



# AGN activity in massive galaxy clusters

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# AGN in the Cluster Environment

## What role does environment play in SMBH activity?

Galaxy clusters provide the ideal laboratory to explore

**Environmental effects:** Ram pressure stripping, starvation, evaporation, tidal effects, mergers and interactions

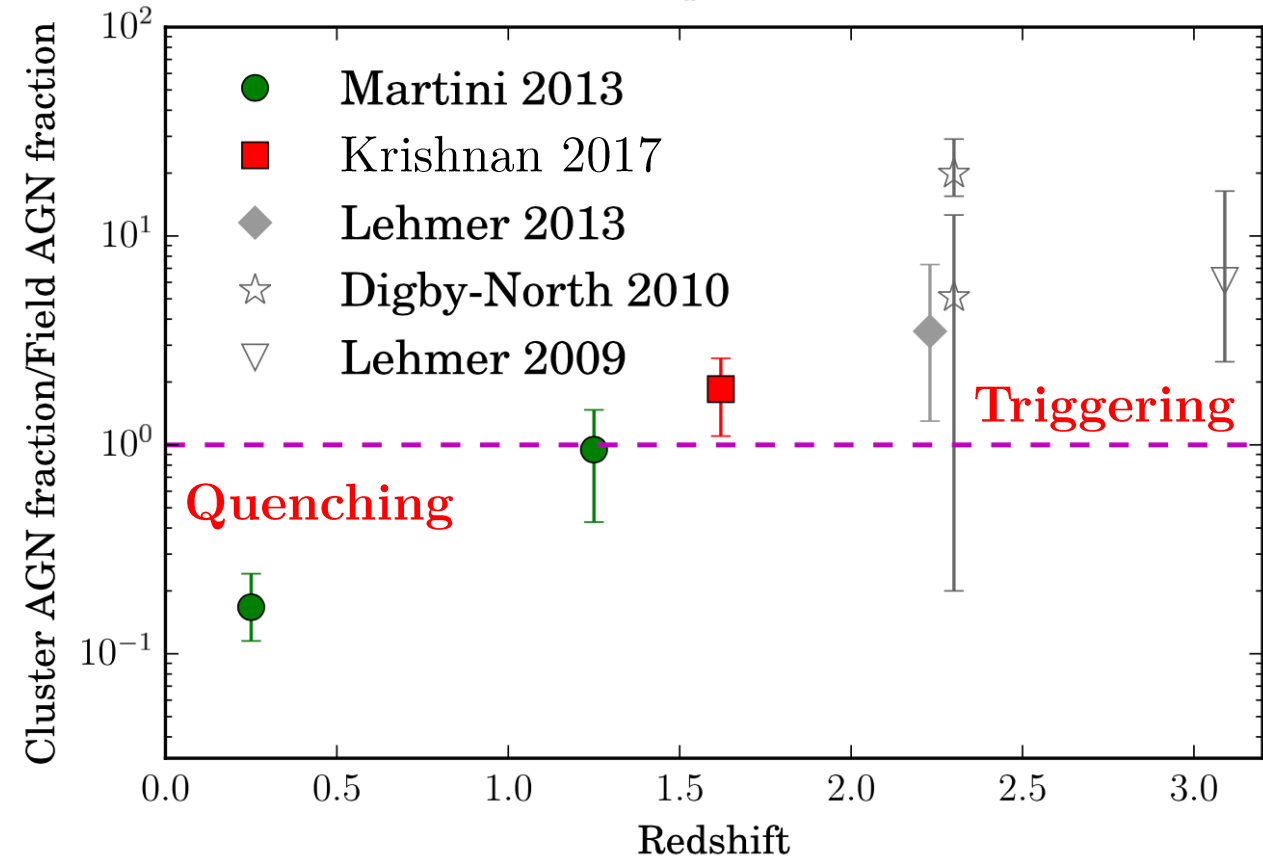
Evidence for quenching of **radiatively efficient** AGN at low- $z$  & triggering at high- $z$ , but **correlation  $\neq$  causation**

- Cluster mass-redshift relationship
- Different stellar mass & SFRs
- High- $z$  protoclusters

Goal is to disentangle dependence of AGN activity on host cluster properties from host galaxy properties

- **Focus on AGN activity vs. cluster mass**

Adapted from Krishnan+2017



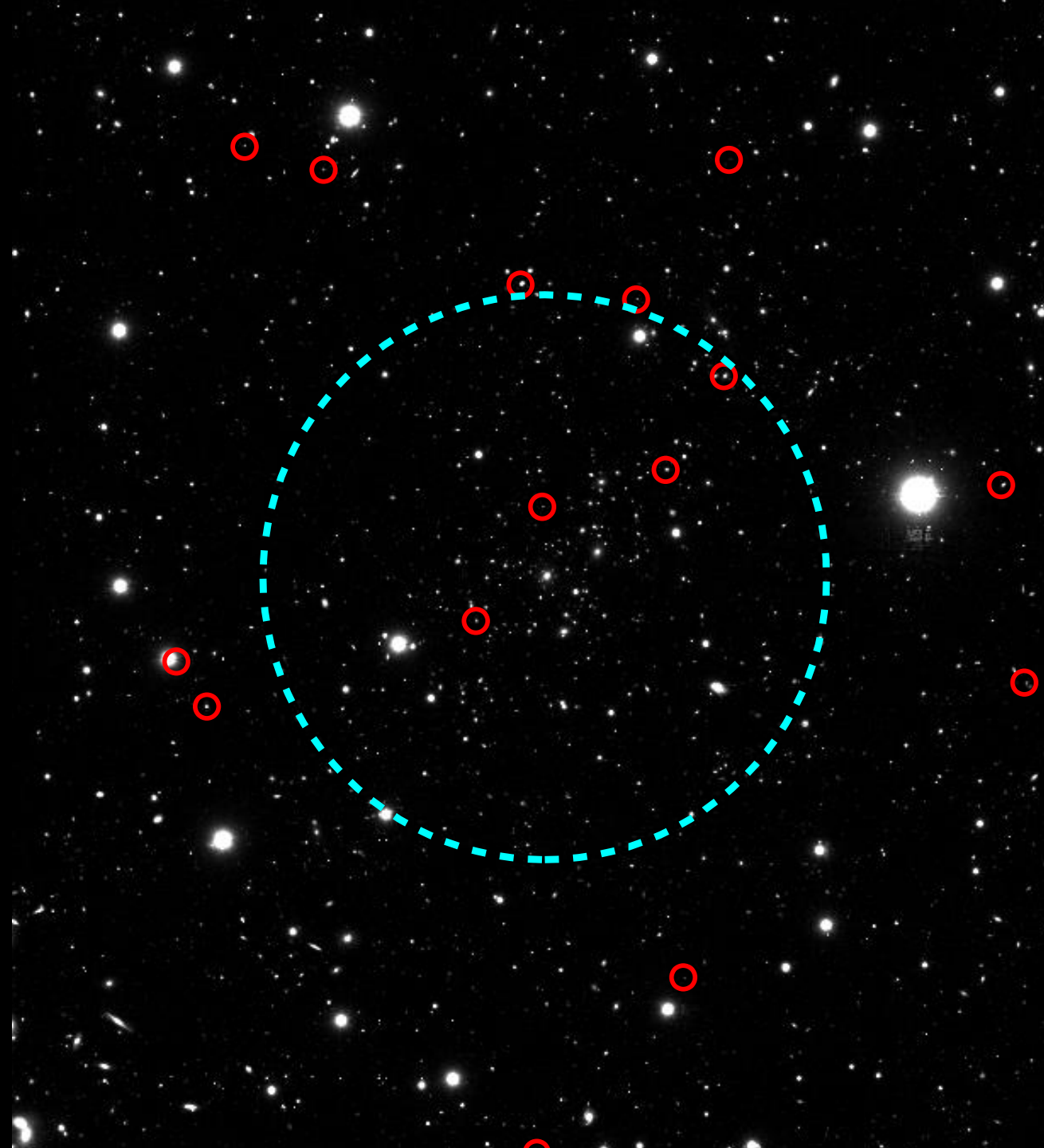
# Outline

1. Cluster X-ray AGN at  $z \sim 0.4$
2. Cluster AGN Topography Survey (CATS)
  - $z \sim 0$  to  $z \sim 1.5$
3. First glimpse of AGN activity in a virialized cluster at  $z = 2$

# X-ray AGN in $z \sim 0.4$ galaxy clusters

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Spectroscopic Study  
7 massive clusters



# Cluster X-ray AGN at $z \sim 0.4$

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7 galaxy clusters  
 $z = 0.35 - 0.45$

Diverse cluster masses  
• Isolate mass dependence

400 ks of archival *Chandra* data

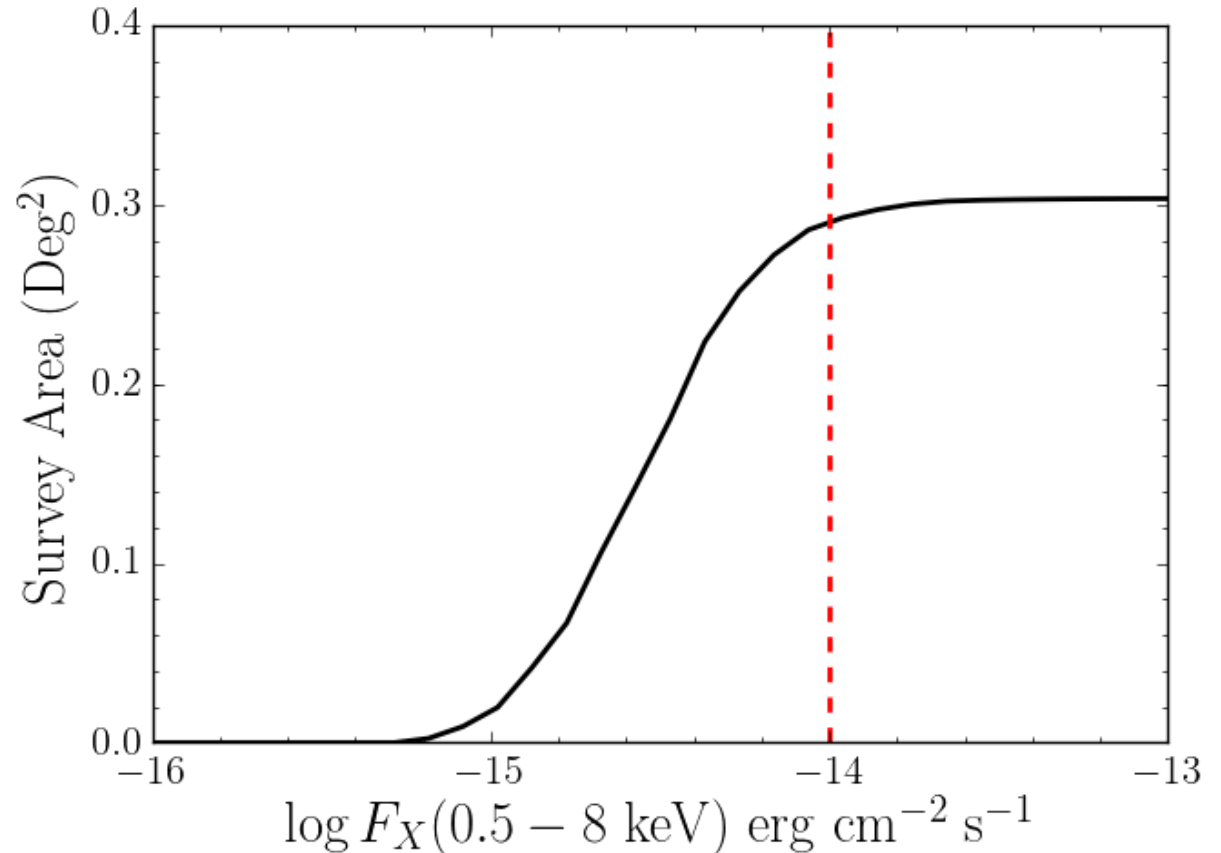
Robust measures of cluster masses, radii, centroids

Rest frame luminosity limit

$$L_X(0.5 - 8 \text{ keV}) > 10^{43} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$$

Pure AGN sample, no X-ray point source contamination

Highly complete down to  
 $F_X(0.5 - 8 \text{ keV}) > 10^{-14} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$





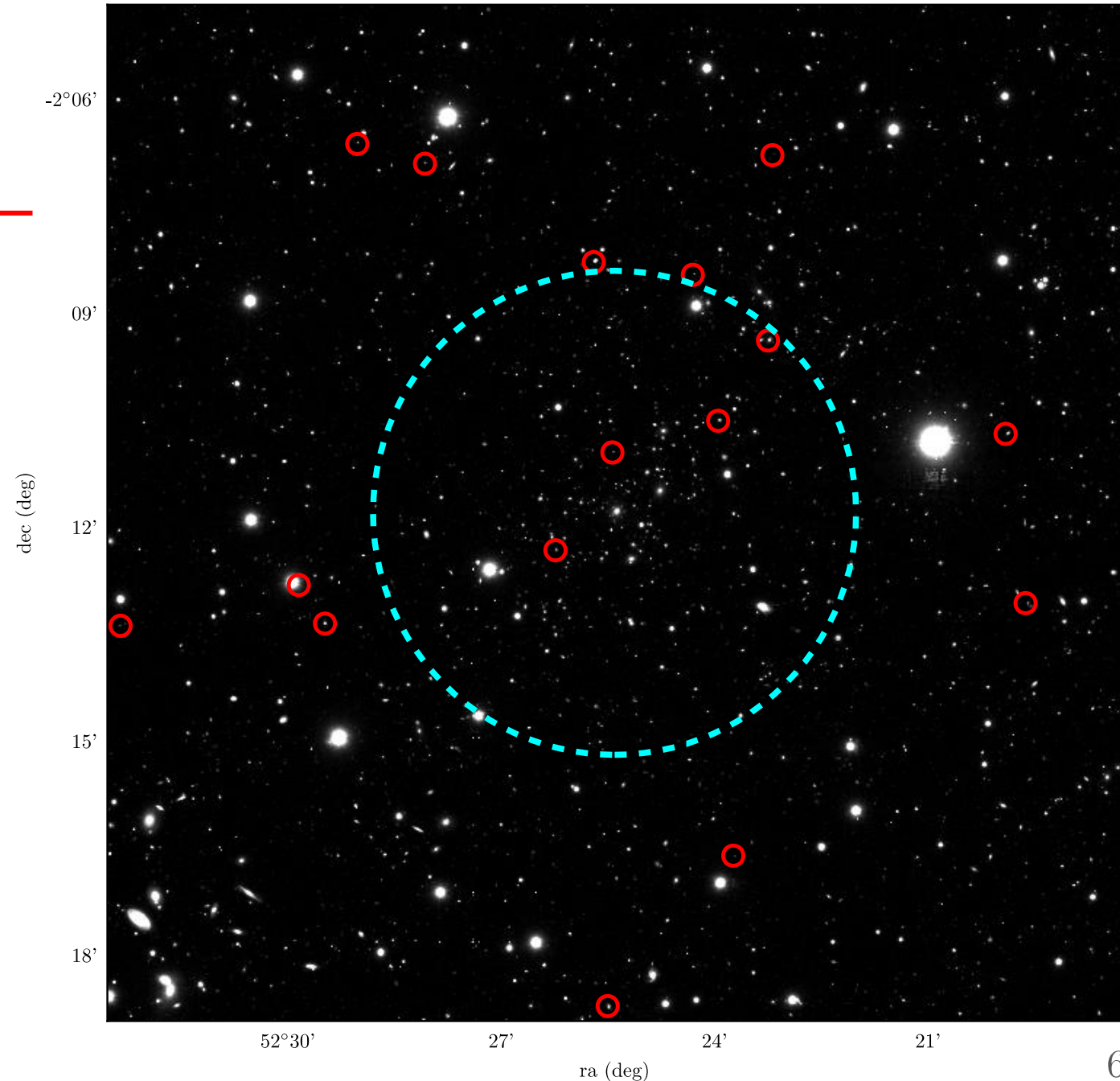
# X-ray point source detection

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Chandra point source detection out to  $2r_{500}$

X-ray signal dominated by sources in projection

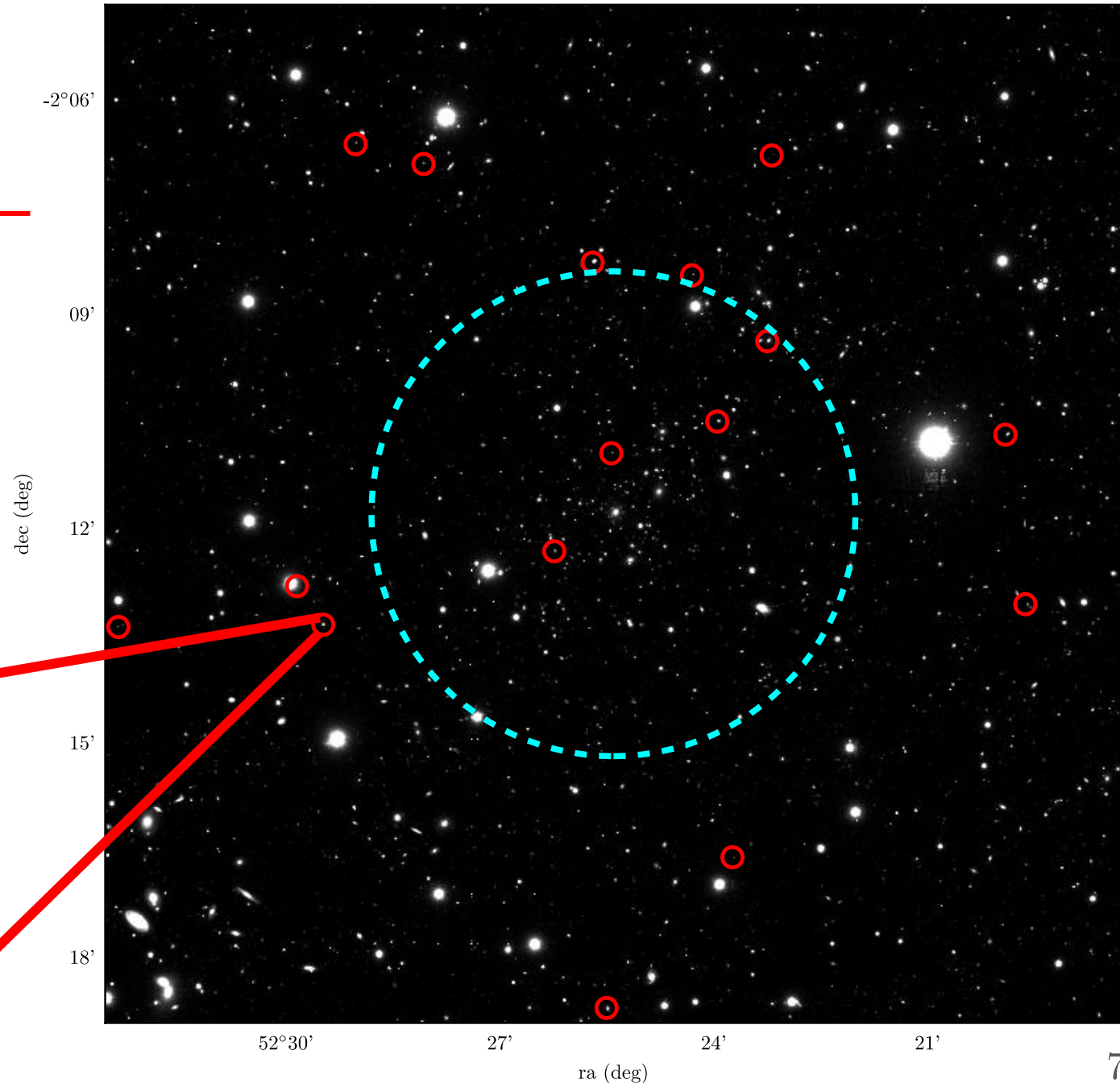
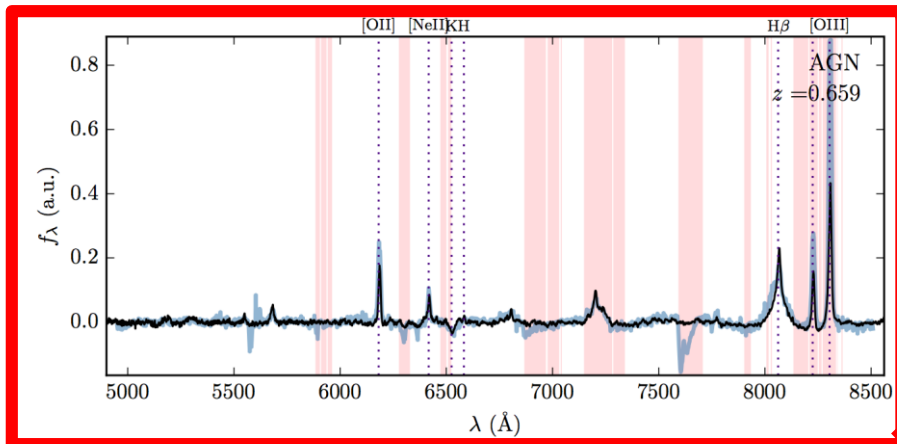
Spectroscopy required to isolate cluster AGN from the background



# Spectroscopic cluster confirmation

X-ray point sources matched to deep Subaru imaging

Complete VIMOS spectroscopy of host galaxies



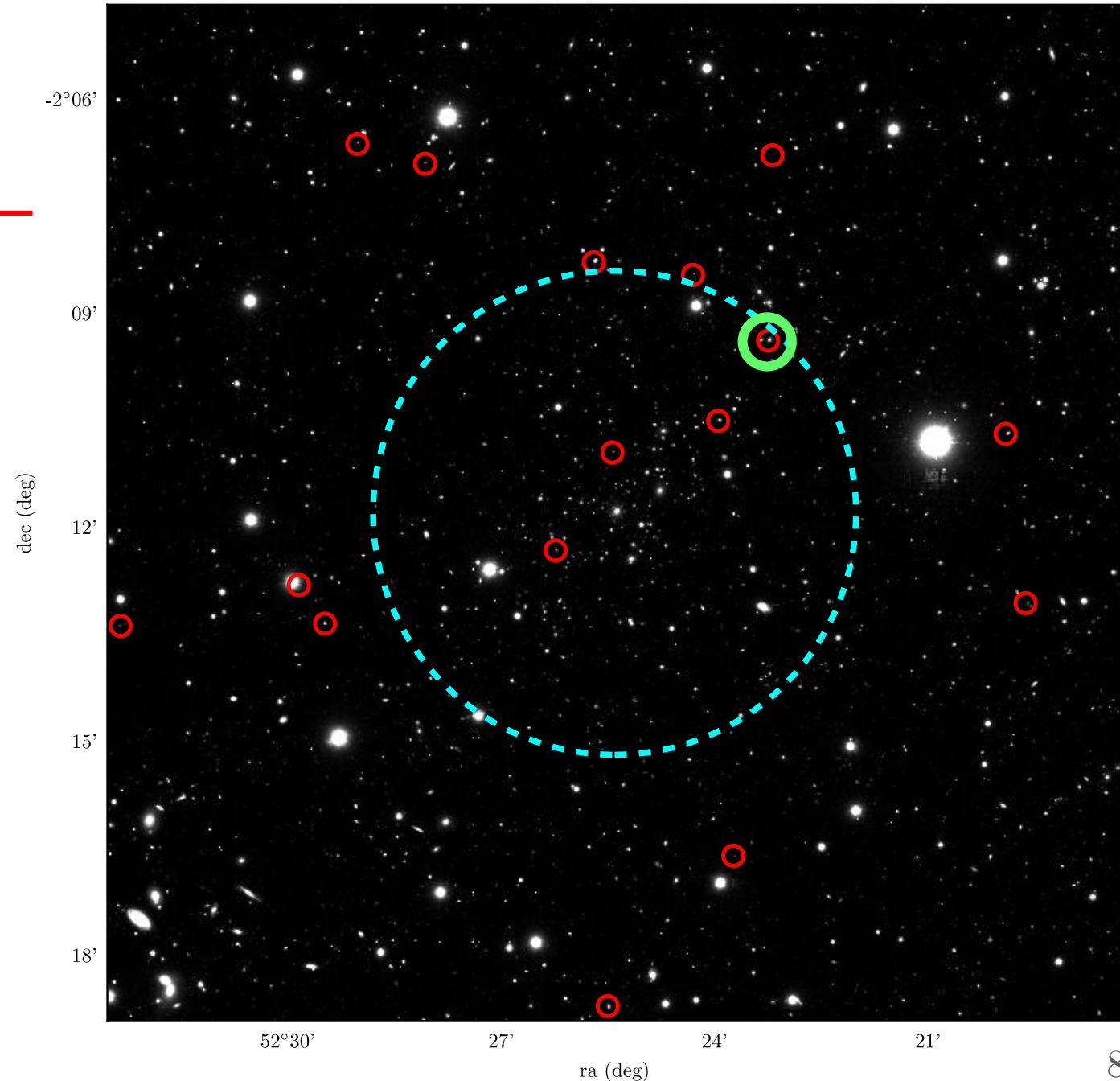
# Spectroscopic cluster confirmation

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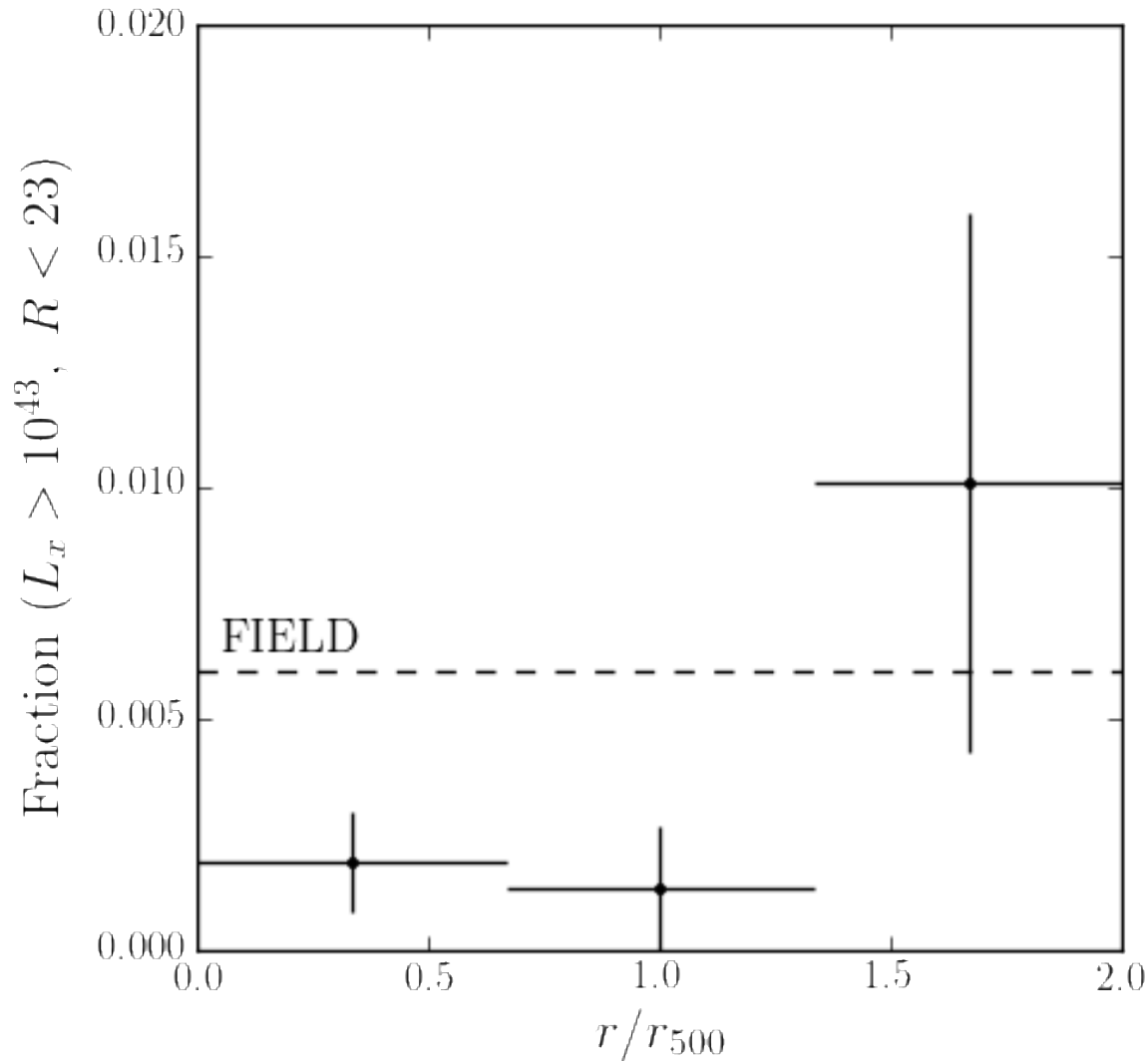
~1 member AGN within  $2r_{500}$   
per cluster





# AGN activity vs. cluster-centric radius

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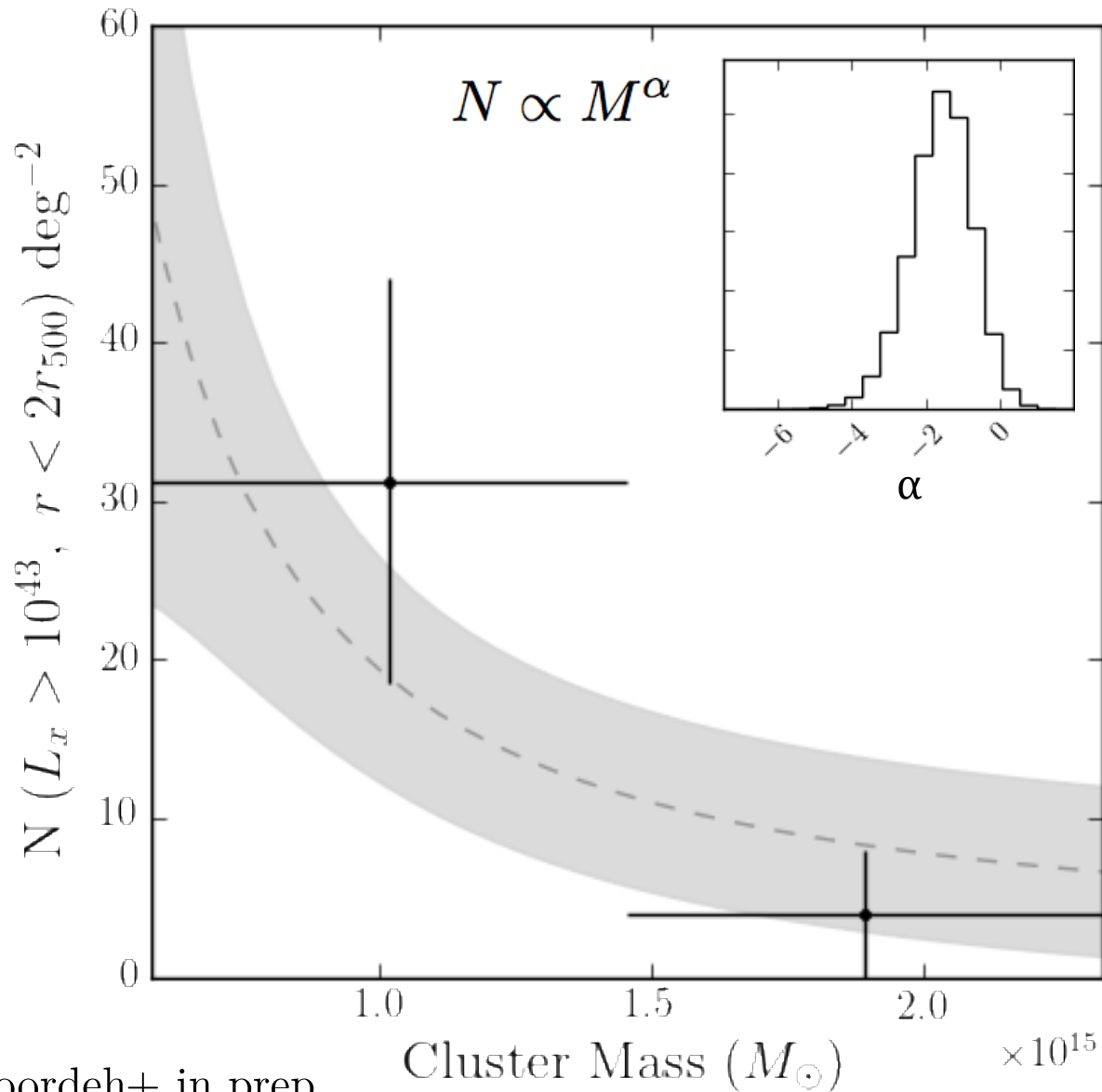
$3\sigma$  suppression of X-ray AGN fraction in cluster core

Suppression extends out to virial radius ( $\sim 1.5r_{500}$ )

Consistent with other studies of X-ray, Optical, & IR AGN

i.e. Martini+2009, Ehlert+2014

# Cluster mass dependence



**Strong inverse dependence of AGN number density on cluster mass**

Similar behavior has been observed in smaller, local clusters

(Sivakoff+2008, Popesso+2006, Poggianti+2006)

Consistent with merger driven triggering (Mamon1992)

Could account for some/all of the redshift evolution in AGN fraction

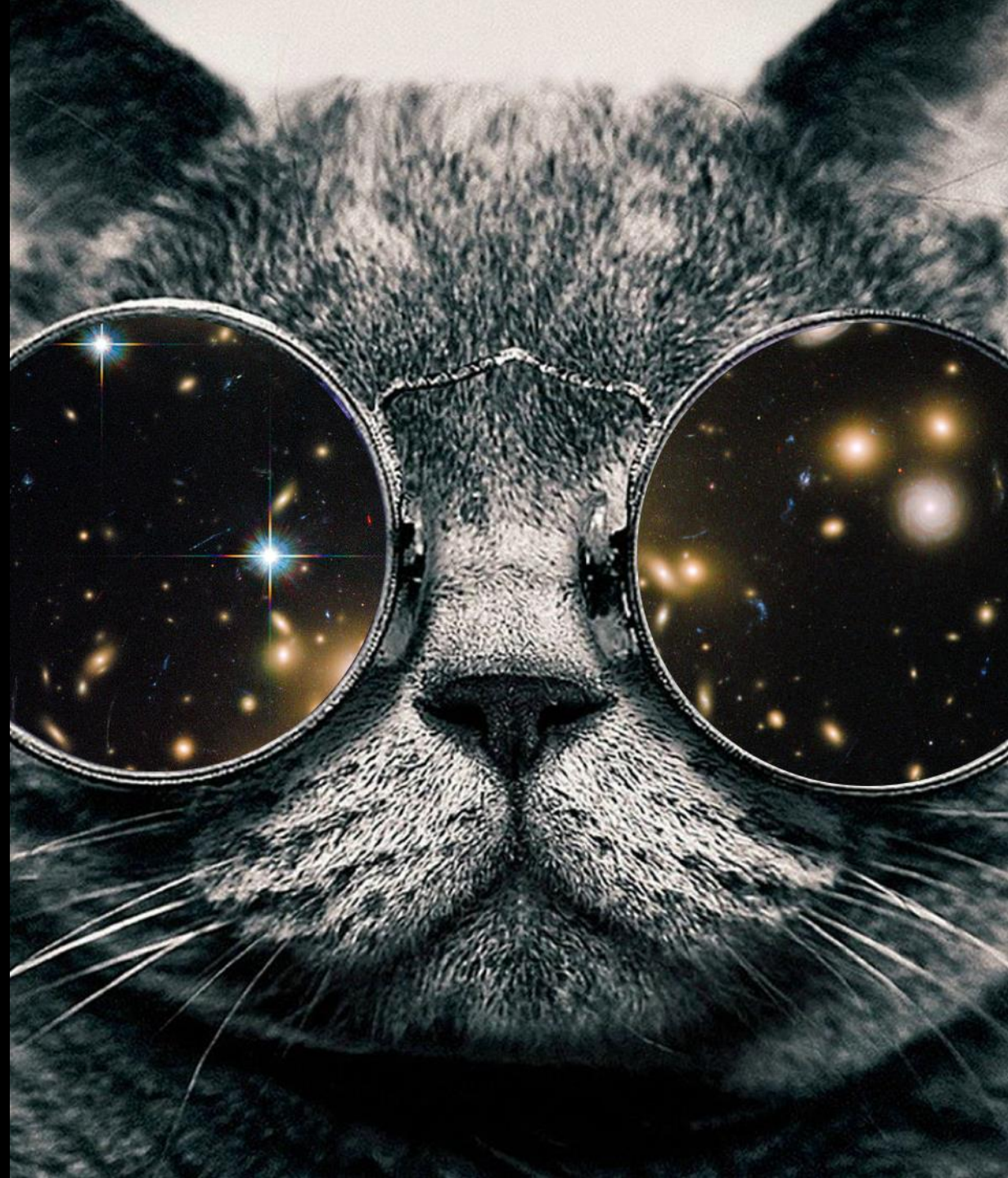
- Small sample size
- Individual galaxy dynamical states could drive result
- **Need larger sample!**

# Cluster AGN Topography Survey (CATS)

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Photometric Survey

$z \sim 0 - 1.5$



# CATS

Massive, multi-wavelength survey anchored by Chandra data

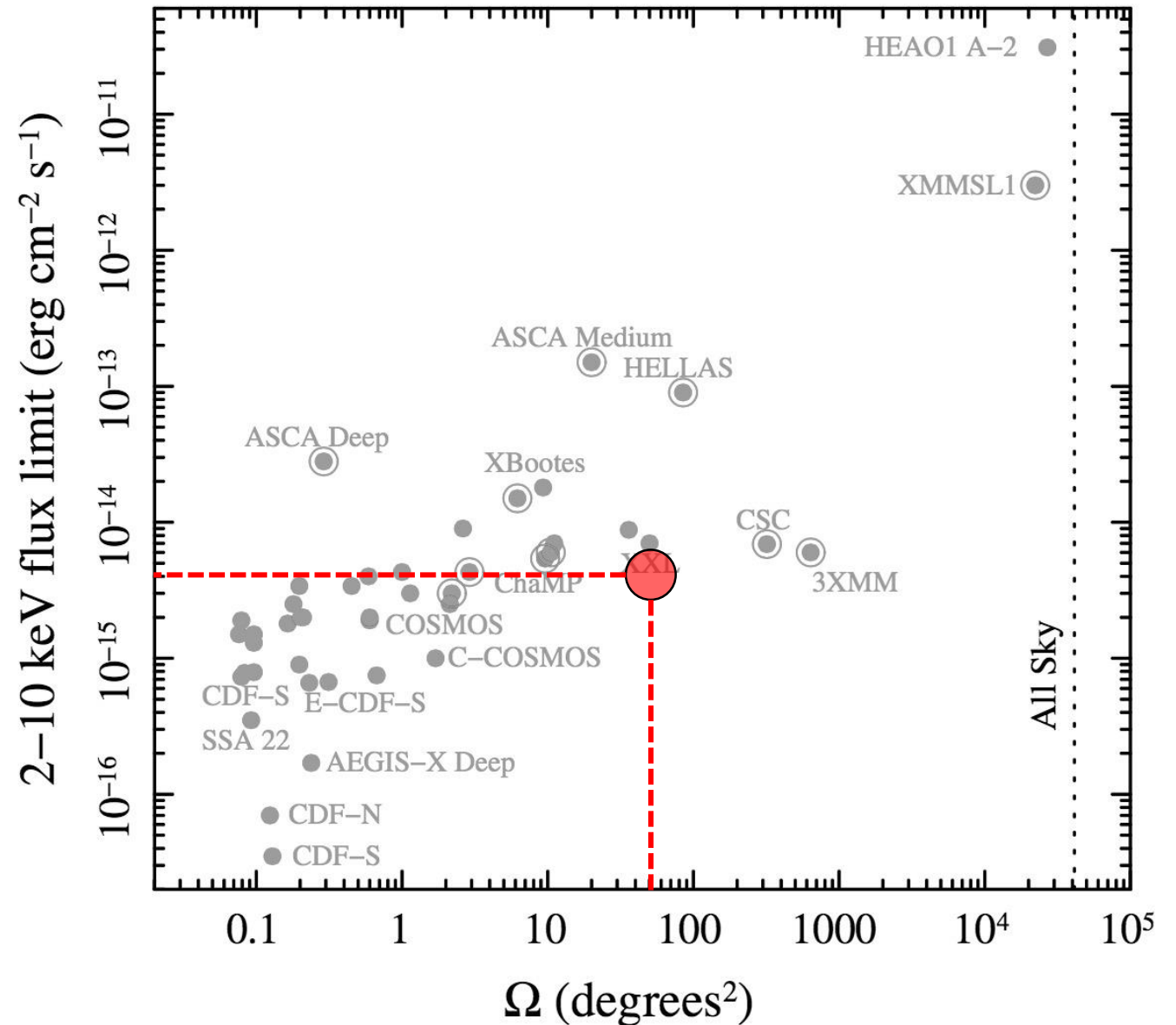
Archival, pointed Chandra X-ray observations of **550 clusters**

**25.7 Ms** archival Chandra exposures

**X-ray/Radio/IR** selected AGN

Model field+cluster population simultaneously

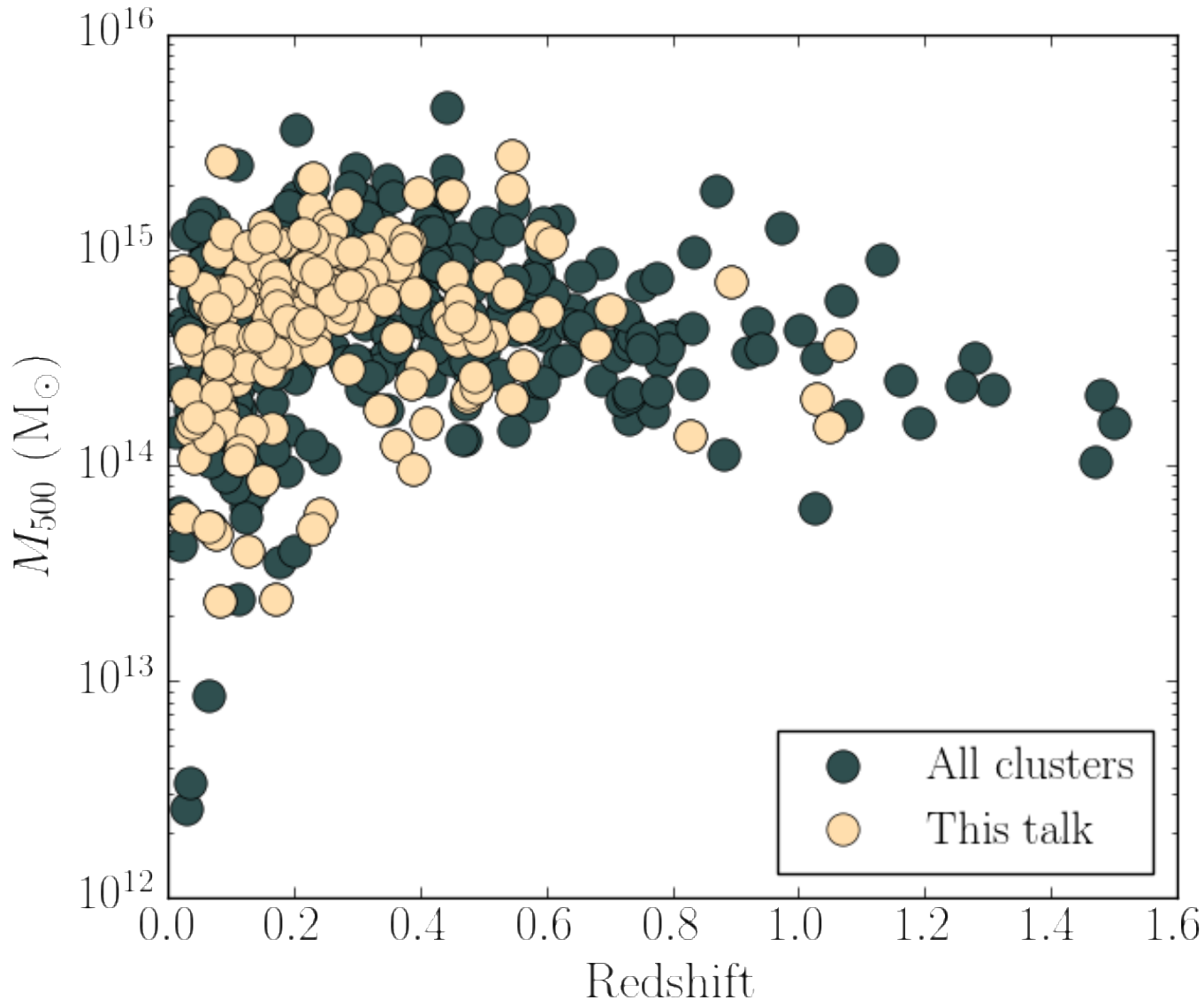
Adapted from Brandt & Alexander 2015





# CATS sample

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**550 clusters**

Wide range of redshifts and cluster masses

**183 clusters** analyzed thus far

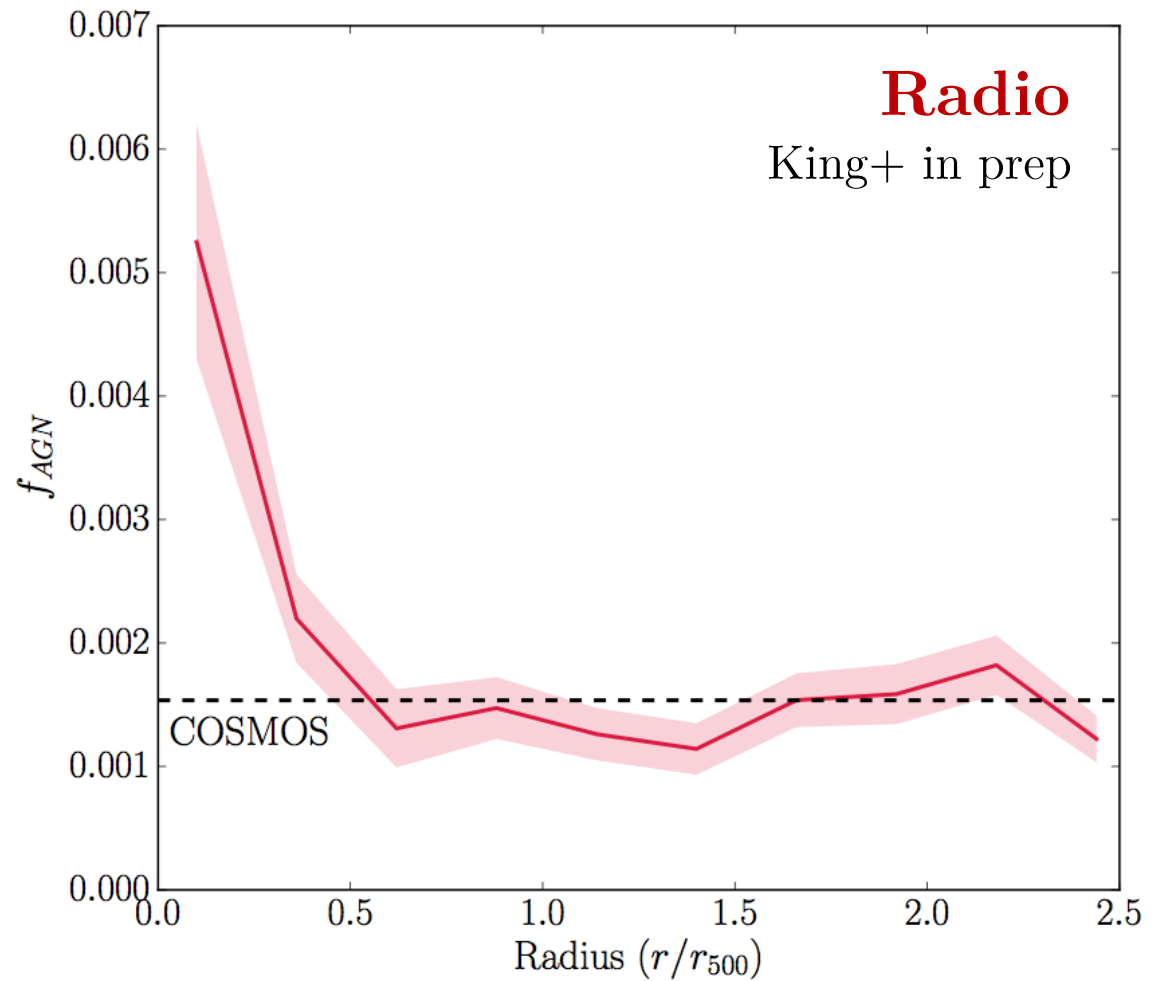
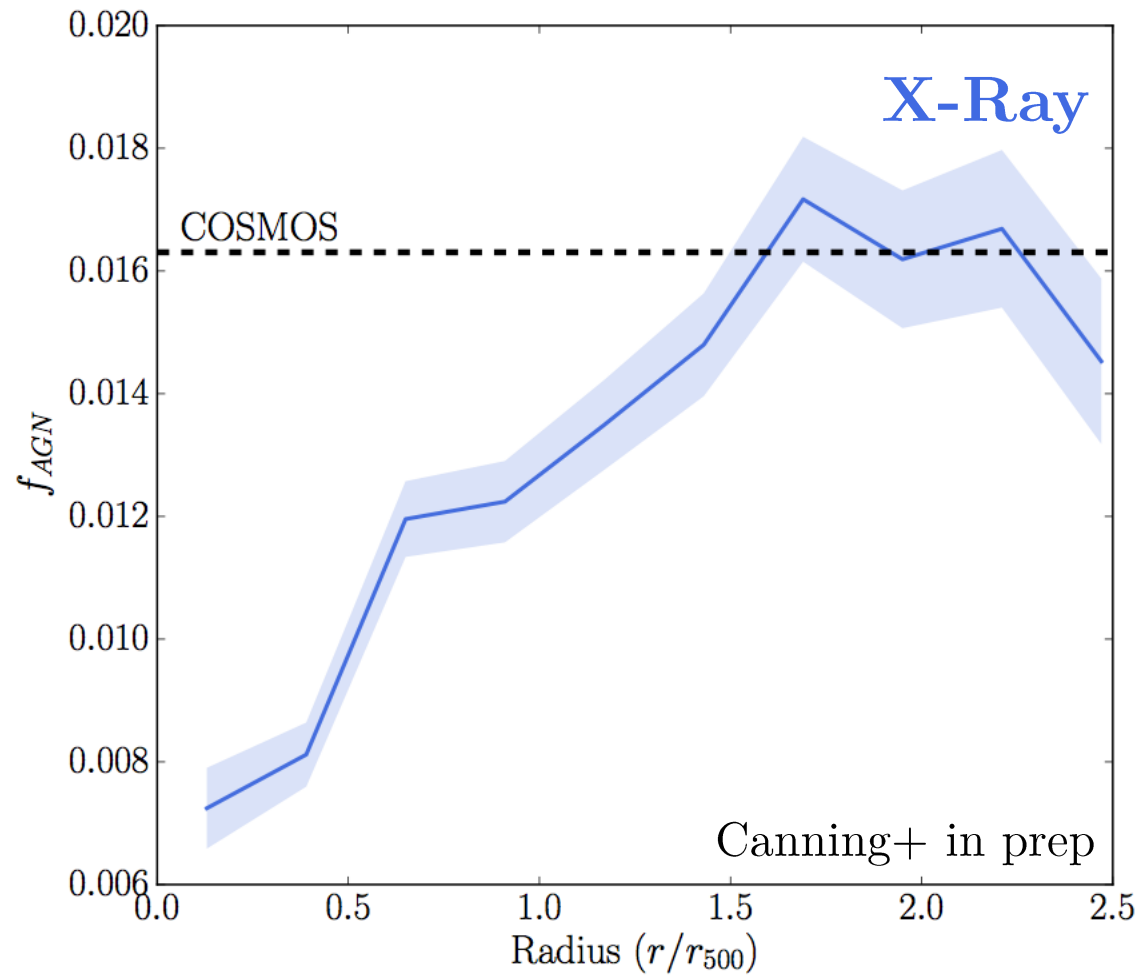
## X-ray

- $>10$  ks of Chandra per cluster
- Point sources identified with 2-10 keV flux  $> 5 \times 10^{-15}$  erg cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$

## Radio

- VLA FIRST 1.4 Ghz
- 3 mJy flux limit

# CATS AGN Fraction



X-ray AGN fraction decreases towards cluster center while radio AGN fraction increases

# CATS X-ray AGN & cluster mass

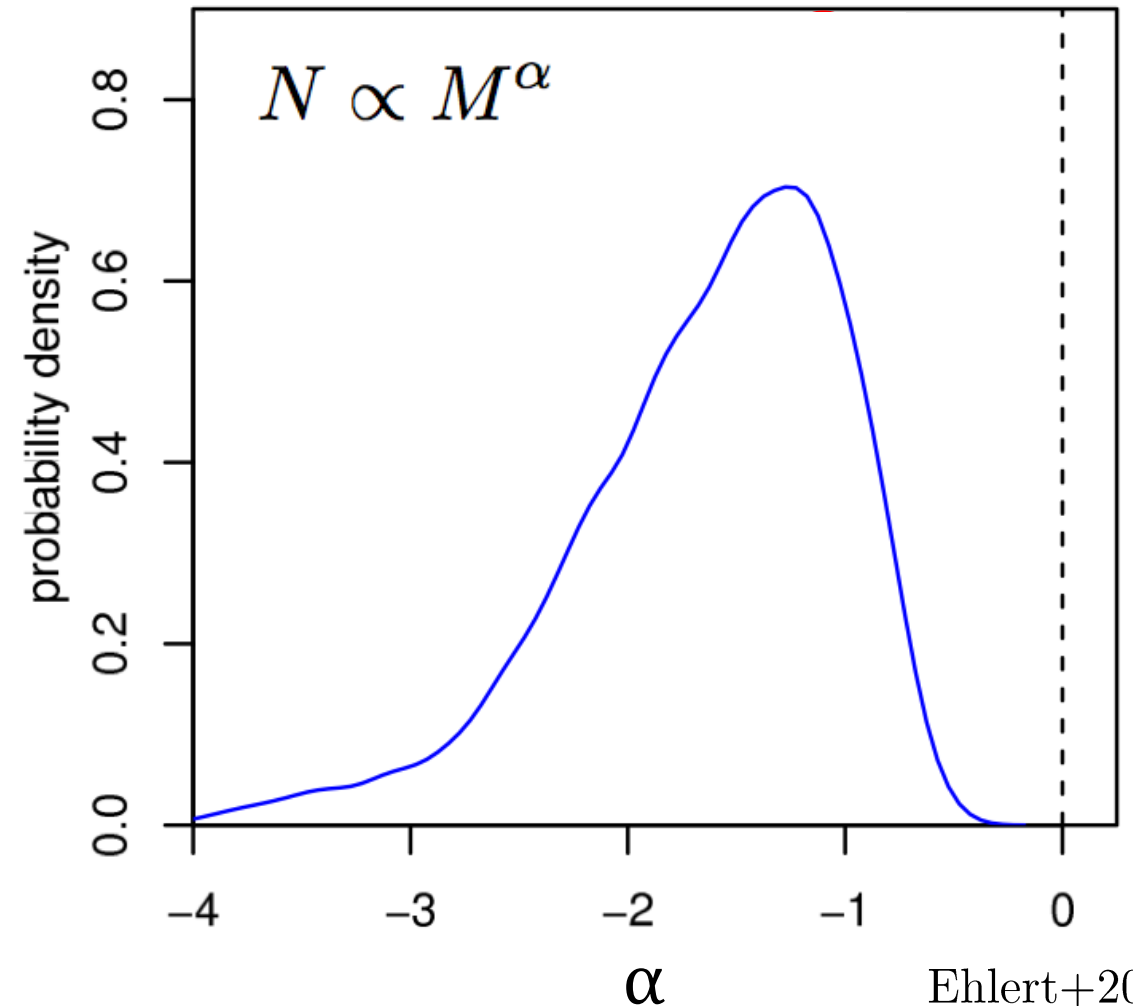
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Power law mass dependence fit to subset of 135 clusters (6.3 Ms)

Mass dependence of  $\alpha = -1.2 \pm 0.7$  with  $\alpha = 0$  ruled out at  $>3$  sigma significance

Consistent with spectroscopic result

**No evidence for redshift evolution beyond that of the field**



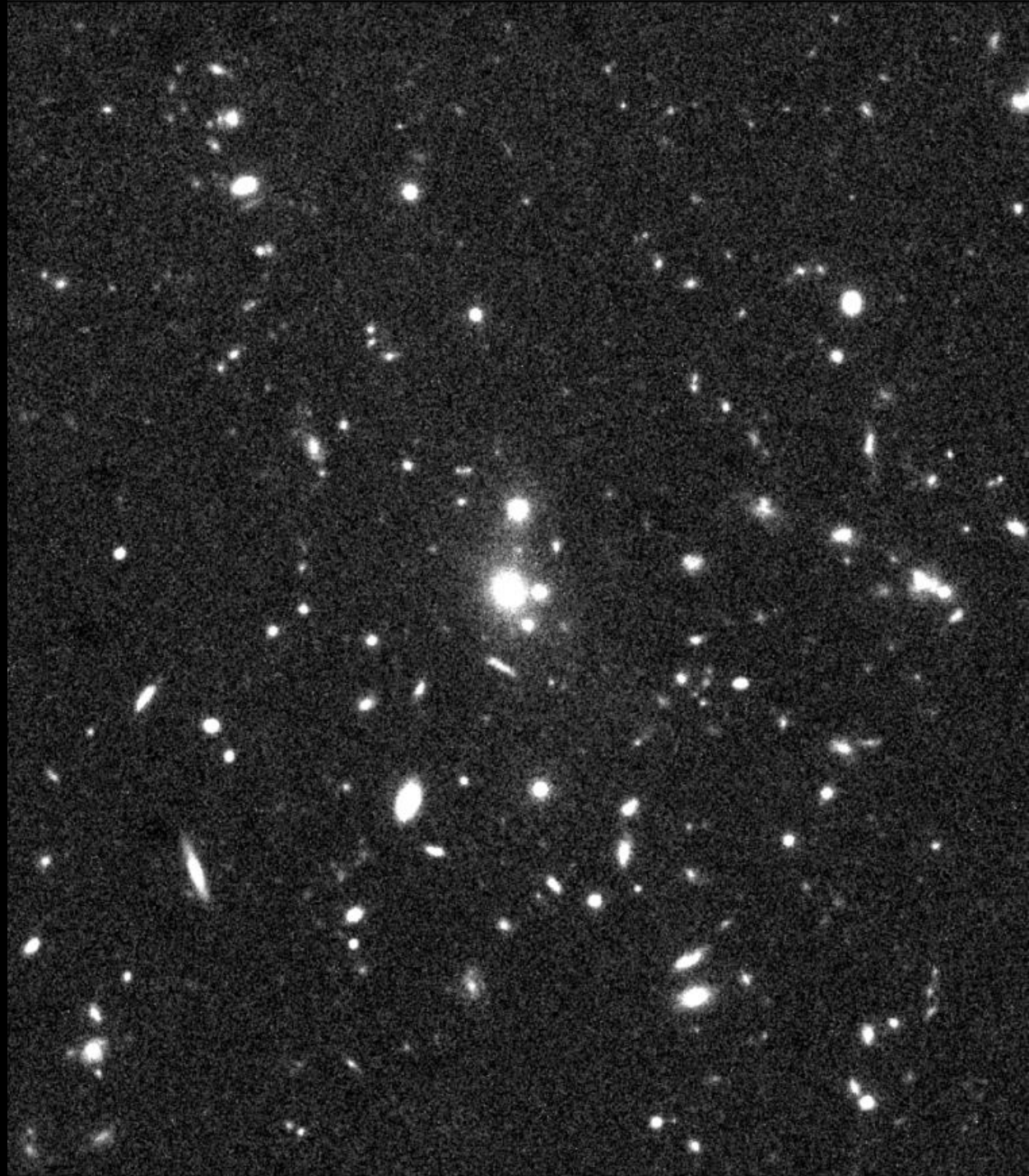
Ehlert+2015

# Cluster AGN activity at $z = 2$

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XLSSC122

The highest redshift,  
virialized cluster known





# Cluster AGN in the early universe

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High- $z$  studies typically look at protoclusters

- Interesting signs of excess AGN triggering  
(Lehmer+2009, Digby-North+2010, Krishnan+2017)
- Very different environments compared to clusters today

**XLSSC122,  $z = 2$**

Highest redshift virialized system discovered to date

X-ray detected cluster

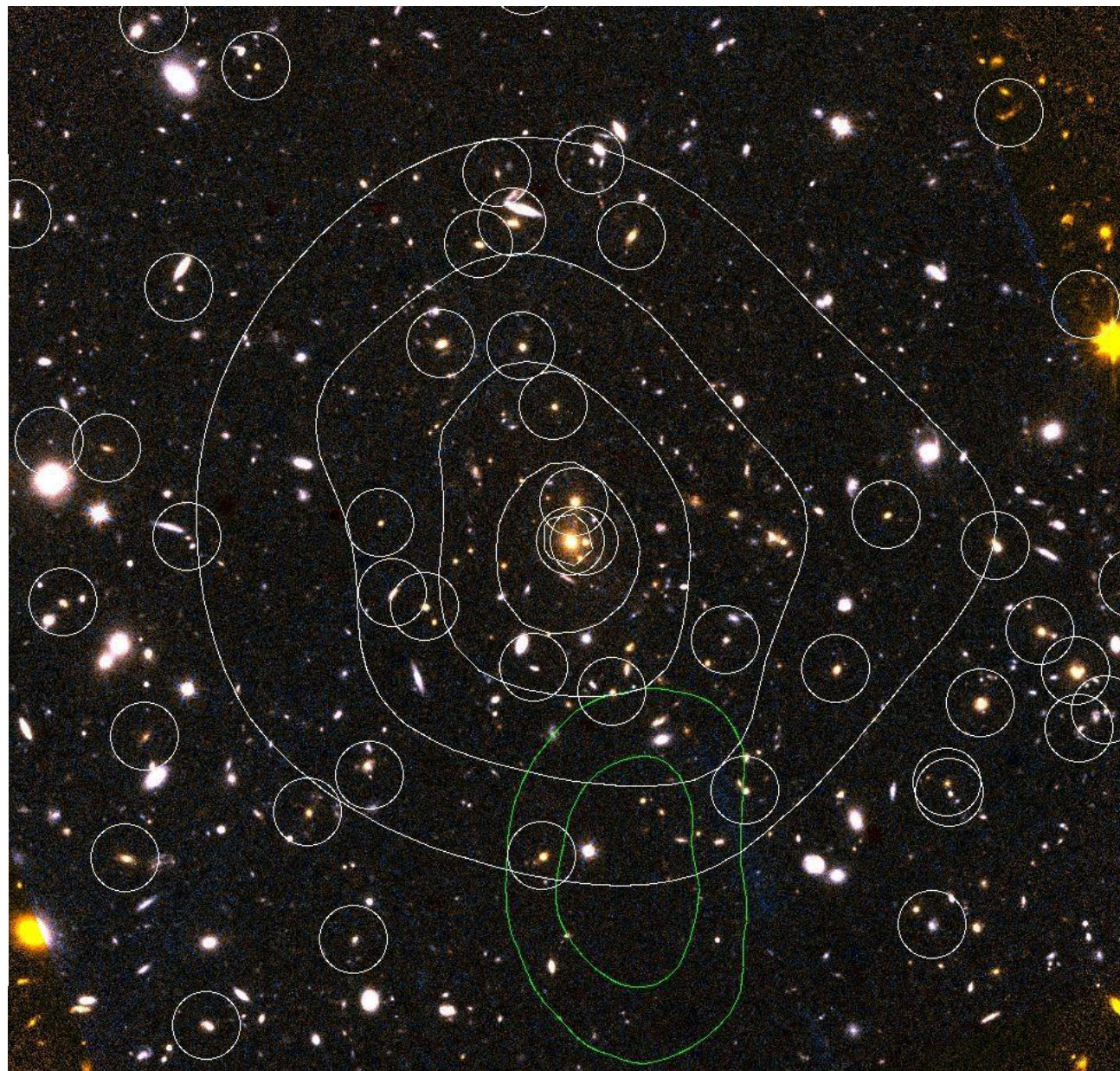
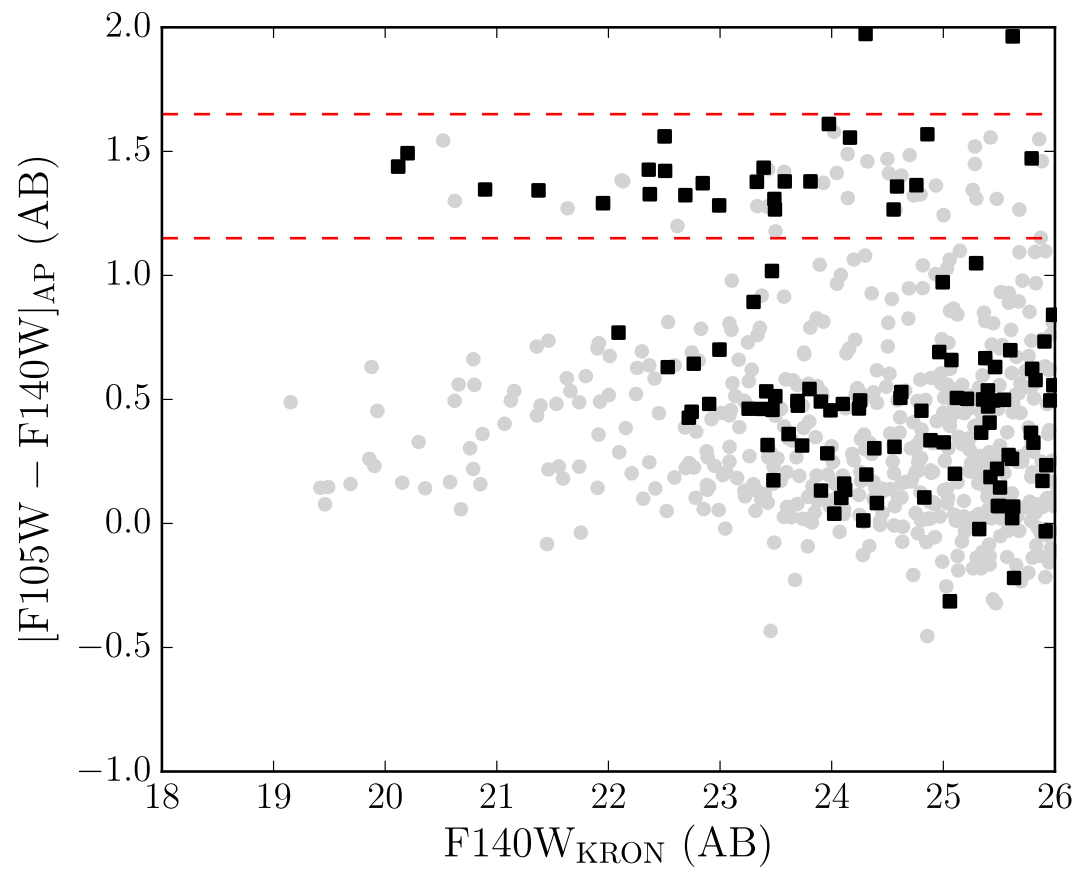
100 ks of XMM Newton data

$M_{500} \sim 10^{14} M_{\odot}$

Complete HST G141 grism spectroscopy obtained

# XLSSC122

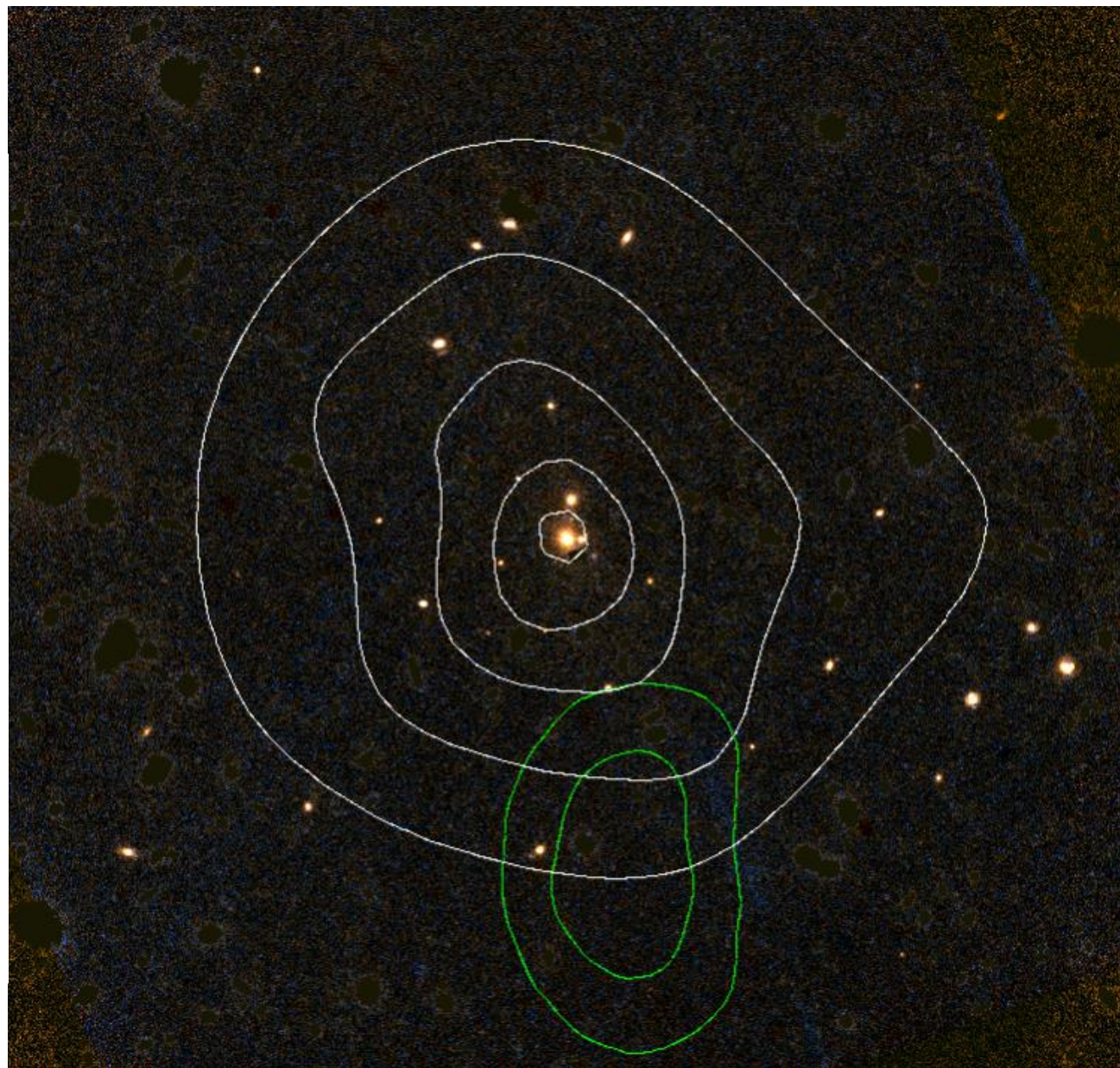
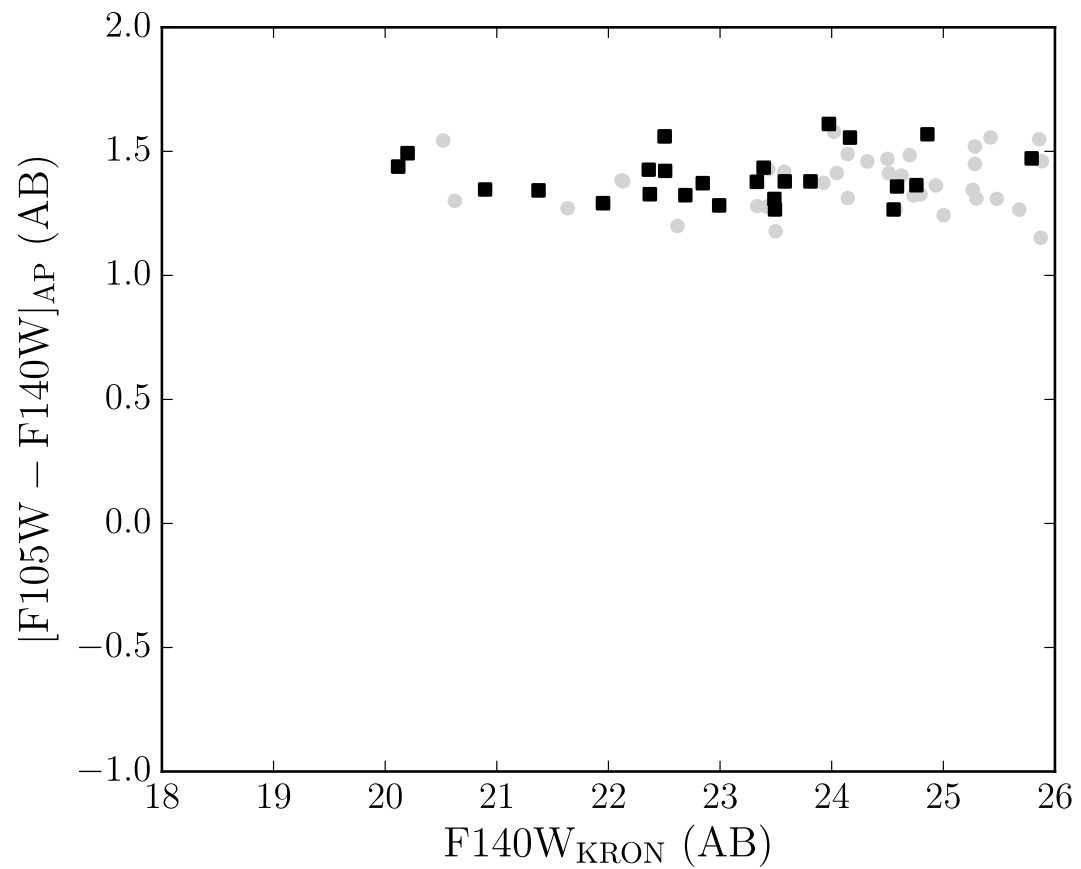
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# XLSSC122

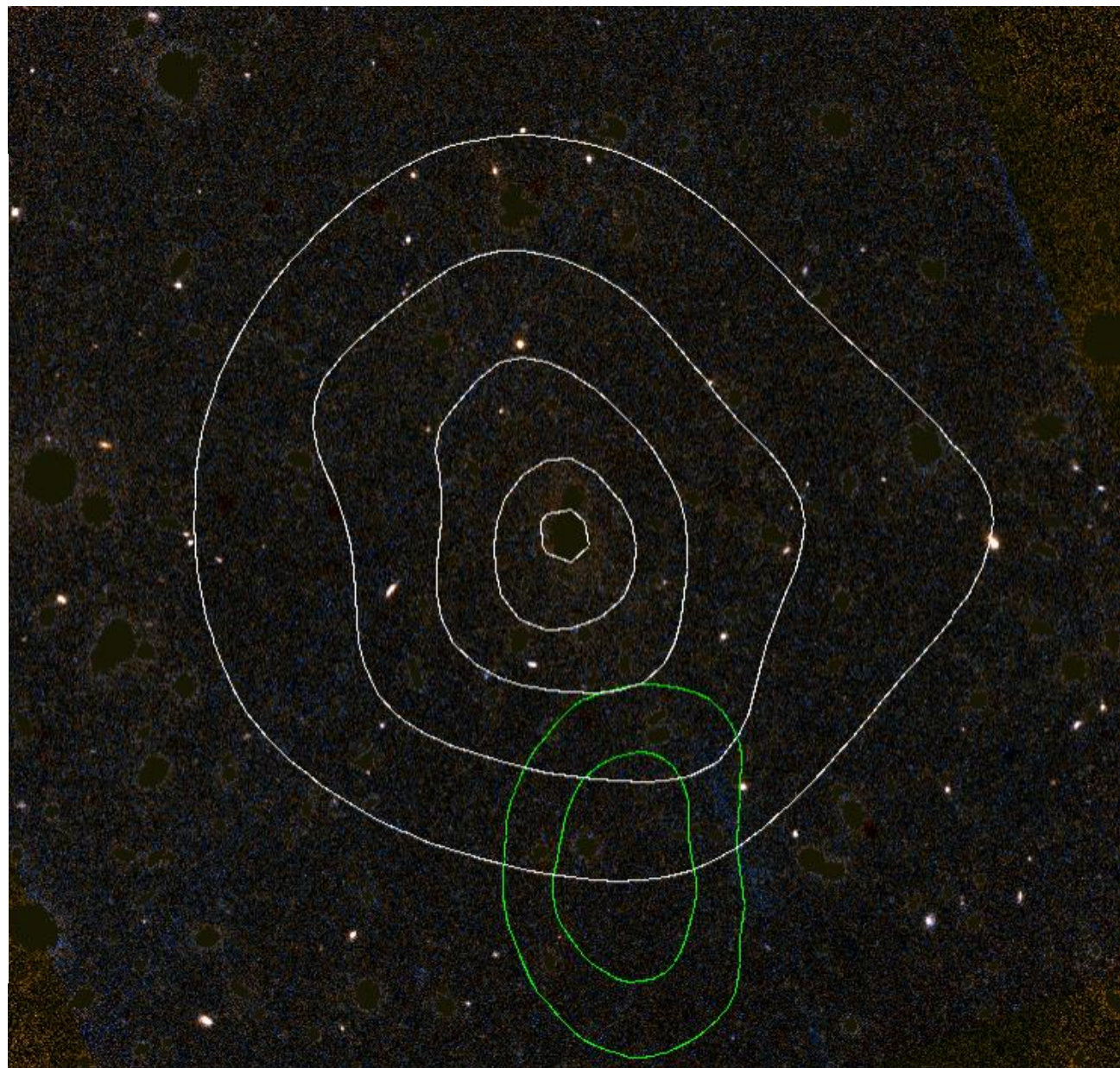
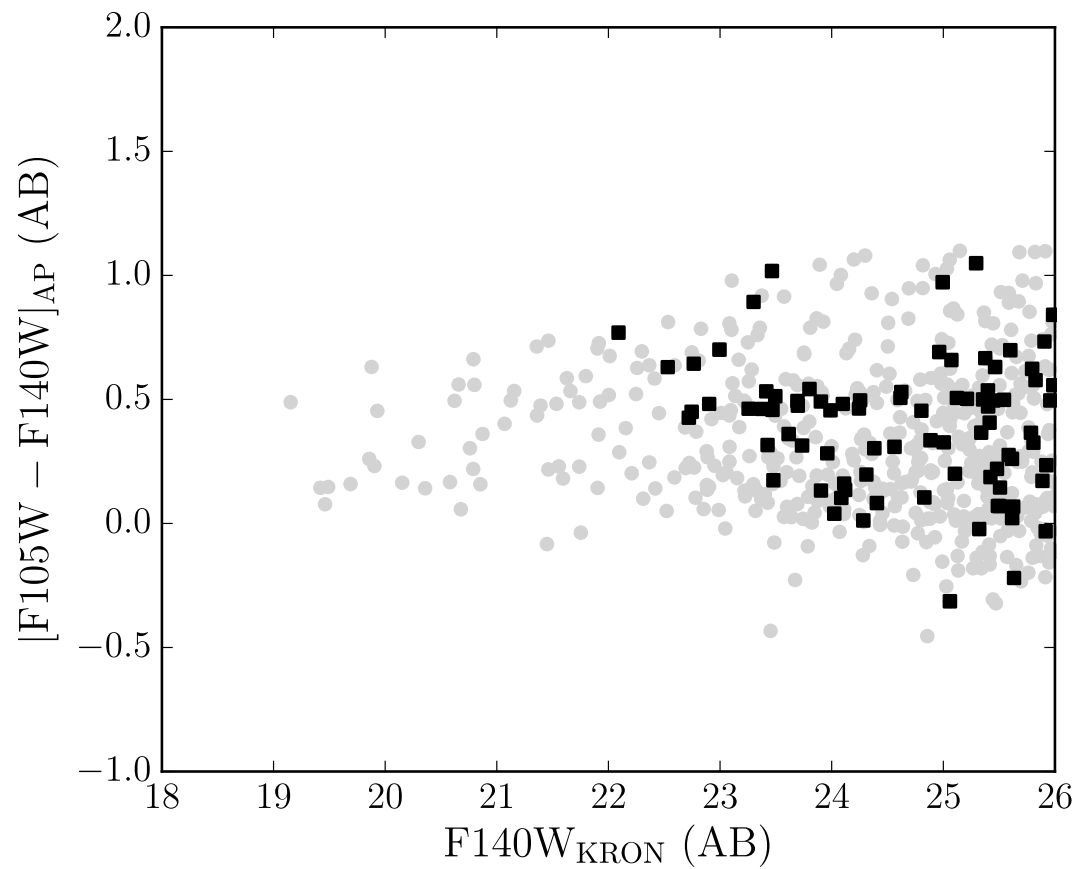
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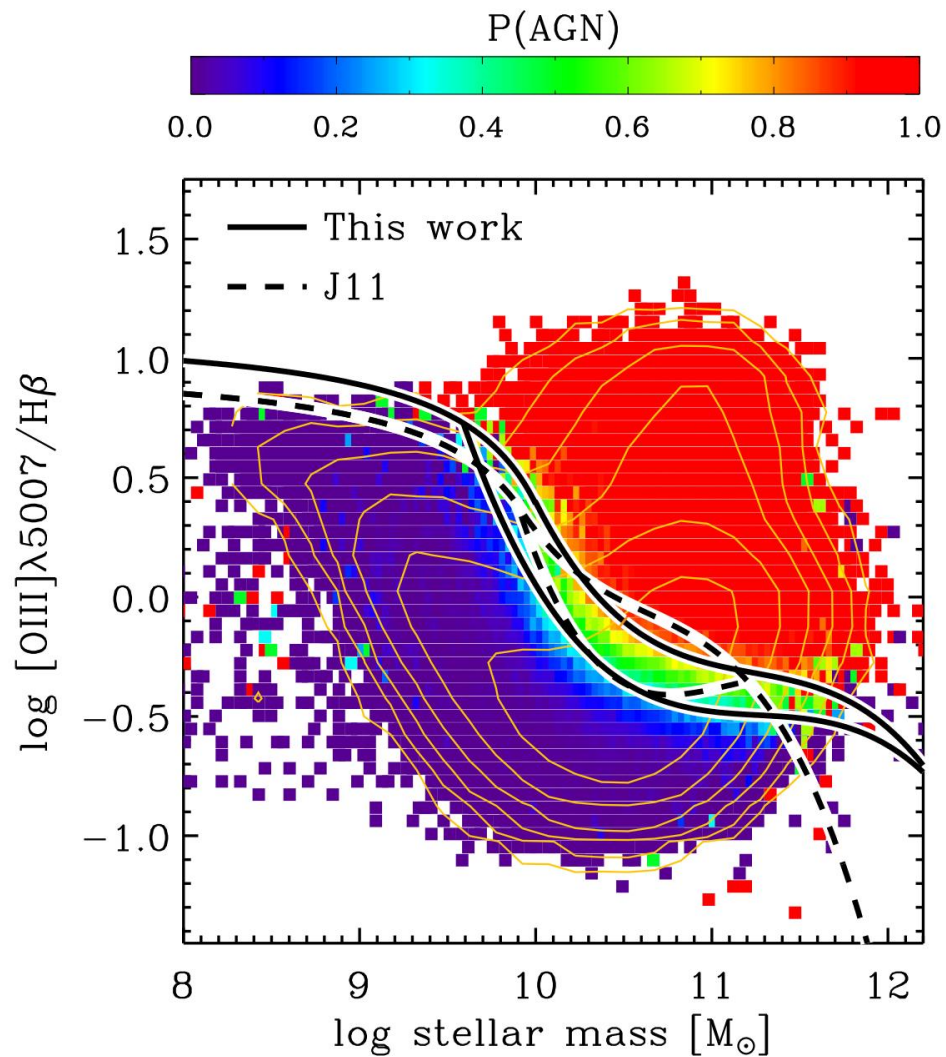
# XLSSC122

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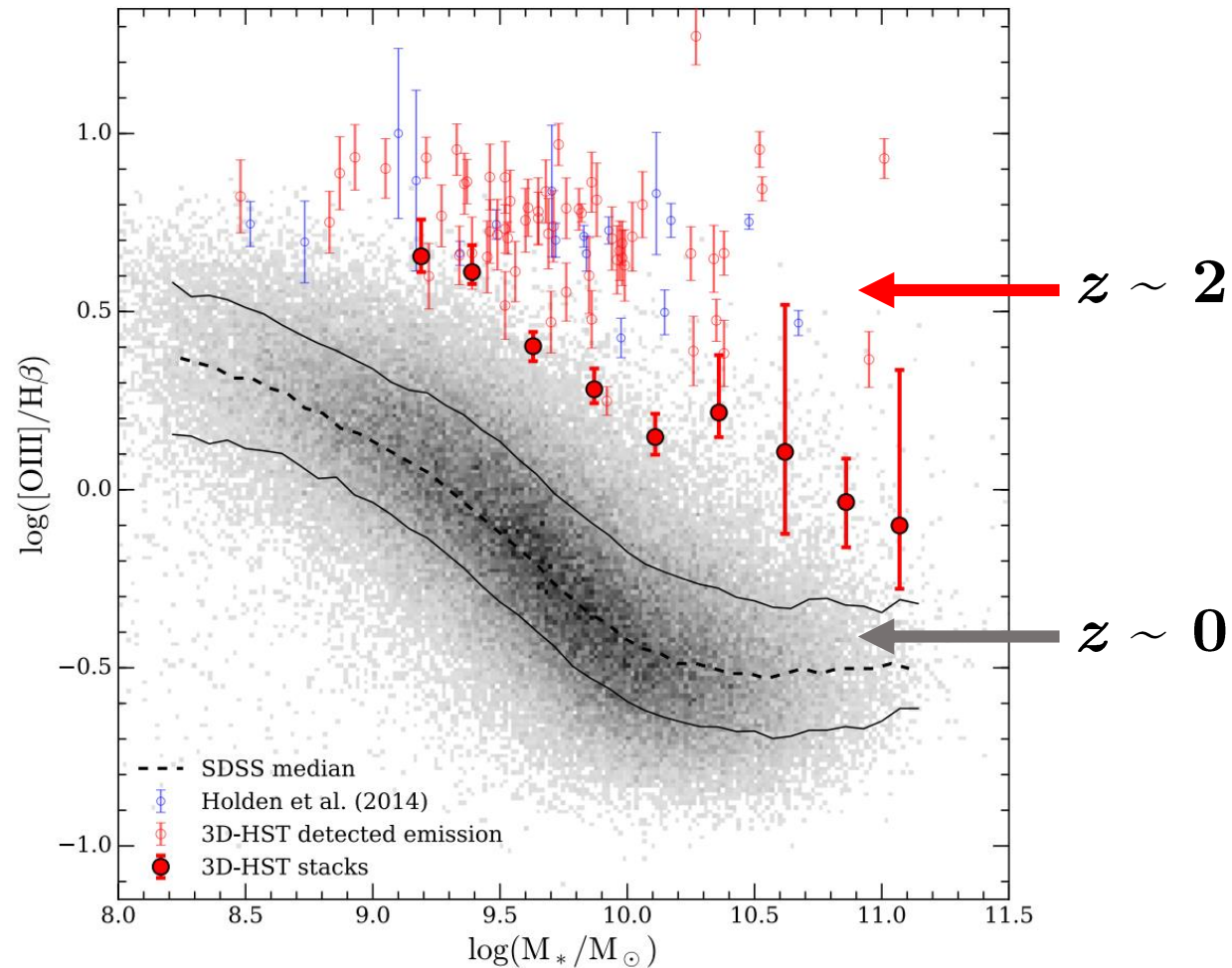




# Optical AGN selection at high- $z$

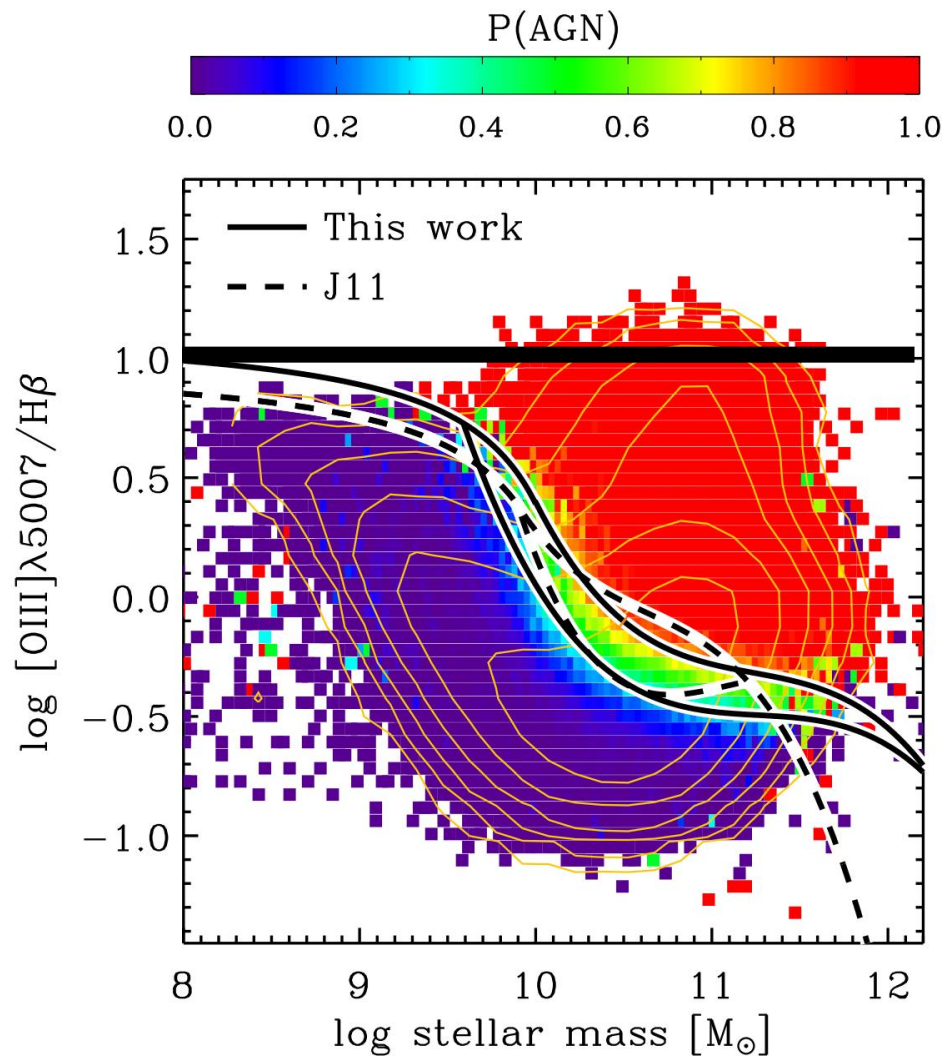


Juneau+2014

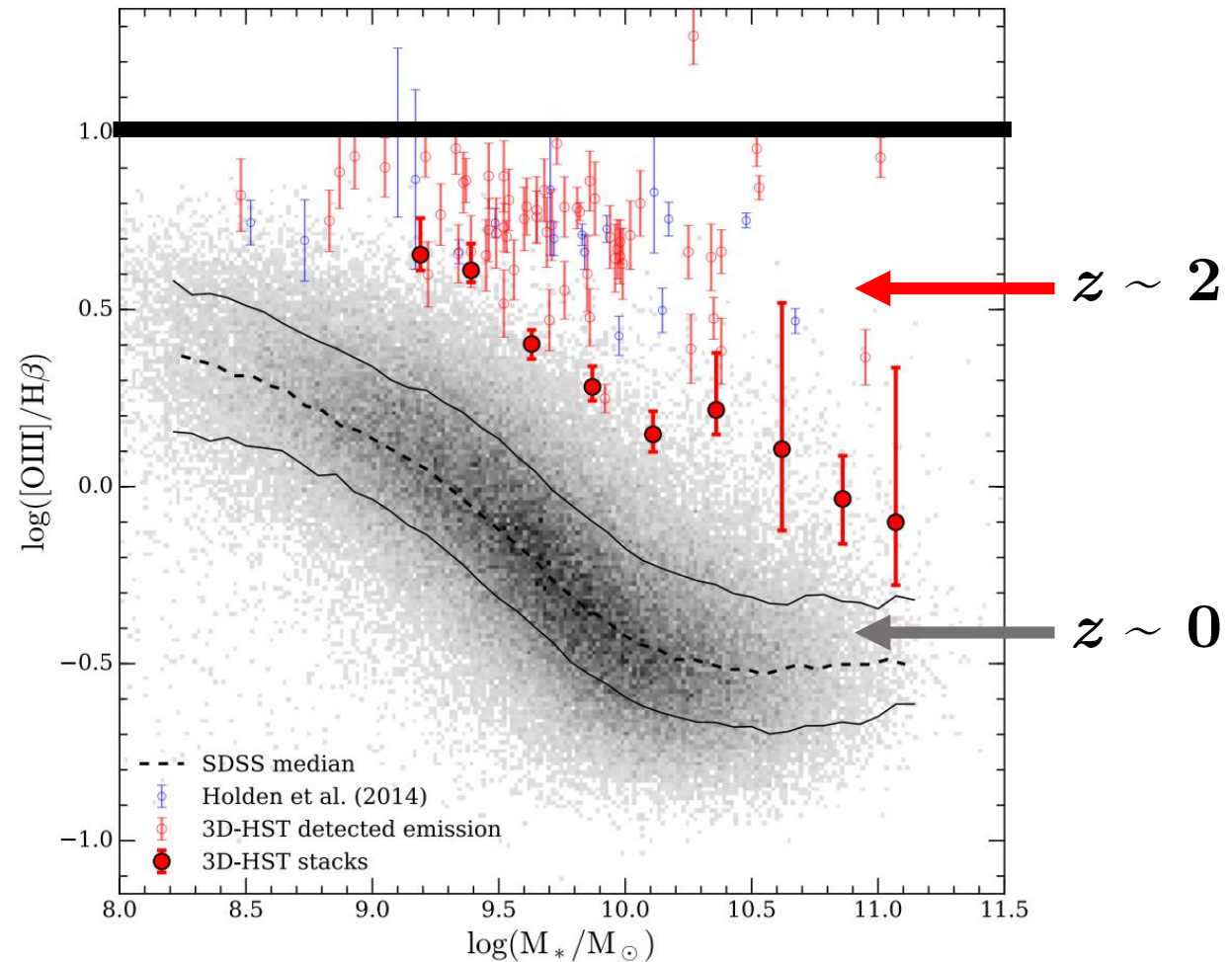


Dickey+2016

# Optical AGN selection at high- $z$



Juneau+2014

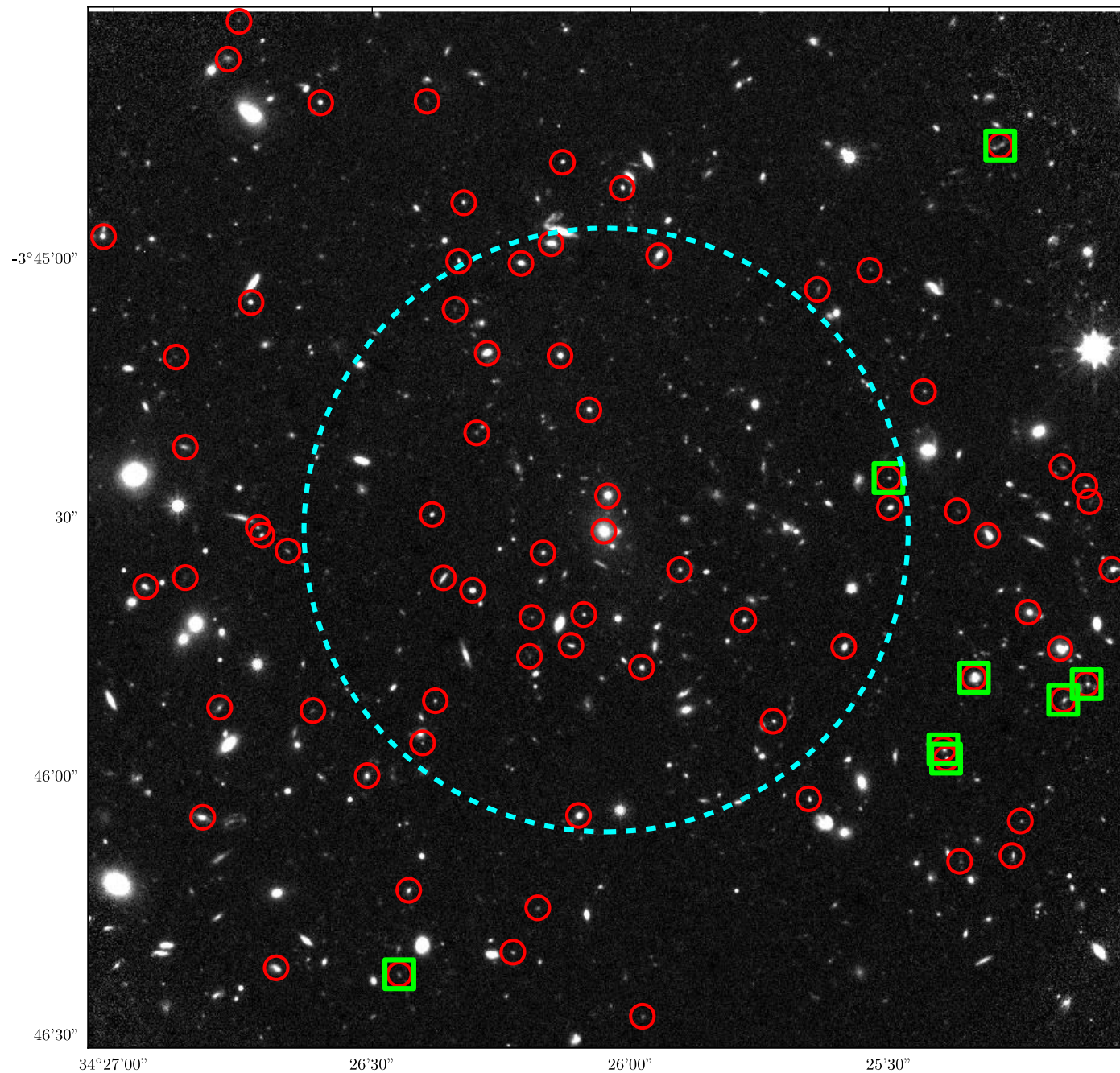
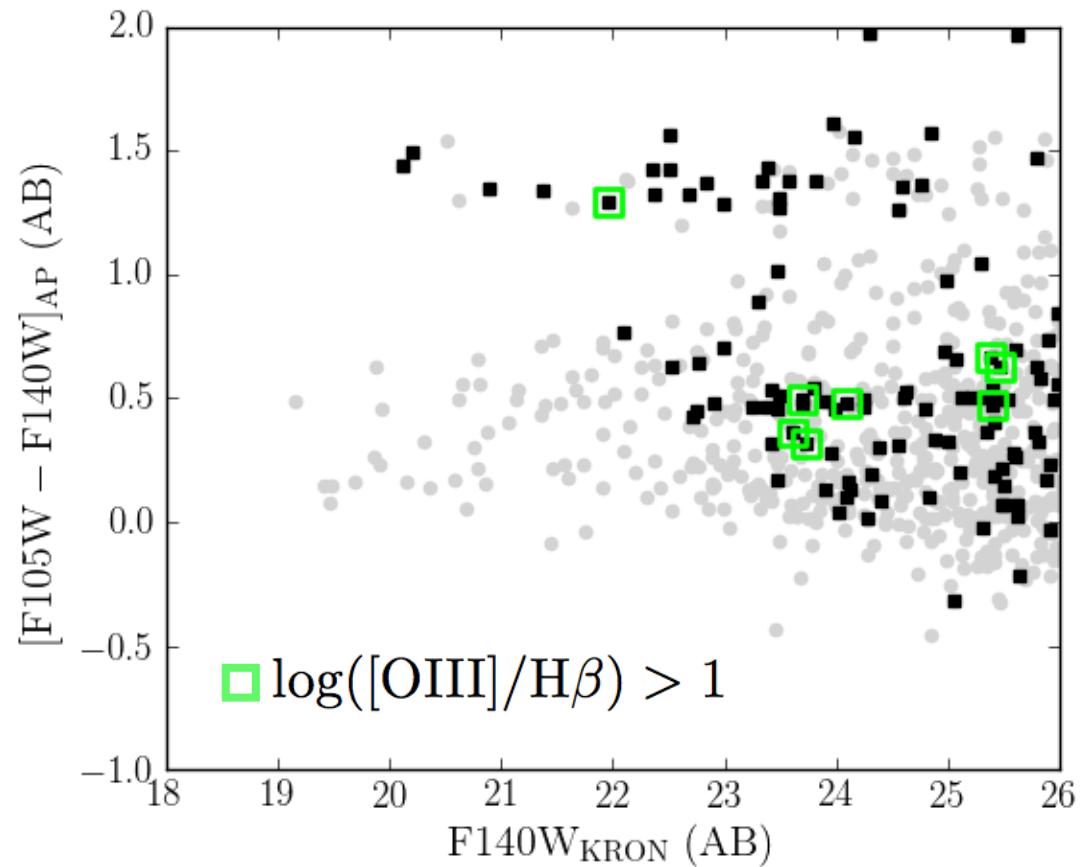


Dickey+2016



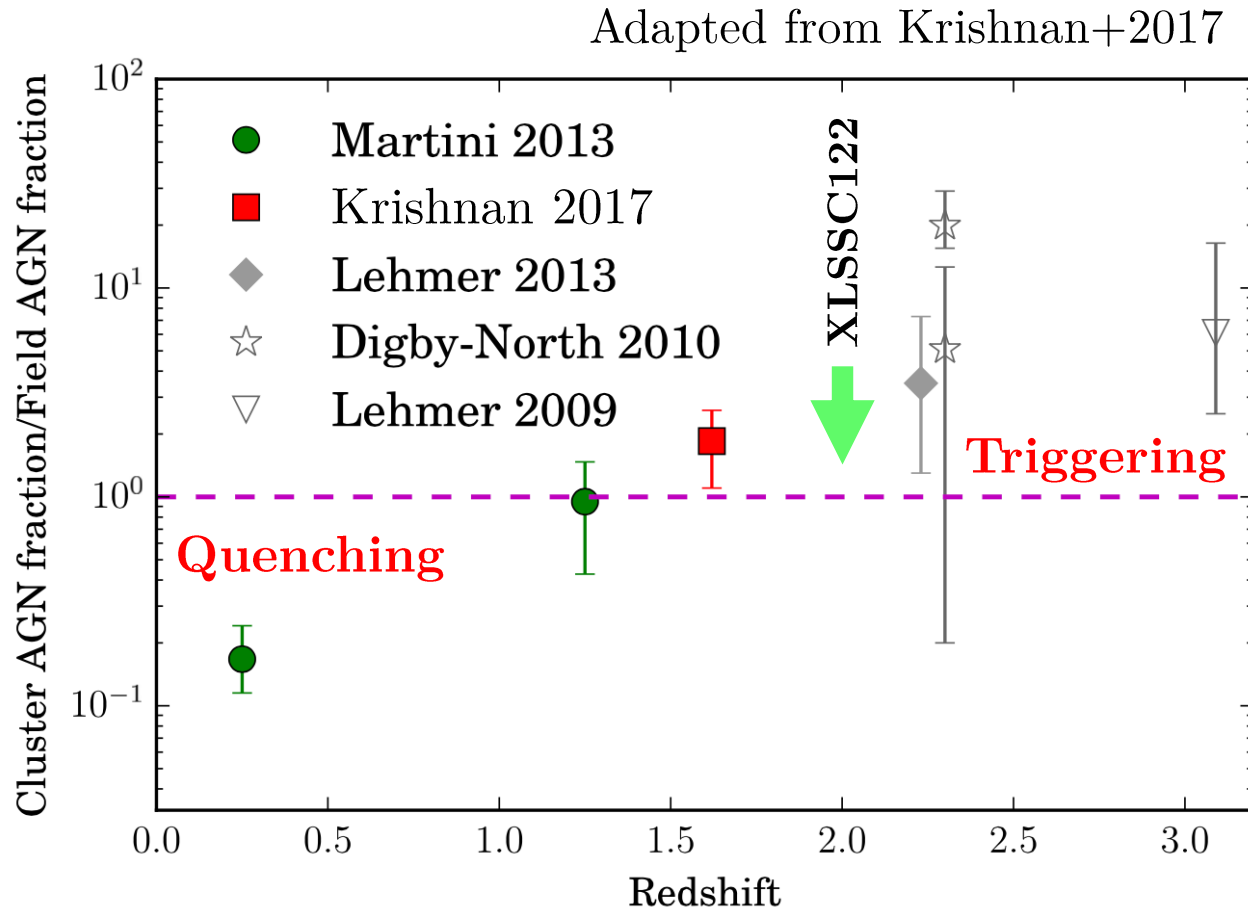
# Optical AGN

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# XLSSC122 AGN fraction



Lower limit on AGN fraction

Suggestive of excess triggering in virialized cluster at high- $z$

**But...**

Unique cluster dynamics

Needs to be compared to clusters of similar mass in local universe

# Summary

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Observed suppression of X-ray AGN in most massive galaxy clusters

- In redshift slice at  $z \sim 0.4$
- Stacked clusters from  $z \sim 0 - 1.5$

AGN number density inversely dependent on cluster mass

- Consistent with merger driven triggering
- Drives redshift dependence of  $f_{\text{agn}}$

First look at  $z = 2$  virialized cluster suggests AGN enhancement

- Should be compared to equally massive galaxies in local universe

