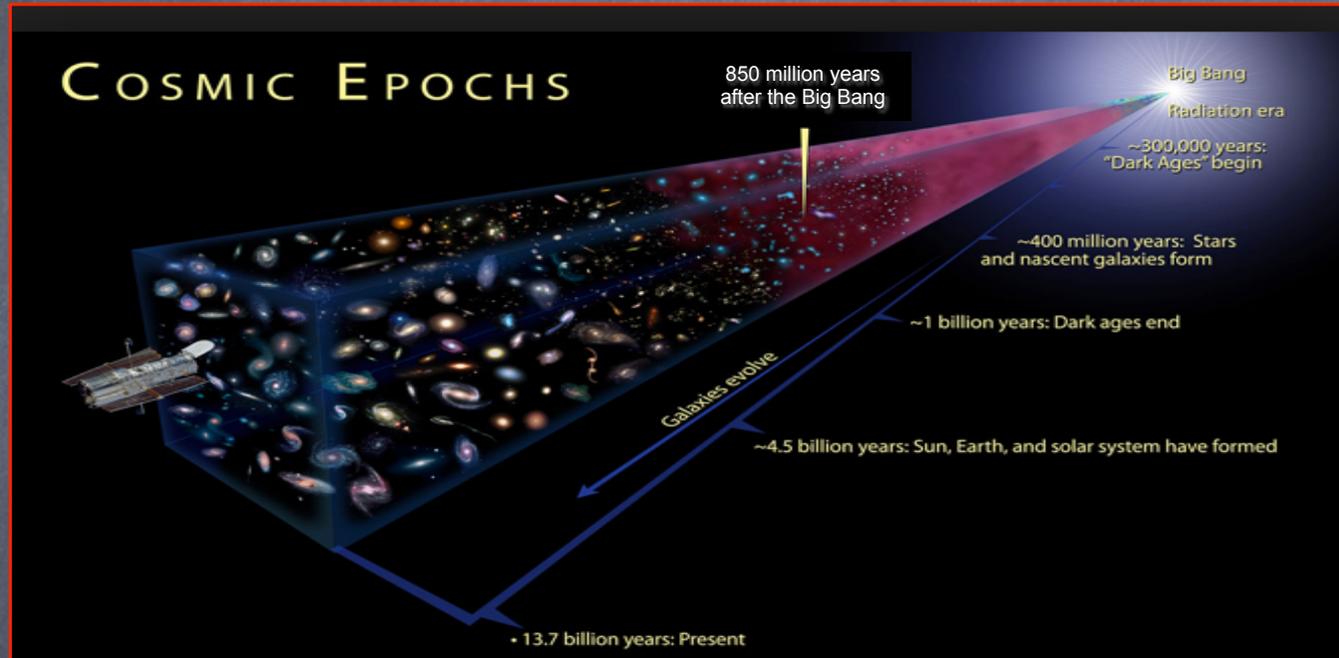


# Probing the earliest galaxies and reionization

Eros Vanzella

INAF - Astronomical Observatory of Bologna



## Lecture #3

# Lectures

## Lecture 1

Monday 2hr

Ionized IGM  
Deep surveys  
UV LFs

Cosmic reionization: how was the IGM reionized?  
Probes of cosmic reionization (and ionization)  
Selection techniques of high-redshift galaxies  
Redshift evolution of the UV luminosity function

## Lecture 2

Tuesday 1hr

Escaping  
ion.  
radiation

Is all cosmic reionization made by galaxies ?  
Issues on the escape fraction

## Lecture 3

Thursday 1hr

Spectr.  
observations

Exploring the farthest and faintest galaxies  
with deep spectroscopy: the first two Gyrs  
after the Big-Bang

## Lecture 4

Friday 1hr

Current  
limitations:  
the future

Next generation optical/near-IR facilities:  
JWST and ELT

# Cosmic hydrogen reionization: who, when, how ...

Design Panchromatic Surveys to search for faint ( $L \ll L^*$ ) and distant sources ( $z < 20$ )

Strong observational effort in the last 20 years

count galaxies/AGNs; compute UV LFs

Search for the farthest sources ?  
... ongoing ...

Compute ionizing UV luminosity density

Compare with UVB  $0 < z < 6$

post-reionization

Problem Solved

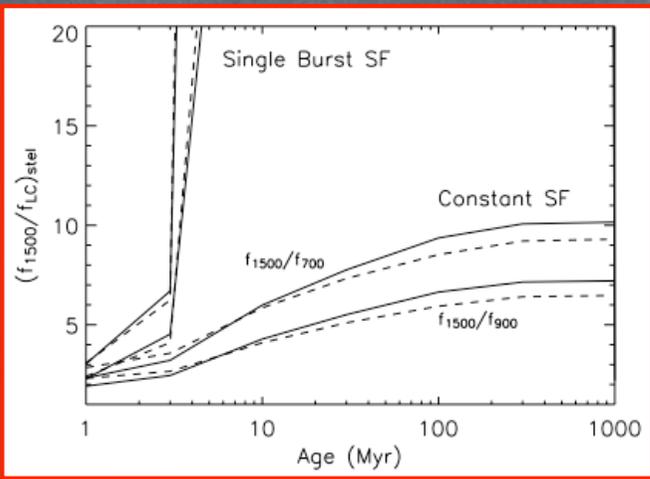
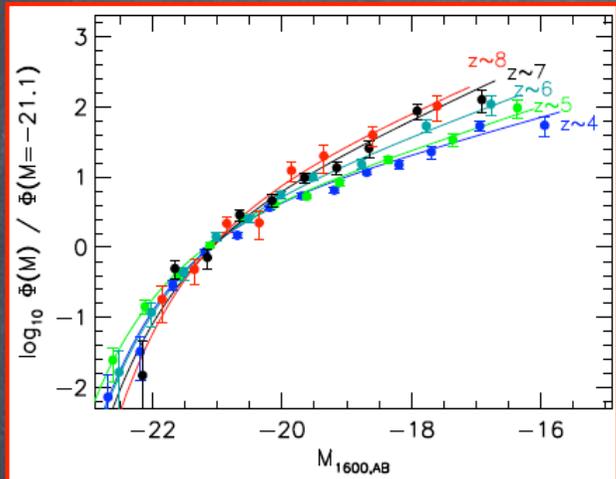
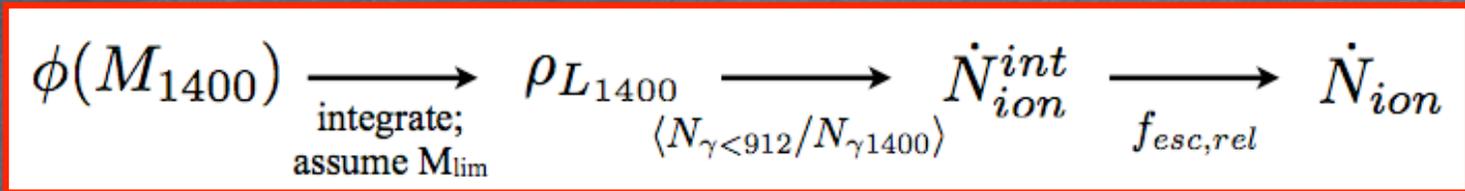
Investigate ionizing emission: physics, feedback  
... ongoing ... ?

Approaching EoR  $z > 6-7$  reionization

Connection with IGM physics ?  
... ongoing ... ?

? No

# Ionizing sources

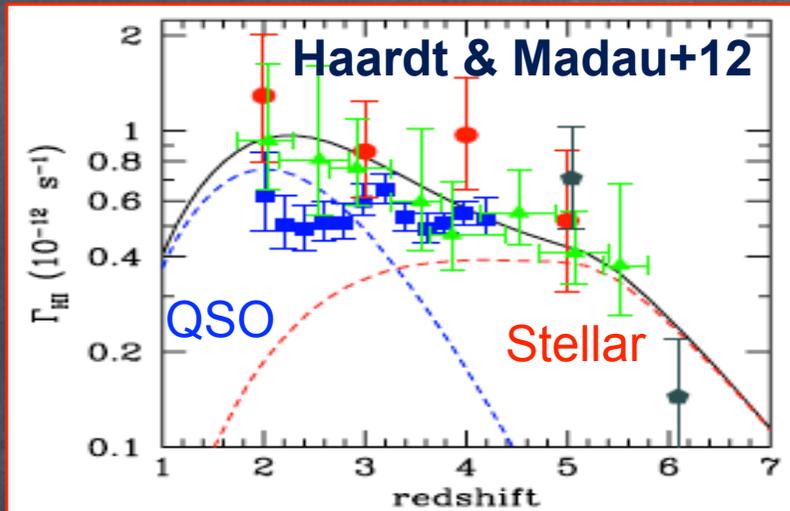


$$\rho_{1500} = \int_{L_{\text{min}}}^{\infty} L \phi(L) dL$$

- LyC from young stars
- intrinsic ratio depends on SFH

# Focusing on star-forming galaxies

Galaxies leading candidates @  $z > 3$



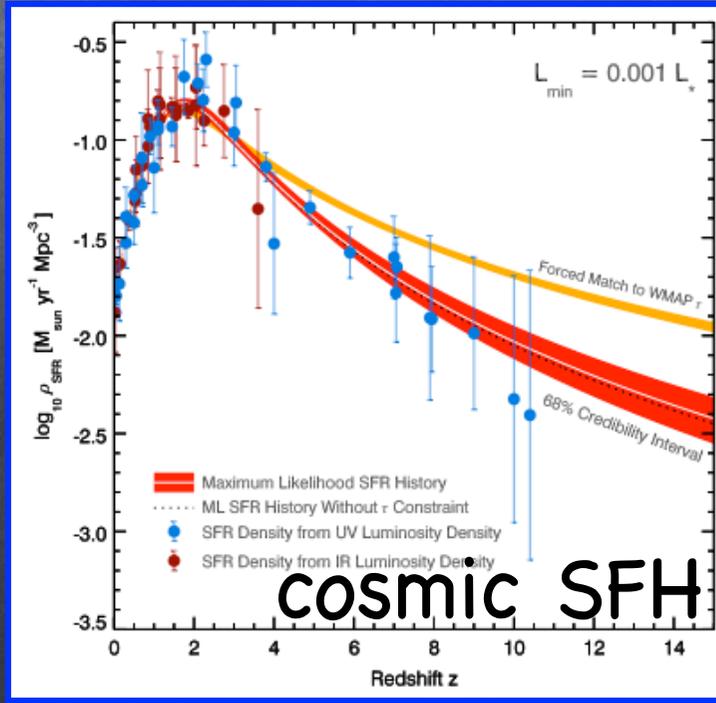
Pawlik et al. (2009)  $C_{\text{HII}} \equiv \langle n_{\text{HII}}^2 \rangle / \langle n_{\text{HII}} \rangle^2$

$$\dot{\rho}_c(z) = \frac{0.027 M_{\odot}}{\text{Mpc}^3 \text{ yr}} \frac{C/f_{\text{esc}}}{30} \left[ \frac{1-z}{7} \right]^3 \left[ \frac{\Omega_b}{0.0465} \right]^2$$

Minimum SFRD needed to keep the Universe ionized

But see Madau & Haardt 2015 - AGN

Cosmic SFH - UV photons



UV LFs,  
lum. density (1500A)

Madau & Dickinson+14  
Robertson+15

$f_{\text{esc}}$

critical parameter  
in any model of EoR

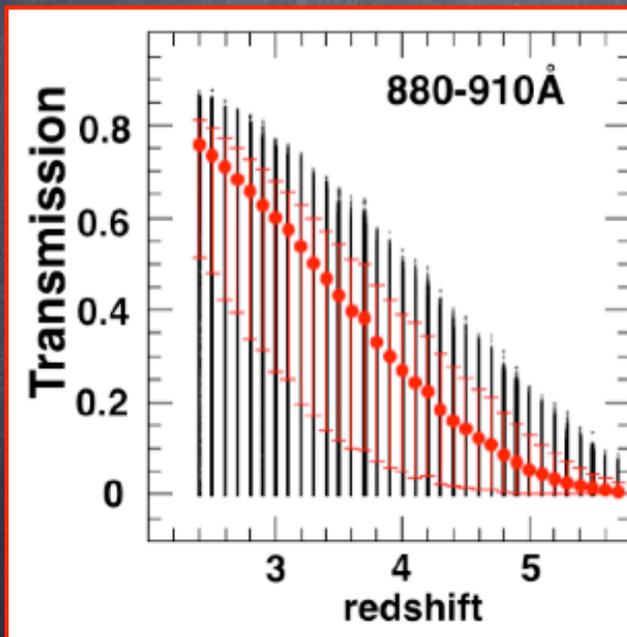


How many ionizing photons escape from galaxies ?

$f_{\text{esc}}$

First: we cannot directly observe Lyman continuum radiation ( $<912\text{\AA}$ ) at  $z>4.5$ ;

by definition reionization happens if LyC photons are "used":  
the mean free path is very short during EoR

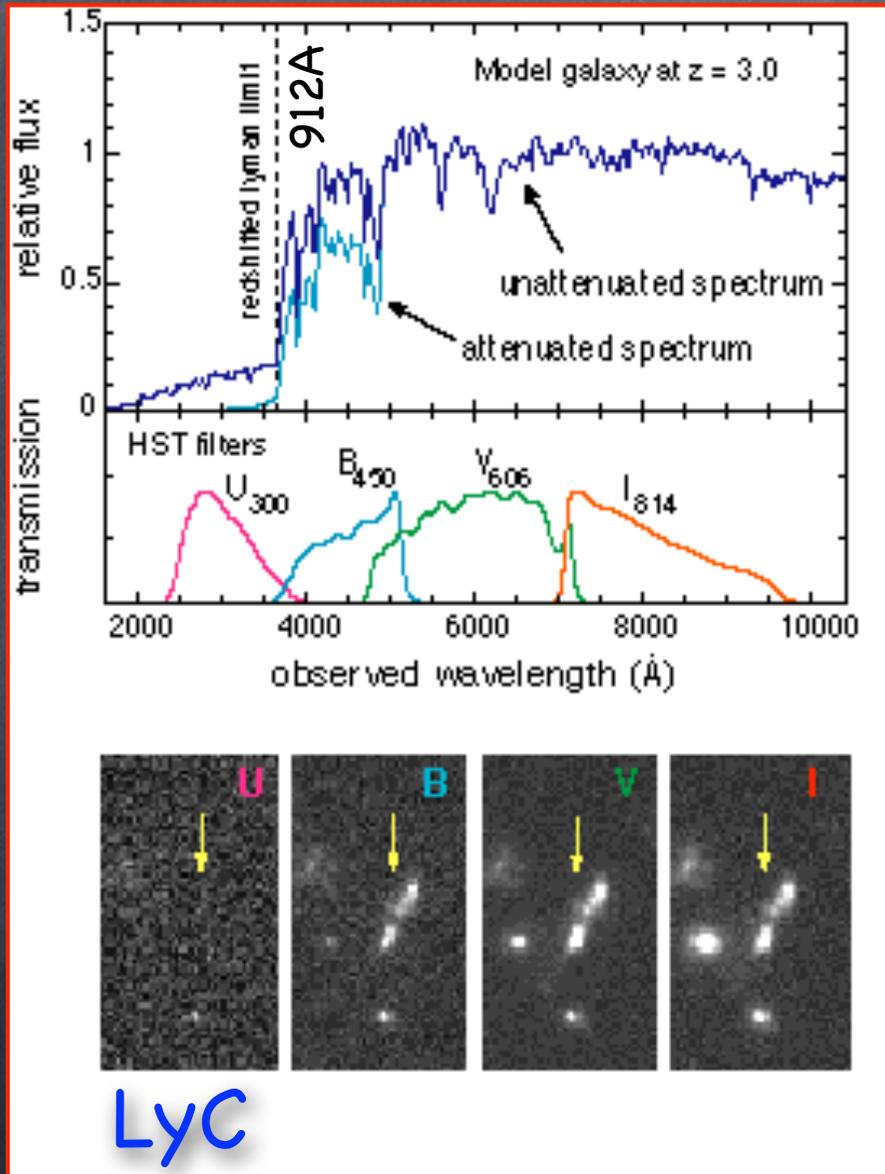


A way is to look at properties of  $z<4.5$  LyC emitters, learn, and investigate if at  $z>6$  such properties are more common, eventually identifying reionizing sources

$N_{\text{HI}} > 1.7 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$   $\tau_{\text{LyC}} > 1$

# Trying to observe directly LyC at low redshift ( $z < 4.5$ )

However, galaxies are selected with dropout techniques ...

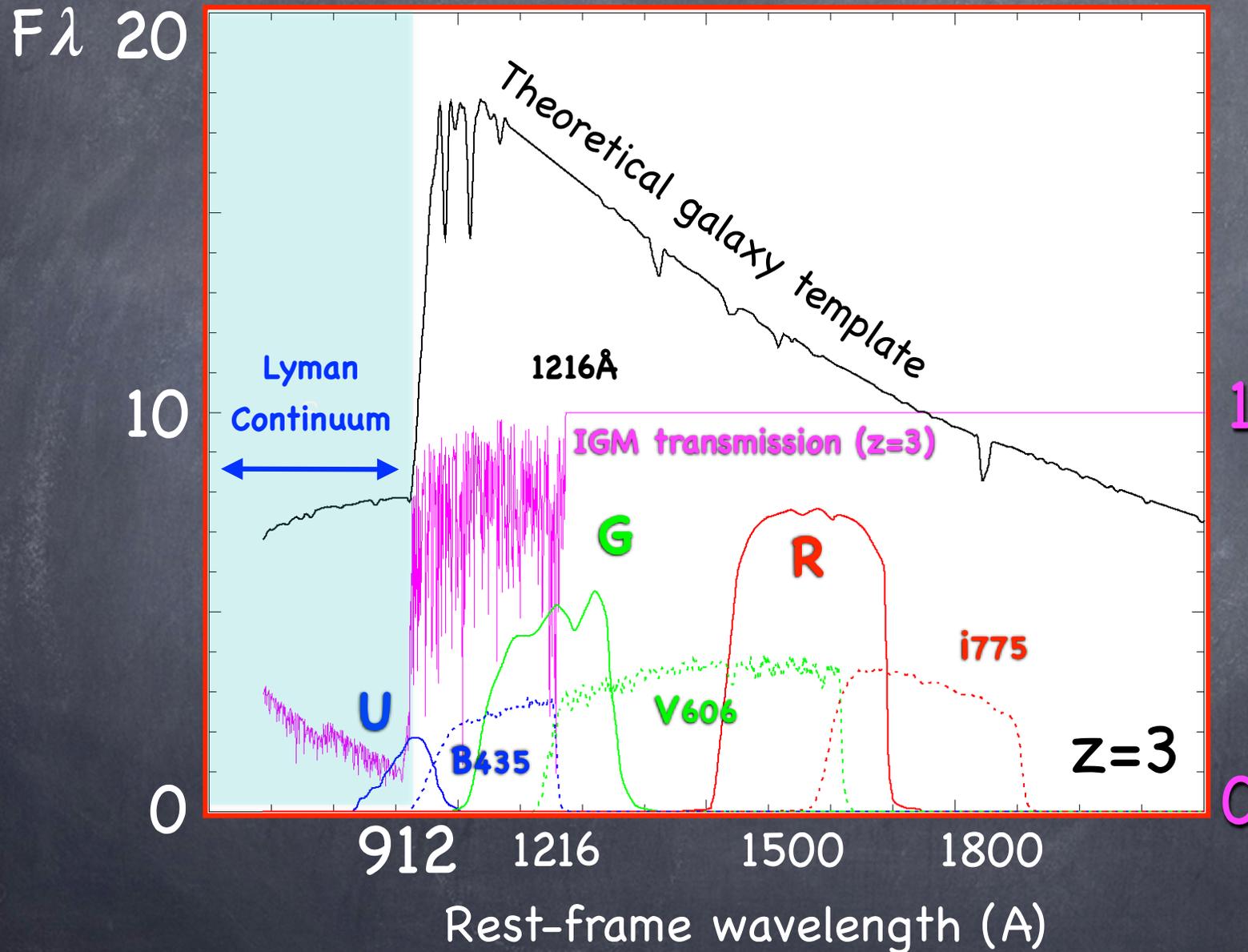


## Counter-intuitive ?

We select high- $z$  galaxies with the dropout technique, is the required drop biasing our search for Lyman continuum emission ?  
I.e. are we missing them ?

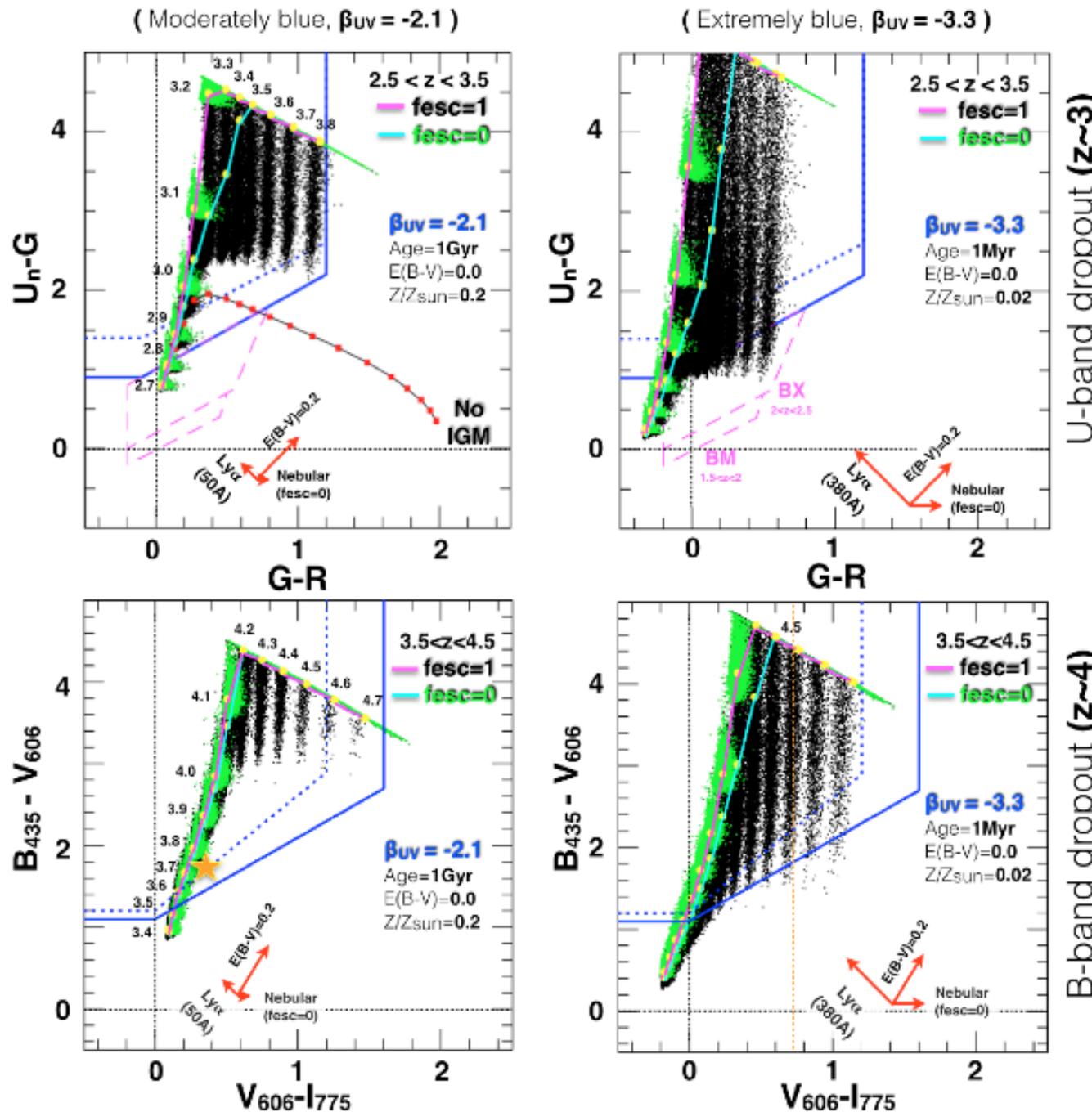
Is there a selection effect (Cooke et al. (2014) ?

What is the color of a stellar "ionizer" ?  
Do we miss it ?



# What is the color of a stellar ionizer ?

## Do we miss it ?



In case of stellar emission there is not a significant effect in the color selection: **we don't miss them.** Why ?

Two reasons:

- 1) IGM mean free path
- 2) Intrinsic spectrum **both introduce a drop even if  $f_{\text{esc}} = 1$**

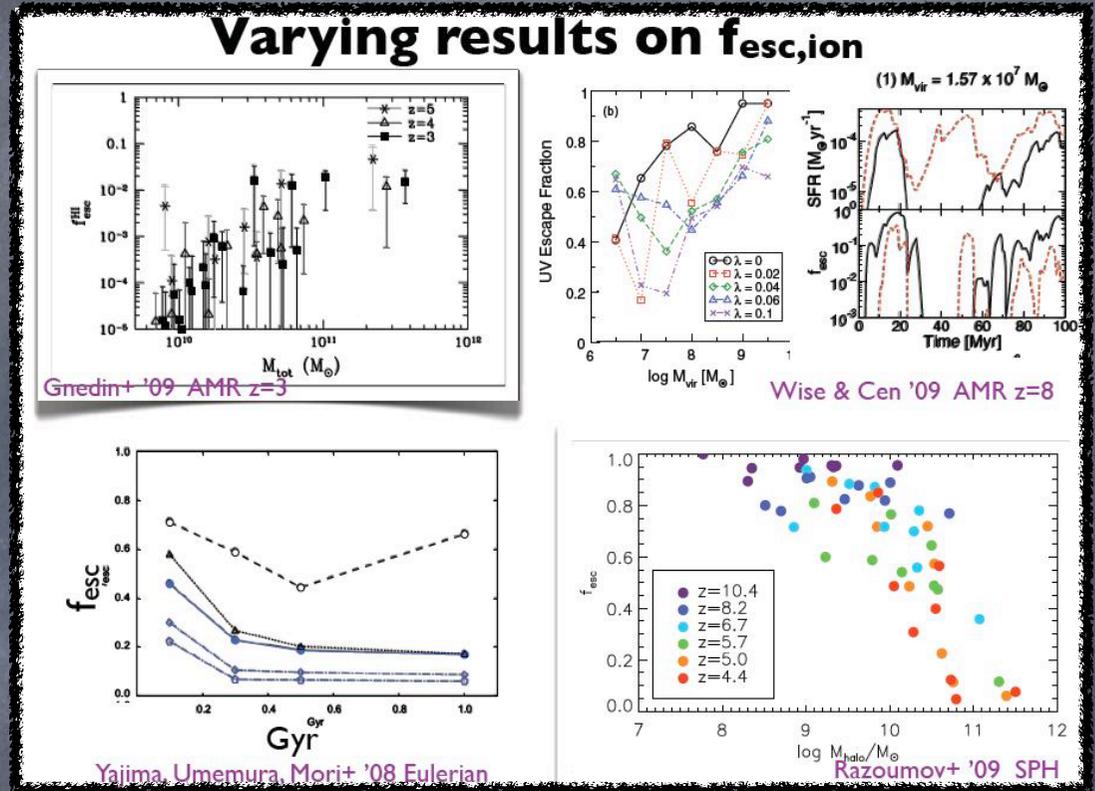
Vanzella+15

Note: for AGNs the effect can be not negligible

# Before measuring $f_{\text{esc}}$ ...

Theoretical modeling: SFH, RT, feedback, kinematics, geometry of the gas/dust – complex problem

- $f_{\text{esc}} \downarrow$  if redshift  $\uparrow$  (Wood & Loeb+00)
  - $f_{\text{esc}} \uparrow$  if redshift  $\uparrow$  (Razoumov+06,+10)
  - $f_{\text{esc}} \sim$  with redshift (Yajima+10; Ma et al. 2015; Gnedin+08)
  - $f_{\text{esc}} \uparrow$  if redshift  $\uparrow$  [phenomenological models] Haardt & Madau (2012), Kuhlen & FG (2012), Alvarez+12, Fontanot+14
  - $f_{\text{esc}} \downarrow$  if halo mass  $\uparrow$  (Wood & Loeb+00, Ricotti & Shull+00, Yajima+10, Razoumov+10)
  - $f_{\text{esc}} \downarrow$  if halo mass  $\downarrow$  (Gnedin+08a,b)
  - $f_{\text{esc}} \sim$  with halo mass (Ma et al. 2015)
  - $f_{\text{esc}} \sim \uparrow$  with halo mass (Trebitsch 2015)
  - $f_{\text{esc}} \uparrow$  if (  $\downarrow L$  OR  $\downarrow \text{Mass}$  )
- Wise & Cen+09; Kimm & Cen (2014);  
 Wise et al. (2014); Paardekooper et al. (2015);  
 Roy et al. (2015); Fernandez & Shull+11;  
 Choudhury & Ferrara 07, Ferrara & Loeb 2012



## Large variance in the predictions :

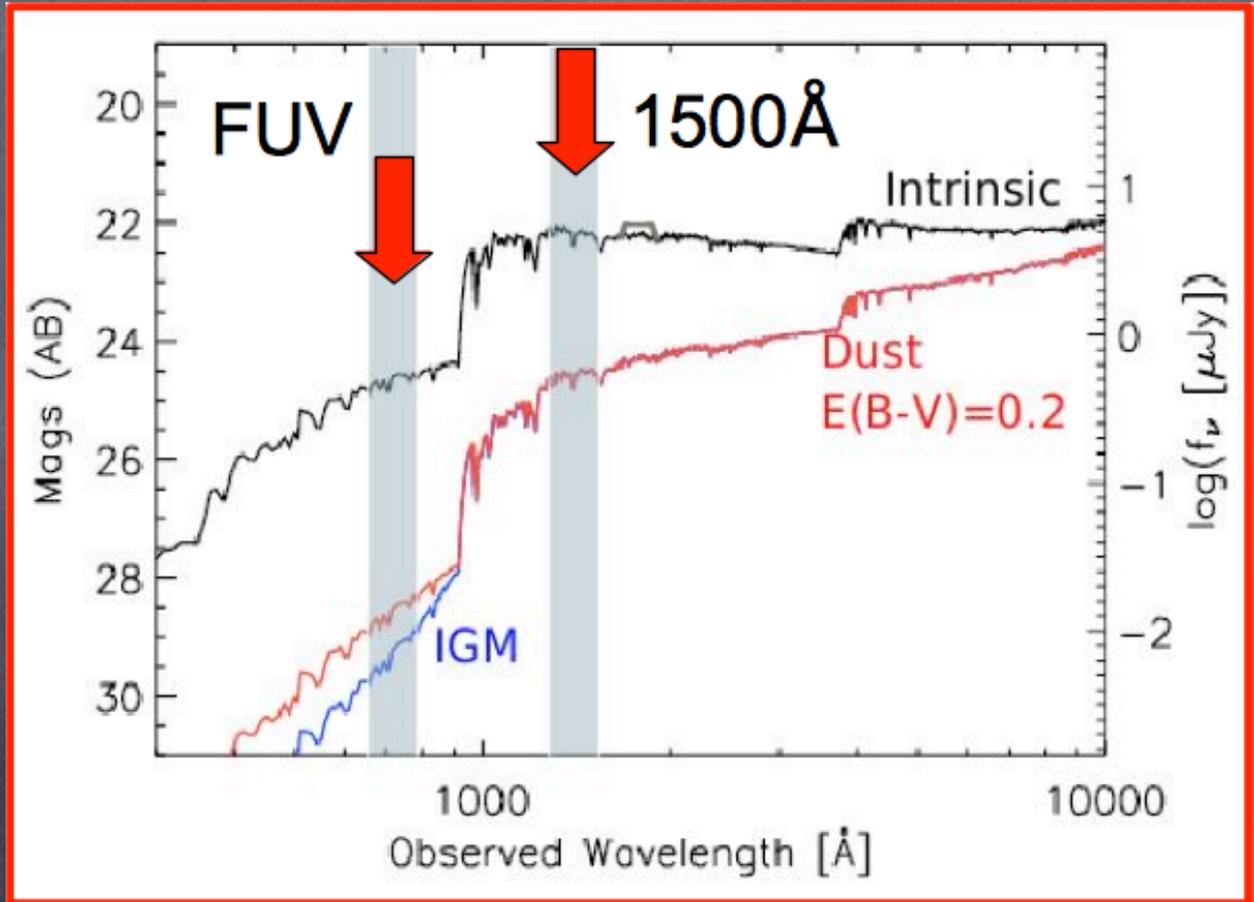
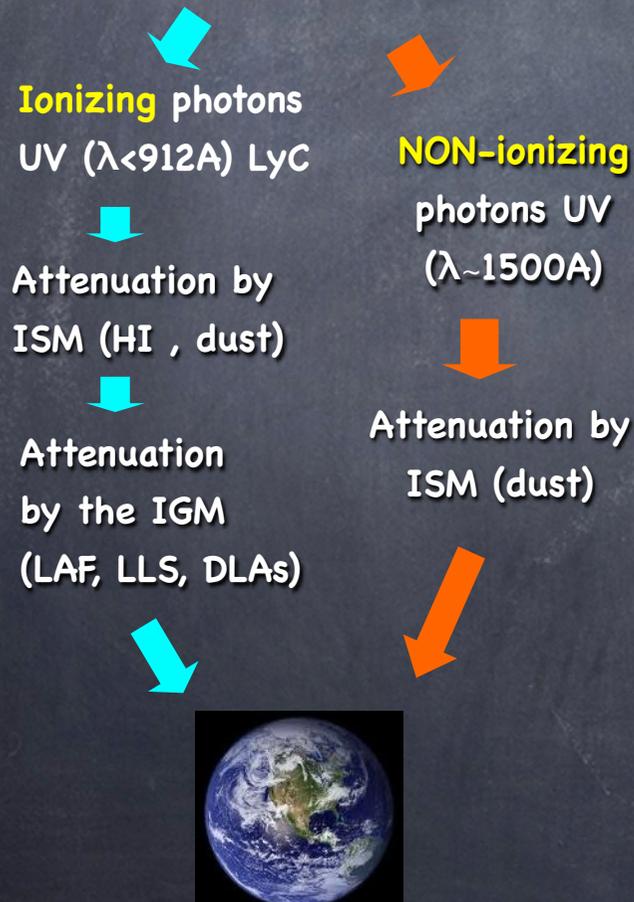
- 1) may increase for low mass halos / luminosities
- 2) may increase with redshift

This typically requires very high resolution simulations, capable of resolving details in the interstellar medium (ISM).

# Escape fraction of ionizing radiation (LyC) gas transmission, dust extinction (+ geometry)



Intrinsic ionizing photons unknown:  
commonly adopted strategy is to compare the observed flux at LyC to the observed flux at a frequency where the intrinsic emissivity can be inferred.



# The escape fraction of ionizing radiation (LyC)

$$\left(\frac{f_{1500}}{f_{\text{LyC}}}\right)_{\text{OBS}} = \left(\frac{f_{1500}}{f_{\text{LyC}}}\right)_{\text{INT}} \times \frac{10^{-0.4A_{1500}}}{10^{-0.4A_{\text{LyC}}} e^{-\tau_{\text{HI,IGM}}(\text{LyC})} e^{-\tau_{\text{HI,ISM}}(\text{LyC})}}$$

$$\frac{\left(\frac{L_{1500}}{L_{\text{LyC}}}\right)_{\text{INT}} e^{\tau_{\text{HI,IGM}}(\text{LyC})} 10^{-0.4A_{1500}}}{\left(\frac{f_{1500}}{f_{\text{LyC}}}\right)_{\text{OBS}}}$$

**fesc,rel**

$$= 10^{-0.4A_{\text{LyC}}} e^{-\tau_{\text{HI,ISM}}(\text{LyC})}$$

**fesc**

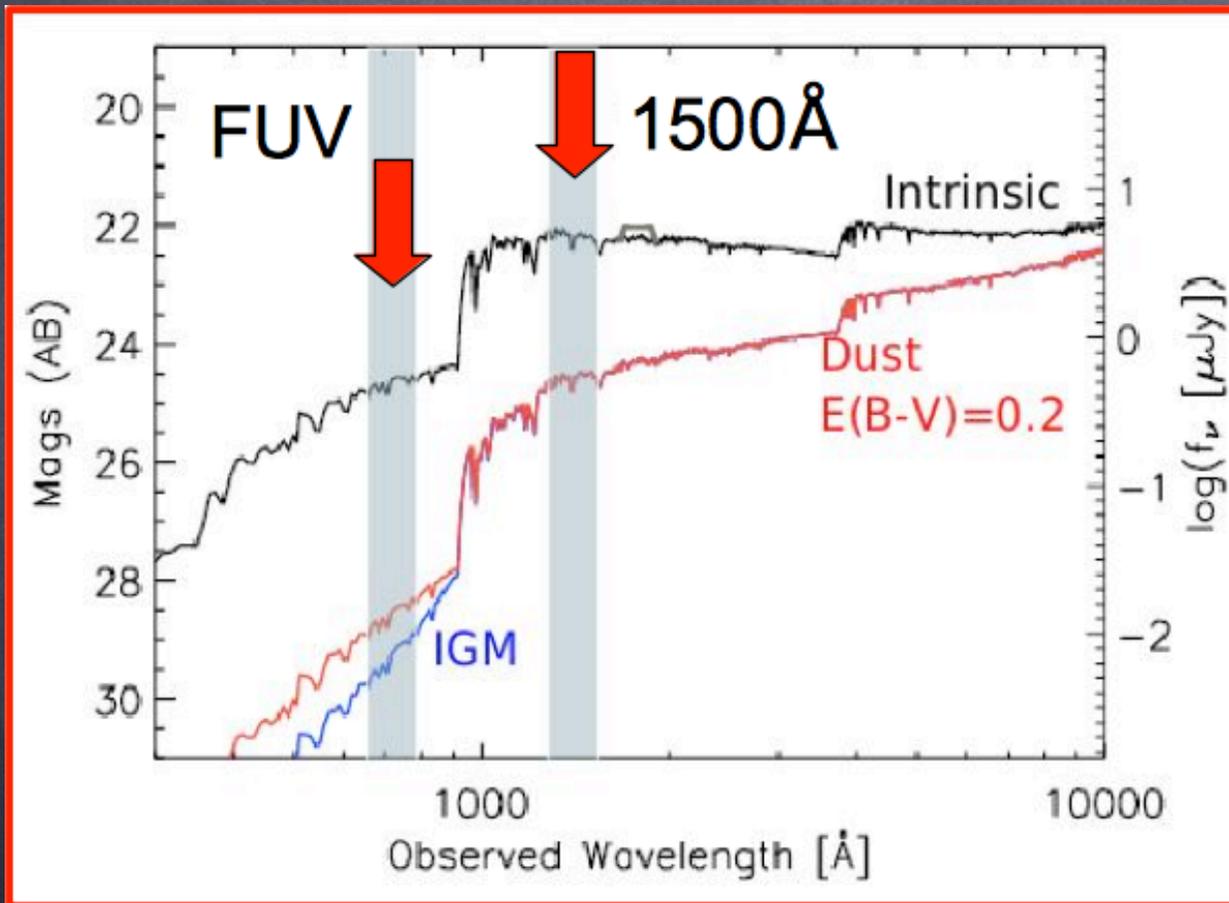
**fesc**: is smaller than 1 by definition

$$T_{\text{LyC}} = e^{-\tau(\text{LyC})} \quad \tau(\text{LyC}) = N_{\text{HI}} \sigma_{\text{LL}} \quad \sigma_{\text{LL}} = 6.28 \times 10^{-18} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

$$T_{\text{LyC}} > 1 \quad N_{\text{HI}} > 1.7 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

# Observing Lyman continuum leakage / $f_{esc}$

- 1) understand the physical mechanisms that allow ionizing photons to escape, apply to  $z > 6$  during EoR
- 2) need to observe  $z < 4$  (i.e.  $< 4500\text{\AA}$ )



## CHALLENGING!

It is **FAINT!** e.g.,  
 $f_{esc} = 8\%$  at  $z = 3$   
 $L^*$  galaxy ( $m_{1500} \approx 24.5$ )  
 $\Rightarrow m_{900} \approx 30$  (AB) !  
 $\Delta m = 5$  (e.g.,  $i - U > 5$ ).

$$f_{esc,rel} \equiv \frac{(L_{1500}/L_{LyC})_{int}}{(F_{1500}/F_{LyC})_{obs}} \exp(\tau_{LyC}^{IGM}), \quad (2)$$

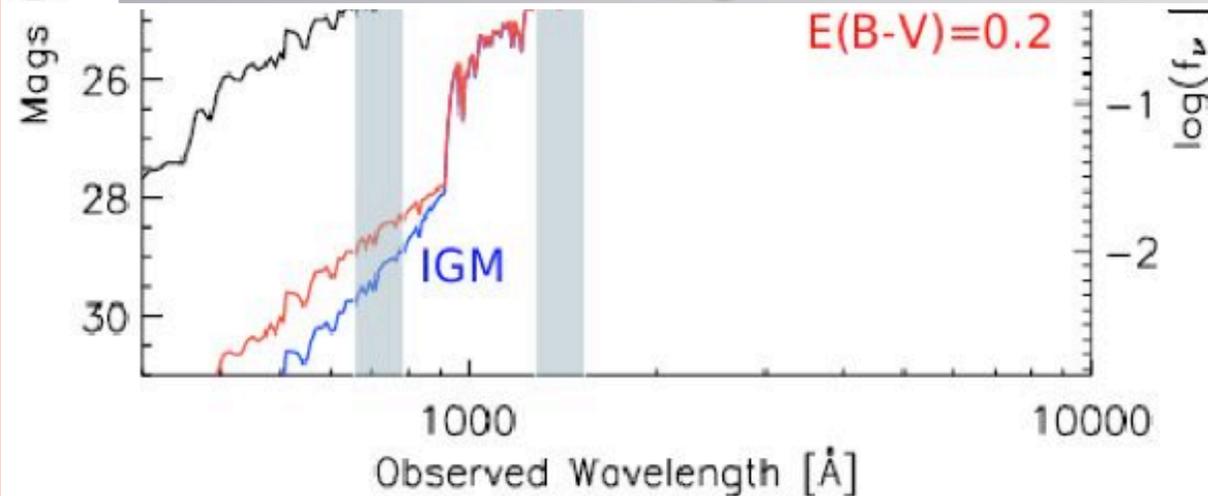
# Observing Lyman continuum leakage / fesc

1) understand the physical mechanisms that allow ionizing photons to escape, apply to  $z > 6$  during EoR

2) ne

## Caveats:

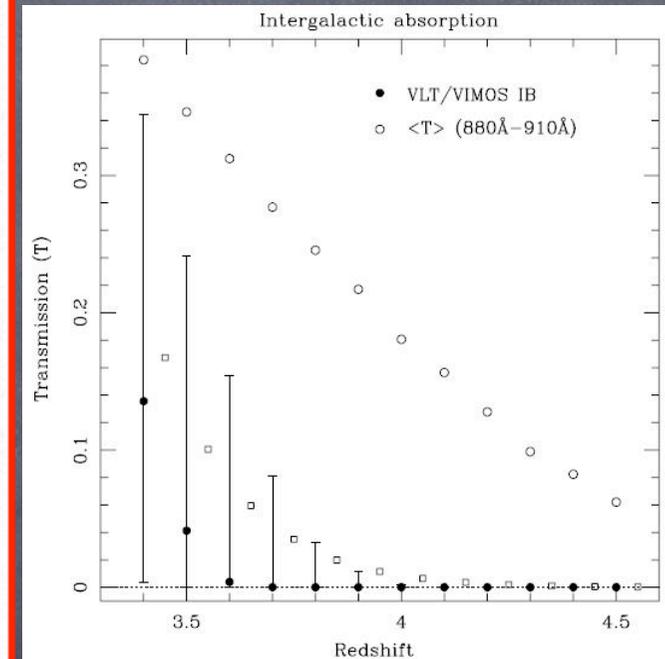
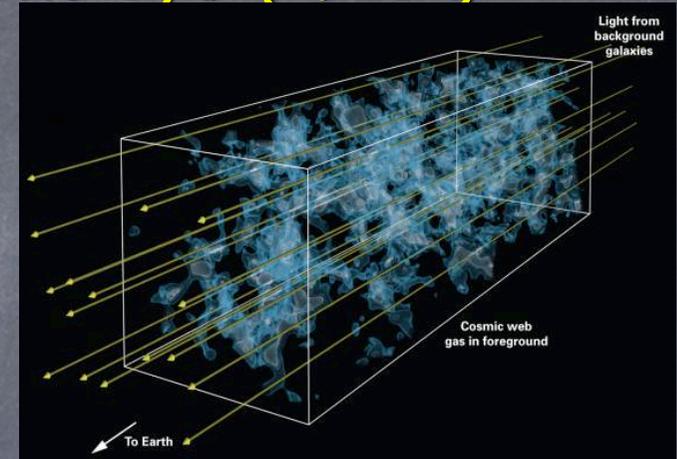
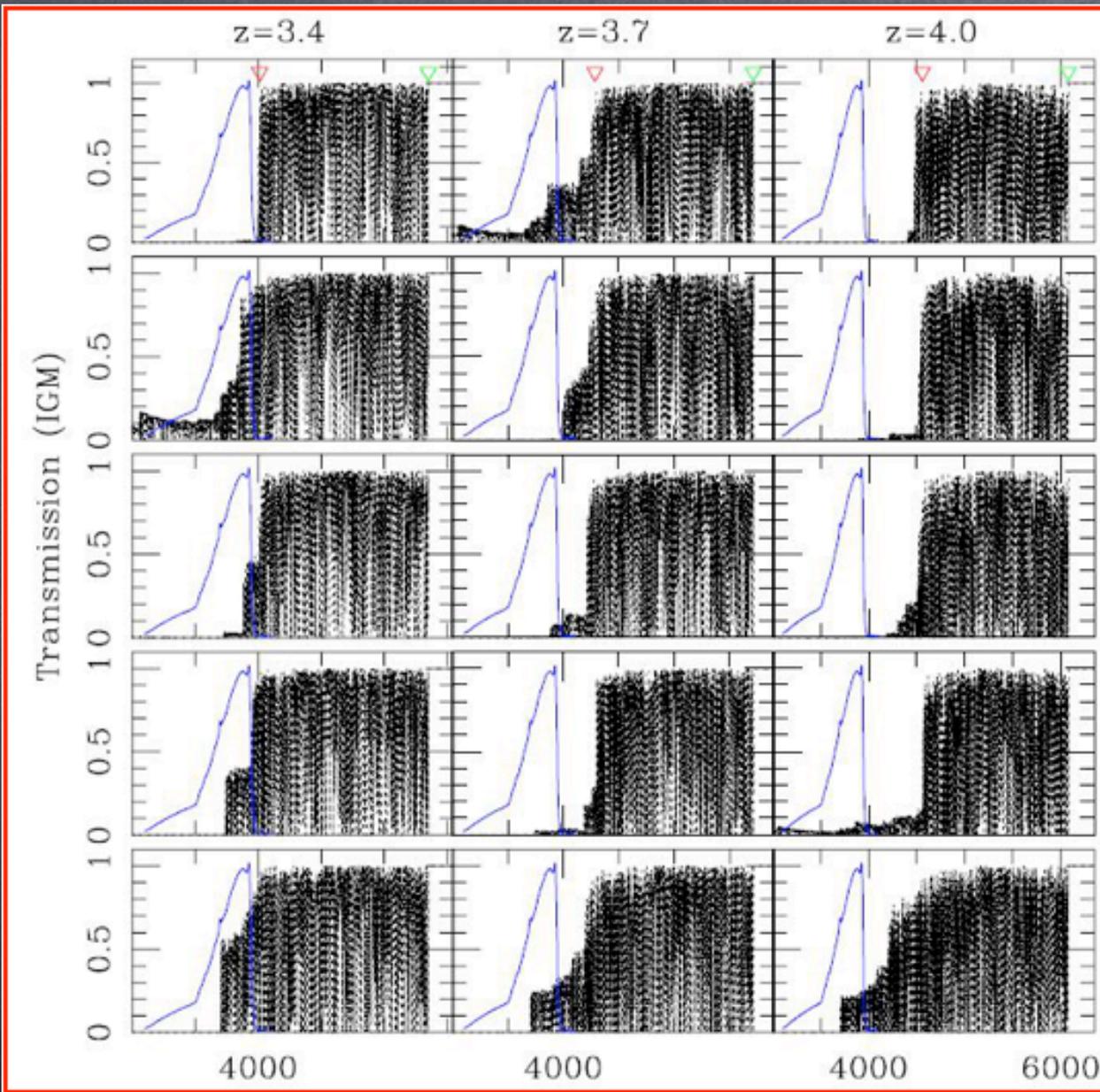
- 1) IGM Stochasticity (mfp)
- 2) View-angle + Discontinuous in time
- 3) Foreground contamination



$\Rightarrow m_{900} \approx 30$  (AB) !  
 $\Delta m = 5$  (e.g., i-U > 5).

$$f_{\text{esc,rel}} \equiv \frac{(L_{1500}/L_{\text{LyC}})_{\text{int}}}{(F_{1500}/F_{\text{LyC}})_{\text{obs}}} \exp(\tau_{\text{LyC}}^{\text{IGM}}), \quad (2)$$

# Stochasticity of the IGM absorption at the LyC (<921Å)



Well measured and simulated  
Inoue et al 2008,2014

Paresce+08

$$\tau_{\text{eff}}(\nu_S, z_S) = \int_0^{z_S} dz \int_{N_l}^{N_u} dN_{\text{HI}} \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{N}}{\partial z \partial N_{\text{HI}}} (1 - e^{-\tau_{\text{cl}}})$$

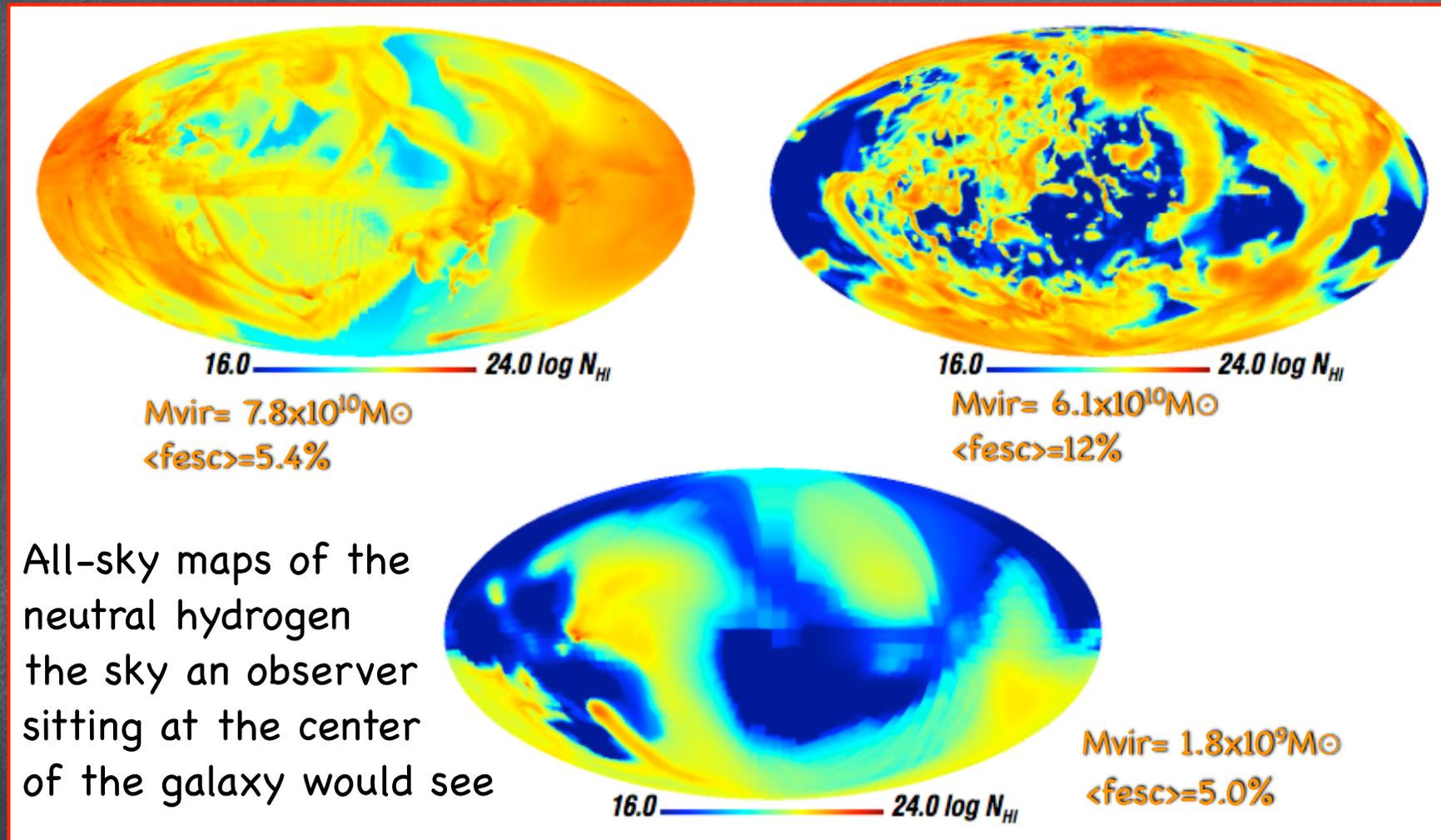
n.abs per unit z and  $N_{\text{HI}}$

$$\tau_{\text{cl}} = \sigma_{\text{HI}}(\nu_S(1+z)/(1+z_S))N_{\text{HI}}$$

Opt. depth of an abs.  
at z and  $N_{\text{HI}}$

# View angle effects ...

Cosmological radiation hydrodynamic simulation (Cen & Kimm 2015)



All-sky maps of the neutral hydrogen the sky an observer sitting at the center of the galaxy would see

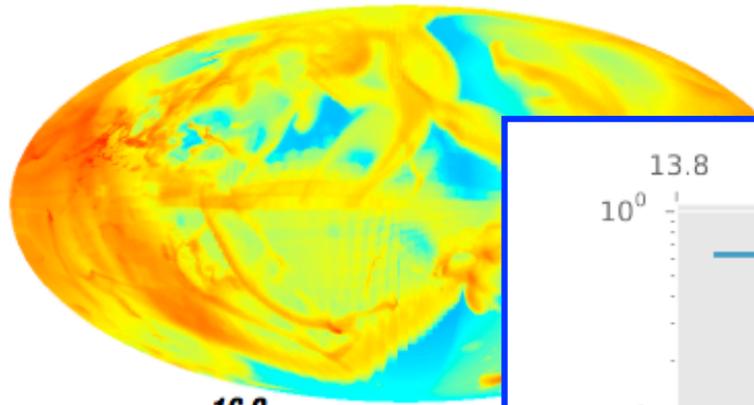
$$f_{\text{esc}} \sim T_{\text{LyC}} = e^{-\tau(\text{LyC})} \quad \tau(\text{LyC}) = N_{\text{HI}} \sigma_{\text{LL}} \quad \sigma_{\text{LL}} = 6.28 \times 10^{-18} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

$\Rightarrow$  this implies  $N_{\text{HI}} > 5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ,  $f_{\text{esc}} < 5\%$

... result: stacking of  $\approx 100$  galaxies is needed to obtain a good estimate of  $f_{\text{esc}}$  within 20% uncertainty

# View angle effects ...

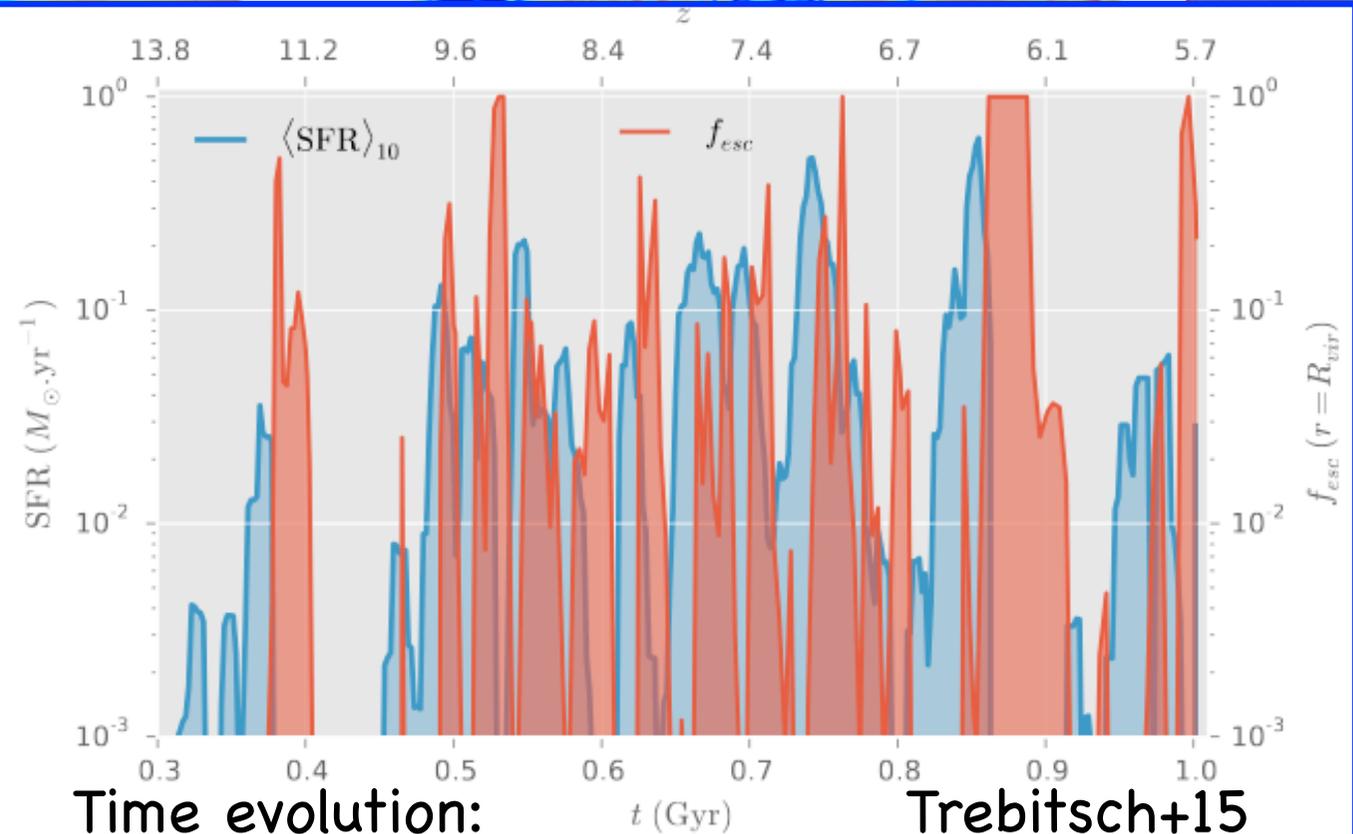
Cosmological radiation hydrodynamic simulation (Cen & Kimm 2015)



16.0

$M_{\text{vir}} = 7.8 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$   
 $\langle f_{\text{esc}} \rangle = 5.4\%$

All-sky maps of the neutral hydrogen the sky an observer sitting at the center of the galaxy would see



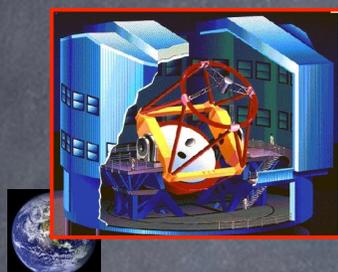
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... result: stacking of  $\approx 100$  galaxies is needed to obtain a good estimate of  $f_{\text{esc}}$  within 20% uncertainty

# Foreground contamination (I)

Example (GOODS-S)  $z=3.41$  (Vanzella+12)



$z=3.41$   
 $\Delta\theta=0.3''$

Recent NIR spectroscopic observations confirm our warnings raised in 2010 (Siana+15)

$$f_{\text{esc,rel}} \equiv \frac{(L_{1500}/L_{900})_{\text{int}}}{(F_{1500}/F_{900})_{\text{obs}}} \exp(\tau_{900}^{\text{IGM}})$$



Ground based:  
 $f_{\text{esc}} \approx 30\%$

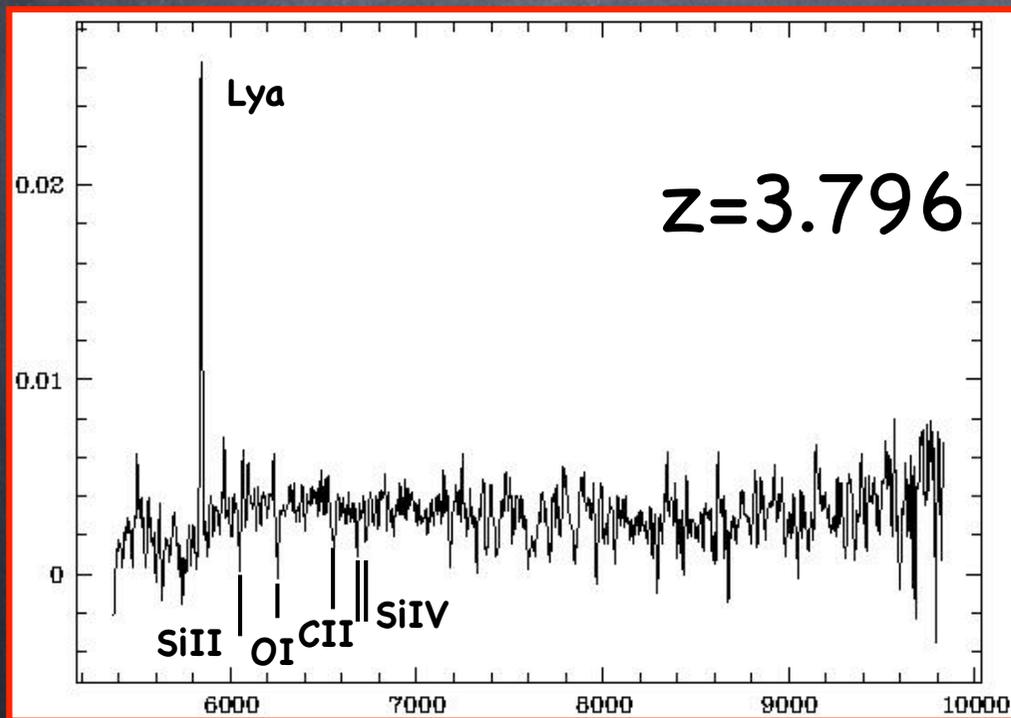
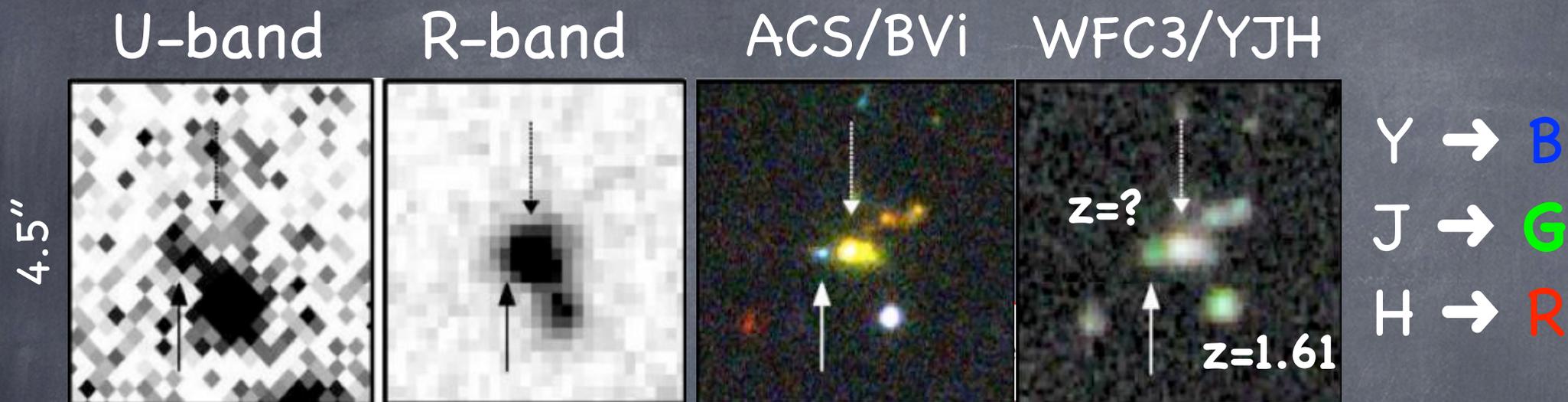
From HST:  
 $f_{\text{esc}} > 433\%$

Statistical study on this effect (EV+10; Nestor+11)

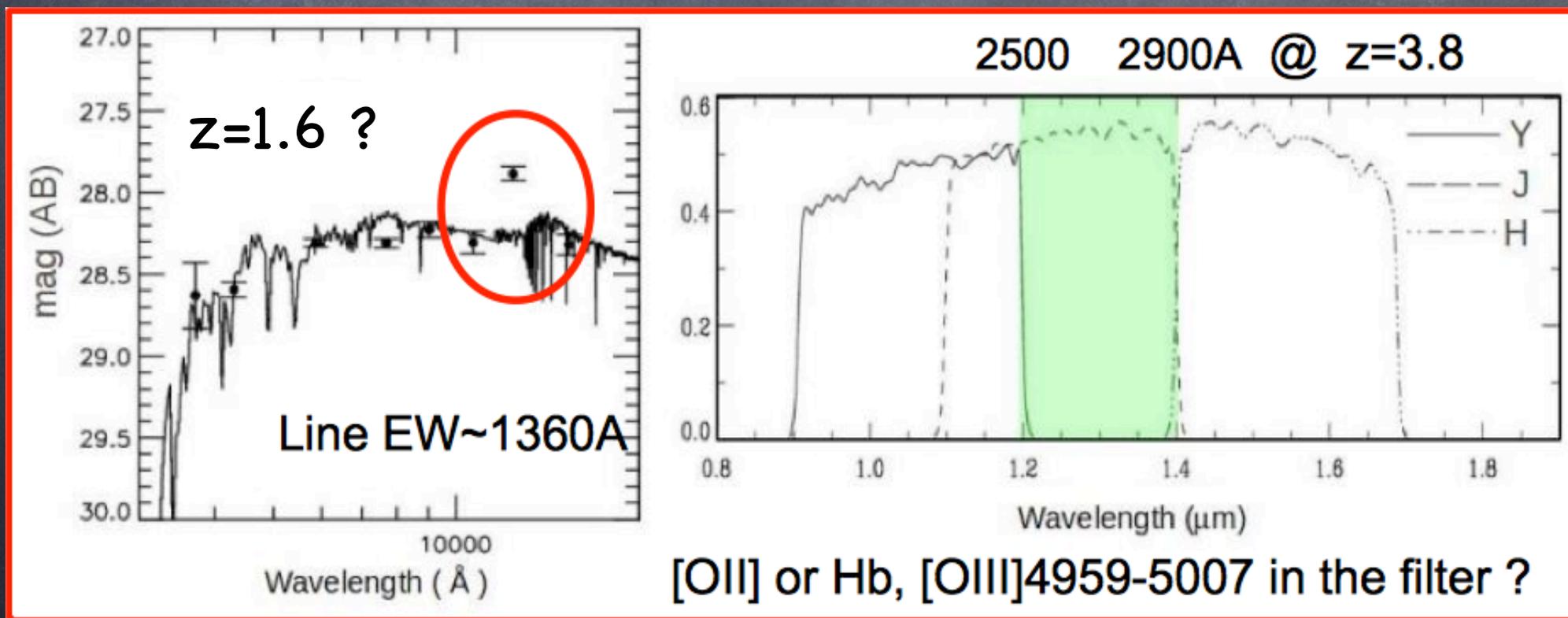
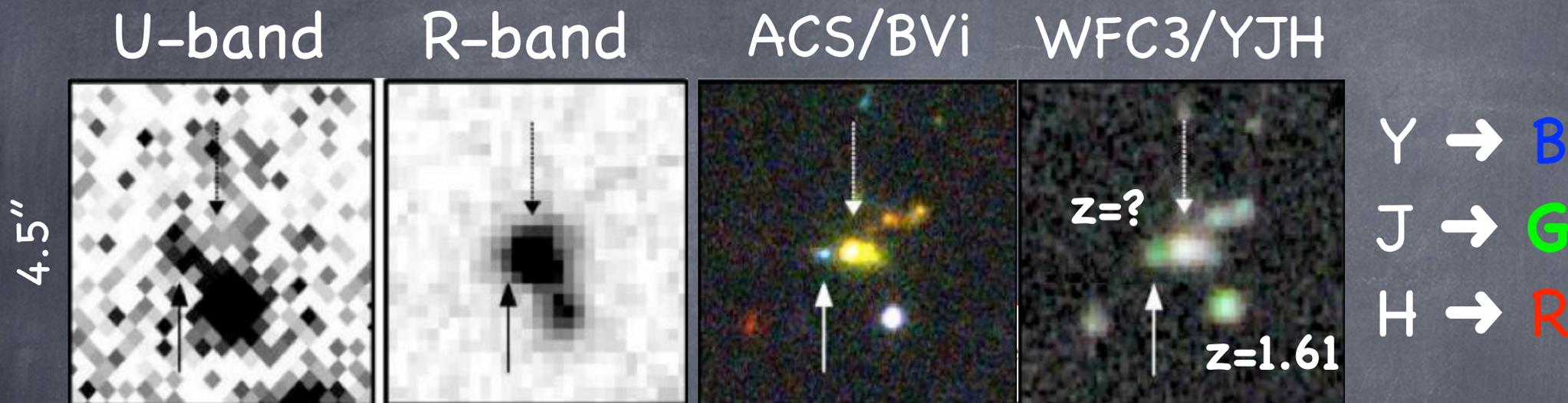
- critical for ground-based observations (spatial resolution)
- increases with redshift
- increases with increasing depth

Critical analysis based on GOODS+CANDELS, EV+12 (tricks to limit the contamination)

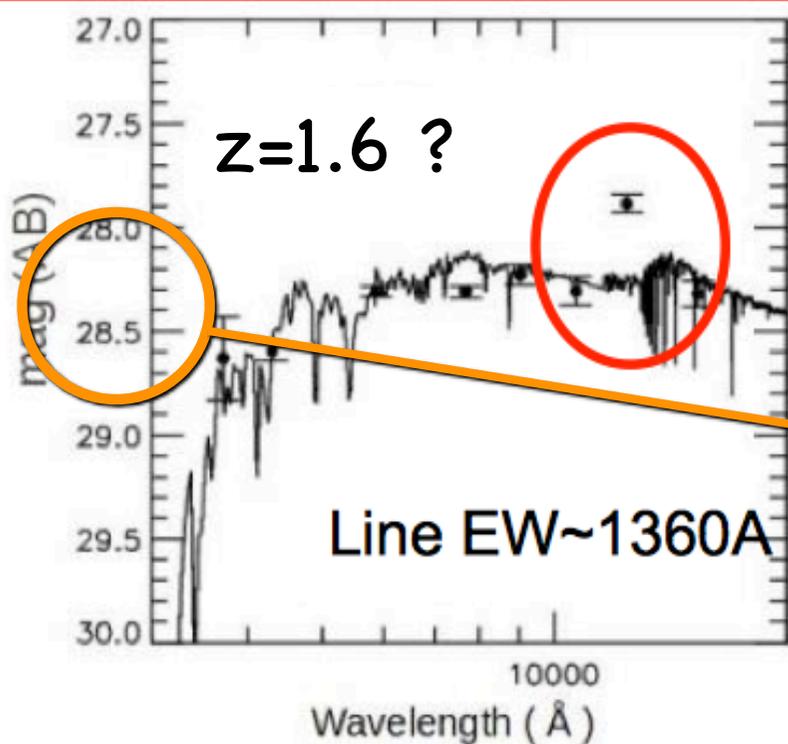
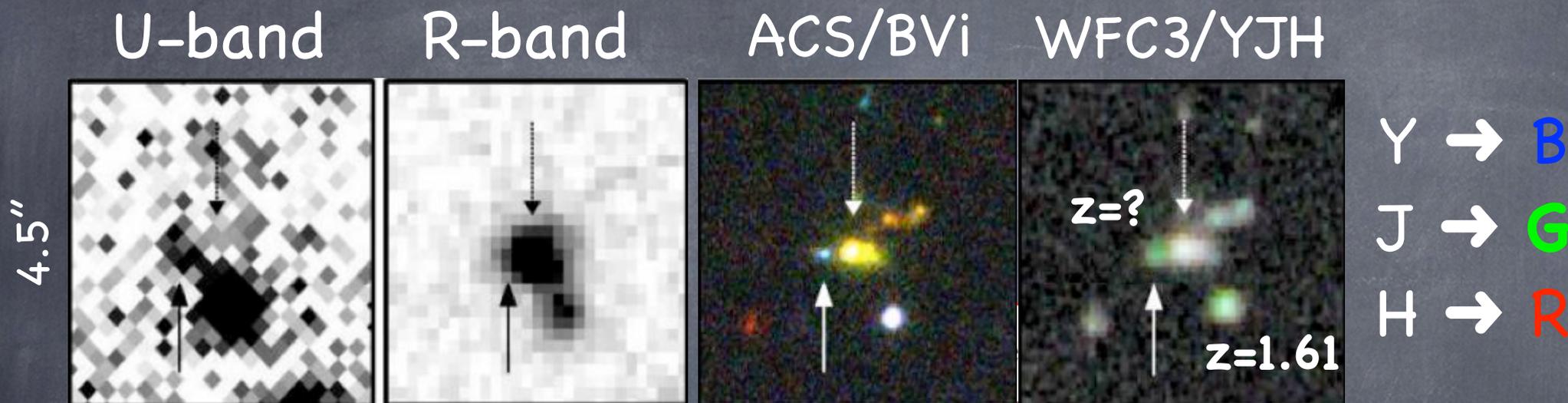
# Foreground contamination (II): example (EV+12)



# Foreground contamination (II): example (EV+12)



# Foreground contamination (II): example (EV+12)



The problem could be solved with spectroscopy, (Siana+15), however it is often unfeasible: contaminating sources are too faint !

Wavelength ( $\mu\text{m}$ )

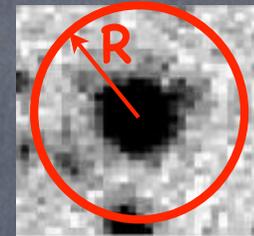
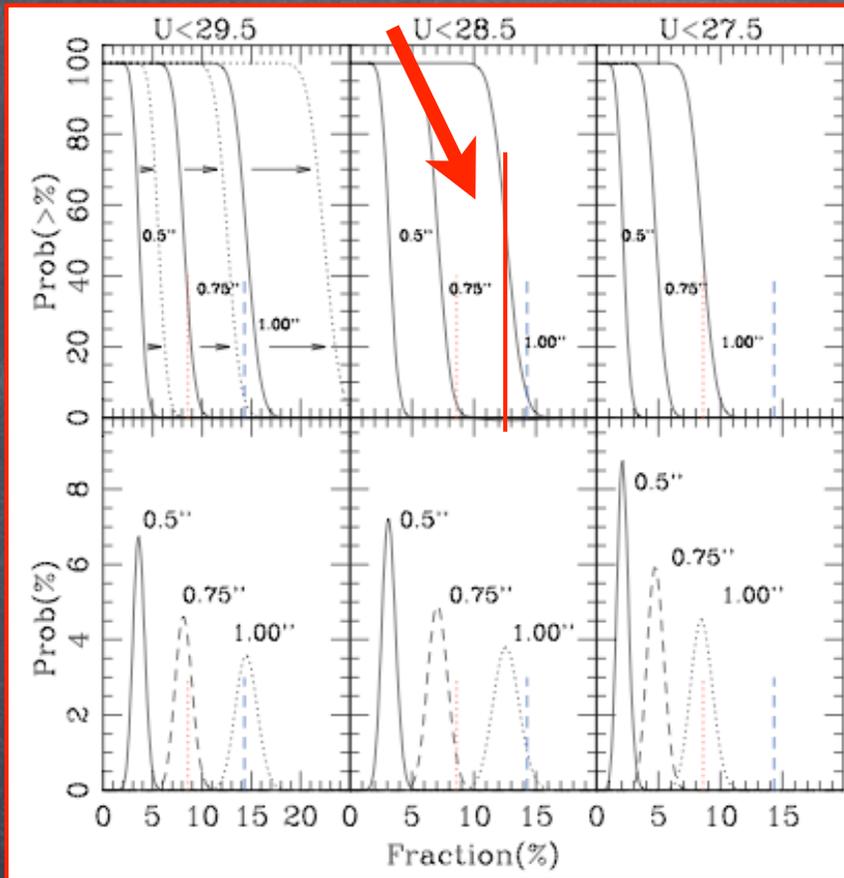
[OII] or H $\beta$ , [OIII]4959-5007 in the filter ?

# Foreground contamination, statistical correction

50% probability that at least 13% of N sources is contaminated

1) Given number counts at deep mags (assuming uniform surface density)

2) Consider a separation R or minimum spatial resolution (e.g. seeing)



we can calculate the probability  $p$  that a foreground obj. falls within radius  $R$

... past claimed LyC detections have been revised (Siana+15)

Probability to observe  $K$  contaminated sources  $f(K)$  or at least  $K$  contaminated sources  $P(>K)$  in a sample of  $N$  high- $z$  galaxies, given the probability  $p$  of the single case

$$f(K) = \binom{N}{K} p^K (1-p)^{N-K}; \quad P(\geq K) = \sum_{i=K}^N f(i).$$

Vanzella+10a

# LyC measurements: caveats under control ?

## Intrinsic

View angle effects +  
intermittent behavior

Increase sample size

## External

IGM absorption  
stochastic

Foreground contamination

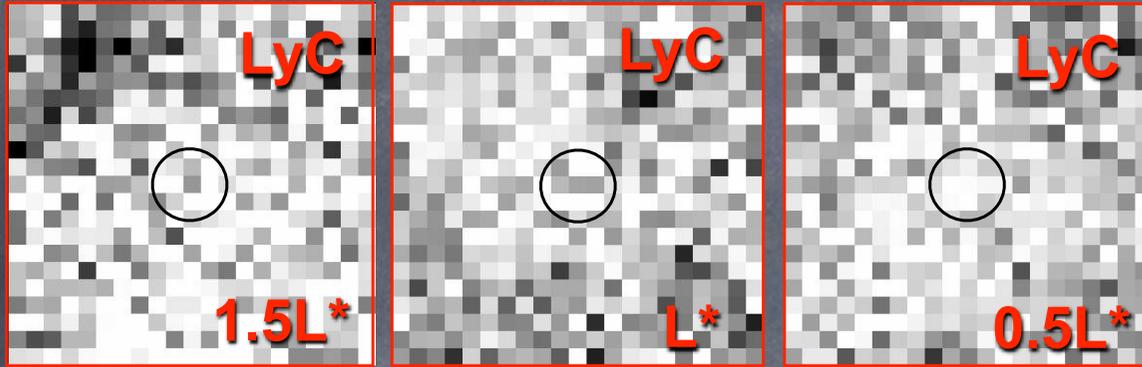
Modeled

Statistical correction  
Individual investigation  
(spectroscopy)

# Looking directly at ionizing emission from $z \approx 3.3-3.5$

102 LBGs from GOODS-S (EV+10,12)

(GOODS+CANDELS)



22 LBGs

$\langle \Delta m \rangle = 7.5$

fesc,rel < 3%

25 LBGs

$\langle \Delta m \rangle = 6.1$

fesc,rel < 9%

20 LBGs

$\langle \Delta m \rangle = 6.6$

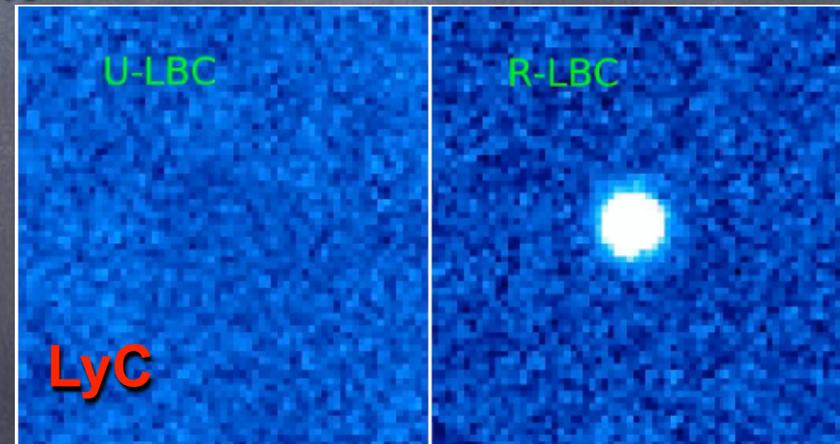
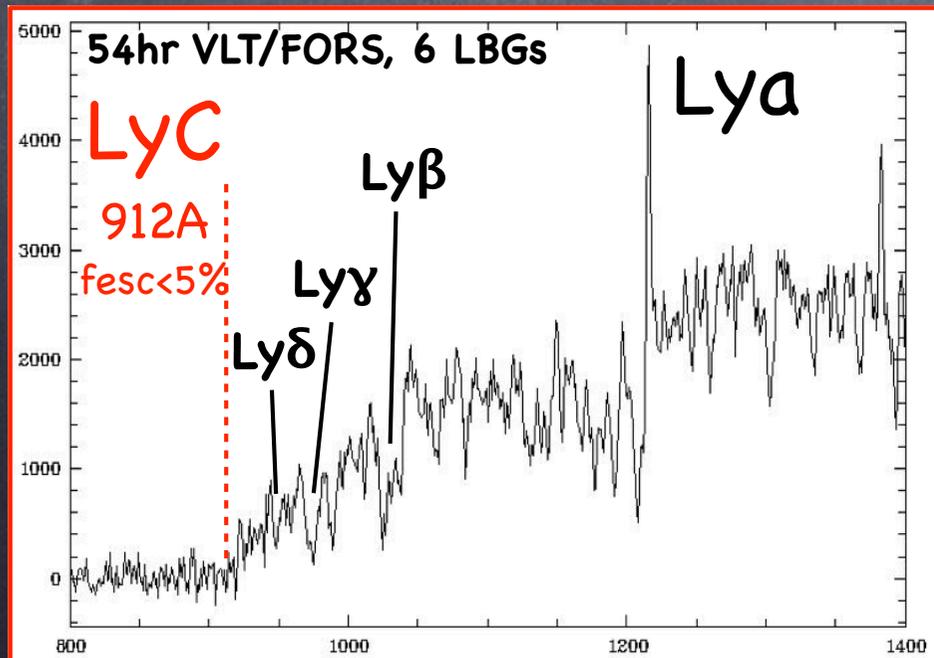
fesc,rel < 5%

Extremely deep U-band images:

$U \approx 30.3 \ 1\sigma$ , GOODS (VLT, Nonino+09)

$U \approx 29.7 \ 1\sigma$ , COSMOS (LBT, Grazian+15)

No evidence of  
escaping ionizing  
radiation



Grazian et al. (2015) - COSMOS

37 galaxies, fesc,rel < 3%

(see also Boutsia+11; Guaita+15

Giallongo 2002; Siana+10; Siana+15)

# LyC measurements: caveats

## Intrinsic

View angle effects +  
intermittent behavior

Increase sample size

## External

IGM absorption  
stochastic

Modeled

Foreground contamination

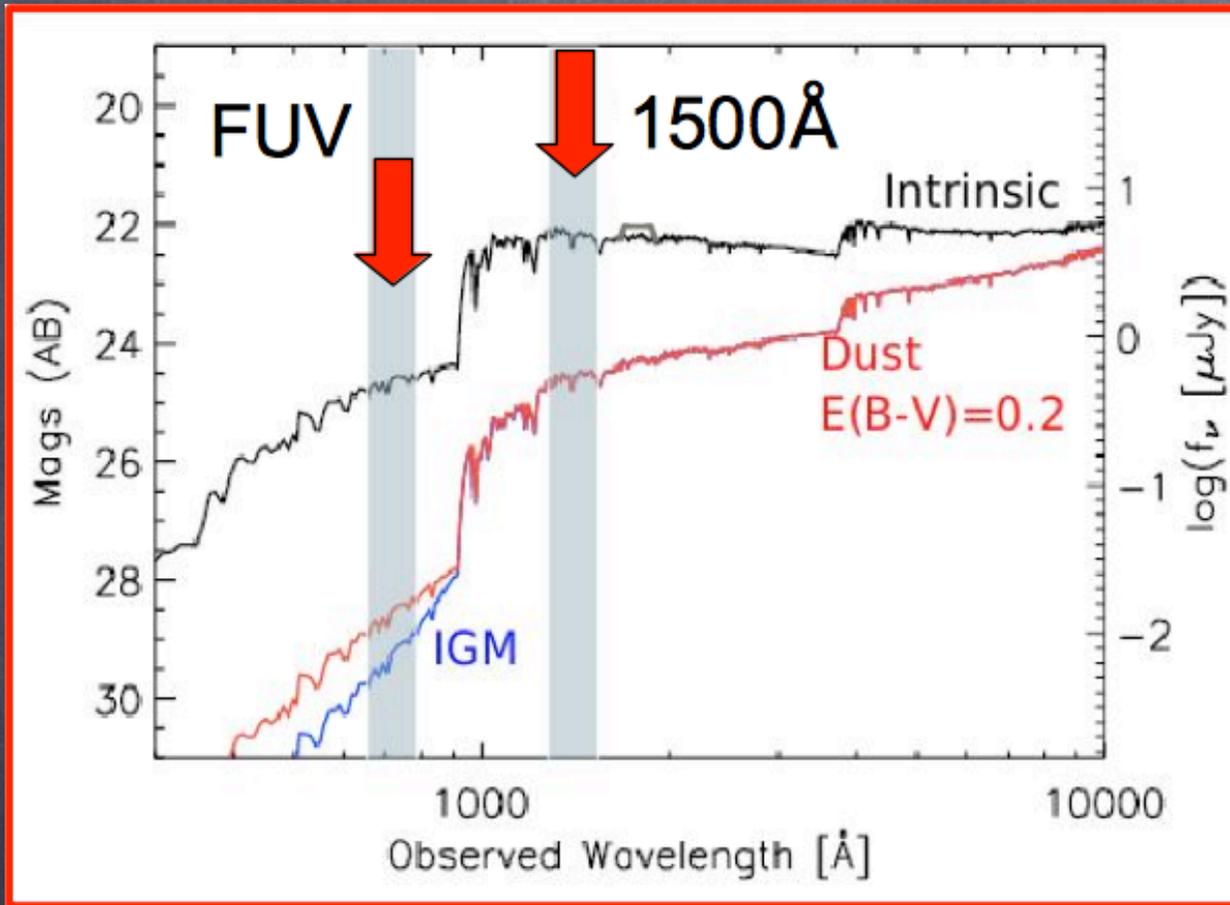
Statistical correction  
Individual investigation  
(spectroscopy)

## In Addition

Intrinsically low  $\langle f_{\text{esc}} \rangle$   
at  $L > 0.5L^*$  ??

Need to access fainter  
sources

... however, investigate faint regime is challenging



## CHALLENGING!

It is **FAINT!** e.g.,  
 $f_{\text{esc}}=8\%$  at  $z=3$   
 $L^*$  galaxy ( $m_{1500}\approx 24.5$ )  
 $\Rightarrow m_{900}\approx 30$  (AB) !  
 $\Delta m=5$  (e.g.,  $i-U>5$ ).

$$f_{\text{esc,rel}} \equiv \frac{(L_{1500}/L_{\text{LyC}})_{\text{int}}}{(F_{1500}/F_{\text{LyC}})_{\text{obs}}} \exp(\tau_{\text{LyC}}^{\text{IGM}}), \quad (2)$$

... however, investigate faint regime is challenging

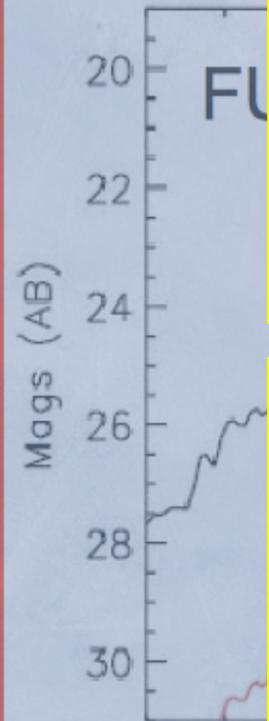
... accessing fainter galaxies ( $\sim 0.1L^*$ ) is even more problematic:

$m_{1500} \sim 27$  and  $f_{esc}=8\%$  translates to  
 $m_{900} \sim 32$  (AB) !!

... solutions ...

- 1) exploit lensing magnification
- 2) investigate indirect non-ionizing signatures
- 3) look carefully at the colors, refined selection to catch possible objs with  $f_{esc} > 0$

$$f_{esc,rel} \equiv \frac{(L_{1500}/L_{LyC})_{int}}{(F_{1500}/F_{LyC})_{obs}} \exp(\tau_{LyC}^{IGM}), \quad (2)$$

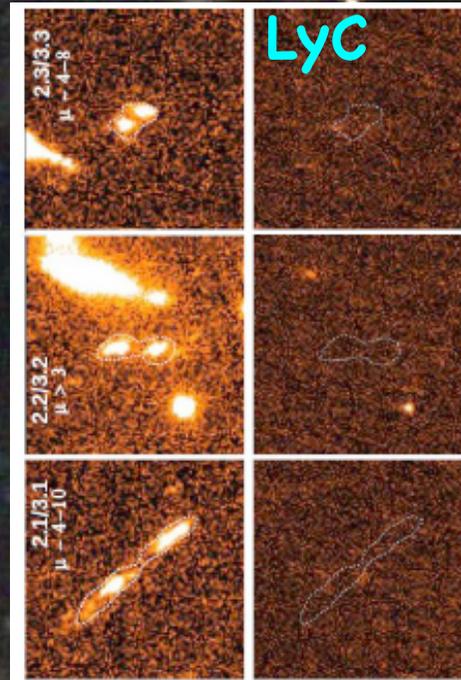


# Probing LyC emission at $z \sim 2-3$ for sub- $L^*$ ( $L < 0.5L^*$ ) LBGs with strong lensing

Vanzella 2012

Expect to probe  $f_{\text{esc}} < 15\%$  for  $0.05-0.1L^*$  galaxies with 5 galaxy clusters and U-band imaging  $U \sim 30$  (assuming LFs, magnification maps, U-band depth, IGM ...)

$$f_{\text{esc,rel}} \equiv \frac{(L_{1500}/L_{\text{LyC}})_{\text{int}}}{(F_{1500}/F_{\text{LyC}})_{\text{obs}}} \exp(\tau_{\text{LyC}}^{\text{IGM}}), \quad (2)$$

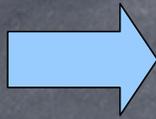


$z=3.03$

Ongoing programs:  
e.g., HST/UV survey  
on lensed clusters  
(PI Siana, 90 orbits)

# Non-ionizing (>912Å) signatures of LyC leakage

escape fraction of ionizing radiation



$$f_{\text{esc}} = \exp[-\tau_{\text{HI,ISM}}(\text{LyC})] \times 10^{-0.4(A_{\text{LyC}})}$$

$\lambda < 912\text{\AA}$     gas abs.    dust. abs  
 $\tau_{\text{HI,ISM}}(\text{LyC})$   $\tau_{\text{LyC}}$   
NHI dust

$$T_{\text{LyC}} = e^{-\tau(\text{LyC})} > 1.7 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

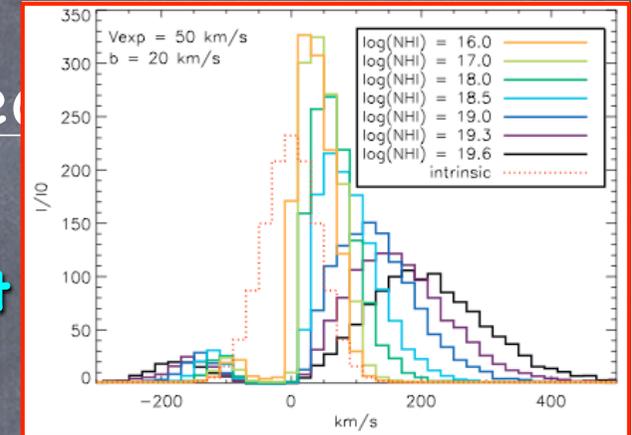
$$\tau(\text{LyC}) = N_{\text{HI}} \sigma_{\text{LL}} \quad \tau(\text{LyC}) > 1$$

$$\sigma_{\text{LL}} = 6.28 \times 10^{-18} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

From photoionization, RT models and indirect

NHI

1) non-zero Ly $\alpha$  flux at the systemic redshift (Schaerer+11; Berhens+14; Verhamme+14)

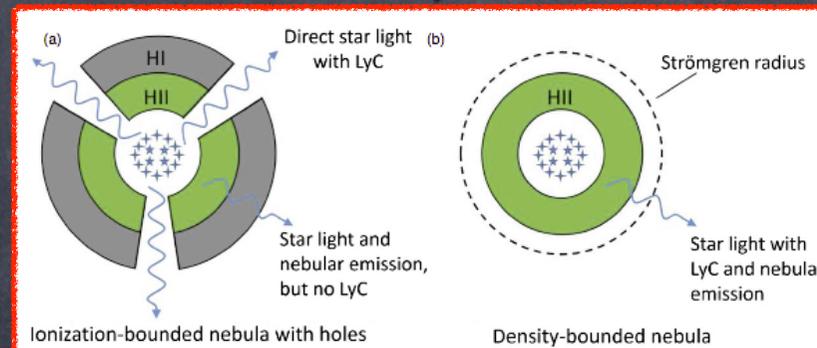


Covering fraction

2) weak Carbon Silicon low-ionization absorption lines (CII, SiII), low covering fraction (Jones+14; Heckman+11)

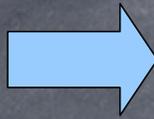
Density bounded nebula ?

3) large  $O32 = [\text{OIII}]4959-5007 / [\text{OII}]3727 (> 10)$   
 $O32$  index positively correlates (also) with  $f_{\text{esc}}$  (Nakajima & Ouchi 2014; Jaskot & Oey 2013; but see Stasinska+15)



# Non-ionizing (>912Å) signatures of LyC leakage

escape fraction of ionizing radiation



$$f_{\text{esc}} = \exp[-\tau_{\text{HI,ISM}}(\text{LyC})] \times 10^{-0.4(A_{\text{LyC}})}$$

$\lambda < 912\text{\AA}$     gas abs.    dust. abs  
NHI    dust

$$\tau_{\text{LyC}} = e^{-\tau(\text{LyC})}$$

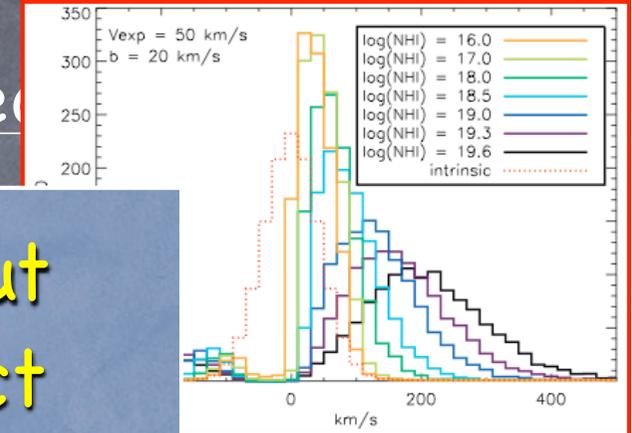
$$> 1.7 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

$$\tau(\text{LyC}) = N_{\text{HI}} \sigma_{\text{LL}}$$

$$\tau(\text{LyC}) > 1$$

$$\sigma_{\text{LL}} = 6.28 \times 10^{-18} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

From photoionization, RT models and indirect

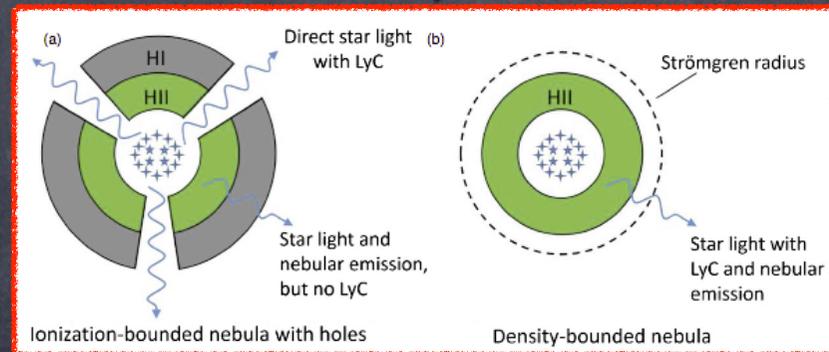


This is very promising but eventually requires direct LyC confirmation for validation

NHI  
Covering fraction  
Density bounded nebula ?

- 1) n
- 2)
- 3) large  $O32 = [\text{OIII}]4959-5007 / [\text{OII}]3727 (> 10)$

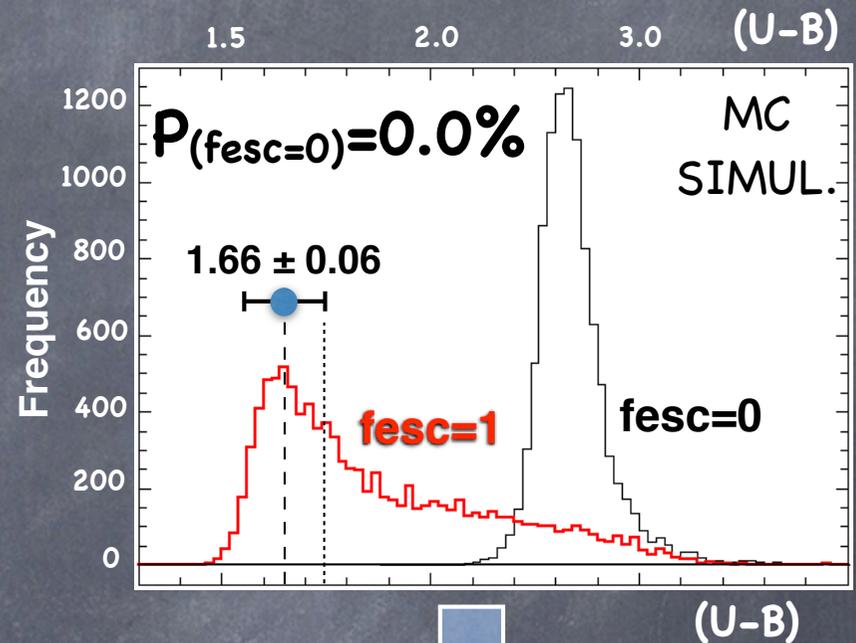
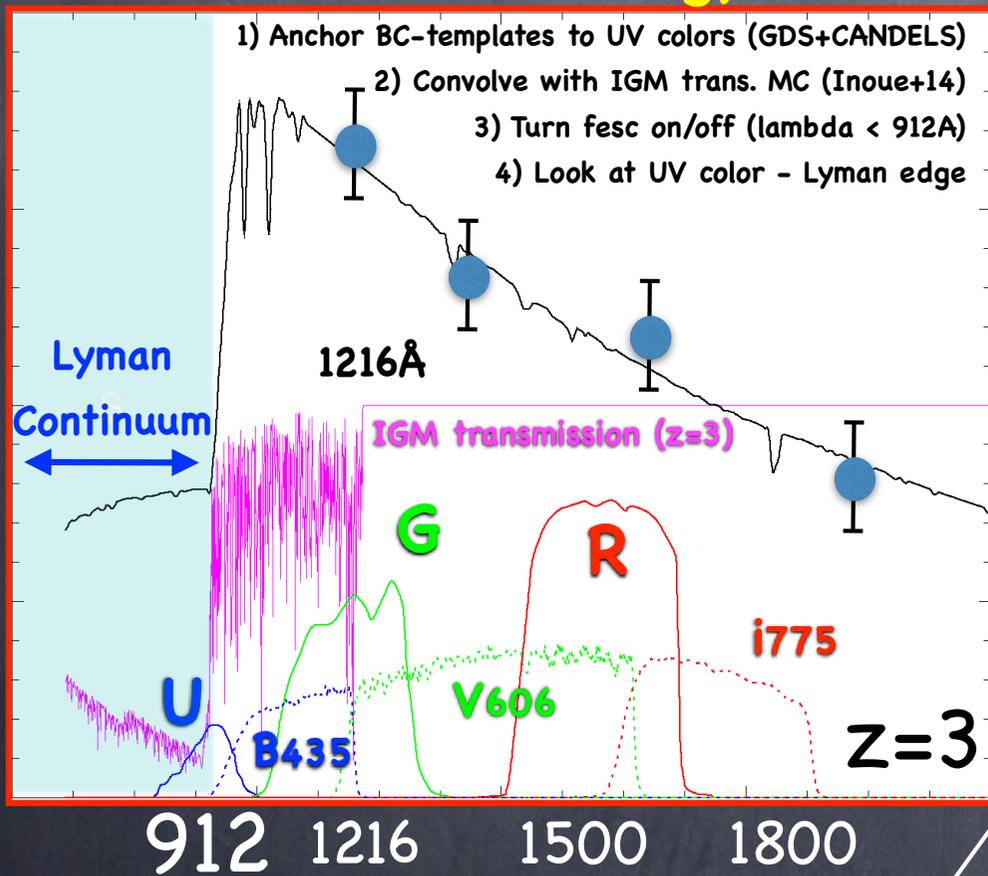
$O32$  index positively correlates (also) with  $f_{\text{esc}}$  (Nakajima & Ouchi 2014; Jaskot & Oey 2013; but see Stasinska+15)



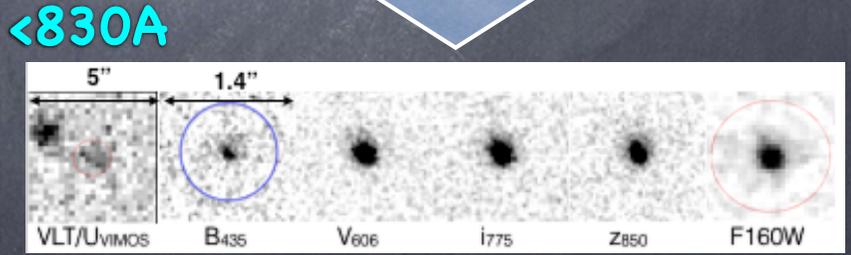
# Trying to select LyC emitters at $z < 4$ a complementary approach (EV+15)

Looking for **non**-ionizing signatures of LyC leakage at  $L > 0.5L^*$  and at  $z < 4$   
(candidate "ionizers")

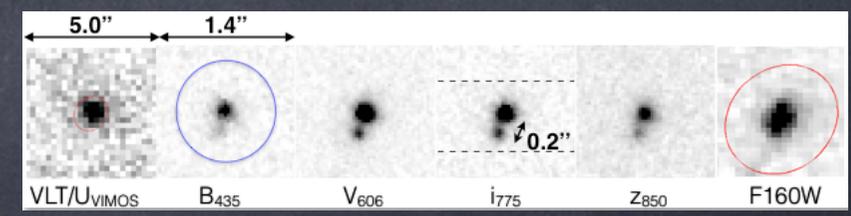
## New Methodology



**Ion1**  
 $z=3.795$



**Ion2**  
 $z=3.213$

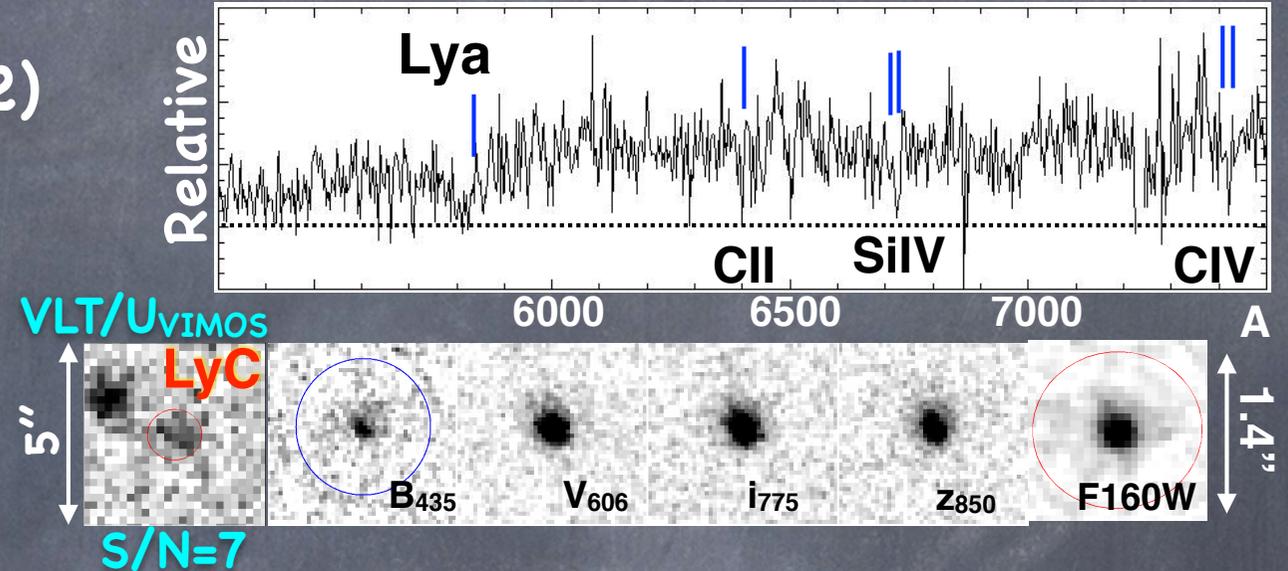


Two candidates LyC-emitters  
spatially resolved  $R_e \approx 250\text{pc}$

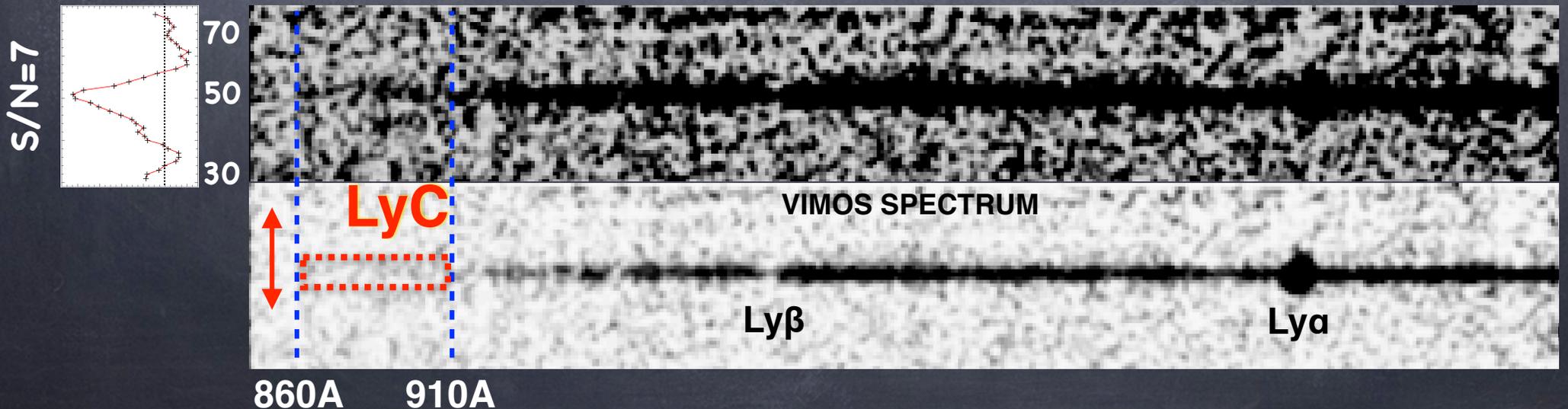
# Two LyC sources with direct LyC detection !?

- No X-ray (6Ms)
- No high-ionization lines (CIV, NV...)
- Nucleated, but spatially resolved
- $R_e \sim 250\text{pc}$
- No mid/far-IR
- Ly $\alpha$  yes/no
- SFR 20-30  $M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$
- $M^* \approx 10^9 M_{\odot}$
- UV slope  $\approx -2$

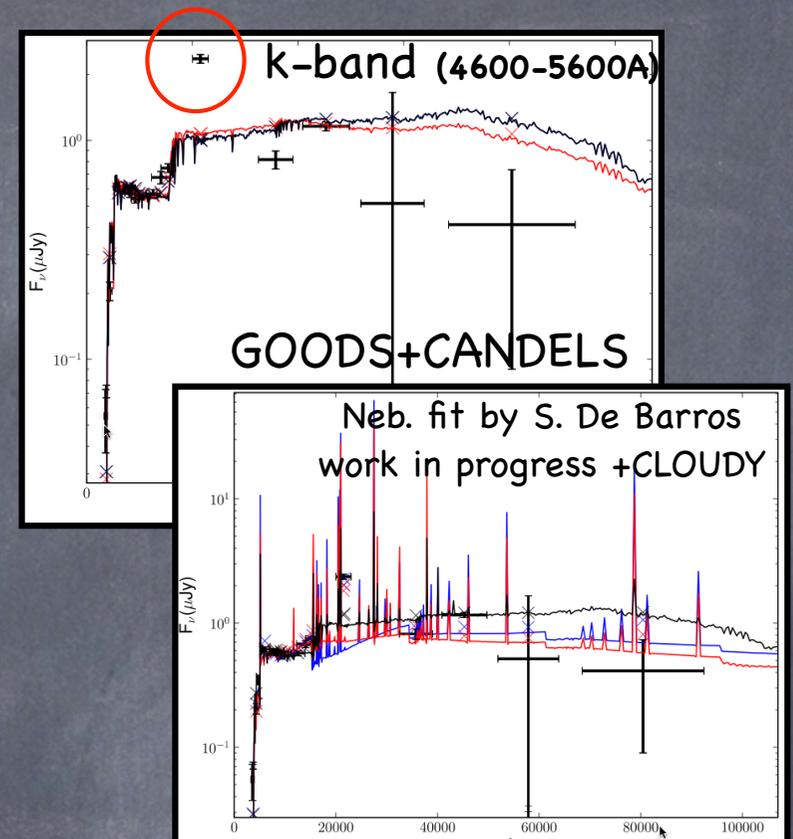
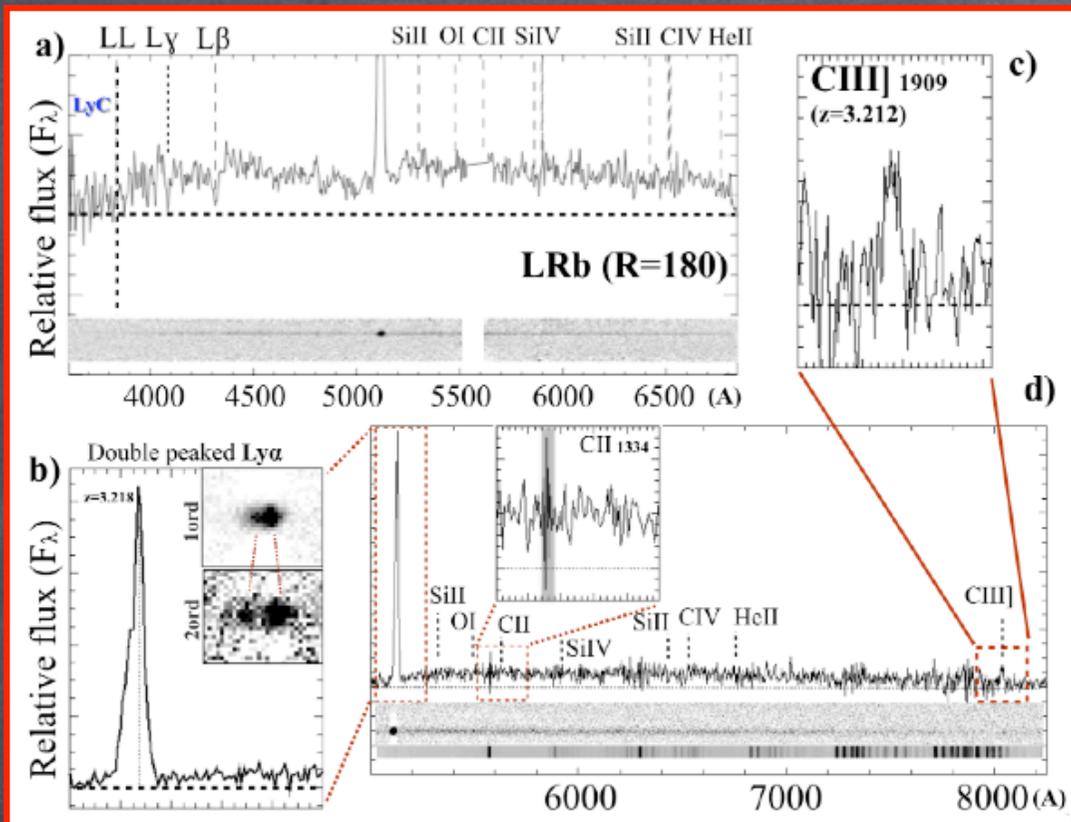
**Ion1:** ( $z=3.795$ ,  $i_{775}=24.82$ )



**Ion2:** ( $z=3.213$ ,  $i_{775}=24.50$ )



# A plausible ionizer : Ion2 ( $z=3.213$ )



J-band

H-band

K-band

H $\beta$  ??

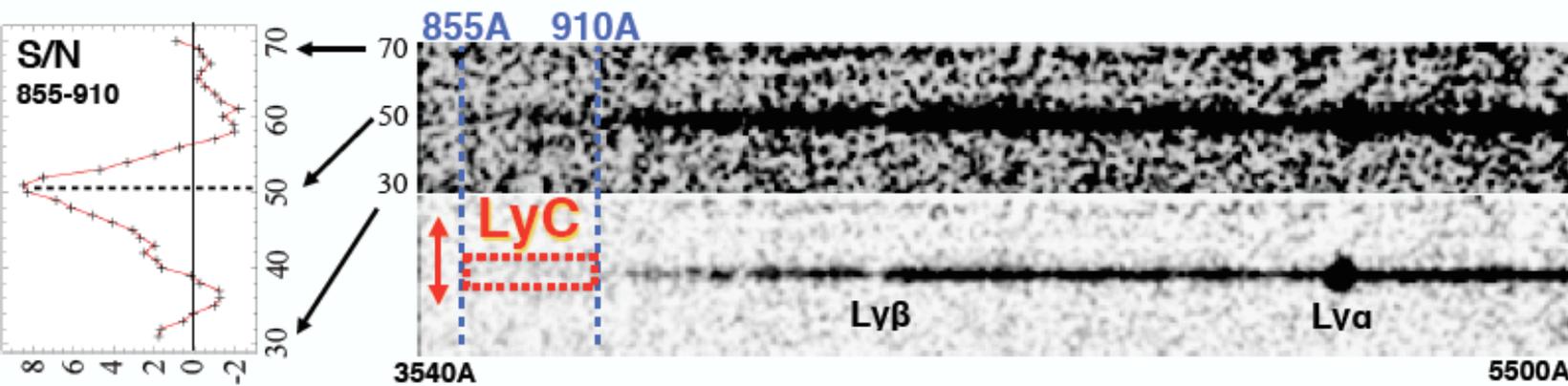
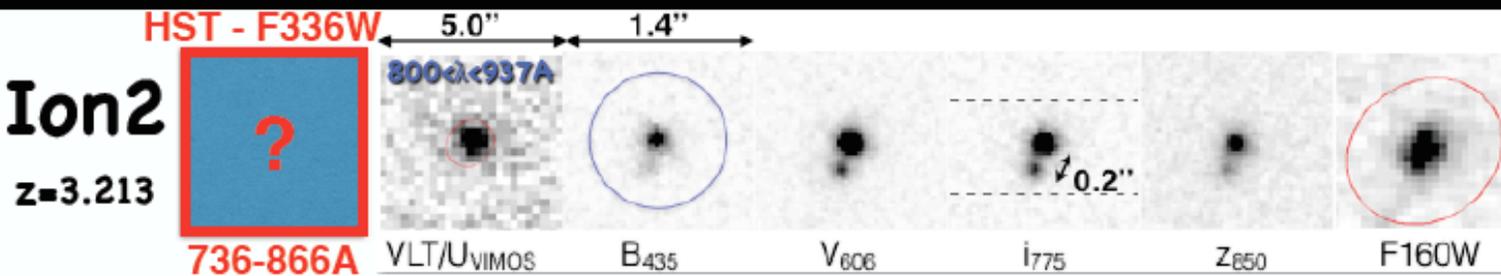
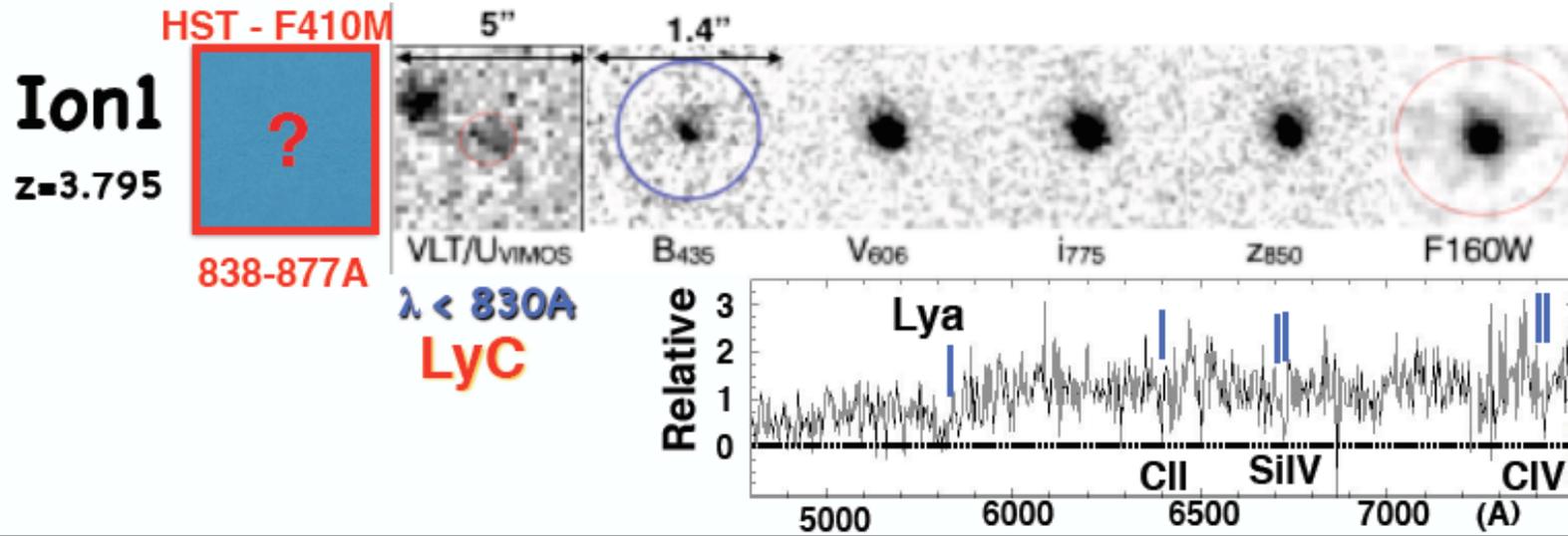
[OIII]4959-5007

[OII]3727 ??

MOSFIRE spectrum

Spectrum: courtesy Guenther Hasinger

# Observing LyC with HST



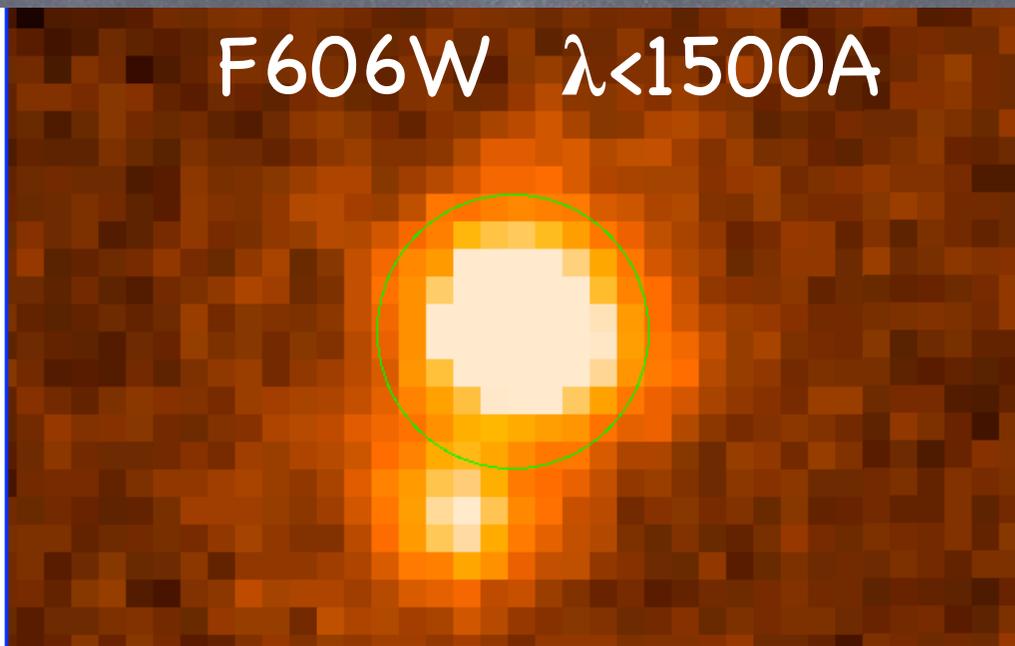
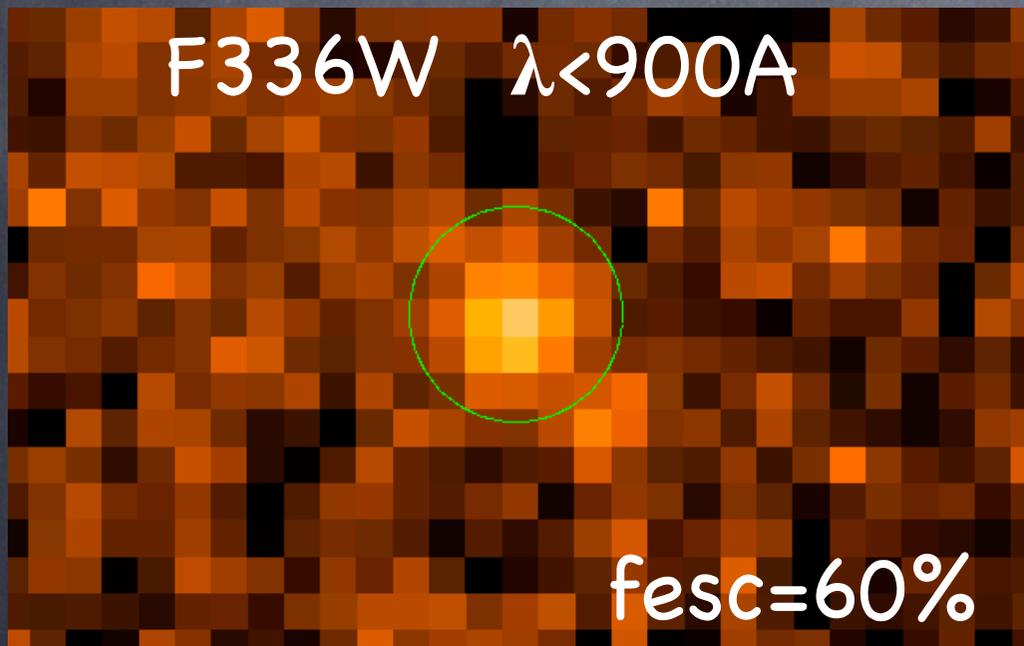
HST  
WFC3/UV

... data acquisition for Ion2: ongoing these days...

confirmed!

~~A plausible ionizer : Ion2 (z=3.213)~~

<2Gry after BB

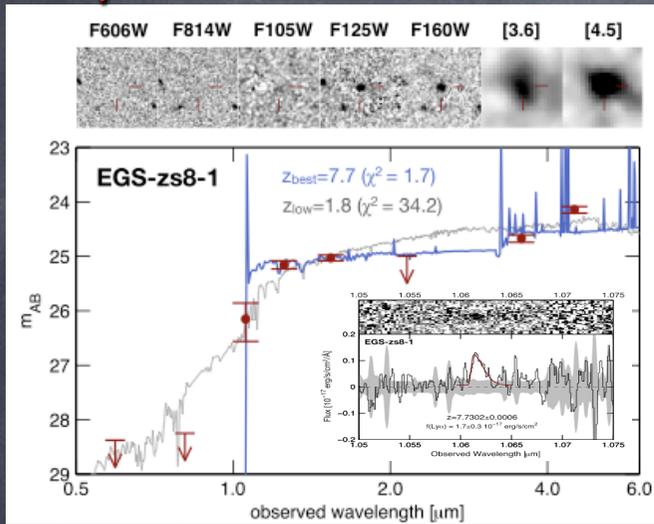


Very informative on the physical mechanisms that allow ionizing photons to escape and reach the IGM, irrespective to the nature of ionizing radiation

# Study $z \sim 3-4$ galaxies, analogs of $z > 7$ ?

ISM conditions & ionization

$z_{\text{spec}}=7.73$  (Oesch+15)



EW([OIII]+H $\beta$ )

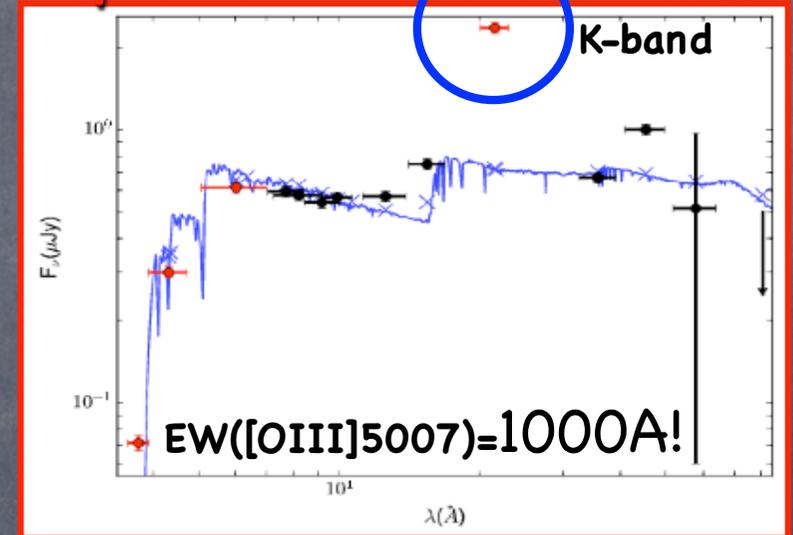
6200Å observed

720 rest-frame

Density-bounded condition??

Transparent ISM ?

$z_{\text{spec}}=3.216$  De Barros+15



Finkelstein et al. (2014)  $z=7.5$

Oesch et al. (2015)  $z=7.73$

Zitrin et al. (2015) at  $z=8.5$

all with similar strong

rest-frame nebular emission

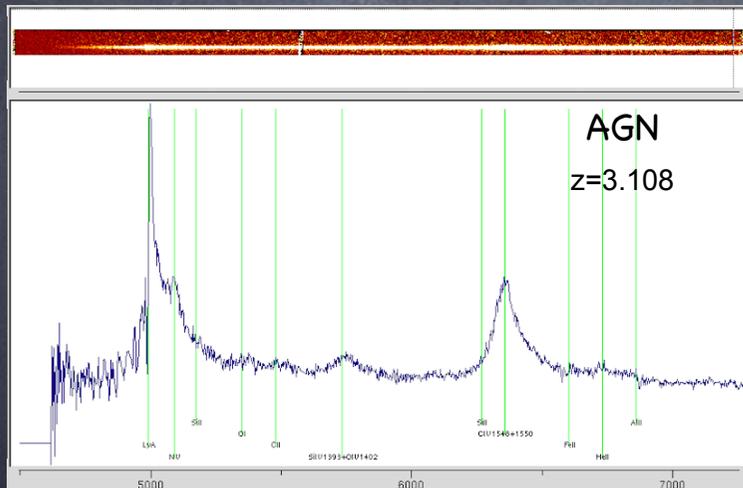
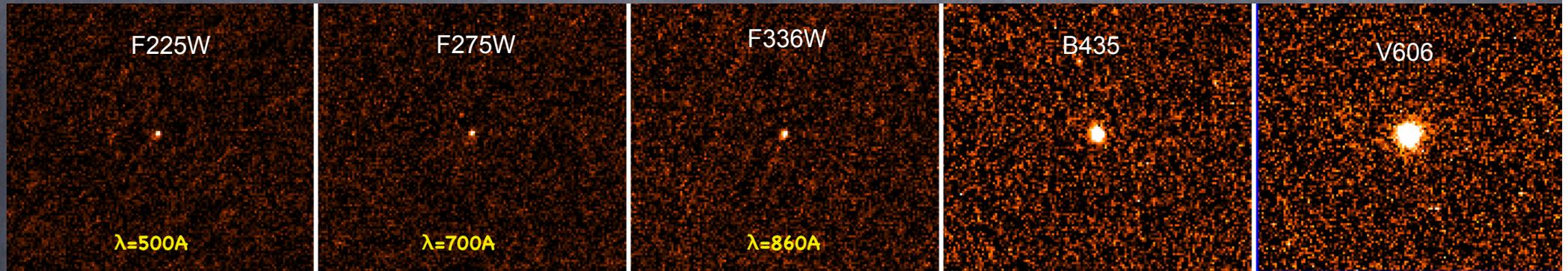
Two relevant facts:

1) LyC leakage

2) Strong nebular emission

are "Ion2-like" sources more frequent at  $z > 6$  ??

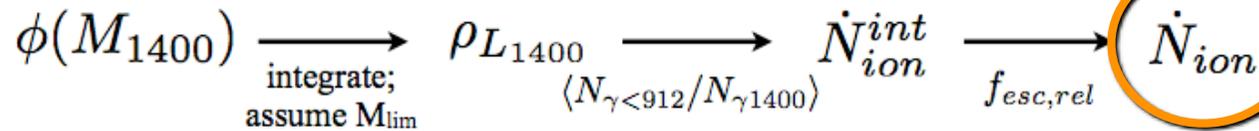
# What is the fesc of AGNs ?? ... work in progress



Fram CLASH-VLT  
spectroscopic survey

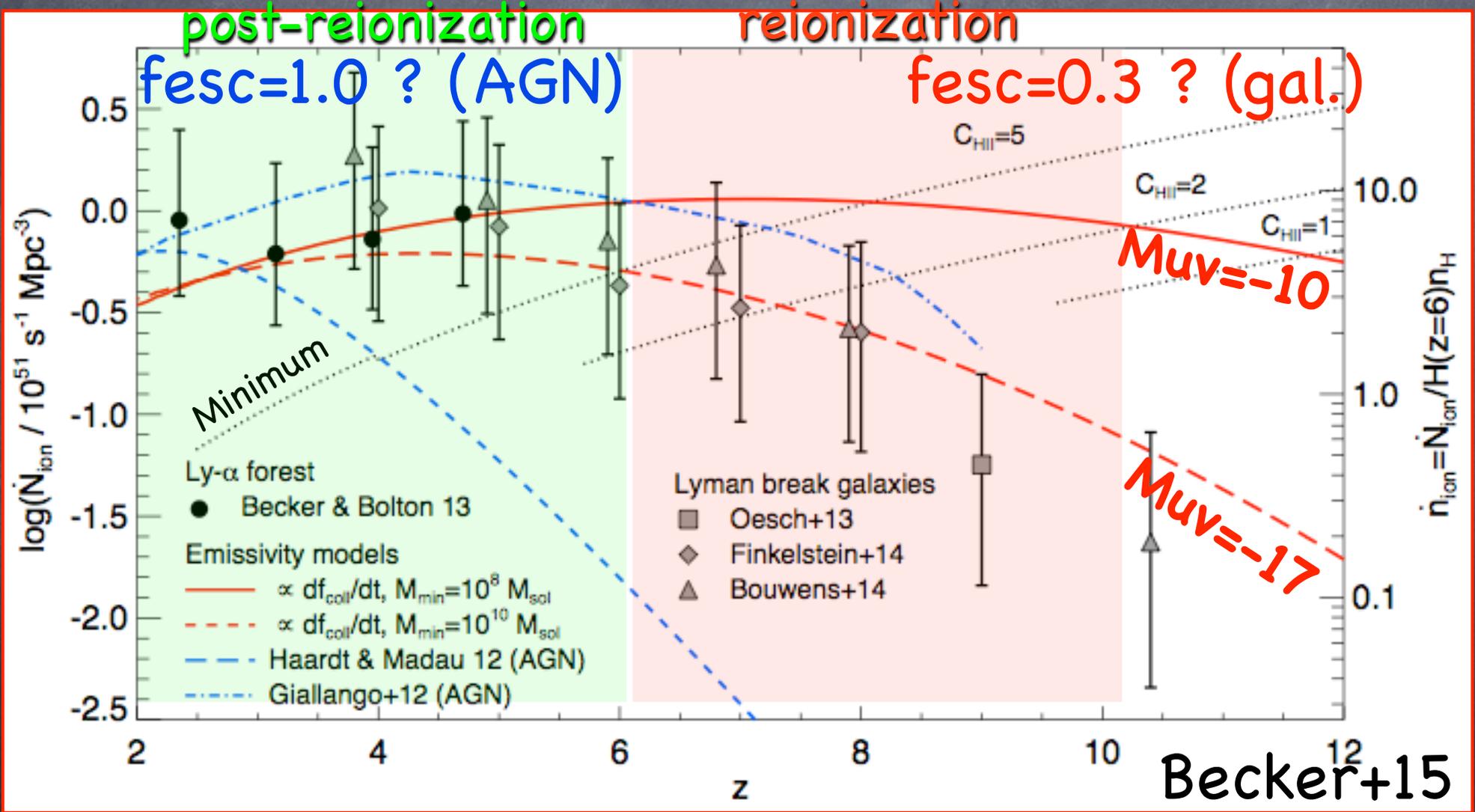
we know fesc in AGN can be  $> 0$ ,  
but how many AGNs do we observe at high- $z$  ?

# Who is responsible for the ionization ?



$$\frac{dQ_{\text{H II}}}{dt} = \frac{\dot{n}_{\text{ion}}}{n_{\text{H}}} \frac{Q_{\text{H II}}}{\bar{t}_{\text{rec}}}$$

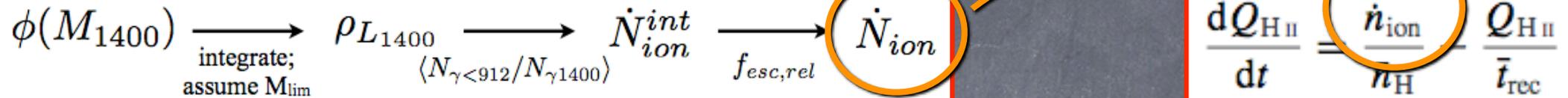
Emissivity of ionizing phot.



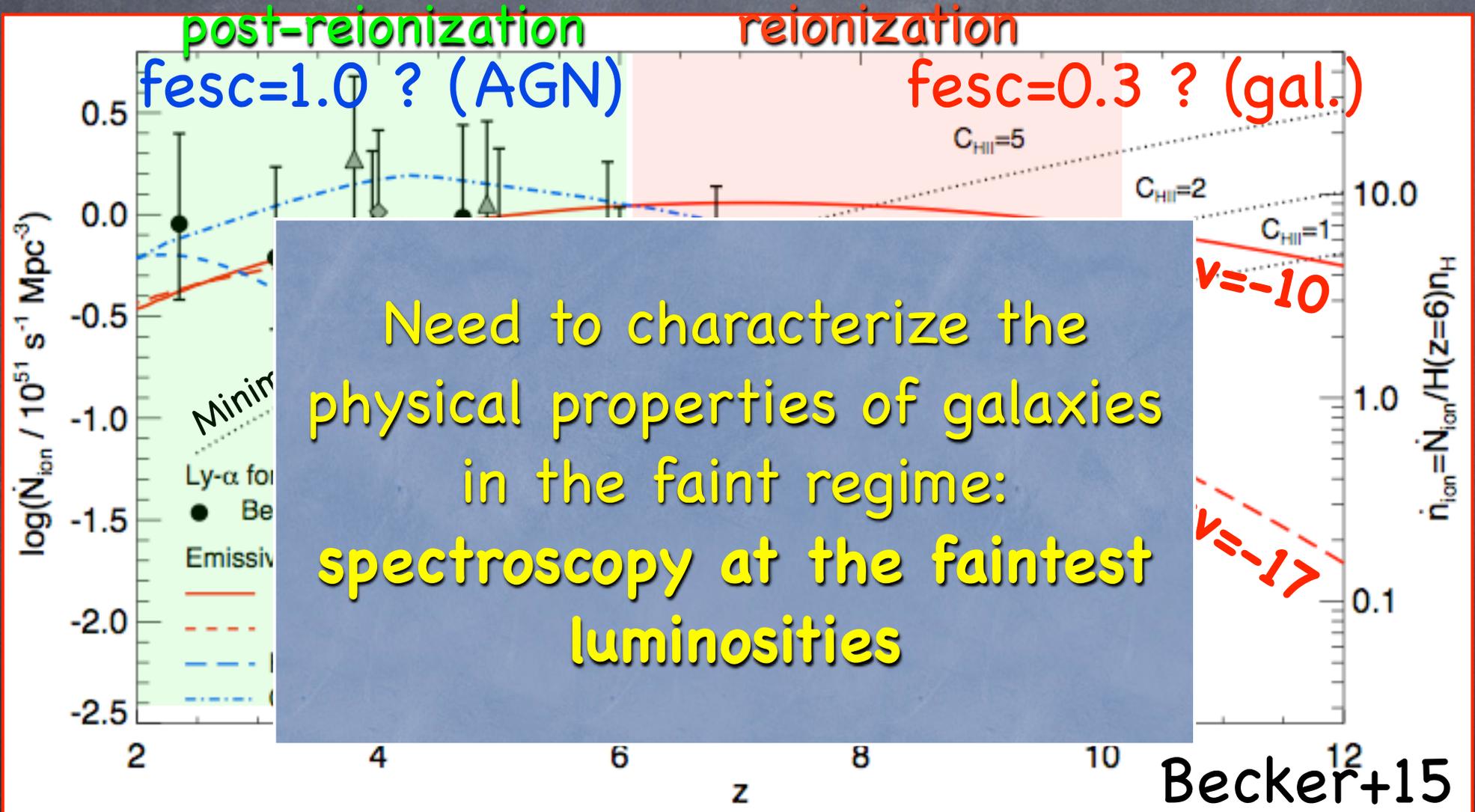
**AGNs** - select AGNs from X, challenging  
 - faint-end LFs ? Uncertain (zspec)  
 - fesc ? Helium reionization ?

**SF-galaxies** - faint-end LFs ? Ok, there are many!  
 Some with zspec (Alavi 2014)  
 -fesc ? (low for bright...)

# Who is responsible for the ionization ?



Emissivity of ionizing phot.



- AGNs** - select AGNs from X, challenging  
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 Some with zspec (Alavi 2014)  
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Questions