

Lyman-Continuum Photon Production Efficiency of $z \sim 5$ Galaxies and the Reionization of the Universe

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Which Sources drive the Reionization of the Universe?

Quasars



Key Question:
Could quasars still be abundant at $z \sim 6-7$?

Galaxies



Key Questions:
Are faint galaxies still abundant?

Is the escape fraction moderately large?

Do Galaxies Reionize the Universe?

Counting the Ionizing Photons Galaxies Produce

$$\text{UV luminosity density} \times \xi_{\text{ion}} \times f_{\text{esc}}$$

(UV continuum inventory) (conversion factor from UV-continuum to ionizing photons) (fraction of ionizing photons which escape)

←————— Ionizing Emissivity —————→

Do Galaxies Reionize the Universe?

Counting the Ionizing Photons Galaxies Produce

UV luminosity density

(UV continuum inventory)

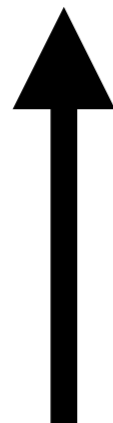
$\times \xi_{\text{ion}}$

(conversion factor from UV-continuum to ionizing photons)

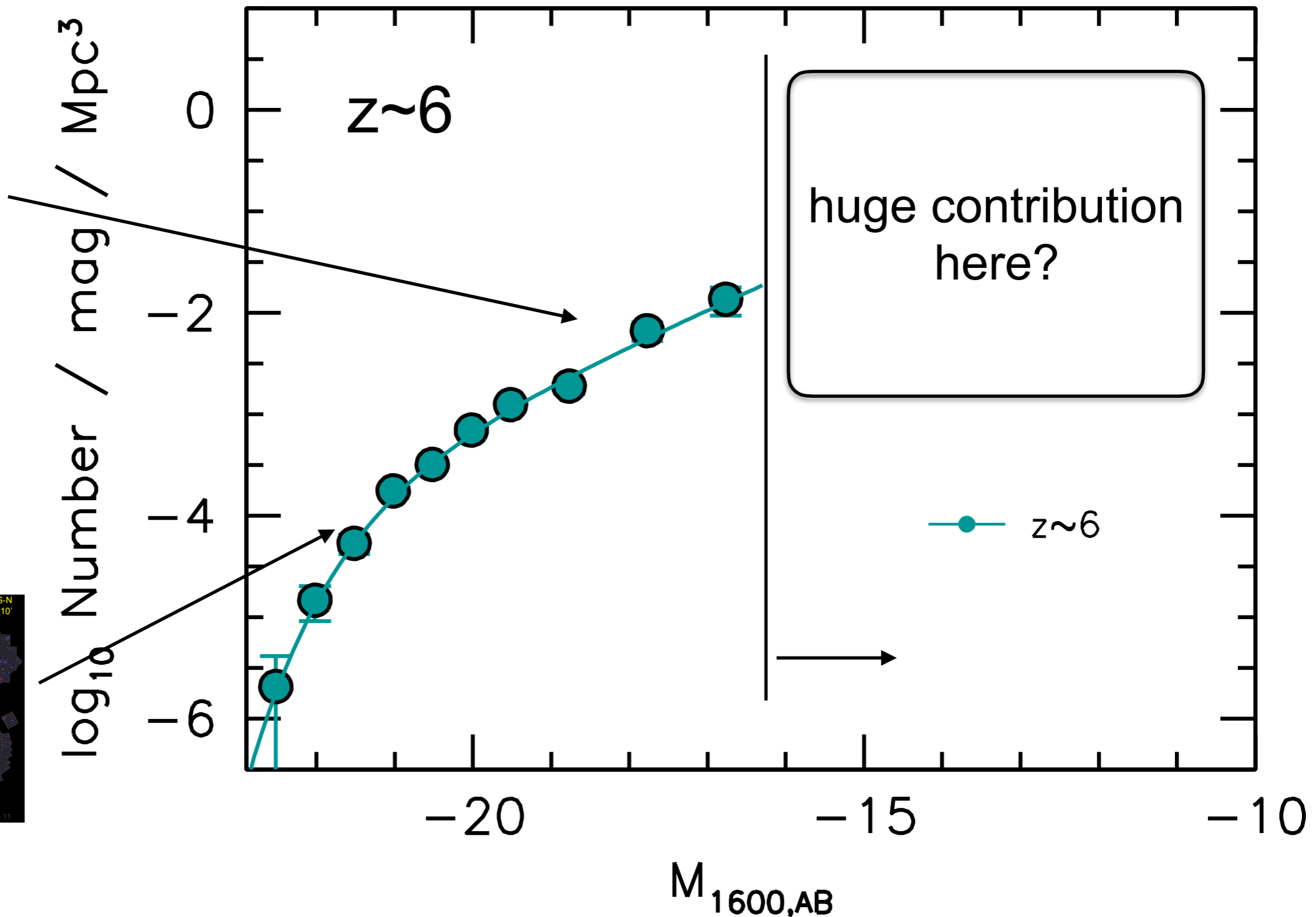
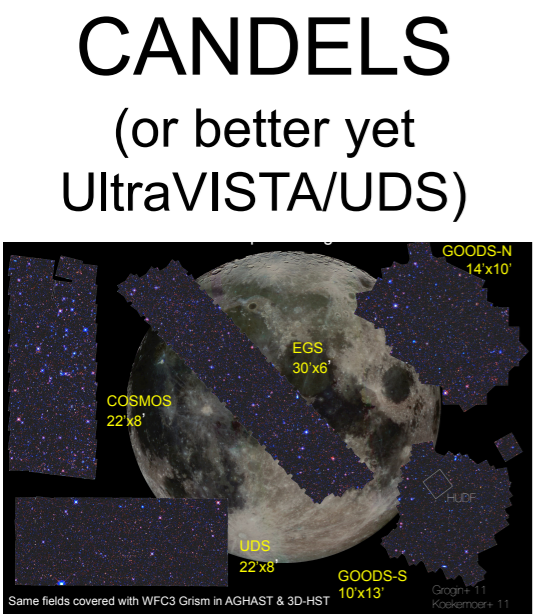
$\times f_{\text{esc}}$

(fraction of ionizing photons which escape)

Ionizing Emissivity



How many UV-continuum photons do galaxies produce?

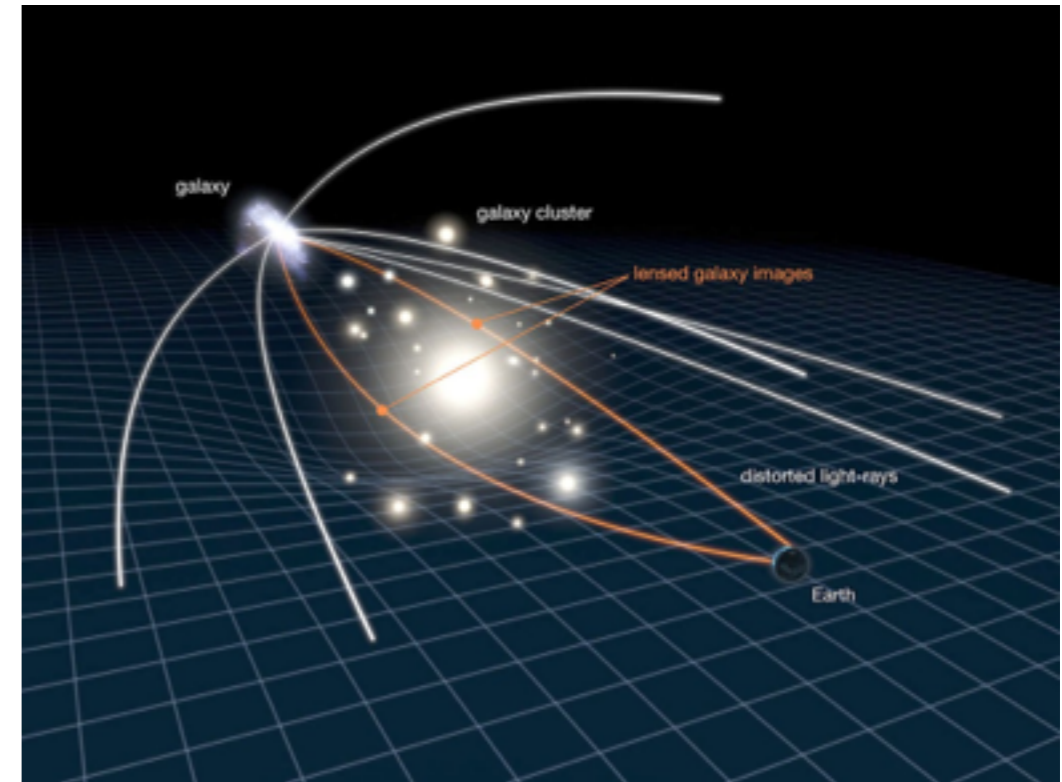


Bouwens+2015; see also McLure+2013; Bowler+2015; Finkelstein+2015

What is the trick to try to push fainter?

- I. Find a Massive Object that magnifies a significant volume of the universe

Massive Galaxy Cluster



Increase Sensitivity

Decrease Volume

What is the trick to try to push fainter?

2. Target that region of the sky with very deep observations with Hubble and other powerful telescopes

Massive Galaxy Cluster



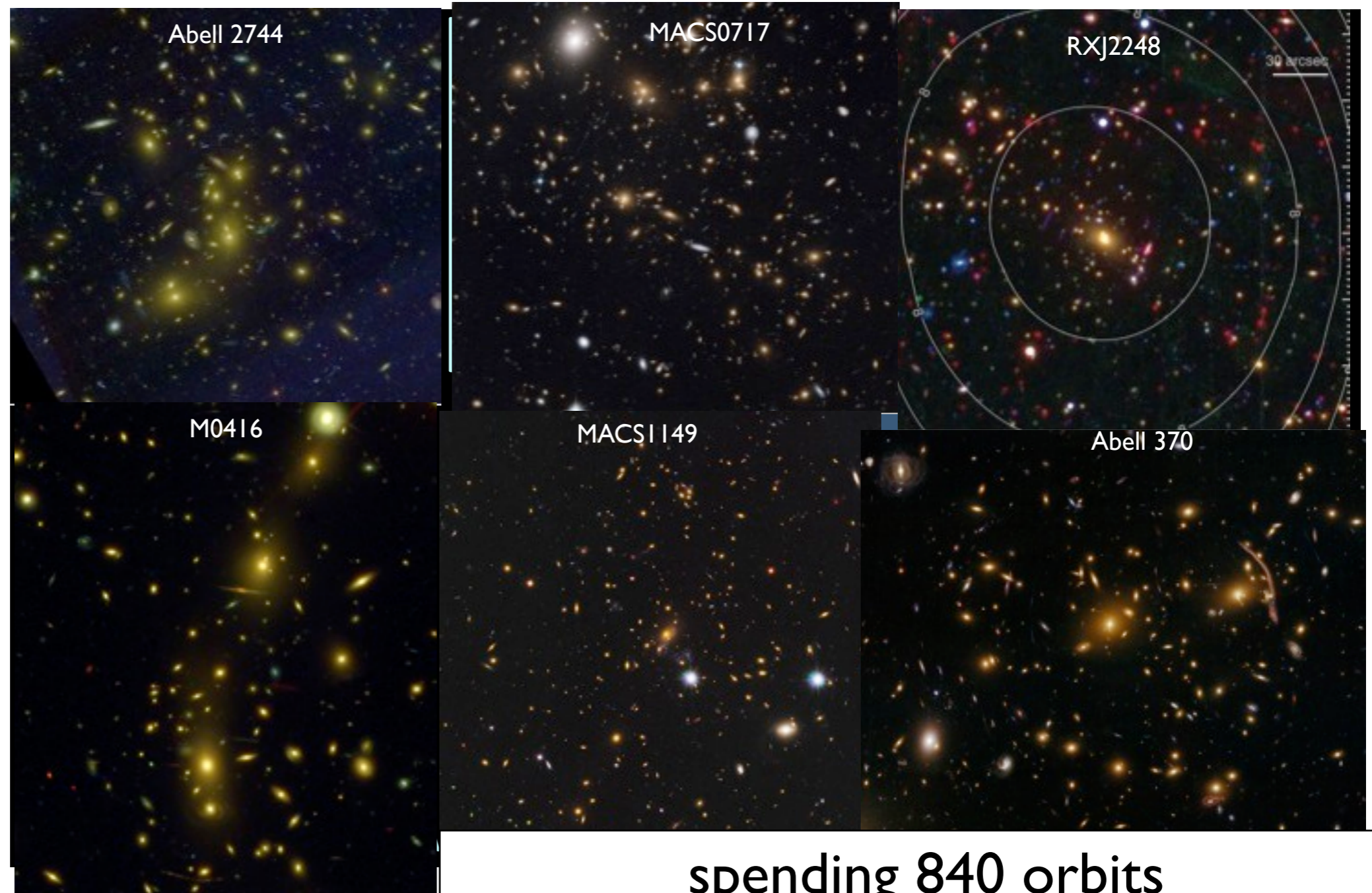
Integrate for 140 orbits
with Hubble

70 orbits in the optical

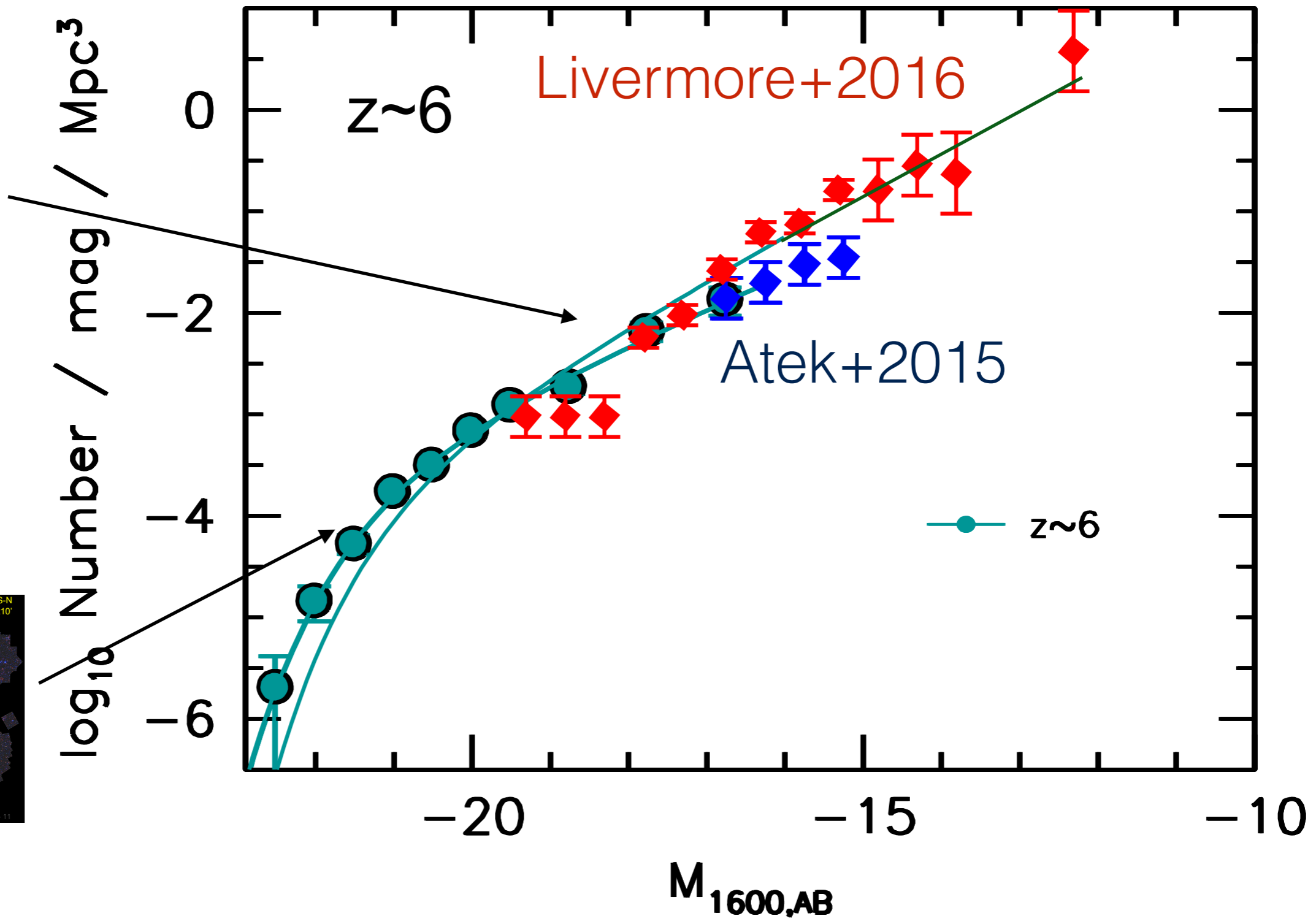
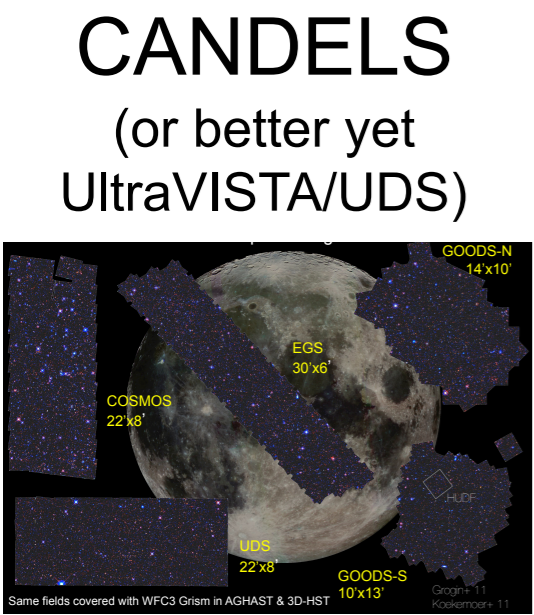
70 orbits in the near-IR

What is the trick to try to push fainter?

3. Repeat this trick over six massive clusters to improve the statistics and control for cosmic variance



How many UV-continuum photons do galaxies produce?



Bouwens+2015

Do Galaxies Reionize the Universe?

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UV luminosity density

(UV continuum
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$\times \xi_{\text{ion}}$

(conversion factor
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$\times f_{\text{esc}}$

(fraction of ionizing
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escape)



Measuring ξ_{ion} (# of Ionizing Photons per UV continuum Luminosity)

How can we measure the # of ionizing photons produced by stars in a galaxy?

How can we measure the total UV-continuum luminosity for stars in a galaxy?

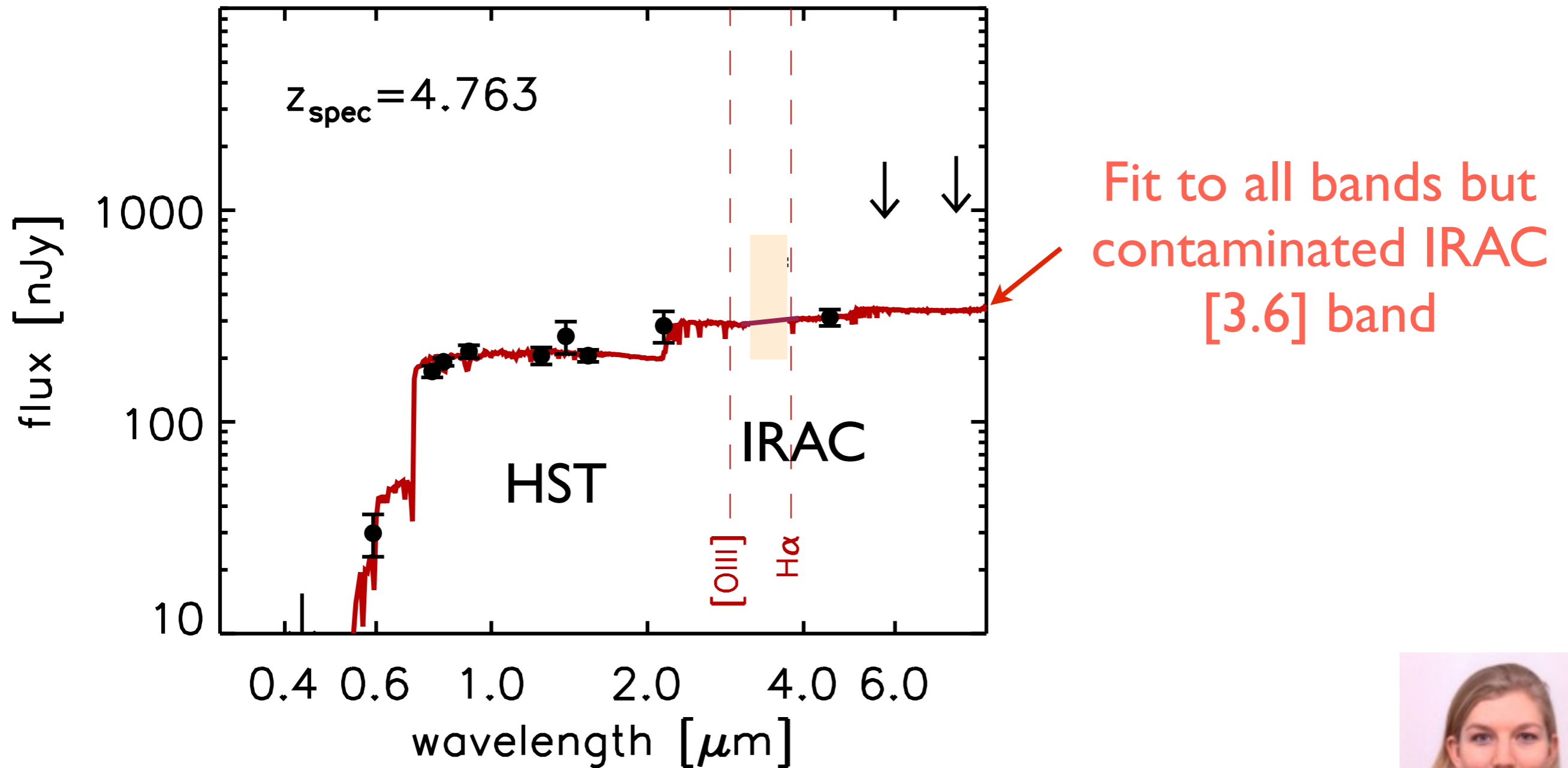
Using the H α luminosity
(can be converted into Lyman-continuum photon production rate in almost model-independent way)

From HST observations of UV-continuum luminosities

$$\xi_{\text{ion}} = \frac{\text{Number of Ionizing Photons}}{\text{Intrinsic UV Luminosity}}$$

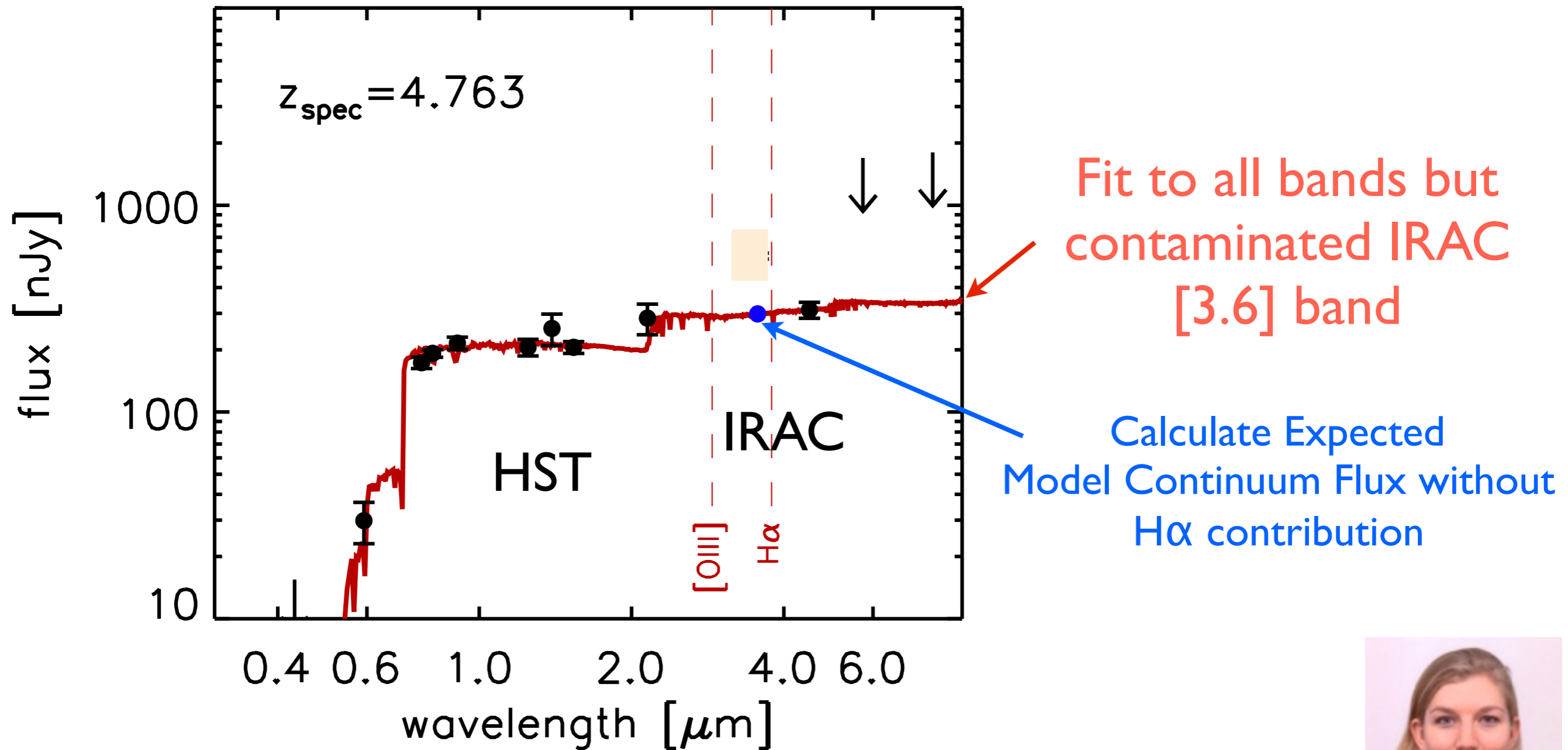
Measuring the H α flux (from IRAC data)

For $z \sim 4-5$ Galaxies, can derive the H α flux by fitting to all Passbands but Spitzer/IRAC band including H α



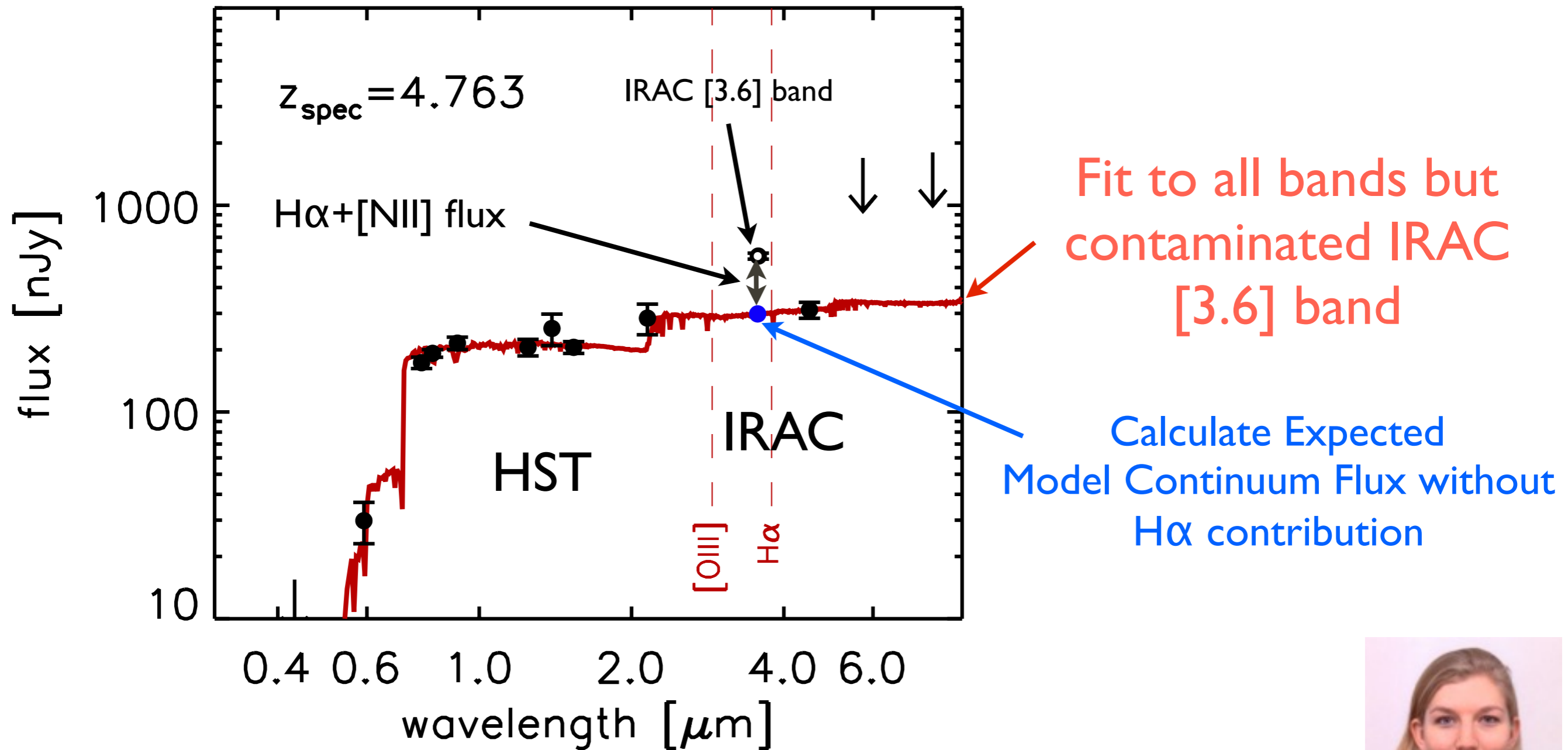
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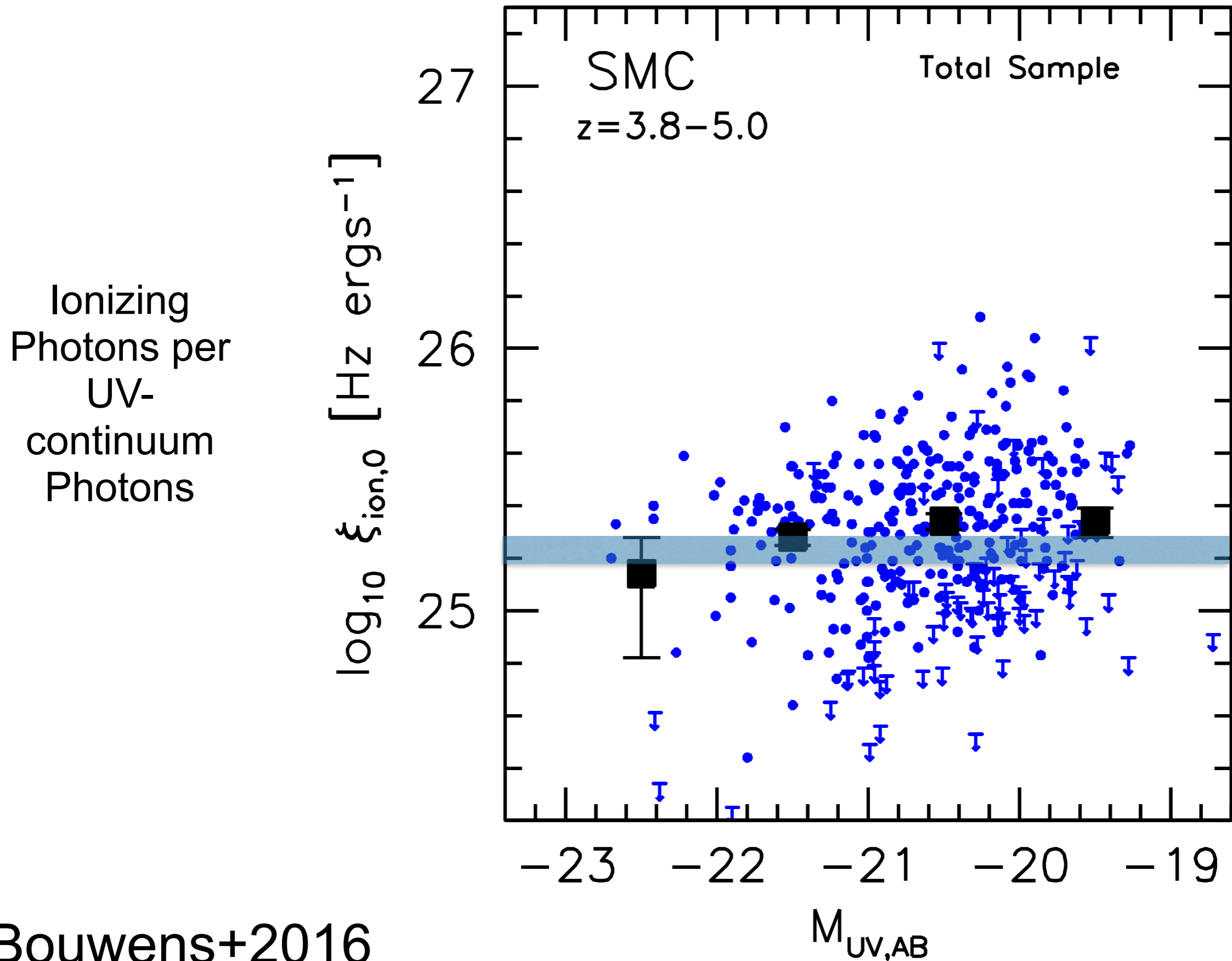


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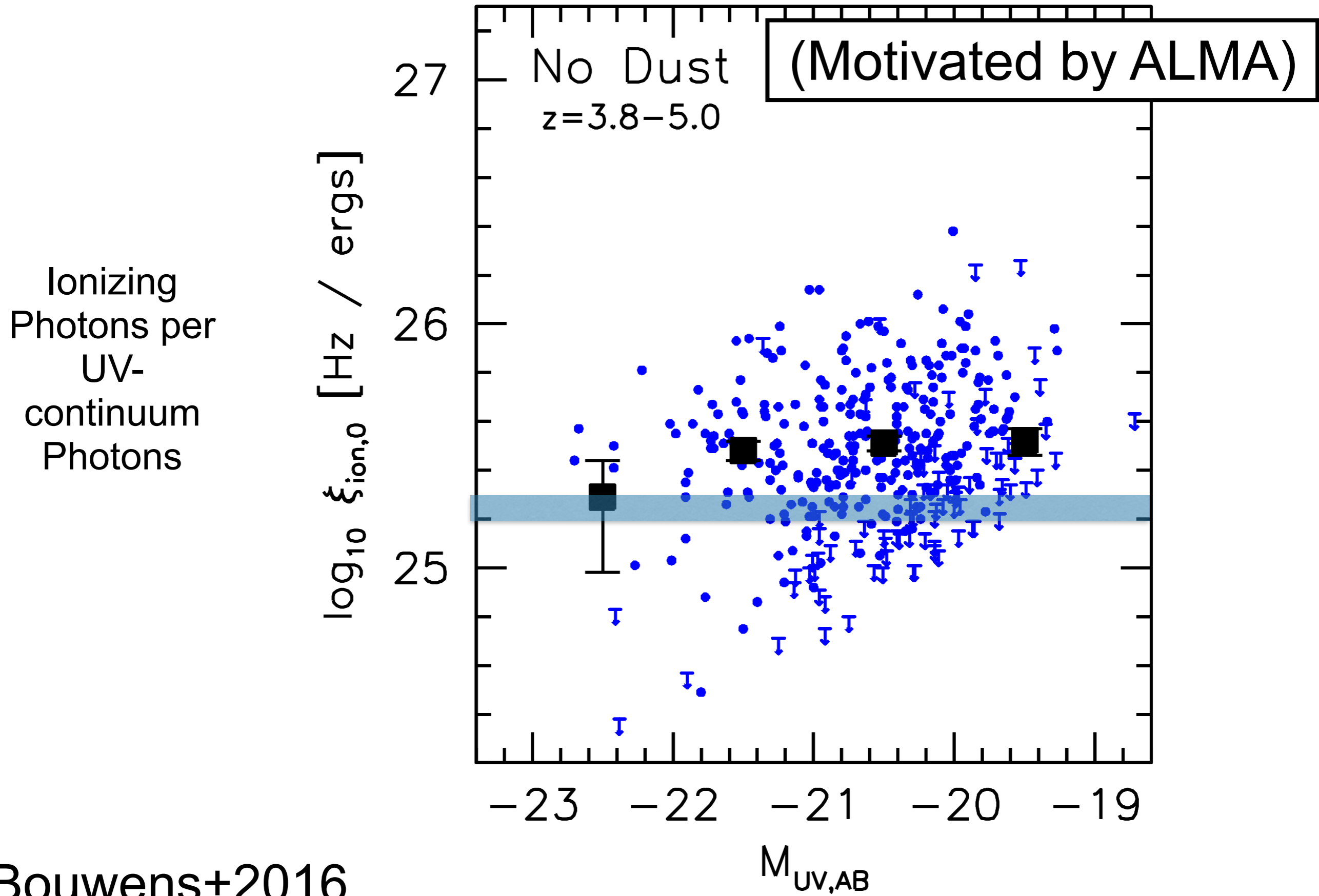
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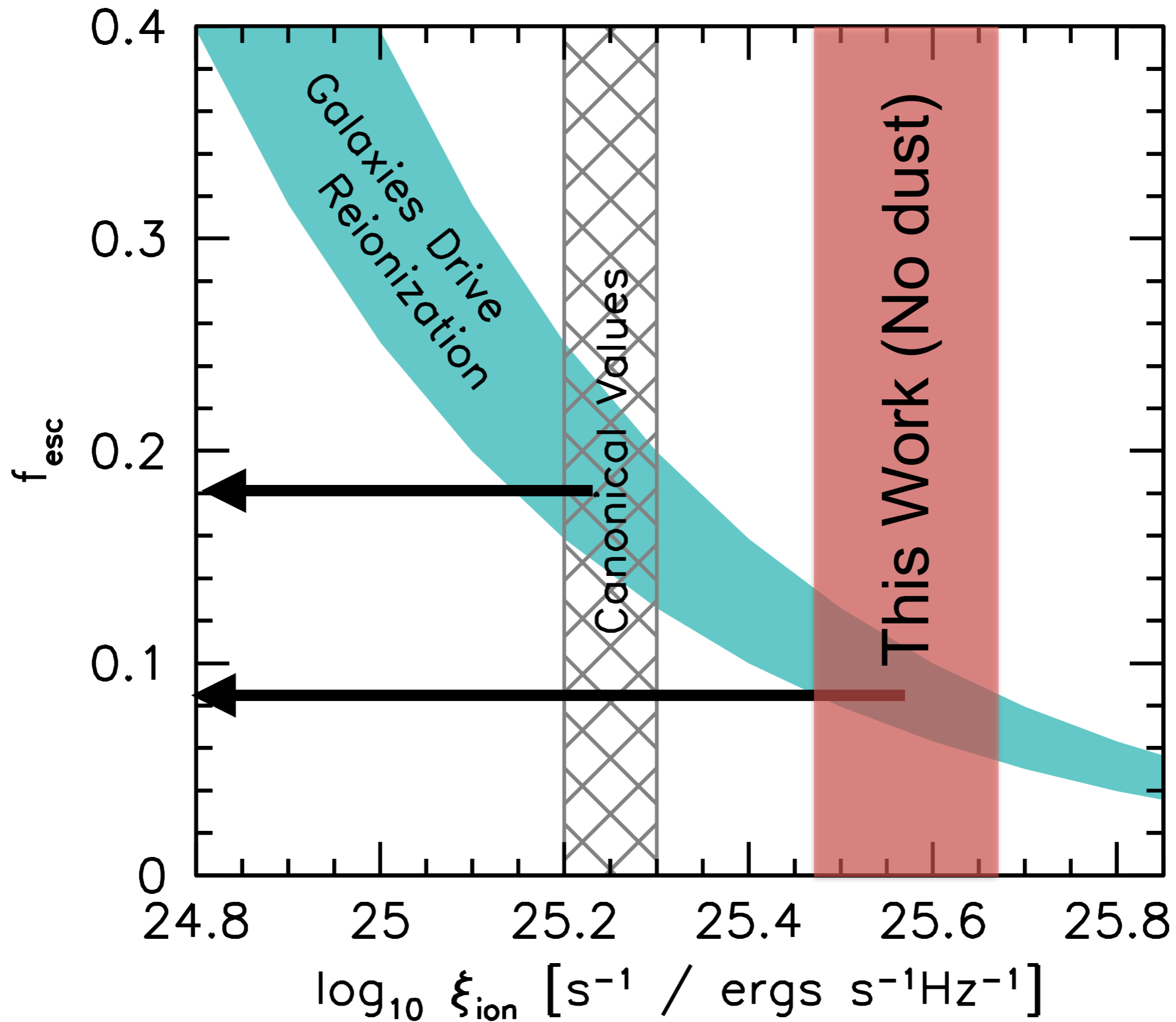
Measured Values for ξ_{ion}



Measured Values for ξ_{ion}



Higher ξ_{ion} 's Compatible with Lower f_{esc}



Do Galaxies Reionize the Universe?

SOME PROGRESS

MEASUREABLE

VERY CHALLENGING

Counting the Ionizing Photons Galaxies Produce

UV luminosity density

(UV continuum inventory)

$\times \xi_{\text{ion}}$

(conversion factor from UV to ionizing photons)

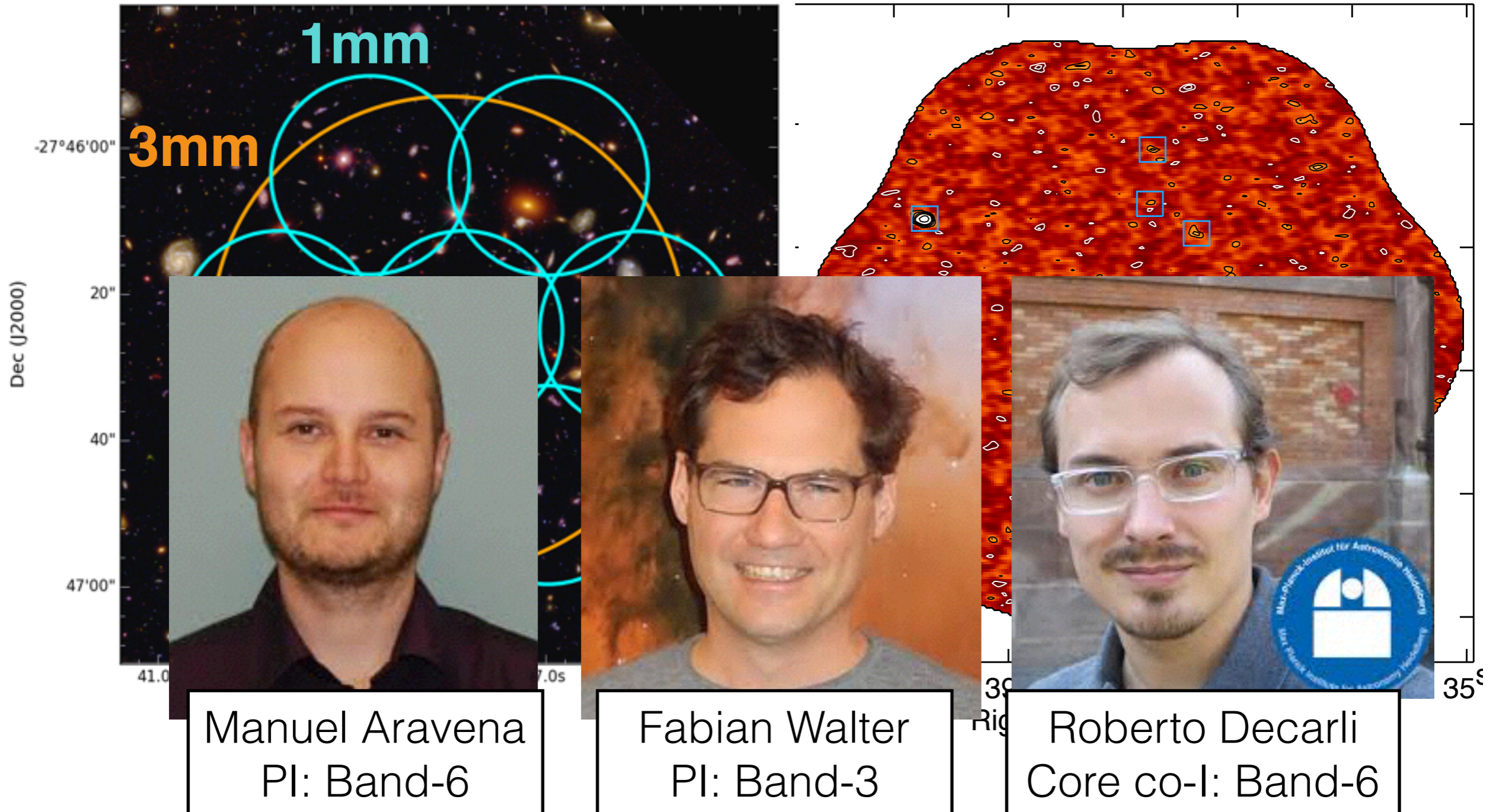
$\times f_{\text{esc}}$

(fraction of ionizing photons which escape)

Why low dust?

ALMA UDF

40h ALMA spectral scans of the UDF:
deepest maps so far (12.7 microJy rms)

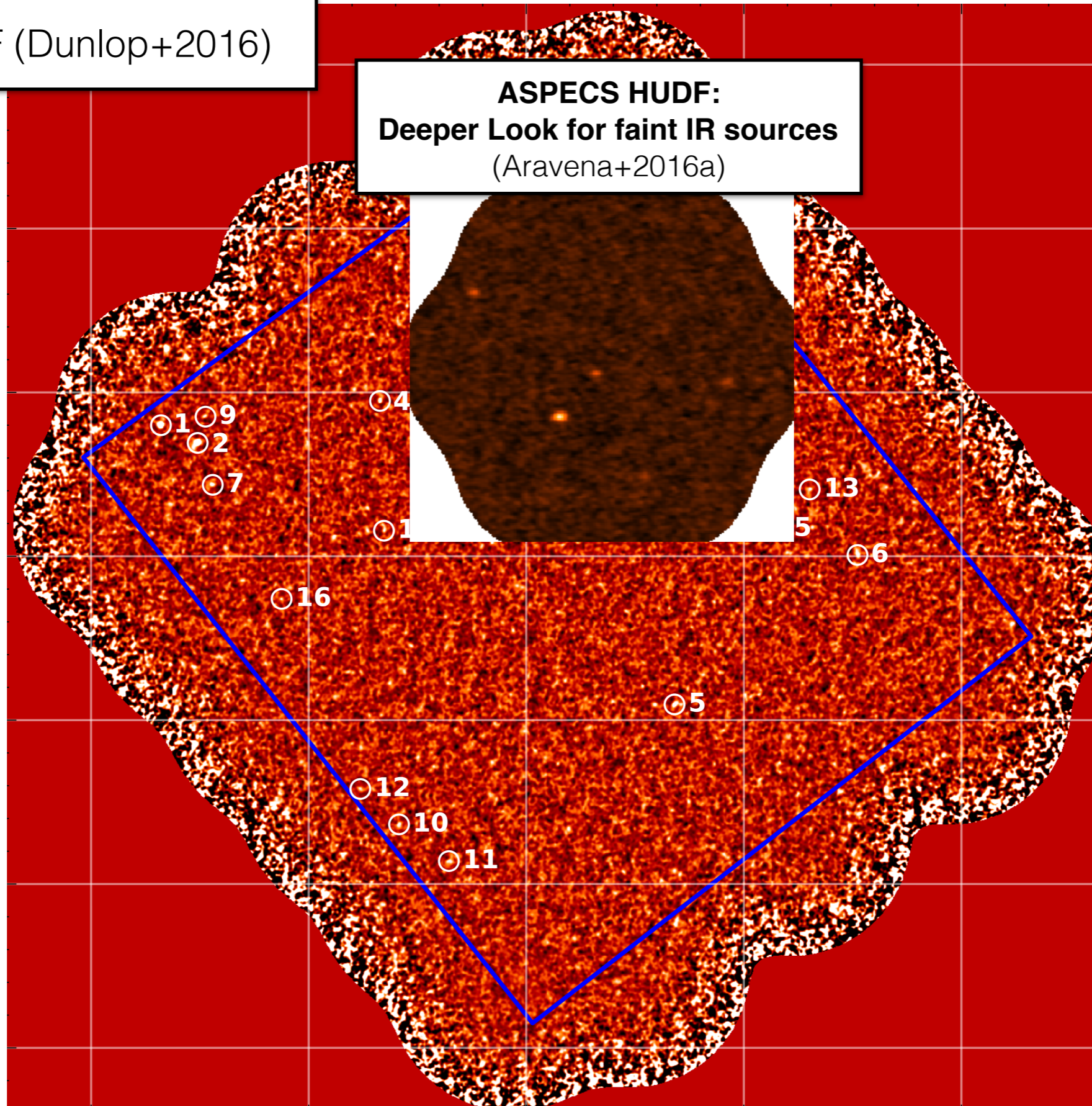


Walter+, Aravena+, Decarli+, Bouwens+, Carilli+, submitted (May 2016)

ALMA UDF

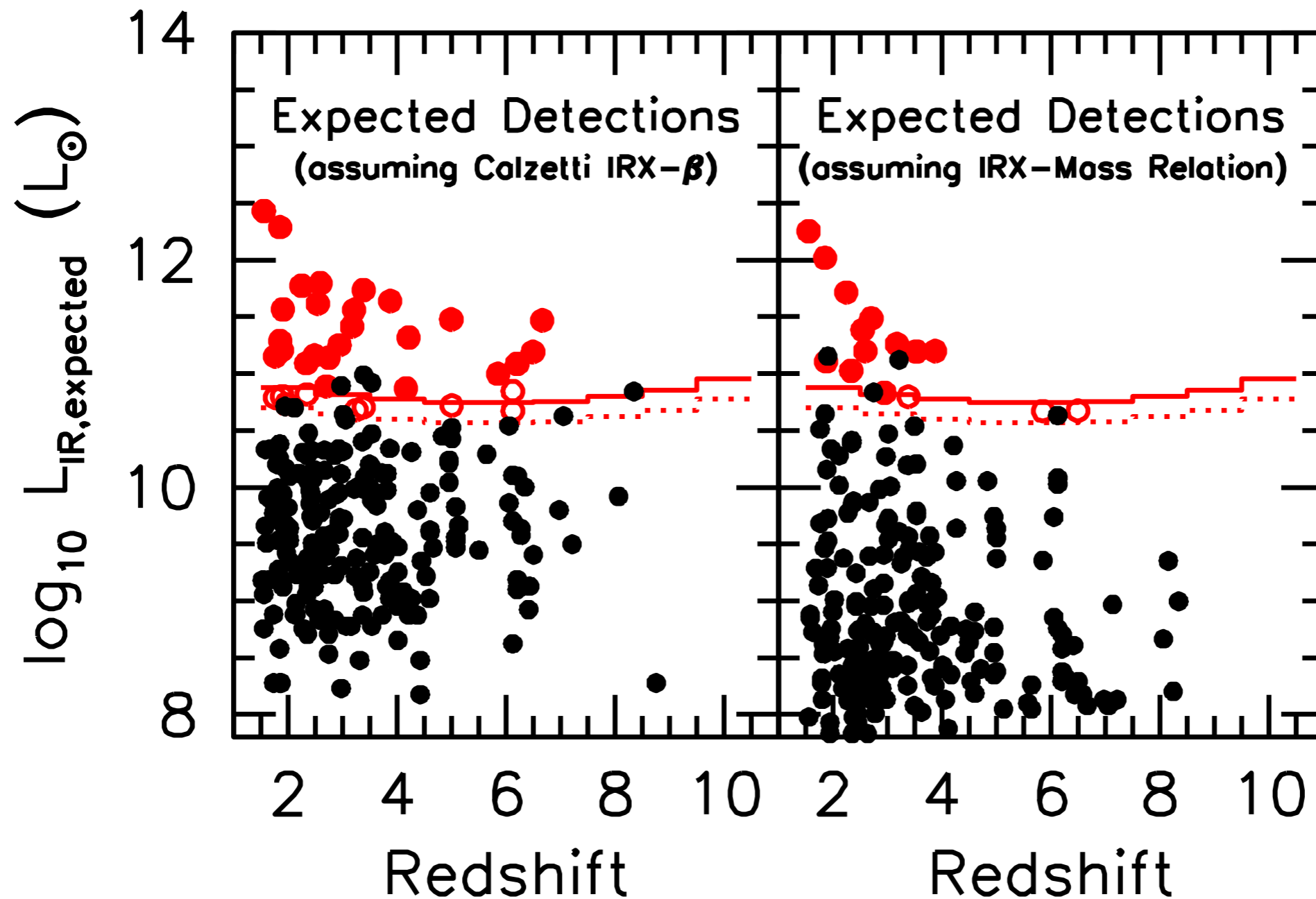
ALMA HUDF (Dunlop+2016)

ASPECS HUDF:
Deeper Look for faint IR sources
(Aravena+2016a)



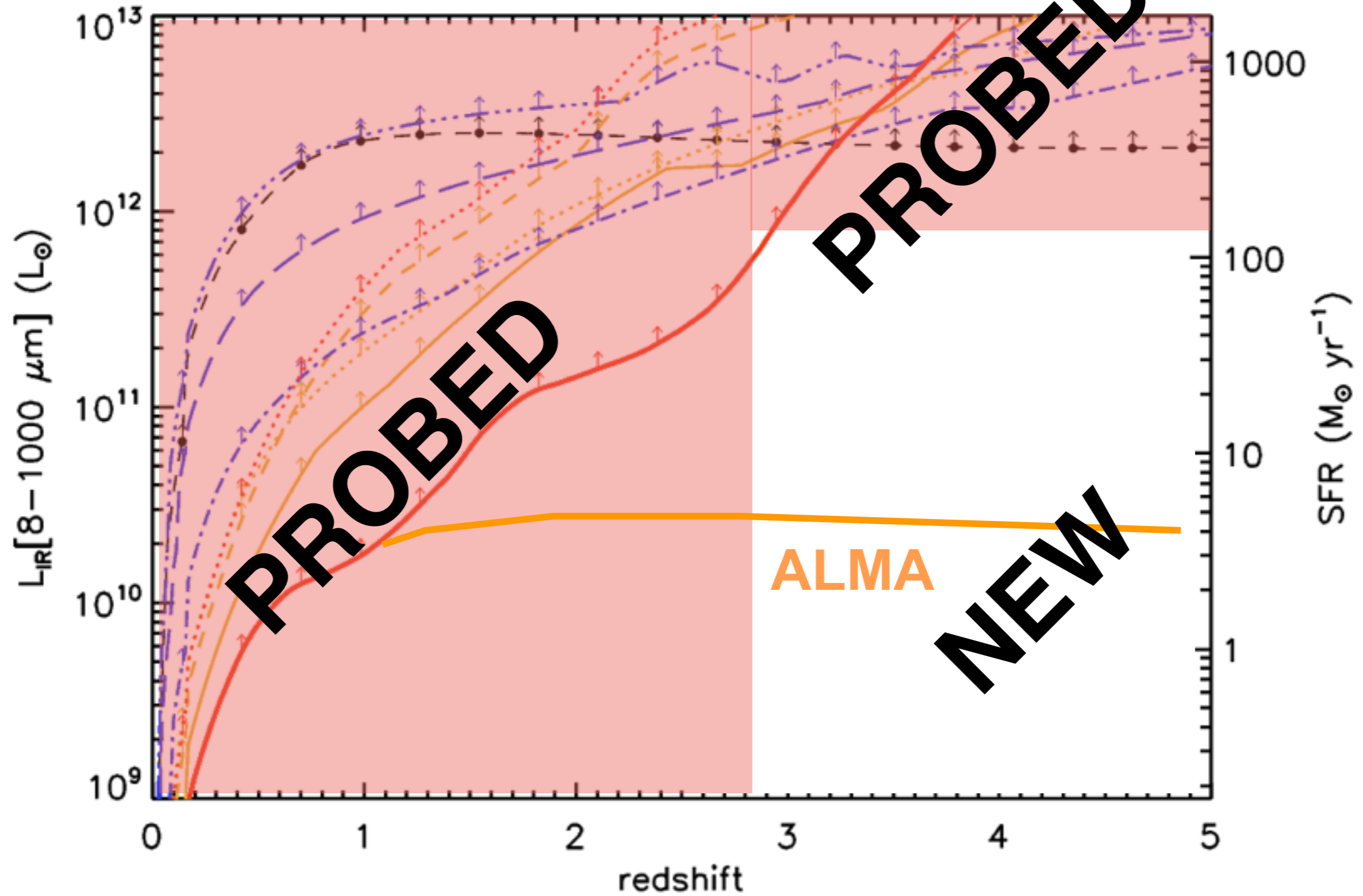
ALMA UDF

Many Dust-Continuum Detections Expected for HUDF samples of $z=2-10$ Galaxies



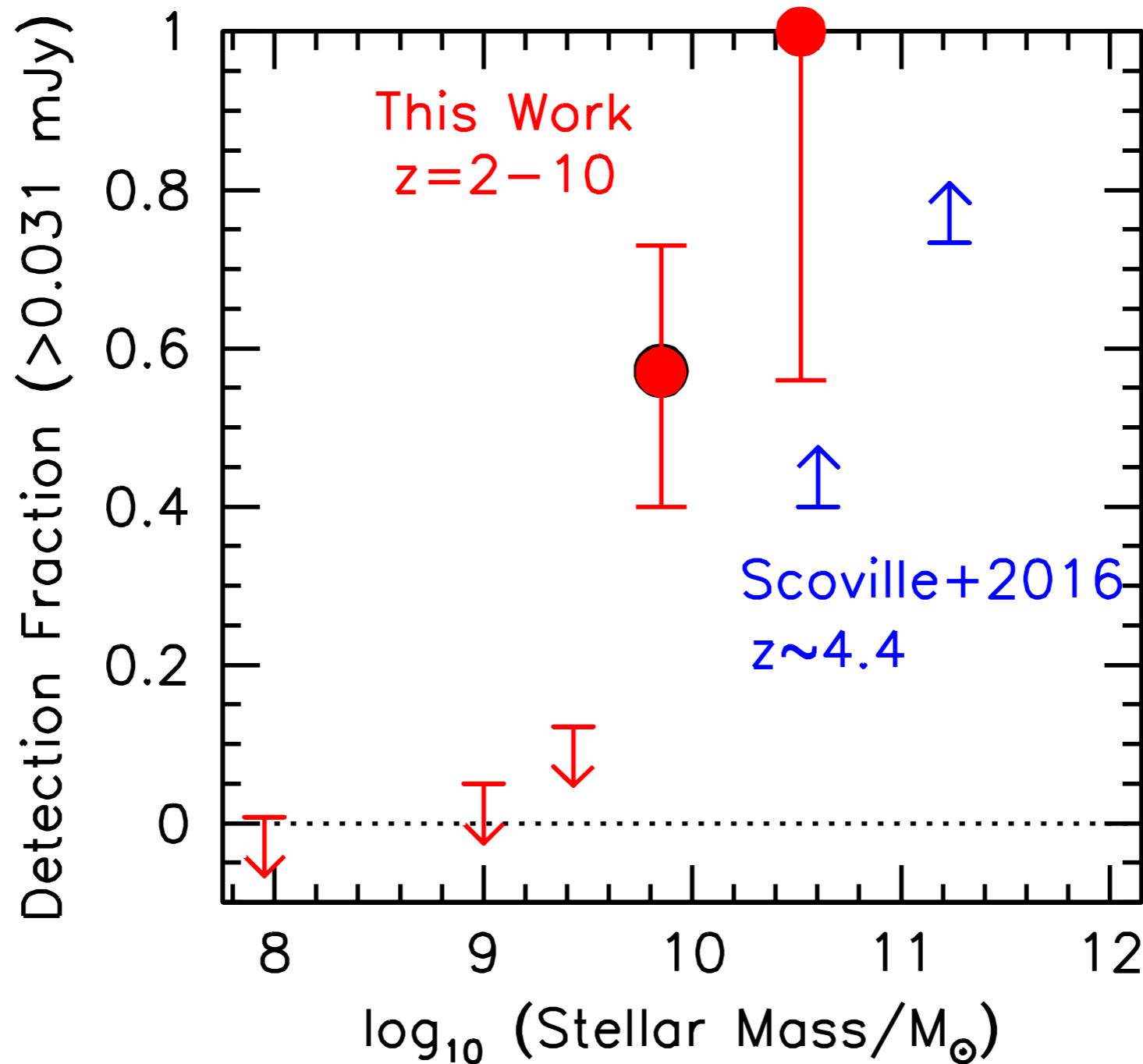
ALMA UDF

Limiting Sensitivity for Obscured Star Formation



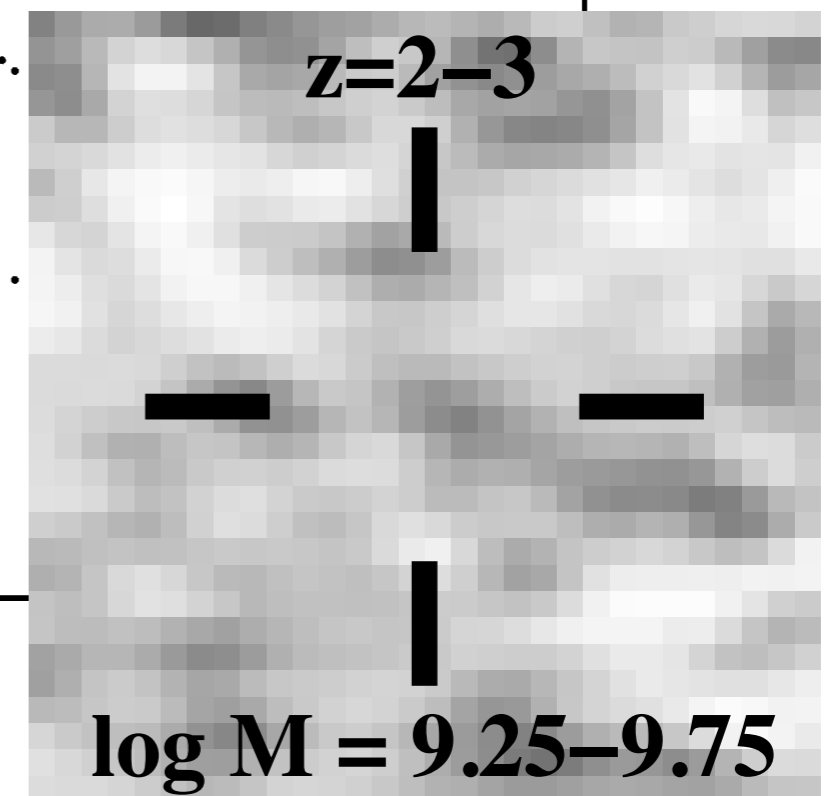
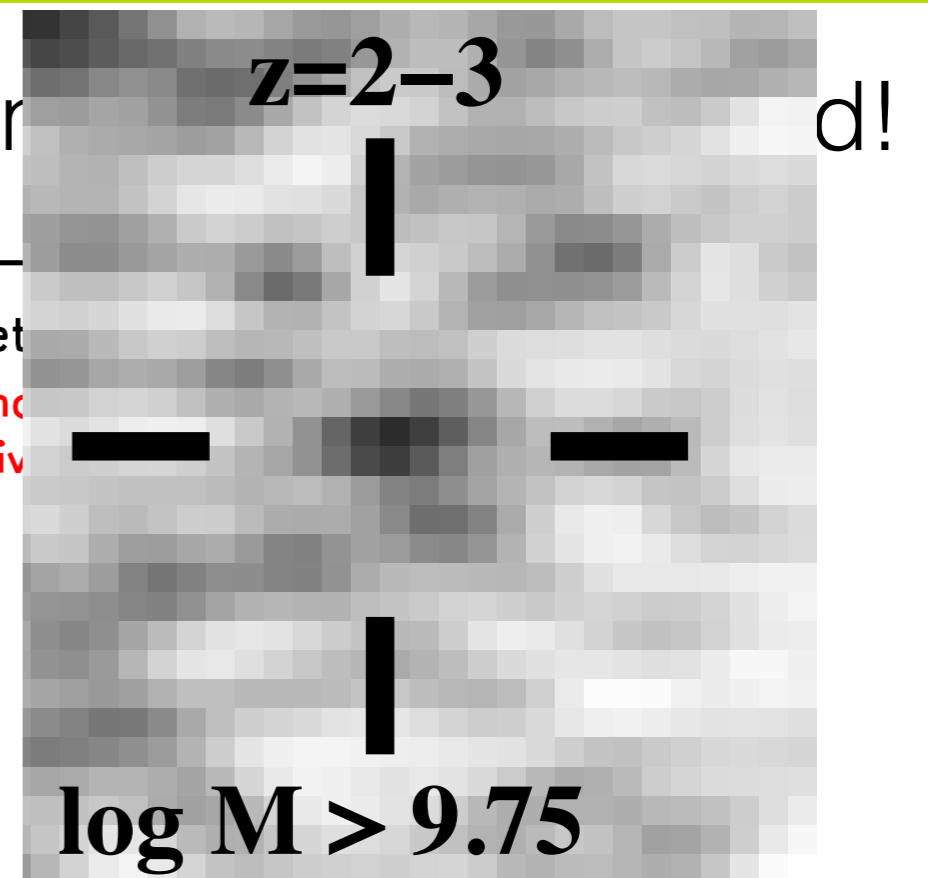
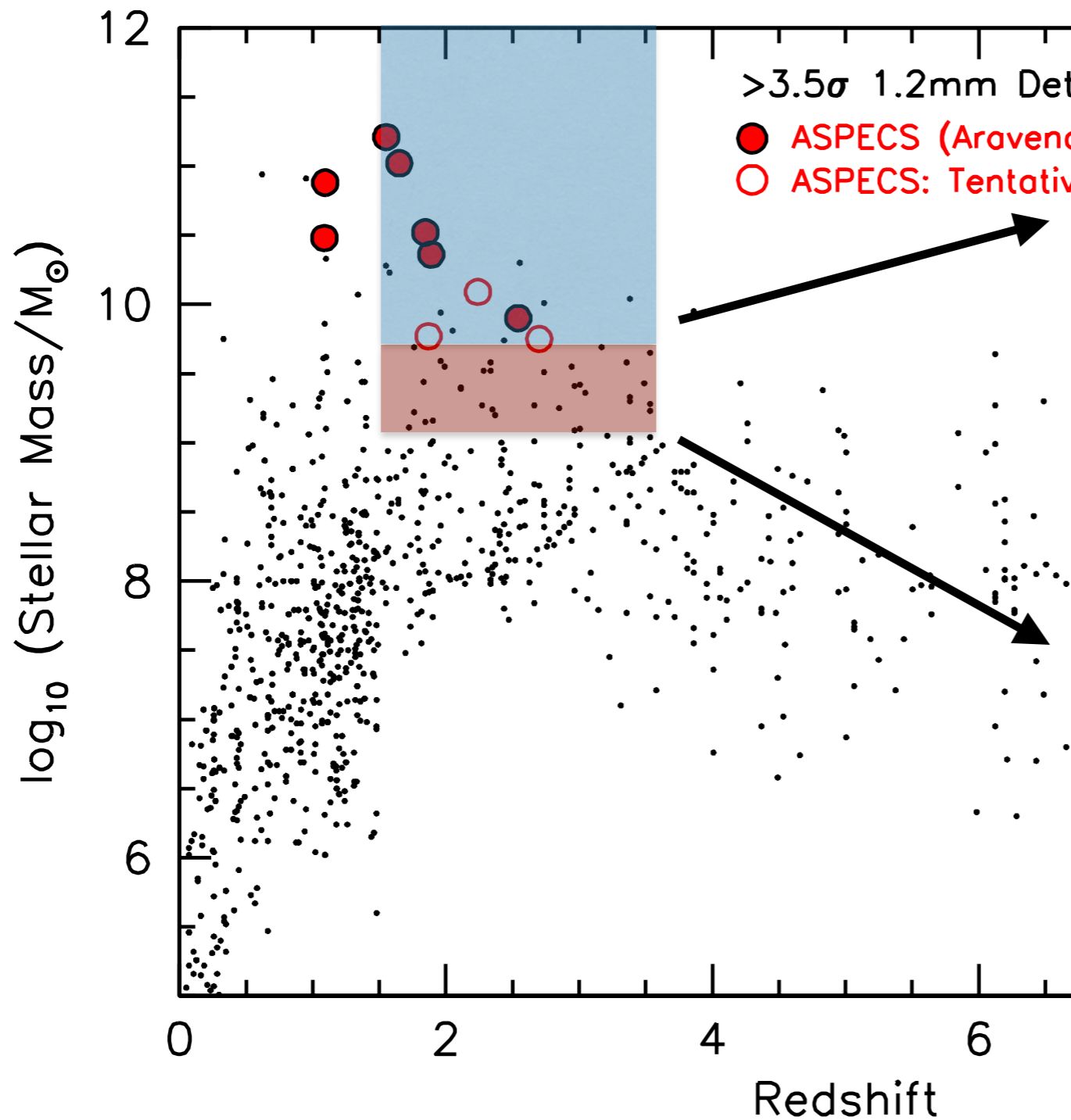
ALMA UDF

Only the highest-mass sources are individually detected!



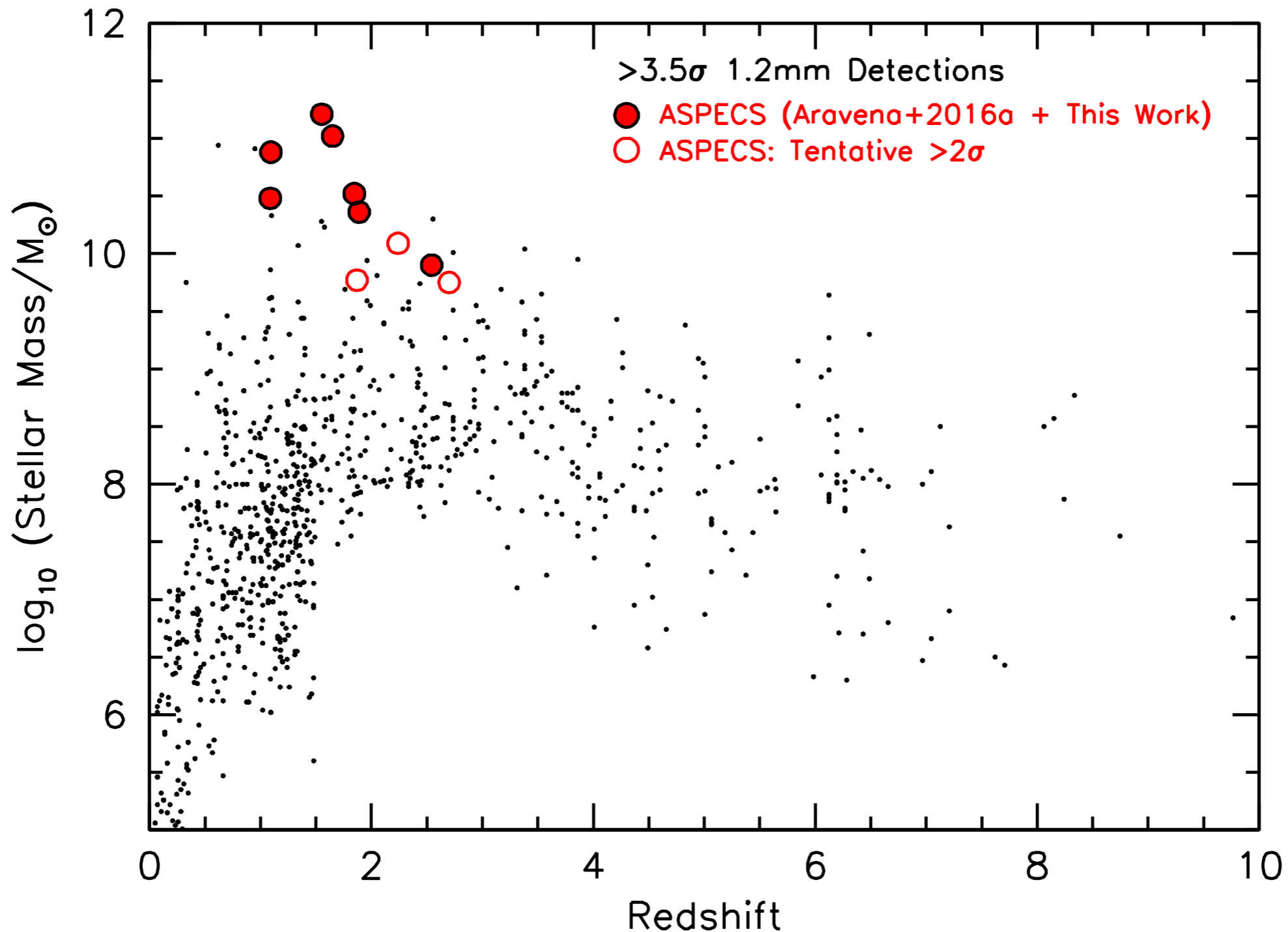
ALMA UDF

Only the highest-mass sources are imaged!



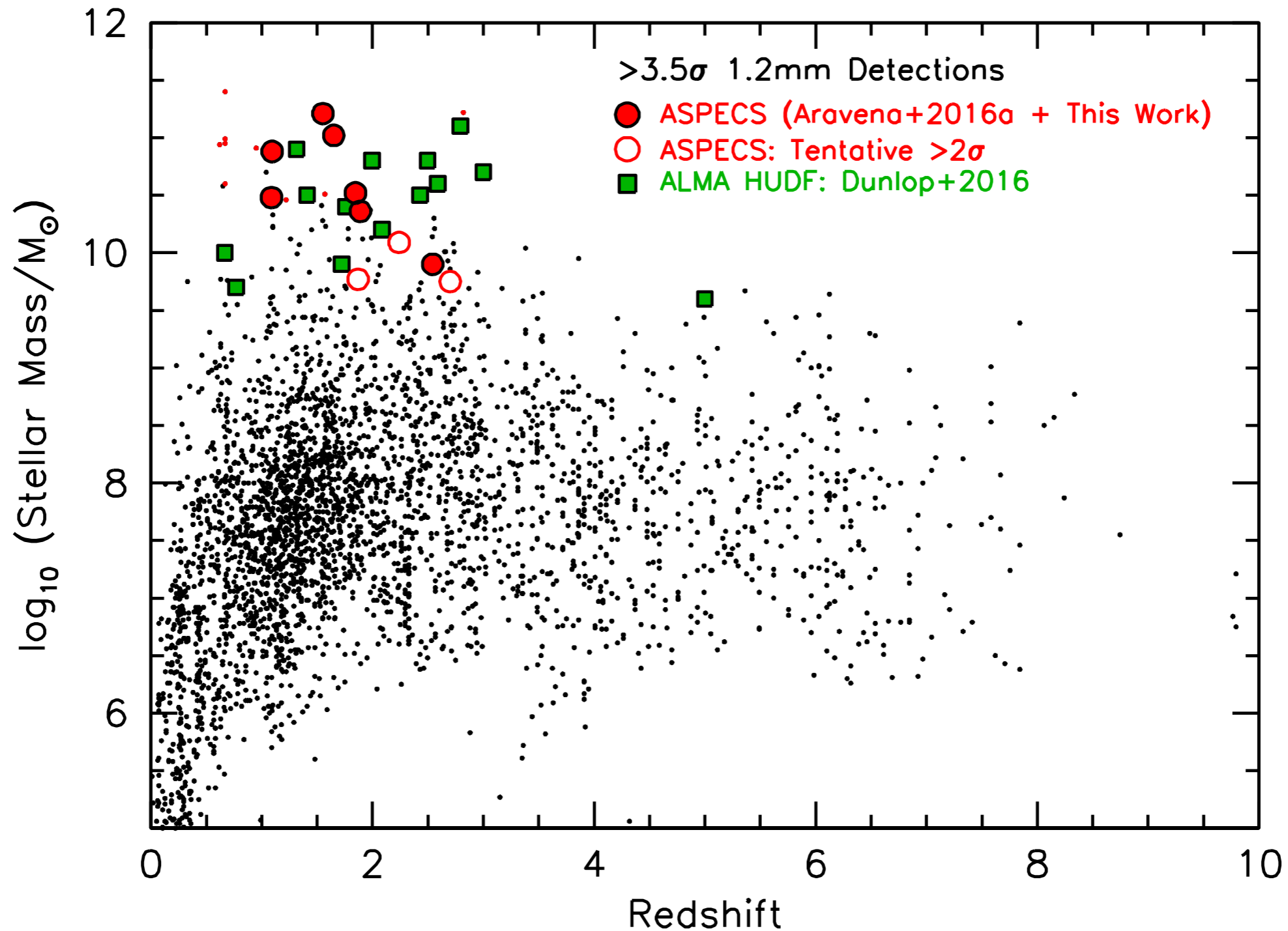
ALMA UDF

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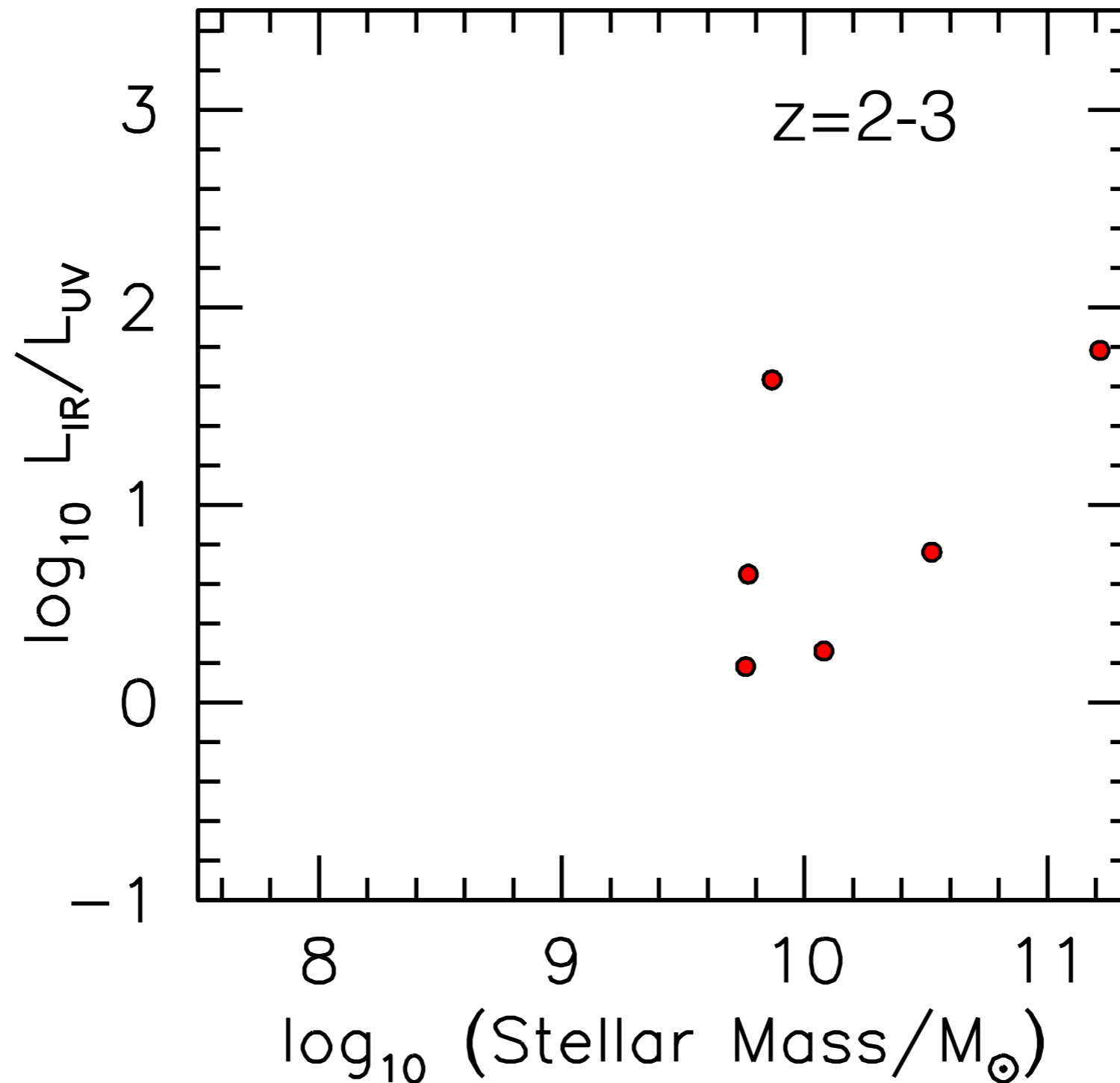
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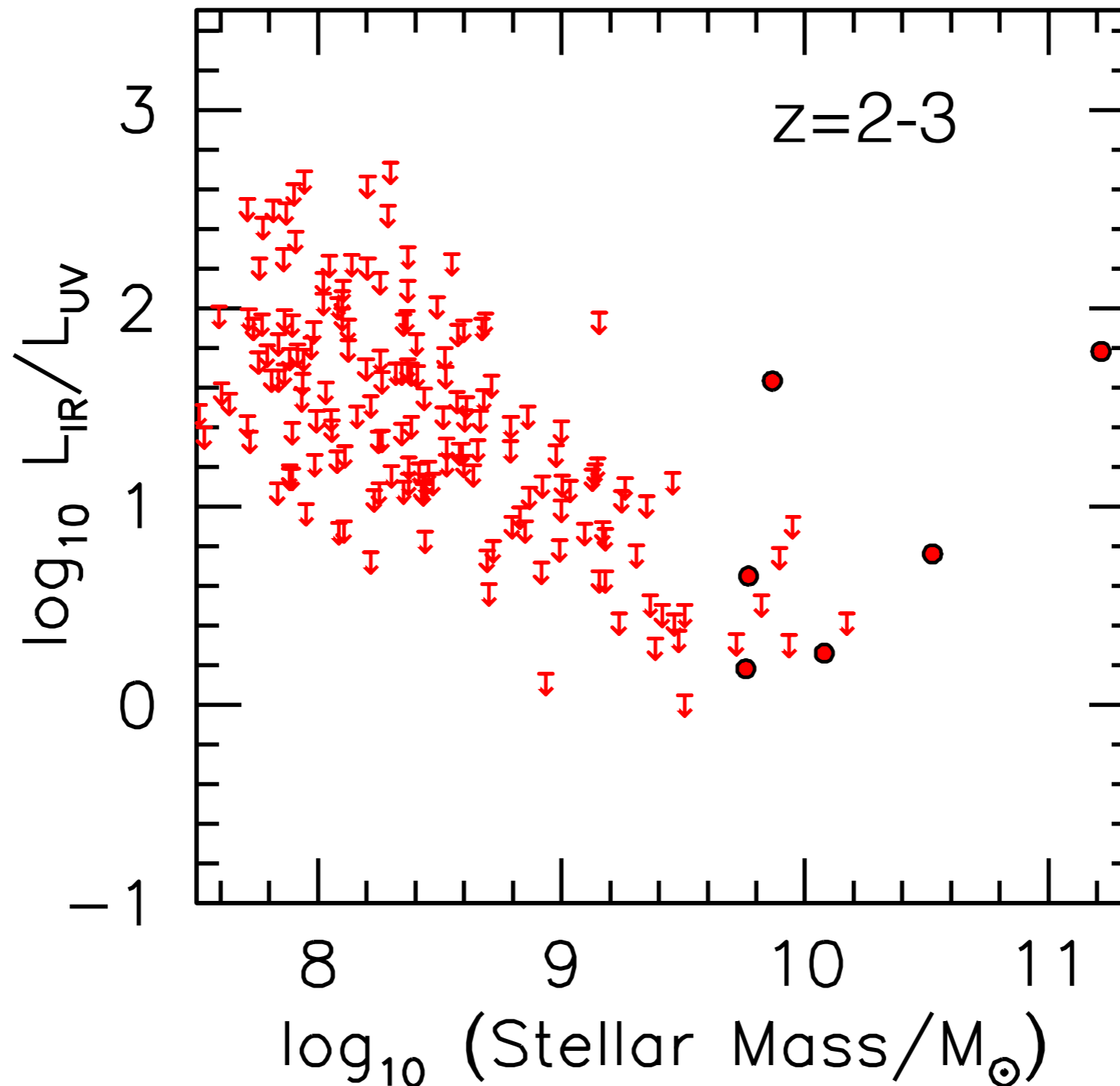
ALMA UDF

Ratio of Obscured SFR to UV SFR vs. Stellar Mass



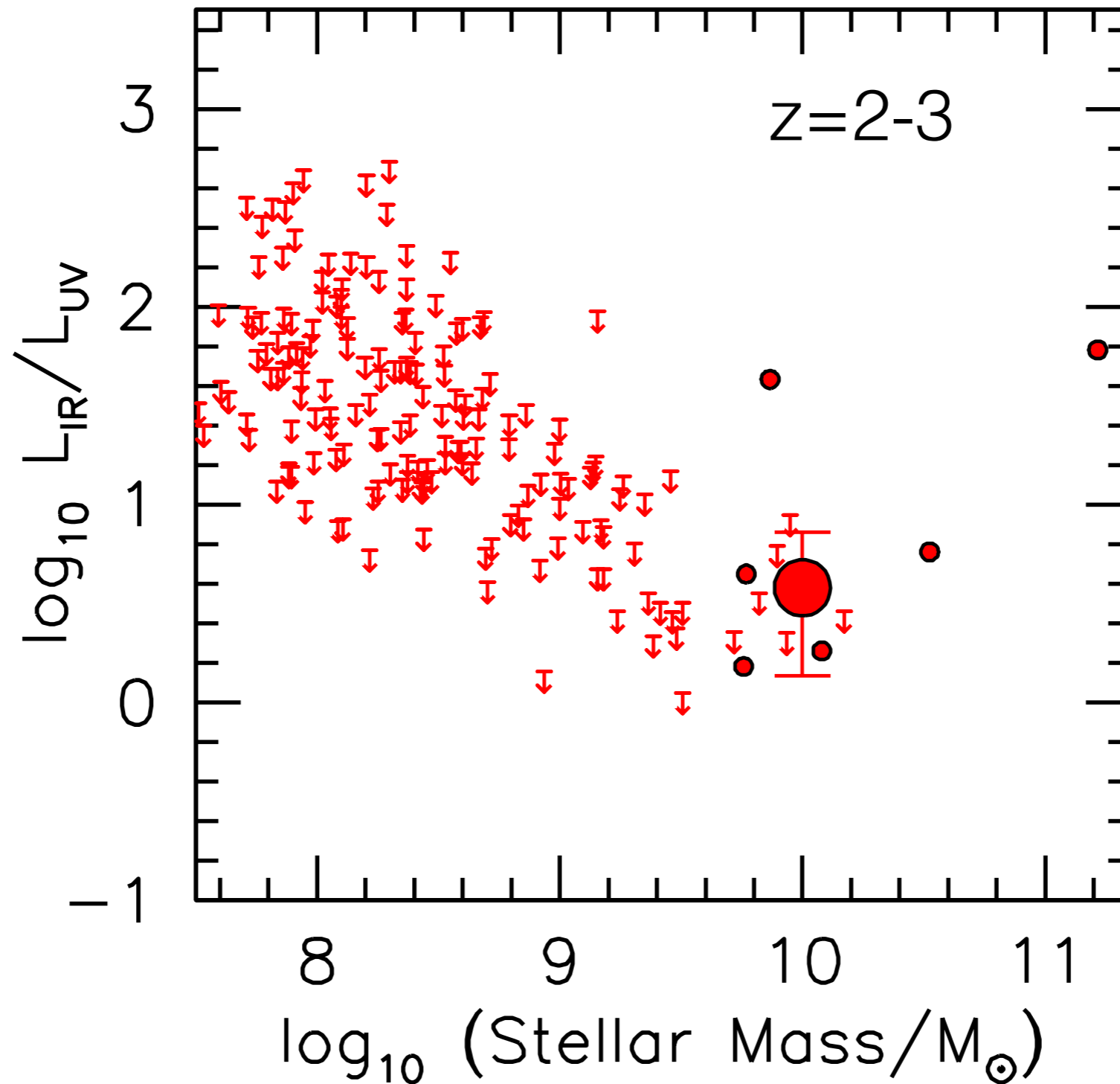
ALMA UDF

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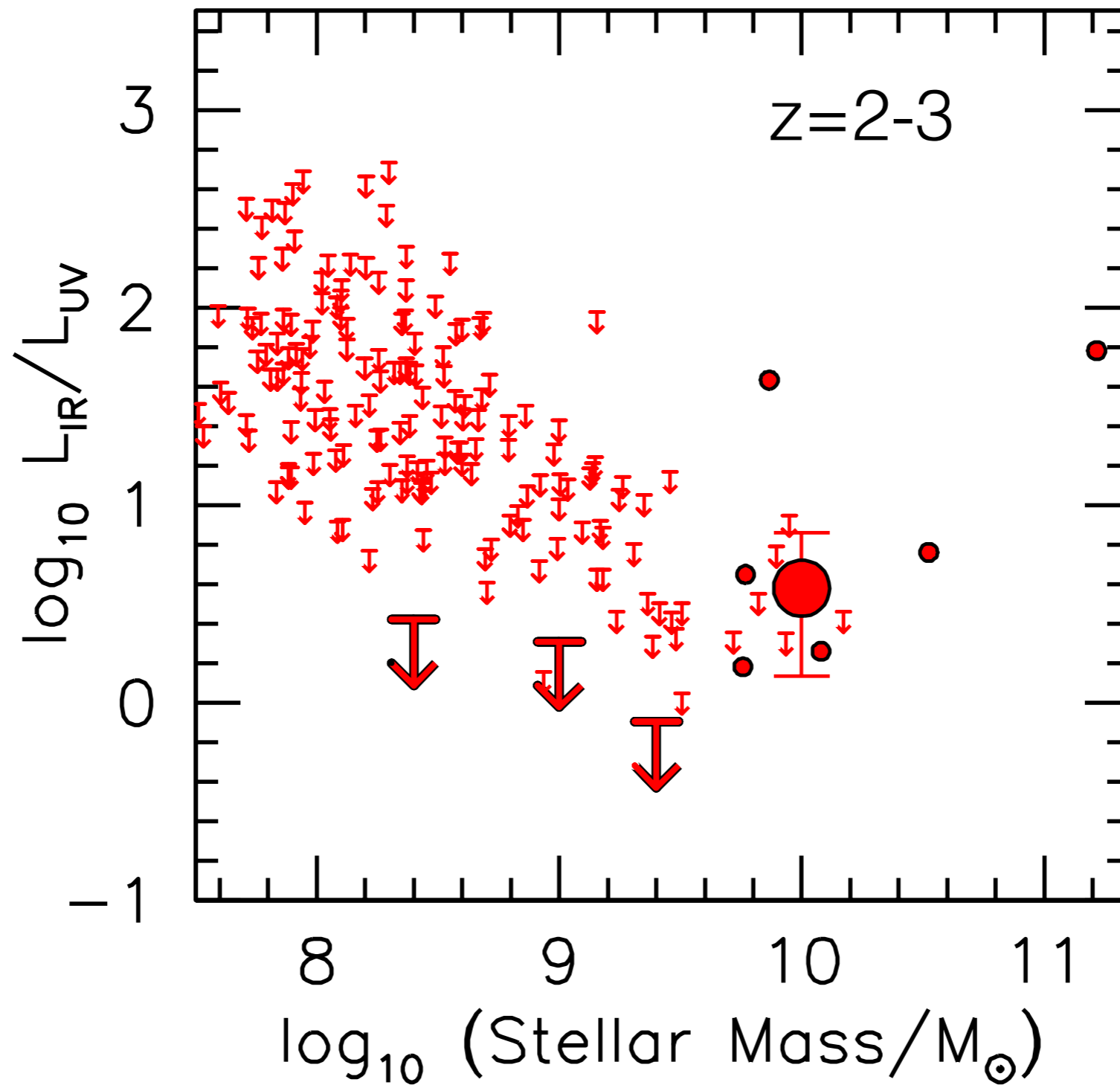
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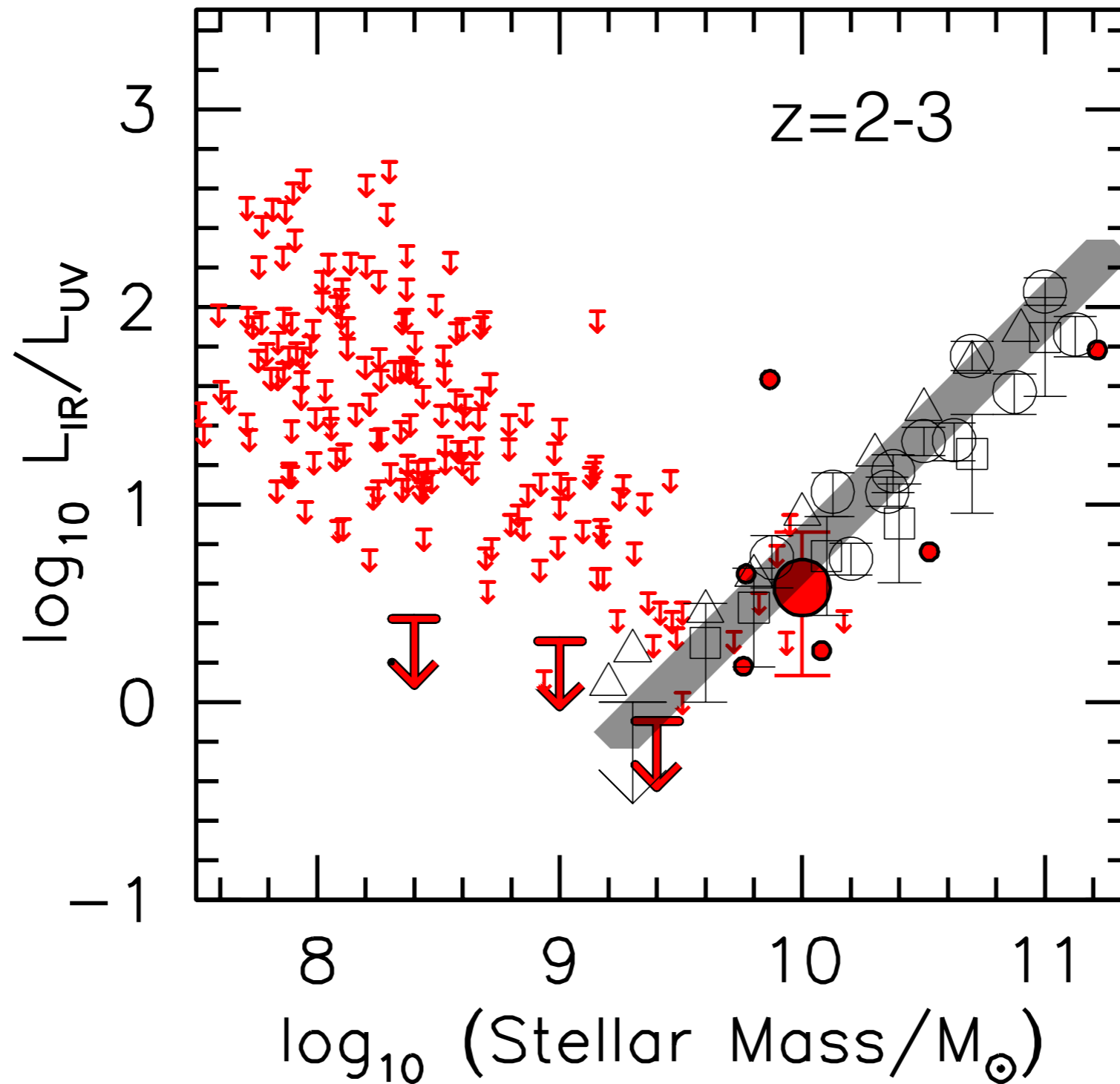
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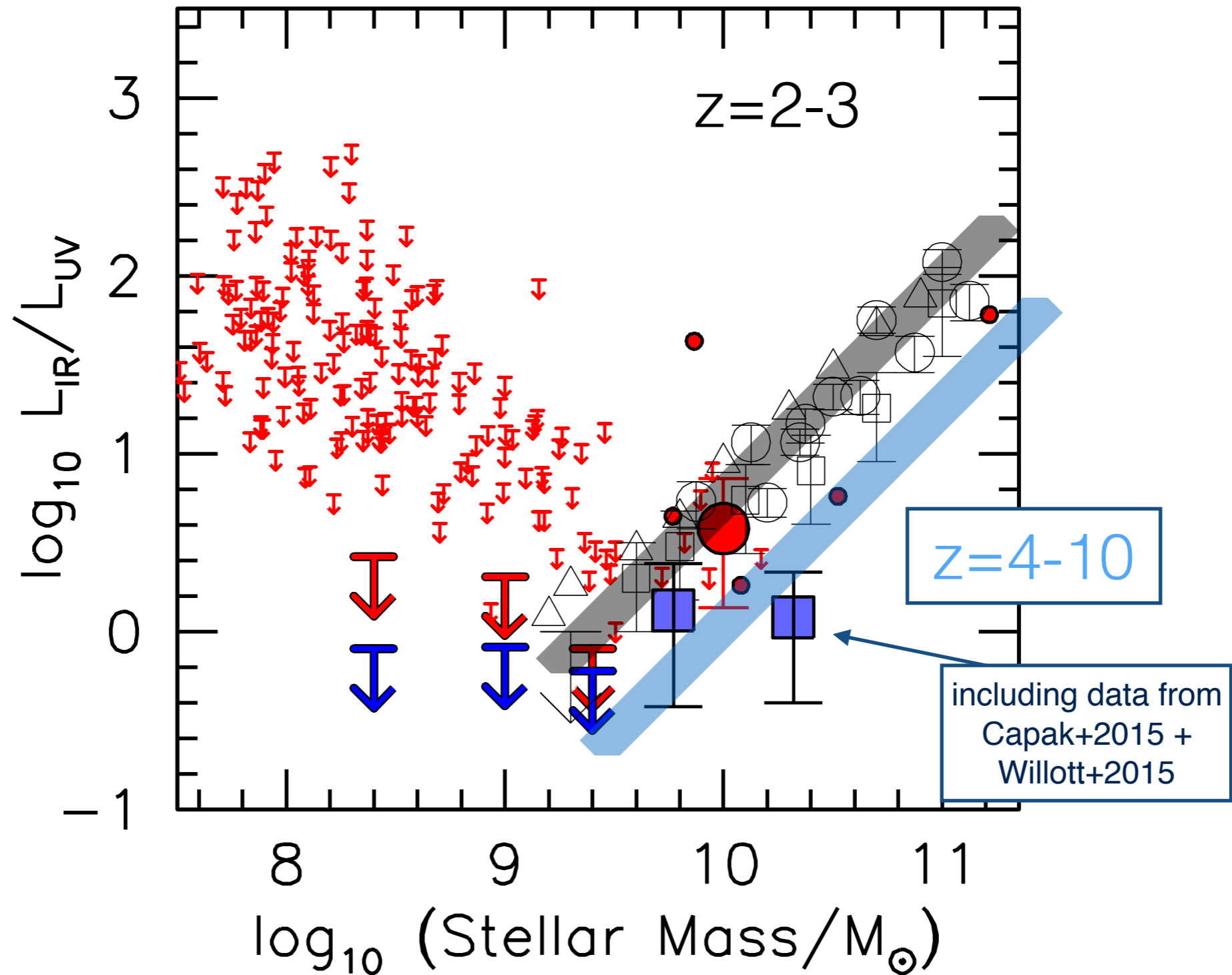
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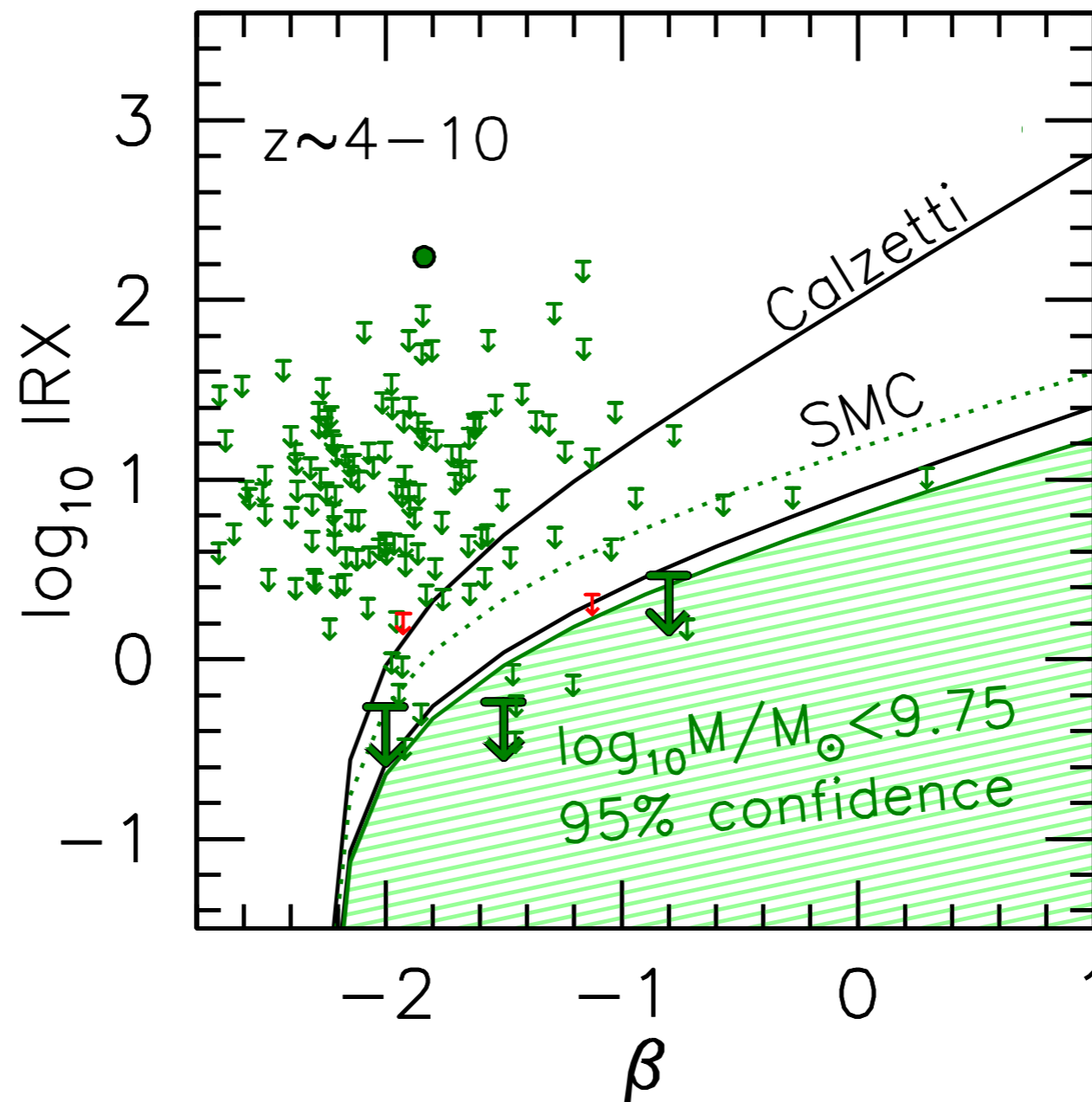
ALMA UDF

Ratio of Obscured SFR to UV SFR vs. Stellar Mass



ALMA UDF

Stack sources to derive IRX ($L_{\text{IR}}/L_{\text{UV}}$) vs. beta



Bouwens et al., Walter et al., Aravena et al., Decarli et al., submitted (May 2016)

(IRX-Stellar Mass: Panella+2009, 2015; Reddy+2010; Whitaker+2014; Alvarez-Marquez+2016)

Key Points

Lyman-Continuum Photon Production Efficiency:

Directly Measurable in $z \sim 4-5$ Galaxies from IRAC

May be $\sim 2x$ larger than typically assumed (if dust very low)

Ultra-Faint Extension to $z \sim 6$ UV Luminosity Functions:

Hubble Frontier Fields Data Set can Potentially Probe Very Faint Galaxies

Uncertainties Very Large!, but current Samples suggestive of significant population of especially faint galaxies

Dust-continuum Emission from $z=2-10$ Galaxies

Stellar Mass is Particularly Useful Predictor of IR emission, almost all massive galaxies are detected with ALMA

IRX- β for typical low-mass galaxies at $z > \sim 2$ is \sim SMC or below