

Image Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/O. Krause (Steward Observatory)

# REVEALING CORE-COLLAPSE SUPERNOVAE AND FAILED EXPLOSIONS WITH *ROMAN*

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Exploring the Transient Universe with *Roman*  
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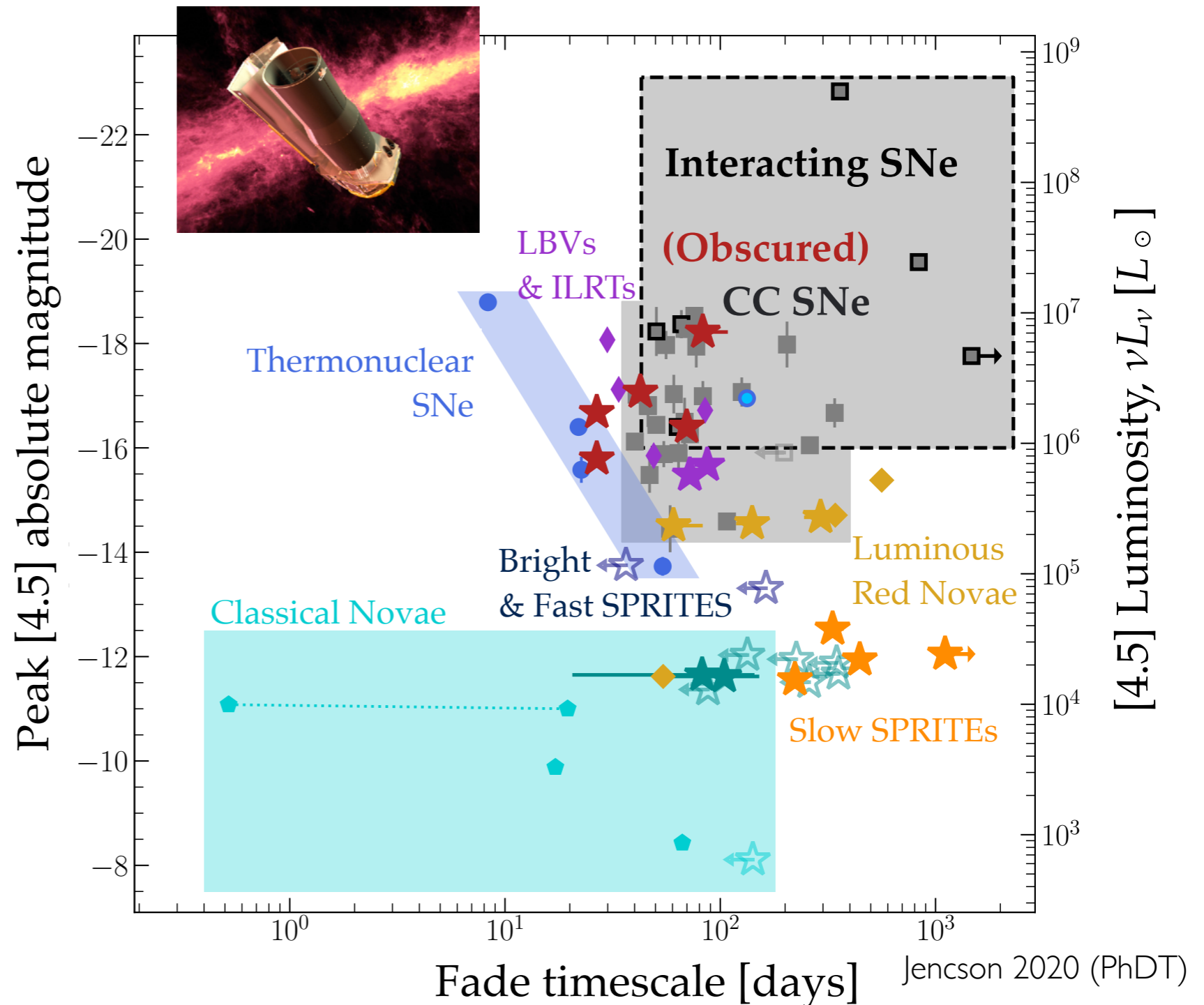
February 8, 2022

# The infrared sky is brimming with massive star fireworks.

## SPitzer InfraRed Intensive Transients Survey:

A targeted search of nearby galaxies for transients in the mid-IR (PI M. Kasliwal, Project scientist **J. Jencson**).

Discovered numerous transients from massive stars, some with no detectable optical emission.





# The infrared sky is brimming with massive star fireworks.

## Stellar Mergers

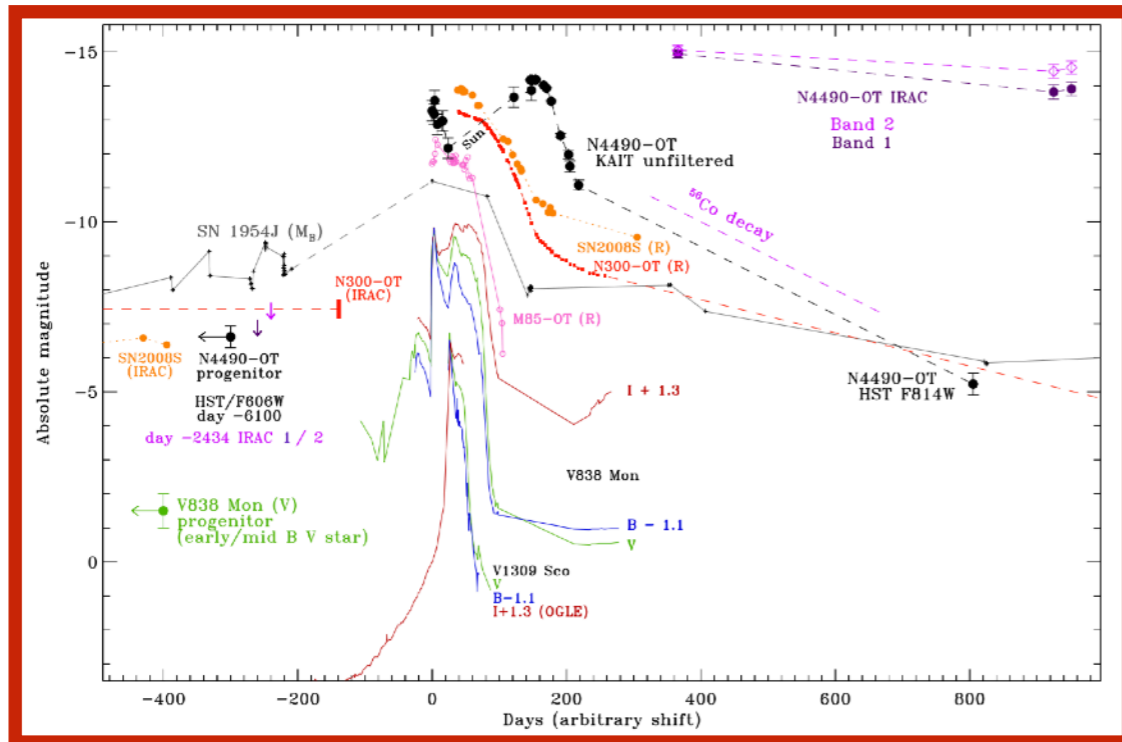
(e.g., Smith+ 2016, Blagorodnova+ 2017, 2021, Jencson+ 2019b)

## Outbursts and SN Impostors

(e.g., Jencson+ 2019ab, Andrews+ 2021)

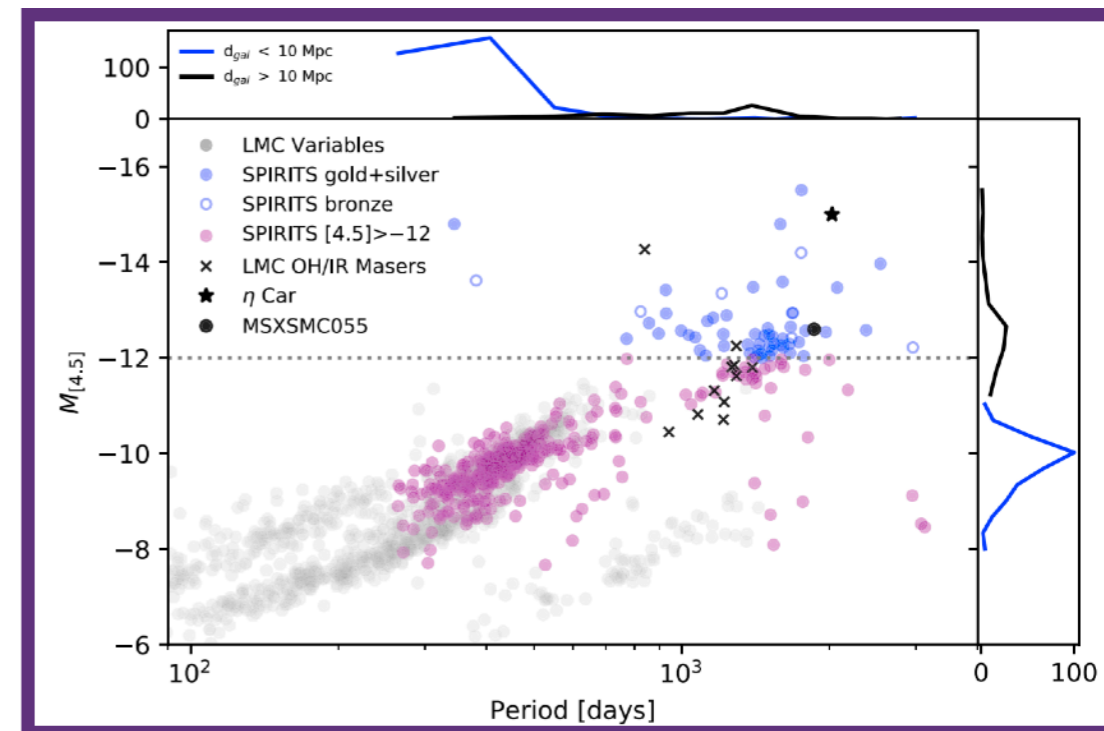
## Dust-forming massive binaries

(e.g., Lau+ 2021)



## Extremely luminous and long-period variables

(Karambelkar+ 19)

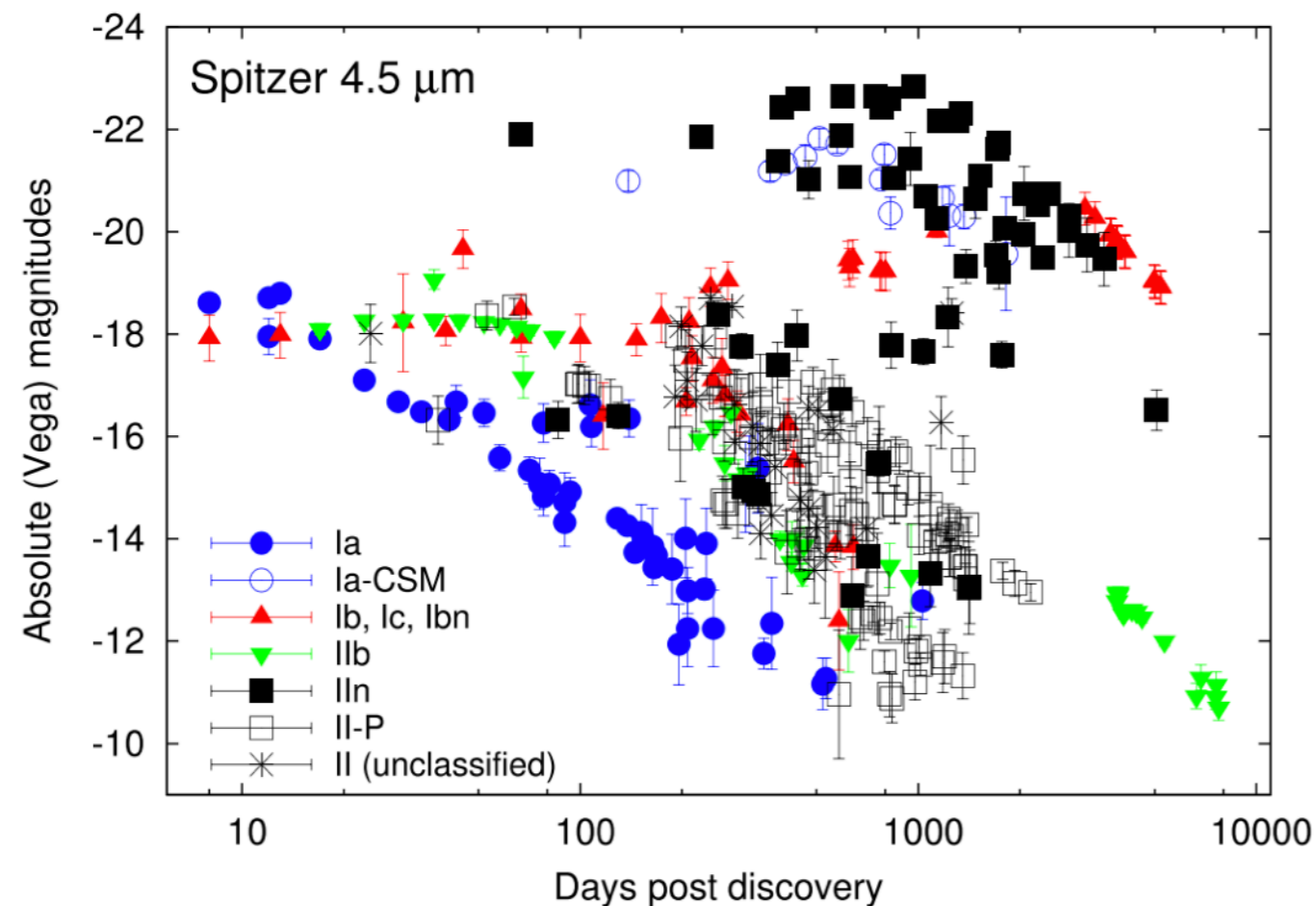


**Dusty SNe Iax and dust-free SNe Ia** (Fox+ 2016, Johansson+ 2017)

## SPIRITS ADS Library:

<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/public-libraries/OLBleuZdS0euKOhQJpMUfA>

# Infrared emission probes the circumstellar environments of supernovae:



Szalai+ 2019

(See also SPIRITS sample  
in Tinyanont+ 2016)

## Progenitor evolution and mass loss

- Circumstellar interaction and shocks
- Dust echos  
(e.g., Bode & Evans 1980, Smith 2009, Fox 2011, 2013, Szalai+ 2021)

## ISM enrichment and galaxy evolution

- Molecule and dust formation  
(e.g., Gall+ 2011, Szalai & Vinkó 2013, Martínez-González+ 2019)

## Explosion Geometry

- IR Polarimetry  
(e.g., Tinyanont+ 2021)



# How do we build a complete census of massive stellar death?

- I. Where are the missing core-collapse supernovae?
- II. Do all massive stars explode?

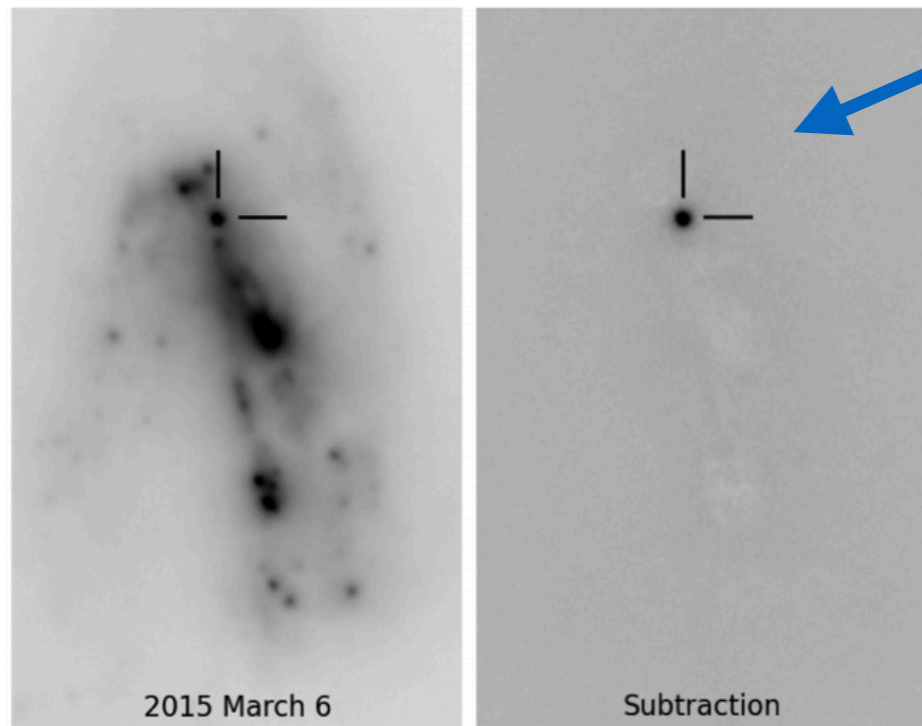
# How do we build a complete census of massive stellar death?

I. Where are the missing core-collapse supernovae?

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# Many core-collapse supernovae may be heavily obscured.

SN 2015cb in IRAS 17138-1017 with GeMS/GSAOI



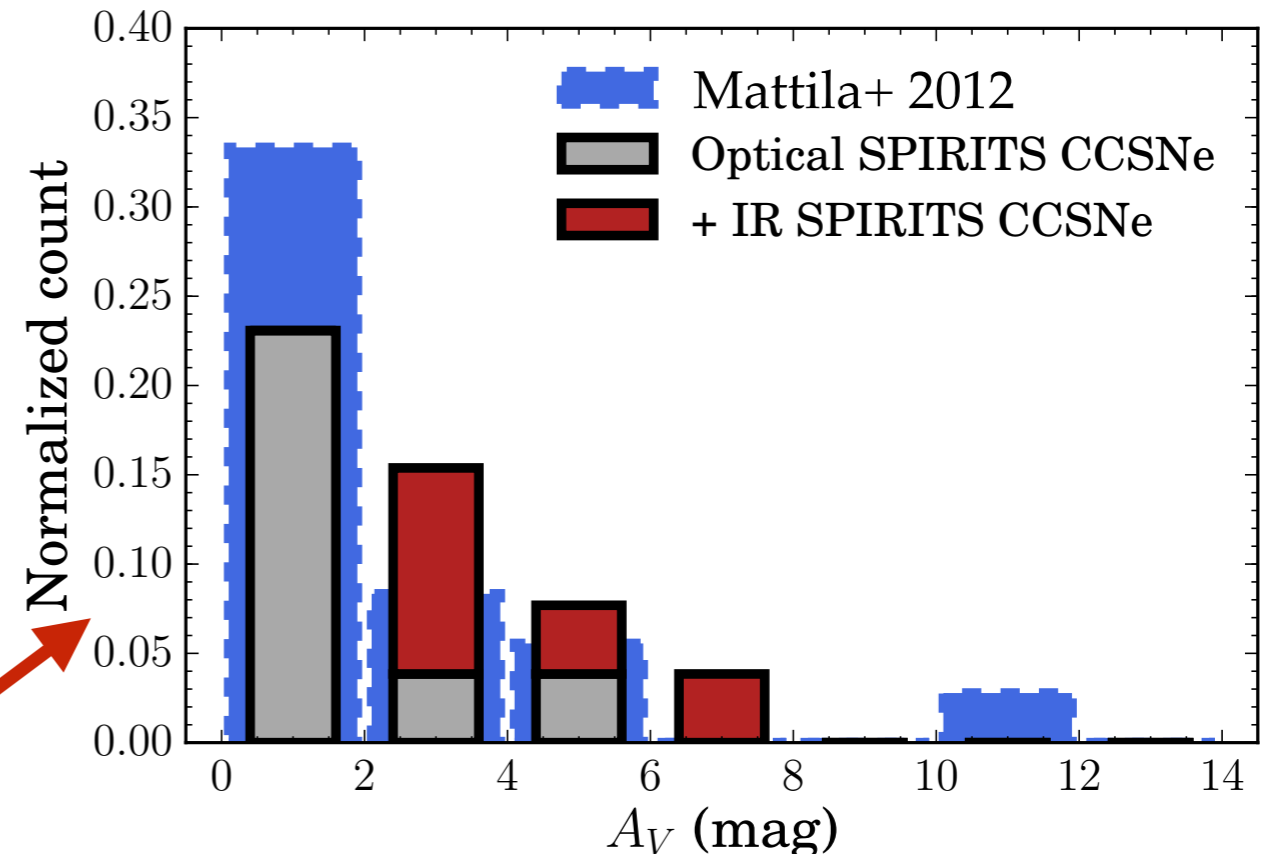
$A_V \sim 5$  mag  
Kool+ 2018

with 2013 reference

Numerous searches of starbursts and (U)LIRGS:

- **Near with *HST* or AO** (e.g., Mattila+ 2007, 2008, Kankare+ 2008, 2012, Kool+ 2018)
- **Radio VLBI** (e.g., Perez-Torres+ 2009, Romero-Cañizales+ 2012)
- **Mid-IR with *Spitzer*** (Fox+ 2021)

**SPIRITS** found a high fraction of obscured events even in normal galaxies.





# How do we build a complete census of massive stellar death?

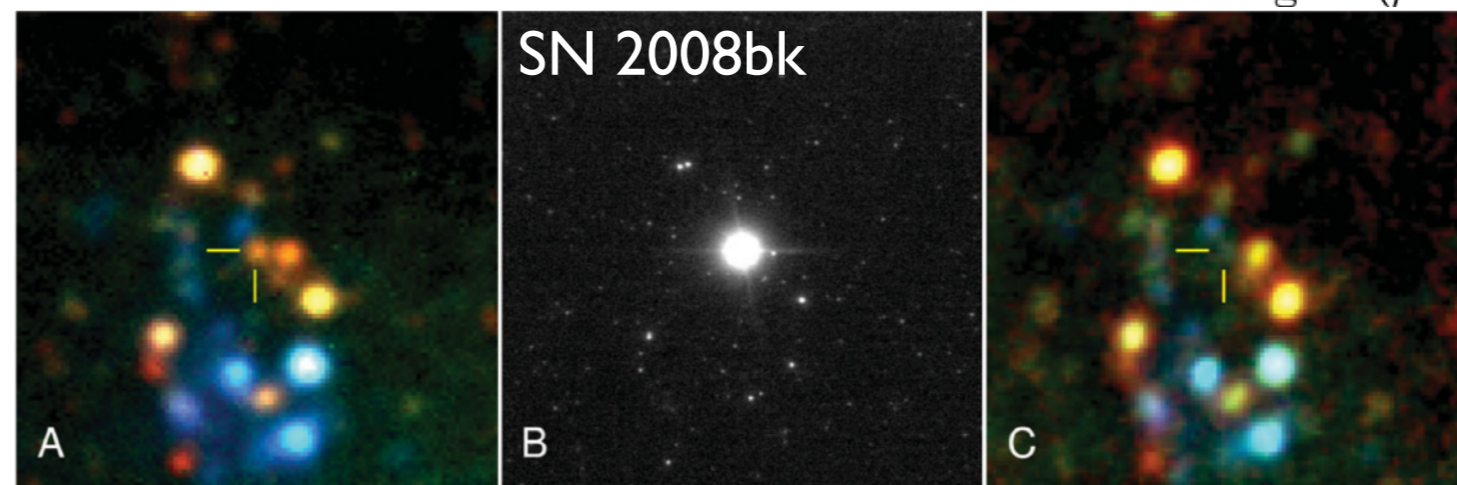
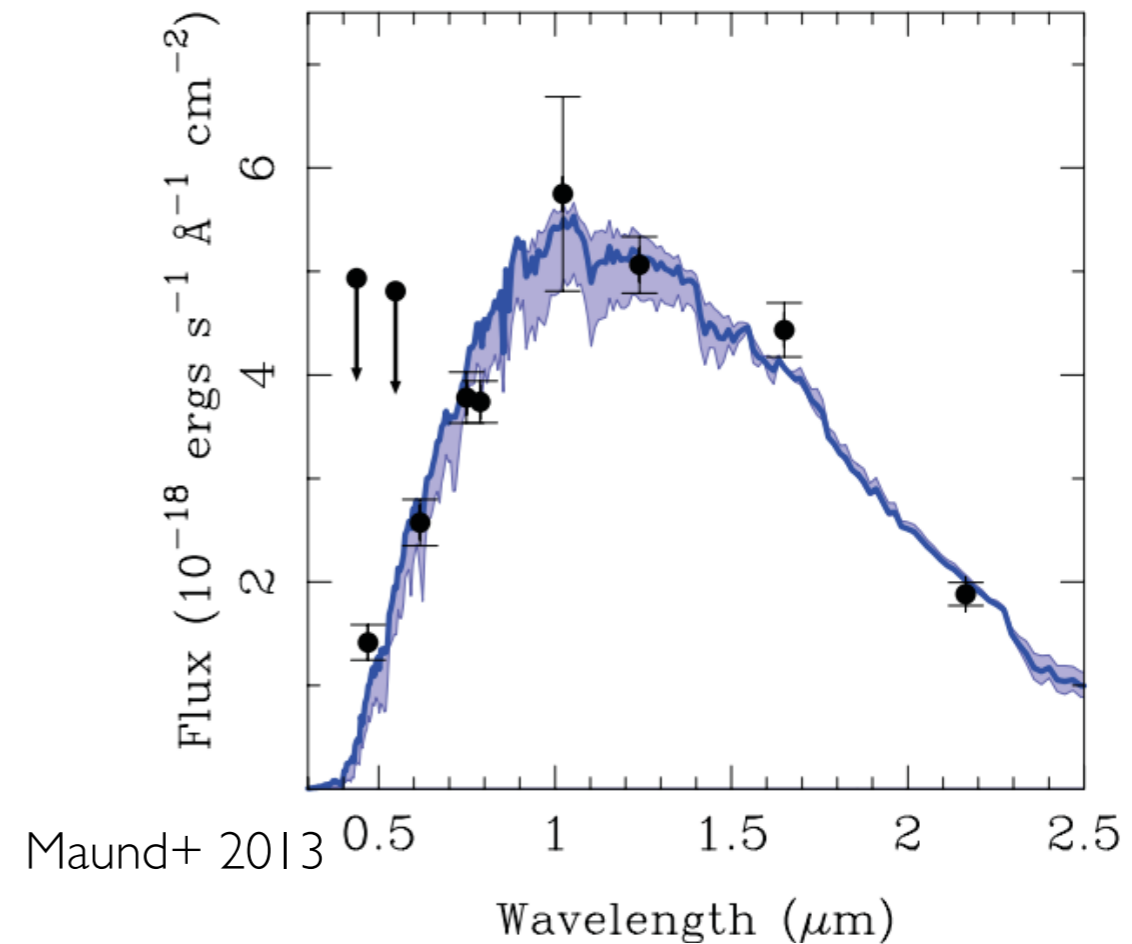
I. Where are the missing core-collapse supernovae?

II. Do *all* massive stars explode?

# Connecting supernovae to their progenitors: Direct searches in archival imaging

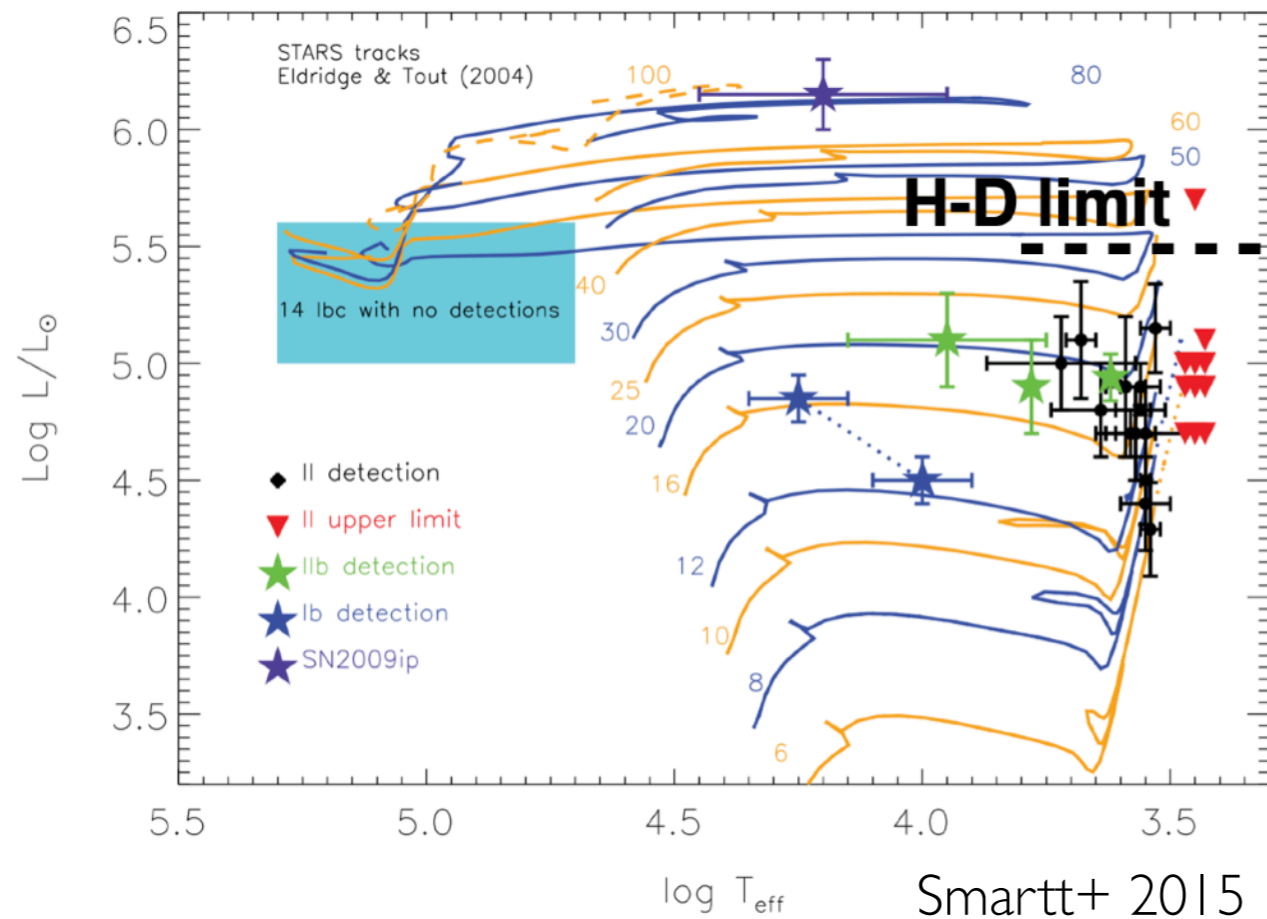
Search for coincident sources in high-resolution (often *HST*) pre-explosion imaging

Ideally, the star's disappearance is confirmed in post-explosion imaging.



Mattila+ 2010

# Do all massive stars explode?



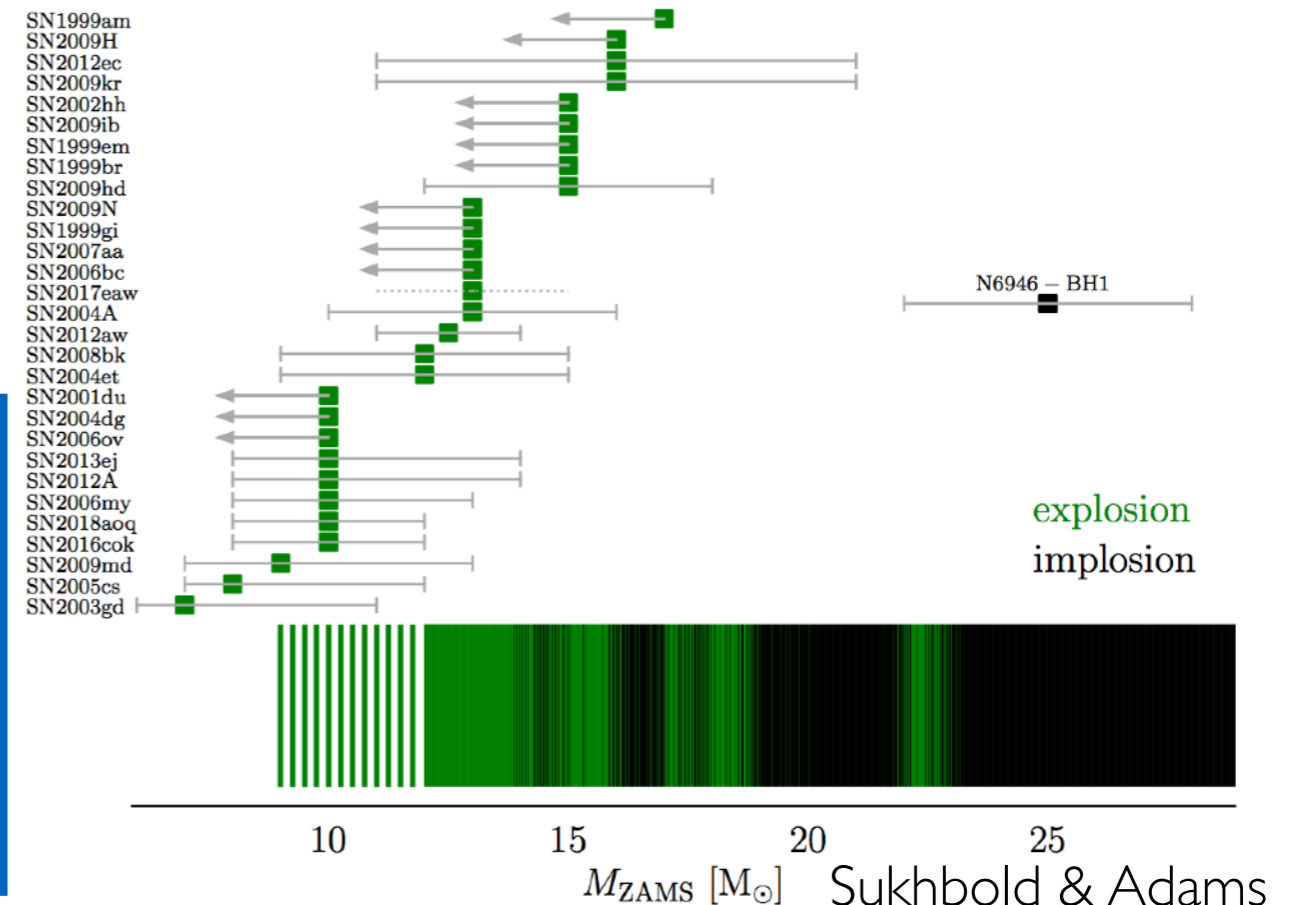
Core structure may determine outcome (e.g., Pejcha & Thompson 2014, Ertl 2016, Sukhbold, Woosley & Heger 2018, Ebinger+ 2020, Ghosh+ 2021).

Some consensus that  $>20 M_{\odot}$  stars are harder to explode.

“Islands of Explodability”

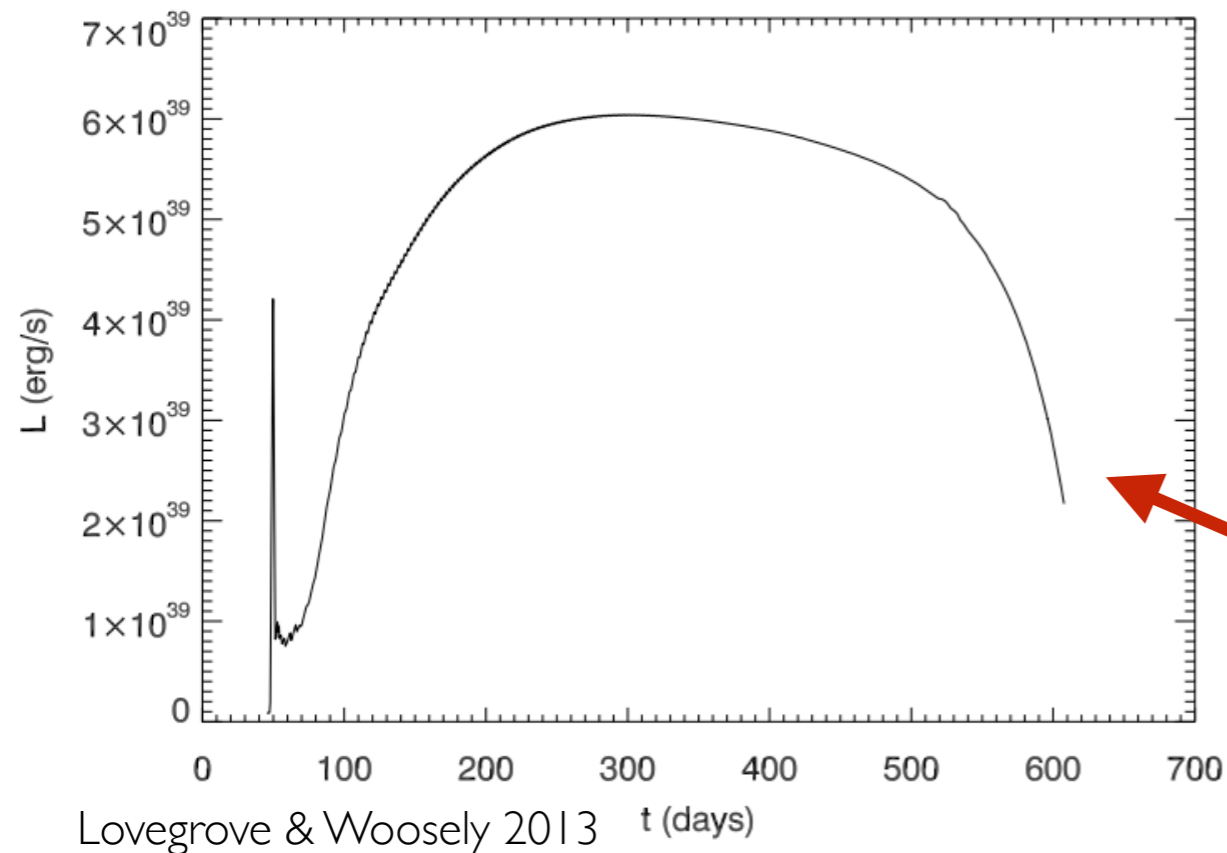
Data from IIP progenitors favors an upper mass limit  $\sim 16-23 M_{\odot}$  (Smartt 2009, 2015, Davies & Beasor 2018, 2020ab, Kochanek 2020).

Significance of missing higher mass stars remains low with current sample.





# Black hole formation may have associated transients.



Loss of core mass to neutrinos can drive a weak shock (Nadezhin 1980).

In red supergiants, this may produce a **long-lived, faint red transient** (Lovegrove & Woosely 2013):

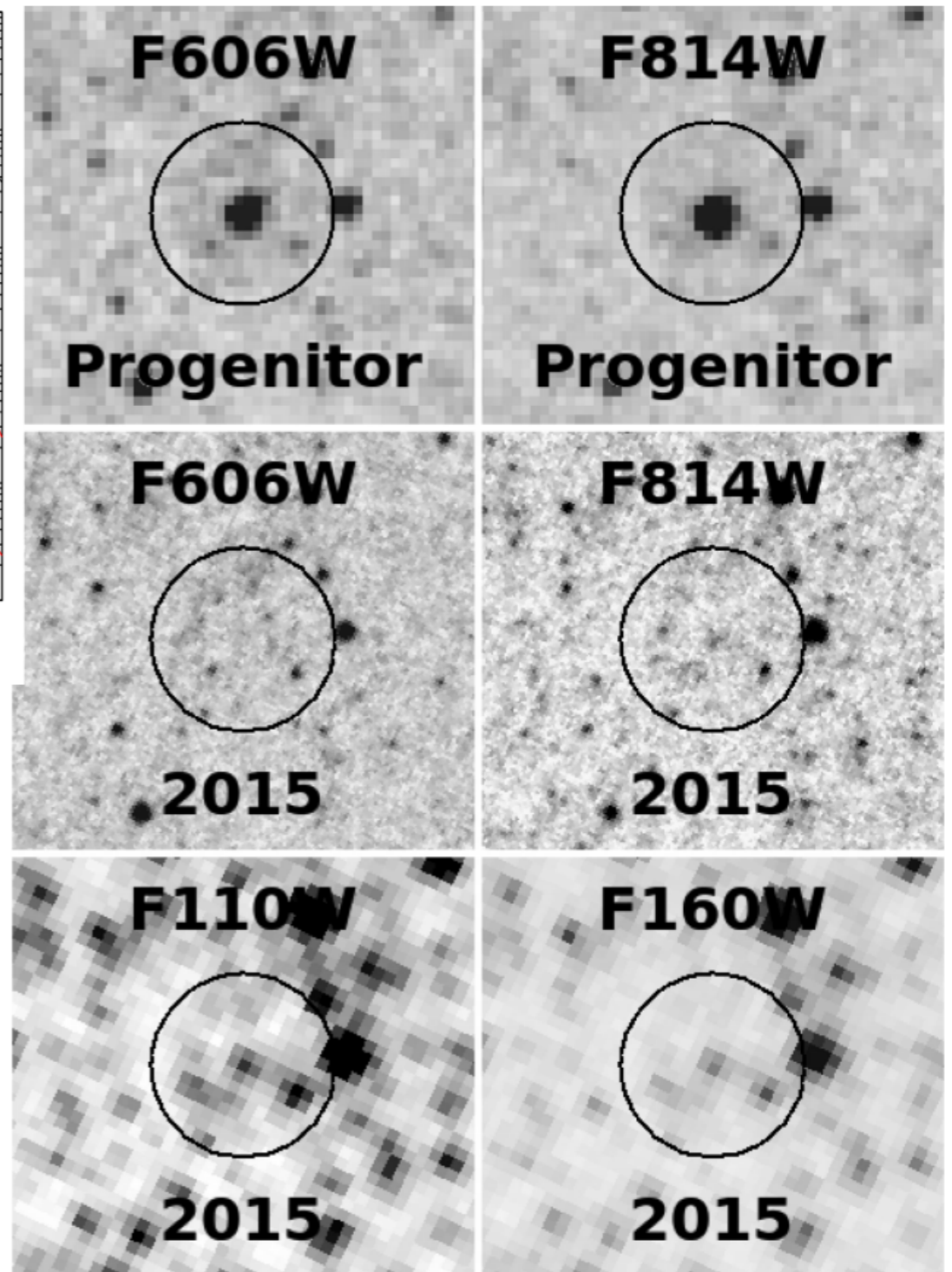
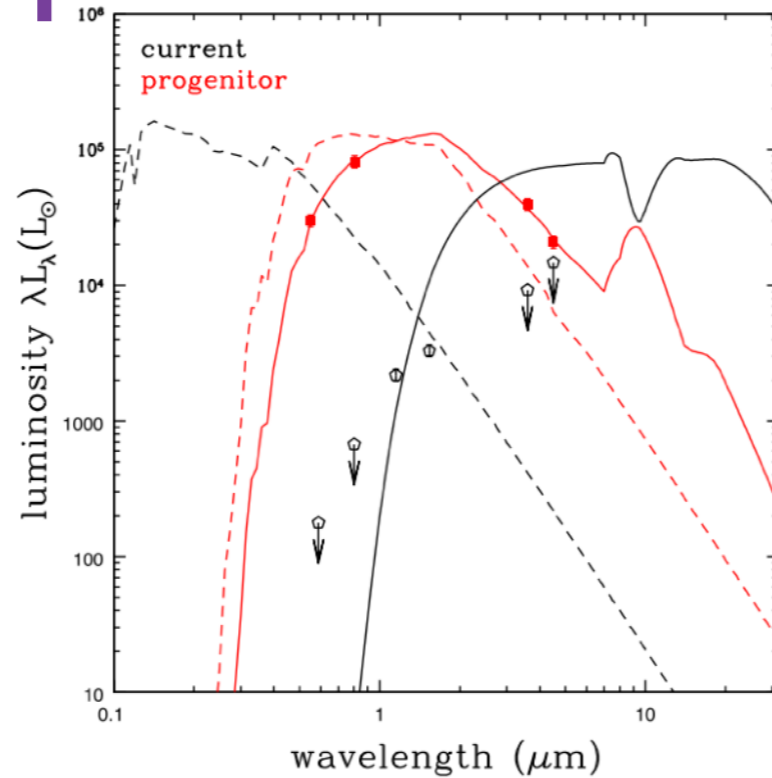
$$E_{\text{tot}} \approx 10^{47} \text{ erg}$$
$$L \approx 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$$
$$v \approx 100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$$

No such events found in stacked iPTF/ZTF images, but may be accessible with Rubin (Byrne & Fraser 2022).

# N6946-BH I: a disappearing $\sim 25 M_{\odot}$ star from the LBT



Image credit: NASA



Adams+ 2017

Survey of 27 galaxies within 10 Mpc led by Ohio State (Kochanek+ 2008, Gerke+2015, Adams+ 2017a)

Remnant is much fainter than progenitor; still fading in the IR (Adams+ 2017b, Basinger+ 2021)

New BSG candidate in M101 (Neustadt+ 2021)

Prior search with **archival-only** HST: One YSG candidate, not confirmed (Reynolds+ 2015).

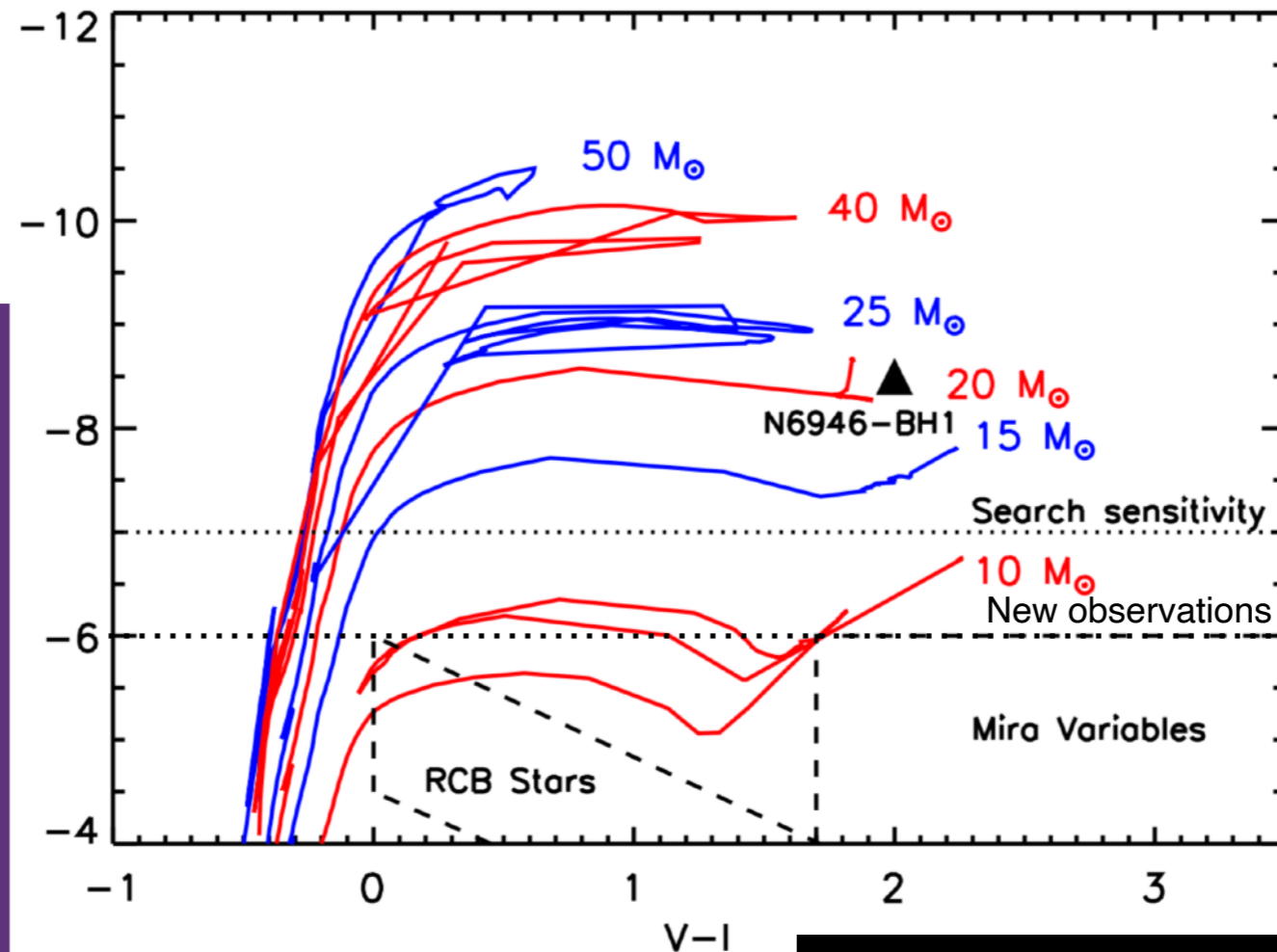
# A New Search For Failed Supernovae with HST

Observed a sample of 31 prolific SN-producing galaxies in 2019 (cycle 26; PI D. Sand)

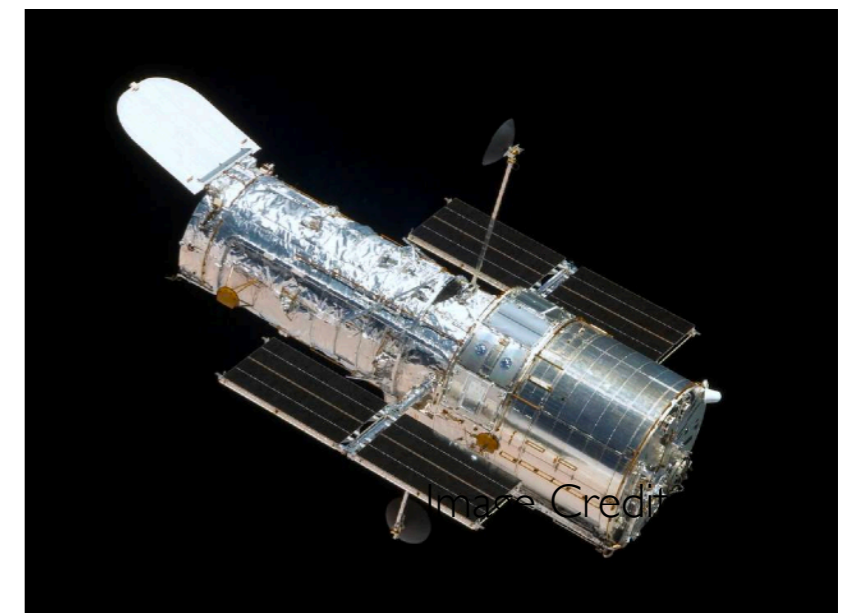
All galaxies at least 2 epochs of prior F814W imaging, many with extensive archival coverage

**Extended time baselines with new data is key**

Expect ~5-10 in our dataset

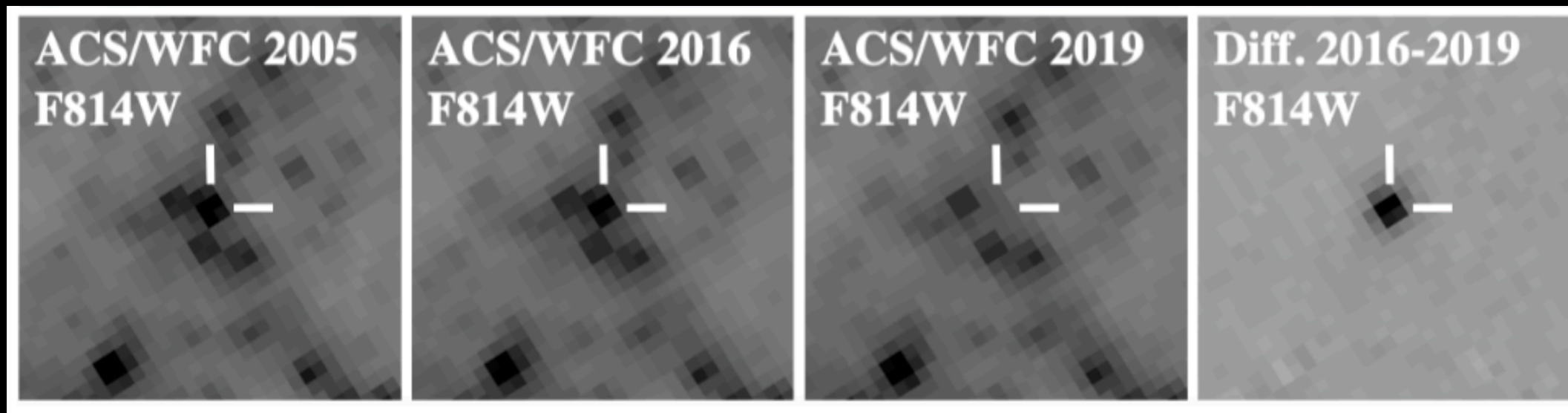


In collab. with D. Sand, J. Andrews, N. Smith, J. Strader, S. Valenti, J. Pearson, E. Beasor, B. Rothberg





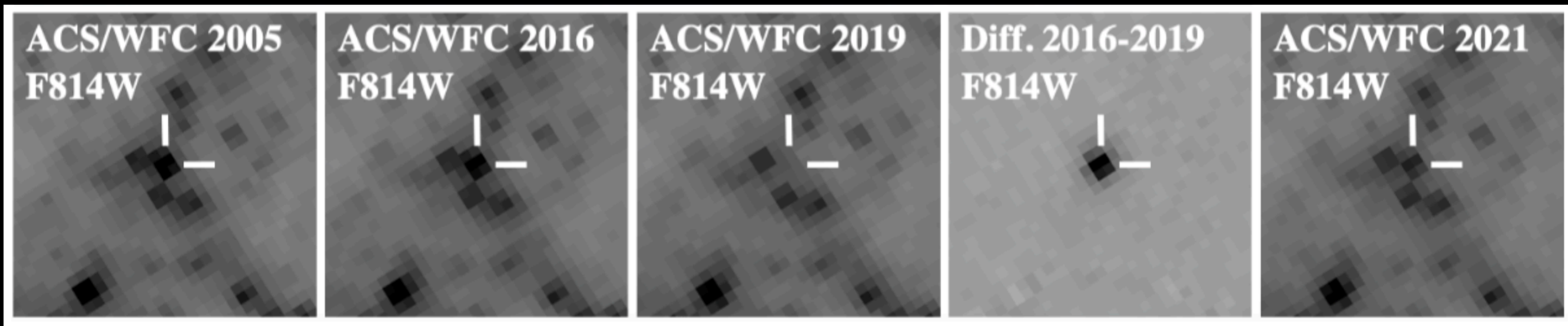
# Discovery of a “disappearing” star in M5 I



M5 I-DS I (= “Dimming Star” I)

Jencson+ 2021 (arXiv:2110.11376)

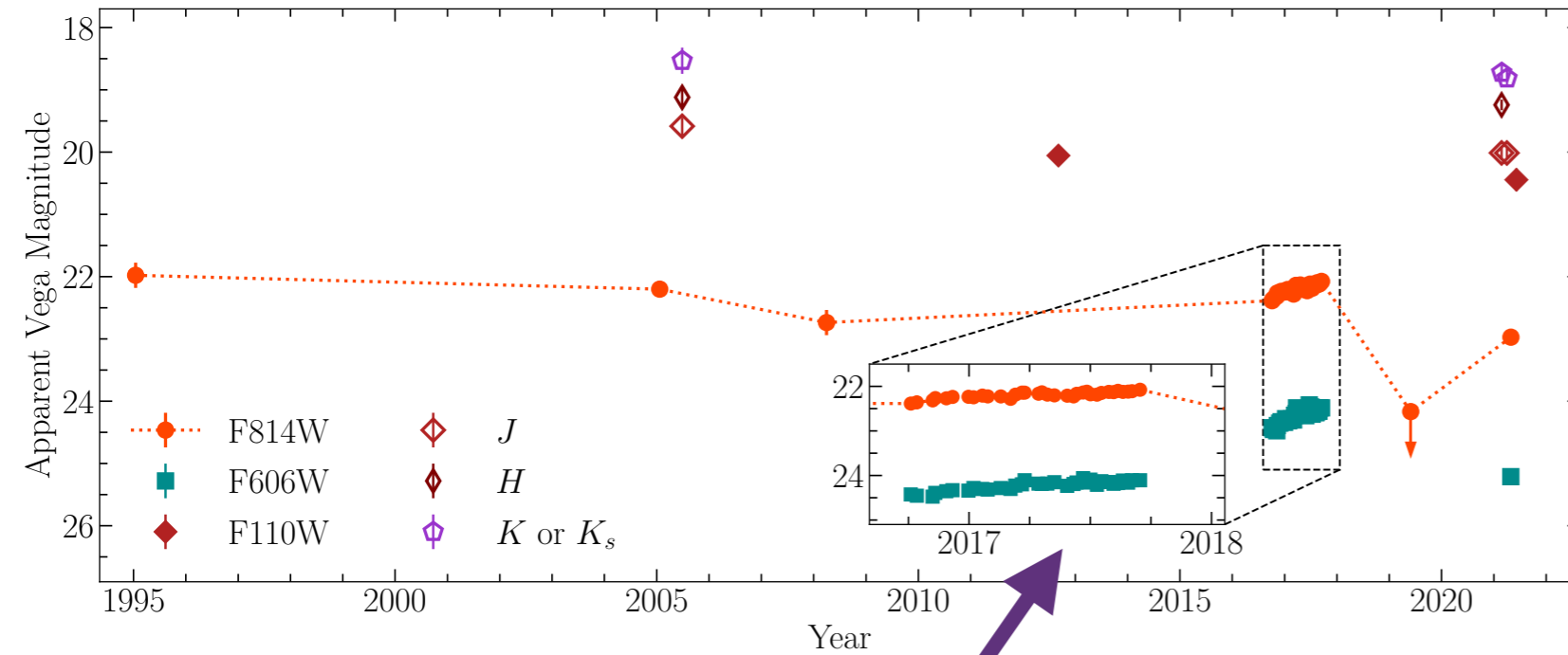
# Discovery of a “<sup>re-</sup>~~dis~~appearing” star in M5 I



M5 I-DS I (= “Dimming Star” I)

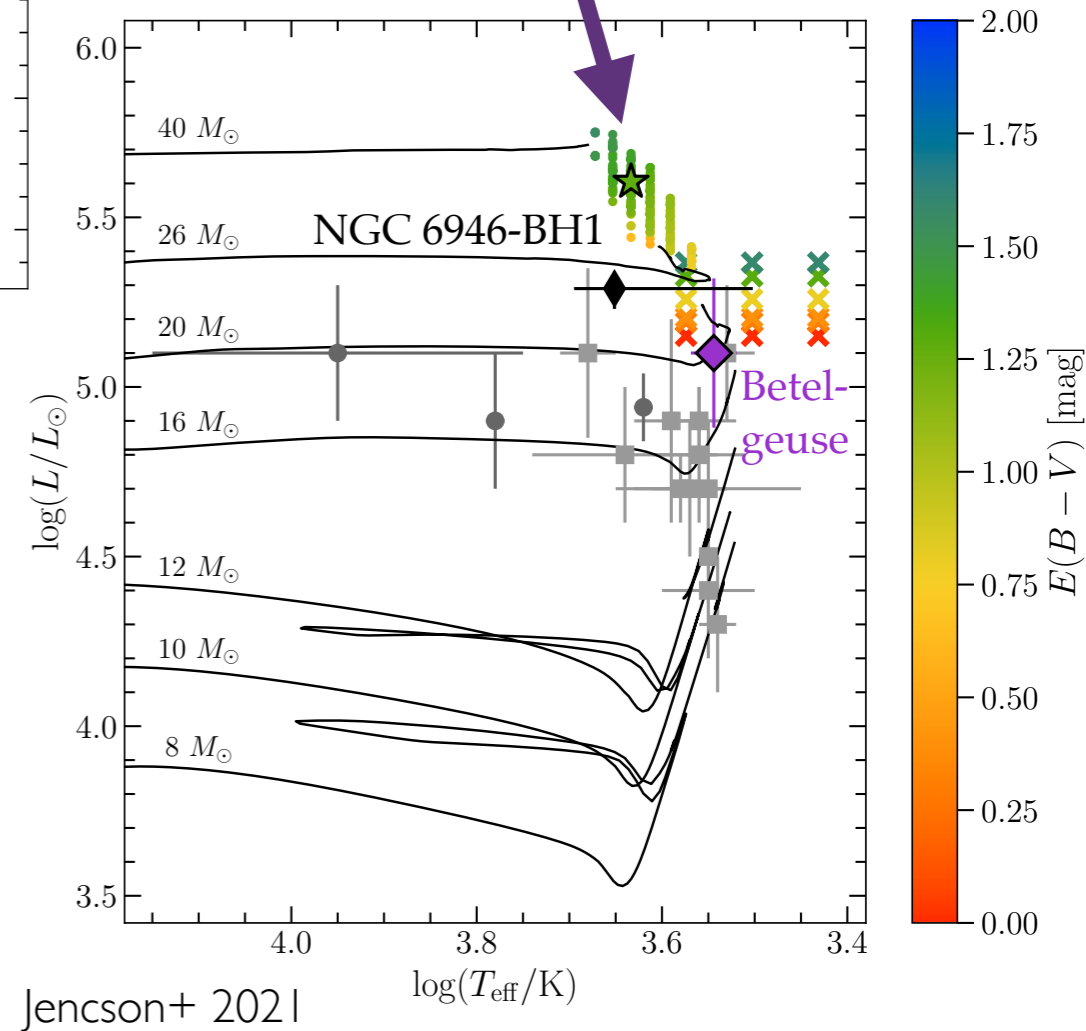
Jencson+ 2021 (arXiv:2110.11376)

# Photometry points to a, massive cool supergiant variable.



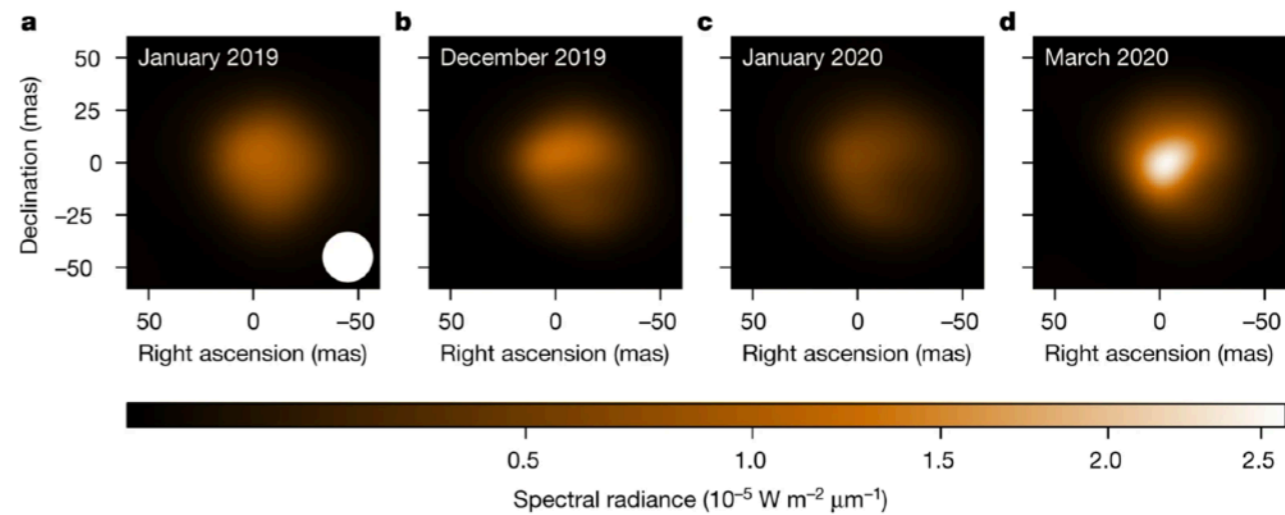
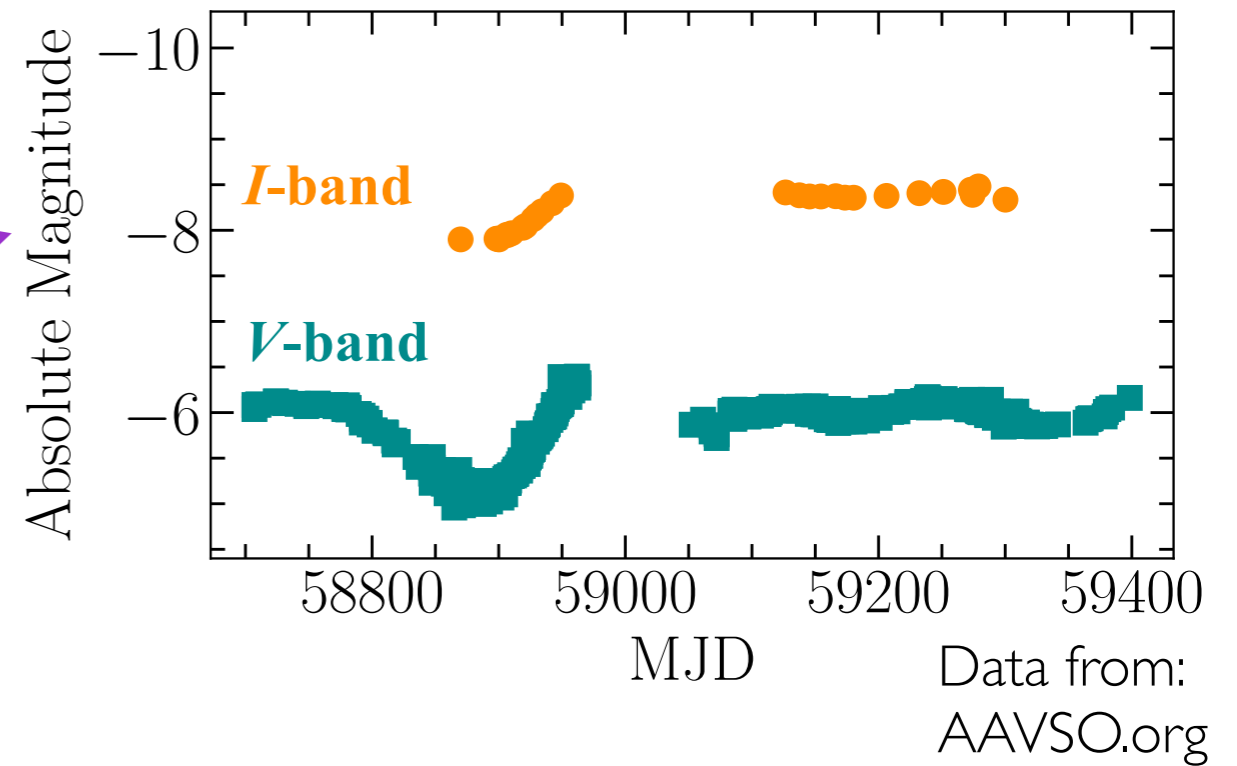
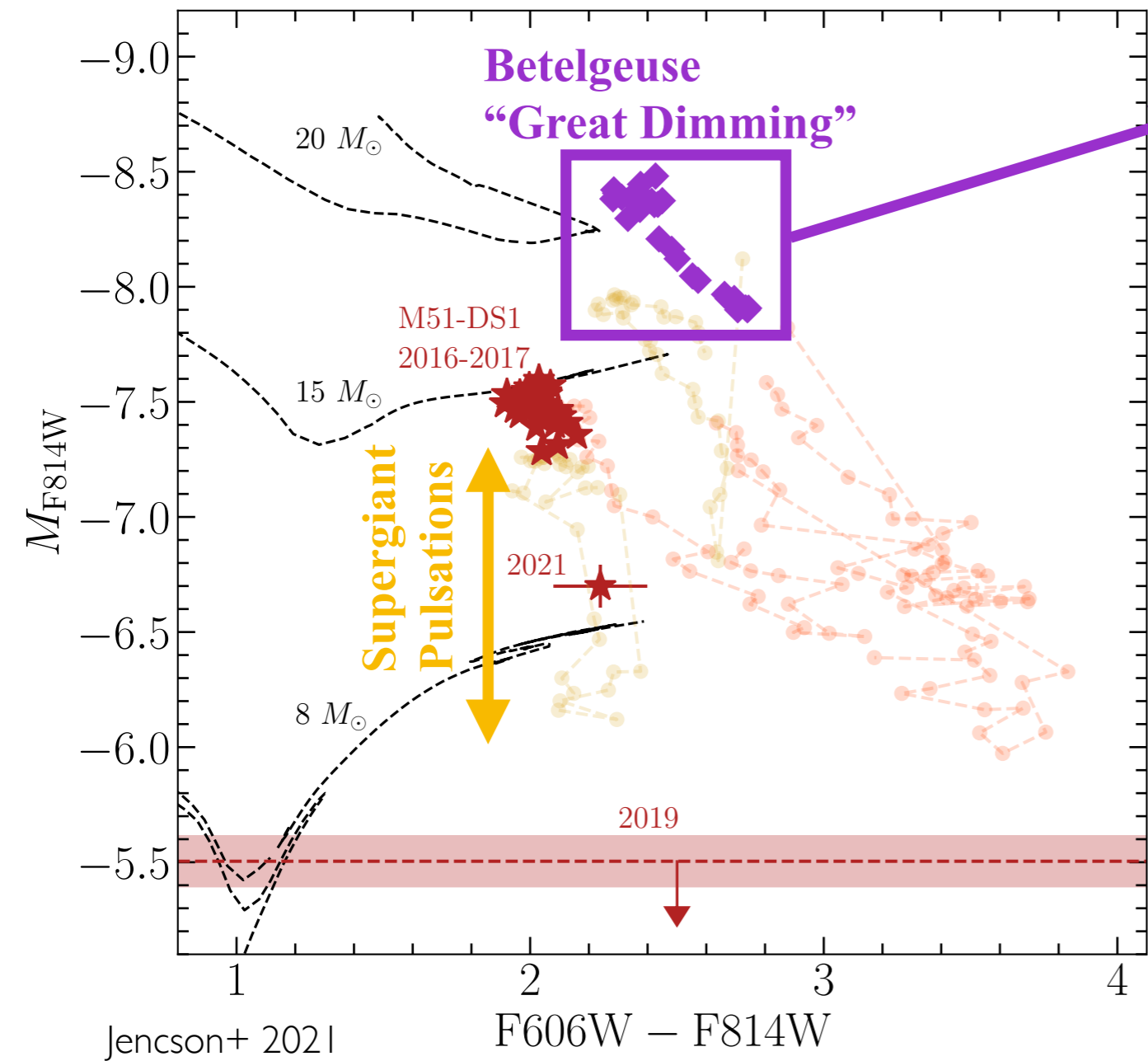
High-cadence HST program for massive star variability (Conroy+ 2018)

SED modeling suggests high foreground or circumstellar extinction.



# An even “Greater” Dimming

## M51-DS1 as an episodic mass-loss event

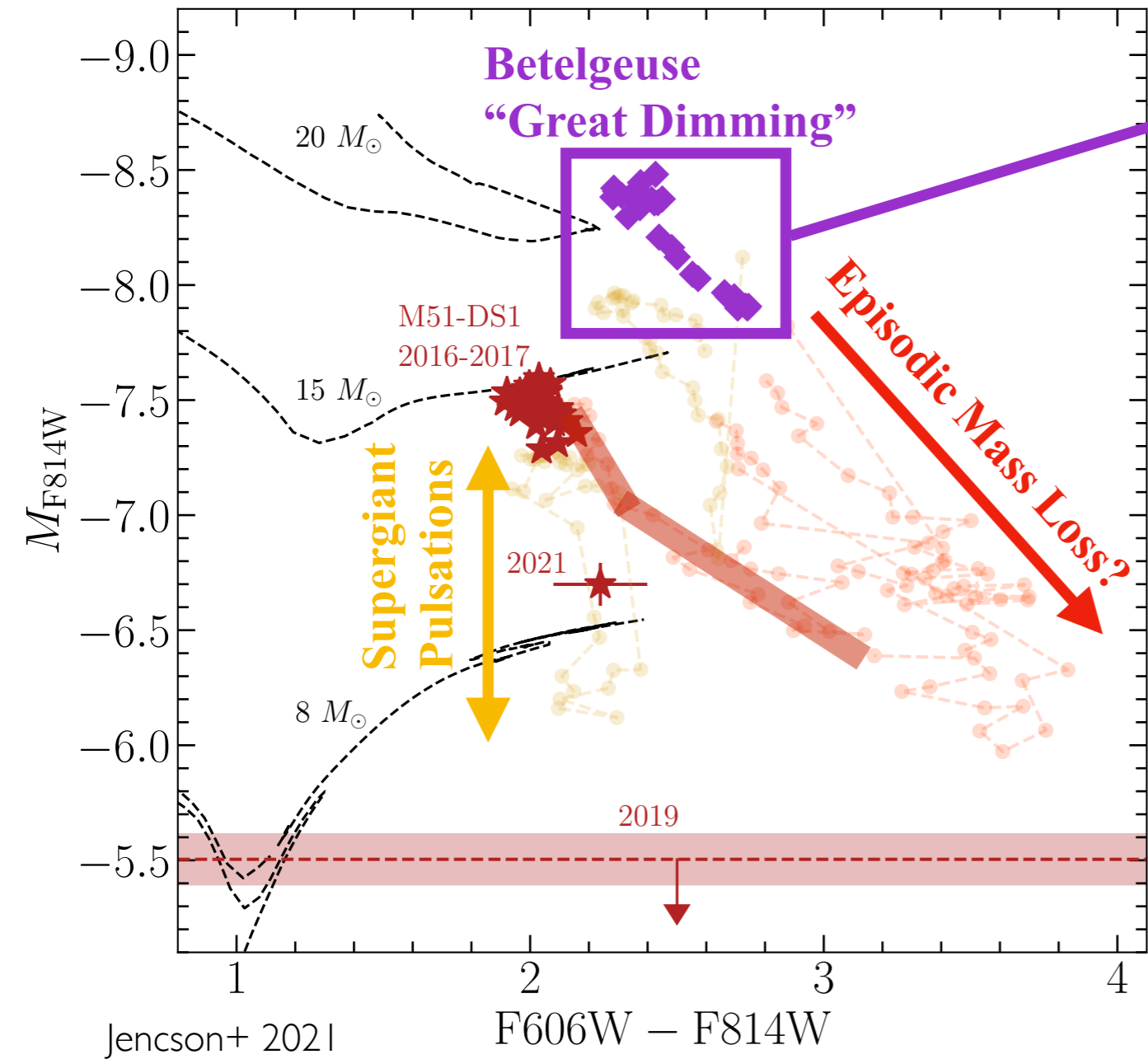


(Montargès+ 2021)



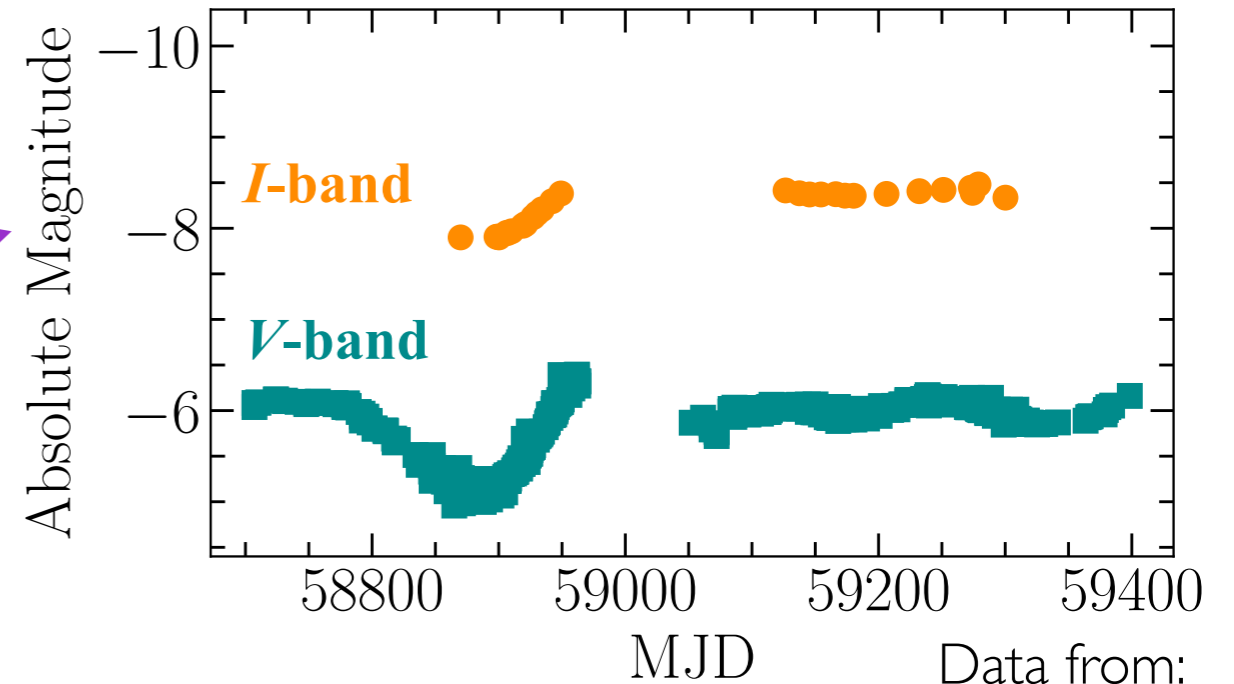
# An even “Greater” Dimming

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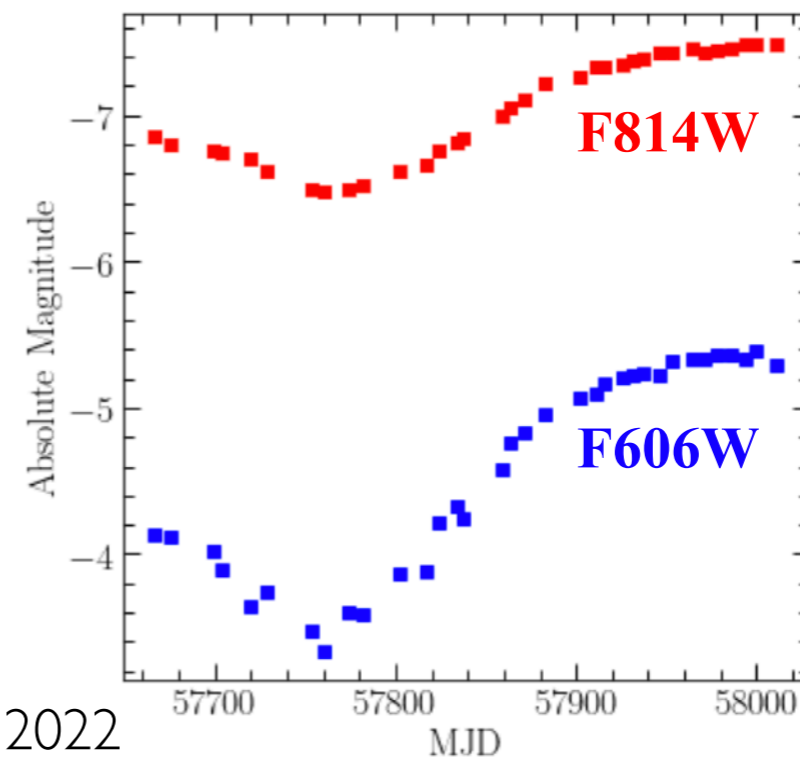


Jencson+ 2021

Jacob Jencson



Data from:  
AAVSO.org



Data from  
Conroy+18

February 8, 2022

15/17

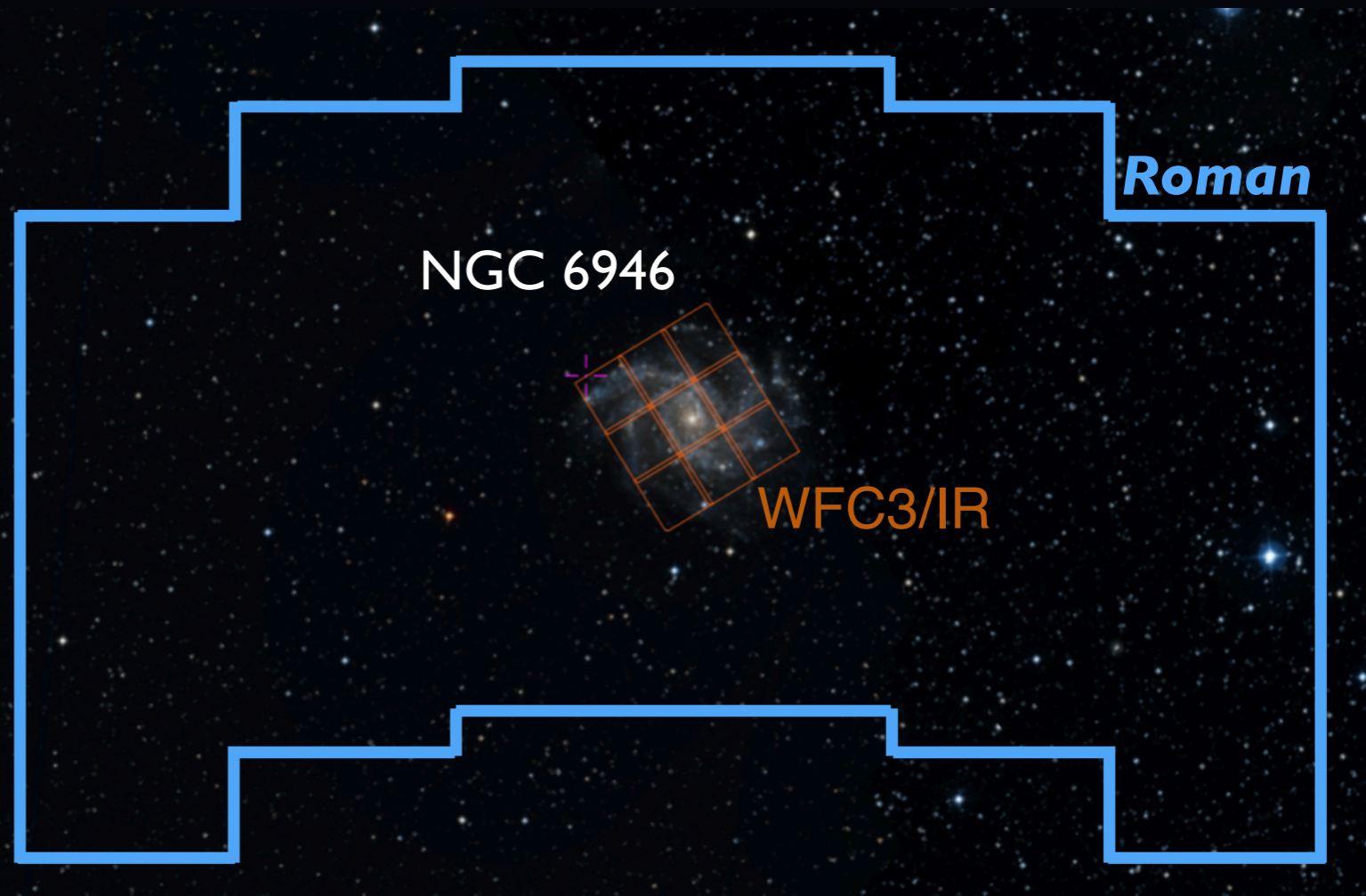
# Finding Failed Supernovae with *Roman*

Less hampered by extinction

Many nearby galaxies can be fully mapped without tiling

Growing coverage with WFC3/IR as a baseline for first-pass *Roman* imaging.

Five-year *Roman* survey of 30 galaxies could find ~3-6 failed SNe (7-14 total with WFC3/IR).



# Summary

## **The infrared sky is remarkably dynamic!**

- Spitzer uncovered a host of infrared transients and variables of diverse origins.
- Huge discovery space to explore with Roman.

## **Roman will be a powerful tool to build a complete census of massive stellar death:**

- Continue the search for heavily obscured supernovae.
- Build on ongoing work with the LBT and HST to uncover failed supernova explosions.

# **Auxiliary Slides**



# Collection of directly detected progenitors is growing:

## Type II:

Red supergiant stars  
~7-18  $M_{\odot}$

## Type IIb:

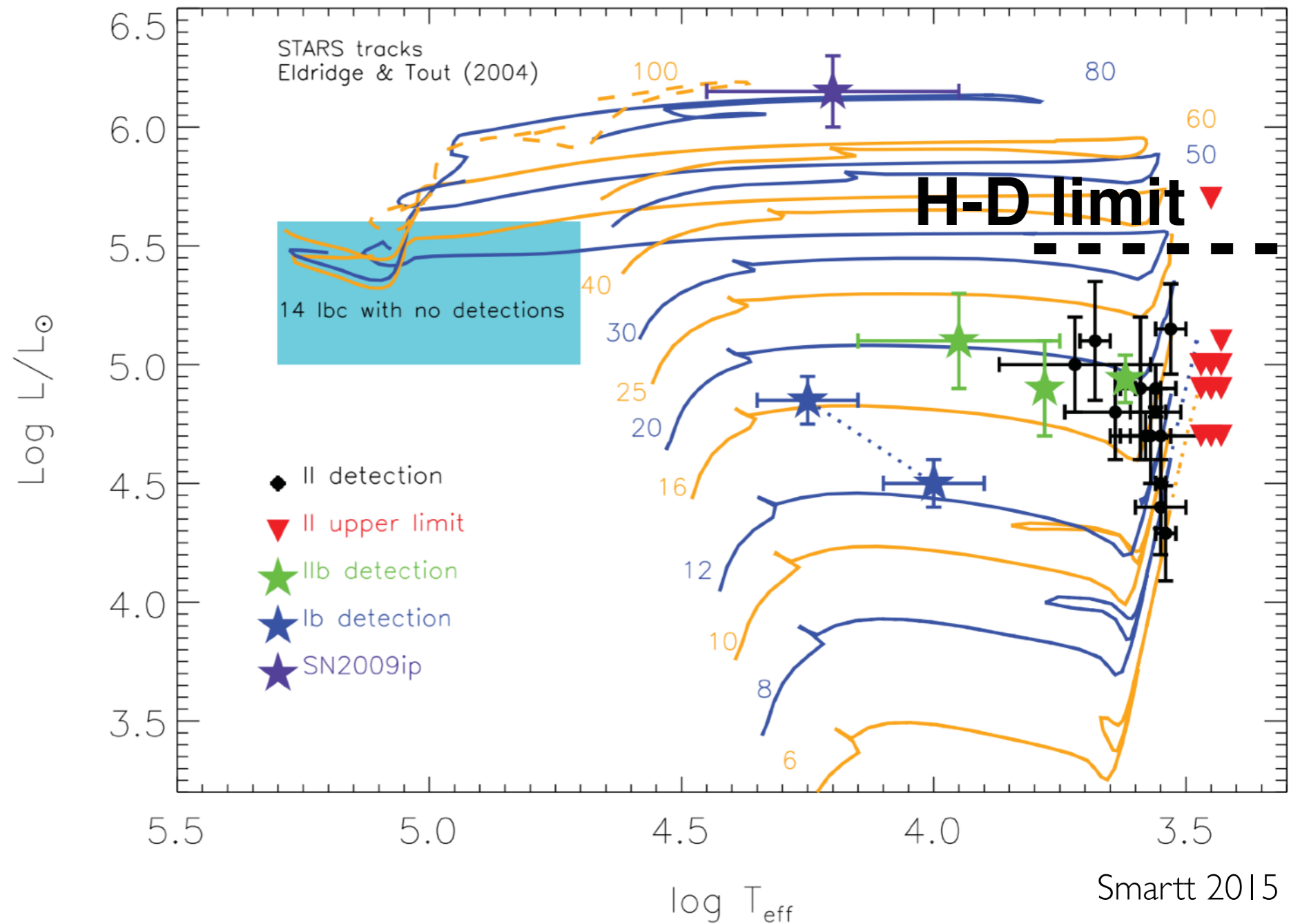
Extended yellow  
supergiants in binaries  
~13-17  $M_{\odot}$

## Types Ibc:

Probably lower mass  
stars in binaries

## Types IIn:

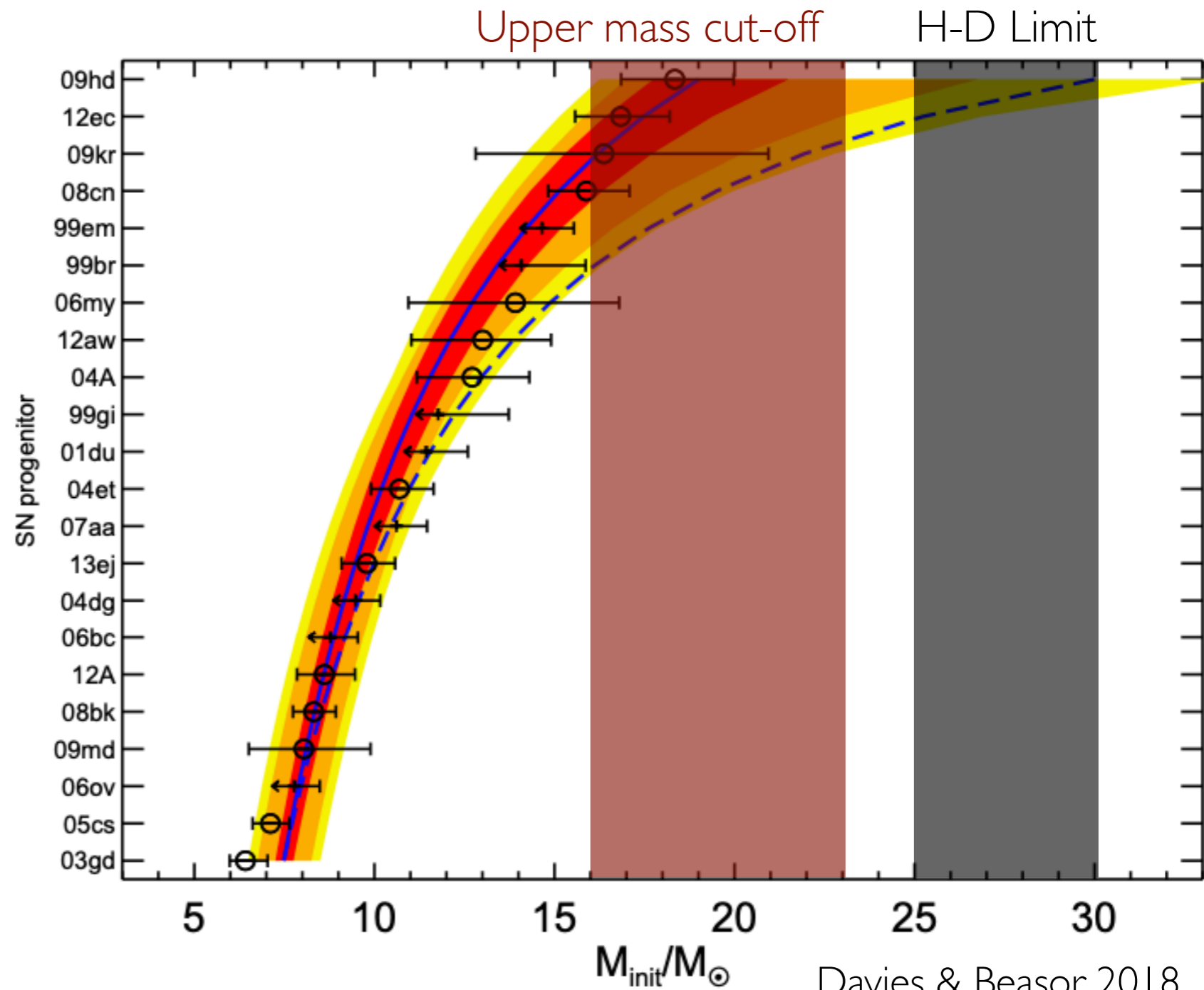
Possibly arising from  
very massive (~60-80  
 $M_{\odot}$ ) stars like LBVs (also  
probably binaries)



# Is there evidence for missing high-mass progenitors?

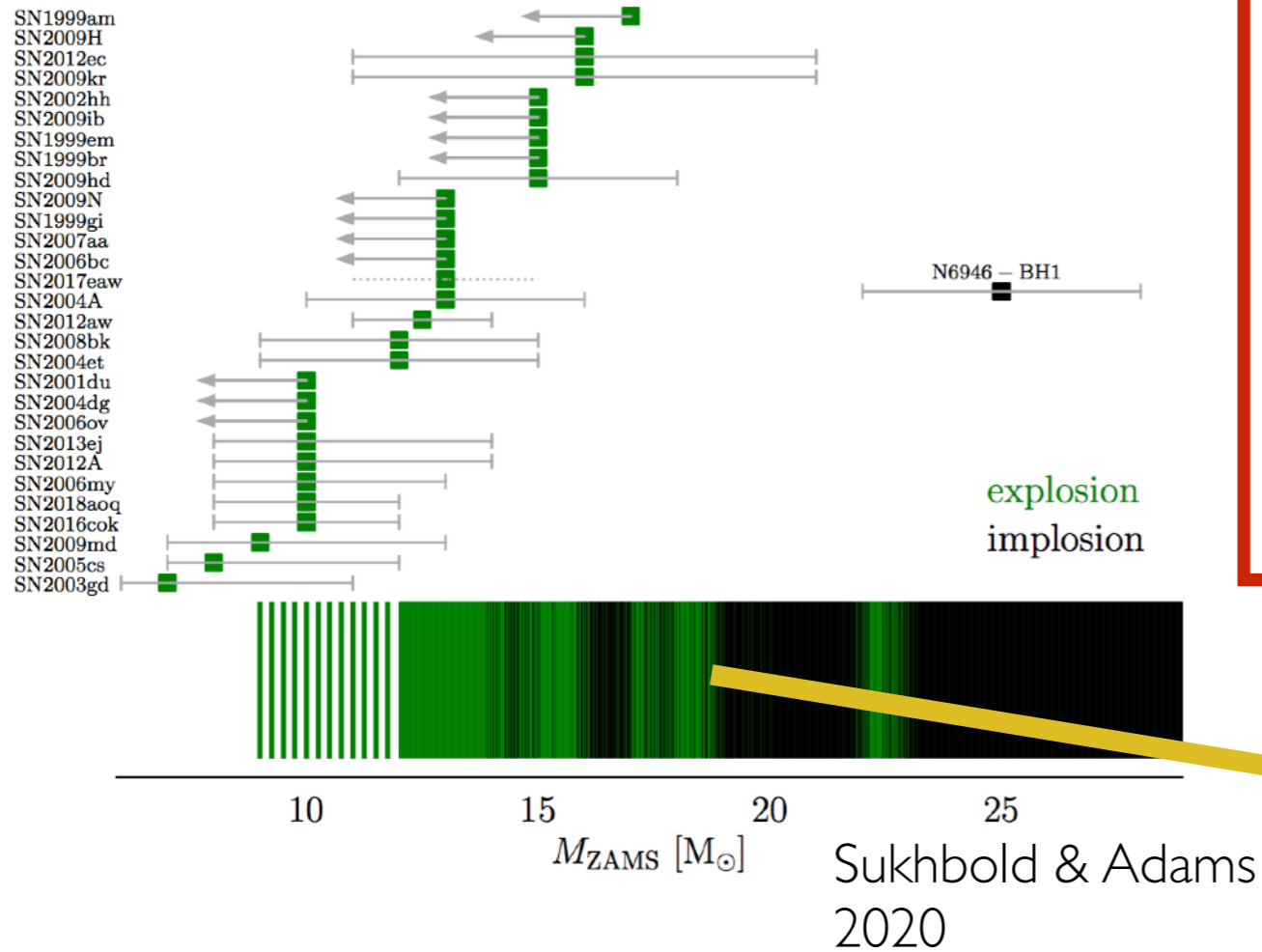
Data favors an upper mass limit  $\sim 16\text{-}23 M_{\odot}$  (Davies & Beasor 2018, 2020ab, Kochanek 2020)

Significance of missing higher mass stars remains low with current sample (Davies & Beasor 2018, 2020ab)



Davies & Beasor 2018

# Which stars *should* explode?

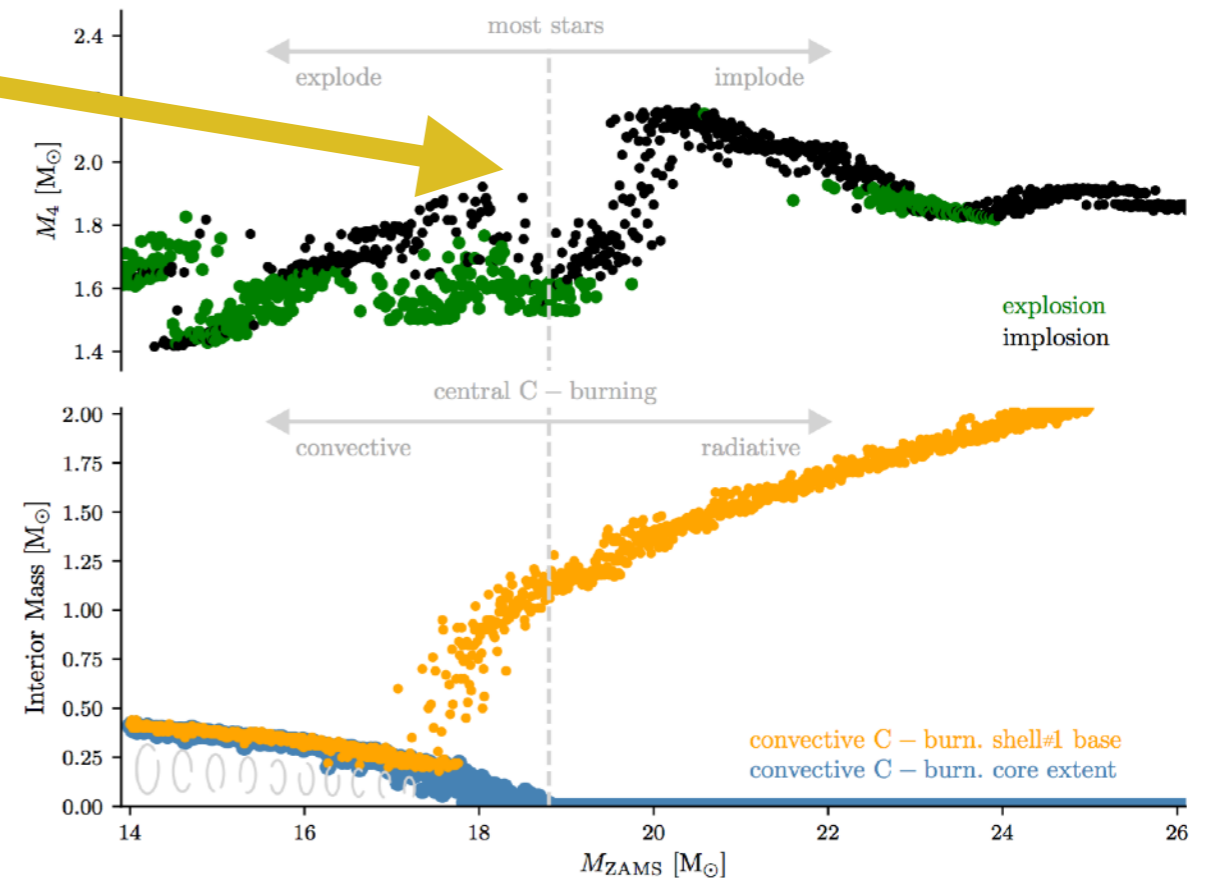


Core structure may determine outcome (e.g., Pejcha & Thompson 2014, Ertl 2016, Sukhbold, Woosley & Heger 2018, Ebinger+ 2020, Ghosh+ 2021)

Some consensus that  $>20 M_{\odot}$  stars are harder to explode

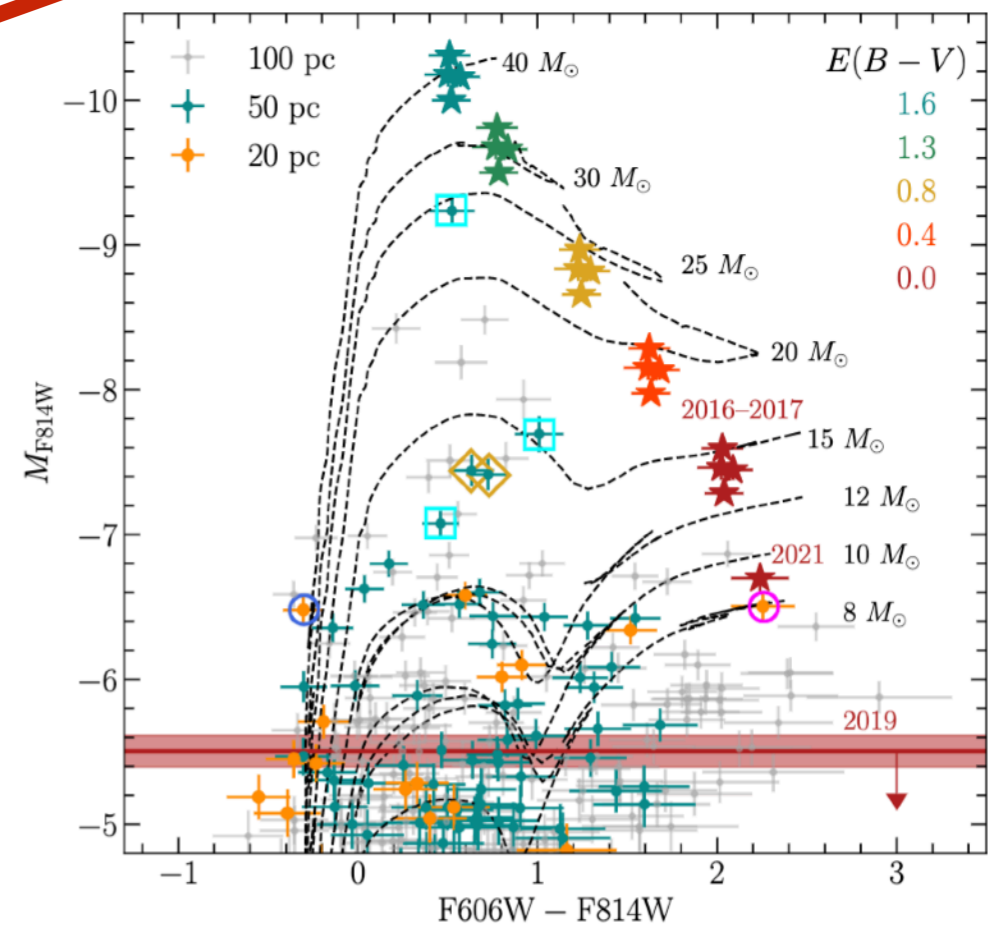
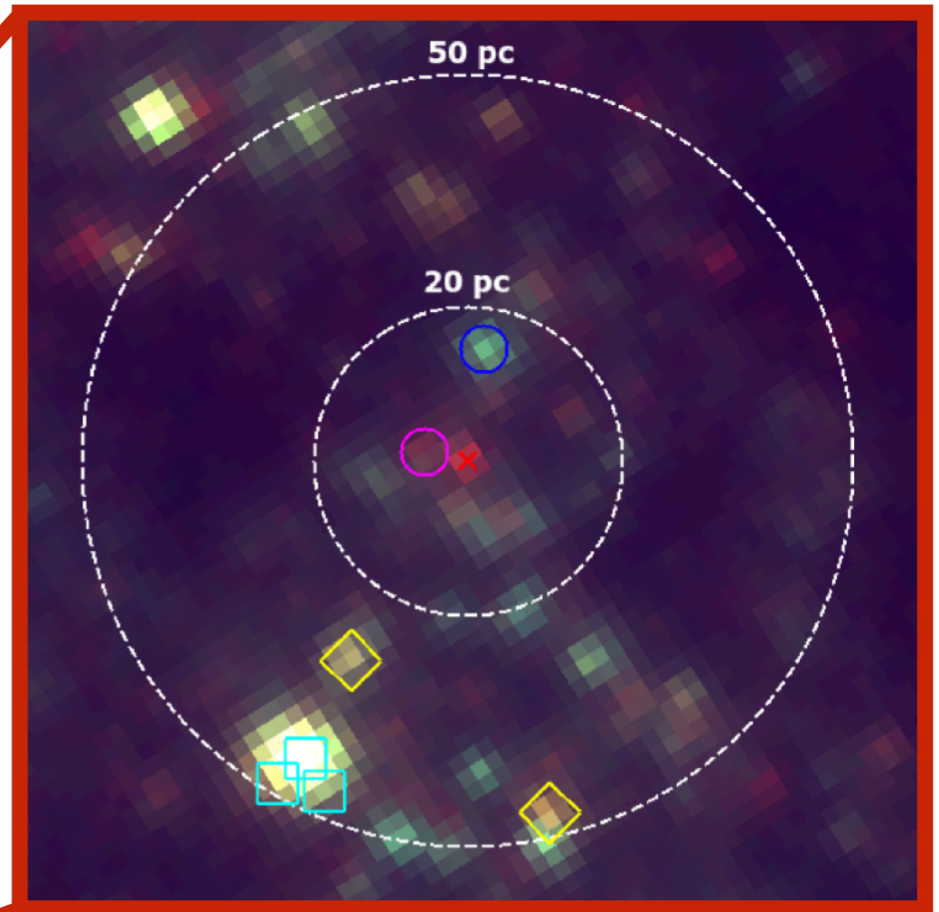
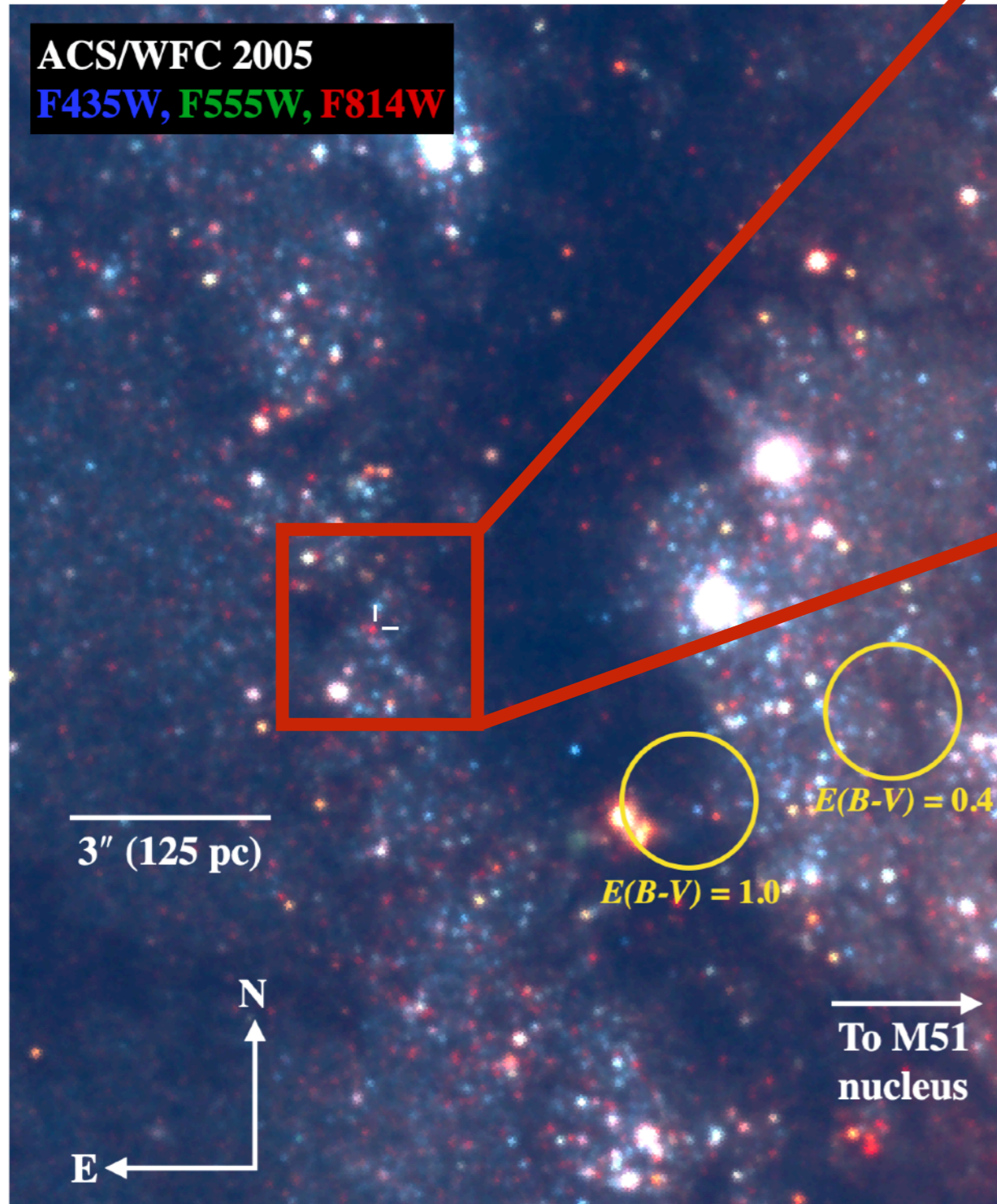
“Islands of Explodability”

Transition tied to core-burning physics:  
Convective vs. radiative core C-burning  
(Sukhbold & Adams 2020)





# Located in a young and probably dusty region





# Summary and Conclusions

We are conducting a new search with HST to determine the rate and progenitors of failed supernovae.

Our first candidate is a very massive ( $>20 M_{\odot}$ ), yellow or red supergiant in M51 that underwent an exceptional dimming event in 2019.

Recovery of the star suggests a large mass-loss event (not a failed supernova) - possibly a more extreme version of the “Great Dimming” of Betelgeuse.

These events may be common in cool supergiants.

Data analysis for failed supernova search is ongoing, especially for longest baselines.