

● the search for  
*Single  
Transits*

*Dan Foreman-Mackey*

*NYU→UW // [github.com/dfm](https://github.com/dfm) // [@exoplaneteer](https://twitter.com/exoplaneteer) // [dfm.io](https://dfm.io)*



**David W. Hogg**  
NYU



**Bernhard Schölkopf**  
MPI-IS

# ***Population Inference***

treatment of false positives,  
dependent parameters,  
uncertainties & selection effects

open source tools  
applicable to all existing  
& future exoplanet missions

# Flexible & robust inference of the exoplanet population

occurrence rate  
period, radius, mass,  
eccentricity, multiplicity,  
mutual inclination, *etc.*

## *Ingredients of a population inference*

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1

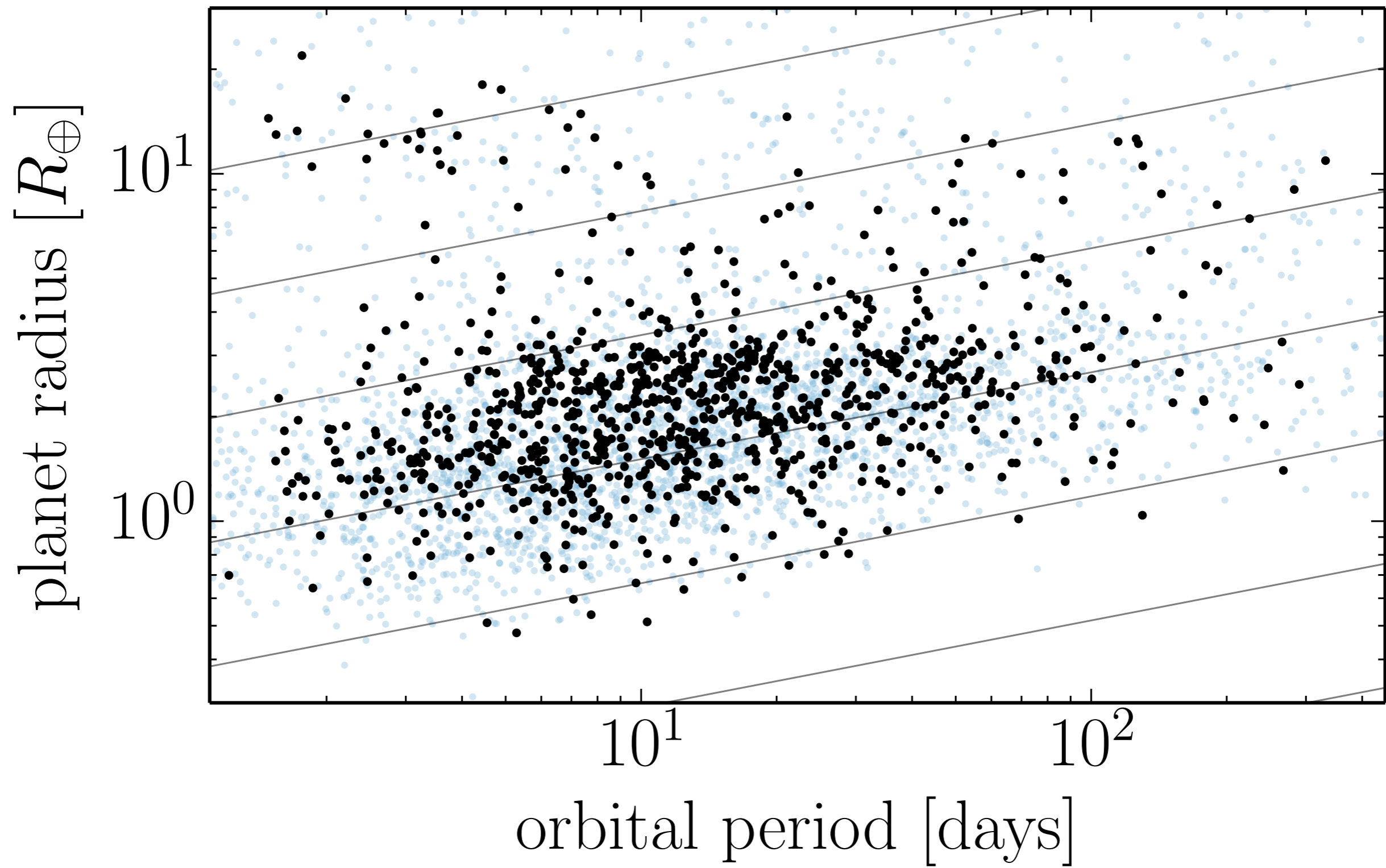
catalog of planet (candidates)

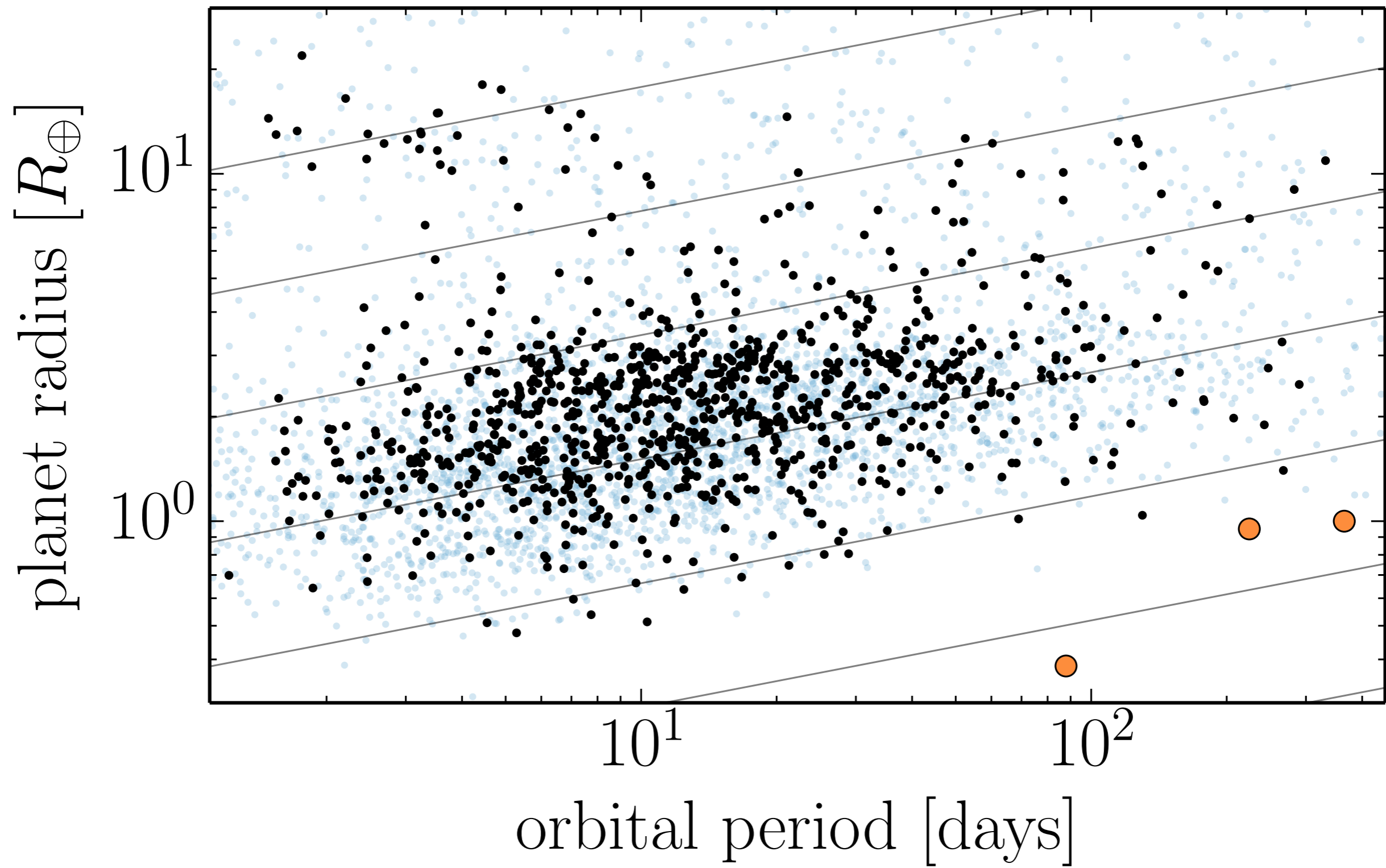
2

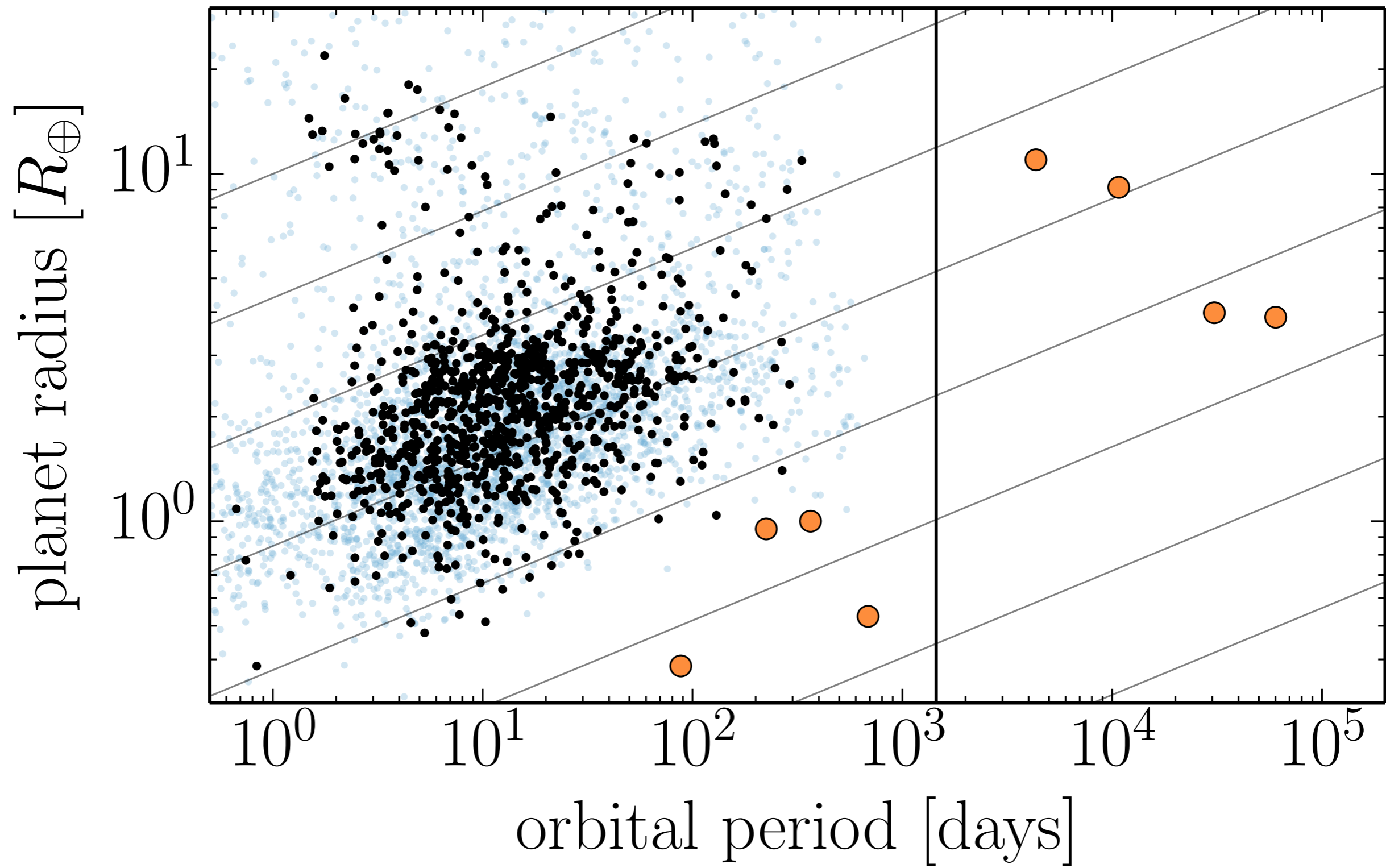
measurement of completeness

3

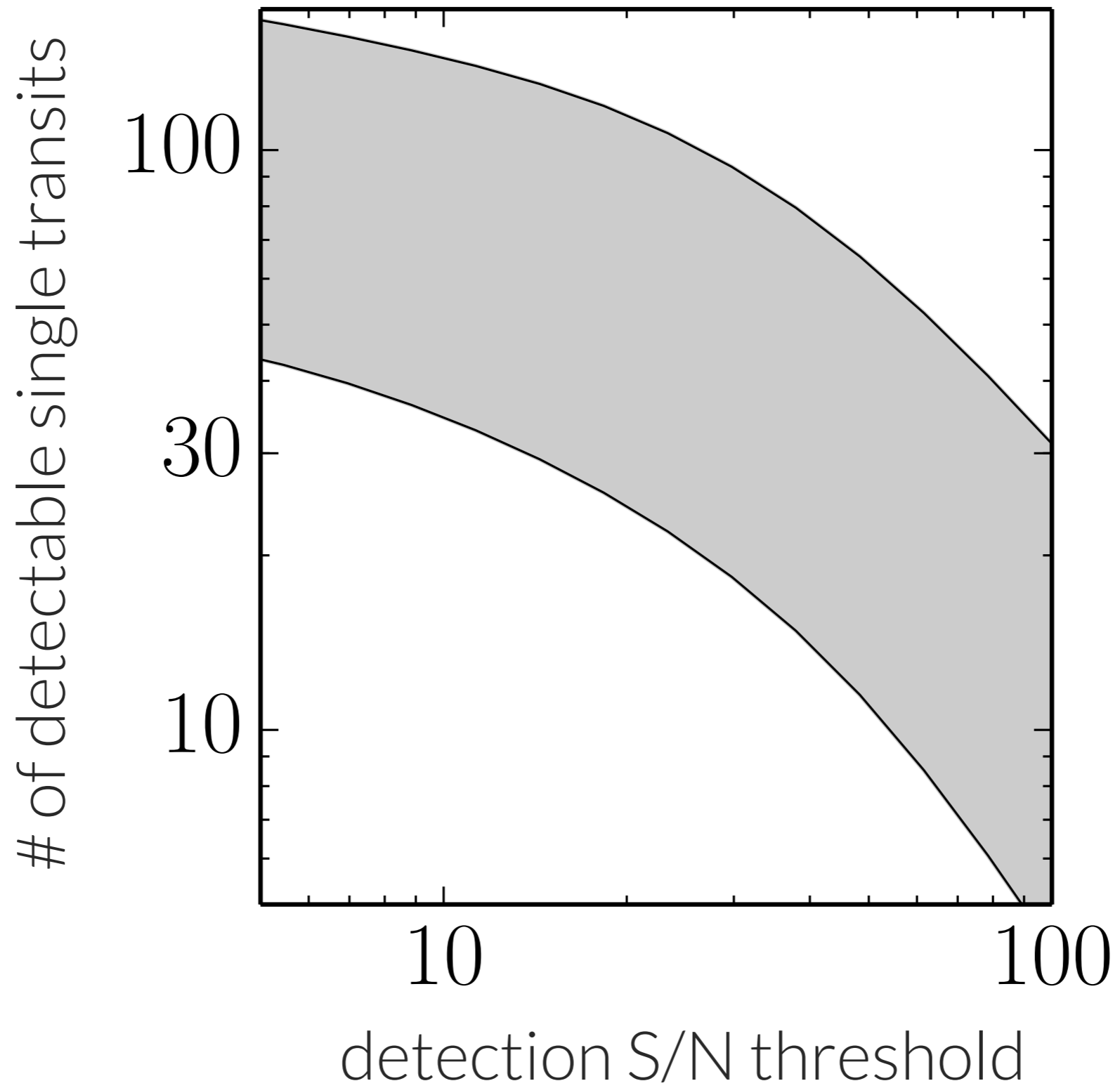
measurement of precision











Extrapolated from **Dong & Zhu (2013)**

# ***How to find a Transiting Planet***

*the traditional way...*

## *How to find a (periodic) transit signal*

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1

de-trending

2

grid search in period, phase,  
and duration

3

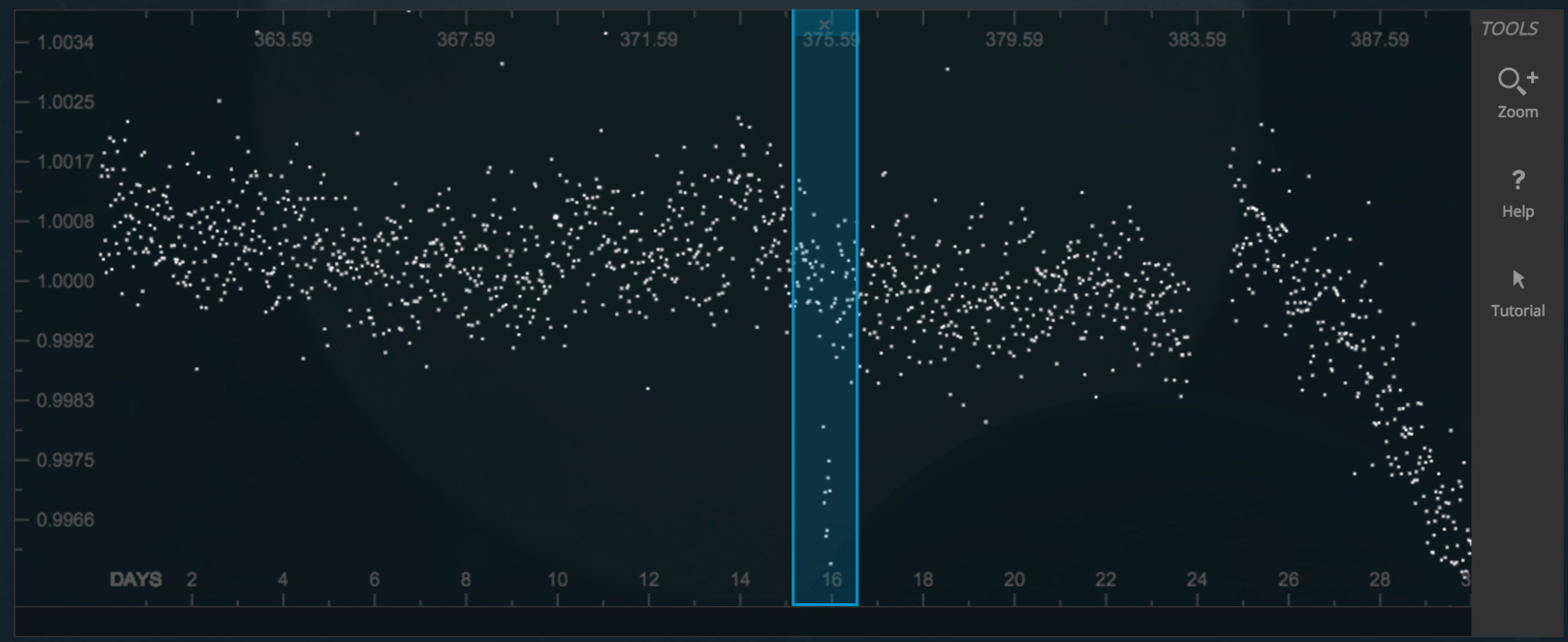
vetting of candidates

***False Alarms  
&  
False Positives***

# ***How to find a Transiting Planet***

*the Planet Hunters way...*

**Do you see a transit?** We have new K2 data! Help us classify it all.  
If so, highlight it on the light curve below!



Star Information  
Magnitude *N/A* Type *N/A* Temp *N/A* Radius *N/A*

Finished

***Can we Teach  
the Machine  
to Learn™?***

***Get rid of  
the pipeline!***

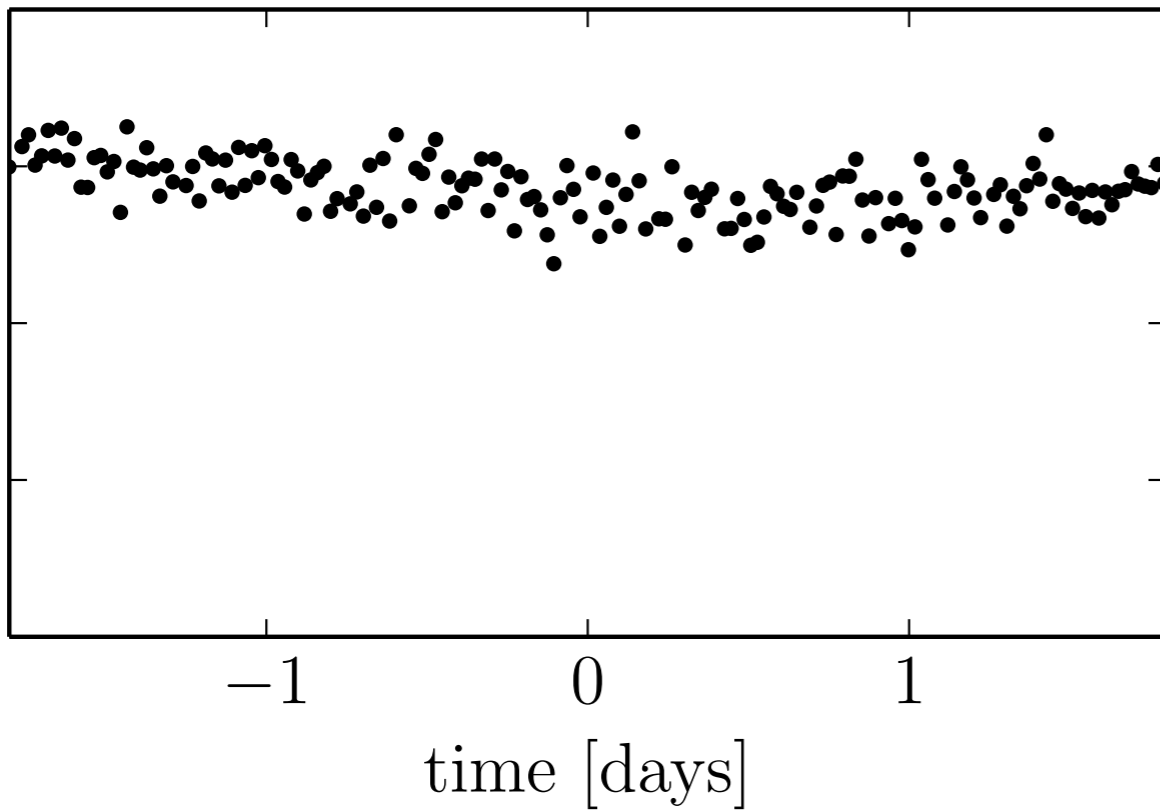


**Bernhard Schölkopf**  
MPI-IS



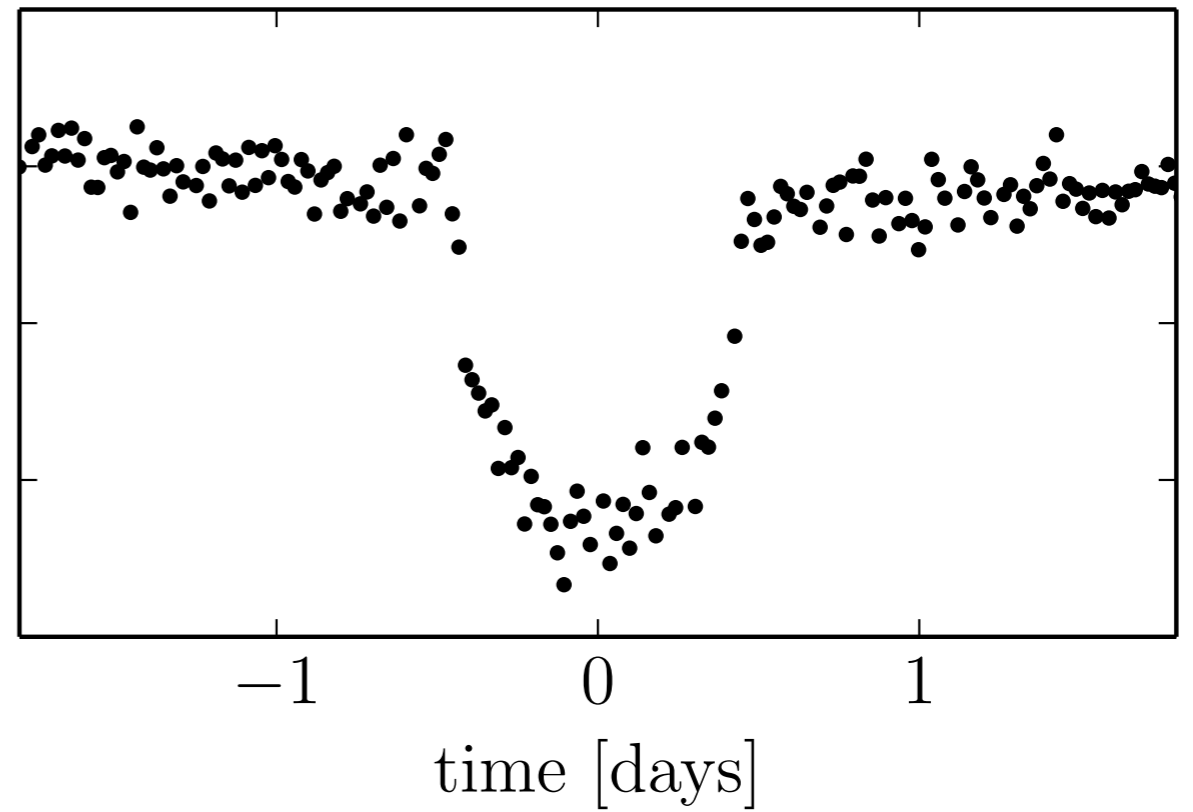
# Supervised Classification

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**no\_transit**

vs.

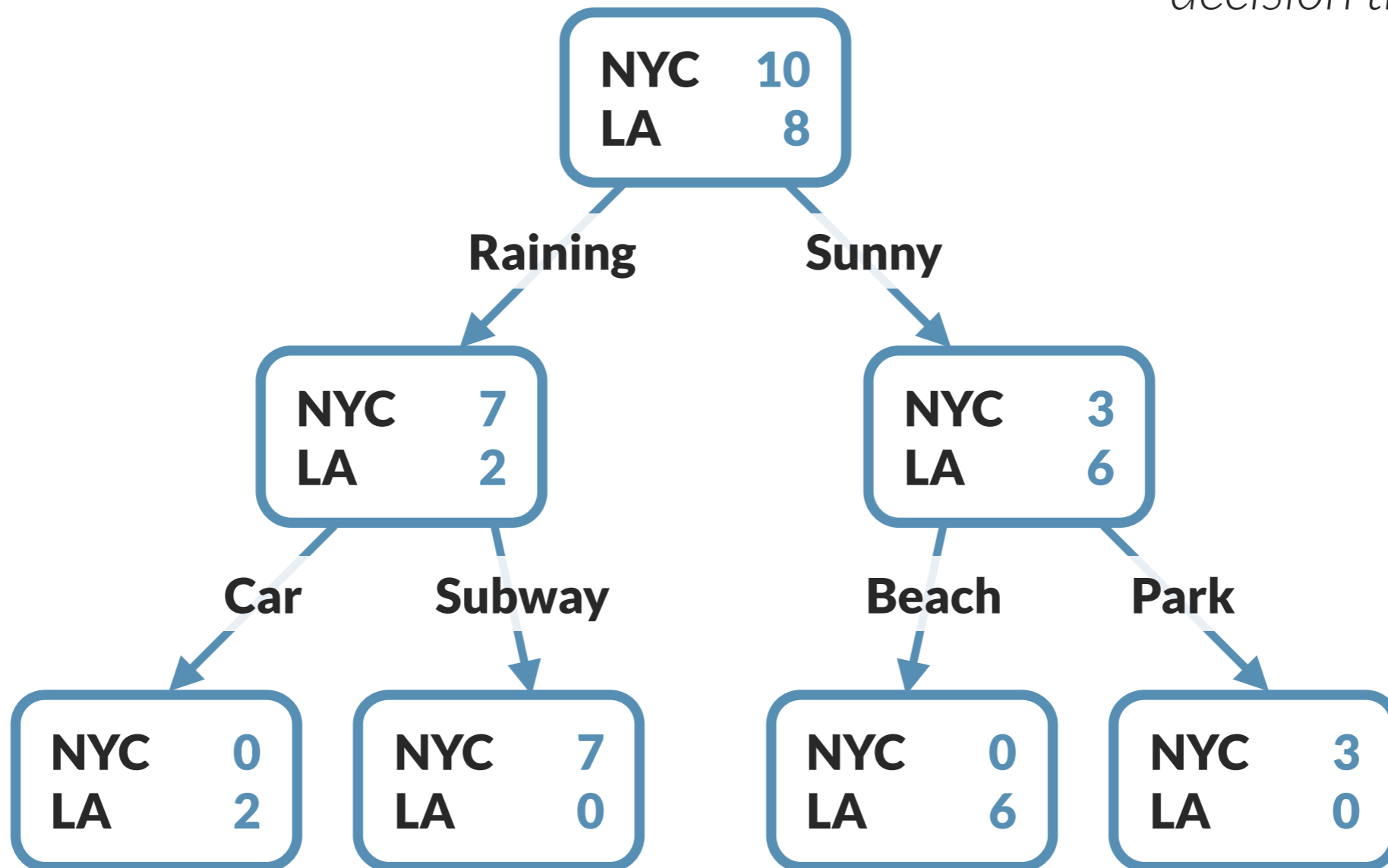


**transit**

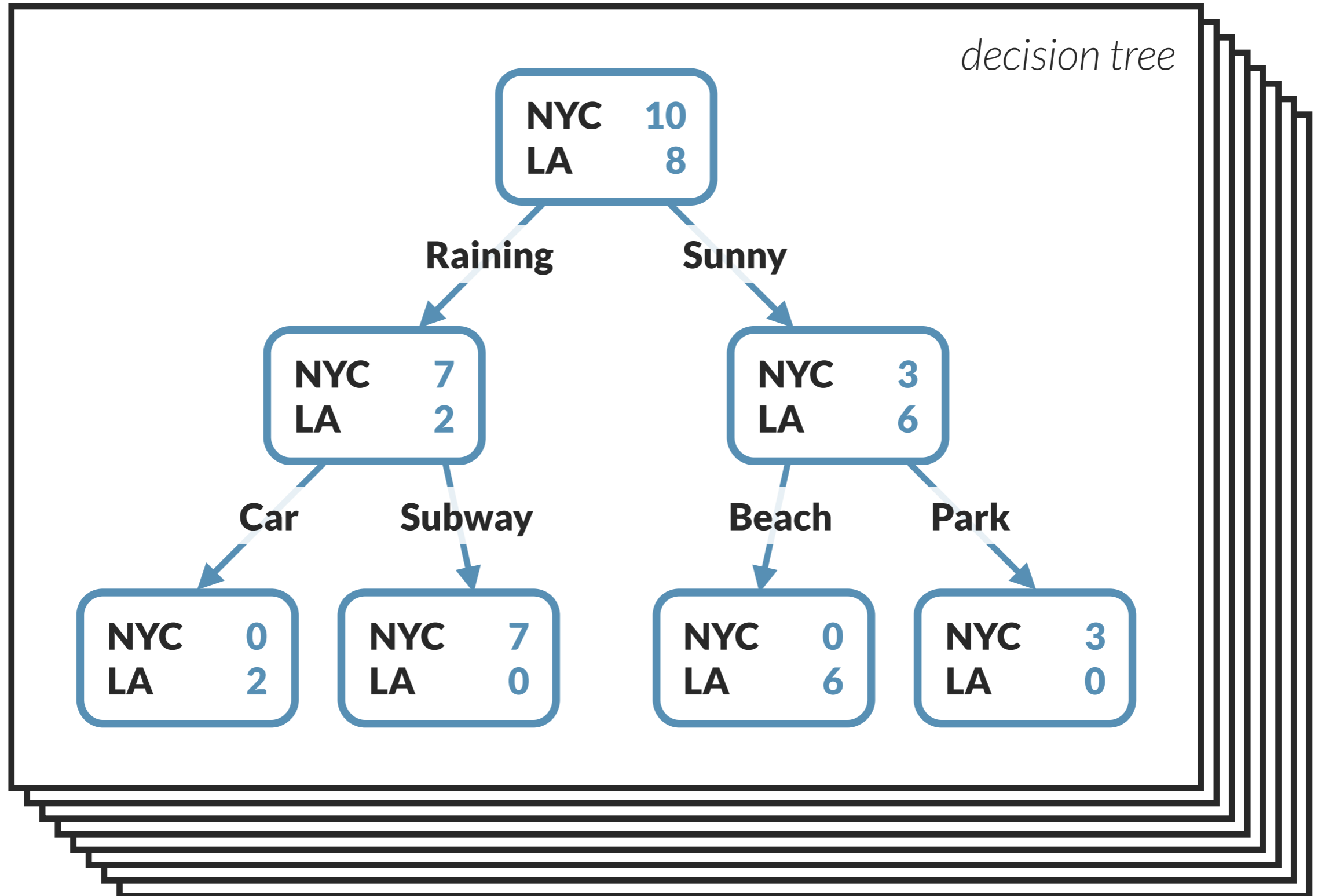
# *Supervised Classification*

# Random Forest™ Classification

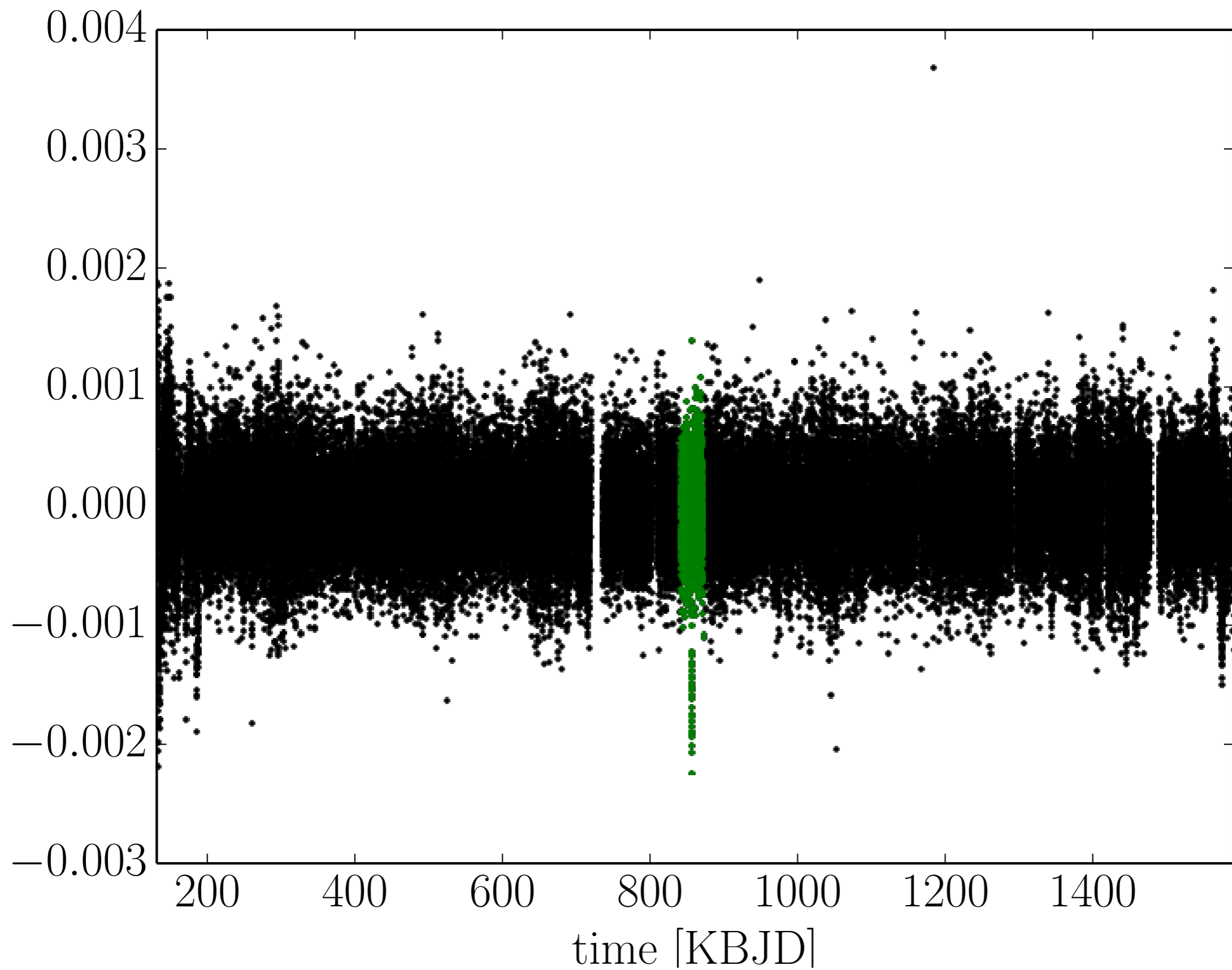
*decision tree*

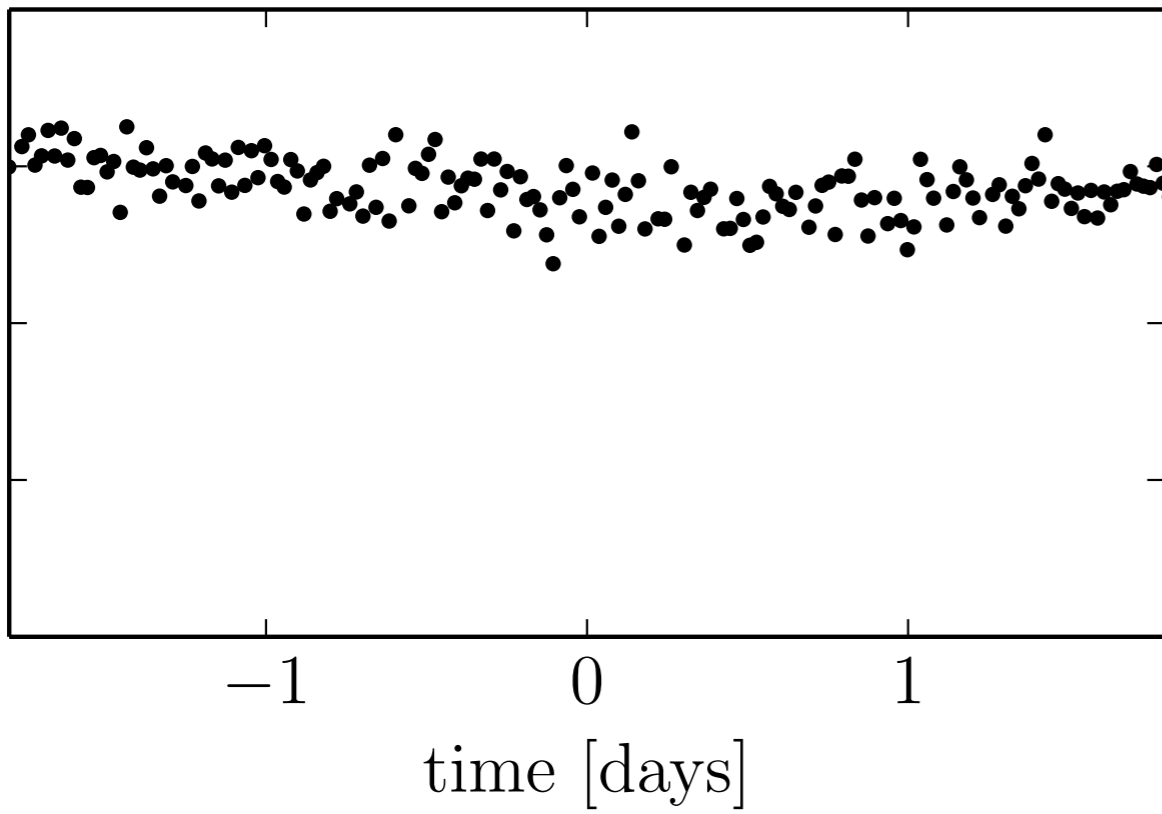


# Random Forest™ Classification



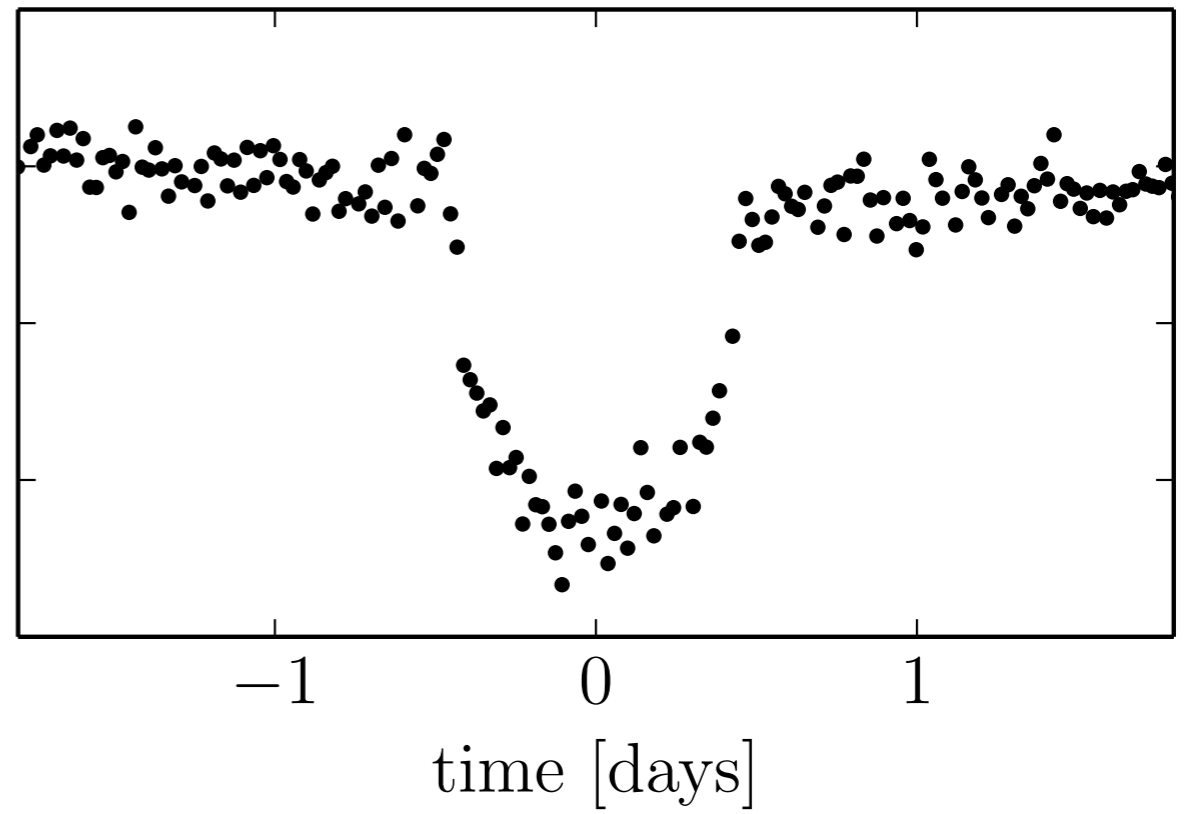
features light curve sections  
training set simulated transits  
test set held-out light curve





no\_transit

vs.



transit



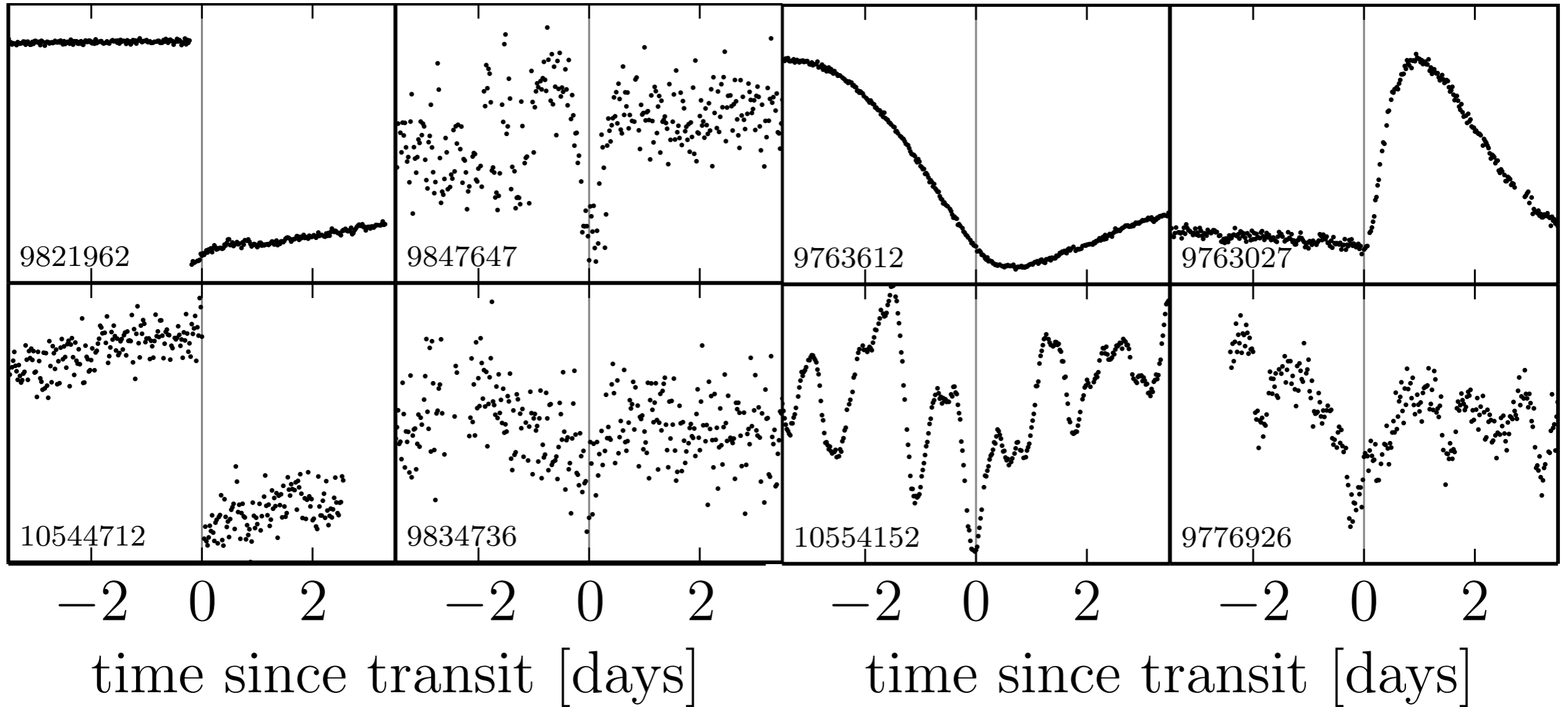
[scikit-learn.org](https://scikit-learn.org)

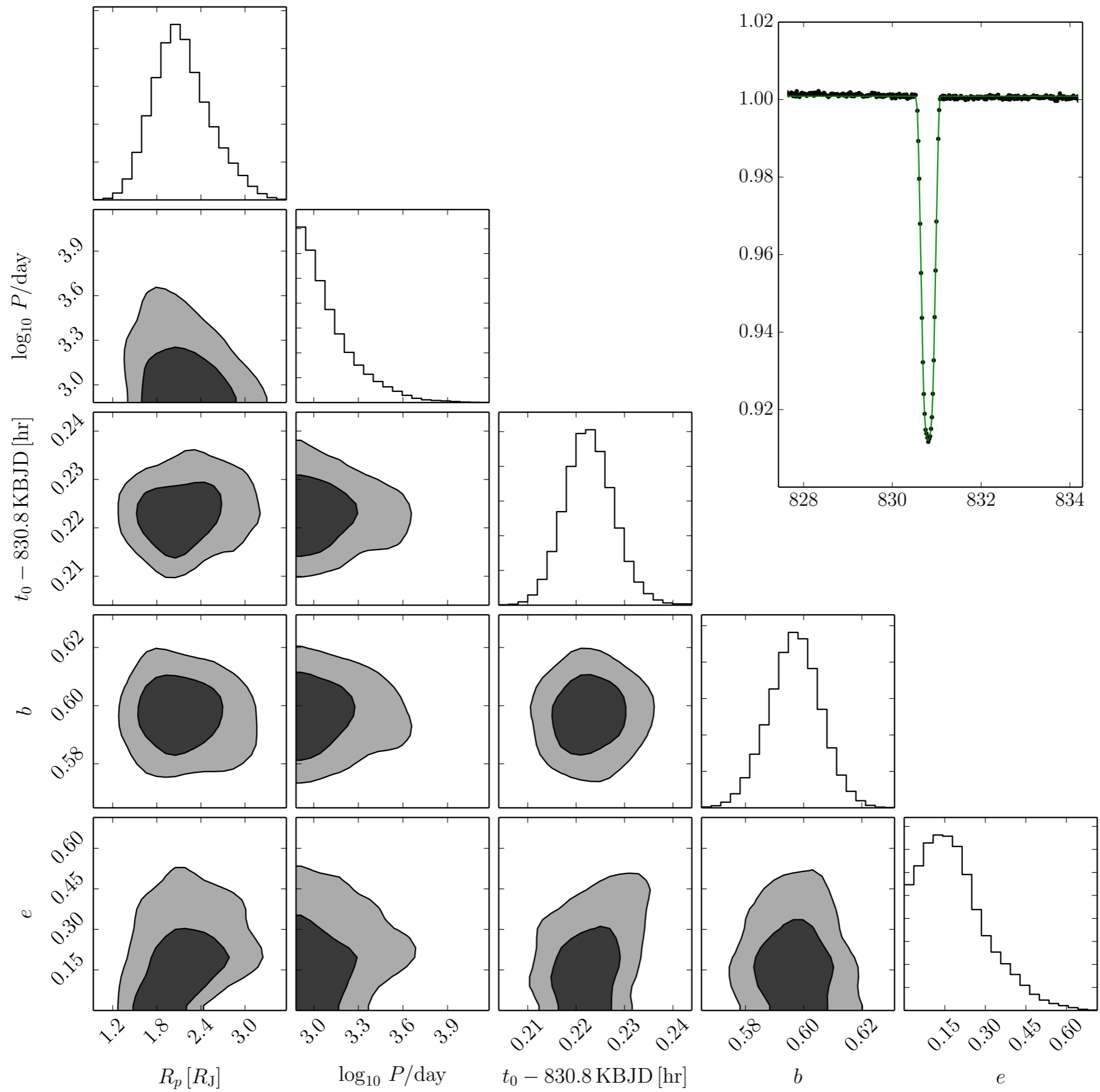


# ***Preliminary Results***

3,000 light curves  
273 false positives  
1 transit candidate

# False Positives





***No good model of  
the non-transits...***

# *Temporary solution: Template likelihoods*

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# Conclusions

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1

can discover single transits  
using supervised classification

2

false positives are still a problem  
(but maybe less)

3

would like to combine method  
with realistic noise model