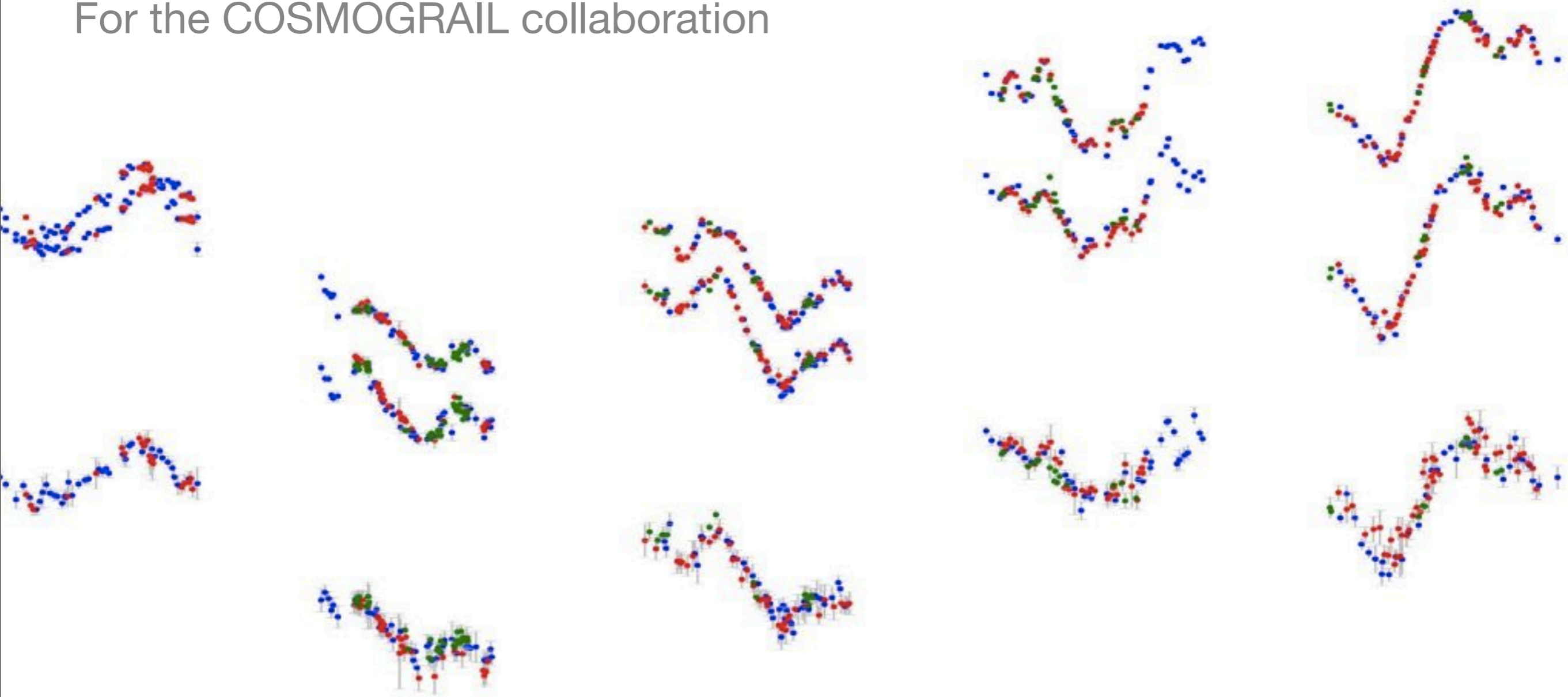


# COSMOGRAIL: present and future

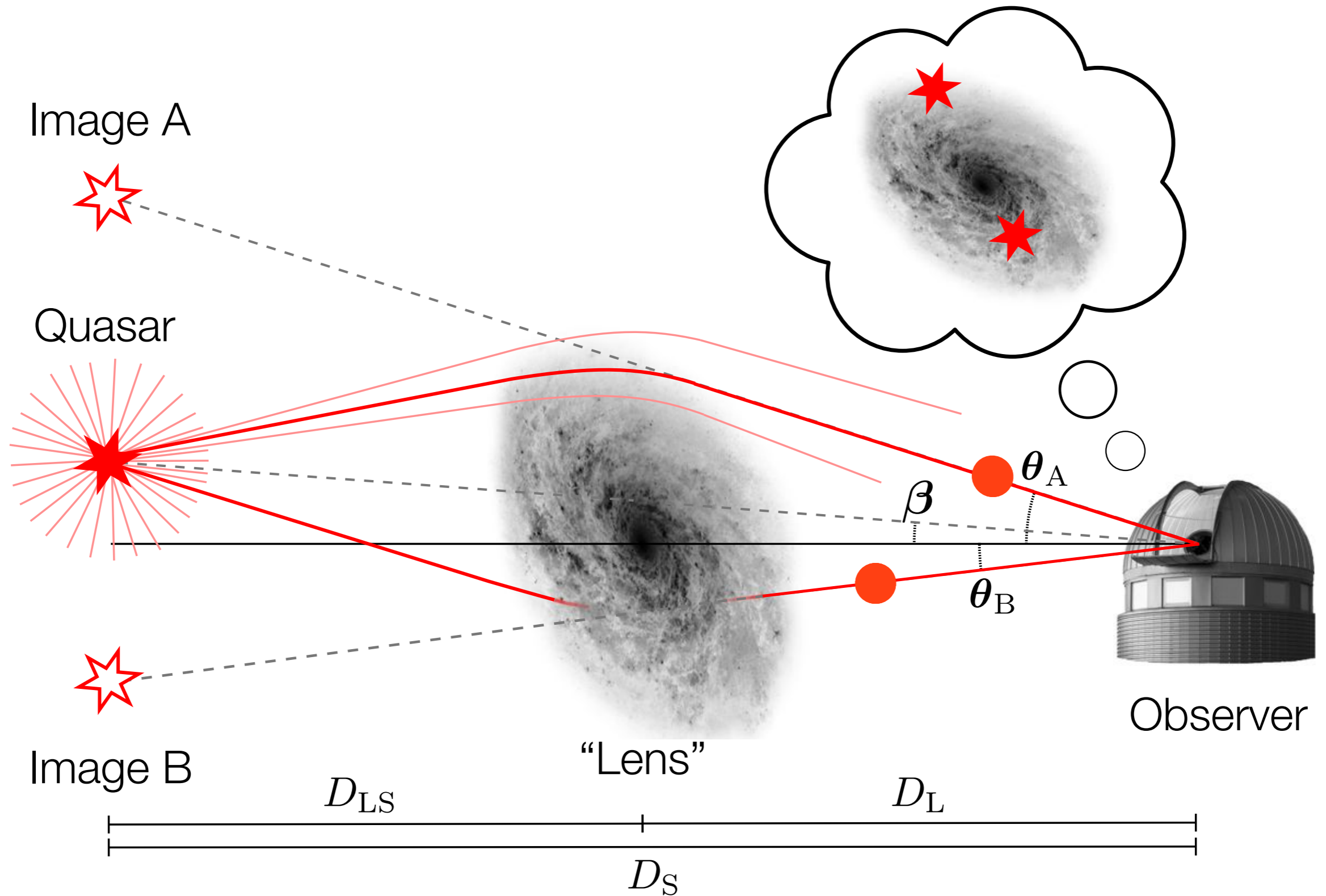
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F. Courbin, G. Meylan, V. Bonvin, M. Tewes, D. Sluse, D. Paraficz ...

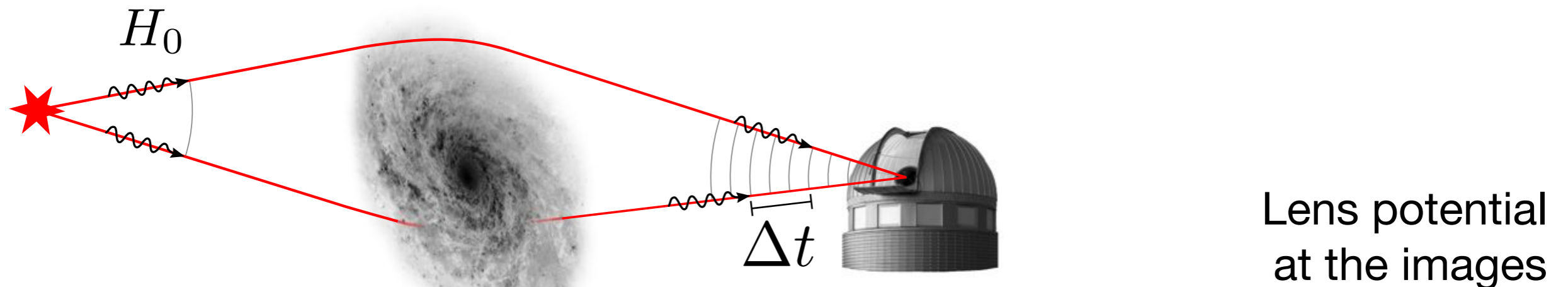
For the COSMOGRAIL collaboration



# Strong gravitational lensing of quasars : multiple images



# Time delays probe the Hubble Constant $H_0$



Lens potential  
at the images

Source position  
(unconstrained)

Astrometry  
of the images

$$\Delta t = \frac{1 + z_L}{c} \underbrace{\frac{D_L D_S}{D_{LS}}}_{\propto 1/H_0} \cdot \Delta \left( \frac{1}{2} |\vec{\theta} - \vec{\beta}|^2 - \psi(\vec{\theta}) \right)$$

- Measured time delays provide *direct* and *independent* constraints on  $H_0$ .
- A percent-level determination of  $H_0$  is highly complementary to other probes, and critical to constrain and test the ingredients of cosmological models.

# Advantages

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- Does not rely on any knowledge of a standard candle
- No need of secondary distance estimators
- Insensitive to local motions
- Insensitive to dust
- Independent of any other cosmological probe
- Can be combined with other probes
- Does not need a 20-m telescope in space

# Ingredients

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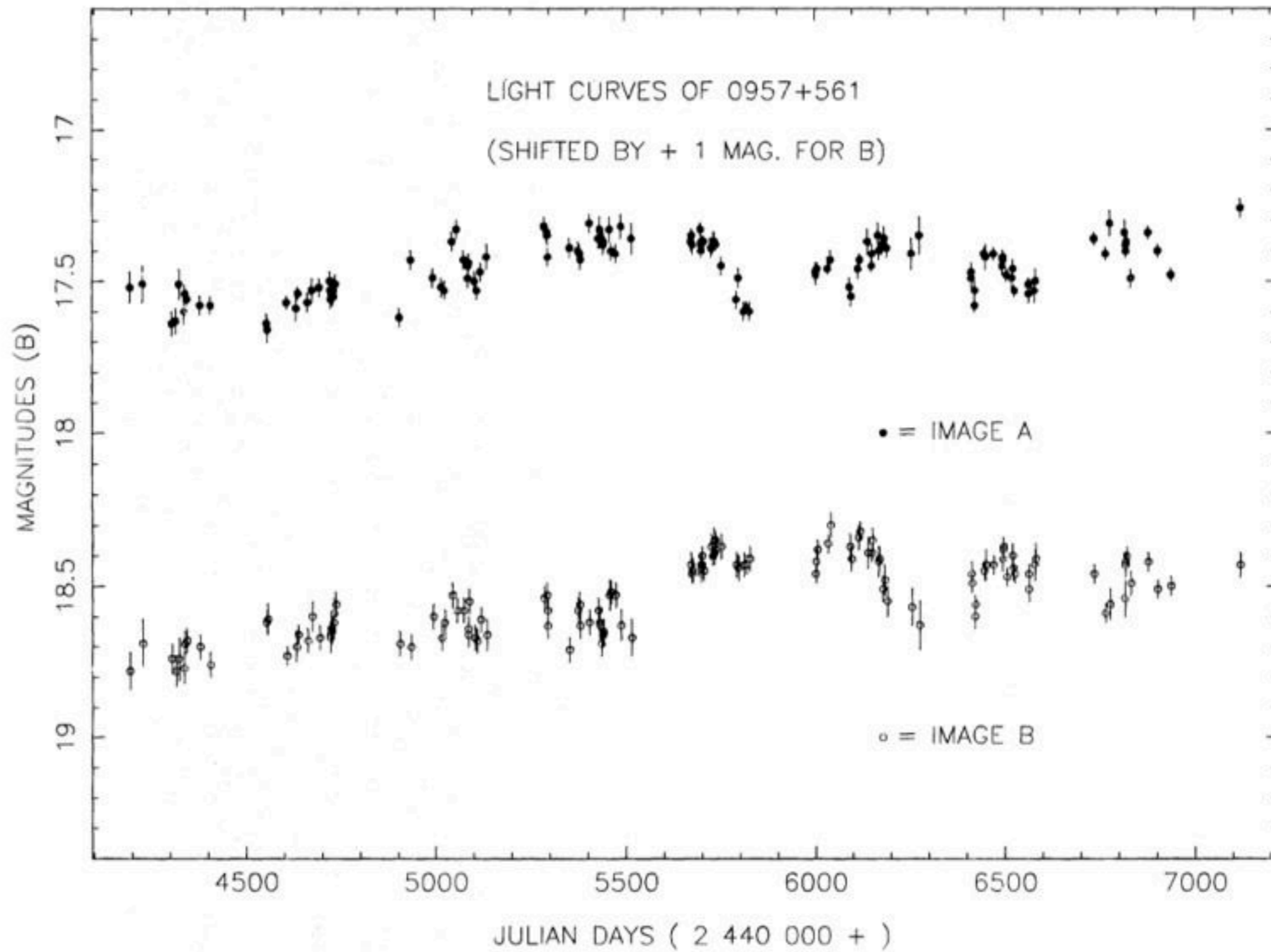
- **Time delays** are hard (but possible) to measure with high accuracy
- Historically, the field has suffered from the Q0957+561 time delay «controversy»
- Need a **mass model** for the lensing galaxy (mass-slope degeneracy)
- Need some knowledge of the **environment of the lens** (mass-sheet degeneracy)

# First measurements of time delays (1989-1997)

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- First photometric monitoring of **Q0957+561** by three groups
- **Vanderriest et al. 1989, A&A, 215, 1**: optical monitoring:  $\Delta t = 415 \pm 20$  days
- **Schild 1990, AJ, 100, 1771**: optical monitoring:  $\Delta t = 404 - 406$  days
- **Lehar et al. 1992, ApJ, 384, 453**: radio monitoring at the VLA leading to a delay of  $\Delta t = 513 \pm 40$  days

# First measurements of time delays (1989-1997)



(Vanderriest et al. 1989, A&A, 215, 1)

# Time delay controversy solved in 1997

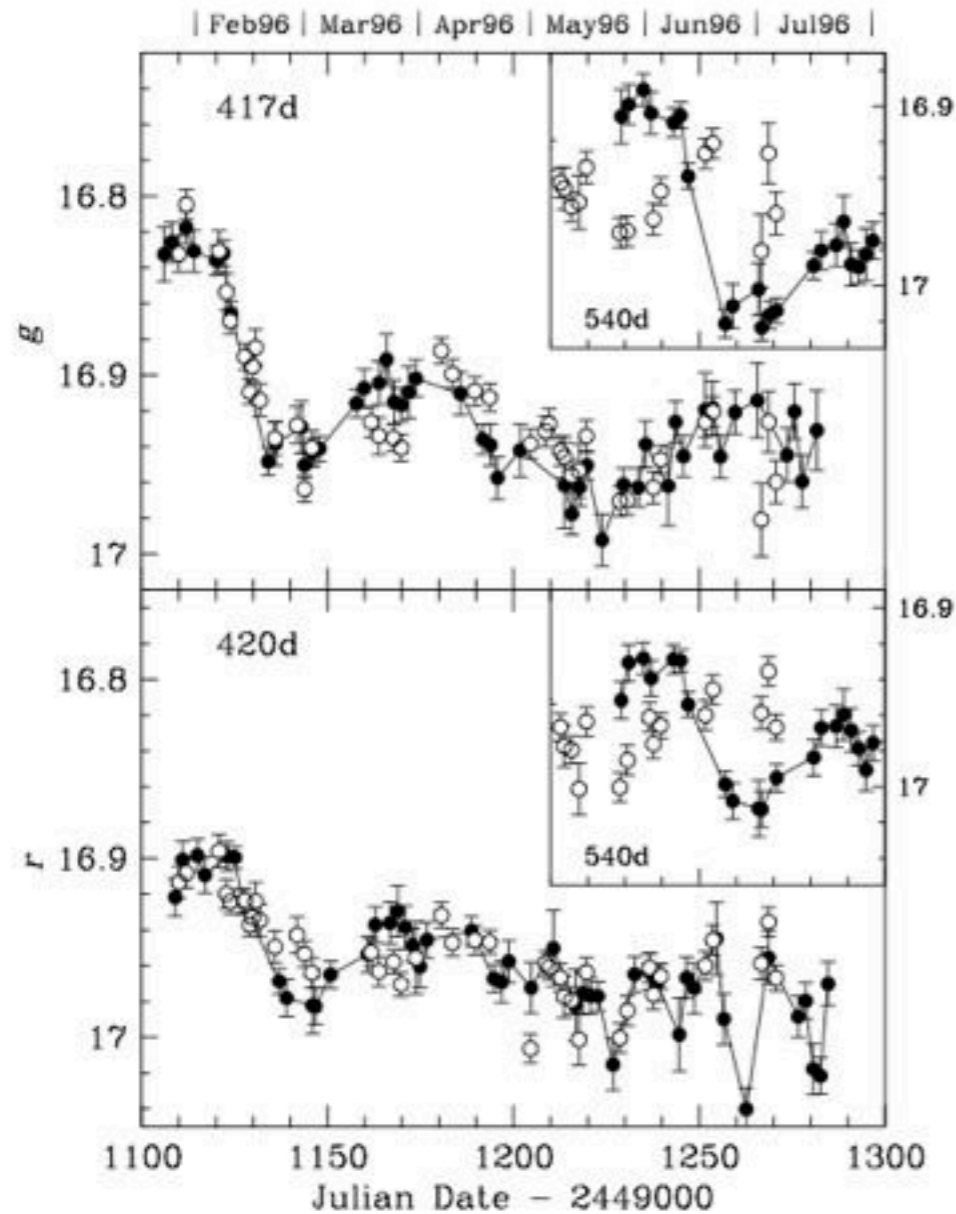


FIG. 3.—The 1995 A light curves (*filled circles*) shifted by the optimal values of the time delay  $\Delta t$  and the magnitude offset  $\Delta m$ , superimposed on the 1996 image B data (*open circles*). The fits are based on the linear method analysis, but the parameters given by other fitting methods are nearly identical. See text for details. Insets show the overlapping regions of A and B light curves assuming the long delay of 540 days (and fitting for the magnitude offset). This delay is clearly excluded by the data.

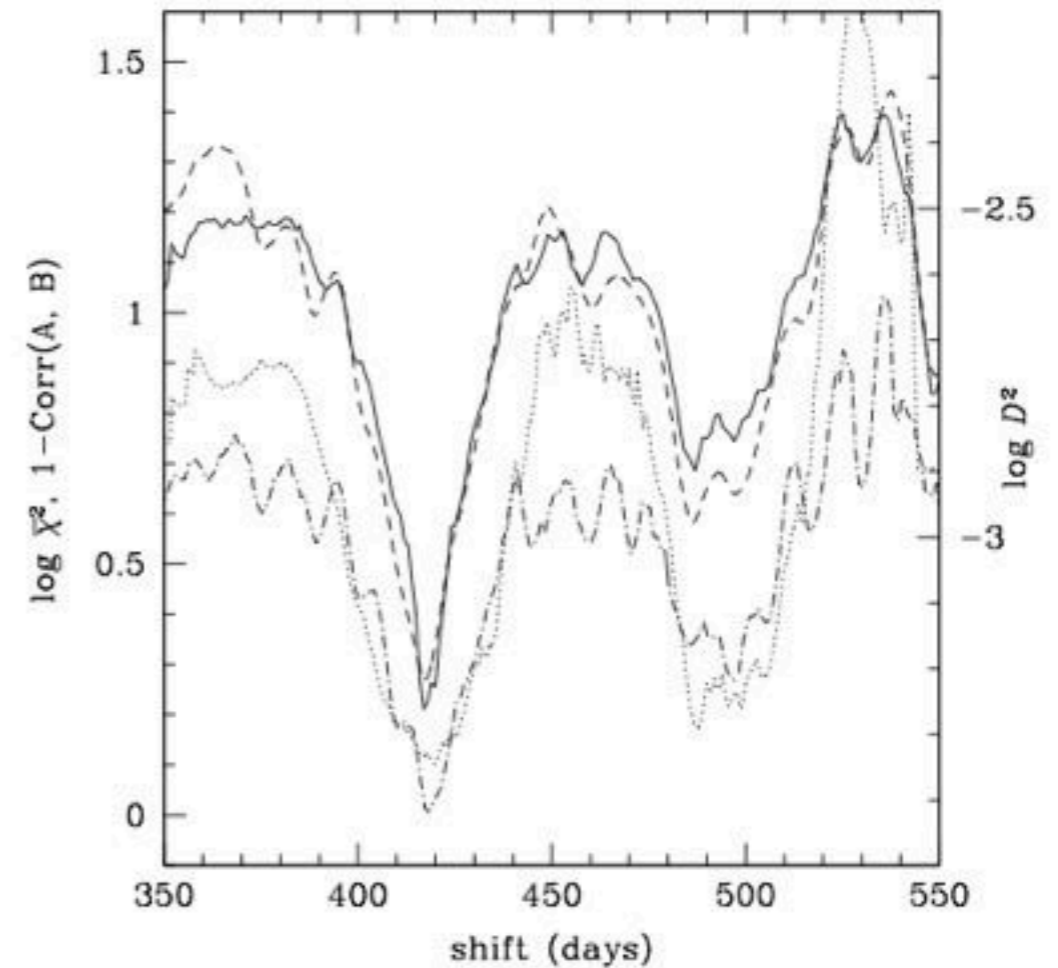
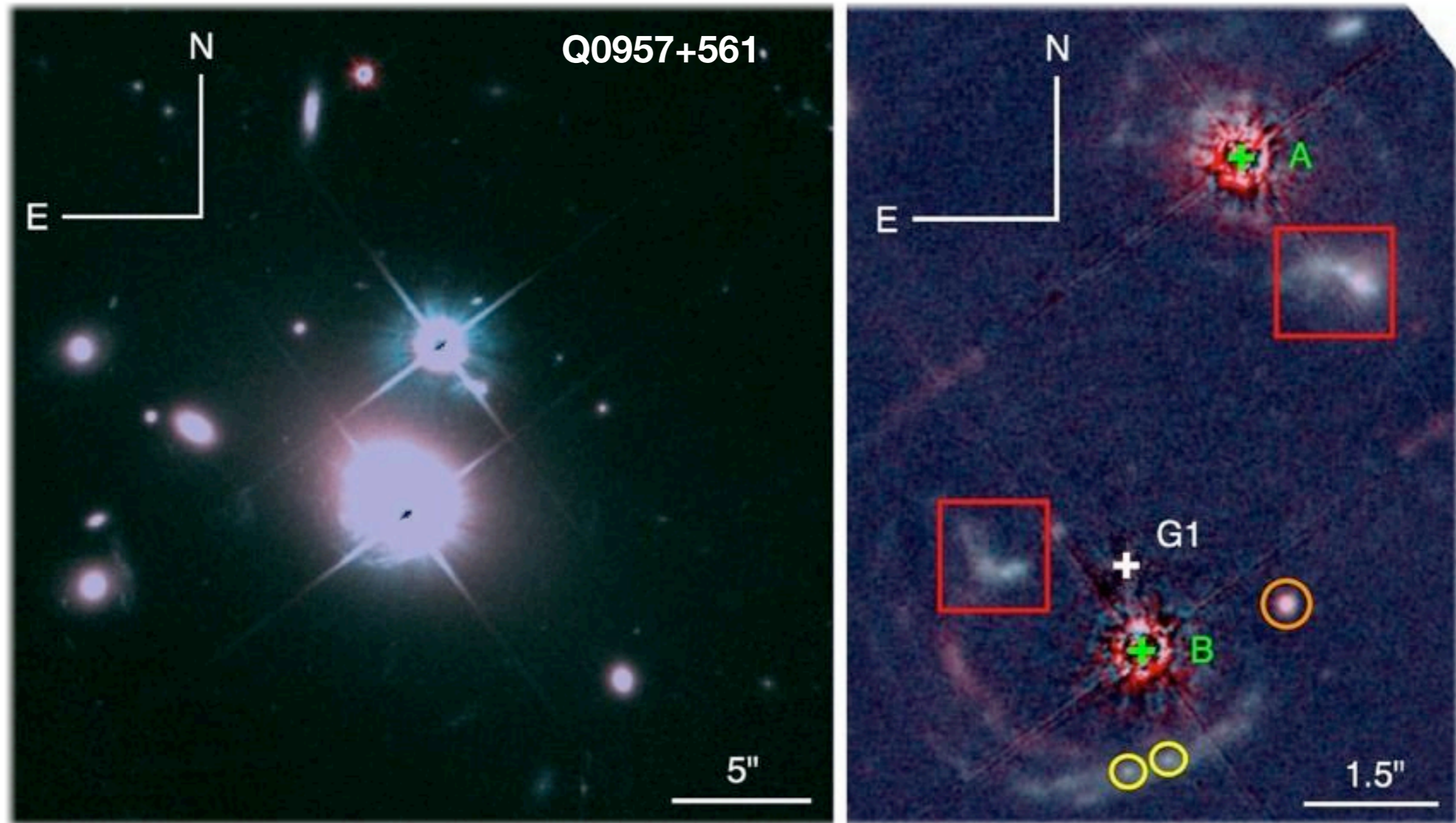


FIG. 2.—Figure of merit for various statistical methods as a function of time delay  $\Delta t$  based on  $g$ -band light curves. Curves are arranged so that their minima correspond to the best-fit delays. The second fitted parameter, magnitude offset  $\Delta m$ , was minimized at each value of  $\Delta t$ . The values of  $\chi^2$  for the linear and PRH methods are represented with solid and dot-dashed lines, respectively; the dispersion measure  $D^2$  of the PHKRS method is shown with a dashed line, and the complement of the cross-correlation coefficient with a dotted line. Note that three different vertical coordinates are represented, depending on the statistical technique. All methods give minima at  $\sim 417$ – $420$  days and strongly reject a delay of  $\sim 540$  days.

(Kundic et al. 1997, ApJ, 482, 75)

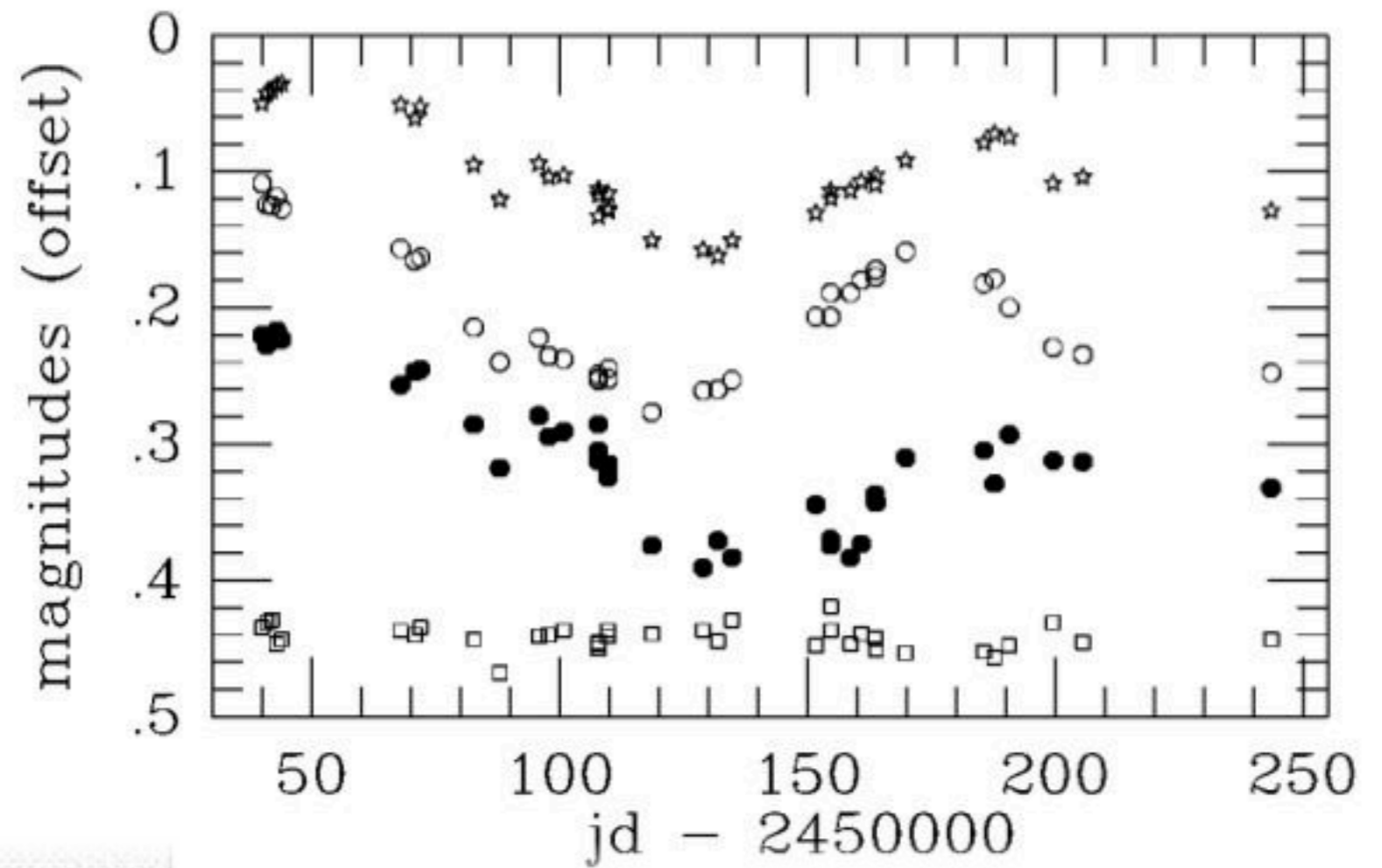
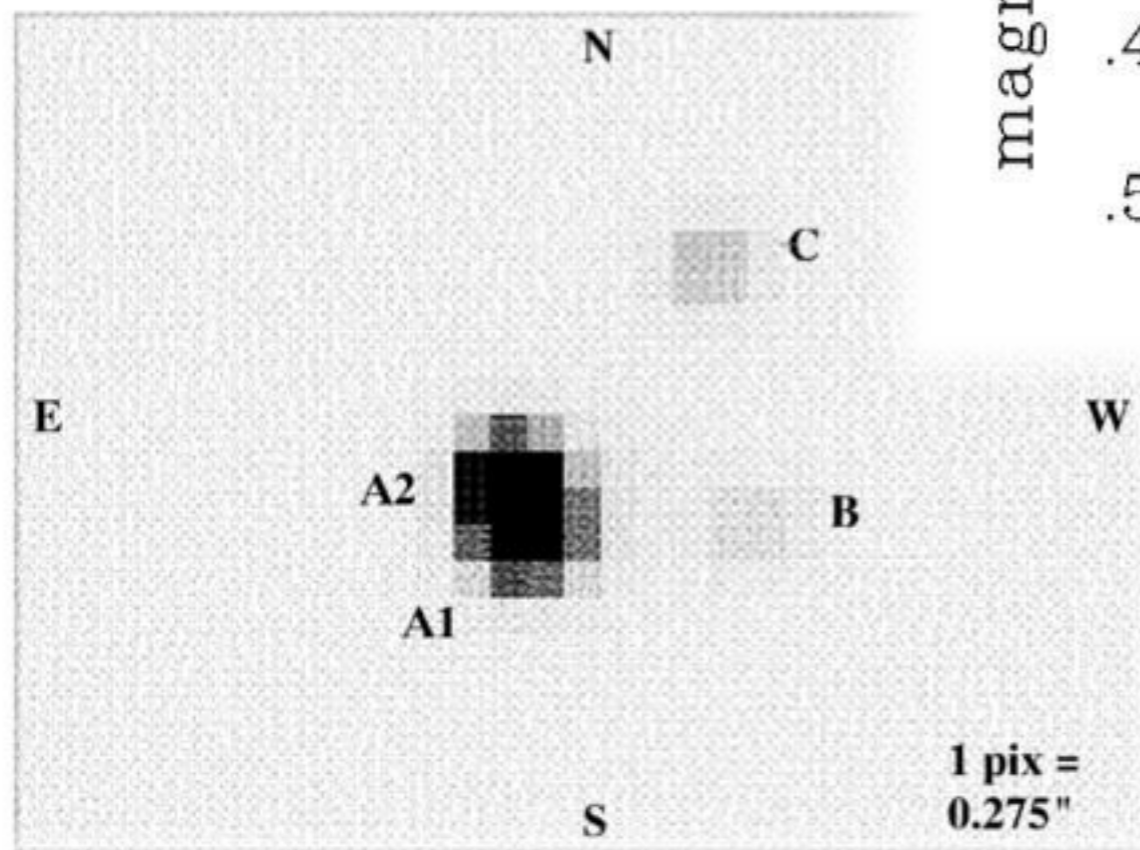


# First measurements of time delays (1989-1997)



(Fadely et al. 2010, ApJ, 711, 242)

# PG 1115+080



(Schechter et al. 1997, ApJ, 475, L85; see also Barakana 1997, ApJ, 489, 21)

# PG 1115+080

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- PG1115+080: first long, well sampled light curve of a lensed quasar in the optical (Schechter et al. 1997, ApJ, 475, L85)
- B1608+656: **VLA** radio monitoring with no contamination by microlensing (Fassnacht et al. 2002, ApJ, 581, 823)
- Series of optical time delays by Burud et al. (2002, A&A, 391, 481; 2002, A&A 383, 71), Hjorth et al. (2002, ApJ, 572, L11) using optical data from the **Nordic Optical Telescope and from ESO.**
- Time delays from optical light curves with small telescopes become available around 2000-2005 (i.e., **feasibility is demonstrated**), but
  - The accuracy of the delays remains low (10% or worse)
  - Lens models are underconstrained (including line-of-sight contribution)



# COSMO *Grail*

## **Cos**mological **Mo**onitoring of **Gra**vitational **L**enses ... to measure “time delays”, to constrain $H_0$ , to learn about DE

**EPFL:** G. Meylan, F. Courbin, V. Bonvin, D. Paraficz

**IIA Bangalore:** T. Prabhu, C.S. Stalin, R. Kumar

**Univ. Bonn:** M. Tewes

**Univ. Liège:** P. Magain, D. Sluse

**UzAS Tashkent:** I. Asfandiyarov

**Univ. Zürich:** P. Saha, J. Coles

**Univ. Nottingham:** S. Dye

**Now also in close collaboration (monitoring, microlensing) with:**

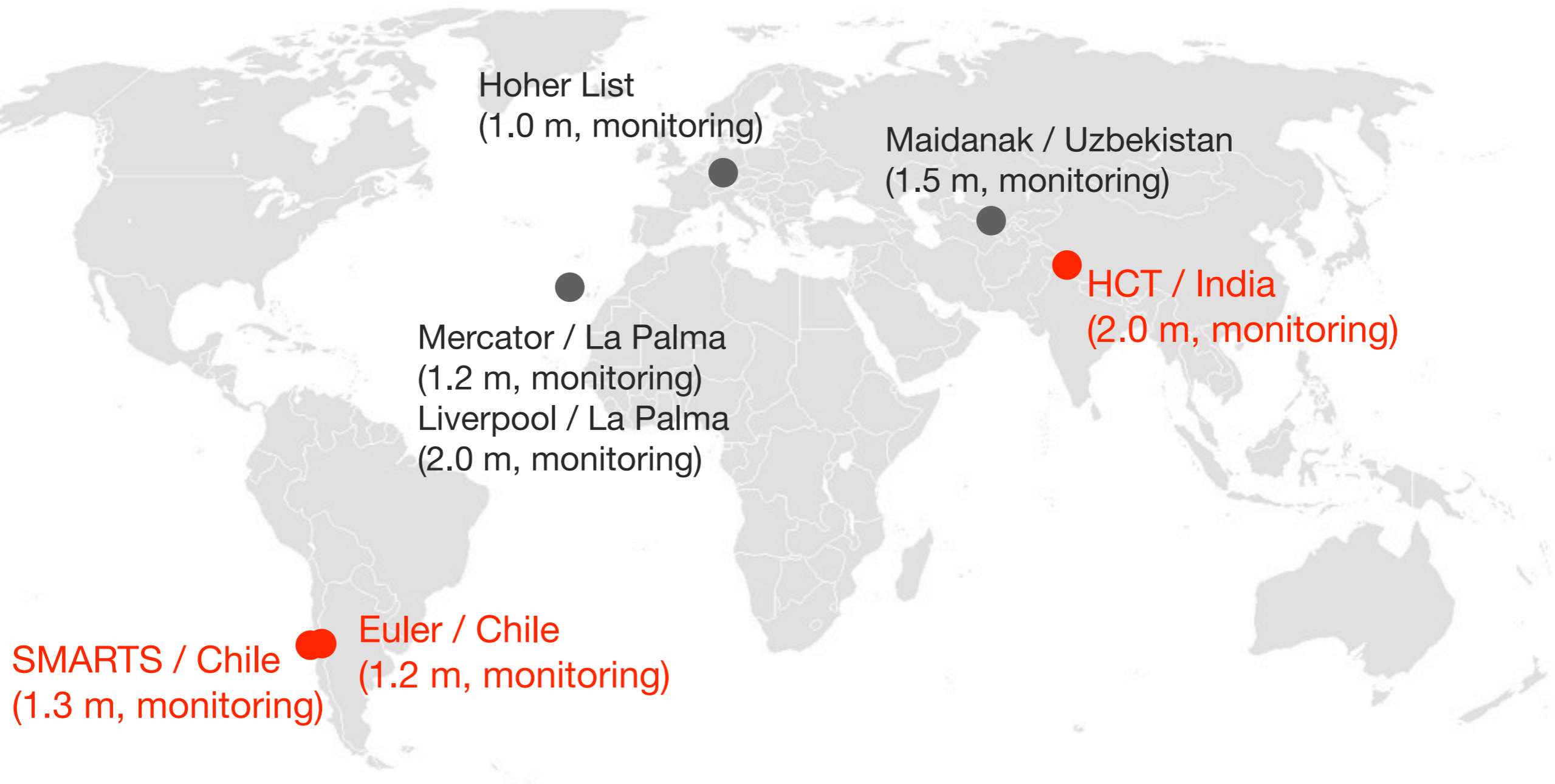
**C. Kochanek**, A. Mosquera (Ohio), C. Morgan, C. MacLeod, L. Hainline (USNA)

**And the lens modeling & cosmography experts :**

**S. Suyu (ASIAA), T. Treu**, M. Auger, P. Marshall, S. Hilbert, C. Fassnacht, R. Blandford, T. Collett

# COSMOGRAIL monitoring telescopes

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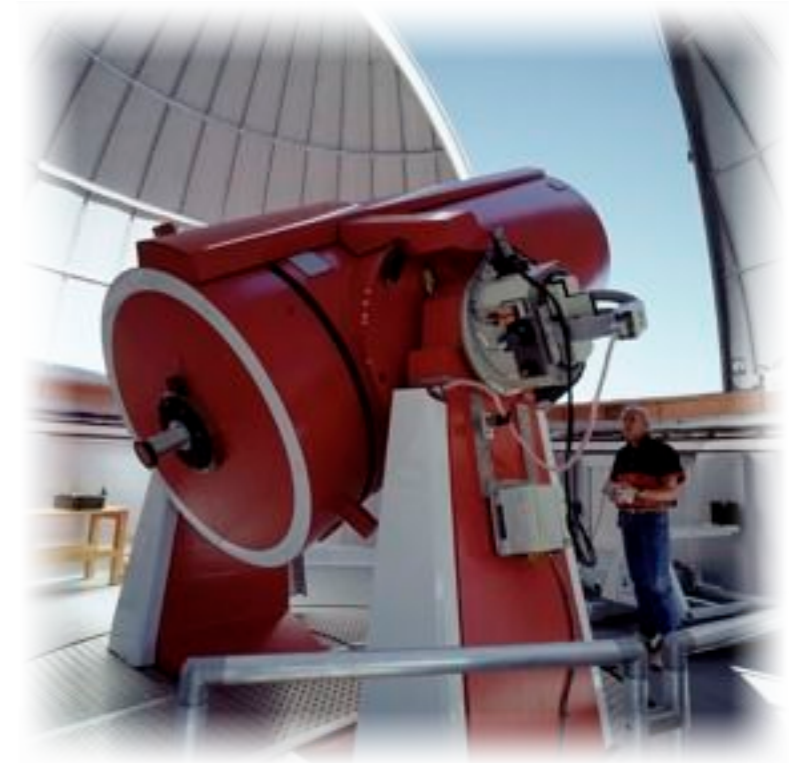
Main teams doing lens monitoring joined forces in 2010 :

- 1) EPFL-led COSMOGRAIL team (started in 2004) : Lead time delay work
- 2) Group of C. S. Kochanek (Ohio), using SMARTS 1.3-m : Lead microlensing work

# Measurements of time delays (2005+)

- Dedicated (optical) monitoring program to measure many lensed quasars over a decade or more
- Small telescopes are used, but with high temporal sampling
- Deconvolution technique to sharpen the images

Euler Telescope, La Silla, Chile (1.2m)



Himalayan Chandra Telescope, India (2m)

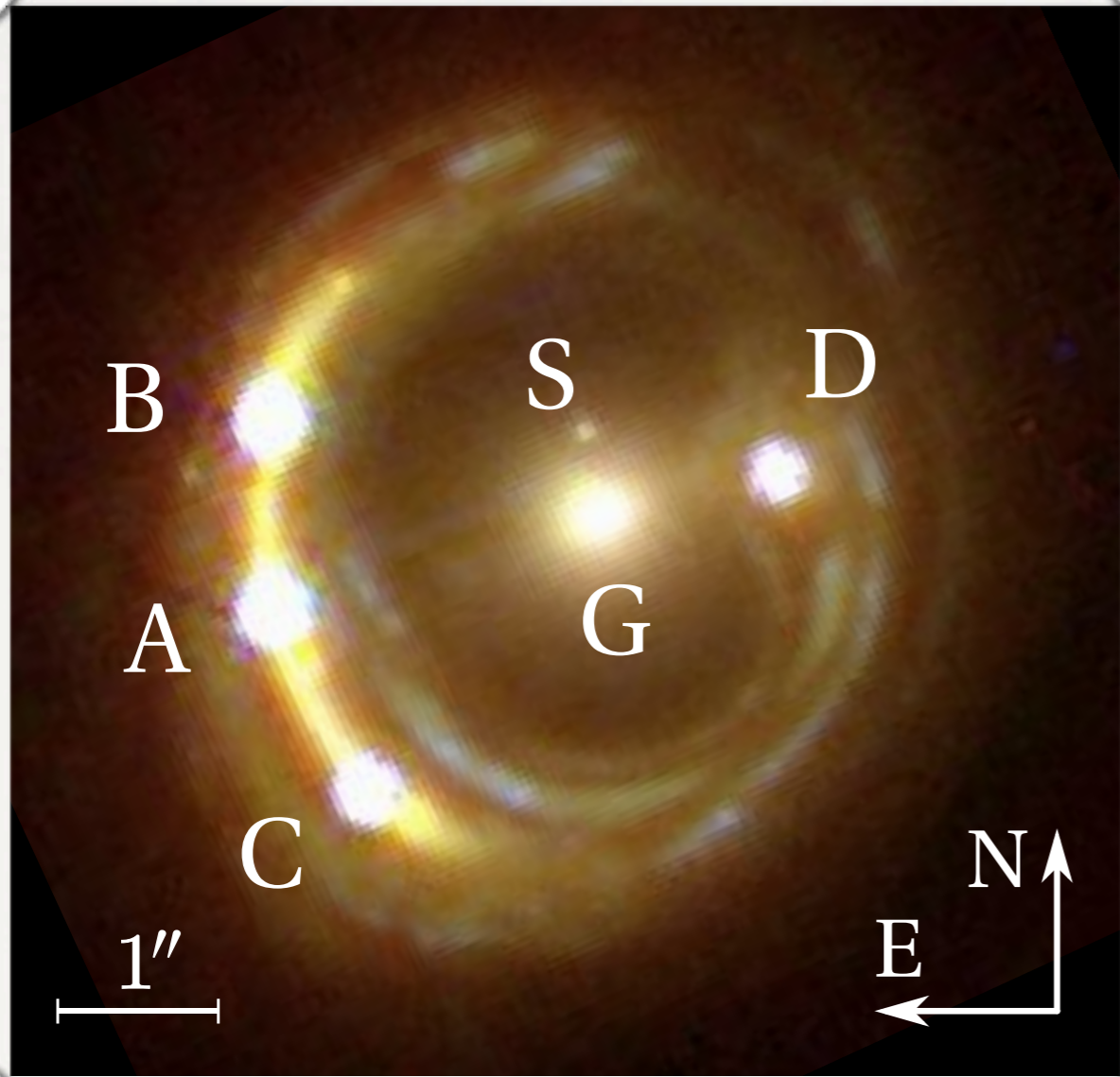


Mercator Telescope, La Palma, Spain (1.2m)



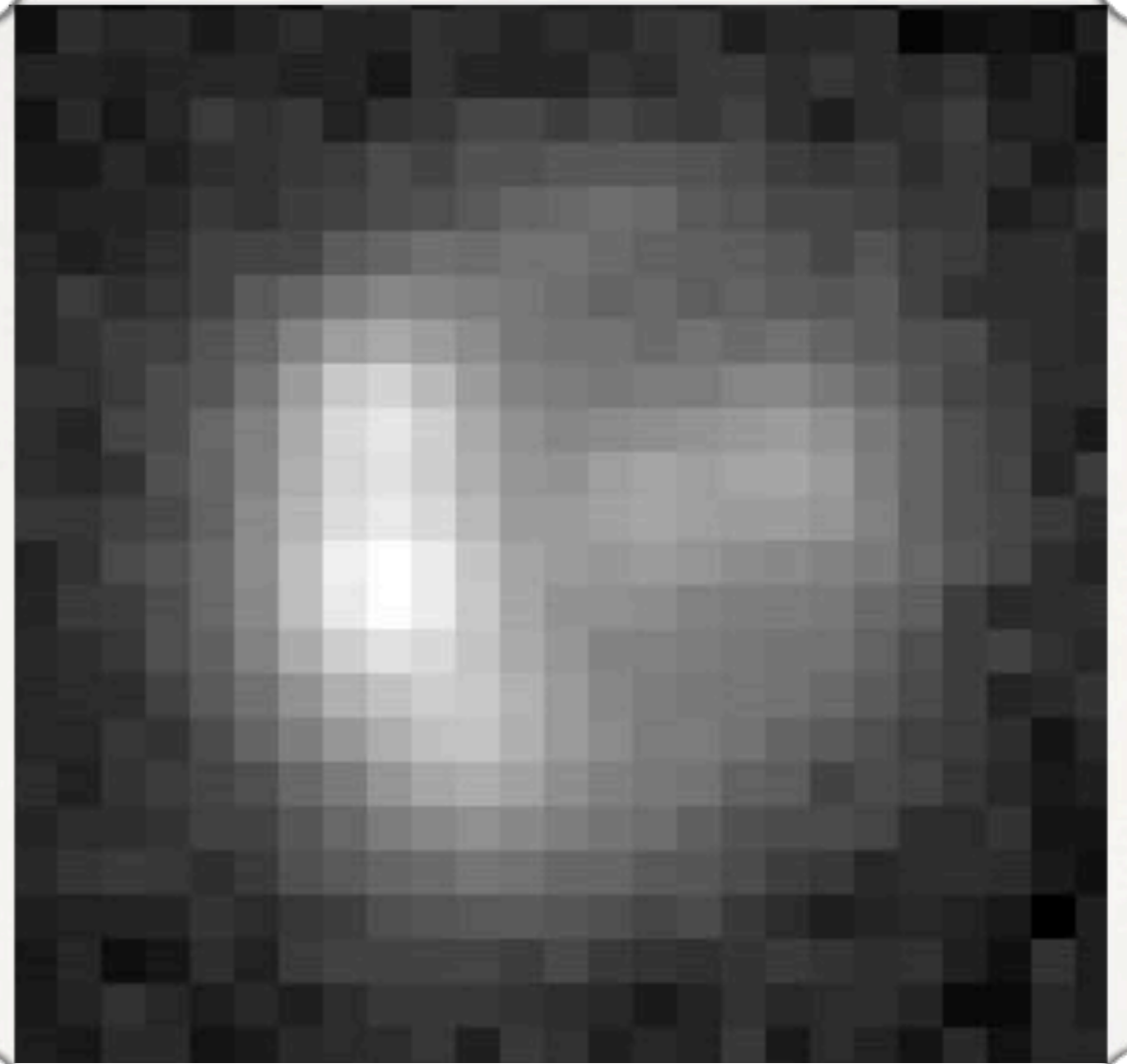
Maidanak observatory, Uzbekistan (1.5m)

# RX J1131-1231, seen from space and ground



## Hubble Space Telescope

Data from CASTLES, PI C. S. Kochanek  
ACS + NICMOS2



## Euler

1.2 m Swiss Euler Telescope  $T_{\text{exp}} = 360 \text{ s}$   
Camera C2, FWHM 1.0 arcsec R filter

# COSMOGRAIL Deconvolution Photometry Pipeline

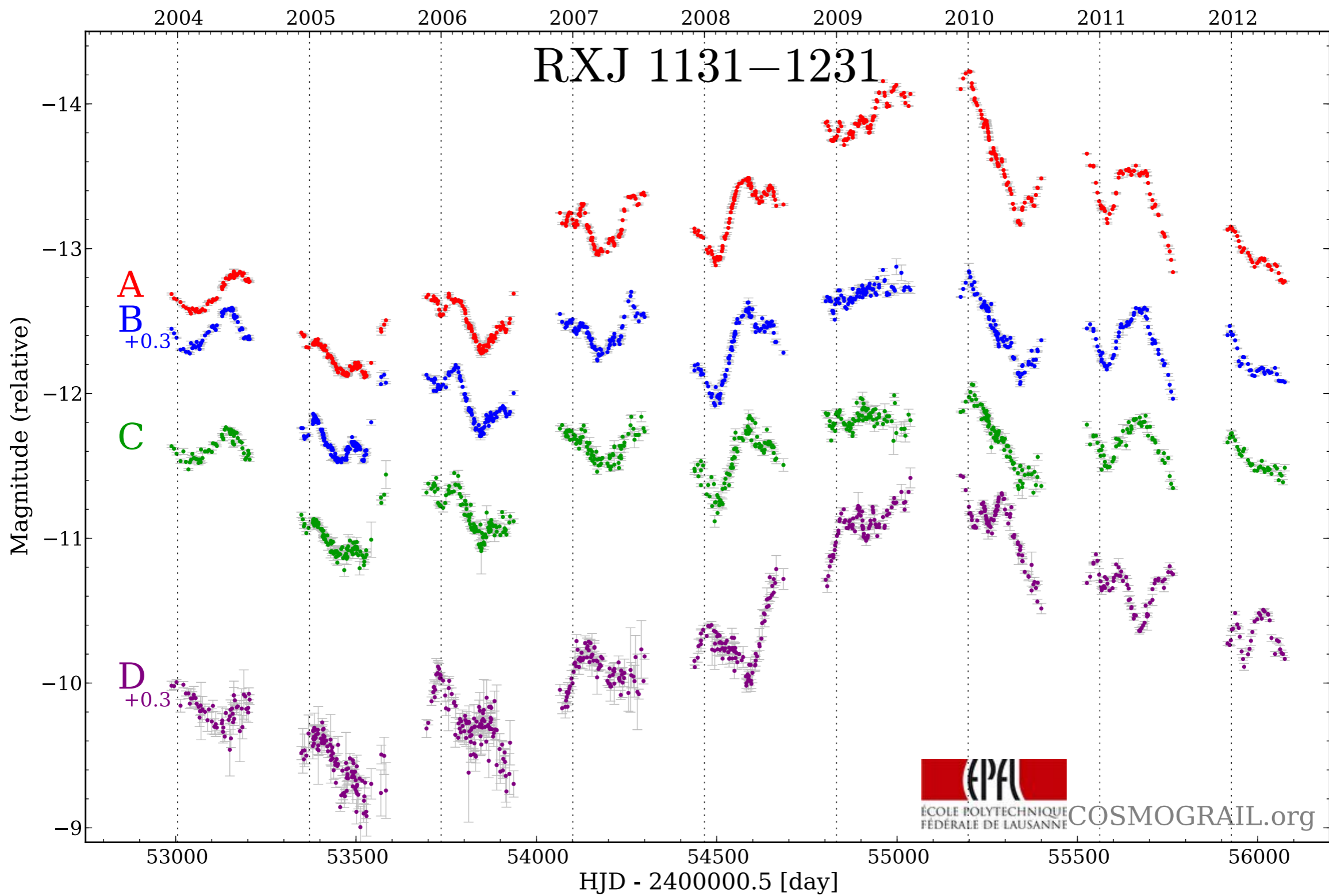
Step 1 : characterize the point spread function (PSF) of each exposure

Step 2 : simultaneously fit one single model to all exposures

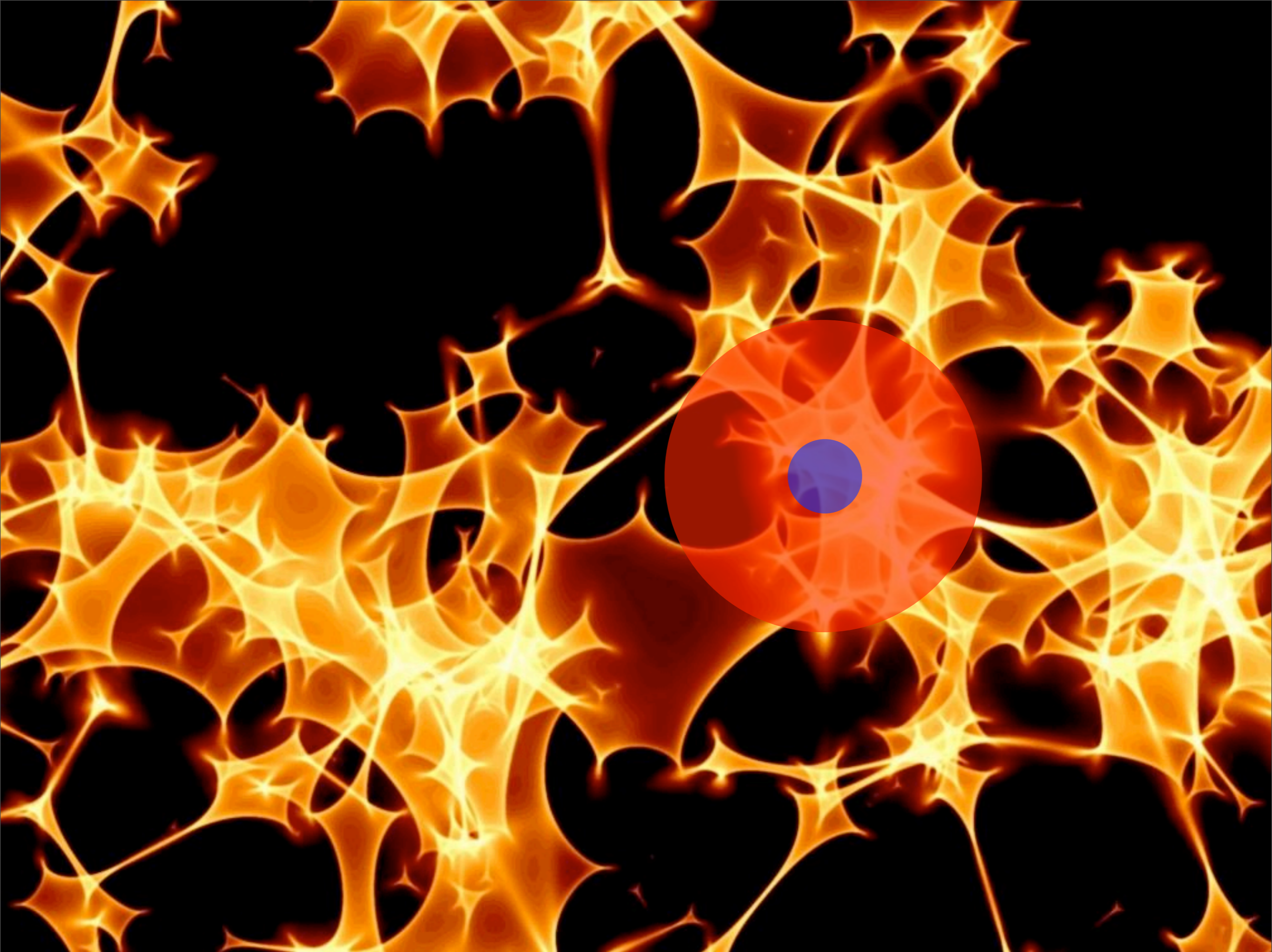
(+ CCD calibrations, photometric normalizations... Tewes et al. 2012)





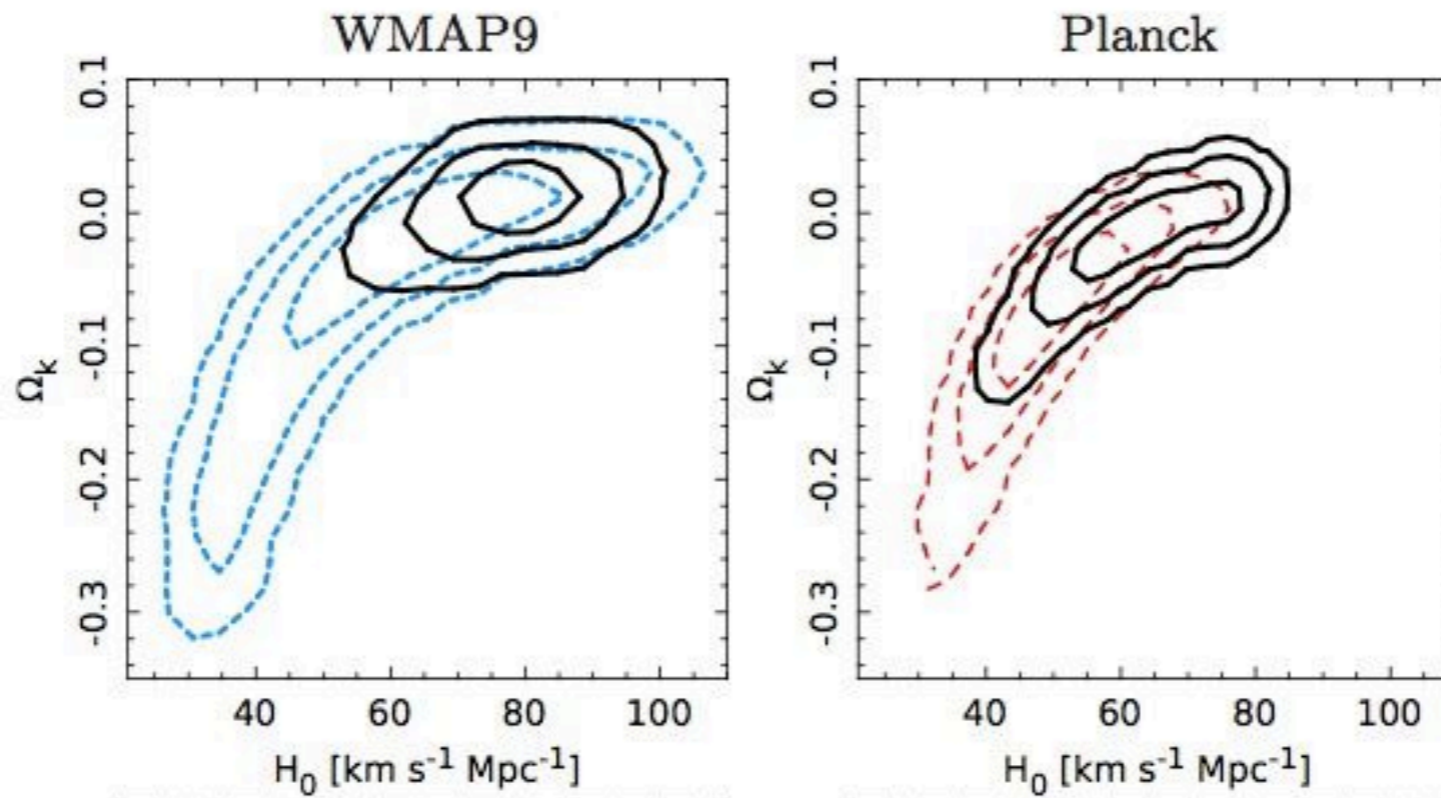


**From M. Tewes PhD**

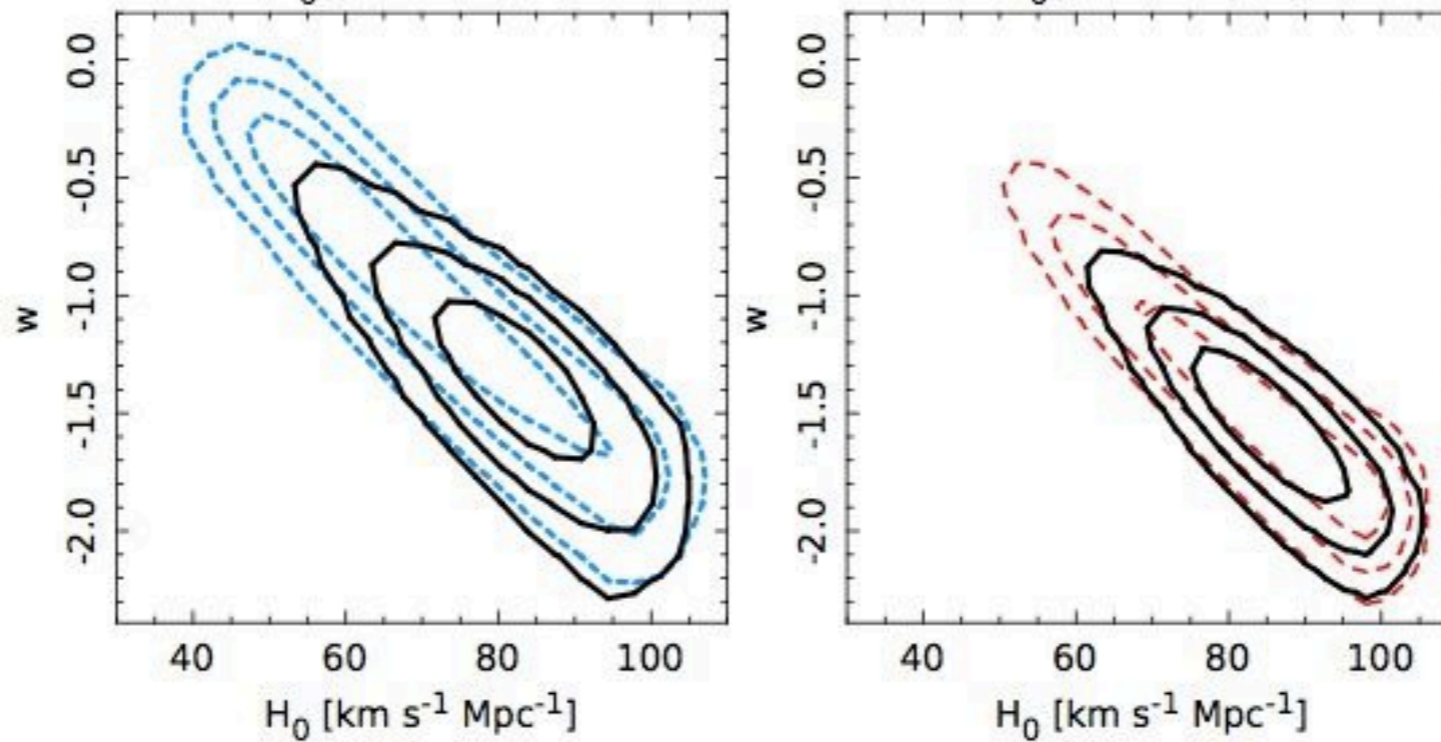


# Update using Planck results

**Open  $\Lambda$ CDM**

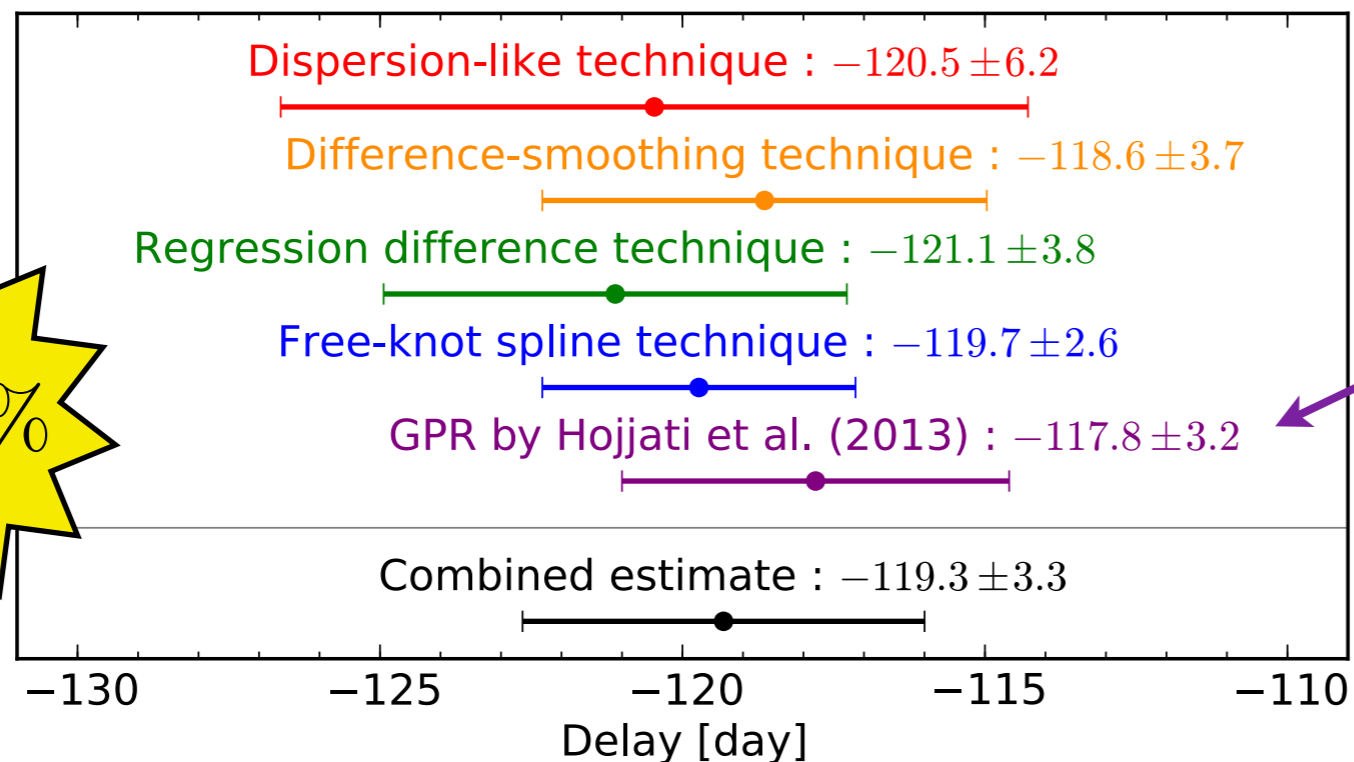
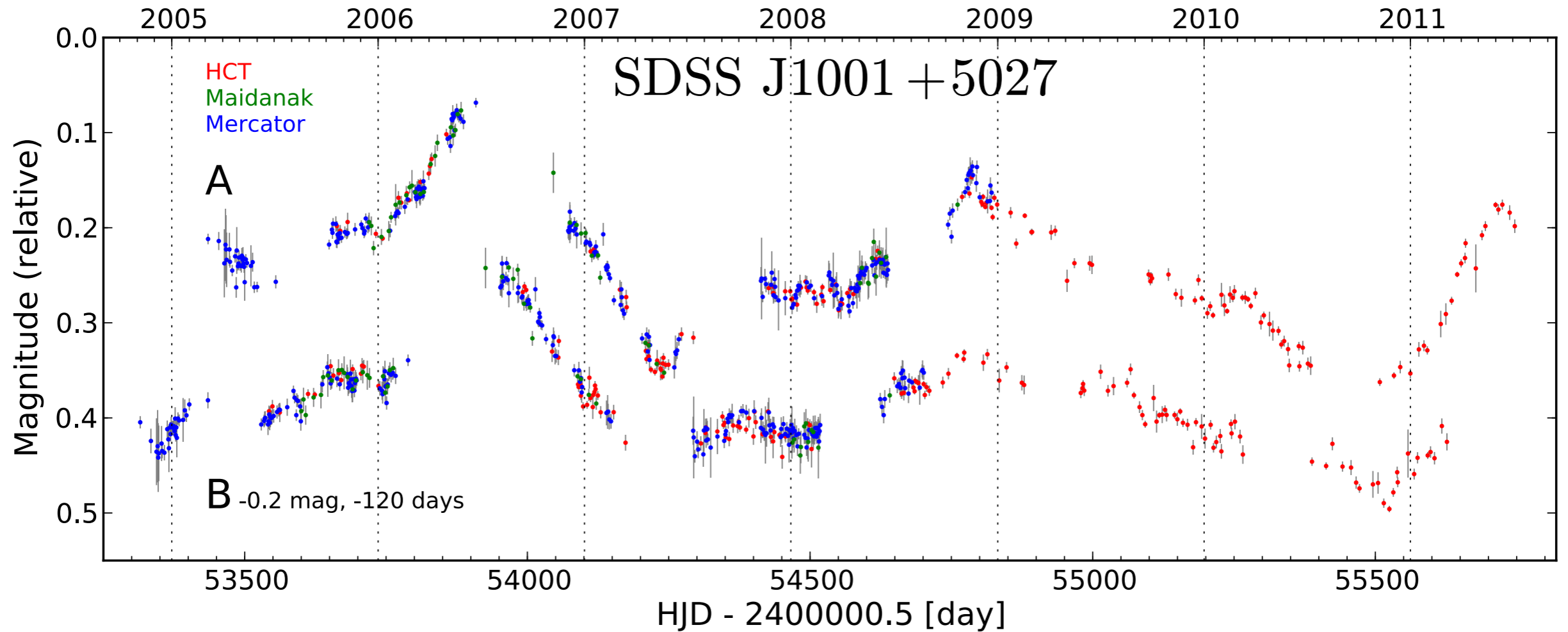


**Flat wCDM**



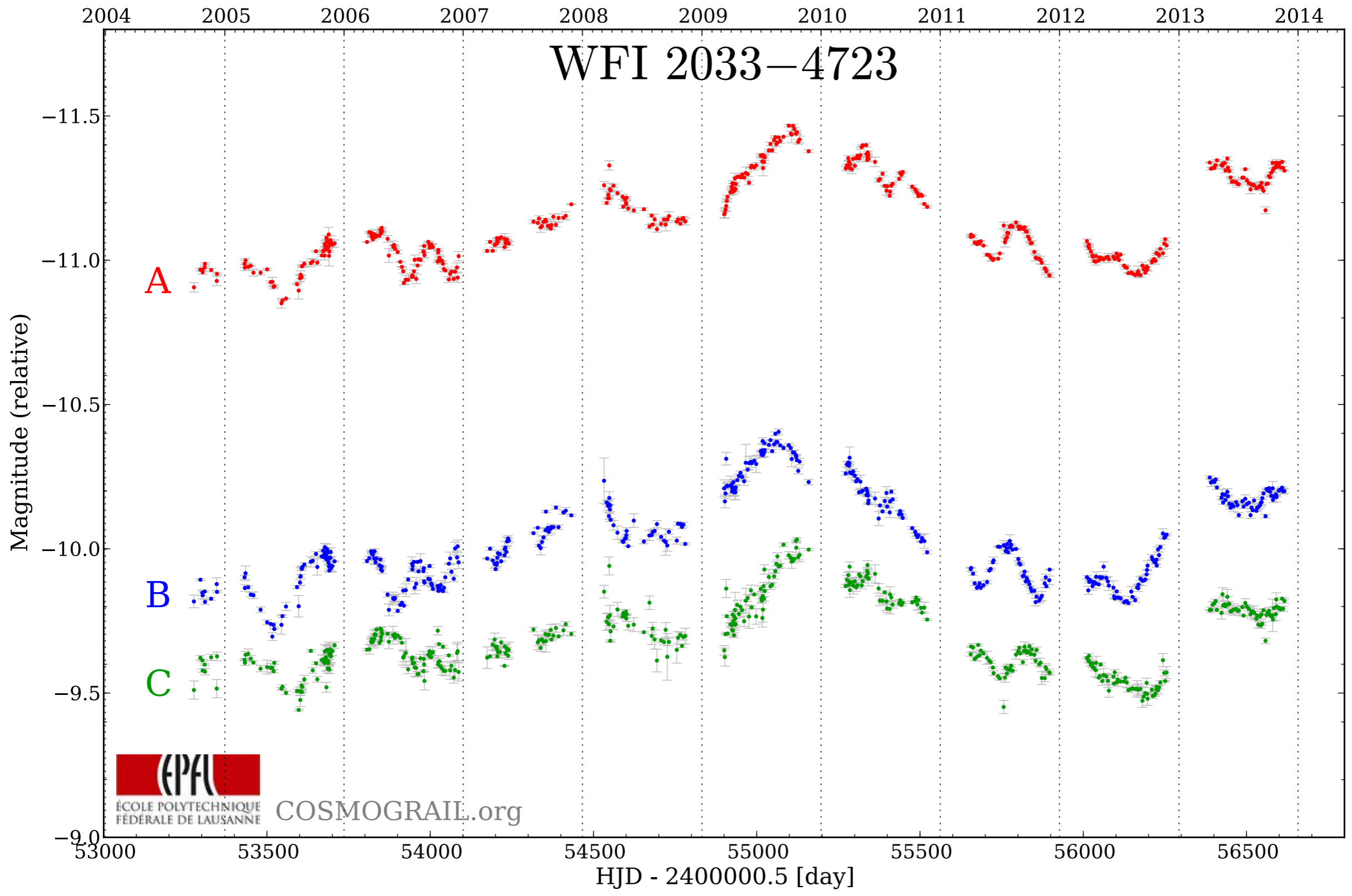
Suyu et al. (2014, ApJ, 788, L35)

# Blind comparison with a newly developed technique

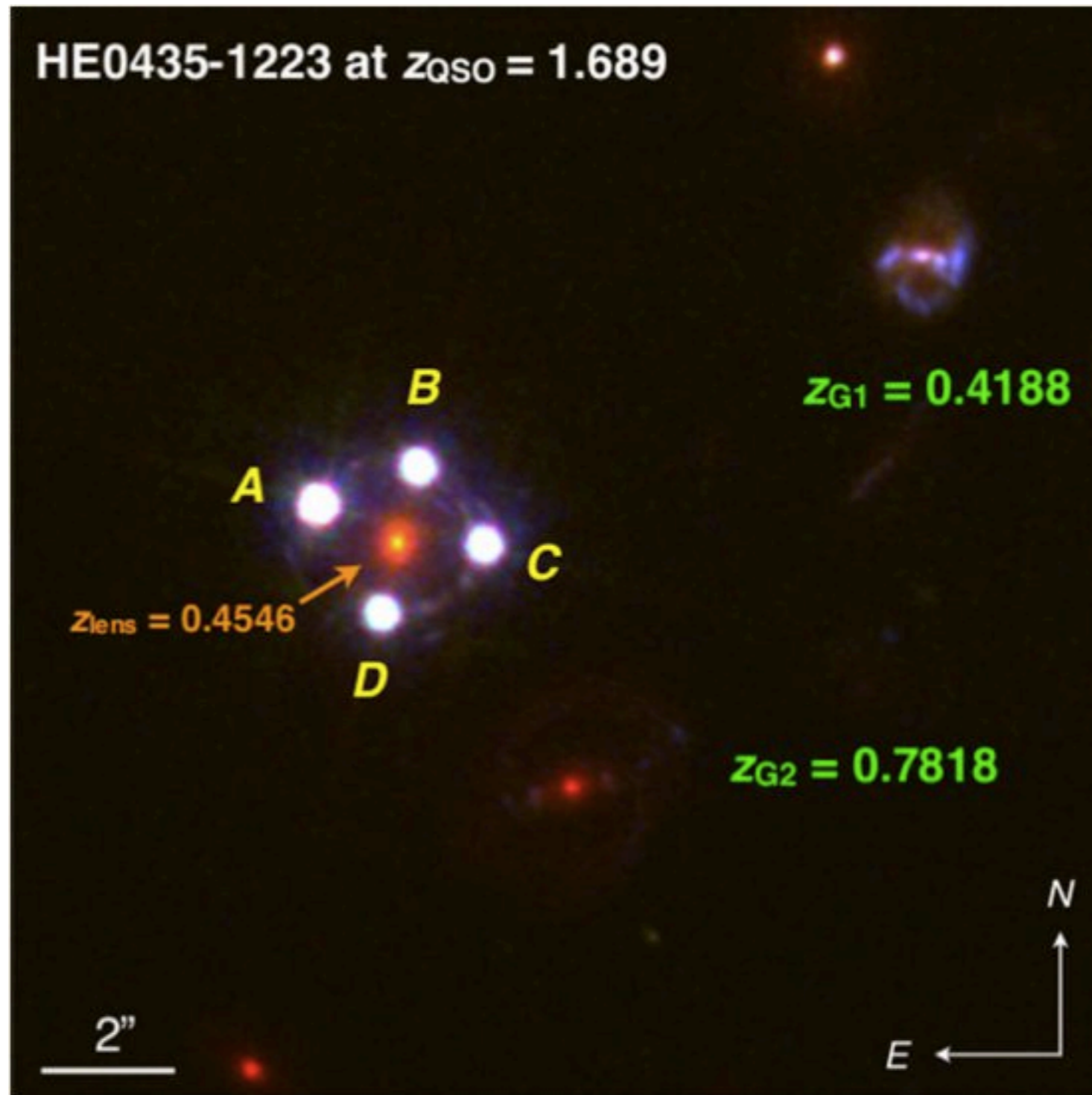


Blind test by  
Hojjati, Kim, Linder  
(2013, Phys. Rev. D 87 V12)

Rathna Kumar, Tewes et al.  
(2013, A&A, 557, A44)

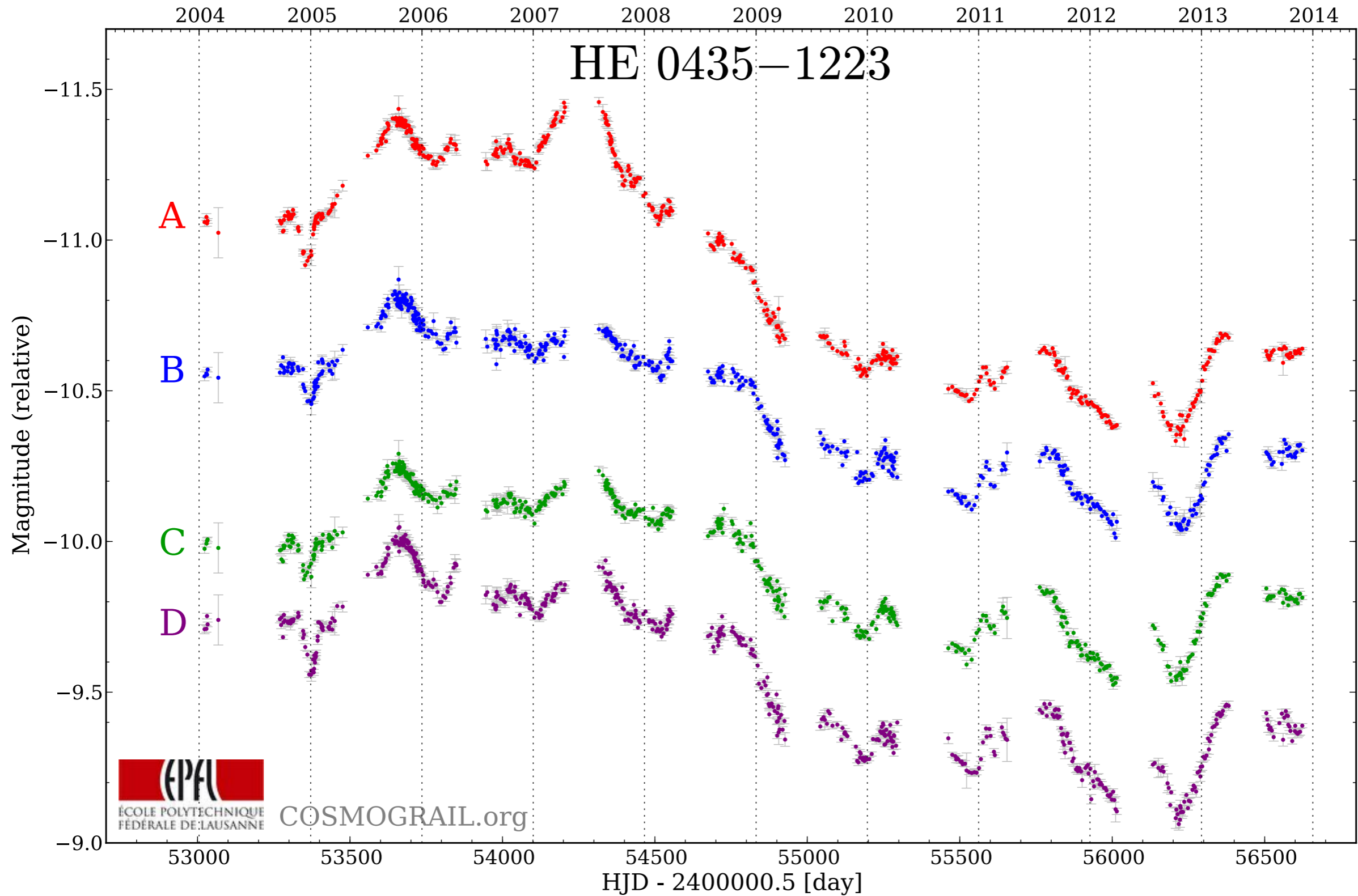


# HE 0435-1223: next COSMOGRAIL high-quality target



From Hsiao-Wen et al. (2013, MNRAS, 438, 1435)

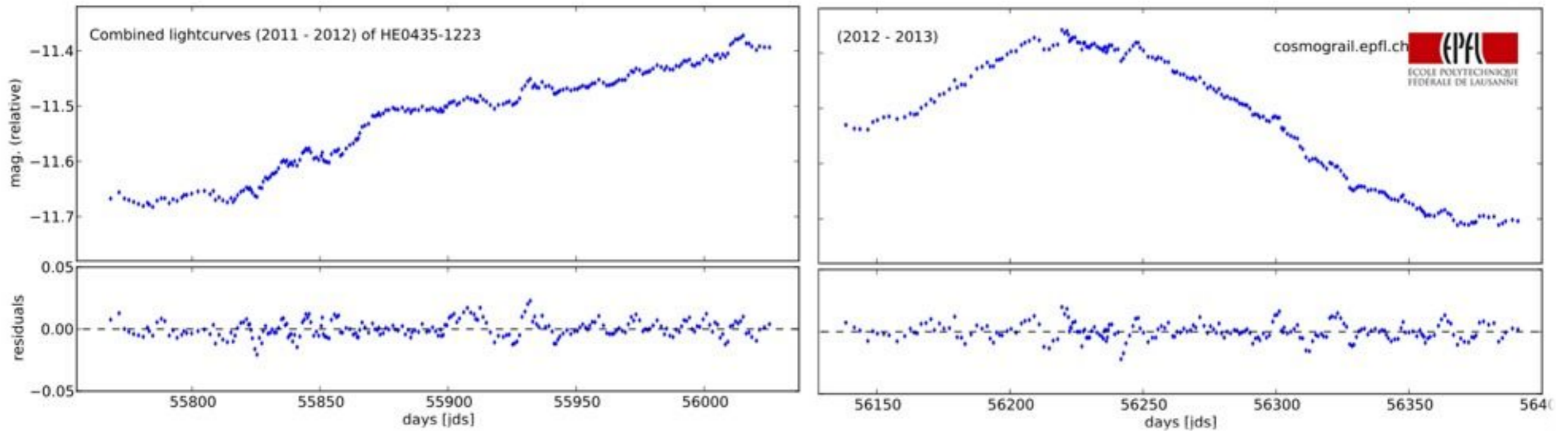
# HE 0435-1223: next COSMOGRAIL high-quality target



Bonvin et al. 2015

# Future: high cadence monitoring at high SNR ( $>1000$ )

«Stacked» COSMOGRAIL data for HE 0435-1223



Use small (mmag) variations, shorter than microlensing

Go to larger telescopes WITH flexible scheduling capability.

Goal: time delays to 1% or below within a few months of observations



# VLT monitoring of HE 0435-1223

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- 1 point per day (210 sec exposure) from Oct 2014 to April 2014 (maybe a bit more)
- Simultaneous monitoring with Euler with improved cadence ( $1 \text{ day}^{-1}$ ) in Nov-Dec 2014
- + SMARTS (Kochanek) and LCOGT (Moustakas, Keeton)

Euler / 360 sec / 1.1" seeing

VLT / 210 sec / 0.8" seeing

(Full moon at 30 degrees)

VLT / 12.4 sec / 0.8" seeing

(No moon)

VLT / 4 sec / 0.4" seeing

(No moon)

# Using the ESO 3.5m NTT at La Silla ?

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- Call for ideas to use the NTT between 2015 and 2019
- We answered the call in March 2014
- **Confirming DES lenses + spectroscopy of line of sight + daily lens monitoring during 4 periods of 3 months + 10% of the time for «fillers»**
- Pre-selected in August 2014
- Submitted formal proposal to ESO OPC on Oct 1, 2014
- **Draft agreement between ESO and us being prepared**
- News from ESO STC and OPC by the end of November 2014
- **April 2015: earliest possible start of observations**

# Using the ESO 3.5m NTT at La Silla ?

## AGREEMENT

### CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF OBSERVING TIME

at the

### NEW TECHNOLOGY TELESCOPE (NTT)

at the La Silla Site of the La Silla Paranal Observatory in Chile

between the

#### European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere

Karl-Schwarzschild-Strasse 2

D-85748 Garching bei München, Germany

hereinafter referred to as **ESO**

on the one hand,

and the

#### École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne

Route Cantonale, 1015

Lausanne, Switzerland

hereinafter referred to as **EPFL**

on the other hand.

## ANNEX A

### Standard cost rates for EPFL

1.	<b>Contribution to the Operations</b>  Per executed observing night at the NTT (2015)  <small>The above nightly rates are subject to revision due to yearly cost variation indexing as approved on an annual basis by ESO internal bodies.</small>	€ 4150
2.	<b>Travel, Board and Lodging Costs in Chile</b> (Rates as of January 1, 2013)  Lodging in ESO Guesthouse Santiago (breakfast included)  Main meal in ESO Guesthouse Santiago  Round trip air transfer to/from La Serena  24 hrs stay at La Silla  One – way surface transport between La Serena and La Silla  Transfer (one-way) within Santiago  <small>The above prices for board, travel and lodging are subject to revision and are updated on a regular basis and can be found at <a href="http://www.eso.org/sci/observing/travel/visas-instruc.html">http://www.eso.org/sci/observing/travel/visas-instruc.html</a>. The board, travel and lodging prices published on the ESO website shall prevail.</small>	€ 60.00 € 15.00 € 130.00 € 60.00 € 25.00 € 25.00

**Total cost: 1.5 Meuro for 1 full year of NTT (split over 4 years)**

# Summary

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- COSMOGRAIL has demonstrated that time delays can be accurately measured
- H0LiCOW:  $H_0$  Lenses in COSMOGRAIL Wellspring  
--> turn time delays into cosmology (see talk by Sherry & Ken)
- DES, KIDS, LSST, Euclid will discover hundreds of new targets
- Long and well-sampled light curves are needed to handle microlensing properly
- The mass-slope degeneracy can be broken at least when an Einstein ring is seen
- The mass-sheet (line of sight) degeneracy can be minimized for individual systems.  
It averages out when considering many systems
- **Need 1% time delays quickly -> medium-size dedicated telescopes**