



Building the high-redshift Hubble Diagram with Quasars

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30/05/23

Cosmoverse @ Lisbon



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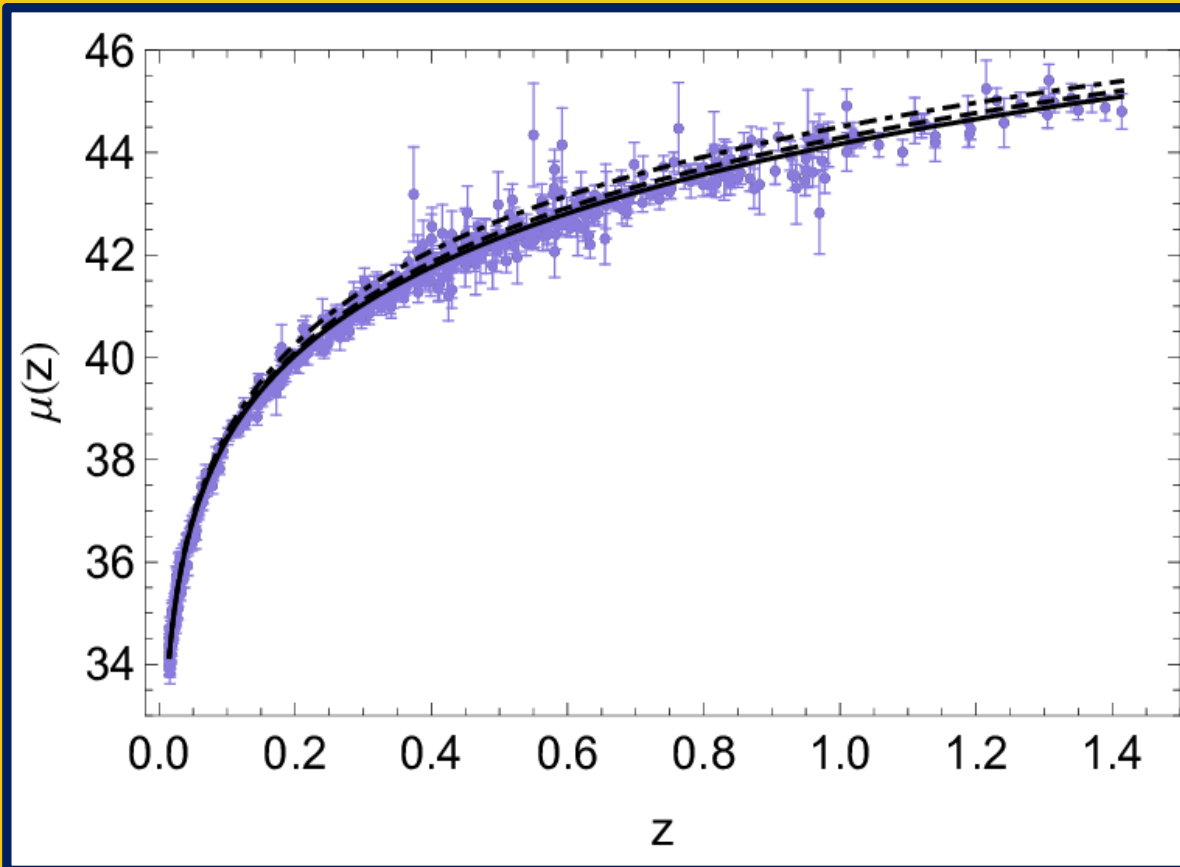


Bartolomeo Trefoloni



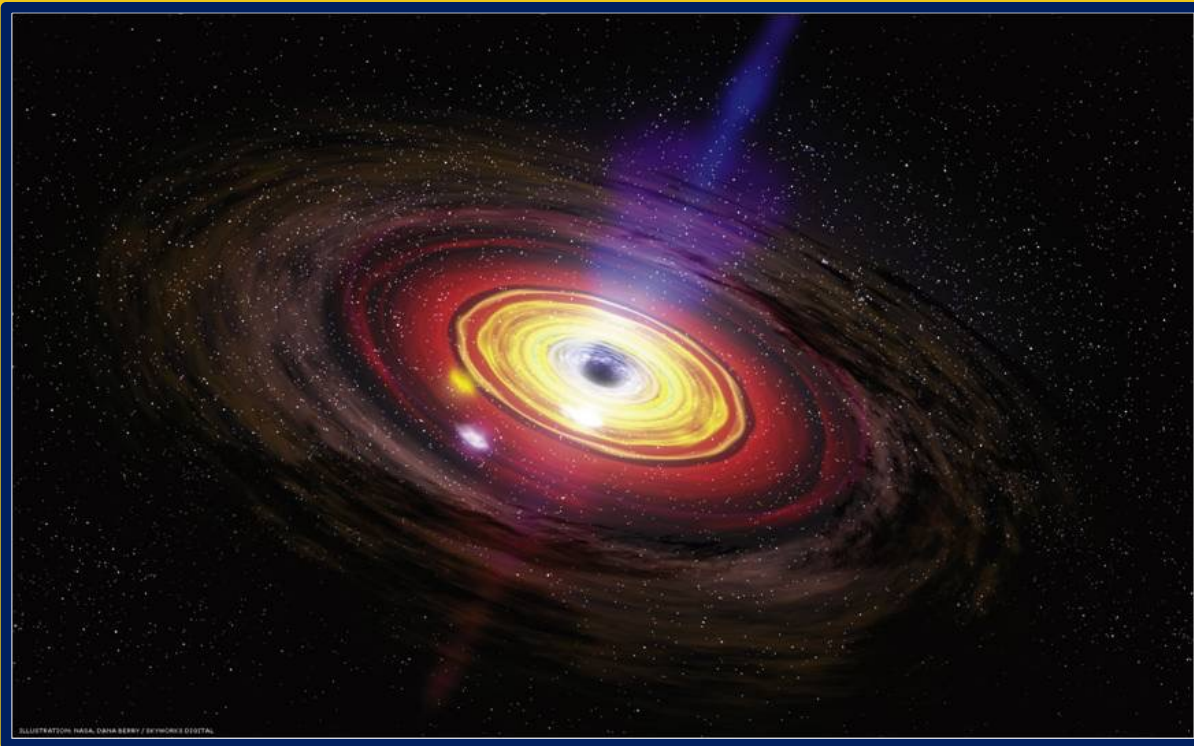
Hubble Diagram

Montiel+14 - SNIa



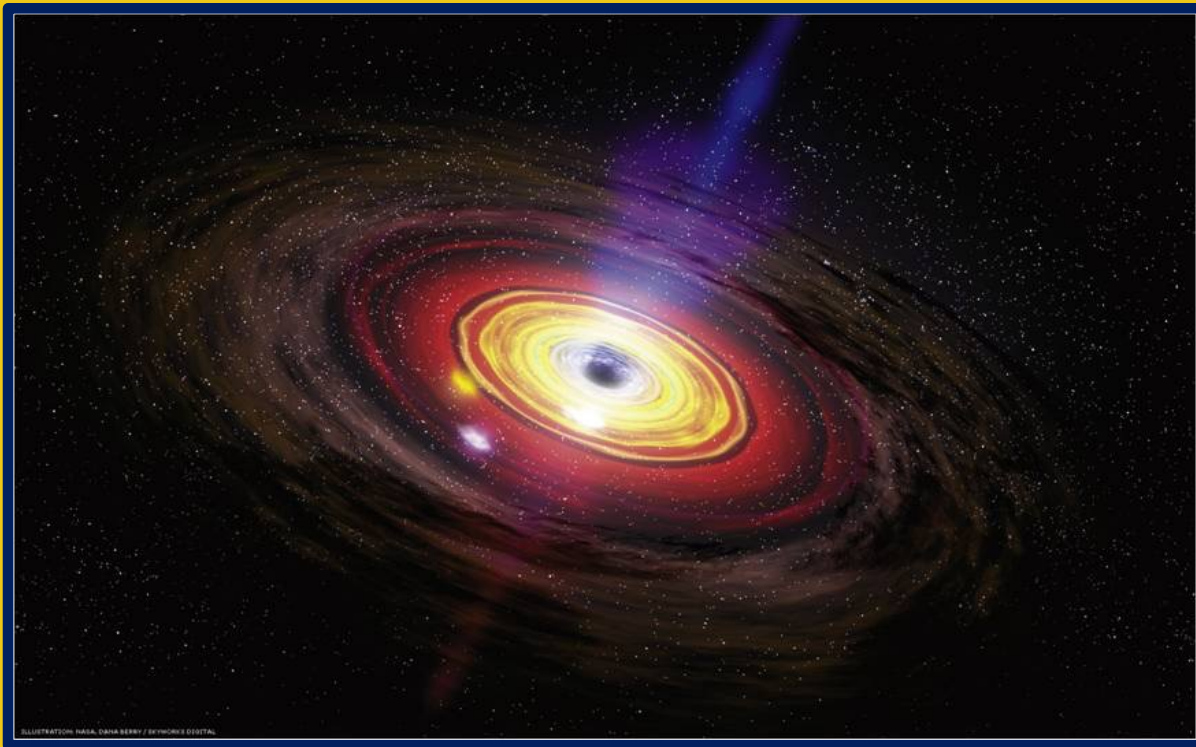
- Test cosmological models
- Constrain parameters given a model

Quasars as Standard Candles



- Numerous
- Observed at redshift $z \sim 0-8$
(Universe age < 1 Gyr)

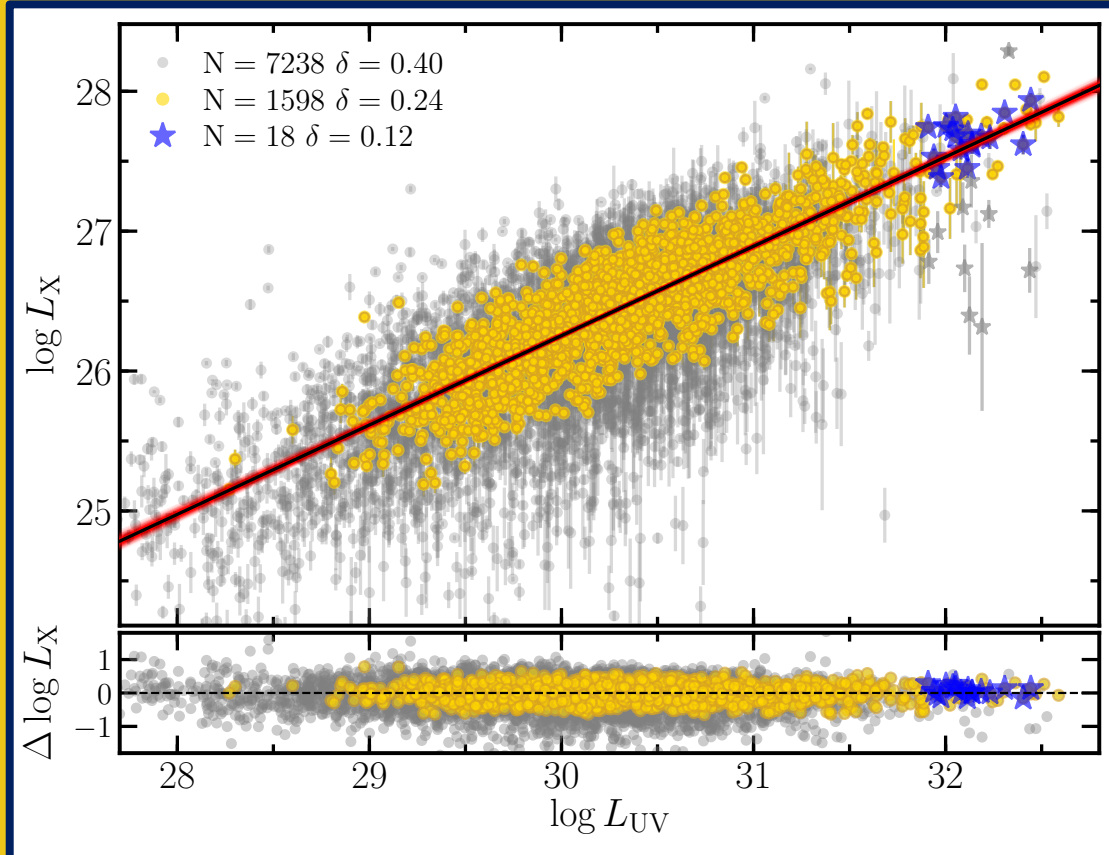
Quasars as Standard Candles



- Numerous
- Observed at redshift $z \sim 0-8$
(Universe age < 1 Gyr)
- Not standard!
($L_{\text{bol}} \sim 10^{11} - 10^{14} L_{\odot}$)

Quasars as Standard Candles

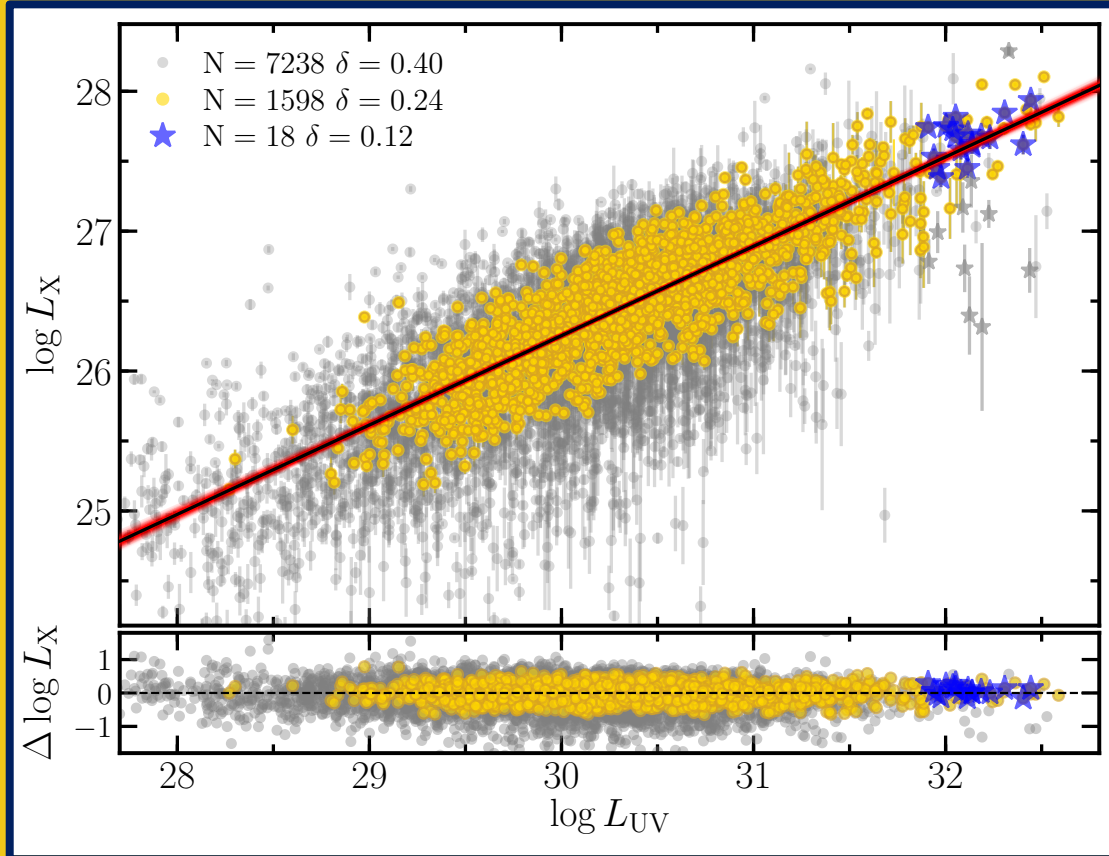
Risaliti&Lusso19



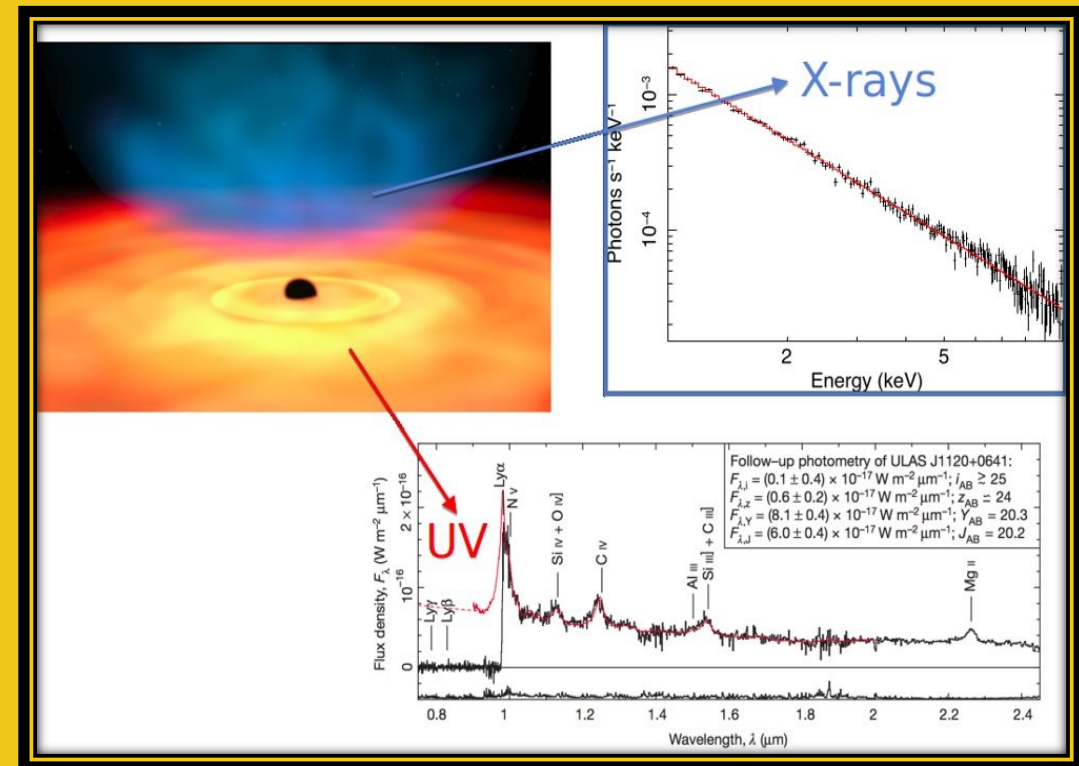
$$\log(L_X) = \gamma \log(L_{UV}) + \beta$$

Quasars as Standard Candles

Risaliti&Lusso19

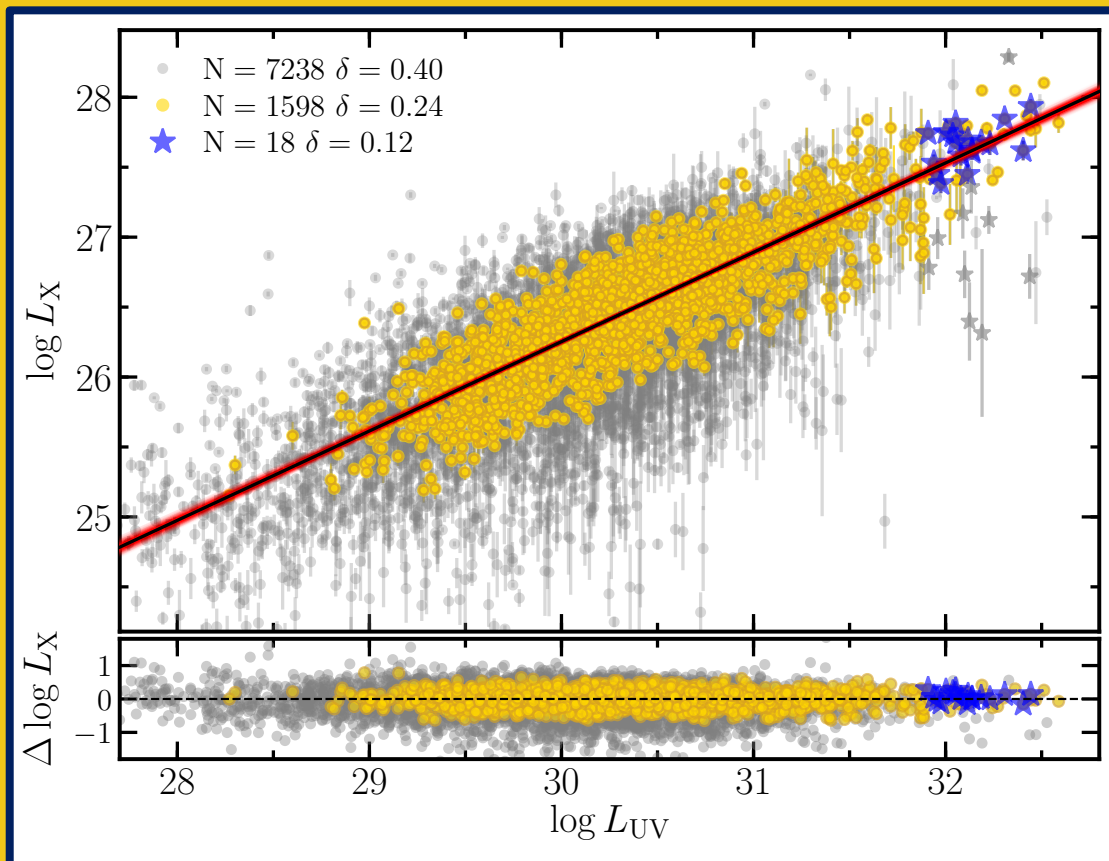


$$\log(L_X) = \gamma \log(L_{UV}) + \beta$$



Quasars as Standard Candles

Risaliti&Lusso19



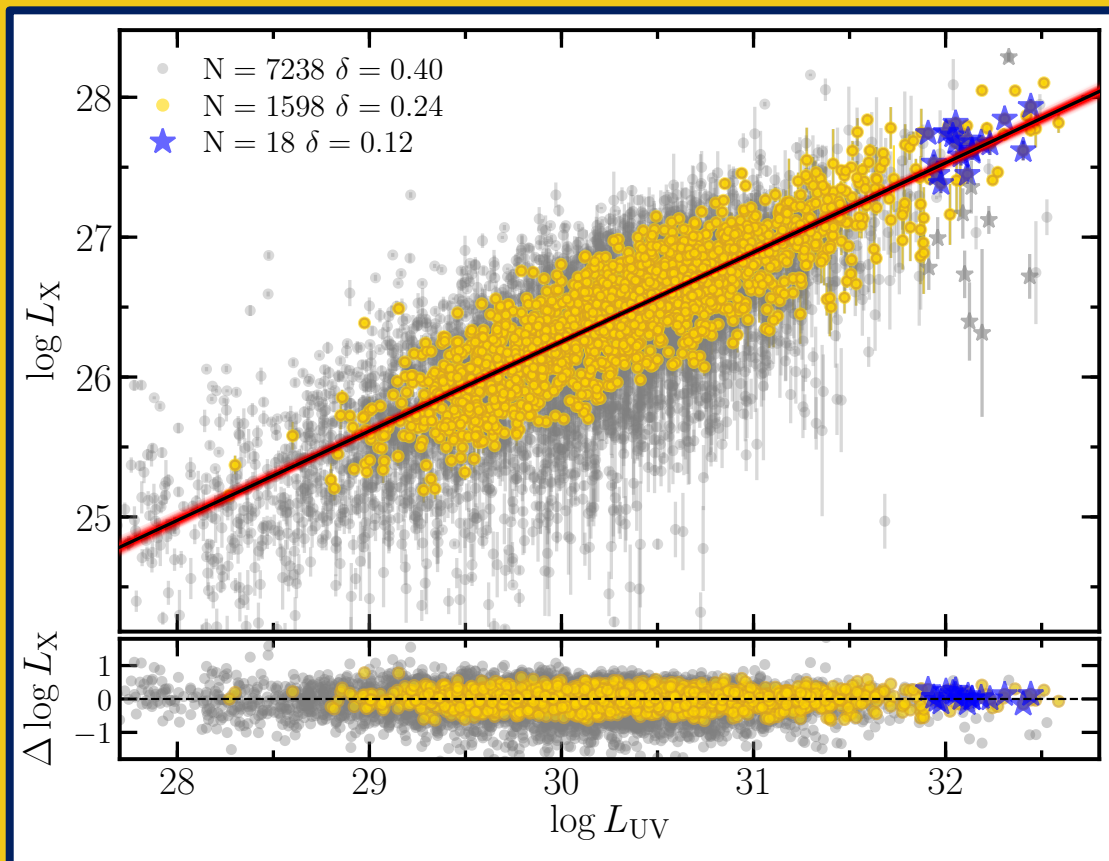
$$\log(L_X) = \gamma \log(L_{UV}) + \beta$$

$$F_X = \frac{L_X}{4\pi DL^2} \quad F_{UV} = \frac{L_{UV}}{4\pi DL^2}$$

$$\log(D_L) = \frac{1}{2 - 2\gamma} (\log(f_X) - \gamma(f_{UV})) + \beta'$$

Quasars as Standard Candles

Risaliti&Lusso19



$$\log(L_X) = \gamma \log(L_{UV}) + \beta$$

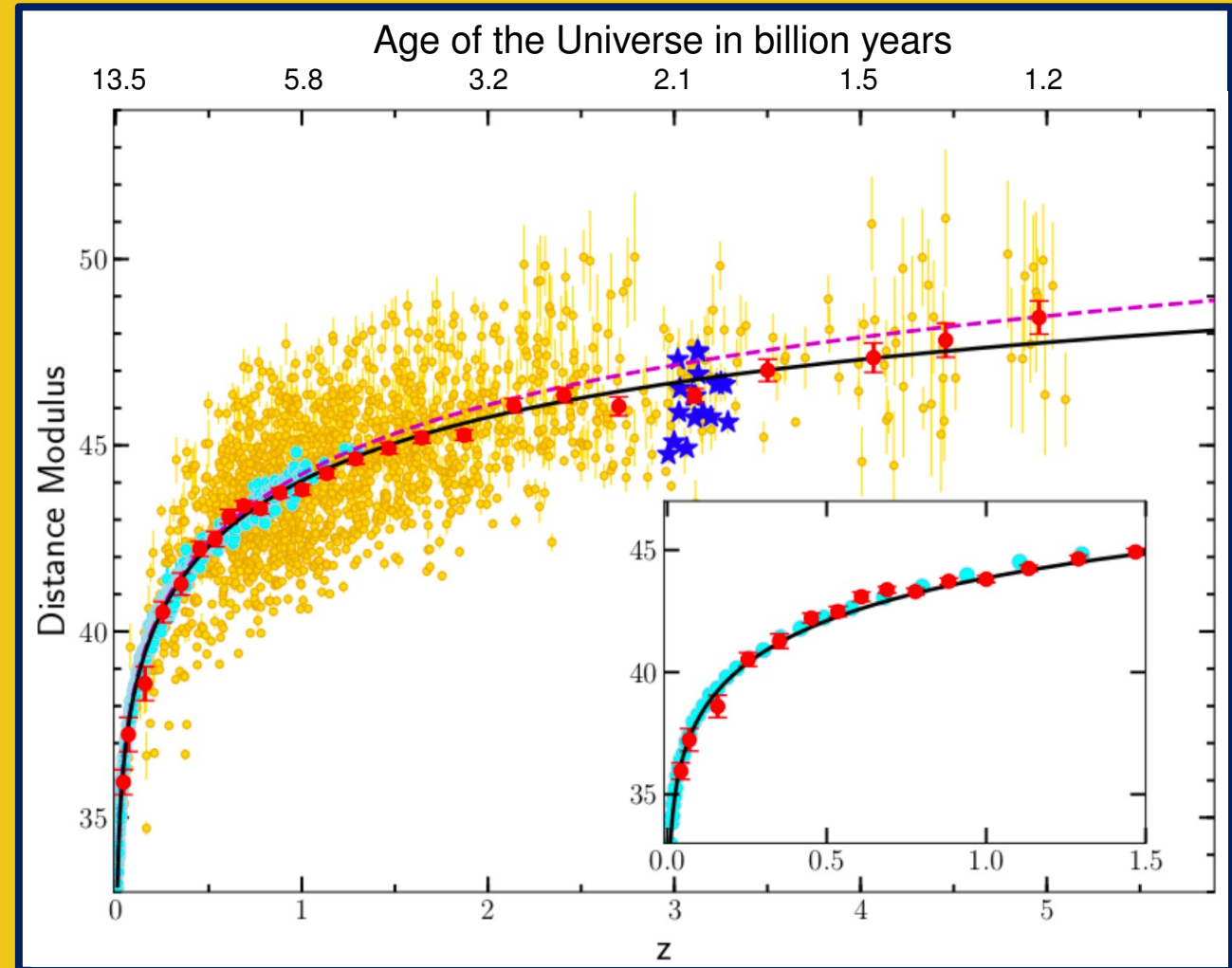
Remove objects affected from:

- dust reddening
- gas absorption
- Eddington bias

0.40 dex \rightarrow 0.24 dex

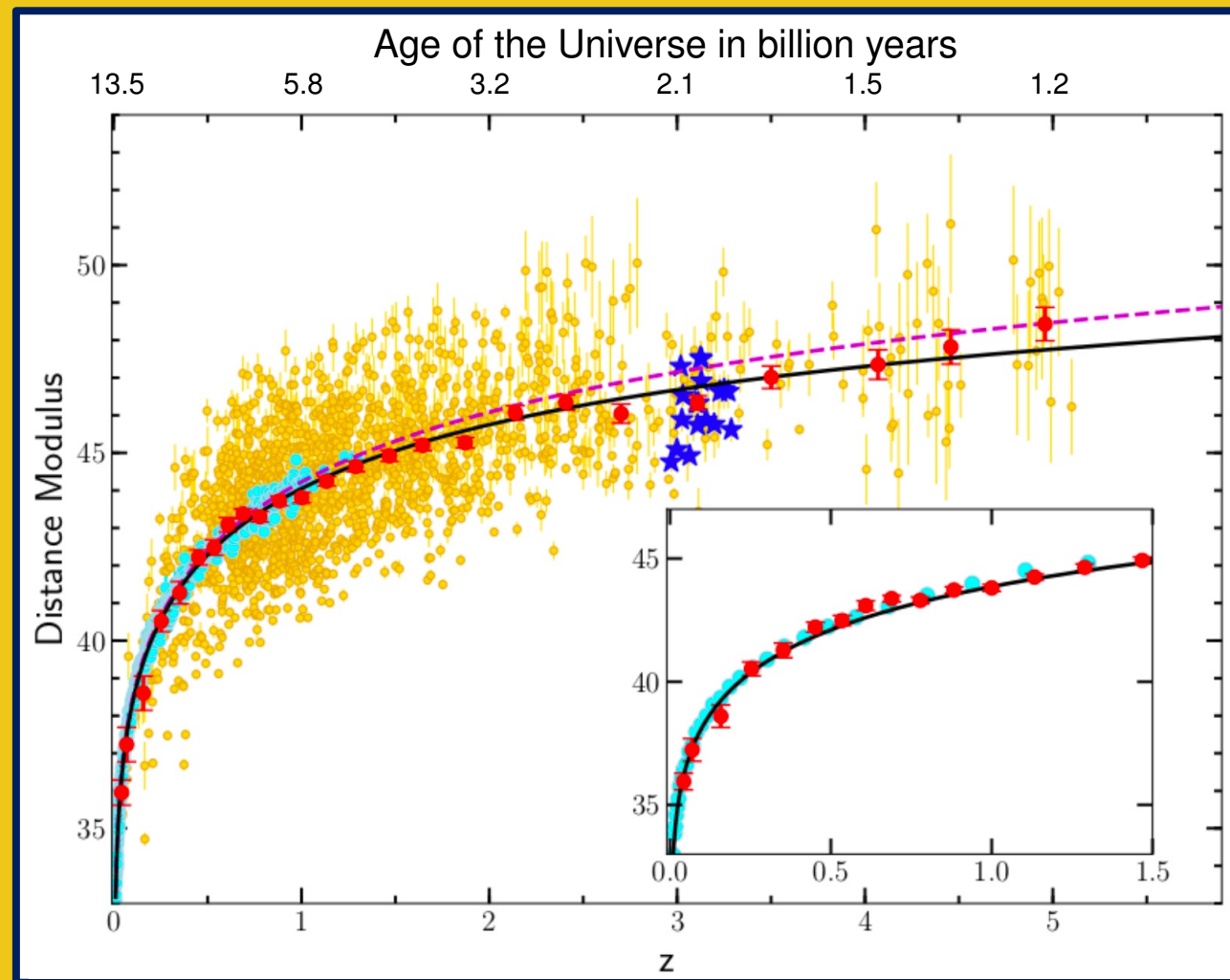
Hubble Diagram

- Extension to earlier epochs
- 4σ tension with flat- Λ CDM



Validation

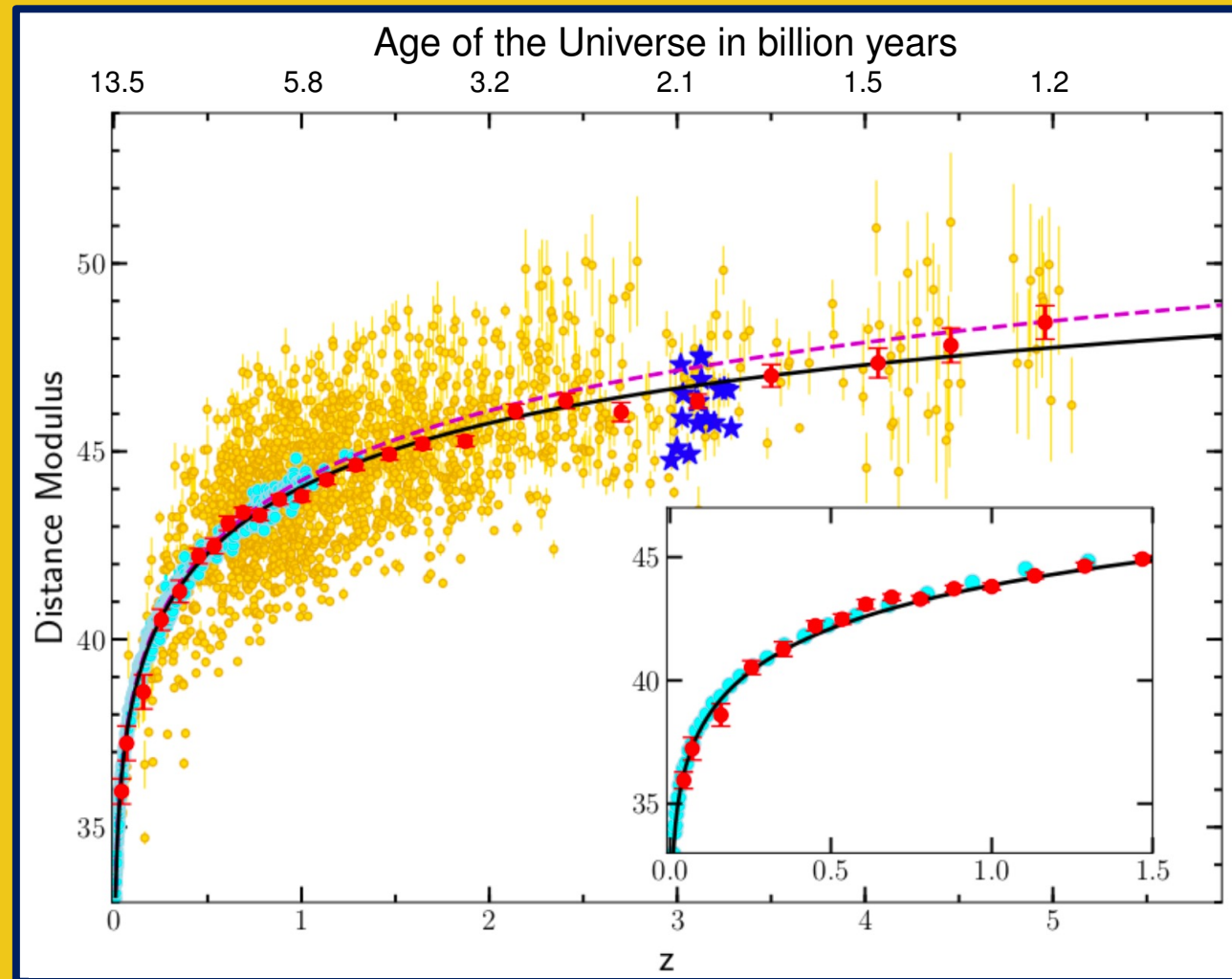
- Does the relation evolve with the redshift?
- Could residual reddening explain the tension?
- Are the quasars we are using *average* objects?
- What is the *intrinsic* dispersion of the relation?
- How much can we lower the observed dispersion?



Validation

- Does the relation evolve with the redshift?
- Could residual reddening explain the tension?
- Are the quasars we are using *average* objects?
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cosmology independent analysis

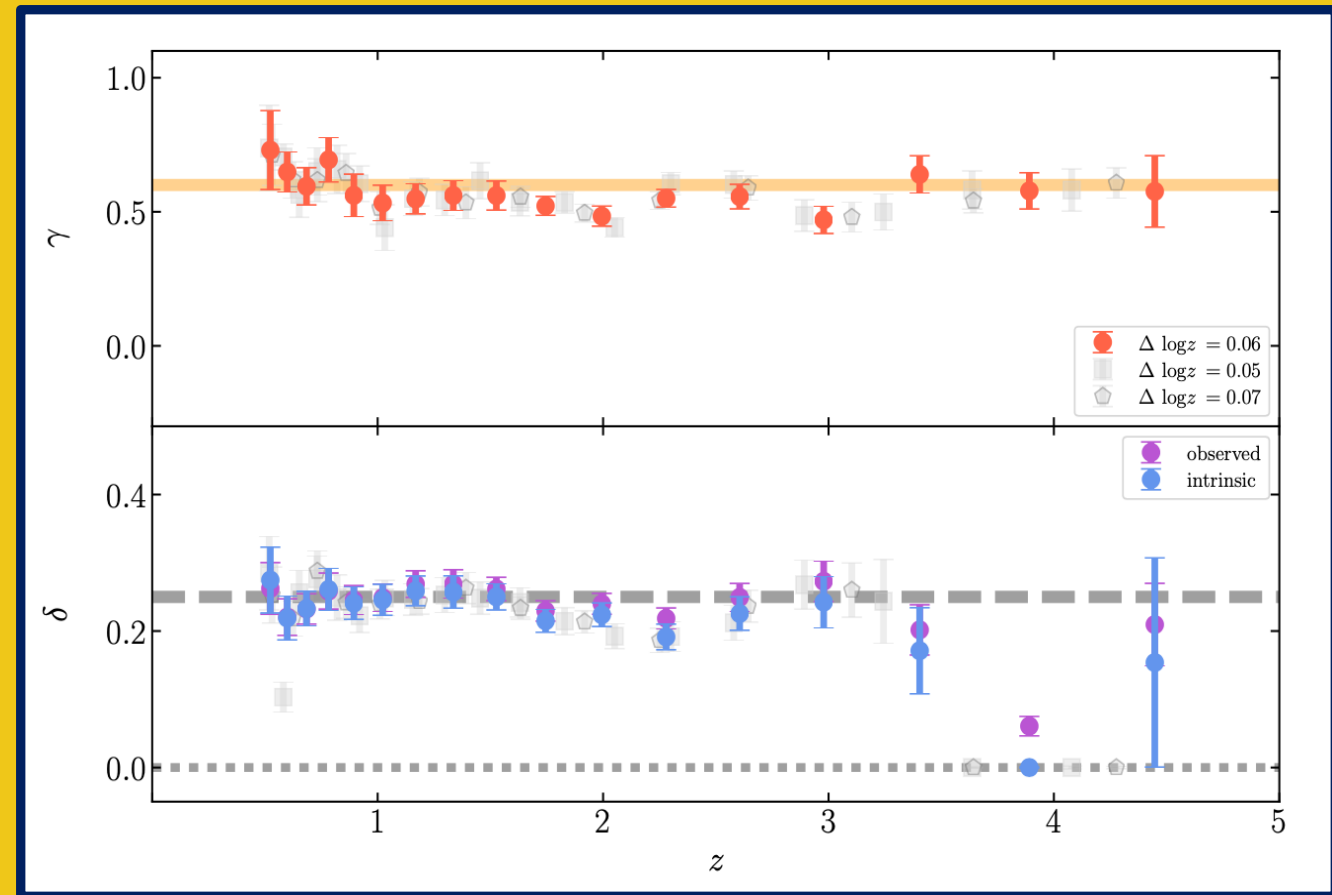


Validation

- Does the relation evolve with the redshift?

test in small redshift bins

$$\log(f_X) = \gamma \log(f_{UV}) + \beta$$

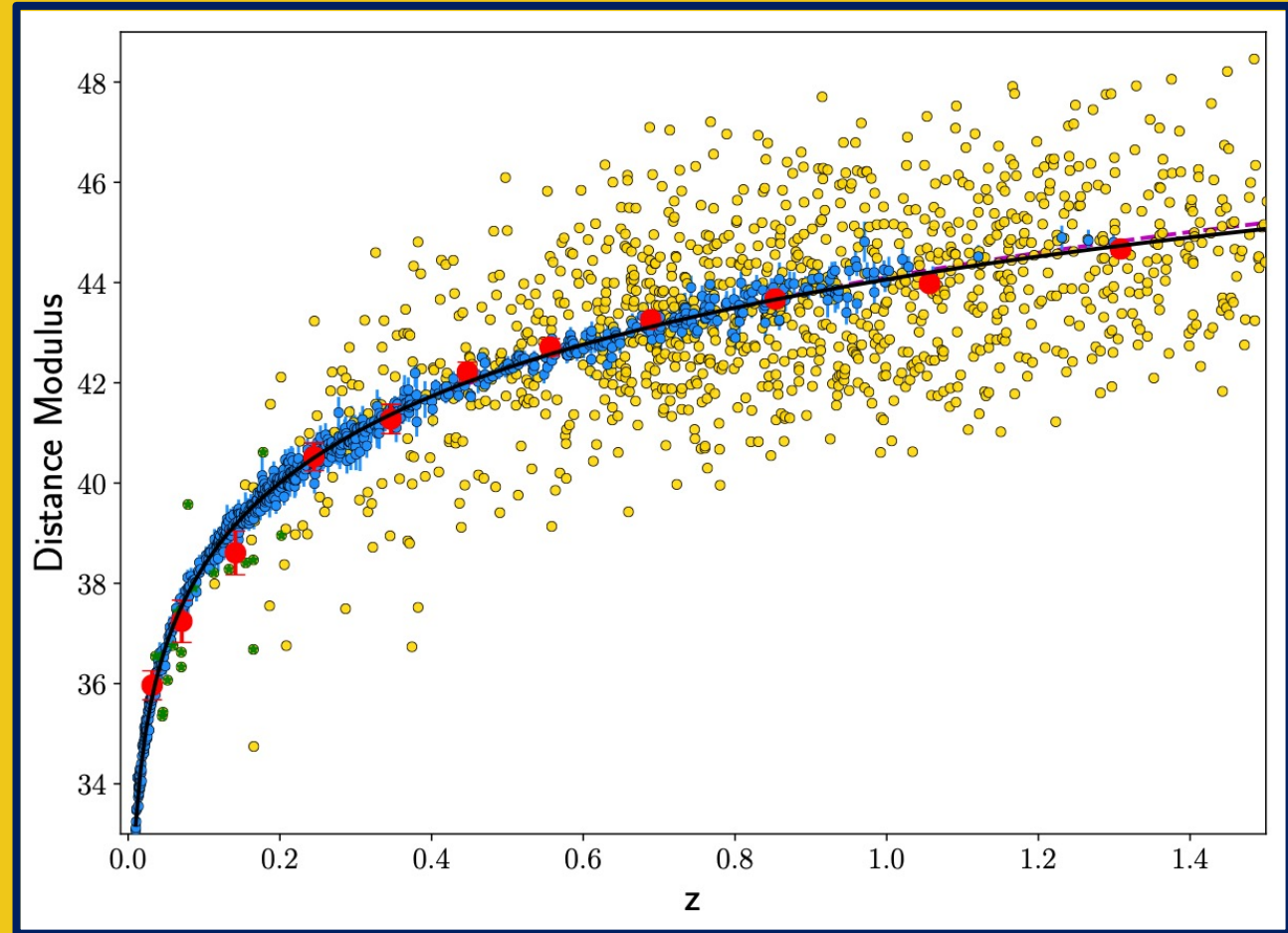


Validation

- Does the relation evolve with the redshift?

test in small redshift bins

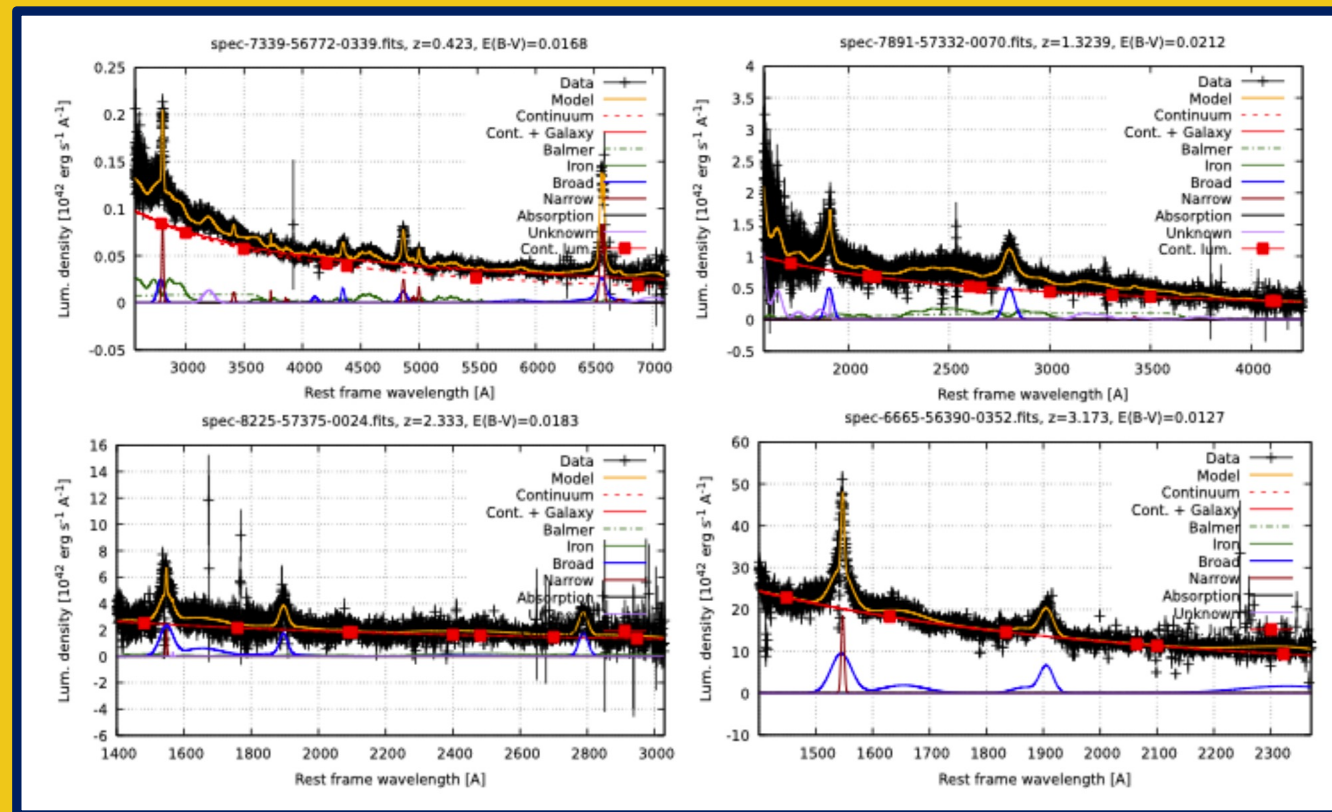
calibration with SNIa in common redshift range



Validation

- Could residual reddening explain the tension?

Complete UV spectral analysis
(SDSS-DR16 - 4XMM-DR10)



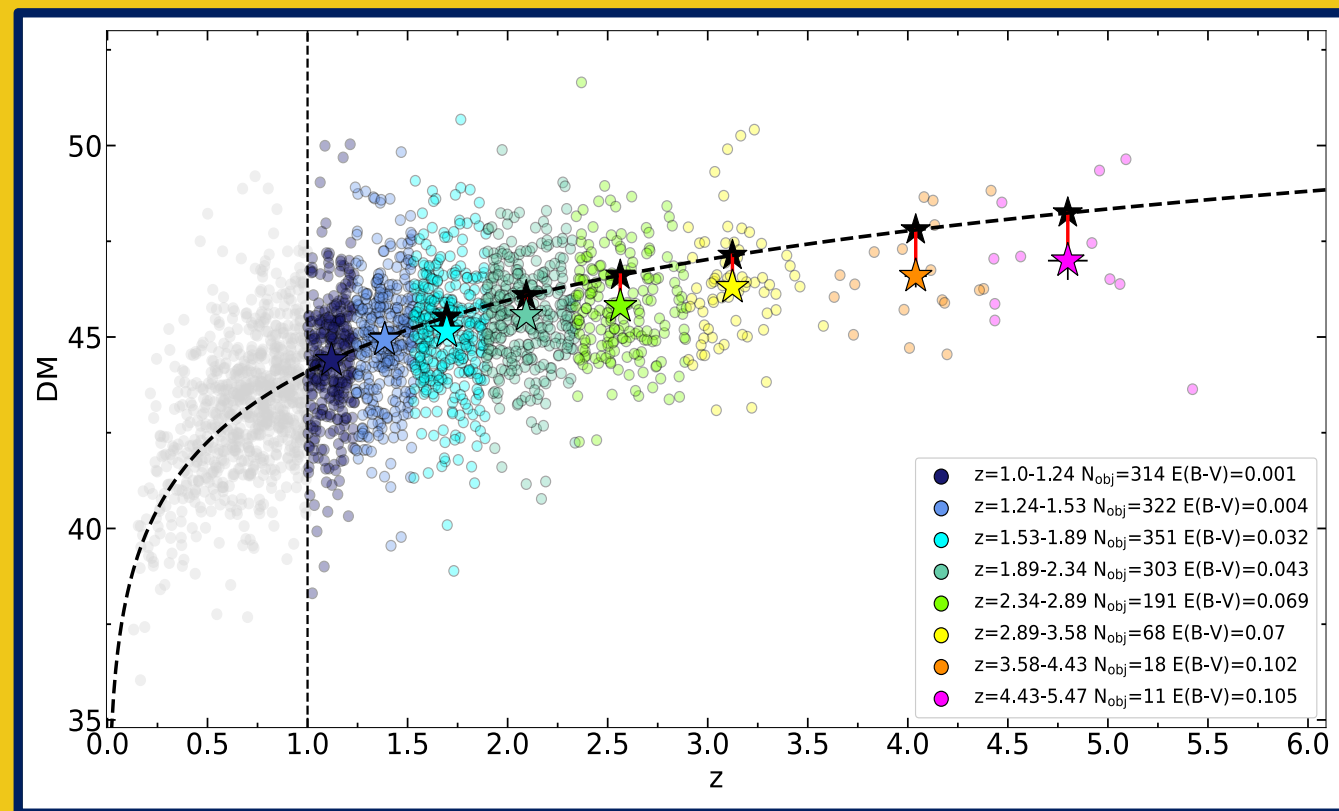
Signorini+23a (submitted)

Validation

- Could residual reddening explain the tension?

Complete UV spectral analysis
(SDSS-DR16 - 4XMM-DR10)

We calculate the reddening in terms of $E(B-V)$ that would be needed for that



Trefoloni+23 (in prep)

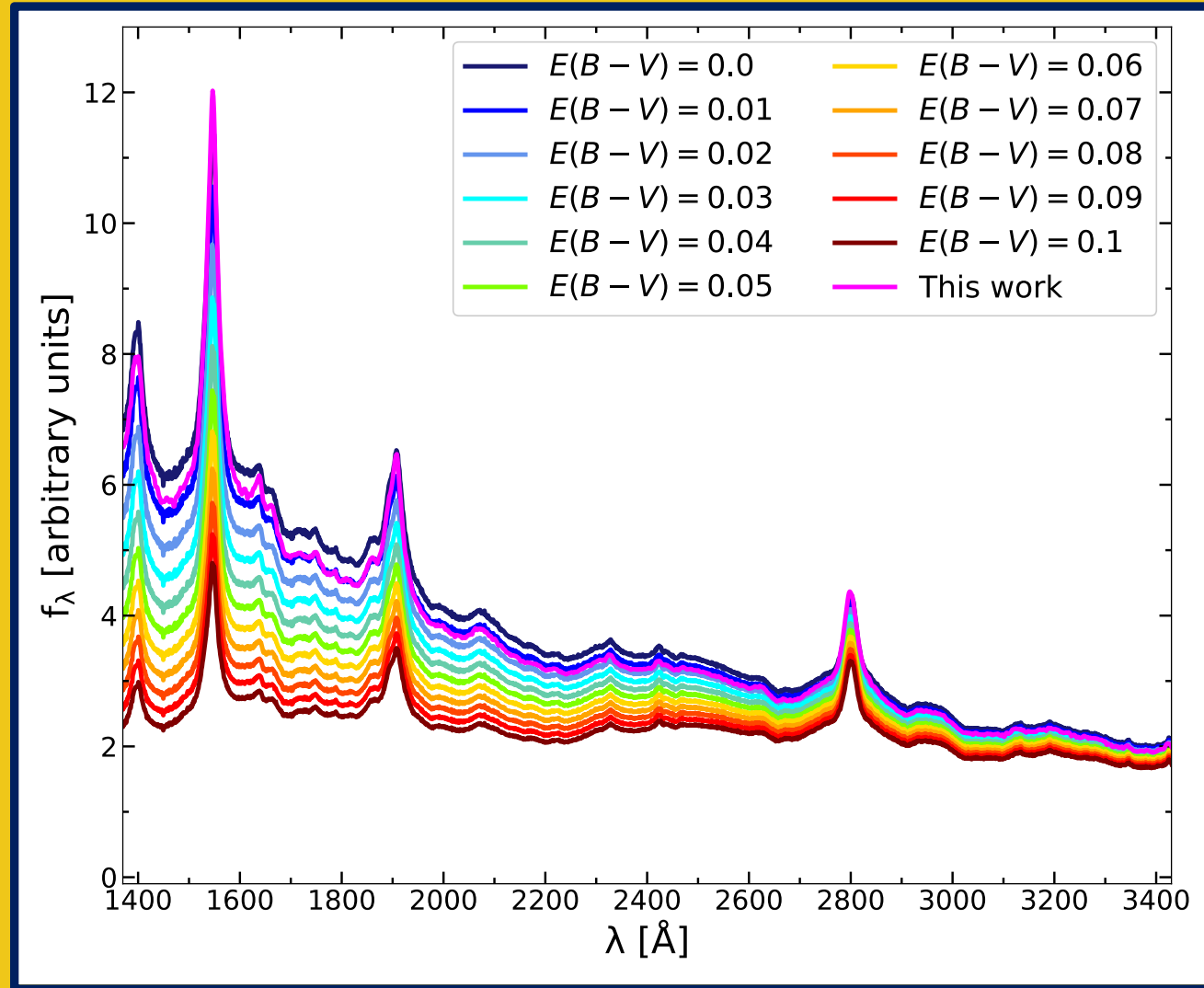
Validation

➤ **Could residual reddening explain the tension?**

Complete UV spectral analysis
(SDSS-DR16 - 4XMM-DR10)

We calculate the reddening in terms of $E(B-V)$ that would be needed for that

But our spectra are not compatible with such high reddening!

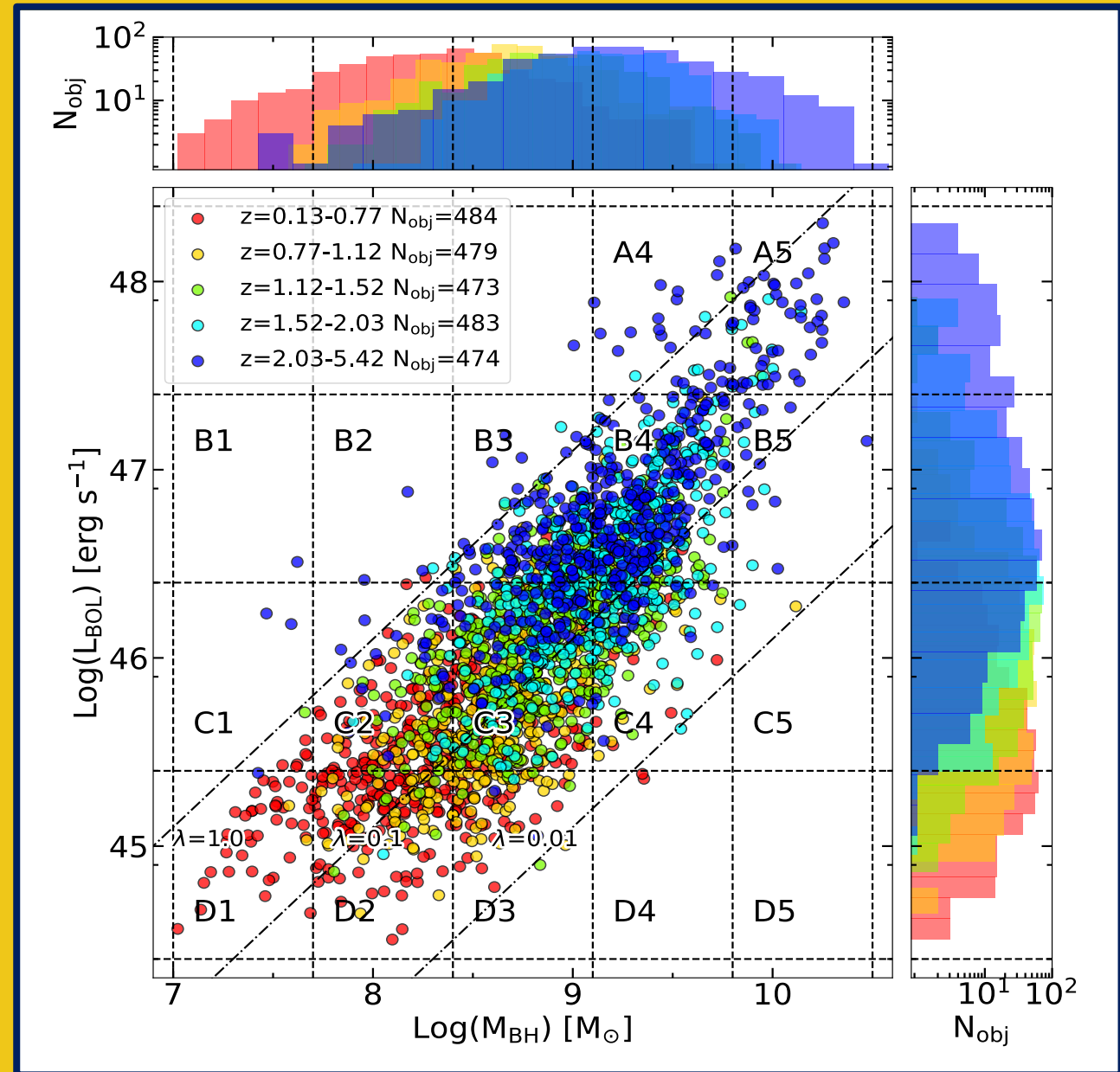


Validation

- Are the quasars we are using *average* objects?

Complete UV spectral analysis
(SDSS-DR16 - 4XMM-DR10)

We stack spectra in Luminosity,
redshift, and BH mass bins



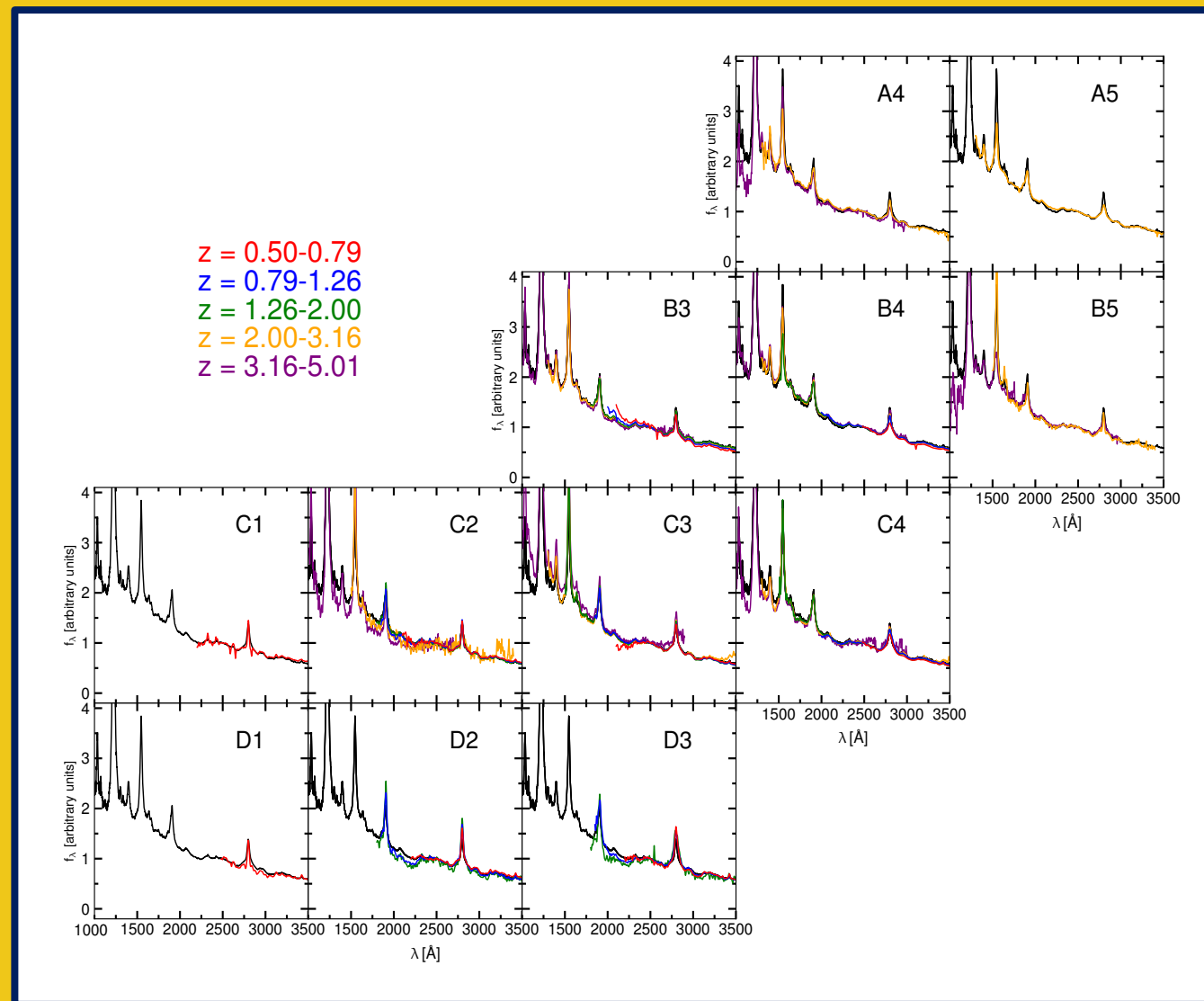
Validation

- Are the quasars we are using *average* objects?

Complete UV spectral analysis
(SDSS-DR16 - 4XMM-DR10)

We stack spectra in Luminosity,
redshift, and BH mass bins

The spectra fully overlap with
the Vanden Berk (2001)
spectrum, with no L-z-M trends

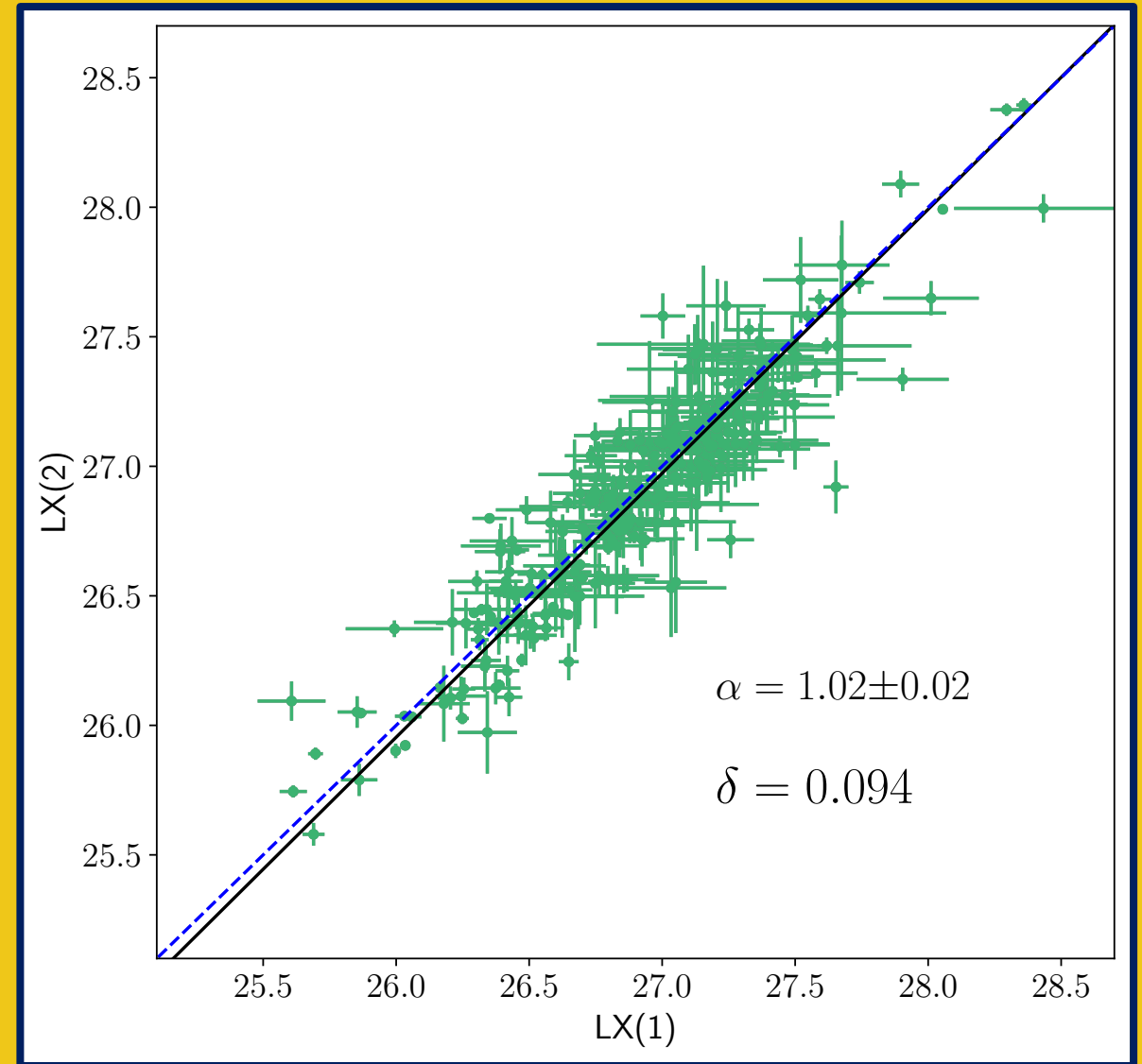


Validation

- What is the intrinsic dispersion of the relation?

We know two residual contributions:

- Variability: 0.09 dex



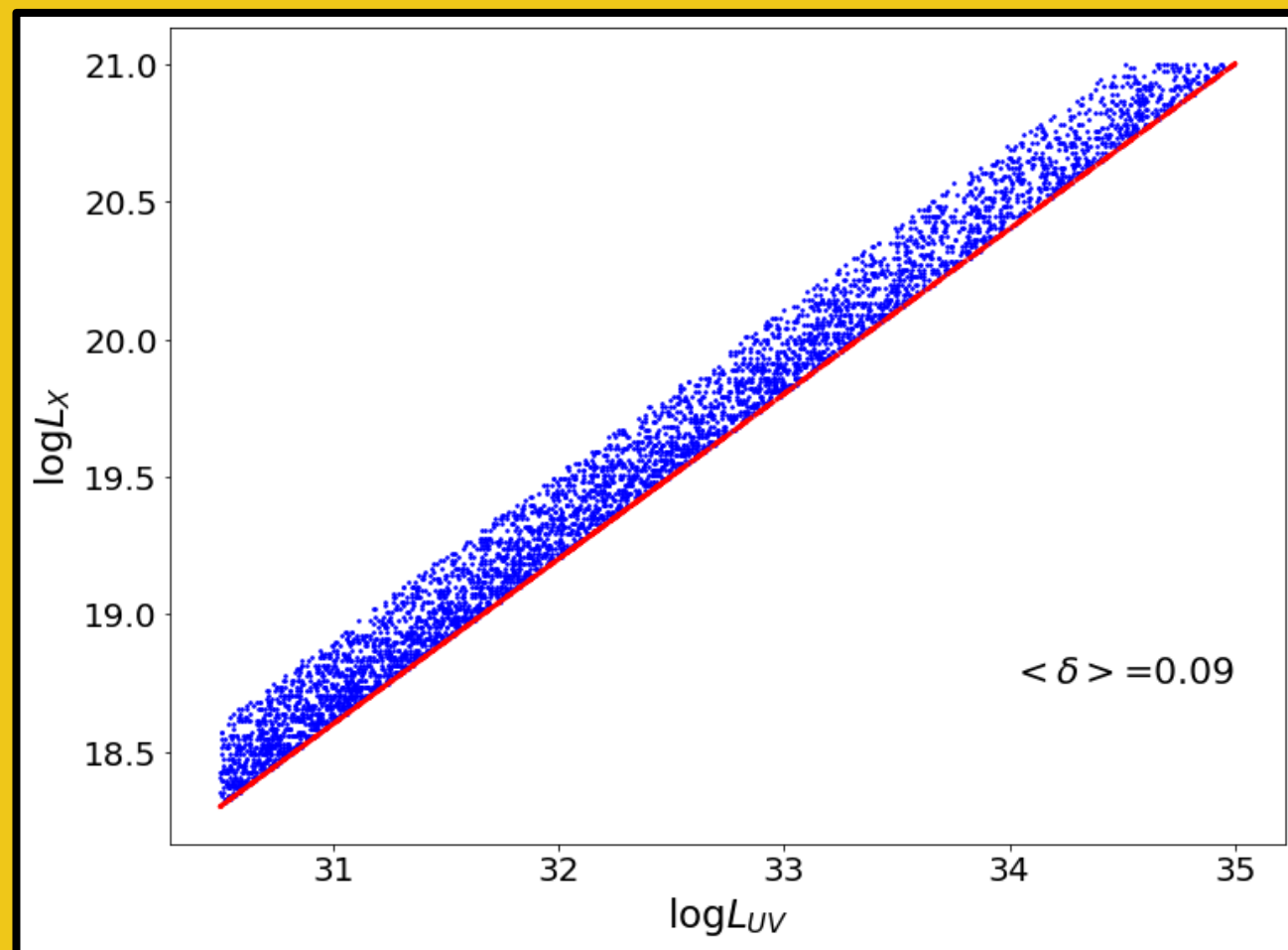
Signorini+23b (in prep)

Validation

- What is the intrinsic dispersion of the relation?

We know two residual contributions:

- Variability: 0.09 dex
- Inclination: 0.09 dex



Signorini+23b (in prep)

Validation

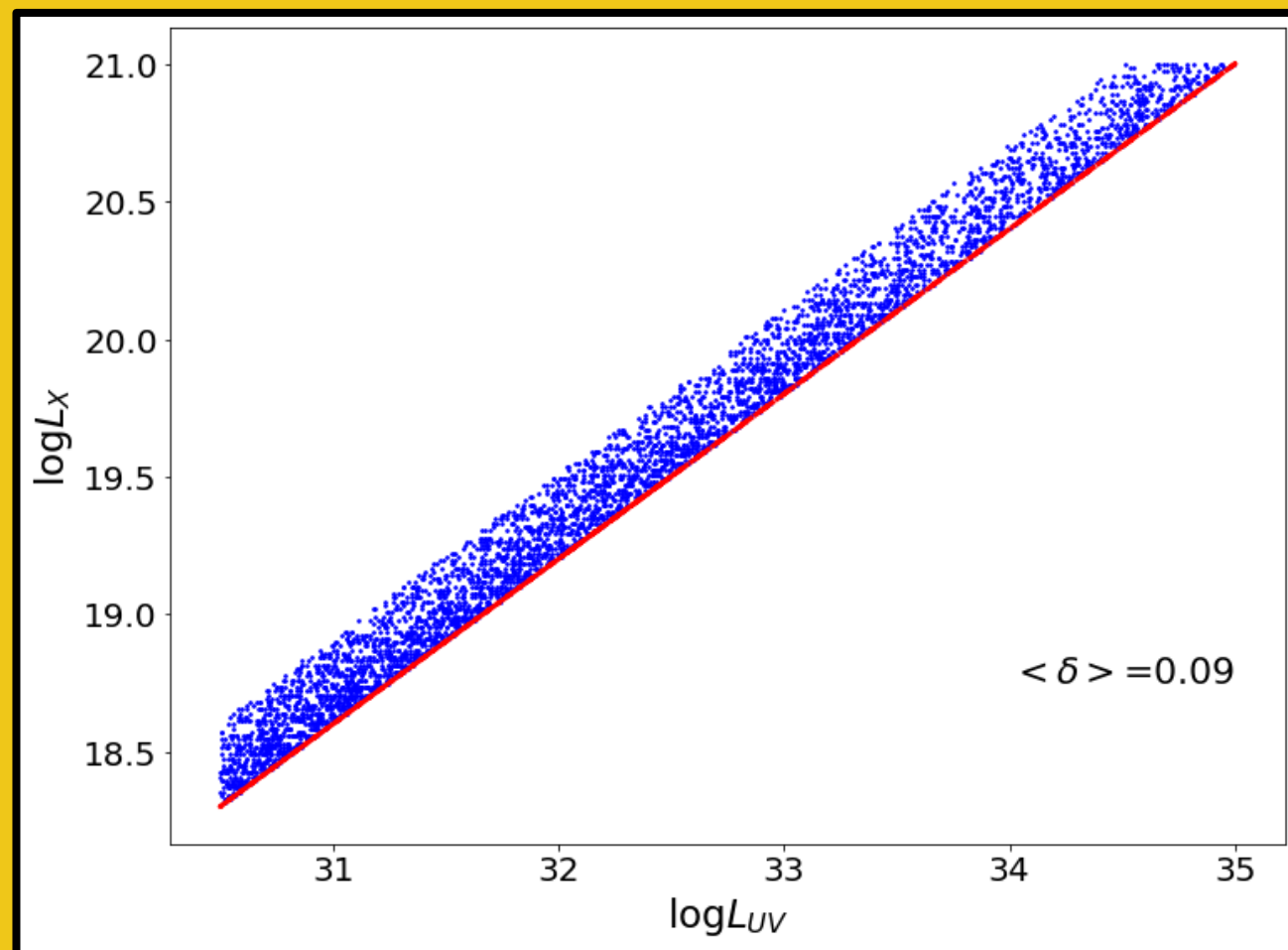
- What is the intrinsic dispersion of the relation?

We know two residual contributions:

- Variability: 0.09 dex
- Inclination: 0.09 dex

0.13 dex

The intrinsic dispersion must be very small!



Signorini+23b (in prep)

Validation

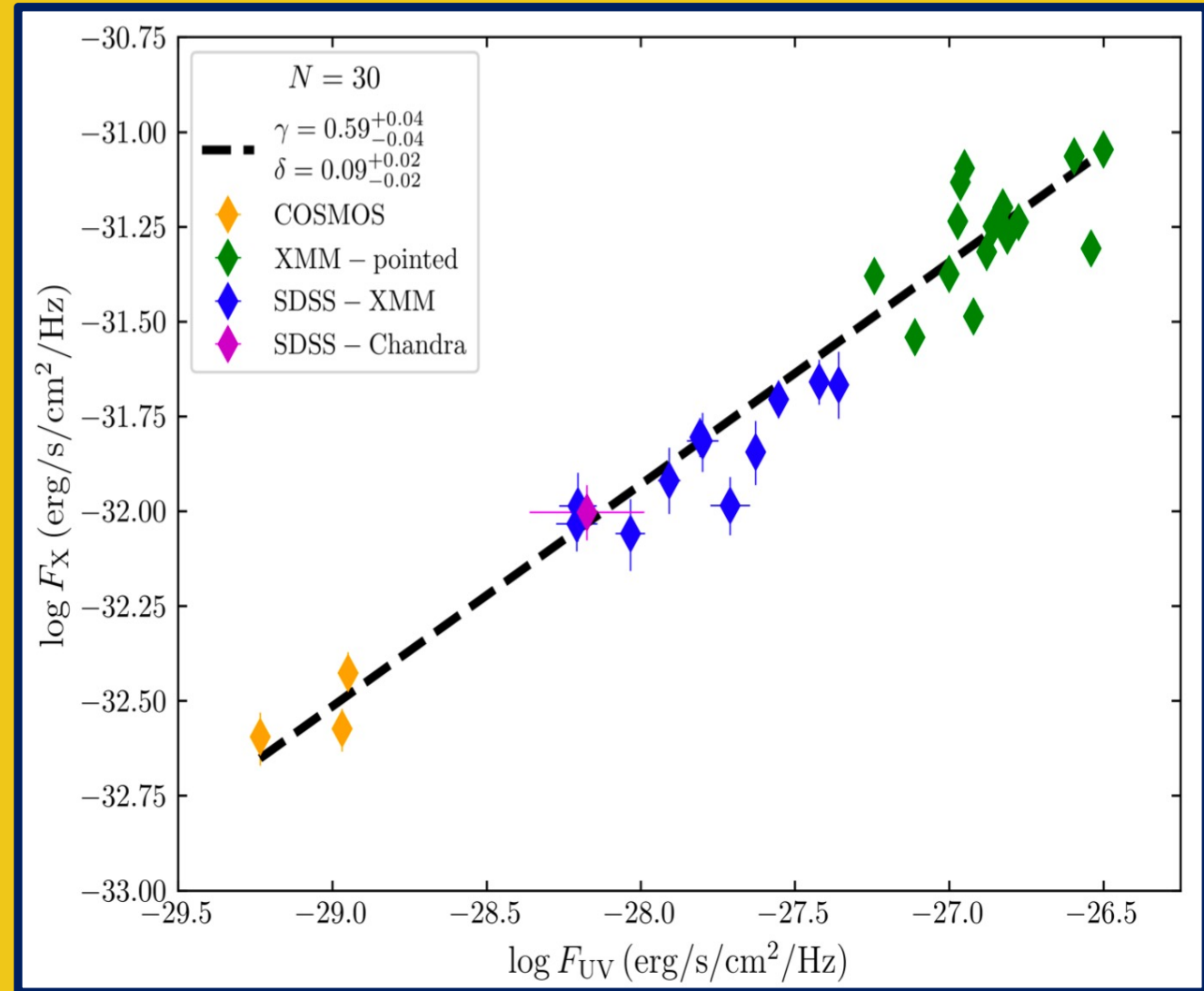
➤ How much can we lower the observed dispersion?

“Golden sample”:
30 objects at $3.0 < z < 3.3$, high L

Full X-ray and UV spectroscopic analysis + subsample with pointed X-ray observations

0.09 dex

The intrinsic dispersion must be very small!



Validation

➤ How much can we lower the observed dispersion?

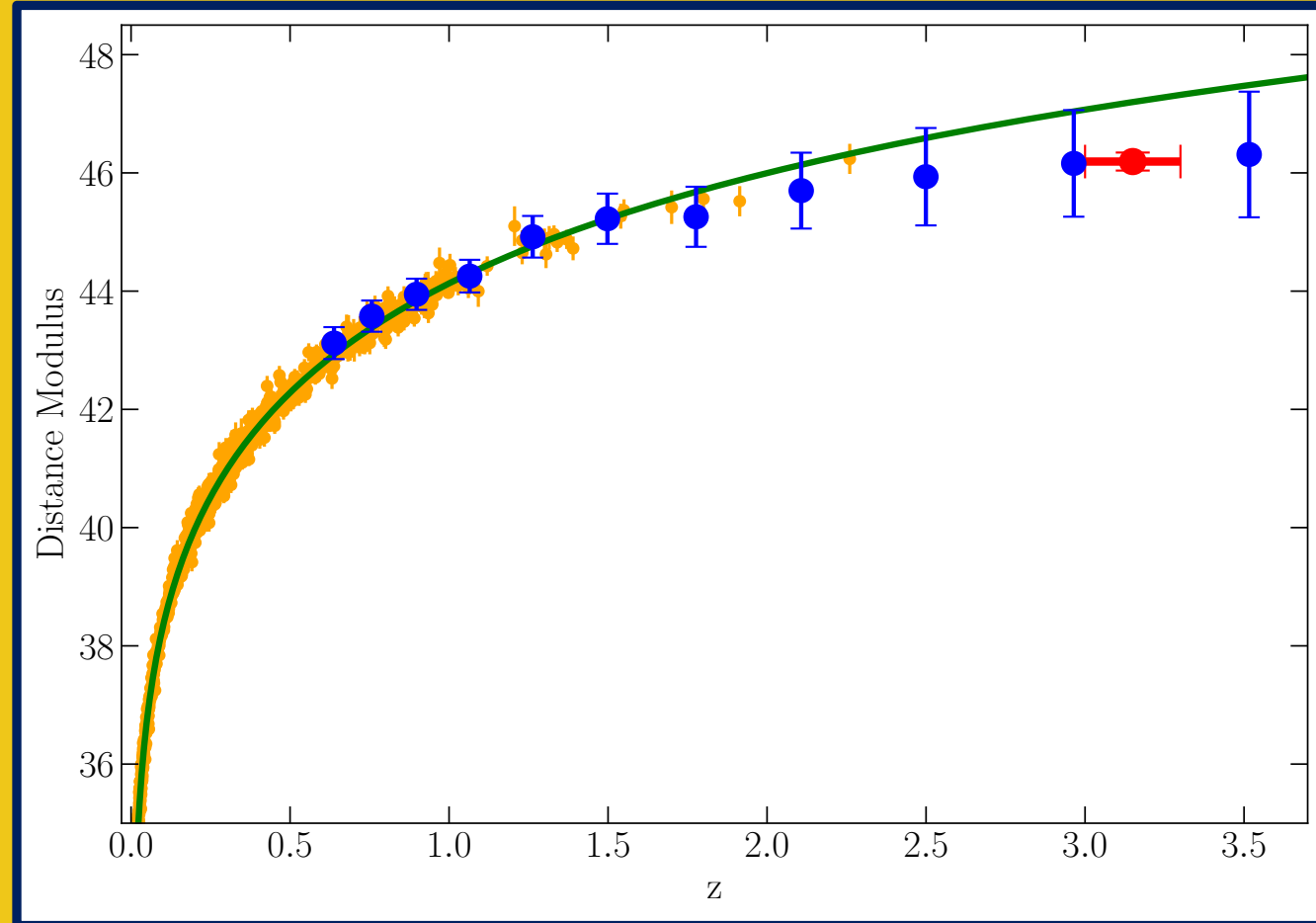
“Golden sample”:

30 objects at $3.0 < z < 3.3$, high L

Full X-ray and UV spectroscopic analysis + subsample with pointed X-ray observations

A 4σ tension with flat- Λ CDM is confirmed!

Sacchi+22



Quasars as standard candles validation

- There is no redshift evolution of the relation
- Our sample is made of average objects, as we find out with spectral analysis
- Residual reddening cannot explain the tension with the LCDM model
- With very high-quality data, we can lower the dispersion to <0.10 dex, and the presence of a strong tension with LCDM is confirmed
- The intrinsic dispersion must be very low – the physical relation behind this method is very tight



Thank you!