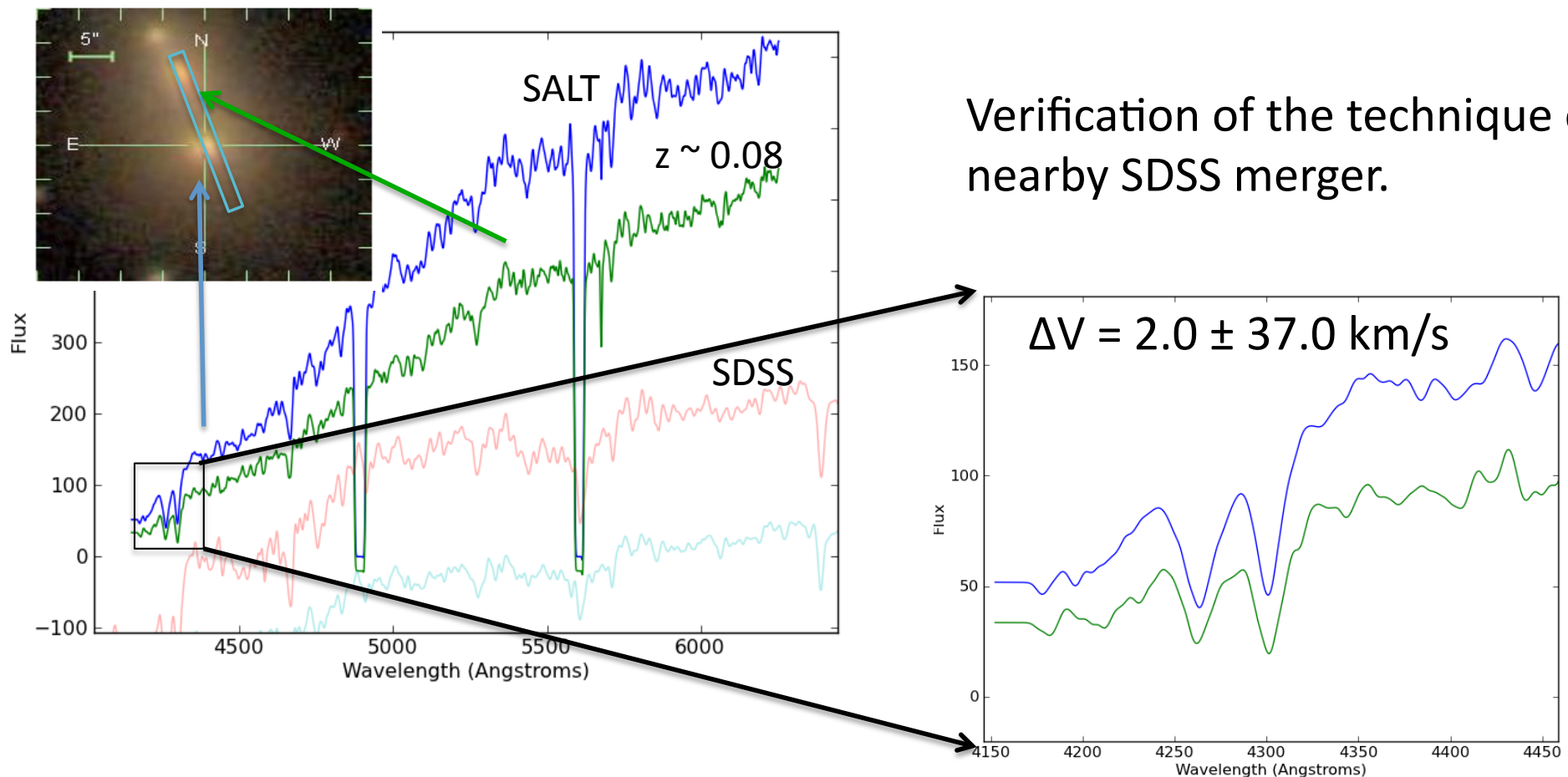


The growth of Brightest Cluster Galaxies through mergers.

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Using the RSS longslit (with PG 1300 grating) to determine accurate relative velocity differences between merging candidates.



Verification of the technique on nearby SDSS merger.

	SALT	SDSS	RSS simulator
	15 min exposures 11 m telescope S/N per 3.82 Å resolution element	45 min exposures 2.5 m telescope S/N per 3.30 Å resolution element	
BCG 1066	55.9	71.4	86.2
Companion galaxy	47.1	72.6	86.2

- S/N in RSS observations is factor of ~ 2 lower than predicted by RSS simulator (using v3.91).
- 15 min exposure on RSS is approx. equivalent to a 45 min SDSS exposure.
- Pilot project of 10 galaxies awarded time.
- 4 galaxies observed.
- 3 not useable due to poor slit alignment and SALTICAM problems.