

HELENA DOMÍNGUEZ SÁNCHEZ

# DEEP LEARNING FOR GALAXY MORPHOLOGY

With the contribution of:

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Centro de Estudios de Física  
del Cosmos de Aragón

IAP COLLOQUIUM - 1ST DECEMBER 2023



# OUTLINE

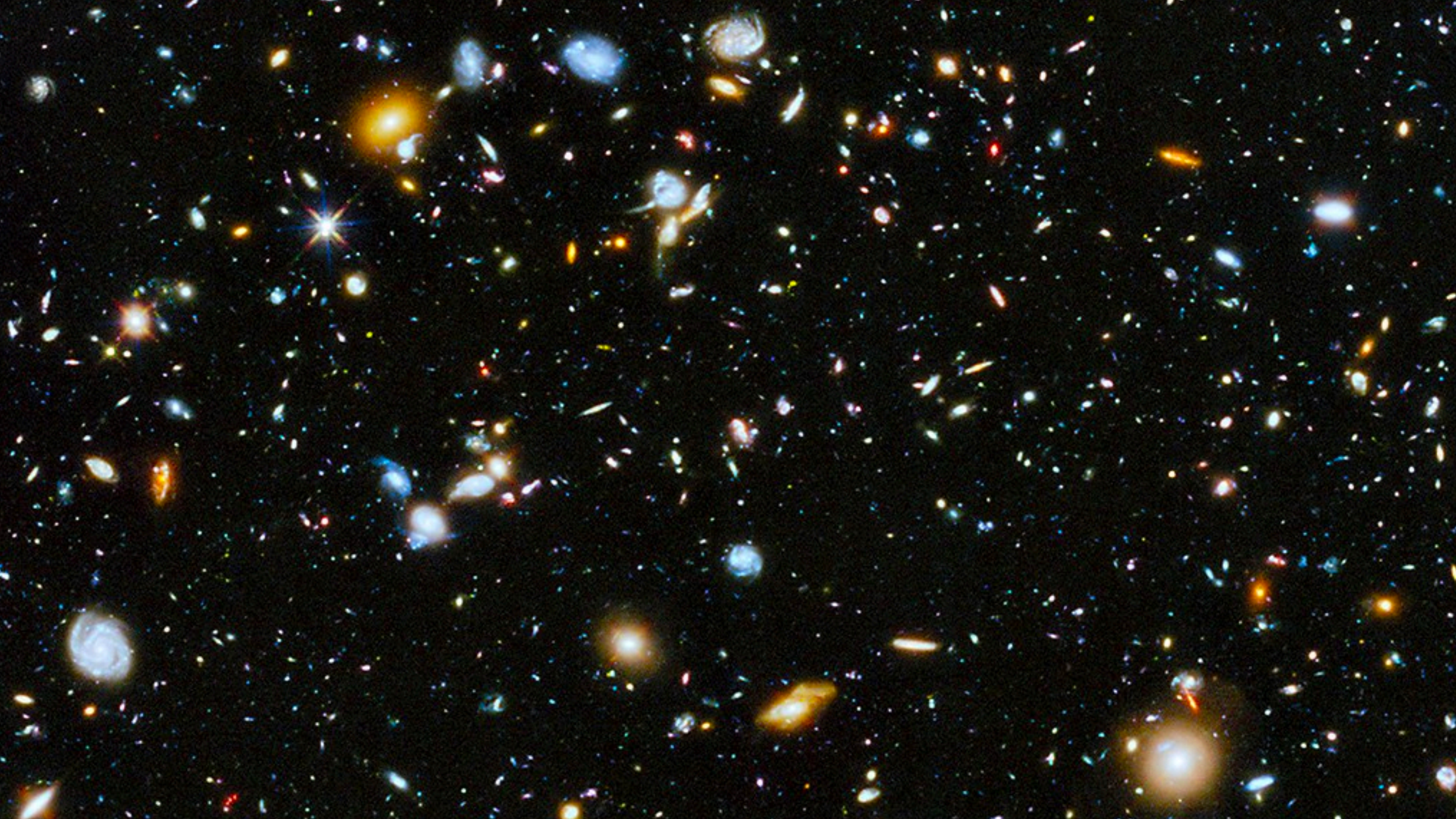
- Why care about galaxy morphology?
- Why Deep Learning?
- Supervised learning: CNNs
- What if there are no labels?
  - Transfer Learning
  - 'Emulations'
  - Unsupervised learning
- Going deeper



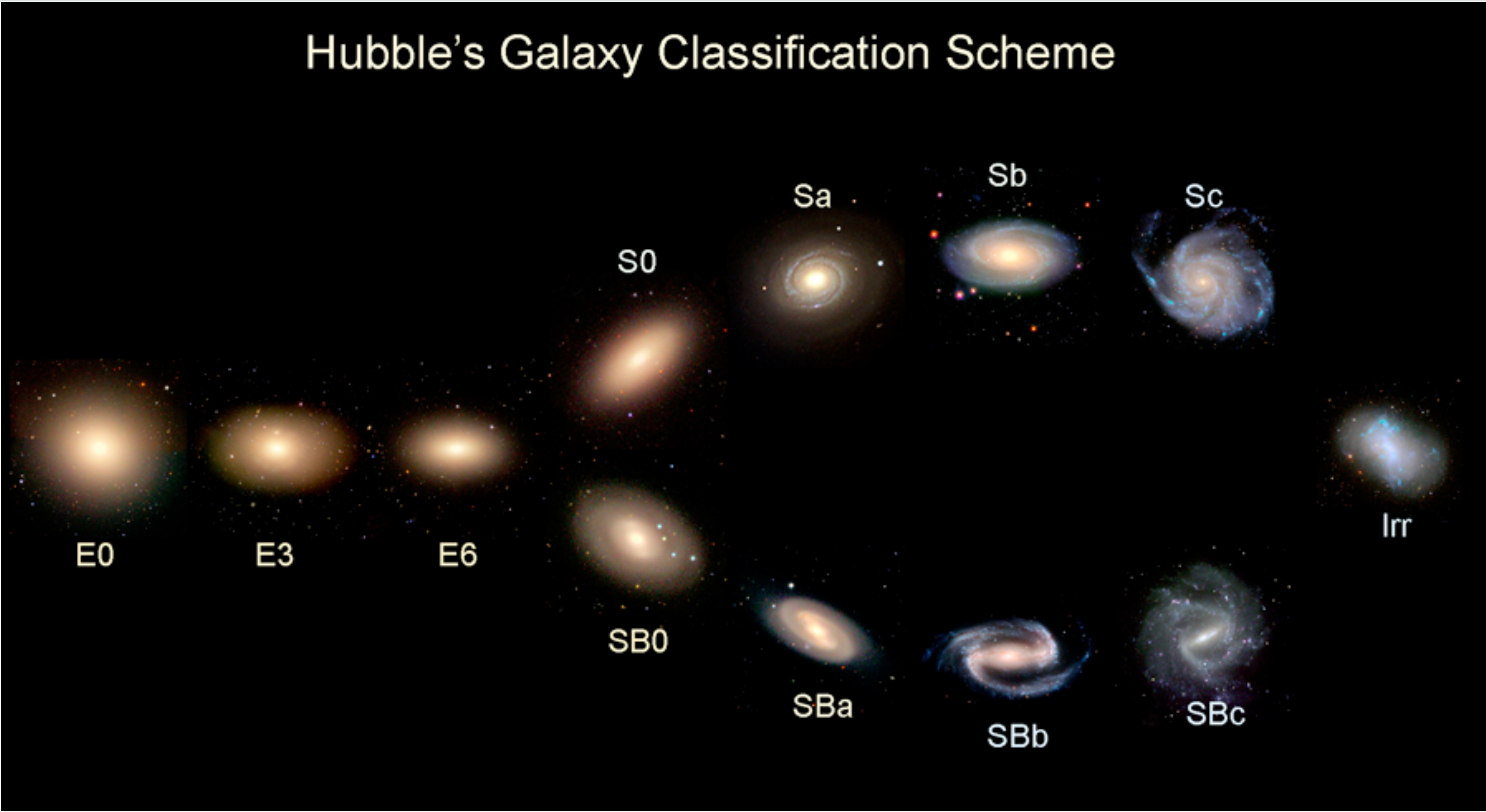
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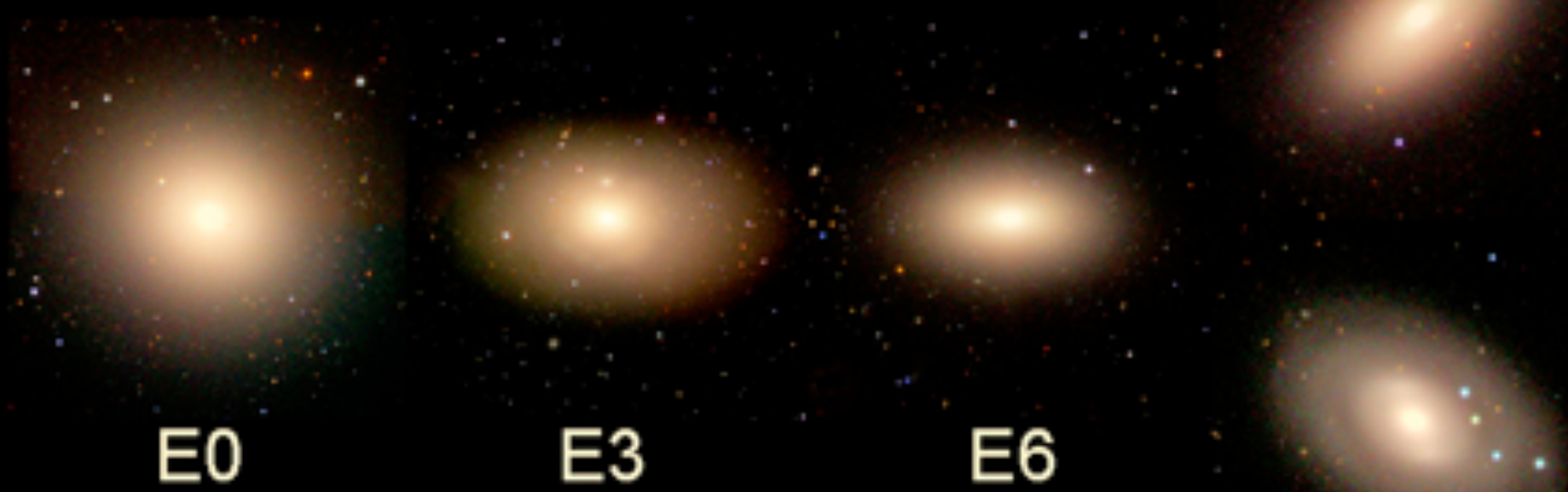


# Hubble's Galaxy Classification Scheme



# Hubble's Galaxy Classification Scheme

Early-Type  
(ETG)



S0



SB0



Sa



Sb



Sc



Late-Type  
(LTG)

SBa



SBb



SBc

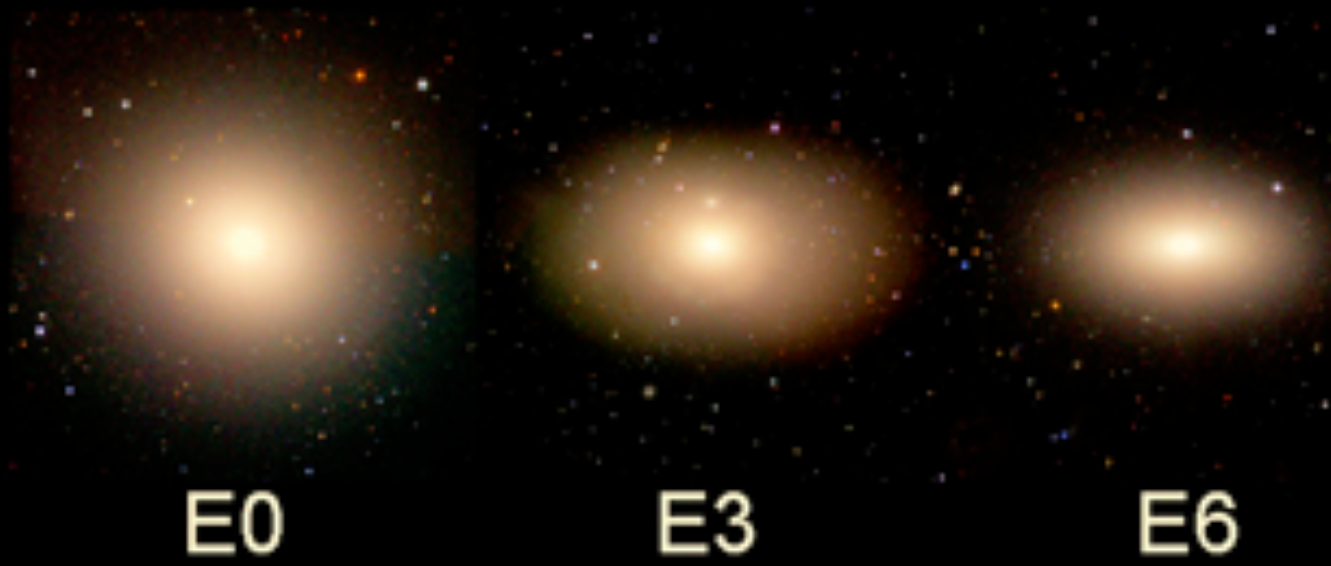


Irr



# Hubble's Galaxy Classification Scheme

Early-Type  
(ETG)



S0

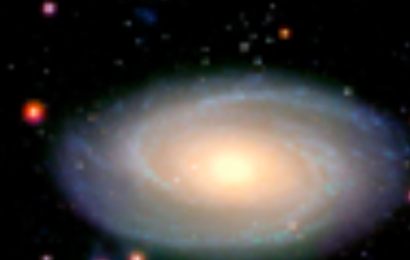


Lenticular  
(S0)

Sa



Sb



Sc



Late-Type  
(LTG)

Irr



SBa



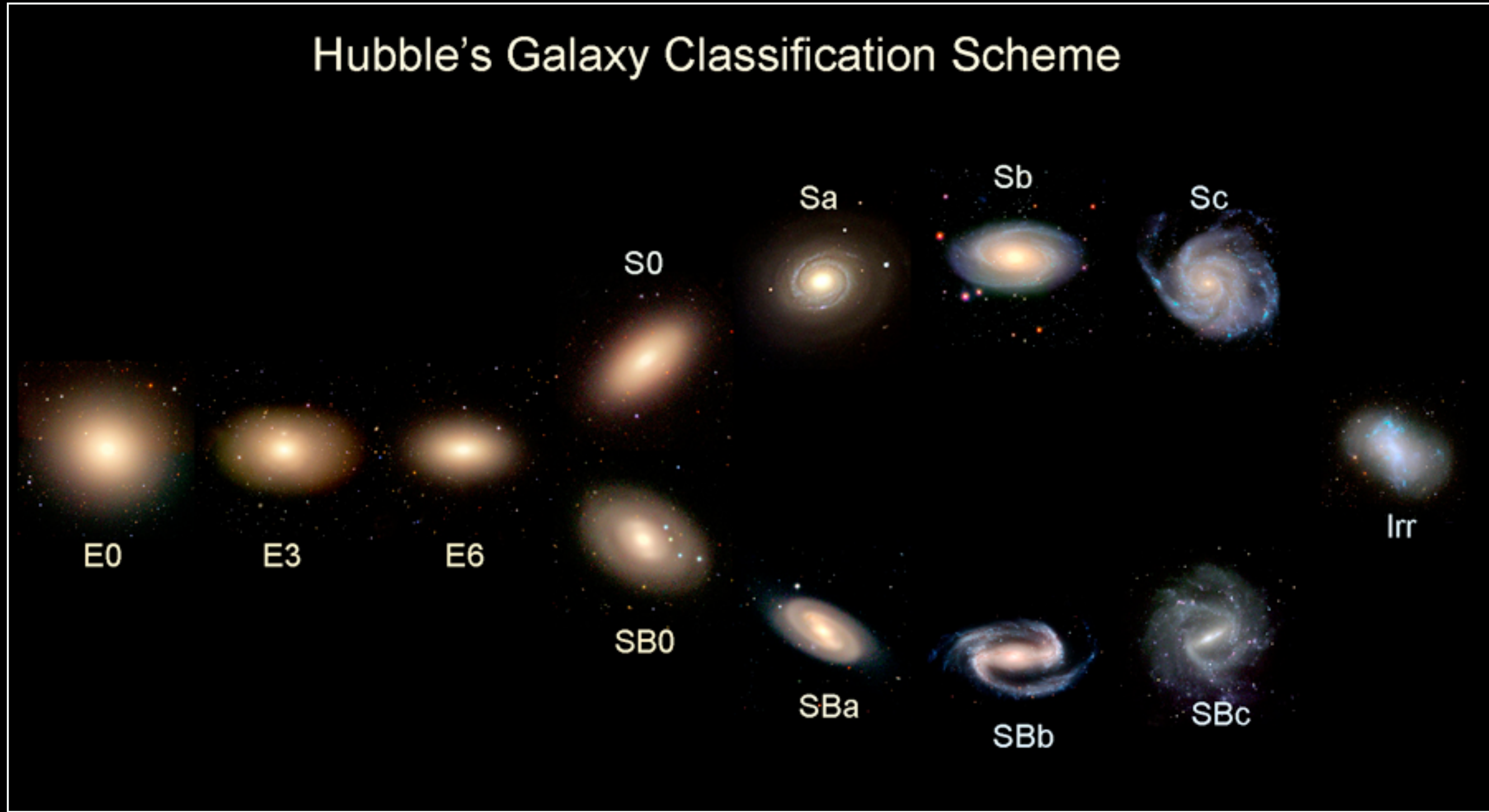
SBb



SBc



# Hubble's Galaxy Classification Scheme



E0

E3

E6

SB0

SBa

SBb

SBc

S0

Sa

Sb

Sc

Irr

-3

-2

-1

0

2

4

6

10

T-Type



## SPIRAL (LTG)



- Intermediate/low mass galaxies
- Young stellar populations
- On-going star formation
- Rotationally supported

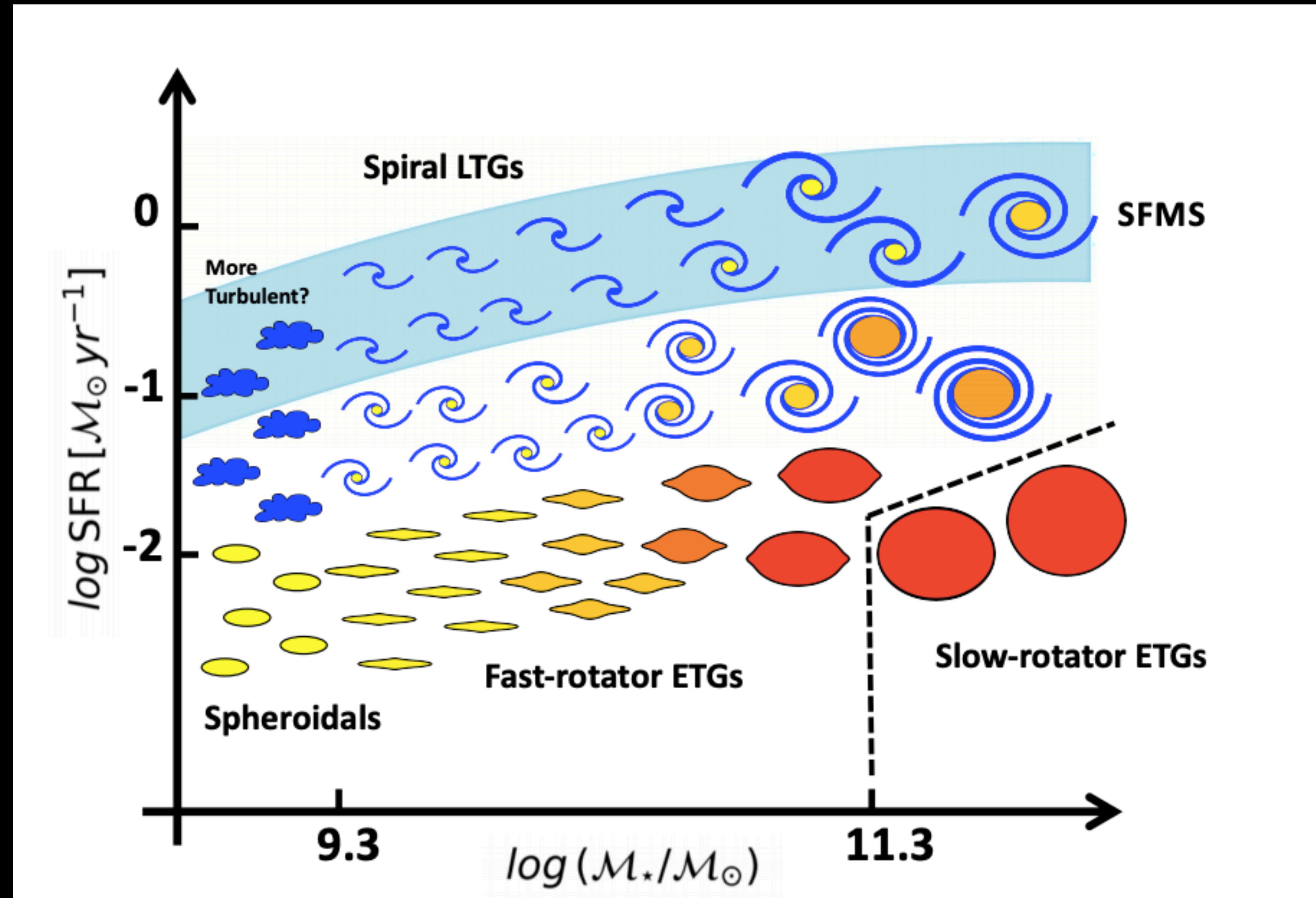
## ELLIPTICAL (ETG)



- Most massive galaxies
- Old stellar populations (red colors)
- Kinematics dominated by velocity dispersion

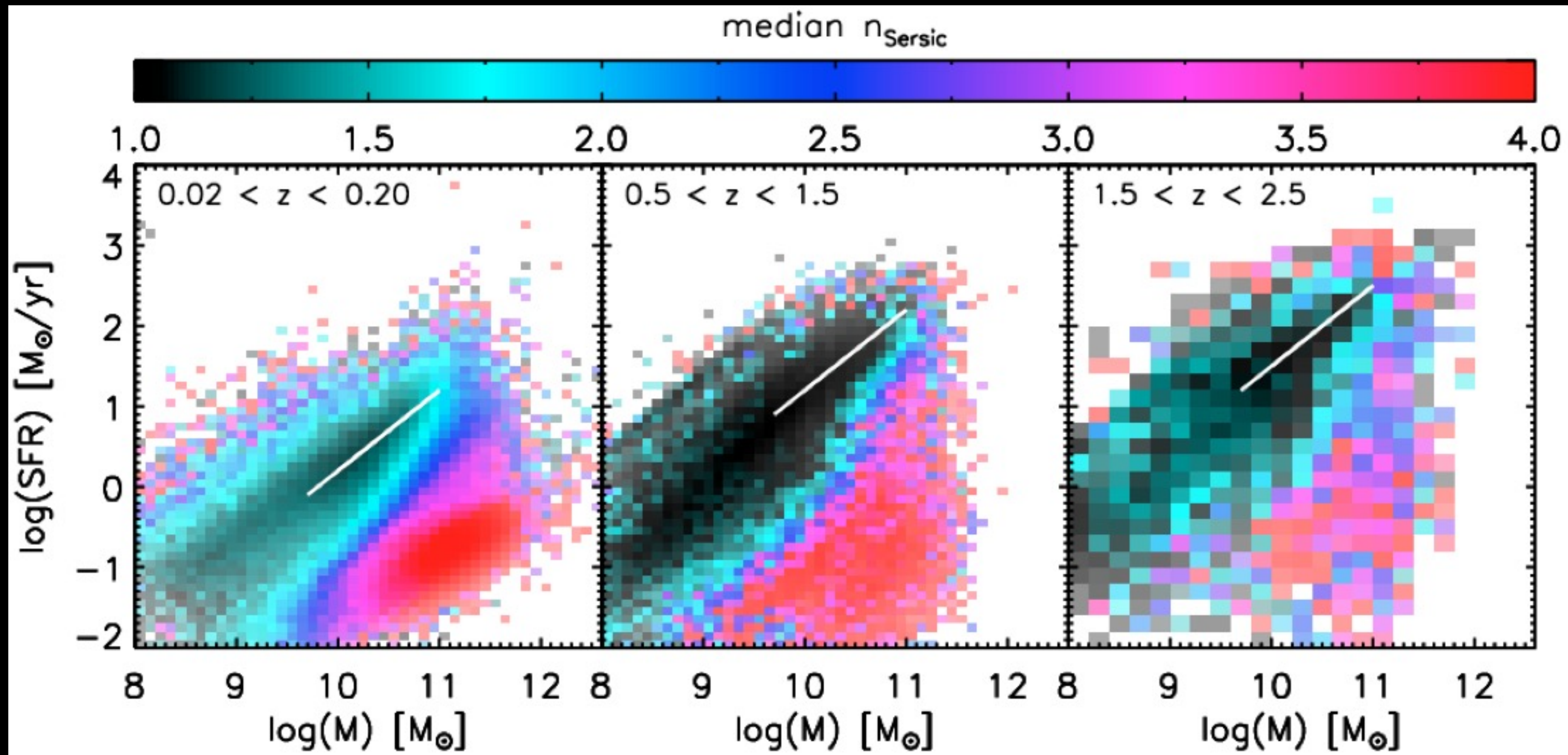
# Morphology related to fundamental galaxy properties

Number of stars formed per year

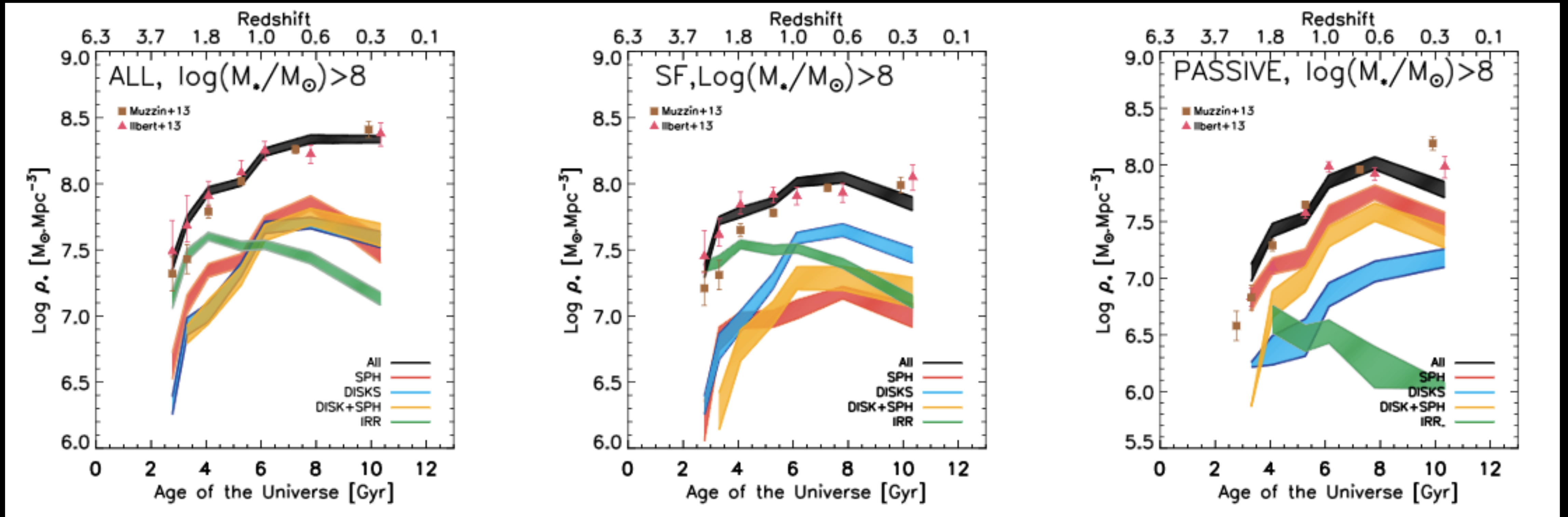


Galaxy Mass (in units of solar masses)

# Morphology related to fundamental galaxy properties



# Morphology-SFR evolution



ALL • SPH • DISKS • DISKS+SPH • IRR

Huertas-Company+2016

Understanding how morphology relates to galaxy properties and in which way they affect galaxy assembly and evolution is one of the major challenges of present day astronomy.

It is crucial to have **accurate** morphological classifications for **large samples** of galaxies

– (SUPERVISED) DEEP LEARNING –

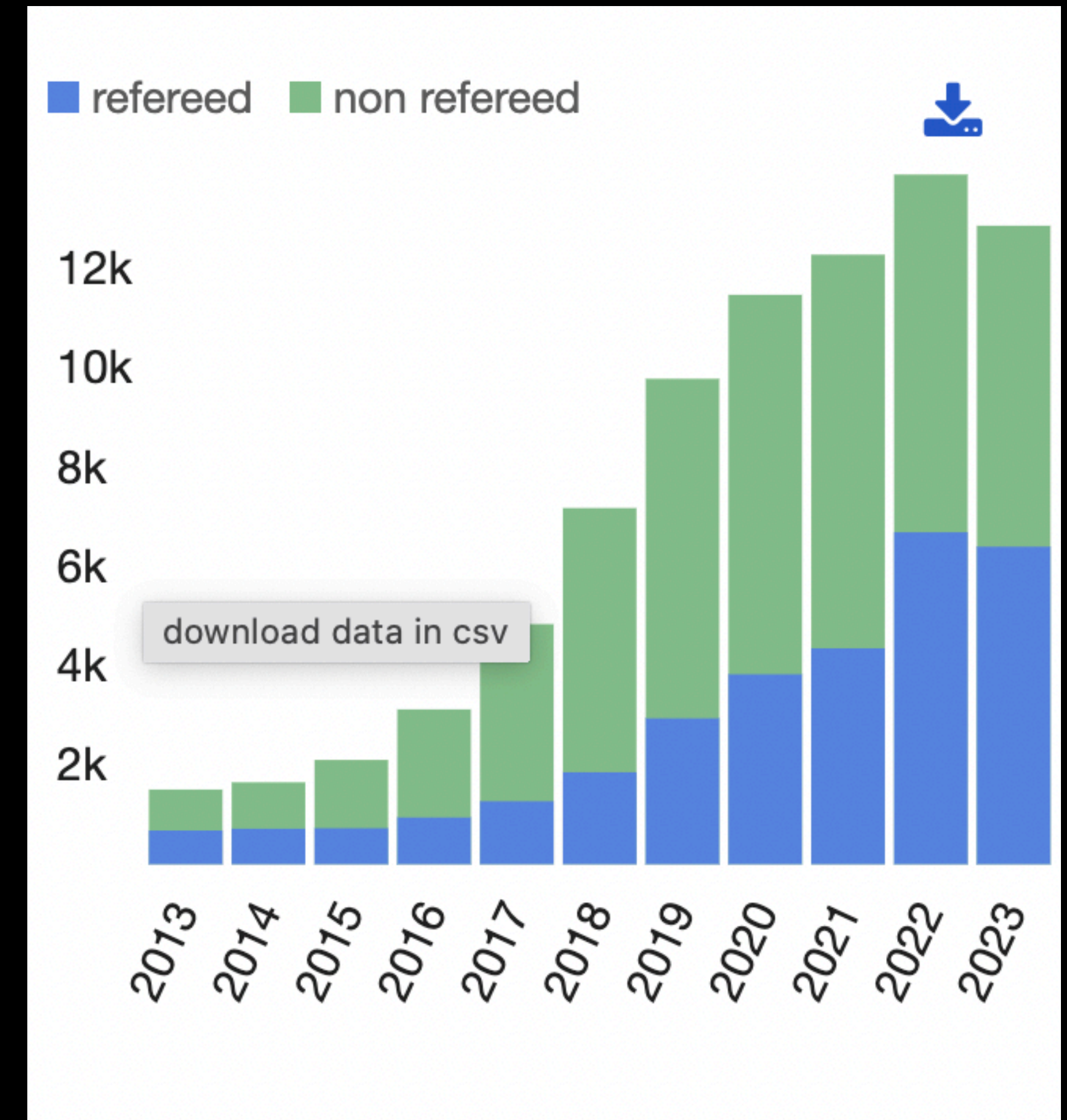
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# WHY DEEP LEARNING?

- Astronomy is already in the Big Data Era (Euclid, LSST, etc.)
- DL is optimized for image analysis (e.g., MINST)
- DL has been successfully applied to many astronomical tasks (classification, regression, clustering).
- DL has matured a lot and is starting to be normalised as a methodology tool.

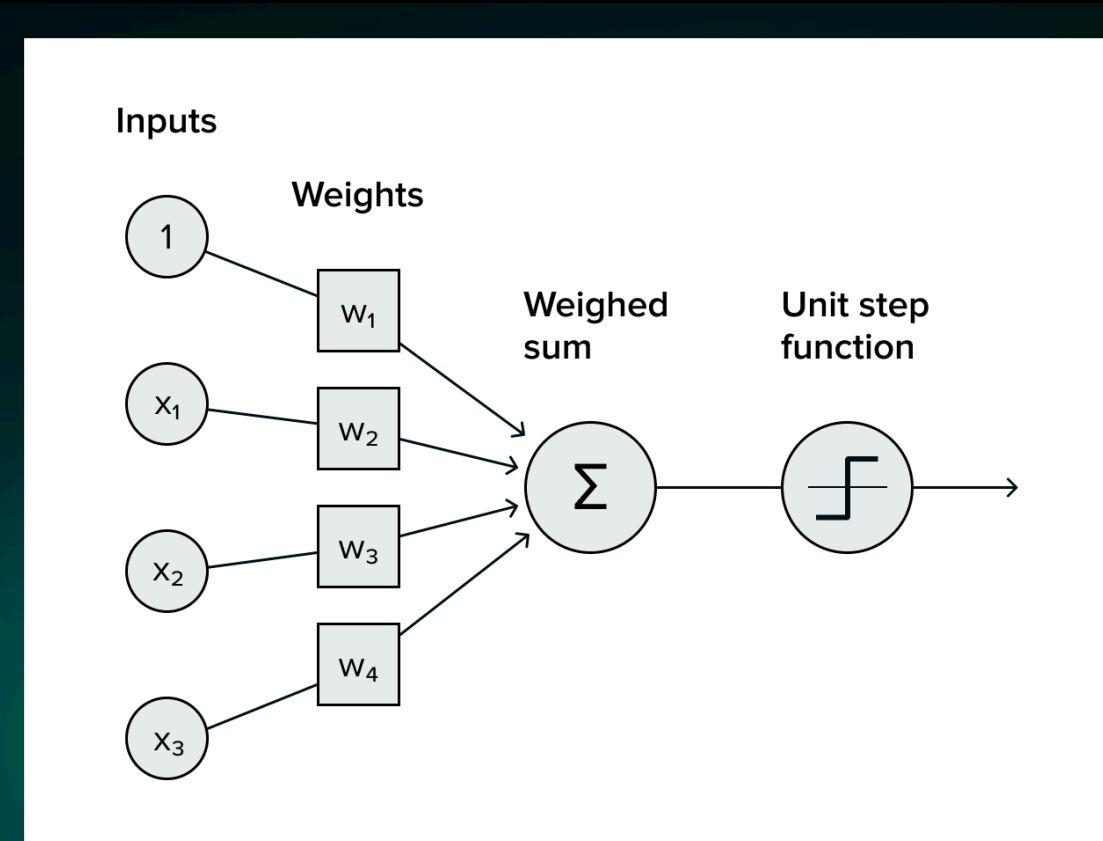


Papers with 'convolutional' in their abstract

Source: NASA ADS

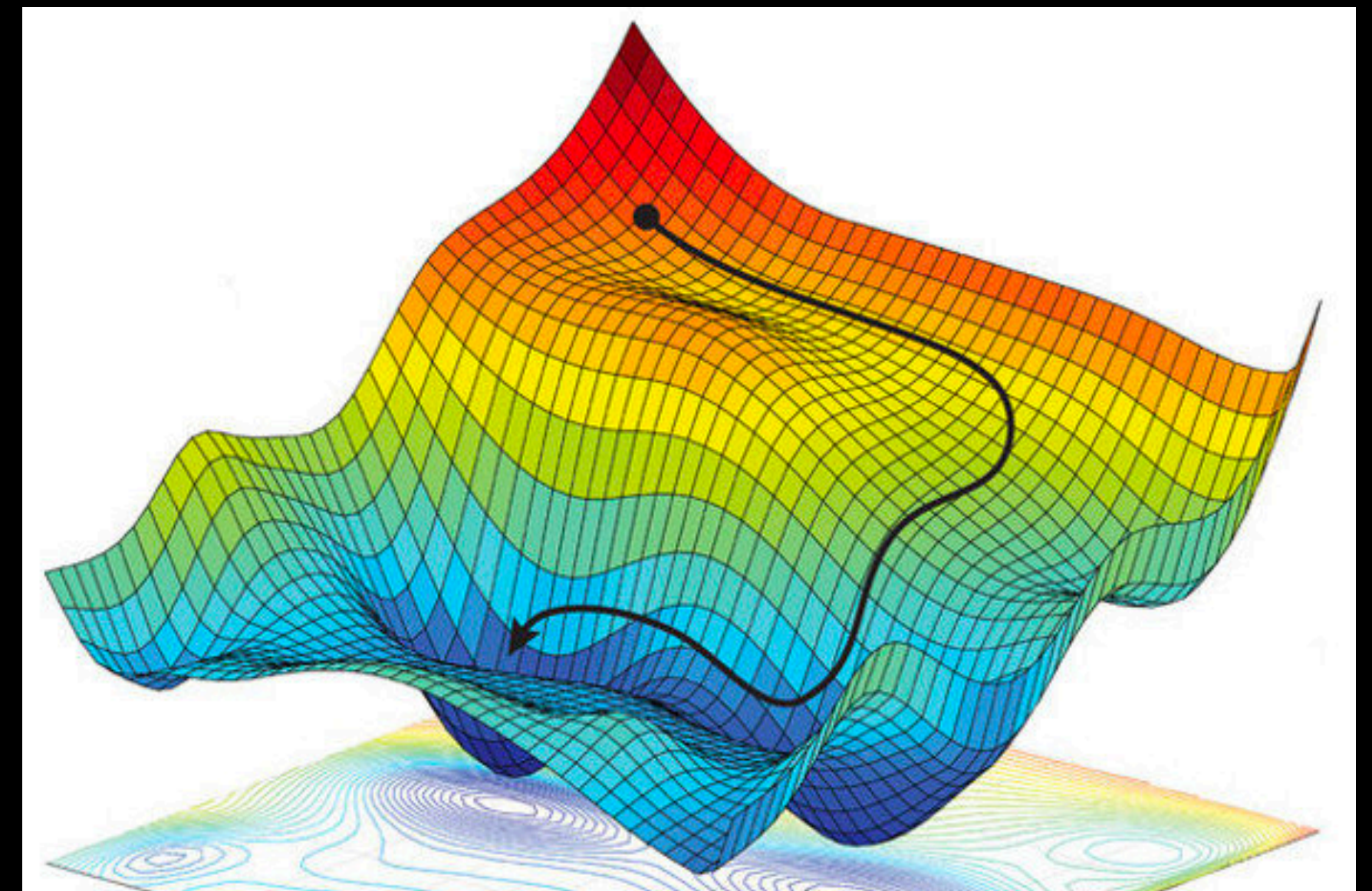
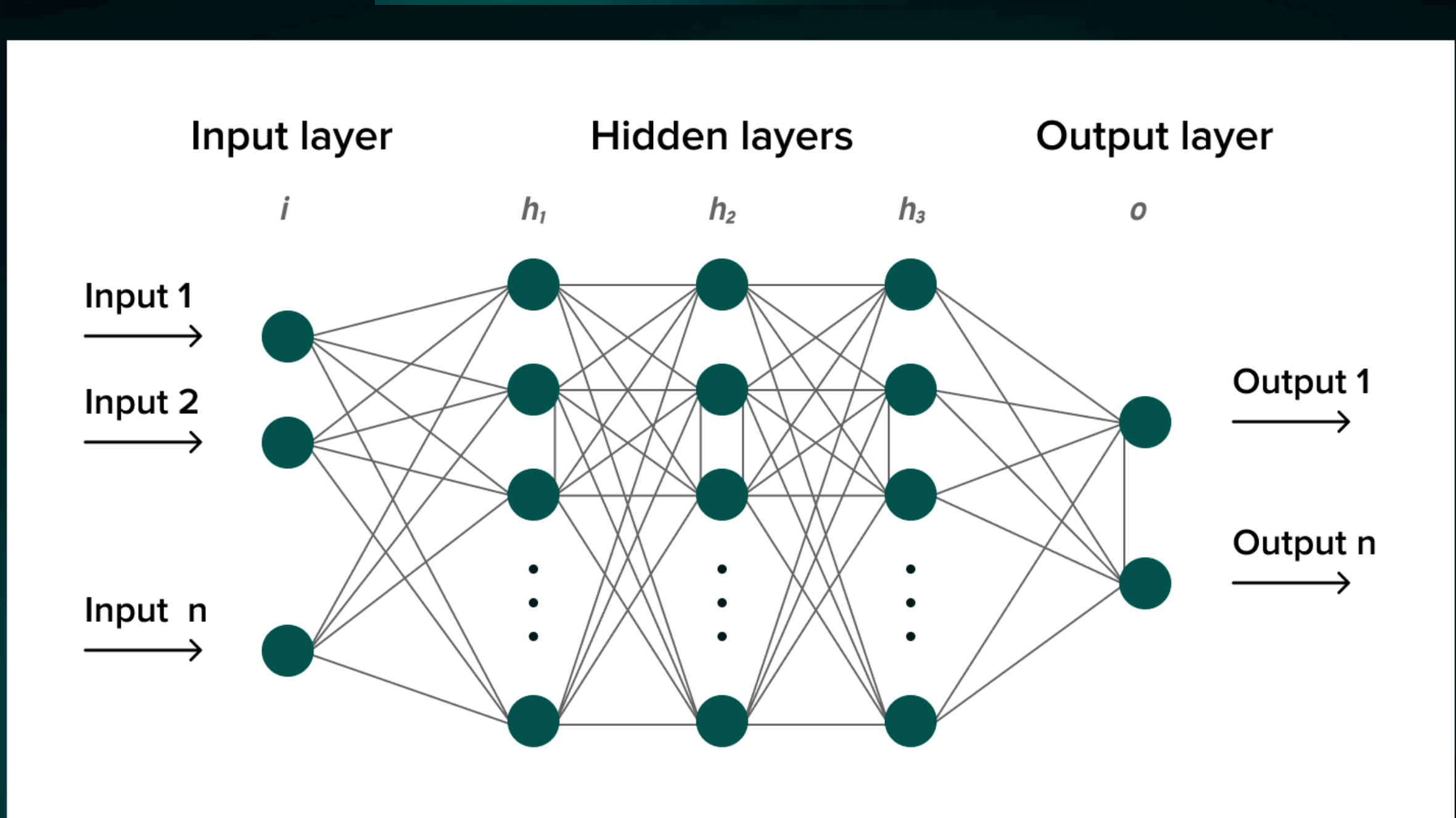
# WHAT IS DEEP LEARNING?

$y$  = input values  
 $p(y)$  = output values



$$H_p(q) = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i \cdot \log(p(y_i)) + (1 - y_i) \cdot \log(1 - p(y_i))$$

Binary Cross-Entropy / Log Loss







# WHY DEEP LEARNING?

Dieleman+15, Huertas-Company+15, Aniyan+17, Charnock+17, Gieseke+17, Jacobs+17, Petrillo+17, Schawinski+17, Alhassan+18, Dominguez-Sanchez+18, George+18, Hanners+18, Lukic+18, Moss+18, Razzano+18, Schaefer+18, Allen+19, Burke+19, Carrasco-Davis+19, Chatterjee+19, Davies+19, Dominguez-Sanchez+19, Fusse+19, Glaser+19, Ishida+19, Jacobs+19, Katebi+19, Lanusse+19, Liu+19, Lukic+19, Metcalf+19, Muthukrishna+19, Petrillo+19, Reiman+19, Boucaud+20, Chiani+20, Ghosh+20, Gomez+20, Hausen+20, Hlozek+20, Hosseinzadeh+20, Huang+20, Li+20, Moller+20, Paillassa+20, Tadaki+20, Vargas dos Santos+20, Walmsley+20, Wei+20, Allam+21, Arcelin+21, Becker+21, Bretonniere+21, Burhanudin+21, Davison+21, Donoso-Oliva+21, Jia+21, Lauritsen+21, Ono+21, Ruan+21, Sadegho+21, Tang+21, Tanoglidis+21, Vojtekova+21, Dhar+22, Hausen+22, Orwat+22, Pimentel+22, Rezaei+22, Samudre+22, Shen+22, Walmsley+22

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# OUTLINE

- Why care about galaxy morphology?
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- Transfer Learning
- Going fainter
- Going deeper



# CATALOGUES & DATA USED FOR TRAINING

- **Sloan Digital Sky Survey**

- 1/3 of the Sky, 0.5 billion objects
- 2.5m telescope (Apache Point Observatory)

- **Galaxy Zoo** ([Willet+2013](#) catalogue)

- 240,000 galaxies
- Science citizen project
- Decision tree

- **Nair & Abraham** ([N&A+2010](#) catalogue)

- 14,000 galaxies
- professional astronomers
- Detailed classification (T-Type)



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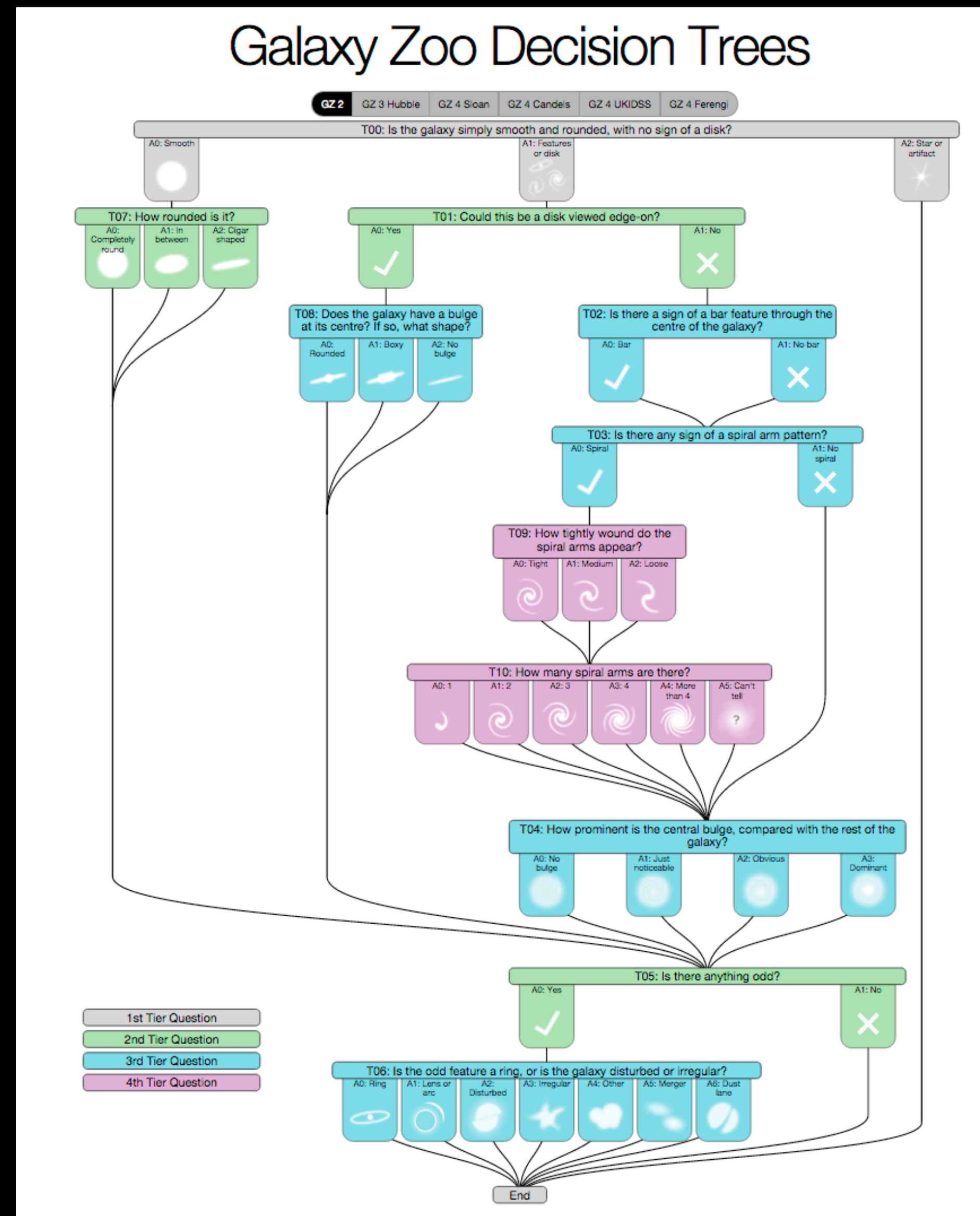
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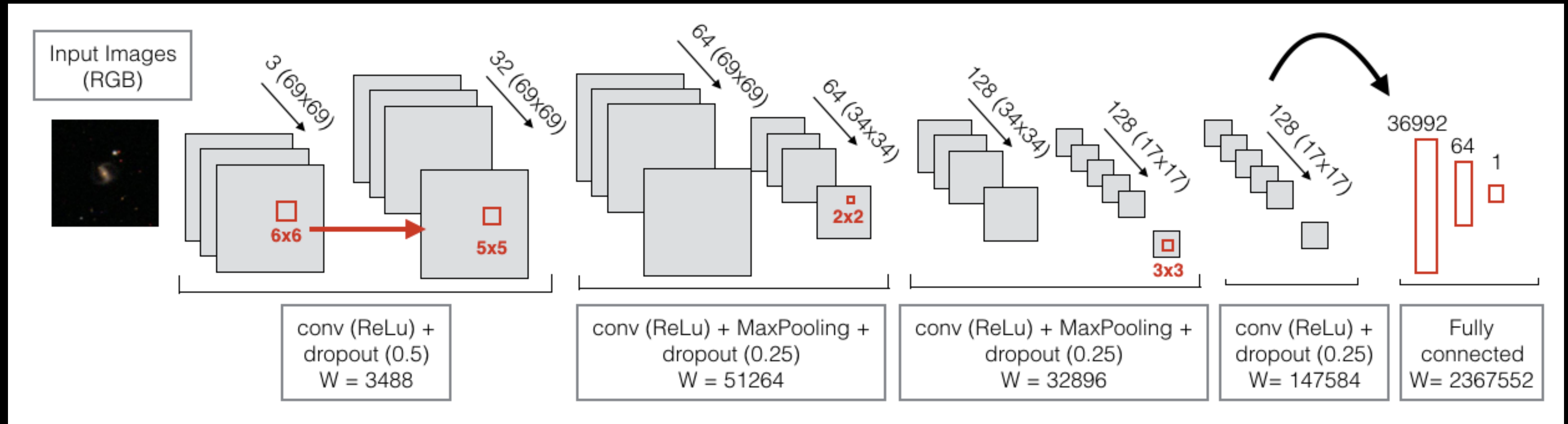
- 240,000 galaxies
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# (VANILLA) CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK



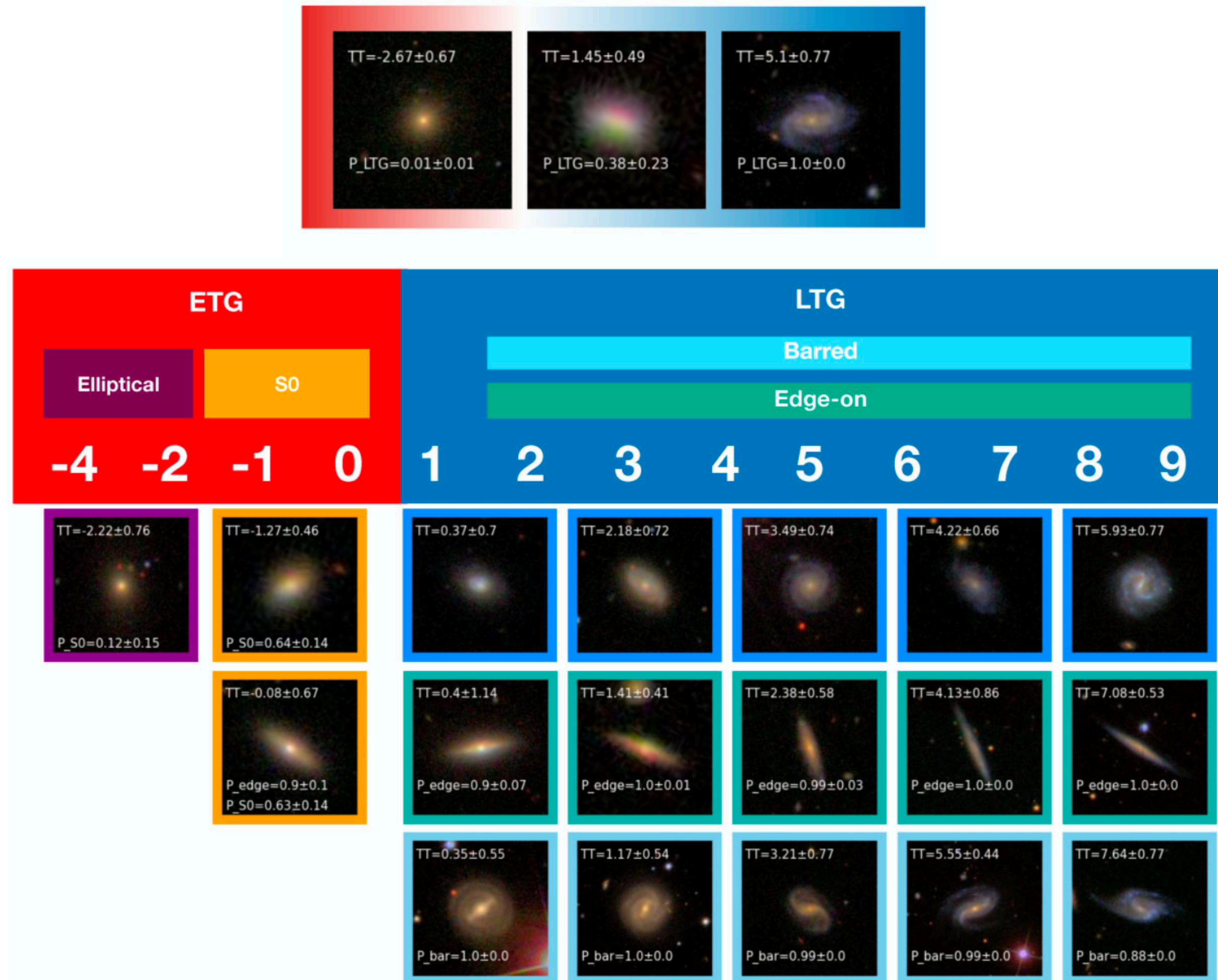
Input= flux per pixel in 3 bands

Cutout size proportional to galaxy size  $R_e$

Domínguez Sánchez + 2018

(Following Dieleman+2015, Huertas-Company+2015)

# CLASSIFICATION SCHEME

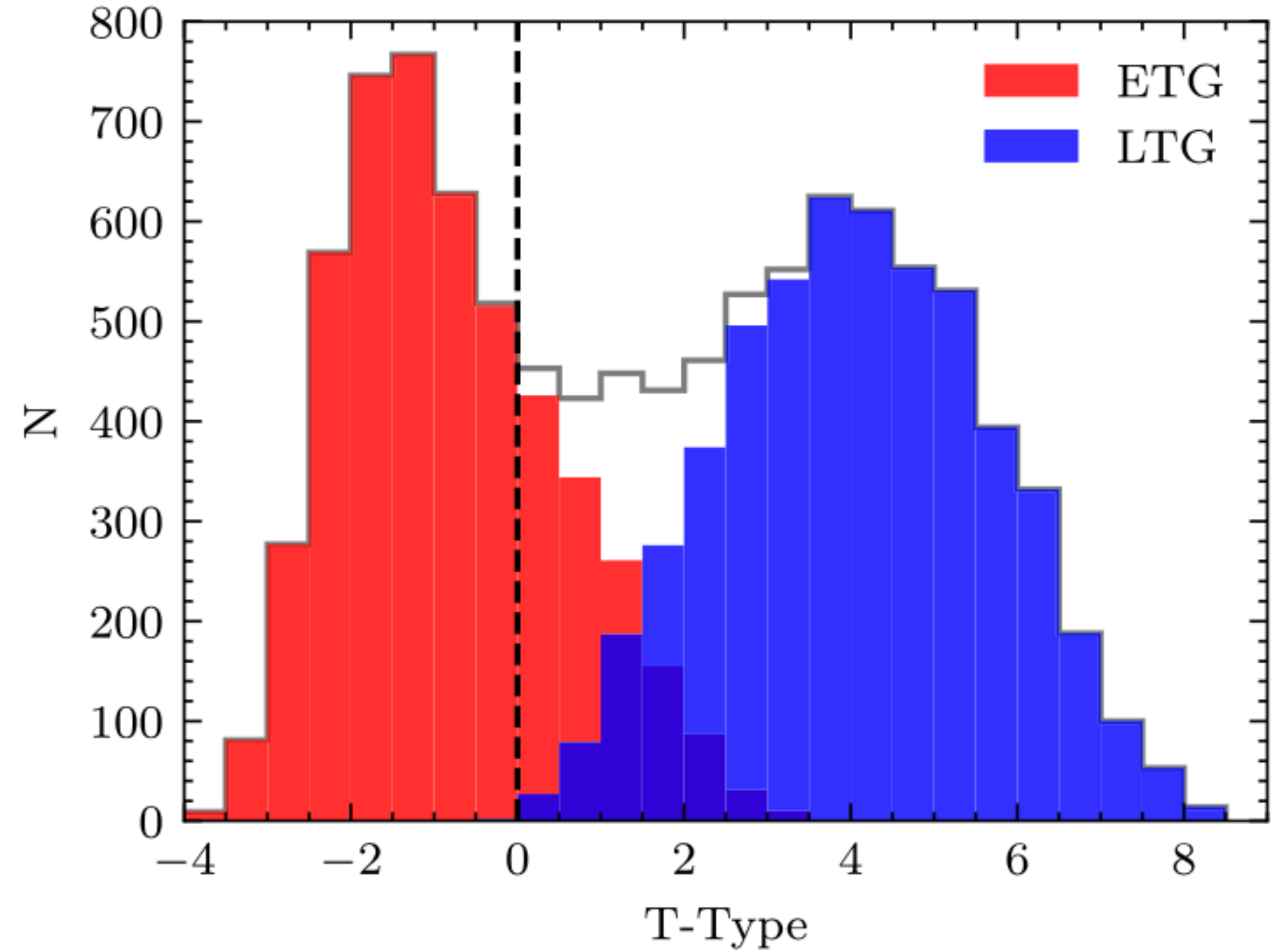
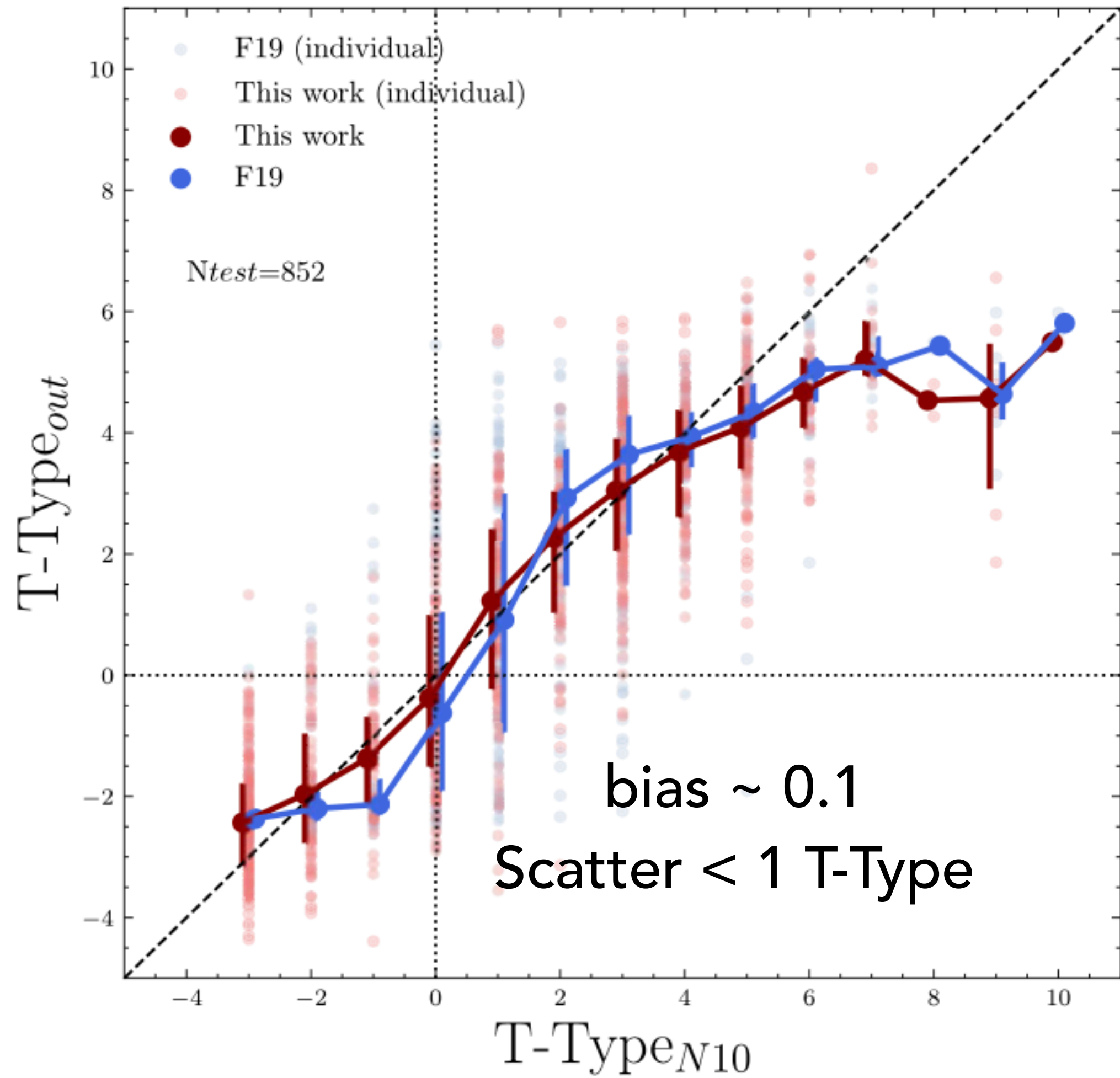


## Improvements:

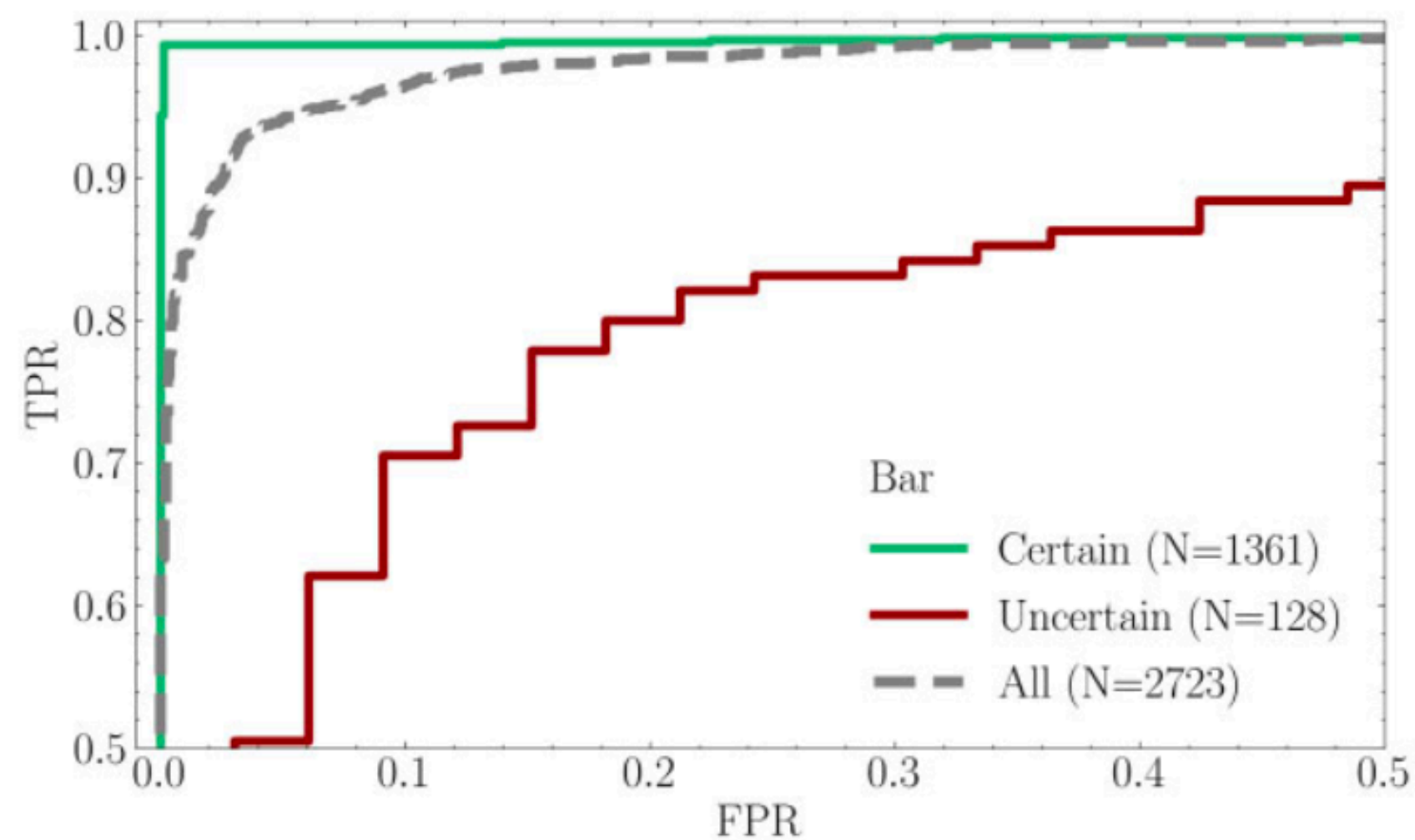
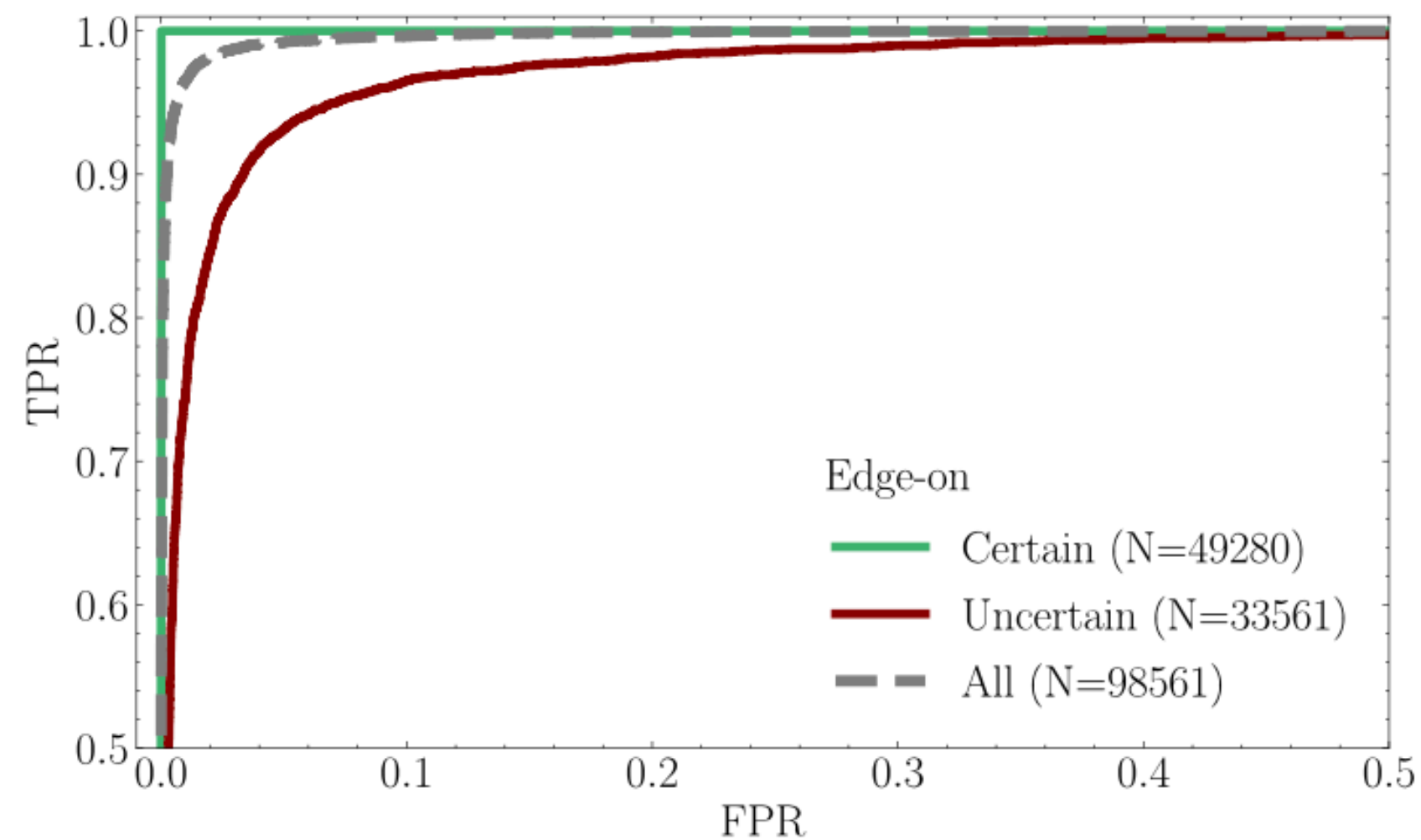
- T-Type better determined
- New ETG/LTG model
- Uncertainty estimation
- Visual classification



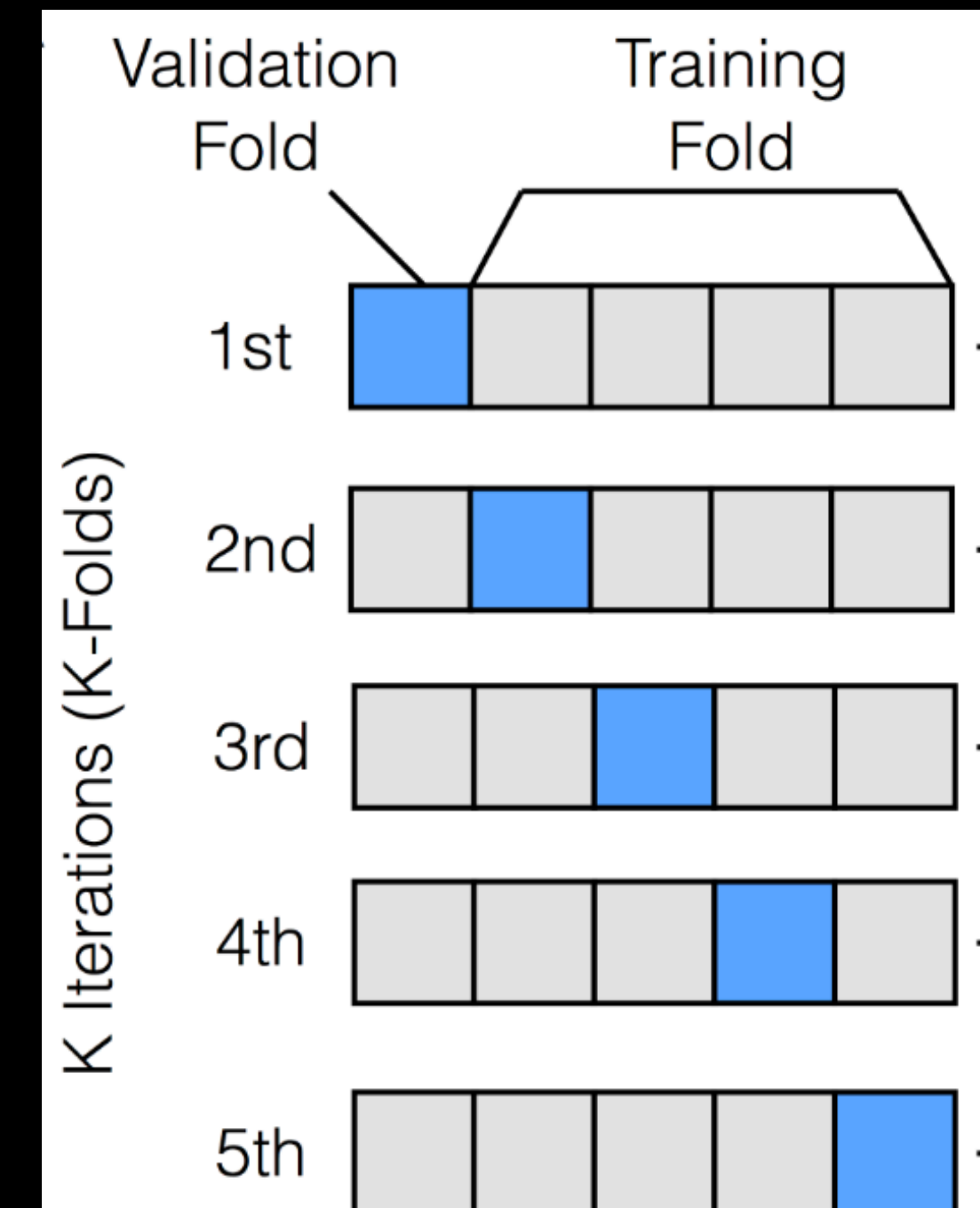
# T-TYPE VS ETG/LTG MODELS



# BINARY MODELS PERFORMANCE & UNCERTAINTIES



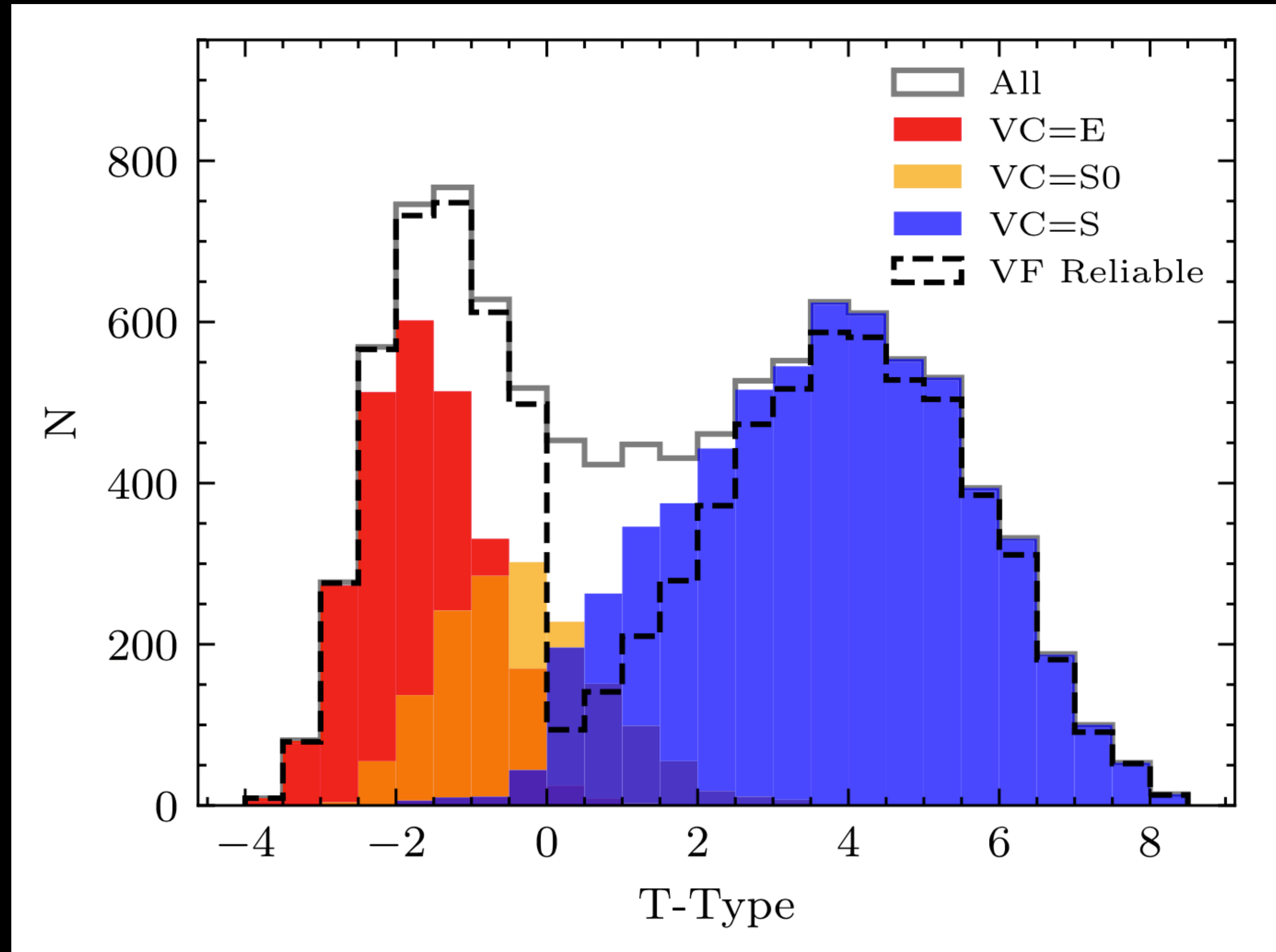
Uncertainties are derived as the standard deviation of the output of 10 k-folded models



Model	$N_{\text{test}}$	% Positives	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1
$P_{\text{edge-on}}$	98 561	14	0.98	0.87	0.98	0.93
$P_{\text{bar}}$	2723	50	0.93	0.92	0.90	0.93

# T-TYPE VS ETG/LTG MODELS

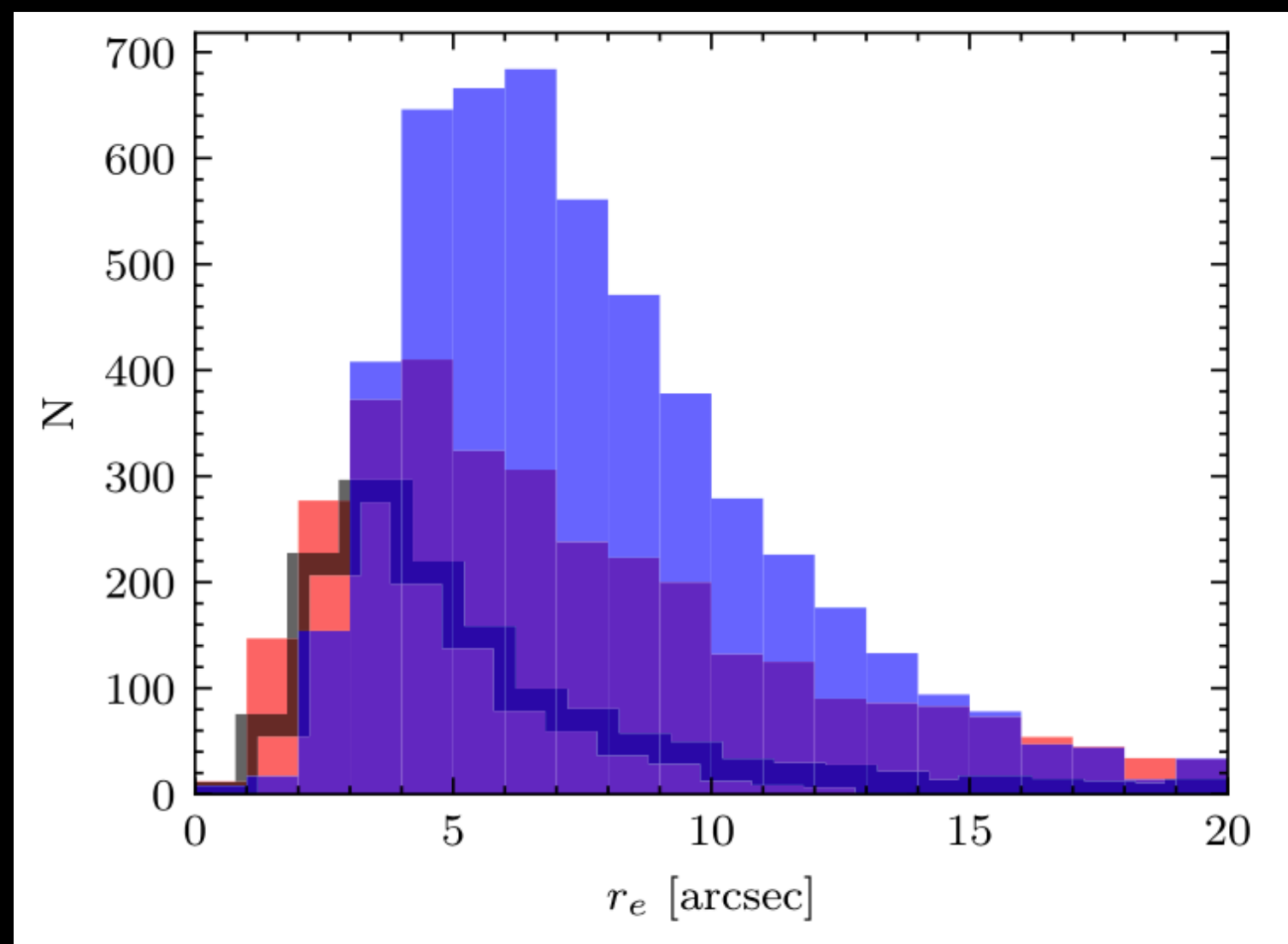
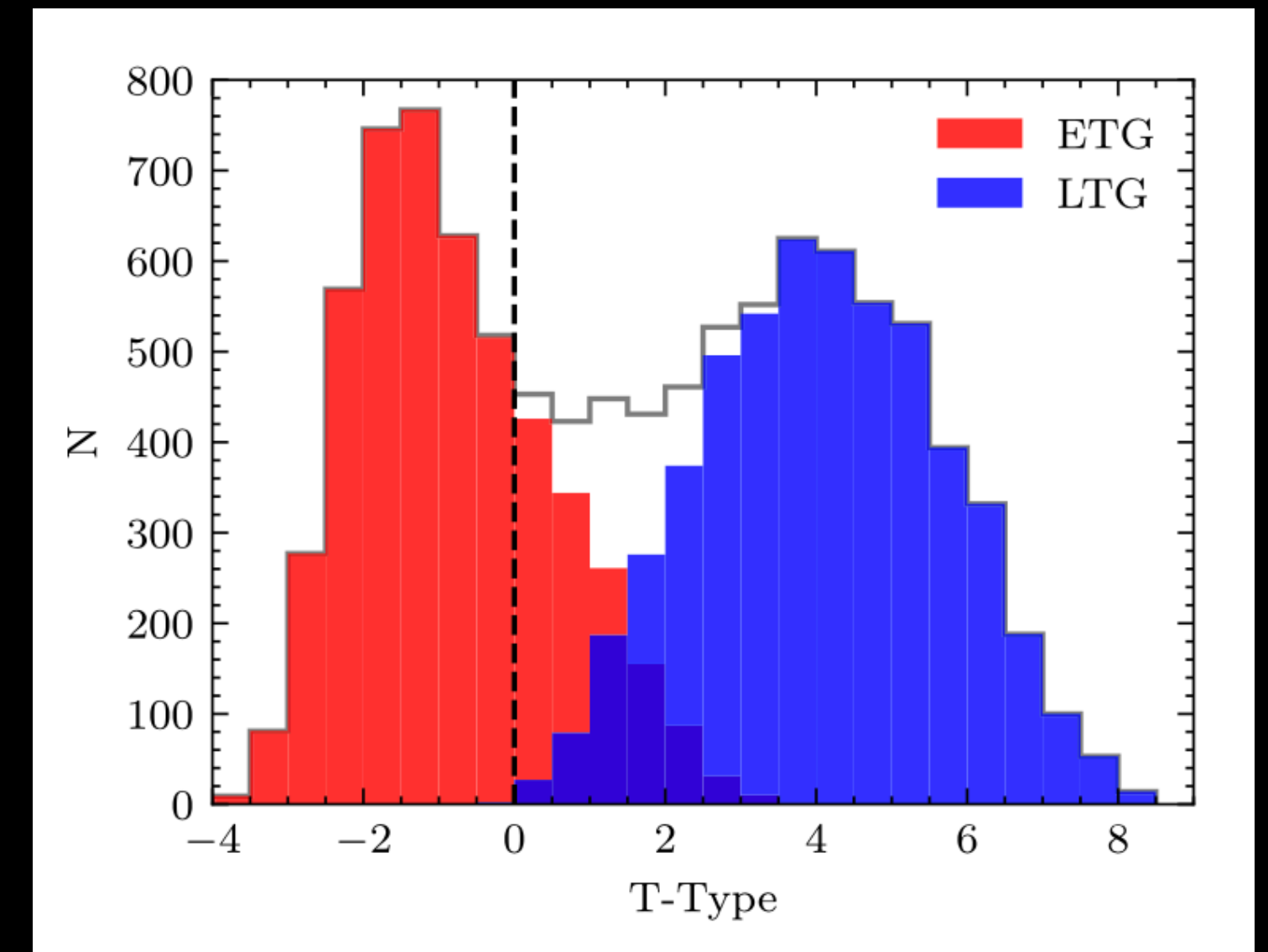
VISUAL CLASSIFICATION



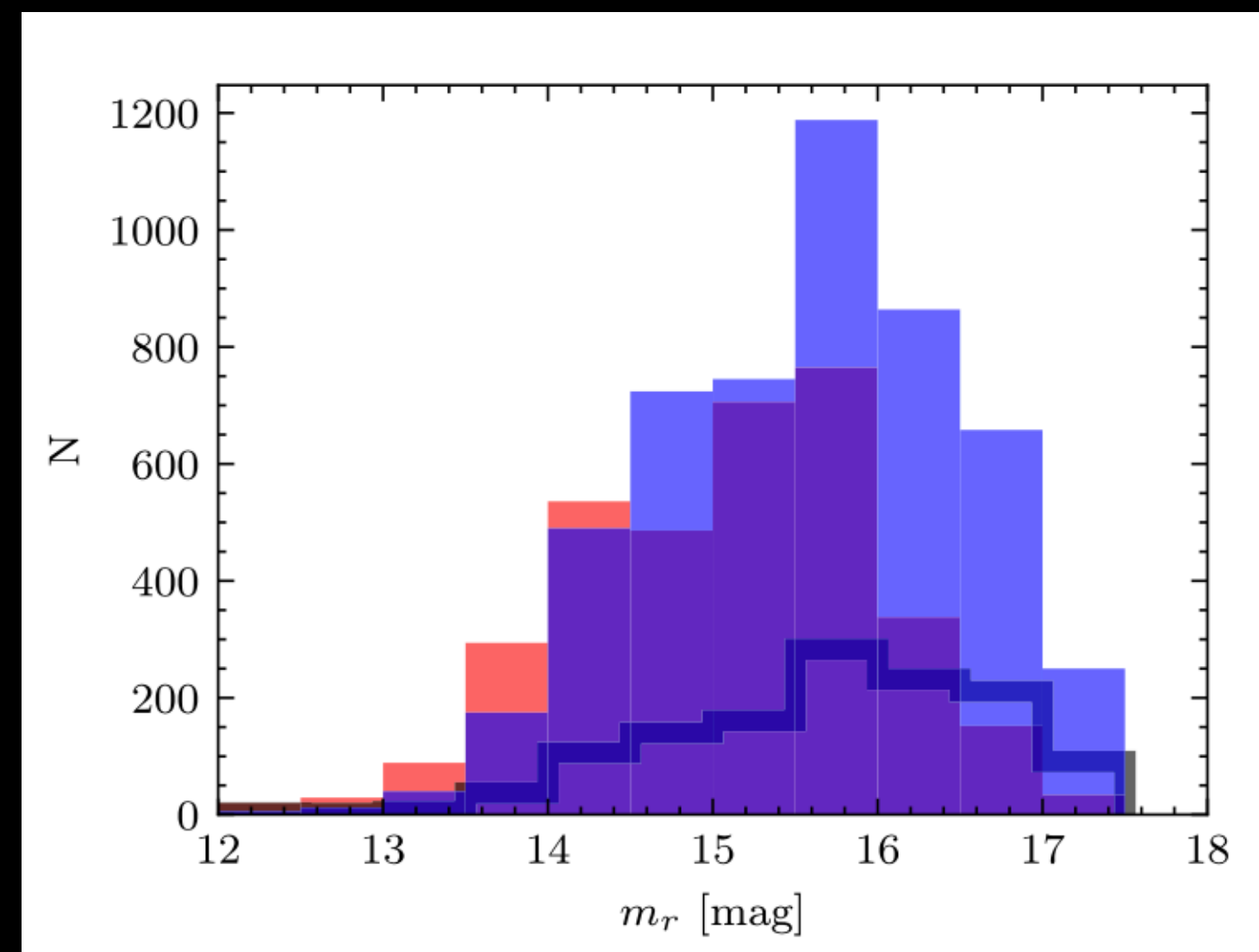
# T-TYPE VS ETG/LTG MODELS

Galaxies classified as ETG with T-Type  $> 0$  tend to be small, faint and with low central velocity dispersions.

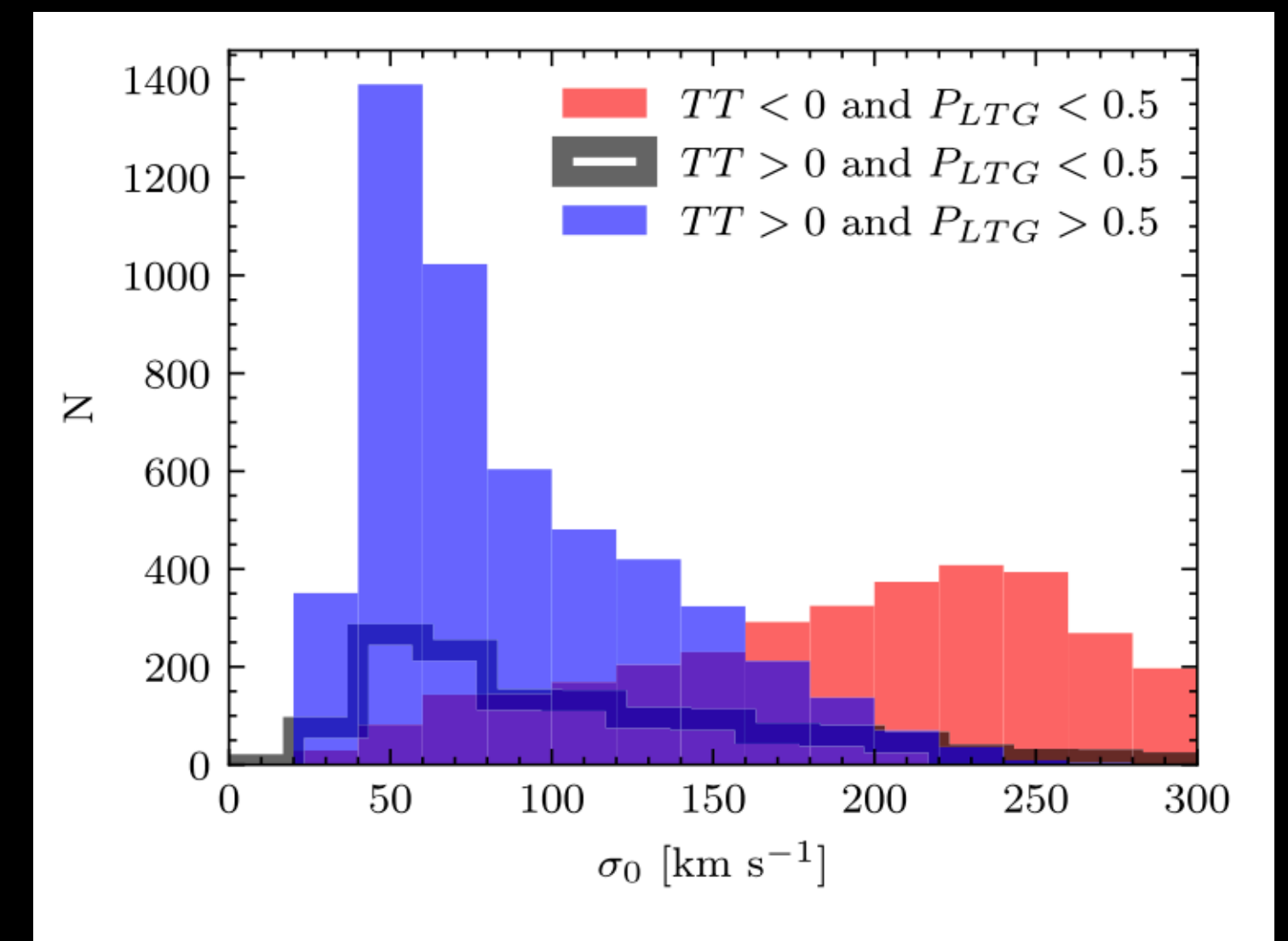
Consistent with disk-like galaxies with no clear spiral structure.



SIZE

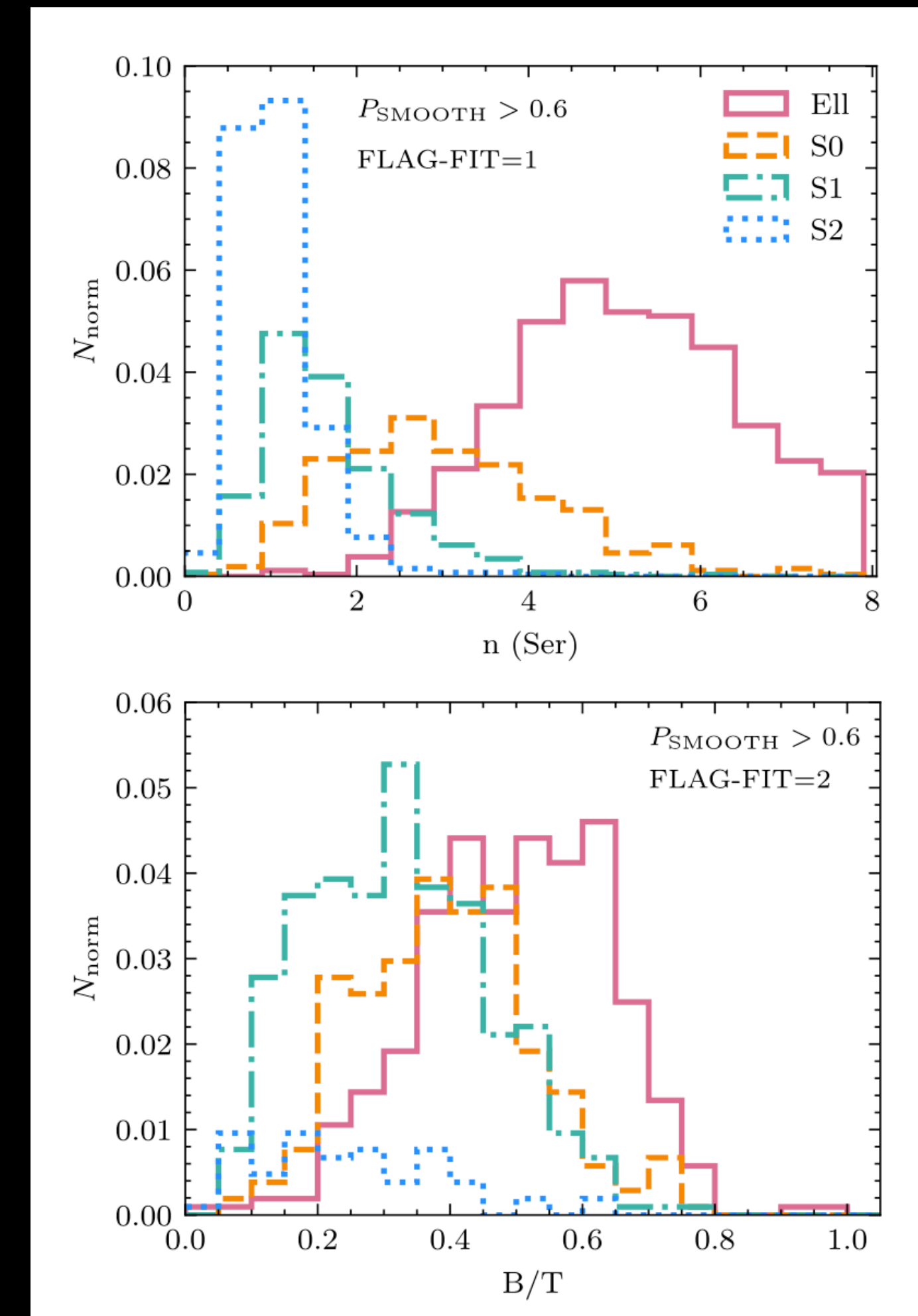
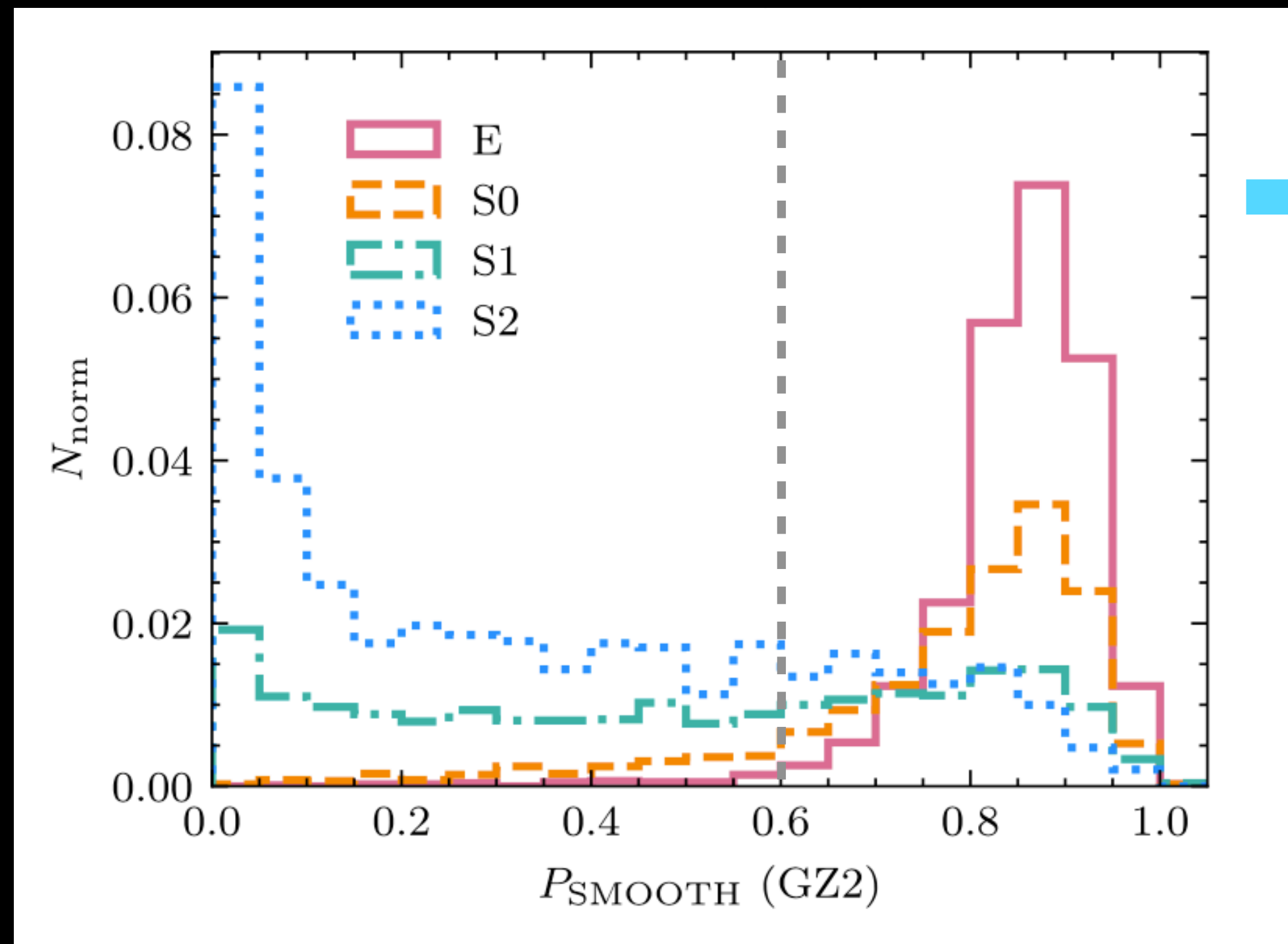


BRIGHTNESS



ROTATION

# DS+22 VS GALAXY ZOO CLASSIFICATION



- A significant fraction of galaxies with  $P_{\text{smooth}} > 0.6$  are spirals (according to DS22)
- They have low Sérsic indices and B/T values
- Being 'smooth' is not equivalent to being elliptical!

# PUBLIC CATALOGUES

- **SDSS:** 600,000 galaxies; [DS+18, DS+23](#)

[https://archive.cefca.es/ancillary\\_data/sdss\\_morphological\\_catalogues/sdss\\_morphological\\_catalogues.tar.gz](https://archive.cefca.es/ancillary_data/sdss_morphological_catalogues/sdss_morphological_catalogues.tar.gz)

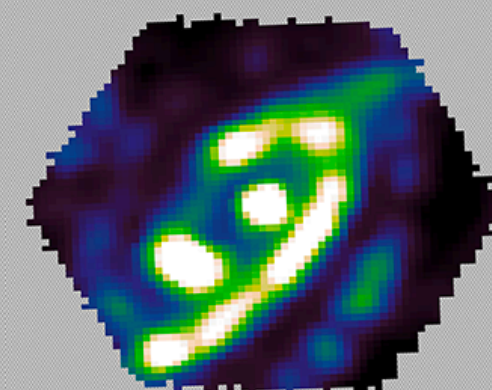
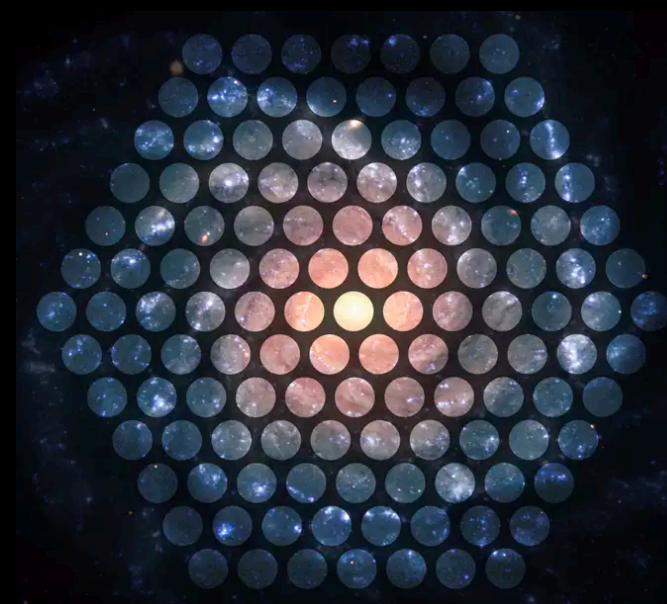
- **MaNGA:** 10,000 galaxies; [Fischer+19, DS+22](#)

- *MaNGA Morphology Deep Learning DR17 catalog*

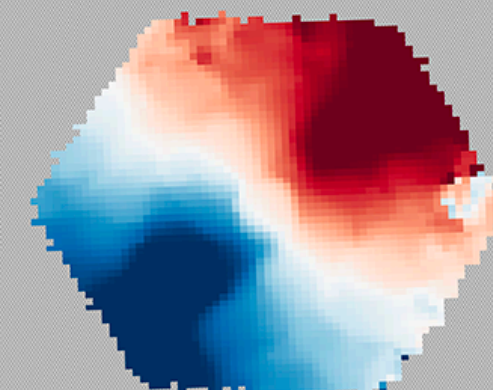
[https://www.sdss4.org/dr17/data\\_access/value-added-catalogs/?vac\\_id=manga-morphology-deep-learning-dr17-catalog](https://www.sdss4.org/dr17/data_access/value-added-catalogs/?vac_id=manga-morphology-deep-learning-dr17-catalog)

- *MaNGA Pymorph DR17 photometric catalog*

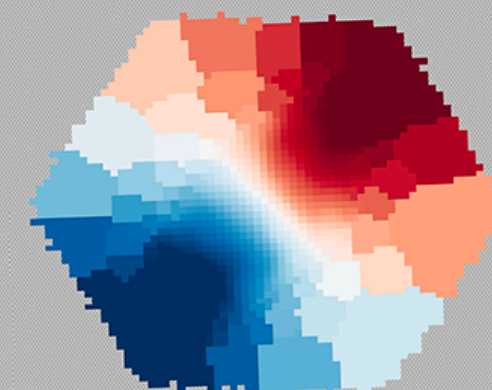
[https://www.sdss4.org/dr17/data\\_access/value-added-catalogs/?vac\\_id=manga-pymorph-dr17-photometric-catalog](https://www.sdss4.org/dr17/data_access/value-added-catalogs/?vac_id=manga-pymorph-dr17-photometric-catalog)



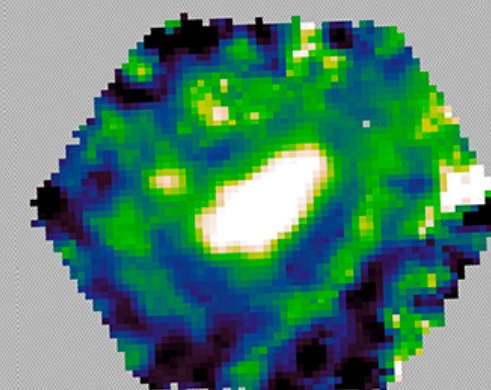
H $\alpha$  Emission (Star Formation)



Gas Velocity



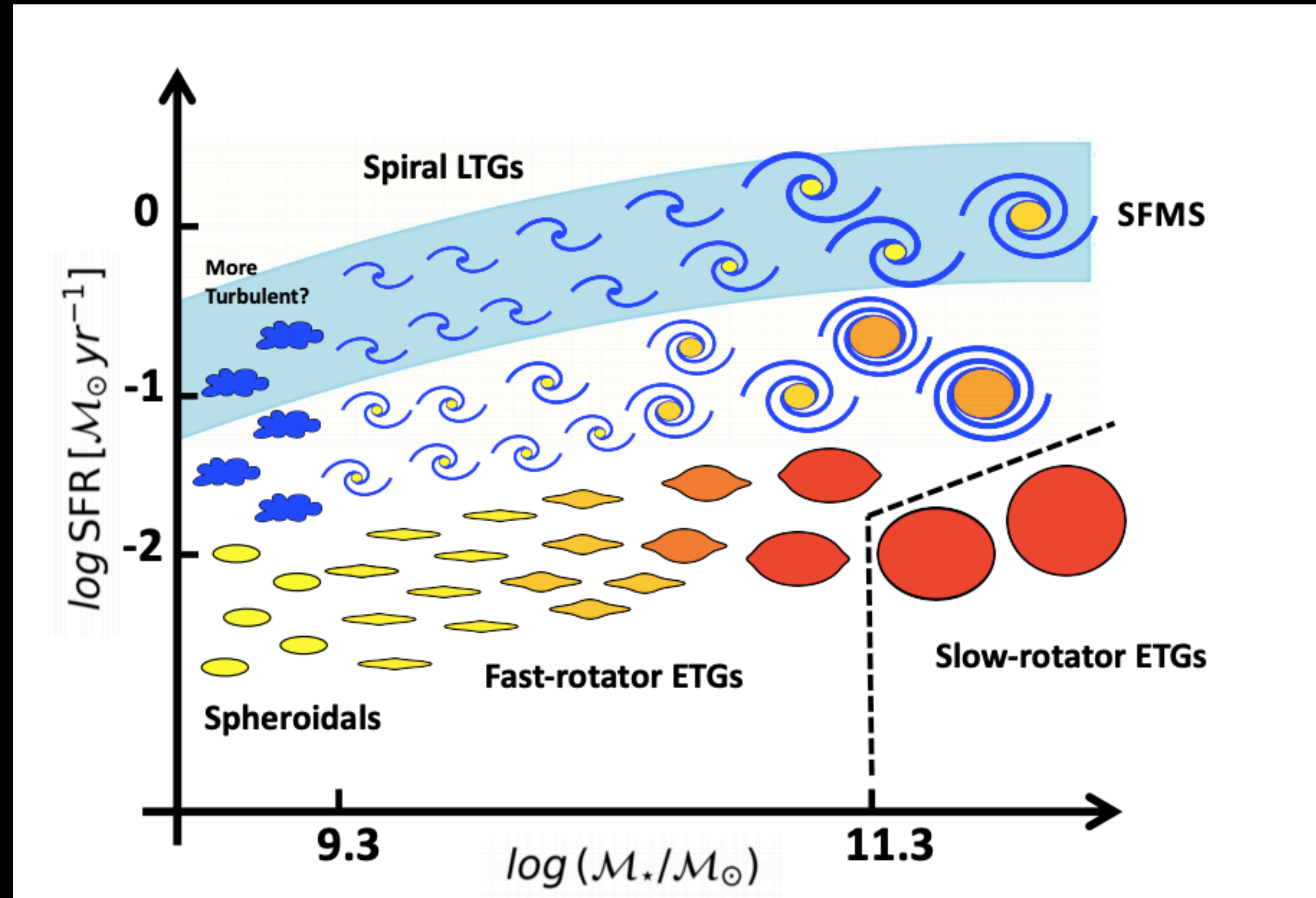
Stellar Velocity



D4000 (Stellar Age)

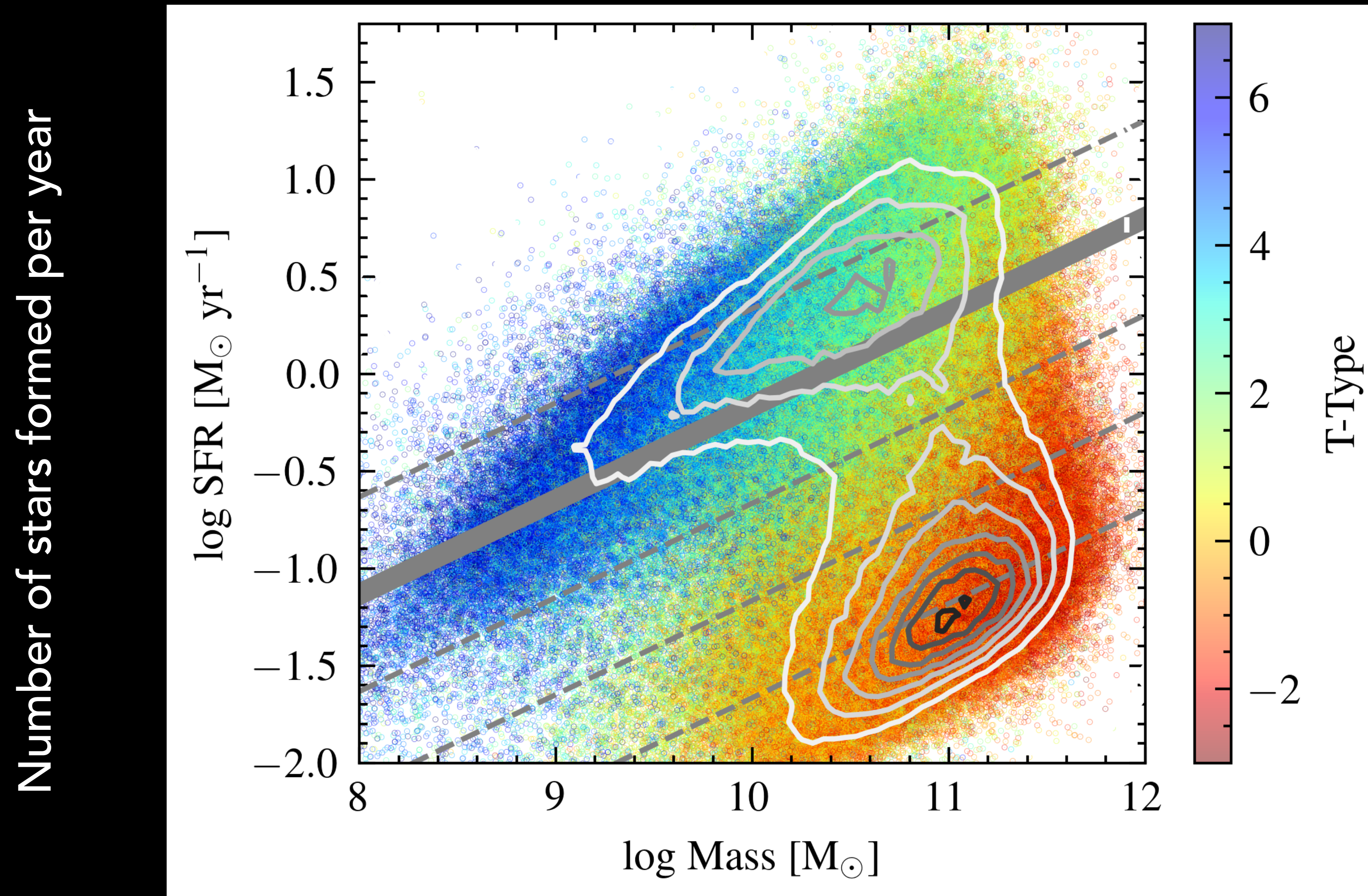
# Morphology related to fundamental galaxy properties

Number of stars formed per year



Galaxy Mass (in units of solar masses)

# Morphology related to fundamental galaxy properties



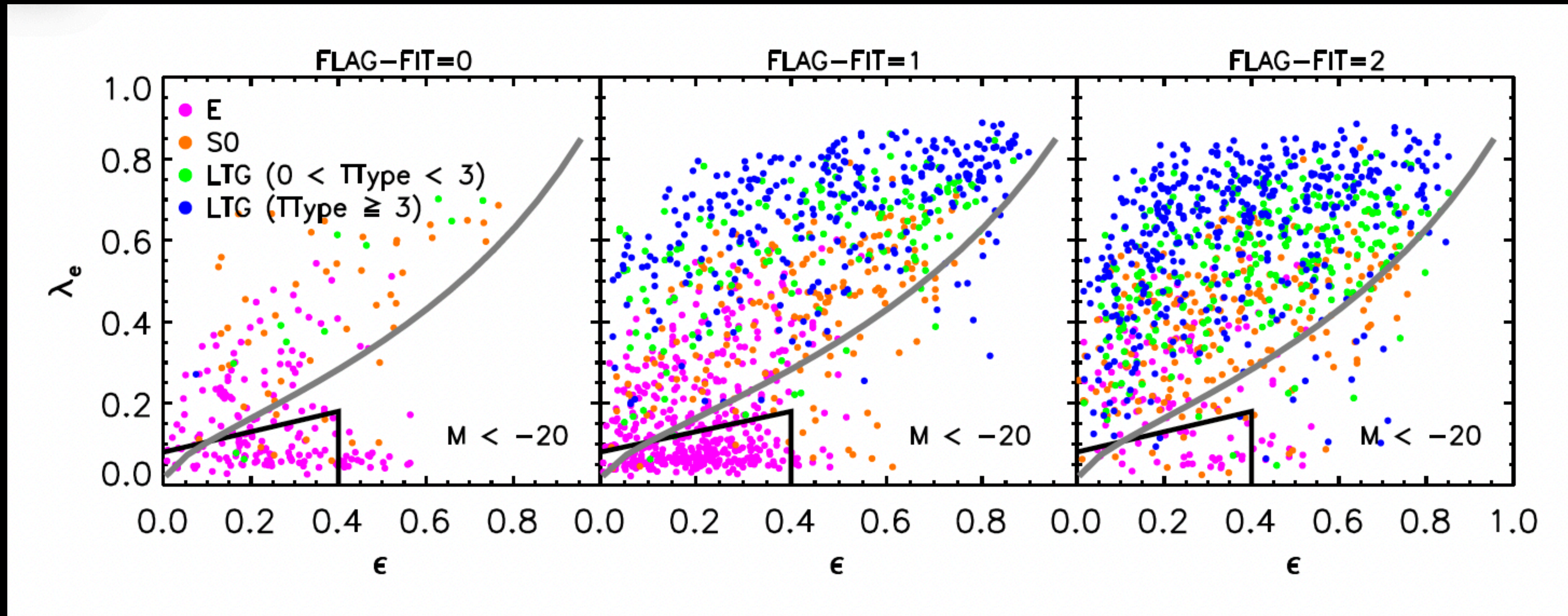
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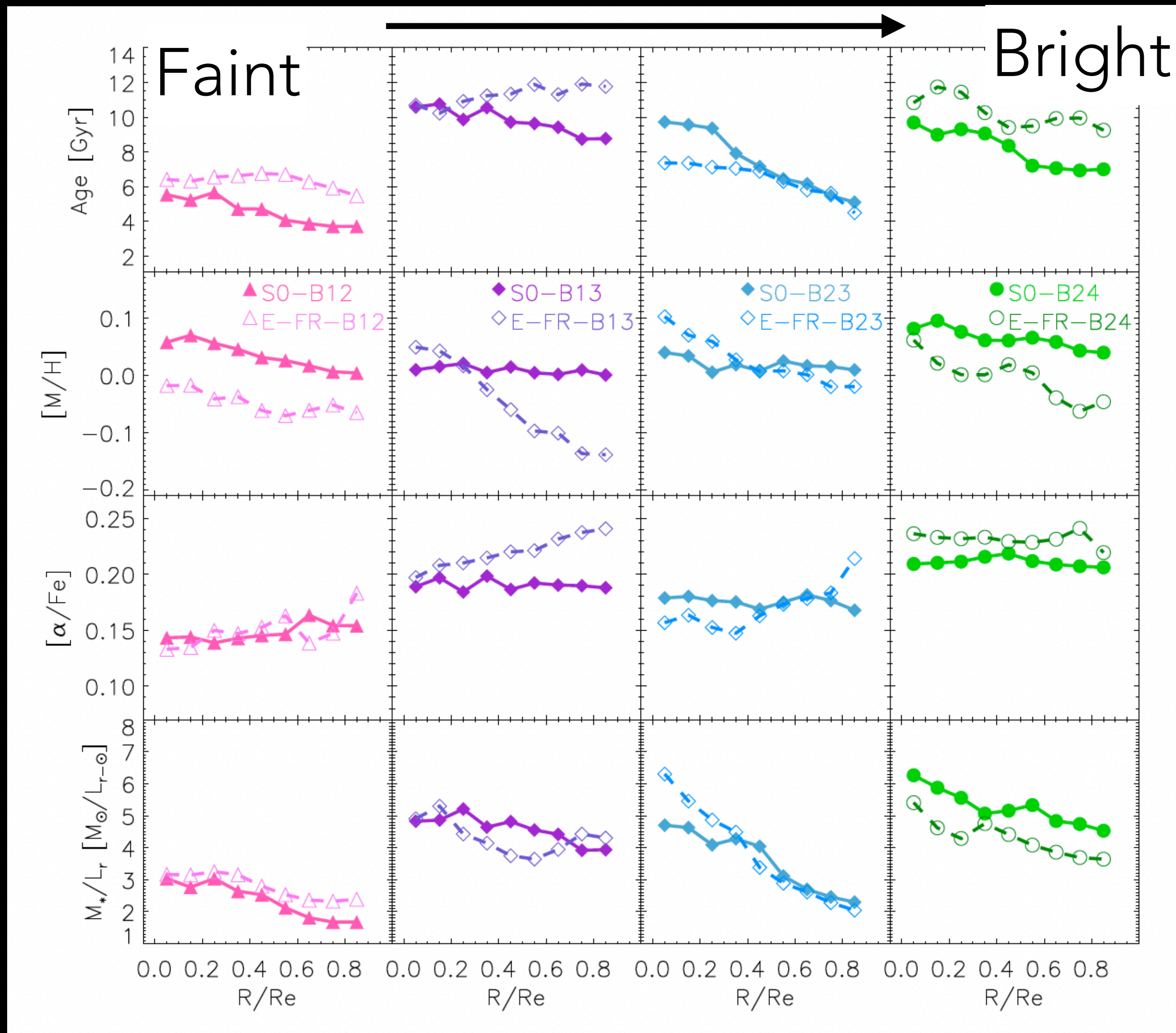
Domínguez Sánchez+2023



# Morphology related to fundamental galaxy properties



# Morphology related to fundamental galaxy properties



We were able to study the [stellar population gradients](#) of E and S0 separated according to their kinematics.

E-FR and S0 have different properties (not the same objects)

Domínguez Sánchez+2019b

Bernardi, DS+2019

Domínguez Sánchez+2020

Bernardi, DS+2023

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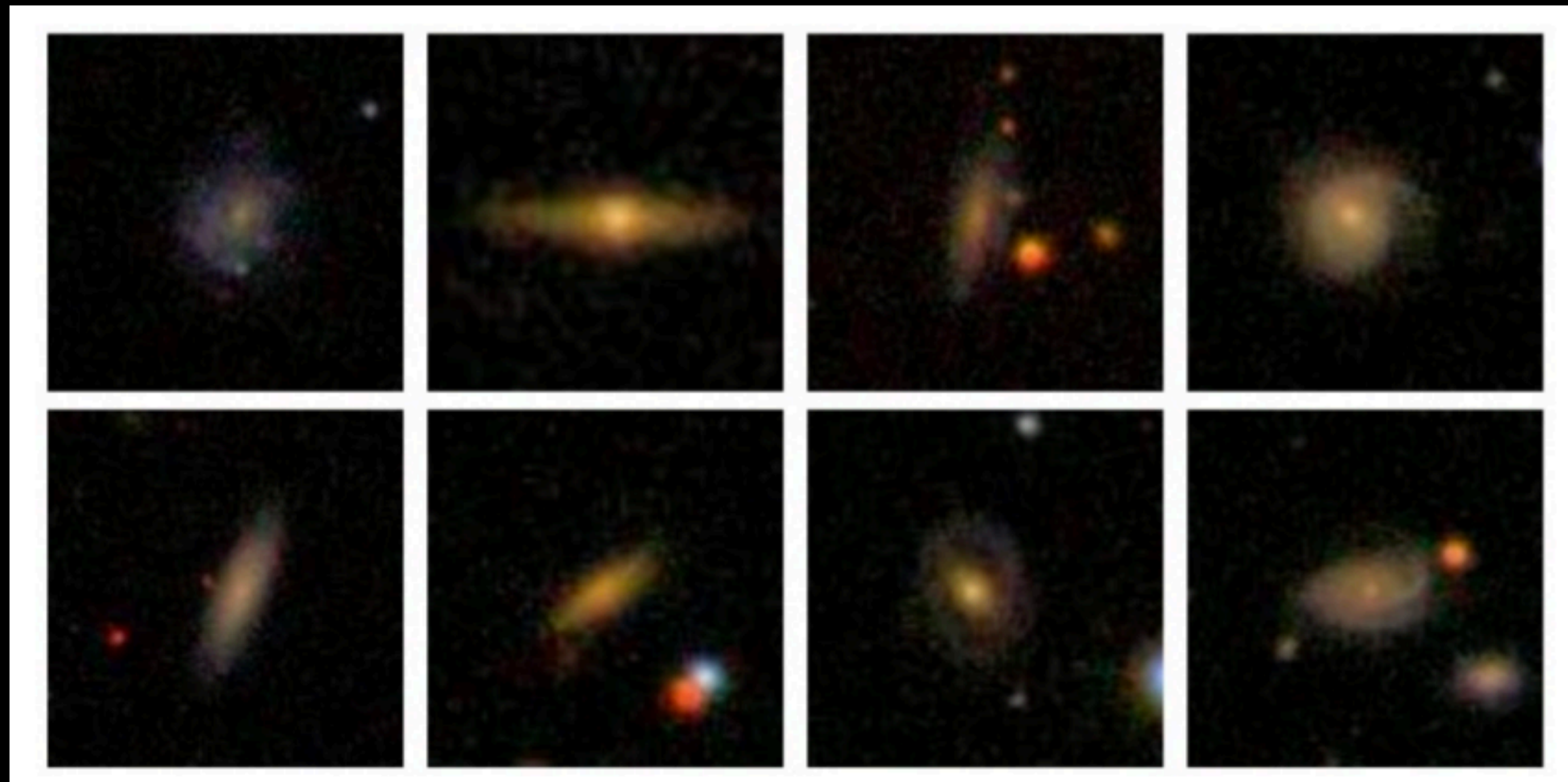


# TRANSFER LEARNING

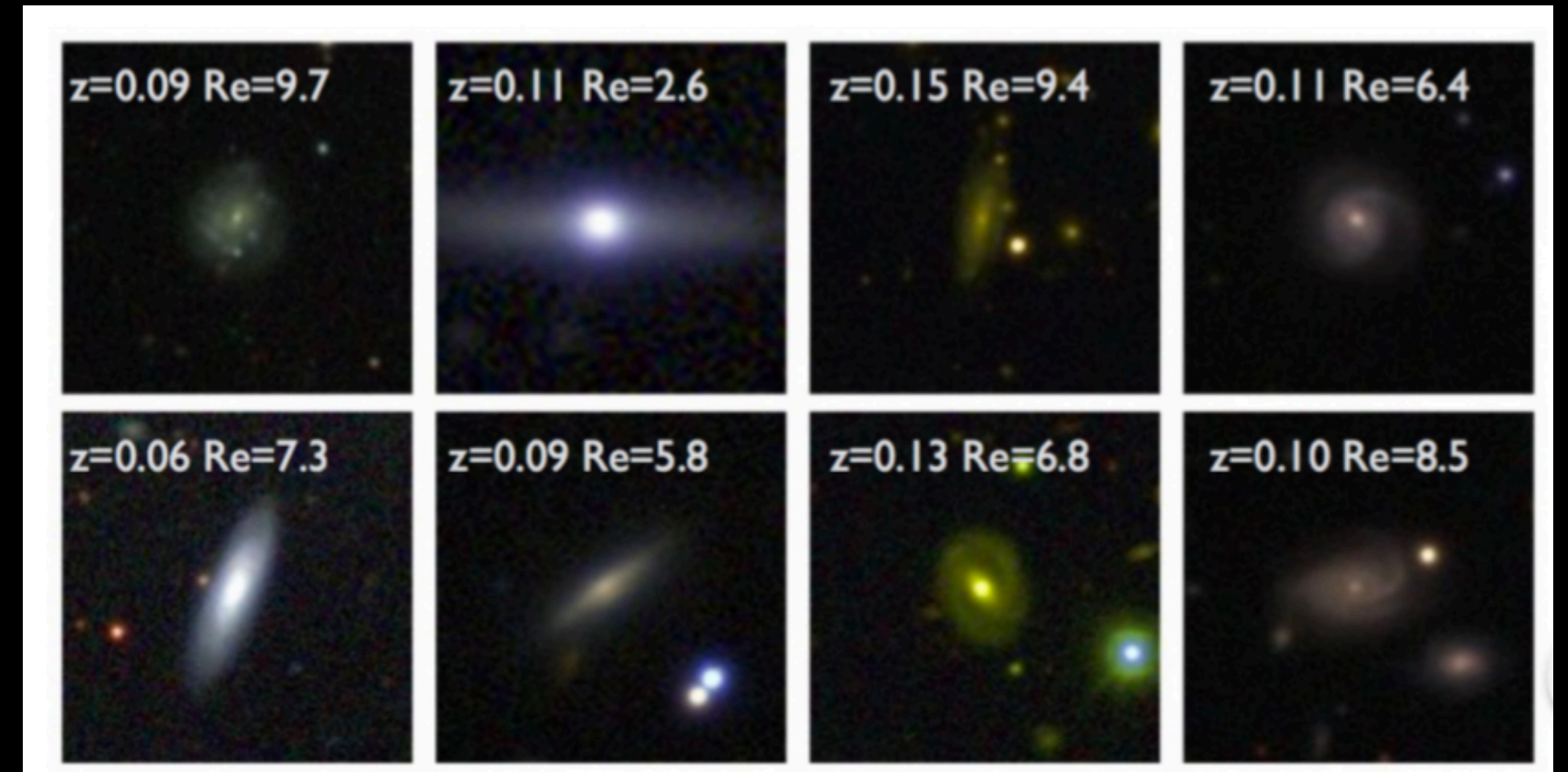
Supervised deep learning algorithms rely on large training samples (5000-10000 labeled galaxies). A key question in view of using them in future Big Data surveys such as LSST or Euclid is...

How much of the knowledge acquired from an existing survey can be exported to a new dataset?

SDSS

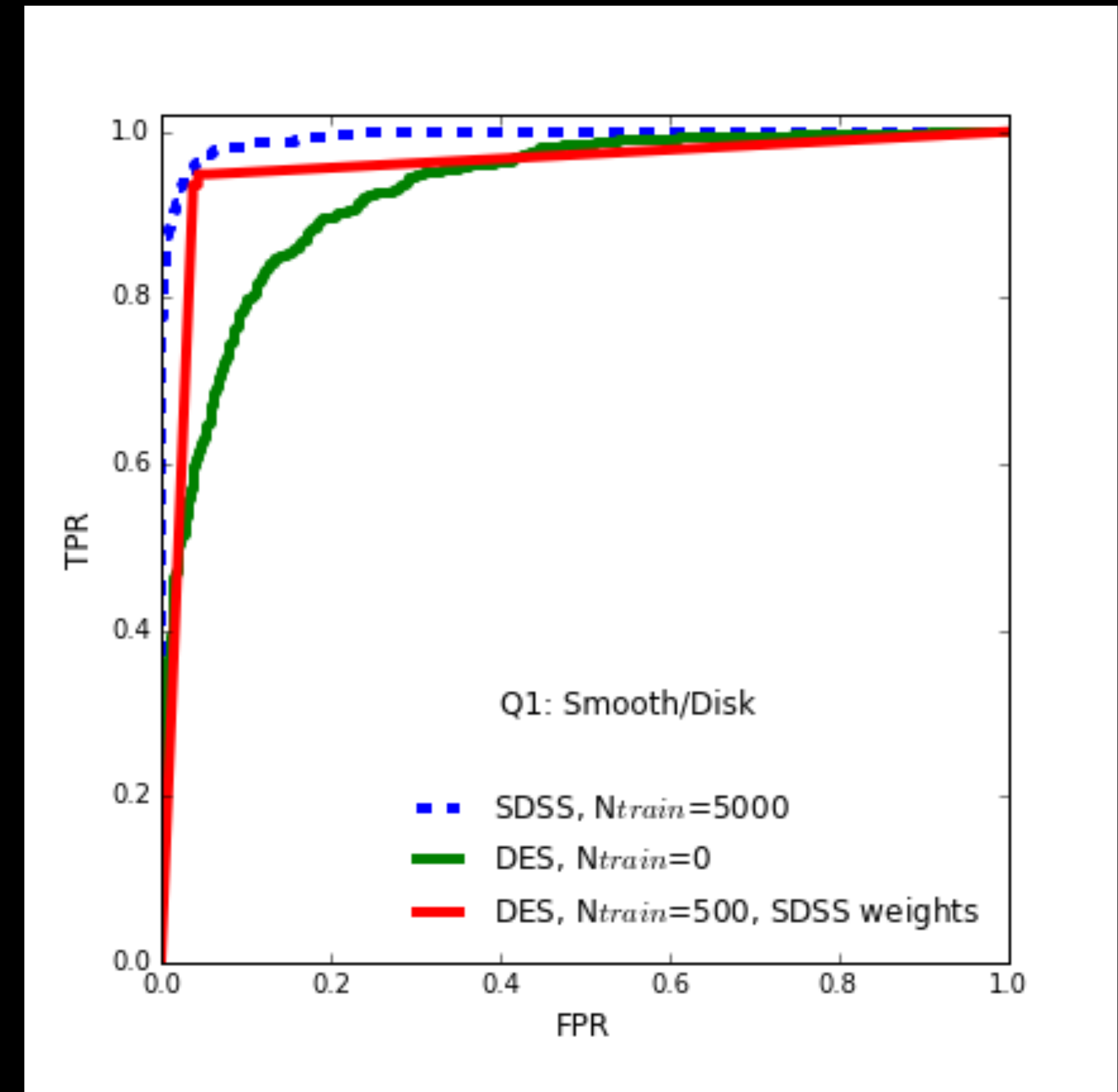


DES

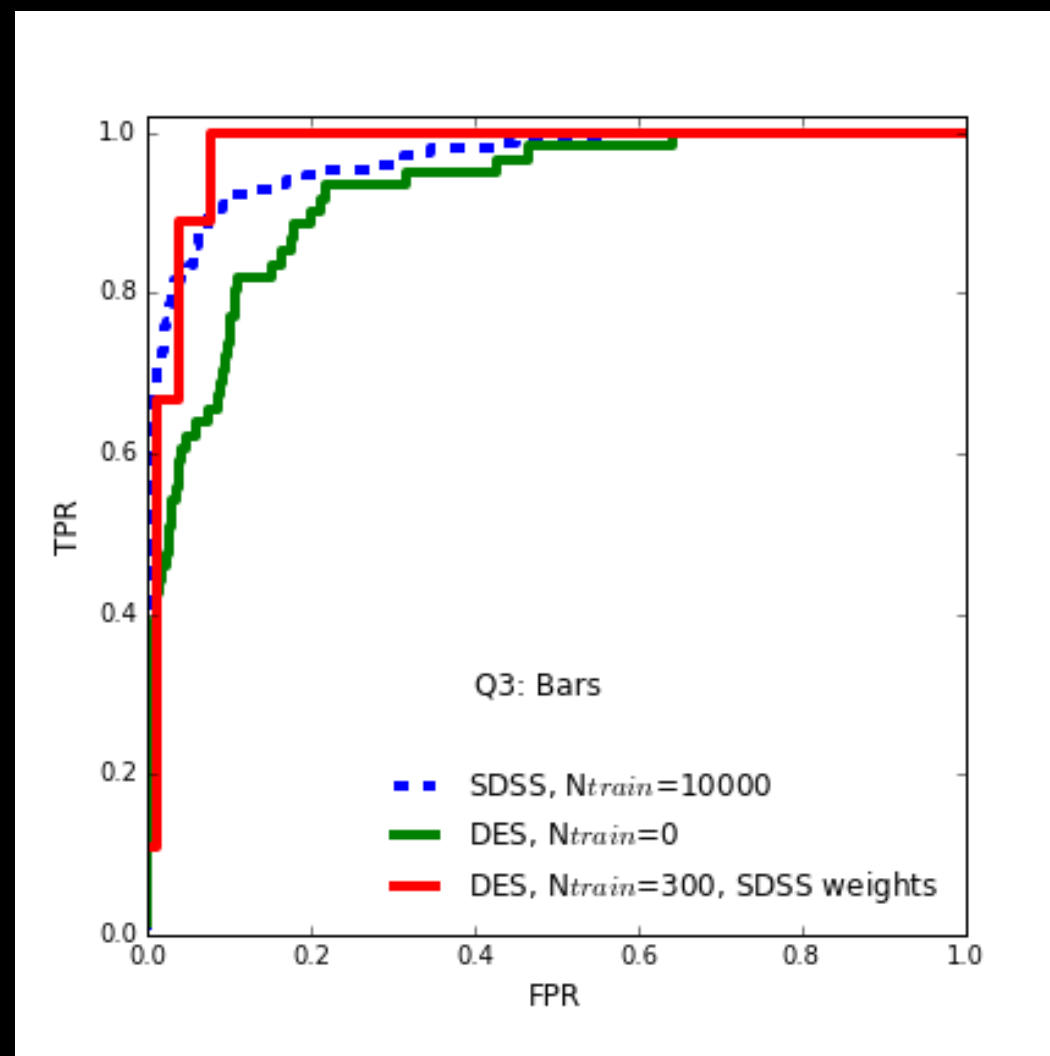
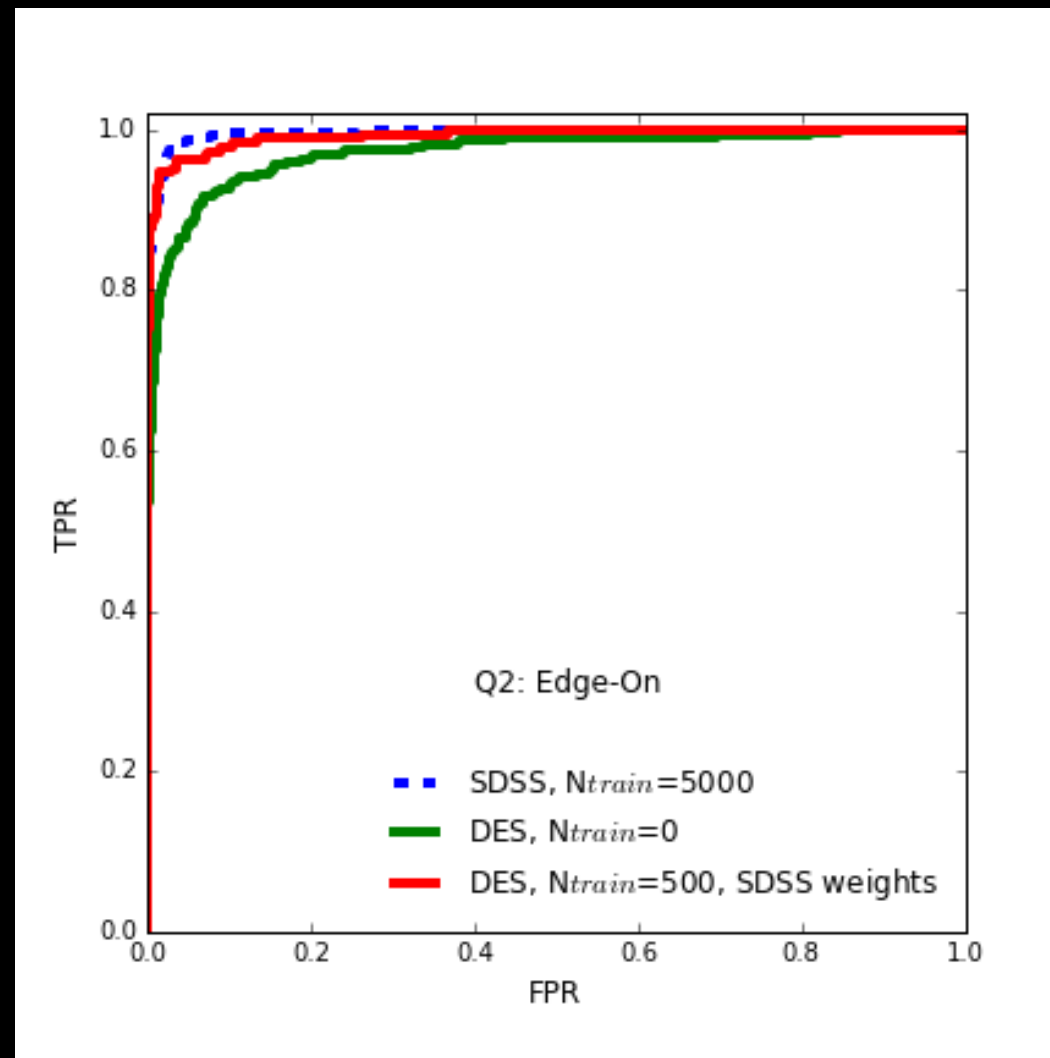


# TRANSFER LEARNING

- (1) Apply SDSS-based models directly to Dark Energy Survey (DES) images.
- (2) Fast **domain adaptation step**: train with  $N \sim 500$  DES galaxies using as a starting point the weights from SDSS-based models.
- (3) Test DES model on sample not used for training.



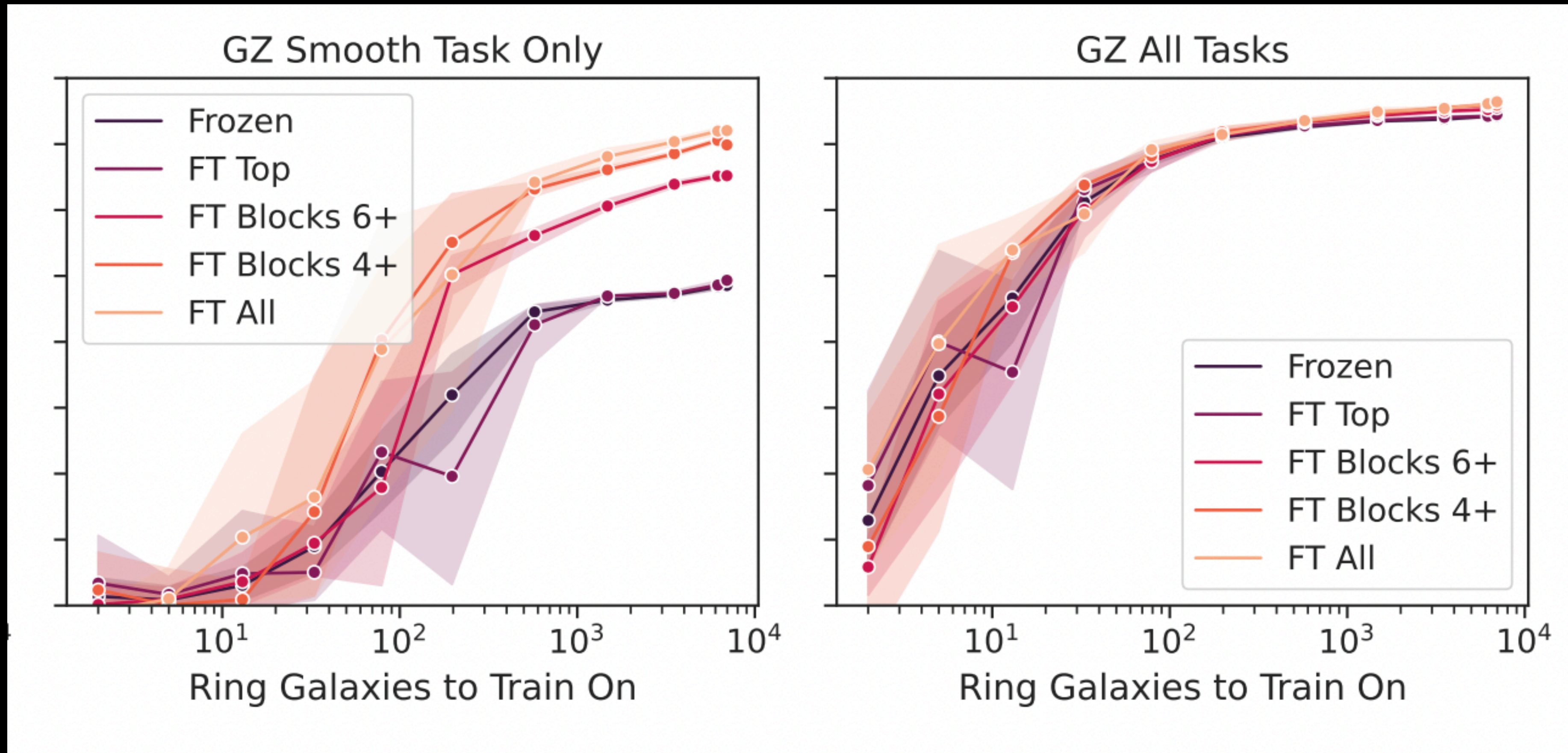
# TRANSFER LEARNING



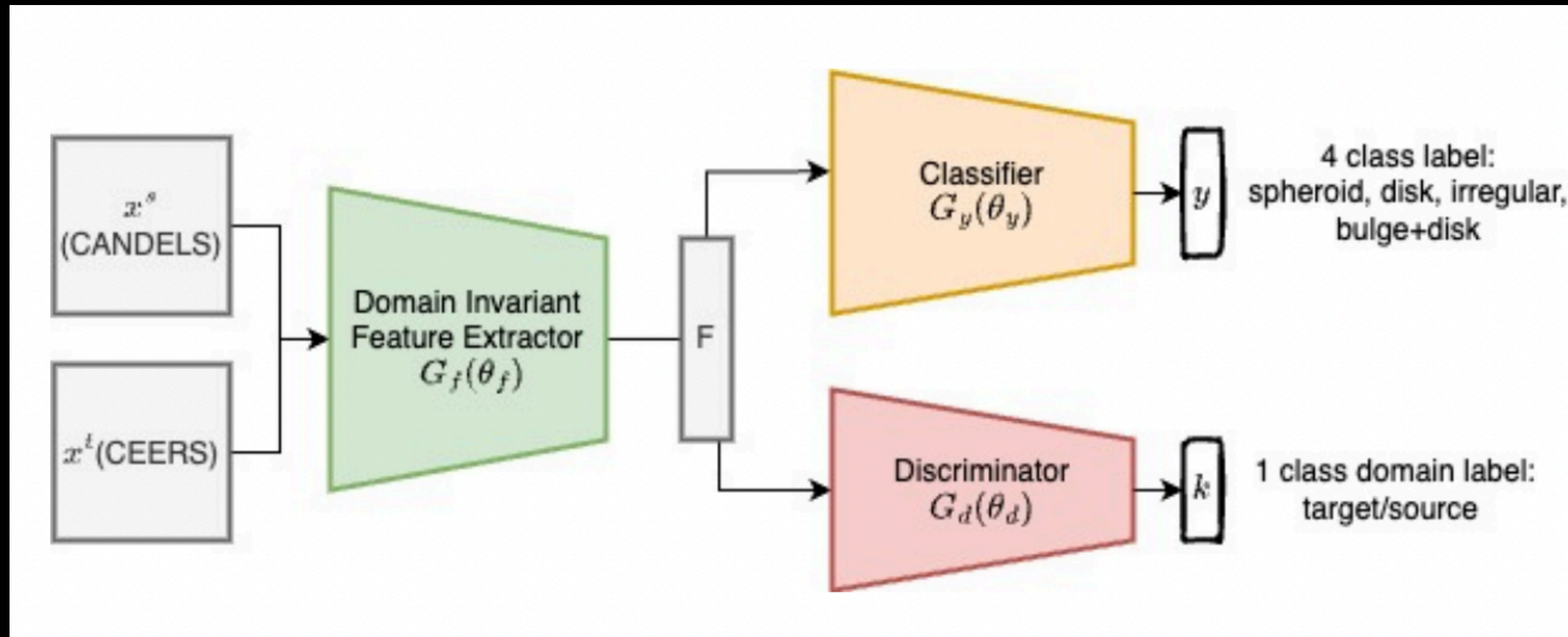
“Recycling” features/weights learned from a different sample helps reducing the training sample by **one order of magnitude**.

Question	Survey	$N_{train}$	$N_{test}$	$N_{pos}$	TPR	Prec.	Acc.
Q1 Smooth/Disk	SDSS	5000	3370	674	0.93	0.91	0.97
	DES	0	2409	797	0.48	0.92	0.81
	DES	500	238	78	0.95	0.91	0.95
Q2 Edge-on	SDSS	5000	2687	396	0.98	0.80	0.96
	DES	0	2851	536	0.91	0.73	0.96
	DES	500	738	187	0.96	0.86	0.95
Q3 Bar sign	SDSS	10000	1806	169	0.76	0.79	0.96
	DES	0	1768	61	0.57	0.35	0.95
	DES	300	86	9	0.89	0.73	0.95

# TRANSFER LEARNING



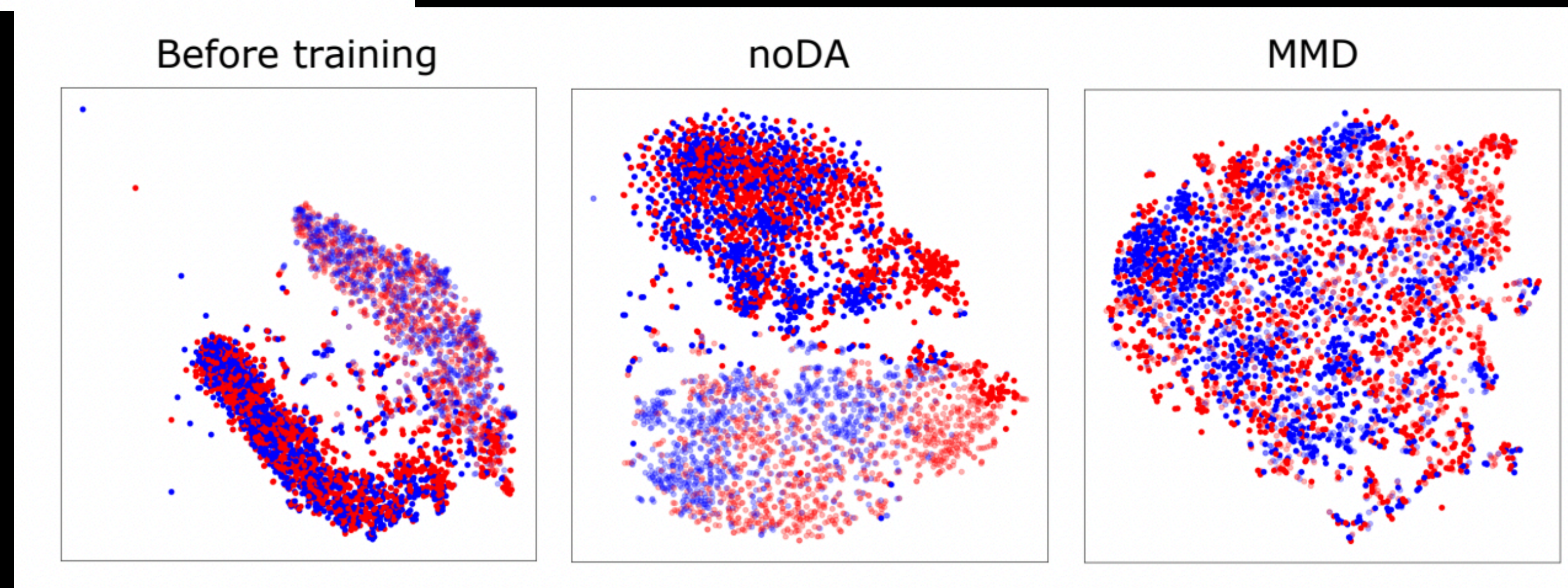
# DOMAIN ADAPTATION



Huertas Company+2023

Ćiprijanović+2020, 2021, 2023

See also Izbicki+2016; Xu+23



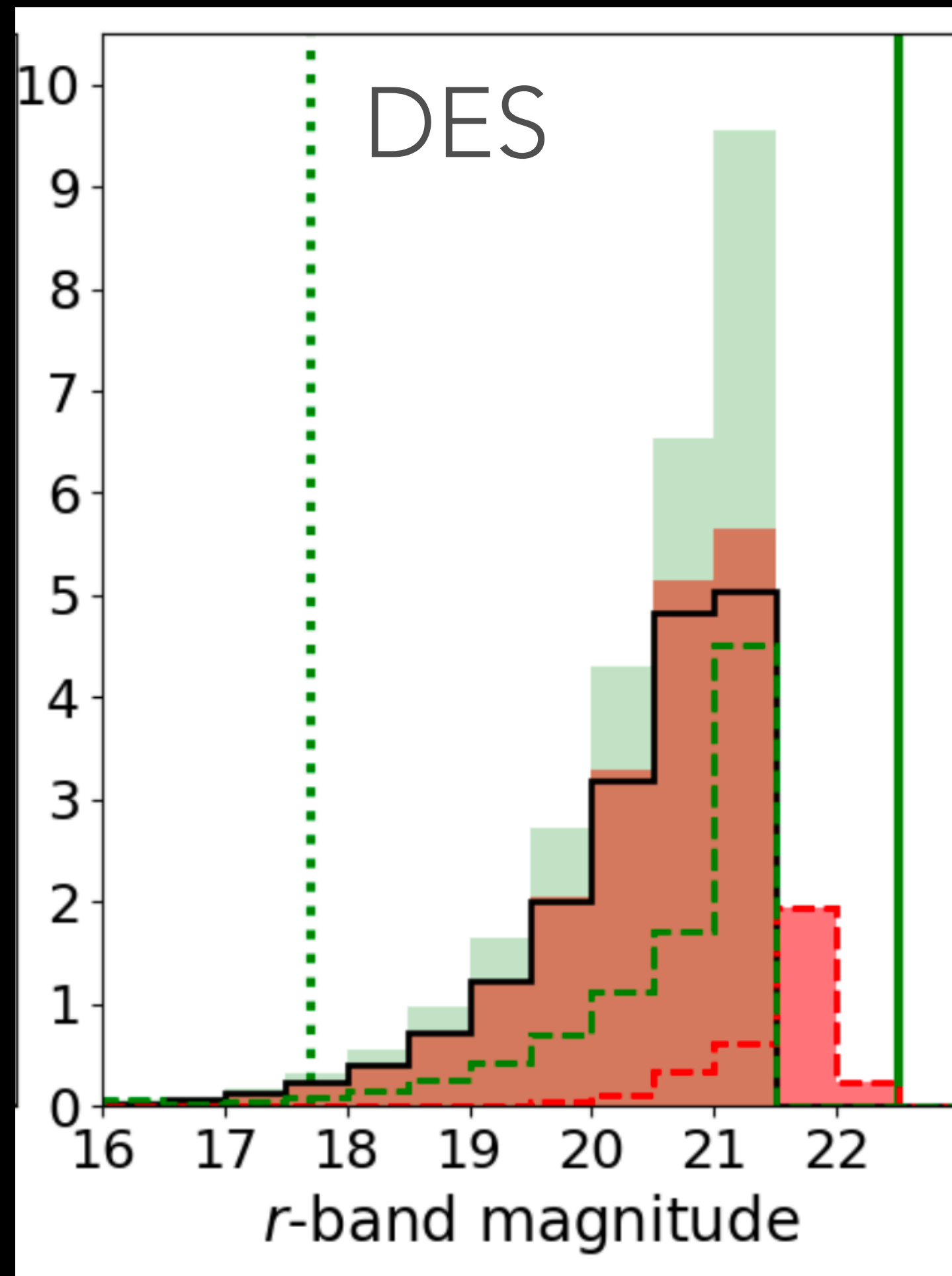


# HOW TO CLASSIFY DISTANT (FAINT) GALAXIES?



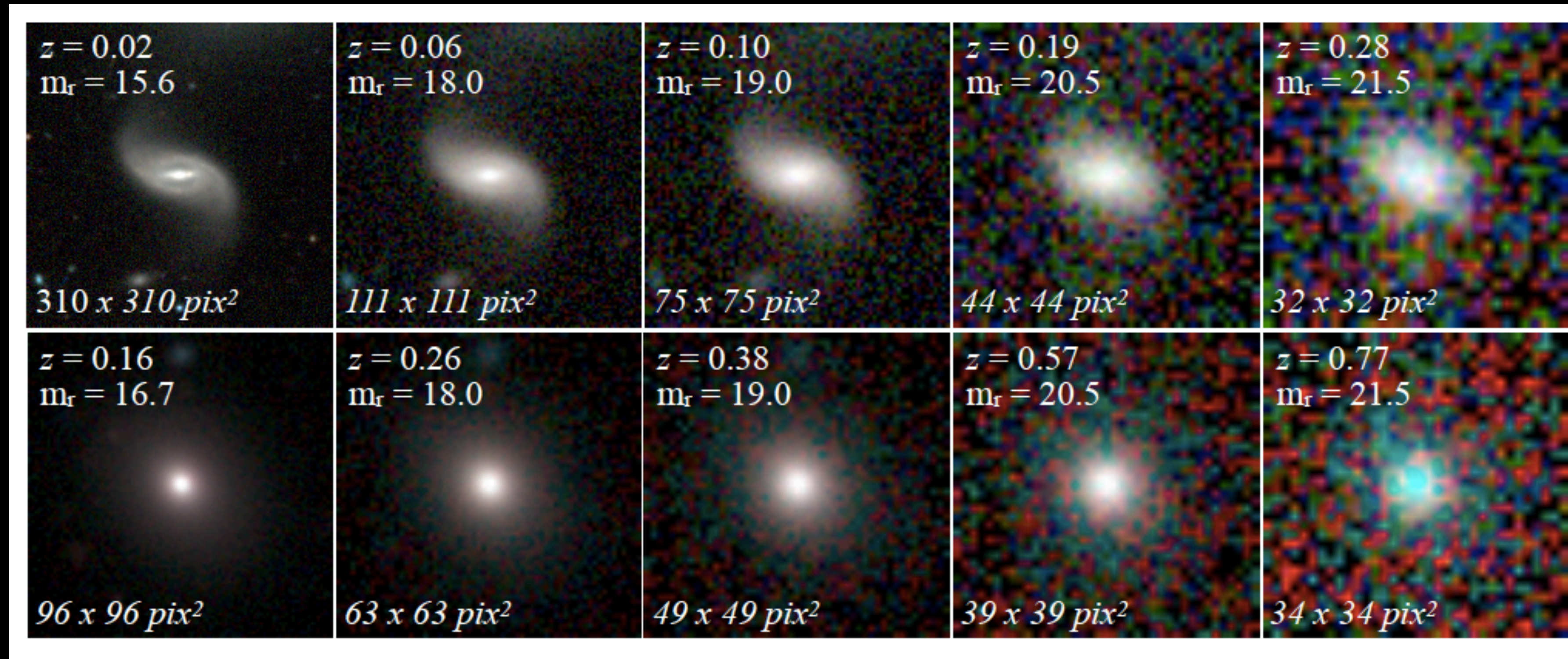
- To understand the impact of morphology in galaxy evolution, we need to know how morphology changes with cosmic time ( $z$ =redshift)
- Distant galaxies look fainter (cosmological dimming)
- Catalogues used for labelling training the sample are limited to bright galaxies ( $m < 17$  mag)
- Need labelled samples of faint galaxies... but they are difficult to classify by eye!

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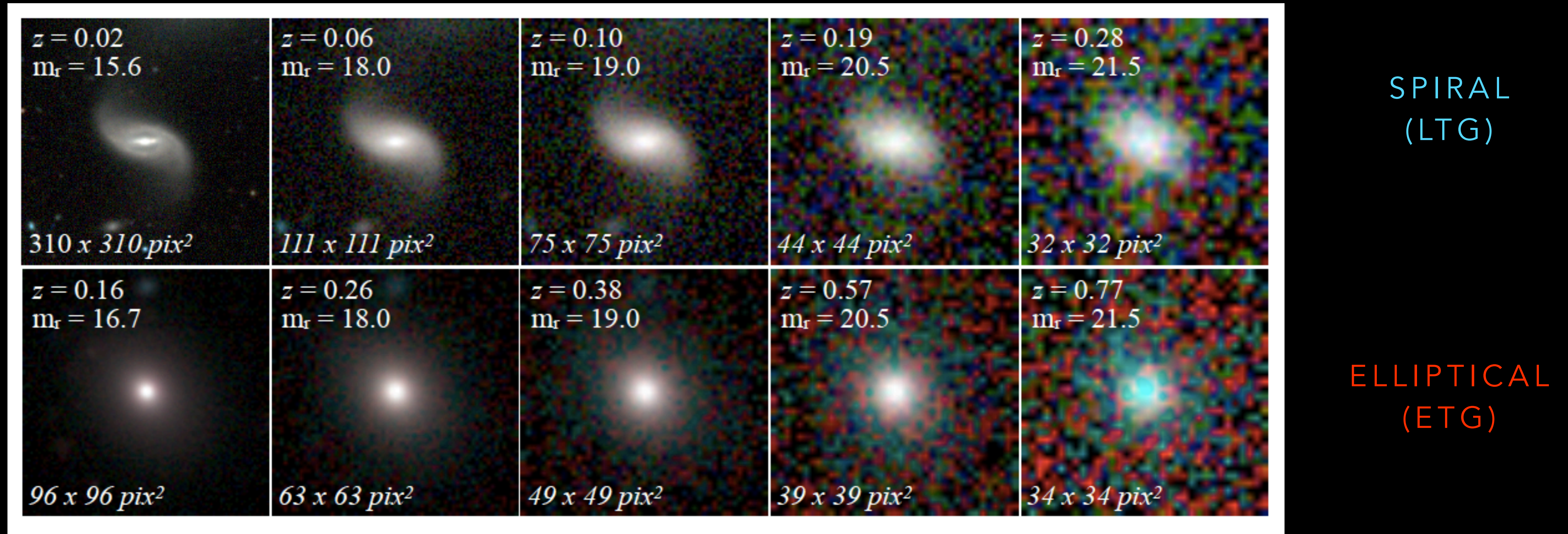
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# HOW TO CLASSIFY DISTANT (FAINT) GALAXIES?



- ✓ 'Emulate' real DES galaxies as if they were further away from us (higher  $z$ )
- ✓ Cosmological dimming: flux and size (N pixels)
- ✓ k-correction + evolution
- ✓ PSF + noise

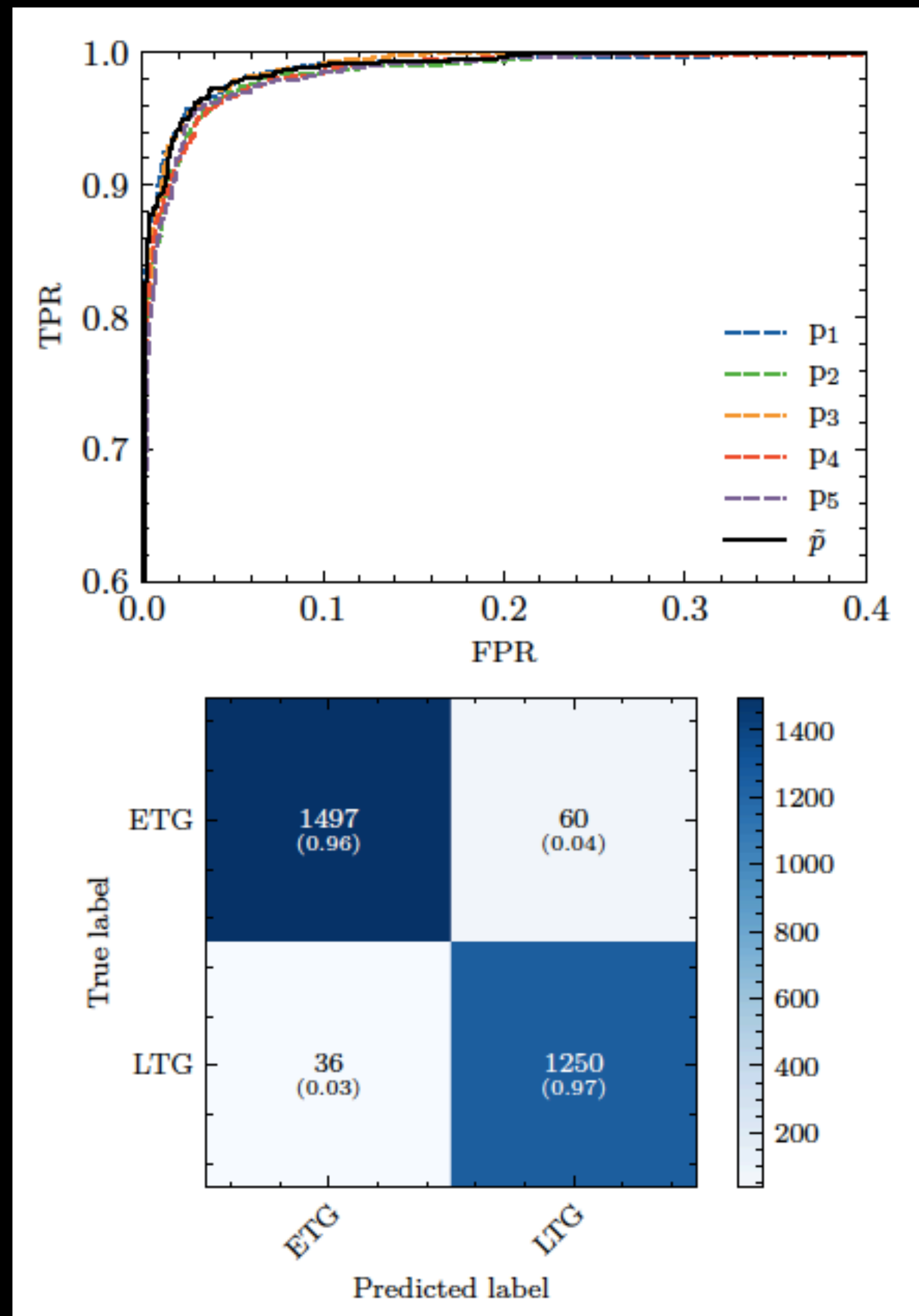
# HOW TO CLASSIFY DISTANT (FAINT) GALAXIES?



Trick: Use original labels for training

Can machines recover features hidden to the human eye?

# HOW TO CLASSIFY DISTANT (FAINT) GALAXIES?

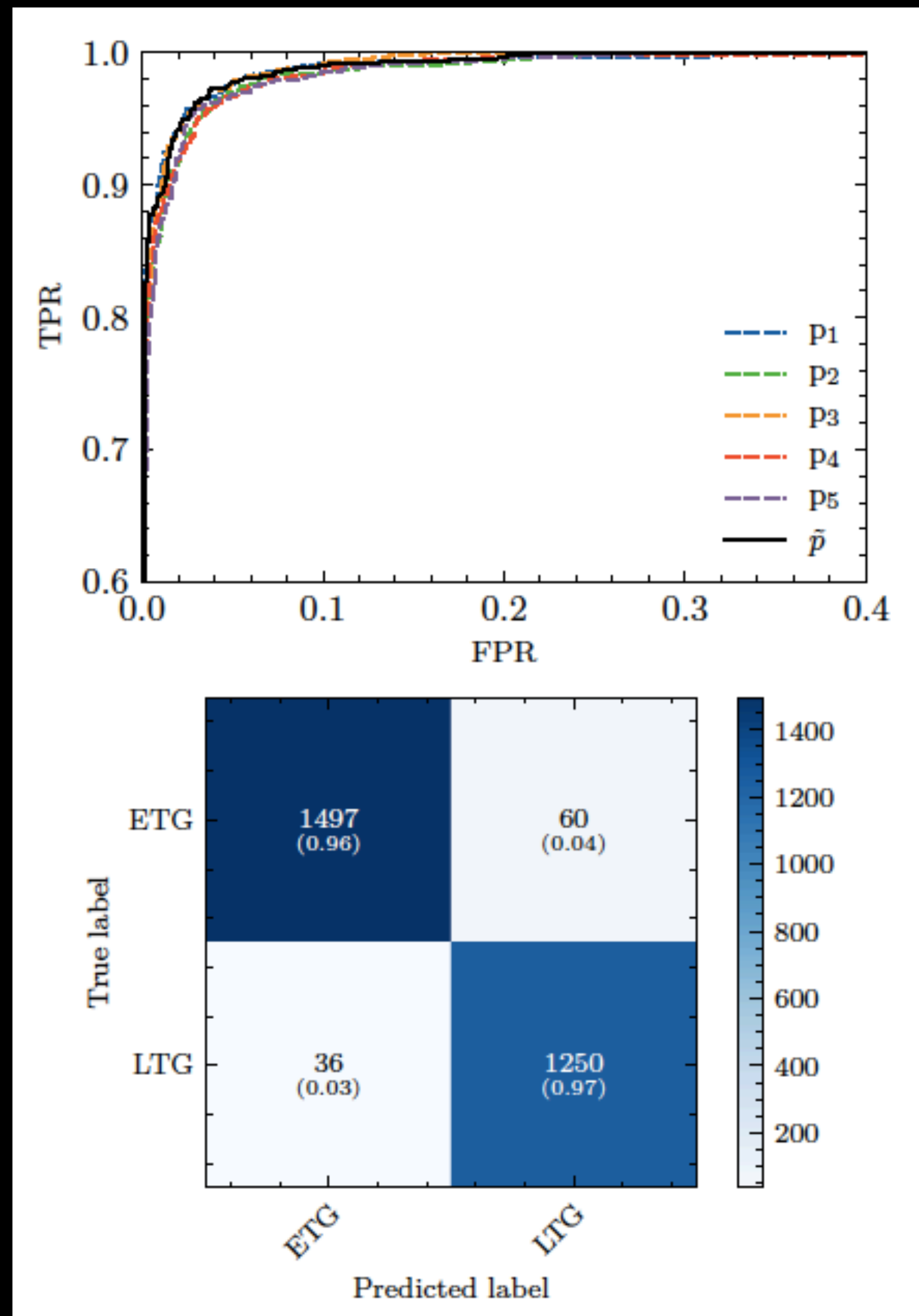


ELLIPTICAL VS SPIRAL

K-folding with 5 different training sets

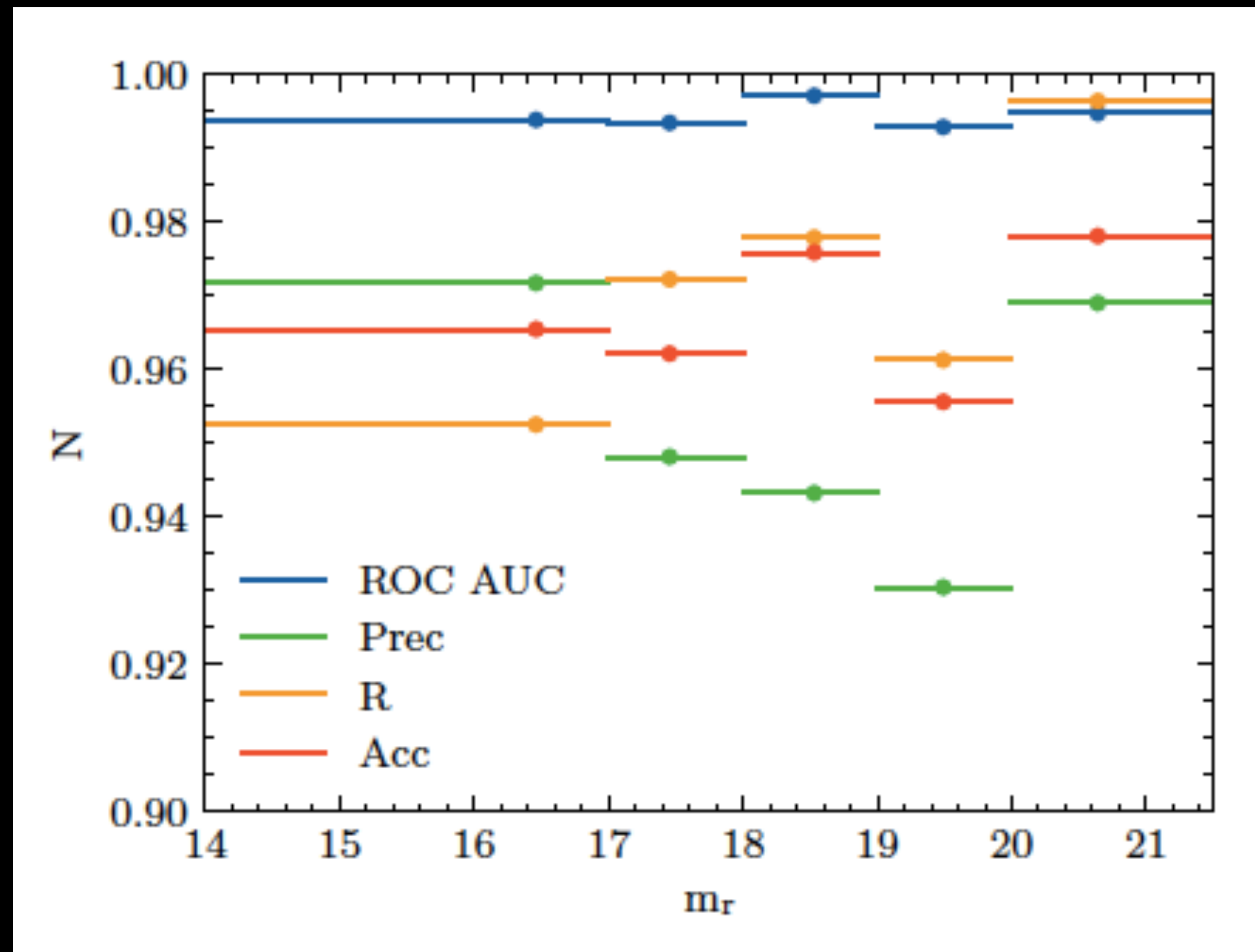
Model	$p_{thr}$	ROC AUC	Prec	R	Acc
P1	0.49	0.99	0.97	0.96	0.97
P2	0.46	0.99	0.95	0.96	0.96
P3	0.39	0.99	0.96	0.97	0.97
P4	0.35	0.99	0.95	0.97	0.96
P5	0.54	0.99	0.96	0.96	0.96
$\bar{p}$	0.40	0.99	0.95	0.97	0.97

# HOW TO CLASSIFY DISTANT (FAINT) GALAXIES?



Are the results affected by observed magnitude (faintness of the galaxy)?

NO!

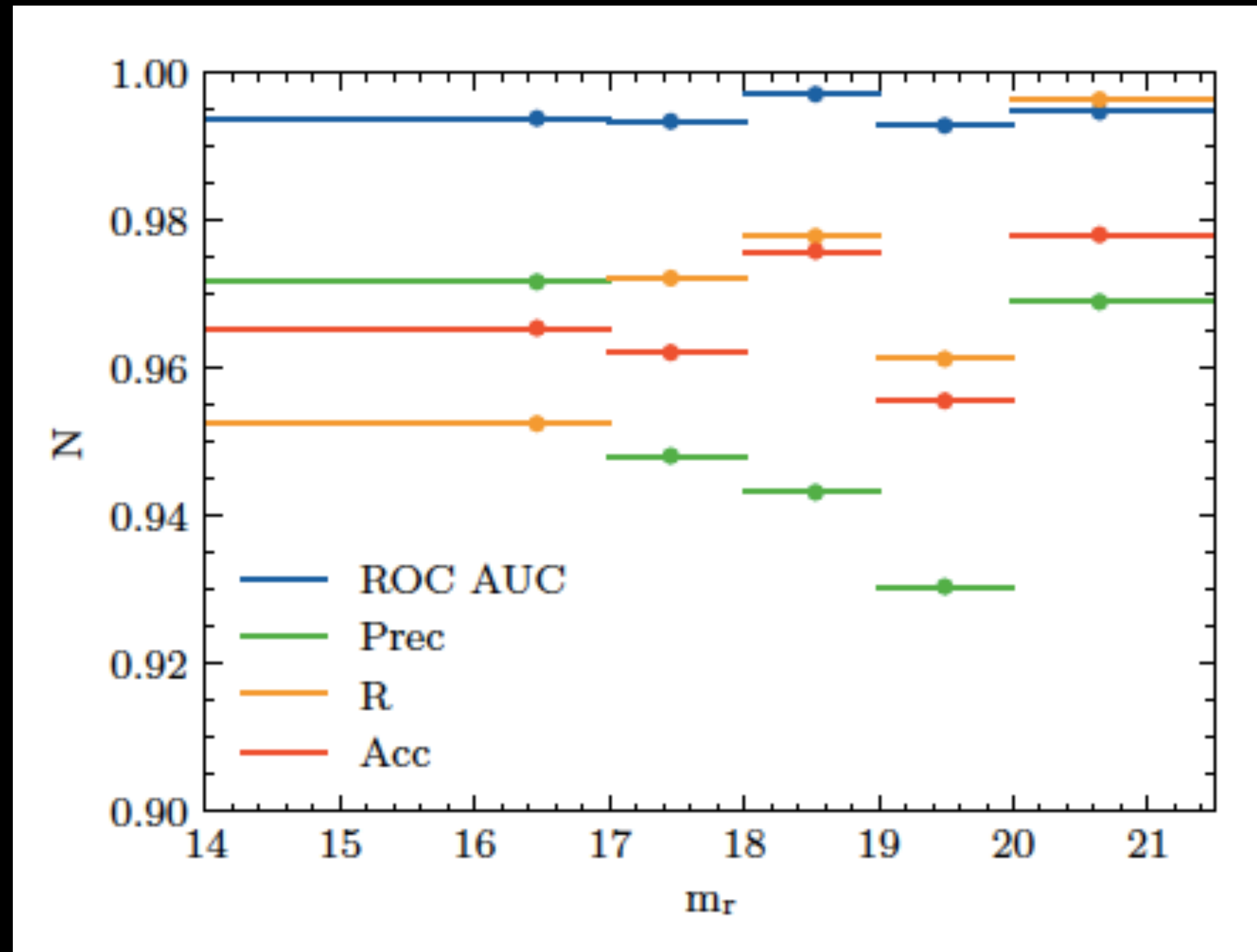


# HOW TO CLASSIFY DISTANT (FAINT) GALAXIES?

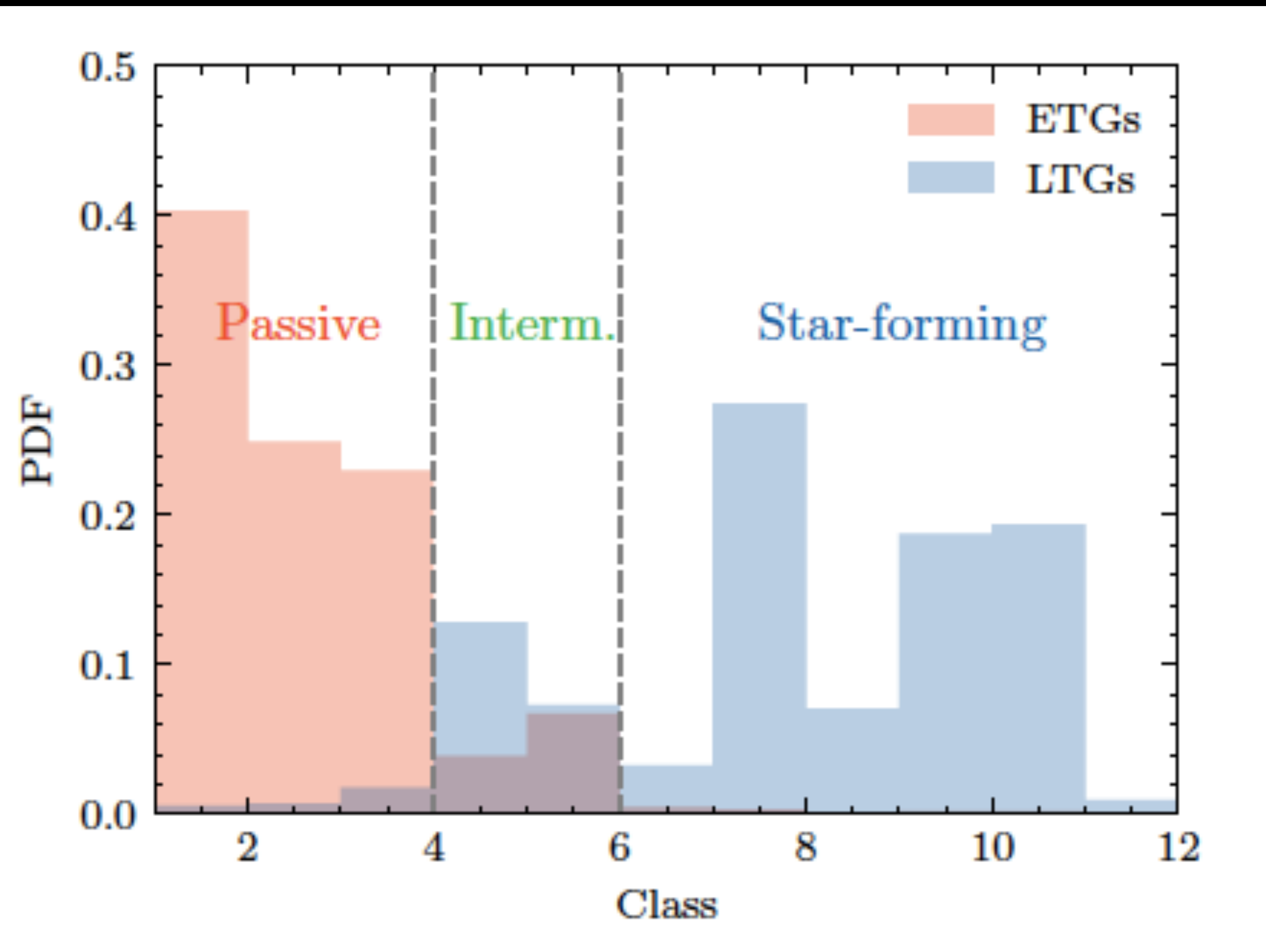
Are the results affected by observed magnitude (faintness of the galaxy)?

Can machines recover features hidden to the human eye?

YES!



# TEST ON REAL DES DISTANT GALAXIES

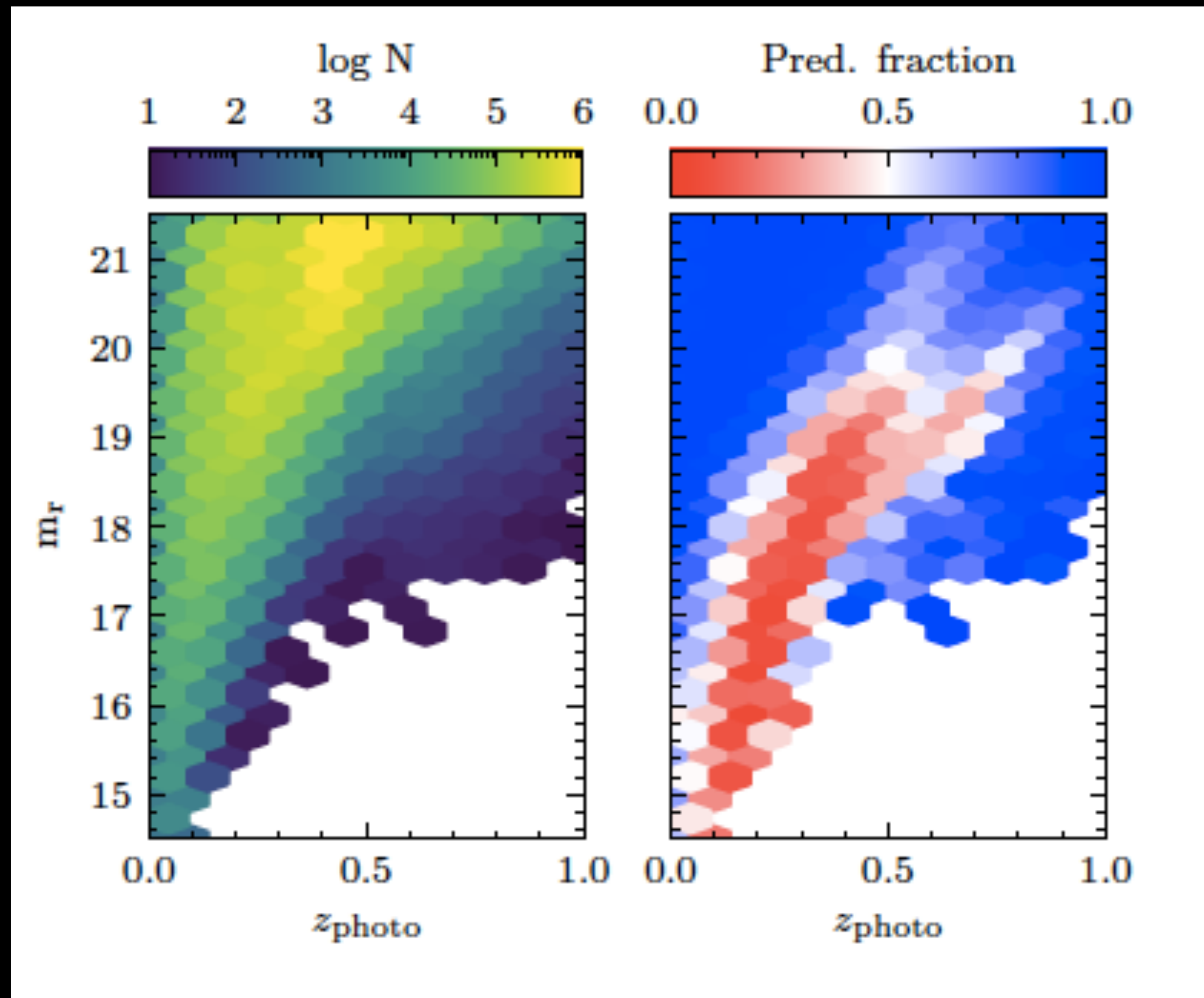


- VIPERS [spectral classification](#) (accurate data, related to stellar populations)
- Morphological classification clearly correlate with spectral class:
  - ✓ 97 % TP (LTG with class > 4)
  - ✓ 89% TN (ETGs with class < 4)



# DES MORPHOLOGICAL CATALOGUE

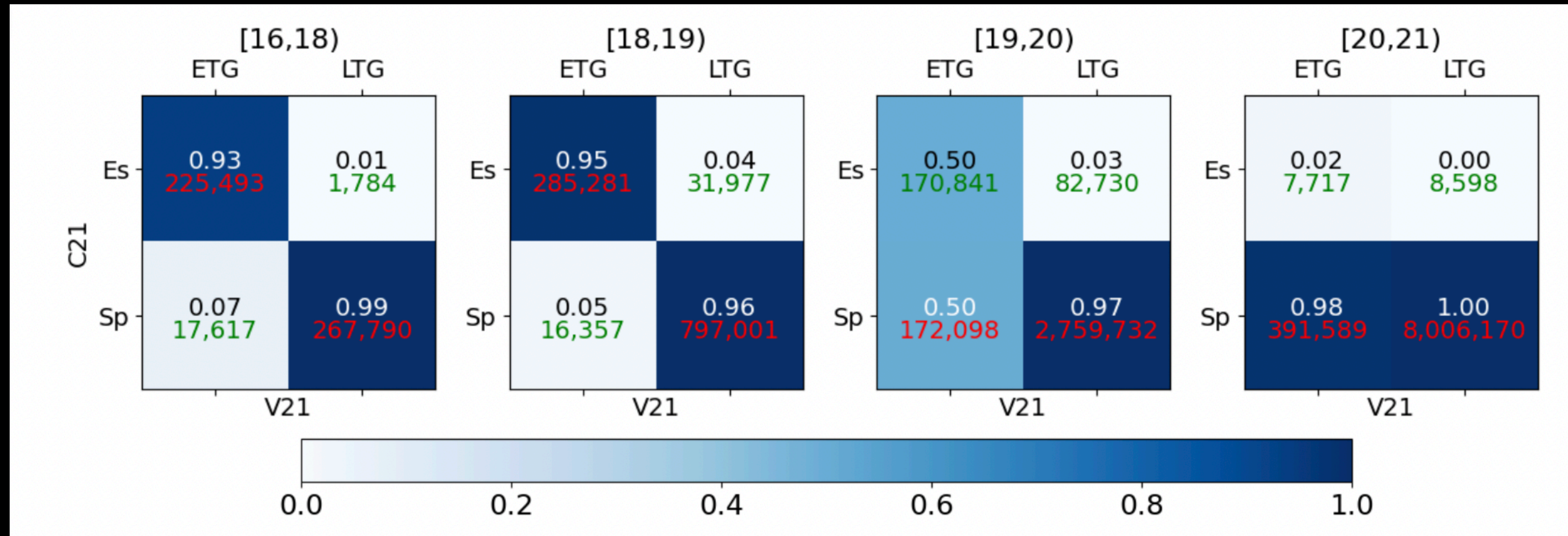
<https://des.ncsa.illinois.edu/releases/y3a2/gal-morphology>



**LARGEST  
MORPHOLOGICAL  
CATALOG UP TO DATE!**

- ✓ 27 million galaxies
- ✓ Up to 21.5 mag
- ✓ 12% ETGs, 88% LTGs
- ✓ Released with paper

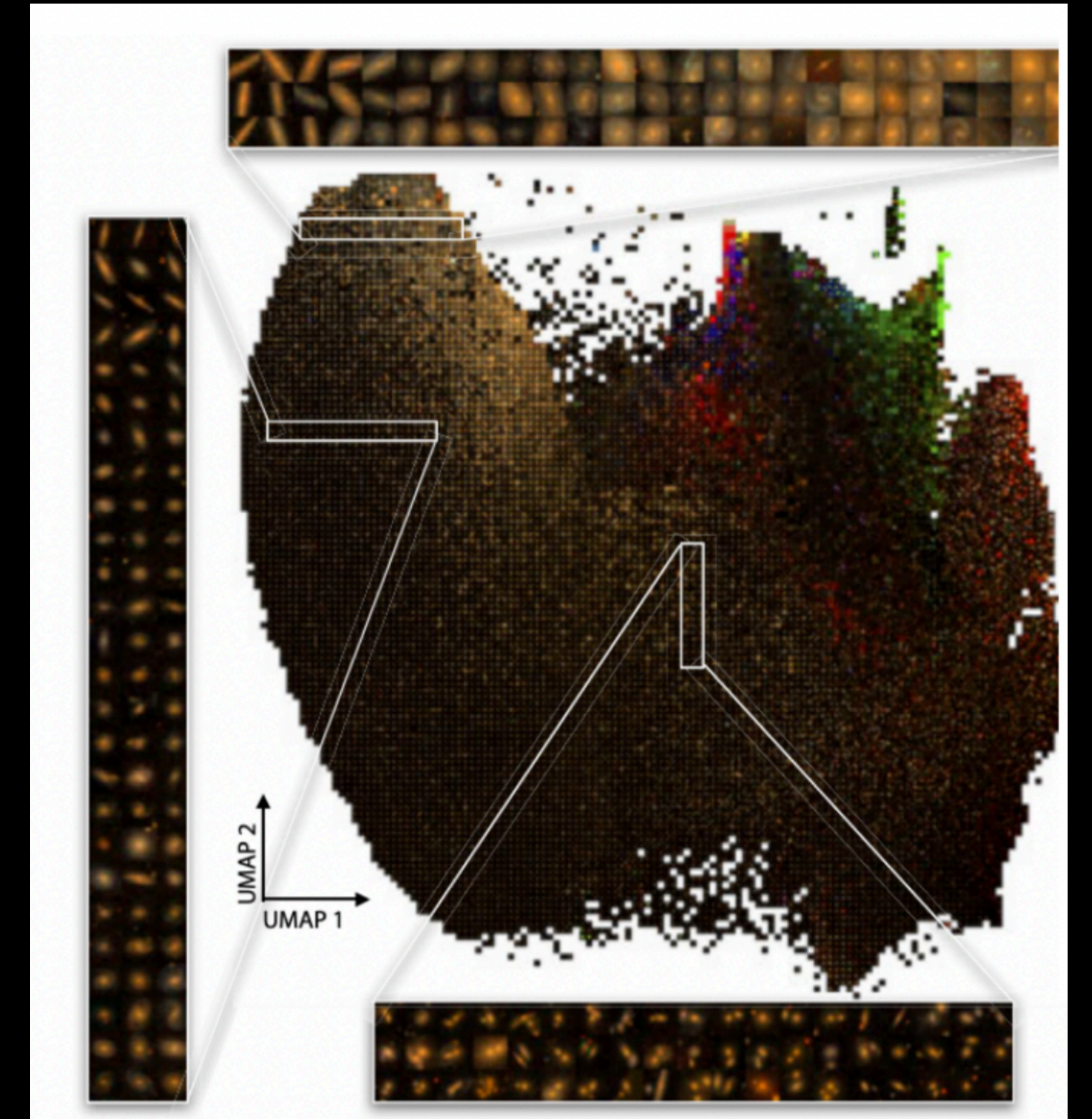
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUR TRAINING SAMPLE IS NOT IN THE SAME DOMAIN AS YOUR TARGET SAMPLE?



✓ Comparison of VF+21 classification (trained with emulations) and Cheng+21 catalogue (trained with mag < 18)

# UNSUPERVISED LEARNING

- **No need for labels** (only for interpreting the results)
  - Let the algorithms find structure on the data
  - Excellent for anomaly detection
- 
- Clustering (e.g., k-means)
  - Dimensionality reduction (t-SNE, UMAP, PCA)
  - Contrastive learning

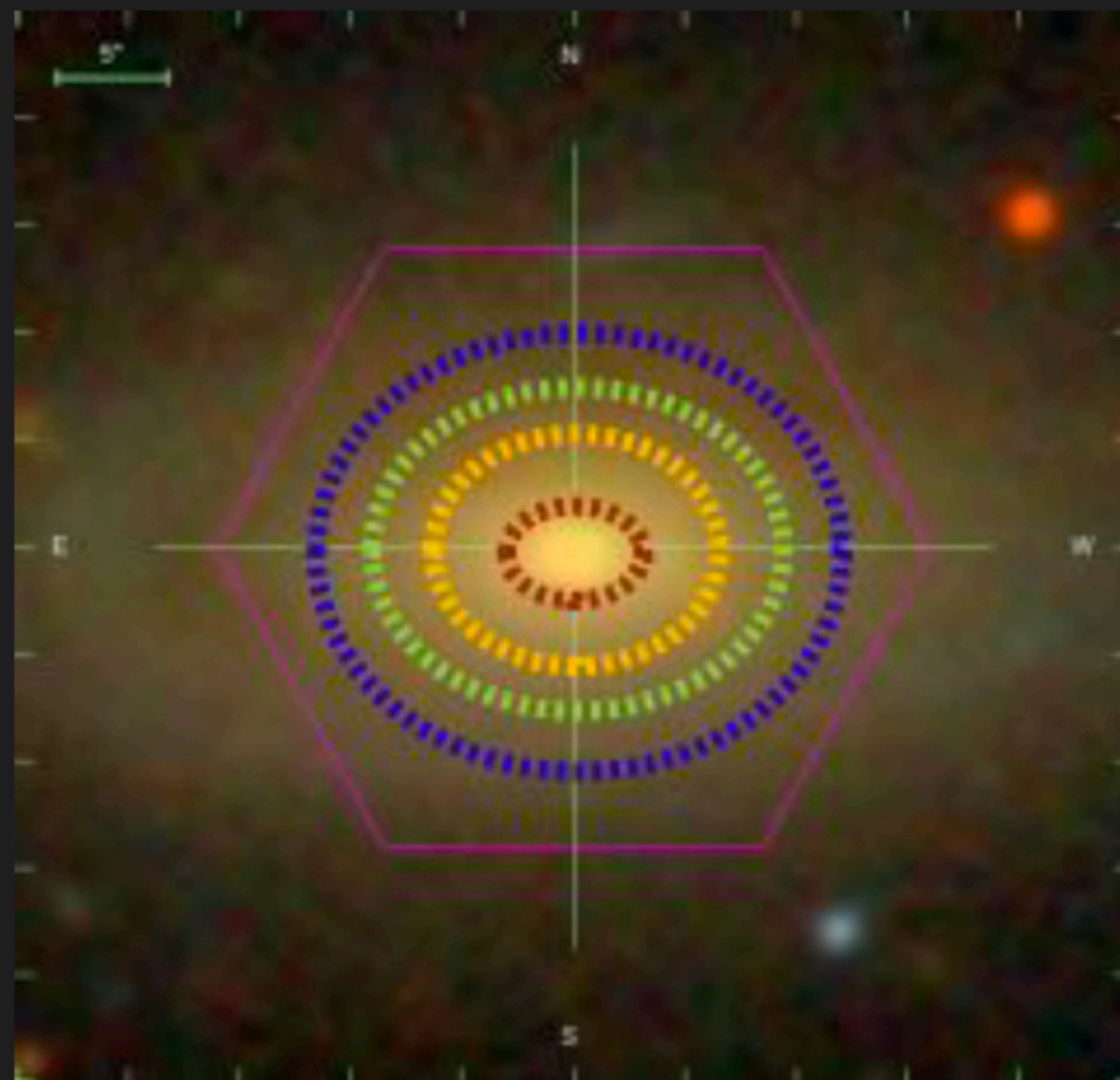


Cheng+21, Spindler+21, Zhou+21, Stein+21, Walmsley+22b, Slipcevic+22,  
Shen+22, Doorembos+22, Lamdouar+22, Guo+22, Mercea+23, Lanusse+23

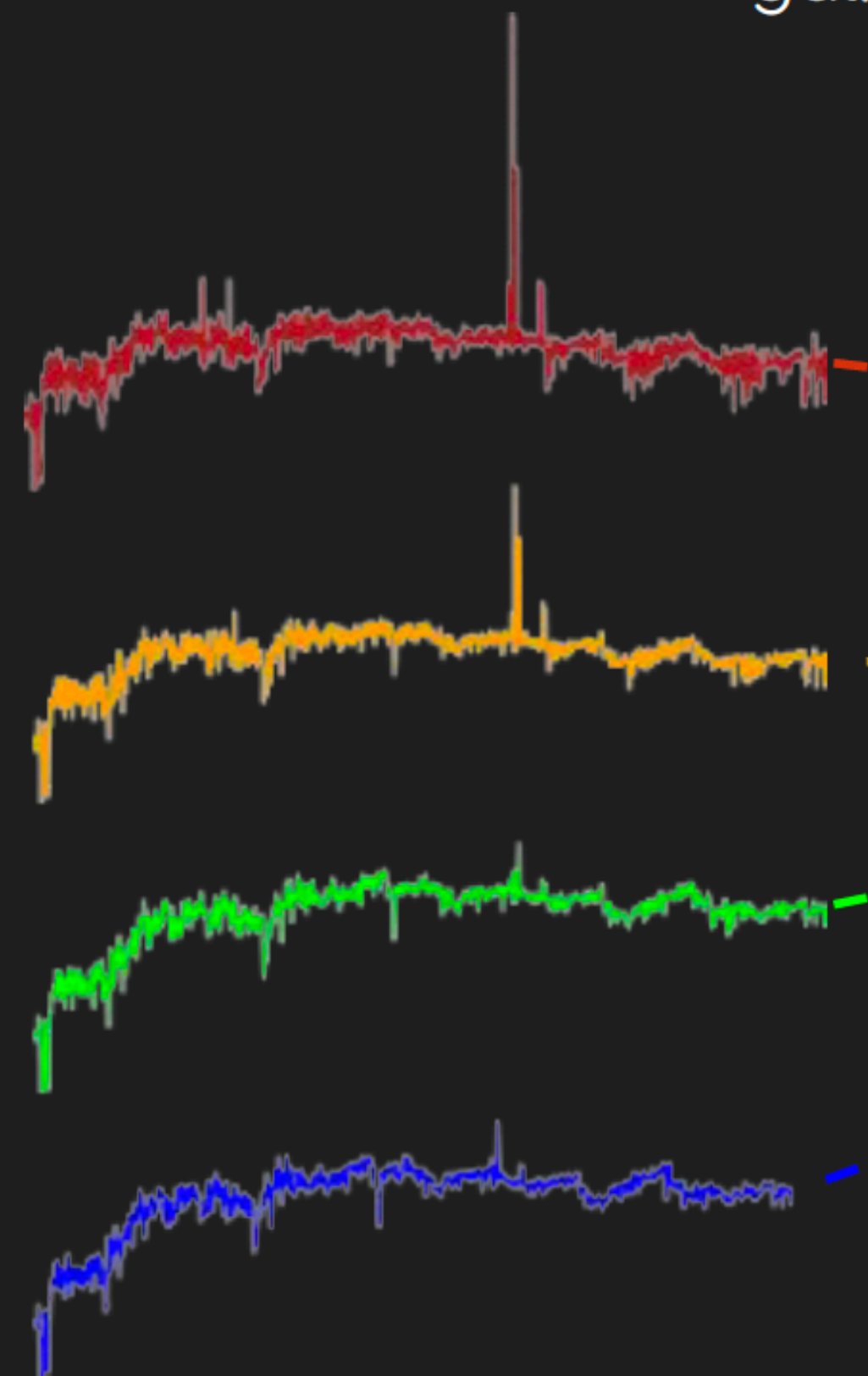
# PCA

## ACTIVITY GRADIENTS IN MANGA S0 2D SPECTRA

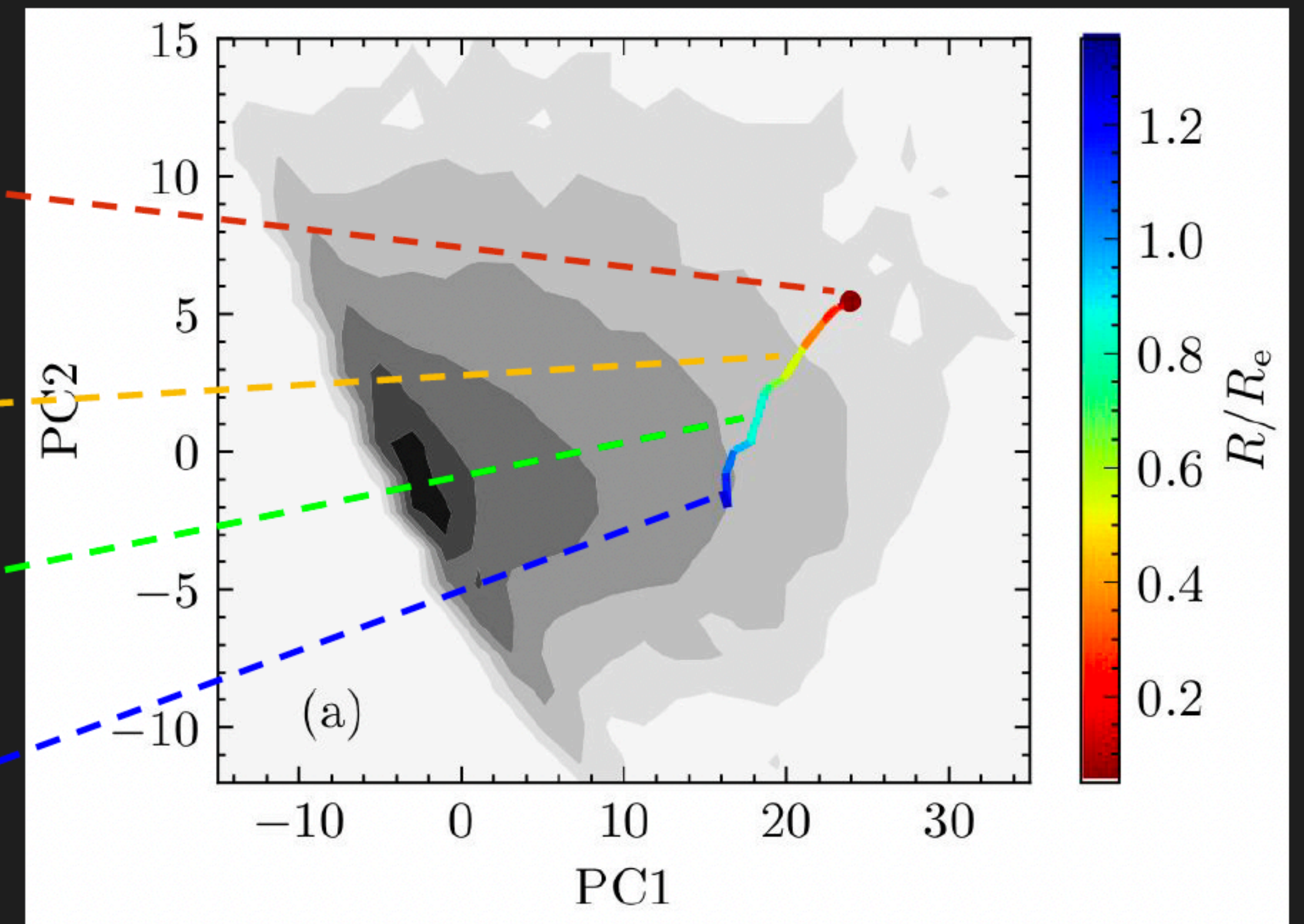
Radial binning of  
~1000 MaNGA data  
cubes



Mean flux as a  
function of  $R_{gal}$ .



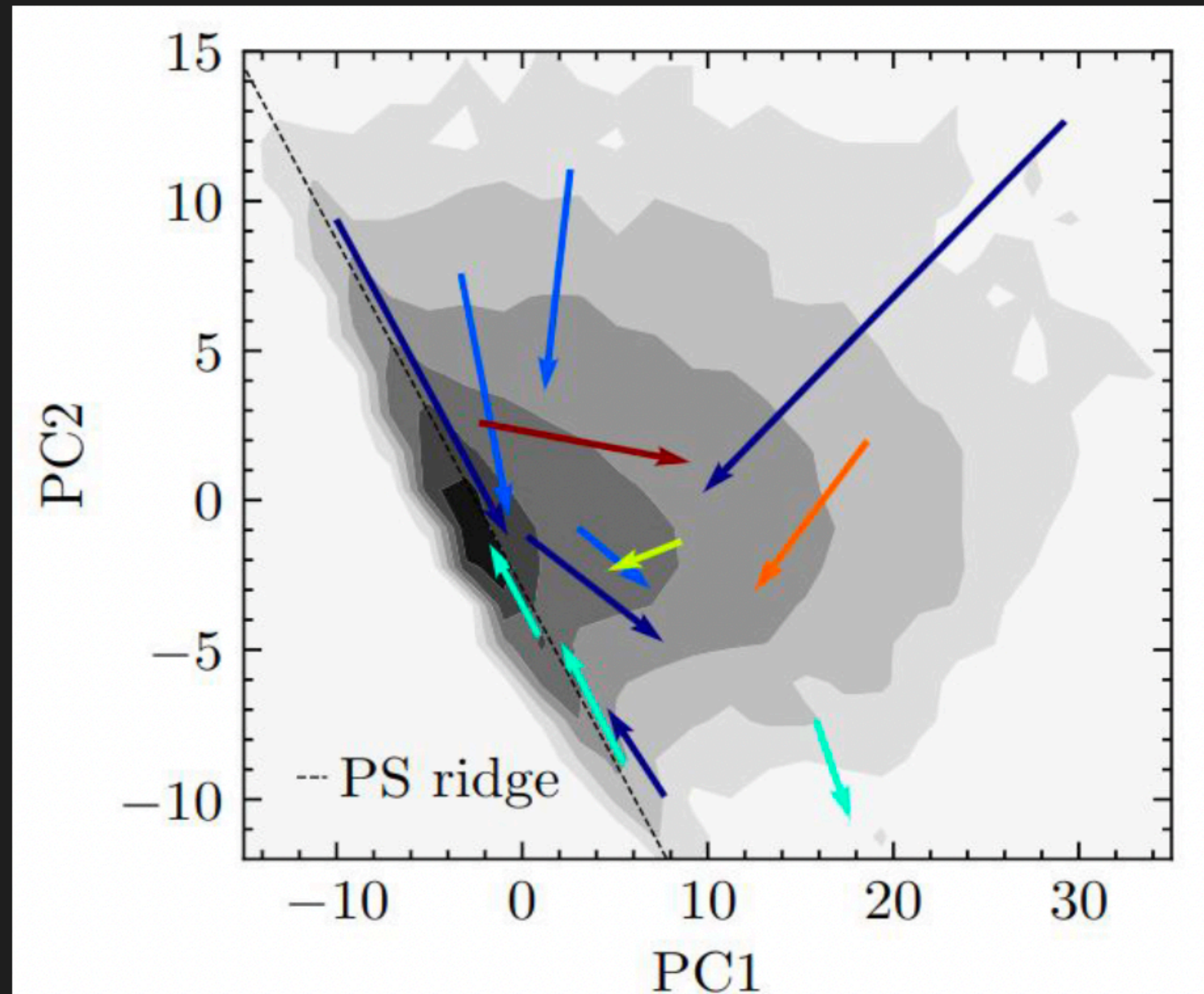
Projection into the first 2  
principal components



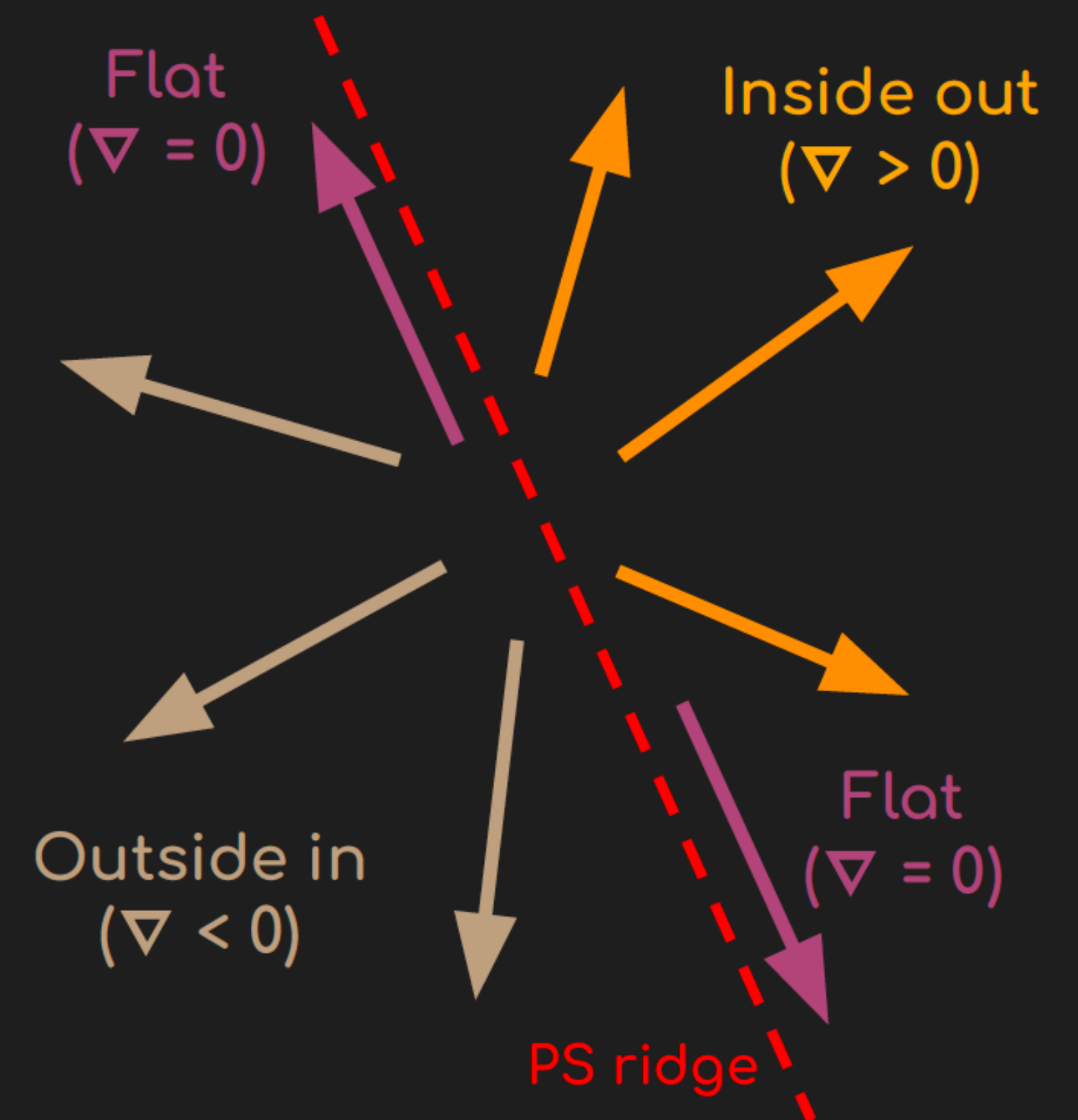
# PCA

## ACTIVITY GRADIENTS IN MANGA S0 2D SPECTRA

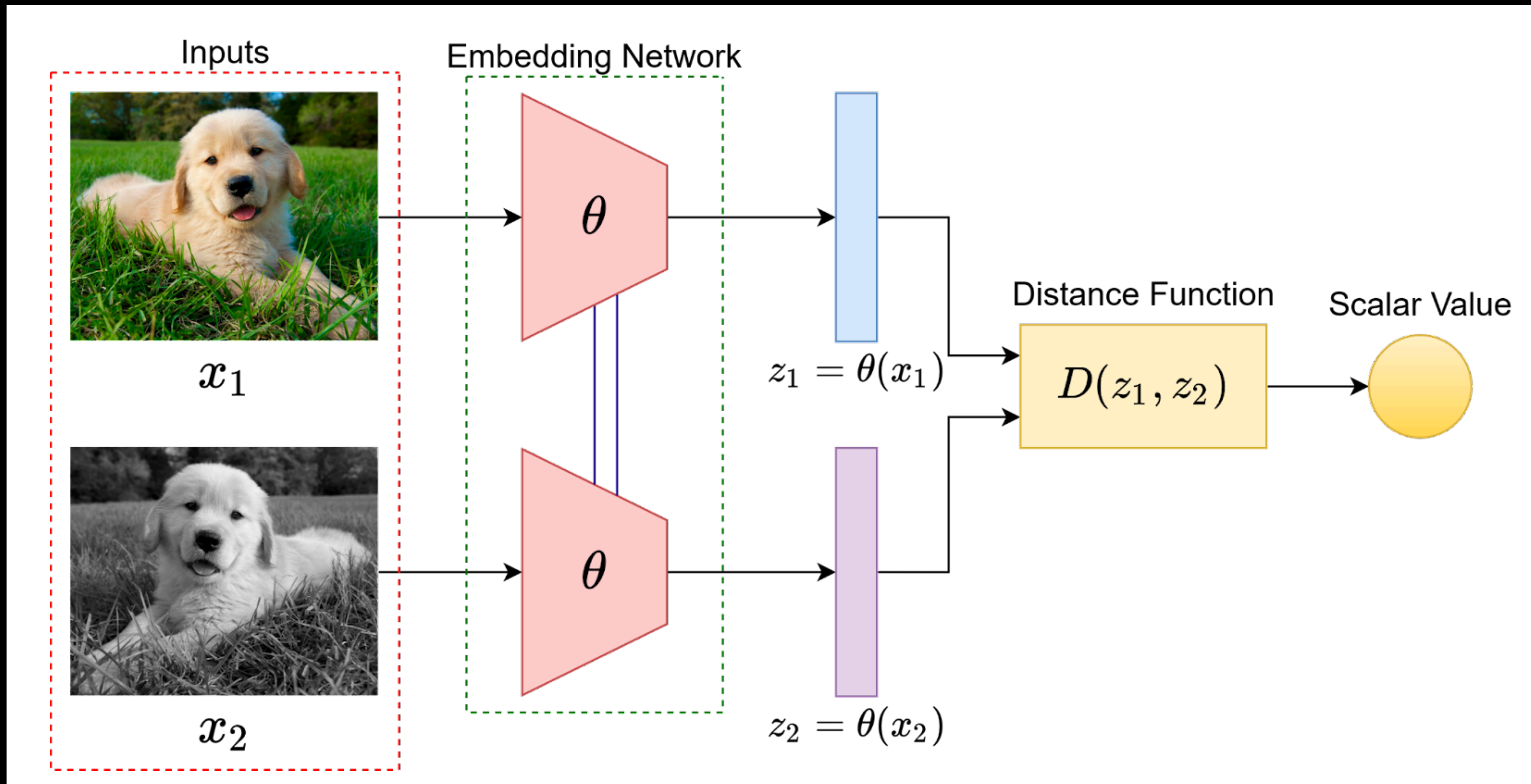
The PC1 – PC2 profiles are converted into vectors



Orientation of vectors  
→ sign of activity gradient

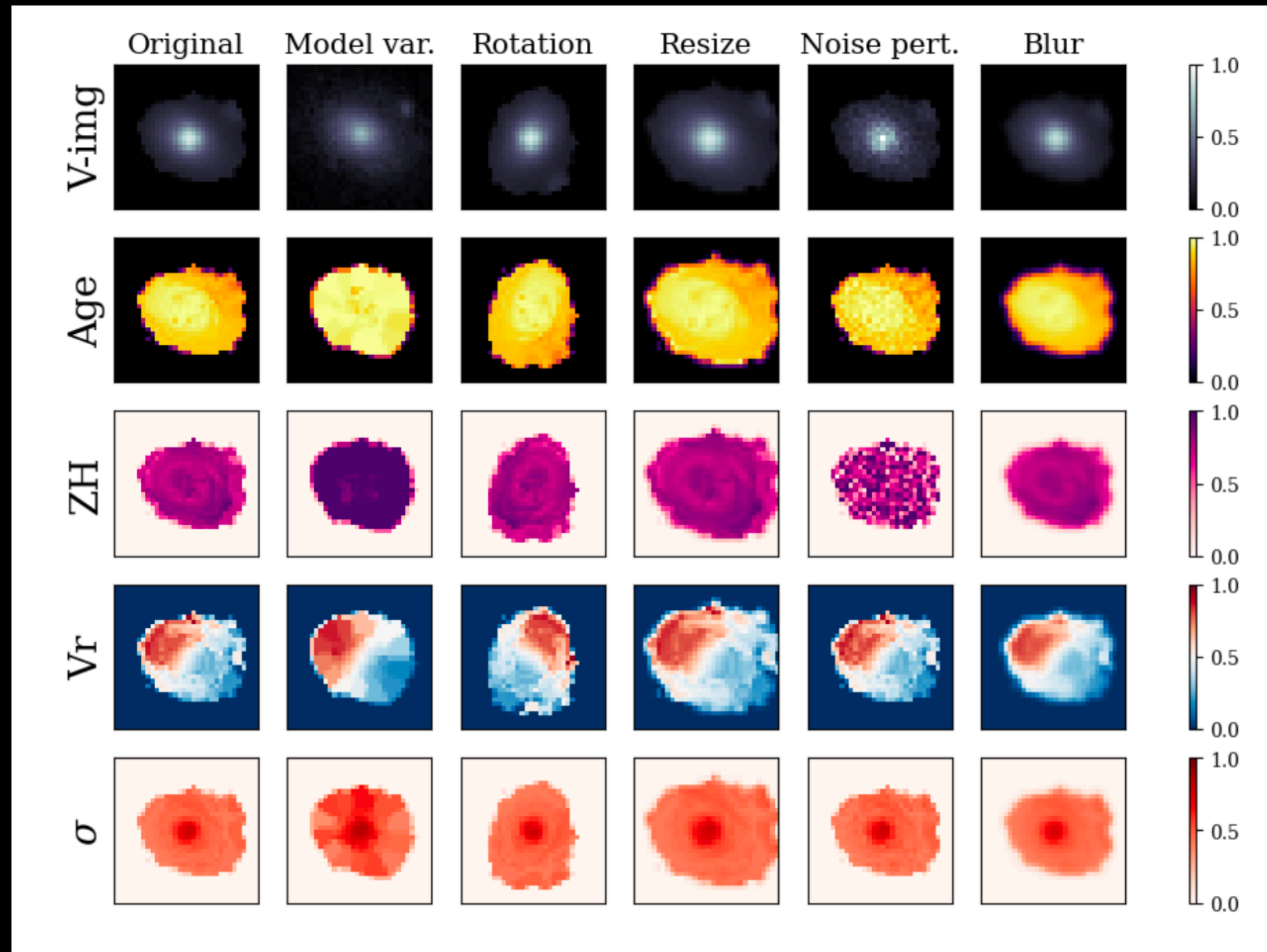


# SELF-SUPERVISED MACHINE LEARNING



# SELF-SUPERVISED LEARNING

## MANGA S0 2D SPECTRA

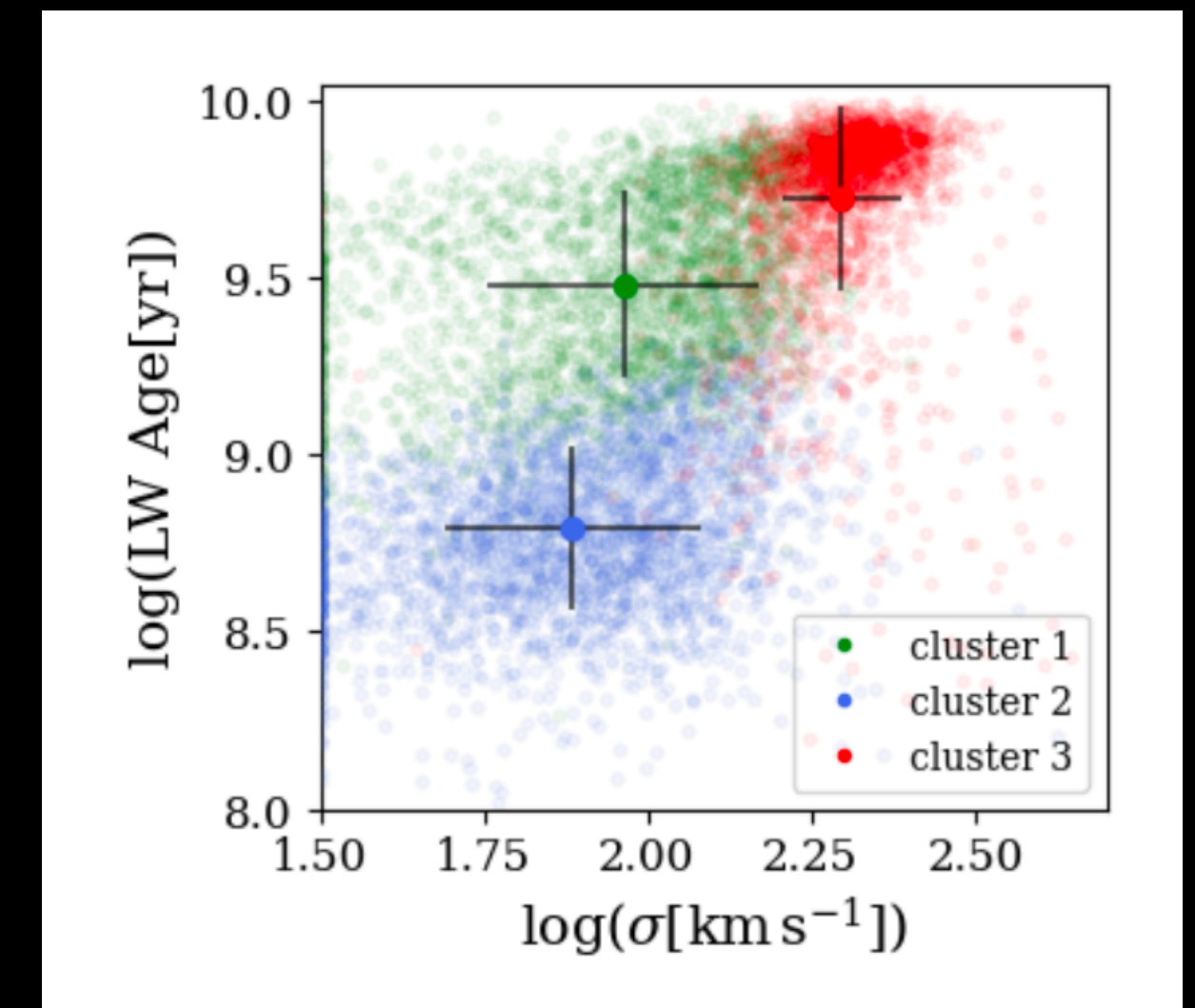
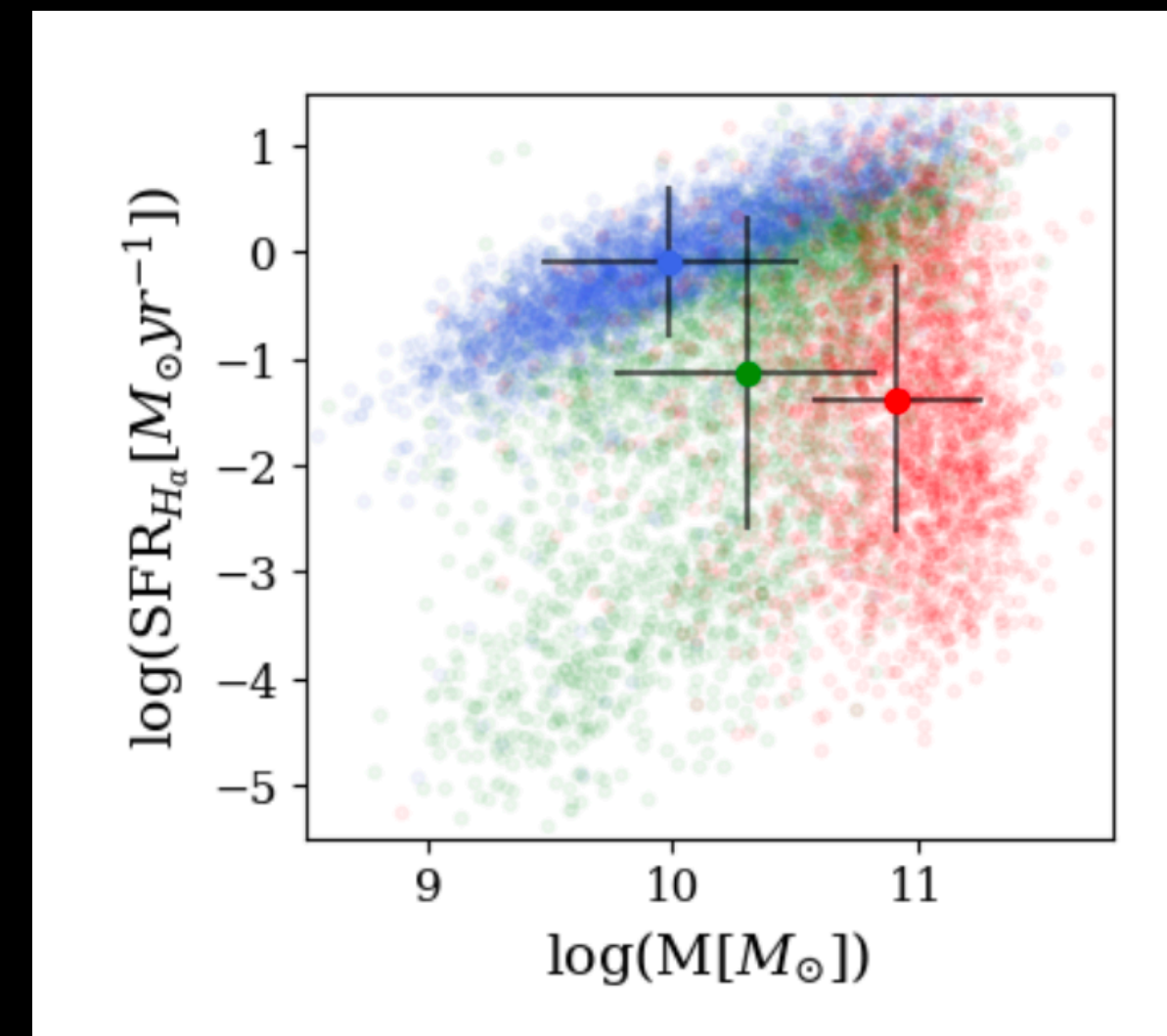
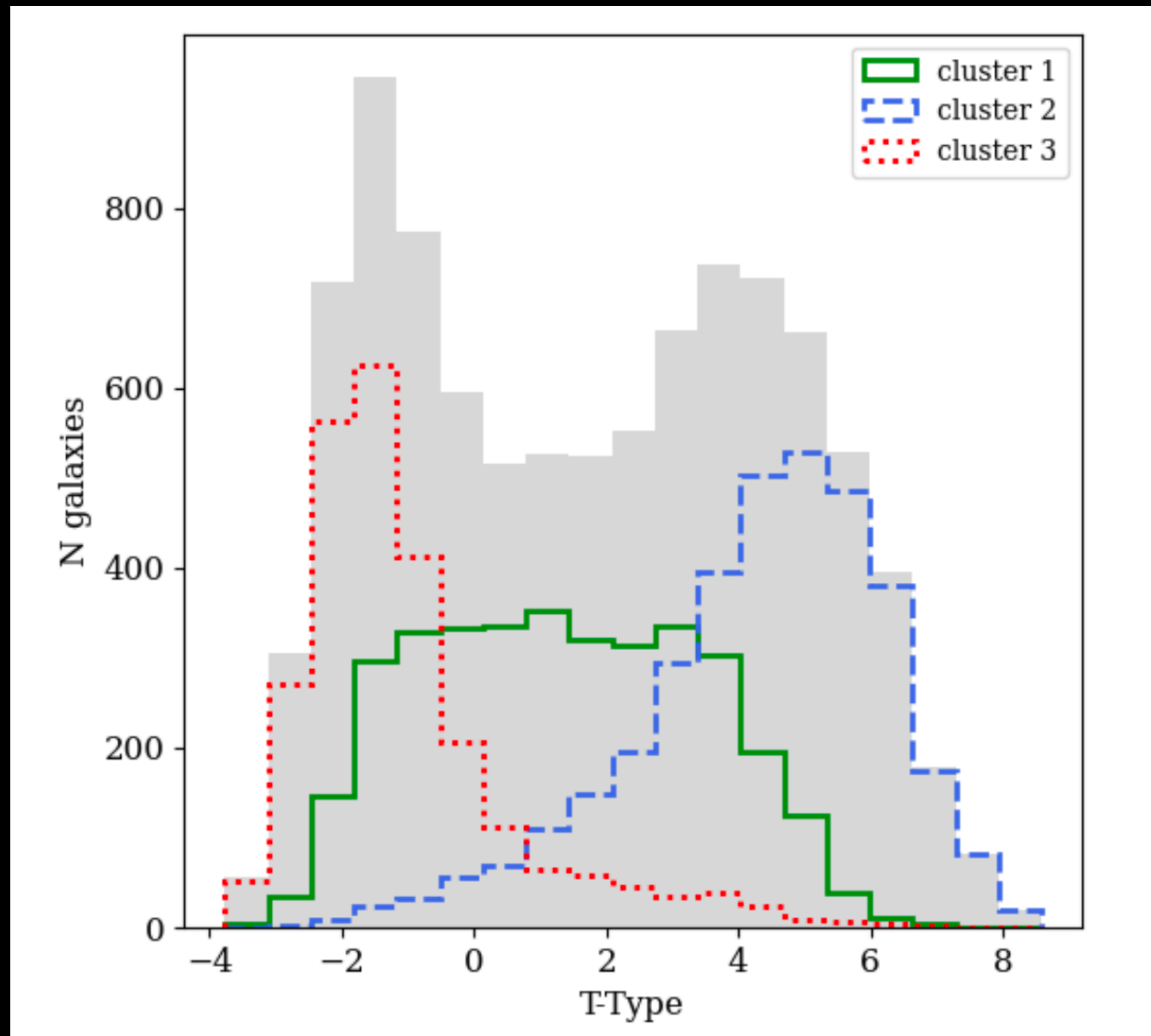


- Input: MaNGA maps of galaxy parameters (Flux, age, metallicity, velocity)
- Augmentations
- Dimensionality reduction: UMAP
- Clustering: k-means

# SELF-SUPERVISED LEARNING

MANGA S0 2D SPECTRA

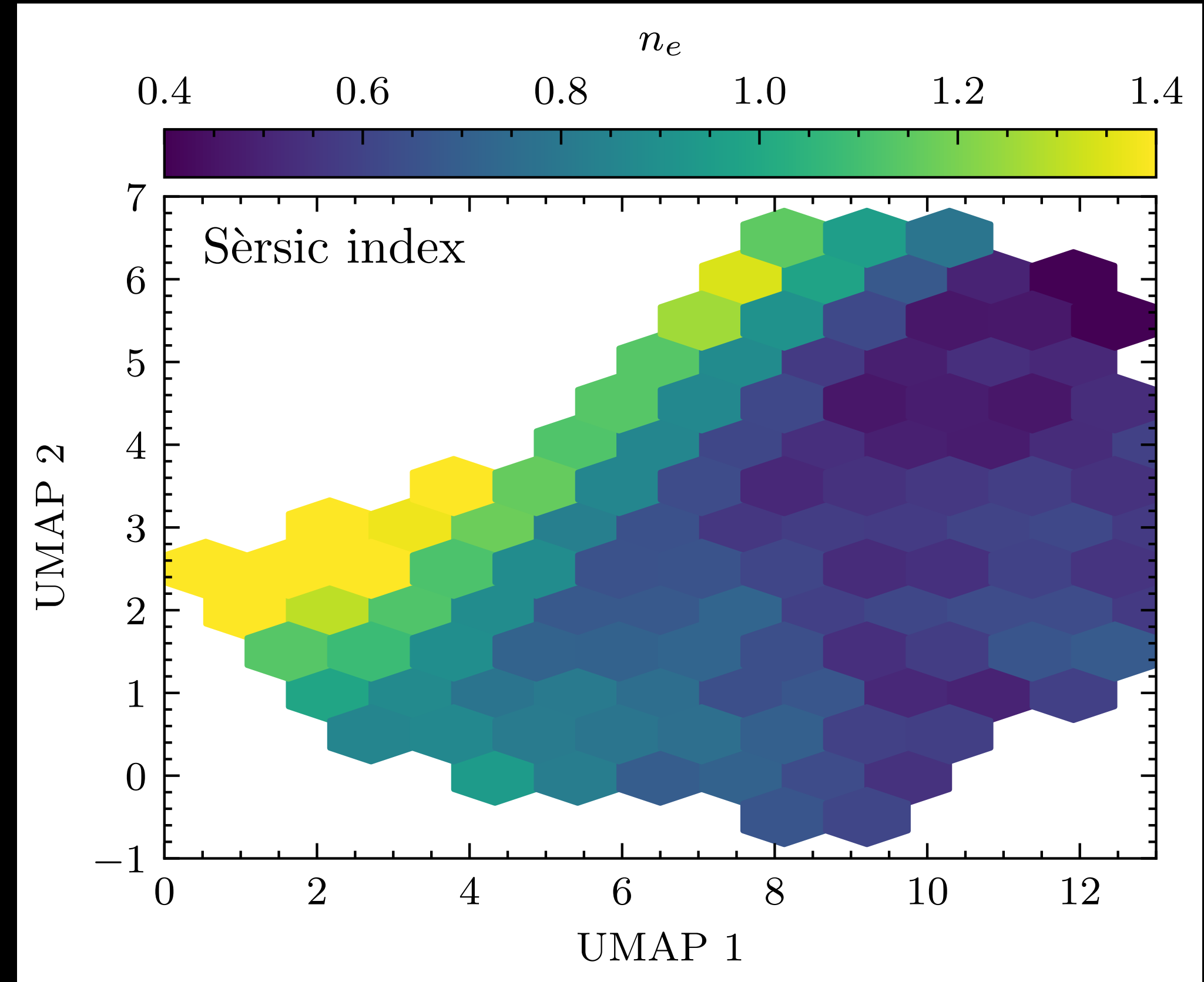
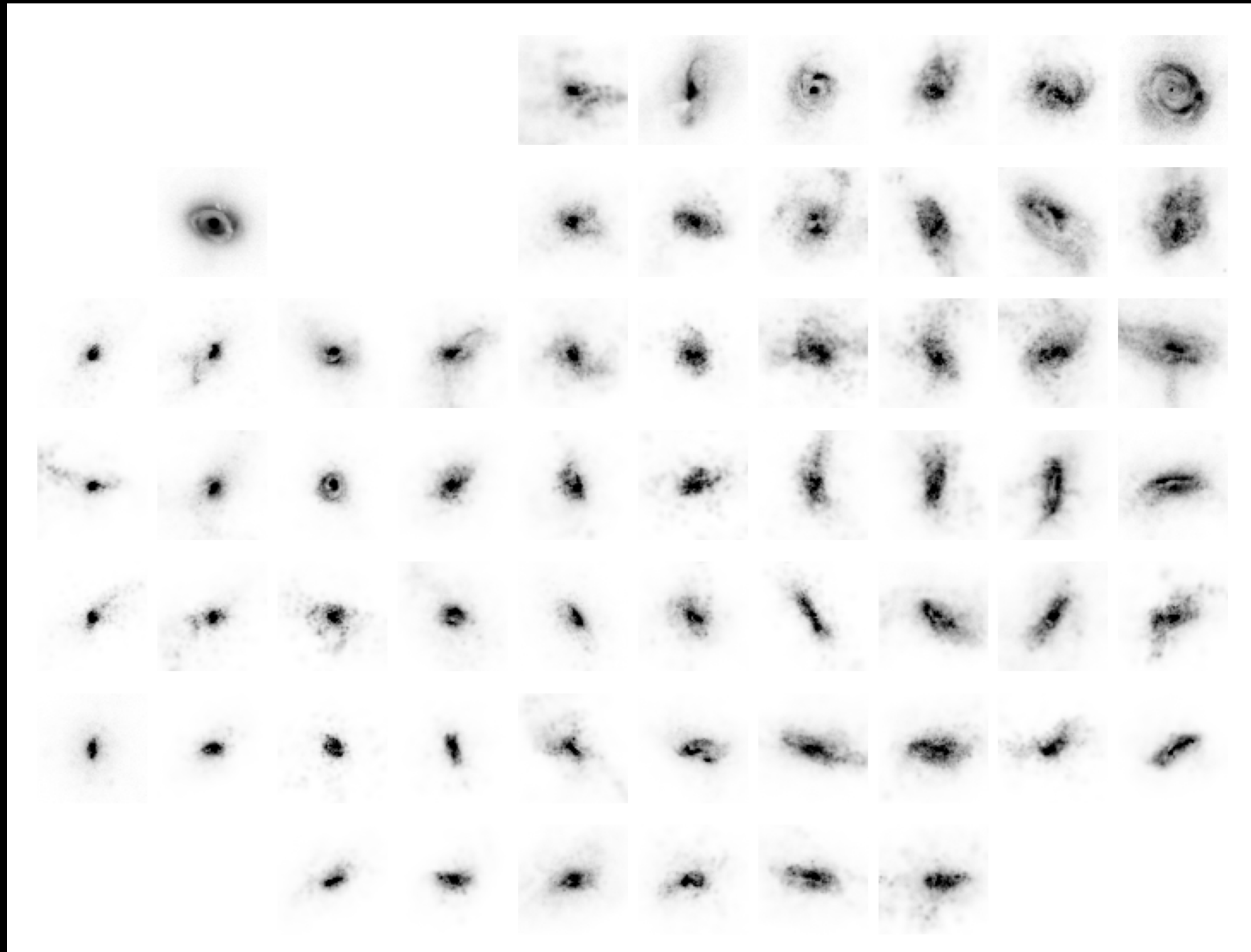
Clusters show good correlation with 'traditional' morphology and physical properties.





# SELF-SUPERVISED LEARNING

JWST/CEERS IMAGES



# SELF-SUPERVISED LEARNING

JWST/CEERS IMAGES

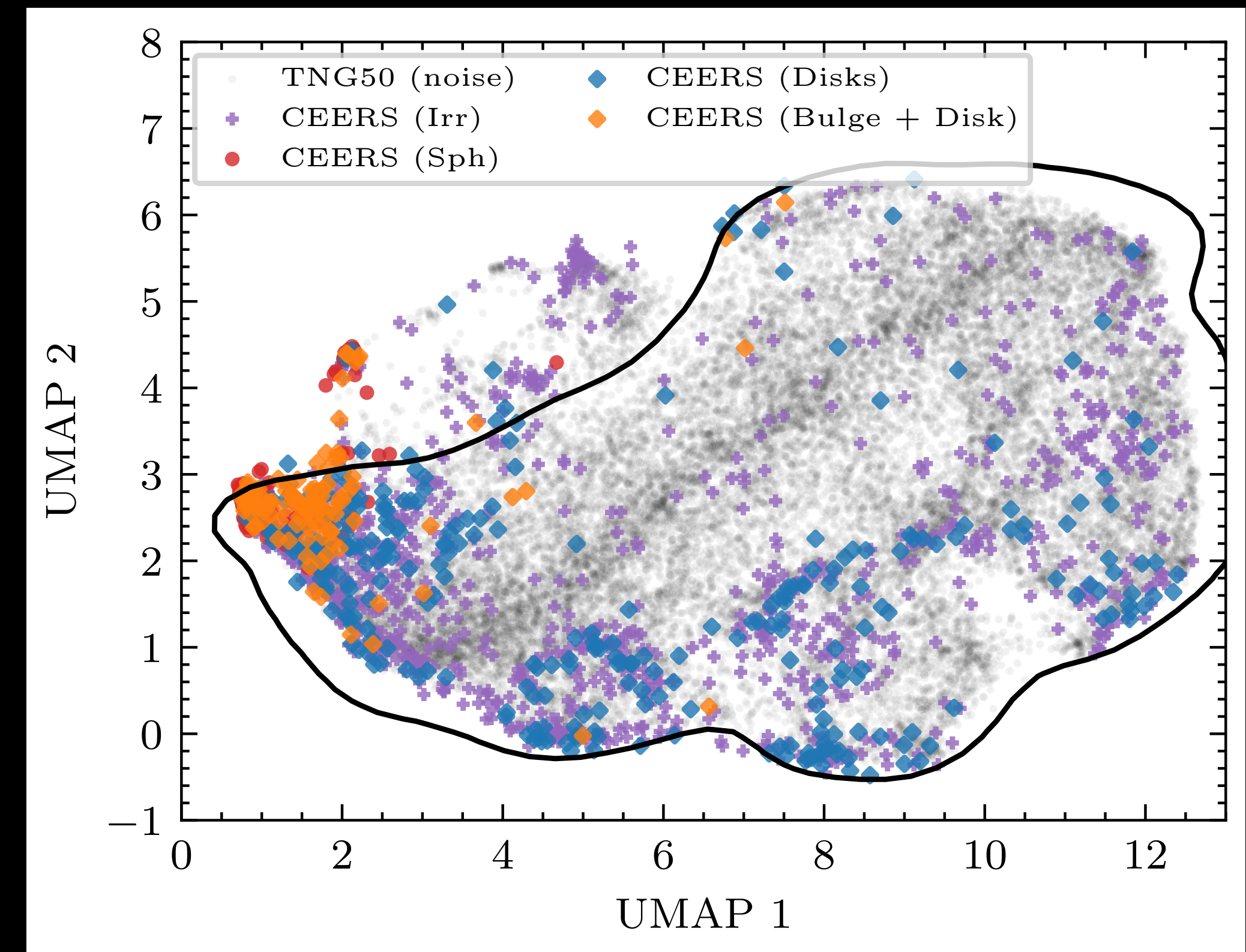
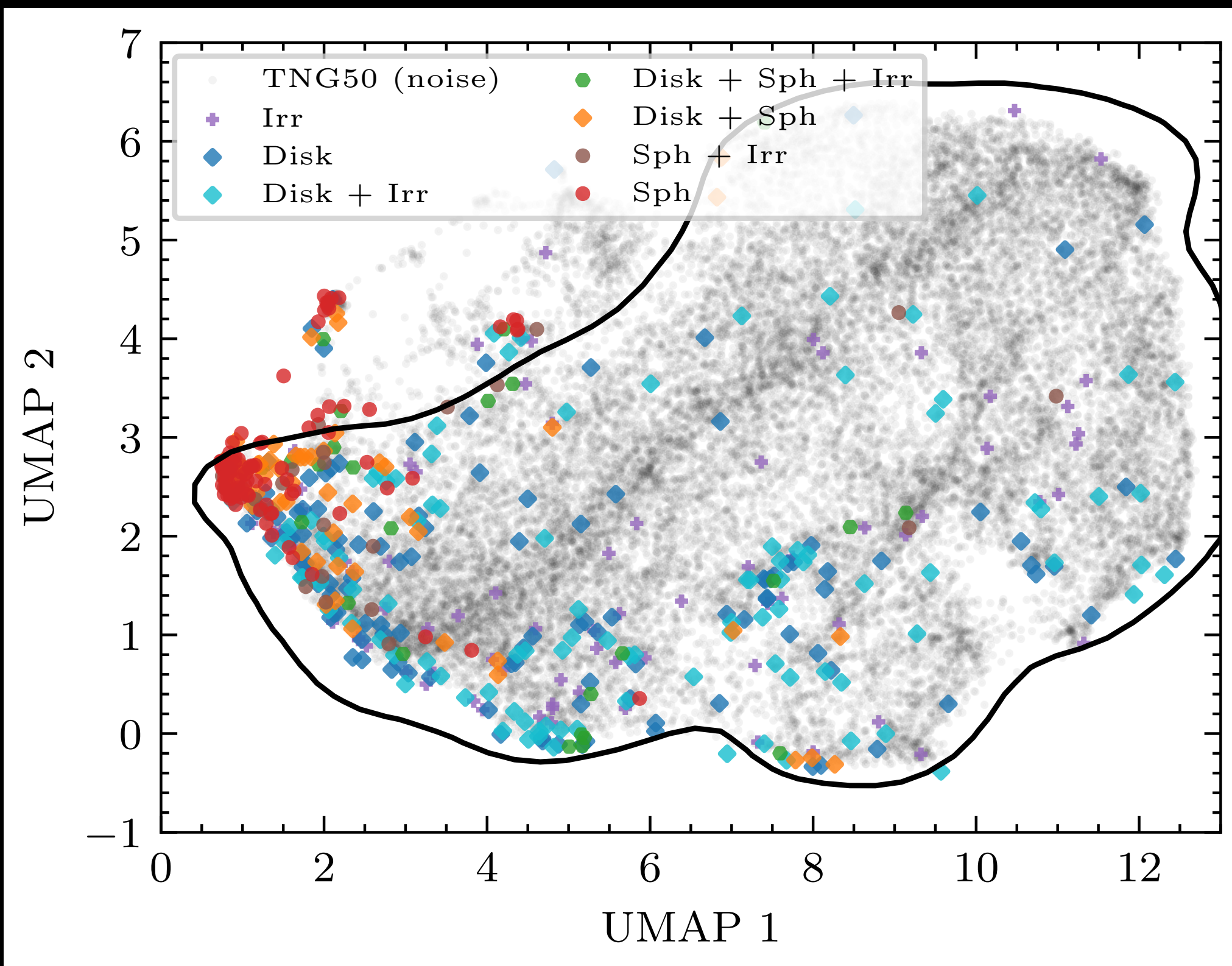
*MHC+2023b*

CNN-based

Domain adaptation from CANDELS labels

*Kartaltepe+2022*

Visual classifications



Vega-Ferrero+2023

# SELF-SUPERVISED LEARNING

JWST/CEERS IMAGES

SEE TALK AT 15:00

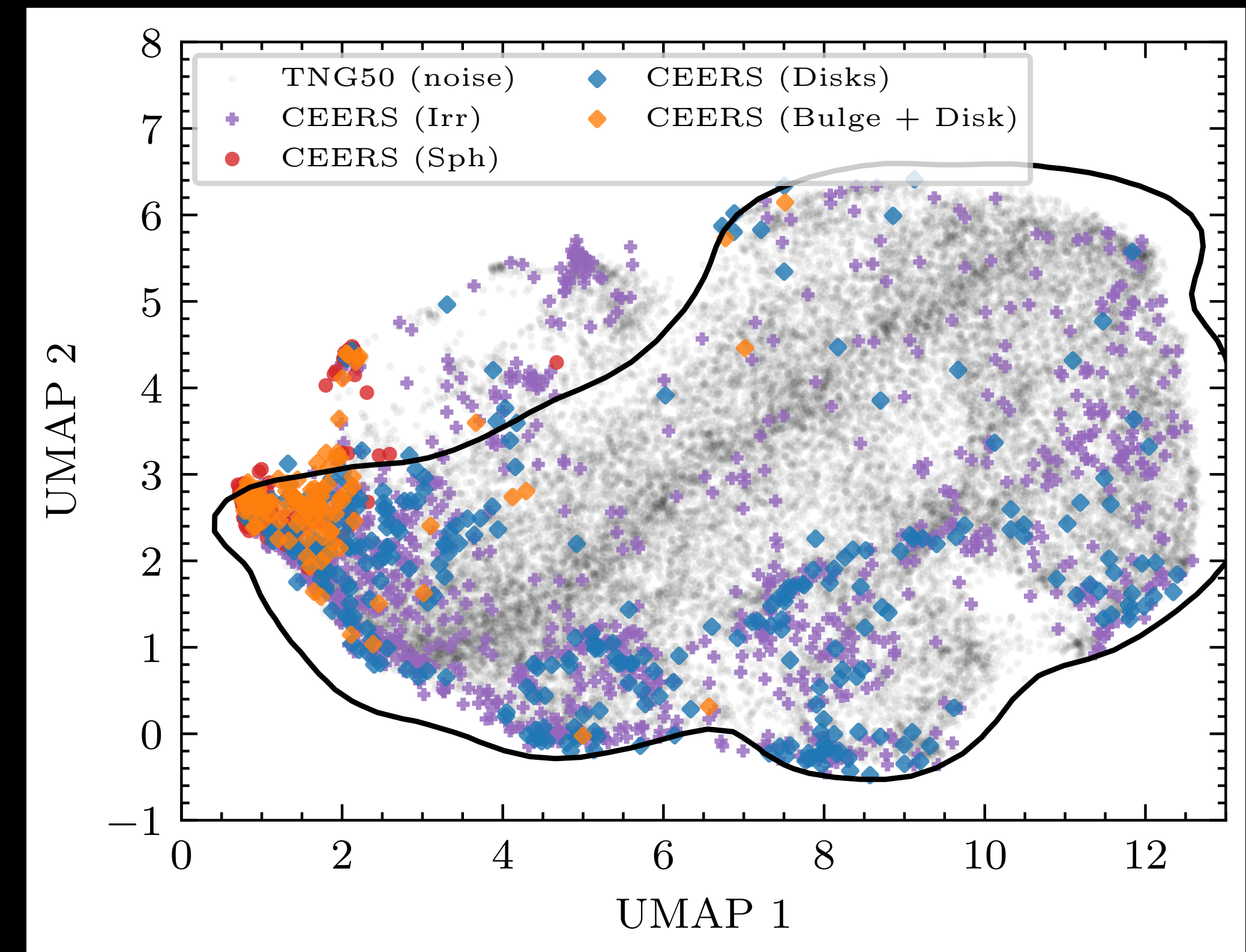
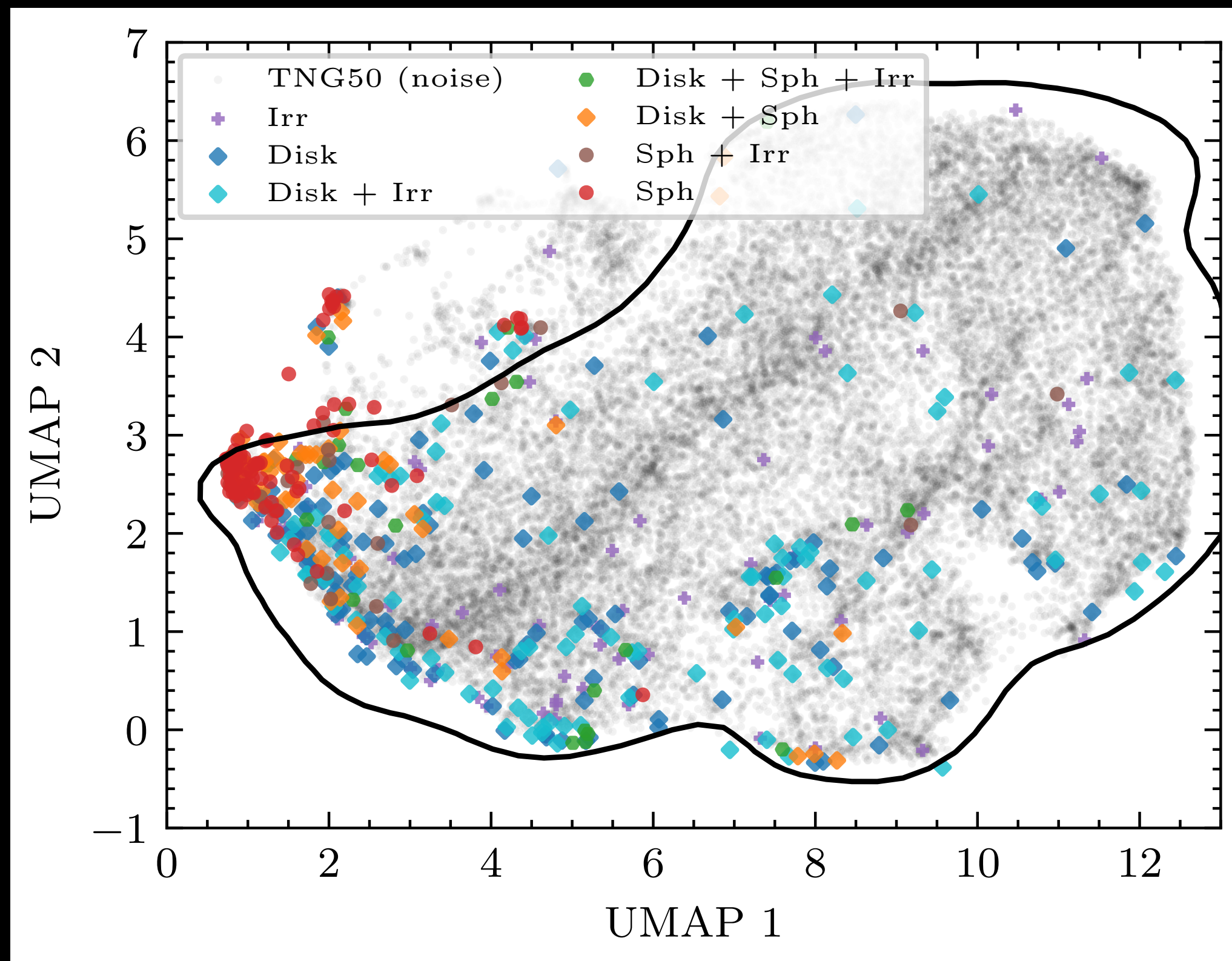
**MHC+2023b**

CNN-based

Domain adaptation from CANDELS labels

**Kartaltepe+2022**

Visual classifications



Vega-Ferrero+2023

# OUTLINE

- Why care about galaxy morphology?
- Why Deep Learning?
- Supervised learning: CNNs
- What if there are no labels?
  - Transfer Learning
  - 'Emulations'
  - Unsupervised learning
- Going deeper

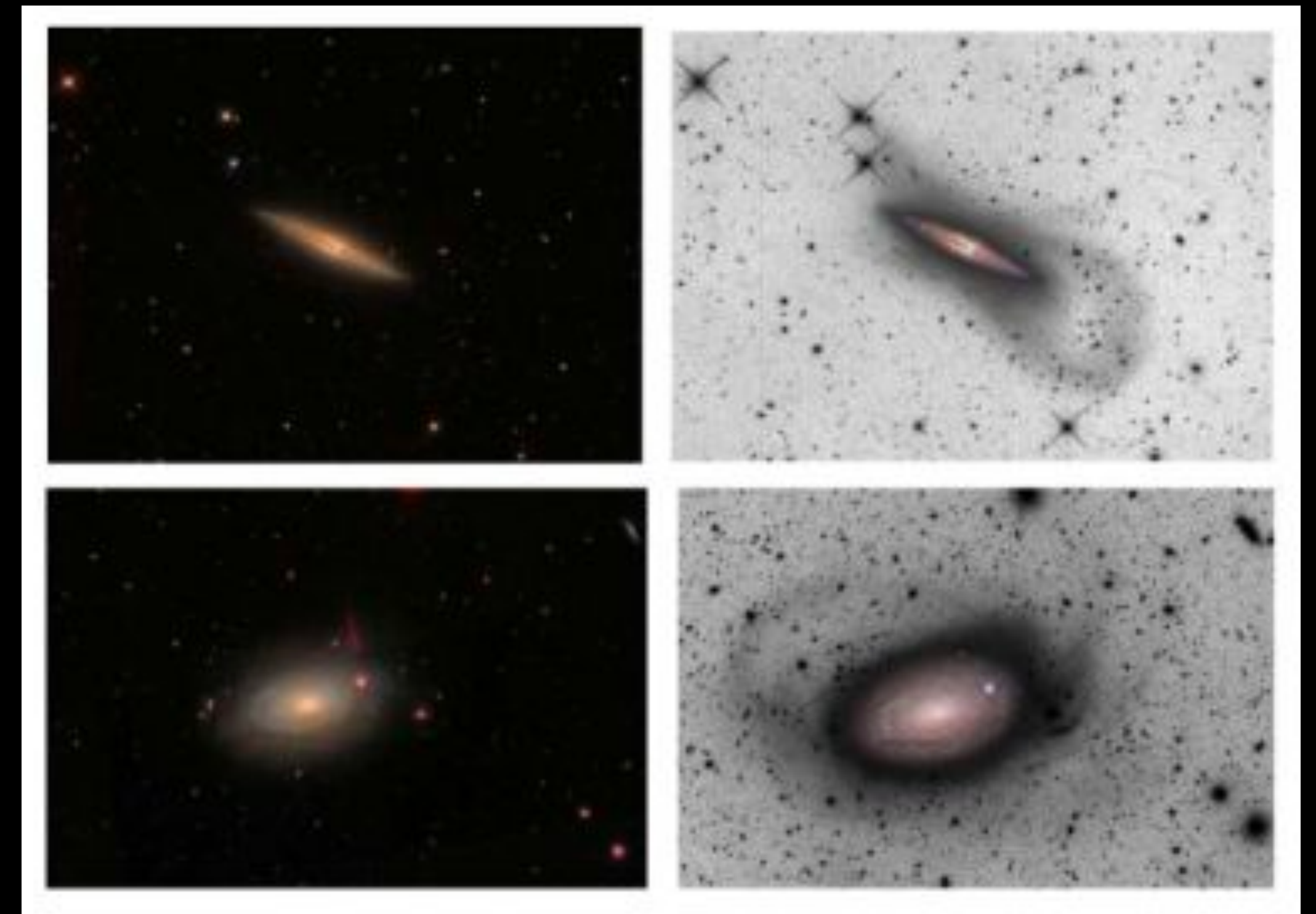


# DILEMA DEEP IMAGING AND DEEP LEARNING FOR GALAXY MASS ASSEMBLY

- The frequency and characteristics of **low surface brightness features** can be used to disentangle the different formation channels (in situ star formation versus accreted stars).
- Classical 'cat/dog' problem: optimal for CNN but...
- Tidal streams are difficult to detect: short lived (only a few dynamical periods) and faint (imprints in the outskirts of galaxies)
- Need deep imaging and large areas!

SDSS

*Martínez Delgado+2009*

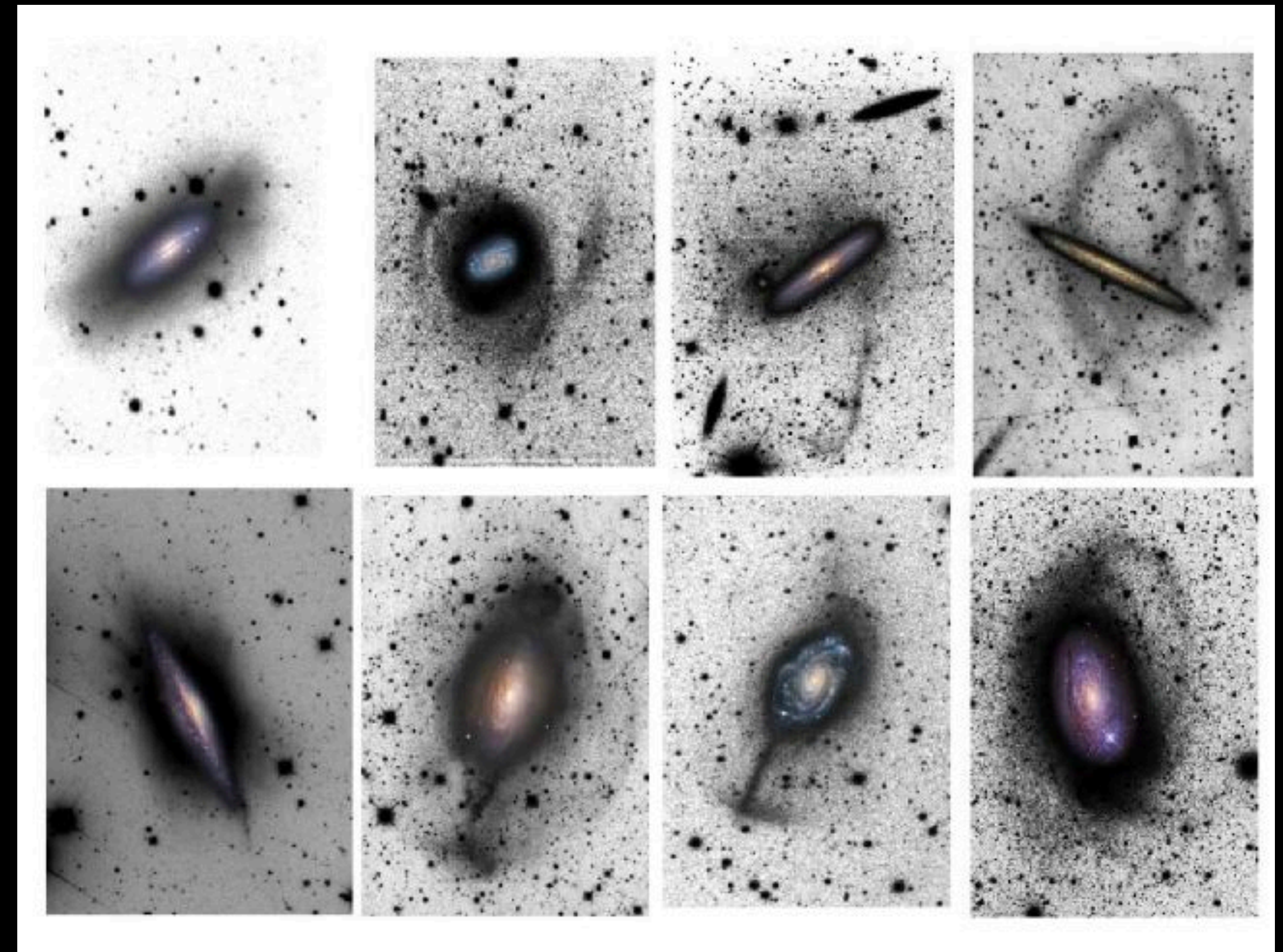


*Chonis+2011*

# DILEMA DEEP IMAGING AND DEEP LEARNING FOR GALAXY MASS ASSEMBLY

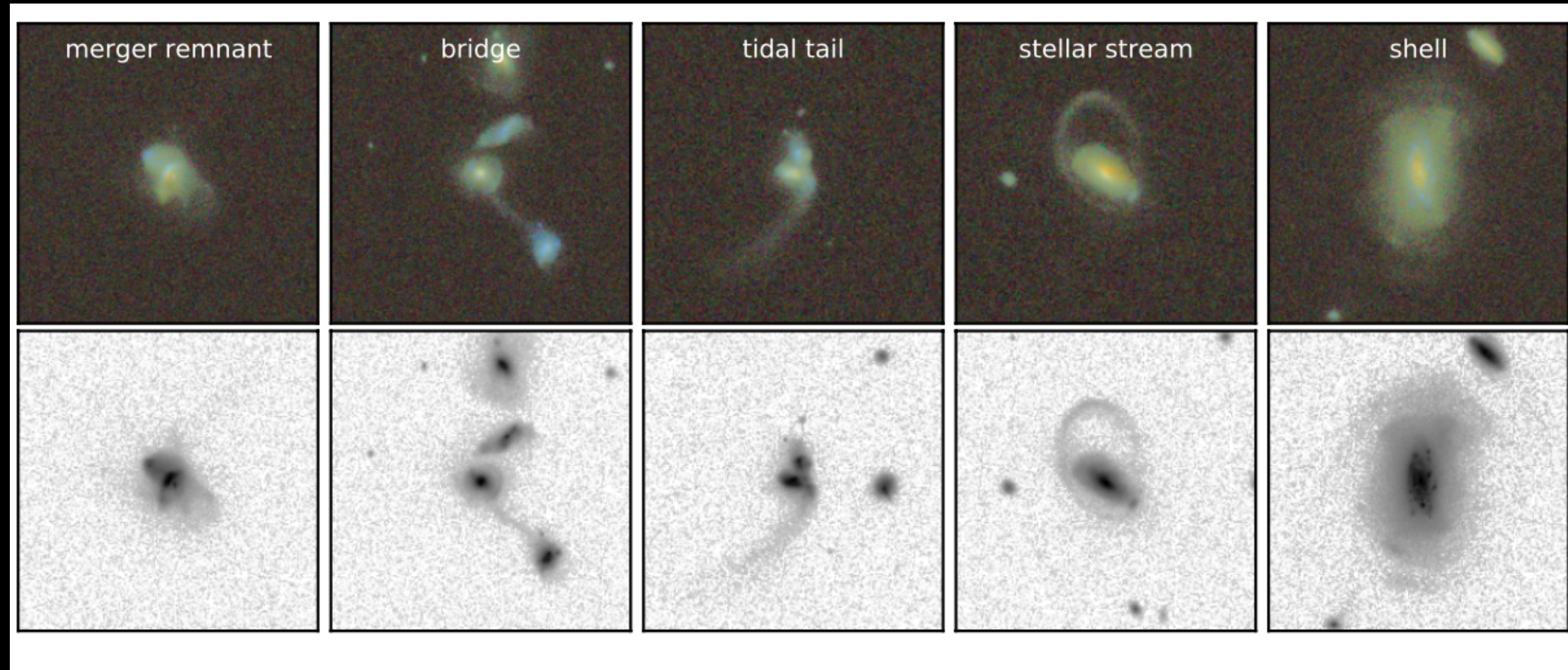
*Martínez Delgado+2008, 10*

- Need deep imaging and large areas!
- Small training samples available
- On-going efforts (e.g. [Sola+22](#))
- Pioneer attempt by [Walmsley+19](#)
  - CFHTLS-Wide Survey
  - 1316 galaxies, 305 labelled as tidal streams
  - 76% accuracy



# DILEMA DEEP IMAGING AND DEEP LEARNING FOR GALAXY MASS ASSEMBLY

Images Classified by professional astronomers into different types of features



# DILEMA DEEP IMAGING AND DEEP LEARNING FOR GALAXY MASS ASSEMBLY

## Labelling data:

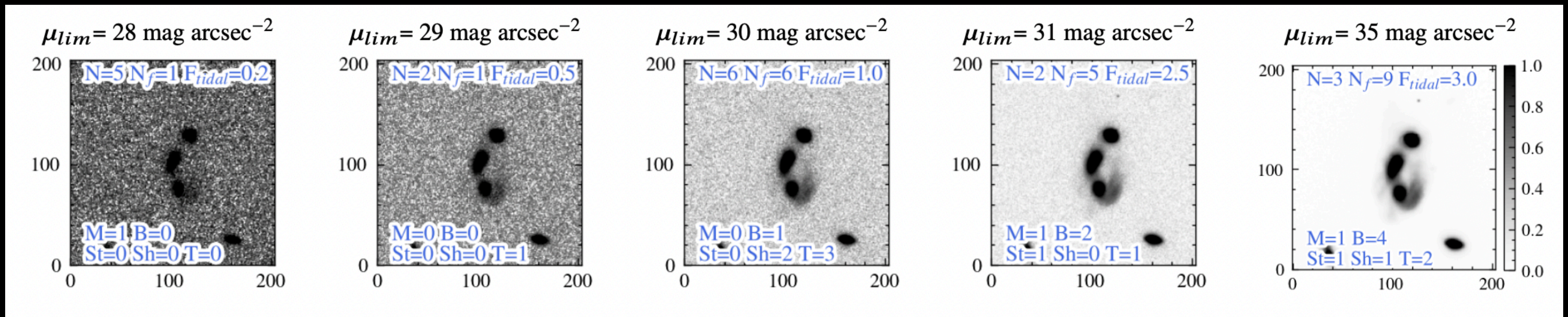
Binary classification

$$F_{\text{Tidal}} = N_{\text{features}} / N_{\text{classifiers}}$$

Negatives:  $F_{\text{Tidal}} = 0$

Positives:  $F_{\text{Tidal}} \geq 1$

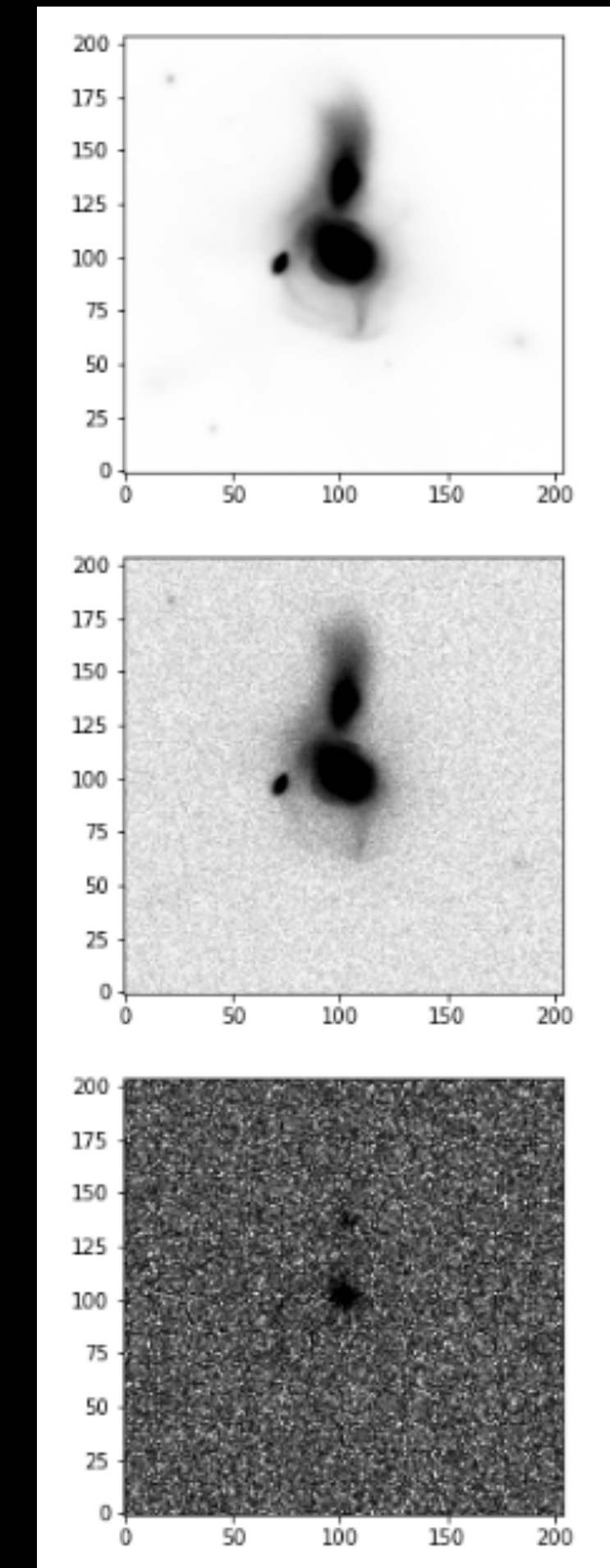
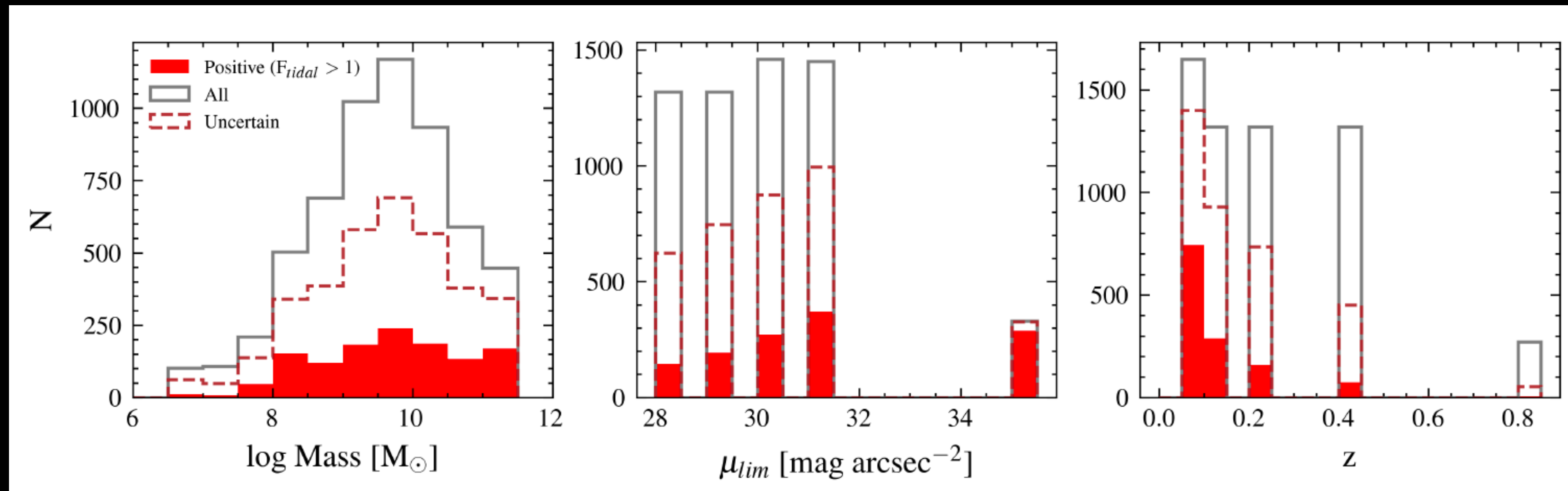
Uncertain:  $F_{\text{Tidal}} = (0, 1)$





# DILEMA DEEP IMAGING AND DEEP LEARNING FOR GALAXY MASS ASSEMBLY

Strong dependence of detections with image properties, specially surface brightness and redshift (stamp size)



DS+2023

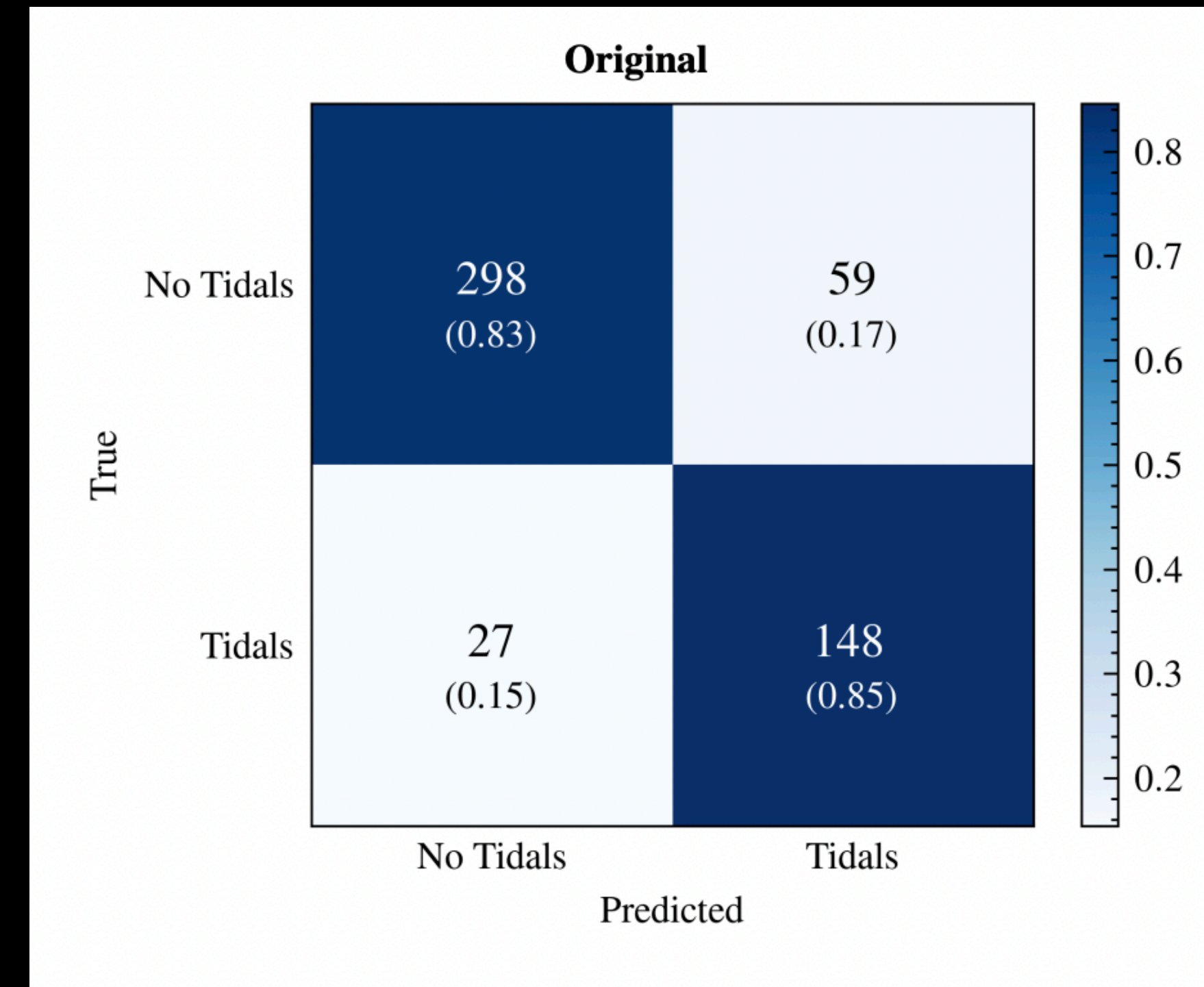
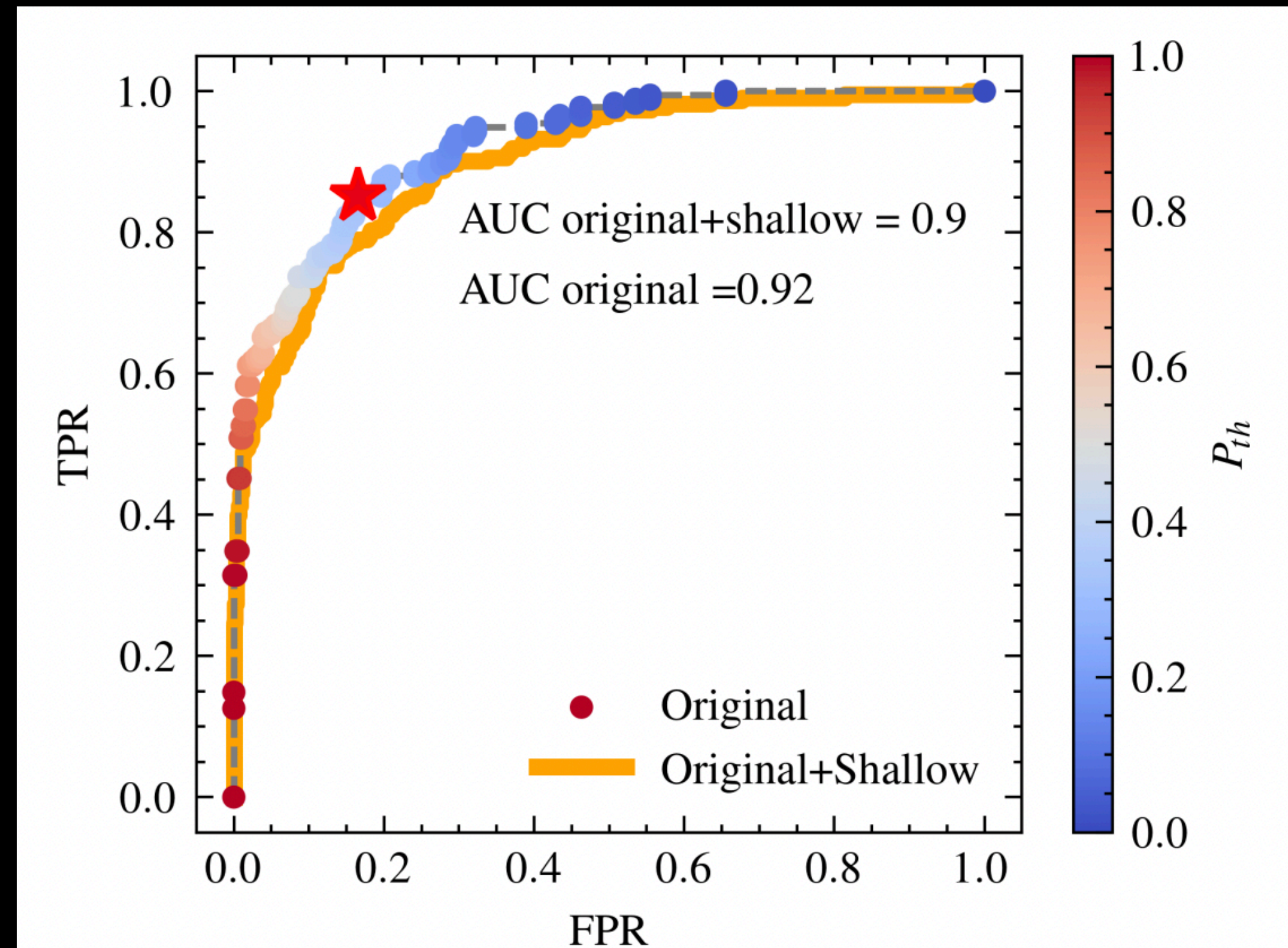
SB=35

SB=31

SB=26

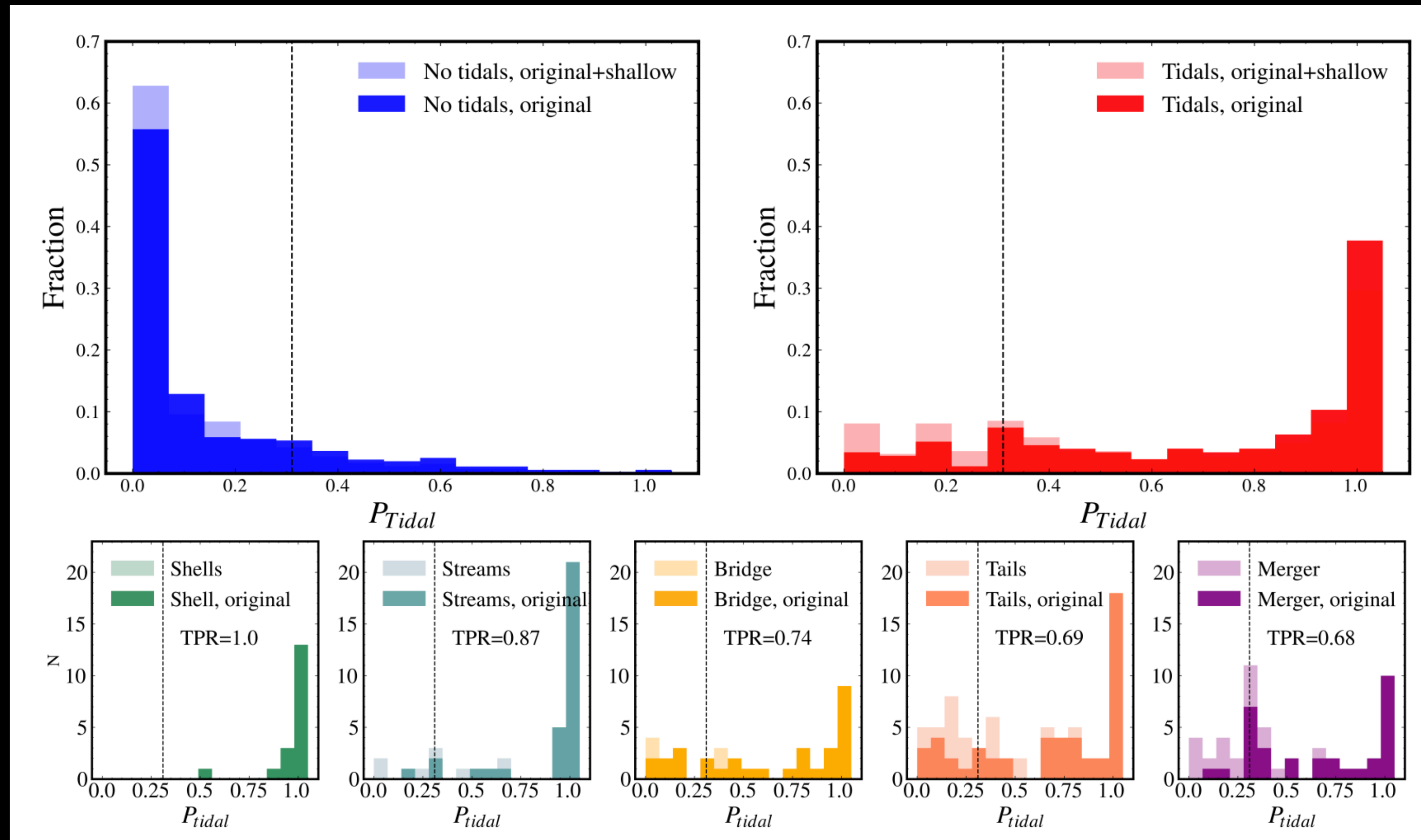
# DILEMA DEEP IMAGING AND DEEP LEARNING FOR GALAXY MASS ASSEMBLY

Test sample	$N_{\text{test}}$	% Positives	$P_{\text{th}}$	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1
Original	532	33	0.32	0.84	0.72	0.85	0.78
Original+shallow	820	27	0.31	0.85	0.71	0.75	0.73



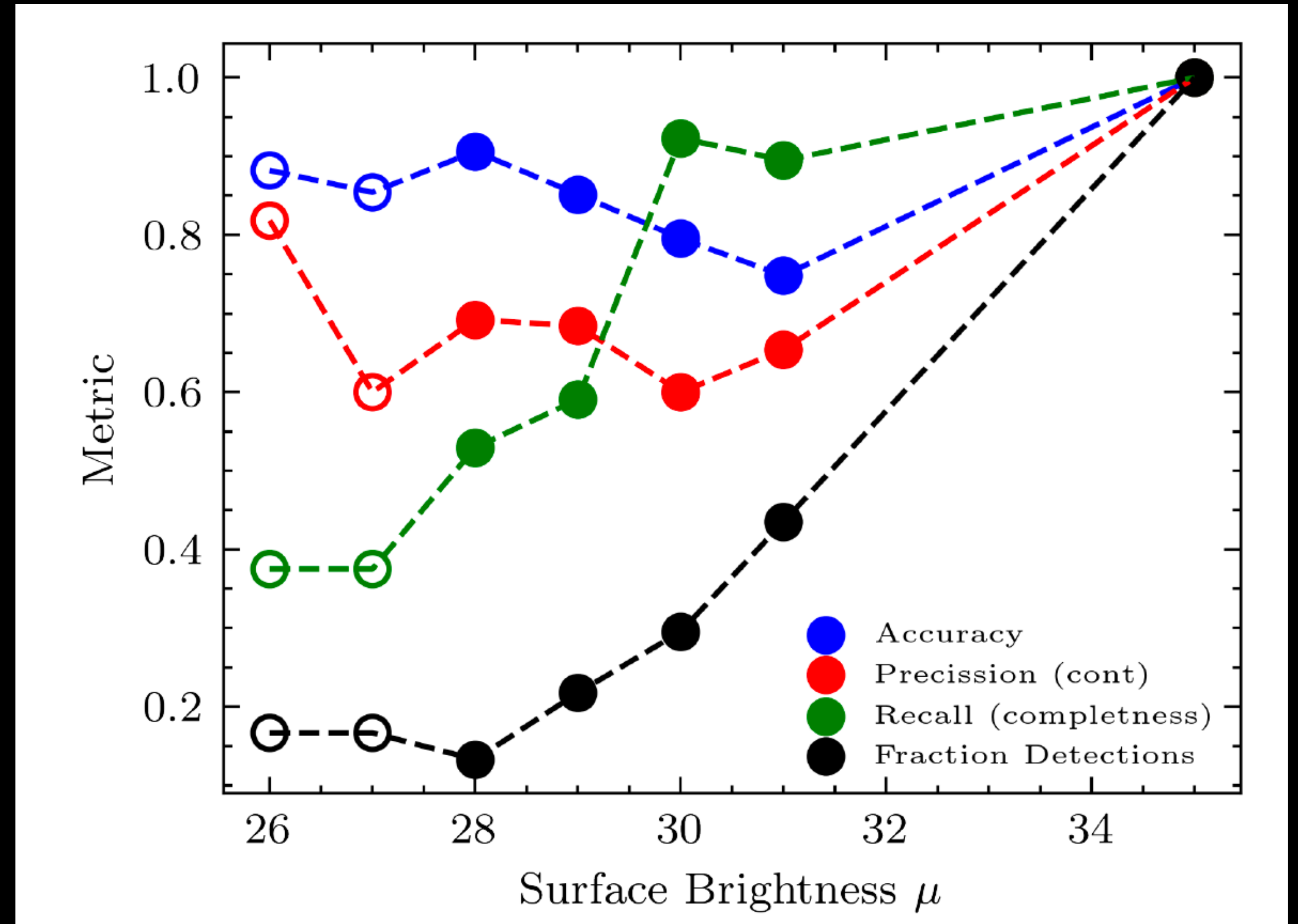
# DILEMA DEEP IMAGING AND DEEP LEARNING FOR GALAXY MASS ASSEMBLY

Strong dependence of the performance with different types of tidal features



# DILEMA DEEP IMAGING AND DEEP LEARNING FOR GALAXY MASS ASSEMBLY

- Completeness strongly affected by LSB
- Purity and accuracy more stable

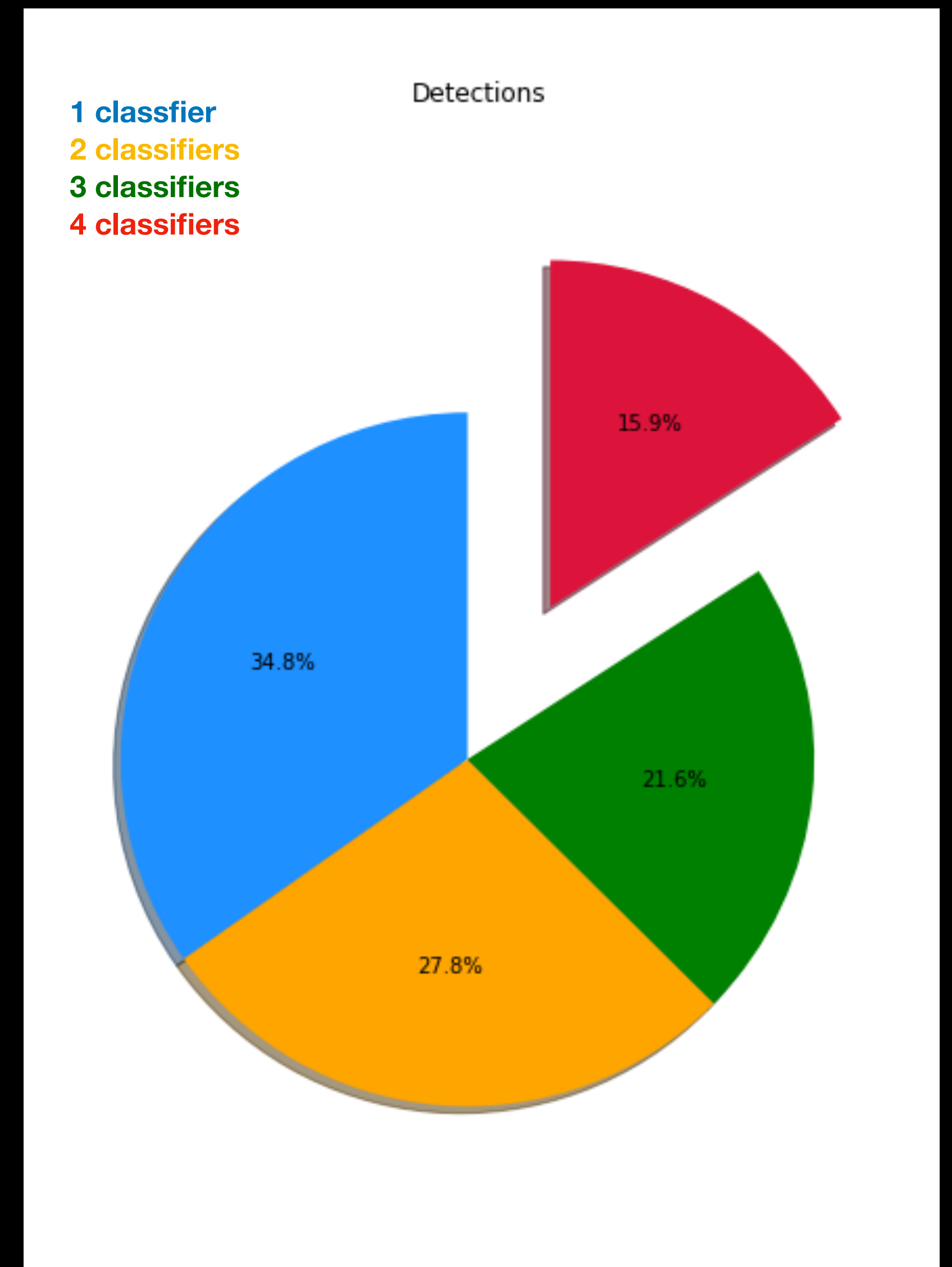


# WHAT ABOUT REAL DATA?

Performance on real HSC data is worst (AUC=0.64), even with transfer learning techniques

Why?

- Classifications are very uncertain
- Data is much shallower ( $\mu=26$  mag arcsec<sup>-2</sup>)
- Simulations are not completely 'realistic':
  - Angular resolution (1" vs 0.167")
  - No background sources
  - No artefacts or sky subtraction residuals



# ARRAKIHS

ANALYSIS OF RESOLVED REMNANTS OF ACCRETED GALAXIES AS A KEY INSTRUMENT FOR HALOS SURVEYS

ESA F-Mission (approved Dec 2022)

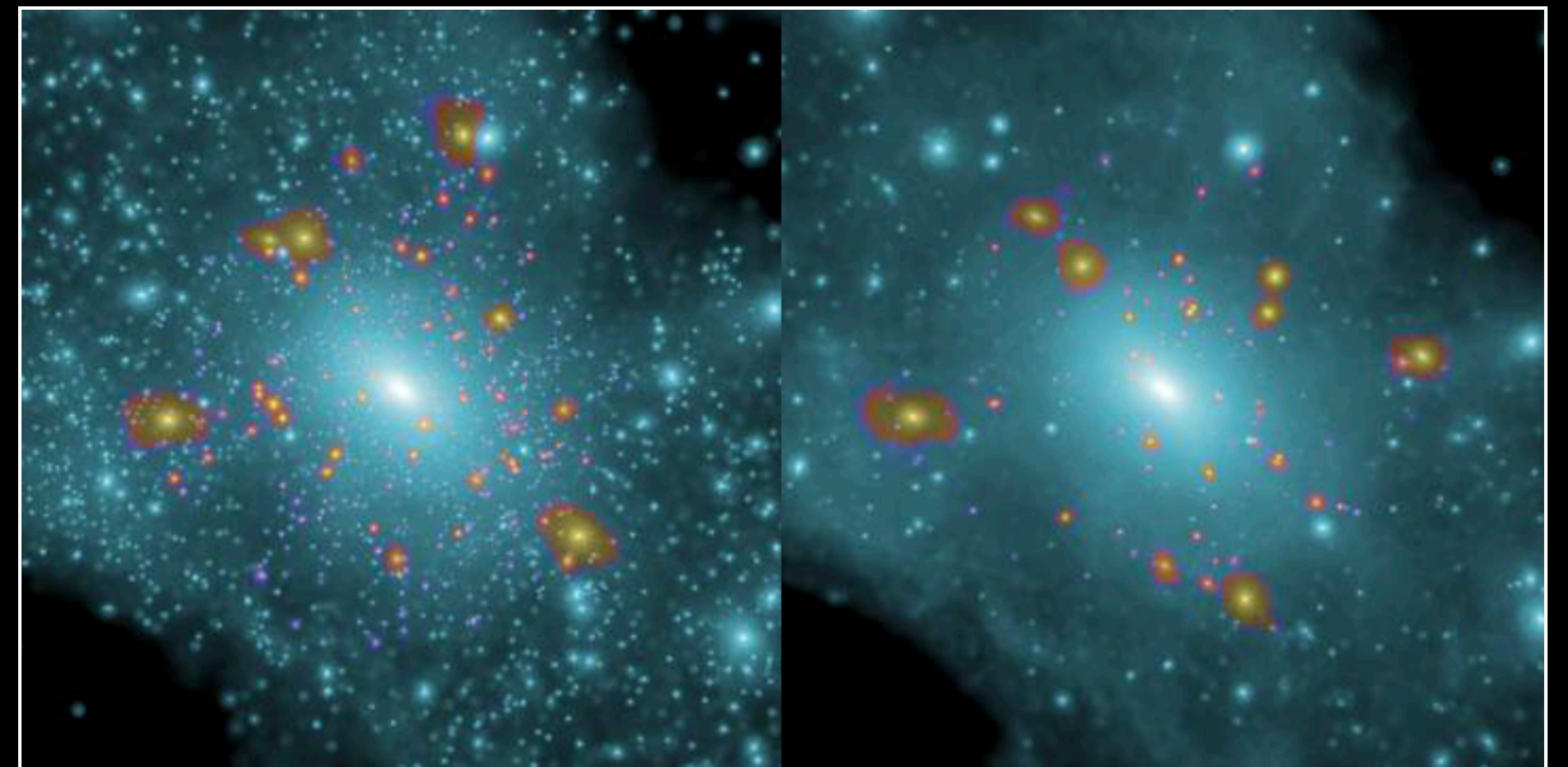
International consortia lead by Spain (P.I. R. Guzmán)

Ultra deep images ( $\mu=31$  mag arcsec<sup>-2</sup>) arcsec of  $\sim 100$  Milky Way-like galaxies in 2 visible and 2 IR bands with FWHM=0.8 to study:

- the nature of Dark Matter and  $\Lambda$ CDM
- satellite galaxies beyond the local group
- stellar streams and diffuse light

CDM

WDM

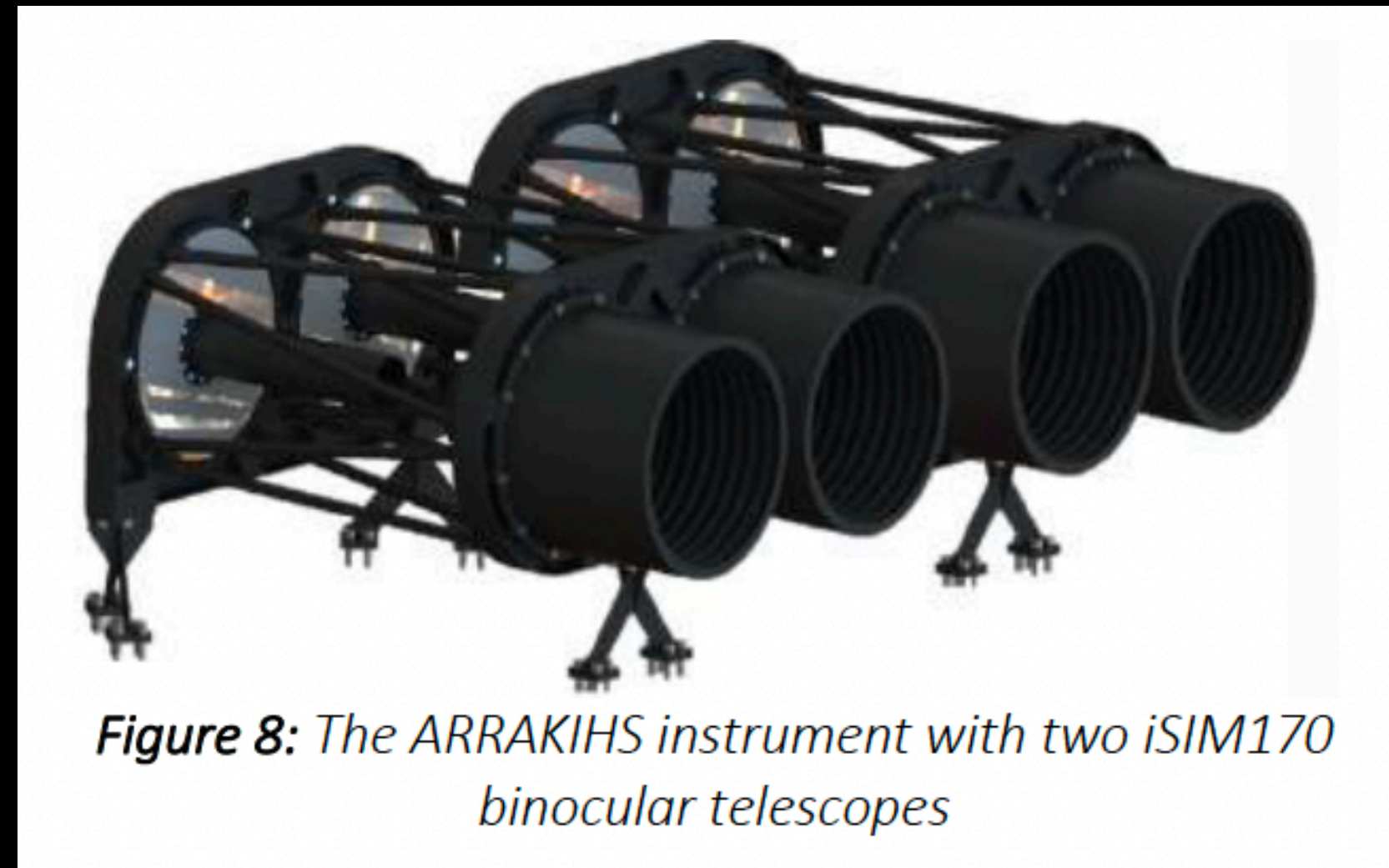
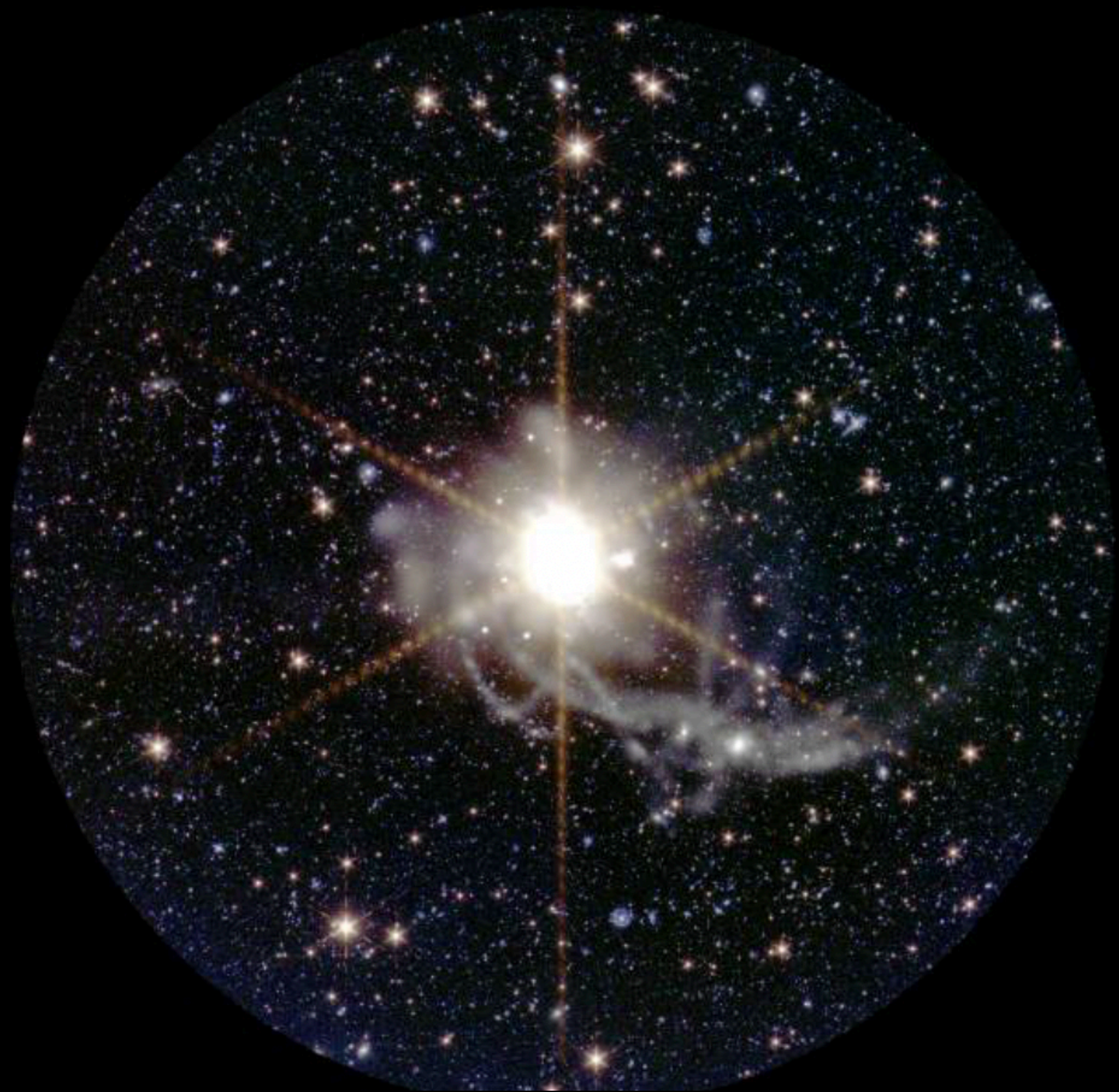


ARRAKIHS

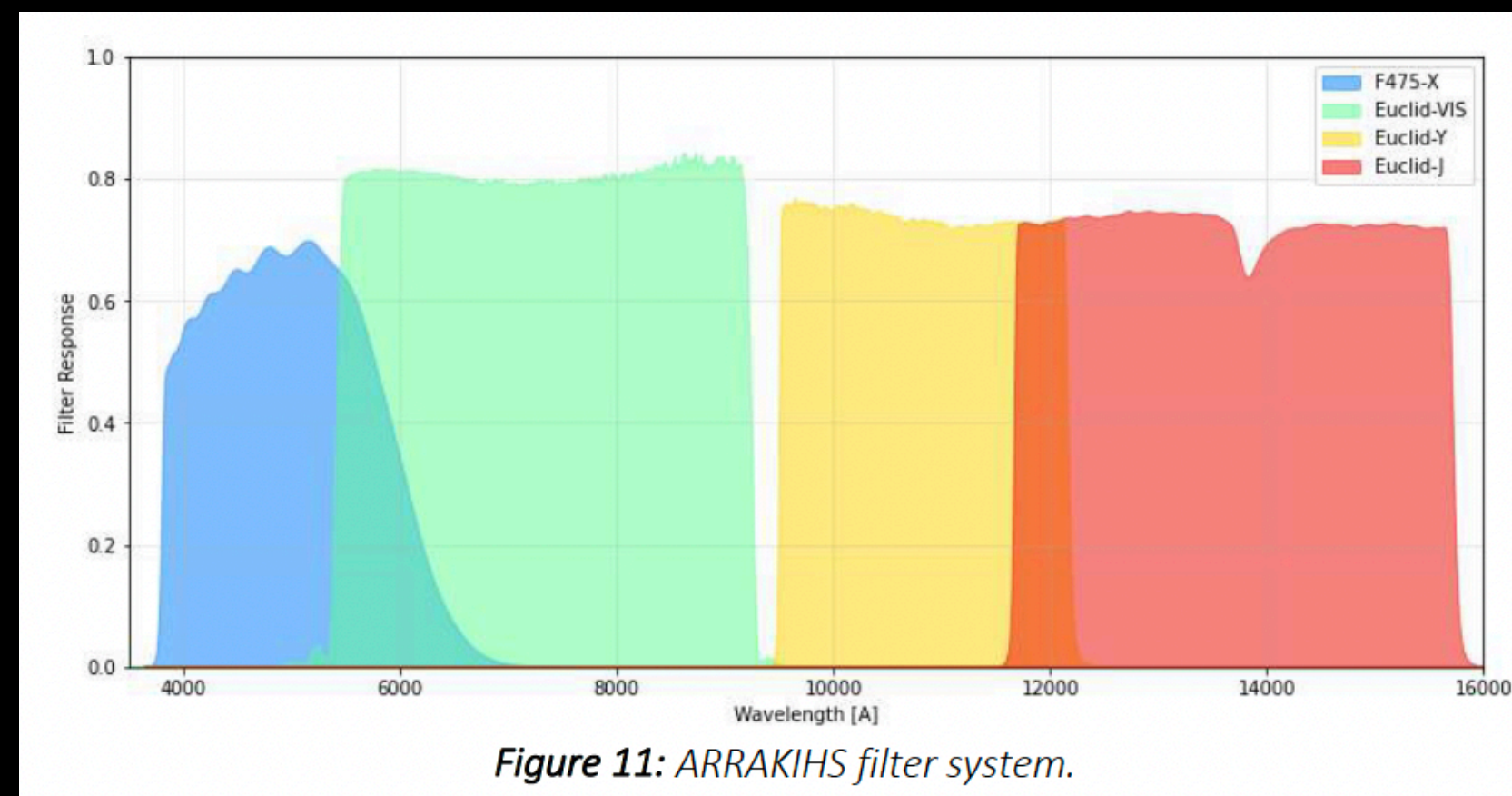


# ARRAKIHS

ANALYSIS OF RESOLVED REMNANTS OF ACCRETED GALAXIES AS A KEY INSTRUMENT FOR HALOS SURVEYS



*Figure 8: The ARRAKIHS instrument with two iSIM170 binocular telescopes*



*Figure 11: ARRAKIHS filter system.*

# ARRAKIHS

ANALYSIS OF RESOLVED REMNANTS OF ACCRETED GALAXIES AS A KEY INSTRUMENT FOR HALOS SURVEYS

I am the coordinator of [WP S-10 Structure Analysis](#), in particular on ML techniques for the detection and characterisation of satellite galaxies and tidal features.

We have two open positions at CEFCA:

- Post-doc for ARRAKIHS

[https://www.cefca.es/cefca\\_en/reference\\_0118](https://www.cefca.es/cefca_en/reference_0118)

- Scientific Software Engineer for ARRAKIHS

[https://www.cefca.es/cefca\\_en/reference\\_0119](https://www.cefca.es/cefca_en/reference_0119)

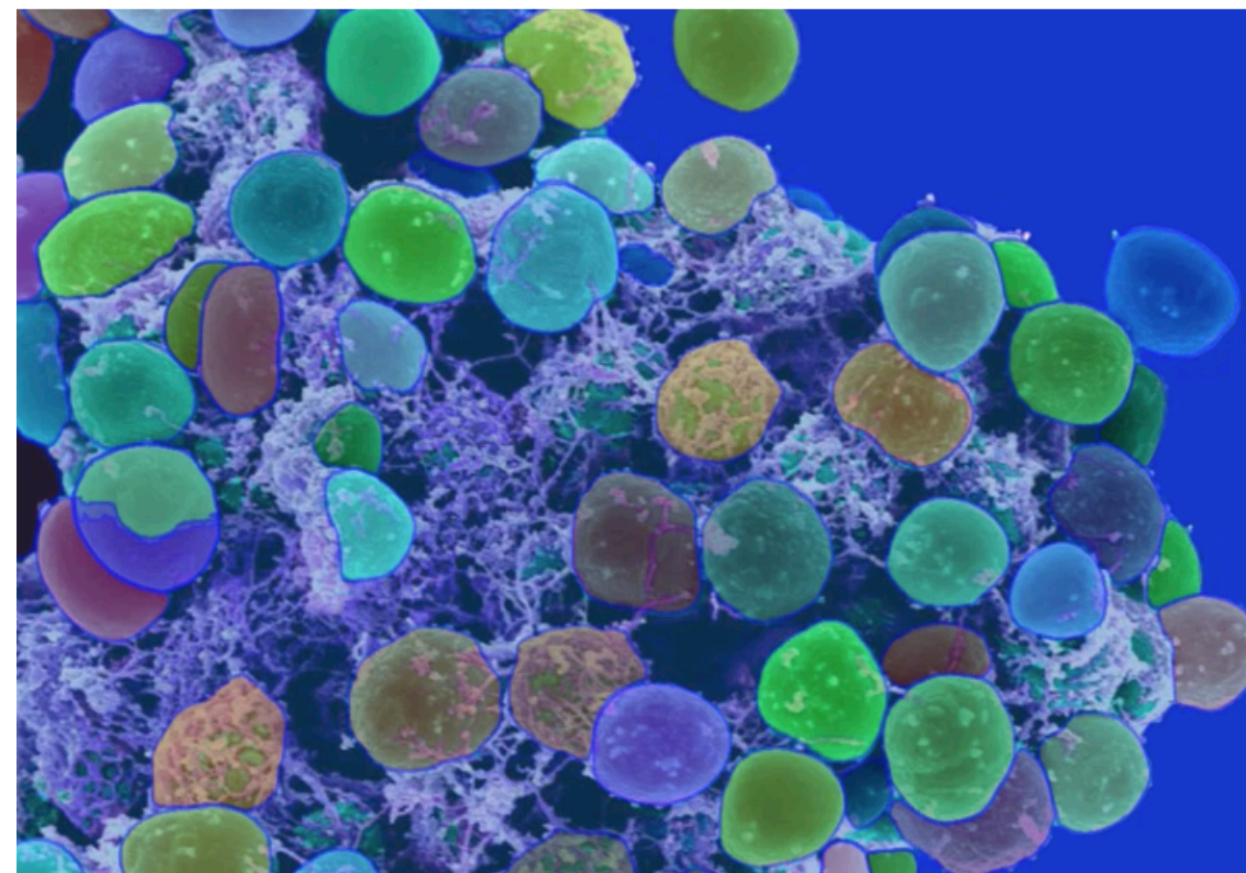
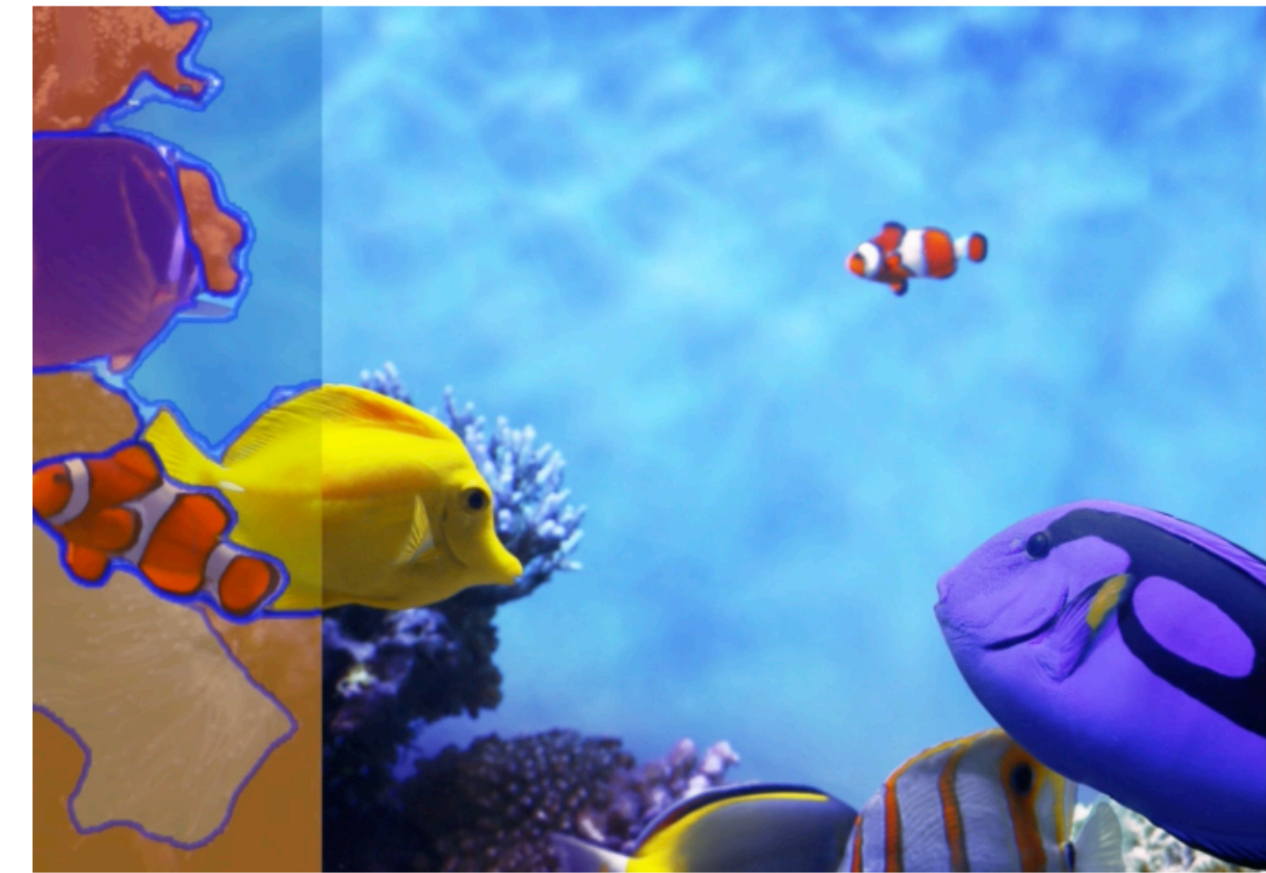
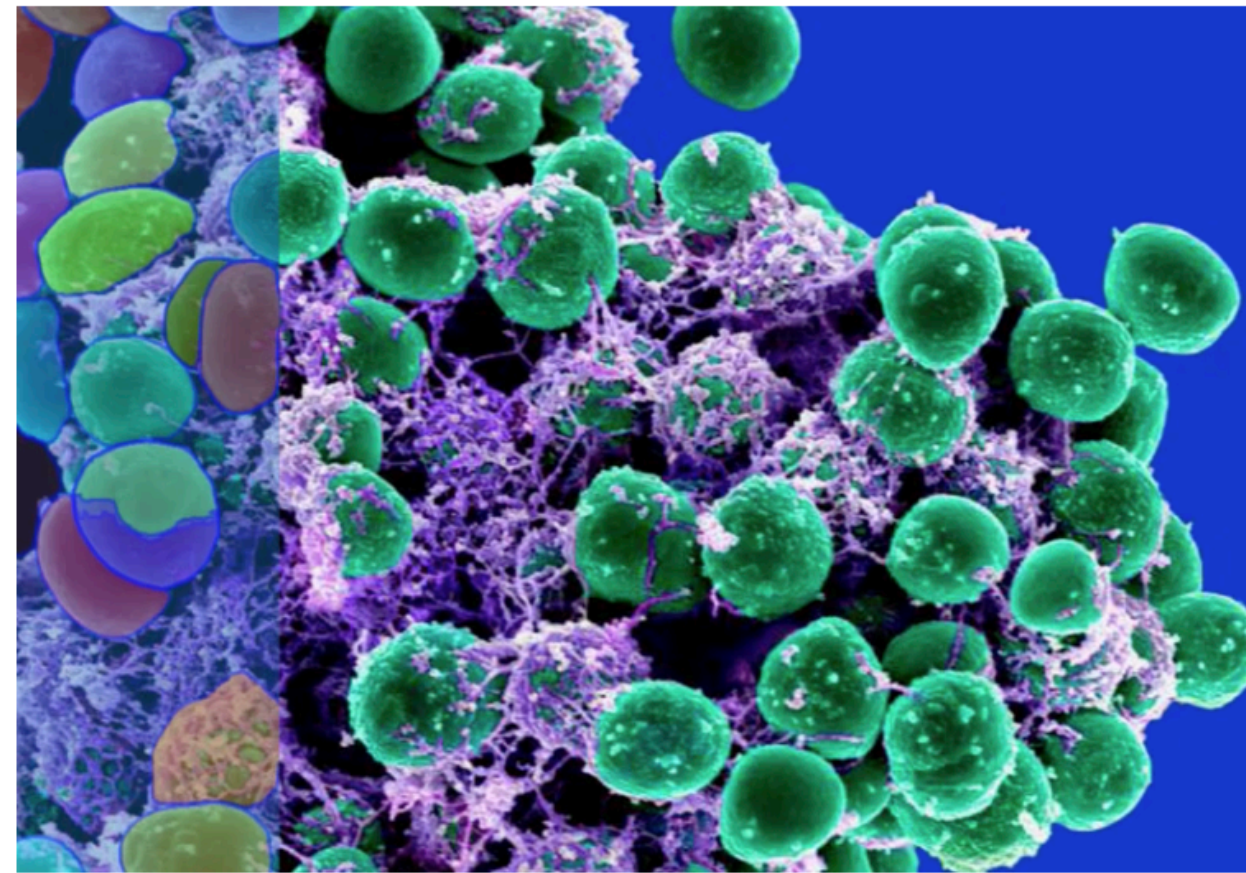
**ARRAKIHS**





# SAM: Segment Anything Model

<https://segment-anything.com/>



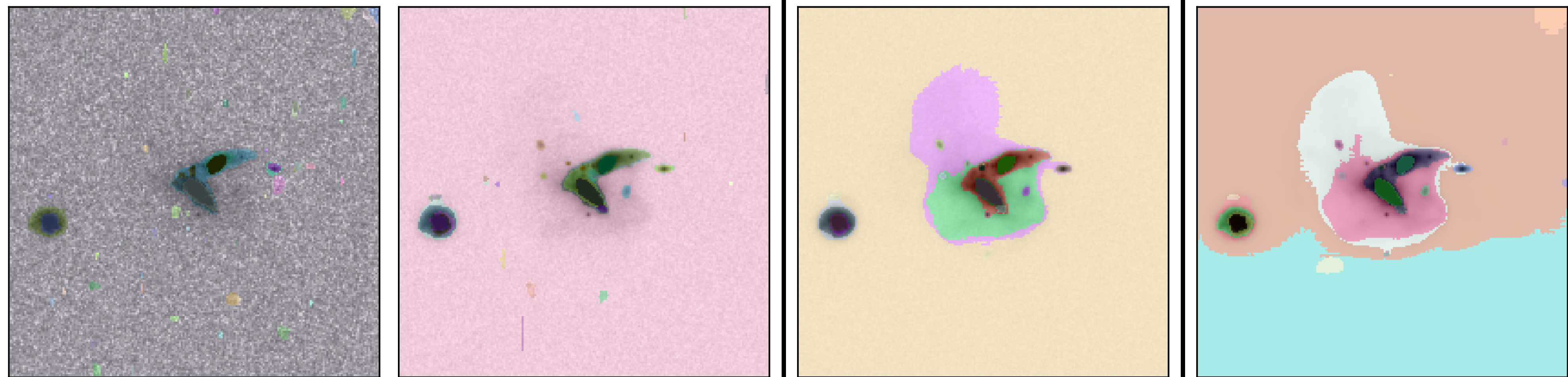
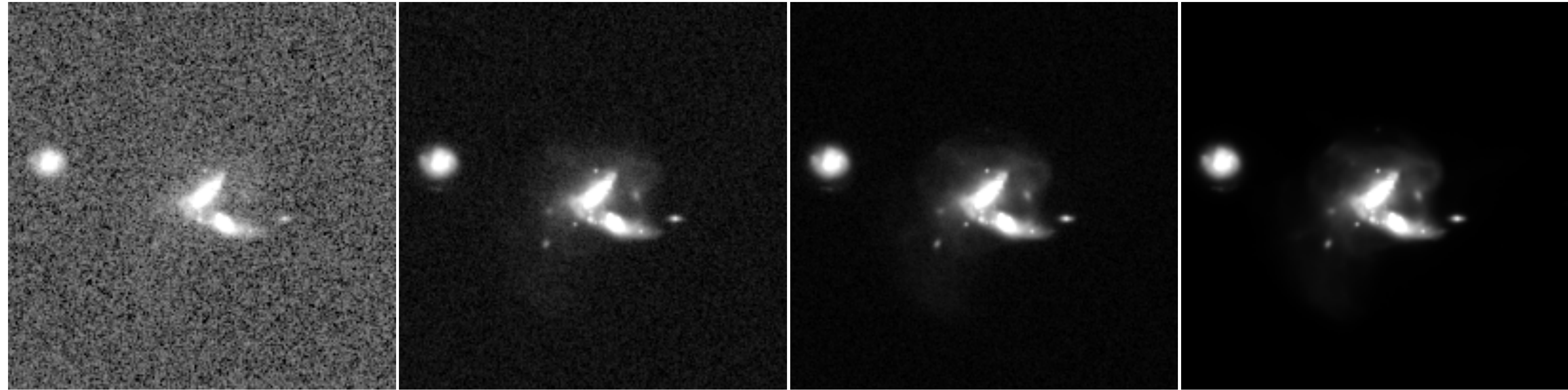
# SAM: Segment Anything Model

$\mu=28$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup>

$\mu=30$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup>

$\mu=31$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup>

$\mu=35$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup>



# TAKE HOME MESSAGES

DL extremely successful for classifying galaxy images BUT:

- Need **large training samples** of labeled galaxies from the same domain (magnitude, instrument, etc.).
- Detecting **faint/subtle features** (tidal interactions) is **still challenging**.
- **Transfer Learning** reduces the necessary training sample by one order of magnitude (but still need some labels).
- **'Emulated'** faint galaxies are a clever approach to have labelled samples at high-z.
- **Unsupervised learning** (self-supervised or PCA) unveils useful properties of galaxies w/o the need of labels.
- **Do not blindly apply your models to data from different domain as the training sample !!**