

A visualization of multiwavelength cross-match data. The background is a dark field filled with numerous small, multi-colored spots (purple, blue, red, orange) representing celestial objects. A network of thin, light-colored lines connects these objects, forming a complex web. A prominent vertical line is visible on the left side, and a horizontal line is at the top. The number '90' is written in a light color at the top left. The text 'Multiwavelength cross-match' is overlaid in white, bold font in the center.

# Multiwavelength cross-match

**M. Salvato (MPE)**

**Identifying correct counterparts to high-energy sources by  
"multiwavelength educated guesses"  
imbibed in a Bayesian statistic environment**

a.k.a. NWAY (Salvato et al 2018, 2022)

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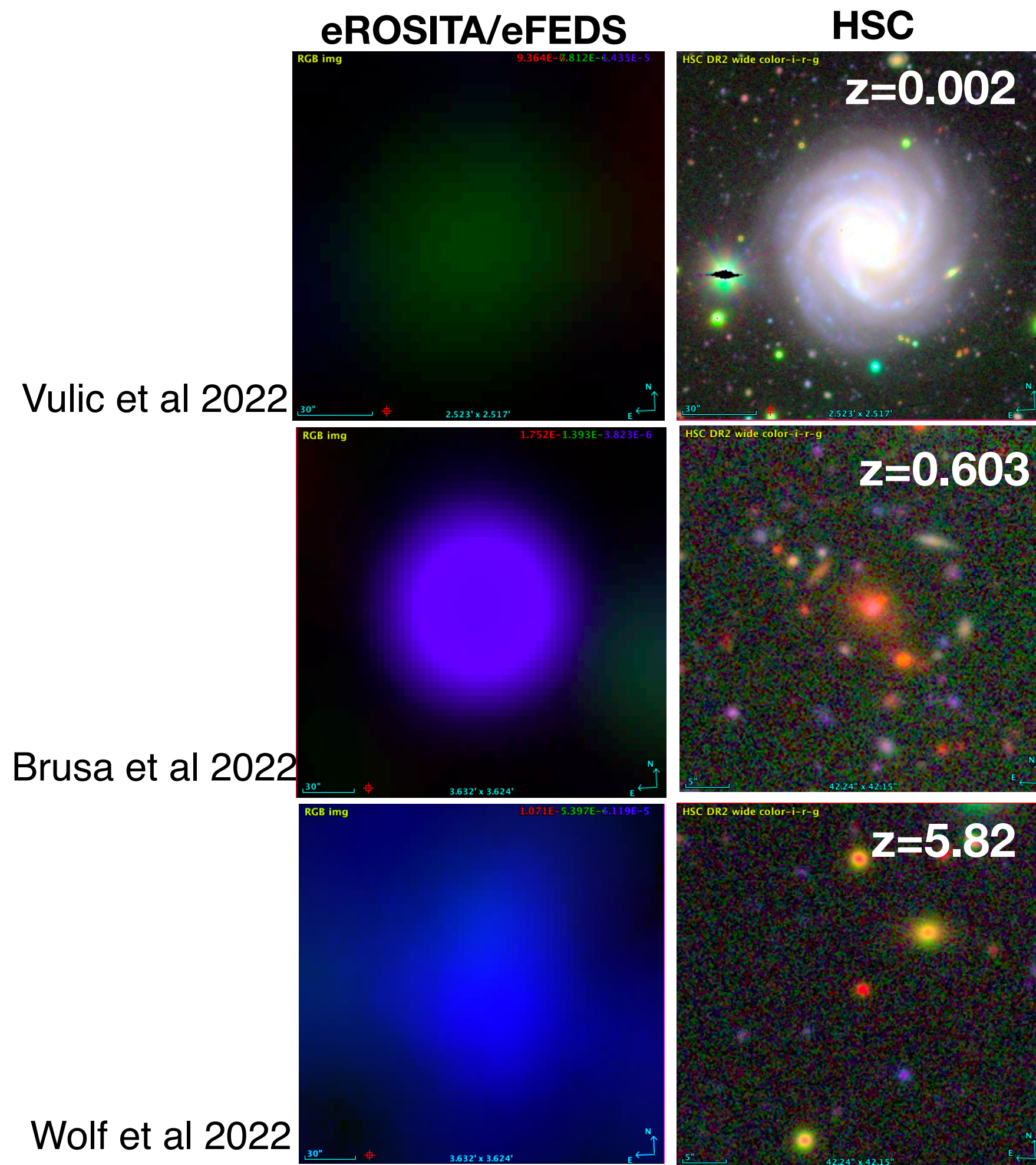
**P.S.: it works for any cross-match!**

# The talk

- **Motivations**
- **Issues**
- **A/The Solution**
- **Comparison between methods**
- **Identification & Classification**
- **Final remarks**

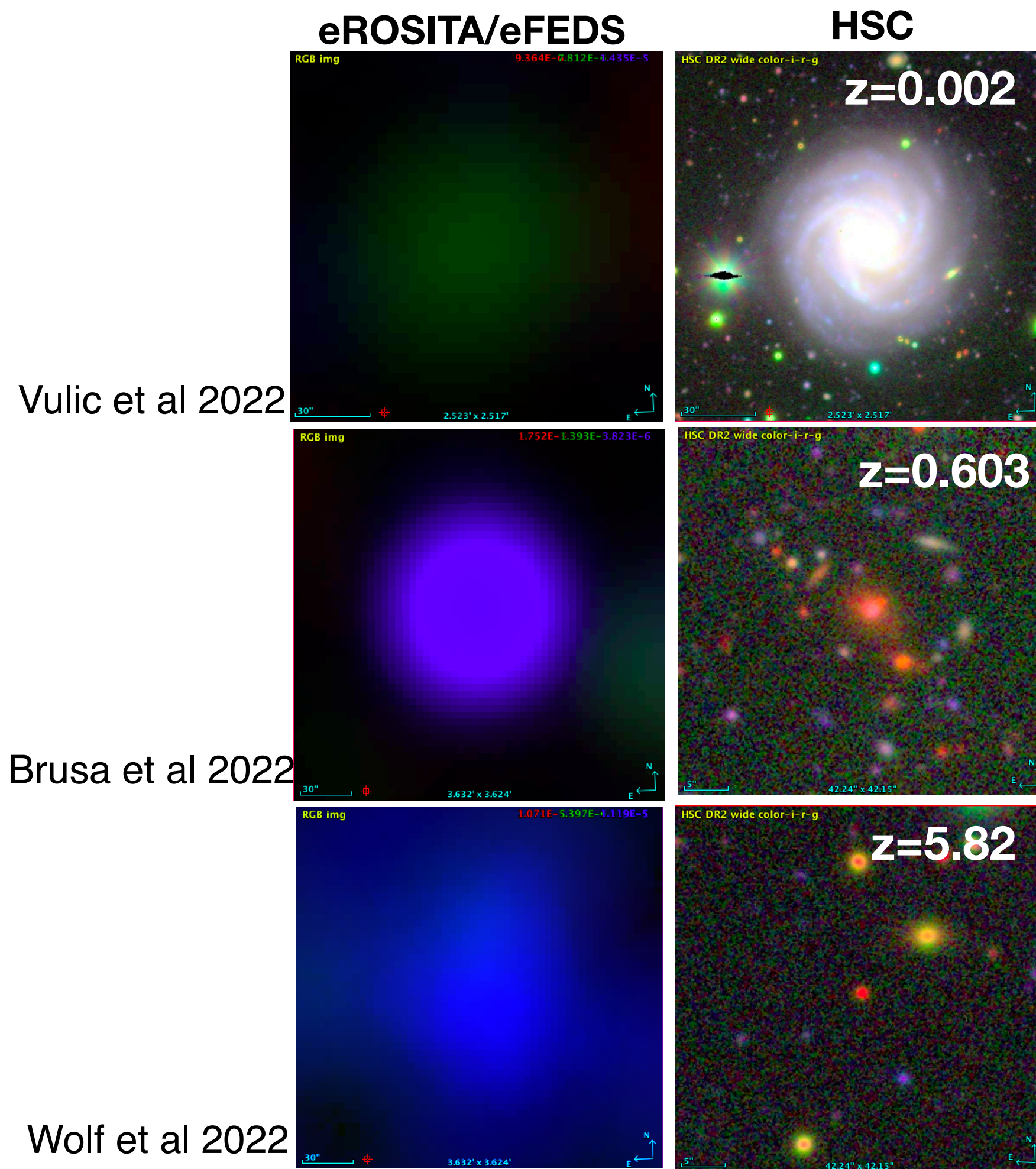
CTP means “counterpart” in this talk

# The challenge: find the right counterpart



...but it could be also a Galactic source (e.g., Schneider et al 2022, Stelze et al 2022)  
or an unresolved cluster (e.g., Bulbul et al 2022)

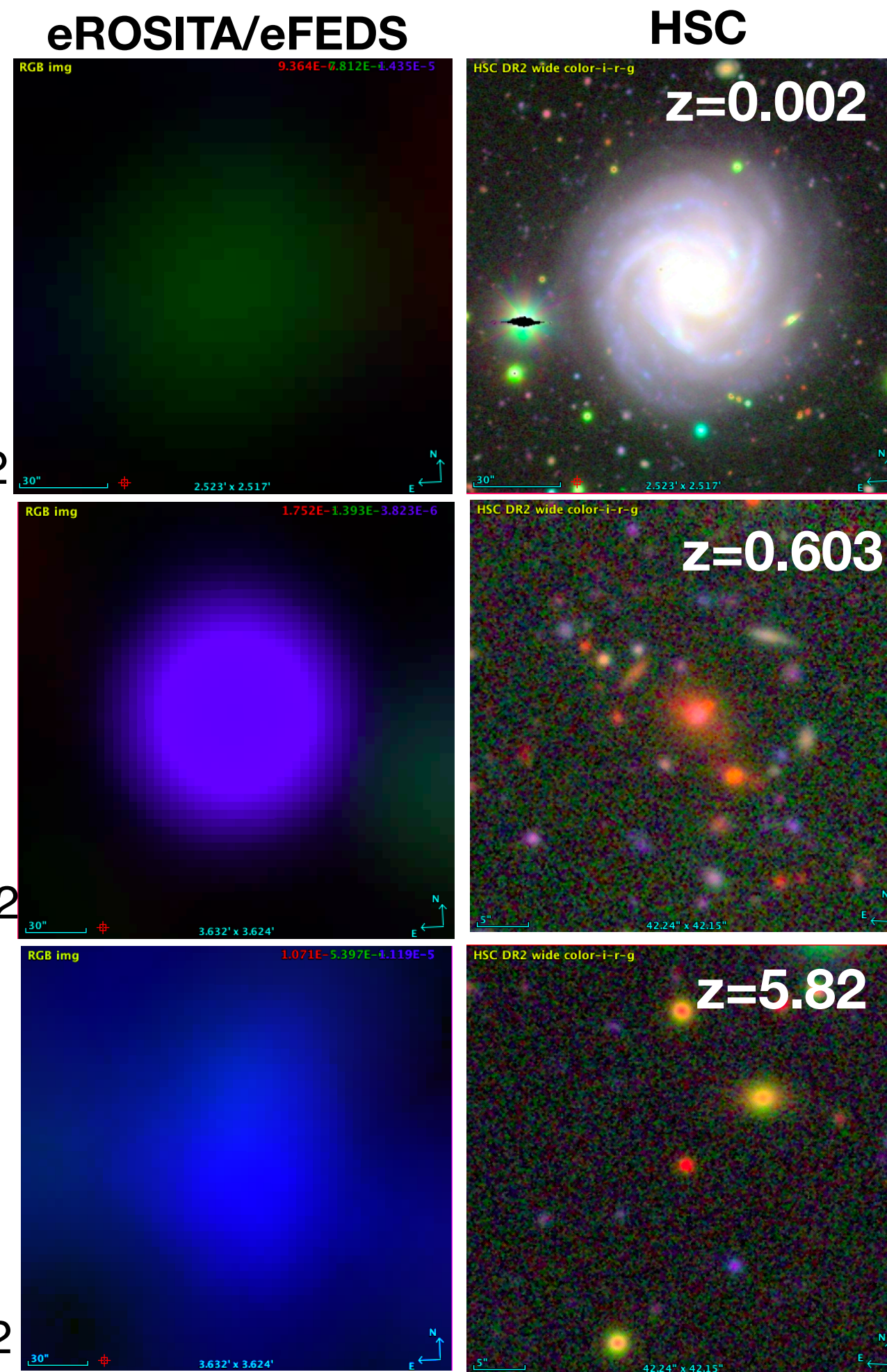
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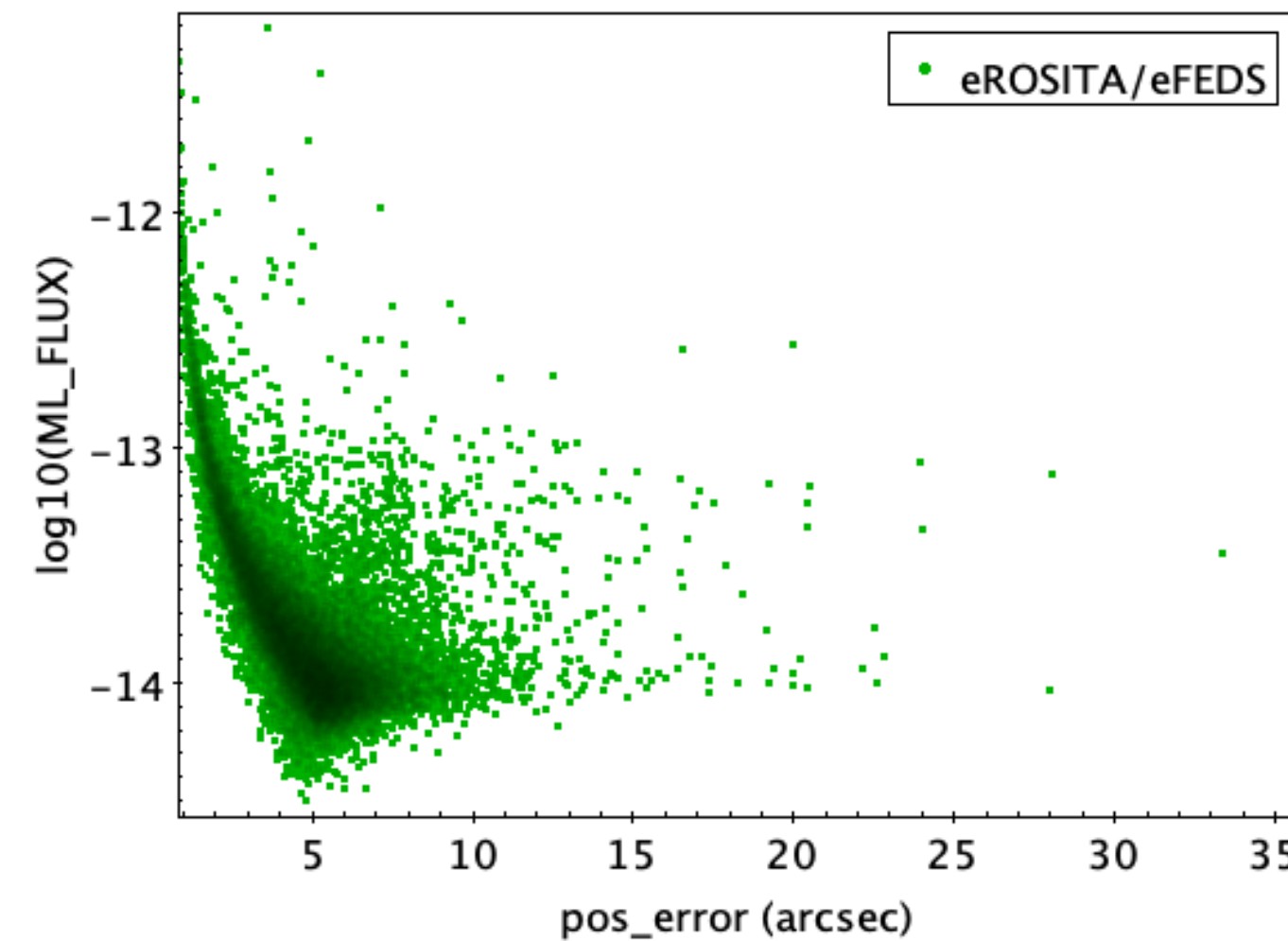
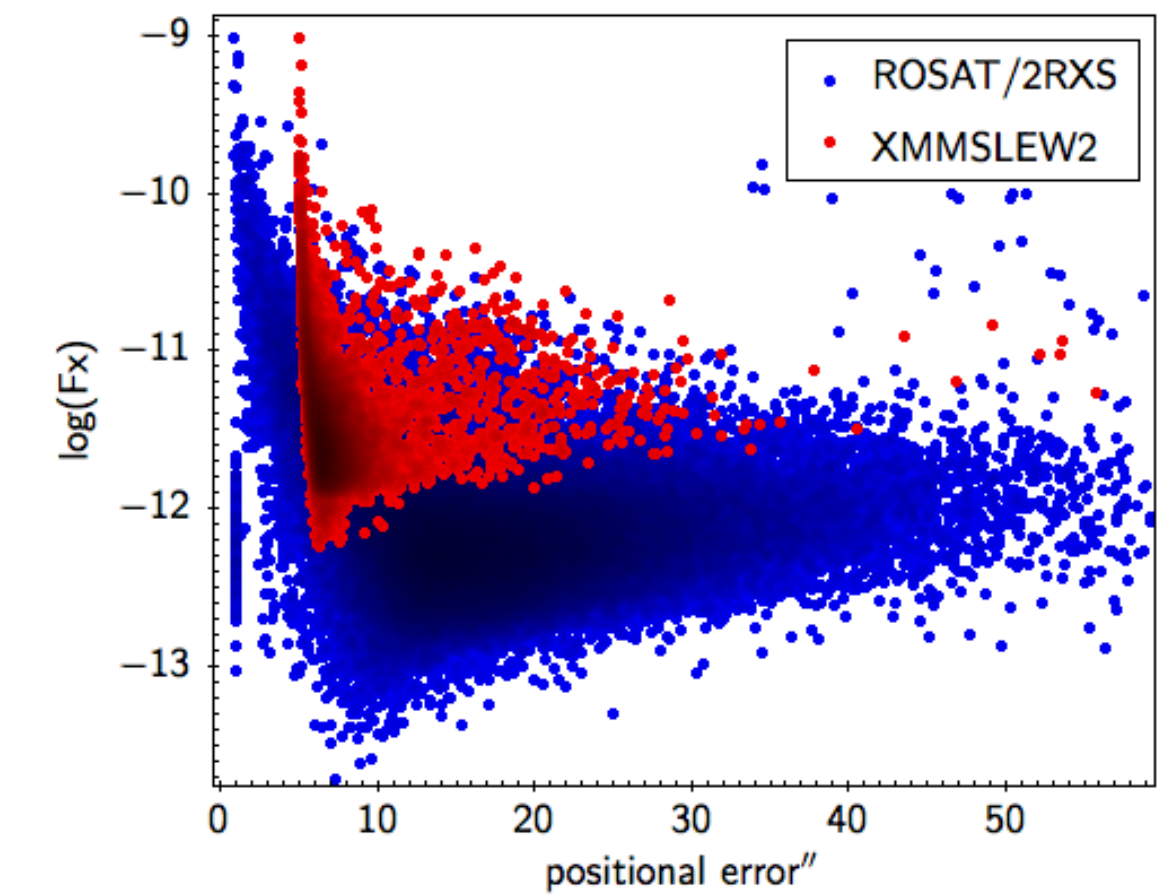
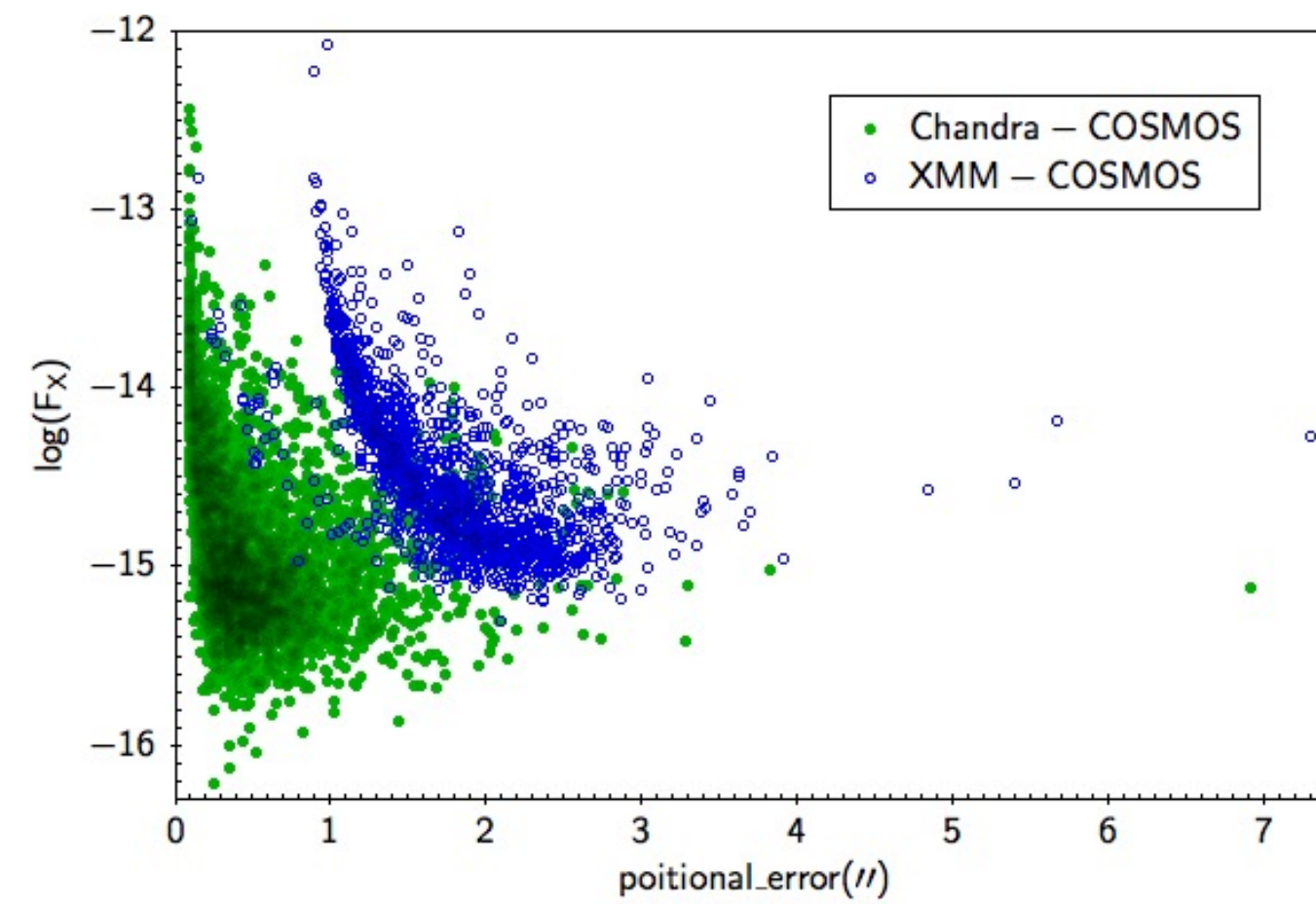
# The challenge: find the right counterpart



Vulic et al 2022

Brusa et al 2022

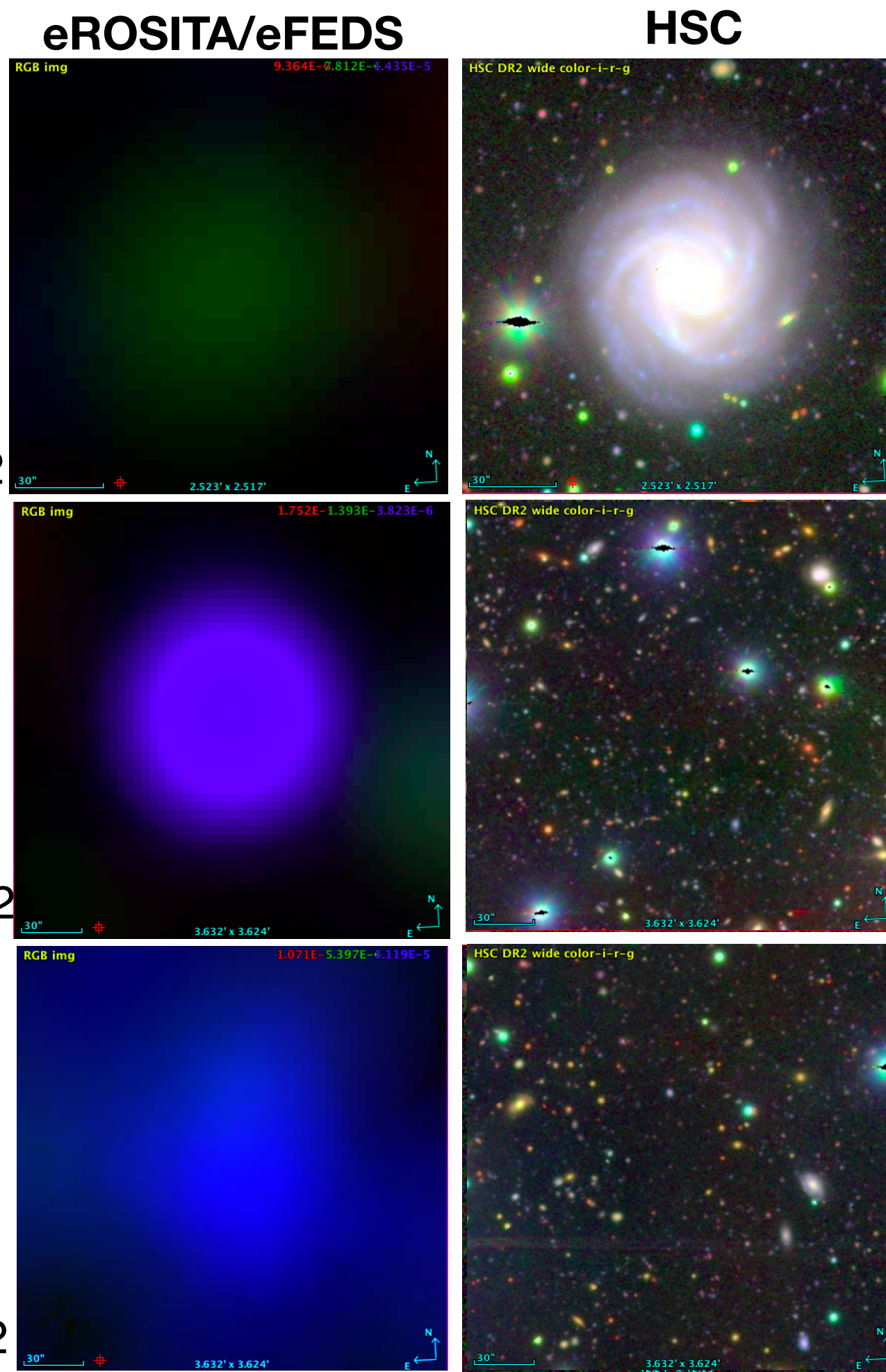
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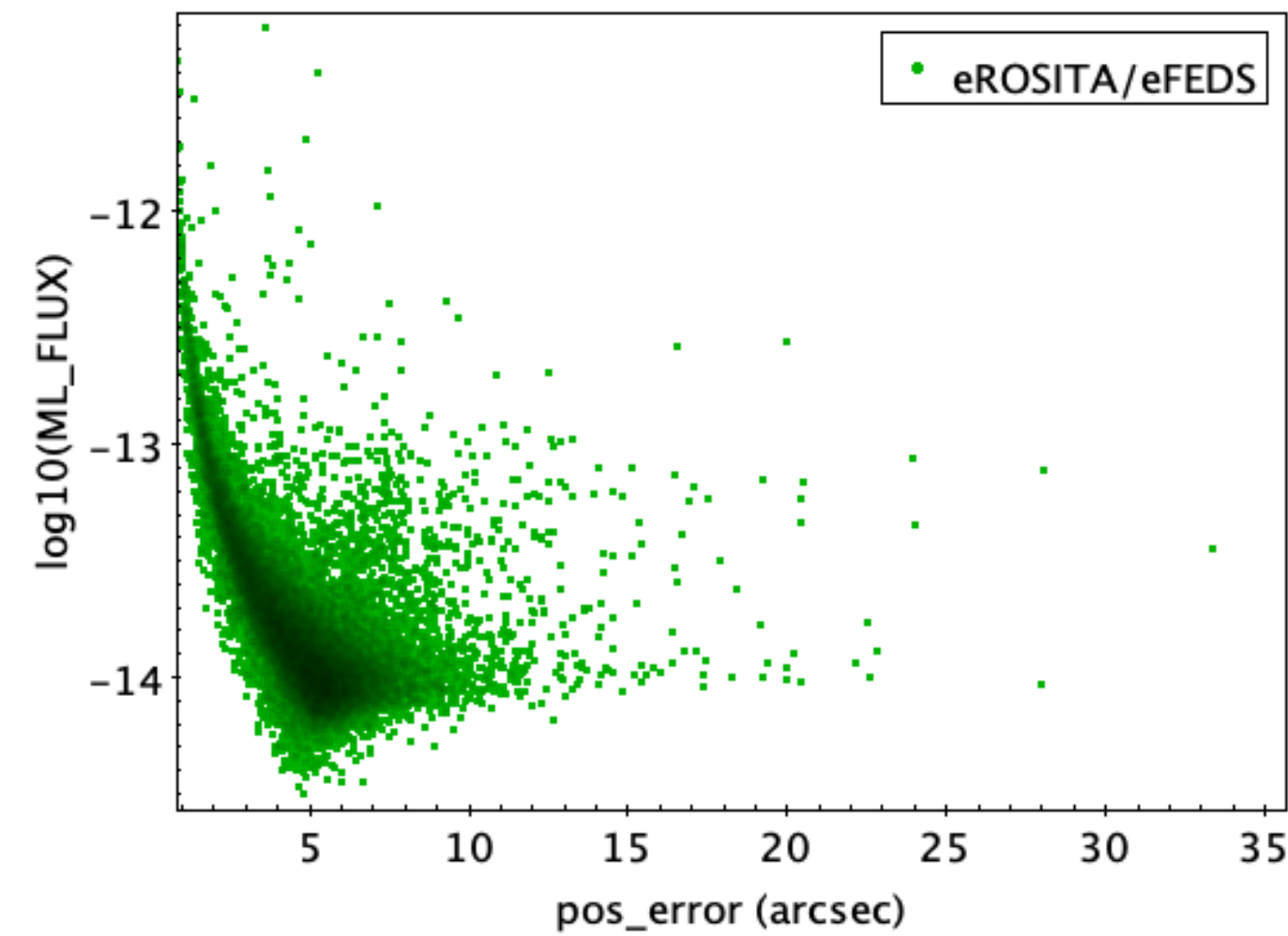
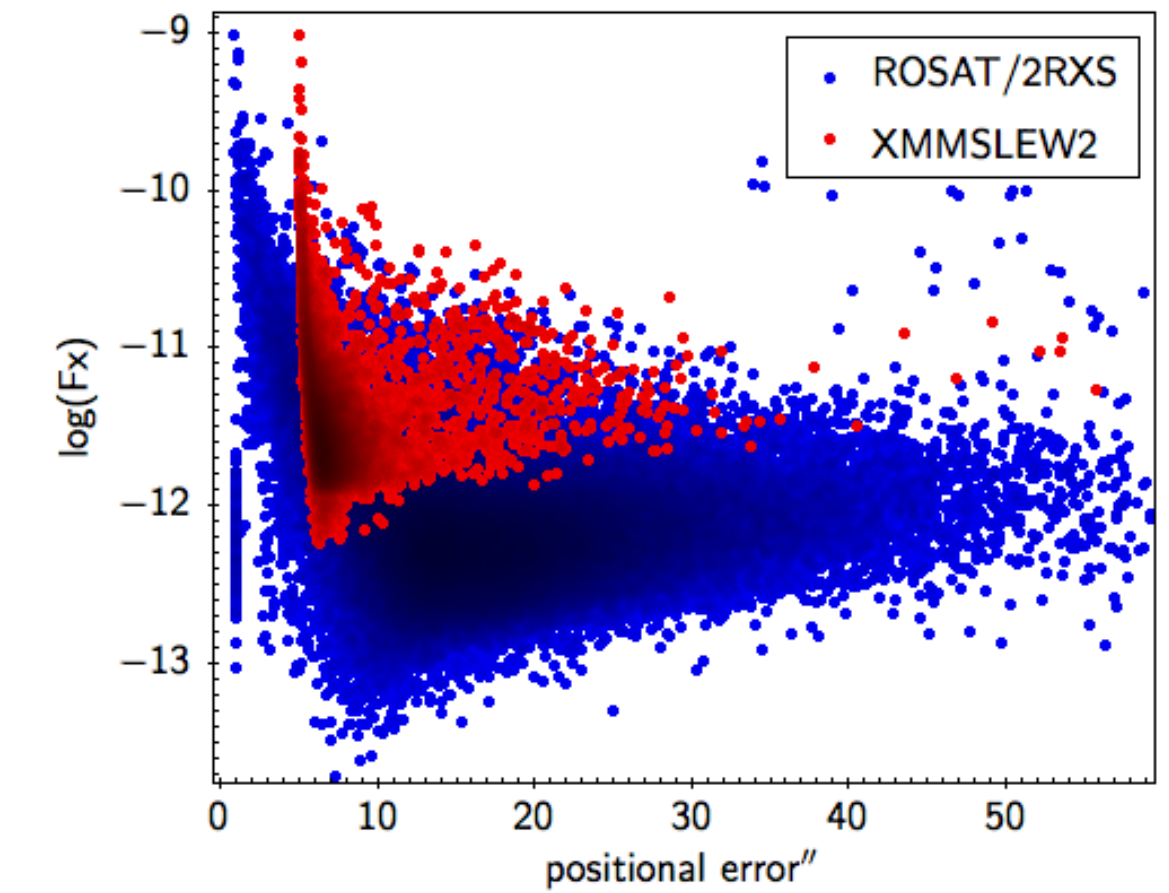
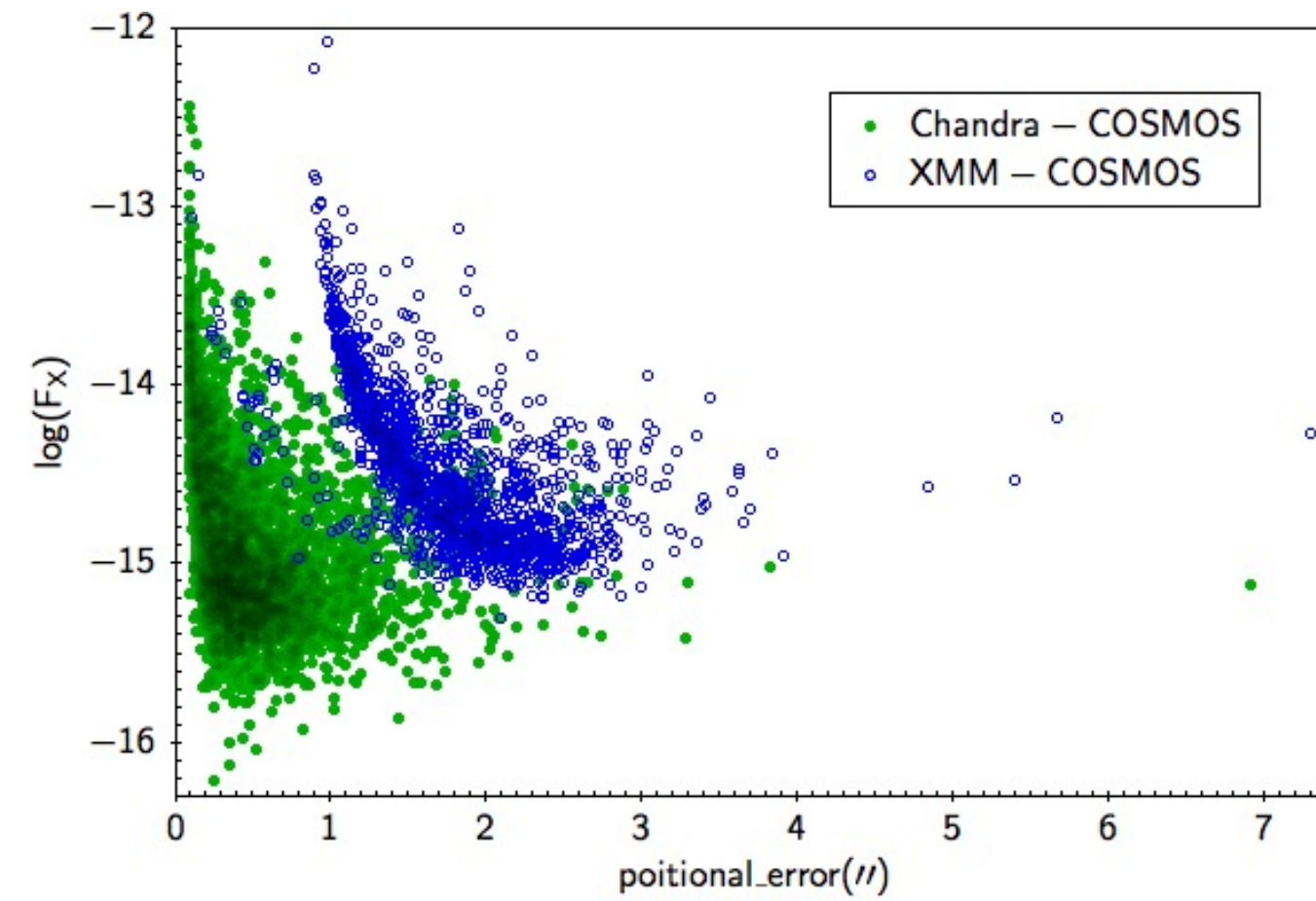
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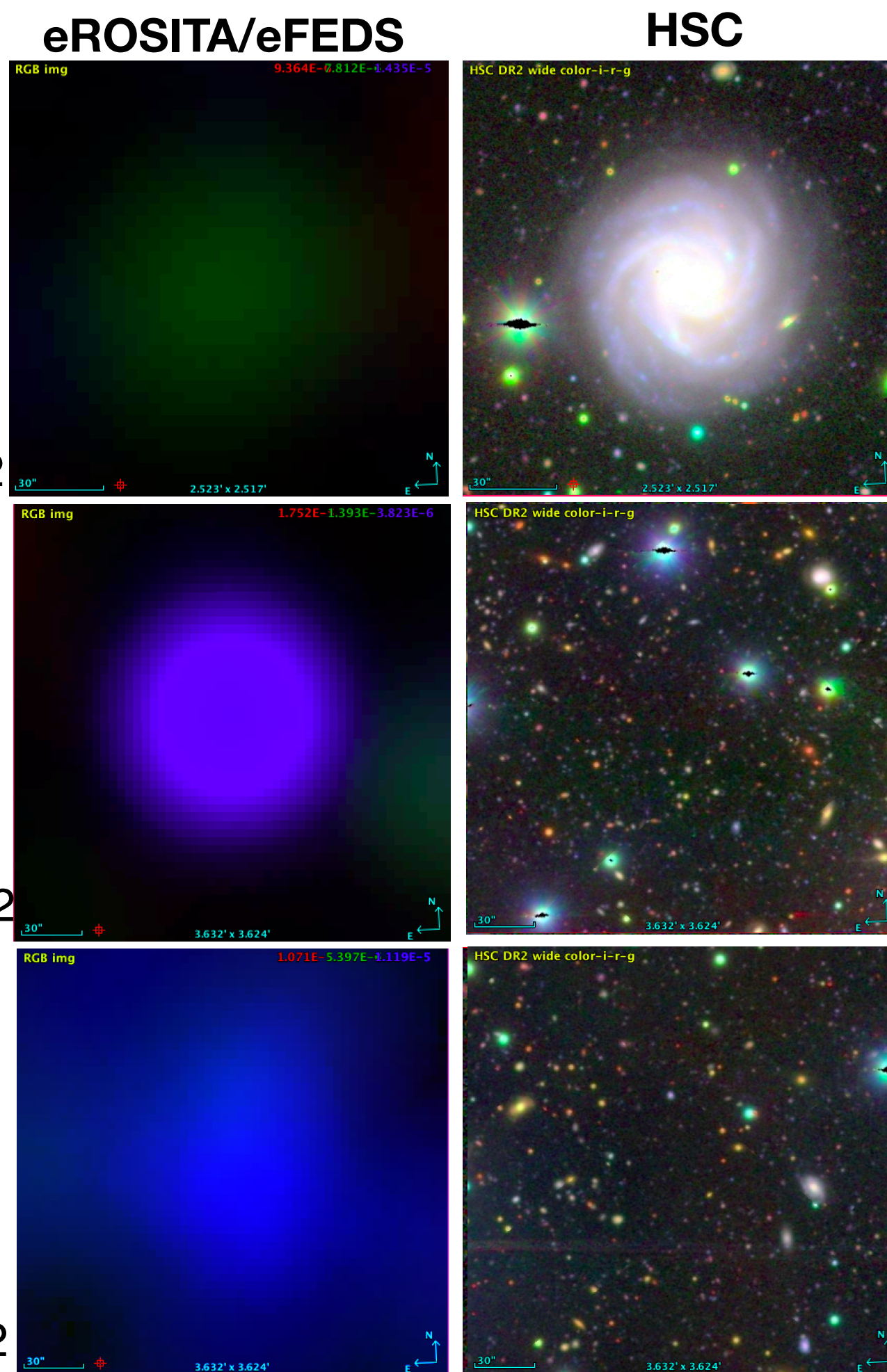


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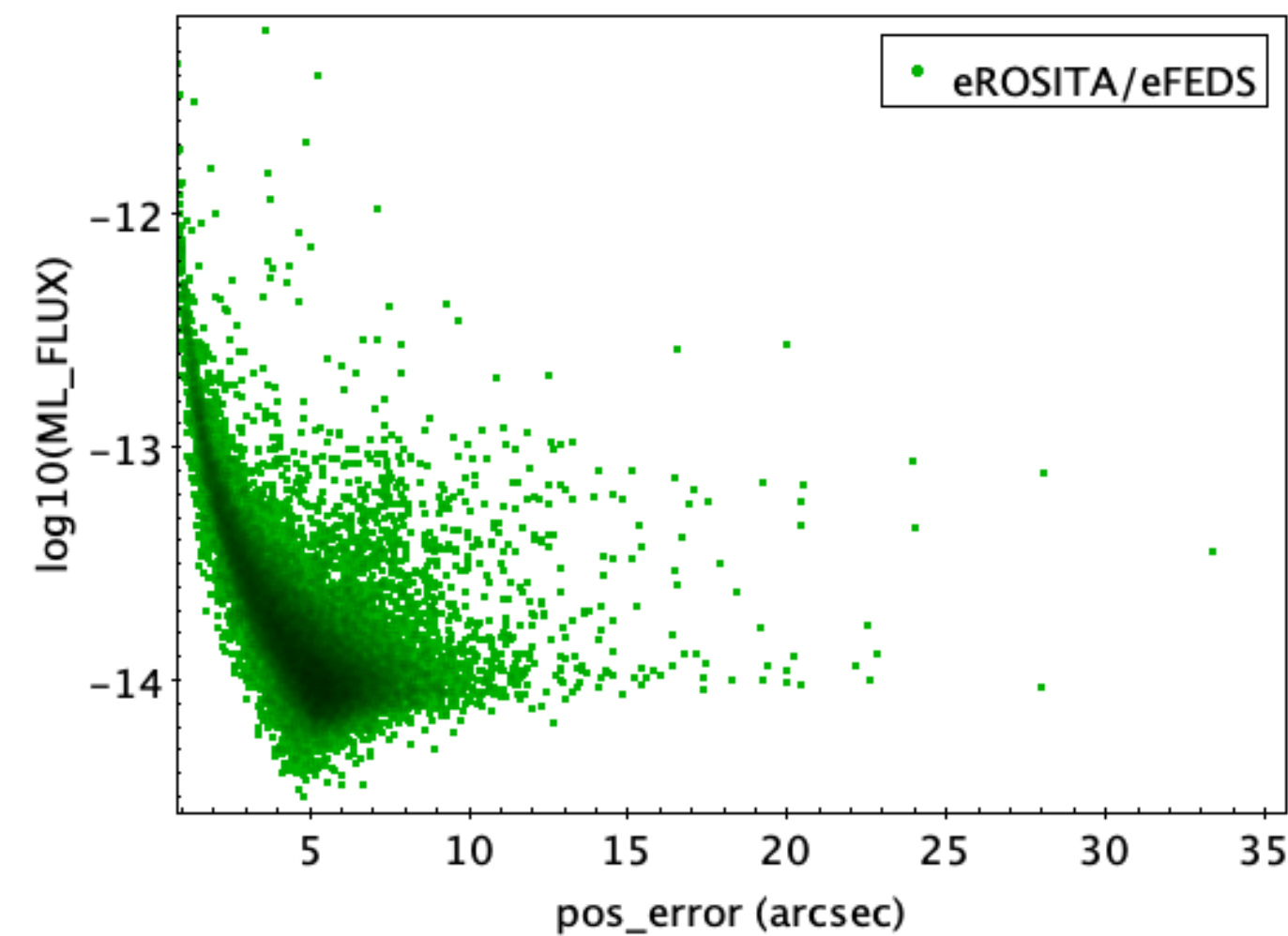
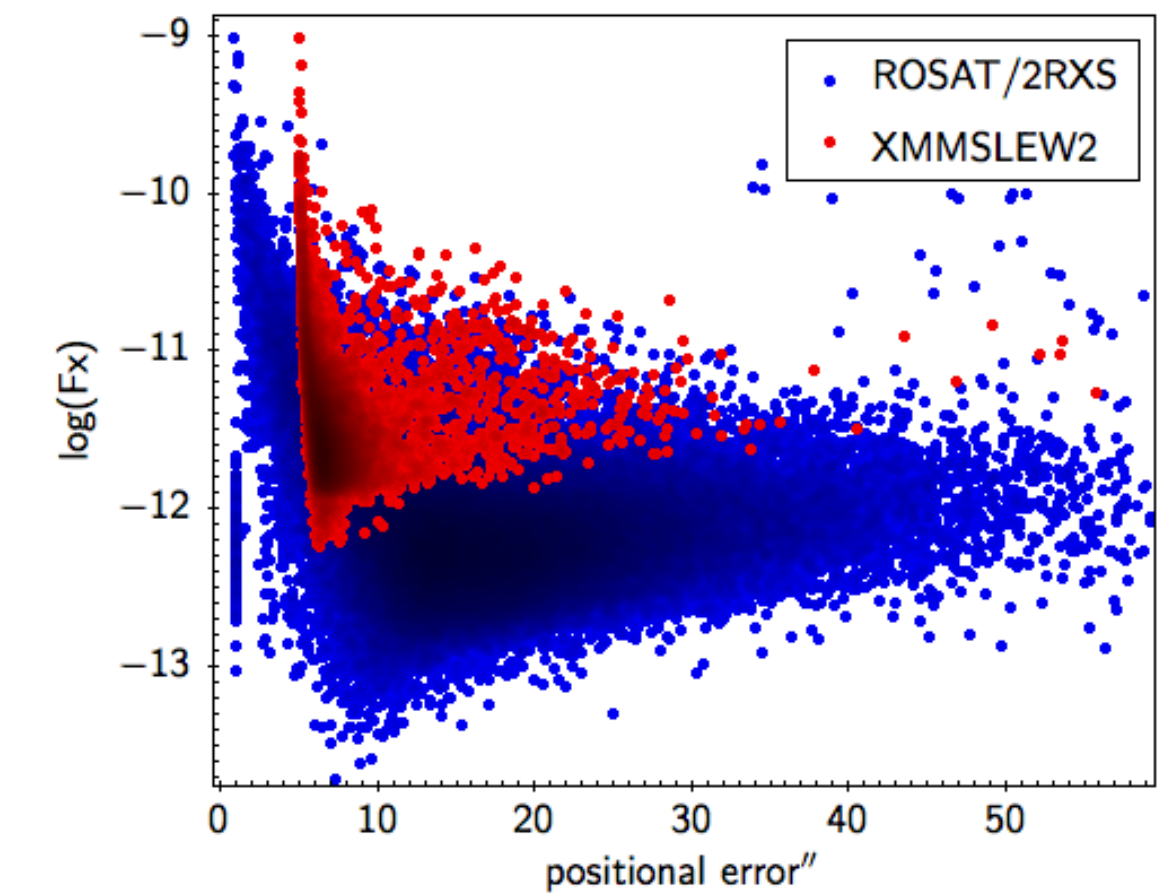
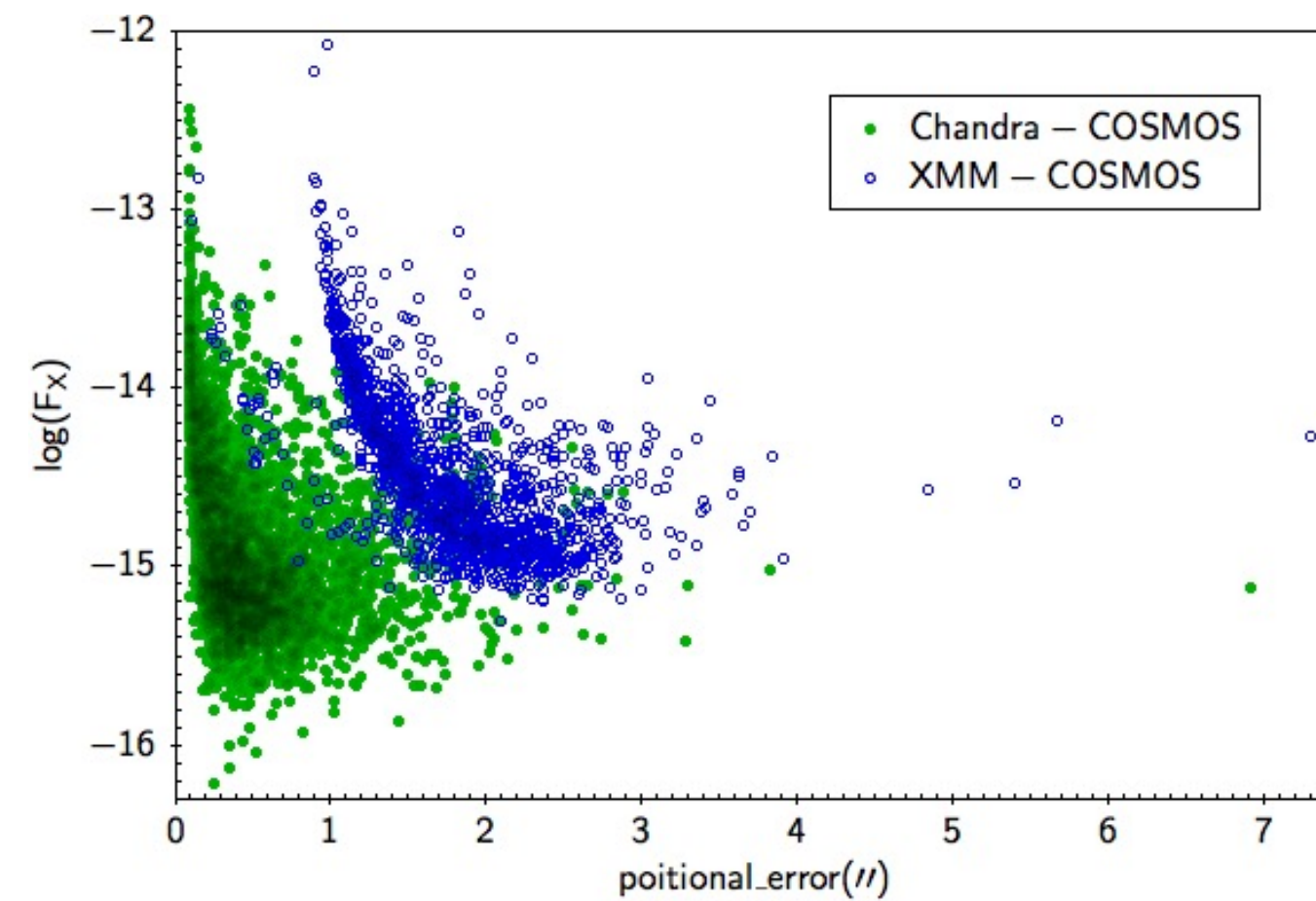
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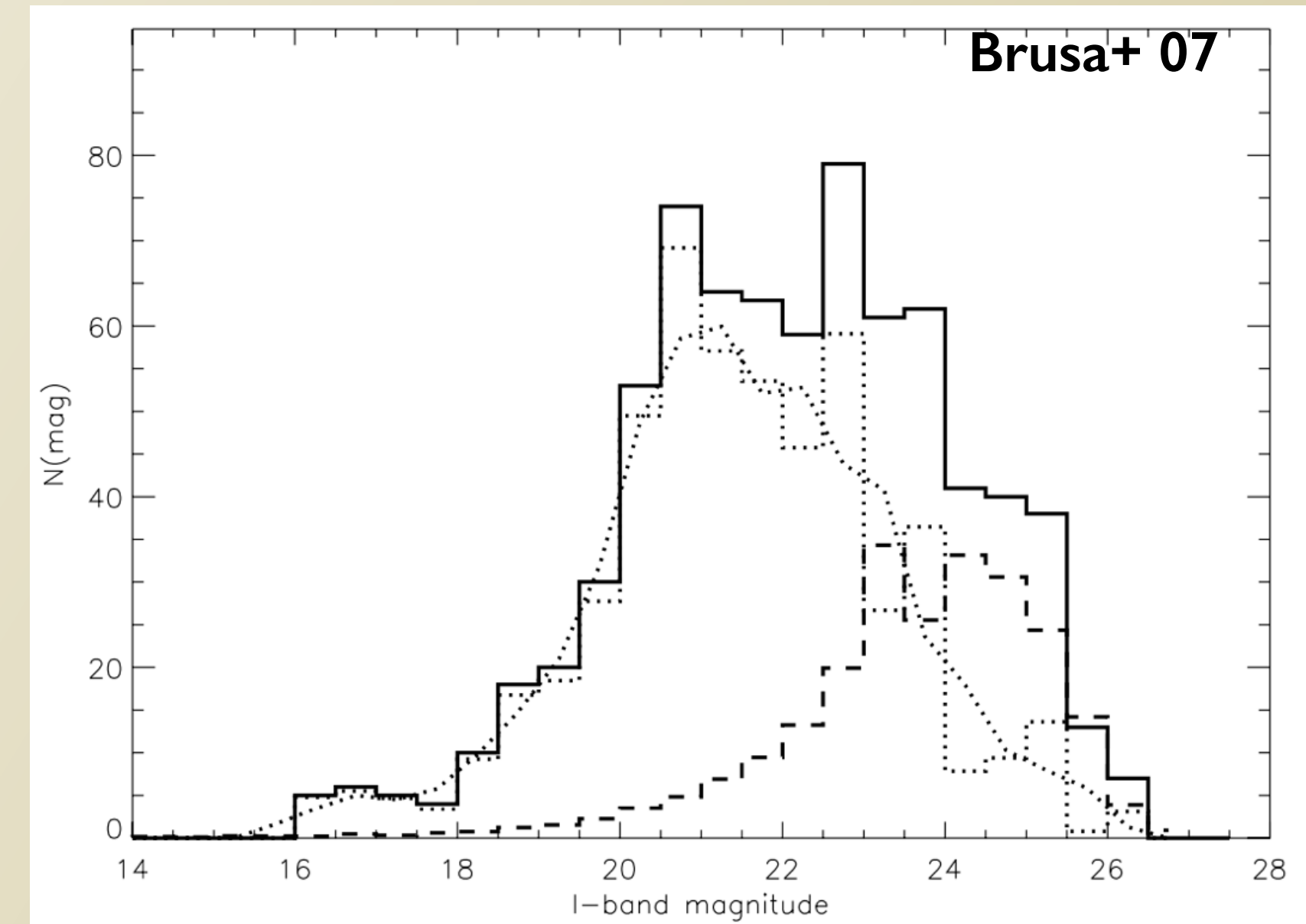
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- The X-ray coordinates and positional errors depend on how the X-ray data are treated (Hsu+2014)

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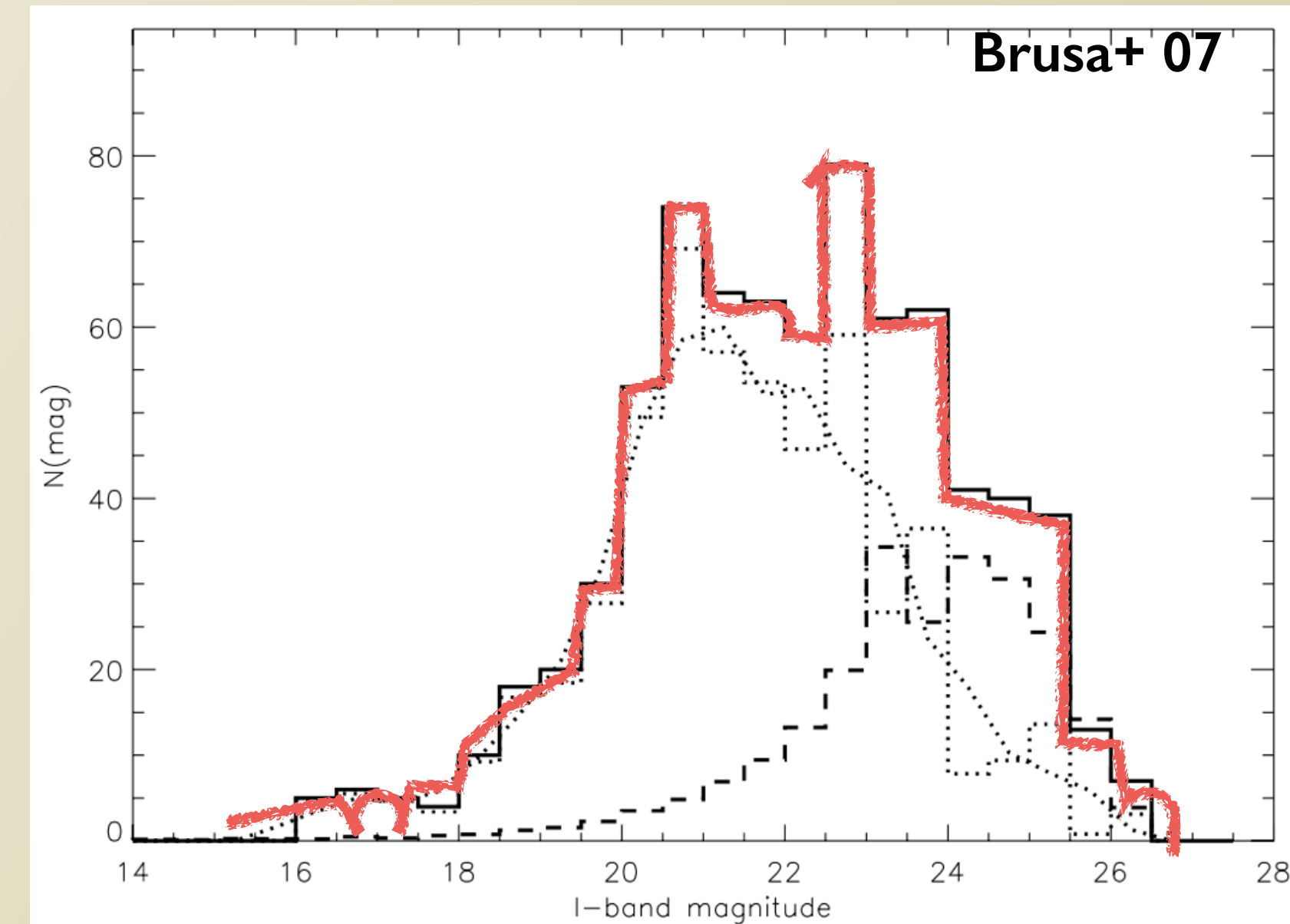
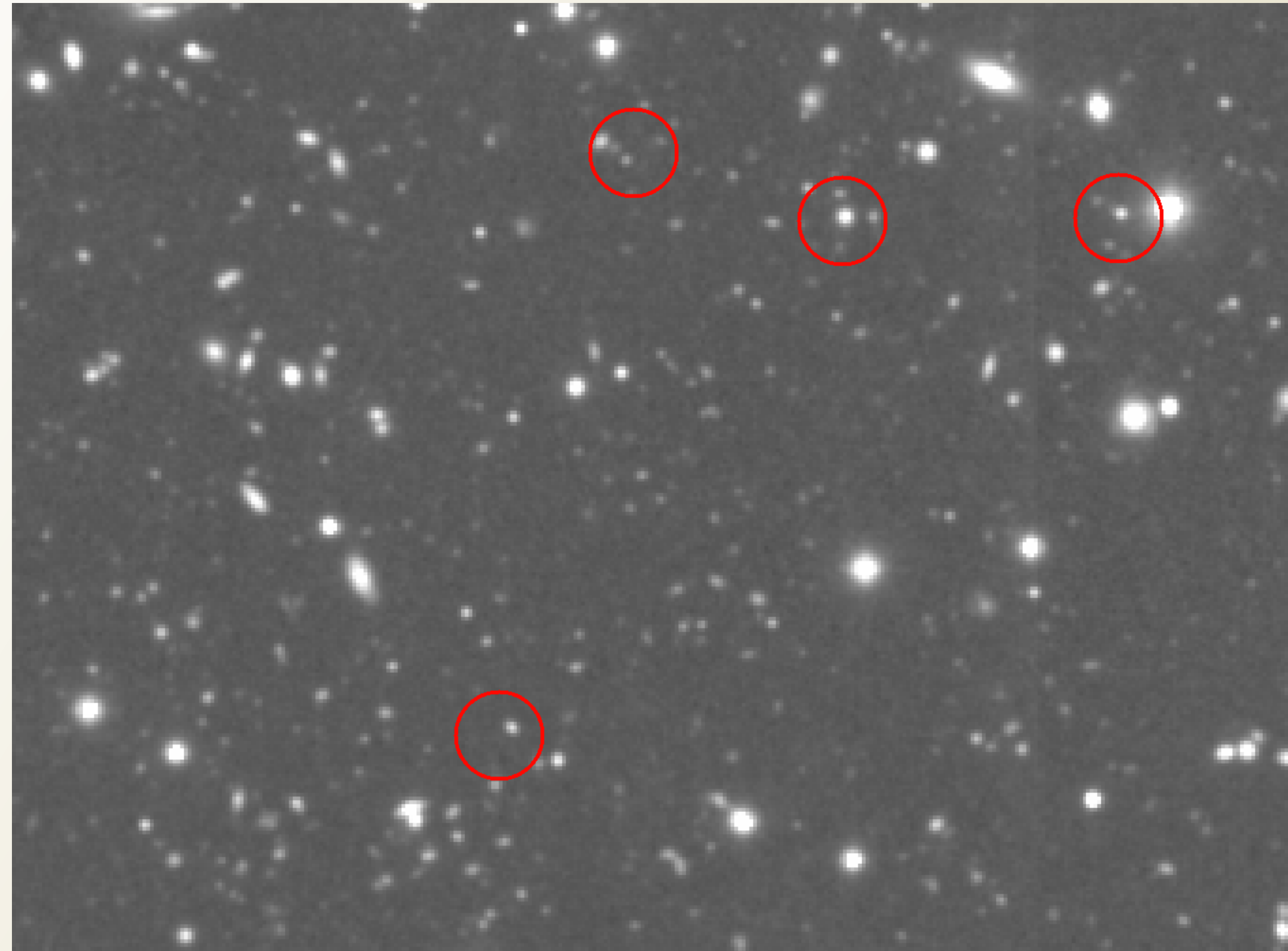
Sutherland&Saunders 1992



Naylor+13 for a review

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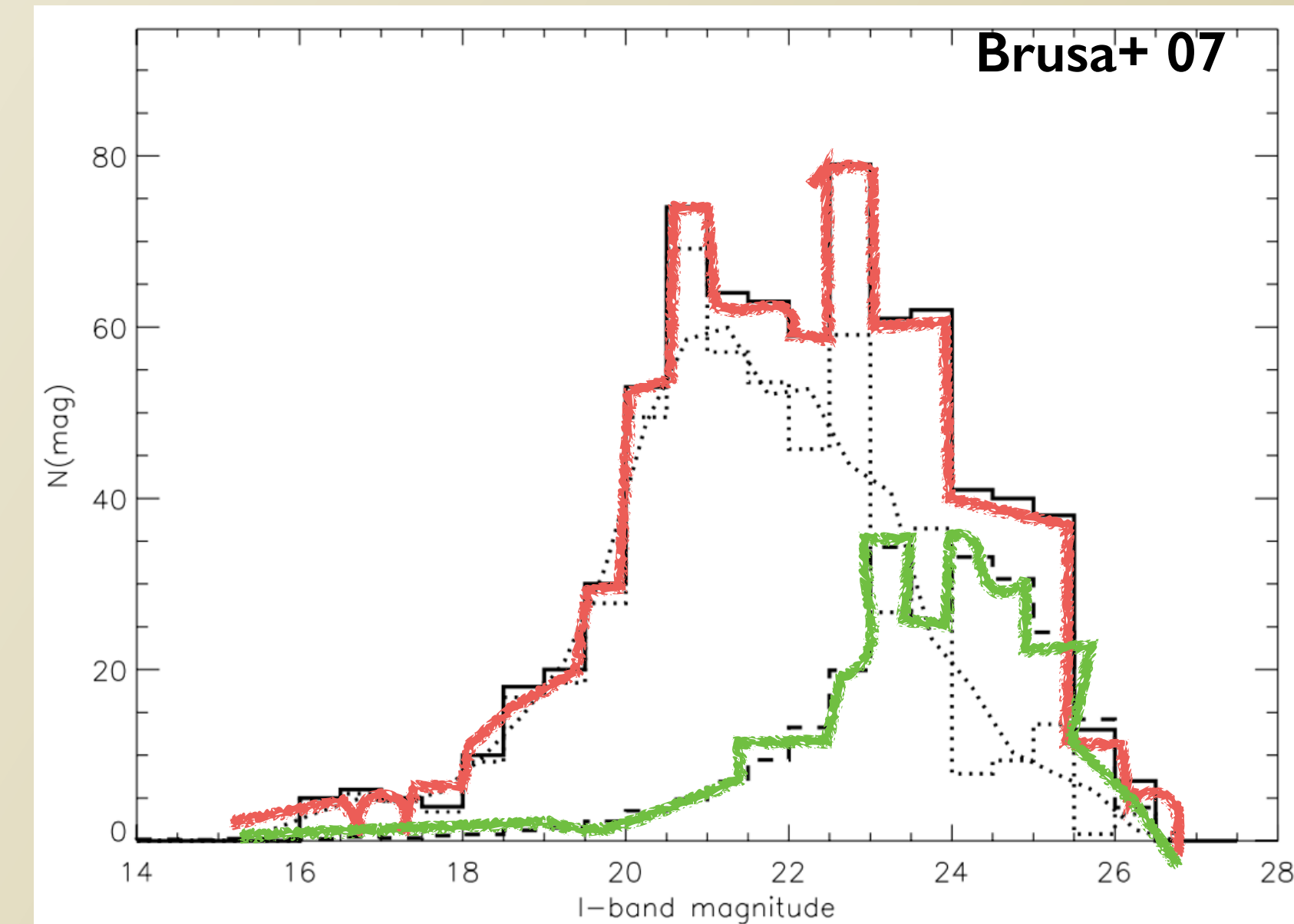
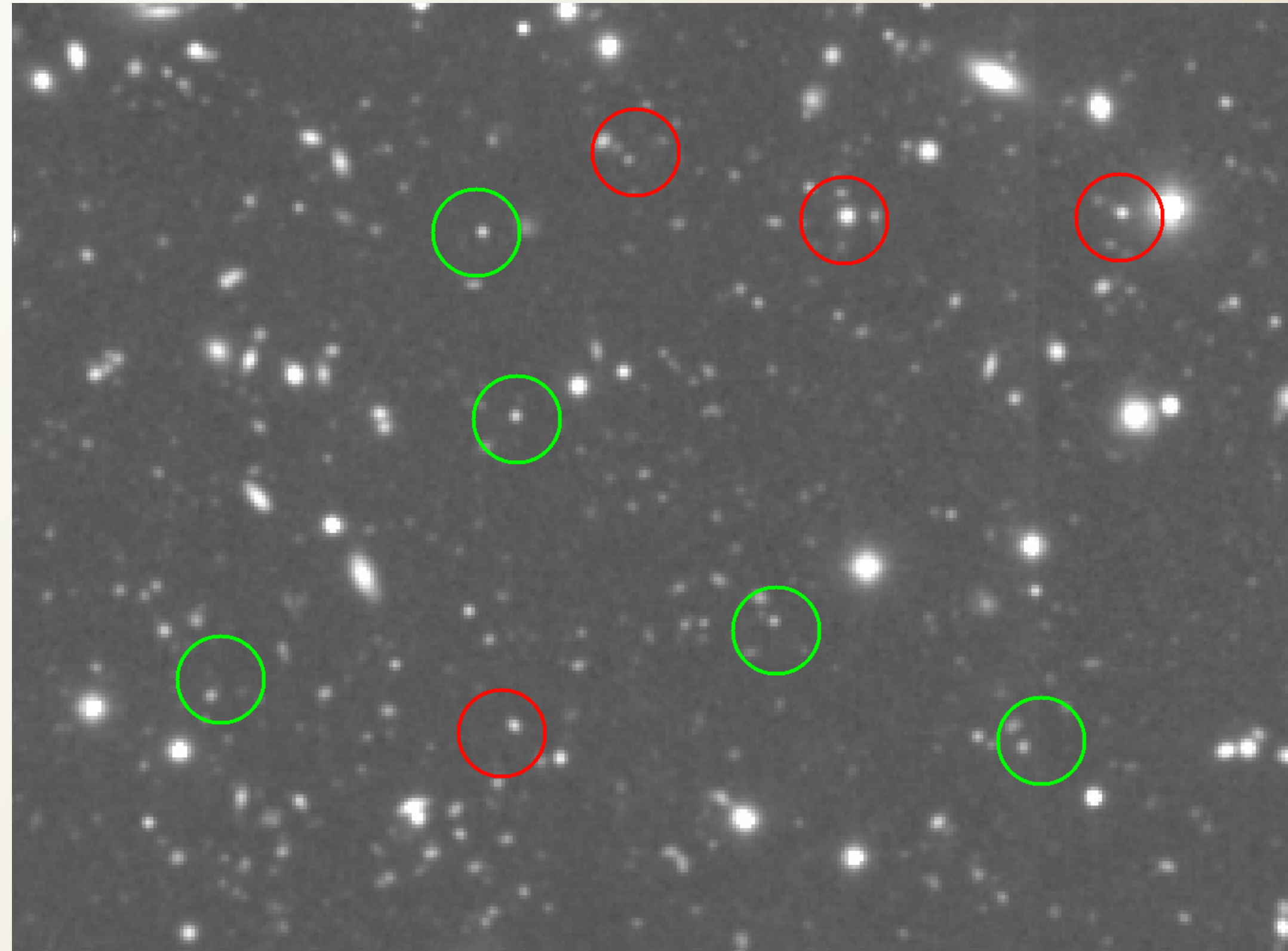
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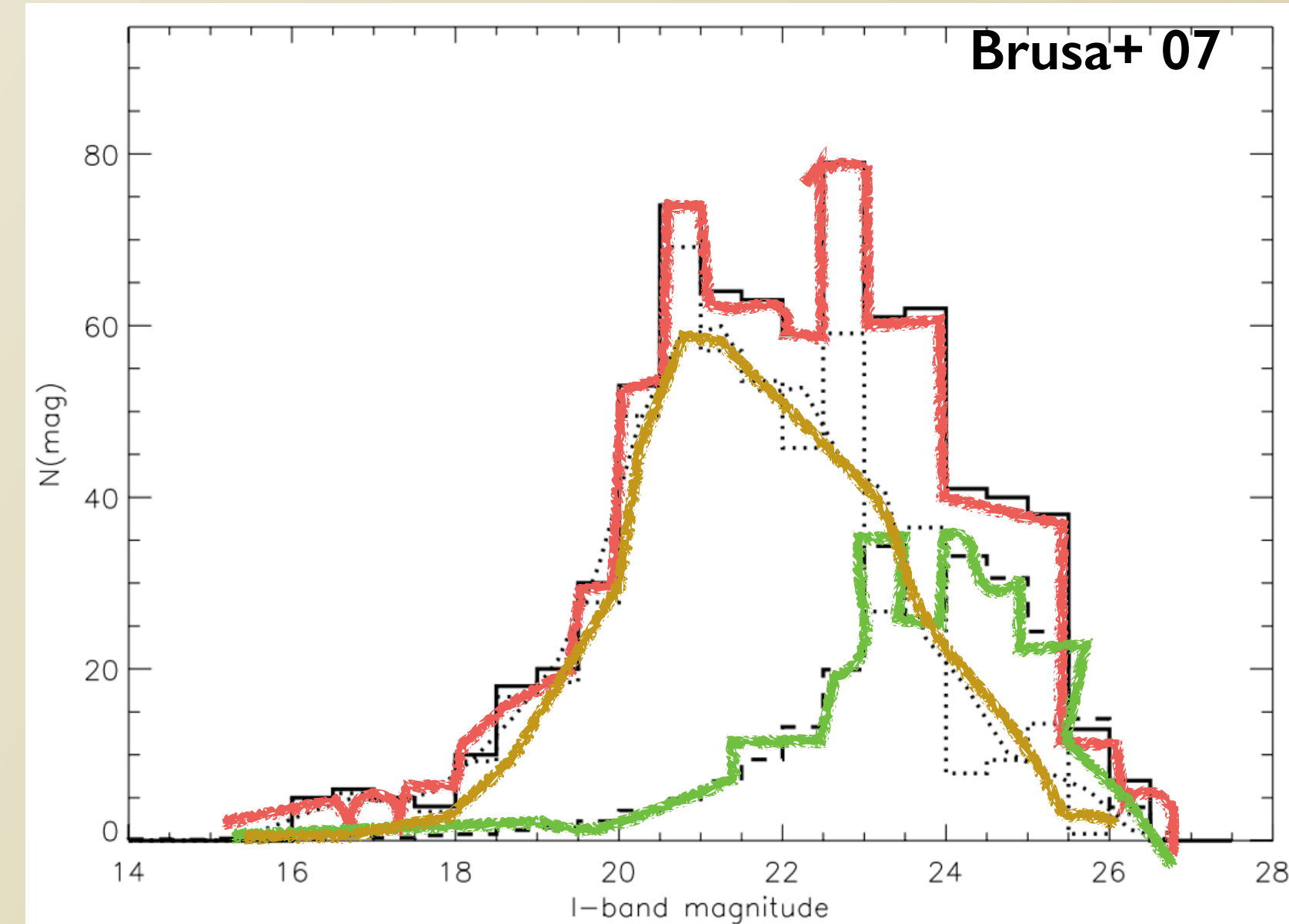
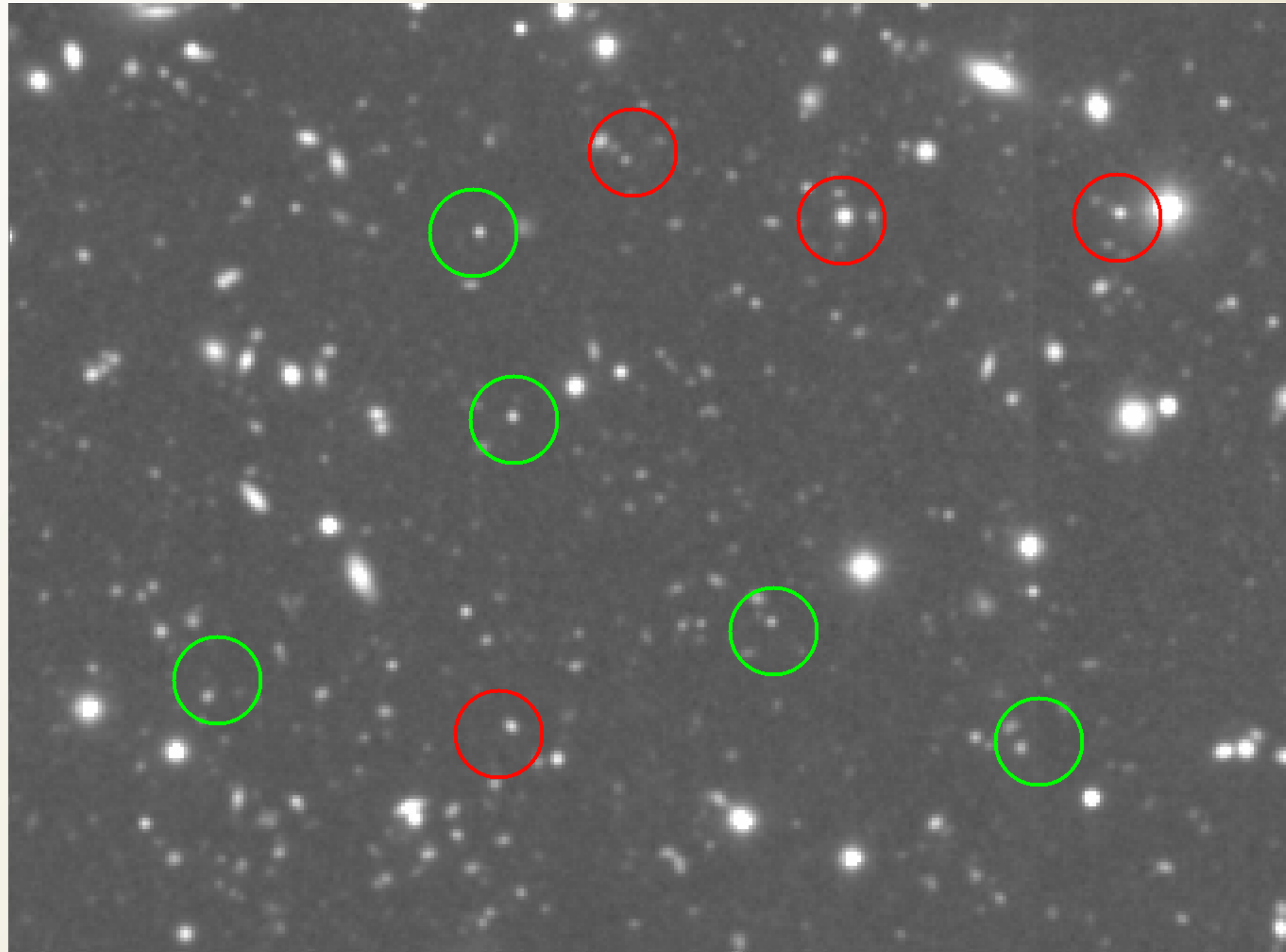
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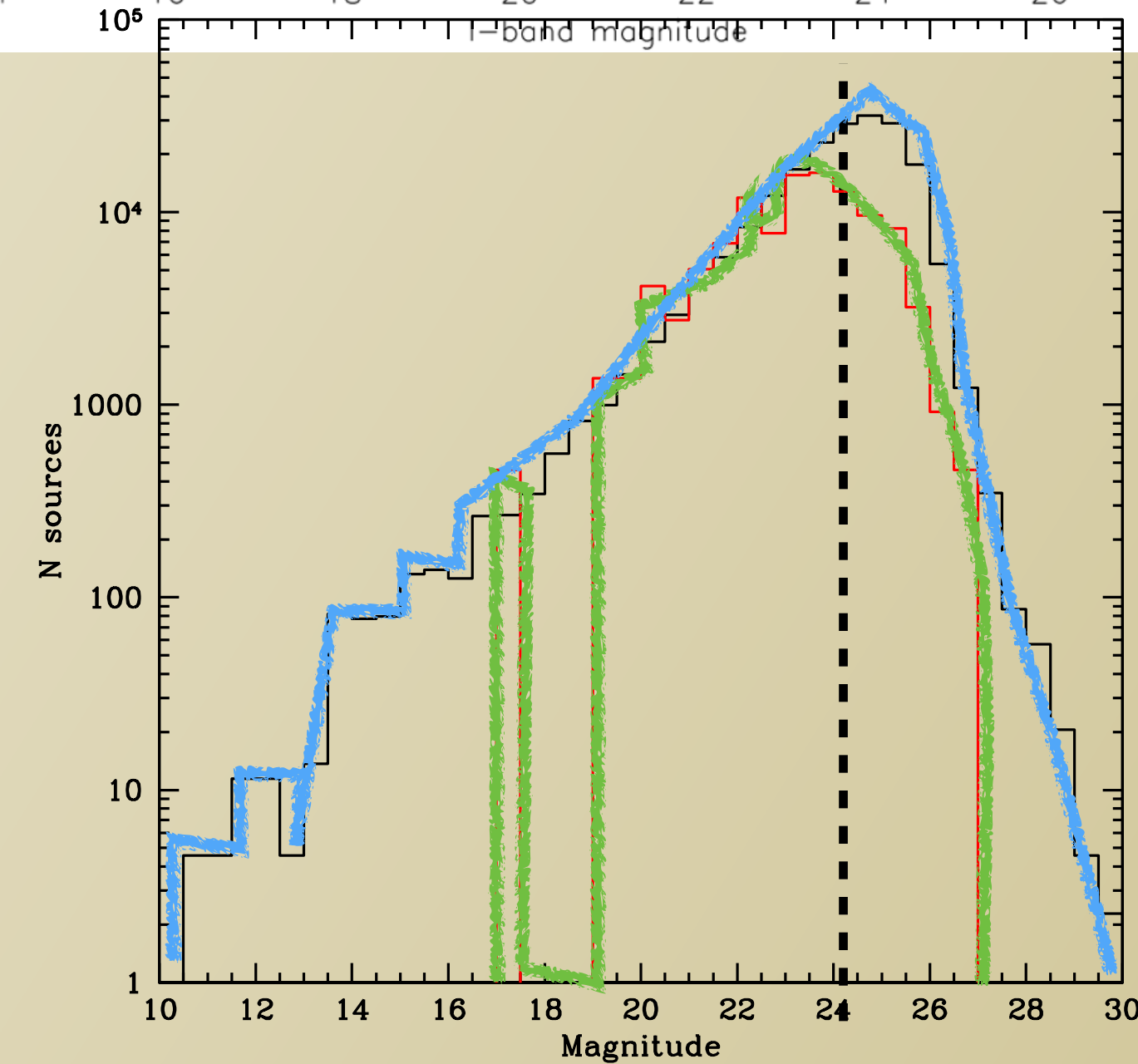
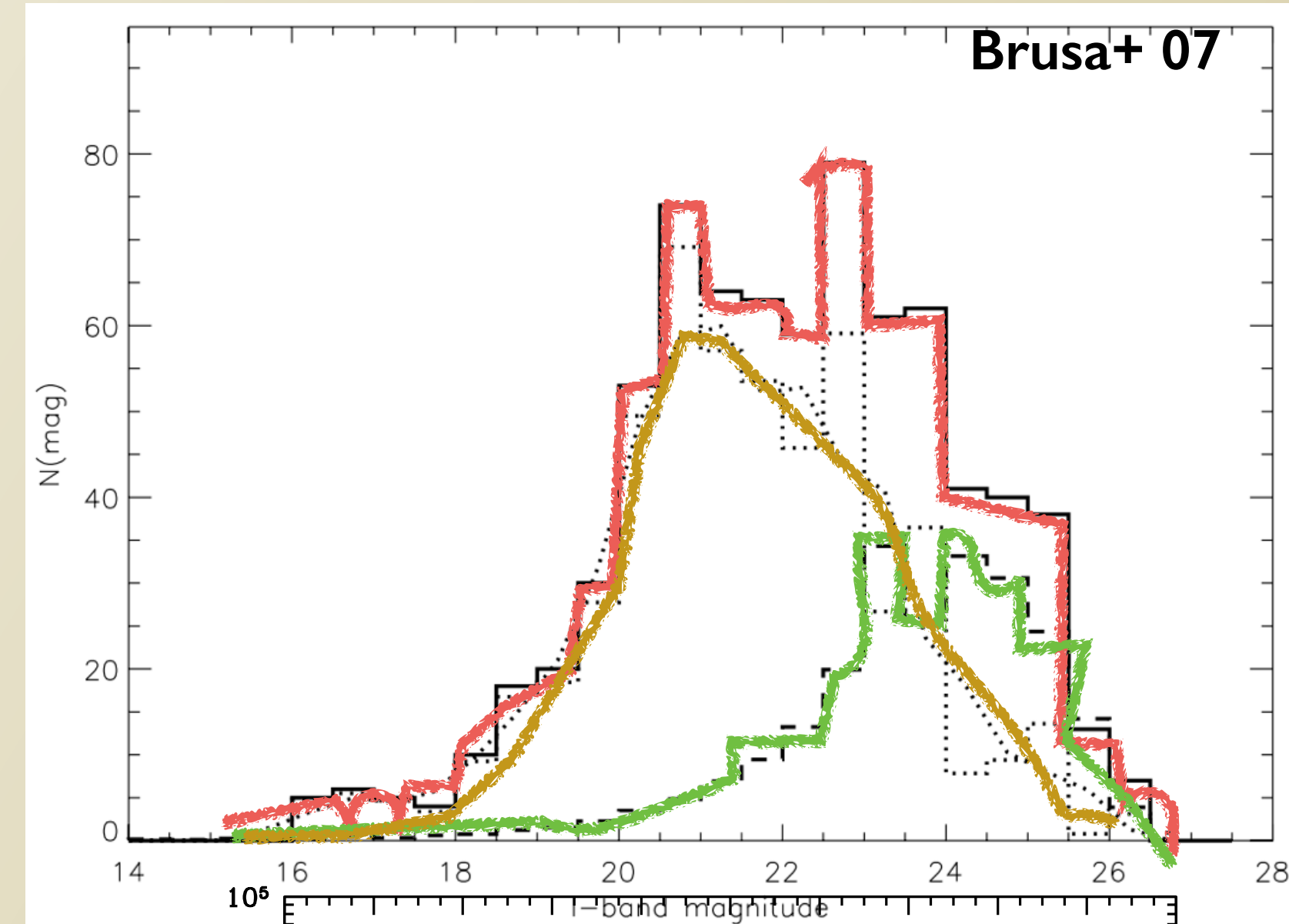
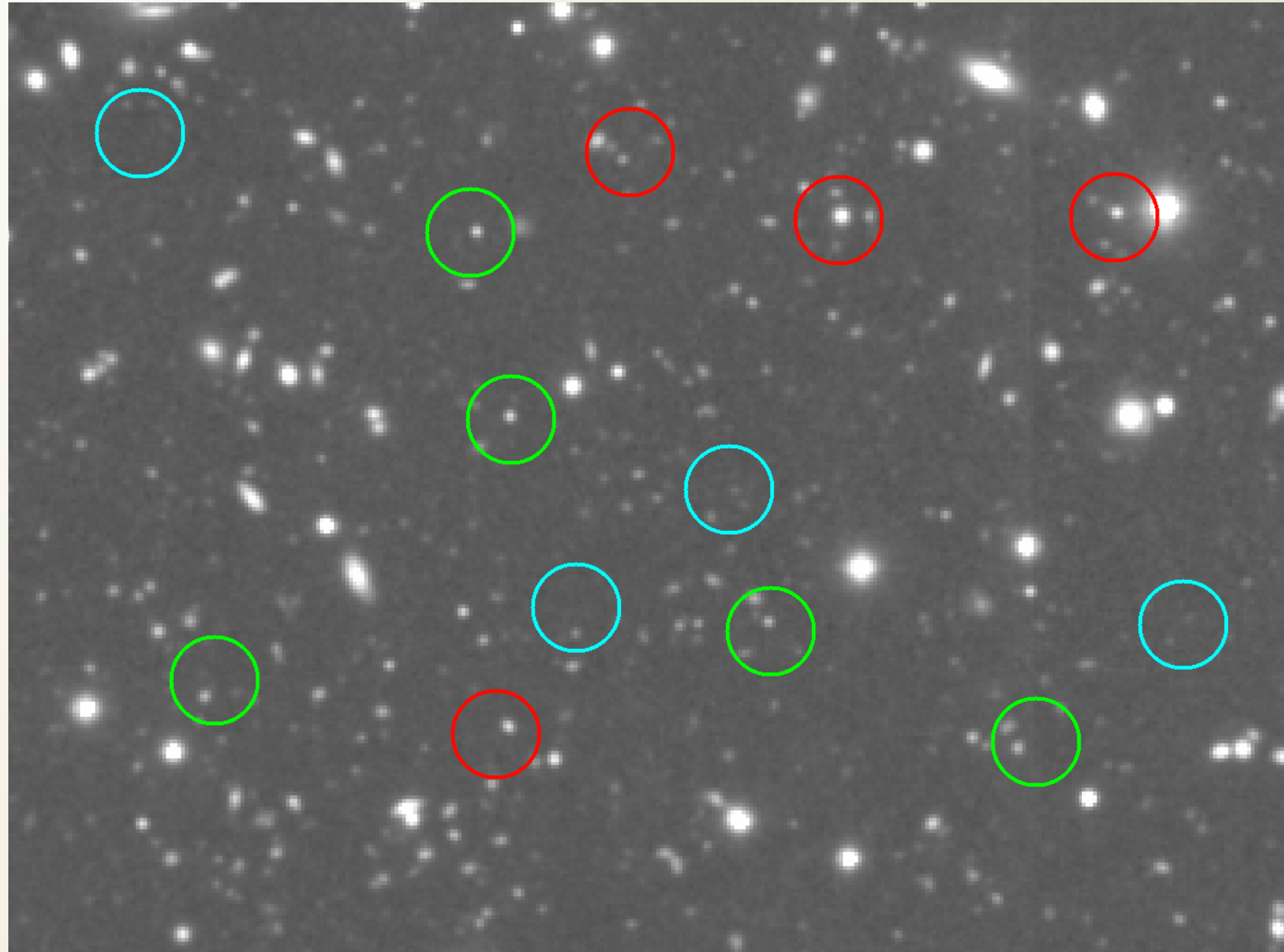
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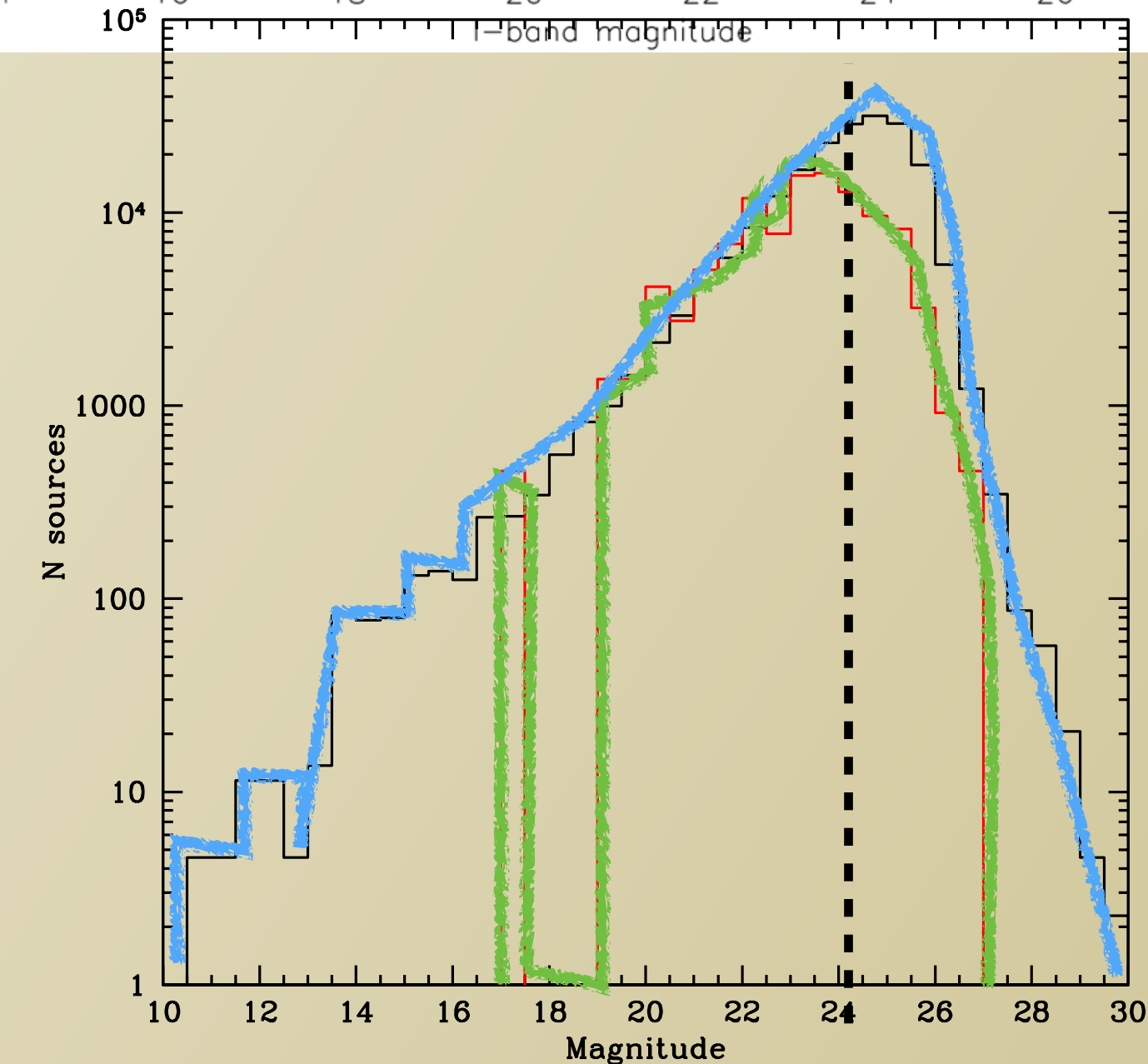
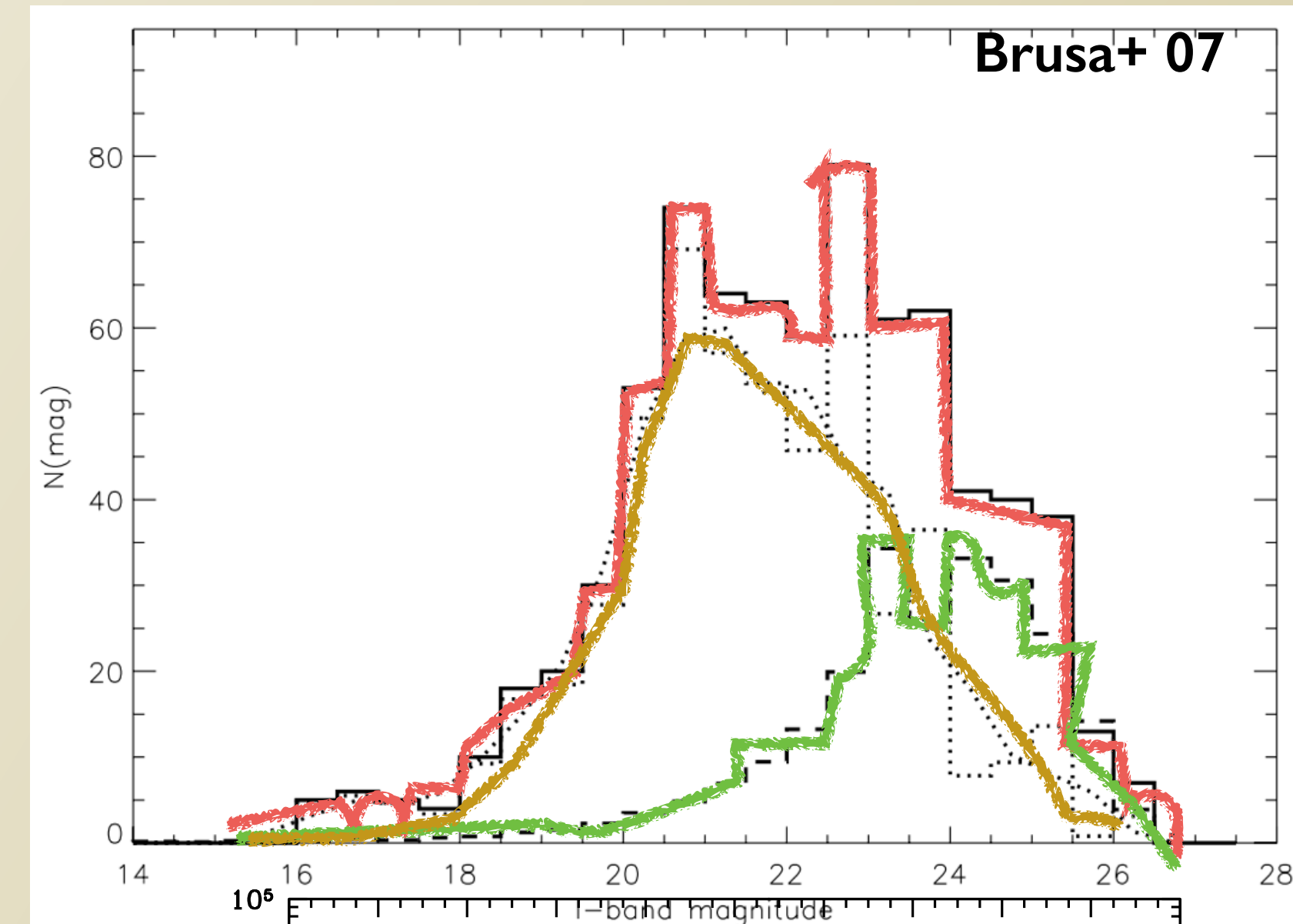
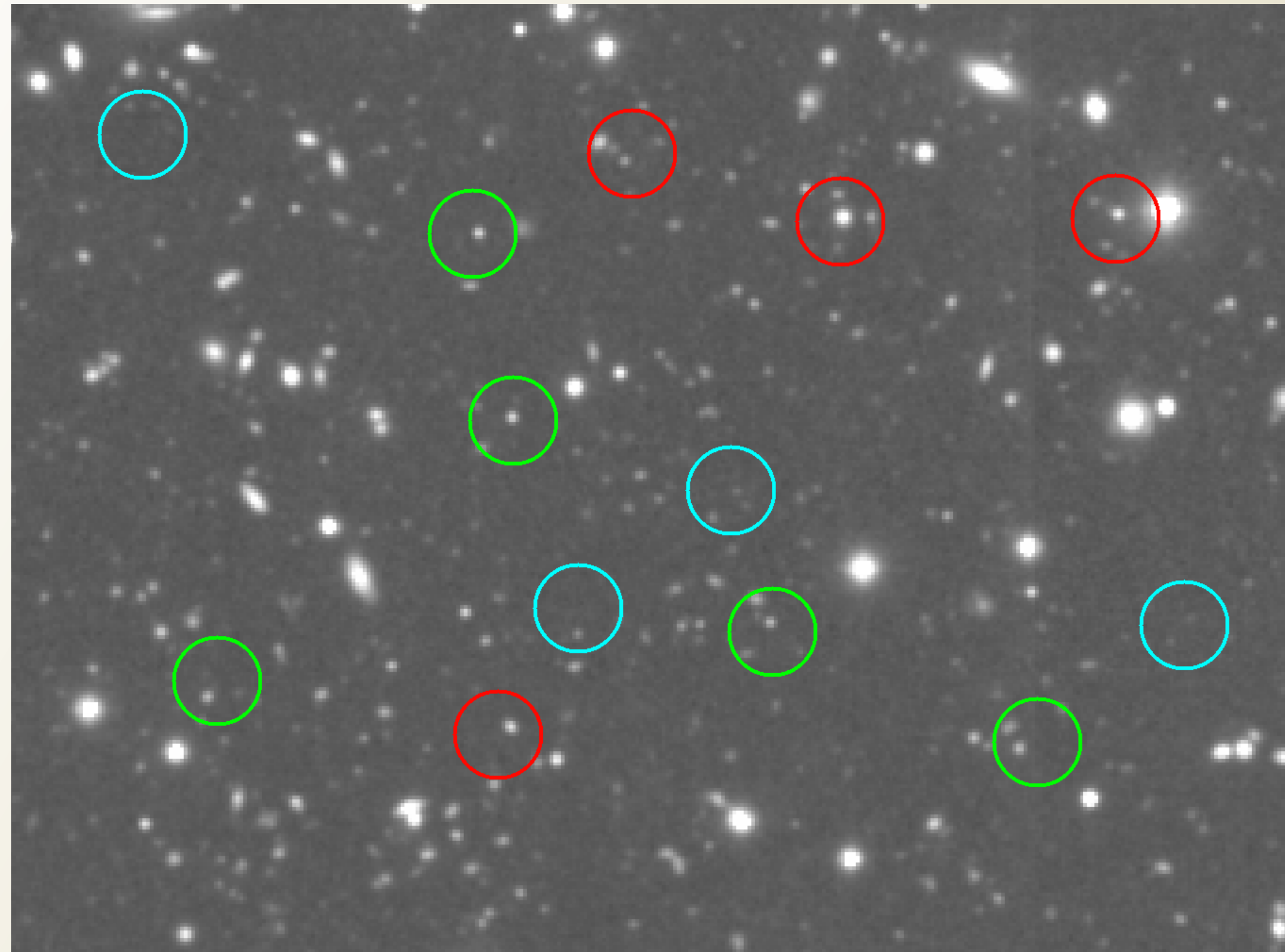
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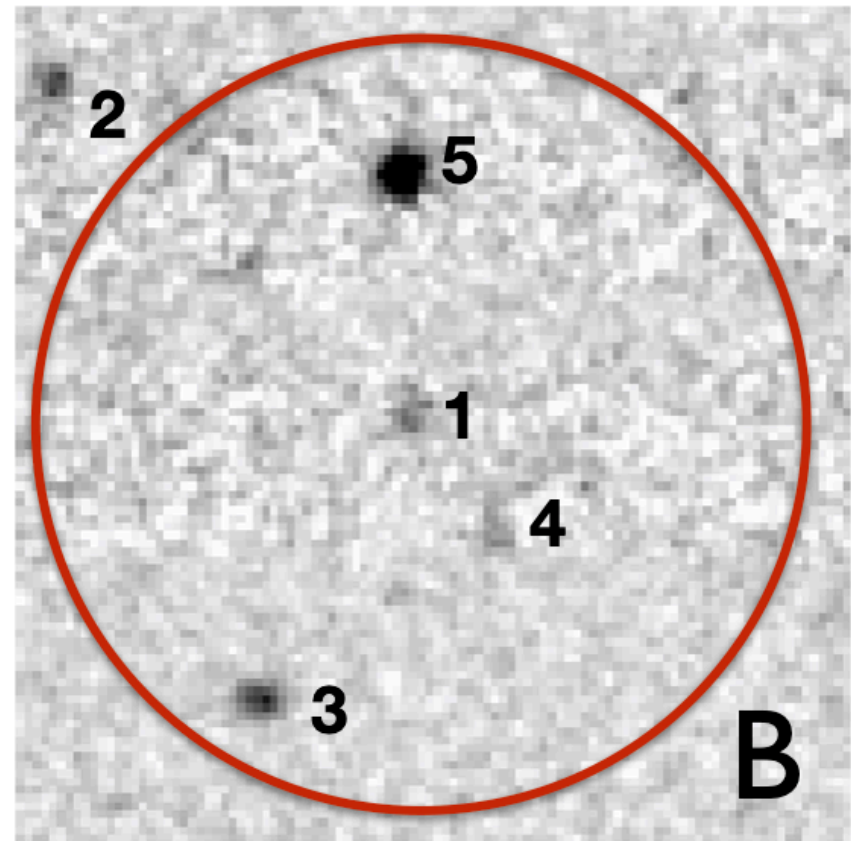
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It is data driven:  
problem for small data set

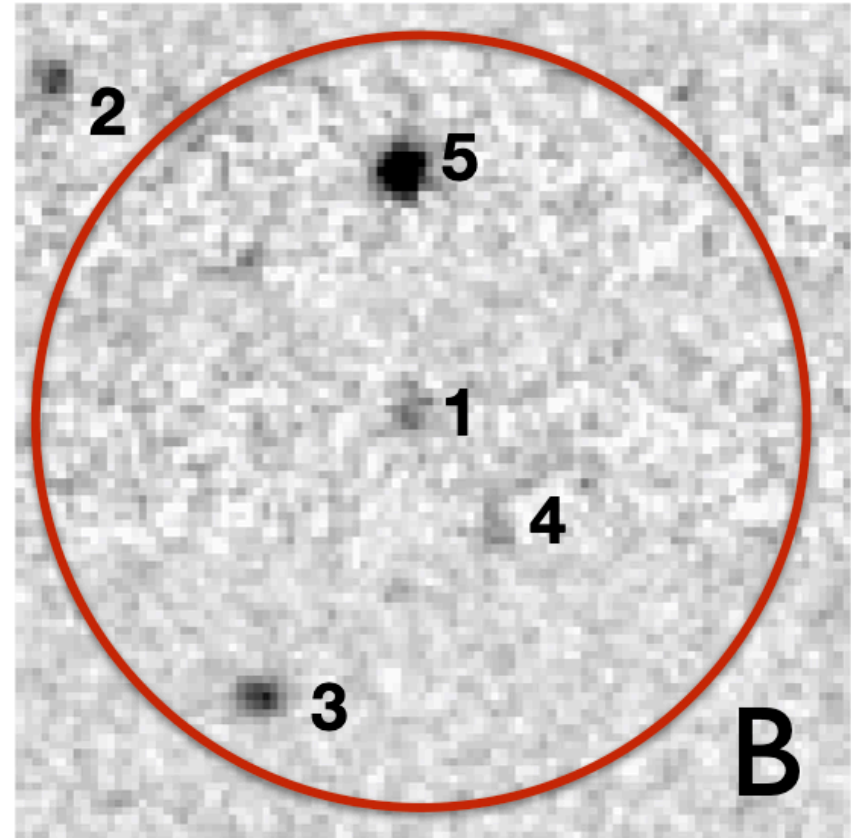
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issue: different bands provide different results



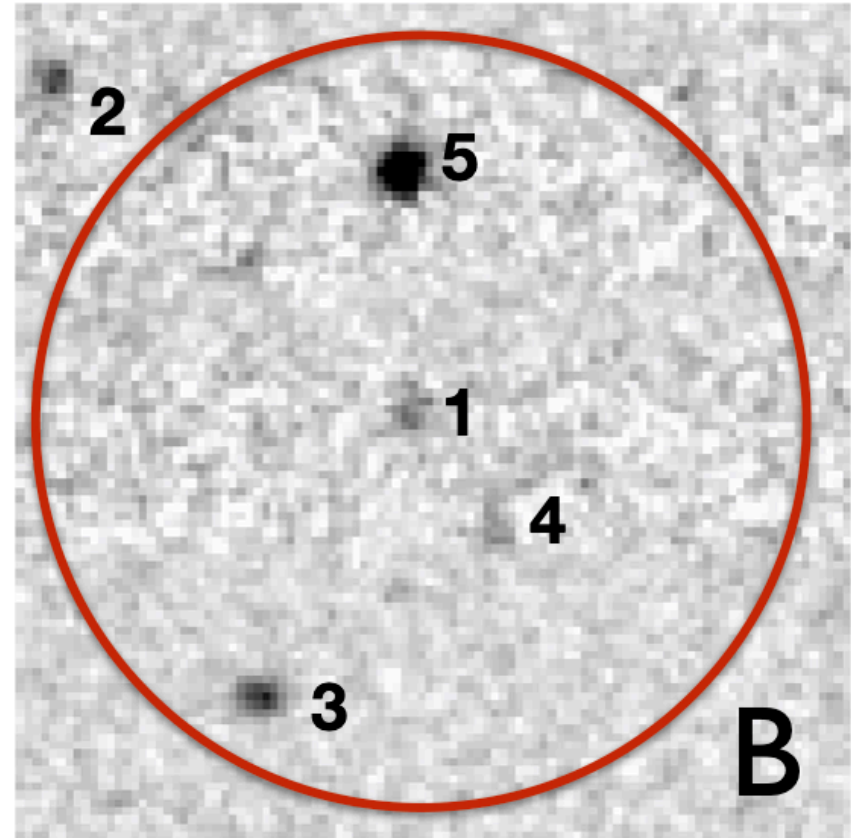


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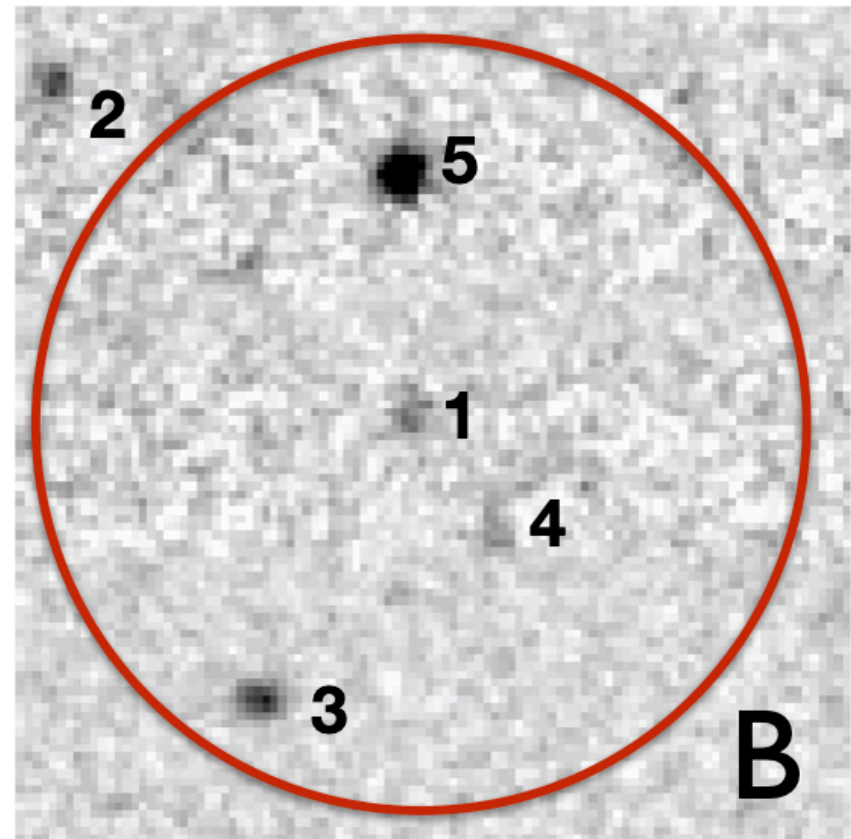
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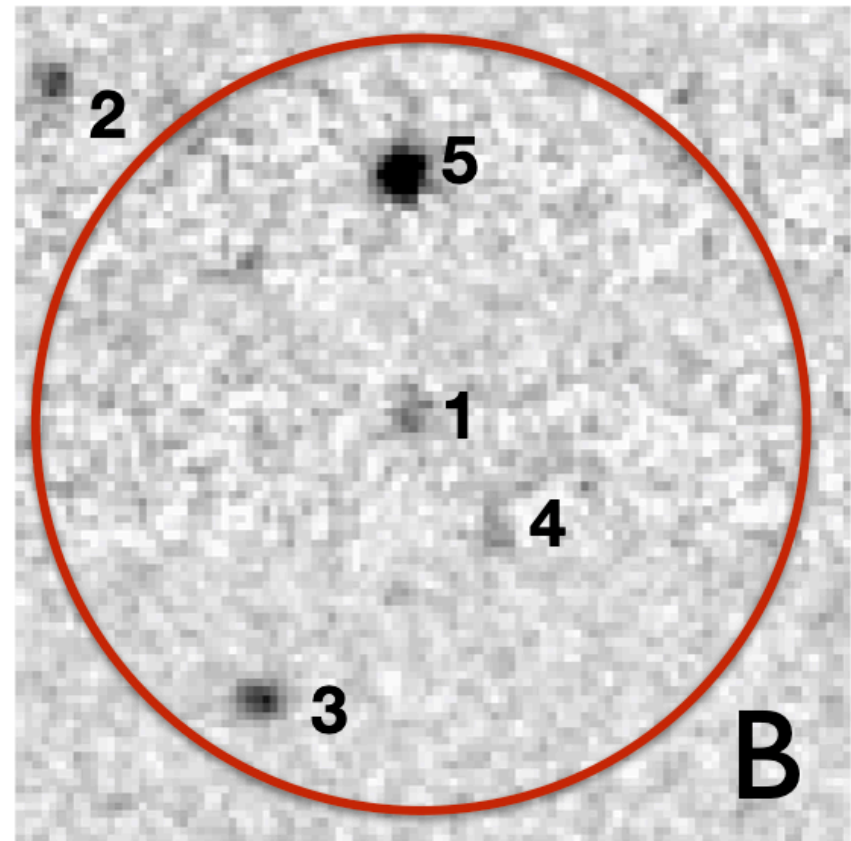
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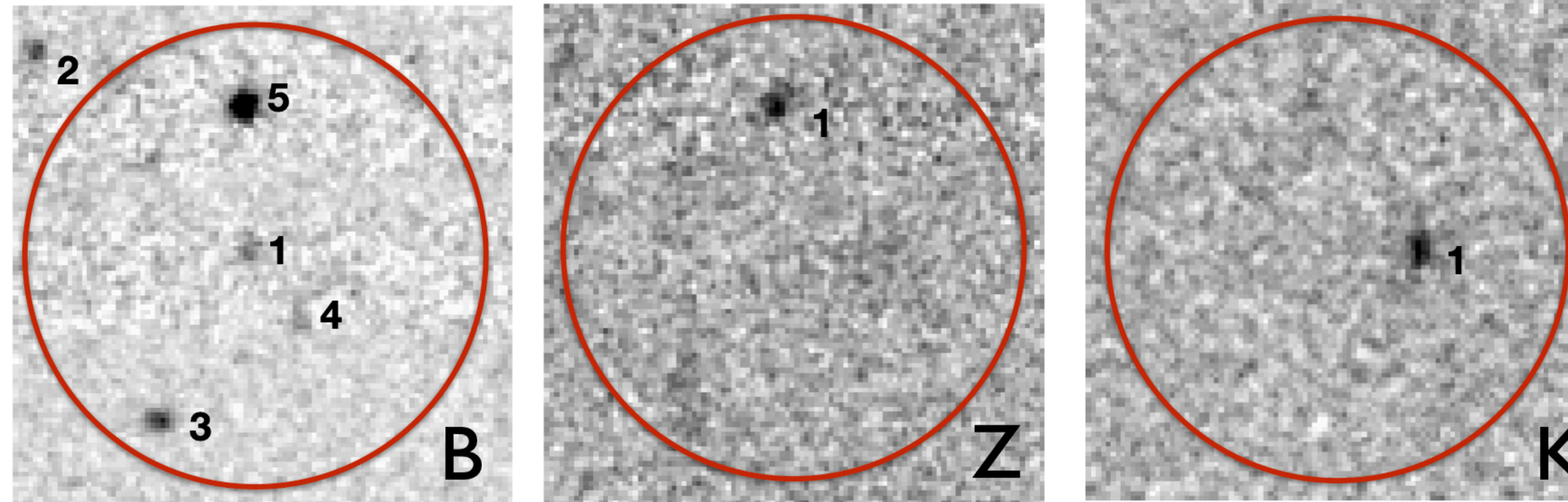
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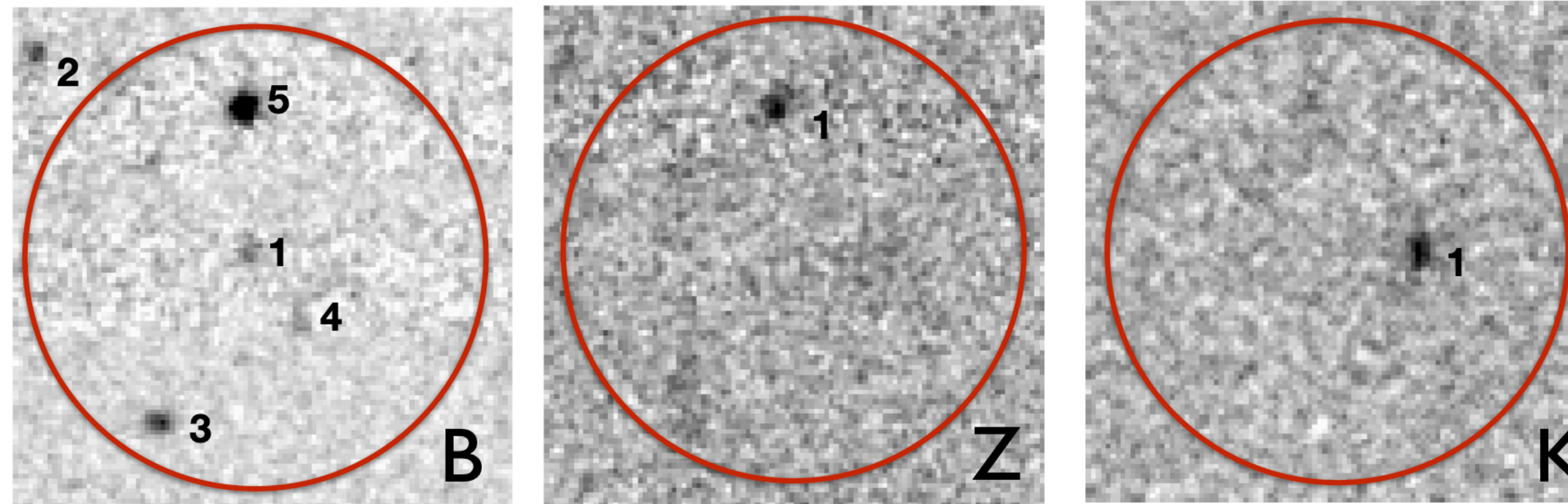
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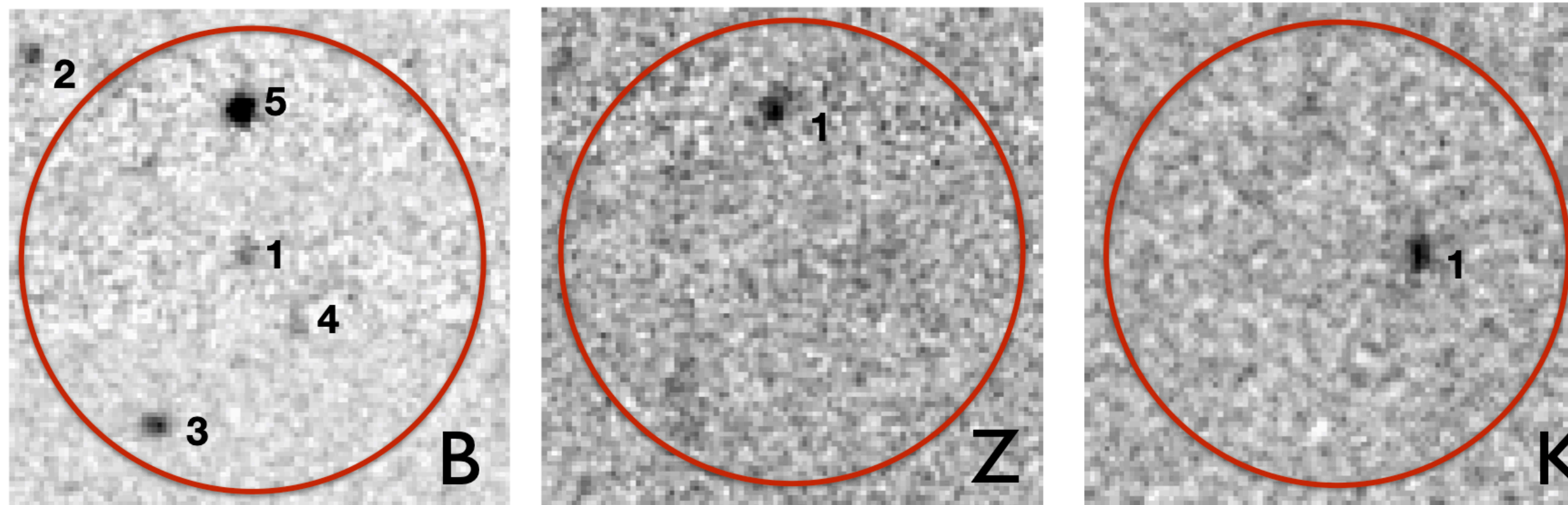
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But account also for missing data: Nway (Salvato+2018), Xmatch (Pineau2017)**

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X cat. entry	B cat. entry	Z cat. entry	K cat. entry	P (this is the correct ctp)
1	5	1	—	P1
1	—	—	1	P2
1	1	—	—	P3
1	3	—	—	...
1	...	...	...	...
2	...	...	...	...

prior  
(e.g due to depth of data)

benefit: different bands provide different information

$$P(H|D) \propto P(H) \times P(D|H).$$

(posterior) prob.  
of an association,  
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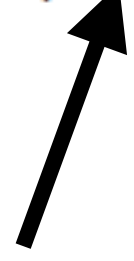
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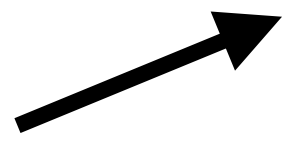
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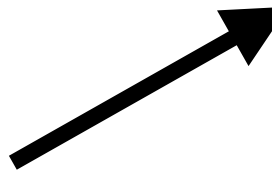
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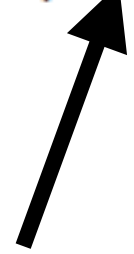


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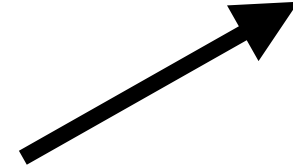


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probability that a correct ctp to a X-ray  
source or a generic field source  
has a property  $m$ .





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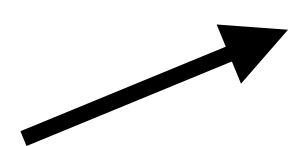
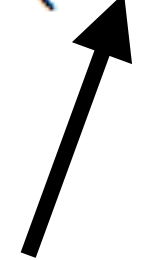
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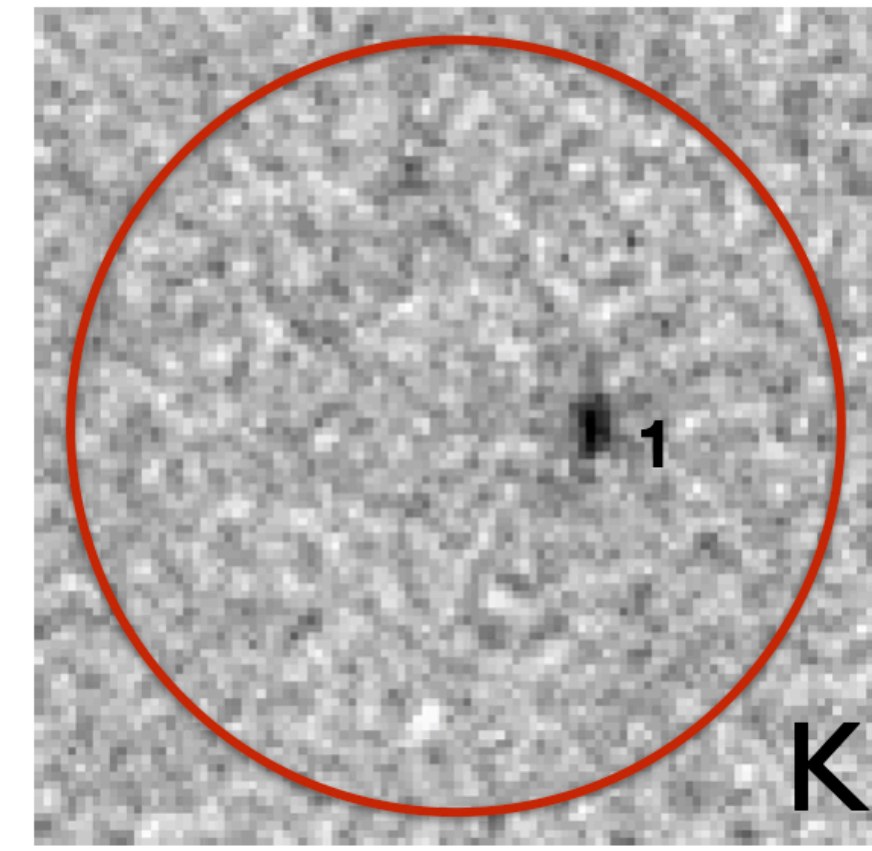
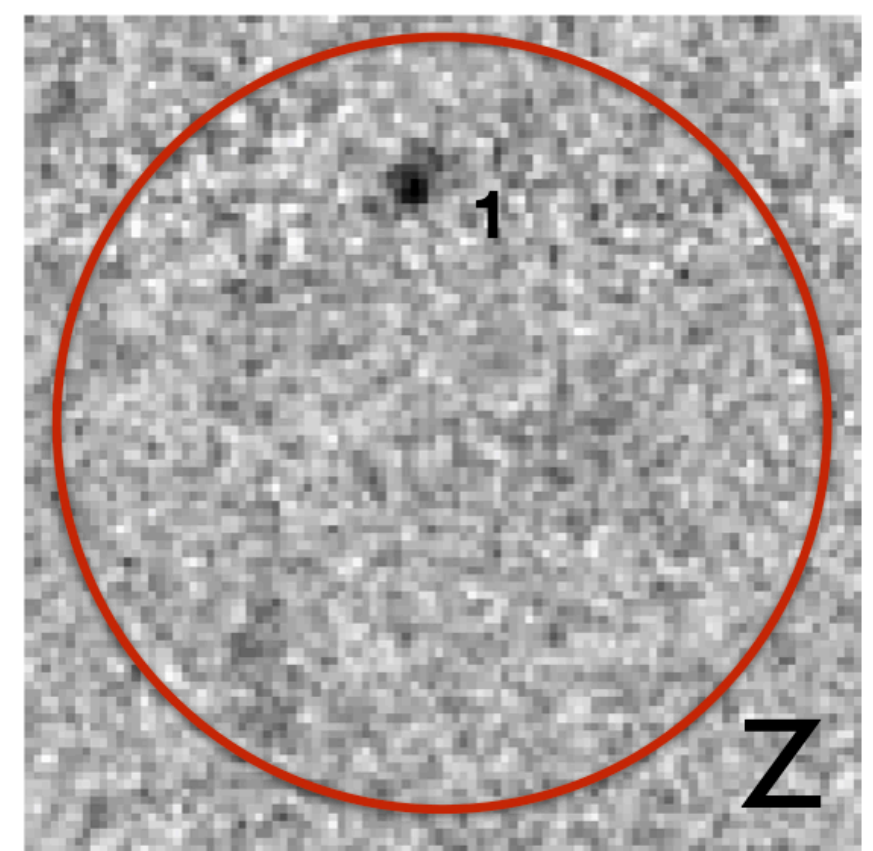
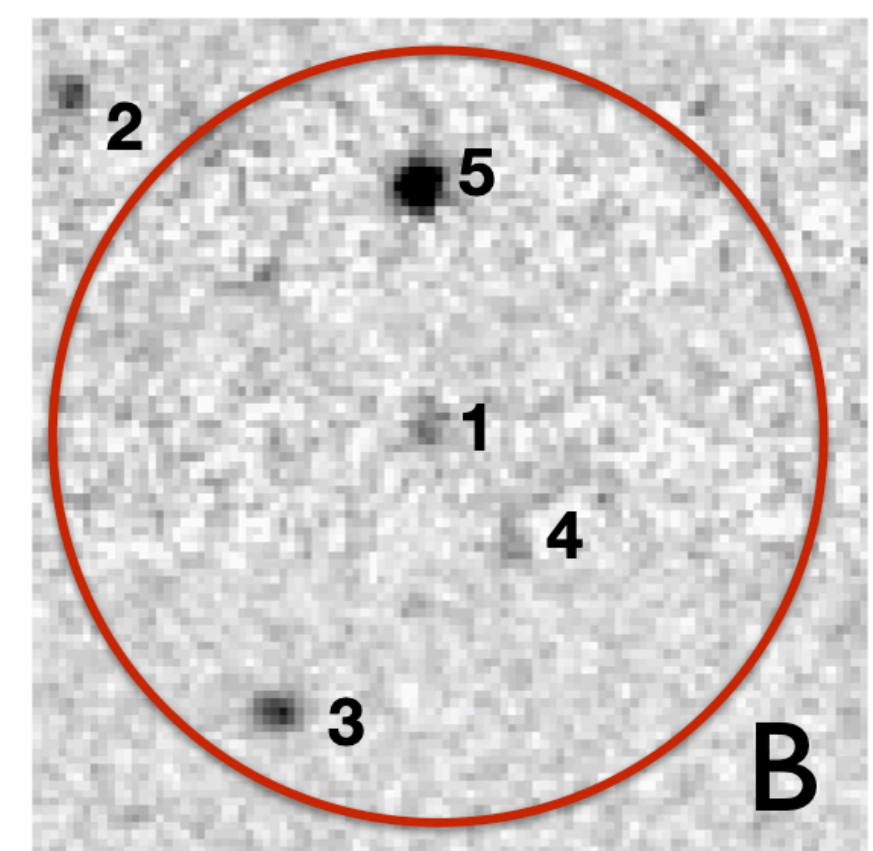
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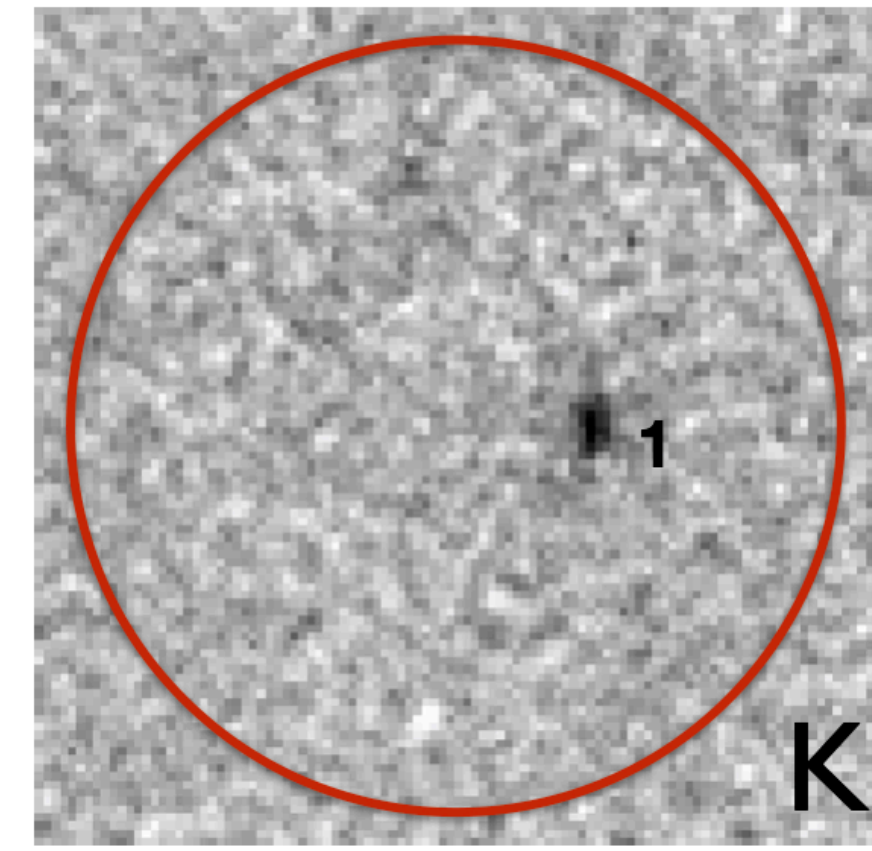
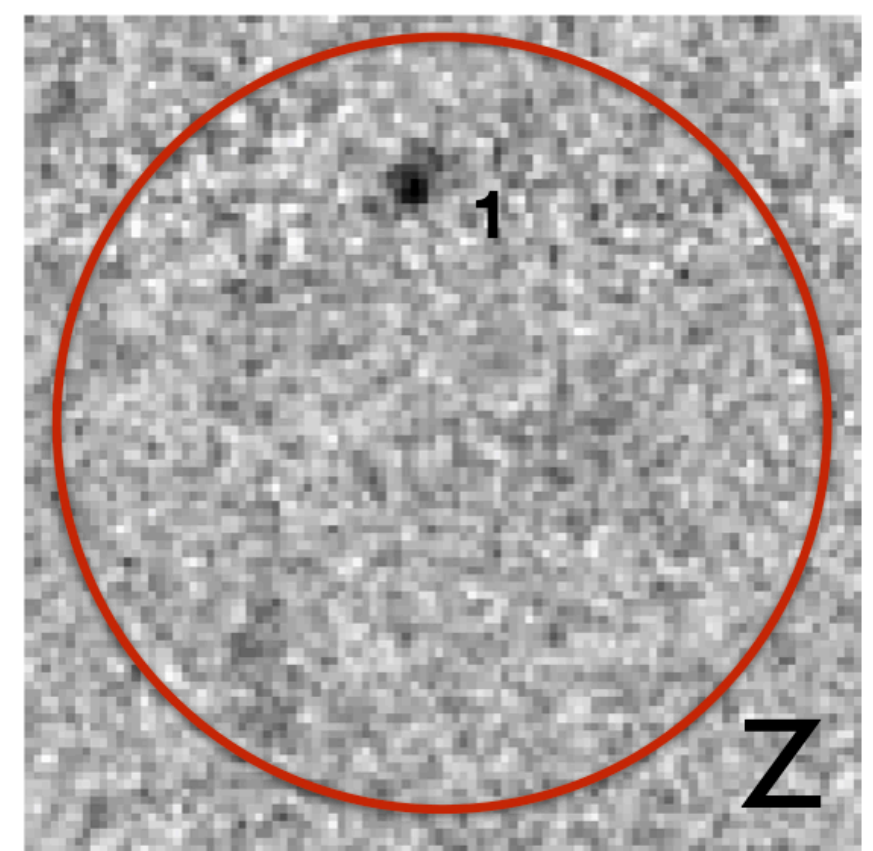
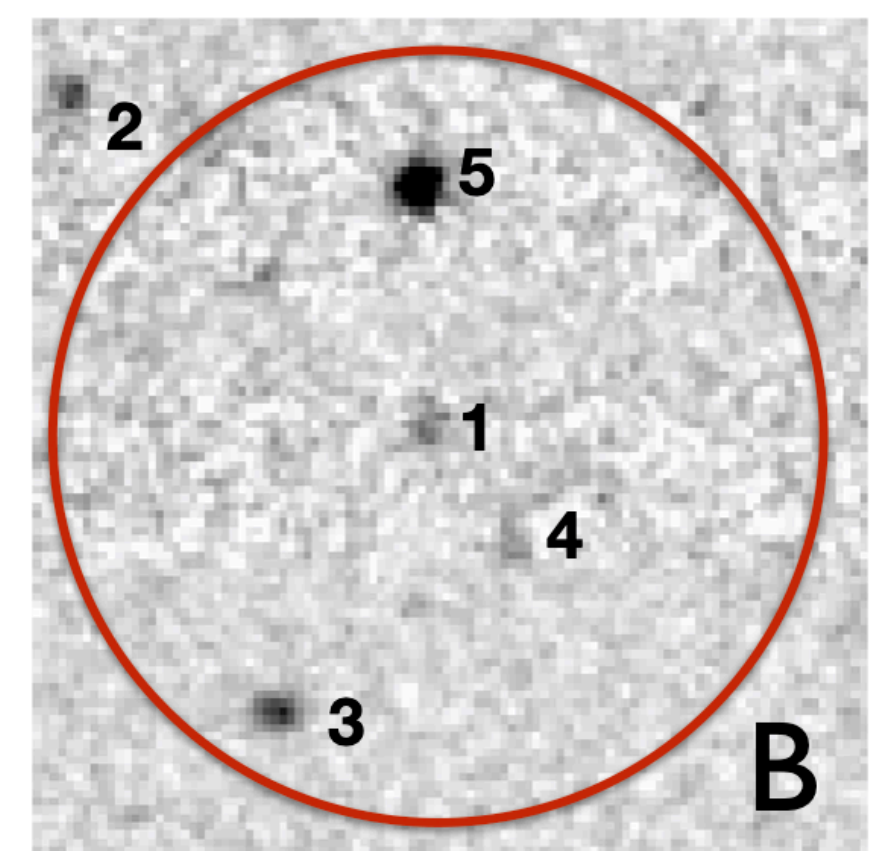
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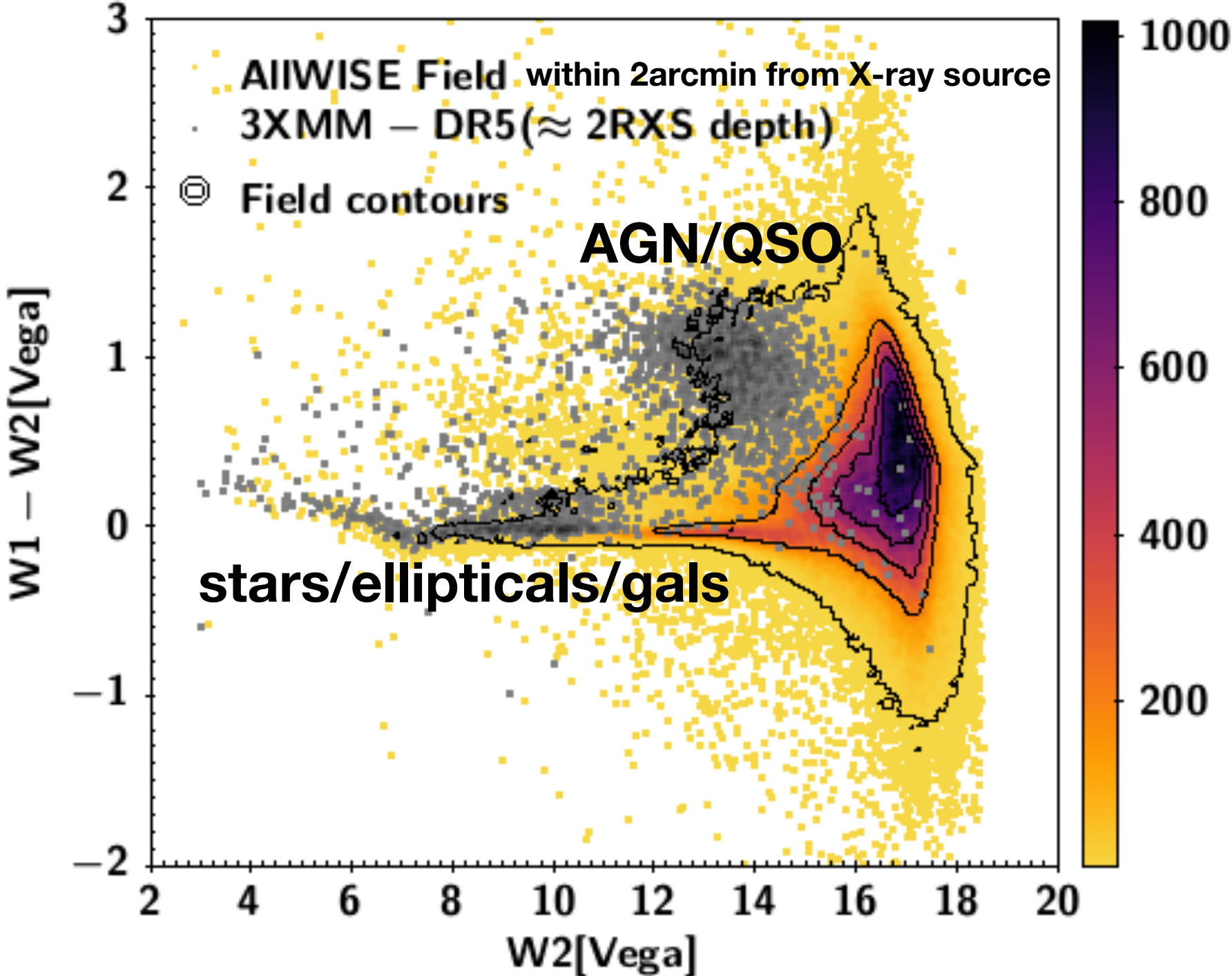
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We KNOW the properties  
(e.g., SEDs, variability, morphology) of X-ray emitters  
thanks to 20 years of XMM and Chandra.  
Let's use that!



# goal: identify features that define X-ray emitters wrt field population

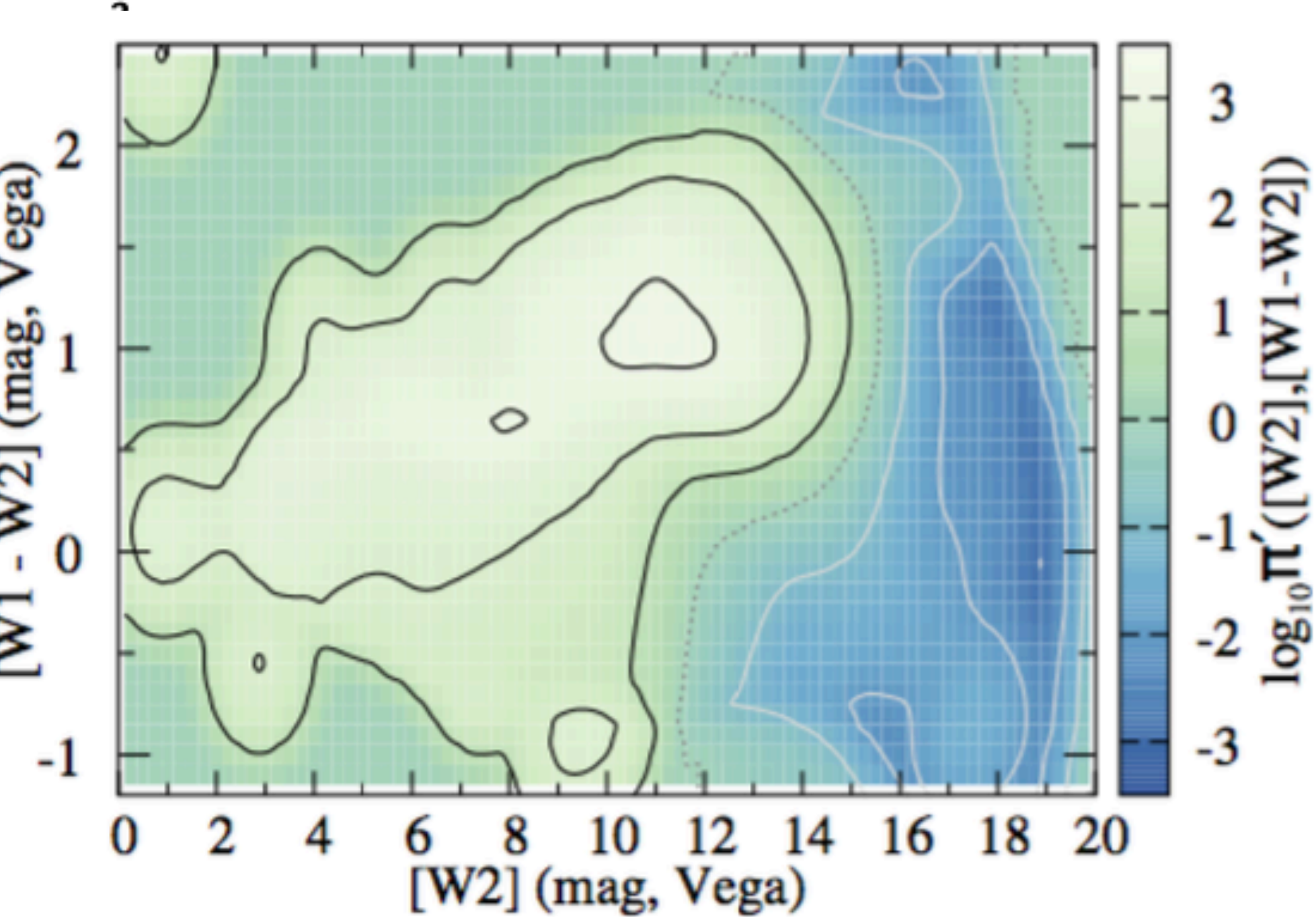
NWAY on ROSAT & XMM-SLEW2 (Salvato+ 2018)



Validation: 1500 sources from 3XMM  
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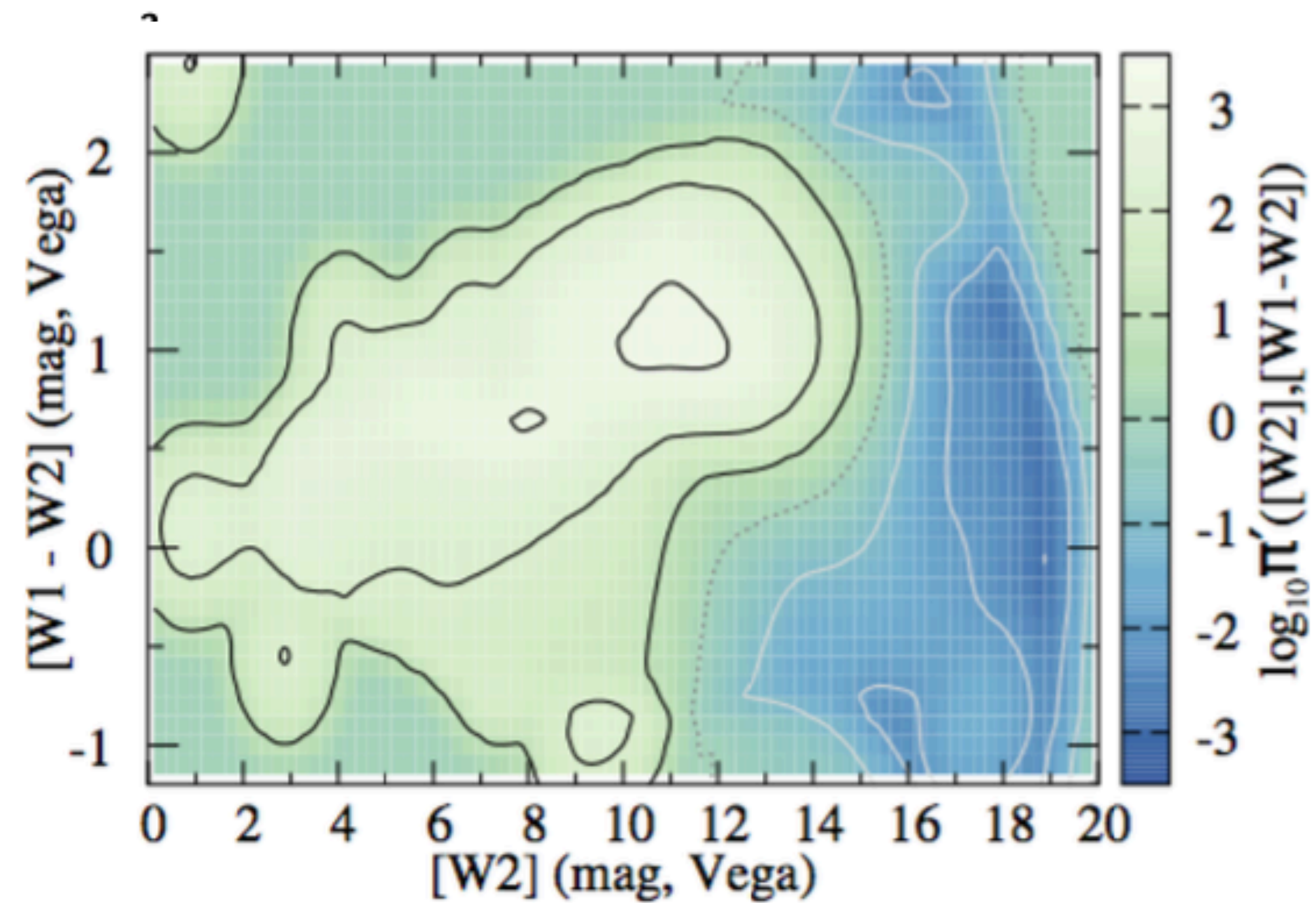


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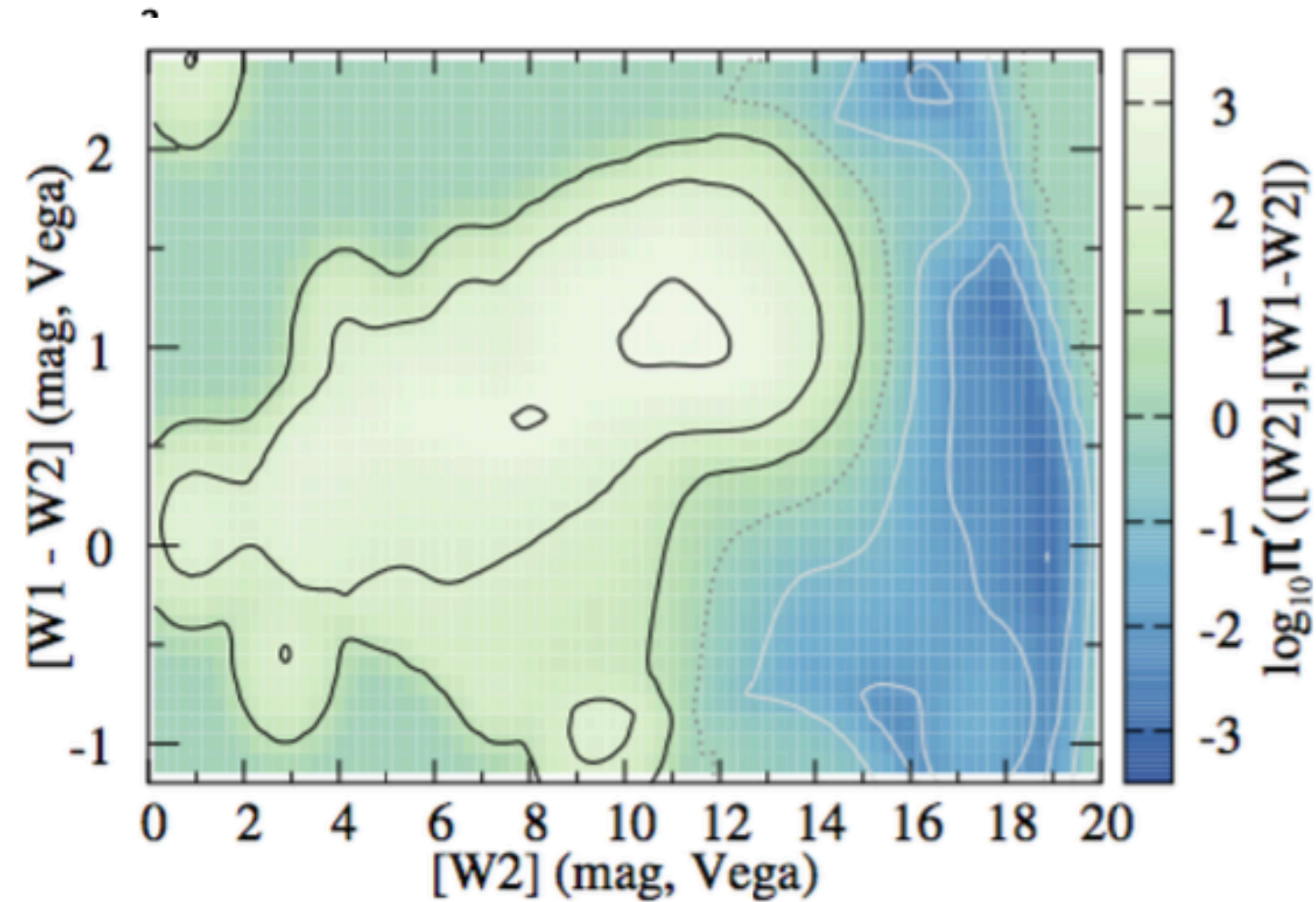


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XMMSL-2RXS Separation arcsec	Sources in common N	Identical AllWISE ctp. %
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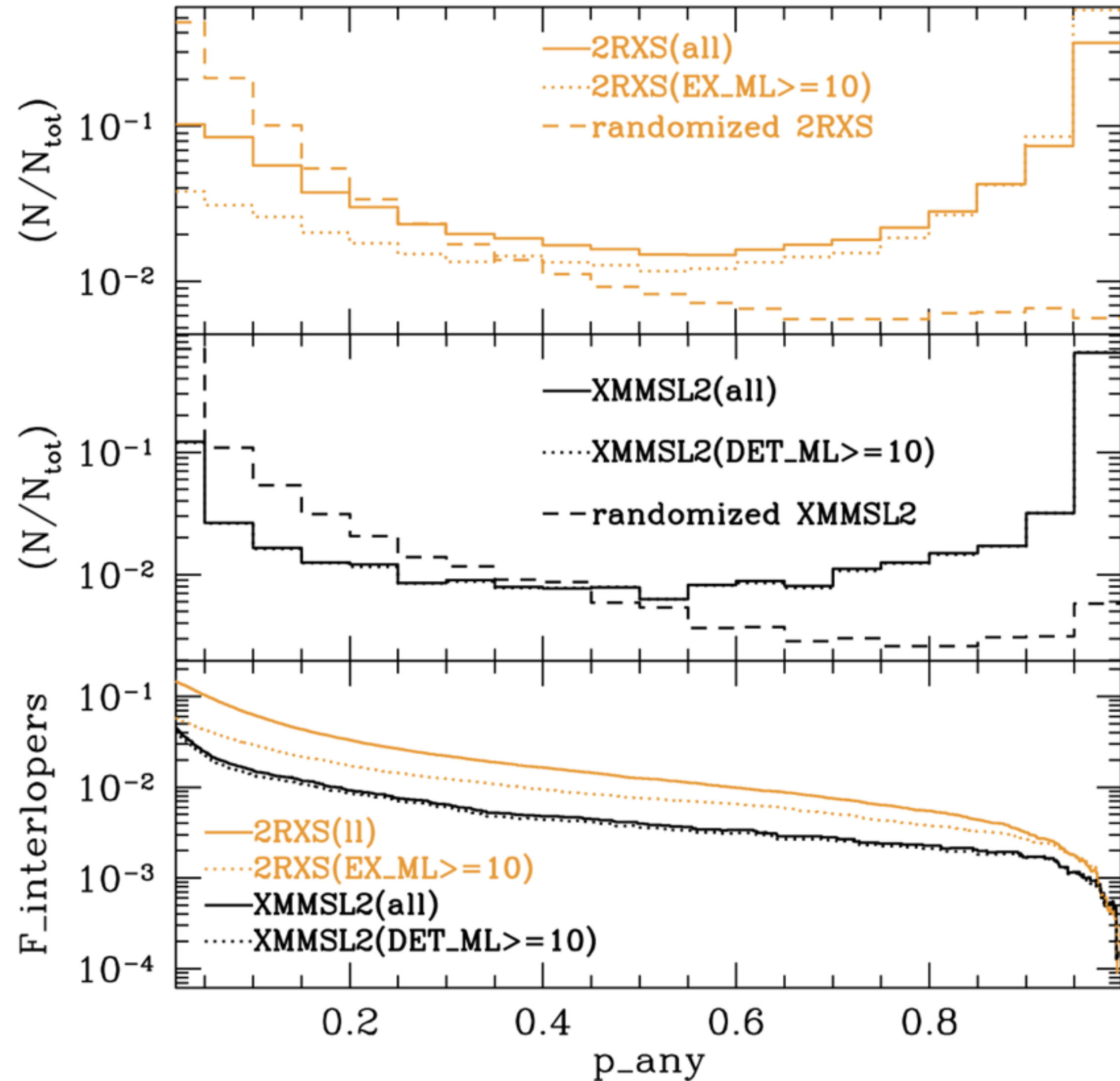
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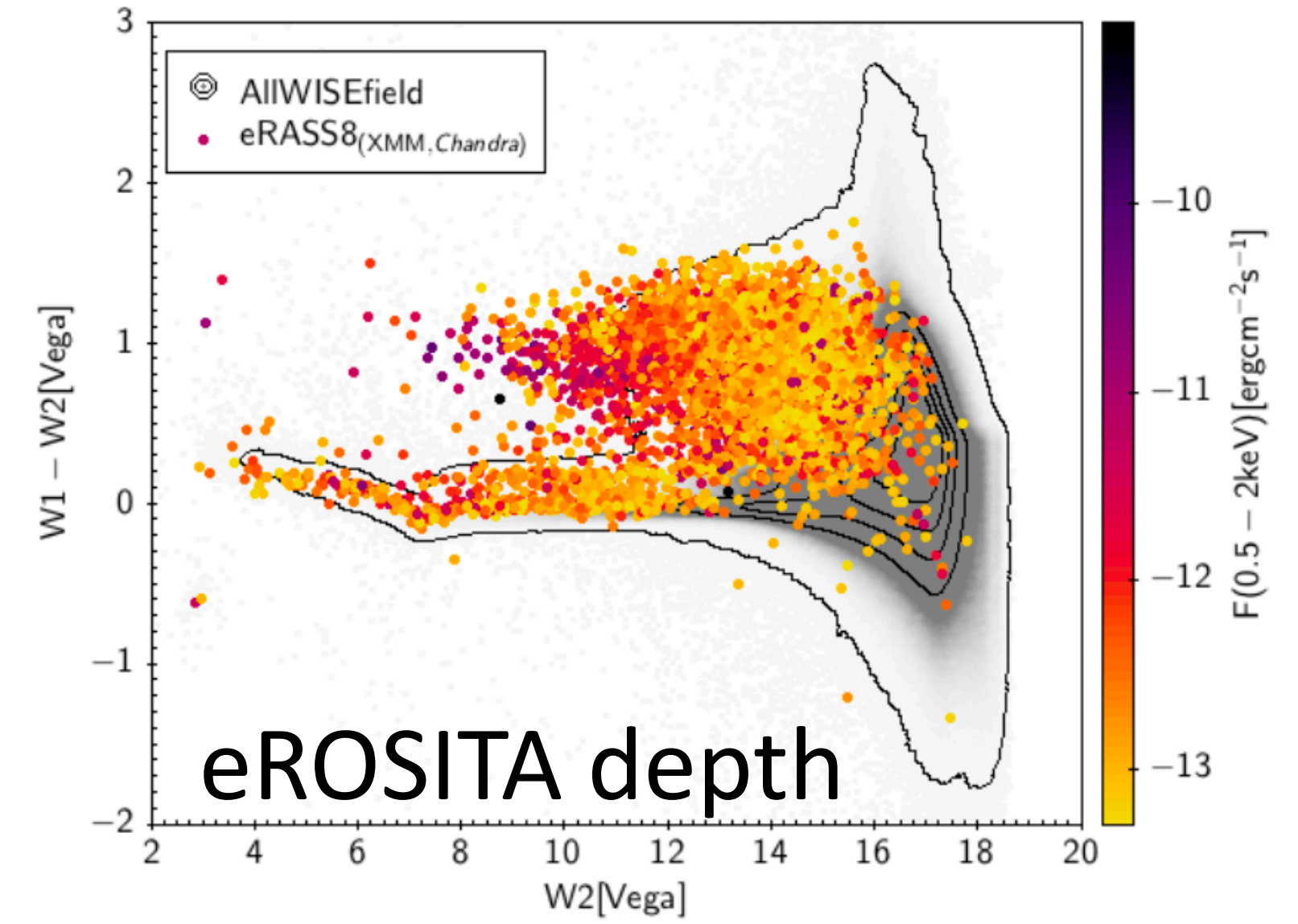
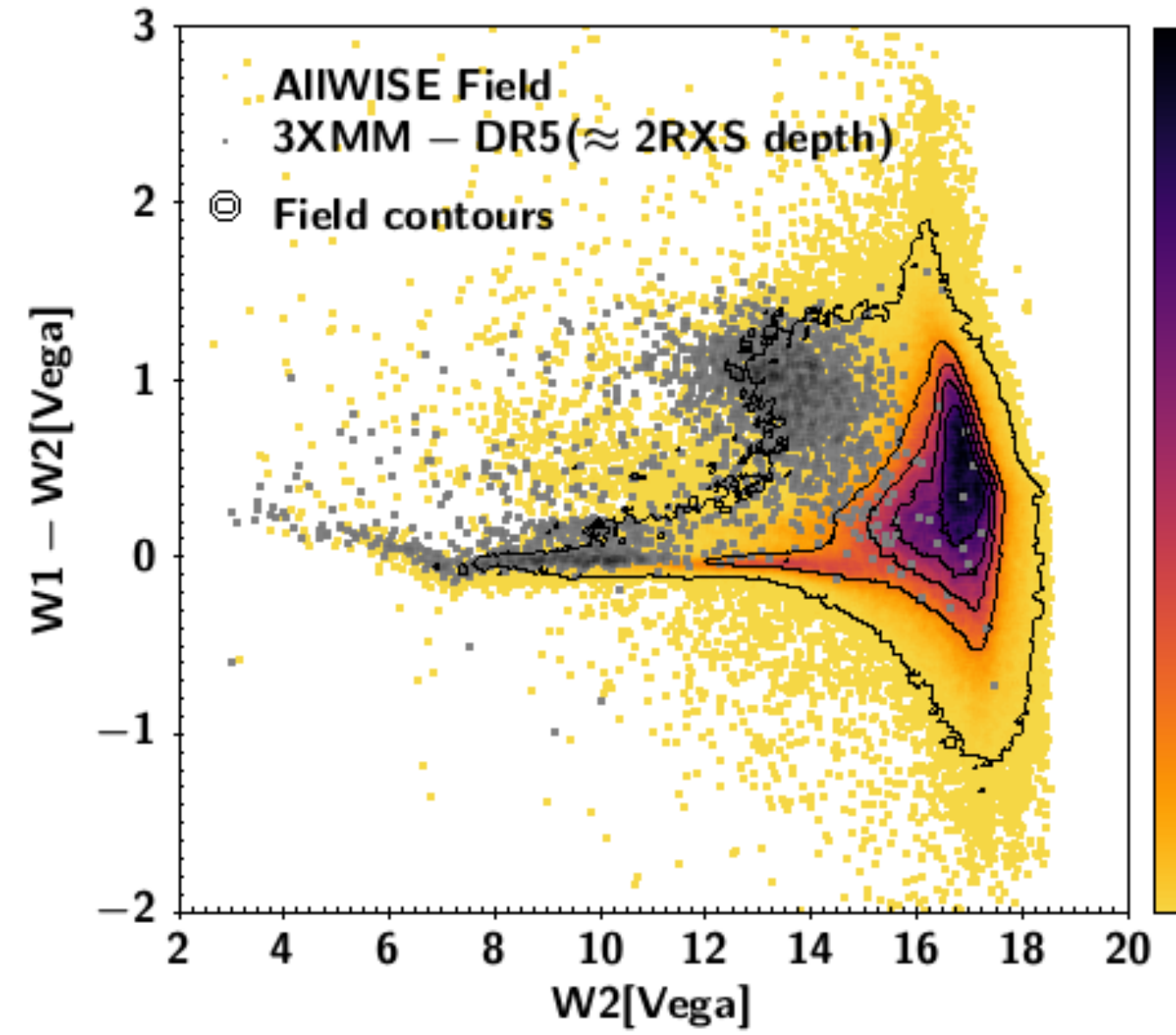


For each problem we need to find the right solution!

$W_2$  vs  $W_1 - W_2$  is NOT ALWAYS the solution!  
the parameter space may provide no information

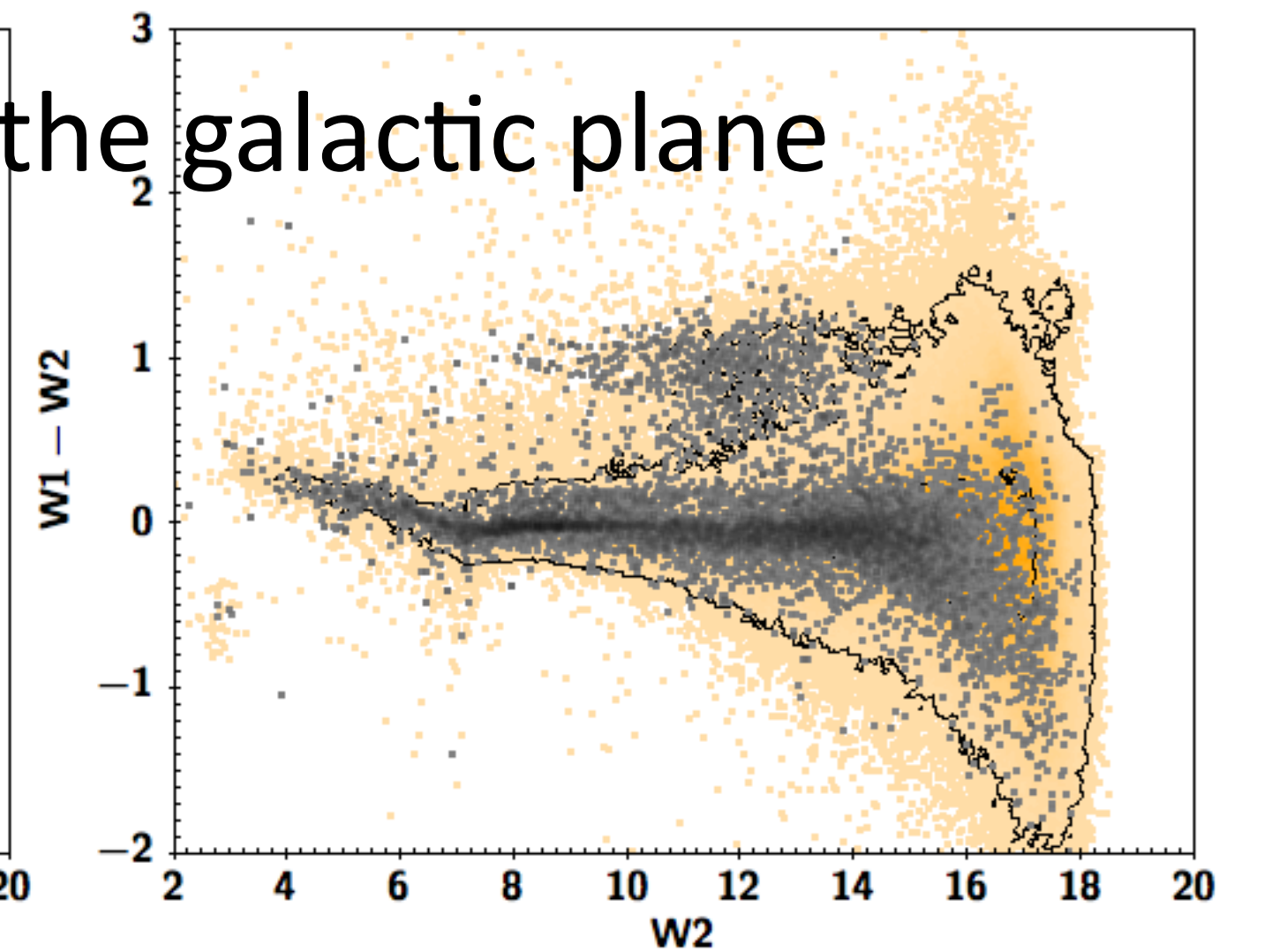
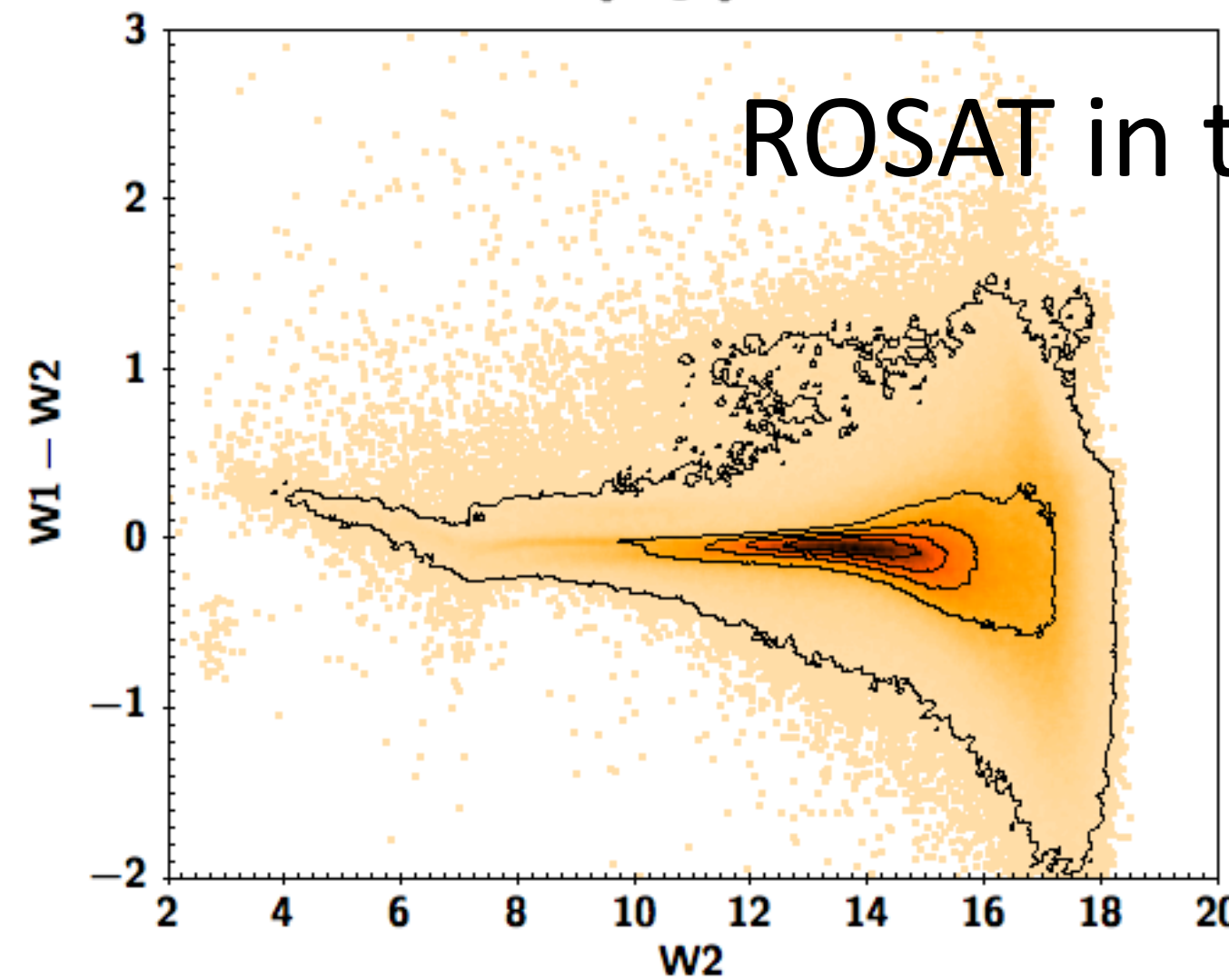
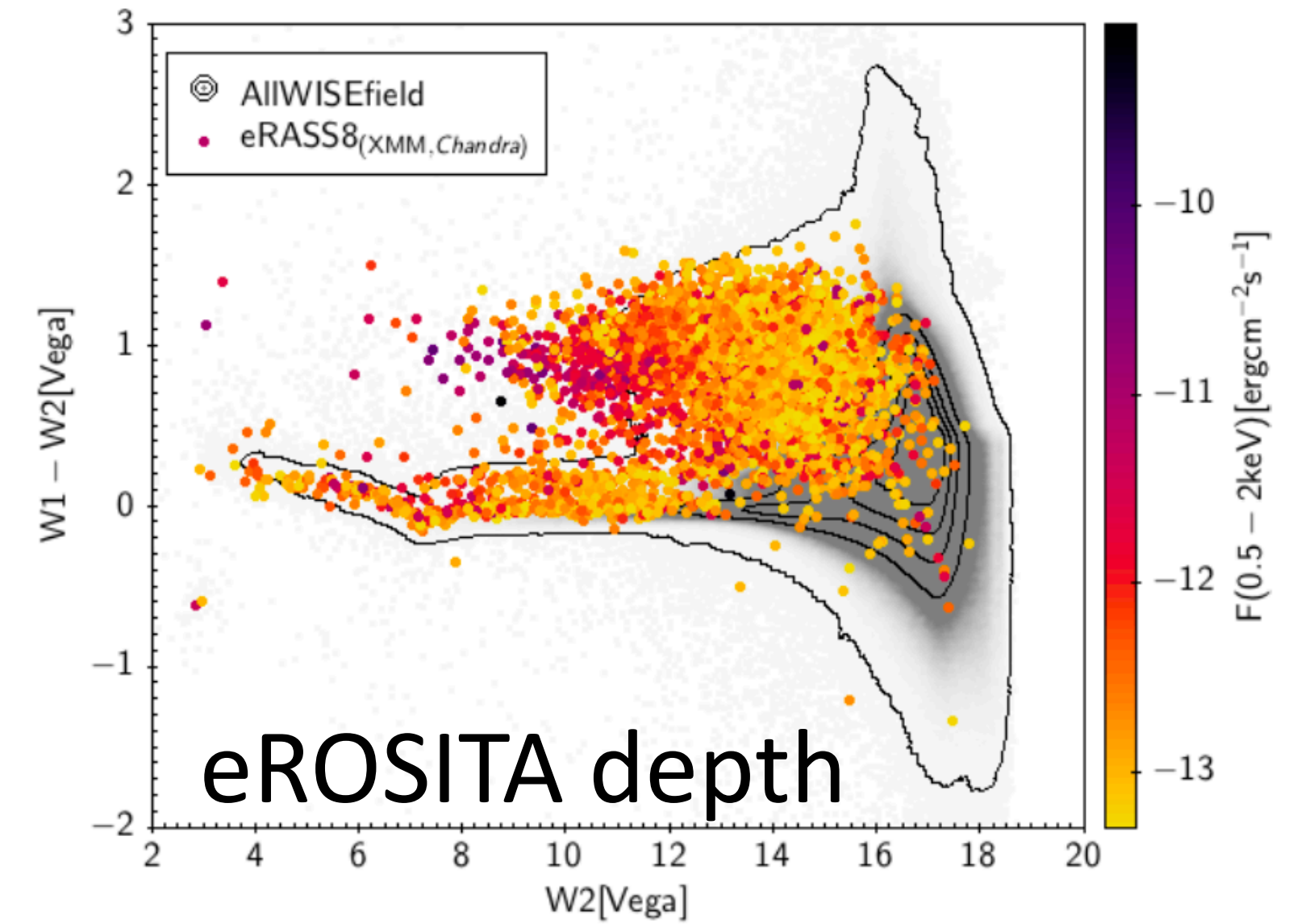
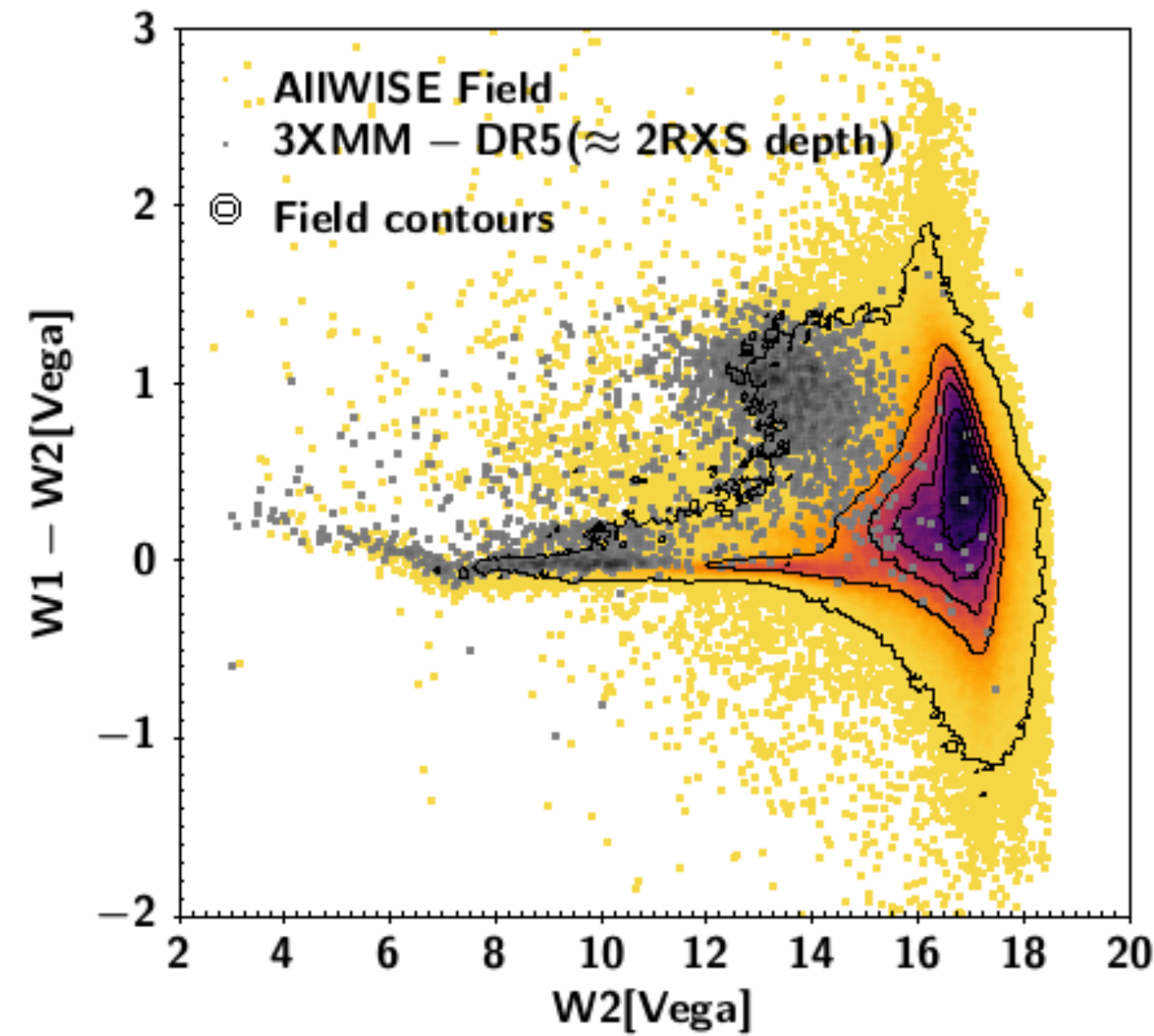
For each problem we need to find the right solution!

W2 vs W1-W2 is NOT ALWAYS the solution!  
the parameter space may provide no information



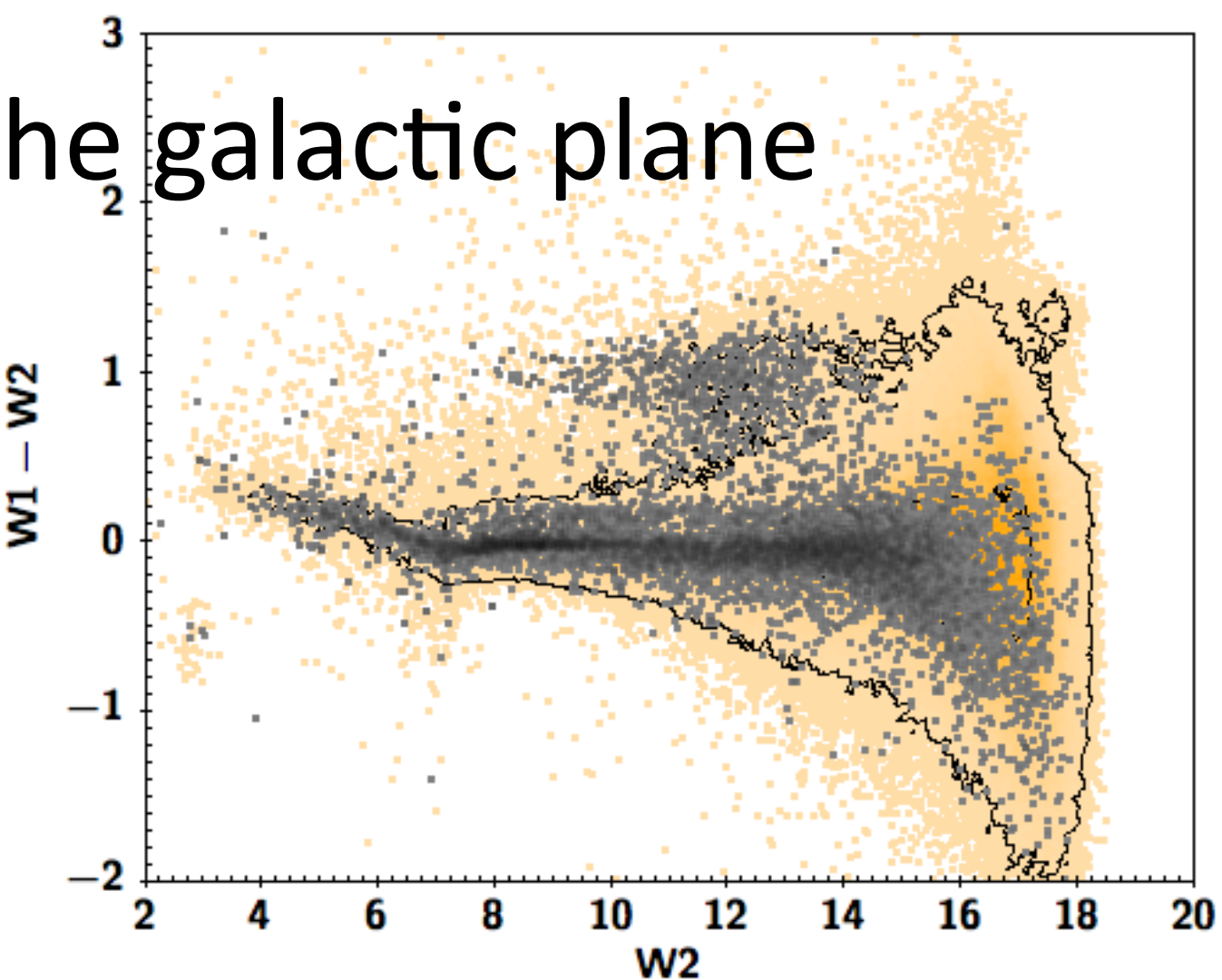
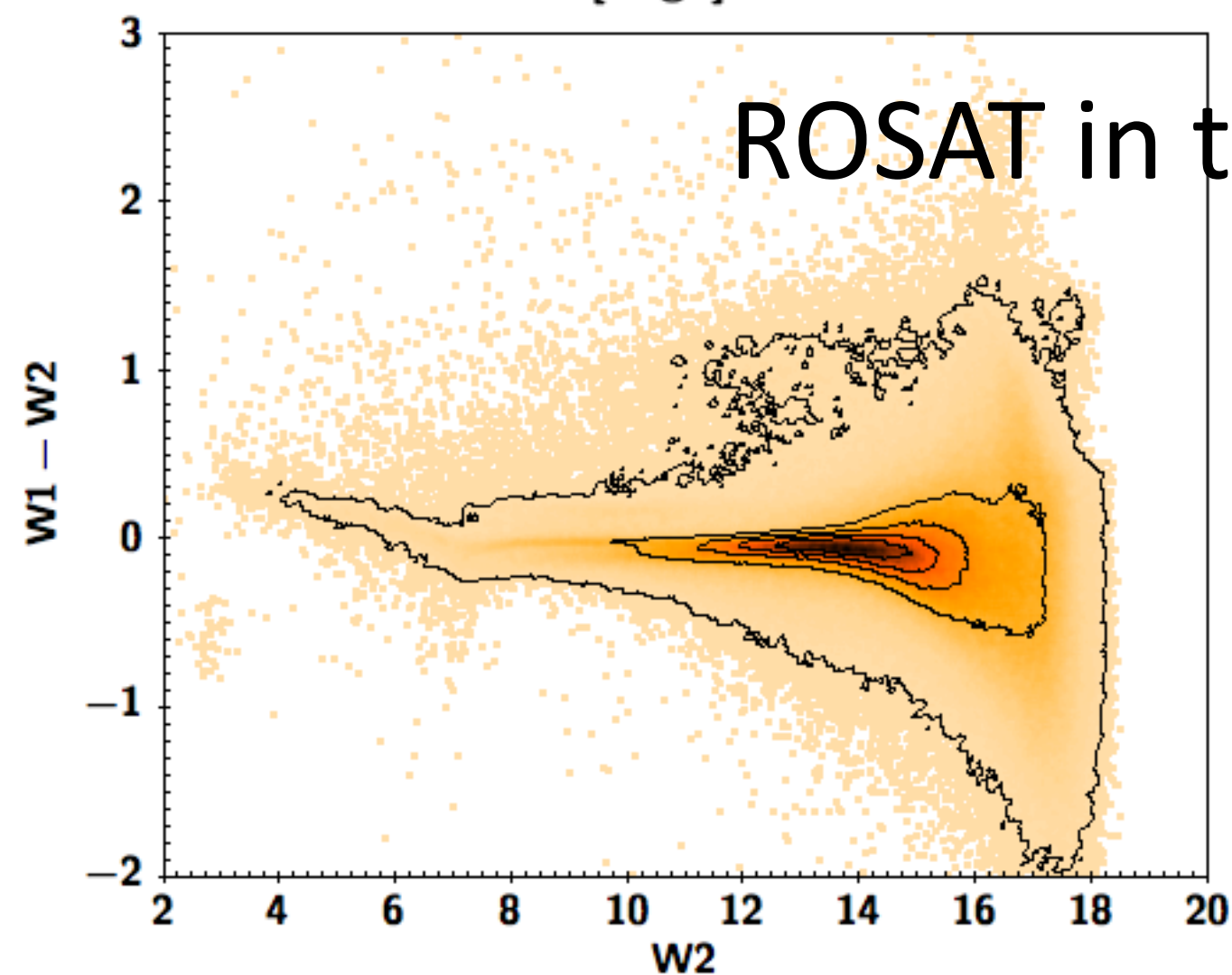
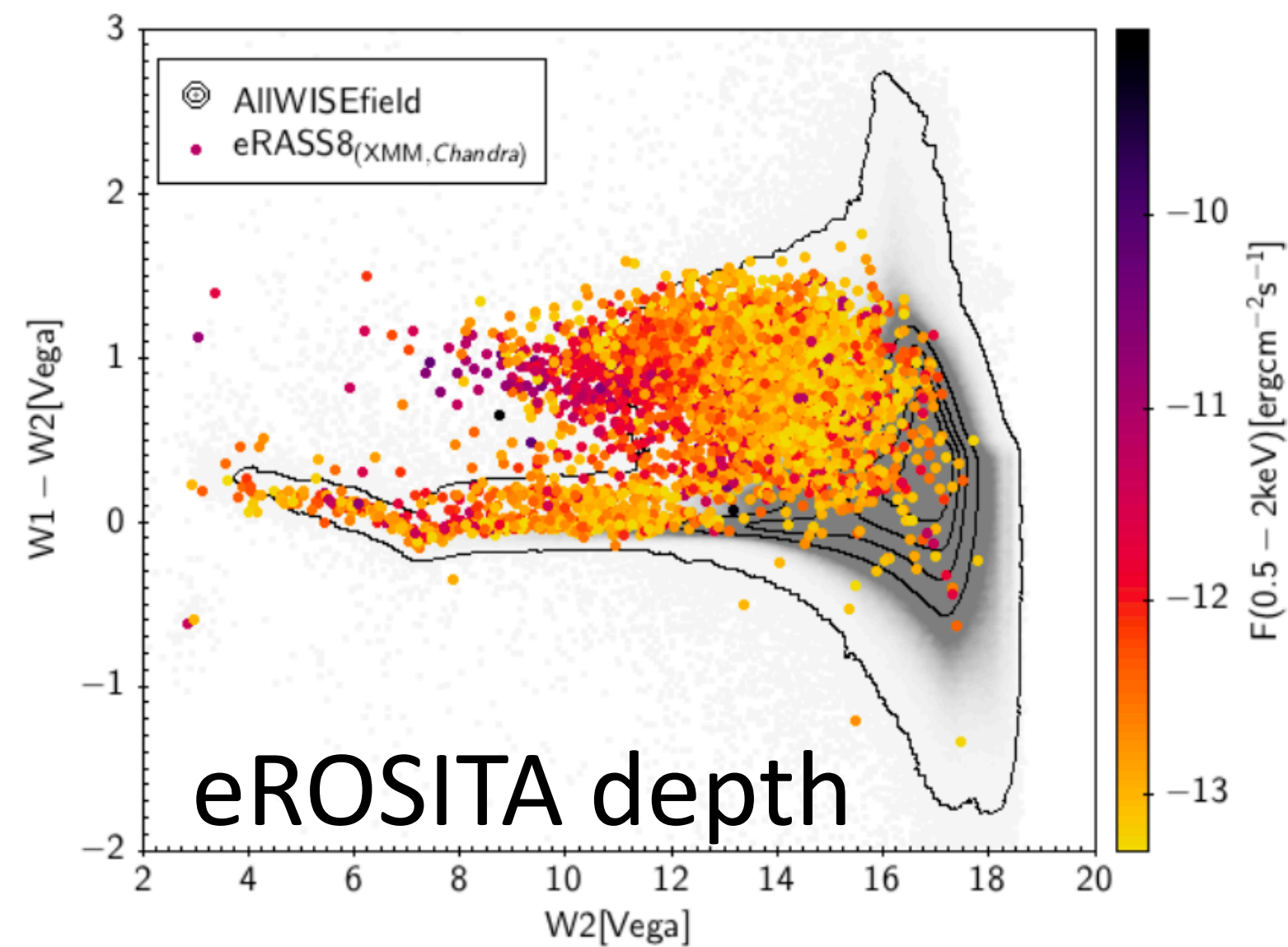
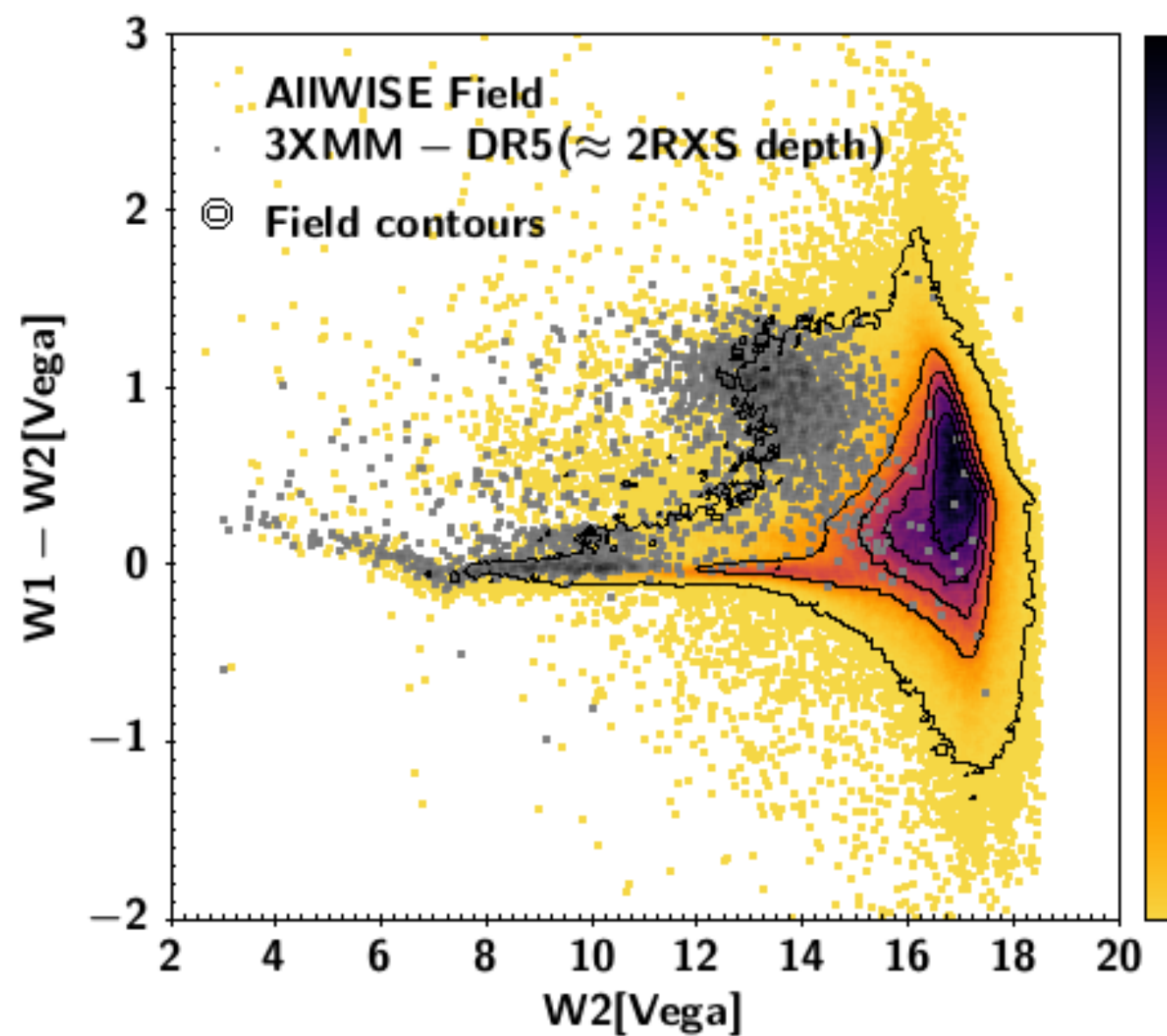
For each problem we need to find the right solution!

W2 vs W1-W2 is NOT ALWAYS the solution!  
the parameter space may provide no information



For each problem we need to find the right solution!

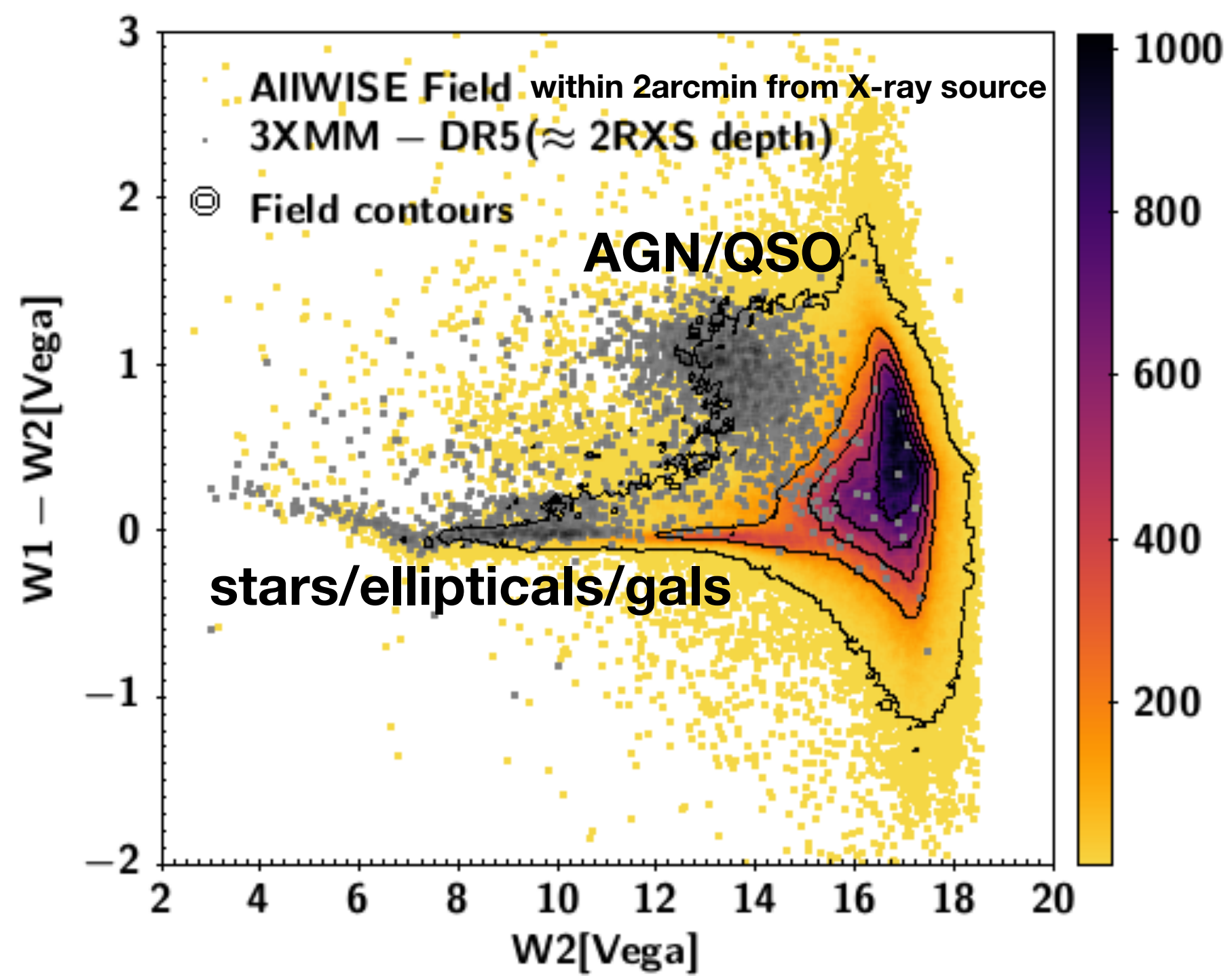
W2 vs W1-W2 is NOT ALWAYS the solution!  
the parameter space may provide no information



In each case, we need to find the way to disentangle the actual CTP from the field

# From Brain Learning to Machine Learning

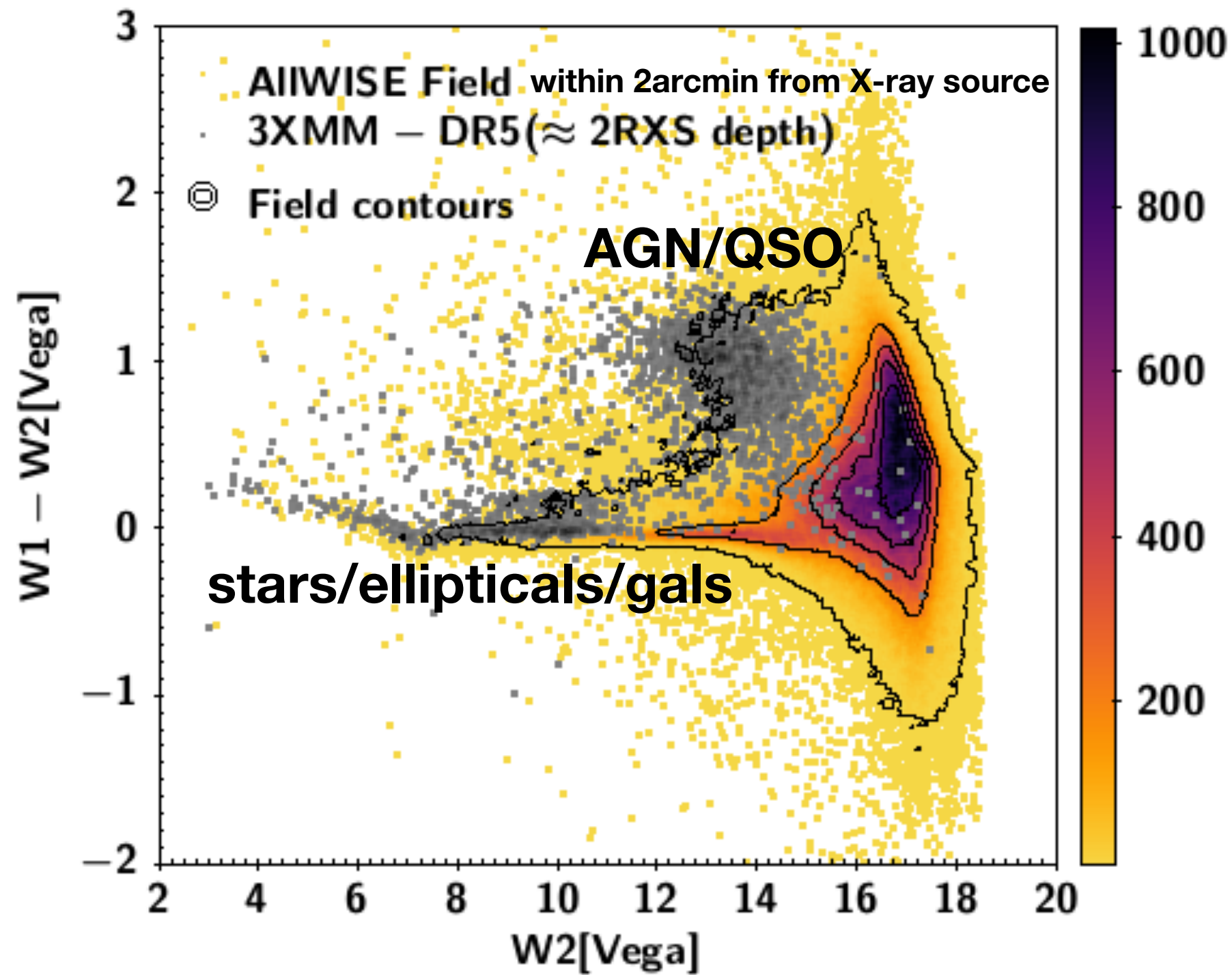
NWAY on ROSAT & XMM-SLEW2 (Salvato+ 2018)



NWAY on eROSITA/eFEDS (Salvato+ 2022)

# From Brain Learning to Machine Learning

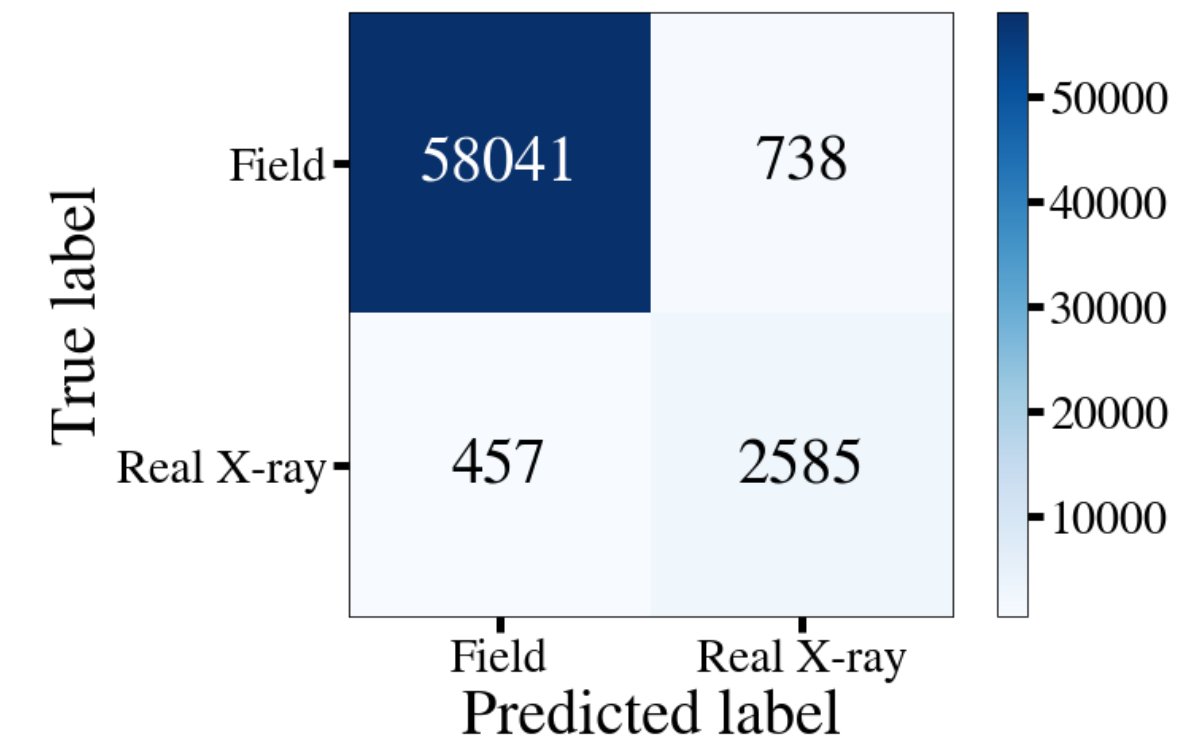
NWAY on ROSAT & XMM-SLEW2 (Salvato+ 2018)



NWAY on eROSITA/eFEDS (Salvato+ 2022)

- Random Forest on :
  - training sample: 23K XMM sources with depth comparable to eFEDS and w/ secure CTP in Legacy Survey DR8 (Dey+2019).
  - control sample: the rest of the sources within 30" from each X-ray position

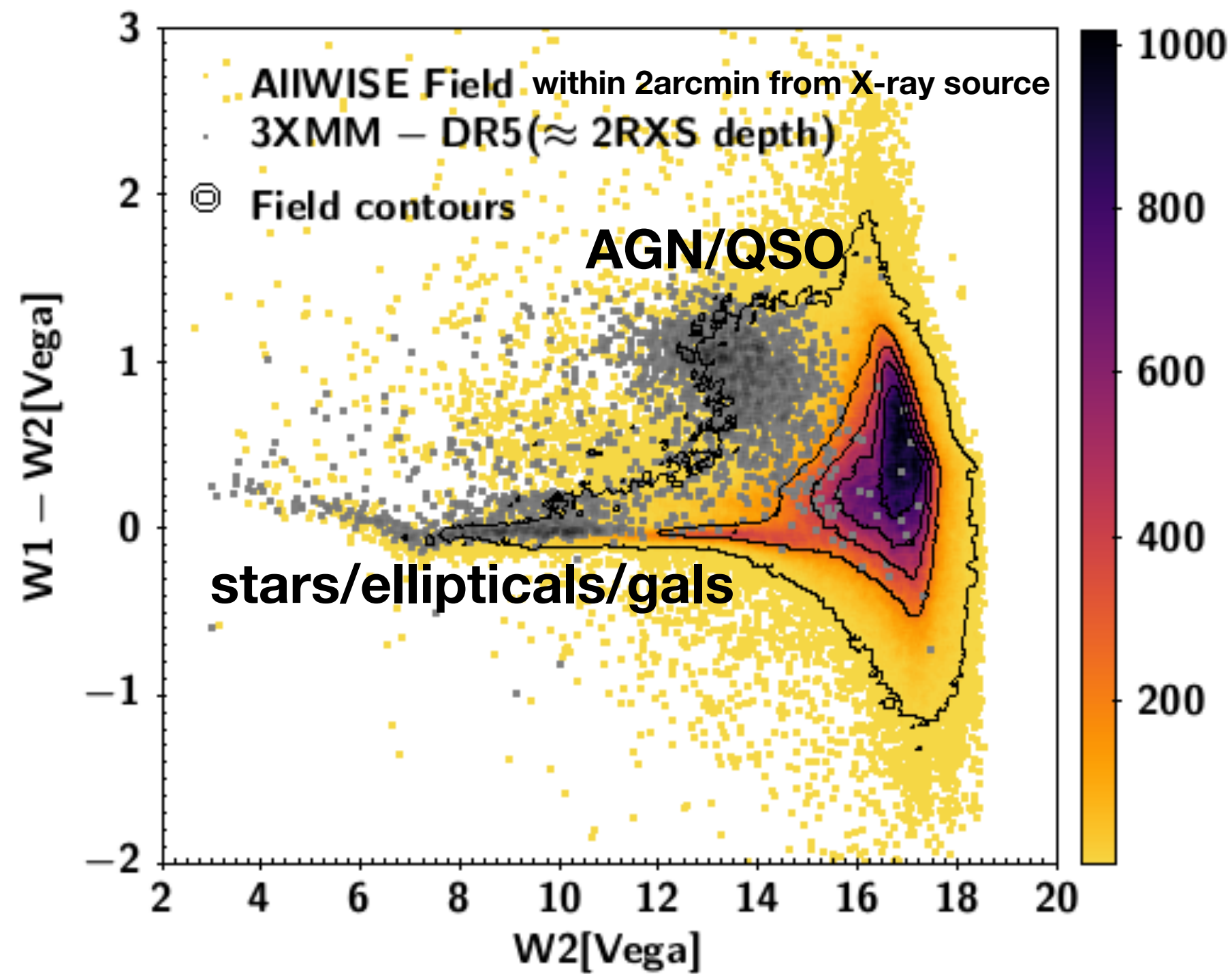
Feature	Description
$\text{flux}_*/\text{mw\_transmission}_*$	dereddened flux in $g, r, z, W1, W2$
$\text{gaia\_phot\_}\_*\_*\_*\_*\_*\_*\_*$	original GAIA phot. in $G, G_{bp}, G_{rp}$
$\text{snr}_*$	S/N for $g, r, z, W1, W2, G, G_{bp}, G_{rp}$
$\sqrt{\text{pmra}^2 + \text{pmdec}^2}$	Gaia proper motion
parallax	Gaia parallax
$g-r, r-z, z-W1, r-W2$	dereddened colors





# From Brain Learning to Machine Learning

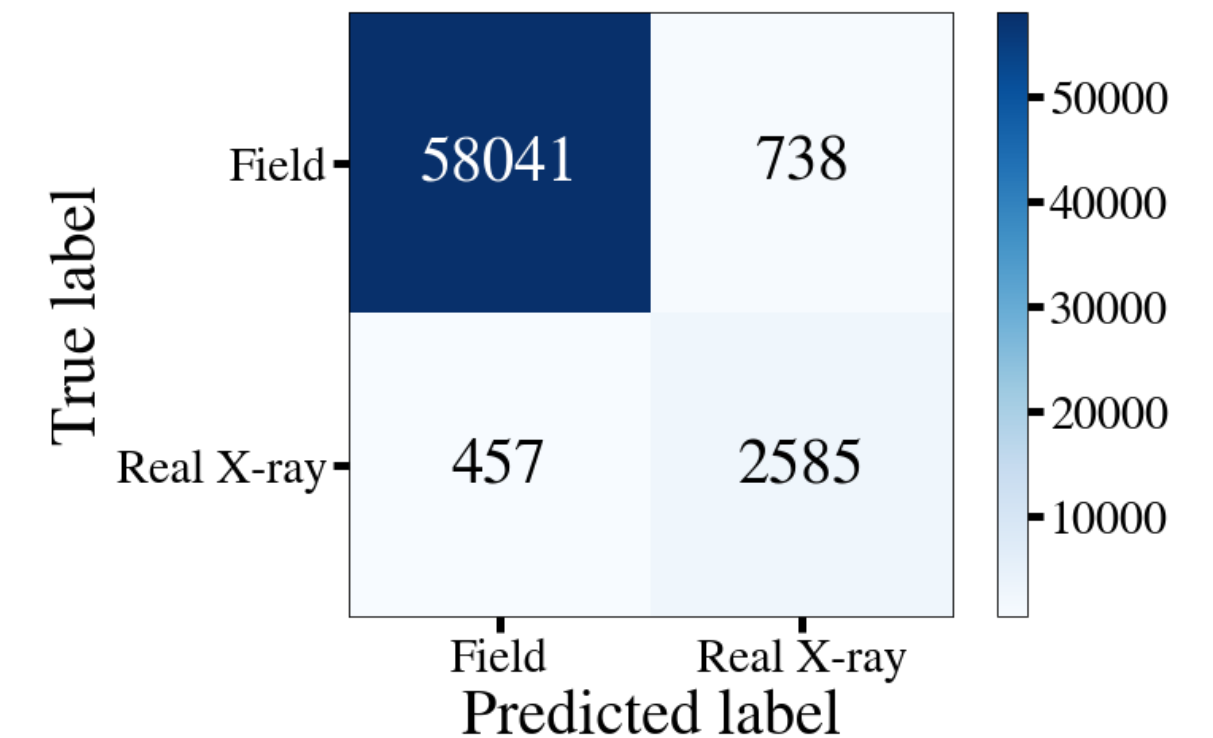
NWAY on ROSAT & XMMSLEW2 (Salvato+ 2018)



NWAY on eROSITA/eFEDS (Salvato+ 2022)

- Random Forest on :
  - training sample: 23K XMM sources with depth comparable to eFEDS and w/ secure CTP in Legacy Survey DR8 (Dey+2019).
  - control sample: the rest of the sources within 30" from each X-ray position

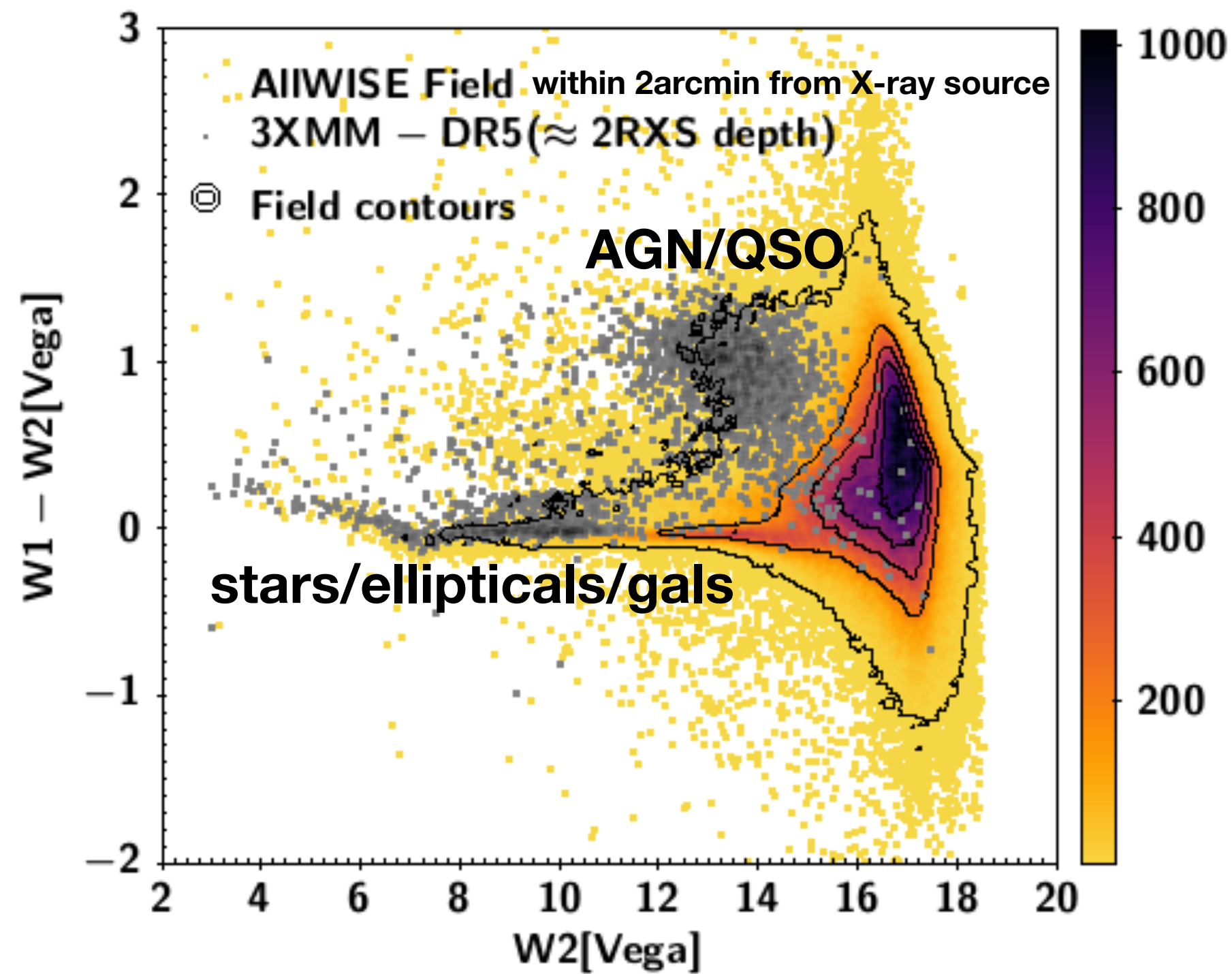
Feature	Description
$\text{flux}_*/\text{mw\_transmission}_*$	dereddened flux in $g, r, z, W1, W2$
$\text{gaia\_phot}_*\_*\text{mean\_mag}$	original GAIA phot. in $G, G_{bp}, G_{rp}$
$\text{snr}_*$	S/N for $g, r, z, W1, W2, G, G_{bp}, G_{rp}$
$\sqrt{\text{pmra}^2 + \text{pmdec}^2}$	Gaia proper motion
parallax	Gaia parallax
$g-r, r-z, z-W1, r-W2$	dereddened colors



- validation sample: 3500 Chandra sources with depth comparable to eFEDS, **made eROSITA-like**

# From Brain Learning to Machine Learning

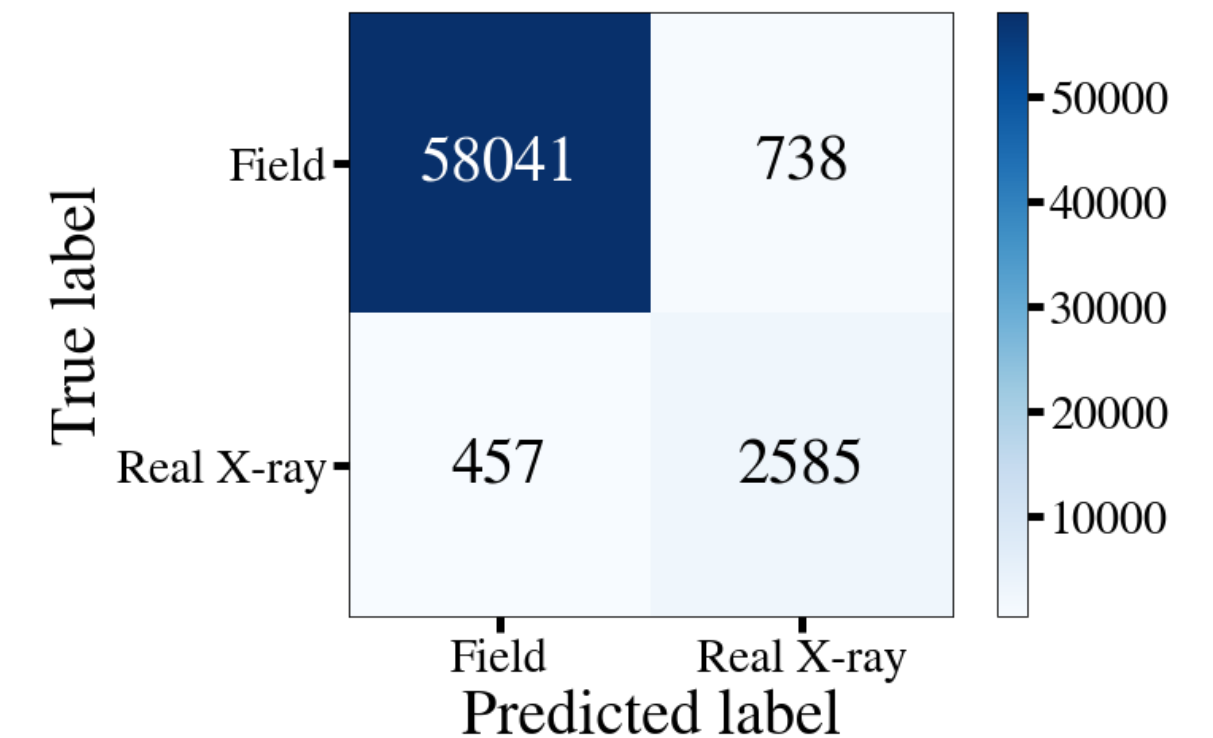
NWAY on ROSAT & XMM-SLEW2 (Salvato+ 2018)



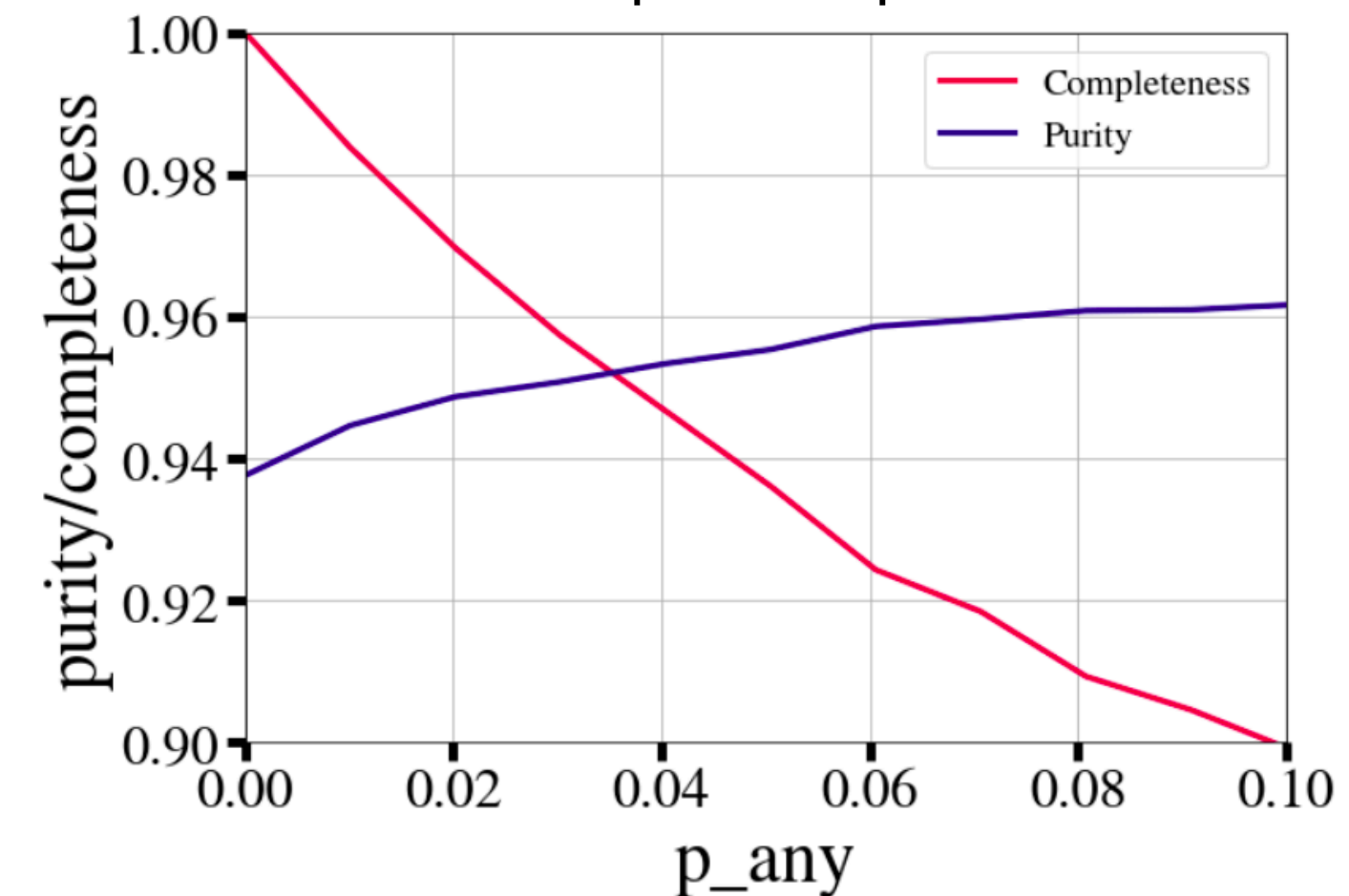
NWAY on eROSITA/eFEDS (Salvato+ 2022)

- Random Forest on :
  - training sample: 23K XMM sources with depth comparable to eFEDS and w/ secure CTP in Legacy Survey DR8 (Dey+2019).
  - control sample: the rest of the sources within 30" from each X-ray position

Feature	Description
$\text{flux}_*/\text{mw\_transmission}_*$	dereddened flux in $g, r, z, W1, W2$
$\text{gaia\_phot}_*\_*\text{mean\_mag}$	original GAIA phot. in $G, G_{bp}, G_{rp}$
$\text{snr}_*$	S/N for $g, r, z, W1, W2, G, G_{bp}, G_{rp}$
$\sqrt{pmra^2 + pmdec^2}$	Gaia proper motion
parallax	Gaia parallax
$g-r, r-z, z-W1, r-W2$	dereddened colors



- validation sample: 3500 Chandra sources with depth comparable to eFEDS, **made eROSITA-like**



# Comparison between methods

## NWAY

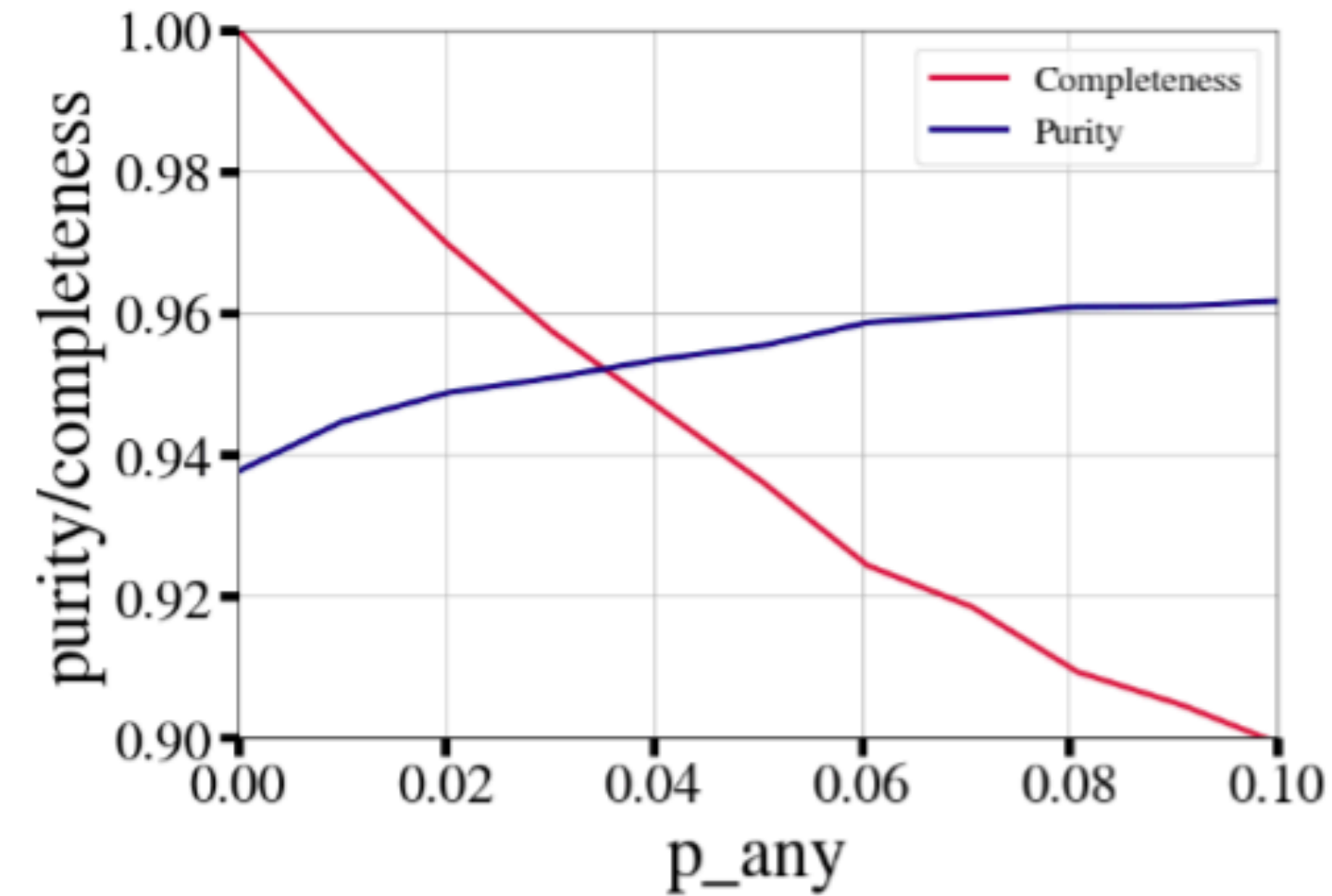
Feature	Description
flux_*/mw_transmission_*	dereddened flux in $g, r, z, W1, W2$
gaia_phot_*_mean_mag	original GAIA phot. in $G, G_{bp}, G_{rp}$
snr_*	S/N for $g, r, z, W1, W2, G, G_{bp}, G_{rp}$
$\sqrt{pmra^2 + pmdec^2}$	Gaia proper motion
parallax	Gaia parallax
$g-r, r-z, z-W1, r-W2$	dereddened colors

## MLR in Astromatch (Ruiz+2018)

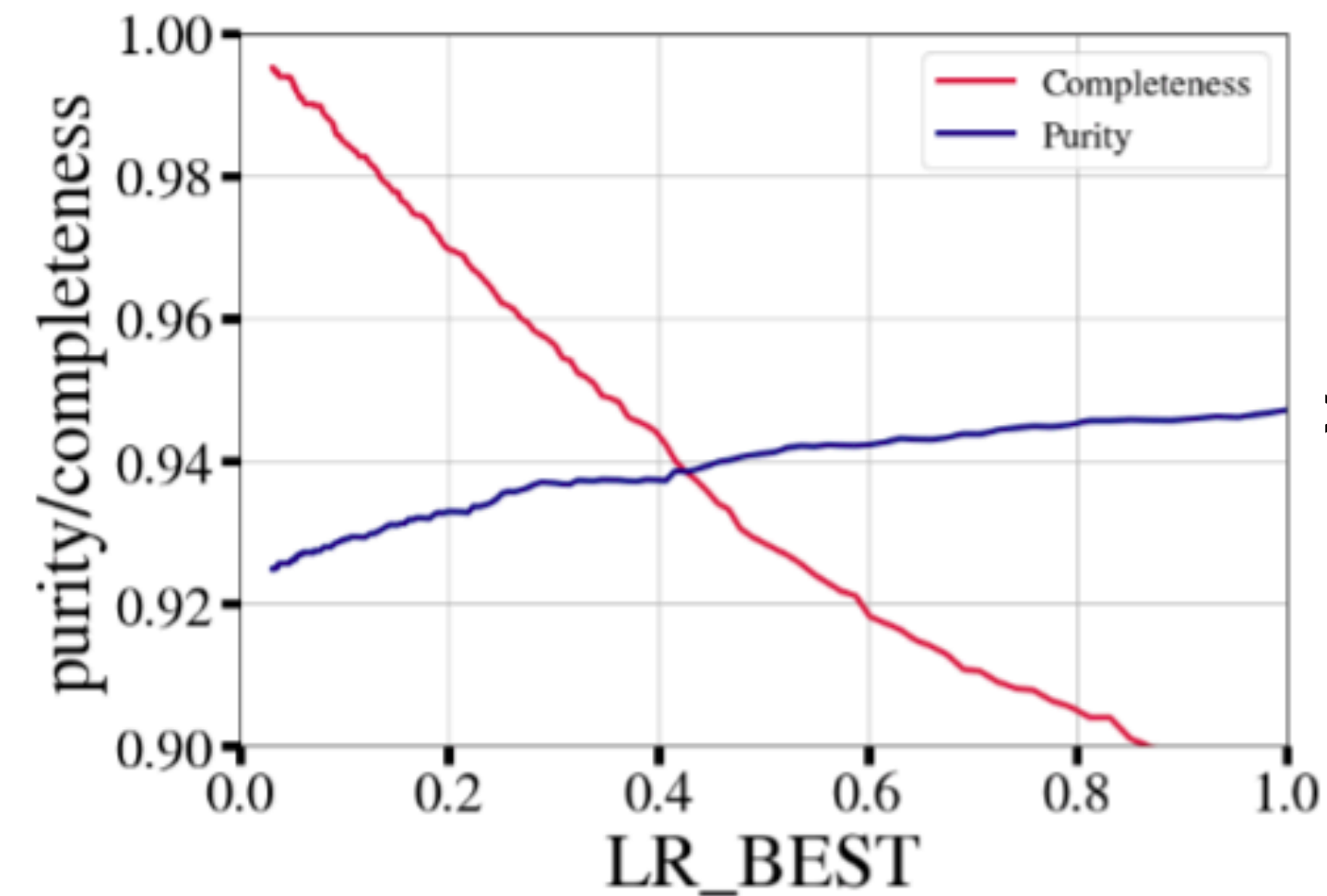
Using the same training, control and validation samples

- 3-D distribution  $W2, W1-W2, TYPE$
- 3-D distribution  $r-W2, g, TYPE$
- $g$  band

then select the CTP with higher LR from one of the 3 methods



**95% correct ctp**  
**2% w/ second possible CTP**



**89% correct ctp**  
**>10% w/ second possible CTP**

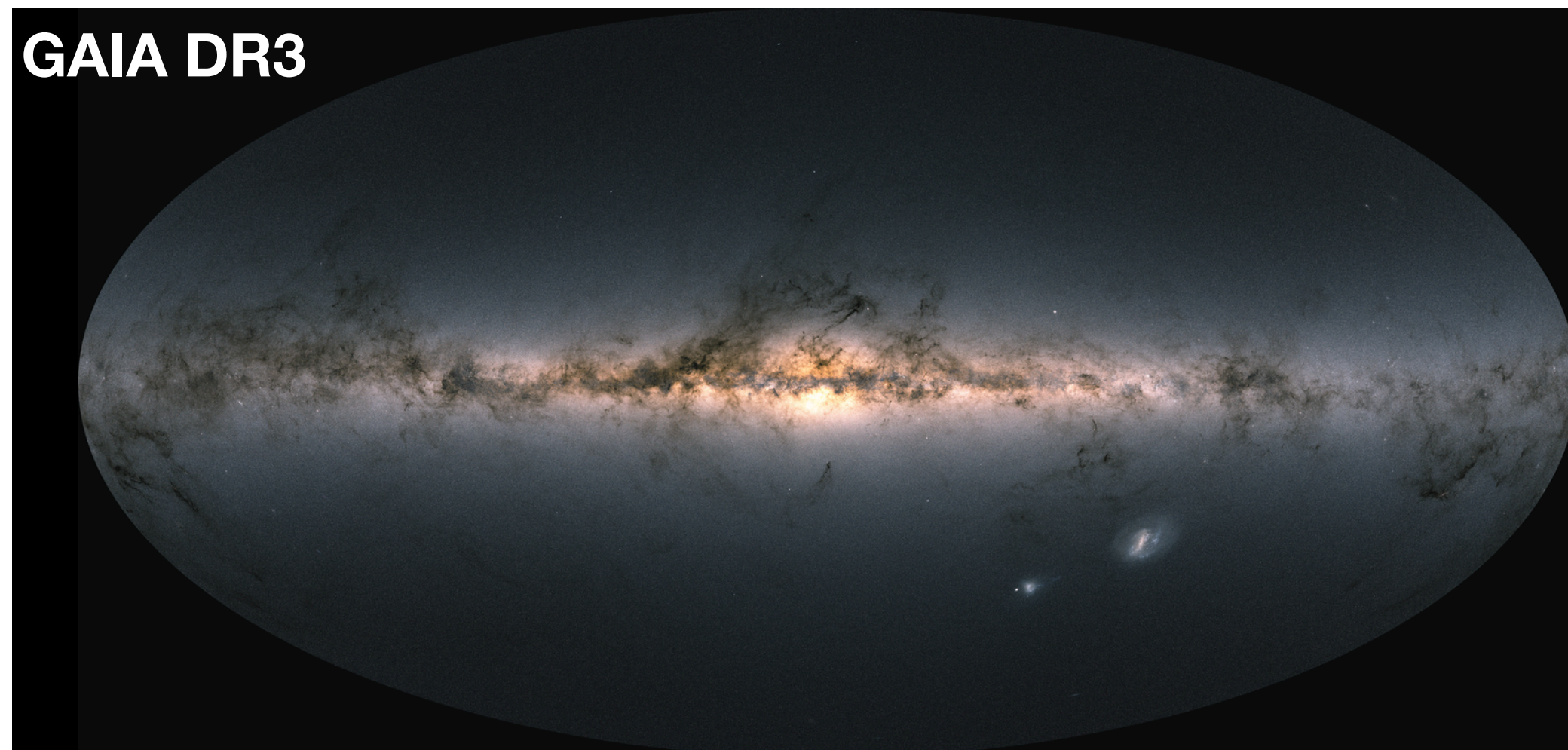
**88% agreement, with fraction of disagreement increasing with the positional error**

(details in Salvato+2022)

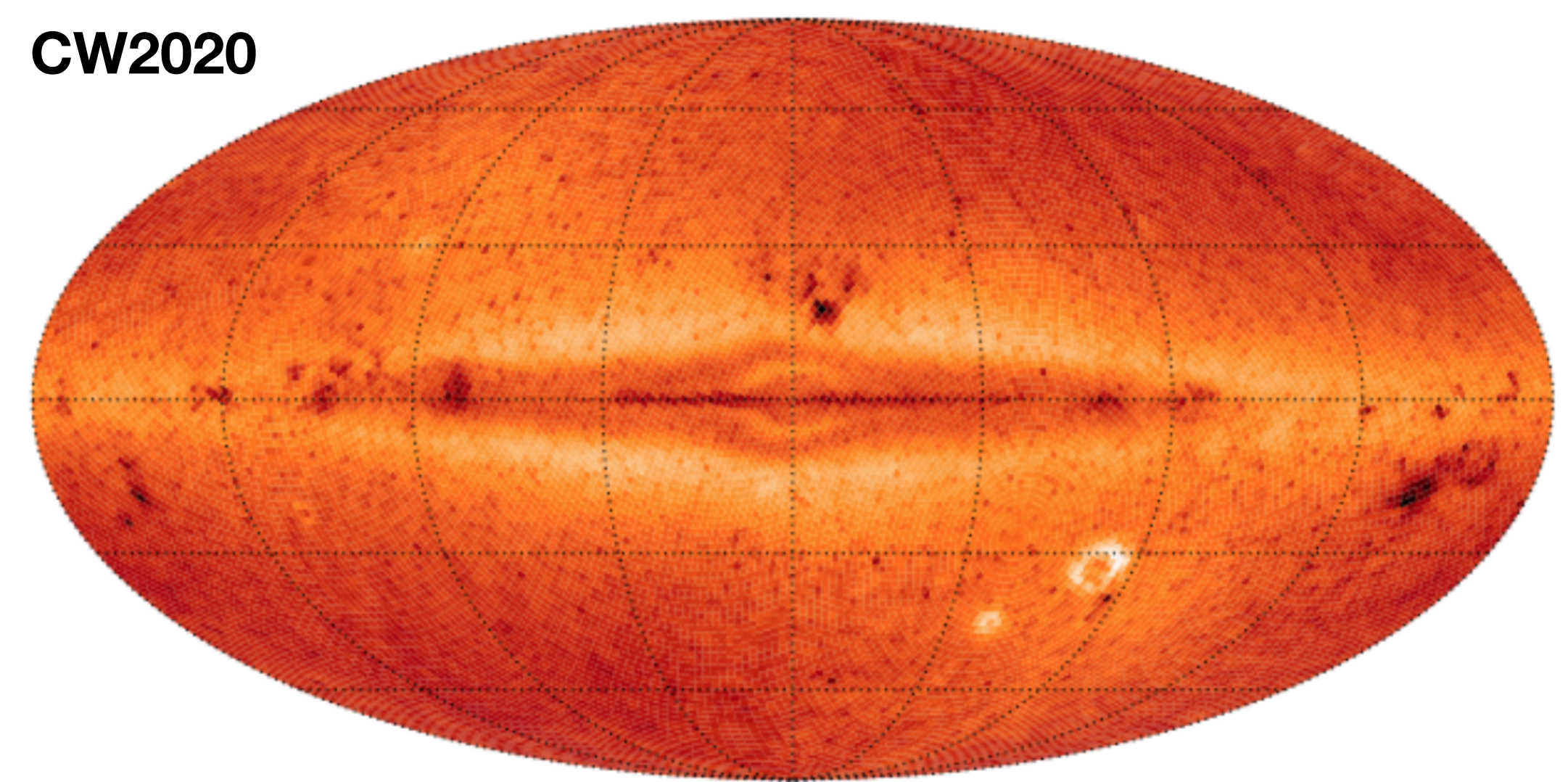
For all-sky,  
we are depending on the availability of suitable ancillary data

(details in Salvato+2024 in prep)

GAIA DR3

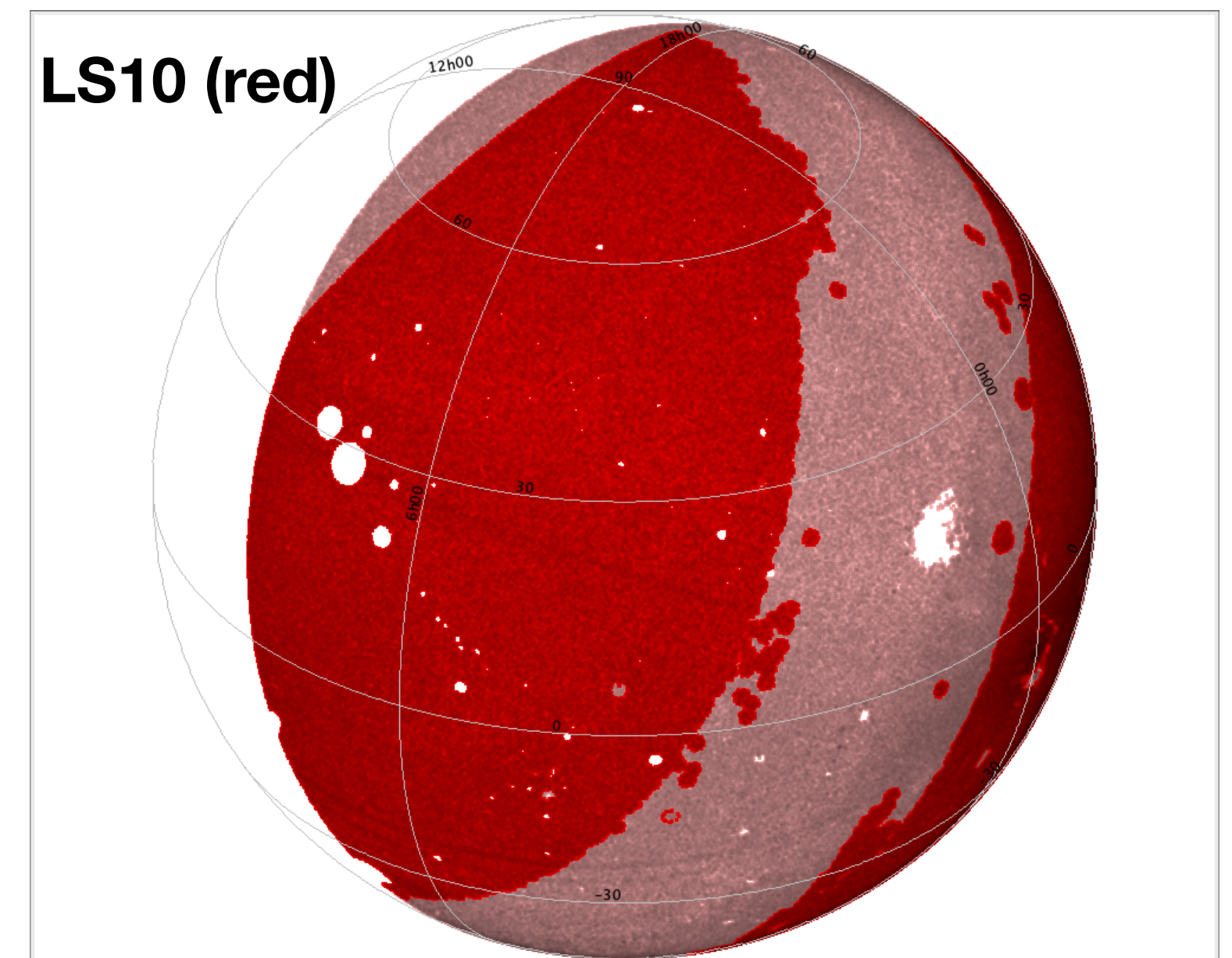


CW2020



Survey	Depth	Bands	Coverage	targets
Gaia	20	Gr,Gb,G	all-sky	stars, compact objects,qso
CW2020	20.4, 20.8	W1,W2	all-sky	cold stars, QSO, AGN
LS10	~24	griz(W1-4)	14k sq.deg	all, including clusters

LS10 (red)



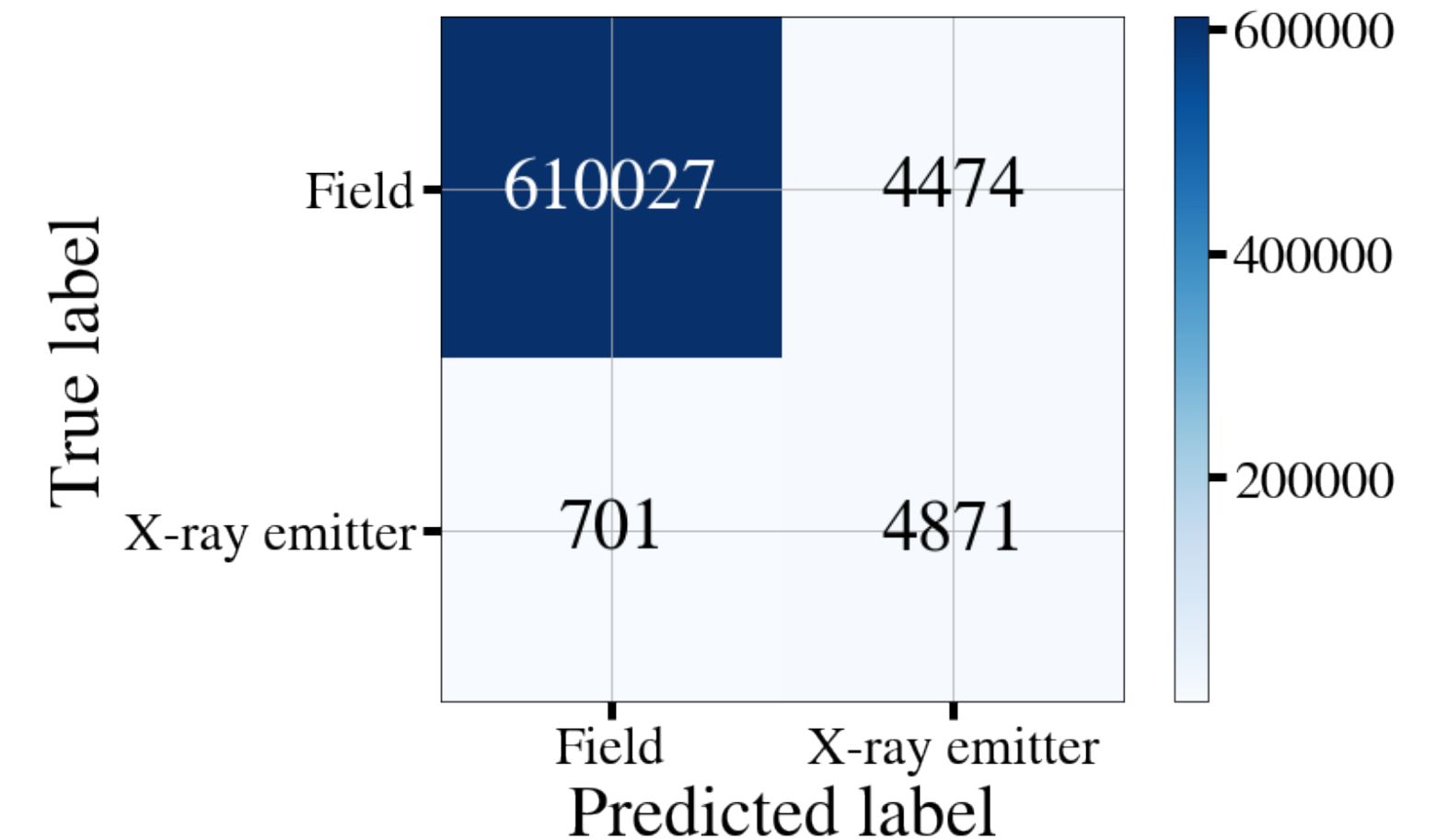
# NWAY\_RF: the features used as priors

(details in Salvato+2024 in prep)

- **LS10**

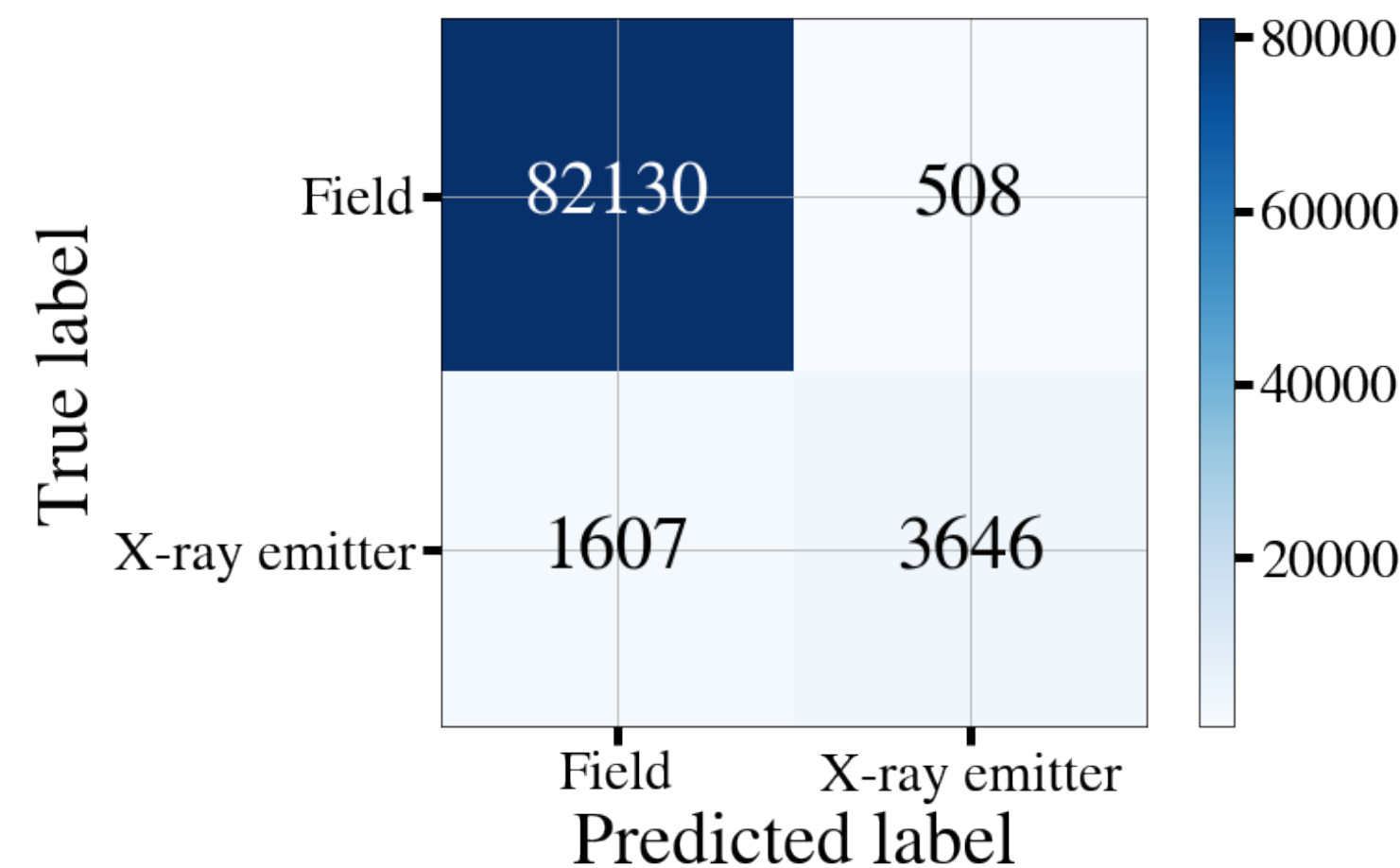
extinction-corrected fluxes  
 flux errors  
 flux ratios (colors)  
 shape\_r', 'shape\_e1', 'shape\_e2', 'sersic',  
 Gaia photometry  
 Gaia S/N  
 Gaia proper motion and error  
 Gaia parallax and error

- 87.5% recall fraction
- 0.7% leakage



- **Gaia EDR3**

Gaia photometry  
 Gaia S/N  
 Gaia proper motion and error  
 Gaia parallax and error  
 Gaia astrometric\_excess\_noise

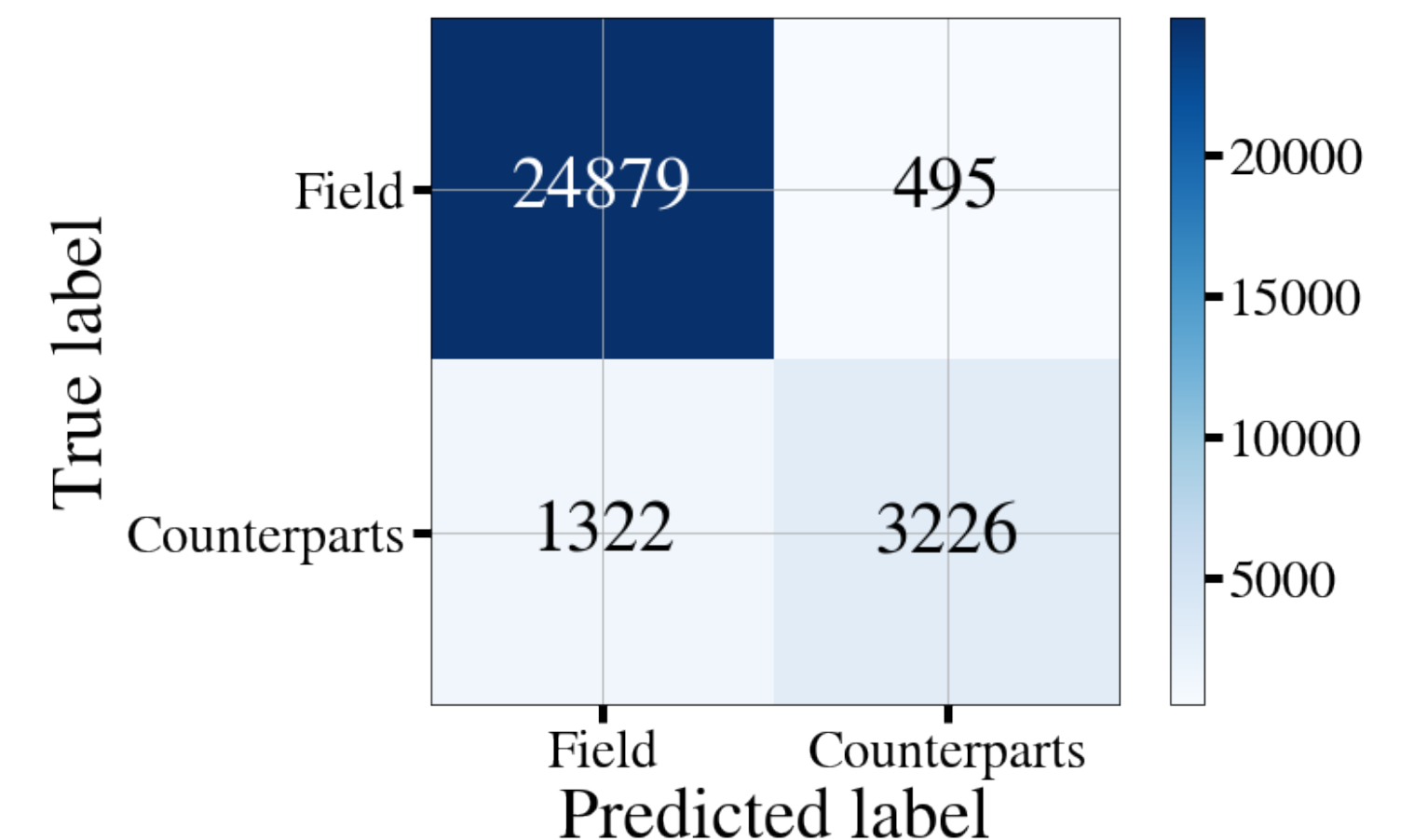


- 69% recall fraction
- 0.7% leakage

- **CatWISE 2020**

W1 and W2 fluxes  
 W1 and W2 aperture photometry  
 W1-W2 color  
 Flux errors  
 proper motion and error

- 71% recall fraction
- 2% leakage



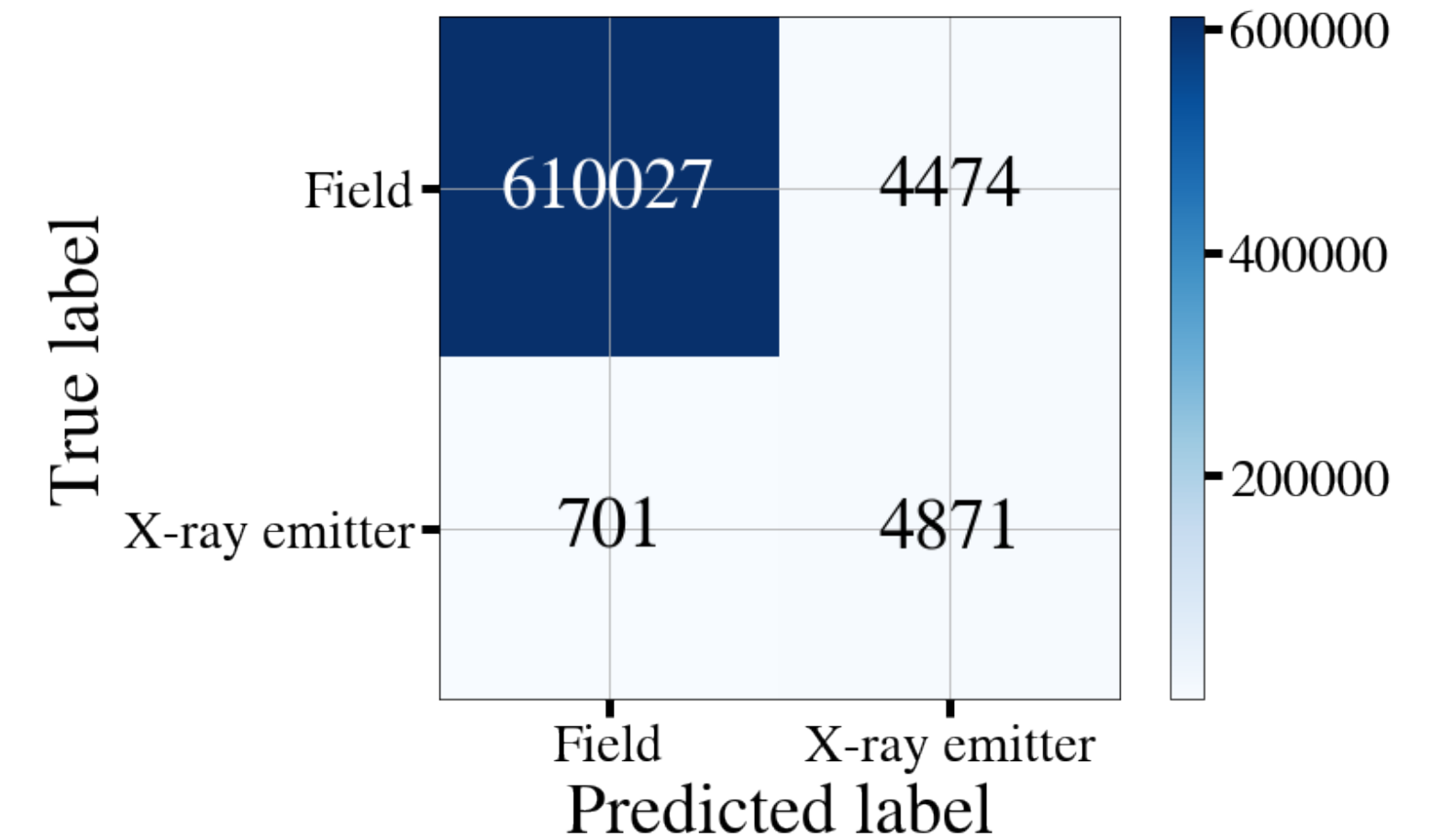
# NWAY\_RF: the features used as priors

(details in Salvato+2024 in prep)

- **LS10**

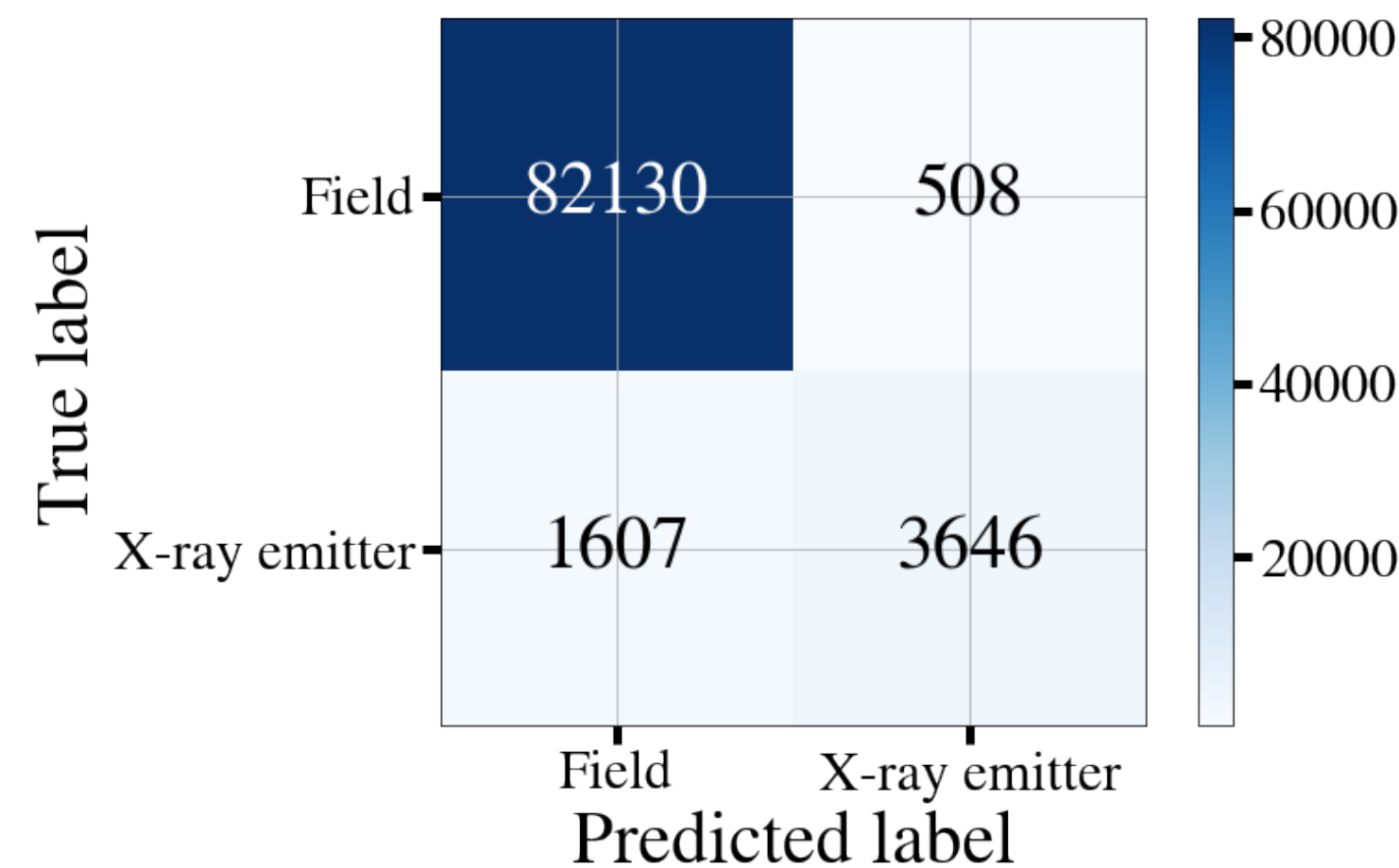
extinction-corrected fluxes  
 flux errors  
 flux ratios (colors)  
 shape\_r', 'shape\_e1', 'shape\_e2', 'sersic',  
 Gaia photometry  
 Gaia S/N  
 Gaia proper motion and error  
 Gaia parallax and error

- 87.5% recall fraction
- 0.7% leakage



- **Gaia EDR3**

Gaia photometry  
 Gaia S/N  
 Gaia proper motion and error  
 Gaia parallax and error  
 Gaia astrometric\_excess\_noise  
**Gaia Colors**  
**Correction for extinction**

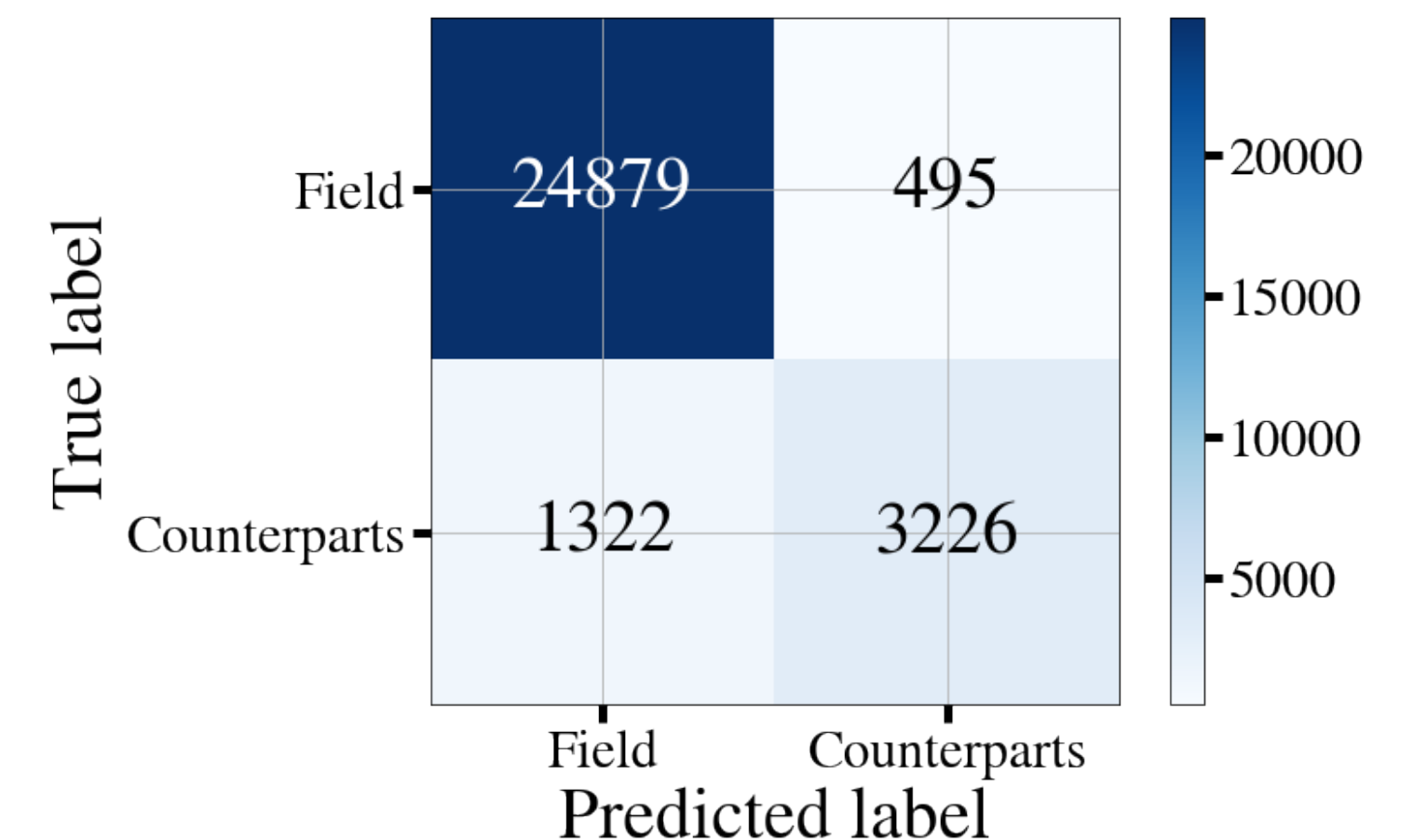


- 69% recall fraction
- 0.7% leakage

- **CatWISE 2020**

W1 and W2 fluxes  
 W1 and W2 aperture photometry  
 W1-W2 color  
 Flux errors  
 proper motion and error

- 71% recall fraction
- 2% leakage



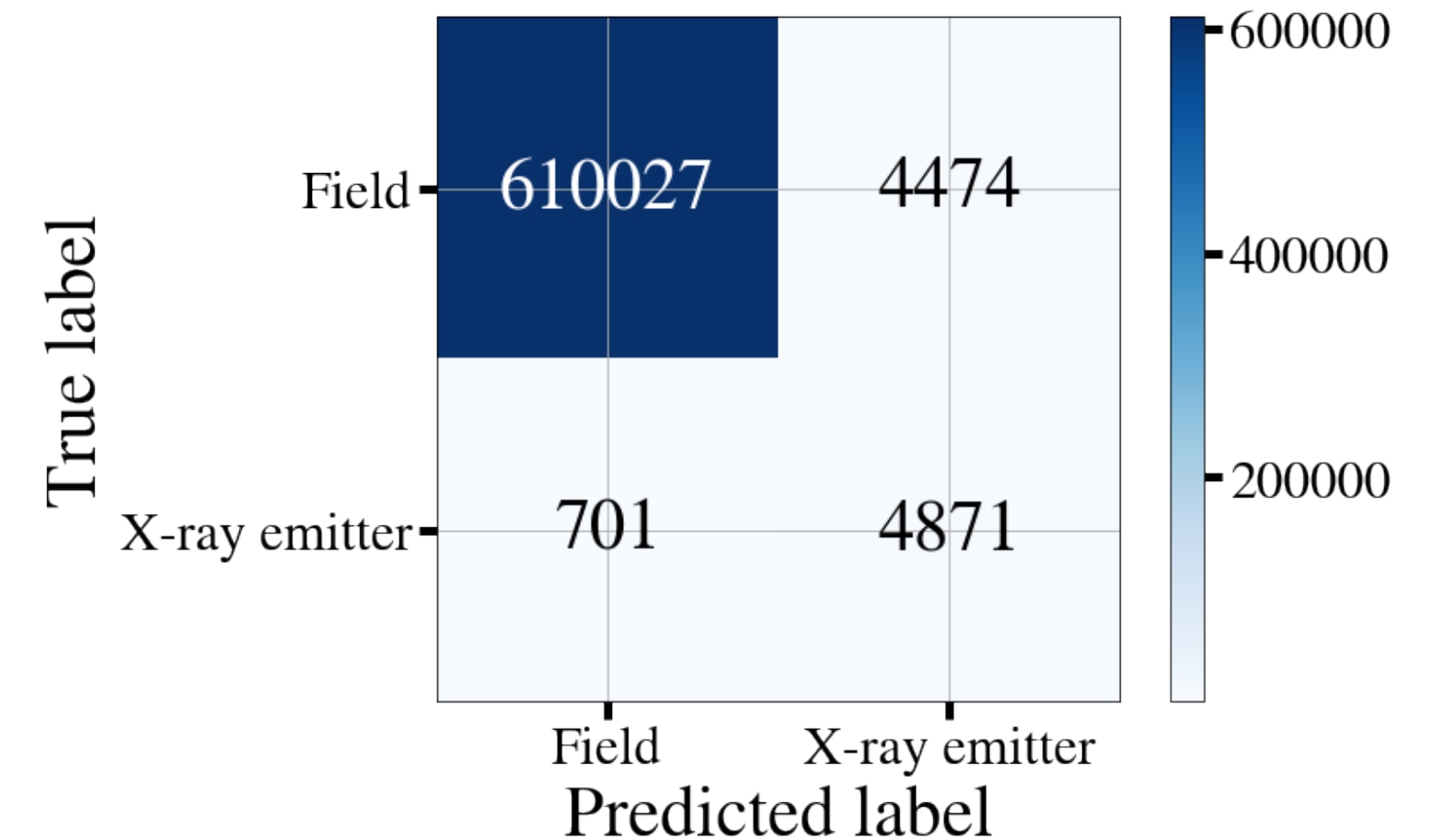
# NWAY\_RF: the features used as priors

(details in Salvato+2024 in prep)

- **LS10**

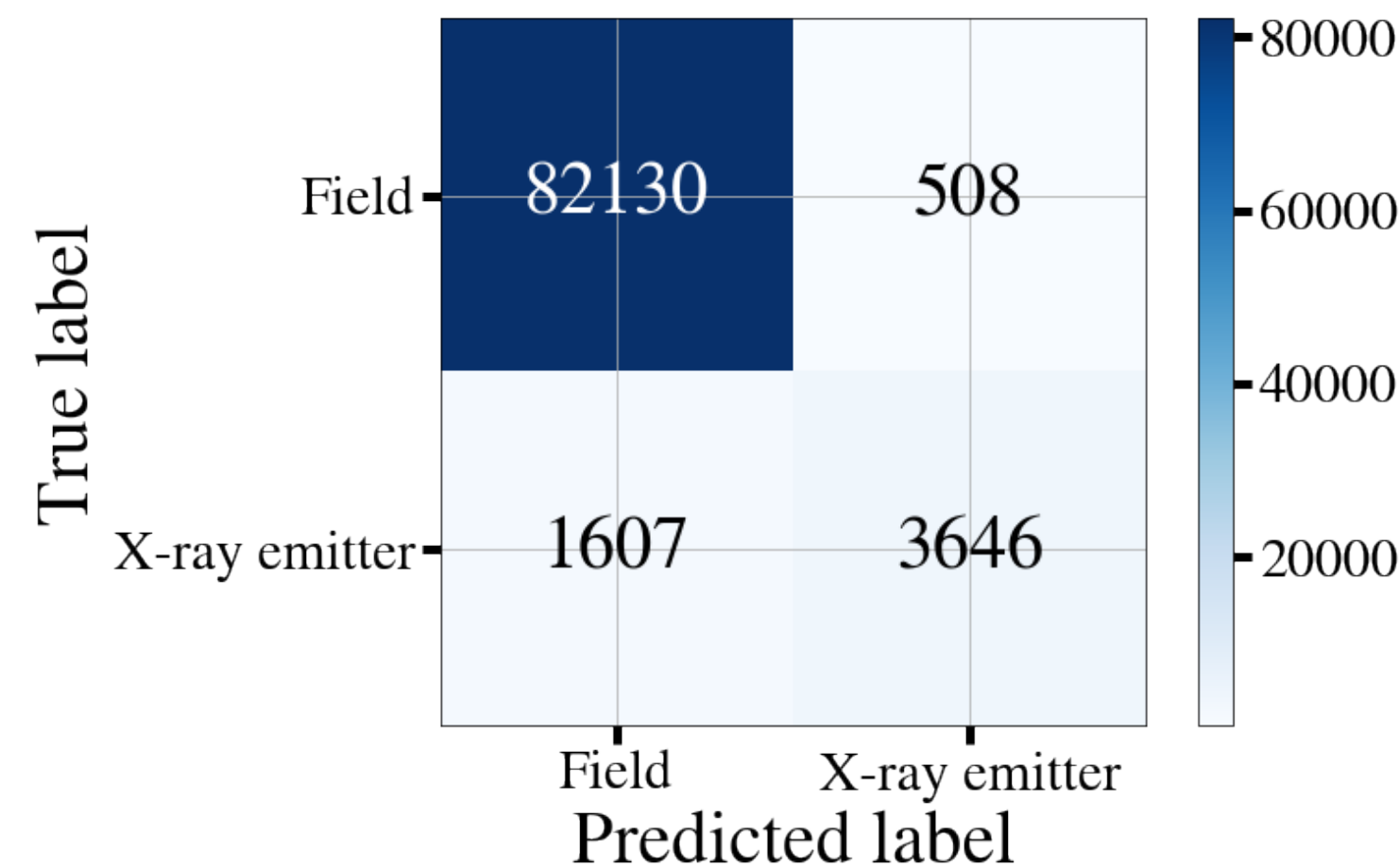
extinction-corrected fluxes  
 flux errors  
 flux ratios (colors)  
 shape\_r', 'shape\_e1', 'shape\_e2', 'sersic',  
 Gaia photometry  
 Gaia S/N  
 Gaia proper motion and error  
 Gaia parallax and error

- 87.5% recall fraction
- 0.7% leakage



- **Gaia EDR3**

Gaia photometry  
 Gaia S/N  
 Gaia proper motion and error  
 Gaia parallax and error  
 Gaia astrometric\_excess\_noise  
**Gaia Colors**  
**Correction for extinction**

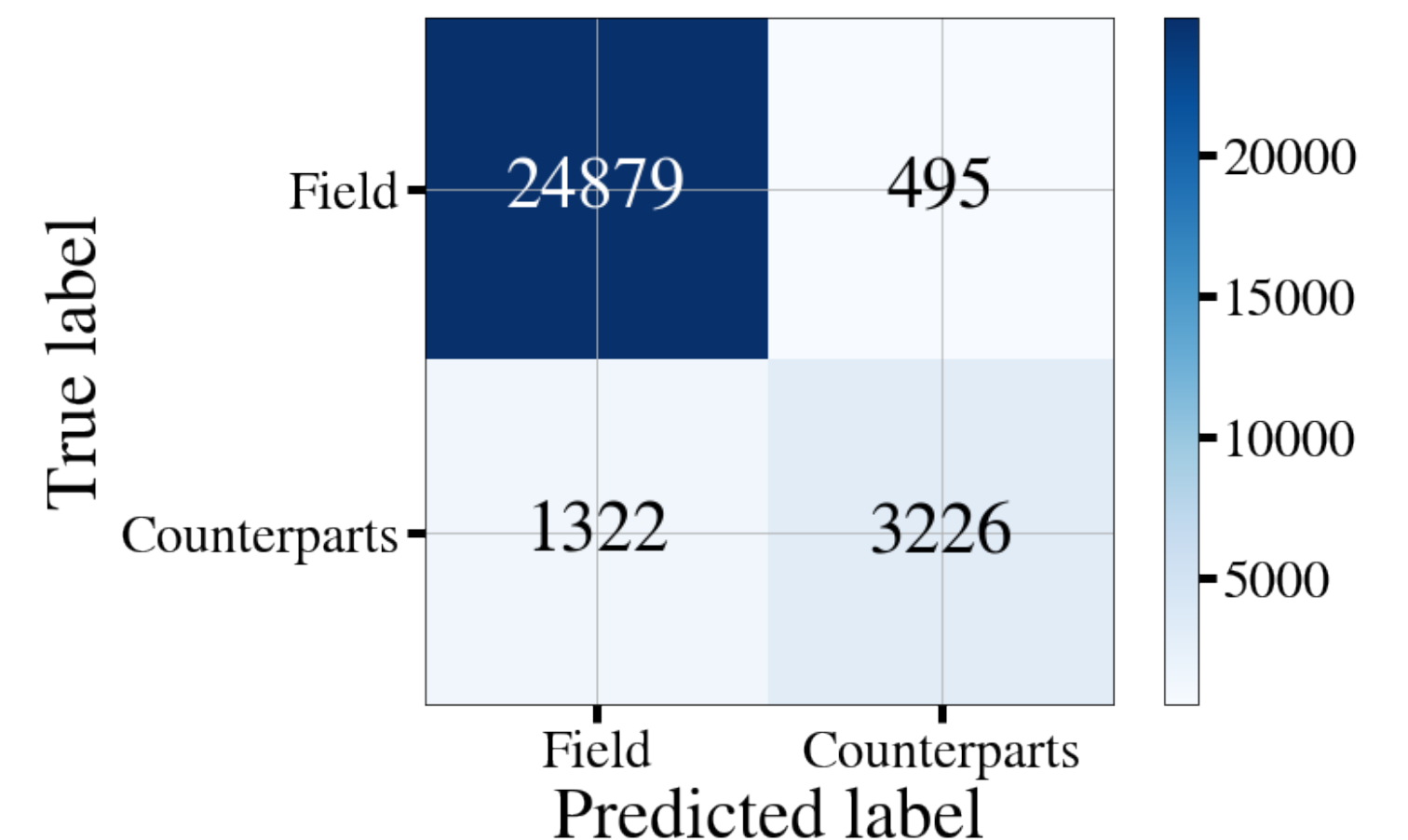


- 72% recall fraction
- 0.7% leakage

- **CatWISE 2020**

W1 and W2 fluxes  
 W1 and W2 aperture photometry  
 W1-W2 color  
 Flux errors  
 proper motion and error

- 71% recall fraction
- 2% leakage

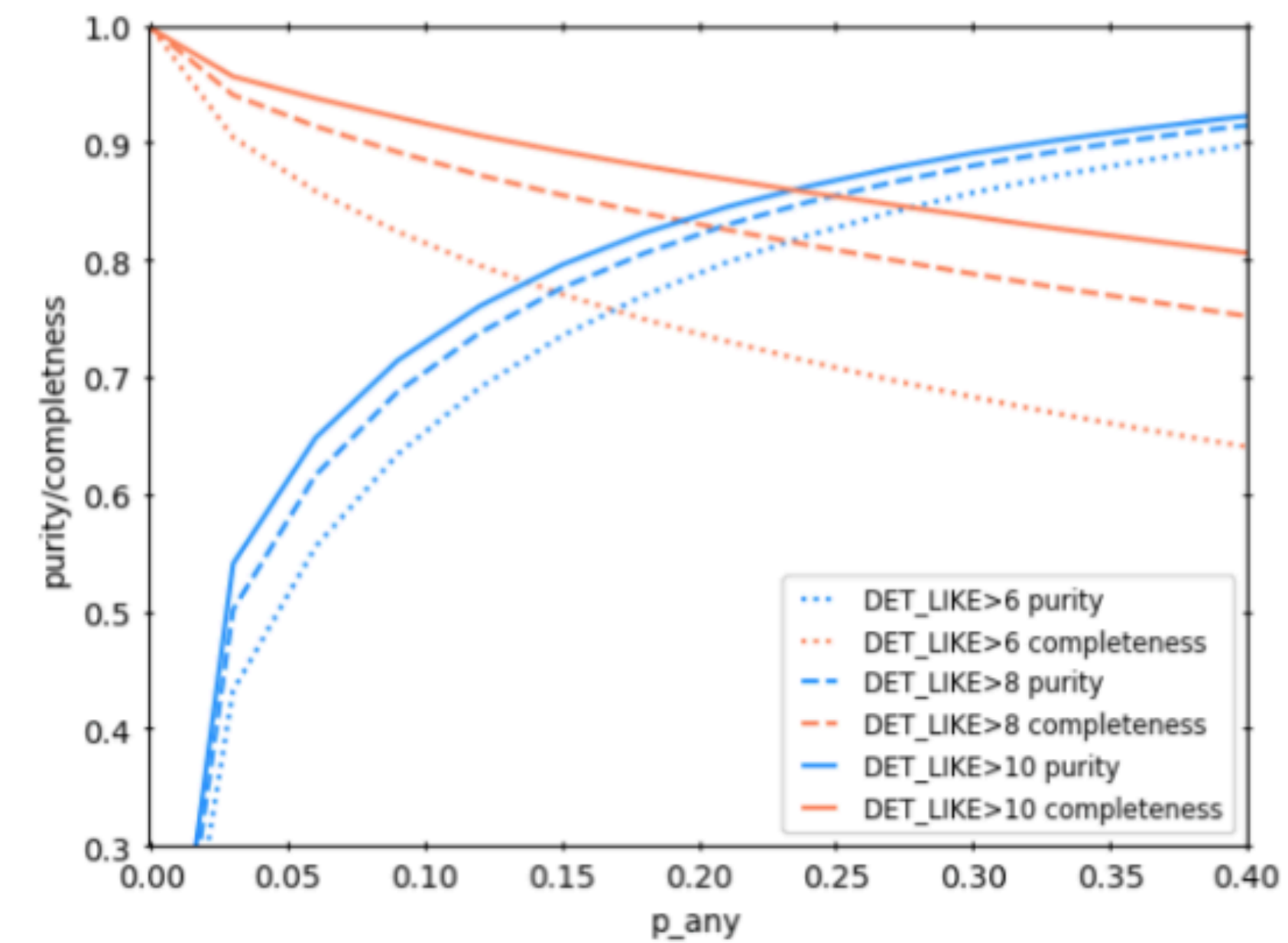
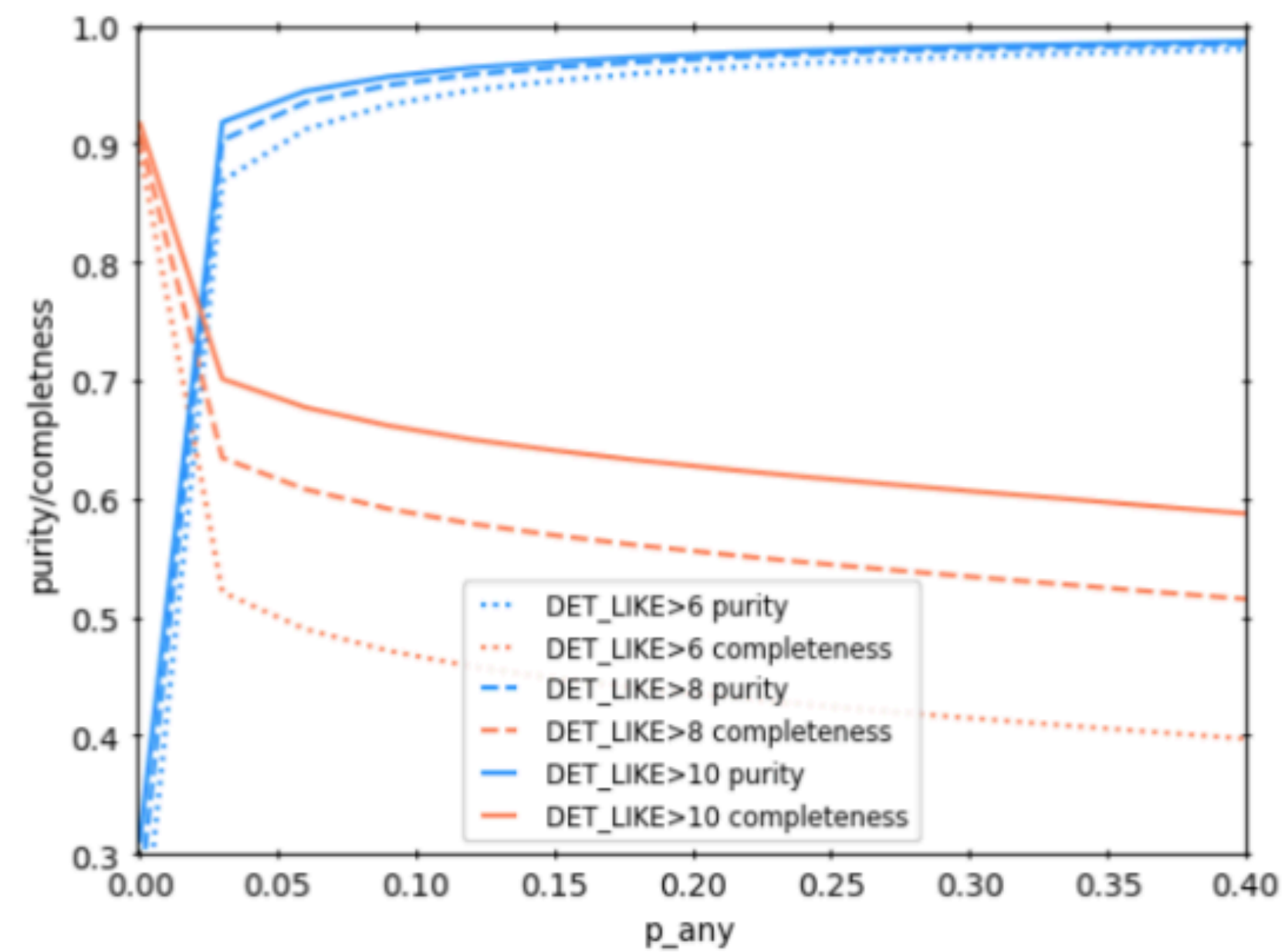
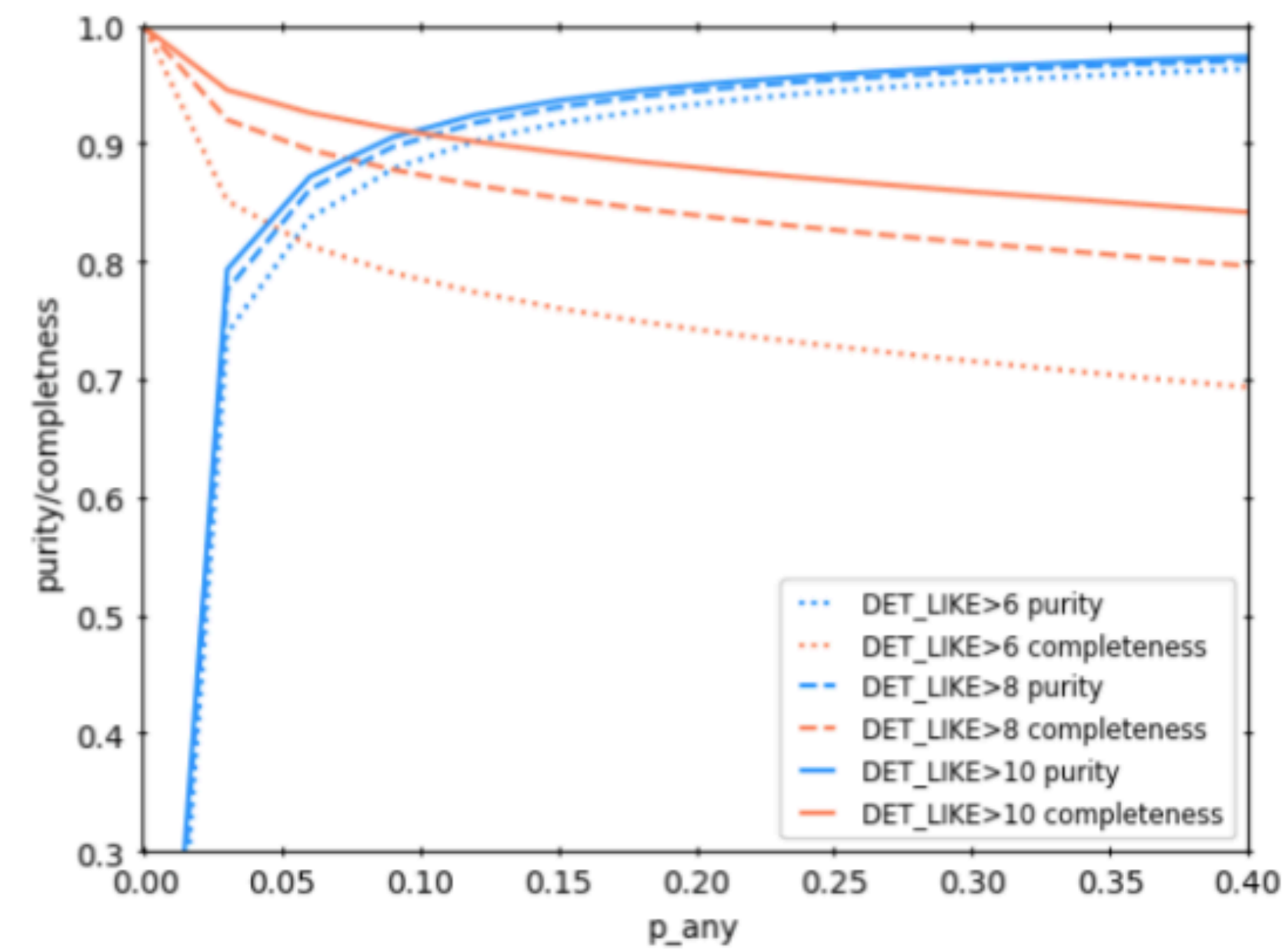


# Averaged purity/completeness over the entire sky look good but ...

LS10

Gaia DR3

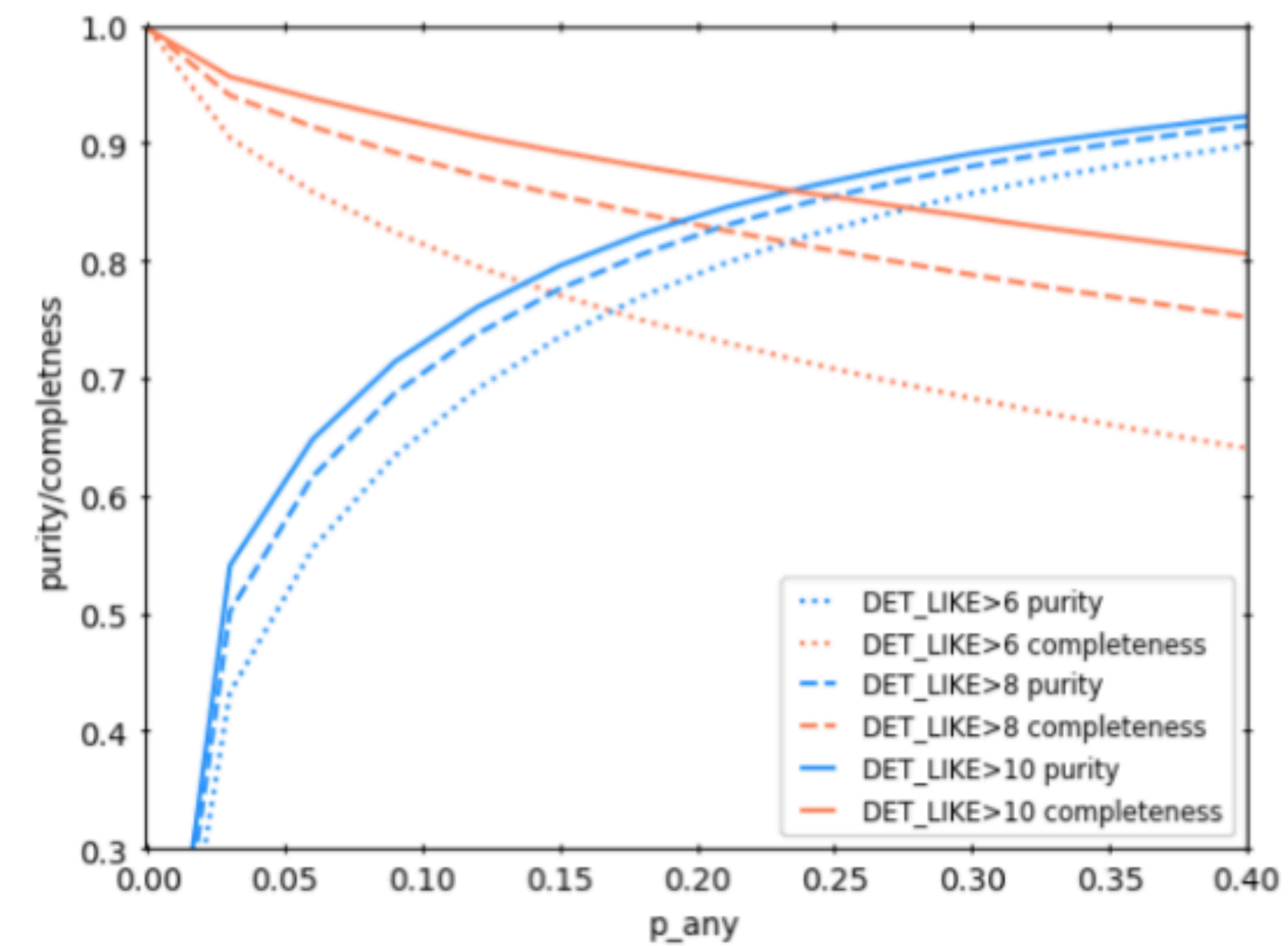
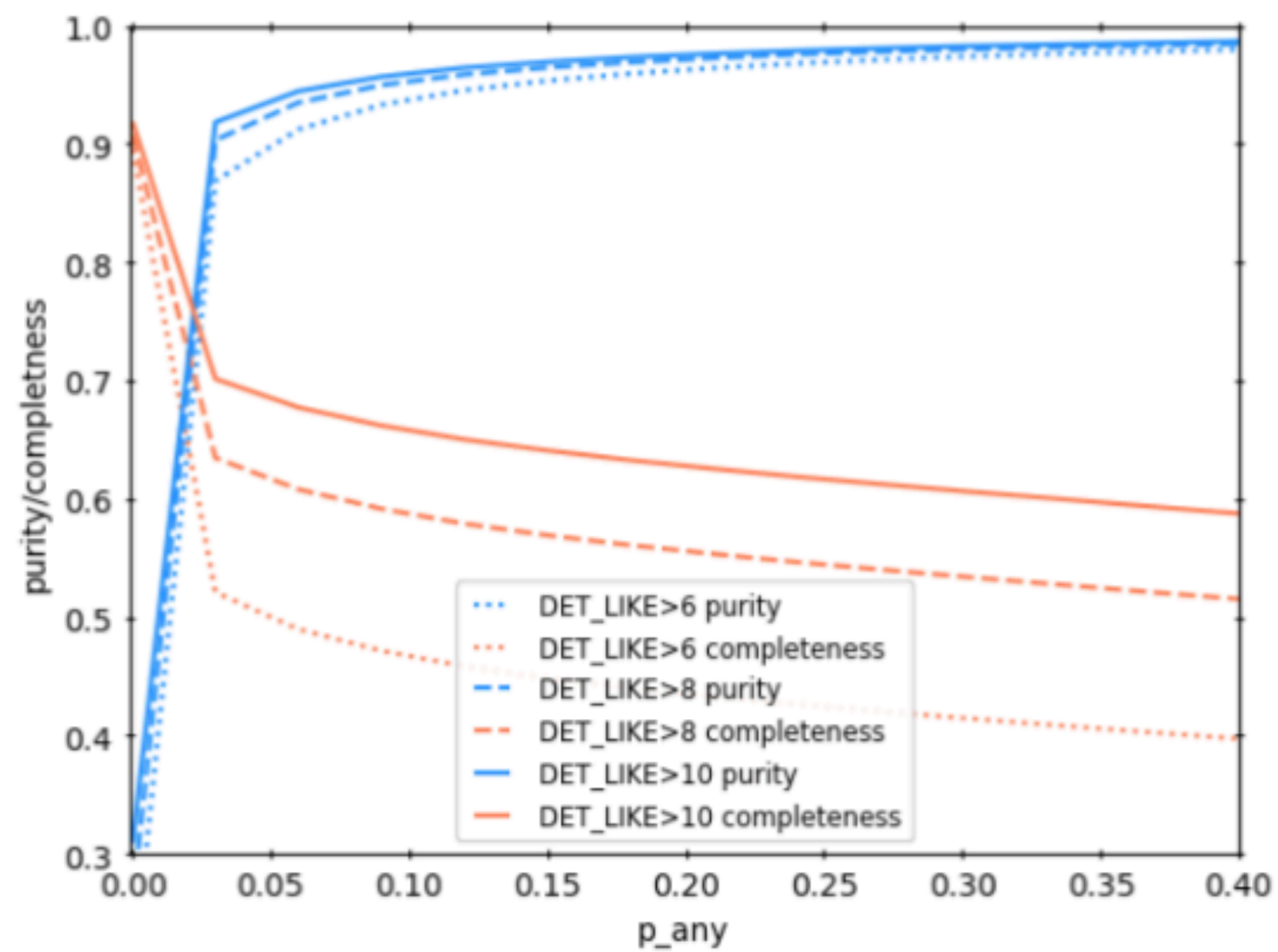
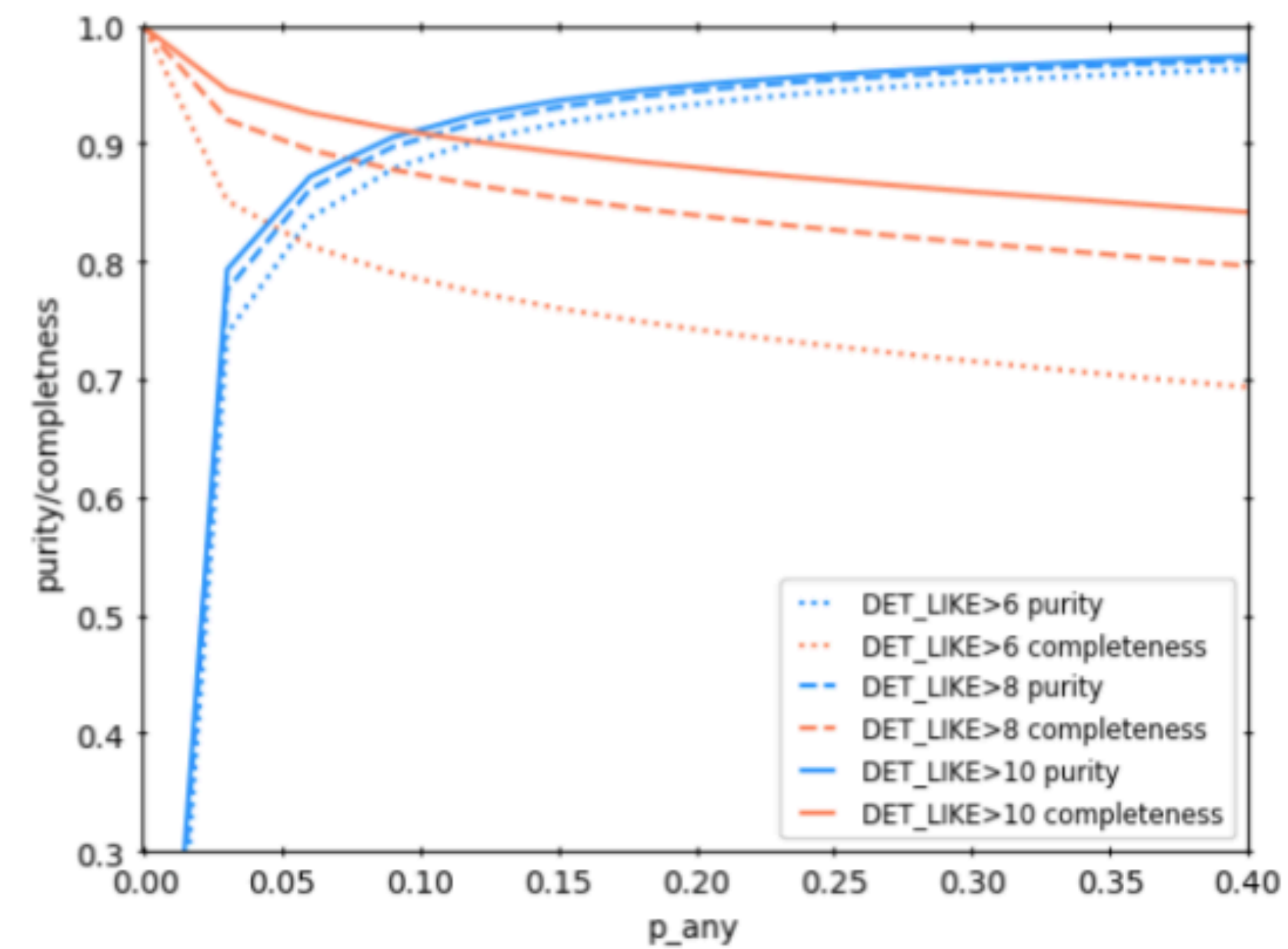
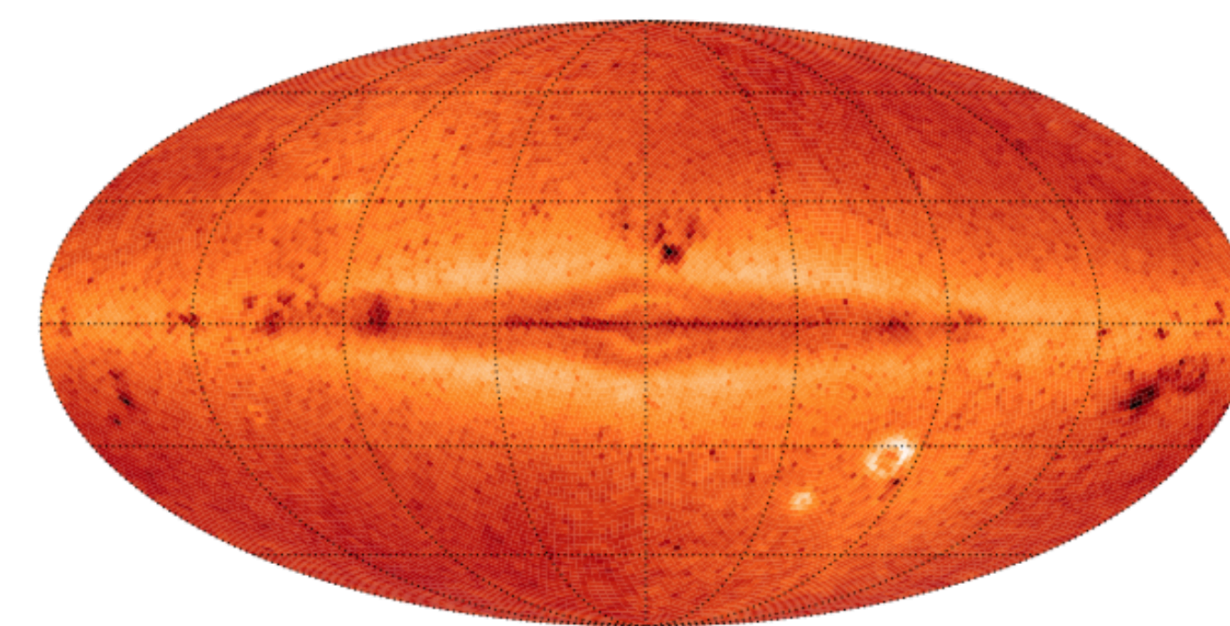
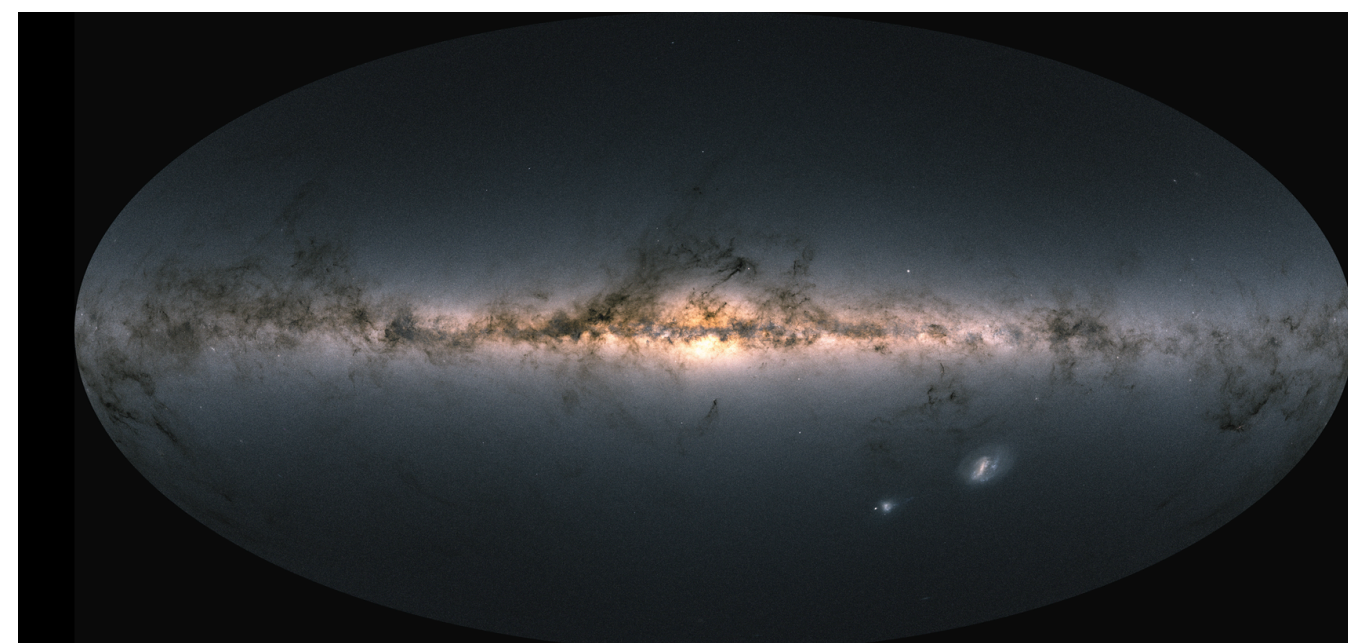
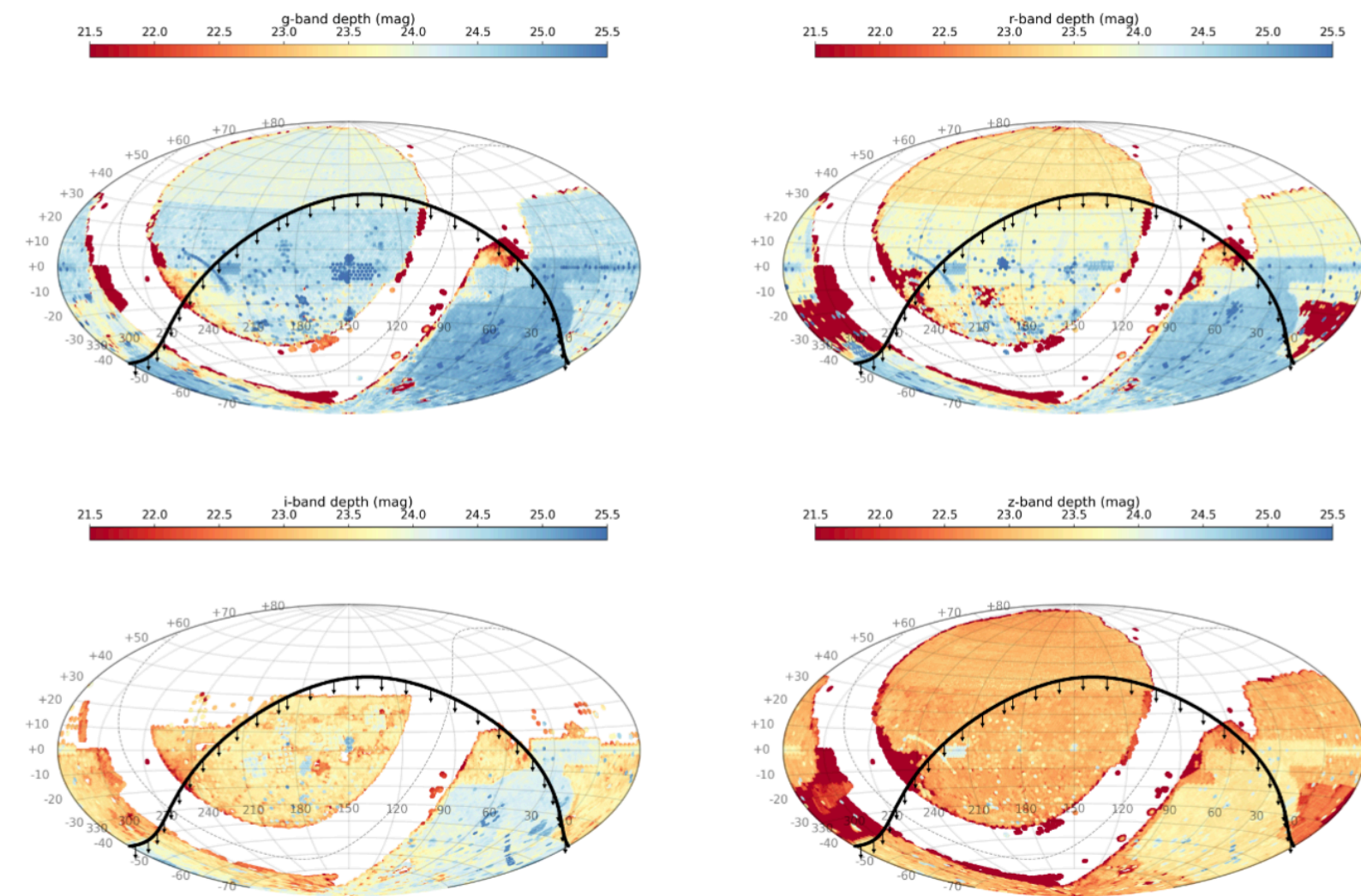
CW2020



(details in Salvato+2024 in prep)

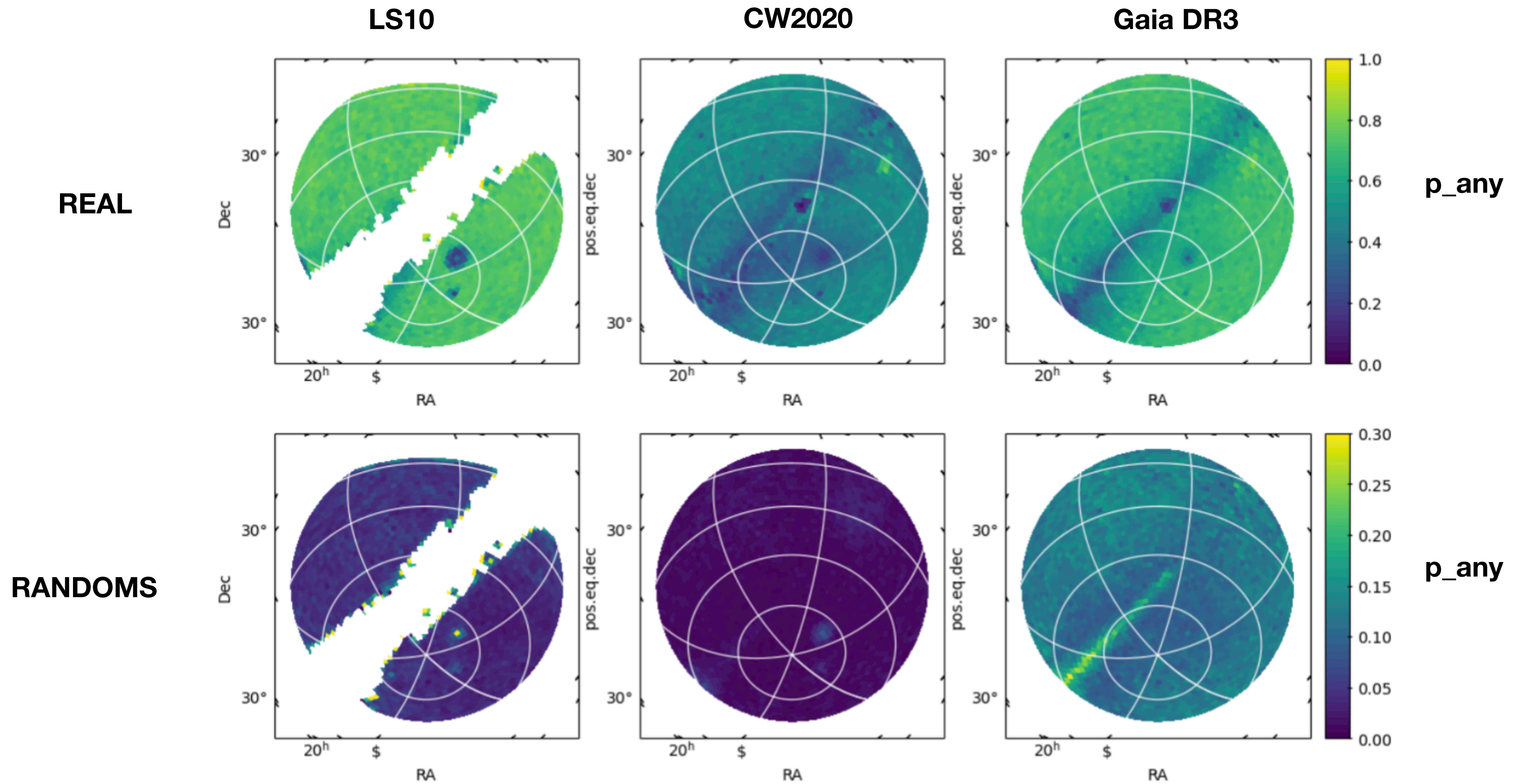


# Averaged purity/completeness over the entire sky look good but ...



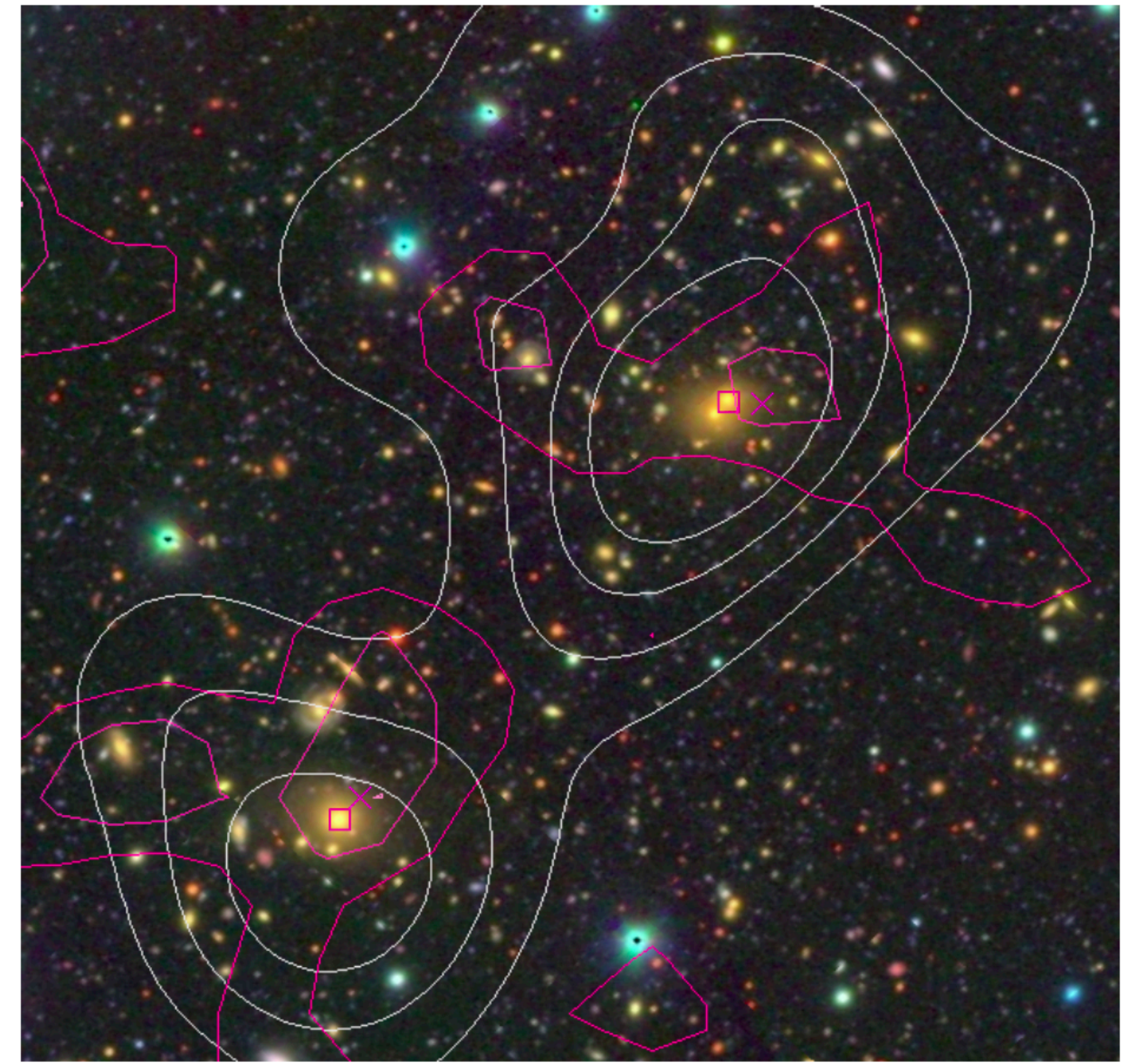
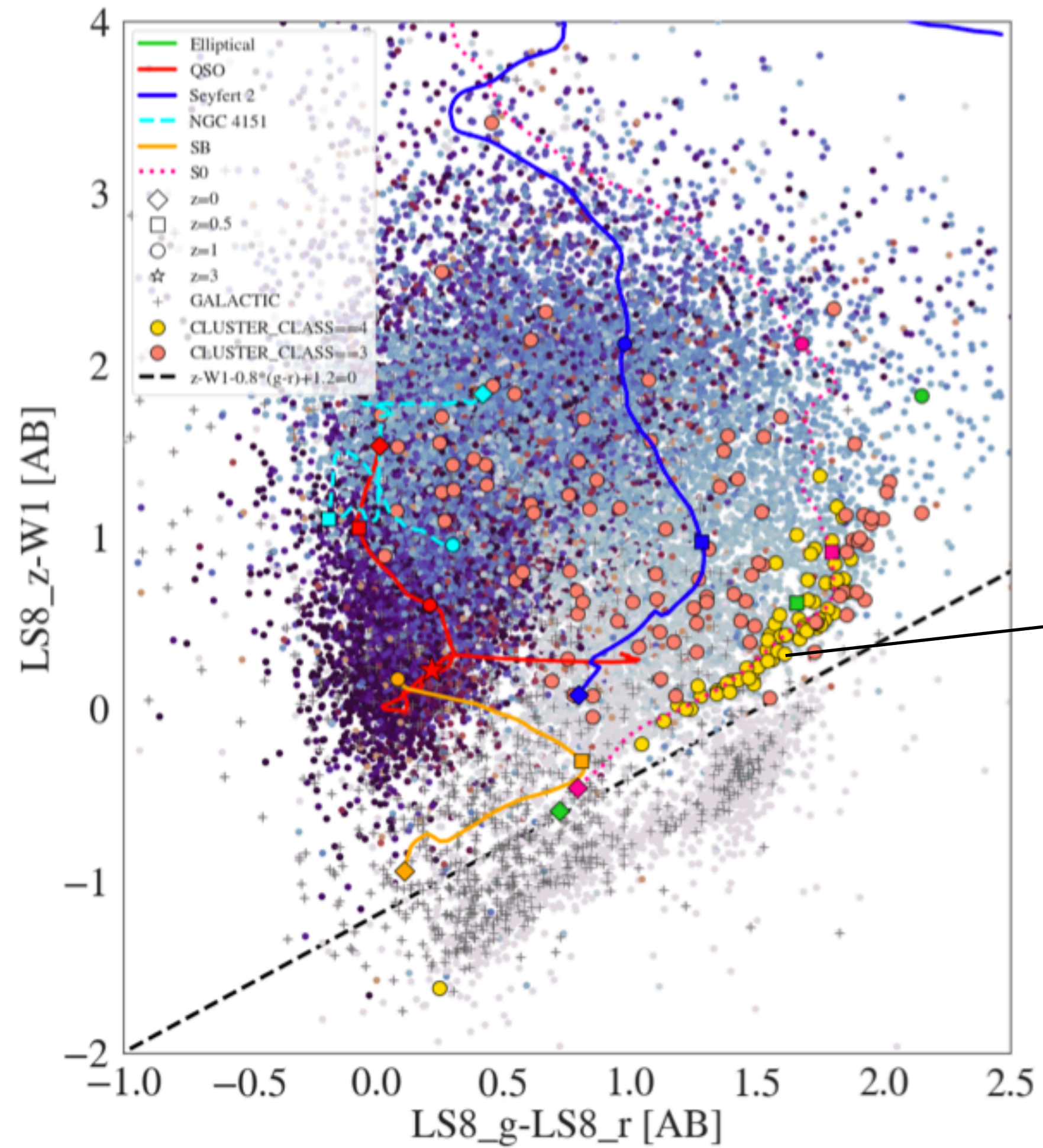
(details in Salvato+2024 in prep)

# completeness and purity are coordinates depending

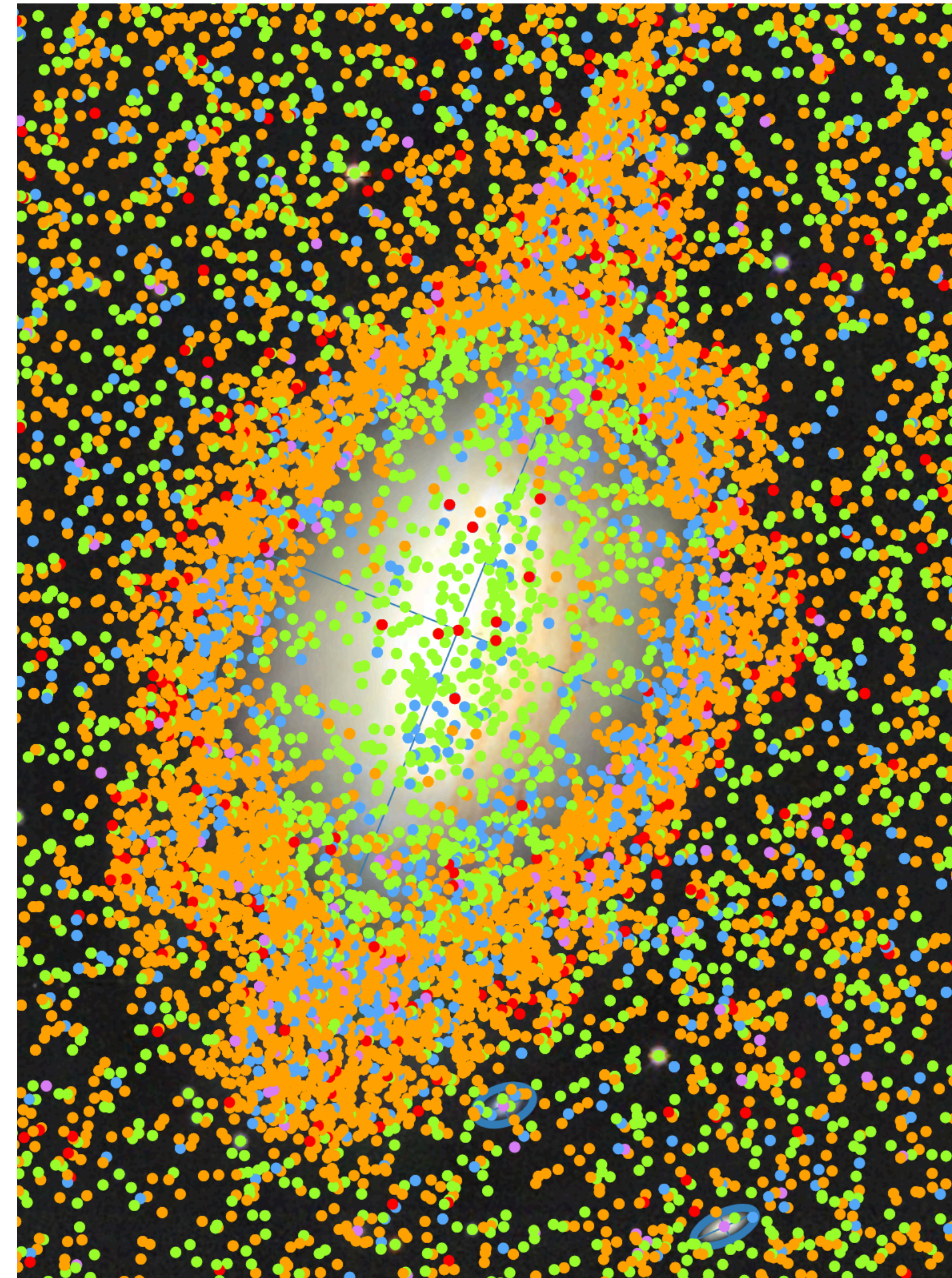
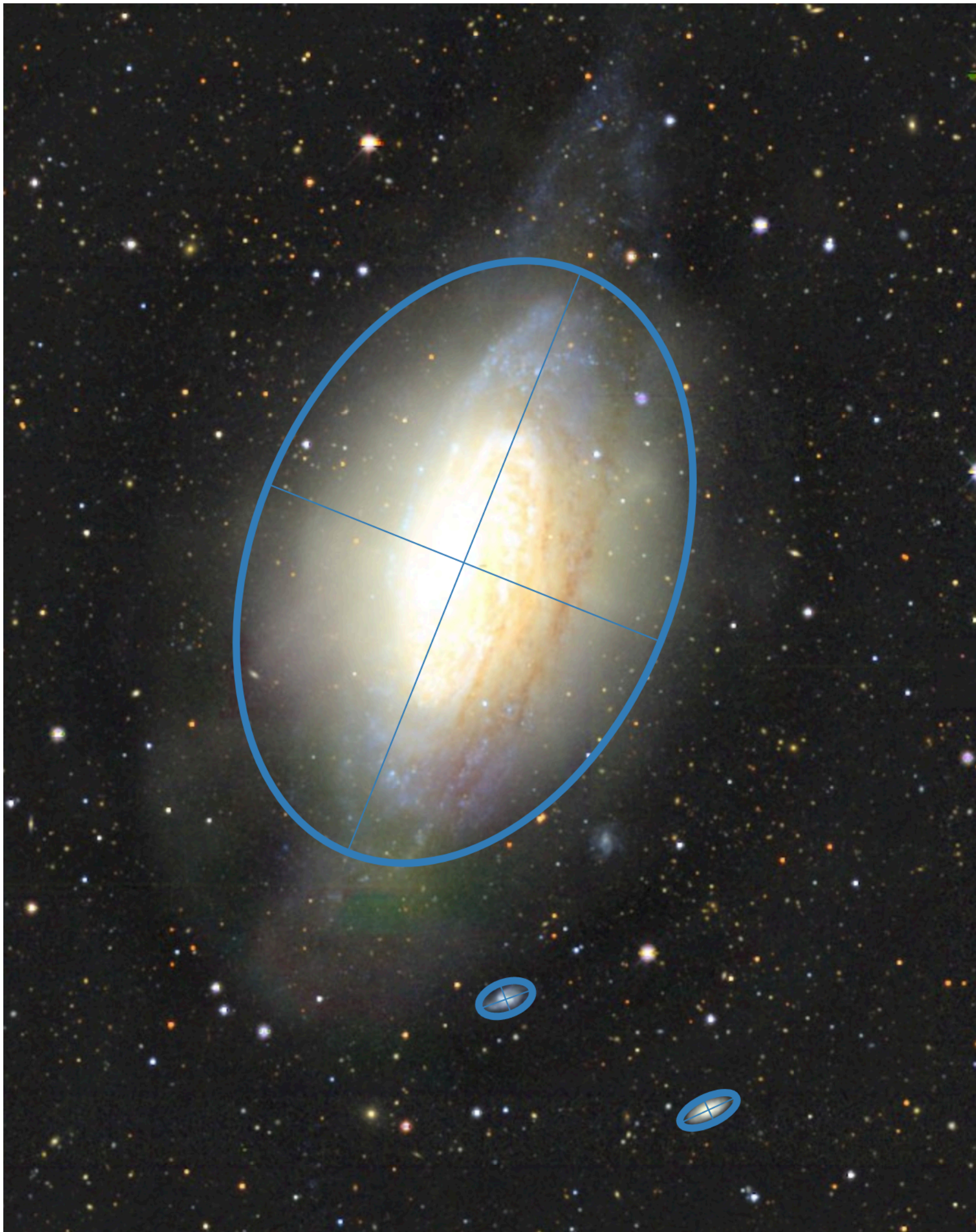


# The probabilities actually mean something!

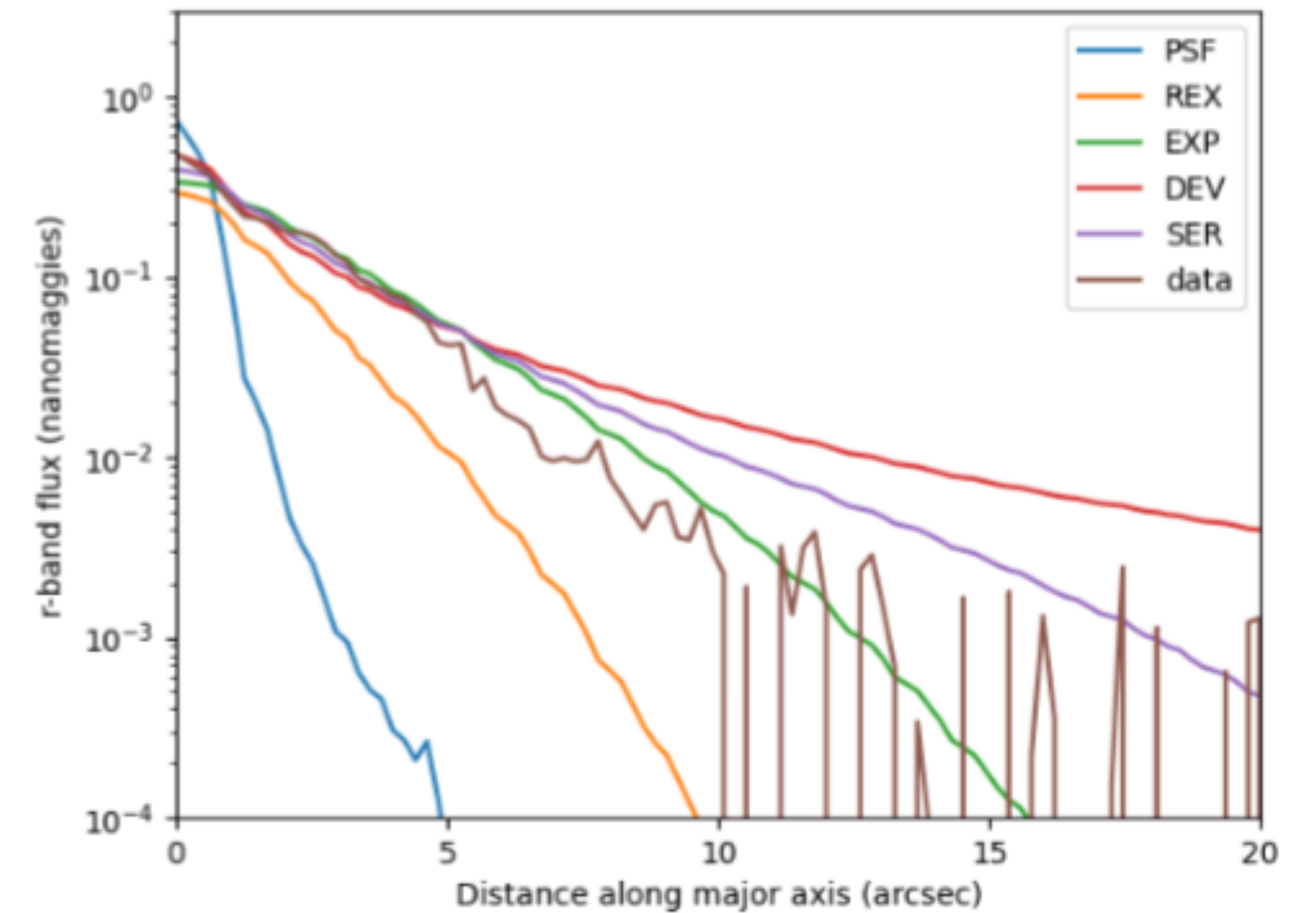
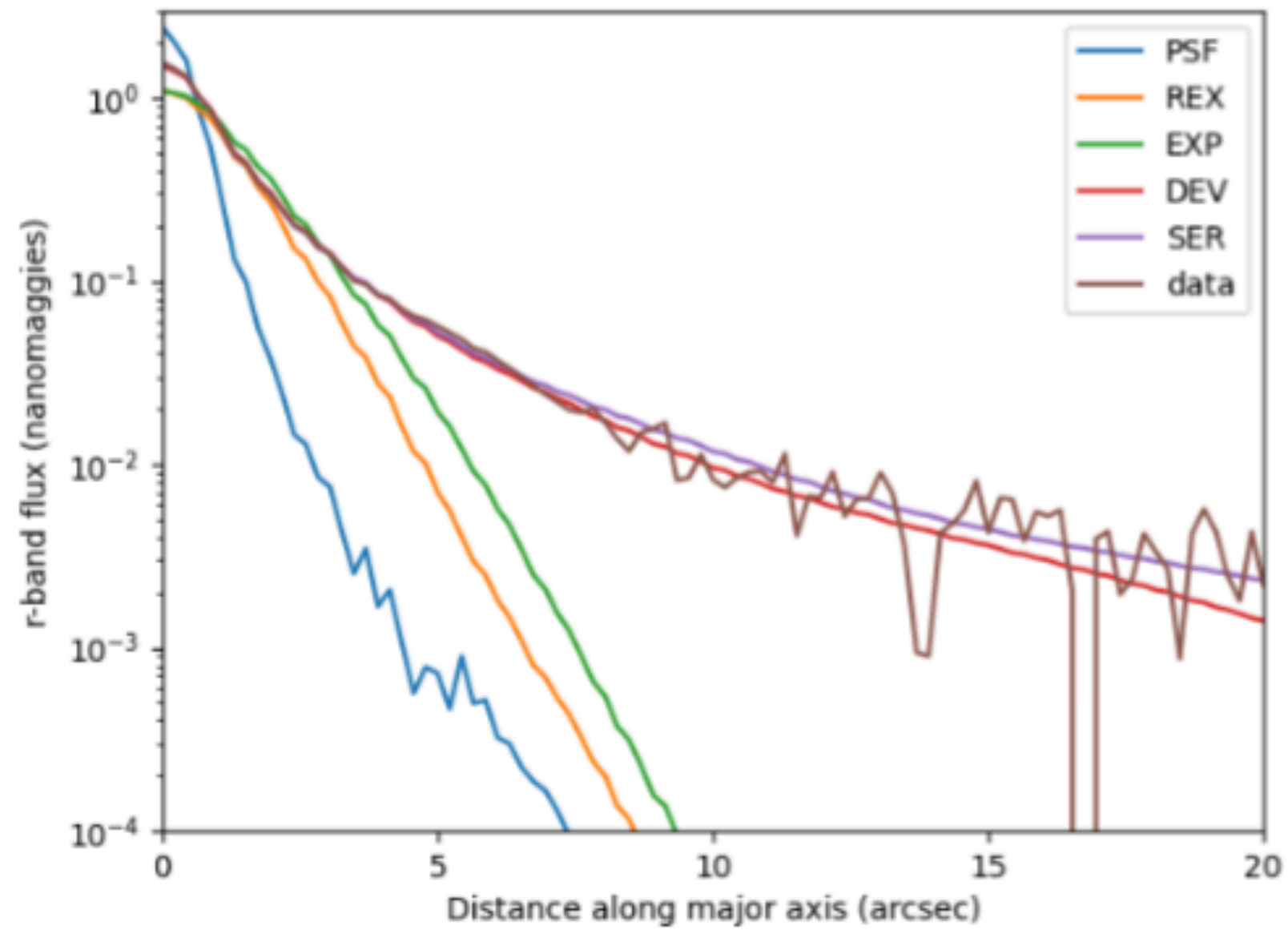
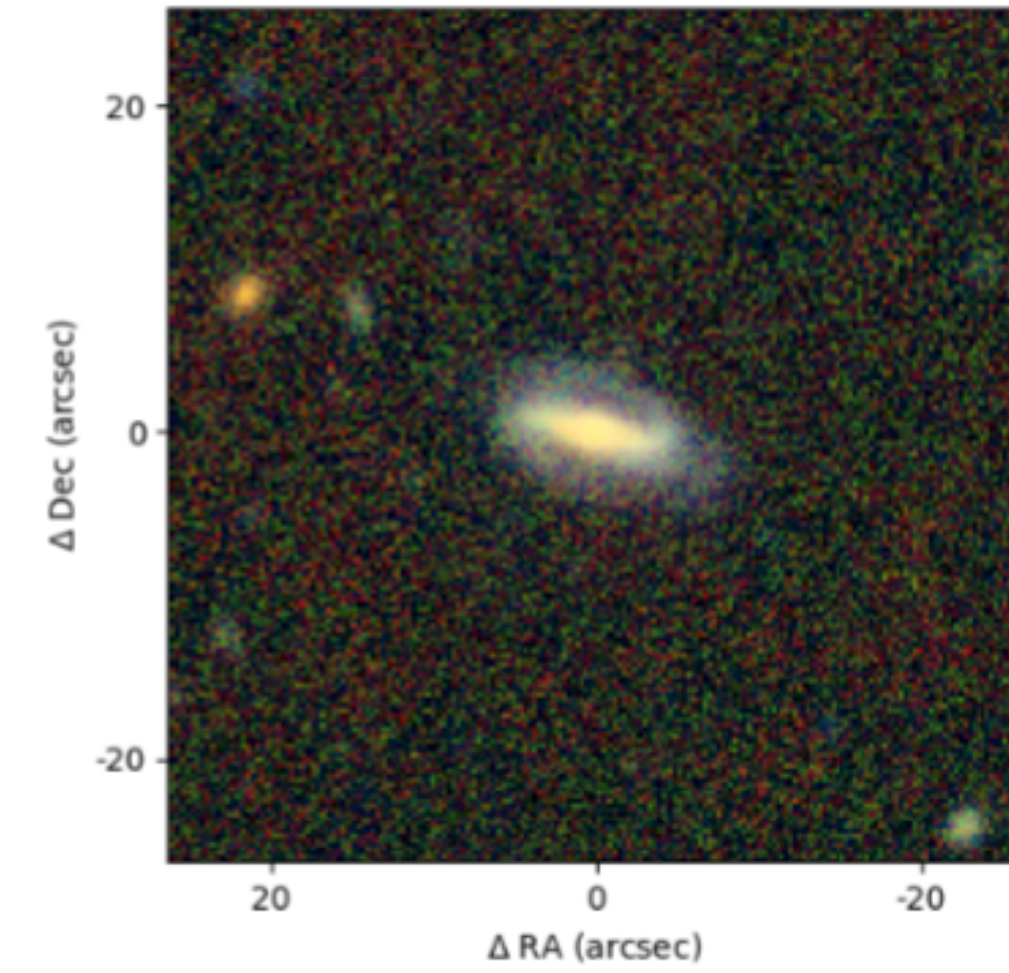
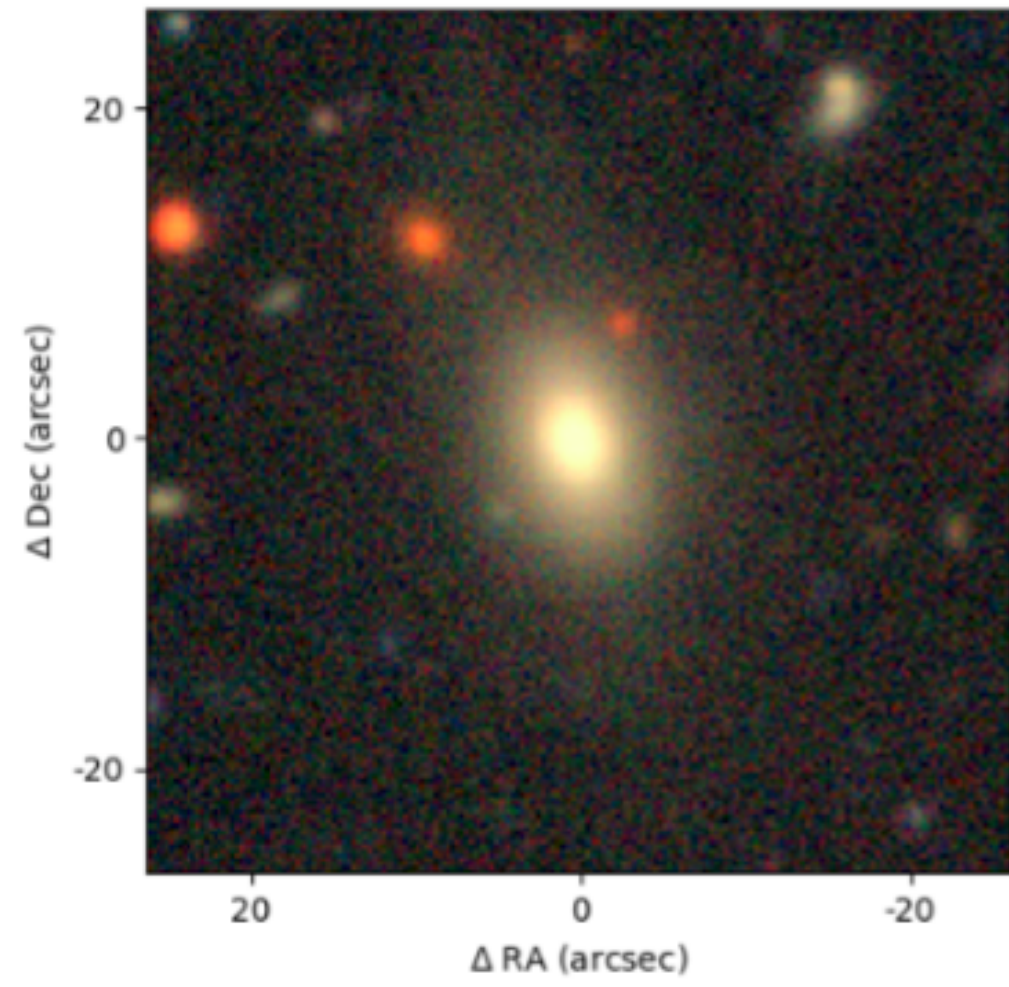
- Making first the CTPs identification and then their classification, allow pinpointing interesting populations (e.g., unresolved clusters)



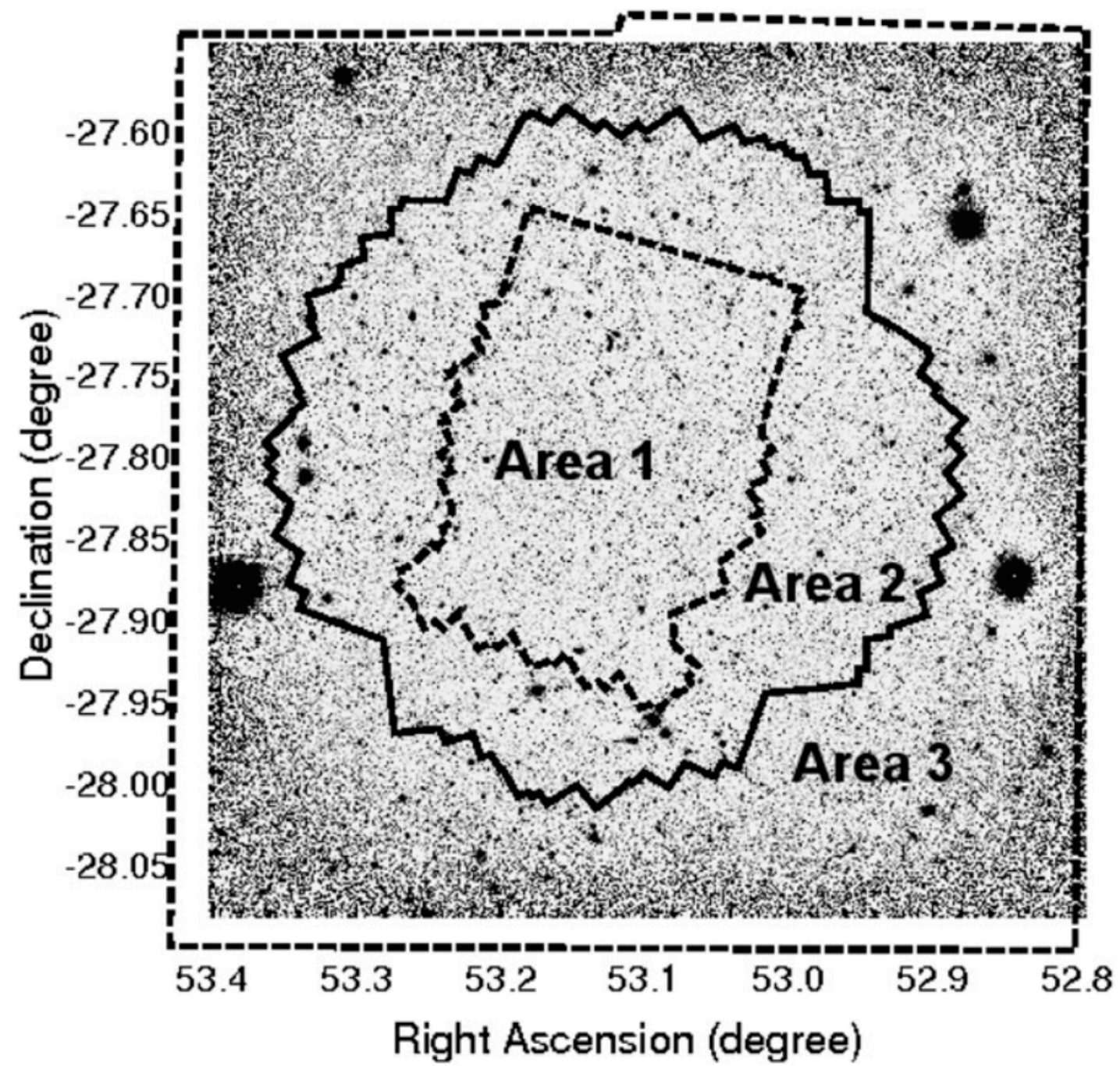
**The ancillary data that we are using were not created with our needs in mind !**



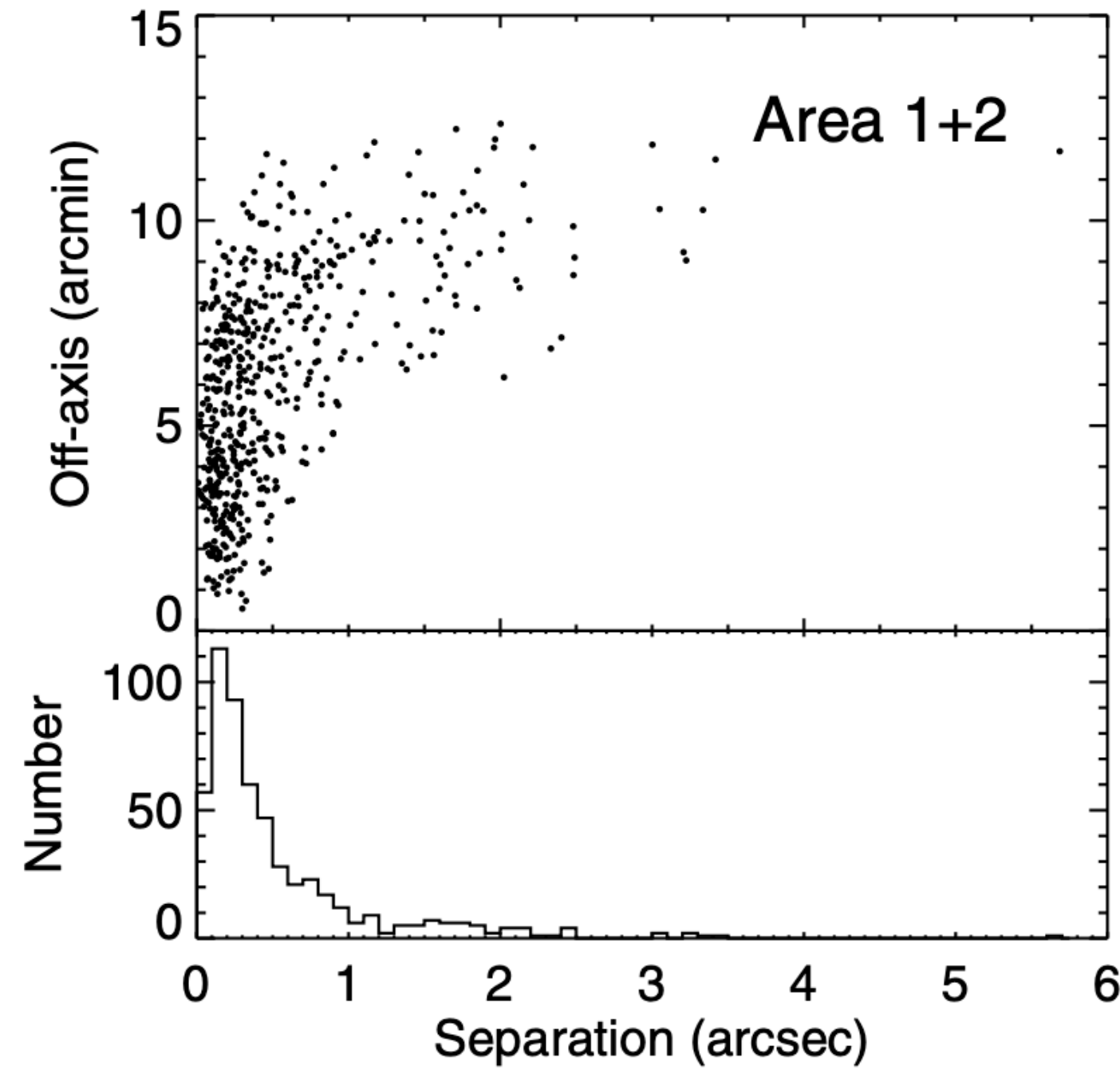
# The ancillary data that we are using were not created with our needs in mind : Model\_flux does not work for AGN



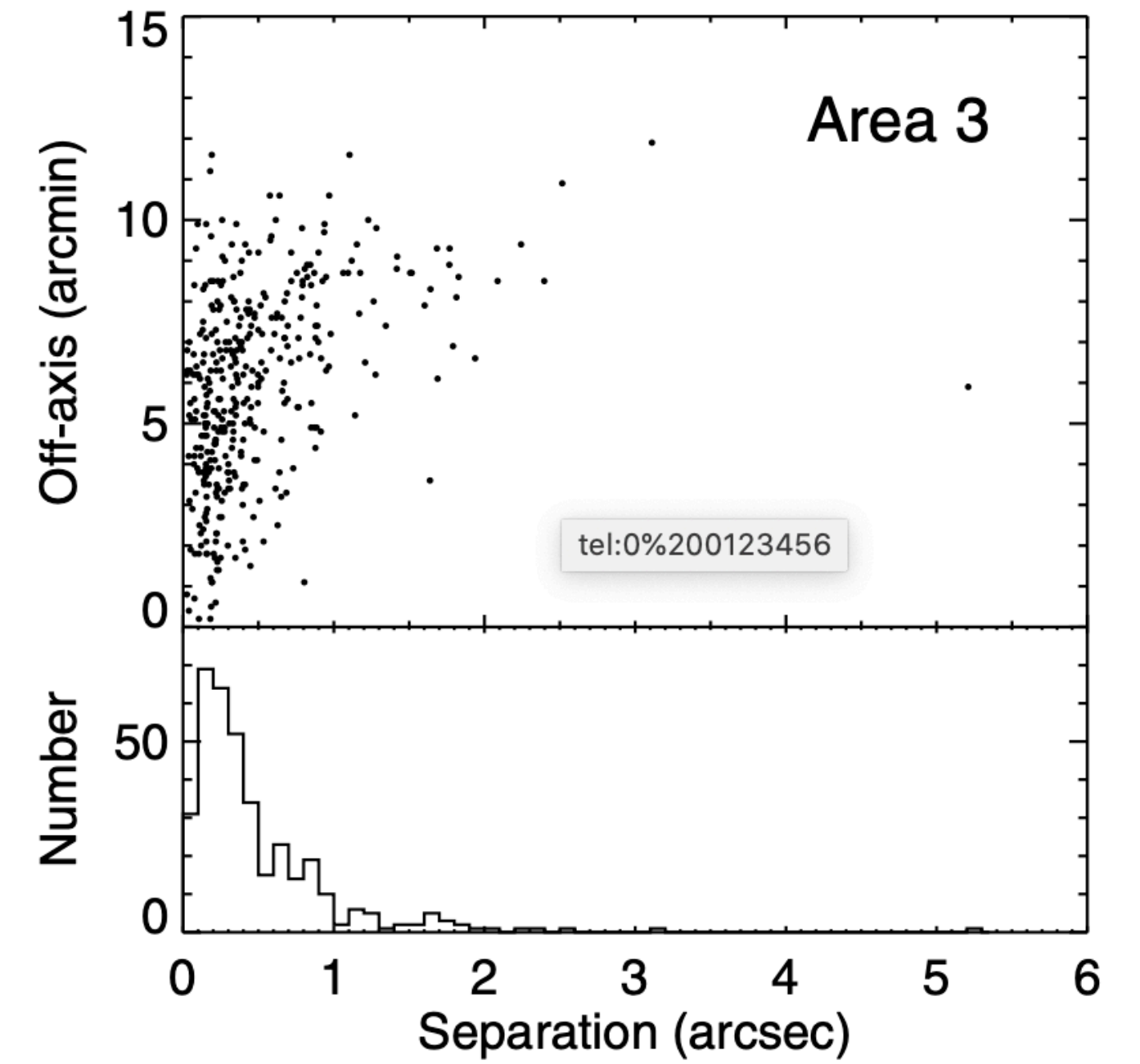
# Comparison between assumptions



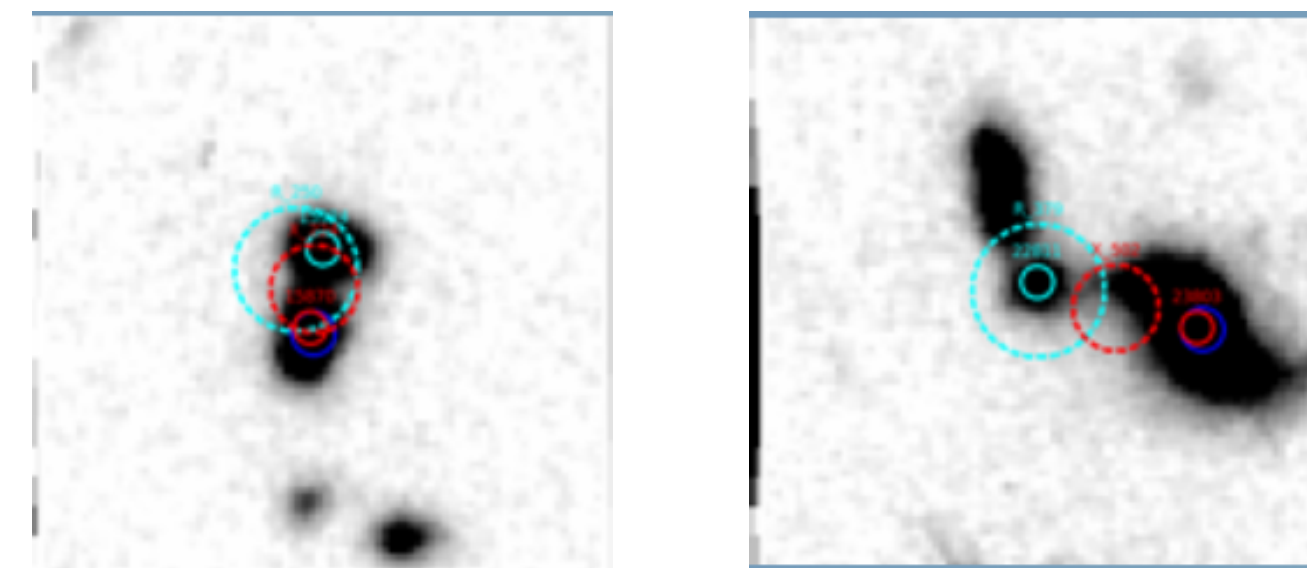
Hsu et al 2014



**Figure 3.** Coordinate differences between the X11 and R13 X-ray catalogs. The lower panel shows a histogram of offsets for the 545 sources that Areas 1 and 2 have in common in the two catalogs. The upper panel shows the off-axis angle from the *Chandra* aim point as a function of the angular offset.

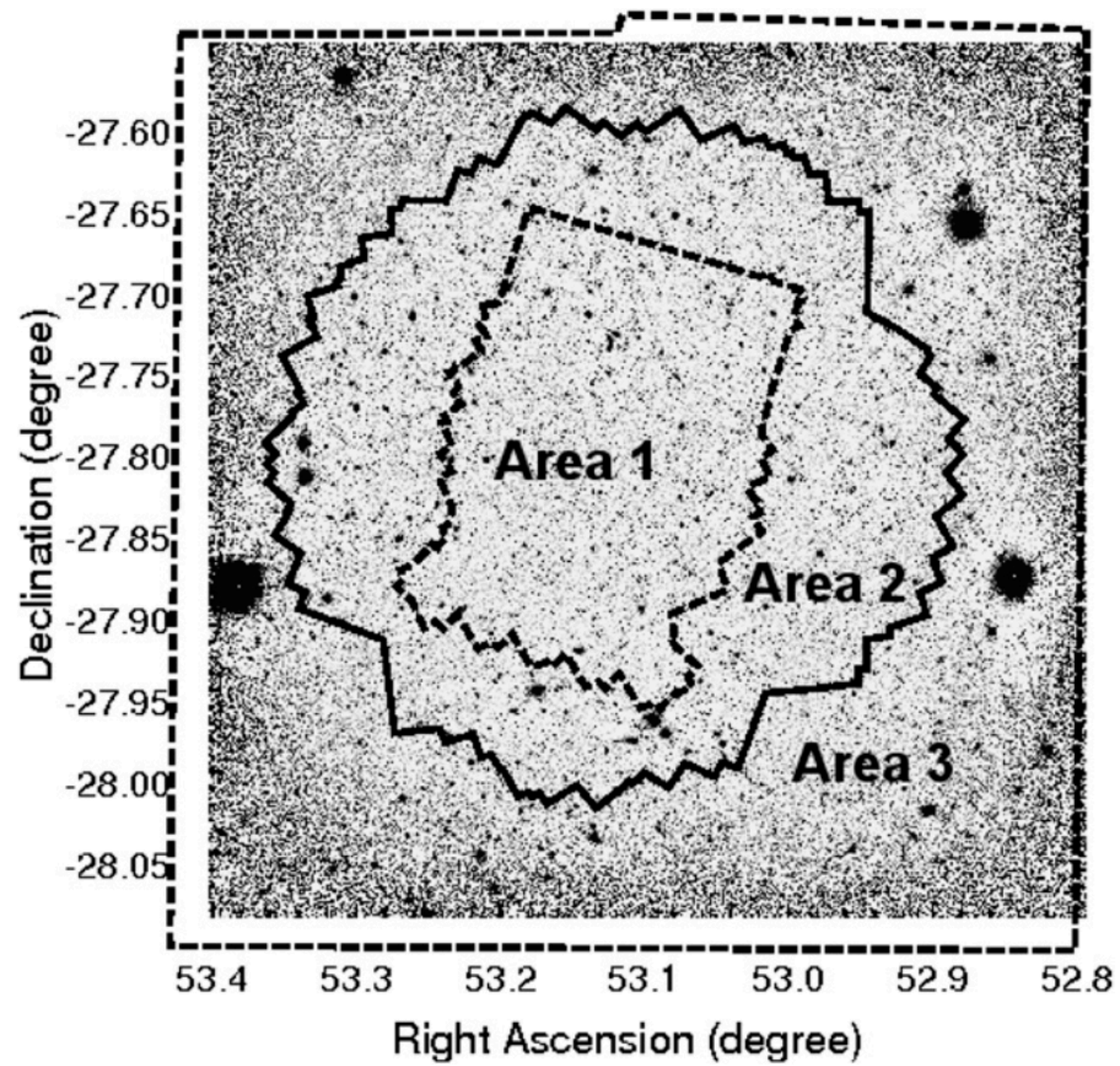


**Figure 4.** Coordinate differences between L05 and V06 X-ray catalogs. The lower panel shows a histogram of offsets for the 495 sources in Area 3 that are in common in the two catalogs. The upper panel shows the off-axis angle from the *Chandra* aim point as a function of the angular offset.

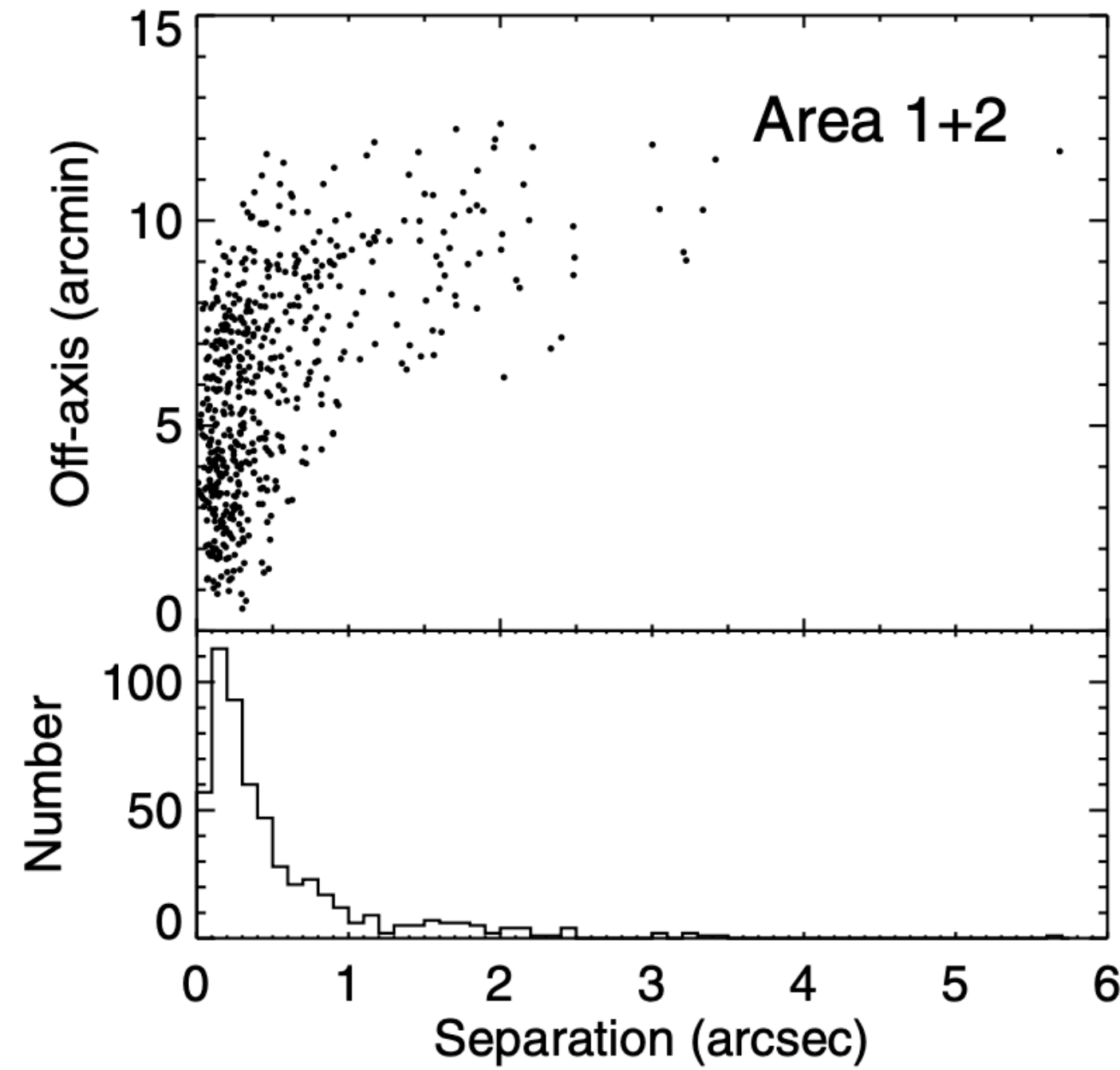


# Comparison between assumptions

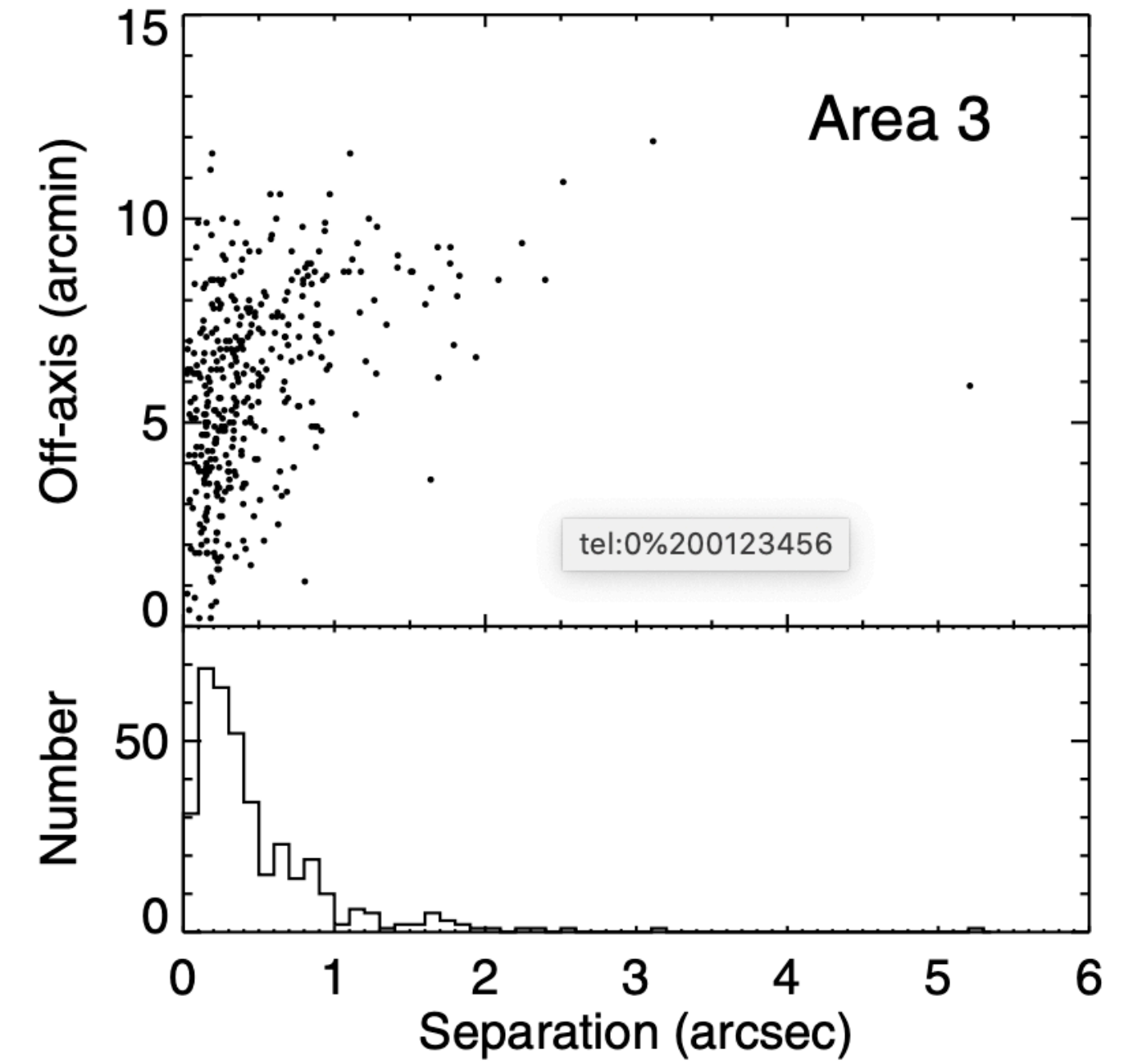
- The X-ray coordinates and positional errors depend on how the X-ray data are treated.



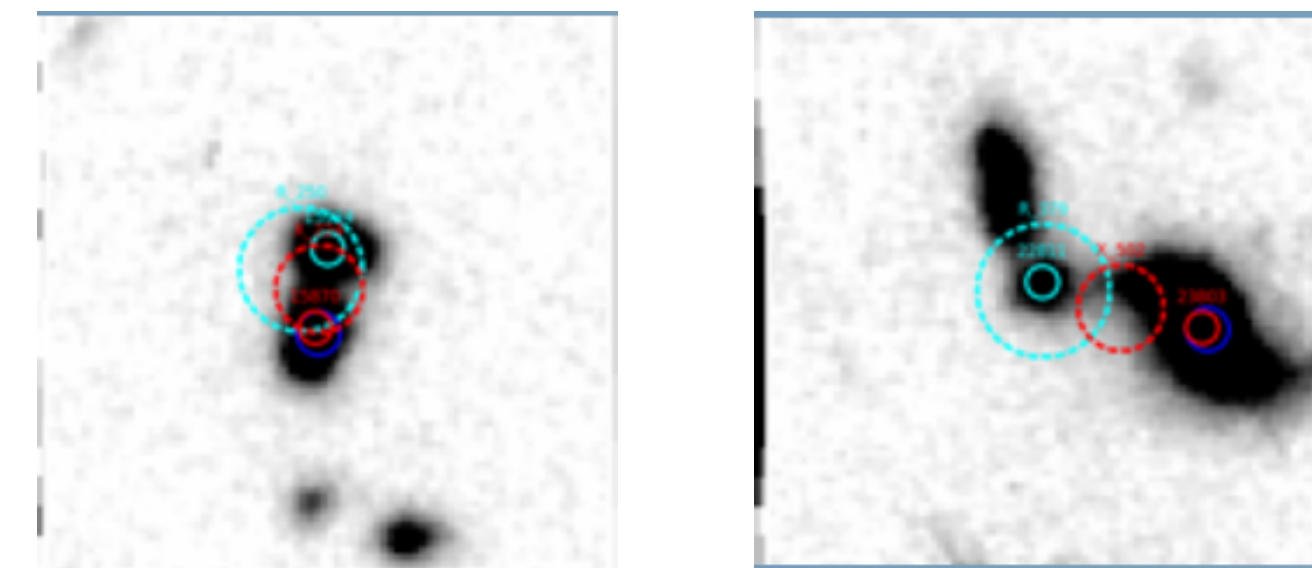
Hsu et al 2014



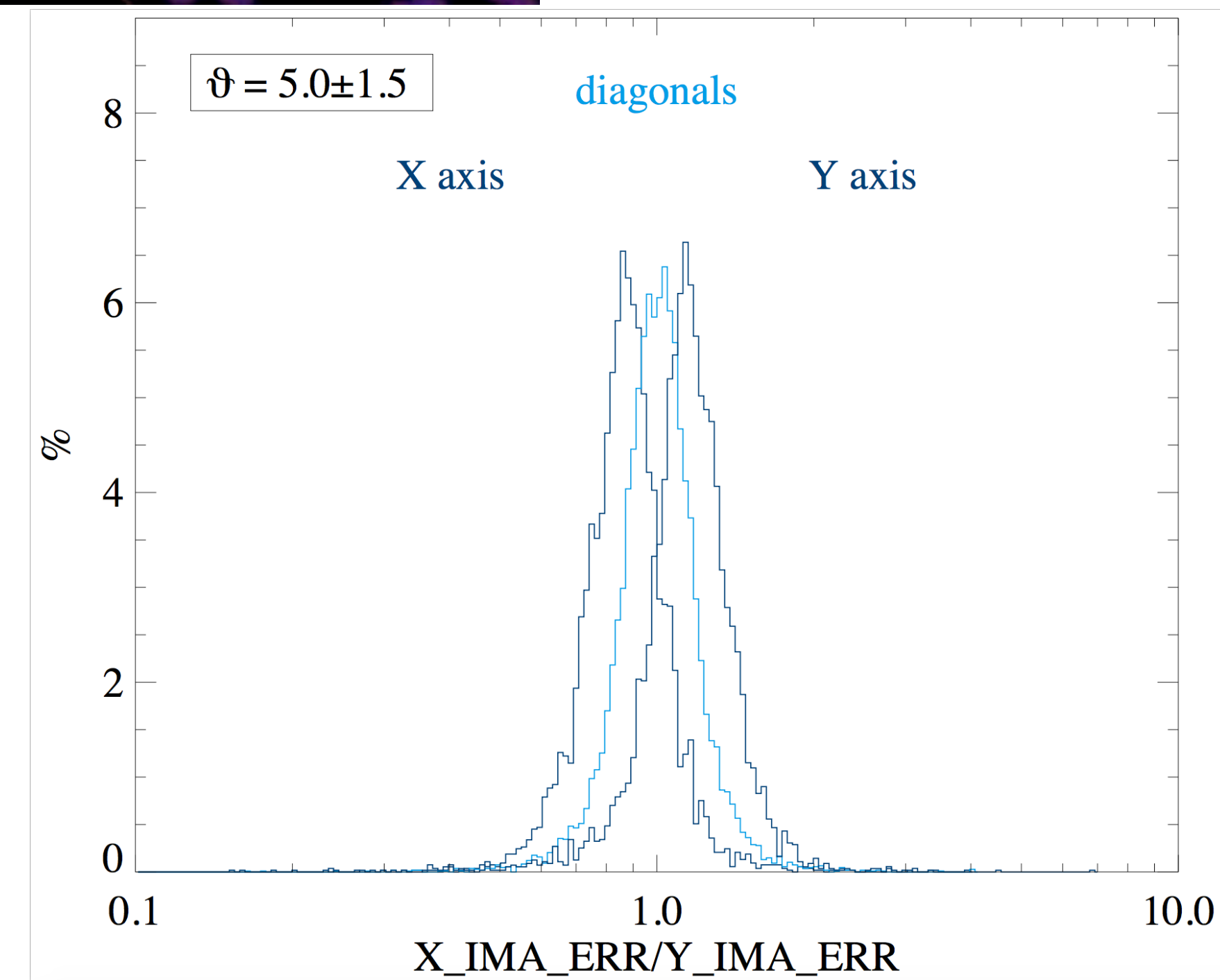
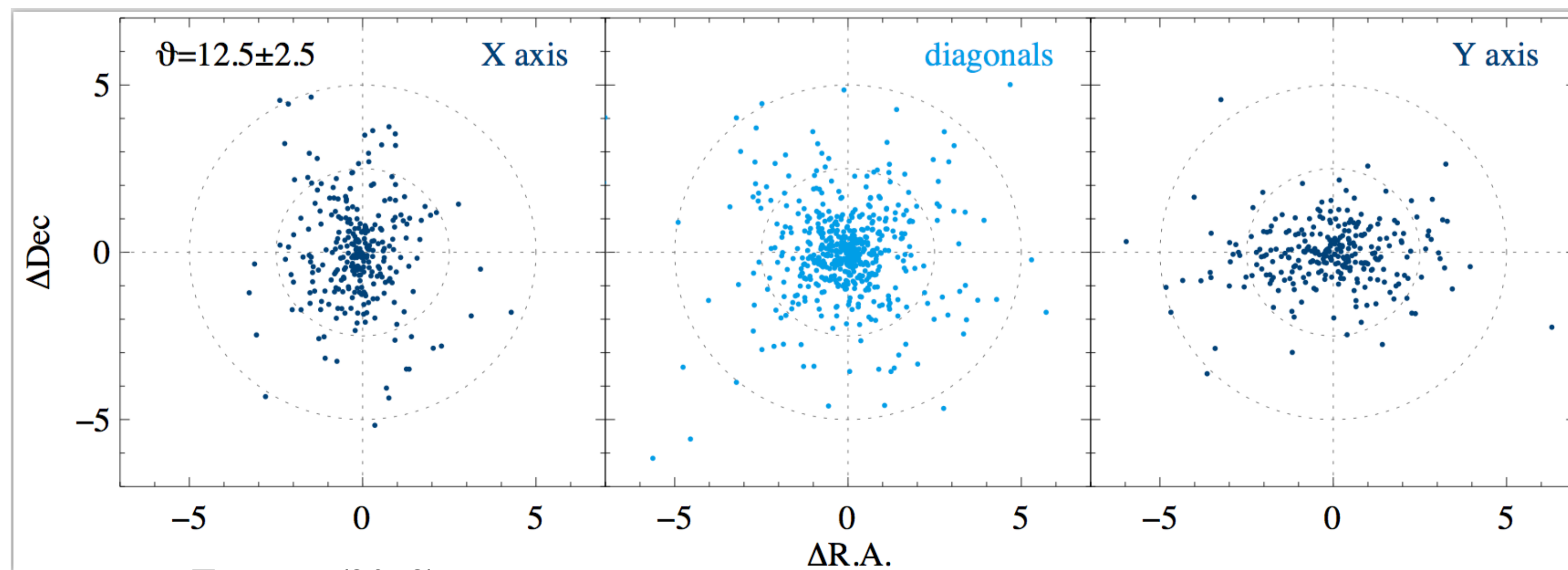
**Figure 3.** Coordinate differences between the X11 and R13 X-ray catalogs. The lower panel shows a histogram of offsets for the 545 sources that Areas 1 and 2 have in common in the two catalogs. The upper panel shows the off-axis angle from the *Chandra* aim point as a function of the angular offset.



**Figure 4.** Coordinate differences between L05 and V06 X-ray catalogs. The lower panel shows a histogram of offsets for the 495 sources in Area 3 that are in common in the two catalogs. The upper panel shows the off-axis angle from the *Chandra* aim point as a function of the angular offset.

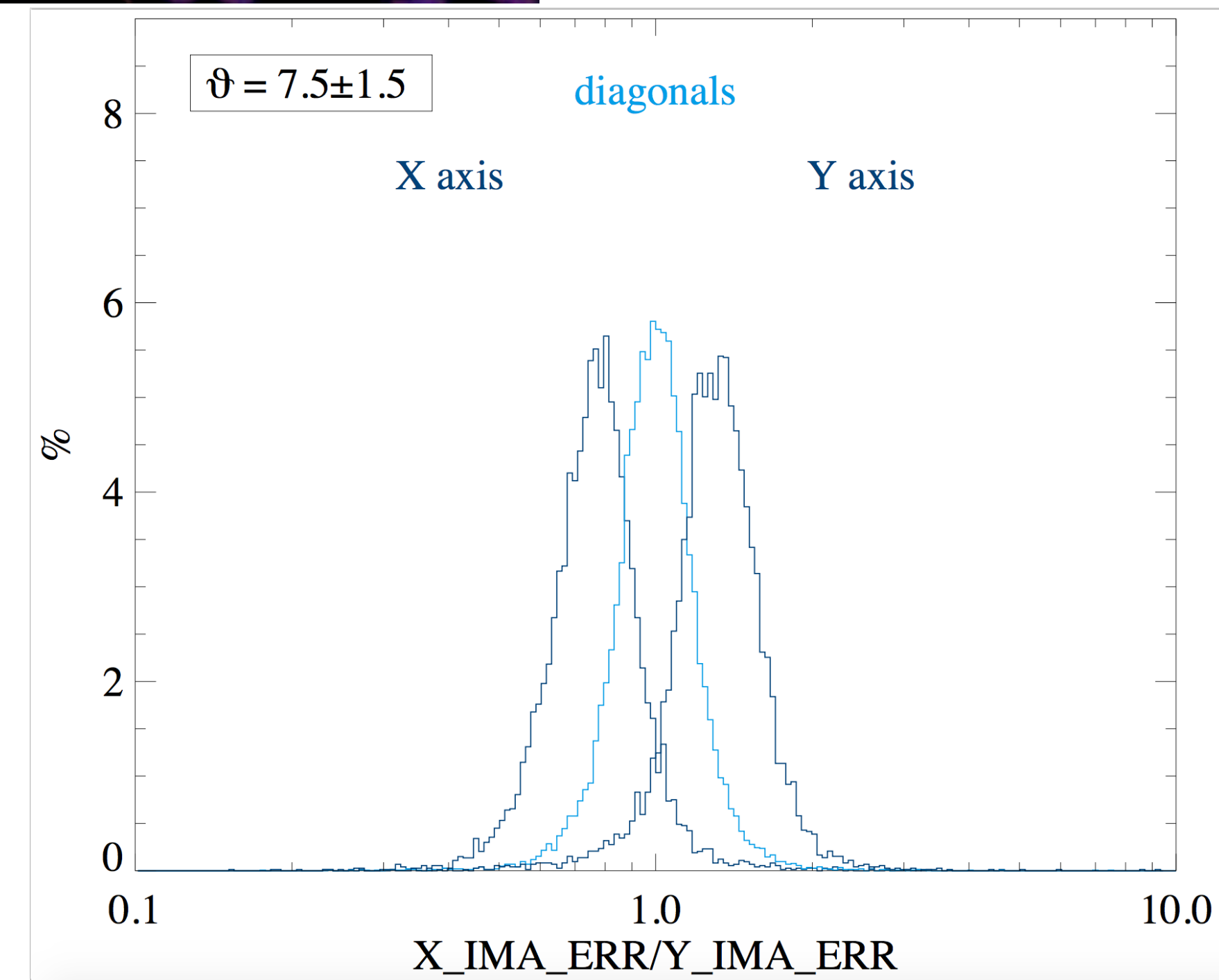
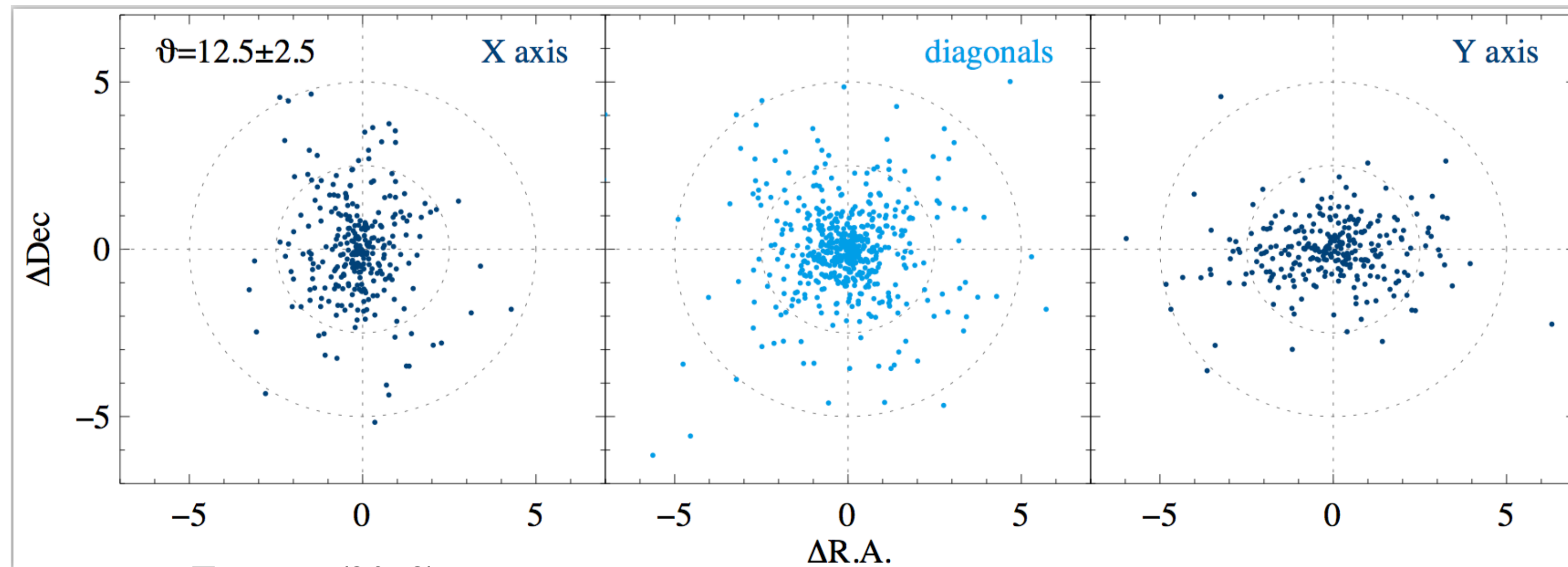


# Don't look for the CTP where it is not

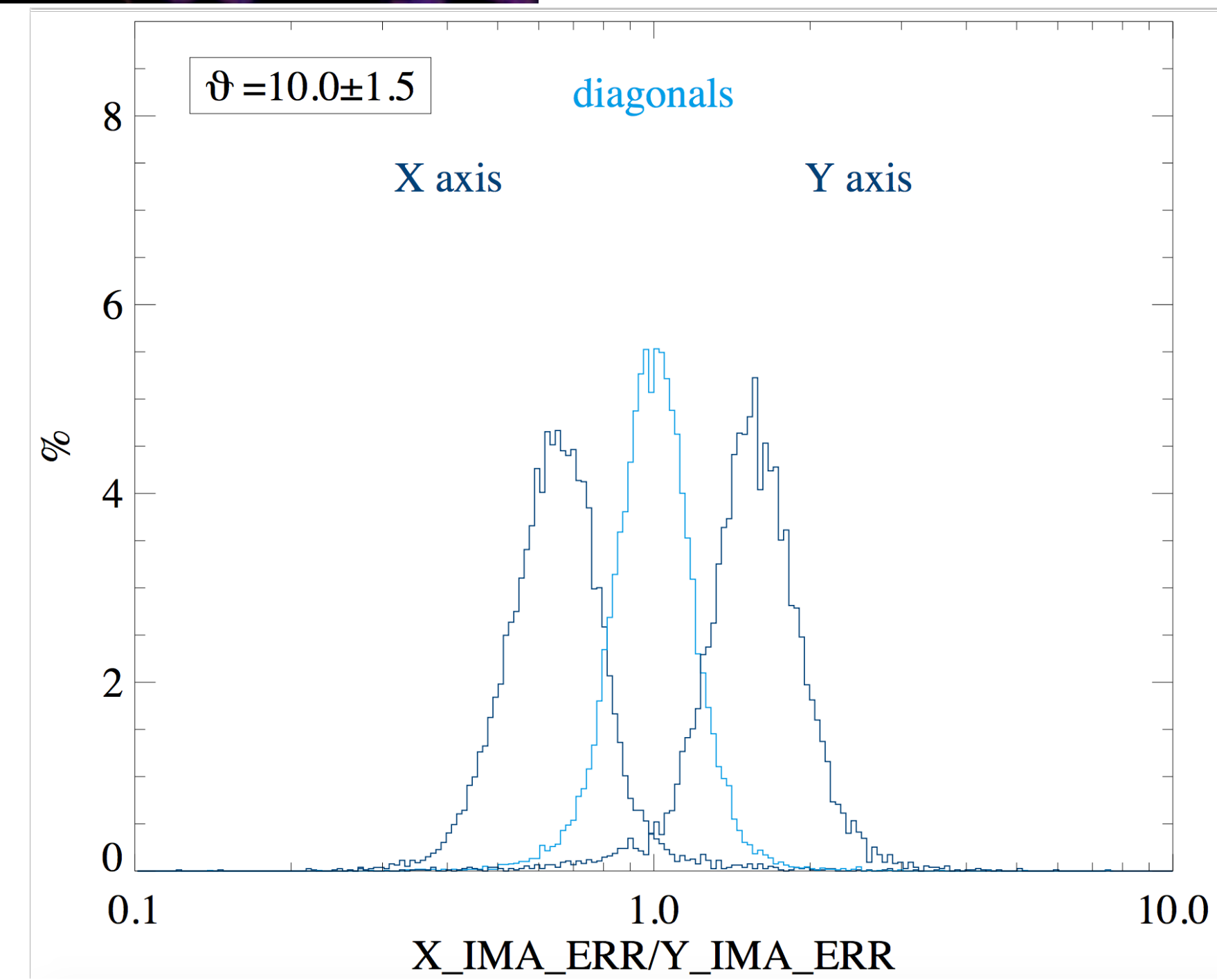
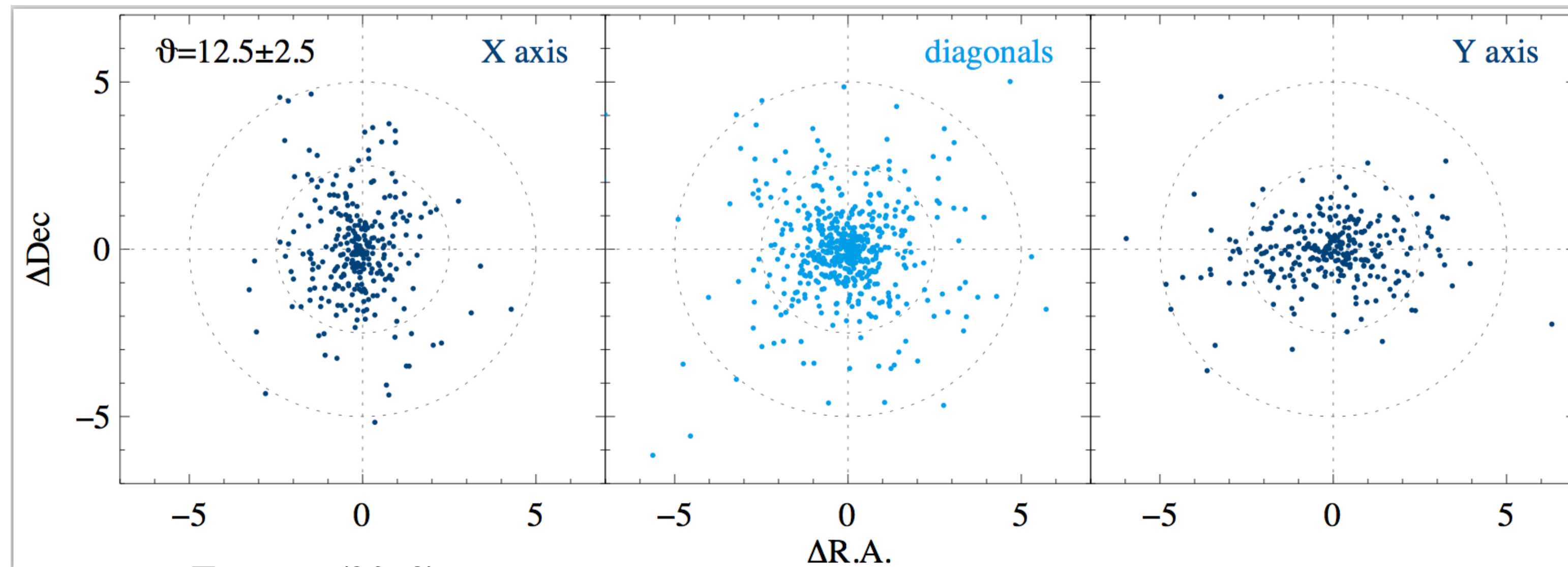




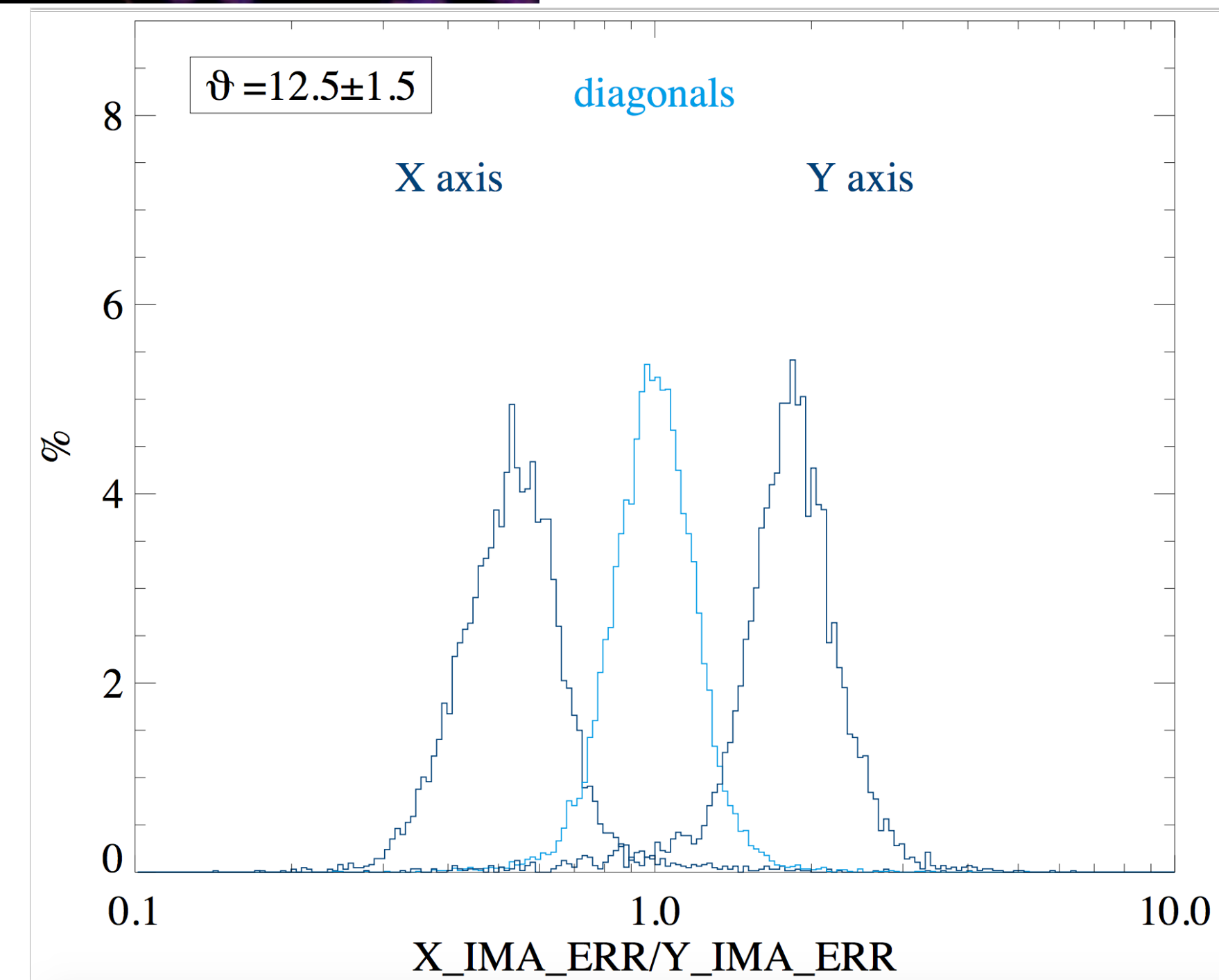
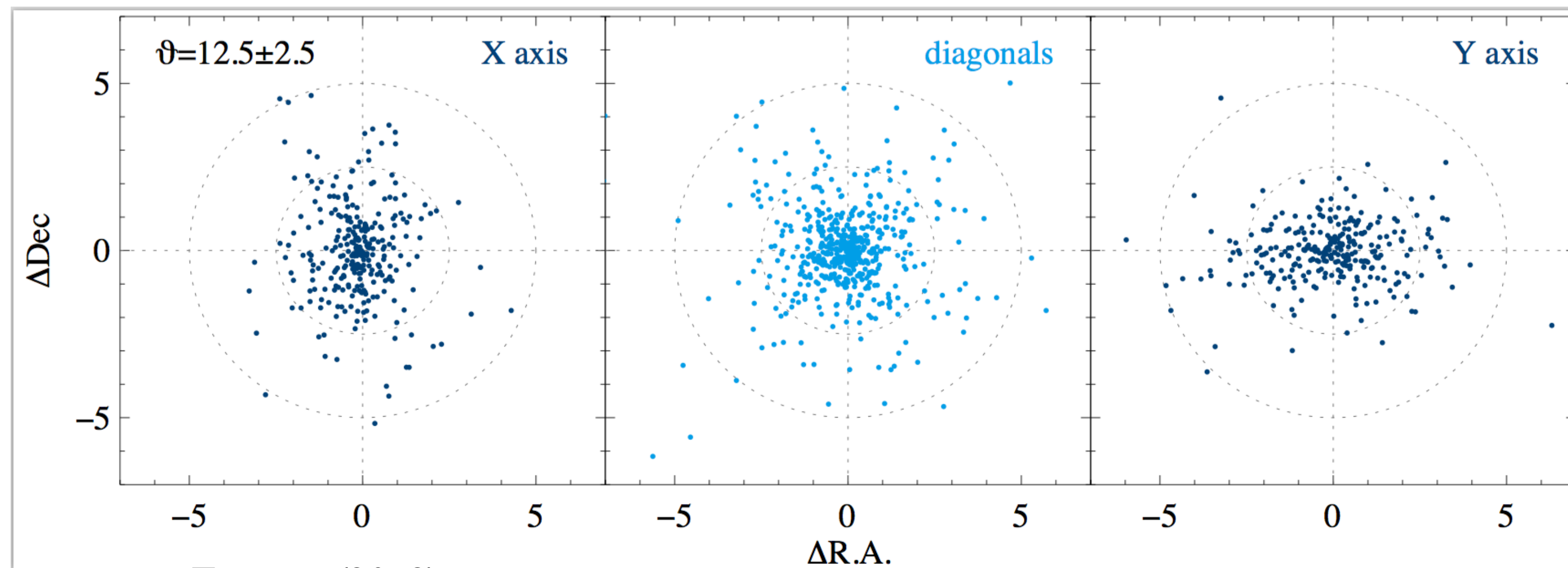
# Don't look for the CTP where it is not



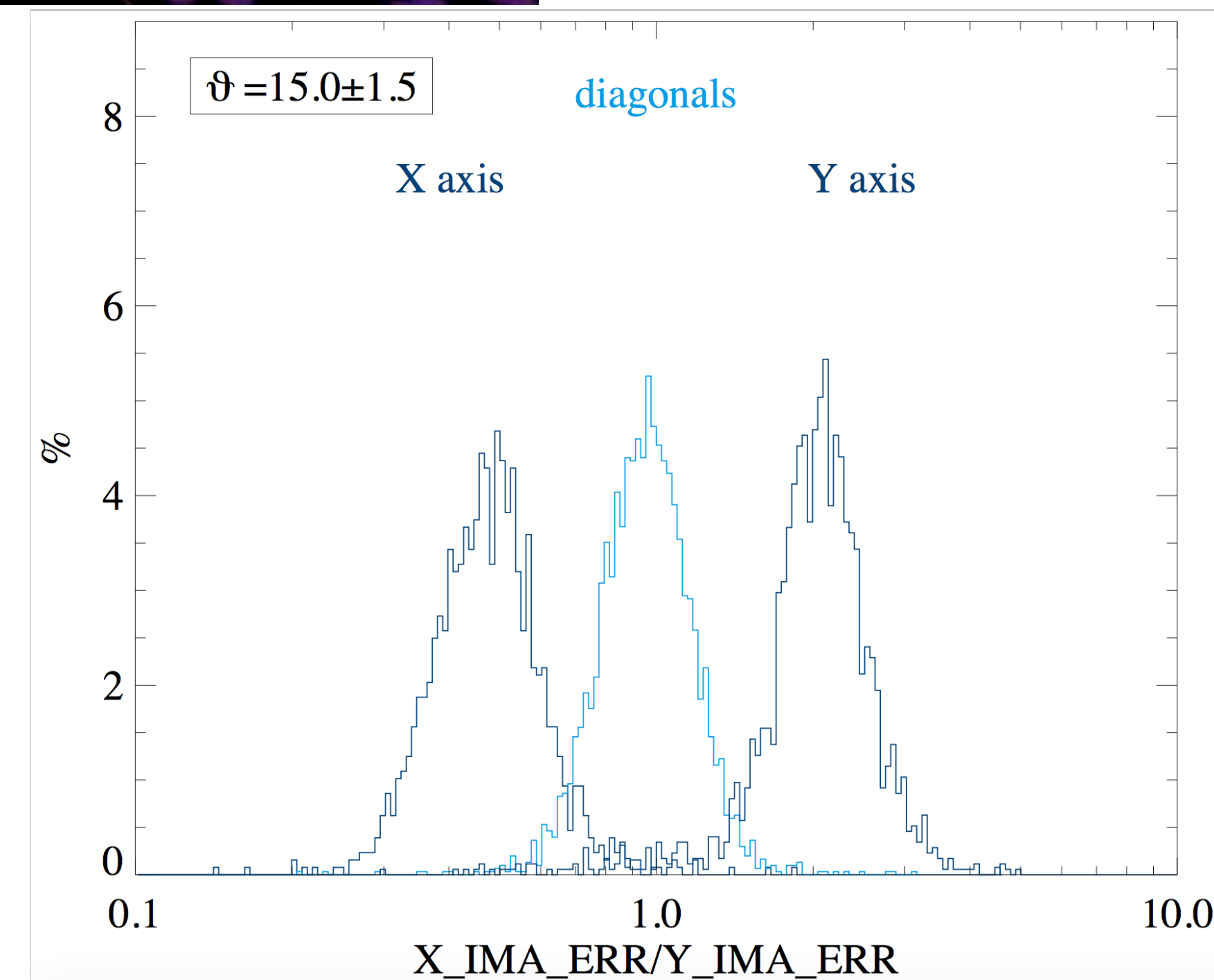
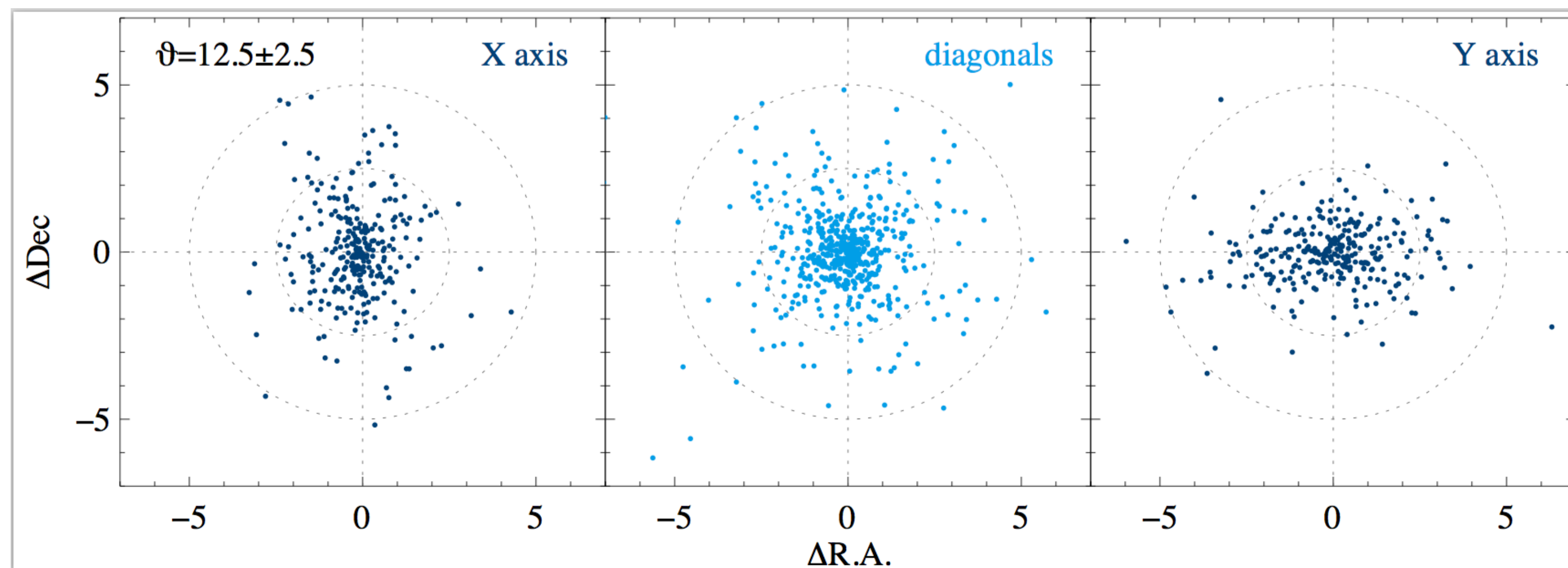
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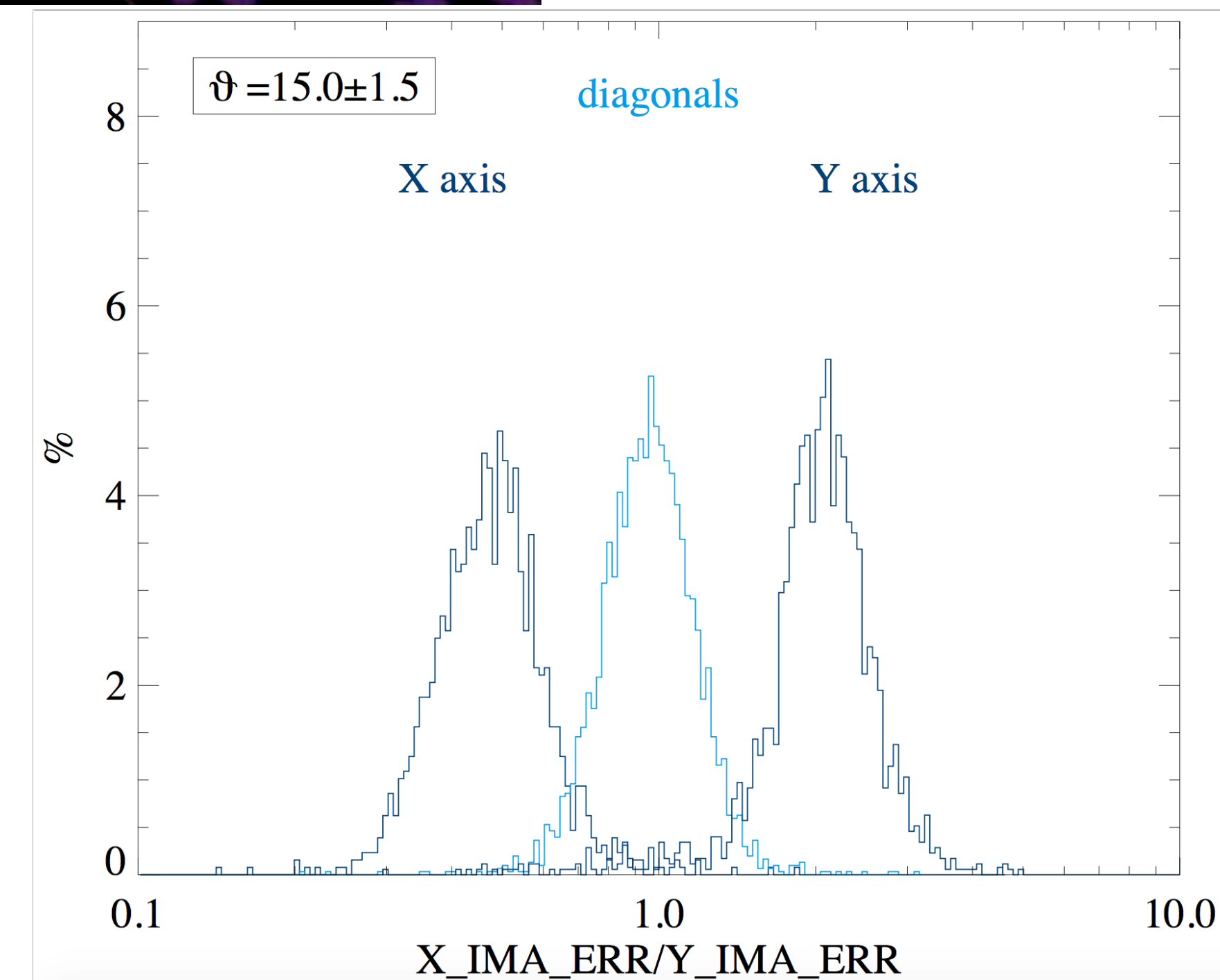
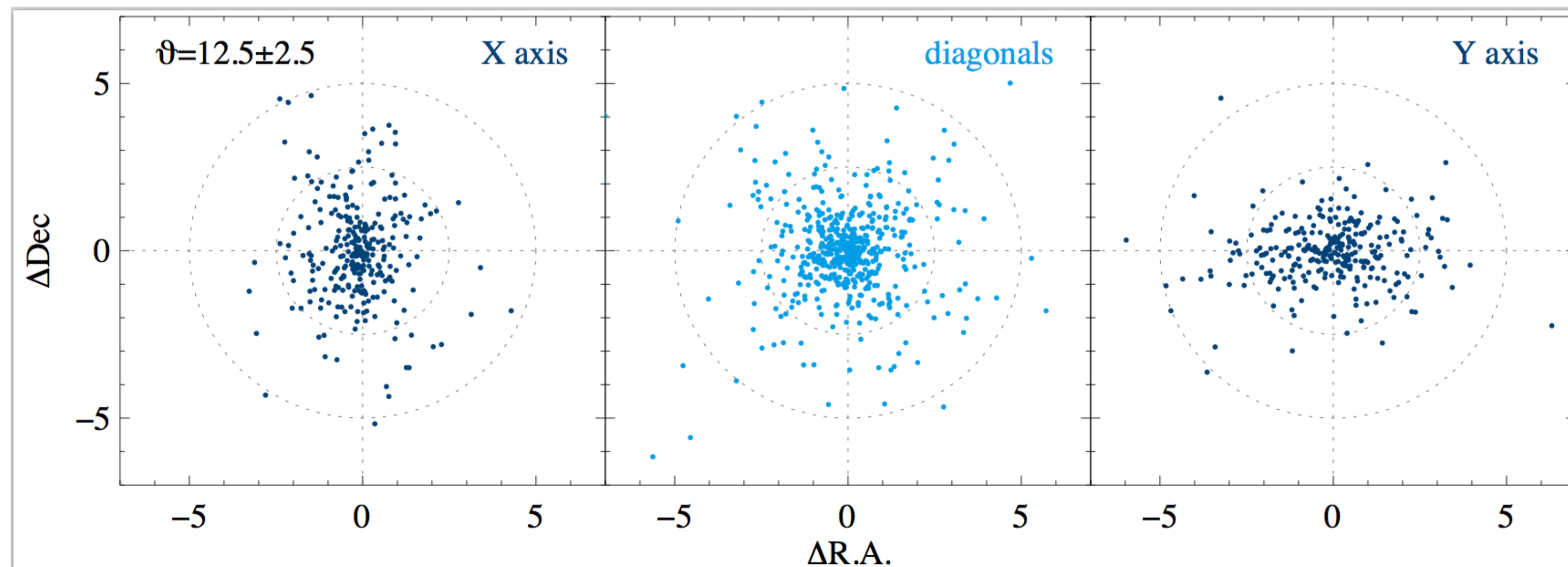


# Don't look for the CTP where it is not



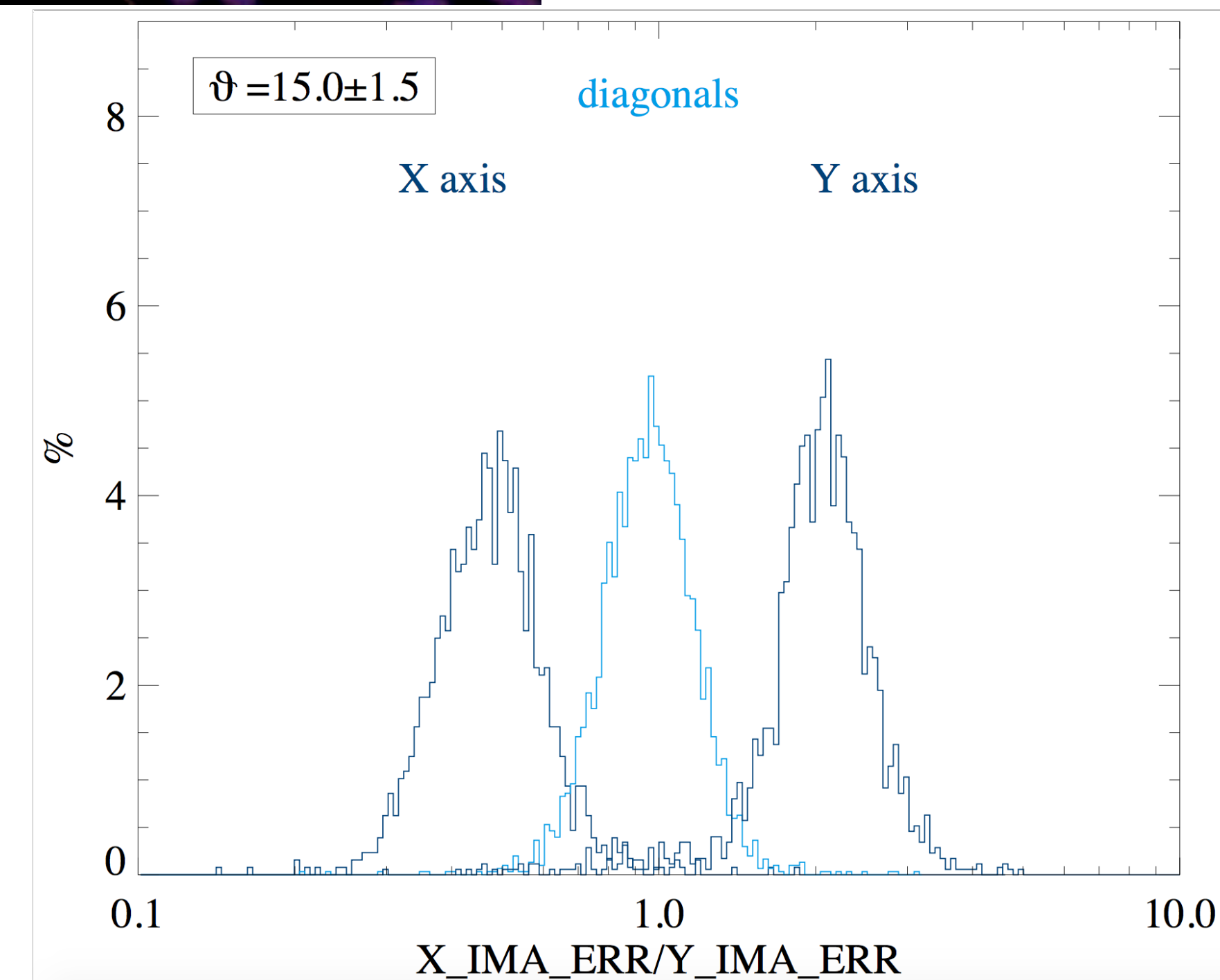
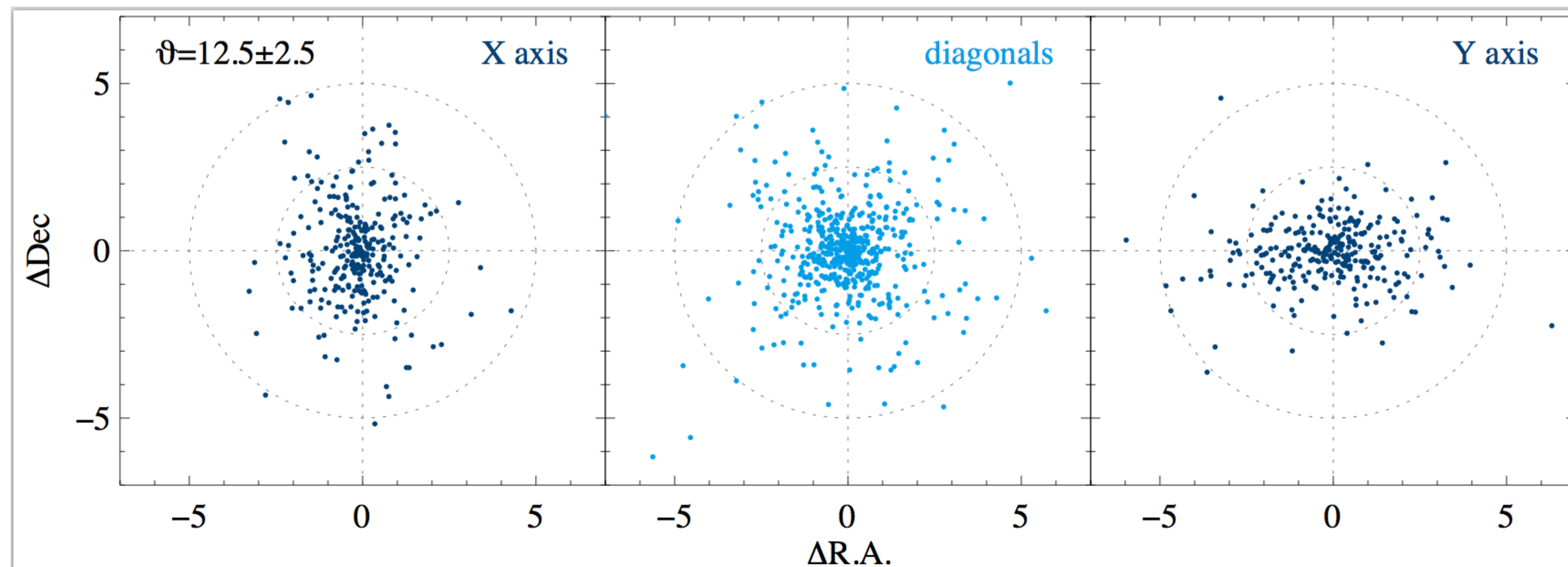
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# Final Remarks

- Cross-matches are rarely trivial (and I did not mention blending, variability, proper motion, etc)
- Using a single magnitude/band we need to account for the possibility that the CTP is absent in that specific band. Better to use all bands at once (a.k.a. the SED), accounting for missing data
- We should not spend time searching for the ctp in the wrong place (use elliptical errors when possible)
- When using prior knowledge, the model must be built using training/control/validating samples that are representative of the survey that we interested on
- Our work is catalogs-based, and the catalogs were not built for us. We are not spending enough time understanding the caveats accompanying the catalogs (purpose of the catalog, depth, flag system).
- Specific to X-ray surveys: emitters are Galactic sources, resolved sources in nearby galaxies, AGN, QSO, and unresolved clusters: It is dangerous to focus only on a specific source type from the beginning.
- Making first the CTPs identification and then their classification allows to pinpoint interesting populations (e.g., unresolved clusters)

**NWAY is a beautiful tool, but it still needs a brain to be used properly**