

Exoplanet characterization: dealing with stellar activity

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September 29, 2015

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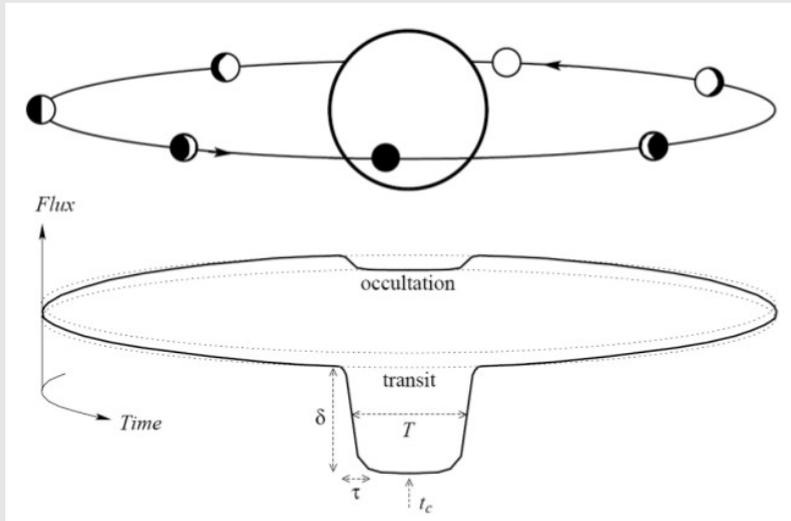
(Courtesy Stephen Kane)

Outline

- Exoplanet detection methods
- Modeling the internal structure
- Stellar activity
- Our study on CoRoT-2
- Conclusions

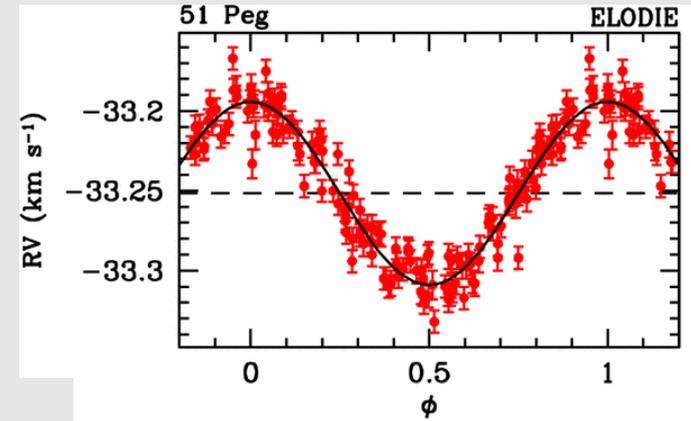
DETECTION METHODS

Transits and radial velocities



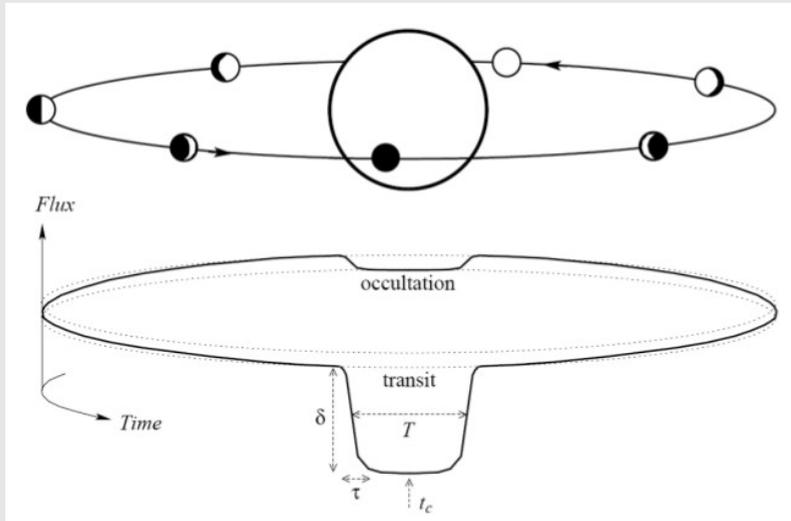
$$\frac{\Delta F}{F} = 8.41 \cdot 10^{-5} \left(\frac{r_p}{R_{\oplus}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{R_{\star}}{R_{\odot}} \right)^{-2}$$

$$K = \frac{8.95 \text{ cm s}^{-1} m_p \sin i}{\sqrt{1 - e^2} M_{\oplus}} \left(\frac{M_{\star} + m_p}{M_{\odot}} \right)^{-2/3} \left(\frac{P}{\text{yr}} \right)^{-1/3}$$



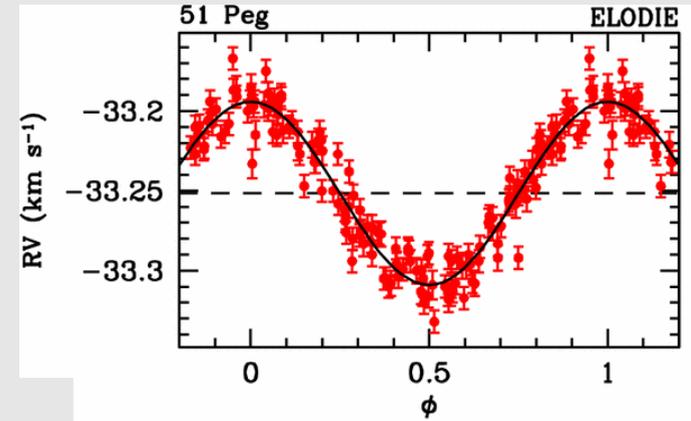
Mayor & Queloz (1995)

Transits and radial velocities



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Mayor & Queloz (1995)

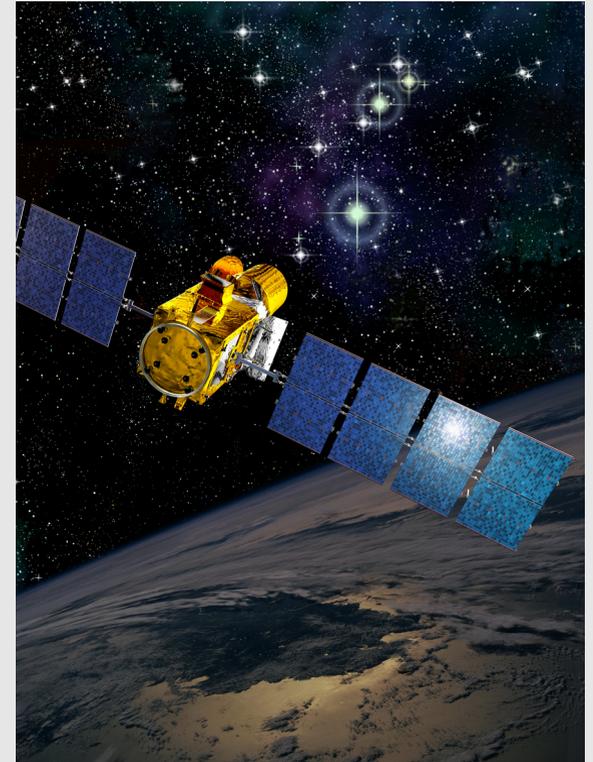
Transits

Ground: SuperWASP, HATNet

Space: CoRoT, Kepler, MOST

Future: TESS, CHEOPS, PLATO

- Architecture of planetary systems (mostly < 0.1 AU)
- Large eccentricities
- Multi-planetary systems and transit timing variations
- Planet occurrence (also in the habitable zone)
- Phase curves for planet atmospheres

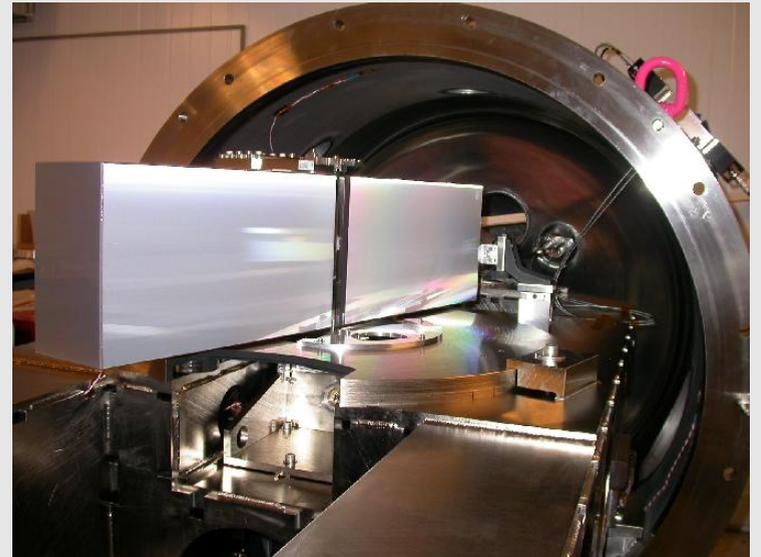


Radial velocities

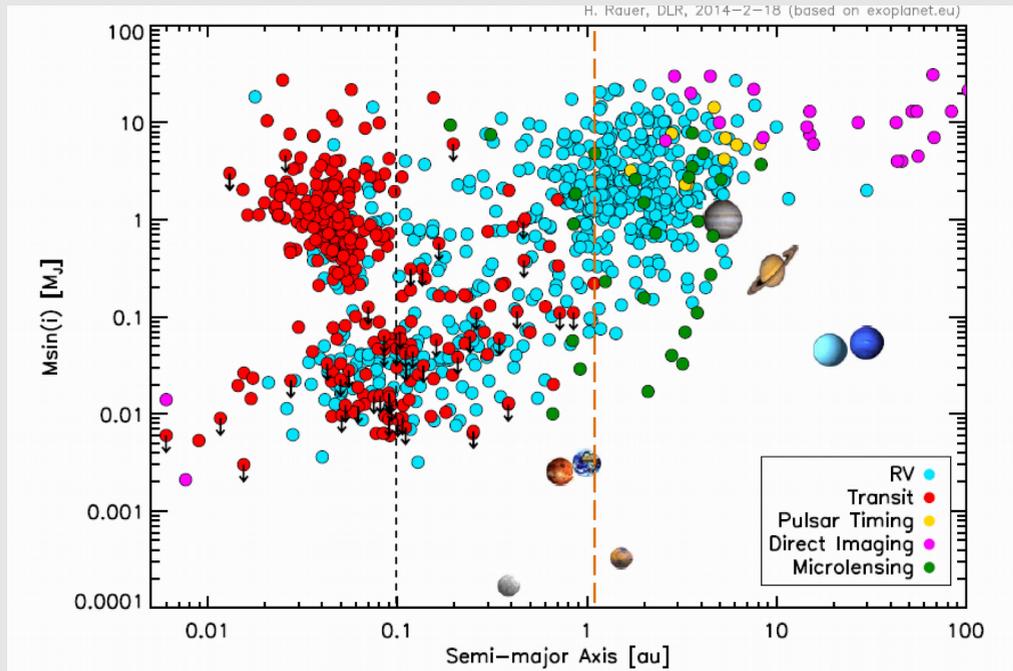
- First planet around a main-sequence star (Mayor and Queloz 1995)
- $a > 0.1$ AU as well
- Planets around M and giant stars
- Multi-planetary systems
- Coupling with transits:
 - Validation
 - Mass (solved for $\sin i$ modulation)
 - Spin-orbit geometry
- Yields stellar spectrum

Future:

- Improving precision
- NIR spectroscopy (M dwarfs)



Exploring the "exoplanet zoo"



Rowe et al. (2014)

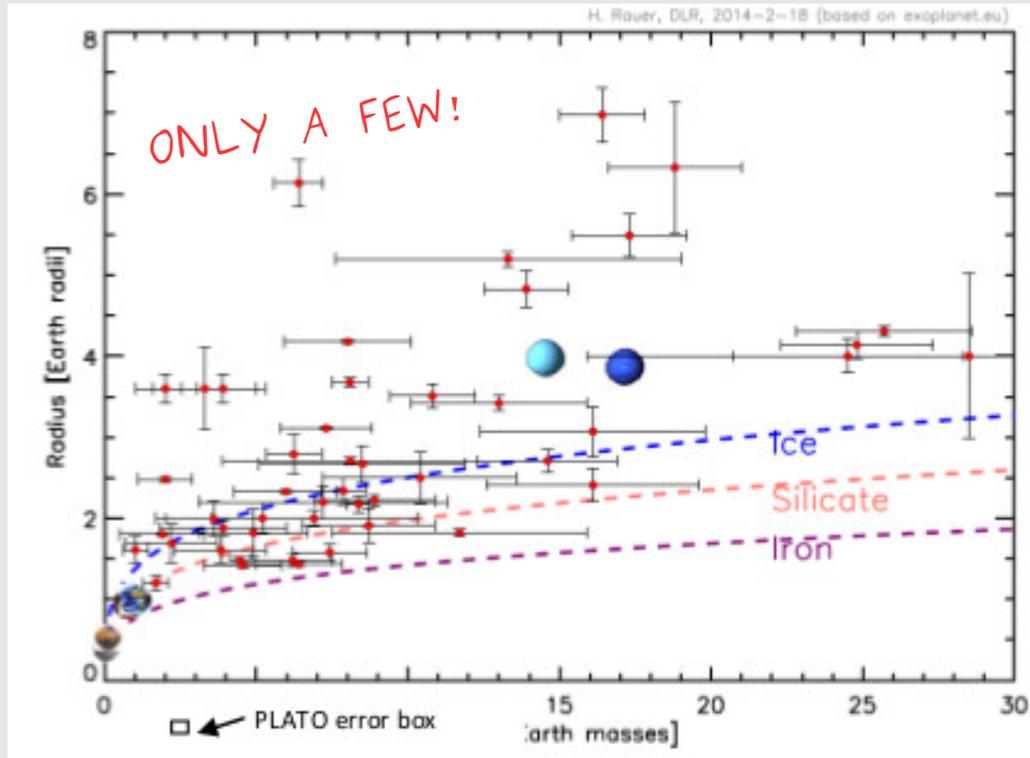
About 2000 planets confirmed

- Jupiter-sized
- Mini-Neptunes
- Super-Earths
- Terrestrial planets

Main hosts: FGKM stars

Different techniques, different parts of the pars. space

Internal structure

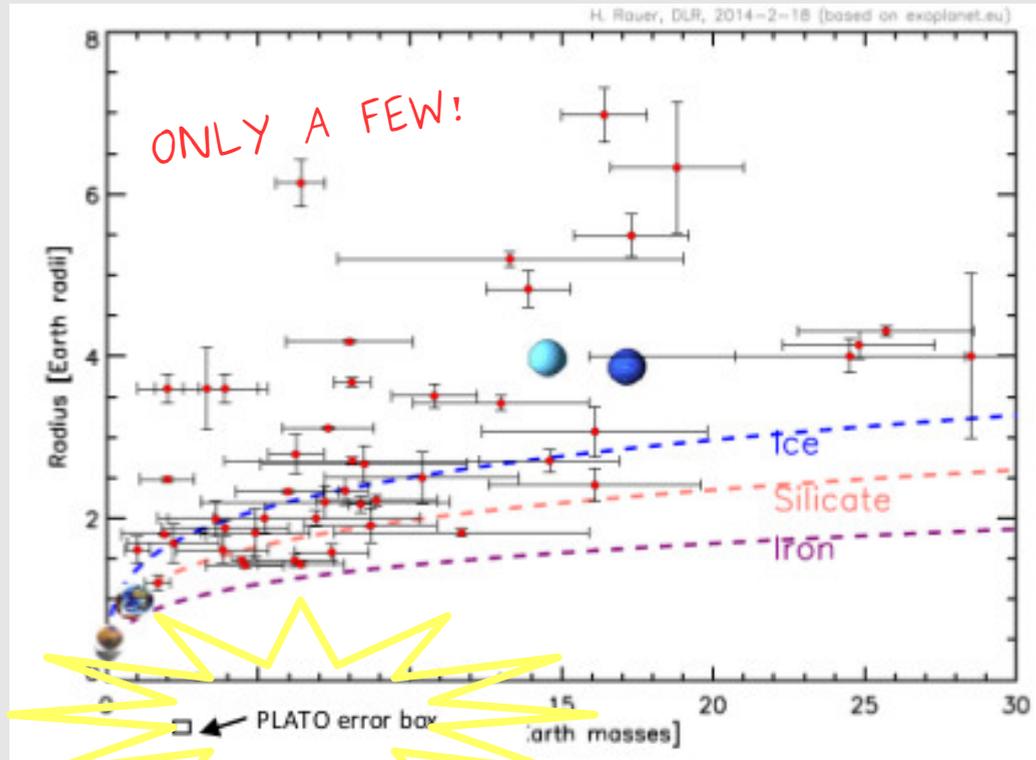


Rowe et al. (2014)

Needed ~ 1%
precision on planet
radius for bulk
modeling (Wagner
et al. 2011)

- Current precision: $\sigma_M \sim 20\%$, $\sigma_R \sim 6\%$ \rightarrow $\sigma_\rho \sim 30-50\%$
- Expected for future: $\sigma_M \sim 10\%$, $\sigma_R \sim 2\%$ (PLATO)

Internal structure



Rowe et al. (2014)

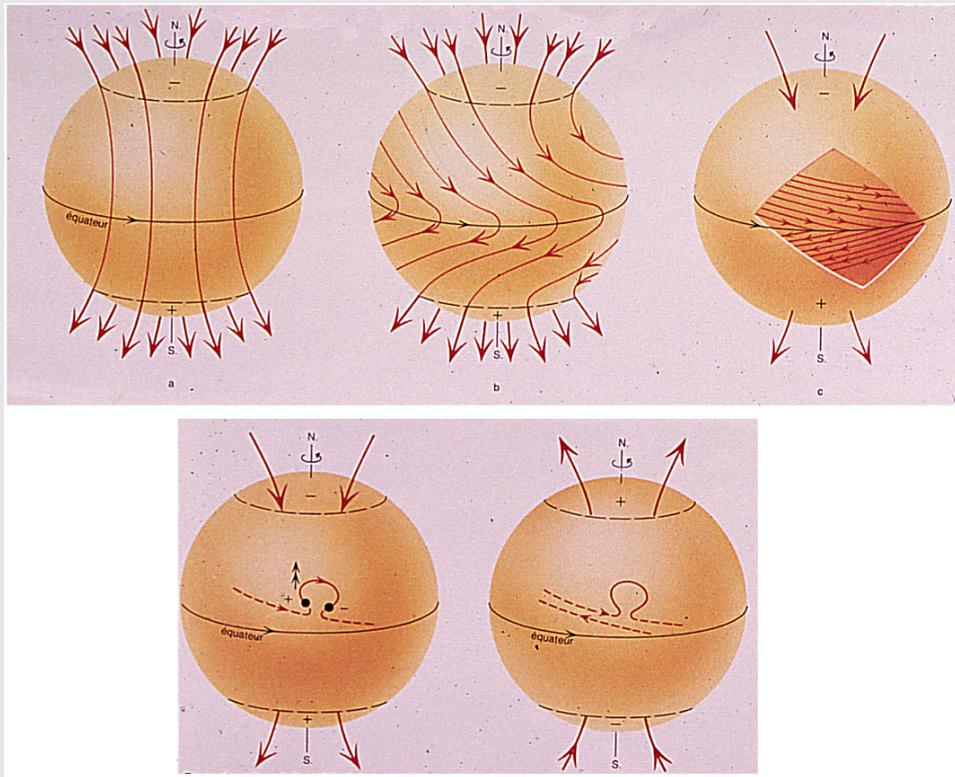
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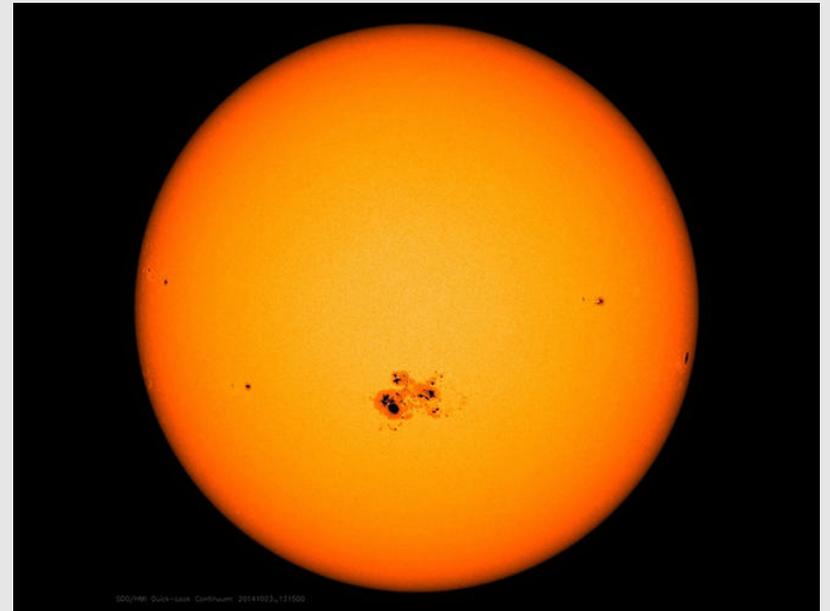
STELLAR ACTIVITY

stellar magnetic activity

stellar dynamo



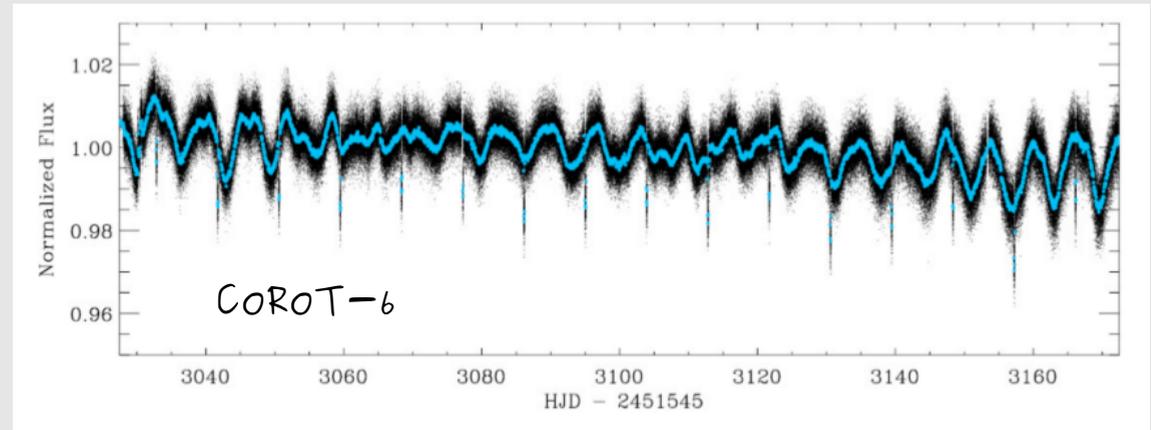
starspots & faculae



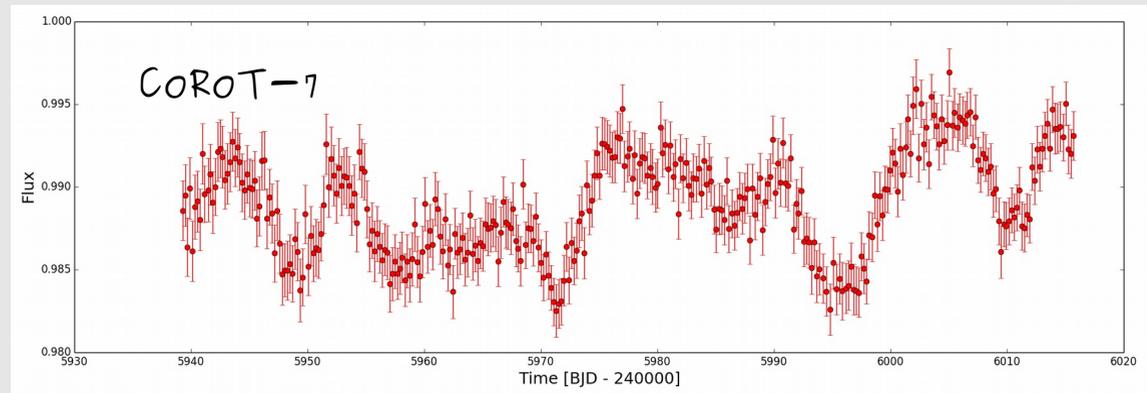
Out-of-transit starspots

OK

- Some % brightness variations
 - Allow to measure stellar period and differential rotation
- Age indicator



Fridund et al. (2010)



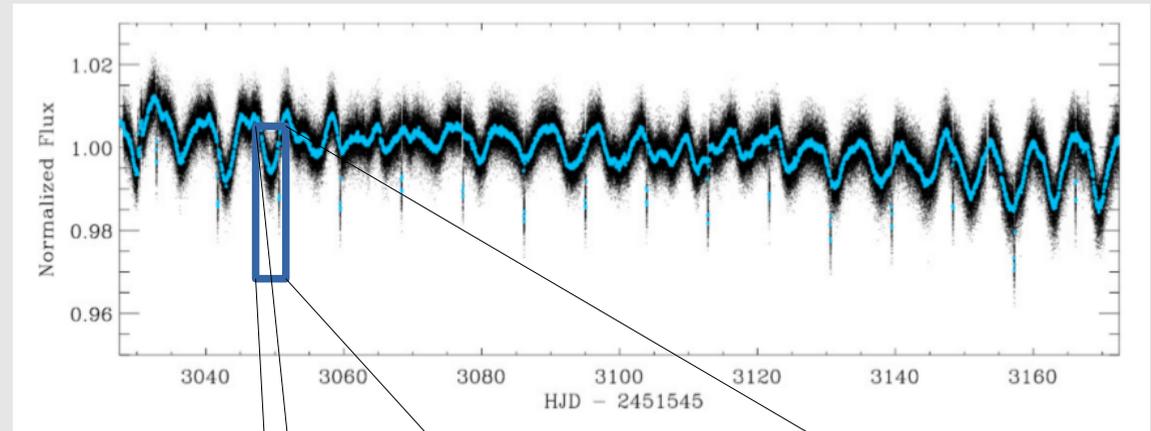
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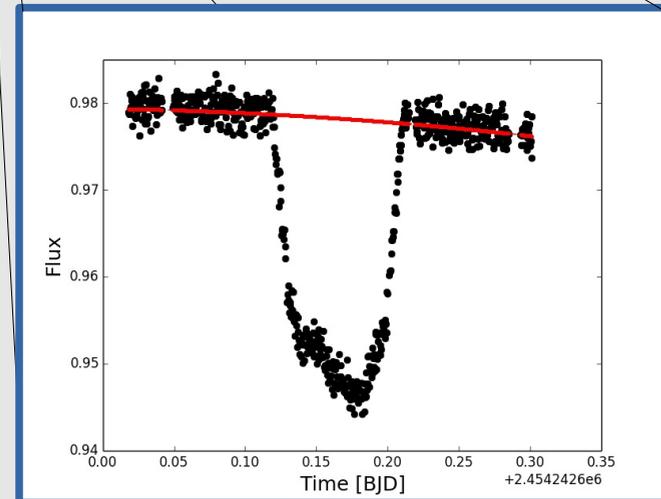
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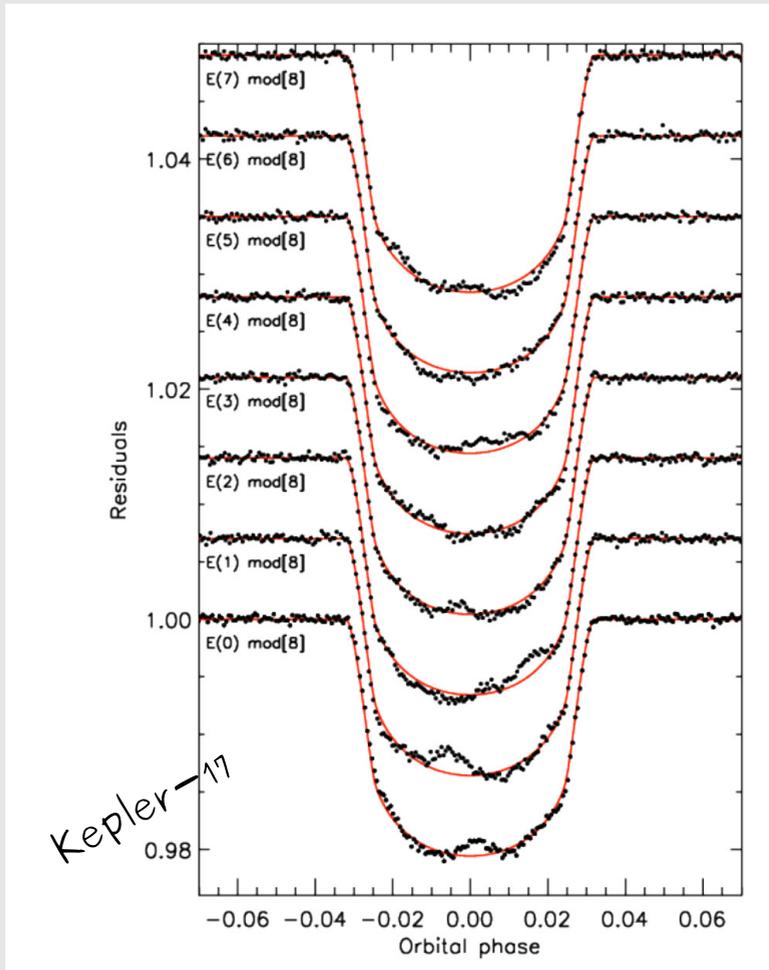
- Induce overestimates of the transit depth (Czesla et al. 2009)



Fridund et al. (2010)



In-transit starspots



Desert et al. (2011)

- Distort the transit profile (e.g. Desert et al. 2011), affect the measure of:

Transit depth (Czesla et al. 2009)

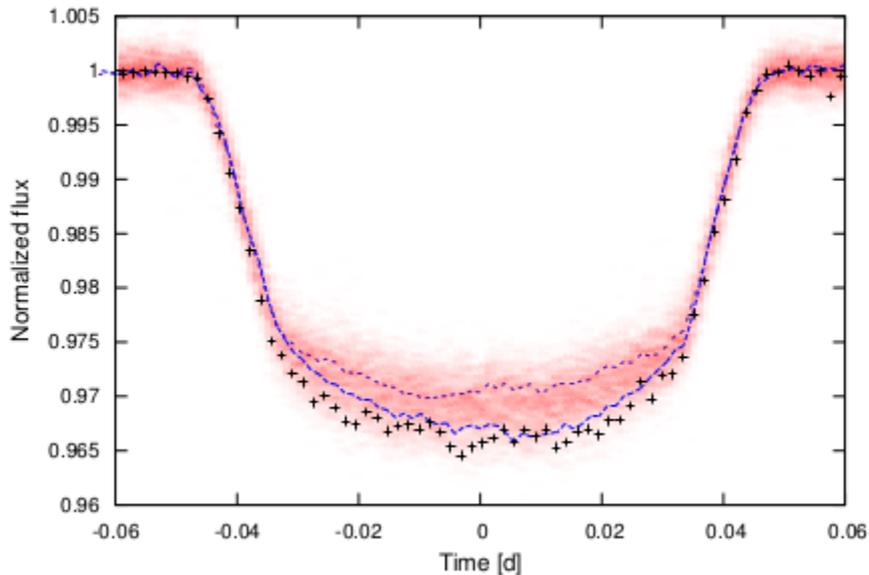
stellar density (Léger et al. 2008)

Limb darkening coefficients

(Csizmadia et al 2013)

Orbital period (Barros et al. 2013)

In-transit starspots



Czesla et al. (2009)

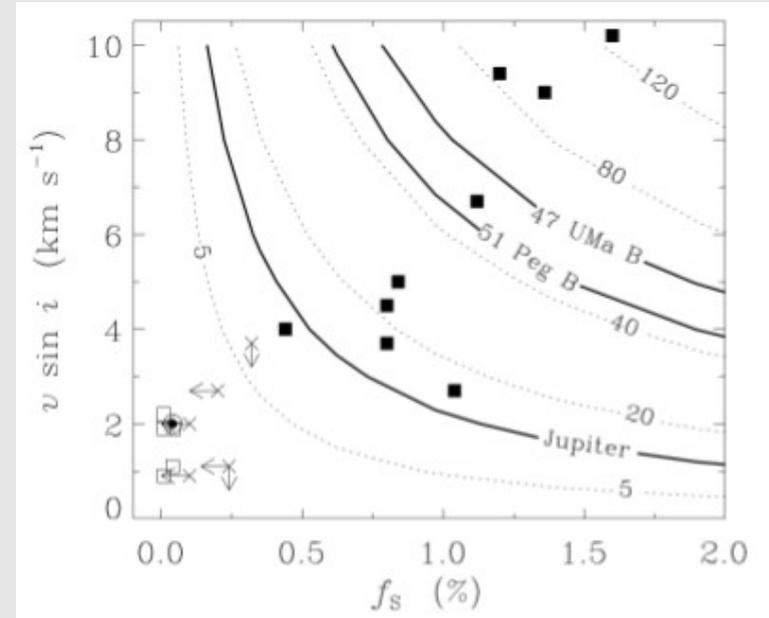
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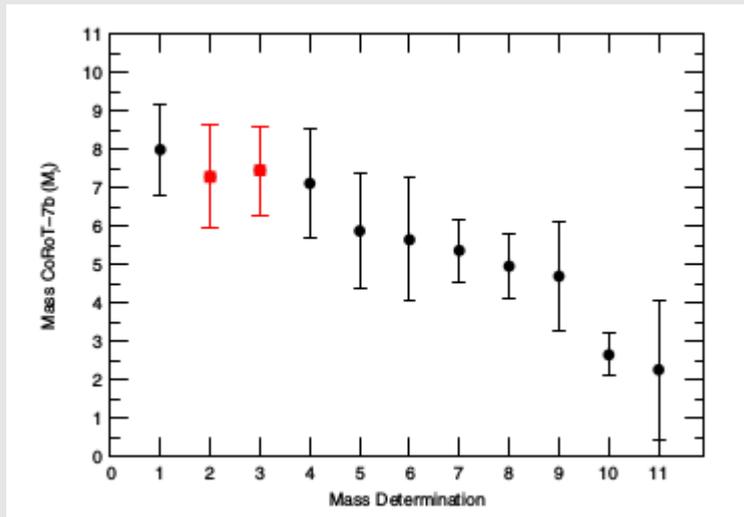
- Lowest envelope: least affected one?

Starspots in RVs

- Produce time-varying jitter
- Measured orbital parameters affected
- Planet features can be mimicked (Desort et al. 2007)



Saar & Donahue (1997)

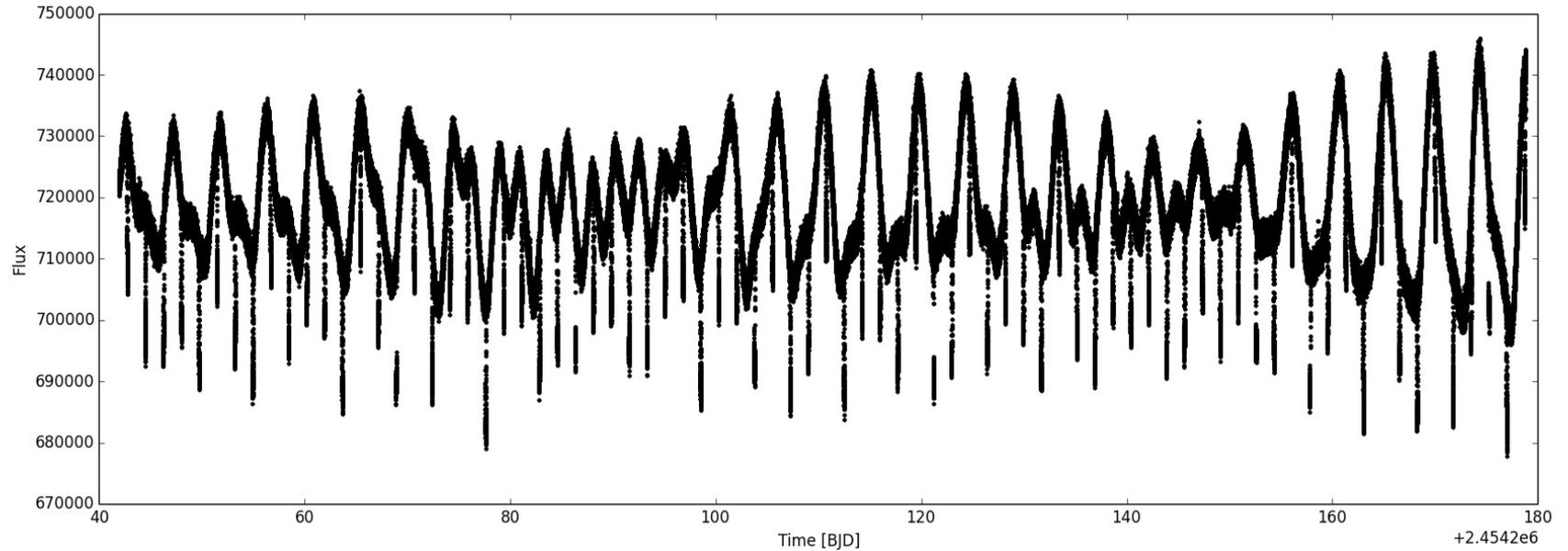


Hatzes et al. (2010)

- Diagnostics can reveal false positives (e.g. Queloz et al. 2001)
- Need to observe RV stars for transit follow-up

OUR STUDY ON CoRoT-2

COROT-2



- Active, young (Alonso et al. 2008)
- Long-duration light curve
- spots both outside and inside transits
- Hosts a Hot Jupiter ($1.47 R_J$, $P_* \sim 3 P_{orb}$)

Our study

What?

simultaneous spot-transit fitting in the light curve

Why?

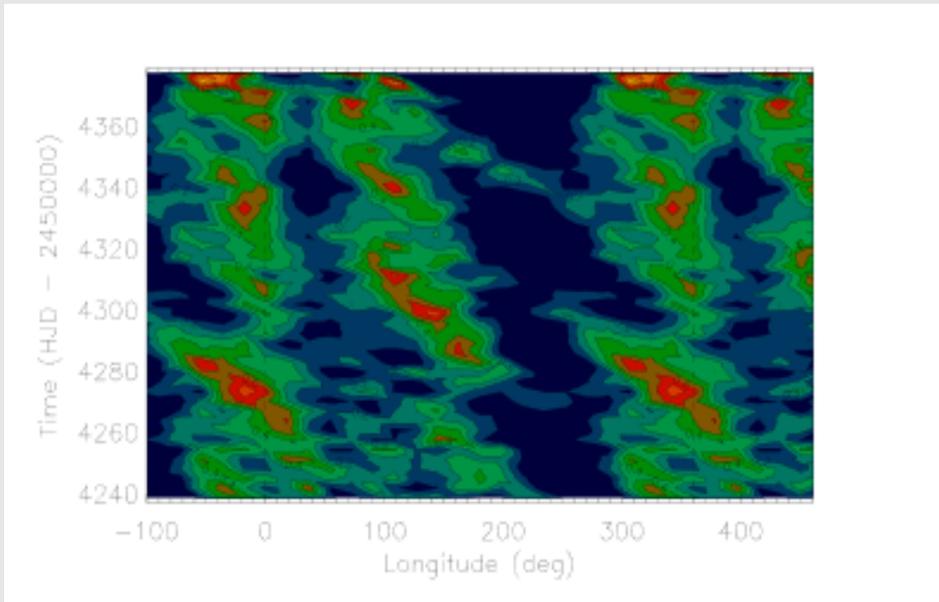
Correction for activity, more consistent transit parameters

Why AGAIN?

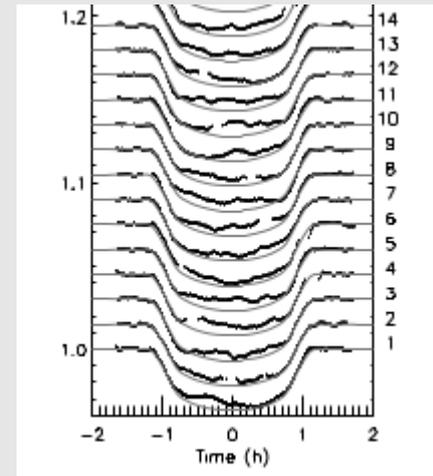
No current approach is complete

Previous attempts

Lanza et al. (2009): out-of-transit
brightness distribution



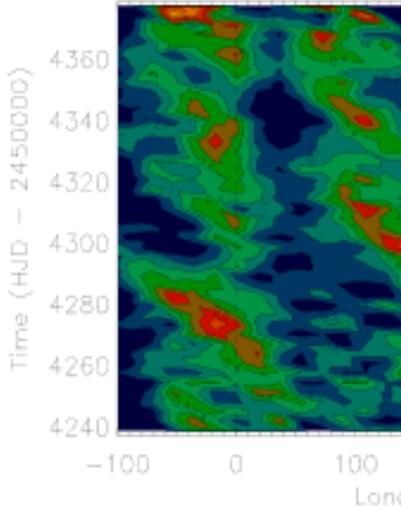
silva-Valio et al. (2010): spots
inside all transits



- Huber et al. (2010): surface
model of ~30 strips: also
transits, no evolution

Previous attempts

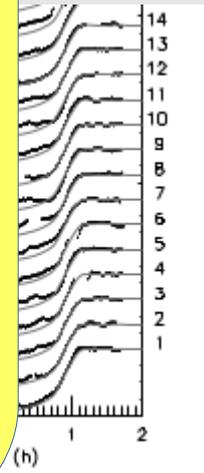
Lanza et al. (2009): out-of-transit
brightness distribution



What we add:

- simultaneous spot-transit fit
 - spot evolution
- Fit of longer segments of light curve

(2010): spots



- Huber et al.
model of ~30 strips: also
transits, no evolution

Method

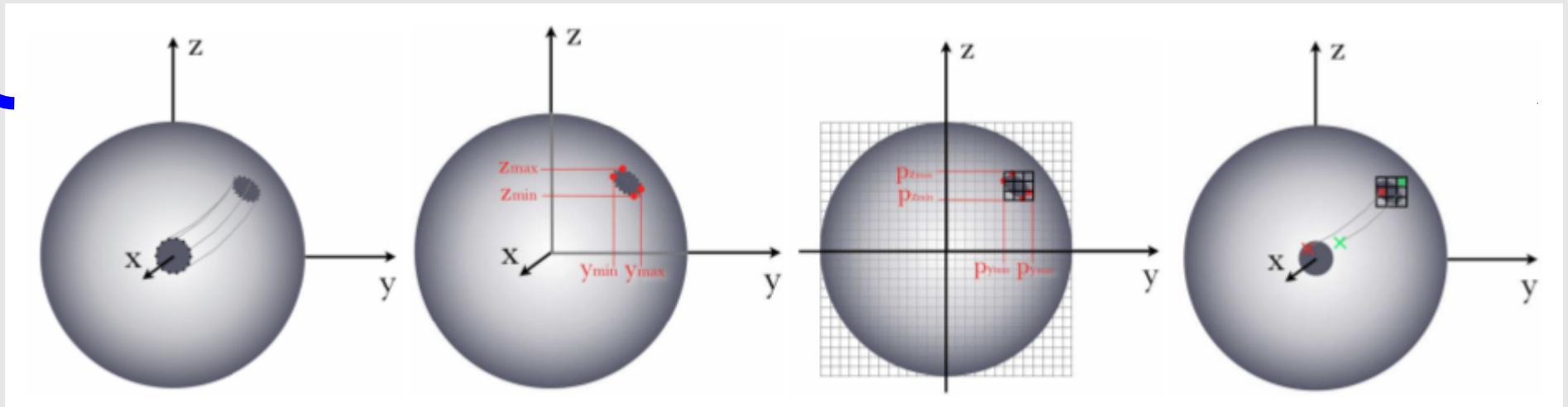
Starspot models

- Numerical (computation of a grid and numerical integration)
- Analytical (much faster to execute, but need assumptions)

Method

Starspot models

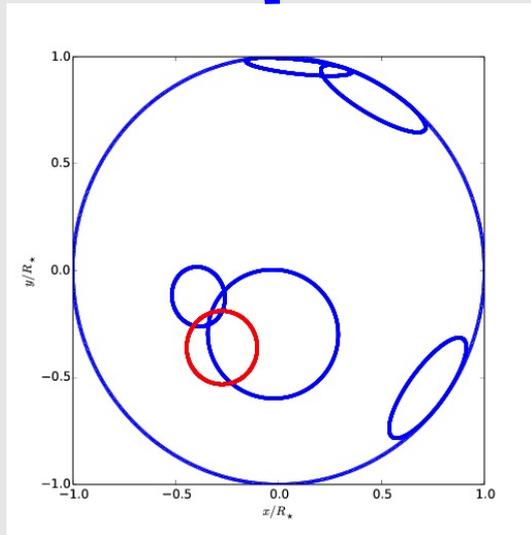
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Method

Starspot models

- Numerical (computation of a grid and numerical integration)
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Montalto et al. (2014)

Transits modeling

+

Longitude, latitude, size, contrast for each spot

Method

Starspot models

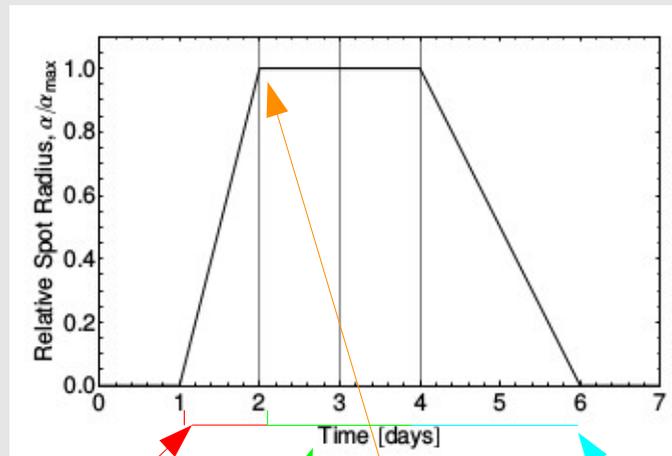
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Method

Starspot models

- Numerical (computation of a grid and numerical integration)
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Added linear spot evolution (Kipping 2012)



T_{ingress}

T_{life}

T_{max}

T_{egress}

Method

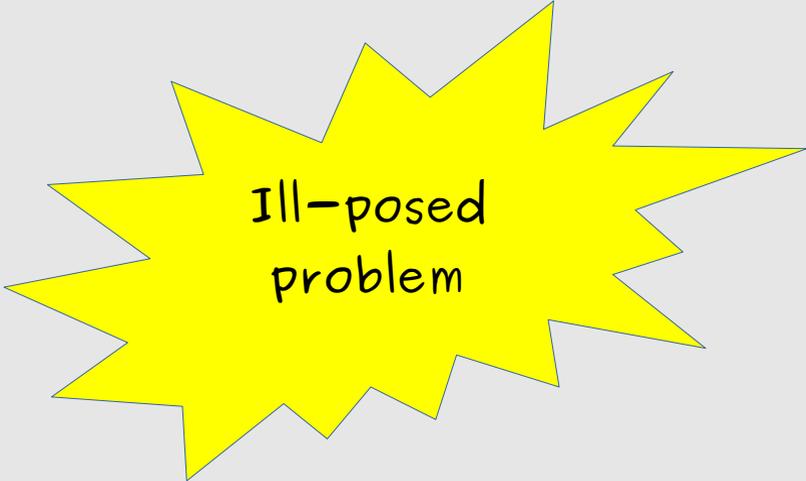
Starspot models

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+

Fitting method

- χ^2 minimization
- maximum entropy regularization
- MCMC



Ill-posed
problem

Method

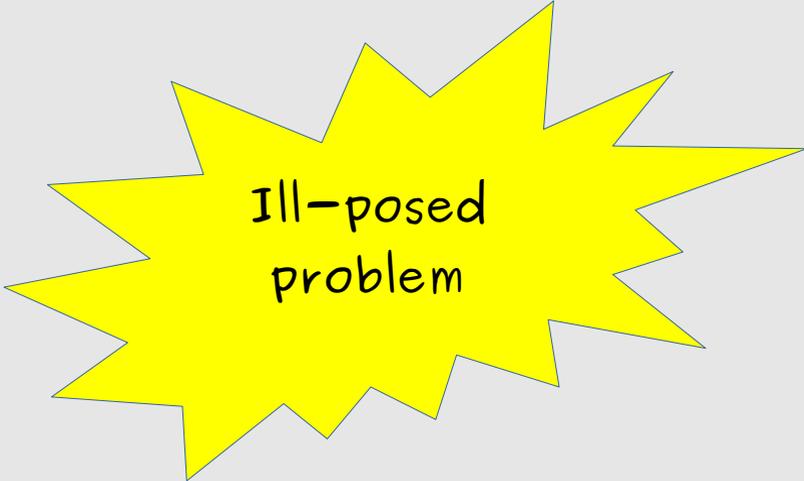
Starspot models

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- Analytical (much faster to execute, but need assumptions)

+

Fitting method

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Ill-posed
problem

Strategy

With spot modeling

Fit in two steps

1) Fit spots

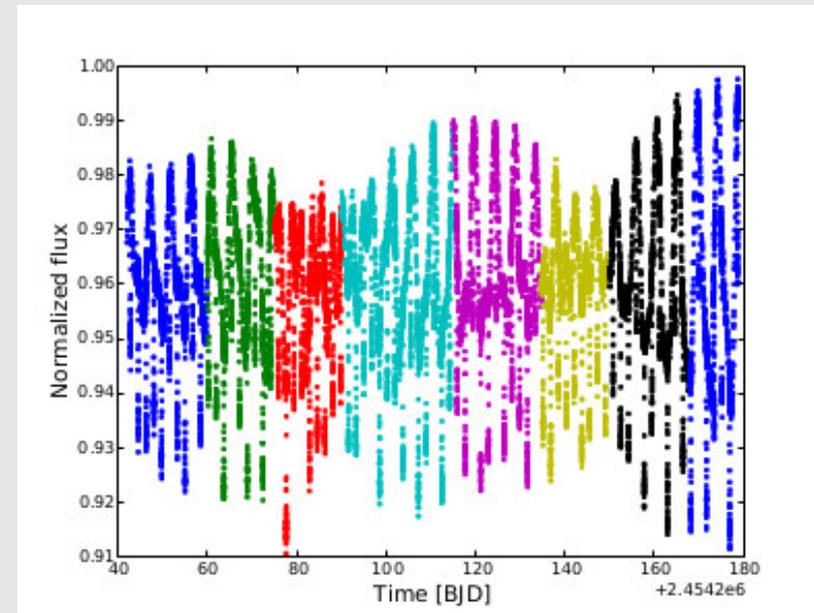
Fixed transit pars.

2) Fit transits, adjust spots

Adjust λ , α for spots,

fit transit pars.

+ standard transit fit using model 1



About the activity cycle

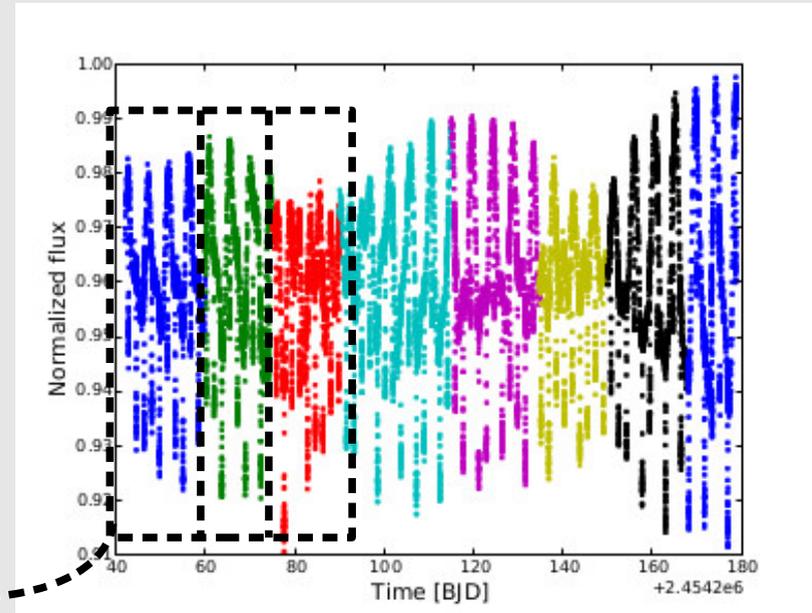
Classic transit fit

All transits folded and fitted at once

With spot modeling

Too many spots needed: light curve cut in segments

15–25 days–length, ~ lifetime of active regions, Lanza et al. (2009)



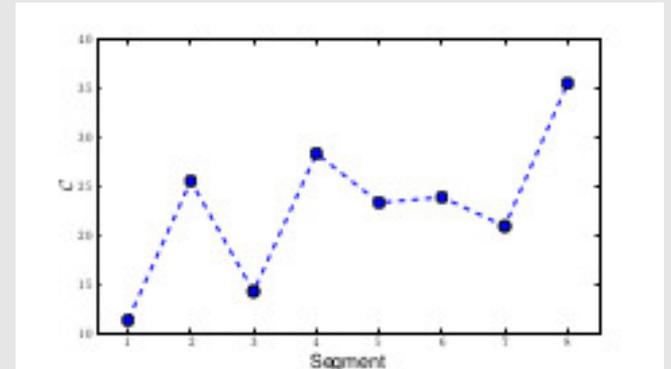
Results: spot parameters

6 to 9 spots/segment required
5-30 deg. size

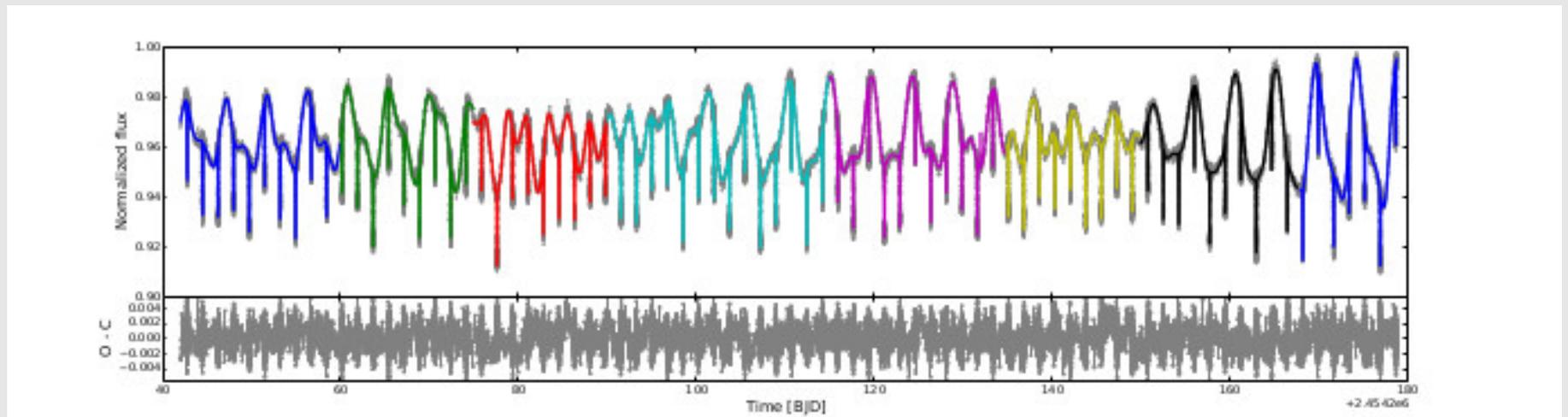
Hints of longitudinal migration

Average 1-2 faculae per segment

1-2 features constantly in the transited belt



$$C = \sum_i \alpha_{\max,i} (1 - c_i)$$

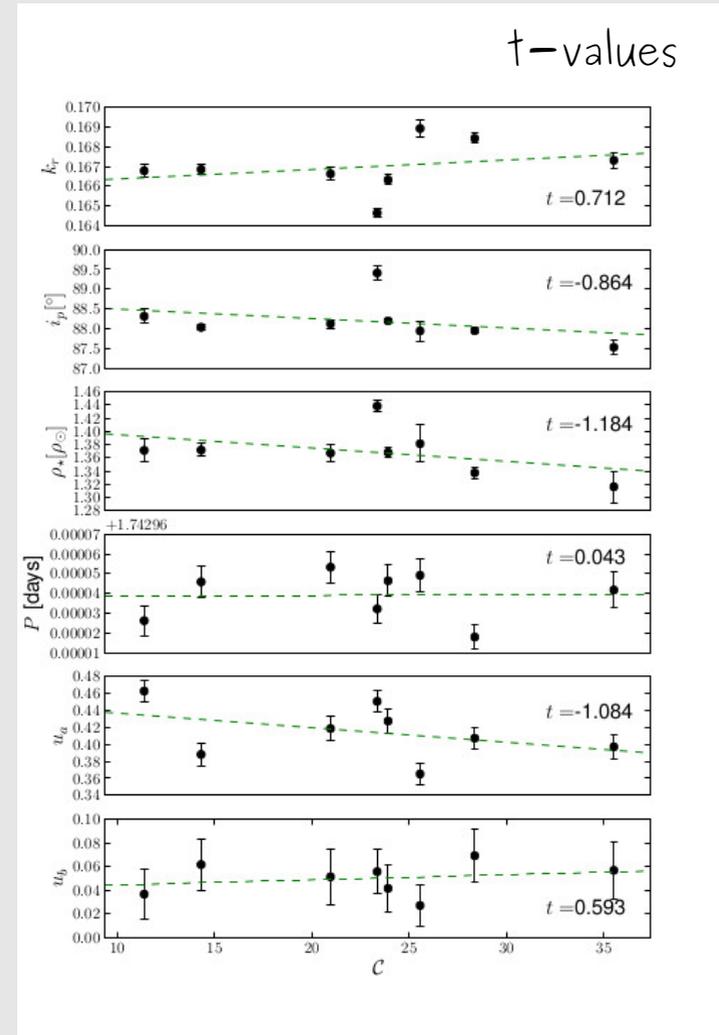


Results: transit parameters

- Transit depth, incl.: Non-significant correlations
- stellar density, LD: needed improvements
- Period: not affected by spots

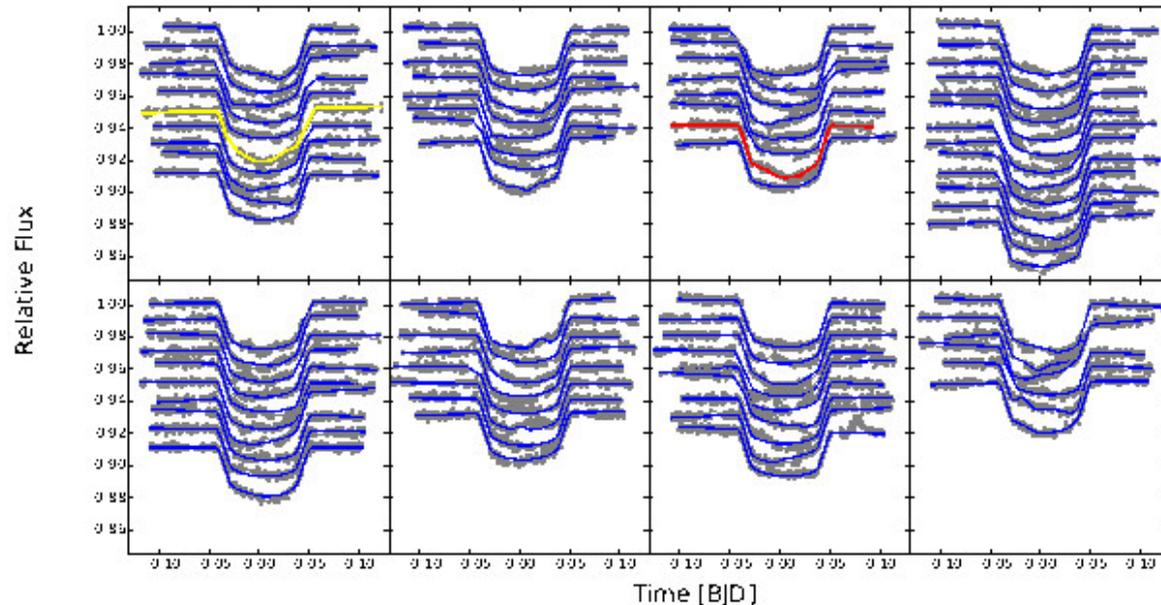
Possible improvement

- Automatic fit no. of spots



Least distorted transit

- Czesla et al. (2009): average of deepest transits less affected. Transit depth $>3\%$ than Alonso et al. (2009)
- On single deepest transit, result in agreement

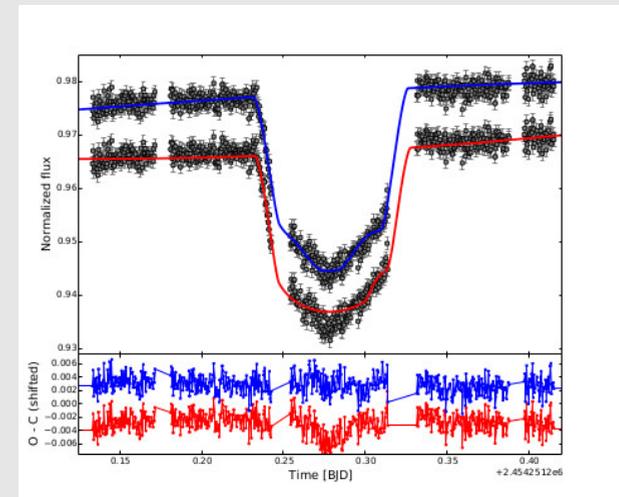
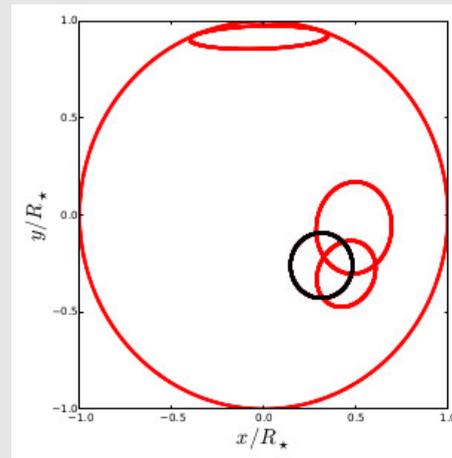
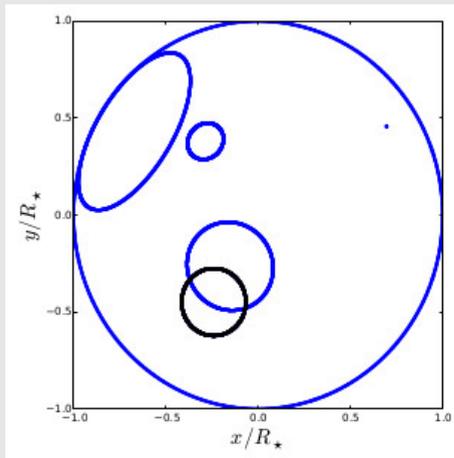


Least distorted transit

- Czesla et al. (2009): average of deepest transits less affected.
Transit depth >3% than Alonso et al. (2009)

From our fit:

- 1) On single deepest transit, result in agreement
- 2) Deepest with only dark spots? Worse fit (Bayes factor 2%)



CONCLUSIONS

Conclusions

- Analytic evolving spot modeling + transit features + MCMC fit
- More consistent transit parameters,
explored correlations spots-transit parameters
- Required presence of faculae

Future developments

- Refine spot modeling
- Explore more efficient MCMC algorithms
- Test on synthetic data and other real cases