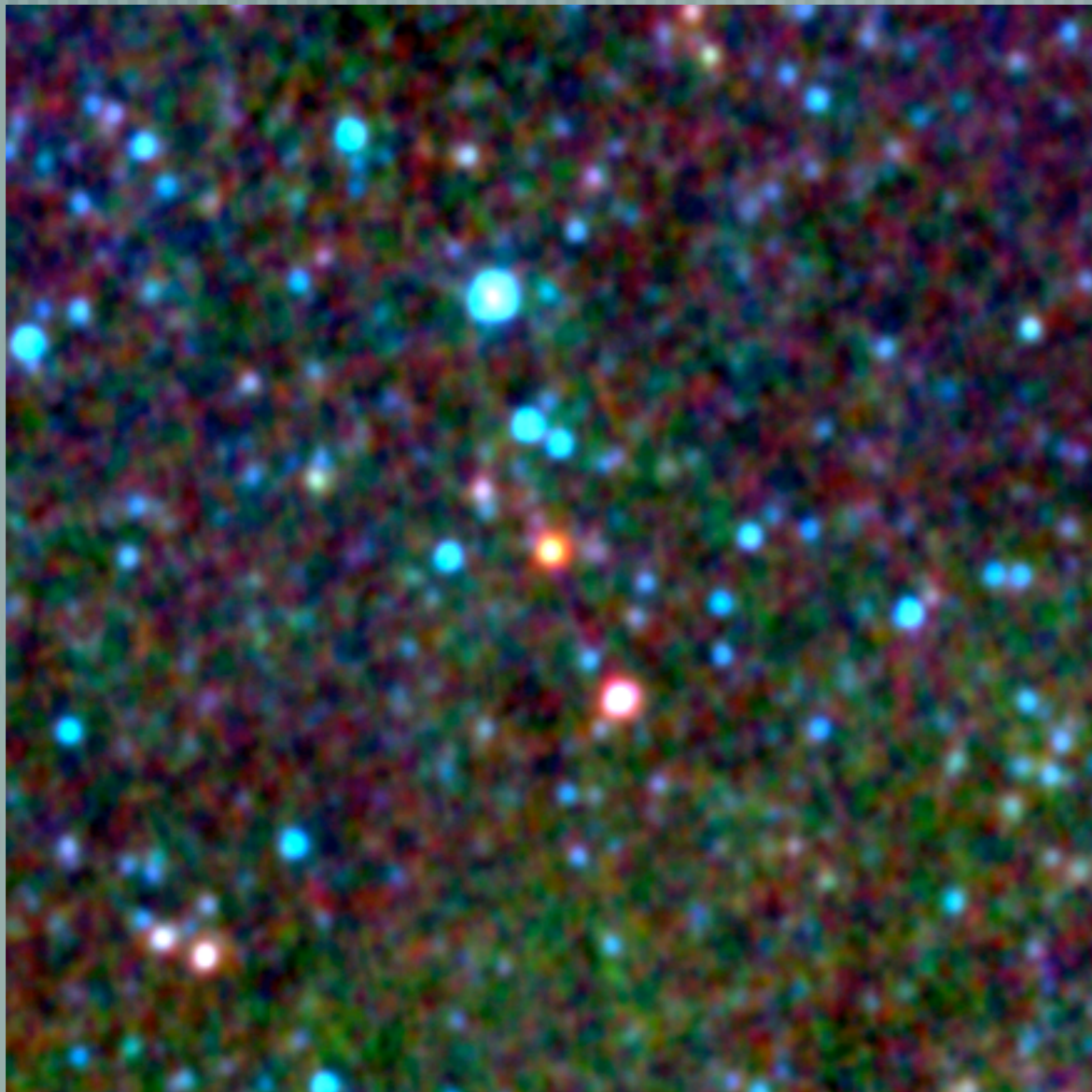


# WISE quasars



Nadia Zakamska  
Johns Hopkins University

# WISE quasars

## Toward a census of quasars

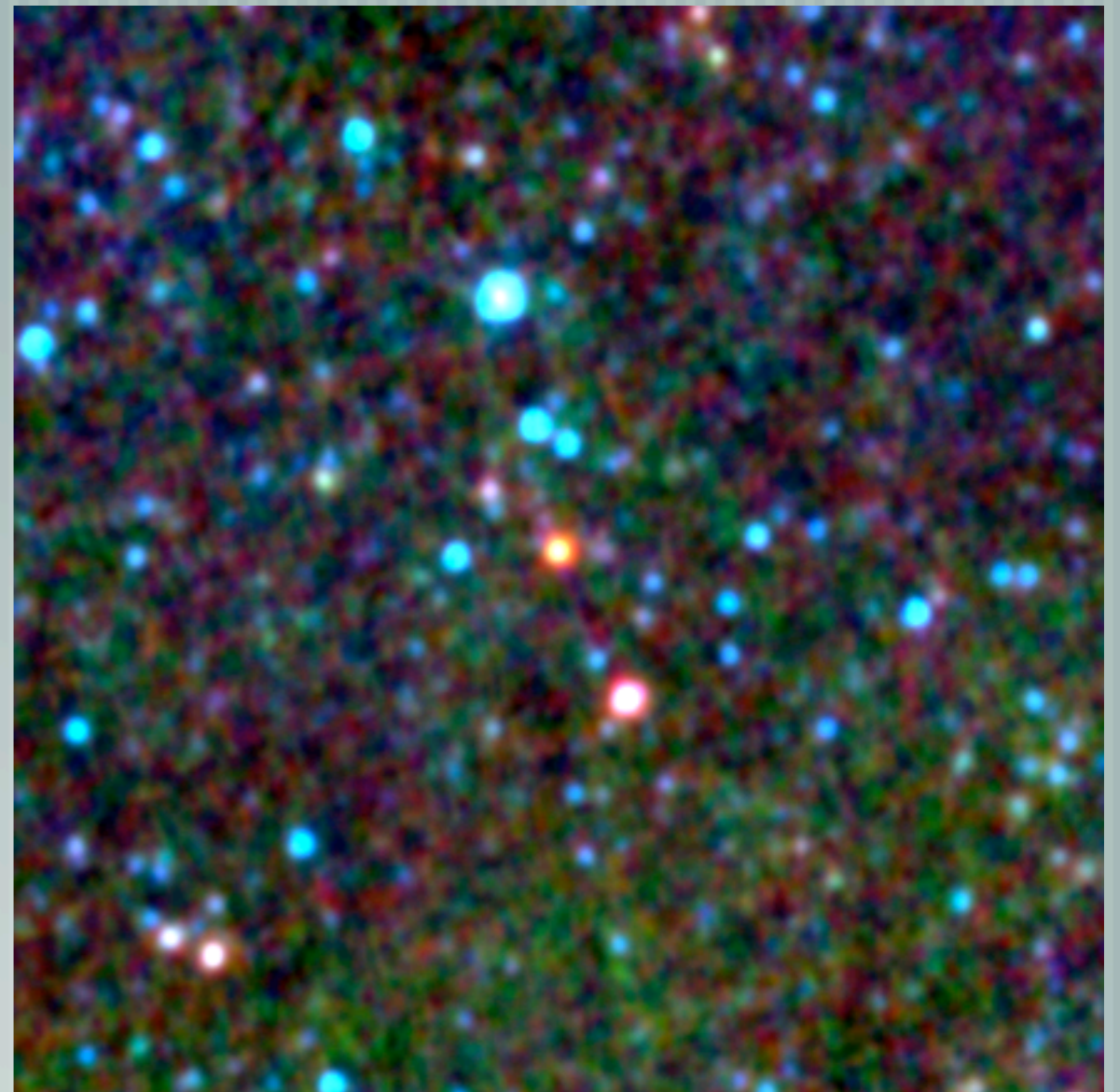
Why is this an interesting thing to do  
Selection techniques

## Extreme sources

Hot DOGs (Roberto Assef's talk)  
Extremely red quasars (ERQs??)

## Why are they extremely interesting

Quasar feedback at the peak of galaxy formation



# 1. Toward a complete census of quasars

Demographics of quasars (obscured vs unobscured) is still an unsolved problem

Especially at high luminosities, especially at  $z=2-3$

Quasars, quasar obscuration played key role in galaxy formation

Especially at high luminosities, especially at  $z=2-3$

Soltan argument, X-ray background, obscuration geometry / evolution

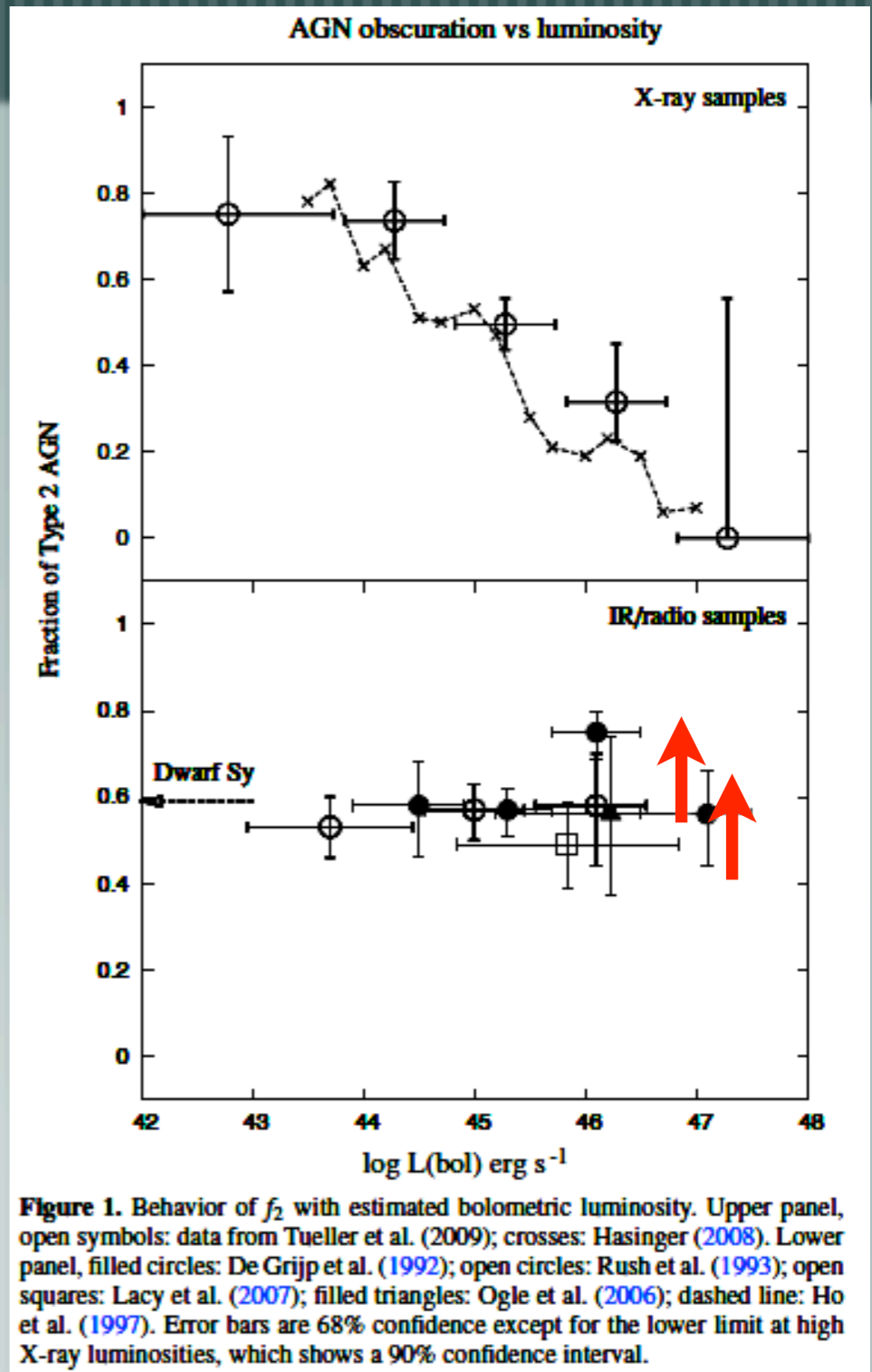


Figure 1. Behavior of  $f_2$  with estimated bolometric luminosity. Upper panel, open symbols: data from Tueller et al. (2009); crosses: Hasinger (2008). Lower panel, filled circles: De Grijp et al. (1992); open circles: Rush et al. (1993); open squares: Lacy et al. (2007); filled triangles: Ogle et al. (2006); dashed line: Ho et al. (1997). Error bars are 68% confidence except for the lower limit at high X-ray luminosities, which shows a 90% confidence interval.

Lawrence & Elvis 2010

Reyes, Zakamska et al. 2008



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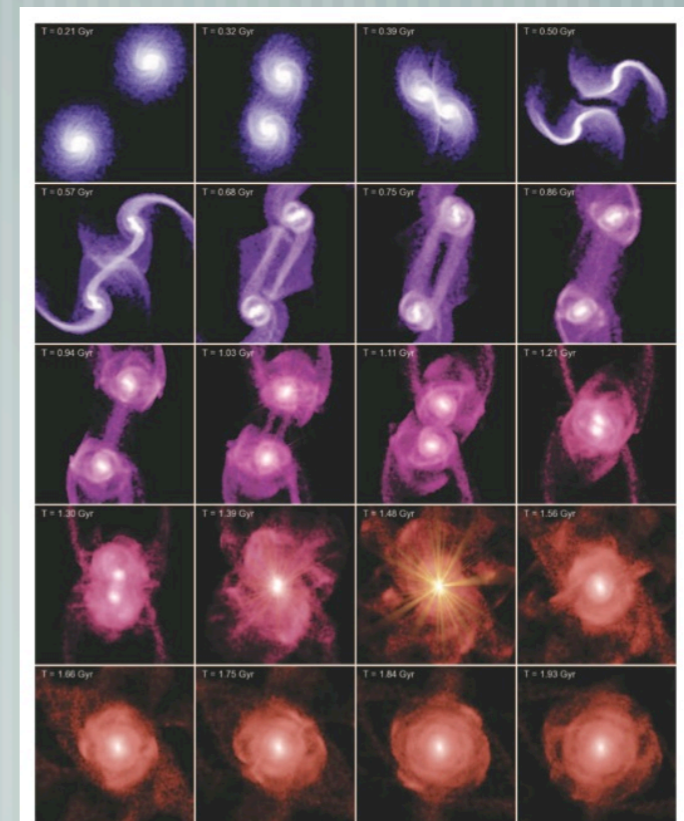
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Antonucci 1993



Sanders et al., Hopkins et al.

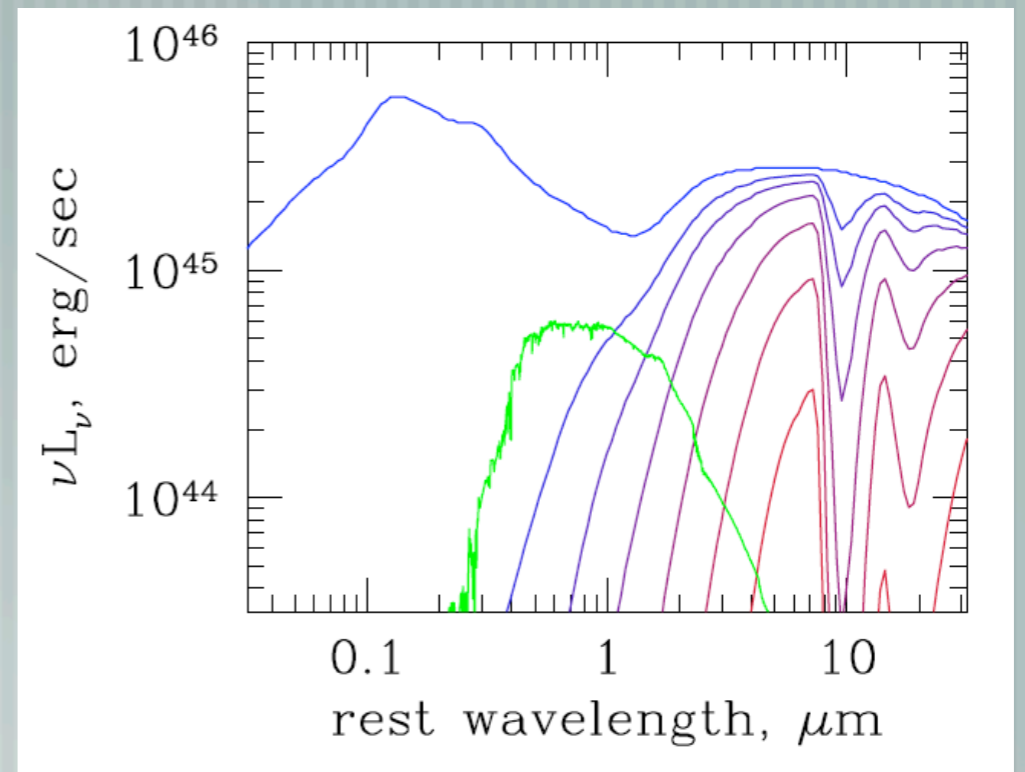
# 1. Toward a complete census of quasars

In principle, WISE is sensitive to both obscured and unobscured population

AGN excess over the galaxy – red W1-W2 colors

In practice, wide range of quasar SEDs

Power-laws vs ‘screen of cold dust’



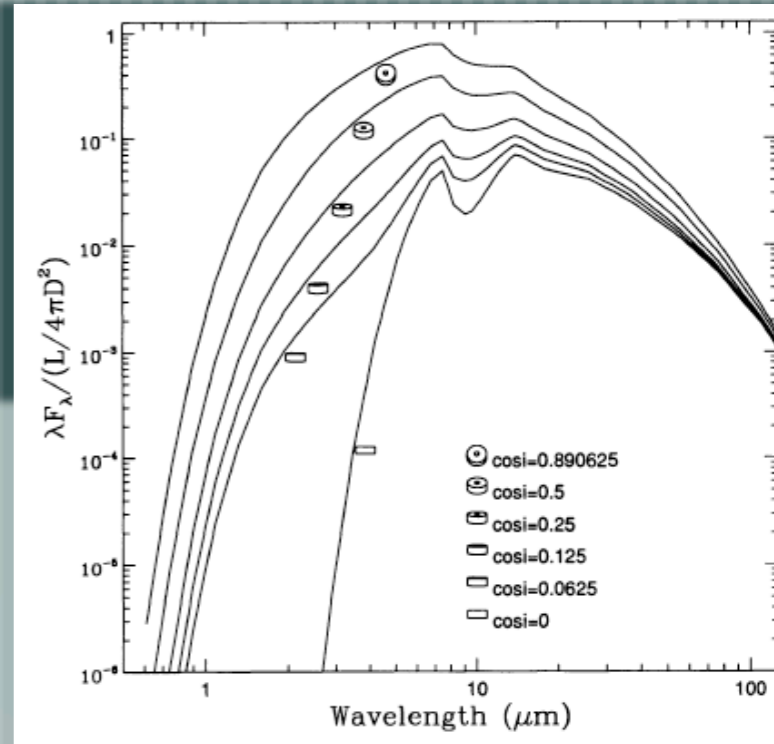
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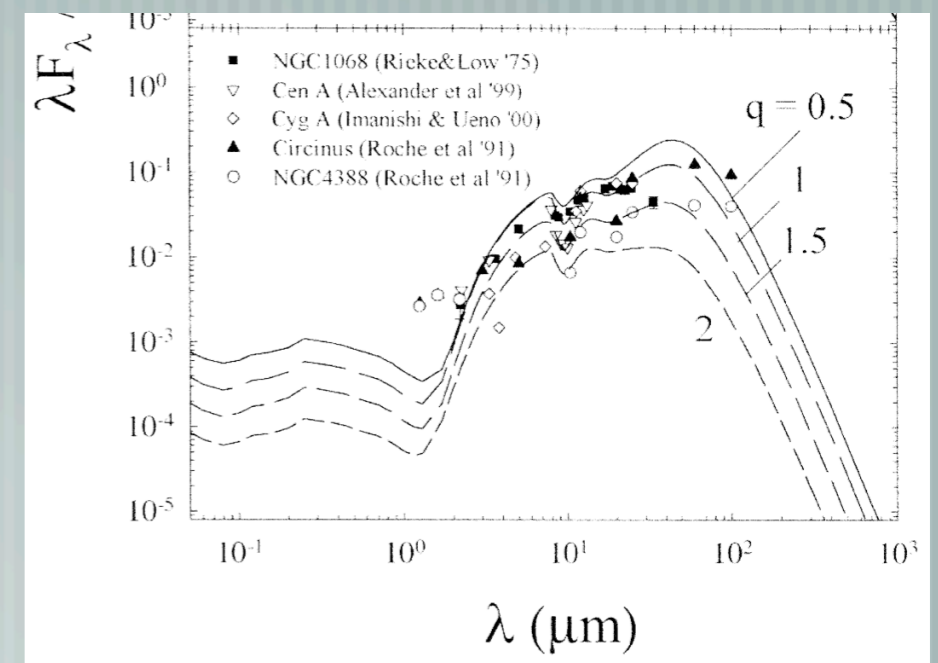
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Pier & Krolik 1993



Nenkova et al. 2002 (also Nikutta's talk)

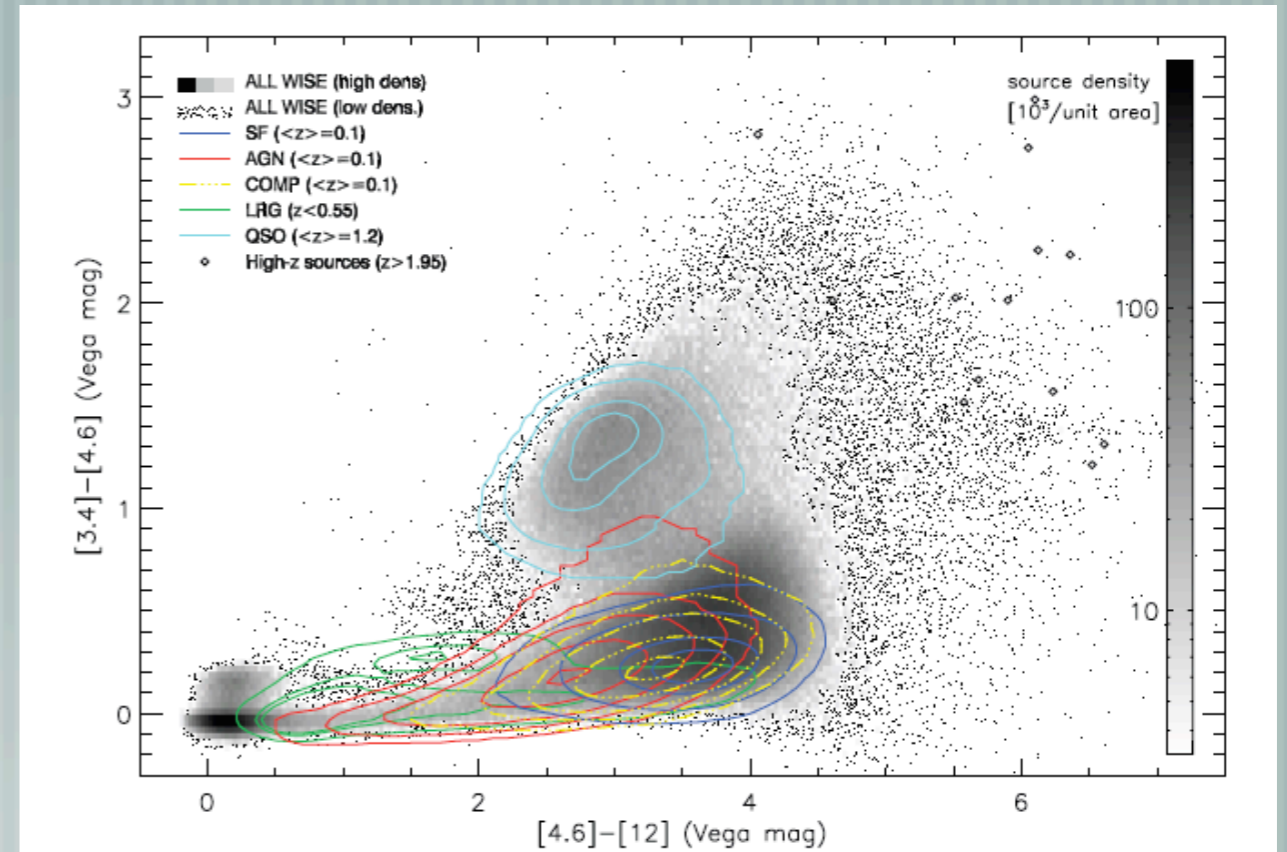
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Yan et al. 2013 (also Stern et al.)



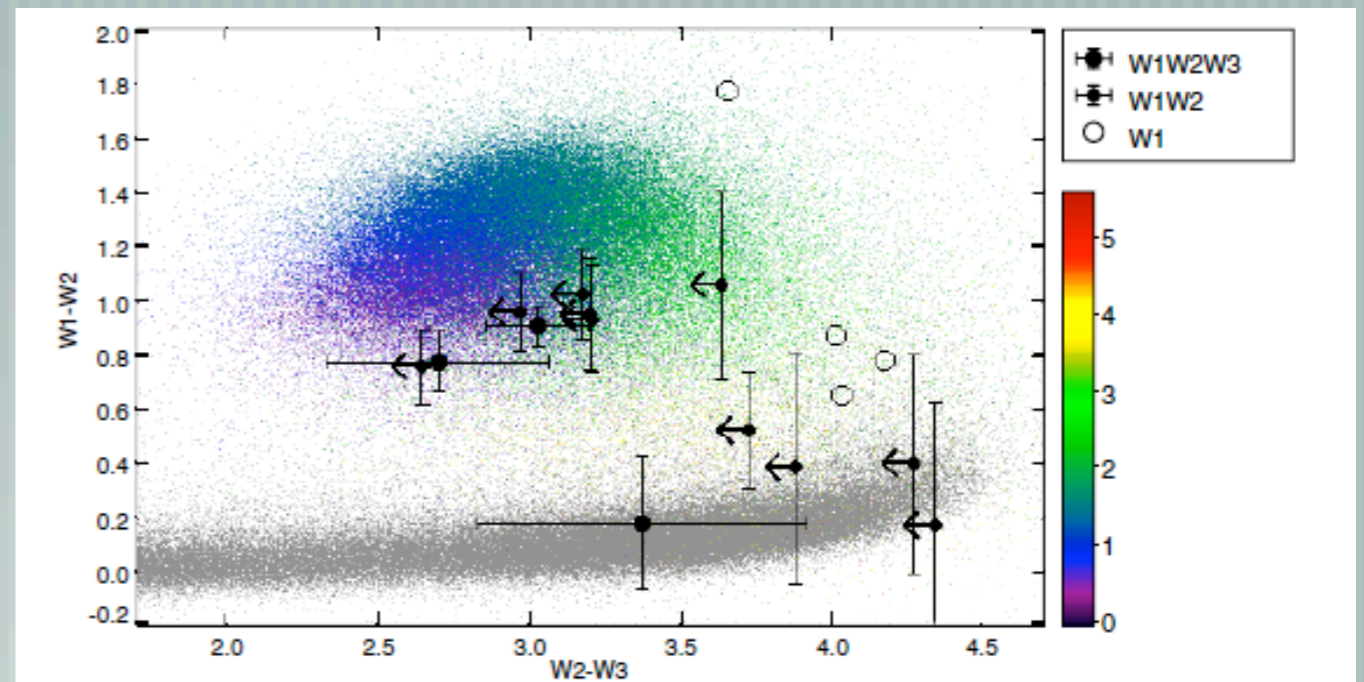
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Blain et al. 2014

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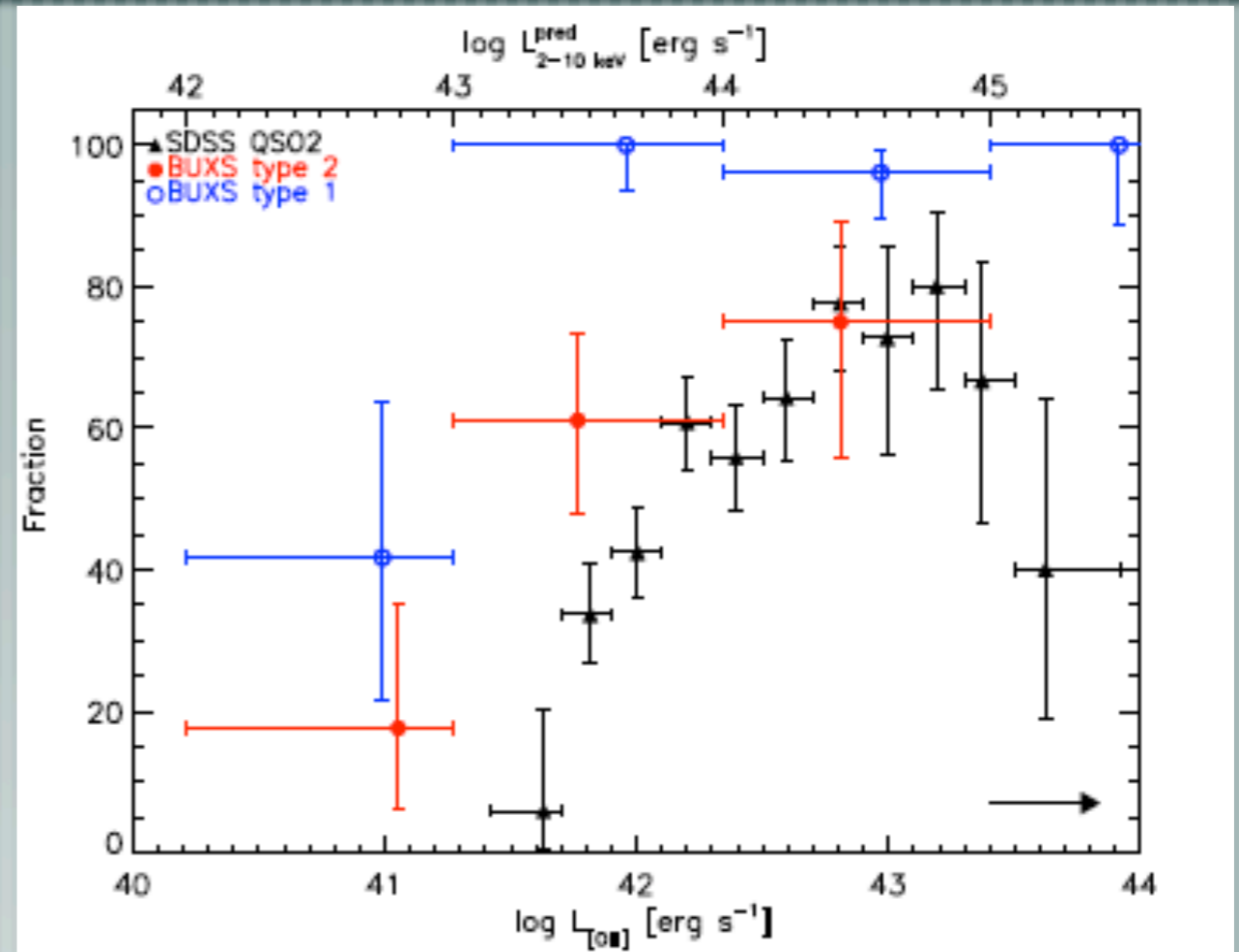
Observationally, agreement between different selection methods at x10% level

Something strange especially at high luminosities

Important regime for quasar feedback

Conclusion: existing methods are “clean” but not complete

**Solvable but unsolved problem**



Mateos et al. 2013 (based on optically selected type 2s from Reyes, Zakamska, et al. 2008)

see also poster by Marvin Rose

## 2. Extreme sources

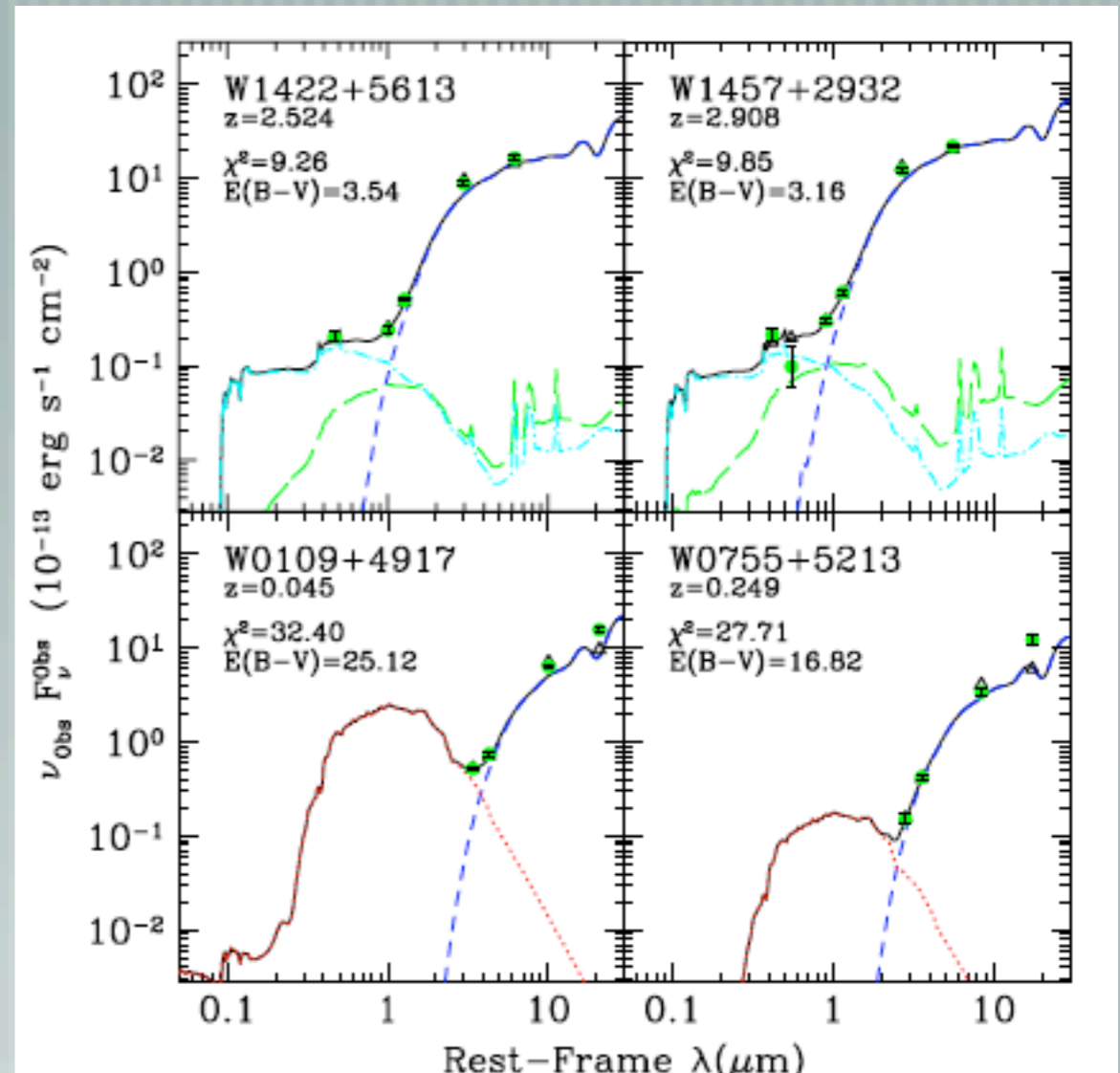
Hot DOGs: Roberto's talk

Selected as very red in WISE colors  
(Eisenhardt et al. 2012)

Any redder and they would be Cold  
DOGs... (but typical for star-forming  
galaxies)

Astonishing intrinsic luminosities:  
 $10^{47}$ - $10^{48}$  erg/sec

X-ray follow-up: extremely luminous,  
extremely obscured



Assef et al. 2014

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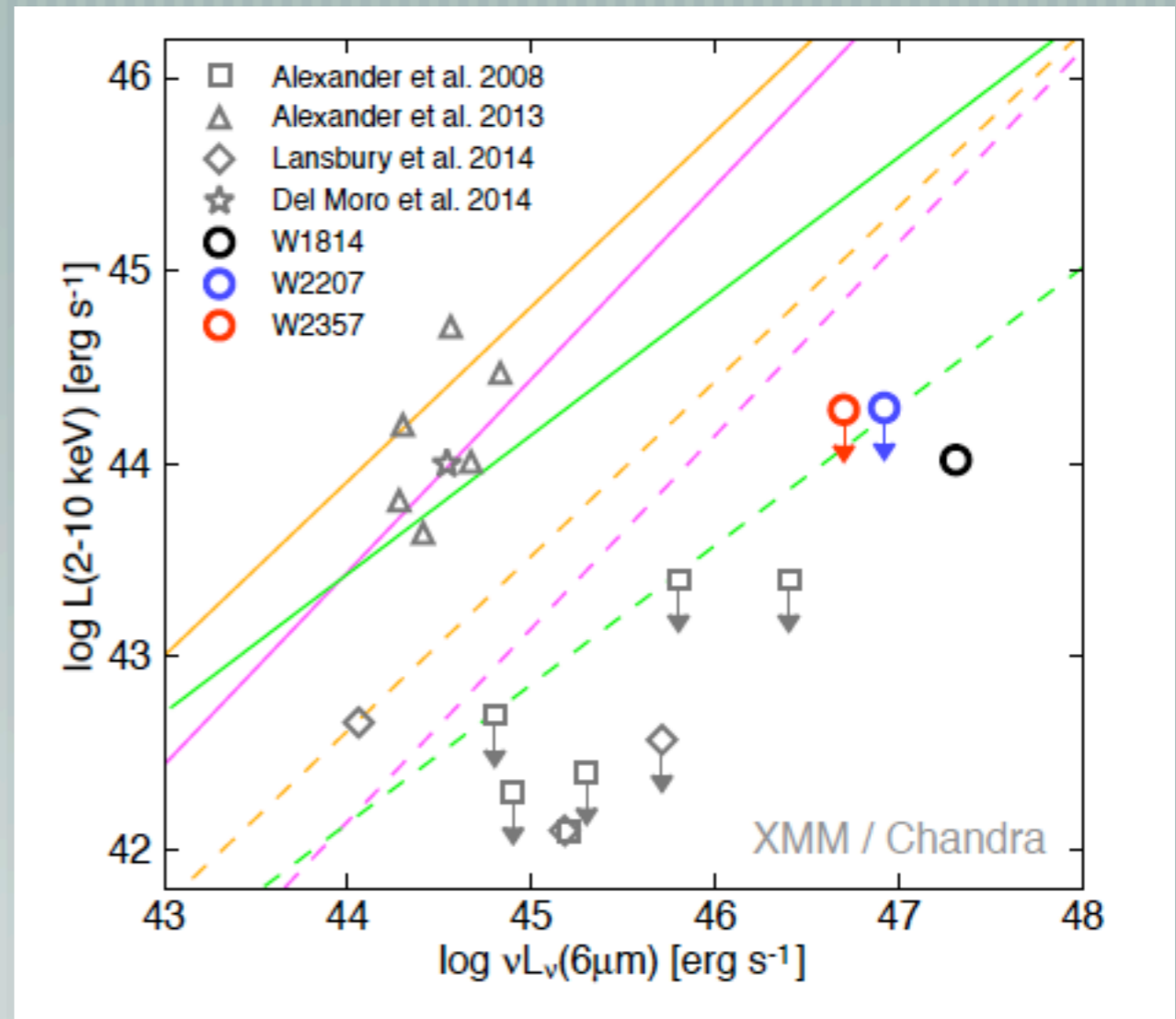
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Stern et al. 2014

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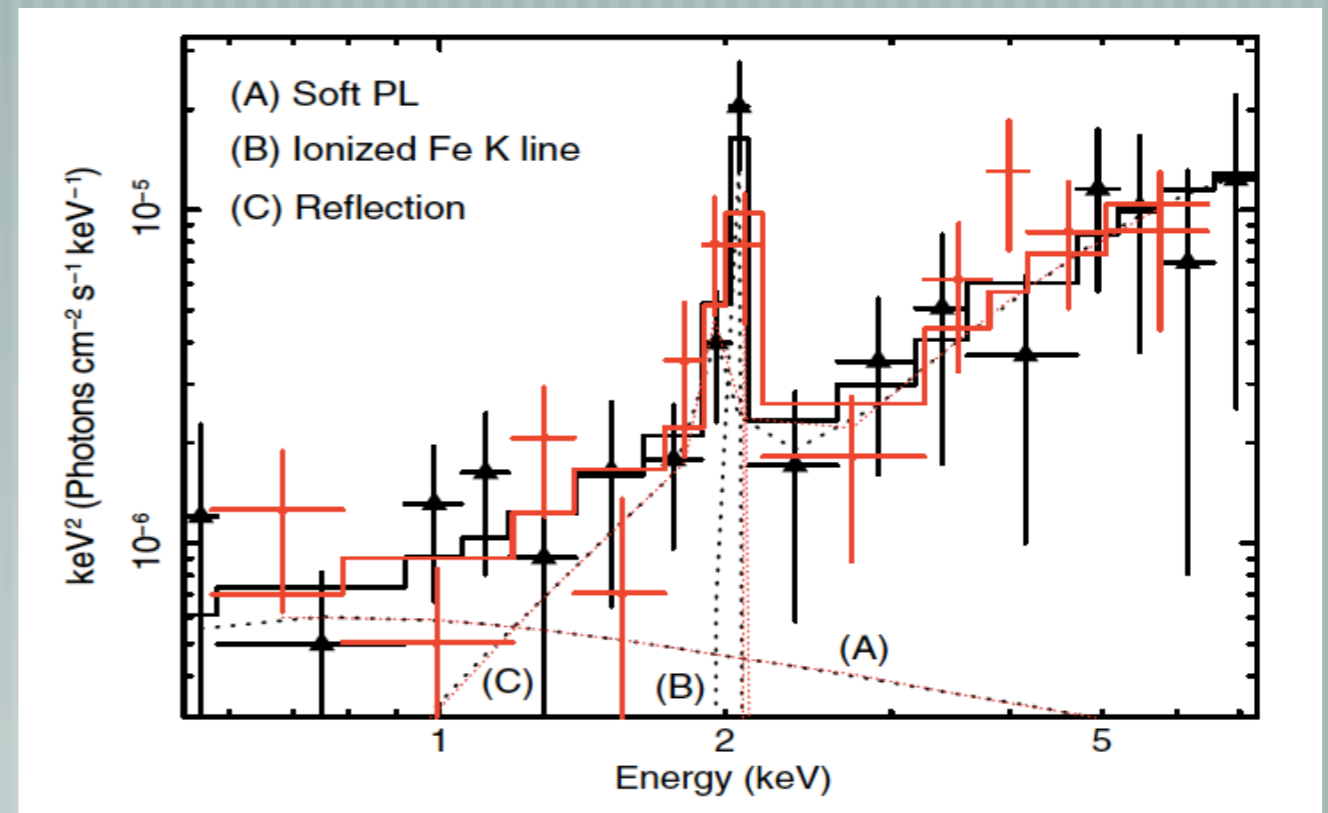
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Piconcelli et al. 2015

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Extremely red quasars

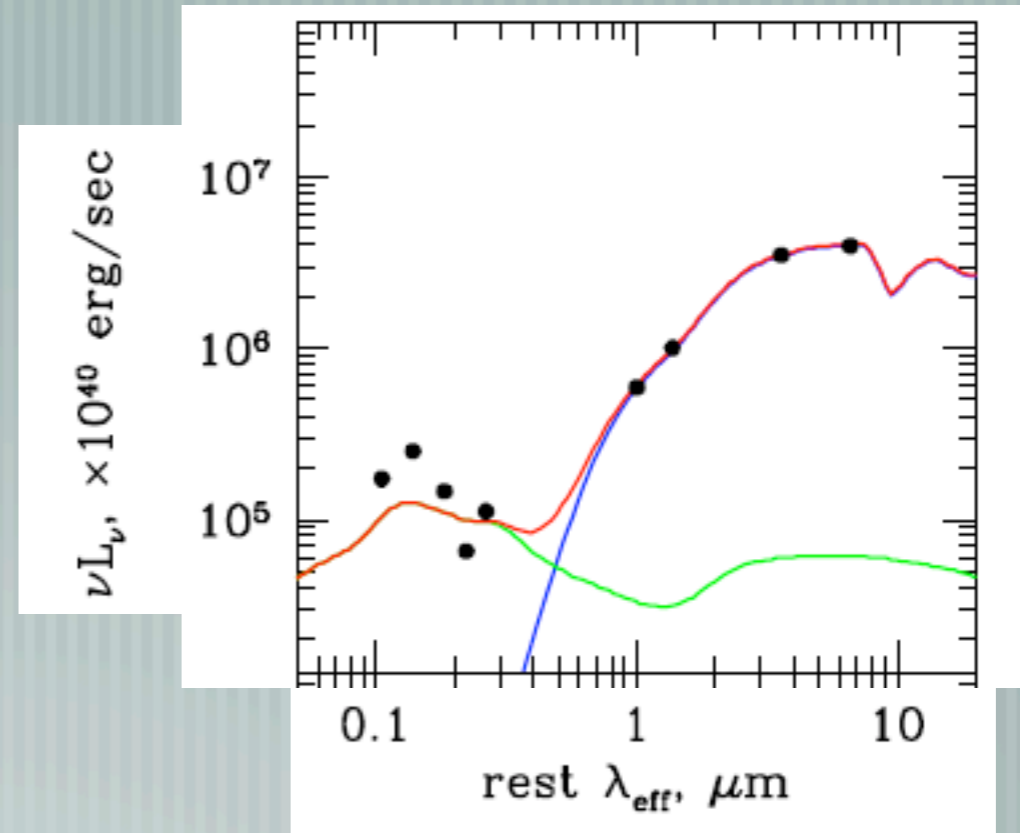
Start with SDSS quasar catalog, select objects that have high W4/optical ratios

Aim to select obscured AGN (provided they were also optically selected!)

Bimodal redshift distribution

Red type 1s, type 2s, BALs...

A population with bizarre optical line properties



Ross, Hamann,  
Zakamska, et al. 2014

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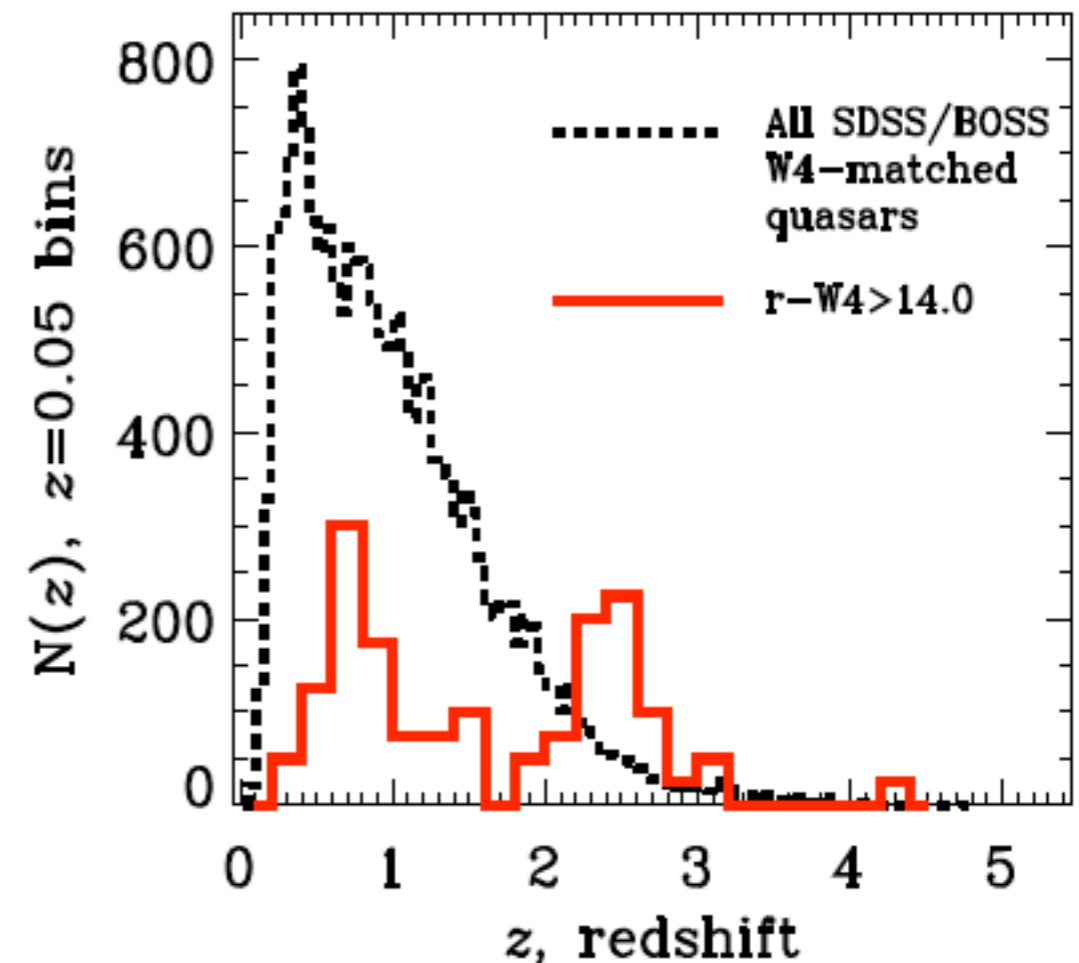
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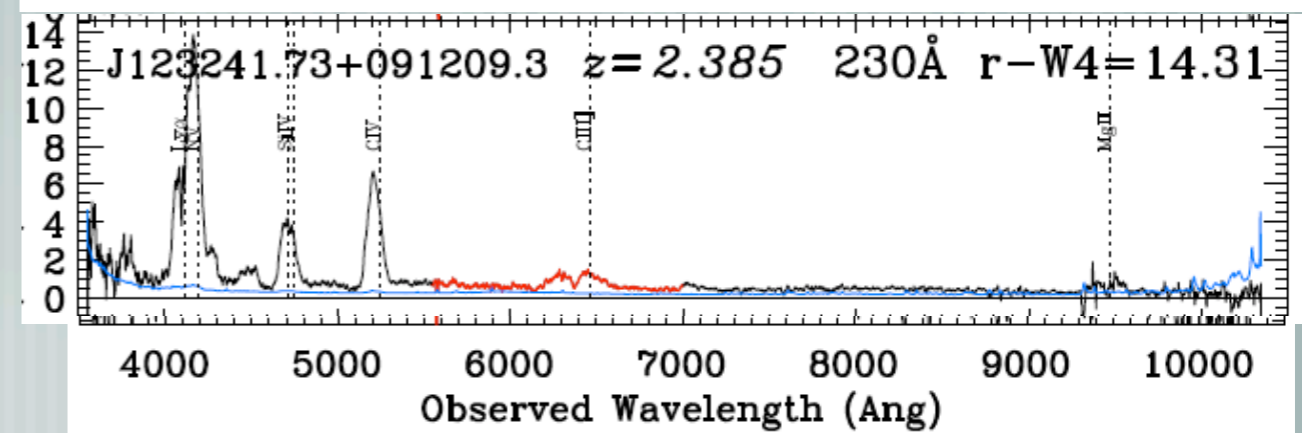
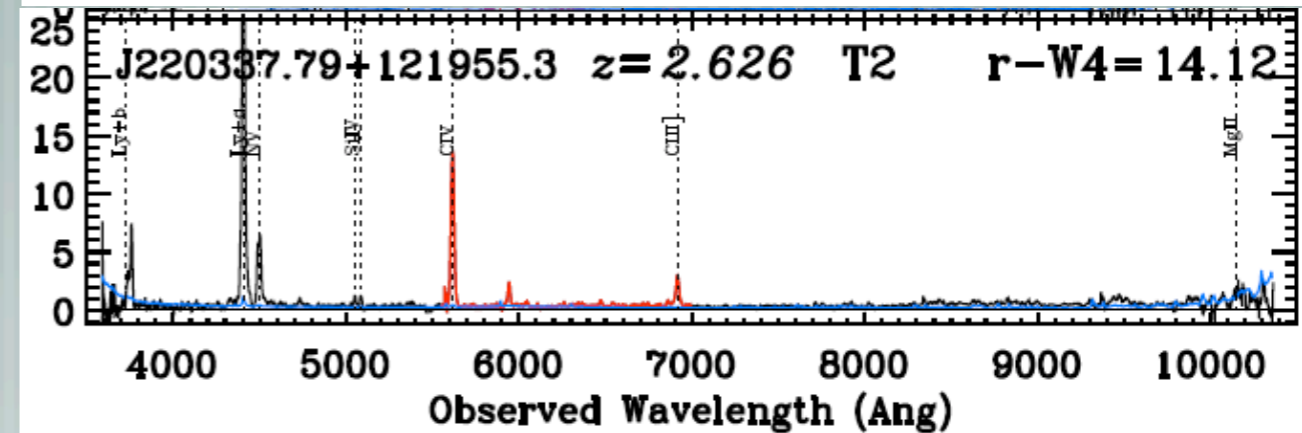
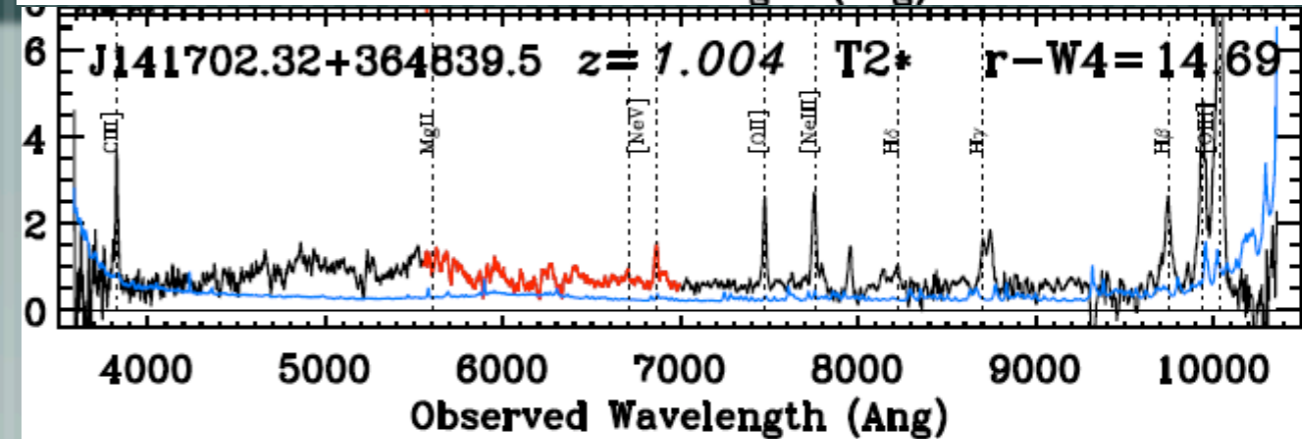
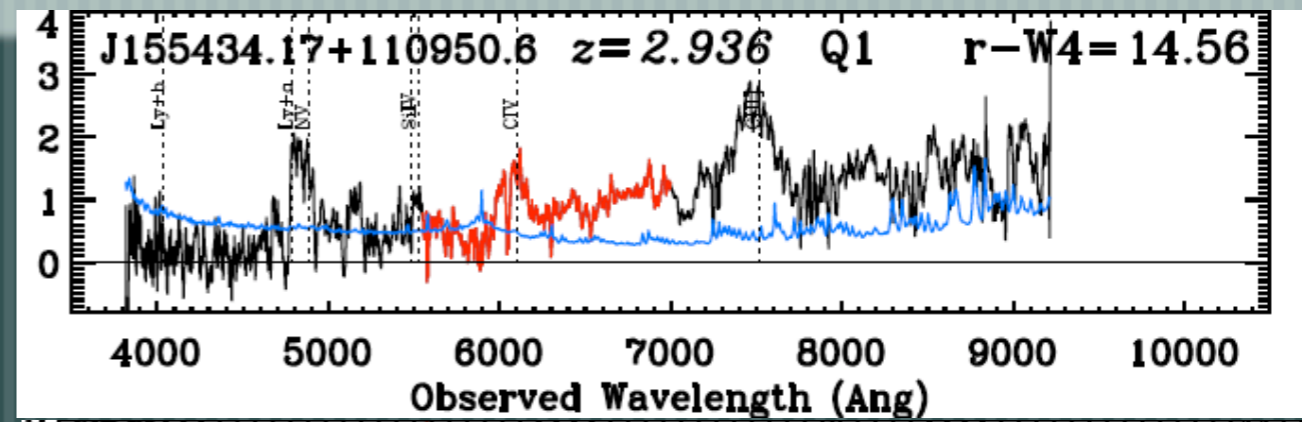
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# 3. Why are these extreme sources relevant?

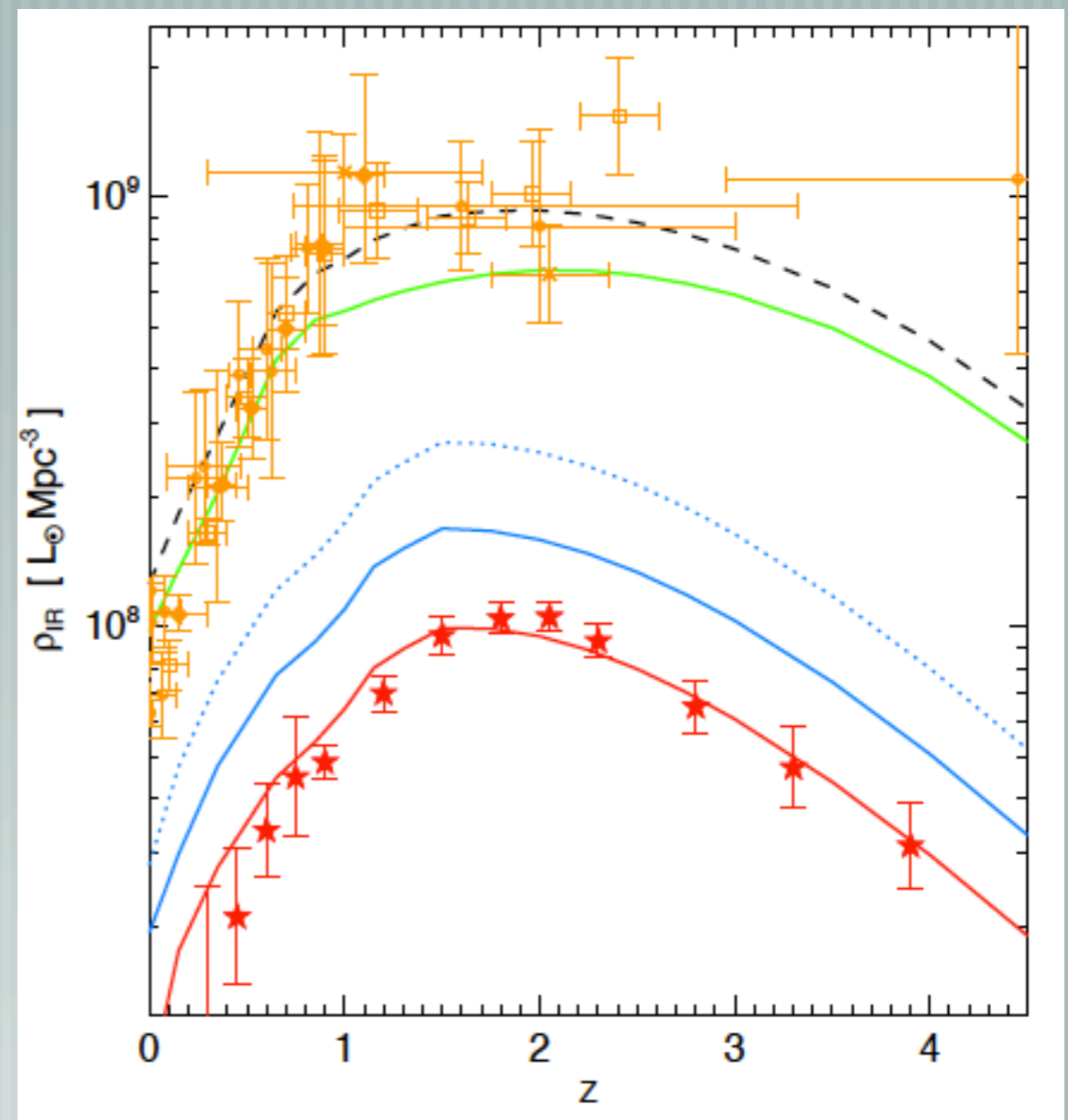
Have a suspicion that they may be sites of “quasar feedback at peak galaxy formation”

$z=2-3$  is peak of galaxy formation, quasar activity

Likely when black hole / bulge correlations were established

Quasar feedback limited the maximal mass of galaxies

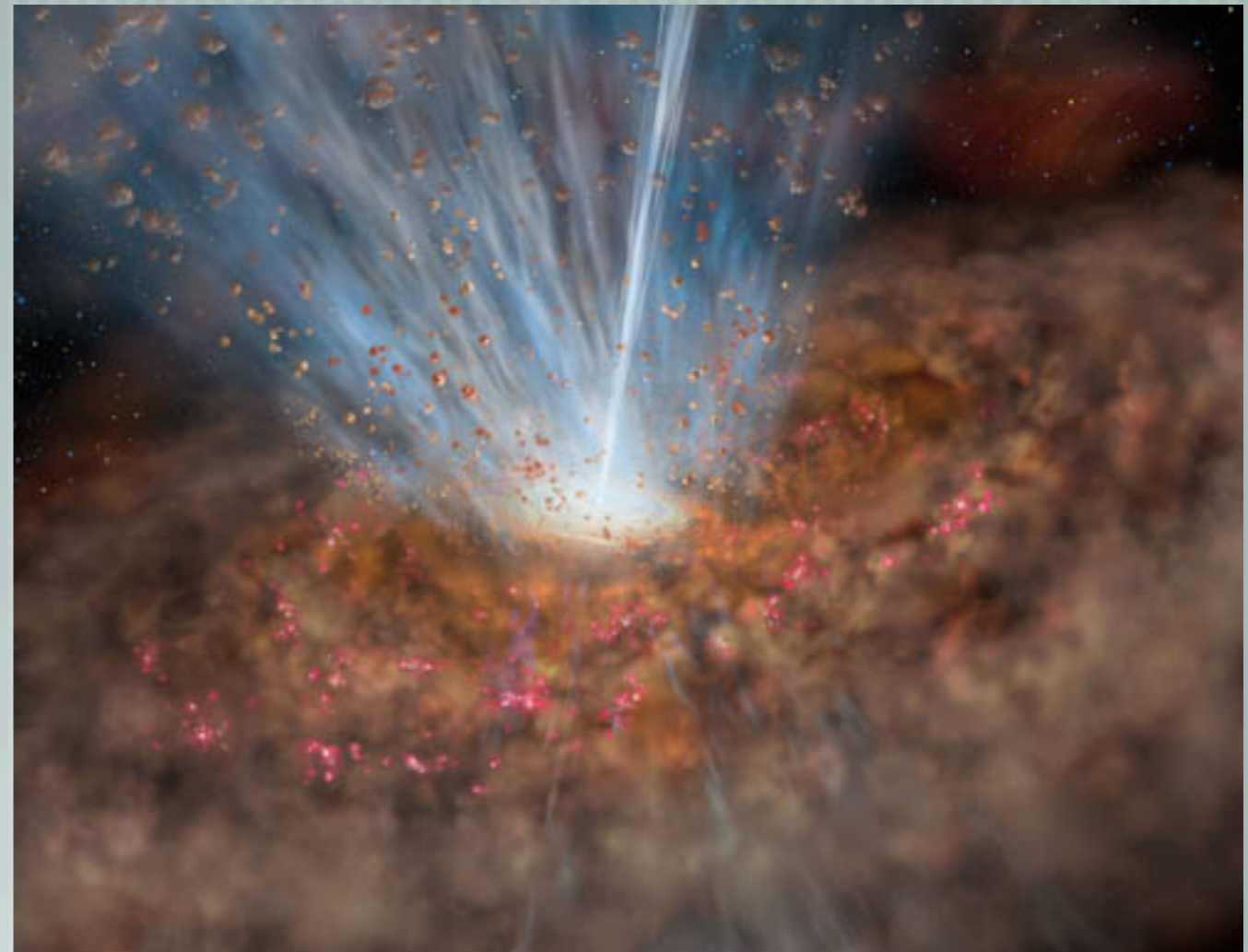
Major theoretical, observational effort in extragalactic astronomy, cosmology



Boyle & Terlevich 1998  
Hopkins et al. 2008

# 3. Why are these extreme sources relevant?

- [ What are observational signs of quasar feedback?
- [ **Feedback: strong effect of the quasar on the surrounding galaxy-wide, extragalactic environment**
- [ Until recently unclear. But now several different methods: molecular outflows, neutral outflows, absorption line outflows, emission line outflows
- [ Both radio-loud and radio-quiet quasars are capable



Artist: L. Cook / Gemini Observatory

# 3. Intro to quasar feedback

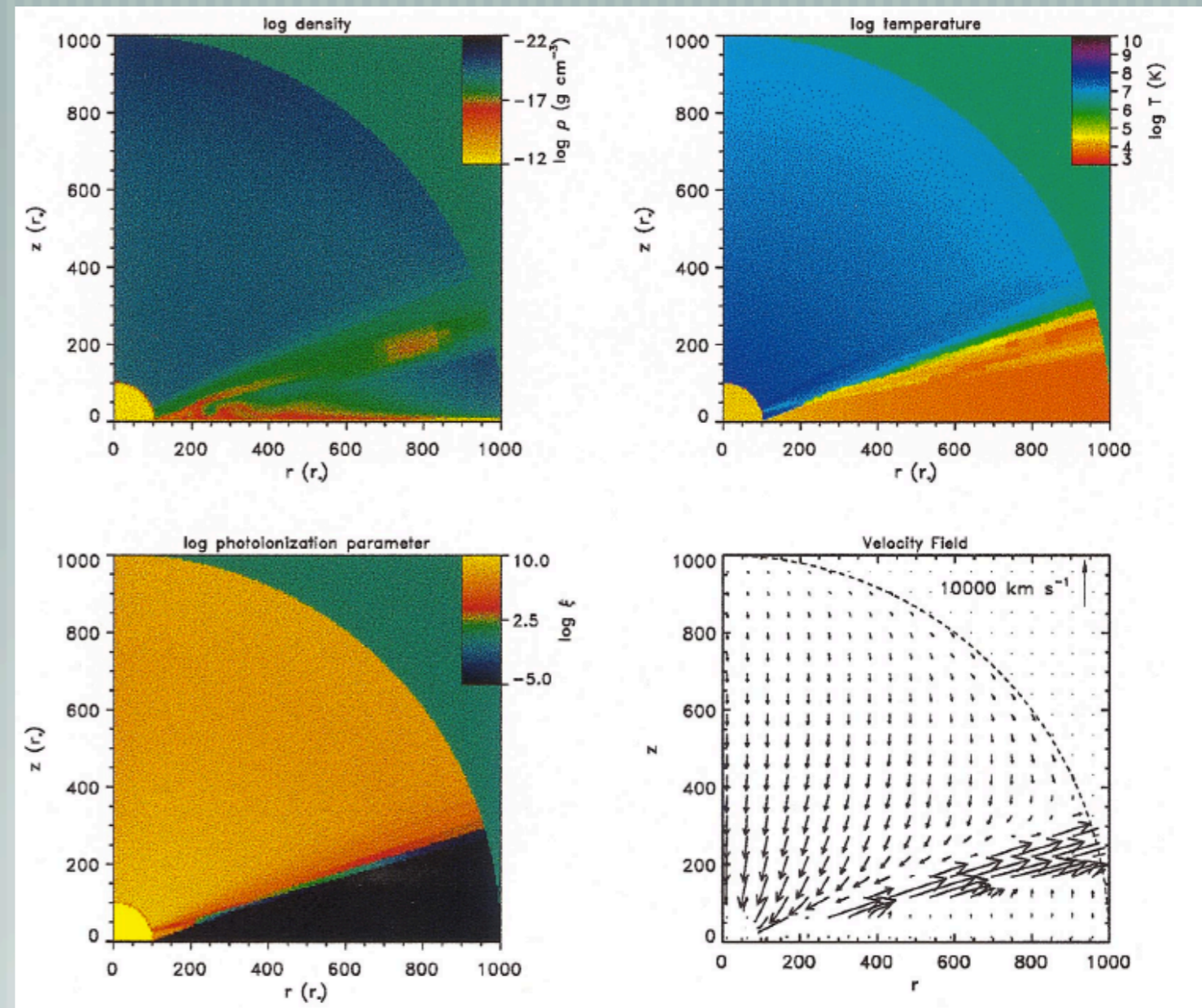
For example, radio-quiet quasars (no jets)

Close to the black hole: radiatively driven winds (“line-driving”)

up to  $>10\%$  of  $c$ !

=  $10^7$  year bomb in a gas-rich medium

Density distribution, clumping of the ISM crucial



Murray et al. 1995  
Proga et al 2000

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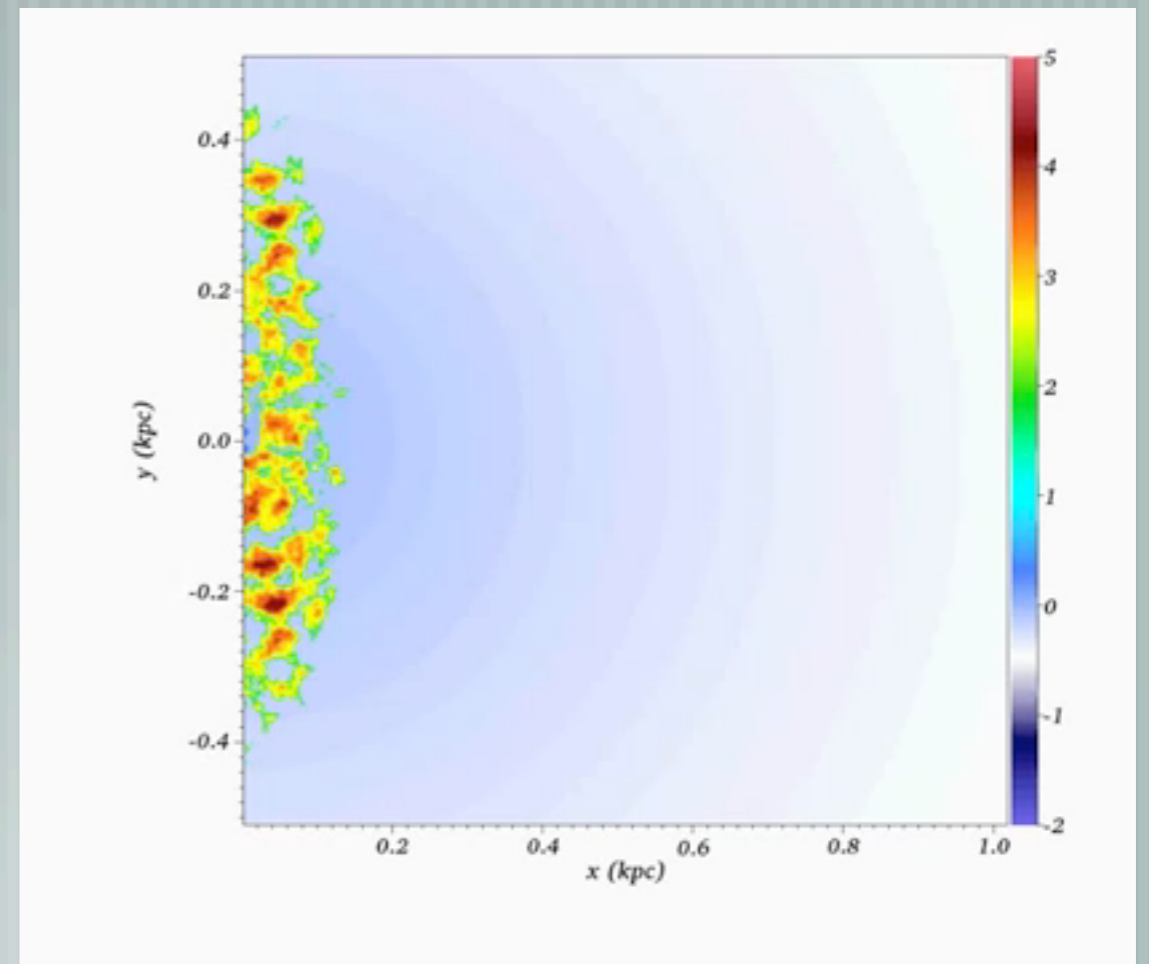
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Wagner et al. 2013

Spherically symmetric models: King, Faucher-Giguere & Quataert:  
typical velocities at large scales of 1000 km/sec.

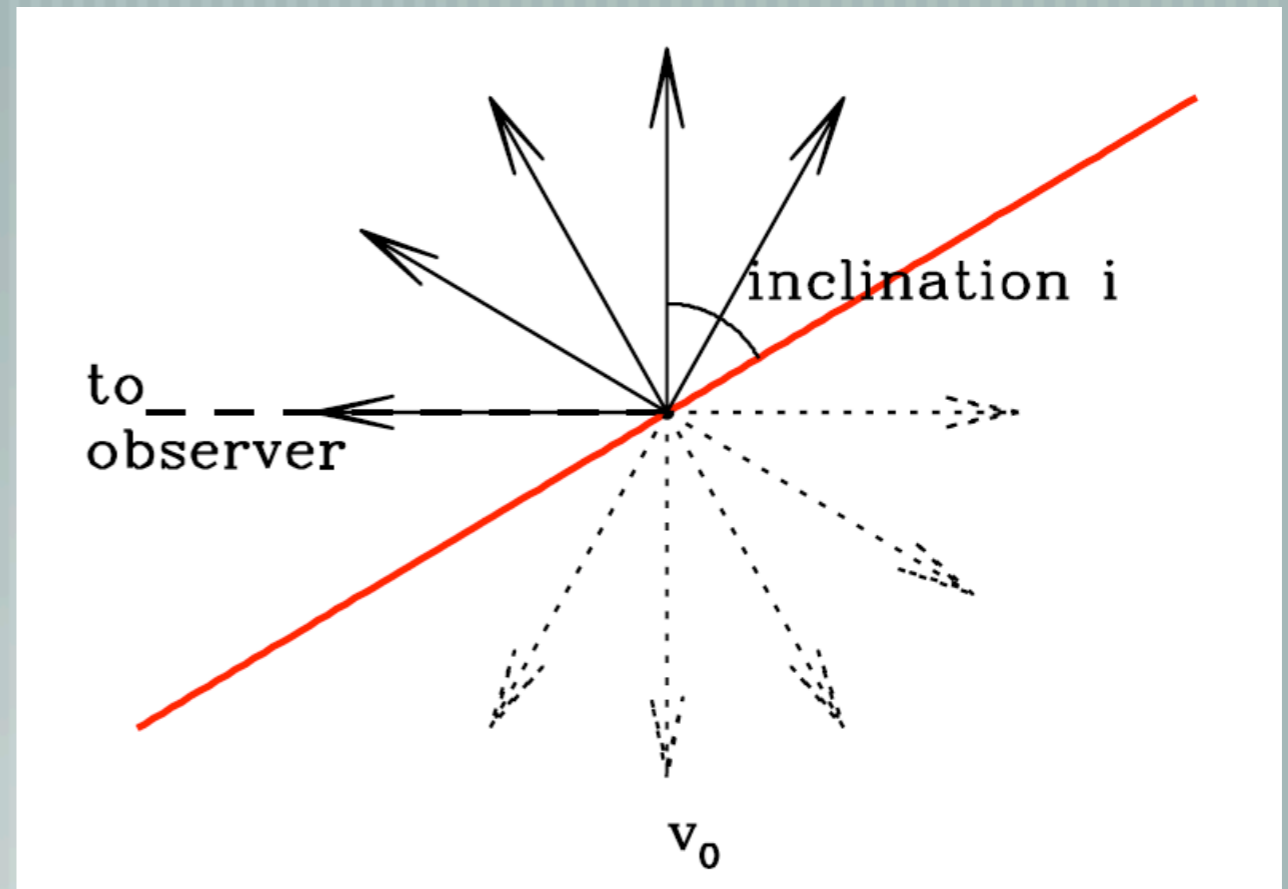
# 3. Observations of feedback in low redshift quasars

We should see photo-ionized, shock-ionized gas in the outflow on galaxy scales

Look at emission lines

Spherically symmetric outflow: high physical velocity = high line-of-sight velocity dispersion

Obscuration in the outflow or host galaxy = blueshifted asymmetries



Approximately:  
 $v_0 = \text{FWHM} / 1.4$

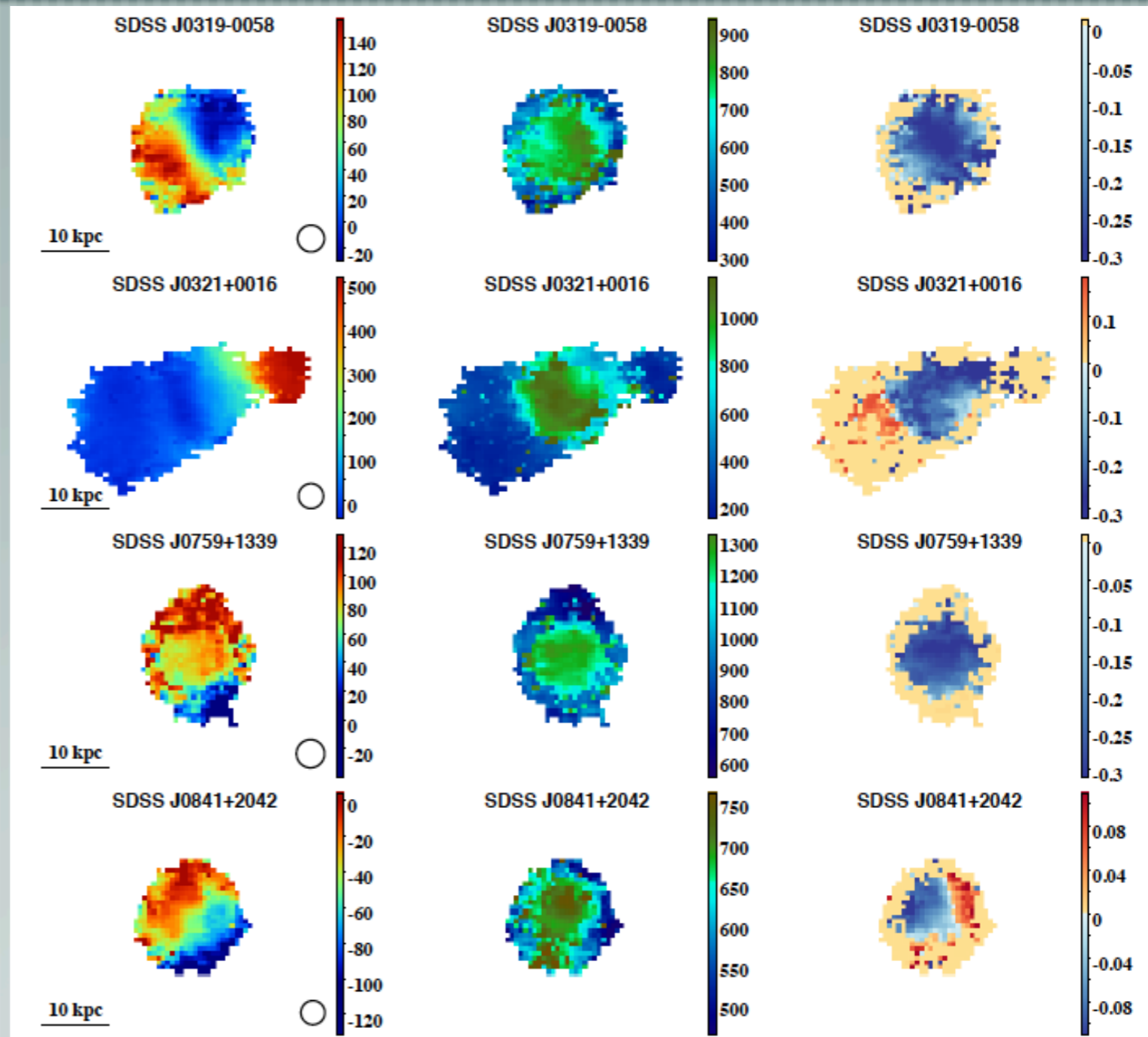
# 3. Observations of feedback in low redshift quasars

We see this at low redshifts!

IFU observations revolutionizing this area

Line-of-sight velocity dispersion  $\Rightarrow$   
typical outflow velocity = 800 km/sec

Blue-shifted asymmetries = classical outflow signatures



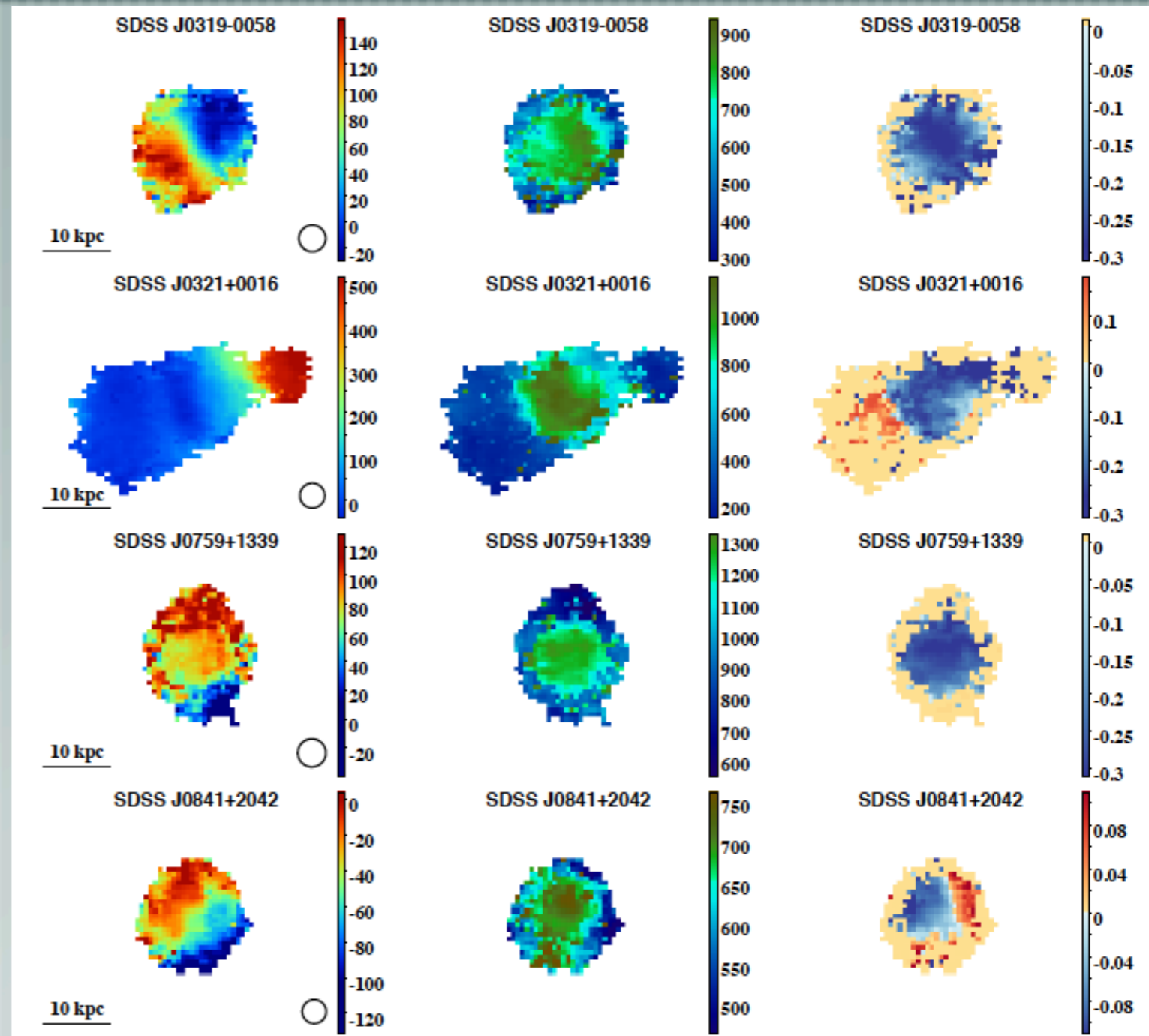
Liu, Zakamska, et al. 2013ab, 2014

# 3. Observations of feedback in RQ quasars

Now seen by several groups in type 1 and type 2 quasars (e.g., Harrison et al., Rupke & Veilleux, Husemann et al., Villar-Martin et al., Hainline et al., Alexander et al., Cano-Diaz et al., etc.)

IFU and long-slit spectroscopy

How to convert to masses, energies?



Liu, Zakamska, et al. 2013ab, 2014

### 3. Extreme WISE quasars and quasar feedback

#### Raw results alert



**Consuming raw or undercooked data  
may increase risk of confusion**



# 3. Extreme WISE quasars and quasar feedback

VLT NIR spectra, rest-frame optical

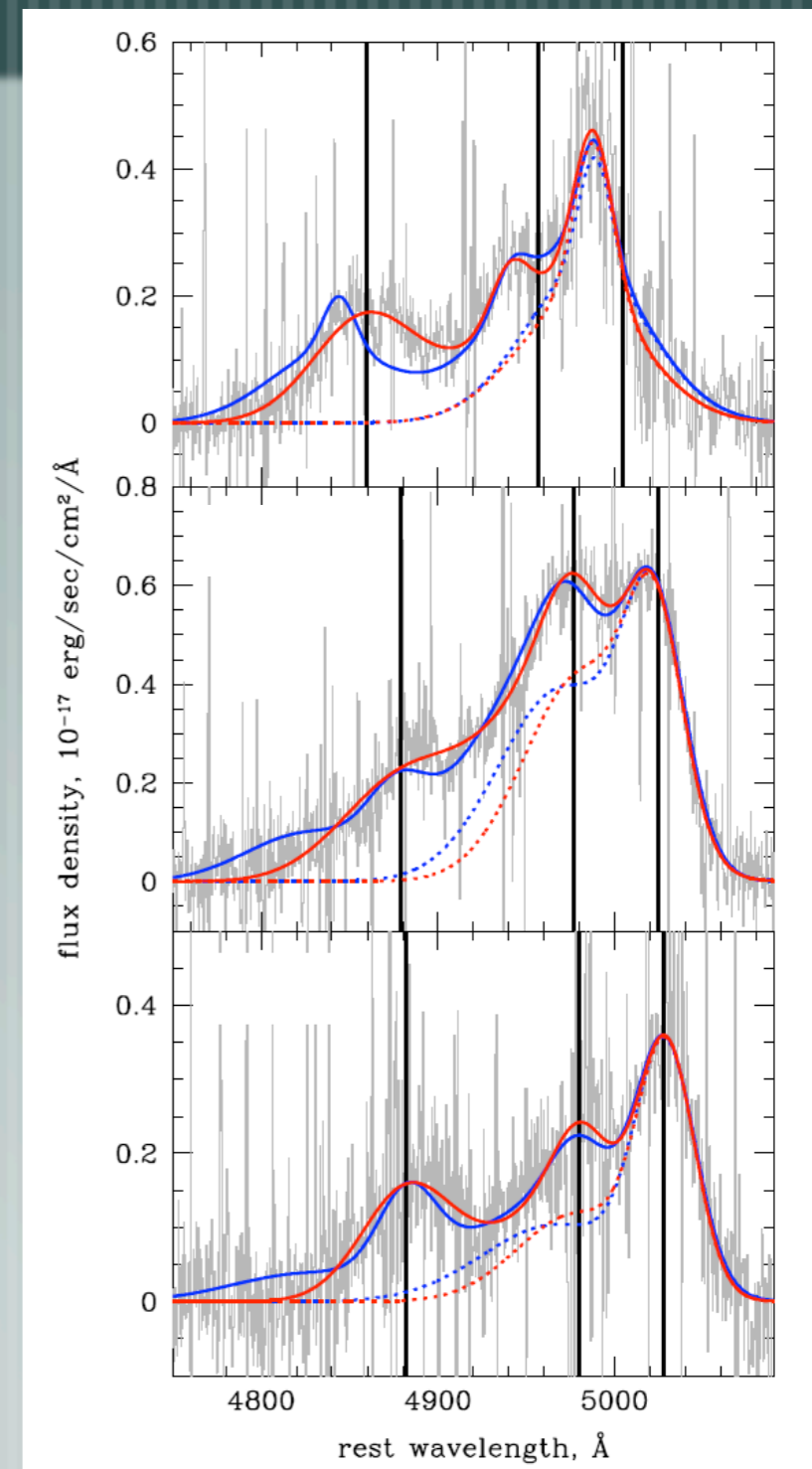
With Fred Hamann, Isabelle Paris

Extreme [OIII] widths, extreme blue asymmetries

Physical velocities  $>3000$  km/sec

Unprecedented at low redshift

Possibly the “smoking gun” of powerful feedback?



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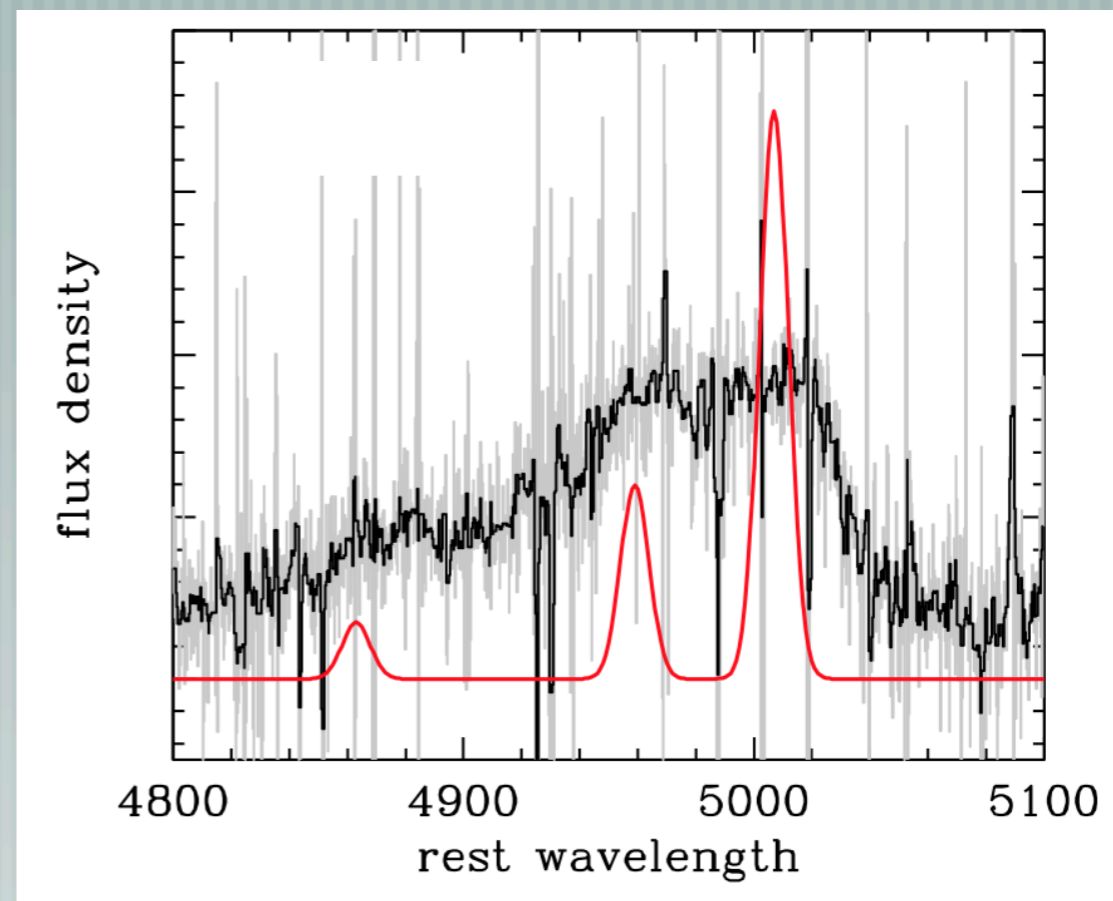
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Comparison with “typical” lowz type 2 quasar, FWHM=700 km/sec

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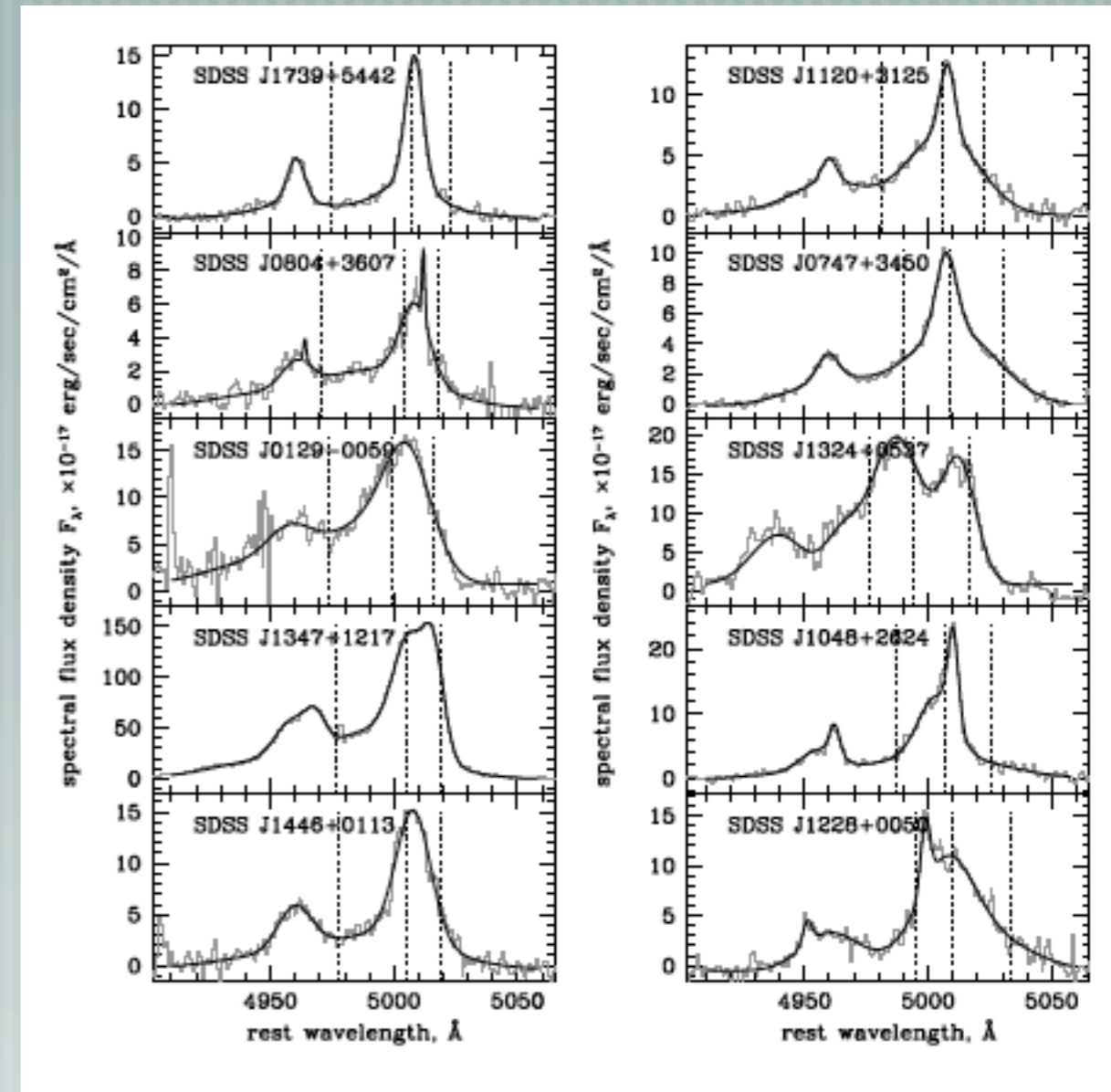
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For comparison: the most extreme type 2 objects  
at low  $z$ ,  $v_0=1500-2000$  km/sec  
Zakamska & Greene 2014

# Summary

- Demographics of quasars remains an unsolved problem
- IR surveys can potentially solve this problem, especially supported by multi-wavelength observations, better models
- WISE: combination of sensitivity, wavelength coverage, sky coverage
- WISE discovery: extremely luminous obscured quasars at peak galaxy formation
- Possibly “smoking gun” of quasar feedback

