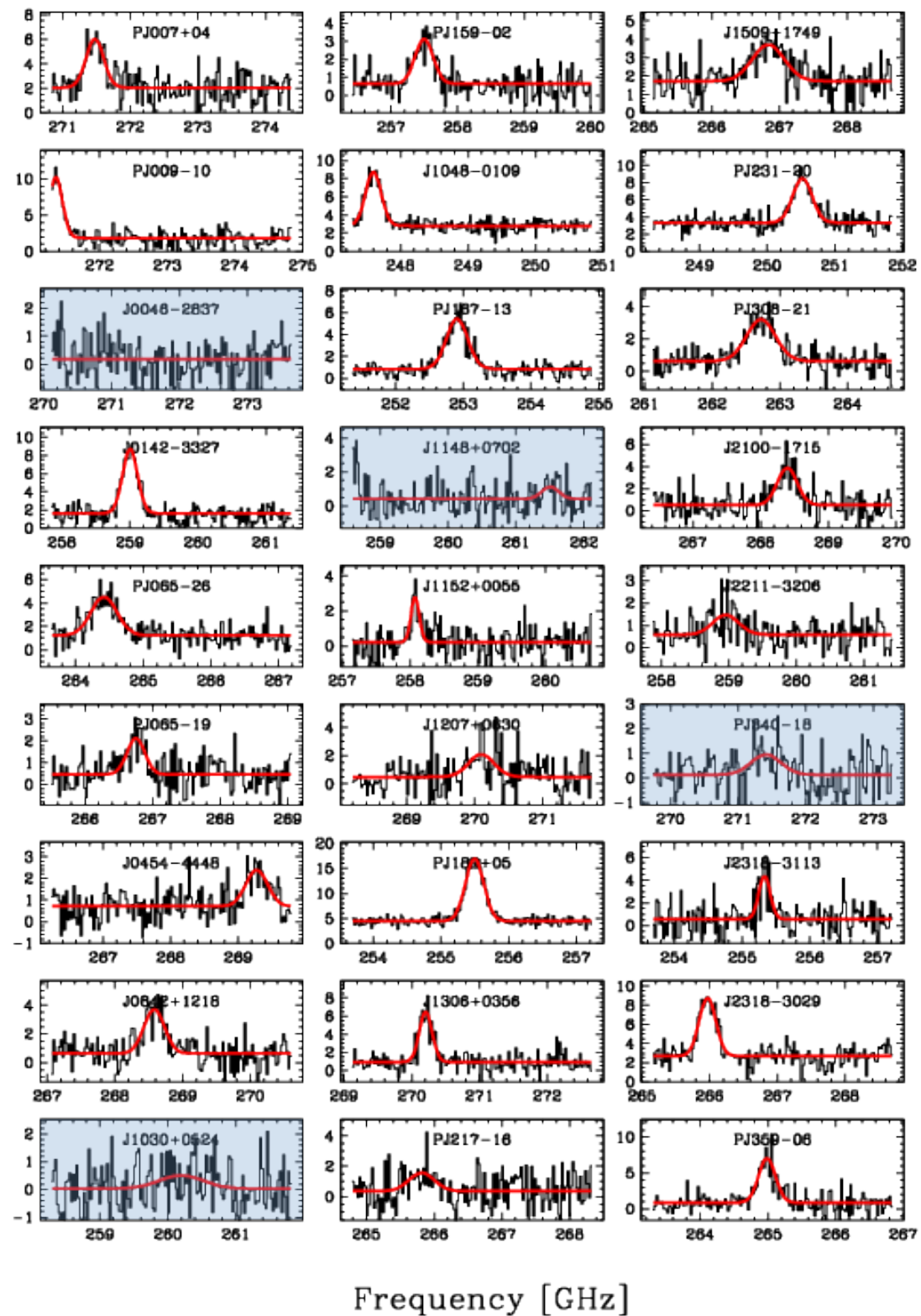


# ALMA survey of gas and dust in $z > 6$ quasars

35 proposed,  
27 observed,  
23 detected (85%)

10 min on source!

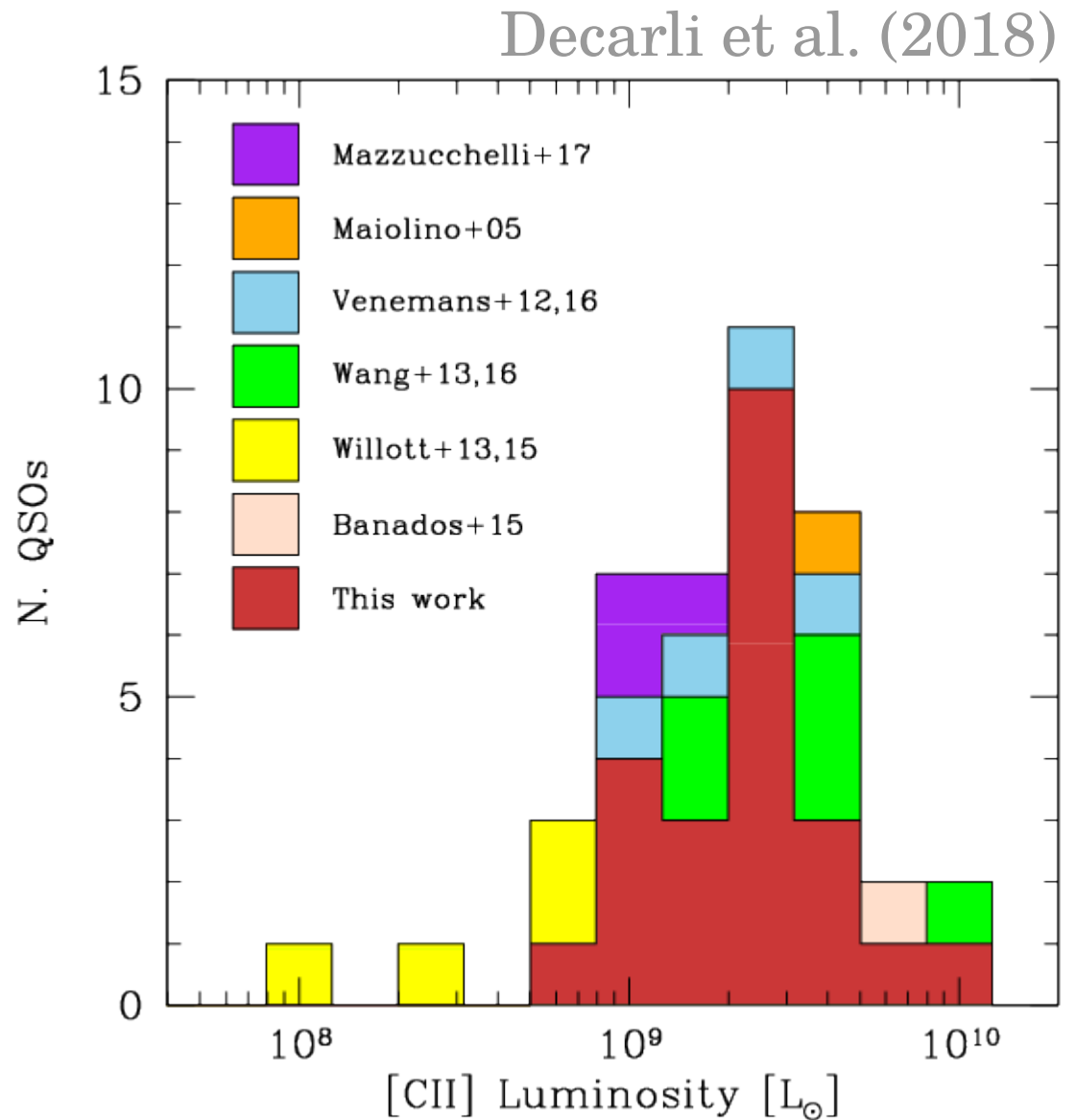
$F_\nu$  [mJy]



Decarli et al. (2018)

# A systematic survey of $z > 6$ quasars

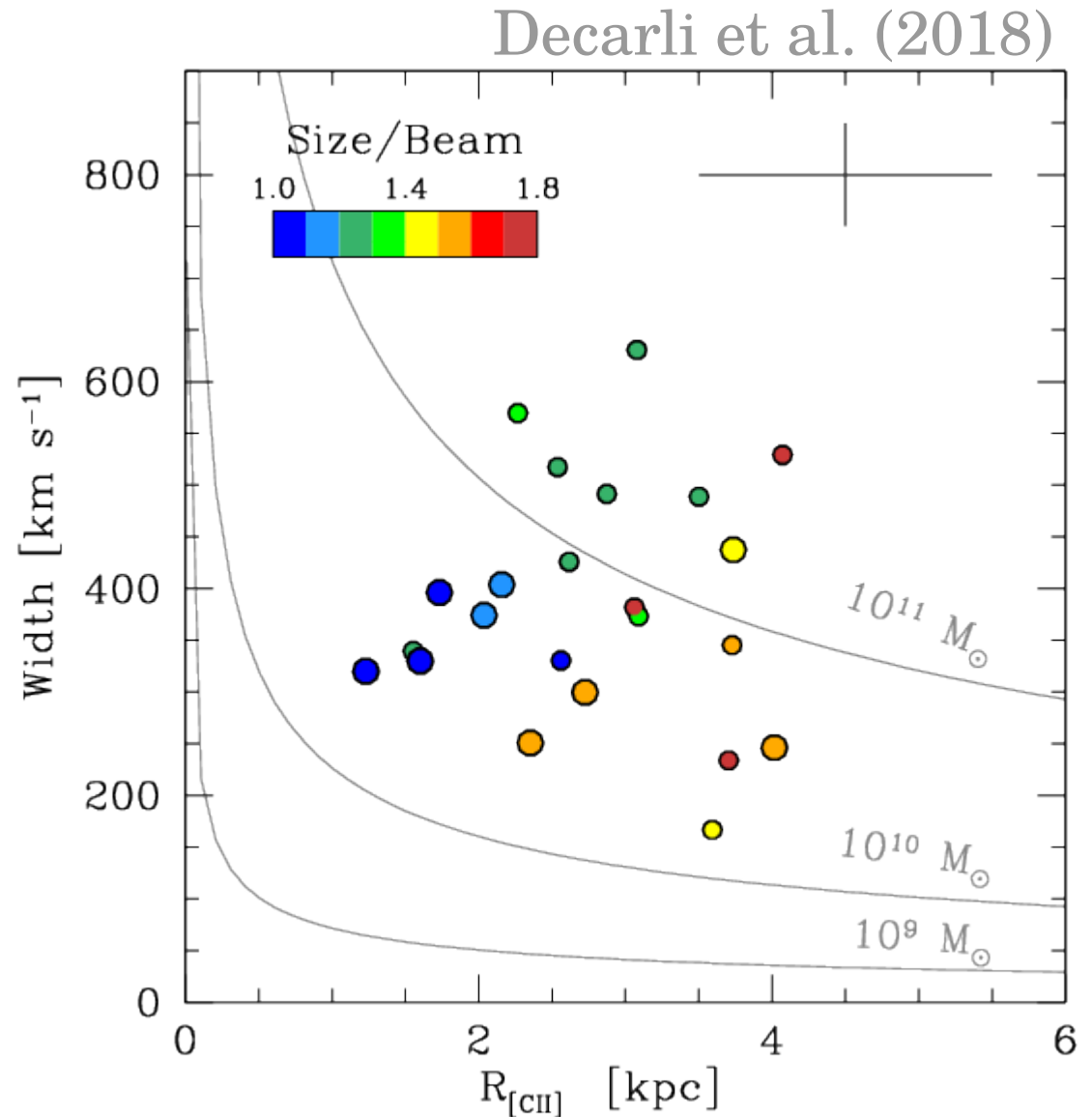
5x bigger sample  
than previous  
studies



# A systematic survey of $z > 6$ quasars

Rough  $M_{\text{dyn}}$  estimates:

$$\sim 2 \times 10^{10} - 3 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$$



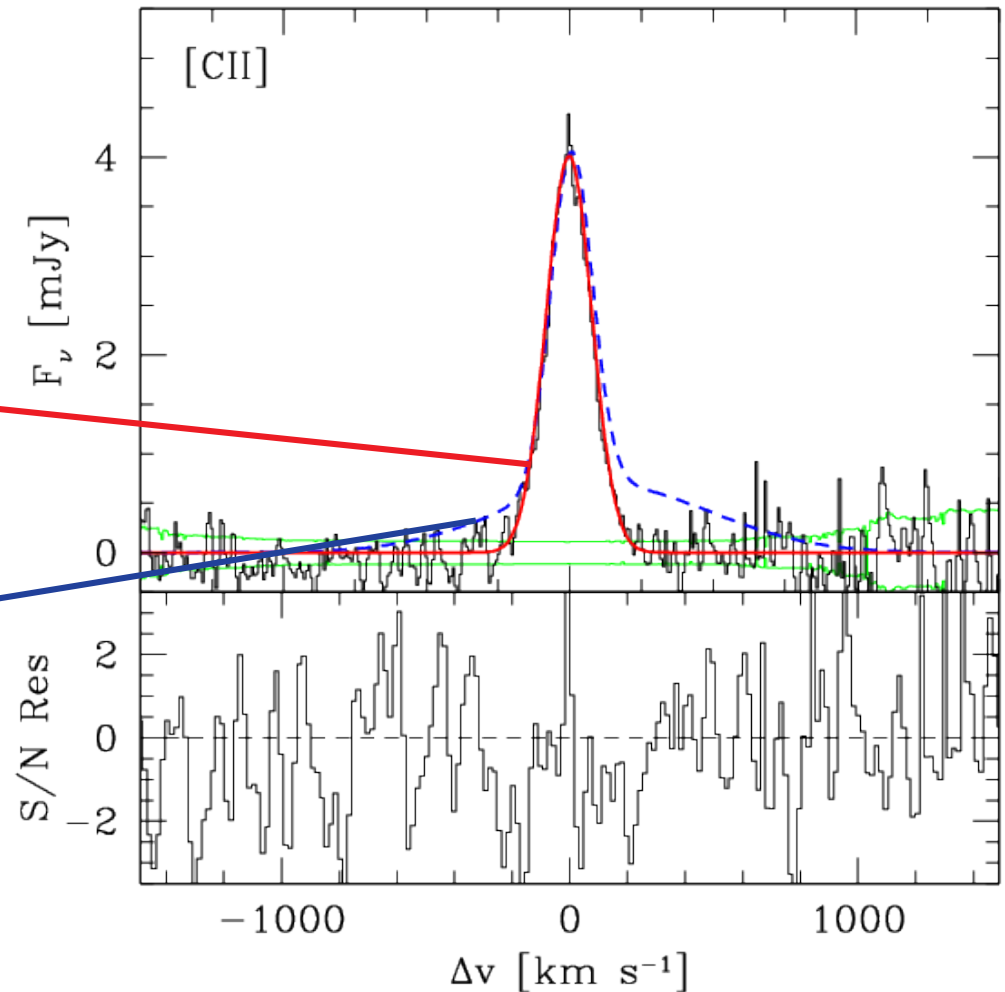
# A systematic survey of $z > 6$ quasars

No broad  
("outflow"-like)  
wings from [CII]  
stacks!

Our sample

J1148+5251  
(Cicone et al. 2015)

Decarli et al. (2018)

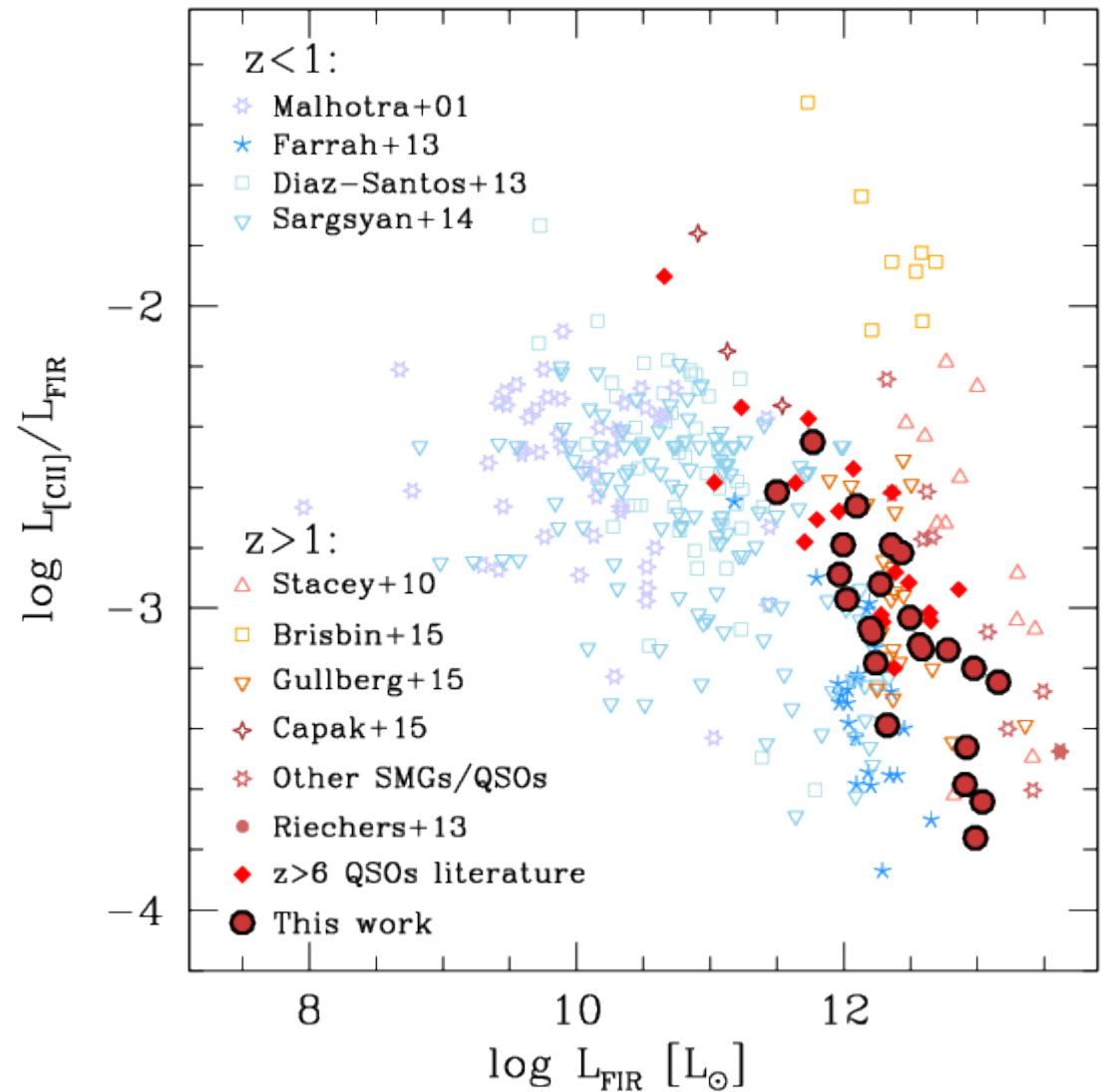


# A systematic survey of $z > 6$ quasars

[CII] = gas cooling

FIR = star formation

Decarli et al. (2018)

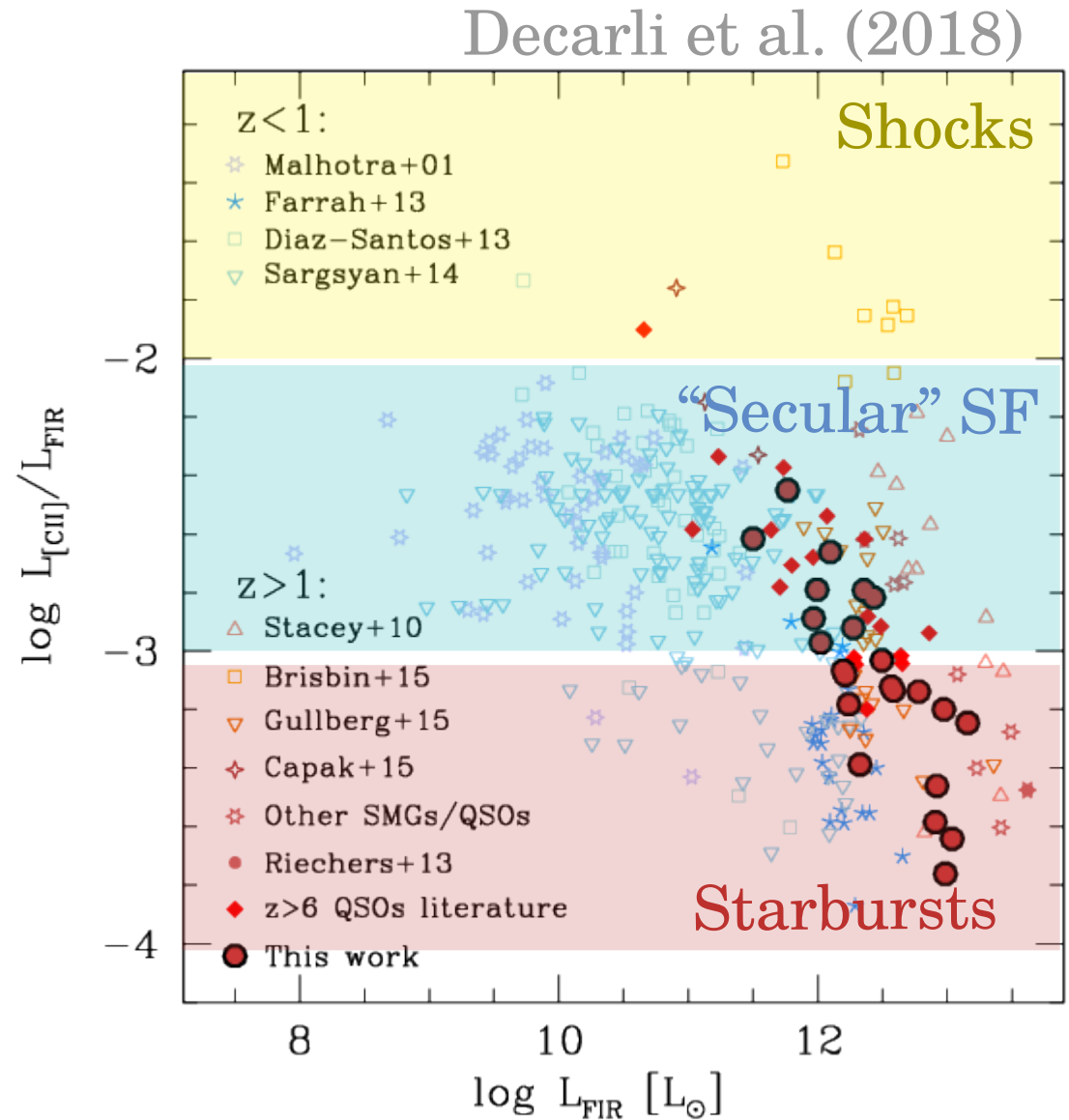




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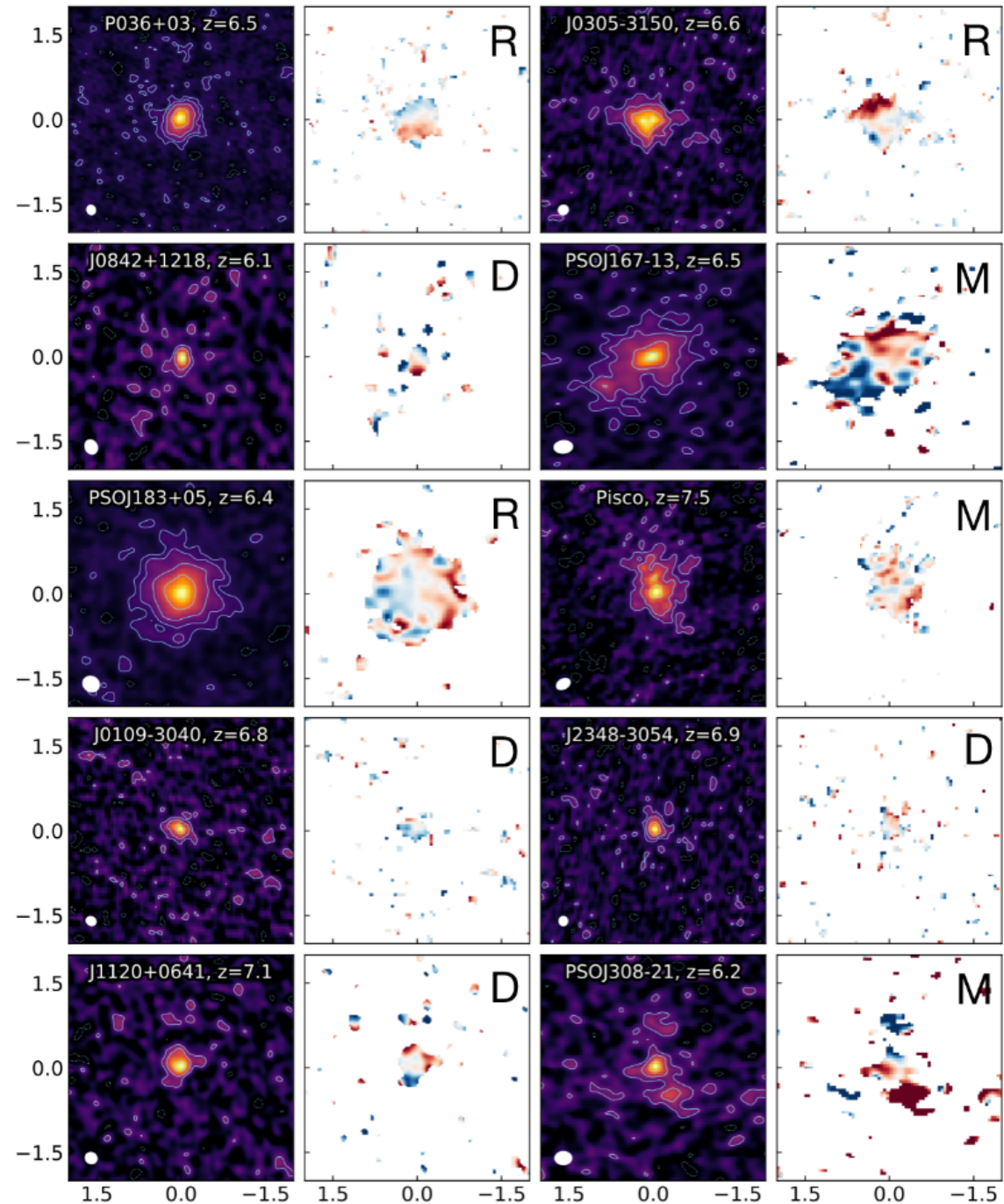
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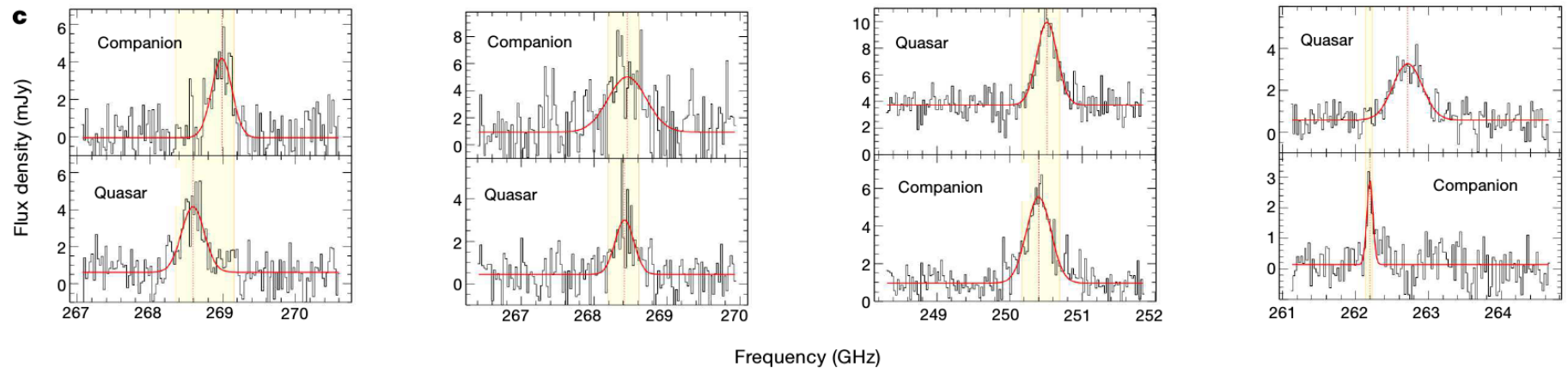
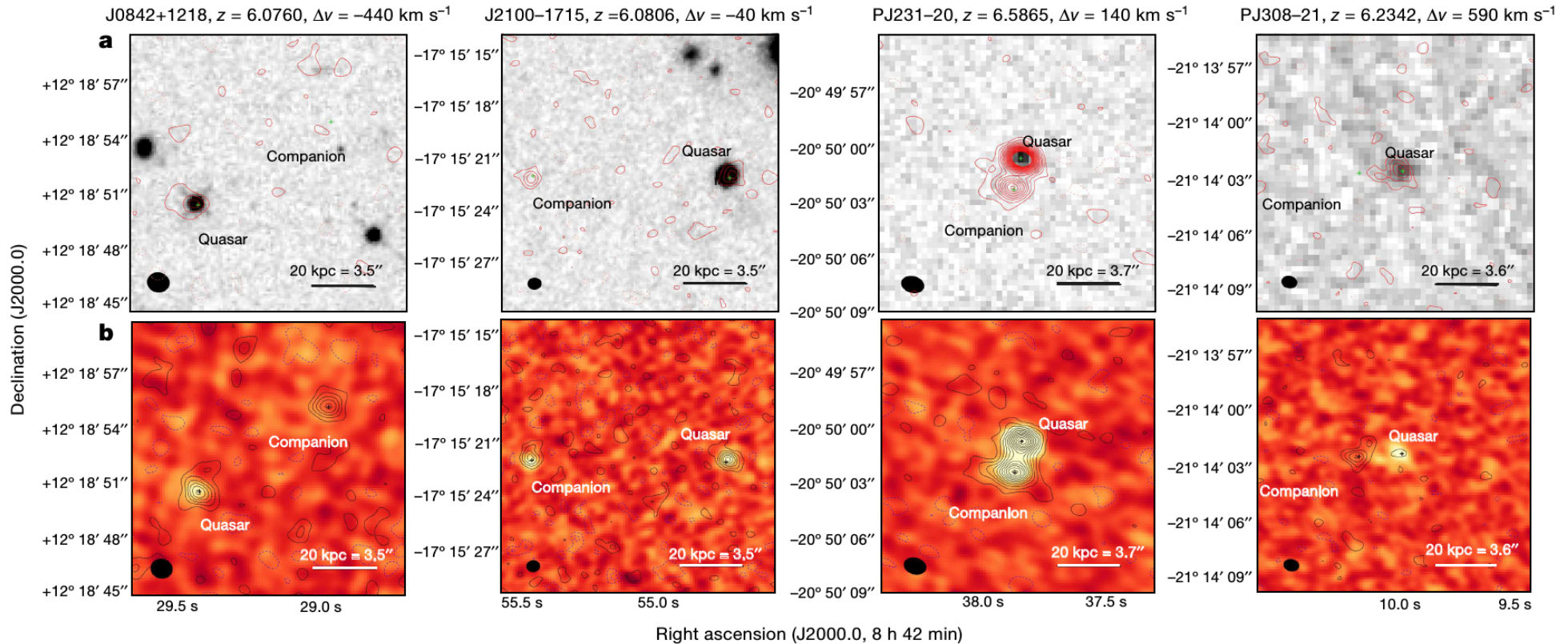
High-res follow-up  
( $0.2'' \sim 1$  kpc):

Variety in size,  
morphology,  
and dynamics

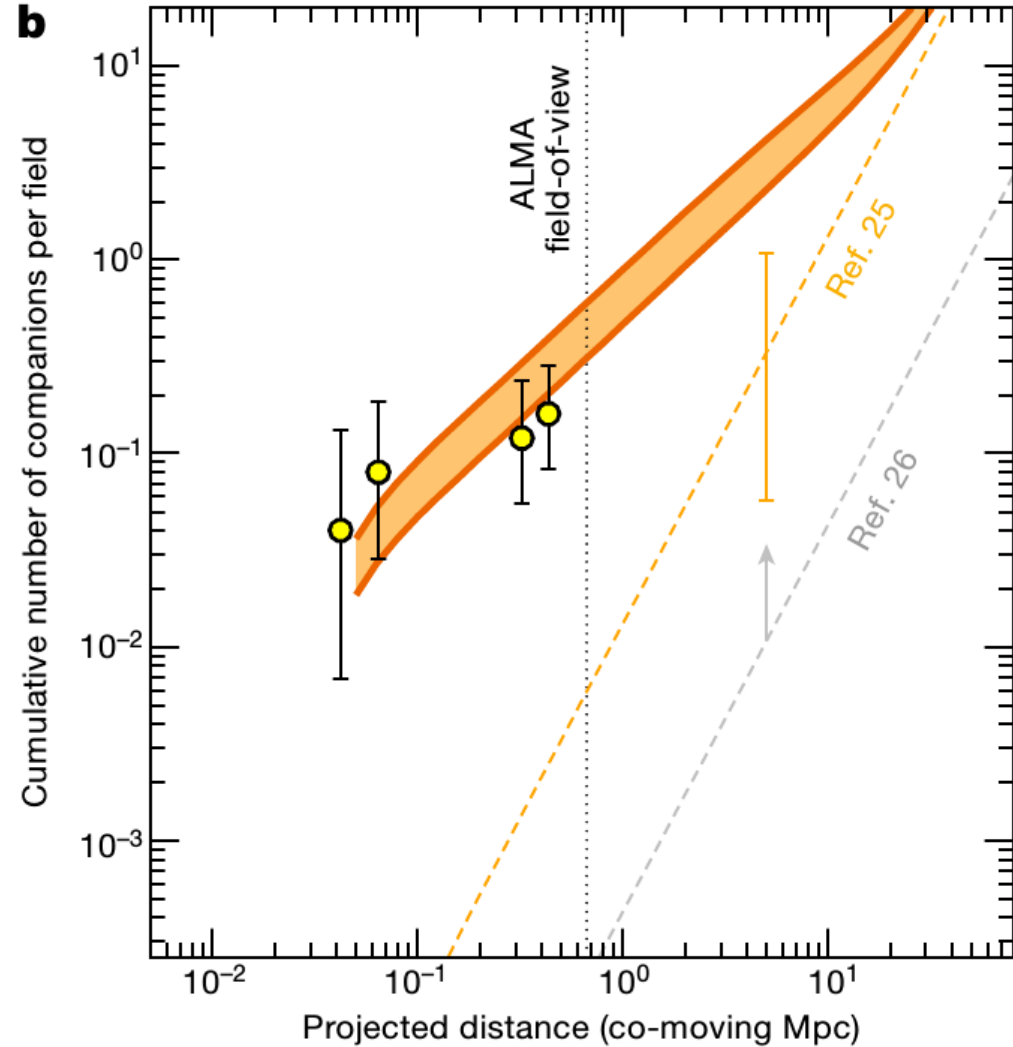
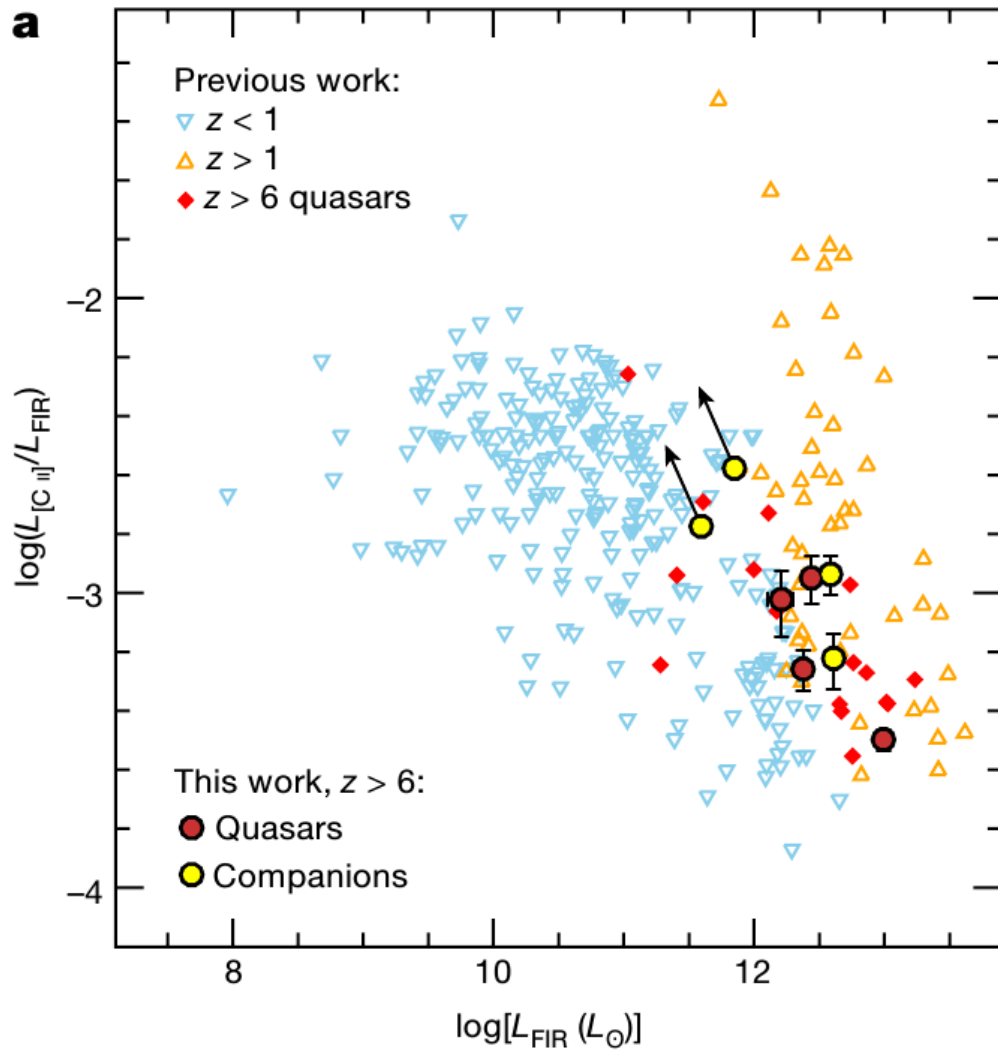


# Companions of quasars at $z > 6$

Decarli et al. (2017) Nature

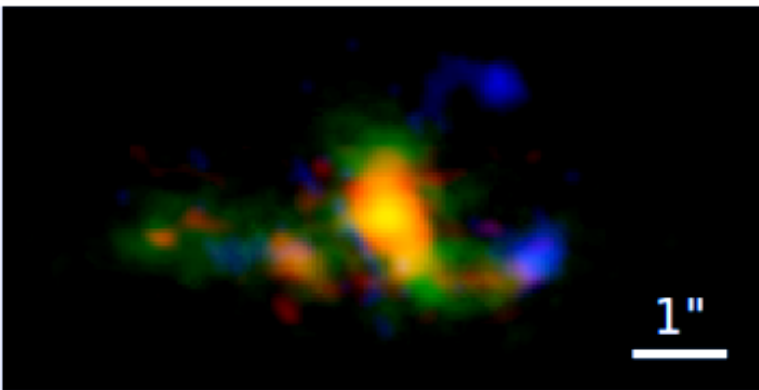
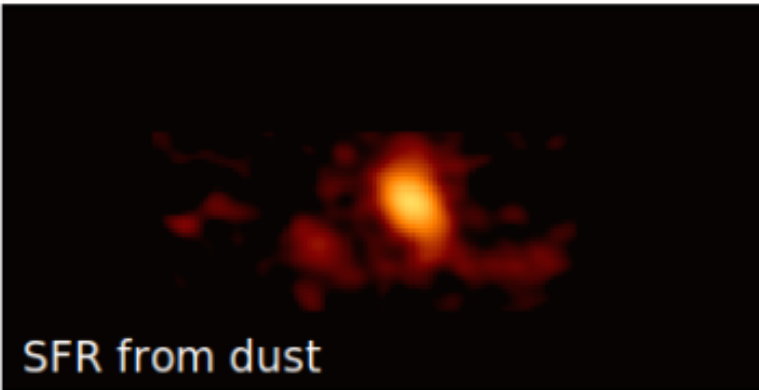
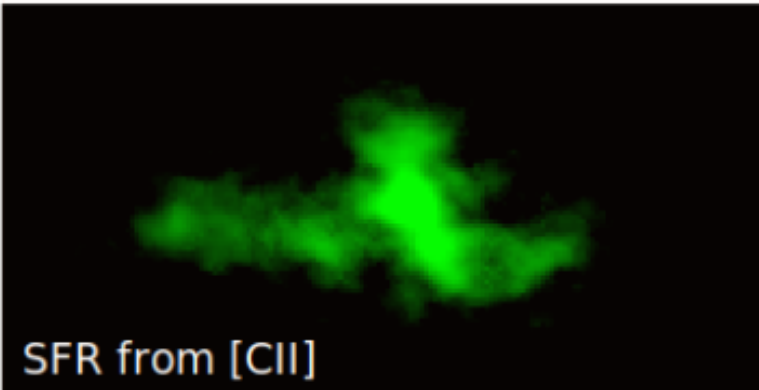
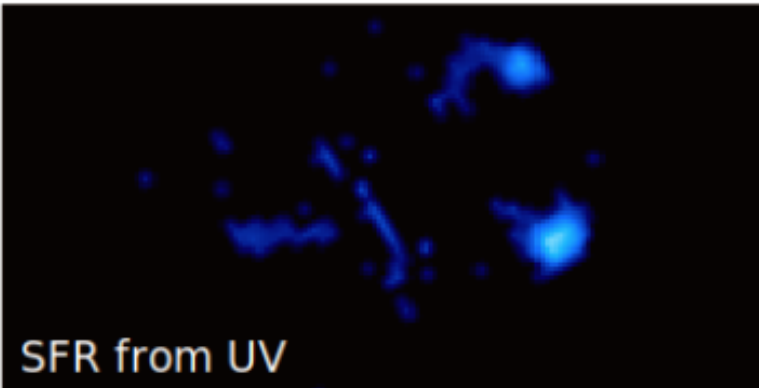
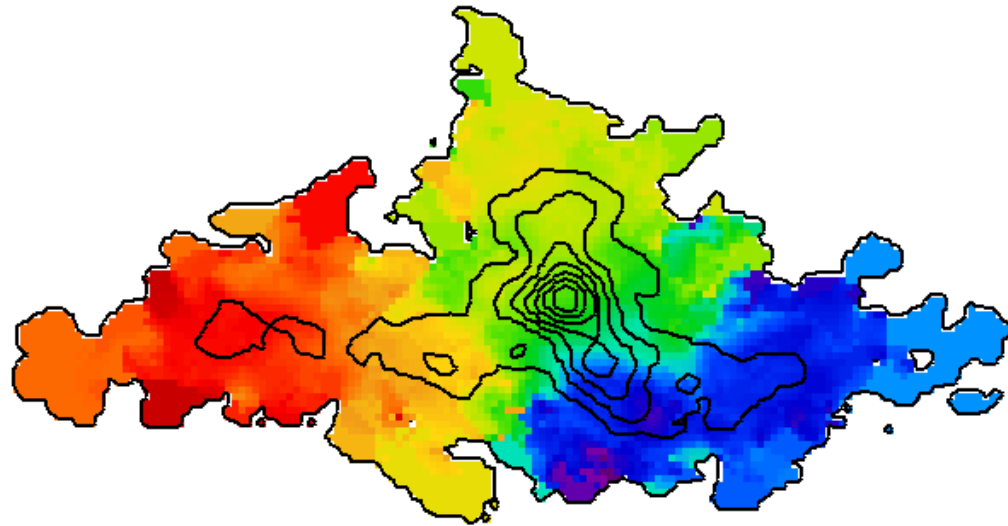


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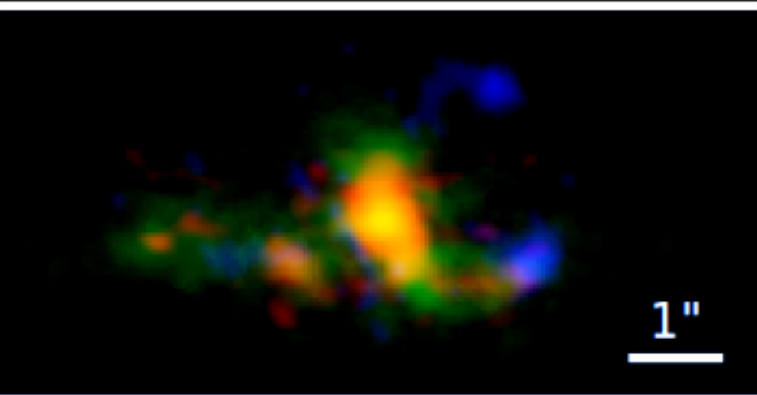
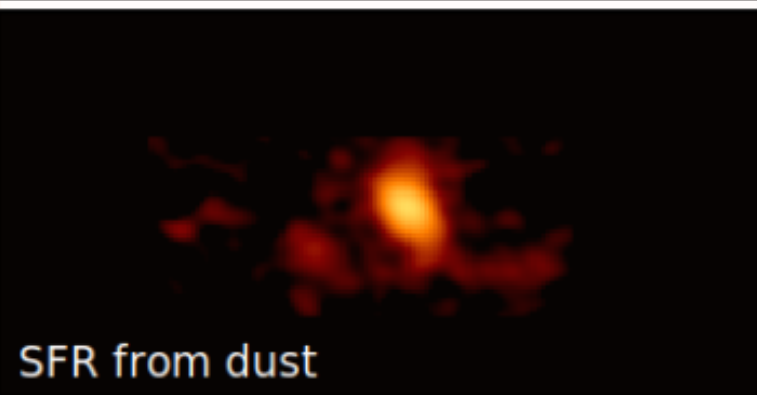
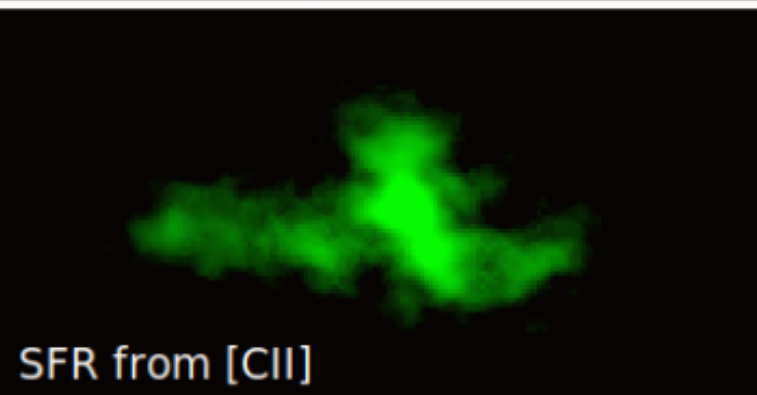
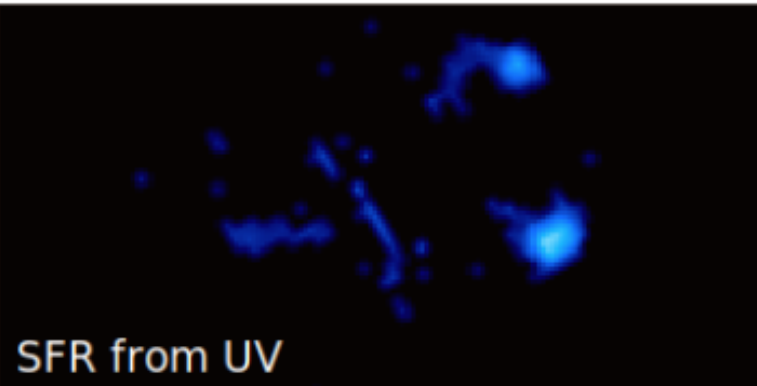
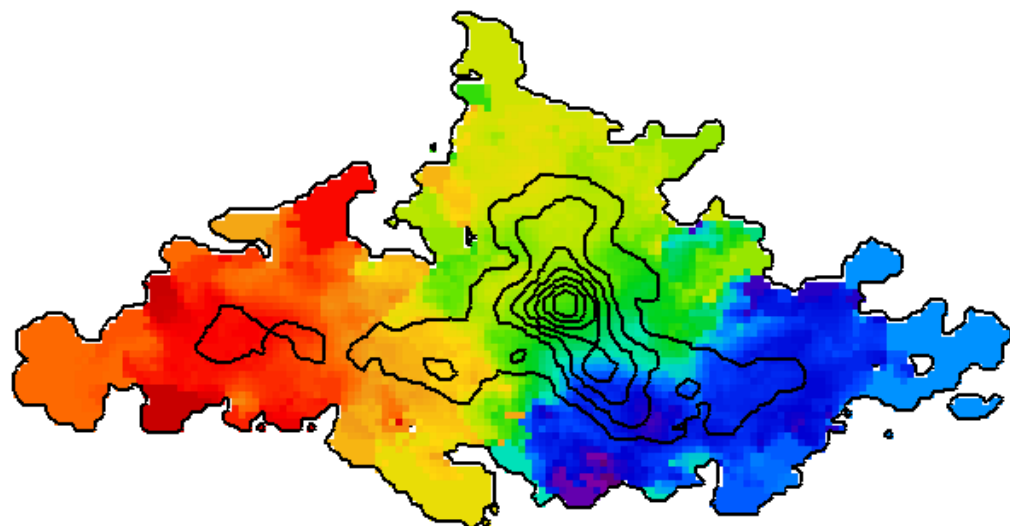




# Image of a merger at $z=6.234$



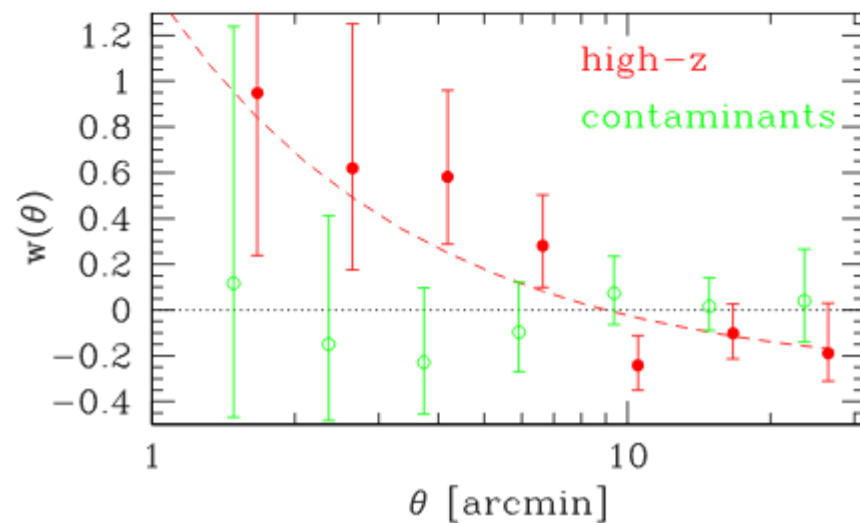
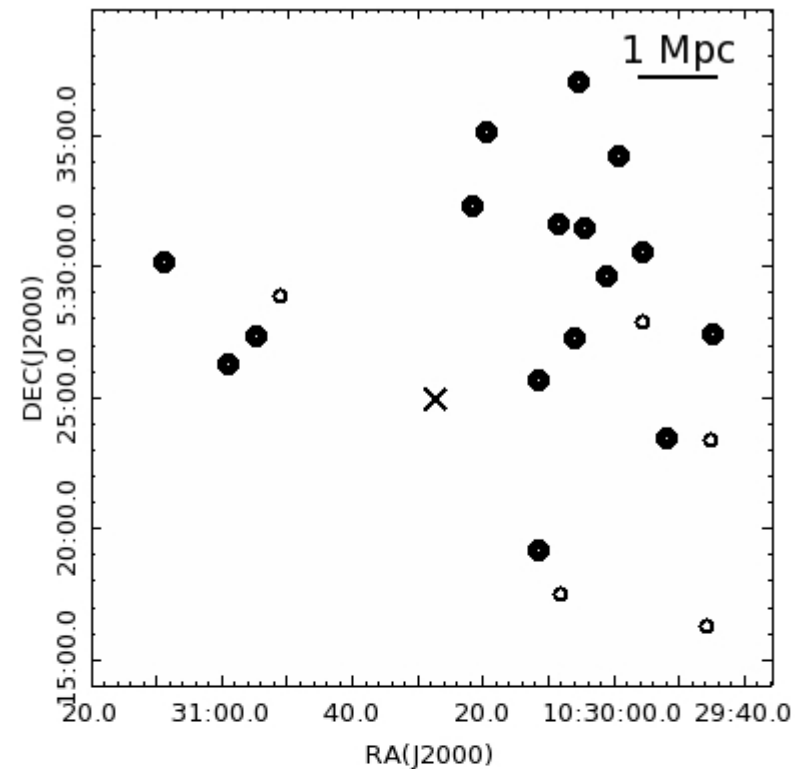
# Image of a merger at $z=6.234$



Decarli et al. (in prep)

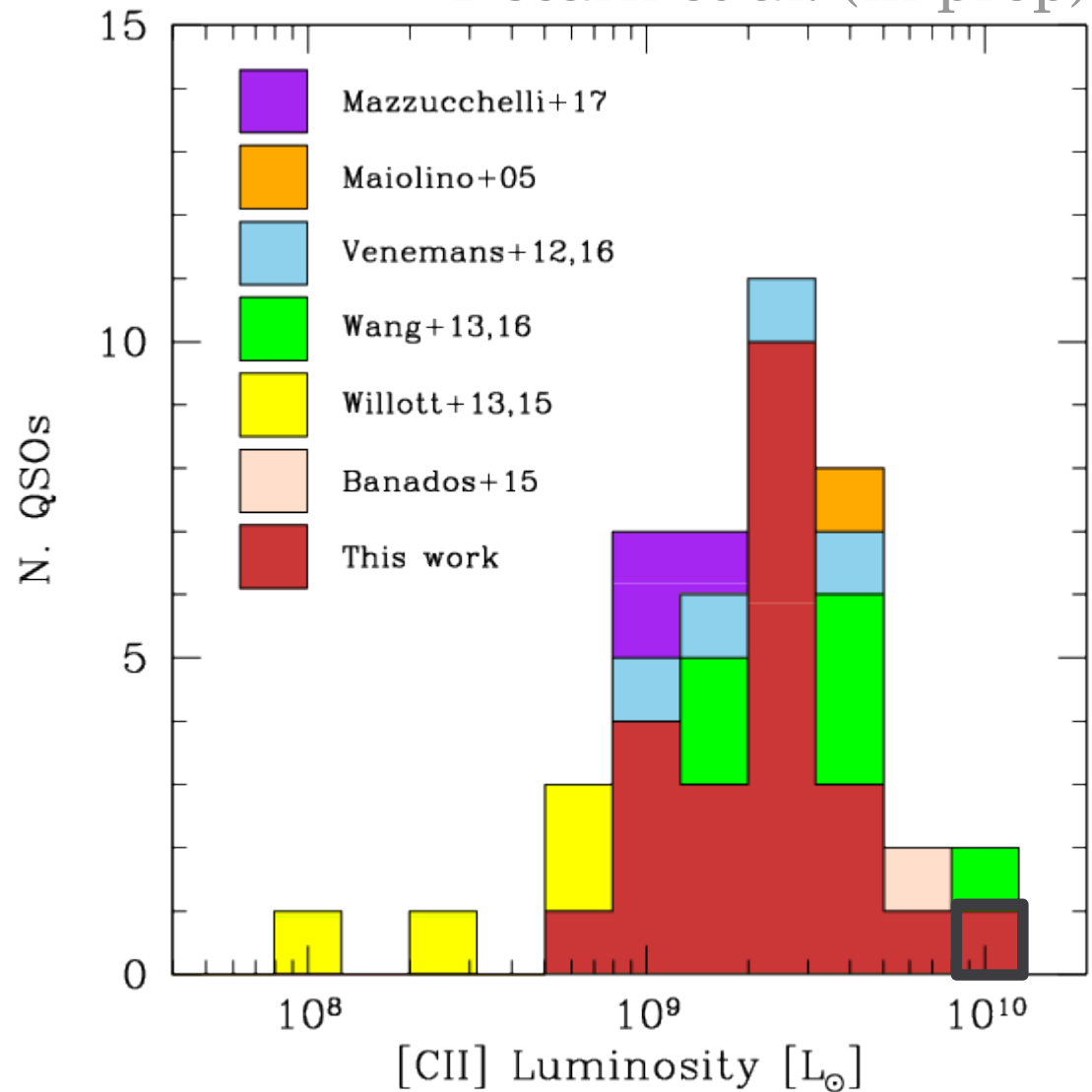
# Large-scale environment

Companion galaxies  
selected via dropout techniques  
+ follow-up campaigns



# The ISM in the first massive galaxies

Decarli et al. (in prep)



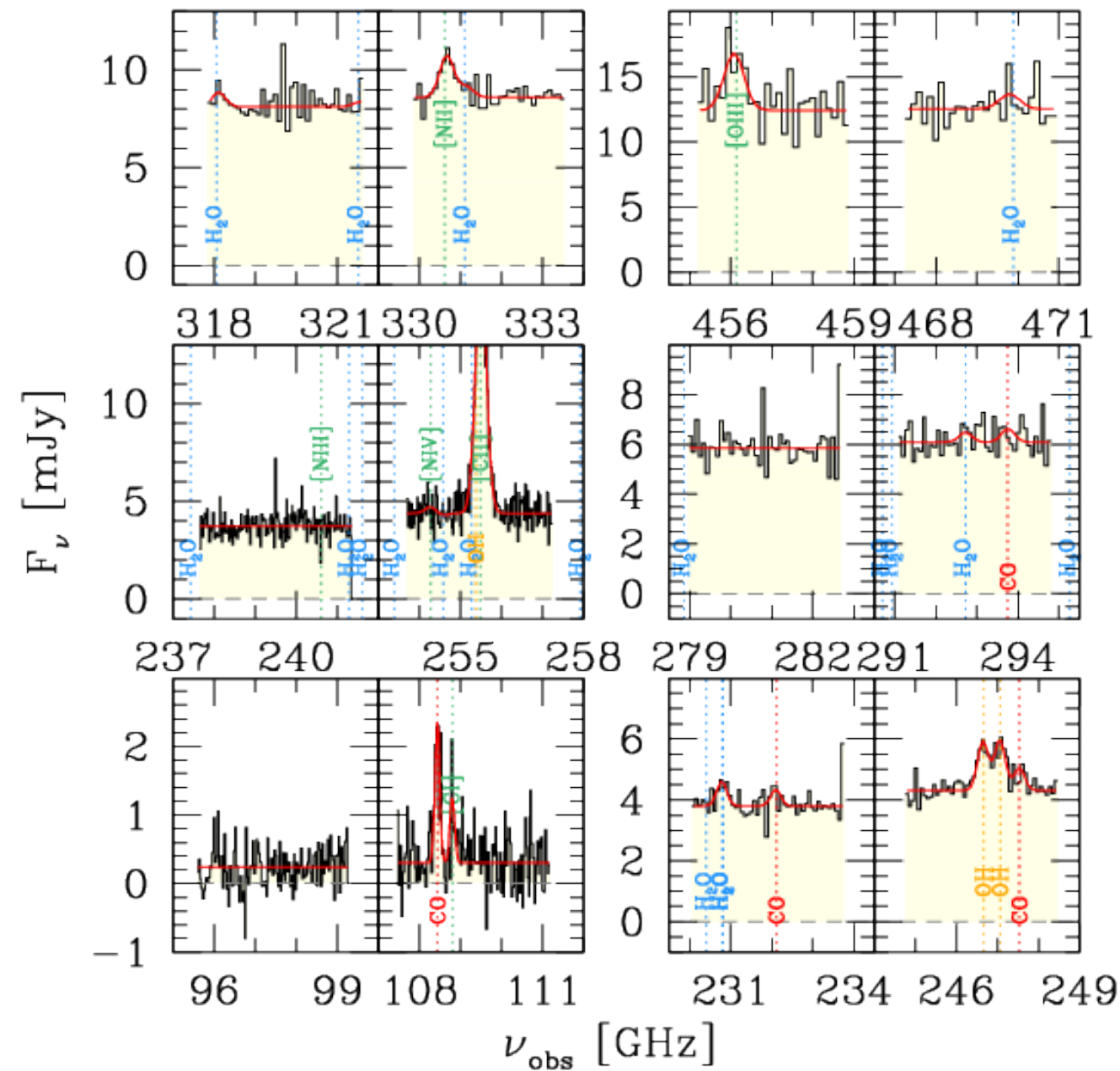
Our pick:

PJ183+05,  $z=6.43$



# ISM in quasar hosts at $z>6$

18 lines in  
6 frequency  
settings



# ISM in quasar hosts at $z > 6$

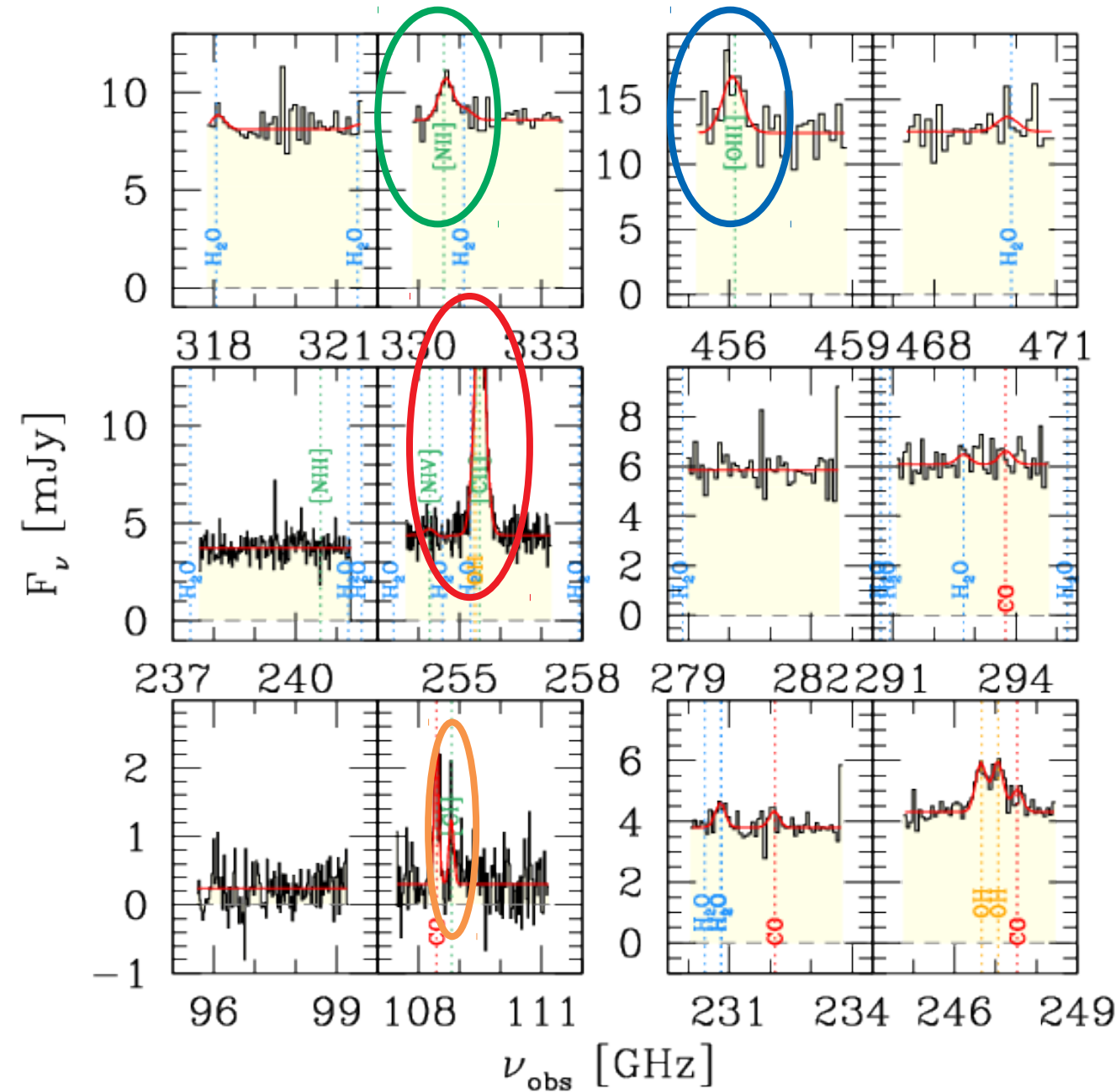
FSLs:

[OIII] 88 $\mu$ m,

[NII] 122  $\mu$ m,

[CII] 158 $\mu$ m,

[CI] 370 $\mu$ m



# ISM in quasar hosts at $z > 6$

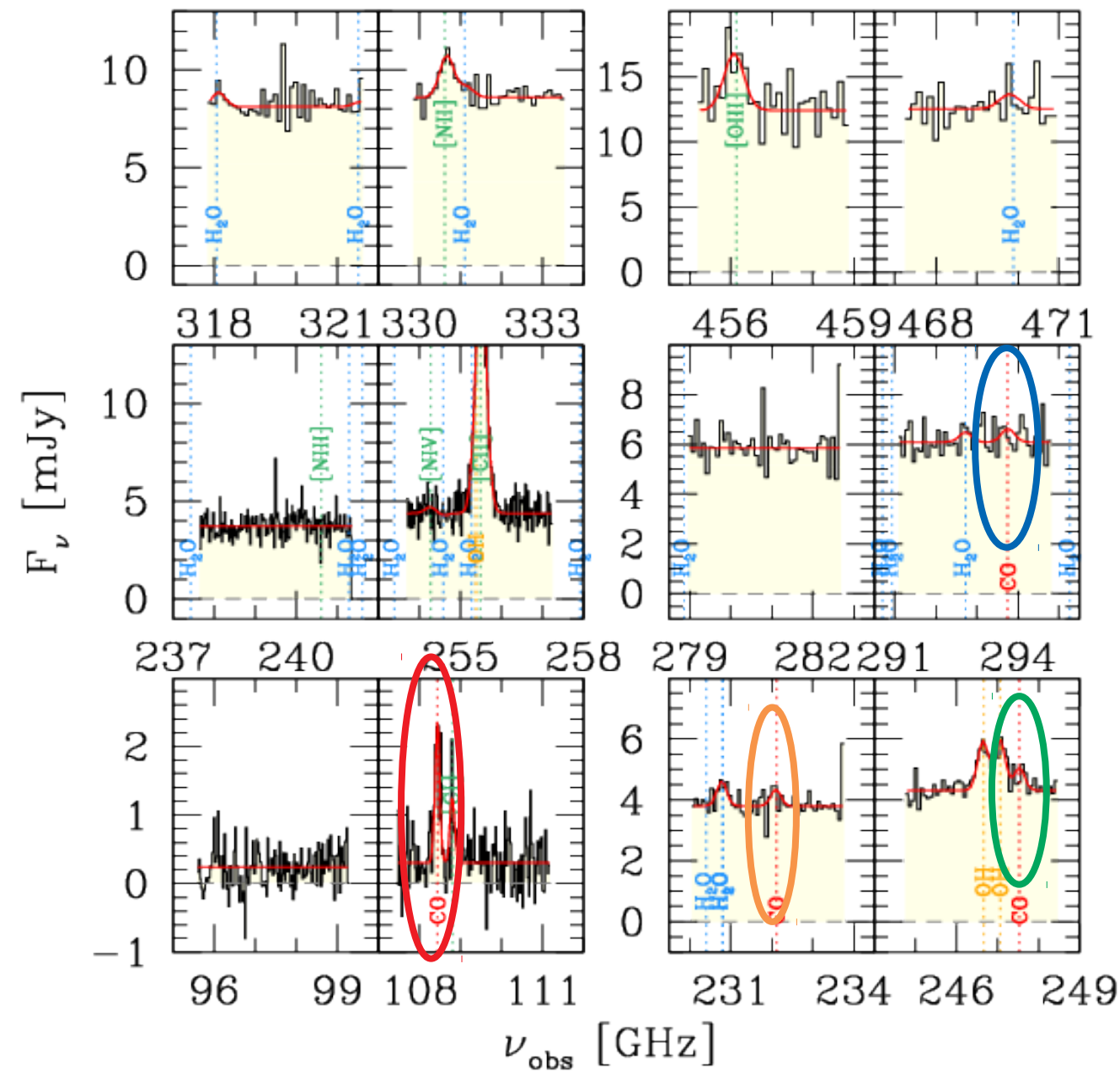
CO:

CO(7-6),

CO(15-14),

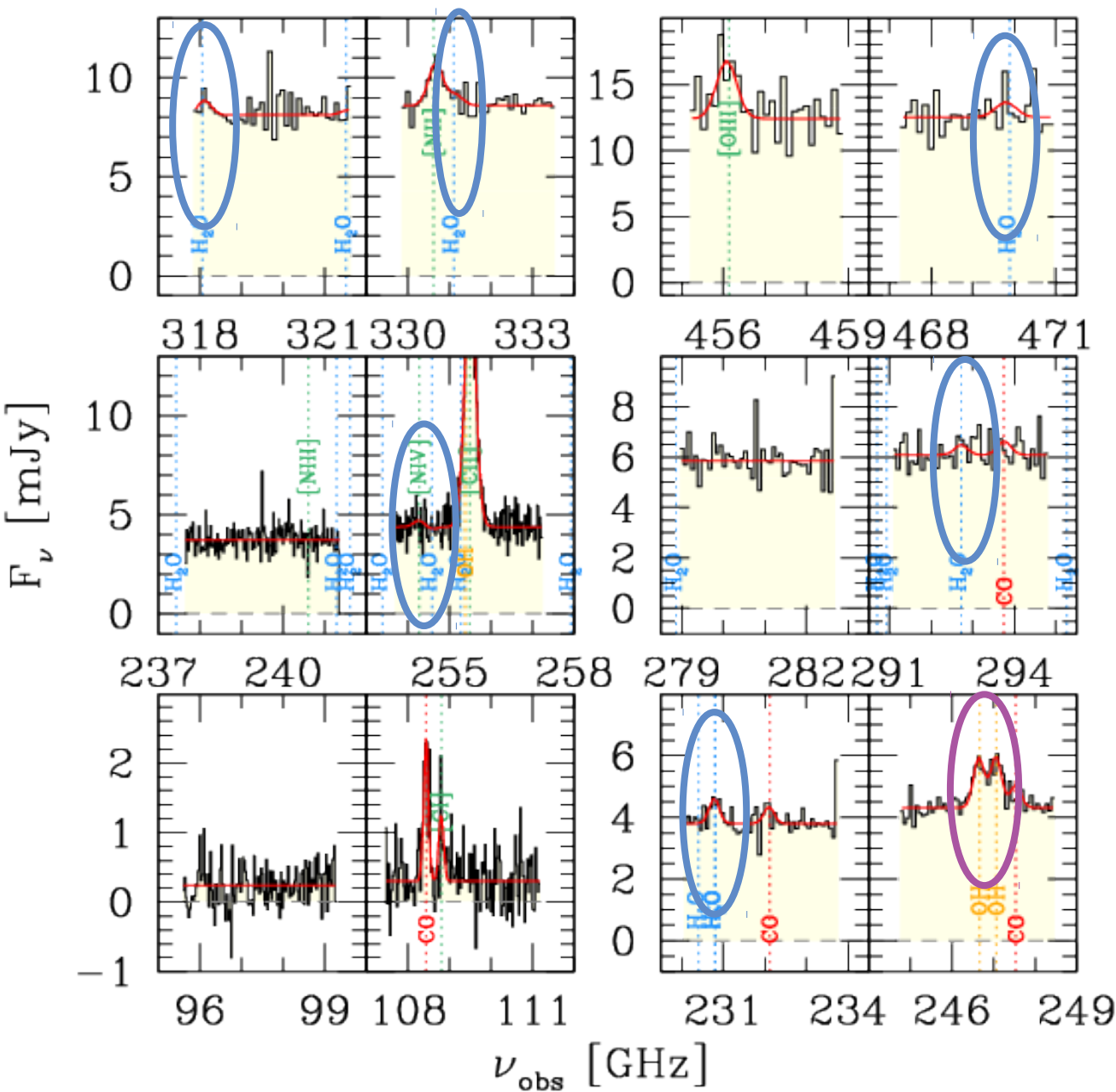
CO(16-15),

# CO(19-18)

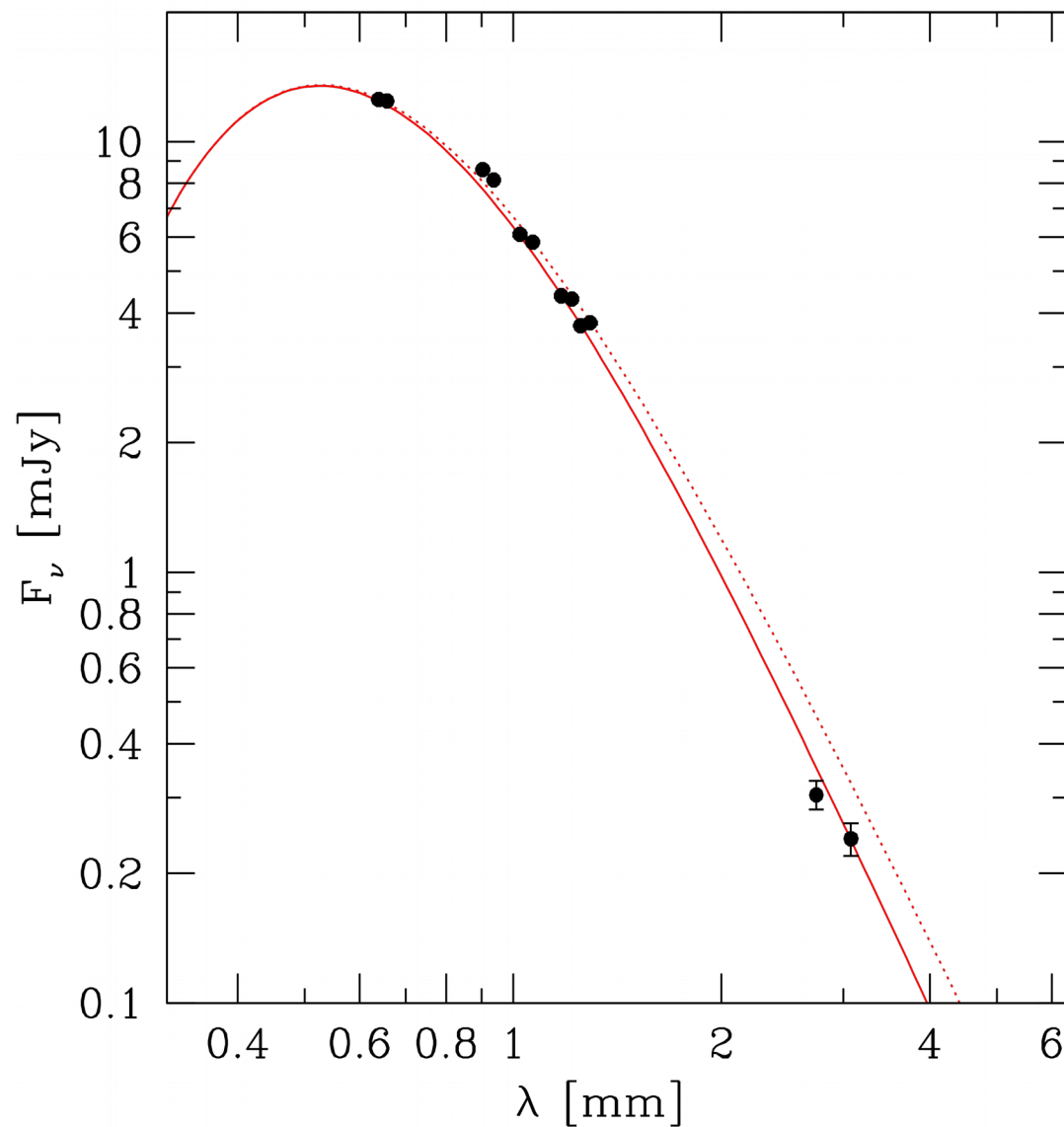


# ISM in quasar hosts at $z>6$

Multiple  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
lines,  $\text{OH}$



# ISM in quasar hosts at $z > 6$



Dust

$$T_{\text{dust}} = 45 \text{ K}$$

$$M_{\text{dust}} = 7e8 M_{\odot}$$

# Insight on ISM properties at $z \sim 6.5$

From CO: two phases

Bulk:

$M_{\text{H}_2} > 2 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$

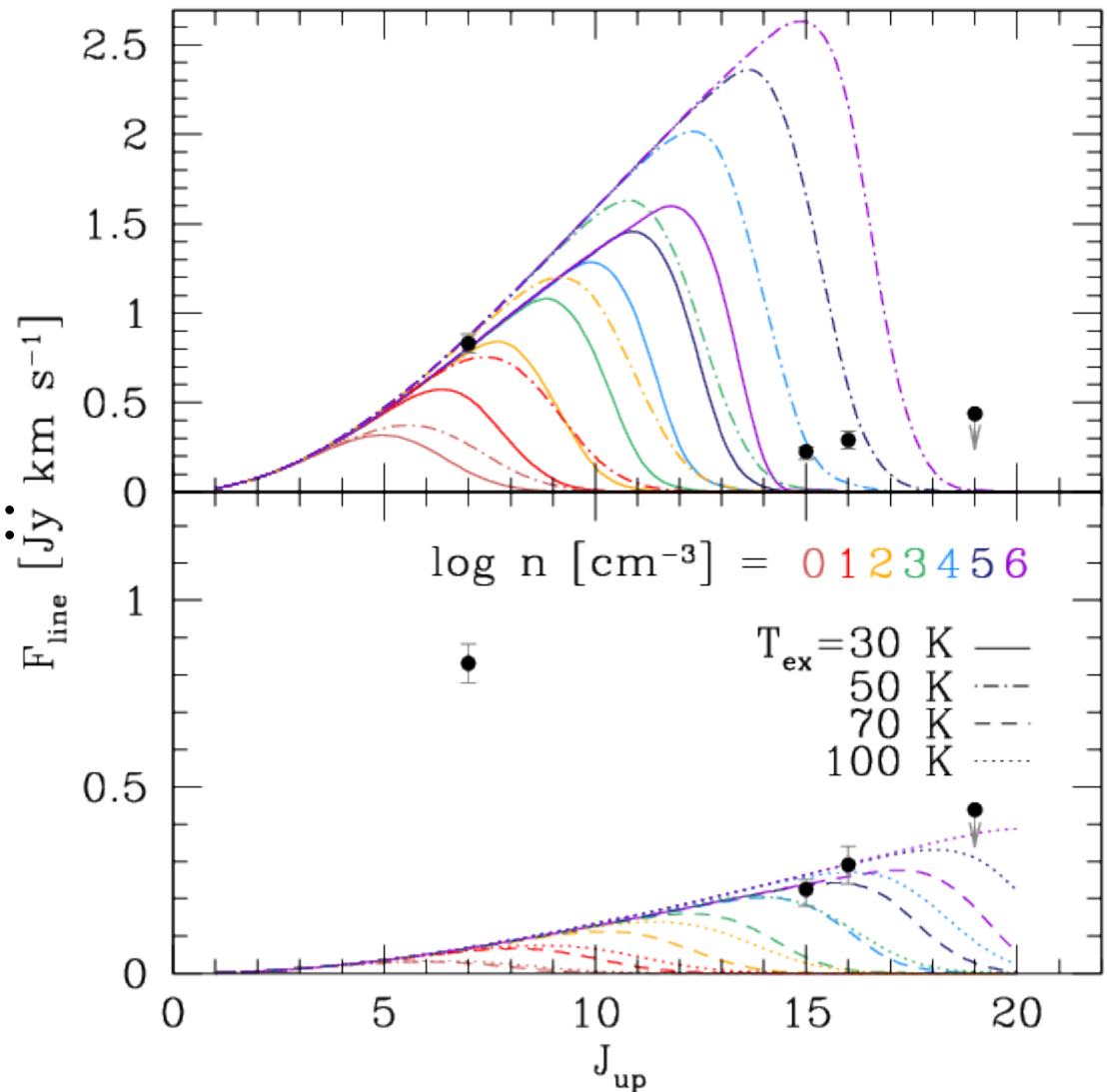
$n_{\text{H}_2} \sim 200,000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

High-excitation component:

$M_{\text{H}_2} \sim 1.5 \times 10^9 M_{\odot}$

$n > 100,000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

$T_{\text{ex}} > 50 \text{ K}$



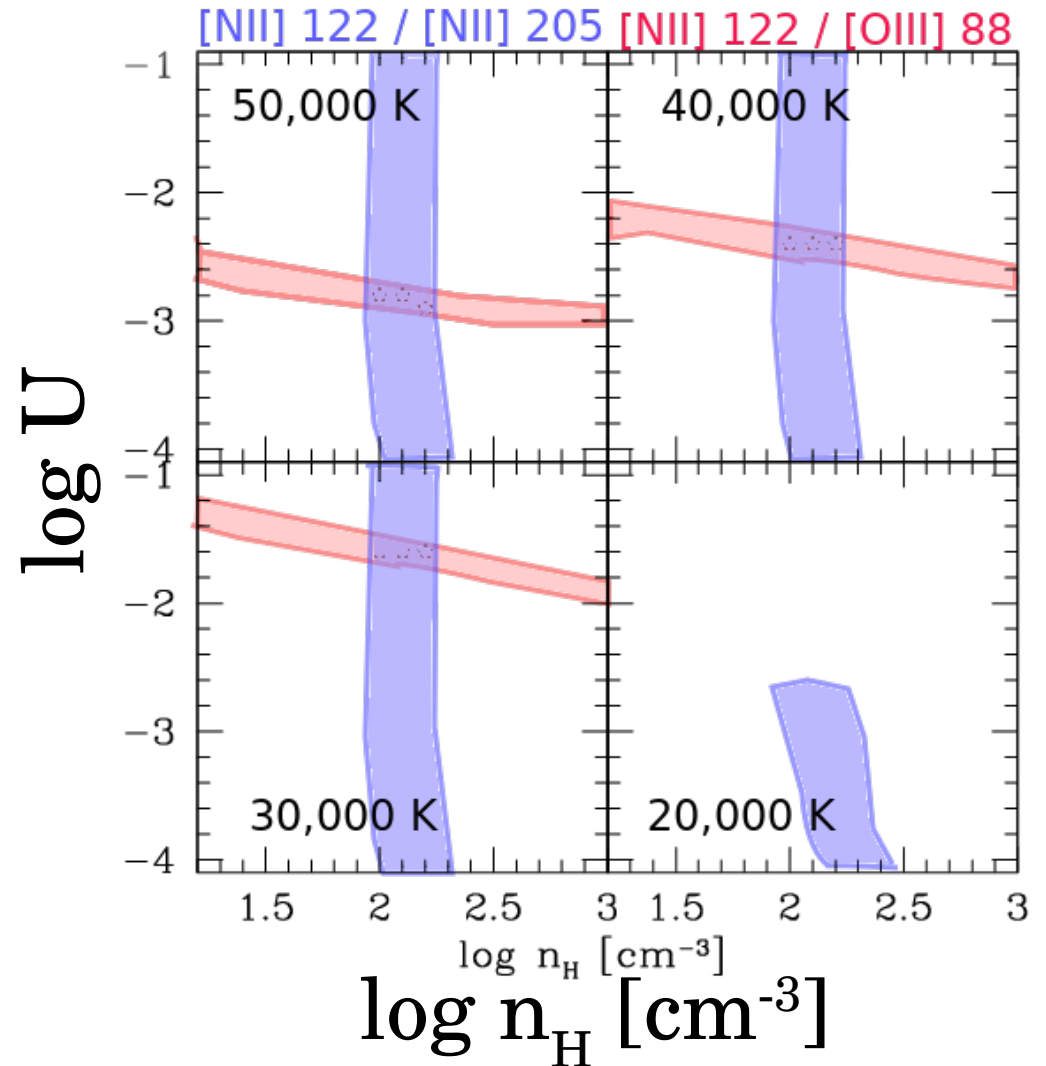
[work in progress]

# Insight on ISM properties at $z \sim 6.5$

From  $[\text{NII}] 122/205$ :

$$n_{\text{HII}} = 100\text{--}200 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

From  $[\text{OIII}]/[\text{NII}]$ :  
hard ionization field



[work in progress]

# Conclusions

Black  
hole

0.1 mpc





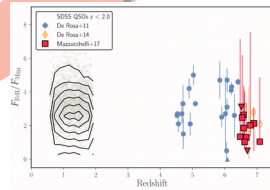
# Conclusions

Broad line region

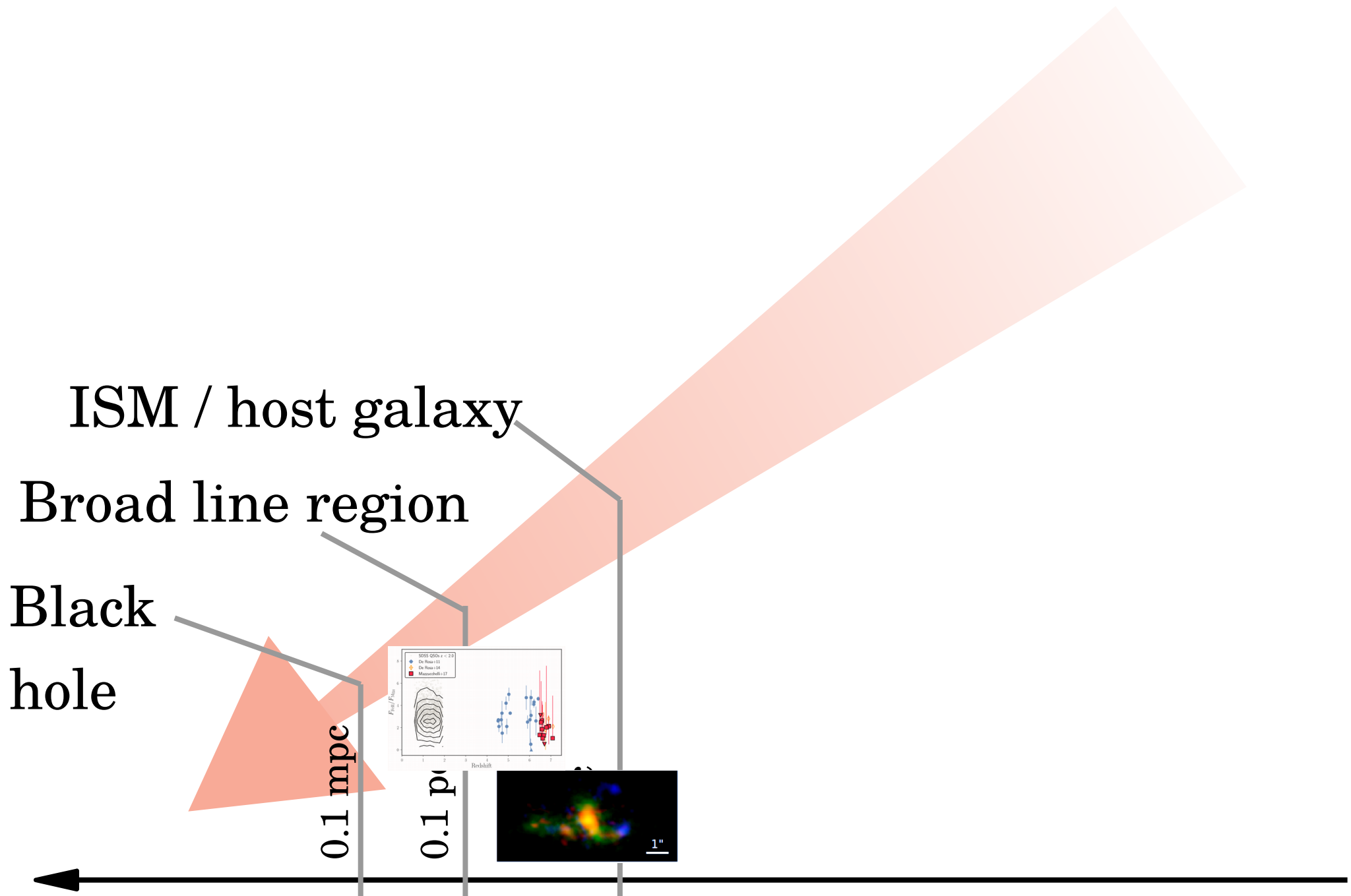
Black  
hole

0.1 mpc

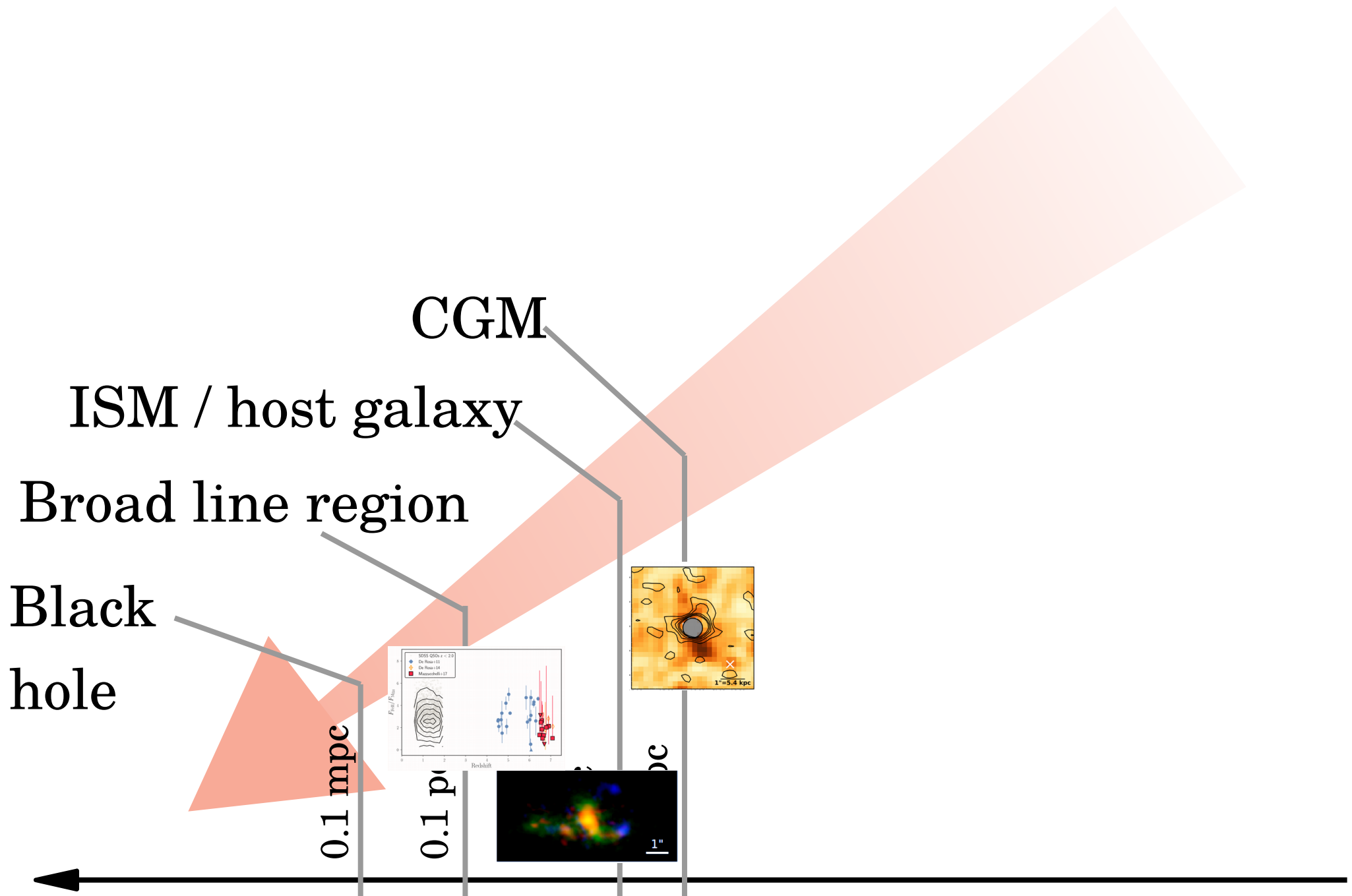
0.1 pc



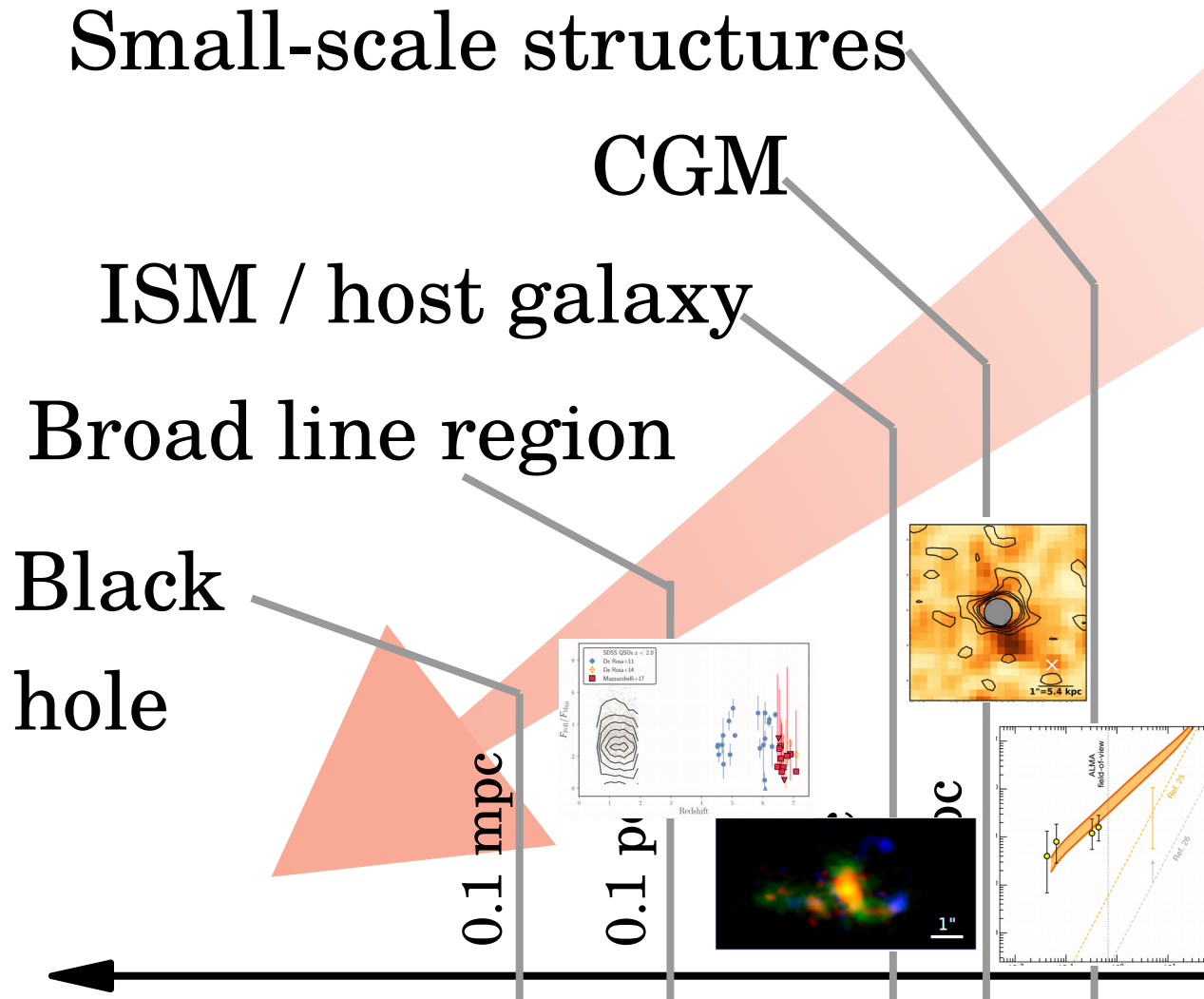
# Conclusions



# Conclusions



# Conclusions



# Conclusions

Large-scale clustering

Small-scale structures

CGM

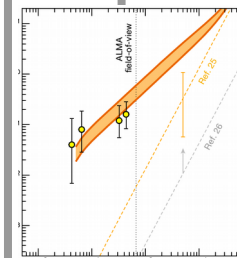
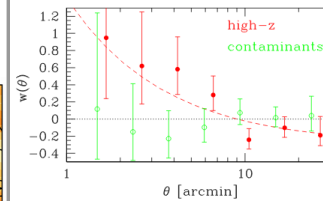
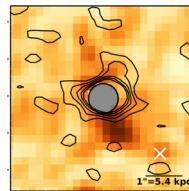
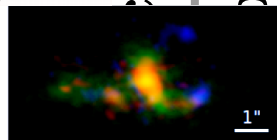
ISM / host galaxy

Broad line region

Black  
hole

0.1 mpc

0.1 pc



# Conclusions

IGM / reionization

Large-scale clustering

Small-scale structures

CGM

ISM / host galaxy

Broad line region

Black  
hole

0.1 mpc

0.1 pc

