Exploring the Universe with Gamma-Ray Burst Afterglows

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on behalf of the CIBO collaboration

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Hotel Taburiente a Los Cancajos, 19-21 October 2021



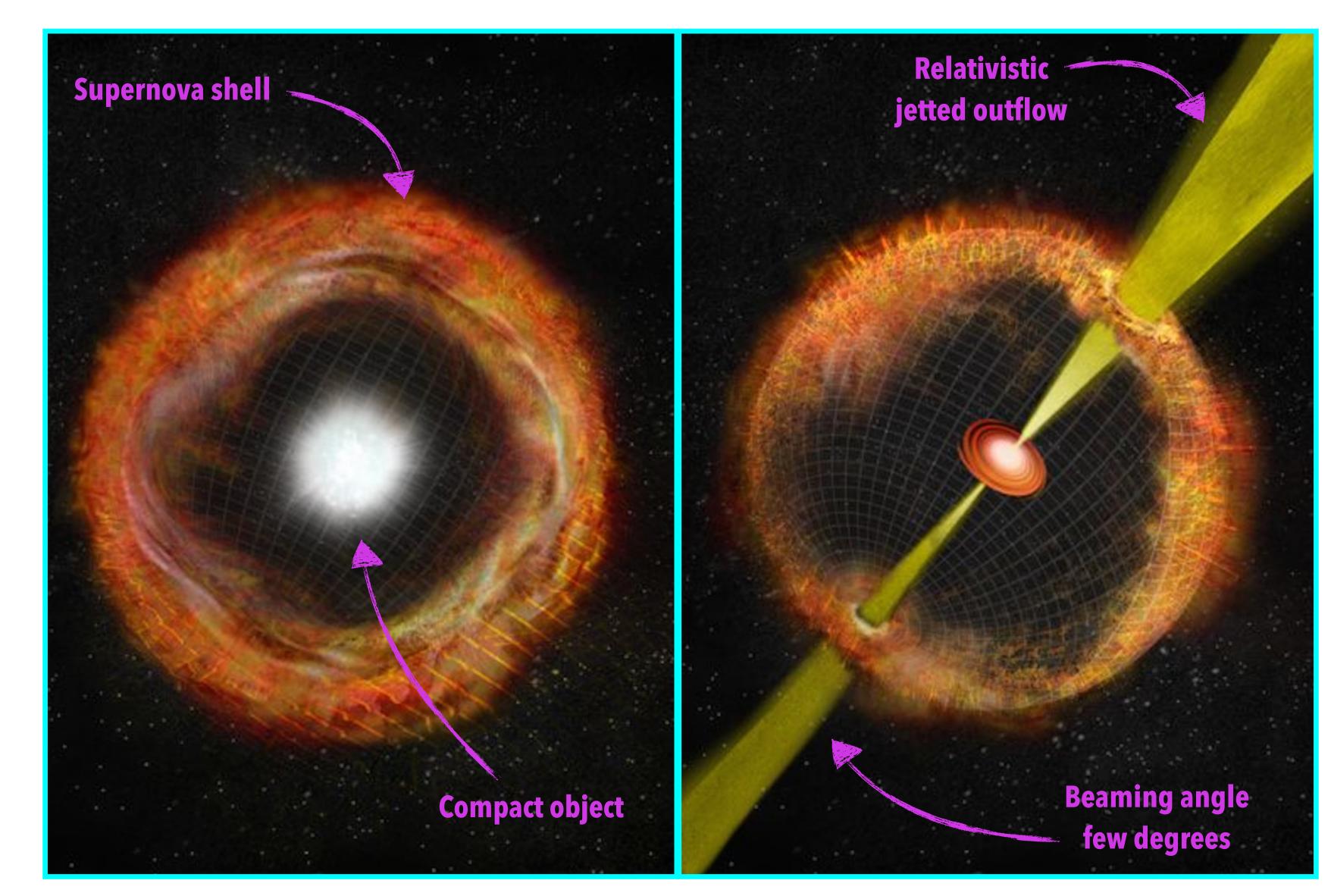
Coordinamento Italiano Burst Ottici

The **C.I.B.O.** collaboration, formed in 2000, involves most of the Italian astronomers interested in optical and infrared observations of the GRB afterglows and their host galaxies (HGs). Many members of the collaboration are also part of the Italian *Swift* team.

C.I.B.O. activities:

- Follow-up observations of GRBs & HGs with TNG since 2000 • Follow-up observations of GRBs with small Italian Telescopes since 2000 • Follow-up observations of GRBs with REM since 2004
- Follow up observations of GRBs & HGs with LBT since 2008

Gamma-Ray Bursts



Brief intense (short or long) pulses of gamma-rays - Most energetic events (in the EM regime) in the Universe

Science with Gamma-Ray Bursts

• GRBs Physics

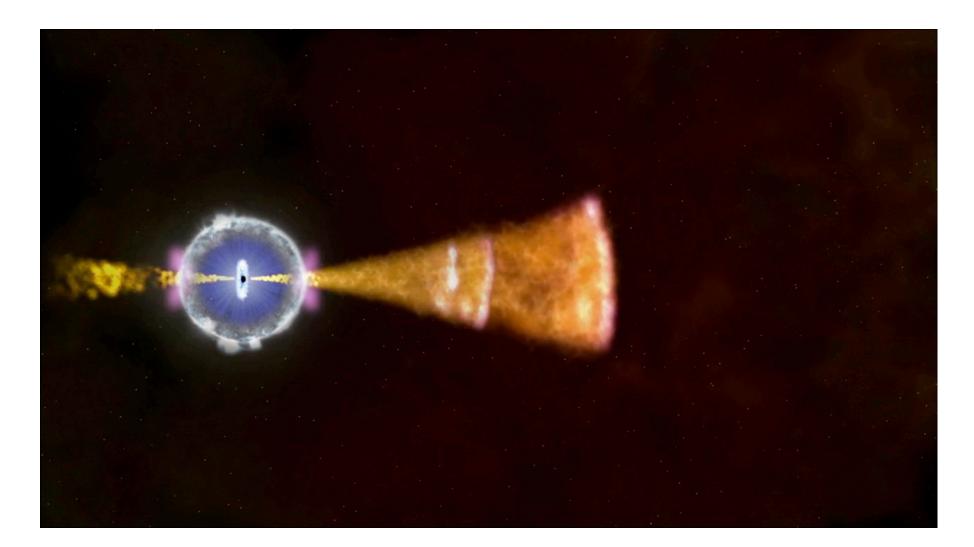
- 1. Shocks
- 2. The role of magnetic field
- 3. Jets
- 4. Accretion/ejection: extreme regimes

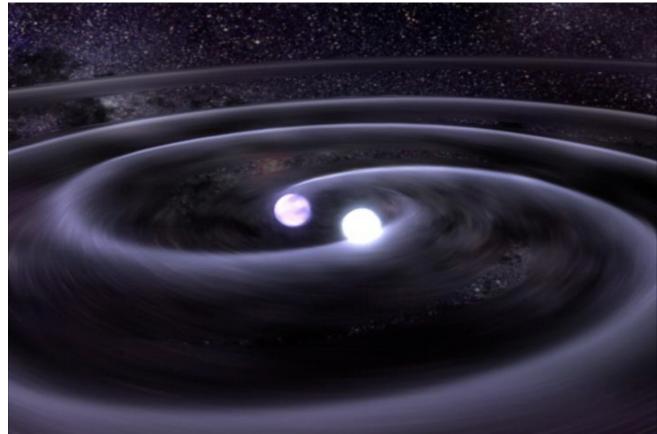
• Progenitors

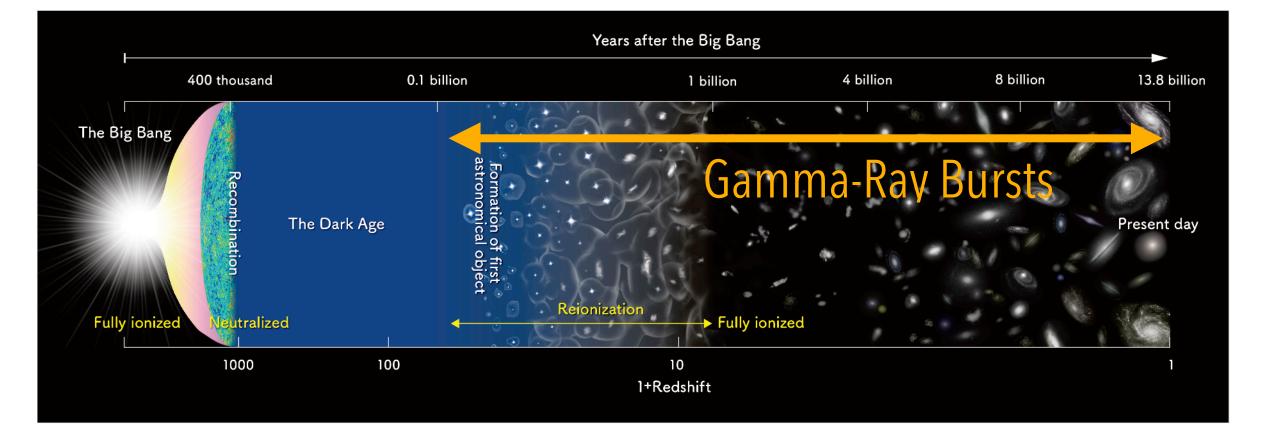
- 1. Long GRBs: GRB-SN connection
- 2. Short GRBs: compact objects merging (GW)

• Long GRBs as cosmological probes

- 1. Connection with massive star formation
- 2. From the local Universe to the re-ionisation era
- 3. Circumburst environment / IGM
- 4. Chemical history of the Universe







Since 2004 *Swift* observed 1499 GRBs: legacy/statistical approach to tackle the above science cases



Gamma-Ray Bursts with TNG: a legacy approach

Since AOT22 (2010) we started a series of Long Term Programs focused on well defined scientific topics (ensure a proper follow-up of rare but flagship events):

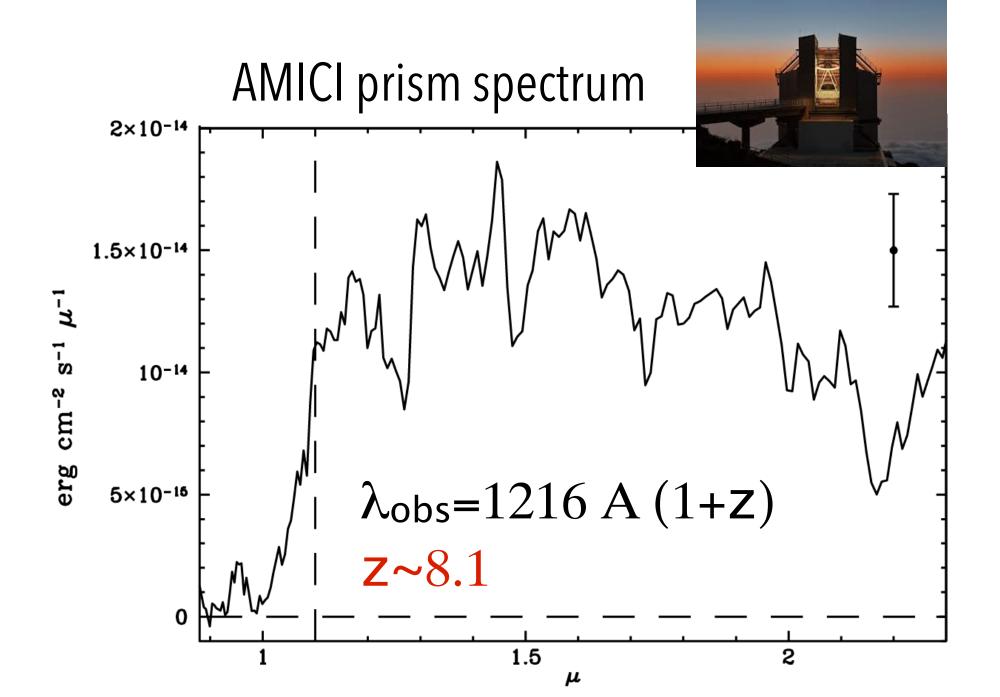
- candidate high redshift GRBs
- **GRB**–**SN** association
- short GRBs (<u>strong connection with GW events</u>!!)
- events belonging to complete (flux–limited) samples (bright GRBs)

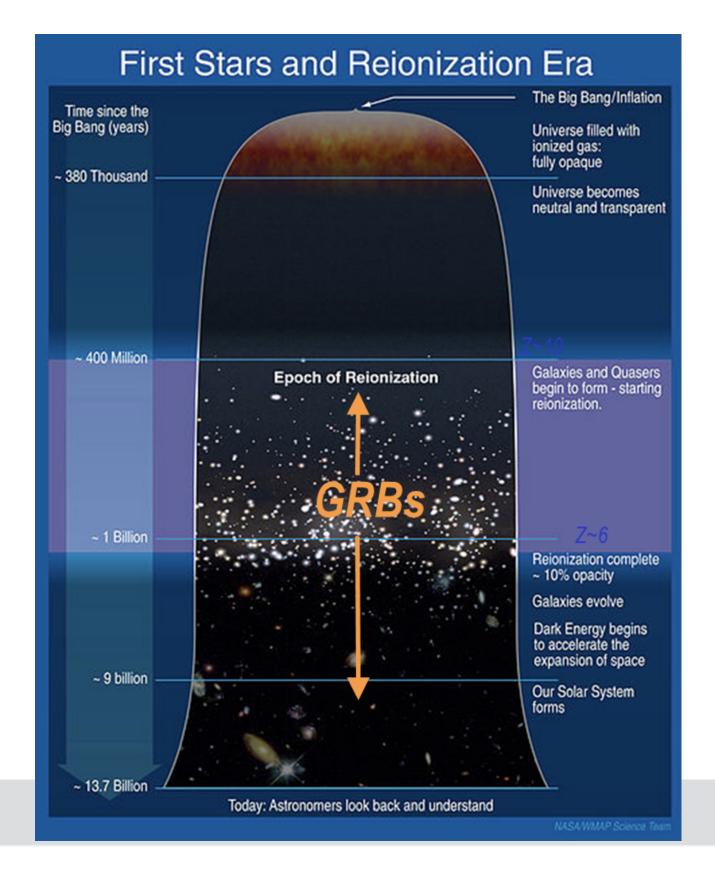
MANDATORY NOT TO MISS

GRBs as cosmic probes: GRB090423

Long GRBs are detectable from the local Universe to very high redshifts:

- cosmic star formation history
- metallicity & dust evolution
- properties of faint galaxies (missed by 'traditional' surveys)



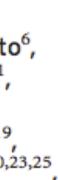


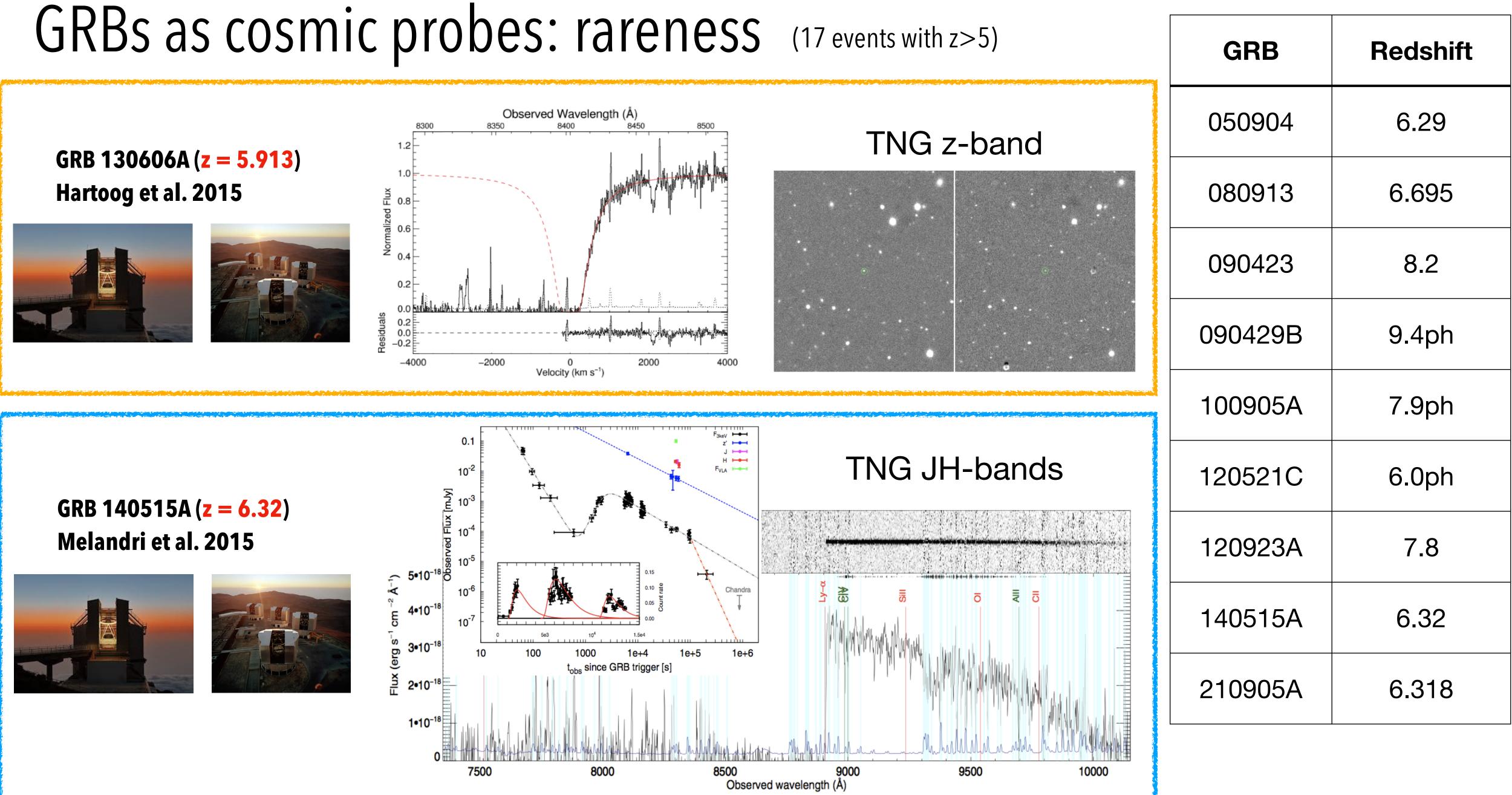
nature

FRS

GRB 090423 at a redshift of $z \approx 8.1$

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GRBs as cosmic probes: rareness

GRB 210905A (z = 6.318) Rossi et al. 2021 in preparation



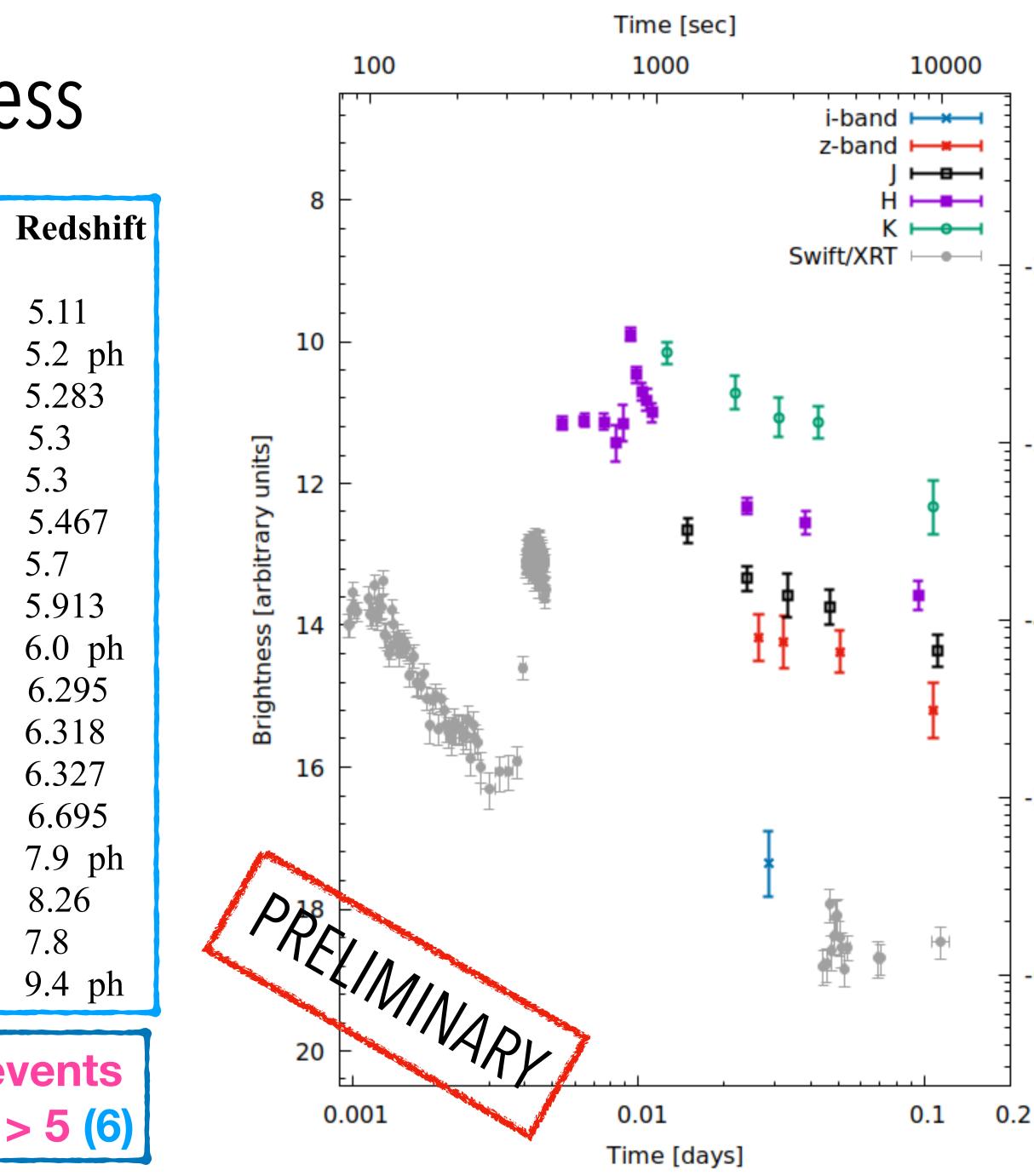


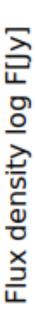
REM *izJHK* light curve continuous observations for the first 2 hr after the GRB event

060522 050502B 140304A 050814 131227A 060927 201221A 130606A 120521C 050904 210905A 140515A 080913 100905A 090423 120923A 090429B

GRB

only 12 (5) events with z_spec > 5 (6)





-2

-3

-5

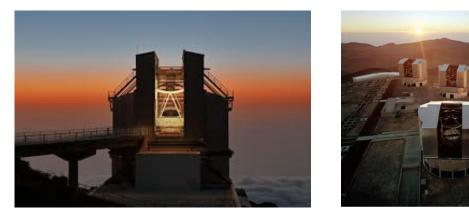
-6

GRB-SN connection (observed for about 20 events)

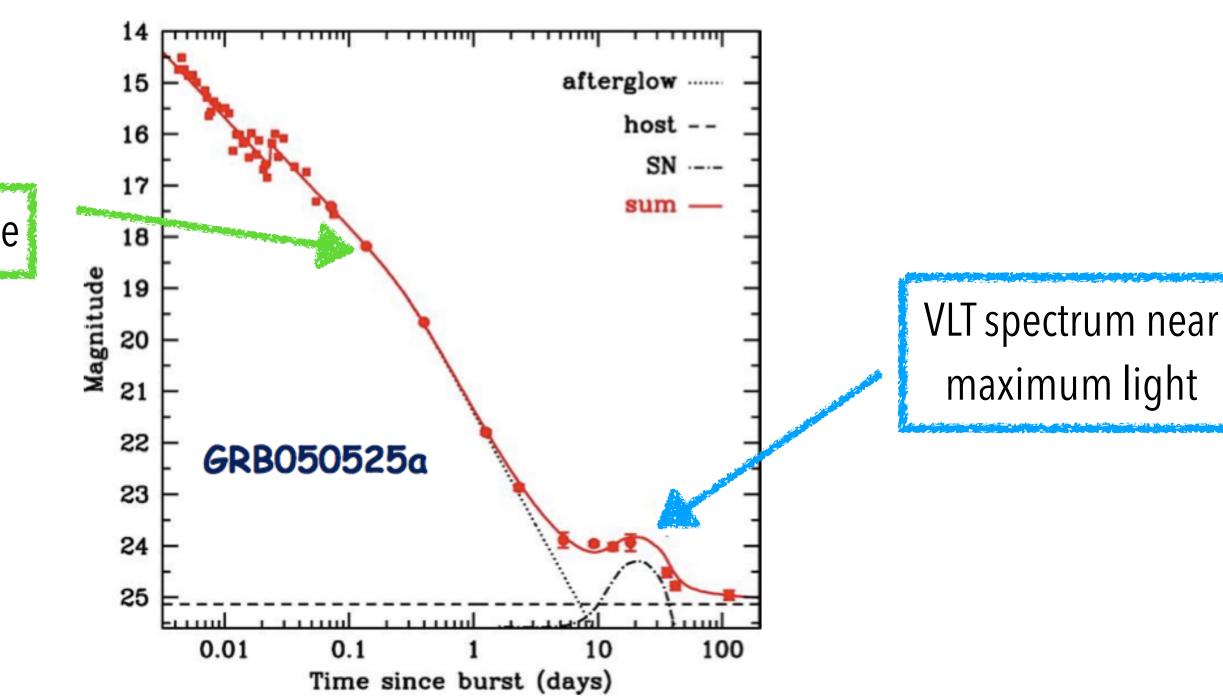
Nearby Long GRBs are usually associated with broad lined Type lb-c SN:

- powering mechanism and progenitor features
- properties of the circumstellar medium and host-galaxies

GRB 050525A/SN2005nc (z = 0.606) Della Valle et al. 2006

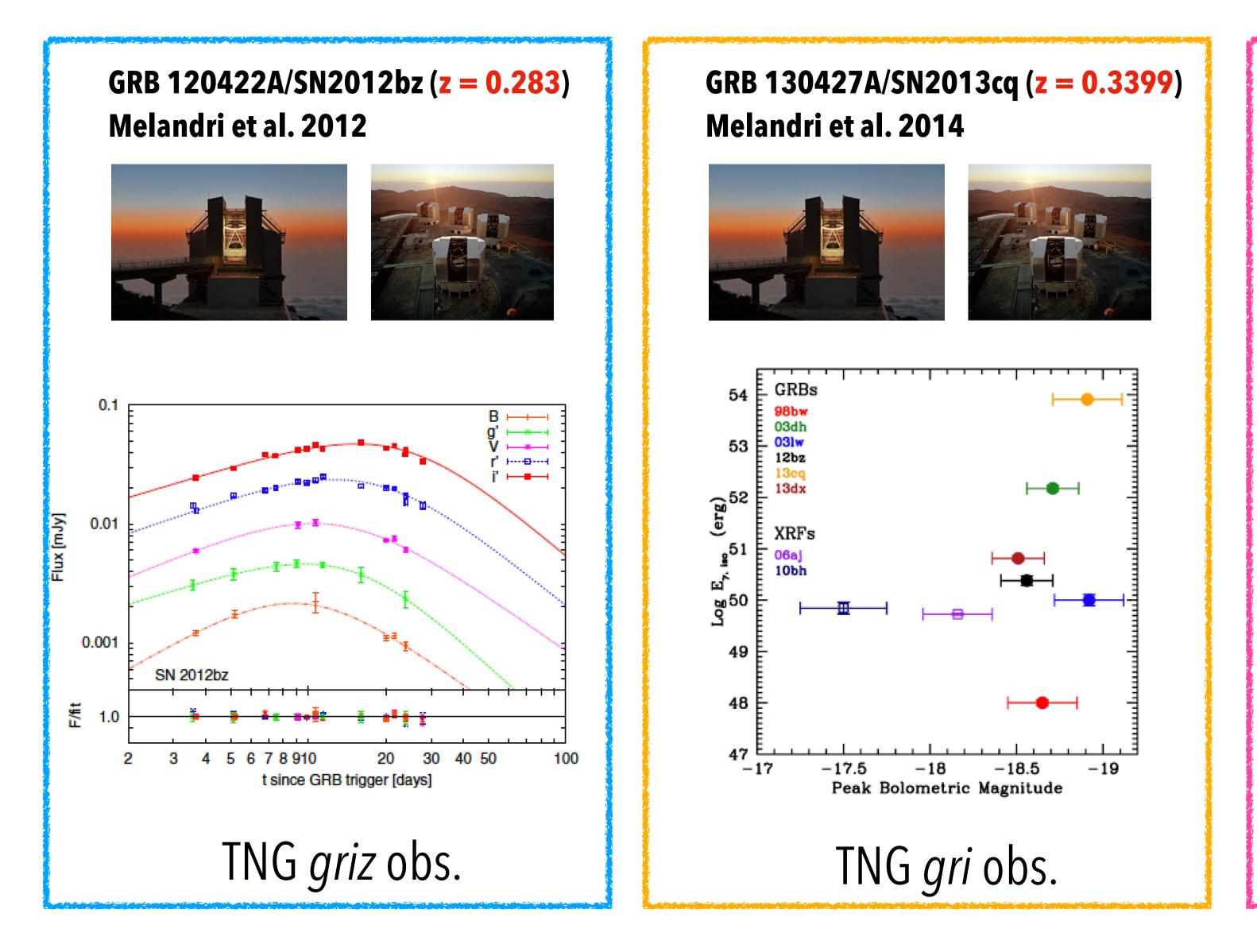


TNG optical light curve





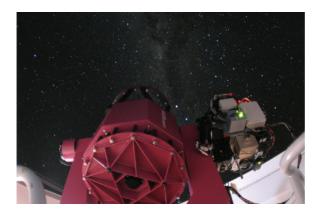
GRB-SN connection: ordinary events, ordinary monsters and real monsters

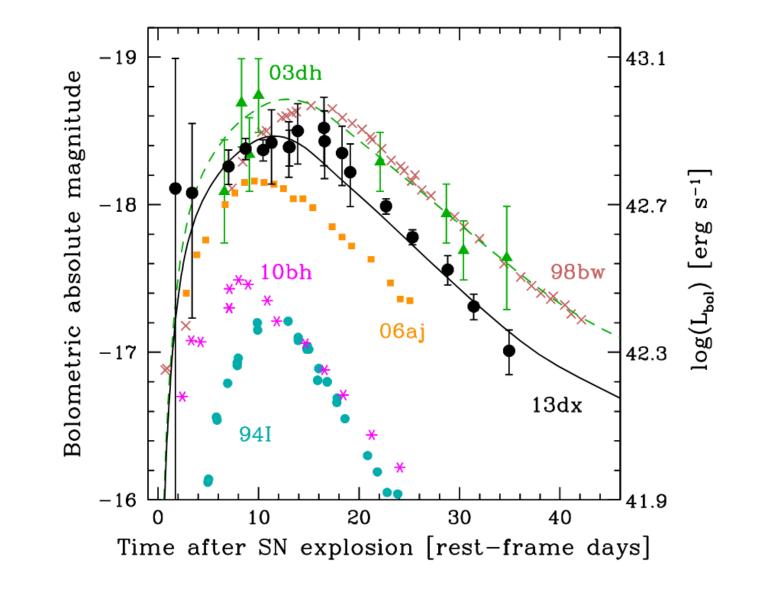


GRB 130702A/SN2013dx (z = 0.145) **D'Elia et al. 2015**



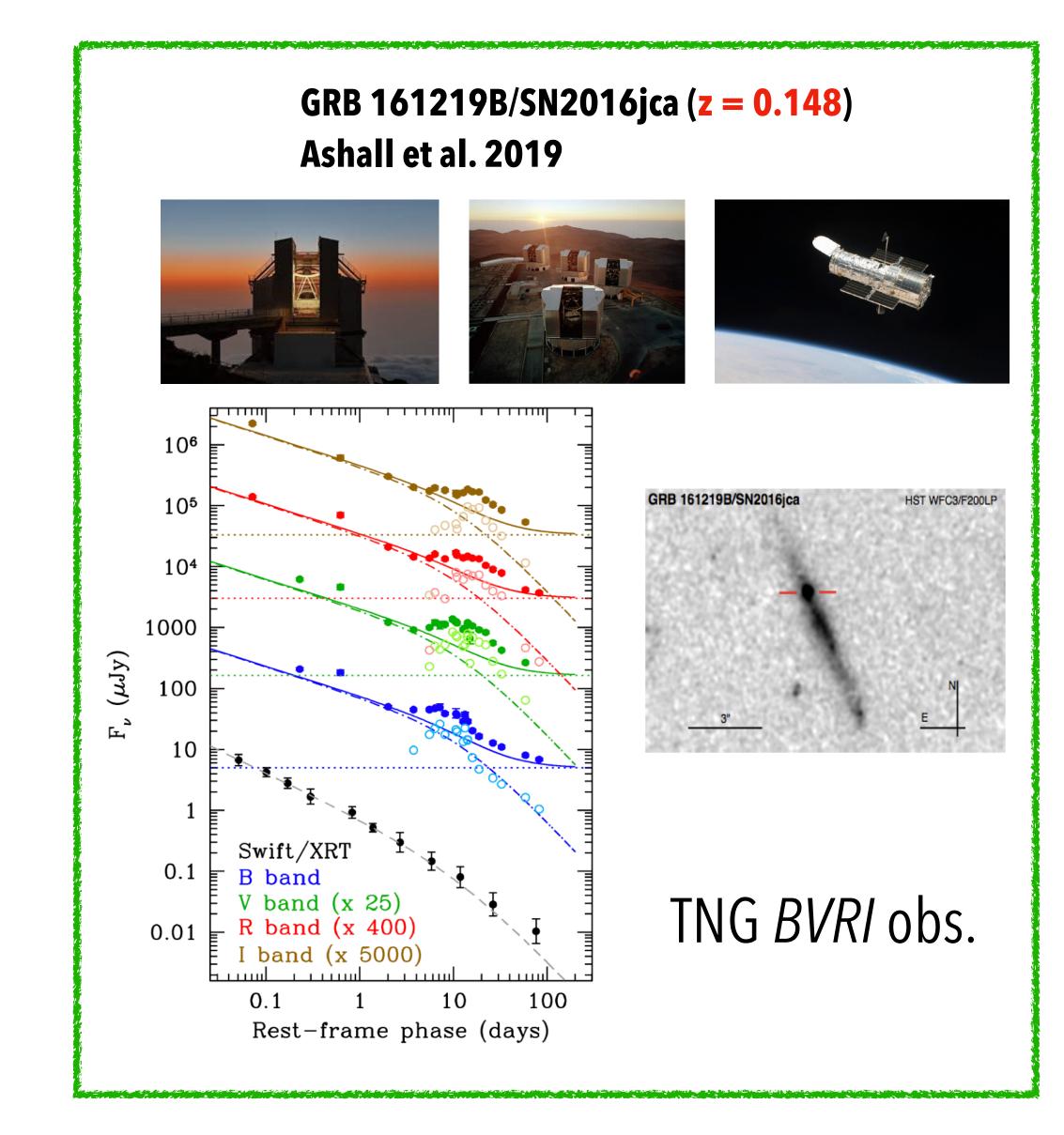


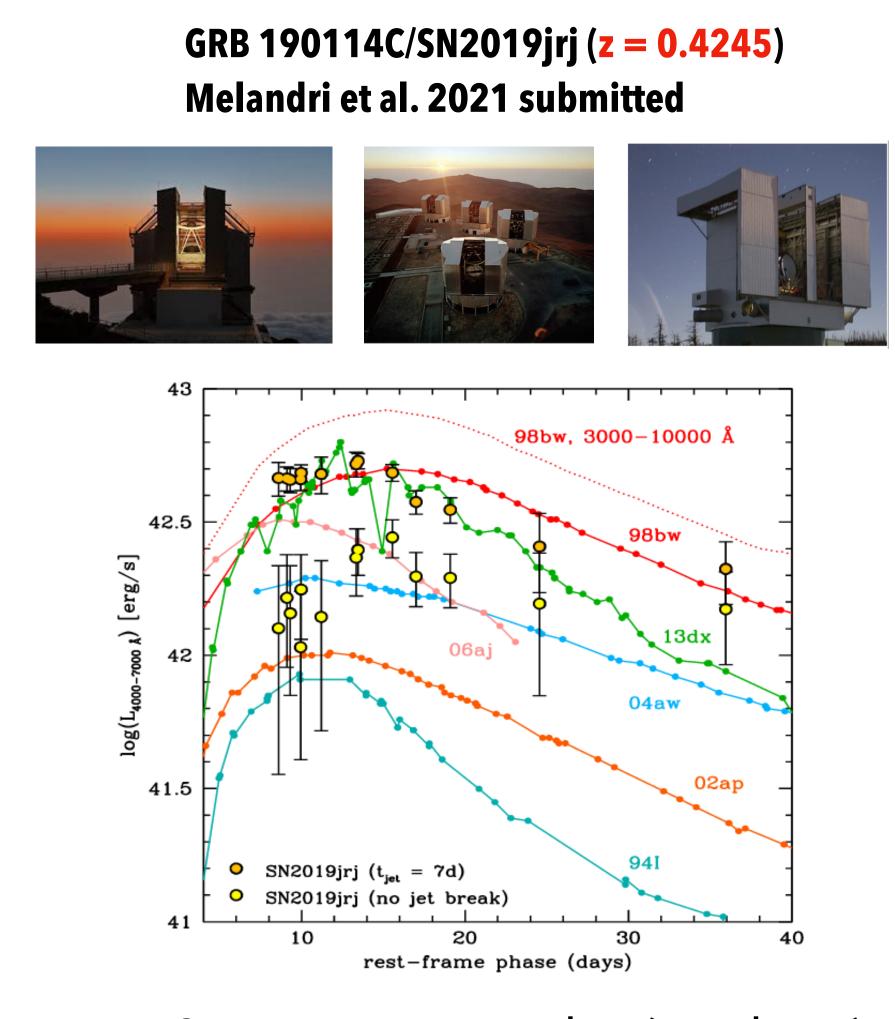




TNG Ugriz (+5 spectra)+ REM gr obs.

GRB-SN connection: ordinary events, ordinary monsters and real monsters





TNG griz + LBT gri obs. (+others)

Short GRBs

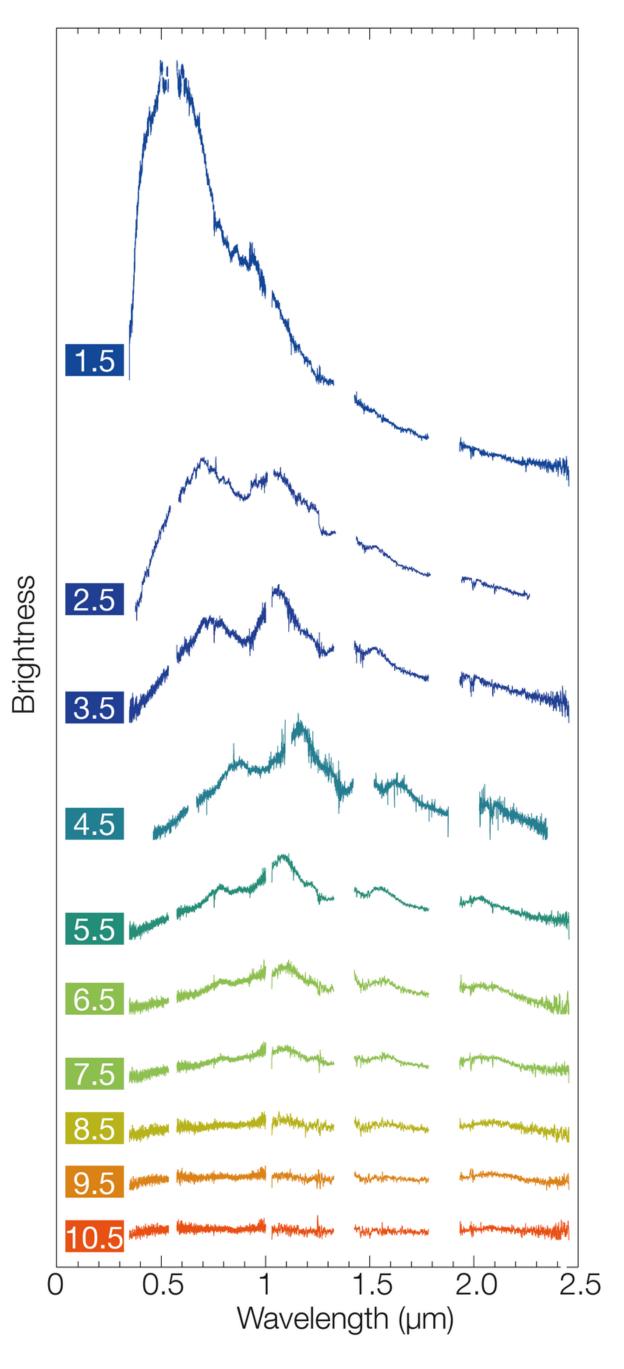
Short GRBs are tricky to observe because fainter (even in the X-rays):

- z determination is critical
- different environment and energetics
- strong link with GW (progenitors)



GRB170817A - GW170817





Credits: ESO

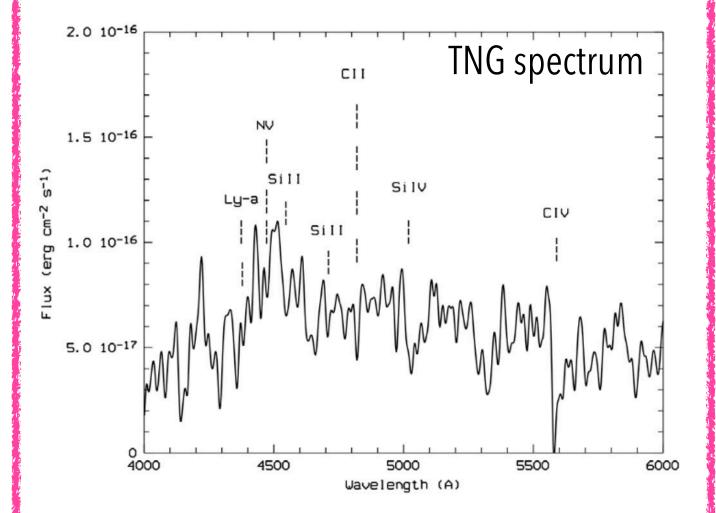
Credits: Pian, D'Avanzo +17, Smartt +17

Short GRBs

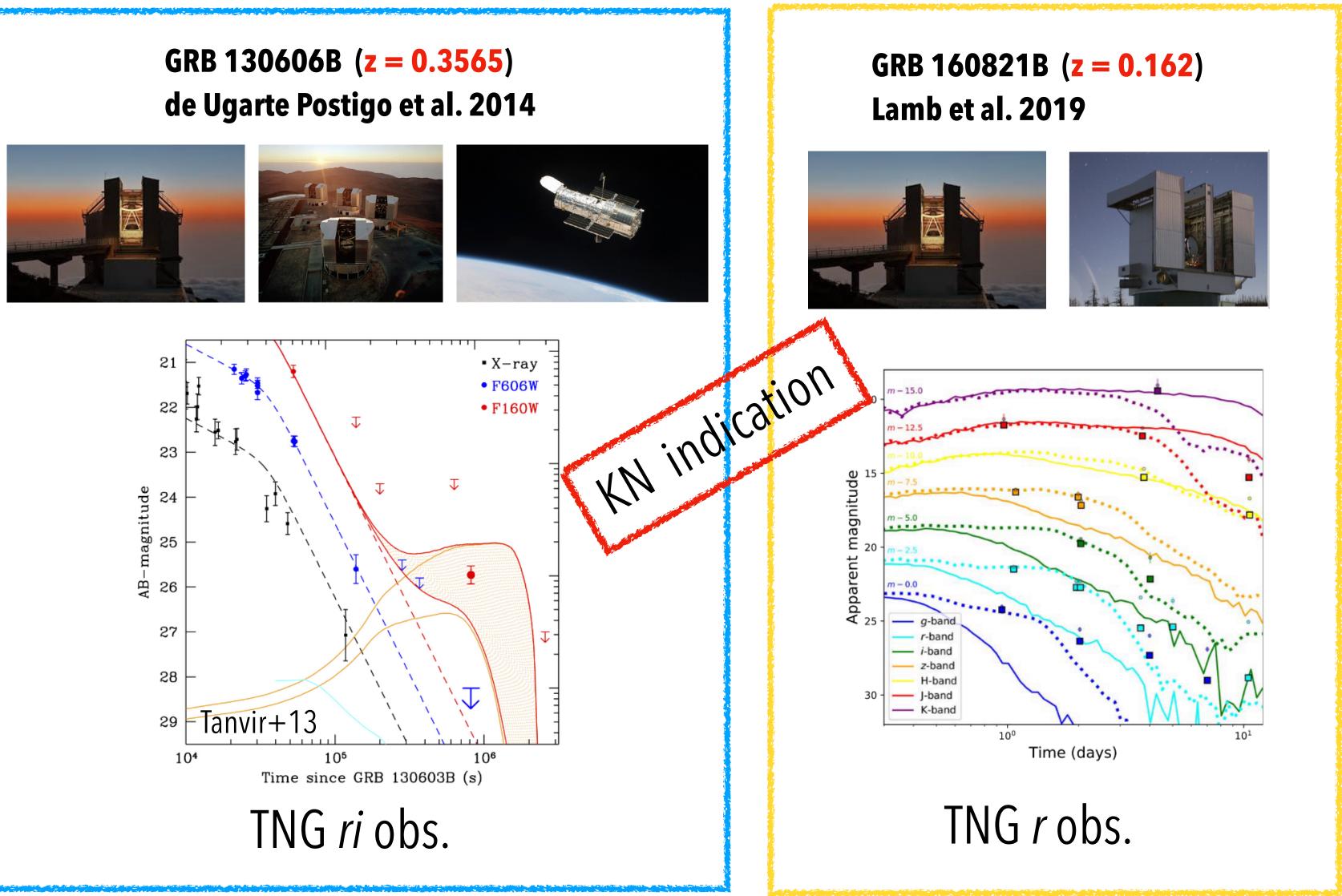
GRB 090426 (z = 2.609)Antonelli et al. 2009

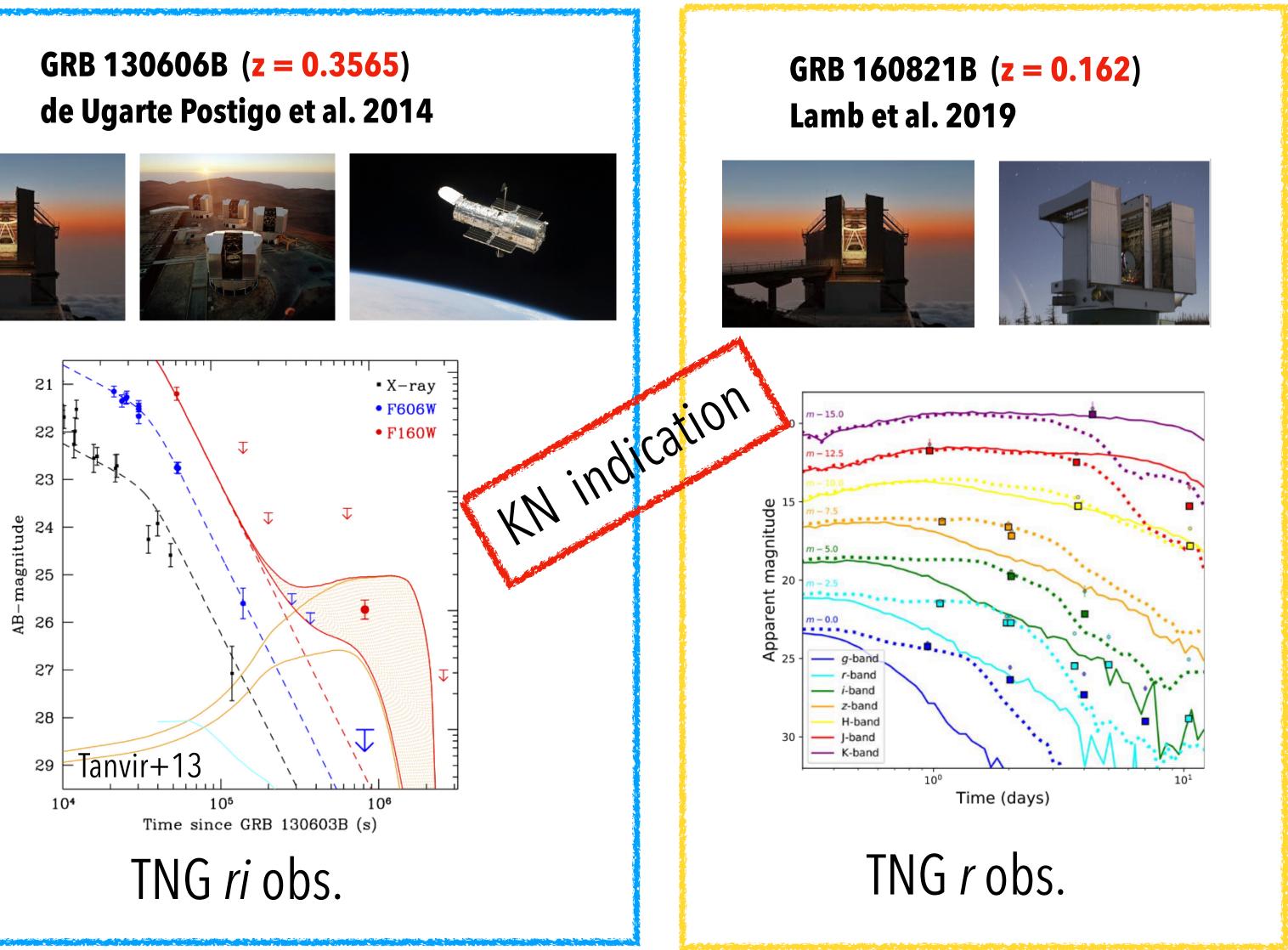






TNG *BVRI* + LBT g*riz*

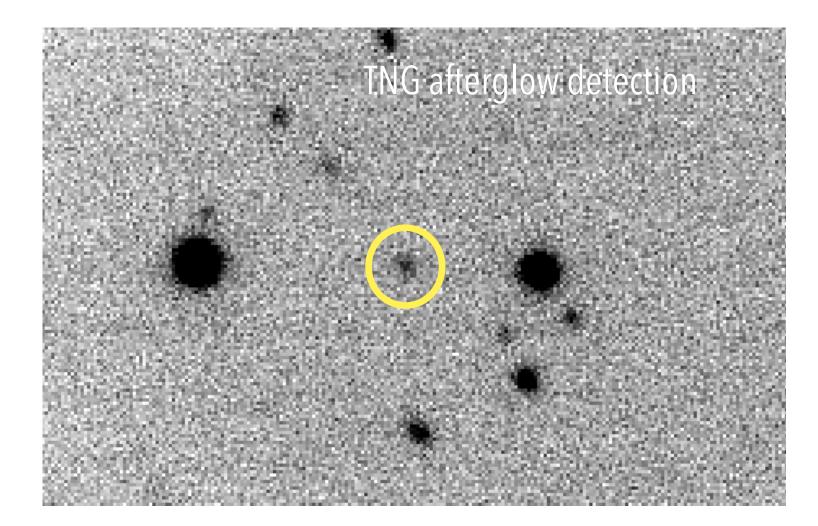




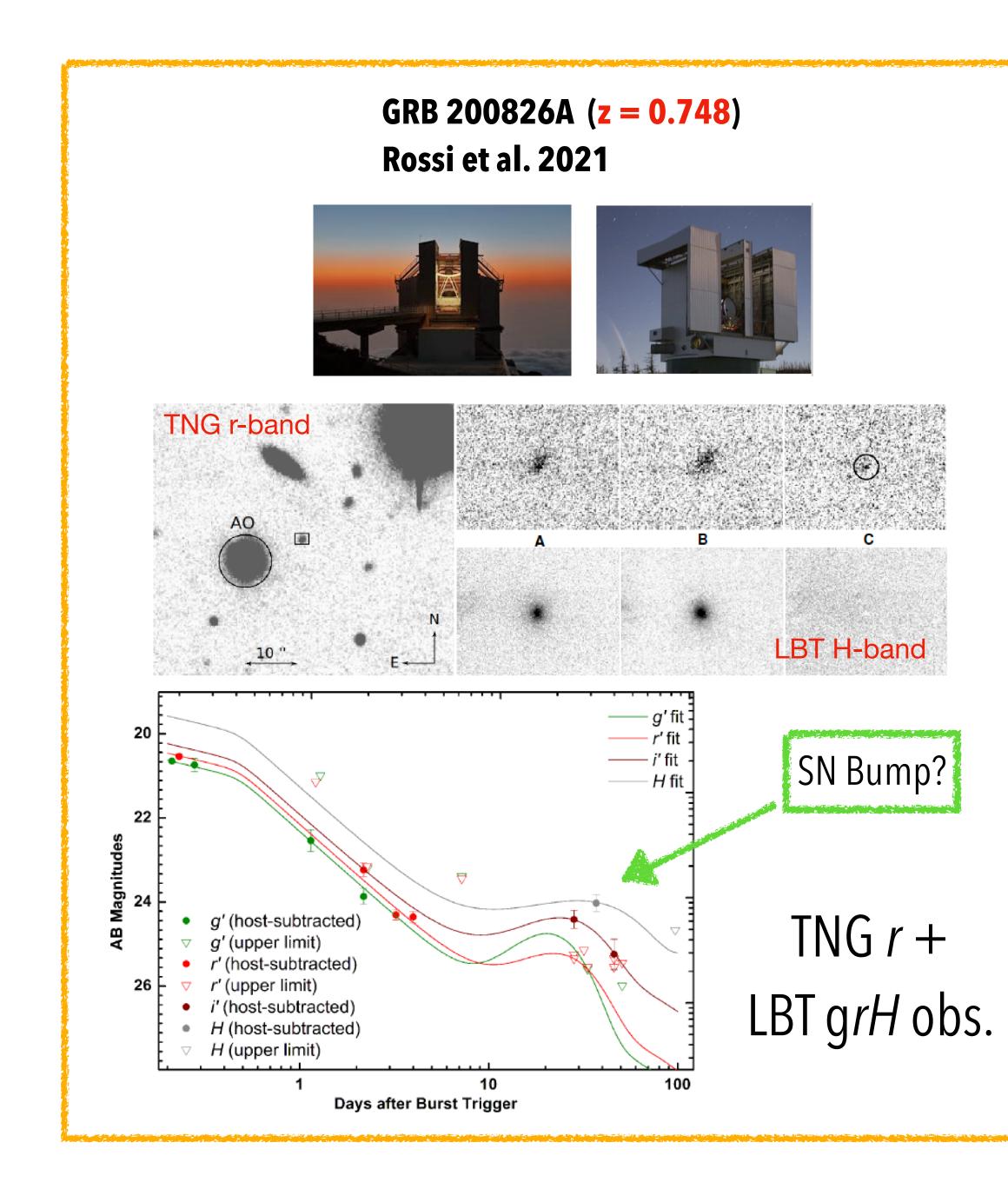
Short GRBs







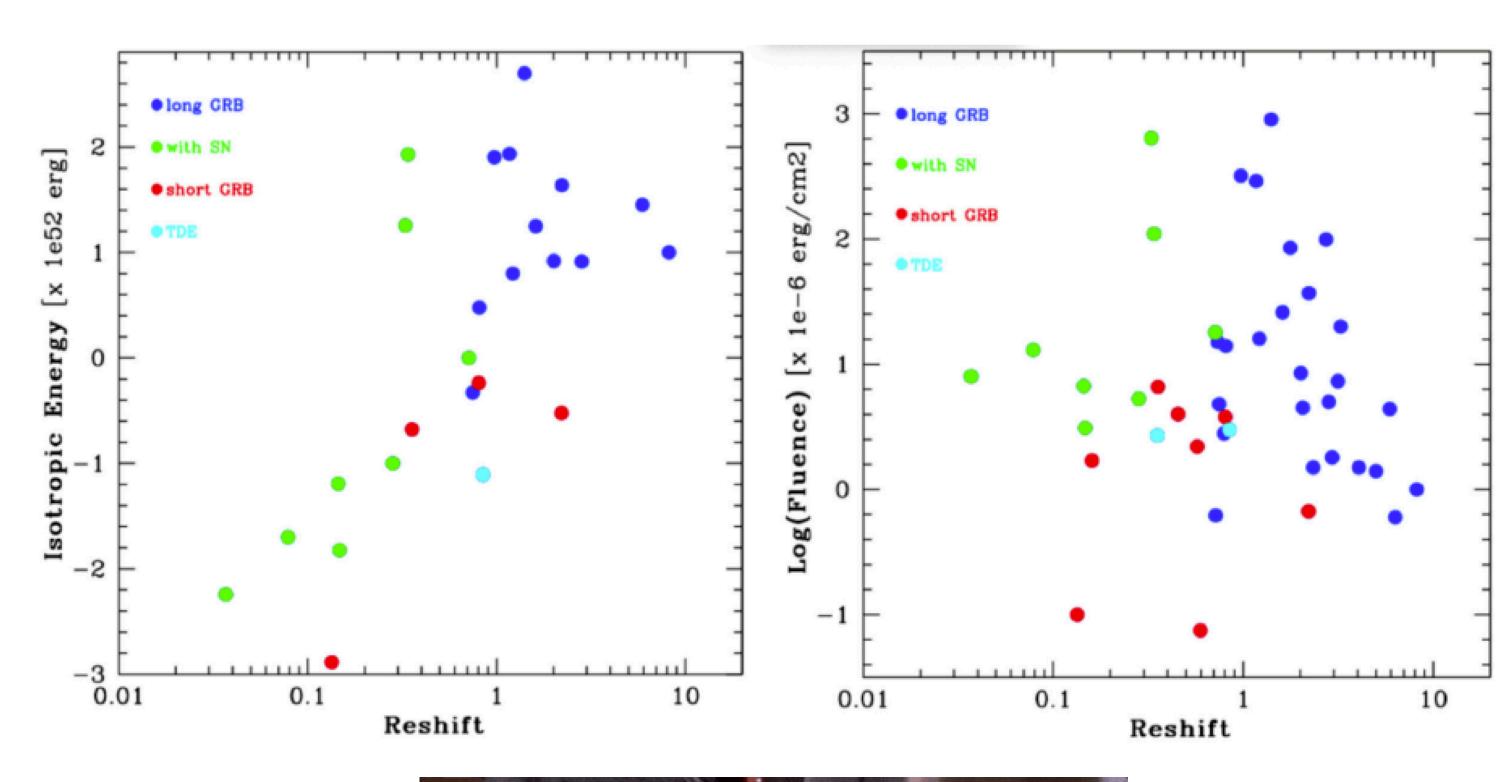
TNG *r* obs.



Conclusions: legacy value

Some numbers (since 2010)

- observed ~3 GRB/semester that met our four criteria (~65 overall)
- 62 GCN circulars
- 36 peer-reviewed papers, 1915 citations
 - (~3 papers/year with 52 citations/paper on average)
- 1 Nature, 1 Nat. Co.
- average time request of less than 30 hours/ semester (now 17.5 hr)





Conclusions: the future of GRBs @ TNG

- GRBs have a high science impact in many astrophysical fields
- position (LTP approach and synergy with other facilities)
- larger telescopes, provided observations can be scheduled flexibly and rapidly
- New science in the time-domain astronomy era (*Swift*, SVOM, SOXS, ZTF, BlackGEM, LSST)
- Focus on rare events:
 - (much more difficult) observations of binary neutron star mergers
 - high-z GRBs (as already demonstrated with AMICI)
 - nearby GRBs with associated SN

• High visibility and scientific return with relatively small time investment

• The use of TNG in GRB studies played (and is playing) a fundamental role in keeping the Italian community in a leading

• **Unpredictable events**: for a promptly visible afterglow, geographic location can give an edge to TNG, also compared to

• GW sources emit **short GRBs** (GW 170817A), hence their study is of paramount importance to guide the

