

# Digging with care

Systematic analysis of subtle microlensing features

*with support from*

RoboNet team  
MiNDSTeP team  
OGLE team

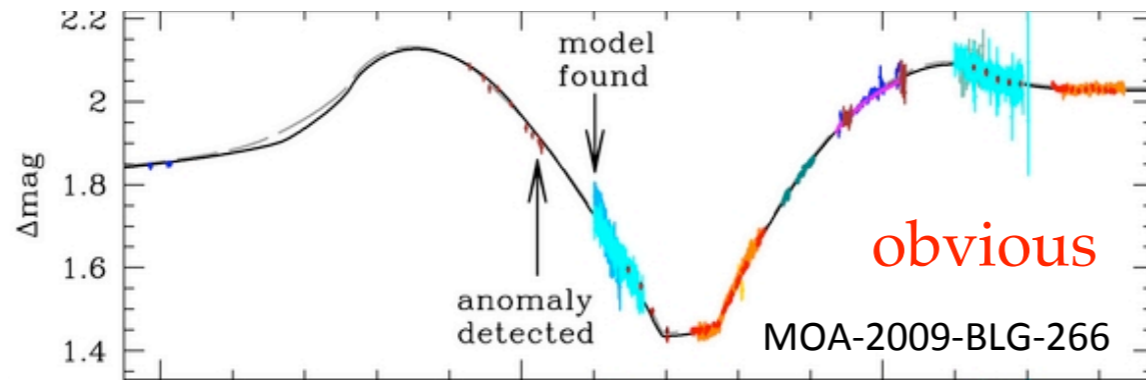
Martin Dominik



University  
of  
St Andrews



# Obvious detections vs subtle features



but:  $\mathcal{P}(\chi_4^2 \geq 20) = 4 \times 10^{-4}$   
(e.g. 5 points at  $2\sigma$ )

*low*  
*detection threshold*



*false positives*

get high number statistics  
be sensitive to low-mass companions  
avoid wasting telescope resources

high detection threshold no insurance against false positives  
correlated noise can produce “pseudo-detections” at large  $\Delta\chi^2$   
on just high enough cadence

cannot hang detection on to points  
that show similar deviations as other points considered “noise”

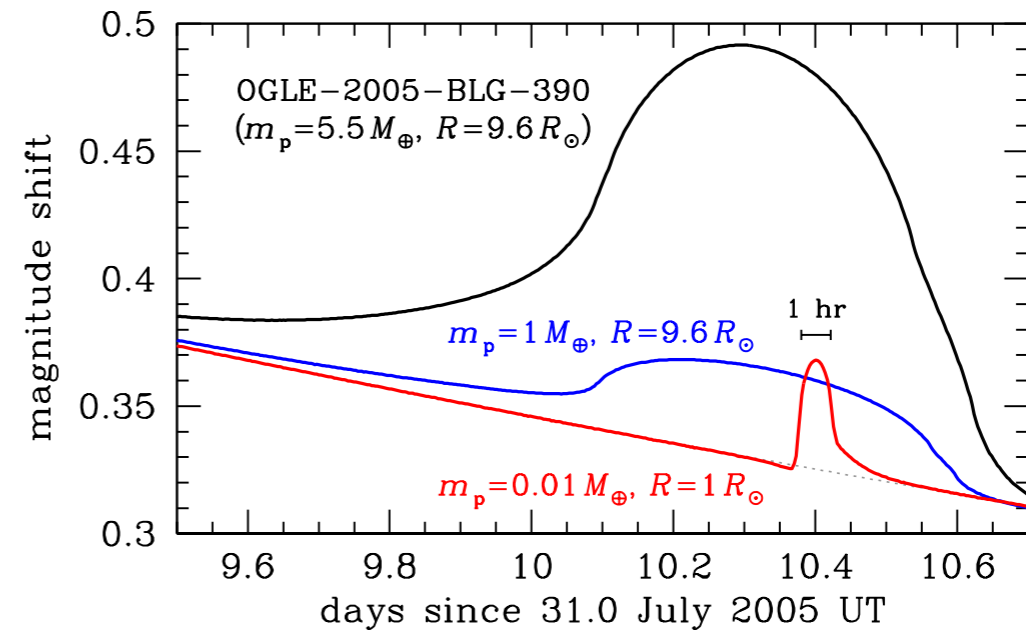
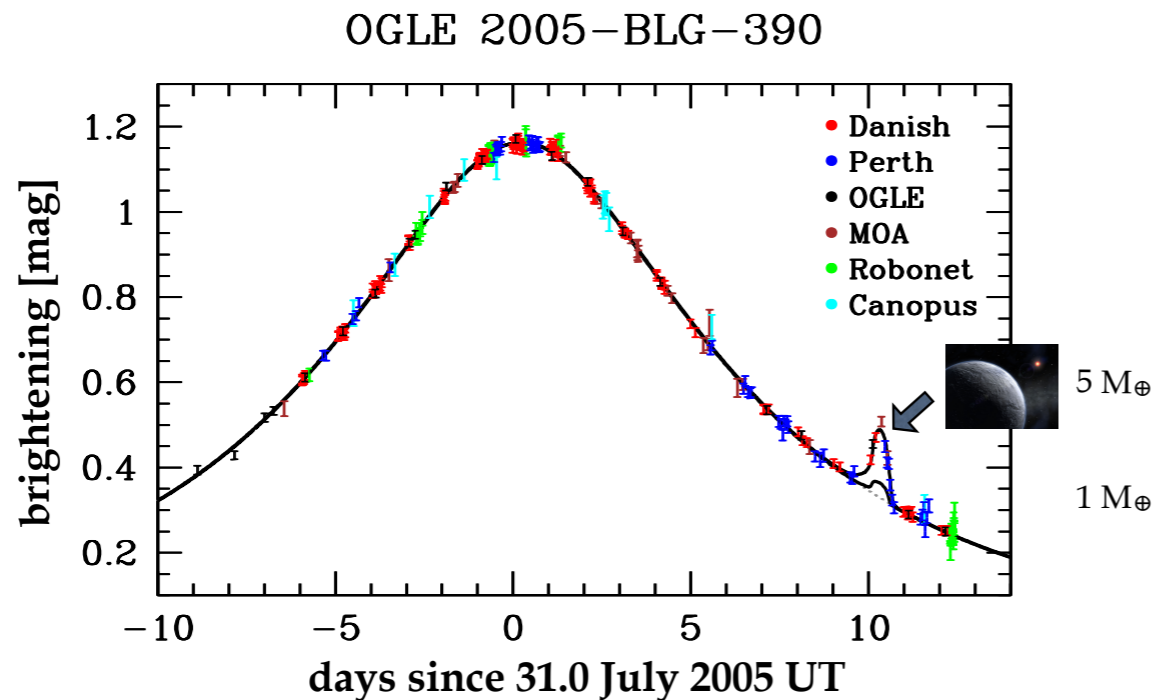
*“we need to understand our error bars”*

(Penny D. Sackett, 1995)

consistent interpretation of data  
establish “noise” model and estimate “noise” statistics

# Low-mass planets and satellites

signals may be subtle, but are *well localised*



model parameters describing anomaly  $\nleftarrow$  vast majority of photometric data  
 other parameters can be well determined from photometric data outside anomaly

parameter hierarchy / disentanglement of subspaces  $\mathfrak{P} \sim \mathfrak{P}_N \otimes \mathfrak{P}_A$

$$D = D_N \cup D_A \quad D_N \cap D_A = \emptyset$$

avoid misestimation / check consistency: (no) effect of anomaly region on  $\mathfrak{P}_N$

estimate of noise statistics that does not depend on putative anomaly  
 (assuming everything else is regular)

# Obtain “noise” statistics

M data sets with  $N^{[m]}$  data points

$$(F_n^{[m]}, \sigma_n^{[m]}, t_n^{[m]})$$

$$F^{[m]}(t) = F_{\text{base}}^{[m]} A(t) - F_B^{[m]} [A(t) - 1]$$

$$\tilde{\sigma}_n^{[m]}(\sigma_n^{[m]}, \kappa^{[m]}, s_0^{[m]}) = \sqrt{(\kappa^{[m]} \sigma_n^{[m]})^2 + (s_0^{[m]} F_n^{[m]})^2}$$

$\kappa^{[m]}$  scaling factor

$s_0^{[m]}$  systematic uncertainty

simple effective error bar model

$$r_n^{[m]}(F^{[m]}(t), F_n^{[m]}, \tilde{\sigma}_n^{[m]}) = \frac{F_n^{[m]} - F^{[m]}(t)}{\tilde{\sigma}_n^{[m]}} \quad w_n^{[m]} = \begin{cases} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{r_n^{[m]}}{K \tilde{r}^{[m]}} \right)^2 \right]^2 & \text{for } |r_n^{[m]}| < K \tilde{r}^{[m]} \\ 0 & \text{for } |r_n^{[m]}| \geq K \tilde{r}^{[m]} \end{cases}$$

robust fitting, bi-square weight function

(accounting for “outliers” and non-Gaussian tail)

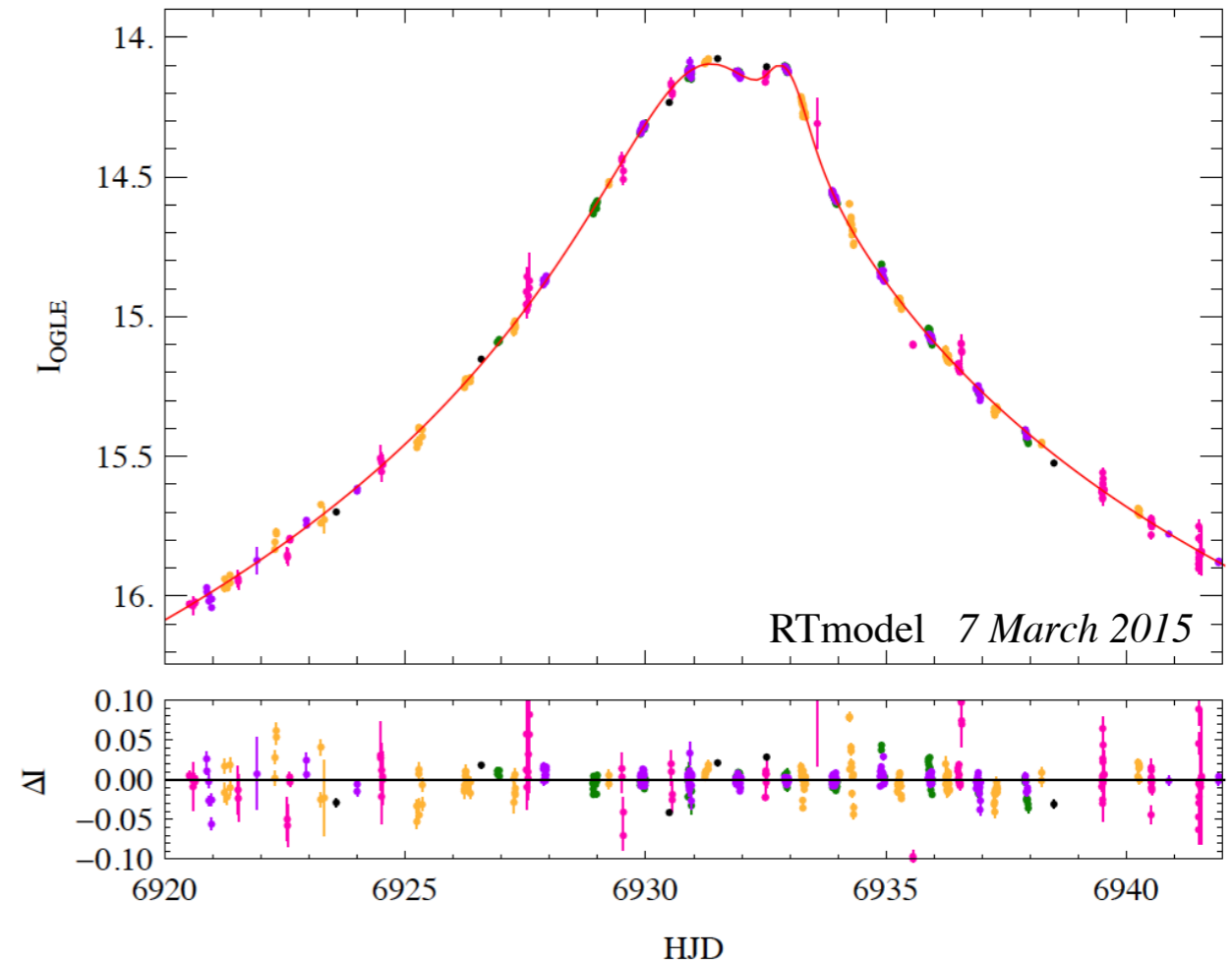
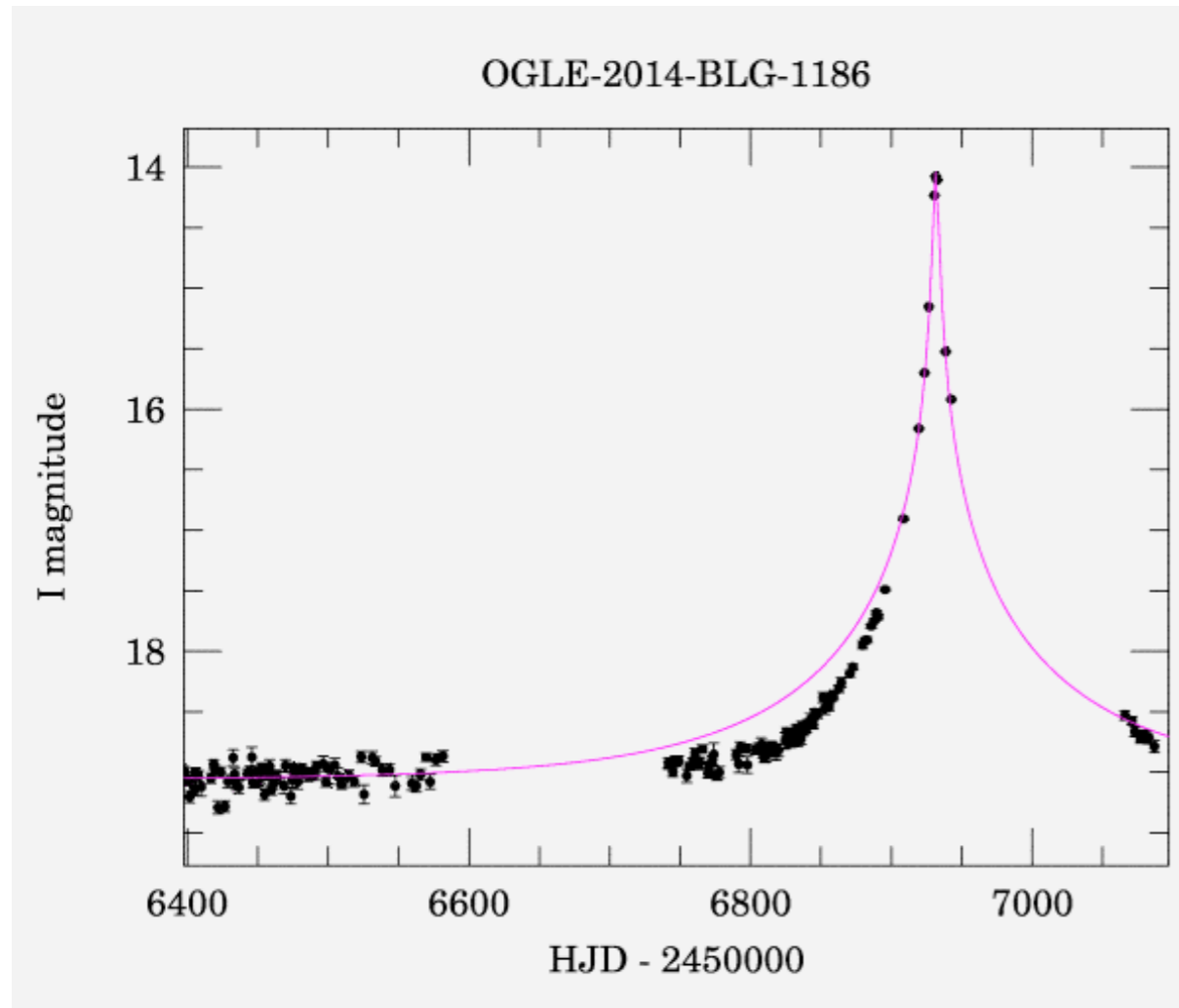
“pseudo-Gaussian”, alternatives: more elaborate models such as Student’s t etc.

$$\tilde{\chi}^2 = \sum_{m=1}^M w_n^{[m]} \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{N^{[m]}} (r_n^{[m]})^2 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{N^{[m]}} \ln \tilde{\sigma}_n^{[m]} \right]$$

modified  $\chi^2$ , counting data points with weight  $0 \leq w_n^{[m]} \leq 1$



# OGLE-2014-BLG-1186: a 2013–2016 event



<http://ogle.astrouw.edu.pl/ogle4/ews/2014/blg-1186.html>

light curve substantially affected by parallax  
model does not work well with OGLE data?  
OGLE and RoboNet data telling different stories?  
reported uncertainties very small  
What is signal, what is systematic uncertainty?

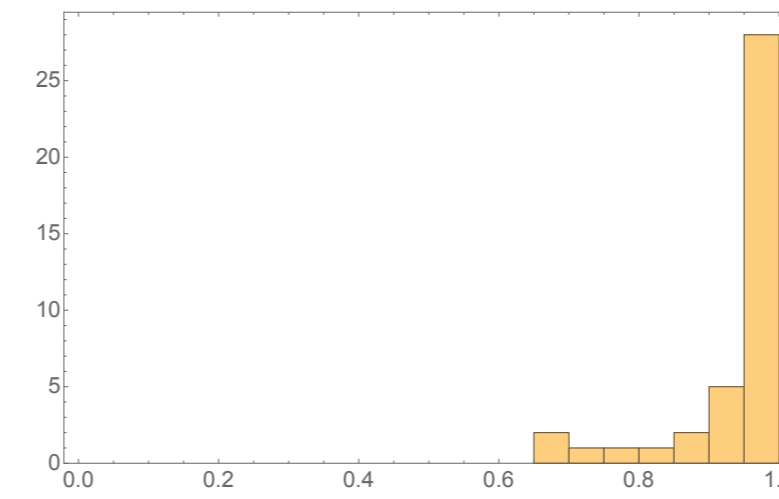
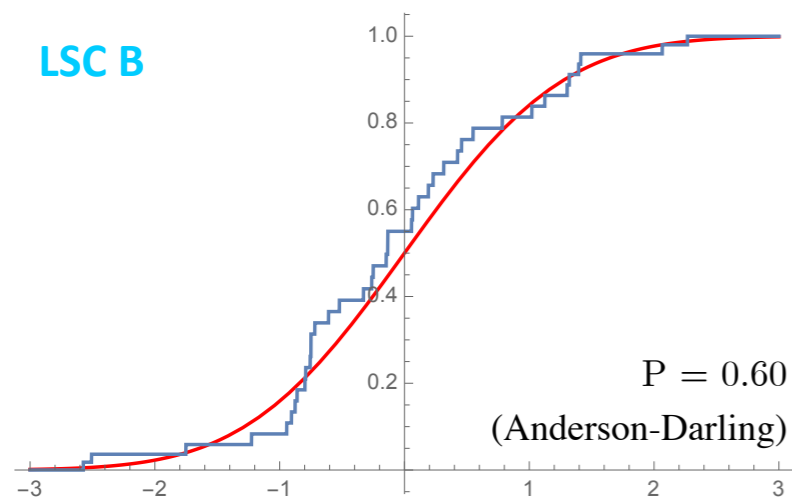
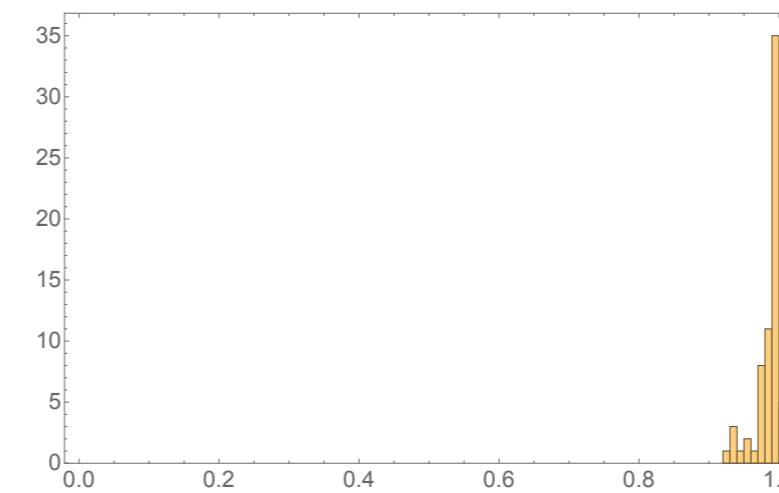
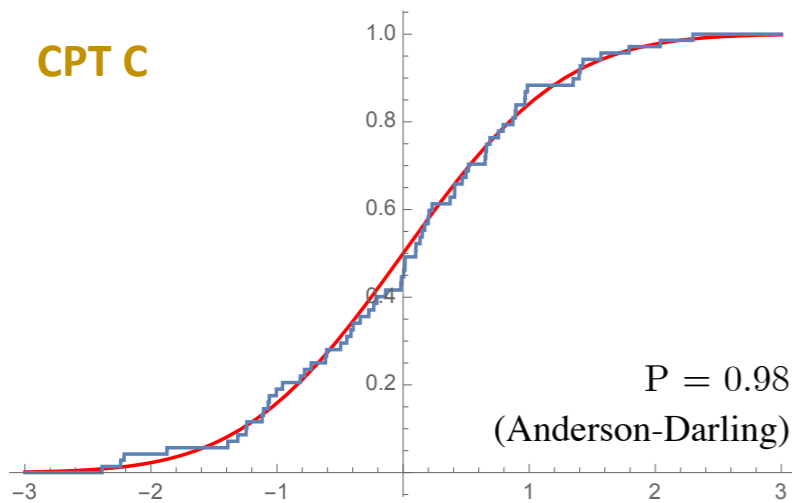
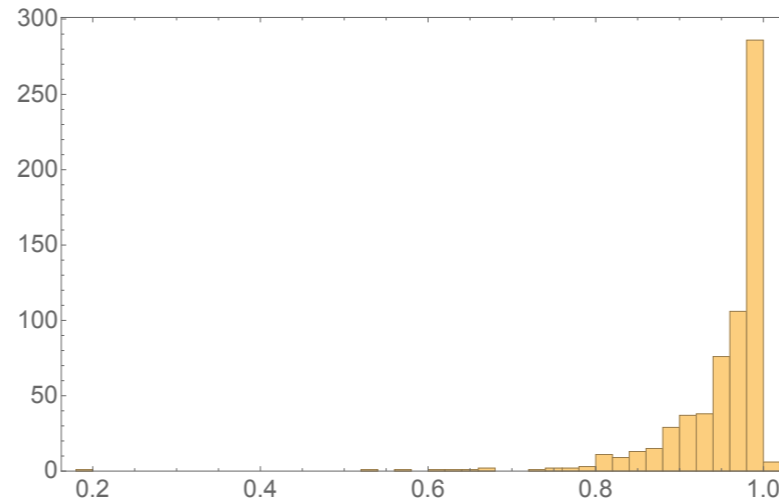
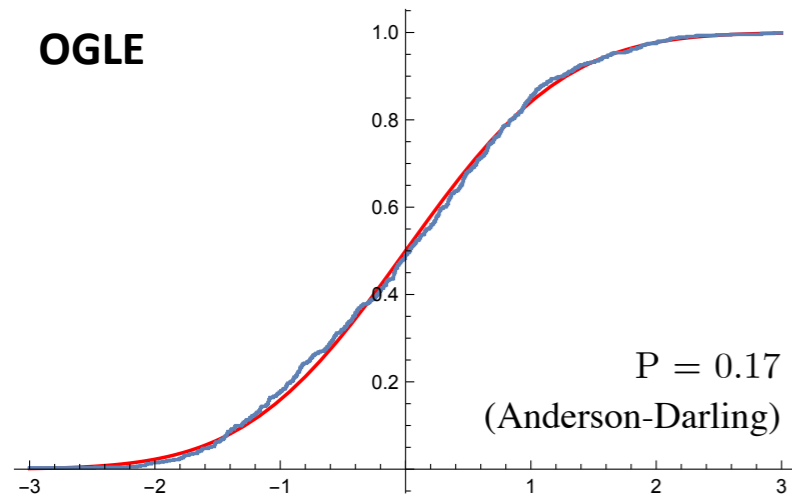
→ noise statistics



# OGLE-2014-BLG-1186 residuals

weighted CDF

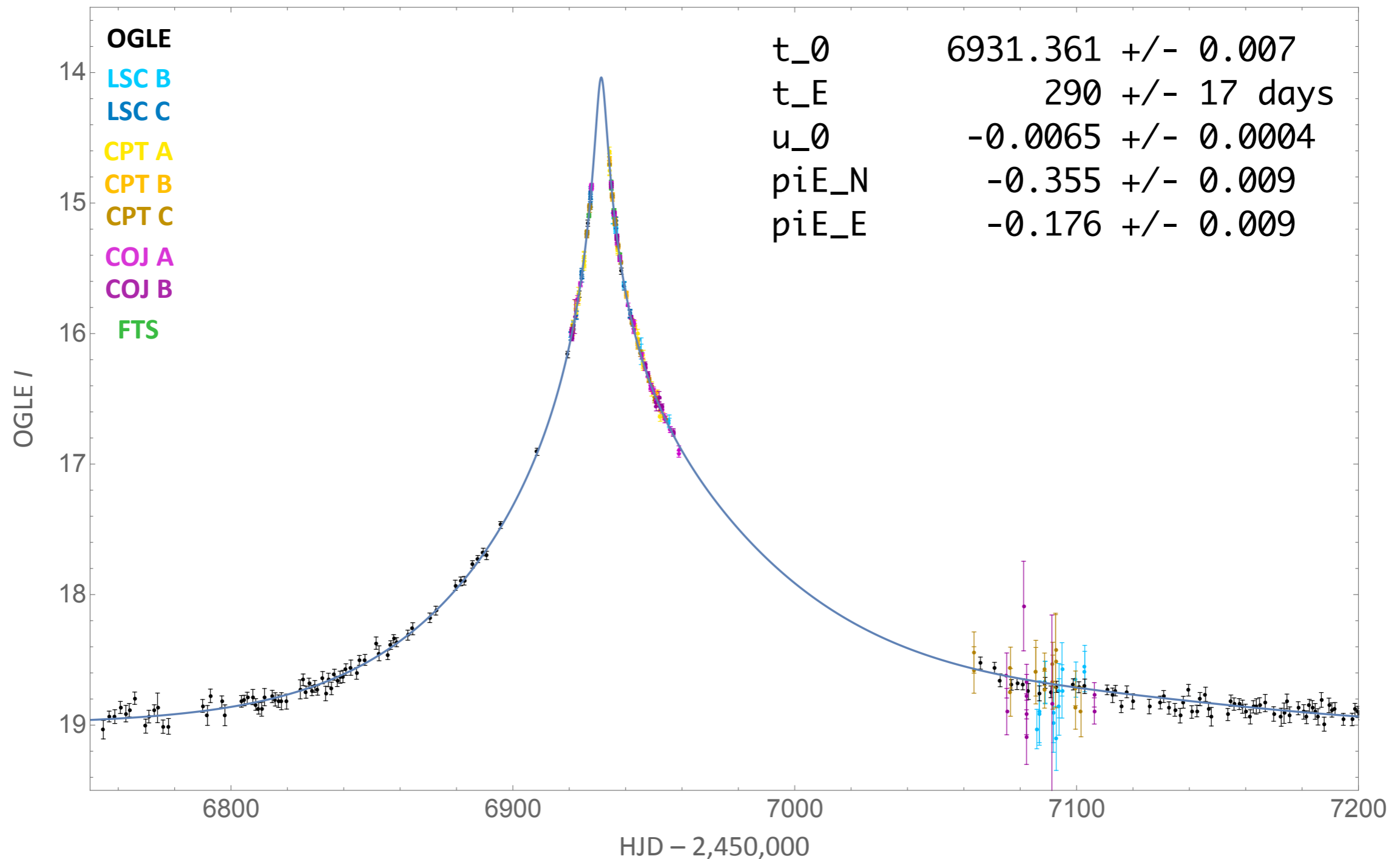
weight distribution



*without putative anomaly*  
( $6928.8 \leq t \leq 6934.0$ )



# OGLE-2014-BLG-1186 without putative anomaly



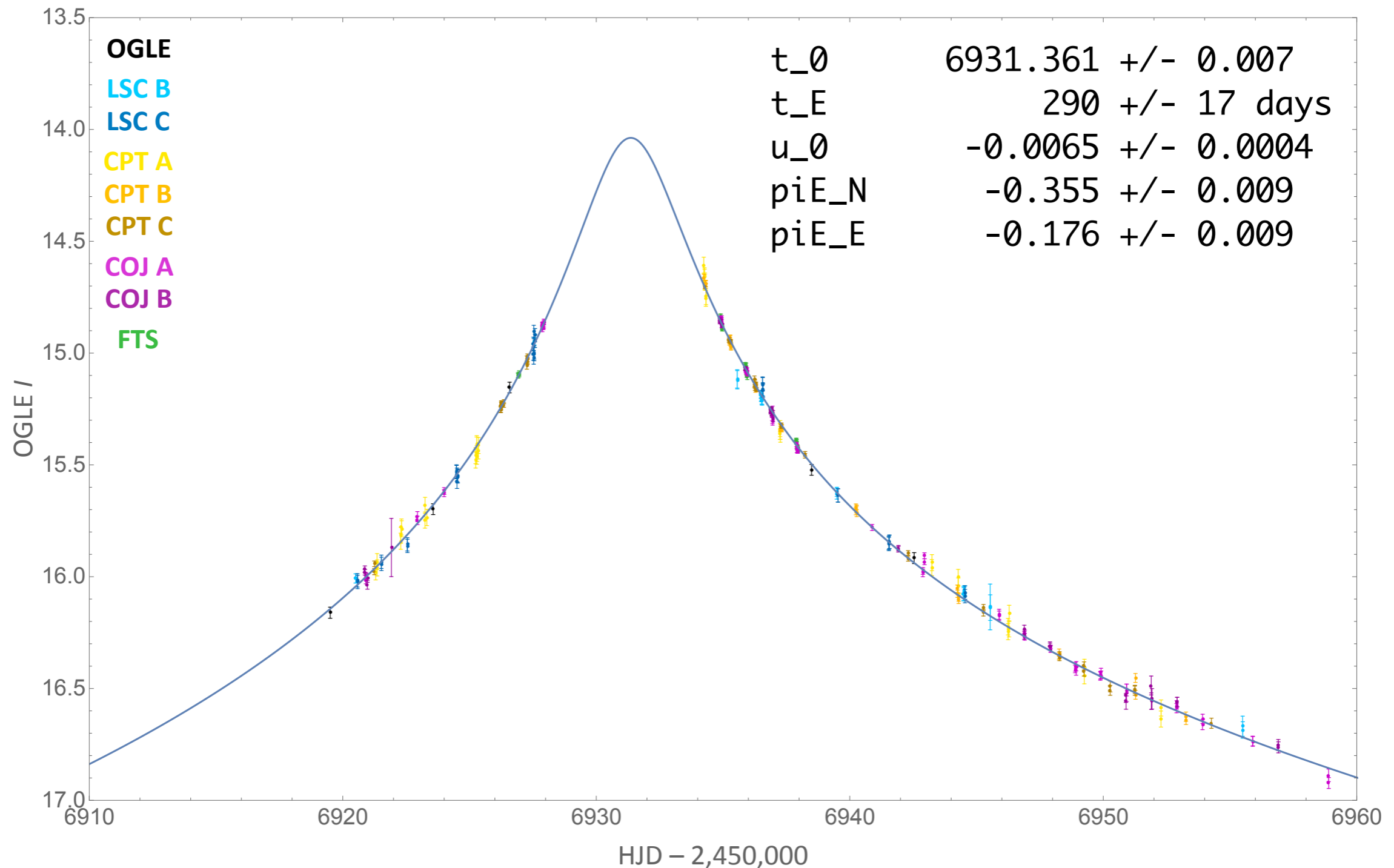
very robust measurement of parallax

time-scale uncertainty related to blend uncertainty

similar estimates for OGLE only, but uncertainties larger



# OGLE-2014-BLG-1186 without putative anomaly

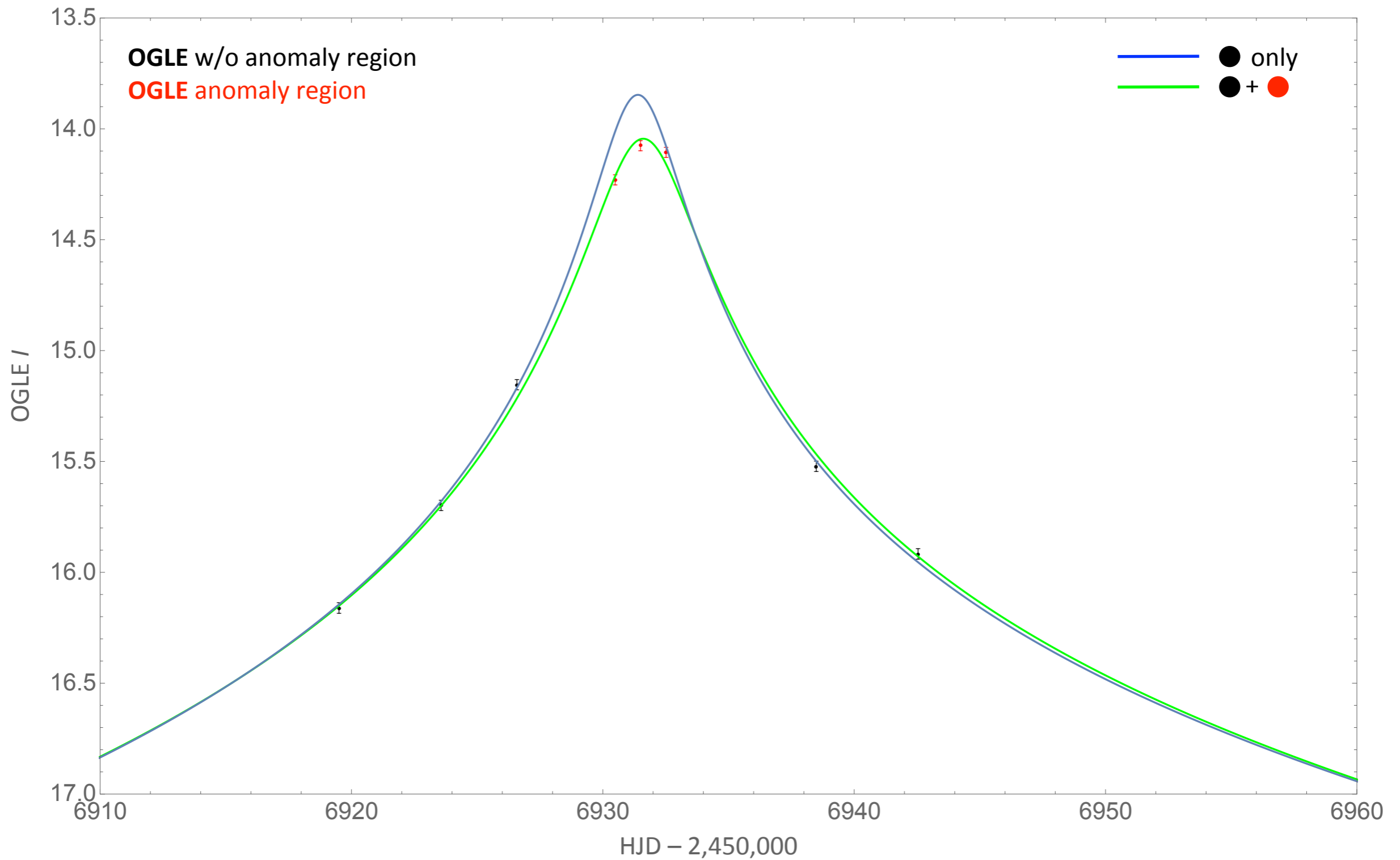


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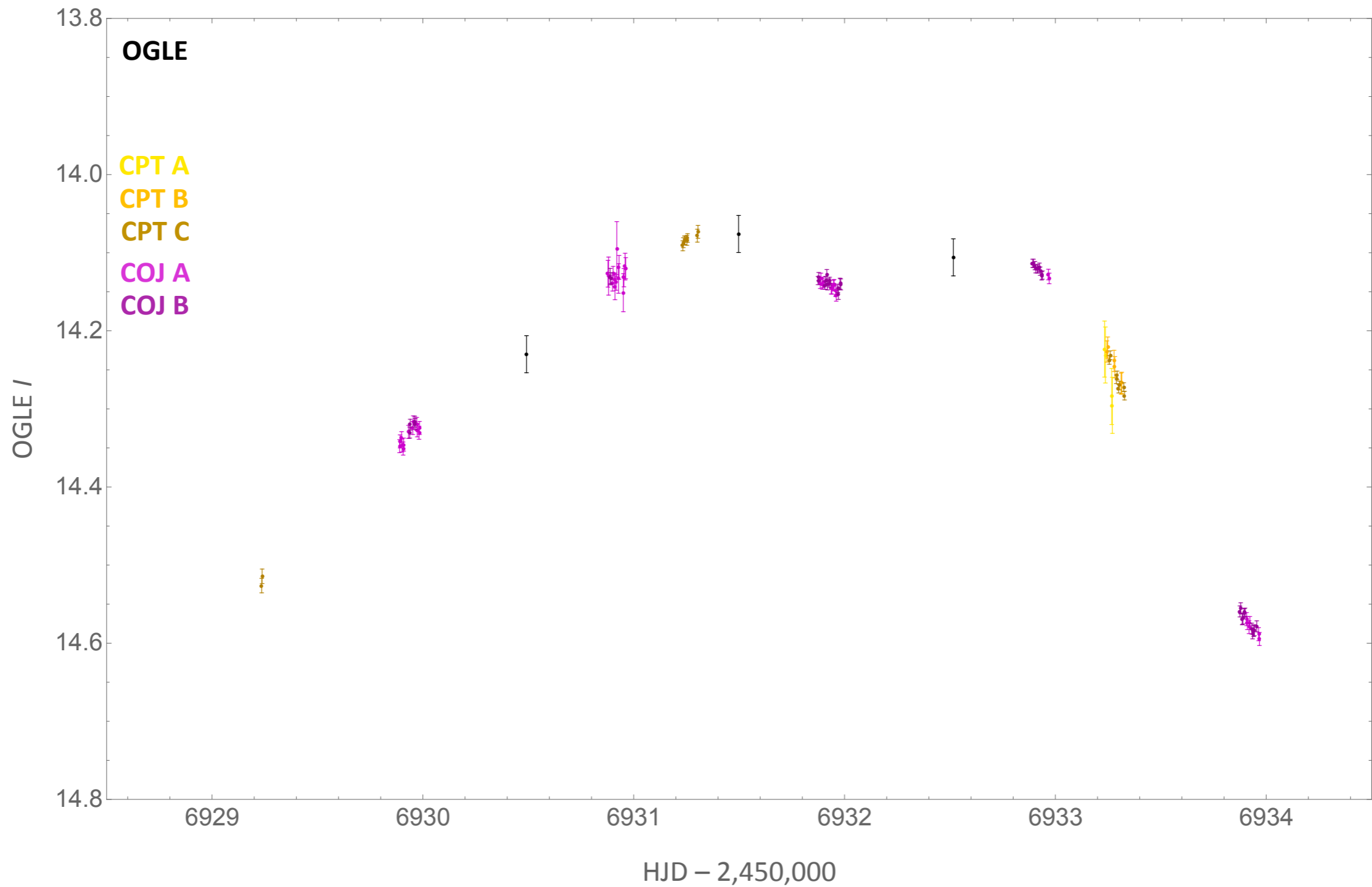
similar estimates for OGLE only, but uncertainties larger

# no anomaly in OGLE-2014-BLG-1186?

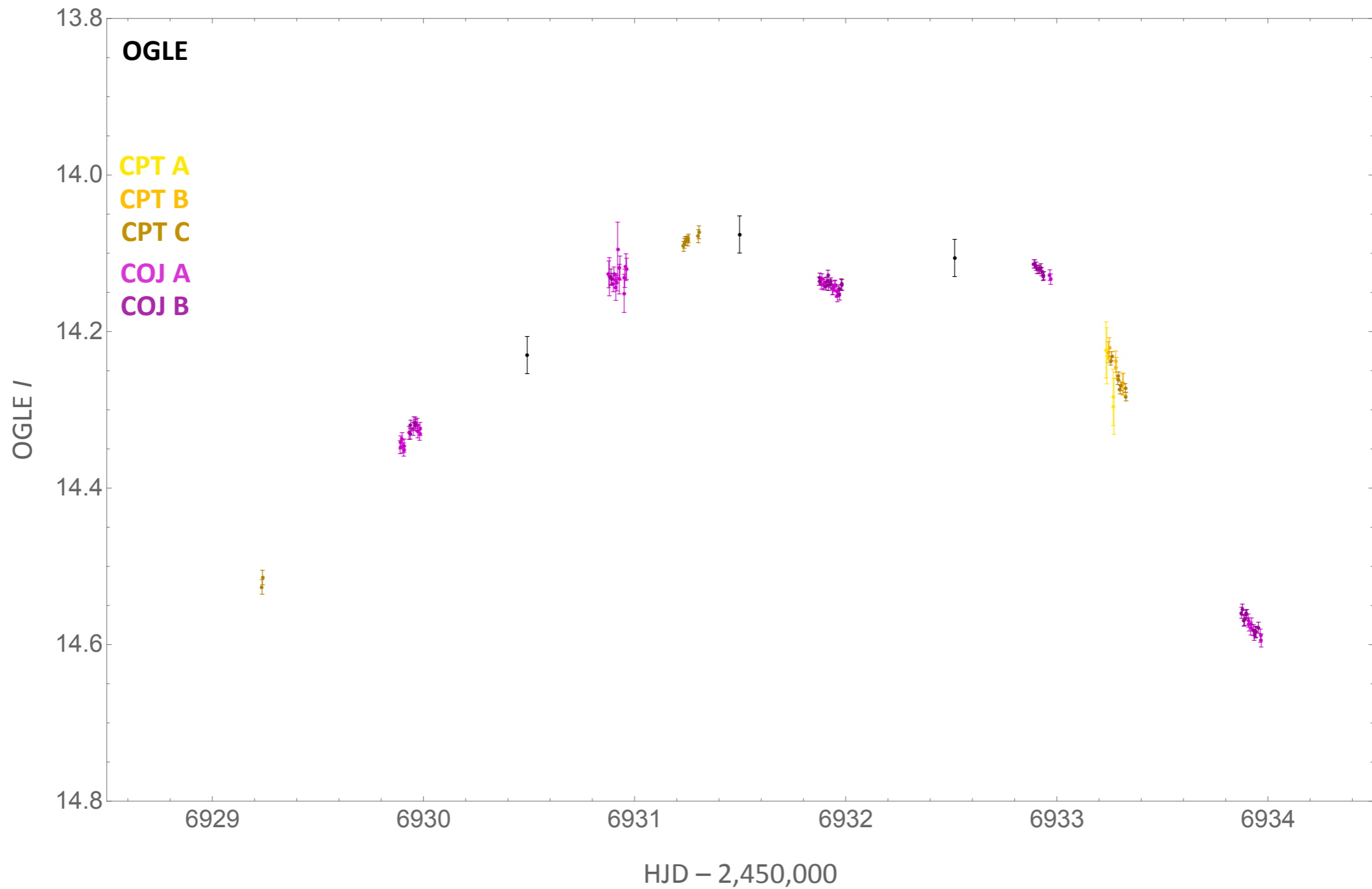




# Reviewing the putative anomaly



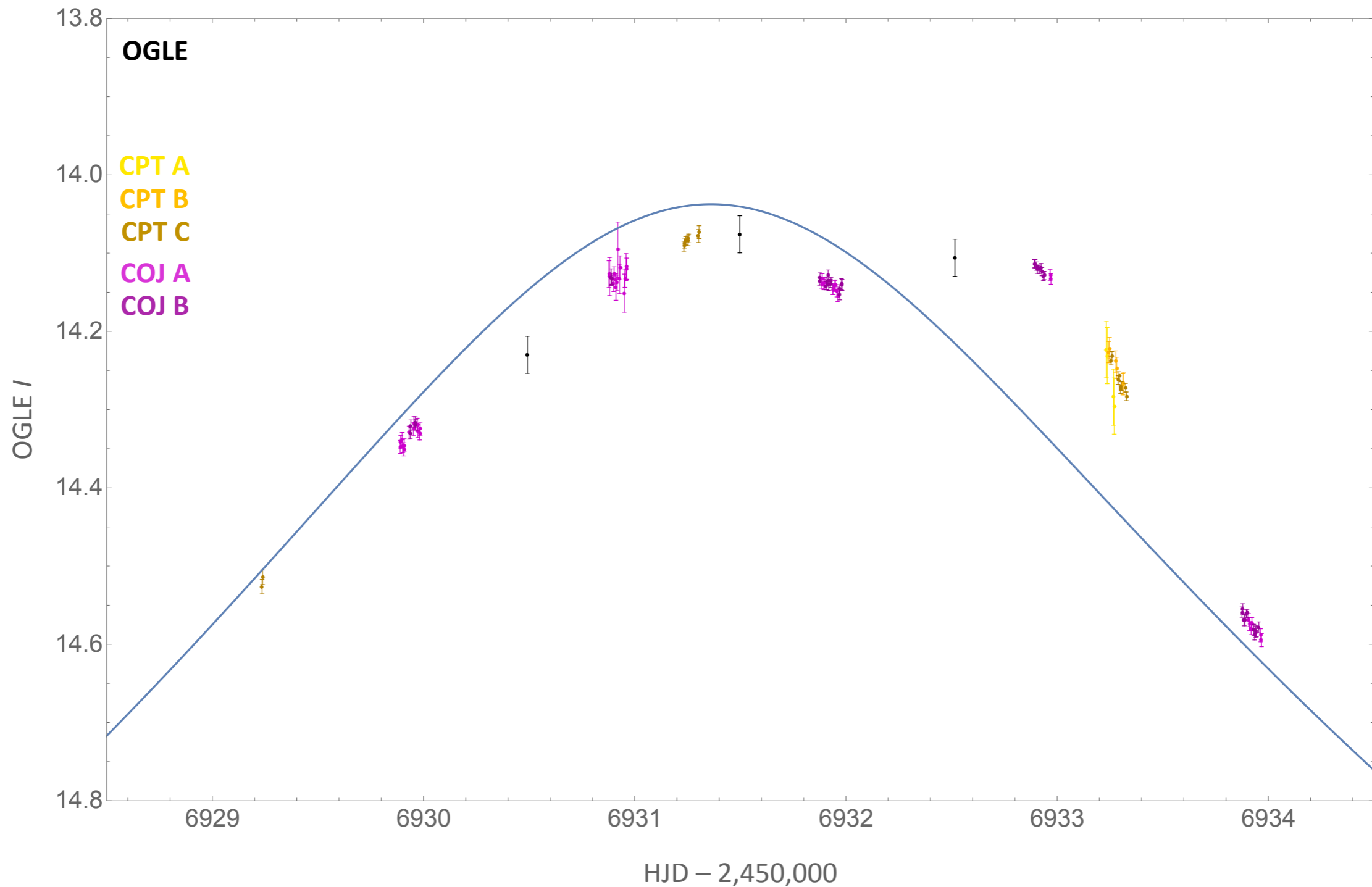
# Reviewing the putative anomaly



various data sets appear to give consistent picture



# Reviewing the putative anomaly

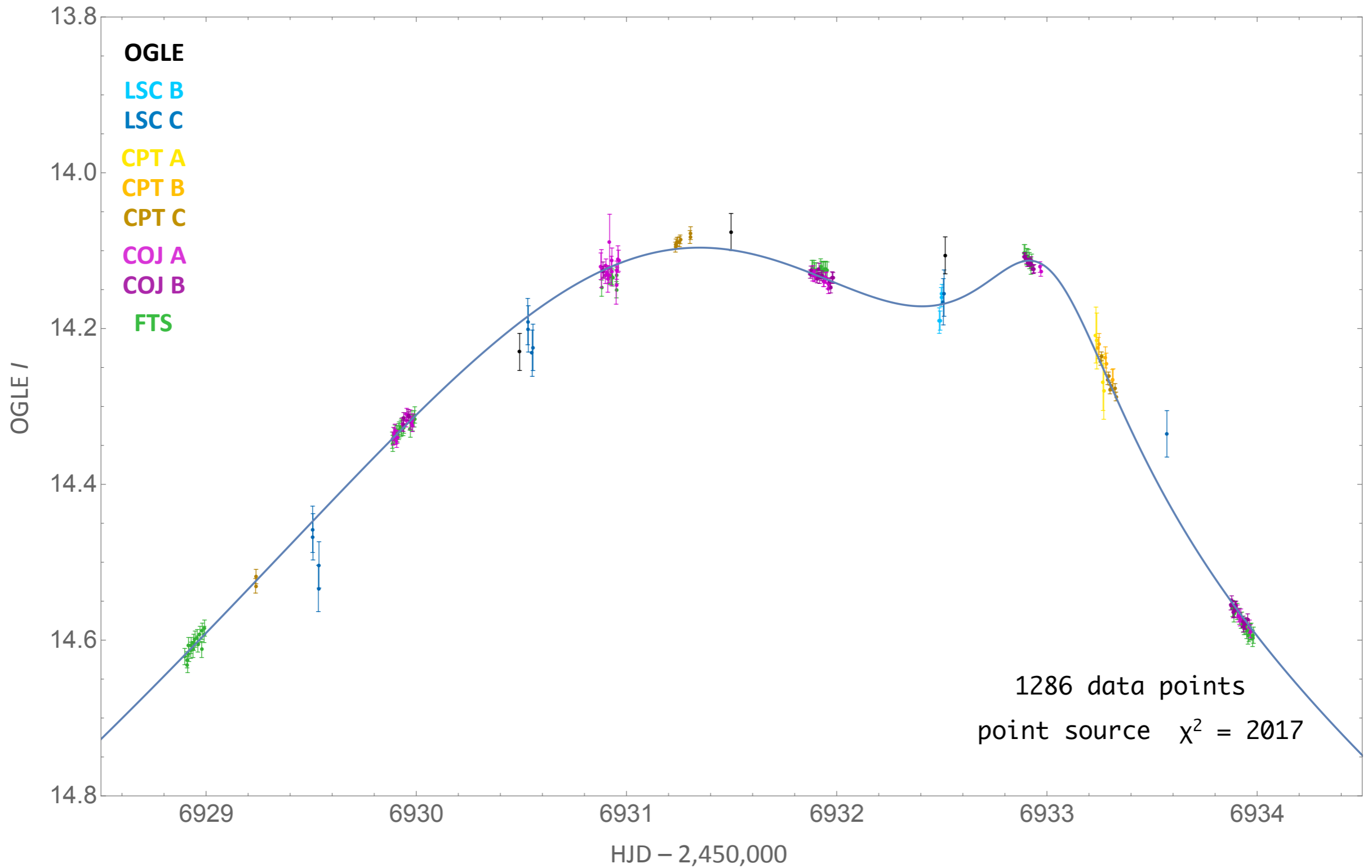


various data sets appear to give consistent picture  
anomaly apparent

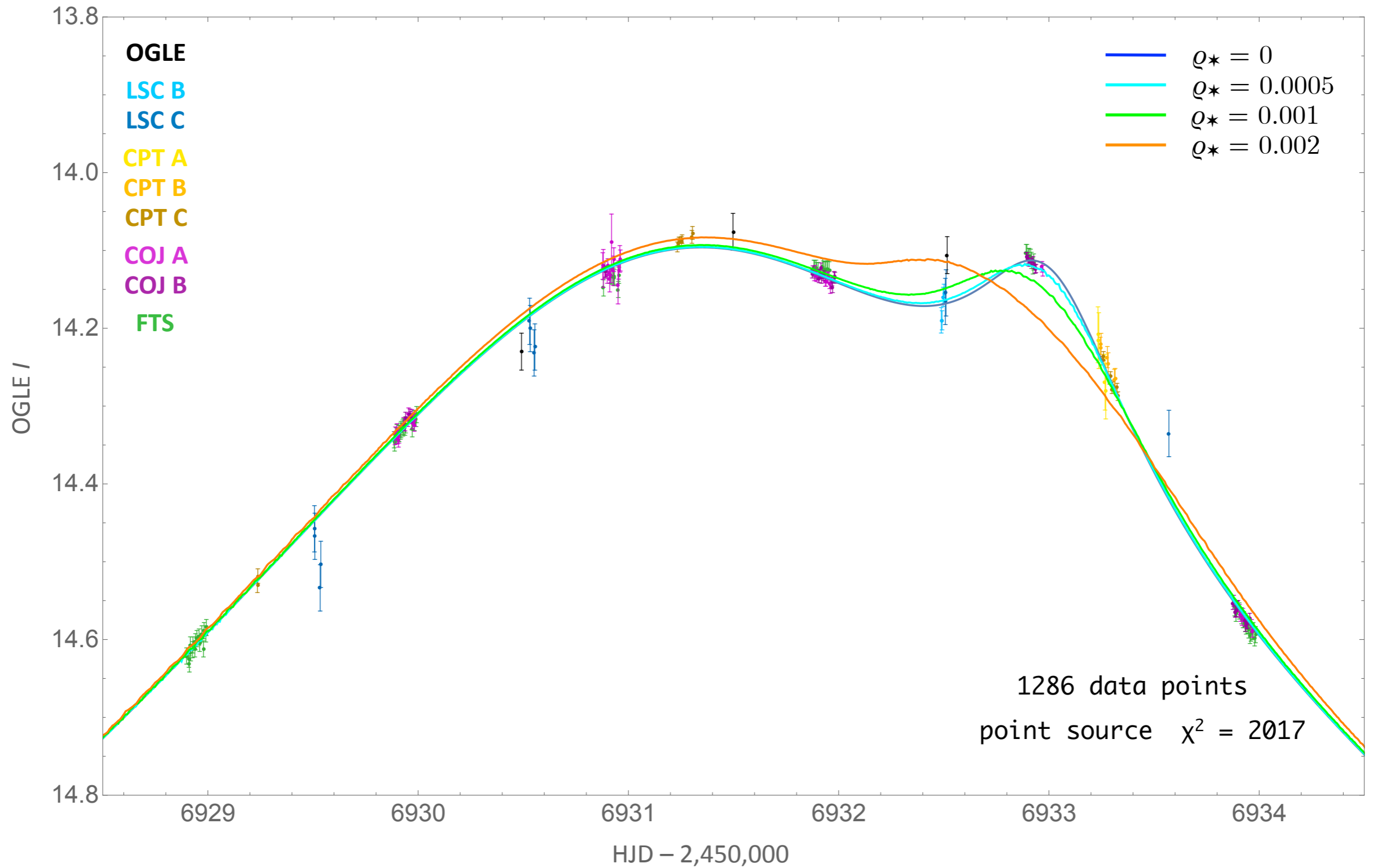




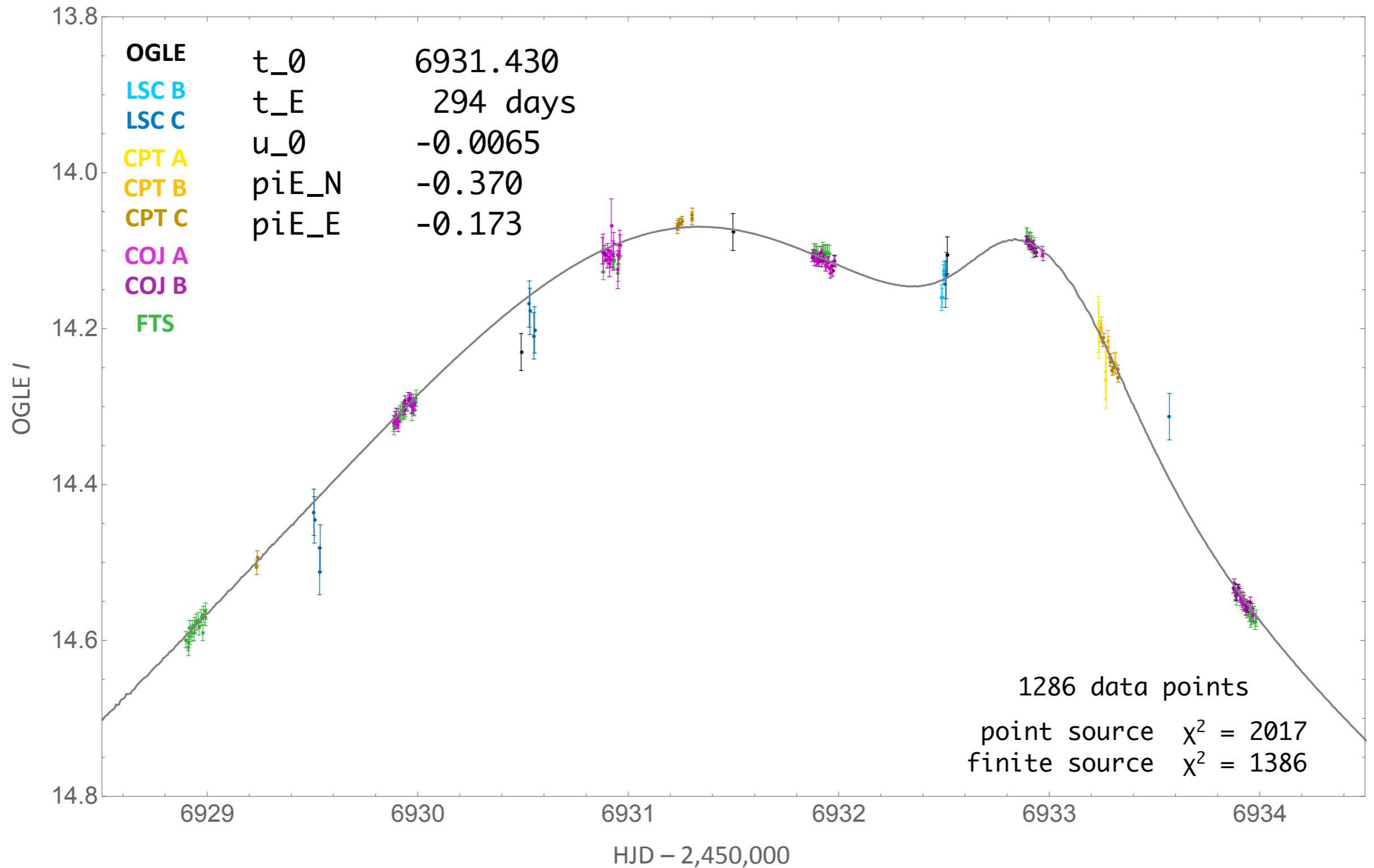
# Modelling the OGLE-2014-BLG-1186 anomaly



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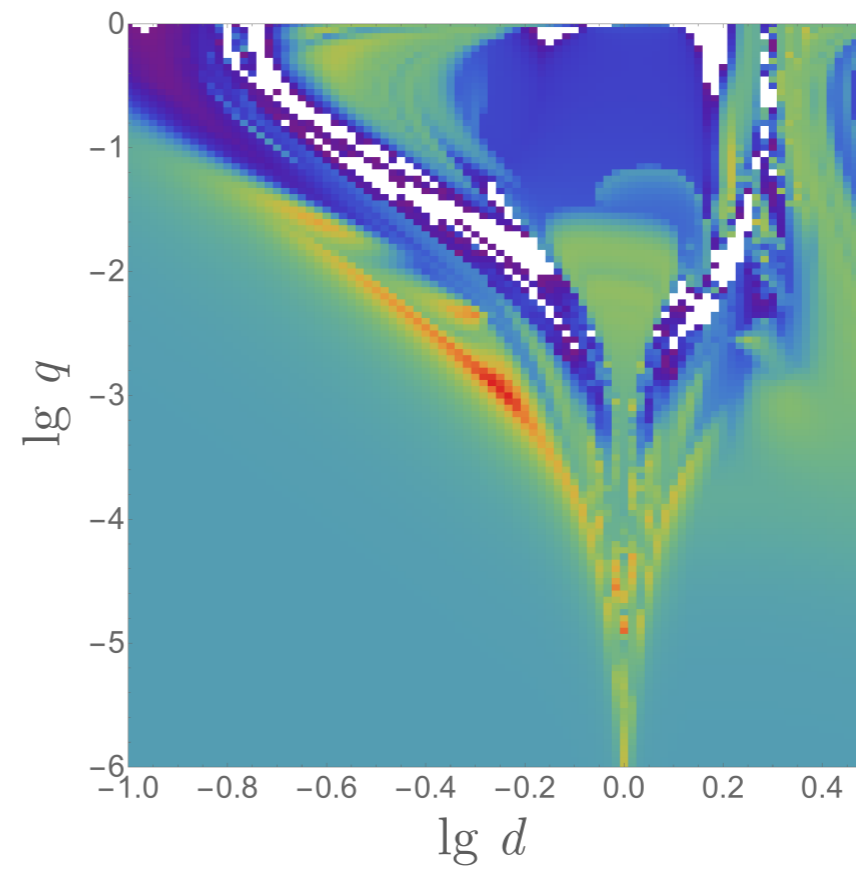
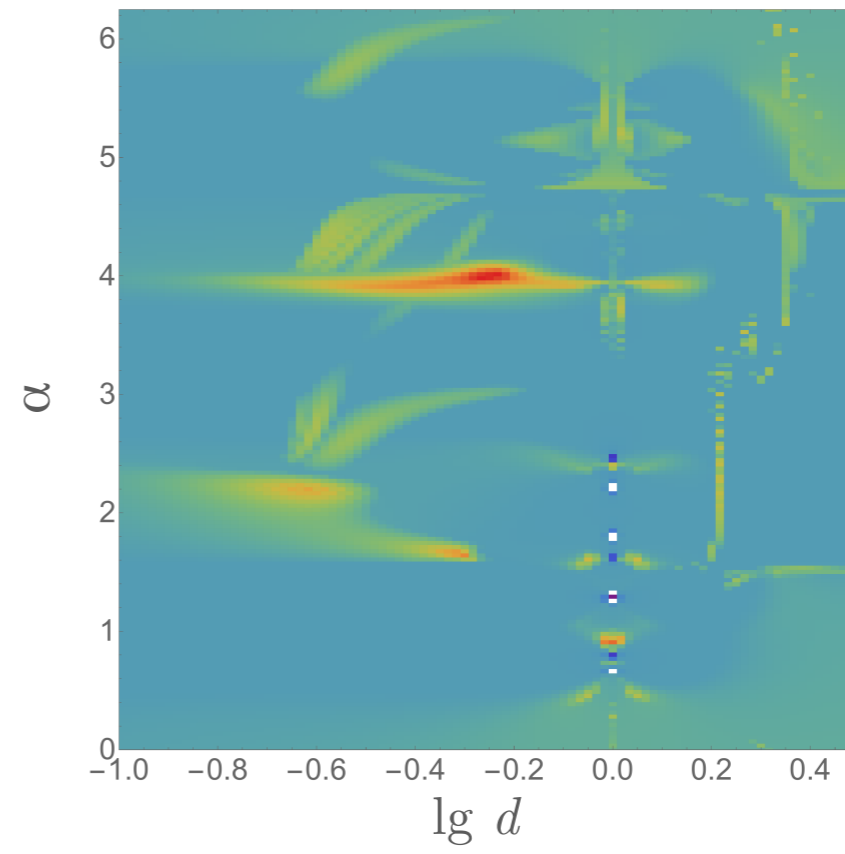
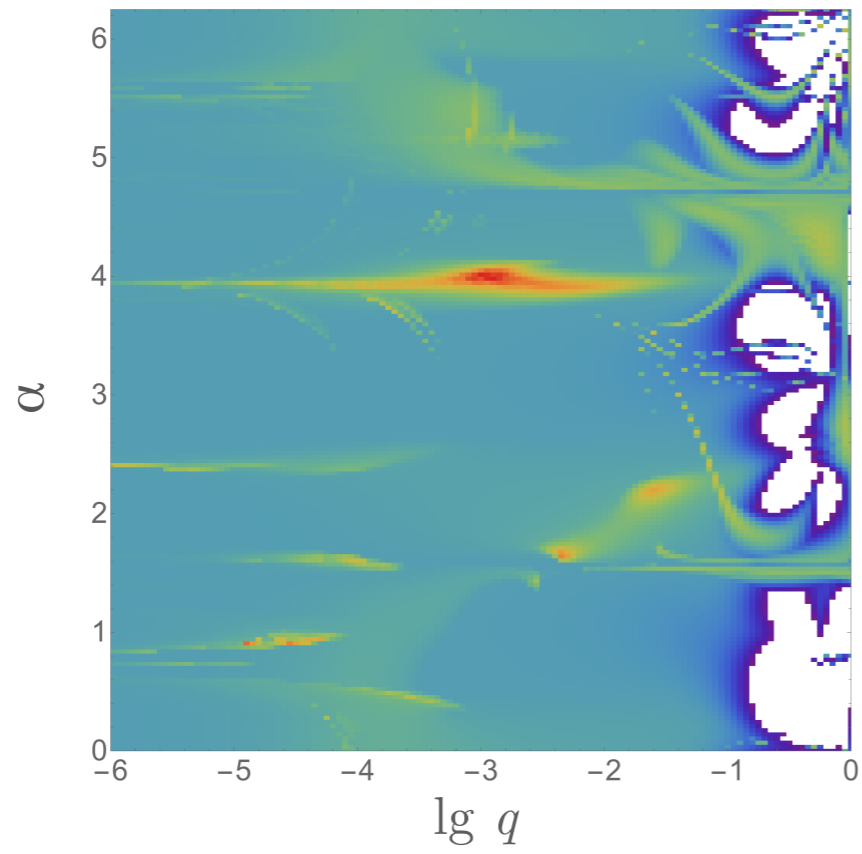


# Modelling the OGLE-2014-BLG-1186 anomaly



binarity not affecting parallax measurement

# Which model?





# Which model?

planetary vs non-planetary “solutions”

$$\chi^2(\mathbf{p}_i) \not\Rightarrow$$

probability for true parameters  $\mathbf{p}_0$   
being in vicinity of  $\mathbf{p}_i$

$$\Delta\chi^2(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) \equiv \chi^2(\mathbf{p}_1) - \chi^2(\mathbf{p}_2) \not\Rightarrow$$

probability for  $\mathbf{p}_1$   
being “preferred” over  $\mathbf{p}_2$

can use  $\chi^2$  test:  $\mathcal{P}[\chi_N^2 \geq \chi^2(\mathbf{p}_i)]$

applicable regardless of model being linear in  $\mathbf{p}$  or not

normally-distributed uncertainties:  $\chi^2$  follows  $\chi^2$ -distribution

$$\text{PDF}(\sqrt{2\chi_N^2}) \sim \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{2N-1}, 1)$$

otherwise: evaluate distribution of  $\chi^2$  based on non-normal  $\sigma$

**does not work without consistent model for measurement uncertainties!**

# special thanks to...



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