

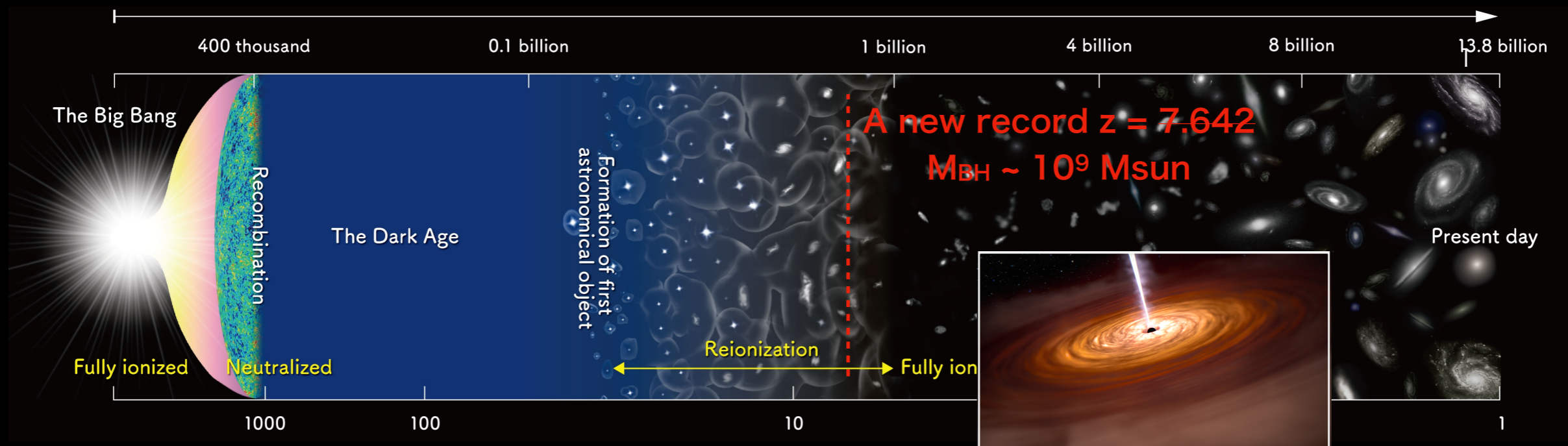
Subaru Telescope  
National Astronomical Observatory of Japan

# The Black Hole Mass Distribution of Quasars Measured by A Novel Method in the Early Cosmic Epoch

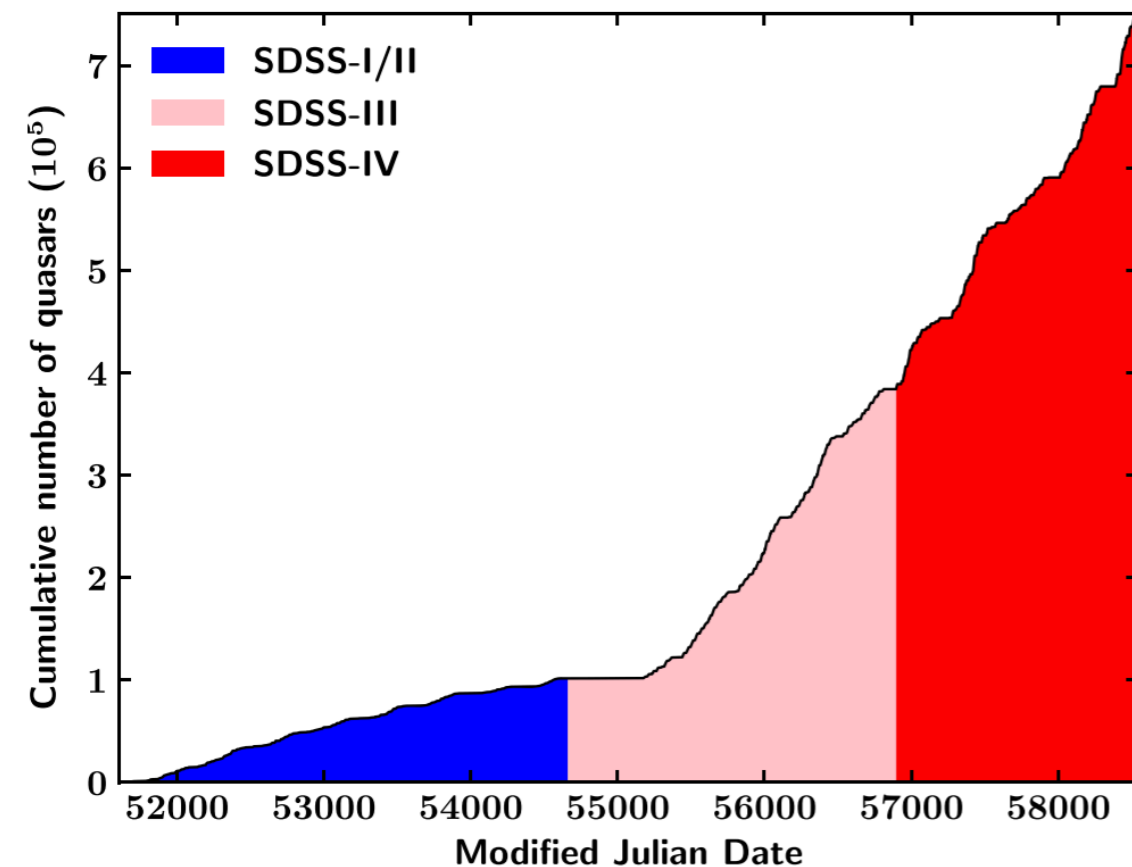
Takahashi et al. 2024 ApJ 960 112

Ayumi Takahashi, Yoshiki Matsuoka<sup>1</sup>, Michael Strauss<sup>2</sup>, Masafusa Onoue<sup>3</sup>, Nobunari Kashikawa<sup>4</sup>, Yoshiki Toba<sup>5</sup>, Kazushi Iwasawa<sup>6</sup>, Masa Imanishi<sup>5</sup>, Masayuki Akiyama<sup>7</sup>, Toshihiro Kawaguchi<sup>8</sup>, Akatoki Noboriguchi<sup>9</sup>, Chien-Hsiu Lee<sup>10</sup> and the SHELLQs collaboration

# Super Massive Black Holes (SMBHs) in the early universe



Lyke et al. 2018



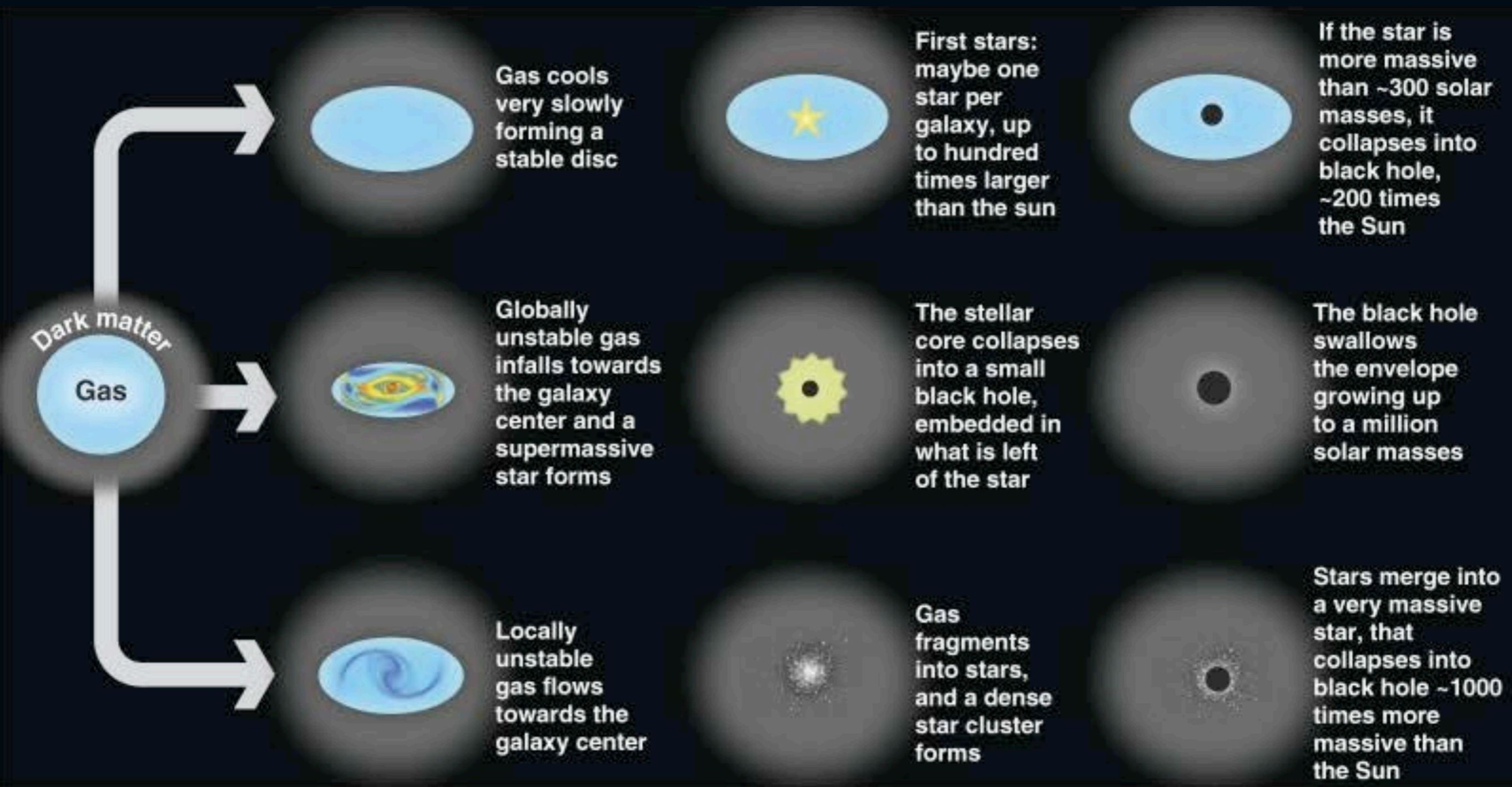
## SOME SERIOUS QUESTIONS about SMBH

- ◆ When and how their seed populations are born?
- ◆ What is the typical mass of the seed?

Important parameters to solve these questions are **BH masses** of high- $z$  quasars and **Eddington ratios** which are related to

1. The time when BH began to grow
2. Radiation efficiency

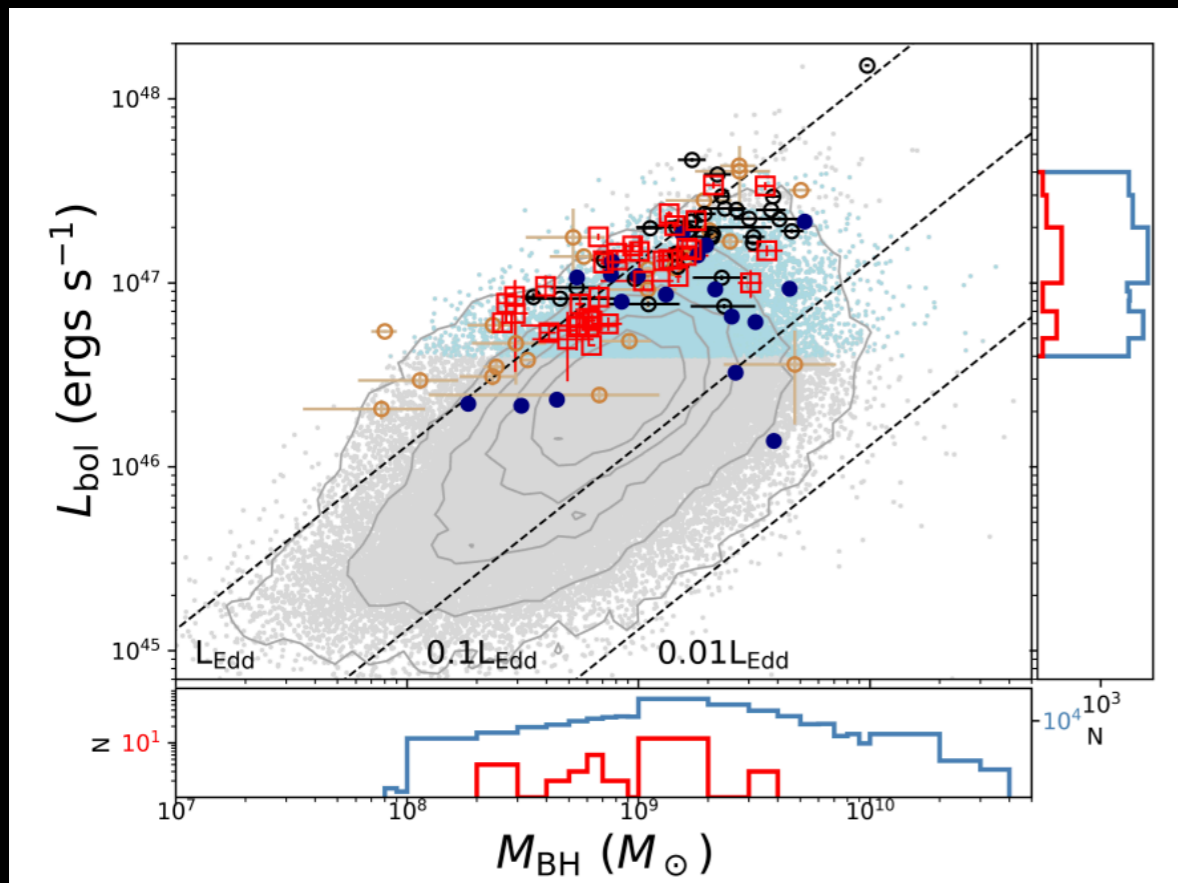
# Forming a black hole



# Super Massive Black Holes (SMBHs) in the early universe

- Distribution of  $M_{\text{BH}}$  of  $z \sim 6 - 7.6$  quasars

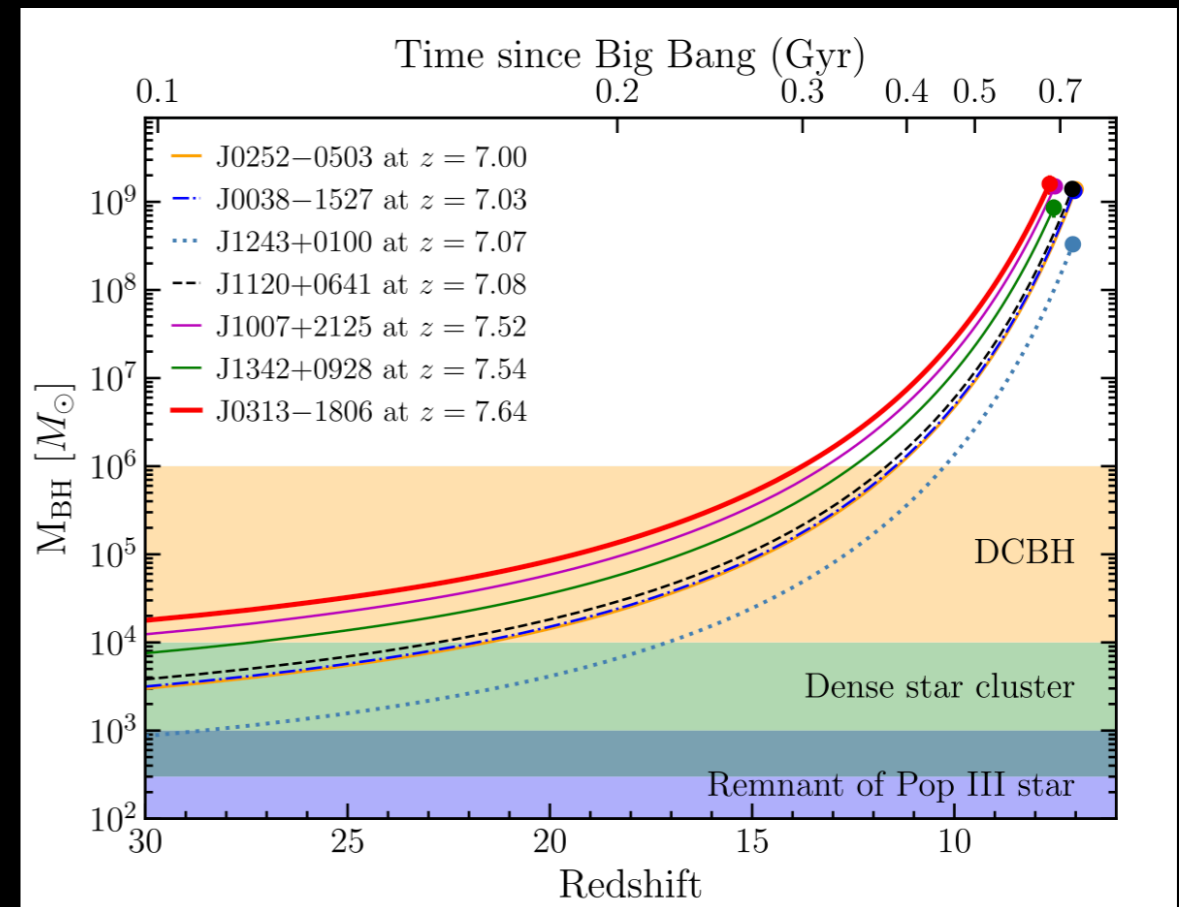
(Yang et al. 2021)



$$M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10^8 \text{ to } 10^{10} [M_{\odot}]$$

- Black hole grow track of  $z \geq 7$  quasars with  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} = 1, \eta = 0.1$

(Wang et al. 2021)

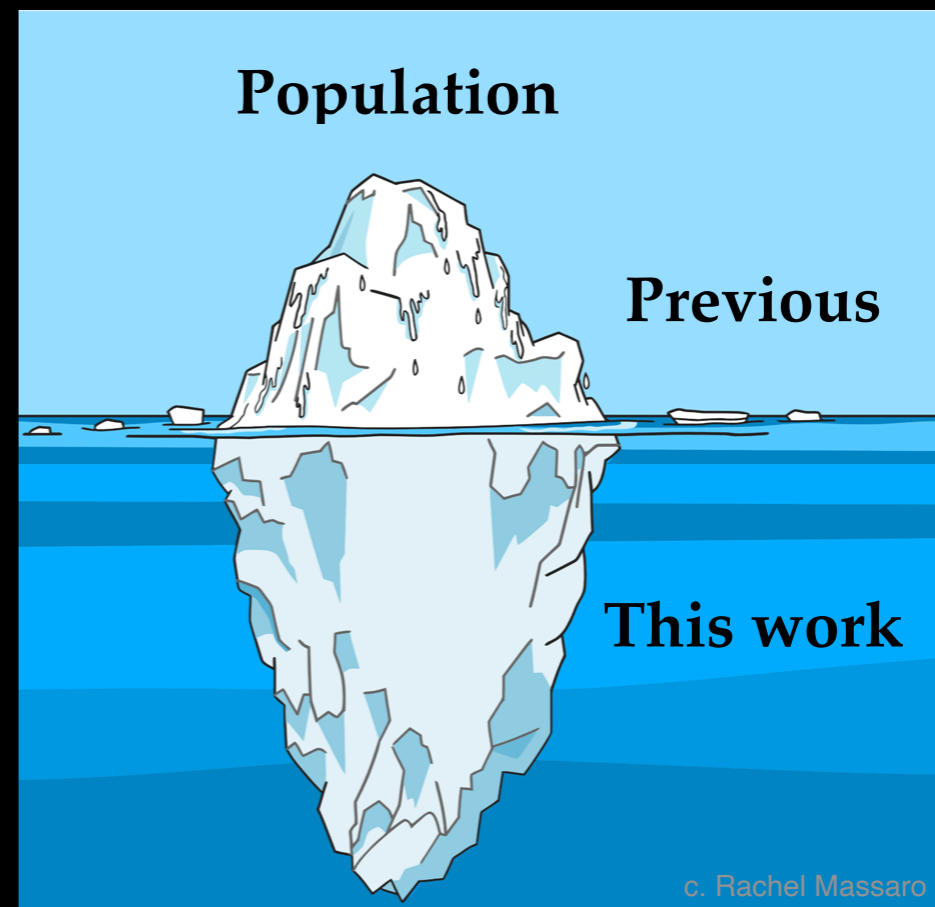
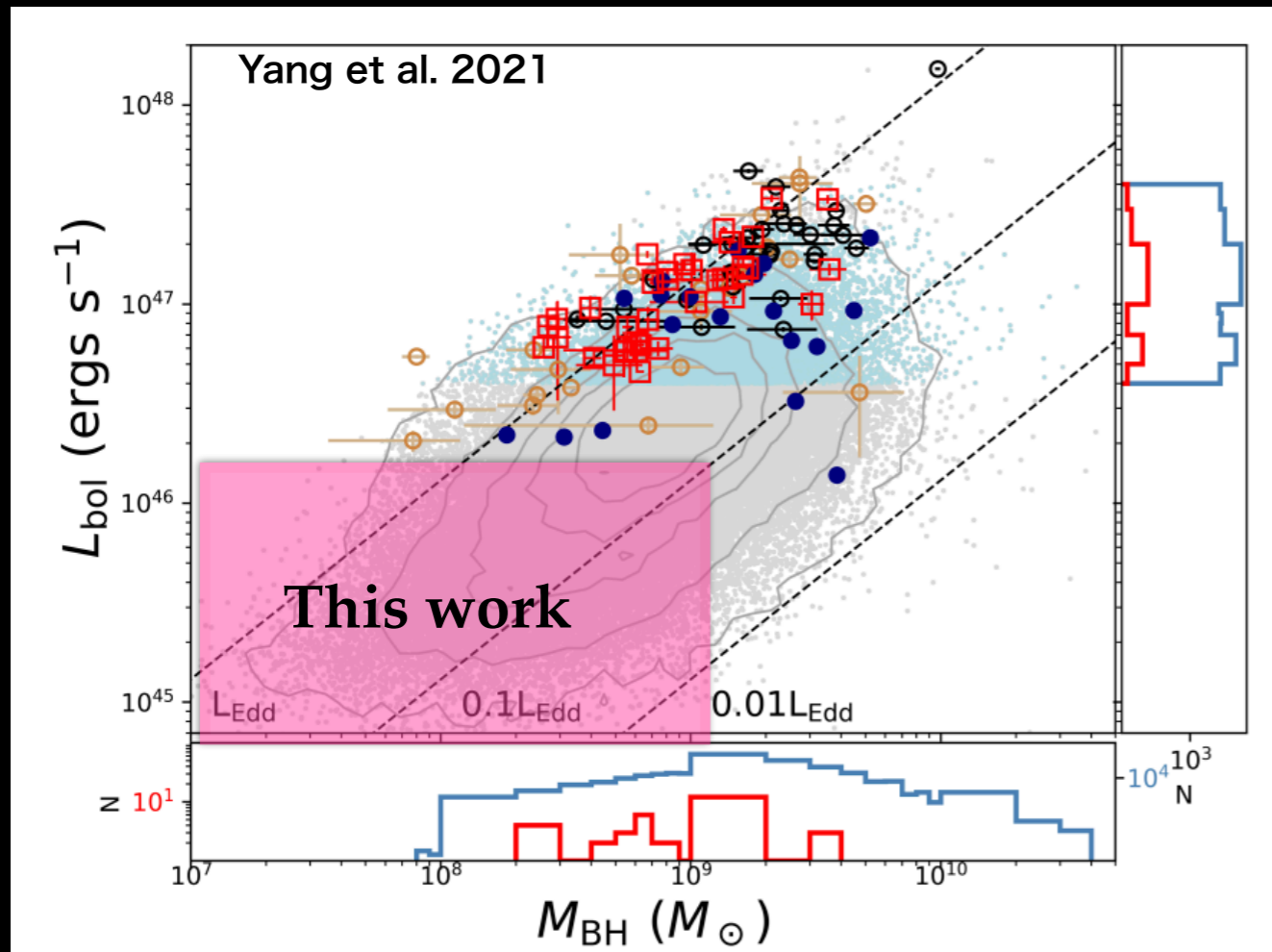


$$M_{\text{seed}} \sim 10^3 \text{ to } 10^4 [M_{\odot}]$$

- Previous results support the rapid growth of Black Hole
- It is hard to explain to form SMBHs from the remnants of Pop-III stars.

# Super Massive Black Holes (SMBHs) in the early universe

The number of quasars  $M_{BH} < 10^8 [M_{\odot}]$  was very limited!



Focus on a deeper sample that is a “typical” species in the quasar population in the early cosmic epoch.

# SHELLQs project

“Subaru High-z Exploration of Low-Luminosity Quasars” (PI: Yoshiaki Matsuoka)

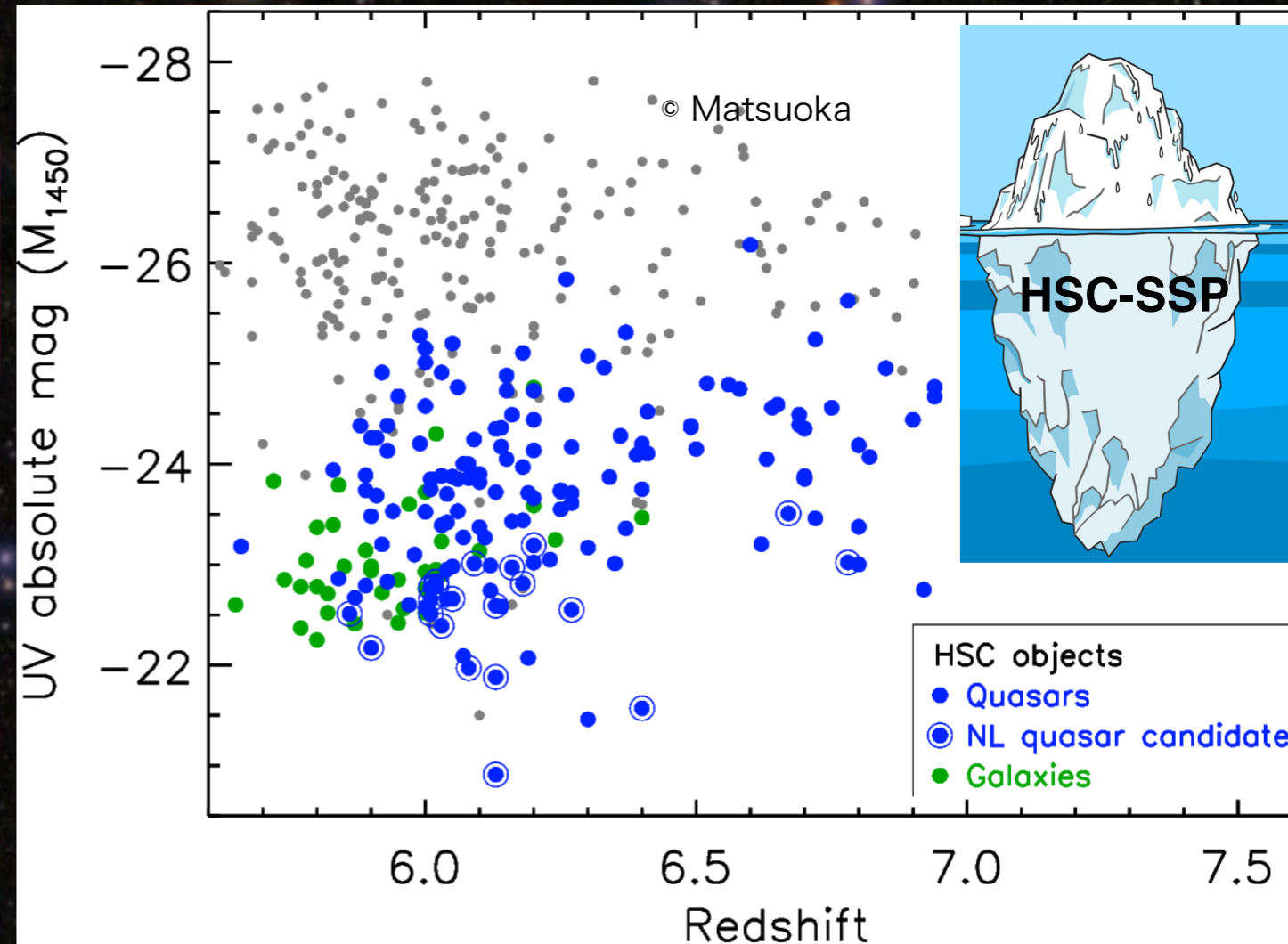


Spectroscopic install on



SHELLQs sample is composed of 180 quasars

This low-luminosity sample may contain the low-mass quasars...

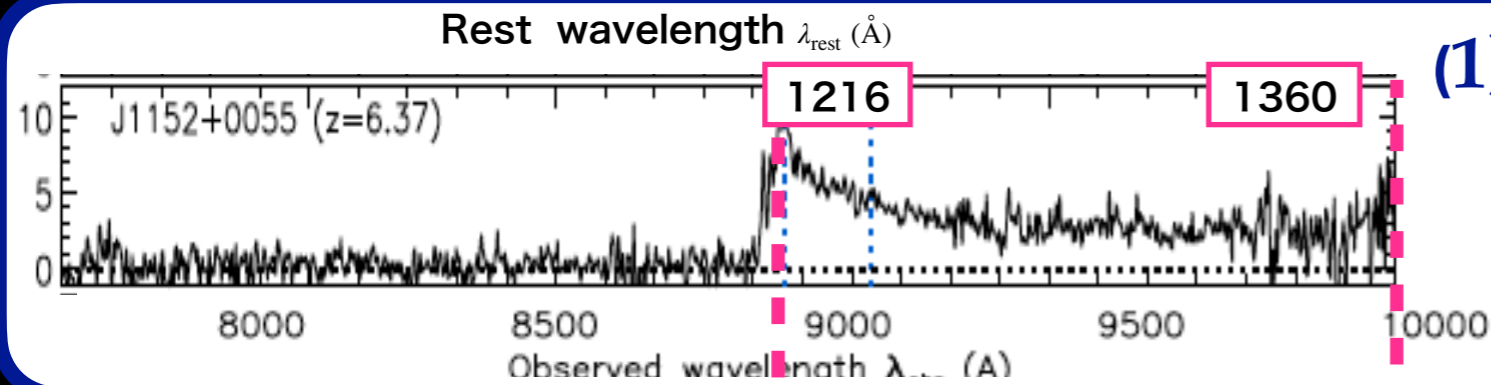


High-z quasars sample in this work:

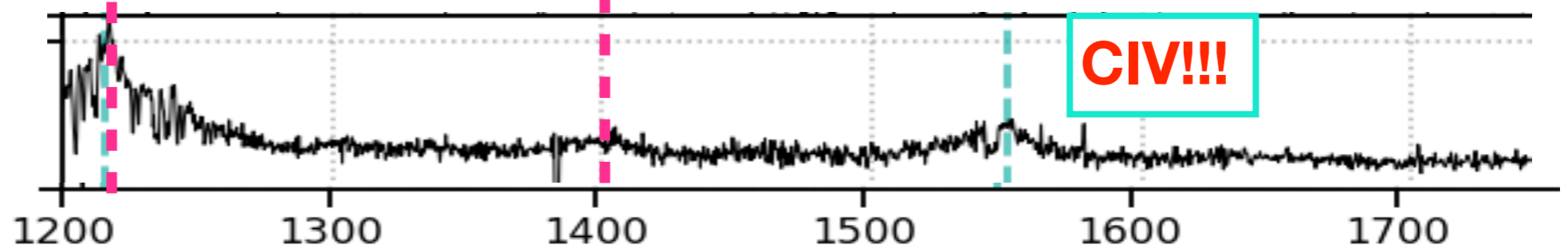
- **131** type-1 objects (published in Matsuoka+16, 18ab, 19ab, 21, 22)

# Method

We substituted longer spectra of SHELLQs quasars with SDSS quasars



(1) SHELLQs discovery spectra do not cover SMBH mass indicators (CIV 1549, Mg II 2800, and/or H $\beta$ )

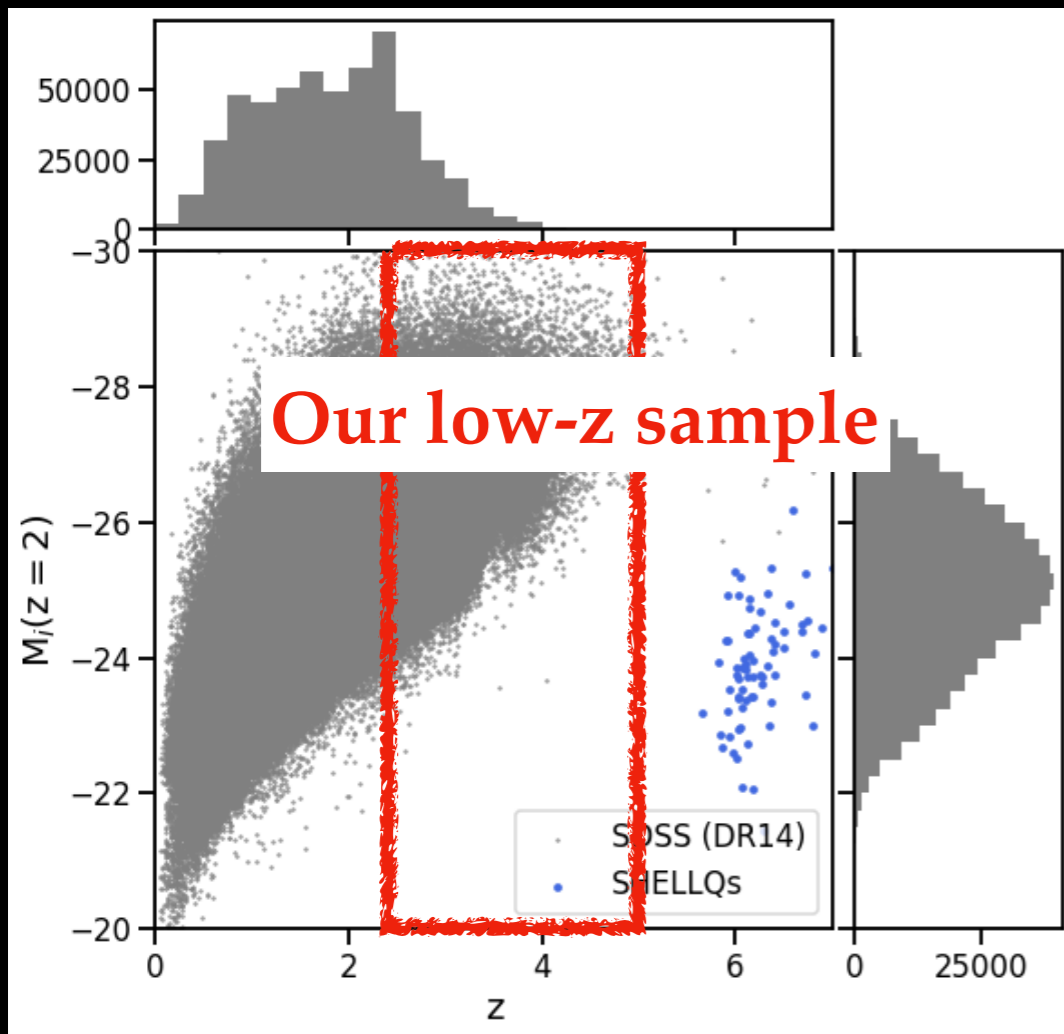


(2) We find a low-z quasar (“counterpart”) that has the best-match spectrum to each SHELLQs quasar in the overlapping spectral coverage ( $1216 < \lambda_{\text{rest}} < 1400$  Å), through  $\chi^2$  fitting.

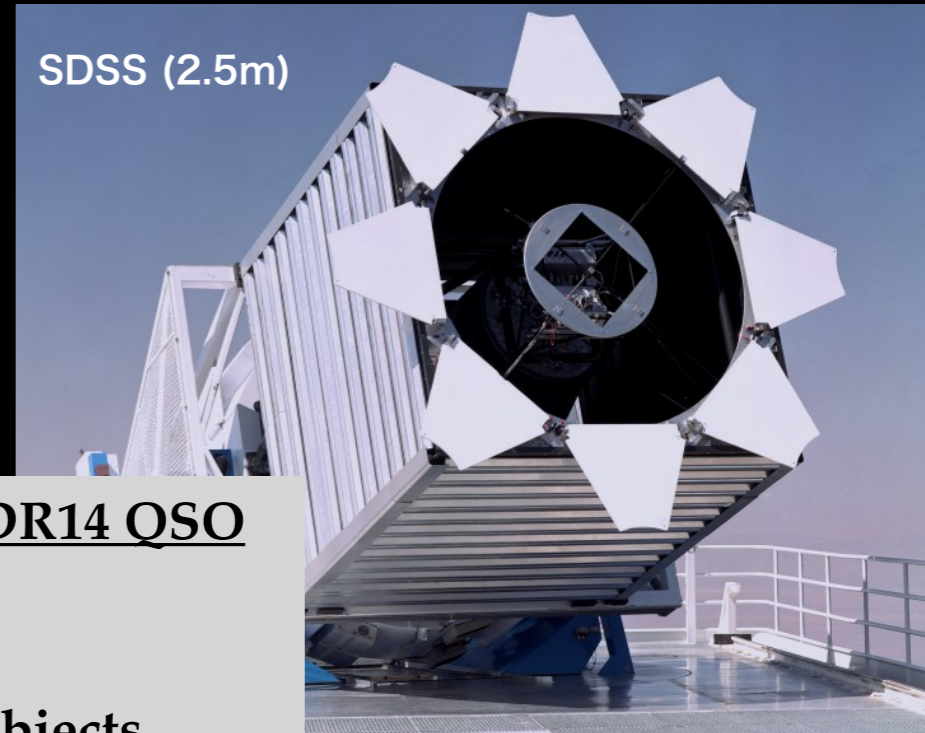
(3) Black hole mass is derived using the CIV profile of the counterpart spectrum.

$$\log\left(\frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{M_{\odot}}\right) = A + B \log\left(\frac{\overset{\text{SHELLQs}}{\lambda L_{\lambda}}}{10^{44} \text{ergs}^{-1}}\right) + 2 \log\left(\frac{\overset{\text{CP (SDSS)}}{\text{FWHM}}}{\text{kms}^{-1}}\right)$$

# Sloan Digital Sky Survey Quasar Catalog (release14)



SDSS (2.5m)



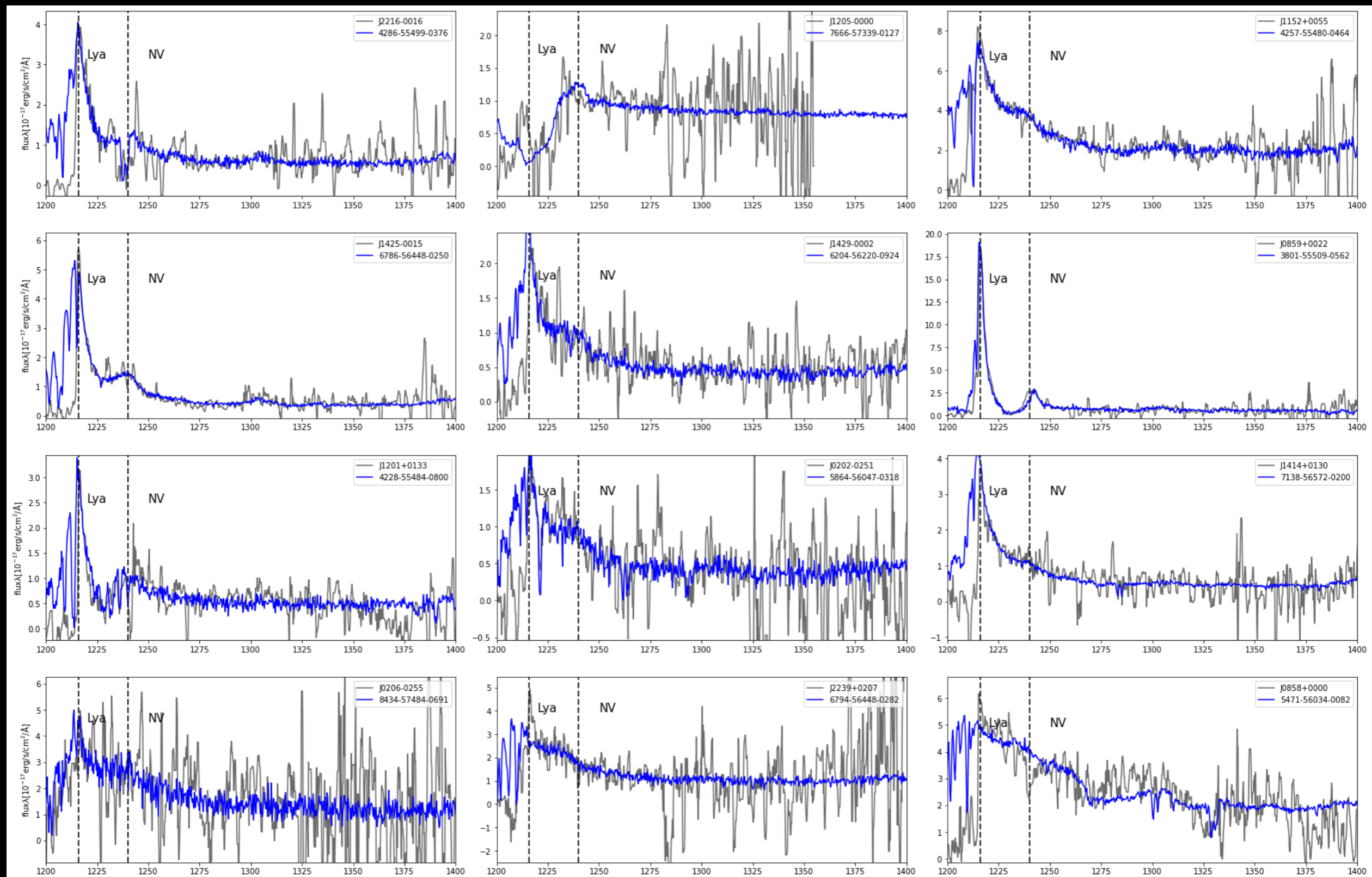
## Basically information of DR14 QSO catalogue

- $M_i[z = 2] < -20.5$
- Constructed by 526356 objects,
- coverage : 3610 - 10140 Å,
- resolutions :  $1300 < R < 2500$
- Survey field : A quarter of the sky

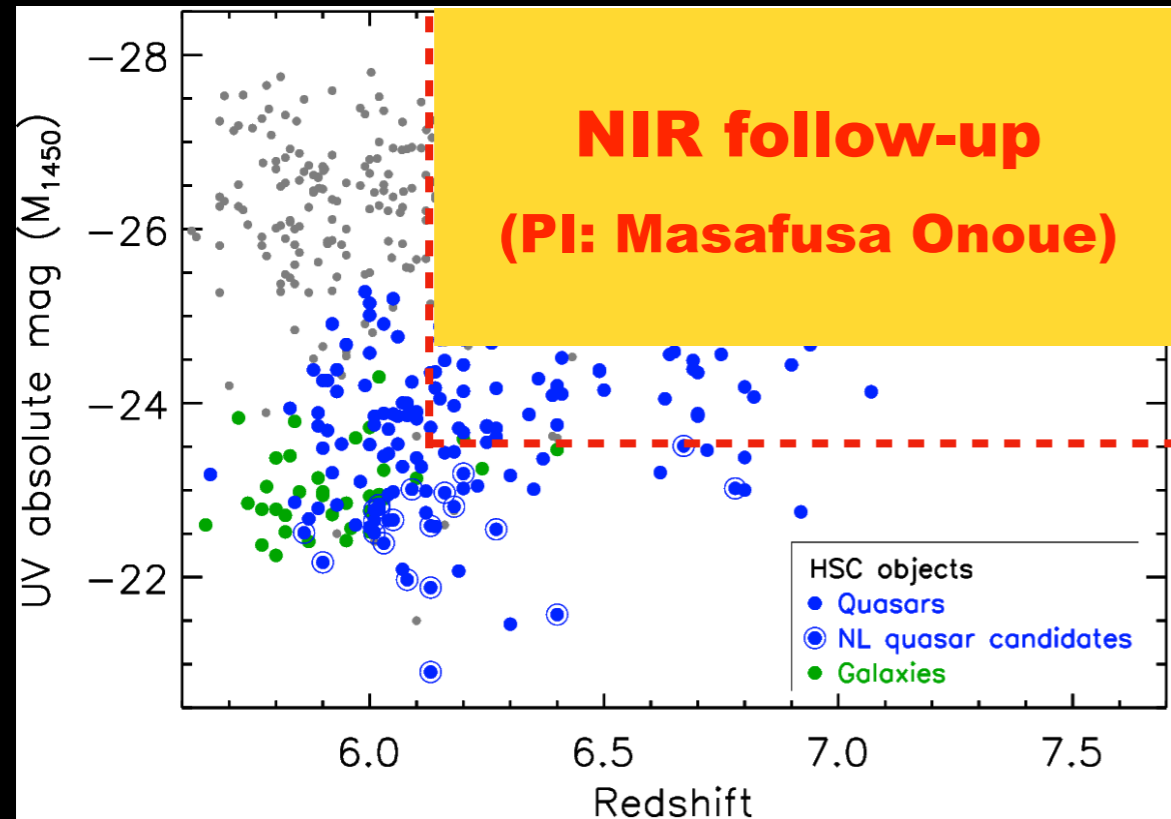
In this work, we selected SDSS quasars at  $2.5 \leq z \leq 5.0$ ; 101489 objects whose spectra cover the rest-UV portions around Ly $\alpha$  emission lines.

Substitute BH mass tracers in the low-z sample for each SHELLQs quasar.

# An example of counterpart's spectra



# Our measurements vs. Literatures

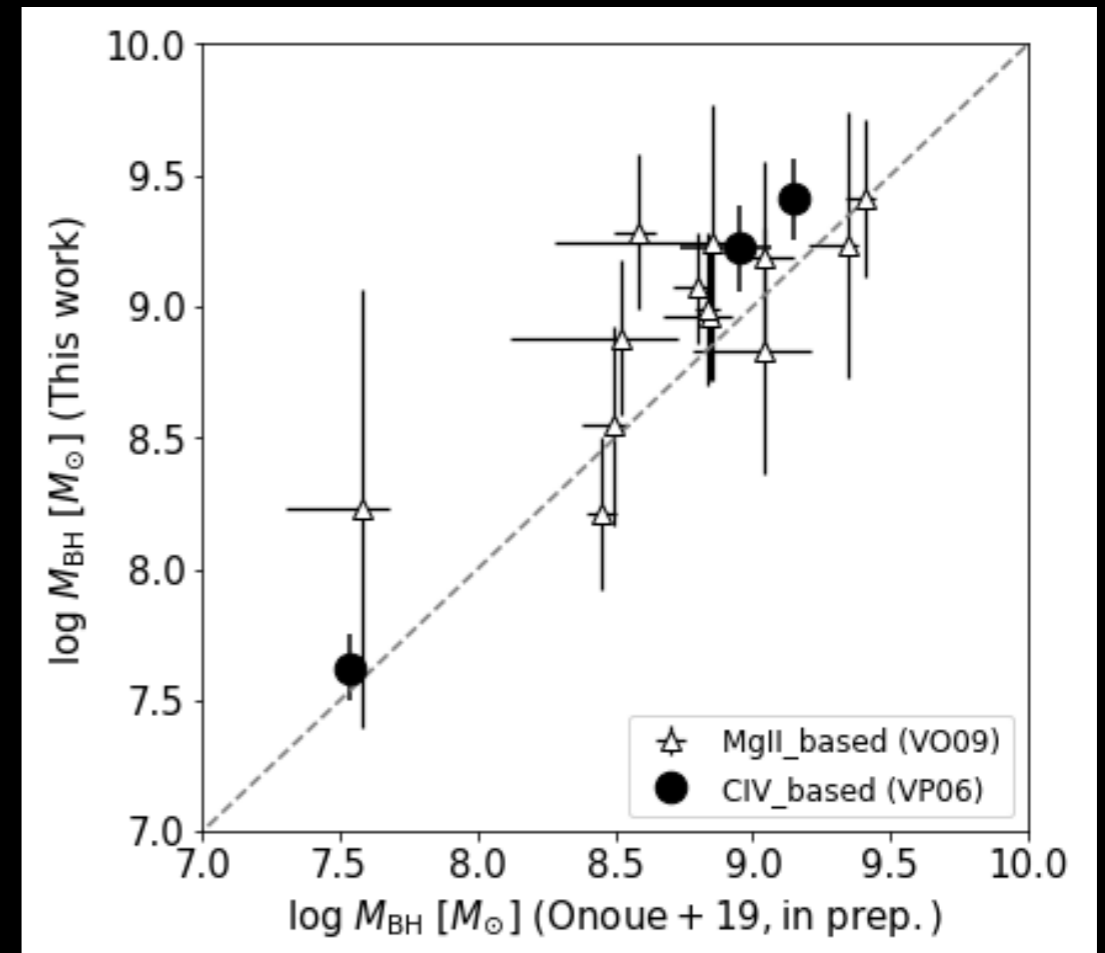


Our predicted BH masses :

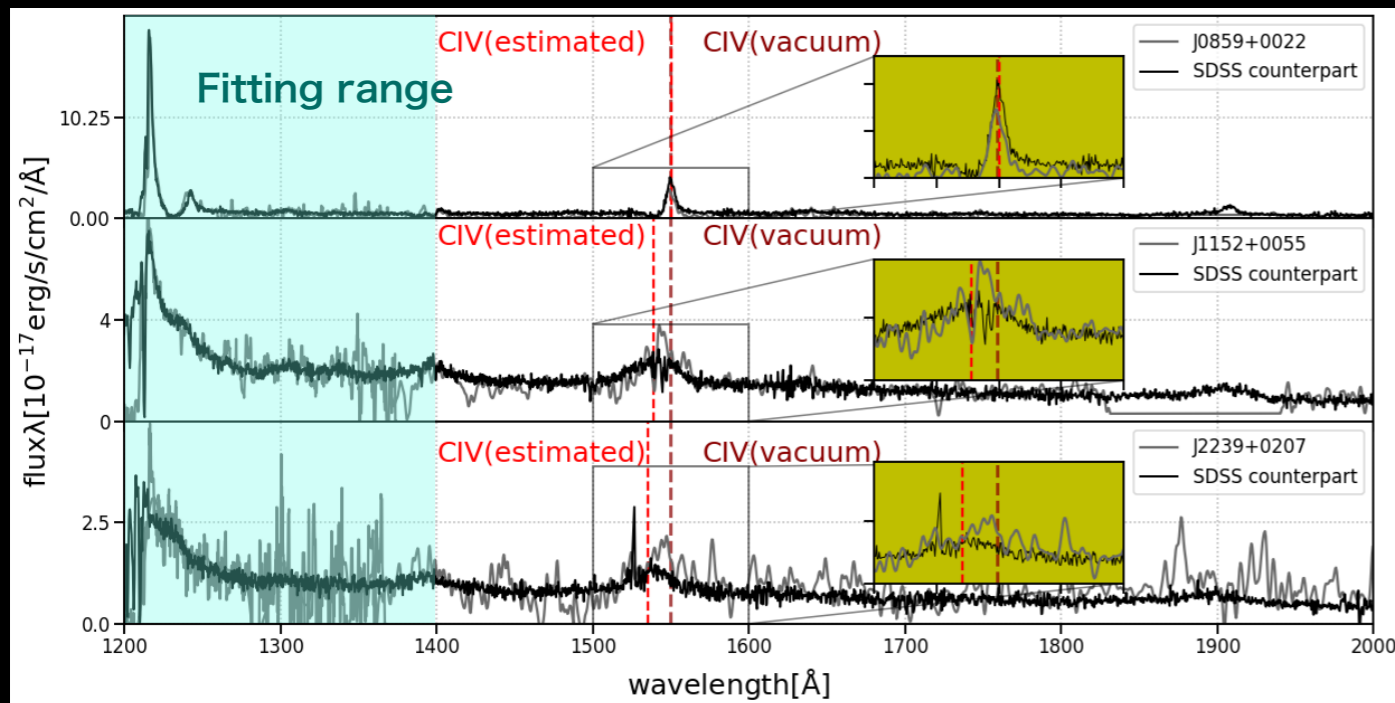
$$\log\left(\frac{M_{BH}}{M_{\odot}}\right) = A + B \log\left(\frac{\lambda L_{\lambda}}{10^{44} \text{ ergs}^{-1}}\right) + 2 \log\left(\frac{\text{FWHM}}{\text{kms}^{-1}}\right)$$

SHELLQs

CP (SDSS)

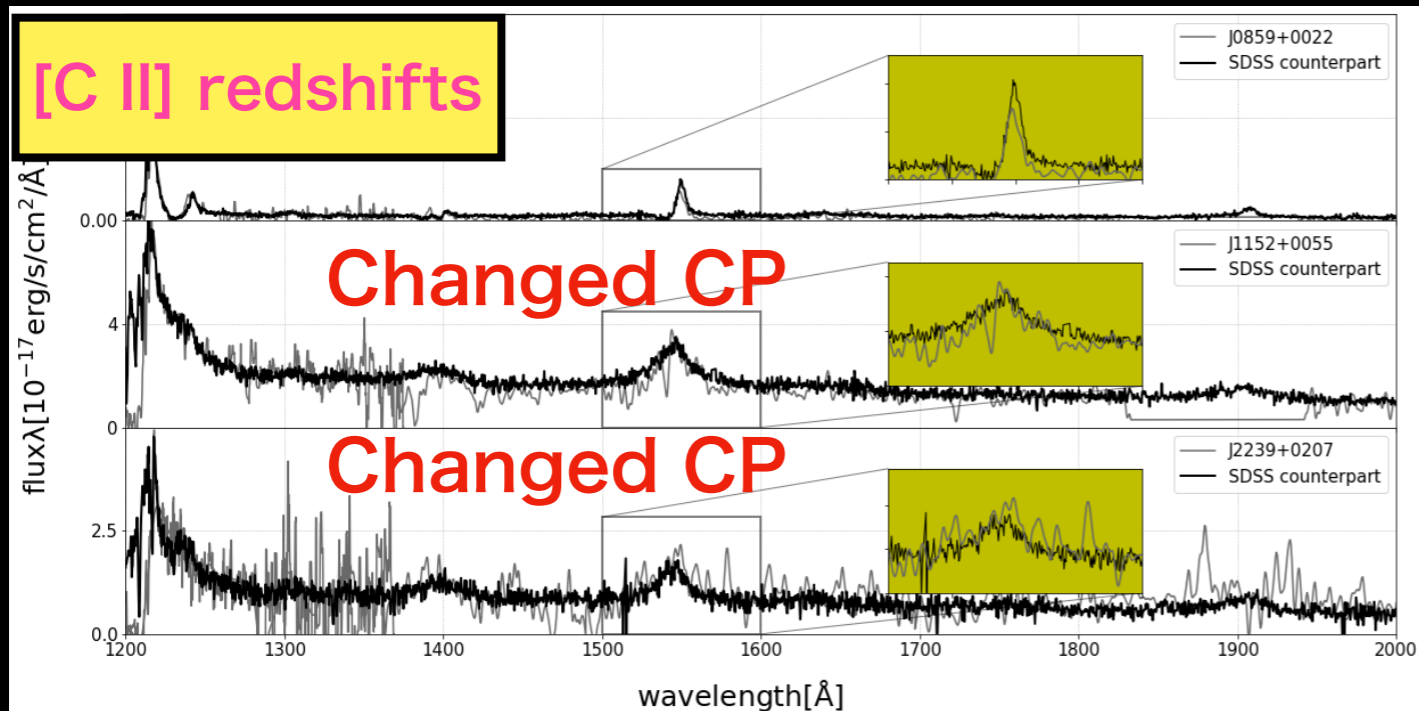
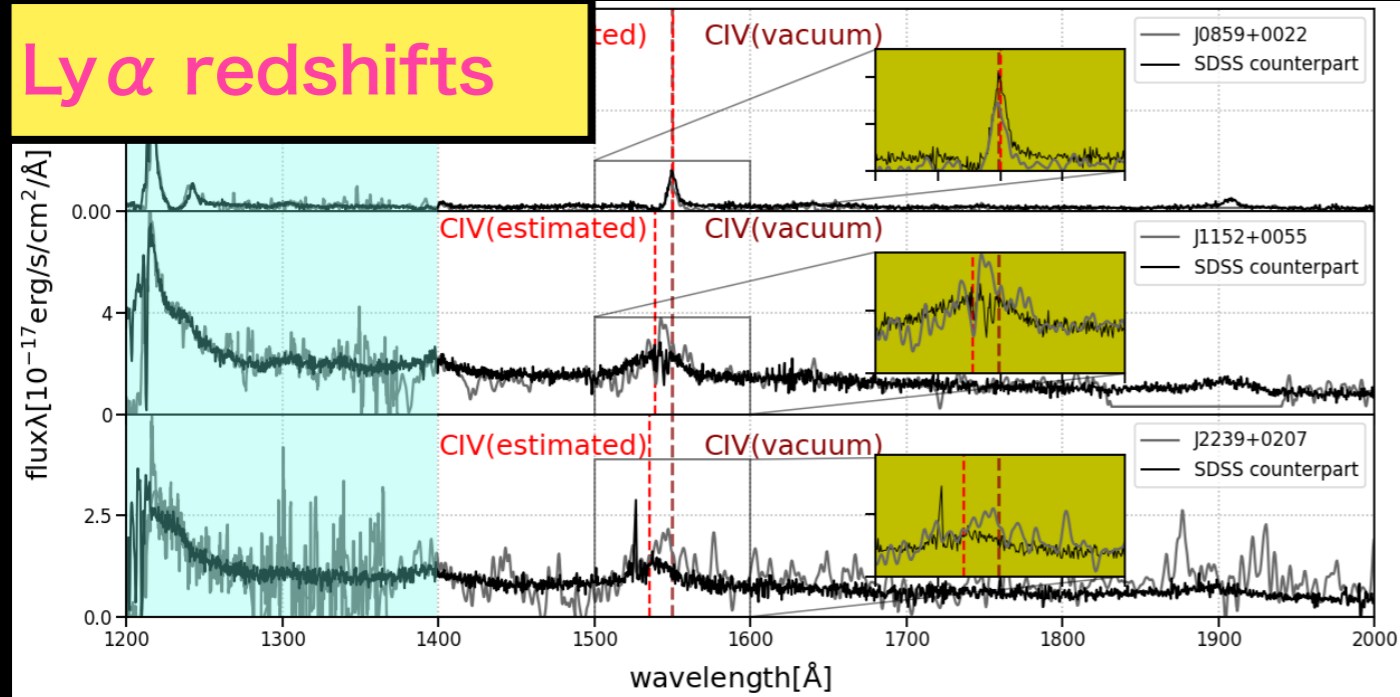


It is possible to predict BH masses of high- $z$  quasars with high accuracy without their actual spectra by just doing spectral matching with low- $z$  quasars.

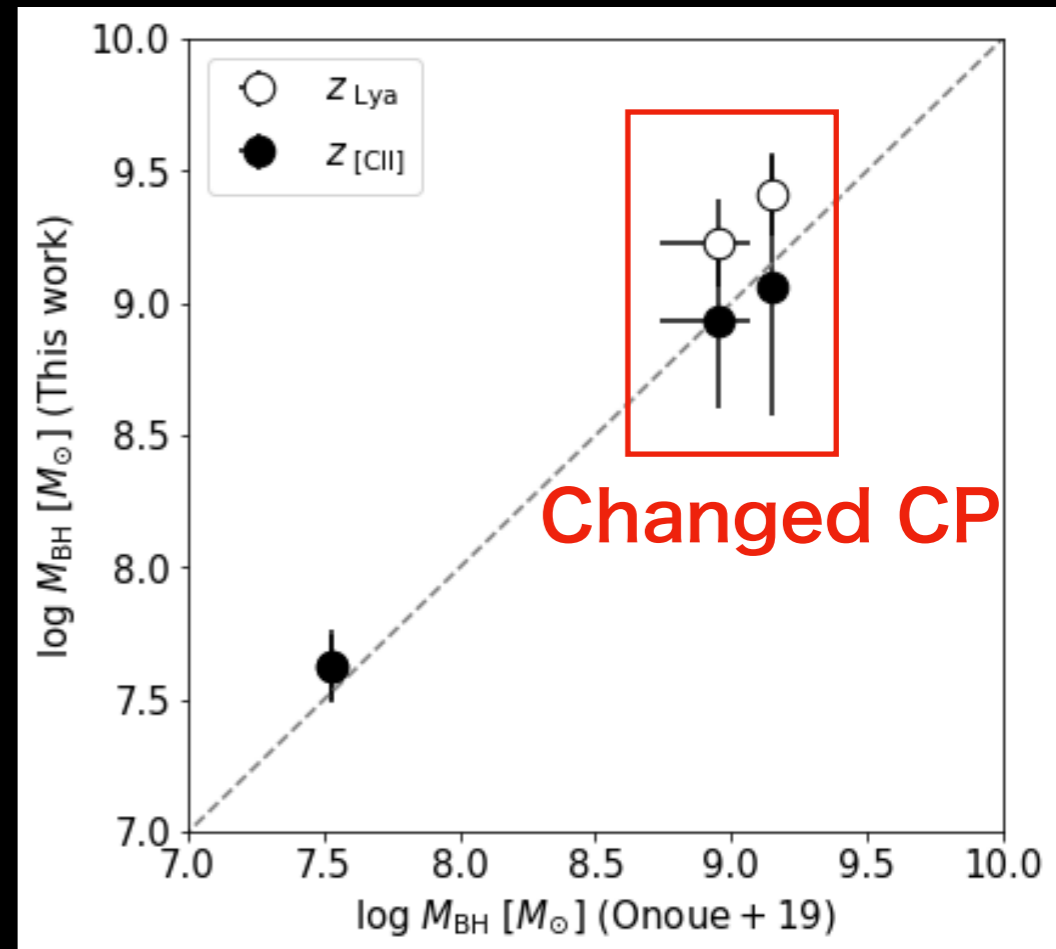
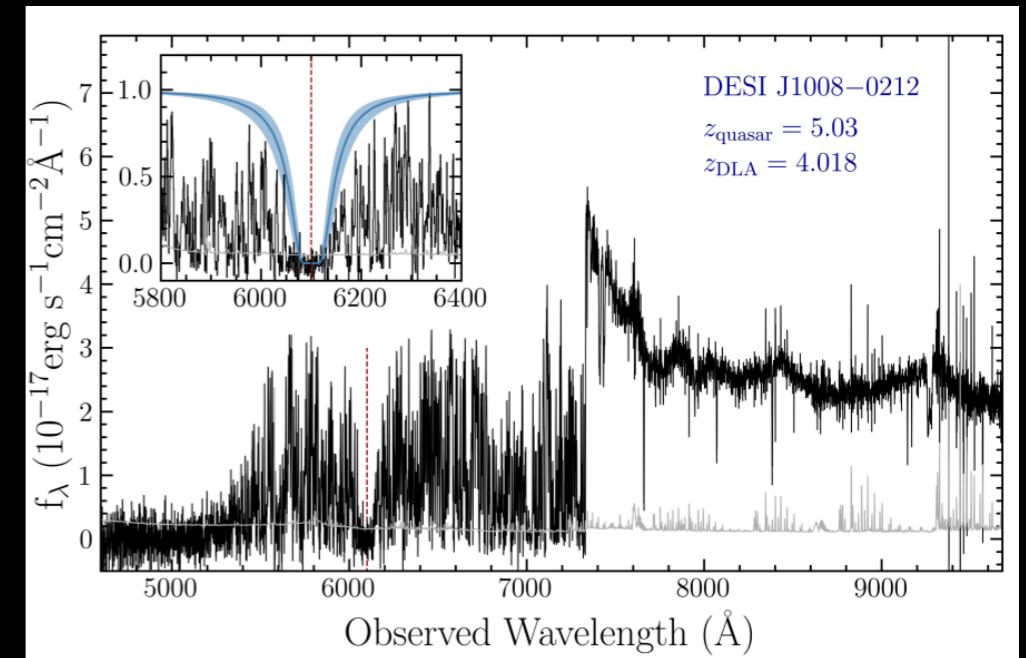


# Our measurements vs. Literature with [C II] redshifts

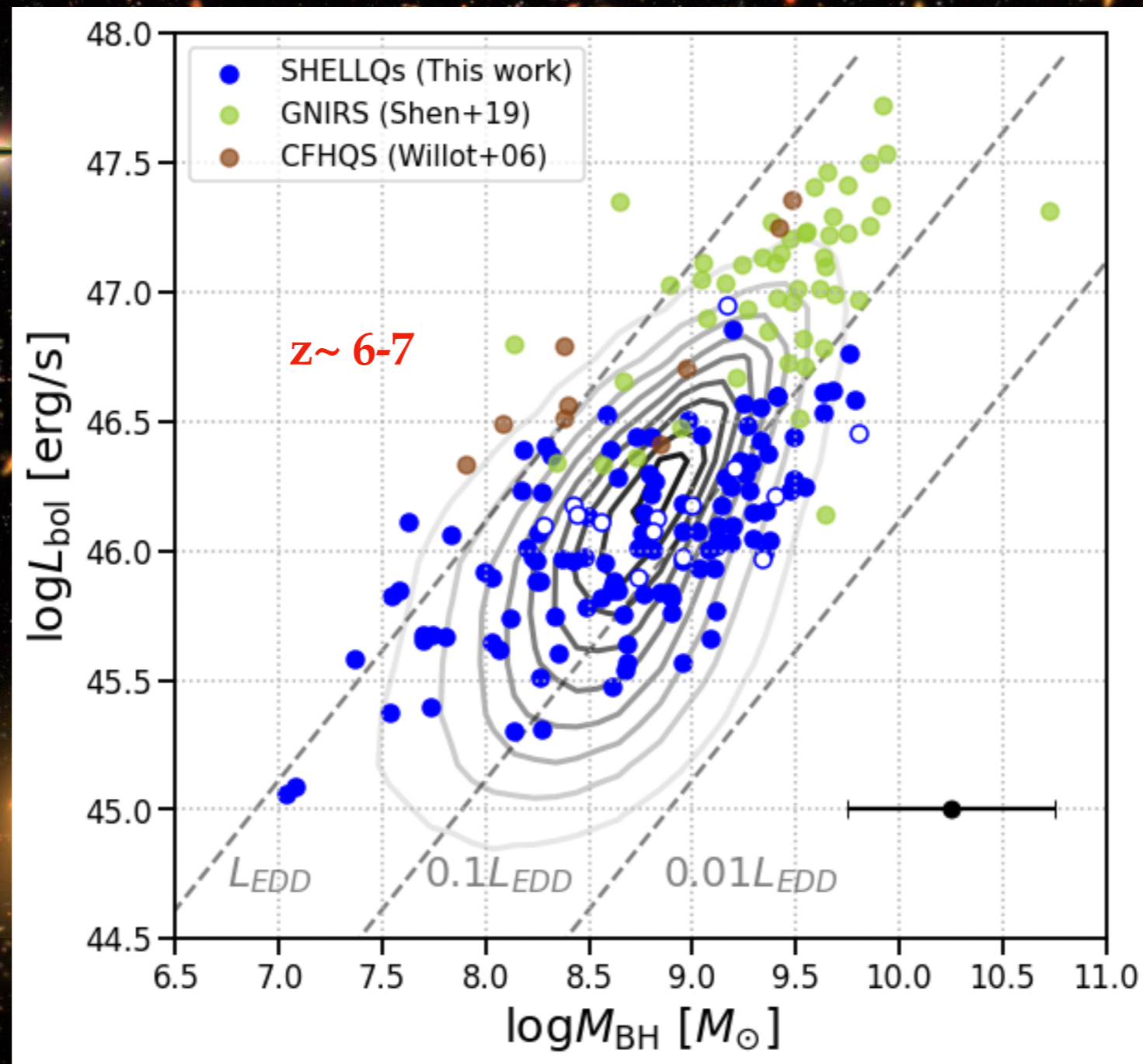
- The 3 quasars have [C II] redshifts, 2 of which have different counterparts from the cases with Ly $\alpha$  redshifts.
- Improved C IV peak off-set.



Yang et al. arXiv:2302.01777v1



We revealed the low-mass end of the  $M_{BH}$  distribution at high redshift

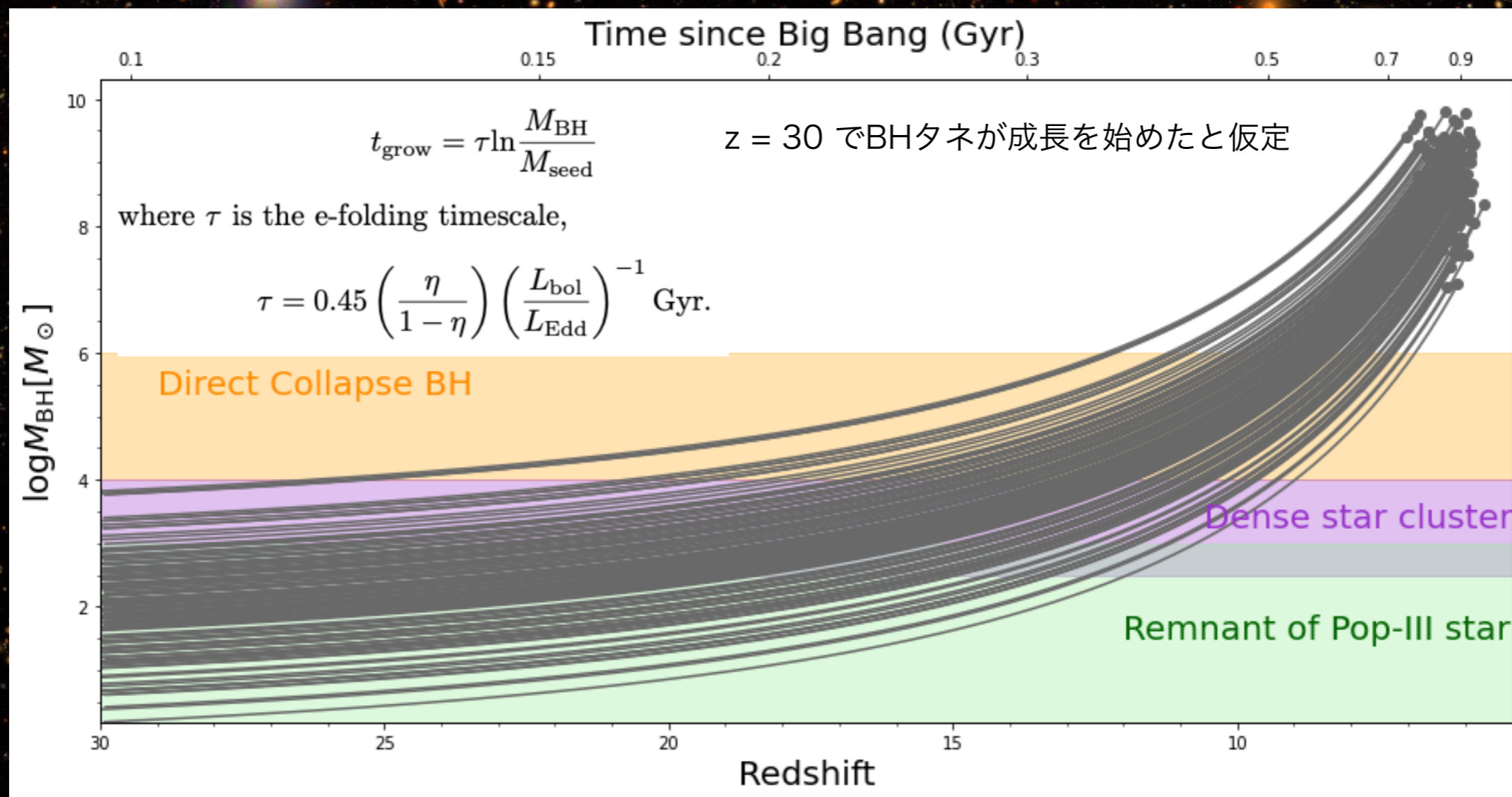


$M_{BH}$  range of our sample of  $M_{BH} \sim 10^{7.0} - 10^{9.8} [M_{\odot}]$  (without Type-2 candidates )  
 The majority of our sample accrete at sub-Eddington rates  
 Our BH masses are lower by 1-1.5 orders of magnitude than the previous sample.

# Estimated growth history of SHELLQs quasars

$$L_{\text{EDD}}/L_{\text{BOL}} = 1$$

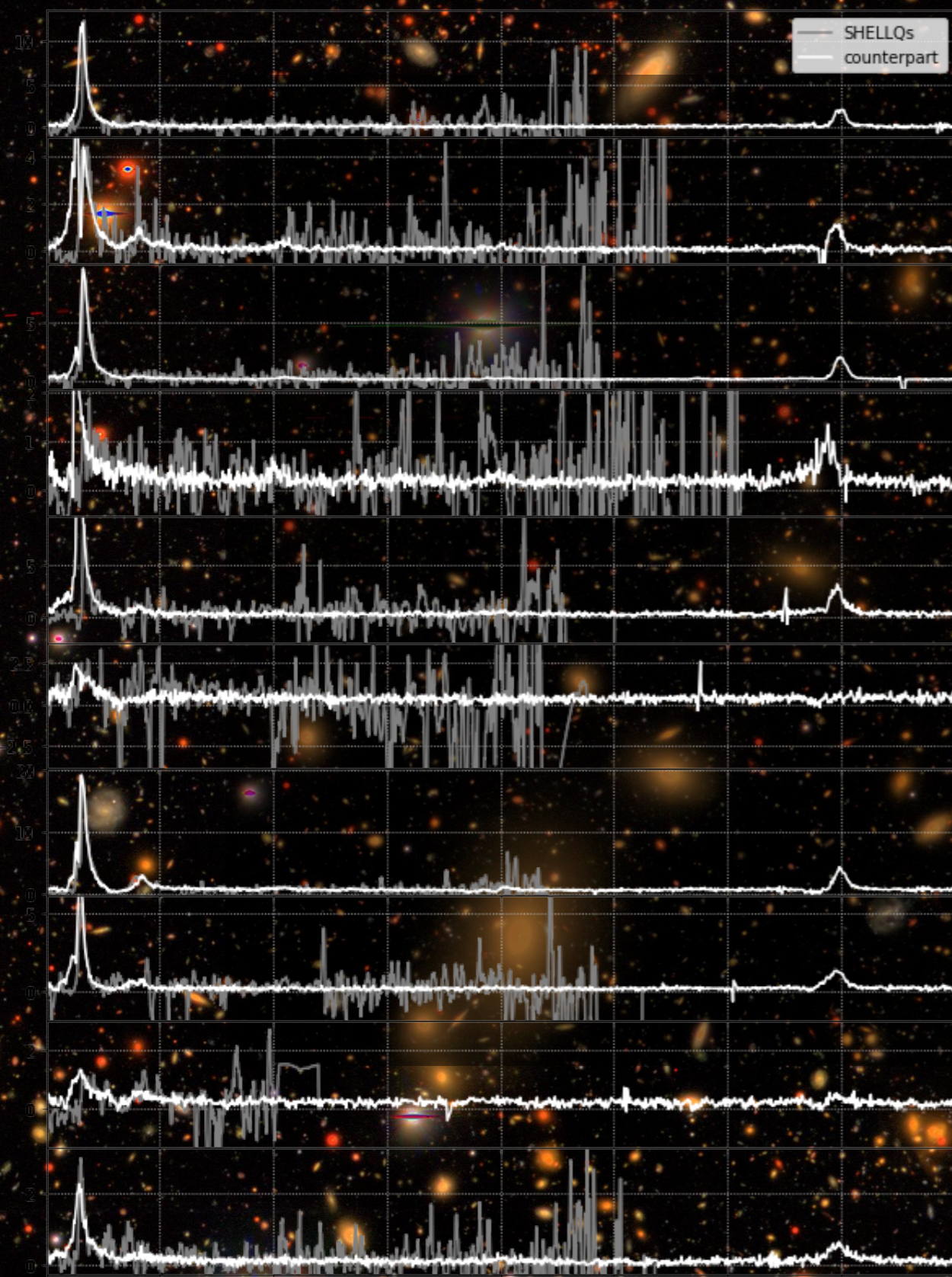
•  $\eta = 0.1$  (i.e., Shakura & Sunyaev 1976)



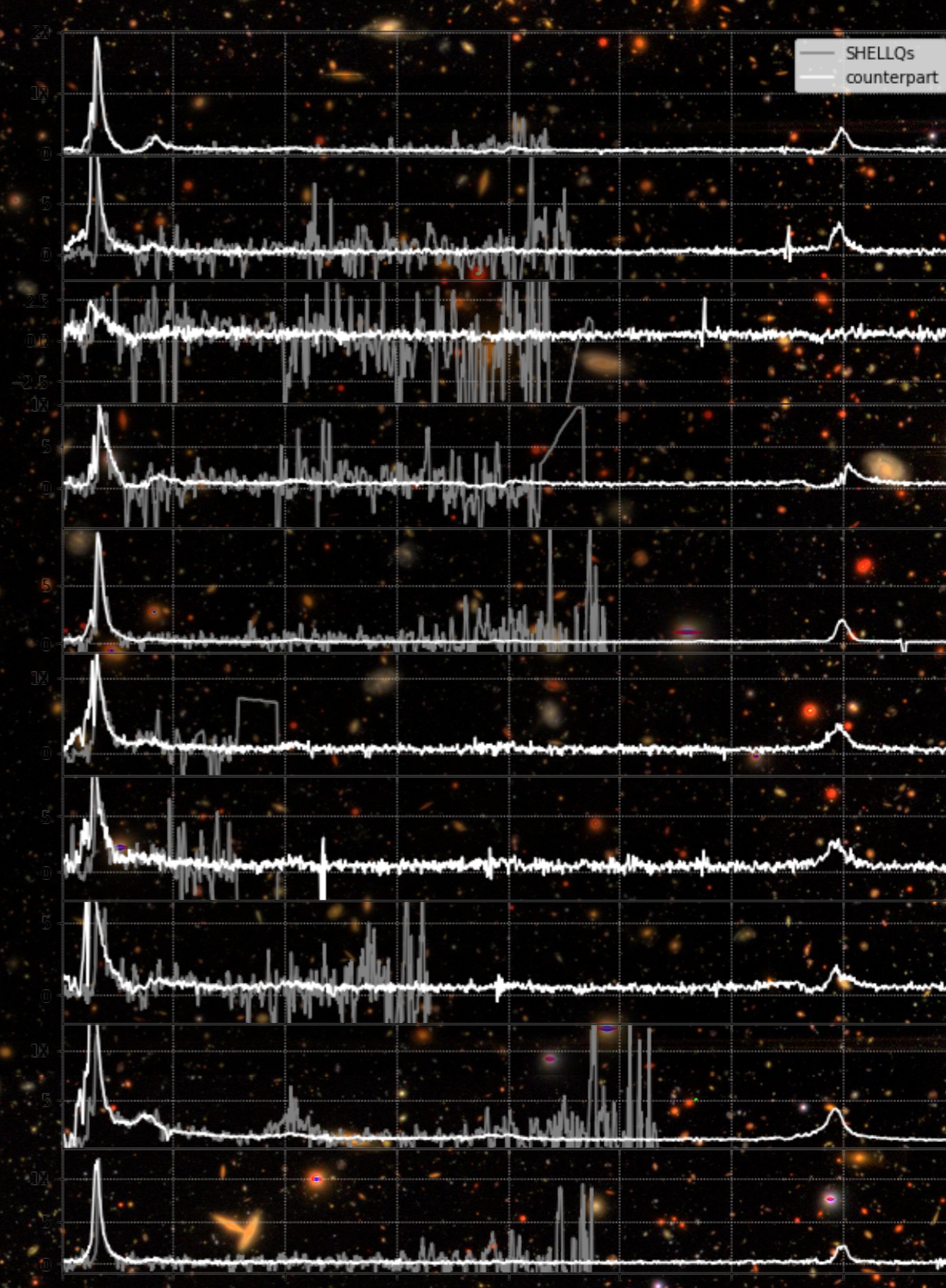
Most of SHELLQs quasars BH seed into the Pop-III remnants

# Do active low-mass SMBHs have higher EW?

Lower-mass candidates in SHELLQs sample

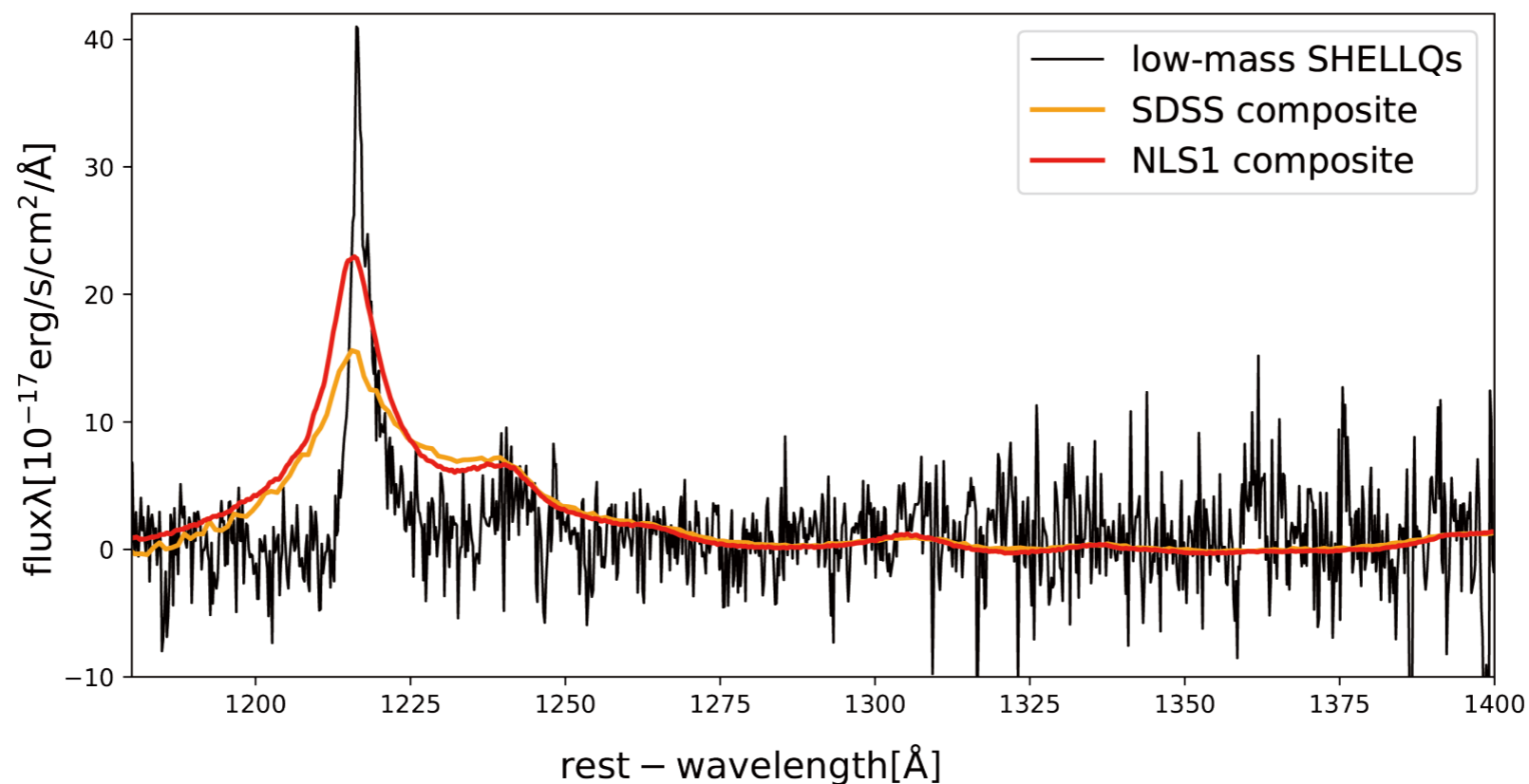


High- $\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$  candidates in SHELLQs sample



# Is the new quasar population at high redshift?

Compare spectral shapes with those of the quasar template and Narrow Line Syfert 1 catalog

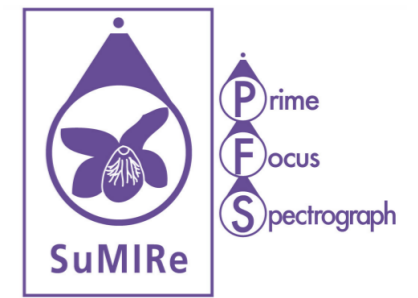


Our low-mass candidates have narrow line spectral shapes, which are quite different from the typical quasar spectra (more than two times higher EW of Ly $\alpha$  than those of the typical quasars).

- the gas-rich environment around the central black holes?
- According to high-accretion rate and low masses, these quasars may be in the early growing phase. -> HSC depth unveiled the young quasar population in the early universe.

# Future prospects with PFS

- PFS-SSP filler program will observe  $\sim 5000$  broad line AGN

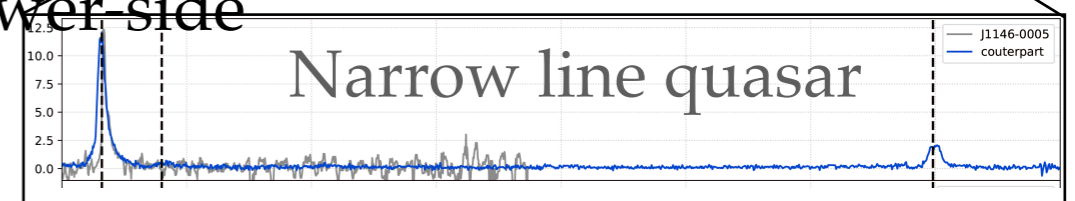
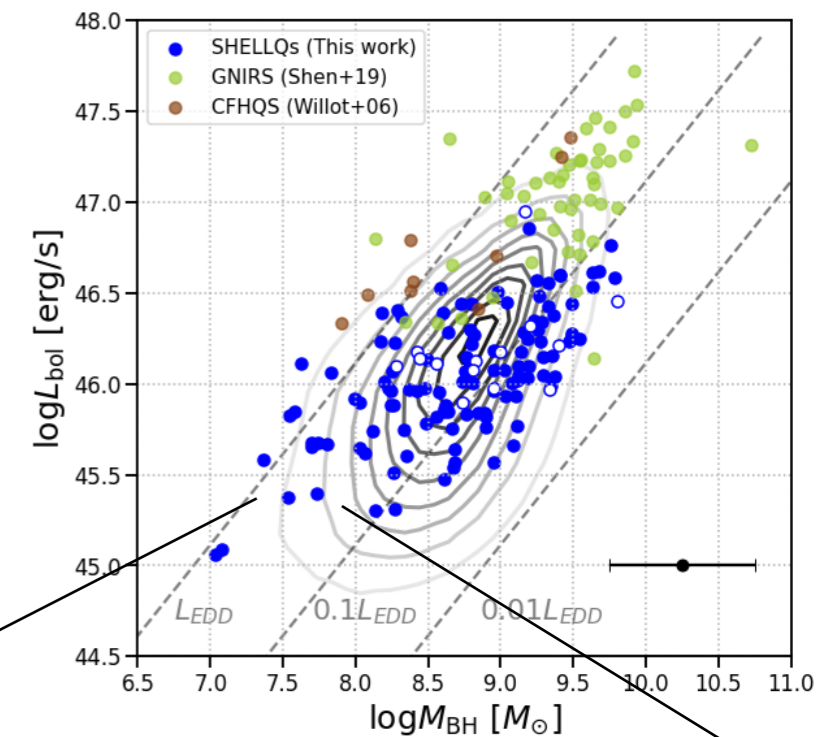


We may find at least  $\sim 500$  narrow line quasars. (assuming a rough fraction)

The upcoming PFS survey will provide us with spectroscopic information about these unique quasars; we will be able to do their first statistical population analysis!

Obtaining numerous numbers of the narrow line quasars allows us to...

- Co-evolution study: relation with their host galaxies
- Evolution study of SMBHs (e.g., not only BH-mass/ Eddington ratio estimates, but also metallicity diagnosis)
- Constrain mass limit of quasar black holes at lower side



I cannot wait to facilitate these studies of this “rare” population with statistical samples in the early universe!

# Conclusion

- High- $z$  quasars share the spectral shapes with those of low- $z$  quasars.
- Estimated black hole masses are consistent with the actual measurements.
- The success of this novel method is based on the tight correlation between the line properties of Ly $\alpha$  and CIV, which suggests the gas emitting Ly $\alpha$  is closely related to those of CIV that is emitted from the closest region of central black holes.
- From the test with a massive low- $z$  quasar sample, the counterpart method is valid over a wide range of redshift and luminosity.
- Our sample has large EWs of Ly $\alpha$ , twice the higher than those of the low- $z$  control sample. The present result seems not consist with a native expectation from the Baldwin effect.
- We found 14 low-mass ( $M_{\text{BH}} < 10^8 M_{\odot}$ ) quasars, including six super-Eddington accretion sources. They are featured by strong Ly $\alpha$  lines with weak continuum.
- With the spectral features, the low-mass active candidates resemble NLS1 galaxies identified at low- $z$  Universe; thus, the low-mass active SHELLQs quasars can be called “NLS1-type quasars”.
- Our NLS1-type quasars may be in the rapidly growing phases following their initial seeding and thus may represent one of the most crucial phases of the cosmological SMBH growth.