

## NOTE:

This talk complements videos presented by

- baraffe (stellar formation/evolution theory),
- megeath (protostars and star forming regions),
- gagne (young moving groups and field stars).

Live session panel w/baraffe, feiden, johns-krull

# DETERMINATION OF STELLAR PROPERTIES OF YOUNG STARS (OBSERVATIONS)

lynne a. hillenbrand

(caltech)

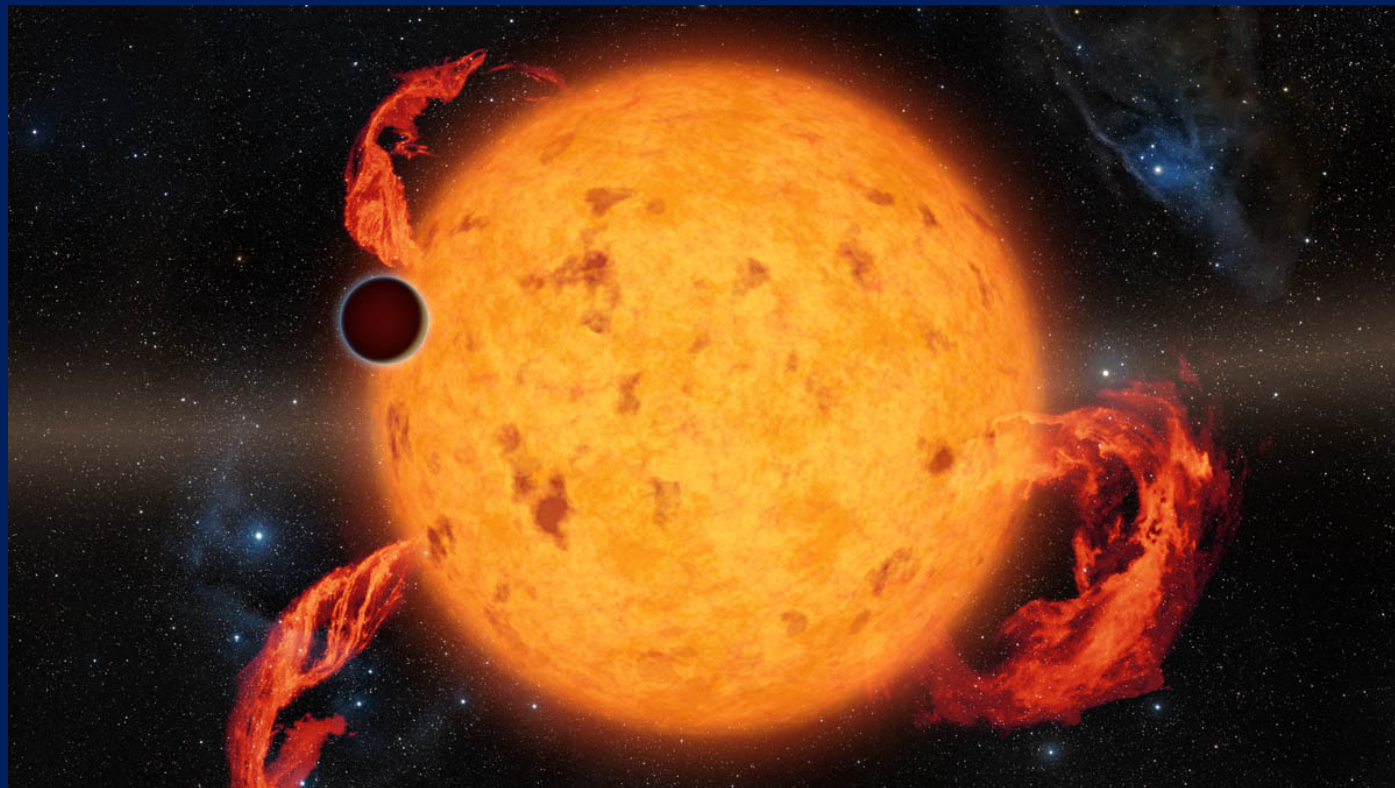
# TOPICS TO BE COVERED

What we want to know about young stars (in the context of disks/planets).

What we can observe.

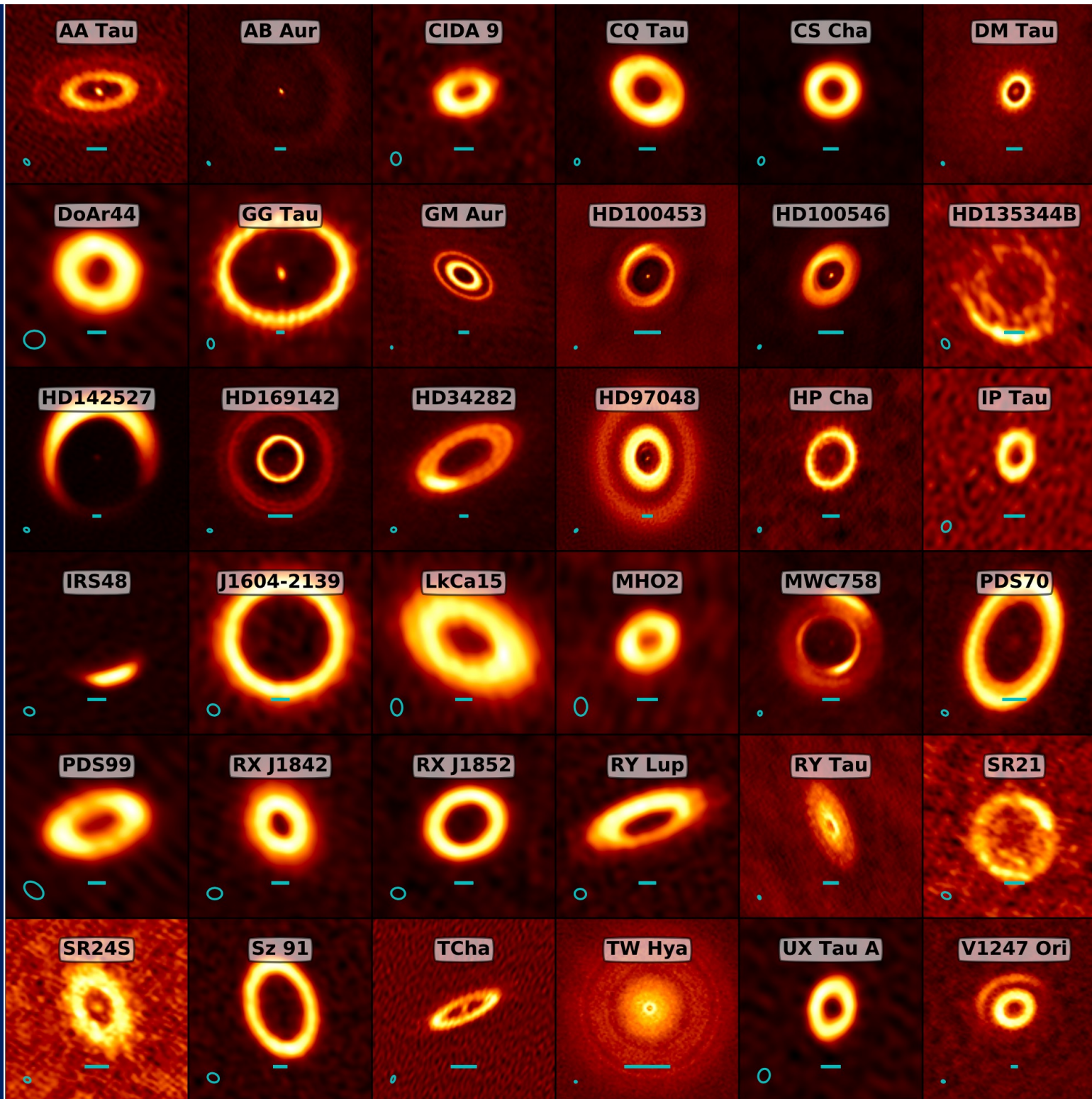
What we can infer from the observed quantities.

Reliability of those inferences.



graphic by R. Hurt



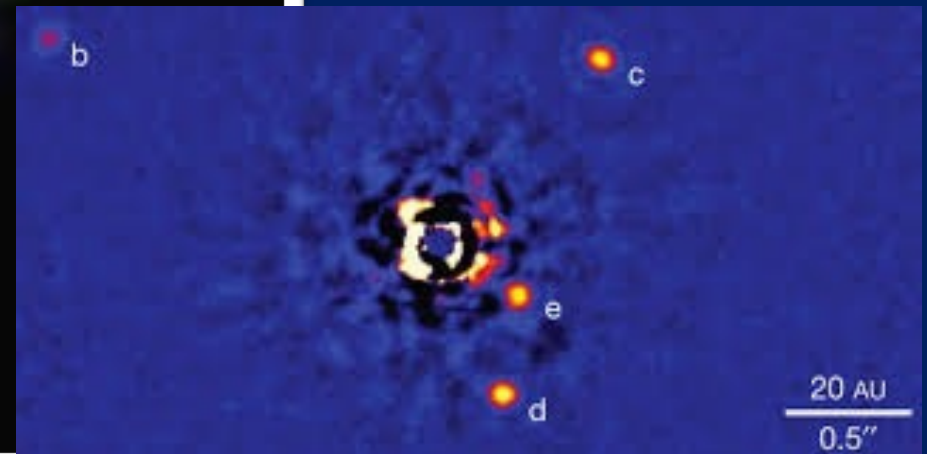
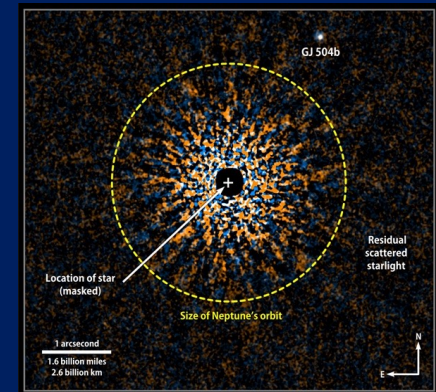
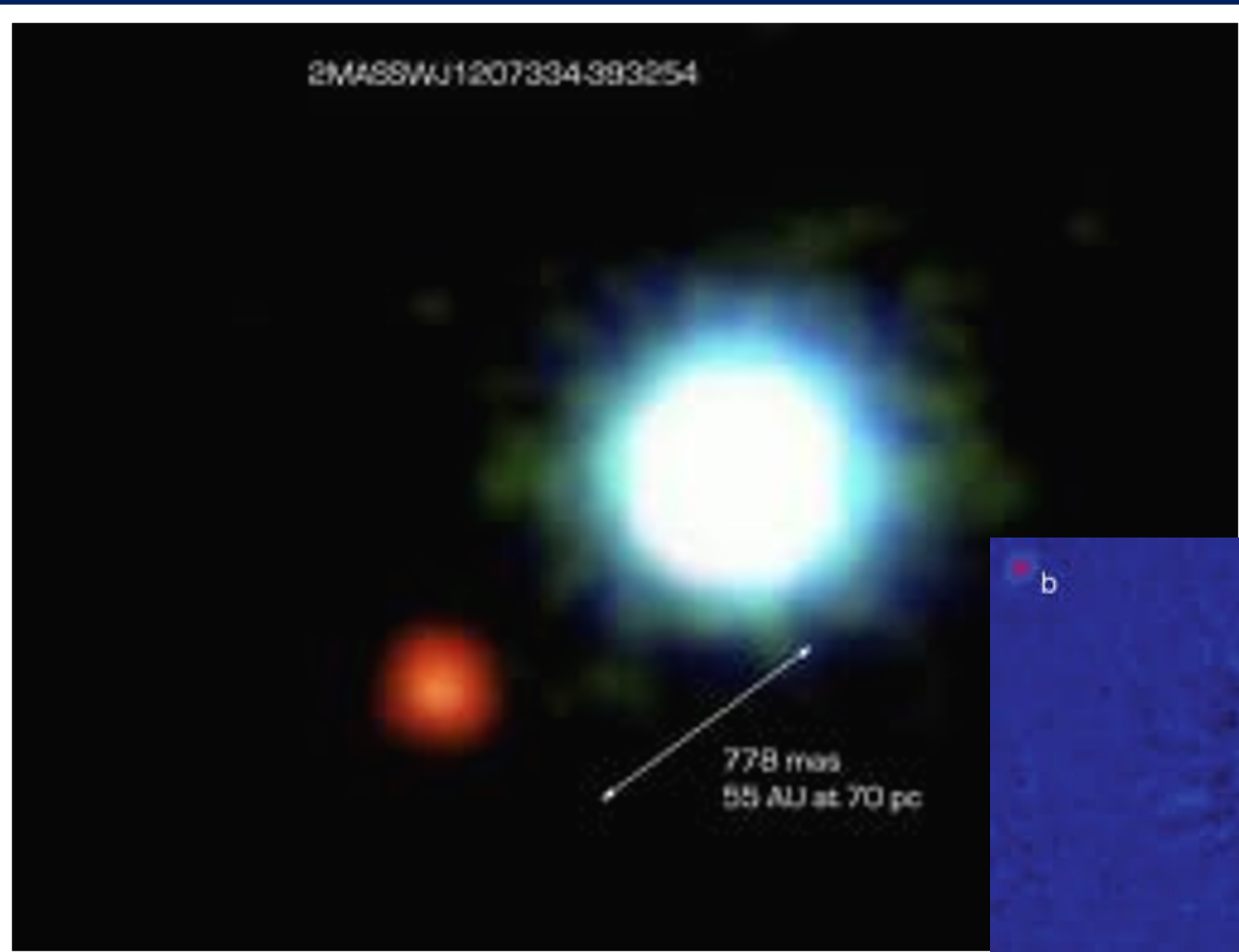
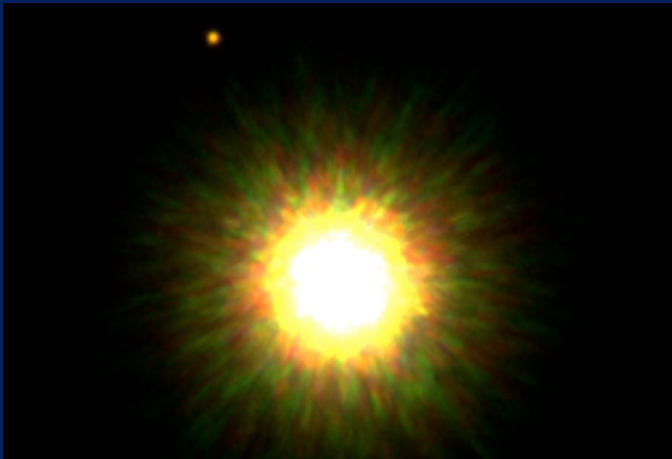


HOW DO  
DISK  
PROPERTIES  
DEPEND ON  
STELLAR  
MASS?

[Francis et al. 2020]

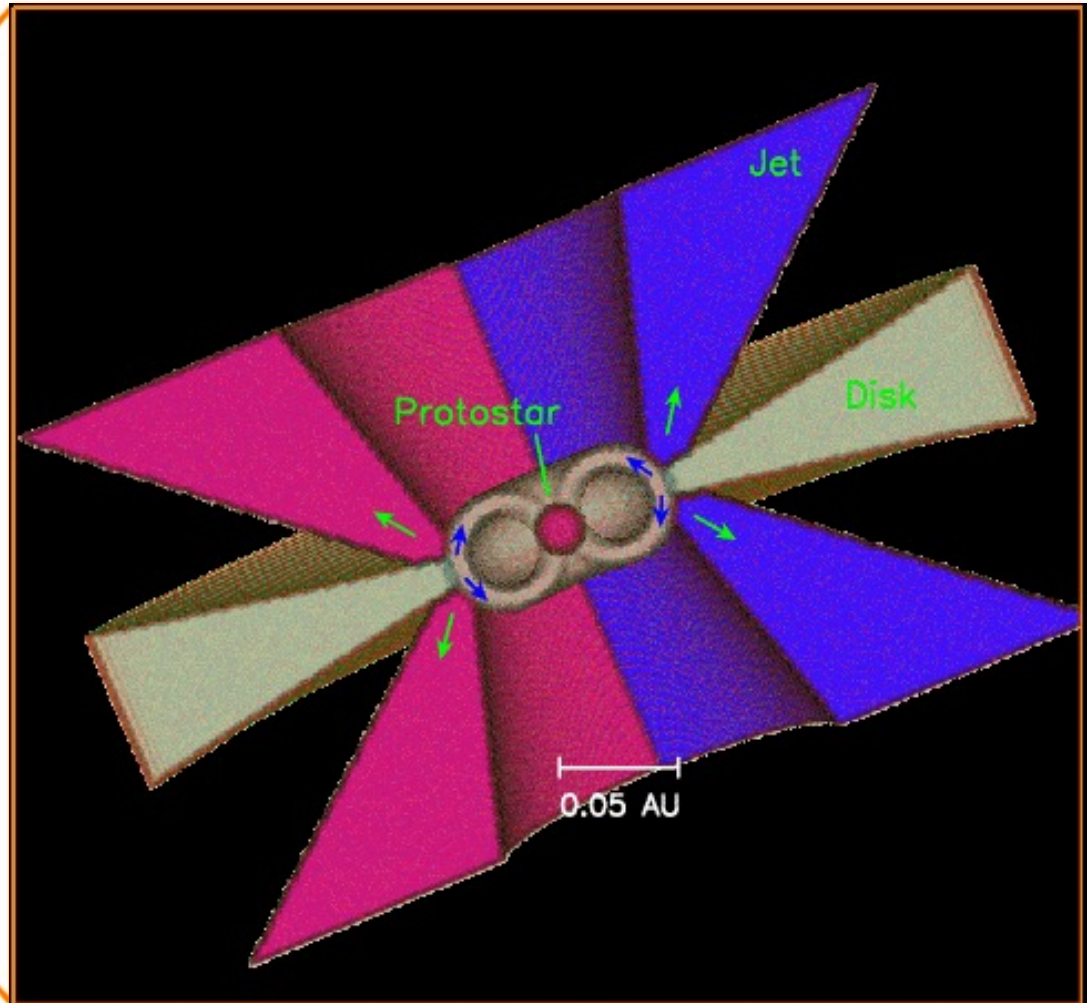
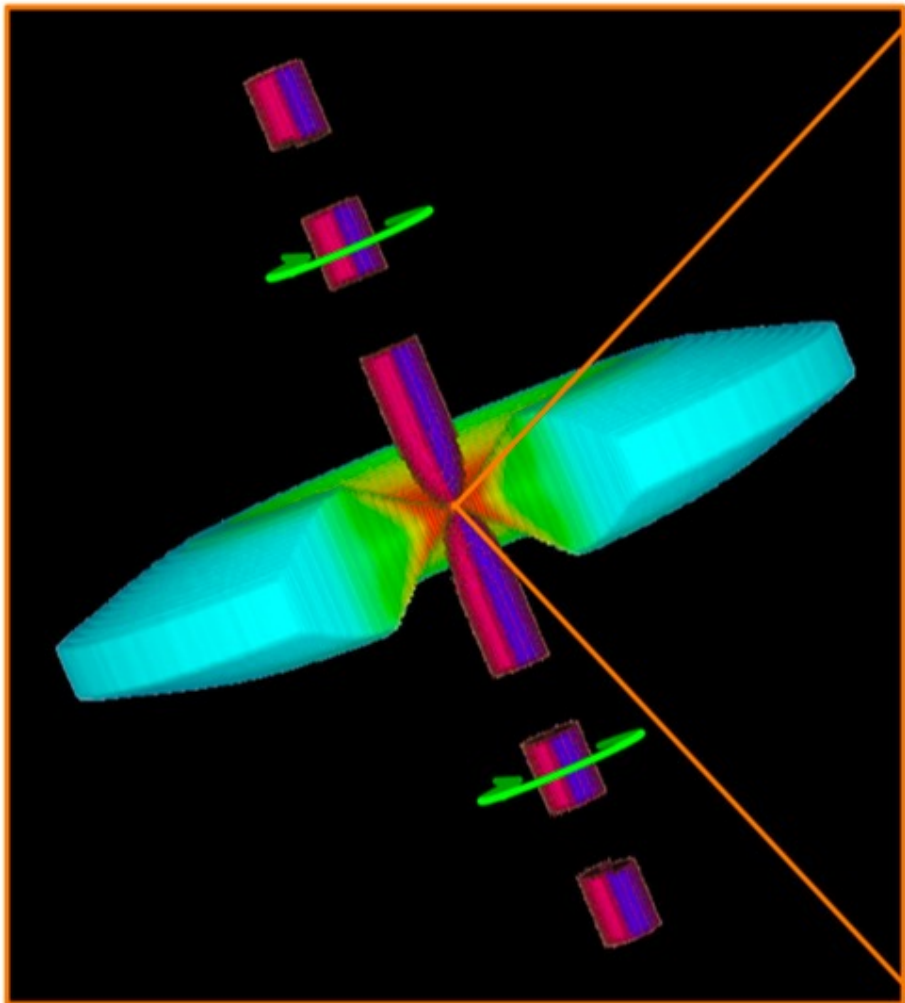
(slide from my 2014 sagan talk)

# ARE THOSE FAINT OBJECTS PLANETS OR BROWN DWARFS?





# CARTOON OF AN INDIVIDUAL YOUNG STAR ACCRETION/OUTFLOW SYSTEM



# YSO SEDS CONSIST OF UNDERLYING STELLAR PHOTOSPHERE + CIRCUMSTELLAR DUST/GAS

for a given geometry, there are  
many different possible SEDs.

[Robitaille 2017]

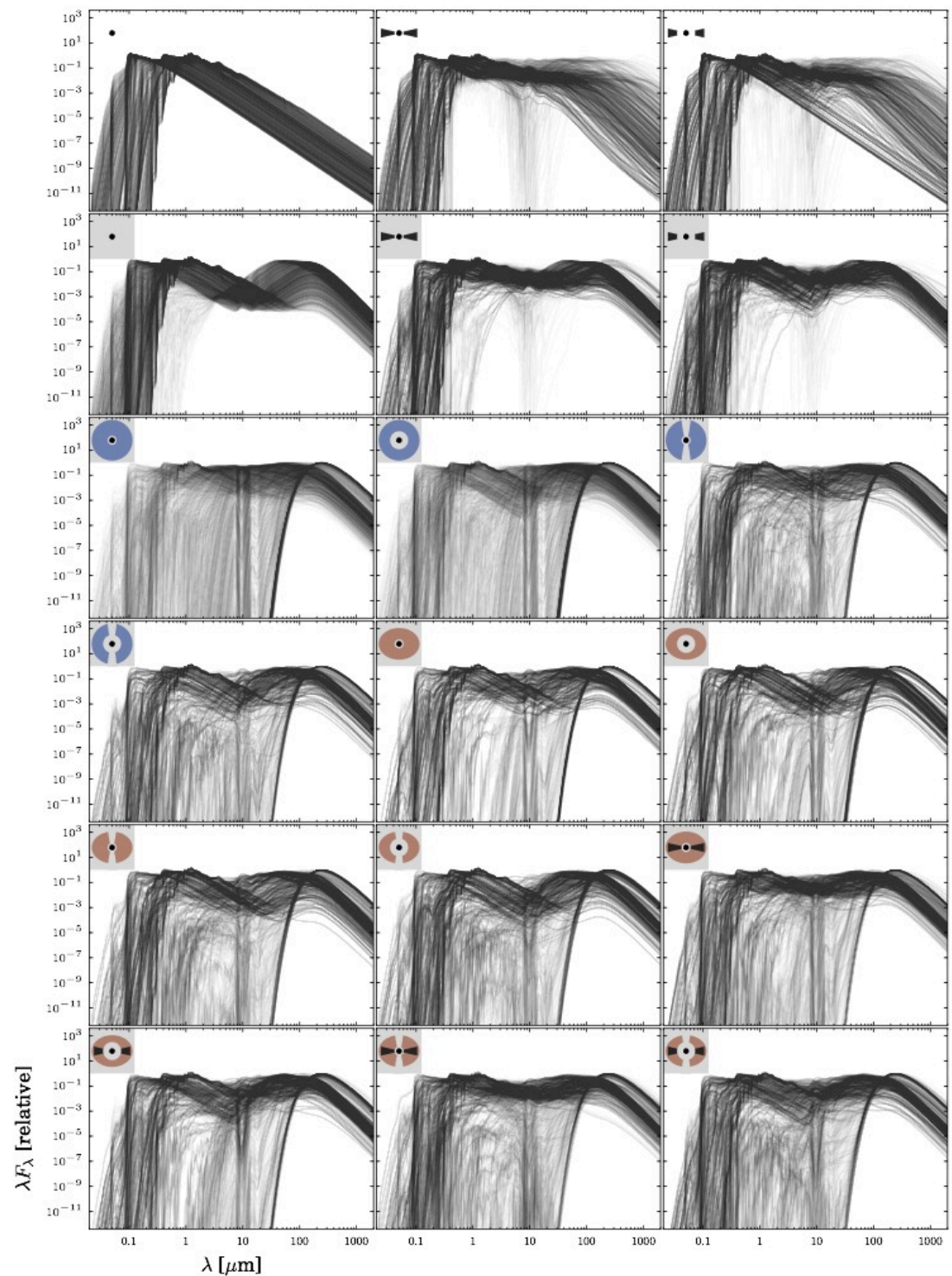


Fig. 2. A subset of 2000 SEDs for each model set, normalized to the total luminosity of each SED.



# YSO SEDS CONSIST OF UNDERLYING STELLAR PHOTOSPHERE + CIRCUMSTELLAR DUST/GAS

for a given SED, there are many  
different possible geometries.

[Robitaille 2017]

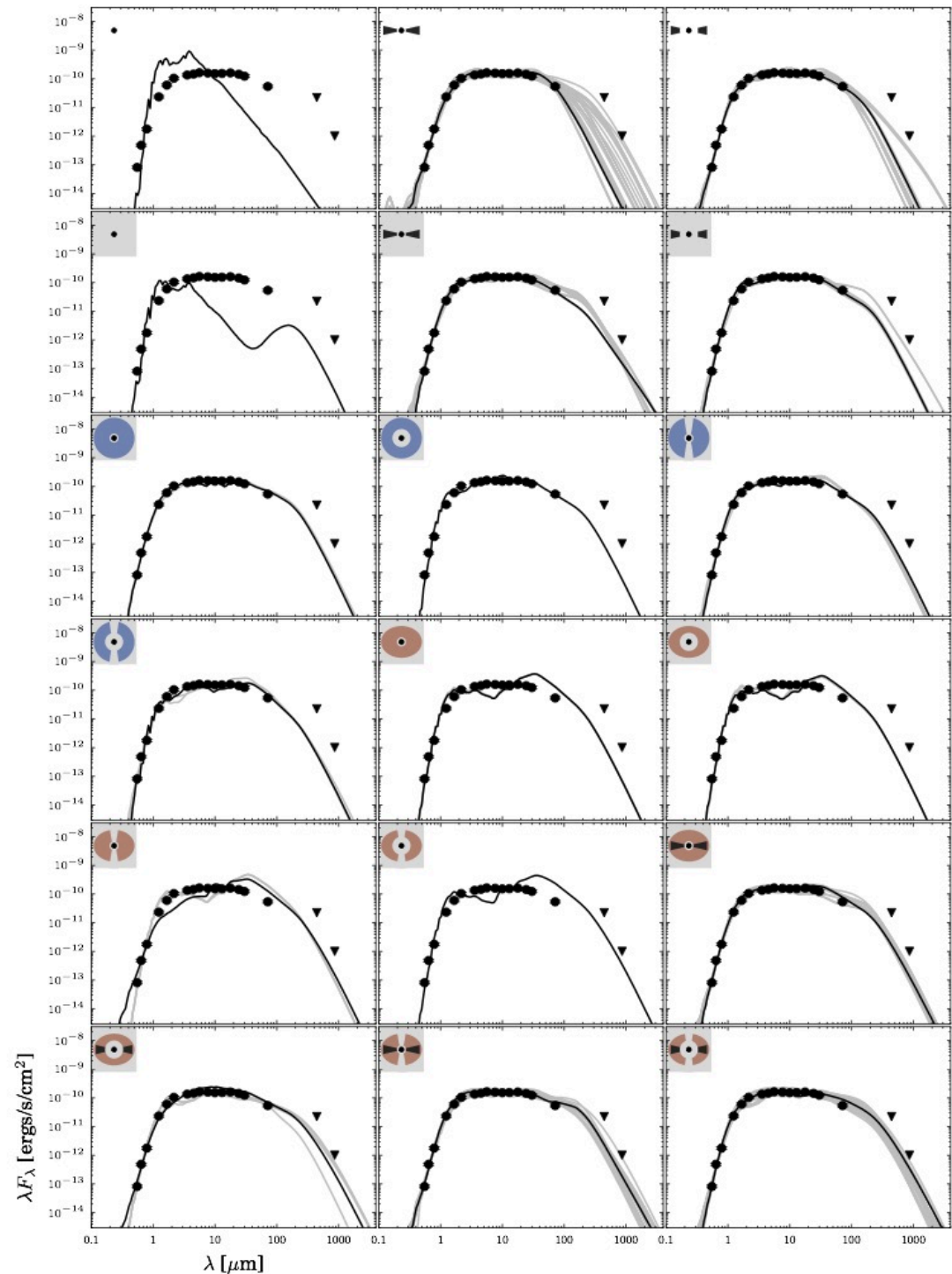
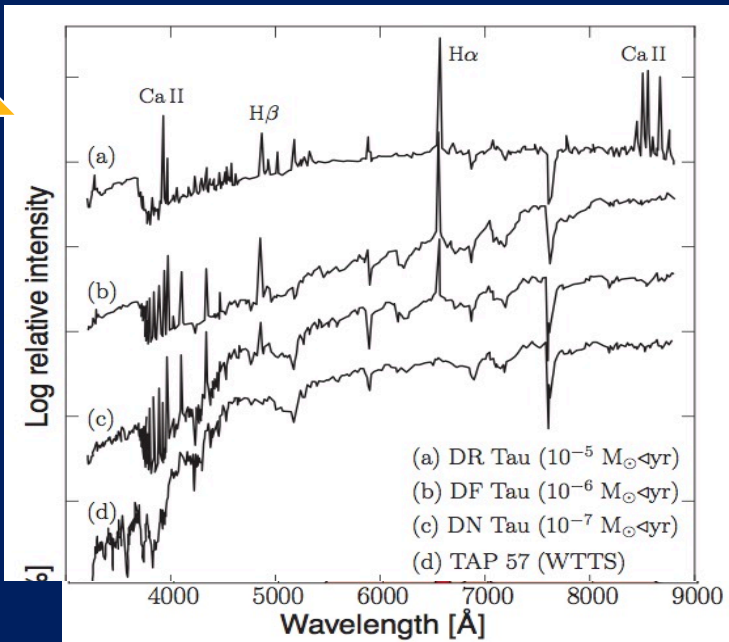


Fig. 3. Model fits to observations of source 20 in NGC2264 (using the source nomenclature from Forbrich et al. 2010), where each panel shows all the fits for  $\chi^2 - \chi_{\text{best}}^2 < 3n_{\text{data}}$  for a specific model set (and where  $\chi_{\text{best}}^2$  is determined for each model set individually).

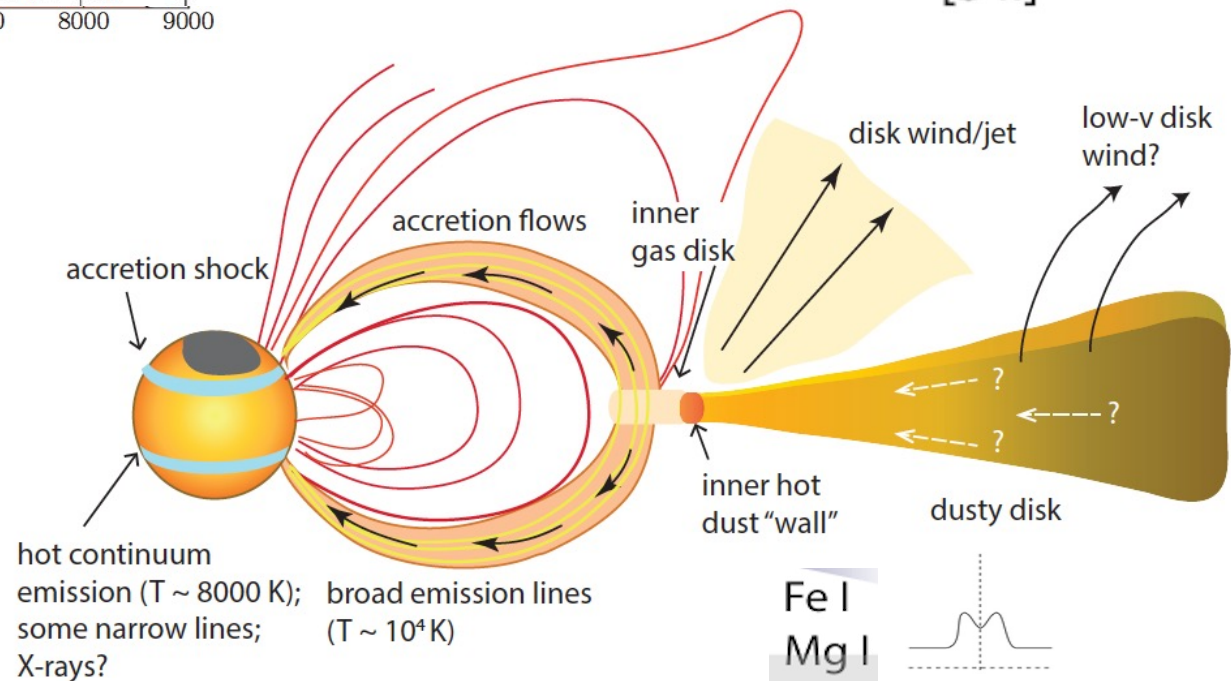
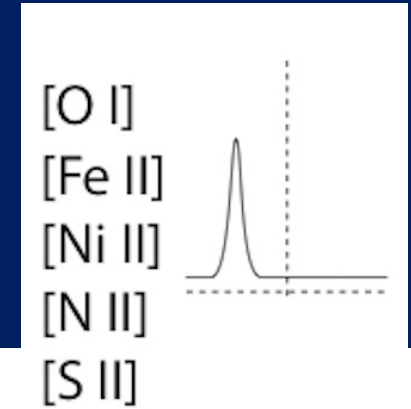
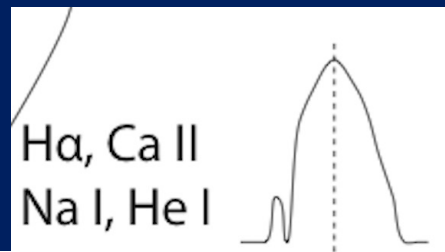
# HOW CAN WE STUDY THE UNDERLYING STAR WITH ALL THIS EXTRA MUCK?

↑ Increasing accretion rate



[Barensten et al. 2013]

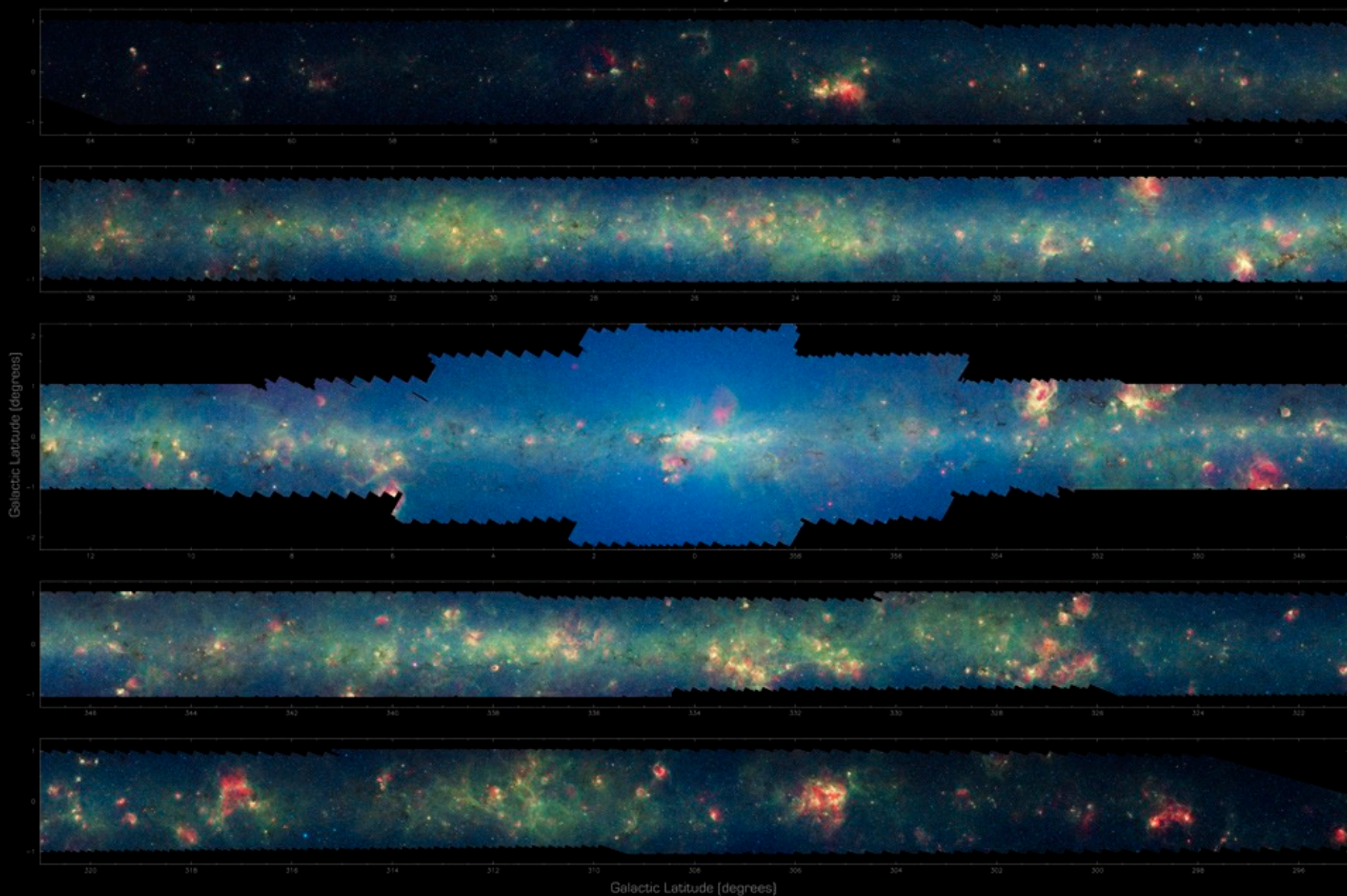
- line emission and continuum "veiling" complicates spectral typing.
- continuum excess also distorts broadband colors.



[Hartmann, Herczeg, Calvet 2016]



# THE INFRARED MILKY WAY: GLIMPSE/MIPSGAL (3.6-24 microns)



GLIMPSE team: Ed Churchwell (PI), Marilyn Meade, Brian Balser, Remy Indebetouw, Barbara Whitney, Christer Watson, Boz Benjamin, Steve Bracker, Thomas Robitaille, Stephen Jansen, Doug Watson, Mark Wolfire, Mia Wolff, Matt Povich, Tom Blana, Dan Clariá, Martin Cohen, Claudio Oyarzún, Katal Devine, Fabian Heitsch, Jim Jackson, Katherine Johnson, Chip Kobayashi, John Matzko, Emily Mercer, Jeonghee Rho, Marta Sewilo, Susan Stolovy, Brian Lagan

MIPSGAL team: Sean Carey (PI), Alberto Noriega-Crespo, Dan Mouna, Sachin Shetty, Roberto Polada, Kathleen Kraemer, Stephen D. Prok, Nicolas Pégibet, Erin Ryan, Daniela Gonçalves, Remy Indebetouw, Thomas Kuchar, Etienne Brasseur, Françoise Maréchal, Jim Ingalls, Deborah Padgett, Luisa Rebull, Bruce Bierman, Babar Ali, François Boulanger, Ron Diaz, Bill Latta, Peter Marsden, Marc-Antoine Mülle-Descherres, Sergio Molinari, Russell Shegman, Leonardo Testi

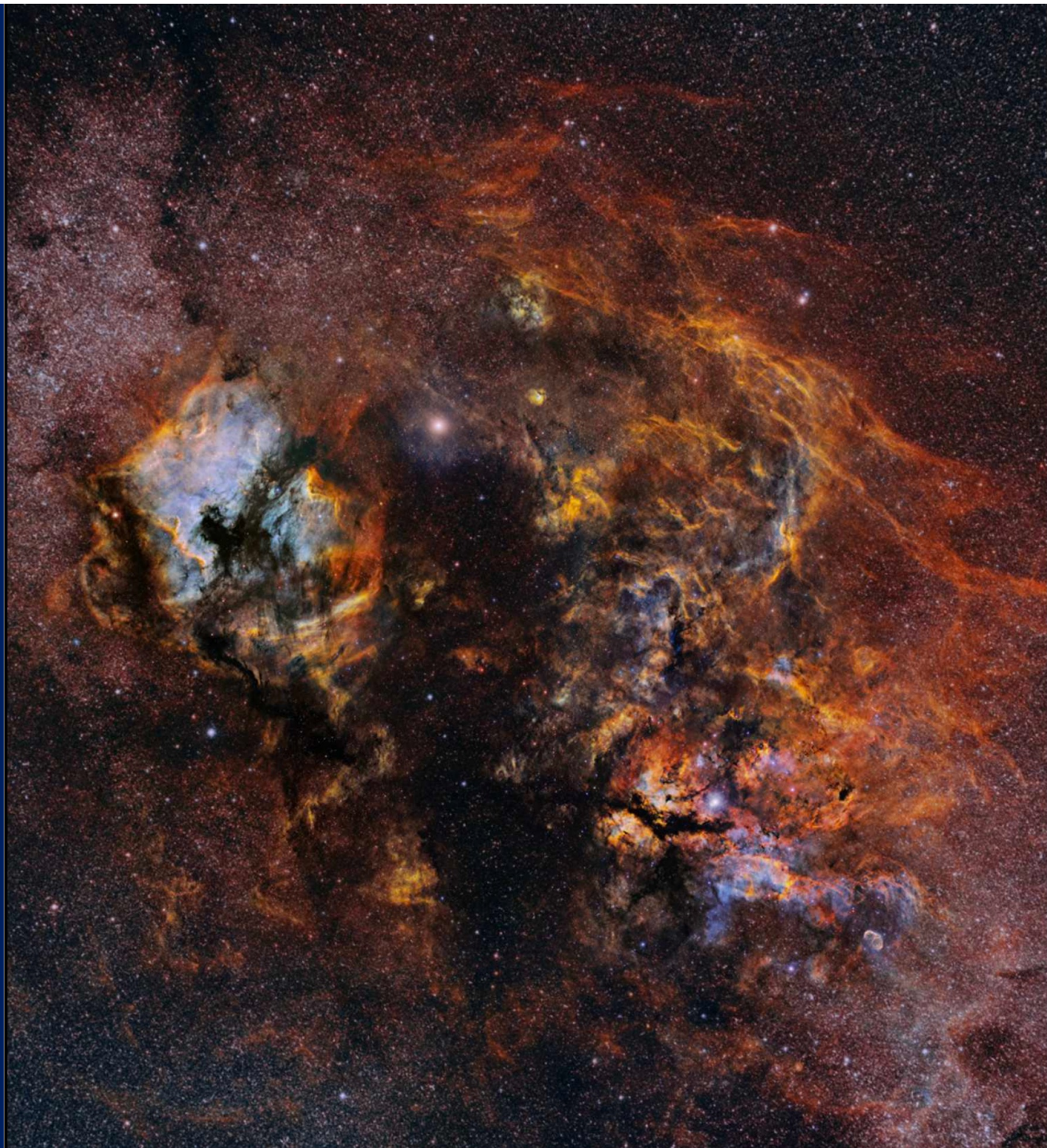
Poster designed by Thomas Robitaille and Robert Hurt



JUST ONE  
EXAMPLE  
AMONG  
THOUSANDS  
OF STAR  
FORMING  
COMPLEXES  
IN THE  
GALAXY

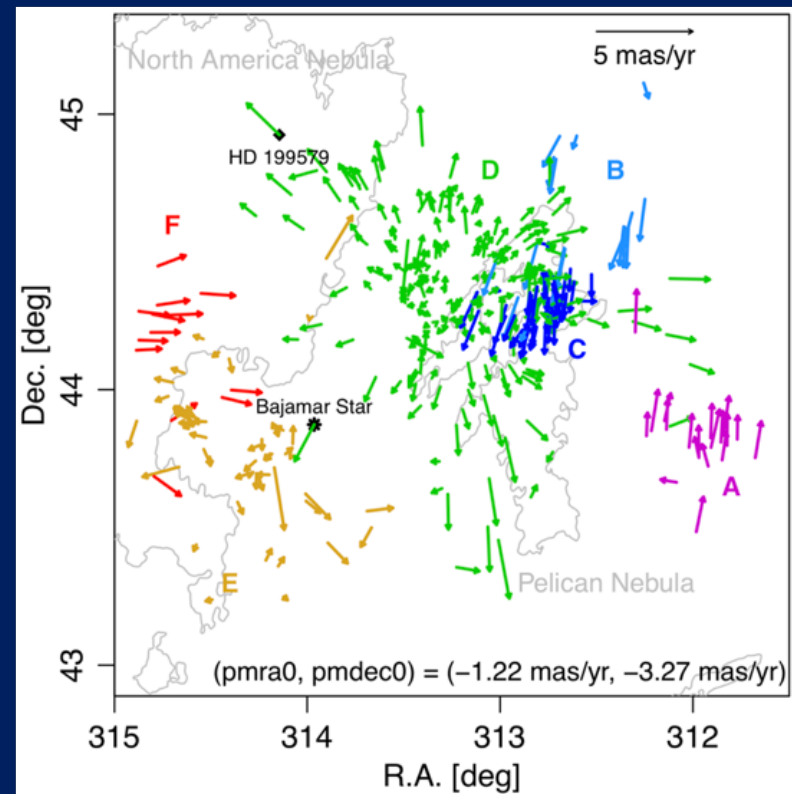
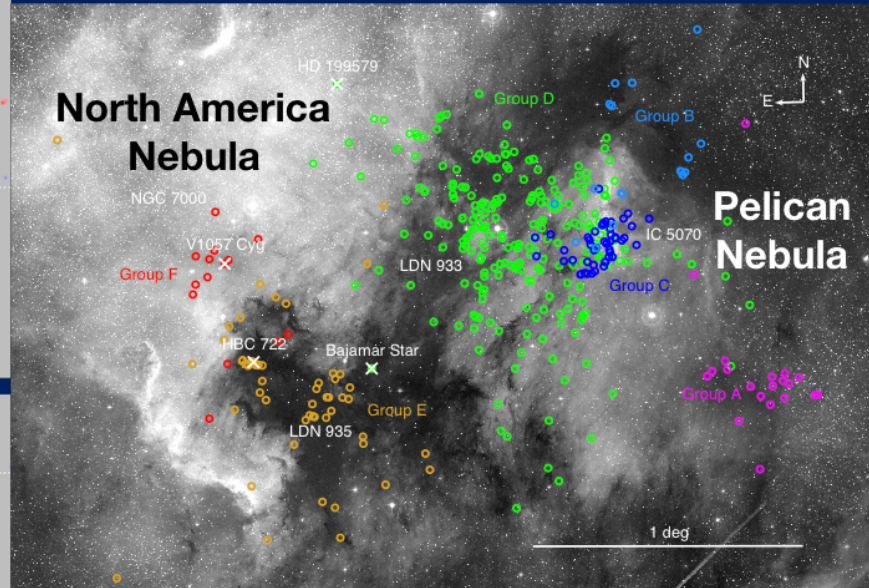
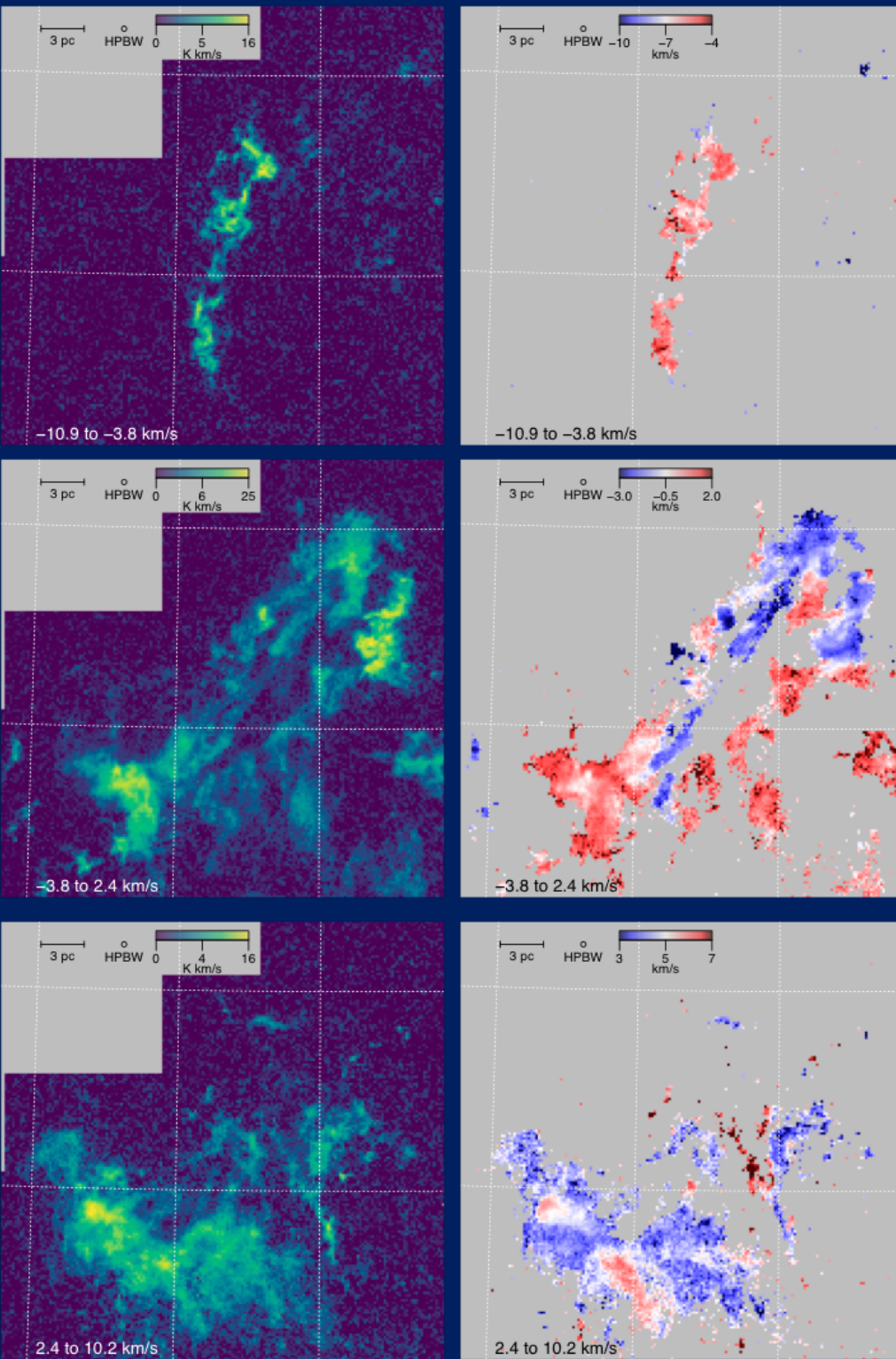
(cygnus region)

d ~0.8kpc





# CLUSTER KINEMATICS!

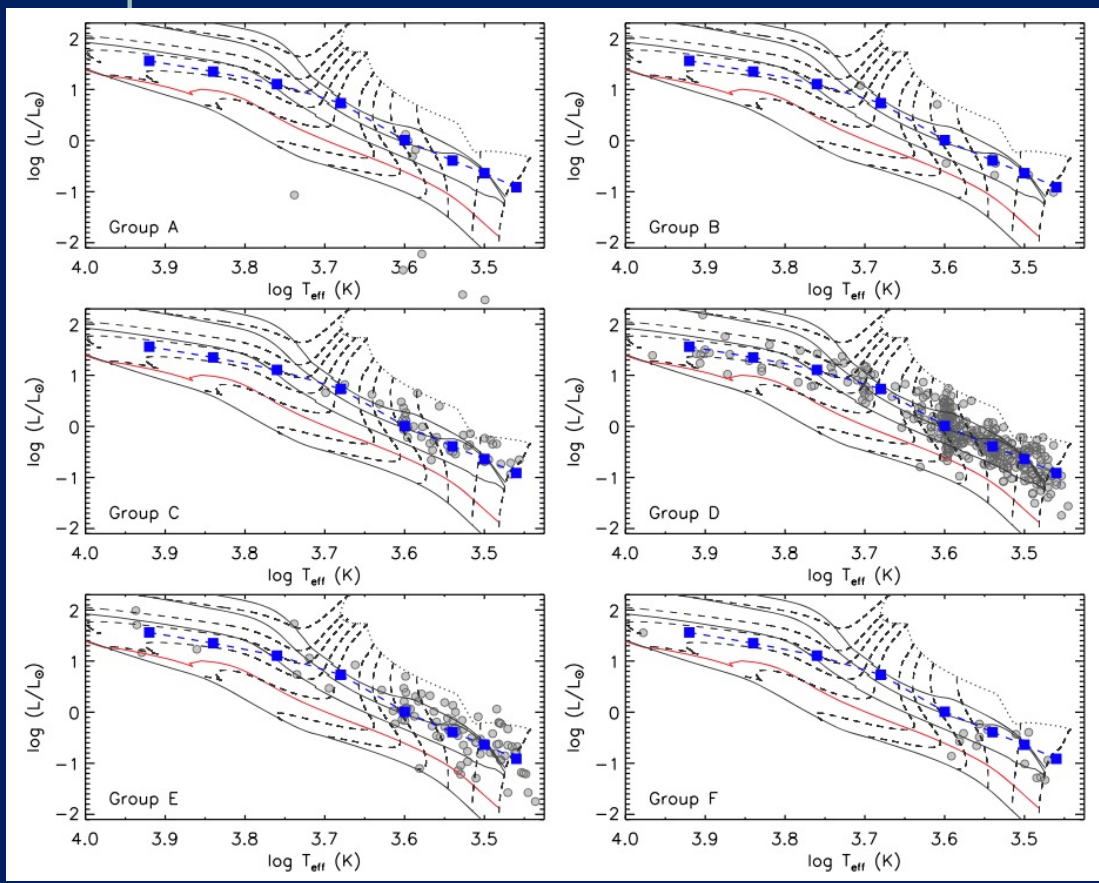


expansion  
time  
scales of  
1.5-3 Myr

[Kuhn et al  
2020]



# STELLAR AGES VIA HRD ARE COMPARABLE TO (SUB-)CLUSTER EXPANSION TIMES



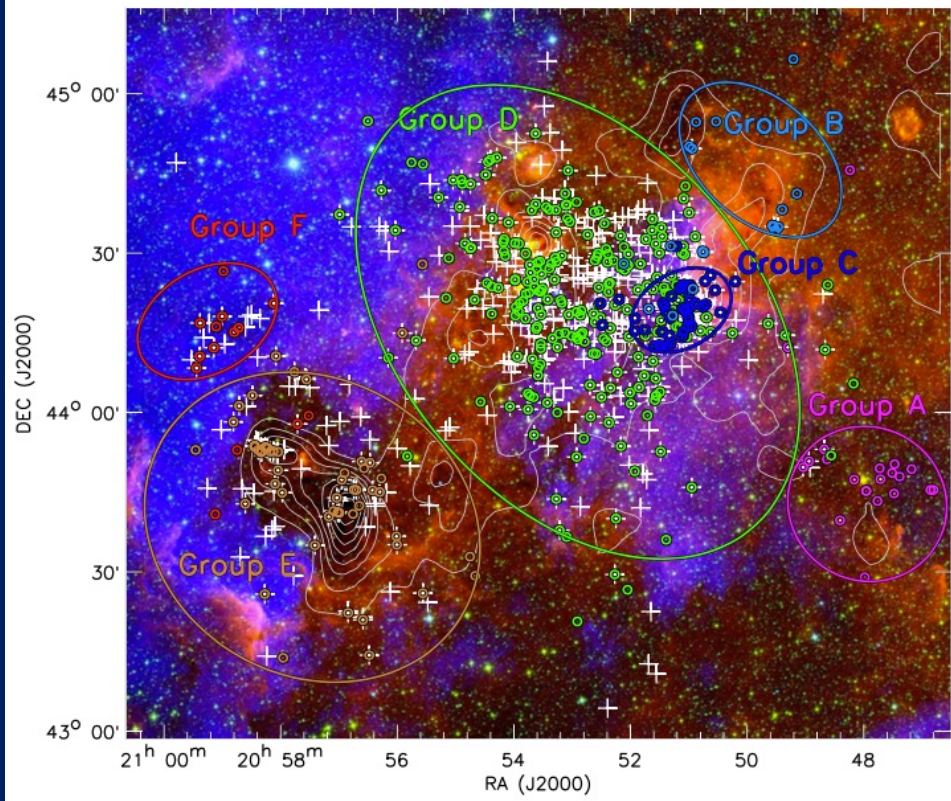
Median L(T) → ~1 Myr age

Relative to median age:

- group F is oldest
- group D next oldest
- groups A and B sparse but ~median
- groups C and E younger

But  $\Delta(\log L) = 0.3-0.4$  !!

Why still so large given rigorous membership vetting?



# OPEN QUESTIONS REGARDING:

Cluster formation/dispersal timescales.

Gas expulsion processes.

Connection between gas kinematics  
and young star kinematics.

Fraction of clusters that remain bound.

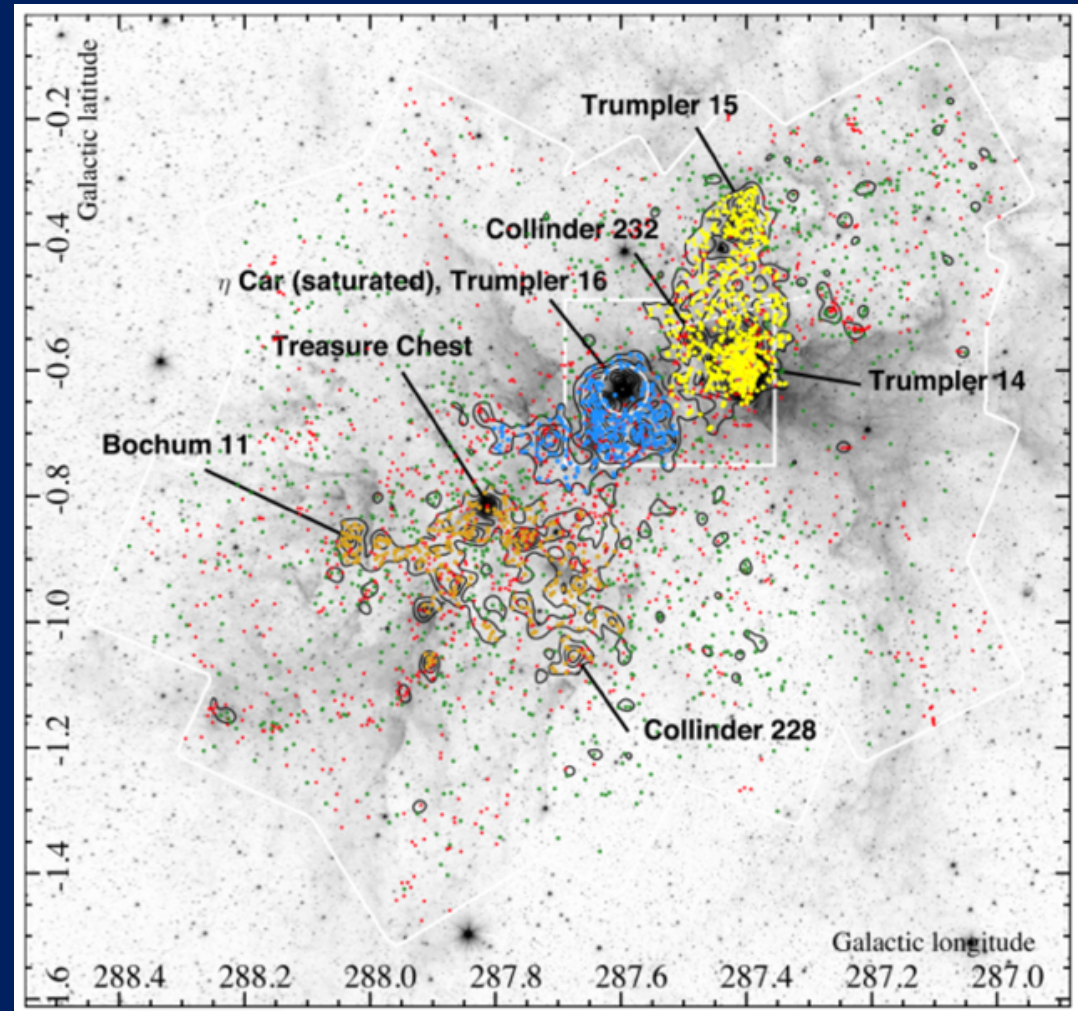
Age spreads and sequencing of star formation.

IMF and evidence for variations.

Mass segregation.

Multiplicity fractions and binary parameters.

Planet formation processes and timescales.



[Povich et al 2019]

$d \sim 2.7 \text{ kpc}$

Addressing these questions requires  
understanding stellar properties!



# WHAT CAN WE MEASURE AND DERIVE?

Parallax → distance (amazing!)

Positions and Proper Motions → clustering and 2D kinematics

Photometry → spectral energy distribution

excess relative to a(n extincted) stellar model → disk properties

variability → radiative and dynamical processes

Spectroscopy → temperature and perhaps gravity

radial velocity (variability implies multiplicity)

rotational velocity

composition (if you work hard)

# WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO INFER?

## AGE:

- How old is that star / disk / planet?
- How do stars evolve, e.g.  $M(t)$  at early times or  $L(t)$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}(t)$ ,  $R(t)$ , etc., or  $R(M)$  vs  $t$
- How do disks evolve and form planets?
- How do planets evolve, e.g.
  - $M(t)$  at early times or  $L(t)$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}}(t)$ ,  $R(t)$ , etc., or  $R(M)$  vs  $t$
  - dynamically, in a planetary/debris system
- I predict there will be many many plots at this Sagan conference showing some star/disk/planet parameter as a function of age.
- Bear in mind that ages remain uncertain at the 20-200+% level. Yes, all ages.

# WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO INFER?

**TEMPERATURE** as a basic stellar characteristic, often a proxy for mass

**MASS** e.g. for assessing  $M_2/M_1$  from RV measurements

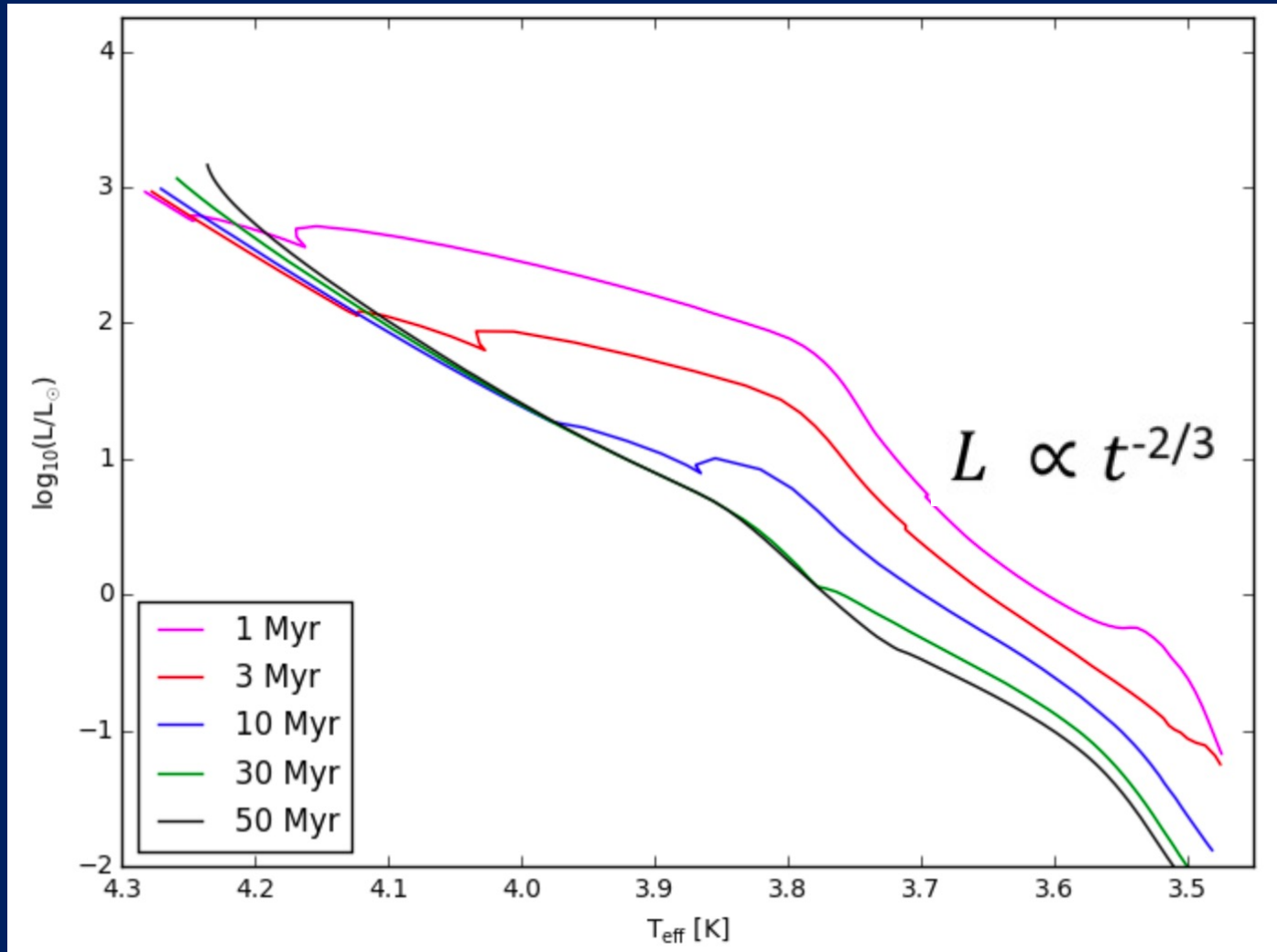
**RADIUS** e.g. for assessing  $R_2/R_1$  from transit/eclipse measurements

**LUMINOSITY** e.g. for interpreting an  $L_{IR}/L_*$  measurement

(more stellar parameters later)



# STELLAR CONTRACTION THEORY - HRD



Despite improvements, pre-main sequence evolutionary tracks are not yet able to reproduce young cluster luminosity vs effective temperature sequences.

They remain our most useful tool however.

# PRE-MAIN SEQUENCE EVOLUTIONARY TRACKS STILL CARRY SYSTEMATICS BETWEEN MODEL SETS

- interior physics
- atmosphere
- “birthline” effects

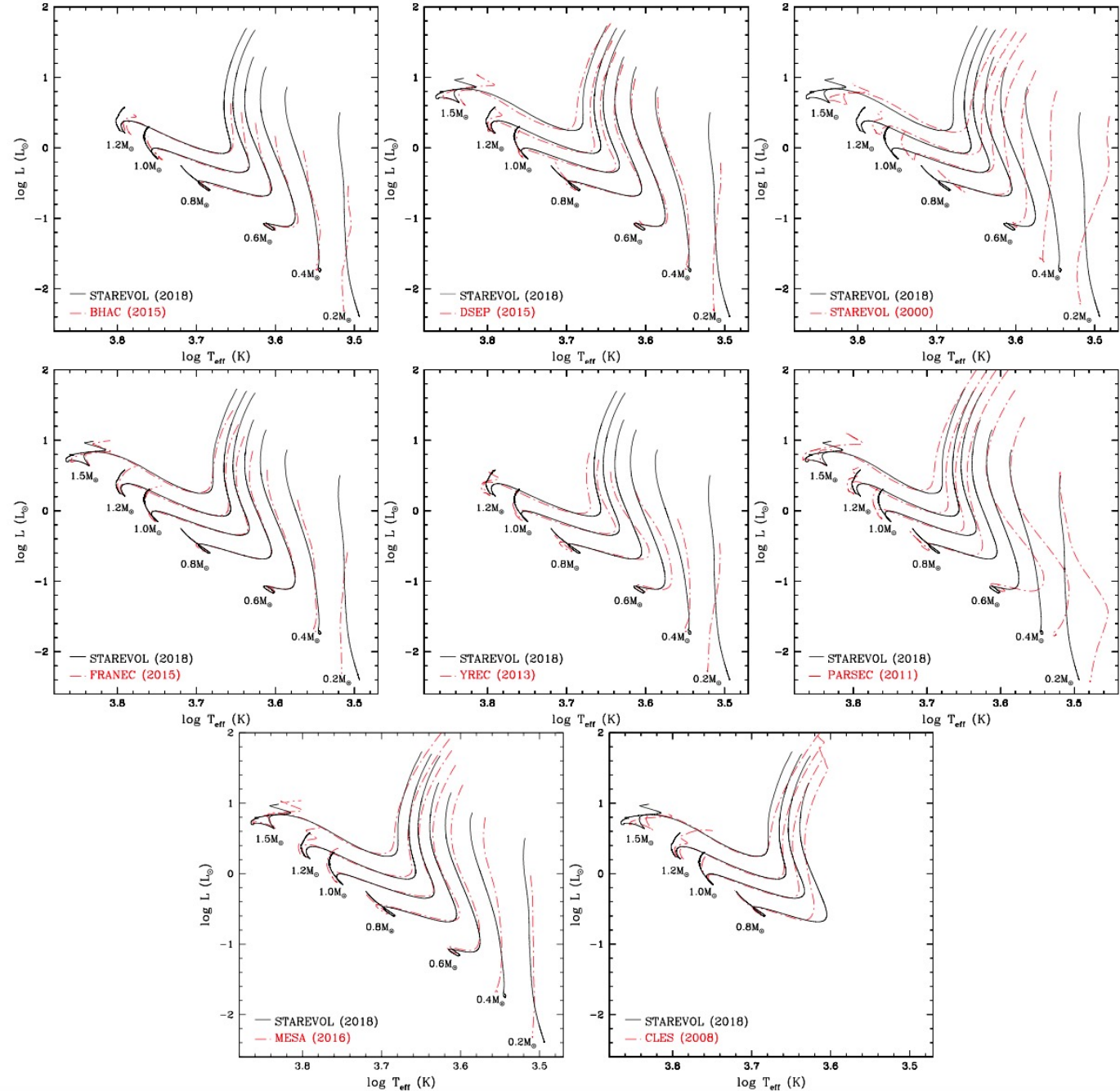
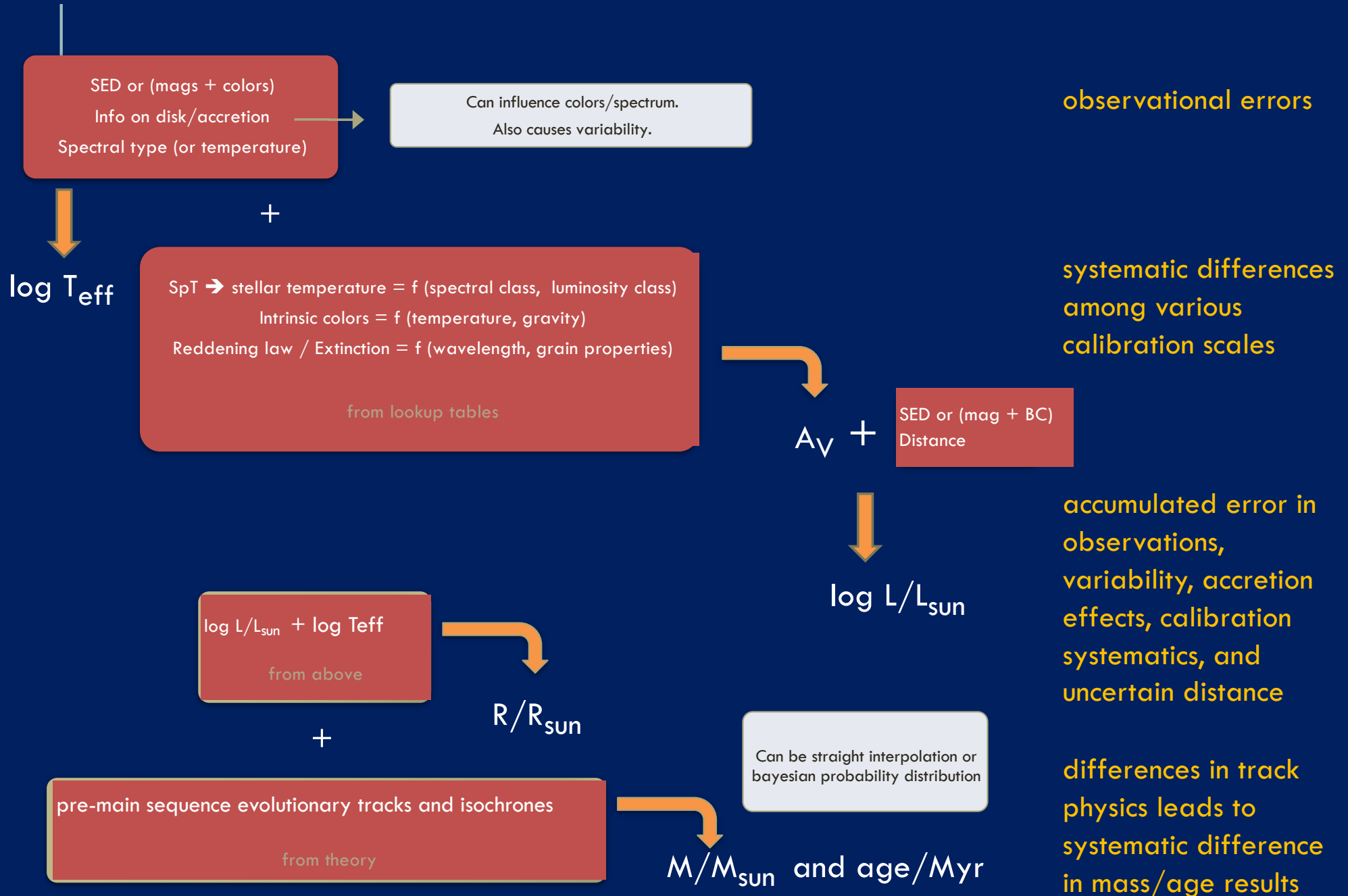
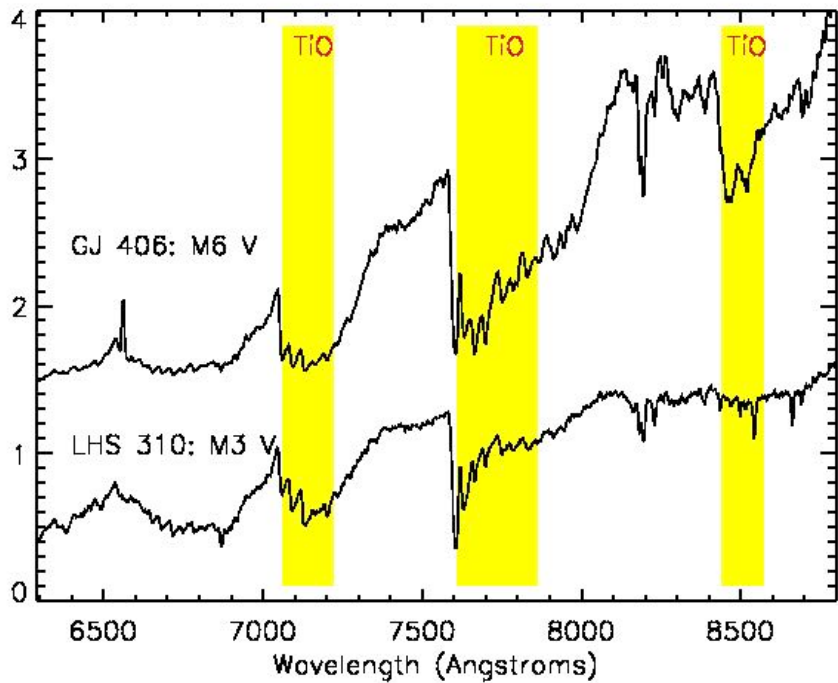


Fig. 3. Comparison of our standard solar metallicity models with other available grids as described in Table 4 and indicated on each panel.

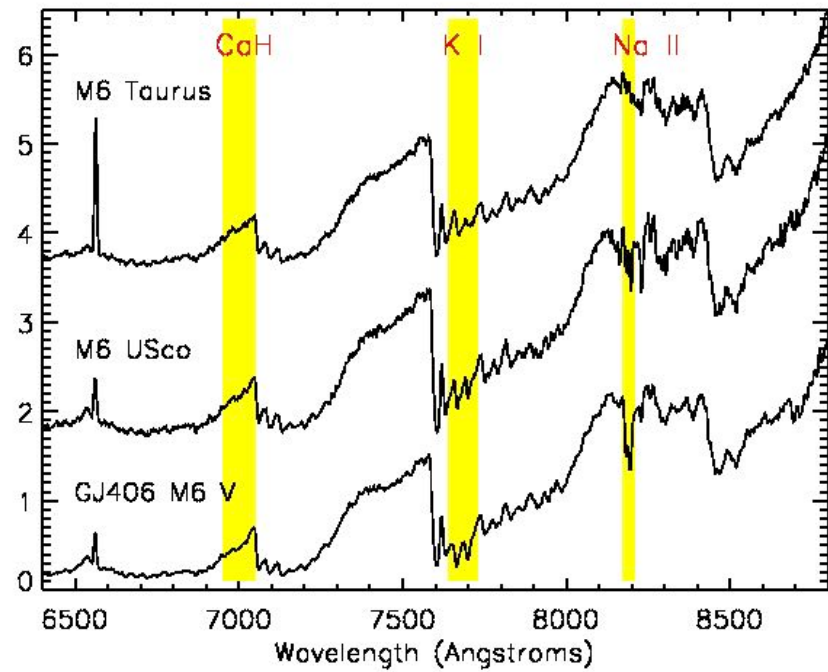


# FLOWCHART FOR YOUNG STAR HRD



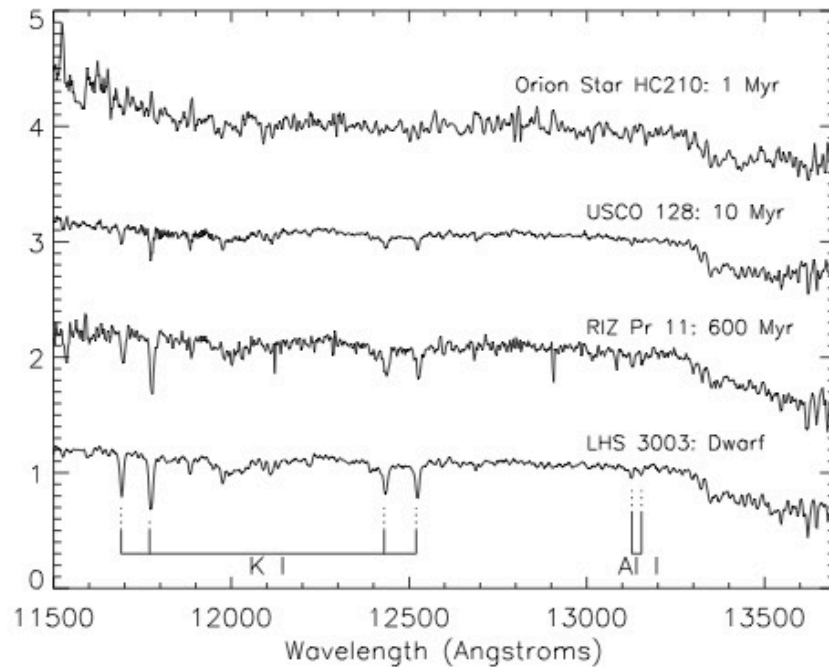
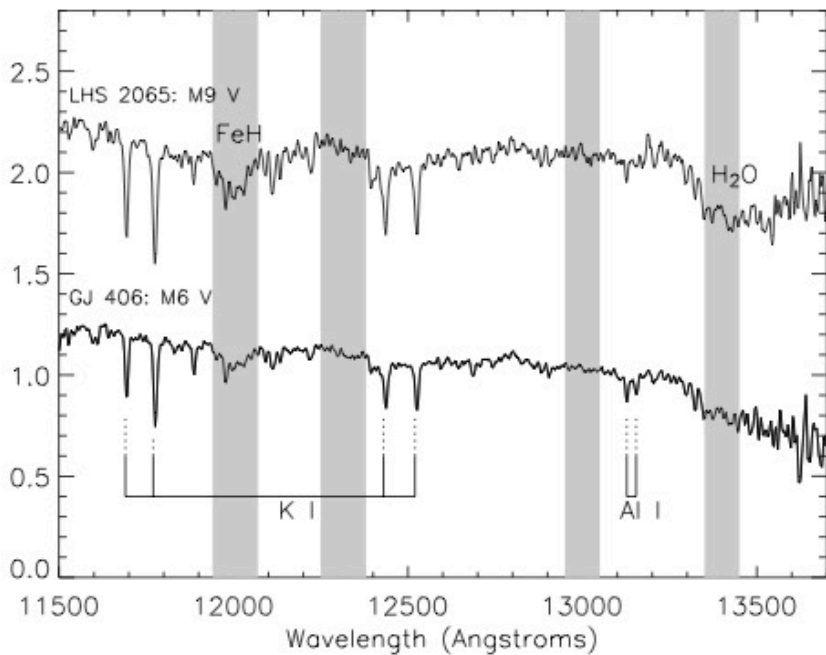


(molecular) temperature indicators



(atomic & molecular) gravity indicators

red  
optical  
spectra

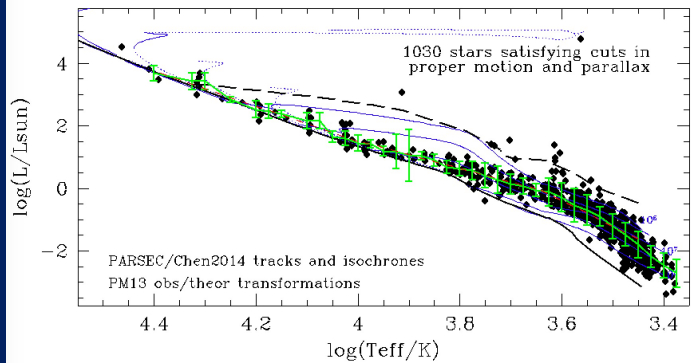
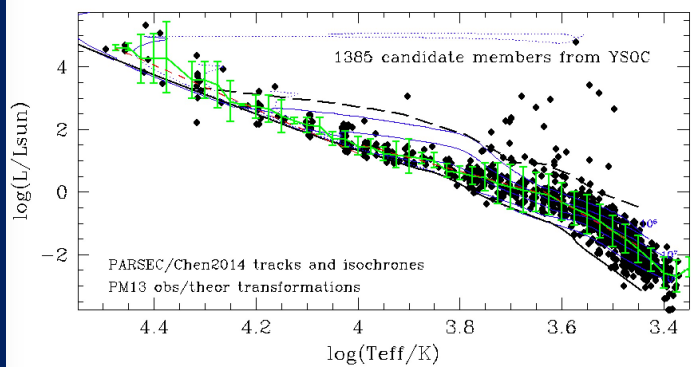


near-  
infrared  
spectra

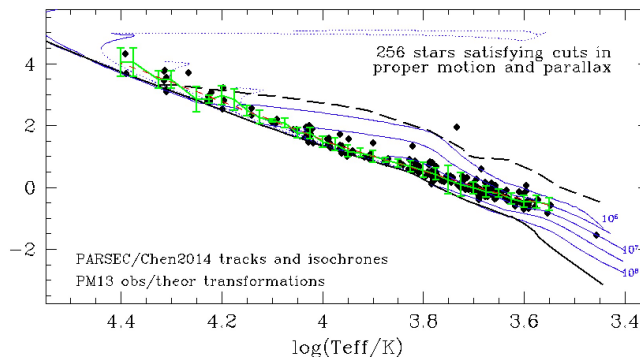
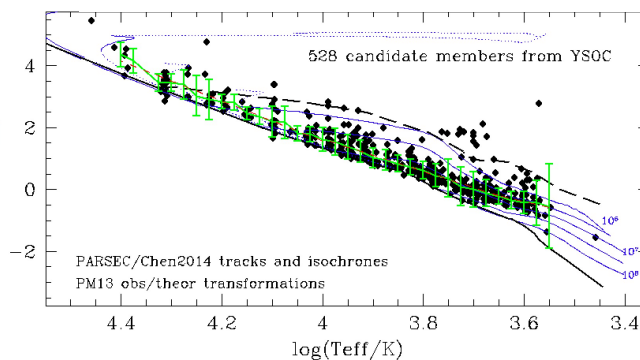
# REQUIRING KINEMATIC MEMBERSHIP AND USING INDIVIDUAL PARALLAXES REDUCES LUMINOSITY SPREADS

ScoCen complex

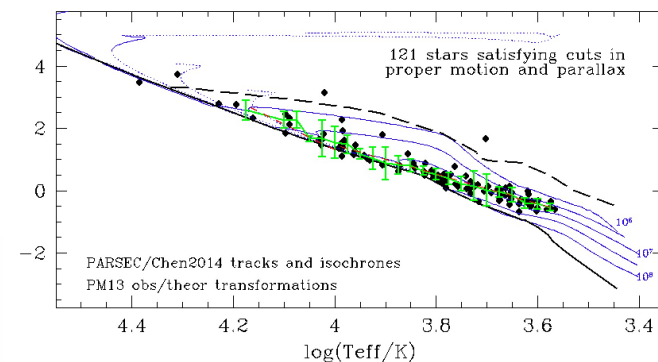
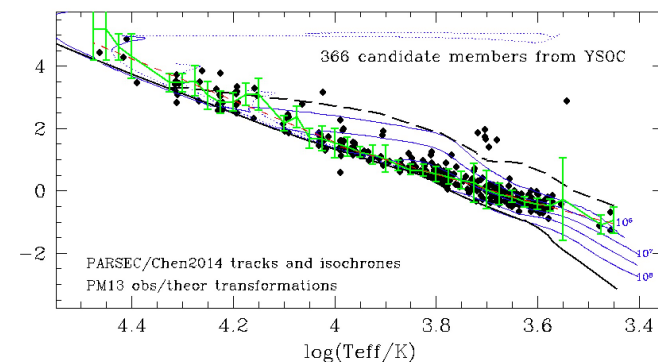
## Upper Scorpius



## Upper Centaurus-Lupus (UCL)

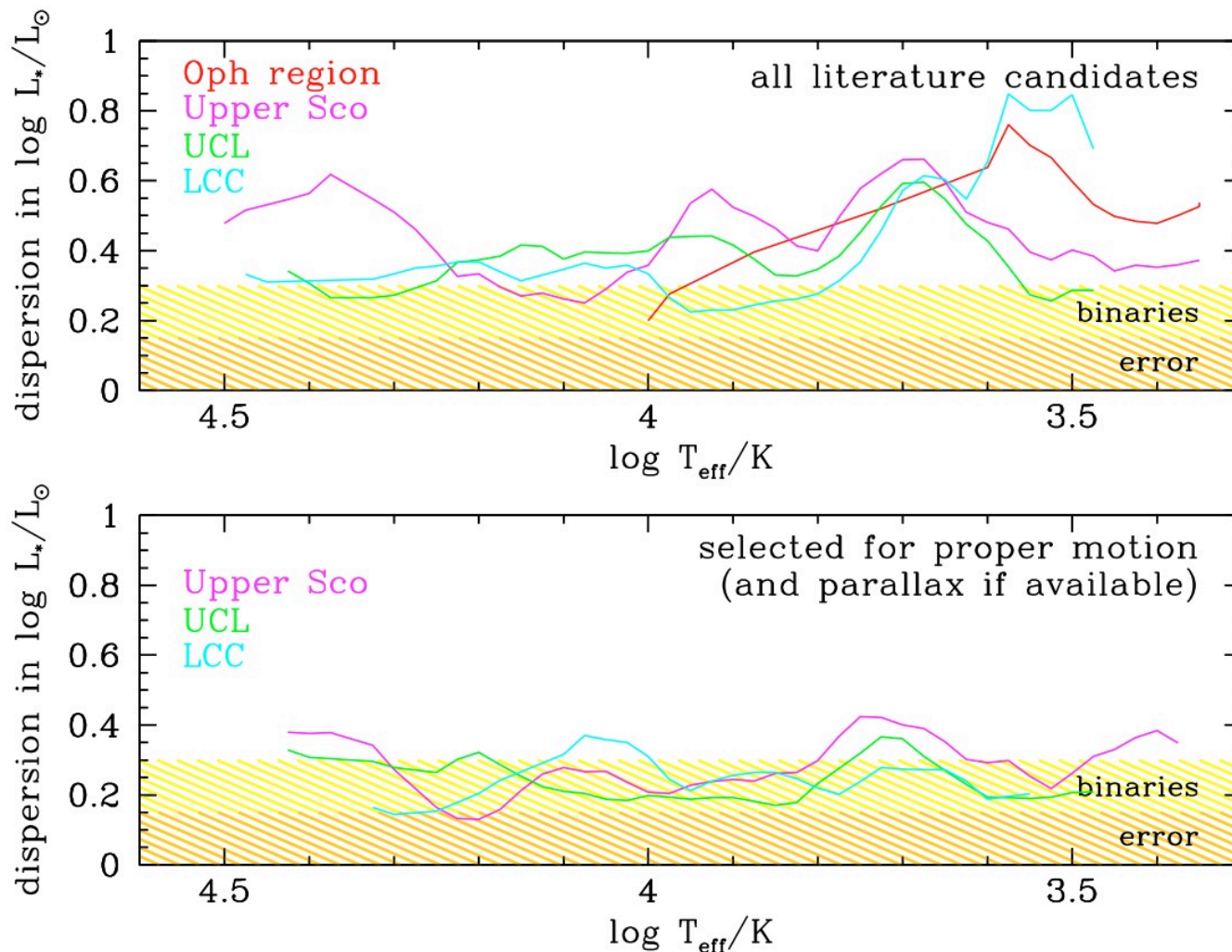


## Lower Centaurus-Crux (LCC)





# REQUIRING KINEMATIC MEMBERSHIP AND USING INDIVIDUAL PARALLAXES REDUCES LUMINOSITY SPREADS



ScoCen complex

Implications for cluster age spreads and star formation histories.

**Figure 8.** Dispersion in  $\log L/L_\odot$  with  $\log T_{eff}$ . Pre-Gaia values are in the top panel, and post-Gaia values in the bottom. Although there is a reduction in the luminosity spreads when individual parallaxes are used, the luminosity spreads do not reach the maximum spread expected from propagation of various error sources (gold hatched region). The yellow hatched region extends to the maximum effect from equal-mass binaries.

Hillenbrand et al.  
in preparation

# HOWEVER, IT'S NOT QUITE THAT EASY

Young stars are active, with blue-ing at short wavelengths.

- underlying spottedness
- superposed accretion effects.

Young stars have surrounding dust/gas, causing red excess at longer wavelengths.

Debate regarding wavelengths at which we can measure mostly the stellar photosphere (vs disk/accretion effects) and hence how to best determine

- extinction correction to account for reddening
- bolometric correction from measured flux to luminosity.

**Complication of variability:**

- use median magnitude?
- use bright state for dippers/faders?
- use faint state for bursters?

Median RMS values in the ONC:

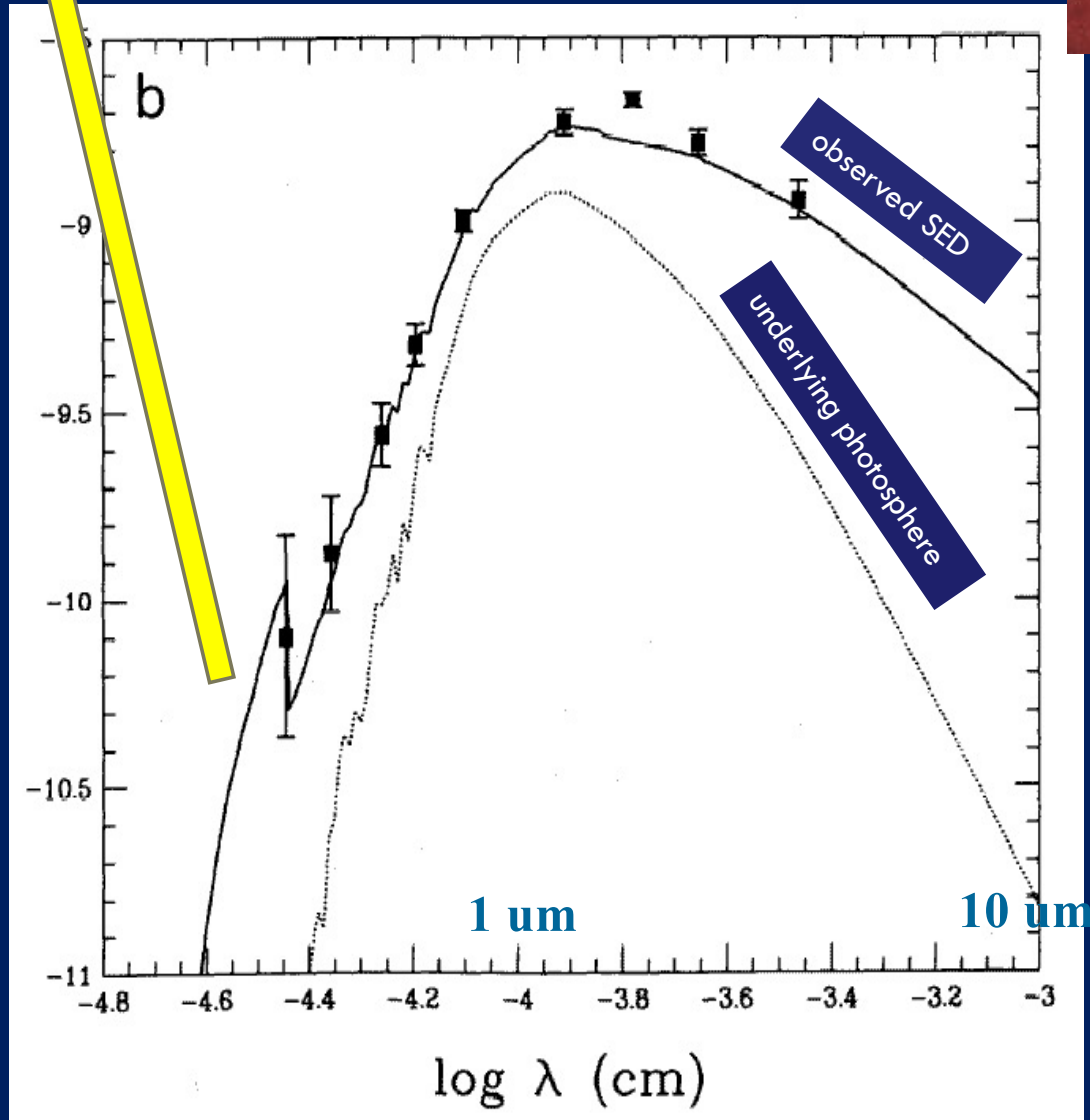
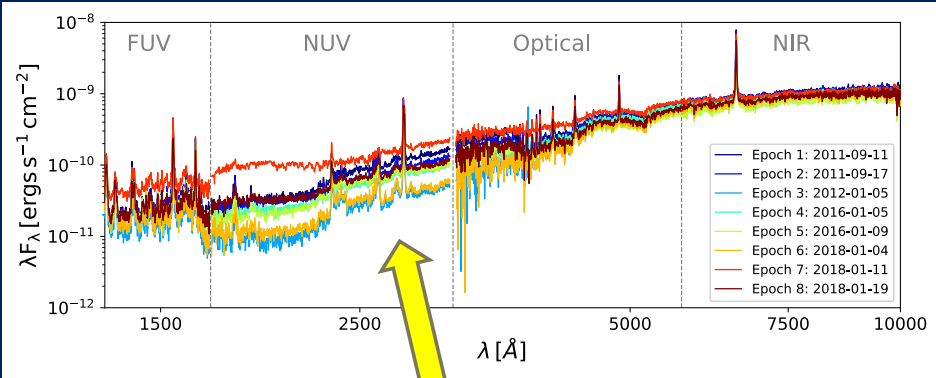
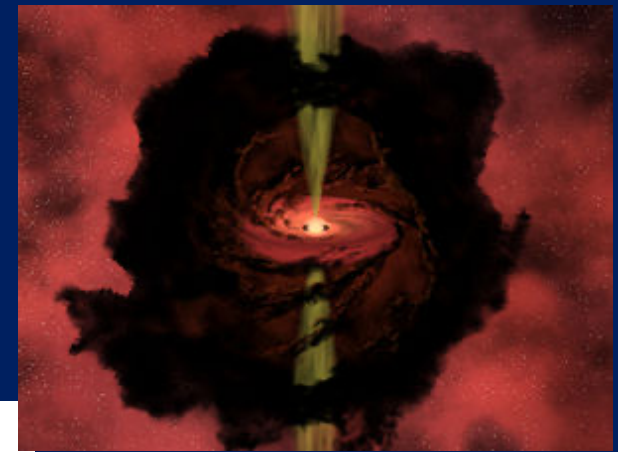
<0.19> mag at 0.8 um

<0.14> mag at 1.2, 1.6, 2.2 um

<0.07> mag at 3.6, 4.5 um

High variability tail extends to >2 mag!

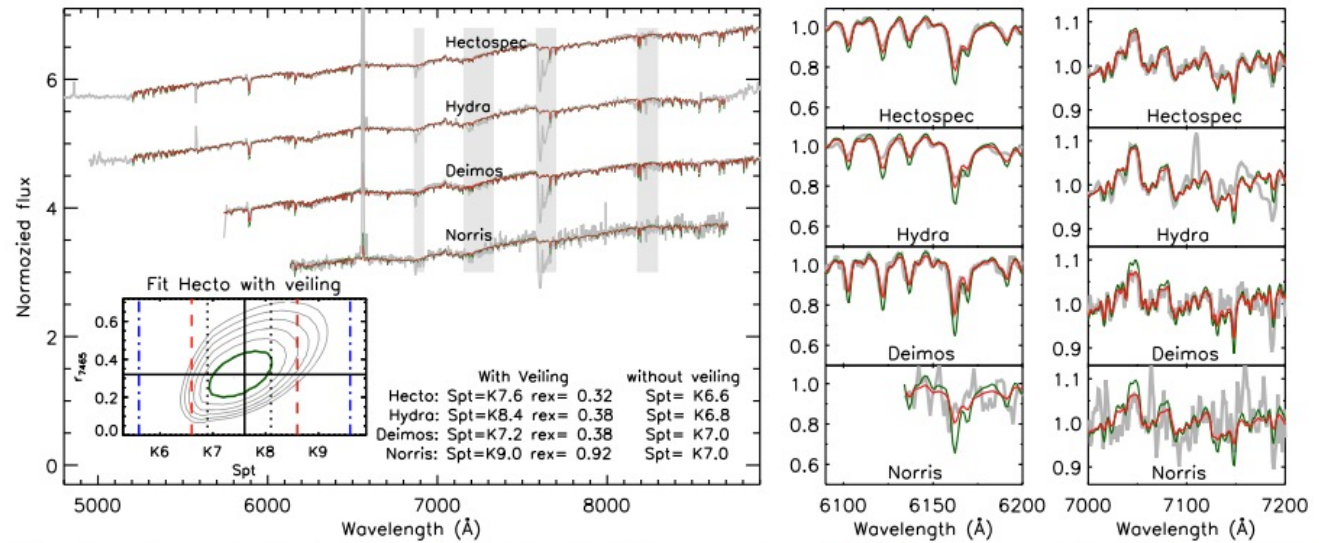
[Robinson et al. 2019]





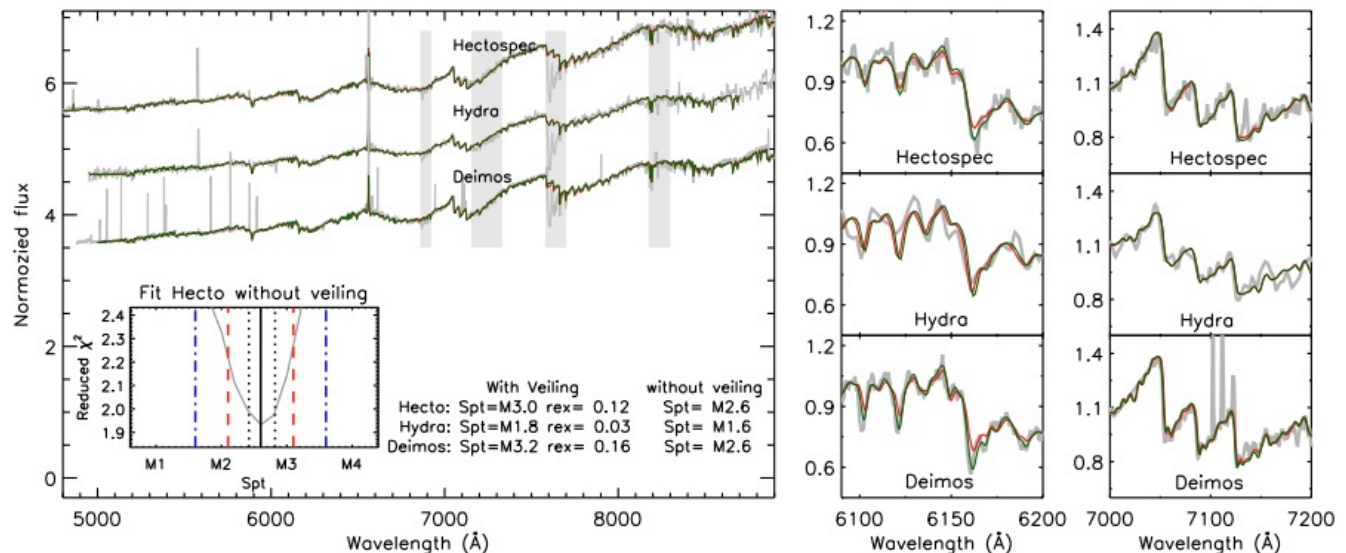
# SPECTRAL TYPES PLUS VEILING

accretion  
causes  
"veiling" of  
spectral lines,  
filling them in

**Figure 2.** Illustration of our spectral template fitting method for Source ID 103, which was observed with all the four spectrographs used in this study. Left: best-fit X-shooter empirical spectral templates (red including veiling in the template model and green without veiling) overplotted on the observed spectra (gray). Vertically oriented gray bars indicate regions masked due to potential contamination from emission lines or telluric features. The inset contours show the distribution of the reduced  $\chi^2$  derived from fitting the Hectospec spectrum with X-shooter templates with different combinations of SpT and  $r_{7465}$ . The green contour is for the minimum reduced  $\chi^2+0.05$ . The solid lines show the  $\text{SpT}^{\text{best}}$  (vertical solid line) and  $r_{7465}^{\text{best}}$  (horizontal solid line) with the minimum reduced  $\chi^2$ . The two vertical dotted lines show the spectral type range with  $\chi_r^2$  within  $\chi_{r,\text{min}}^2+0.05$ . Vertical red dashed and blue dashed-dotted lines are used to qualify our spectral classification (see Section 5.1). Right: zoomed-in comparison of the target spectra and the best-fit template with (red) and without (green) veiling within 6090–6200 Å and 7000–7200 Å. The veiled model (red) is a better fit to the observed spectrum (gray).

no veiling to  
worry about

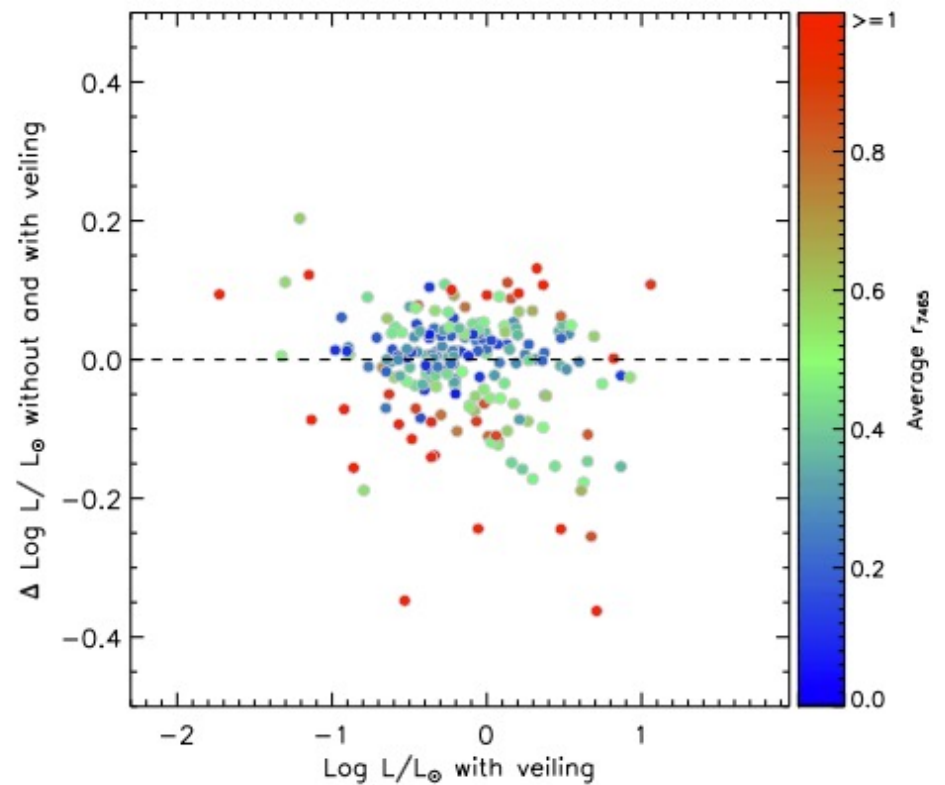
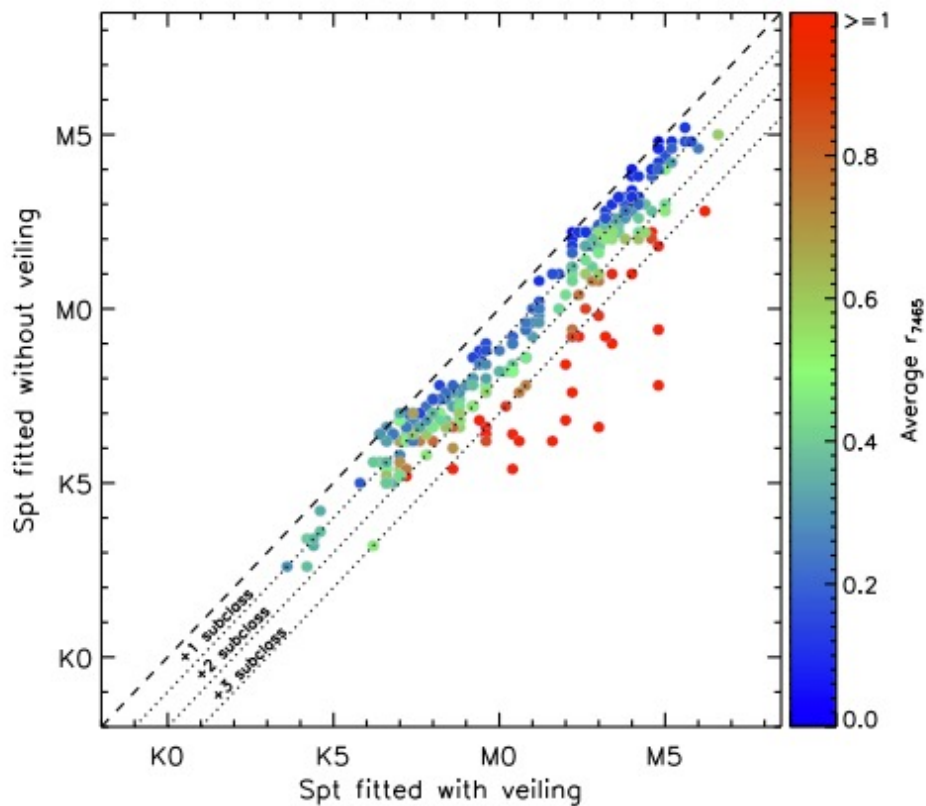



**Figure 3.** Same as Figure 2, but for Source ID 232. In this case the nonveiled model (green) is the preferred fit to the observed spectrum (gray). In the left panel, the inset shows the distribution of reduced  $\chi^2$  derived from fitting the Hectospec spectrum with X-shooter templates having different SpT. Vertical lines represent the same quantities as in Figure 2.

# HOW ACCURATE ARE THE HR DIAGRAMS? (VEILING)

Accretion systematically affects spectral types, biasing them earlier, implying hotter temperatures.

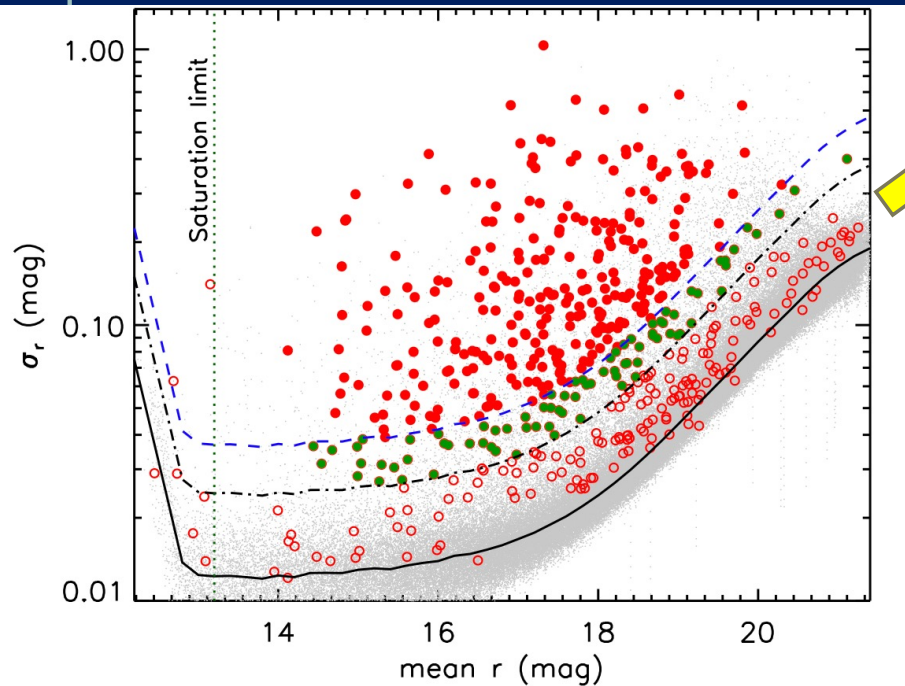
Accretion causes scatter in luminosities with typical  $\Delta(\log L) < 0.15$ .





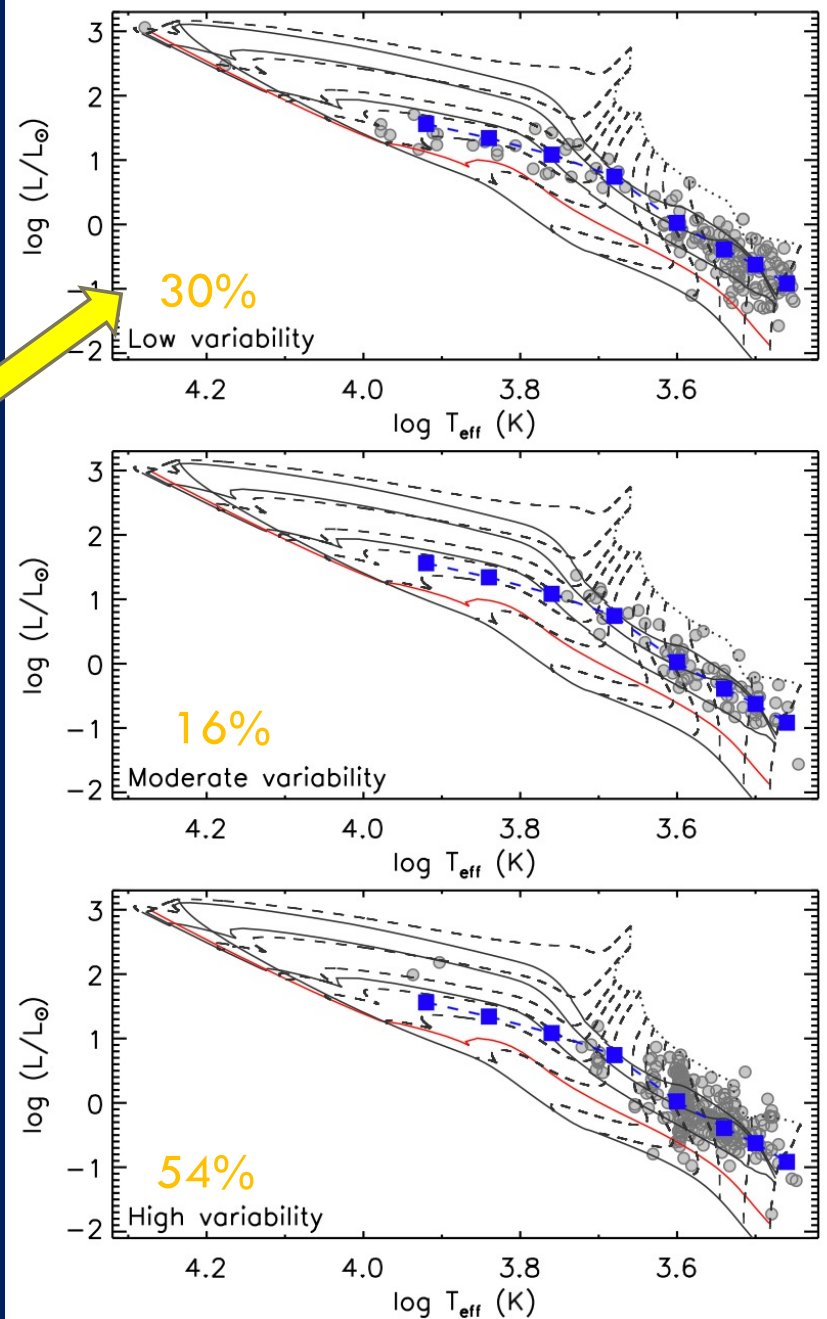
# HOW ACCURATE ARE THE HRDS (VARIABILITY)

Similar  $\Delta(\log L) = 0.3$  dex luminosity spread for all variability amplitudes.



**Figure 14.** Photometric variability statistic  $\sigma_r$  vs mean magnitude  $\bar{r}$  for all stars in the NAP field with distance less than 2 kpc. The underlying distribution is shown as small gray-color dots. The black solid line marks  $\bar{\sigma}_r$  within individual magnitude bins, while the black dash-dotted line indicates  $2 \times \bar{\sigma}_r$  and the blue dashed line  $3 \times \bar{\sigma}_r$ . Our identified YSOs are shown as red circles: red-filled circles are for strongly variable stars, green-filled circles for moderately variable stars, and open circles for stars with low variability.

[Fang et al. 2020]

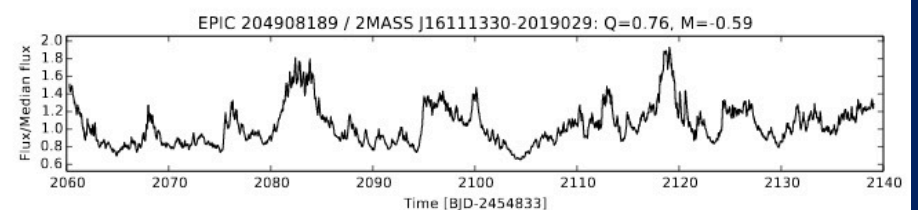
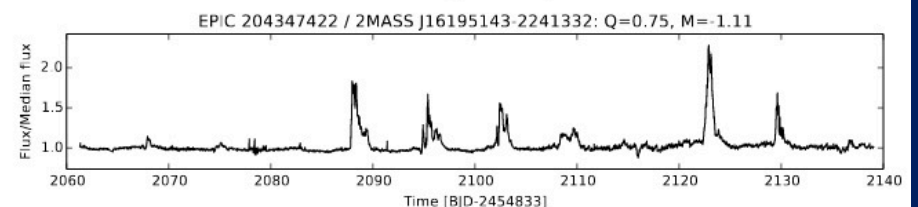
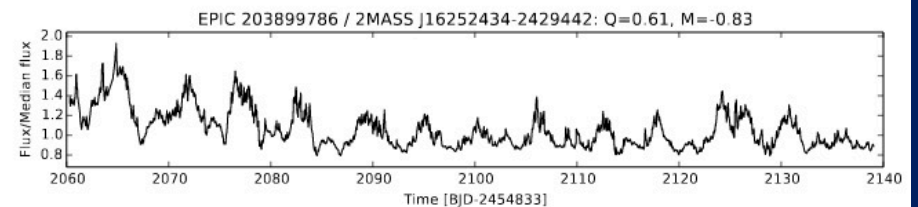
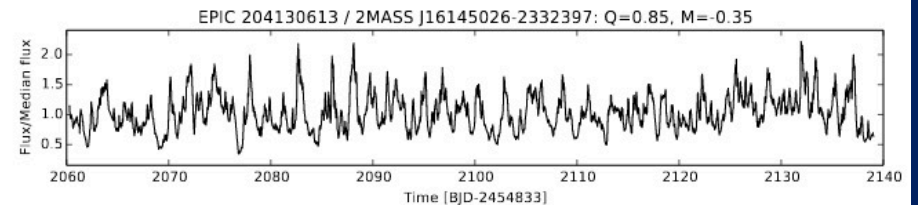
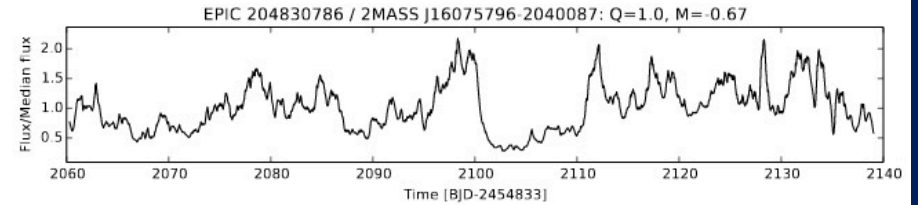
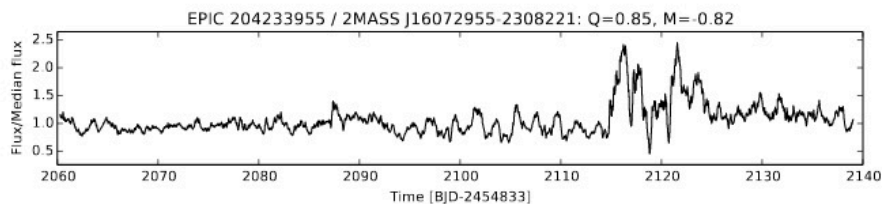
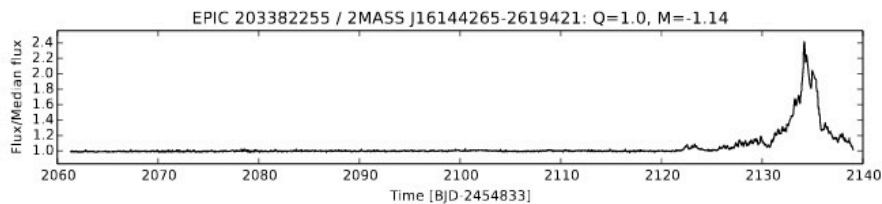
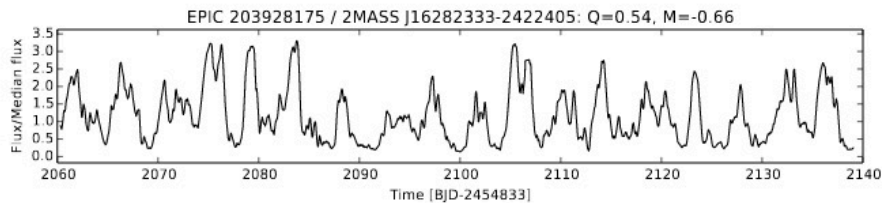
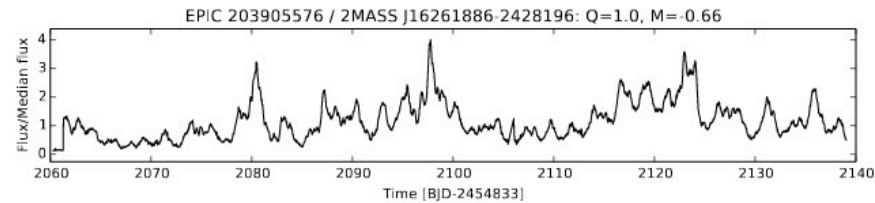
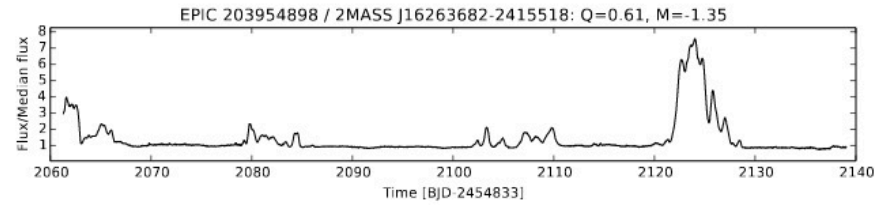
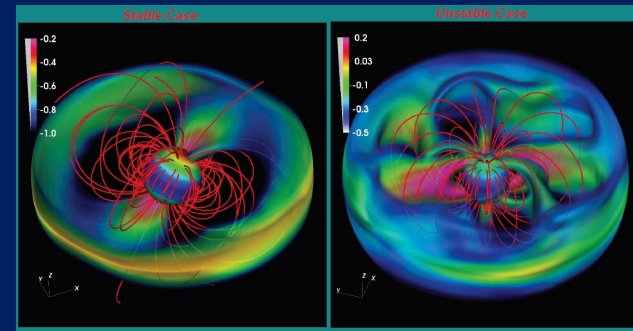


**Figure 20.** H-R diagram for young stars with photometric variability data and showing variability at low (top panel), moderate (middle panel), or high (bottom panel) levels. The evolutionary tracks are the same as in Figure 12.



# A CONTINUUM OF ACCRETION BURST BEHAVIOR

~15% of objects with disks are “bursty” with both aperiodic and quasi-periodic behavior.



# ALSO A CONTINUUM OF DIPPING/FADING BEHAVIOR

## Aperiodic Examples

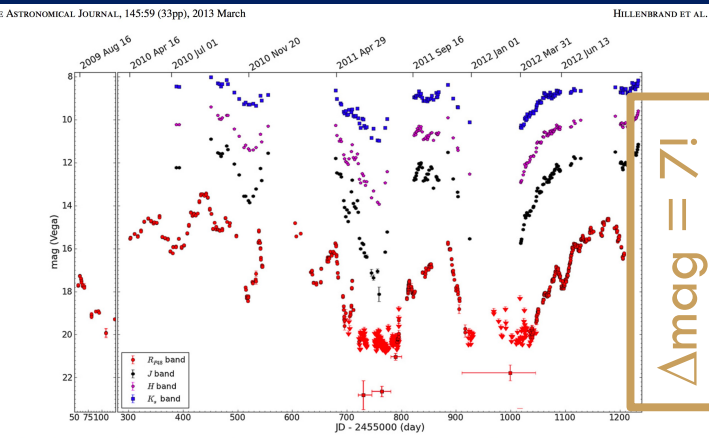
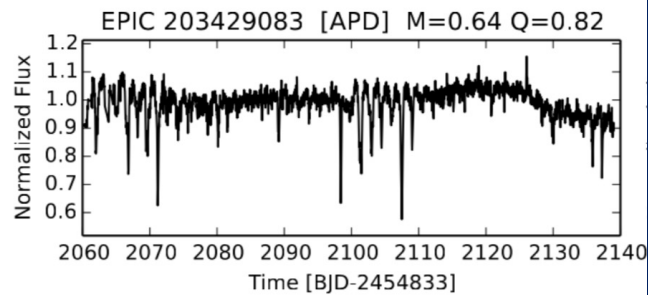
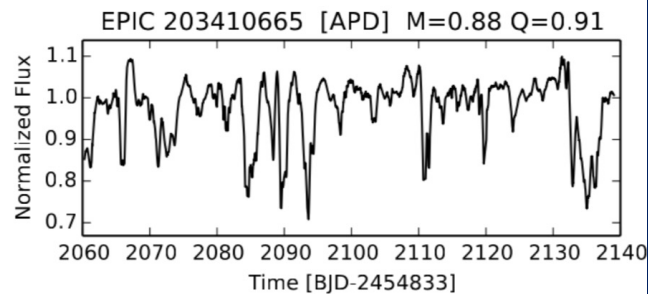
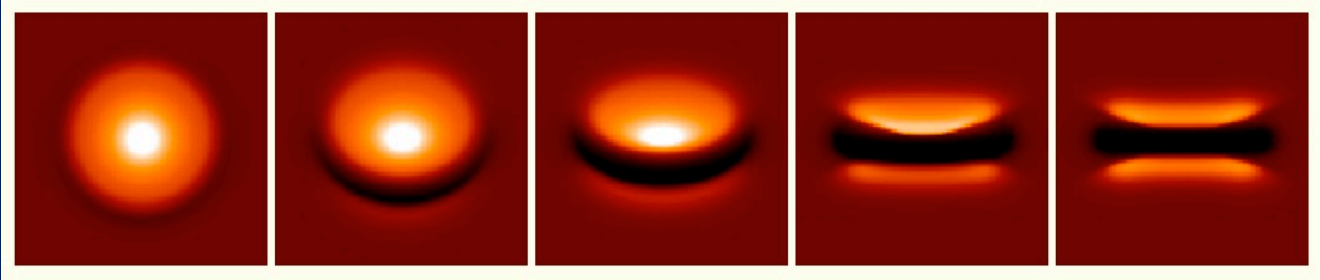
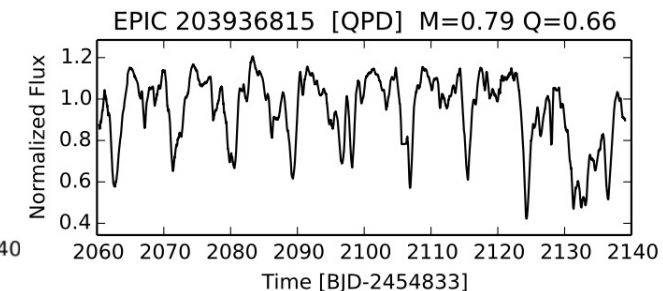
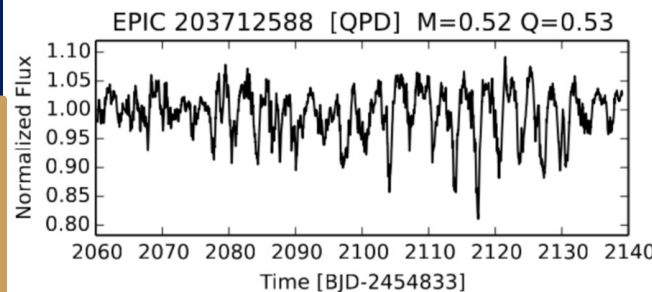
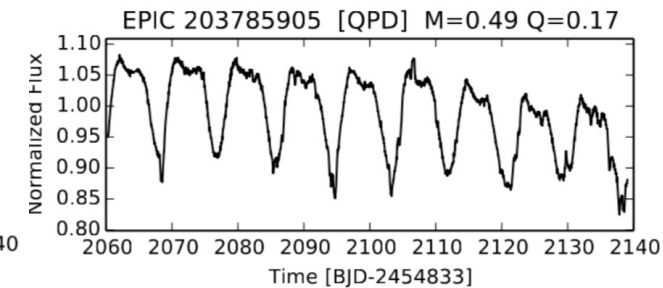
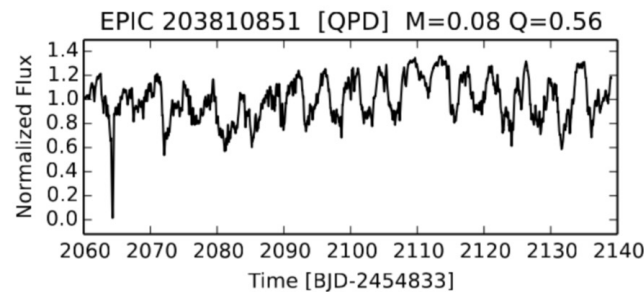
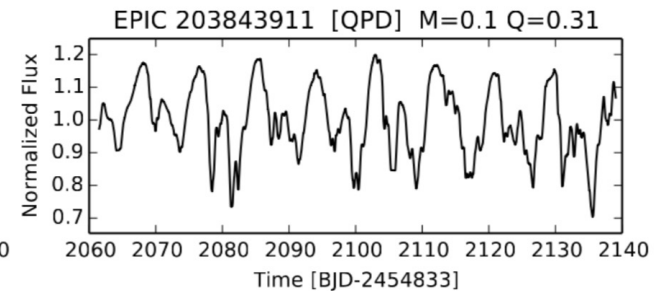
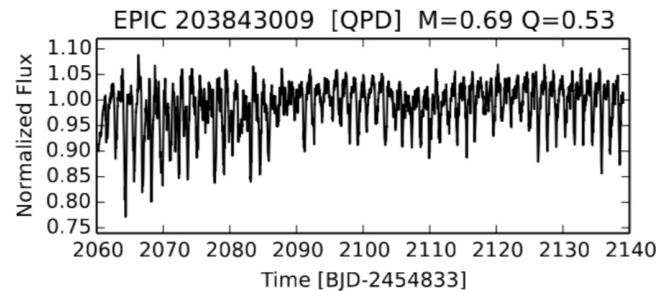


Figure 1. Multi-wavelength light curve of PTF 10mg with UT dates indicated above the figure. From bottom to top the data streams represent variability in the  $R$  band (red; data from PTF) and in the  $J$ ,  $H$ , and  $K$  bands (black, purple, and blue respectively; data from PAIRITEL). Error bars are shown, but the uncertainty in magnitude is typically smaller than the size of the symbols. During faint states when the source was not detected in individual frames, photometry was measured from stacked PTF images (red squares, in the 21–23 mag range); horizontal error bars indicate the time range of measurements included in each stack.



## Quasi-periodic Examples



[Cody and Hillenbrand 2018]  
see also Ansdell 2016 and Hedges 2018

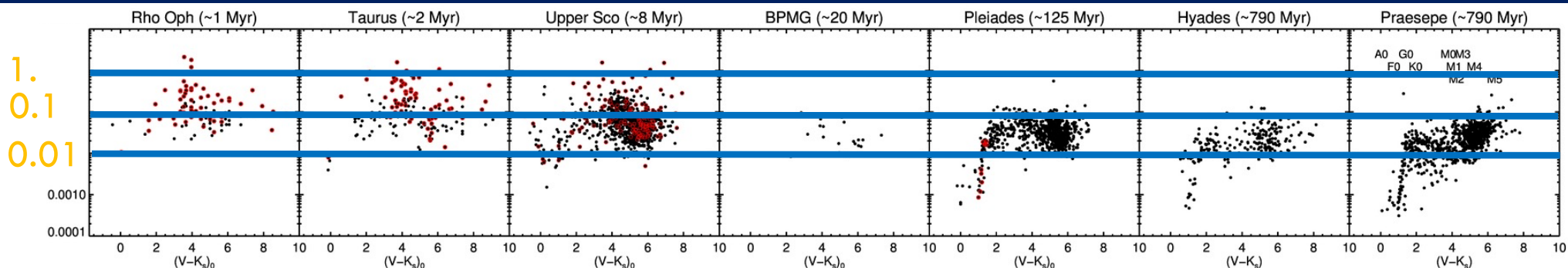
# VARIABILITY AMPLITUDES DECLINE WITH AGE

1 Myr

10 Myr

100 Myr

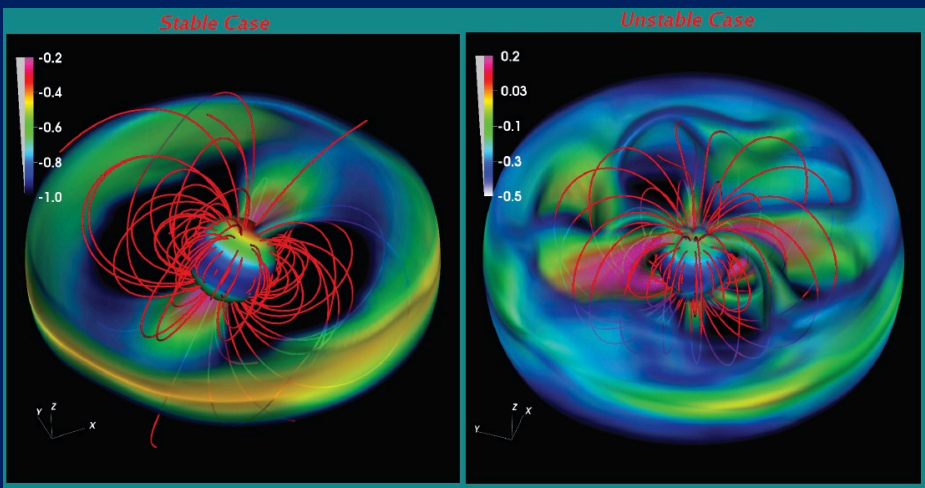
1 Gyr



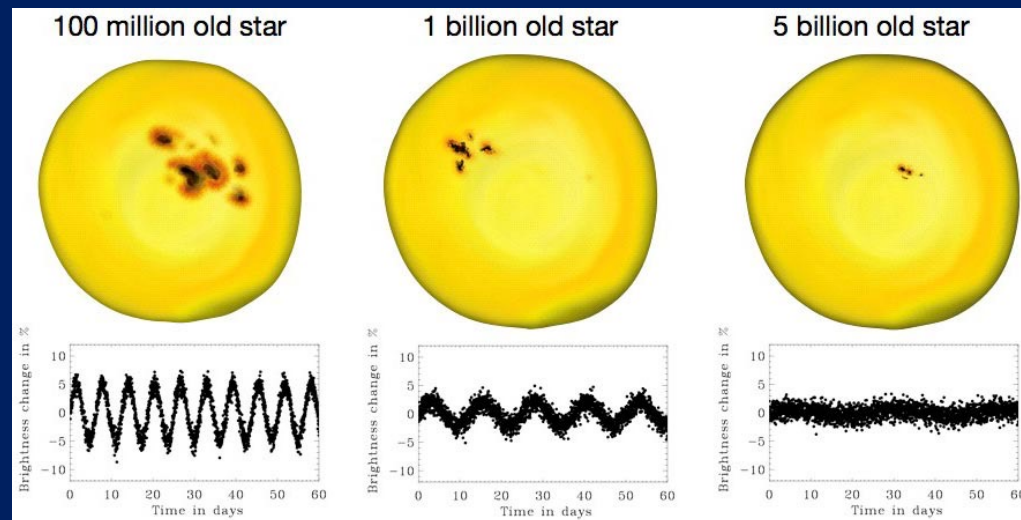
accretion and high levels of activity  
with amplitudes  $\sim 0.1 - 1$  mag

activity and spots  
with amplitudes  $\sim 0.01-0.1$  mag

Rebull et al.



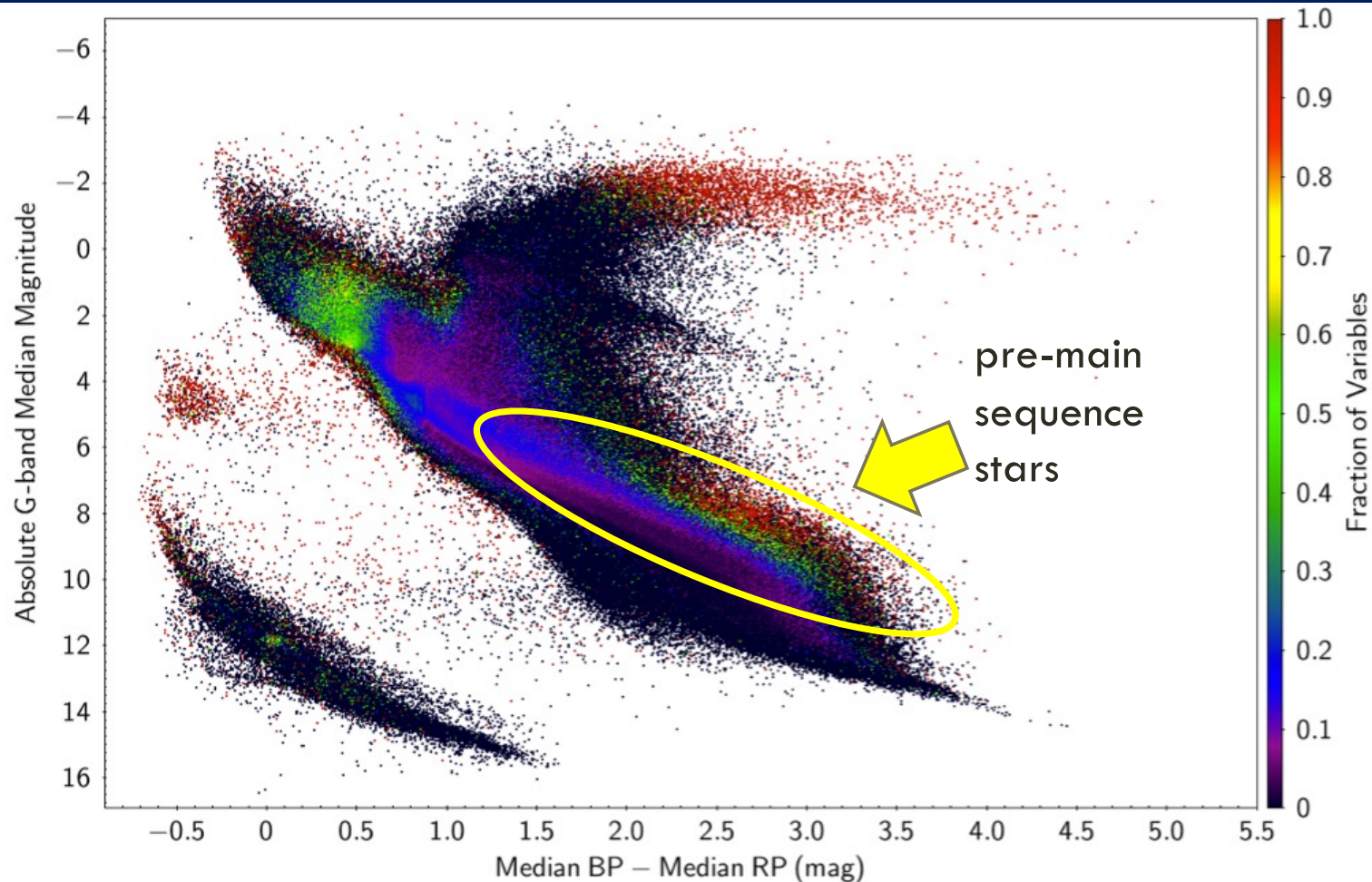
graphic by M. Romanova



graphic by S. Meibom



# ALL STARS ARE VARIABLE AT SOME LEVEL -- BUT YOUNG STARS DO STAND OUT



**Fig. 8.** Variable object fraction in the CaMD shown as a colour scale as labelled. This figure is not based on variable objects from the literature. Instead, variability is detected directly using *Gaia* data and employing supervised classification for sources with at least 20 observations in the

# A FEW MAIN MESSAGES THUS FAR

HR diagrams remain a valuable tool for deriving  $R/R_{\text{sun}}$ ,  $M/M_{\text{sun}}$ , and AGE.

- care needed when placing young stars

Origin of luminosity spreads still not entirely clear.

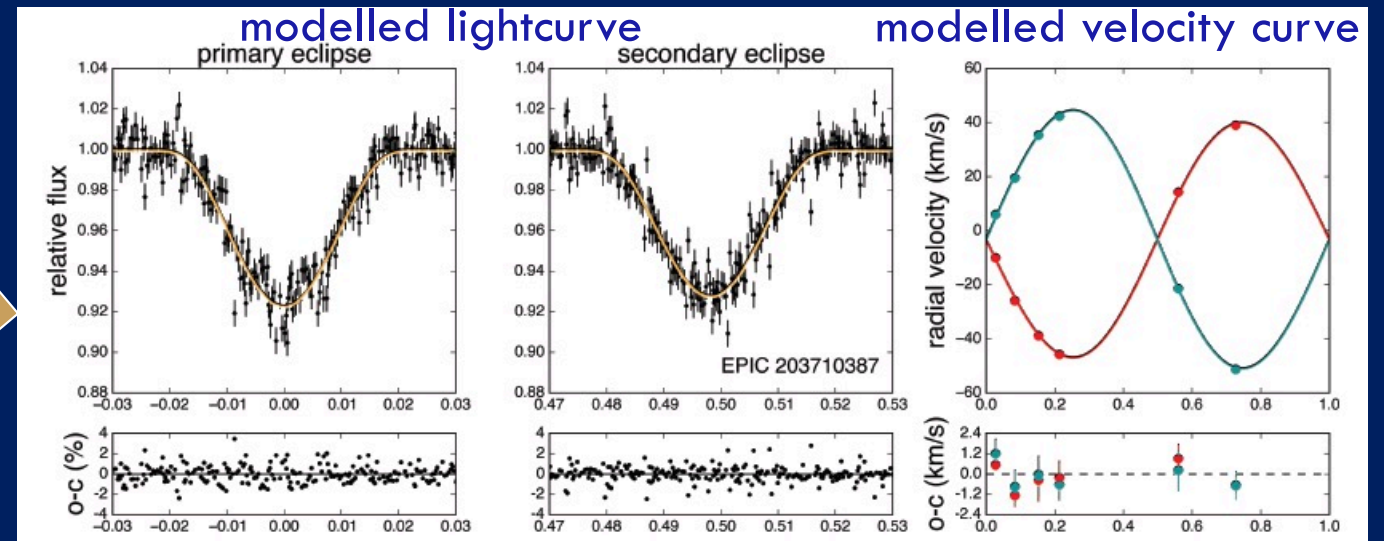
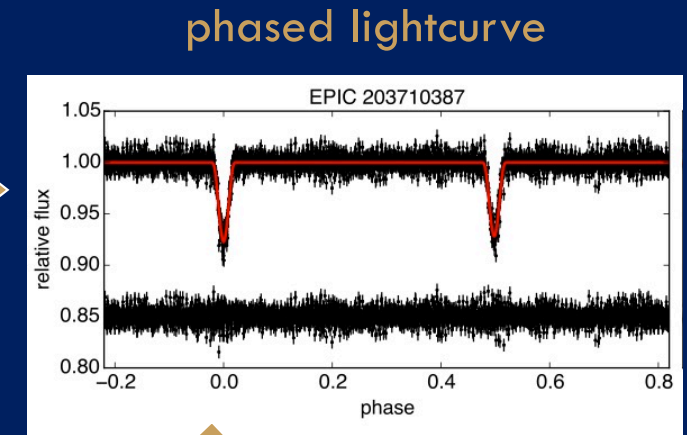
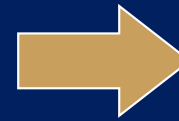
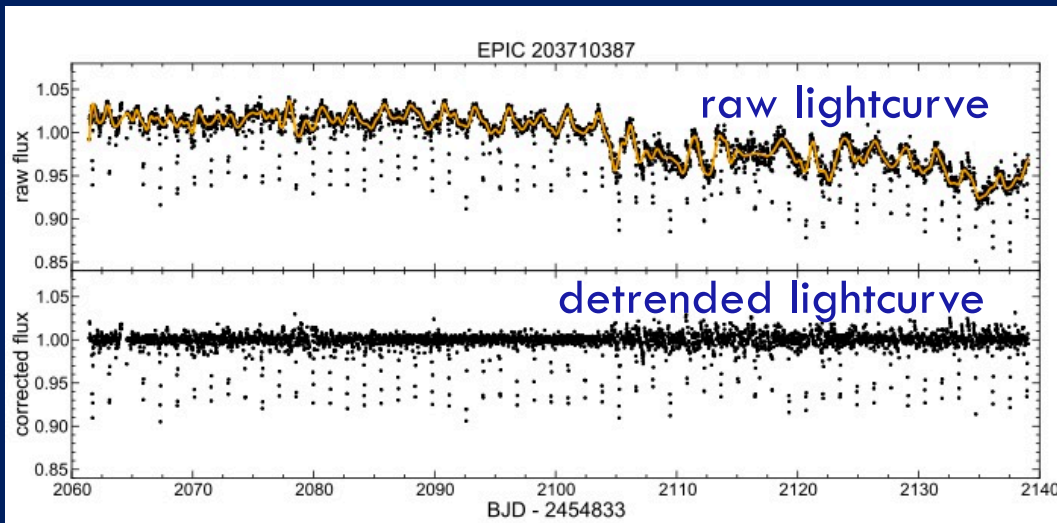
- not readily explained by observational errors or photometric variability or distance spreads

Empirical isochrones, from run of median  $L(T)$  with  $T$ , cross theoretical isochrones.

- still missing ingredients in evolutionary theory – currently thought to be accretion history

There is an important check on the models, which is to measure  $M, R$  directly.

# YOUNG DOUBLE-LINE ECLIPSING BINARIES



$$M_1 = 0.118 \pm 0.003 M_{\odot}$$

$$M_2 = 0.108 \pm 0.003 M_{\odot}$$

$$R_1 = 0.42 \pm 0.01 R_{\odot}$$

$$R_2 = 0.45 \pm 0.01 R_{\odot}$$

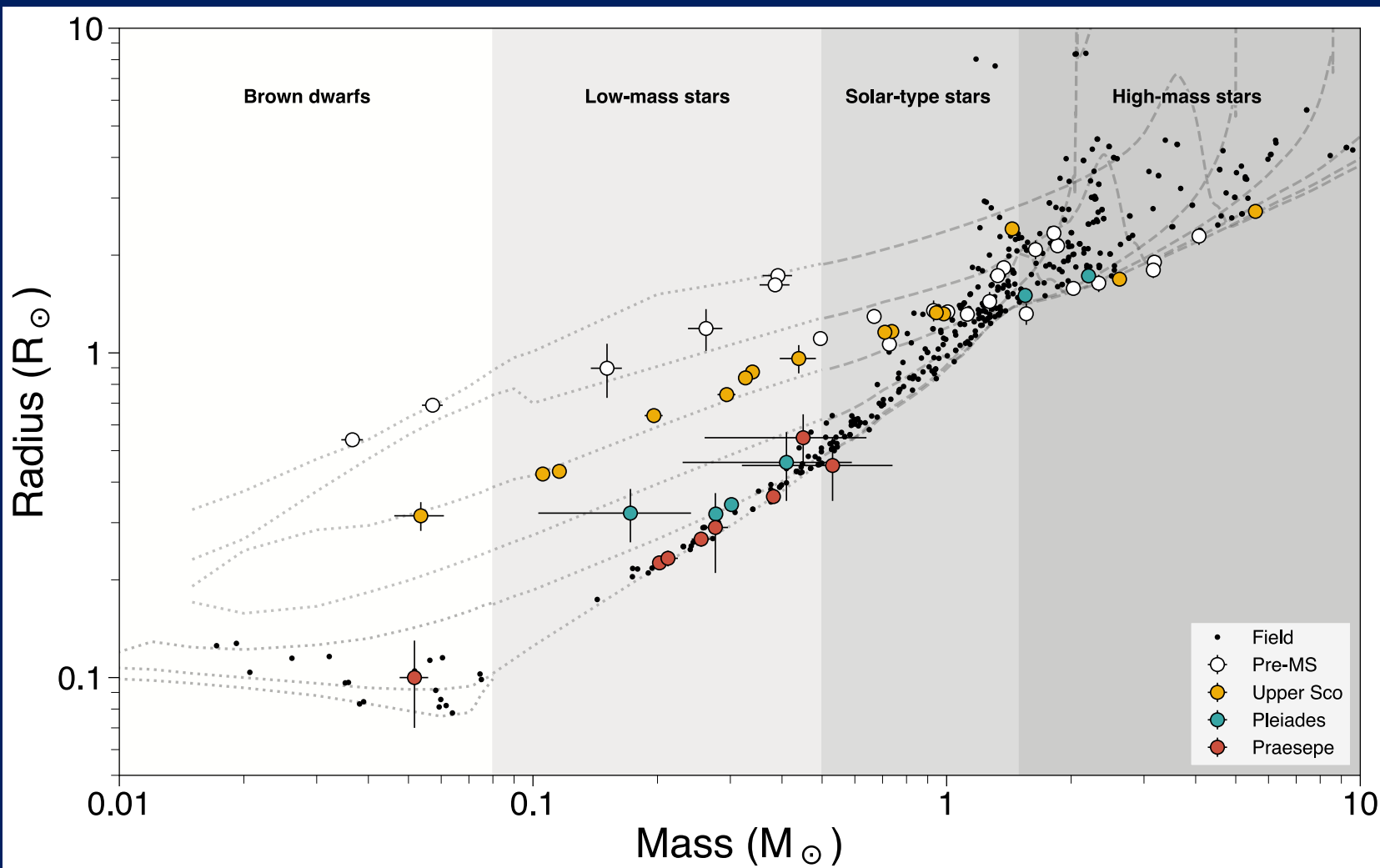
lowest mass  
stellar benchmark

[David et al. 2016]



# FUNDAMENTALLY DERIVED MASS AND RADIUS

- Cluster member DLEBS are extremely valuable as tests of theory.
- Match to isochrones in  $R$  vs  $M$  is *pretty good*
- However, discrepancies in  $L$  vs  $T$ , which are radiative properties rather than fundamental.
- Typically need to shift model temperatures cooler by  $\sim 150$ - $200$  K to match data.
  - spots / magnetism?



[David &  
Hillenbrand  
2019]

# OTHER OBSERVED PROPERTIES OF YOUNG STARS

Rotation

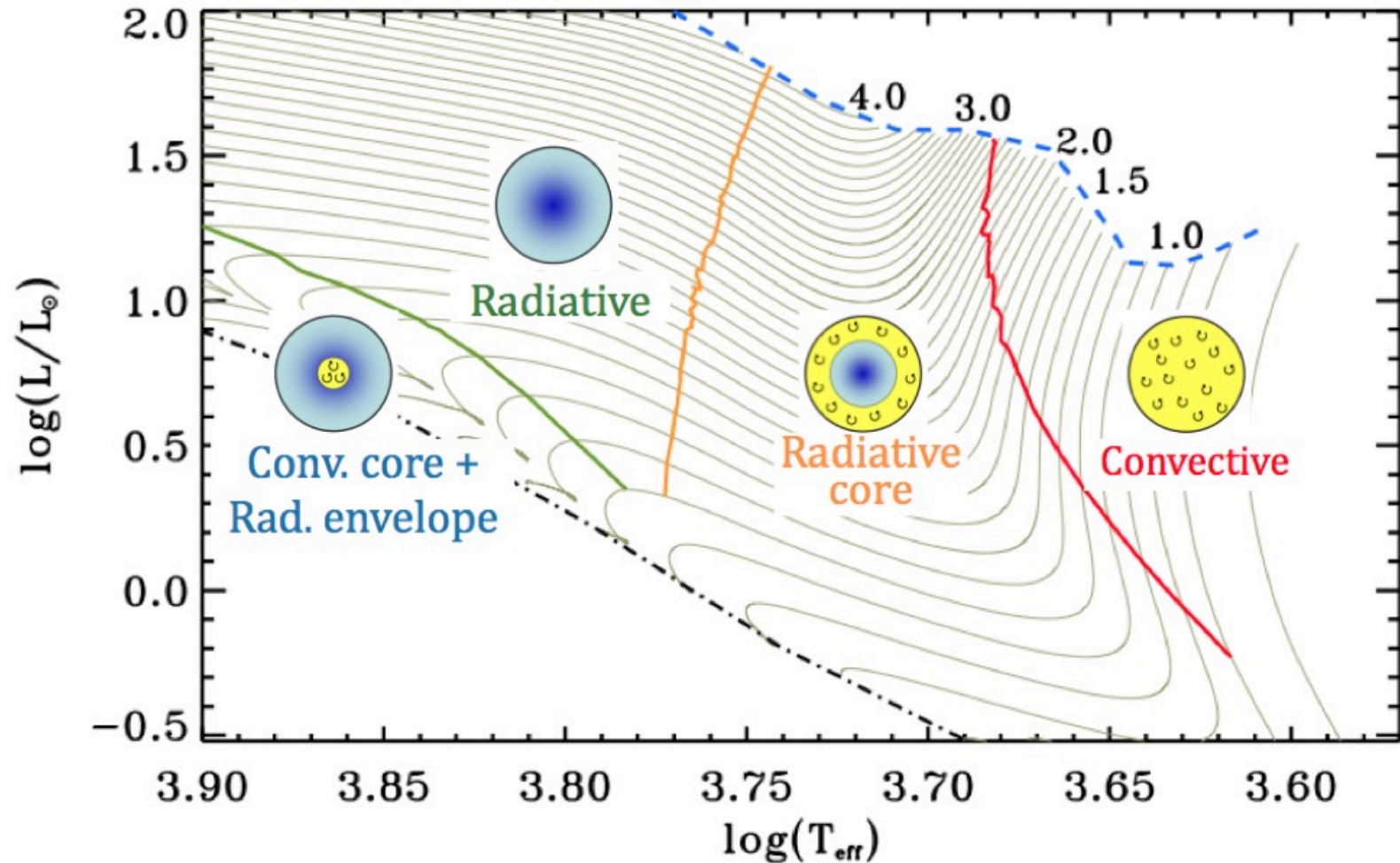
Activity

Magnetic field

Lithium

Can be used as age proxies, with caution.

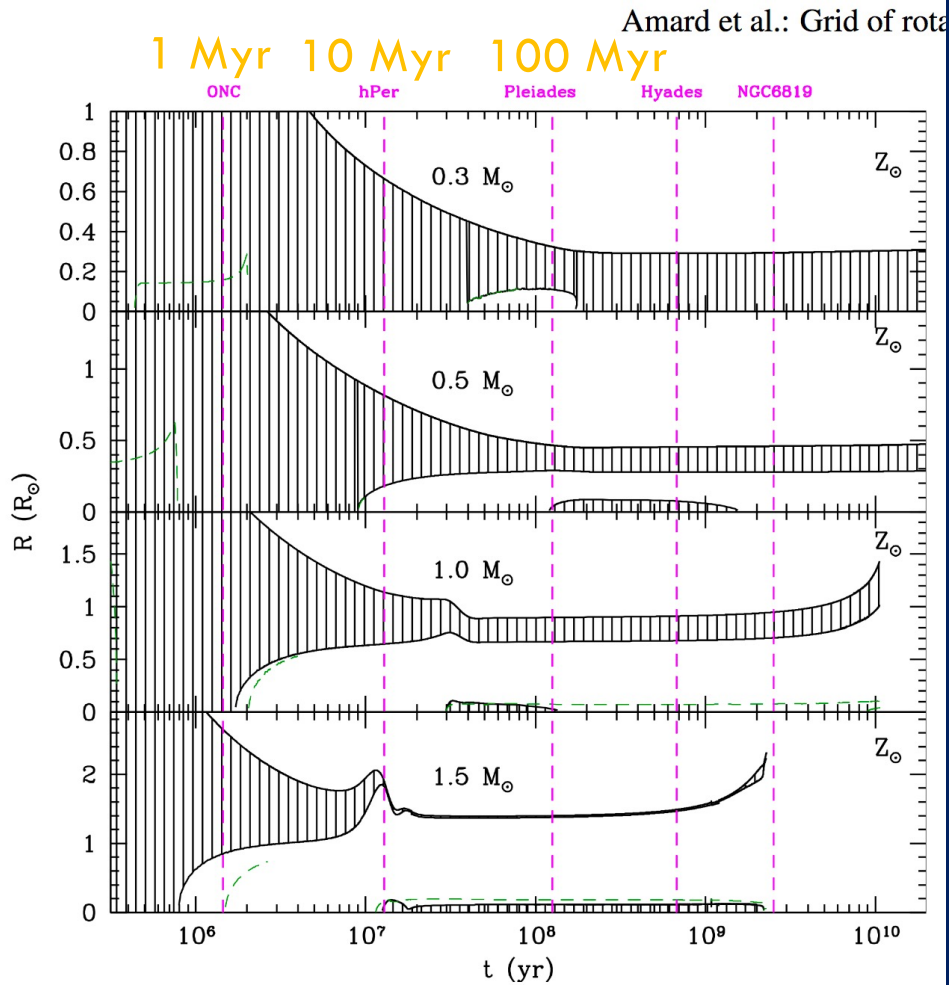
Main advantage is diagnostic power where HR diagram is powerless (on MS).



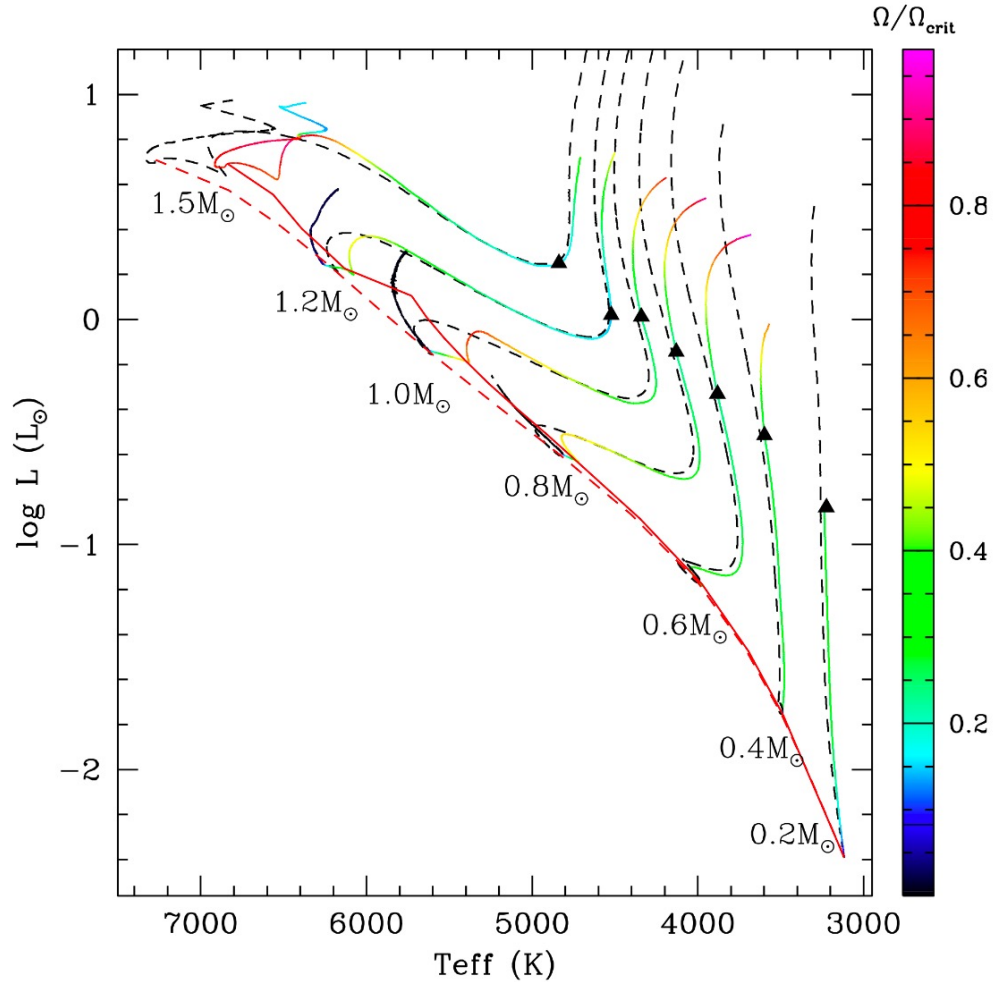
**Figure 1.** H-R diagram showing Behrend & Maeder (2001) pre-main sequence evolutionary tracks for stellar masses up to  $4 M_{\odot}$ . The dashed blue line marks the position of the birthline. All stars with masses less than  $3.5 M_{\odot}$  will undergo a stage along their pre-main sequence evolution in which they have either partially or fully convective interiors. A star with a mass of  $1.5 M_{\odot}$  or more will be subject to several fundamental changes in their internal structure, having a fully convective interior near the birthline, to developing a radiative core, to becoming fully radiative and finally developing a convective core just before reaching the Zero Age Main Sequence (black dot-dashed line).



# PRE-MS EVOLUTIONARY THEORY



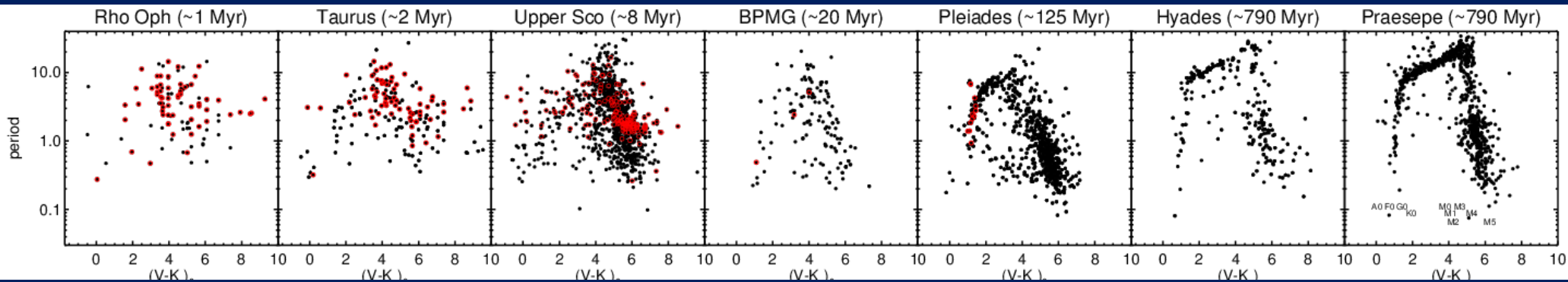
**Fig. 5.** Kippenhahn diagram showing the evolution of the internal structure of the non-rotating solar metallicity models of  $0.3$  (top),  $0.5$ ,  $1.0$  and  $1.5 M_{\odot}$  (bottom) from the PMS up to the end of the main sequence. The upper line represents the surface radius and hatched areas refer to convective regions. The green line displays the H-burning limit. The five pink vertical lines indicate the ages of open clusters used as markers of the evolution.



**Fig. 4.** HR diagram of solar metallicity models without (dashed black line) and with rotation (solid colored lines; here we show the fast rotators). The values of the surface velocity normalized to the break-up value ( $\Omega/\Omega_{\text{crit}}$ ) increase from blue to red as shown on the right color bar. The black triangles indicate when the rotating models are released from their disc. The red lines indicate the standard (dashed) and rotating (solid) ZAMS.

# PERIOD-AGE EVOLUTION VS STELLAR COLOR (MASS)

Rebull et al. 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019...



- Youngest stars have rotation regulated by “disk locking” – no period-mass relation.
- Once free of disk, spin-up en route to the main sequence (30 Myr @1 Msun).
- On main sequence, spin-down due to angular momentum loss via winds.
- Mass effects:
  - A,F stars have no dynamo and therefore no spots, so no measured periods.
  - G,K, and early M stars exhibit age-dependent period-mass relationship.
  - late M stars (fully convective) remain rapidly rotating for at least ~1 Gyr.

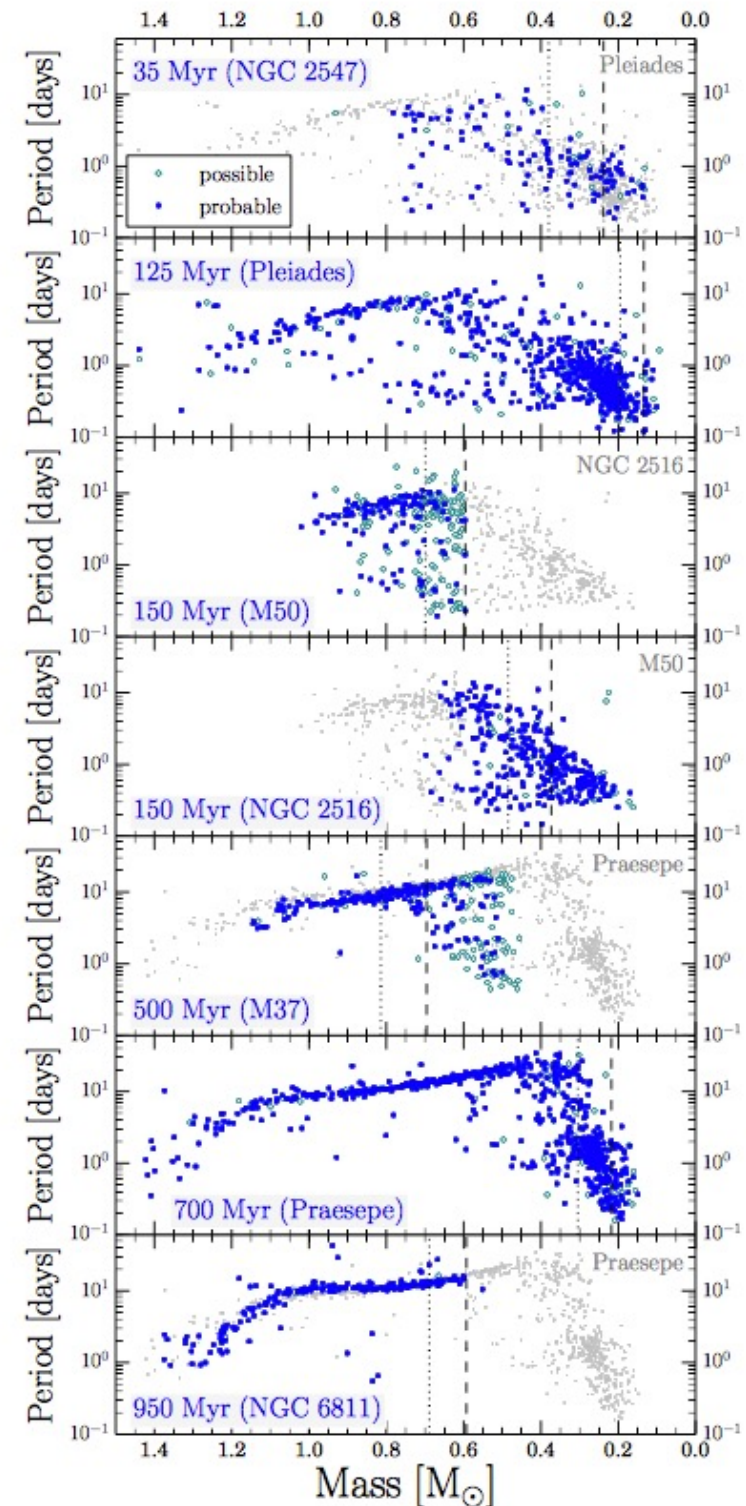
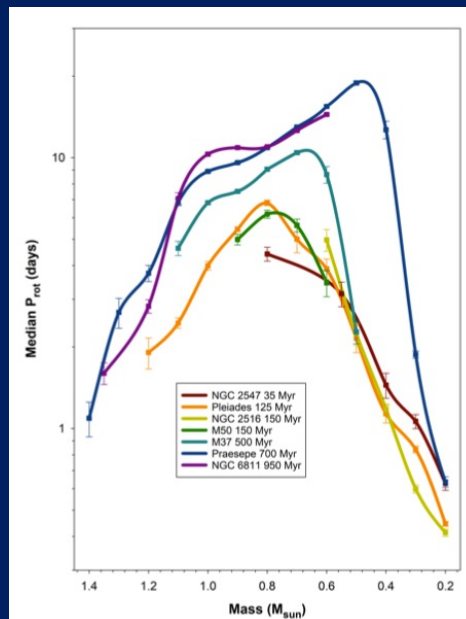
# ON THE MAIN SEQUENCE STARS SPIN DOWN AS THEY AGE DUE TO WINDS

rough mass-dependency.

roughly monotonic spin-down above 0.5  $M_{\text{sun}}$ .

however, some stars are slow to catch on, and remain rapid rotators far longer than their presumably co-eval cluster peers.

below 0.5  $M_{\text{sun}}$ , a wide range of rotation rates is maintained up to 1 Gyr or more.

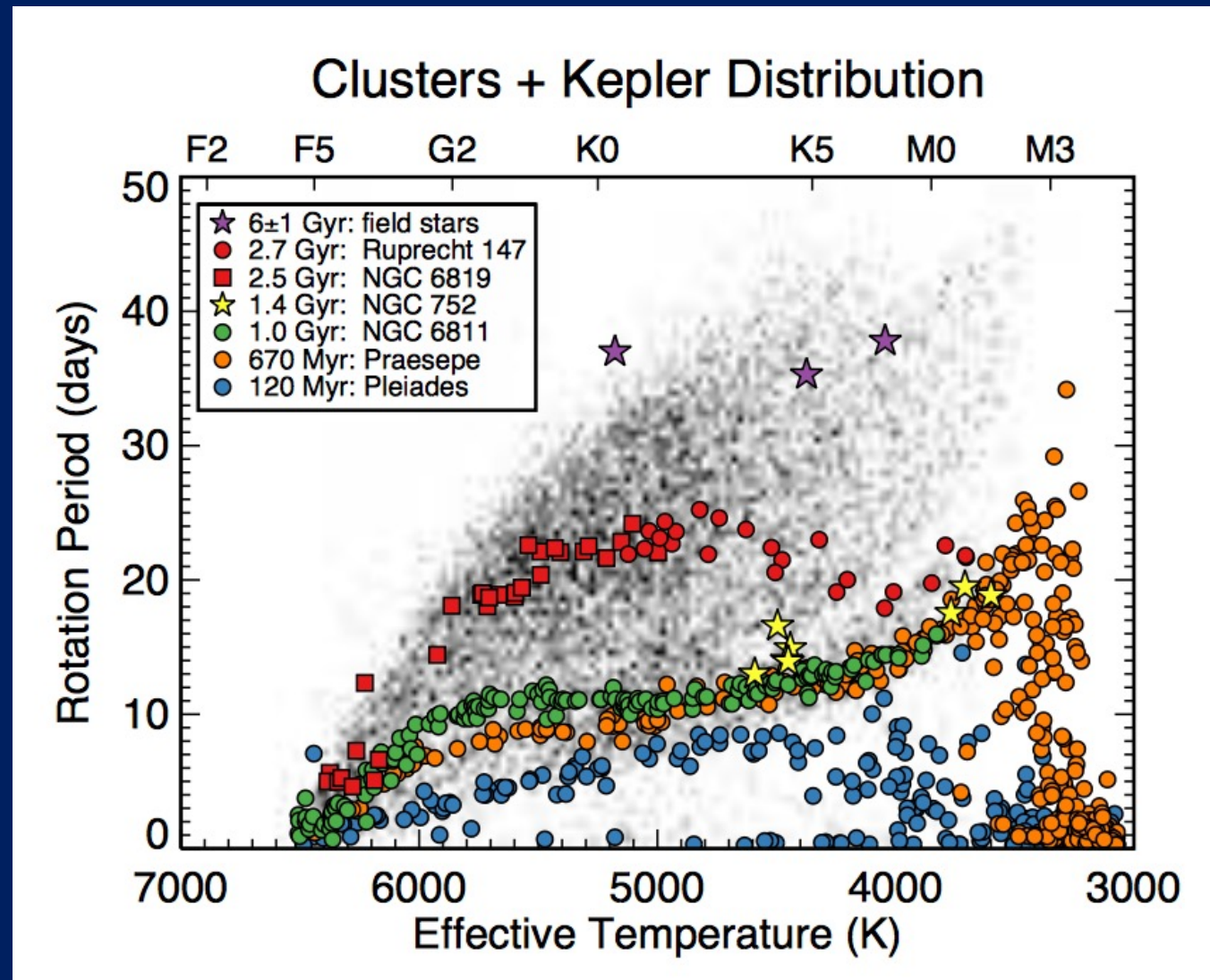




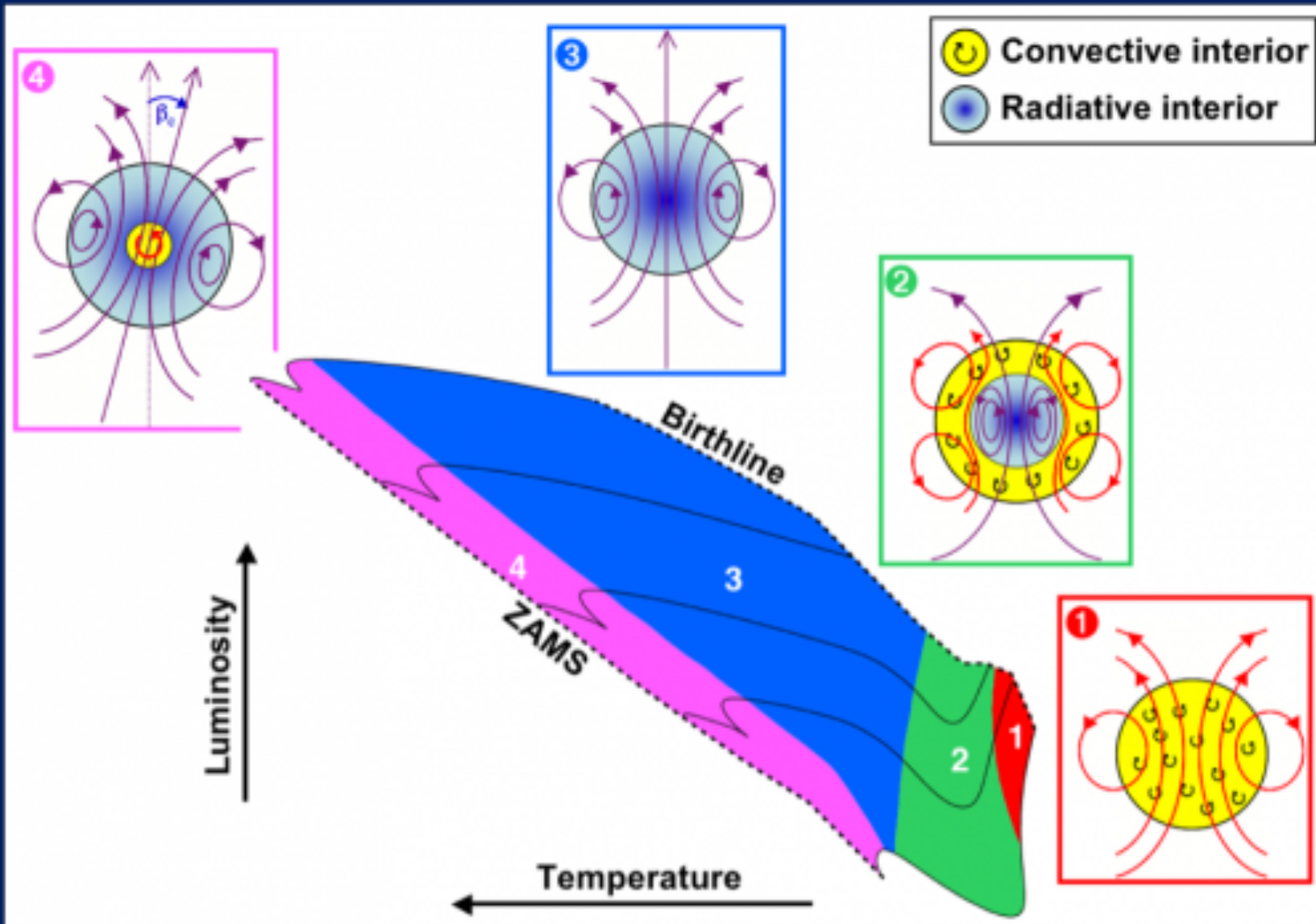
# AGES FROM PROBES OF ANGULAR MOMENTUM

## measurements:

- time series photometry  
→ period
- high dispersion spectrum  
→ rotational velocity



# STELLAR SURFACE ACTIVITY ALSO CHANGES WITH MASS/AGE



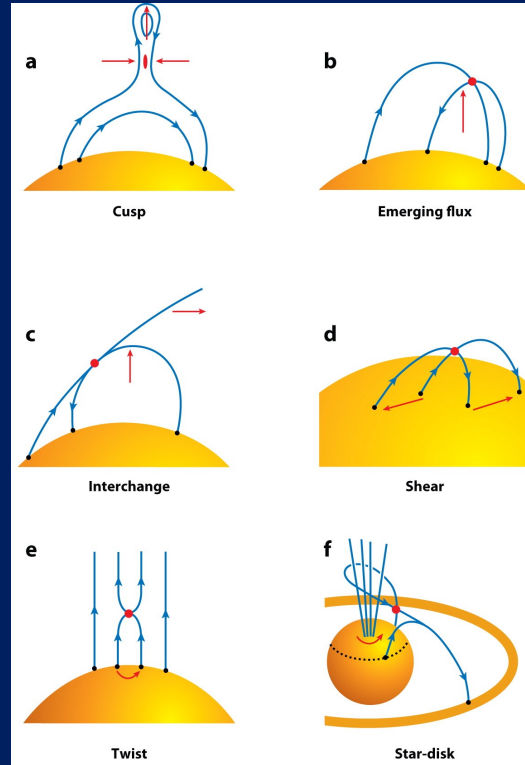
# PROBES OF “ACTIVITY”

Xray luminosity

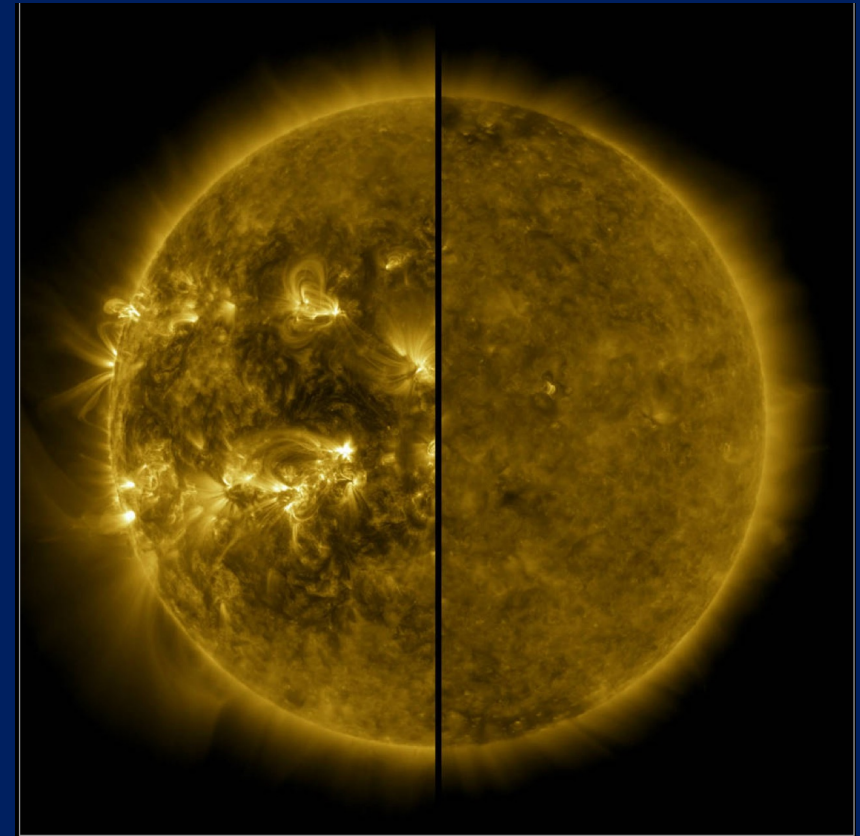
UV continuum excess

Chromospheric lines

Flaring

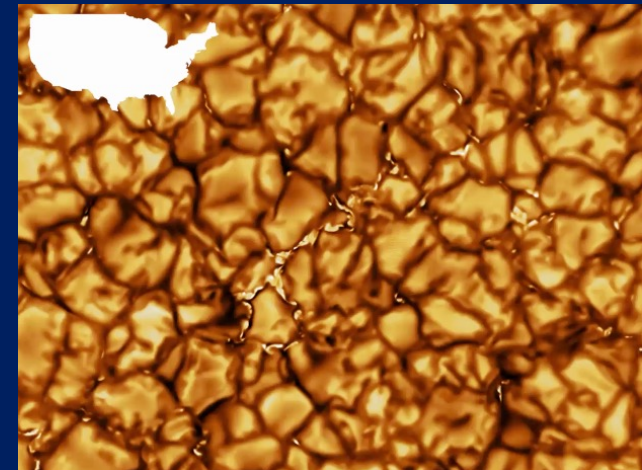
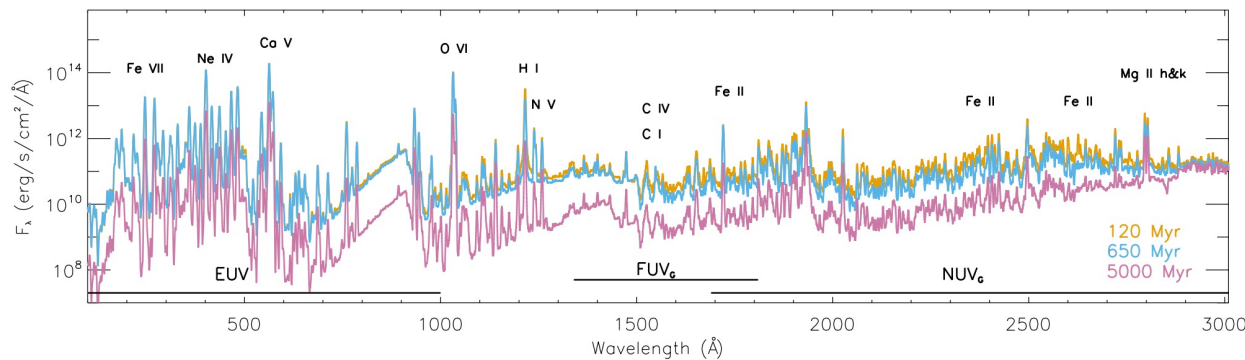


Benz AO, Güdel M. 2010. Annu. Rev. Astron. Astrophys. 48:241–87



HAZMAT VI

13





# ACTIVITY-AGE RELATIONS → P(AGE)

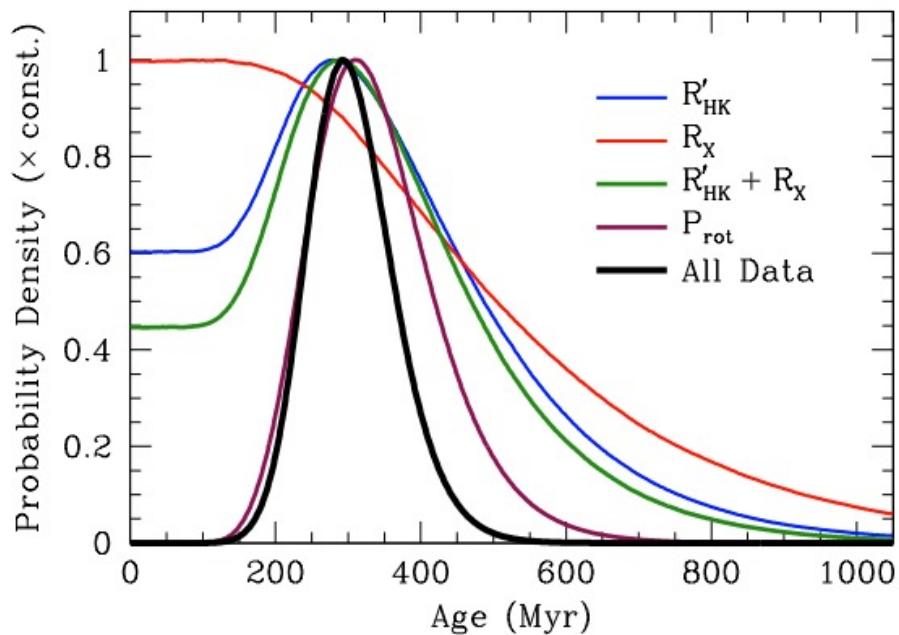


FIG. 2.— The calculation of an age probability distribution for a target, HIP 107350, without a reliable moving group age. HIP 107350 has an exceptional array of secondary age indicators, which enable a good constraint on its age. Most other stars without kinematic ages have much broader posterior probability distributions.

*Brandt et al. (2014)*

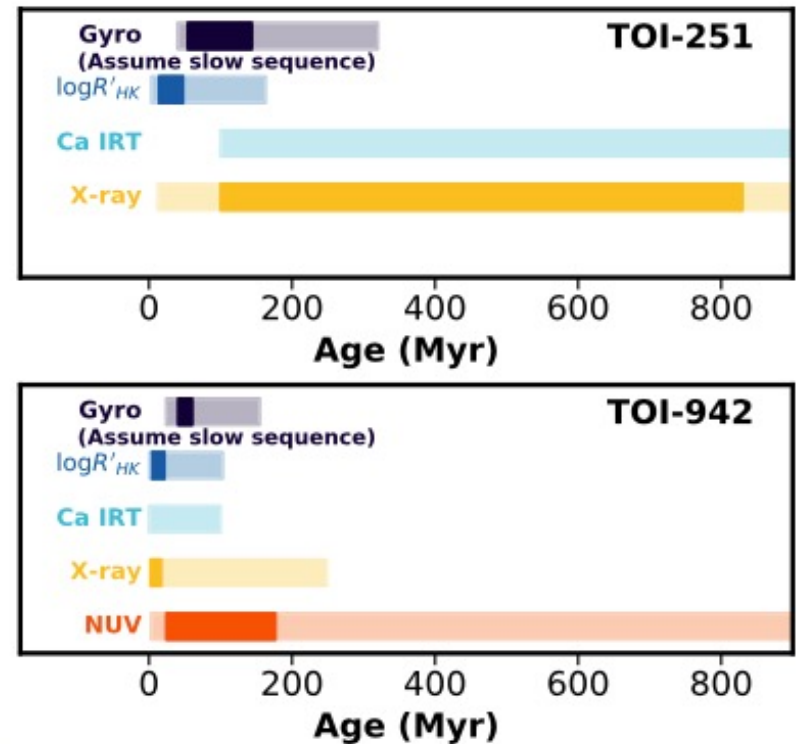
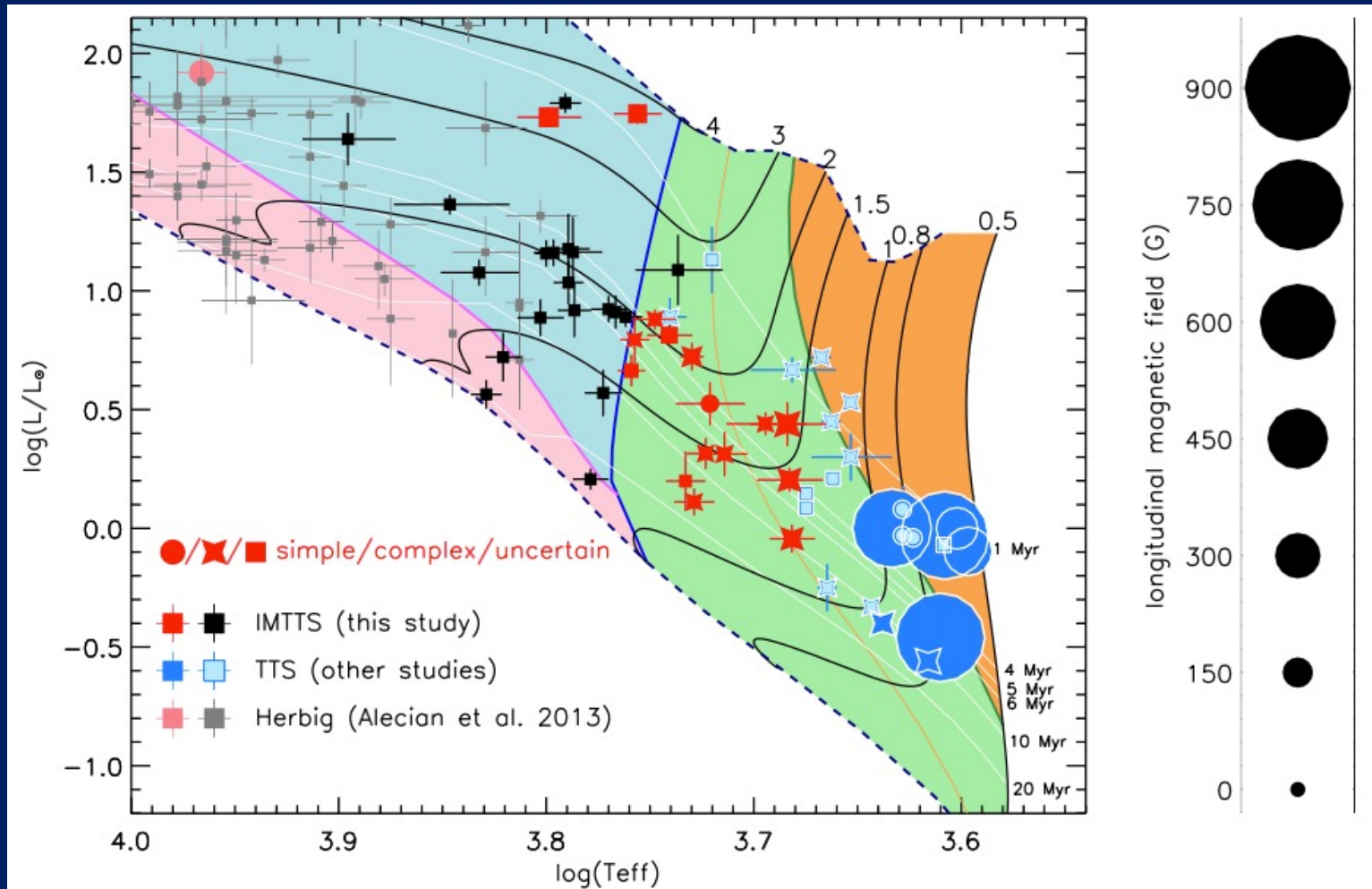


Figure 18. Summary of the age–activity indicators for TOI-251 and TOI-942. The  $1\sigma$  (darker) and  $3\sigma$  (lighter) age ranges from gyrochronology and spectroscopic and photometric activity indicators are marked. We adopt a final age estimate for TOI-251 of 40–320 Myr and for TOI-942 of 20–160 Myr.

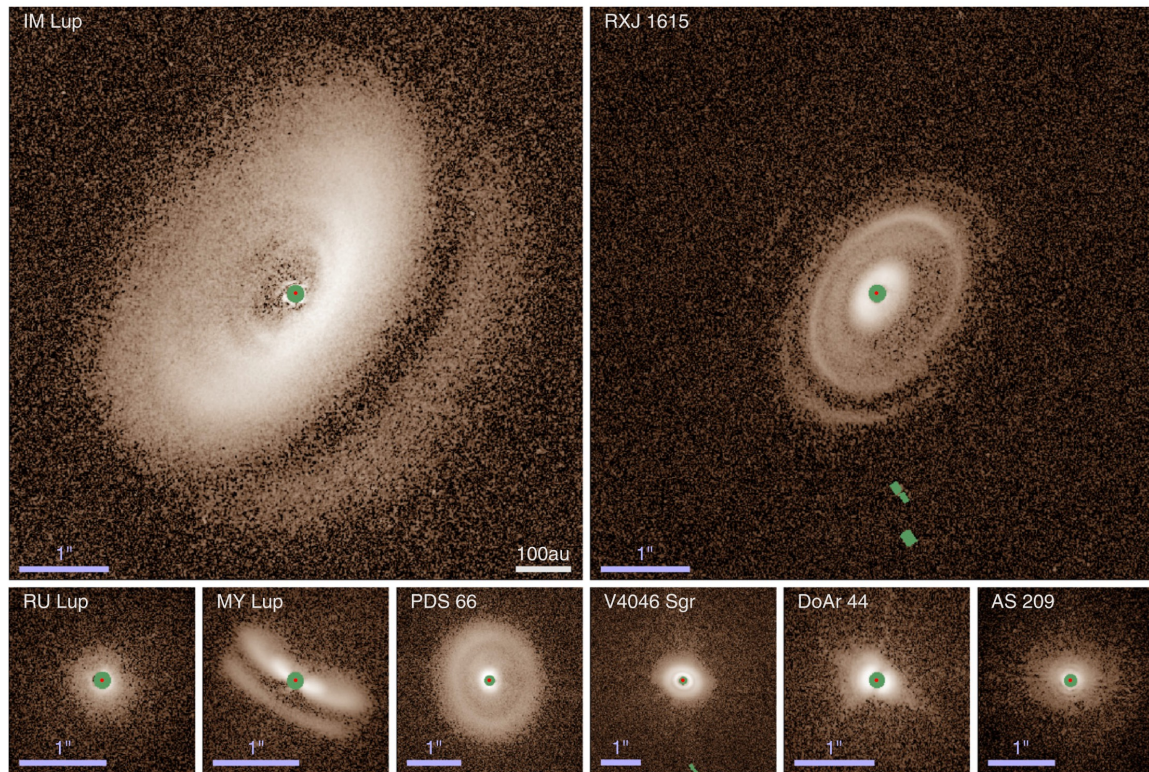
*Zhou et al. (2021)*

# MAGNETIC FIELD MEASUREMENTS

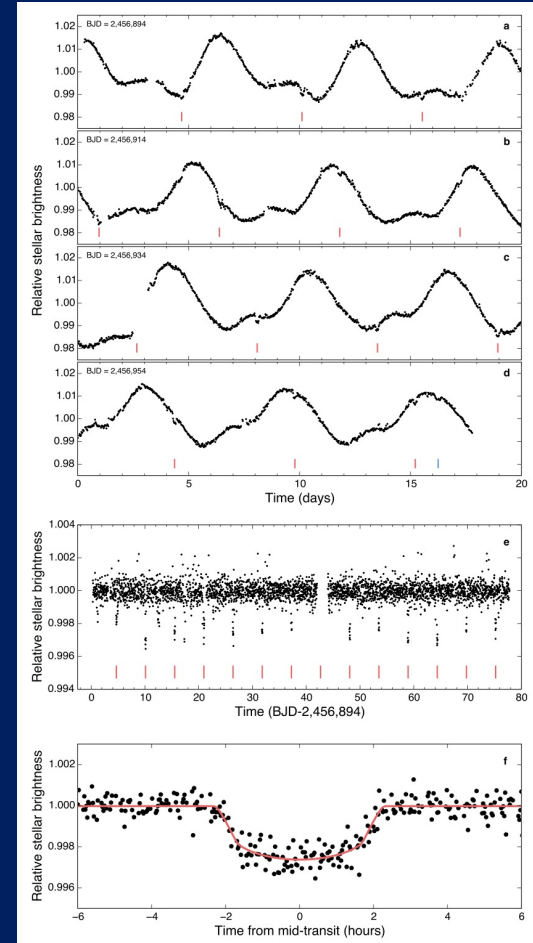


**Fig. 1.** HR diagram compiling the positions of IMTTS from this study (red and black symbols), and of IMTTS and LMTTS (blue symbols), and HAeBes (faded symbols) from other studies. Black and gray symbols are stars in which no magnetic field has been detected. Red and blue symbols are stars for which a magnetic field has been detected: stars represent complex magnetic topologies, circles represent simple magnetic topologies, and squares represent undefined magnetic topologies. The sizes of the red and dark blue symbols are proportional to the maximum absolute value of the longitudinal magnetic field measurements for each star. A light blue symbol means no such measurement is available. The youngest magnetic HAeBe star (HD 190073) is indicated on the top-left corner as an isolated red circle. The shaded areas have the following meaning; orange: fully convective; green: radiative core + convective envelope; blue: fully radiative; and pink: convective core + radiative envelope. The evolutionary tracks (solid black line, ranging from 1.0–4.0  $M_{\odot}$ ), isochrones (solid white line) and ZAMS (lower dashed line) are from the CESAM code, while the birthline (upper dashed line) is from Behrend & Maeder (2001). The numbers above each evolutionary track are the stellar mass in solar units. The numbers beside each isochron is the stellar age. The thin orange line is the location where  $R_{\text{conv.env.}}/R_{\star} = 40\%$ .





**Figure 1.** The *H*-band images displayed in logarithmic stretch (the exact stretch is adjusted for each disk individually to improve the visibility of substructures). The data were rescaled to represent the same physical size; thus, the 100 au scale bar in the first panel applies for all panels. Because the angular scales are different, a 1'' bar is shown in each panel. Immediately obvious is the extraordinary size of the IM Lup disk compared to the others, with RXJ 1615 coming in second. Areas in green represent places where no information is available (due to either being obscured by the coronagraph or bad detector pixels). The red dot in the center marks the position of the star. North is up and east is to the left in all frames.



# CLOSING REMARKS