

A field of stars, likely a star cluster or galaxy core, showing a prominent bright diagonal streak or filament of stars. The stars are concentrated in a diagonal band from the upper left to the lower right, with a much sparser distribution of stars elsewhere. The colors range from bright yellow/white to deep red.

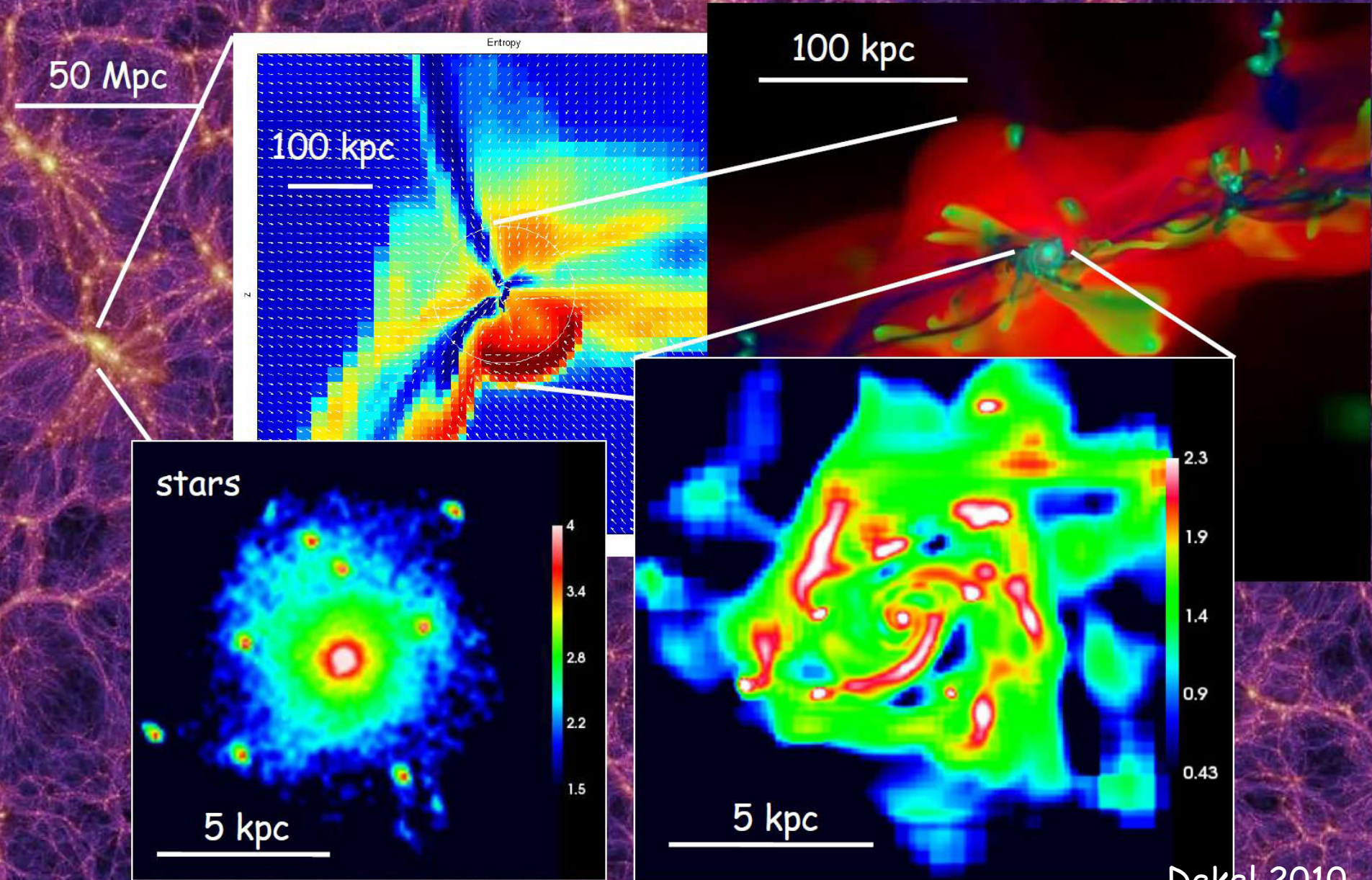
VLSB@EODGs

Noah Brosch, Aleksandr Mosenkov, Mike Rich

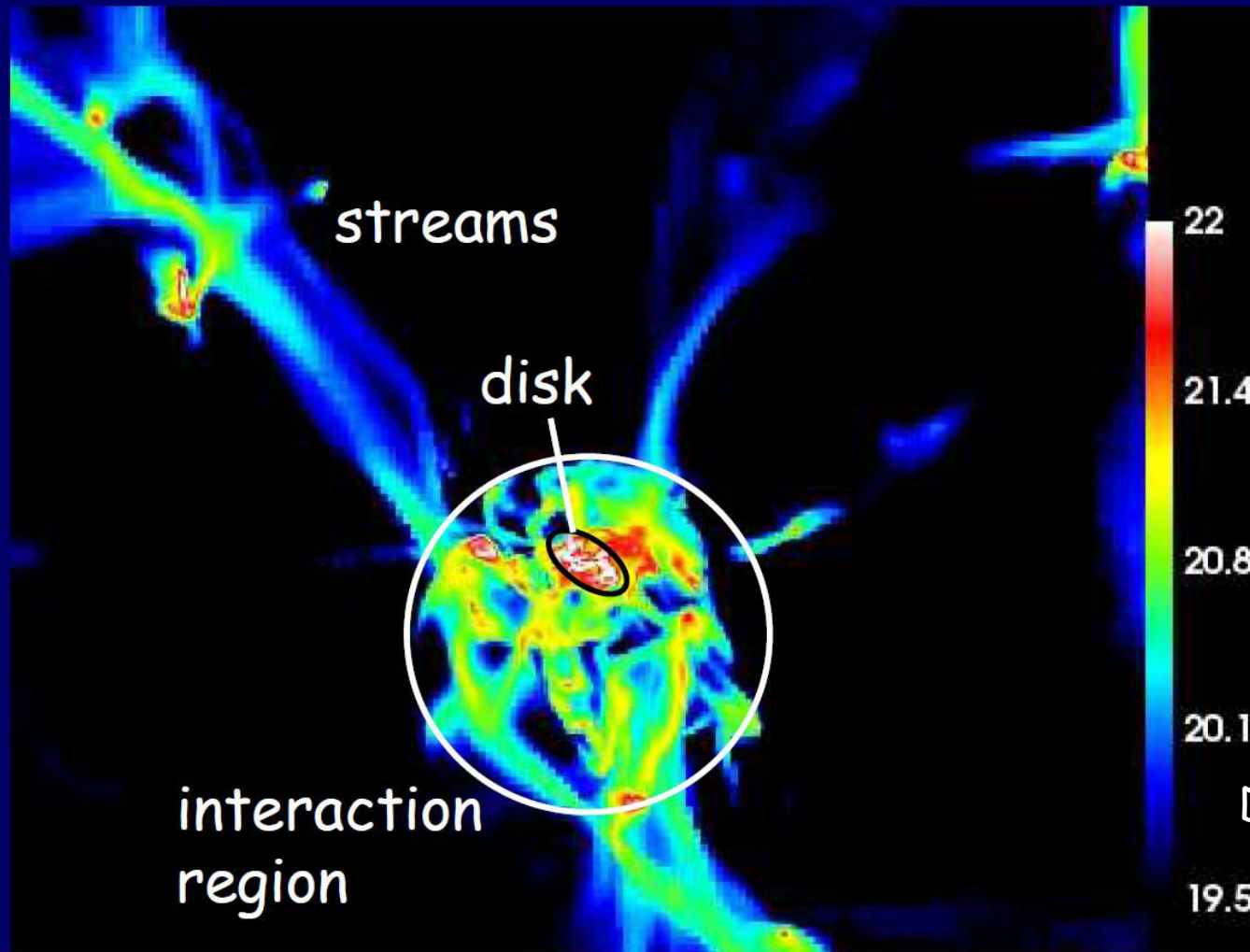
Outline:

1. Λ CDM issues re galaxy formation and evolution, merging and galaxy build-up
2. The LSB Universe
3. Detecting LSB features
4. WiseObs observations & preliminary results

Cosmic Web, Cold Streams, Clumpy Disks & Spheroids

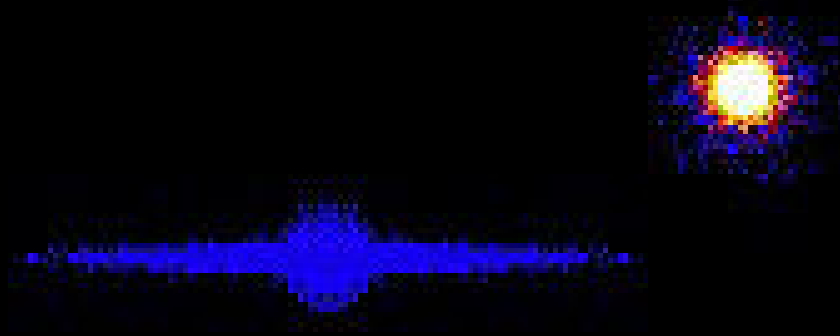


A Disk Fed by Cold Streams



Stream-disk interaction? Stream collisions? Stream instability - hydrodynamical? thermal? gravitational?

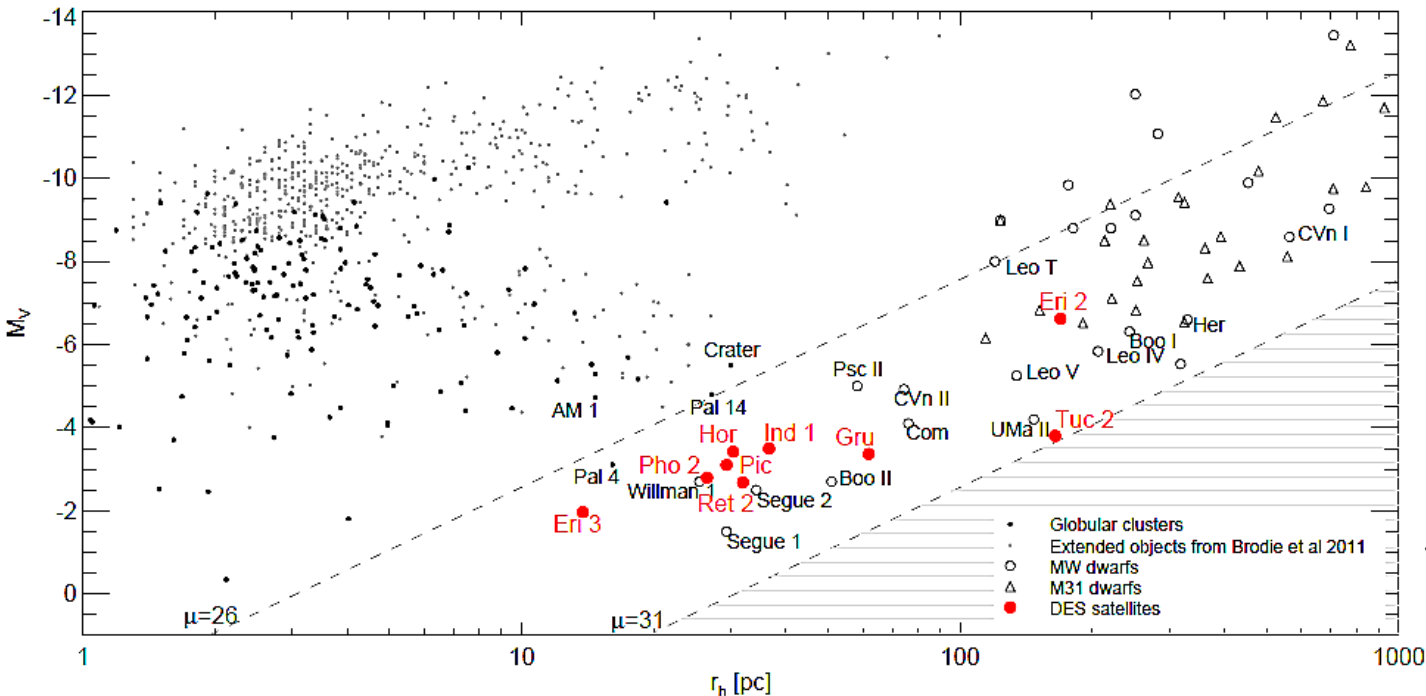
Kathryn Johnston movie of dwarf galaxy accretion & (LSB) stream formation



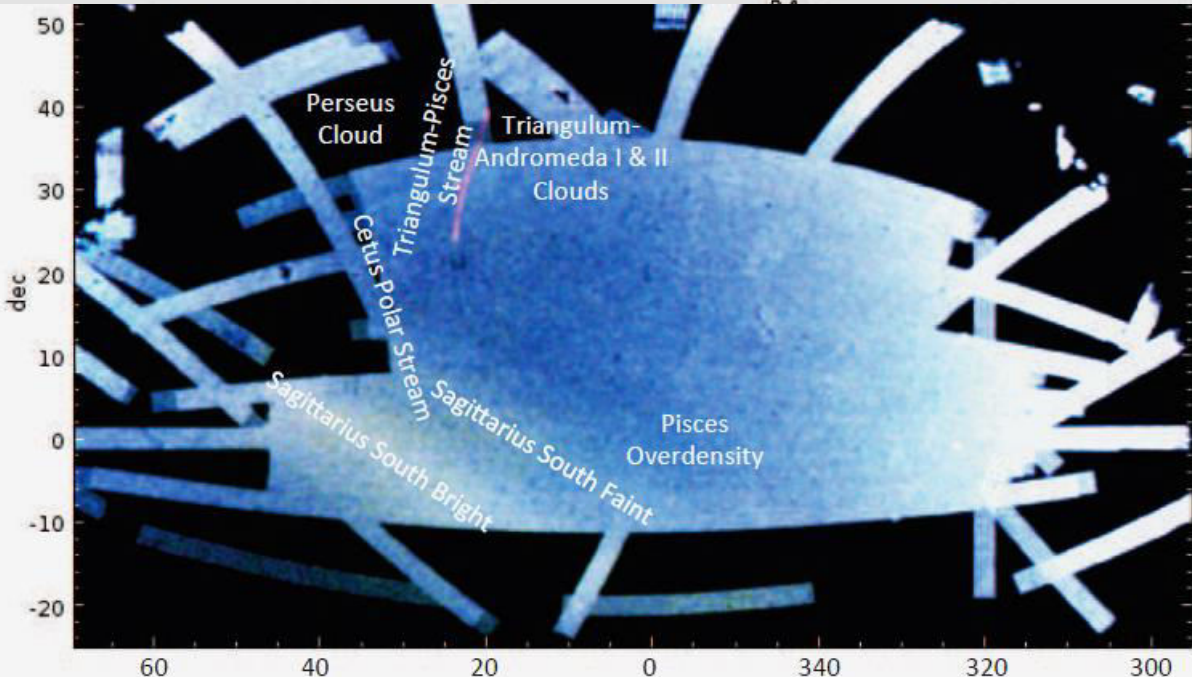
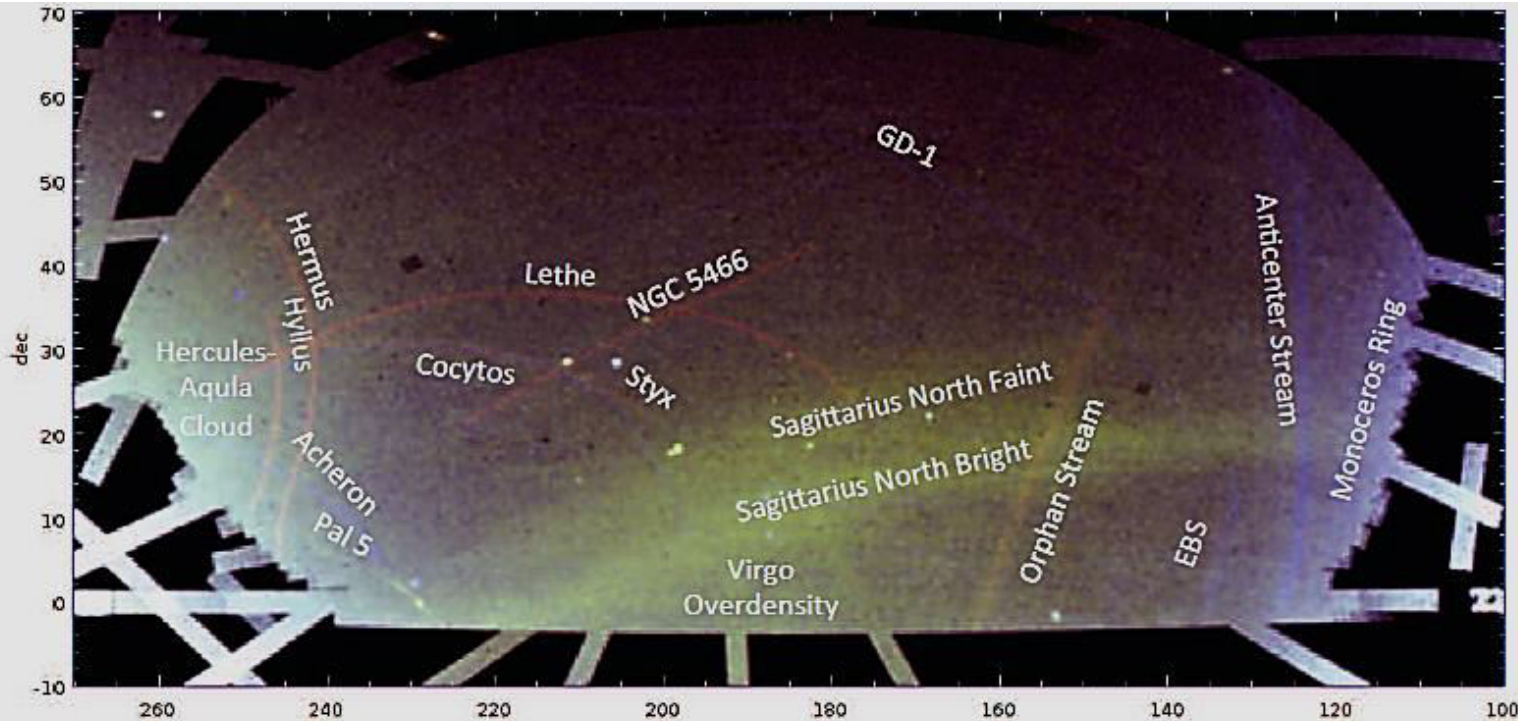
Over past ~40 years ~100x improvement in point source detection:

- Imaging mag 25 \rightarrow 30
 - Spectroscopy mag 21 \rightarrow 26
- } Giant telescopes

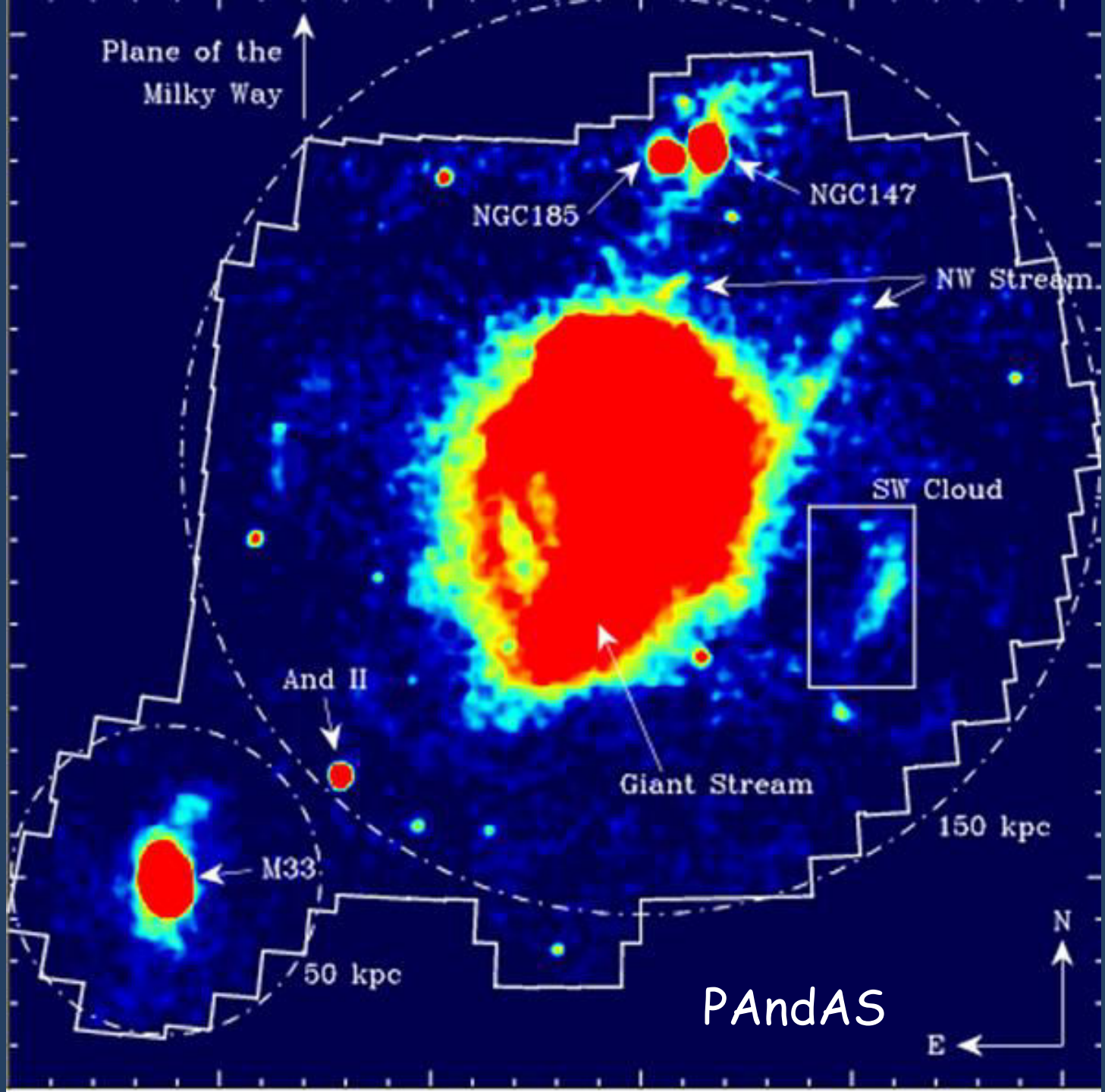
However, the LSB sky remains ~unexplored: limits have not changed much in past 30+ years!



Koposov et al 2015 -
satellites of MCs are
LSB DGs

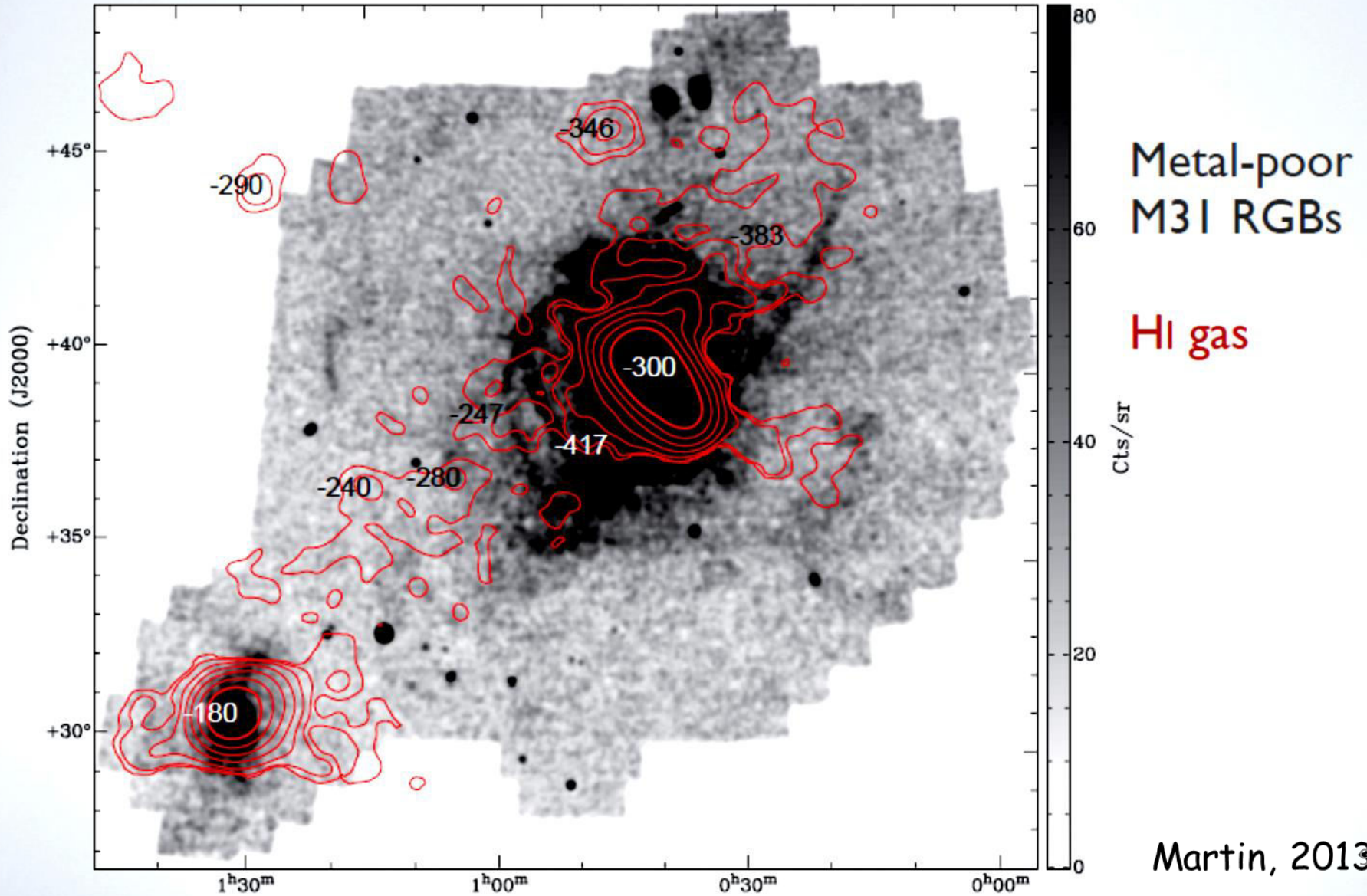


Stellar streams in the MW

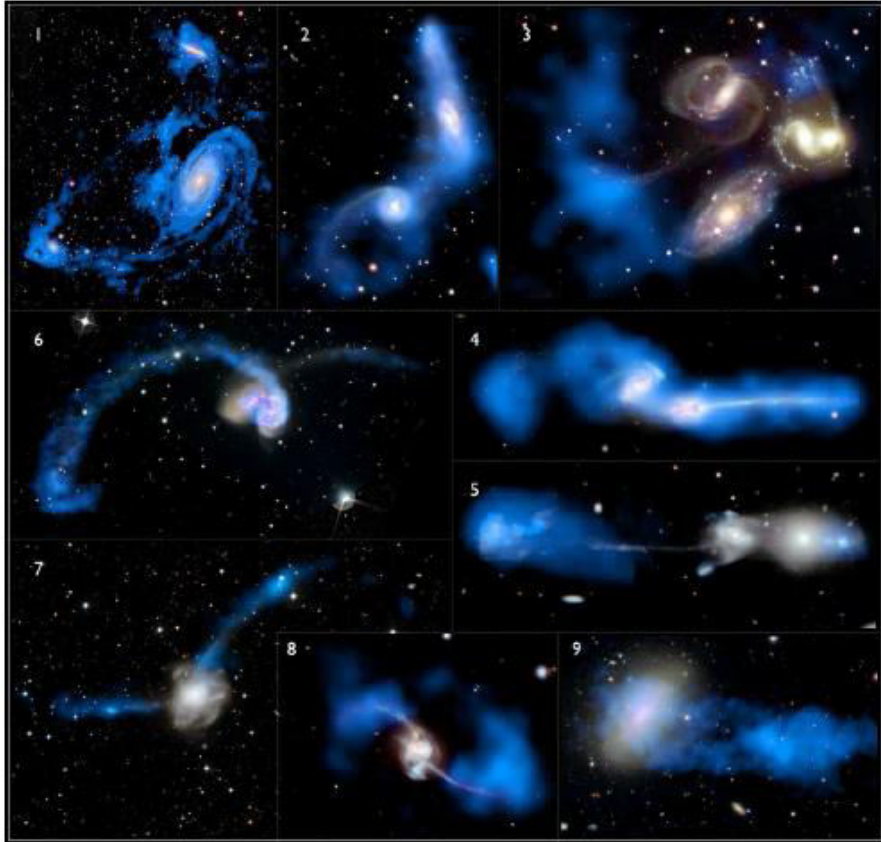


Star/HI comparison

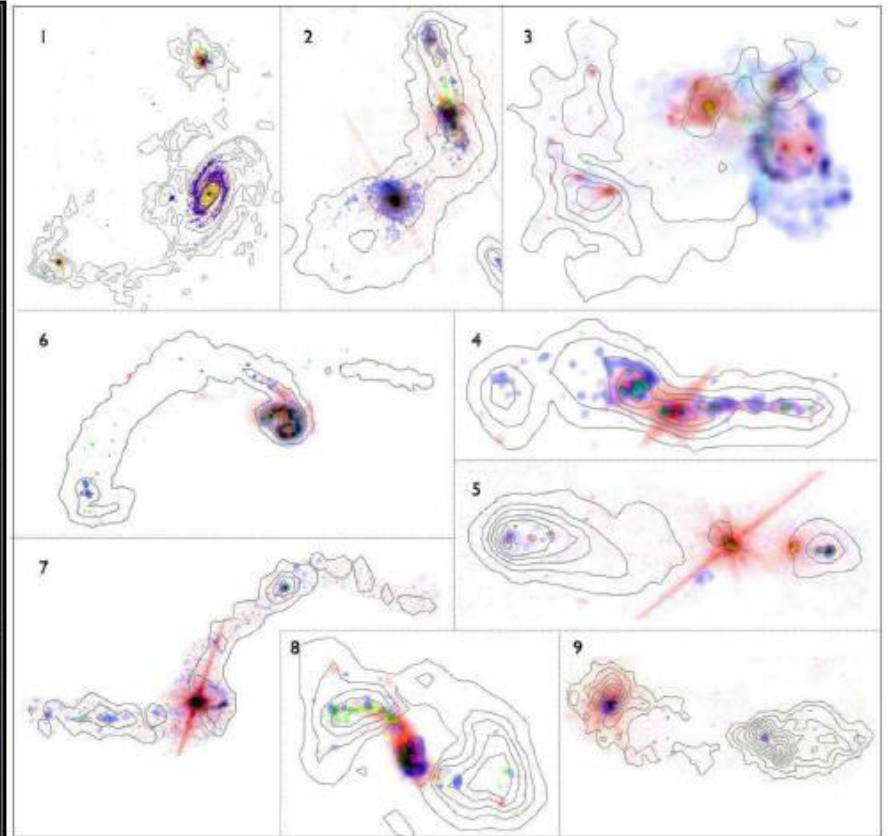
Lewis, Braun et al. (2012)



Major mergers



Merging galaxies: HI in blue



Star formation. HI contours, UV=**blue**,
H α =**green**, mid-IR=**red**

Gas-poor vs. gas-rich mergers

N5557

N4254

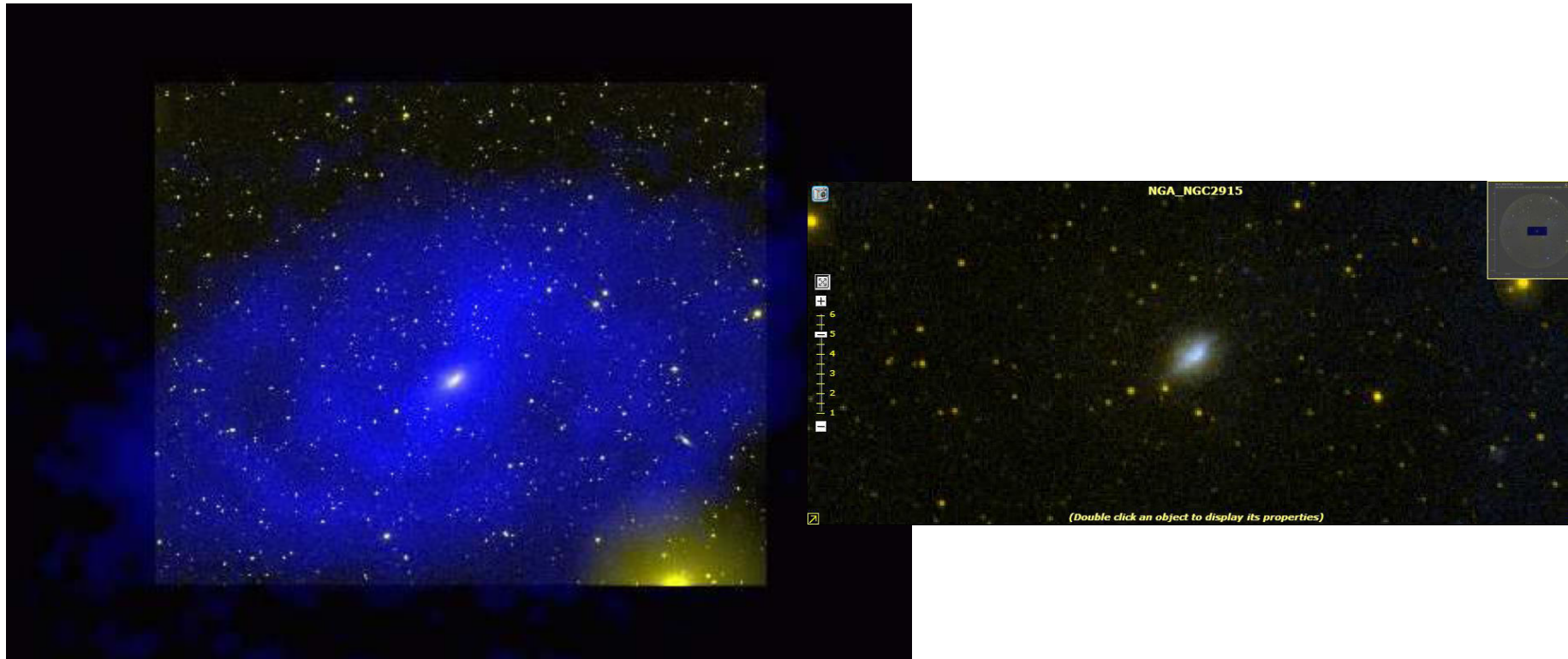
HI in blue



Stellar streams around N5907

Stellar streams vs. gas streams

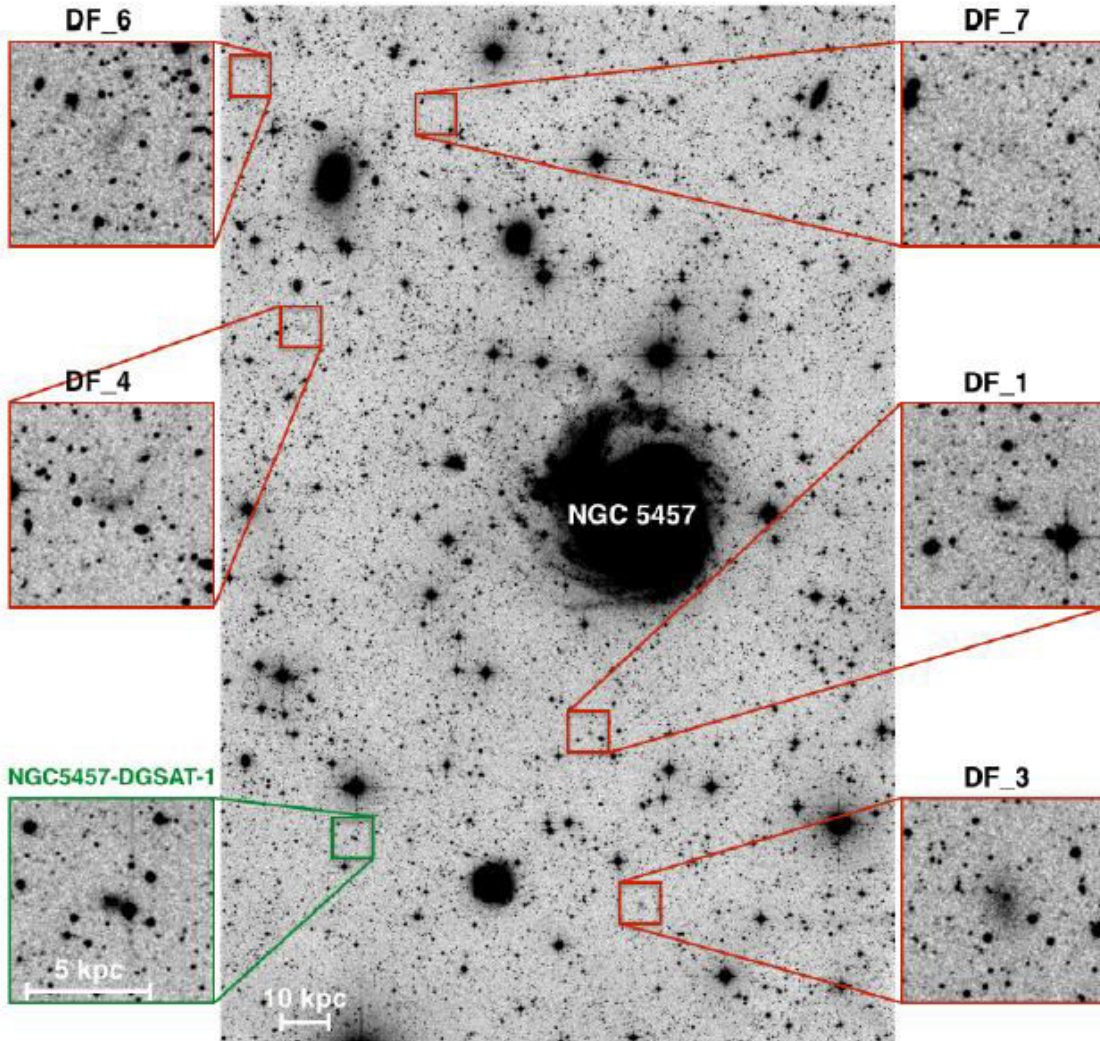
Minor mergers & gas reservoirs



Composite optical (yellow) and HI (blue) image of the dwarf galaxy NGC2915 from Meurer et al. (1996), and GALEX (right image). "Accretion takes place both through the arrival and merging of gas-rich satellites and through gas infall from the intergalactic medium".

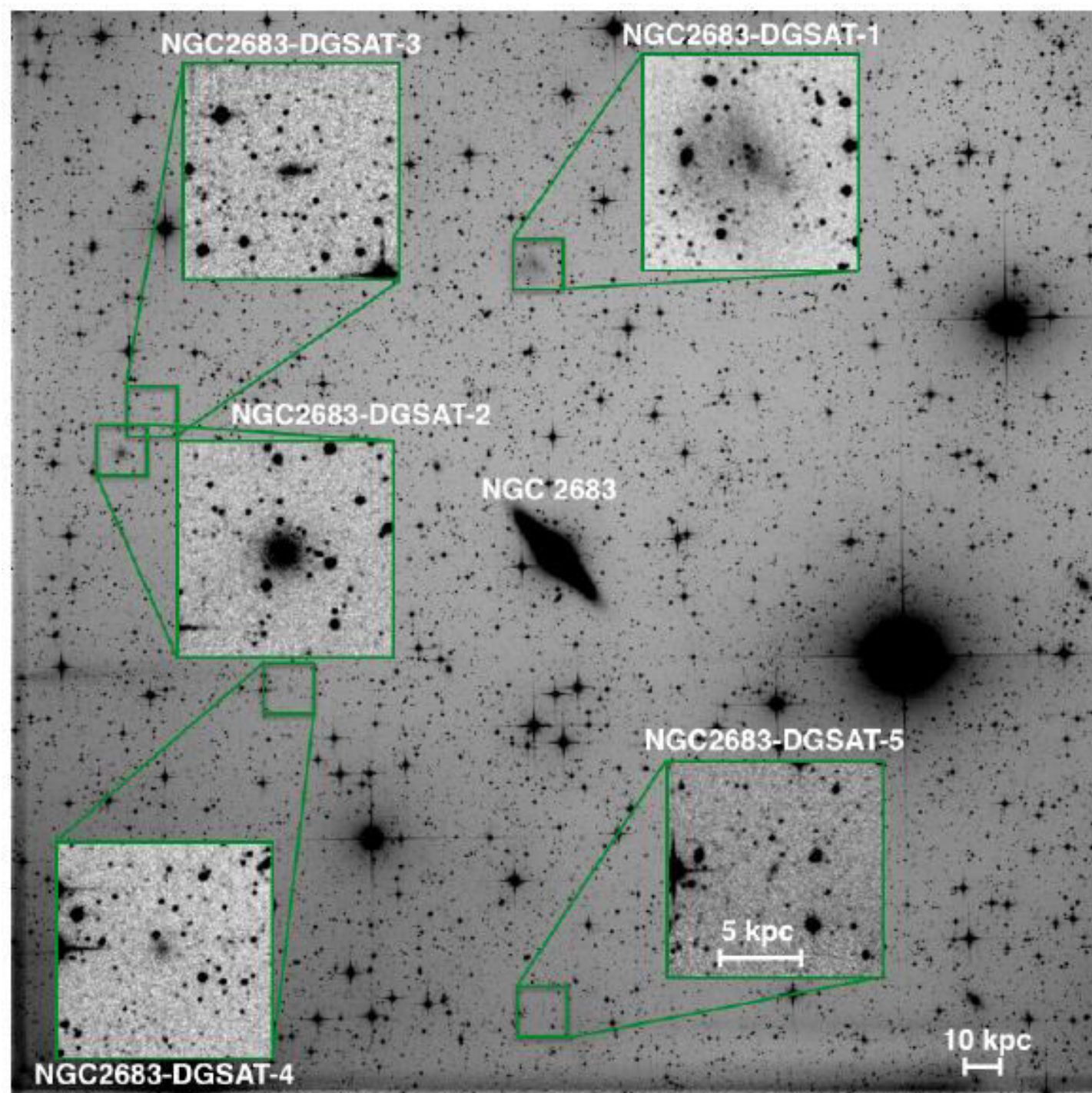
Search for LSB features

Target	Observatory	Location	Telescope	f/	Obs. Date	t_{exp} (s)	FOV (arcmin)	pixel scale (arcsec/pix)
NGC2683	ROSA(POLLUX)	Verclause, France	Newton 0.4-m	3.5	Feb-Mar 2015	24000	81'×81'	1.22
NGC3628	DGRO-Rancho Hidalgo	New Mexico, USA	RCOS 0.36-m	7.9	Dec 2011	36000	43'×43'	0.62
NGC4594	Riverdingo	Adelaide, Australia	RCOS 0.36-m	7.9	Apr 2009	25200	43'×43'	0.62
NGC4631	Black Bird	New Mexico, USA	RCOS 0.5-m	8.1	May-Nov 2011	63000	31'×31'	0.43
NGC5457	ROSA(POLLUX)	Verclause, France	Newton 0.4-m	3.5	Apr-May 2014	75600	81'×81'	1.22
NGC5457	Antares	Gossau, Switzerland	TEC140 APO	7.2	Feb - May 2012	87600	121'×80'	1.82
NGC7814	Rancho del Sol	California, USA	RCOS 0.5-m	8.3	Aug 2013	40800	29'×29'	0.43

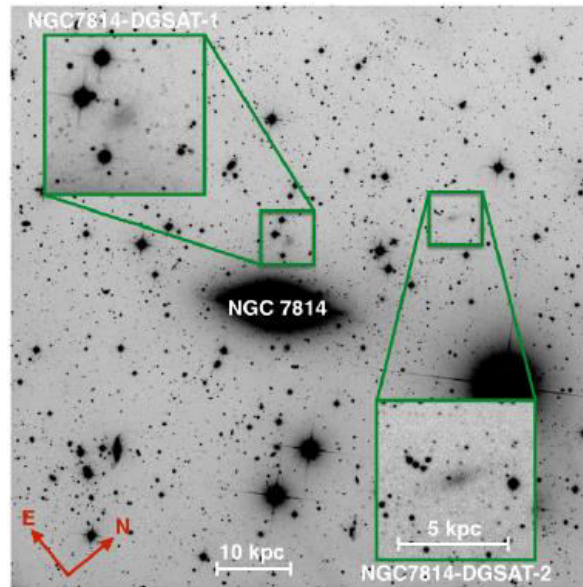
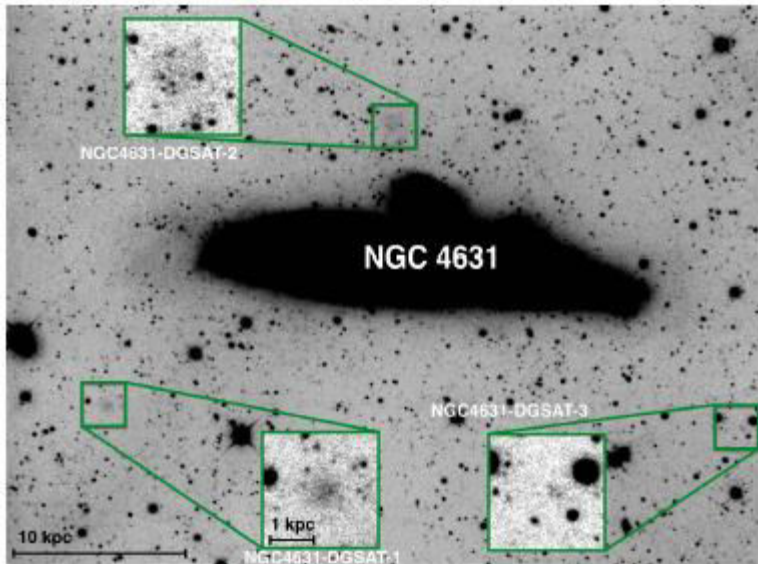
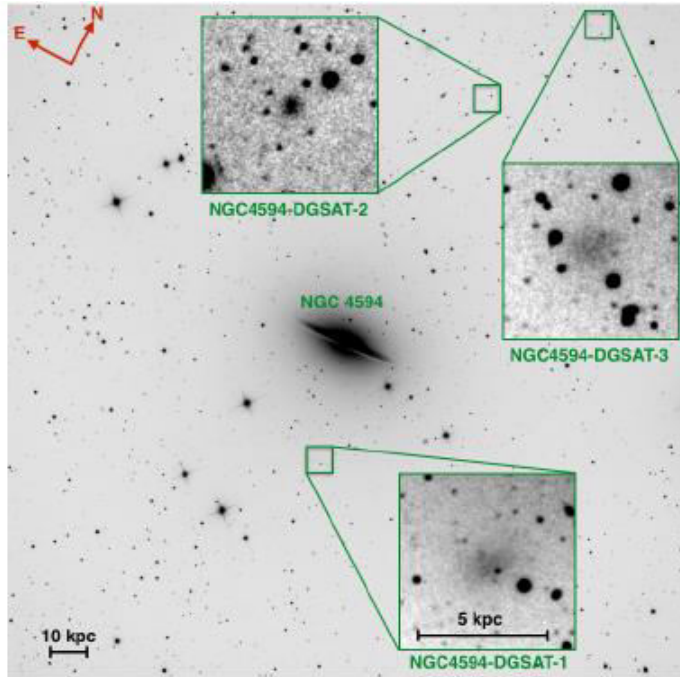
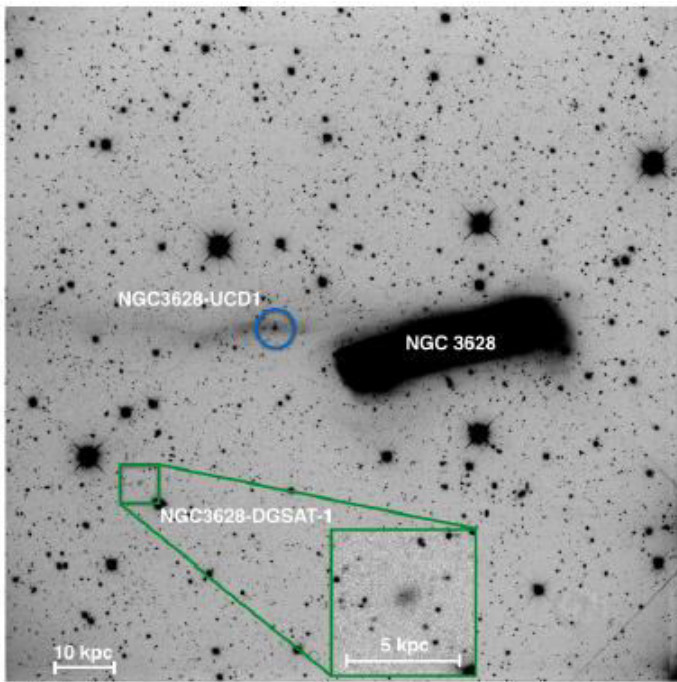


Small telescopes

1. Use long exposures on small telescopes of amateur astronomers
2. Detect faint LSB "companions" in all the checked fields
3. **No distances**

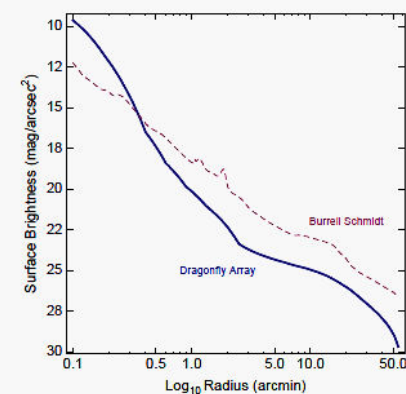
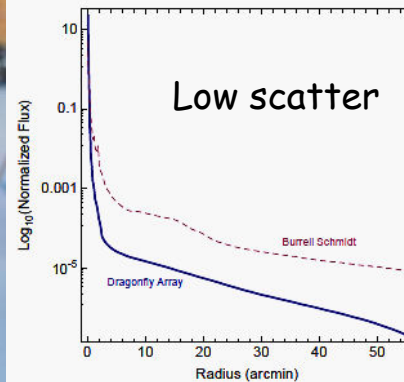


Javanmardi et al.
2015



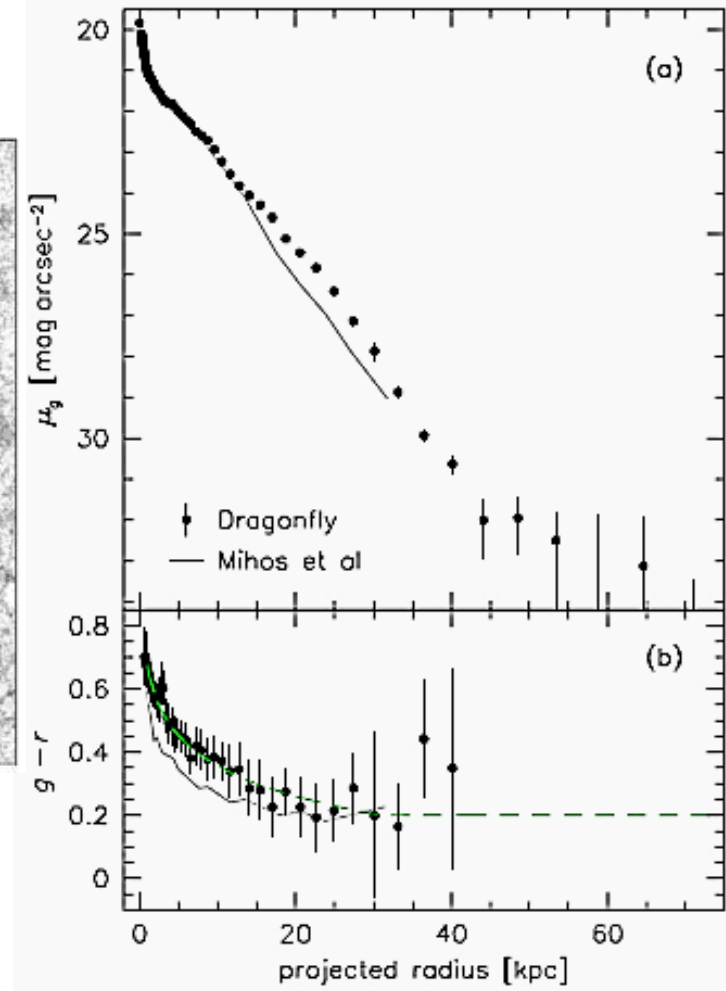
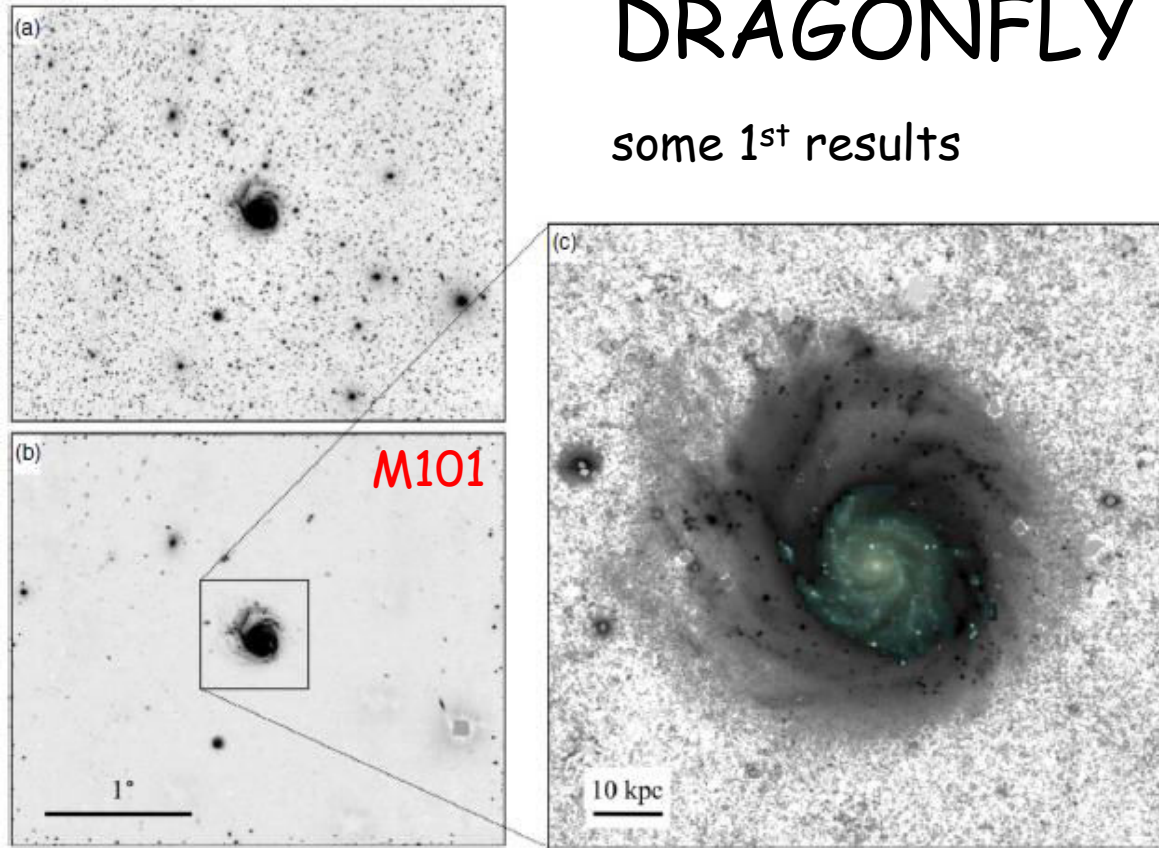
DRAGONFLY:

- Canon 400mm $f=2.8$ L IS II USM telephoto lenses coupled to eight science-grade commercial CCD cameras; uses SDSS g & r filters.
- Imaging capability equivalent to a 0.4m aperture $f=0.9$ refractor with a 2.6×1.9 square degrees field of view.
- Capable of imaging extended structures to surface brightness levels below $B = 30$ mag/arcsec² in 10h integrations
- Located in NM @2200m



DRAGONFLY

some 1st results



Total observing time=35 hours
LSB background due to MW cirrus

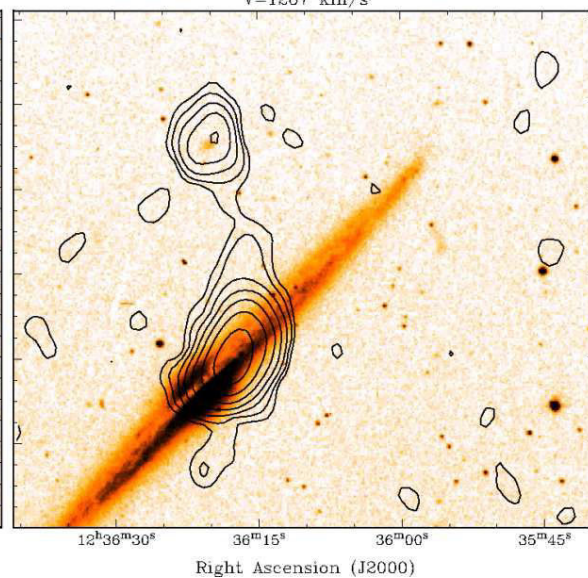
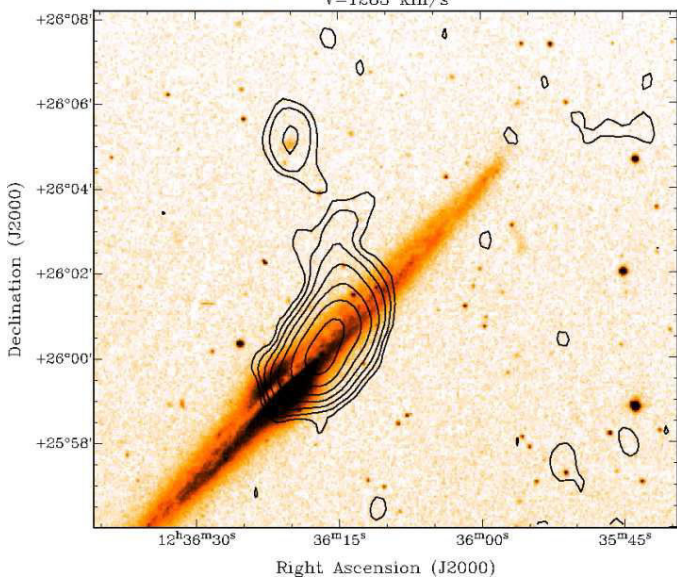
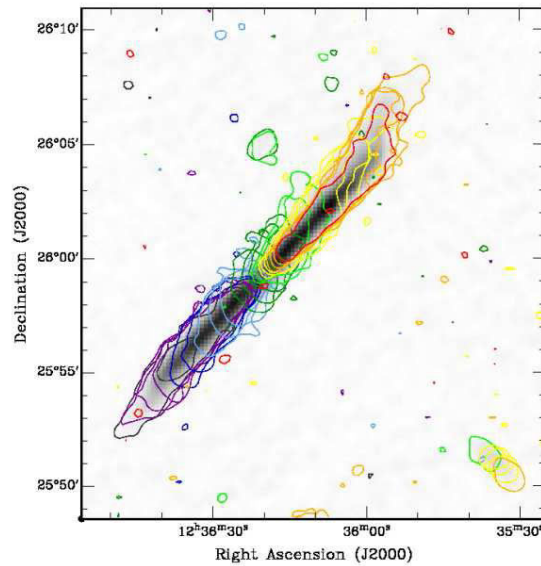
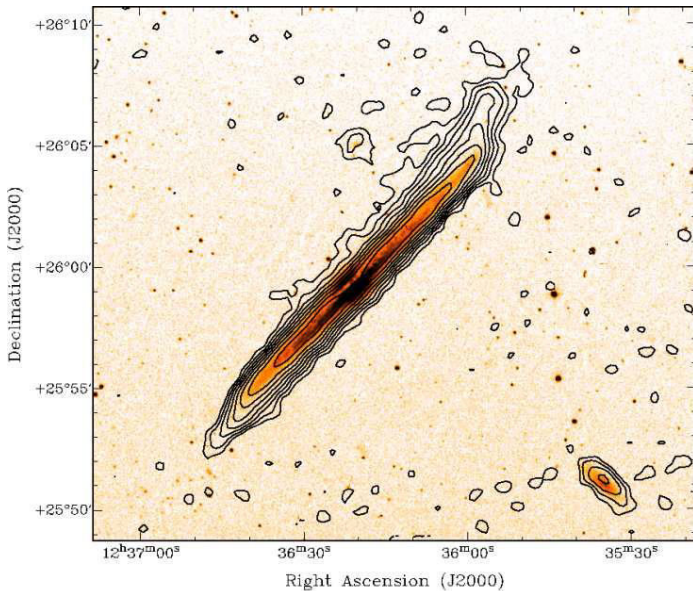
Targeting nearby luminous galaxies



DRAGONFLY upgrade

50 lenses+CCD cameras;
equivalent to 1.0-m f/0.4

Minor mergers/interactions



Top left: HI map of NGC 4565 at a resolution of 30" superposed on the DSS image. Contours are 2, 4, 8, 16, 32 and 64 $\times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-2}$.

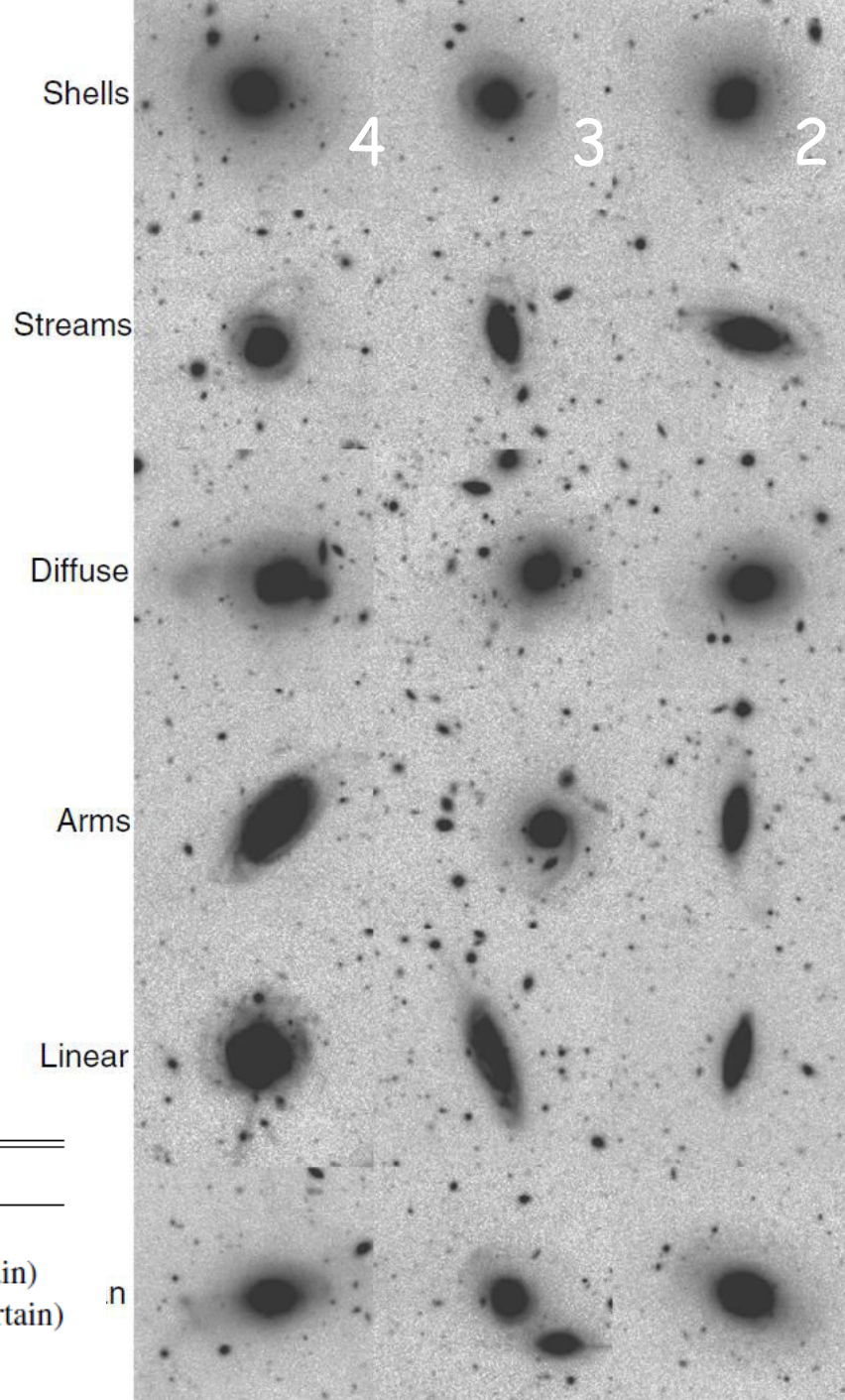
Top right: outer contours of the HI emission in individual channels (from blue to red) superposed on the total HI density map.

Bottom panels: HI channel maps at two representative velocities superposed on the DSS image of NGC 4565. They clearly show the interaction between NGC 4565 and its small companion.

Atkinson et al. (2013)

"tidal" feature classification from CFHT images of 1781 galaxies

Examples of all six classifications of tidal features (top to bottom: shells, streams, miscellaneous diffuse structure, arms, linear features, and fans) in three different confidence bins with decreasing confidence from left to right (bins four, three, and two). Columns correspond to the confidence levels (defined in Table 2) that the tidal feature exists. Each individual thumbnail is $\sim 56'' \times 56''$.

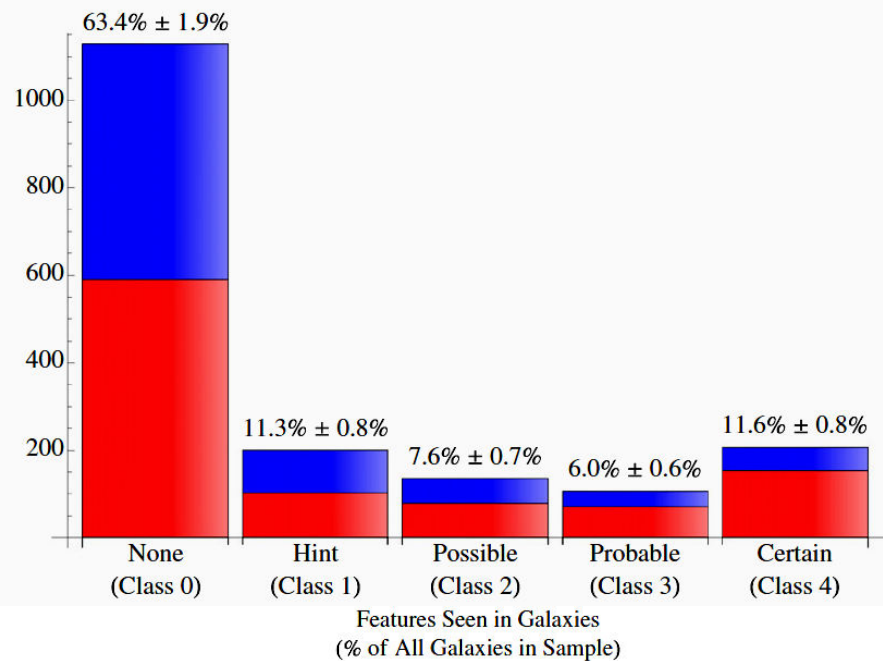


Detection Classes

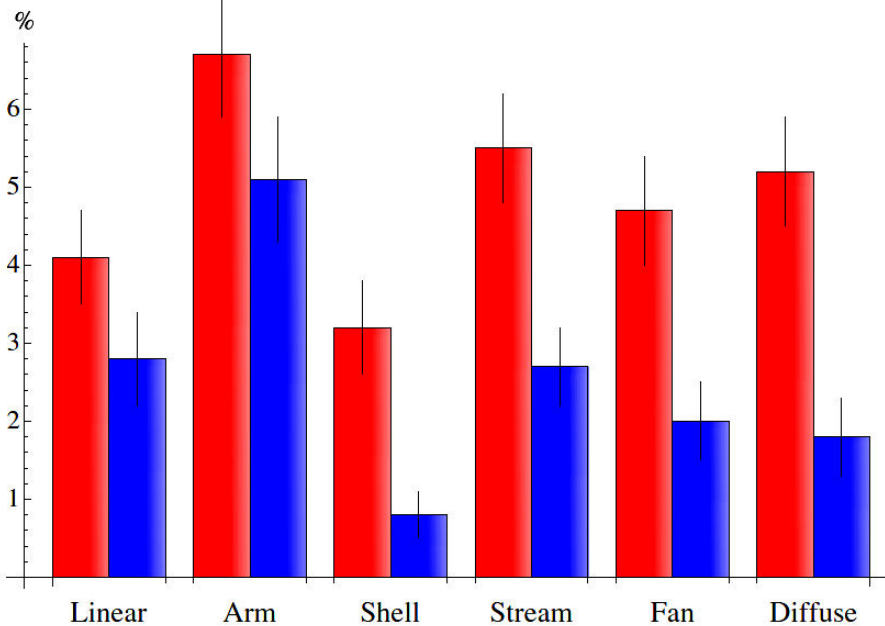
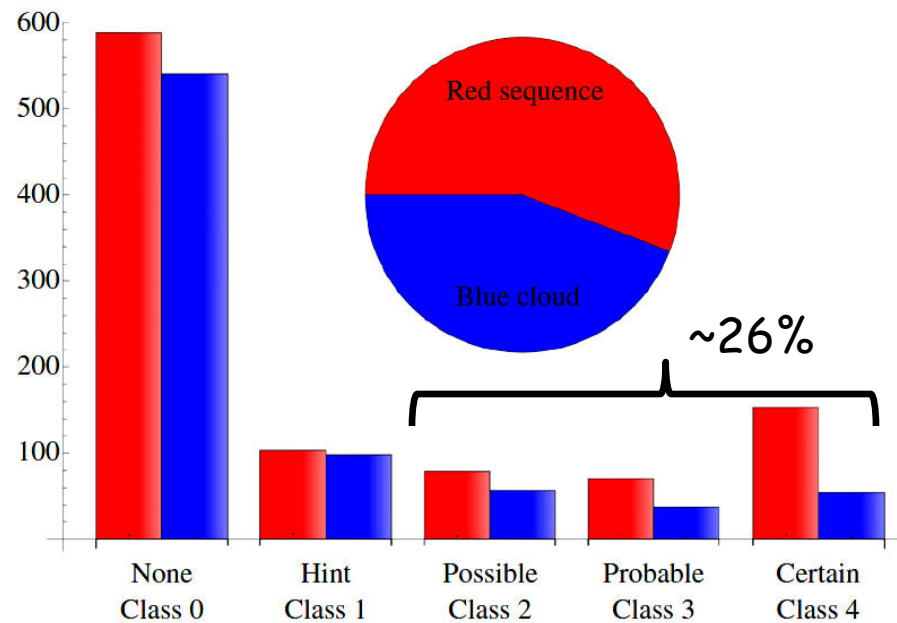
Confidence Level	Definition
4	Certain detection of a tidal feature
3	Probable detection of a tidal feature (over 75% certain)
2	Possible detection of a tidal feature (around 50% certain)
1	Hint of a potential tidal feature. Very uncertain
0	No evidence for tidal features seen

Atkinson et al. 2013

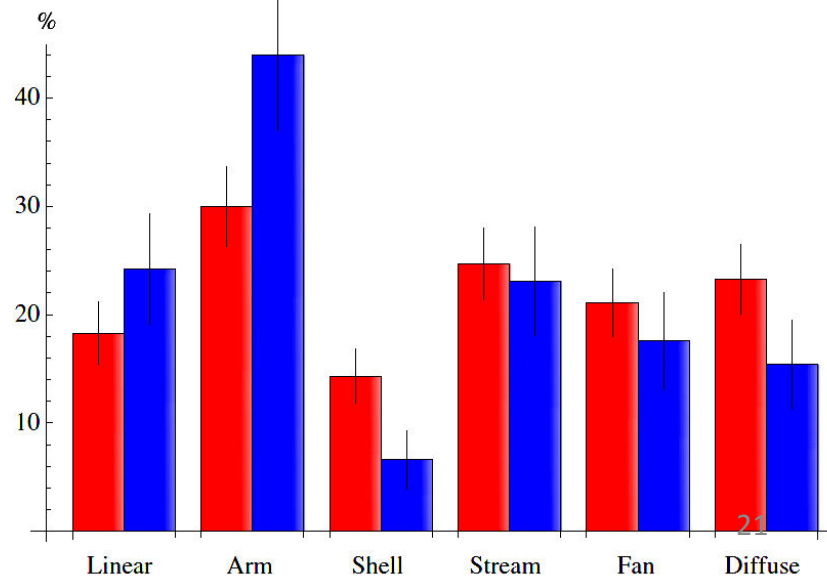
Galaxies



Galaxies

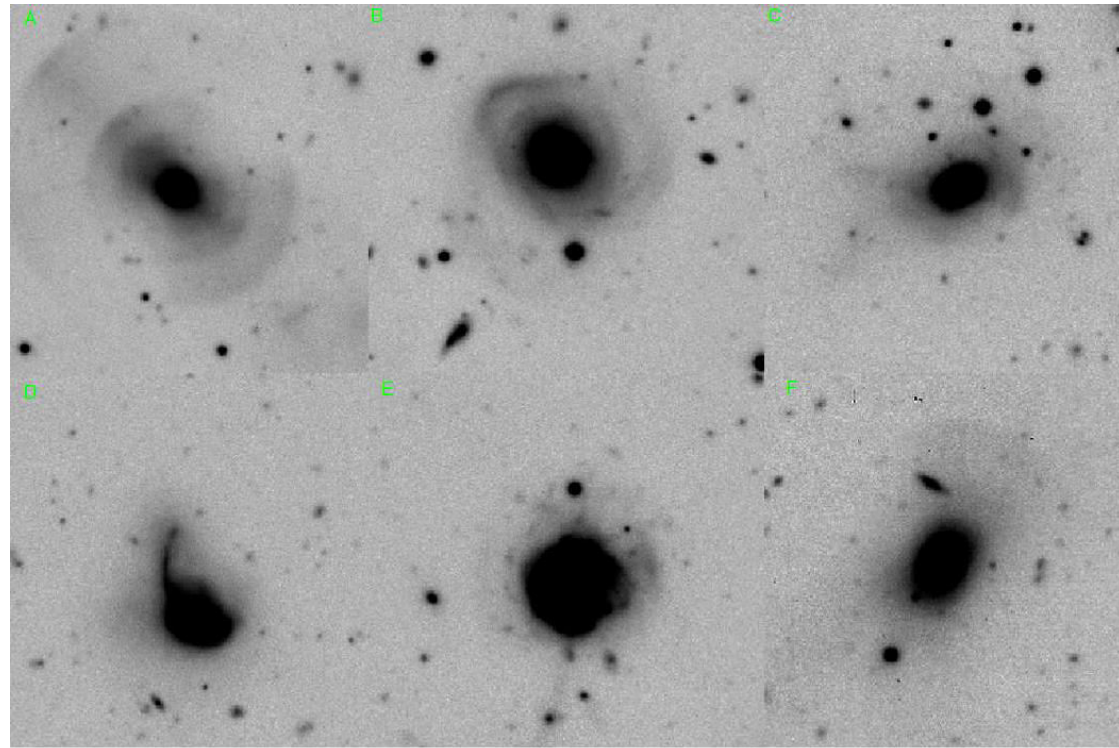


Features Seen in Galaxies (% of Tidally Disturbed Sample)



Atkinson et al. (2013)

Examples of different categories of **tidal** disturbances used to classify objects in the paper. (a) Shells, (b) a stream (visible in the lower part of the image), (c) miscellaneous diffuse structure, (d) an arm, (e) a linear feature (visible at the bottom of the image), and (f) broad fans of diffuse light.

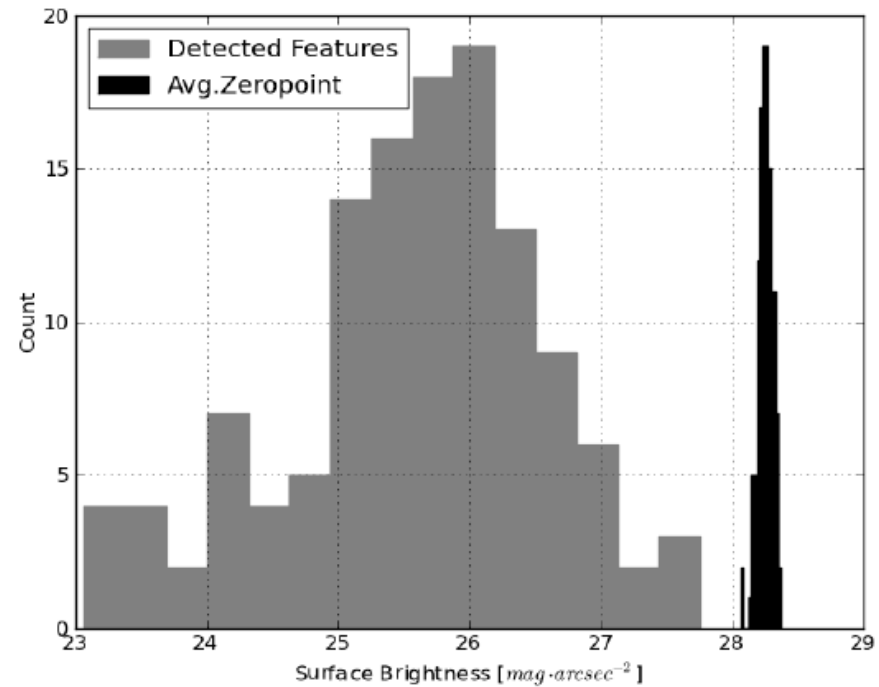
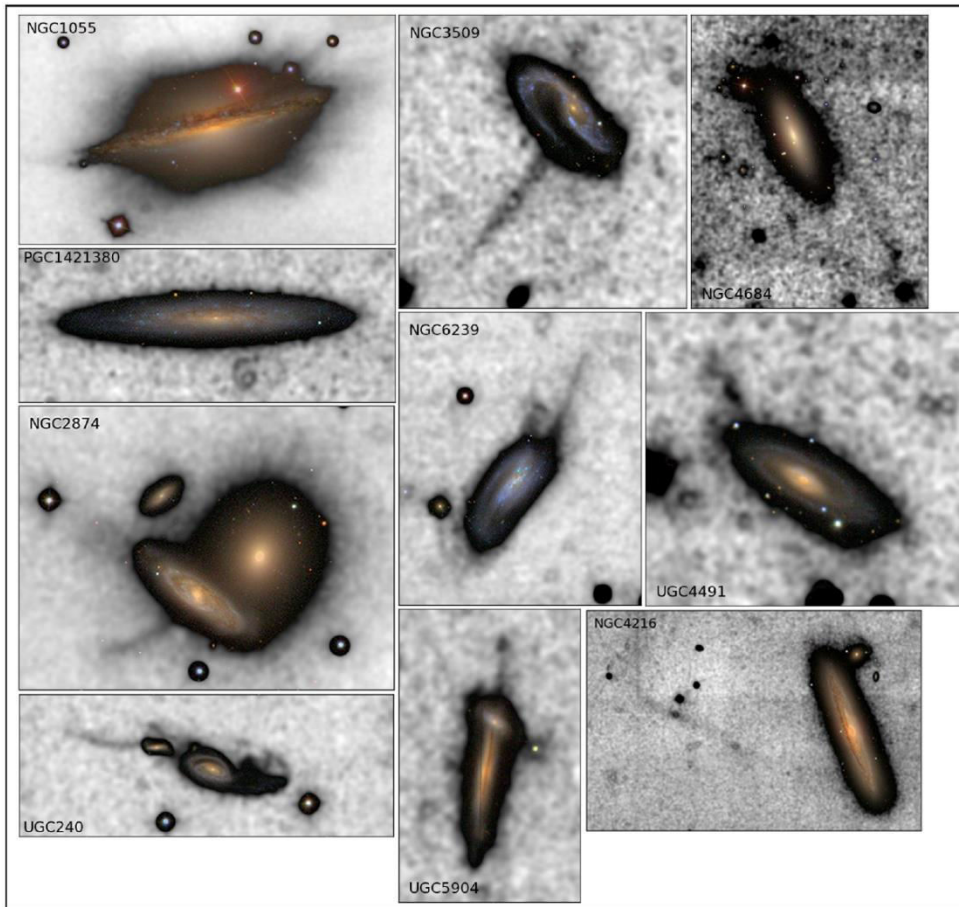


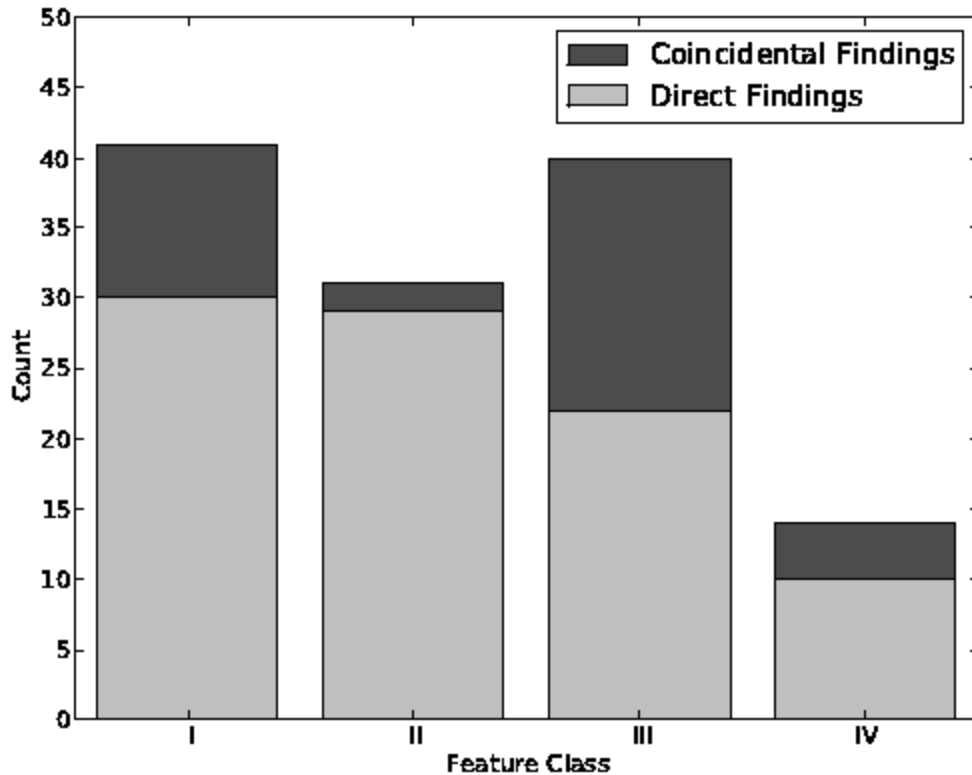
Summary of Tidal Feature Detections

Confidence	Total Sample		Red Galaxies		Blue Galaxies		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
4	~26% {	207	11.6 ± 0.8	153	15.4 ± 1.2	54	6.9 ± 0.9
3		107	6.0 ± 0.6	70	7.0 ± 0.8	37	4.7 ± 0.8
2		136	7.6 ± 0.7	79	7.9 ± 0.9	57	7.2 ± 1.0
1		201	11.3 ± 0.8	103	10.4 ± 1.0	98	12.4 ± 1.3
0		1130	63.4 ± 1.9	589	59.3 ± 2.4	541	68.7 ± 3.0
Number of galaxies		1781		994		787	

Tidal streams around 474 EODGs in SDSS DR7

- Inclination. Should be as close to edge-on as possible.
- Size. Galaxies should be at least two arcminutes in diameter.
- Morphology. Every galaxy type **except elliptical galaxies**





41 galaxies in class I, 31 galaxies in class II, 40 galaxies in class III, and 14 galaxies in class IV,

Final results: 19% of galaxies show LSB features connected to the disk; 6% stream-like

I: Features which show clear streams which are not the result of major mergers or other large scale interactions.

II: Features which seem to be connected to some disc disturbance like warping.

III: Features which are possibly the result of (large) interacting galaxies and not between one large galaxy and its dwarf companion, where a minor merger origin cannot be certain.

IV: Unclassified. Those would be features which make it hard to estimate what they really are, e.g. when it looks like a stream, but could also be very well an extension of a spiral arm.

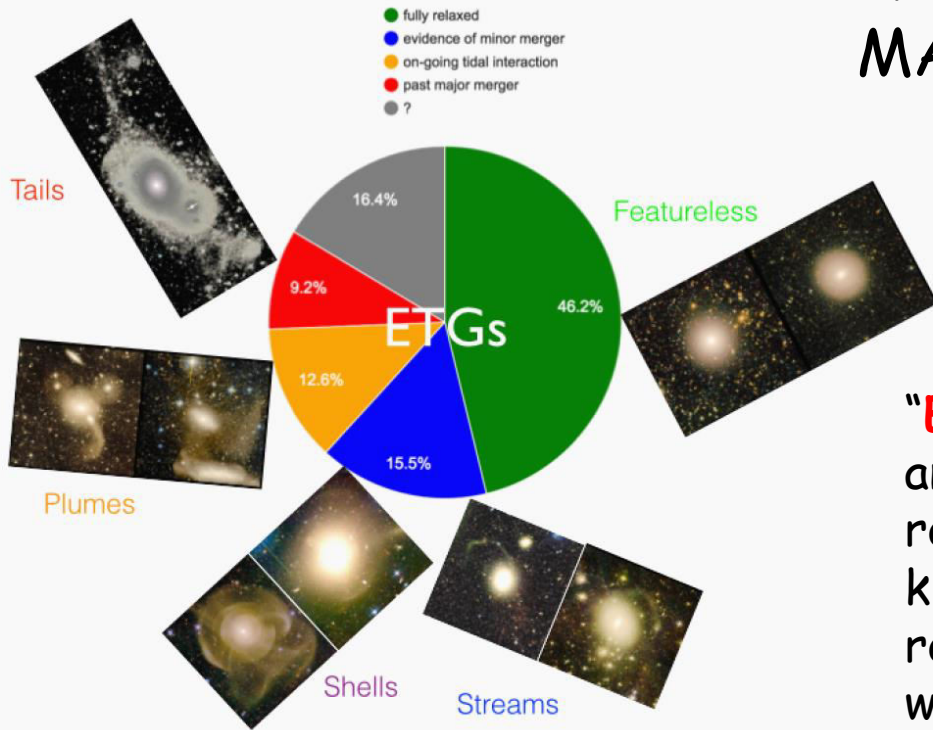
Table 1
Overview of Faint Substructure from Published Surveys

Investigation	N	Data Set	Selection	SB Limit (mag arcsec ⁻²)	Summary %
This paper	1781	CFHTLS-Wide	$r' < 17$ $0.04 < z < 0.2$ $M'_r < -19.3$	$g'_{AB} \sim 27.7$ $(g'r'i')_{AB}^a \sim 27.3$	Strong: 17.6% Weak: 25.2%
Adams et al. (2012)	3551	CFHT MENeCS	Cluster ETGs $0.04 < z < 0.15$ $M'_r < -20$	$r'_{AB} \sim 26.5$	3%
Sheen et al. (2012)	273	CTIO Mosaic II	Cluster ETGs $z \lesssim 0.1$ $M'_r < -20$	$r'_{AB} \sim 30$	Total sample: 25% Bulge-dominated: 38%
Kim et al. (2012)	65	S^4G	ETGs	$[3.6 \mu]_{AB} \sim 26.5$	17%
Miskolczi et al. (2011)	474	SDSS DR7	Edge-on disks >2' diameter	$(g'r'i')_{AB}^a \sim 26^b$	Strong: 6% Weak: 19%
Nair & Abraham (2010)	14034	SDSS DR4	$g' < 16$; $0.01 < z < 0.1$	$g'_{AB} \sim 26.5$	7%
Bridge et al. (2010)	23854	CFHTLS-Deep	$i_{\text{vega}} < 21.9$; $0.1 < z < 1.2$; $M_{\star} > 10^{9.5} M_{\odot}$	$g'_{\text{vega}} < 29^c$	4.3% ($z = 0.3$) 19% ($z = 1$)
Tal et al. (2009)	55	SMARTS (1 m)	Ellipticals $M_B < -20$ $15 < D_L < 50$ Mpc	$V_{\text{vega}} \sim 27.7$	73%
van Dokkum (2005)	126	MUSYC + NOAO Deep-Wide	ETGs $R < 17$ $0.04 < z < 0.2$	$(BVR_{AB}^a, BVI_{AB}^a) \sim 28$	Total sample: 53% Bulge dominated: 71%
Schweizer & Seitzer (1988)	74	KPNO 0.9 m	E/S0	IIIaJ ~ 26.5	Strong: 16% Weak: >50%
Malin & Carter (1983)	327	UK Schmidt	E/S0	IIIaJ ~ 26.5	5.8% (shells only)
Malin & Carter (1983)	73	UK Schmidt	E/S0 (isolated)	IIIaJ ~ 26.5	16.5% (shells only)

Notes.

- ^a Stacked.
- ^b Detections decline after this surface brightness, but individual features were detected down to nearly 28 mag arcsec⁻².
- ^c Cosmological dimming at the mid-redshift point of their sample ($z = 0.65$) is 2.2 mag arcsec⁻², considerably higher than any other entry (e.g., 0.4 mag arcsec⁻² for of our sample's mid-redshift point of $z = 0.1$).

Preliminary results from the MATLAS deep imaging survey



MATLAS (*Mass Assembly of early-Type GaLaxies with their fine Structures*)

"**ETGs** with stellar masses above $10^{11} M_{\odot}$, and, in particular, among them the slow rotators, i.e. the galaxies with a stellar kinematics showing no indication of rotation, seem to have experienced recent wet major mergers with a frequency increased by a factor of 3. While a significant fraction of **LTGs** in our sample show evidence for on-going tidal interactions, only **few of them exhibit streams and tails indicative of a past strong minor/major merger activity**. Preliminary results further indicate a mild dependence of the fraction of tidally perturbed galaxies on the large scale environment."

240 **ETGs**
(targets)+120
incidental **LTGs**
Tidally perturbed
~40%

JBRT@WO

Robotic 0.72-m f/3.2 FOV= $\sim 1^\circ$ @ 0".84/pix
FLI CCD 4Kx4K (Kodak 16801)

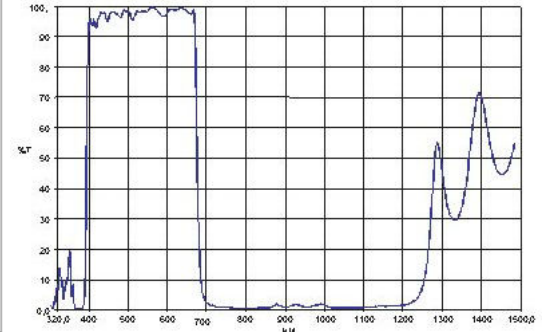
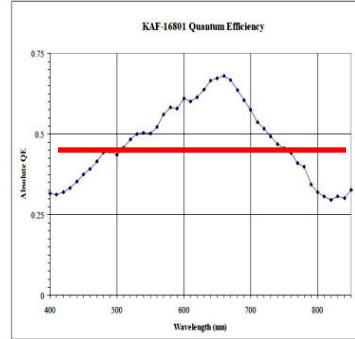
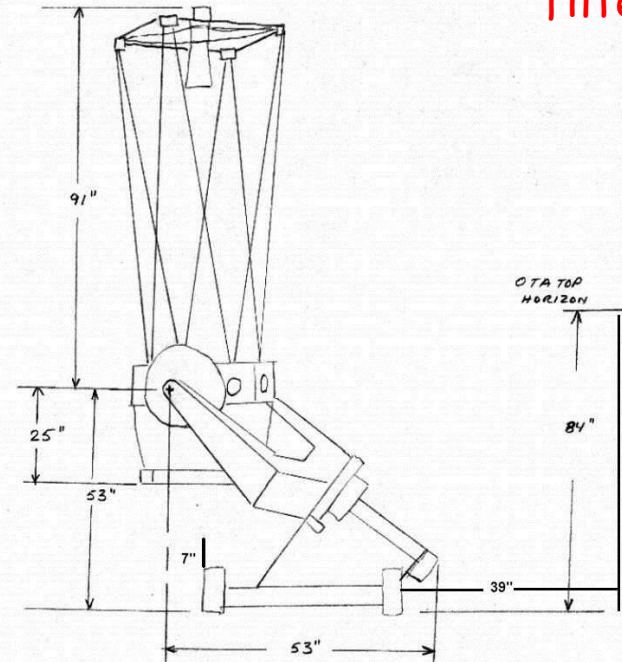




Figure 4: Typical Spectral Response

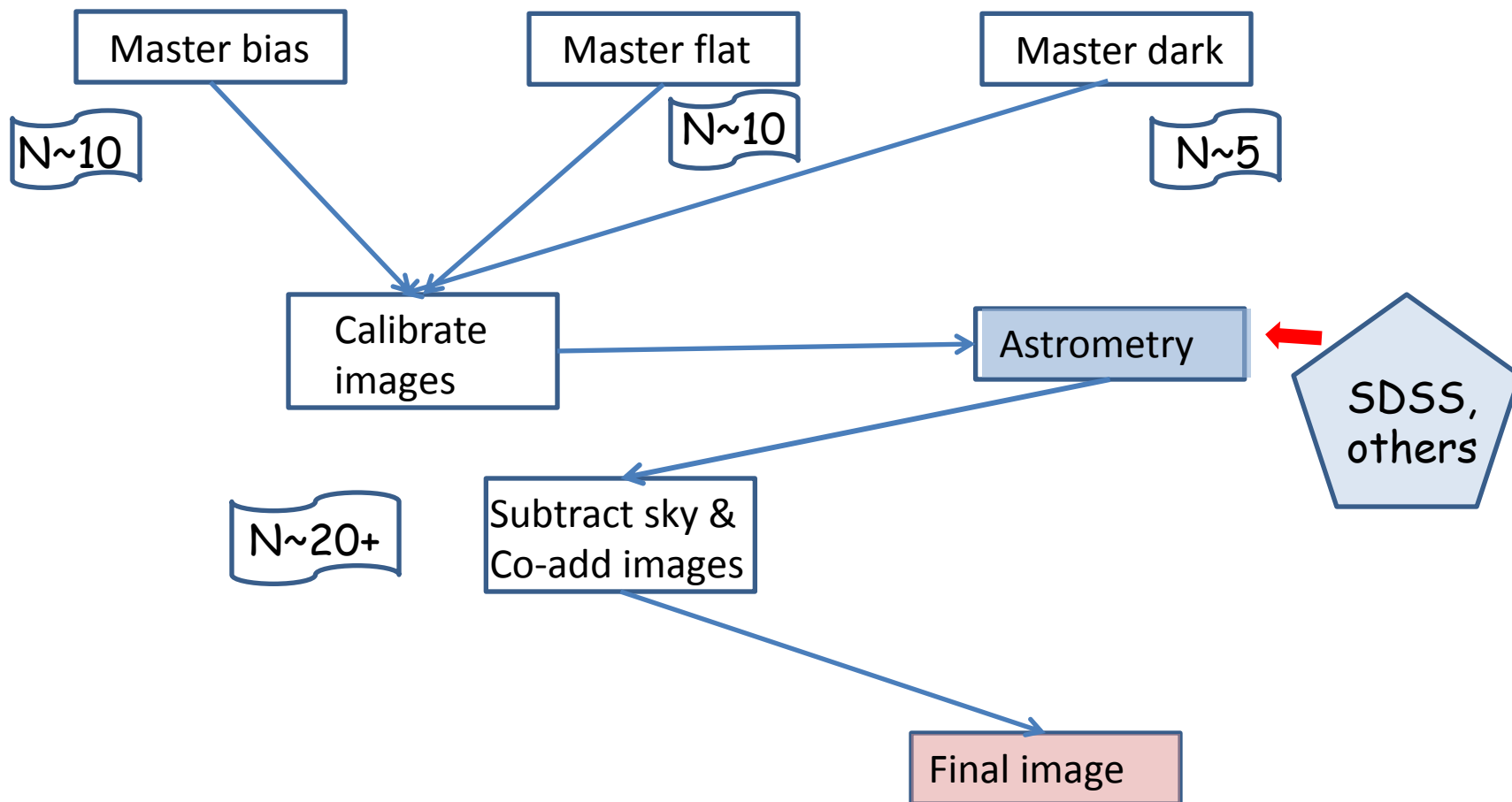
C-28 @ 33° LAT.

WIDEST PART = FORK 54" **Luminance filter**



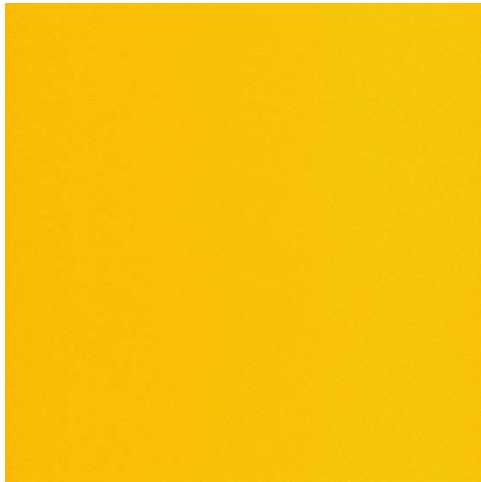
Deep imaging of edge-on disk galaxies

- With edge-on disks one can better see **accreting DGs** and **stellar streams**
- Galaxy-galaxy interactions cause:
 - **Disk blow-up**
 - **Disk bends** and morphological changes
 - **Peanut** and/or **boxy** bulges
- Project aims to deep-image ~ 170 disks with $2a > 2'$ and $\delta > -30^\circ$ with the JBRT: co-add 20  90 @300s images to go deeper than SDSS (e.g. Miskolczi et al. 2011)
- At most two galaxies/night  at least two years required for the entire sample
- Robotic observations
- Reduction pipeline with THELI

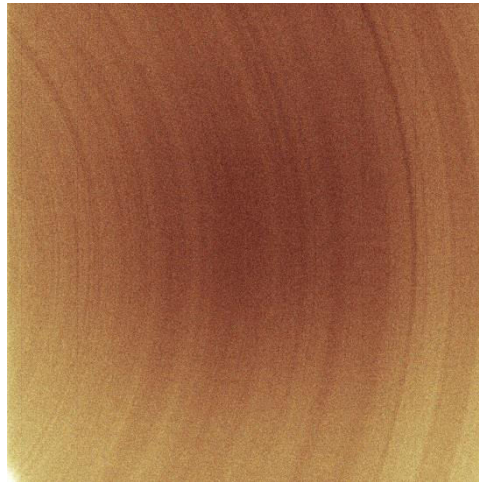


Pipeline reduction of JBRT images
using THELIGUI

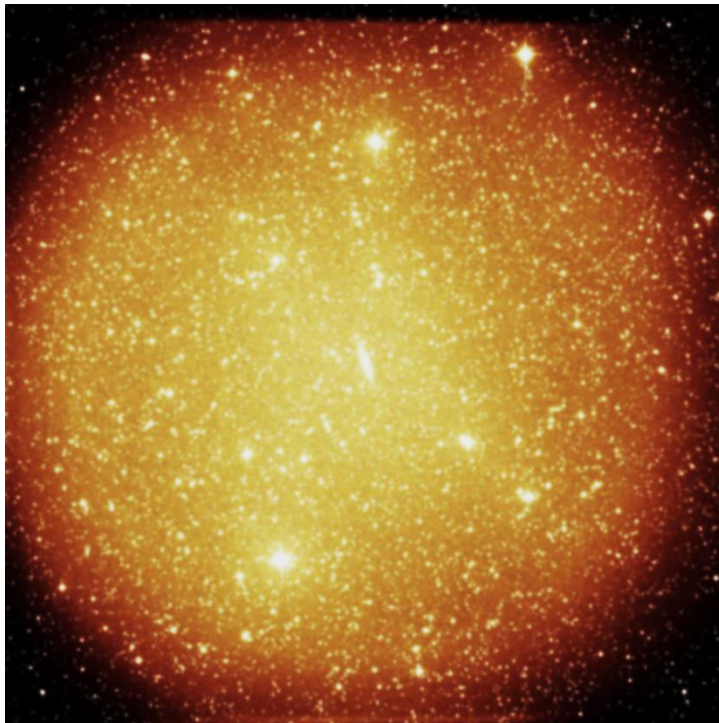
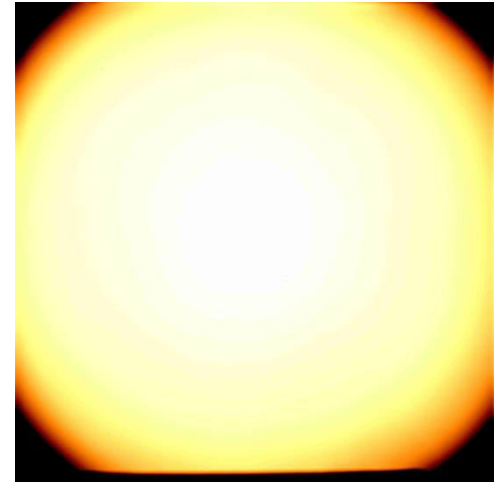
Bias



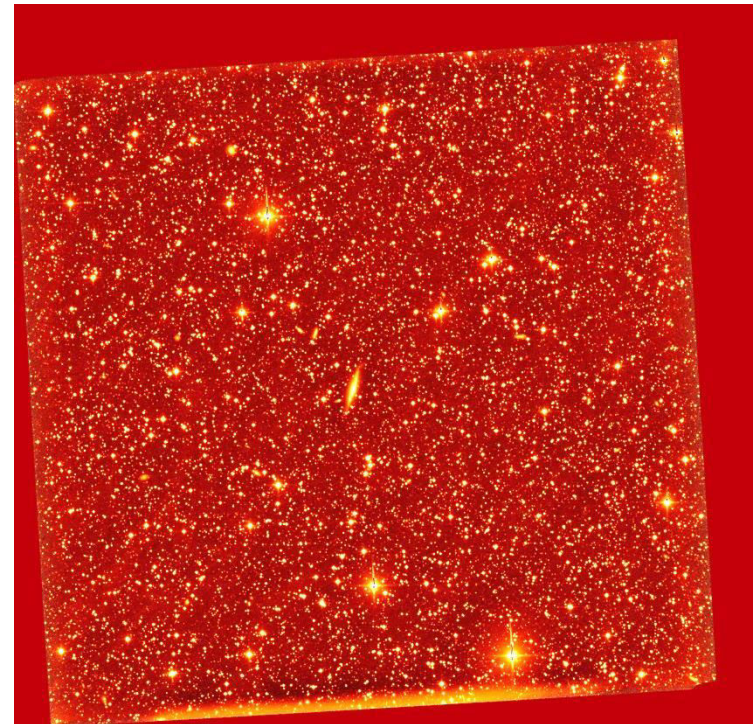
Dark



Flat

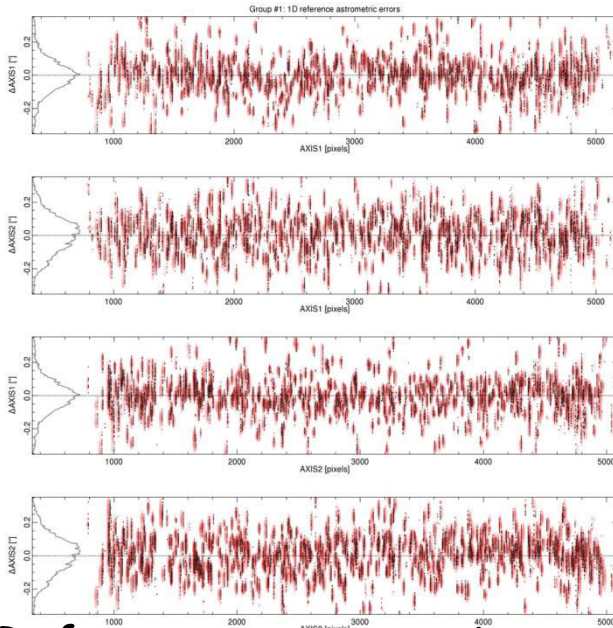


Single raw sky image

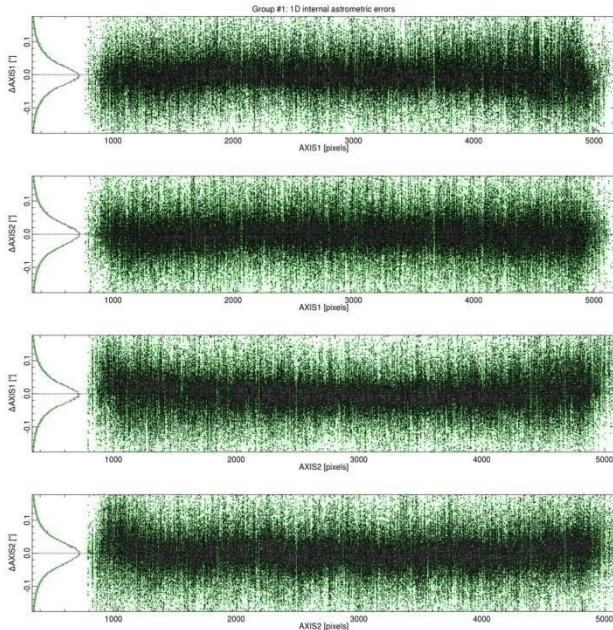


Final reduced & combined image

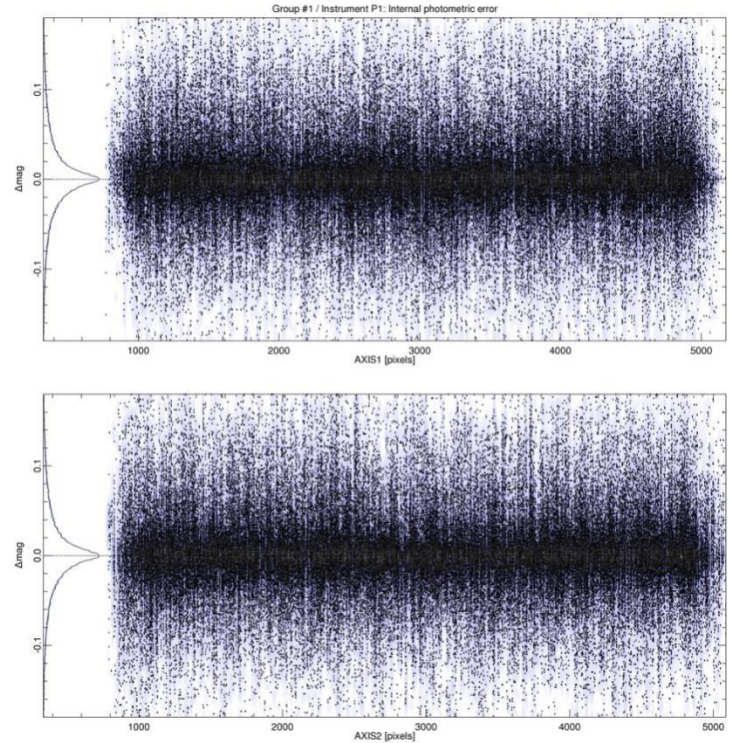
THELIGUI results



Reference astrometric errors

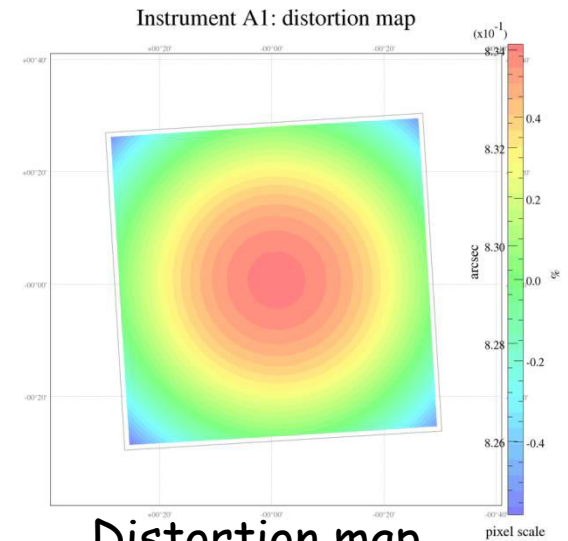


Internal astrometric errors

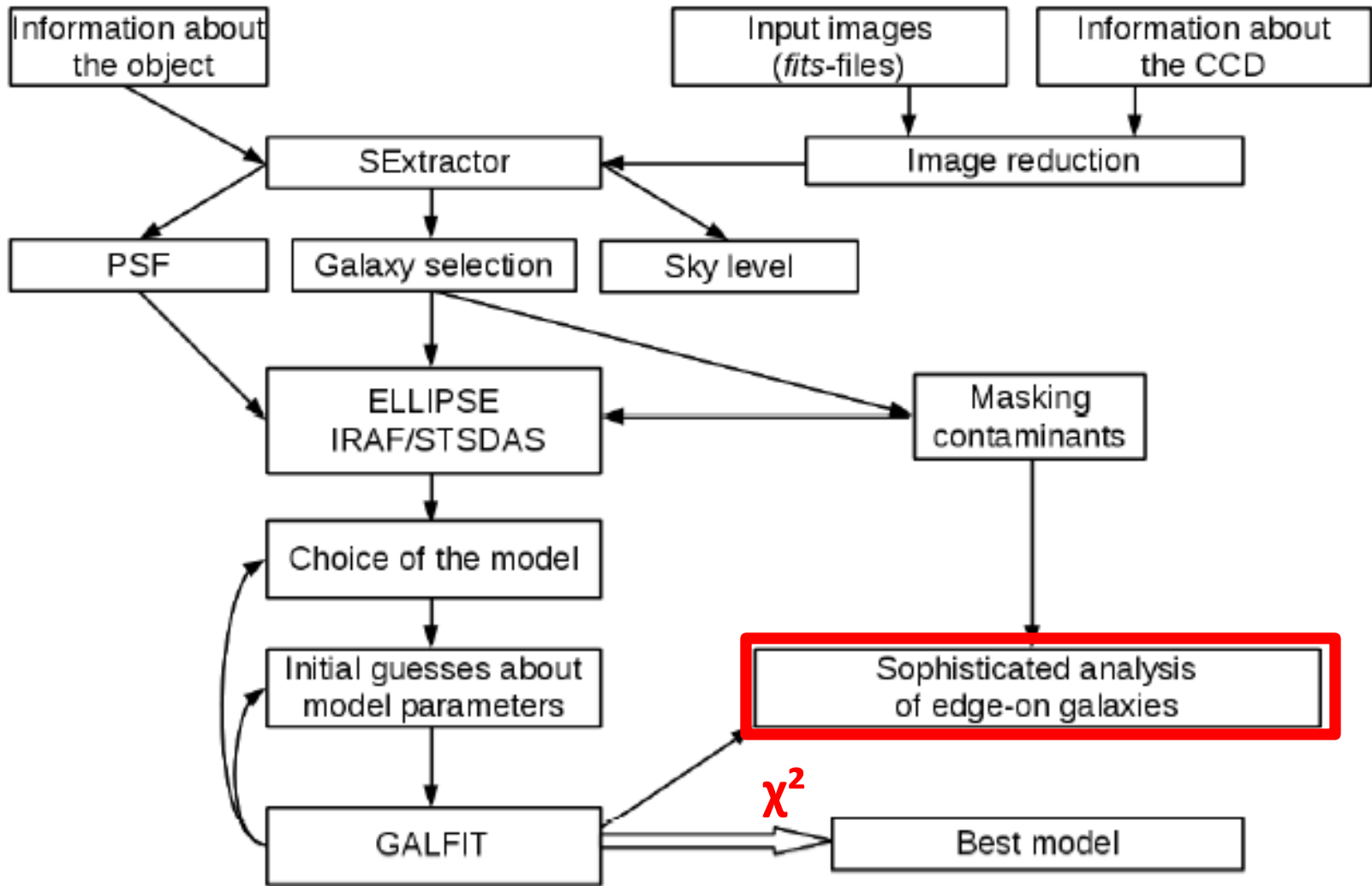


Internal photometric errors

4° CCD rotation wrt (α, δ)

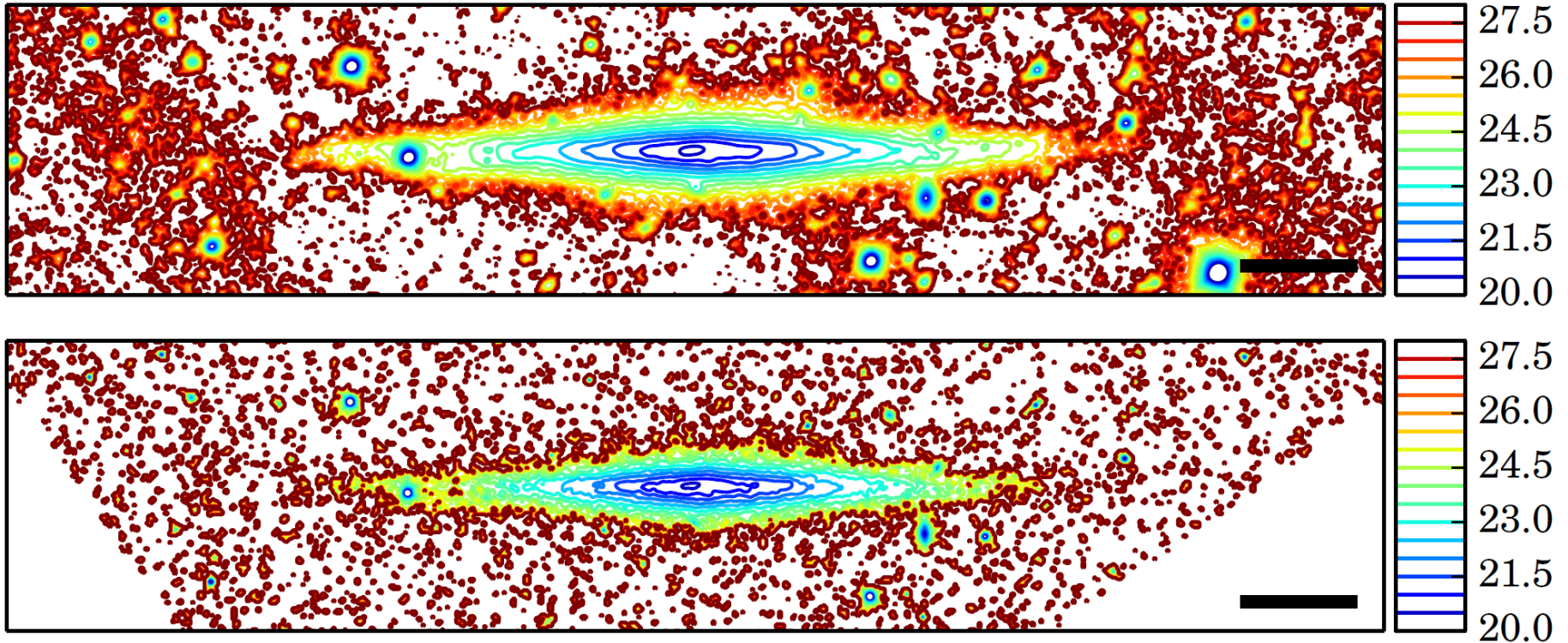


Distortion map



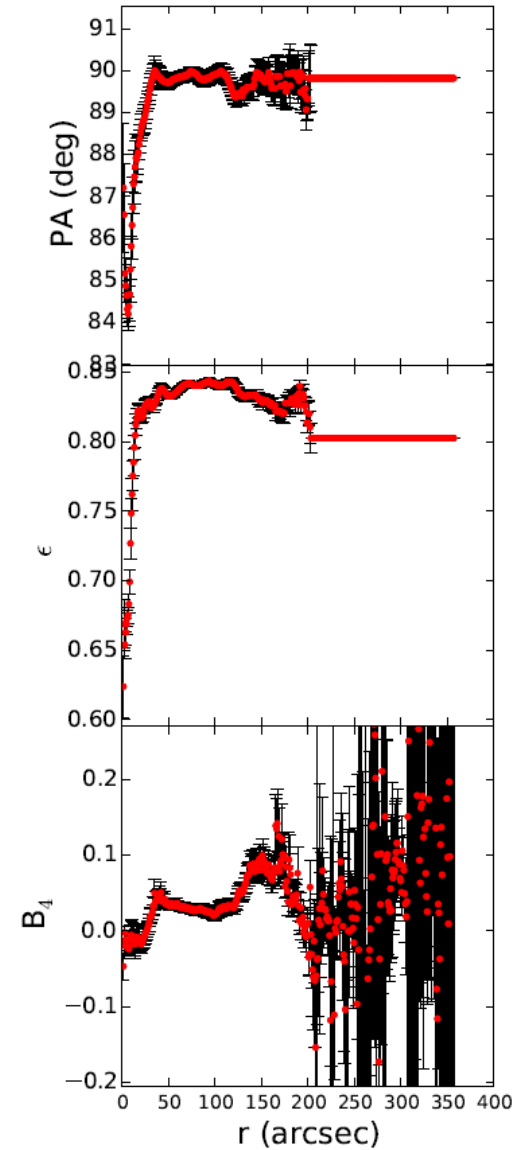
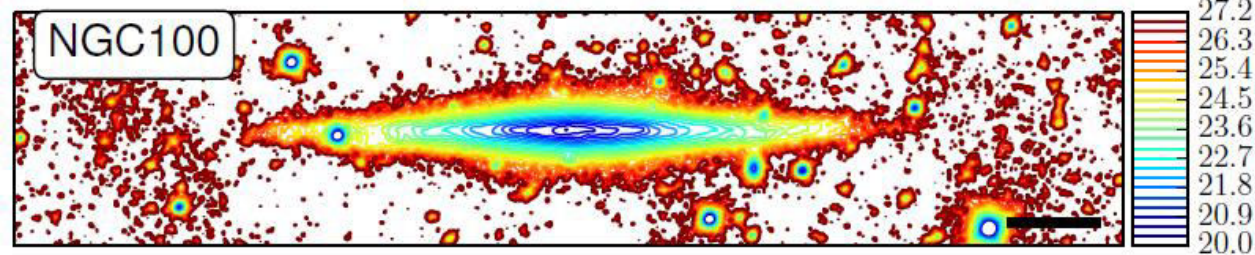
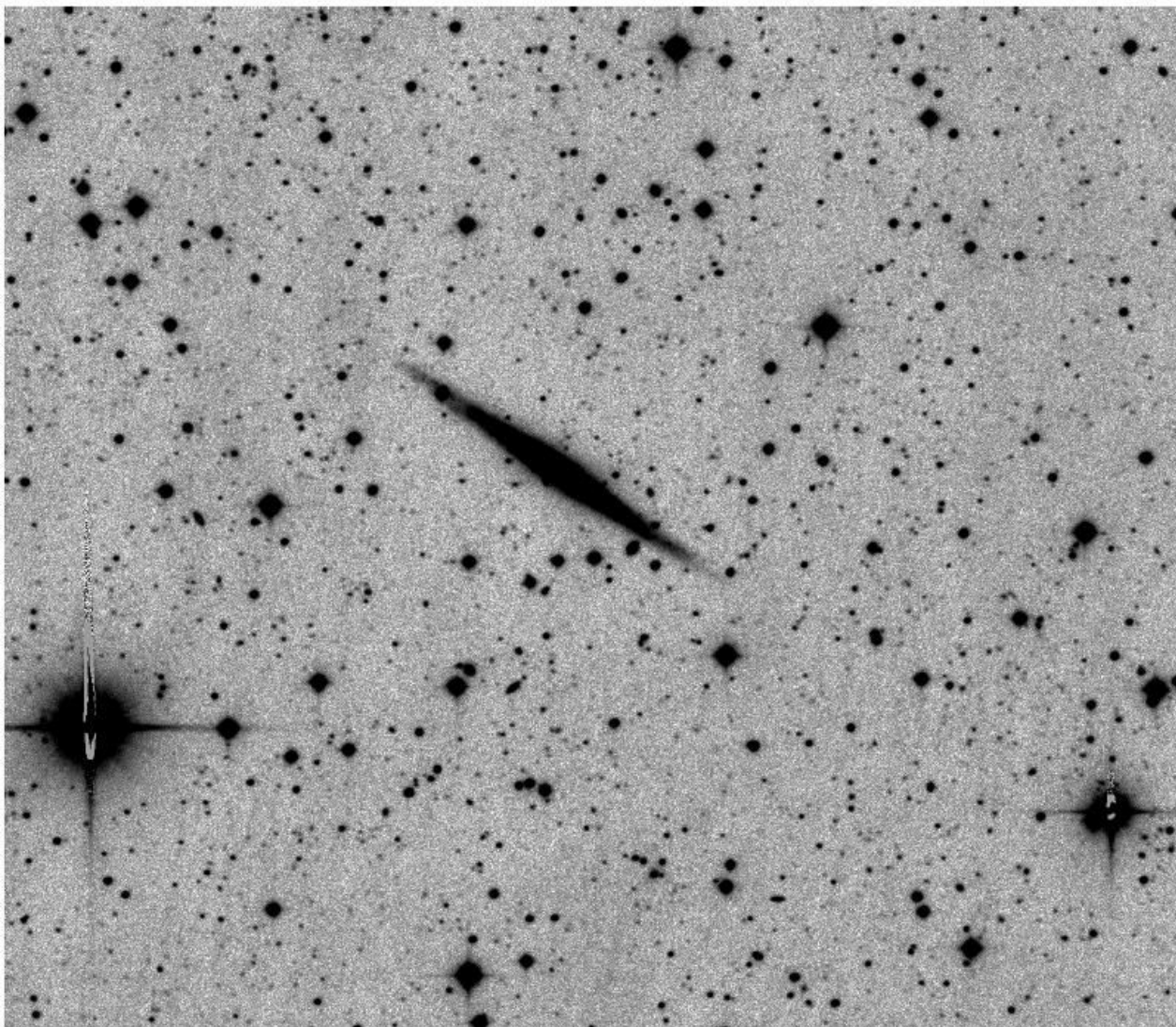
Pipeline reduction of final galaxy image
using DECA

SDSS vs. JBRT

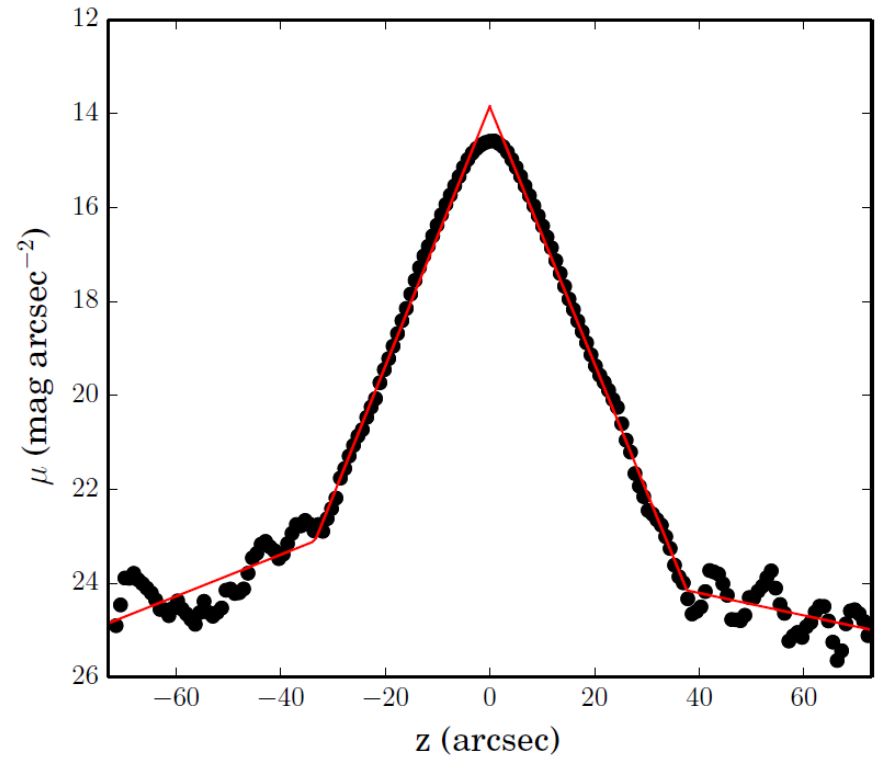
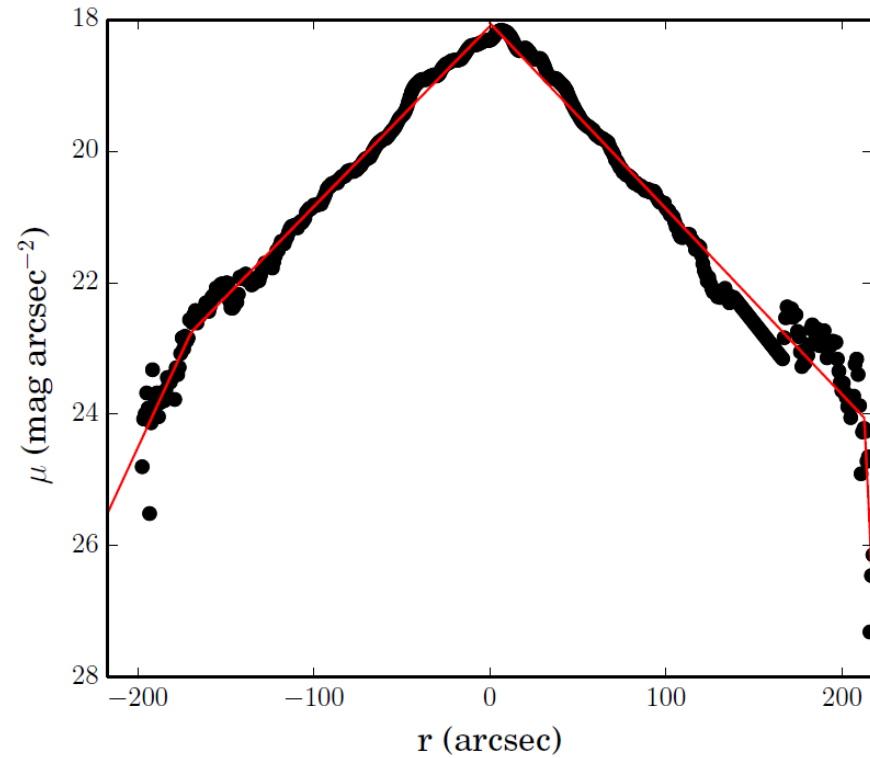


Comparison of two images for NGC 100: the deep image obtained at the WiseObs (top) and the SDSS image in the r-band rebinned to the first one. For the SDSS image all isophotes corresponding to the levels larger than 25.5 mag arcsec⁻² are set to this level. The length of the bar in the bottom right corner is 1'.

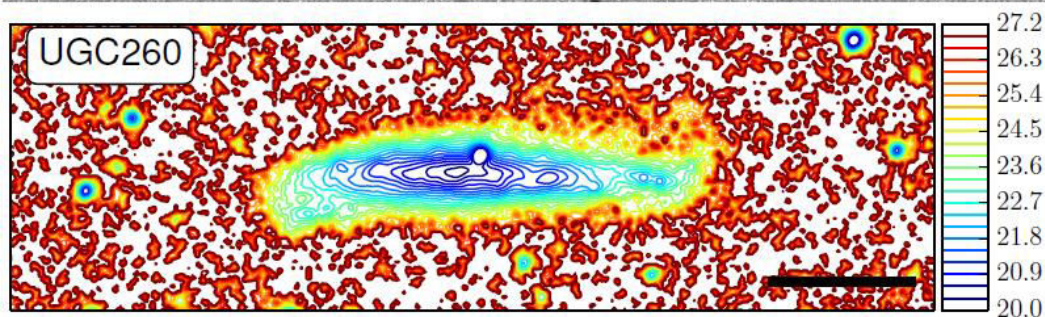
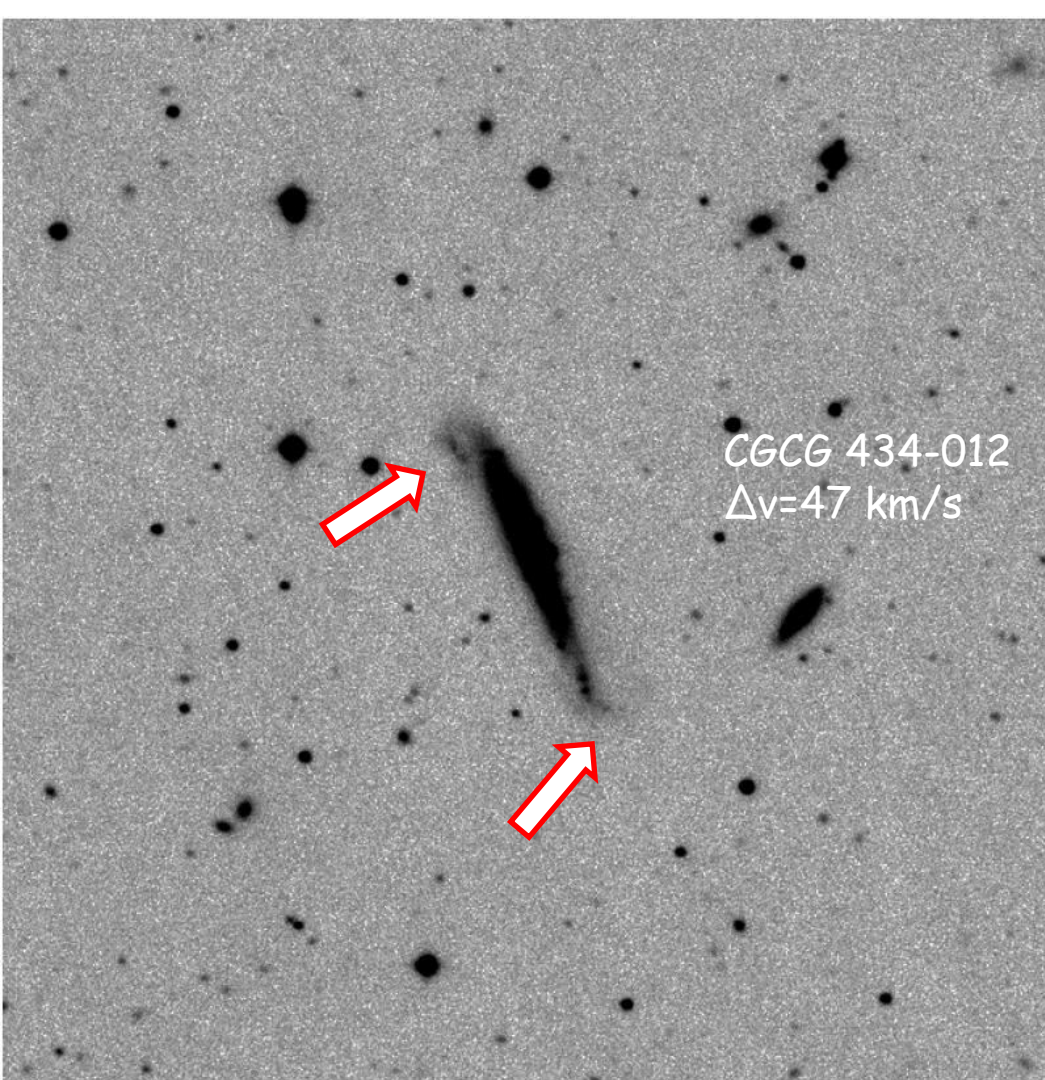
Simple disk



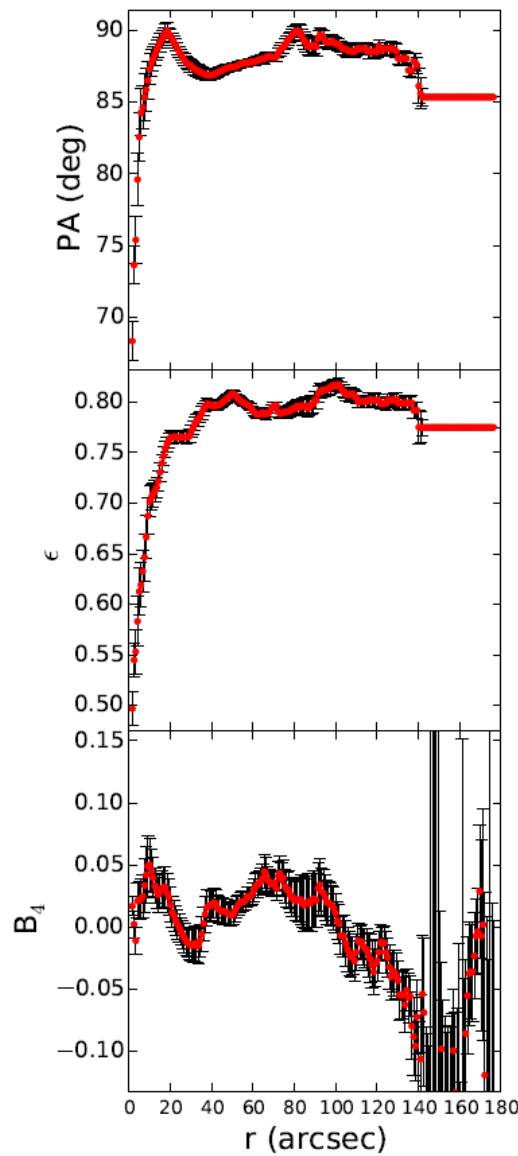
DECA fits for N100



Cumulative horizontal (left) and vertical (right) profiles for NGC 100. Red lines represent the best-fit models of the piecewise linear functions



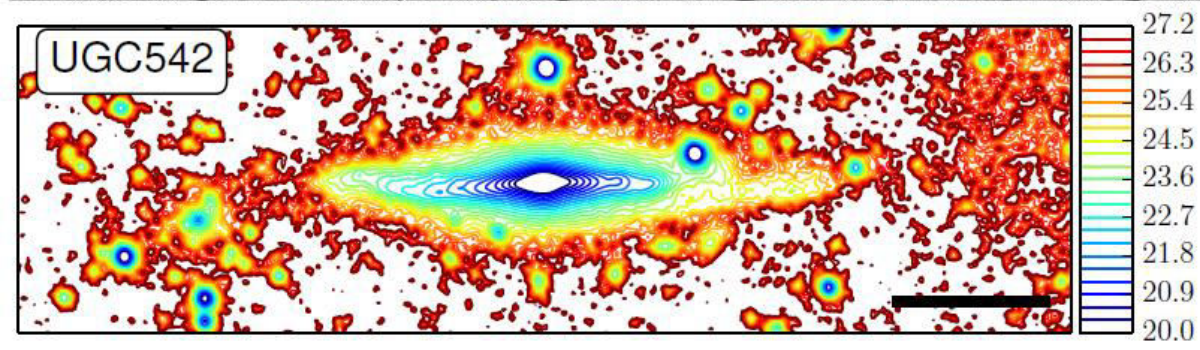
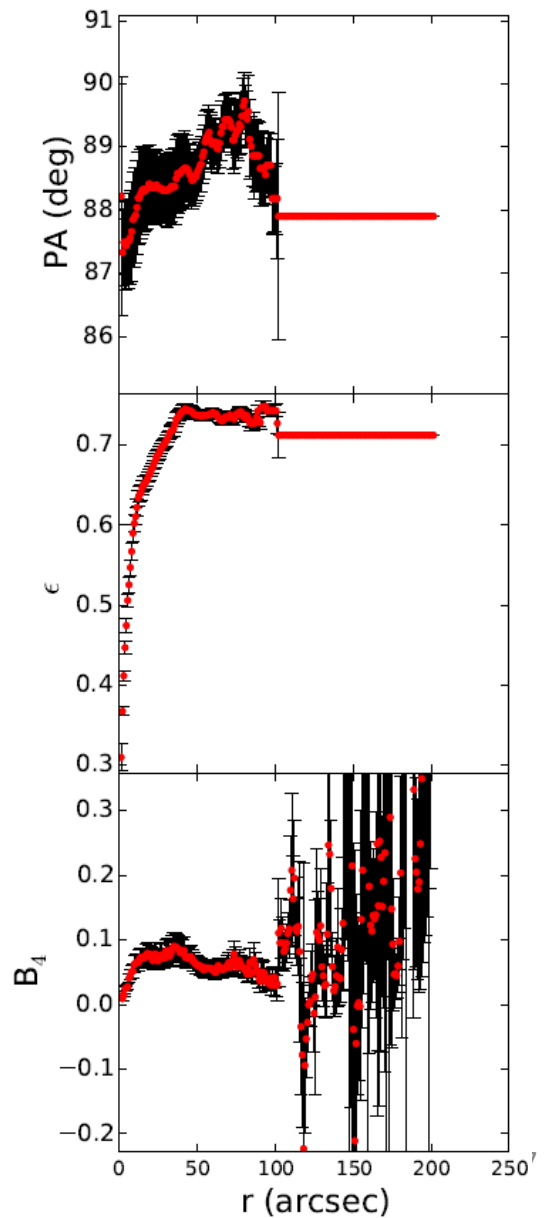
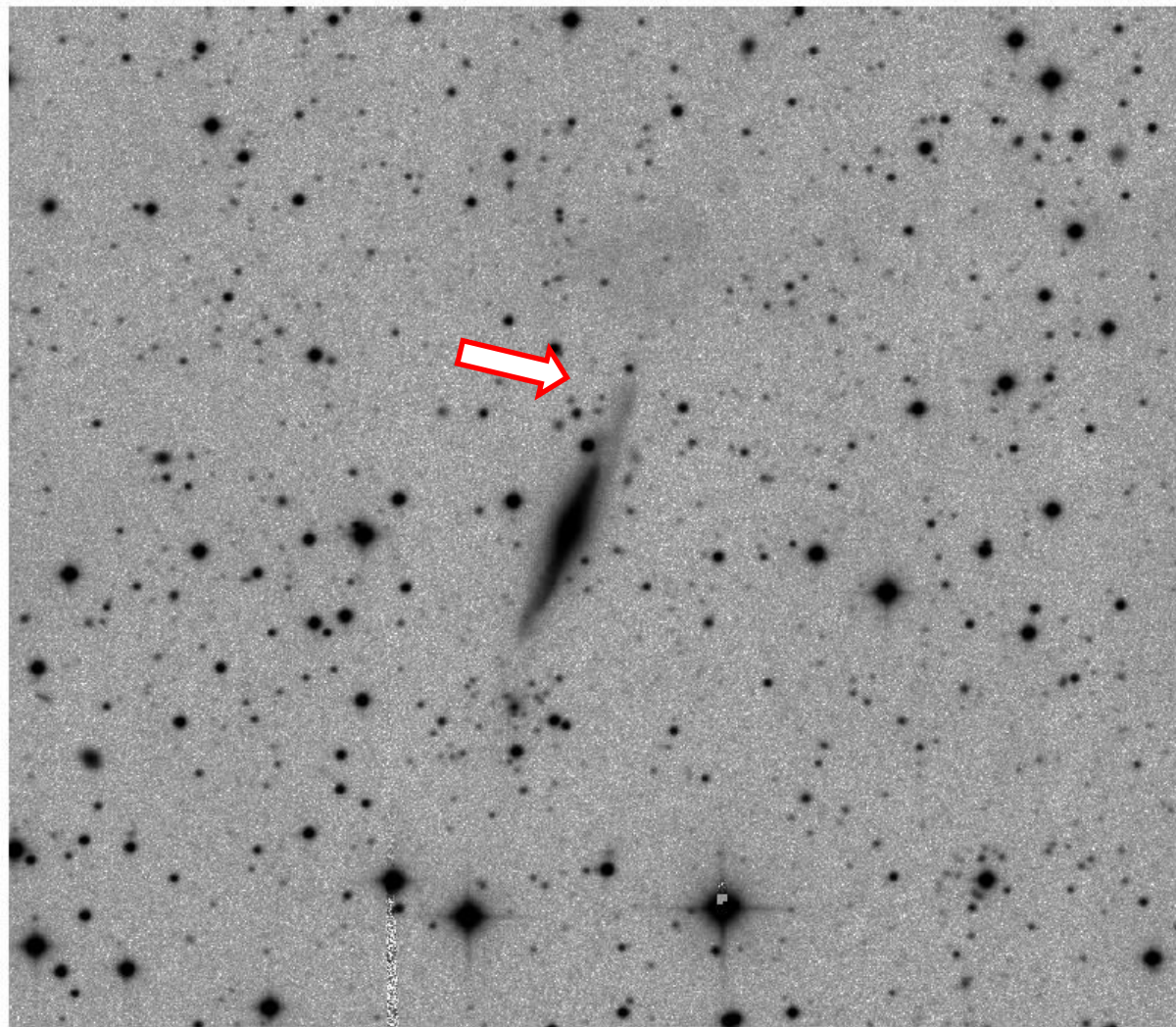
Distorted, with companion

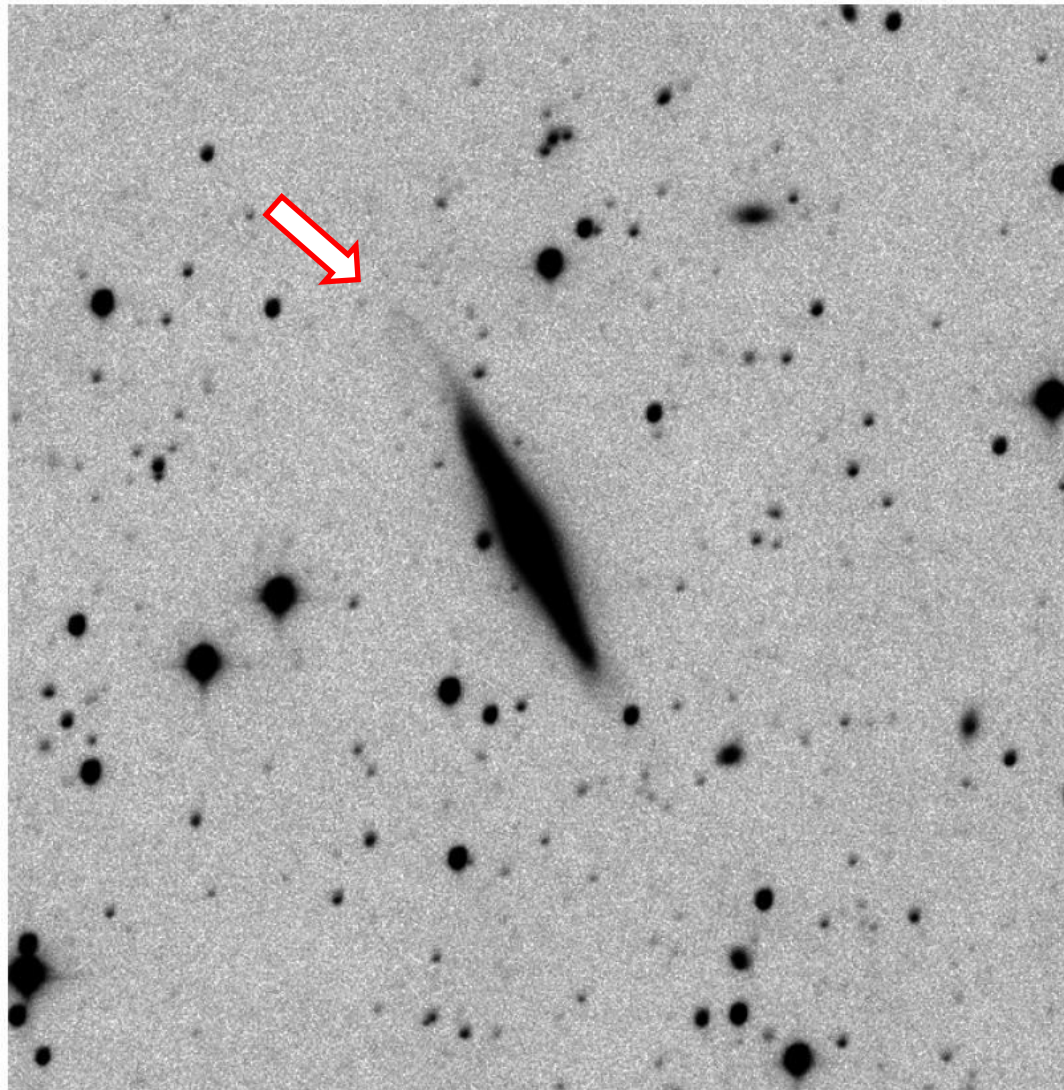


LSB feature

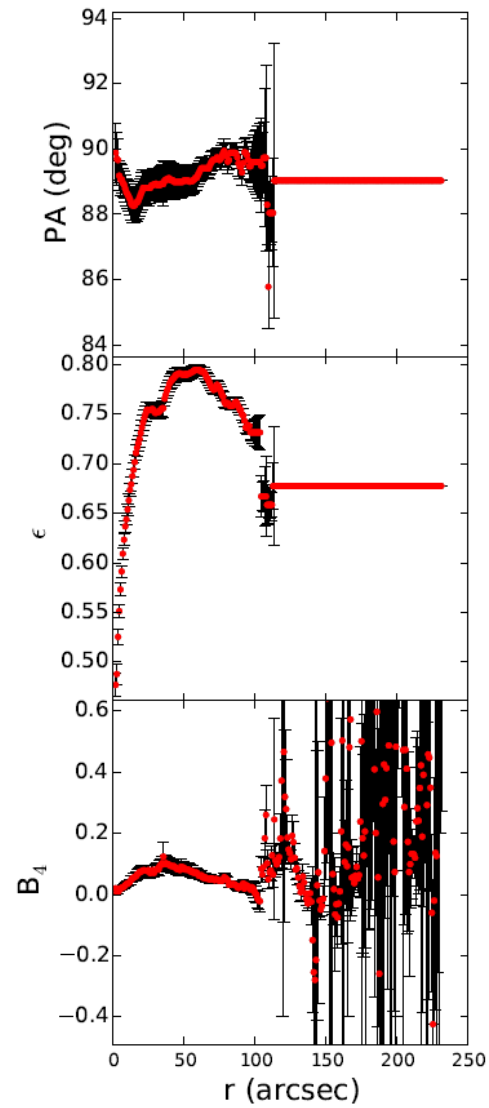
Lopsided disk

LSB feature

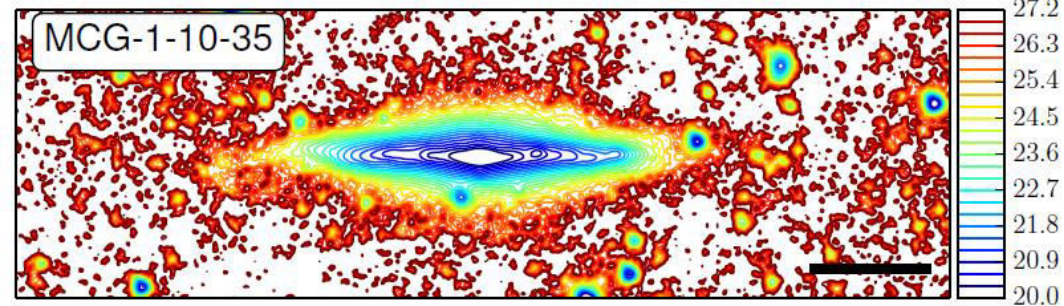




Lopsided disk

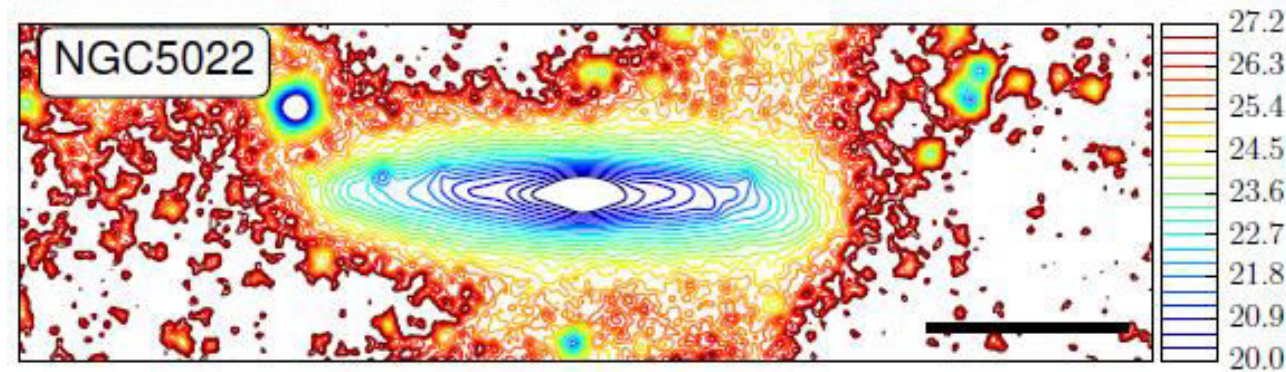
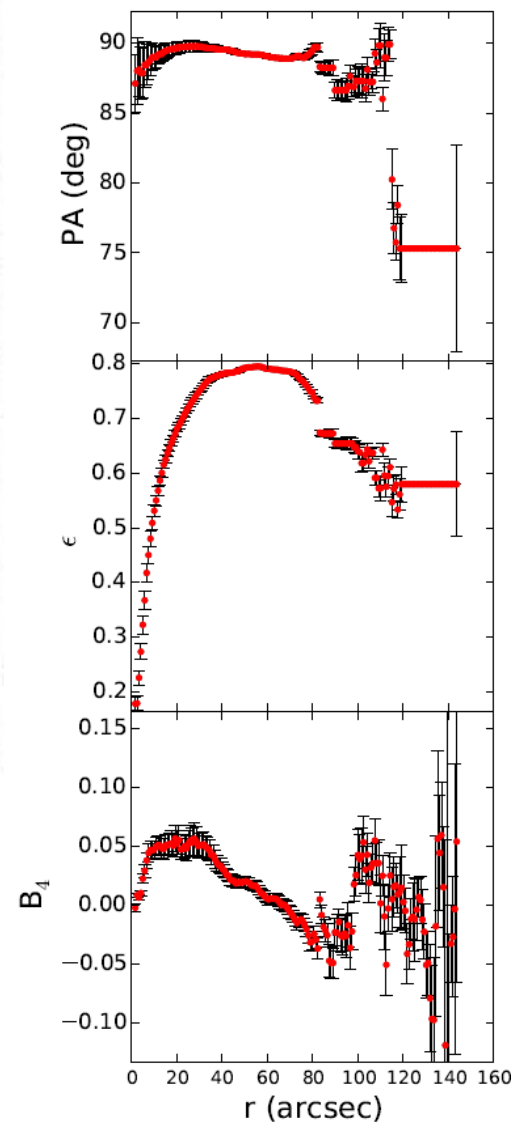
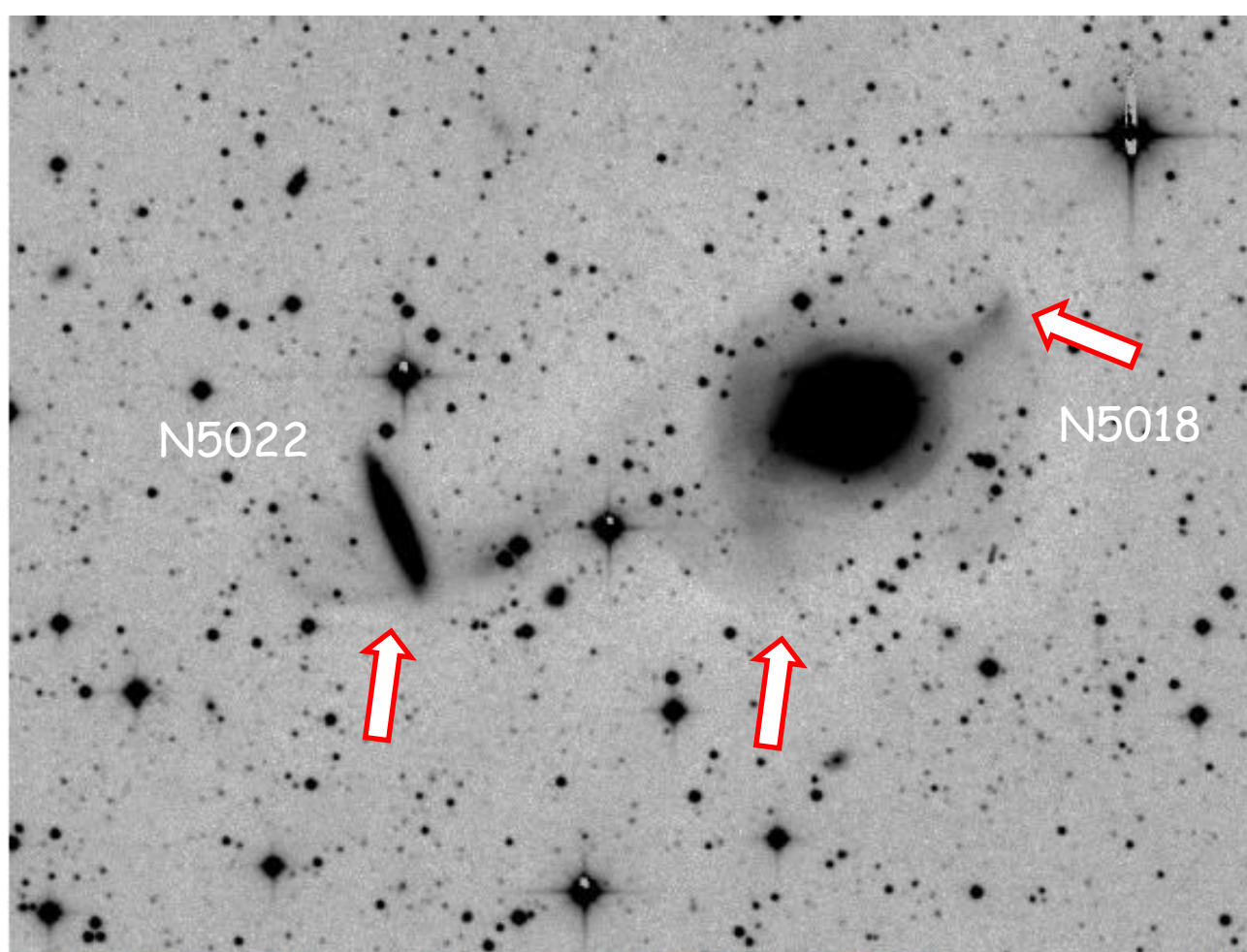


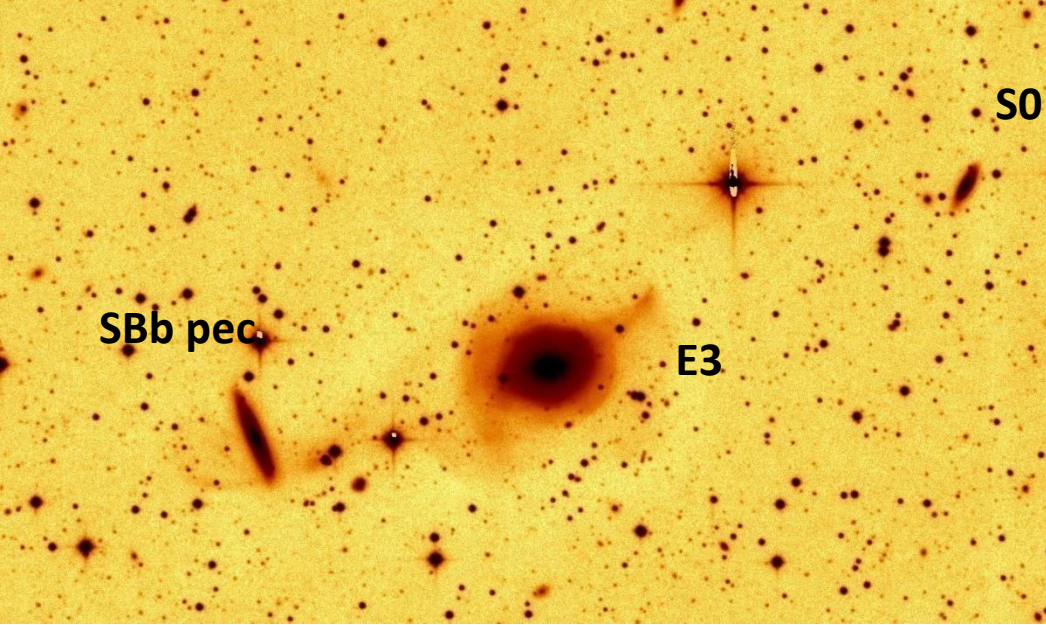
LSB feature



Interacting system

LSB feature





LSB surprises

N5022 (left) seems linked by an LSB filament to N5018 (center)

Conclusions

LSB feature

1. Observed 24 edge-on disks searching for LSB signs of minor mergers and interactions
2. Detected six genuine cases (25%); four already shown here. The other two are NGC 5777 and NGC 5907
3. Working to extend to full sample of ~170 objects



That's all Folks

