



Spectrophotometric standardisation of type Ia supernovae

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supervised by Y. Copin and M. Rigault

Seminar at LPNHE, December 2025

Outline

- ◉ Cosmology with SNe, Hubble diagram, Dark energy, Tensions
- ◉ Traditional photometric standardisation
- ◉ Spectrophotometric standardisation
- ◉ Building the ZTF spectrophotometric SN Ia sample
- ◉ Twins Embedding application to ZTF

Type Ia supernovae



SN 1994D in galaxy NGC 4526
Hubble Space Telescope

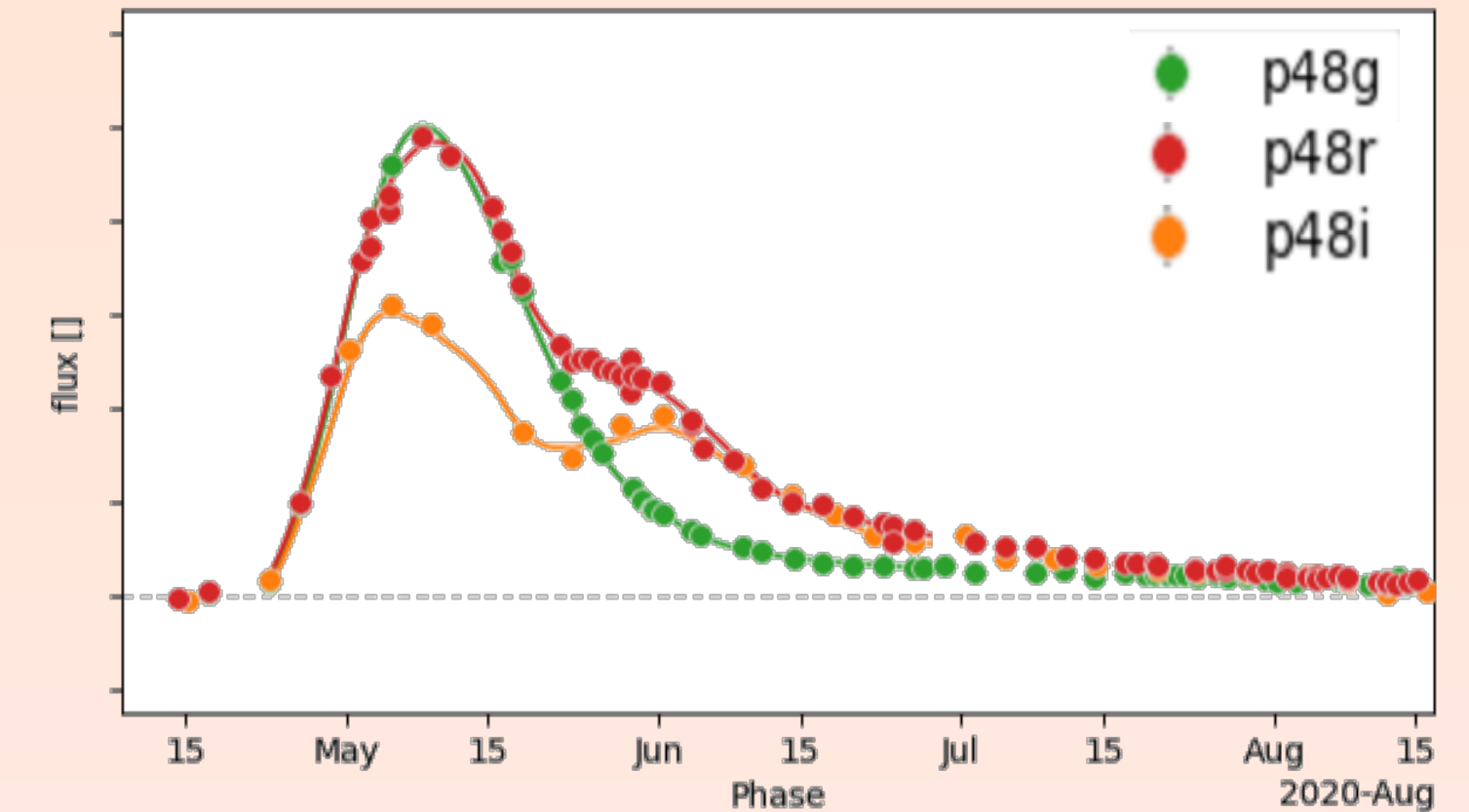
Luminosity ~constant

Standard candles :
$$f = \frac{L}{4\pi d_L^2}$$

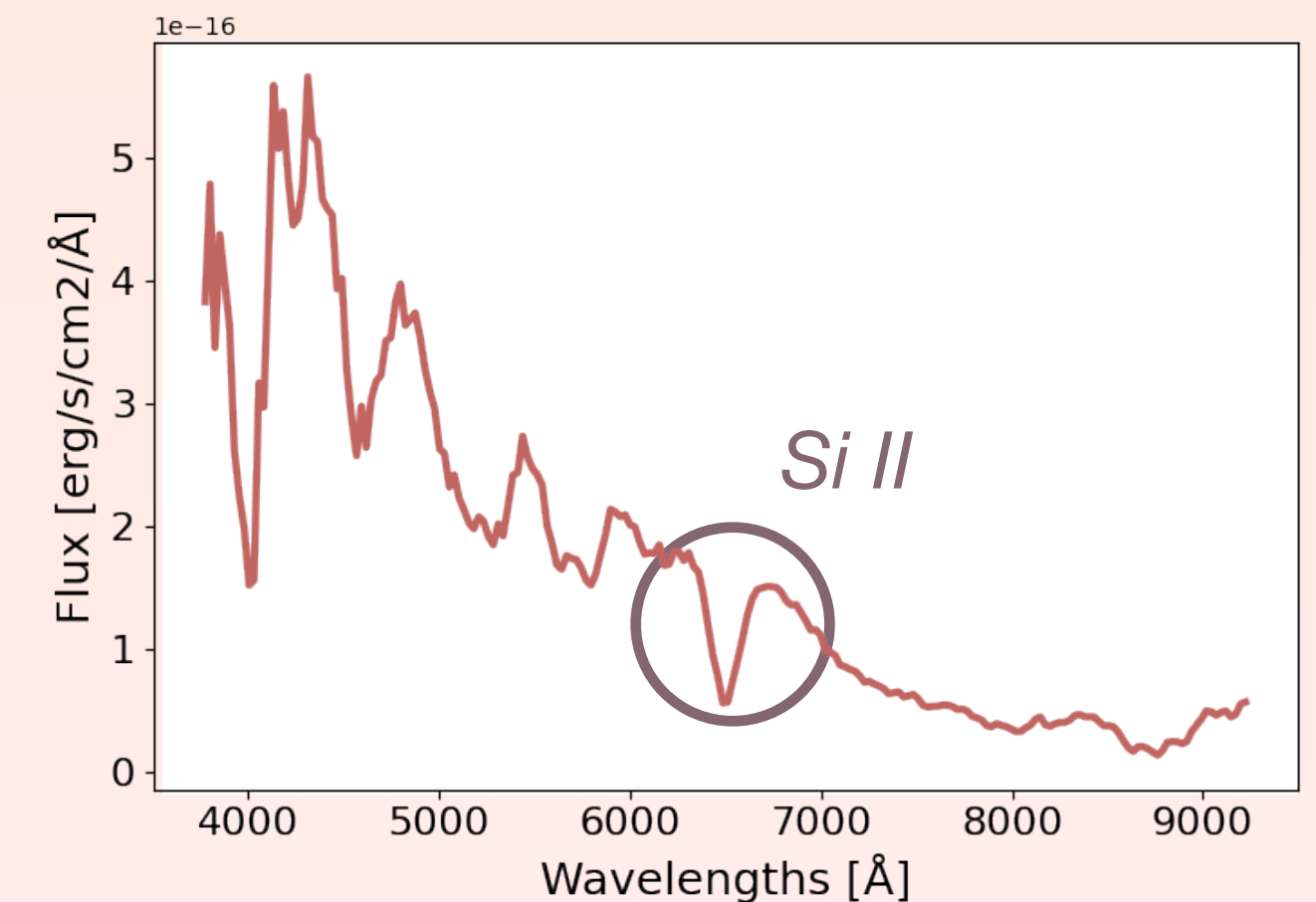
Distance modulus

$$\mu = m_B^{max} - M_B^{max}$$

$$\mu = 5 \log \left(\frac{d_L}{10 pc} \right)$$



Lighcurves of ZTF20abxqrqw

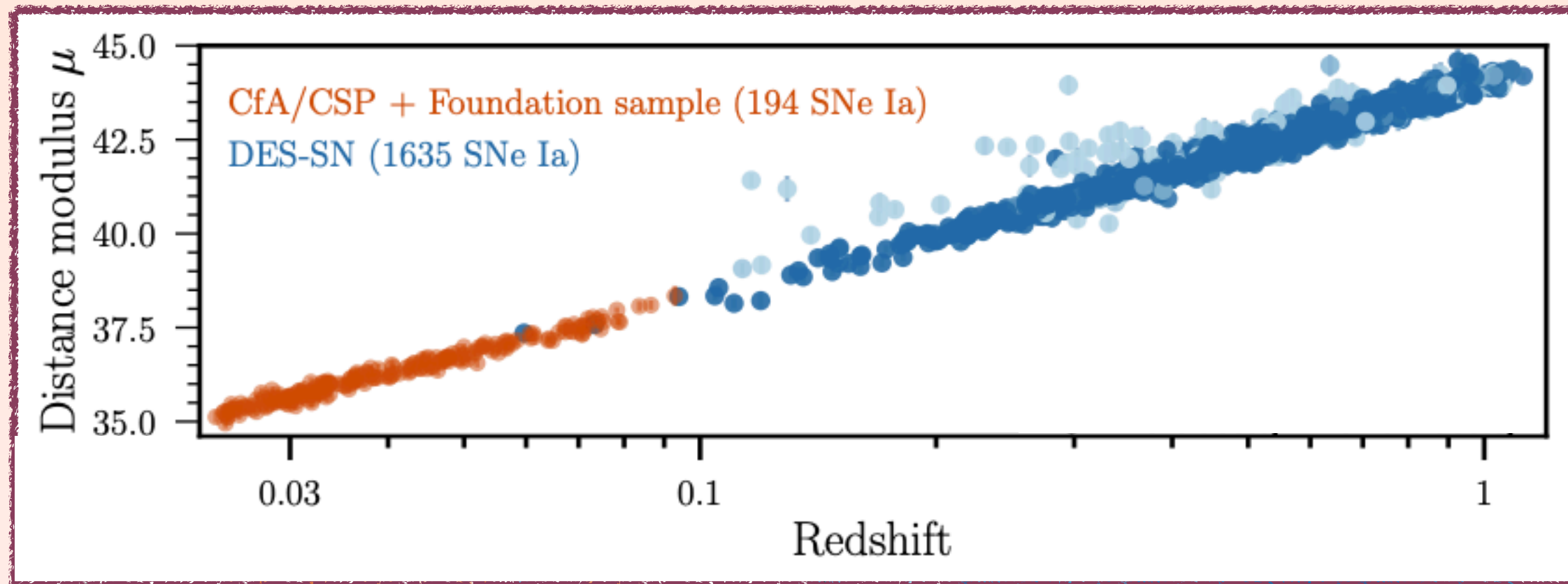


Spectrum of ZTF20abeqsrq
at phase -5.73

Goals | *Cosmology*

Distance modulus can be measured on lightcurves

Redshift can be measured with a spectrum

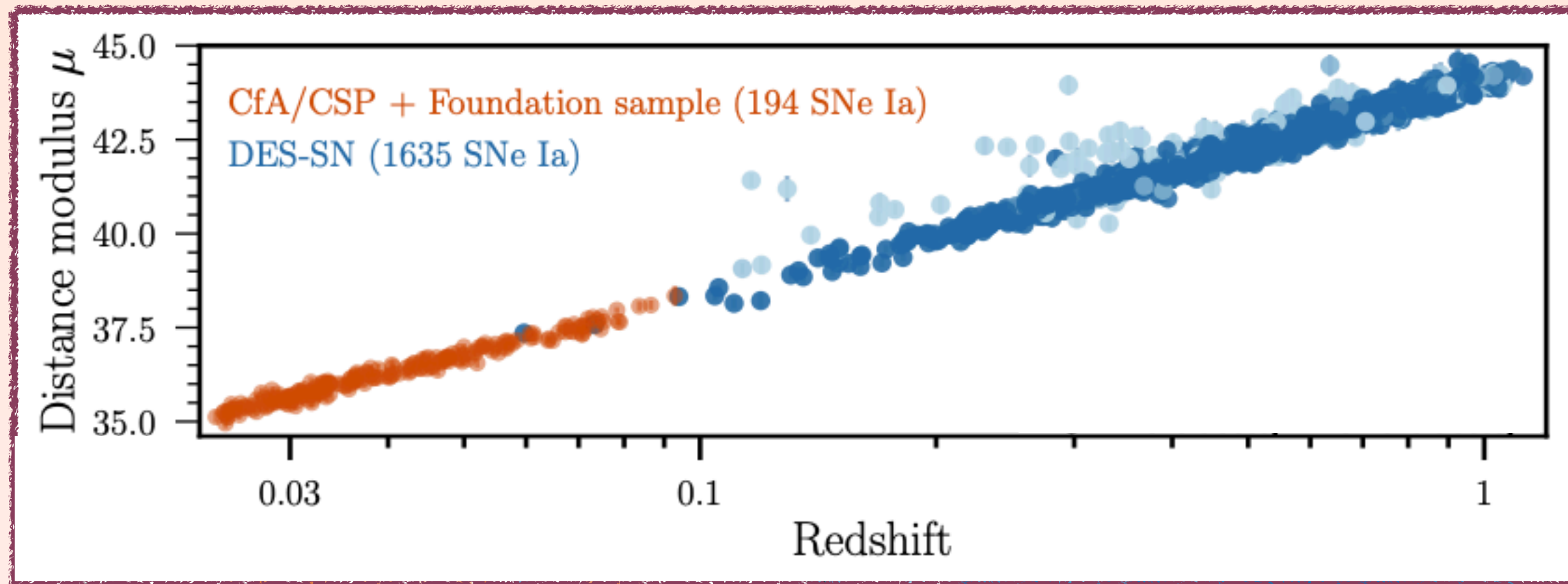


Hubble Diagram of DES-SN (Vincenzi 2024)

Goals | Cosmology

Distance modulus can be measured on lightcurves

Redshift can be measured with a spectrum



Hubble Diagram of DES-SN (Vincenzi 2024)

Standard model of cosmology: Λ CDM

Cosmological constant Λ

Cold dark matter CDM

$$H(z) = H_0 \times \sqrt{\underbrace{\Omega_M(1+z)^3}_{\text{Matter density}} + \underbrace{\Omega_\Lambda}_{\text{Dark Energy density}}}$$

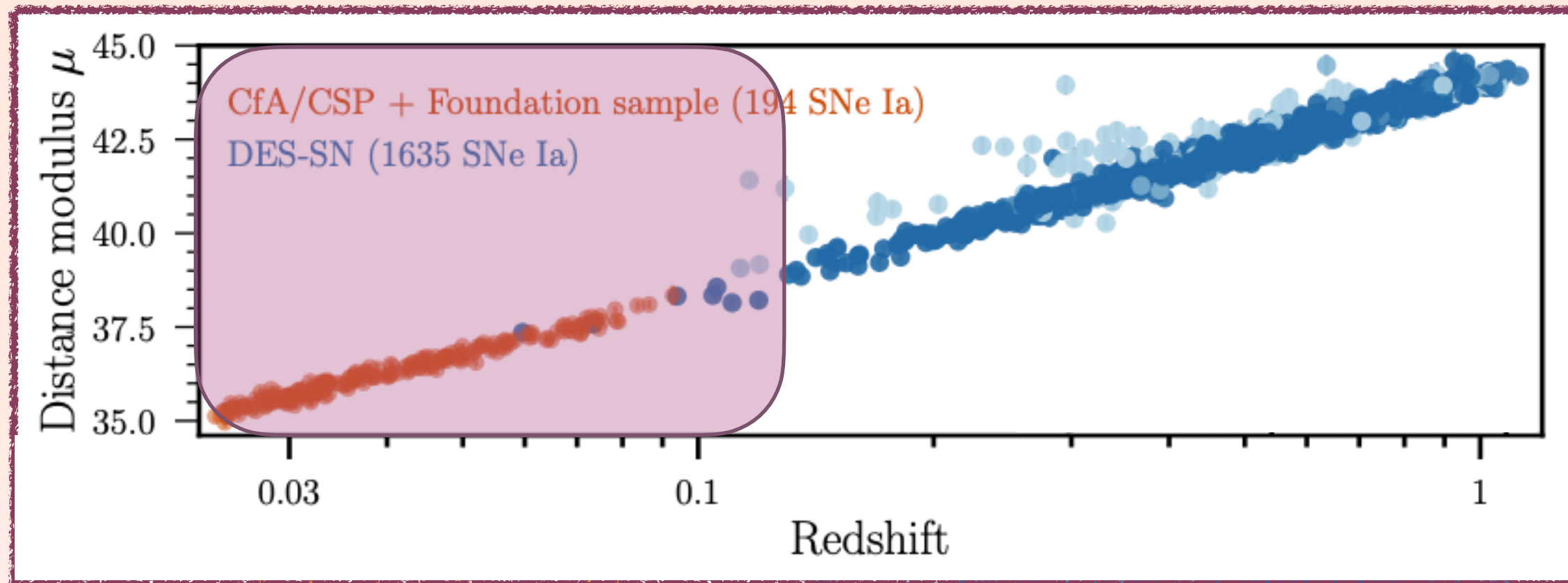
Matter density

Dark Energy density

- Equation of Λ CDM model
- Flat Universe
 - $\Omega_M + \Omega_\Lambda = 1$

Goals | Cosmology

Low-redshift ($z < 0.1$)
Constrains H_0



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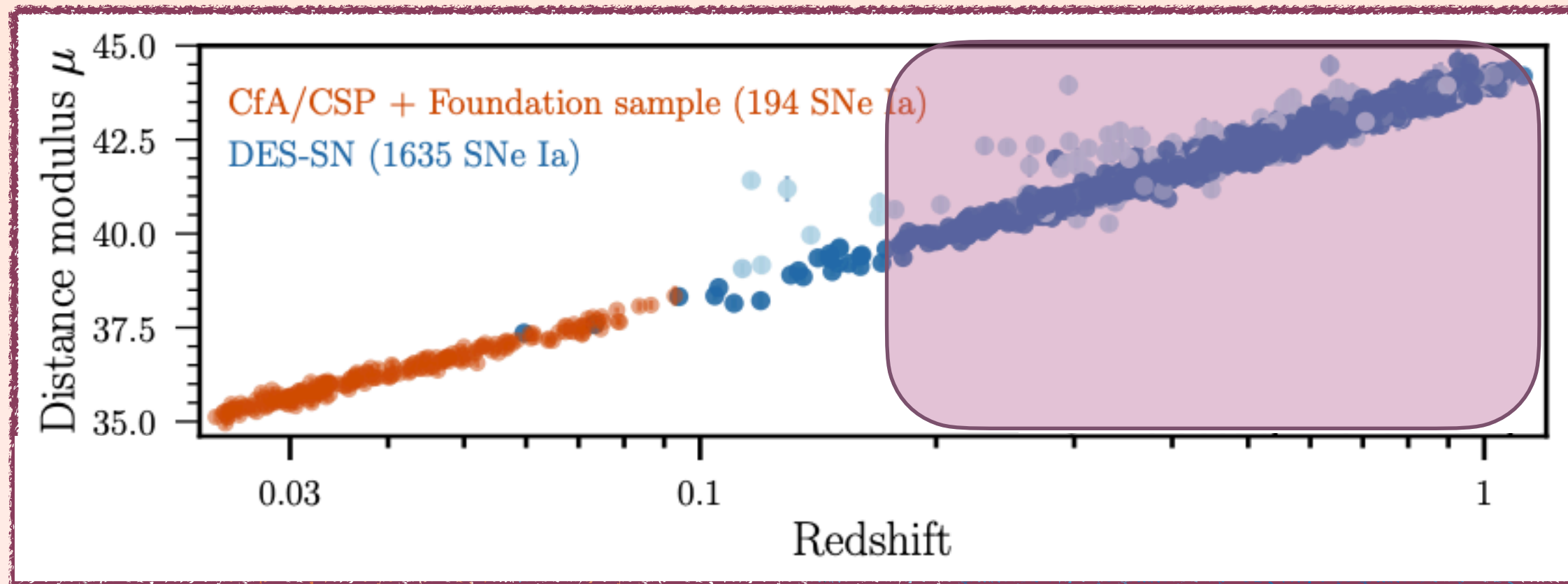
Matter density

Dark Energy
density

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Goals | Cosmology

High-redshift ($z > 0.1$)
Constrains (Ω_M, Ω_Λ)



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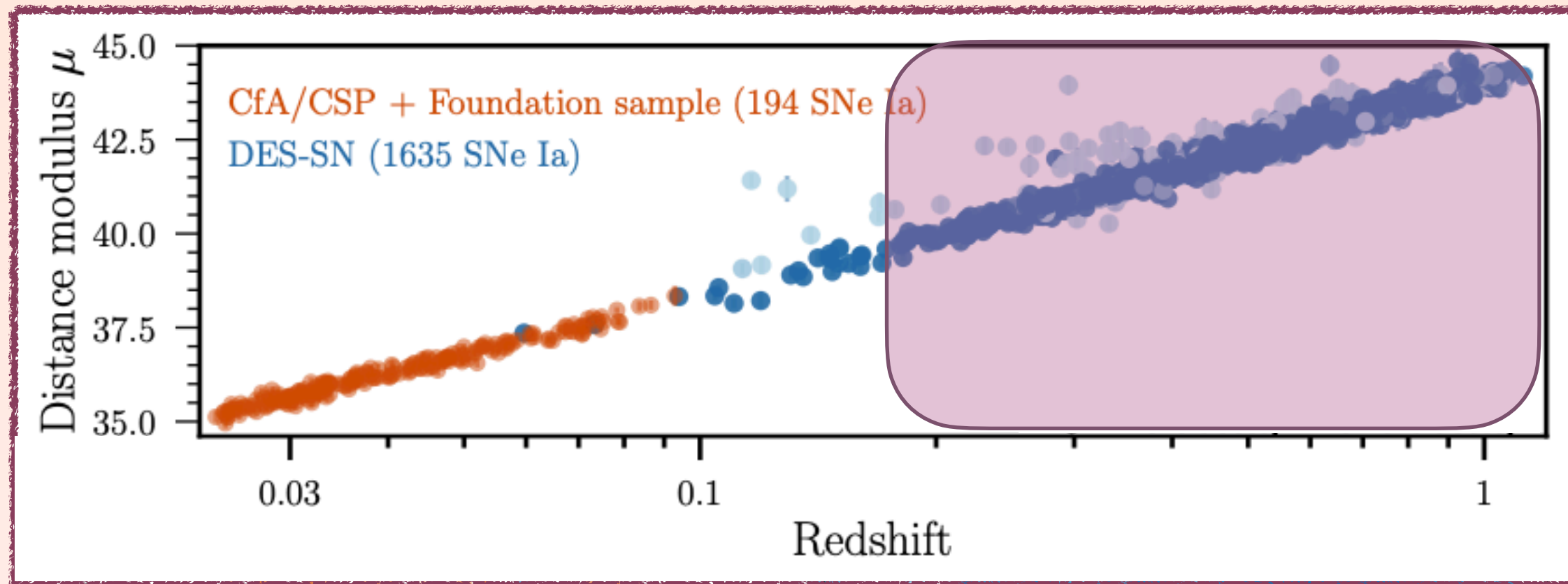
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Matter density

Dark Energy density

- Equation of Λ CDM model
- Flat Universe
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Goals | Cosmology

Dynamical Dark Energy

w variations are in the thickness of the line :
we compute $\mu - \mu_{model}$ to see it

Extensions of the Λ CDM model:

parameter of the
dark energy
equation of state

w CDM model:

$$H(z) = H_0 \times \sqrt{\Omega_M(1+z)^3 + \Omega_\Lambda(1+z)^{3(1+w)}}$$

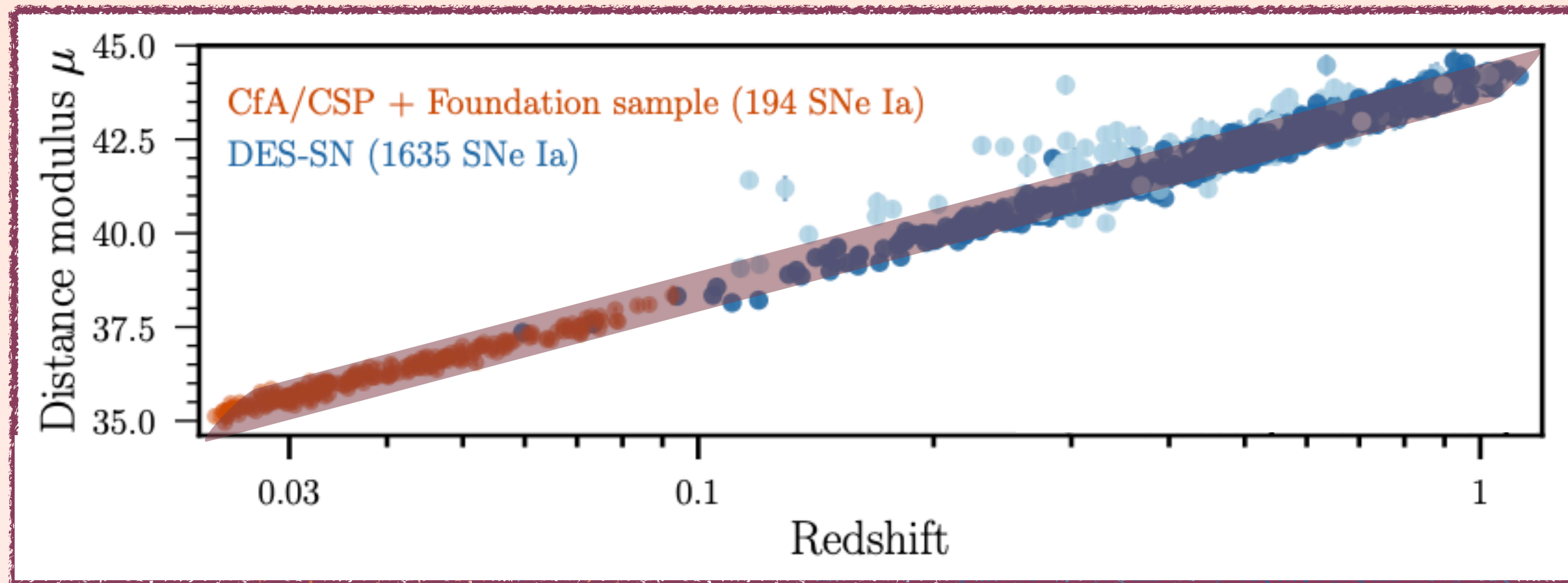
Present value

Rate of change

$w_0 w_a$ CDM model: $w(a) = w_0 + w_a(1 - a)$

$$\Lambda\text{CDM} : w = -1$$

$$\Lambda\text{CDM} : w_0 = -1; w_a = 0$$



Hubble Diagram of DES-SN (Vincenzi 2024)

Goals | Cosmology

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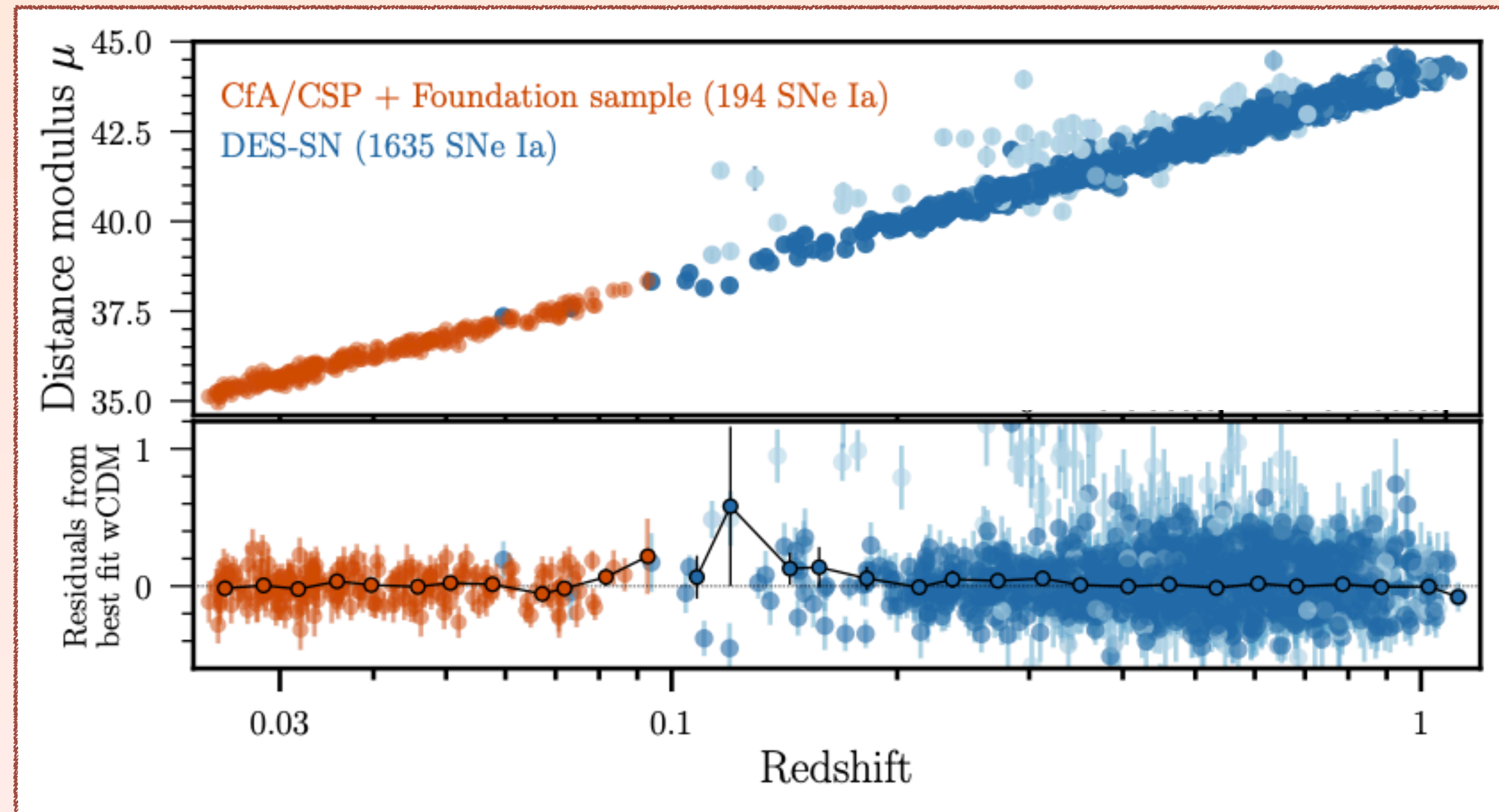
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Present value

Rate of change

$w_0 w_a$ CDM model:

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Hubble Diagram of DES-SN (Vincenzi 2024)

Hubble **residuals** from best-fit w CDM

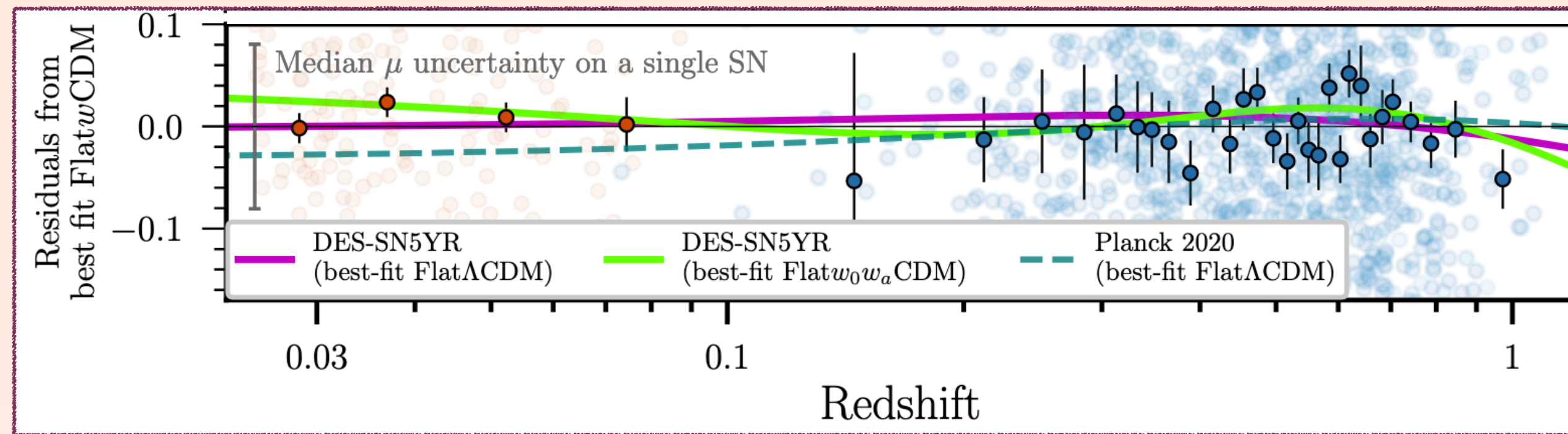
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Goals | Cosmology

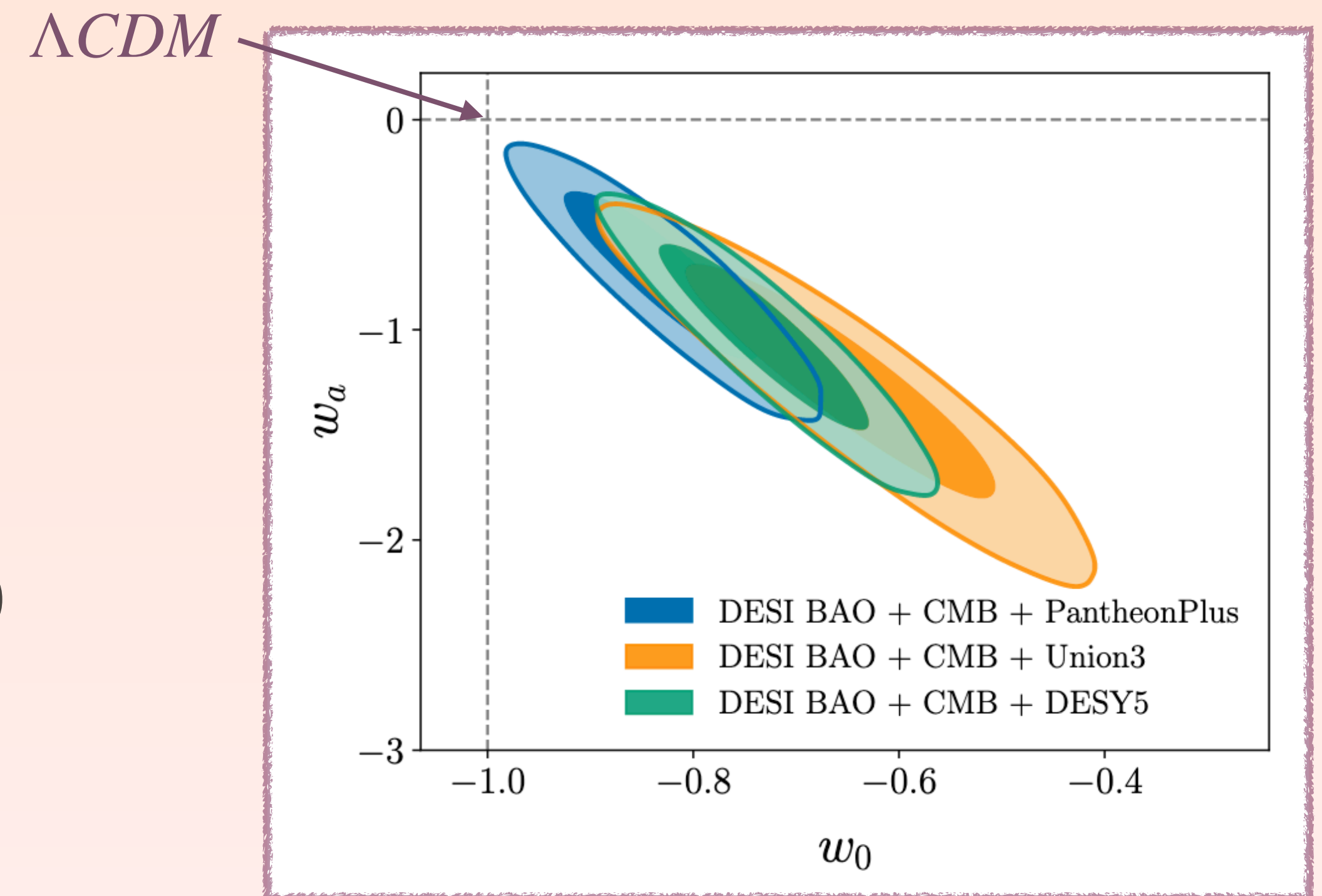
Dynamical dark energy detected

2.5 σ , 3.5 σ and 3.9 σ with Λ CDM (DESI 2024 VI)



Hubble **residuals** of DES-SN5YR (DES collaboration 2024)

Best-fit: Λ CDM, w_0w_a CDM

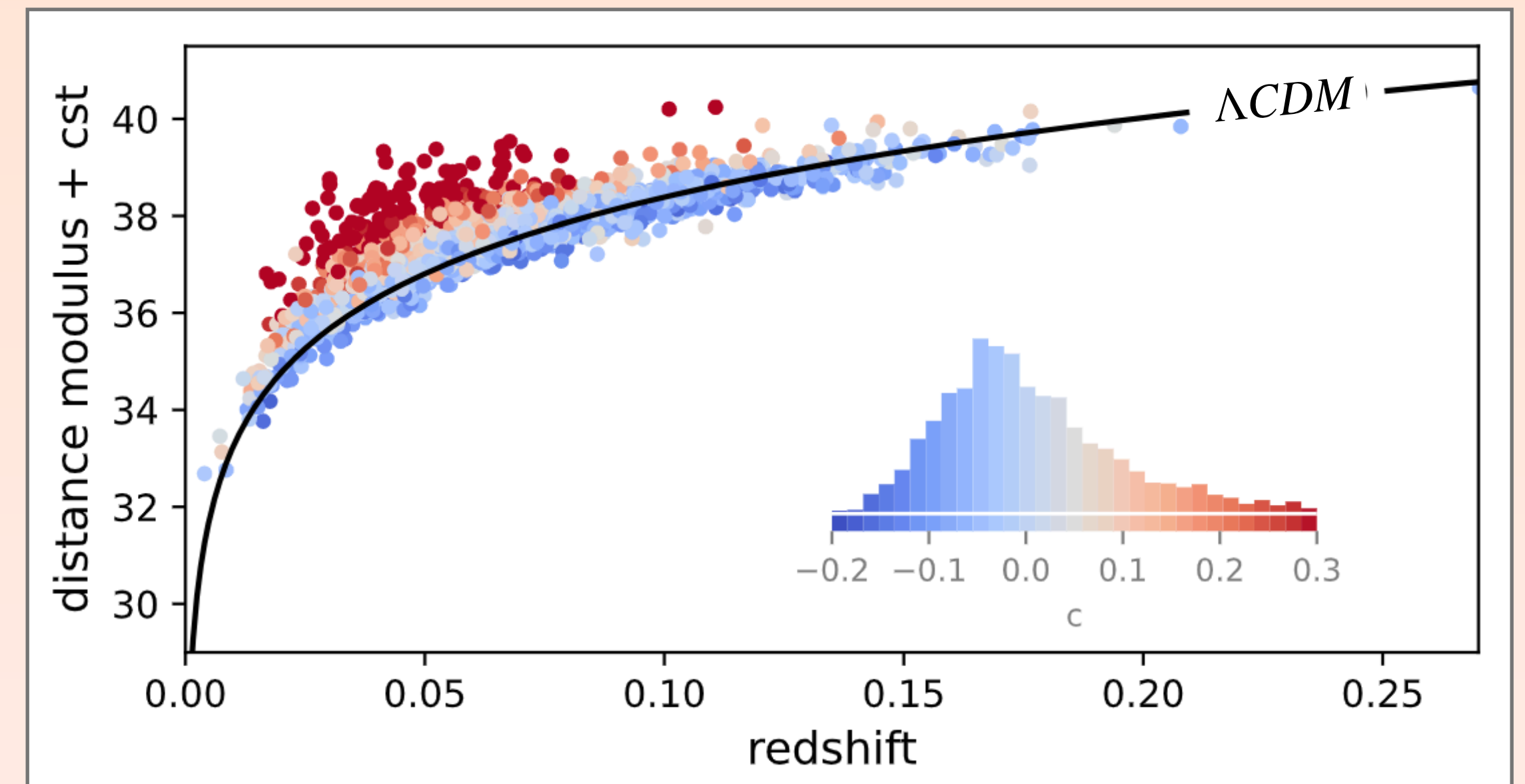
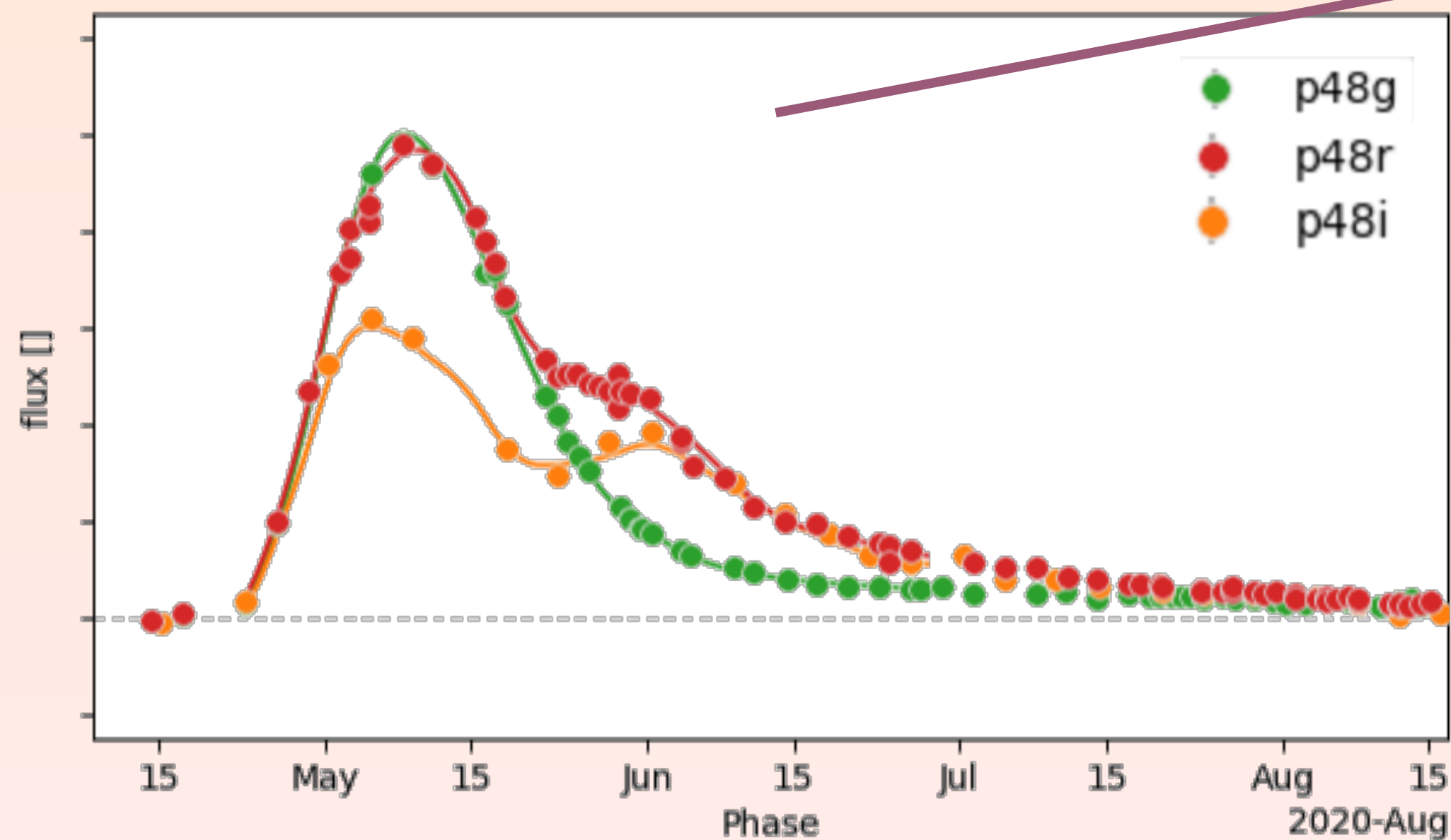


*Driven by the choice of the SN Ia sample /
the cosmological inference pipeline*

Photometric standardisation

Derive m_B^{max}

Compute $\mu = m_B^{max} - M_B^{max}$



Hubble Diagram photometric standardisation
Credit : in prep. ZTF "DR2" Data paper, Smith et al.

SNe Ia dispersion :

$$\sigma = 0.40 \text{ mag}$$

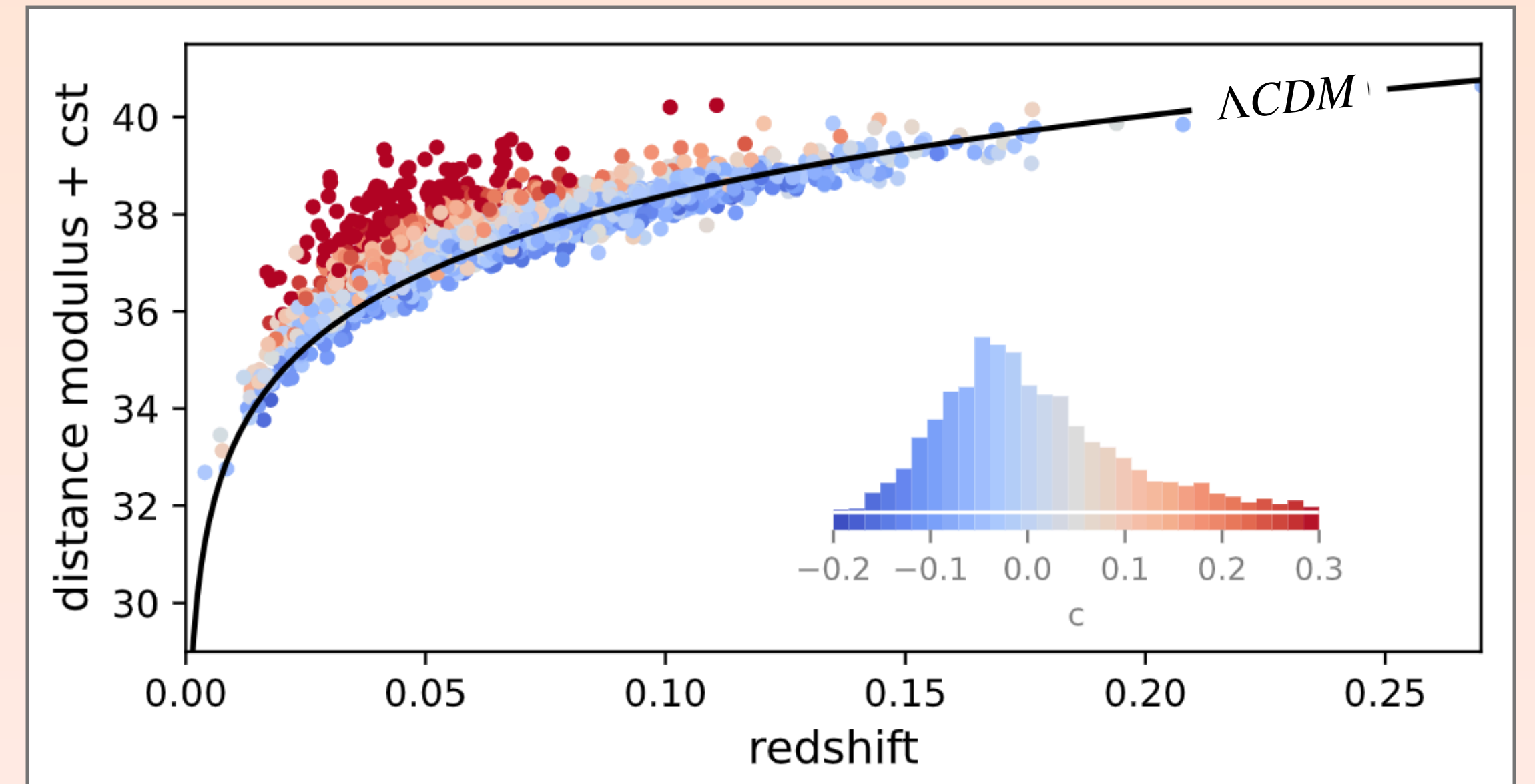
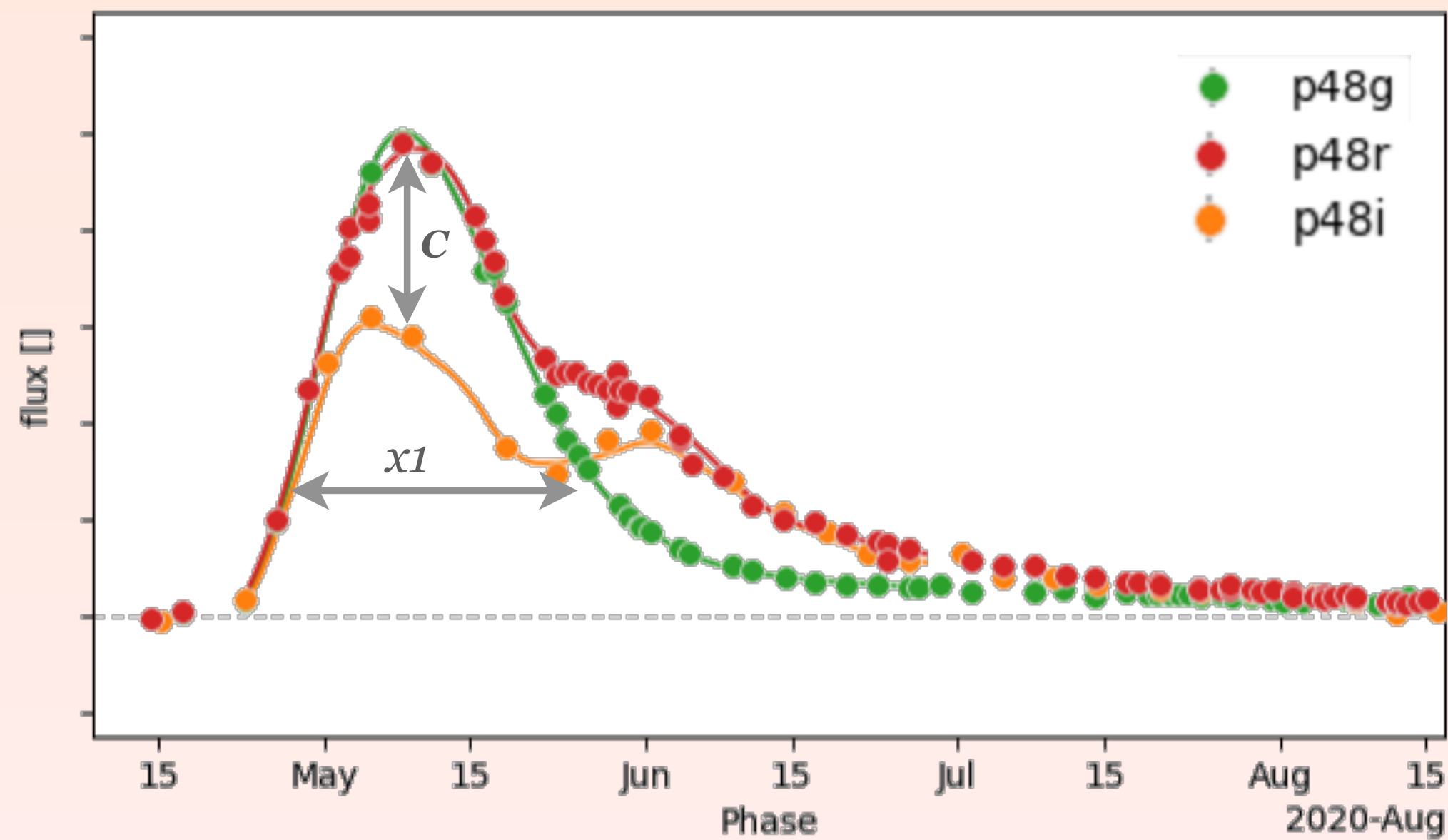
Photometric standardisation

Tripp 1998
Guy 2010

Empirical standardisation:

Corrections
'Brighter-bluer' : c
'Slower-brighter' : x_1

$$\mu_{corr} = m_B^{max} - M_B^{max} - \beta c + \alpha x_1$$



Credit : in prep. ZTF "DR2" Data paper, Smith et al.

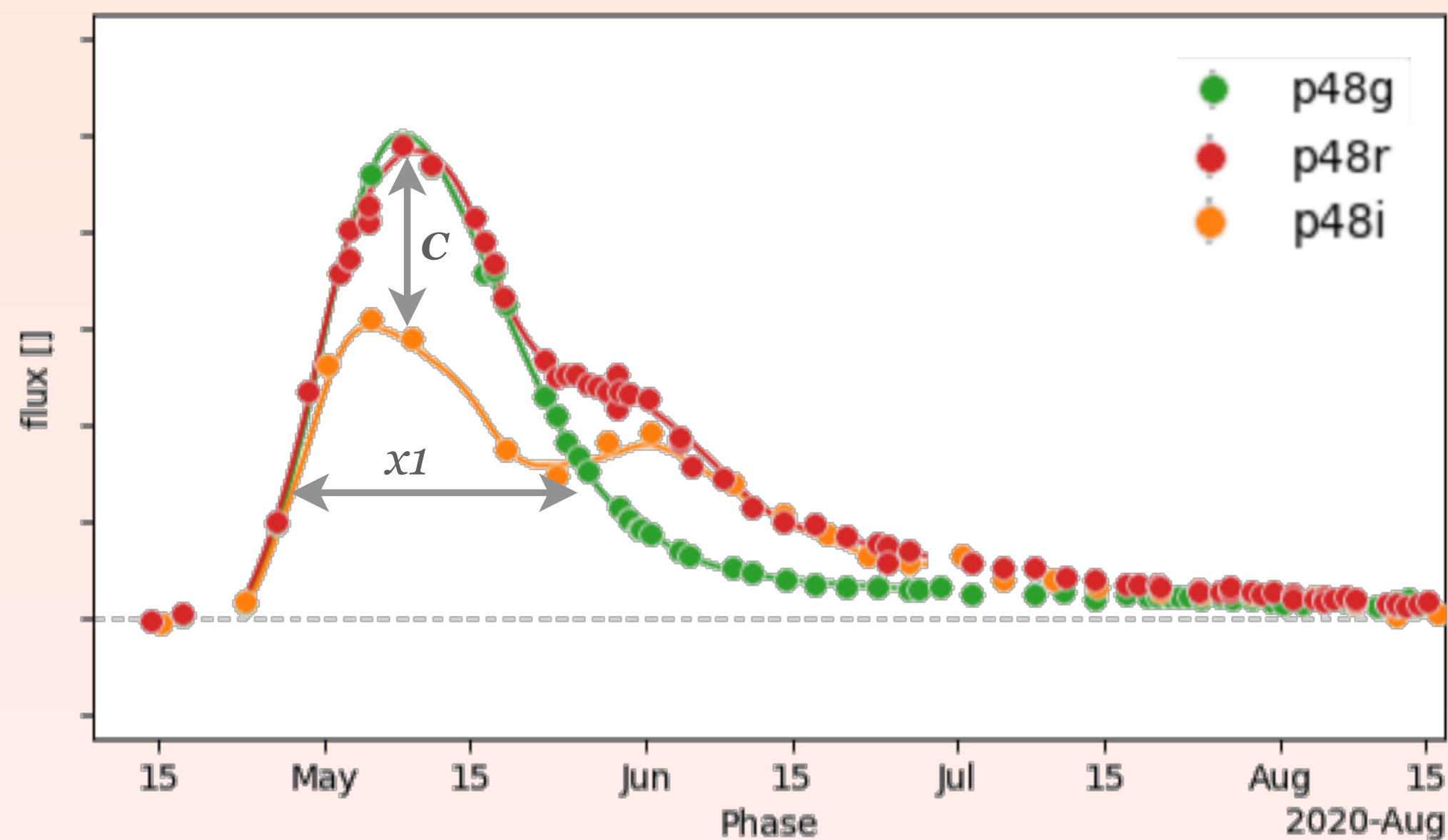
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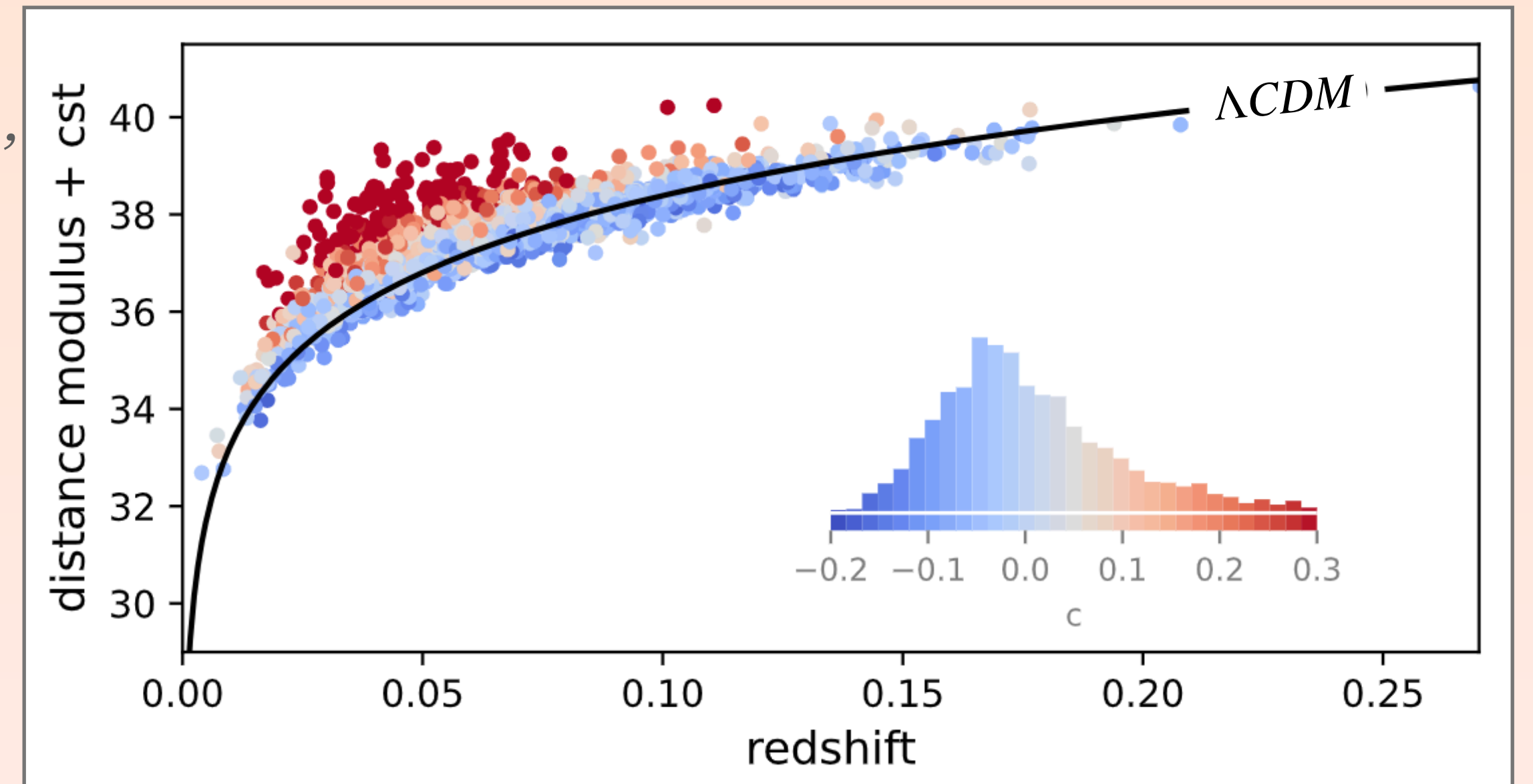
Tripp 1998
Guy 2010

Empirical standardisation: Correction for host galaxy property G_{host} : 'mass step' or 'color step'

$$\mu_{\text{corr}} = m_B^{\text{max}} - M_B^{\text{max}} - \beta c + \alpha x_1 + \gamma G_{\text{host}}$$



Lightcurves of ZTF20abxzrqw



Hubble Diagram photometric standardisation
Credit : in prep. ZTF "DR2" Data paper, Smith et al.

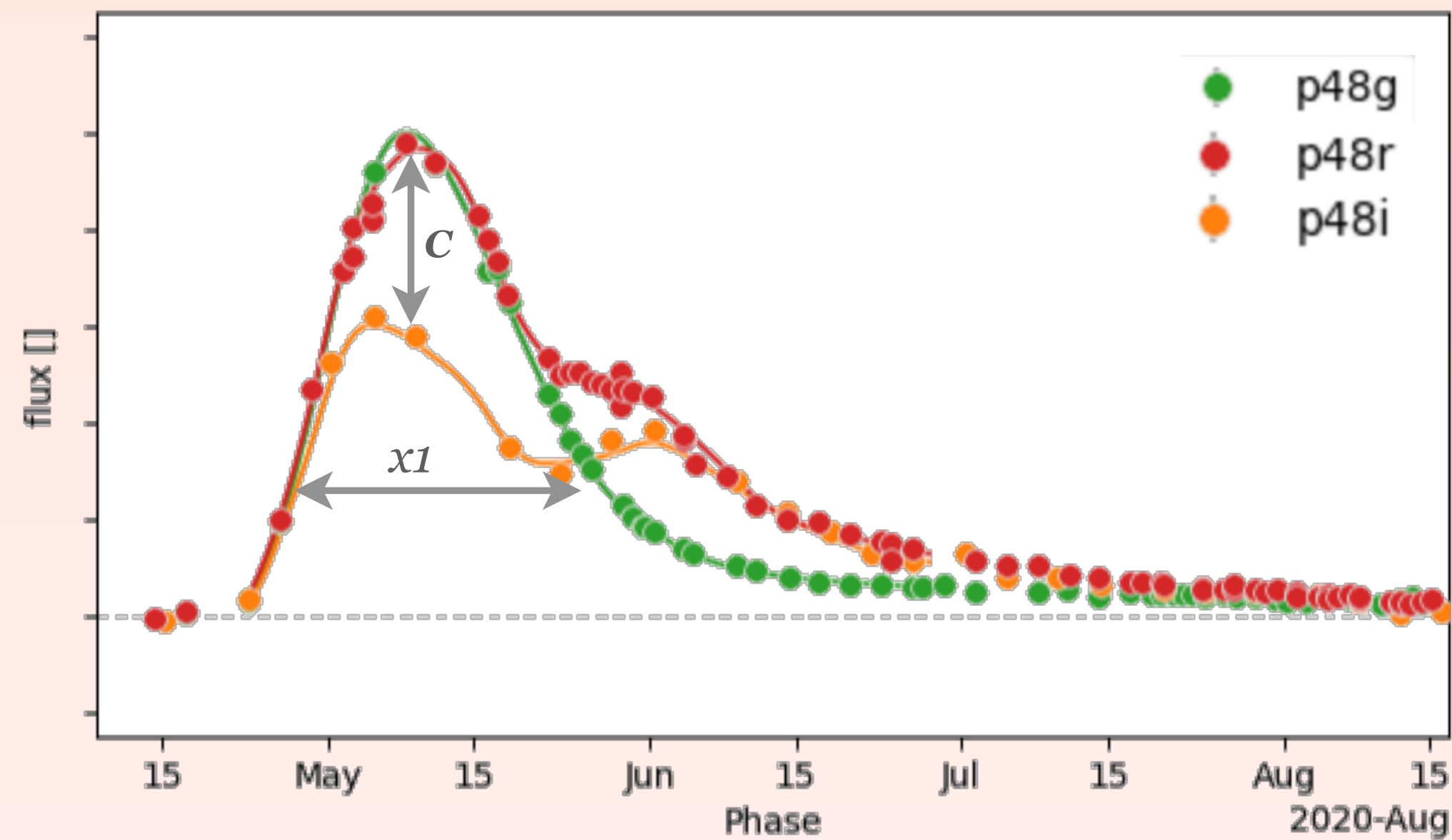
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 $\sigma = 0.40 \text{ mag}$

Photometric standardisation

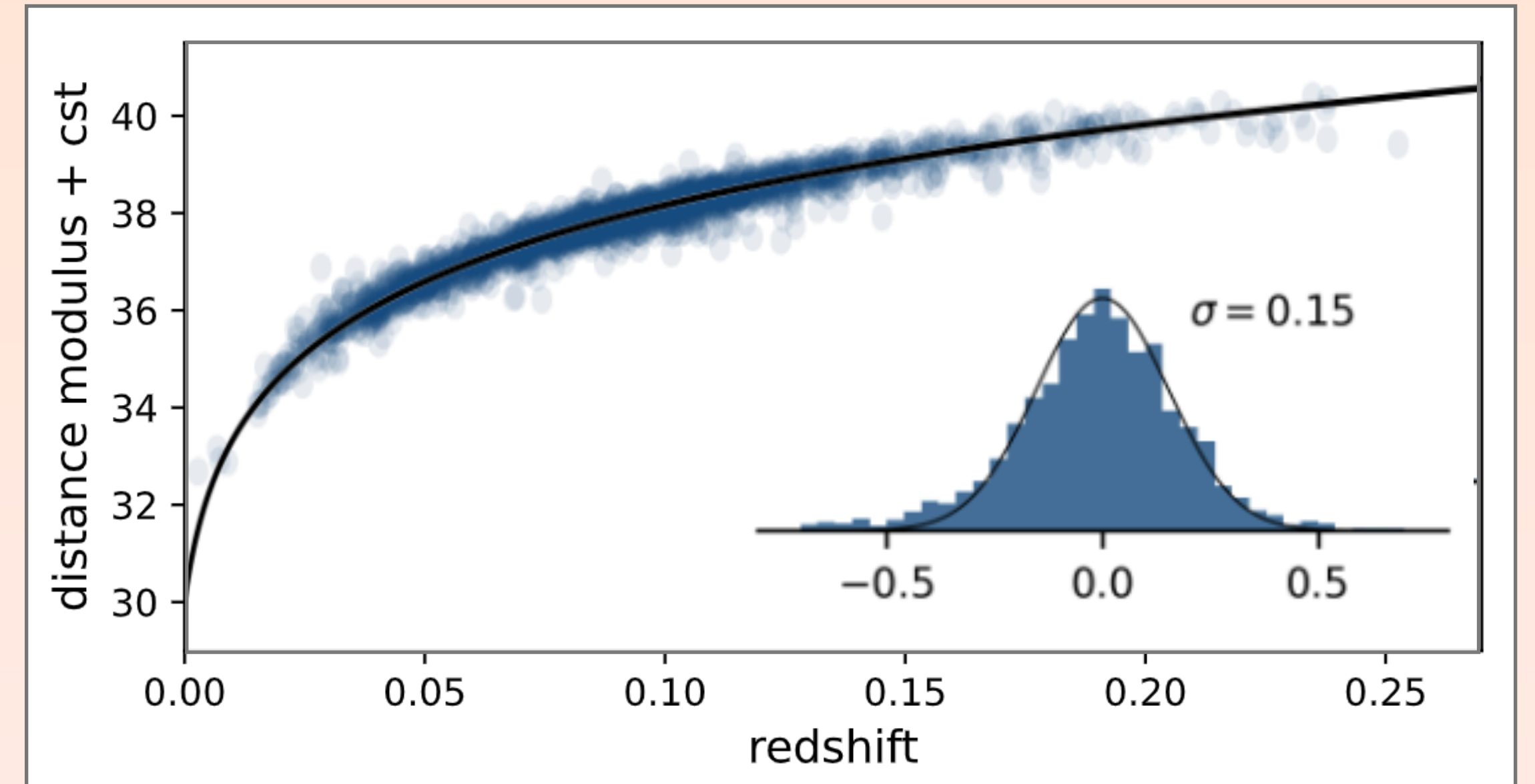
Tripp 1998
Guy 2010

Empirical standardisation:

$$\mu_{corr} = m_B^{max} - M_B^{max} - \beta c + \alpha x_1 + \gamma G_{host}$$



Lightcurves of ZTF20abxzrqw



Hubble Diagram photometric standardisation
Credit : in prep. ZTF “DR2” Data paper, Smith et al.

SNe Ia dispersion :

$$\sigma_{corr} = \cancel{0.40} = 0.15$$

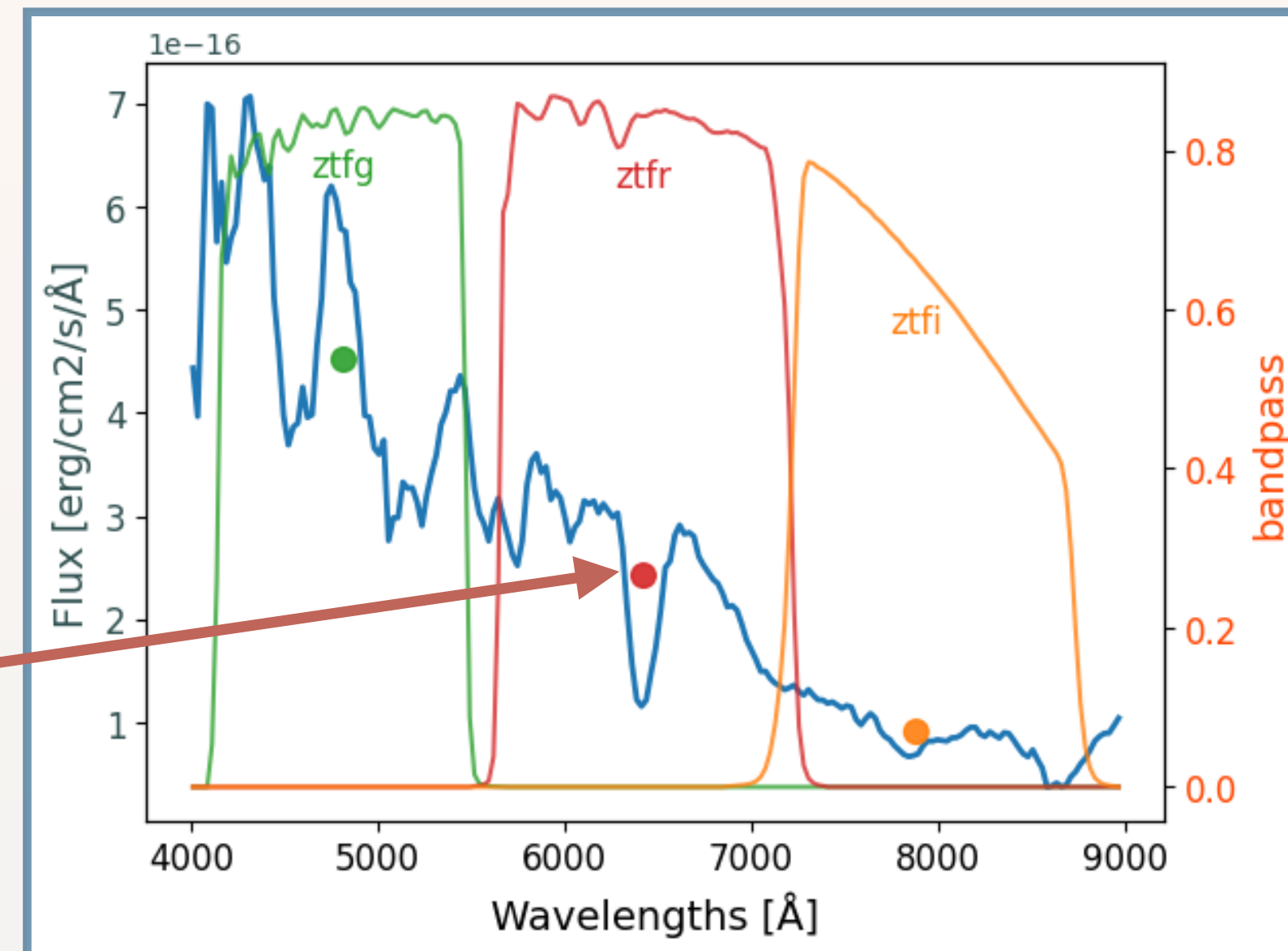
with Photometric standardisation

***Problem : Reducing the
0.15 mag dispersion***

SN Ia standardisation

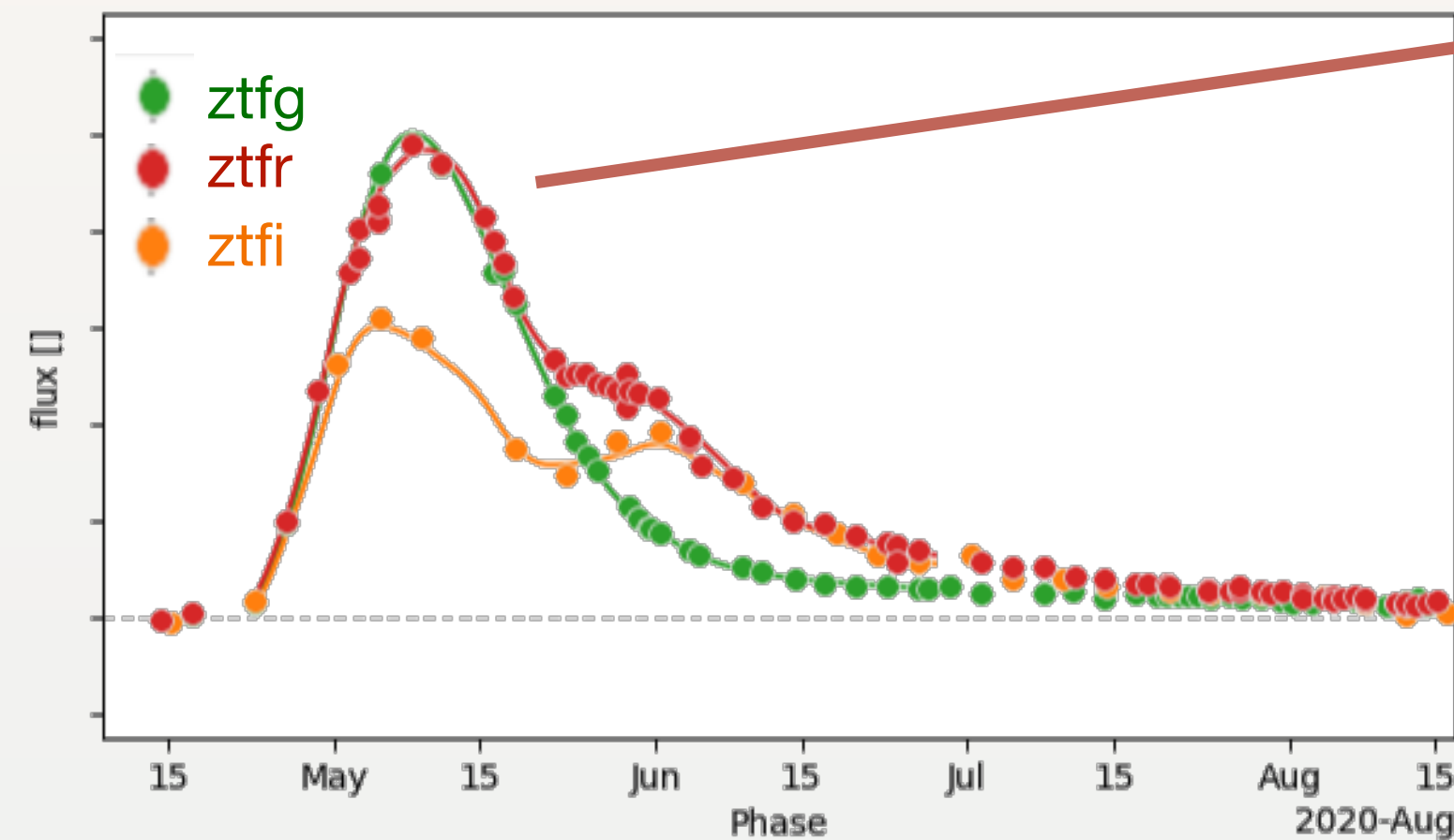
Problem : Reducing the 0.15 mag dispersion

A lightcurve datapoint corresponds to the spectrum integrated in the bandpass



- *Loose the spectral information*
- *Integrate at obs-frame*

Synthetic photometry in ZTF filters
ZTF20abxqrqw at phase +1.29

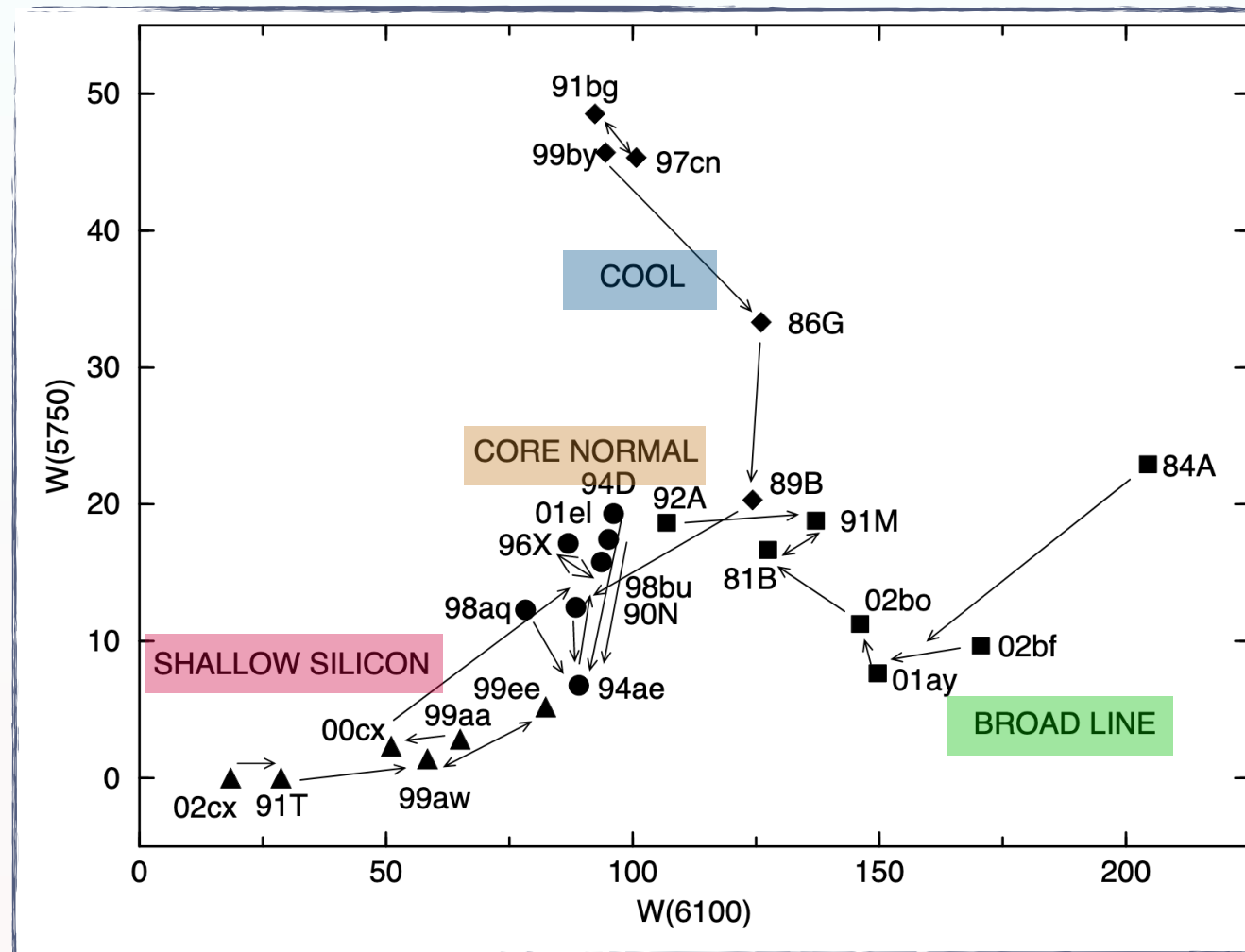


Lightcurves of ZTF20abxqrqw
In ztf-g, ztf-r, ztf-i filters

—> New standardisation of distance modulus, using spectral information?

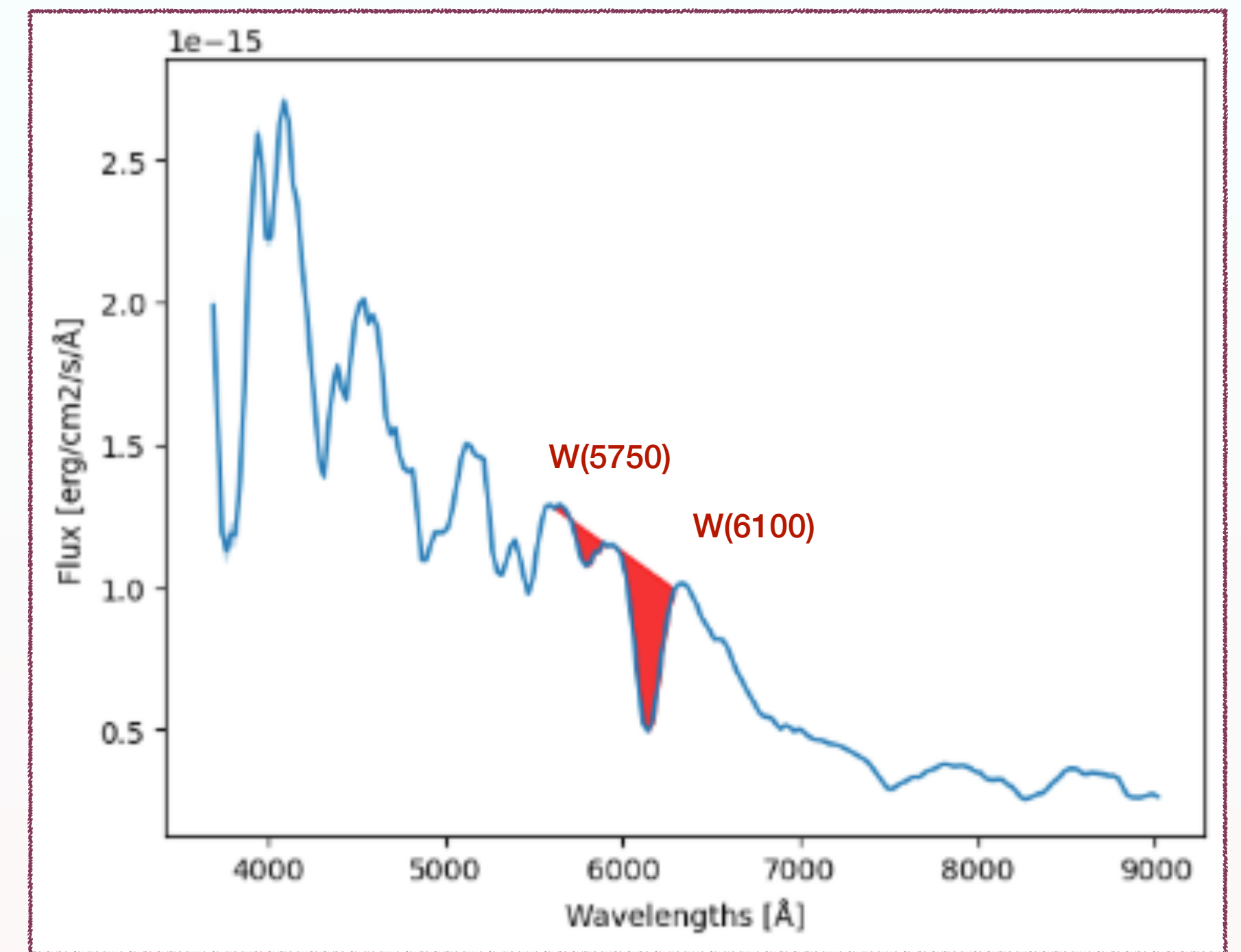
Branch classification

Branch 2006



Core Normal (CN)
Broad-Line (BL)
Cool (CL)
Shallow-Silicon (SS)

2 dimensions to explain the
SN Ia diversity

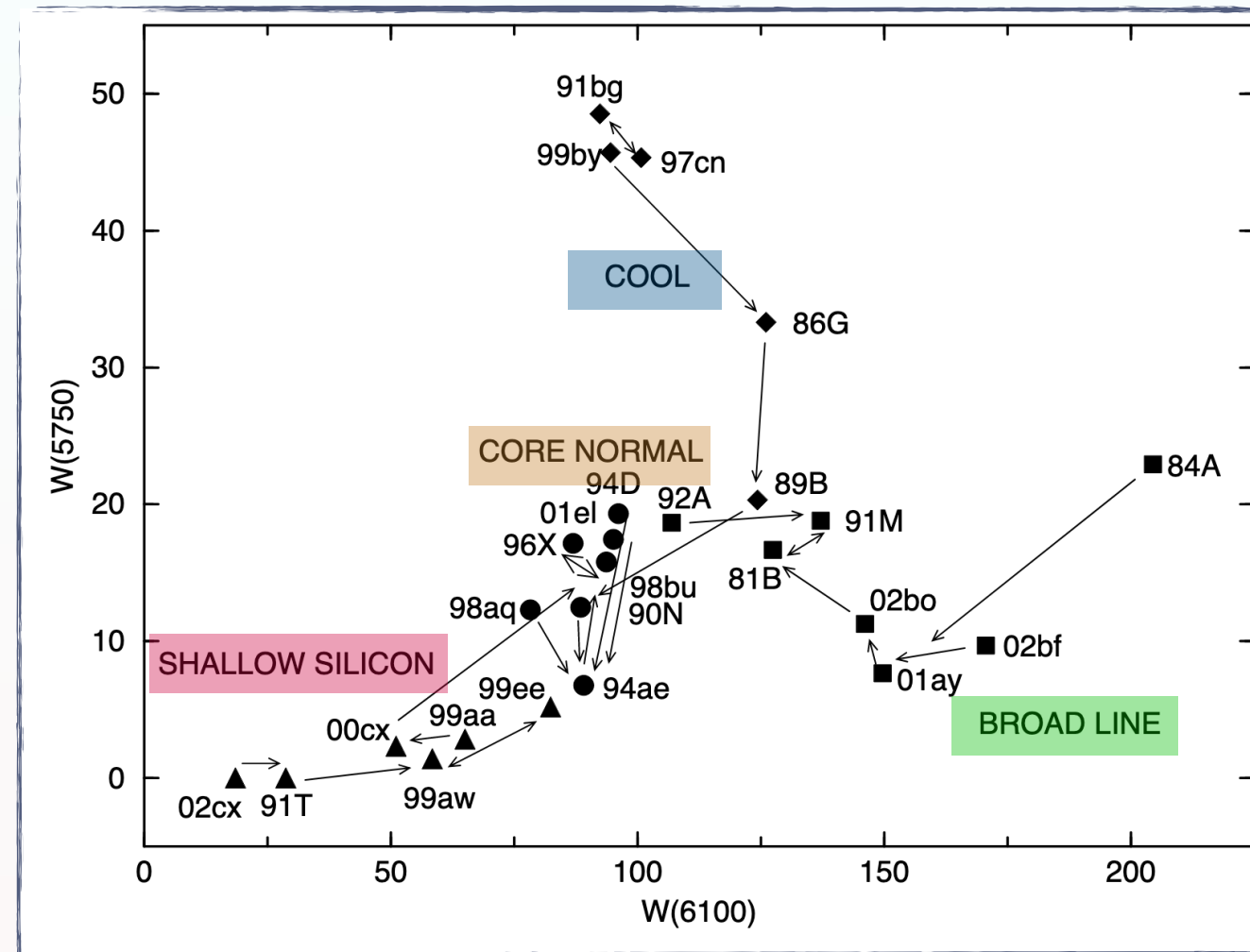


- Equivalent width W

—> New standardisation of distance modulus, using spectral information?

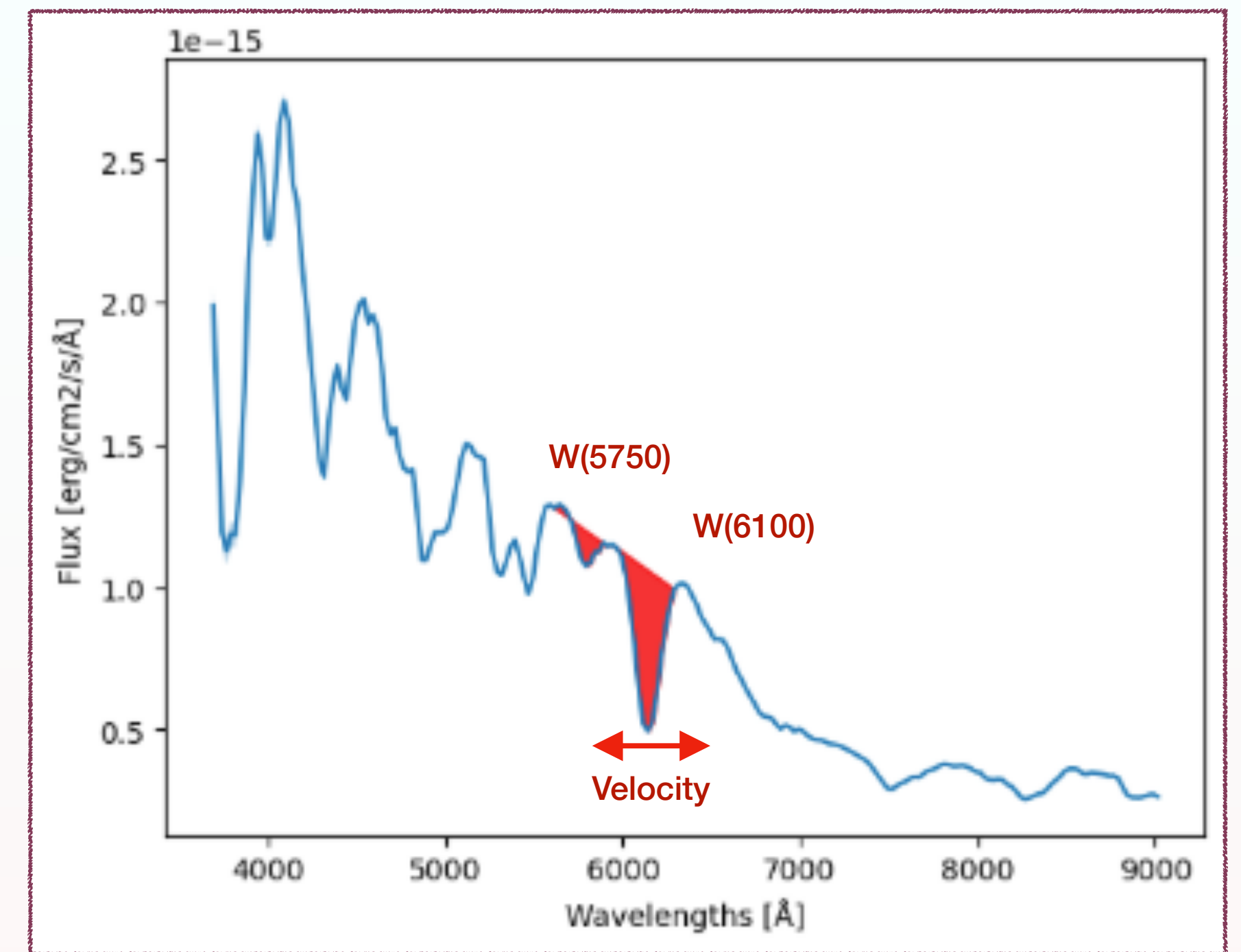
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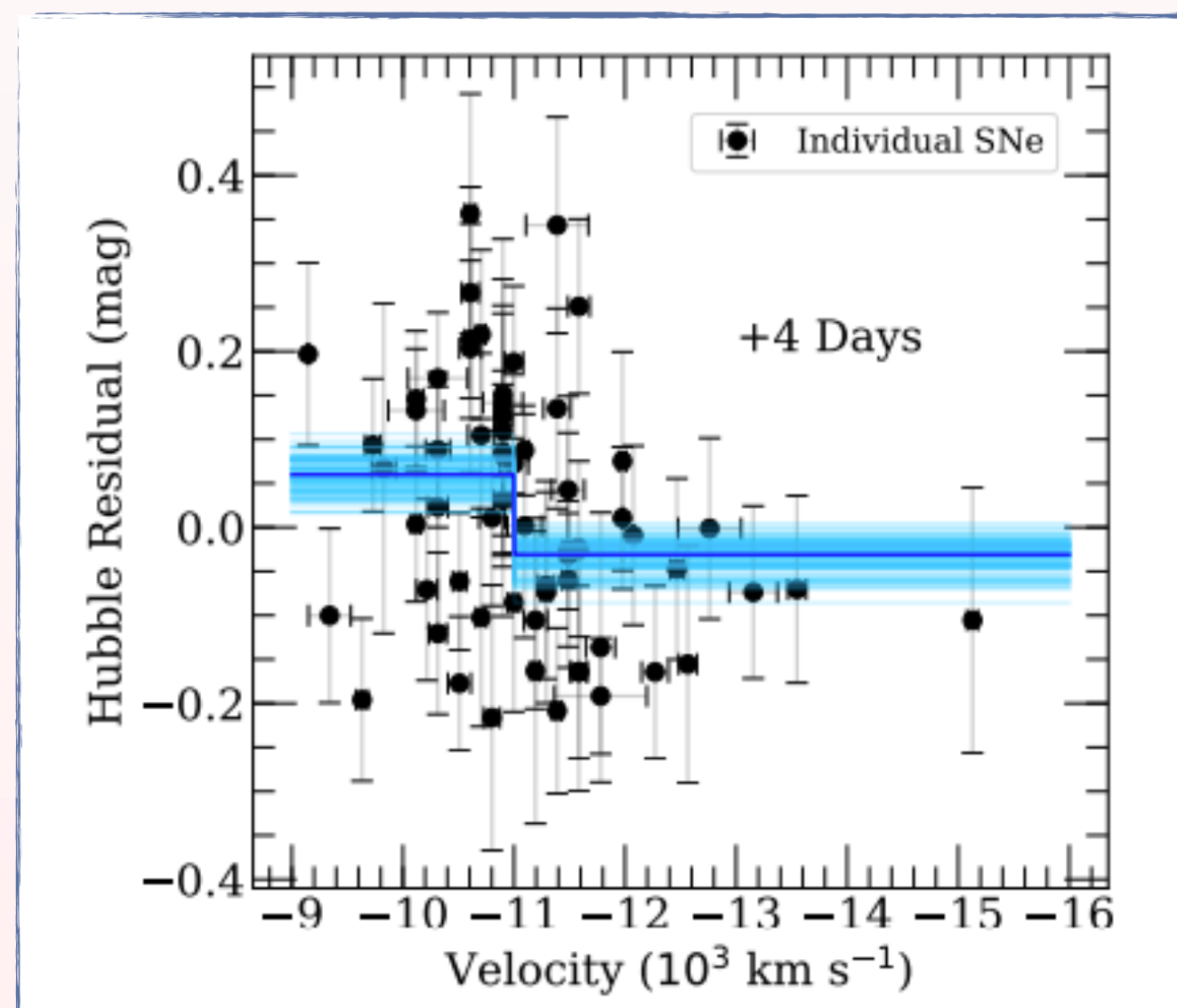
Core Normal (CN)
Broad-Line (BL)
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2 dimensions to explain the
SN Ia diversity



Siebert 2020

Si II velocity



Normal / High-Velocity
(N / HV)
called velocity-HR effect

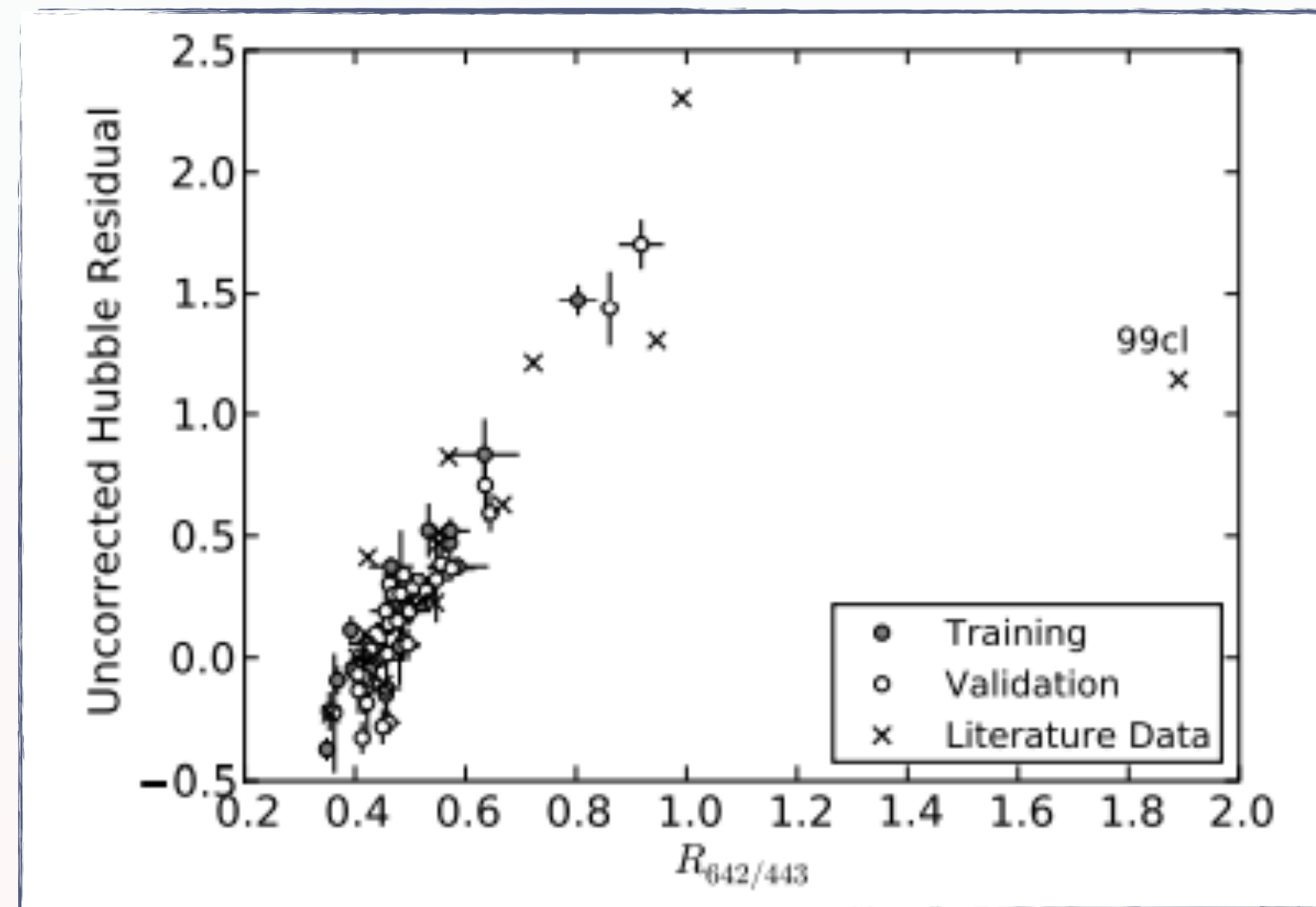
Wang 2009 (158 SNe)
Foley&Kasen 2010 (121 SNe)
Siebert 2020 (700 SNe)

- Equivalent width W
- Line velocity

—> *New standardisation of distance modulus, using spectral information?*

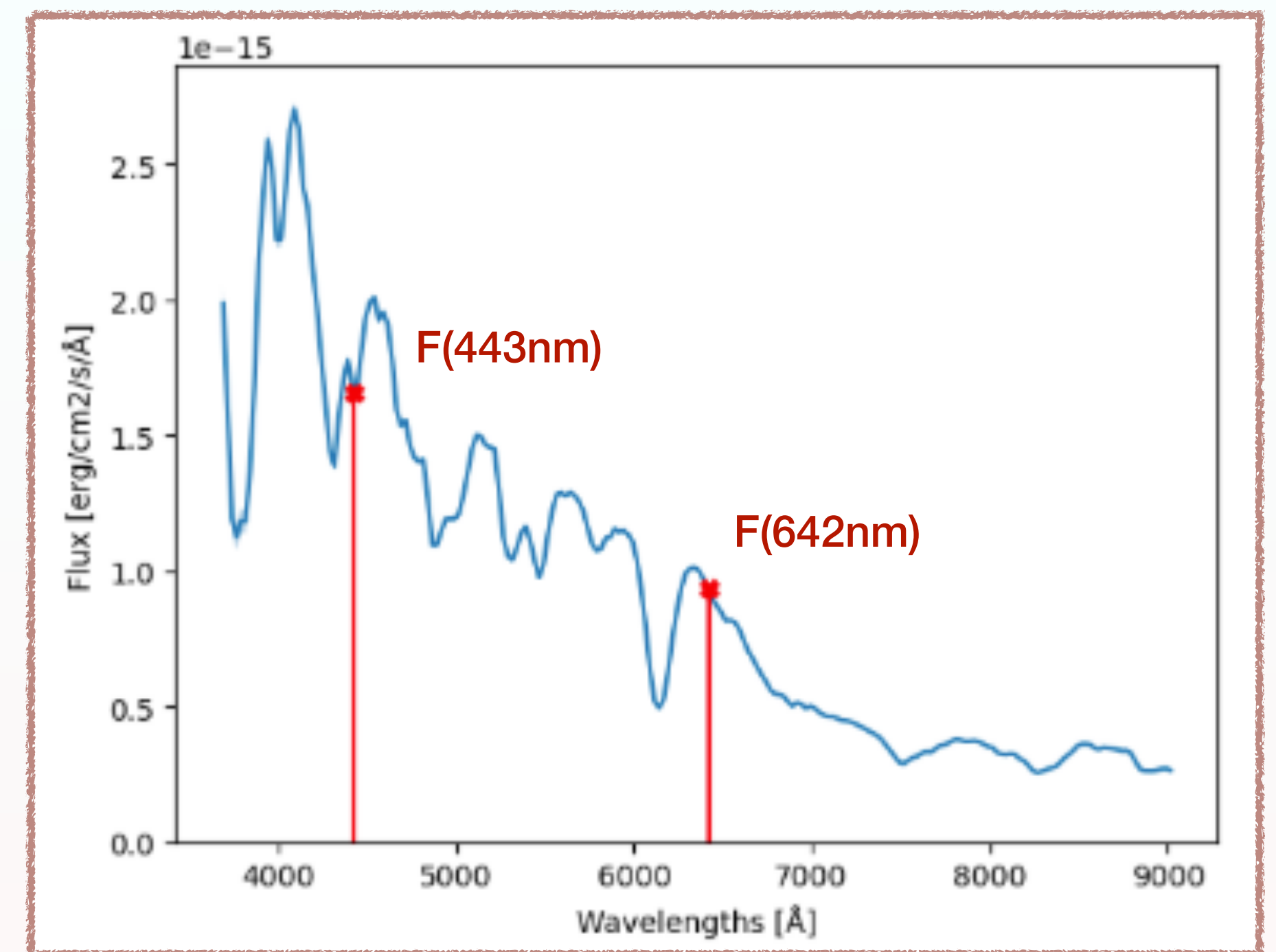
Flux ratios

Bailey 2009



Developed on 58 SNe between +/-2.5 days :
Allows to decrease from to 0.118mag
when combined with color

Significance is hard to gauge given
the sample size (Blondin 2012)



- Equivalent width W
- Line velocity
- Flux ratios R

—> *New standardisation of distance modulus, using spectral information?*

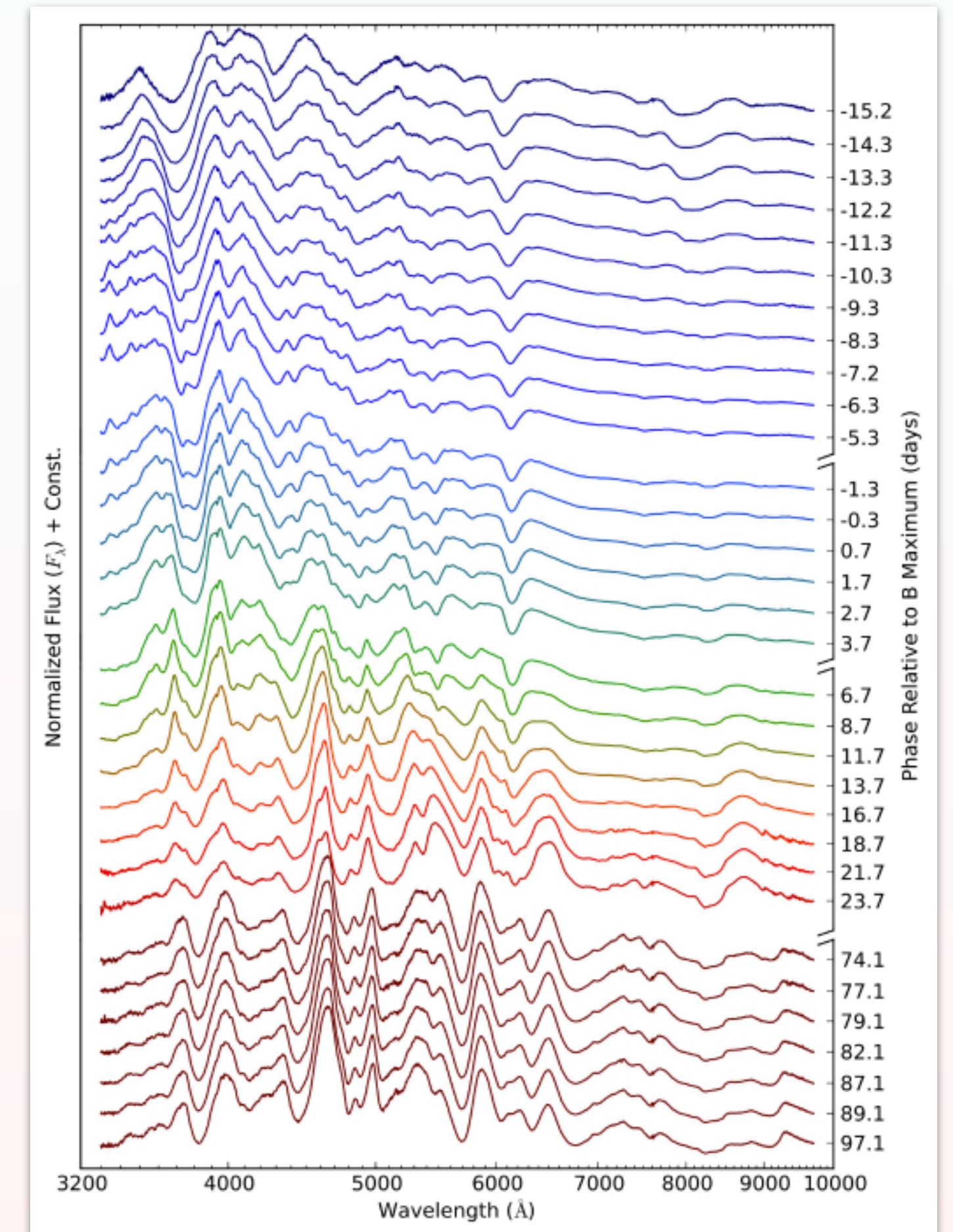
Nearby Supernova Factory

2004-2014

- IFS : optical 3200-10000Å, R=2000
- Temporal follow-up, every 3 days
- spectrophotometry : follow-up to remove sky extinction
- 427 SNe Ia : 3387 spectra
- Allows to compute stronger spectral analysis for standardisation



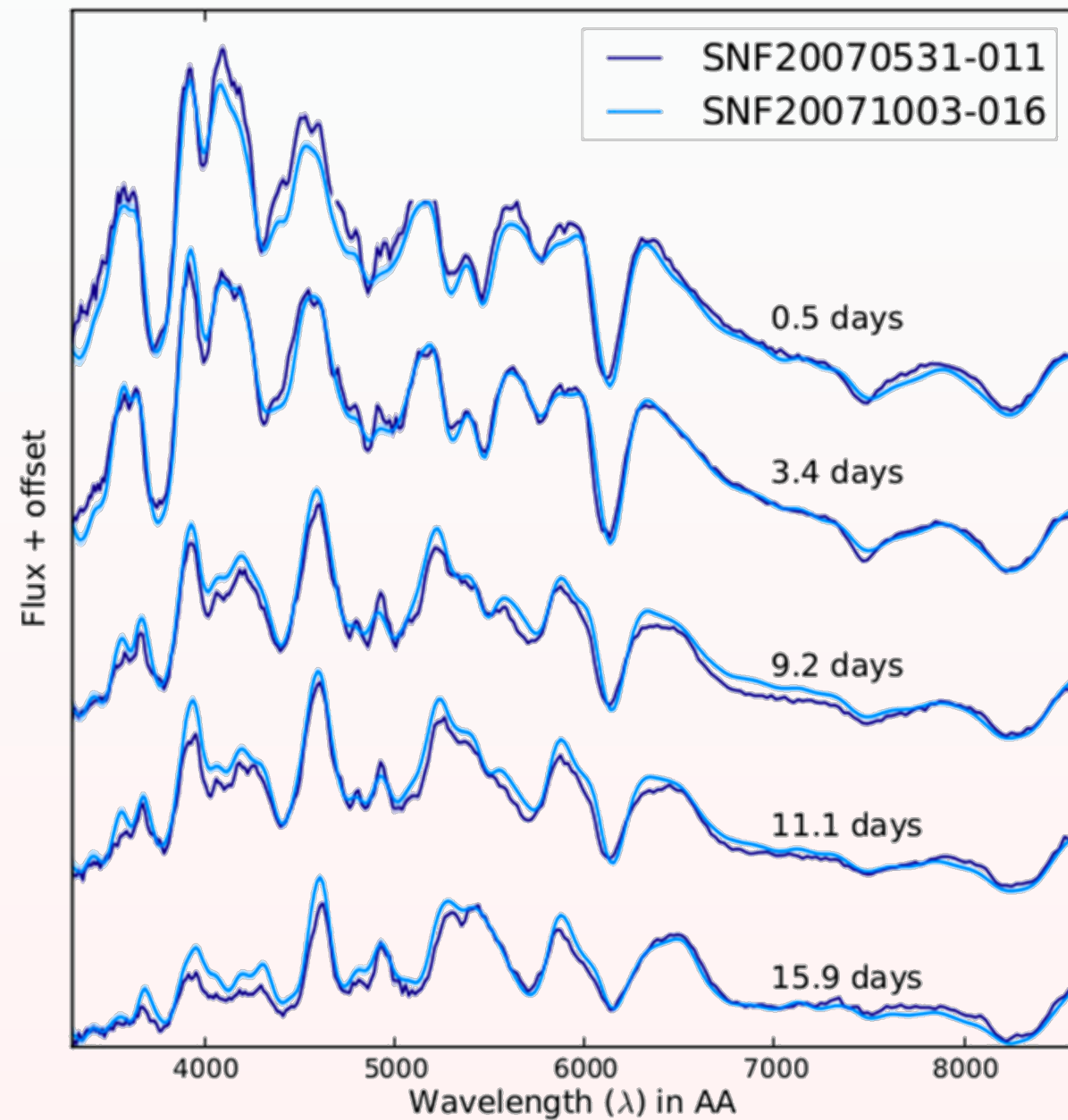
Located on the
Mauna Kea
mountain in
Hawaii



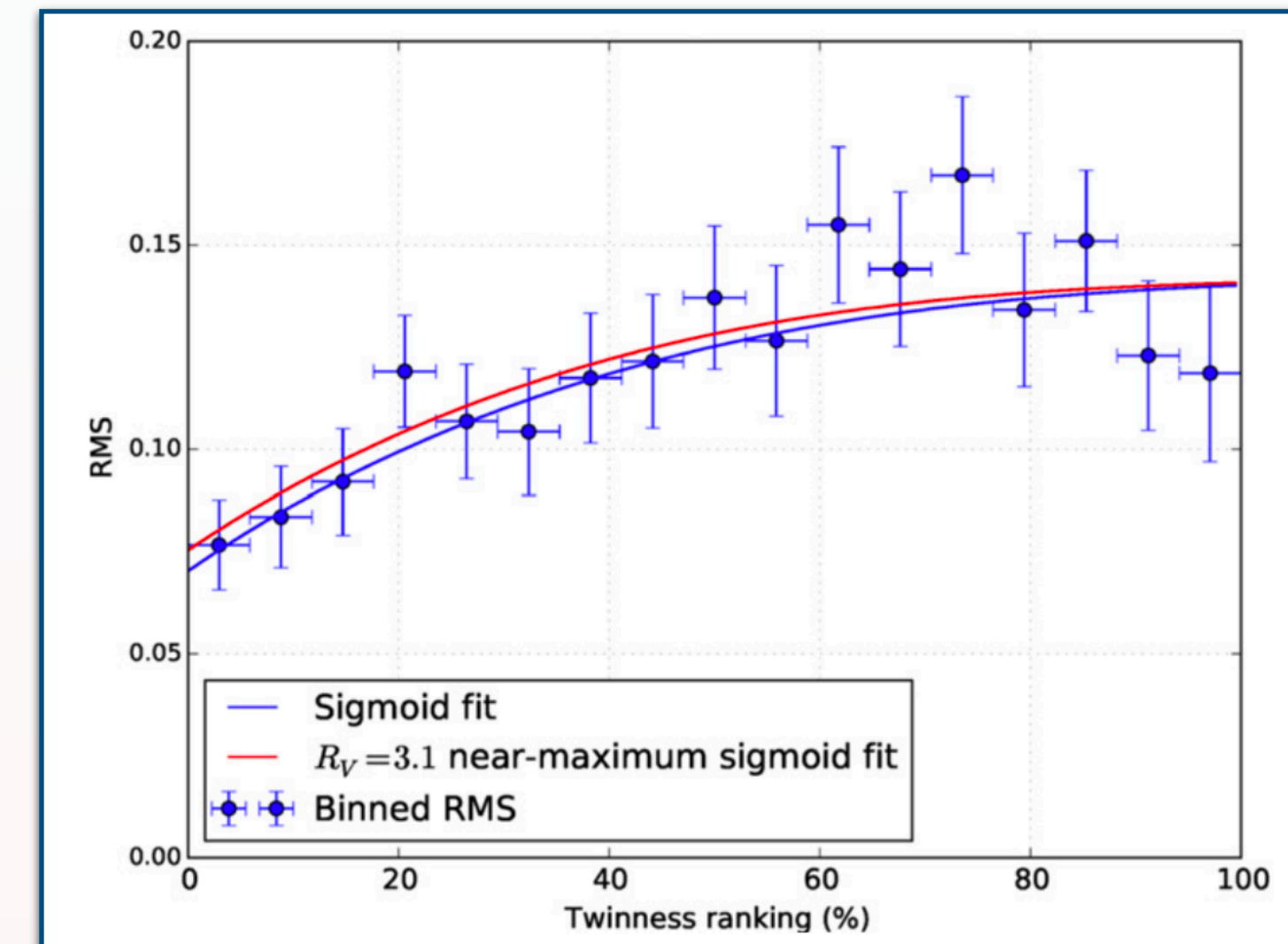
Time series of SN2011fe
between **-15** to **+100** days
Credit: Pereira et al. 2013

SN Ia spectral diversity

Initial discovery :
Twins - Fakhouri 2015



Spectral time-series of two 'Twins' SNe
Credit : Fakhouri et al. 2015



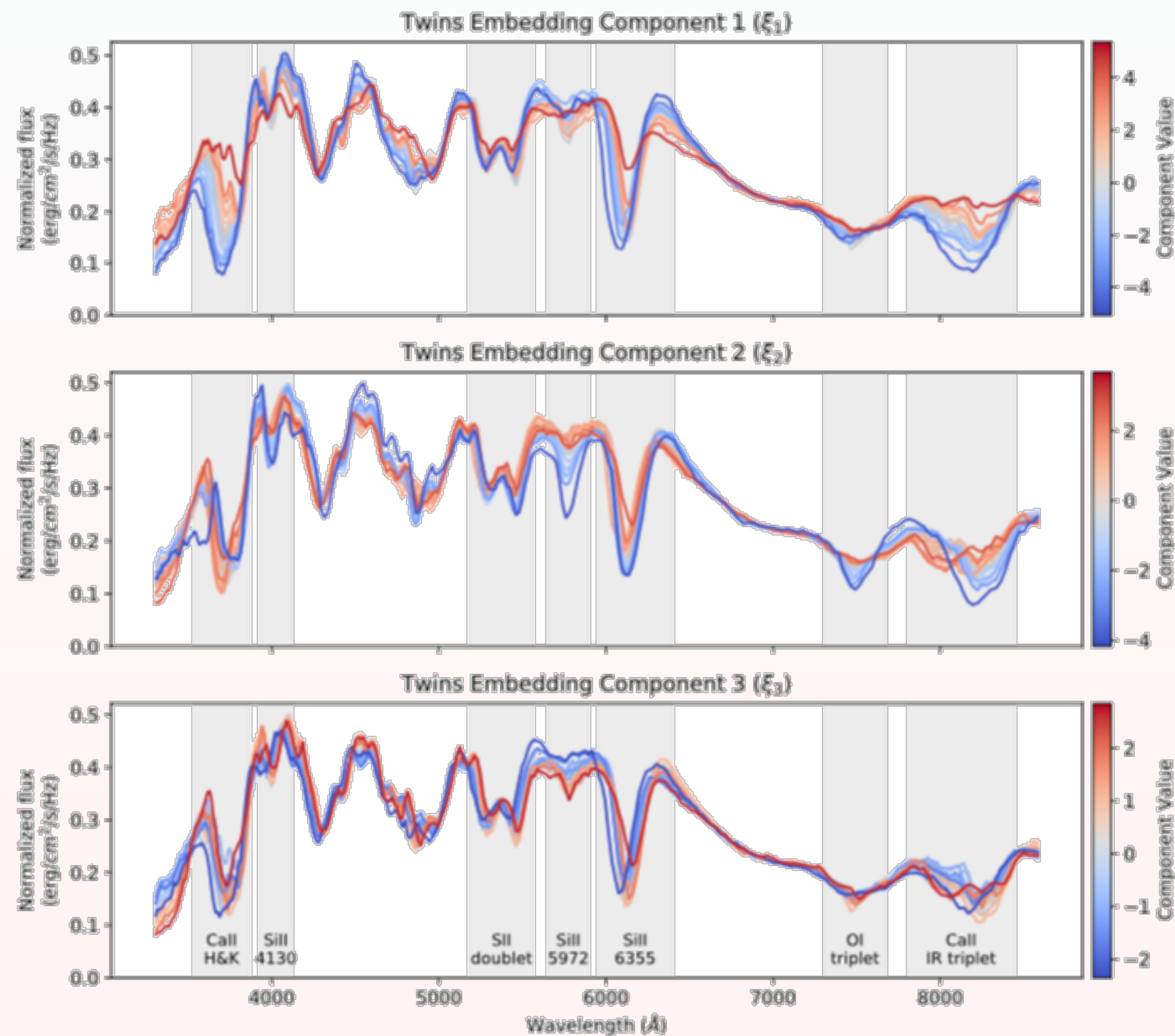
Luminosity RMS for different 'twinness' bins
Credit : Fakhouri et al. 2015

- > magnitude dispersion is smaller for the lowest 'twinness' parameters (similar time-series)
- > One spectrum at peak is sufficient to have the variation information

Spectro-photometric standardisation

Full method :

Twins Embedding - Boone 2021



-> Parametrise the spectral variation at phase=0

—> New standardisation of SNe Ia, using spectral information

Before standardisation :

$$\sigma_{mag} = 0.40\text{mag}$$

Photometry :

$$\sigma_{mag} = 0.15\text{mag}$$

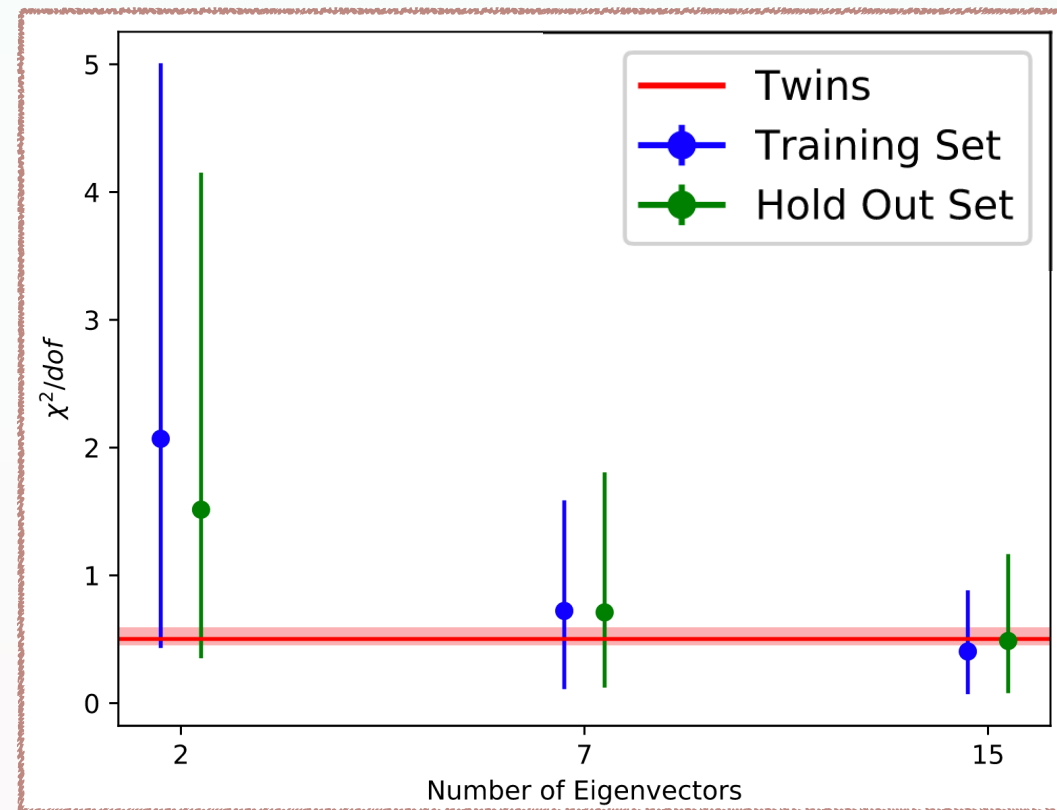
With SNFactory

Twins Embedding :

$$\sigma_{mag} = 0.07\text{mag}$$

Twins Embedding components variation effects on spectra. Credit : Boone et al. 2021

Twins Embedding standardisation



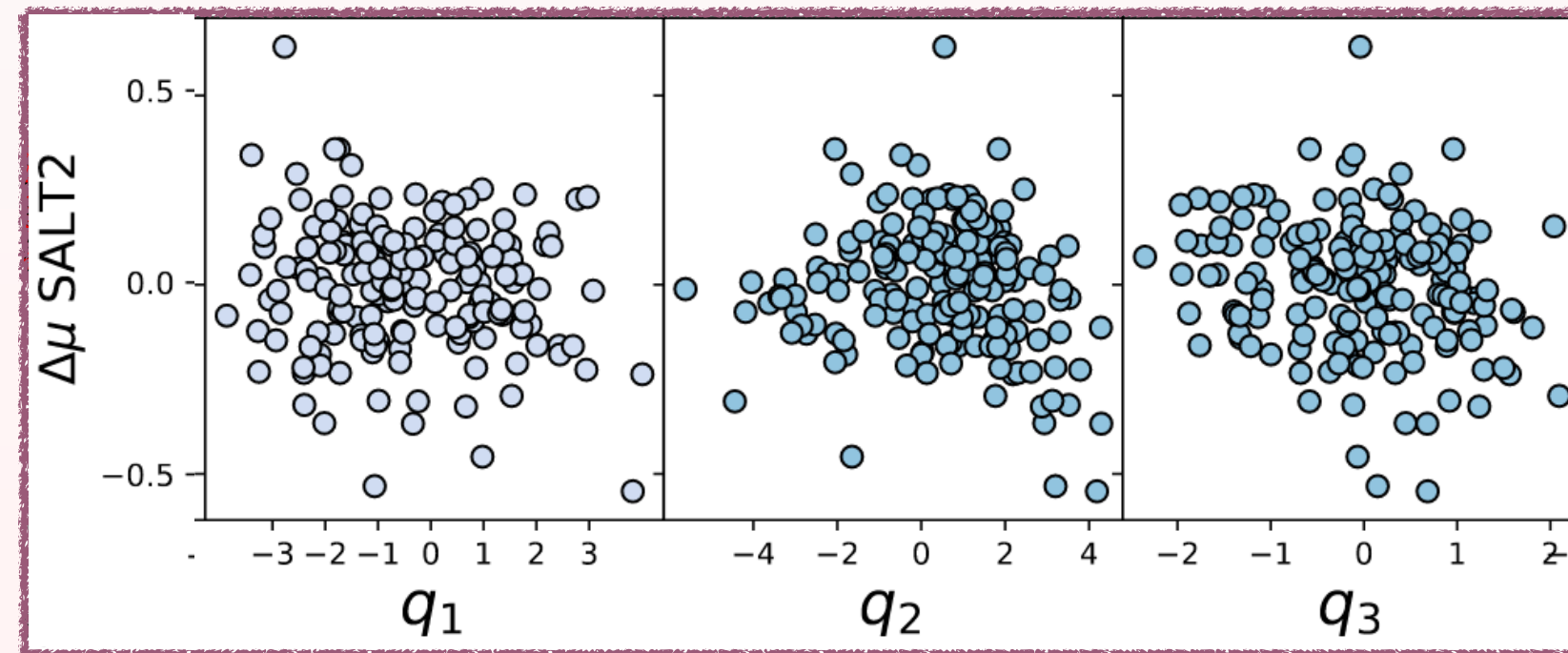
New method:

- *non-linear parameterisation*
- *Linked to HR*
- *Based solely on spectra*

No filter issues

- *PSF modelling: CCD calibration, chromaticity not taken into account*
- *Hard to characterise the filters: therefore hard to cross-calibrate the filters between dataset*

15-component linear SNEMO model



SUGAR is not correlated to HR

Need 4x less SNe

Photometry :

$$\sigma_{mag} = 0.15\text{mag}$$

With SNFactory

Twins Embedding :

$$\sigma_{mag} = 0.07\text{mag}$$

No template model

SNFactory : ~200 SNe



ZTF : ~800 SNe

ZTF DR2 - SEDmachine

March 2018 to December 2020

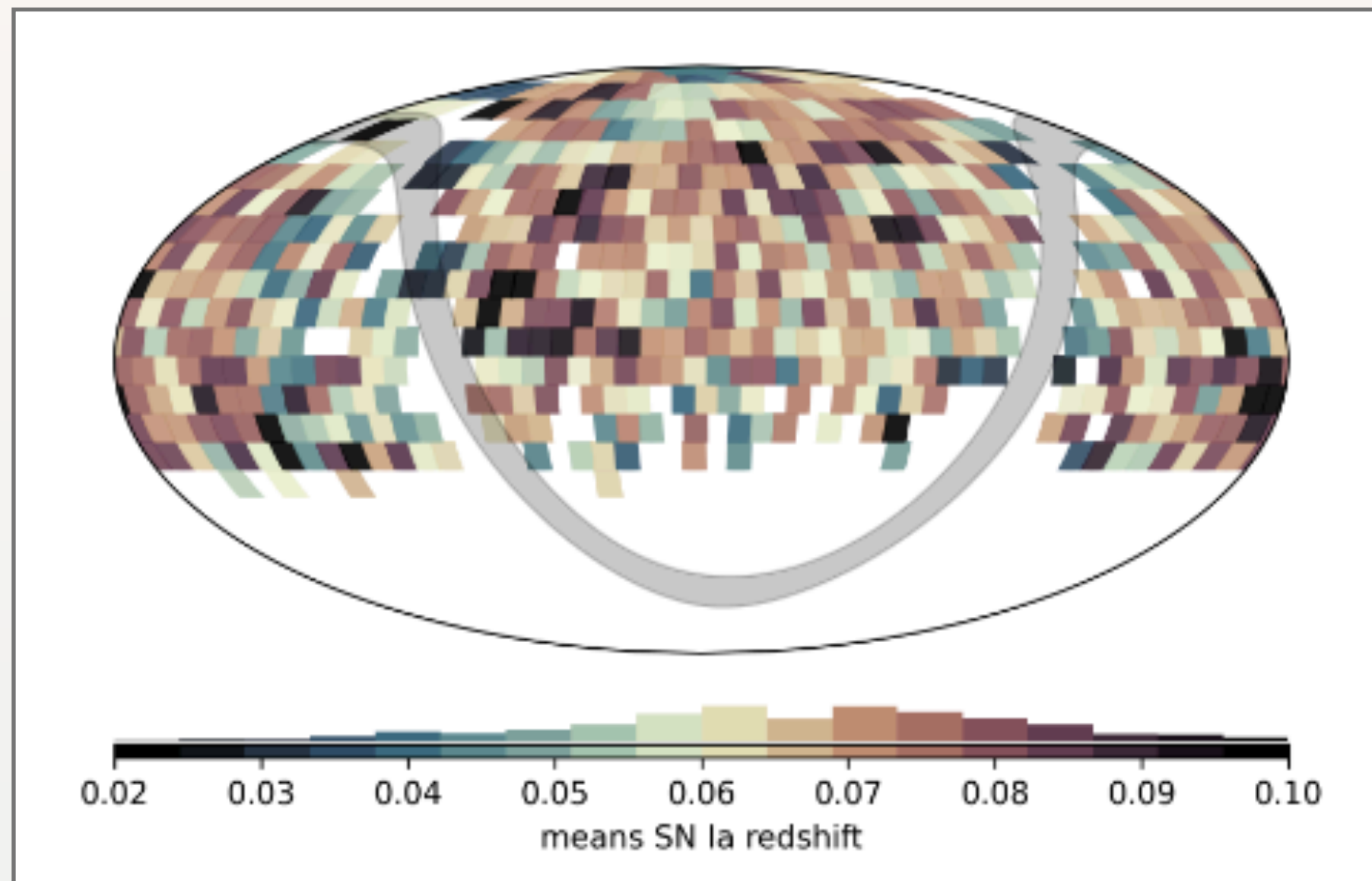
Low-redshift $z < 0.15$
Northern sky
3 filters : g, r, i
Limits in magnitude of $\sim 20\text{mag}$

Two instruments :

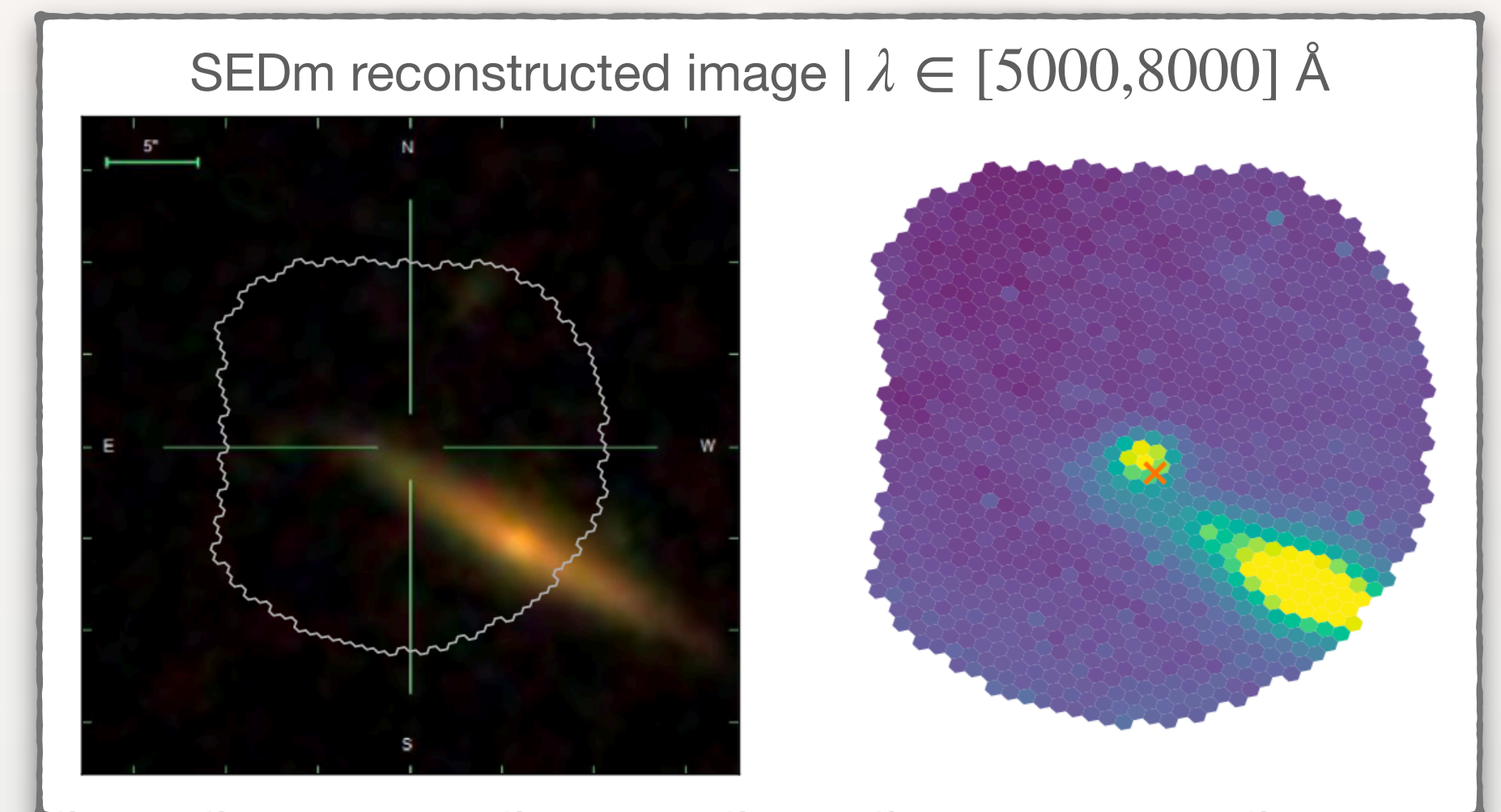
- * P48 camera
- * P60 spectrograph

~ 3600 Supernovae Ia
 ~ 4000 spectra

60% SNe Ia
spectra from the
SEDm



Sky map of **2663** redshifts of SNe Ia
Credit : in prep. ZTF "DR2" Data paper, Smith et al.



SEDm (P60)- Integral field Spectrograph
field of view of ZTF18abqlpgq
Credit : pysedm - Rigault, Neill



ZTF spectra flux-calibration

From DR2 : March 2018 to December 2020

Purpose : typing

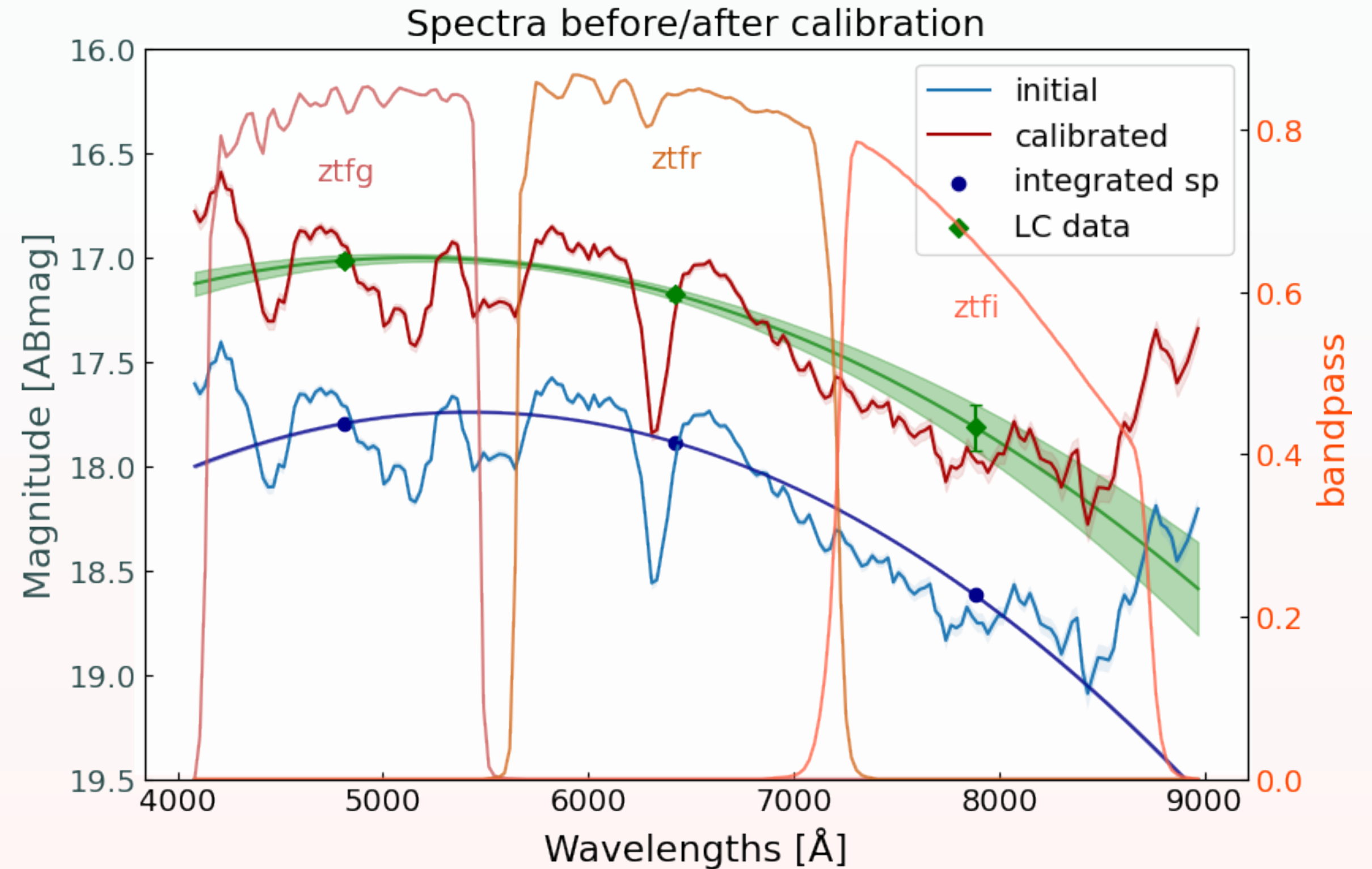
Low resolution : $R = \frac{\lambda}{\Delta\lambda} \sim 100$

✓ Spectral extraction by `pysedm` (Rigault 2019)

✓ Correction of host galaxy by `Hypergal` (Lezmy 2022)



Located in Mount
Palomar in
California



—> **1607 flux-calibrated SNe Ia**

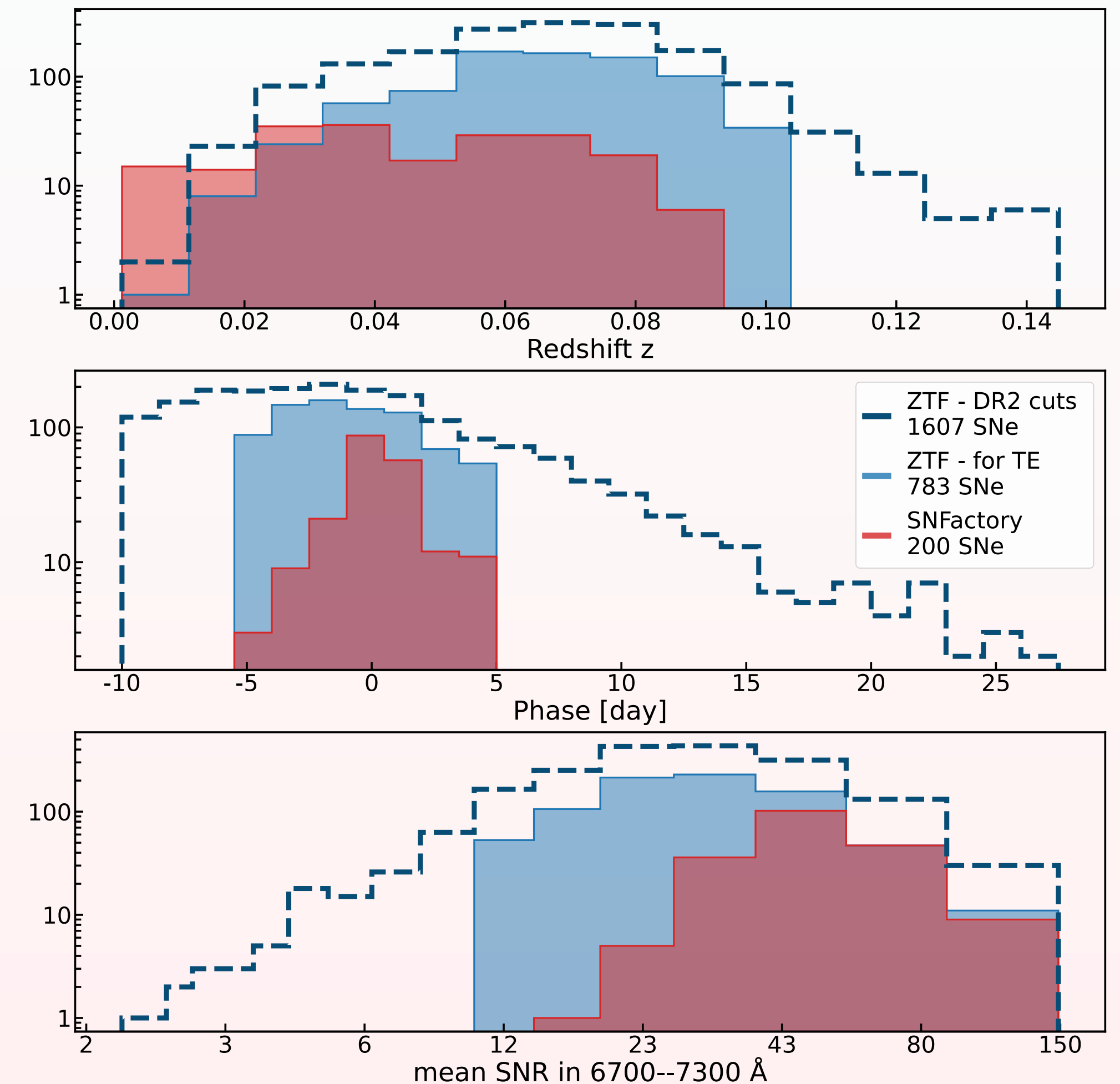
The flux-calibrated sample will be
published in Ganot et al. (in prep)

ZTF spectra sample for TE

- ✓ Flux calibration, precision of 0.07 mag
- ✓ Milky Way dust correction
- ✓ Shift spectra to $z=0.05$

Cut	Interval	Quantity removed
Calibration quality		around 7%
z	<0.1	around 5%
phase	$[-5,+5]$ days	around 40%
DR2 photo		around 7%

→ 783 SNe Ia for TE application



Twins Embedding - Method

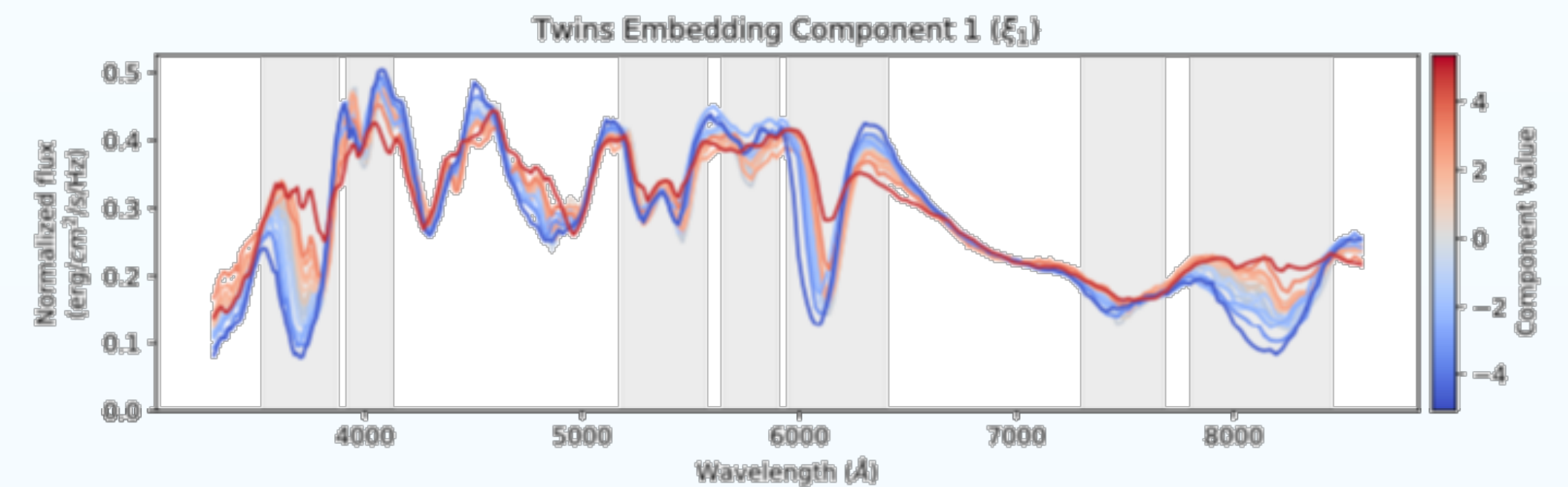
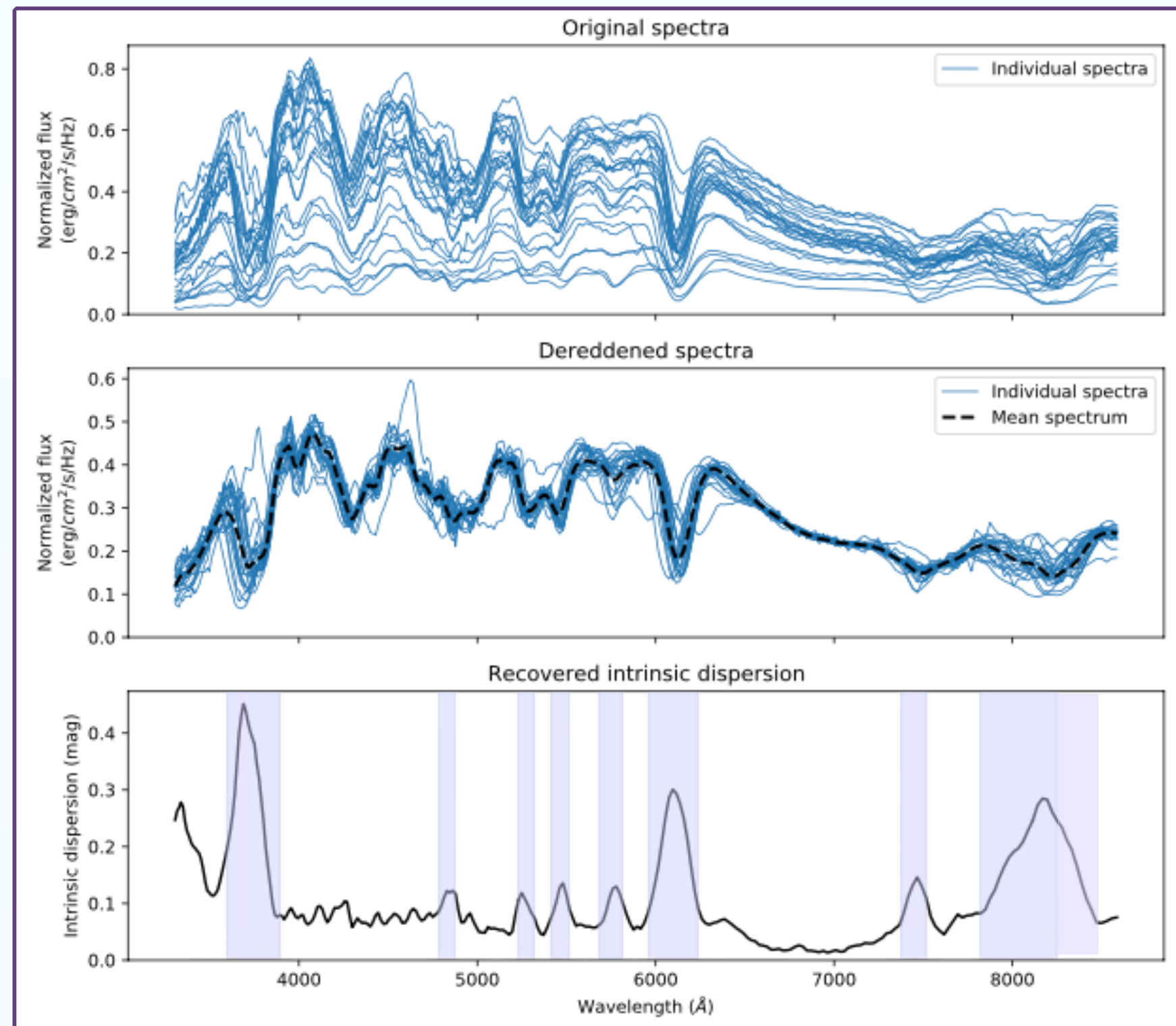
3 steps

1. Shift spectra at phase=0

2. RBTL - fit one offset and a color outside the lines

only based on spectral data

3. Isomap : parameters reduction



Twins Embedding components variation effects on spectra. *Credit : Boone et al. 2021*

87% of the remaining variance is explained with 3 components

SNFactory spectra before/after dereddening, and residuals intrinsic dispersion (std) *Credit : Boone et al. 2021*

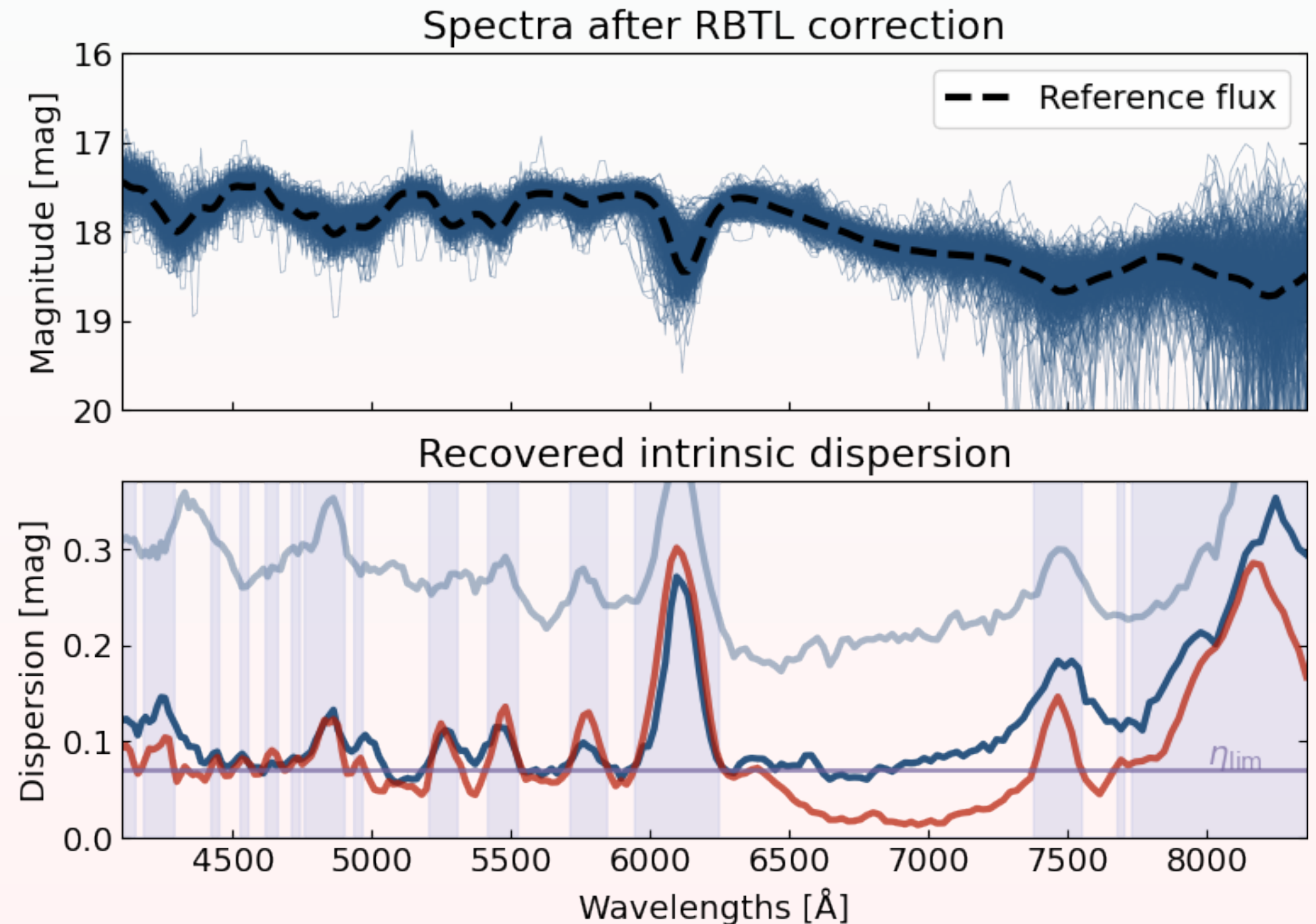
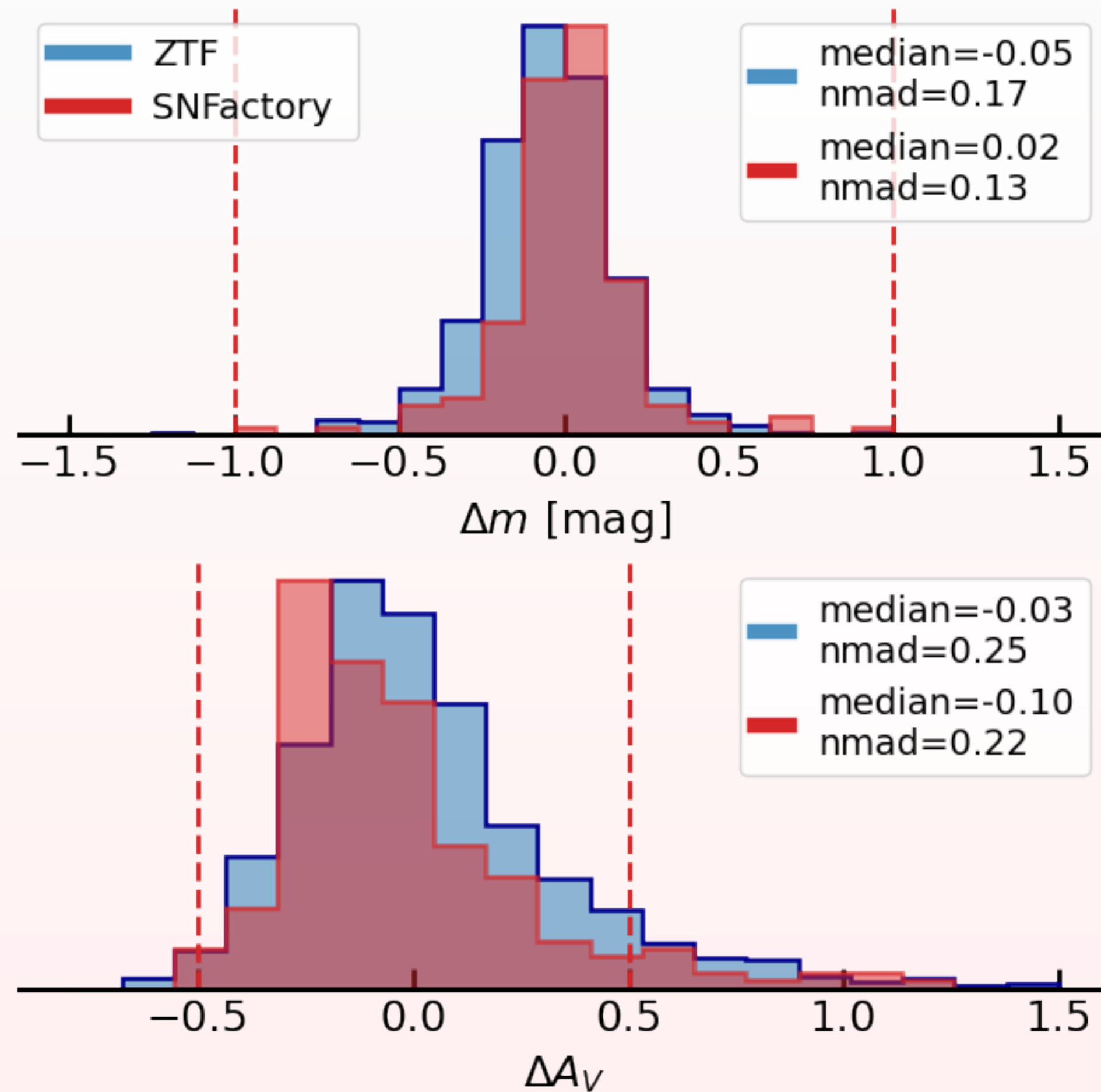
Twins Embedding - *Applied to ZTF*

1. Shift spectra at phase=0

✱ More dispersion in Δm for ZTF

✱ More 'red' SNe in ZTF sample

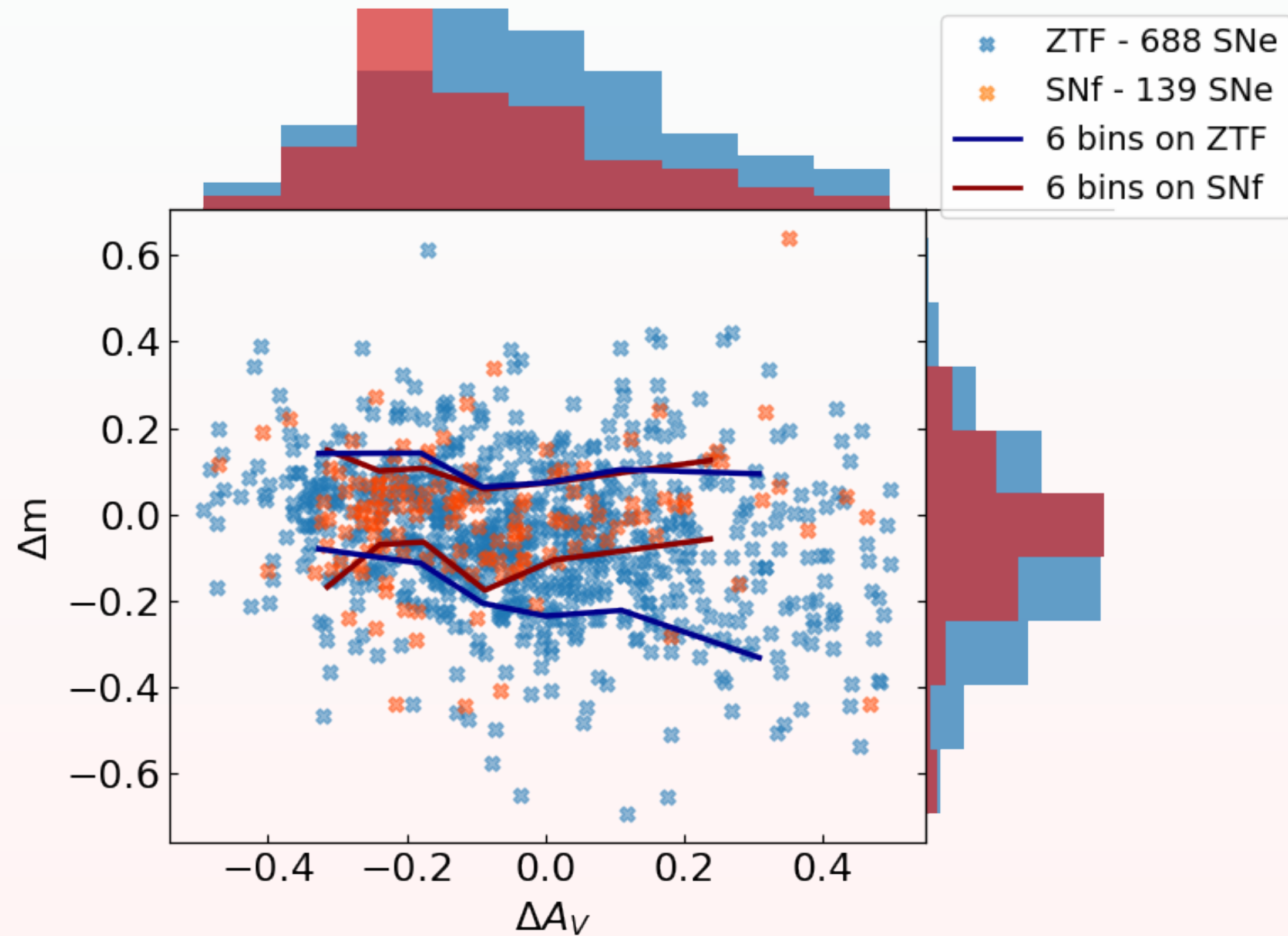
2. RBTL - fit one offset Δm_i and a color $\Delta A_{V,i}$ outside the lines



783 ZTF SNe Ia RBTL spectral correction.
Dispersion of the residuals, before/after correction
compared with 200 SNe of SNf

Twins Embedding - *Standardisation in color*

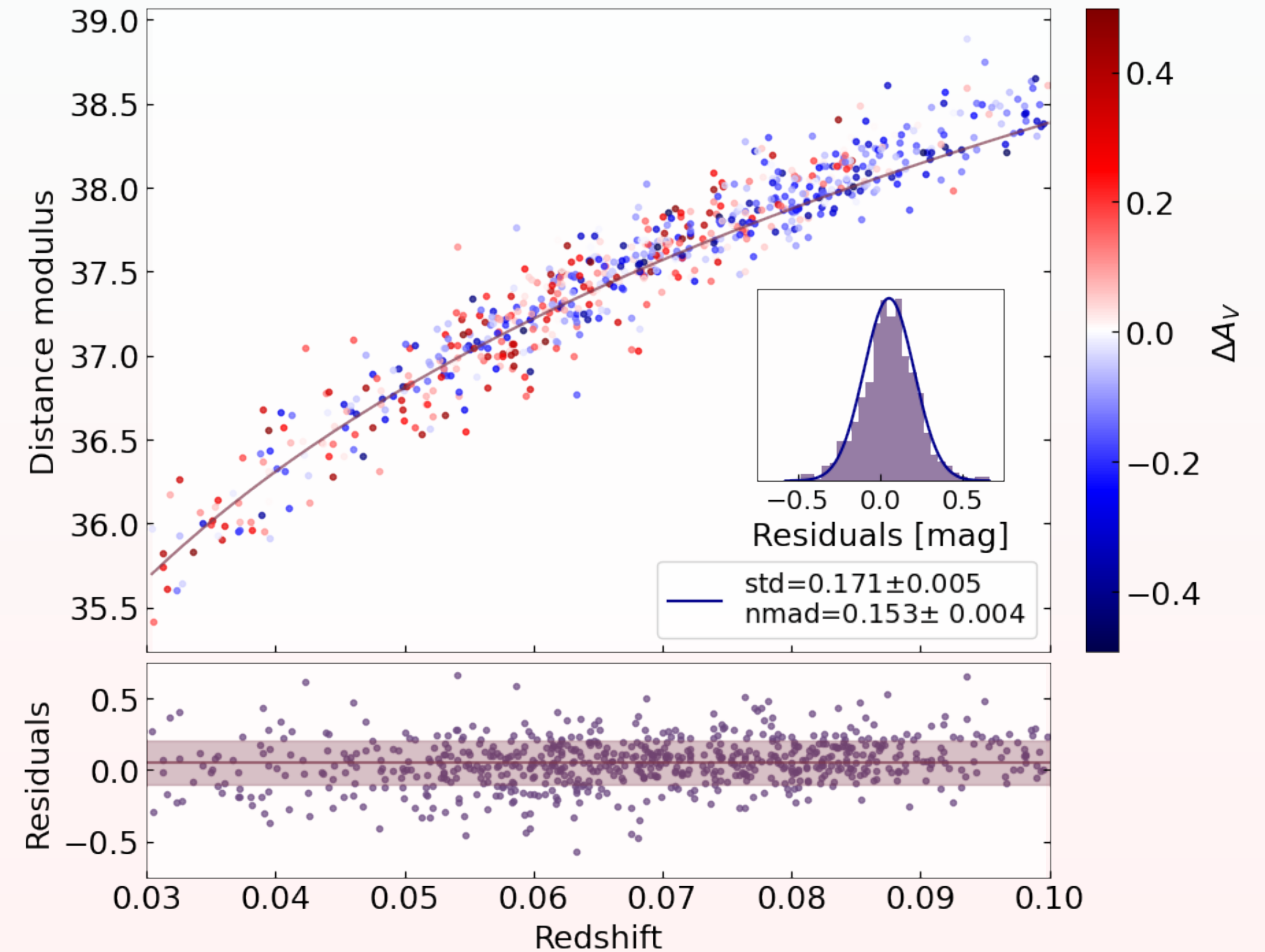
- ✱ Remaining correlation between RBTL parameters for ZTF



RBTL standardisation : linear color correction

$$\Delta\mu_{\text{RBTL},i} = - \left[\Delta m_i - \beta_{\text{RBTL}} \cdot \Delta A_{V,i} \right]$$

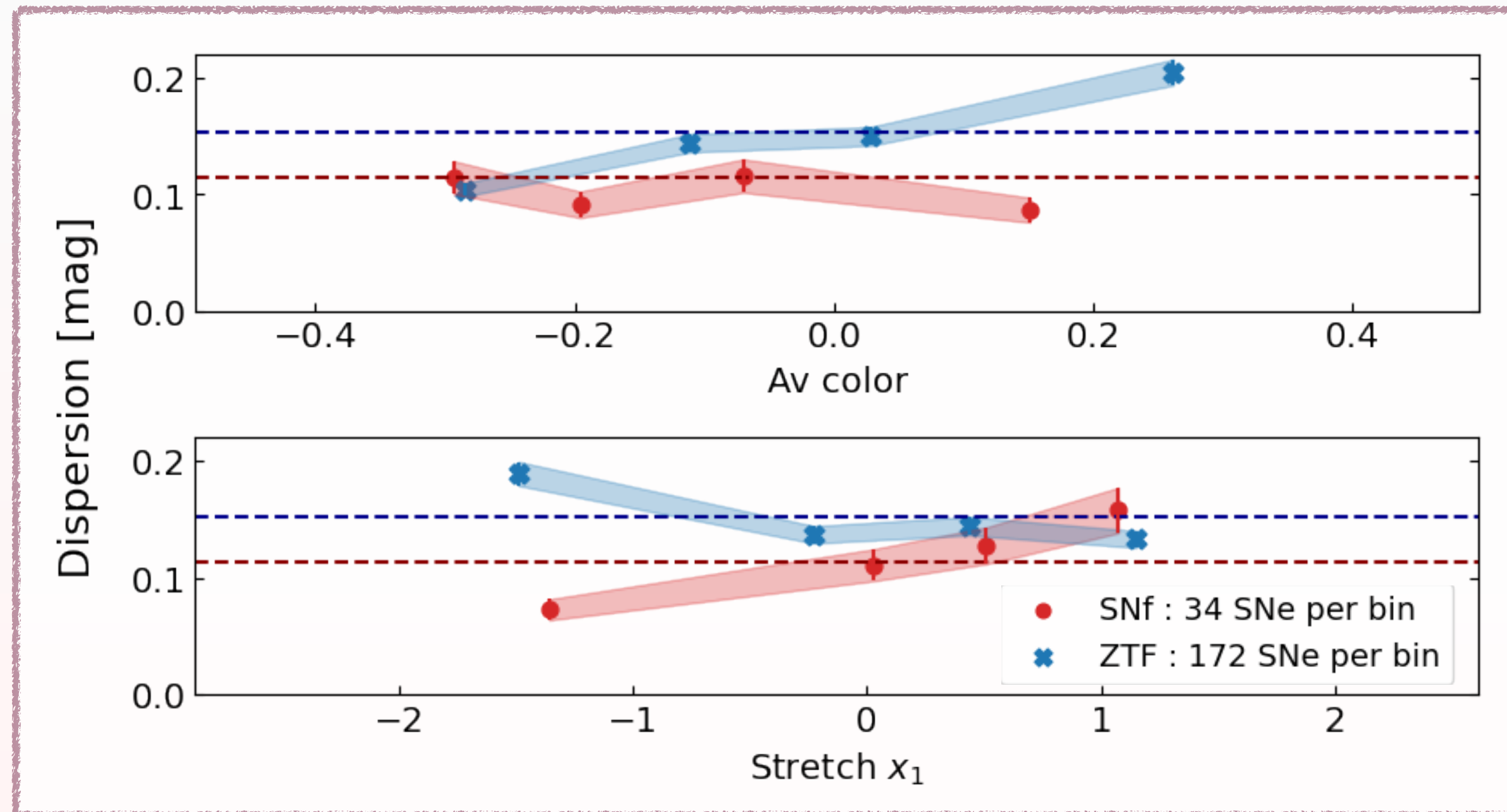
→ 0.153 mag for ZTF (0.164 SALT)
0.113 for SNf



Hubble Diagram after RBTL standardisation,
for ZTF : 688 SNe

Twins Embedding - *Standardisation in color*

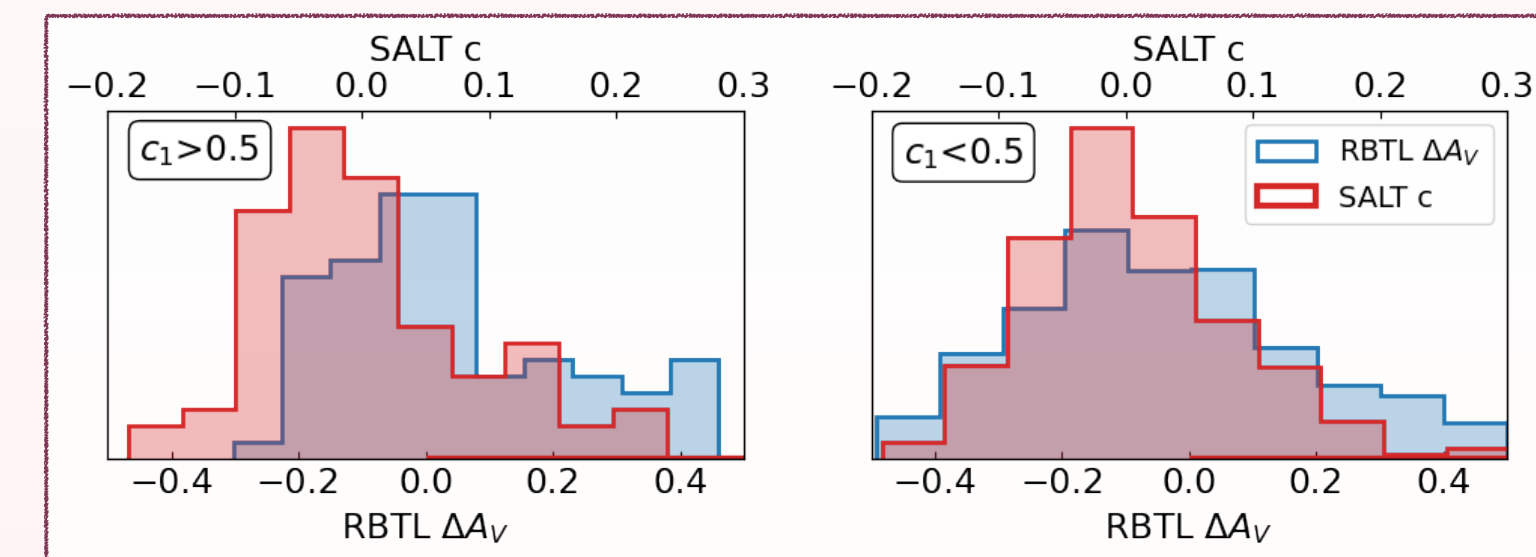
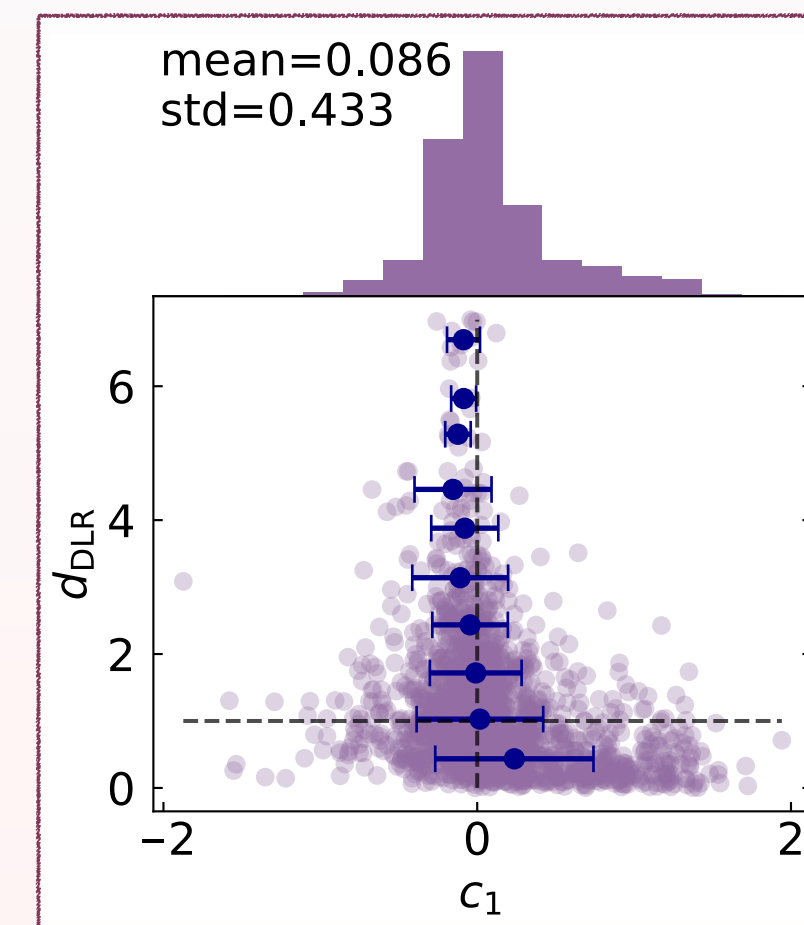
Test of the robustness



SNe with high color / low stretch are not well standardised in ZTF

- ✱ 0.04mag dispersion floor due to flux-calibration
- ✱ 0.07mag due to 40% of SNe with $\sigma_z \sim 10^{-3}$

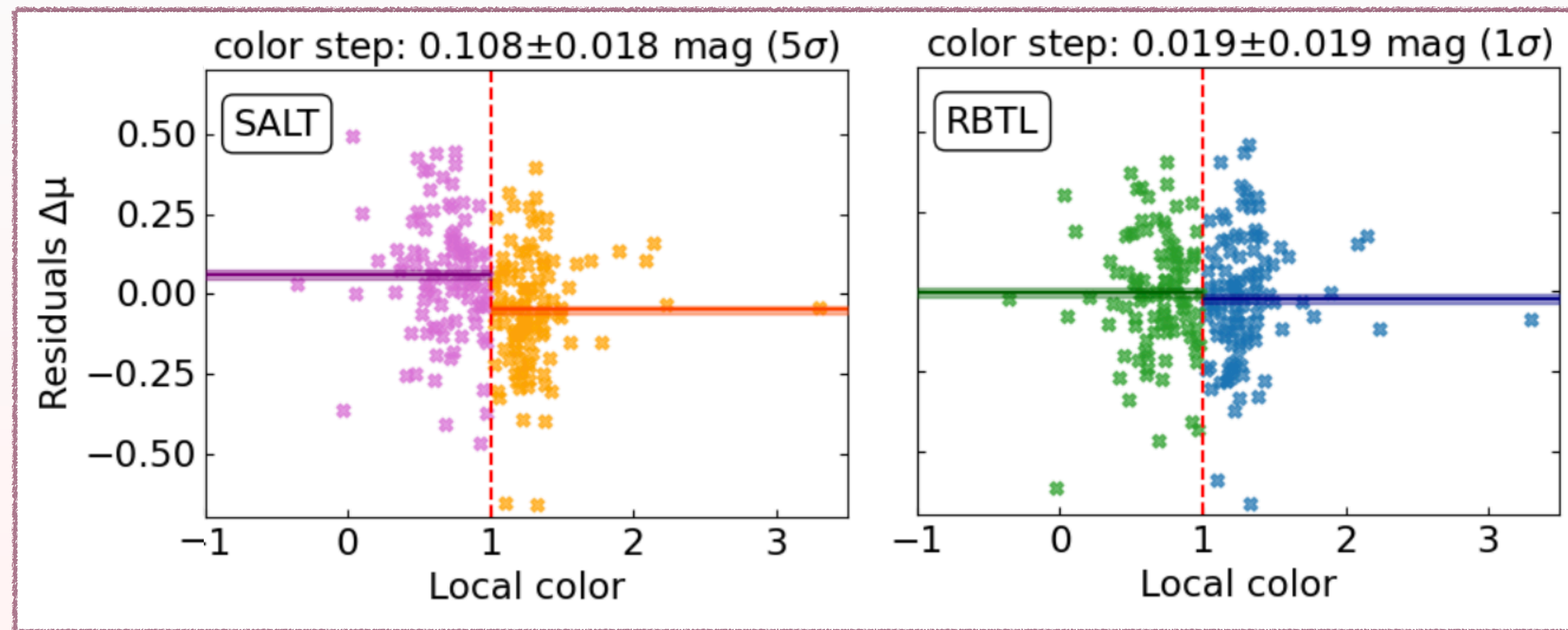
falls to 0.126 mag dispersion



- ✱ Remaining host contamination on ZTF sample (unknown dispersion) : artificial reddening

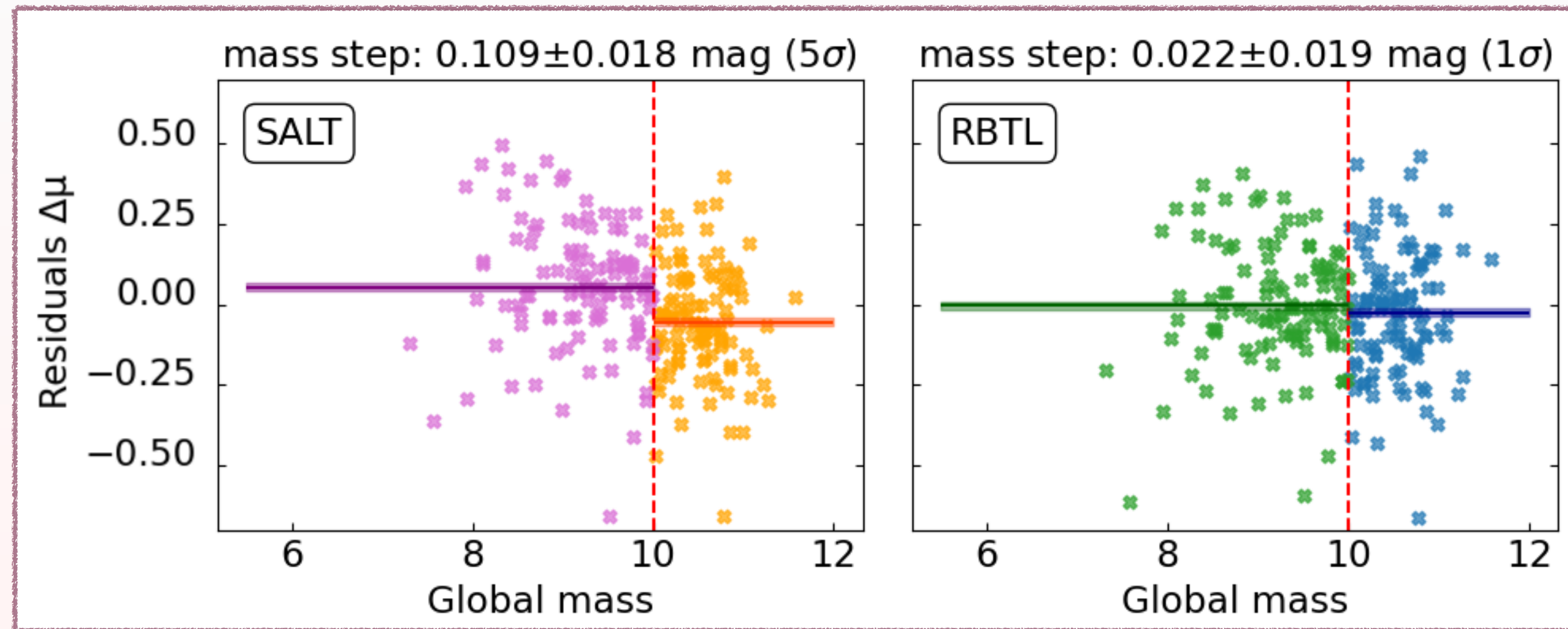
Twins Embedding - *Standardisation in color*

*Less dependency in host galaxy properties:
Astrophysical biases mitigated*



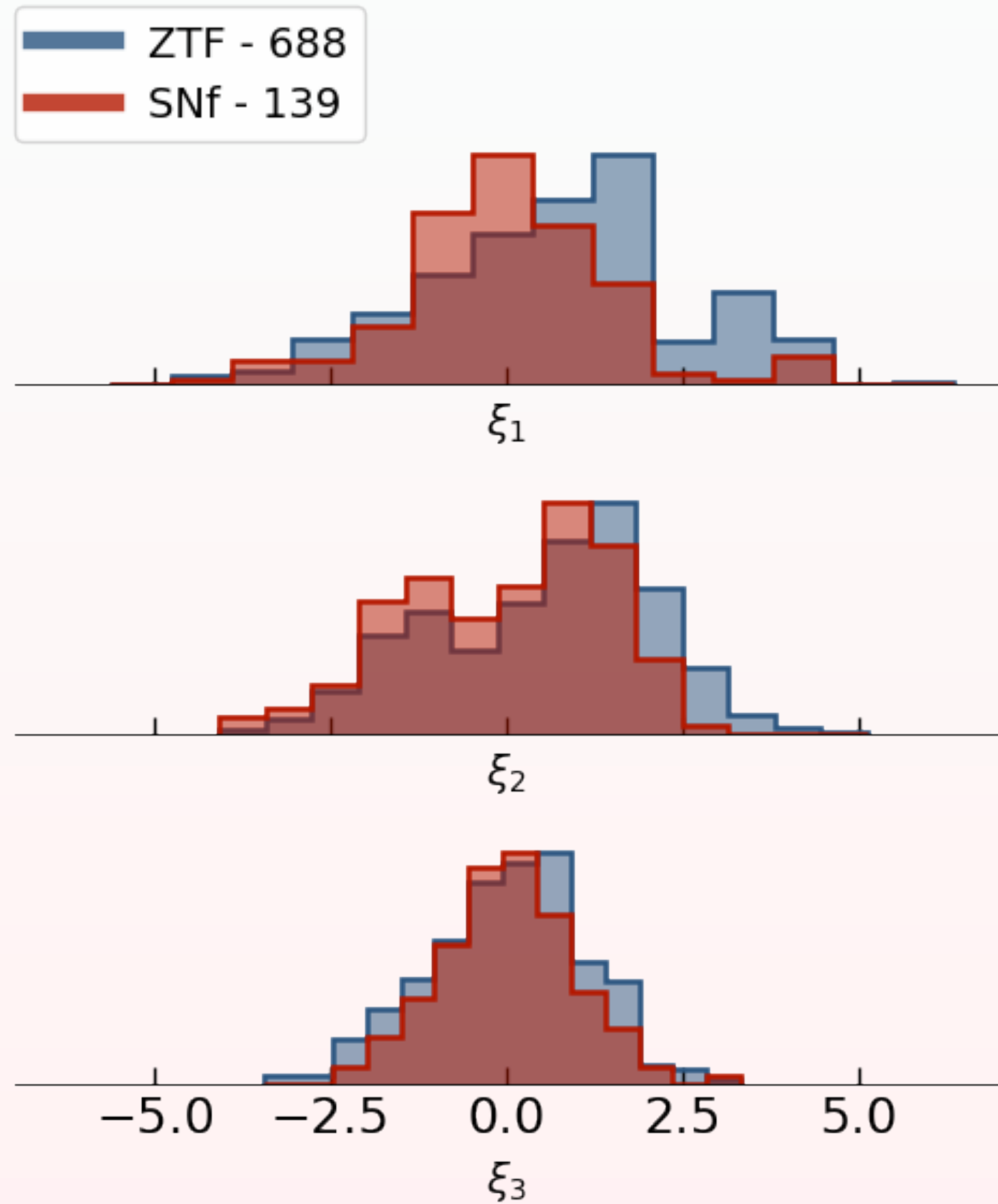
Twins Embedding - *Standardisation in color*

*Less dependency in host galaxy properties:
Astrophysical biases mitigated*

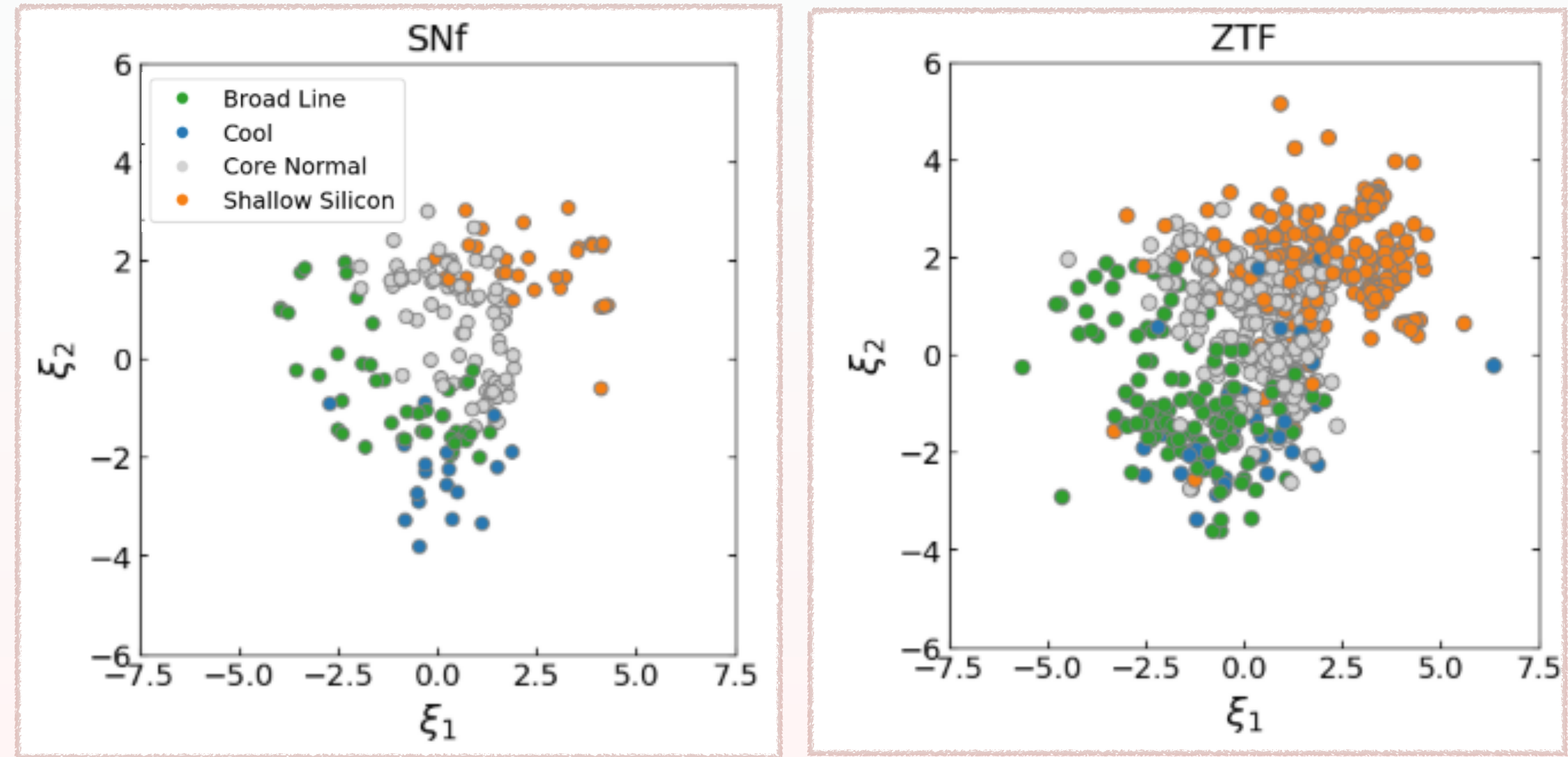


Twins Embedding - *Isomap* parameters

3. Fit three Isomap parameters $\vec{\xi}$ per SN



Normalised distributions of Isomap parameters

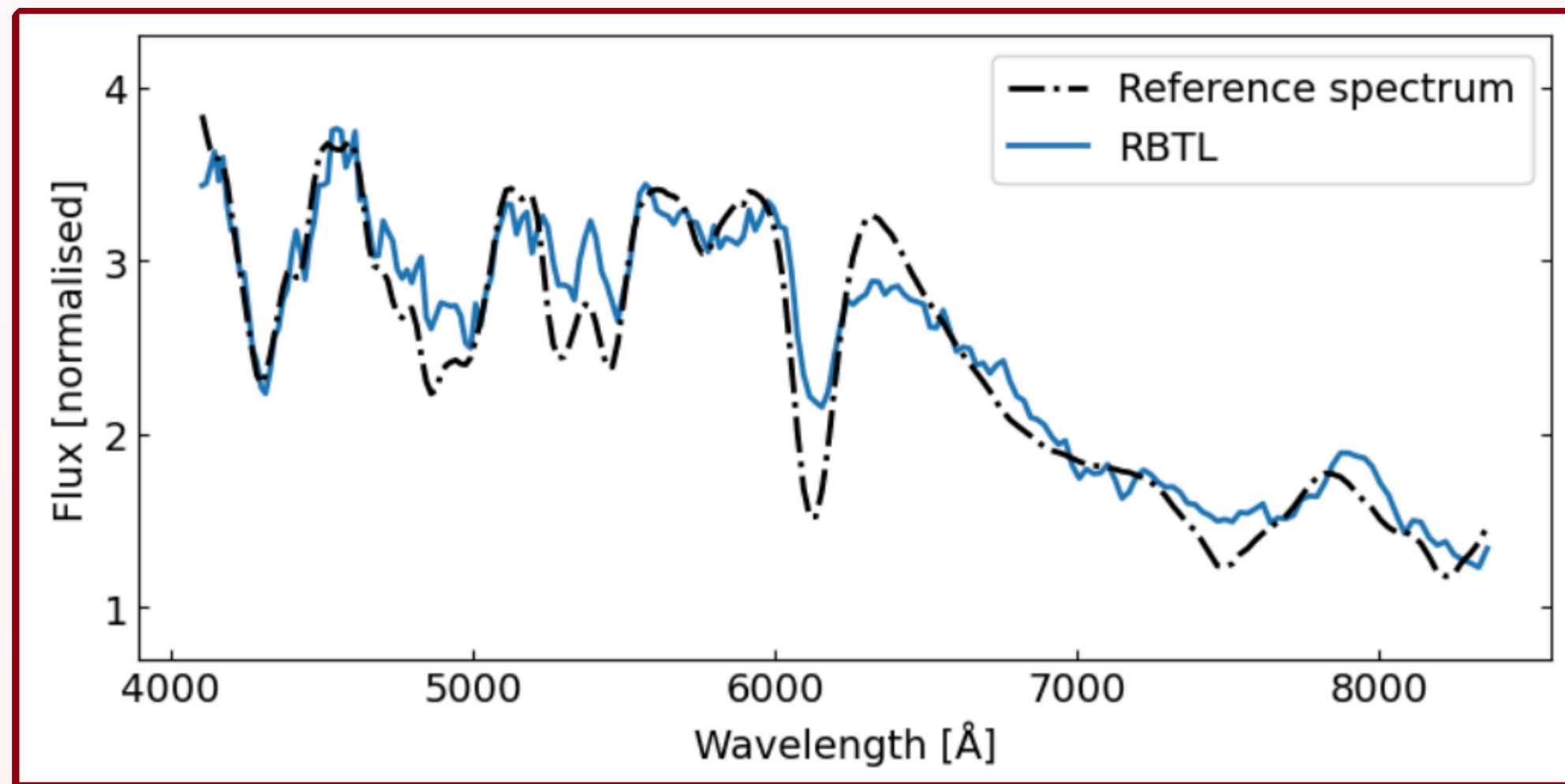


Recovered Branch classes

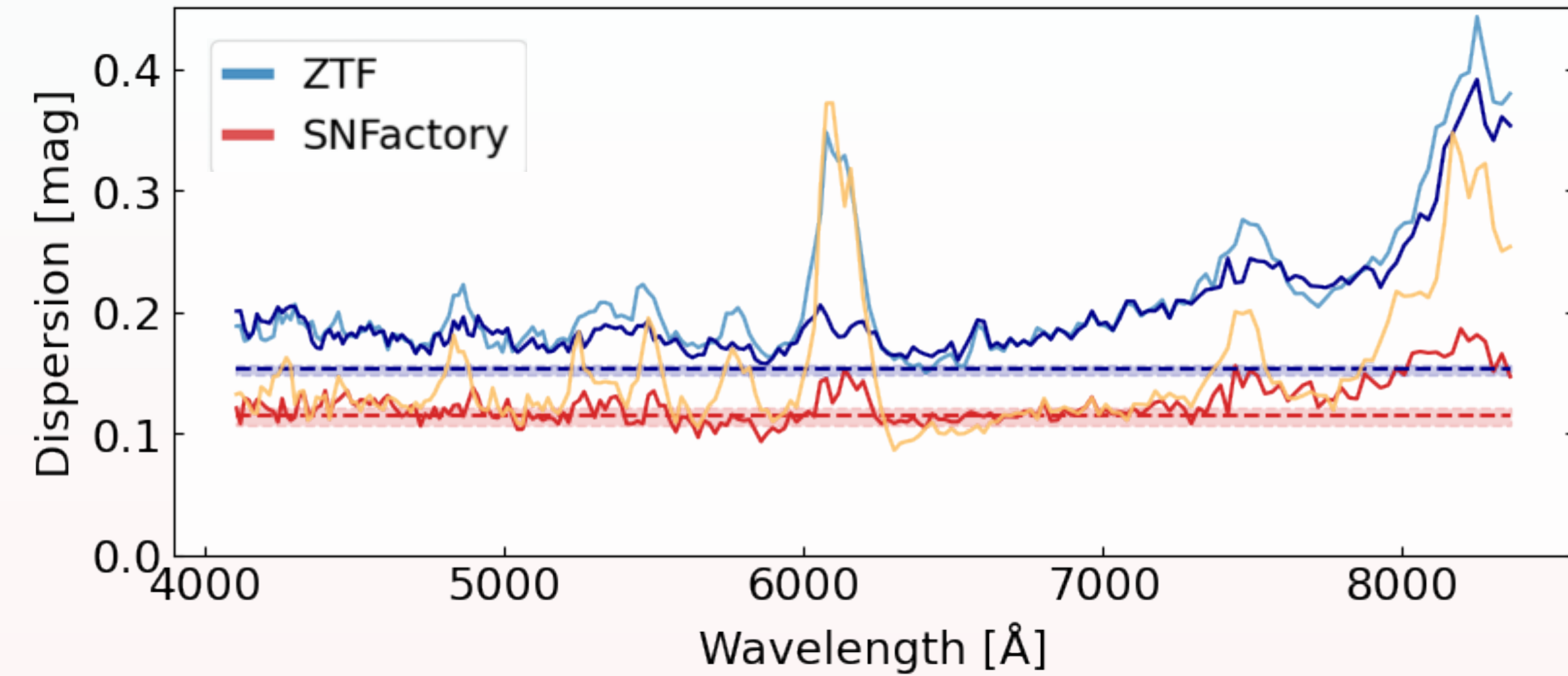
Twins Embedding - *Isomap* parameters

$GP(\lambda)(\vec{\xi}_i)$ modelling lines
(not a standardisation)

$$f_{\text{RBTL},i}(\lambda) = f_{\text{max}}(\lambda) \cdot 10^{+0.4(\Delta m_i + \Delta A_{V,i} \cdot CL(\lambda))} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + GP(\lambda)(\vec{\xi}_i)}$$

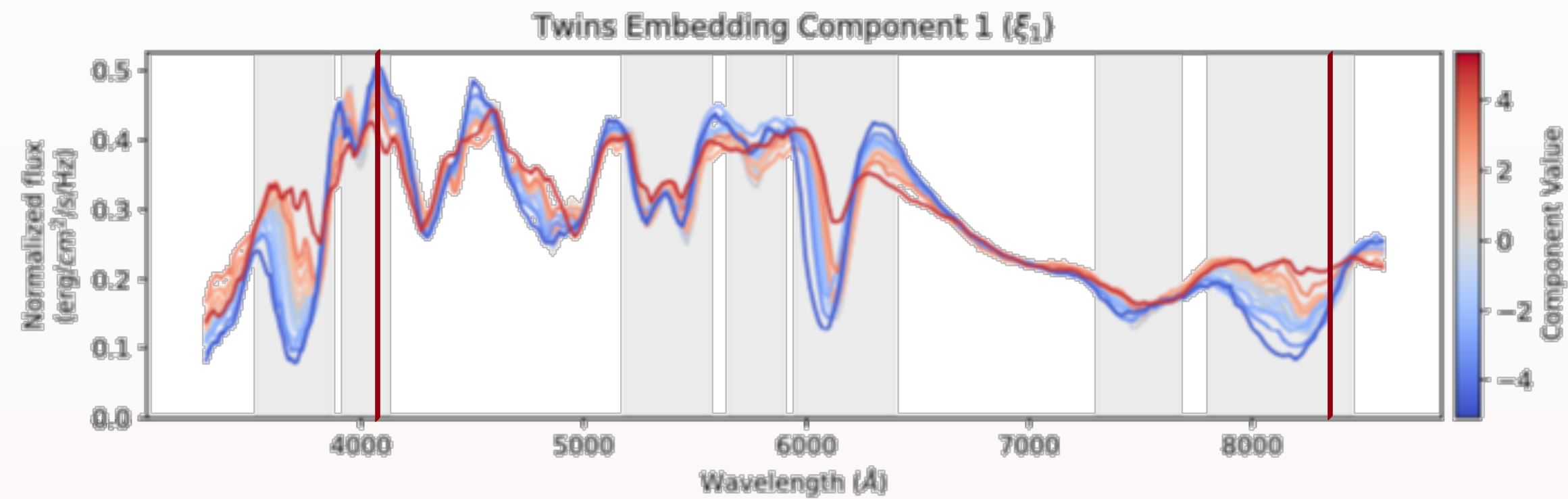


Spectral modelling using RBTL and Isomap parameters of SN ZTF18aaxvpsw

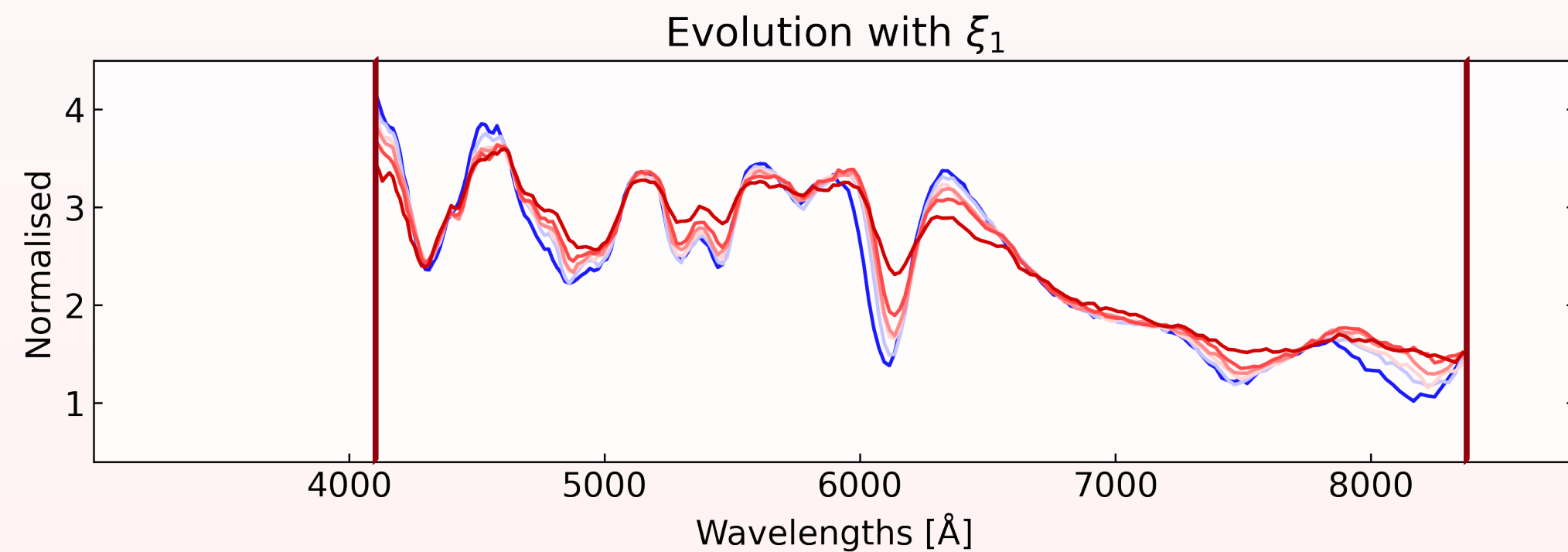


*Spectral dispersion for 682 ZTF SNe
and 139 SNf SNe after RBTL
standardisation
with/without line correction*

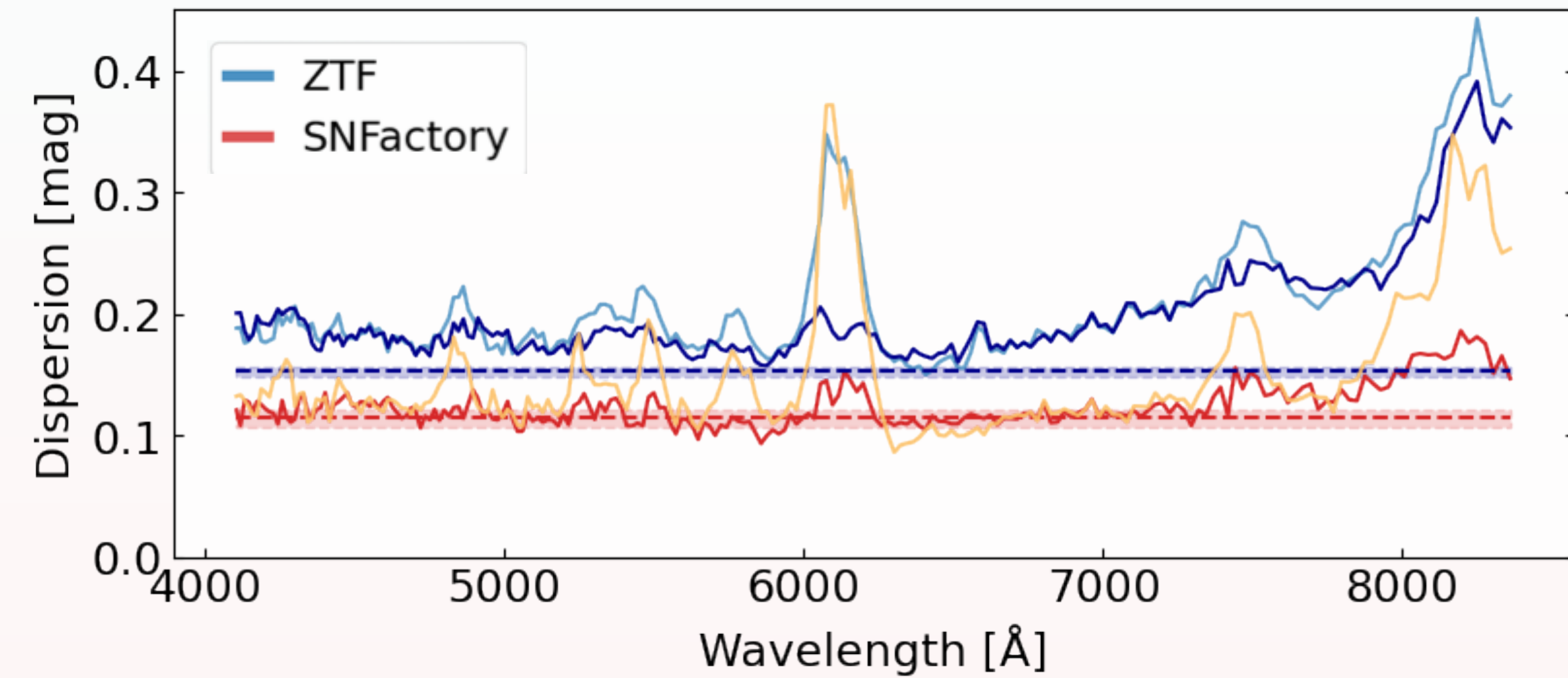
Twins Embedding - *Isomap* parameters



ξ_1 effects on SNf spectra



ξ_1 effects on ZTF spectra



*Spectral dispersion for 682 ZTF SNe
and 139 SNf SNe after RBTL
standardisation
with/without line correction*

Twins Embedding - *Standardisation*

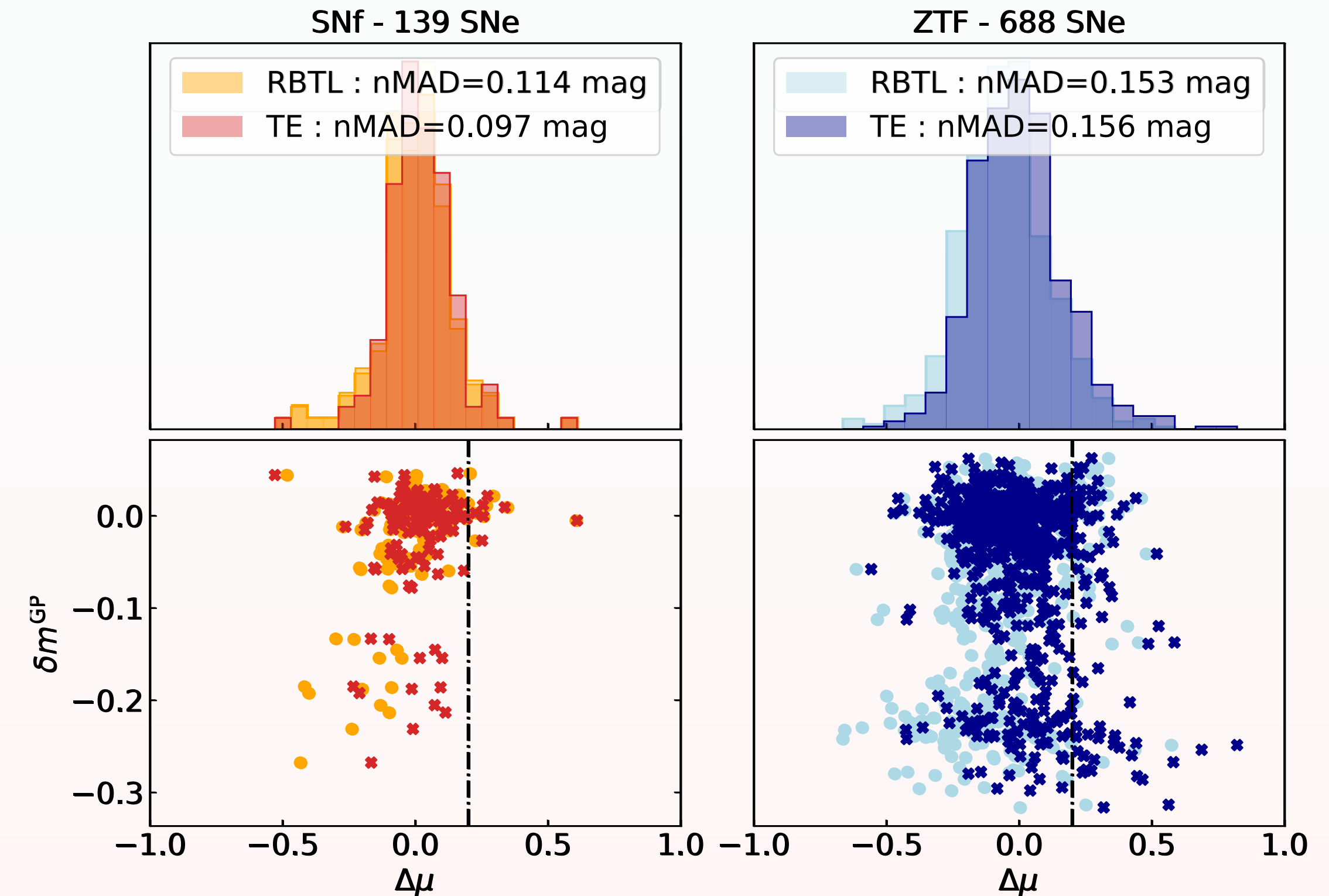
Manifold standardisation
color (#1)+ δm^{GP} (#3)

$$\Delta\mu_{\text{TE},i} = - \left[\Delta m_i - \beta_{\text{RBTL}} \cdot \Delta A_{V,i} - \delta m^{\text{GP}}(\vec{\xi}_i) \right]$$

*Residual prediction
by GP*

SNf results differences with Boone 2021:

- wavelength range
- no cut on data quality
- linear color correction



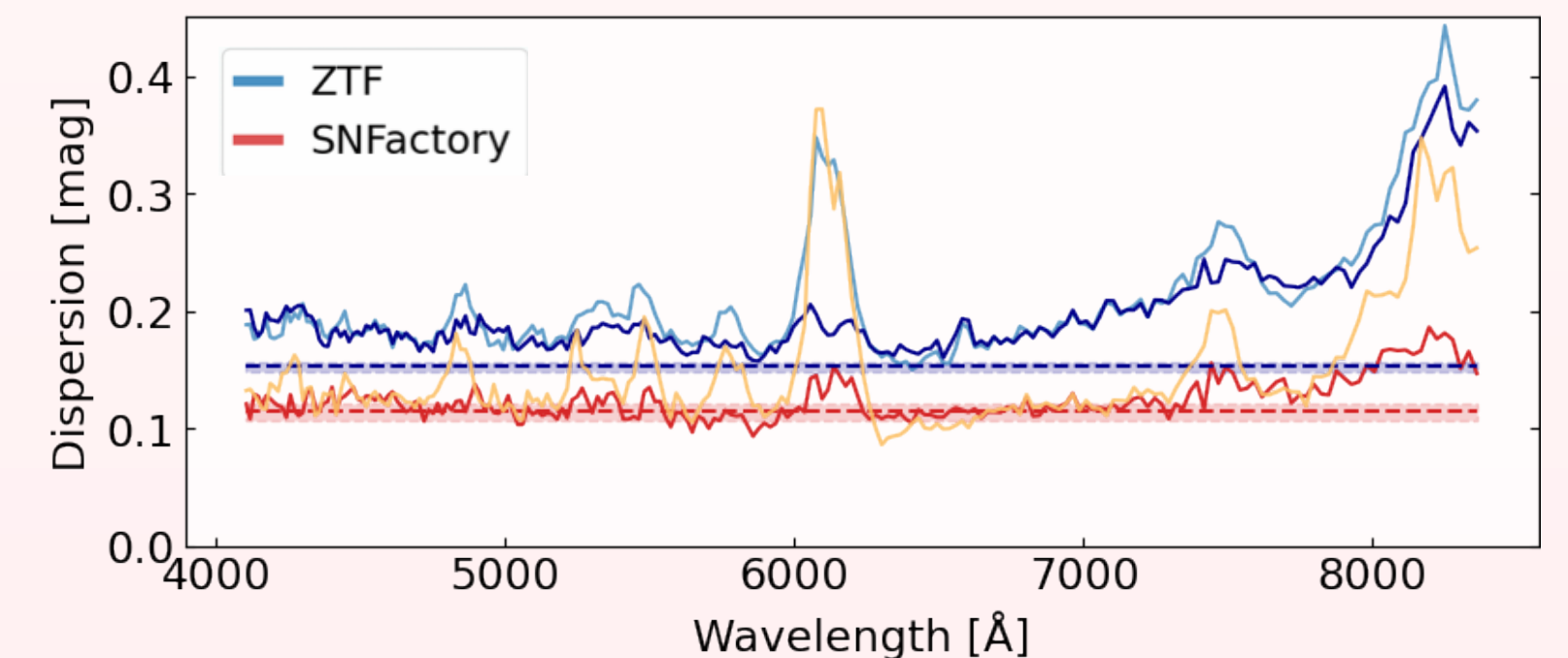
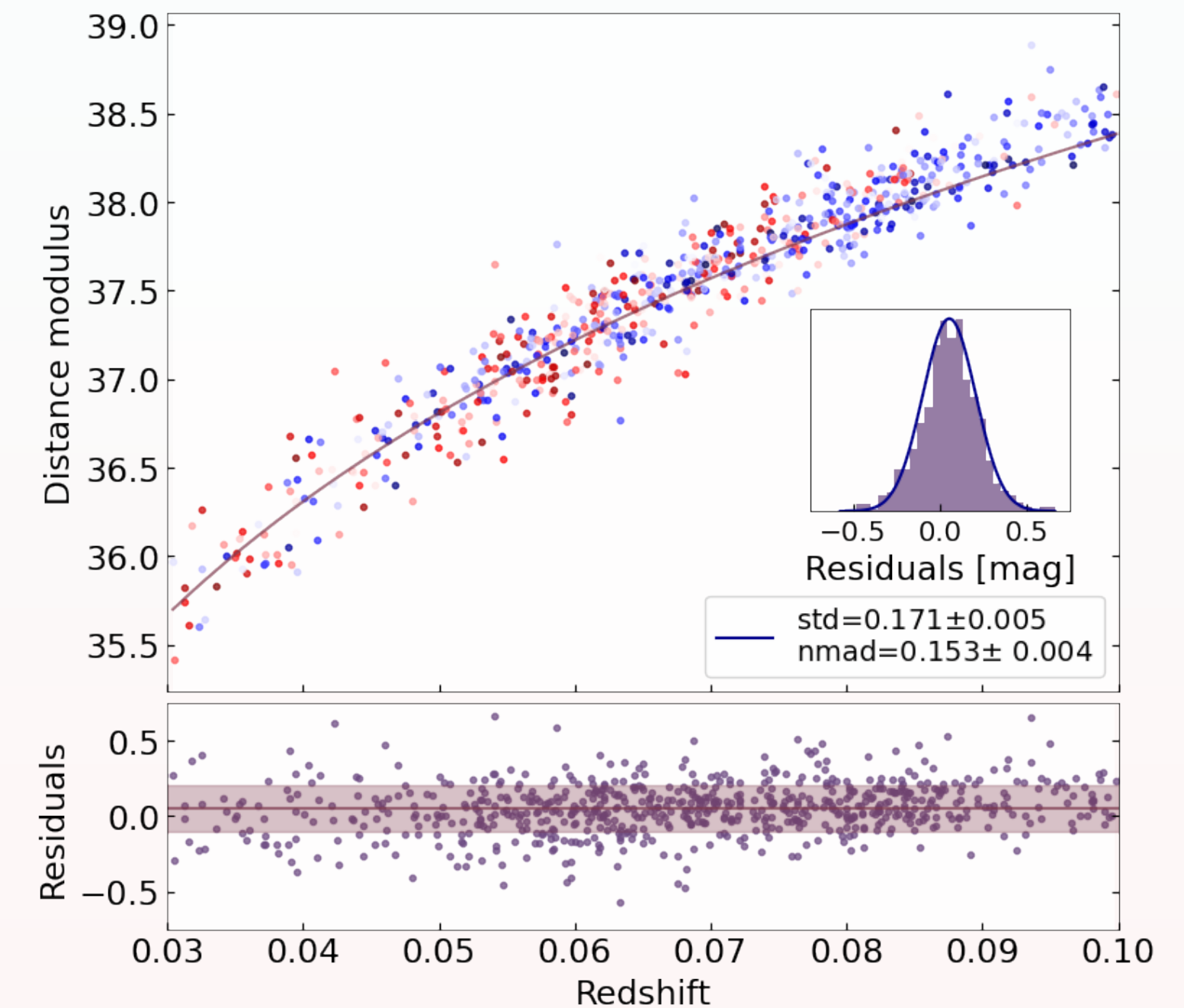
Residuals for 688 ZTF SNe and 139 SNf SNe

*Gaussian Process δm^{GP} doesn't
 decrease the dispersion on ZTF*

Conclusion

Ganot et al. (in prep)

- 1607 ZTF spectra flux-calibrated at 0.07 mag
- ZTF TE sample has 4x more SNe than SNf
- RBTL standardisation efficiency is confirmed for ZTF
 - 0.153 mag | 0.164 mag SALT c and x_1
 - ~ 0.1 mag for the bluest
 - Less dependency to environment
- Recover the line variabilities with $GP(\lambda)(\vec{\xi}_i)$
- Manifold standardisation limited by spectral quality

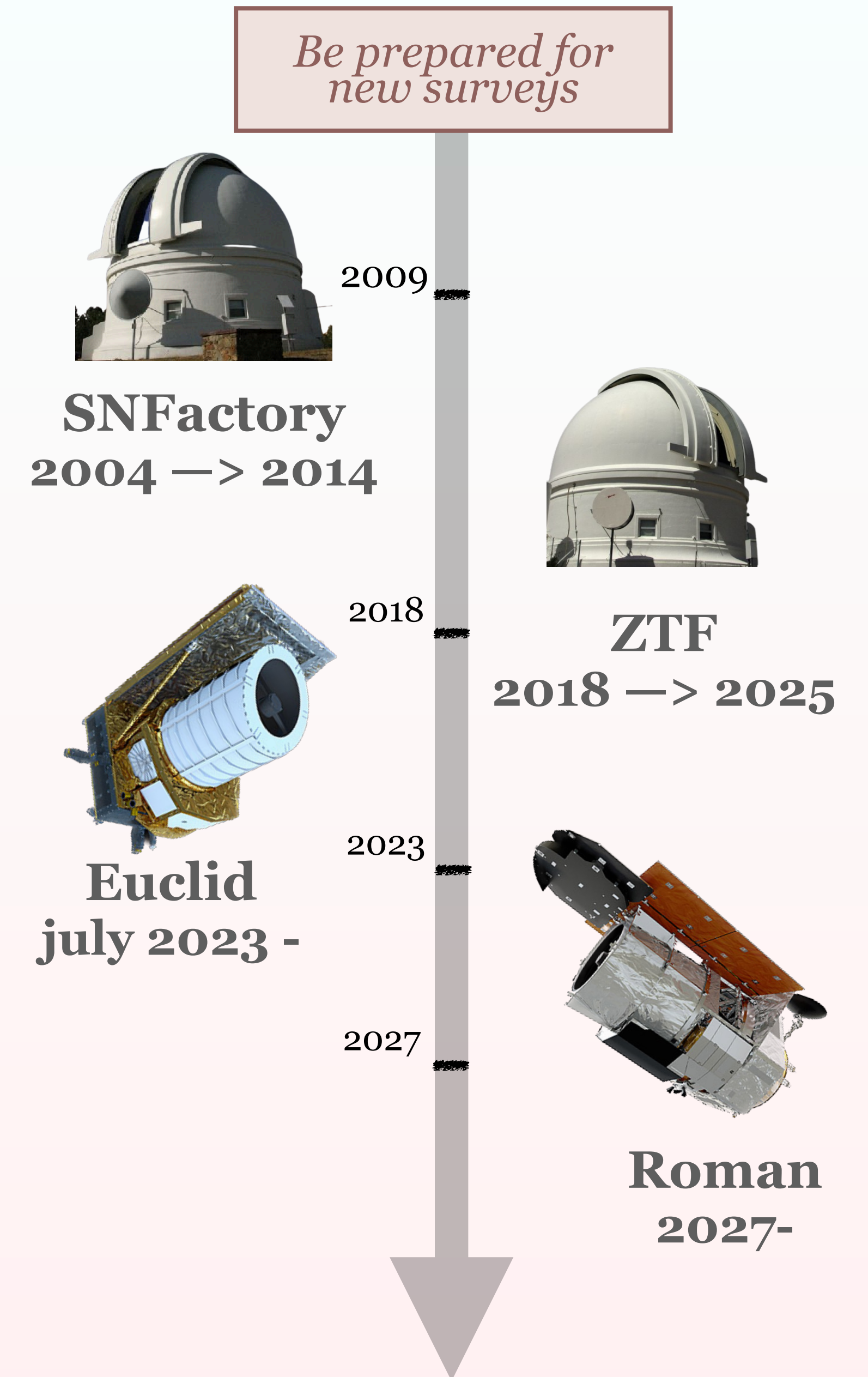


What's next

We need simulations to know what to focus on for future surveys

Ongoing work: *sntwin*

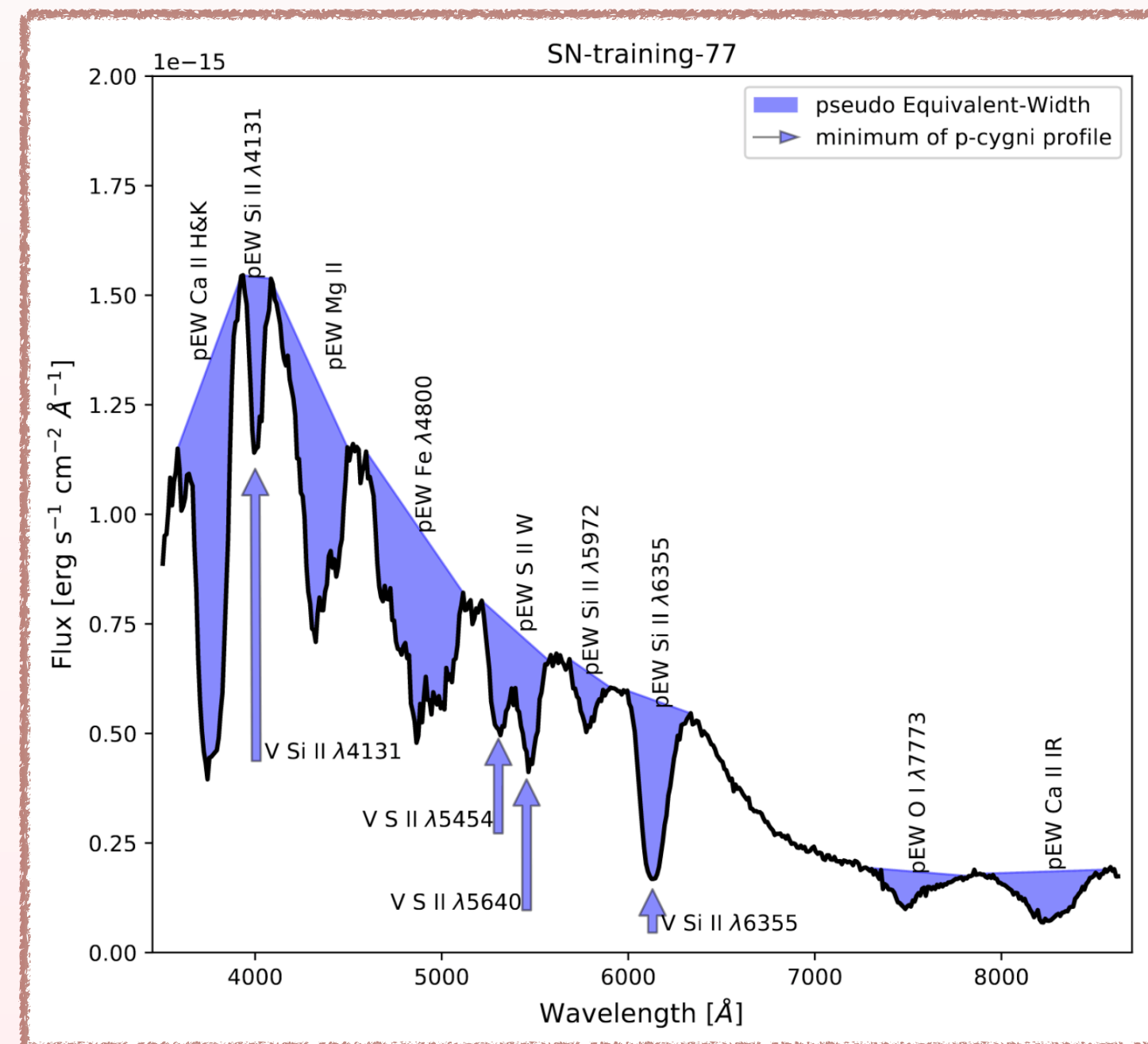
- Application of the TE to another surveys
- Dataset simulations: wavelength coverage, SNR, σ_z , resolution, revise the cuts...
- Improving the method: phase range, the colorlaw (dust evolution in z ...)



SUGAR

Léger 2019

features are highly correlated : SUGAR is
combining the pEW and velocities
Linear combination of 13 spectral features
3 parameters q_i

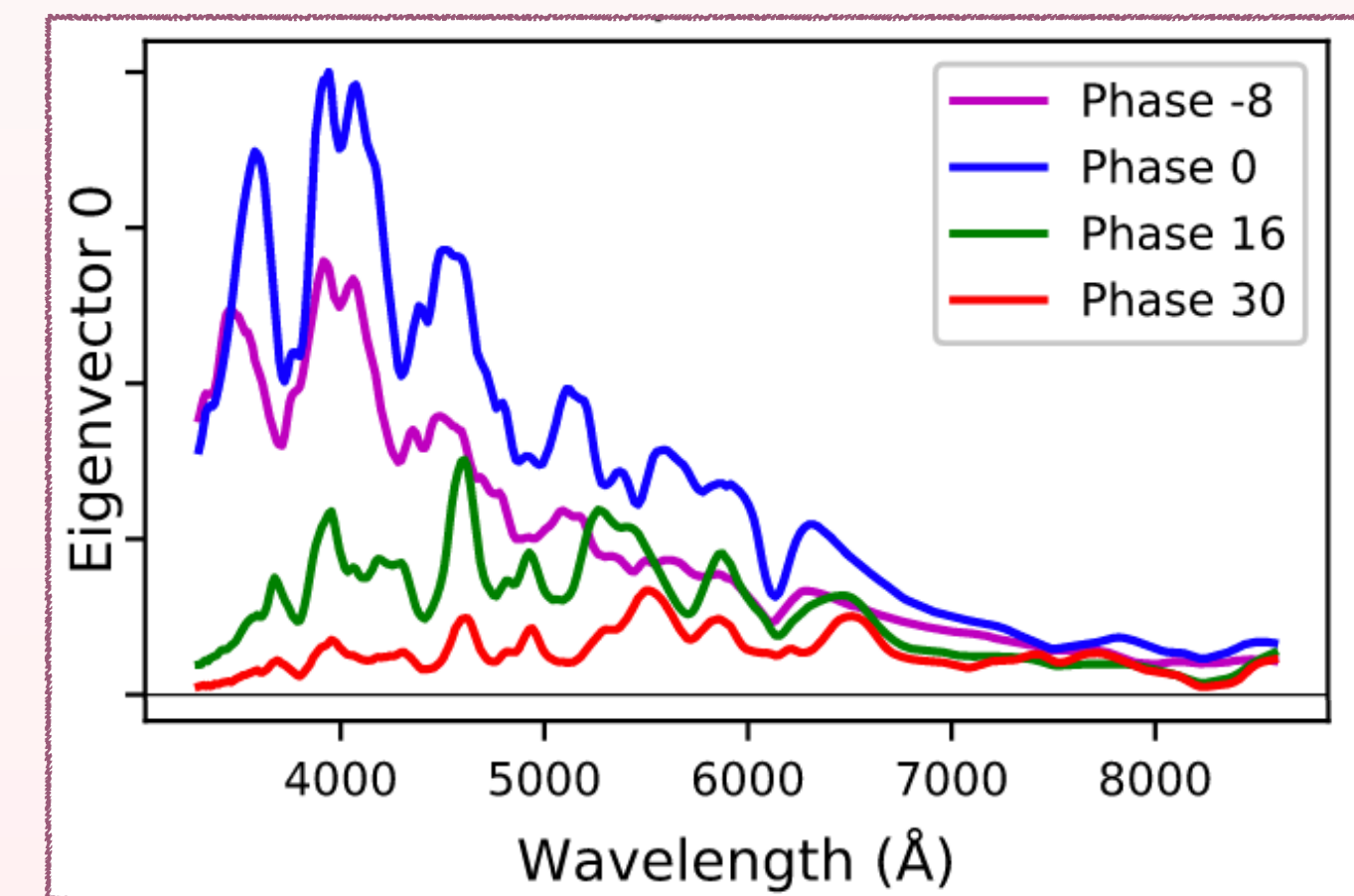


SNEMO

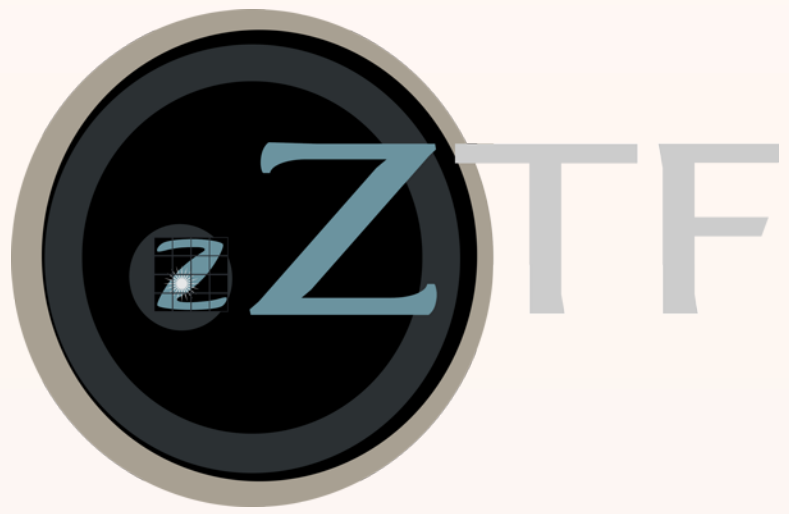
Saunders 2018

PCA describing the variations of SN Ia
spectral time series
Eigenvectors $e_i(p, \lambda)$ + Eigenvalues $c'_{SN,i}$
2, 7 or 15 parameters

$$F_{SN}(p, \lambda) = c_{SN,0} \left(e_0(p, \lambda) + \sum_{i=1}^N c'_{SN,i} e_i(p, \lambda) \right)$$

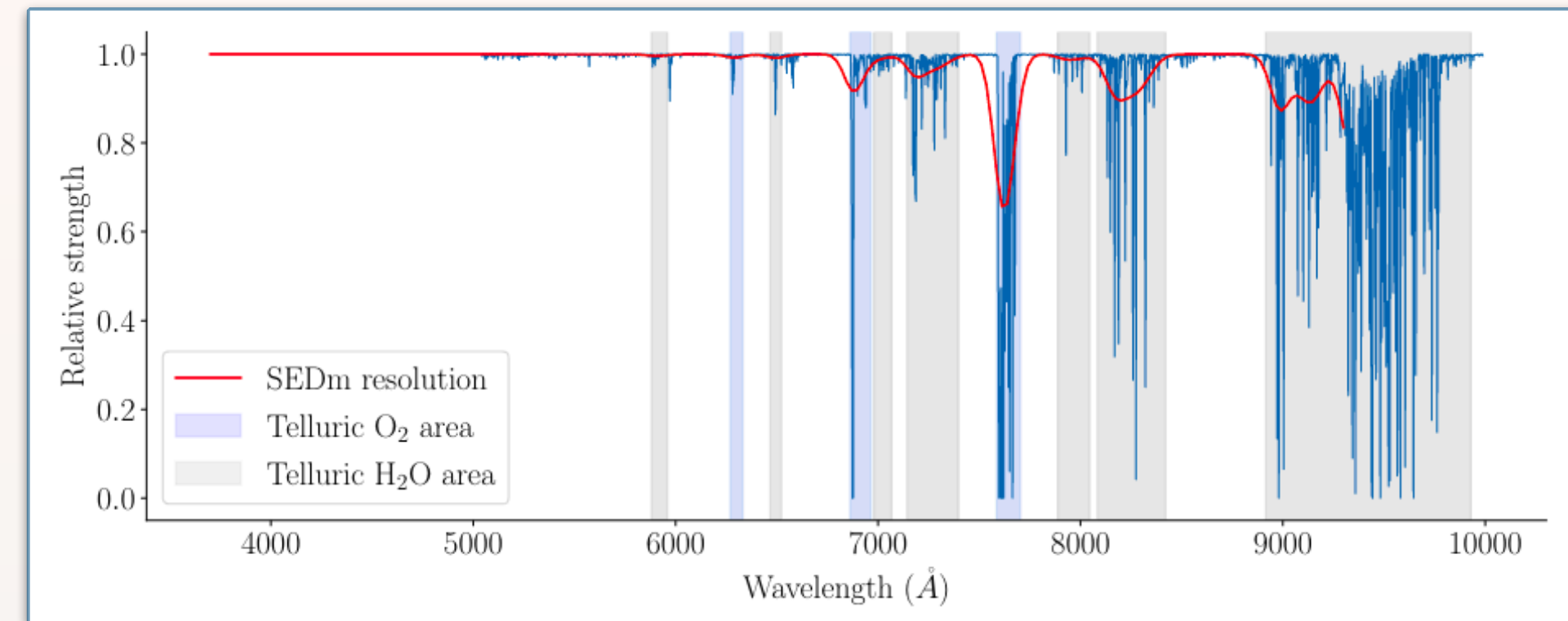


First eigenvector $e_0(p, \lambda)$ for several phase p

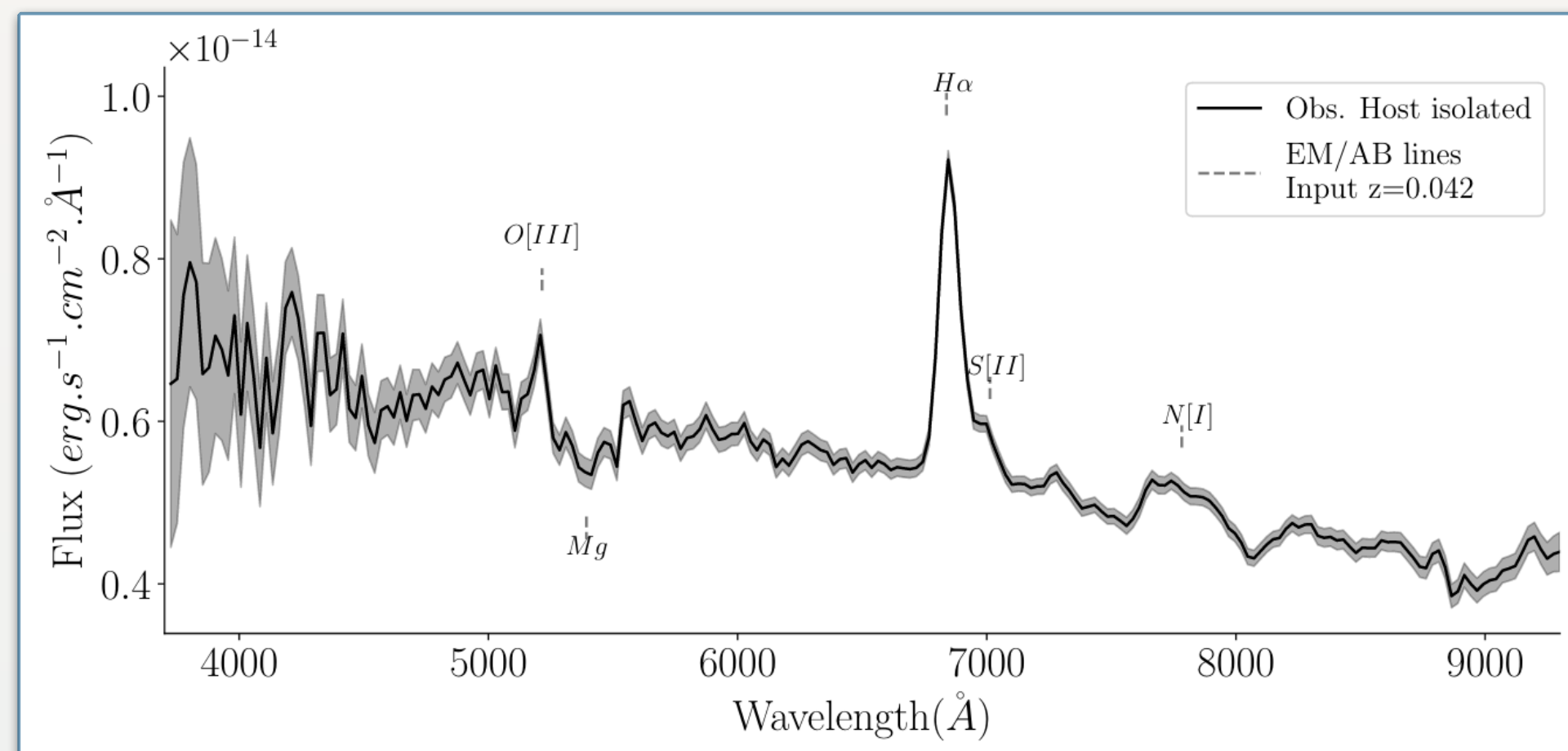


Data processing

- ☑ Extraction from data cude
- ☑ Wavelength calibration
- ☑ Correction atmospheric contamination
- ☑ Host galaxy contamination

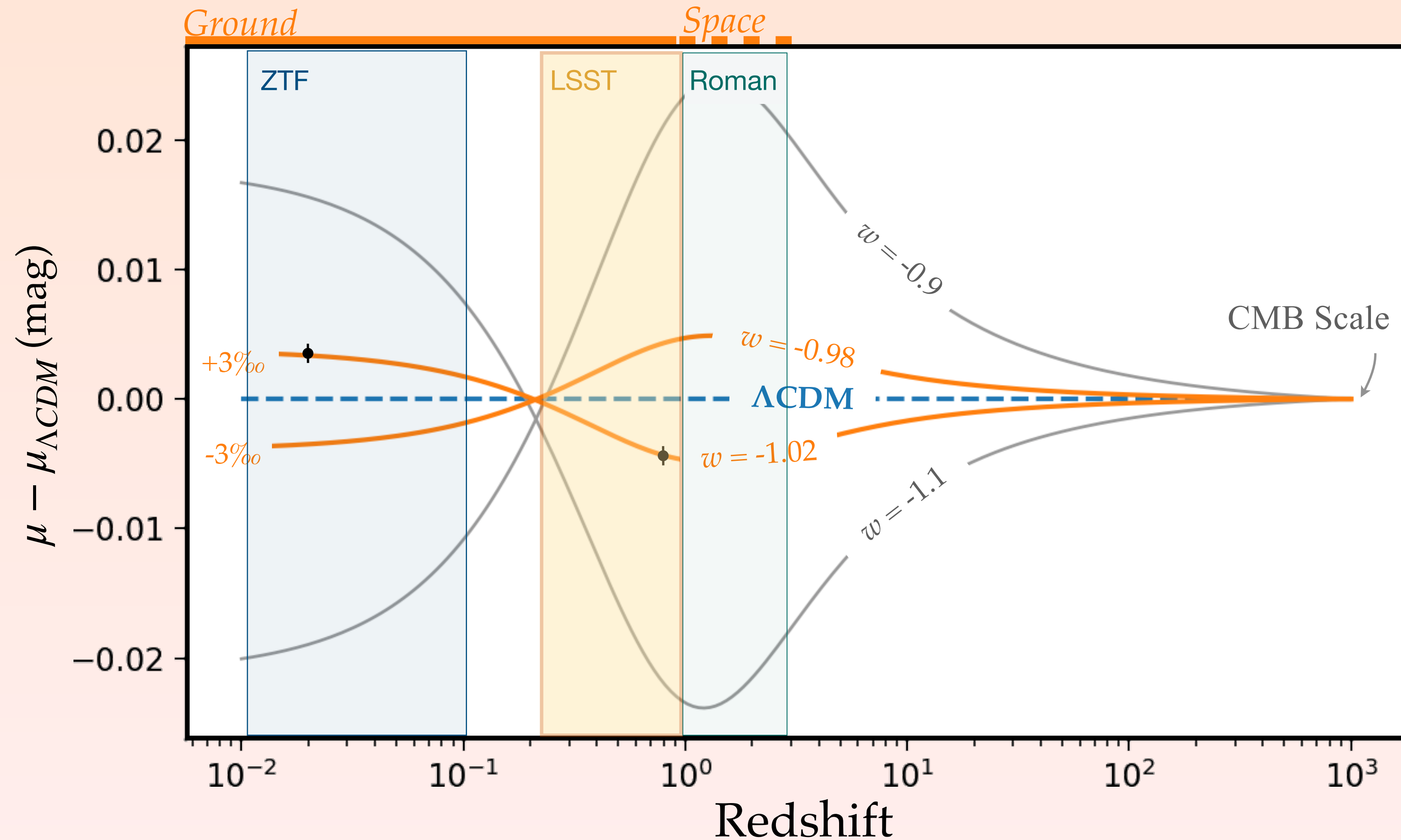


Telluric absorption lines from Kitt Peak Observatory
Credit: Hinkle et al., 2003



Spectrum of ZTF18accrorf host galaxy
Credit: Jeremy Lezmy thesis

Goals | *Dark Energy*



Precision required (Systematics)

Calibration :

$$\delta\text{mag} = 0.001$$

Astrophysical bias:

$$\delta\text{mag} = 0.001$$

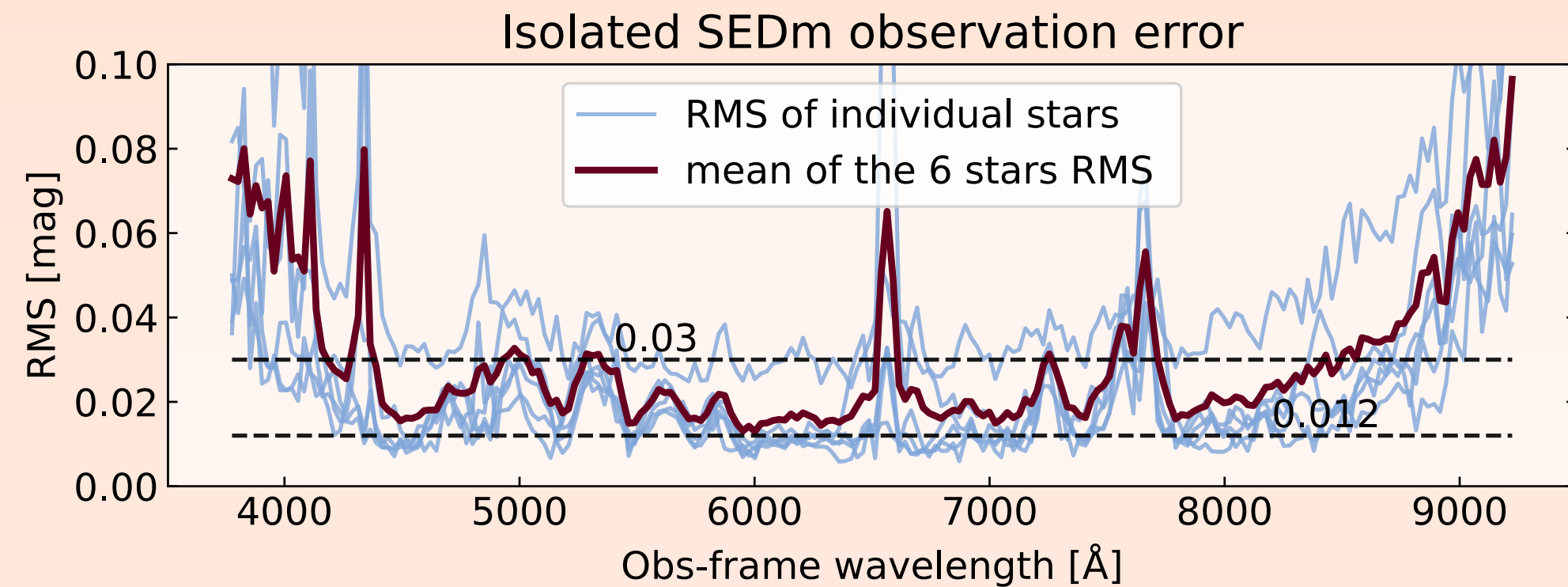
Dispersion (Statistics)

SNe Ia dispersion :

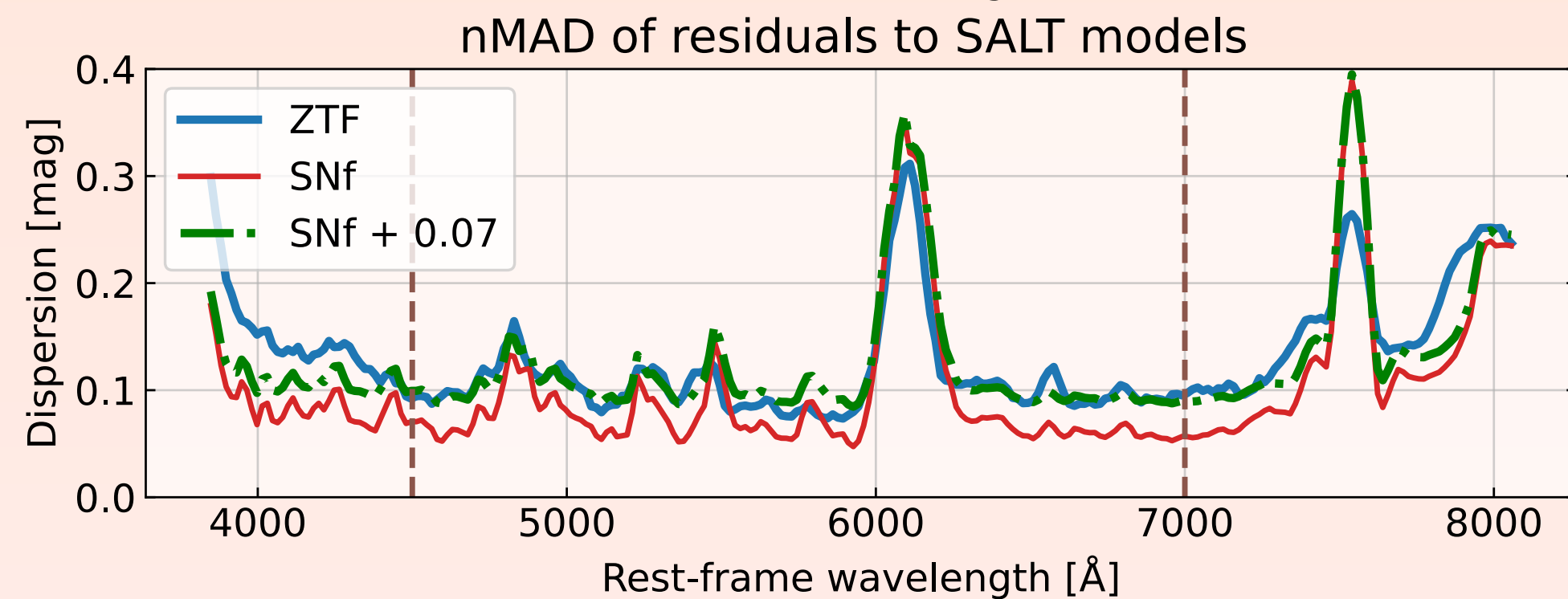
$$\sigma_{\text{mag}} = 0.40$$

*SNe Ia are not
standard candles !*

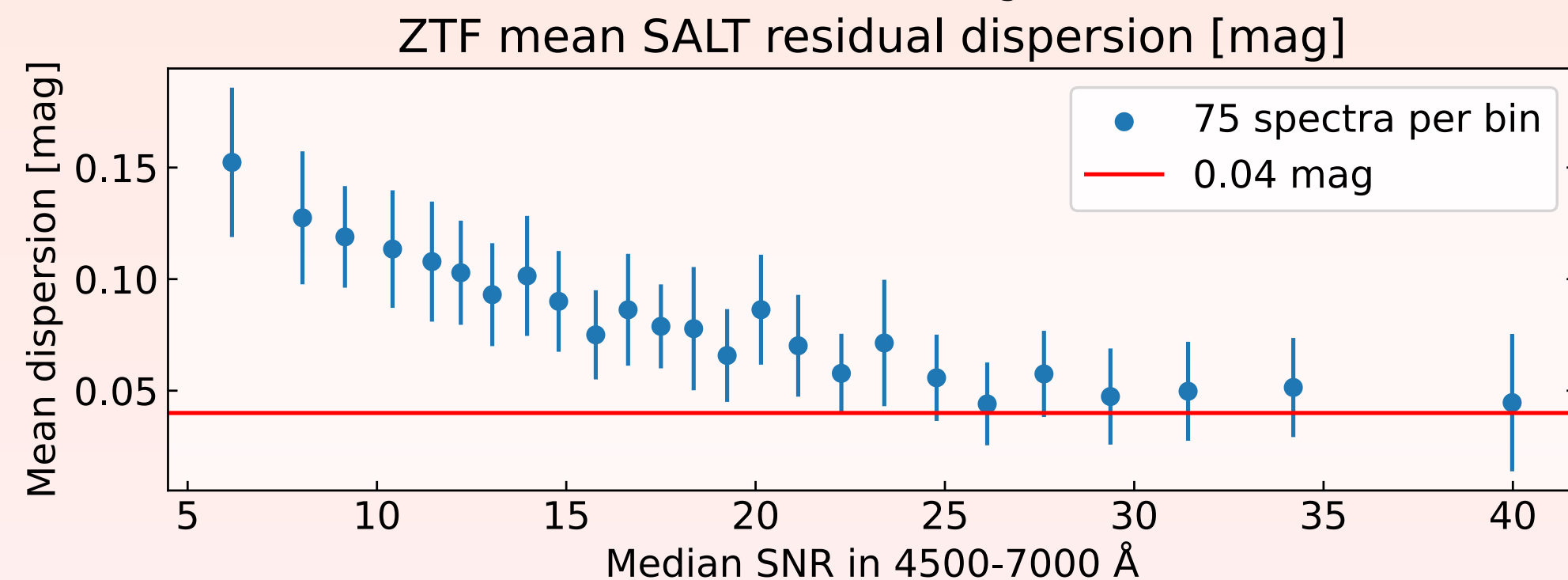
Flux calibration : precision estimates



Standard stars
Residuals of SEDm observations
with CALSPEC reference spectra



SNe Ia
Dispersion error floor of ZTF compared to SNf

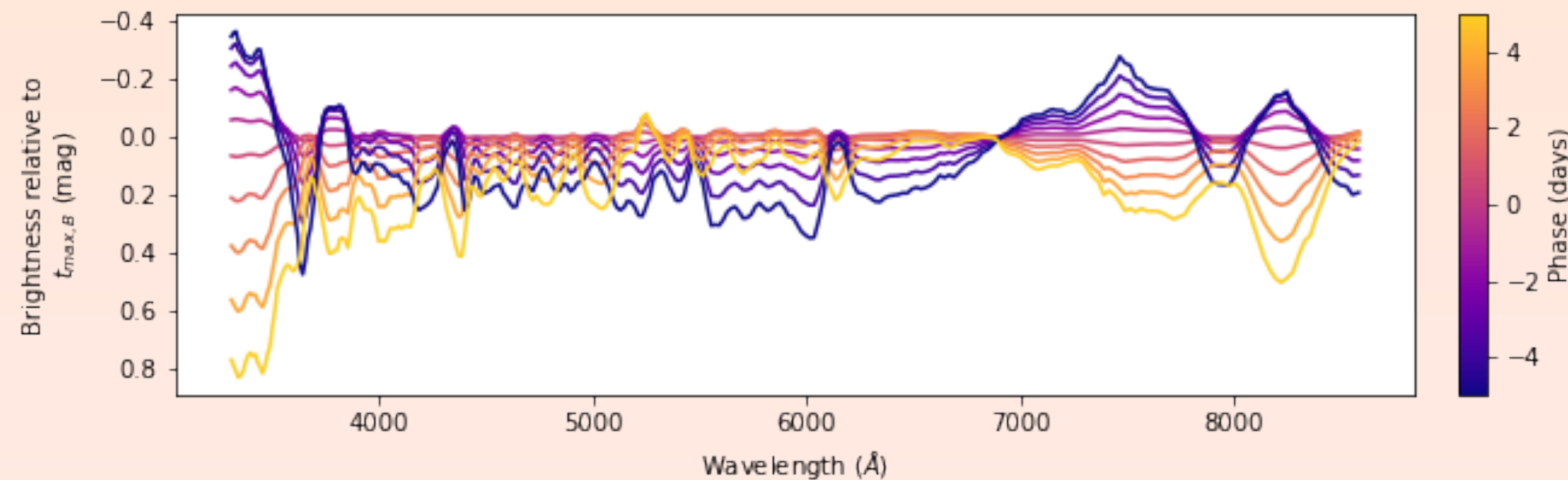


Isolated flux-calibration dispersion
Separate the contribution of SNR

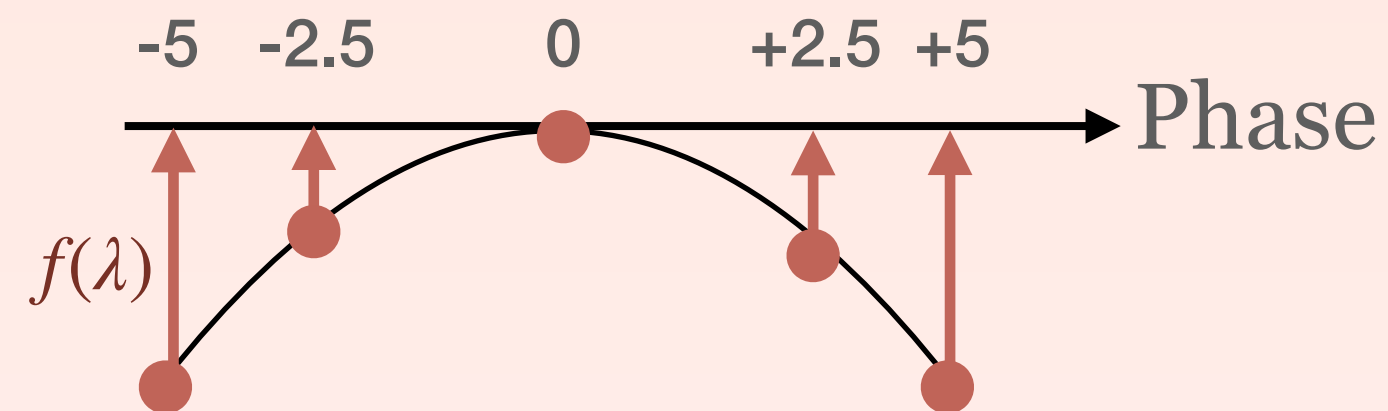
DTEM - phase correction

1. Generate at maximum luminosity

$$m_i(p; \lambda_k) - m_i(0; \lambda_k) = p \cdot c_1(\lambda_k) + p^2 \cdot c_2(\lambda_k)$$

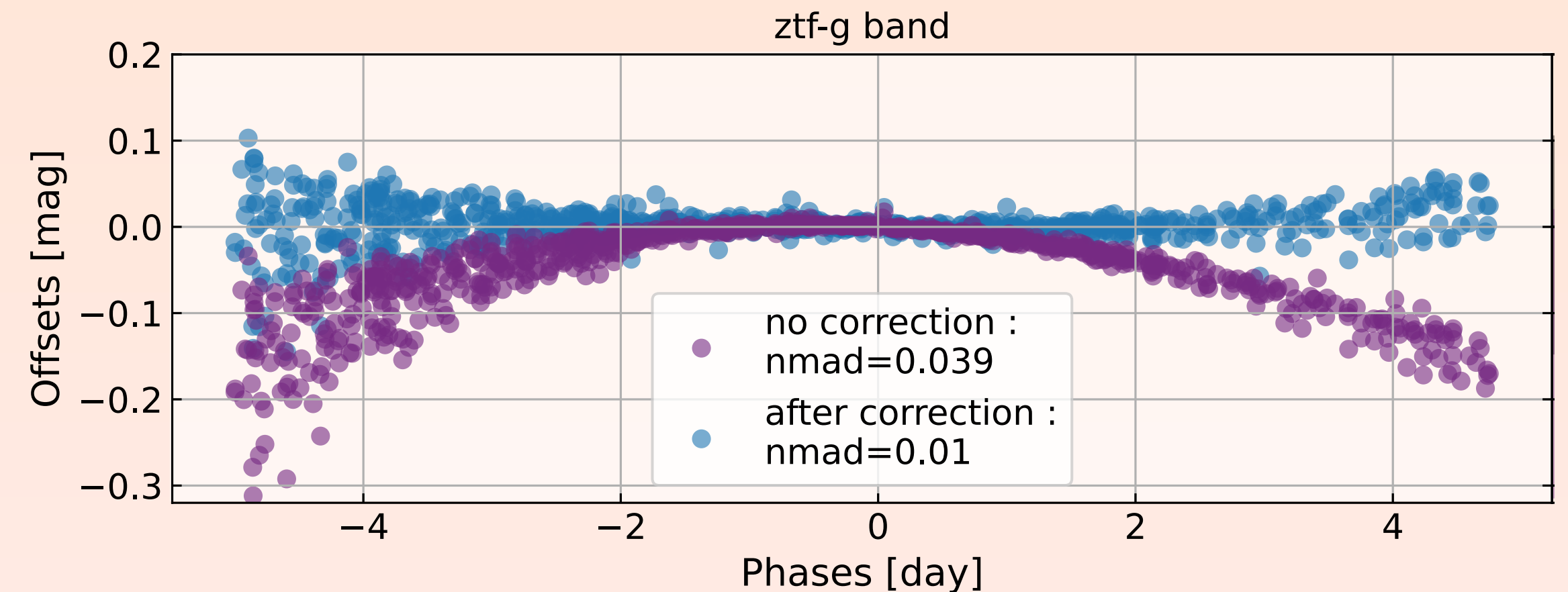


Quadratic evolution in phase of SN Ia spectra



On *bessell-b* Lightcurve

Capture 85% of the spectral **time evolution** variance
common to every Sne between -5 and 5 days



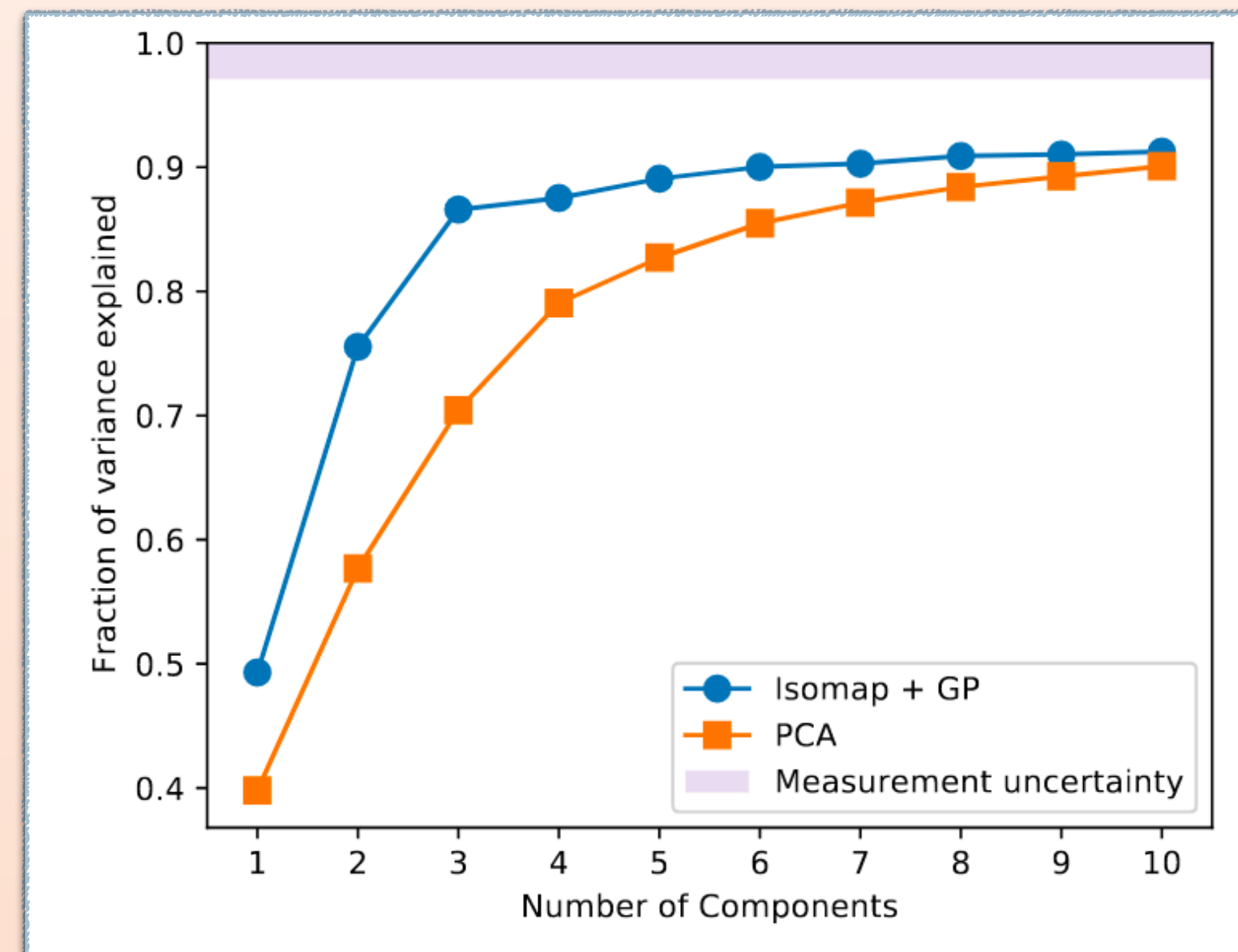
Synthetic photometry in g-band for 789 SNe of ZTF,
compared to LC data at peak,
before/after DTEM correction

—> *estimated precision of 0.01 mag for ZTF
in ztf-g band*

The Twins Embedding parameters space

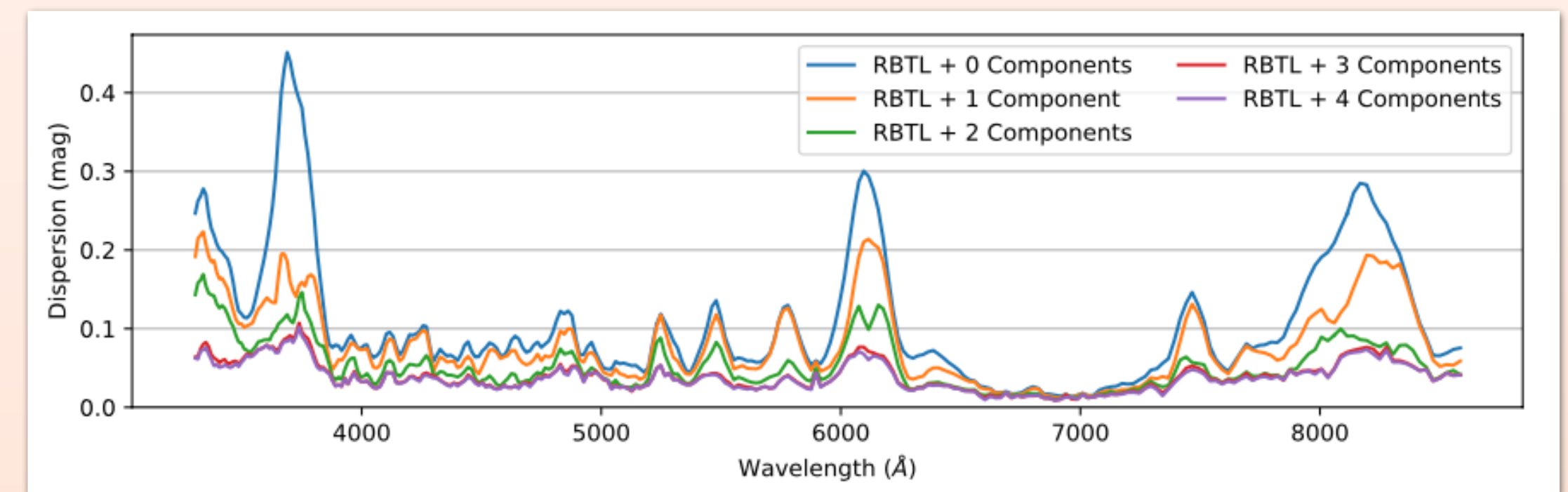
Spectral distance between two SNe i and j :

$$\gamma_{ij} = \sqrt{\sum_k \left(\frac{f_{\text{dered.},i}(\lambda_k) - f_{\text{dered.},j}(\lambda_k)}{f_{\text{mean}}(\lambda_k)} \right)^2}$$



86.6% of variance explained with 3 components

Isomap algorithm embed high-dimensional space to low-dimentional while preserving distances



*From **K.Boone et al. 2021**. SN Factory spectra fluxes STD, in function of wavelengths, for different numbers of Manifold Learning components (parameters reduction)*

But it does not provide a model of a spectrum given its coordinates in the embedding : for that they use Gaussian Process

The standardisation using Twins Embedding

To map the magnitude residuals through the TE space : linear standardisation not sufficient, instead Gaussian Process regression :

$$\delta m_i^{\text{GP}} = \text{GP} \left(\mu(m_{\text{ref}}, \omega \cdot \Delta A_{V,i}); \sigma(\vec{\xi}_i, \vec{\sigma}_{p.v.,i}^2, \sigma_u^2) \right)$$

Fitted parameters :

m_{ref} a common reference magnitude

ω a linear correction term

σ_u the unexplained residual dispersion

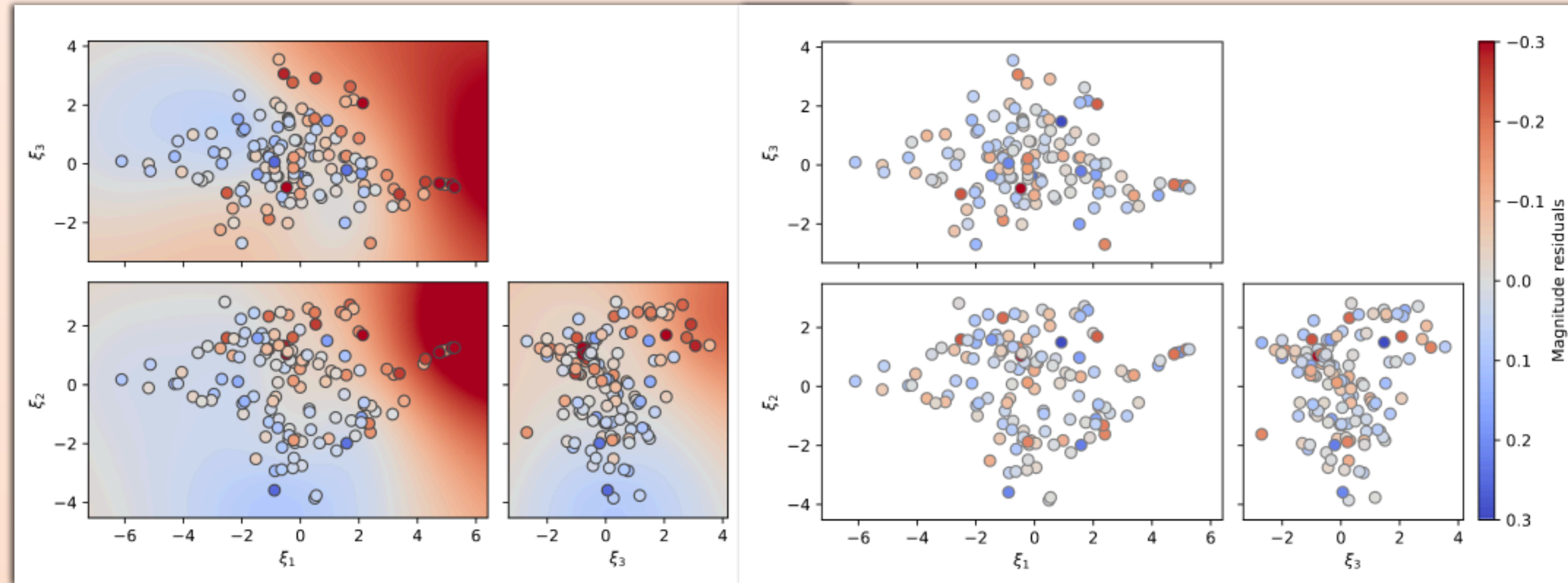
Known :

δm_i^{GP} the RBTL magnitude residual

$\Delta A_{V,i}$ the RBTL color

$\vec{\xi}_i$ the Isomap coordinates

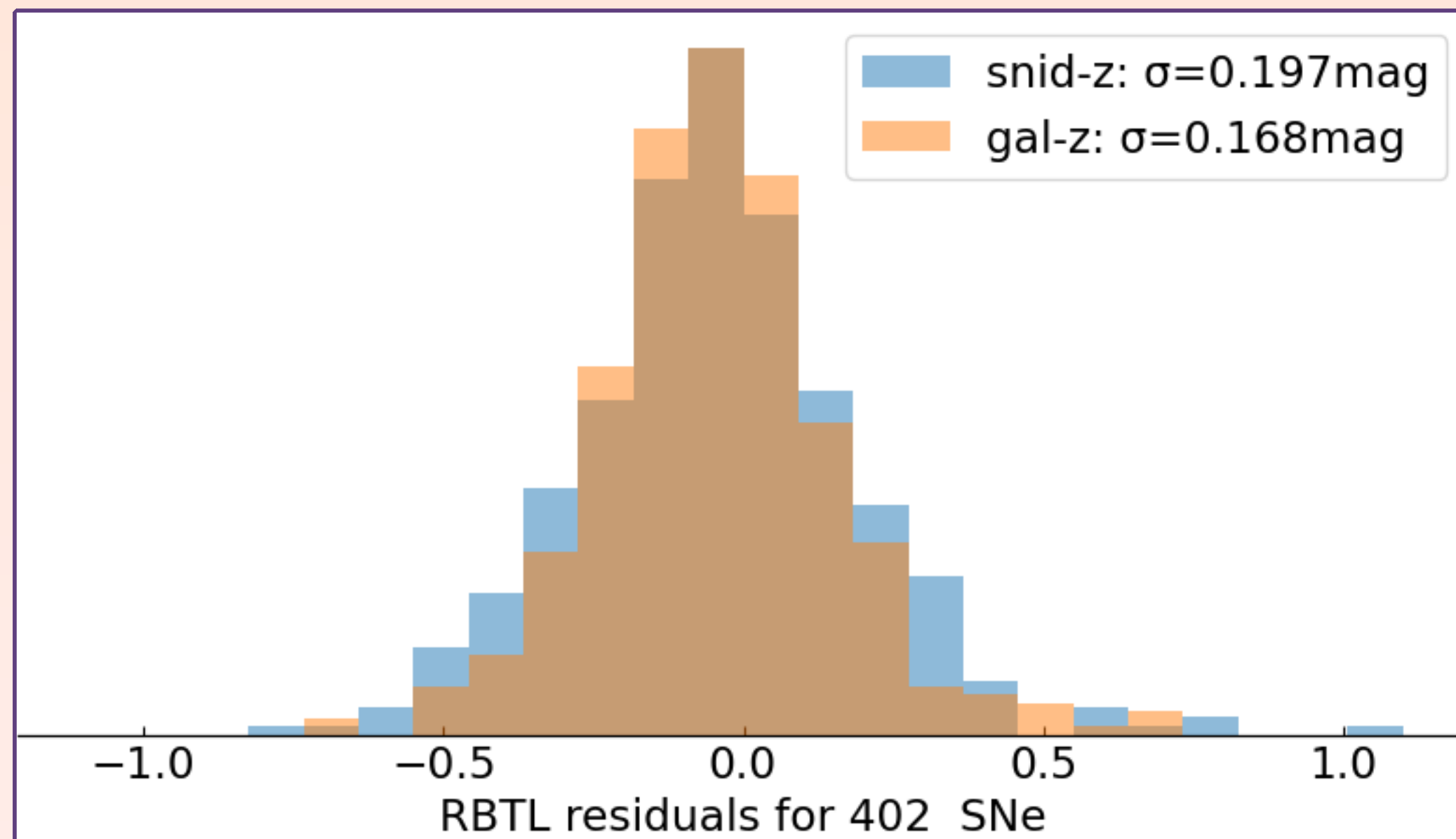
$\vec{\sigma}_{p.v.,i}^2$ the host galaxy peculiar velocity variance



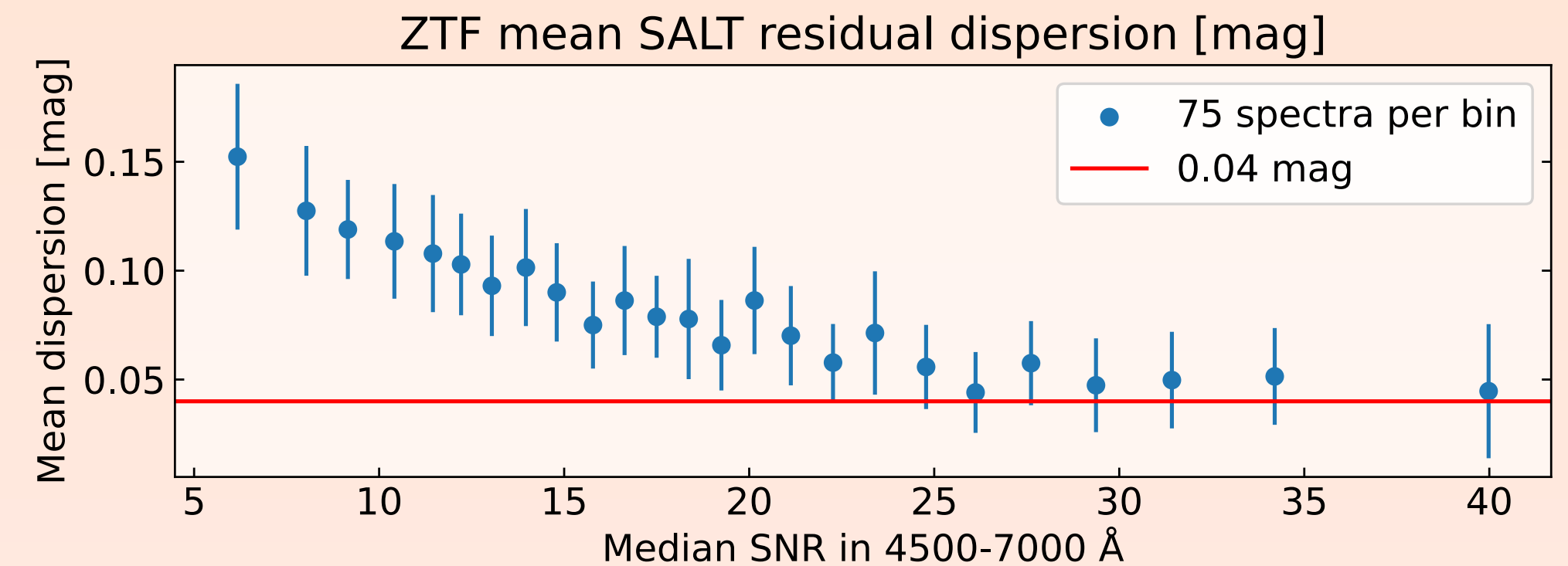
**Before/after correction of magnitude residuals with GP
from Boone 2021b**

ZTF additional dispersion estimates

We run on 60% percent of the sample that have both SNID-z and gal-z: we found 0.07mag difference (in quadratic)



So we reduce the dispersion of 40% of the sample which have SNID-z only.



SNR should be absorbed by Δm

- * 0.07mag due to 40% of SNe with $\sigma_z \sim 10^{-3}$
- * 0.04mag dispersion floor due to flux-calibration falls to 0.126 mag dispersion