

# First results from GeMS/GSAOI for SUNBIRD: Supernovae UNmasked By Infra-Red Detection

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Image processing courtesy Mischa  
Schirmer (Gemini Obs.)



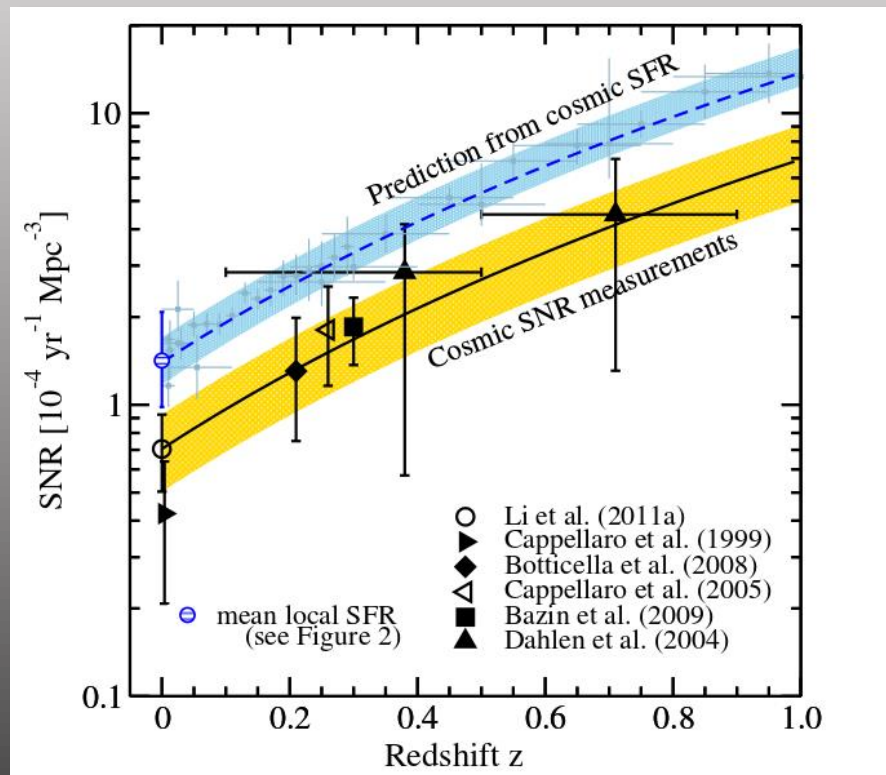
Australian Government  
Department of Industry and Science



# Introduction

## Horiuchi+2011: “*Supernova rate problem*”

- Dim or “dark” CCSNe, direct collapse
- Hidden nuclear CCSNe

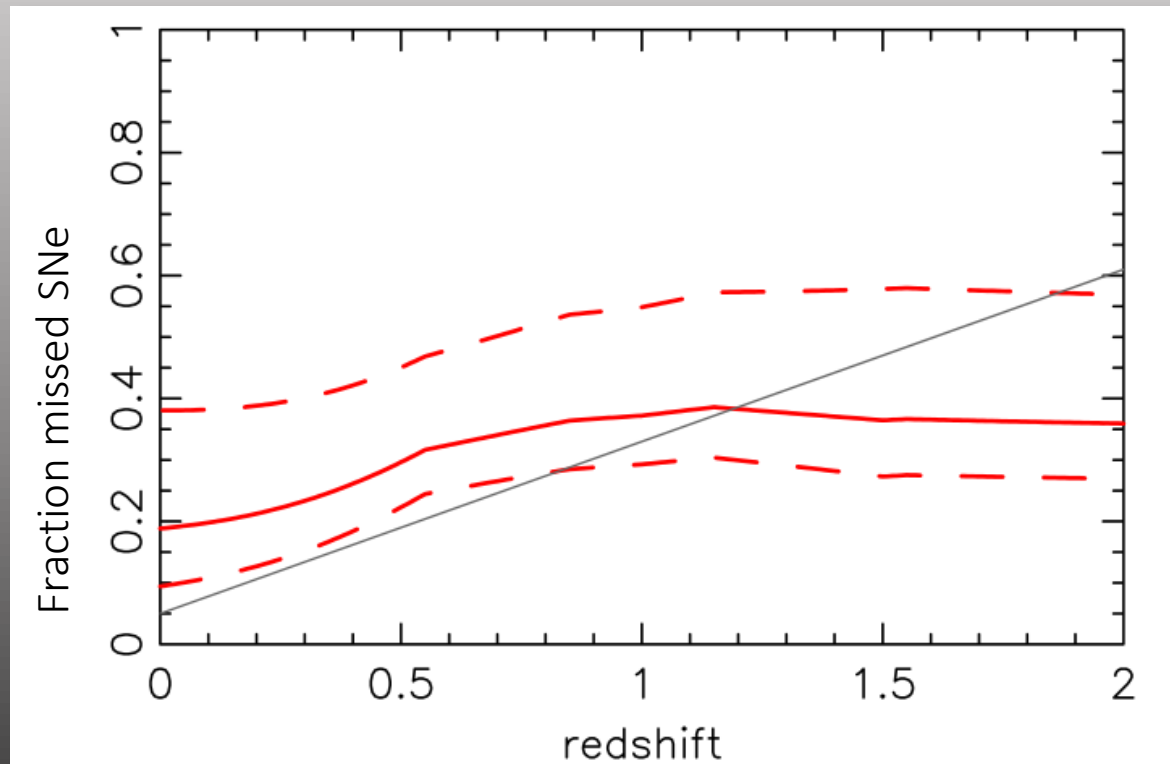


Supernova rate (SNR) measurements vs. prediction from SFR  
(Horiuchi et al., 2011)

# Introduction

## Missed fraction correction

- Monitoring of LIRG Arp 299
  - Host to 5 SNe since '98
  - Model for galaxies at increasing redshift



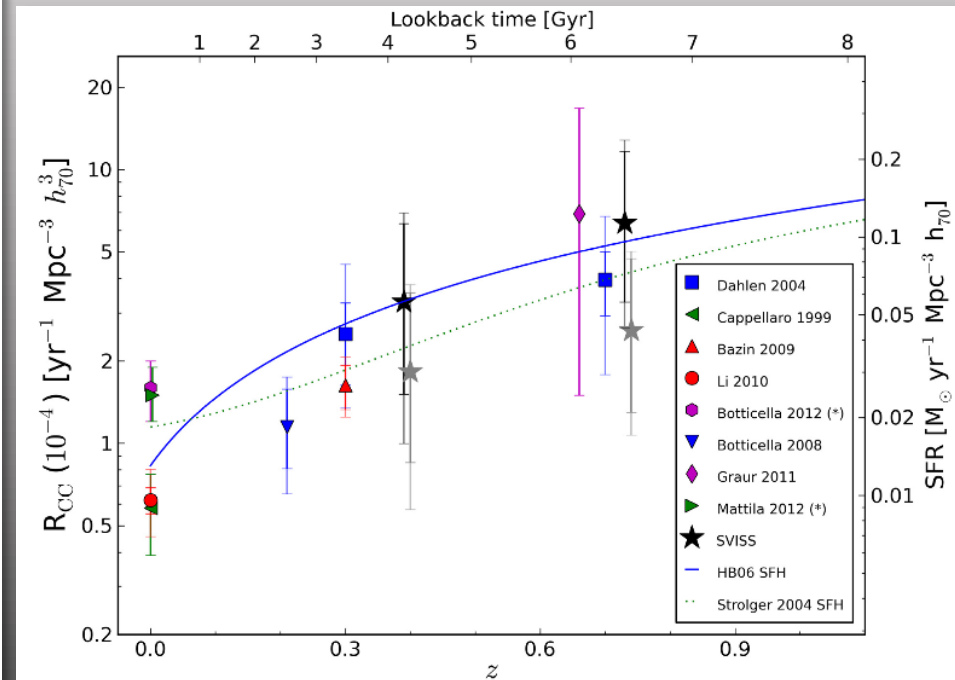
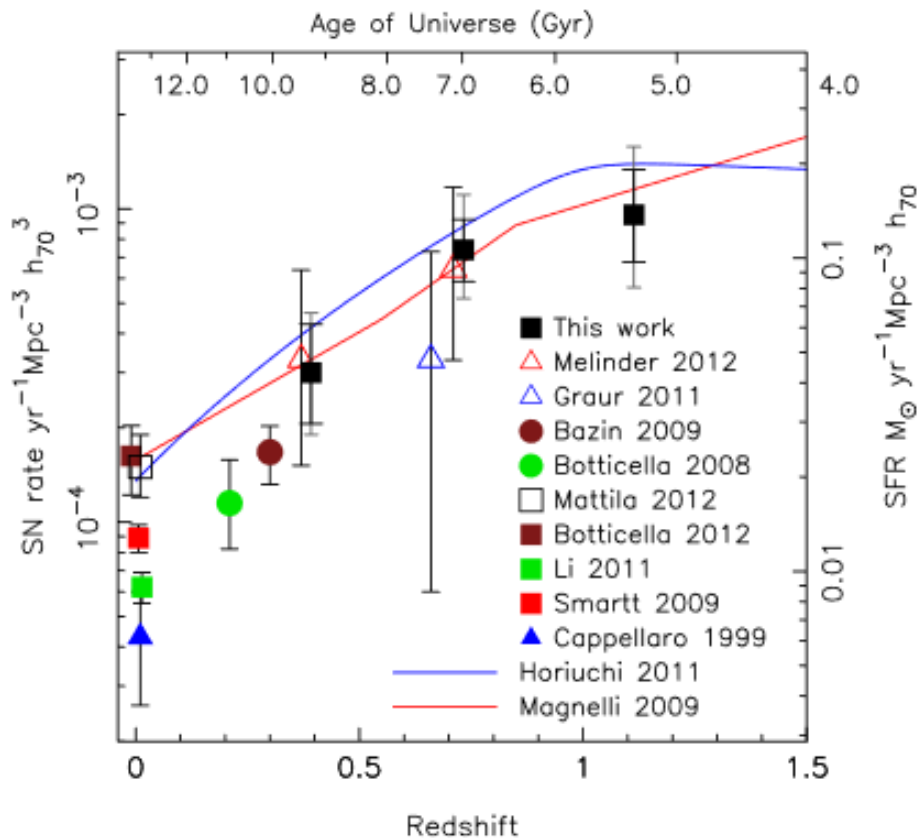
First empirical limits on missed SNe fraction

(Mattila et al., 2012)

# Introduction

## Corrected rates

- Missed fraction correction by Mattila et al. 2012

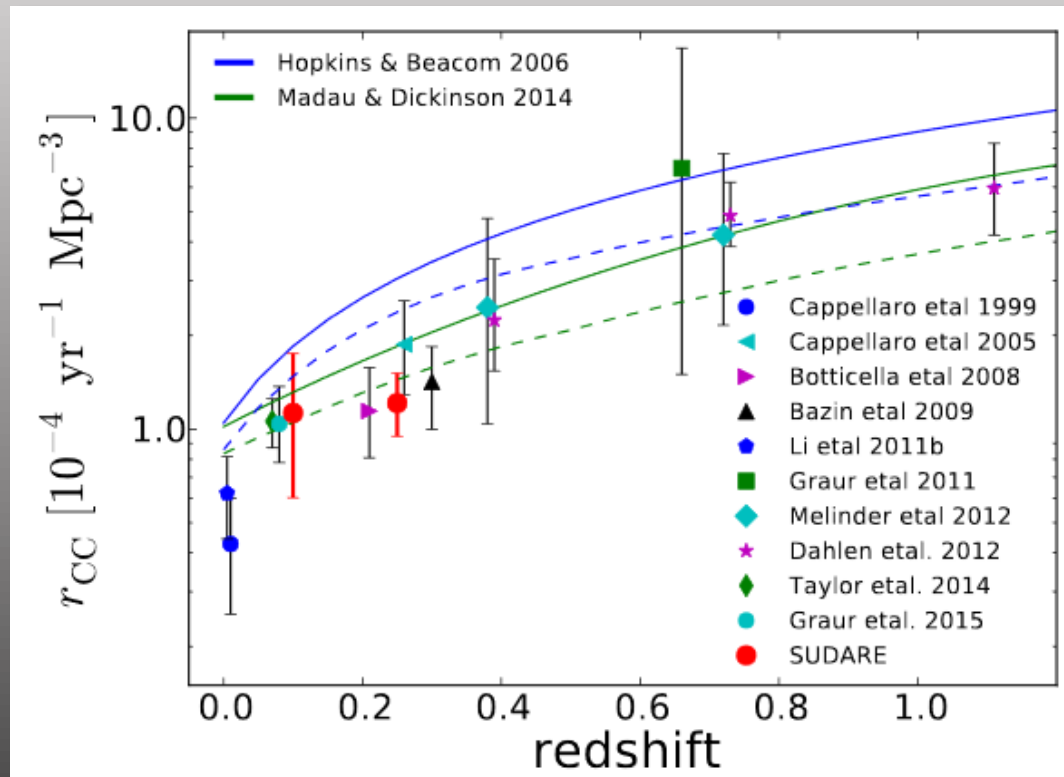


Supernova rate measurements vs. prediction from SFR  
(Dahlen et al., 2012, Melinder et al., 2012)

# Introduction

## No “*Supernova rate problem*” ?

- Cappellaro+2015: Statistic and systematic errors still “*too large to invoke an SN rate problem*”

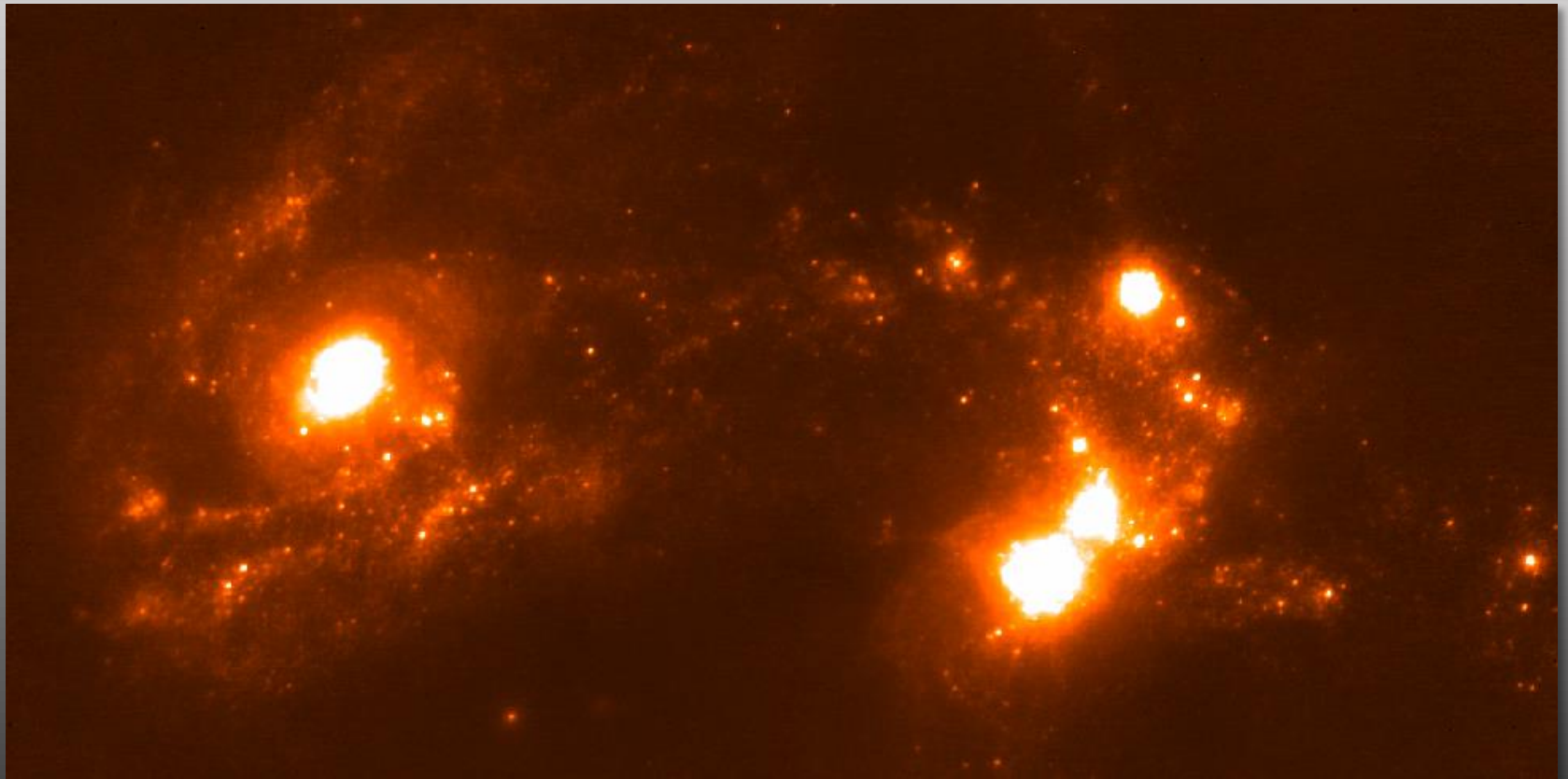


Supernova rate measurements vs. prediction from SFR  
(Cappellaro et al. 2015)

# Introduction

## Luminous Infrared Galaxies (LIRGs)

- $L_{\text{IR}} > 10^{11} L_{\odot}$ , concentrated sites of star formation and dust
- Fraction of SF in (U)LIRGs increases with redshift



Arp 299,  $K_s$ -band, Keck AO

# Introduction

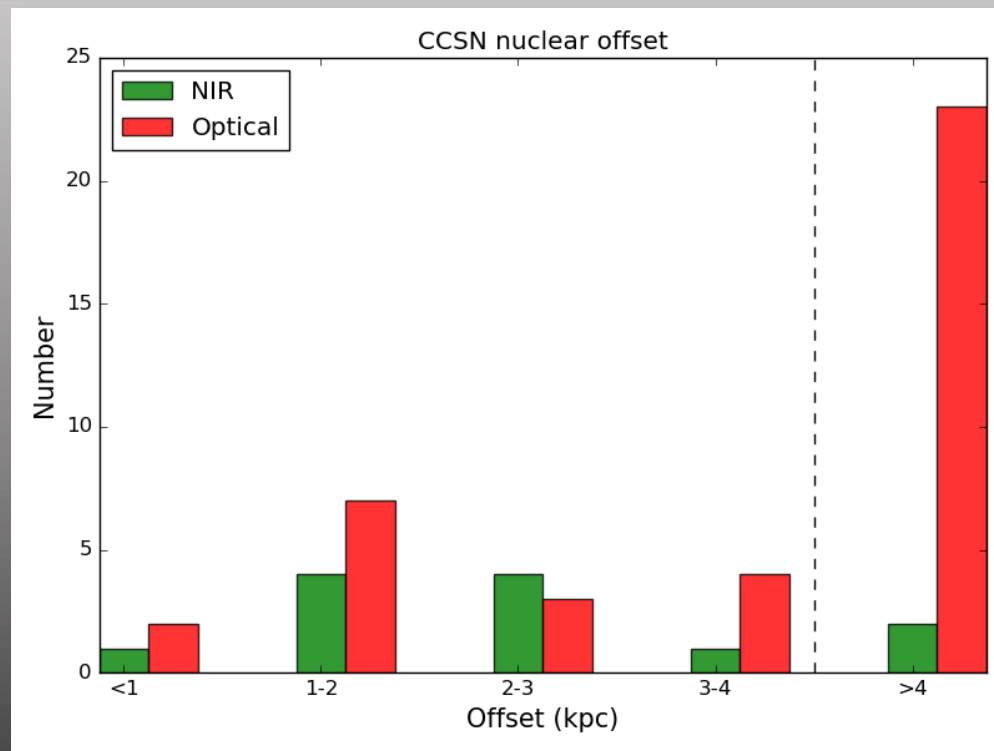
## CCSNe in LIRGs

- LIRGs from IRAS Revised Bright Galaxy Sample
- Mattila & Meikle 2001:  $r_{\text{SN}} = 2.7 \times 10^{-12} \times L_{\text{FIR}}/L_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ .
- Collective expected CCSN rate in LIRGs: ~250/yr
- 477 reported CCSN discoveries in near-IR/optical from seeing limited surveys: ~50

# Introduction

## CCSNe in LIRGs

- collective expected CCSN rate in LIRGs:  $\sim 250/\text{yr}$
- 477 reported CCSN discoveries in near-IR/optical from seeing limited surveys:  $\sim 50$



Nuclear offset distribution all seeing limited  
near-IR/optical CCSN discoveries



# SUNBIRD project

## Supernovae Unmasked by InfraRed Detections

- Near-IR: dust extinction
- Laser guide star AO: 0.06" – 0.1" image quality
- Explore regime missed nuclear/high extinction CCSNe
- Provide meaningful constraints on missed CCSNe fraction



GeMS/GSAOI on  
Gemini South telescope

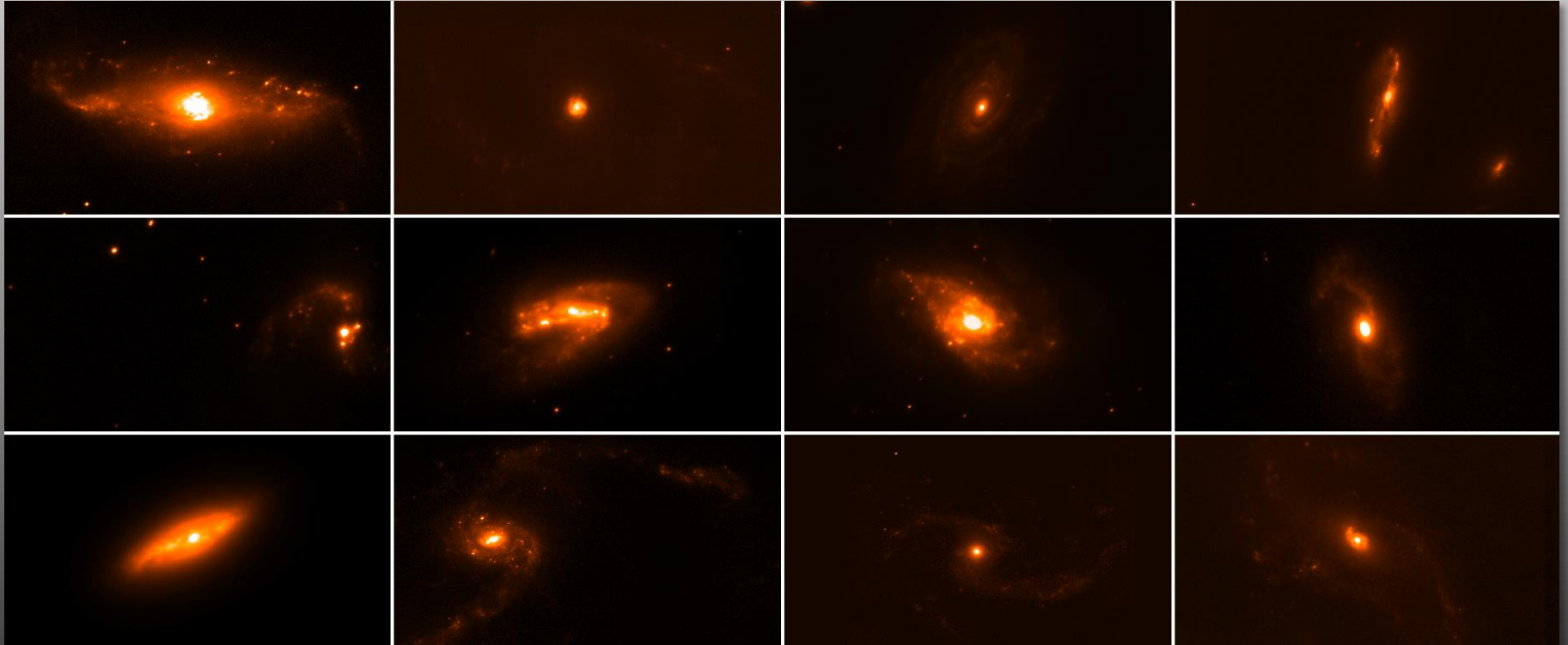


NIRC2 on Keck telescope

# SUNBIRD project

## LGSAO data

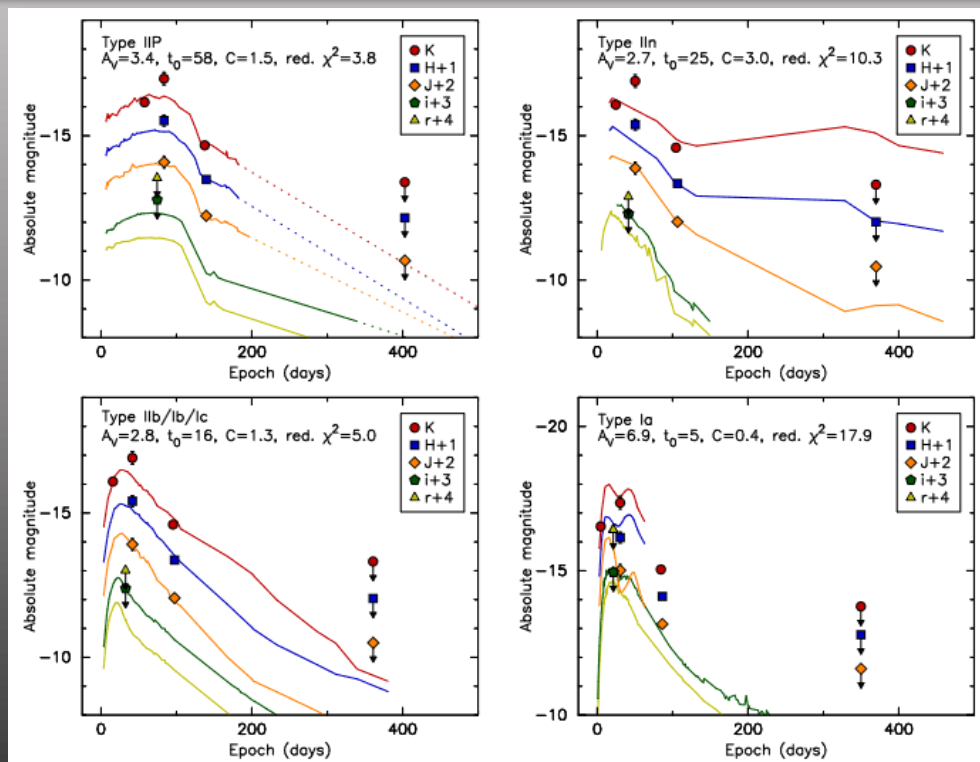
- Epochs for 36 LIRGs (50–150 Mpc), most with multiple epochs
- Three photometrically confirmed SNe, three candidates



# SUNBIRD project

## Observing strategy and analysis

- Difference imaging, match PSF
- Optimize cadence
- SN search in  $K_s$ , follow up on JHK<sub>s</sub> + radio + spectra
- Magnitudes fitted to lightcurve templates to obtain subtype

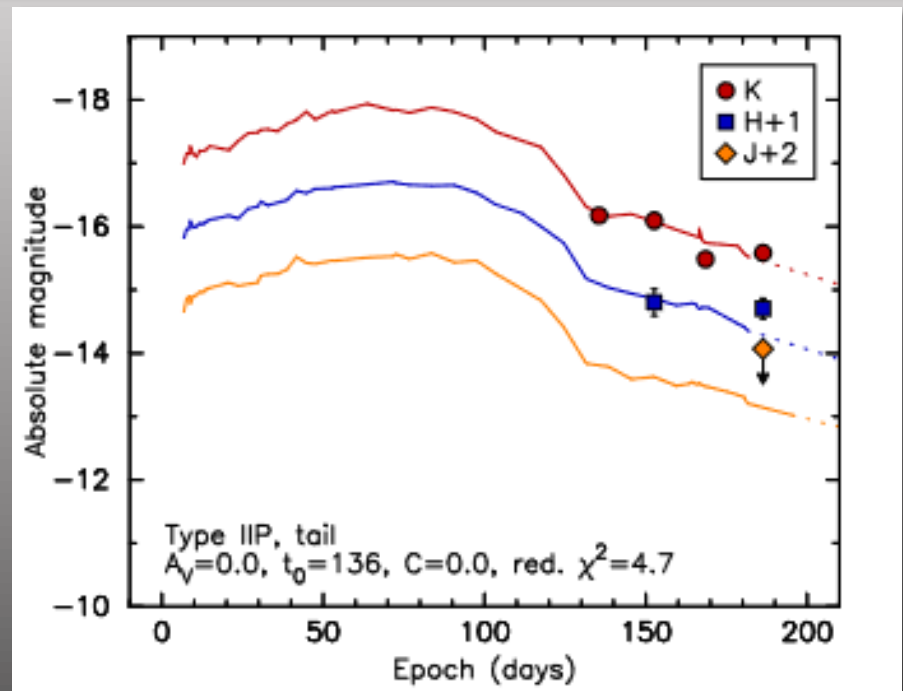
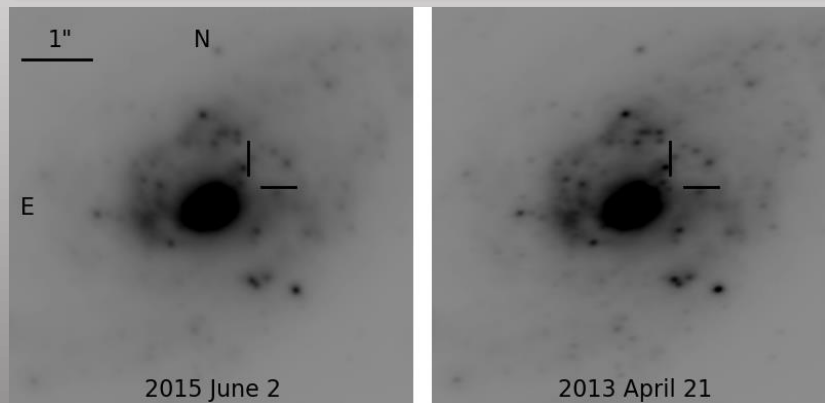


SN 2015ca template light curve fits  
(Kool et al., 2017)

# Results with GeMS/GSAOI

## SN 2013if in IRAS 18293-3413

- 200 pc nuclear offset
- Type IIP with  $A_V = 0$

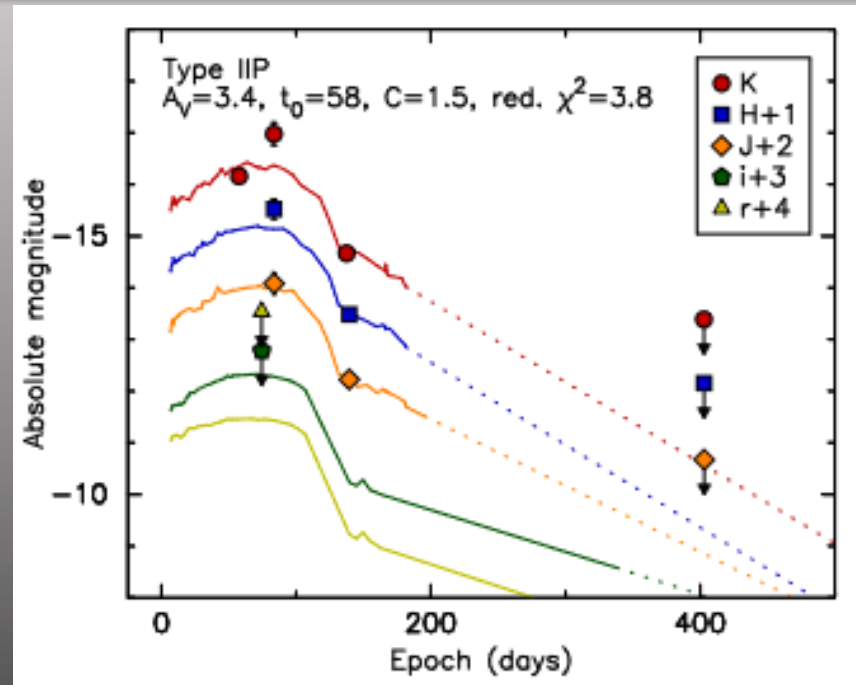
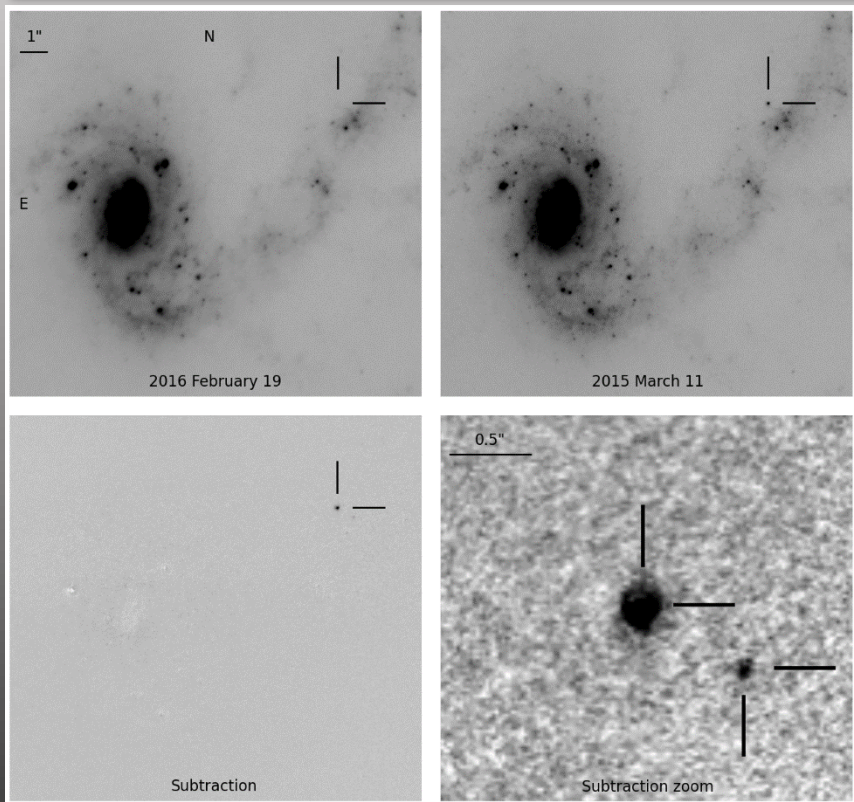


SN 2013if in IRAS 18293-3413: only 200 pc from nucleus  
(Kool et al., 2017)

# Results with GeMS/GSAOI

## SN 2015ca and AT 2015cf in NGC 3110

- 3.3 kpc nuclear offset
- 0.7" separation between detections
- 2015ca Type IIP with  $A_V = 3.4$ , 2015cf Type II?



Supernova detections in NGC 3110, March 2015

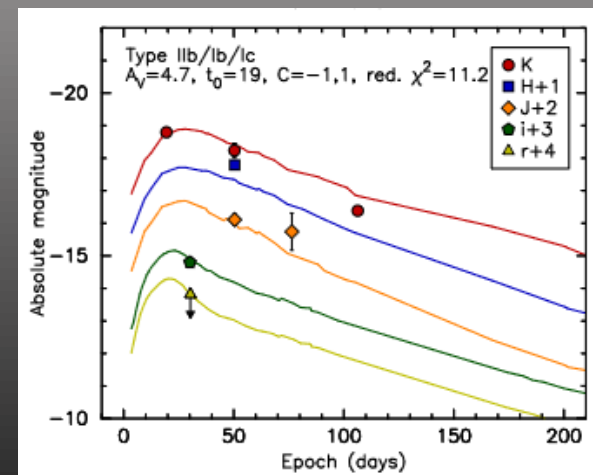
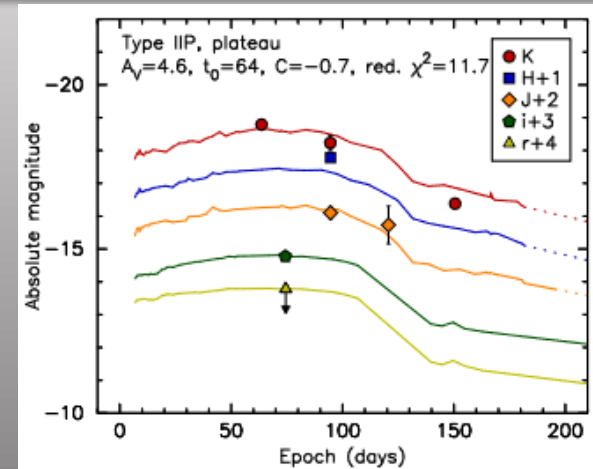
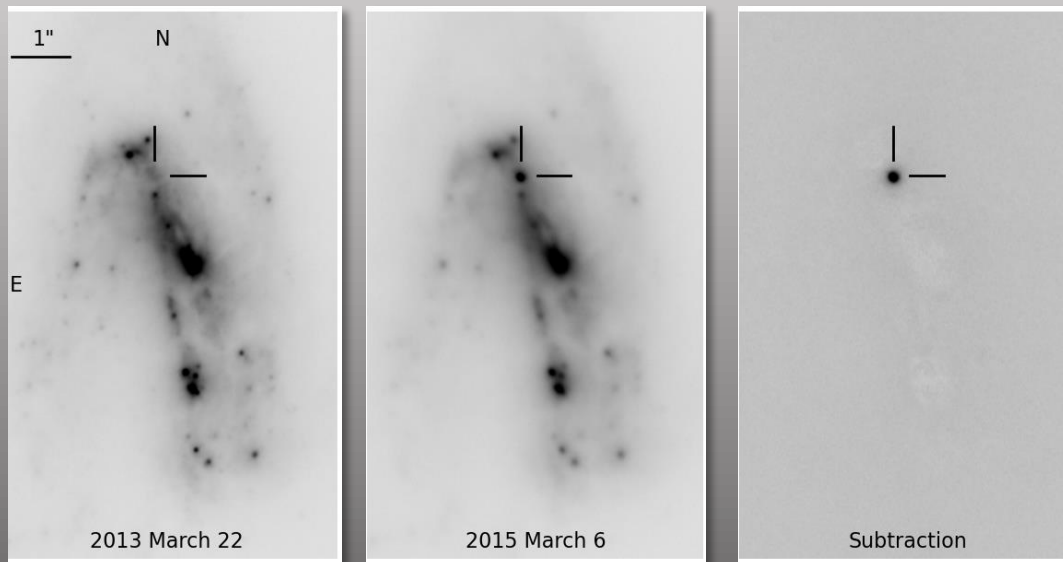
(Kool et al., 2017)



# Results with GeMS/GSAOI

## SN 2015cb in IRAS 17138-1017

- 600 pc nuclear offset
- $A_V = \sim 5$

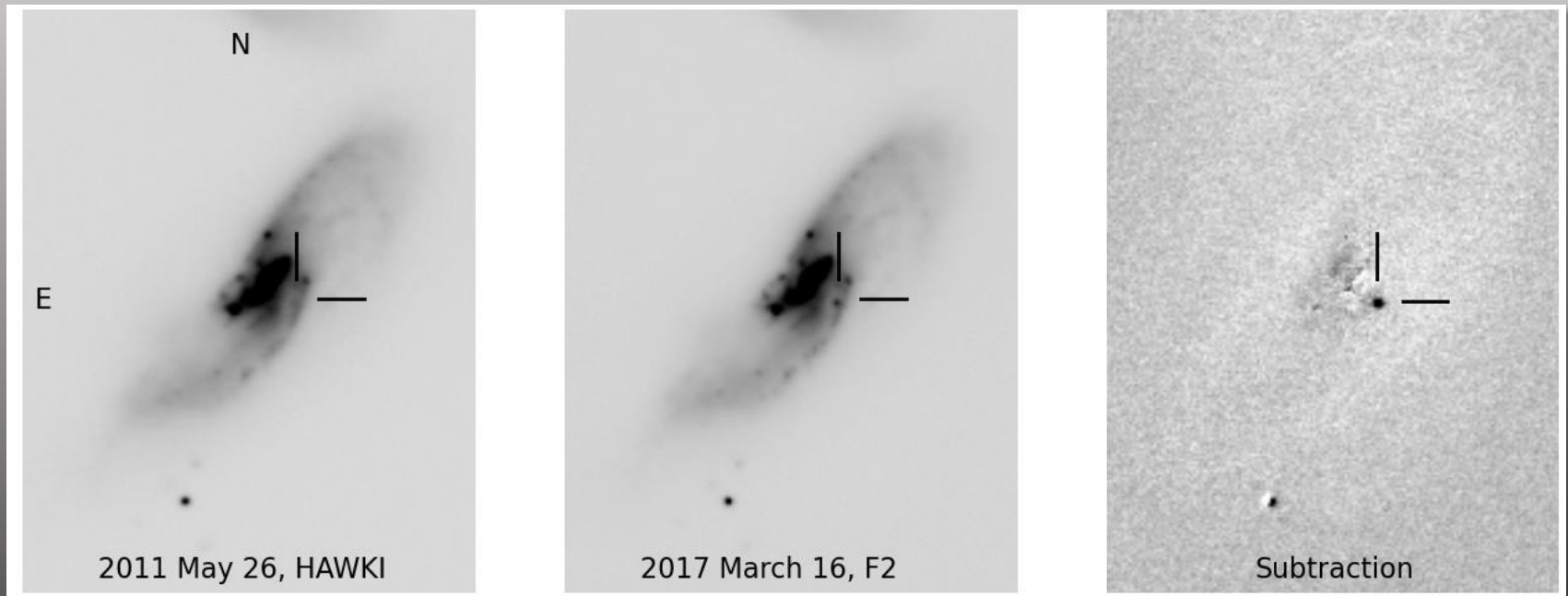


SN 2015cb in IRAS 17138-1017  
(Koo et al., 2017)

# Results from Keck

## AT 2017chi in NGC 5331

- Discovered in K-band with Flamingos 2 on Gemini
- Rapid follow-up with NIRC2 on Keck in JHK

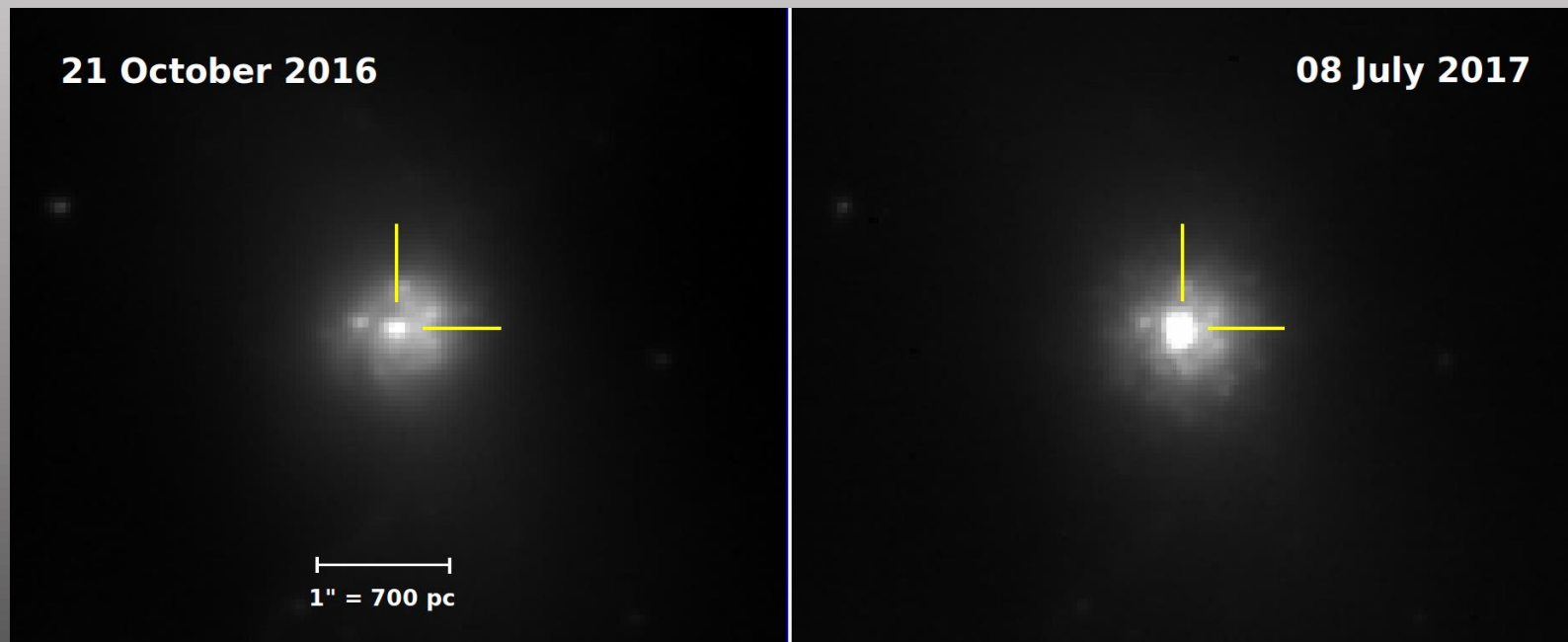


AT 2017chi in NGC 5331  
(Kool et al., in prep)

# Results from Keck

## AT 2017gb1 in IRAS 23436+5257

- Very bright nuclear transient
- SN nature unlikely



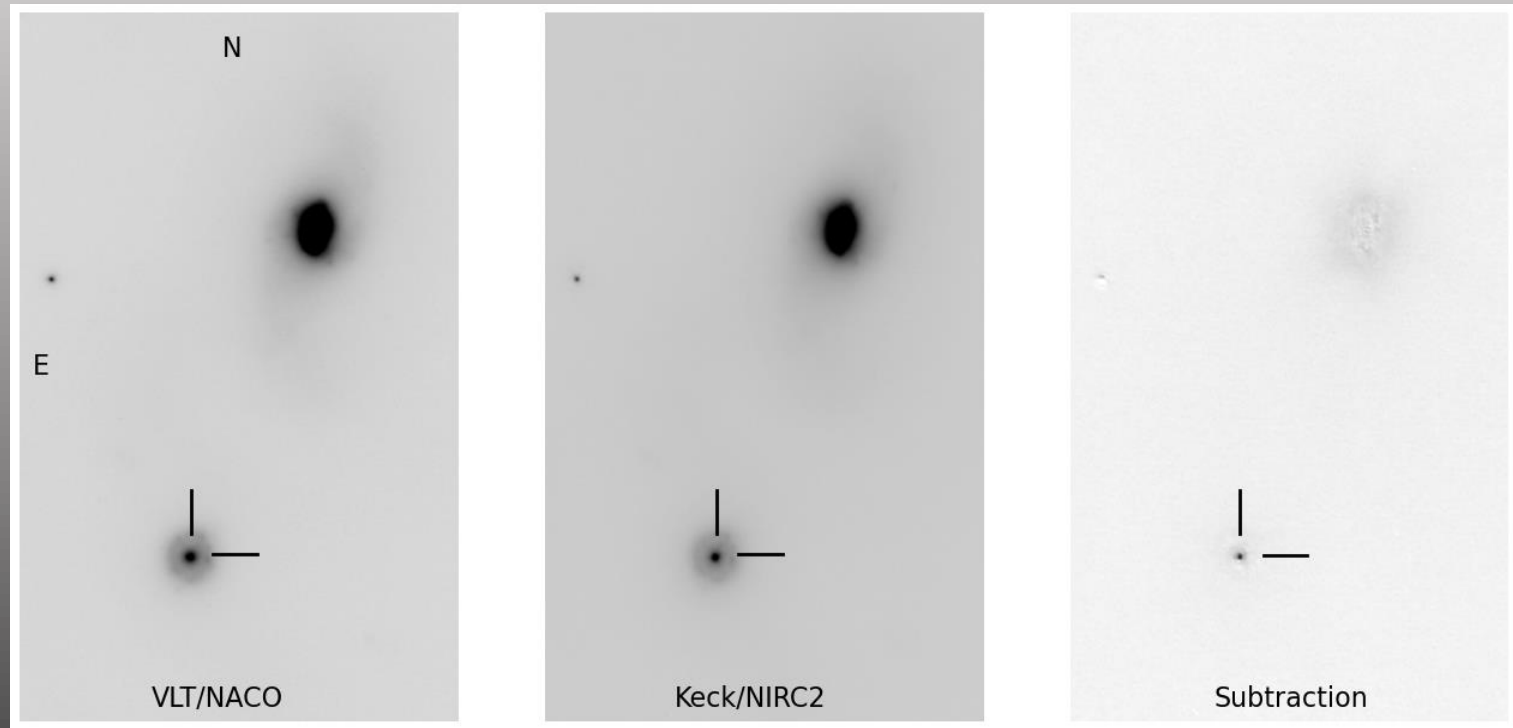
AT 2017gb1 in NGC 5331  
(Kool et al., in prep)



# Results from Keck

## Nuclear transient in IRAS F06076-2139

- Superimposed on nucleus
- Optical IFU immediate follow-up with KOALA



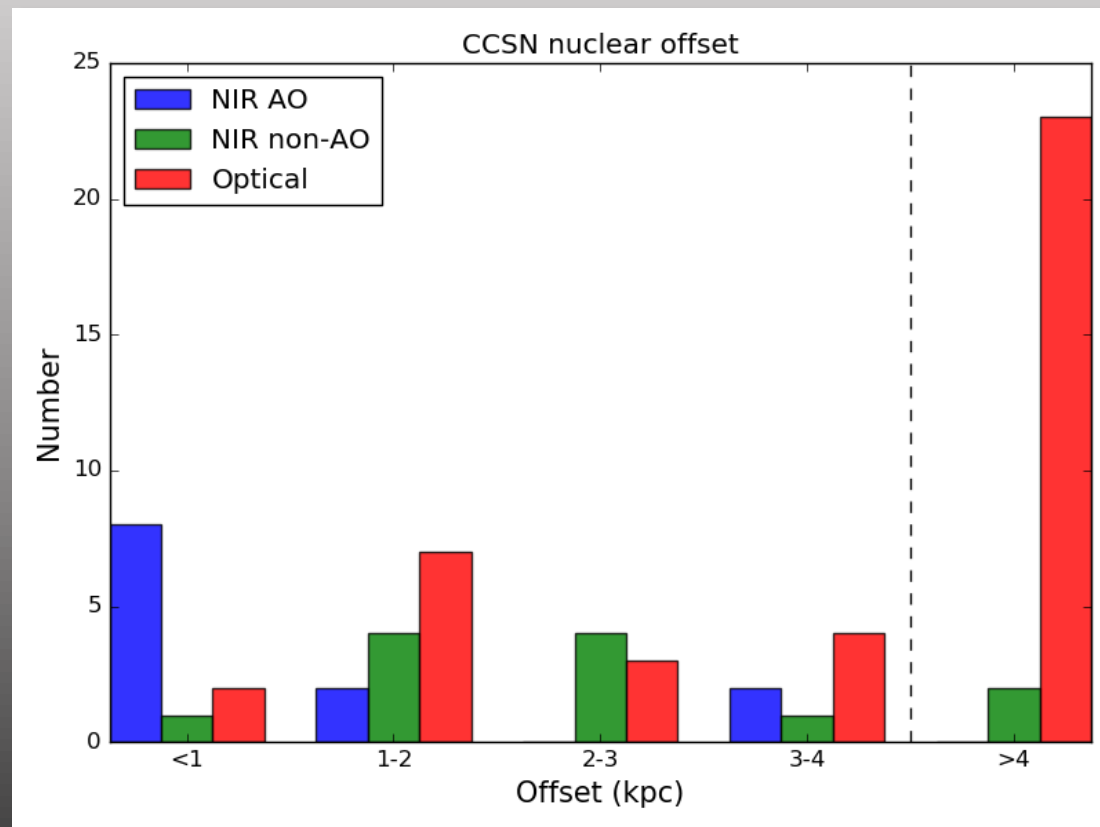
Transient in IRAS F06076-2139

(Kool et al., in prep)

# Impact LGSAO on CCSNe in LIRGs

## SUNBIRD plus preceding LGSAO programs

- Gemini N./ALTAIR (Kankare+2008/2012) and VLT/NACO (Reynolds+, in prep)
- 12 additional CCSN LIRG discoveries

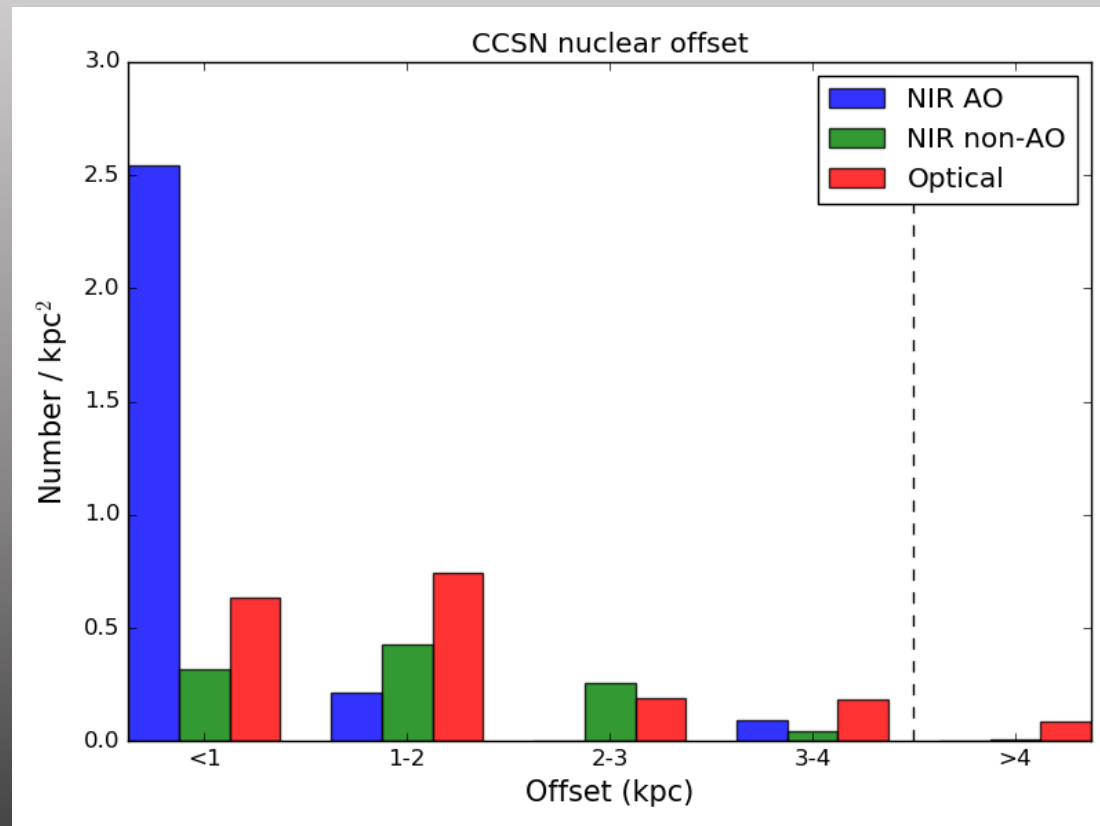


Nuclear offsets all CCSN near-IR/optical discoveries LIRGs  
(Kool et al., 2017)

# Impact LGSAO on CCSNe in LIRGs

## SUNBIRD plus preceding LGSAO programs

- LGSAO singularly effective at uncovering nuclear CCSNe
- Time coverage: optical >>> near-IR non-AO >> near-IR AO



Nuclear offsets LIRG CCSNe, normalized for bin area

# Summary

## SUNBIRD

- Gemini South and Keck telescopes
- Explore regime of missed high extinction nuclear CCSNe
- Six new (candidate) CCSN discoveries to date
- AO imaging in near-IR singularly effective

## Finally

- Detection efficiency → Supernova rate analysis