







### The transient universe with Rubin

**Astroparticle Symposium 2025** 



# (optical) Transient factories



# Rubin science goals

### Four main science themes

- Probing dark energy and dark matter.
- Taking an inventory of the solar system.
- Exploring the transient optical sky.
- Mapping the Milky Way.

## **Eight science collaborations** (+1,500 scientists) - several dozens of roadmaps

LSST
AGN Science Collaboration
Roadmap

1. AGN Selection, Classification, and Characterization

- 2. AGN Redshift Estimates
- 3. AGN Variability Science
- 4. Ancillary Data & Follow-up

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zars and Fast Radio Bursts with LSST

, M.I. Carnerero, B. Balmaverde, F. D'Ammando, C. Righi et al. November 30, 2018



Active Galaxy Science in the LSST Deep-Drilling Fields: Footprints, Cadence Requirements, and Total-Depth Requirements

# Rubin/LSST data products





### **Raw Data**

Sequential 30s image, 20TB/night



### **Prompt Data Product**

Difference Image Analysis
Alerts: up to 10 million per night



### **Prompt Products DataBase**

Images, Object and Source catalogs from DIA Orbit catalog for ~6 million Solar System bodies



### **Annual Data Release**

Accessible via the LSST Science Platform & LSST Data Access Centers.

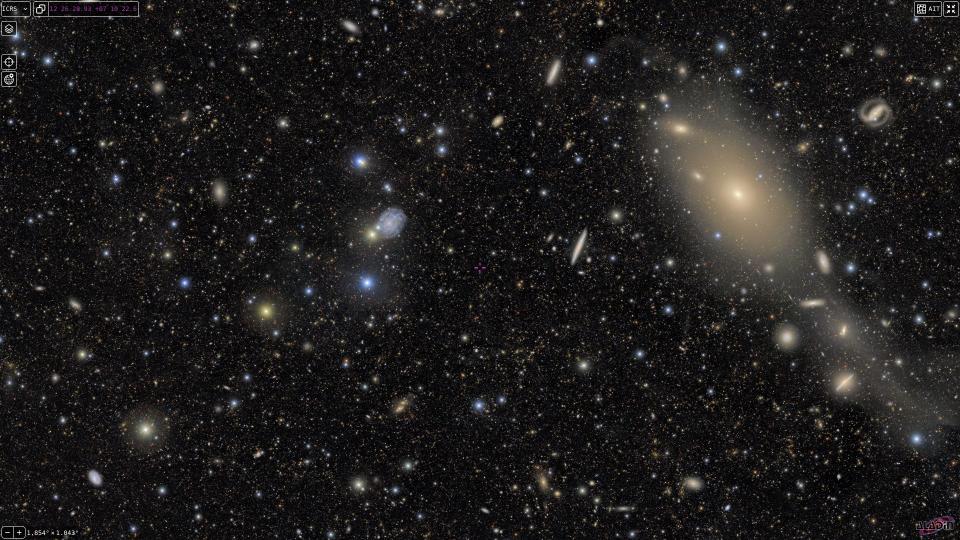


### **Final 10yr Data Release**

Images: 5.5 million x 3.2 Gpx Catalog: 15PB, 37 billion objects

### **Rubin Observatory (2025+)**

- 20TB of images / night
- 1TB of alerts / night: x100-x1000 above current streams
- Everything matters a priori

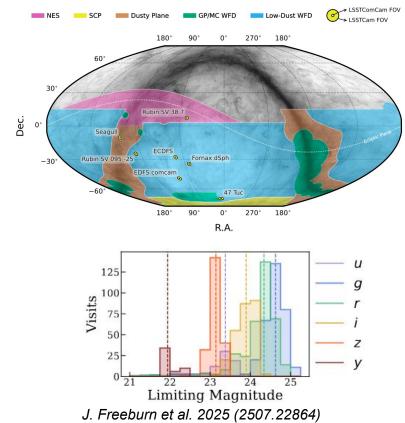


## **Data Preview 1**

Data Preview 1 contains **image** and **catalog** products from Rubin Science Pipelines v29 processing of observations obtained with the LSST Commissioning Camera of **seven ~1** square degree **fields** over **seven weeks in late 2024.** 

Data accessible from the Rubin Science Platform.

https://dp1.lsst.io



## What now?

### **Operations has begun!**

News



**rblum5** Bob Blum Rubin Observatory Director

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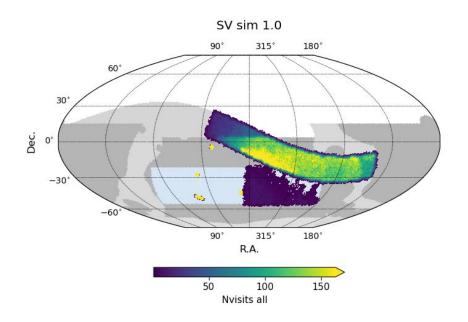
I am happy to report that the NSF-DOE Vera C. Rubin Observatory has formally begun the operations phase. The Operations team has accepted the responsibility for and authority over the full Observatory. The construction project is substantially complete and will now coordinate remaining activities with the Operations team who are shifting priority to on-sky work every available night.

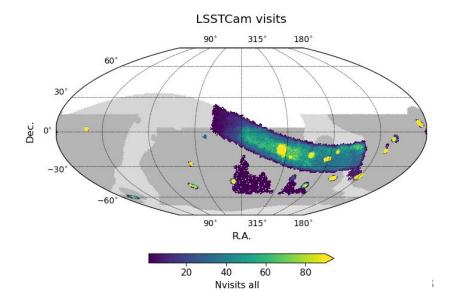
Science Validation finished in September and a successful engineering shutdown and pre-survey maintenance period was completed last week (as detailed here 32). On October 26th, the team went back on sky for Early Operations. The as delivered (substantially complete) system is capable of delivering on the LSST science requirements, but we need to produce that performance reliably night in and nigh out. At this time, we expect to start the LSST no earlier than the 31st of December of this year.

## Rubin LSST: where are we?

- First light June 2025
- Science Verification July-October 2025
- Early operations October 2025 -

https://survey-strategy.lsst.io/progress/sv\_status/sv\_20250930.html





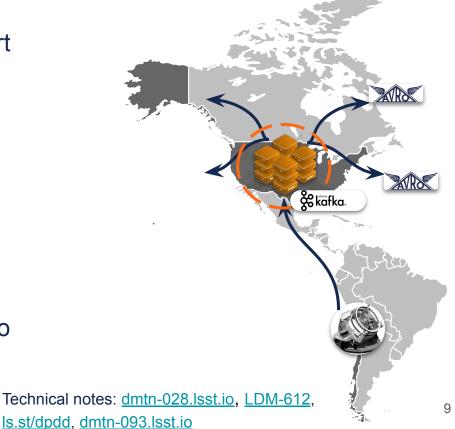
# Rubin alert system

Image data sent from Chile to the USA. Alert system will identify sources that move or vary within 60 seconds.

 Sources packaged with contextual information into world-public alert packets for distribution.

Suite of open source technologies considered for distributing alerts

- Binary serialization format: Apache Avro
- Alert distribution: Apache Kafka



ls.st/dpdd, dmtn-093.lsst.io

## Alert content

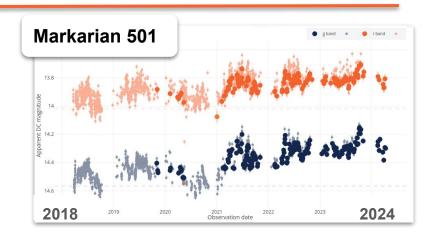
### Alerts based on **Difference Image Analysis**

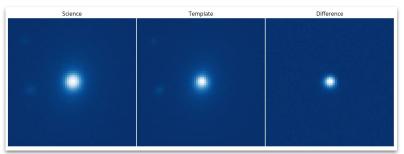
### Each LSST alert contains

- Information about the new detection (magnitude, position, ...)
- Historical information if the object has been seen previously
- Tons on flags/features/metadata
- Small images around the detection (30x30 pixels)

### Online schema:

https://sdm-schemas.lsst.io/apdb.html

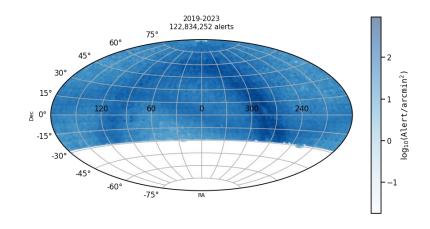


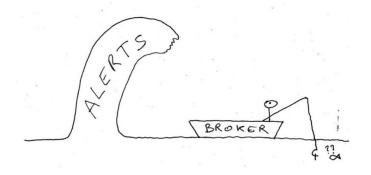


## The needle in a needlestack

Our scientific ambition clearly leads to technical challenges!

- What to (realistically) do with 10 million alerts per night? (and for 10 years)
  - Not all 5-sigma alerts in LSST will be "interesting" variability
- Do we need dedicated follow-up resources?
  - LSST alert rate outstrips all our follow-up resources combined.
  - Need coordination in the community





## Rubin alert brokers

Rubin will send the full alert stream to seven brokers: they are the public interface to the LSST alert stream

 ALERCE, AMPEL, ANTARES, Babamul, <u>Fink</u>, Lasair, Pitt-Google

Serve a large scientific community by ingesting, classifying, filtering, and redistributing alerts.
Classification is a community-driven effort.

All prototyping on ZTF (300k alerts/night), and test deployment of the Rubin Alert Distribution system.





# Fink (2019 – )

Operating 24/7 since 2019, serving 100+ unique users per day (scientists & follow-up facilities).

- Real-time components (million+ event/night)
- Event database (~1B entries)

Processing the ZTF alert stream since 2019

- 250 million ZTF alerts received
- ¾ is classified: 50% galactic, 15% Solar Systemer Galactic nucleus few% extra-galactic
- Coupled to GCN: Fermi, Swift, Icecube, LVK, ...

Community-driven: scientists bring building bricks

• 100+ members, 15+ scientific topics covered









https://fink-broker.org

# It takes a village





PAPERI FINEP OF FINK







## What do we do?

### Scientific roadmap is community-driven

- Satellites & debris detection
- Solar System science
- Galactic science: microlensing events, cataclysmic variables, YSO...
- Extra-galactic science: supernovae, gamma-ray bursts, blazars, kilonovae, tidal disruptive events, ...
- Anomaly detection, hostless transients, . . .

One man's trash is another man's treasure

### Supernovae

Allam+2023, Leoni+2022, Möller+2022b, 2025 CNRS MITI grant

### **Nuclear transients**



Russeil+2022 Llamas-Lanza+ 2025 Quintin+ in prep. Hamo+ in prep.

Swinburne-CNRS IEA grant

### **Solar System**



Le Montagner+ 2023 Carry+2024 **CNRS MITI grant** 

### **Magnetic CVs**

Lima, Rodrigues+ in prep.

**YSO** 

Kuhn+ in prep.

### **Kilonovae**



🎤 🚜 Grandma+Fink 2022,2023 Biswas+2022.2023 Stevenson+ 2025

### **Gamma Ray Bursts**





#### **Hostless**

Pessi+ 2024

### **Space Awareness**

Karpov+2023.2022

#### **Anomalies**

We want

your science

case here

Join us!

Pruzhinskaya+ in prep.

### **LSST** simulations

Fraga+ 2024

### **Exoplanets**

Ban+ 2025

https://fink-broker.org/papers

# Efficiently selecting alerts

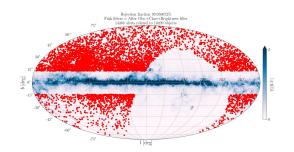
Alert information solely is not enough – we need experts to extract the science. Brokers add values in real-time:

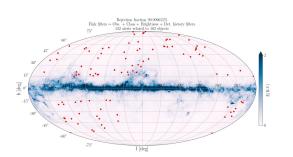
- Crossmatch with catalogs
- Crossmatch between streams
- Lightcurve processing (incl. ML)
- Image processing

The challenge, for each science case, is to reach 99.9999+% rejection!

"Your contaminant is my gold"







35,000,000

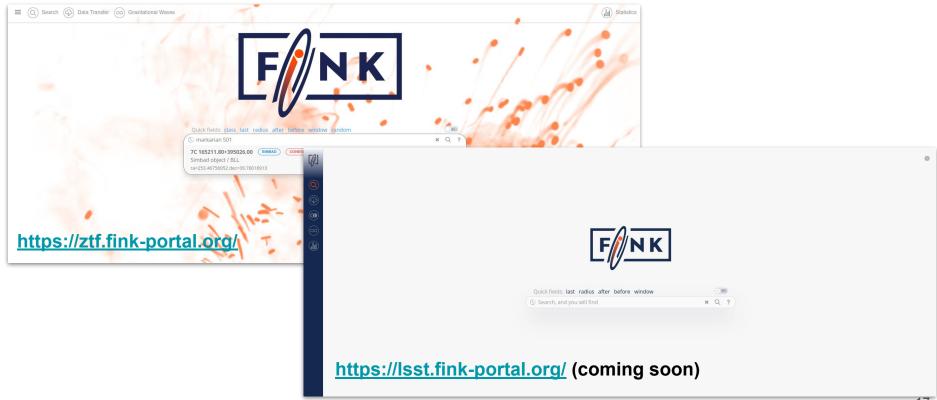
Time, space, brightness compatibility & classification

14,000

*Lightcurve morphology* 

100 alerts

# Accessing alert data



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### Blazars: From optical to gamma-ray

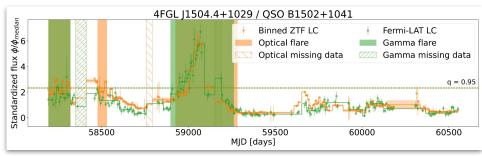
Goal: characterise altogether the optical and gamma-ray properties of blazars.

Why: deduce the duty cycle of blazars and automate the detection of transient events from these sources.

How: Learning on ZTF x Fermi-LAT blazars, and moving progressively towards the LSST & CTA beasts.

Warn the scientific community through e.g. Astro-COLIBRI





## Conclusion

(Optical) Transient factories are rising up to provide a wealth of information...

- Rubin/LSST: wide, deep, fast and it is starting!
- Already 5-10 years of data on precursors worth checking!
- ... but the volume of data is too big! You have allies here
  - Alert brokers, such as Fink, have proven useful to work efficiently
  - Alert data is public

Science must be defined collectively, and as early as possible

- How to define what is "unusual" variability?
- What deserves triggering of time-sensitive follow-up?
- What tools or protocols should be developed?