



# Properties of Stars from High-Precision Photometry

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SAGAN 2012, NExSci, 2012 July 27

# Properties of Stars from High-Precision *Kepler* Photometry

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# High-precision photometry

$I(t_1), I(t_2), I(t_3), I(t_4), I(t_5), I(t_6) \dots$



properties  
structure  
dynamics

# High-precision photometry

- Minutes to hours...
  - Oscillations
  - Granulation
- Days to months...
  - Rotation
  - Activity
  - Damping of solar-like oscillations

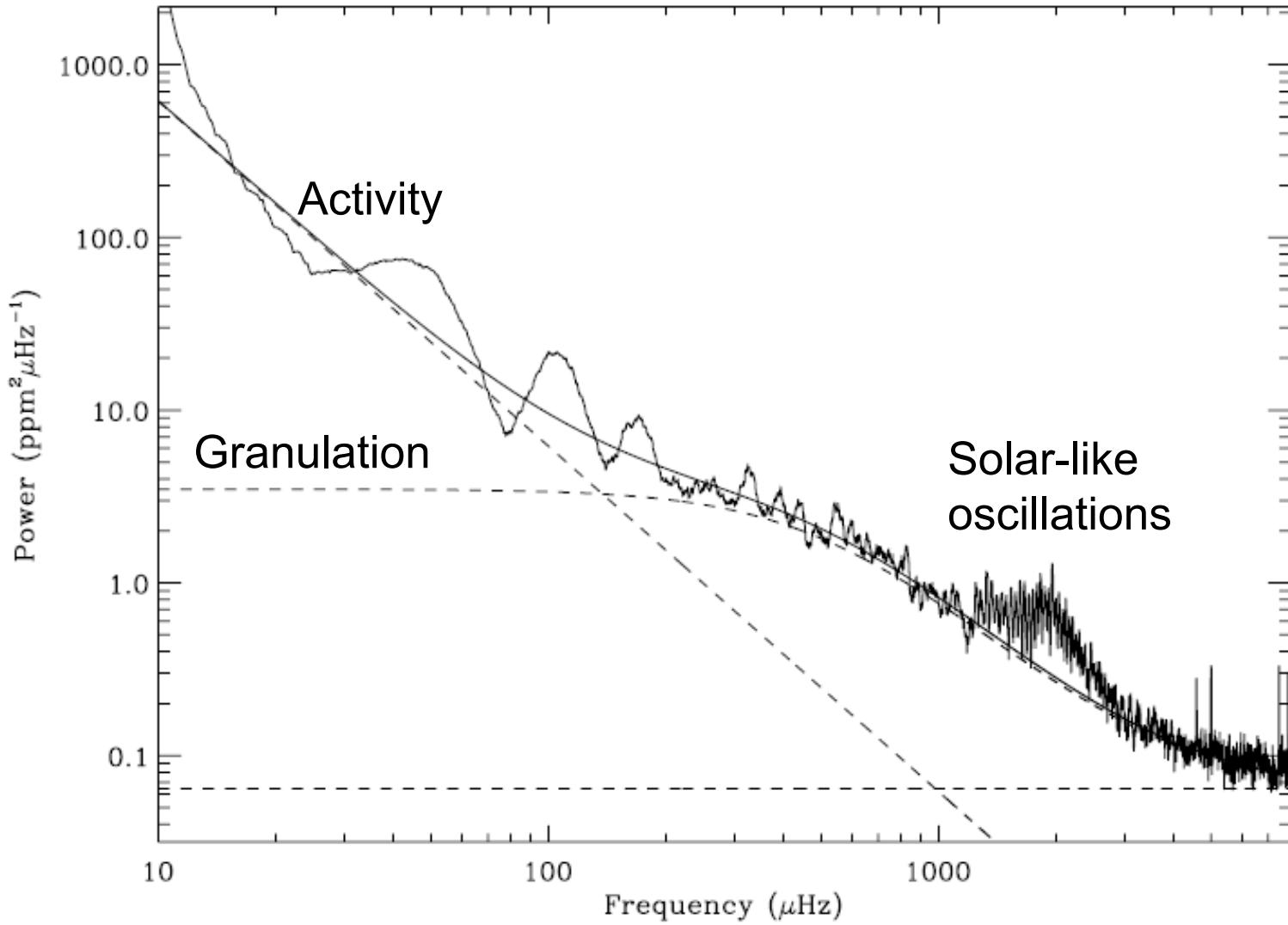
# High-precision photometry

- Asteroseismology
  - Stellar properties (including precise ages)
  - Structure (depth BCZ)
  - Internal rotation, stellar inclination
  - Stellar cycles, surface activity
- Rotational modulation
  - Surface rotation, activity
  - Ages from gyrochronology

# High-precision photometry

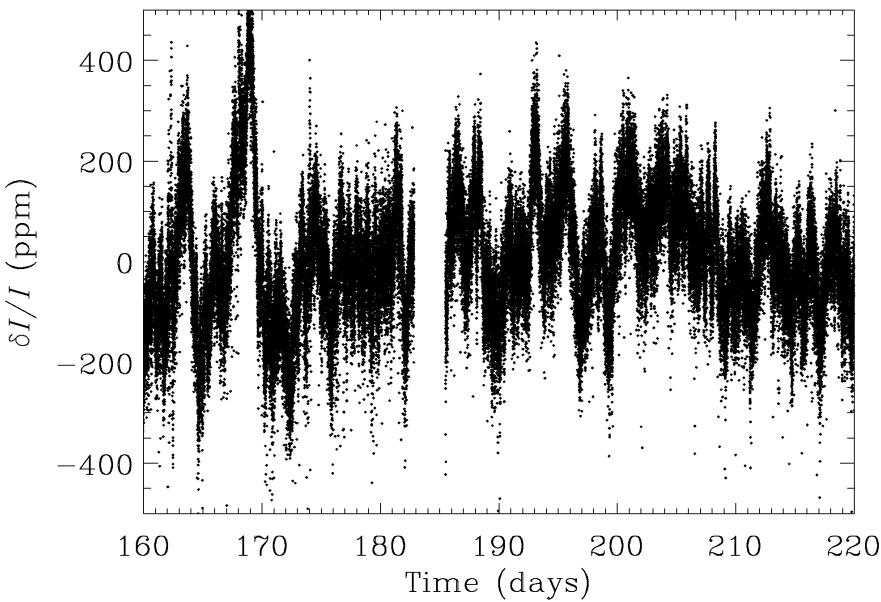
- Cross-checks and linkages...
  - Ages (asteroseismology & gyrochronology)
  - Rotation (internal & surface)
  - Belt-and-braces for inclination, dynamics
- Complementary ground-based data are essential for constraining stellar properties (e.g., from asteroseismology)

# $\theta$ Cyg: The brightest *Kepler* target

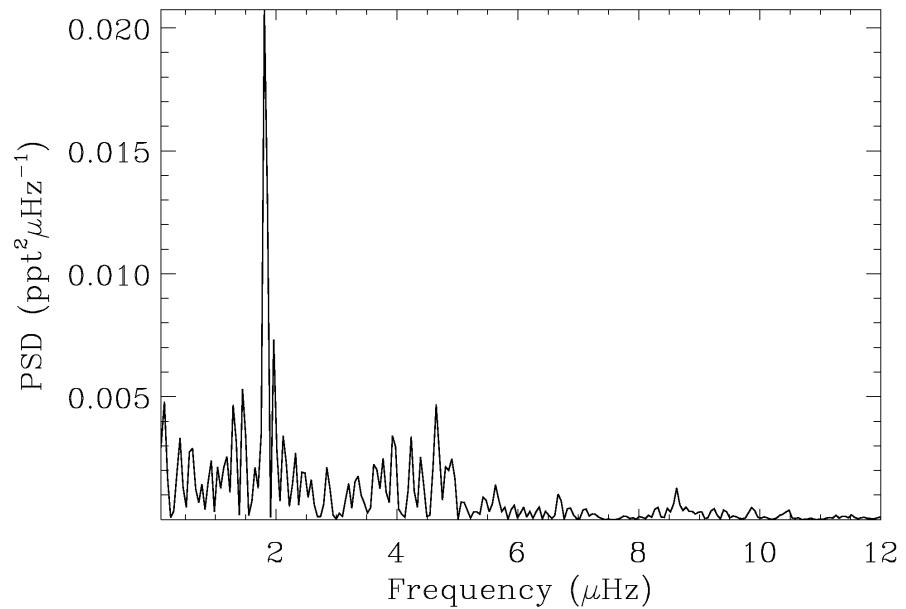


# $\theta$ Cyg: The brightest *Kepler* target

Surface rotation...



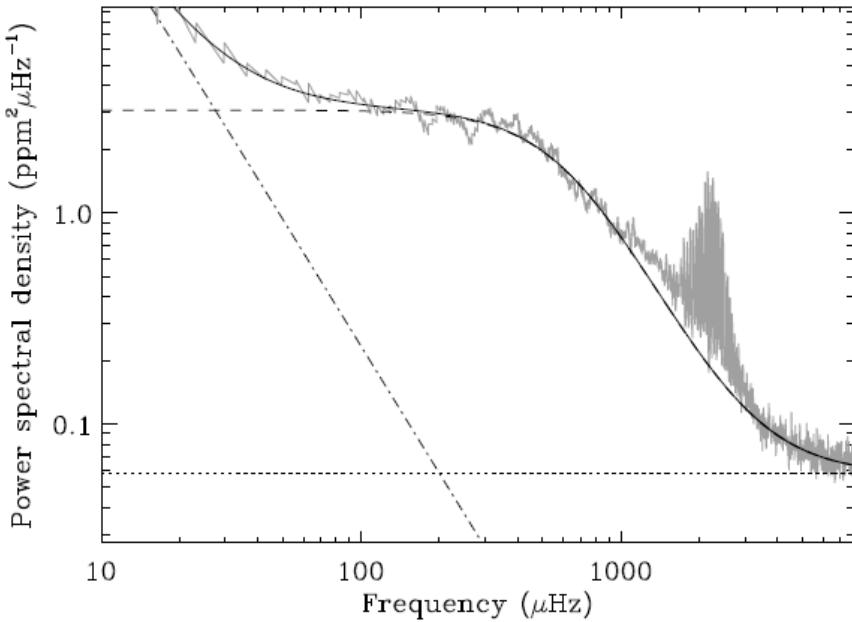
Low-frequency signal



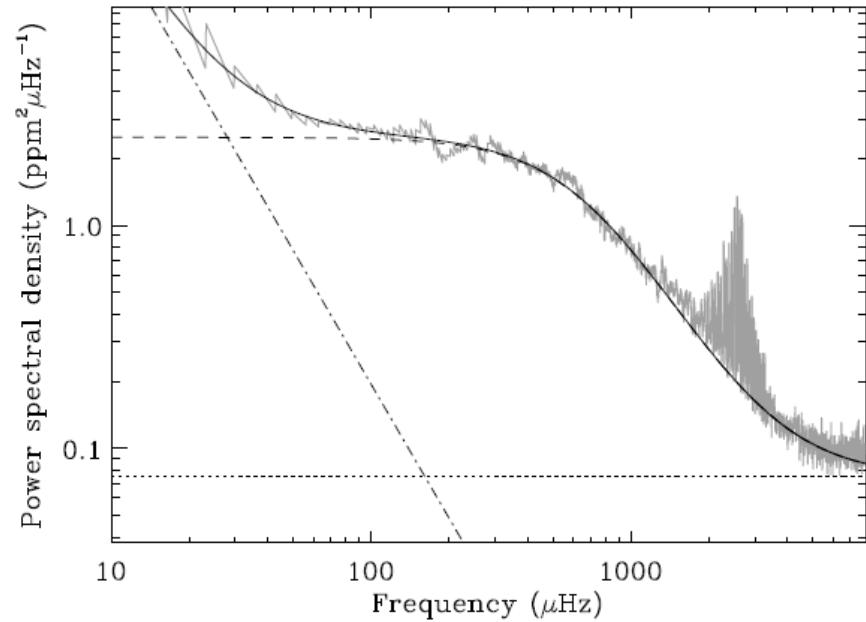
# *Kepler's “best in class”*

Solar-type binary 16 Cyg (age 6.8 Gyr)

16 Cyg A  $M = 1.11M_{\odot}$



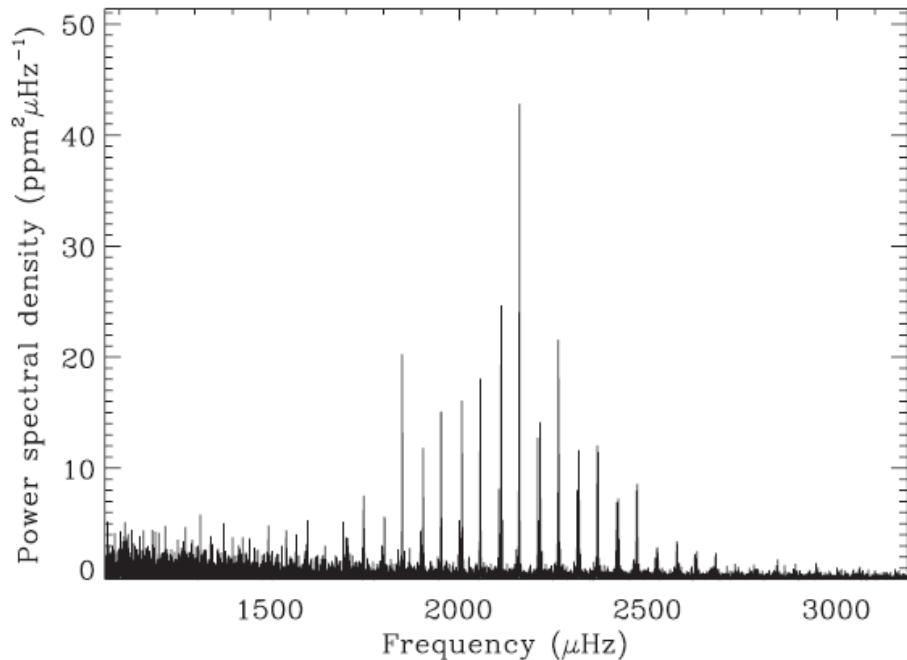
16 Cyg B  $M = 1.07M_{\odot}$



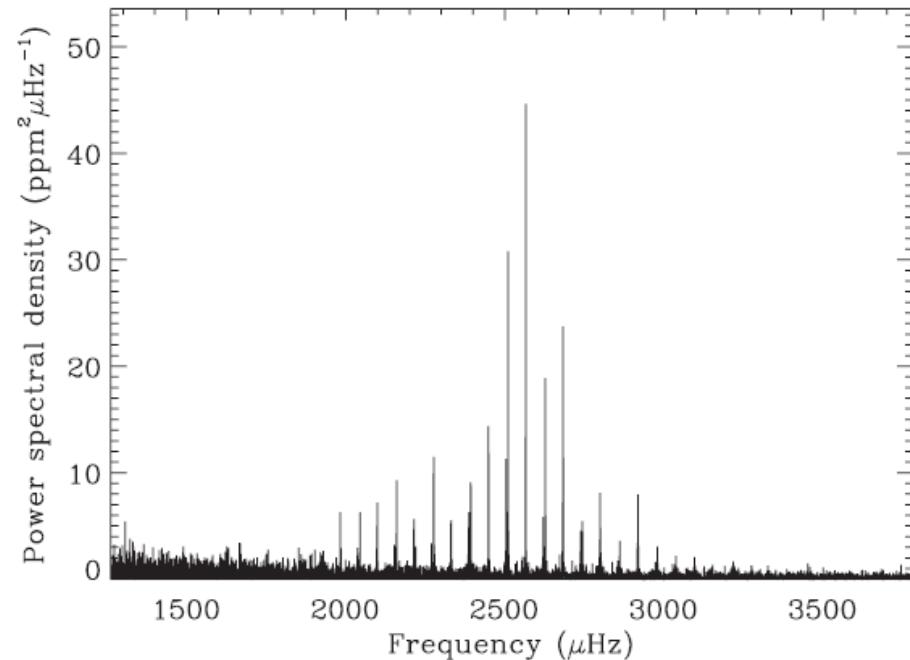
# *Kepler's “best in class”*

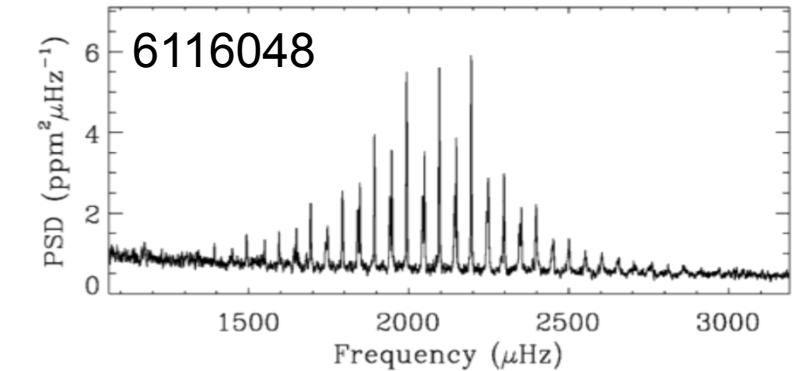
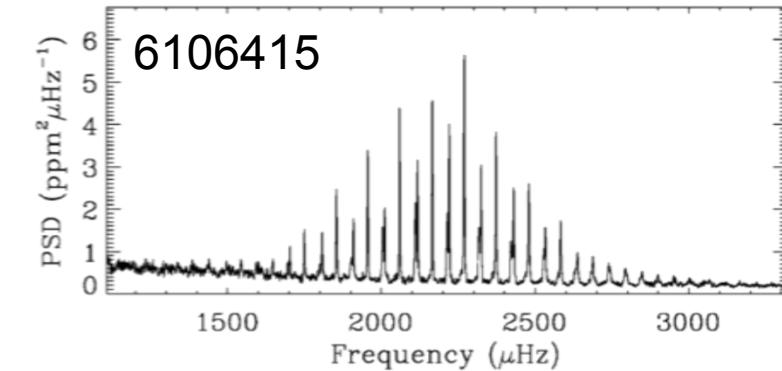
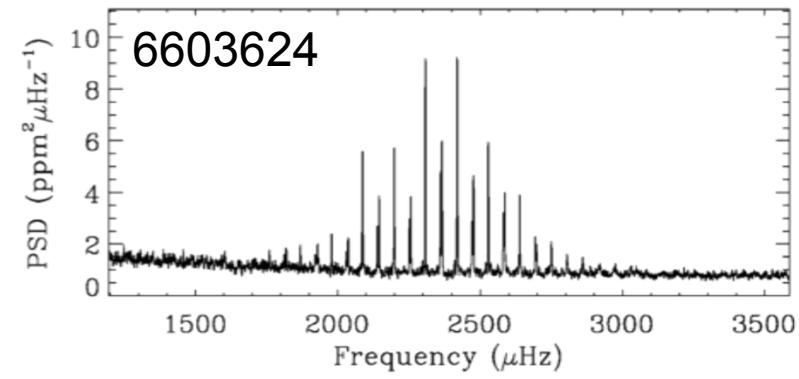
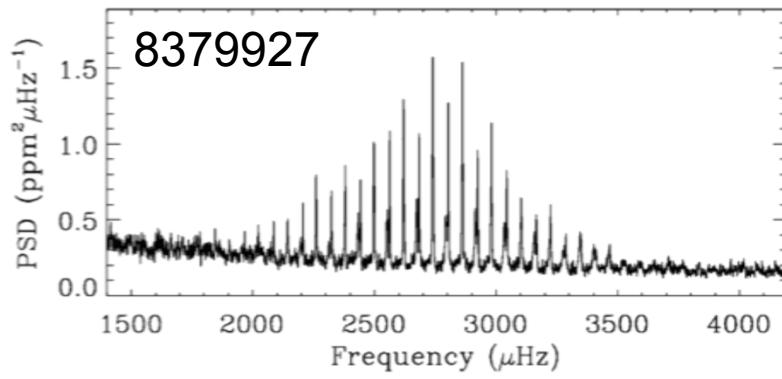
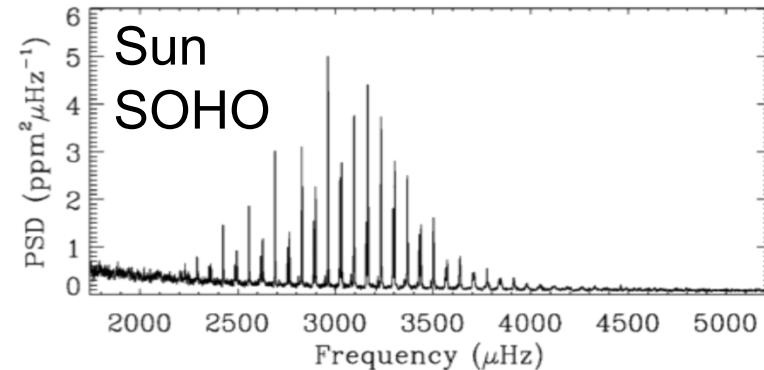
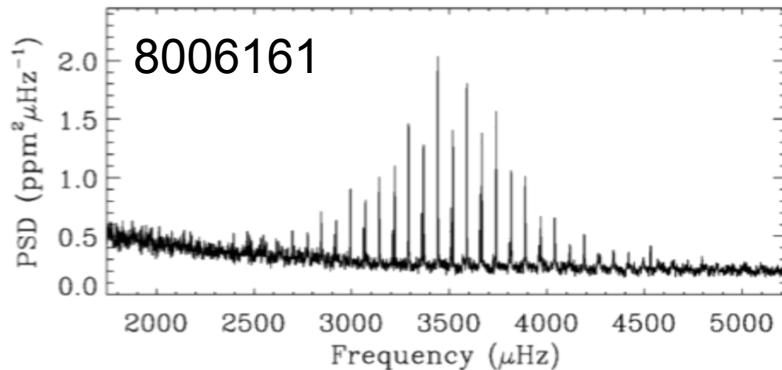
Solar-type binary 16 Cyg (age 6.8 Gyr)

16 Cyg A  $M = 1.11M_{\odot}$



16 Cyg B  $M = 1.07M_{\odot}$





# Stellar properties from asteroseismology

- Precise, accurate fundamental stellar properties for modelling exoplanet systems:
  - Densities, radii, masses
  - $\log(g)$  for “boot strapping” spectroscopic analysis
  - Ages! Comparison with gyrochronology

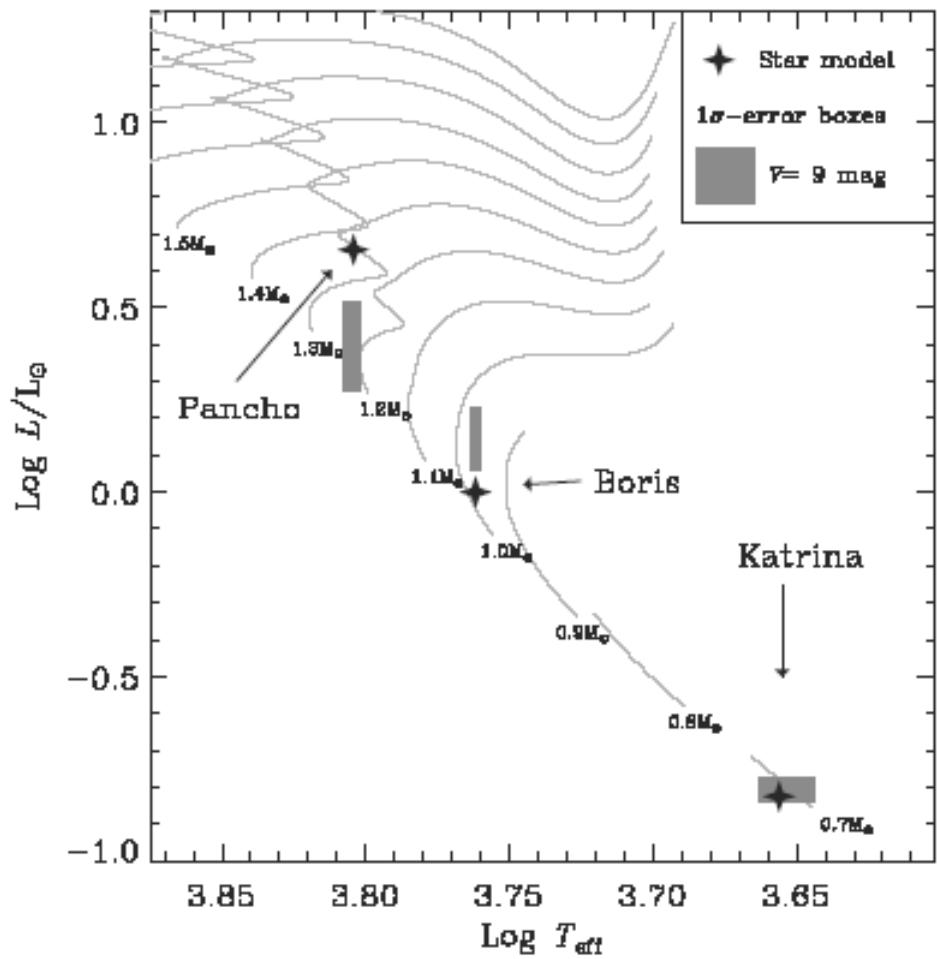
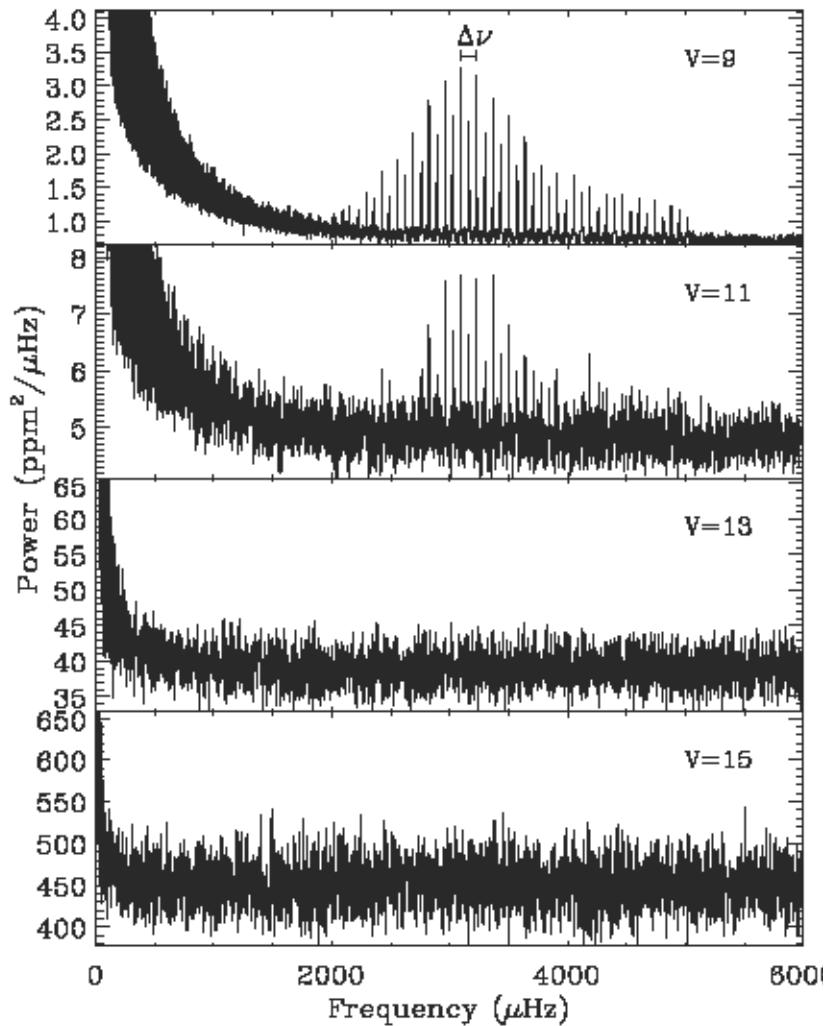
# Stellar properties from asteroseismology

- Internal rotation, stellar angle of inclination:
  - Constraints on dynamical histories of stellar systems

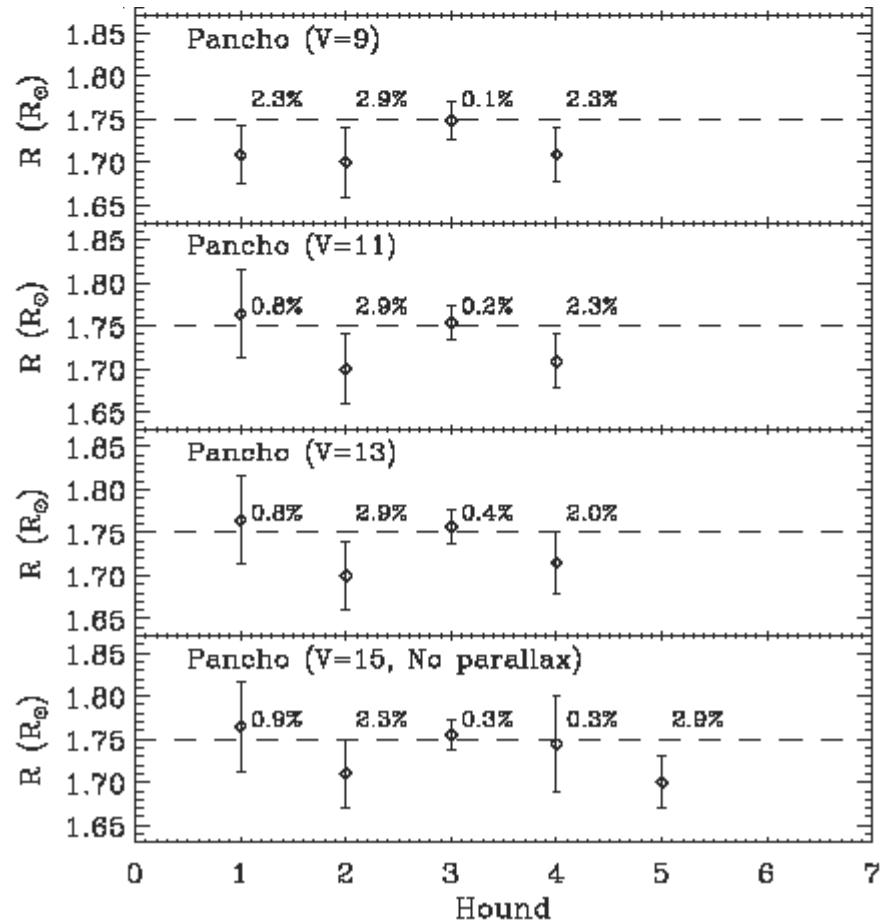
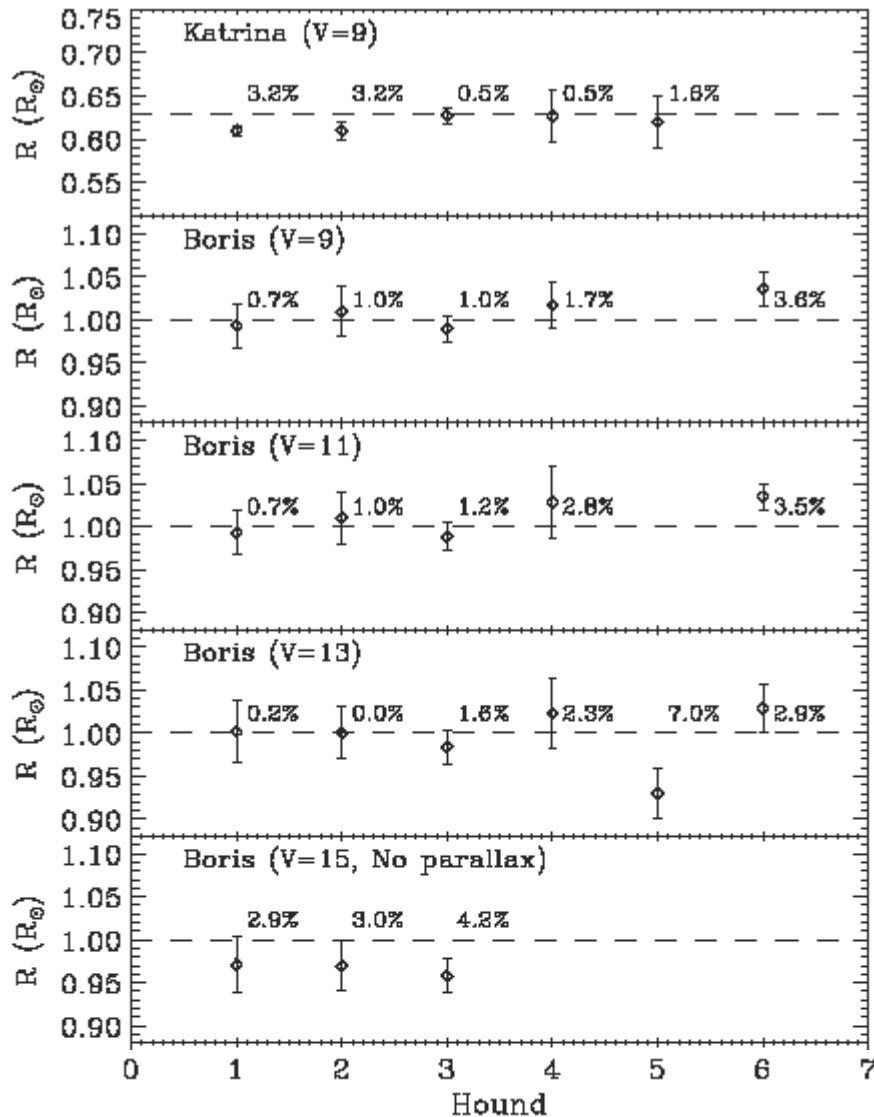
# Stellar properties from asteroseismology

- Intrinsic activity, variability of host stars, influence on local environment:
  - “Sound” stellar activity cycles
  - Constrain distribution of near-surface activity
  - Depths of convective envelopes, tests of stellar dynamos

# asteroFLAG Hare and Hounds

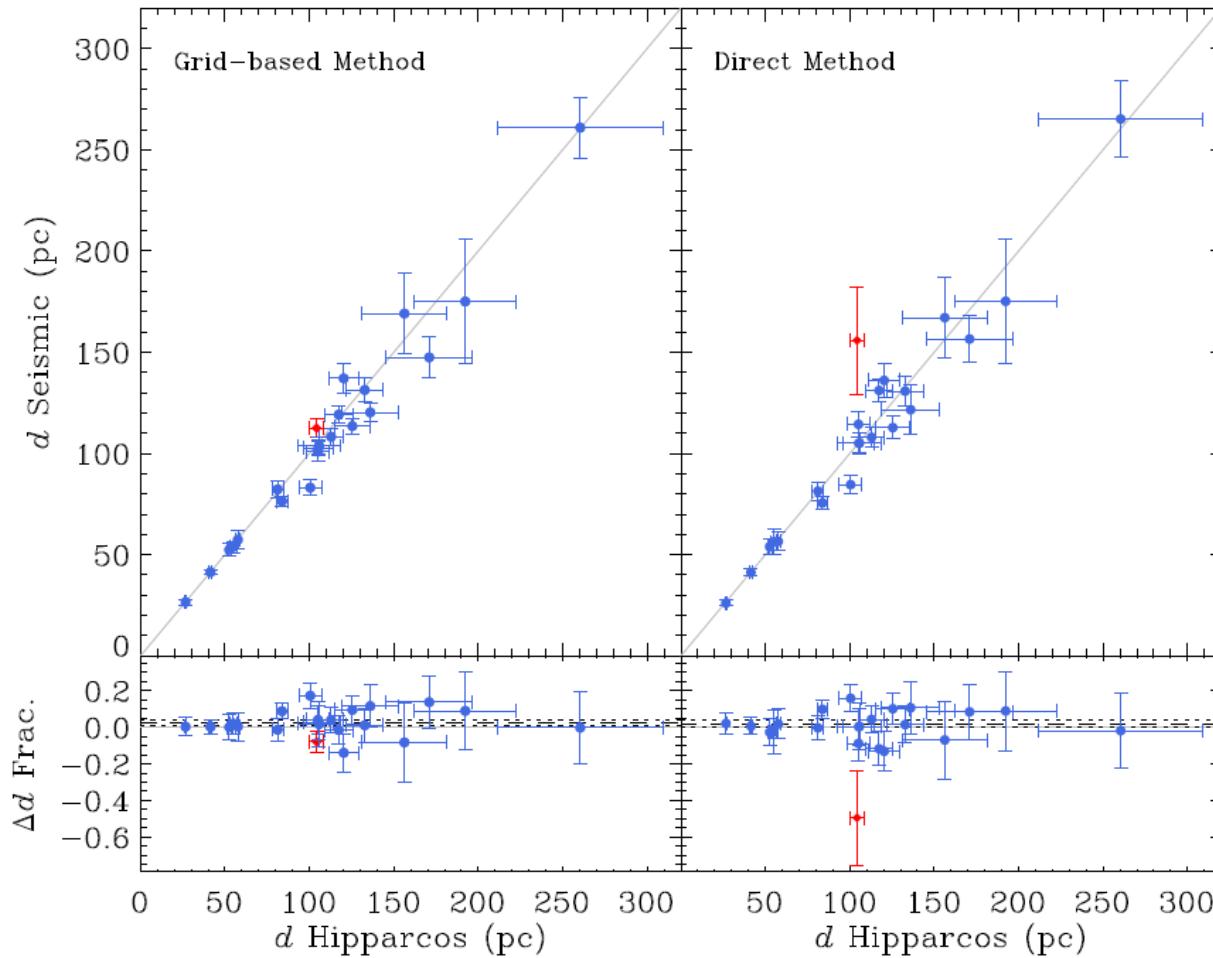


# asteroFLAG Hare and Hounds



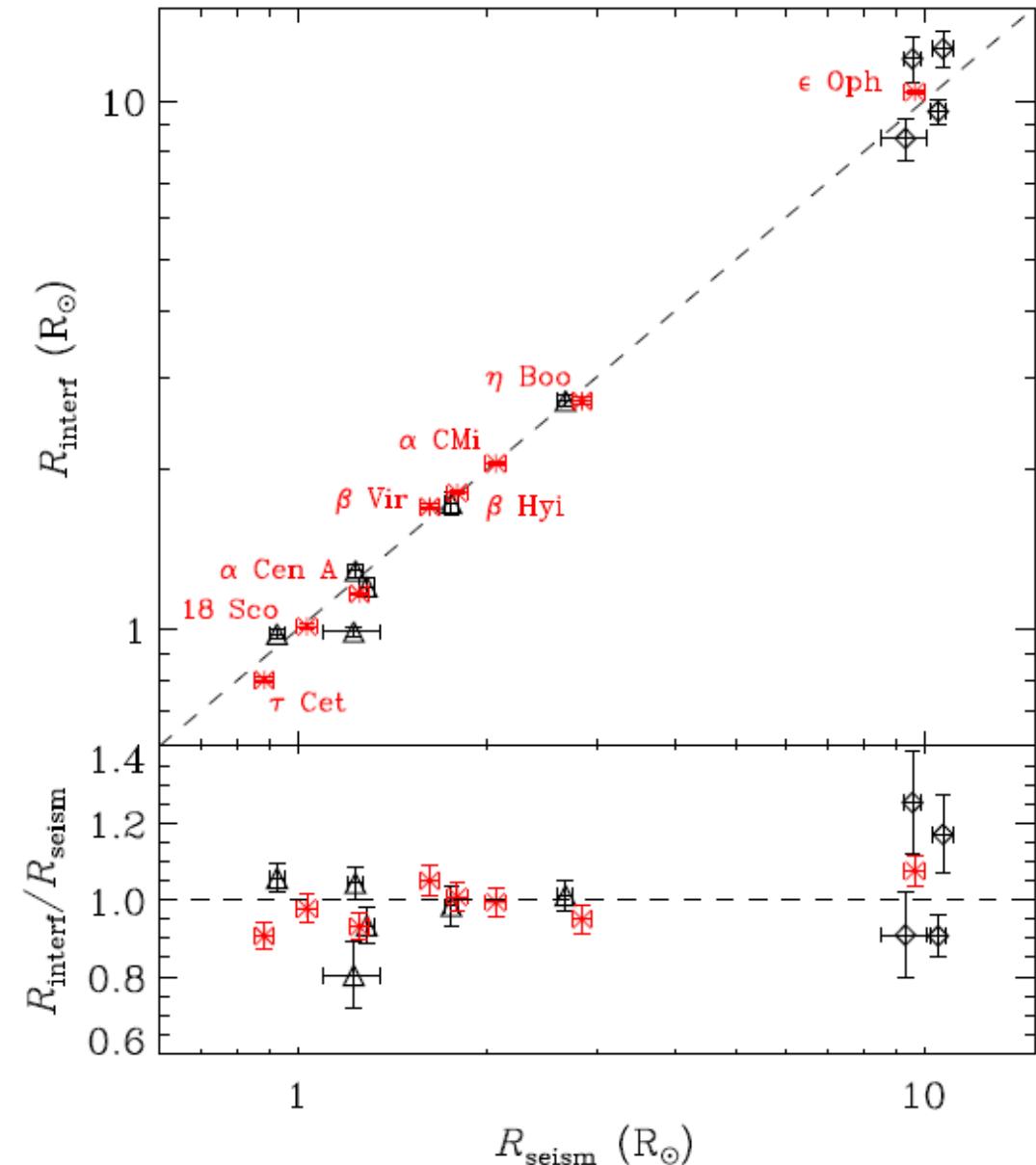
# Testing asteroseismic inference

## Hipparcos parallaxes

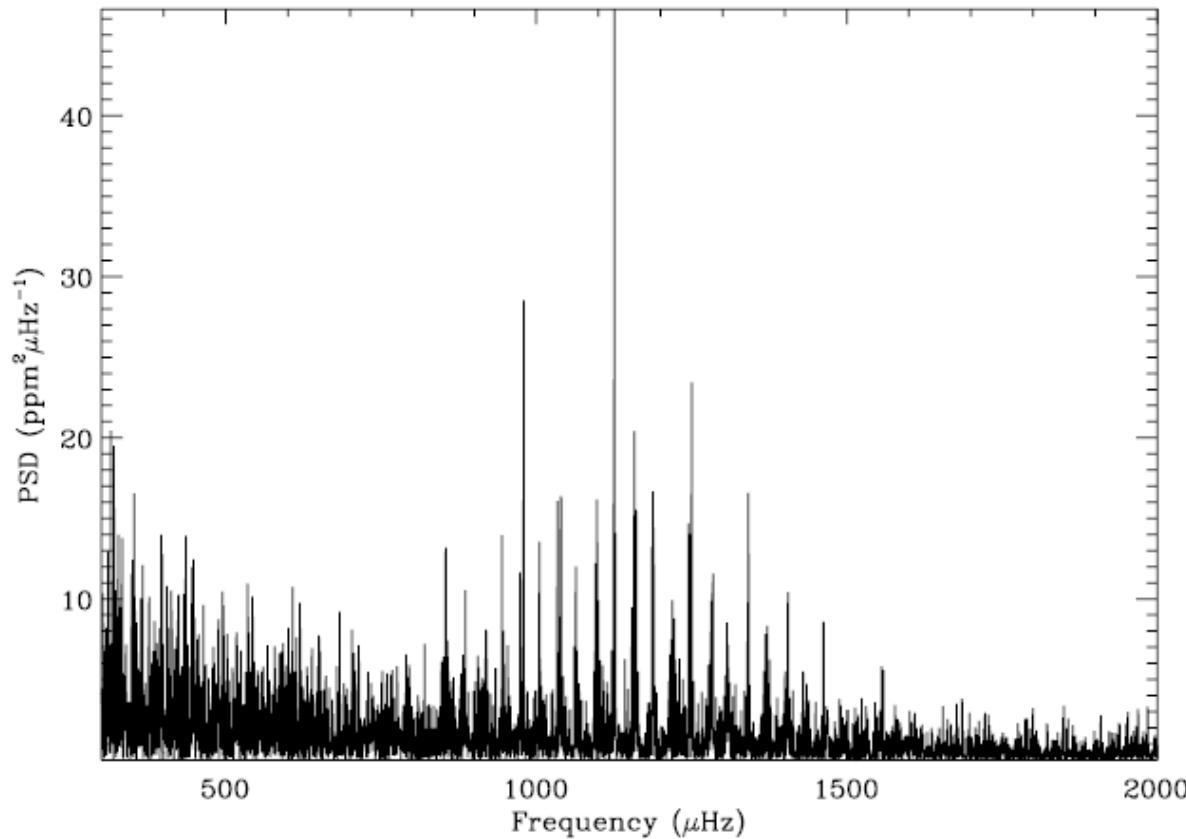


# Testing asteroseismic inference with interferometry

## Observations with CHARA



# Kepler 21b $1.6R_E$ planet orbiting bright F-type sub-giant



# Kepler 21b $1.6R_E$ planet orbiting bright F-type sub-giant

- Brightest *Kepler* exoplanet host star
- High-precision stellar properties from asteroseismology:
  - Stellar radius to 2.2%
  - Stellar mass to 4.5%
  - Stellar age to 12%
- Planetary radius to 2.4%

# Kepler-22 System

Solar System

Habitable Zone

Kepler-22b

Mercury

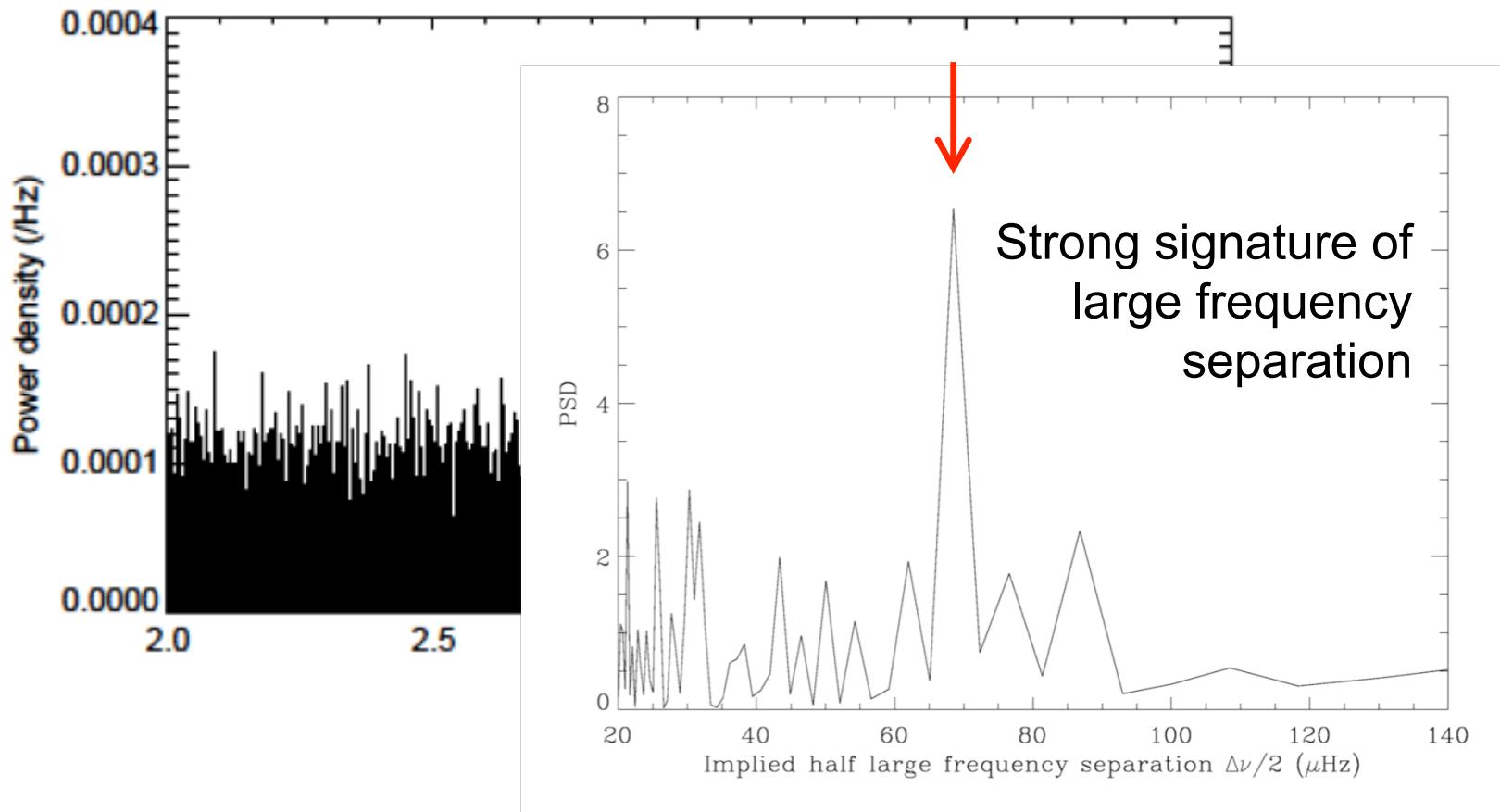
Venus

Earth

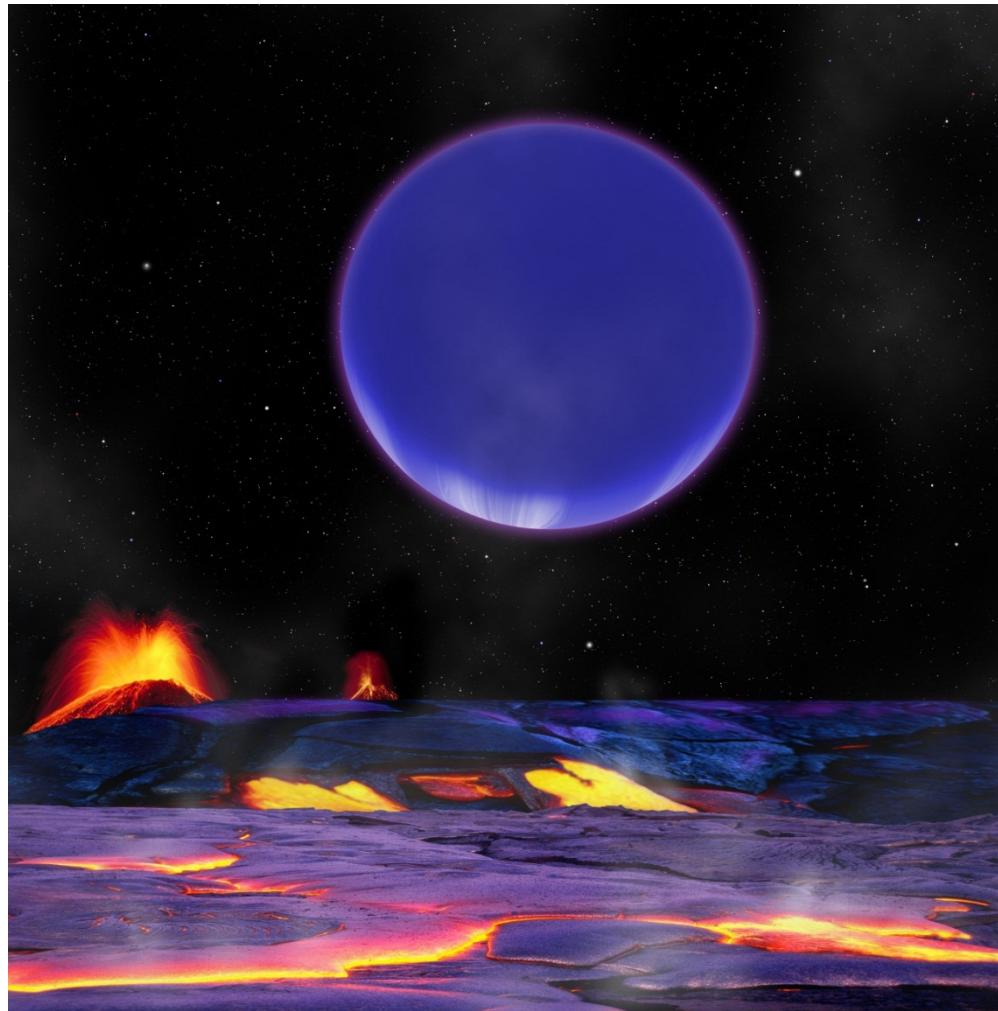
Mars

Planets and orbits to scale

# Kepler 22b $2.4R_E$ planet in habitable zone of Sun-like star



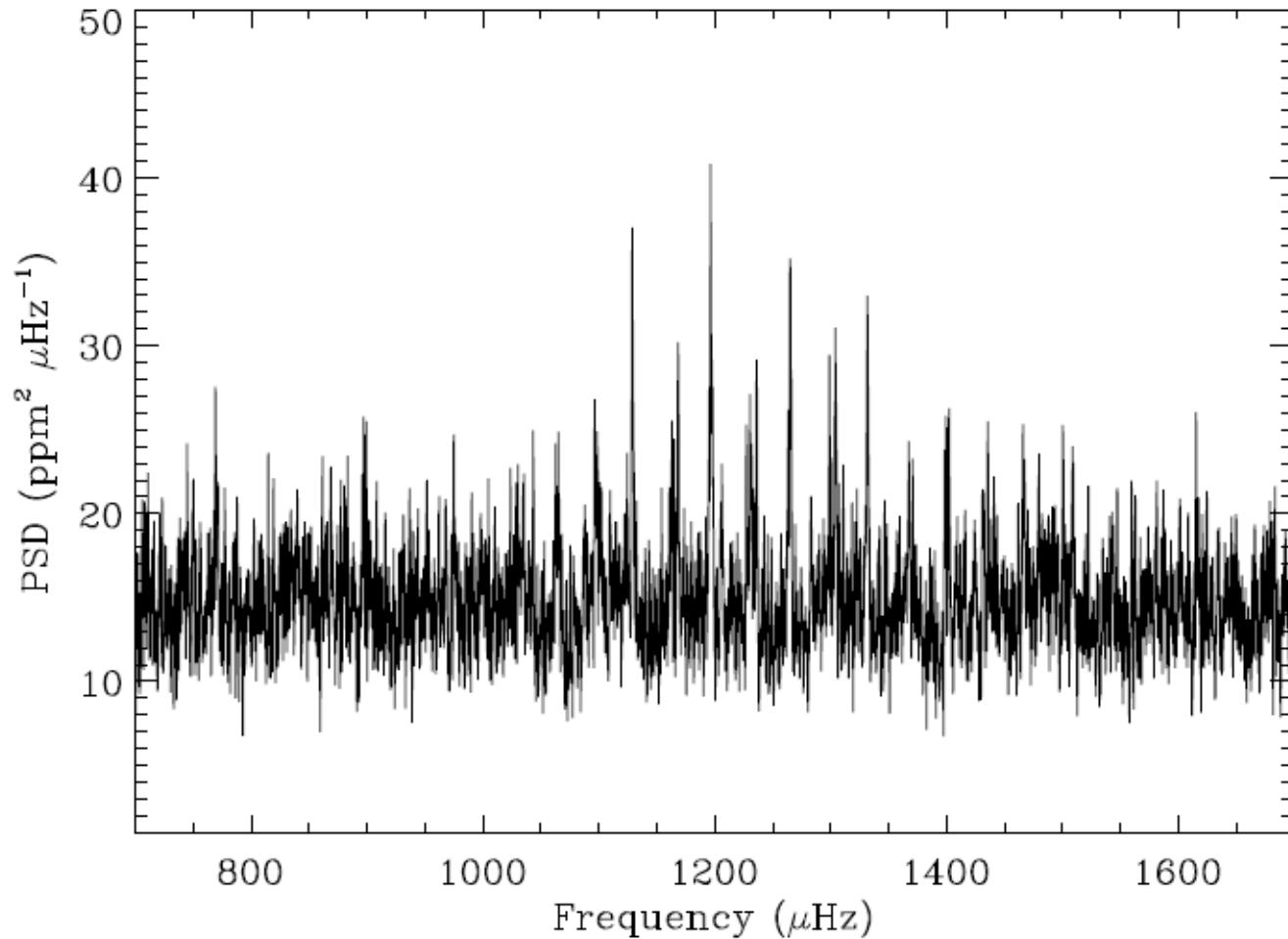
# Kepler 36b and Kepler 36c



Carter et al. (2012), Science, in the press

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# Kepler 36: G-type subgiant

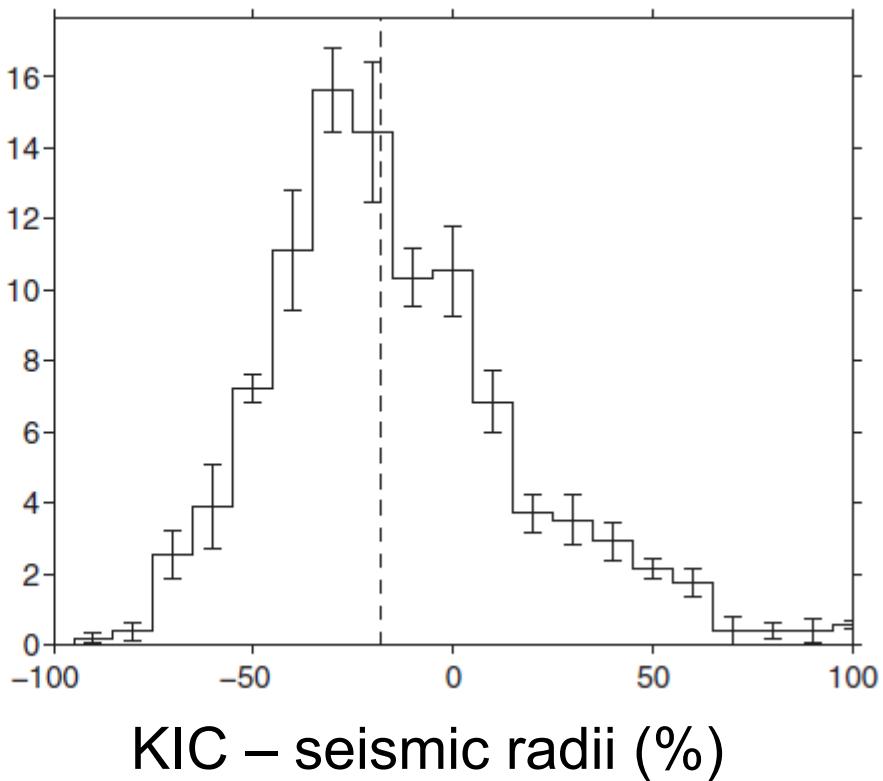
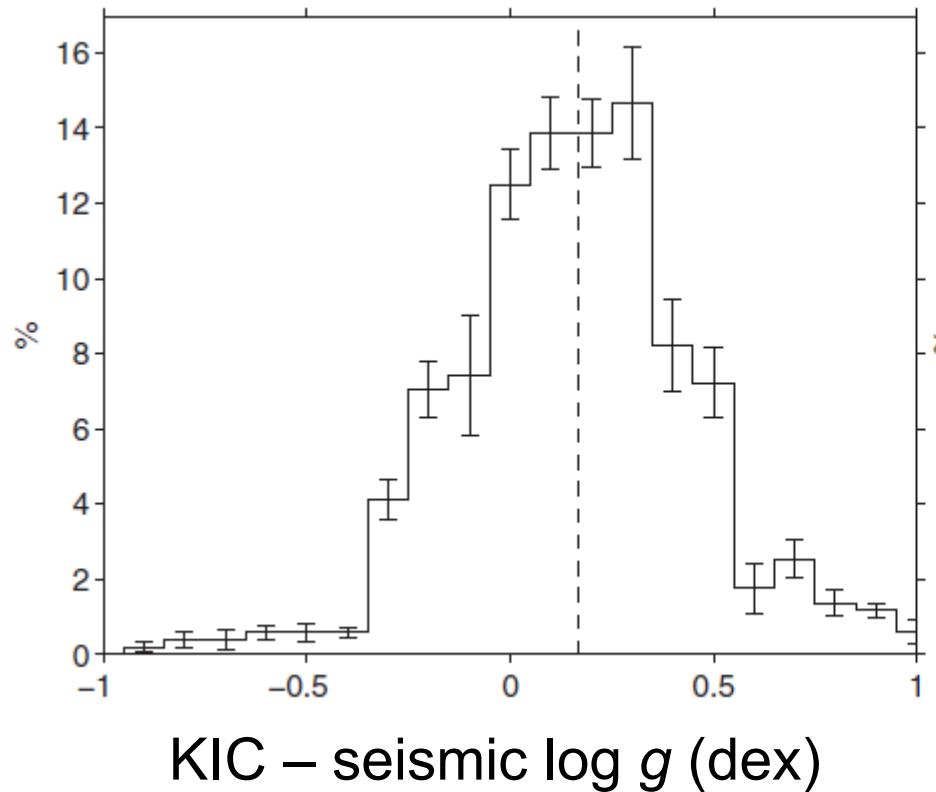


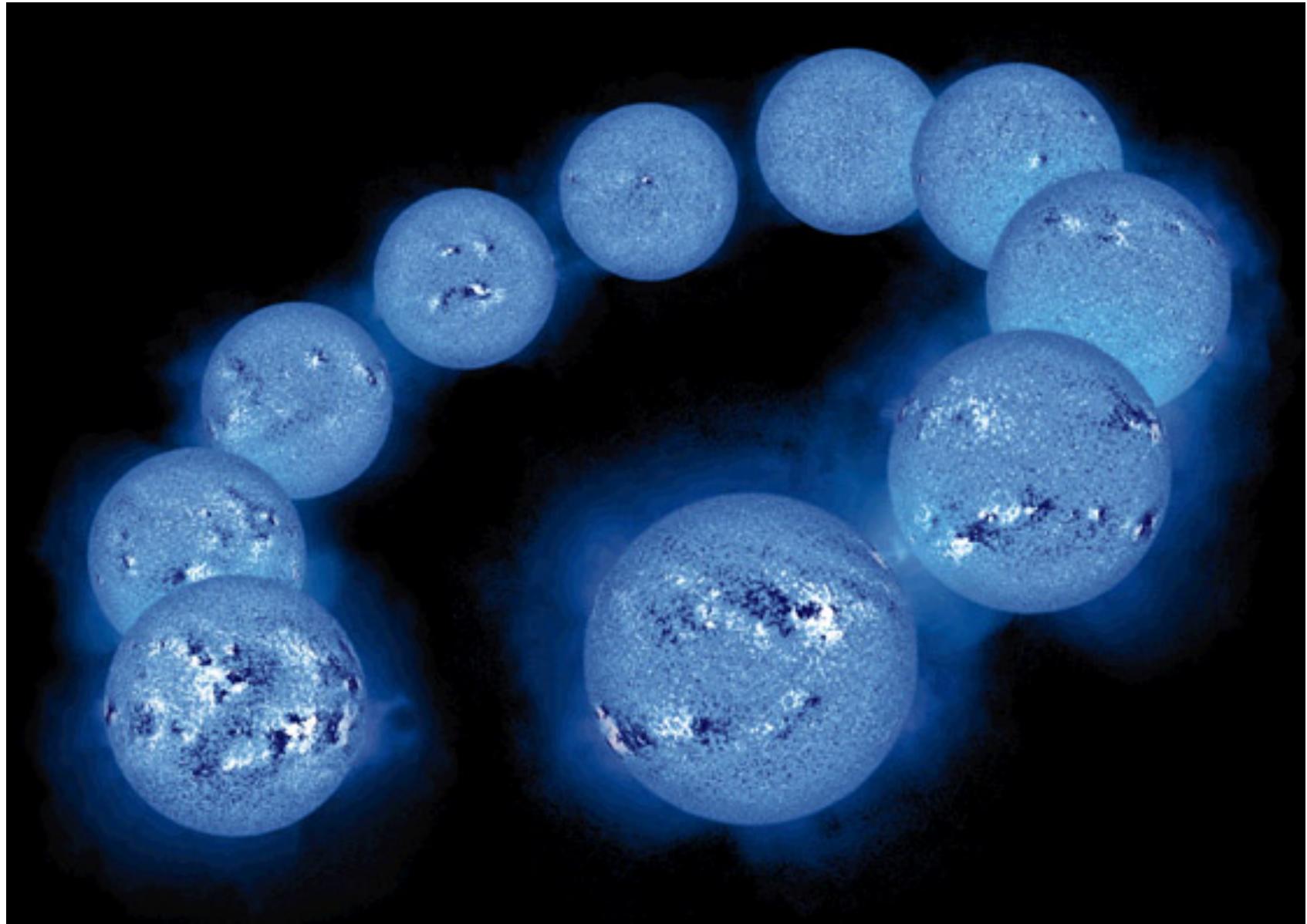
# Kepler 36: G-type subgiant

- High-precision stellar properties from asteroseismology:
  - Stellar radius to 1.2%
  - Stellar mass to 4.0%
  - Stellar age to 15%
- Key to providing strong constraints on planetary properties

# Asteroseismic ensemble tests *Kepler* Input Catalogue

Finds an underestimation bias in KIC radii

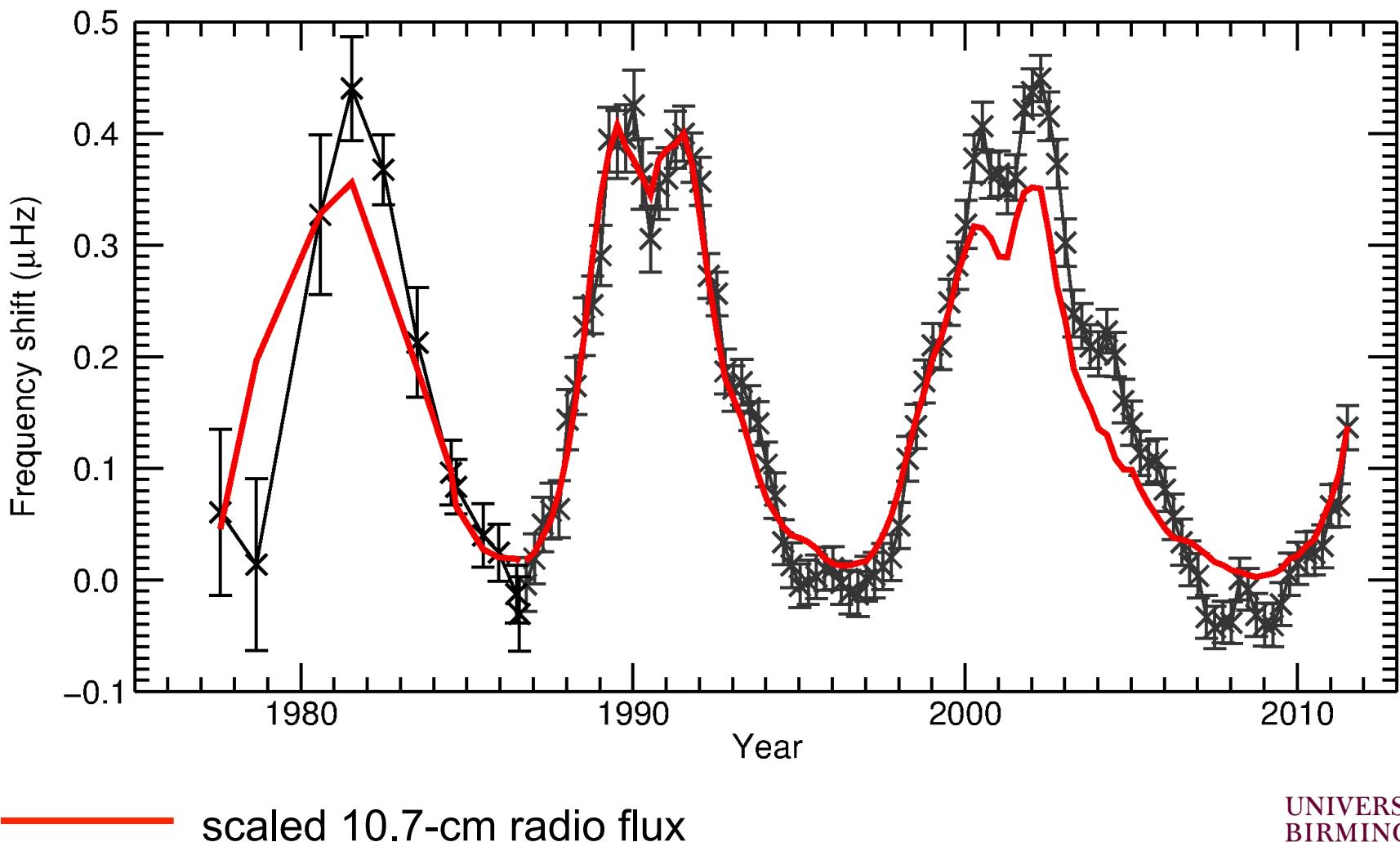




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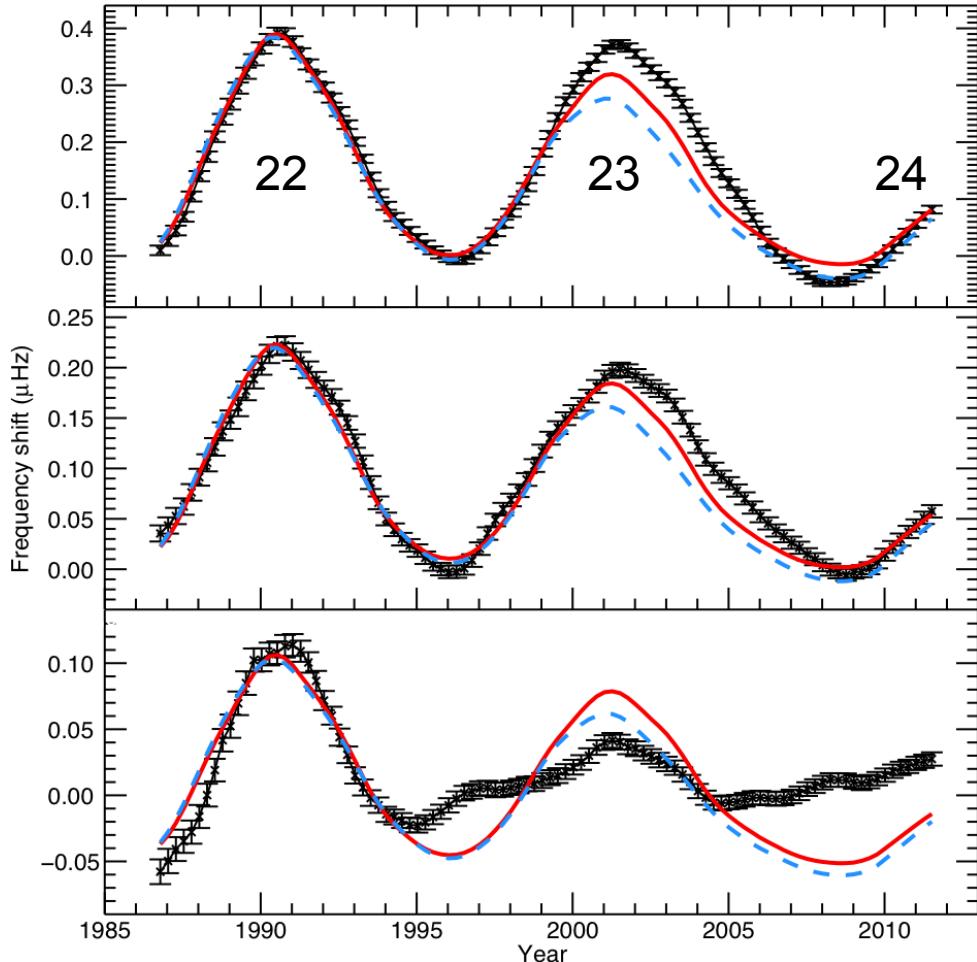
# “Sounding” stellar activity cycles: Sun

Three solar cycles with BiSON Sun-as-a-star data



# Cycles 22, 23... and rise of 24

BiSON Sun-as-a-star data

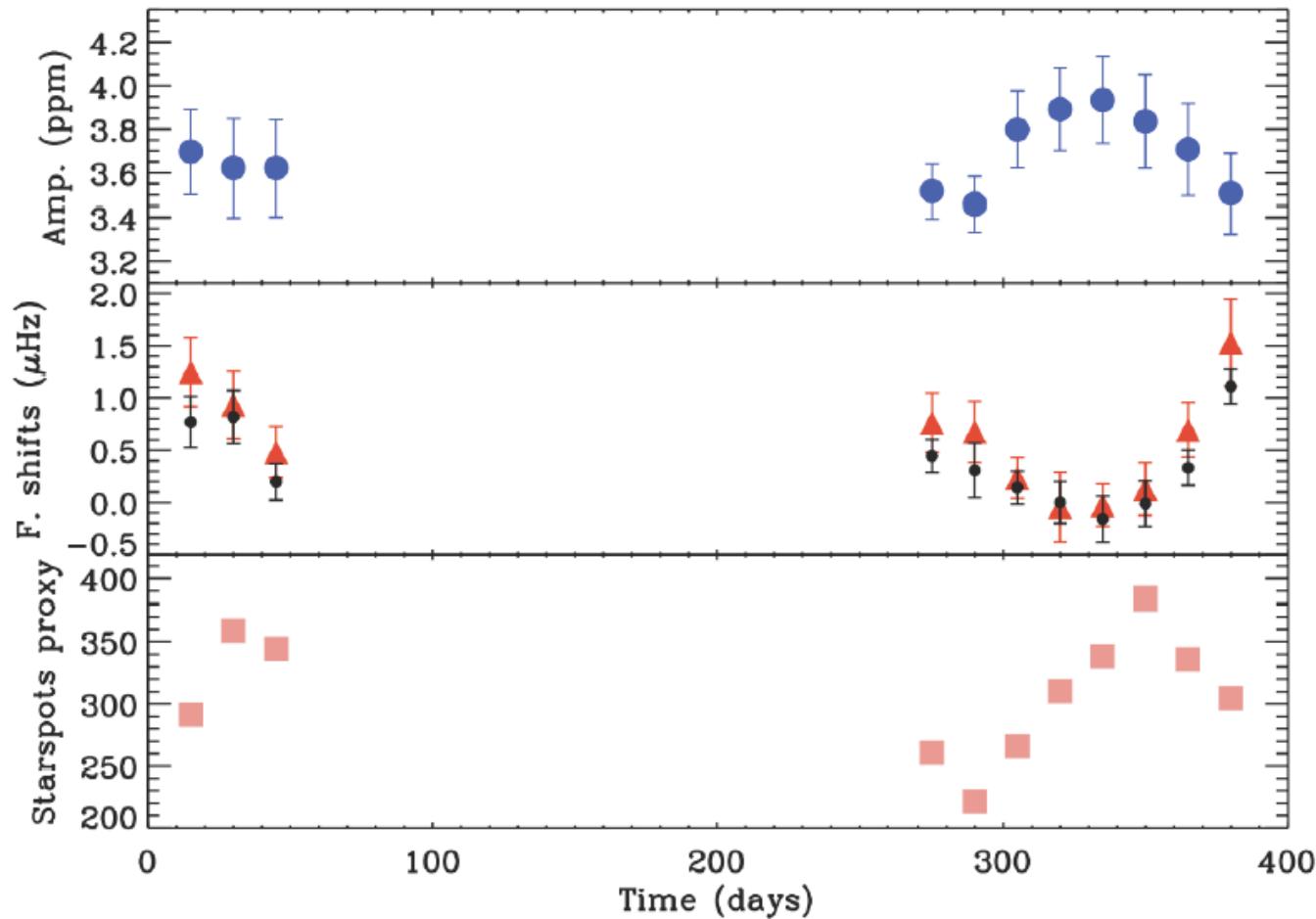


High-frequency  
modes

Intermediate-frequency  
modes

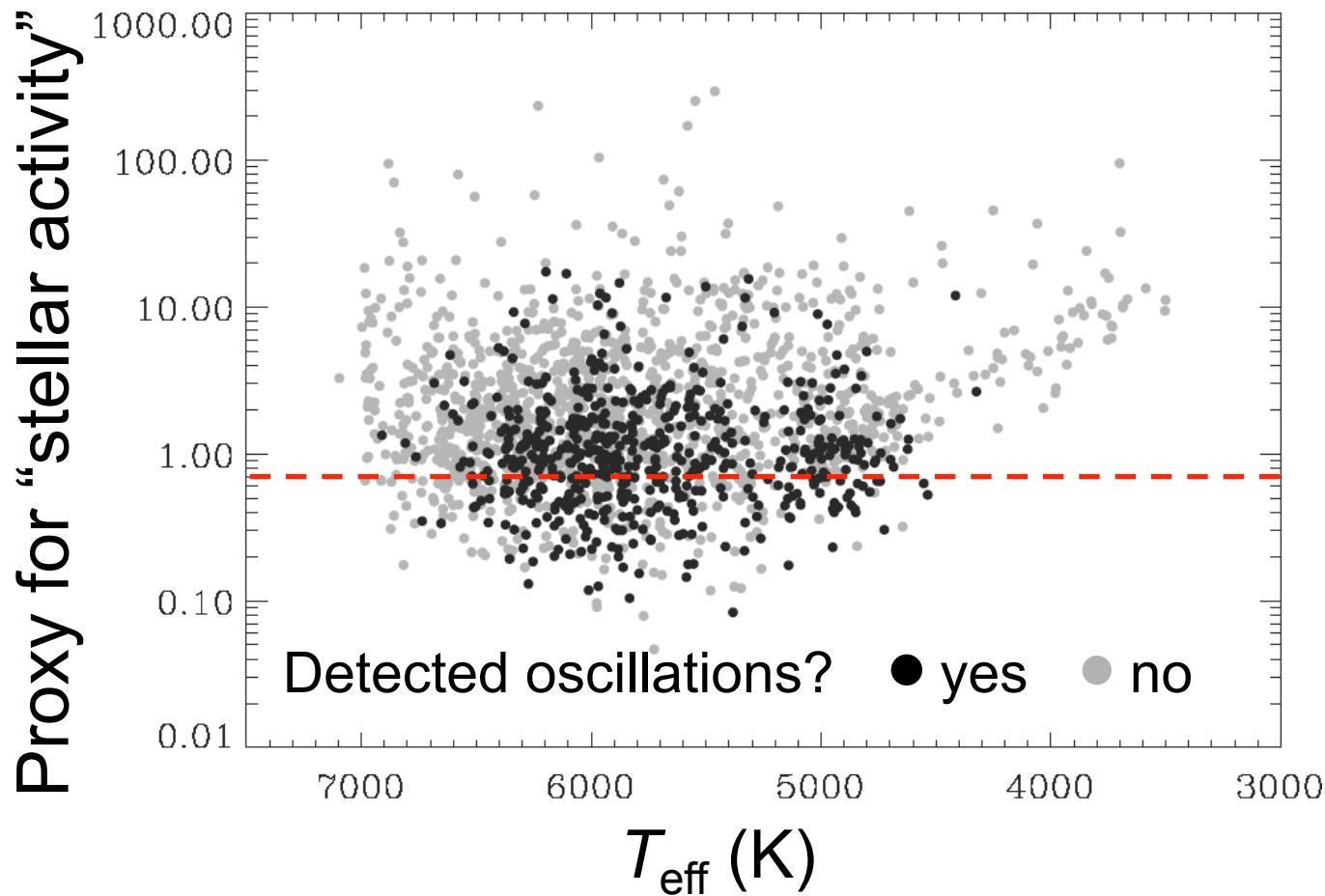
Low-frequency  
modes

# CoRoT reveals a short activity cycle in HD49933



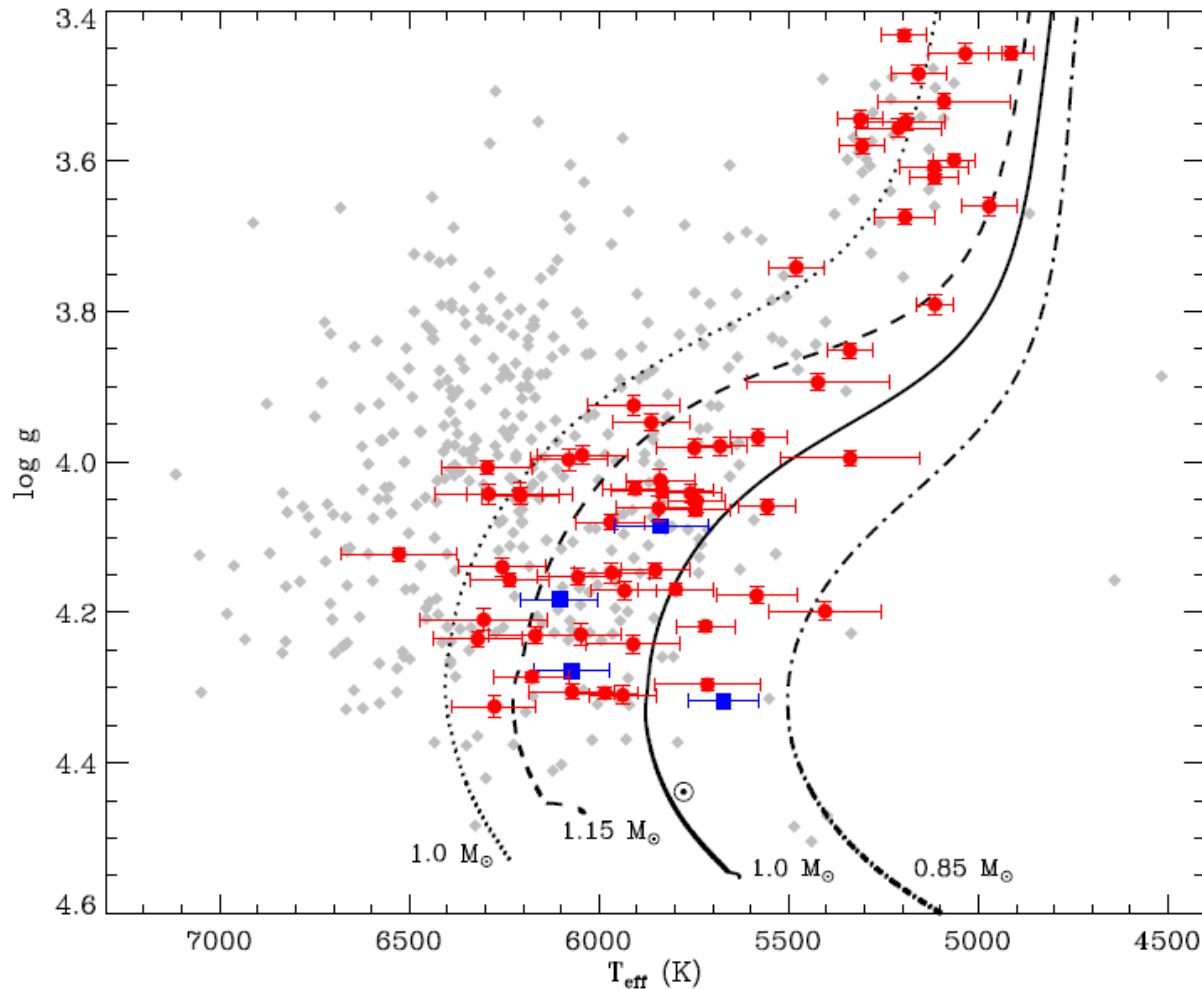
# Stellar activity suppresses oscillations

Inference on magnetic fields and convection



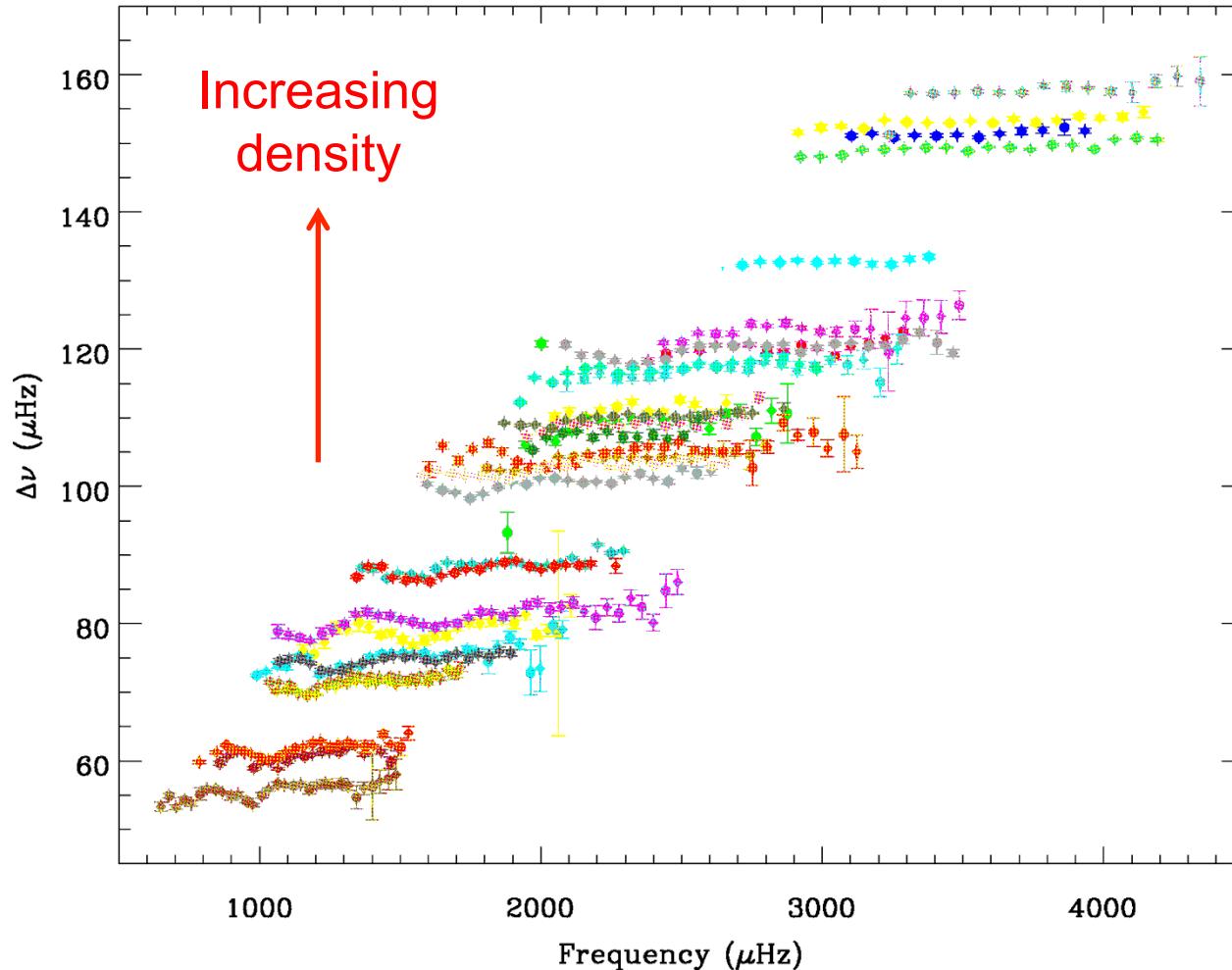
# Stellar evolutionary sequences

The “Sun in time”—sequence of one solar mass stars



# A selection of stars from Kepler's asteroseismic Zoo

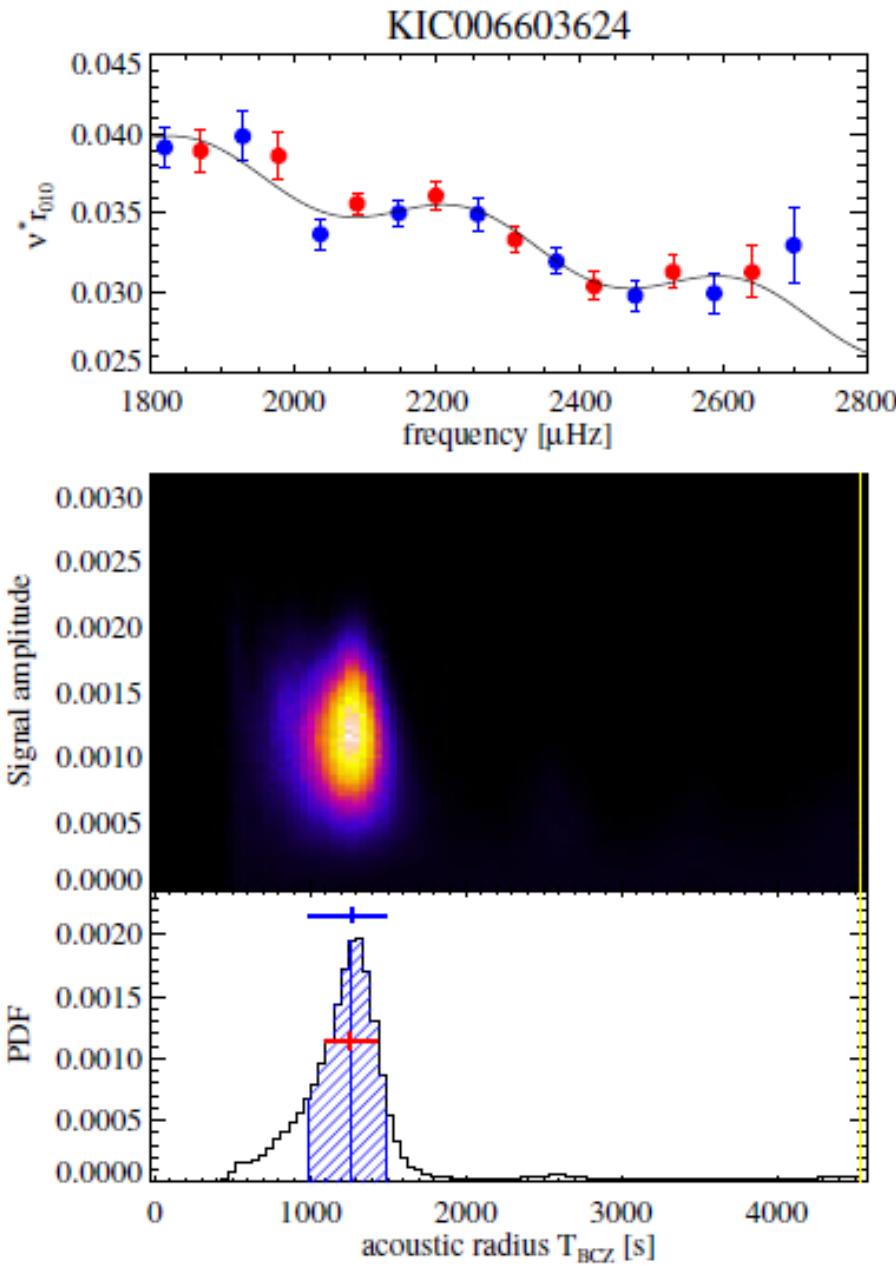
## Large frequency separations



# Convection zone depth

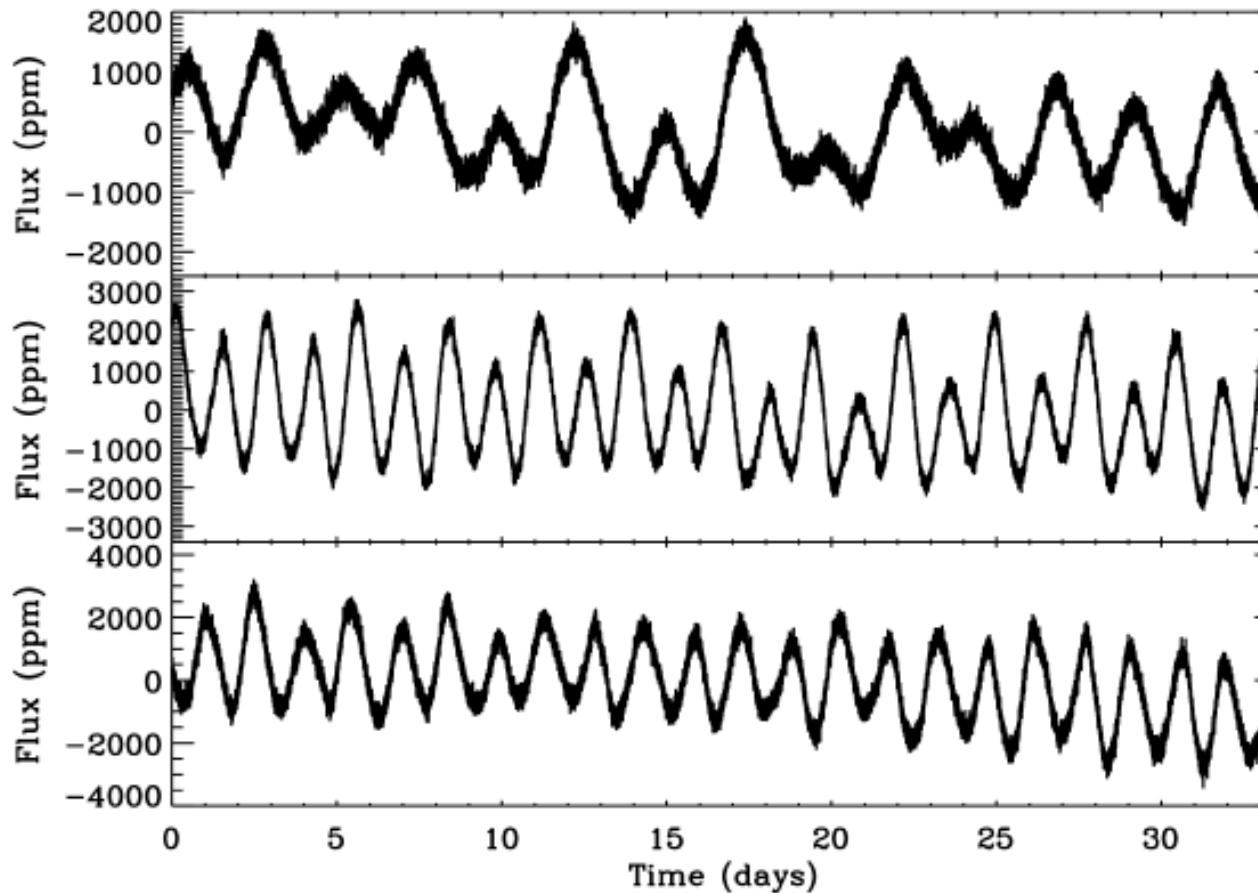
From acoustic glitches

- *Kepler* example:  
solar-type dwarf
- Signal present in  
particular combinations  
of frequencies



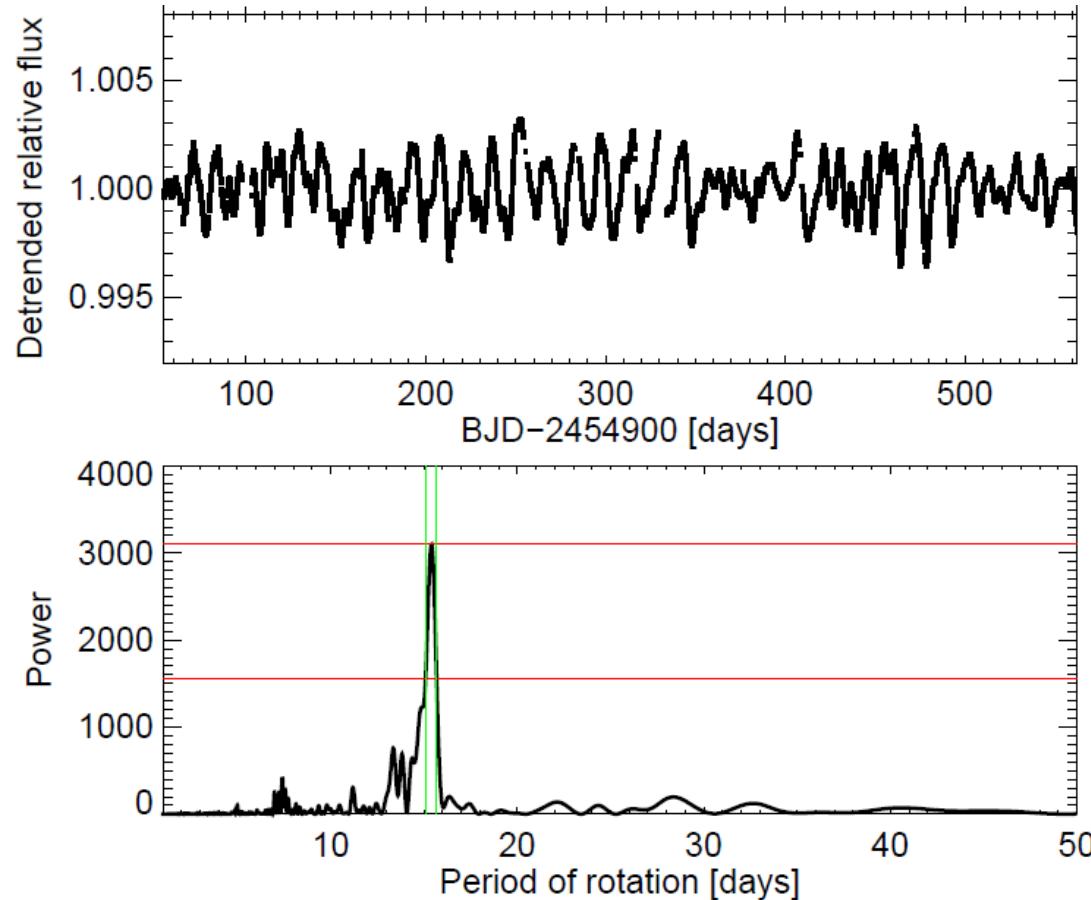
# Surface rotation periods

Kepler lightcurves of solar-type stars

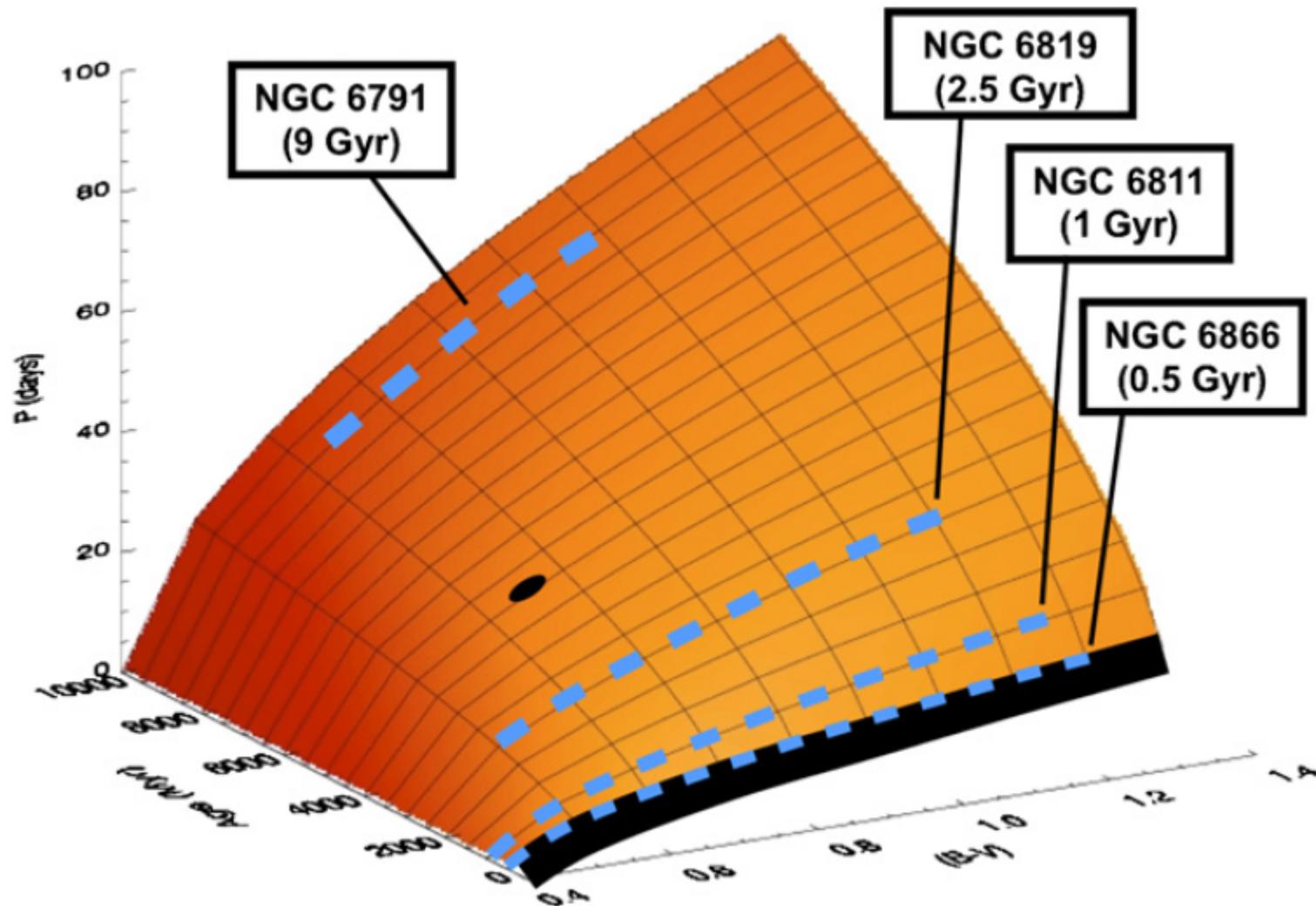


# Surface rotation periods

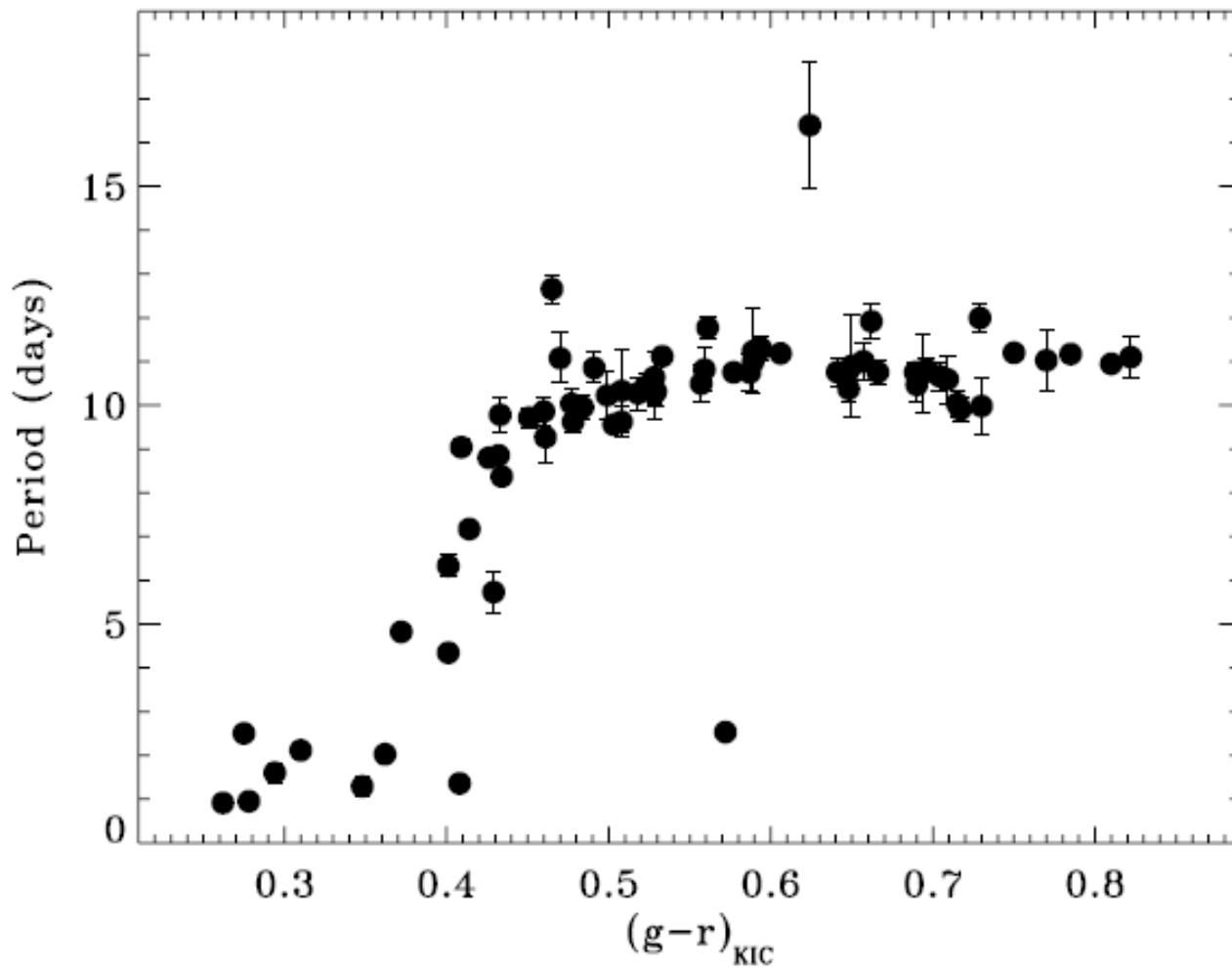
## Periodogramme analysis



# Gyrochronology

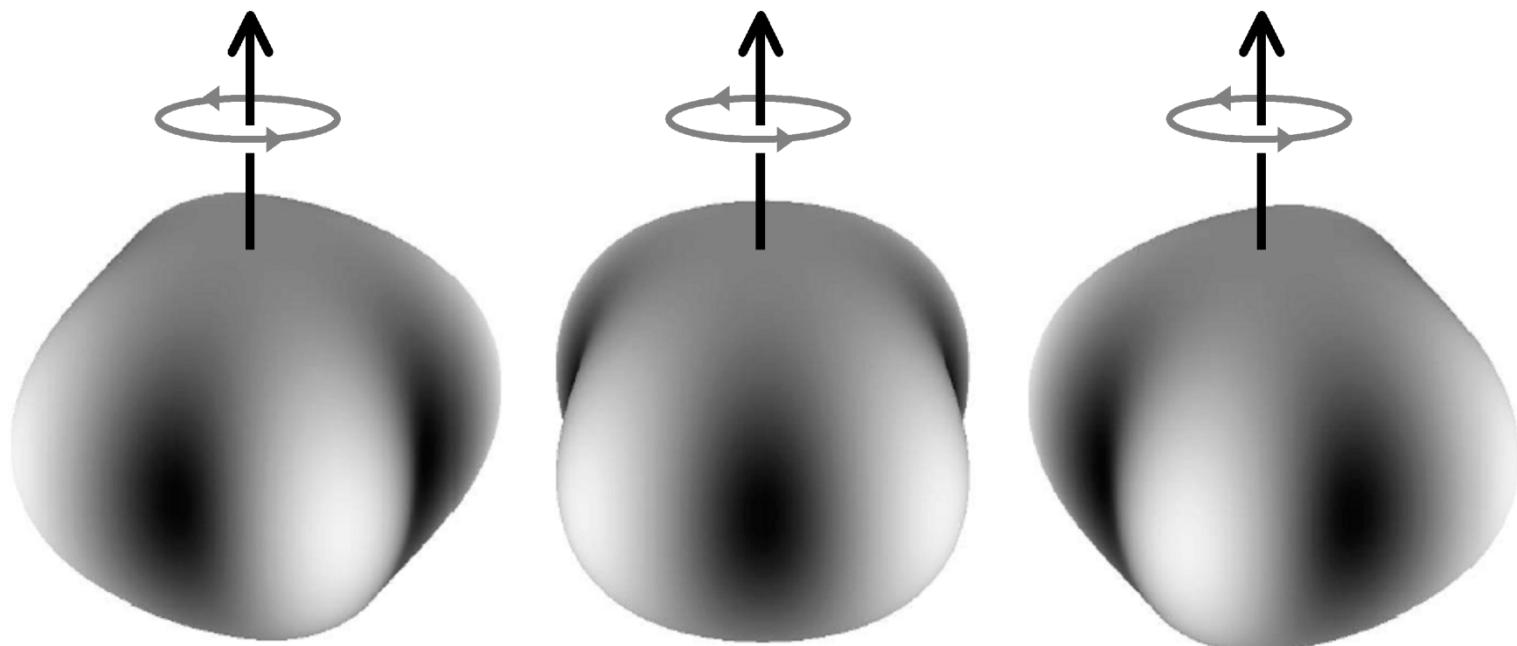


# Gyrochronology

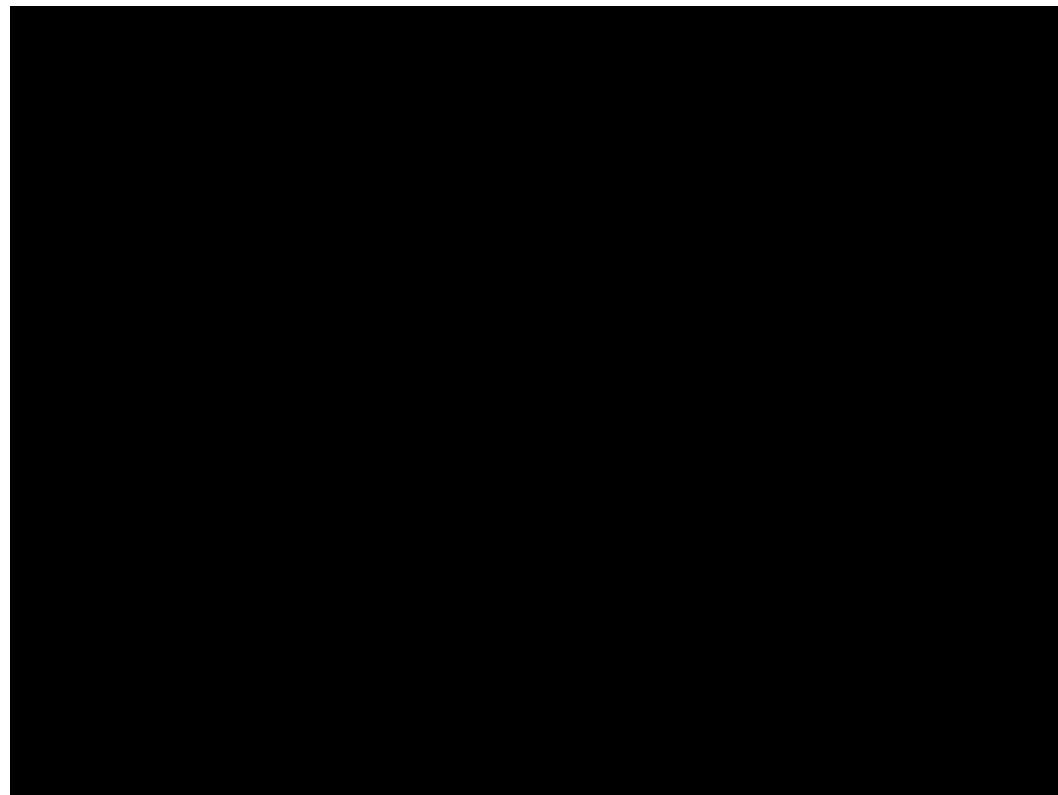


# Rotational frequency splitting

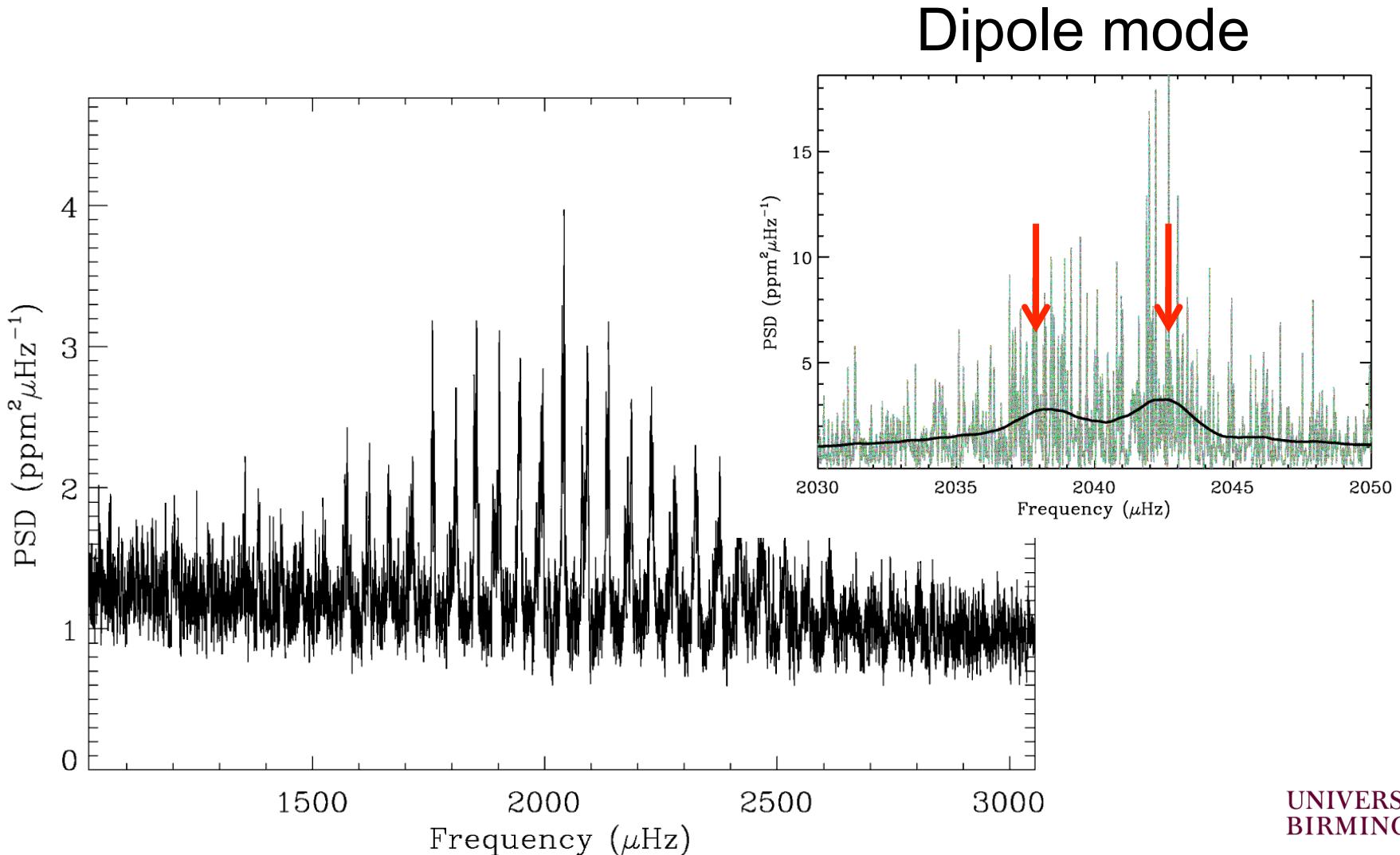
Axis of  
rotation



# Rotational frequency splitting



# Rotational frequency splitting



# Asteroseismic & surface signatures of rotation

Trivial conversion between convert between  
surface period and frequency splitting

$$P_{\text{rot}} \quad \frac{1}{\nu_s}$$


surface measure

equivalent splitting

# Asteroseismic & surface signatures of rotation

Given accurate stellar radius can convert  
between velocity and frequency splitting

$$\nu \sin(i) \quad \text{[WATERMARK]} \quad 2\pi R \quad \nu_s \sin(i)$$

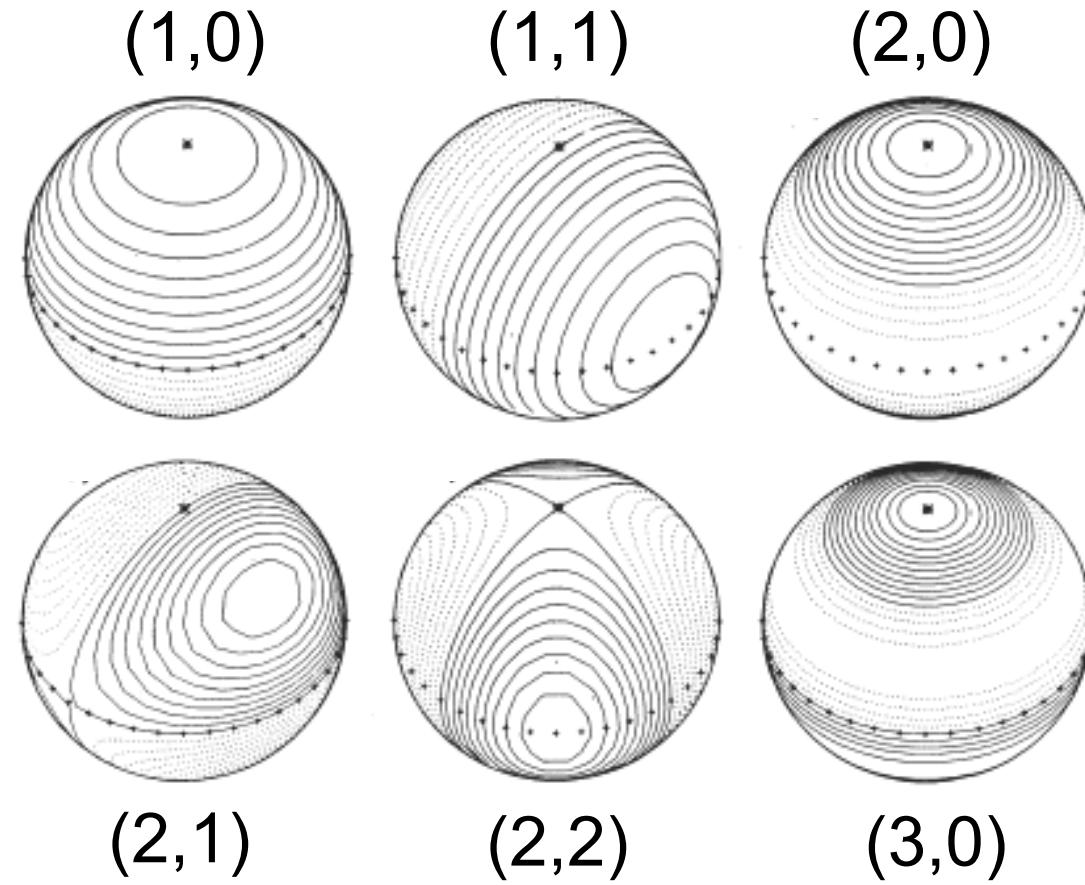
The diagram illustrates the conversion between three quantities. On the left, a bracket labeled "surface measure" is positioned above a small upward-pointing arrow. This arrow points to the leftmost term,  $\nu \sin(i)$ . In the center, a larger upward-pointing arrow points from the middle term,  $2\pi R$ , to the rightmost term,  $\nu_s \sin(i)$ . On the right, a bracket labeled "equivalent splitting" is positioned above the same small upward-pointing arrow.

surface measure      stellar radius      equivalent splitting

# Asteroseismic & surface signatures of rotation

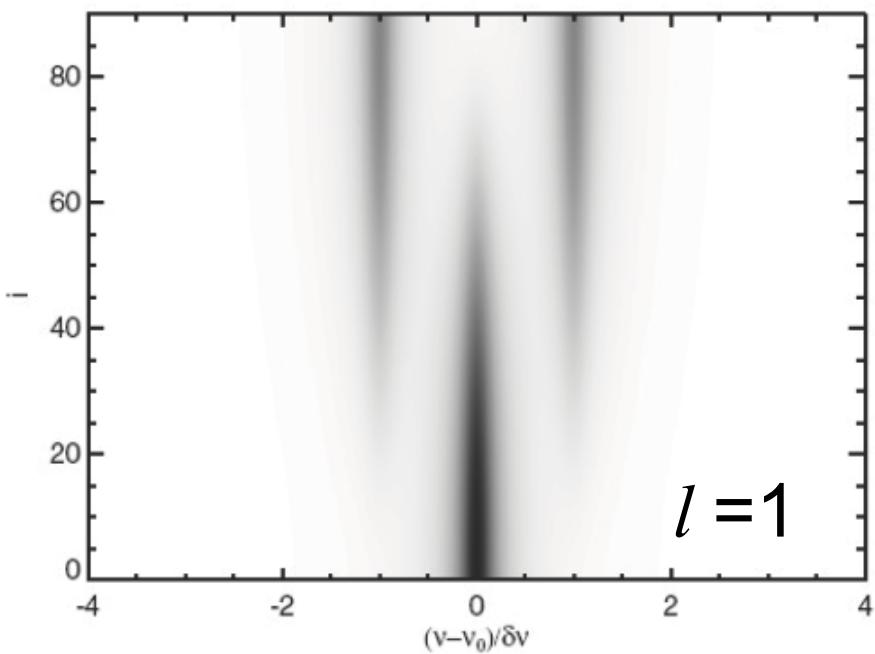
- In main-sequence stars frequency splittings weighted to rotation in envelopes
- Seems to be like Sun, i.e. internal rotation measured by splittings similar to surface rotation

# Inclination affects mode visibility

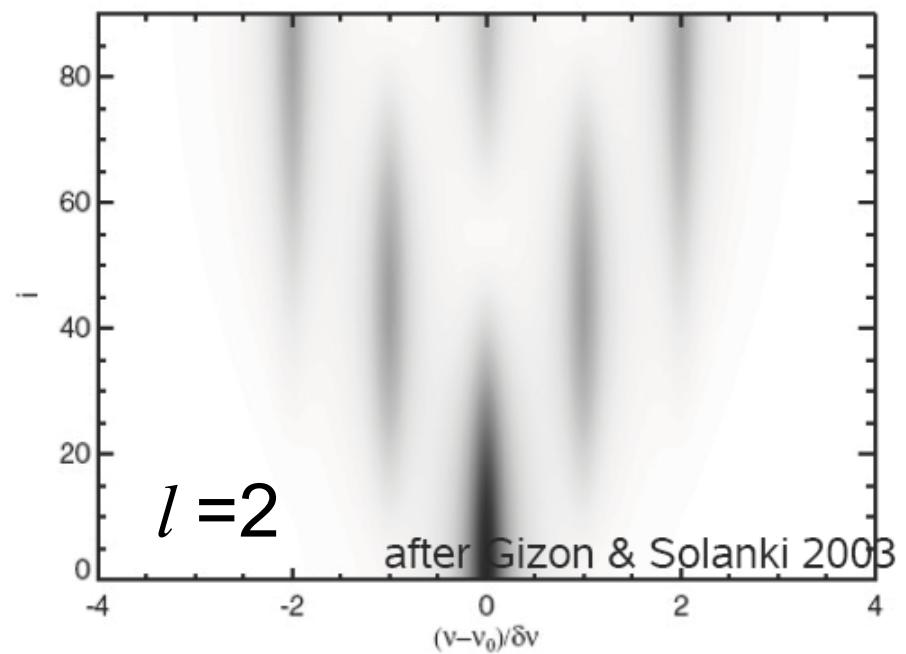


# Inclination affects mode visibility

$m = -1 \quad 0 \quad +1$

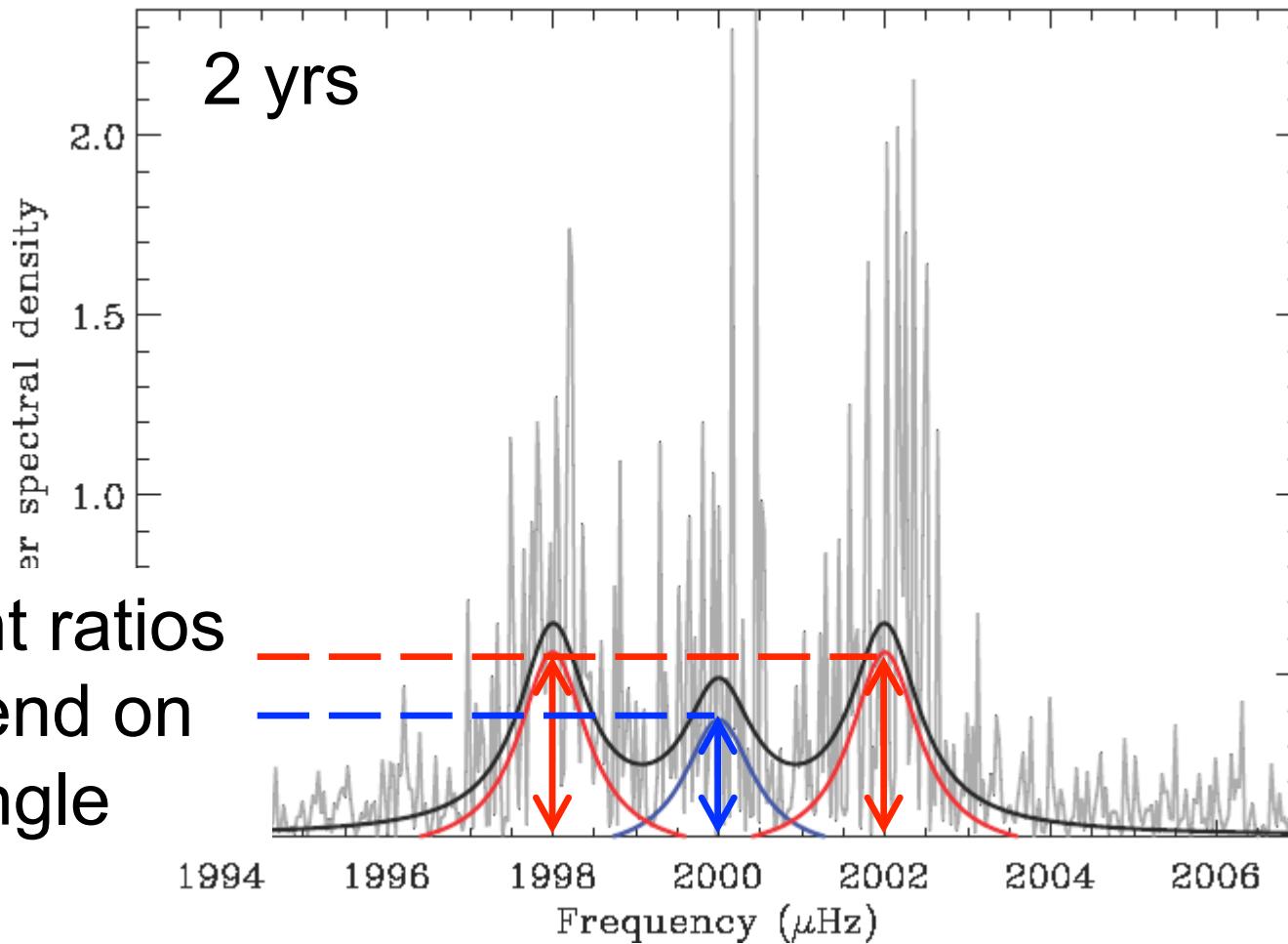


$m = -2 \quad -1 \quad 0 \quad +1 \quad +2$

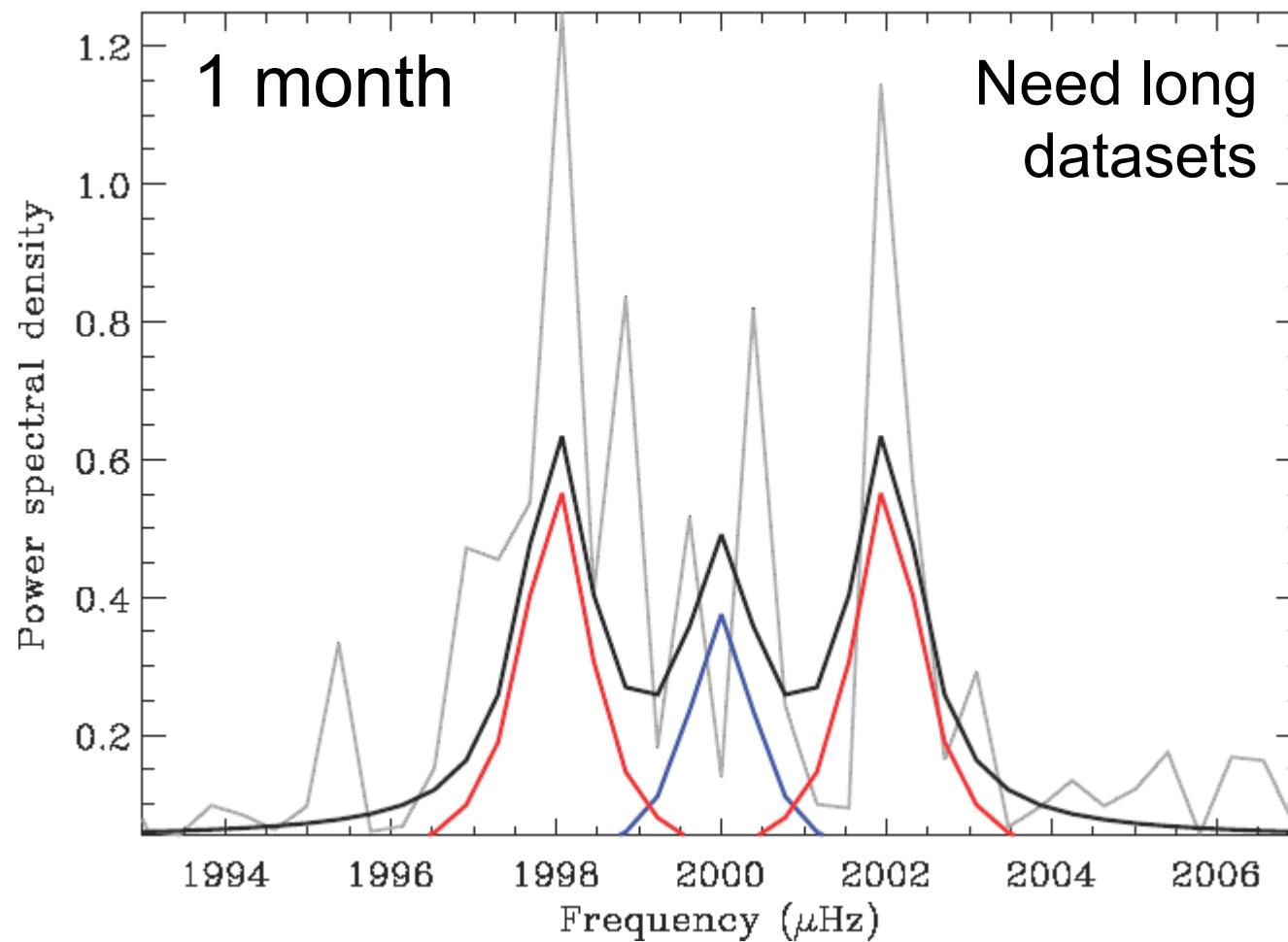


# Inference on stellar inclination

Height ratios  
depend on  
angle

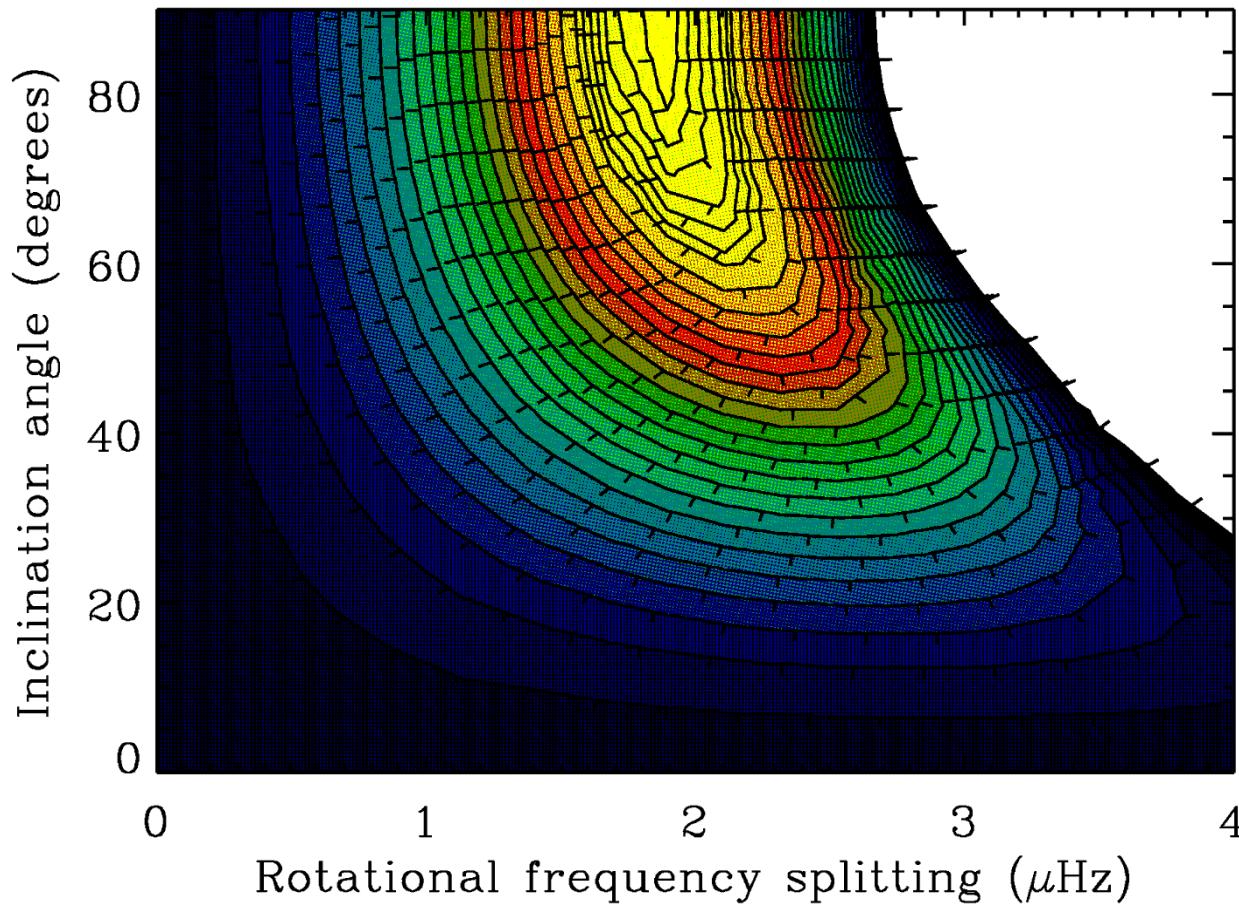


# Inference on stellar inclination

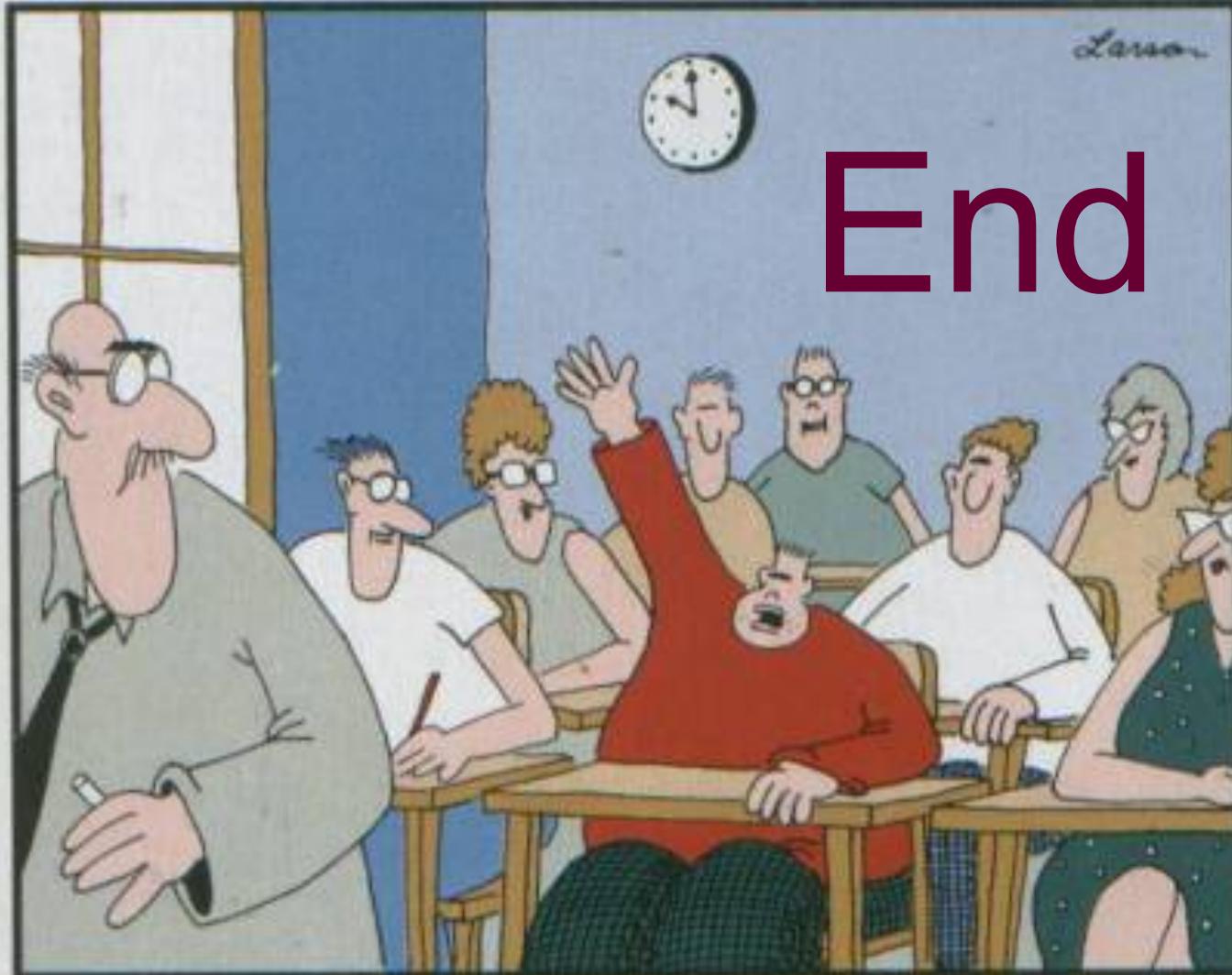


# Inclination angle of ~90 degrees

Implies a well aligned system



# End



**"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused?  
My brain is full."**