



# COPING WITH THE DATA STREAM

GAUTHAM NARAYAN  
NOAO

 GSNARAYAN



UA: Rick Snodgrass, John Kececioglu, Carlos Scheidegger

NOAO: Abi Saha, Tom Matheson, Monika Soraisam

CSS: Rob Seaman

LSST: Tim Jenness

Grads: Zhe Wang, Clark Taylor, Eric Welch, Shuo Yang

Jackson Toeniskotter, Jen Dempsey

NOAO REU + Honors: Tayeb Zaidi (Macalester)



# OR PUTTING ALL OF THE THINGS TOGETHER

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# THINGS I WORK ON:

- Understanding dark energy, particularly SNIa cosmology
- Bayesian inference with generative models (DA WDs, SNIa)
- Machine learning to identify and characterize transients, Monte Carlo simulations
- Supernova impostors, misbehaving supernovae
- Image reduction pipelines & calibration for wide-field surveys (ESSENCE + Pan-STARRS is  $\sim 900\text{TB}$  of data)
- Feel free to come by NOAO #118, or send me an email

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  - time-series analysis
  - machine learning
  - object-oriented programming
  - databases
  - profiling code
  - visualization...
- Combine these elements (+1) in the context of a single LSST project

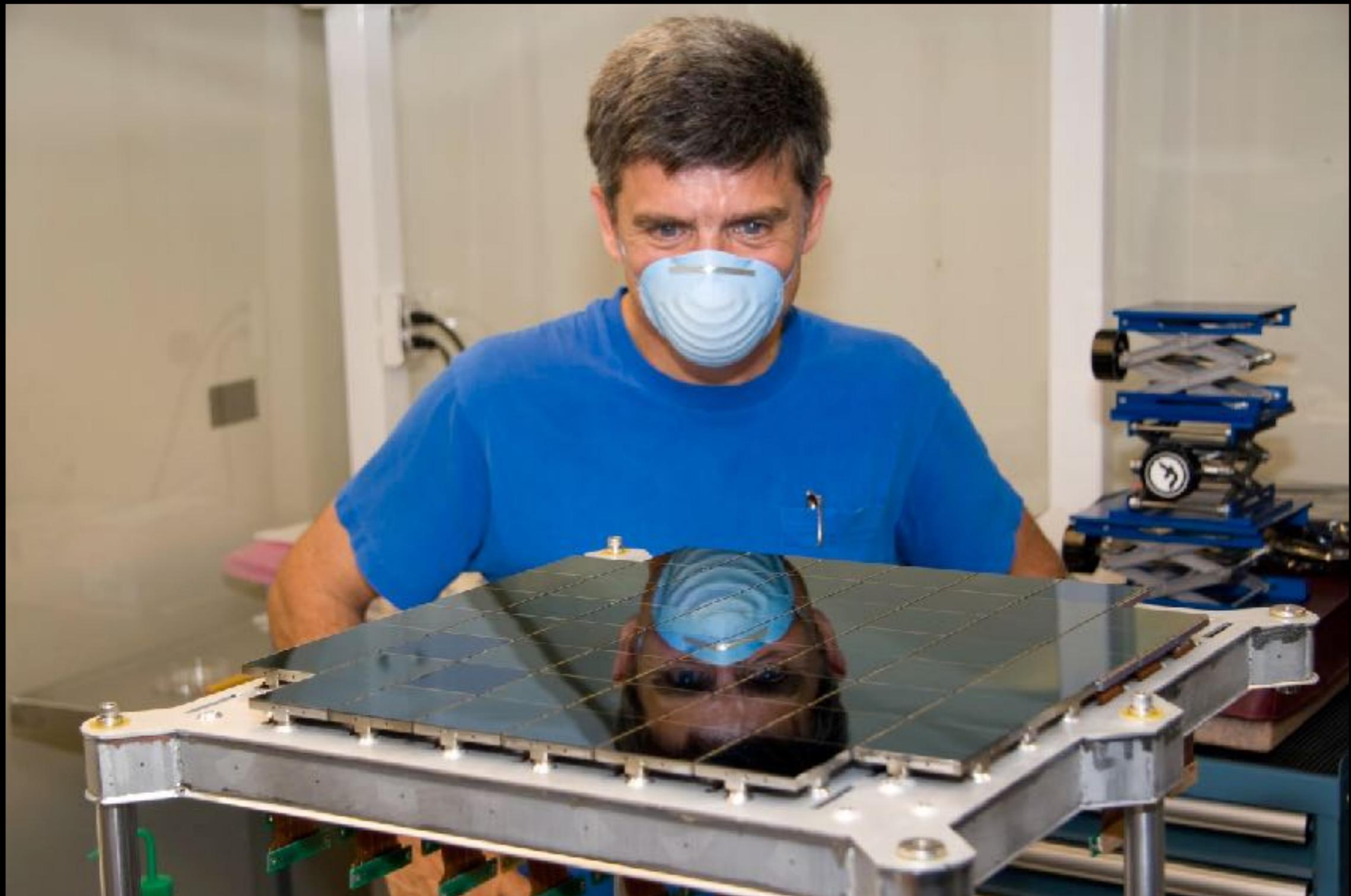
# LSST

This picture is both exciting and terrifying



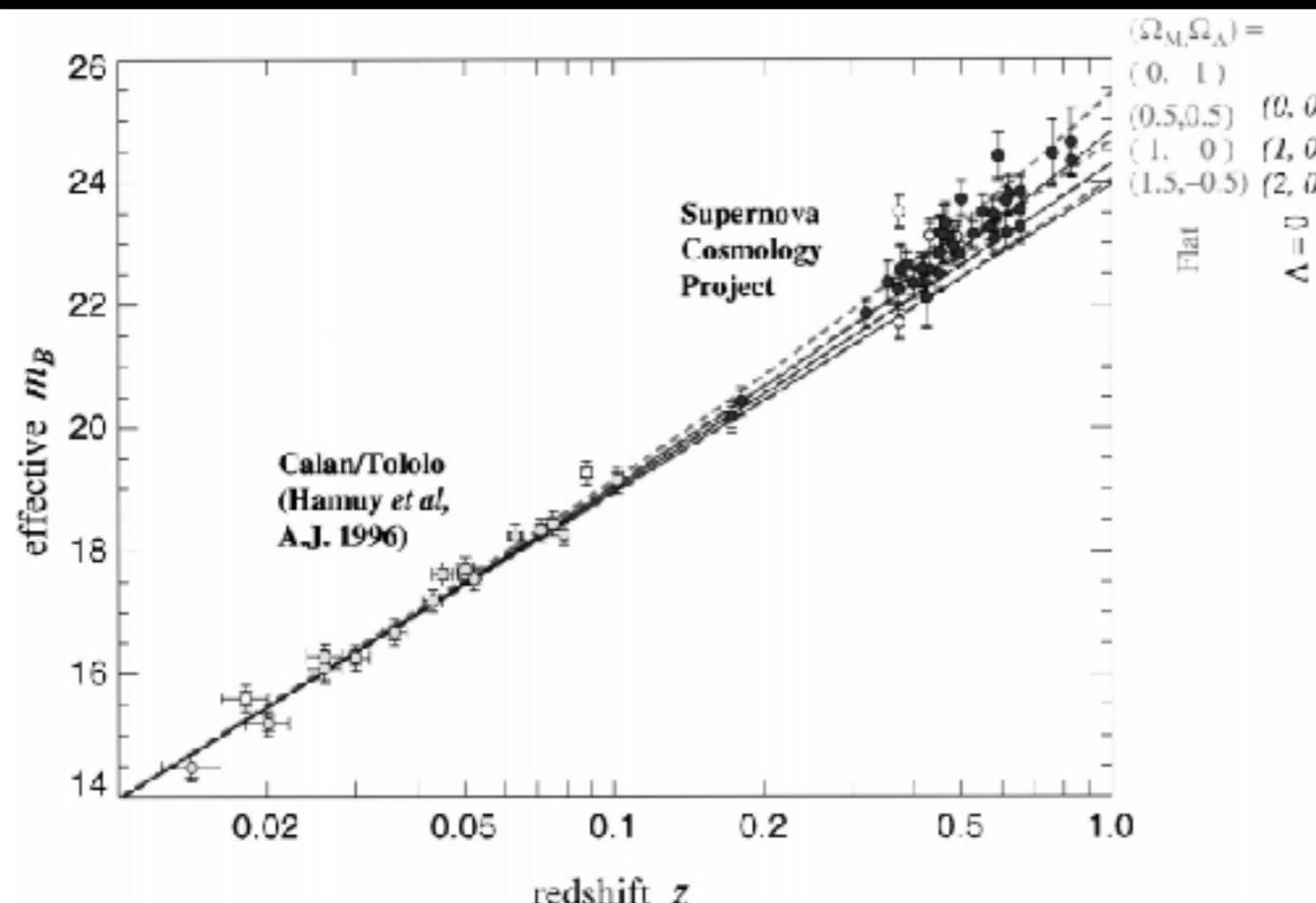


J. B. Oke holding a 0.24 megapixel CCD detector circa 1990

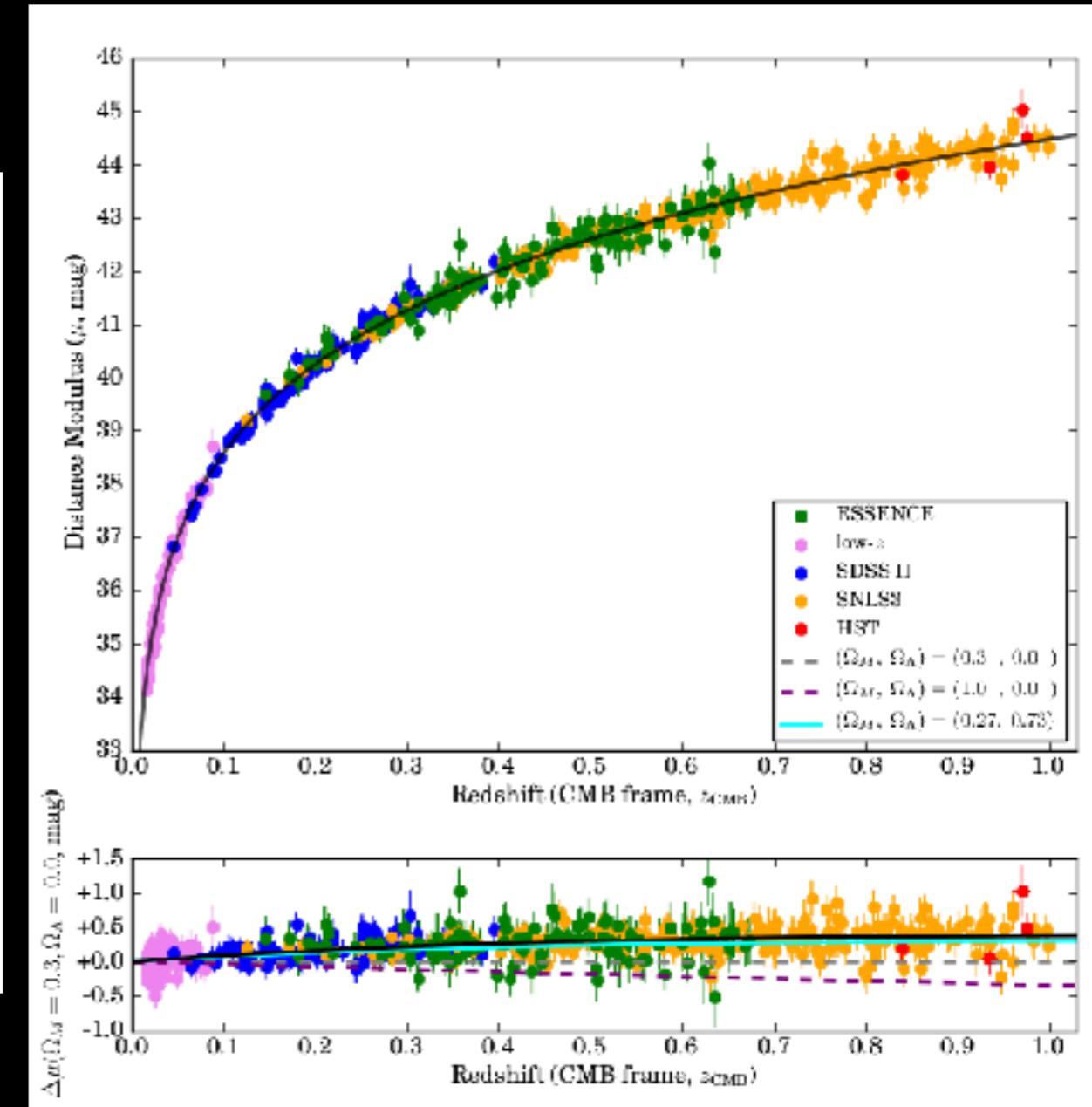


John Tonry looking at the 1.4 Gigapixel GPC1 circa 2010

# DATA RATES HAVE RAPIDLY INCREASED



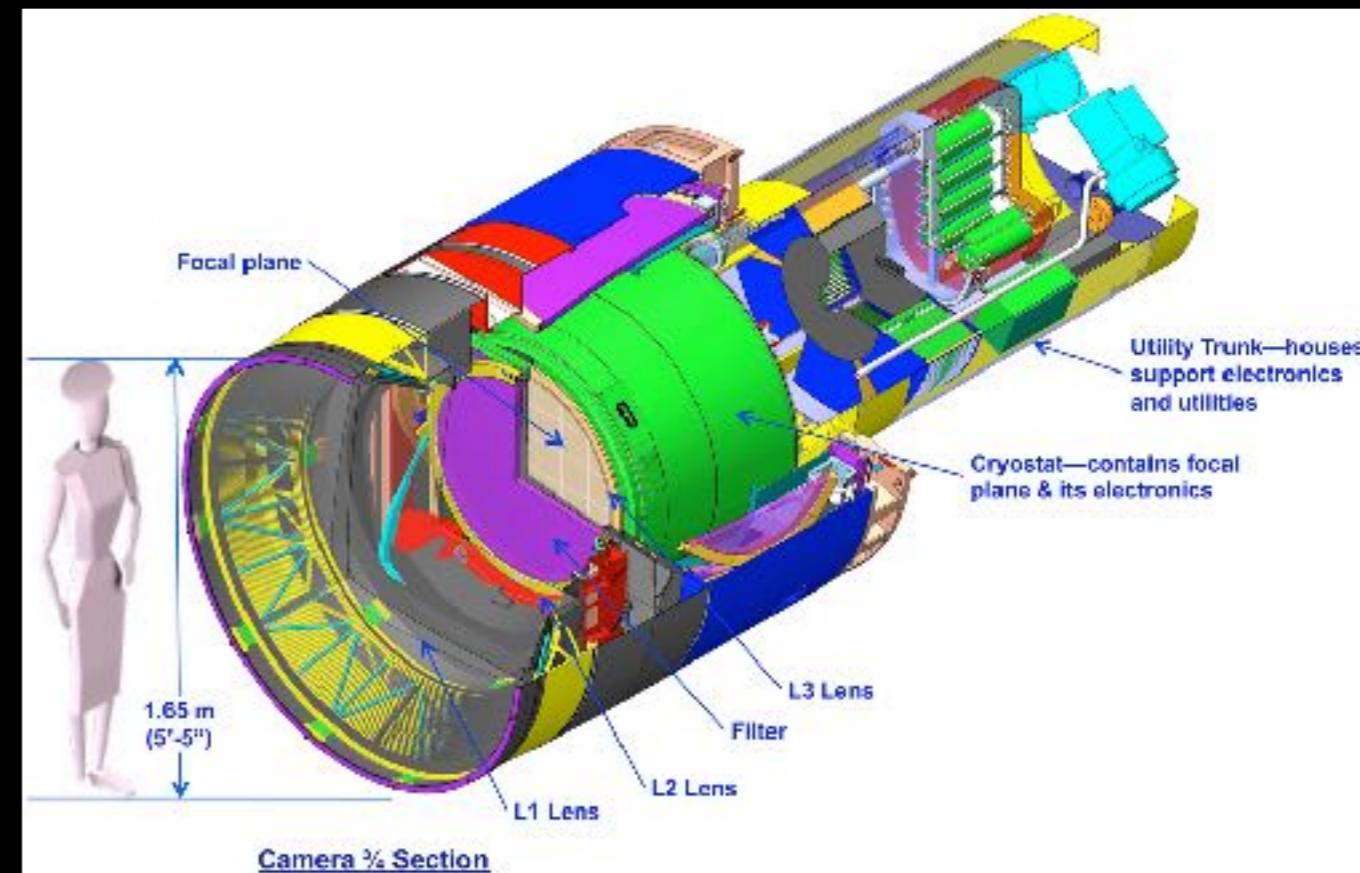
Perlmutter+ 1999



Narayan+ 2016

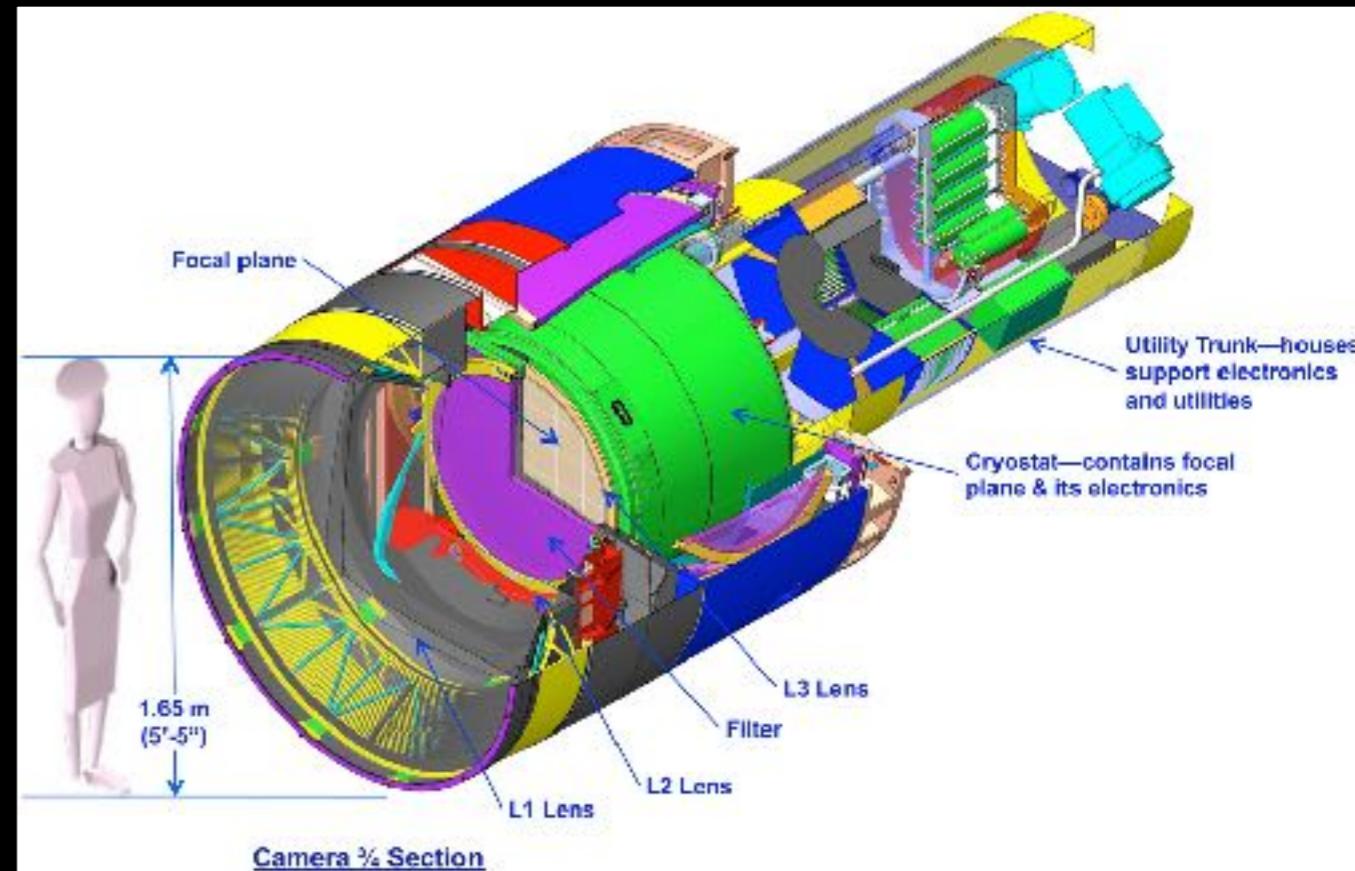
The evolution of the Hubble diagram over ~15 years

# MOTIVATION 1: THE 'L' IN LSST



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- Transient searches have relied on eyeballs for alerts



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- Transient searches have relied on eyeballs for alerts
- LSST will produce several PBs of images/yr i.e. TB of catalogs, GBs every night: **PETAFLOOD**
- ~ 1-10 million alerts/night
- Problem is **rate** more than scale
  - Roughly 37 seconds to process each image worth of alerts



**POP QUIZ:**

**WHAT DOES SYNOPTIC MEAN?**

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“observations that give a broad view of a subject”

## **POP QUIZ:**

### **WHAT DOES SYNOPTIC MEAN?**

“observations that give a broad view of a subject”

i.e. many different scientists and science goals that are not  
always mutually compatible

# OUR VIEW OF THE COMMUNITY'S FOLLOW UP INTERESTS

i.e. what needs we are trying to serve

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  - Known unknowns - predicted but never seen

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  - Known things that need rapid characterization & detailed follow up: **Microlensing**
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- Large pure samples of photometrically selected things: **SNe**
  - Things that can be studied at “leisure”: **Variable Stars**
- “Normal” things being wonky: **KIC 8462852 aka Tabby's Star**

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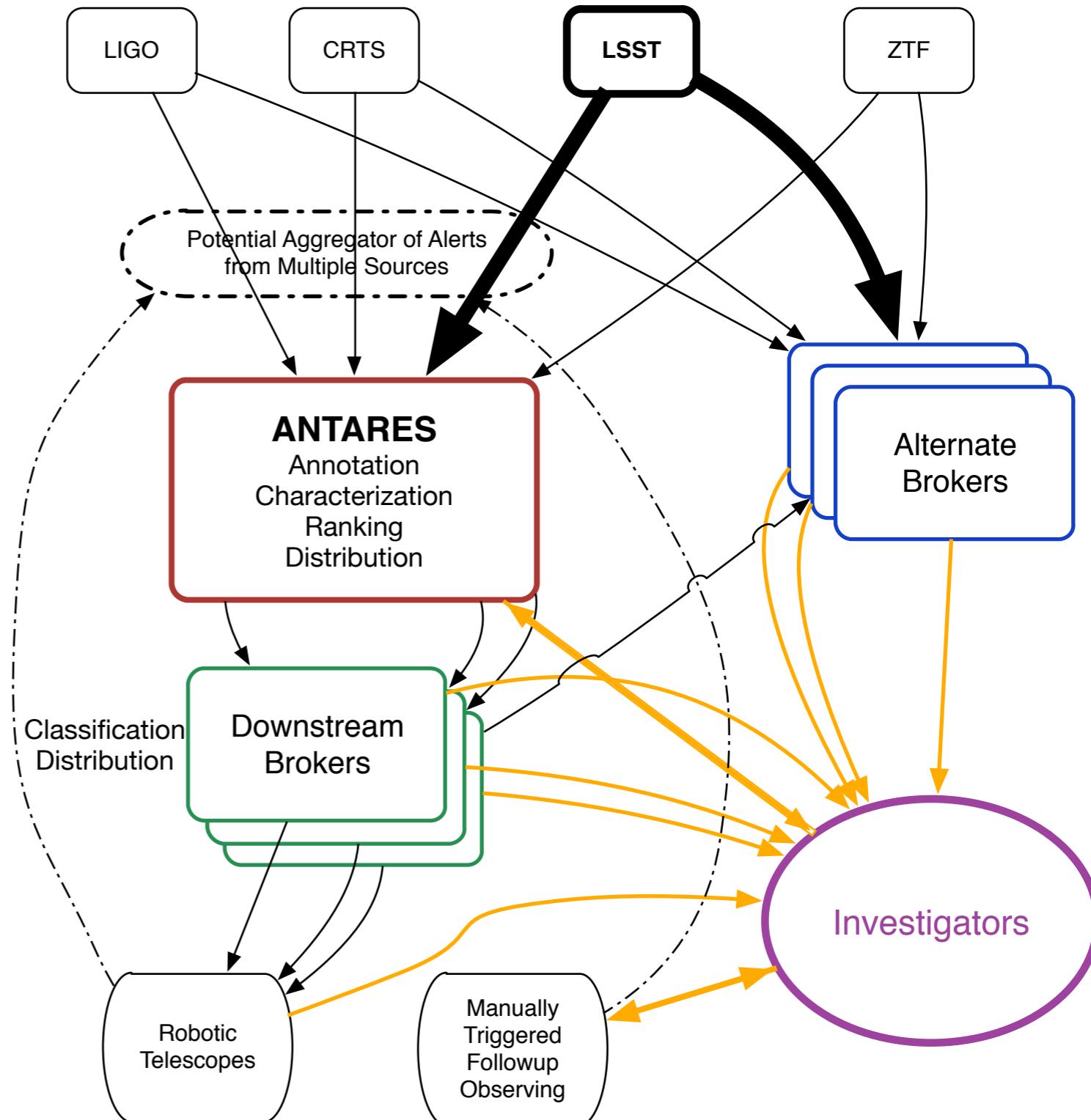
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**There is no single feature set & ML algorithm that is optimal for all these use cases.**

# ANTARES

## ANTARES Environment

ALERT GENERATORS: Difference Imaging, Real/Bogus & Moving Object Assessment



System Data Flow  
Info to/from Investigators  
Feedback



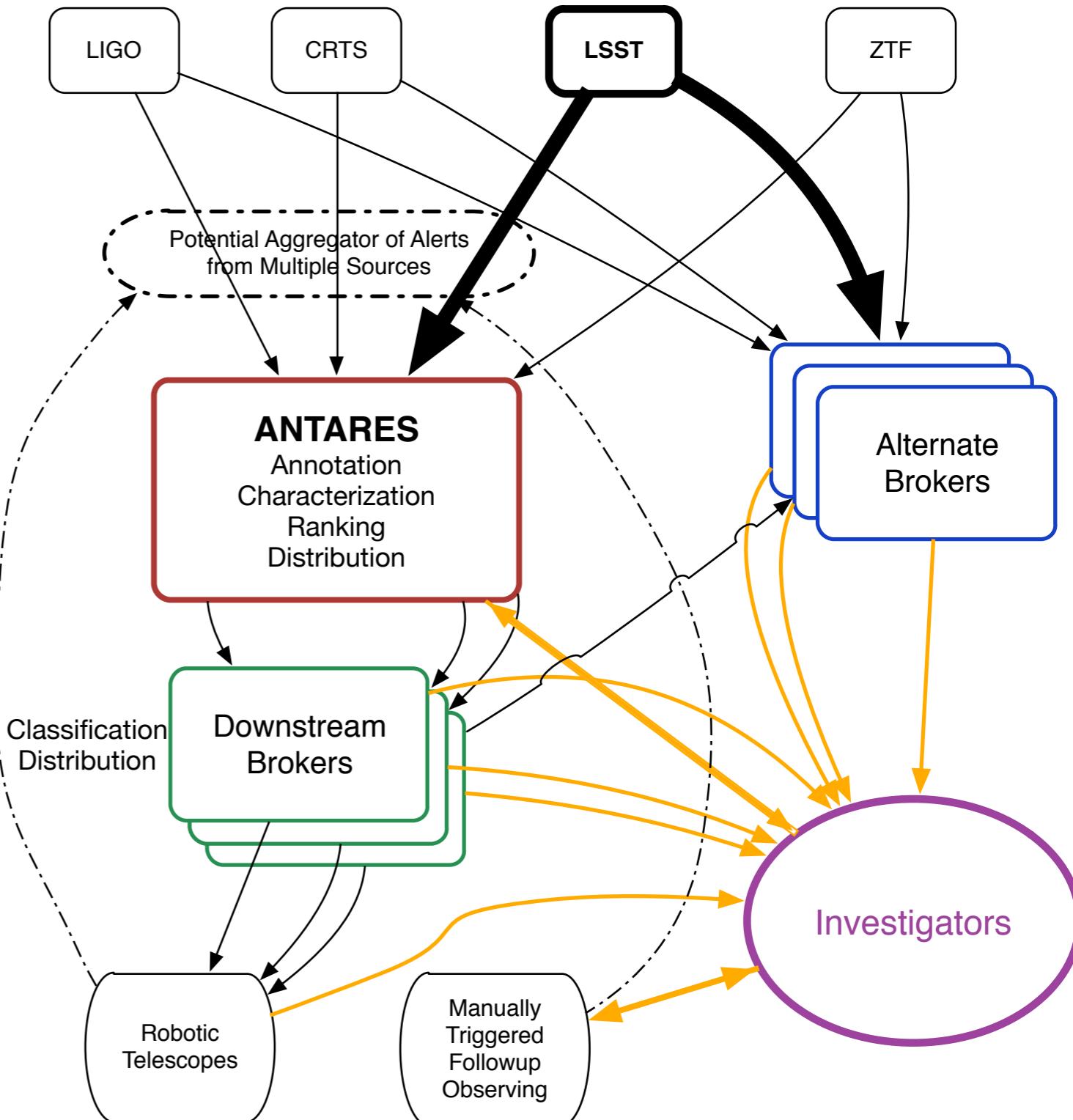
NSF INSPIRE proposal (IIA-1344024)

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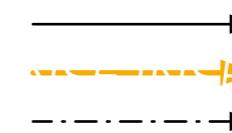
- Arizona-NOAO Temporal Analysis and Response to Events System

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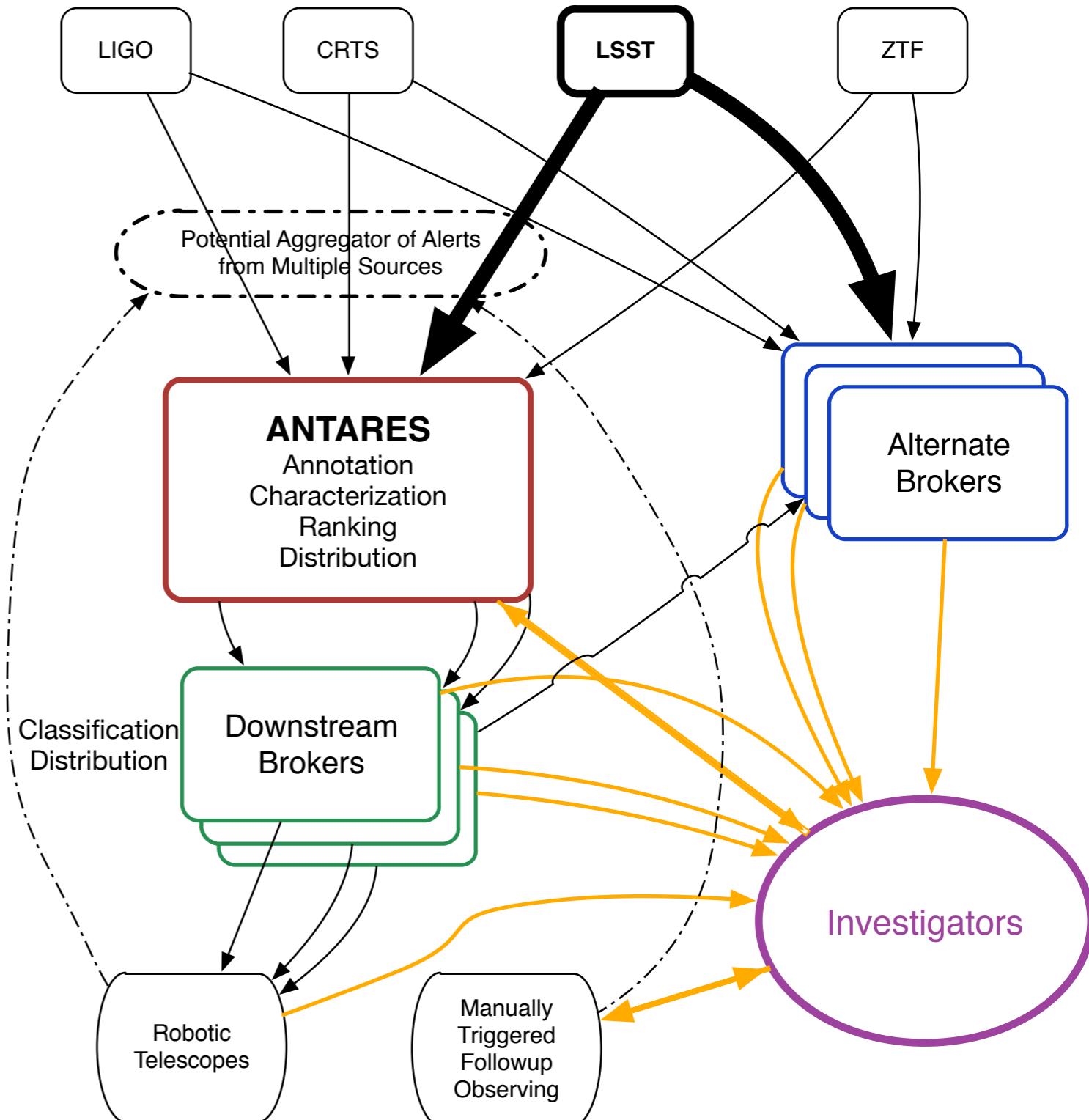
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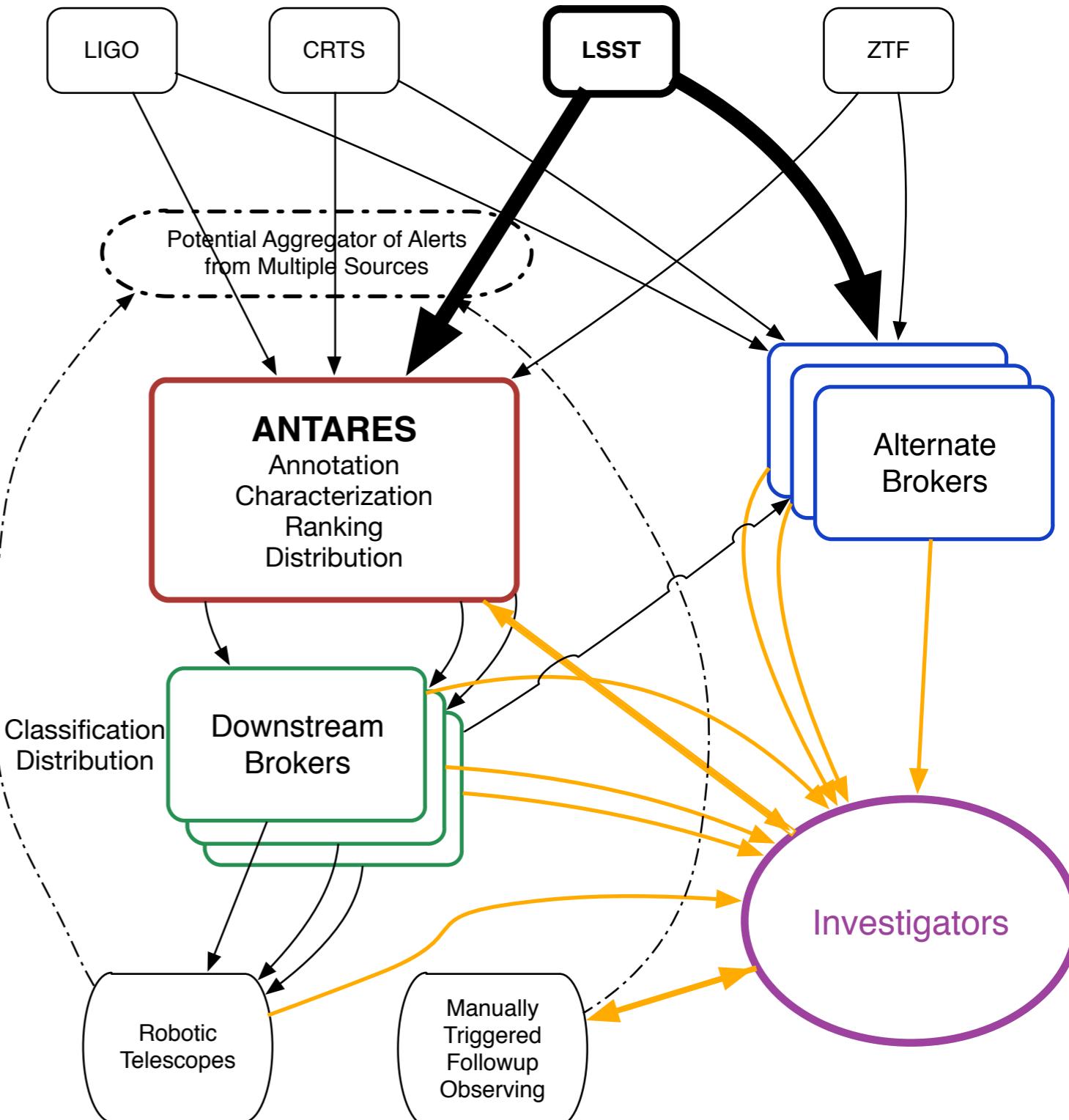
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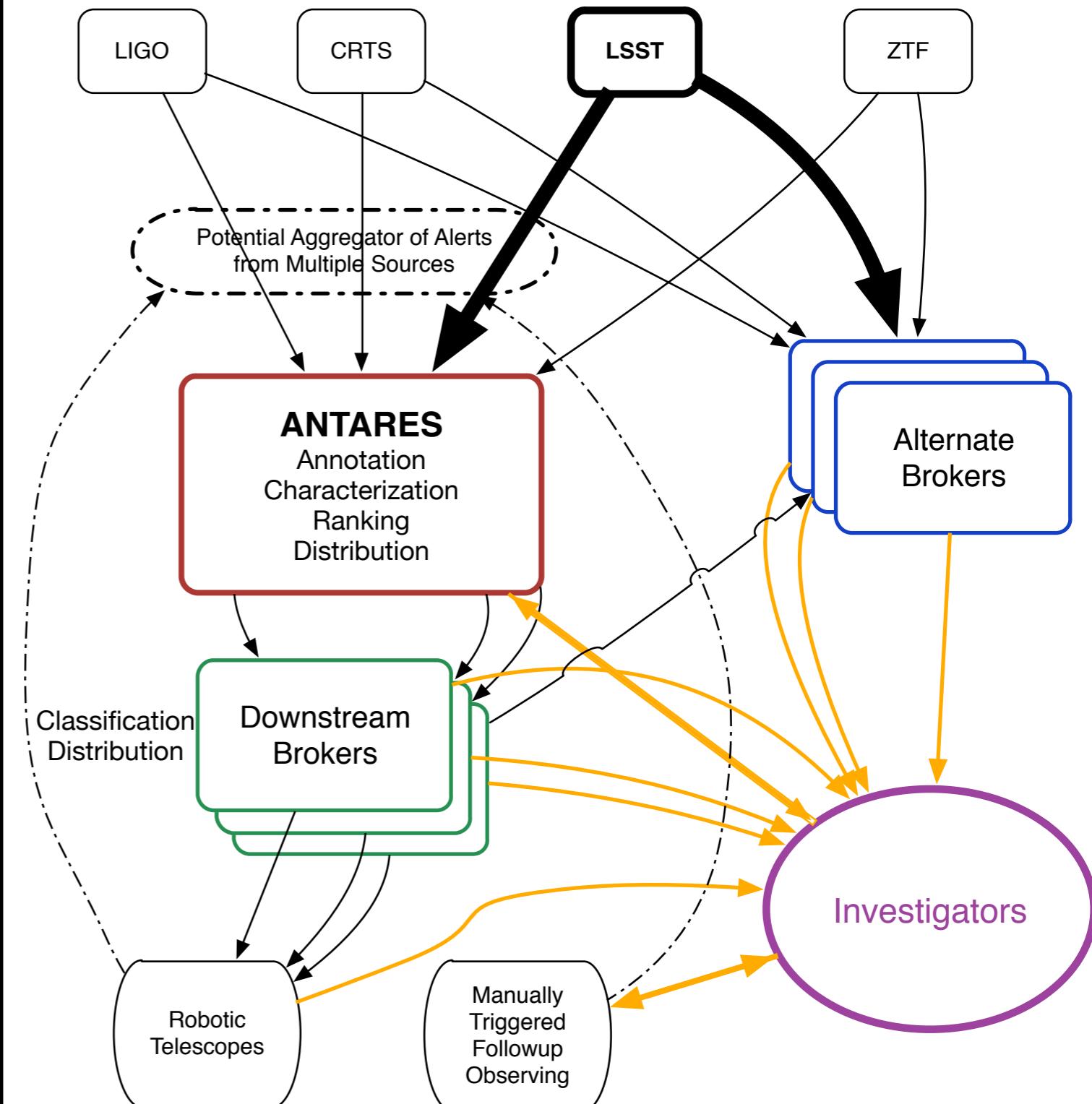
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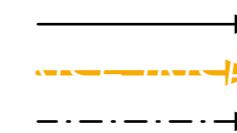
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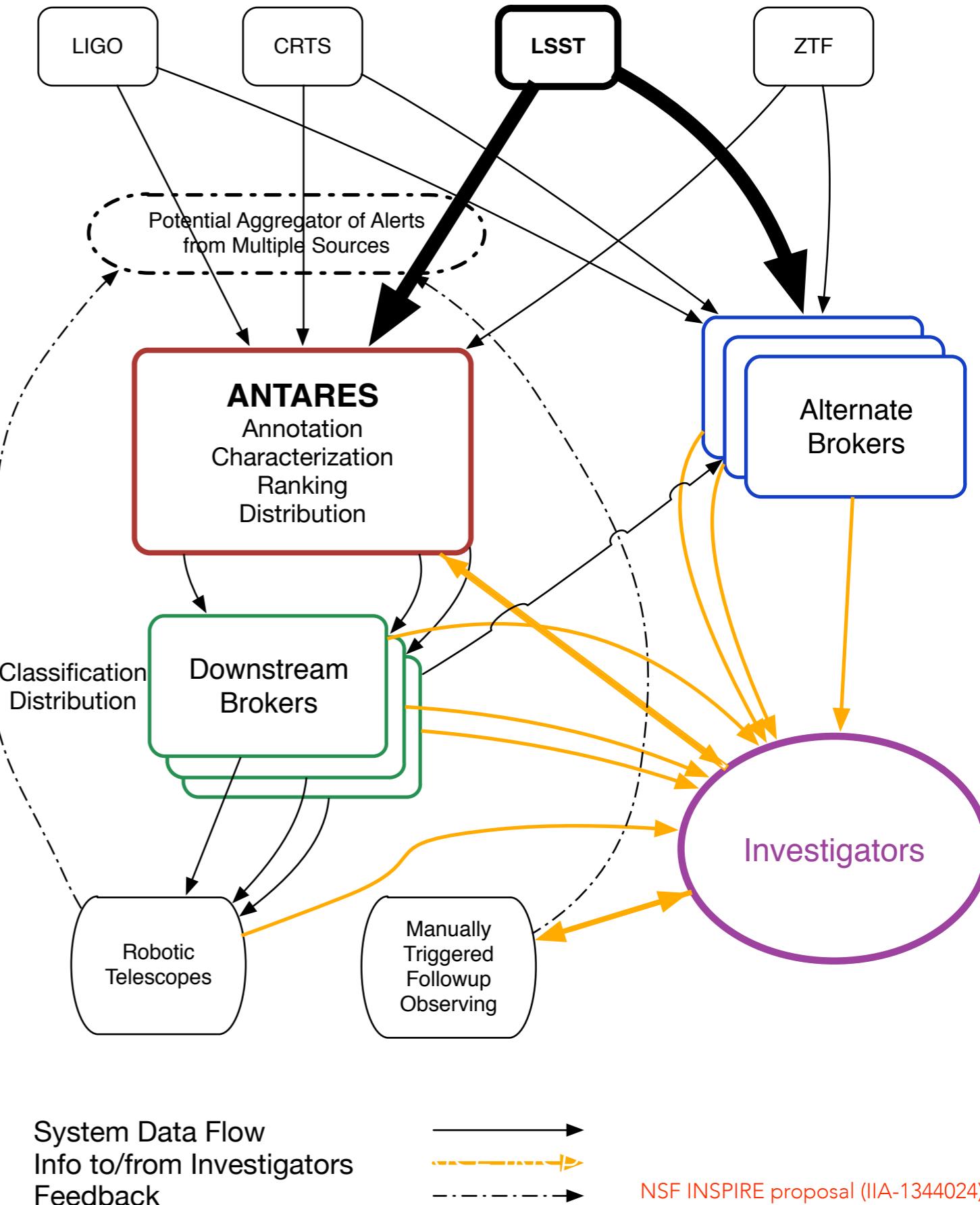
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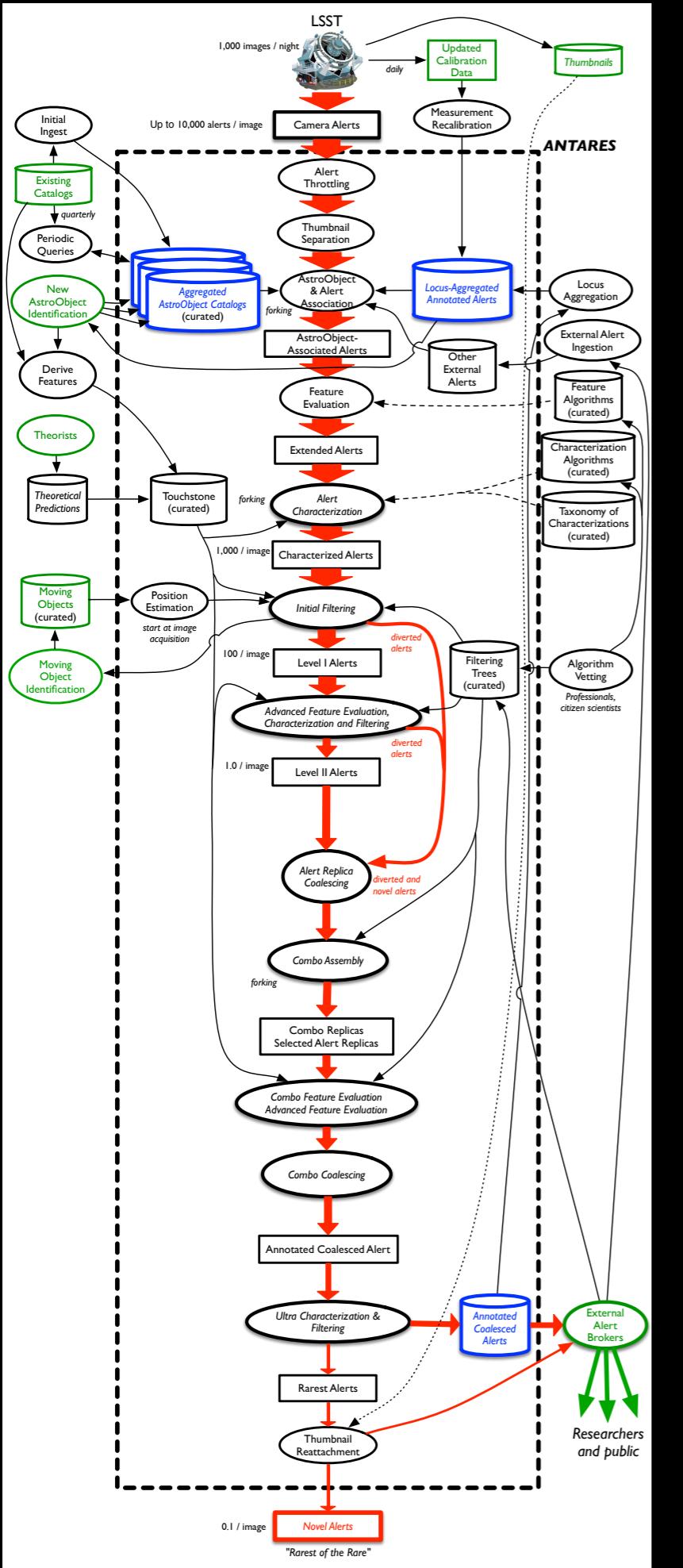
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- Archived alerts with contextual information, open source, open access in near real-time

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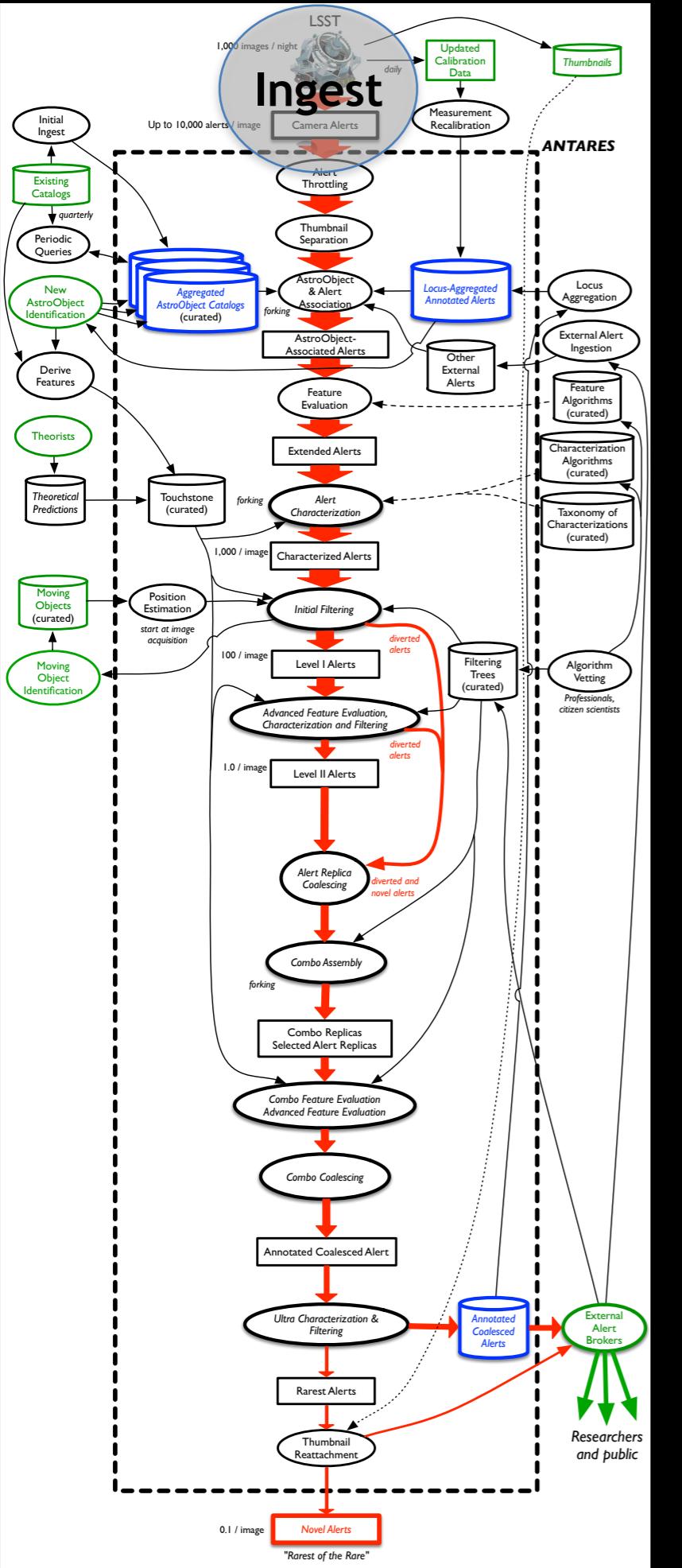


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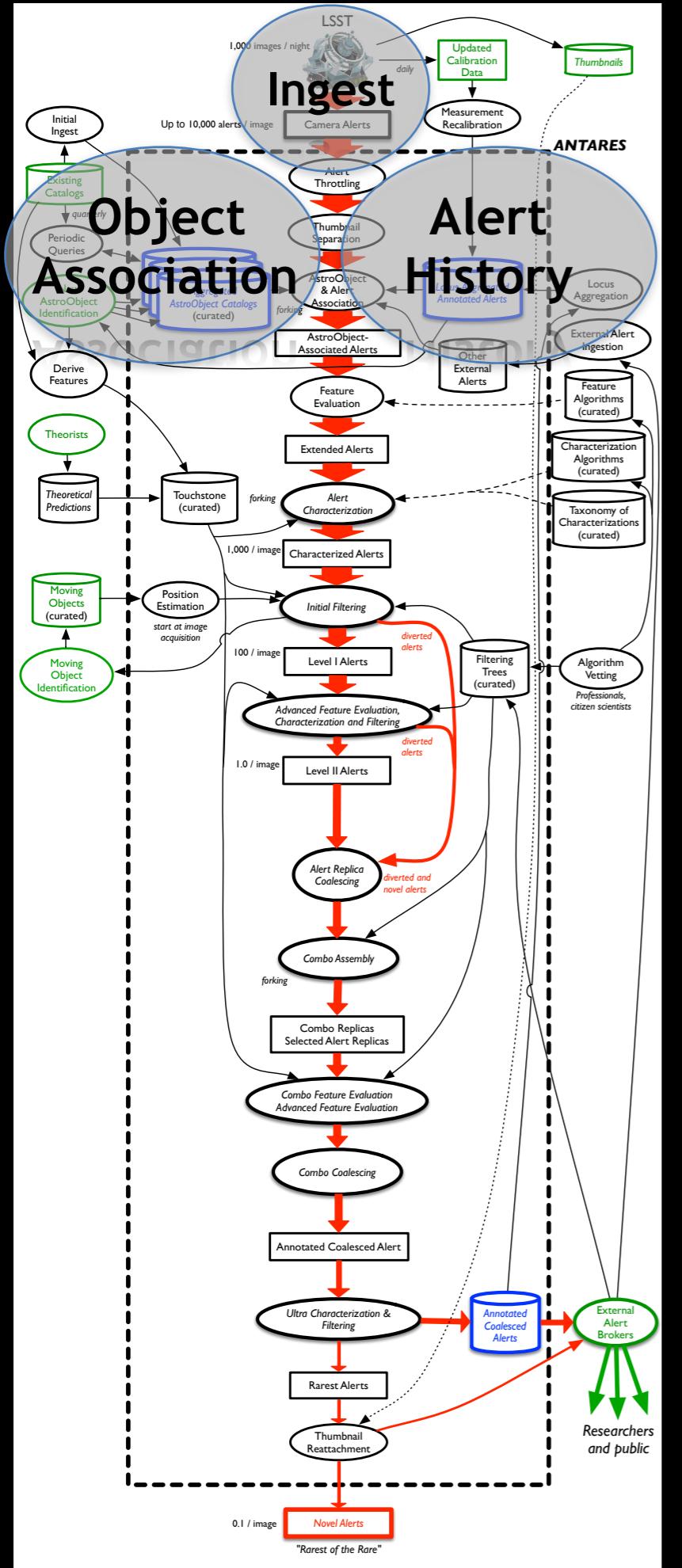


# ANTARES Architecture

Alerts are generated from real light curves, outside the system, and then ingested into: **streaming data**



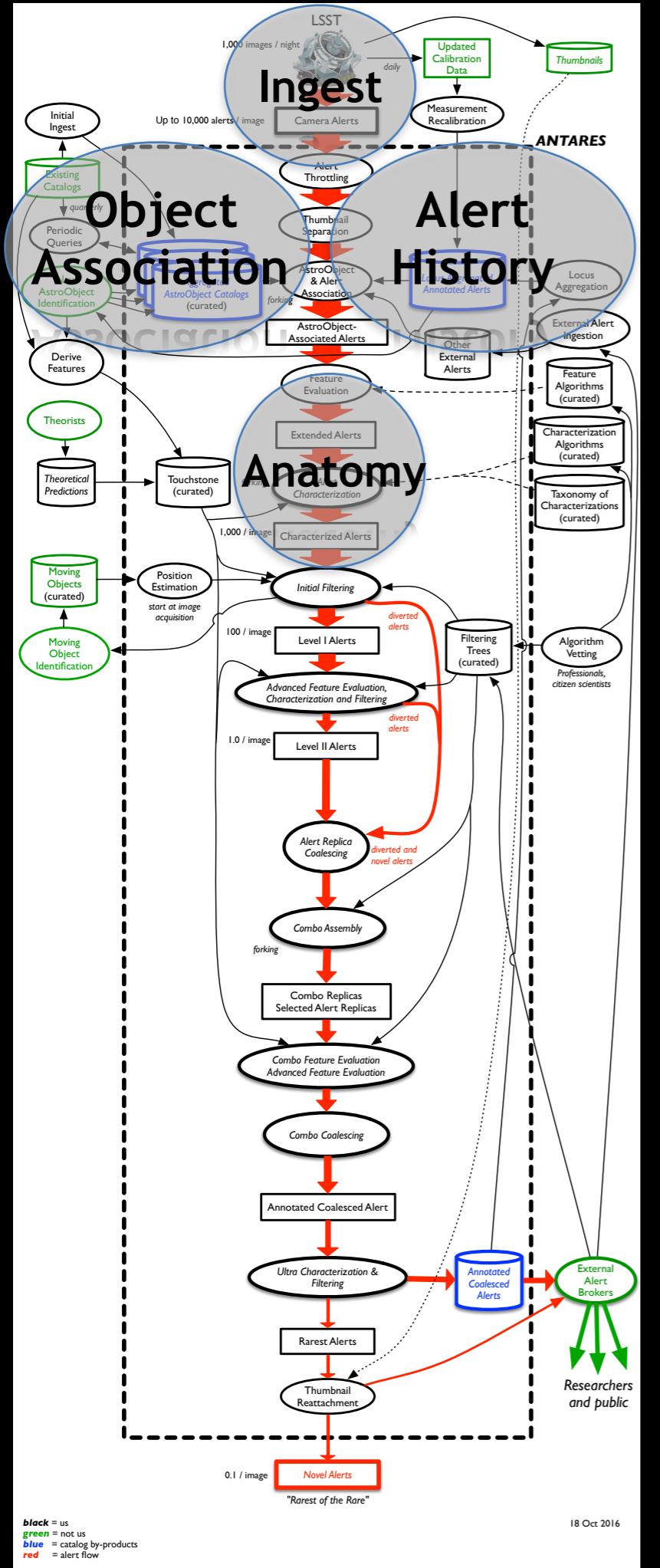
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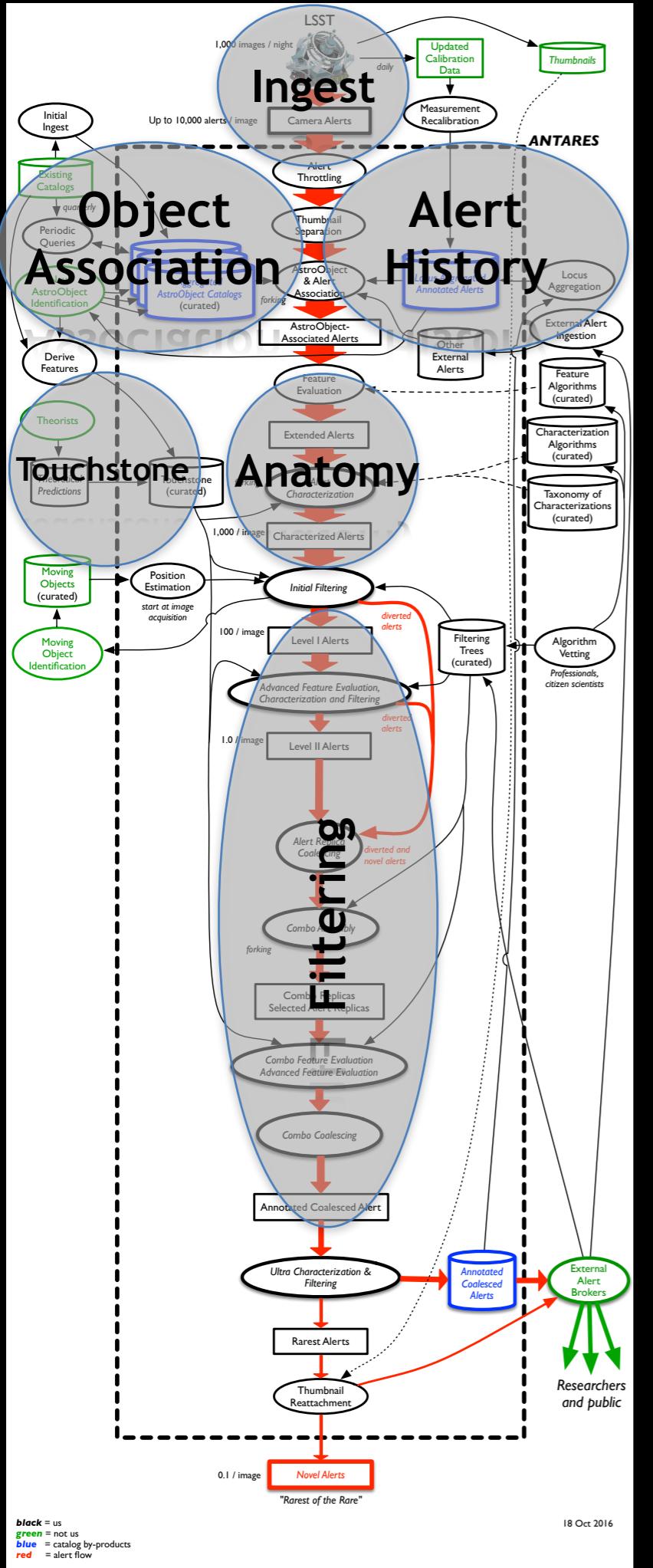


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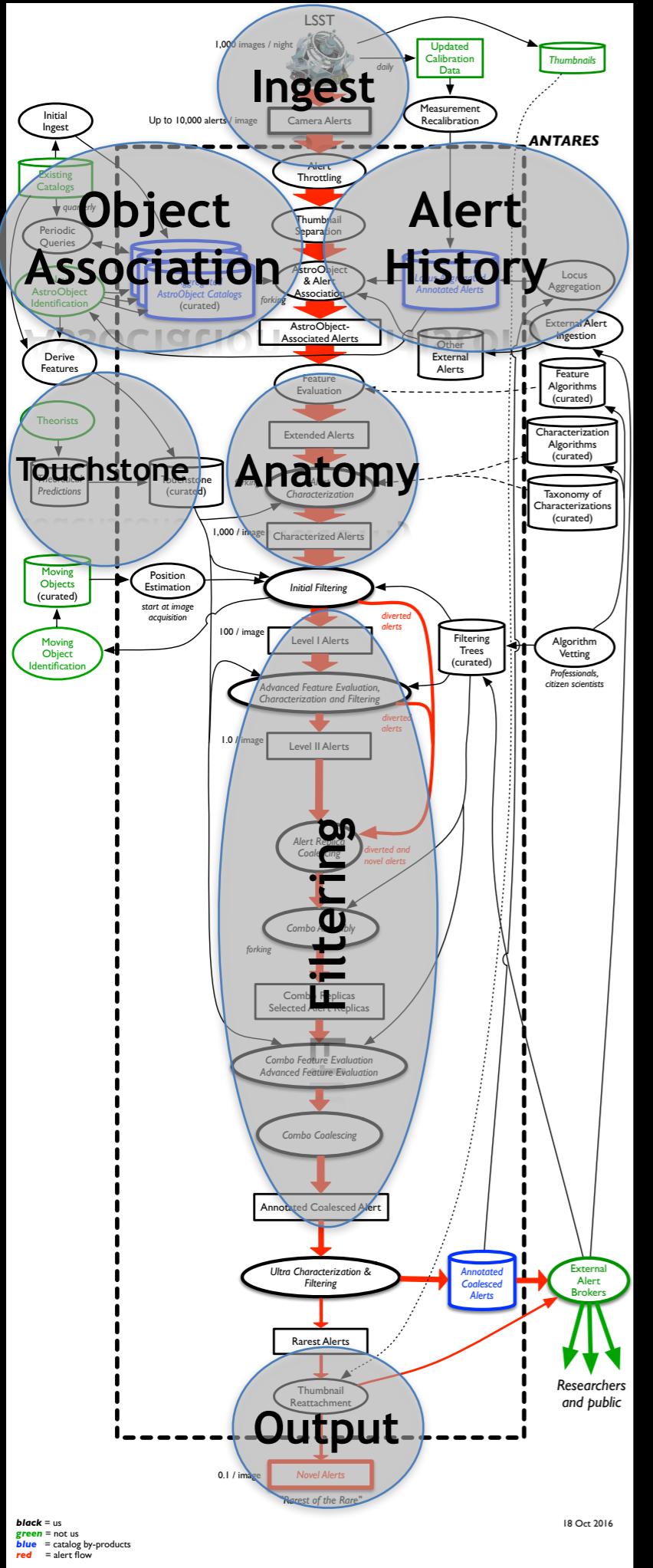
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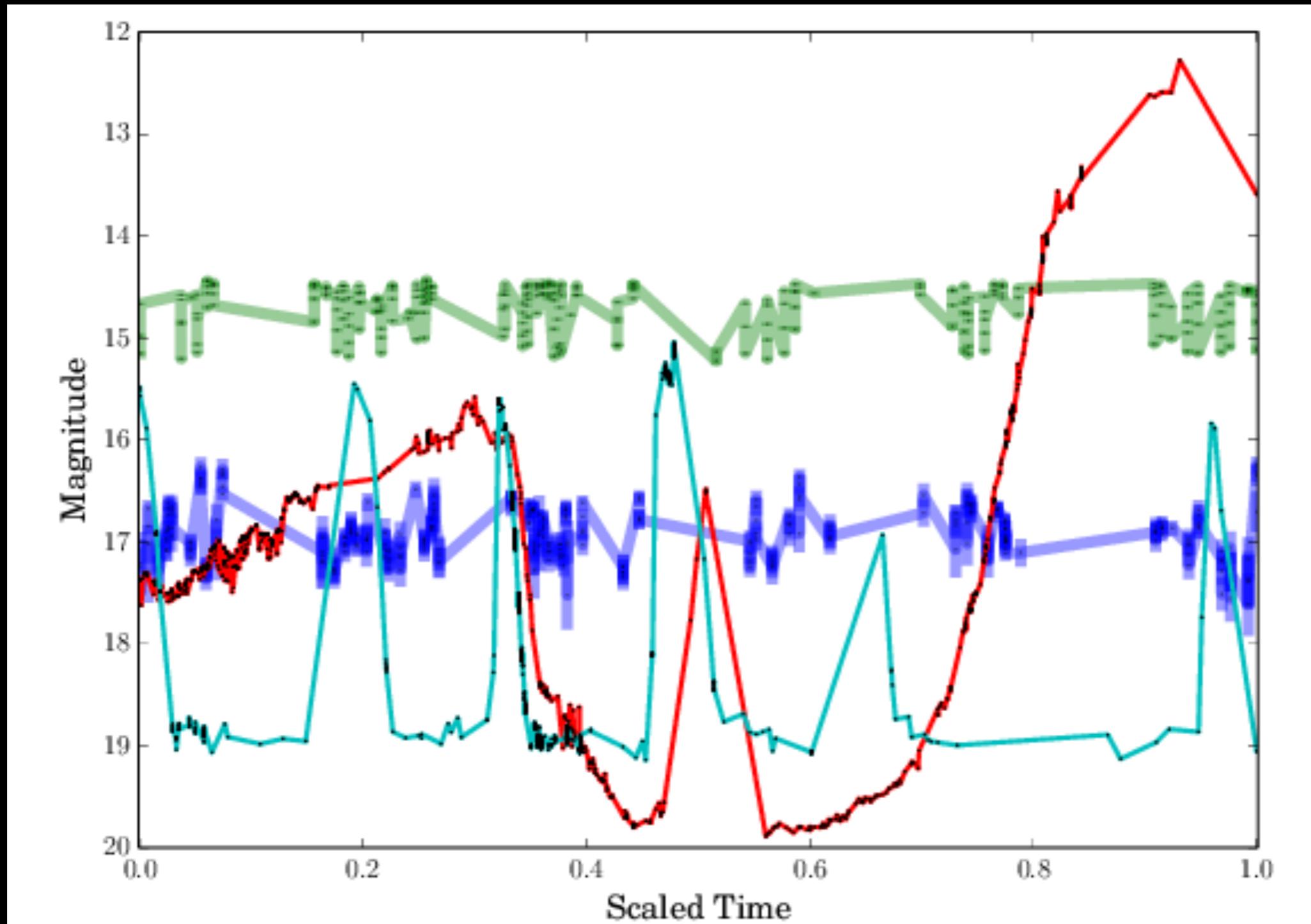
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'Rarest' selected (prototype goal)

TESTING WITH REAL ASTROPHYSICAL DATA

# AN ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE

LIGHTCURVES OF SOME OF THE "RARE" OBJECTS USED IN THIS DEMO  
DERIVED FROM TT ARI, R CRB



PROCESSING MONITOR + LOGGER

# DASHBOARD

This video shows you how the demo of ANTARES looks

<https://youtu.be/KME5NflrxPI>

The dashboard interface includes:

- A top navigation bar with tabs: All information, Final Decision (selected), System Warnings, and Show Rare Alerts.
- Two green buttons: Start Monitoring and Save Log.
- A large grid of blue and green squares.
- Summary statistics: Image Count: 0, Current Alerts: 0, Current Replicas: 0, Current Combos: 0, Current Diverted: 0, Current Rare: 0.
- A footer navigation bar with links: Home, About, Help, Log Out, and a GitHub icon.
- A footer footer with page numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

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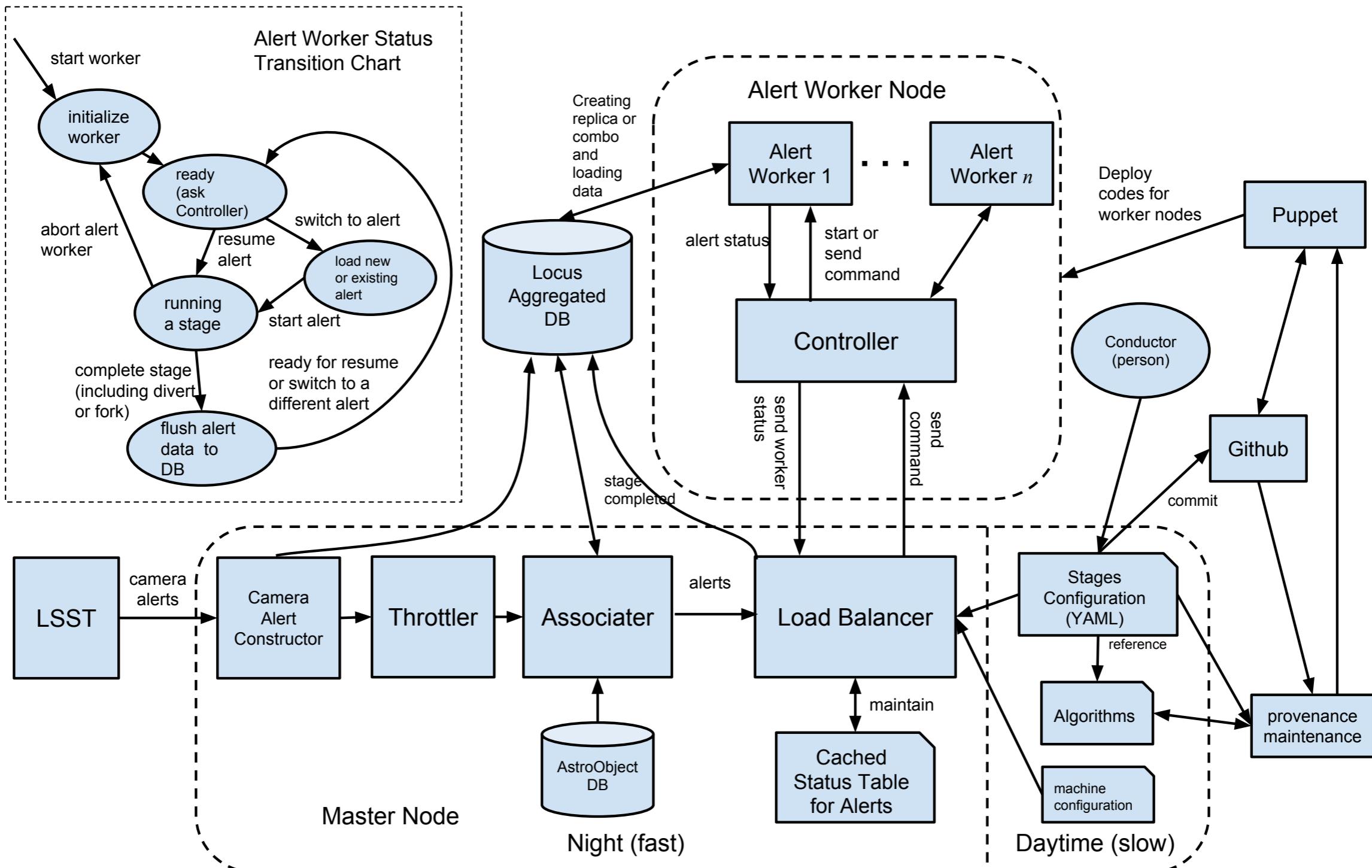
**HOW IS IT HAPPENING?**

# STARTUP

CHALLENGE: WE HAVE ~40 SECONDS TO PROCESS EACH IMAGE

# FULLY PARALLEL LOAD BALANCING ARCHITECTURE WITH PROVENANCE

Antares Load Balancing Diagram



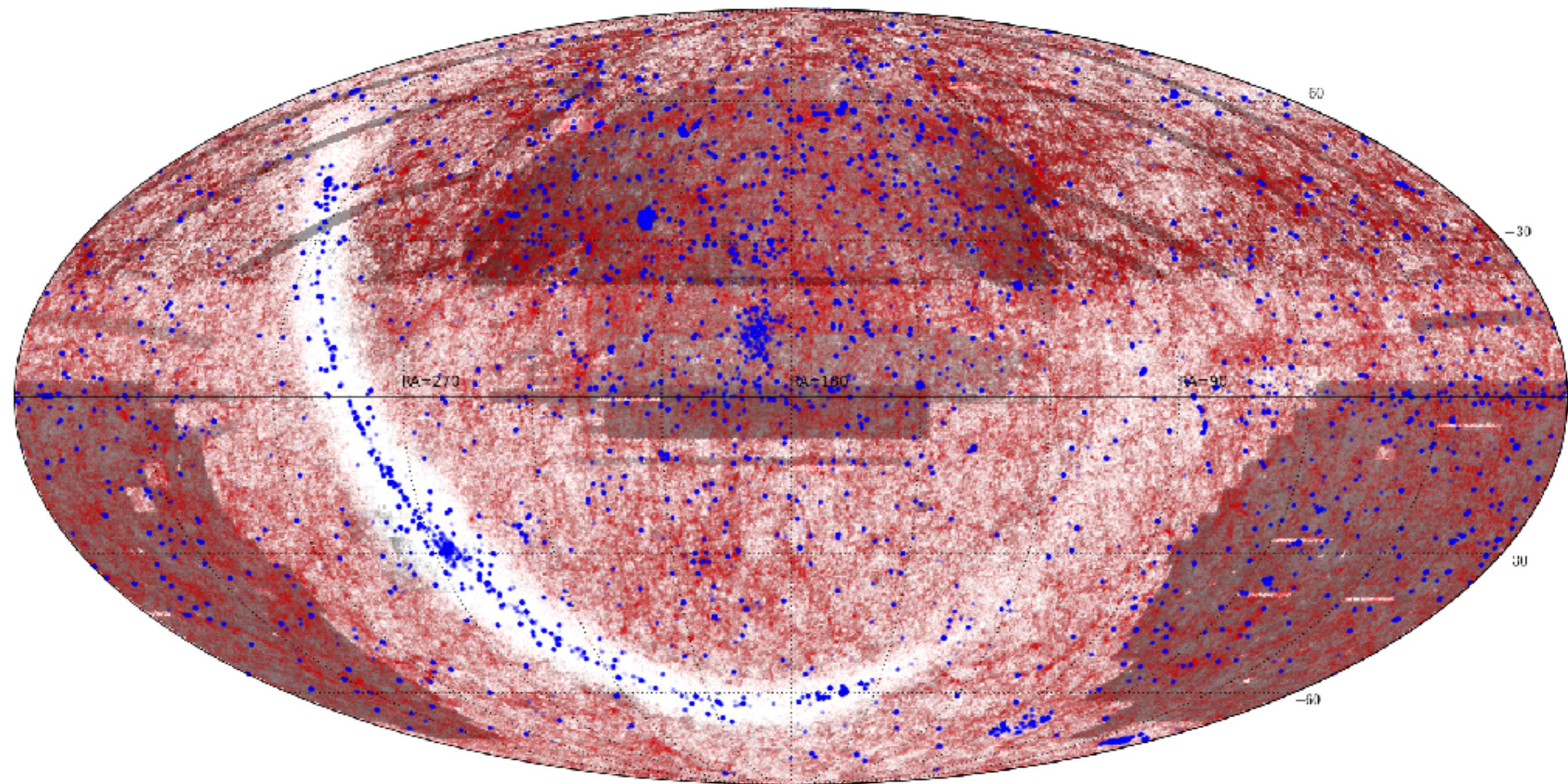
# CROSS-MATCHING AND ASSOCIATION

# CROSS MATCHING AND ANNOTATING ALERTS: ADDING VALUE

- External information is heterogeneous; LSST rate is too high for web-based queries
- Collecting and cross-indexing hundreds of astronomical catalogs (*SDSS*, *2MASS*, *NED*, *IRSA*, *Chandra*, *WISE\**, *GAIA\**, *PS1\**)
- Cross-matching using cone search on [HTM](#) using [SciSQL](#) with adaptation for galactic plane
- Will be available to the wider astronomical community through the [NOAO Community Science and Data Center \(CSDC\)](#)

# COVERING THE E-M SPECTRUM IS A BIG DATA PROBLEM

- SDSS DR7 + NED\* (Grey density maps) + 2MASS XSC (Red, large-scale structure) + Chandra (Blue, high energy)
- This is an actual density map, not just a plot of SDSS stripes + NED fields - just under 190 million objects were parsed for this map. Expect few billion before LSST.





This video shows you how the holdings at the Data Lab have built up - i.e. our time-domain history

<http://datalab.noao.edu/files/may16Movie.mp4>

- Data Lab is not just data access, but tools + support for data intensive projects, including time-domain
- Exploiting on-going southern surveys will drastically improve the time-baseline we can probe with LSST
- Proposals to get time-domain observations for early science + library for training ANTARES, and calibrating LSST DD fields



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# **FEATURE DERIVATION AND CHARACTERIZATION**

# FEATURES WE NEED IN THE ALERT OR WE'LL DERIVE FROM IT (half the equation)

MOST OF THESE LSST WILL PROVIDE\*

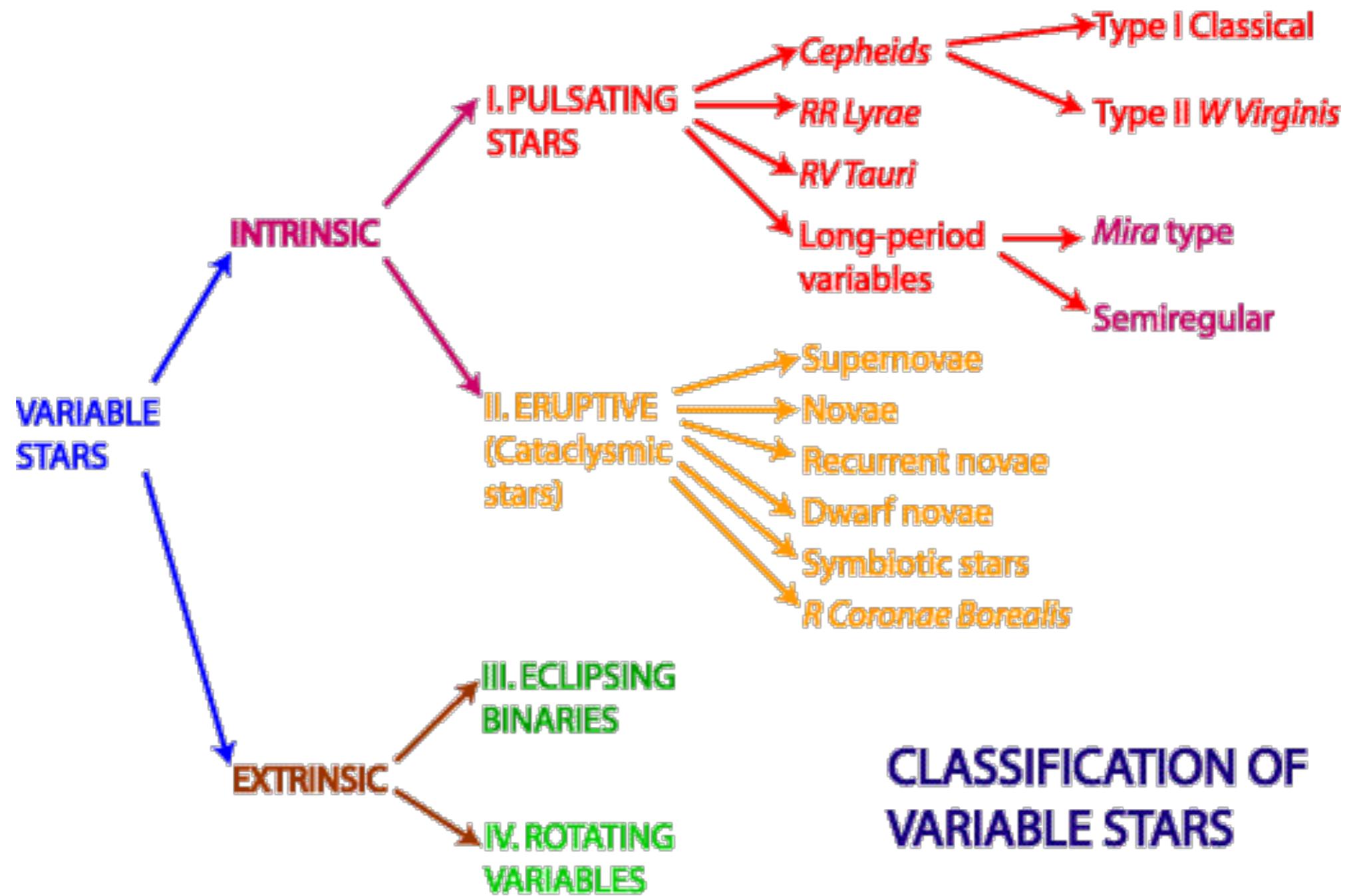
\*MANY WILL NOT BE RELIABLE UNTIL AFTER A YEAR OF OPERATIONS

| Description                  | Data location <sup>a</sup> | Quantity                                    | Data Type            | Why   |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| Data quality information     | A/I                        | x,y on array                                | float(s)             | near edge/bad pixel?                                    |
| Data quality, cosmic ray     | A/I                        | x,y on array                                | boolean              | If a c.r. is rejected, variance higher                  |
| Data quality information     | I                          | Seeing (arcsec)                             | float                | point source or not                                     |
| Data quality information     | I                          | Point Spread Function                       | float [0,1]          | point source or not                                     |
| Equatorial Coords. (RA/DEC)  | A                          | Basic coordinates                           | floats               | position on sky, AstroObject assoc.                     |
| Galactic (Milky Way) Coords. | D                          | Galactic lat/long                           | floats [0,1]         | probability of Galactic origin                          |
| Ecliptic Coords.             | D                          | Ecliptic lat/long                           | floats [0,1]         | probability of Solar System origin                      |
| Measured brightness          | A                          | mag   | float                | objects will have different potential brightness ranges |
| Change in brightness         | A                          | Δmag  | float                | objects will have different potential Δmags             |
| Prior amplitude range        | D                          | min max range/filter                        | floats               | Test deviation from known variation                     |
| Time scale                   | A/L/D                      | Δt  | float                | Different phenomena will have different time scales     |
| Known source (outside LSST)  | C                          | Flux <sub>external filter</sub>             | various <sup>b</sup> | Different phenomena emit over different EM ranges       |
| Nearest object on sky        | C                          | distance in arcsec                          | various              | Different phenomena associate with different objects    |
| If galaxy                    | C                          | Type, redshift, pos. in gal.                | various              | type and distance will guide expected phenomena         |
| If star                      | C                          | Type, mag, π                                | various              | type and distance will guide expected phenomena         |
| Periodic                     | D/C                        | P   | float                | sort known periodic phenomena                           |
| Fourier components [TBD]     | D                          | First n components                          | floats               | characterize variability                                |
| Color                        | D                          | $m_x - m_y$                                 | float                | narrow range of possible objects                        |
| Light curve                  | D                          | mag vs. time                                | floats               | different phenomena have different light curves         |
| Light curves (multiband)     | D                          | [mag vs. time] <sub>filter</sub>            | floats               | correlate different bands ( $\rho_{f_1 f_2}$ )          |
| Moving object                | M                          | Prob. moving object, $\mu, \pi$ , PSF shape | floats               | eliminate moving objects                                |

<sup>a</sup> (I)mage-level data, (A)lert-level data, (L)ocus-aggregated alert information, (C)atalog information, (D)erived quantity, (M)oving object (from LSST/MOPS)

<sup>b</sup> In this context, various means that the associated object will have a name (string), and various measurements of flux, position, etc. (floats).

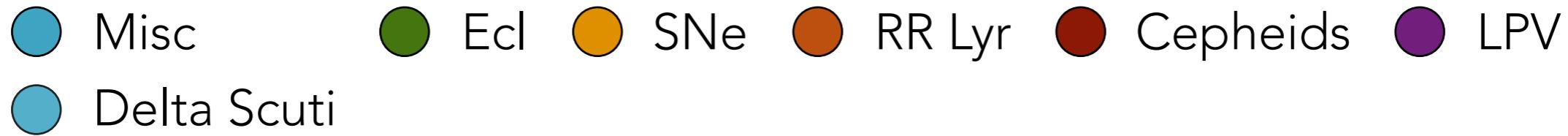
# THE TOUCHSTONE REFERENCE LIBRARY



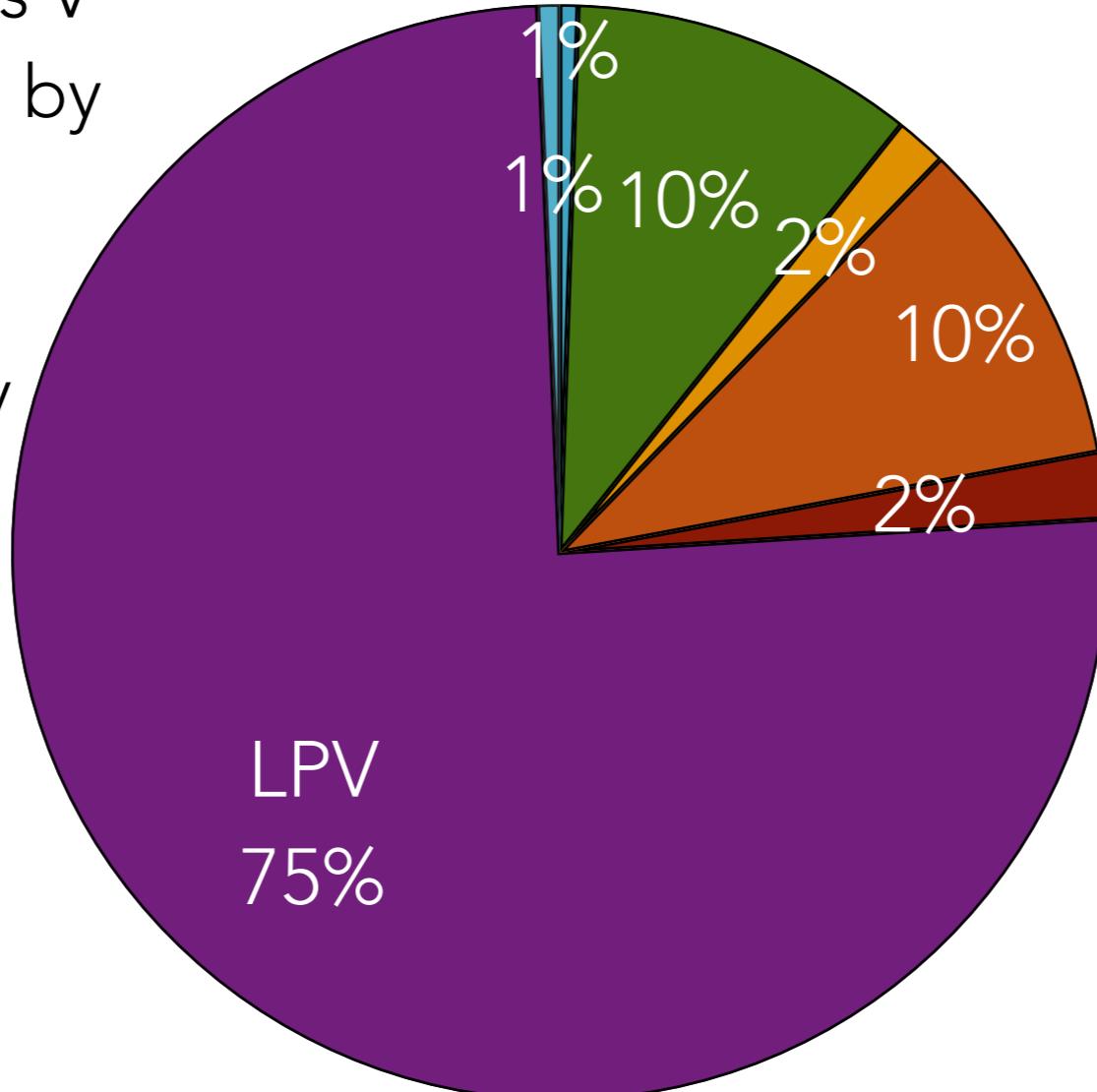
# WHAT ASTROPHYSICS IS IN THE TOUCHSTONE

(the other half of the equation)

# DATA SOURCES: OGLE + LINEAR + SNE.SPACE



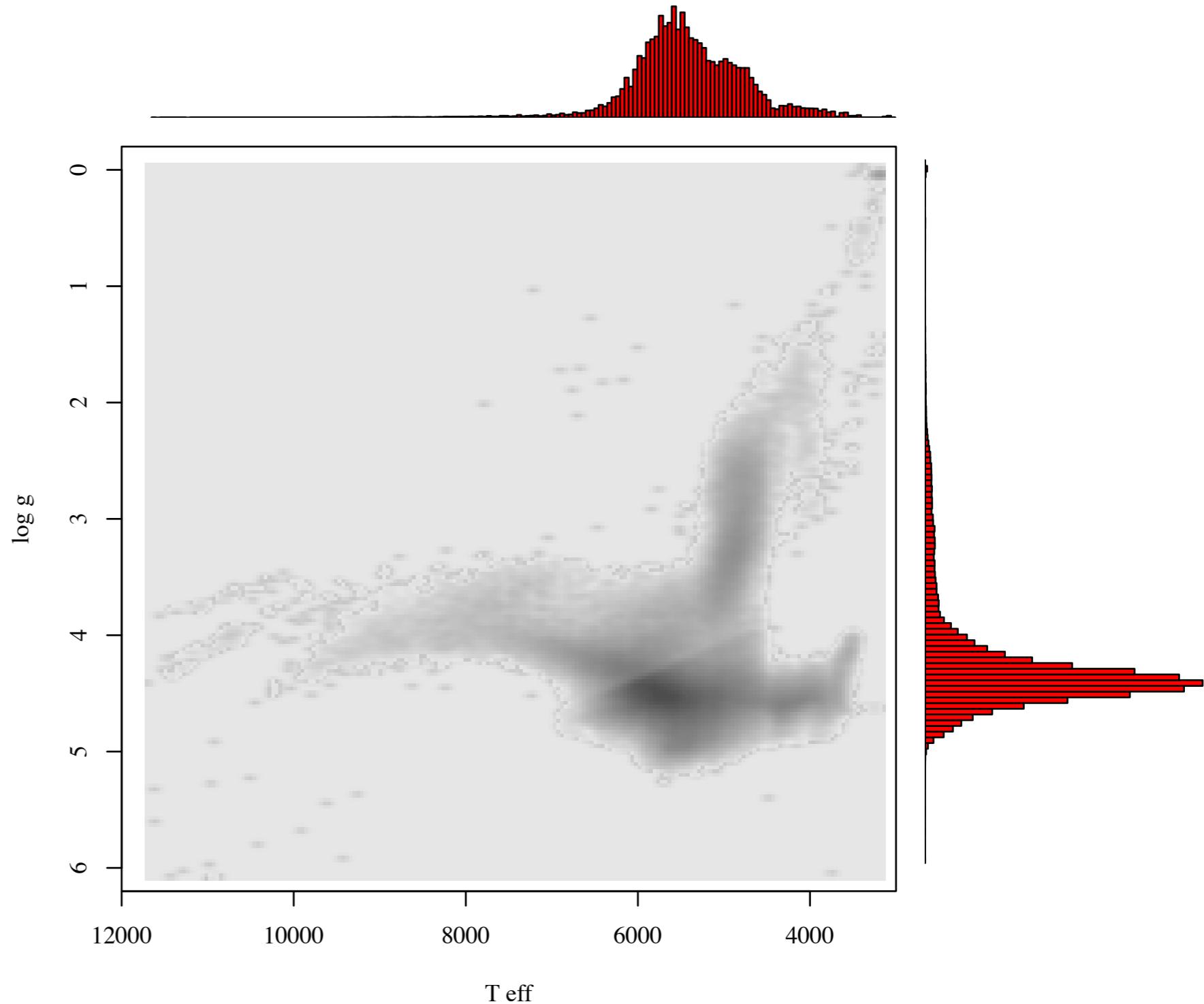
- The bulk of the data is V or V,I, and dominated by bright sources
- The SN data is mostly SNIa
- Some of the data is almost certainly mislabelled
- Many classes of variability and transient behavior are completely missing



# FILTERING

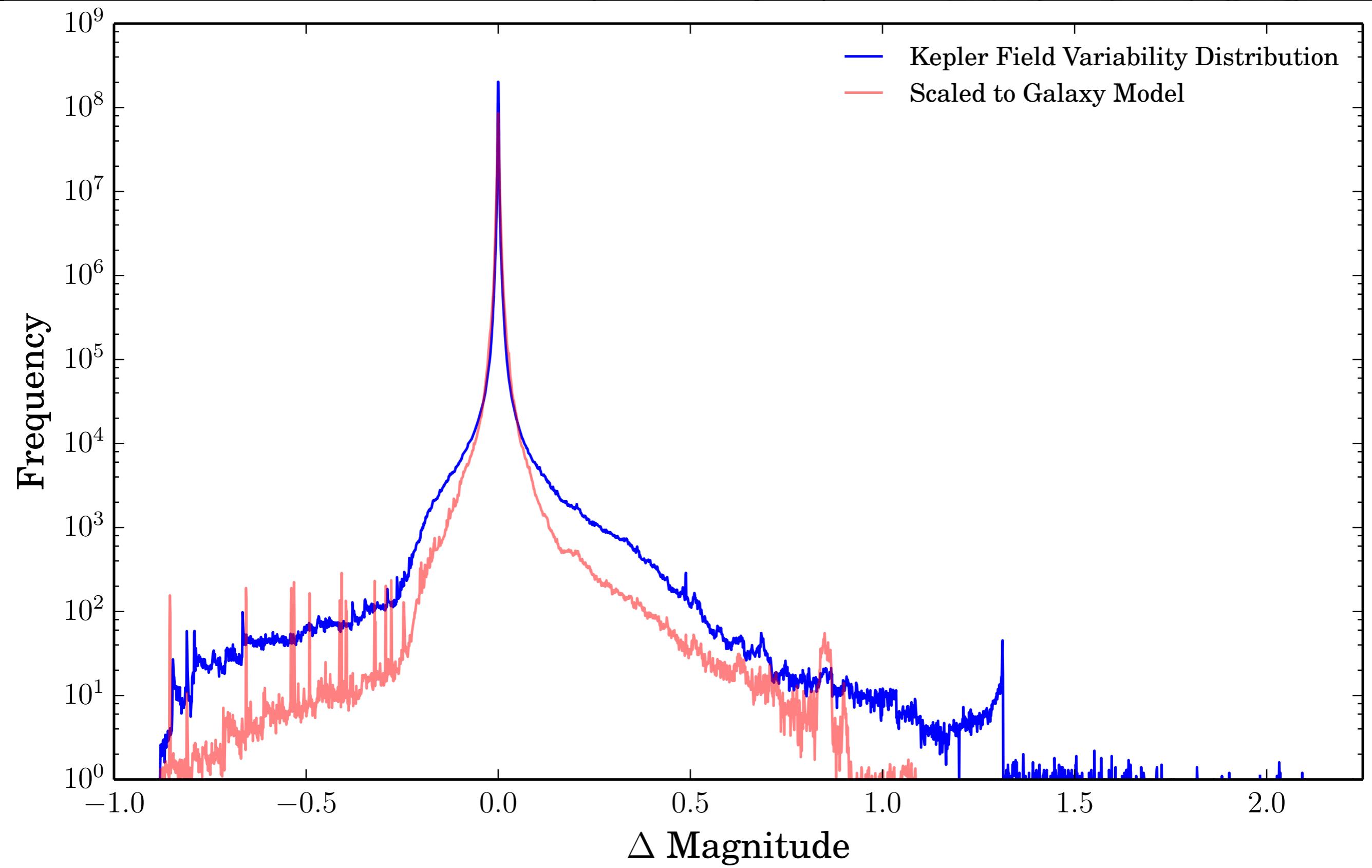
# ASSESSING THE LIKELIHOOD OF VARIABILITY

- Kepler provides an empirical model for variability of Galactic stars
- 155k+ stars over wide range of spectral types
- Scale Kepler variability distribution to match Besançon model of spectral types



# VARIABILITY PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION

Can predict variability given galaxy model and galactic coordinates of alerts using Kepler Q13 data  
(Ridgway+ arXiv:1409.3265)

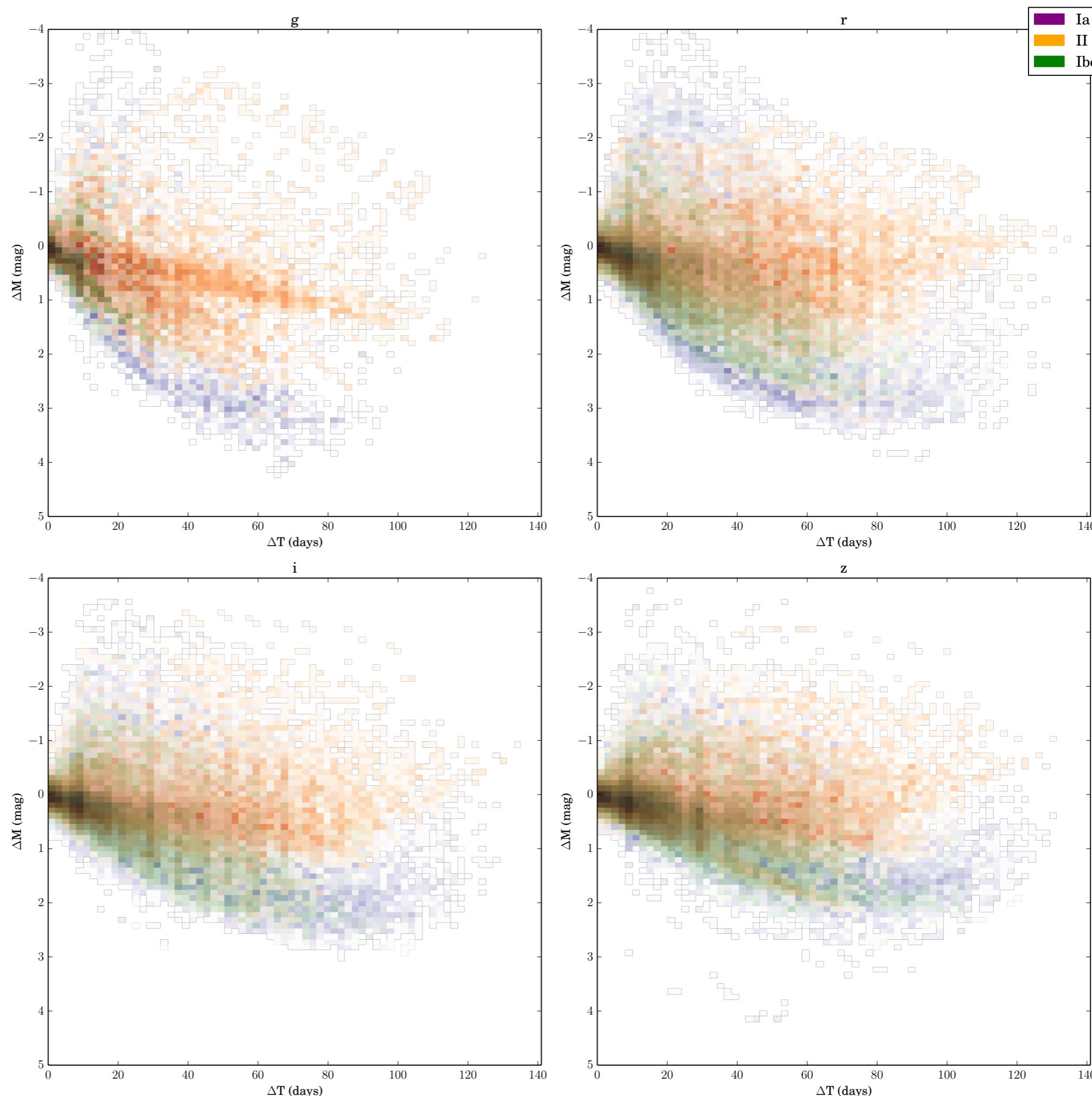


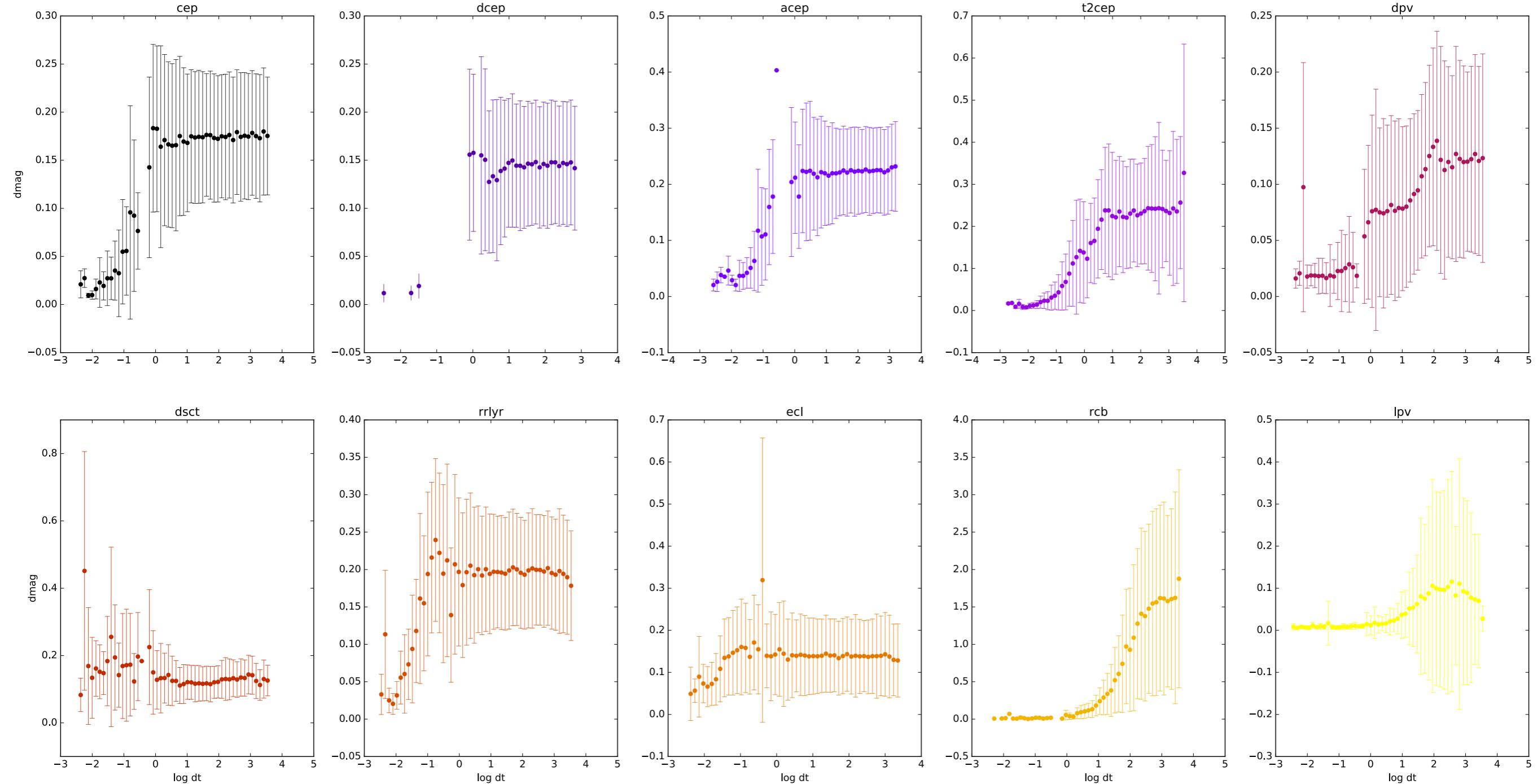
# IF WE WANT TO EXTEND THIS TO TRANSIENTS:

- Compute all combinations of rates of change of observed light curves\*
- Any sequence of alerts from LSST should lie in this space
- Compute rates of change between consecutive alerts at the same locus
  - Things that fall within the mapped space are known
  - Things that fall outside are potentially interesting
  - Can use kNN to attempt to classify

\* Ideally, the spectroscopically labelled sample would reflect the underlying rates, but they don't.

- Even with just the structure function of observed objects, you can distinguish type I vs II SNe, given data in multiple bands over a long enough baseline

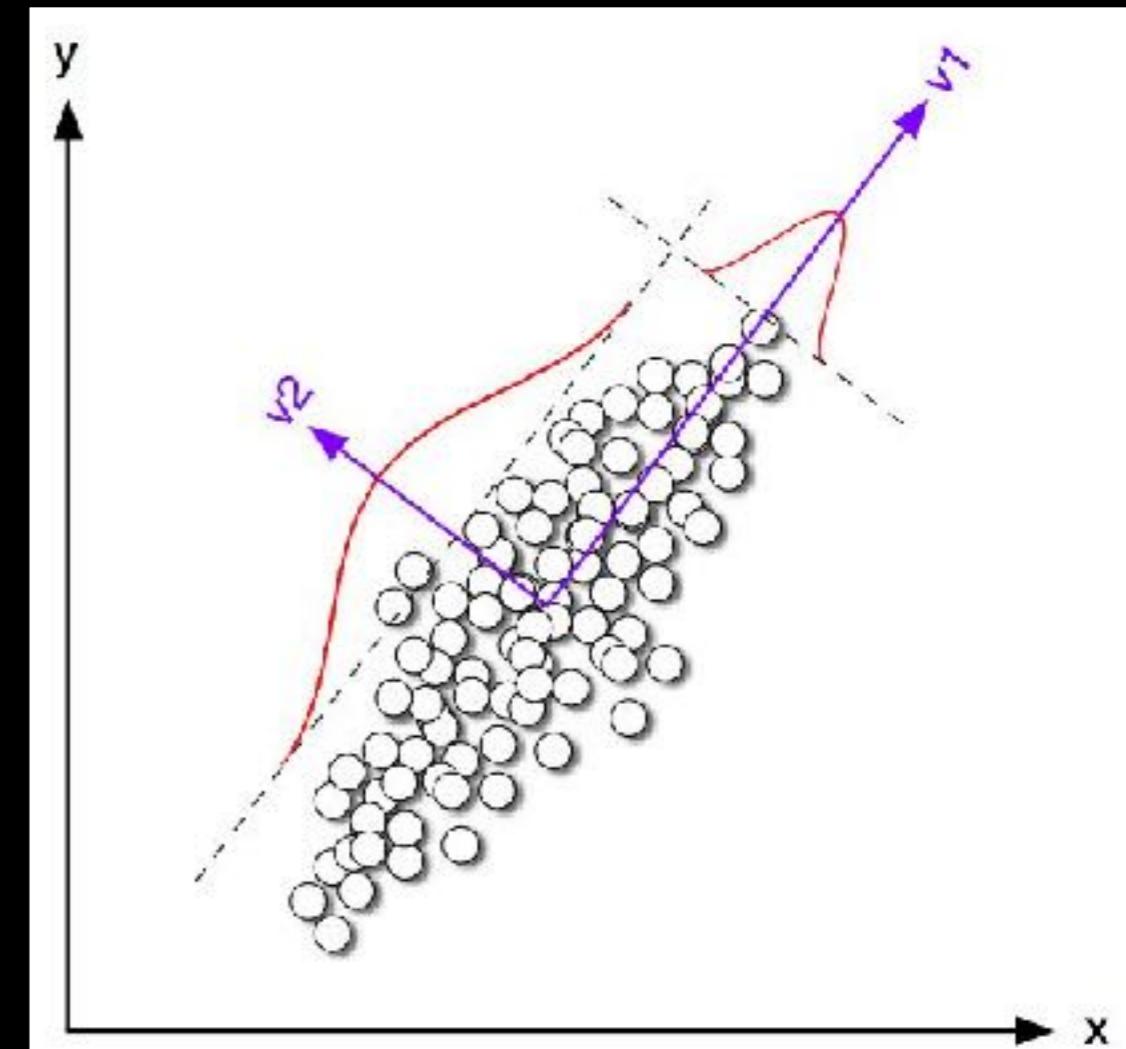




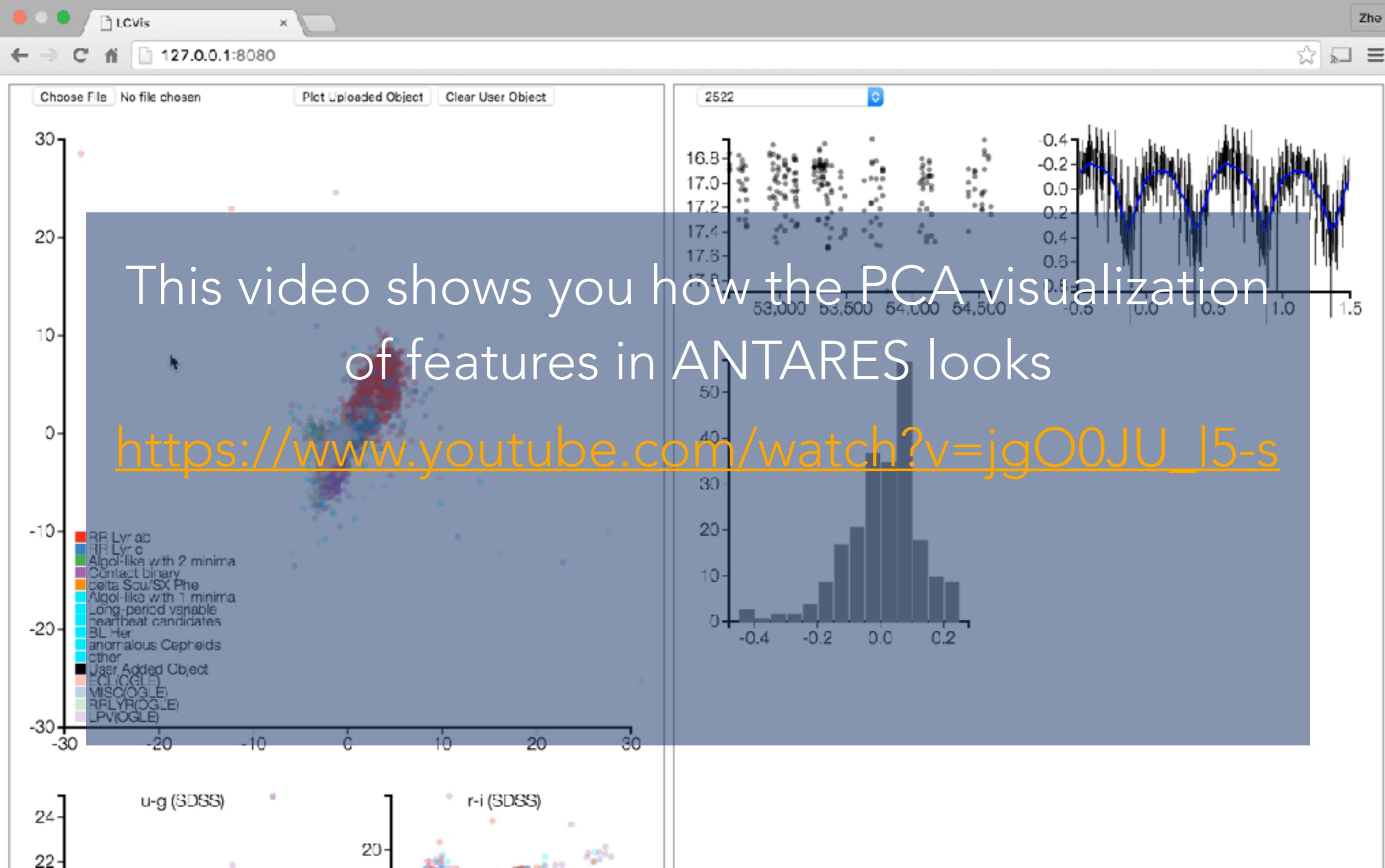
- We can also construct these distributions for different classes of variable stars (as long as we have a sufficient number of light curves to build a distribution)
- The advantage of doing this is that you can (potentially) label something as variable WITHOUT finding a period: **CHEAP/FAST**

# PRINCIPAL COMPONENT ANALYSIS

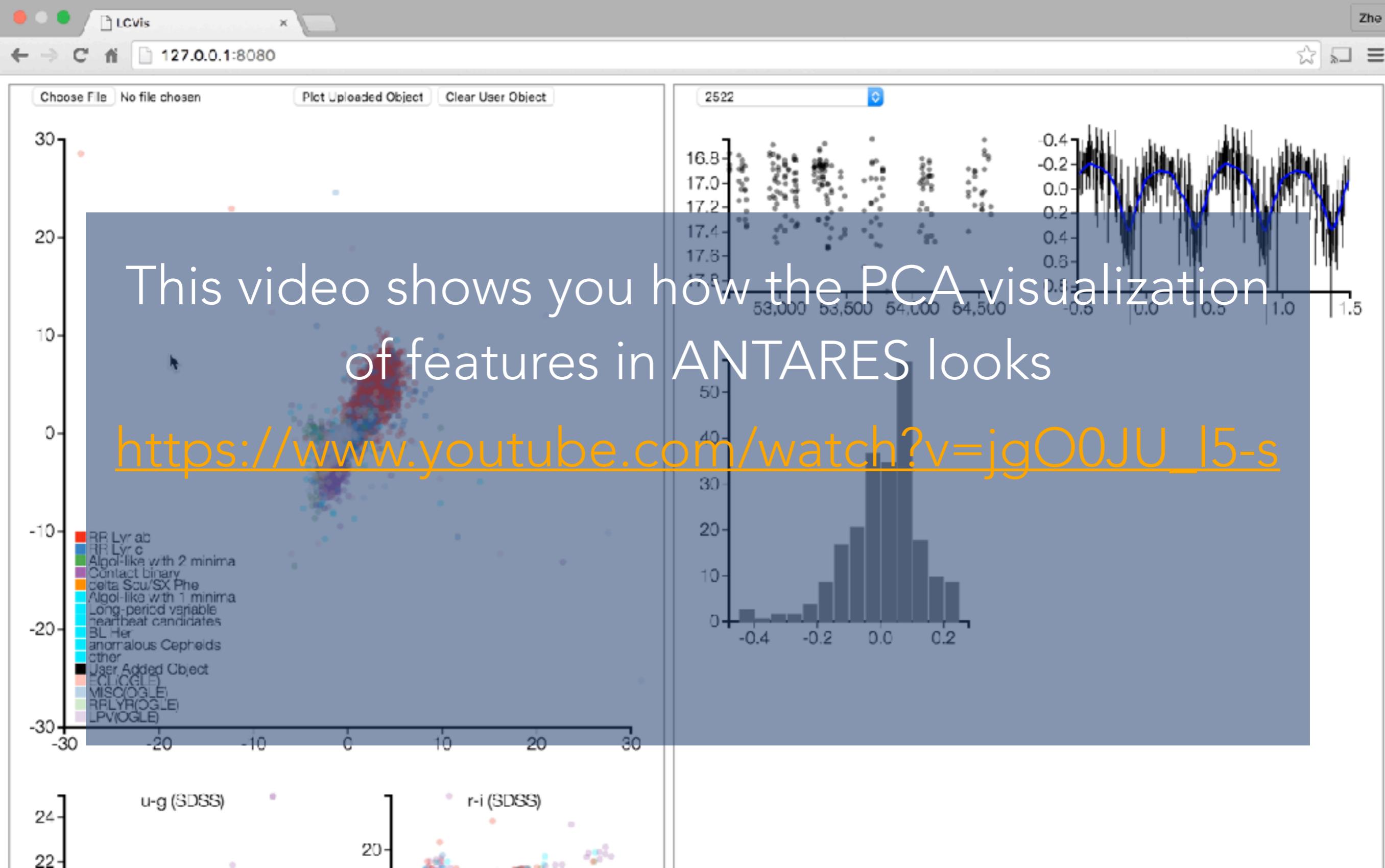
- Orthogonal transformation to map correlated values into linearly uncorrelated basis vectors (i.e. Principal Components)
  - Reveals internal structure of data in a way that best explains variance
- Probably the most common dimensionality reduction method (i.e. lots of stackexchange posts for when it doesn't work like you think it should)
  - Prevents overfitting
  - Only use first few principal components for feature extraction



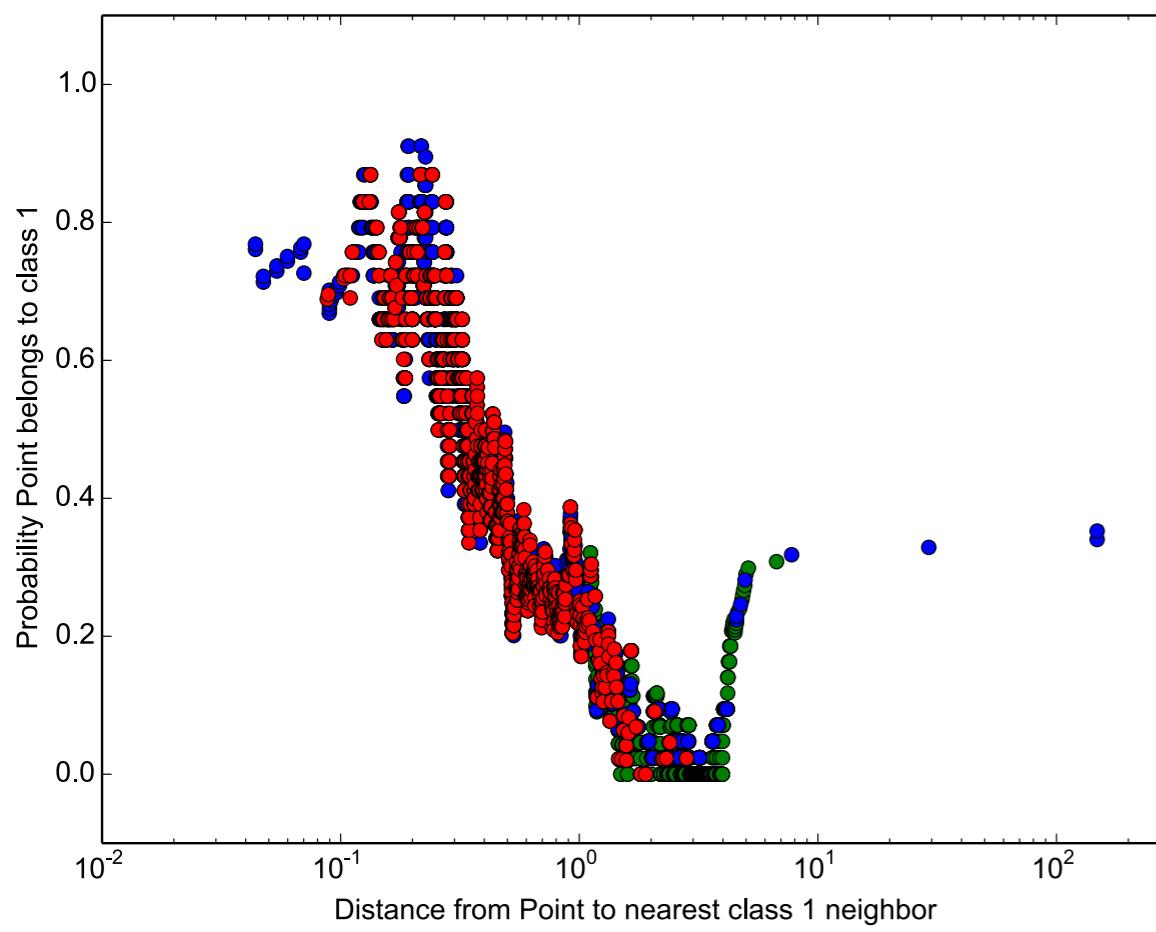
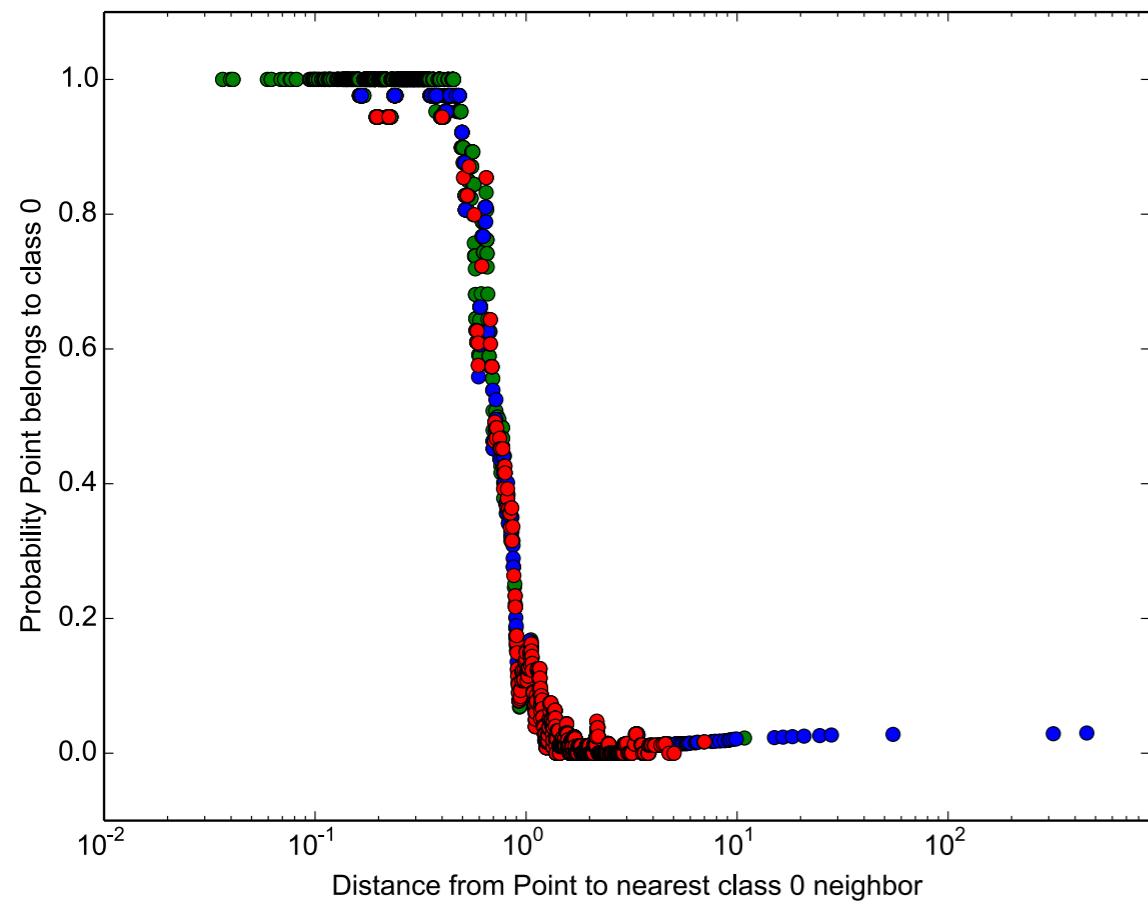
# PCA + VISUALIZATION DEMO



# PCA + VISUALIZATION DEMO



# CHARACTERIZATION



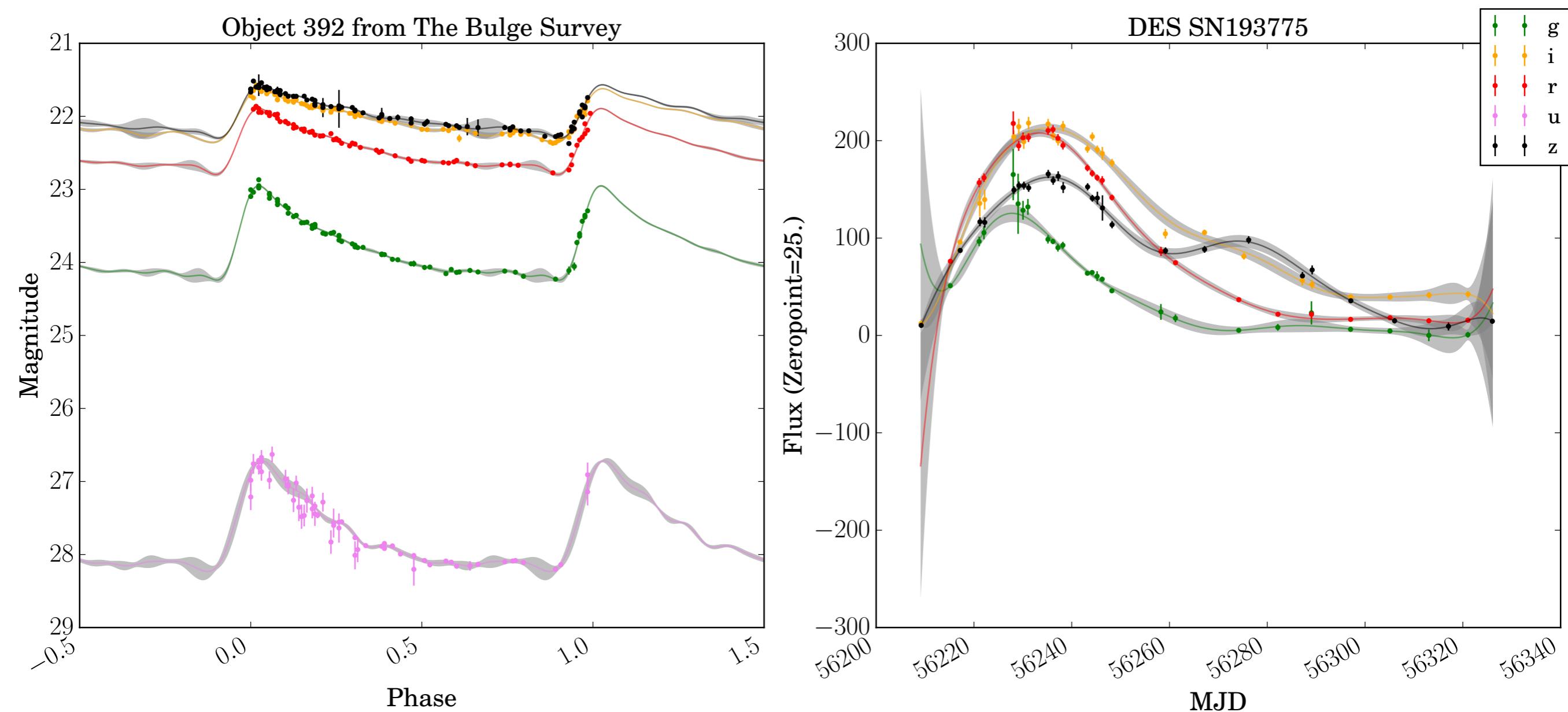
- Given high dimensional feature space + contextual info of an alert, what can we say about it?
- Assemble large **touchstone** with representations of astrophysical events, real & predicted (OGLE + LINEAR variables, all available SNe light curves, etc)
- No single algorithm works best - use ensemble - **kNN**, random forests, **SVM**, neural nets
- **kNN** is fast, insensitive to population size, can be boosted; sparse **PCA** to reduce dimensionality, but needs labelled data
- kNN augmented with learned distances gets us to  $\sim 90\%^*$  accuracy with just one passband, five features

# SEPARATION, CHARACTERIZATION, MODELING

- We can do a coarse characterization with simple point estimates - amplitude/skewness/kurtosis
- We want to characterize better as we get more observations
- We can start to do time-series analysis
  - Lomb-Scargle/Phase Dispersion Minimization/Fourier analysis/conditional entropy
- Can model the data if we have enough observations:  
Gaussian Processes, Wavelet decomposition

NON-PARAMETRIC: WORKS FOR DIFFERENT CLASSES/TIMESCALES/FLUXSCALES

# GAUSSIAN PROCESSES TO MODEL LIGHT CURVES

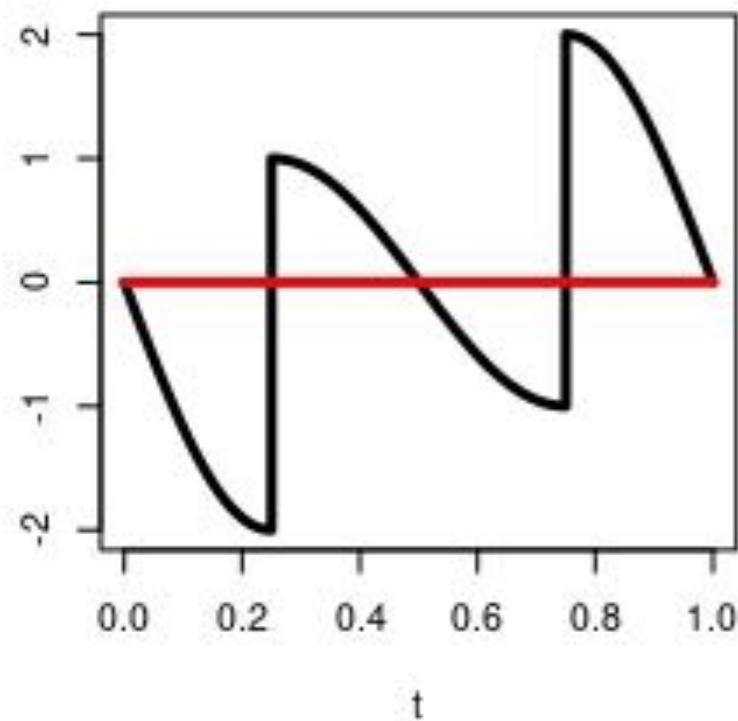


PROJECT TOUCHSTONE GP ONTO DATA IF POORLY SAMPLED, OR MODEL OBSERVATIONS WITH GP, AND COMPARE HYPERPARAMETERS

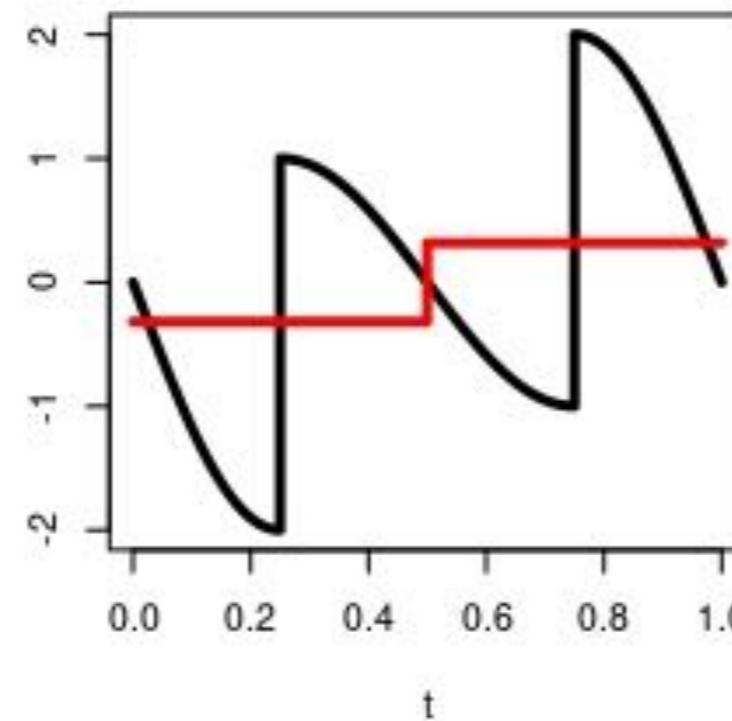
# WAVELET DECOMPOSITION TO DESCRIBE LIGHTCURVE SHAPE

Wavelet decompositions can be translationally invariant

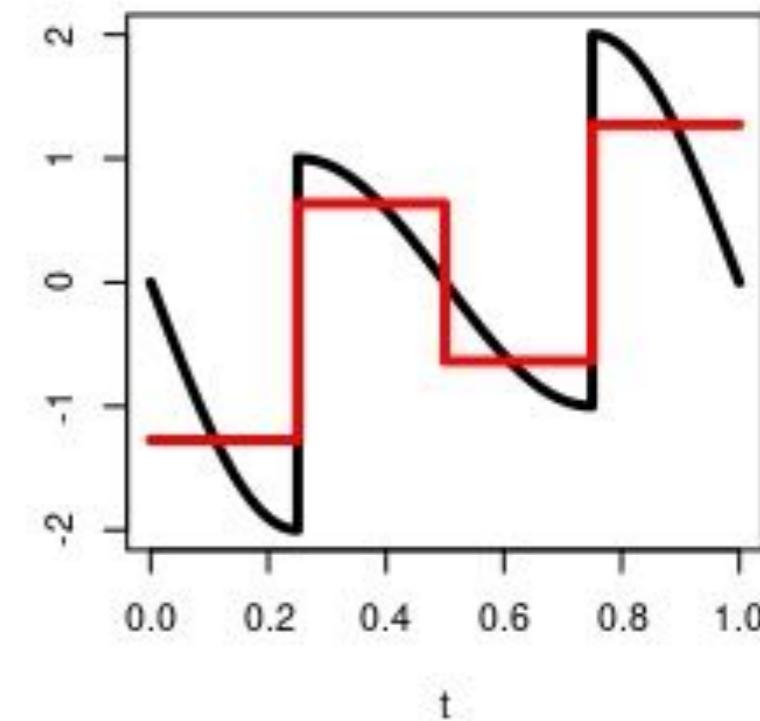
Scale 0



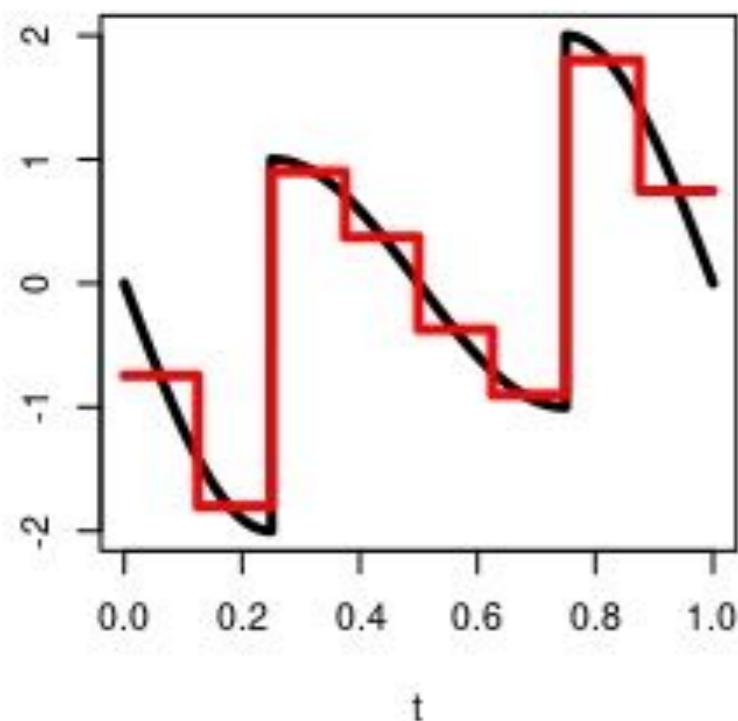
Scale 1



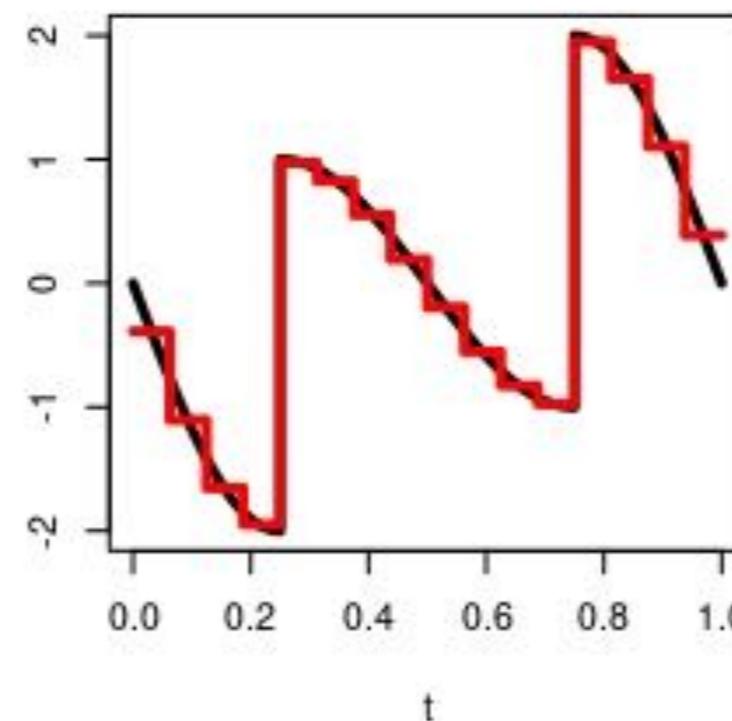
Scale 2



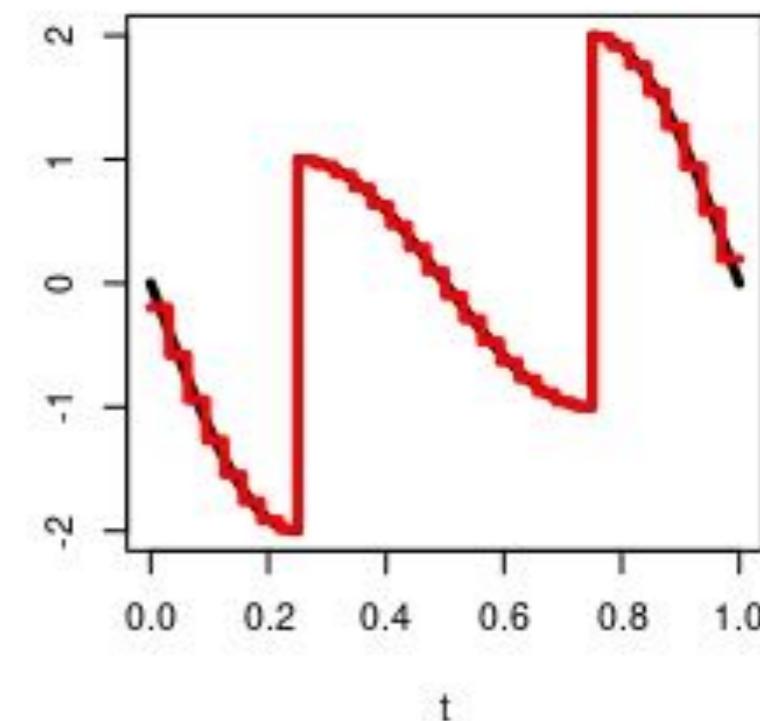
Scale 3



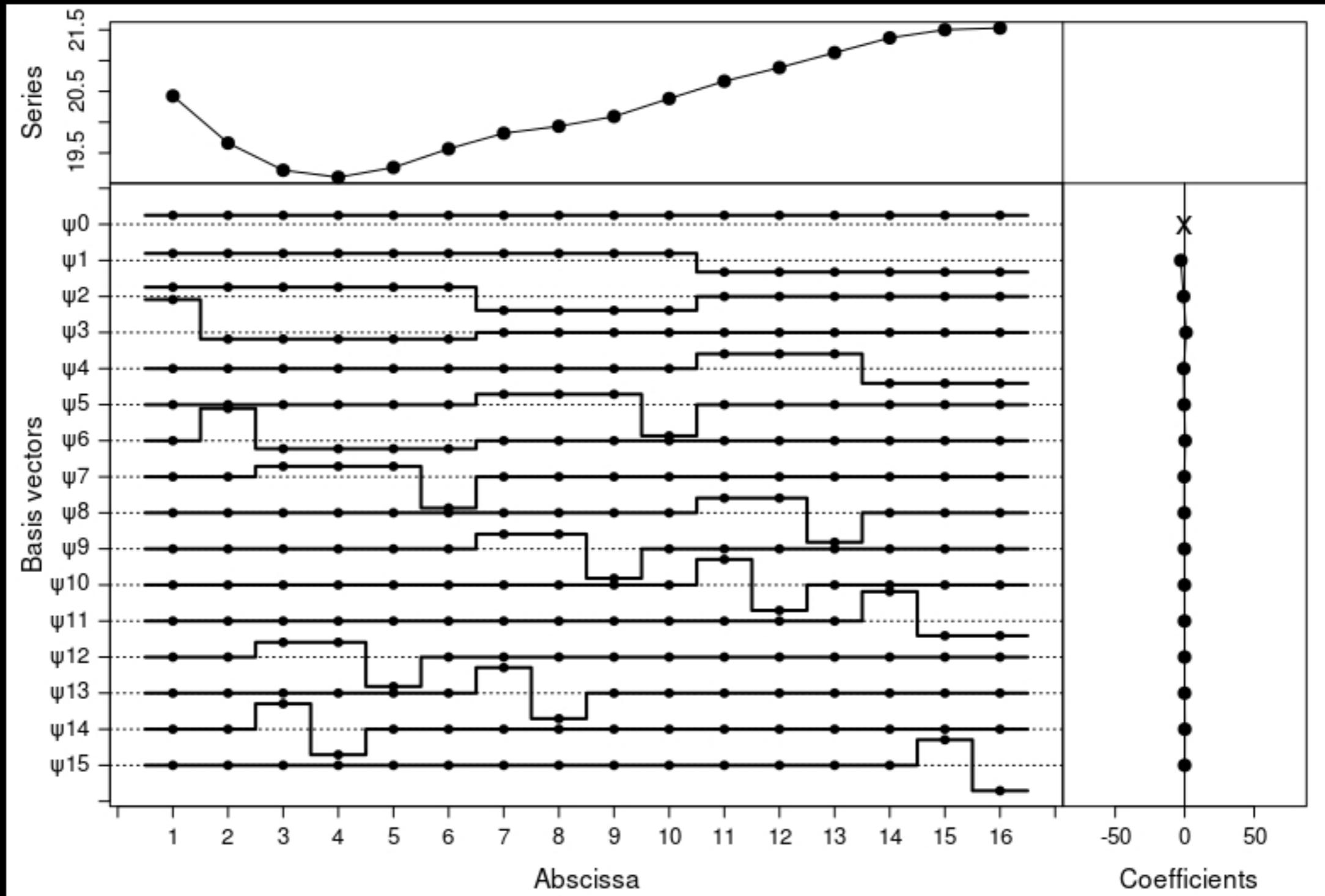
Scale 4



Scale 5

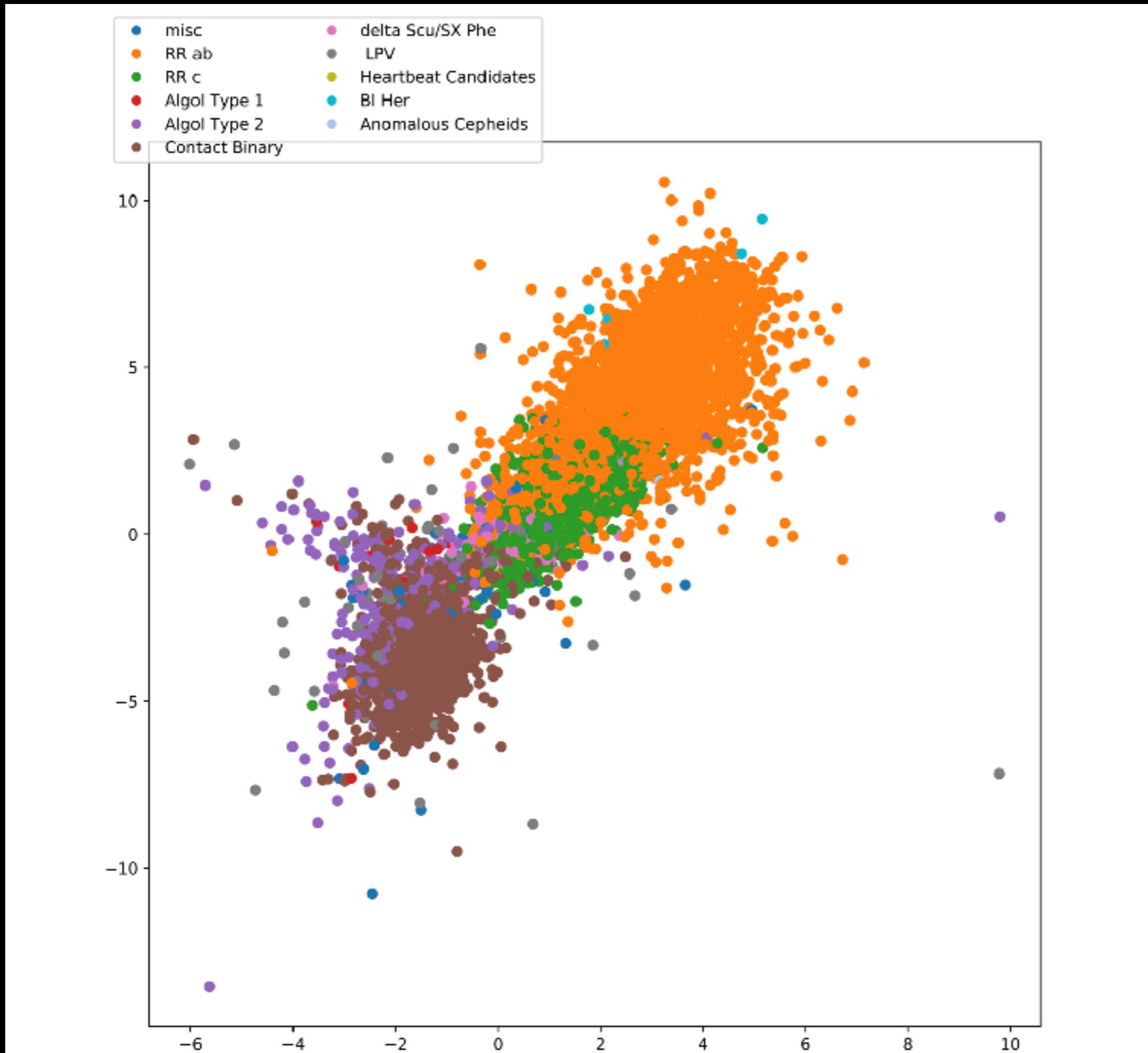


# BAGIDIS: BASIS GIVING DISTANCES USING AN UWHT DECOMPOSE SMOOTH LIGHTCURVES INTO FEW BASIS VECTORS

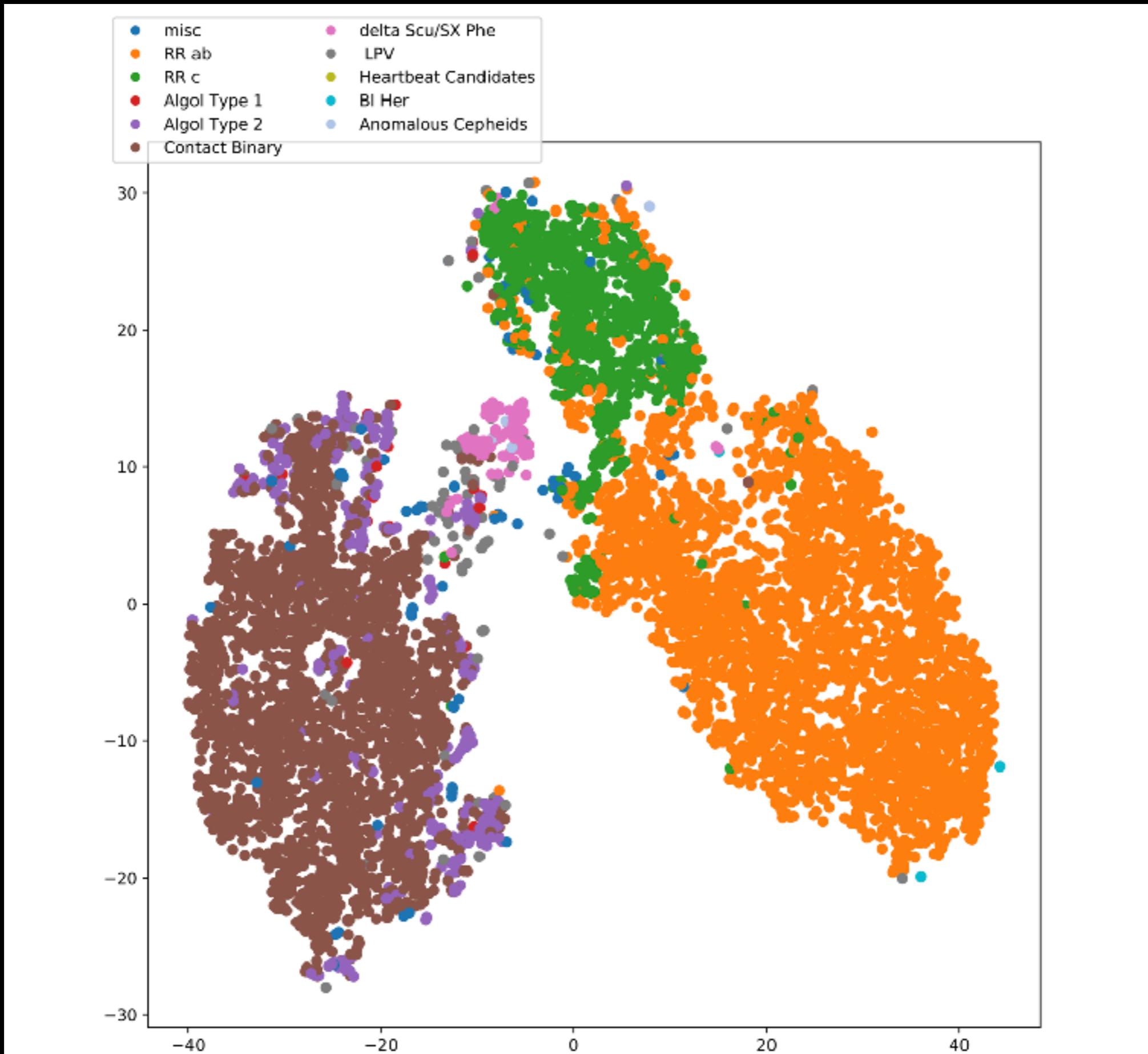


Work by my undergrad, Tayeb Zaidi and in collaboration with Michelle Lochner

THIS WORKS ASTONISHINGLY WELL FOR BOTH VARIABLES AND TRANSIENTS

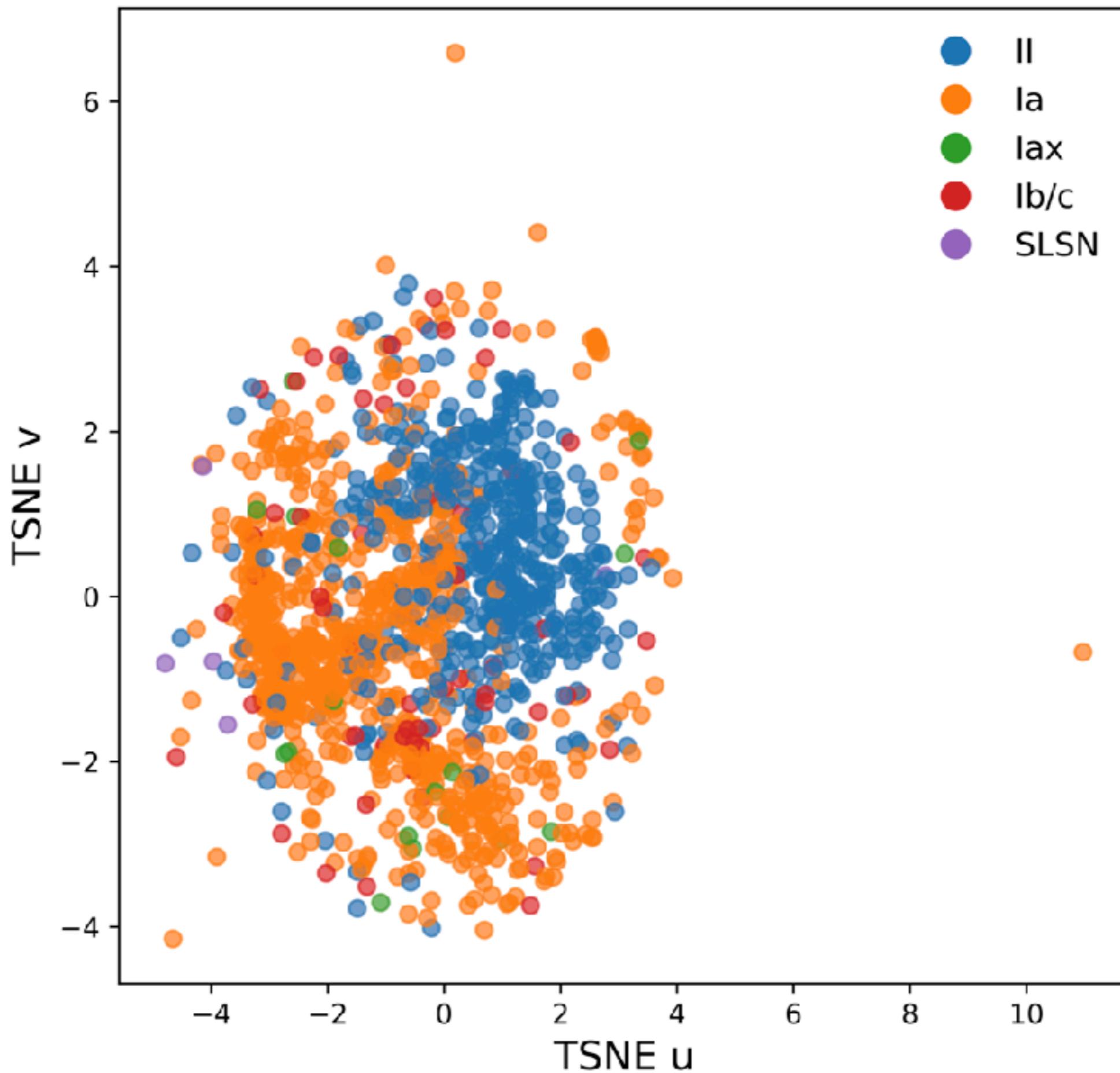


THIS WORKS ASTONISHINGLY WELL FOR BOTH VARIABLES AND TRANSIENTS



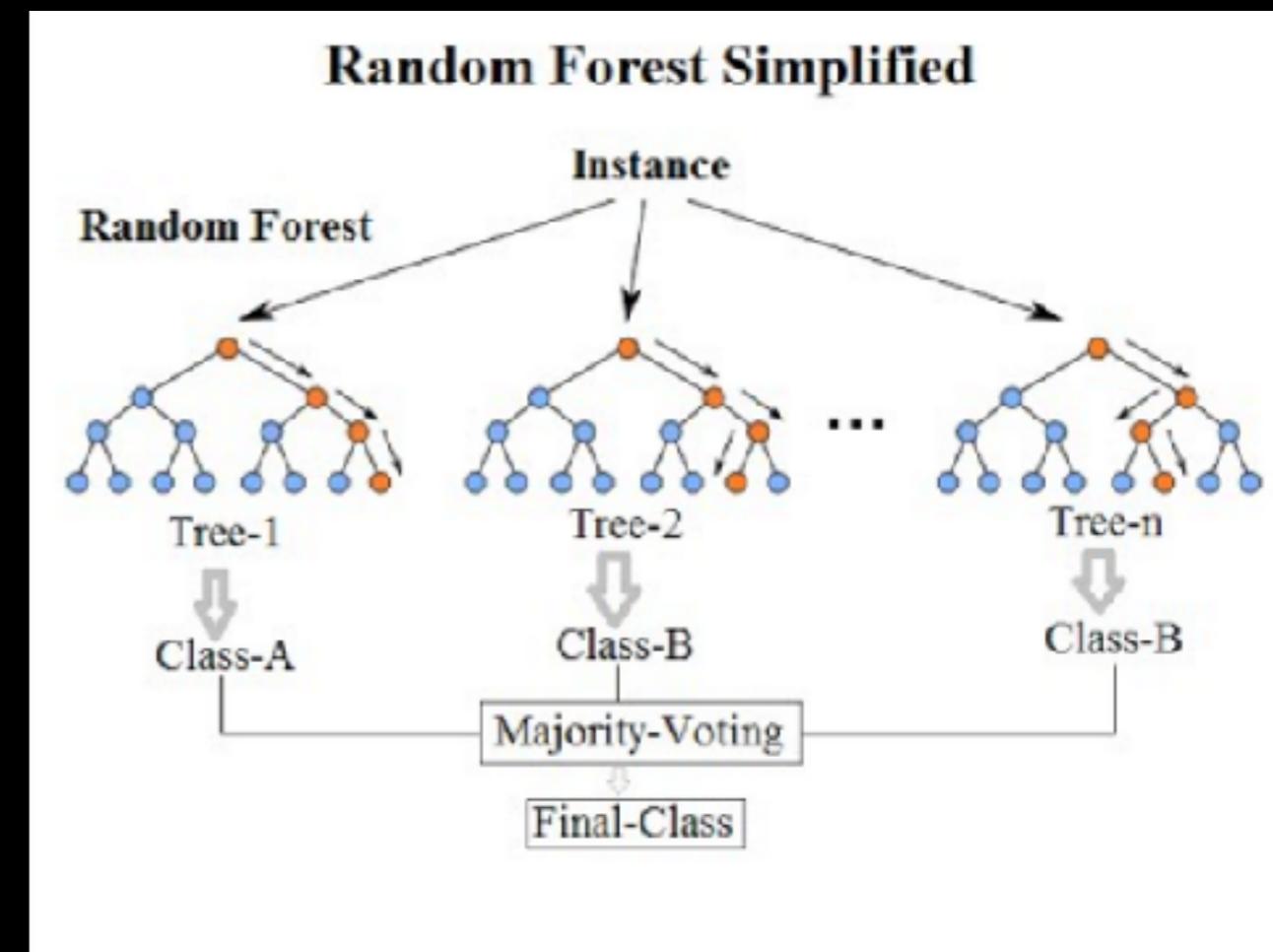
This is an example of the t-SNE you saw in Session 2

# Daubechies(21)



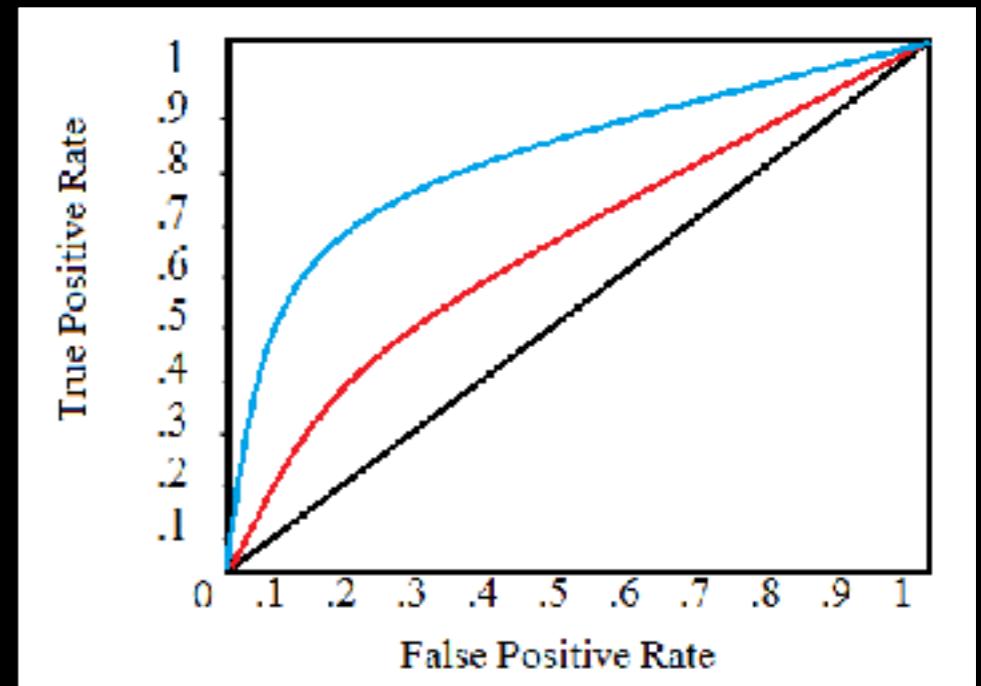
# CLASSIFICATION ALGORITHMS

- Mapping from input features to output classes
  - Many require labeled data (i.e. the Touchstone) - **supervised learning algorithms**
  - Unsupervised learning algorithms generally work well if your data doesn't have degeneracies
  - **Only as good as your feature selection**
- Decision Trees
  - Sequence of decision rules (*if* statements) generated recursively on the training data
- Random Forests
  - Simple, robust classifier consisting of multiple individual decision trees
  - All trees vote on the class, and the mode of the votes is selected



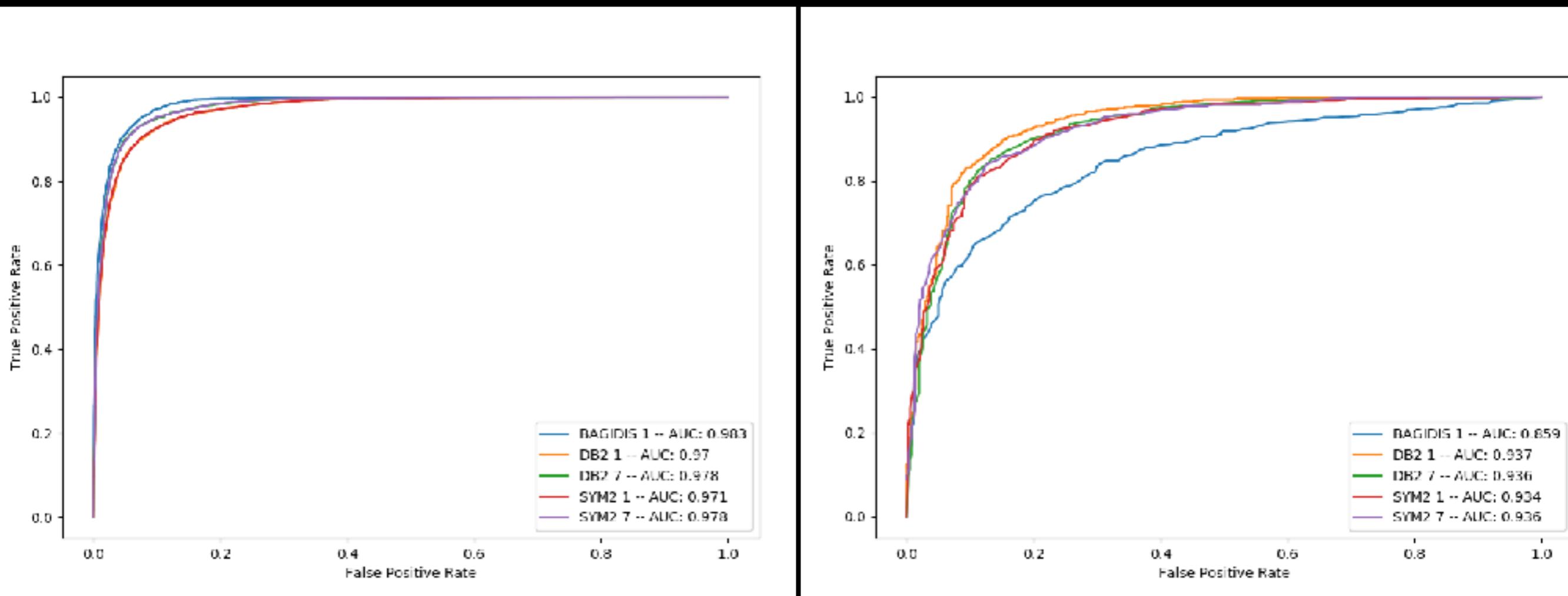
# ROC CURVES

- Receiver Operating Characteristic Curves
  - Plot the True Positive Rate vs False Positive Rate *at each threshold*
    - True Positive Rate (TPR) =  $TP / (TP + FN)$
    - False Positive Rate (FPR) =  $FP / (FP + TN)$
  - Resilient to imbalances in class representation
  - Allows careful selection of threshold for different astrophysical uses
- AUC measures the Area Under the Curve
  - 0.5 for random guessing, 1 for perfect classification



|                     |                | Predicted Classification |                     |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
|                     |                | Positive prediction      | Negative prediction |
| True Classification | Positive class | True Positive (TP)       | False Negative (FN) |
|                     | Negative class | False Positive (FP)      | True Negative (TN)  |

# CLASSIFICATION RESULTS



Simulated  
data:  
SNPhotCC

Real data:  
OSC

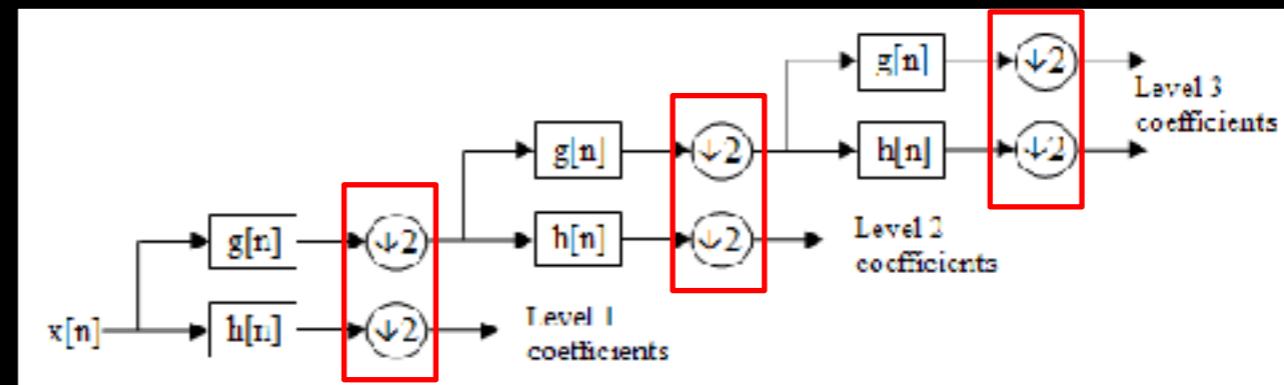
# OUTPUT

**YOU NOW GET TO BUILD  
THIS IN 1.5 HOURS!**

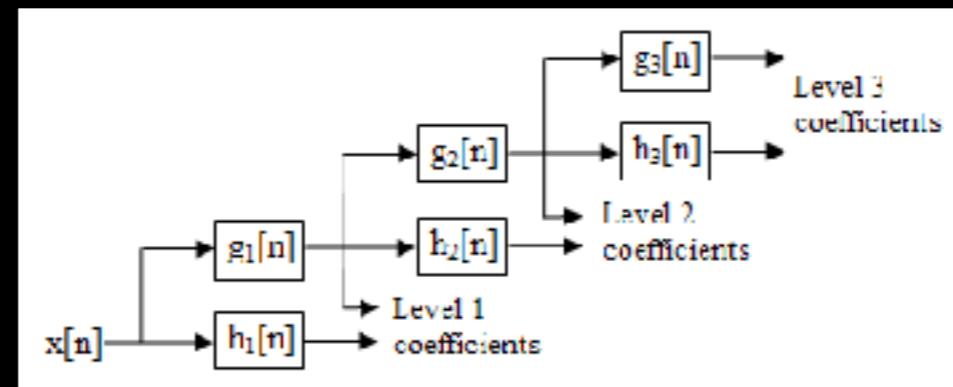
# STATIONARY WAVELET TRANSFORM

- Eliminate sub-sampling (illustrated in red box) of the Discrete Wavelet Transform
  - Leads to a highly redundant set of coefficients - not ideal. Use dimensionality reduction after.
  - Advantage is that SWT is "approximately" translationally invariant

Discrete Wavelet  
Transform



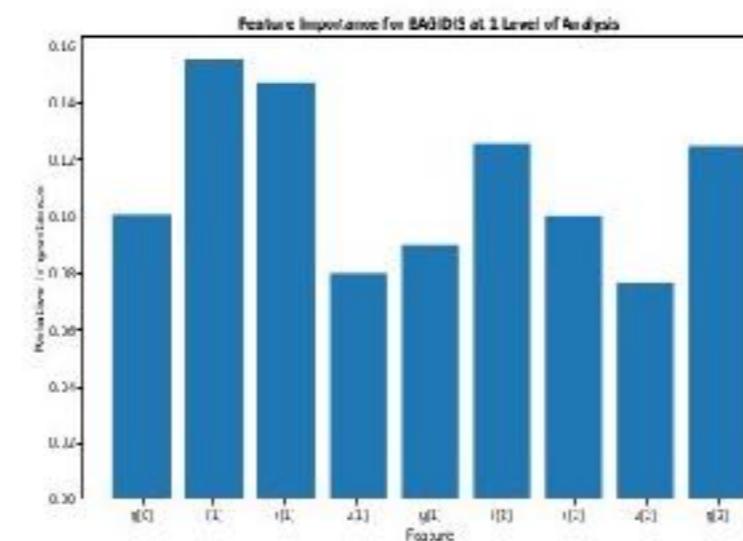
Stationary Wavelet  
Transform



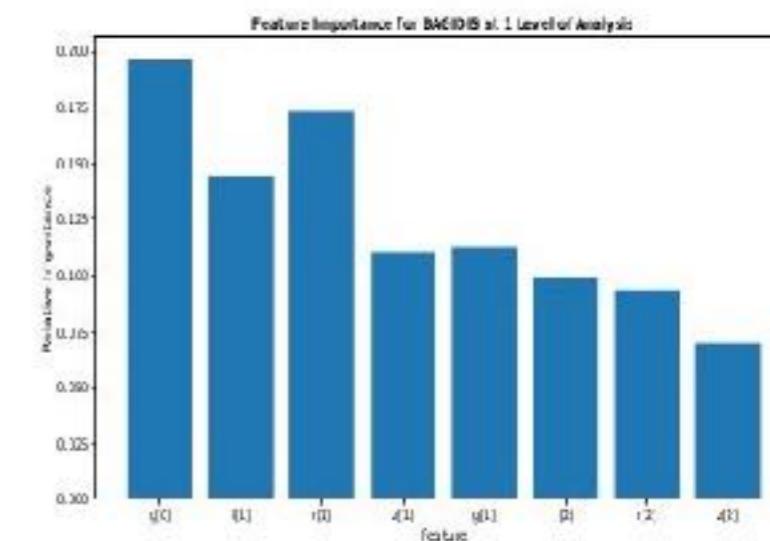
Faster to  
compute than  
BAGIDIS  
 $N \log(N)$  vs  $N^2$

# FEATURE IMPORTANCES

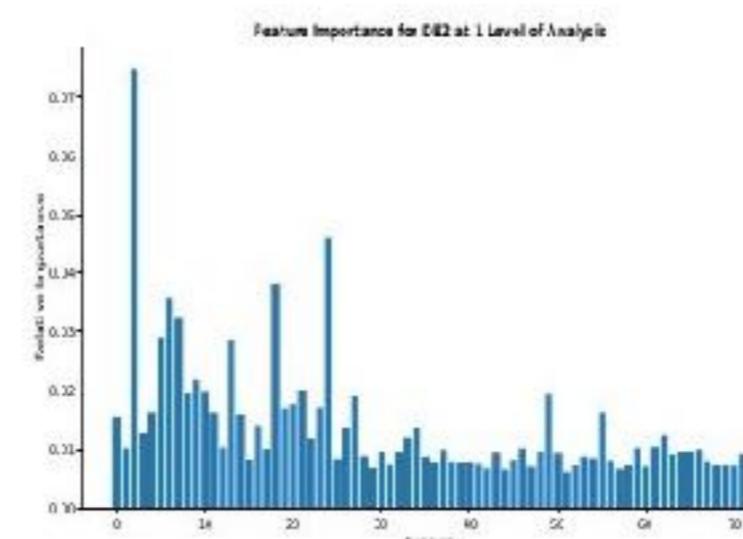
- Use physical intuition (i.e. worry about your data) to decide what base features to compute
- ML algorithms will faithfully reproduce biases in your training set
- Pick derived features based on what has the highest weight wherever possible
- You can introduce new biases if you do this without thought - example using apparent magnitude as a feature



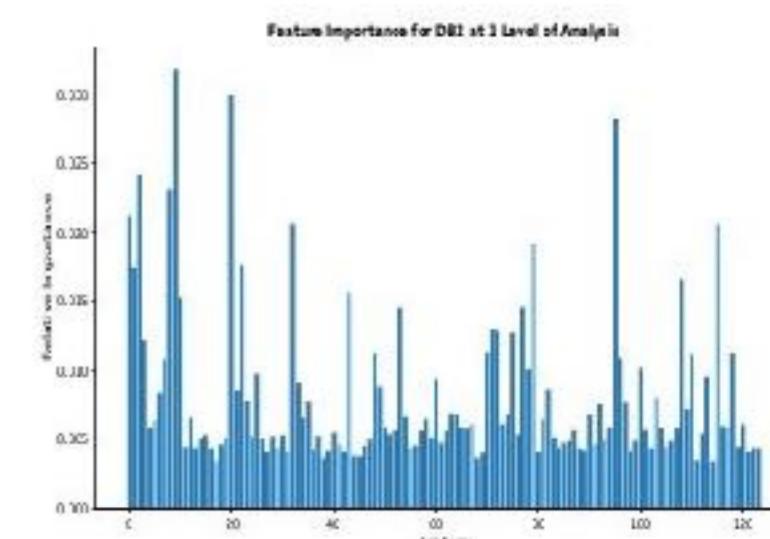
(A)



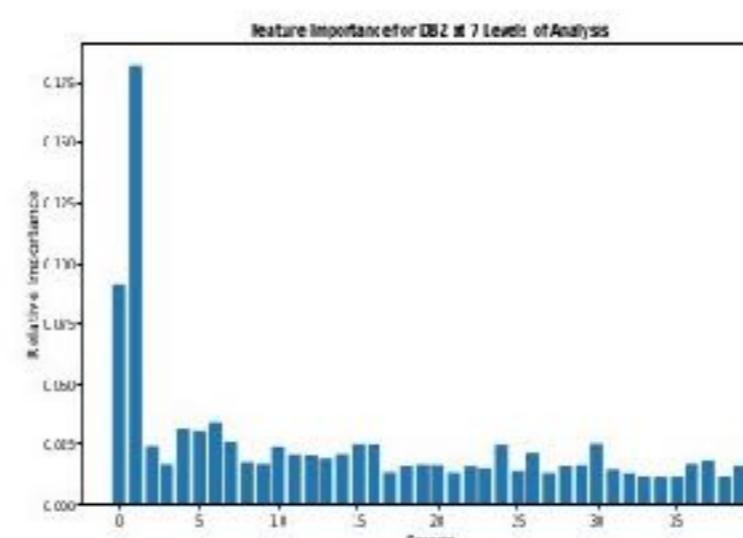
(D)



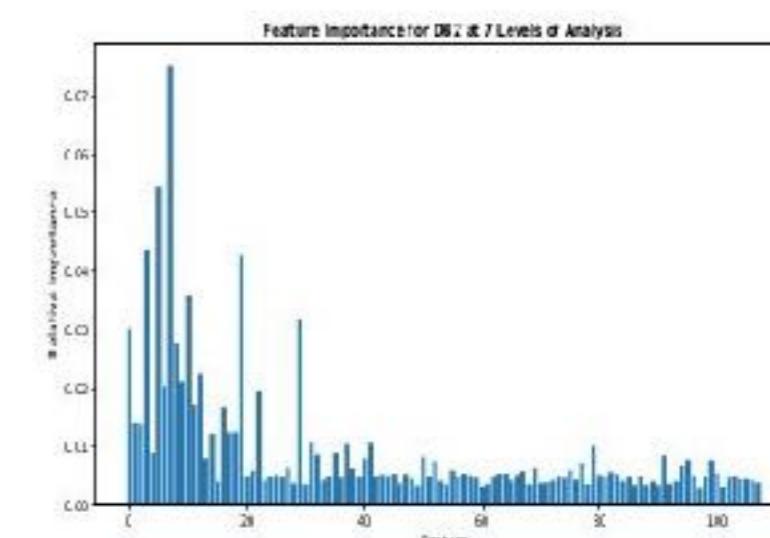
(B)



(E)



(C)



(F)

# CAVEATS/FAILURE MODES

- Calculating reliable periods
  - takes lots of data
  - is too slow (alerts will get diverted for taking too long to process)
    - done during daytime processing
- Ideally, we'd train the Gaussian processes on the Touchstone, which would give us priors for the hyperparameters of each kernel
  - If sampling is very different than Touchstone, then we're comparing data with unrepresentative model
  - Still better in practice than "splines gone wild" but need alert simulator to understand failure modes - **IN PROGRESS**
- Results only going to be as good as data-quality from LSST

