

THE ROLE OF THE LMC IN THE  
EXTRAGALACTIC DISTANCE SCALE:  
CEPHEIDS AND MIRAS

LUCAS MACRI

GEORGE P. & CYNTHIA WOODS MITCHELL INSTITUTE  
FOR FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

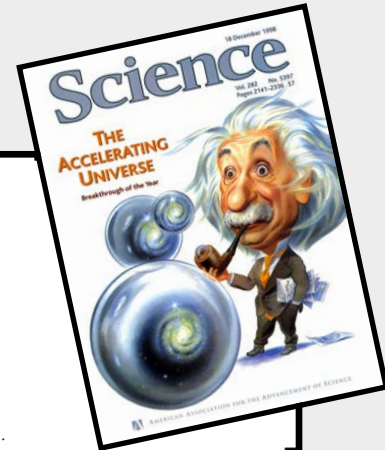
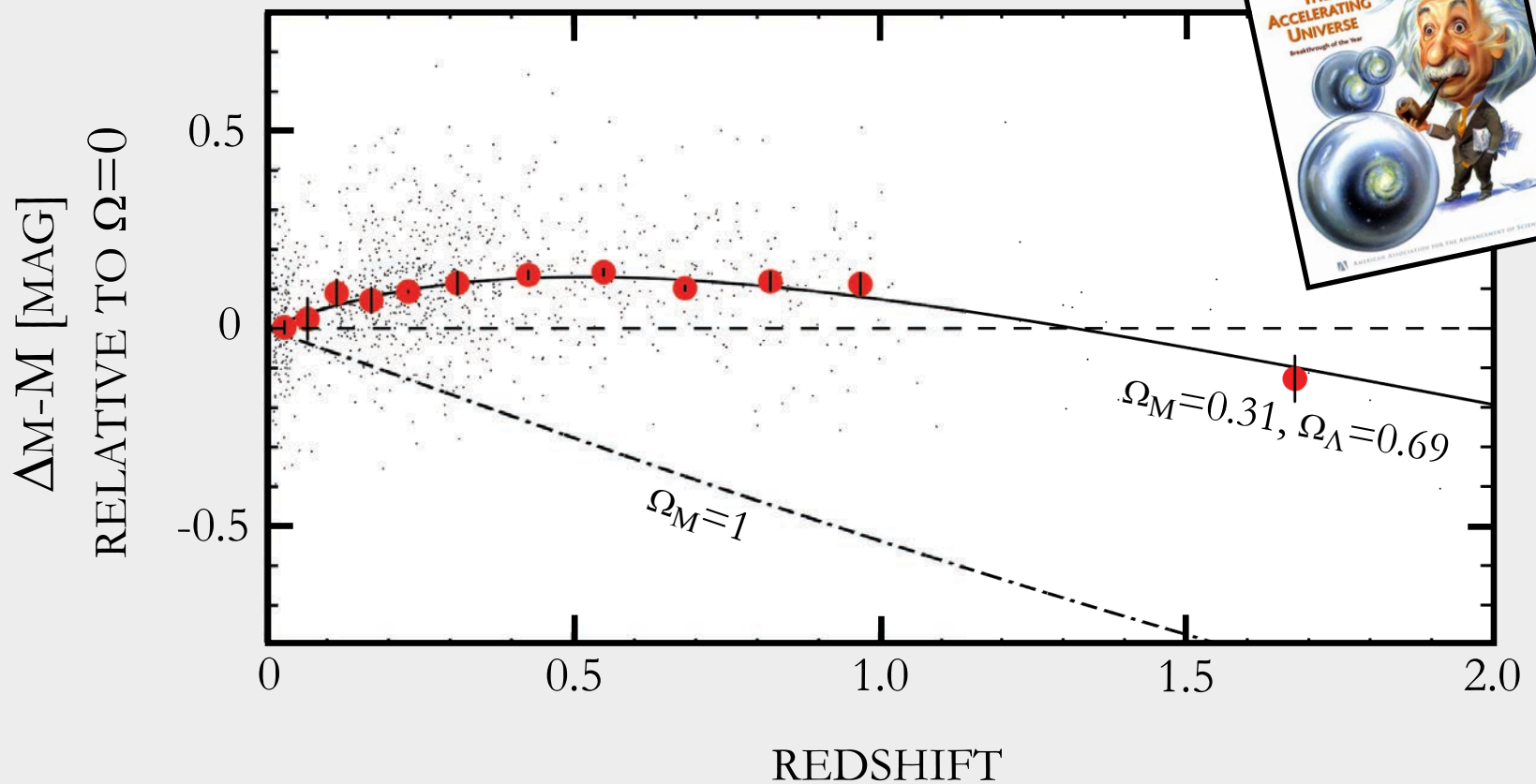
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

# OUTLINE

- Introduction & motivation
  - Results on Cepheids
  - Results on Miras
  - Recent developments and future work

# SNE IA: UNIVERSE DOMINATED BY DARK ENERGY & DARK MATTER



# WHAT IS DARK ENERGY?

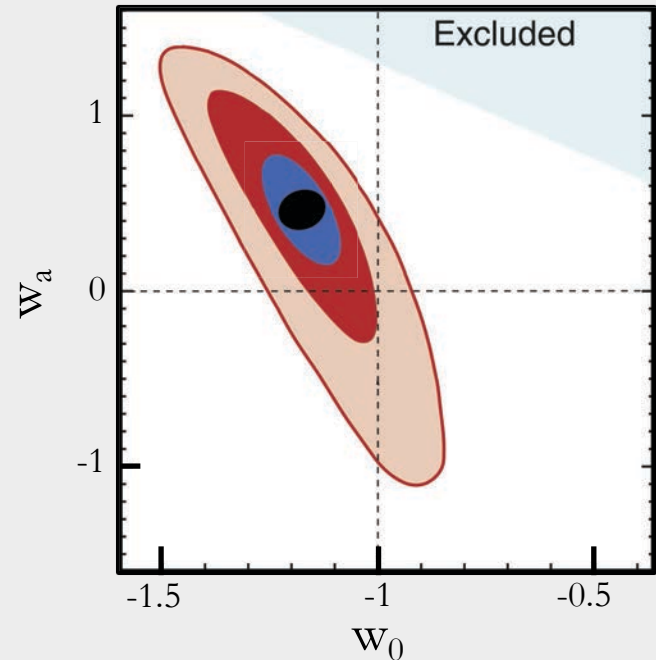
- Equation of state of dark energy & “figure of merit”:

$$w = P/\rho c^2$$

$$w(a) = w_0 + w_a(1-a)$$

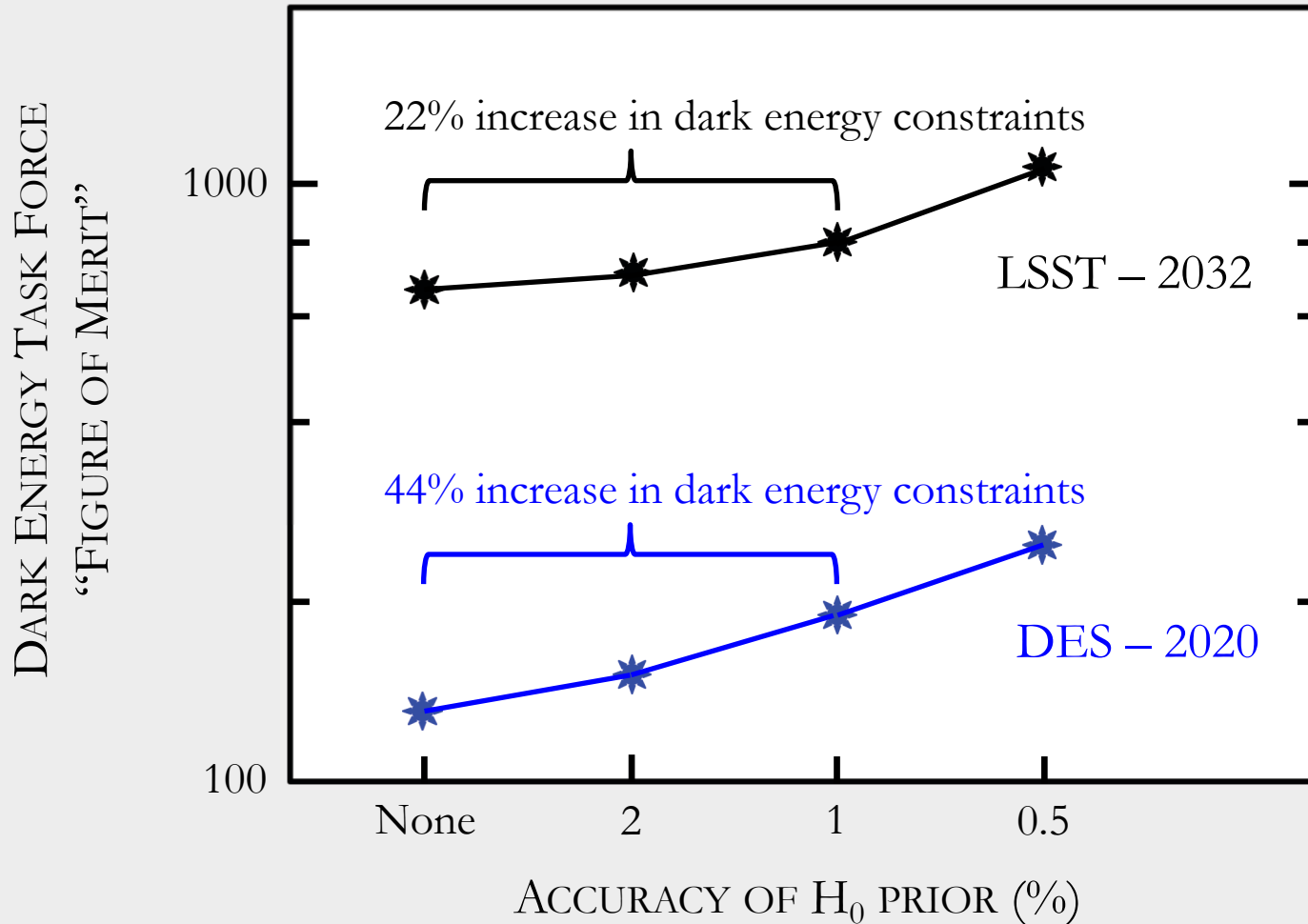
$$\text{FoM} = [\sigma(w_0) \times \sigma(w_a)]^{-1}$$

Coupled with additional  
priors (such as  $H_0$ )



- **Hinshaw+'13:**  $w_0 \pm 0.09; w_a \pm 0.5$
- **DES ('20):**  $w_0 \pm 0.08; w_a \pm 0.3$
- **LSST ('32):**  $w_0 \pm 0.05; w_a \pm 0.1$

# INITIAL MOTIVATION FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN $H_0$



# THE “CLASSICAL” DISTANCE SCALE

- First “rung”: independent geometrical methods
  - Milky Way:  $\pi$ 's from *Hubble*; eventually *Gaia* (systematics...)
  - LMC: eclipsing binaries (previous talk)
  - N4258: Masers orbiting central supermassive black hole
- Second “rung”: different stellar populations
  - Cepheids (Leavitt Law)
  - Miras
  - Tip of the Red Giant Branch
  - RR Lyrae, Red Clump, Blue supergiants, ...
- Hubble flow
  - SNe Ia; others? (SBF, Tully-Fisher, FP...)

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# 100+ YEARS OF THE LEAVITT LAW

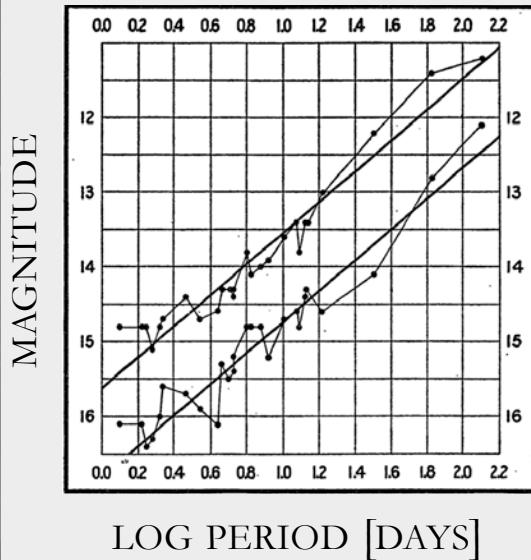


PERIODS OF 25 VARIABLE STARS IN THE SMALL MAGELLANIC CLOUD.

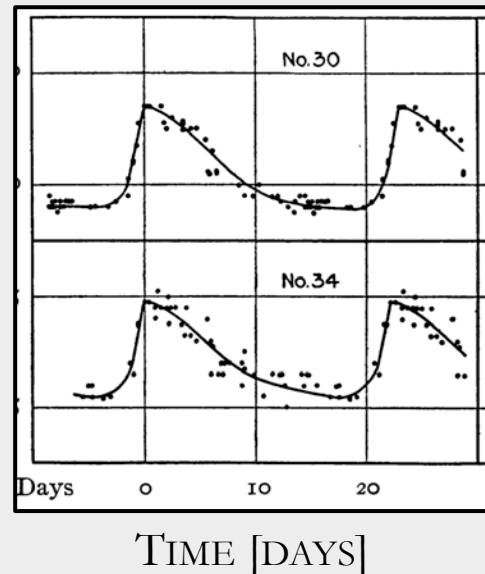
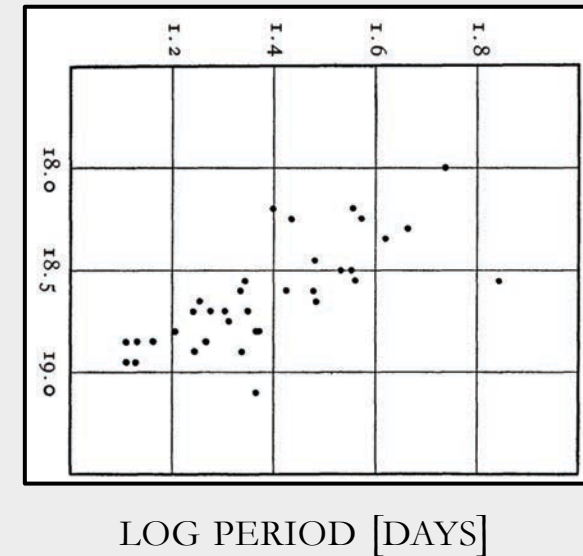


A SPIRAL NEBULA AS A STELLAR SYSTEM  
MESSIER 33

Leavitt (1912)



Hubble (1926)

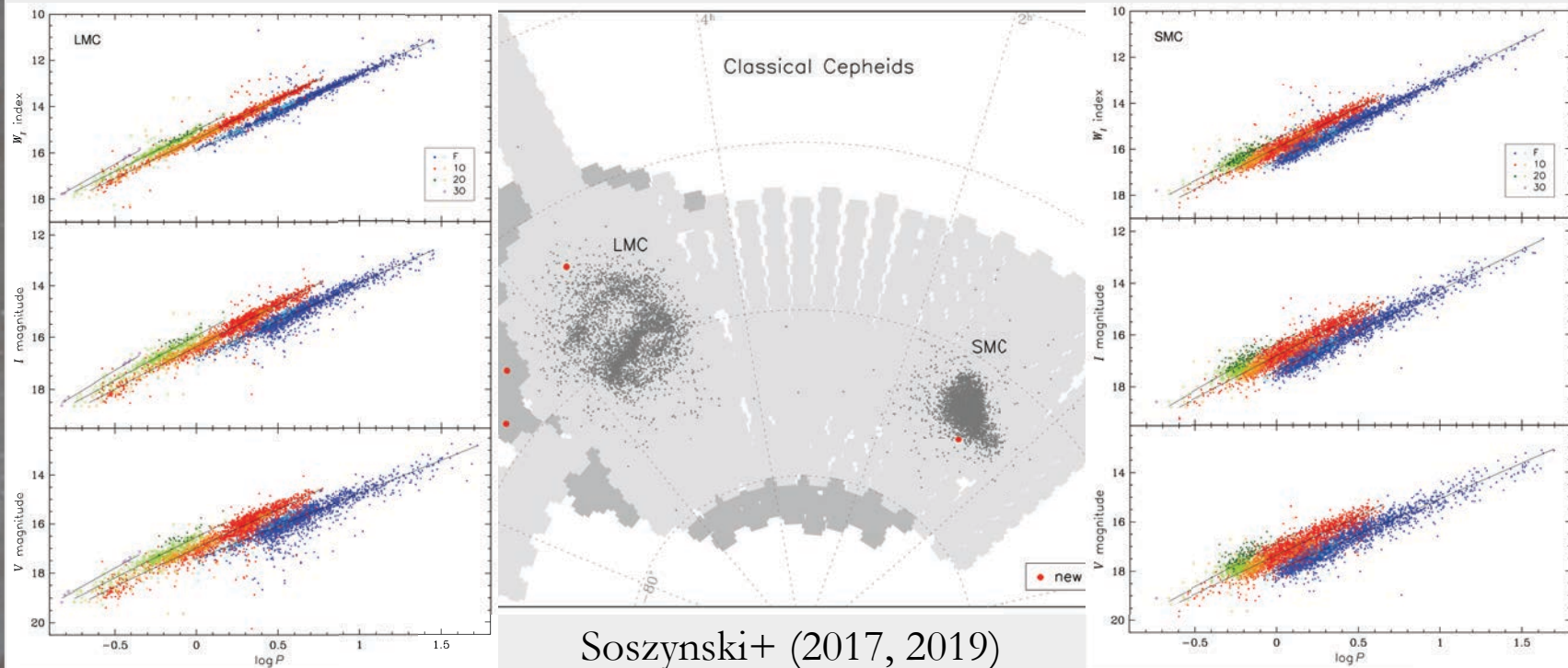





# 100+ YEARS OF THE LEAVITT LAW

$$W_I = I - 1.55(V - I) = \alpha \log P + \beta$$

pulsation			$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\sigma$
F	LMC		$-3.314 \pm 0.008$	$15.888 \pm 0.005$	0.077
1O	LMC		$-3.431 \pm 0.007$	$15.393 \pm 0.002$	0.081
2O	LMC		$-3.548 \pm 0.027$	$15.025 \pm 0.008$	0.087
3O	LMC		$-4.000 \pm 0.134$	$14.486 \pm 0.077$	0.071
F	SMC		$-3.460 \pm 0.011$	$16.493 \pm 0.005$	0.155
1O	SMC		$-3.548 \pm 0.017$	$15.961 \pm 0.004$	0.169
2O	SMC		$-3.651 \pm 0.098$	$15.545 \pm 0.025$	0.154



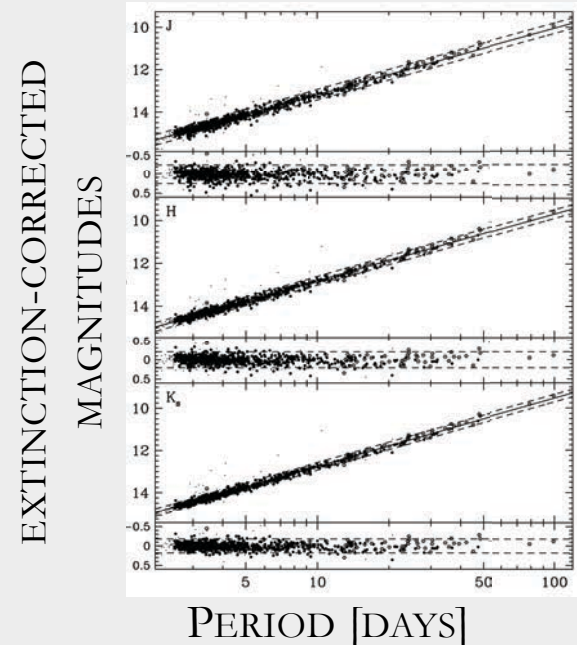
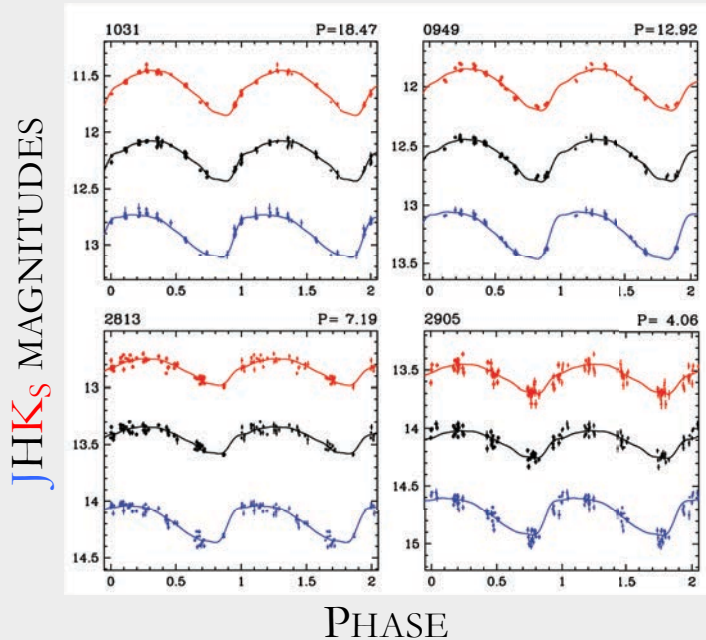
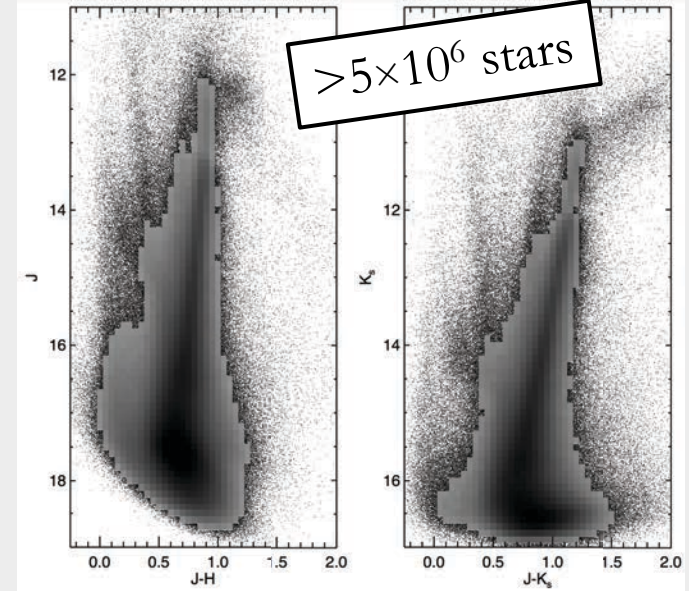
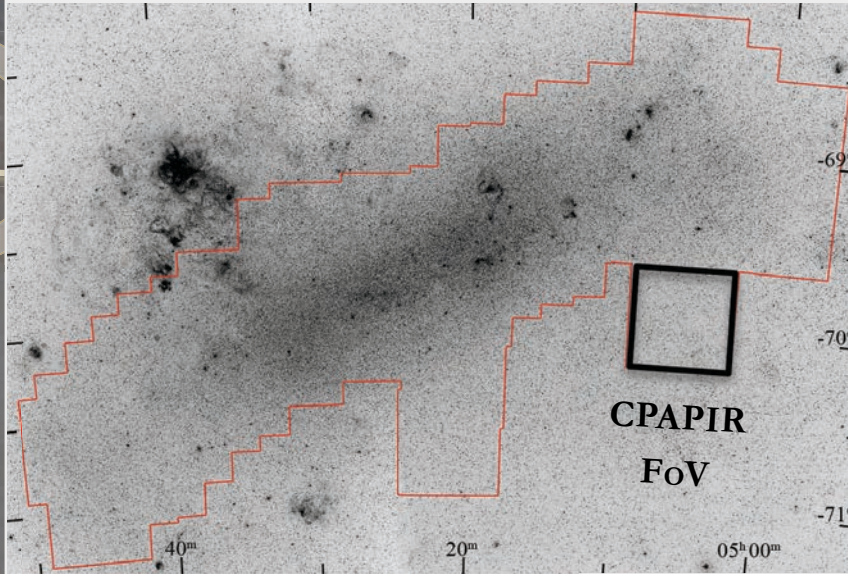


# THE LMC NEAR-INFRARED SYNOPTIC SURVEY

- Early 2006: Wonderful OGLE-II PLRs in BVI
- Nothing comparable at NIR wavelengths
  - Largest sample: 92 Cepheids with JHK<sub>s</sub> observations (Persson+ 04)
- Advantages of NIR Cepheid PLRs were already known:
  - Reduced sensitivity to dust, metallicity: lower systematic uncertainties
  - Narrower intrinsic width (from instability strip): lower statistical unc.
- Large-format NIR camera coming to CTIO 1.5-m for a few years → let's seize this opportunity!

(Shashi Kanbur, Chow-Choong Ngeow, Lucas Macri)

# LMCNISS PAPER 1 RESULTS



# IMPACT ON DISTANCE SCALE

- OGLE-III Cepheids (Periods, V & I magnitudes) and NIR magnitudes from LMCNISS (Soszyński, Poleski, Udalski+ 2008; Macri, Ngeow, Kanbur+ 2015)

+

- Extremely precise and accurate LMC distance based on OGLE detached eclipsing binaries (Pietrzyński, Graczyk, Gieren+ 2013)

=

- One of the three “anchors” of the Extragalactic Distance Scale used to measure  $H_0$  with  $\sigma=2.4\%$  by the SH0ES project (Riess, Macri, Hoffmann+ 2016)

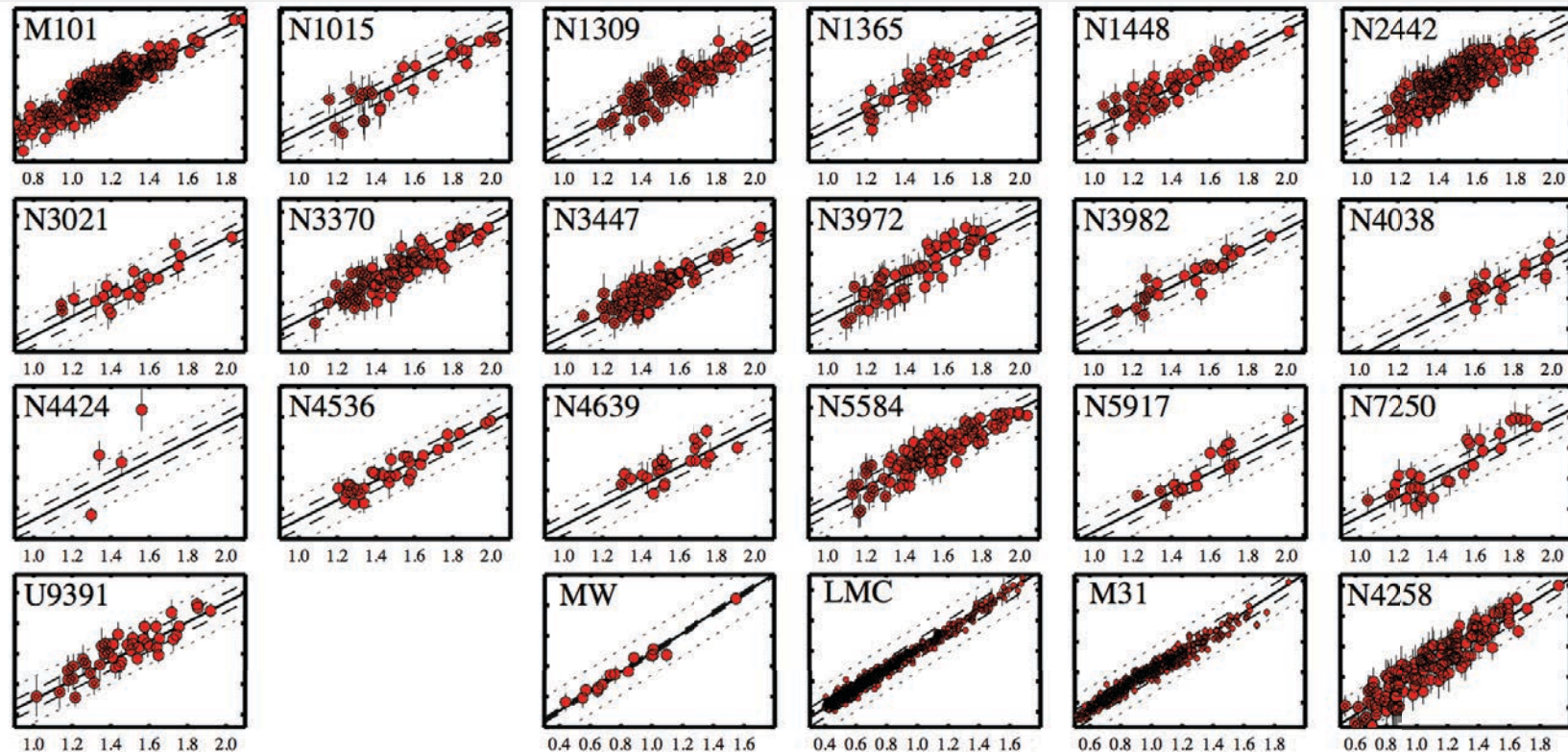
# SH0ES ANCHORS & SN HOST GALAXIES



# SH0ES CEPHEID P-L RELATIONS

2300 Cepheids with homogeneous H-band photometry  
enable a 2.4% determination of  $H_0$

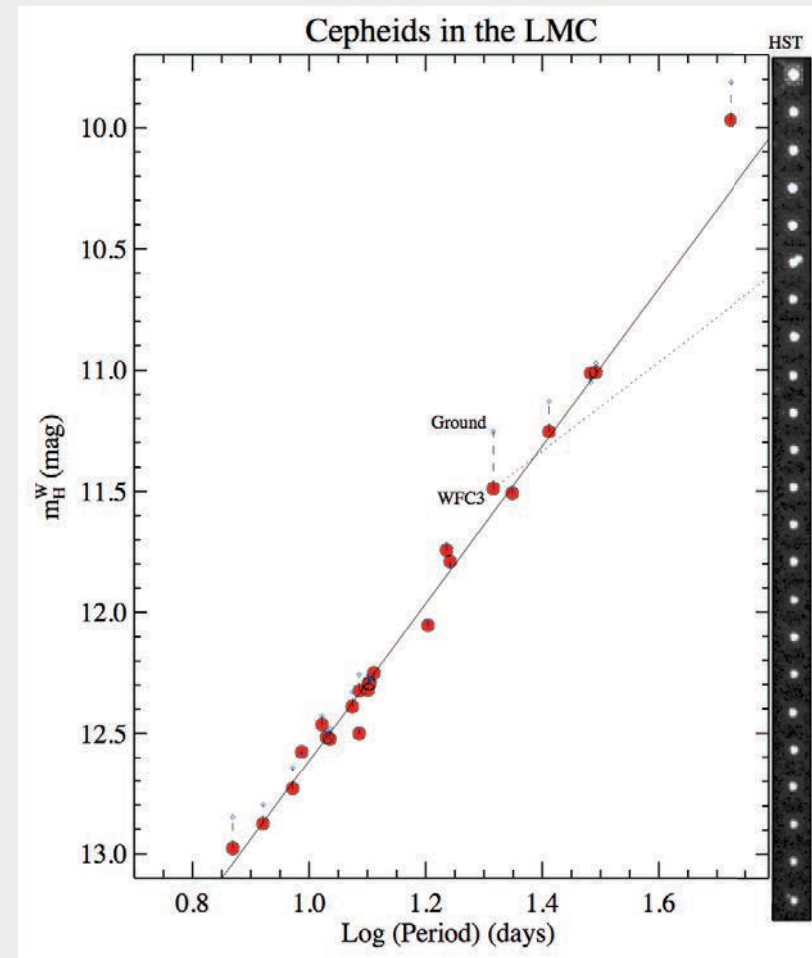
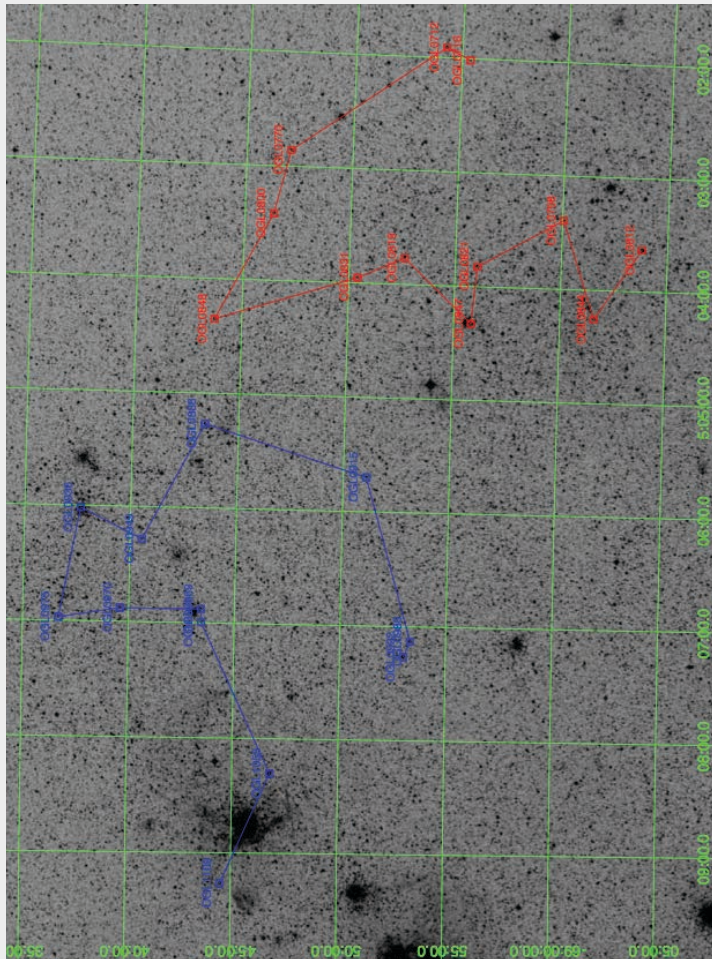
H MAG



LOG PERIOD [DAYS]

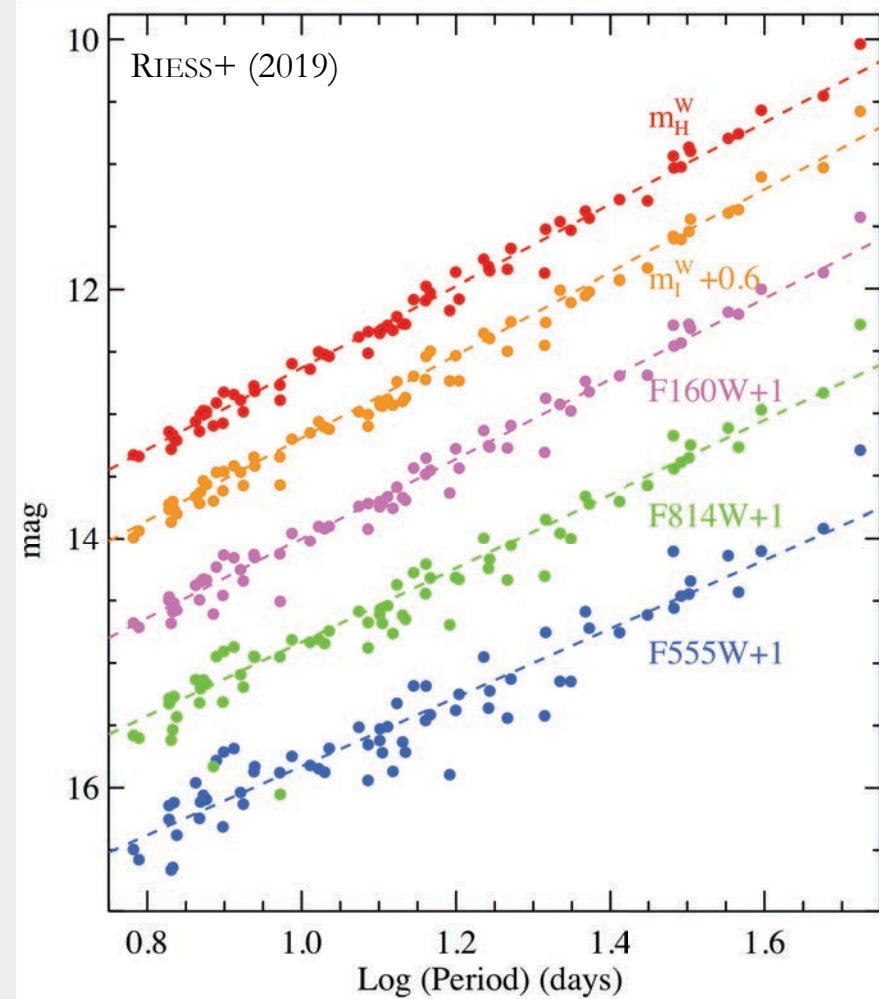
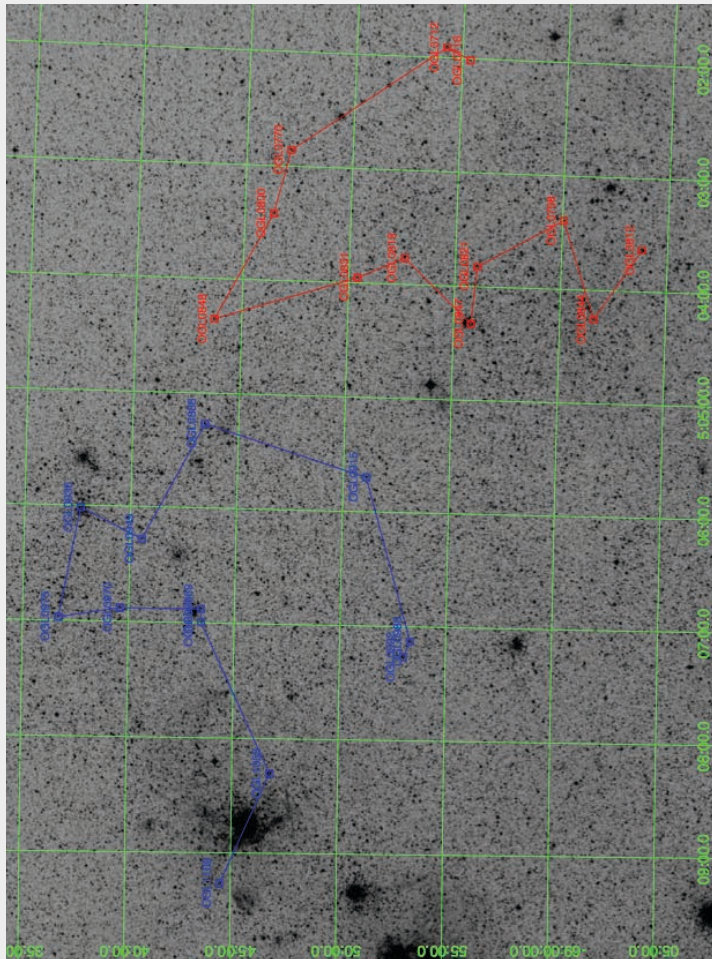
# HST IMAGING OF 70 LMC CEPHEIDS

- Take advantage of new observing mode (DASH) to efficiently image many Cepheids at VIH in one orbit



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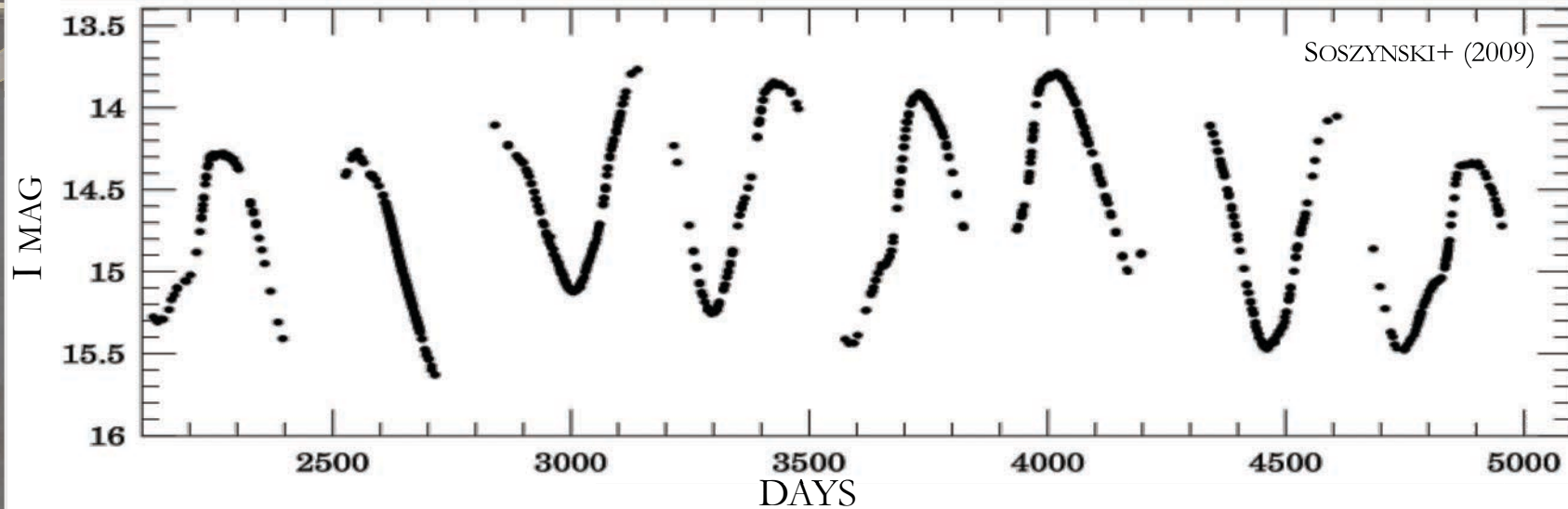
- Correct single-phase VIH observations to mean mags using OGLE and LMCNISS light curves
  - Even tighter PLRs (zero crowding),  $\sigma=0.075$  mag
  - Same photometric system (HST) as all other Cepheids negates one source of systematic uncertainty
- Calibrate using improved DEB distance (previous talk) to obtain LMC-based  $H_0$  with  $\sigma=2.5\%$  (1.3% sys)
  - Pietrzynski+2019, Riess+2019
- 3 anchors, all with HST photometry, yield  $\sigma(H_0)=1.9\%$ 
  - Includes new maser distance to N4258 (Reid+2019)

# OUTLINE

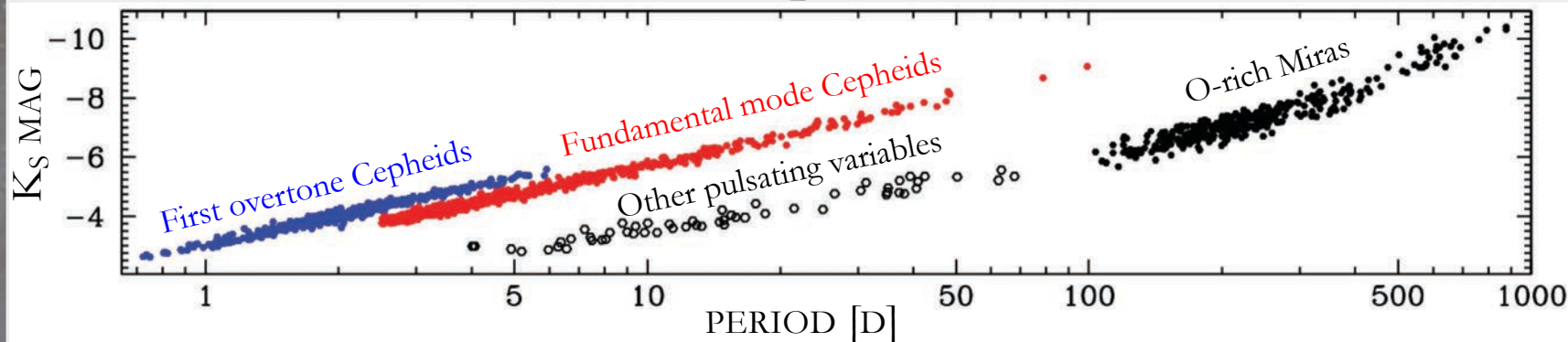
- ✓ Introduction & motivation
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# WHY MIRAS?

- Plentiful in all galaxies → go beyond face-on spirals
- Large amplitudes in I-band → relatively easy to detect



- Very luminous in NIR → powerful distance indicator

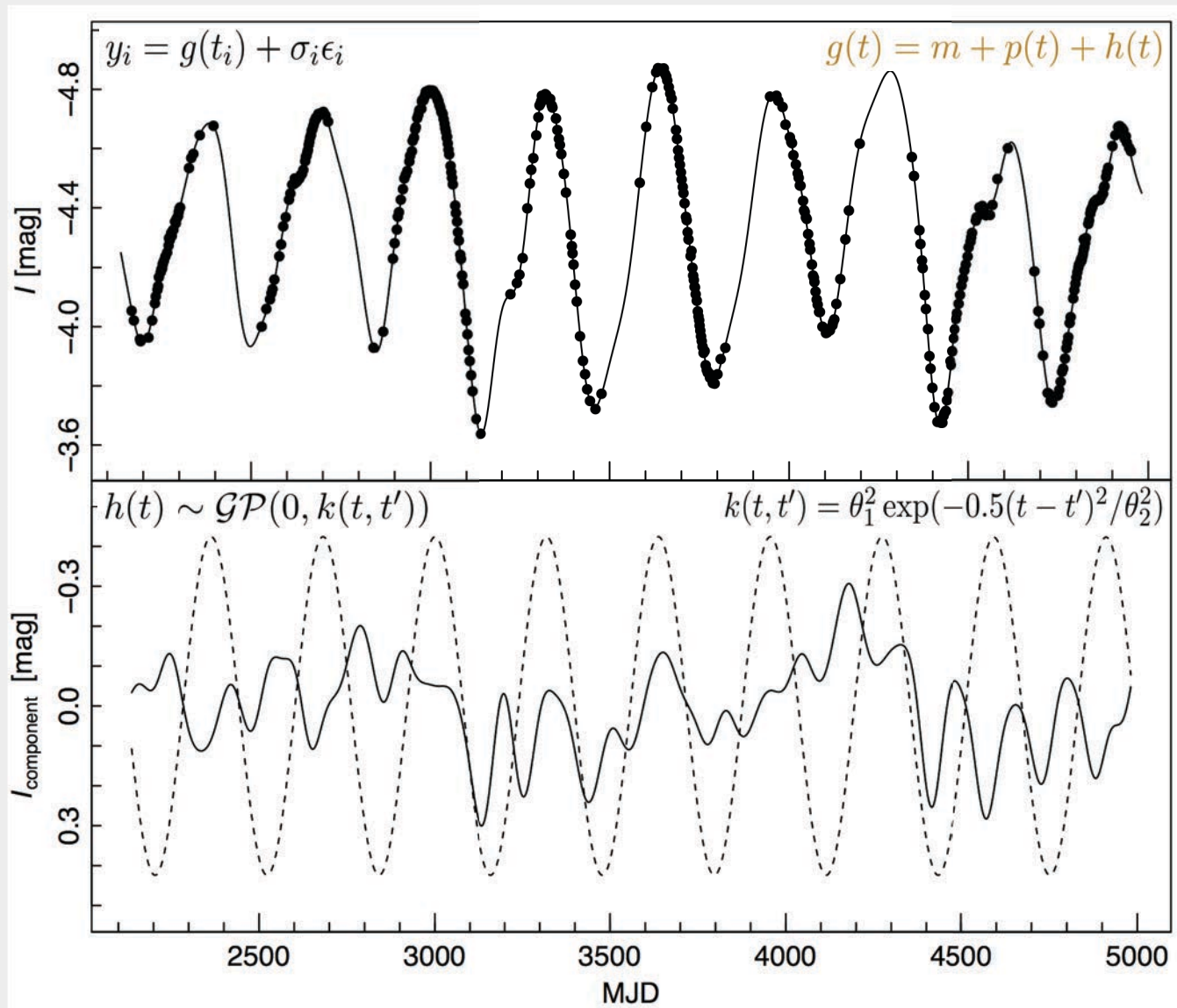


# LMCNISS MIRA SAMPLE

- 690 Miras from Soszyński, Udalski, Szymański+ 2009
  - 668 with observations in all of JHK<sub>s</sub>
- Issue: NIR observations concentrated at just three epochs for a given variable, due to long periods
- Solution: Use OGLE I-band light curves to generate JHK<sub>s</sub> templates through regression techniques
- Derive PLRs for O- and C-rich Miras

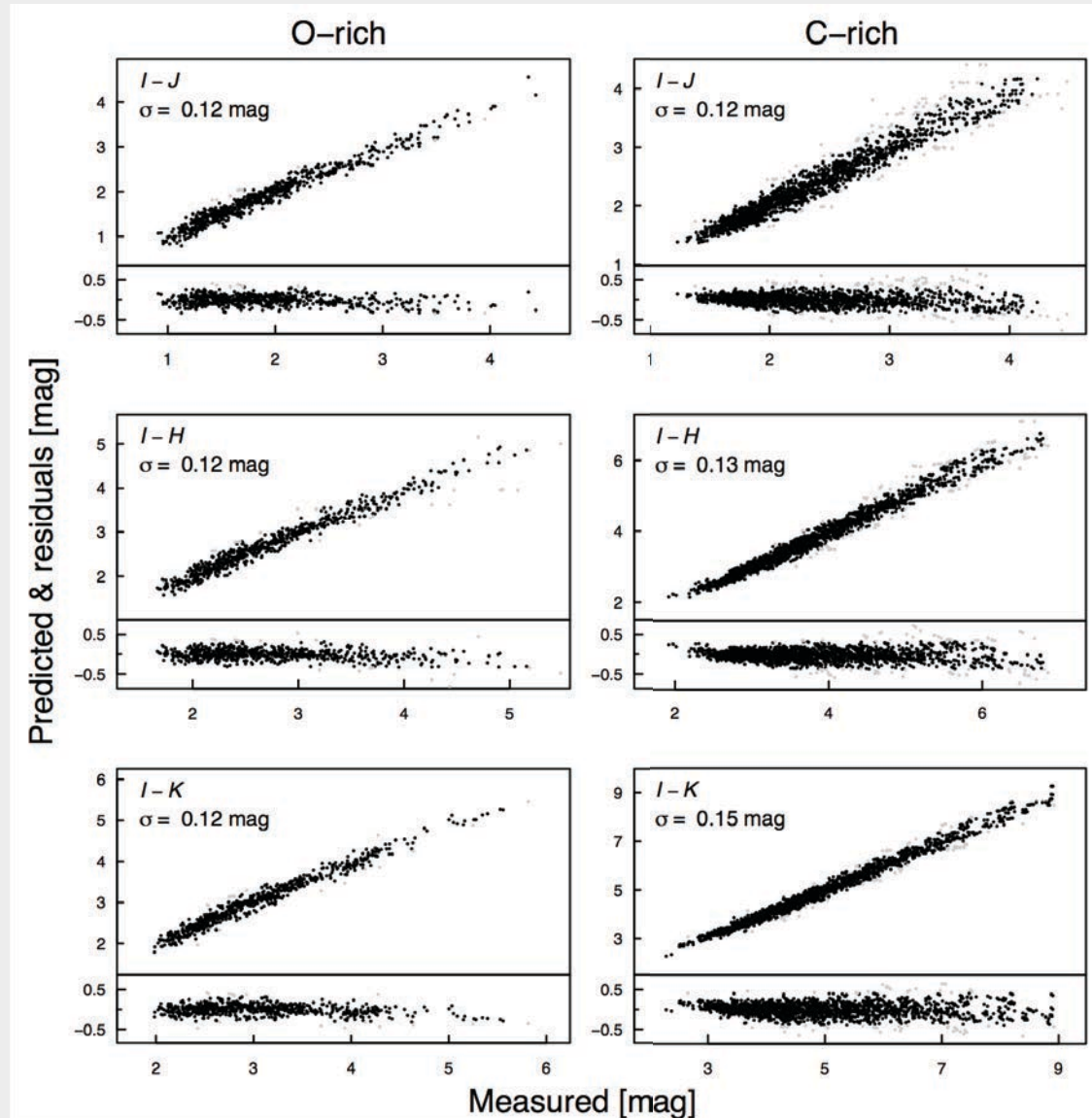
# GAUSSIAN PROCESS TEMPLATE

## DECOMPOSITION OF MIRA LIGHT CURVE (OGLE/LMC)



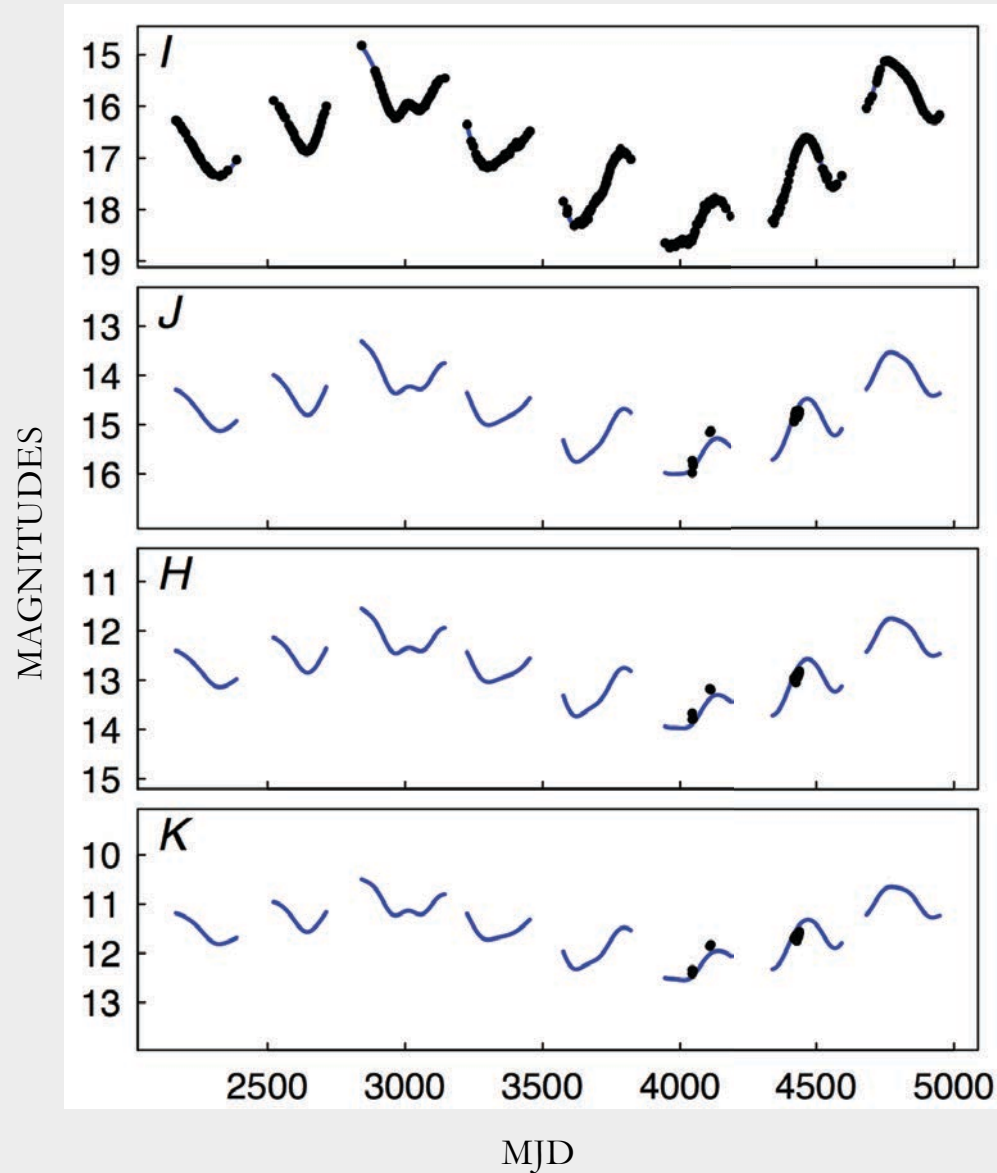
# REGRESSION MODEL

BASED ON  $\sim 82,000$  INDIVIDUAL  $JHK_S$  MEASUREMENTS + OGLE LIGHT CURVES

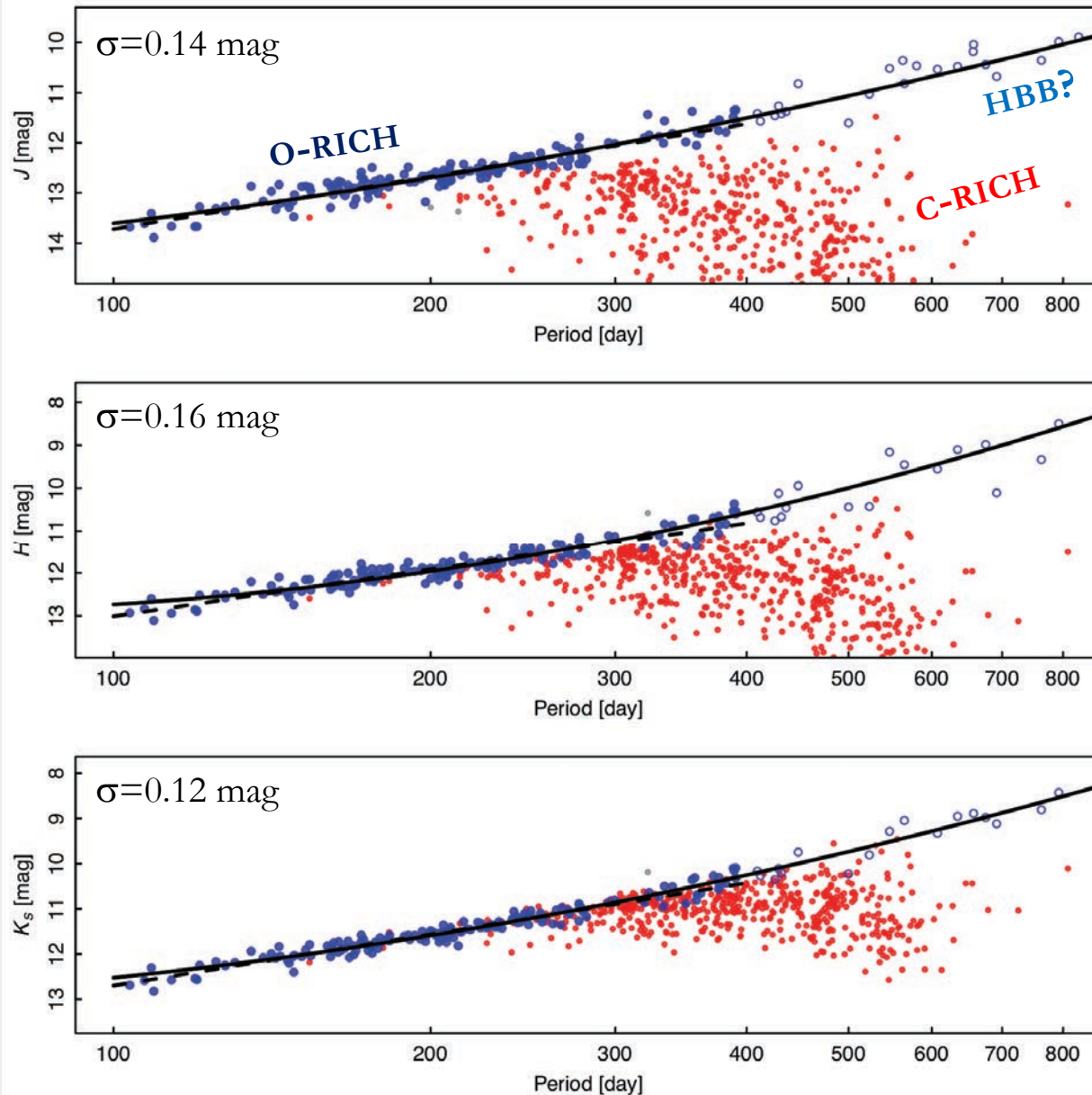


# MIRA TEMPLATE LIGHT CURVES

USE 3 NIR PHASE POINTS + TEMPLATE TO ESTIMATE MAX, MEAN, MIN



# LMC MIRA PLRs





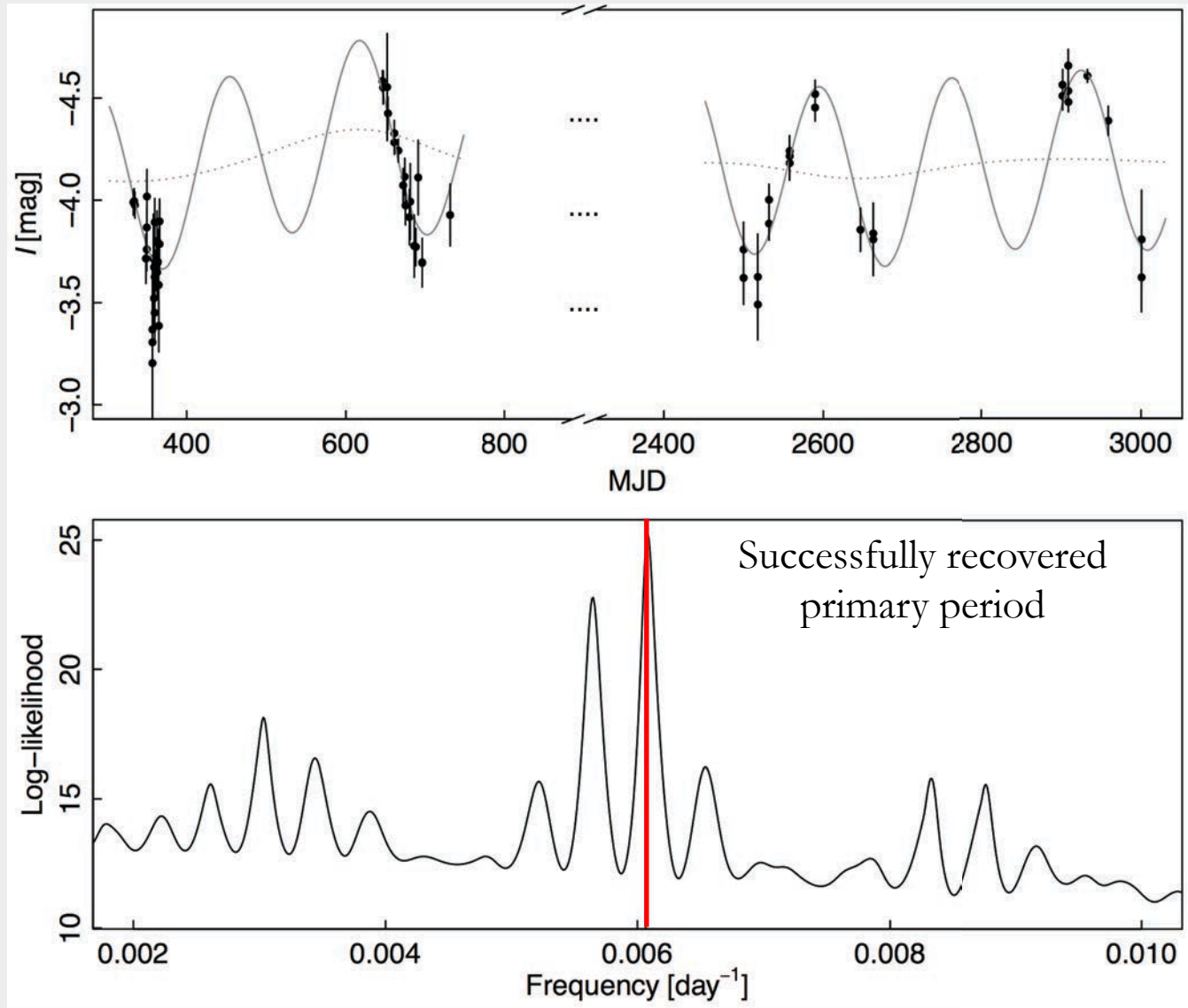
# BEYOND THE LMC

- LSST will be sensitive enough to detect over  $10^5$  Miras in  $\sim 200$  galaxies with  $D < 15$  Mpc
- How to detect periodic but irregular variables using sparsely-sampled light curves?
- Develop & test novel periodogram technique with existing high-cadence observations (OGLE)
- Apply to sparser observations of M33 (Pellerin & Macri 2011)



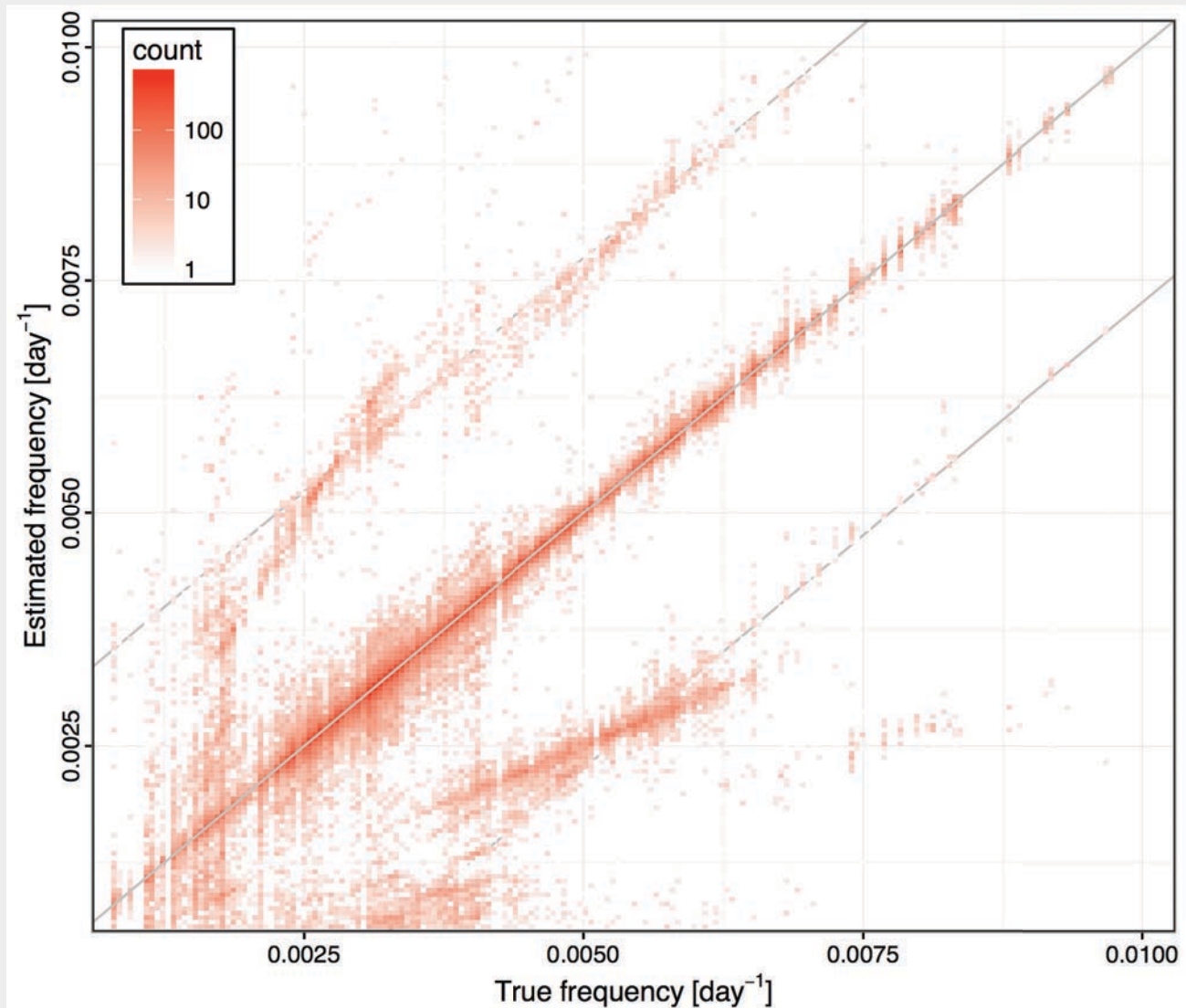
# GAUSSIAN PROCESS PERIODOGRAM

APPLIED TO NOISIER & SPARSER SIMULATED LIGHT CURVE (OGLE)



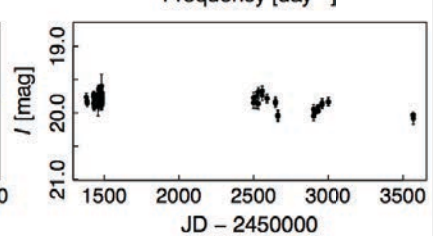
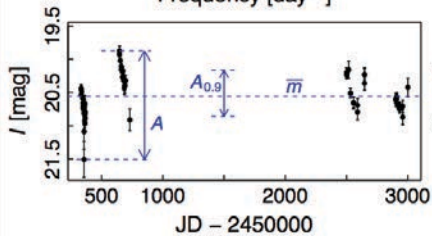
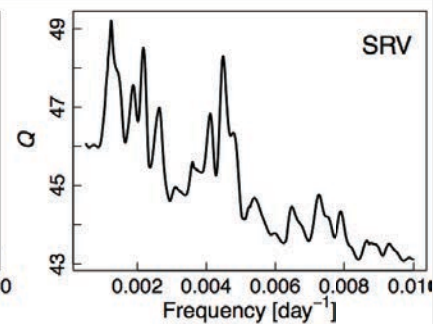
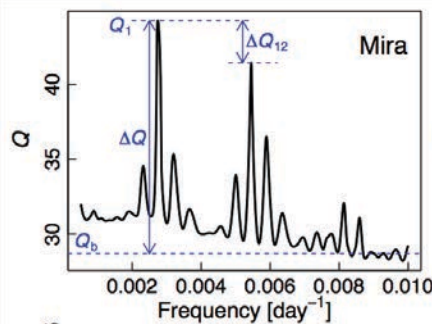
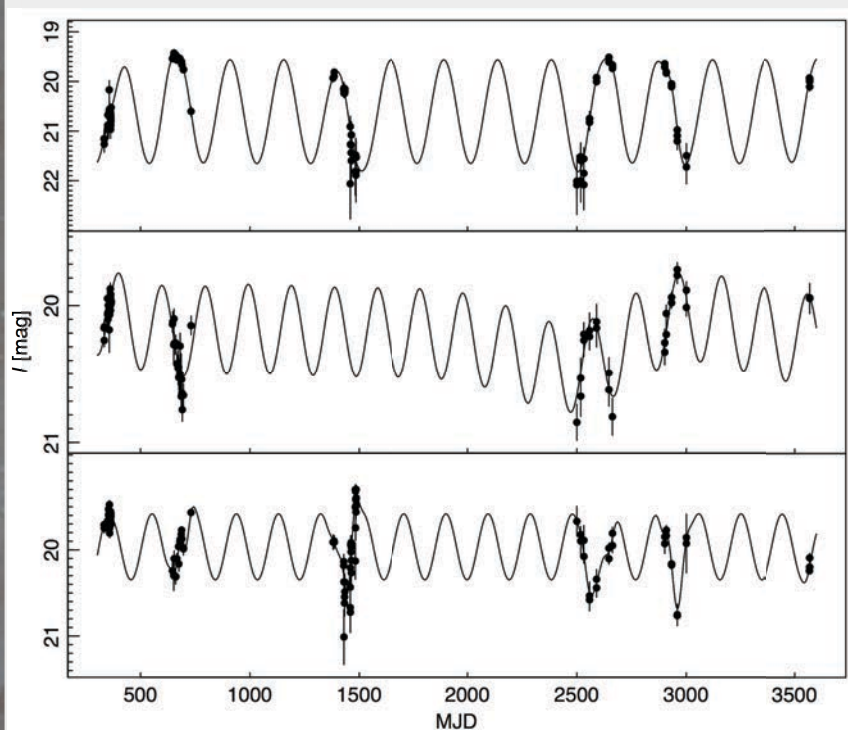
# GAUSSIAN PROCESS PERIODOGRAM

SUCCESSFULLY RECOVERED PRIMARY PERIOD FOR  
74% OF SIMULATED LIGHT CURVES



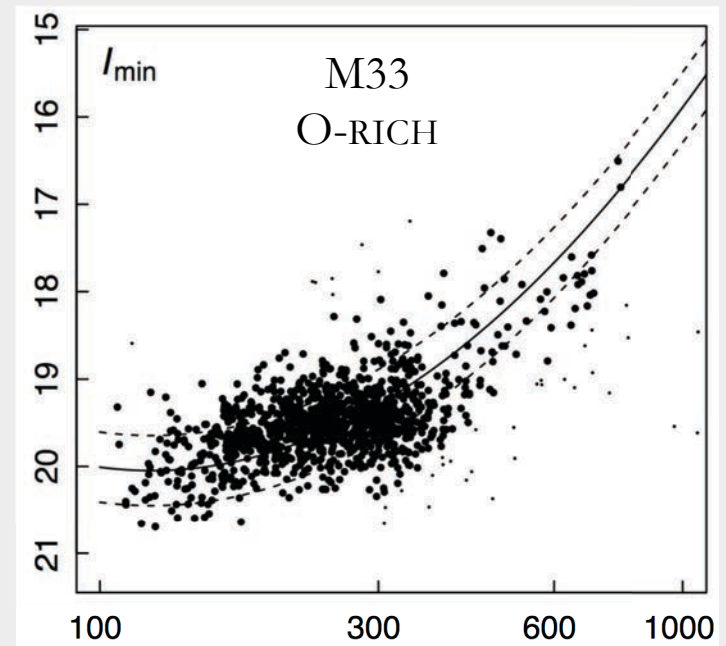
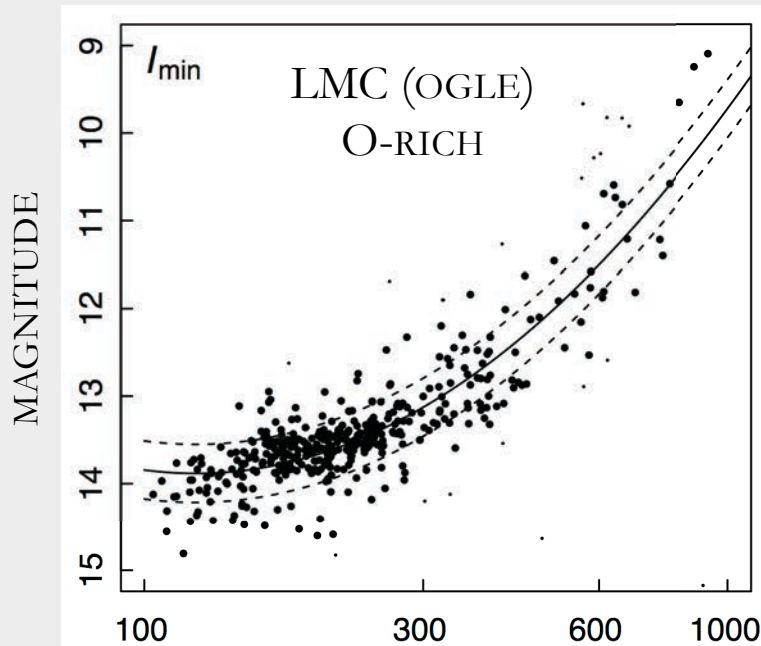
# FIRST RESULTS FROM M33

- Searched for Miras among  $2.4 \times 10^5$  stars in M33
  - Based on I-band data only, spanning  $\sim 7$  years
  - Used Random Forest classifier trained on 18 features
- Discovered  $>1800$  Mira candidates



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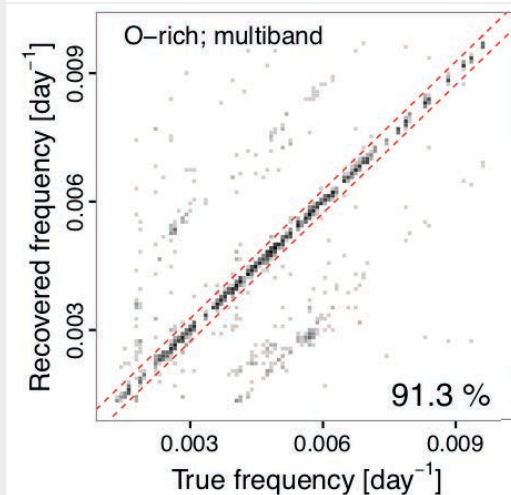
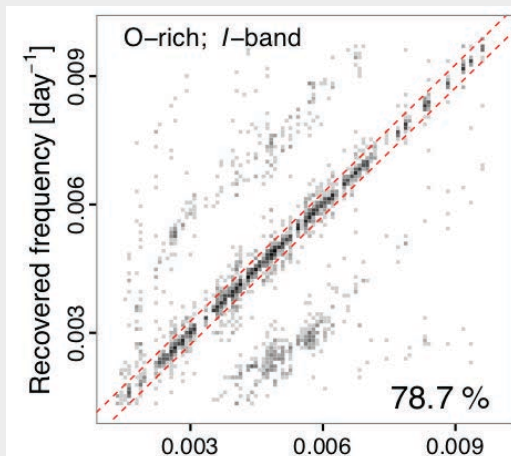
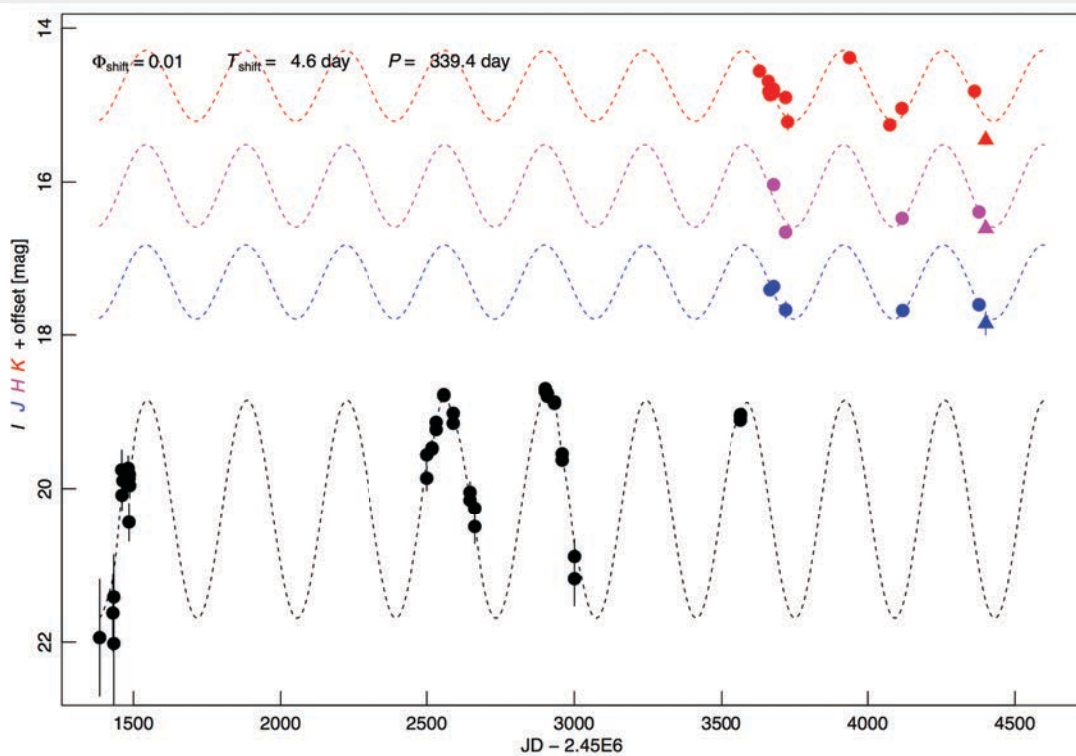
PERIOD

YUAN+ (2017B)

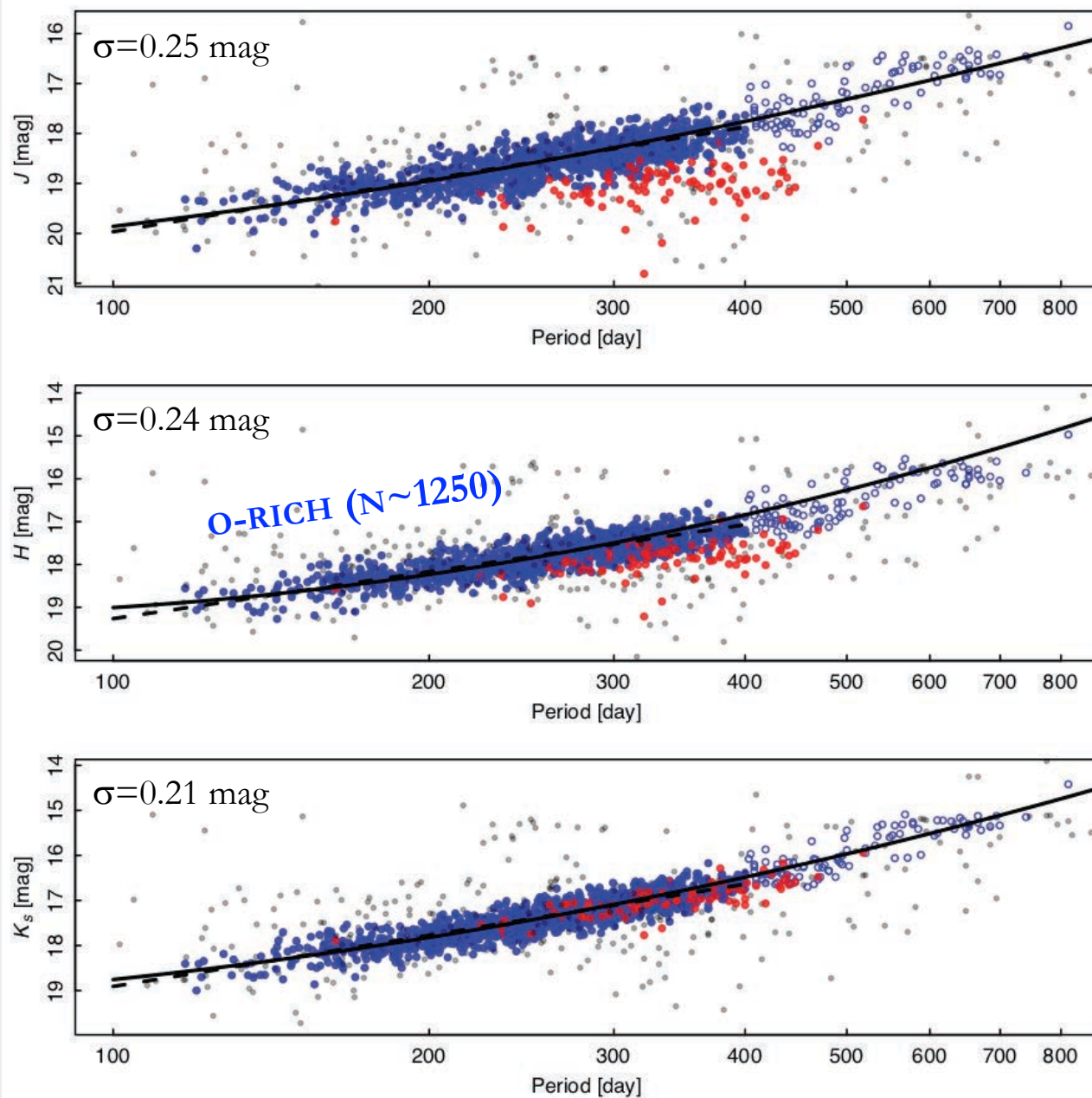
# M33 MIRAS IN NEAR-INFRARED

- Fit multi-band model to our JHK<sub>s</sub> magnitudes (Gemini N, KPNO) and Javadi+2015 (UKIRT)
  - Significantly improved period recovery!

YUAN, MACRI+ (2018)



# LEAVITT LAWS FOR M33 MIRAS



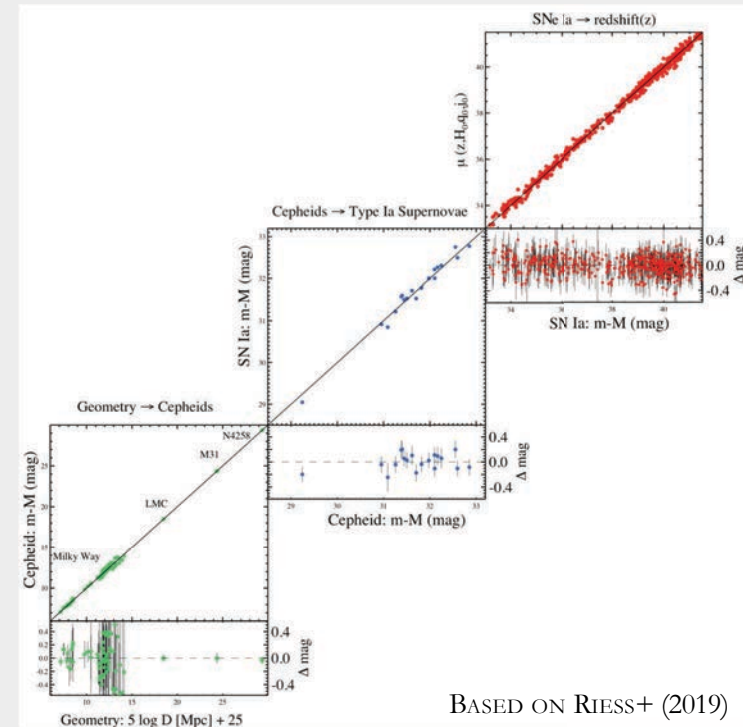
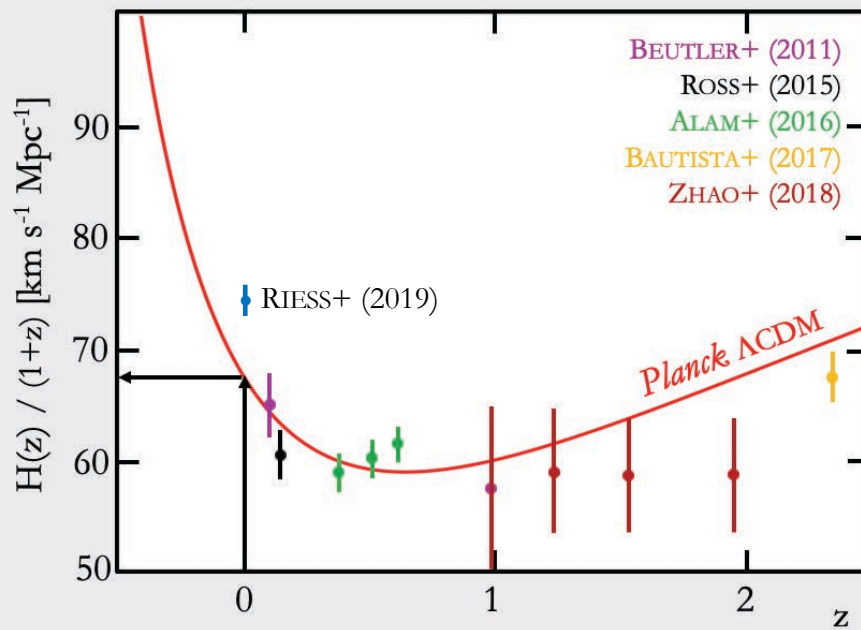
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# “HUBBLE TENSION”

- Compare measurement of  $H_0$  with prediction based on CMB+BAO (assuming  $\Lambda$ CDM):  $>4\sigma$  discrepancy



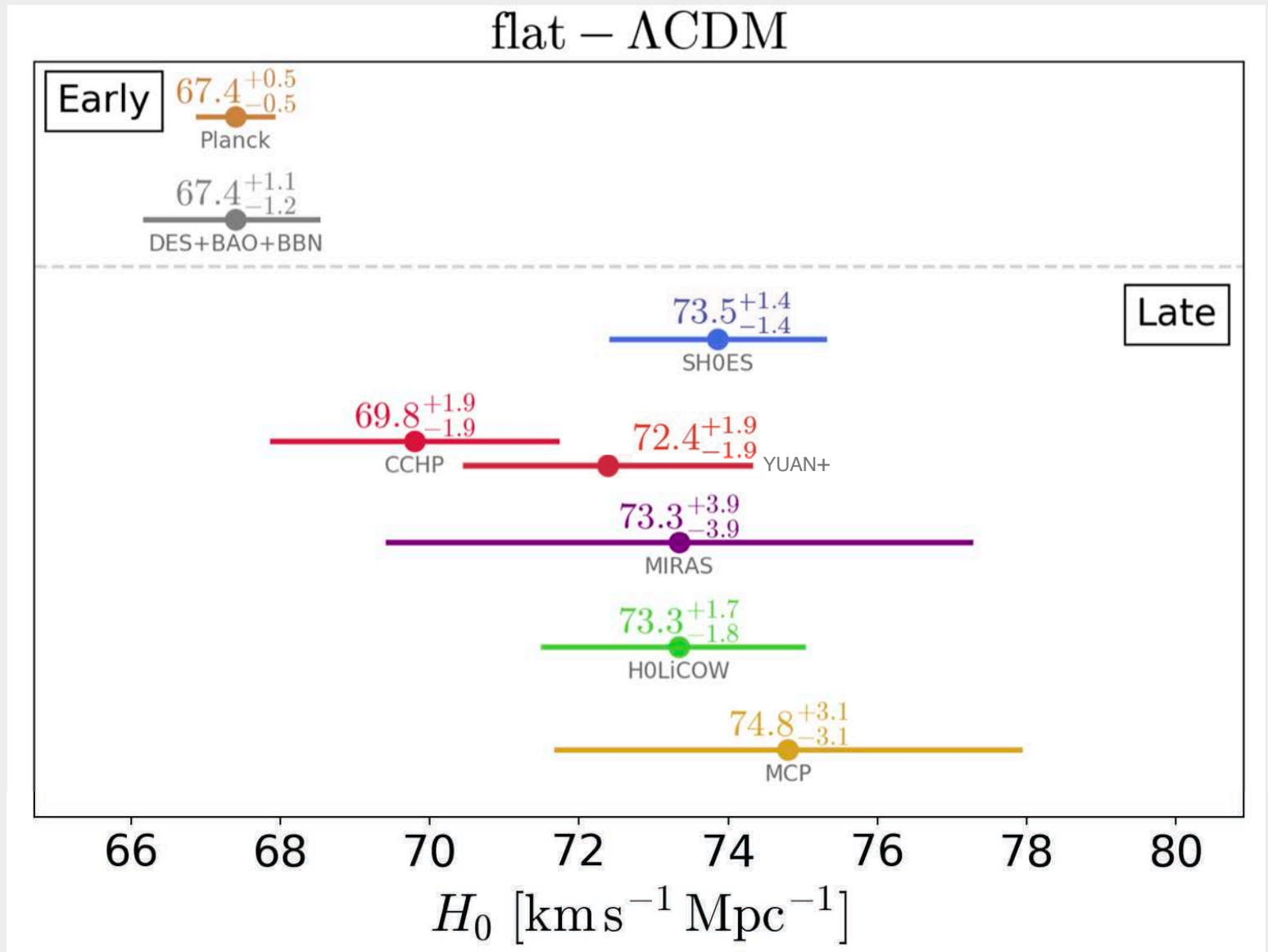
BASED ON RIESS+ (2019)

# VERY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

[online.kitp.ucsb.edu/online/enervac-c19/](http://online.kitp.ucsb.edu/online/enervac-c19/)

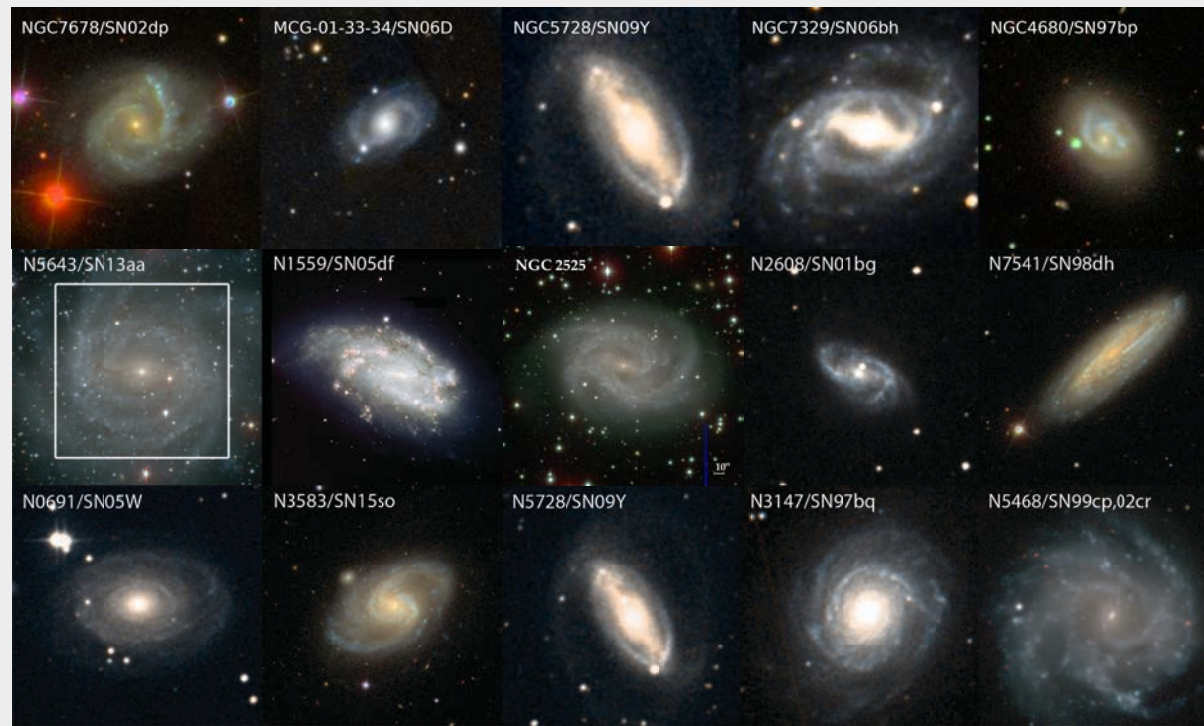
- Gravitational time-delays (H0LICOW, STRIDES)
  - 6 lenses, blinded analysis:  $H_0 = 73.3 \pm 1.7 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  (Wong+, arXiv:1907.04869)
- Maser-based distances (MCP)
  - 4 hosts beyond N4258:  $H_0 = 74.8 \pm 3.1 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  (Reid, KITP workshop)
- Cepheids (improved LMC & N4258 distances)
  - $H_0 = 73.5 \pm 1.4 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  (Reid, Pesce & Riess, arXiv:1908.05625)
- Other indicators (share some “rungs” with Cepheids)
  - Miras:  $H_0 = 73.3 \pm 3.9 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  (Huang+, arXiv:1908.10883)
  - TRGB:  $H_0 = 69.8 \pm 1.9 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  (Freedman+, arXiv:1907.05922)  
→  $72.4 \pm 1.9$  w/blending corr. (Yuan+, arXiv:1908.00993)

# RECENT DEVELOPMENTS



# ONGOING SHOES EFFORTS

- Cepheid search in 15 additional hosts of SNe Ia
  - Increase calibrator sample to 38; should yield  $\sigma(H_0)=1.6\%$
  - Mira search in nearest 4 (check Cepheid distances)
- HST observations of MW Cepheids (resolve *Gaia* sys.)



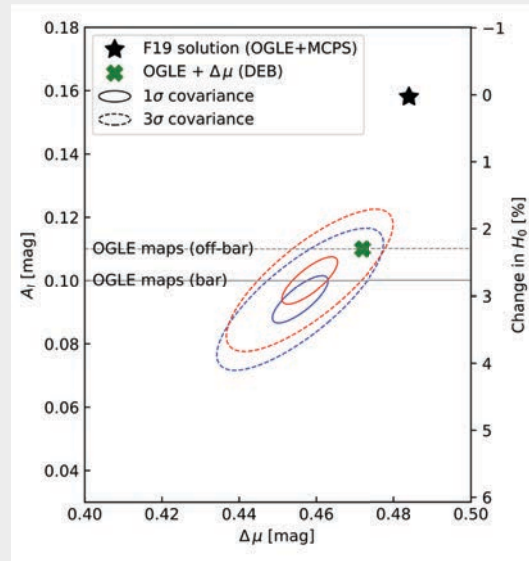
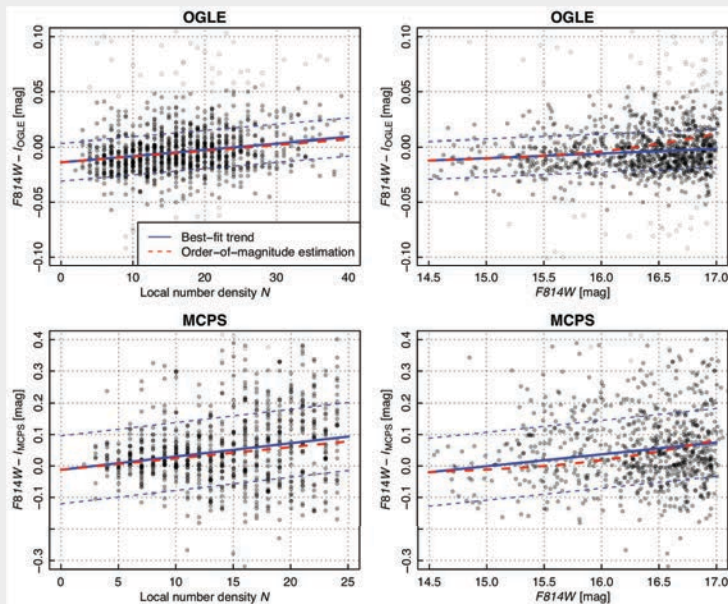
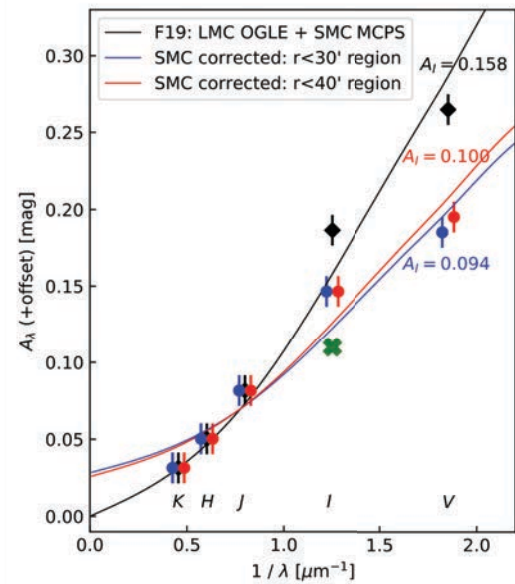
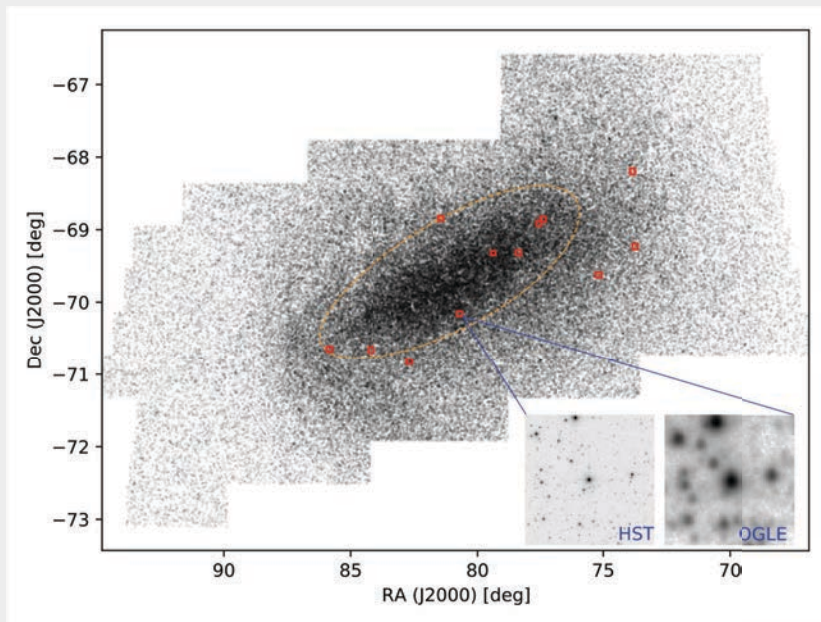
# SUMMARY

- SH<sub>0</sub>ES project: calibration of modern, high-quality SNe Ia using Cepheids in the near-infrared
  - $H_0 = 73.5 \pm 1.4 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1} \rightarrow \sigma(H_0) = 1.9\%$
  - $>4\sigma$  tension wrt *Planck*+BAO  $\rightarrow$  New Physics in dark sector?
- Goal:  $\sigma(H_0) = 1.3\%$  by early 2020s
  - *HST*, *Gaia* parallaxes to Milky Way Cepheids
  - 50 Cepheid distances to nearby SNe Ia
- Miras as “first rung” of an independent ladder
  - Absolute calibration via LMC and N4258
  - Gaussian process periodogram in M33 bodes well for LSST



Backup slides

# TRGB IN LMC



# RESOLUTION: EARLY DARK ENERGY?

Poulin+18, Smith+19: oscillating scalar field with  $\rho_{\text{EDE}}/\rho_{\text{TOT}} \sim 10\%$  at  $z \sim 3500$   
Slightly better fit to *Planck* data;  $27\sigma$  with CMB-S4!! (DoE CD-0)

