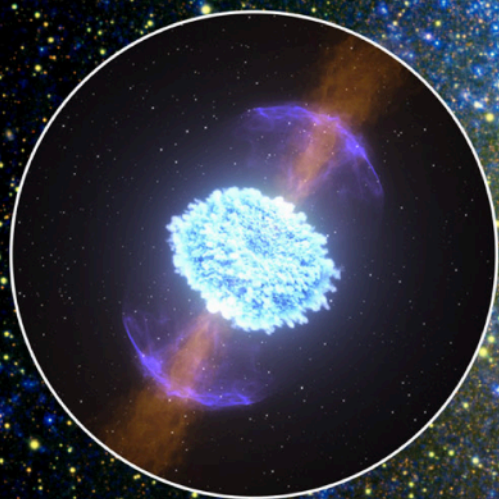
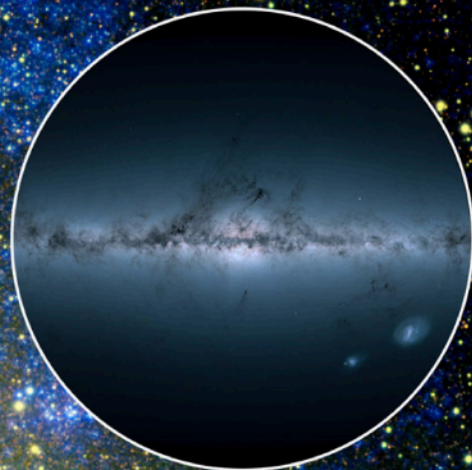


Exploring the Low  
Mass Galaxy Frontier



New Views of the  
Dynamic Universe



Legacy of Deep  
Synoptic Surveys

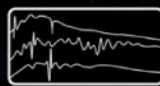
All-Sky Imaging



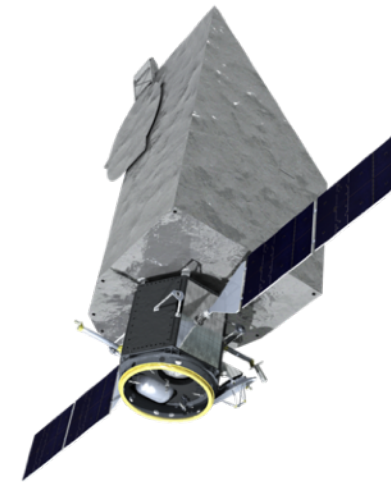
Time Domain



Spectroscopy



# UVEX



## *The Ultraviolet Explorer*

*NASA MIDEX Mission*

*Launch in 2030*

*PI Fiona Harrison (Caltech)*

**Dan Weisz**

on behalf of the UVEX Team

Dwarfs, Streams, & Clusters

in the LSST Era

July 8, 2024

# UVEX Science

## The Low-Mass, Low-Metallicity Galaxy (LMLZ) Frontier **Lead: Dan Weisz**

*UVEX will uncover the lowest mass, most pristine local galaxies and diagnose their unique cosmic ecosystems*  
*2020 Decadal priority area: Drivers of Galaxy Growth*

## New Views of the Dynamic Universe

**Lead: Suvi Gezari**

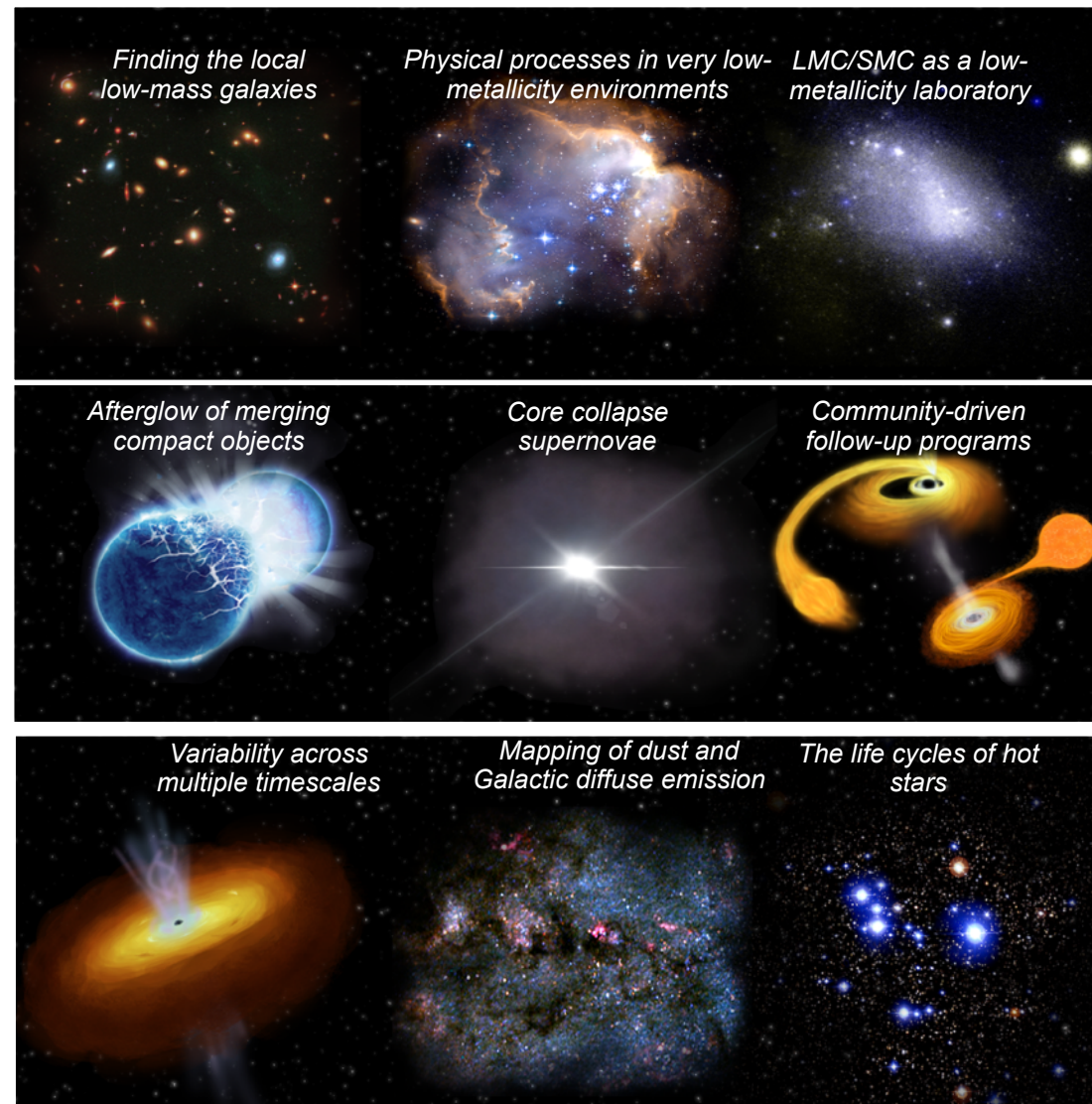
*UVEX will follow-up multi-messenger and community triggers to probe the early UV emission of transients*  
*2020 Decadal priority area: New Windows on the Dynamic Universe*

## A Legacy of Deep, Synoptic All-Sky Surveys

**Lead: Kevin Staussun**

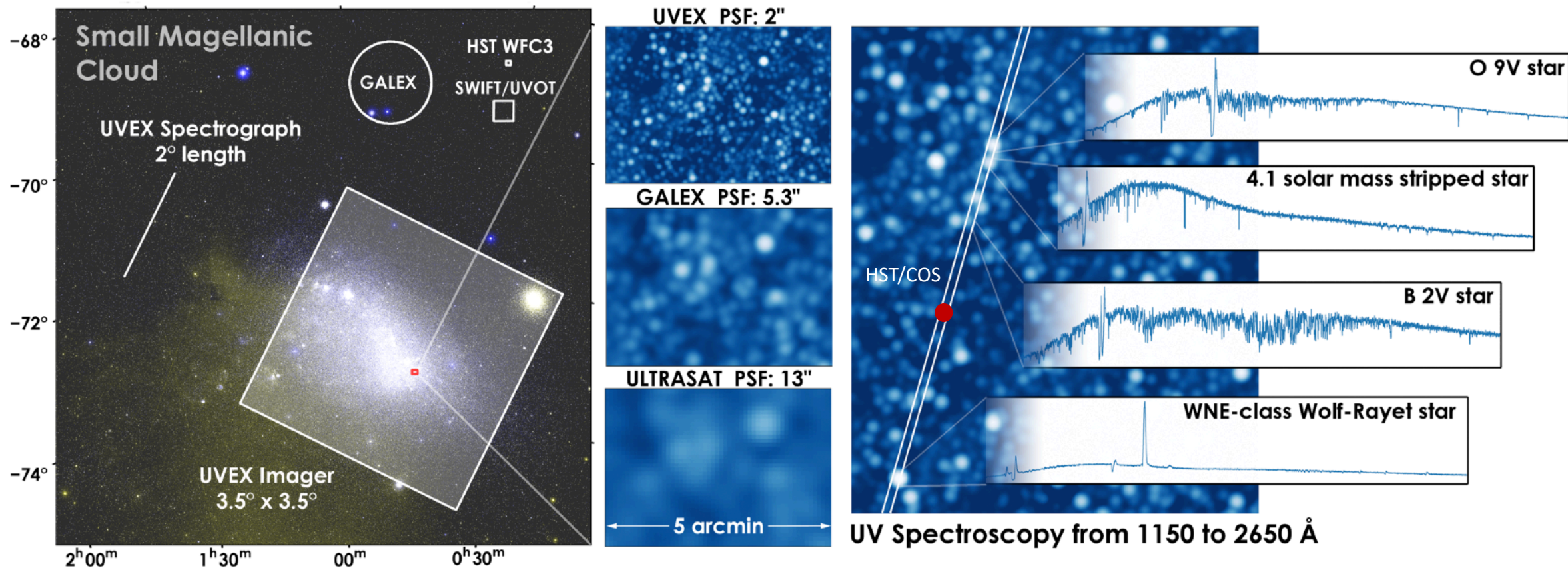
*UVEX cadenced all-sky imaging leaves a legacy dataset for the entire community.*

*2020 Decadal priority areas: Drivers of Galaxy Growth, New Windows on the Dynamic Universe*



# UVEX Capabilities

- Sensitive wide-field imaging in two ultraviolet bands (FUV & NUV)
- High angular resolution across large field of view ( $<2''/12 \text{ deg}^2$ )
- Broadband ultraviolet spectroscopy (1150 – 2650 Å;  $R \sim 1000\text{-}3000$ )
- Simultaneously acquires imaging and spectra



# Deep Synoptic Surveys – All-Sky, Cadenced Imaging

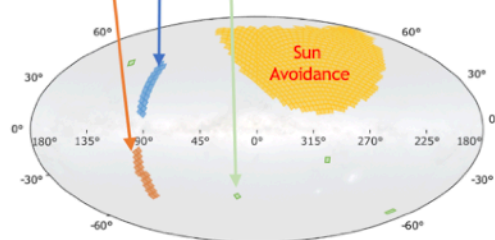
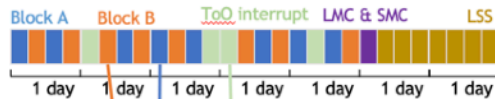
Explore the UV time domain by performing imaging surveys of the entire sky in two UV bands with cadences spanning hours to months



*UVEX will discover variable and transient UV phenomena and alert the community for follow-up*

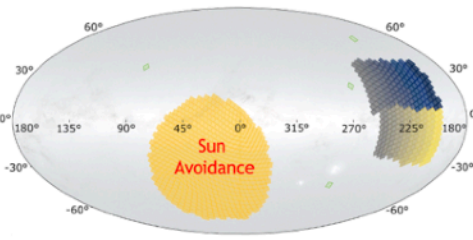
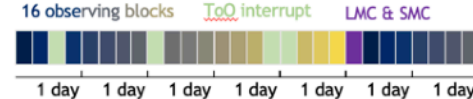
## High Cadence Survey

2 blocks at ~12-hr cadence, including interrupts, ~5 days total



## Low Cadence Survey

16 blocks at ~4-day cadence, including interrupts, ~32 days total

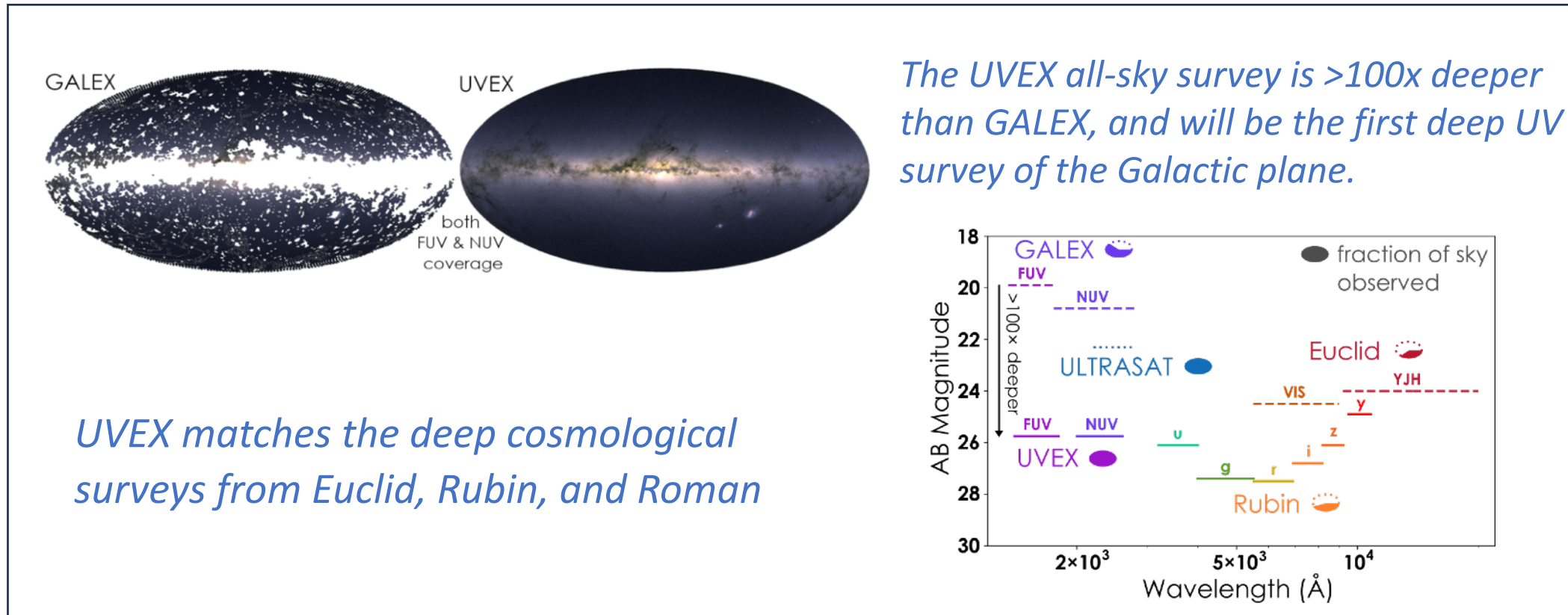


*A variety of cadences will probe fast transients, tidal disruption events, and monitor variability*

*UVEX provides a modern UV time-domain survey*

# Deep Synoptic Surveys – All-Sky, Cadenced Imaging

Provide deep all-sky maps in two UV bands with sensitivity and resolution complementing modern wide-field surveys in the optical and infrared



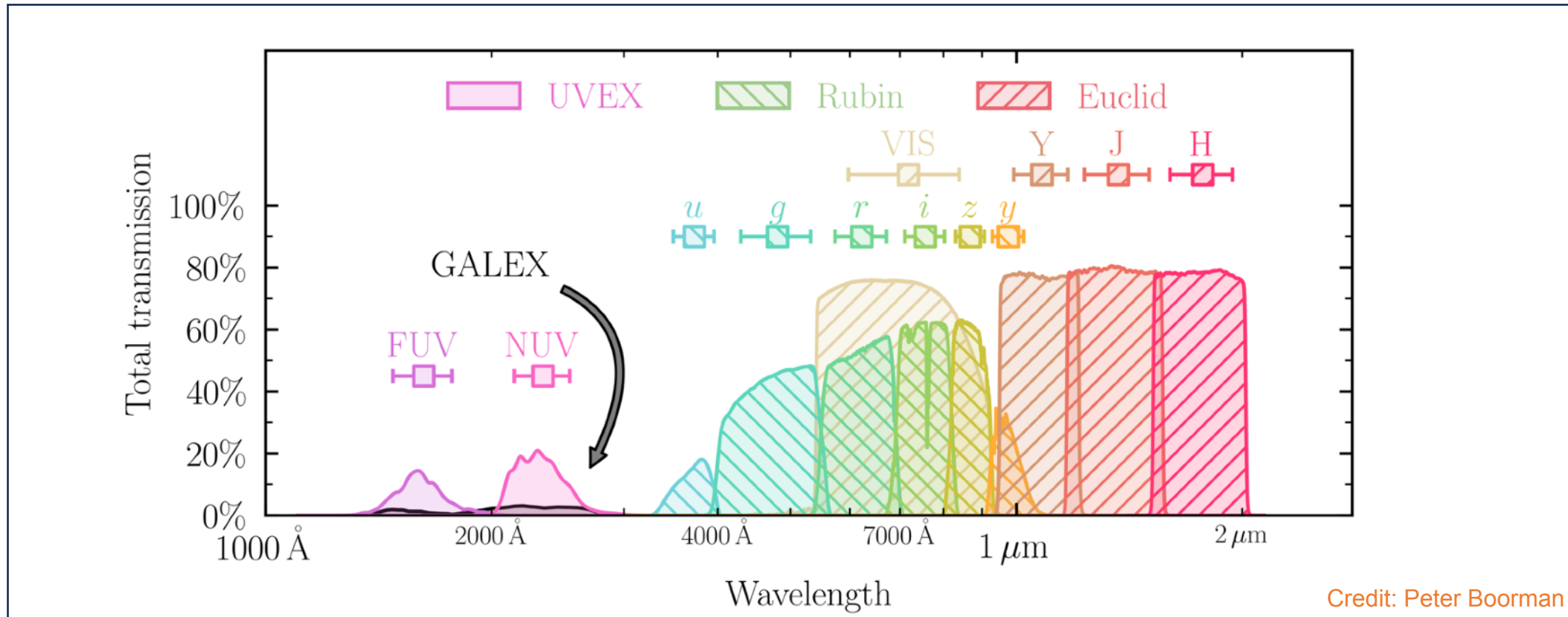
*The UVEX all-sky survey is >100x deeper than GALEX, and will be the first deep UV survey of the Galactic plane.*

*UVEX matches the deep cosmological surveys from Euclid, Rubin, and Roman*

*UVEX covers the entire sky, and achieves depth and resolution matching modern optical and IR facilities*

# Deep Synoptic Surveys – All-Sky, Cadenced Imaging

Provide deep all-sky maps in two UV bands with sensitivity and resolution complementing modern wide-field surveys in the optical and infrared

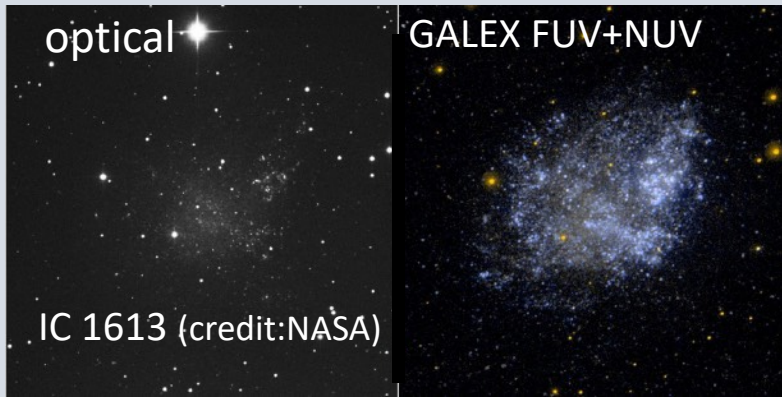


*A modern UV / optical / near-IR filter set for most of the sky  
(Euclid -> Roman in the Galactic Plane).*

# Why UV?

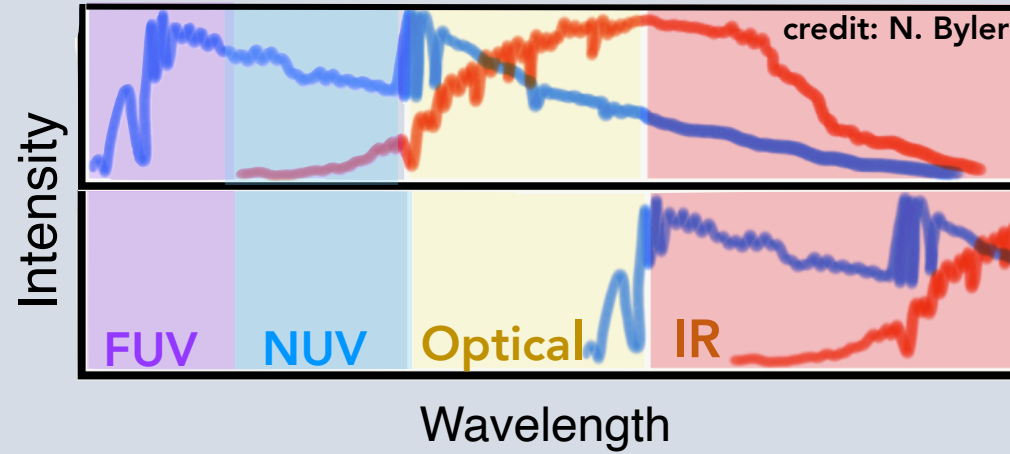
## Drivers of galaxy growth

Rest-frame UV spectra characterize galaxy evolution across redshift



IC 1613 (credit:NASA)

Star-forming galaxies are UV bright



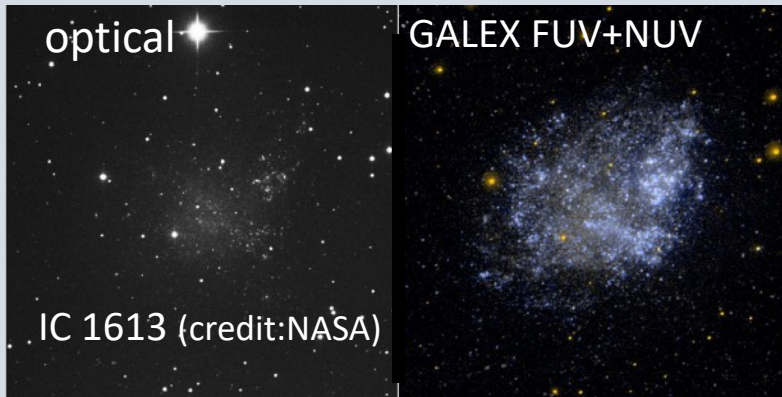
$z \sim 0.1$  - UVEX  
(local universe)

$z > 6$  - JWST (distant  
universe)

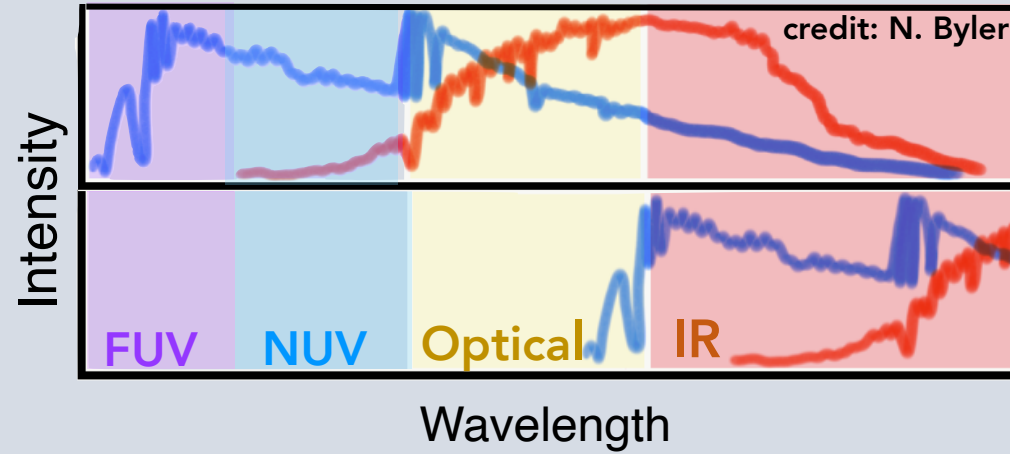
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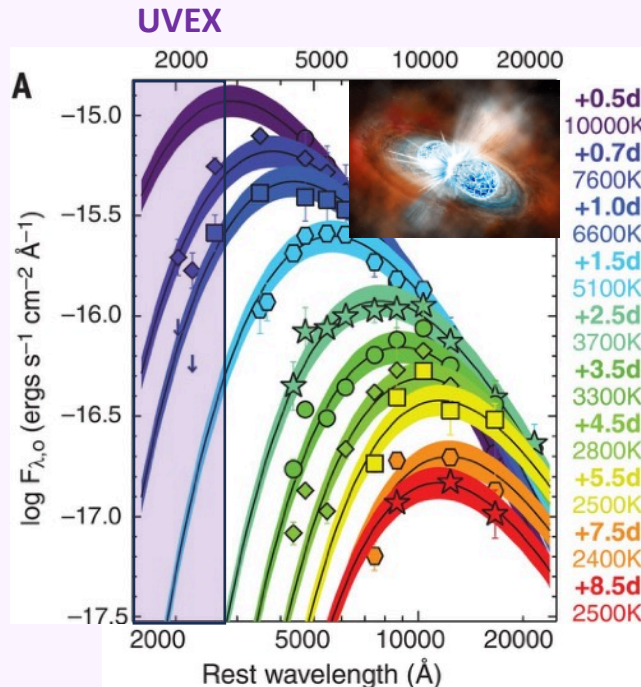


Star-forming galaxies are UV bright



$z \sim 0.1$  - UVEX  
(local universe)

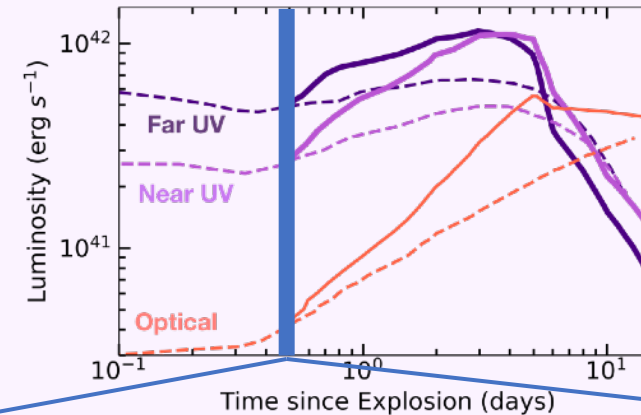
$z > 6$  - JWST (distant universe)



## Dynamic Universe

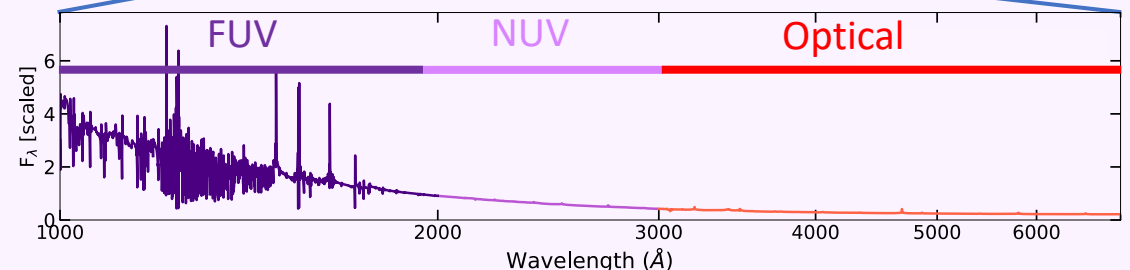
GW-discovered neutron star mergers emit first in UV light

Key diagnostic lines lie in UV



Massive star explosions evolve UV-optical

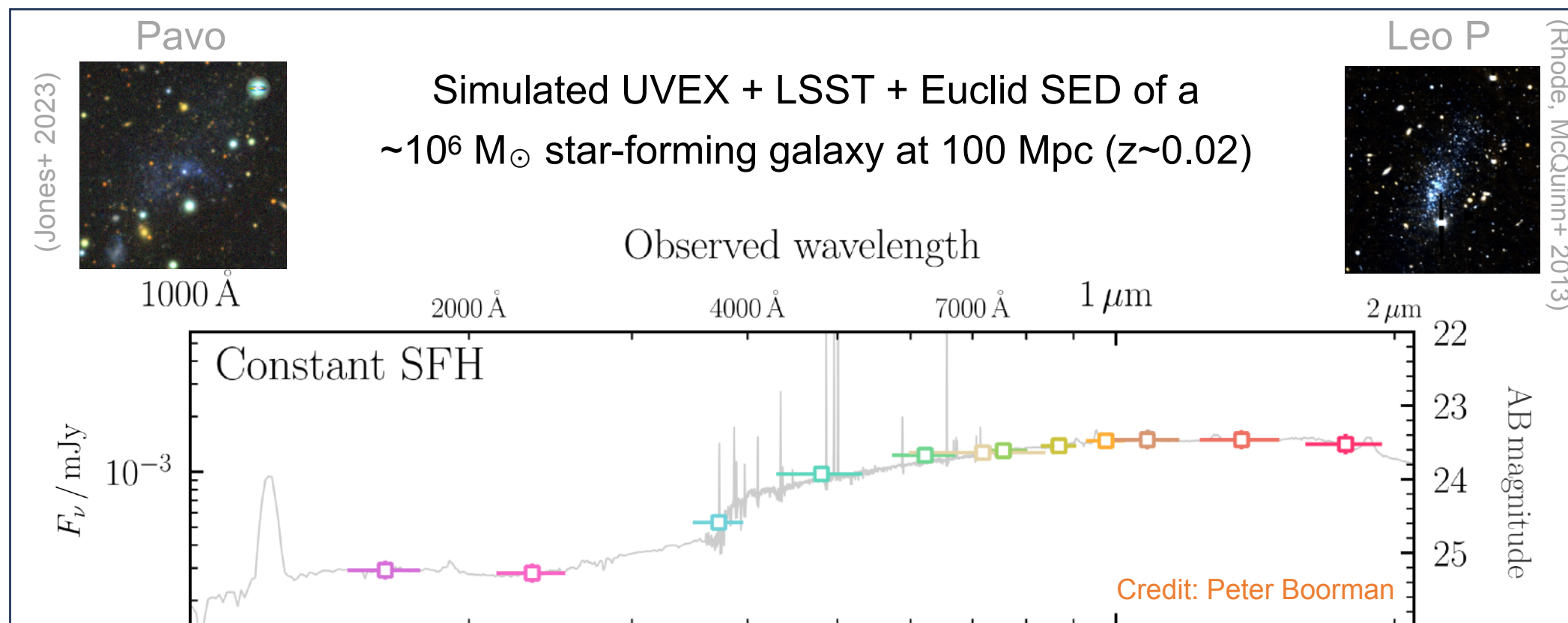
UVEX can follow up within hours





# Low-Mass Galaxy Frontier - Mapping Local LMLZ Galaxies

Find the local ( $z < 0.3$ ;  $d \sim 1.5$  Gpc) low-mass ( $< 10^9 M_{\odot}$ ) star-forming galaxies through wide-field imaging surveys (e.g., UVEX+LSST+Euclid) and compare them with known cosmic structures

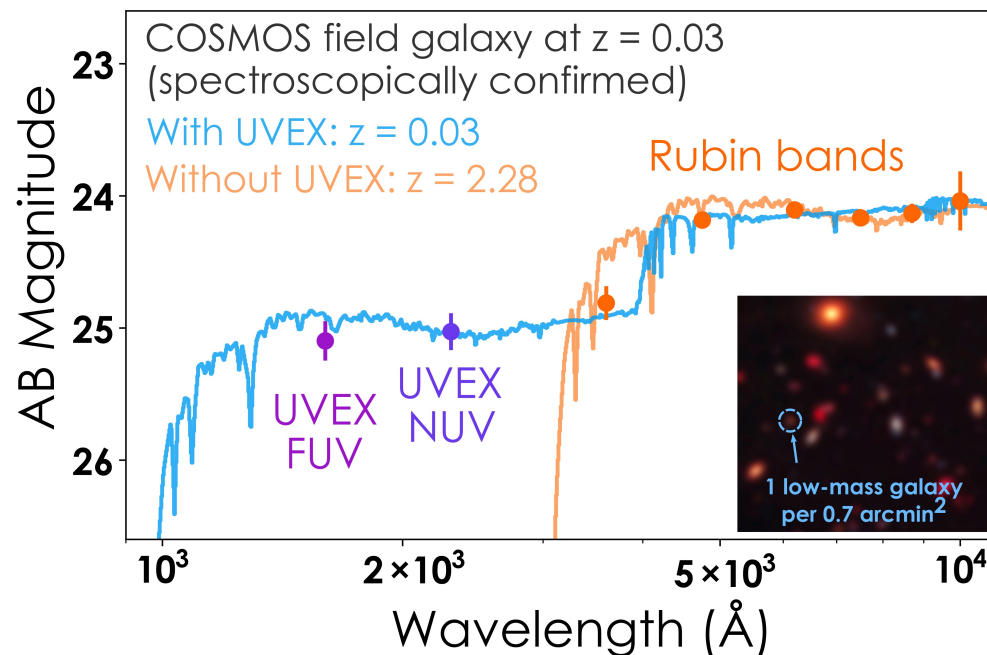


*A modern UV / optical / near-IR dataset set for the extragalactic sky*

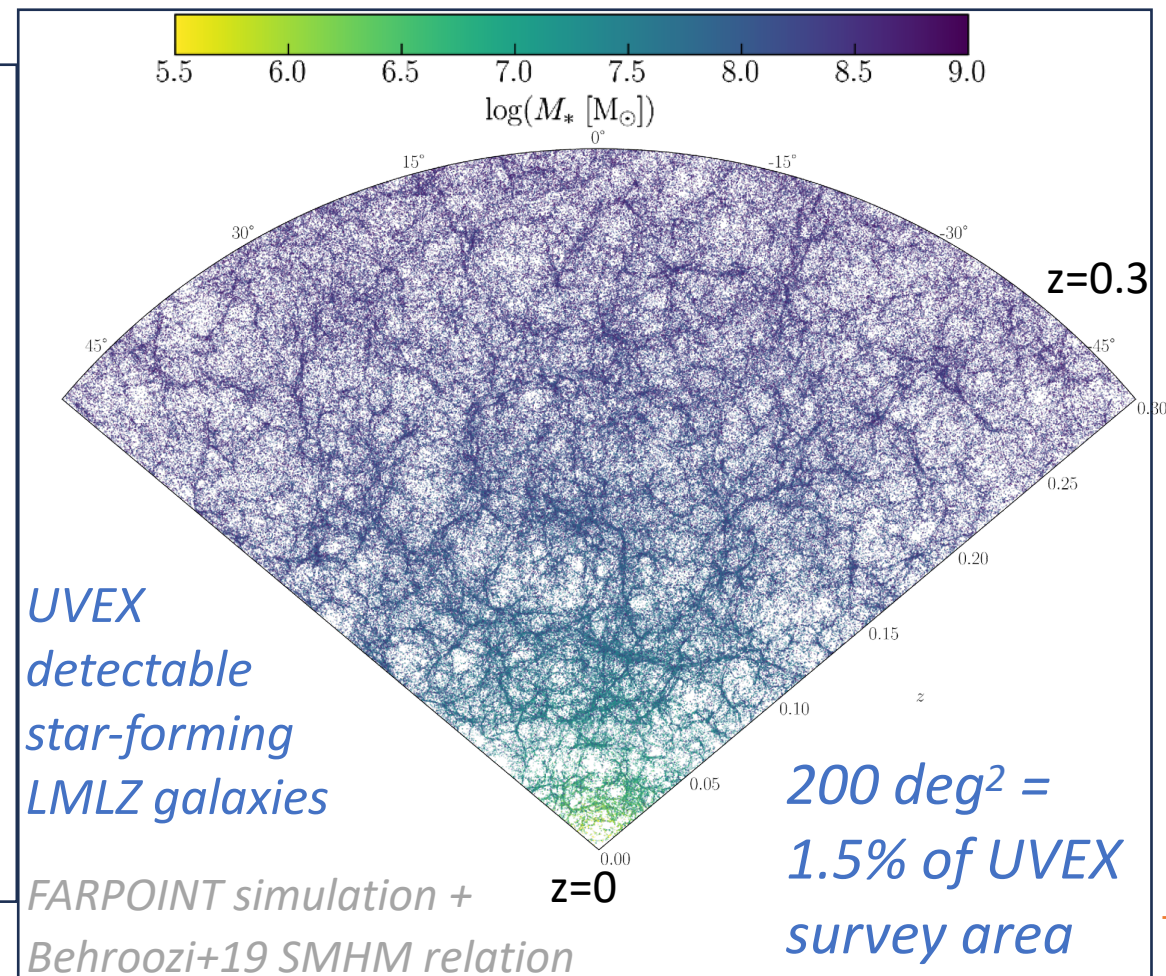
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*UV imaging critical for separating local low-mass and higher- $z$  more massive star-forming galaxies*



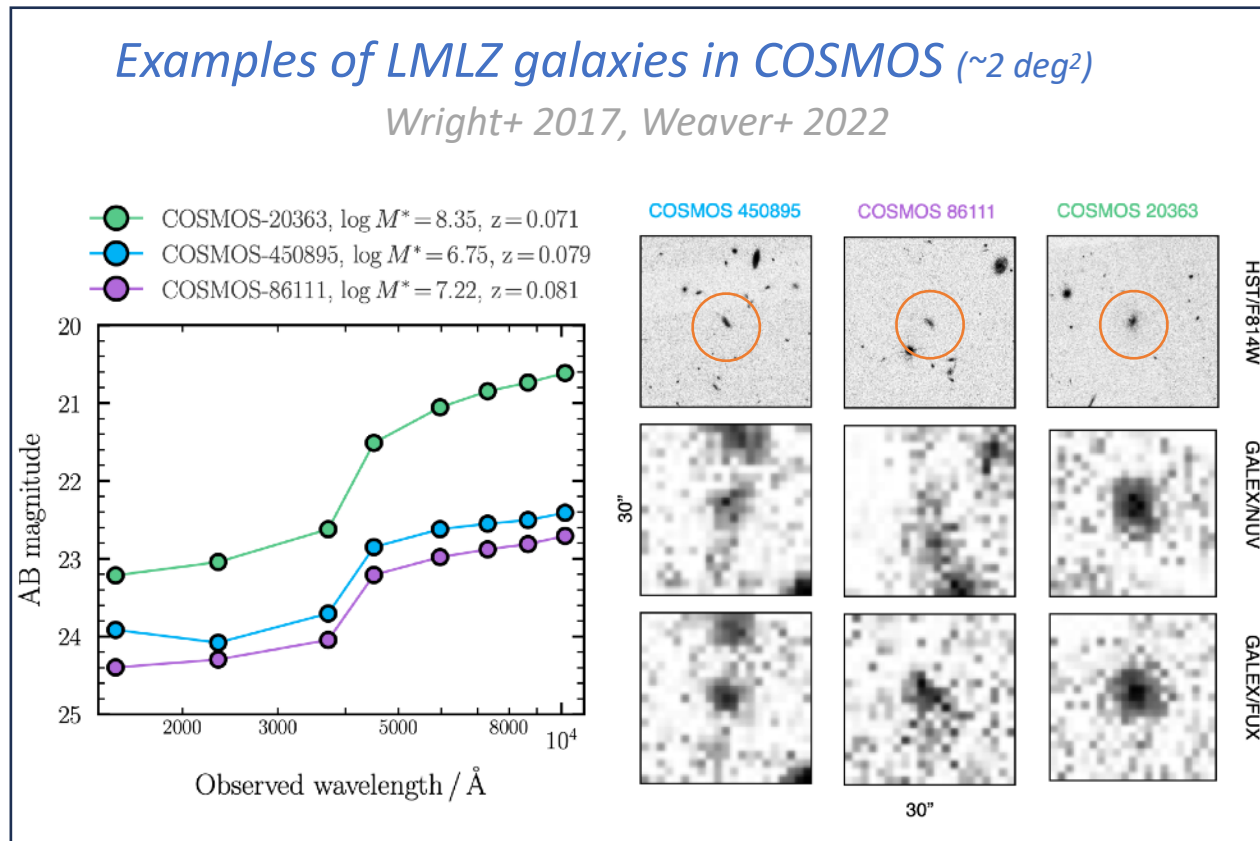
*Science: field stellar-halo mass connection, star formation, effects of environment, large-scale structure, ...*



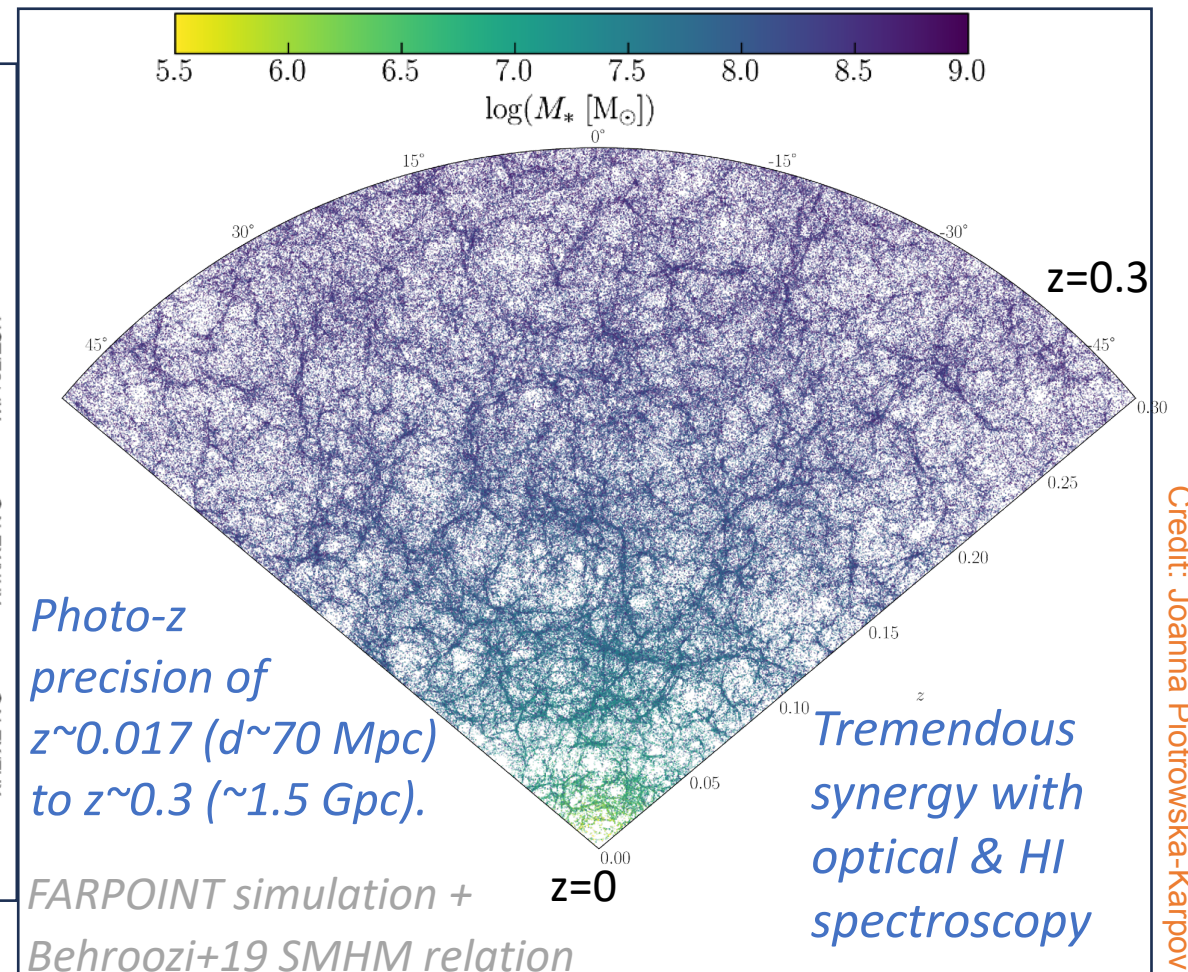
Credit: Joanna Piotrowska-Karpov

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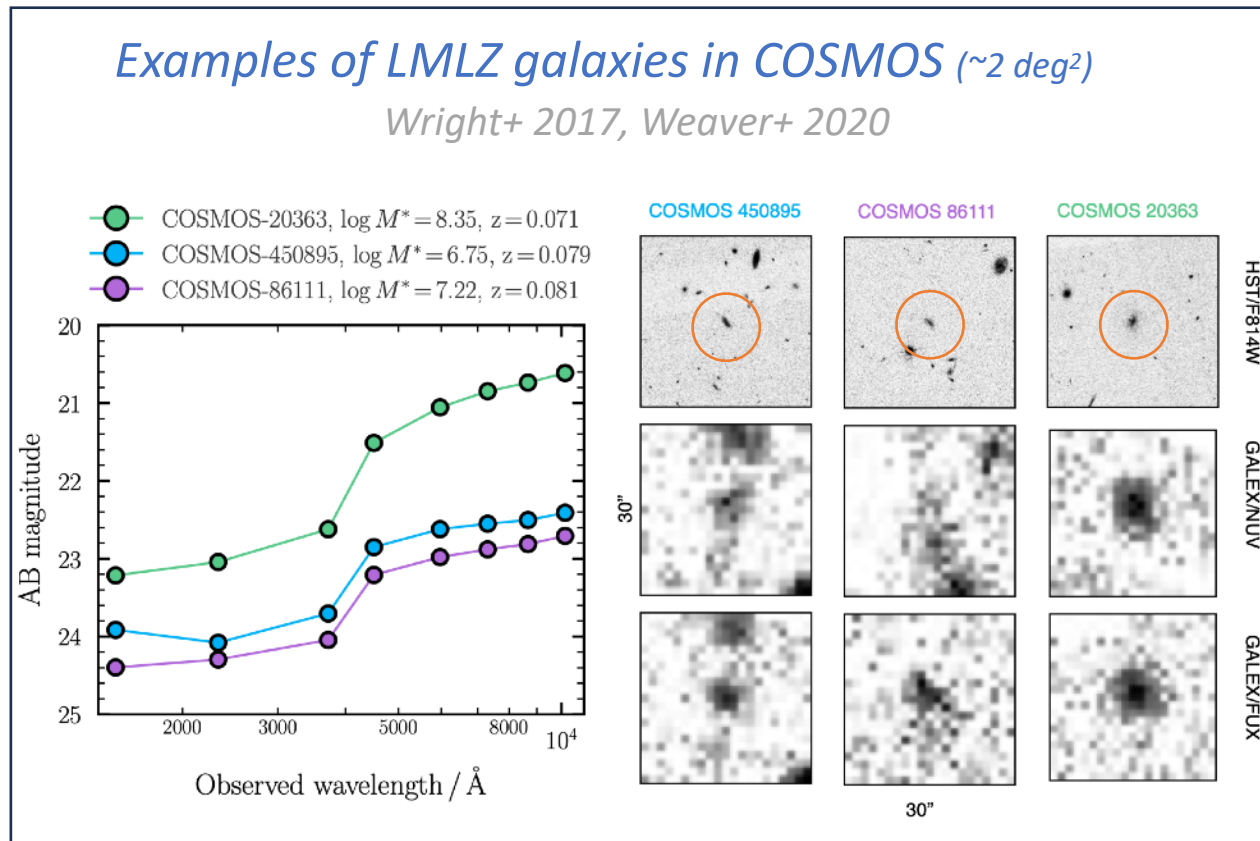
Science builds on GAMA, ELVES, SAGA, DESI, Merian, ...



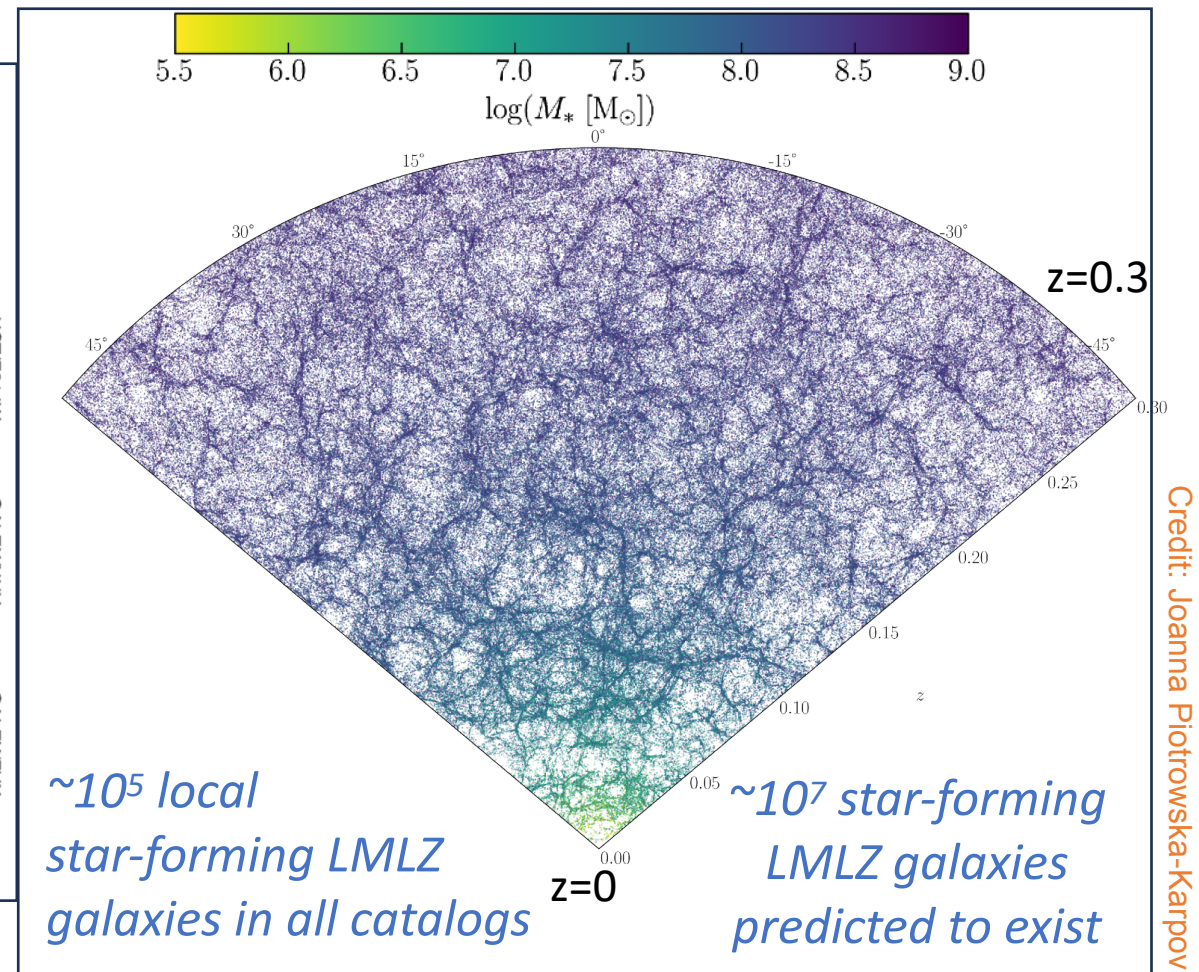
Credit: Joanna Piotrowska-Karpov

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Science builds on GAMA, ELVES, SAGA, DESI, Merian, ...

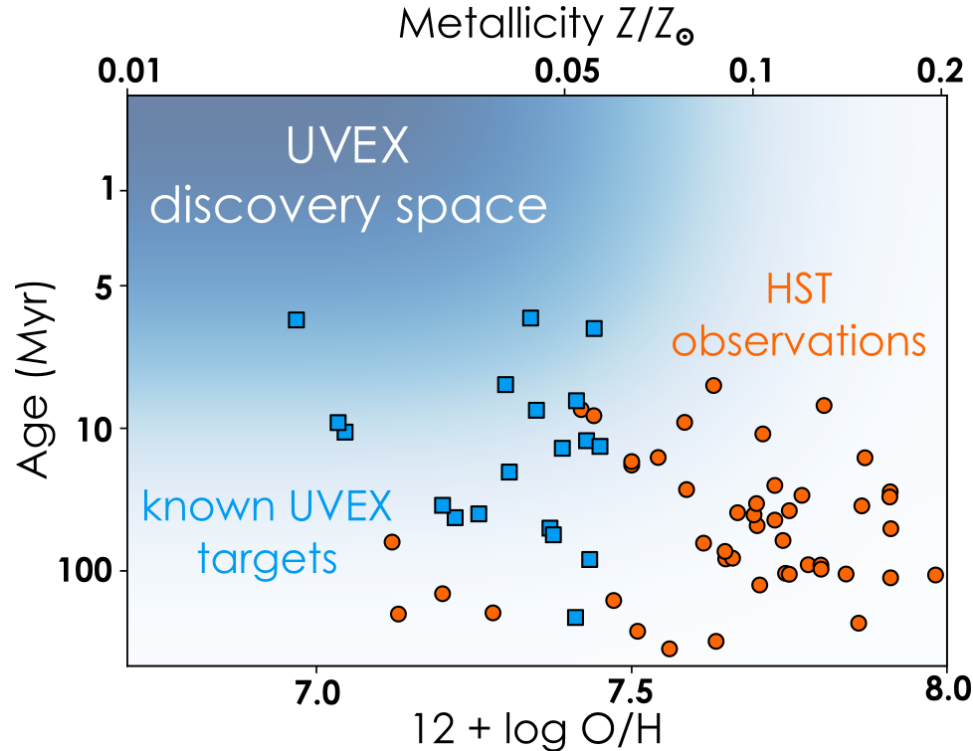


Credit: Joanna Piotrowska-Karpov

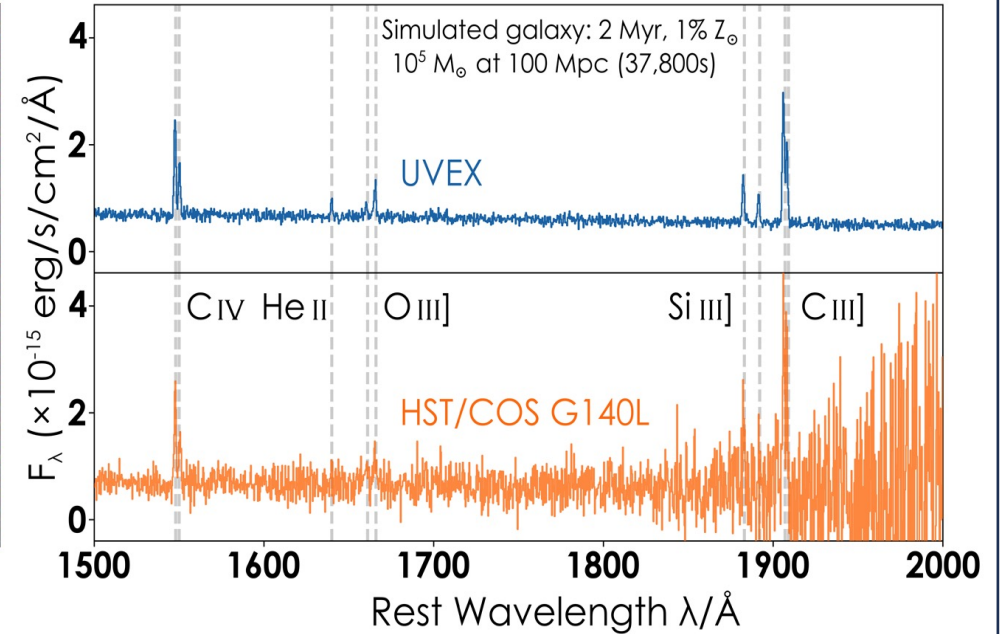
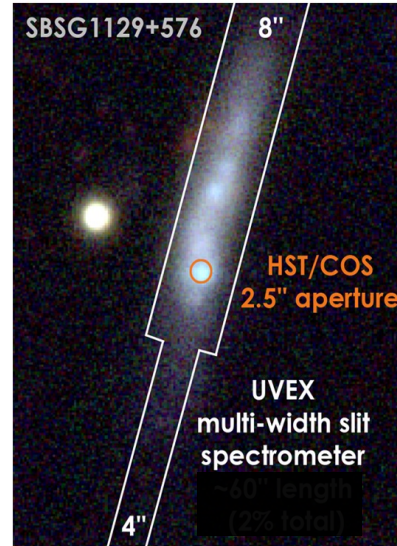
# Low-Mass Galaxy Frontier - Extreme LMLZ Galaxies

Diagnose the physical processes that drive  
LMLZ galaxy formation through UV spectroscopy

*UVEX imaging will help discover local extreme star-forming LMLZ galaxies*



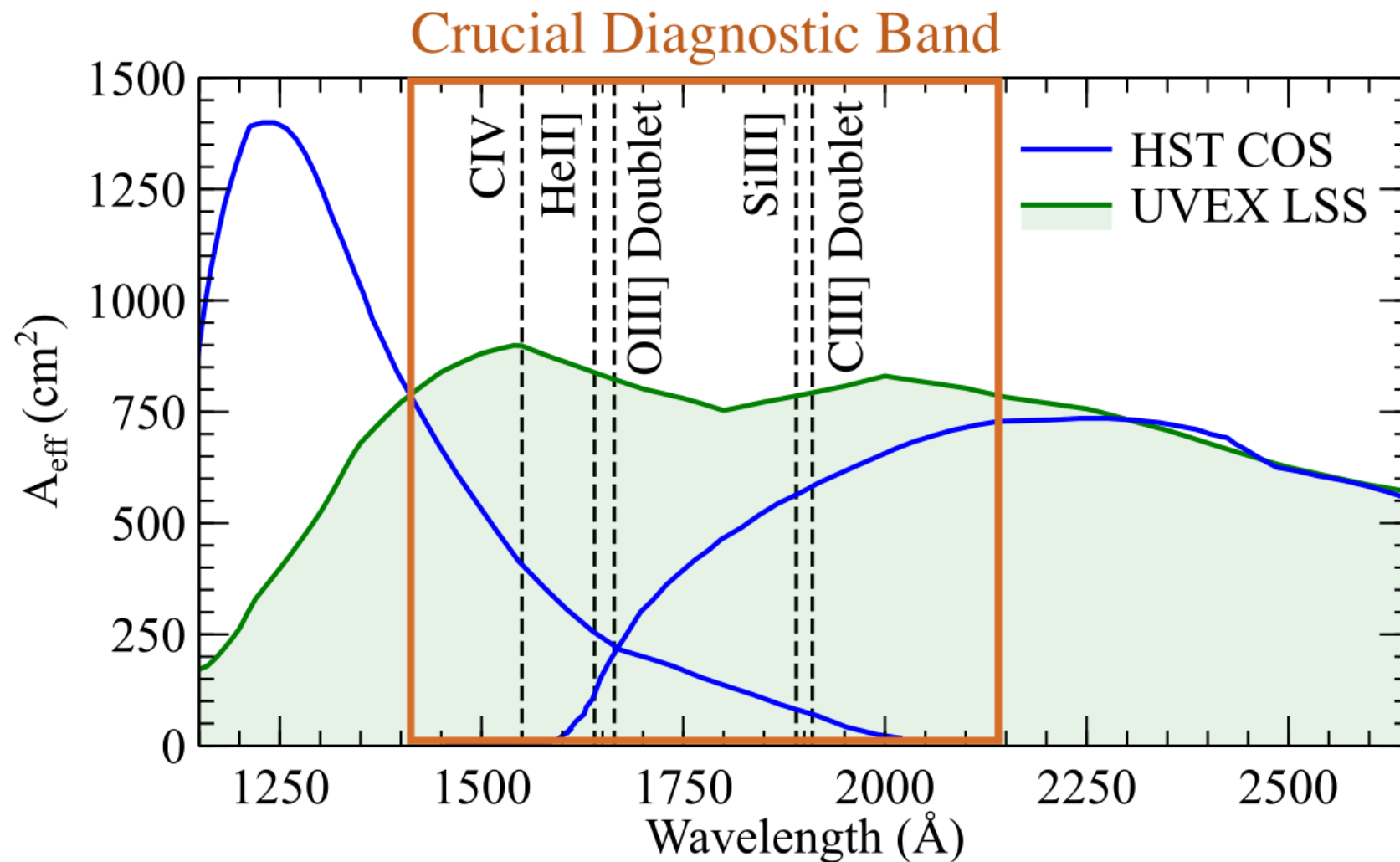
*UVEX will obtain deep spectroscopy for dozens of local extreme LMLZ galaxies*



*Science builds on HST CLASSY survey: stellar winds, gas-phase high ionization abundances, carbon production mechanisms, feedback, outflows, ...*

Credit: Danielle Berg, Peter Senchyna

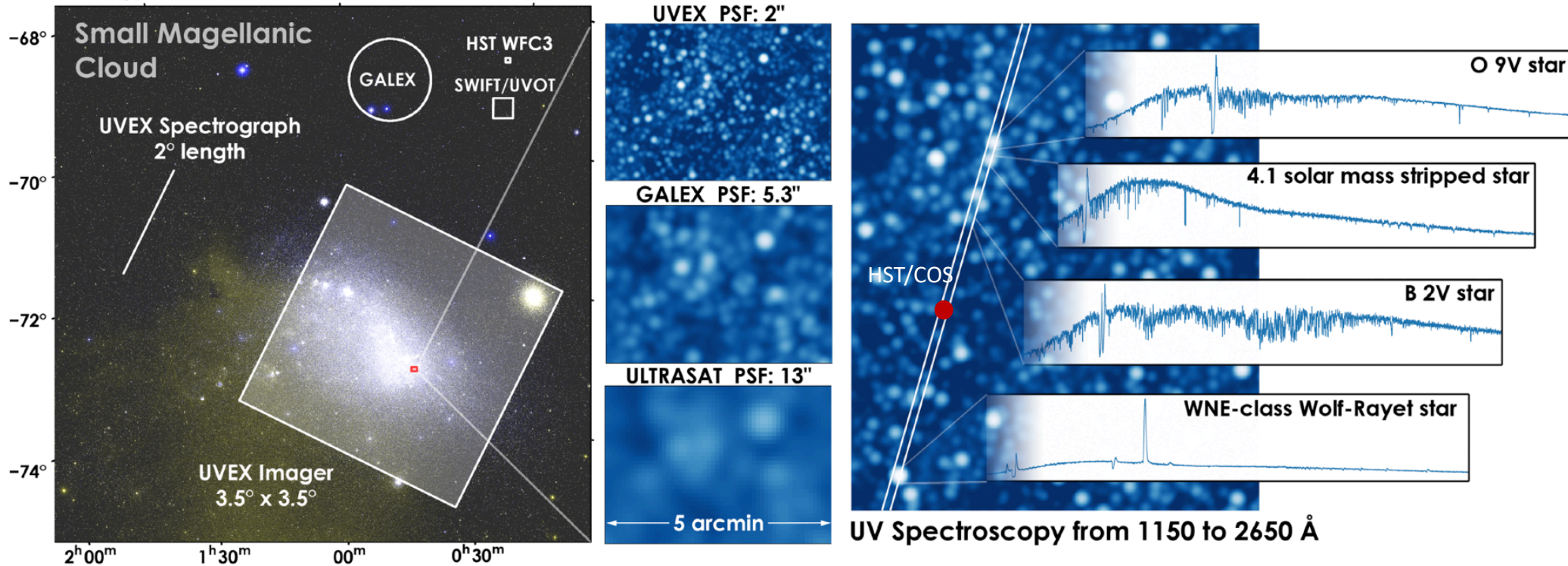
# UVEX Spectroscopy — leverages improvements in UV technology



*UVEX designed for sensitivity across crucial UV band*

# Galaxy Frontier Science - Hot Stars in the LMC/SMC

Determine the evolution of hot single and binary stars in the Magellanic clouds

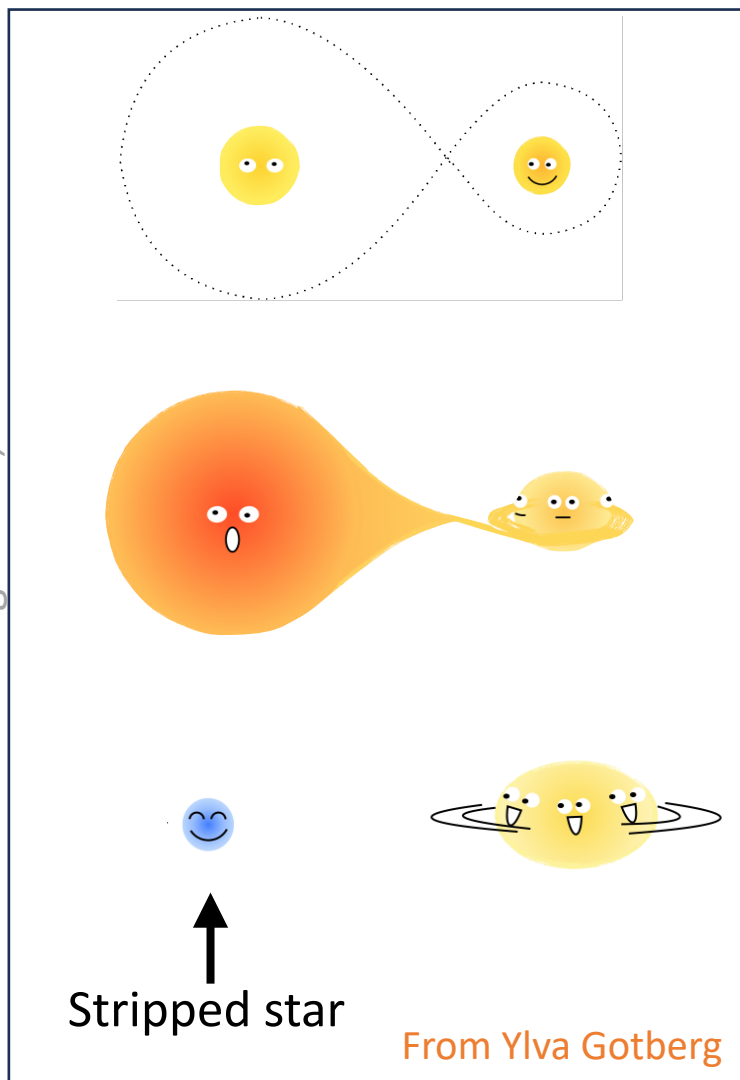


- *UVEX time series imaging identifies hot stars, rare binaries, and eclipsing systems*
- *Stacked LMC/SMC imaging reaches  $SNR \geq 30$  at  $m_{UV} = 25$  to find stripped stars*
- *UV spectroscopy of  $\sim 1000$  hot stars/binaries to measure stellar winds*

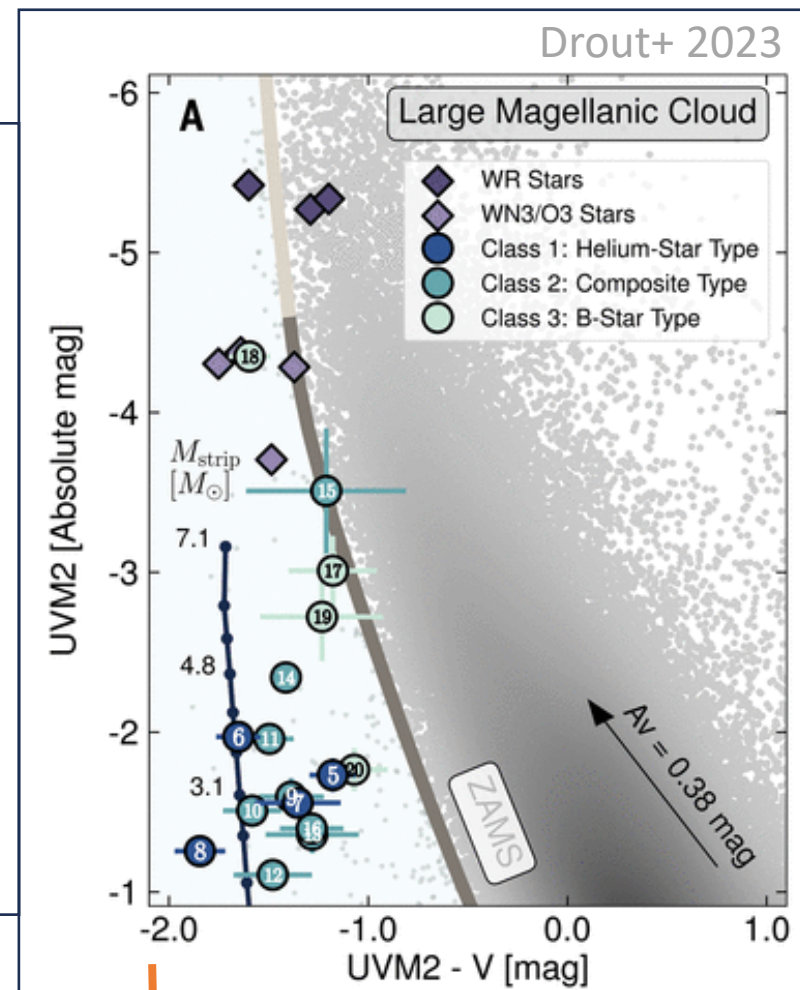
# Galaxy Frontier Science - Hot Stars in the LMC/SMC

## Identifying Stripped Star Candidates in the LMC and SMC

### Making of a stripped star



- *Unambiguous signpost of binary mass transfer*
- *Most clearly identified through UV color excess*
- *Very few observed to date*
- *UVEX should detect  $\sim 10^4$  stripped star candidates in LMC and SMC*



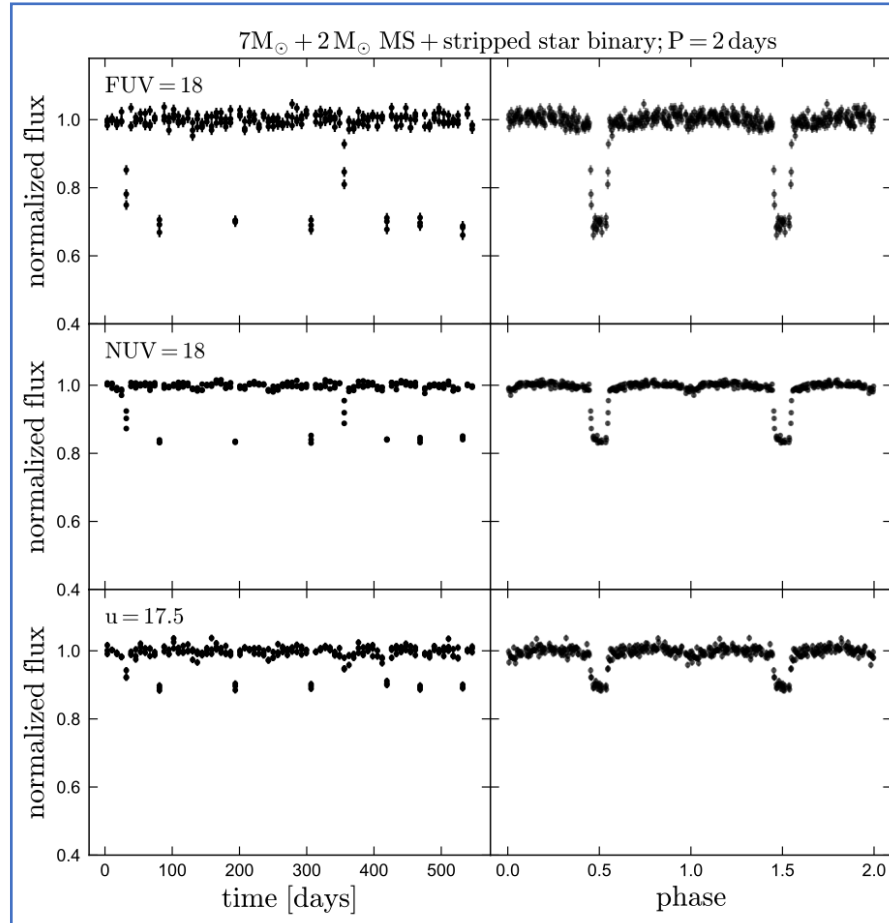
UVEX depth:  $M_{\text{UV}} \sim +6$   
 LSST depth:  $M_g \sim +8$



# Galaxy Frontier Science - Hot Stars in the LMC/SMC

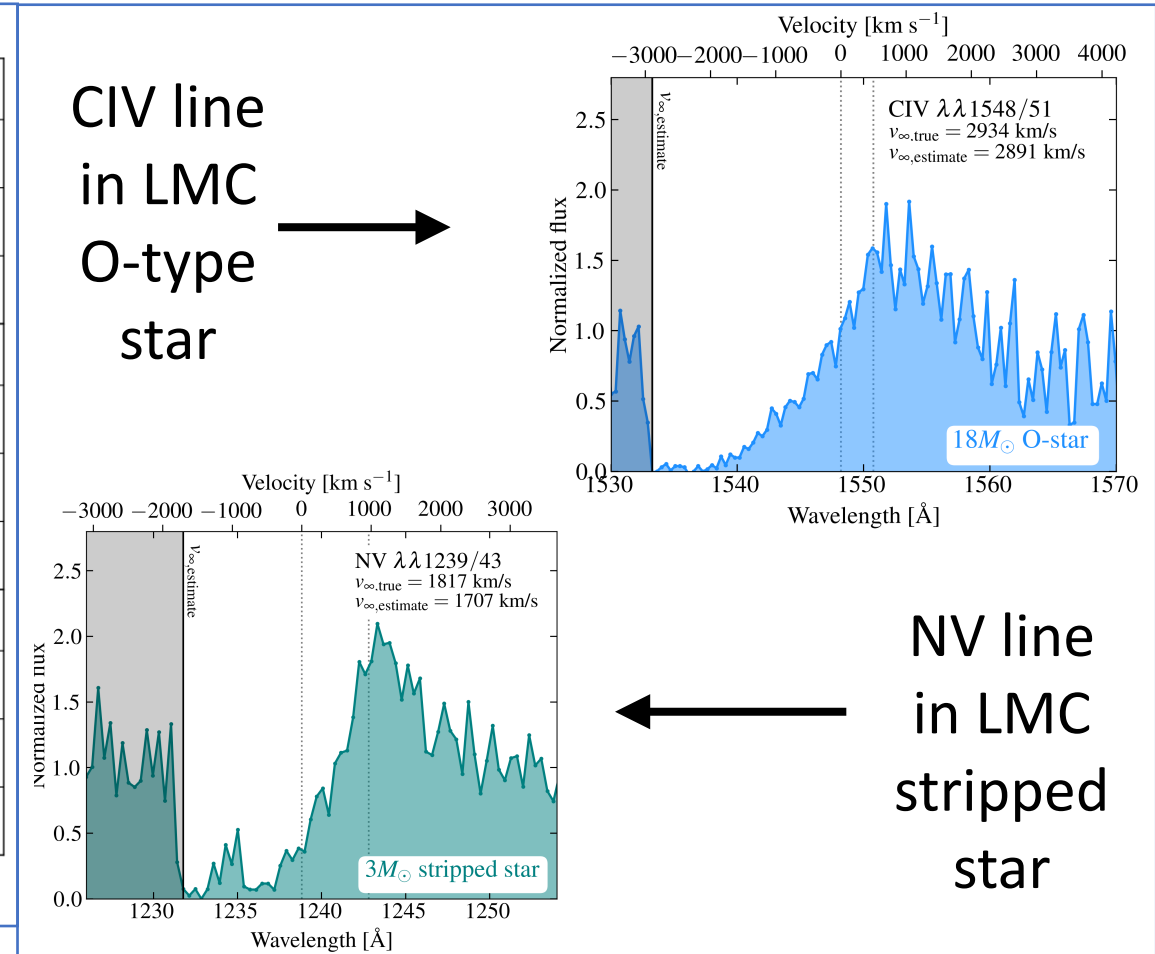
Time series imaging and targeted spectroscopy to characterize hot single and binary stars

Eclipsing MS + stripped star binary



Credit: Kareem El-Badry

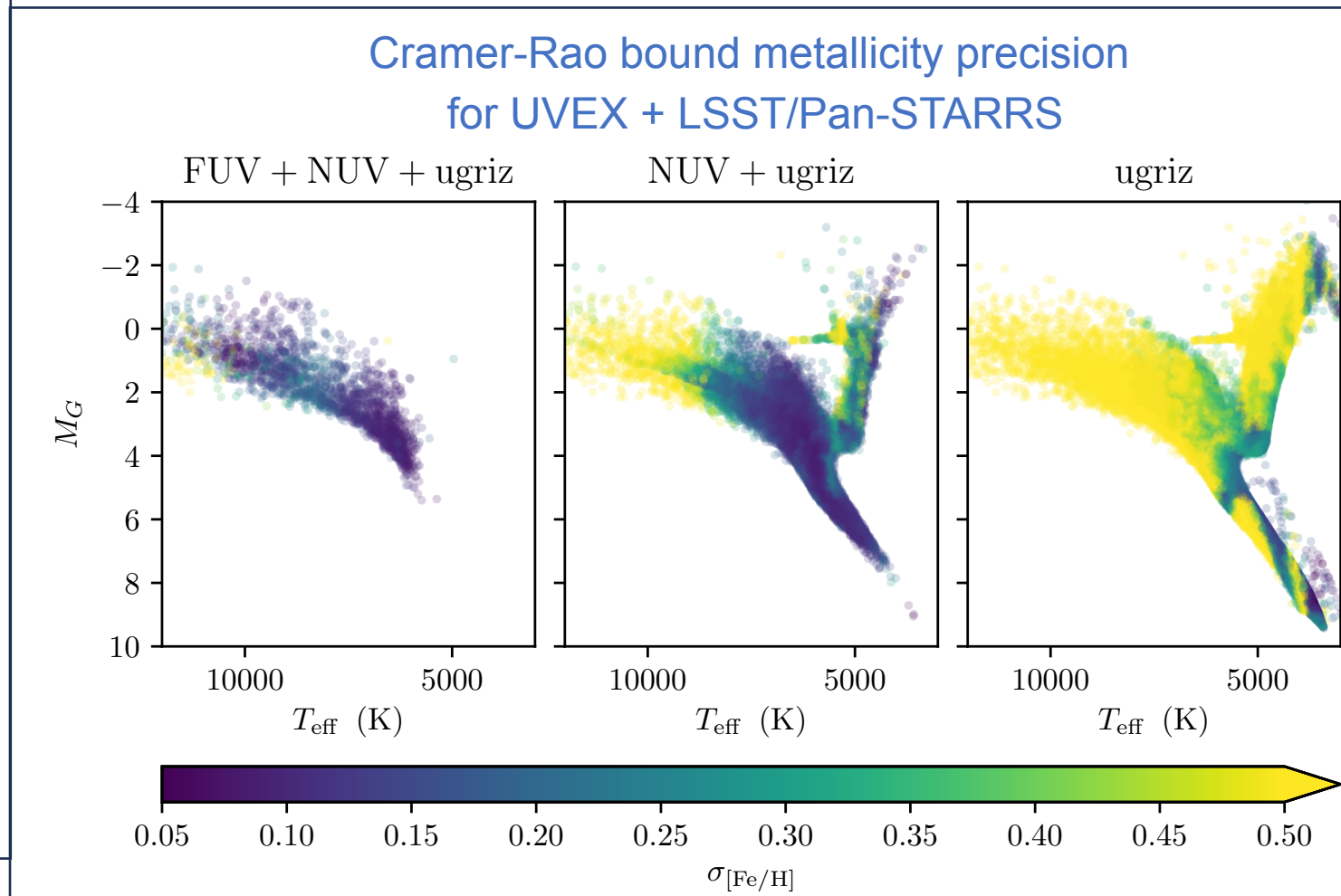
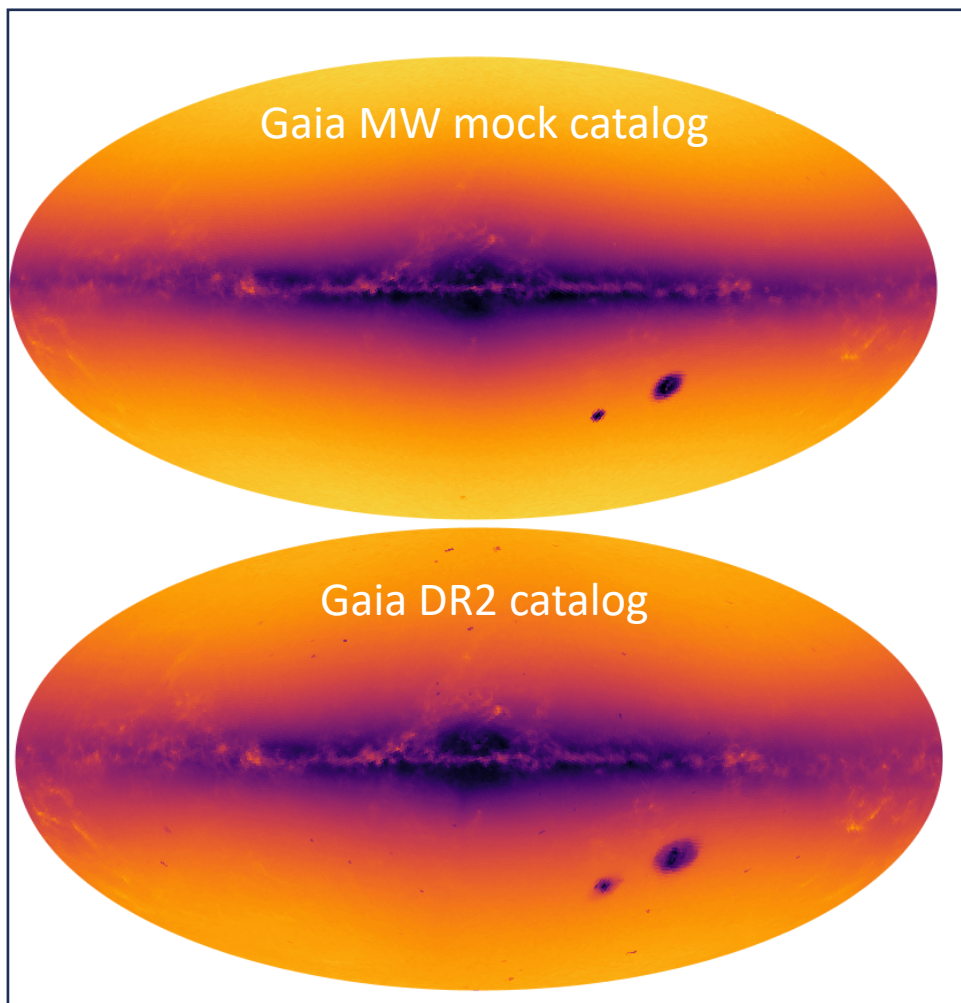
Wind velocities for OB and stripped stars



Credit: Ylva Gotberg

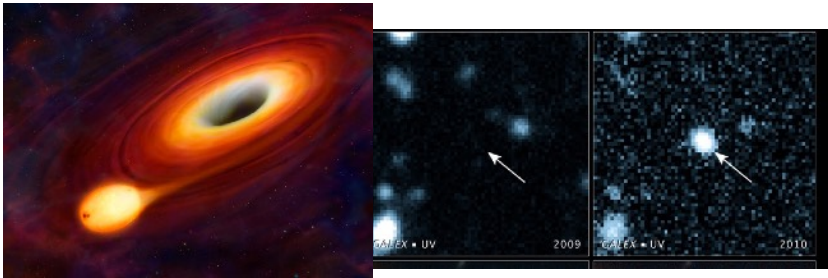
# Deep Synoptic Surveys – Milky Way Stellar Metallicities

Ancillary Science: UVEX photometric metallicities of 300 millions stars in MW

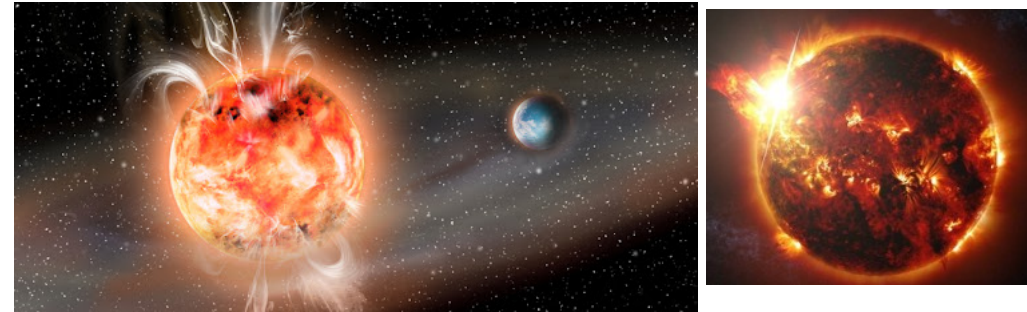


# Dynamic Universe - Community triggered ToOs

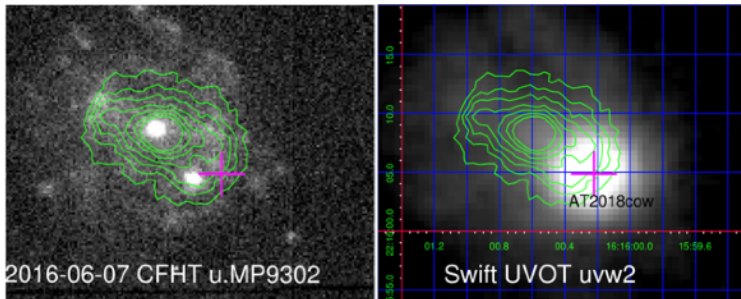
Provide a resource for the community to explore the dynamic sky through rapid UV spectroscopic follow-up — ~60 days of UVEX is community ToO time



*Broad absorption lines in stars being eaten by supermassive black holes*



*Energetic flares on active stars*



*Relativistic supernovae - UV-bright fast blue optical transients*



*Accretion physics at the end of the stellar lifecycle – novae, low-mass X-ray binaries*

*By providing the first rapid spectroscopic UV follow-up capability UVEX enables a broad range of time-domain science and opens tremendous discovery space*

# UVEX — 2030 launch, 2 year prime mission

uvex.caltech.edu

Kulkarni+ 2021



- **Modern, all-sky, cadenced FUV+NUV imaging (and UV spectra)**
  - >100x deeper than GALEX
  - ~60 days of community ToO time
  - Transient alerts in real time
  - All data public via IPAC
  - Strong synergy with LSST, Euclid, Roman, UNIONS, SPHEREx, PFS, DESI, ...
- **Low-mass, Low-Metallicity Galaxy Science**
  - Find and map millions of LMLZ galaxies to ~1.5 Gpc ( $z \sim 0.3$ )
  - Targeted UV spectroscopy of extreme LMLZ galaxies
  - LMC/SMC: deep, cadenced imaging and targeted spectroscopy of hot stars
- **Collaboration with the broader community** (e.g., spectroscopic follow up, large volume simulations, HI surveys, Magellanic Cloud science, LMLZ galaxy searches, ...)
- **Looking for postdocs and/or grad students in the upcoming year**