## The Best Path to Constraining Dark Energy





## Kaisey Mandel

ApJ 731, 120 (2011) arXiv1402.7079

See also Andy Friedman et al. CfaIR2 arXiv1408.0465

And 2012cg Howie Marion et al. Interacting SN Ia! arXiv:1507.07261

#### Another Good reason: Infrared Light Curves are Different

Mean Absolute Intrinisc BVIYJH  $\Delta m15(B)=1.1$  Normal SN Ia



# Evidence for a SN Ia companion!

#### SN 2012cg: EVIDENCE FOR INTERACTION BETWEEN A NORMAL TYPE Ia SUPERNOVA AND A NON-DEGENERATE BINARY COMPANION

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#### ABSTRACT

We report evidence for excess blue light from the Type Ia supernova SN 2012cg at fifteen and sixteen days before maximum B-band brightness. The emission is consistent with predictions for the impact of the supernova on a non-degenerate binary companion. This is the first evidence for emission from a companion to a normal SN Ia. Sixteen days before maximum light, the B - V color of SN 2012cg is 0.2 mag bluer than for other normal SN Ia. At later times, this supernova has a typical SN Ia light curve, with extinction-corrected  $M_B = -19.62 \pm 0.02$  mag and  $\Delta m_{15}(B) = 0.86 \pm 0.02$ . Our data set is extensive, with photometry in 7 filters from 5 independent sources. Early spectra also show the effects of blue light, and high-velocity features are observed at early times. Near maximum, the spectra are normal with a silicon velocity  $v_{Si} = -10,500$  km s<sup>-1</sup>. Comparing the early data with models by Kasen (2010) favors a main-sequence companion of about 6 solar masses. It is possible that many other SN Ia have main-sequence companions that have eluded detection because the emission from the impact is fleeting and faint.

Subject headings:

Marion et al.



# One good reason to observe SN Ia in the infrared

## Seeing through the dirt





## Seeing through the dirt





### In the IR SN IA really are standard candles! And there's less trouble with dust.

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 731:120 (26pp), 2011 April 20



Could we get this 2x advantage for the highz supernovae? RAISIN



### SN IA in the IR = RAISIN



#### PanSTARRS: A Supernova Discovery Machine



#### Medium-Deep Fields

Good light curves at z~0.4 Every 4 days griz 7 square degrees 0.26"/pixel Dozens of supernova candidates every month!





## Find SN Ia with Pan-STARRS: difference imaging with Harvard's Odyssey Cluster



### Get spectrum with MMT (or Magellan, Gemini or Keck) 358 Spectroscopic SN Ia





## Get IR with WFC3





Goal: better knowledge of dark energy by avoiding systematic errors





#### ISHIHARA COLOR BLINDNESS TEST PLATE 12







## Dark Energy Survey

External Collaborators: Spectra of SN Ia with MMT & Magellan to demonstrate targets for RAISIN2 w/ Masao Sako and Bob Nichol and others...







## Simulated Hubble Diagram



## More RAISINS, thank you HST TAC!



Based on IR + Optical for 25 additional SN Ia at z~0.5 from DES

Low-z from CFAIR2 + Carnegie

Smaller systematic errors in distances based on good behavior of SN Ia in the IR at low-z & at cosmological distances

 $\sigma \sim +/-0.07$ (Betoule  $\sigma = +/-0.06$ )

# The IR is not strongly correlated with the Optical (and that is good!)



## Two Questions

1> Why is it that supernovae that differ in their optical emission are less different in the IR?
(Could mask differences in their origin... even for 2012cg...)

2> If you think you know the answer to #1, can you test it with spectrum synthesis in the NIR and comparison to the spectra compiled by the CSP & CfA?

## Postdoc Available!

- Please see me
- Support from NSF and from the Gordon and Betty Moore foundation
- Located in Cambridge, MA or vicinity of Palo Alto, CA