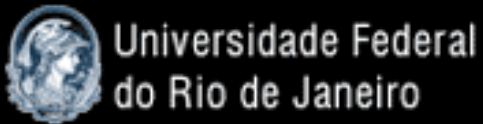


# Bar morphology as a function of wavelength: a Local Reference For High-z Studies



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Mateos, Mike Regan, Mark Seibert, KMD, KS



Spitzer Survey of Stellar  
Structure in Galaxies

# Why do we care about bars?

## *Disks like forming bars!*

- A galaxy disk will naturally form a bar in a couple of Gyrs unless it is dynamically hot or is dominated by dark matter (Athanasoula+)
- The presence of a bar allows us to gauge disk “maturity”

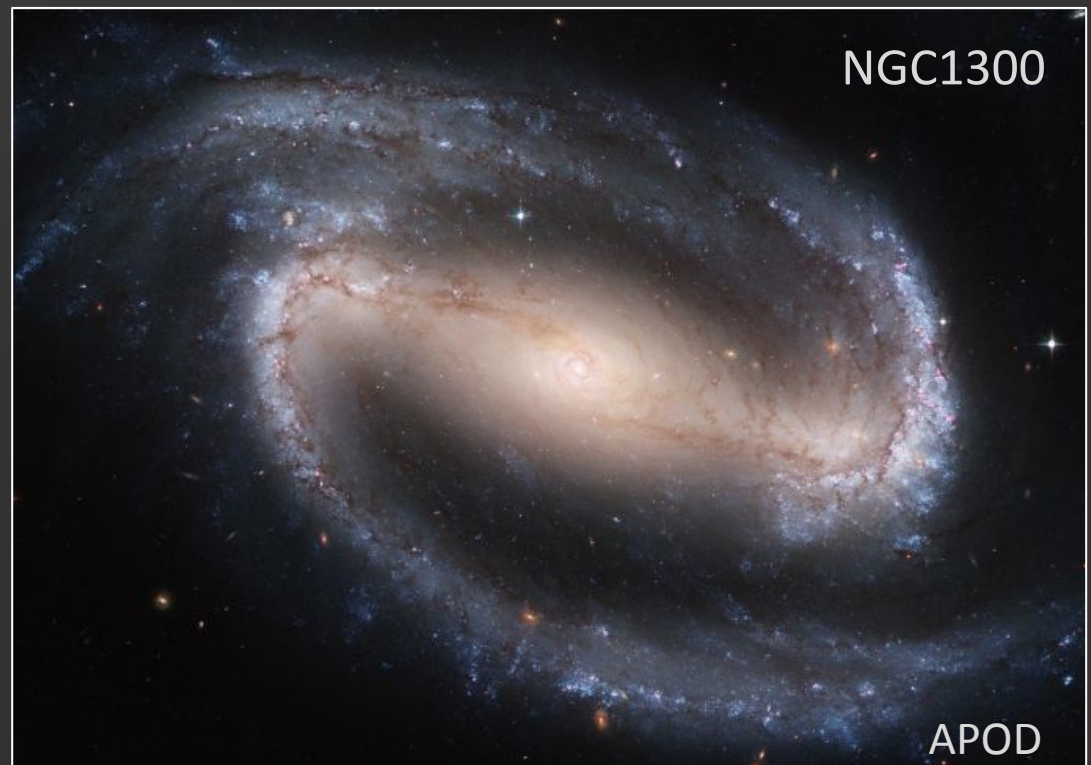
## *Bars transform their hosts!*

- The gas transport triggered by a bar can affect significantly its host
  - wash out metallicity gradient across galaxy (Martin & Roy 2004; but Sánchez-Blázquez+11)
  - central accumulation of molecular gas (e.g., Sheth+05)
  - triggering nuclear starbursts
  - leading to the formation of pseudobulges (e.g., Kormendy & Kennicutt 04)
  - perhaps even feeding an AGN

# Morphological classification of local galaxies

– it all started in the optical...

- Morphological classification of galaxies in the optical
  - $\sim 2/3$  of spirals are barred (de Vaucouleurs+63)

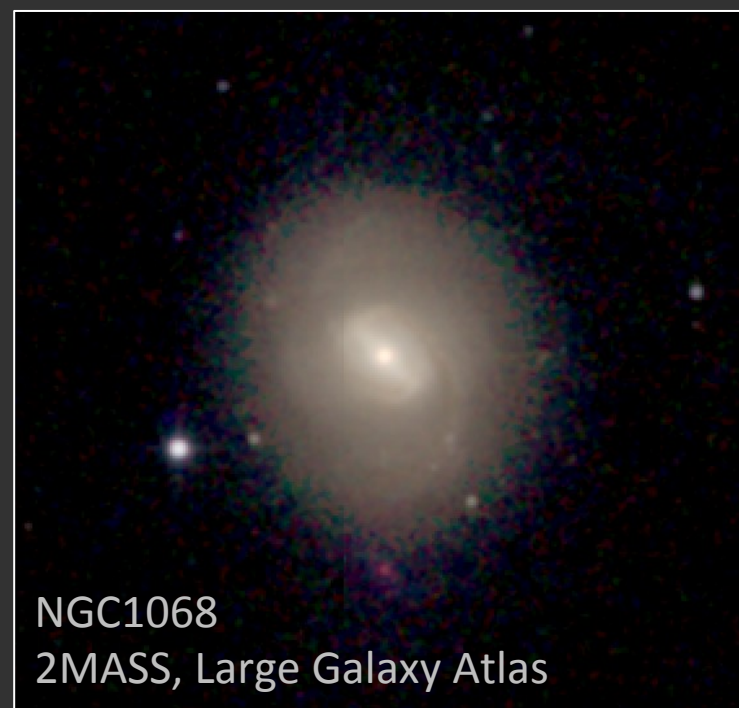


# Morphological classification of local galaxies

## – look in the infrared!

- Morphological classification of galaxies in the optical
  - ~2/3 of spirals are barred (de Vaucouleurs+63)
- Case studies in the IR showed bars unseen in the optical
  - IR traces old, low-mass stars (e.g., Scoville+88)
  - Bars are dominated by old stars

→ Are all galaxies barred and we just need to look in the IR?





# The quest for the bar fraction

- The *Two-Micron All-Sky Survey* (2MASS; Skrutskie+05)
  - Large Galaxy Atlas (LGA; Jarrett+03)
    - > 500 large ( $\sim 2'$  to  $2^\circ$ ) galaxies
    - J, H, Ks
- The bar fraction stays constant across wavelengths from optical to near-IR  
(e.g., Menéndez-Delmestre+07)
  - Why is this interesting?
    - We can trace the evolution of the bar fraction with redshift ( $\rightarrow$  disk maturity!), safe from band-shifting effects!

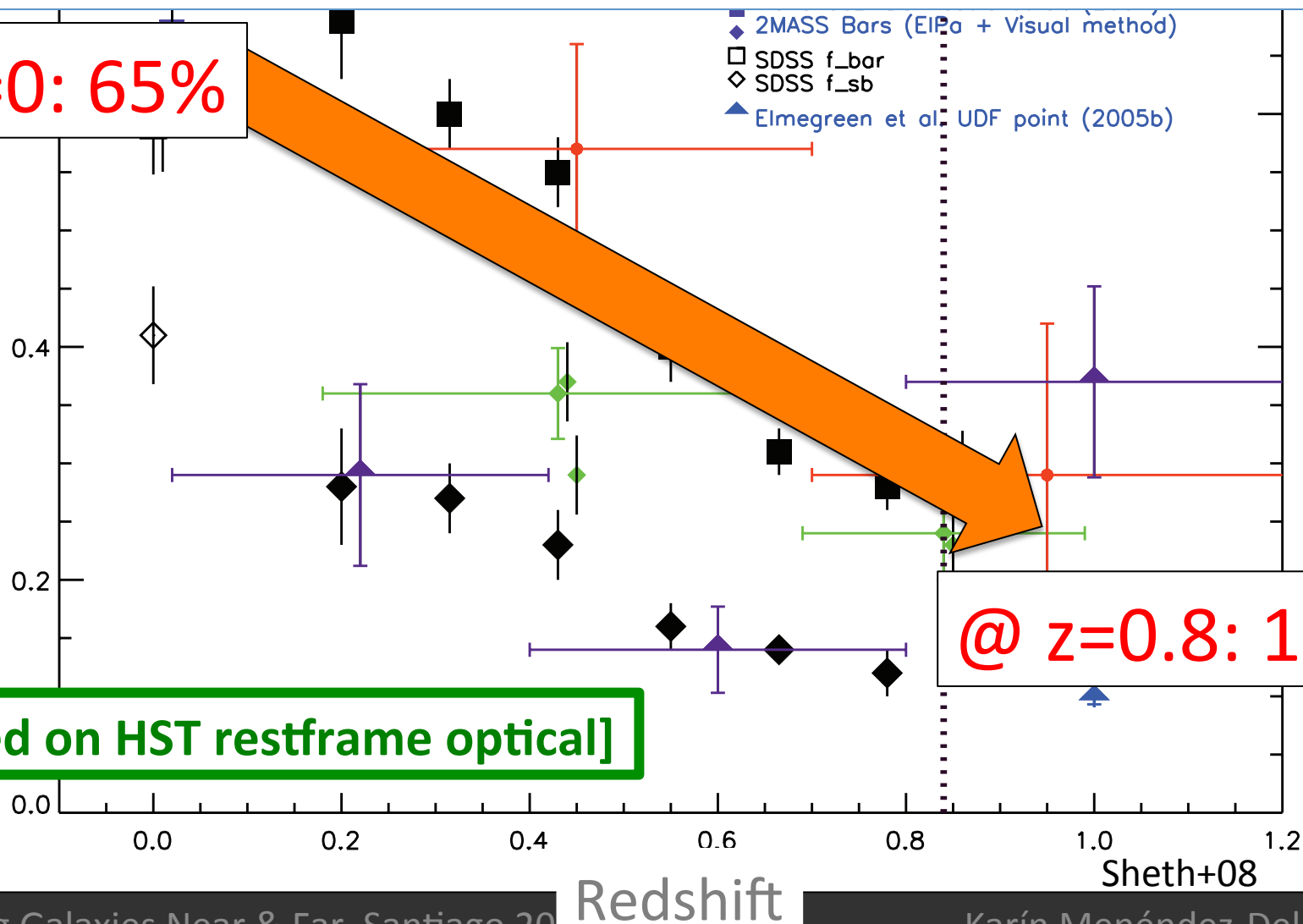


# Redshift Evolution of the Bar Fraction:

## Decreases beyond $z \sim 0.4$

@  $z=0$ : 65%

Bar Fraction



@  $z=0.8$ : 15%

[based on HST restframe optical]

# The quest for bar characterization – do bars change over cosmic time?

- Band-shifting from near-IR to optical does not hamper (significantly) the ability to *recognize* bars
  - So we can trace the evolution of the bar fraction based on the huge amount of high-resolution **optical imaging** available (HST)

## How about our ability to trace bar properties?

- Several studies have looked at bar properties locally (e.g., Erwin+05+13, Laurikainen+07, Gadotti+08, Hoyle+11)

2MASS median bar:

- $a_{\text{bar}} = 4.2 \text{ kpc}$
- $\epsilon_{\text{bar}} = 0.5$

Menéndez-Delmestre+07

# The quest for bar characterization – do bars change over cosmic time?

- Band-shifting from near-IR to optical does not hamper (significantly) the ability to *recognize* bars
  - So we can trace the evolution of the bar fraction based on the huge amount of high-resolution **optical imaging** available (HST)

## How about our ability to trace bar properties?

- Several studies have looked at bar properties locally (e.g., Erwin+05+13, Menéndez-Delmestre+07, Laurikainen+07, Gadotti+08, Hoyle+11)
- Although some studies on bar properties have ventured to higher redshifts (Barazza et al. 2009), band-shifting effects on the bar morphology have not been explored. ( $Q_b$ : Speltin+08)



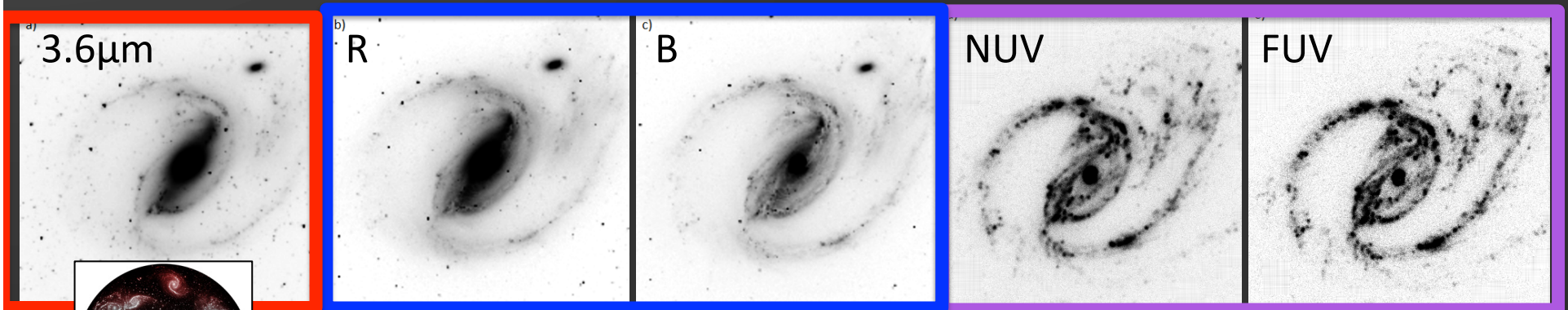
# Bar Morphology at high $z$

need a local reference to extend studies to high redshift

- Need to know how the bar properties change with wavelength!

We look at bar properties as a function of waveband in a sample of 16 local barred spirals with deep multi-band imaging from **UV – opt – IR**, based on **GALEX**, **SINGS** and **S<sup>4</sup>G** imaging.

NGC1097



*Spitzer Survey of Stellar Structures in Galaxies* (PI Kartik Sheth)<sup>KMD+14</sup>

Legacy Survey of the Warm Spitzer Mission

IRAC 3.6/4.5 μm of >2300 local galaxies

<http://s4g.caltech.edu>

# Bar Morphology at high $z$

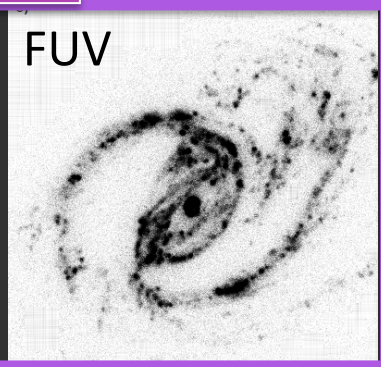
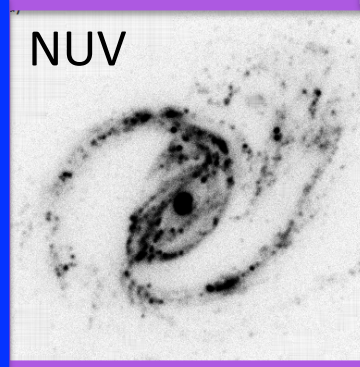
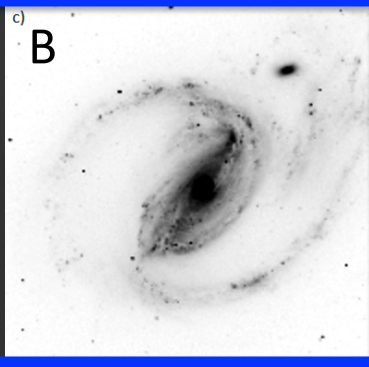
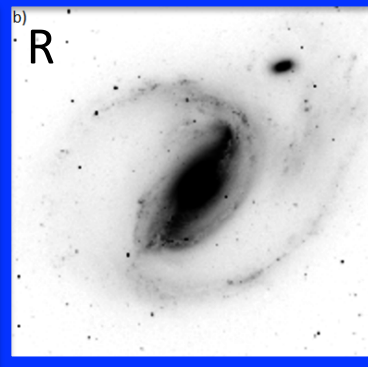
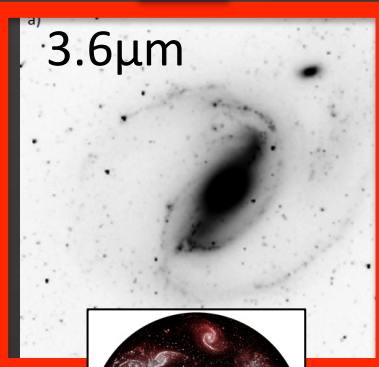
need a local reference to extend studies to high redshift

mid-IR: optimal window  
for stellar structure

UV: explore band-shift out  
to  $z > 0.8$

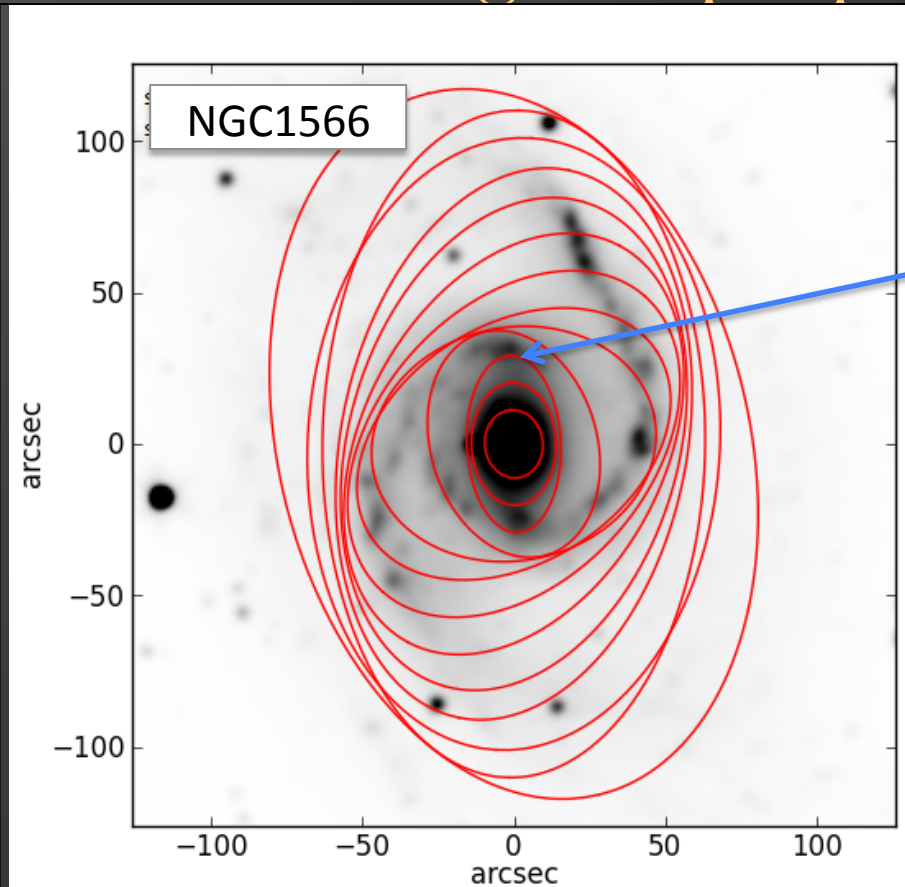
based on GALEX, SINGS and S<sup>4</sup>G imaging.

NGC 17

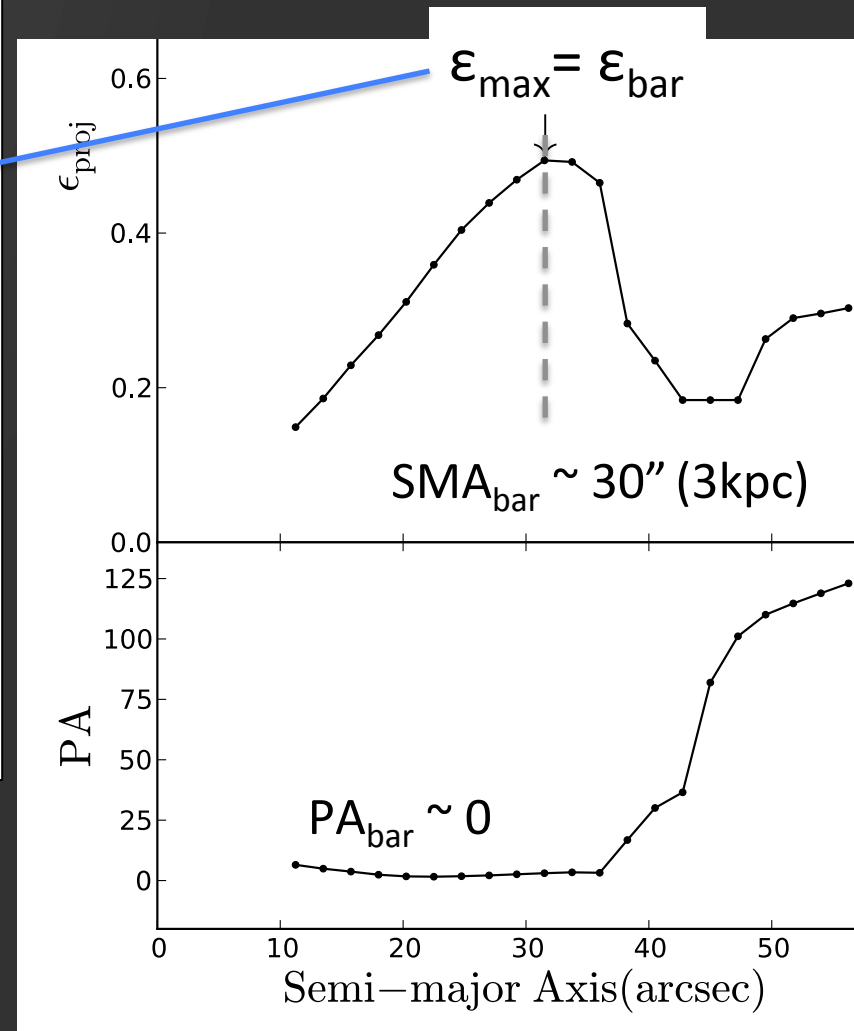


*Spitzer Survey of Stellar Structures in Galaxies* (PI Kartik Sheth)<sup>KMD+14</sup>  
Legacy Survey of the Warm Spitzer Mission  
IRAC 3.6/4.5μm of >2300 local galaxies

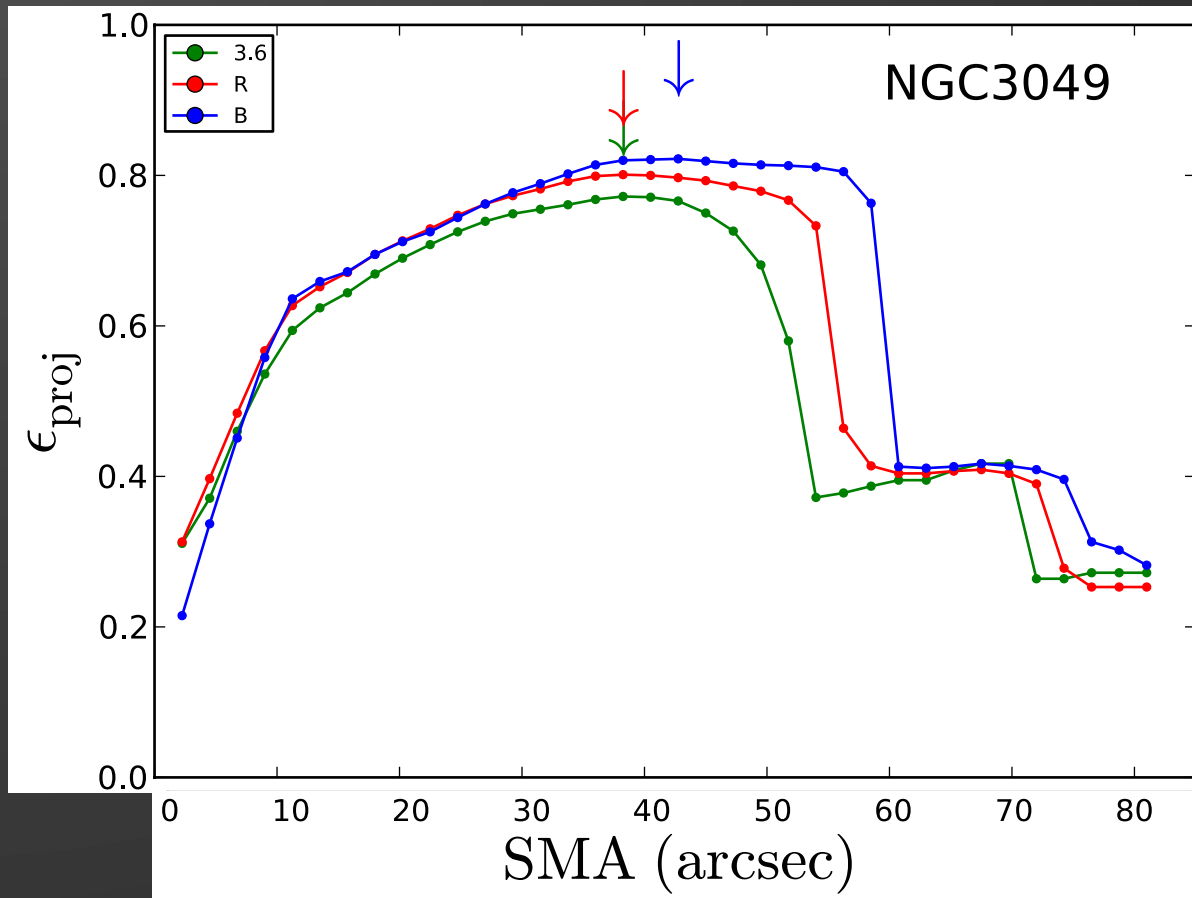
# Measuring bar properties – our approach



- widely-used ellipse-fit technique

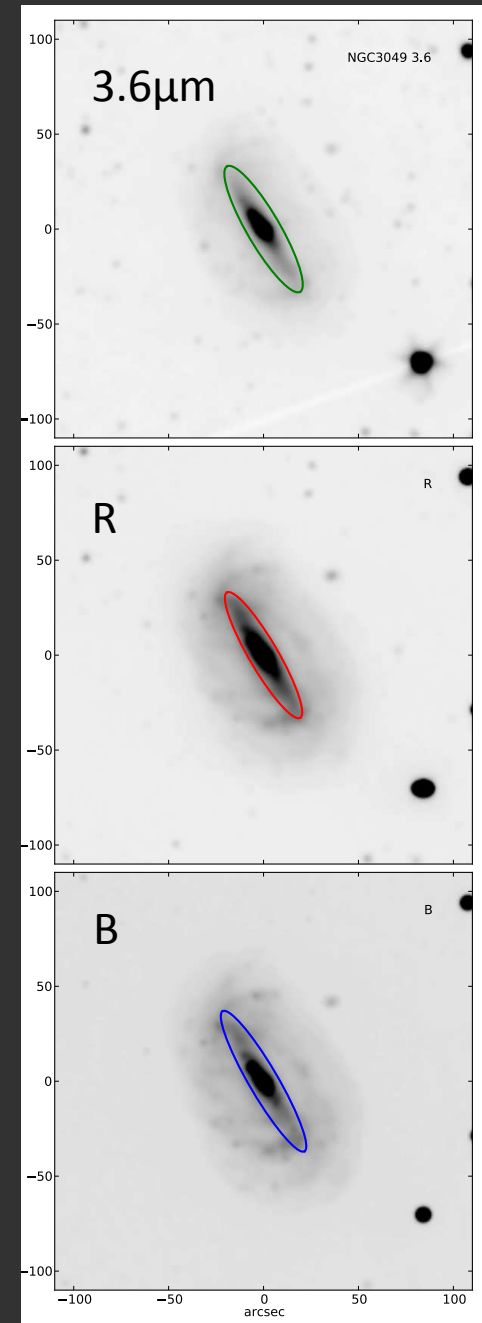


# Bars properties: from optical through IR



- Based on SINGs ancillary B, R and S<sup>4</sup>G 3.6 $\mu\text{m}$  IRAC/Spitzer images
- Angular resolution  $\sim 1\text{--}2''$

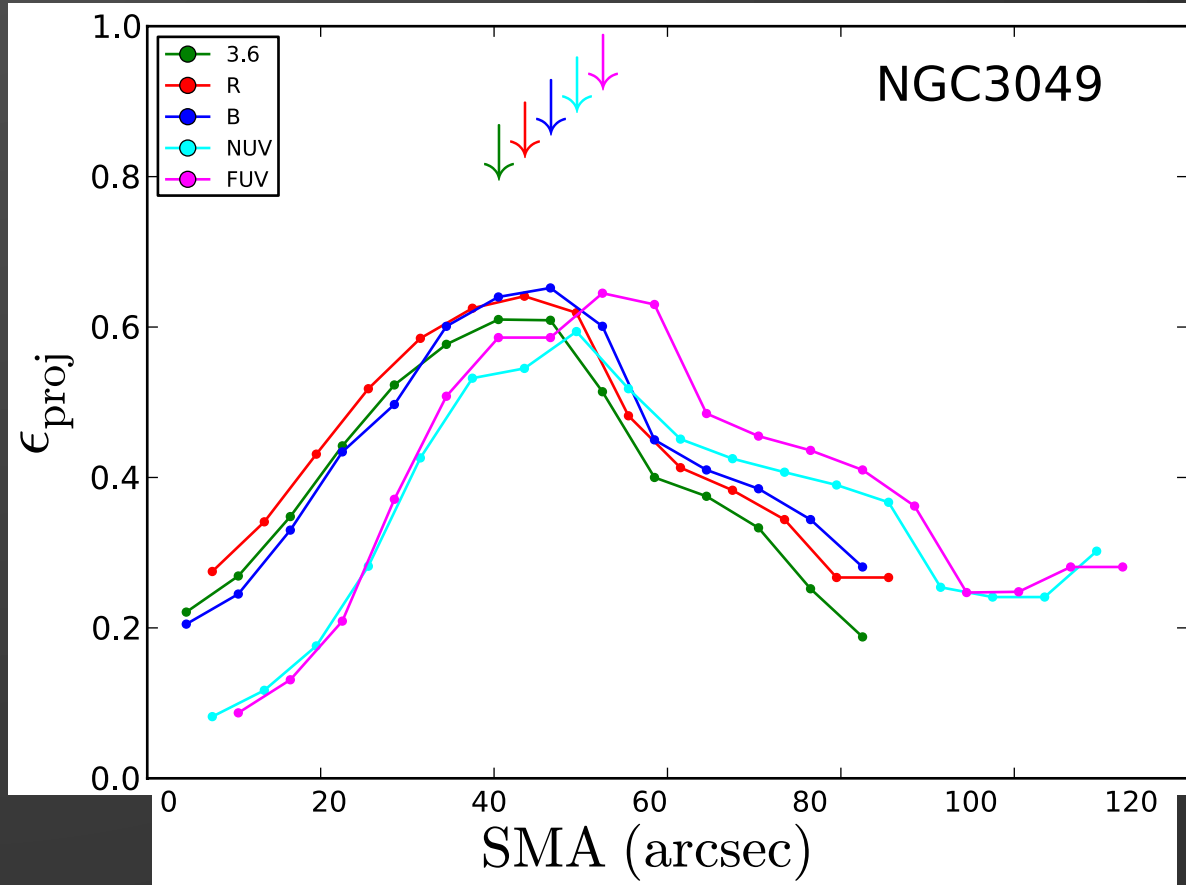
Dissecting Galaxies Near & Far, Santiago 2015



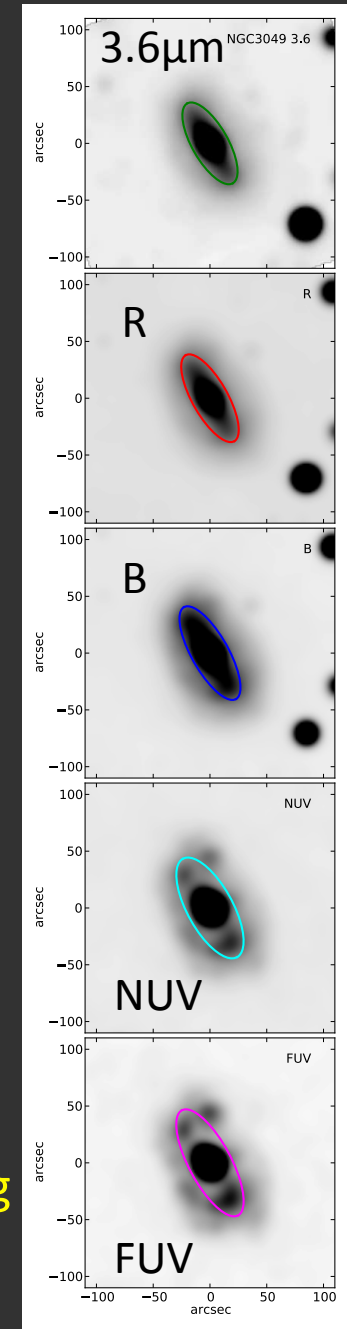
Karín Menéndez-Delmestre



# Bars properties: from UV through IR



- Including GALEX NUV [2267 Å] and FUV [1516 Å]
  - To address high- $z$  ( $z > 0.8$ ) studies based on optical imaging
  - Angular resolution  $\sim 6''$

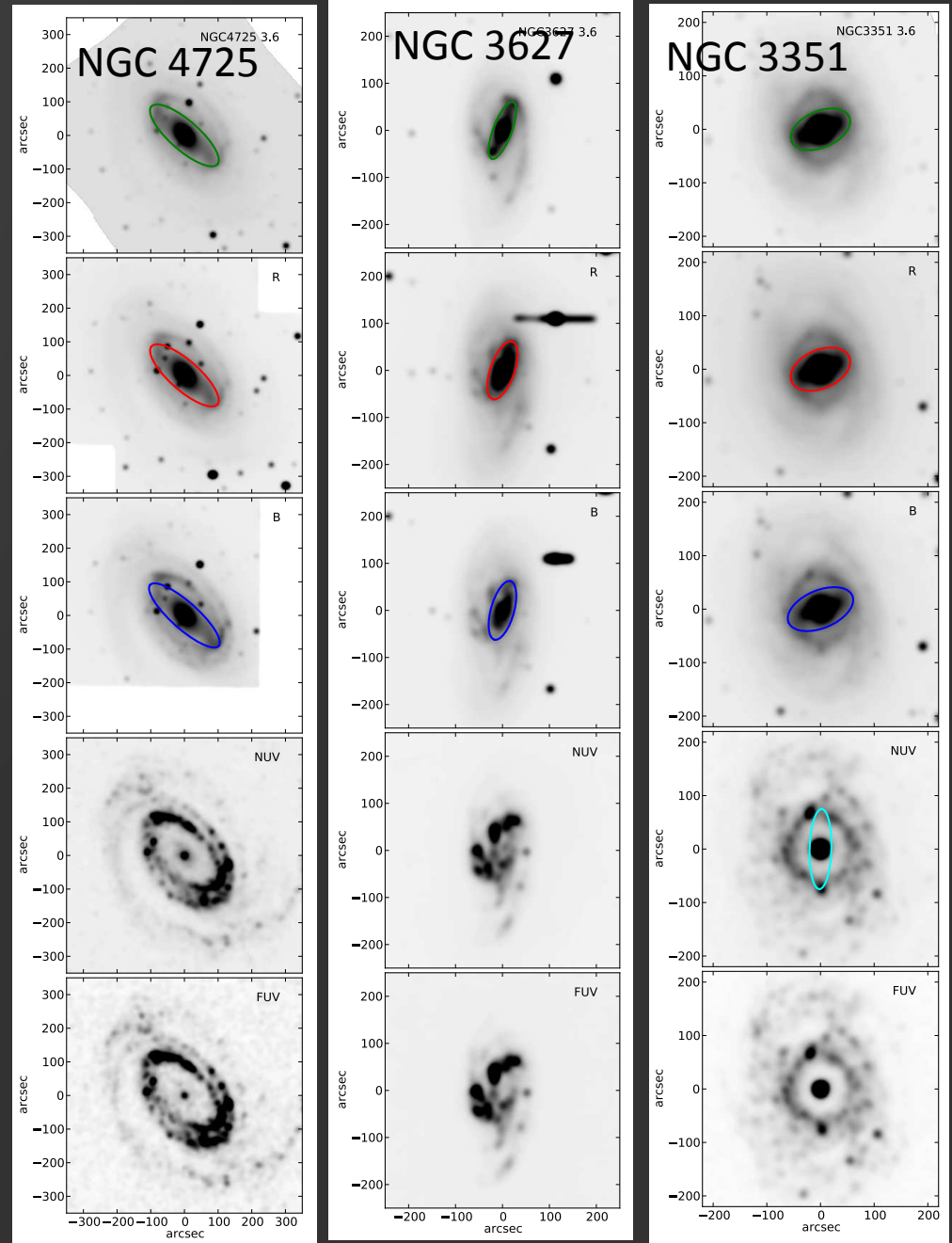


# 1<sup>st</sup> result: we lose bars in the $UV_{rest}$

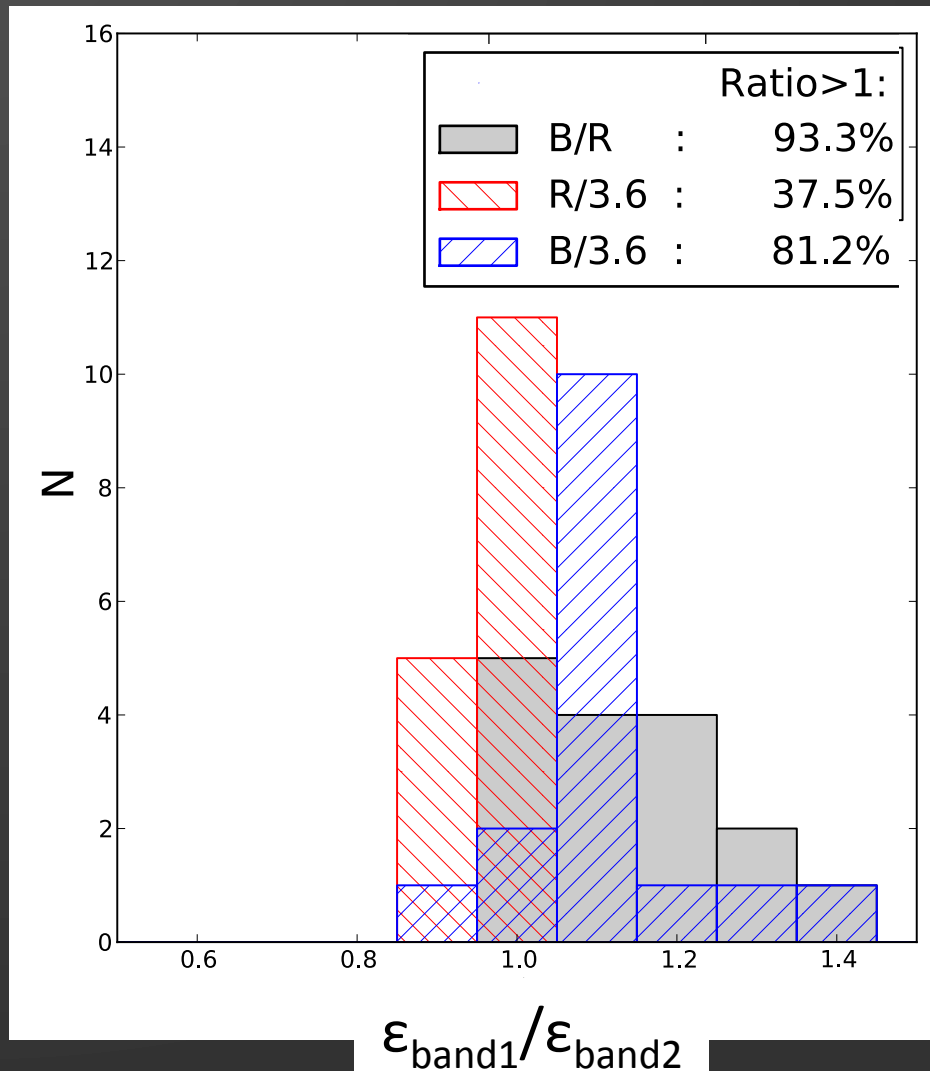
- We lose ~50% of all bars in the NUV/FUV bands
- Band shifting is an issue when going to shortwards of the Balmer break

→ Studies of bars at high redshift – beware!

→ HST data beyond  $z \sim 0.8$  traces emission bluewards of the Balmer break

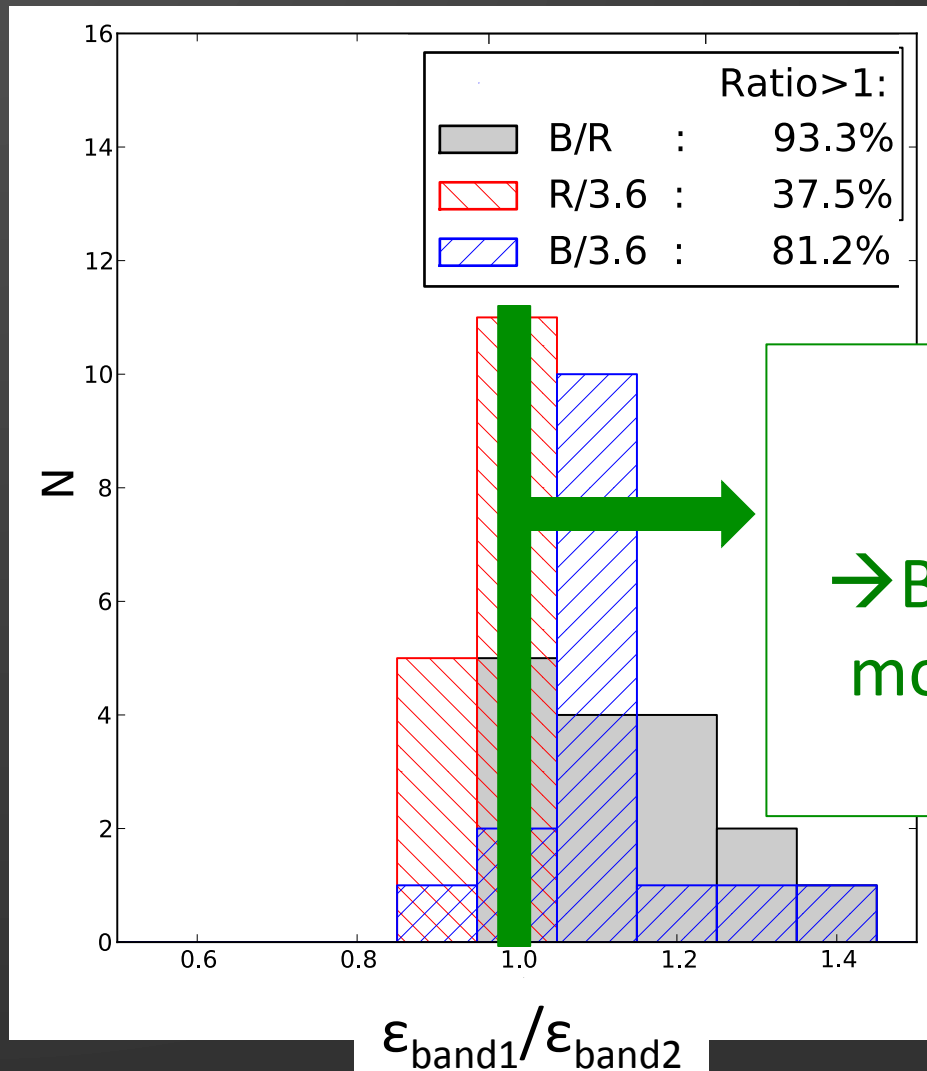


## 2<sup>nd</sup> result: bars look thinner in bluer bands



- $\epsilon_{\text{max}}$  is higher in the optical bands, compared to the mid-IR

## 2<sup>nd</sup> result: bars look thinner in bluer bands



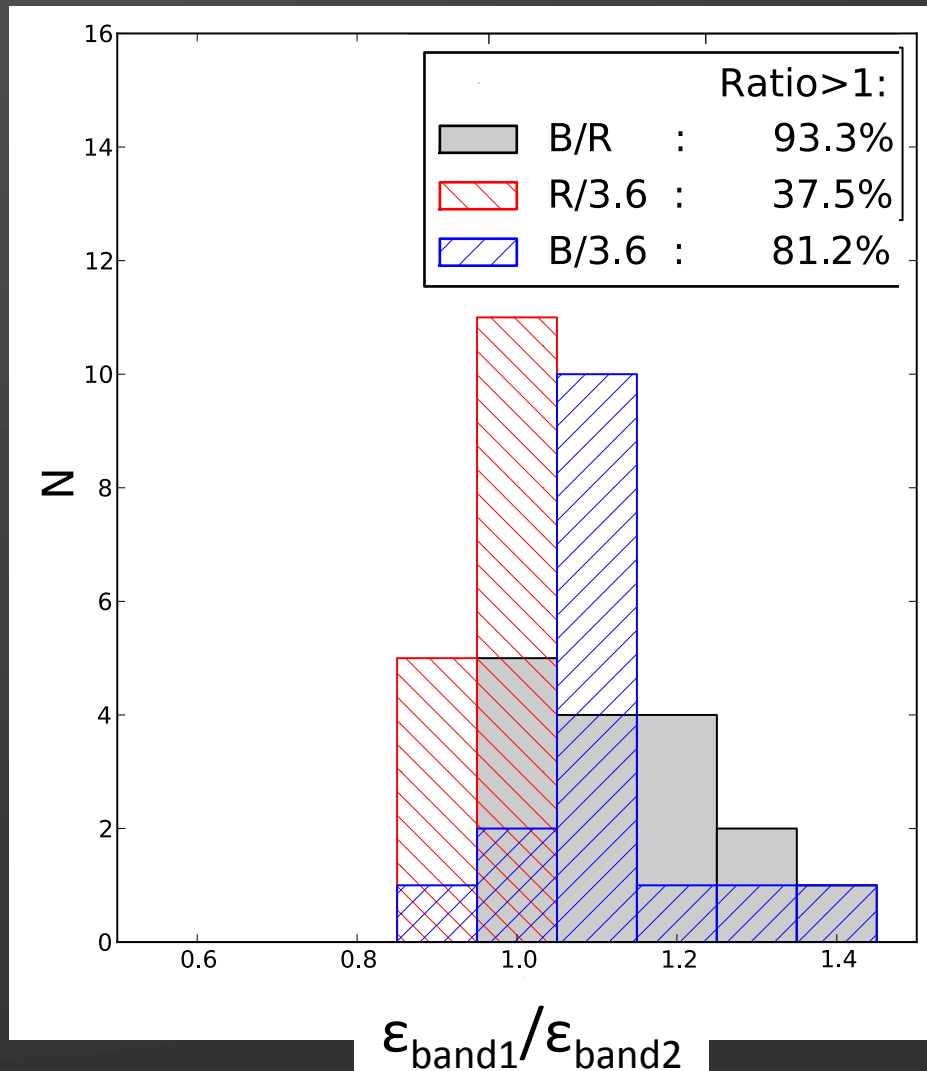
- $\epsilon_{\text{max}}$  is higher in the optical bands, compared to the mid-IR

$$\epsilon_{\text{band1}}/\epsilon_{\text{band2}} > 1$$

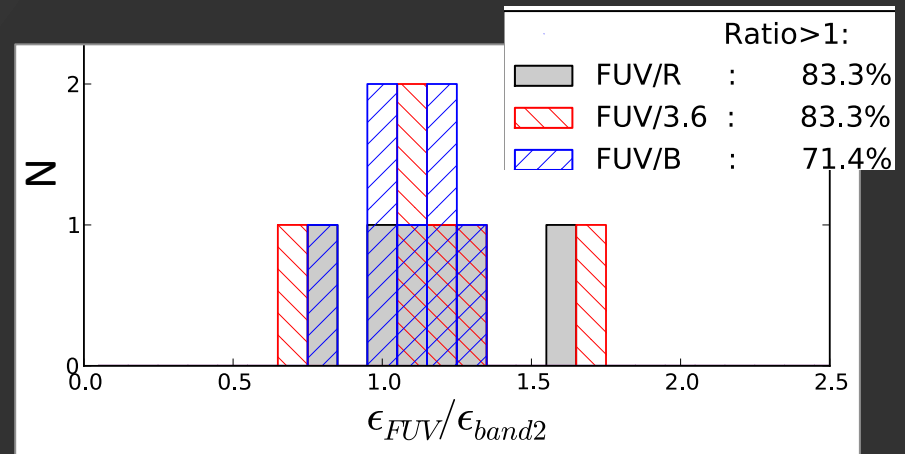
→ Bar measured to be more elliptical in the bluer band



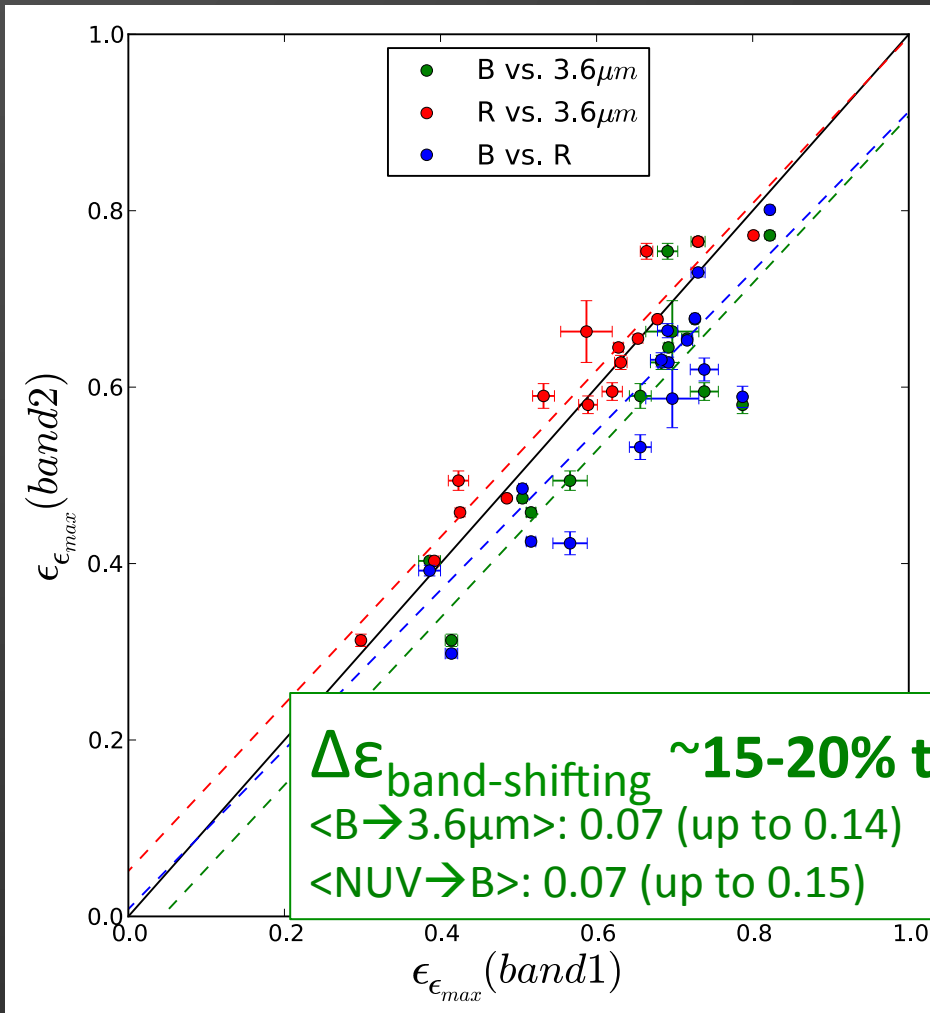
## 2<sup>nd</sup> result: bars look thinner in bluer bands



- $\epsilon_{\text{max}}$  is higher in the optical bands, compared to the mid-IR
- This result extends to the UV



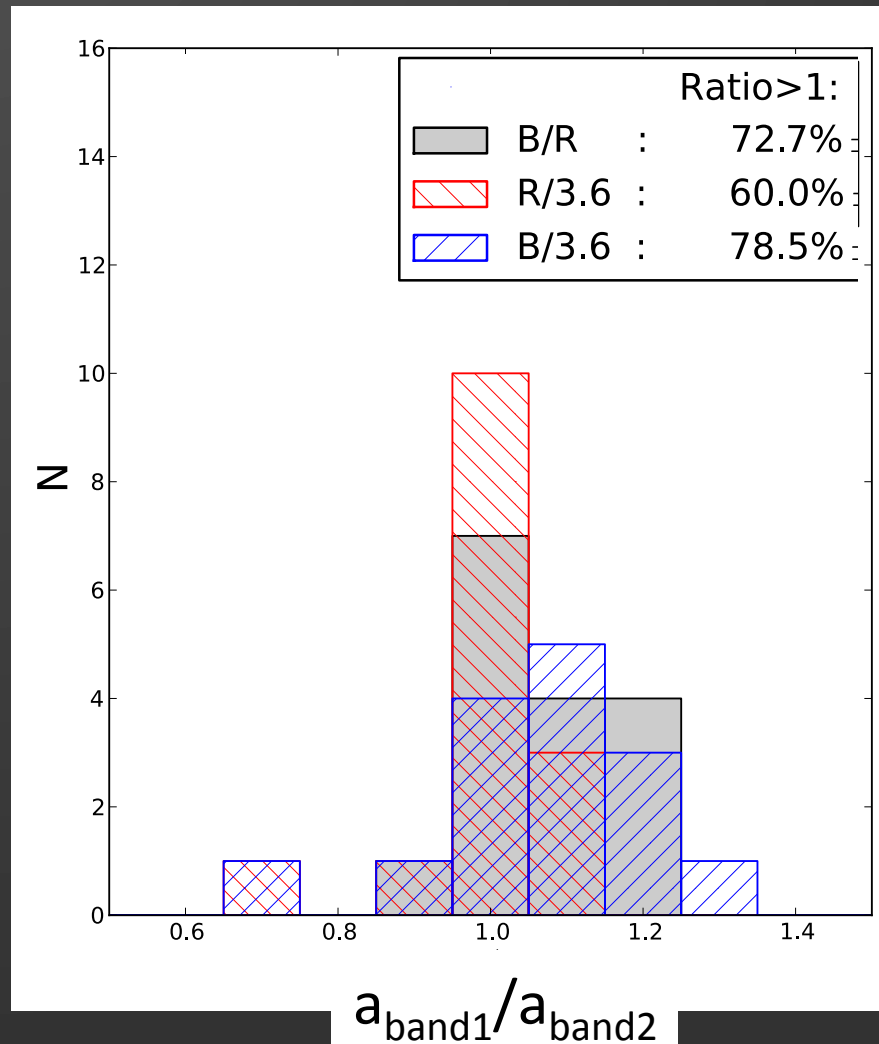
## 2<sup>nd</sup> result: bars look thinner in bluer bands



- $\epsilon_{\max}$  is higher in the optical bands, compared to the mid-IR
- This result extends to the UV
- **Driven by bulge sizes:**
  - Bulge looks bigger in redder bands  $\rightarrow$  smaller in the blue
  - Limits the size of the bar semi-minor axis
  - $\rightarrow$  Bar looks thinner

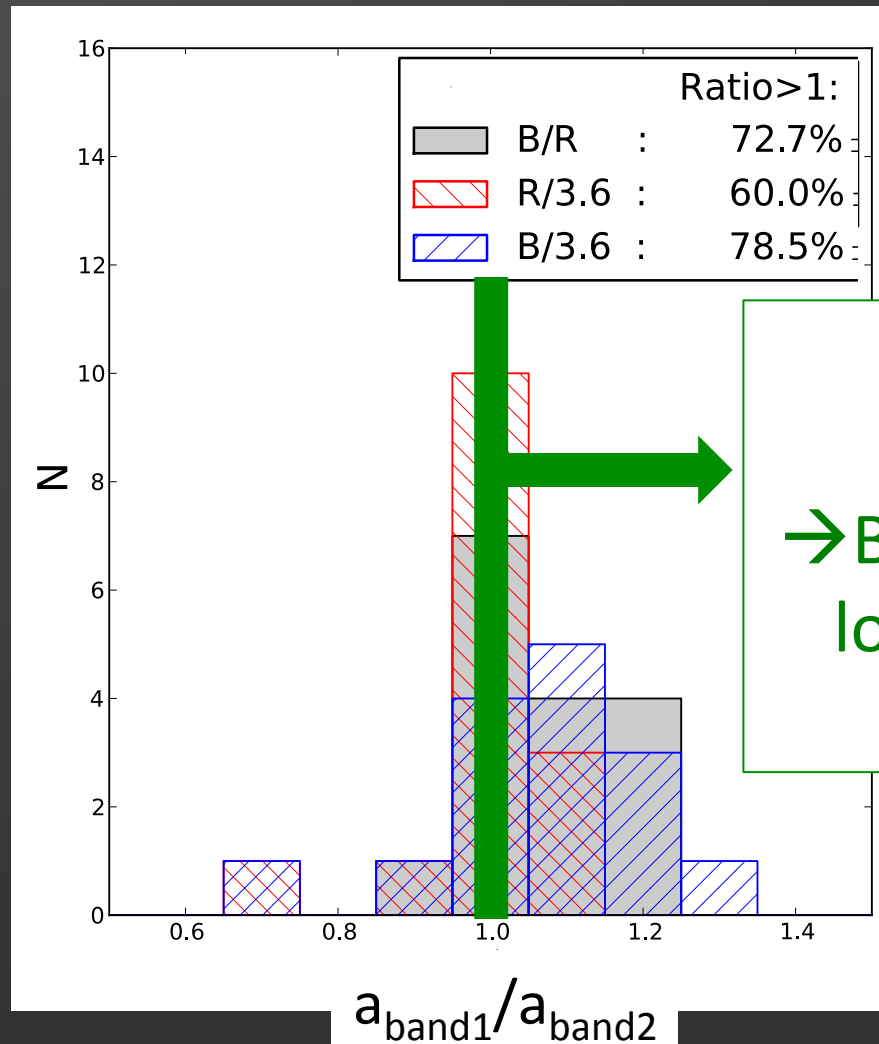
The bluer the restframe band, the thinner the bar!

## 3<sup>rd</sup> result: bars look longer in bluer bands



- SMA where  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{\text{max}}$  is larger in the optical bands, compared to the mid-IR

### 3<sup>rd</sup> result: bars look longer in bluer bands



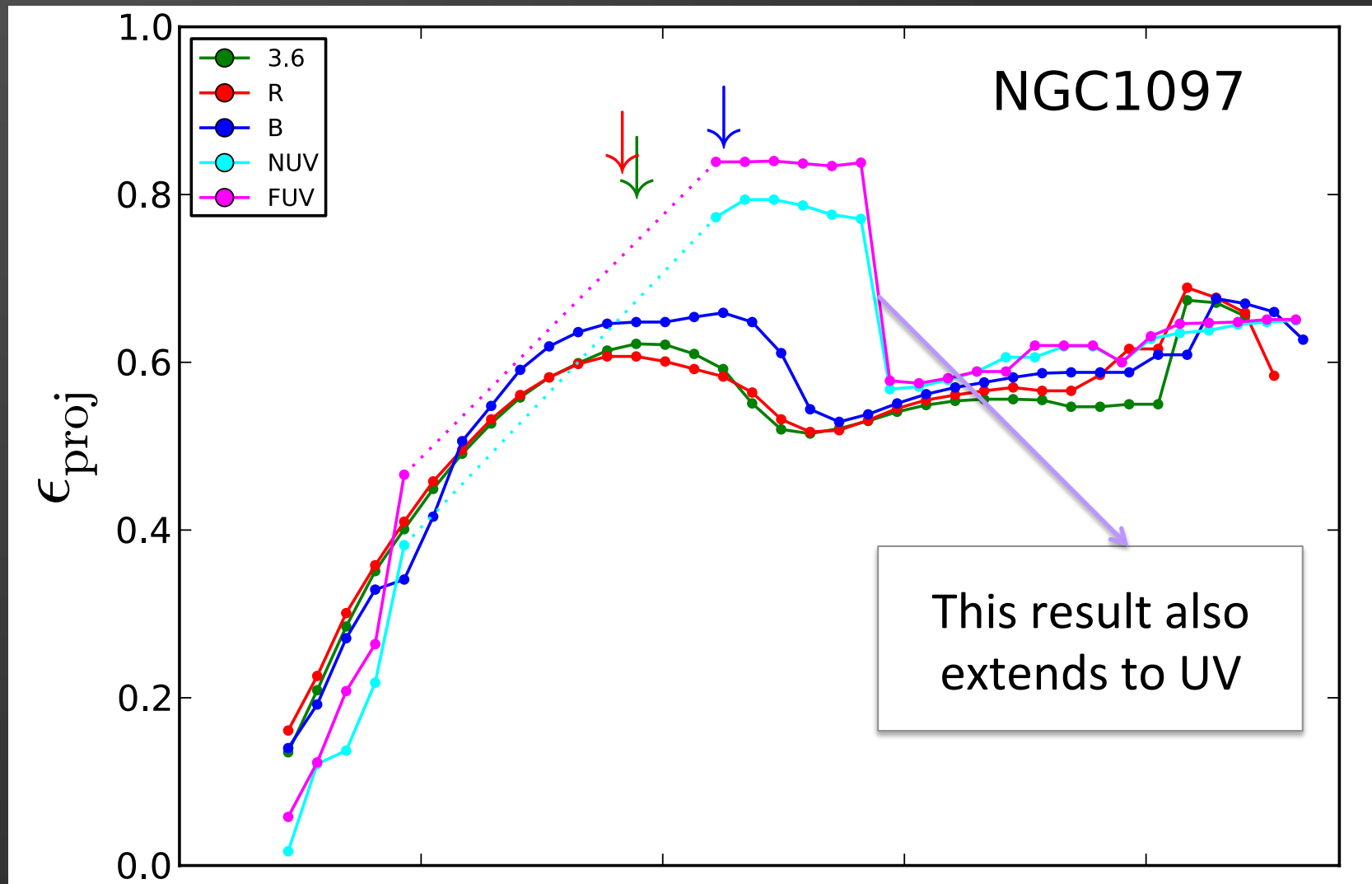
- SMA where  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{\text{max}}$  is larger in the optical bands, compared to the mid-IR

$$a_{\text{band1}}/a_{\text{band2}} > 1$$

→ Bar measured to be longer in the bluer band



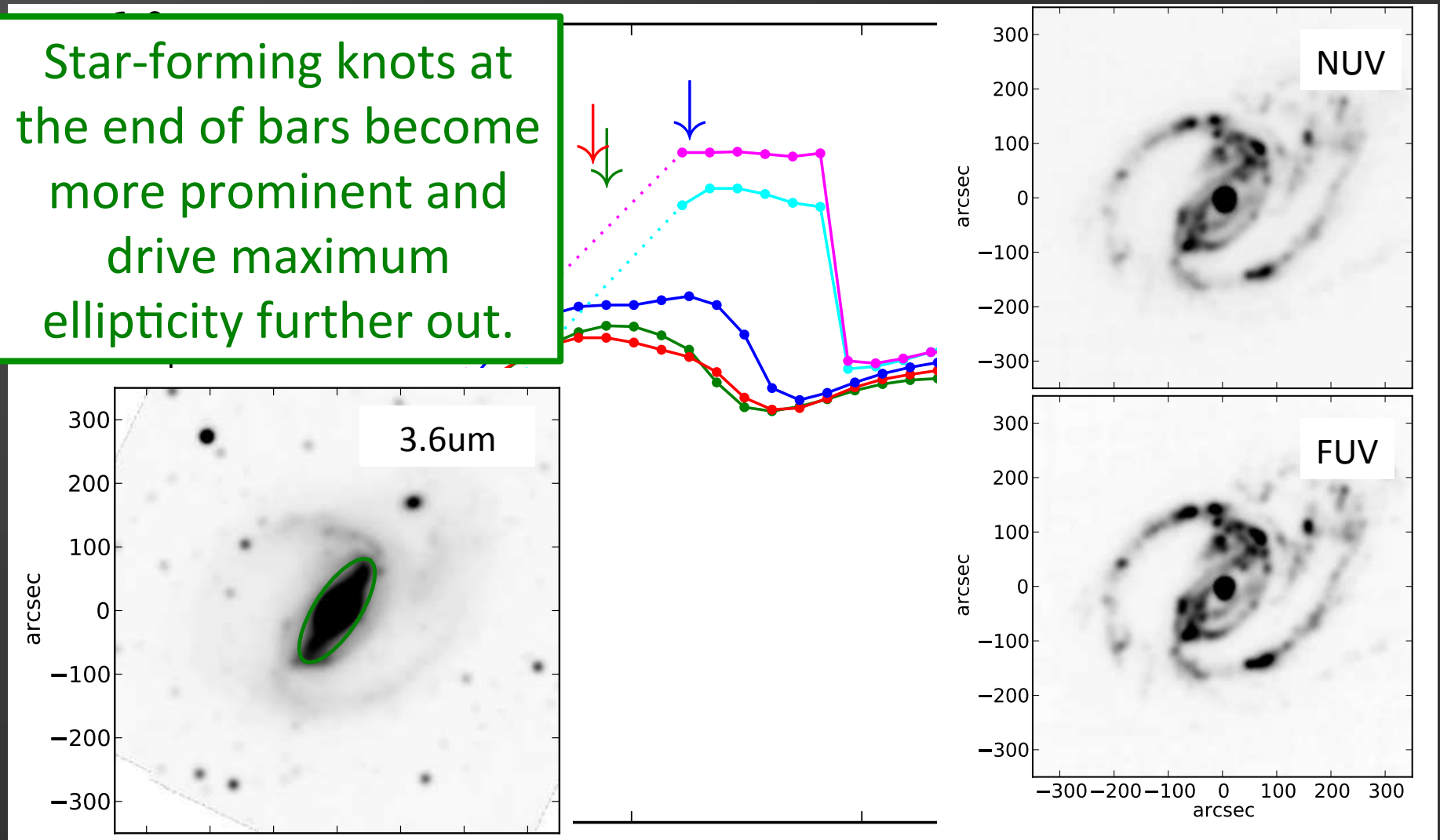
## 3<sup>rd</sup> result: bars look longer in bluer bands



The bluer the restframe band, the longer the bar!

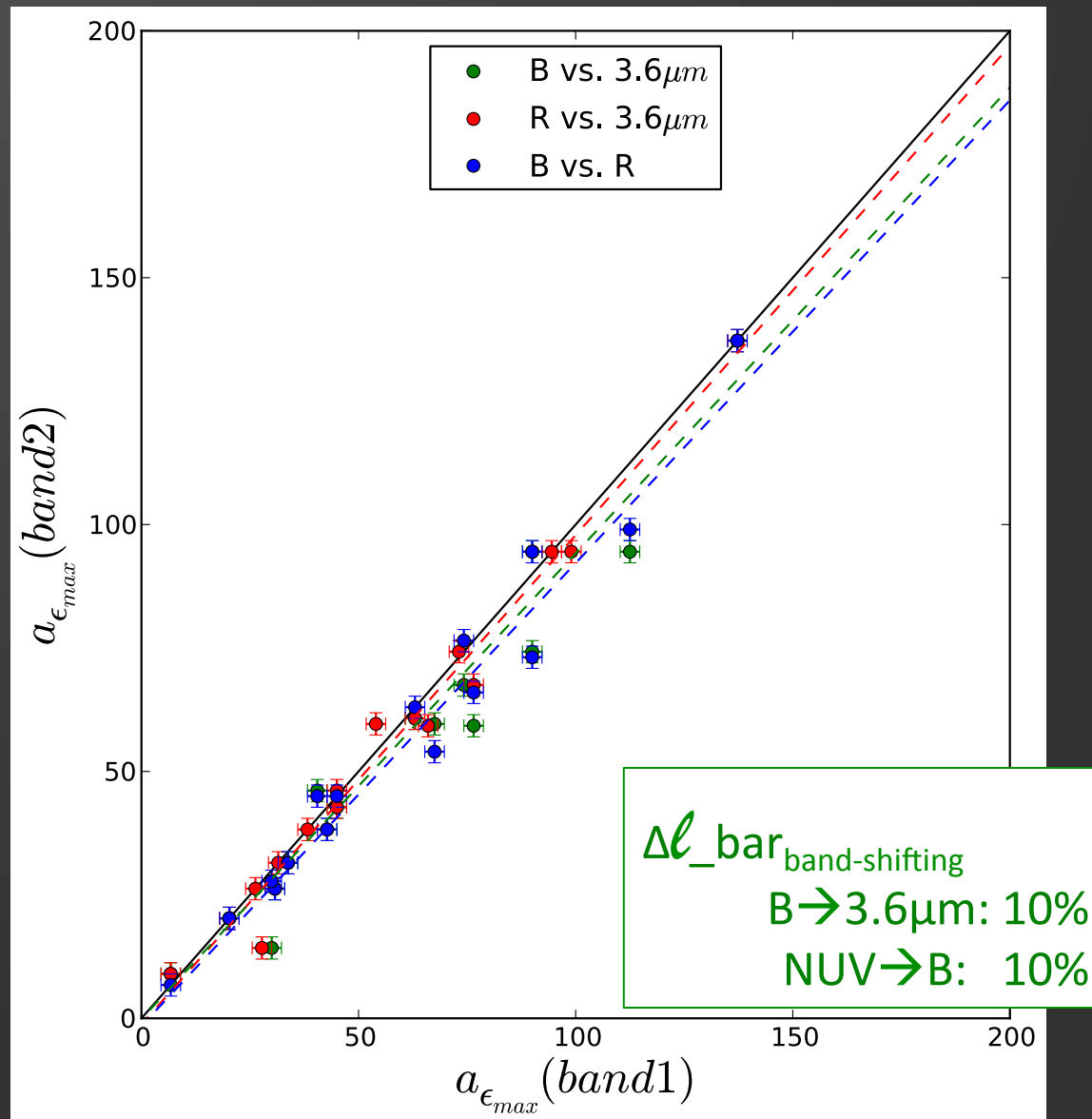
## 3<sup>rd</sup> result: bars look longer in bluer bands

Star-forming knots at the end of bars become more prominent and drive maximum ellipticity further out.

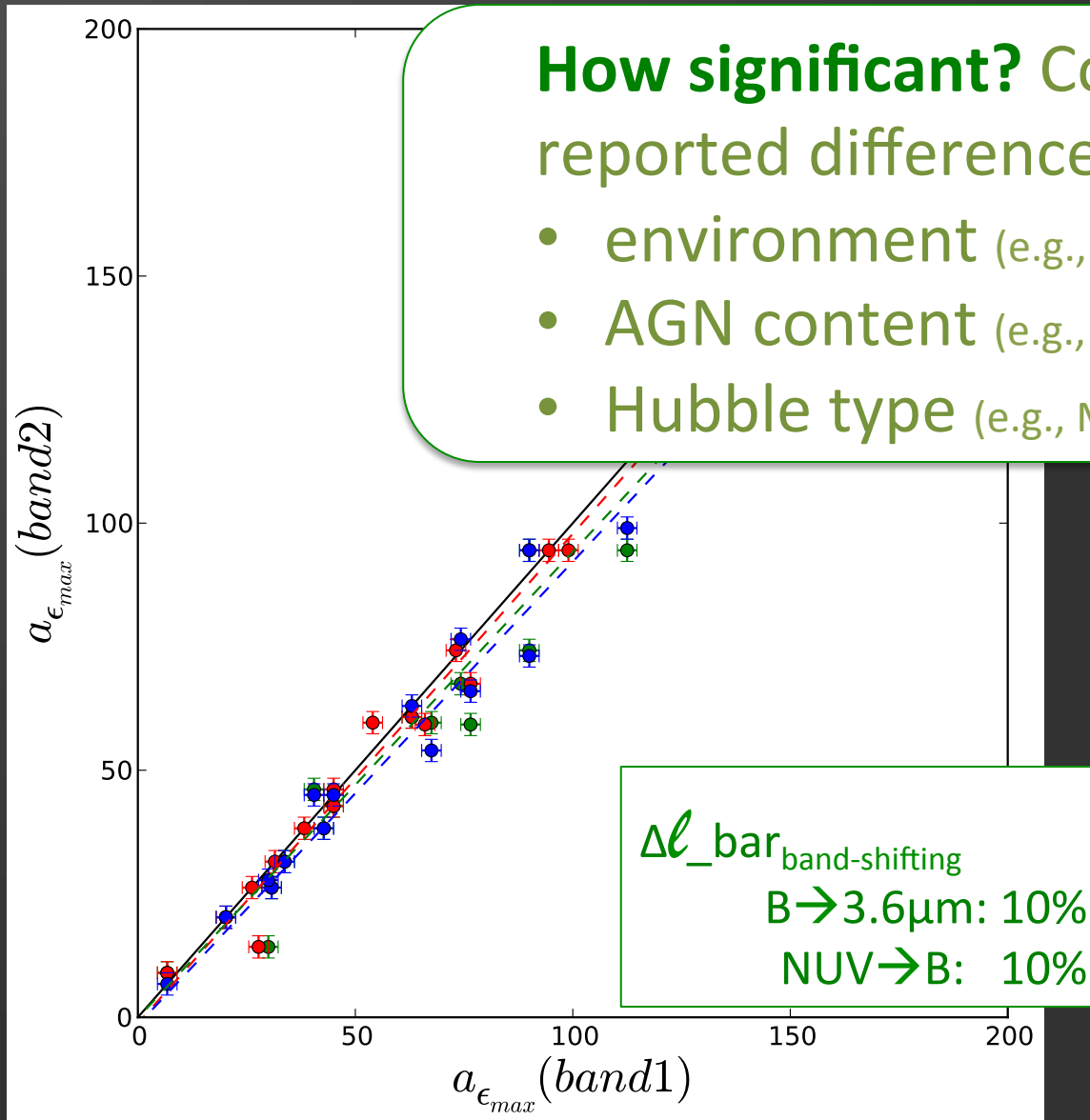


The bluer the restframe band, the longer the bar!

# 3<sup>rd</sup> result: bars look longer in bluer bands



## 3<sup>rd</sup> result: bars look longer in bluer bands



**How significant?** Comparable to reported differences with respect to:

- environment (e.g., Barazza+09)
- AGN content (e.g., Laurikainen+02)
- Hubble type (e.g., Menéndez-Delmestre+07)

$\Delta \ell_{\text{bar}}$  band-shifting  
B  $\rightarrow$  3.6  $\mu$ m: 10%  
NUV  $\rightarrow$  B: 10%

## Take away points...

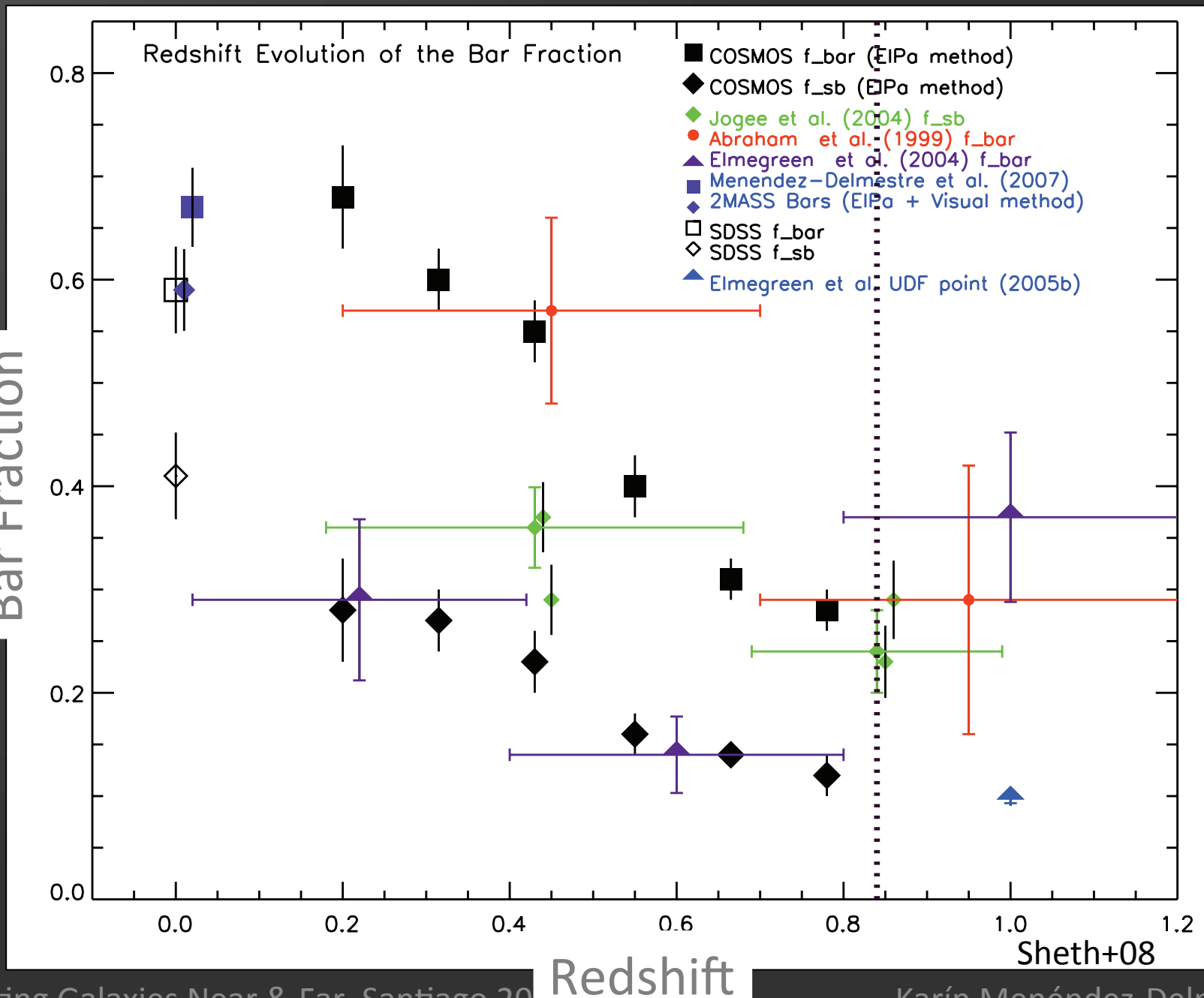
- As we extend bar studies out to high redshifts, our single-band studies are inevitably subject to band-shifting effects:
  - We lose 50% of bars in the UV → need to stick to the red side of the Balmer break in order to reliably detect bars
  - Bars change in shape as we go bluer; even in the restframe opt:
    - Bars get thinner, due to apparent bulge size
    - Bars look longer, as star-forming knots become prominent
  - Need to consider this when comparing bar morphologies as a function of galaxy properties!
  - These band-shifting effects may affect the “ease” to detect bars
- Refraining from going bluer than B-band may be good enough to study bar fraction out to  $z \sim 0.8$ ... but not bar properties!
  - Need to correct for band-shifting effects even in the optical!

## Take away points...

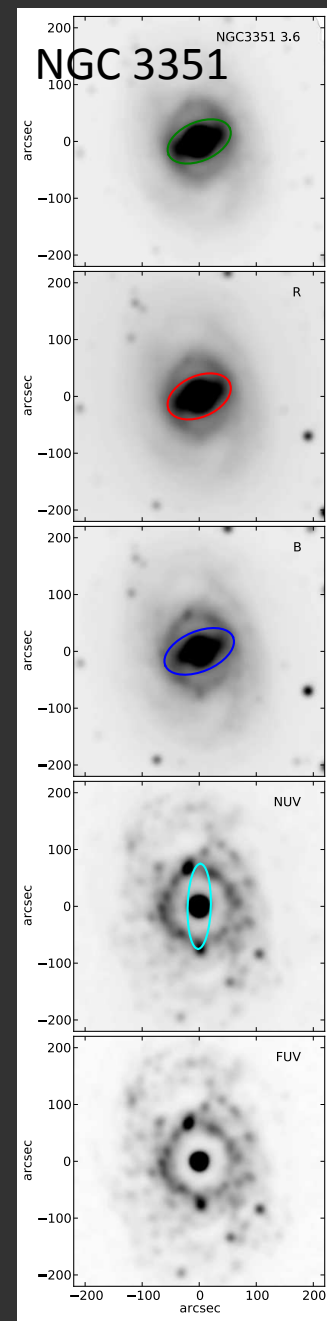
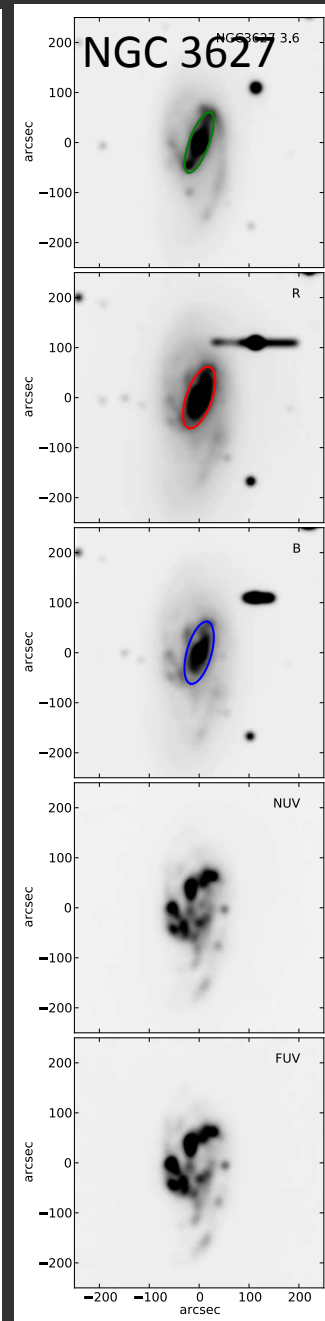
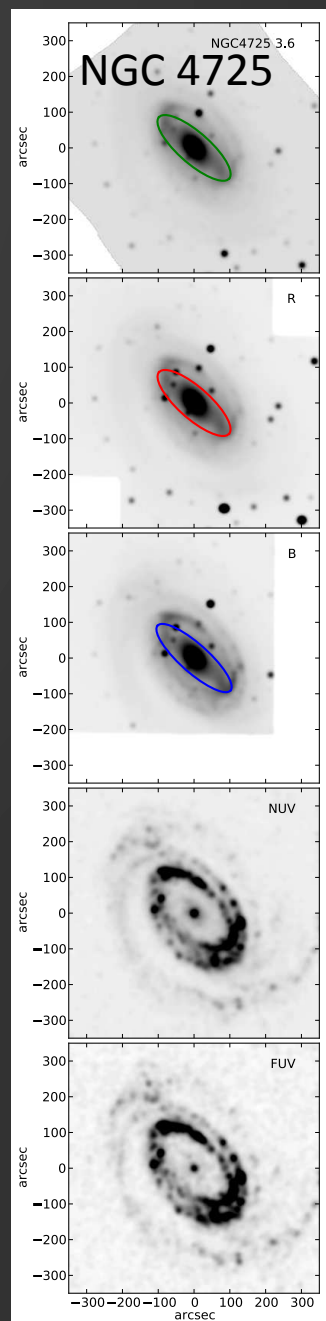
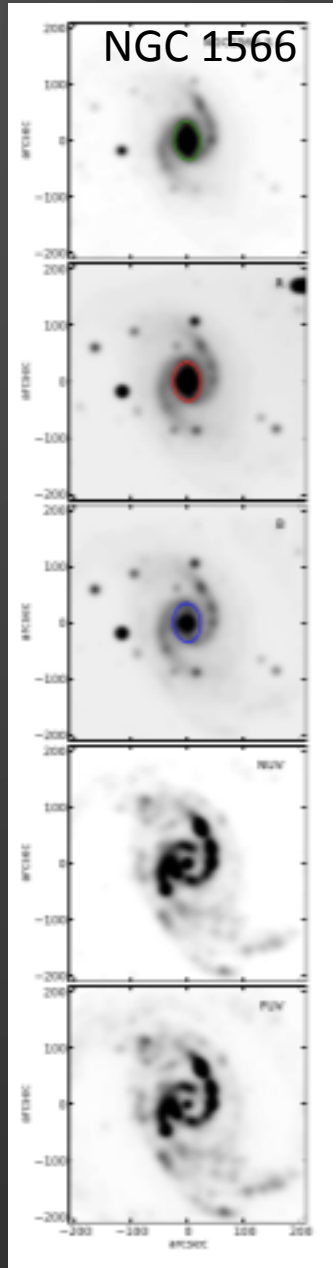
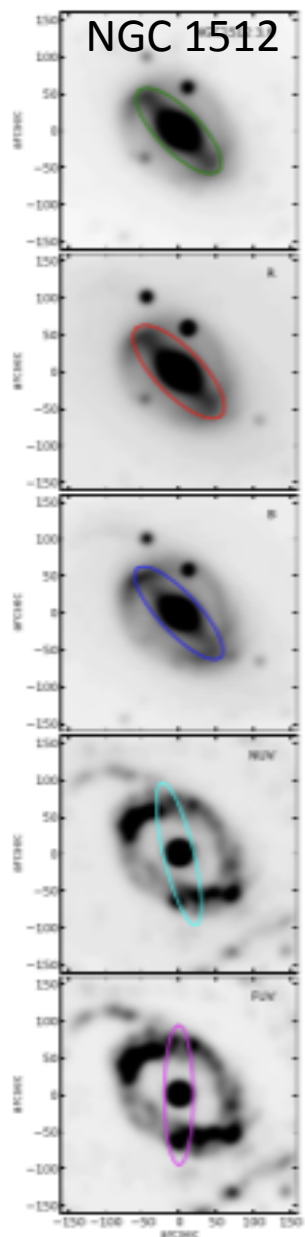
- As we extend bar studies out to high redshifts, our single-band studies are inevitably subject to band-shifting effects:
  - We lose 50% of bars in the UV → need to stick to the red side of the Balmer break in order to reliably detect bars
  - Bar fraction decreases with redshift. Some opt:
    - 
    -
  - Need to correct for band-shifting effects even in the optical!
    -
  - These band-shifting effects may affect the “ease” to detect bars
- Refraining from going bluer than B-band may be good enough to study bar fraction out to  $z \sim 0.8$ ... but not bar properties!
  - Need to correct for band-shifting effects even in the optical!

**Stay tuned for  
Bar properties at high-redshift!**

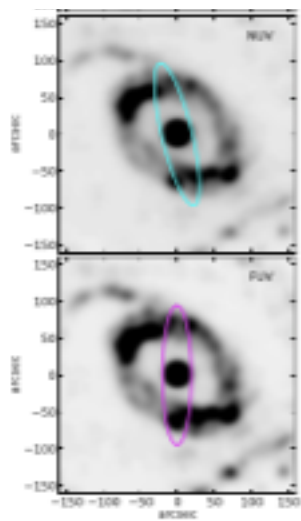
Bar Fraction



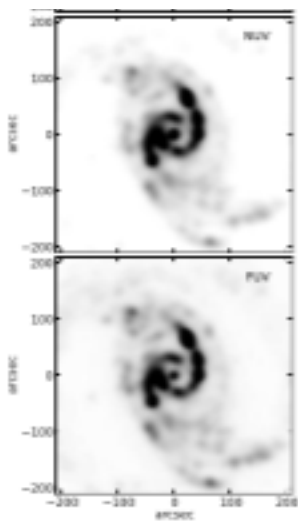




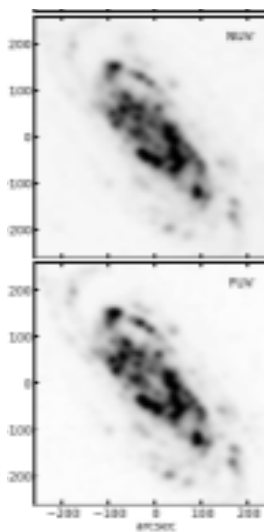
NGC 1512



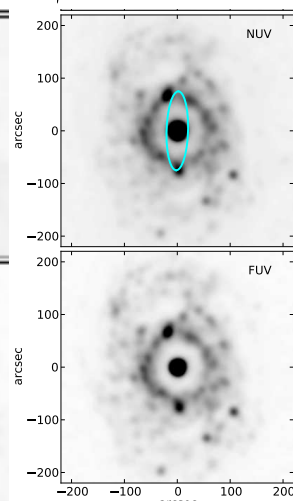
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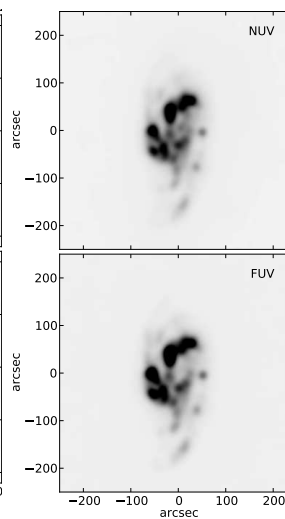
NGC 3198



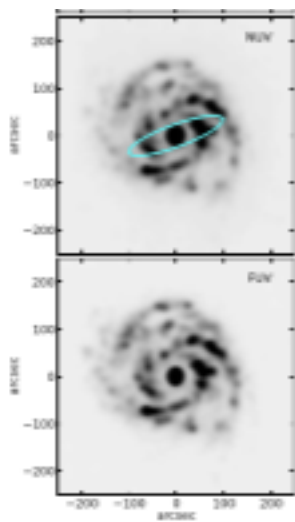
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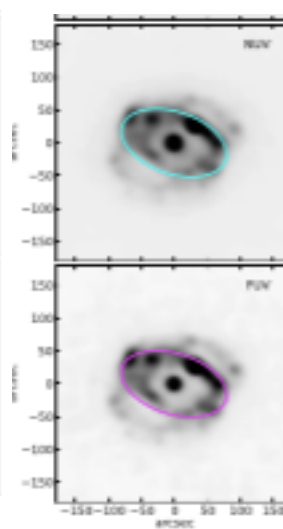
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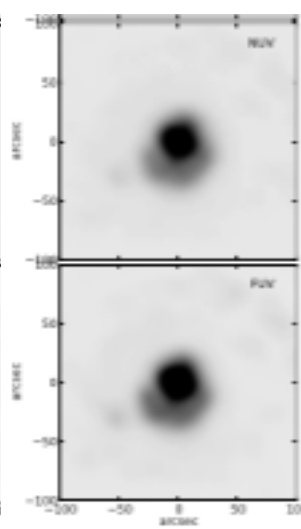
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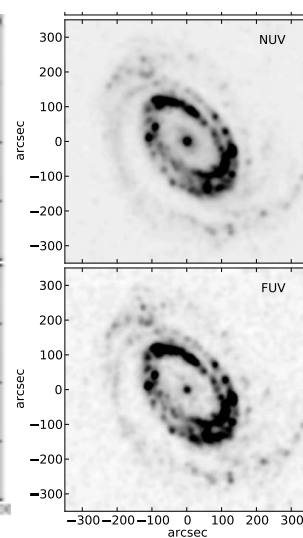
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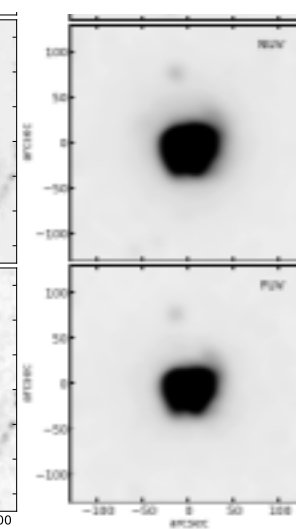
NGC 4625



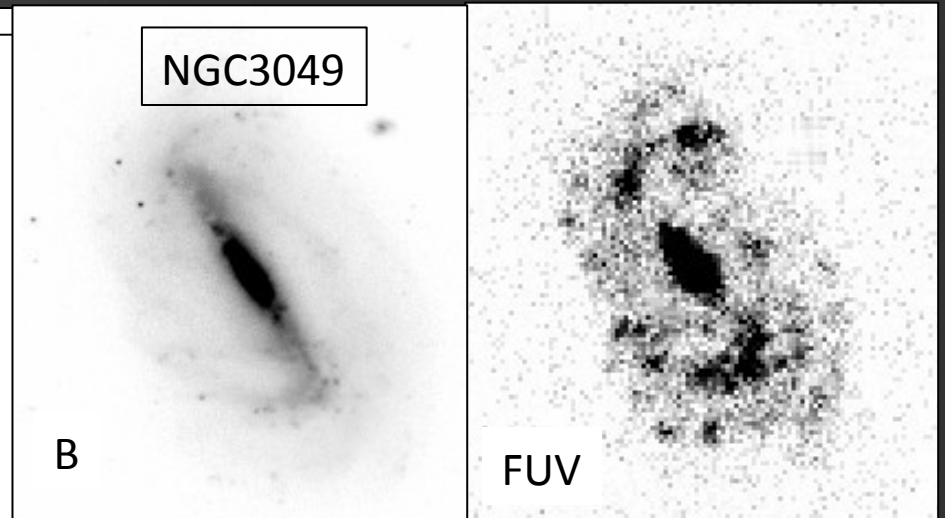
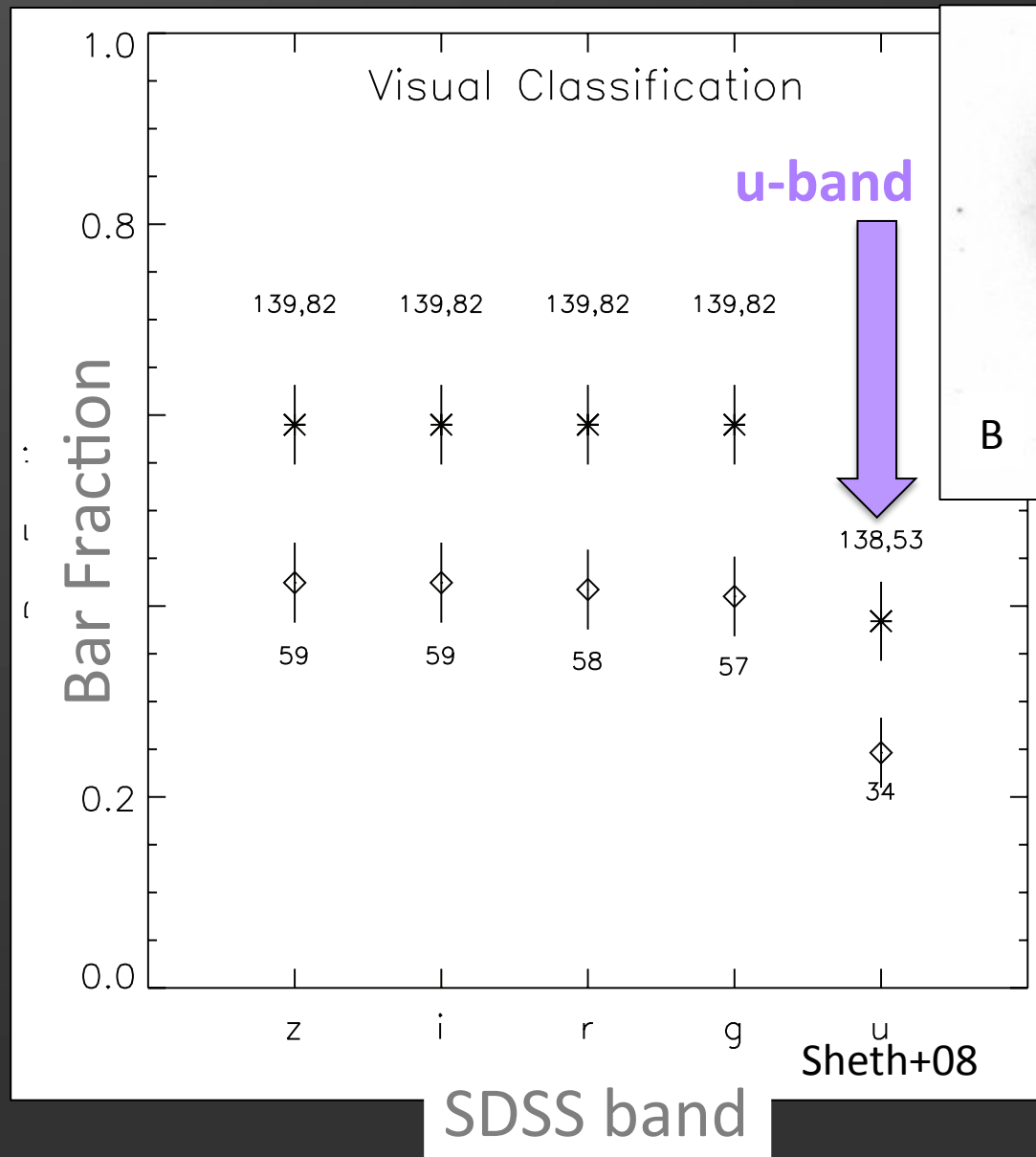
NGC 4725



NGC 5713

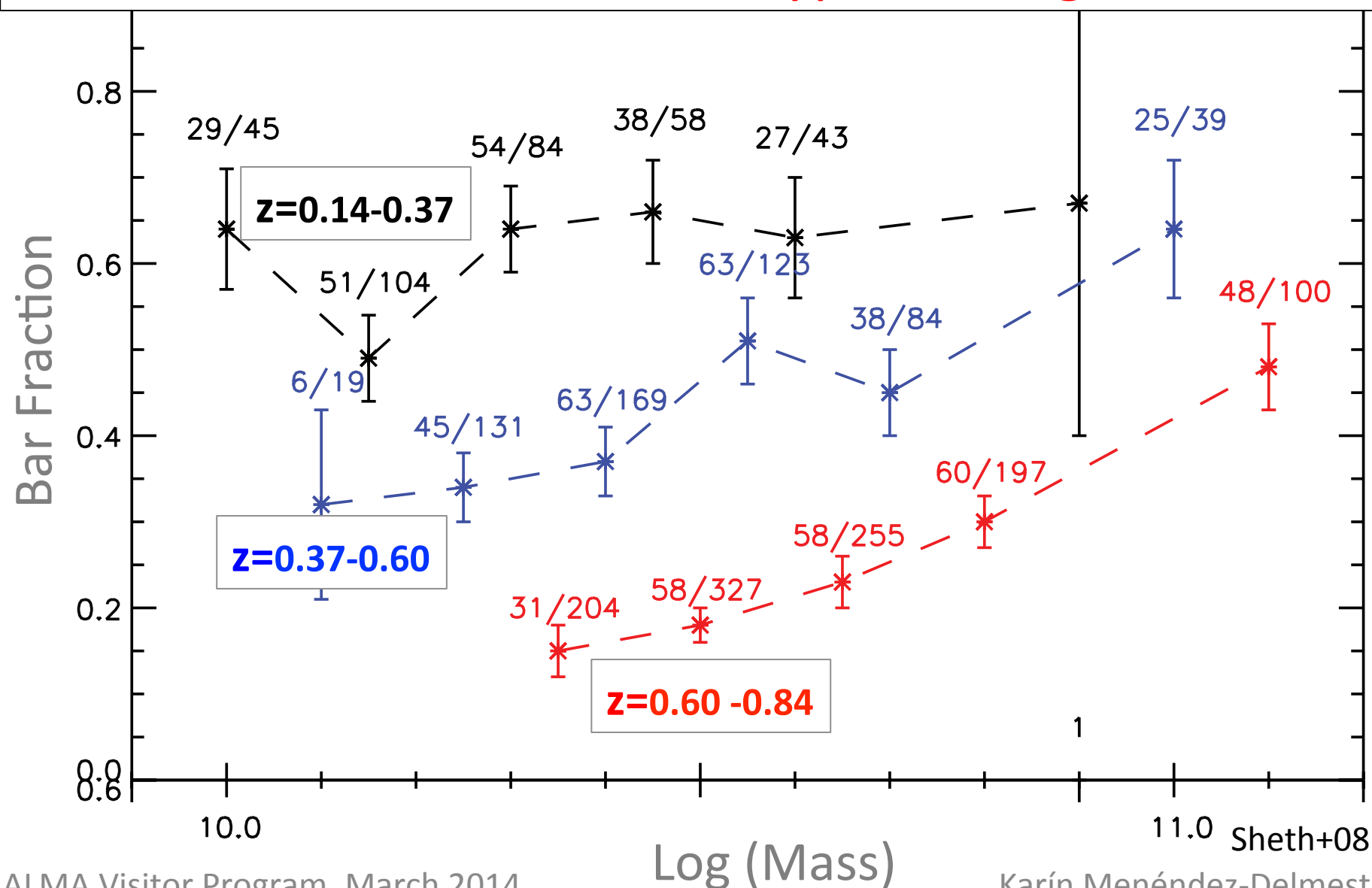


# Band-shifting matters! We lose bars in the UV

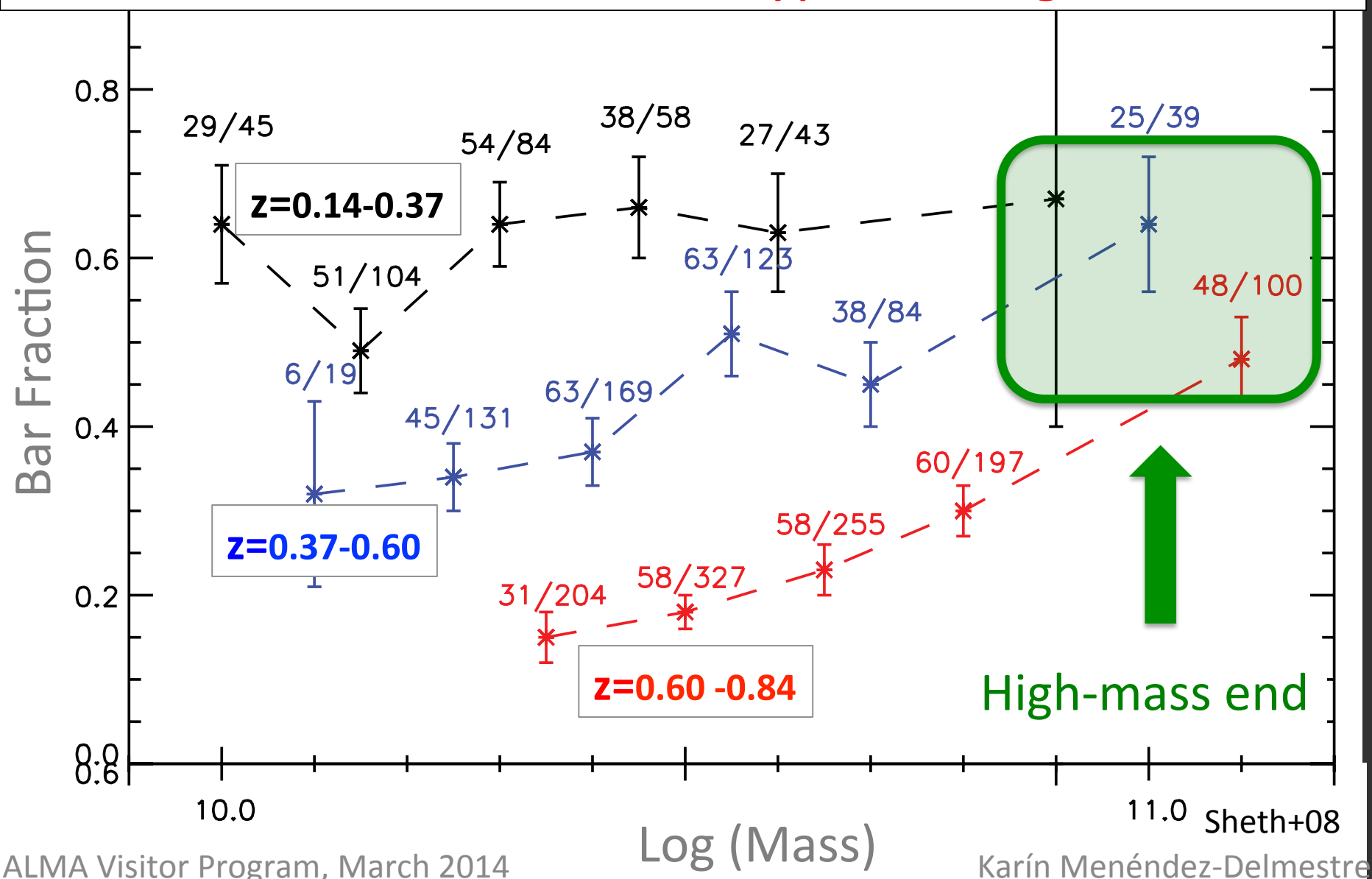


- Band shifting is an issue when going to shortwards of the Balmer break
- So, restframe optical studies work out ok... but up to  $z \sim 0.8$ !

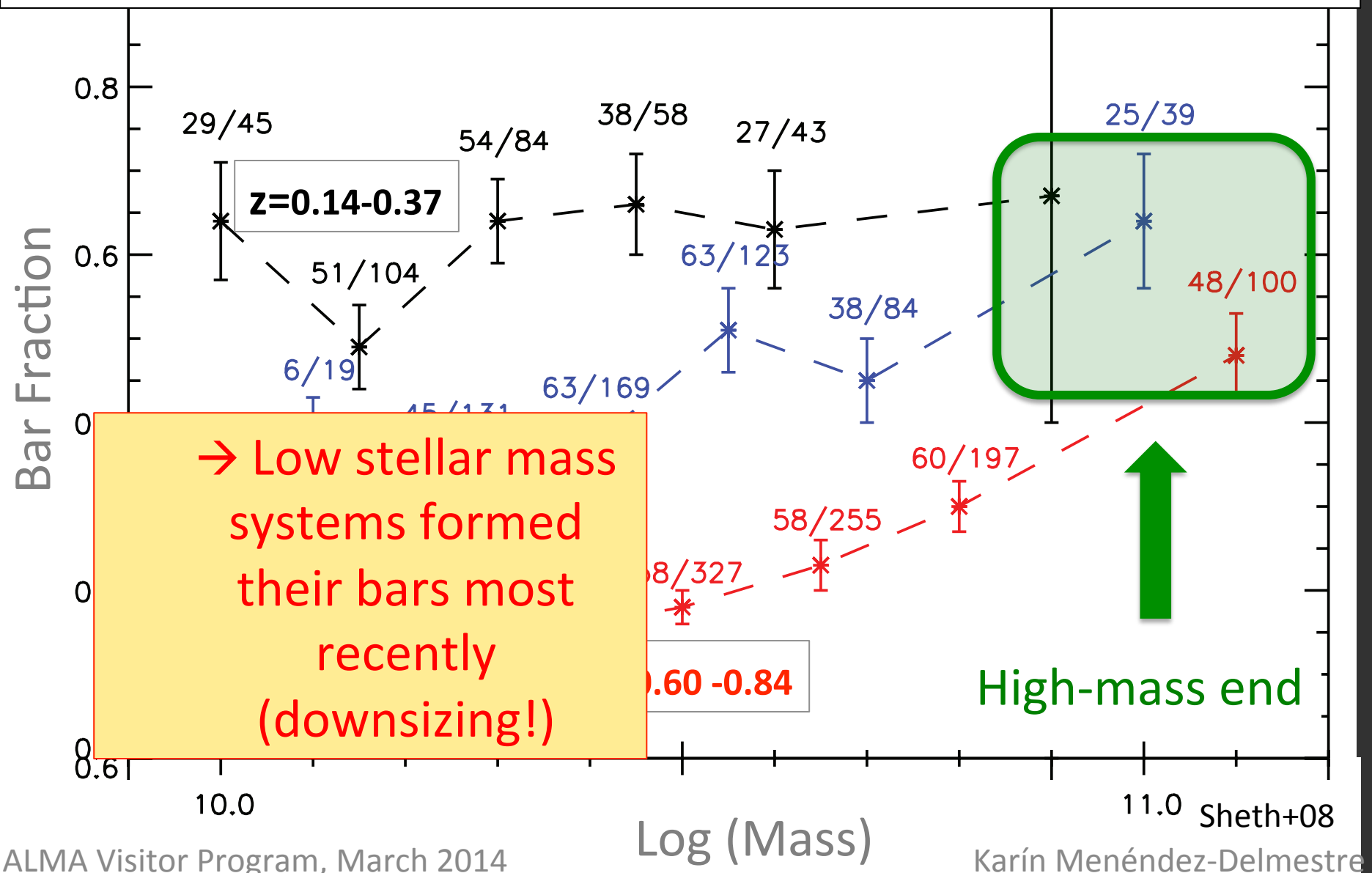
# Bar fraction declines with $z$ , but almost exclusively in the lower mass/late-type/bluer galaxies



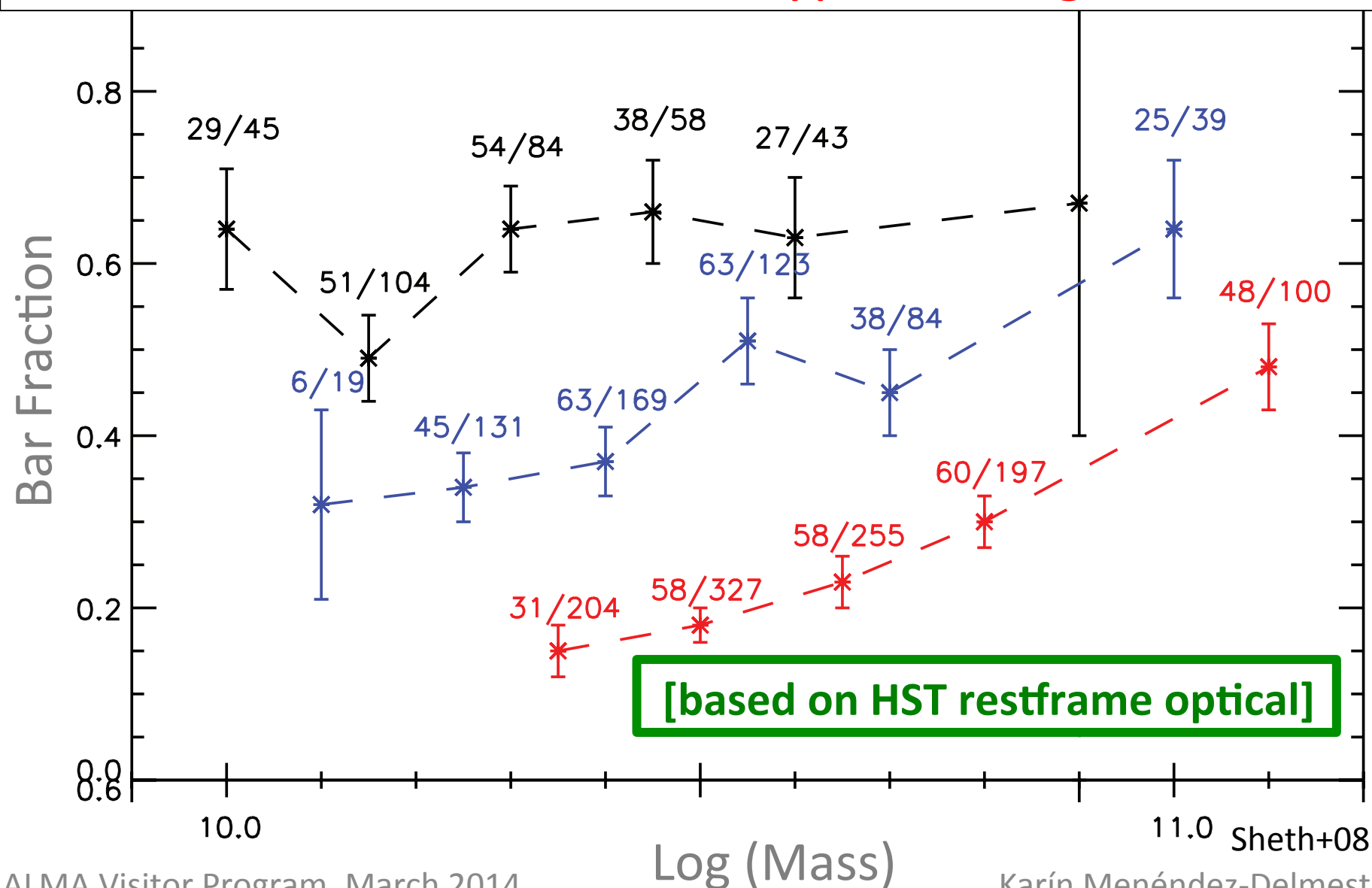
Bar fraction declines with  $z$ , but almost exclusively in the lower mass/late-type/bluer galaxies



Bar fraction declines with  $z$ , but almost exclusively in the lower mass/late-type/bluer galaxies

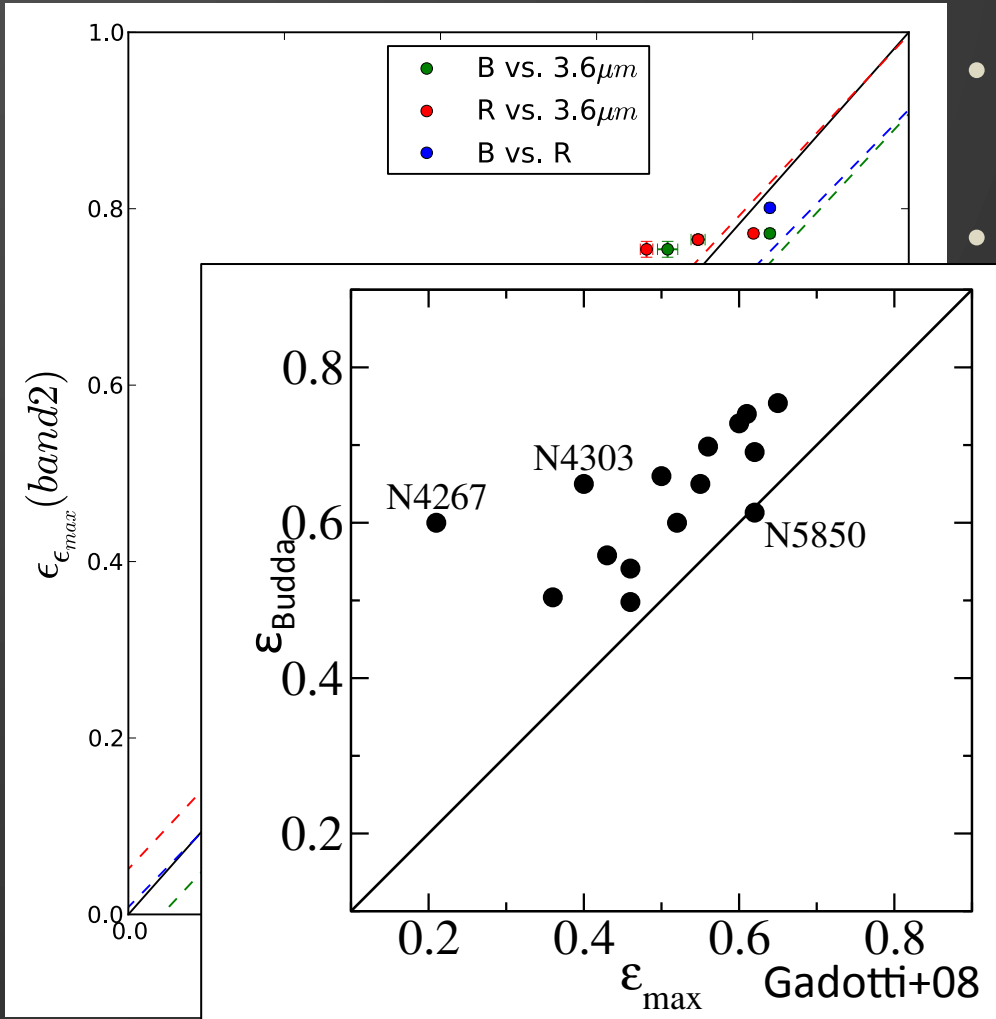


# Bar fraction declines with $z$ , but almost exclusively in the lower mass/late-type/bluer galaxies





## 2<sup>nd</sup> result: bars look thinner in bluer bands



- $\epsilon_{\max}$  is higher in the optical bands, compared to the mid-IR
- This result extends to the UV

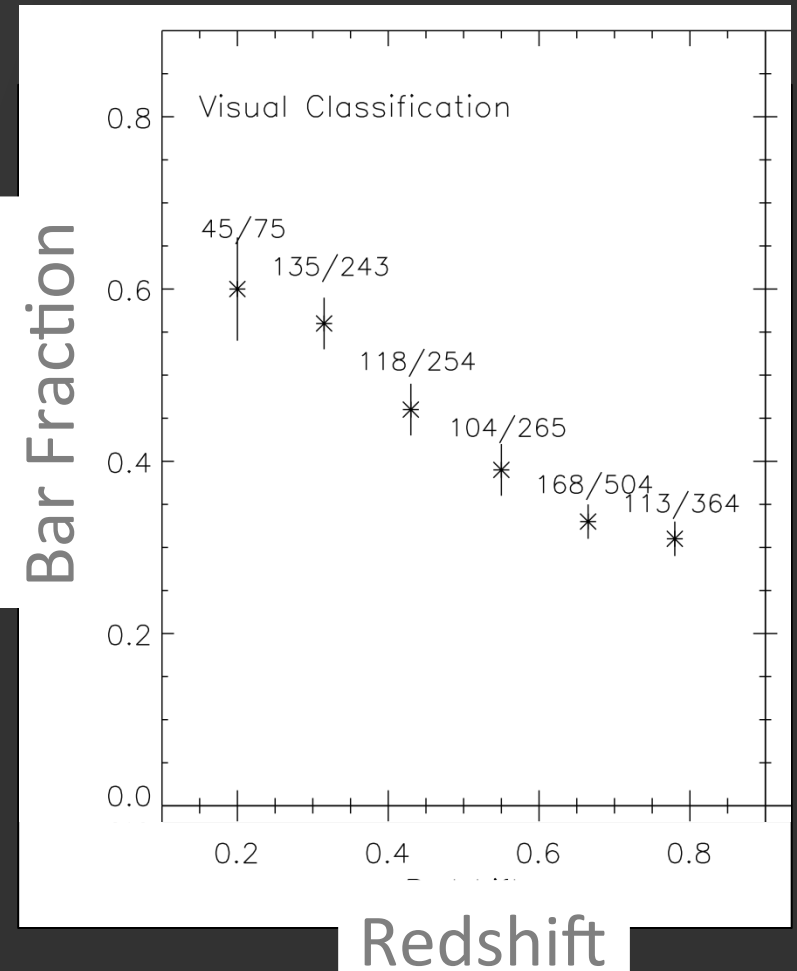
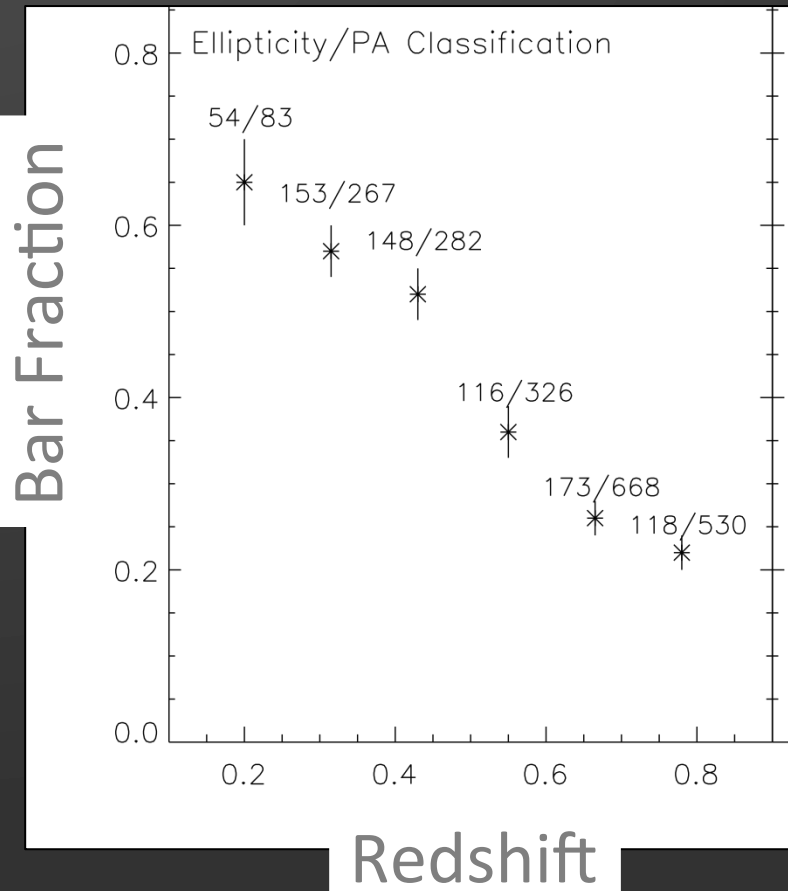
Driven by bulge sizes:

- Bulge looks bigger in redder bands  $\rightarrow$  smaller in the blue
  - Limits the size of the bar semi-minor axis
- In good agreement with BUDDA results (Gadotti+08)

The bluer the restframe band, the thinner the bar!

# Bar studies at high-redshift

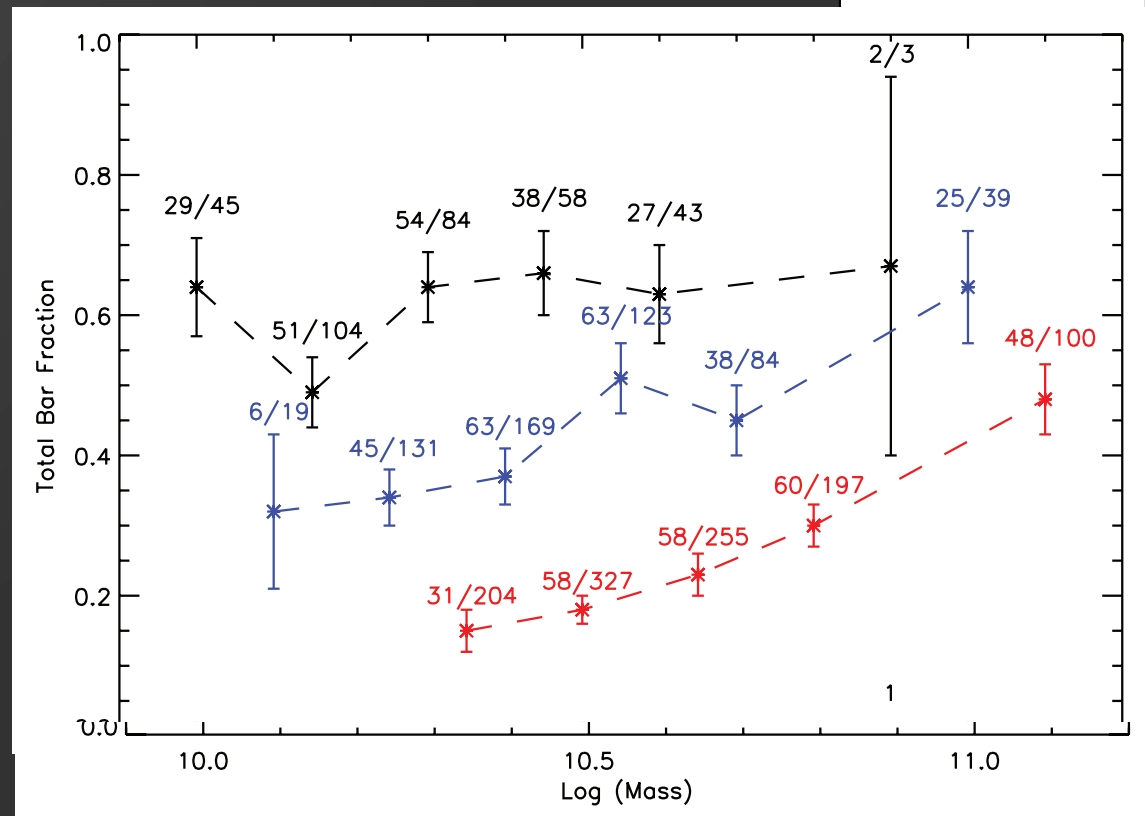
- Bar fraction declines at high redshift
  - Based in either visual or ellip/PA classification



Sheth+08

# Bar studies at high-redshift

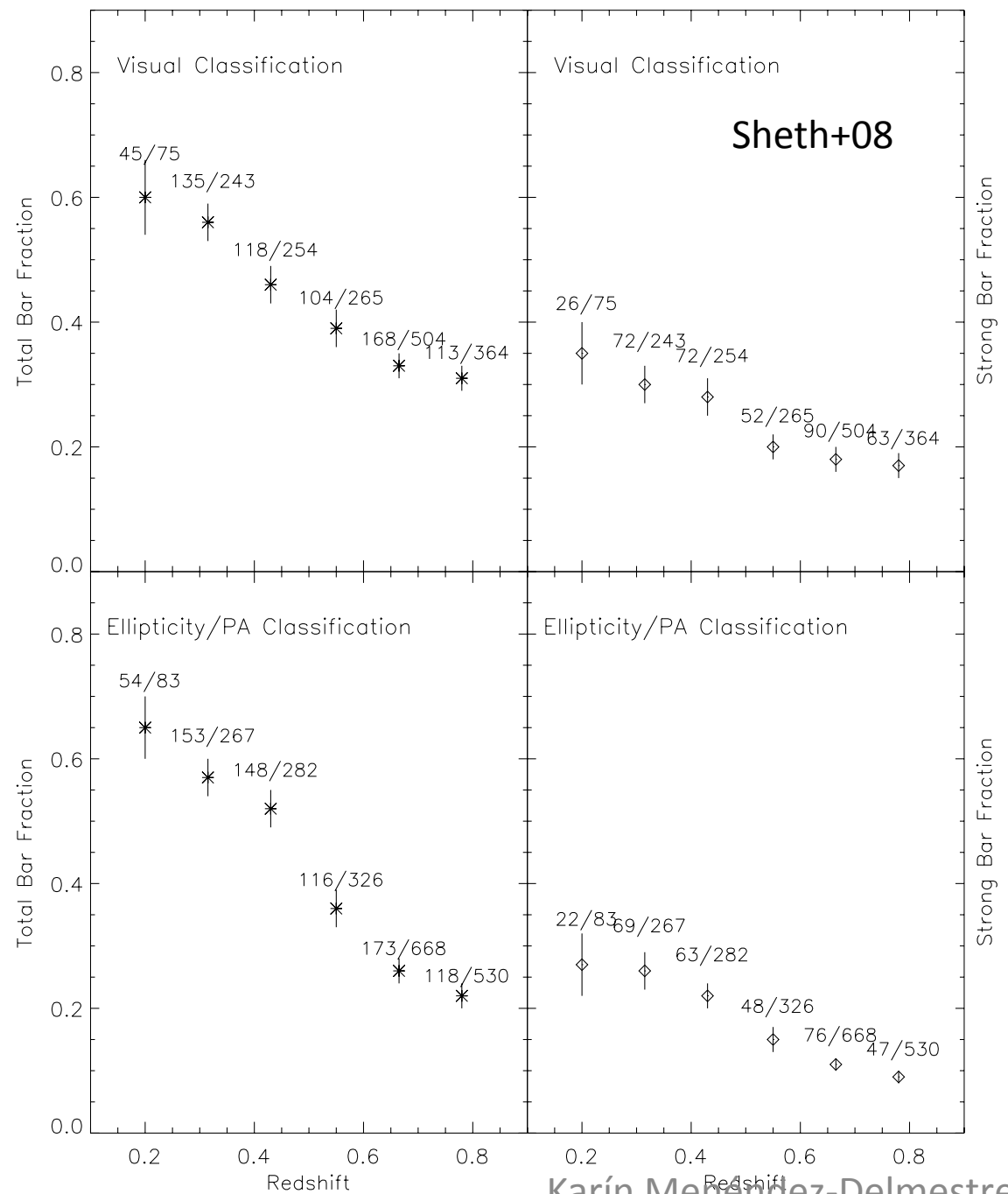
- Bar fraction declines at high redshift, but almost exclusively in the lower mass ( $10 < \log M_*(M_\odot) < 11$ ), later-type, and bluer galaxies.



Sheth+08

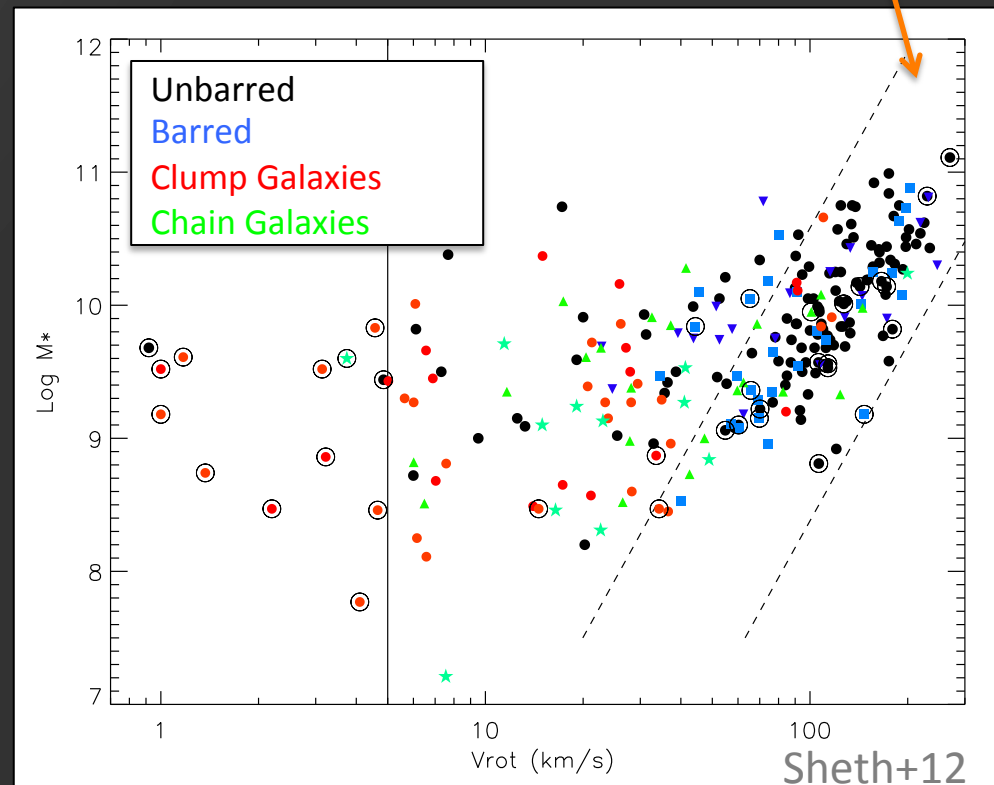
# Bar studies at high-redshift

- Both the total and the strong bar fraction declines at high redshift



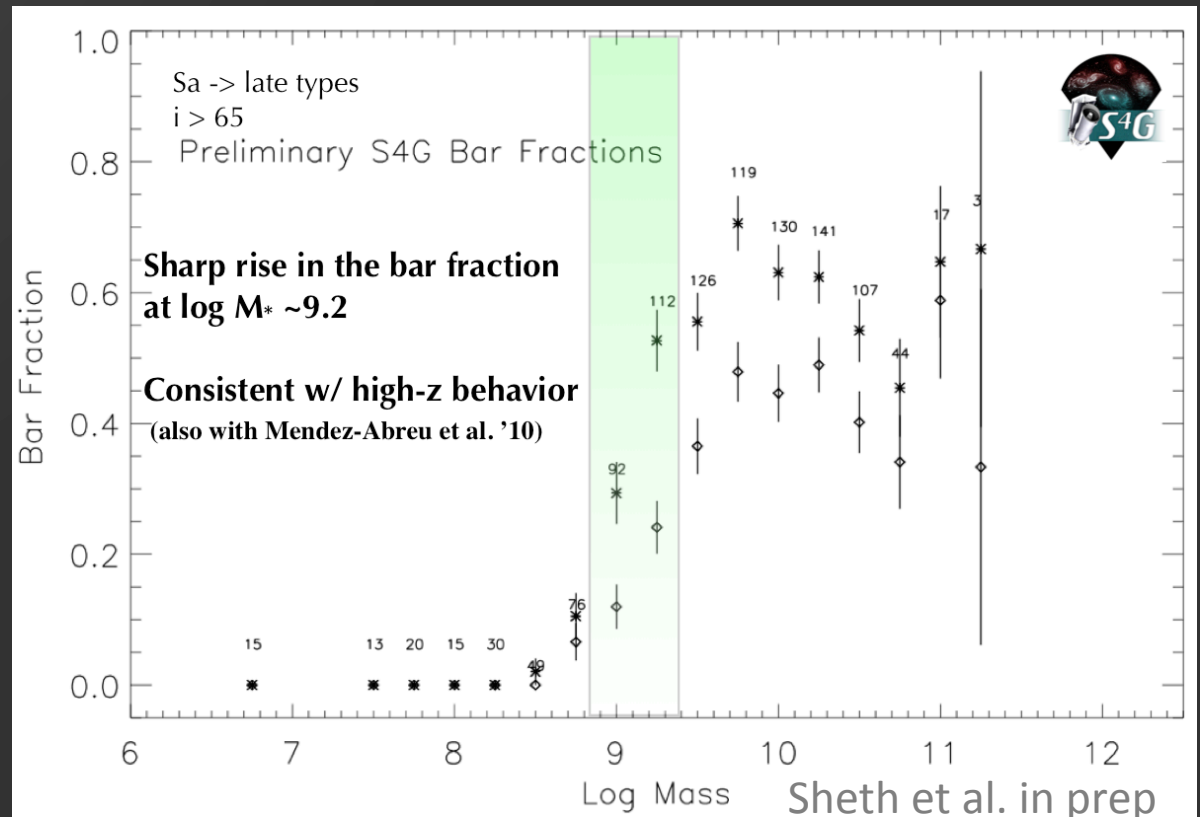
# Bars, bars, bars

- Bars are very important cosmological signposts for inferring disk assembly
  - Disk “maturity”: a galaxy disk will naturally form a bar in a couple of Gyrs unless it is dynamically hot or is dominated by dark matter.
- Local bar fraction is  $\sim 2/3$  (optical: de Vaucouleurs; near-IR: KMD+07)
- Hot disks do not host bars (Sheth+12)
  - However, not every disk galaxy that is massive and cold has a stellar bar  $\rightarrow$  mass and dynamic coldness of a disk are necessary but not sufficient conditions for bar formation!
  - Interaction history w/ dark matter halo is a key parameter in determining bar formation



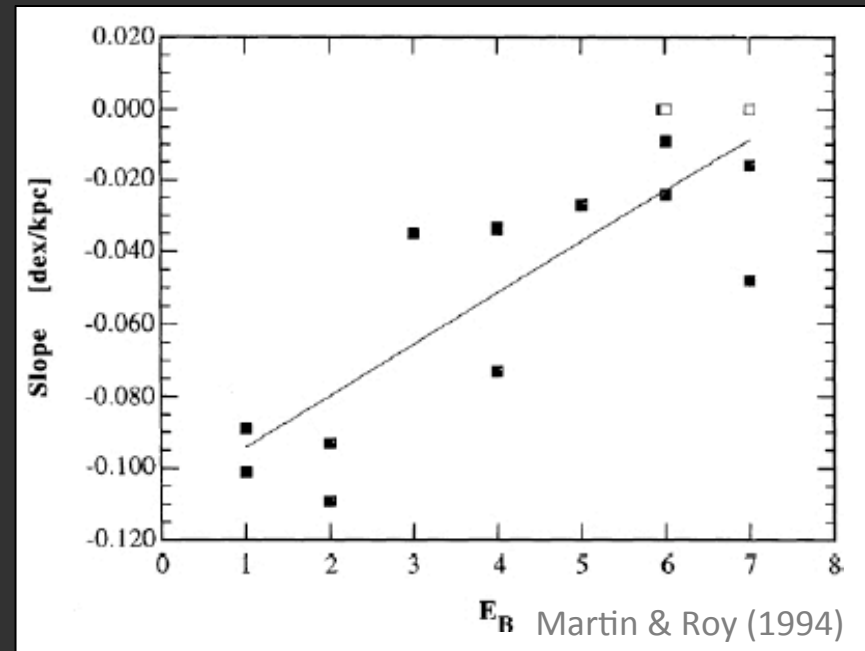
# Low-mass bars... why so few?

- **Stellar mass** of the disk seems to be a key quantity with which the bar fraction evolves over time!
  - bar fraction declines at high redshift, but almost exclusively in the lower mass ( $10 < \log M_*(M_\odot) < 11$ ), later-type, and bluer galaxies.
  - Low stellar mass systems formed their bars most recently (downsizing)
- Today  $\log M^* \sim 9.2$  seems to be the turnover point for bar fraction
  - Bar fraction drops for low-mass galaxies



# Metallicity Gradients

- A bar can affect significantly its host: transporting gas inwards it can lead to a central accumulation of molecular gas (e.g., Sheth+05), triggering nuclear starbursts, leading to the formation of pseudobulges (e.g., Kormendy & Kennicutt 04) , perhaps even feeding an AGN
- Expectation that barred and unbarred galaxies should have different metallicity signatures, where barred galaxies show flat nebular emission metallicity gradients in the disk region
  - slope of the O/H radial gradient as a function of bar strength  $\rightarrow$  stronger bars have flatter gradients
  - Furthermore, it has been suggested that bars can leave a lens behind after their dissolution  $\rightarrow$  if bars indeed dissolve, one expects to find unbarred lens galaxies showing flat gradients (Gadotti et al.)





# Metallicity Gradients

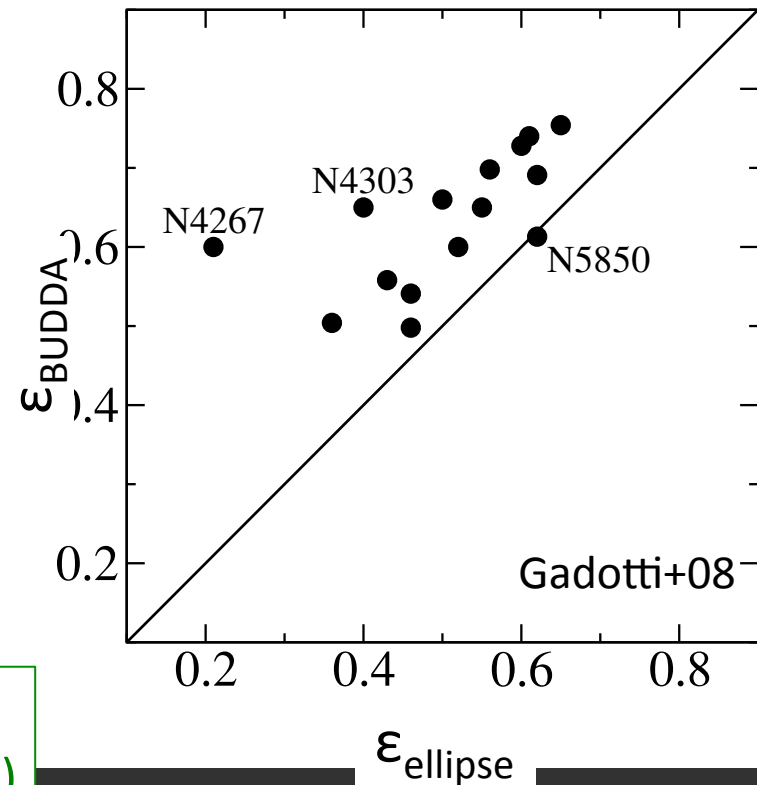
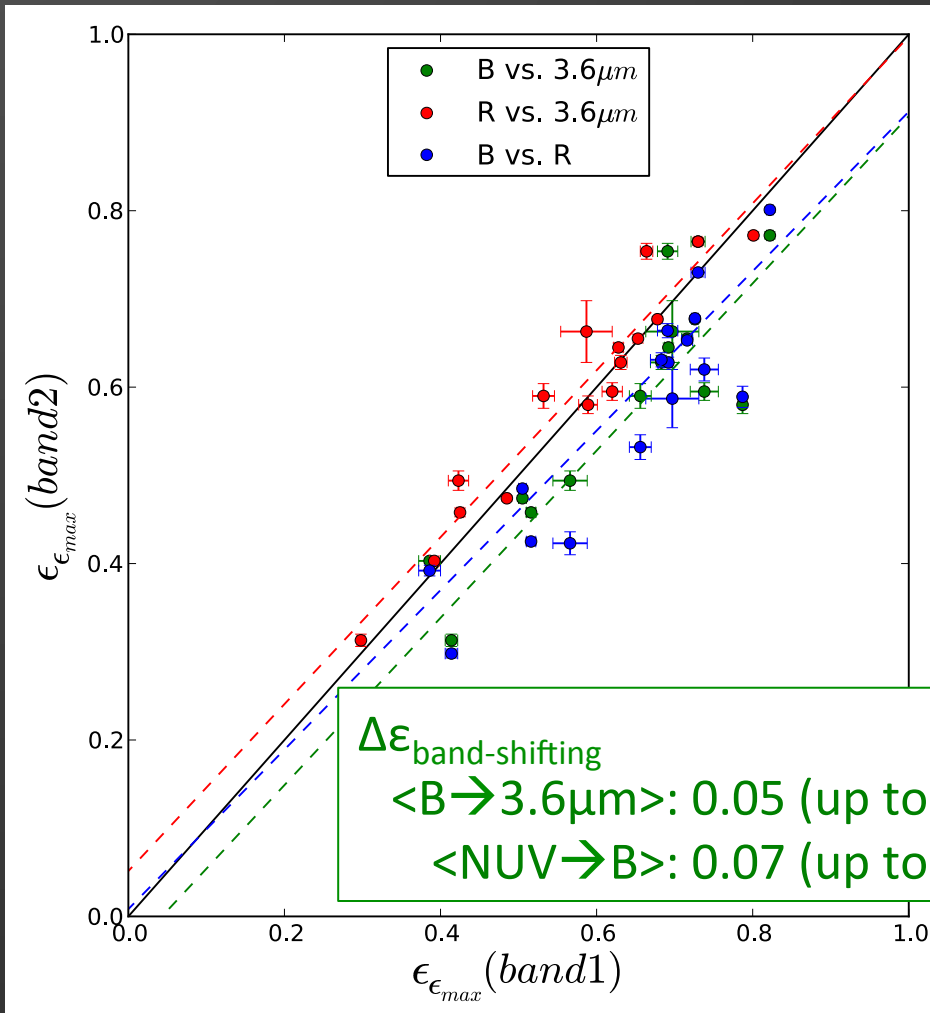
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- Expectation that barred and unbarred galaxies should have different metallicity signatures, where barred galaxies show flat nebular emission metallicity gradients in the disk region
- However, current CALIFA studies are coming out “empty handed” on this respect (see also Sánchez-Blázquez+11) ; Calar Alto Legacy Integral Field Area Survey (Sánchez+12) of ~600 local galaxies
- Cacho+13, Ruiz-Lara+13: find no difference in the gaseous or stellar abundances (and distribution) of barred and unbarred galaxies
  - Based on STARLIGHT, applied in a systematic way to all CALIFA galaxies  
→ evolutionary curves and radial profiles of physical properties
- The jury is still out!
  - Difficult to break the age-metallicity degeneracy

# Bars in the Local Universe

- Locally, 2/3 of all disk galaxies have a bar.
- A bar can induce large-scale streaming gas motions that can dramatically change the host galaxy.
  - Wash out metallicity gradient across galaxy
  - Increase central gas concentration
    - Trigger bursts of star formation
    - Feed SMBH?
  - The bar fraction stays pretty constant across wavelengths from optical to near-IR (e.g., Menéndez-Delmestre+07)
    - So, band-shifting from near-IR to optical does not hamper (significantly) the ability to recognize bars, which becomes important in high-z studies
    - Band shifting is ONLY an issue when going to shortwards of Balmer break (e.g., Sheth+03)

(Martin & Roy 2004; but  
Sánchez-Blázquez+11)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> result: bars look thinner in bluer bands

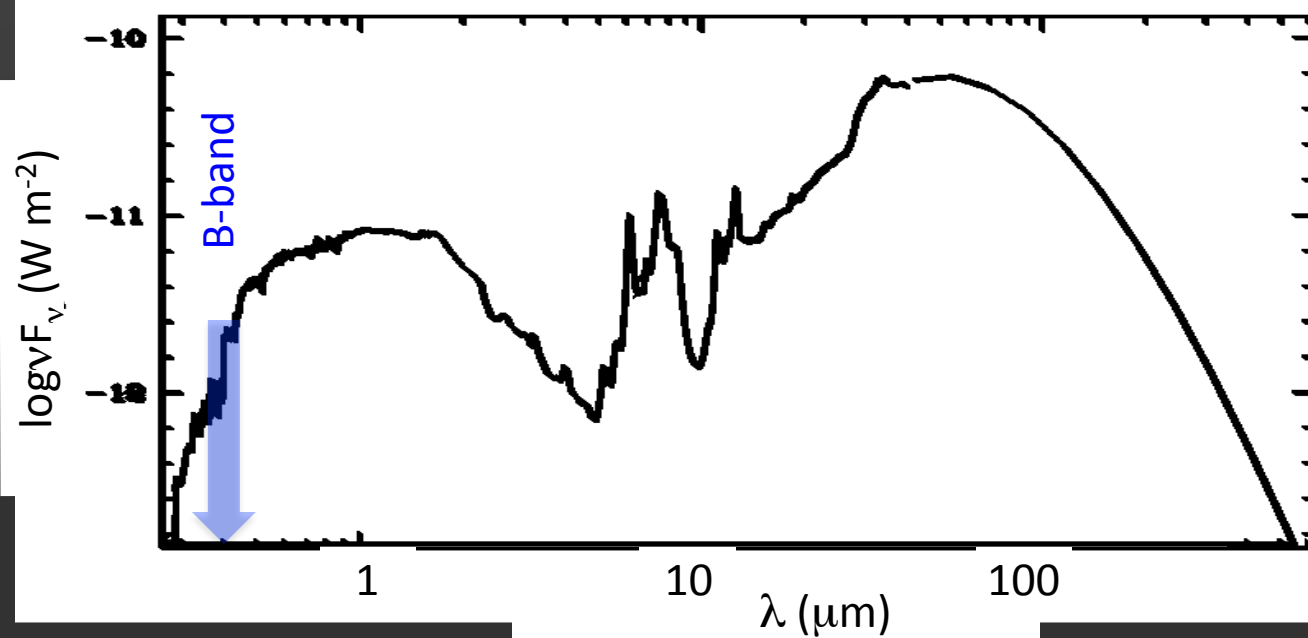
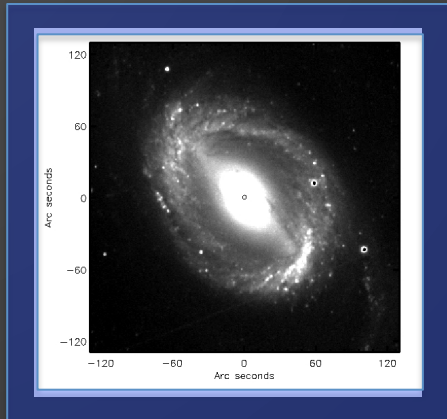


- In good agreement with BUDDA results (Gadotti+08)

The bluer the restframe band, the thinner the bar!

# An example...

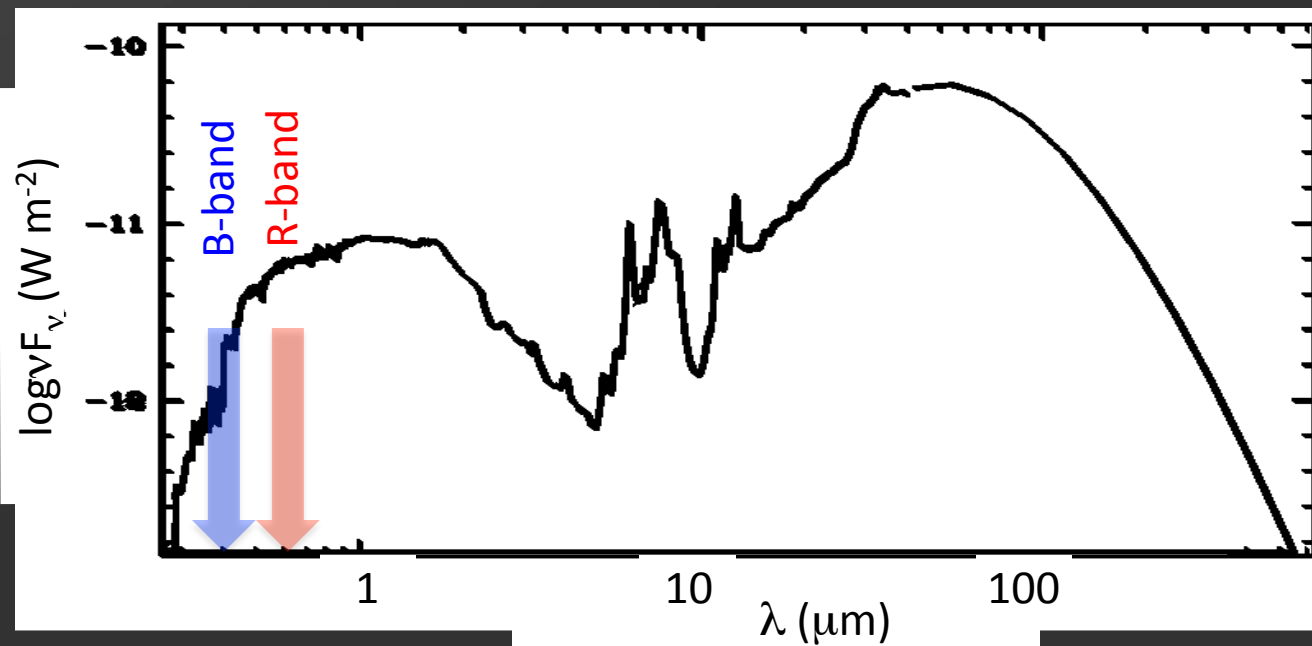
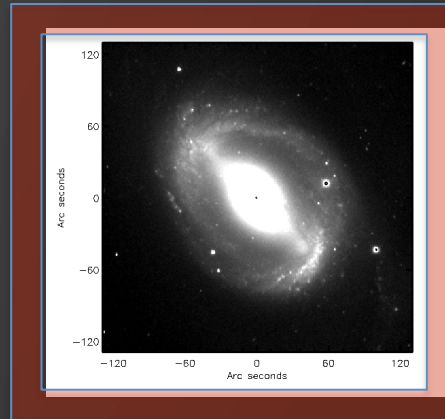
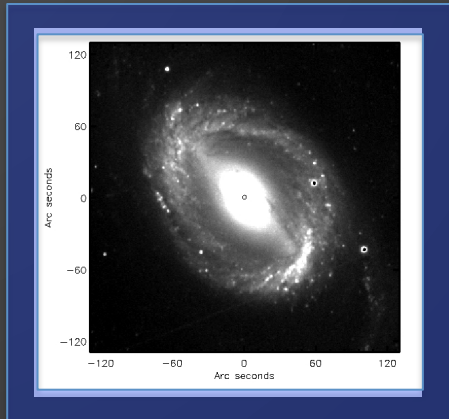
NGC 1512



M82  
(Kennicutt  
et al. 2003)

# An example...

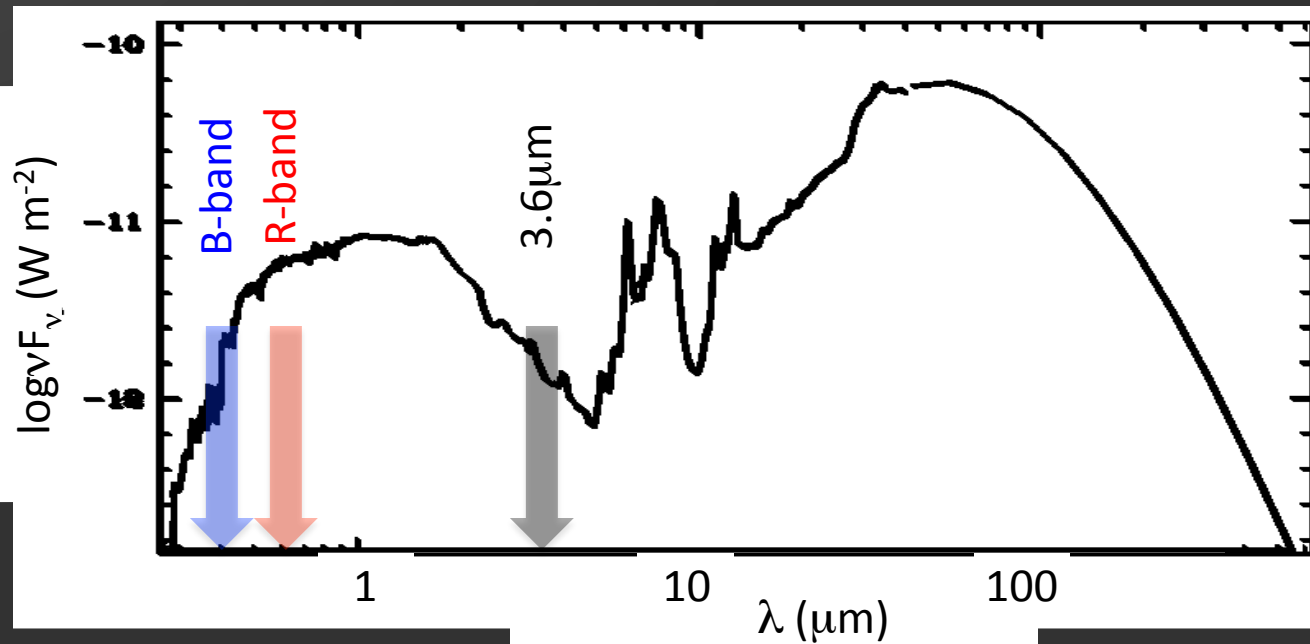
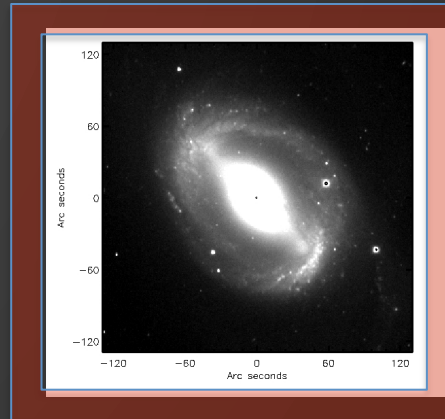
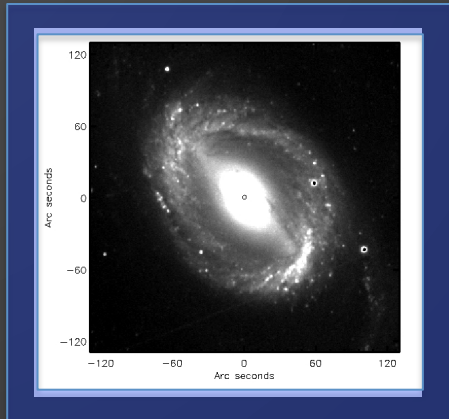
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