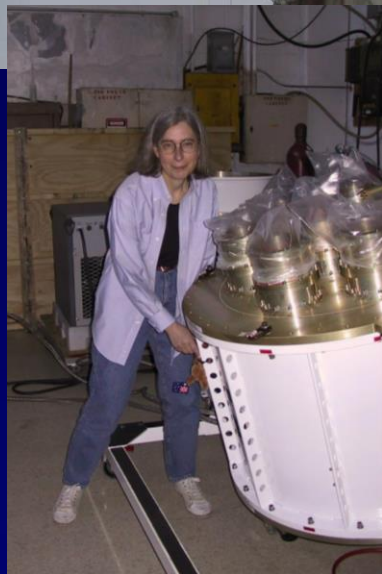


Identifying stellar
counterparts to HI detections:
really important and easier
said than done

Martha Haynes
Cornell University
For the ALFALFA team

PHISCC15 @ Rutgers
March 17, 2015



ALFALFA

Putting HI surveys in context



- What galaxies are detected/not detected by HI surveys?
 - How and when do galaxies convert their gas into stars?
 - Is HI relevant?
-
- For many/most scientific purposes, the HI alone is not sufficient; we need to know also about the stars (at least!)

Hence: A few lessons from ALFALFA.....



ALFALFA

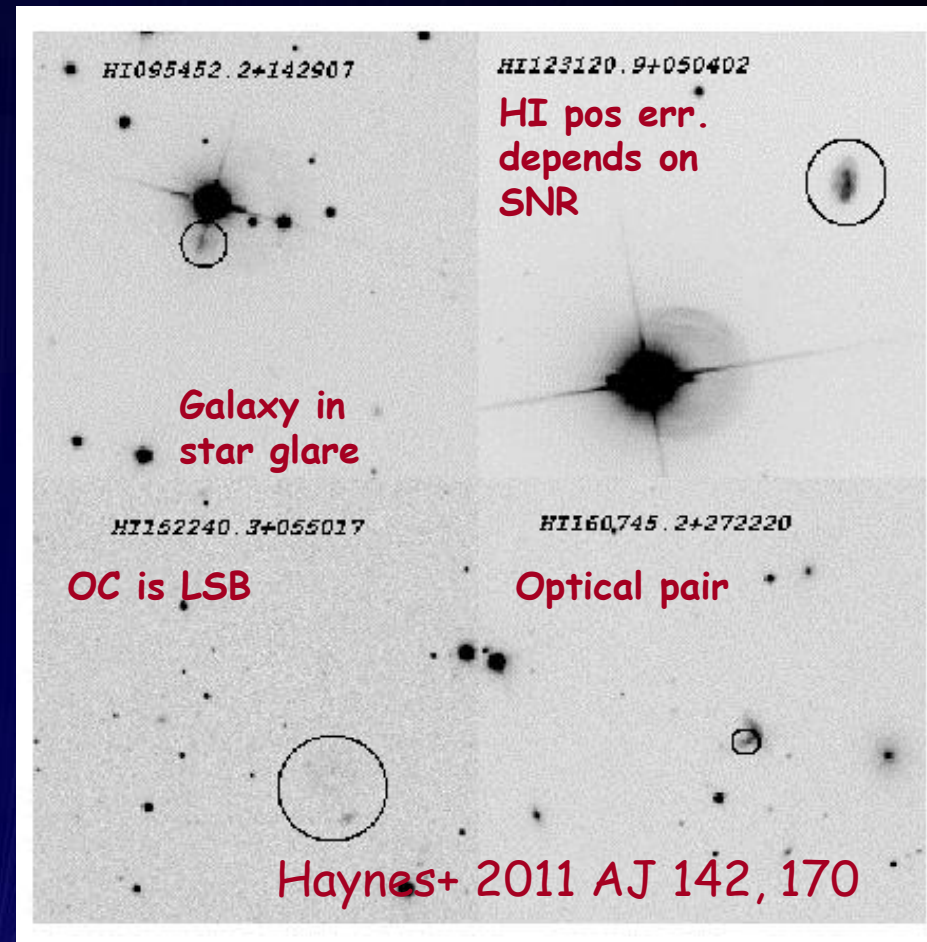
Identifying Optical Counterparts

ALFALFA source centroids good to $\sim 18''$ (depends on S/N)
=> Use SDSS/DSS2(B) to find "most probable" OC.



Of 15855 sources in $\alpha.40$:

- 1013 have no "probable" OC in SDSS or DSS2(B)
 - 844 of those could be HVCs or UCHVCs/LG minihalos (Betsey's talk)
 - 199 ($< 2\%$) extragalactic
 - Of those 199, < 50 are "isolated" (Luke's talk coming up)
- => similar statistics in $\alpha.70+$

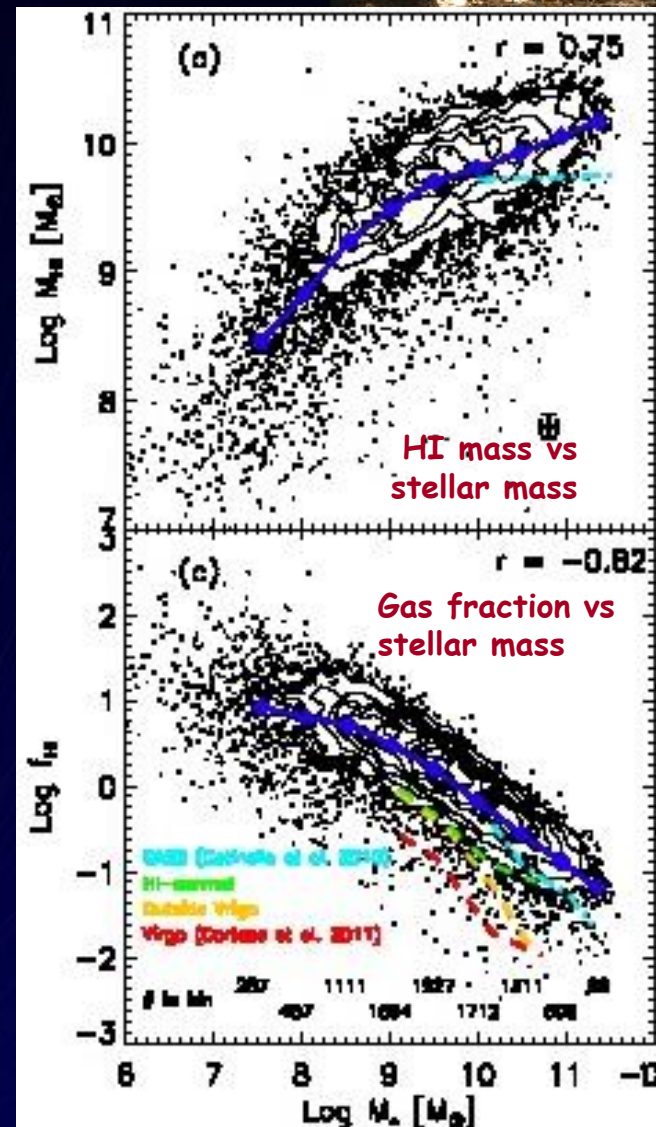


ALFALFA

Virtually all SF galaxies contain HI

- HI blind surveys do not “see”:
 - the “red sequence”
 - clusters
- HI-selected galaxies are the least clustered population (Martin+ 2012, Papastergis+2013)
- The ALFALFA population is typically **bluer**, of **lower metallicity** and lower **extinction**, consistent with having **extended disks** and lower SFEs.
- Galaxies with **higher GF** are hosted in halos with **higher spin λ** .
- HI **dominates** the (visible) baryons in low mass galaxies.
- The SFHs of low mass galaxies are **episodic**.

ALFALFA-SDSS-GALEX population
Shan Huang et al. 2012 ApJ 756 113



ALFALFA

Putting HI surveys in context



- What galaxies are detected/not detected by HI surveys?
- How and when do galaxies convert their gas into stars?
- Is HI relevant?
- For many/most scientific purposes, the HI alone is not sufficient; we need to know also about the stars (at least!)
- The presence of an optical counterpart (OC) increases the probability that a low SNR "candidate detection" is real, especially if the OC has a coincident redshift => the ALFALFA "priors"



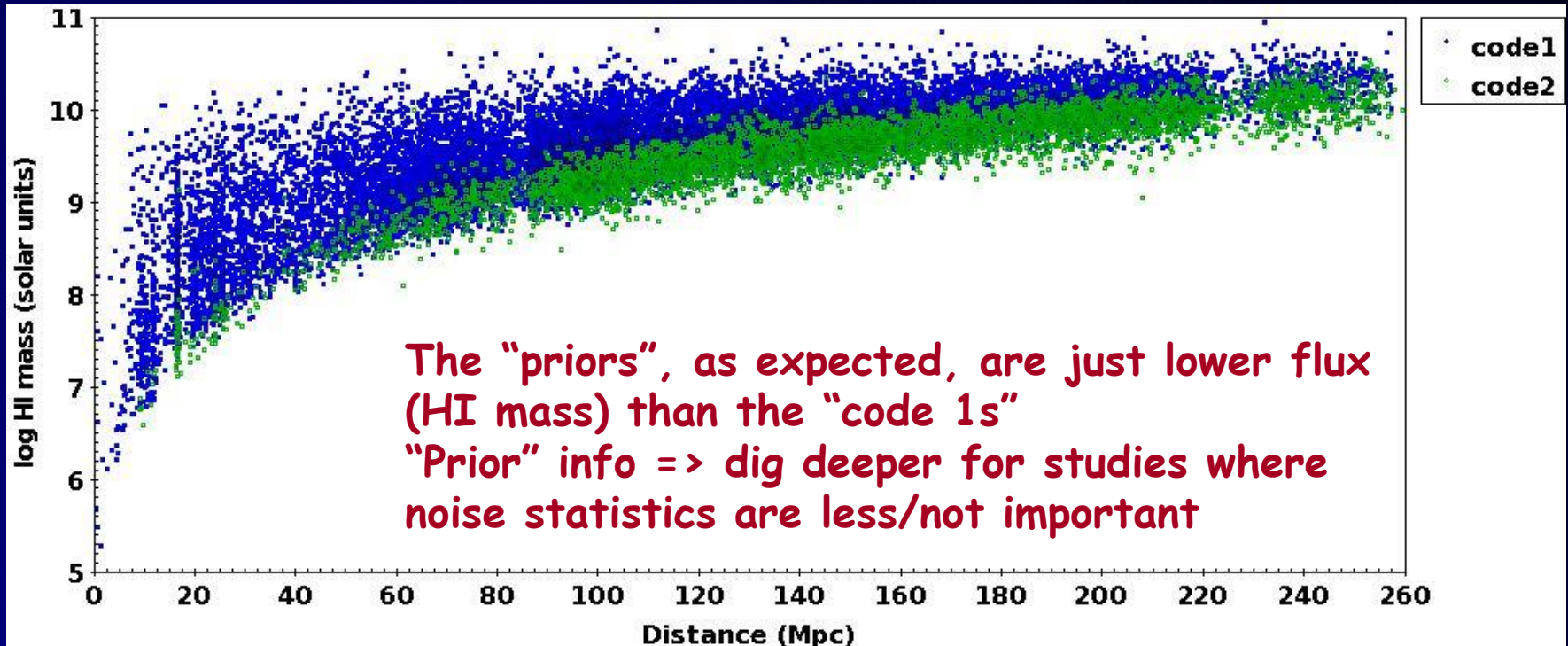
ALFALFA

ALFALFA: sources and candidates



ALFALFA HI detections are coded according to:

Code 1	High quality sources, typically with $S/N > 6.5$
Code 2	Sources of lower S/N which are coincident with a probable OC of the same redshift (known from another source) => the "priors"



The ALFALFA-SDSS experience

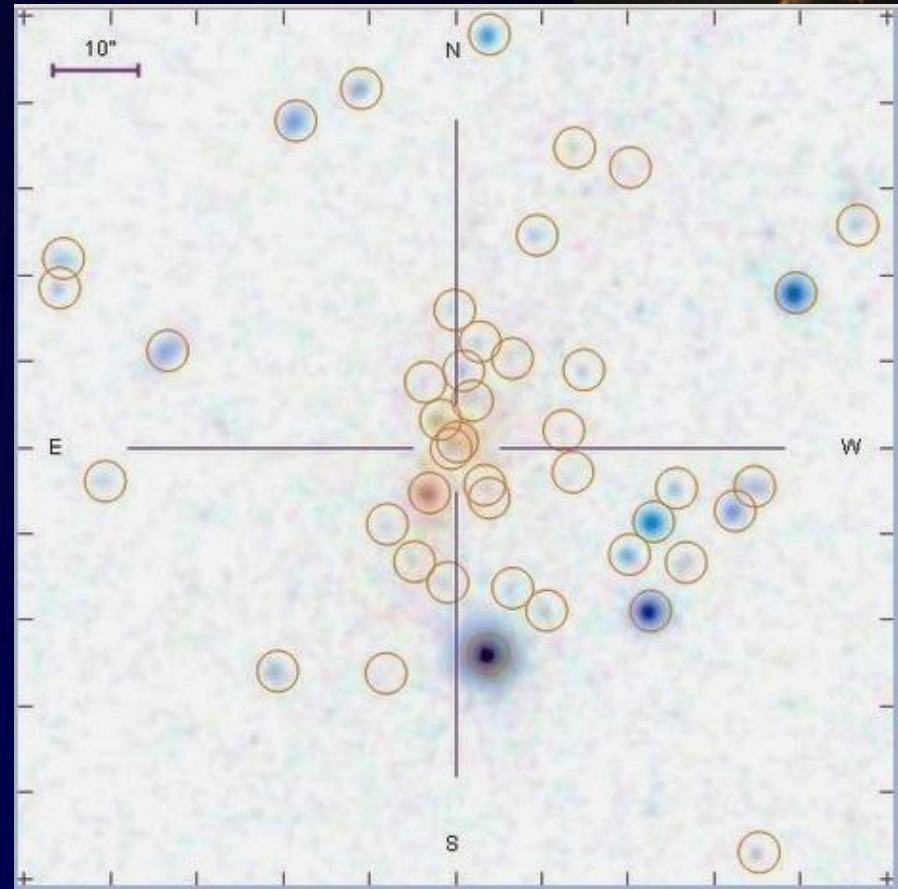
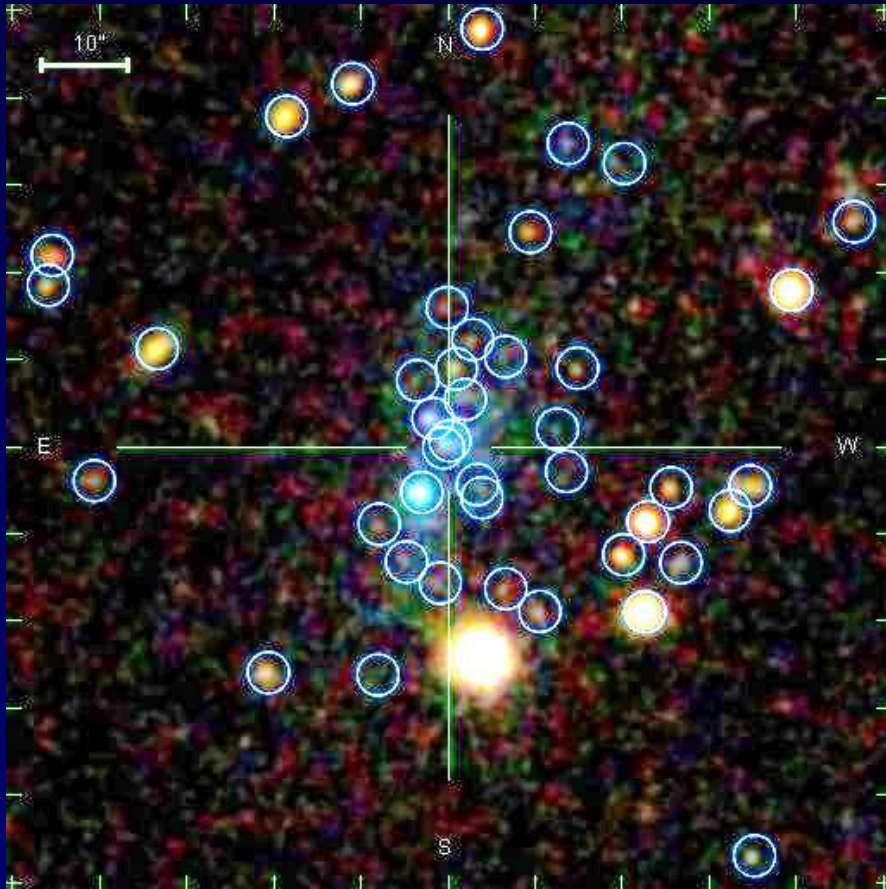


- ALFALFA overlapped in time with SDSS
 - Both datasets kept growing
 - Calibration/software changed
 - For SDSS, that meant new photometric sources (i.e. the catalogued positions/IDs changed)
- Especially because many HI-bearing galaxies are extended and/or of low surface brightness and patchy, the standard SDSS photometric pipeline has issues (shredding)
- ALFALFA's beam is large, resulting in **confusion**.
- ALFALFA has "**blind spots**" due to **RFI** contamination.
- SDSS photometry suffers from **bright star** contamination.
- SDSS phot/spectroscopy suffers when the photometry is **shredded**.
- SDSS spectroscopy is affected by **fiber collision rules**.
- **A few examples.....**



ALFALFA

AGC 208583 = Leo P

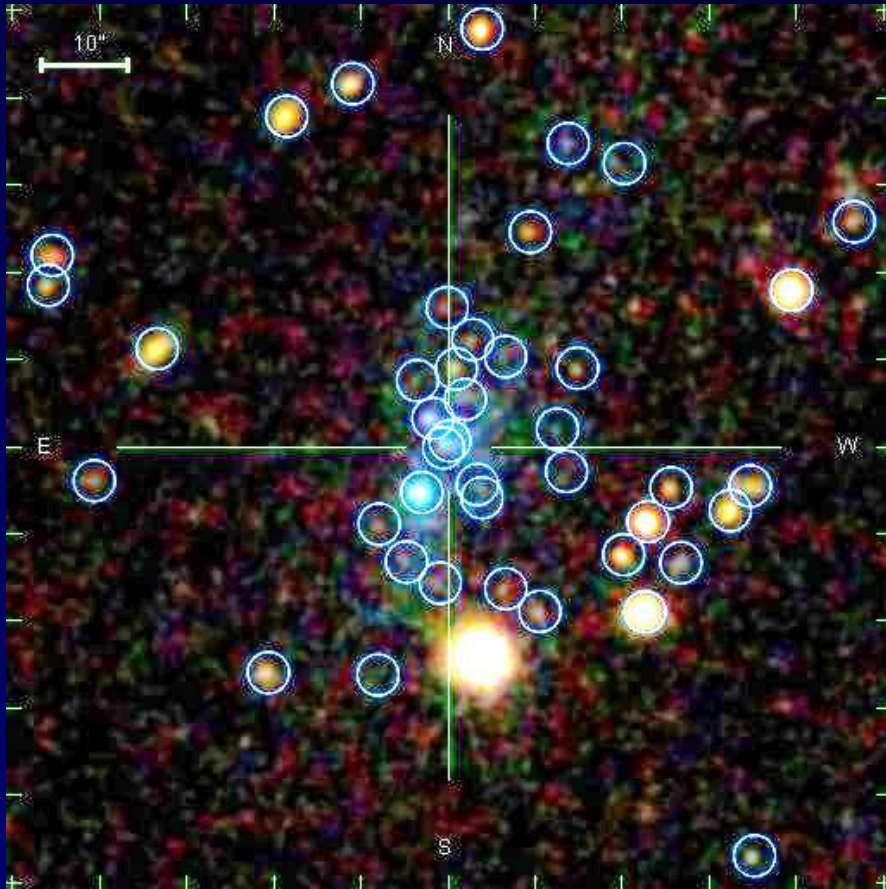


Many photometric objects => compact group of galaxies



ALFA

AGC 208583 = Leo P

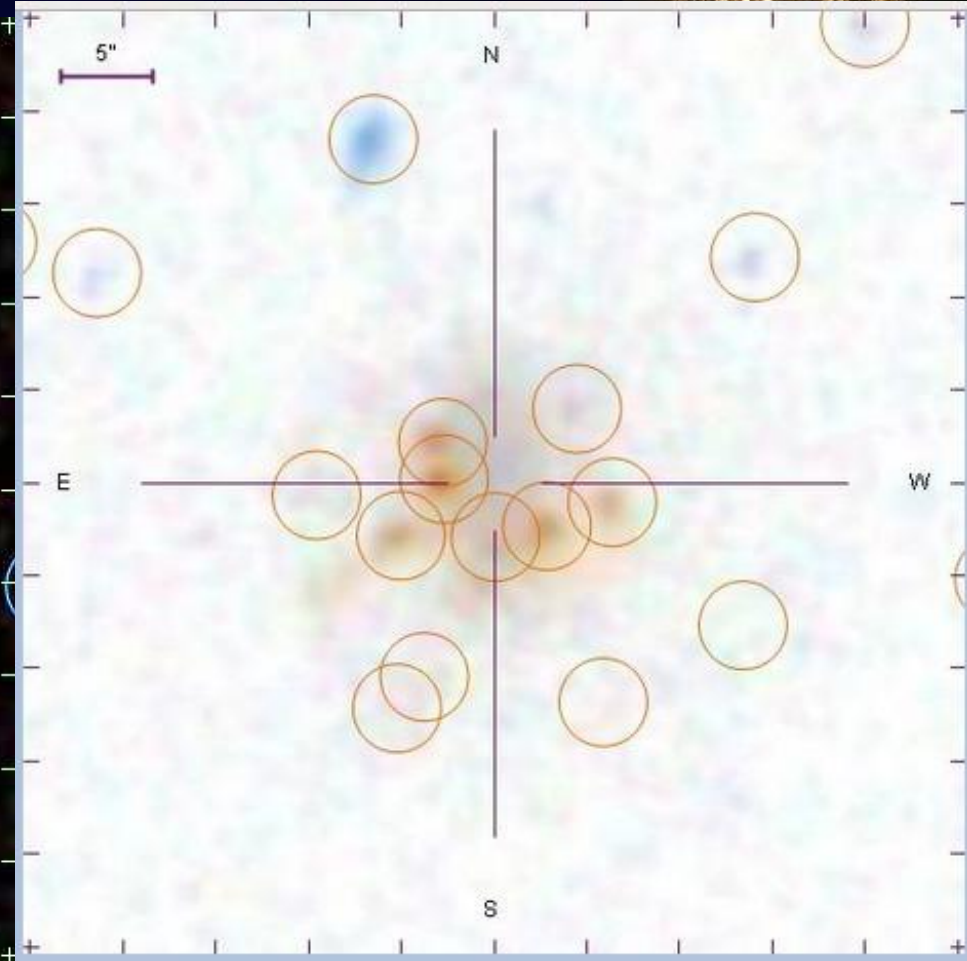
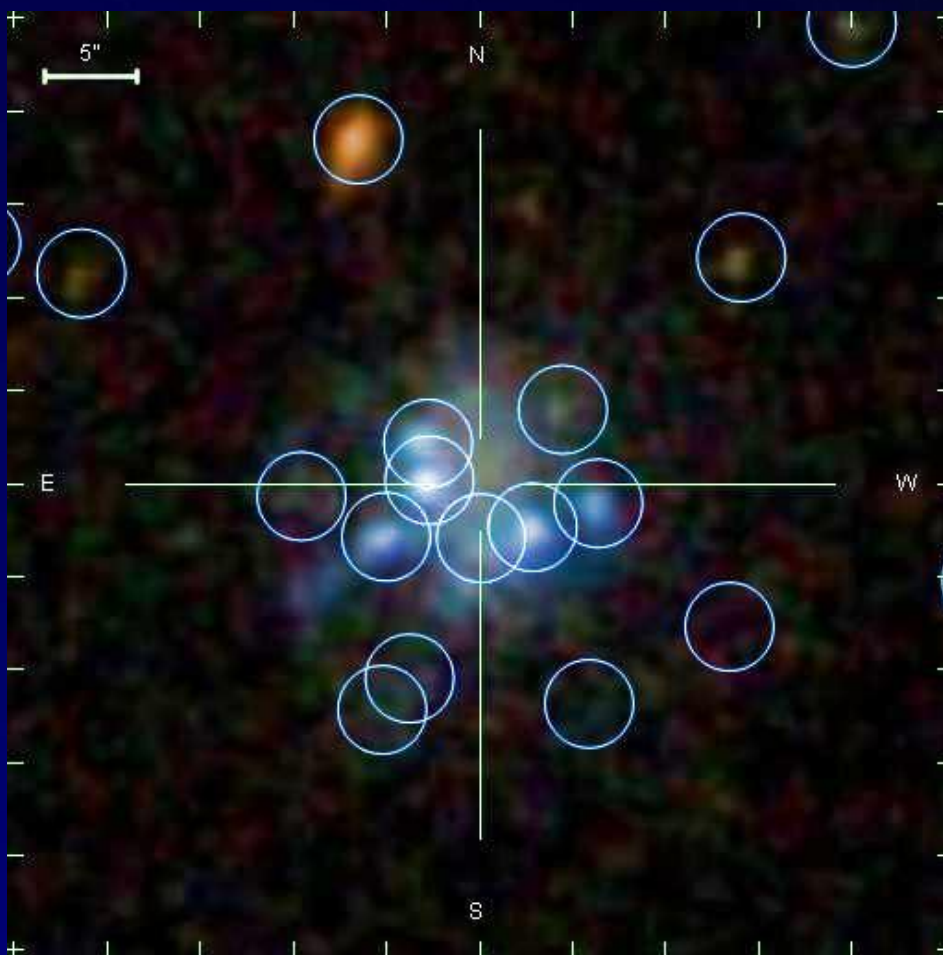


Many photometric objects => compact group of galaxies



ALFA

AGC 749439



Shredded into many comparable photoObjs
 $cz = 3530 \text{ km/s}$



ALFA

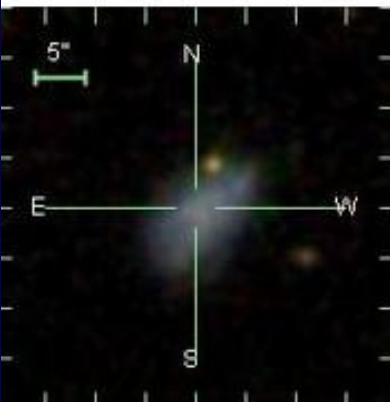
AGC 742670



$cz = 12602 \text{ km/s}$

Warning: This object's photometry may be unreliable. See the photometric flags below.

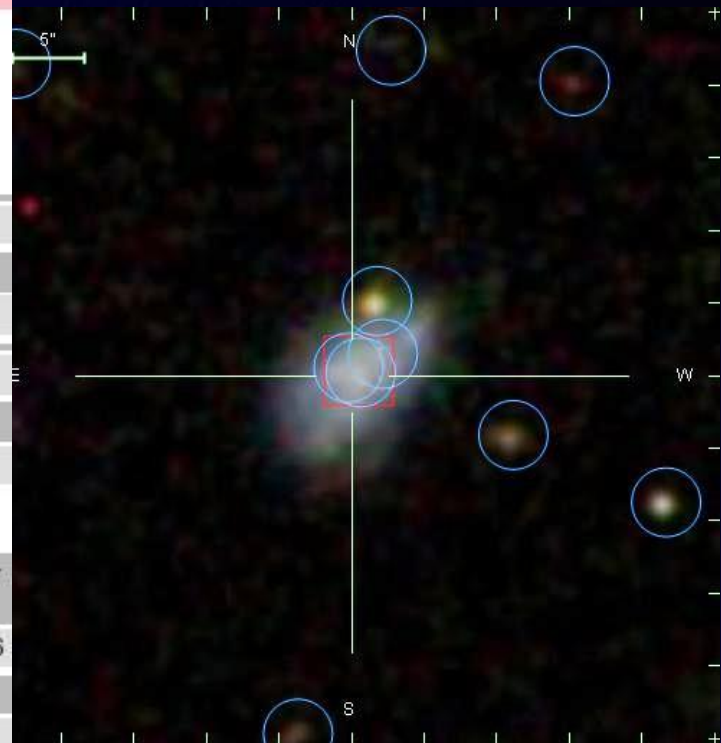
Flags: DEBLEND_NOPEAK DEBLENDED_AT_EDGE
STATIONARY MOVED BINNED1 DEBLENDED_AS_PSF
INTER NOPETRO CHILD



Magnitudes				
u	g	r	i	z
22.70	23.37	22.97	22.80	22.83
Magnitude uncertainties				
err_u	err_g	err_r	err_i	err_z
0.34	0.37	0.32	0.34	0.71

Image MJD	mode	Other observations	parentID	nChild	extinction_r	PetroRad_r (arcsec)
53526	PRIMARY	0	1237668589727252537	0	0.08	0.93 ± 0.796
Mjd-Date	photoZ (KD-tree method)			Galaxy Zoo 1 morphology		
06/05/2005	-			-		

Cross-identifications [Show](#)

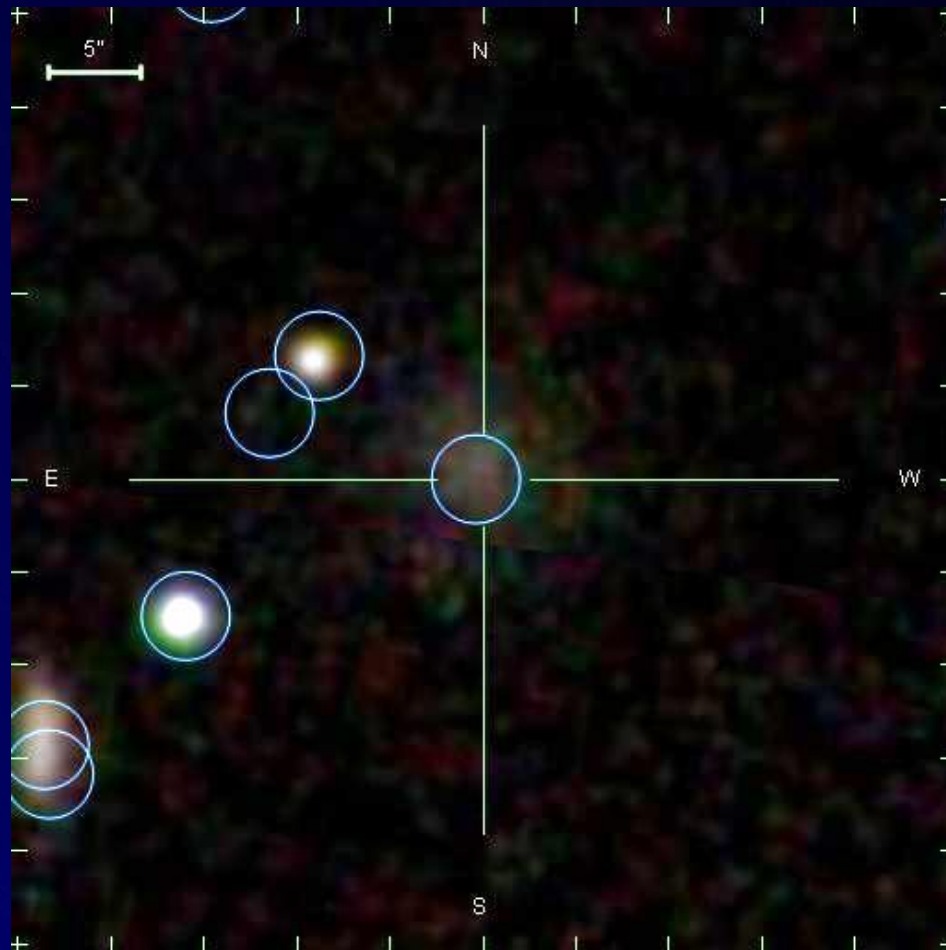


Photometry flagged as bad, but reason not clear



ALFALFA

AGC 198741



SDSS spect.
criterion
Not just mag but
also SB:

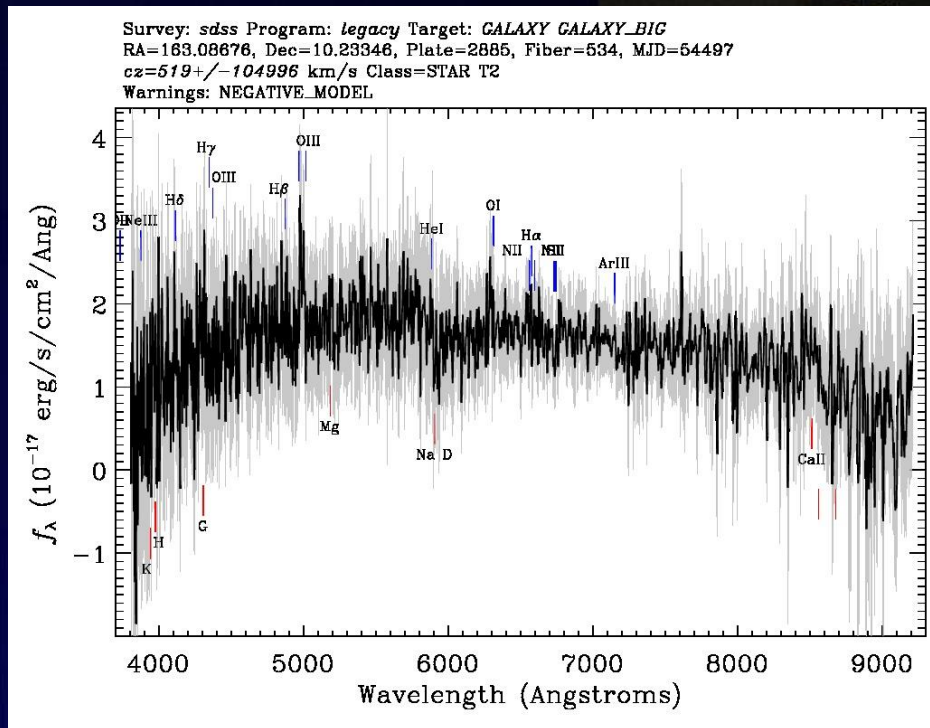
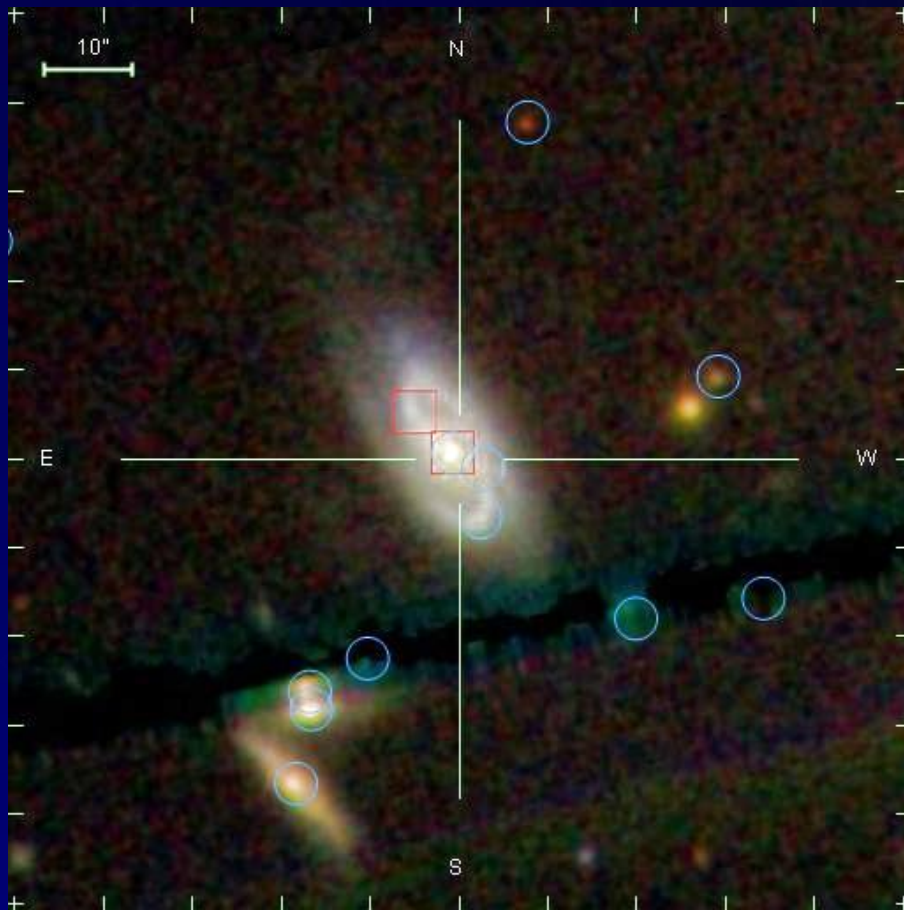
$$m_{\text{petro}_r} < 17.7$$
$$\mu_{25} < 24.5 \text{ mag/''}^2$$

Faint+LSB = no SDSS spectroscopy
 $cz \sim 3200 \text{ km/s}$



ALFALFA

Multiple and bogus spectra



Center-of-light plus off-center
 spectroscopic objects
 AGC 208793 cz = 2800 km/s

Center-of-light plus off-center
 spectroscopic objects

AGC 241236 cz = 10169 km/s



ALFA

The ALFALFA-SDSS experience



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- SDSS spectroscopy is affected by **fiber collision** rules

It isn't as easy as it might seem.....



ALFALFA

The ALFALFA-SDSS experience



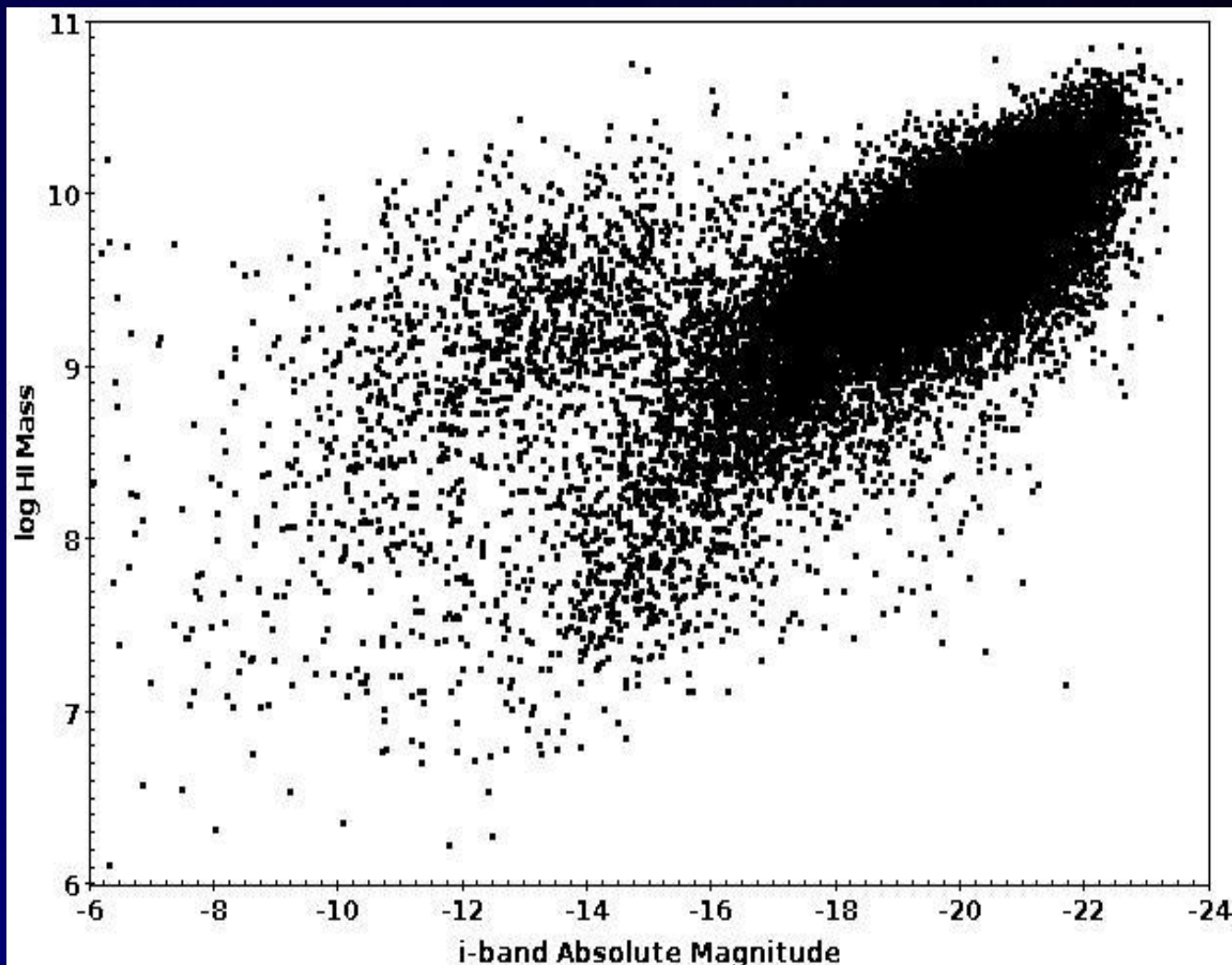
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- ALFALFA's beam is large, resulting in **confusion**.
- ALFALFA has "**blind spots**" due to RFI; we know where they are
- SDSS photometry suffers from **bright star** contamination.
- SDSS spectroscopic selection includes **SB limit** as well as m_r
- SDSS spectroscopy suffers when the photometry is **shredded**.
- SDSS spectroscopy is affected by **fiber collision** rules

It isn't as easy as it might seem..... But should we care?



ALFALFA

α 70-DR12 crossmatch



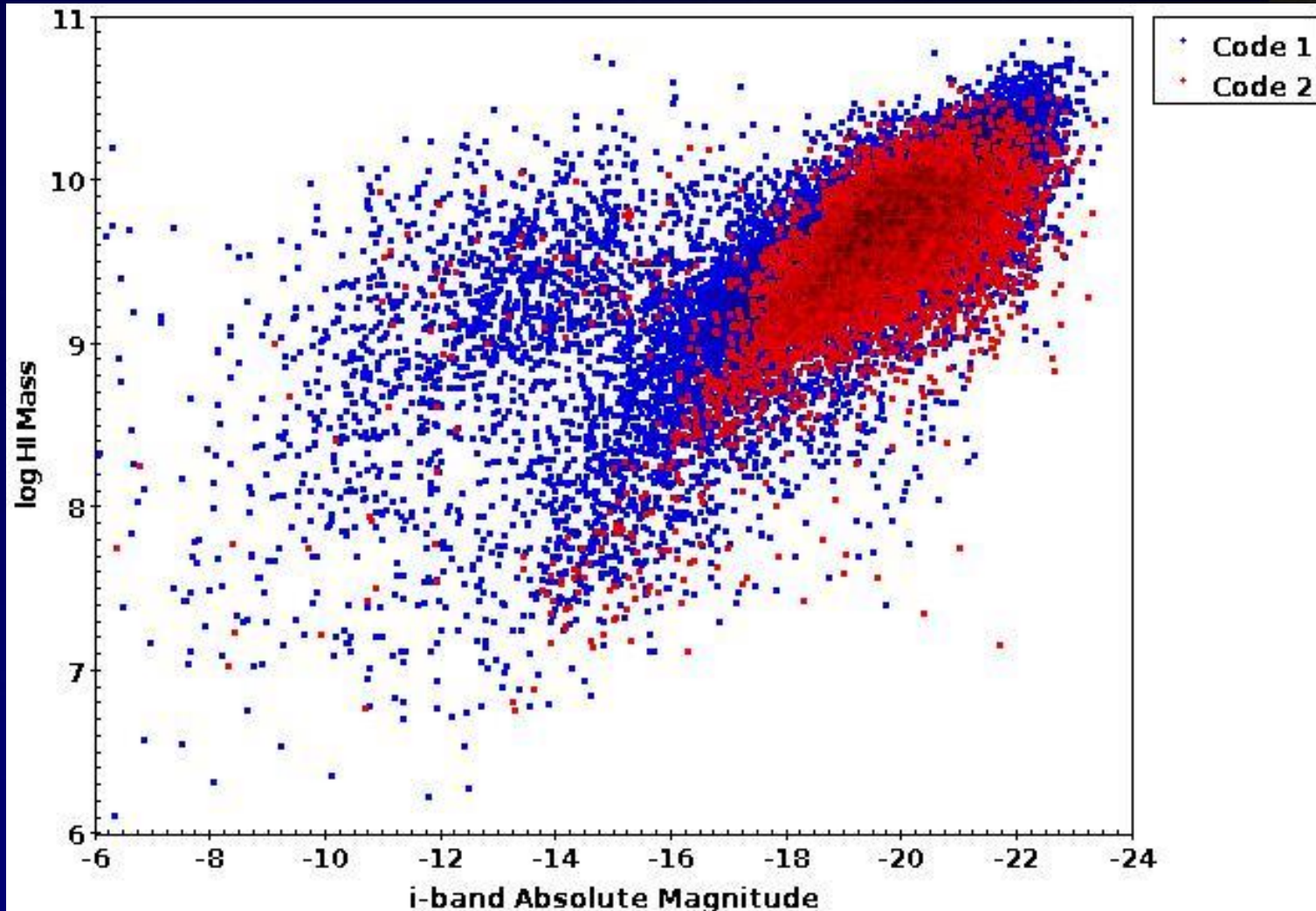
Code 1s:
Highest quality

Above
 $M_* \sim 5 \times 10^8 M_\odot$
HI mass scales
with stellar
mass
for SF galaxies



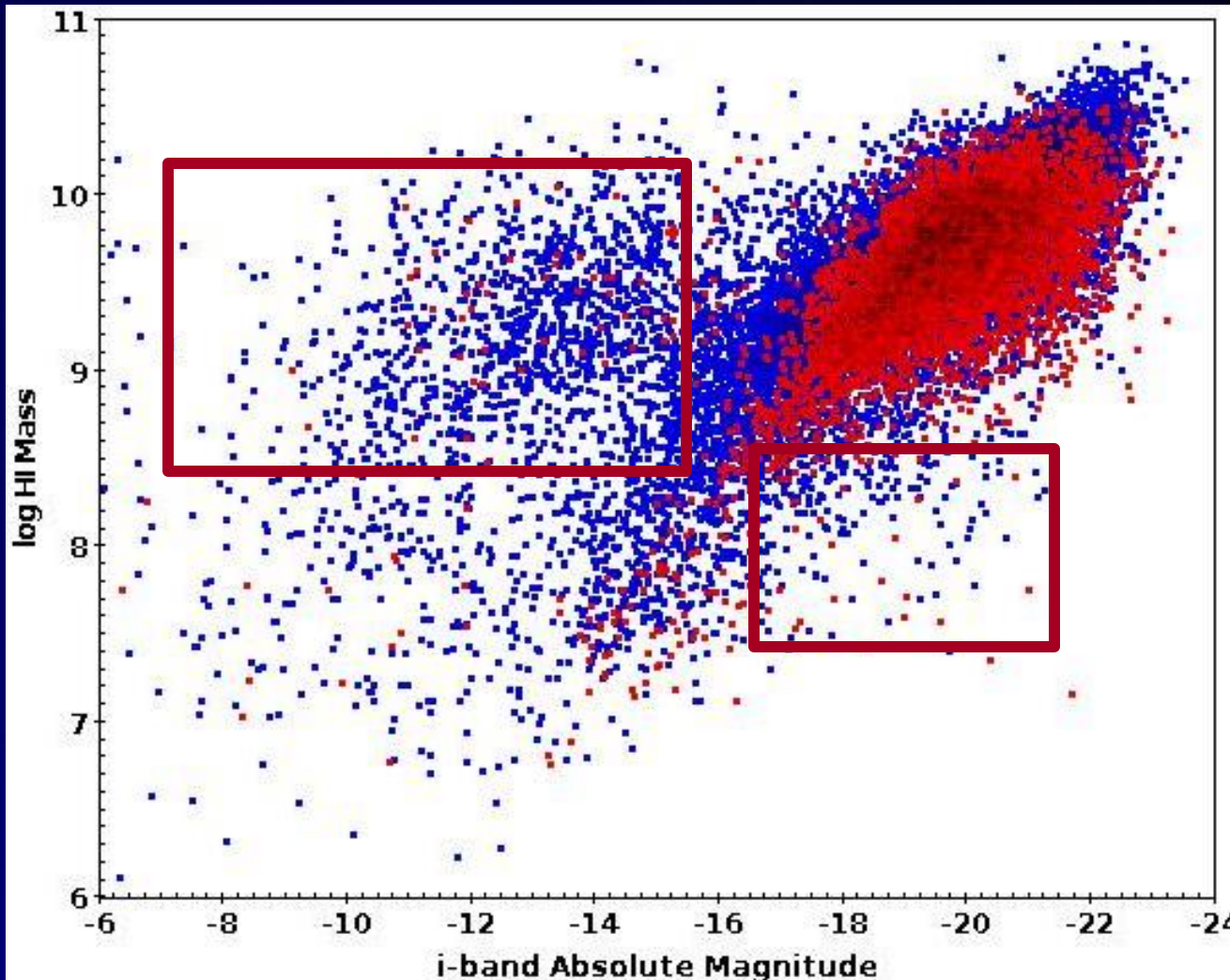
ALFALFA

Digging deeper: find the same population



ALFALFA

Interesting or bogus?



- For the majority of galaxies, pipelined photometry and automatic cross-matches work just fine.
- But, if you are interested in the outliers, you need to work harder!

ALFALFA: Are there "dark galaxies"?



- In agreement with previous results, ALFALFA finds that **fewer** that **2%** of (clearly extragalactic; not Betsey's UCHVCs) HI sources cannot be identified with an optical counterpart.
- The majority of objects without OC's are **found near to** galaxies with similar redshifts.

Dark galaxies:

The burden is always on us to prove that

- (1) the signal is real and
- (2) there is no OC even at low surface brightness
- (3) the HI is not tidal in origin

Luke Leisman, PhD thesis (Cornell)

Karen Lee-Waddell, PhD thesis (Queen's)

Steven Janowiecki, PhD thesis (Indiana)

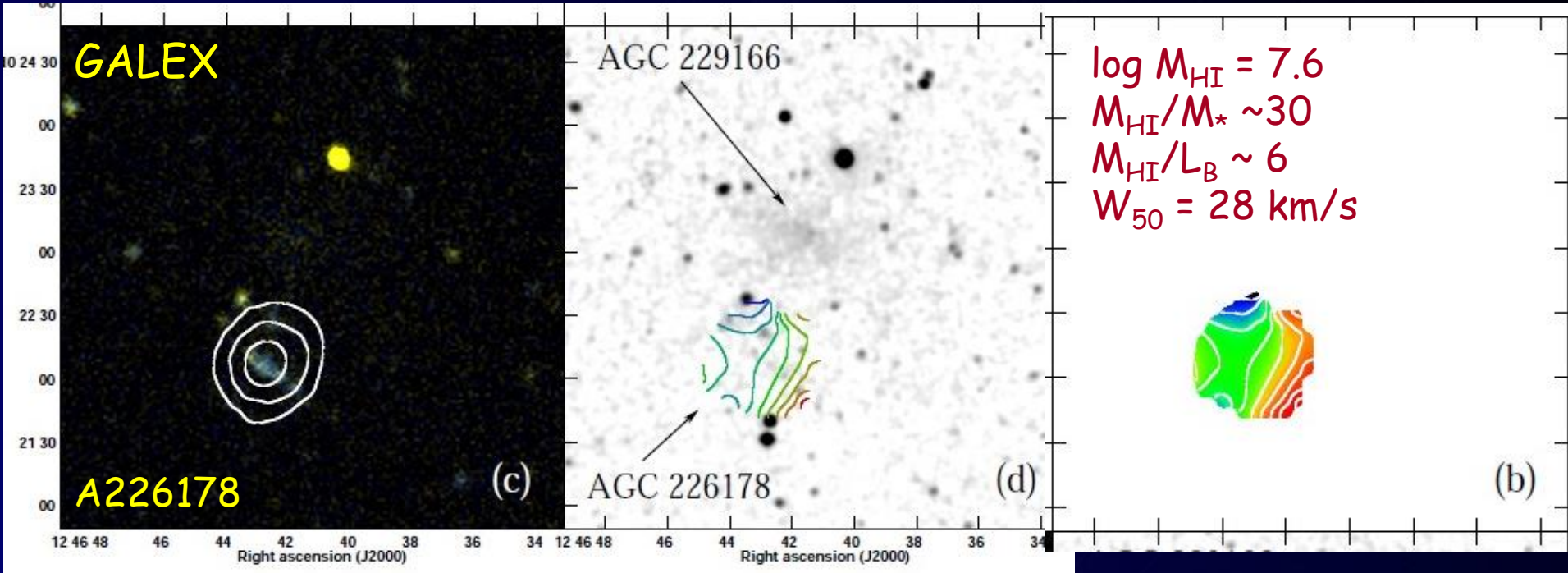
+ Cannon, Salzer, Rhode, Jozsa, Adams, Darling, RG, MH

ALFALFA
“(Almost) Dark”
galaxies project



ALFALFA

AGC 226178/296166



Will the real OC please raise your hand?

Cannon+ 2015 Astron J 149, 72
 $cz = 1581 \text{ km/s}$



ALFALFA

Wide field imaging is amazing!



- The ability to map over wide areas will reveal very extensive structures not recognized with the limited fields-of-view of today's interferometers.
- Part of the challenge will be to understand when there is no optical counterpart!

One example from ALFALFA ...



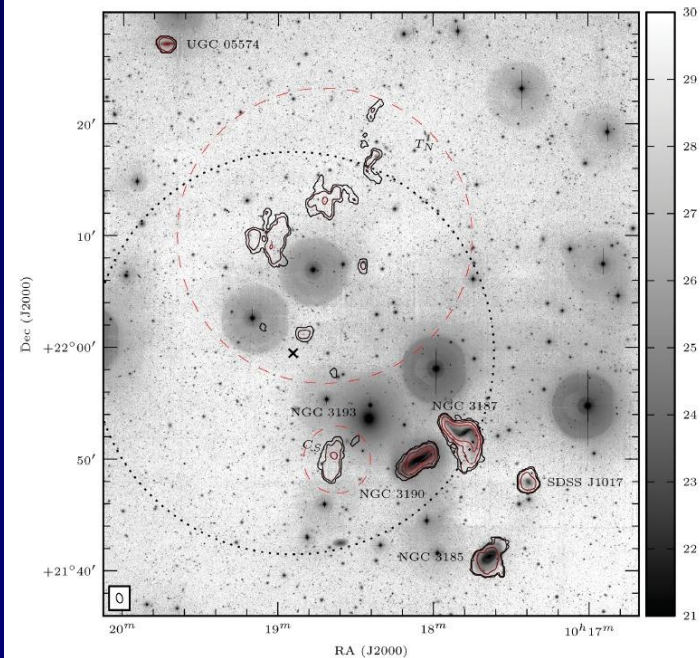
ALFALFA



Debris in the HCG 44 group



374 P. Serra et al.



Serra+ 2012 MNRAS 428, 370
6 x 12 hours with WSRT

A giant H I tail in HCG 44 377

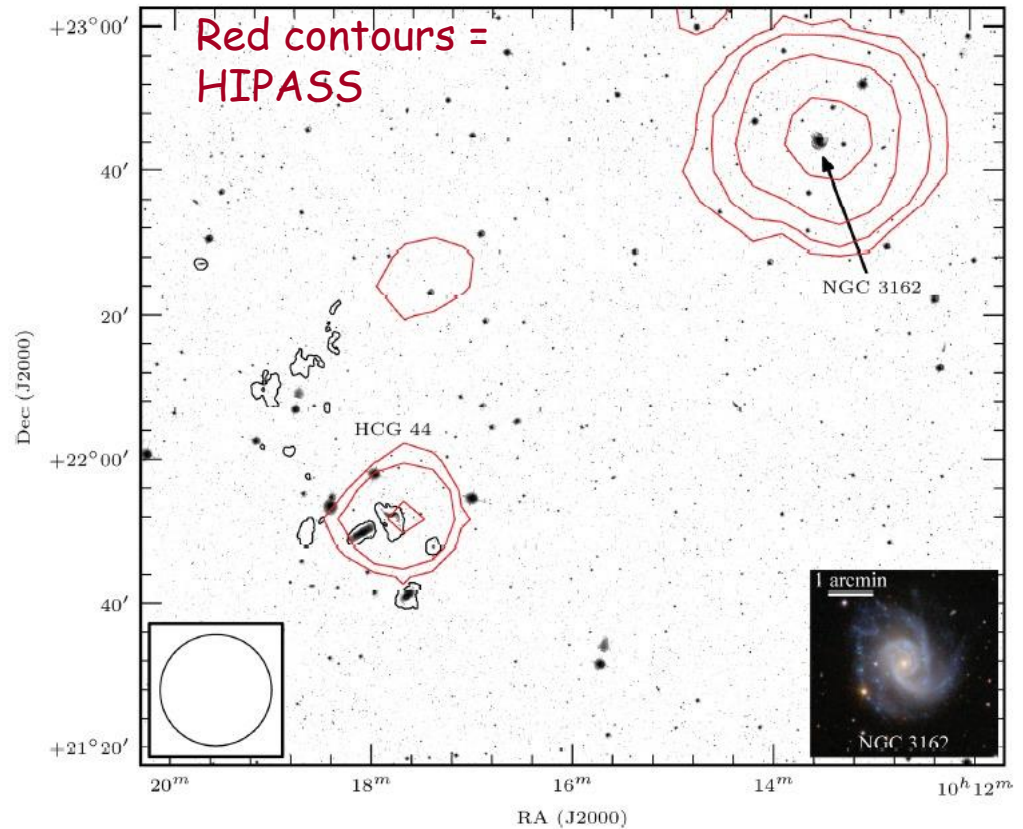
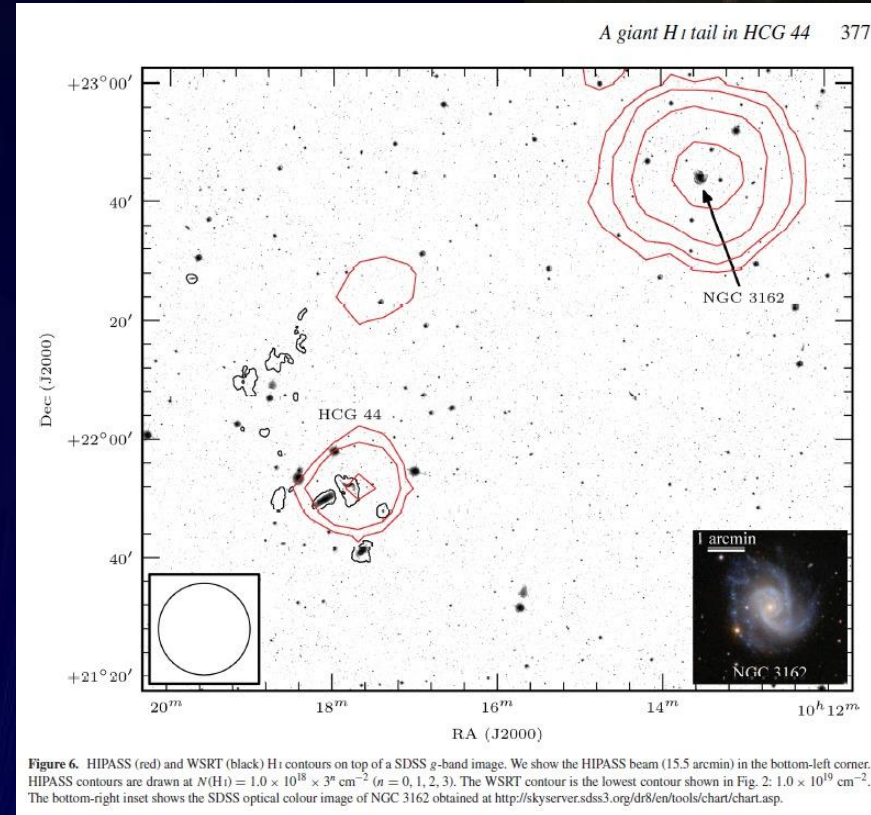
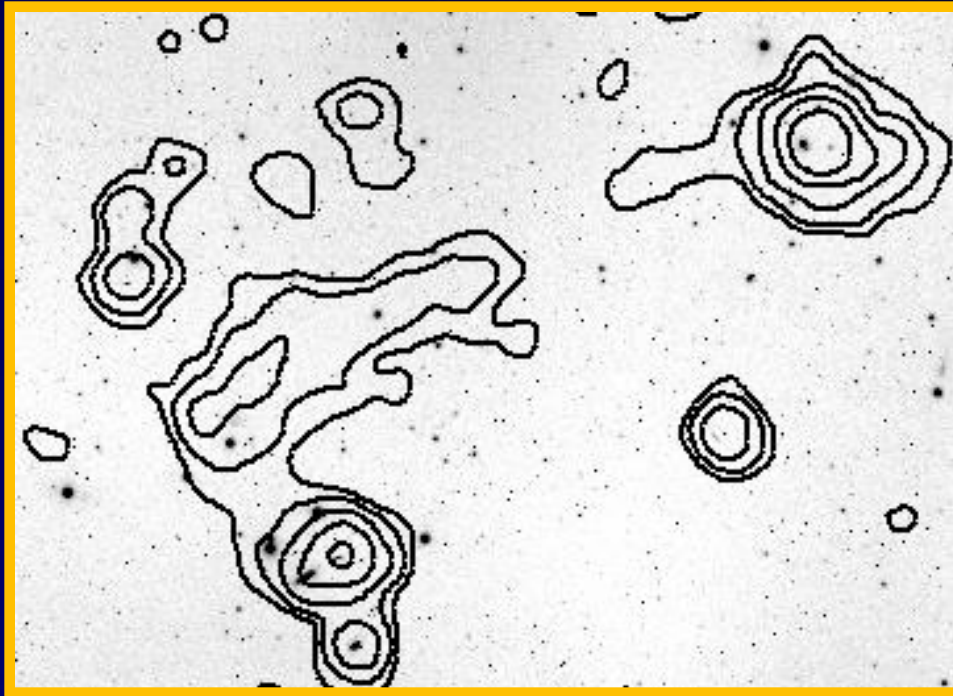


Figure 6. HIPASS (red) and WSRT (black) H I contours on top of a SDSS g-band image. We show the HIPASS beam (15.5 arcmin) in the bottom-left corner. HIPASS contours are drawn at $N(\text{H I}) = 1.0 \times 10^{18} \times 3^n \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ($n = 0, 1, 2, 3$). The WSRT contour is the lowest contour shown in Fig. 2: $1.0 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. The bottom-right inset shows the SDSS optical colour image of NGC 3162 obtained at <http://skyserver.sdss3.org/dr8/en/tools/chart/chart.asp>.



ALFALFA

The ALFALFA view



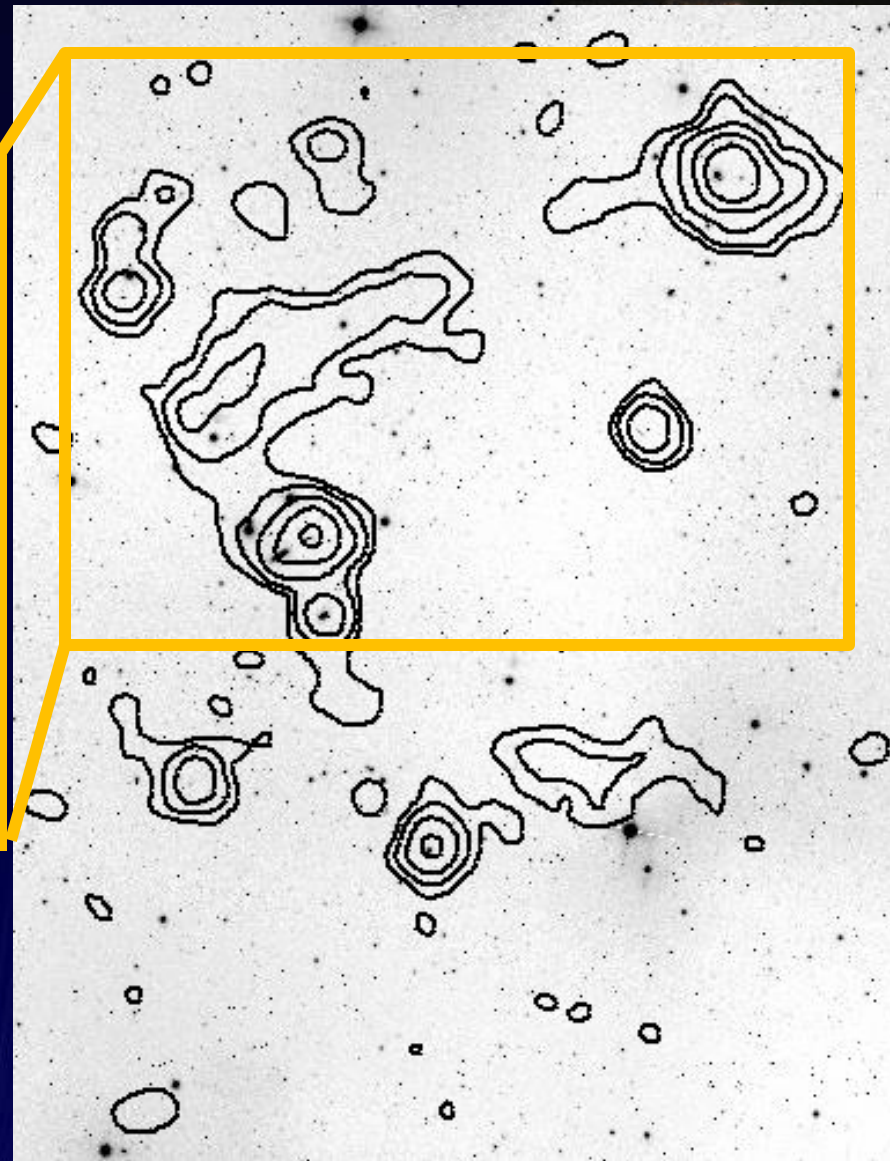
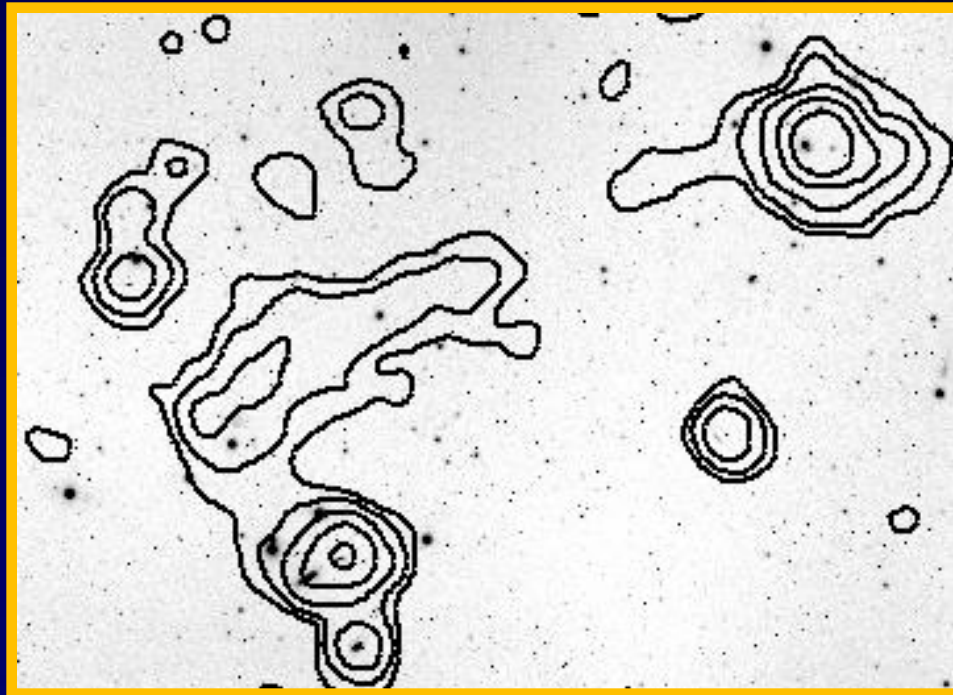
ALFALFA
Leisman+ in preparation

Serra+ 2012 MNRAS 428, 370
HCG 44



ALFALFA

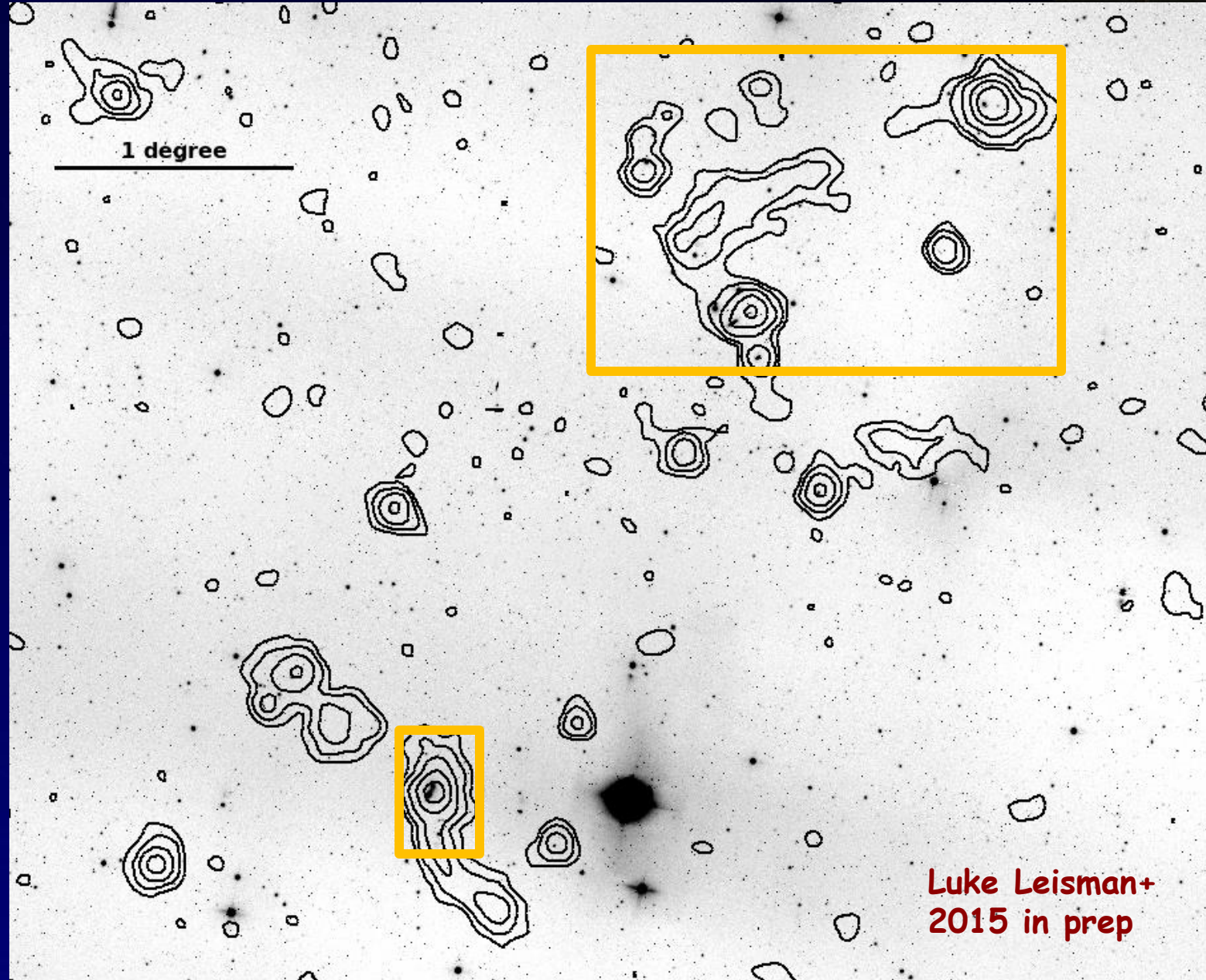
The wide field is amazing



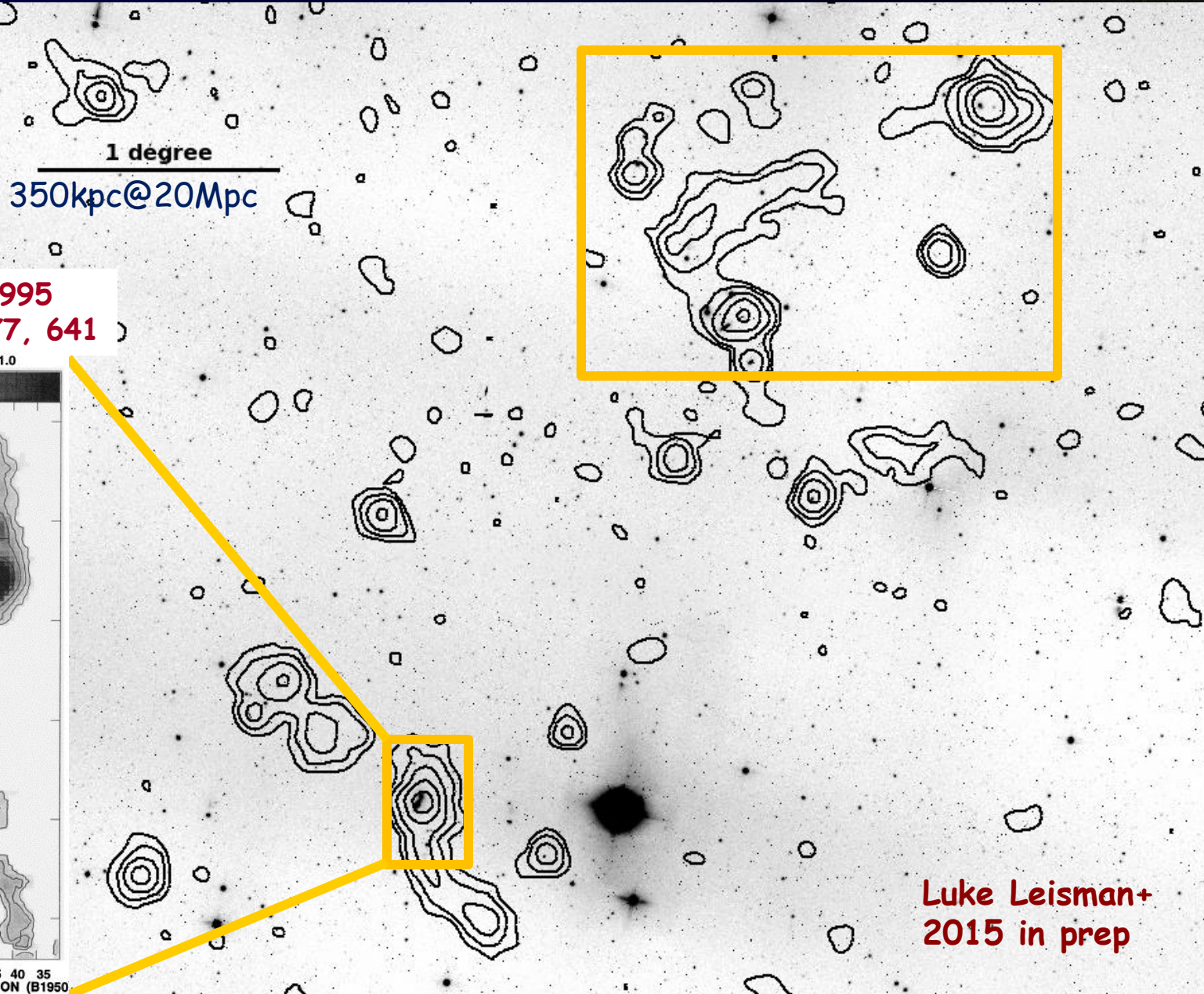
ALFALFA
Leisman+ in preparation



ALFALFA



ALFA



ALFALFA

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- How and when do galaxies convert their gas into stars?
- Is HI relevant?
- For many/most scientific purposes, the **HI alone is not sufficient**.
- The presence of an optical counterpart (OC) increases the probability that a low SNR "candidate detection" is real, especially if the OC has a coincident redshift. => **priors are good!**
- Experience suggests that the HI survey team effort should include identifying counterparts in other major multiwavelength surveys => **much larger survey "reach"**

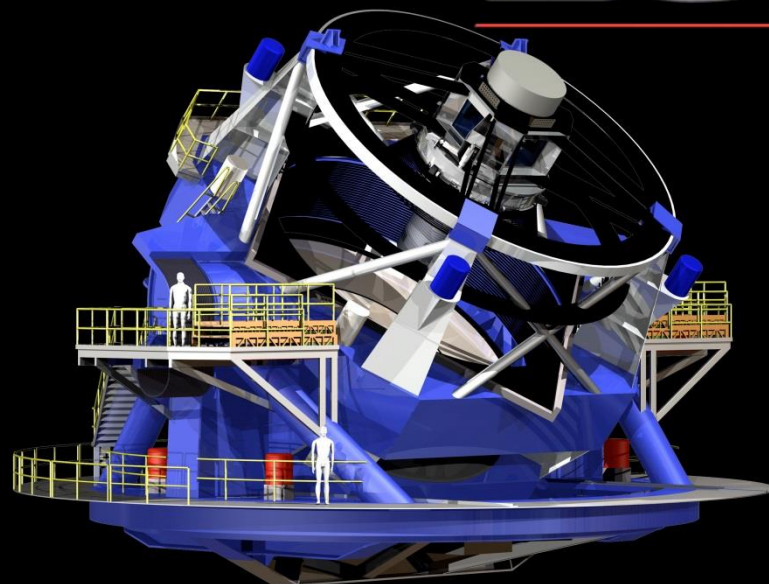
Looking forward to all of the future HI surveys
AND...



ALFALFA

Looking forward to these also!

LST



HETDEX
VISTA
DES
CCAT



ALFALFA