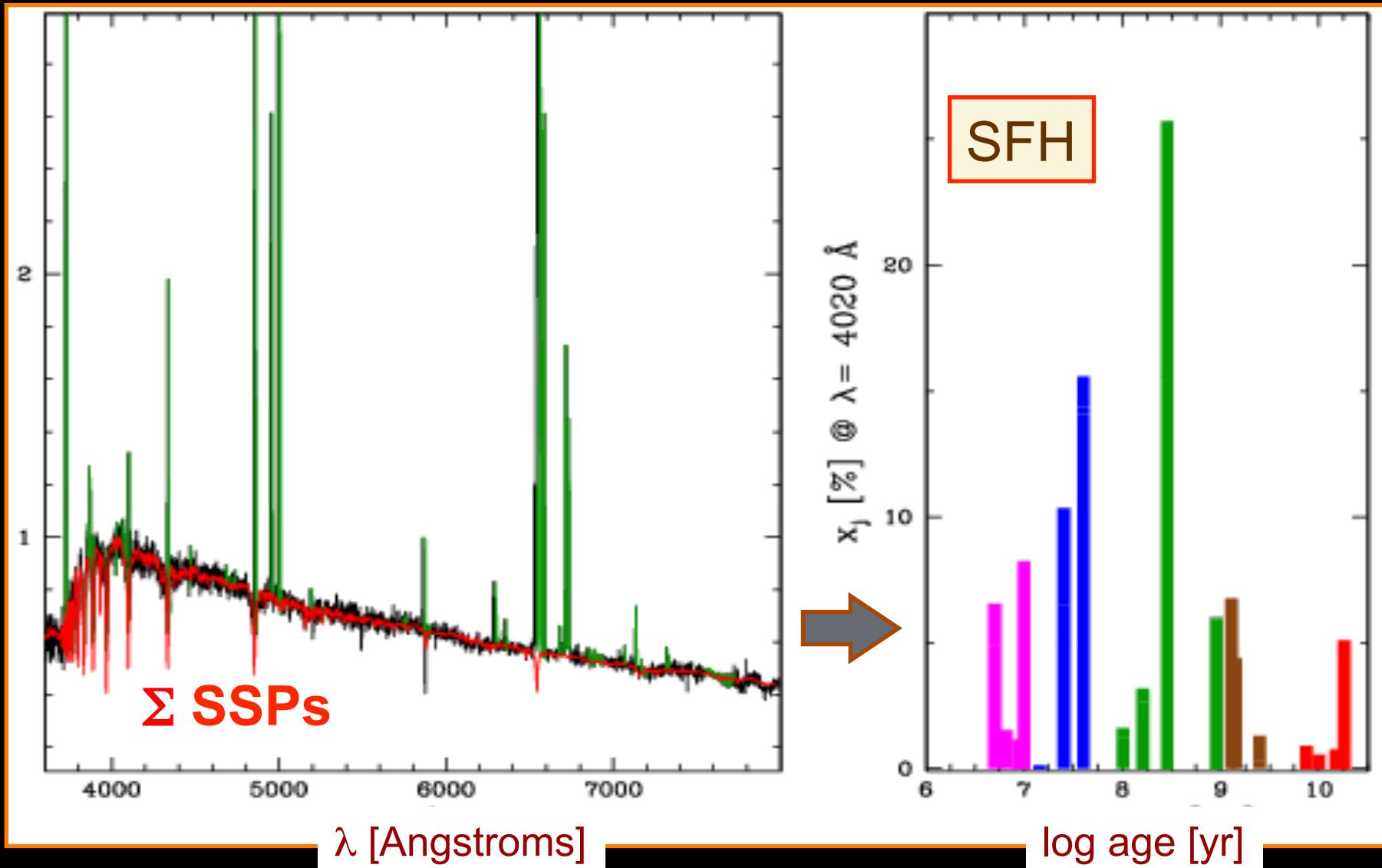


# 20 years of spectral synthesis (w/STARLIGHT) from 2004 to $\sim$ 2024

Roberto Cid Fernandes – UFSC



# OUTLINE

## Old stuff / Review:

- + Spectral synthesis & STARLIGHT in ~ 10 slides
- + Things we've done with it: SDSS, CALIFA, ...

## New stuff: More constraints

- Fit photometry: GALEX, 2MASS, ...
- Fit H $\alpha$ , H $\beta$ , H $\alpha$ /H $\beta$ , ... → Differential extinction
- ~~Fit dust-reprocessed (FIR) luminosity~~

Why? More realistic / interesting modelling of galaxies ☺

# Spectral Synthesis:

# Basic Recipe

- Computing a galaxy spectrum

IMF & SFH

$$L_{\text{gal}}(\lambda) = \sum_{*} L_{*}(\lambda) = \sum_{m,t,Z} N_{*}(m,t,Z) L_{*}(\lambda ; m,t,Z)$$

Galaxy  
spectrum

Sum over  
each star

Sum over  
 $m, t$  &  $Z$ 's

Stellar spectrum as a  
function of  $m, t$  &  $Z$

# Spectral Synthesis:

# Basic Recipe

- Computing a galaxy spectrum

IMF & SFH

$$L_{\text{gal}}(\lambda) = \sum^* L_*(\lambda) = \sum_{m,t,Z} N_*(m,t,Z) L_*(\lambda ; m,t,Z)$$

Galaxy  
spectrum

Sum over  
each star

Sum over  
 $m, t$  &  $Z$ 's

Stellar spectrum as a  
function of  $m, t$  &  $Z$

- Simple Stellar Population: integrate over mass function

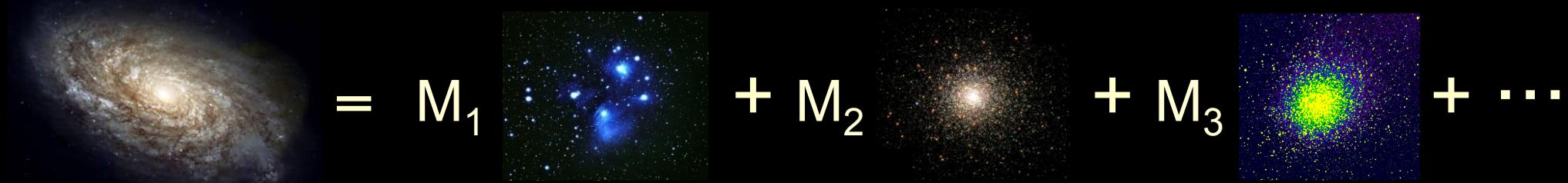
$$\sum_m N_*(m,t,Z) L_*(\lambda ; m,t,Z) = M_{\text{SSP}}(t,Z) \Lambda_{\text{SSP}}(\lambda ; t,Z)$$

Spectrum of an SSP( $t,Z$ )



# Spectral Synthesis:

# Basic Recipe



$$L_{\text{gal}}(\lambda) = \sum_{t,Z} M_{\text{SSP}}(t,Z) \Lambda_{\text{SSP}}(\lambda ; t,Z)$$

Mass in populations  
of age  $t$  and  
metallicity  $Z$   
 $[M_\odot]$

Spectrum of a SSP( $t,Z$ )  
per unit stellar mass  
 $[L_\odot / \text{\AA} / M_\odot]$

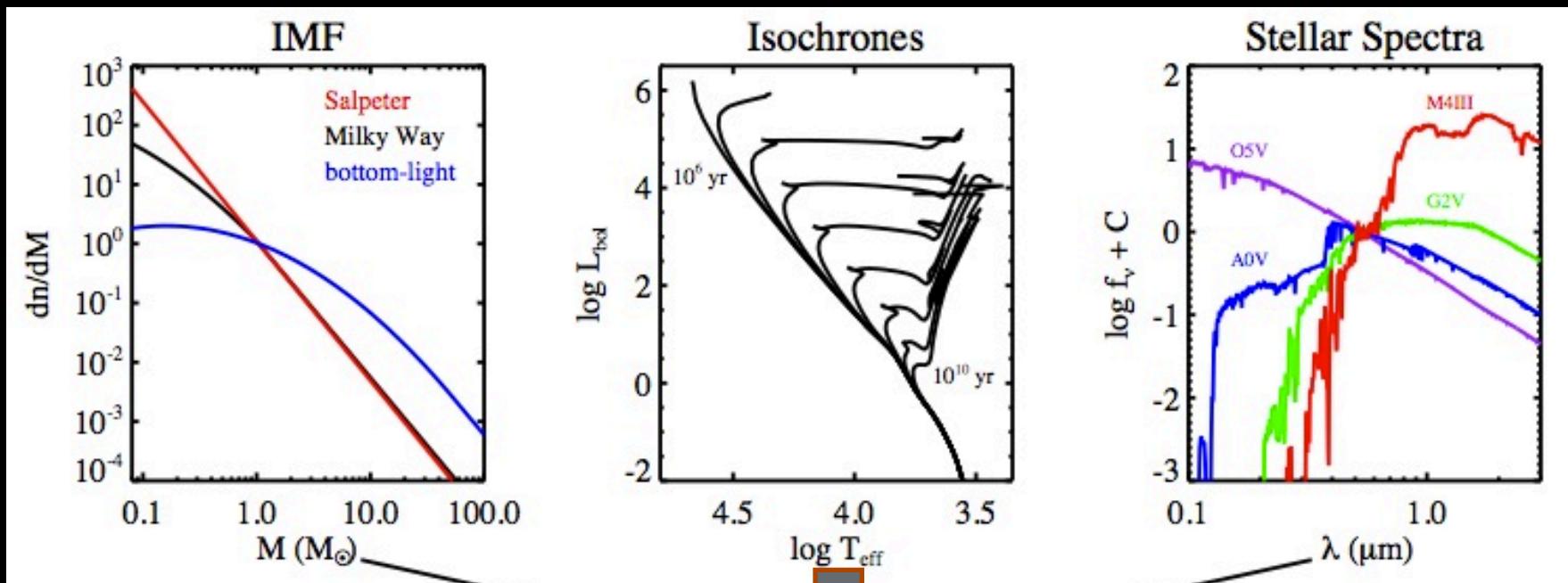
***Star Formation History***

= What we want to find!  
(obs: non-parametric)

***Spectral Base***

Known from SSP-models  
😊

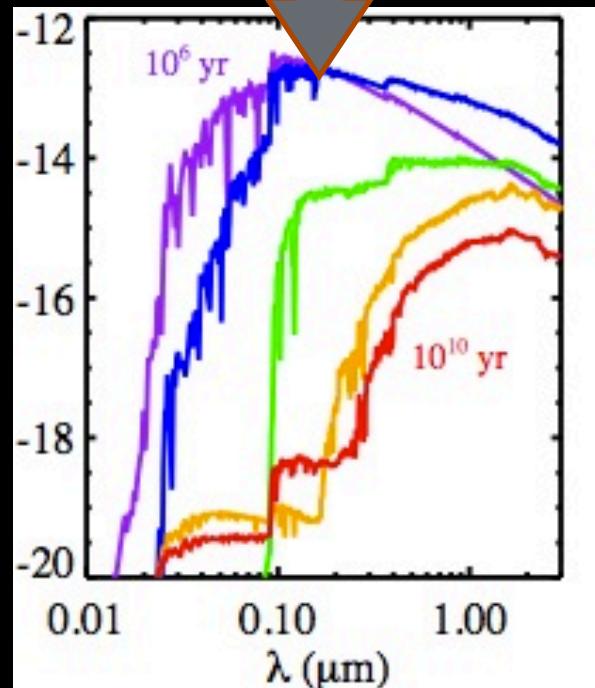
# SSP spectra: HOWTO



$$\Lambda_{\text{SSP}}(\lambda ; t, Z)$$

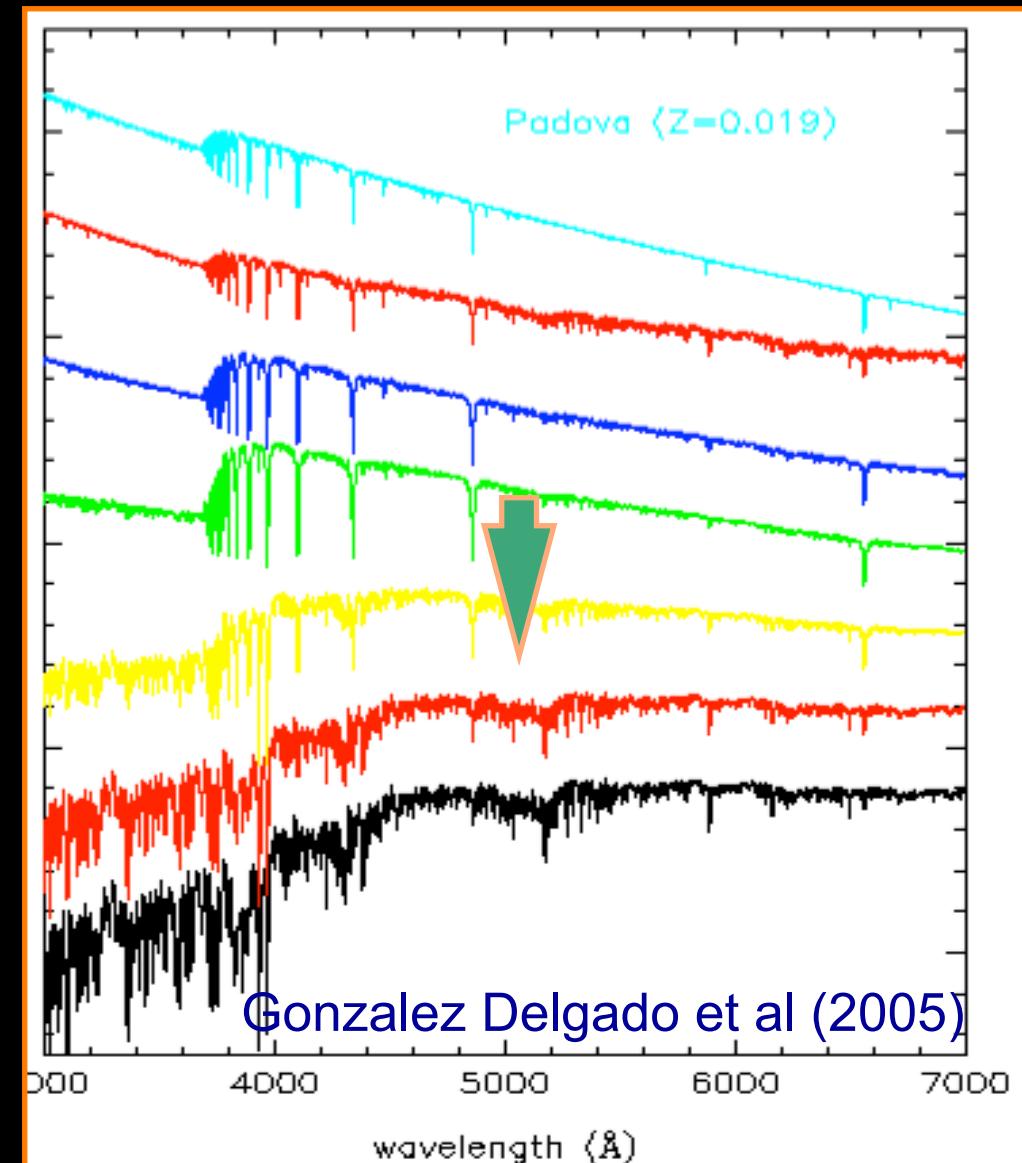
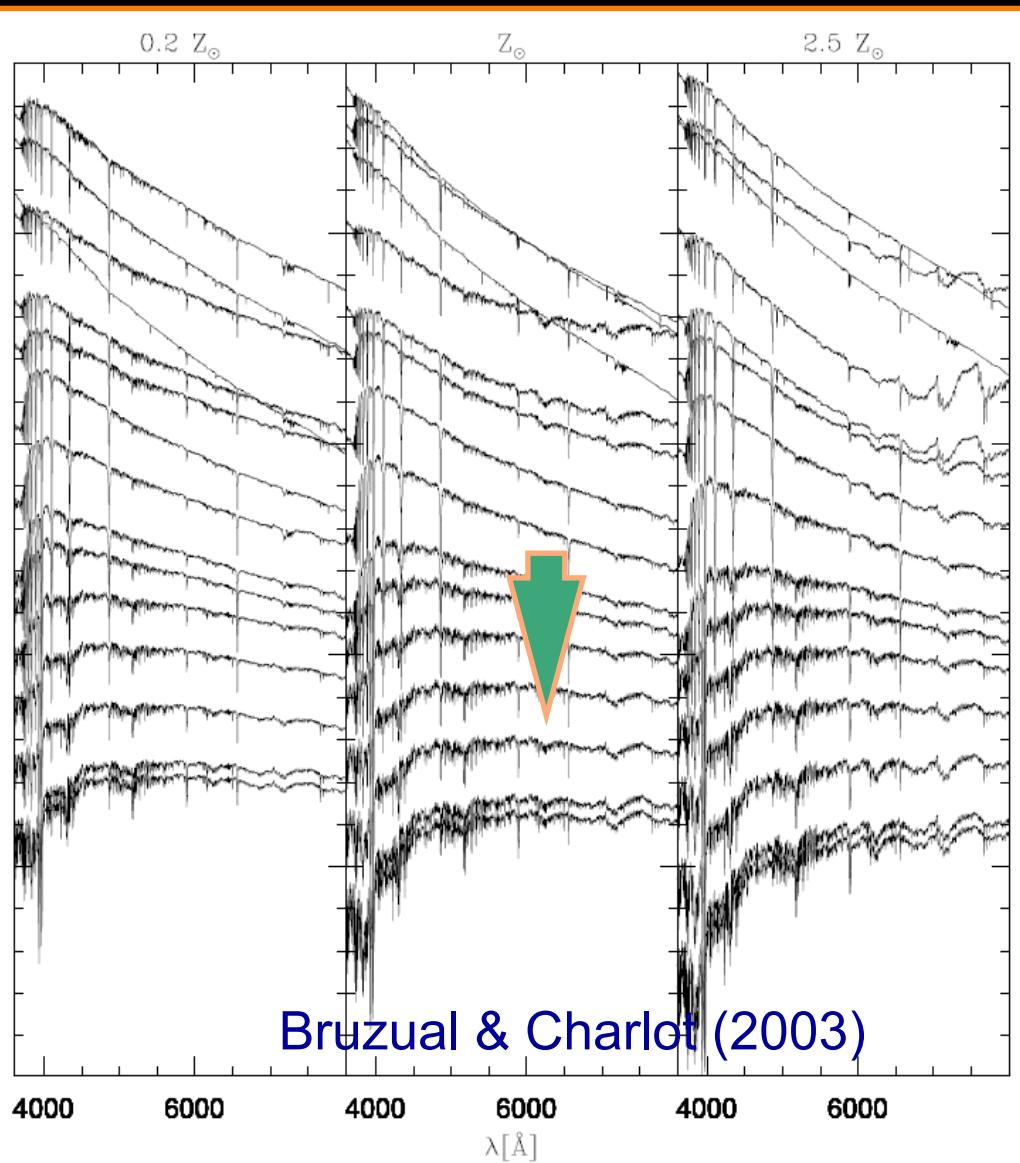
**Critical ingredient!**

The dictionary which translates light to mass, age & Z

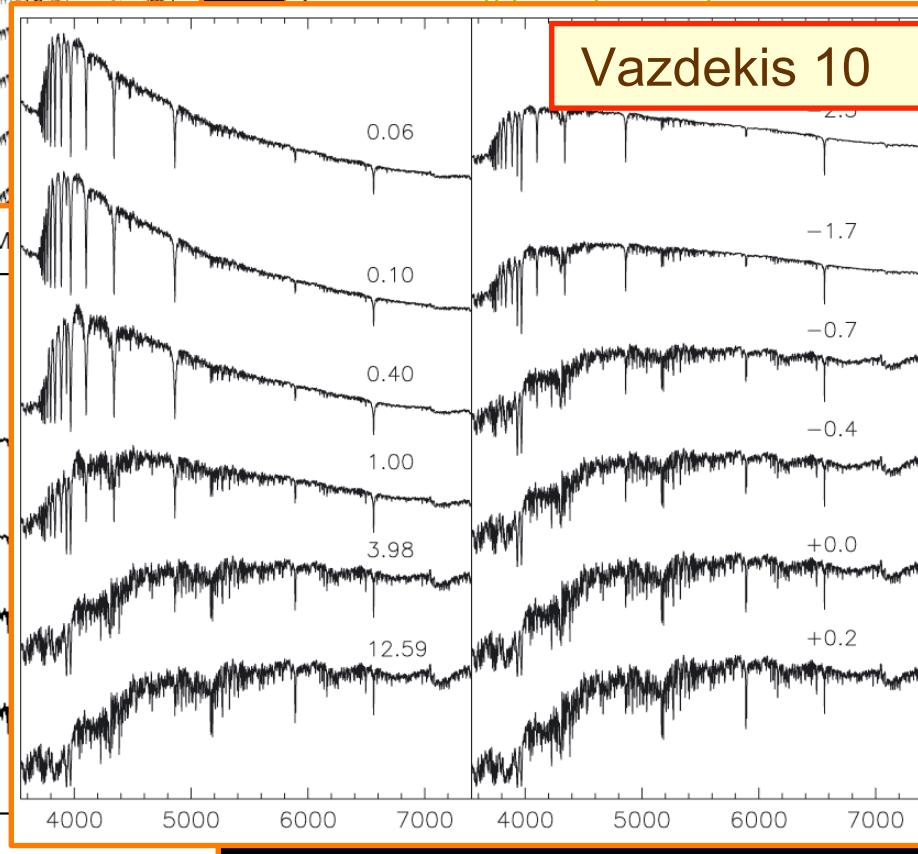
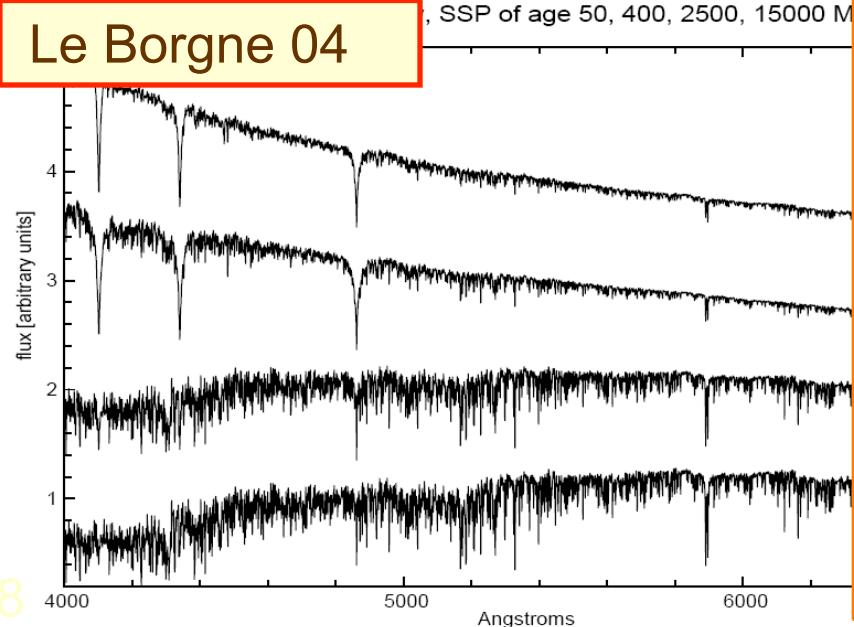
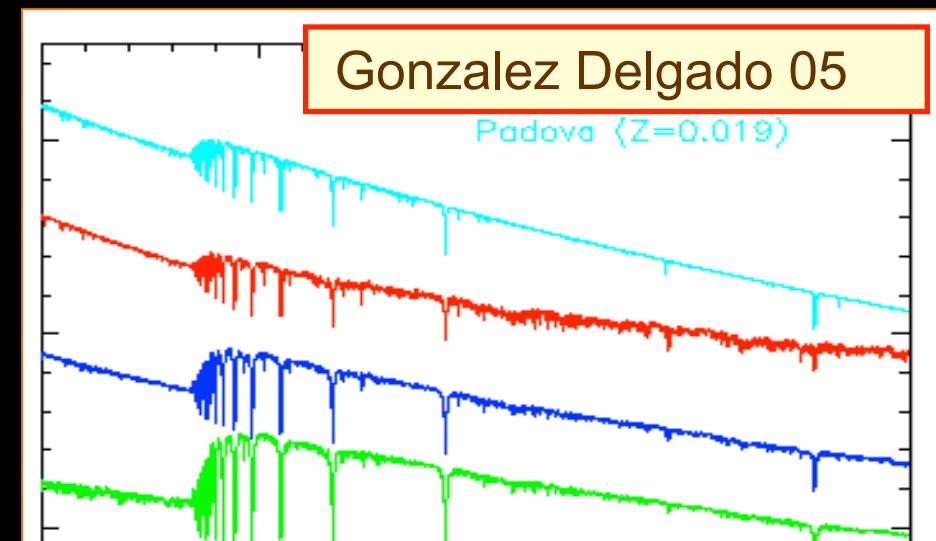
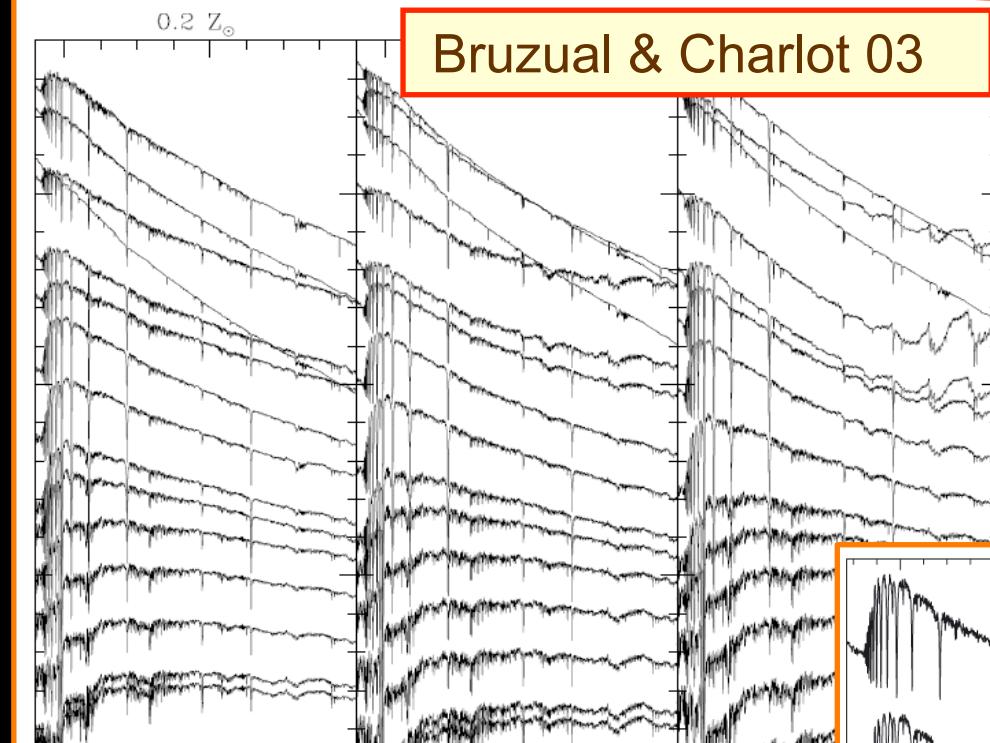


# SSP spectra

Stellar Evolution + IMF + Libraries (+ tricks) =  $\Lambda_{\text{SSP}}(\lambda ; t, Z)$  [ $L_0/\text{\AA}/M_0$ ]



# The main ingredient: $\text{SSP}(\lambda; t, Z)$ ← evolutionary synthesis



¿CB07?  
¿CB08?  
¿CB09?  
...  
¿CB16?  
...

# → SFH(t,Z): 2 approaches

$$\text{SFH} \rightarrow L_{\text{gal}}(\lambda)$$

*Given a SFH, what  
is the resulting  
galaxy spectrum?*



Evolutionary  
Population Synthesis

$$L_{\text{gal}}(\lambda) \rightarrow \text{SFH}$$

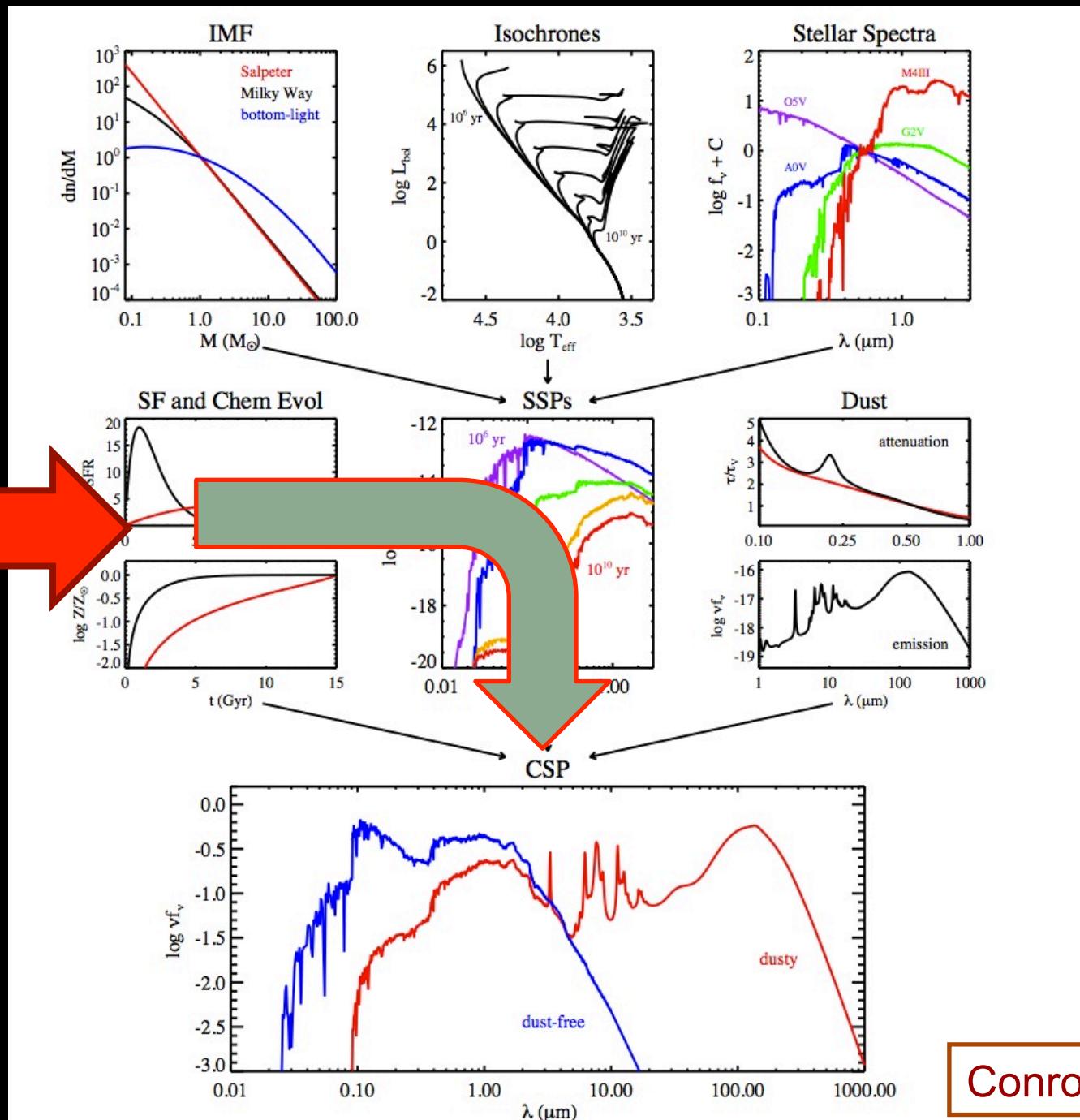
*Given a galaxy  
spectrum, what is  
the SFH?*



Inverse  
Population Synthesis

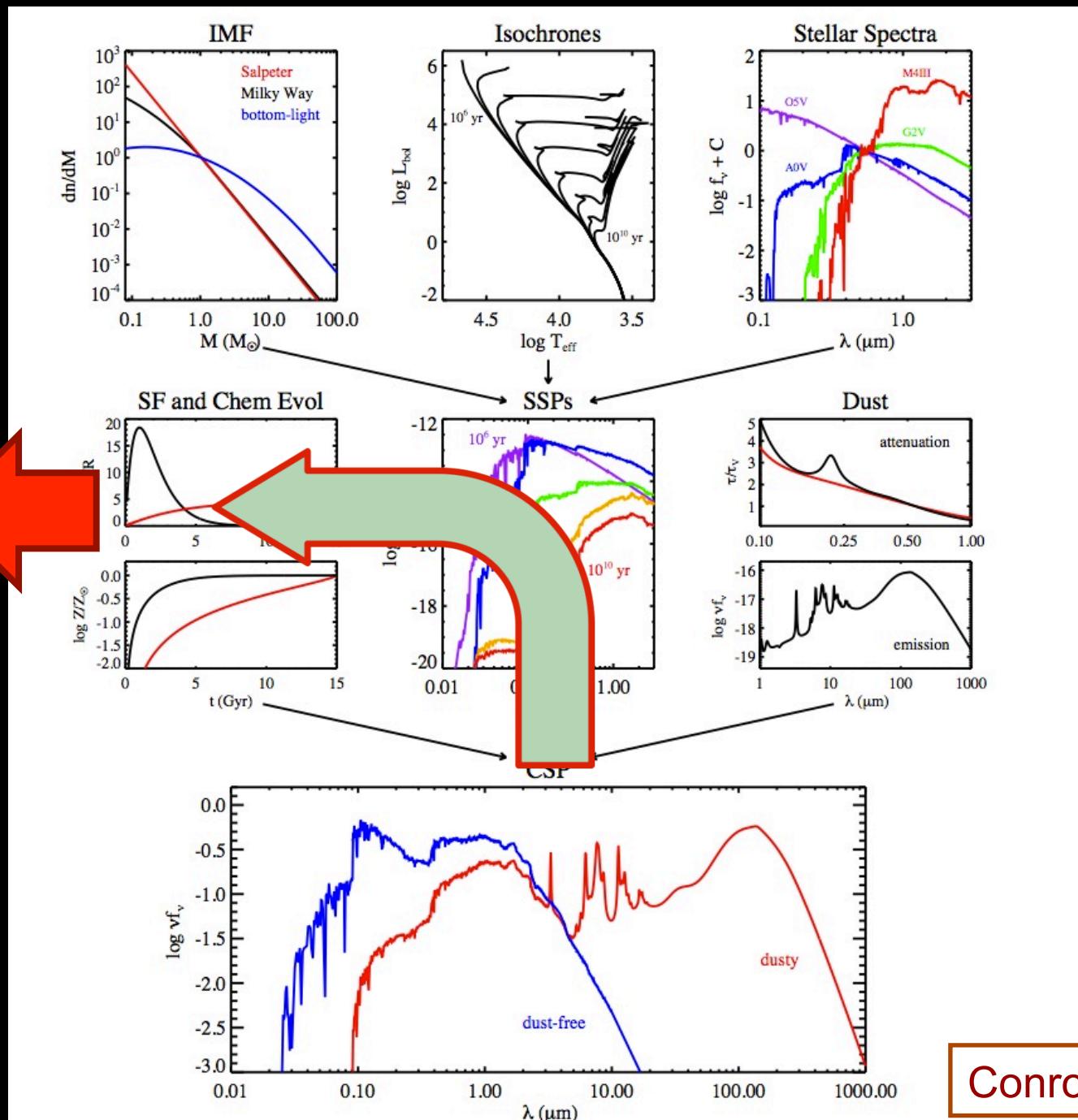
# Forward spectral synthesis

**ASSUME**  
Star  
Formation  
History



# Inverse spectral synthesis

**DERIVE**  
Star  
Formation  
History

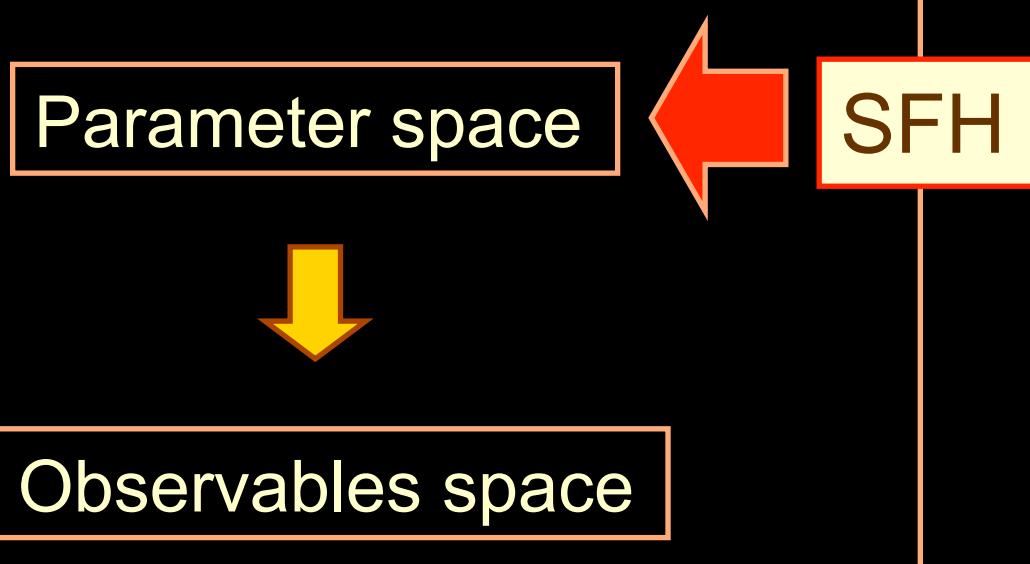


# → SFH( $t, Z$ ): 2 approaches

## Evolutionary Pop Synthesis

= Forward Modeling  
Predict spectra( $t, Z, \dots$ )  
*Ab initio* calculation of

$$L_{\text{gal}}(\lambda | \text{SFH parameters})$$



# → SFH( $t, Z$ ): 2 approaches

## Evolutionary Pop Synthesis

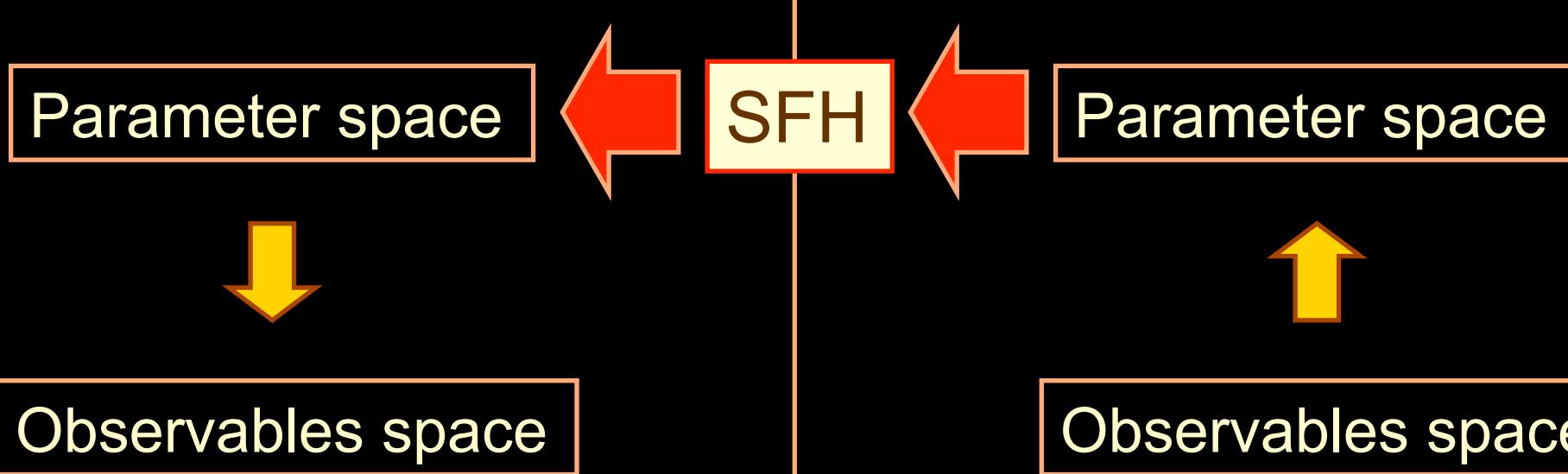
= Forward Modeling  
Predict spectra( $t, Z, \dots$ )  
*Ab initio* calculation of

$$L_{\text{gal}}(\lambda \mid \text{SFH parameters})$$

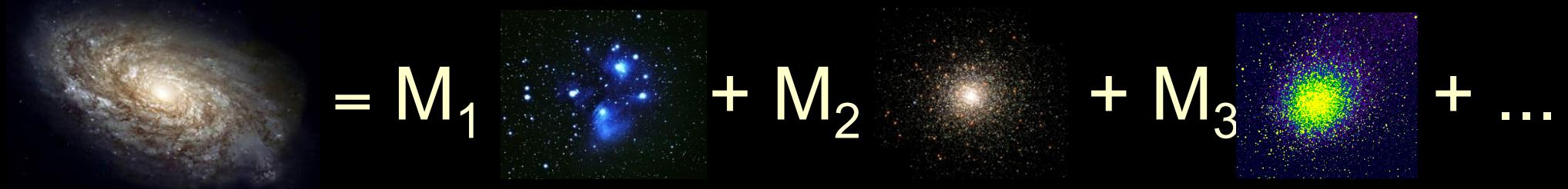
## Inverse Pop Synthesis

= “Paleontology”  
“Reverse engineering”  
“Fossil Method”

Infer population **parameters**  
from an **observed**  $L_{\text{gal}}(\lambda)$



# STARLIGHT: non-parametric spectral decomposition



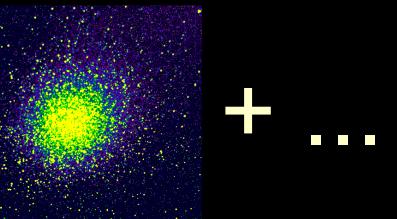
$$L_{\text{gal}}(\lambda) = \sum_{t,Z} M_{\text{SSP}}(t,Z) \times \Lambda(\lambda; t, Z) \times e^{-\tau(\lambda)}$$

**Observables**  
Full spectrum

**SFH:**  
*mass or light  
fractions*

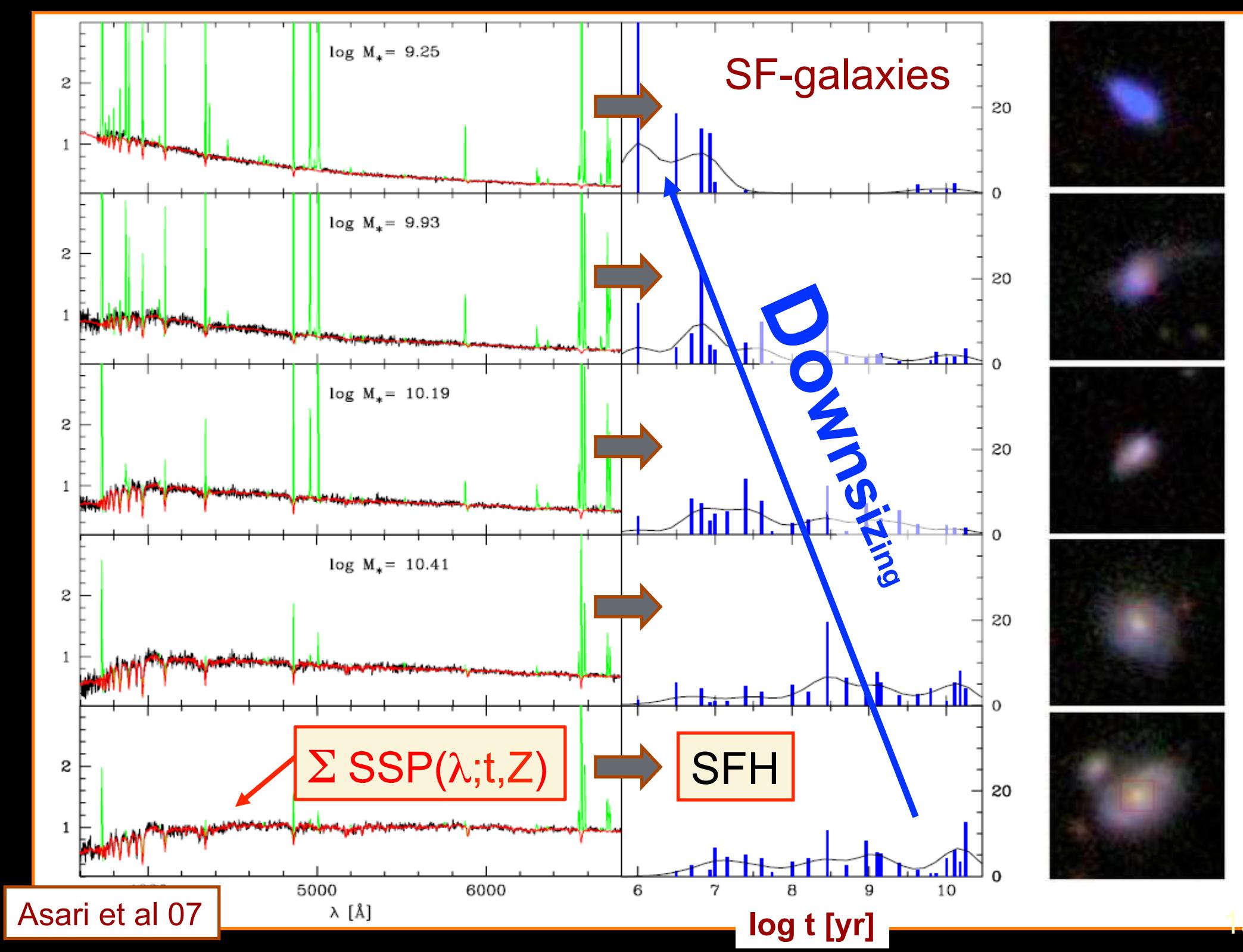
→ **Pop Vector**

**Spectral  
Base**  
SSPs from  
BC03, Granada,  
“CB07”, Vazdekis,  
...



**Dust**  
...





# STARLIGHT: non-parametric spectral decomposition

Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. **355**, 273–296 (2004)

doi:10.1111/j.1365-2966.2004.08321.x

## The star formation history of Seyfert 2 nuclei

R. Cid Fernandes,<sup>1</sup>★ Q. Gu,<sup>2</sup>★ J. Melnick,<sup>3</sup>★ E. Terlevich,<sup>4</sup>★† R. Terlevich,<sup>4</sup>★†  
D. Kunth,<sup>5</sup>★ R. Rodrigues Lacerda<sup>1</sup>★ and B. Joguet<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Departamento de Física, CFM, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, PO Box 476, Florianópolis 88040-900, SC, Brazil

<sup>2</sup>Department of Astronomy, Nanjing University, Nanjing 210093, China

<sup>3</sup>European Southern Observatory, Alonso de Cordova 3107, Santiago, Chile

<sup>4</sup>Instituto Nacional de Astrofísica, Óptica y Electrónica, Tonantzintla, Puebla, México

<sup>5</sup>Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris, 98bis Boulevard Arago, 75014 Paris, France

Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. **358**, 363–378 (2005)

doi:10.1111/j.1365-2966.2005.08752.x

## Semi-empirical analysis of Sloan Digital Sky Survey galaxies – I. Spectral synthesis method

Roberto Cid Fernandes,<sup>1</sup>★ Abílio Mateus,<sup>2</sup>★ Laerte Sodré, Jr,<sup>2</sup>★ Grażyna Stasińska<sup>3</sup>★  
and Jean M. Gomes<sup>1</sup>★

<sup>1</sup>Departamento de Física, CFM, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, PO Box 476, 88040-900 Florianópolis, SC, Brazil

<sup>2</sup>Instituto de Astronomia, Geofísica e Ciências Atmosféricas, Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

<sup>3</sup>LUTH, Observatoire de Meudon, 92195 Meudon Cedex, France

- MOPED

**The Complete Star Formation History of the Universe**

Alan Heavens, Benjamin Panter, Raul Jimenez, James Dunlop

- VESPA

**Recovering galaxy star formation and metallicity histories from spectra using VESPA**

Rita Tojeiro (IfA, Edinburgh), Alan F. Heavens (IfA, Edinburgh), Raul Jimenez (UPenn), Ben Panter (IfA, Edinburgh)

- STECKMAP

**STEllar Content and Kinematics from high resolution galactic spectra via Maximum A Posteriori**

P. Ocvirk (1), C. Pichon (2), A. Lancon (1), E. Thiebaut (3) ((1) Observatoire Astronomique de Strasbourg, (2) Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris, (3) Observatoire de Lyon)

- ULySS

**Spectroscopic ages and metallicities of stellar populations: validation of full spectrum fitting**

M. Koleva, Ph. Prugniel, P. Ocvirk, D. Le Borgne, C. Soubiran

- STARLIGHT

**Semi-empirical analysis of SDSS galaxies: I. Spectral synthesis method**

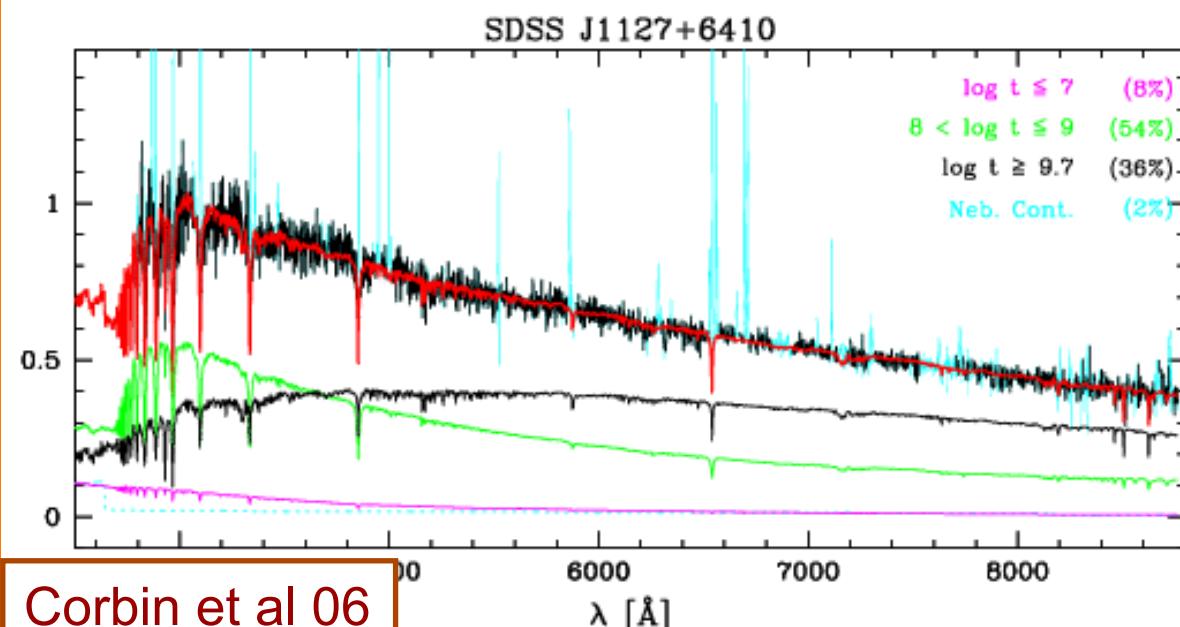
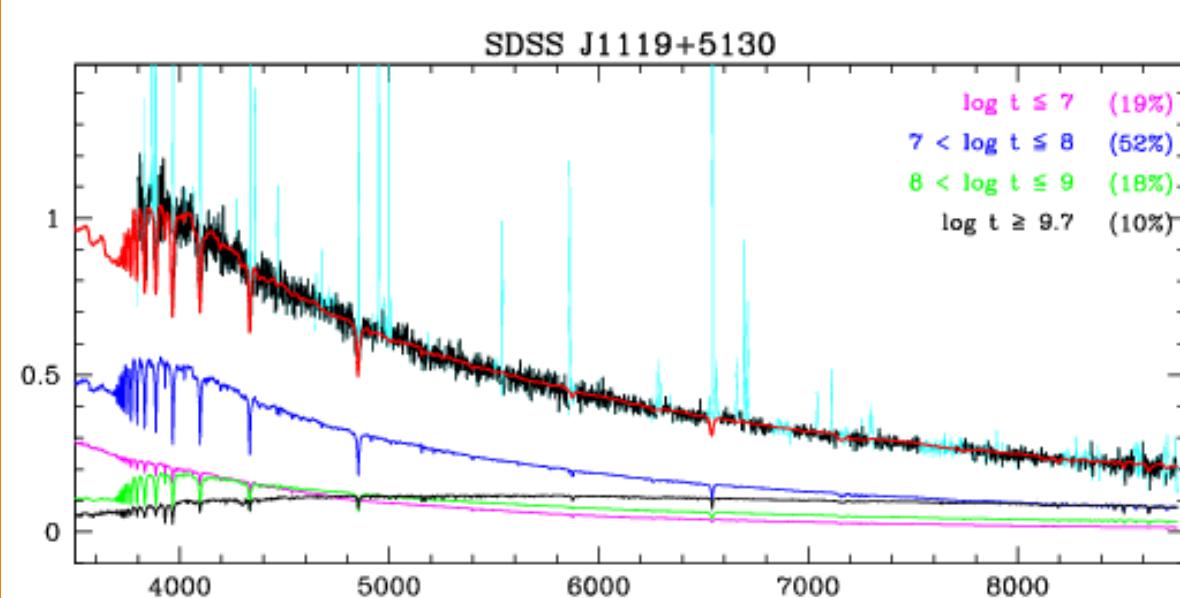
R. Cid Fernandes (1), A. Mateus (2), L. Sodre (2), G. Stasinska (3), J. M. Gomes (1) ((1) Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil; (2) IAG/USP, Brazil; (3) LUTH, Observatoire de Meudon, France)

- pPXF

**The Atlas3D Project – XXX. Star formation histories and stellar population scaling relations of early-type galaxies**

Richard M. McDermid, Katherine Alatalo, Leo Blitz, Frederic Bournaud, Martin Bureau, Michele Cappellari, Alison F. Crocker, Roger L. Davies, Timothy A. Davis, P. T. de Zeeuw, Pierre-Alain Duc, Eric Emsellem, Sadegh Khochfar, Davor Krajnovic, Harald Kuntschner, Raffaella Morganti, Thorsten Naab, Tom Oosterloo, Marc Sarzi, Nicholas Scott, Paolo Serra, Anne-Marie Weijmans, Lisa M. Young

# Ultra Compact Blue Dwarf Galaxies



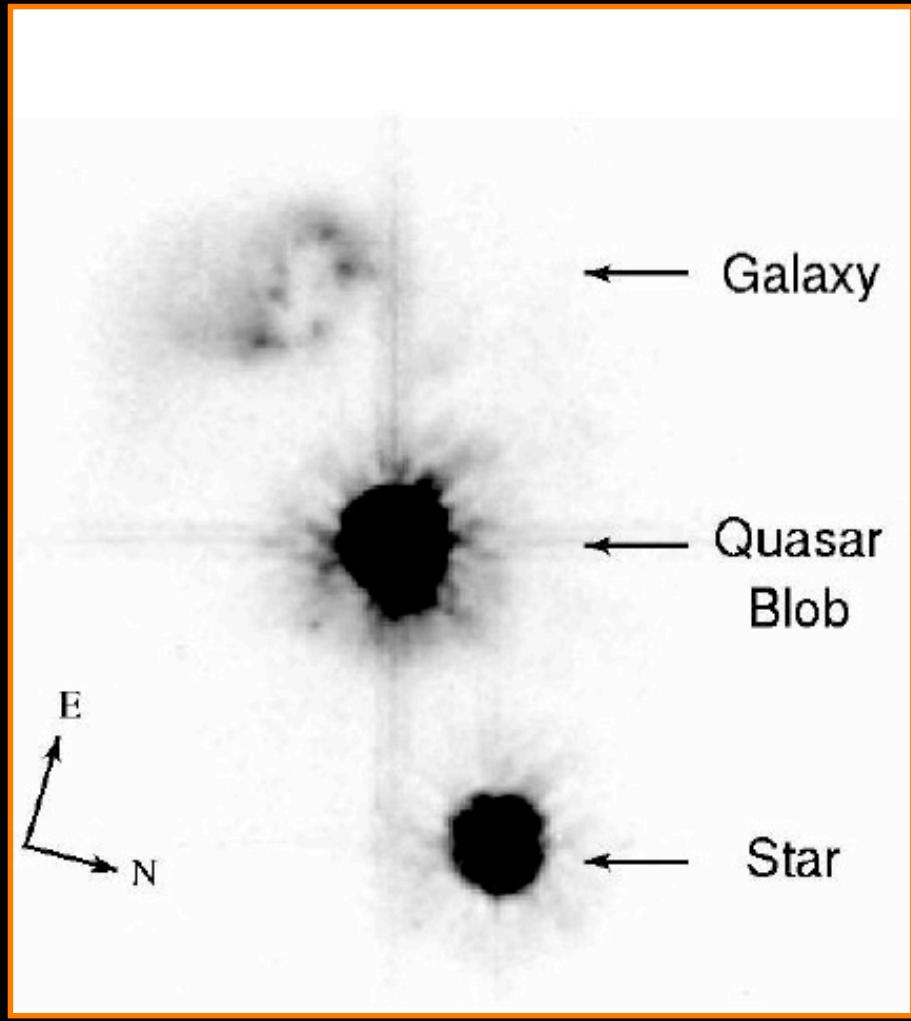
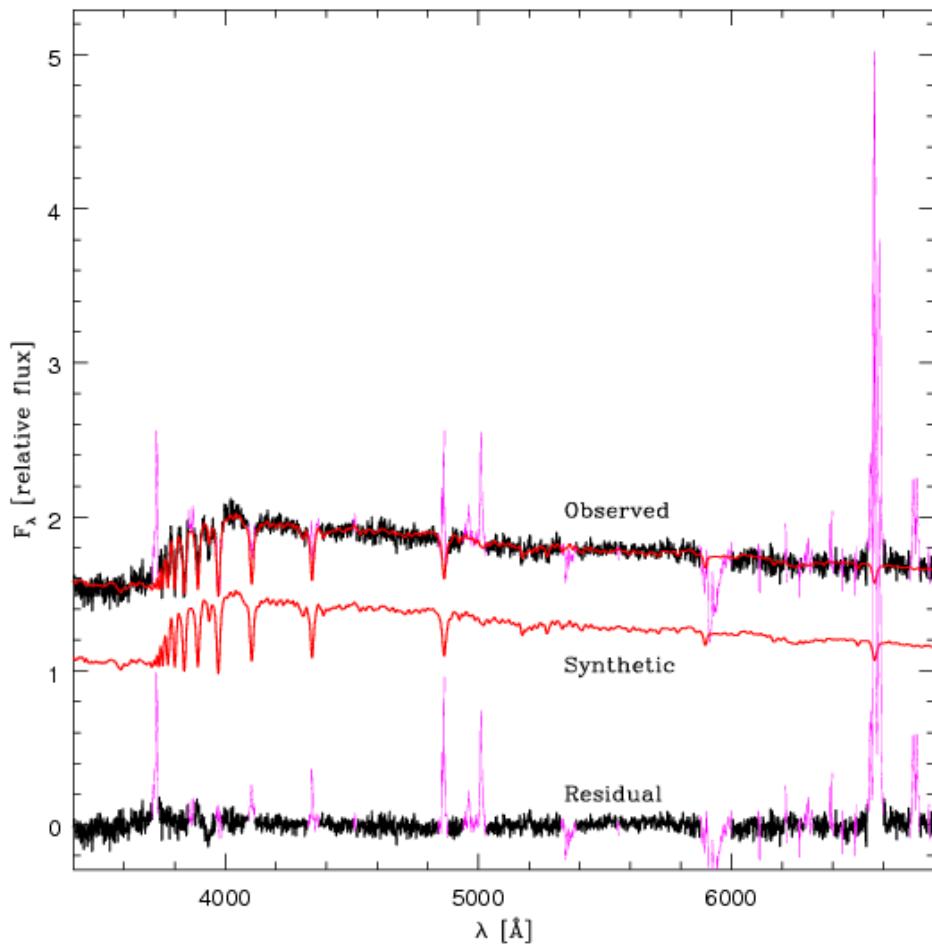
Corbin et al 06

*Spectral Base:*

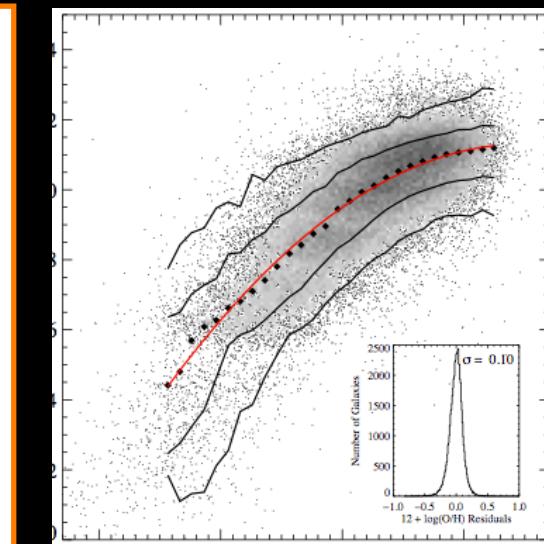
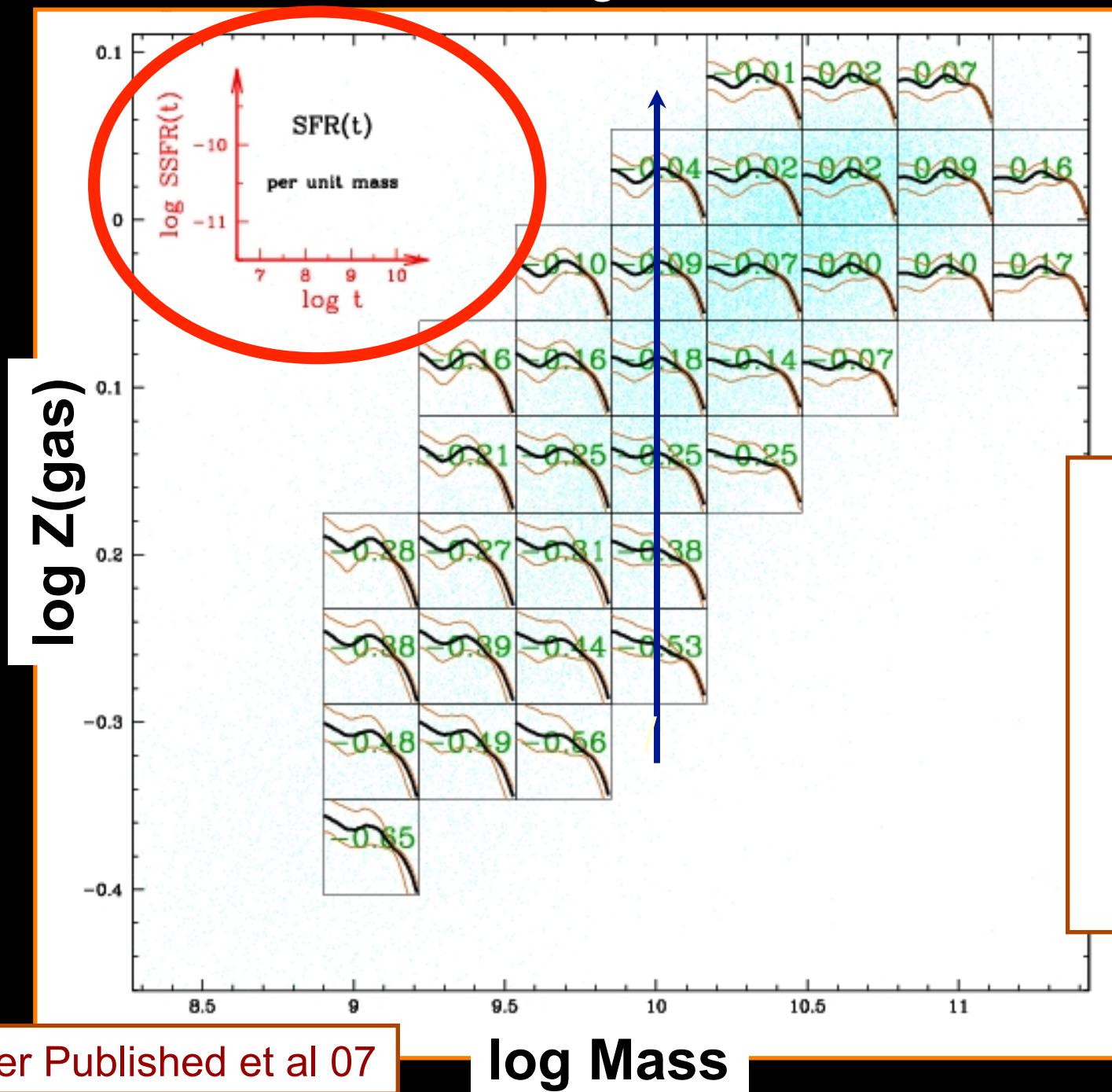
- 25 ages
- $Z_0 / 50$  SSPs !!
- Nebular Continuum
- SMC extinction curve

# A weird galaxy next to the “naked” quasar

HE0450-2958: The (in)famous “homeless” quasar



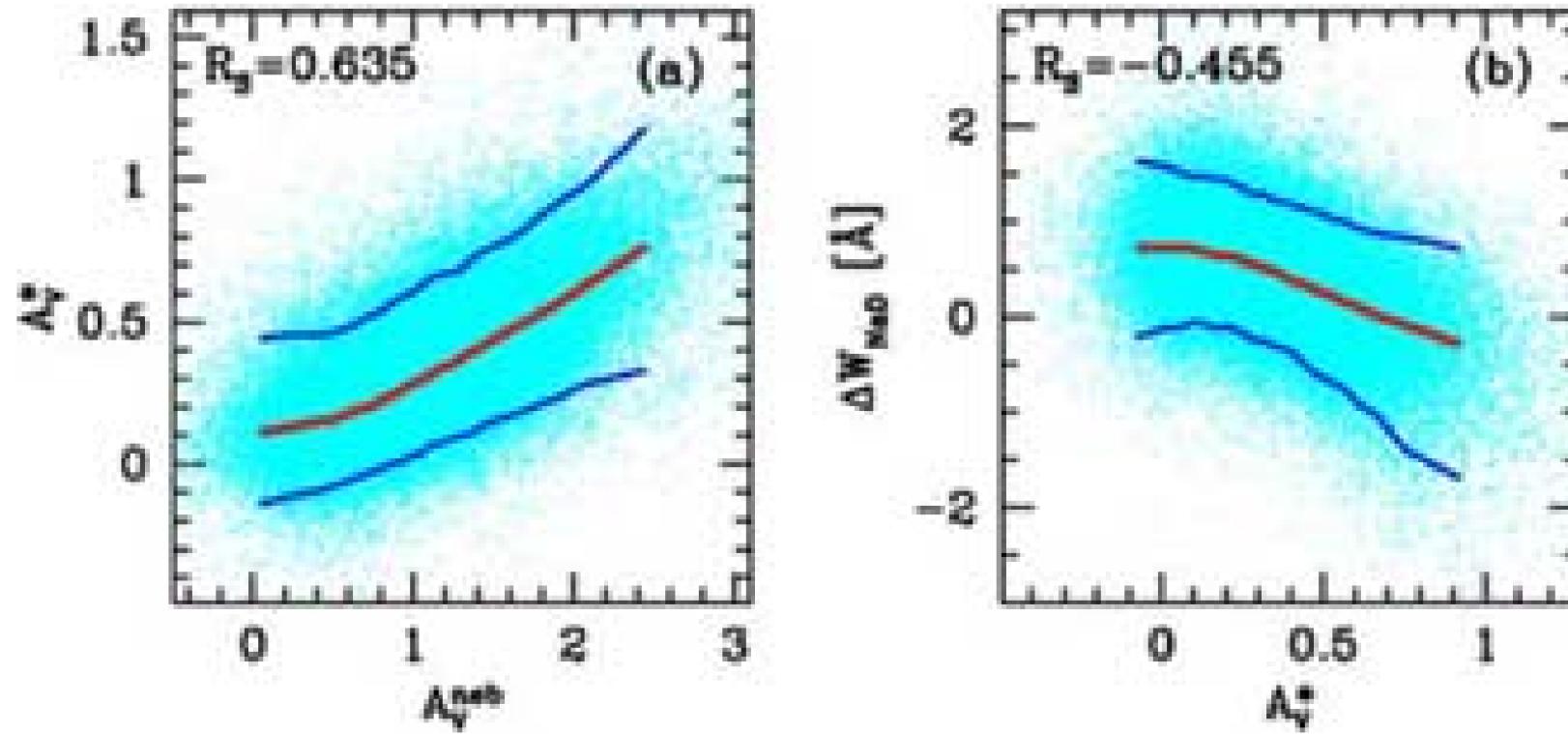
# The $M_*$ – $Z_{\text{gas}}$ –SFH relation



the currently  
fashionable  
“Fundamental”  
M-Z-SFR relation...

Mannucci 10  
Lara López 10  
Yates 12  
...

# NaD “excess” → cold ISM → dust



**Figure 4.** (a) Relation between stellar and nebular extinctions for the SF sample. Lines indicate the 5, 50 and 95 percentiles. (b) Equivalent width of the ISM component of the Na D doublet (as measured from residual spectra) against the stellar extinction.

**CasJobs**

**Astronomy & Astrophysics**

**Starlight** Spectral Synthesis Code

**CASJOBS**

Schema Query History MyDB Import Output Profile Queues Logout

Context Table (optional) Task Name

starlight\_DR7 MyTable\_9 My Query

Samples Recent Clear Line 1, Col 1

```
select (log(F_5007)/log(F_4861)) as O3Hb, (log(F_6584)/log(F_6563)) as N2Ha into mydb.MyTable_5 from (select t5007.id_line as t5007, t4861.id_line as t4861, t4861.sn as SN_4861, t6563.id_line as t6563, t6563.sn as SN_6563, t6584.id_line as t6584, t6584.sn as SN_6584, t6584.flux as F_6584, t6584.sn as SN_6584 from el_fit as t5007, el_fit as t4861, el_fit as t6563, el_fit as t6584 where t5007.id_line = 5007 and t4861.id_line = 4861 and t6563.id_line = 6563 and t6584.id_line = 6584 and t5007.synID = t4861.synID and t5007.synID = t6563.synID and t5007.synID = t6584.synID) as e where SN_5007 > 3 and SN_4861 > 3 and SN_6563 > 3 and SN_6584 > 3 and F_5007 > 0 and F_4861 > 0 and F_6584 > 0 and F_6563 > 0
```

**The direct oxygen abundances of metal-rich galaxies derived from electron temperature\***

Y. C. Liang<sup>1,2</sup>, F. Hammer<sup>2</sup>, S. Y. Yin<sup>1,3,4</sup>, H. Flores<sup>2</sup>, M. Rodrigues<sup>2</sup>, and Y. B. Yang<sup>2,1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> National Astronomical Observatories, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 20A Datun Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100012, PR China  
e-mail: yc.liang@bao.ac.cn

<sup>2</sup> GEPPI, Observatoire de Paris-Meudon, 92195 Meudon, France

<sup>3</sup> Department of Physics, Hebei Normal University, Shijiazhuang 050016, PR China

<sup>4</sup> Department of Physics, Harbin University, Harbin 150086, PR China

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 695:259–267, 2009 April 10  
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doi:10.1088/0004-637X/695/1/259

**OUTLIERS FROM THE MASS–METALLICITY RELATION. II. A SAMPLE OF MASSIVE METAL-POOR GALAXIES FROM SDSS**

MOLLY S. PEEPLES, RICHARD W. POGGE, AND K. Z. STANEK

Department of Astronomy, Ohio State University, 140 W. 18th Ave., Columbus, OH 43210, USA; [molly@astronomy.ohio-state.edu](mailto:molly@astronomy.ohio-state.edu), [pogge@astronomy.ohio-state.edu](mailto:pogge@astronomy.ohio-state.edu), [kstanek@astronomy.ohio-state.edu](mailto:kstanek@astronomy.ohio-state.edu)

Received 2008 September 4; accepted 2009 January 13; published 2009 March 30

**Serendipitous discovery of a strong-lensed galaxy in integral field spectroscopy from MUSE**

Lluís Galbany<sup>1\*</sup>, Thomas E. Collett<sup>2</sup>, Jairo Méndez-Abreu<sup>3,4</sup>, Sebastián F. Sánchez<sup>5</sup>, Joseph P. Anderson<sup>6</sup>, Hanindyo Kuncarayakti<sup>7,8</sup>.

**A direct test of density wave theory in a grand design spiral galaxy**

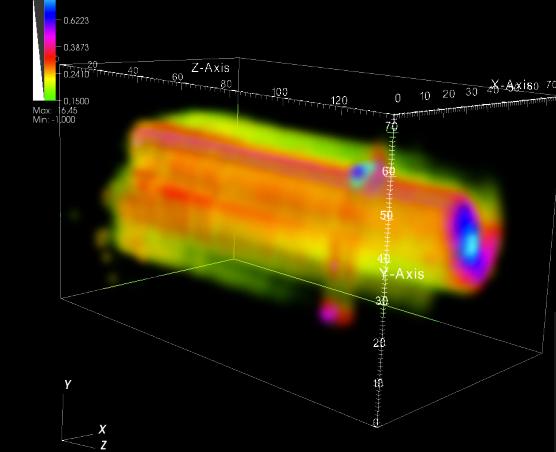
Thomas G. Peterken<sup>1</sup>, Michael R. Merrifield<sup>1</sup>, Alfonso Aragón-Salamanca<sup>1</sup>, Niv Drory<sup>2</sup>, Coleman M. Krawczyk<sup>3</sup>, Karen L. Masters<sup>4,3</sup>, Anne-Marie Weijmans<sup>5</sup>, and Kyle B. Westfall<sup>6</sup>

Contact  
Name: v3\_5\_16 \$, Revision: 1.70 \$, Last modified: Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 9:56:24 AM

Spectral fitting with STARLIGHT

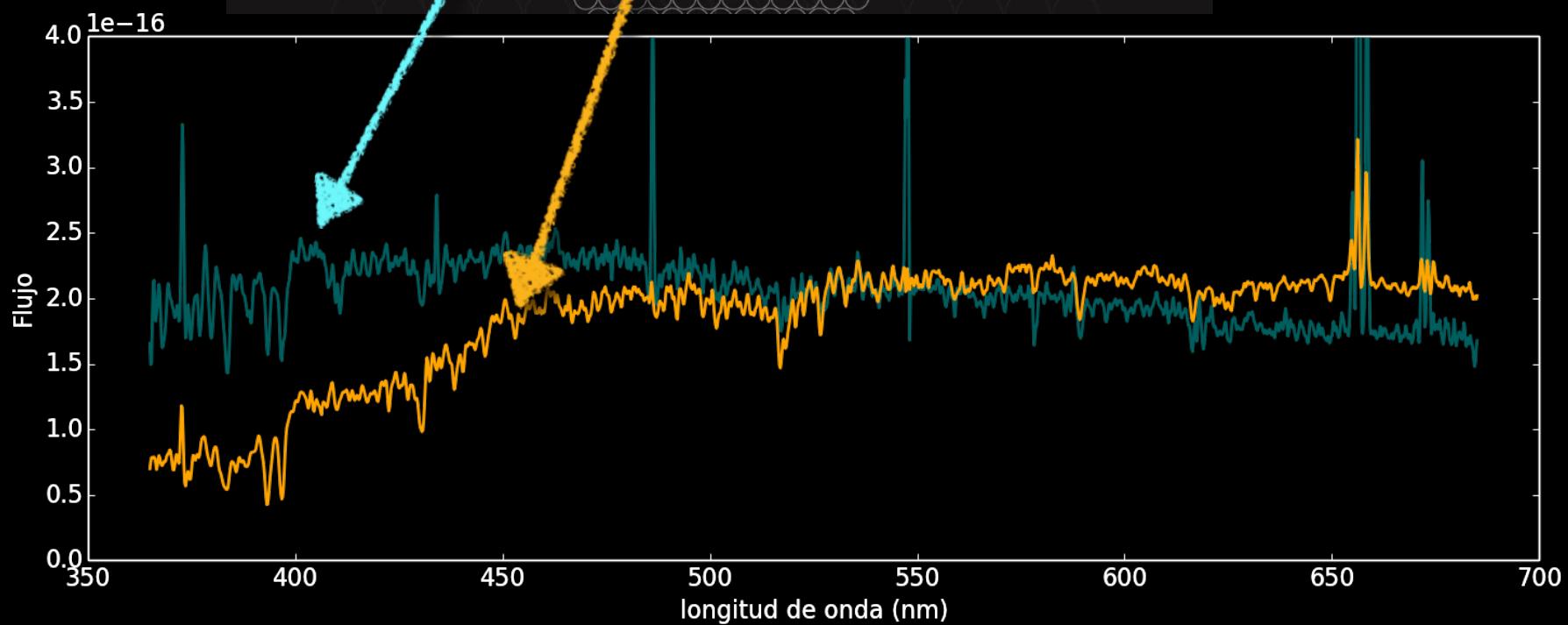
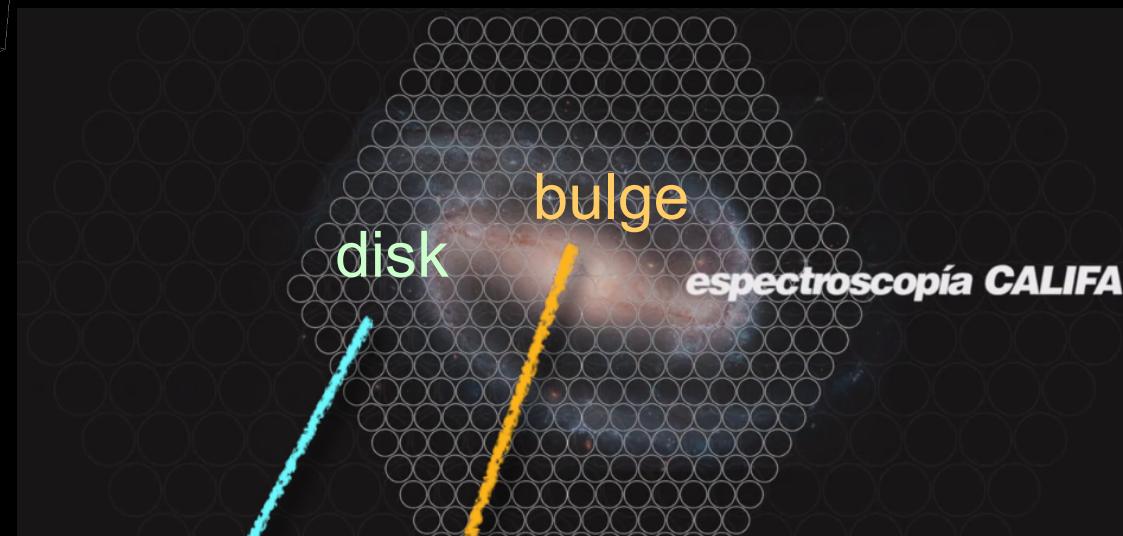
Roberto Cid Fernandes  
Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Florianópolis, Brazil  
April 11, 2007

Abstract  
This document describes the public distribution of the STARLIGHT spectral synthesis code, version 04, available from [www.starlight.ufsc.br](http://www.starlight.ufsc.br).



# Also in 3D: CALIFA

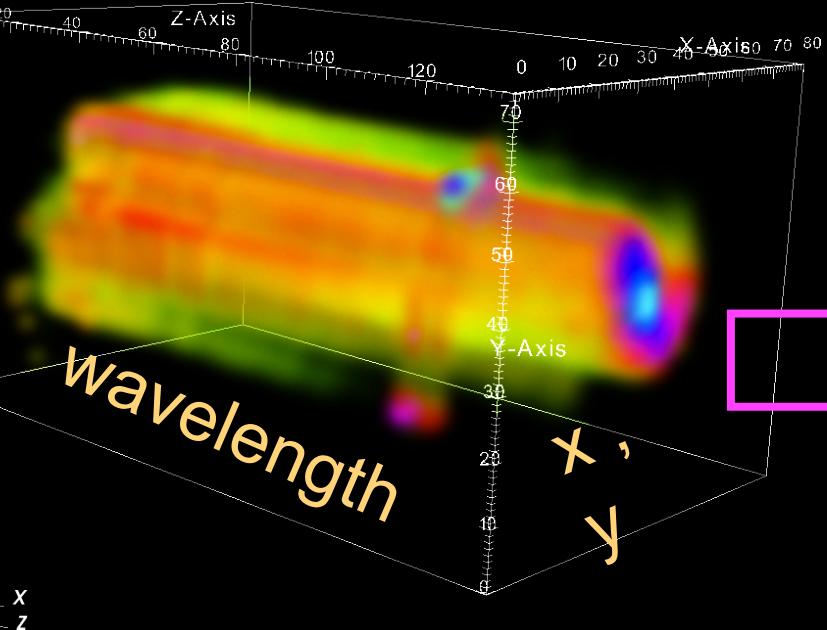
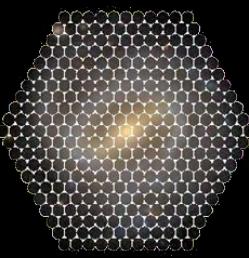
info on disk, bulge, nucleus, bar, ...



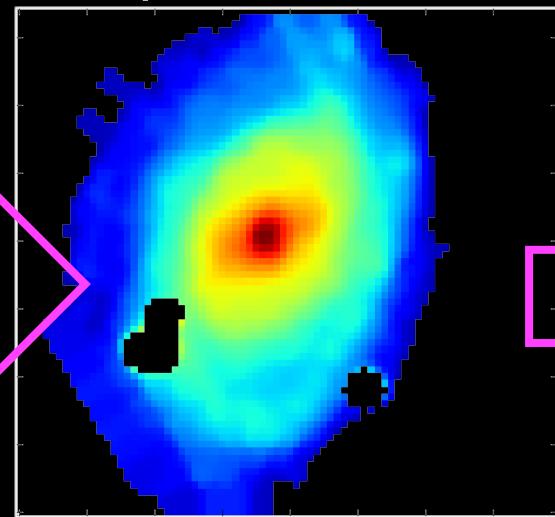


# The PyCASSO pipeline

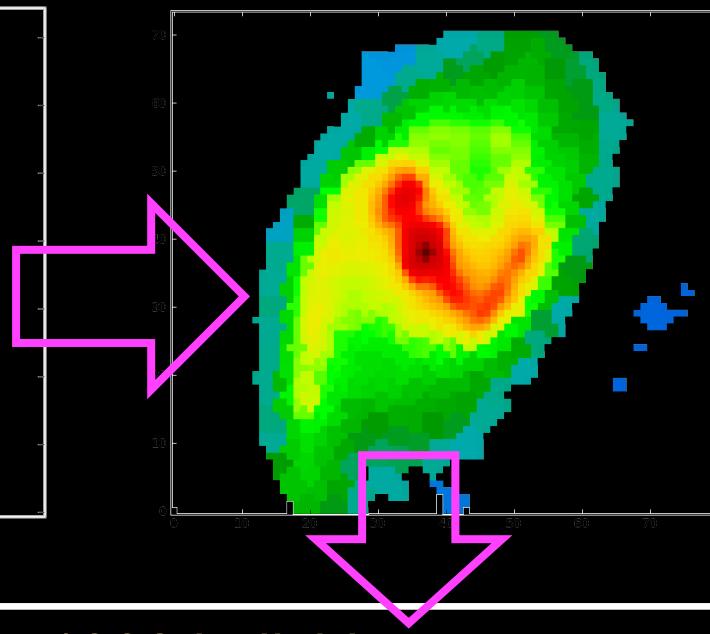
## Python CALifa Starlight Synthesis Organizer



Cleaning: spatial  
& spectral masks



Voronoi binning:  
 $S/N > 20$



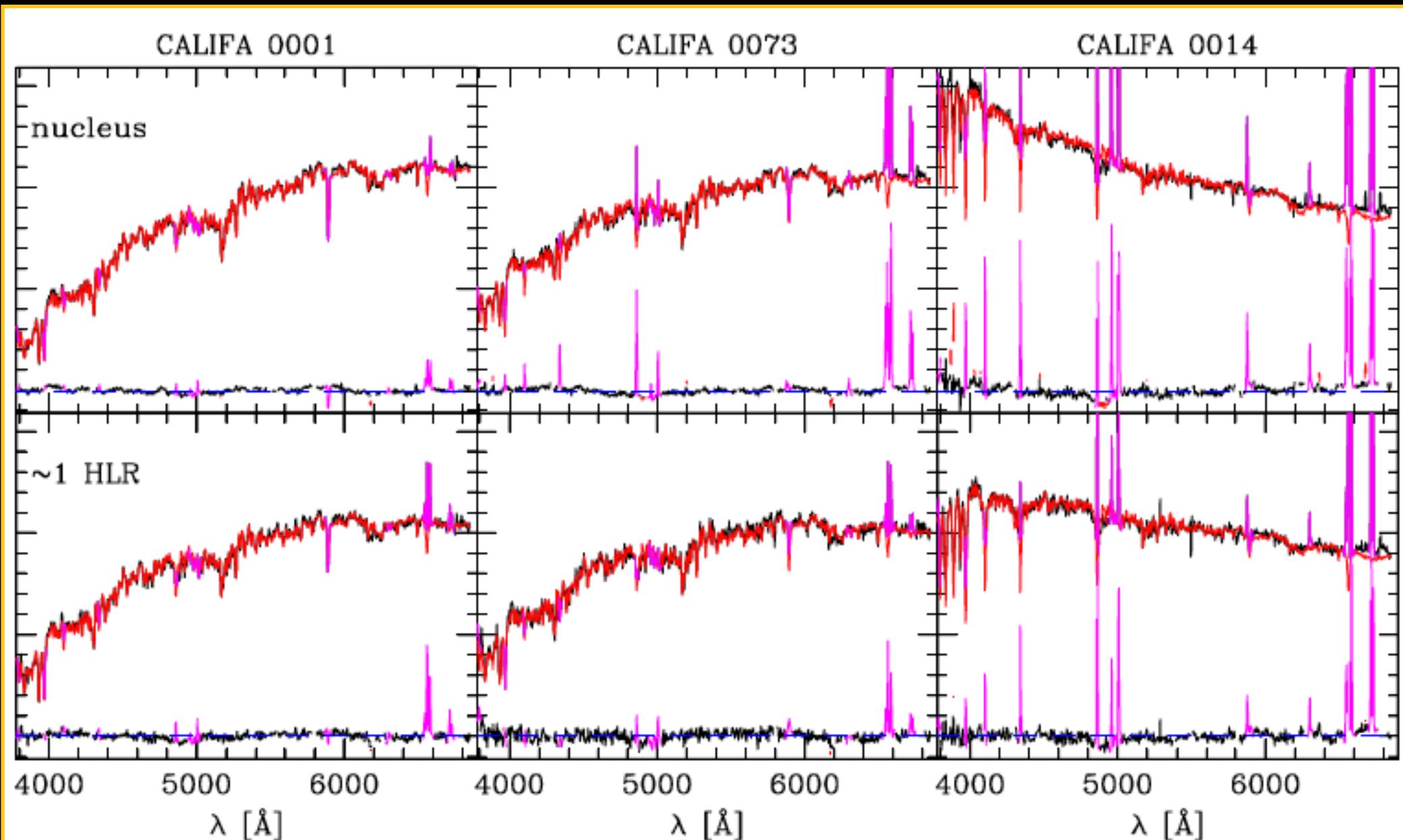
$M_*$ ,  $v_*$ ,  $\sigma_*$ ,  $A_V$ ,  
 $\langle \text{age}_* \rangle$ ,  $\langle Z_* \rangle$ , SFH, ...  
as a function of  $(x,y)$  !!

STARLIGHT

$N \sim 1000$  individual spectra:

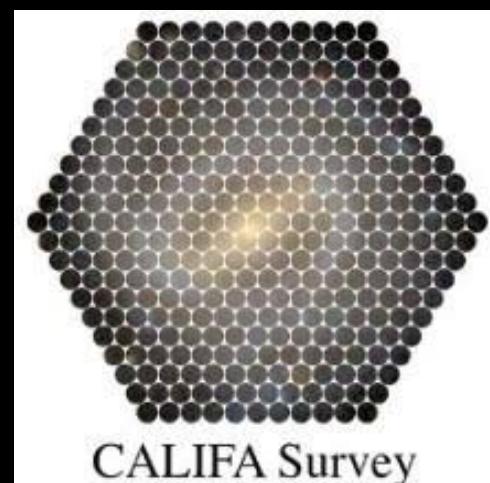
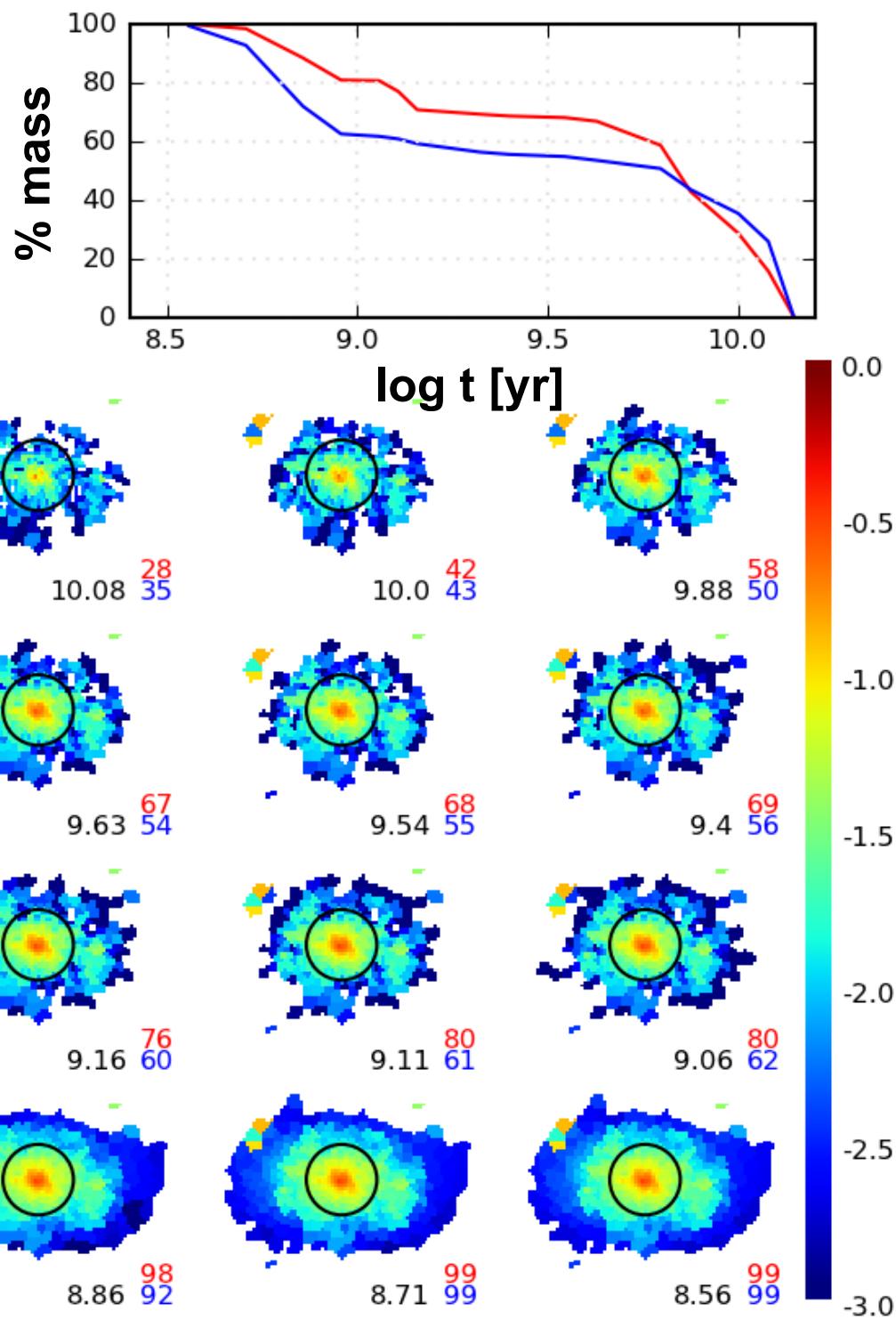
- $F_z(\lambda)$  and its error
- Spectral masks -  $m_z(\lambda)$
- Bad pixel flags -  $b_z(\lambda)$
- Correlated errors
- Galactic extinction
- Rest-framing & resampling

# Example spectral fits: Nucleus and @ R = 1 HLR



IC1256  
K0856

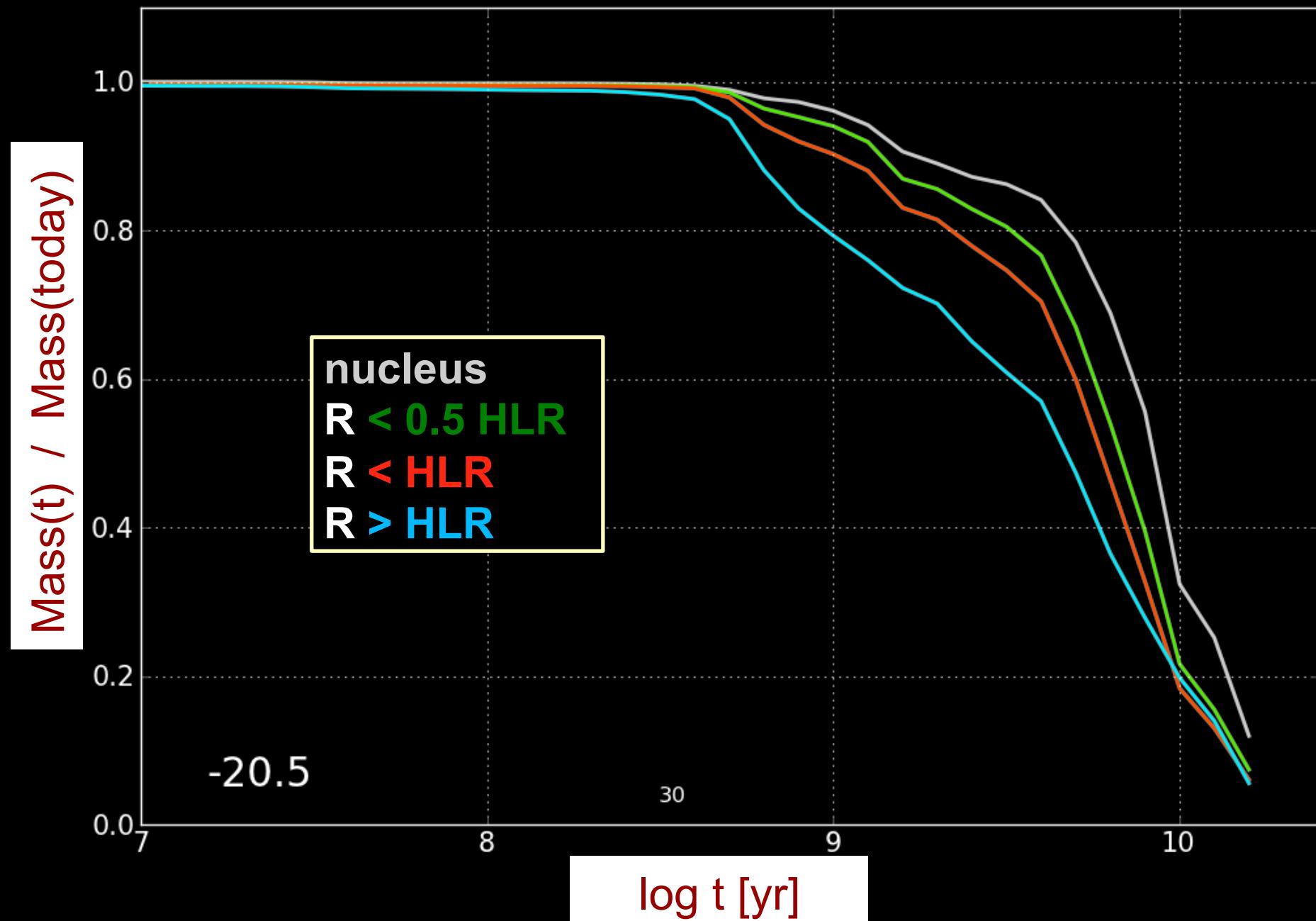
$M[<\text{HLR}] = 10.44$   
 $M[>\text{HLR}] = 10.41$



Spatially  
resolved  
mass  
assembly  
history

...

# Spatially resolved mass assembly history





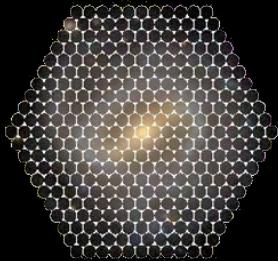
Enrique Pérez



Roberto Cid Fernandes



Rosa González Delgado



Ruben  
García-Benito



André  
Amorim

# → *Galaxies grow inside out*

- *Mass builds up faster for more massive galaxies*



Clara  
Cortijo



Rafael  
López

- *Downsizing = Downsizing( $R$ )*
- *Etc = Etc( $x,y,t$ ) ...*



Bernd Husemann



Sebastián F. Sánchez



Damián Mast





# Caveats / weaknesses

- ⌚ Limited  $\lambda$ -range (optical spectra)
- ⌚ Fits only star's light (no gas / dust emission)
- 😊 SFH very flexible (non-parametric)
- ⌚ ... but single  $\tau$  attenuation model too simplistic!

## New stuff: More constraints

- 😊 Fit photometry: GALEX, 2MASS, ...
- 😊 Fit (recombination) emission lines: H $\alpha$ , H $\beta$ , H $\alpha$ /H $\beta$
- ⌚ Fit dust-reprocessed (FIR) luminosity

$$\chi^2 = \chi_{\text{OPT}}^2 + \chi_{\text{PHO}}^2 + \chi_{\text{REL}}^2 + \cancel{\chi_{\text{FIR}}^2}$$

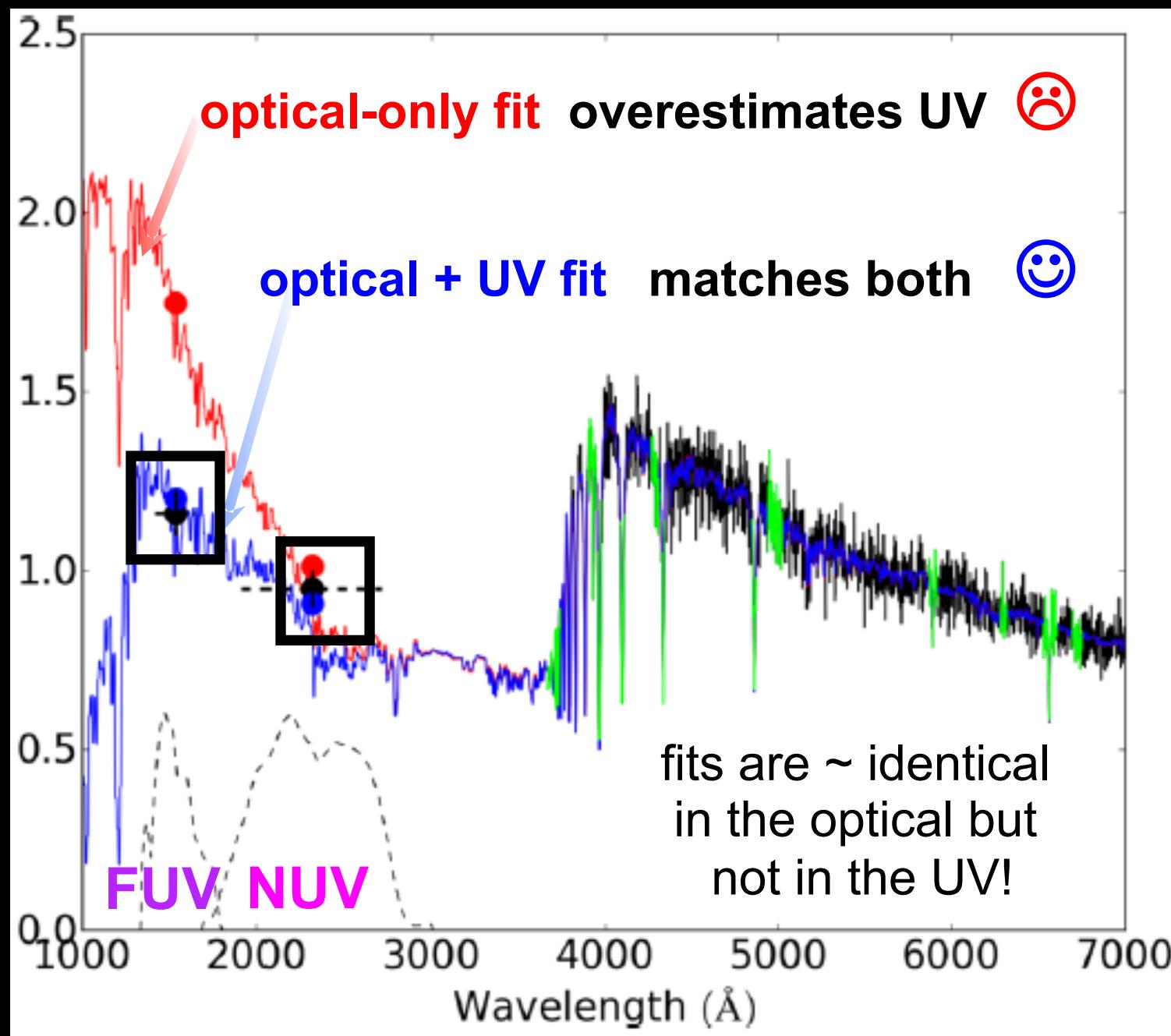
- 😊 New constraints allow more complex/realistic 2  $\tau$ 's model

# Part I

- ❖ Adding photometry to  
STARLIGHT

# Simultaneous spectroscopic and photometric analysis of galaxies with STARLIGHT: CALIFA+GALEX

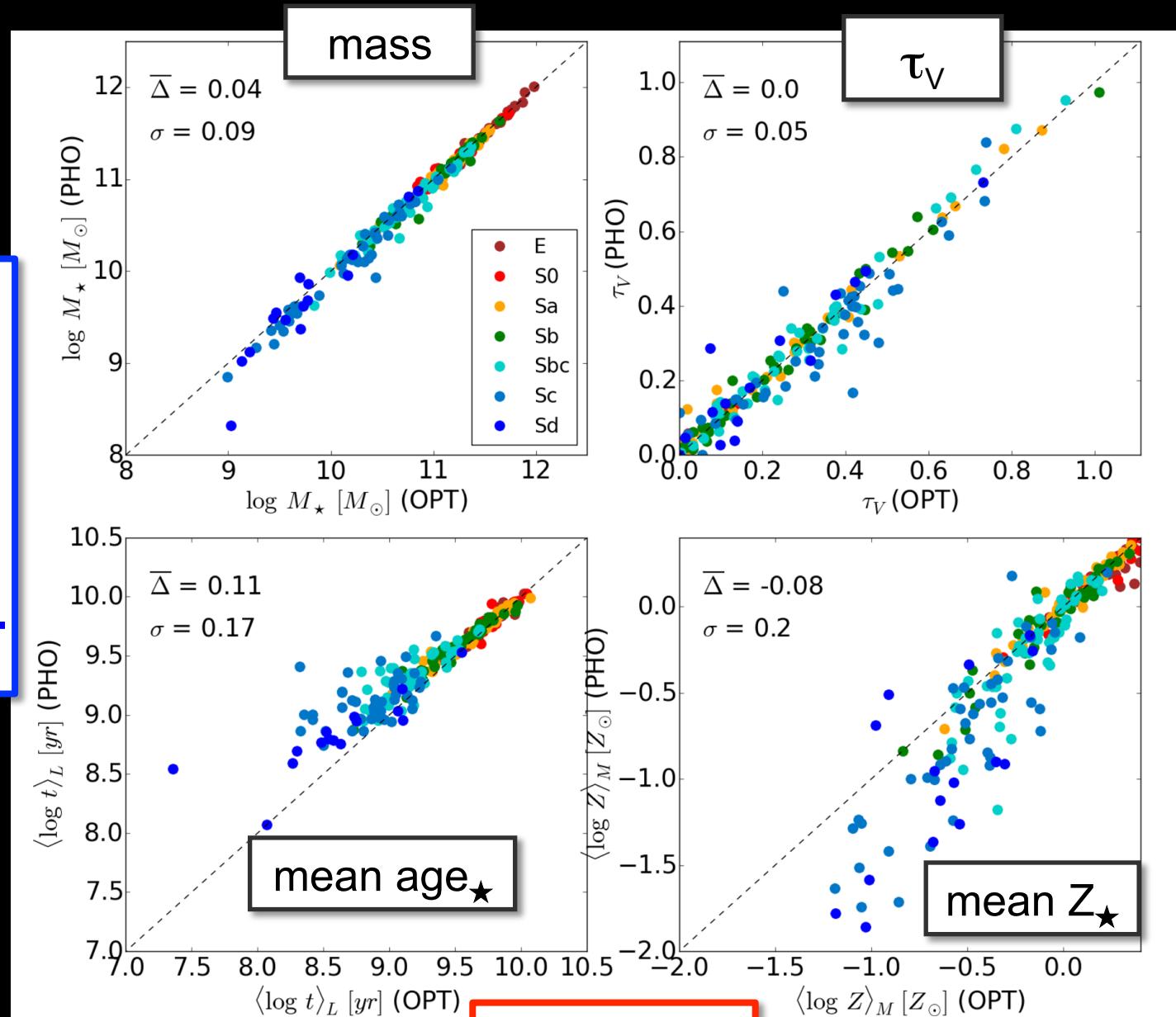
López Fernández et al 16



# Simultaneous spectroscopic and photometric analysis of galaxies with STARLIGHT: CALIFA+GALEX

López Fernández et al 16

Optical + UV fit



Optical fit

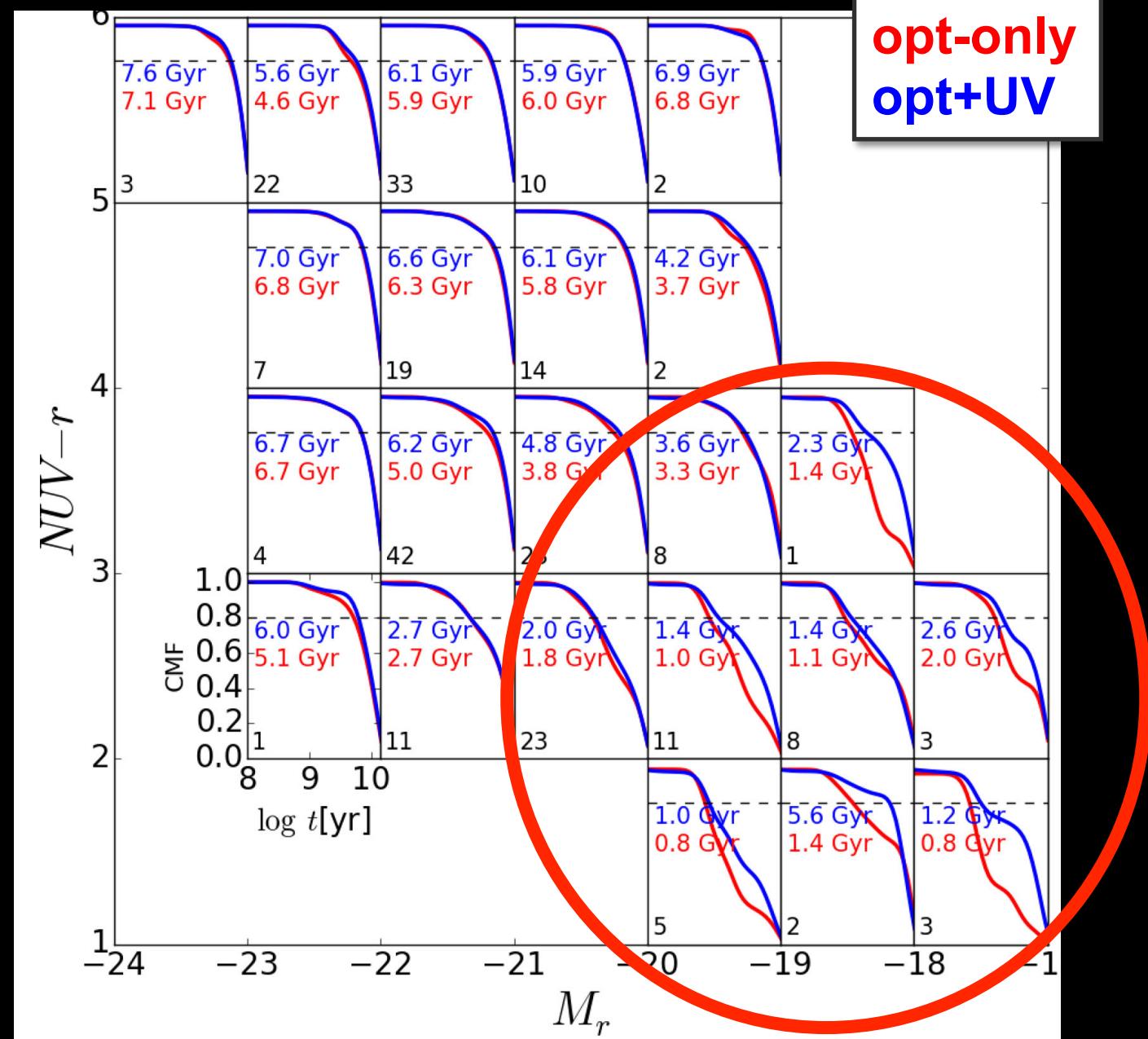
# Simultaneous spectroscopic and photometric analysis of galaxies with STARLIGHT: CALIFA+GALEX

López Fernández et al 16



Rafael  
López Fernández

- SFH changes are only significant for low mass, late type galaxies, which become a bit older with UV-data.

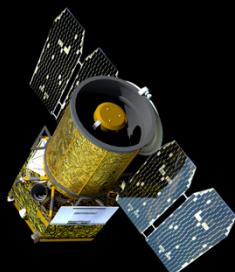




# Simultaneous analysis of SDSS spectra and GALEX photometry with STARLIGHT: Method and early results

A. Werle,<sup>1\*</sup> R. Cid Fernandes,<sup>1</sup> N. Vale Asari,<sup>1,2,3</sup> G. Bruzual,<sup>4</sup> S. Charlot<sup>5</sup>,  
R. Gonzalez Delgado<sup>6</sup> and F. R. Herpich<sup>1,7</sup>

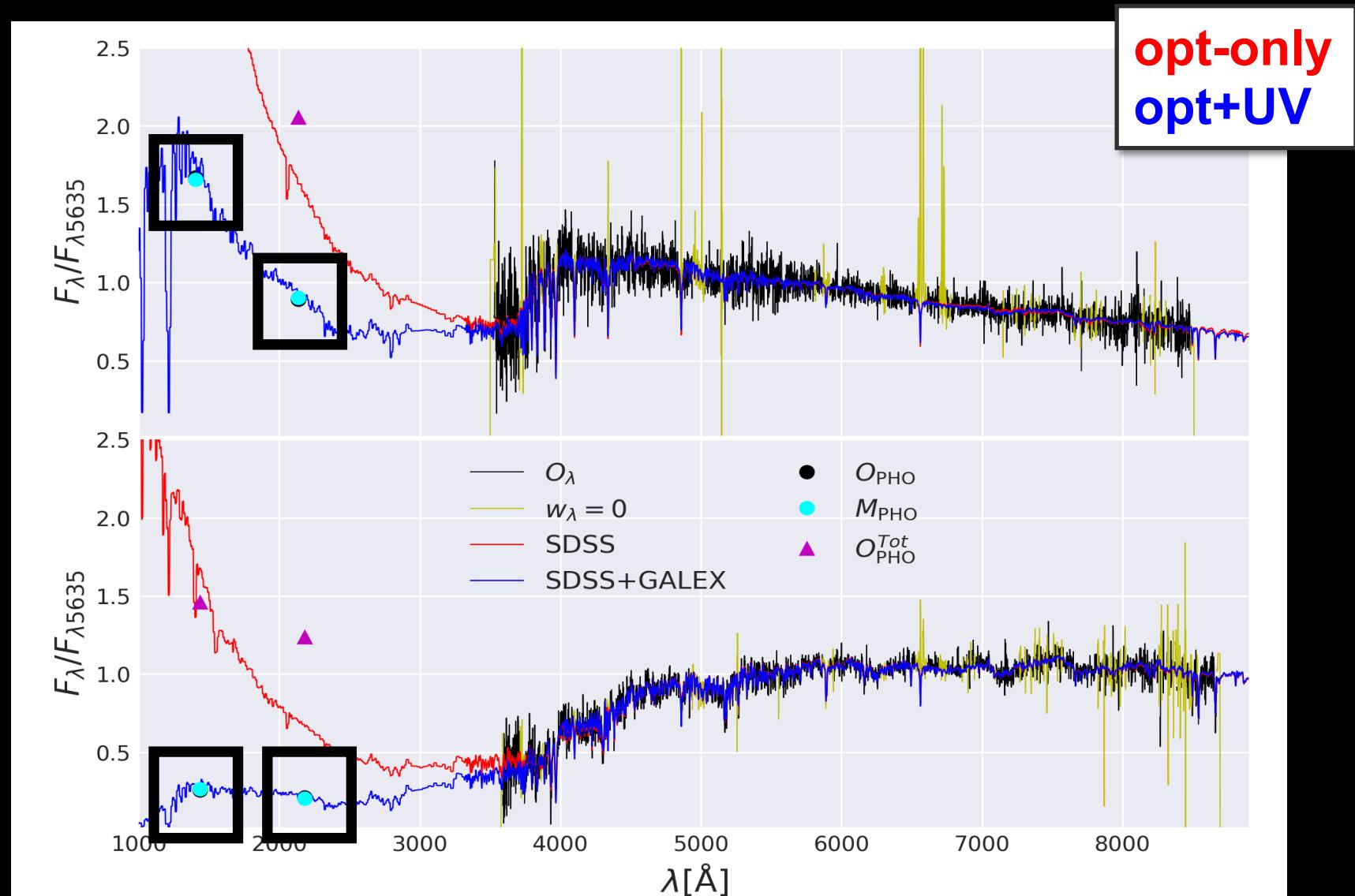
Ariel Werle



GALEX



SDSS



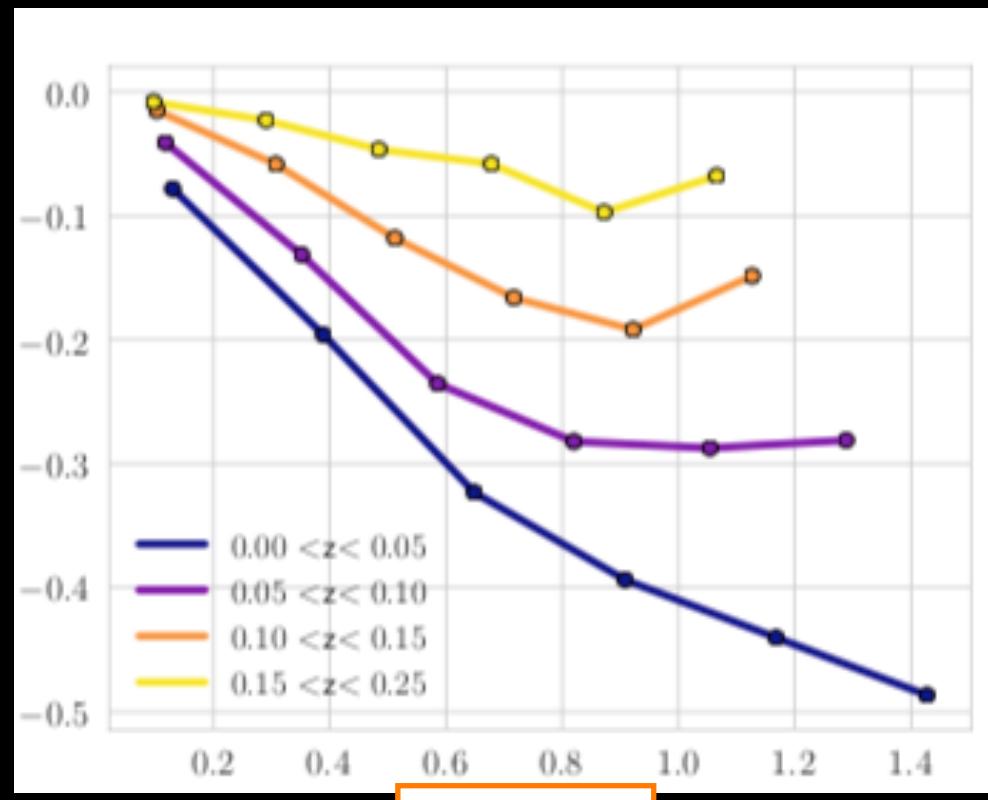
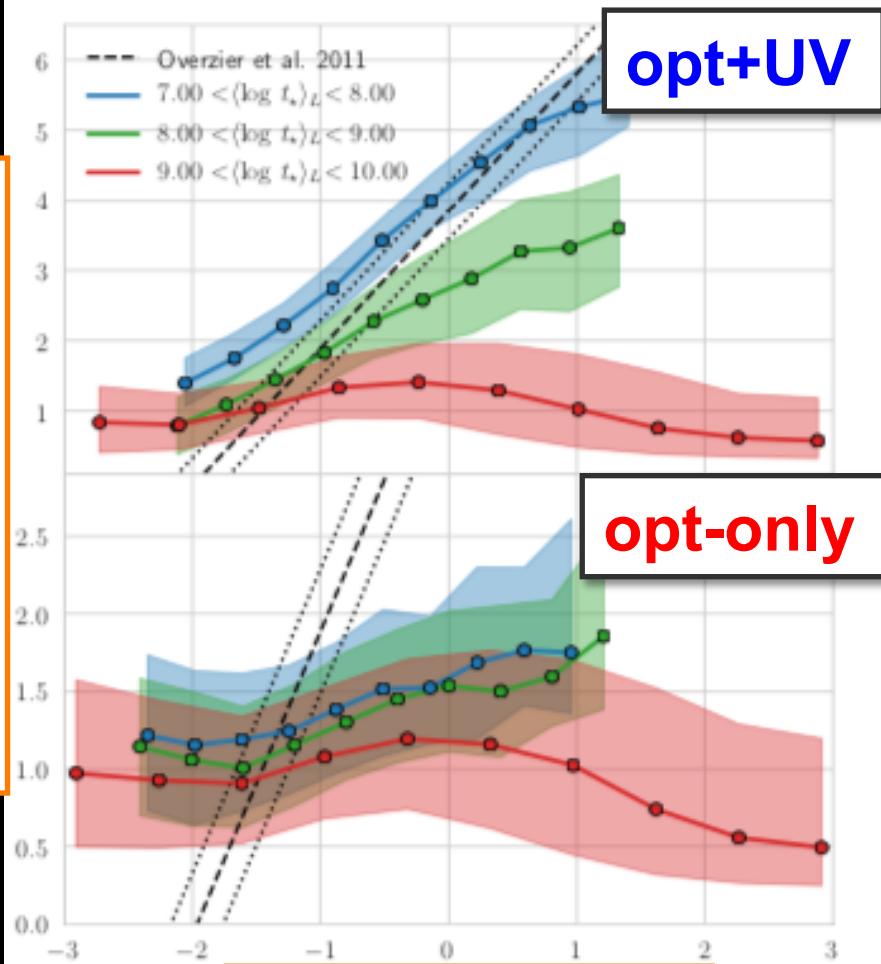


# Simultaneous analysis of SDSS spectra and GALEX photometry with STARLIGHT: Method and early results

A. Werle,<sup>1\*</sup> R. Cid Fernandes,<sup>1</sup> N. Vale Asari,<sup>1,2,3</sup> G. Bruzual,<sup>4</sup> S. Charlot<sup>5</sup>,  
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+ Hints on nature of  
the extinction law

FUV extinction  $A_{\text{FUV}}$



# Part II

- ❖ Adding (recombination) emission lines to STARLIGHT fits
- ❖ A more realistic / less ridiculous treatment of dust: **fits with 2  $\tau$ 's**

# Fitting H $\alpha$ & H $\beta$ w/STARLIGHT

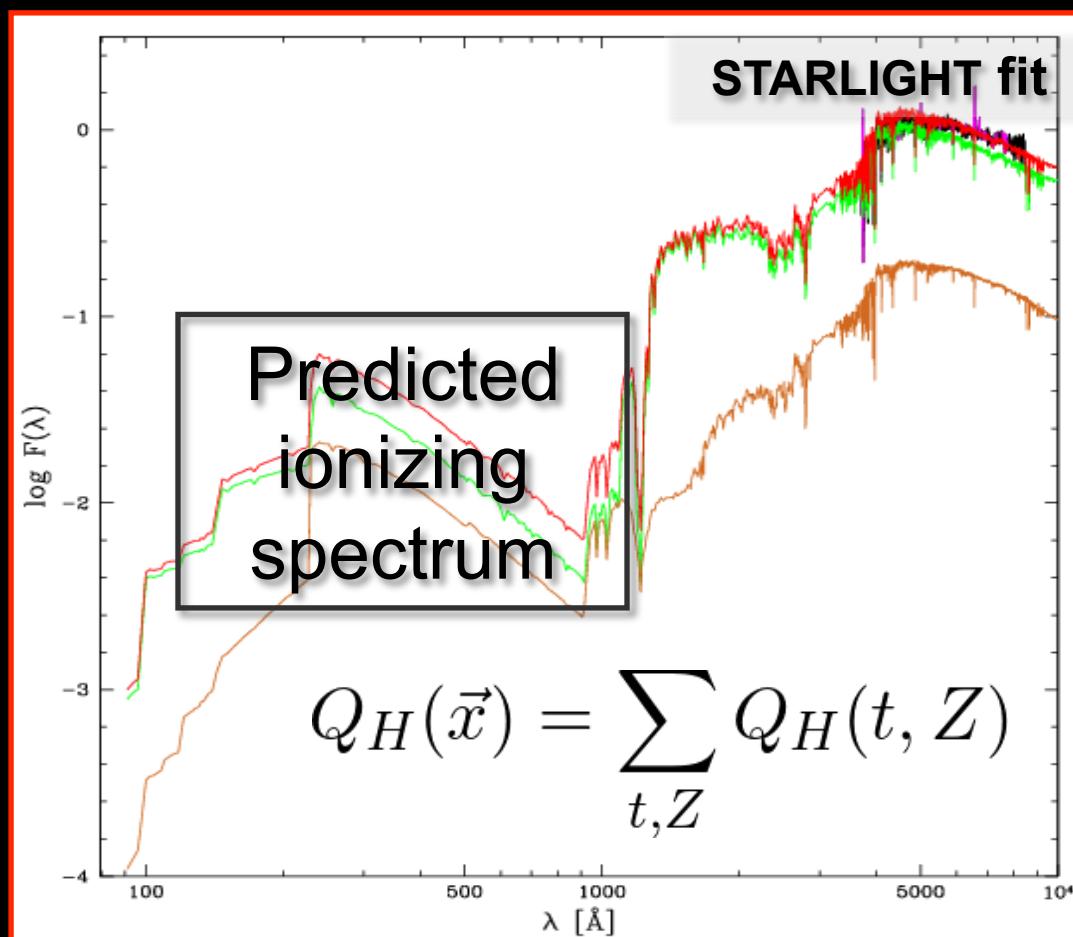
- $L(H\alpha) \sim k_{H\alpha} \times Q_H \times e^{-q(H\alpha)} \times \tau$
- $L(H\beta) \sim k_{H\beta} \times Q_H \times e^{-q(H\beta)} \times \tau$

- 😊 Fitting line luminosities constrains **ionizing stellar populations** and  $\tau$ , ...
- 😦 ... but relies on SSP models @  $\lambda < 912\text{ \AA}$

- 😊 Fitting line ratios is more sensible / robust.

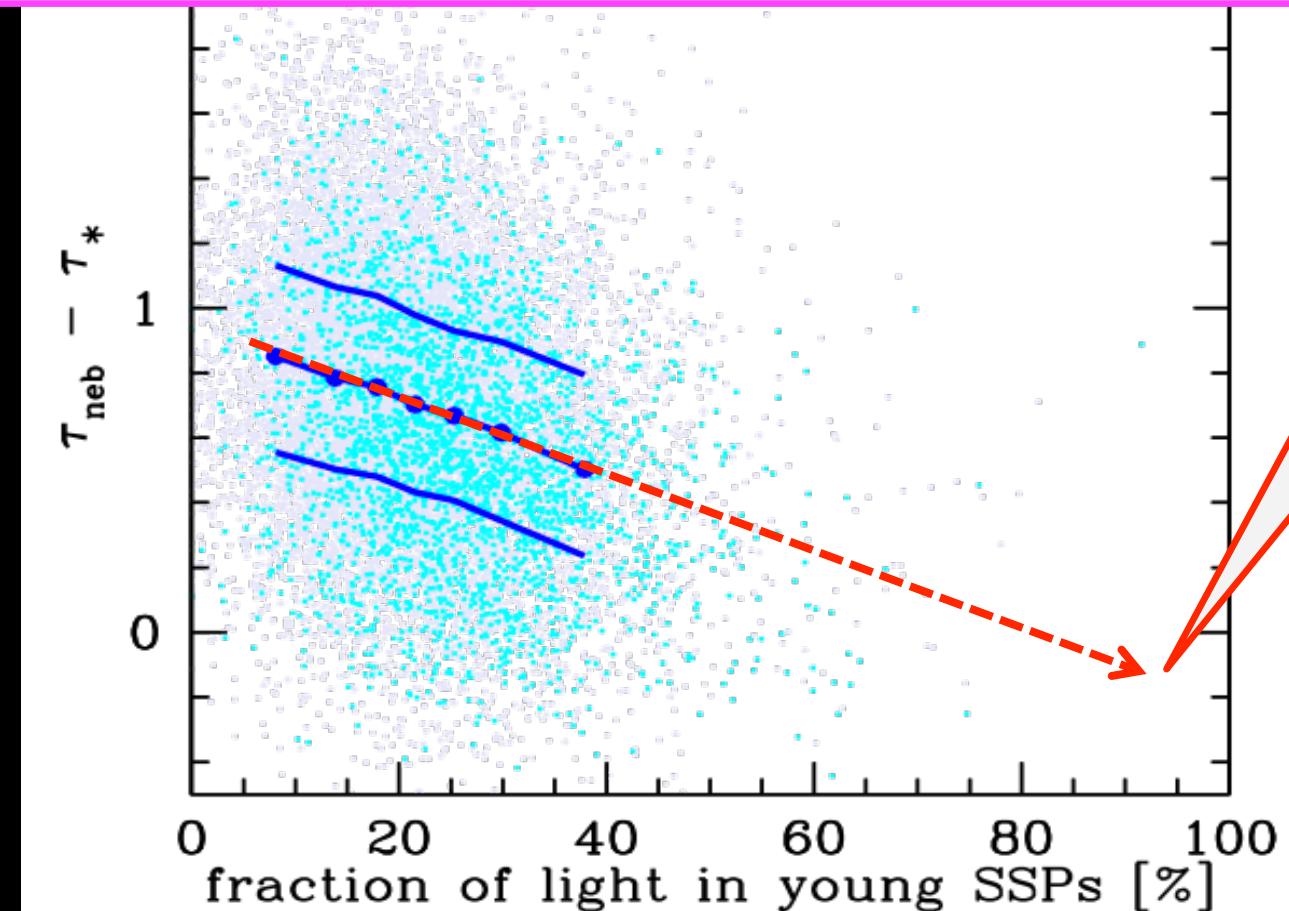
$$H\alpha/H\beta = k_{H\alpha}/k_{H\beta} e^{-[q(H\alpha) - q(H\beta)]} \times \tau$$

$$\chi^2 = \chi_{\text{OPT}}^2 + \chi_{\text{REL}}^2$$

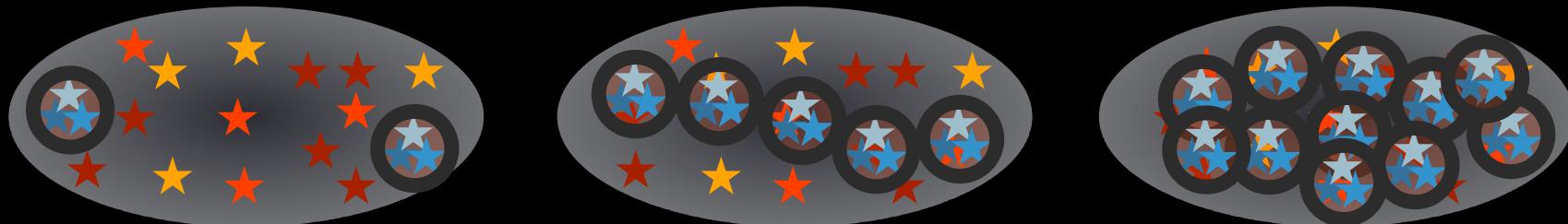


# Dust x stellar populations in single $\tau$ fits

$$\tau_* \approx \tilde{\tau} \equiv x_Y \tau_Y + (1 - x_Y) \tau_O$$



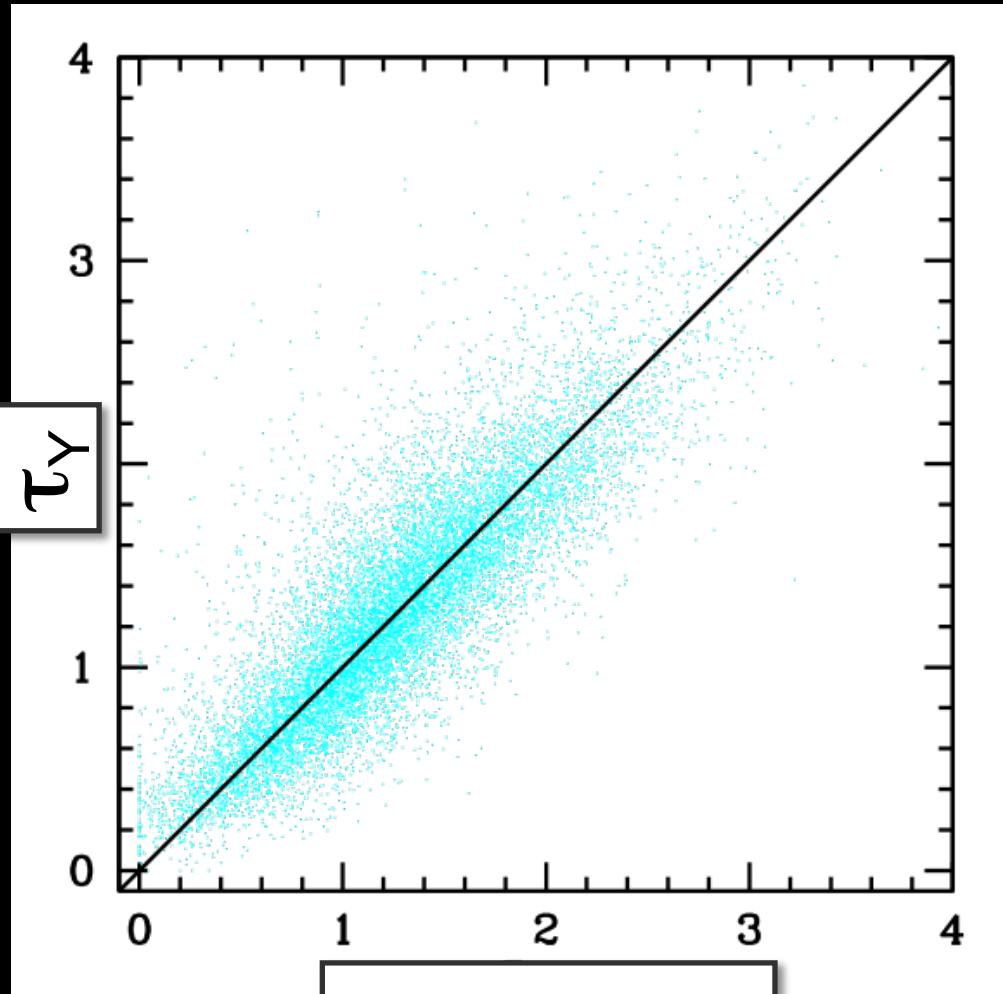
No differential extinction when looking at SF regions



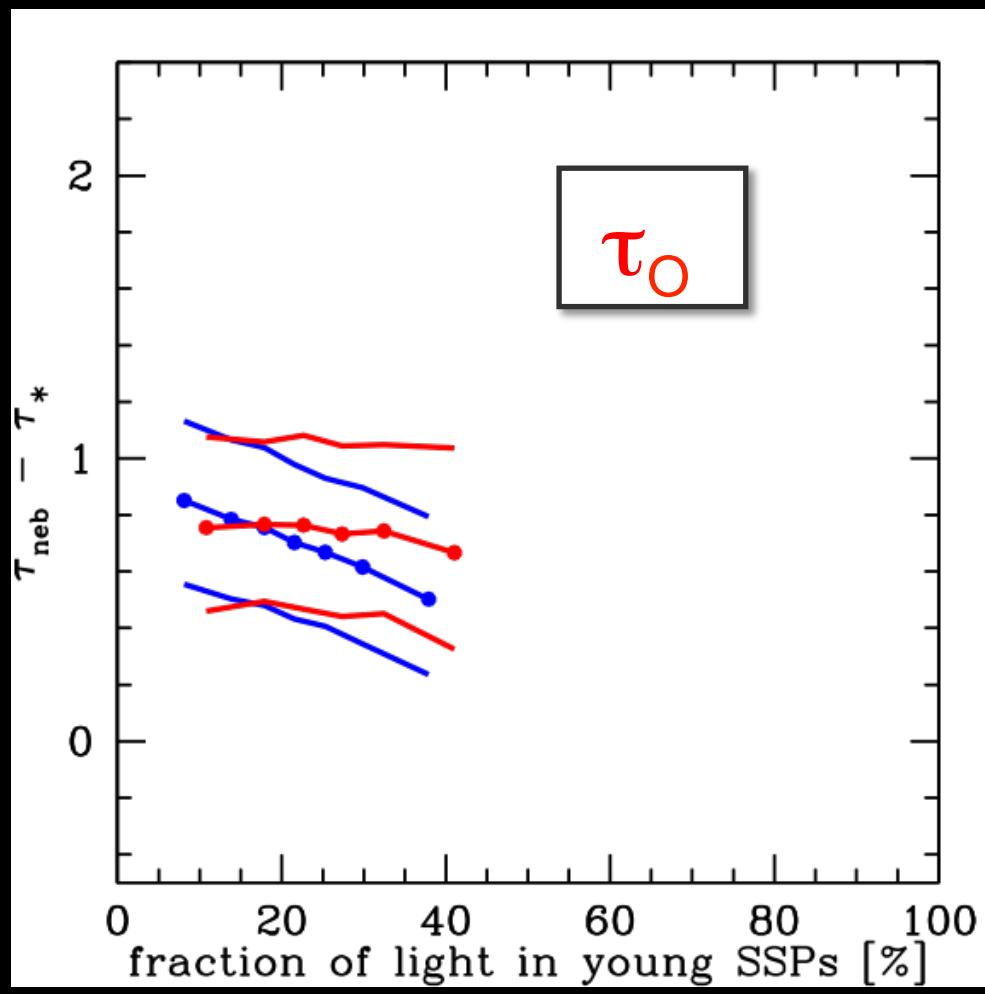
# Tests w/14000 SF galaxies



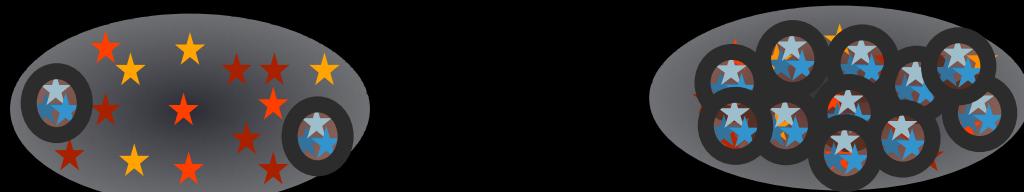
- STARLIGHT fits to optical spectra **AND** H $\alpha$ /H $\beta$



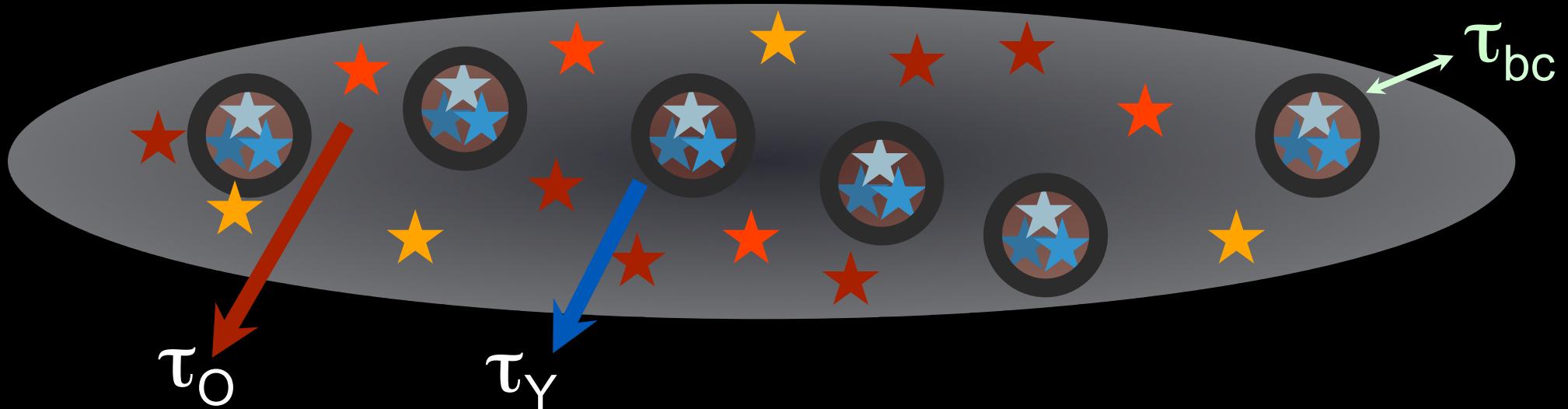
$\tau_{\text{neb}}(\text{H}\alpha/\text{H}\beta)$



$\tau_*$



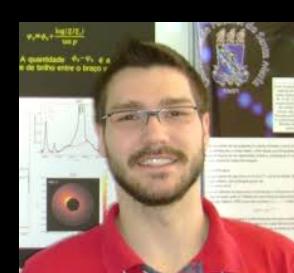
# Towards a more realistic model: 2 $\tau$ 's



$$\tau(t, Z) \sim \tau(t) = \begin{cases} \tau_Y = \tau_O + \tau_{bc} & t \lesssim 10^7 \text{ yr} \\ \tau_O & t \gtrsim 10^7 \text{ yr} \end{cases}$$

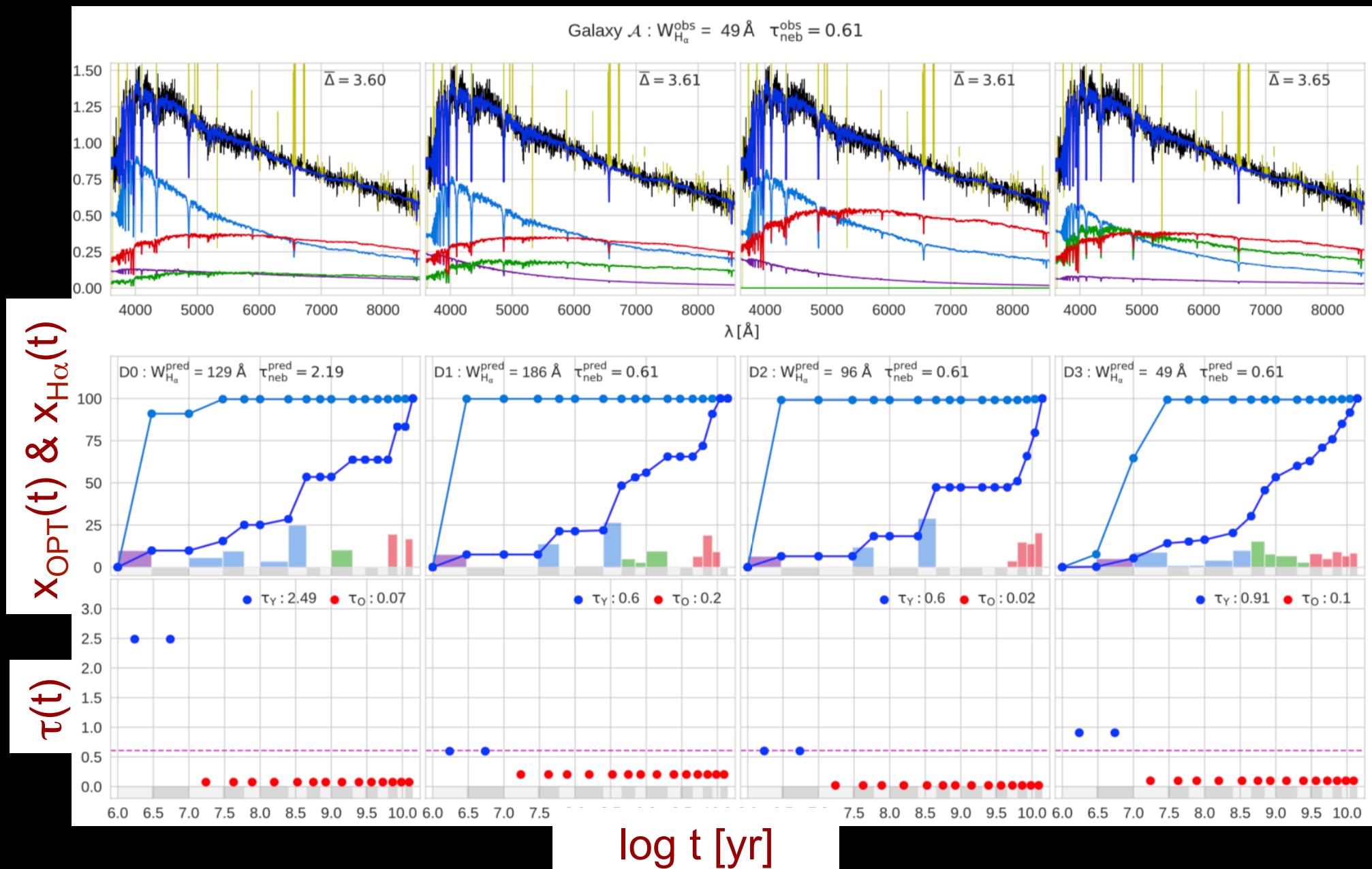
$$\tau_Y \approx \tau_{\text{neb}} = \tau(\text{H}\alpha/\text{H}\beta)$$

- Observed H $\alpha$ /H $\beta$  constrains  $\tau_Y$
- Continuum constrains  $\tau_O$  &  $\tau_Y$



# Experiments in full spectral fitting with differential dust attenuation

J. Schimoia<sup>1</sup>\*, R. Cid Fernandes<sup>1</sup>, F. R. Herpich<sup>2,1</sup>, N. Vale Asari<sup>1</sup>, A. Werle<sup>2,1</sup>

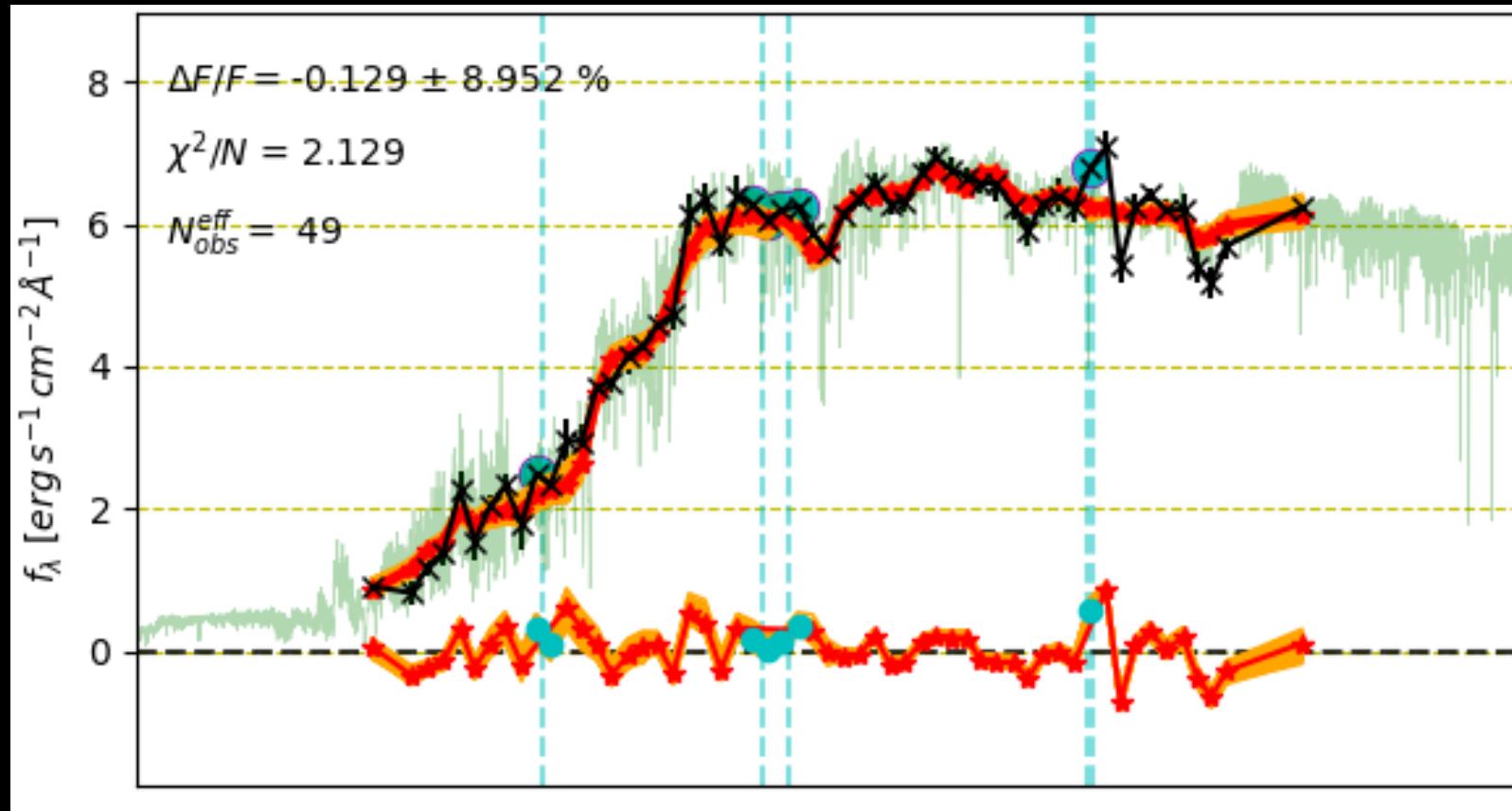




# Part III

- ❖ AlStar = an algebraic starlight
- ❖ Fits spec + phot + em lines

# Non-parametric star-formation histories for JPAS galaxies: 1<sup>st</sup> results



◆ Roberto Cid Fernandes  
◆ André de Amorim  
◆ Ariel Werle  
◆ Rosa González Delgado

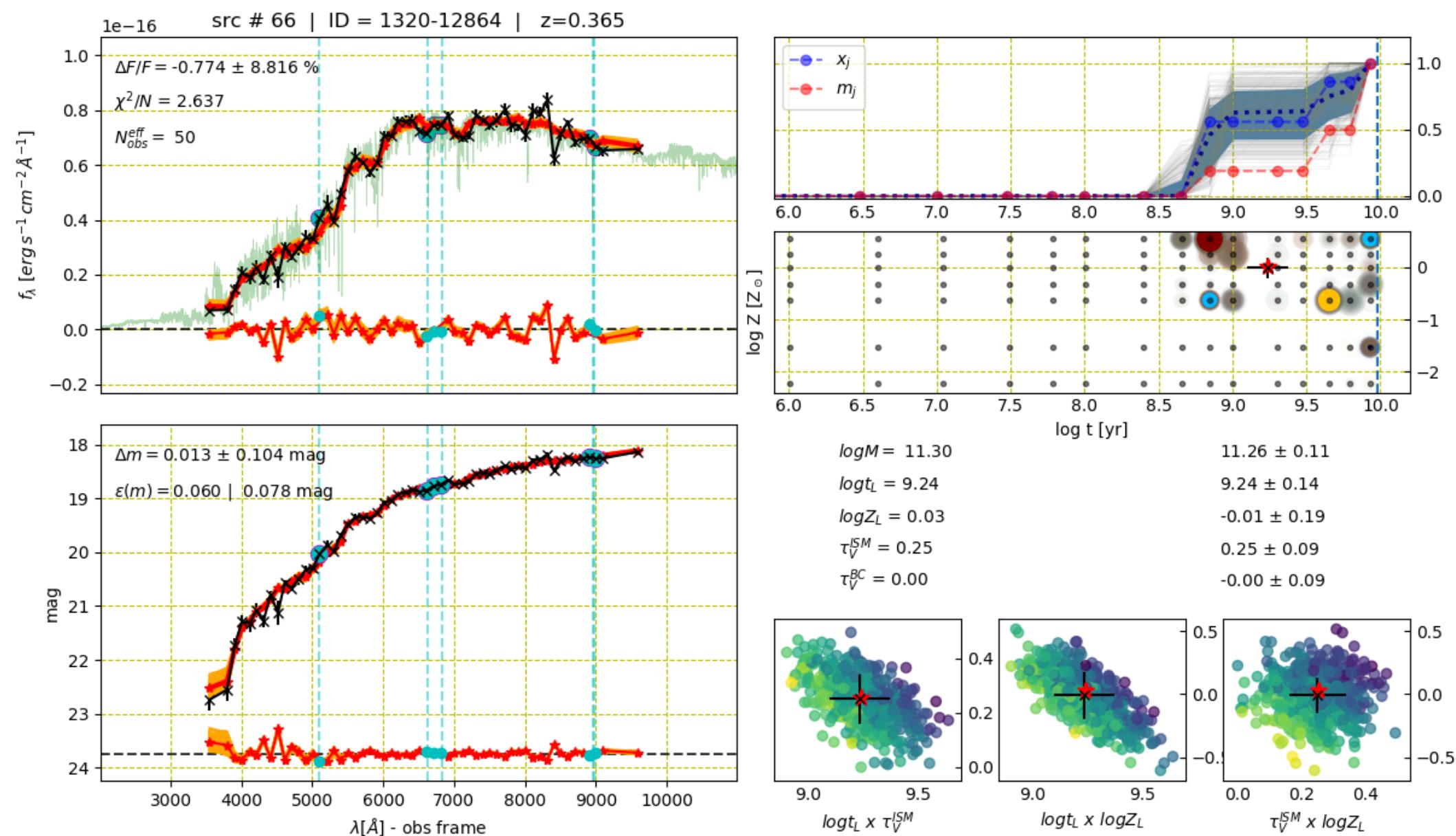
○ Daniel Ruschel Dutra  
○ Natalia Vale Asari  
○ William Schoennel



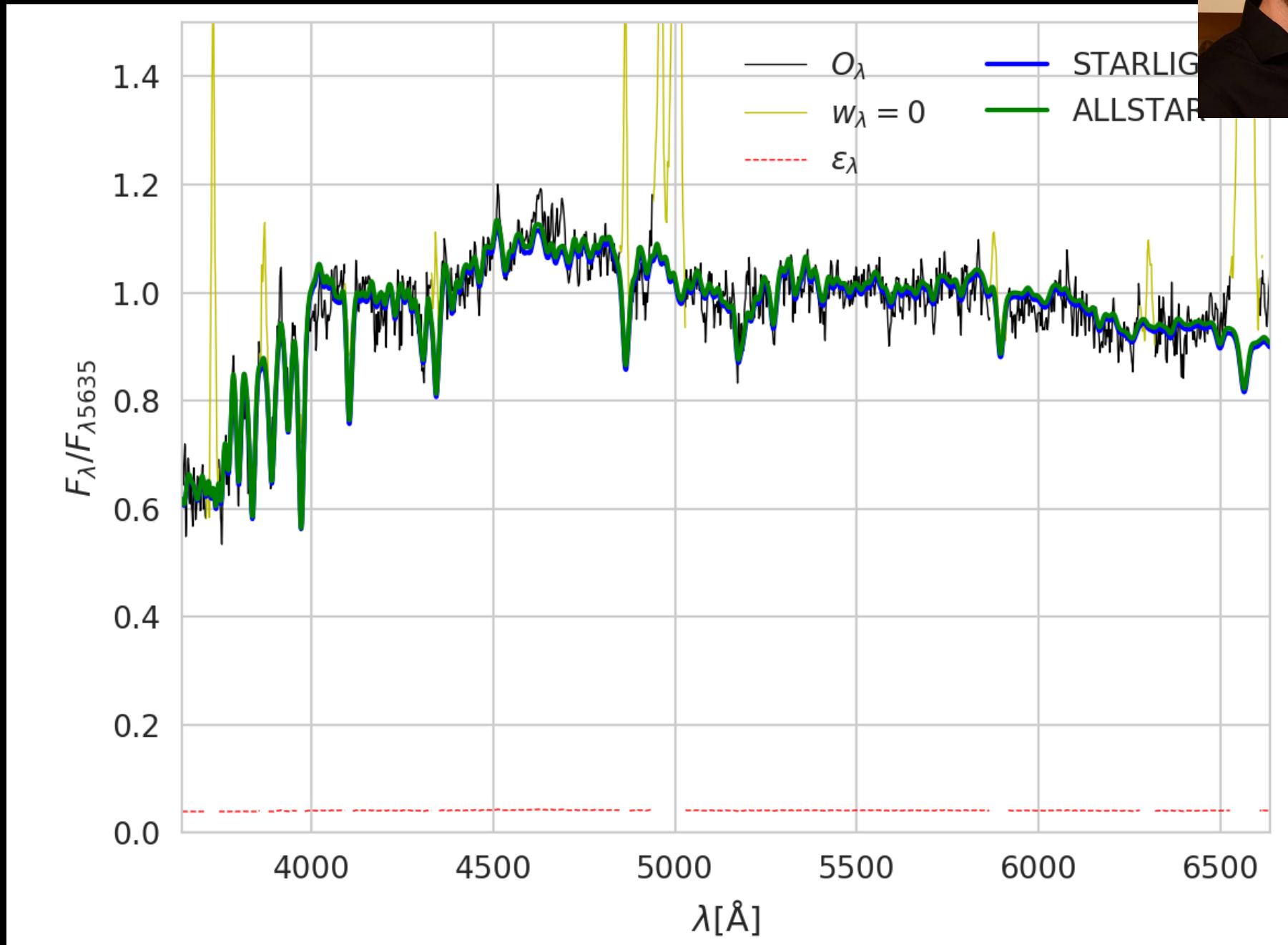
# AIStar for J-data: 1st tests

7/10

( $z = 0.36$ )



AIStar x STARLIGHT ... same results 😊



AIStar x STARLIGHT ... same results 😊

