

# Observational Planetary Evolution Revealed by Statistical Studies of Exoplanets



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Nanjing University (南京大学)

2025-10-21, Hangzhou

# Outline

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## **1. Research Background**

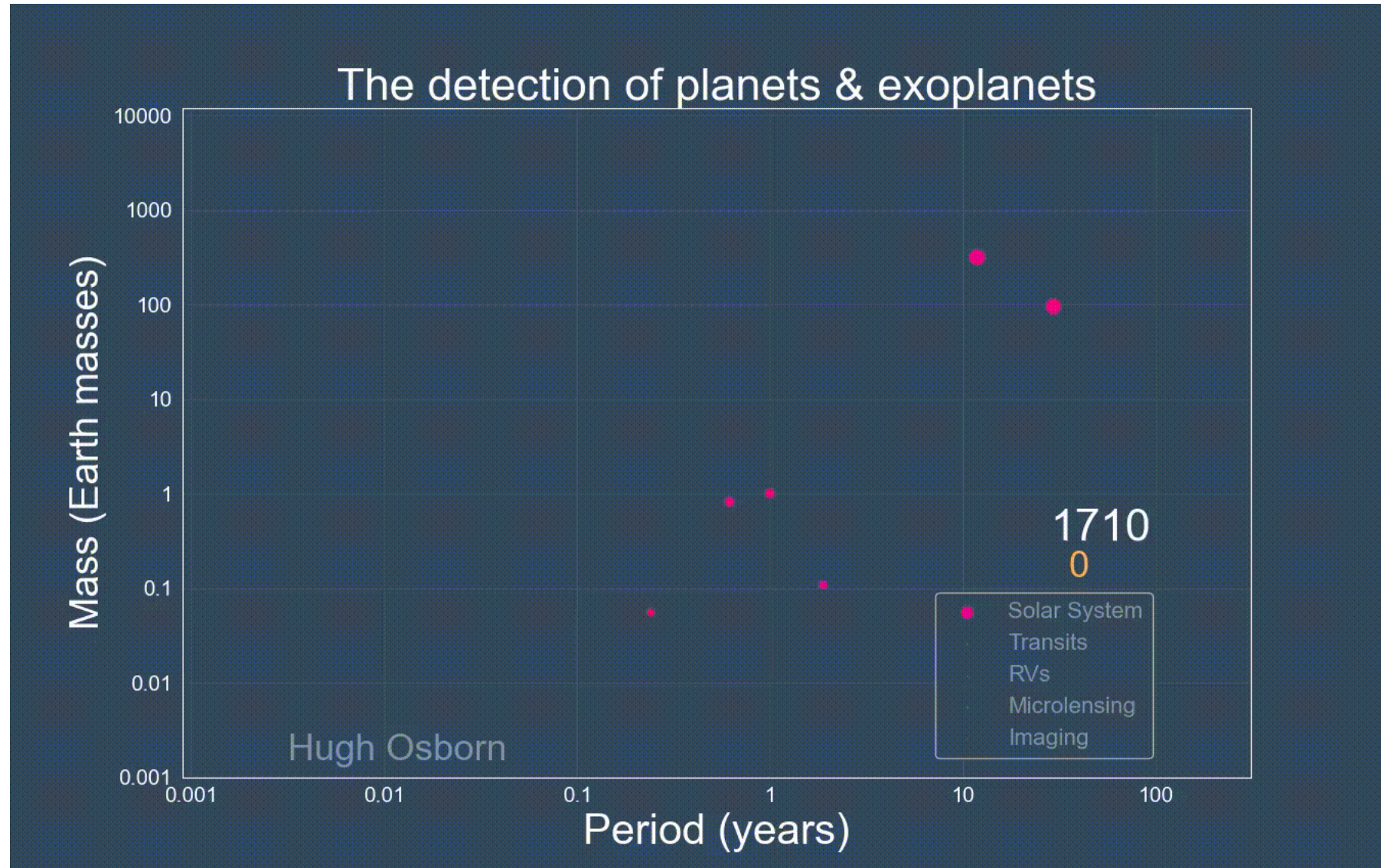
Importance and Important Progresses of Planetary Statistics

## **2. Exoplanet Statistical Research Based on LAMOST**

Research highlight of the “PAST” (穿越) Series

## **3. Prospects and Summary**

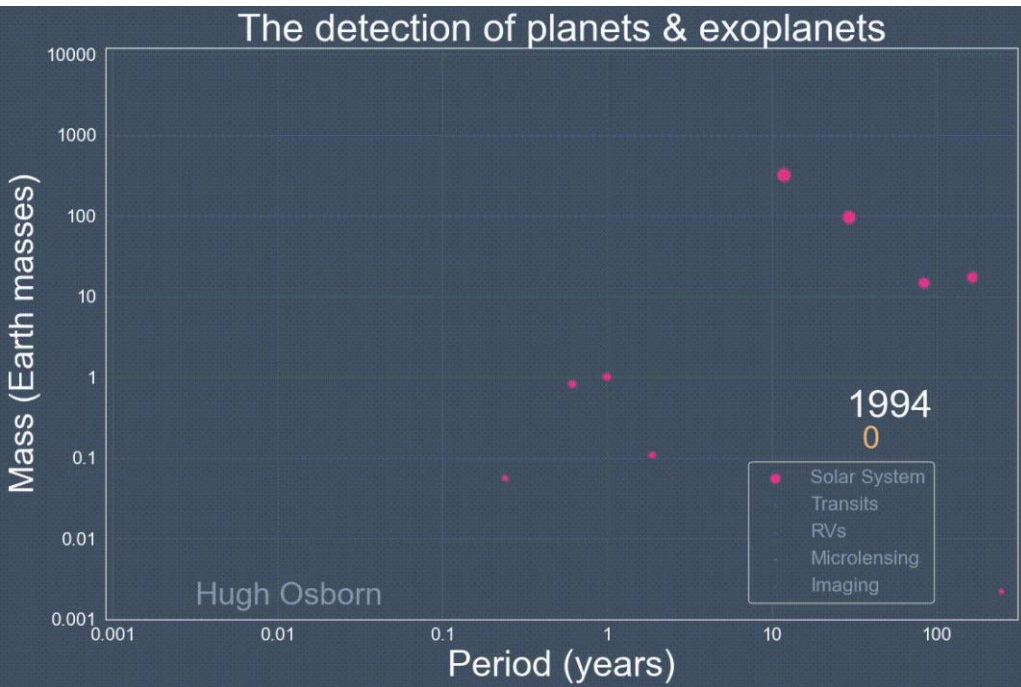
# A short history of Planets and Exoplanets



# Important Progresses of Planetary Statistics

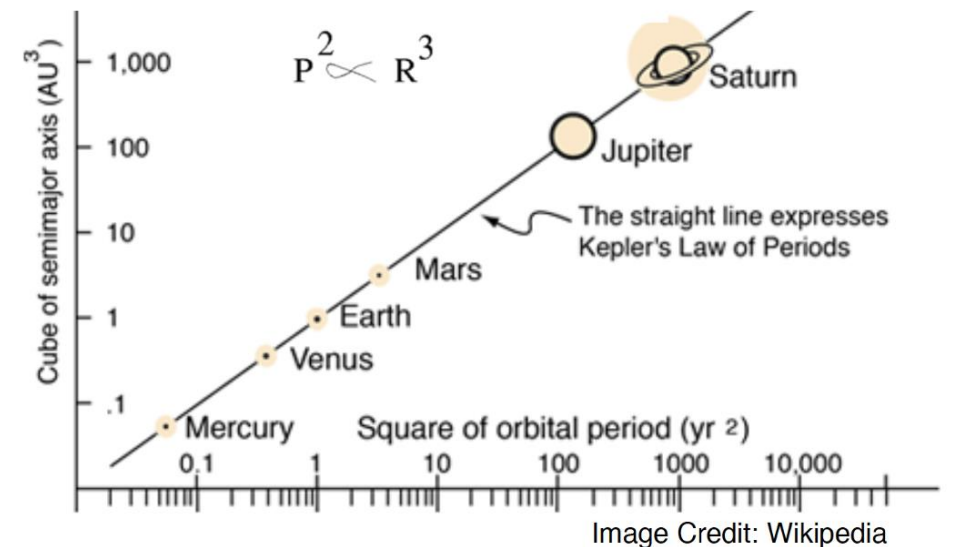
## Era of the Solar System Planets (Pre-1995)

1995年之前



## 行星统计揭示基本天文学、物理学定律

行星轨道的统计 → 开普勒第三定律 ..... → 牛顿万有引力定律



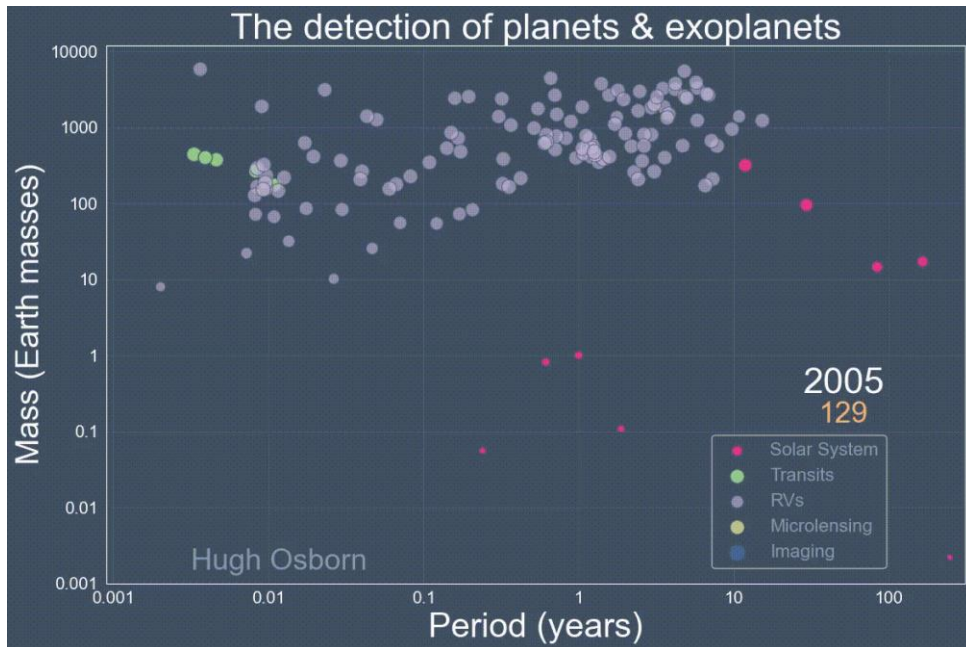


# Important Progresses of Planetary Statistics

Era of Exoplanets (1995-)

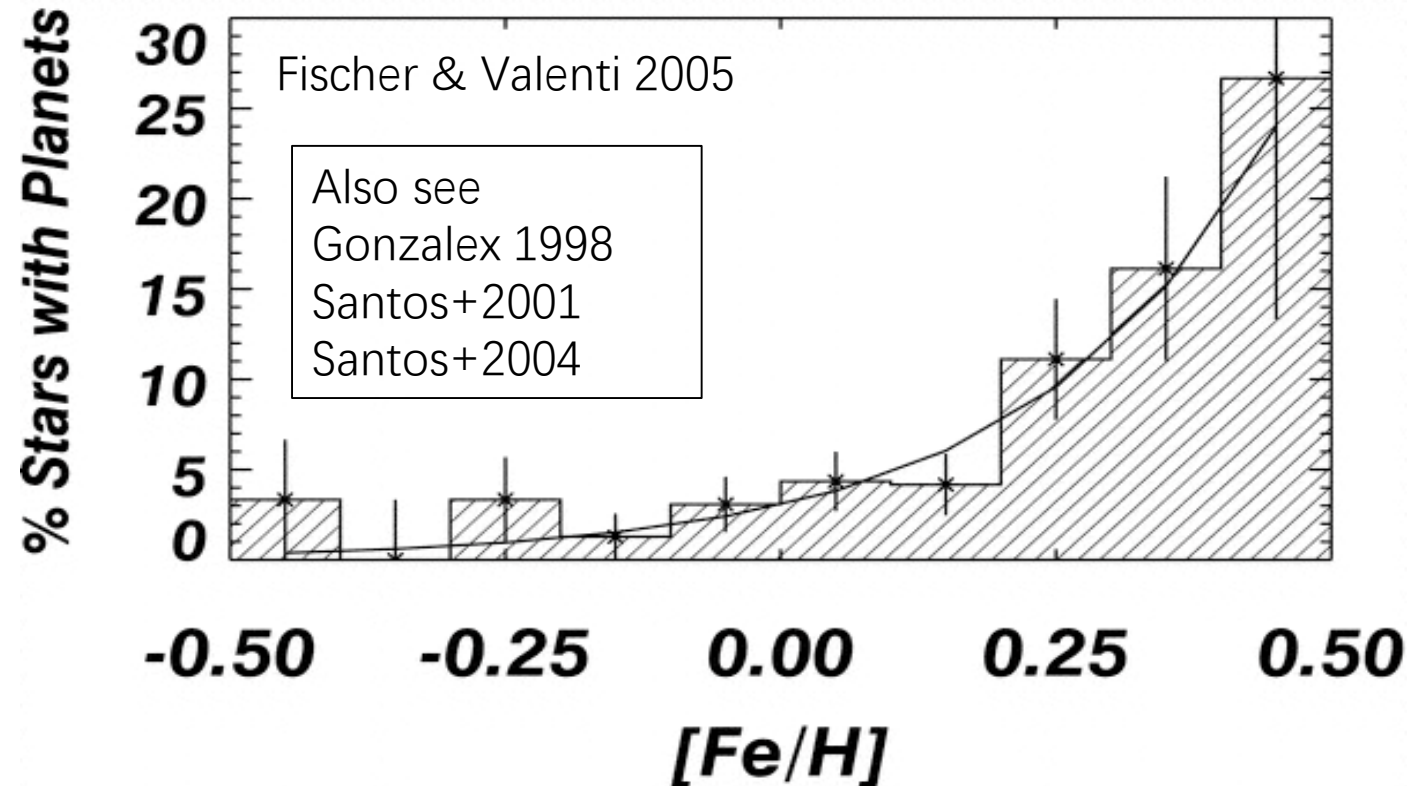
Jupiter-like Planets

1995-2010 年



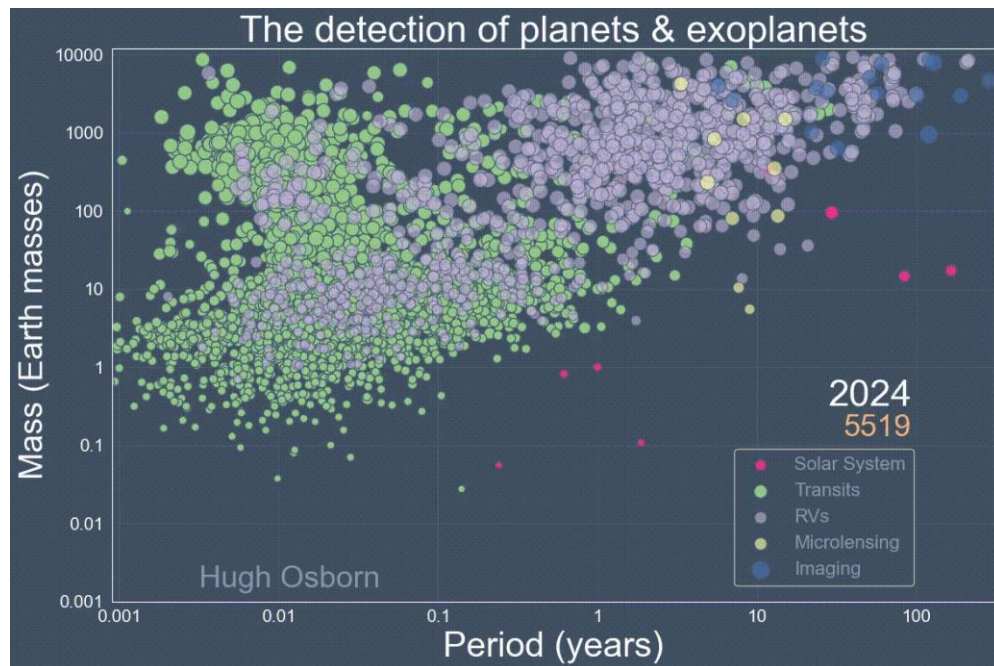
giant planets - stellar metallicity correlation

- observational foundation for the theory of planet formation (Core Accretion)



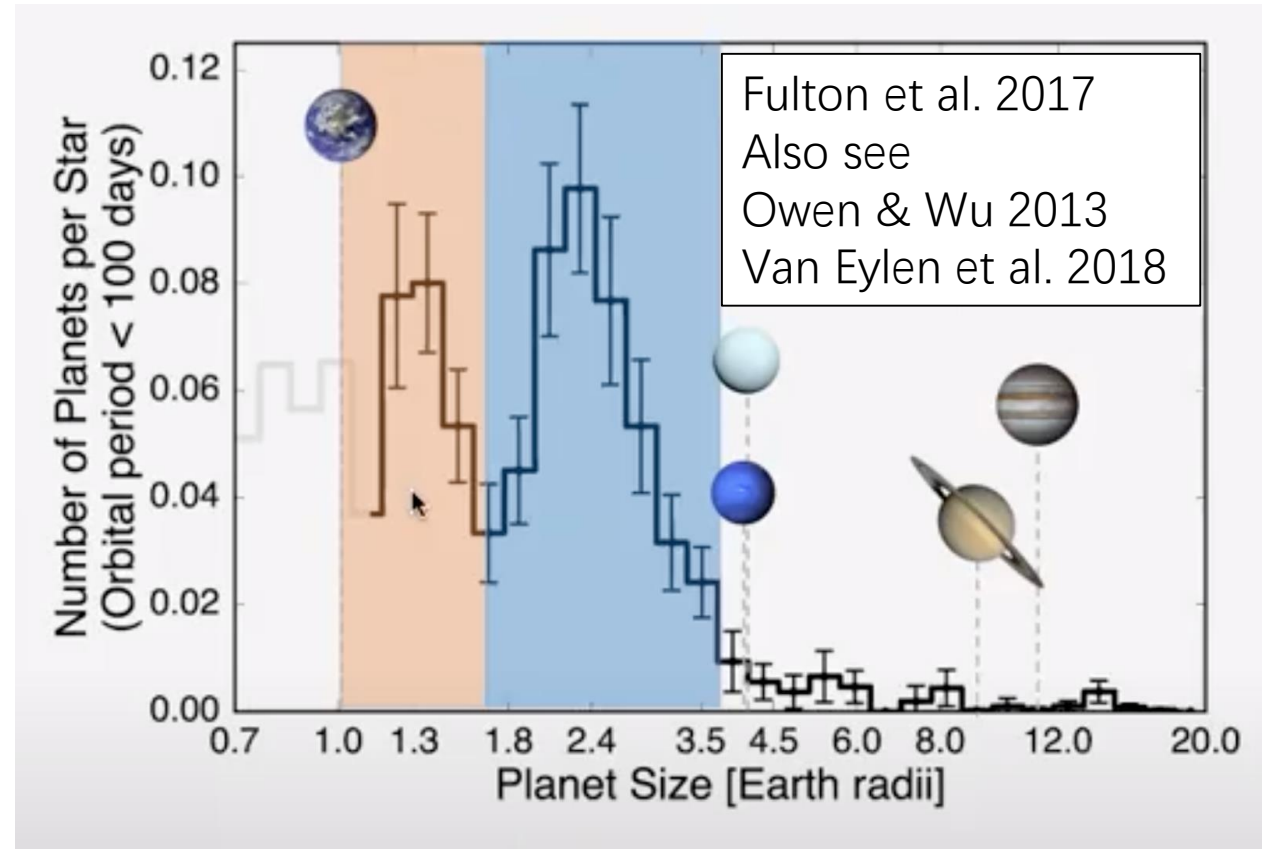
# Important Progresses of Planetary Statistics

## Era of Exoplanets (1995-) Super Earths/Sub-Neptunes 1995-2010 年



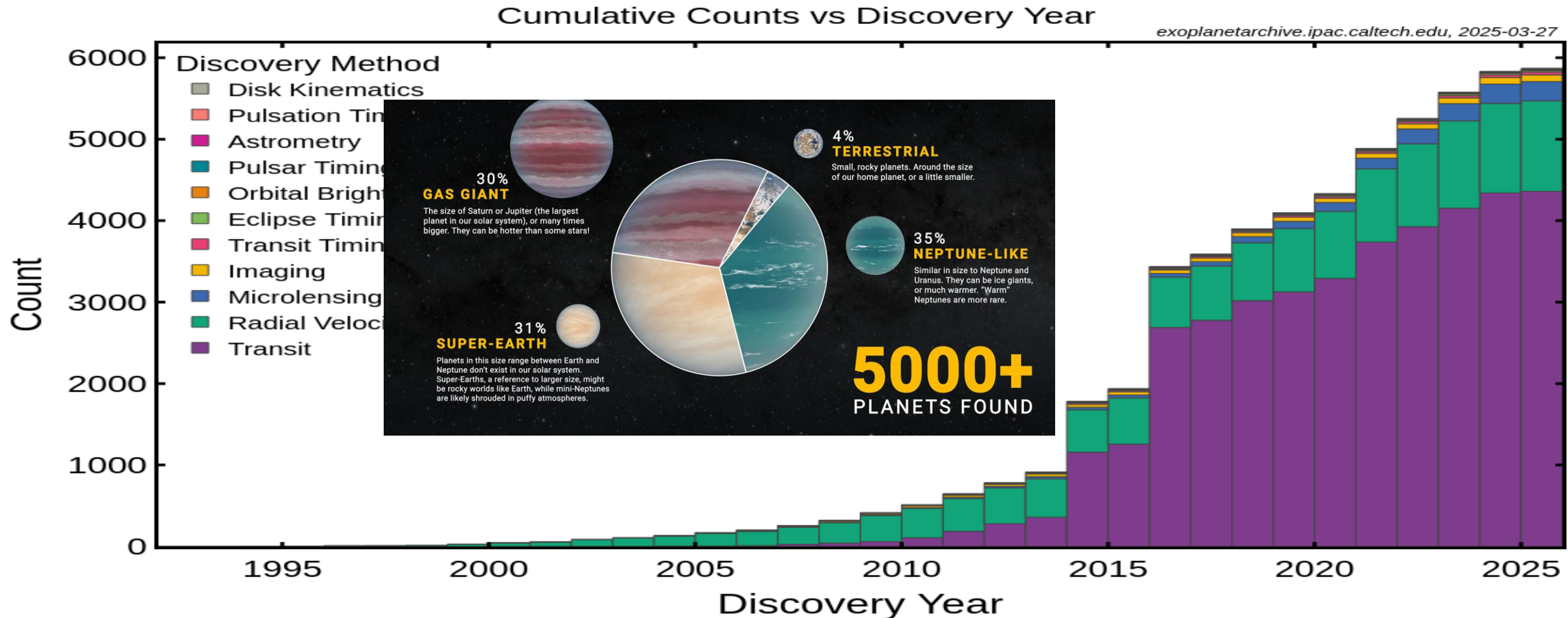
## the Planet Radius Valley

- Revealing the formation and evolution of different planet populations



# Exoplanets: the Era of Planet Census

By finding thousands of planets, exoplanet field has been revolutionized and entered a new era of exoplanet census.



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Importance and Important Progresses of Planetary Statistics

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Research highlight of the “PAST” (穿越) Series

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# LAMOST

Large sky **A**rea **M**ulti-**O**bject Fiber **S**pectroscopy **T**elescope

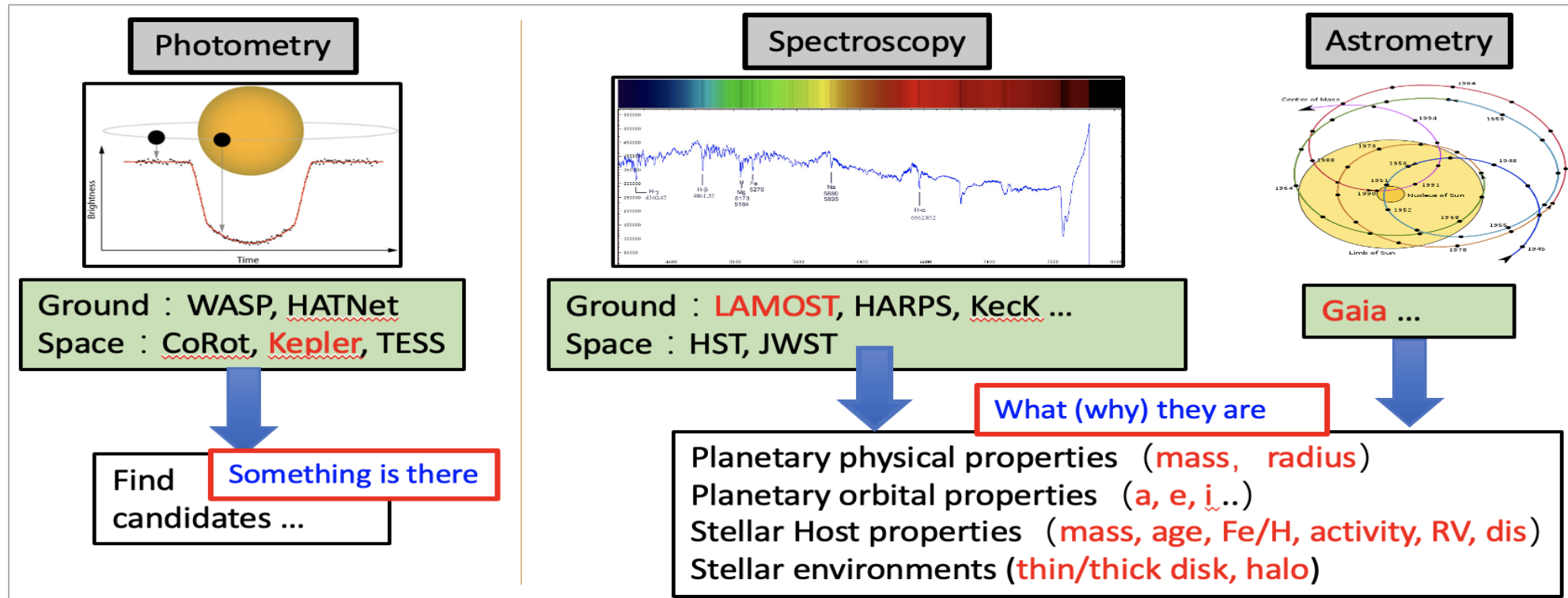
- 
- Features: Large field of view (**20 square degrees**), Multi-object (**4000 fibers**).
  - over **20 million** spectra, nearly **3 times** the sum of other international survey telescopes).
  - 2012-2017: **first phase** of scientific observations.
  - 2018-2023: **second phase** of scientific observations.
  - 2024- : **third phase** of scientific observations.

# Why LAMOST ?

Exoplanet census needs star census

Know thy star, know thy planet

(1) To accurately characterize planets (2) To reveal the star-planet relations



# LAMOST – Kepler– Gaia Synergy

## 光谱 Spectroscopy



Teff,  
logg,  
RV,  
Fe/H  
...

## 测光 Photometry



## 天测 Astrometry

Distance,  
Proper  
Motion  
...



## Planet Census In the Milky Way



## 银河系的大背景下 行星普查

- Planetary Properties as functions of Galactic Environments (e.g., Thin/Thick disks)
- Planetary Properties as functions of Time (Kinematic age, Isochrone age, Rotation age)

# NJU Exoplanet Census Team: "PAST" Group

Di-Chang CHEN  
陈迪昌

Joined SYSU



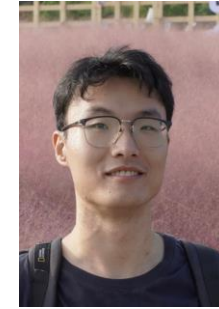
Jia-Yi YANG  
杨佳祎



Pei-Wei TU  
涂培玮



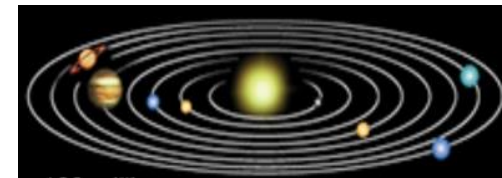
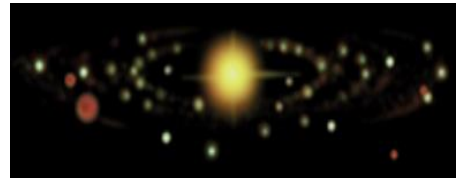
Di WU  
武迪



“穿越”系列

Planets **A**cross **S**pace and **T**ime (**PAST**)

## To Reveal the Observational Evidences of Planetary Evolution



0.01 Gyr

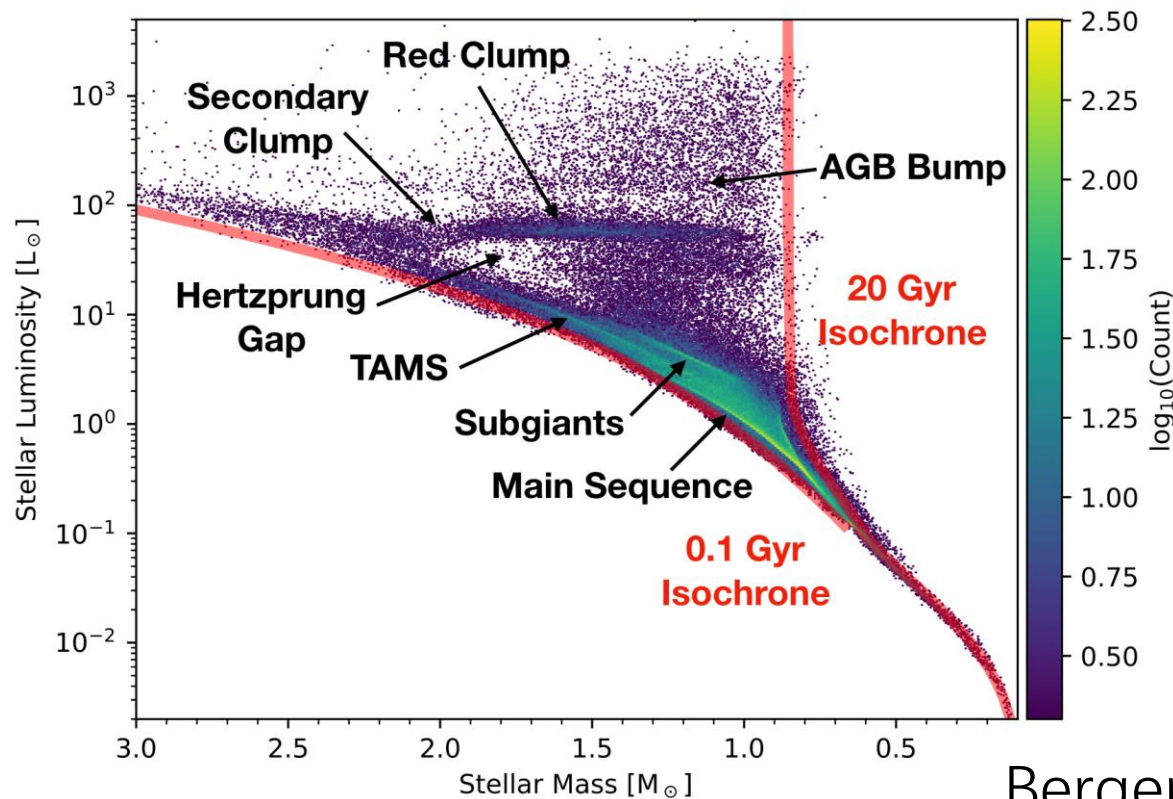
0.1 Gyr

1 Gyr

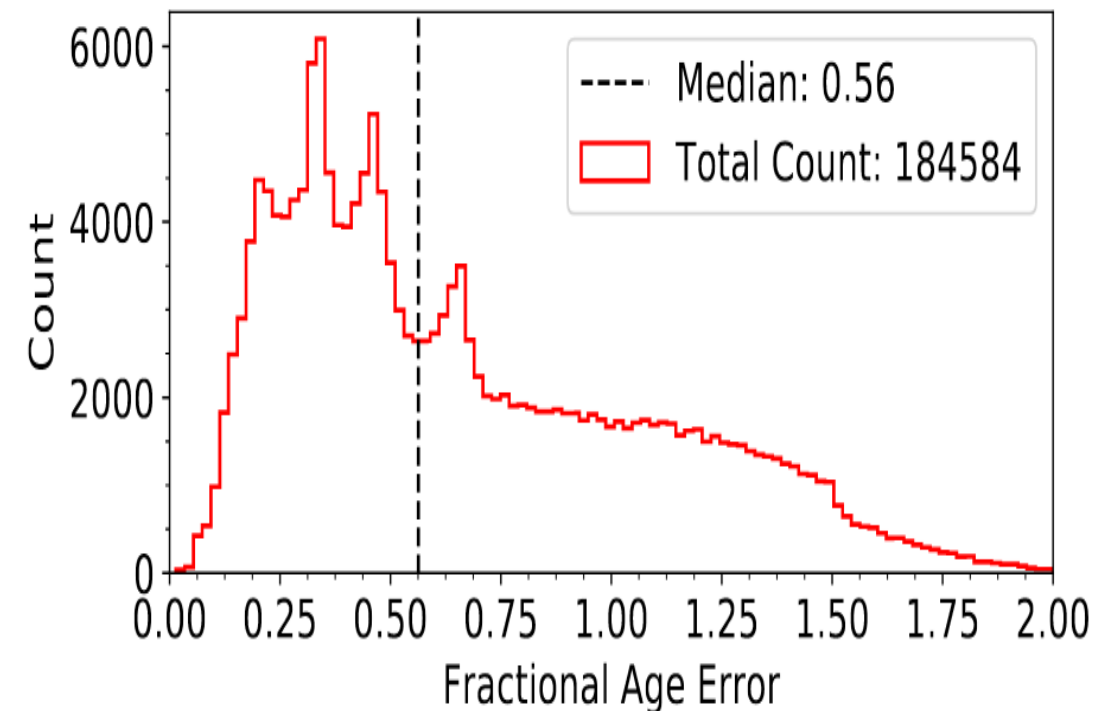


# Challenges of the Research

Age is crucial, but estimating age, especially the age of exoplanet host stars (main sequence), is not an easy task.



**median error 56%**

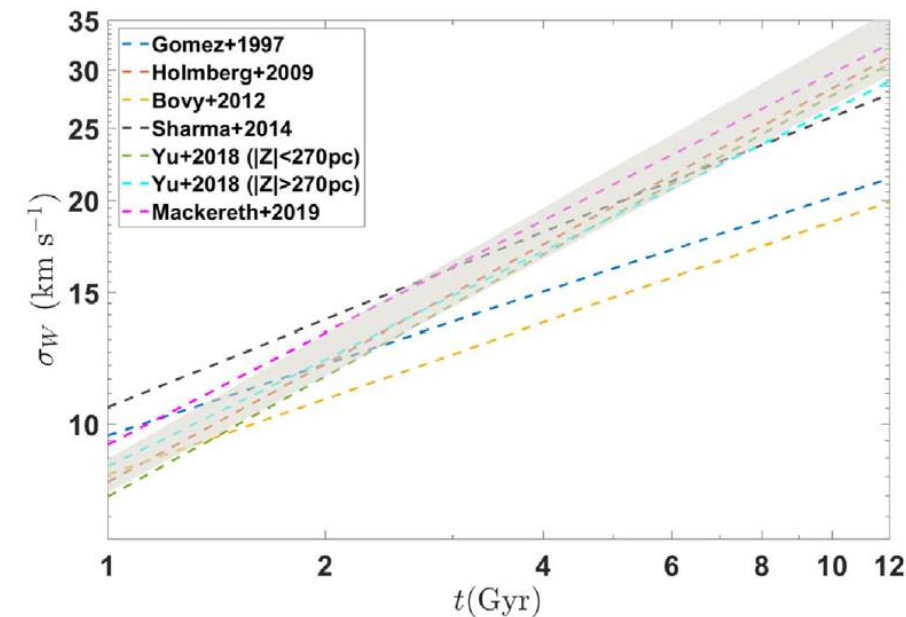


Berger et al. 2020

# PAST Approach: Kinematic Age

## A Well Calibrated Age-Velocity Relation based on LAMOST and Gaia

Reducing the age error from approximately 50% to 15%



Chen et al. 2021 ApJ



**Table 6**  
The Typical Relative Uncertainties of Parameters and Kinematic Ages Derived by the AVR Using Data from Holmberg et al. (2009) and This Work

		This Work	Holmberg et al. (2009)
U	$\Delta k/k$	2.6%	10.1%
	$\Delta \beta/\beta$	4.4%	20.5%
	$\Delta \sigma/\sigma$	2.0%	2.0%
	$\Delta t/t$	9.7%–14.1%	31.6%–64.1%
V	$\Delta k/k$	3.7%	9.4%
	$\Delta \beta/\beta$	4.1%	13.8%
	$\Delta \sigma/\sigma$	3.5%	3.5%
	$\Delta t/t$	11.8%–20.1%	23.32%–44.4%
W	$\Delta k/k$	5.2%	14.1%
	$\Delta \beta/\beta$	3.7%	12.3%
	$\Delta \sigma/\sigma$	4.1%	4.1%
	$\Delta t/t$		
$V_{\text{tot}}$	$\Delta k/k$		
	$\Delta \beta/\beta$		
	$\Delta \sigma/\sigma$	2.4%	2.4%
	$\Delta t/t$	9.2%–16%	27.4%–54.1%

**reduce the internal error !**

**vs**

# Plan of the PAST

## Methods and Catalogs

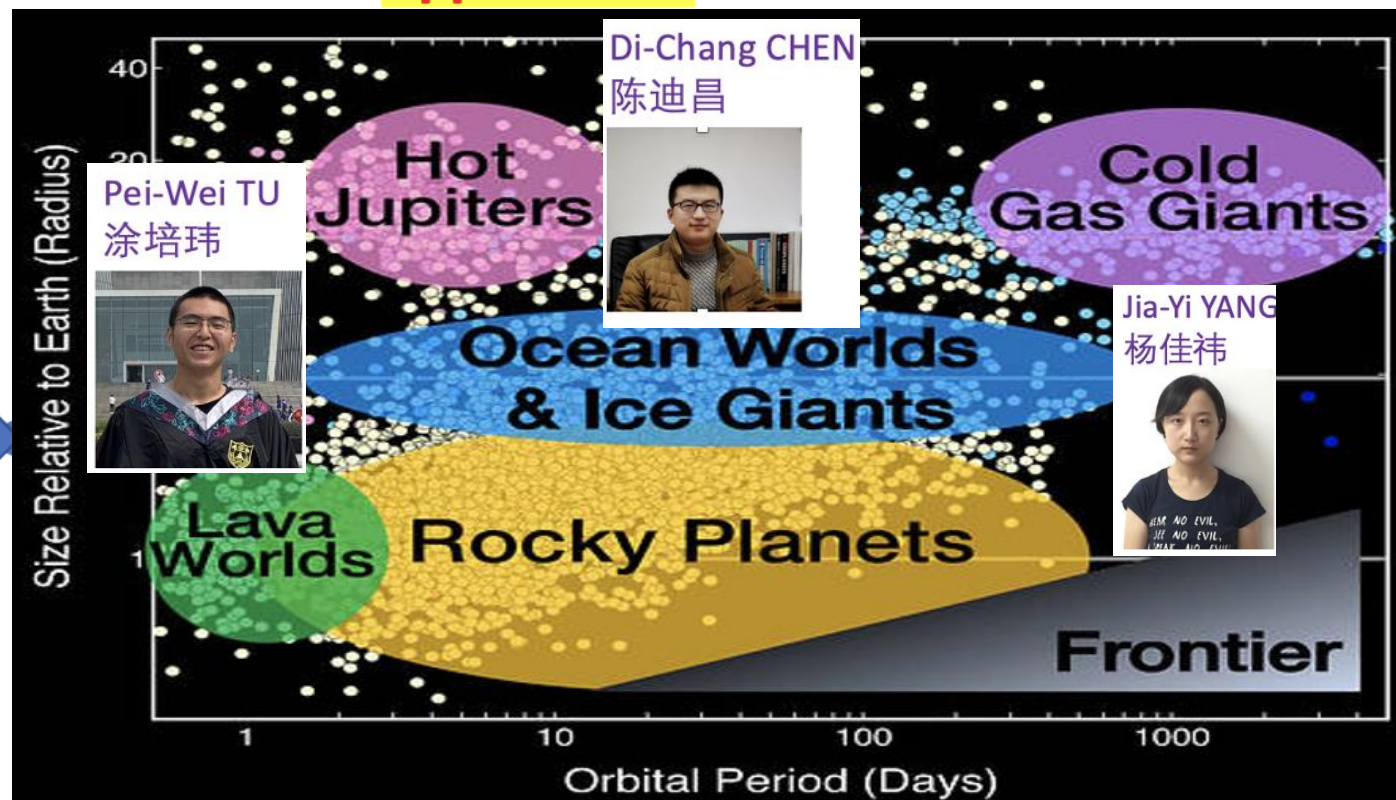
**PAST-1:** Characterizing the Memberships of Galactic Components and Stellar Ages: Revisiting the Kinematic **Methods** and Applying to Planet Host Stars

Chen +2021 *ApJ*

**PAST-2:** **Catalog** and Analyses of the LAMOST-Gaia-Kepler Stellar Kinematic Properties

Chen + 2021 *AJ*

## Applications



**PAST-3 & 4:** Applications to Super-Earths & Sub-neptunes; (Chen+2022 *AJ*, Yang+2023 *AJ*)

**PAST-5 & 7:** Applications to Hot Jupiters; (Chen+2023 *PNAS*, Chen+2025 Accepted by *Nature Astronomy*)

**PAST-6:** Application to USP planets (Tu+2025 *Nature Astronomy*)

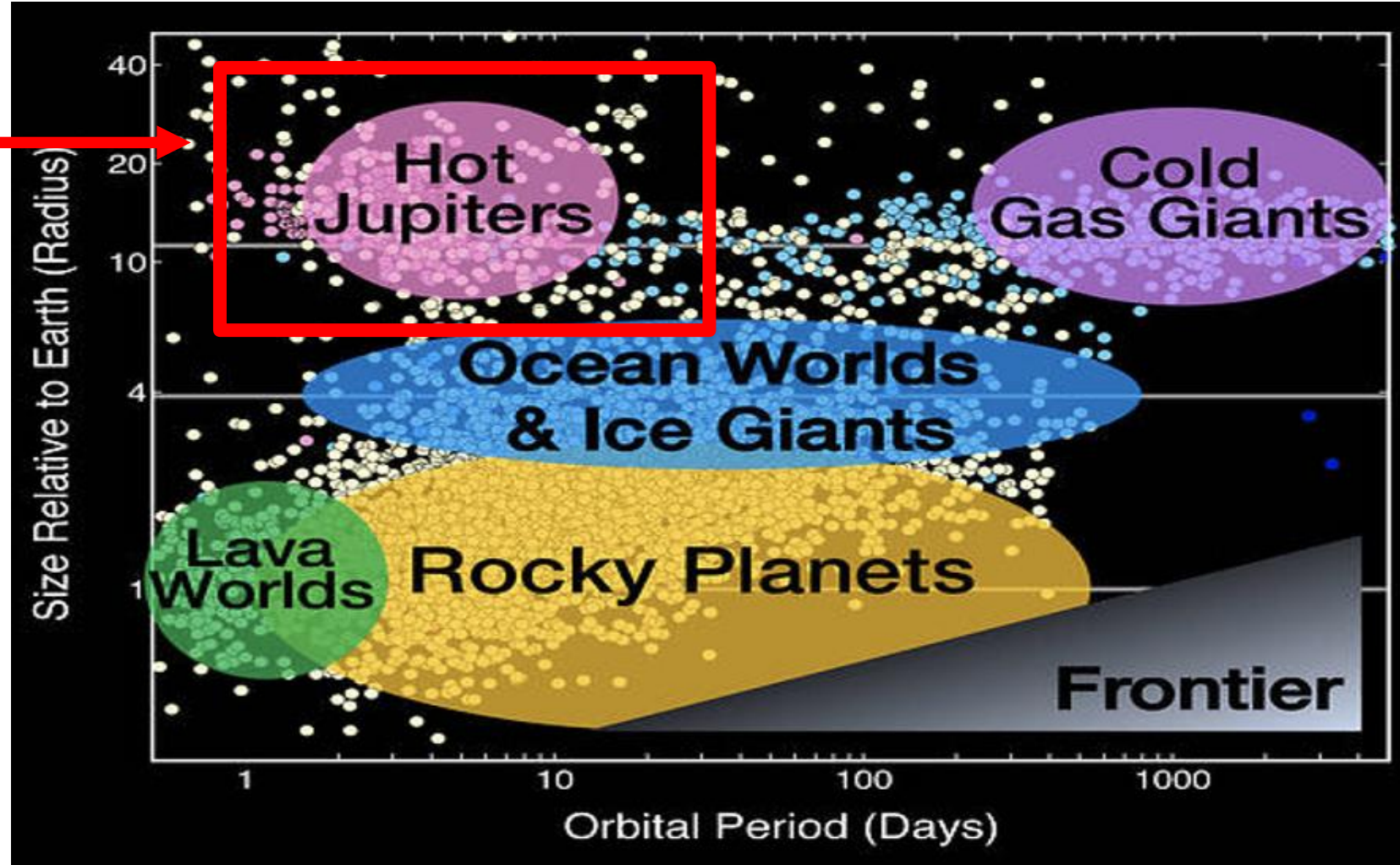


# Hot Jupiters

Di-Chang CHEN  
陈迪昌



LAMOST Fellow





# The First Discovery of Hot Jupiter



Article | Published: 23 November 1995

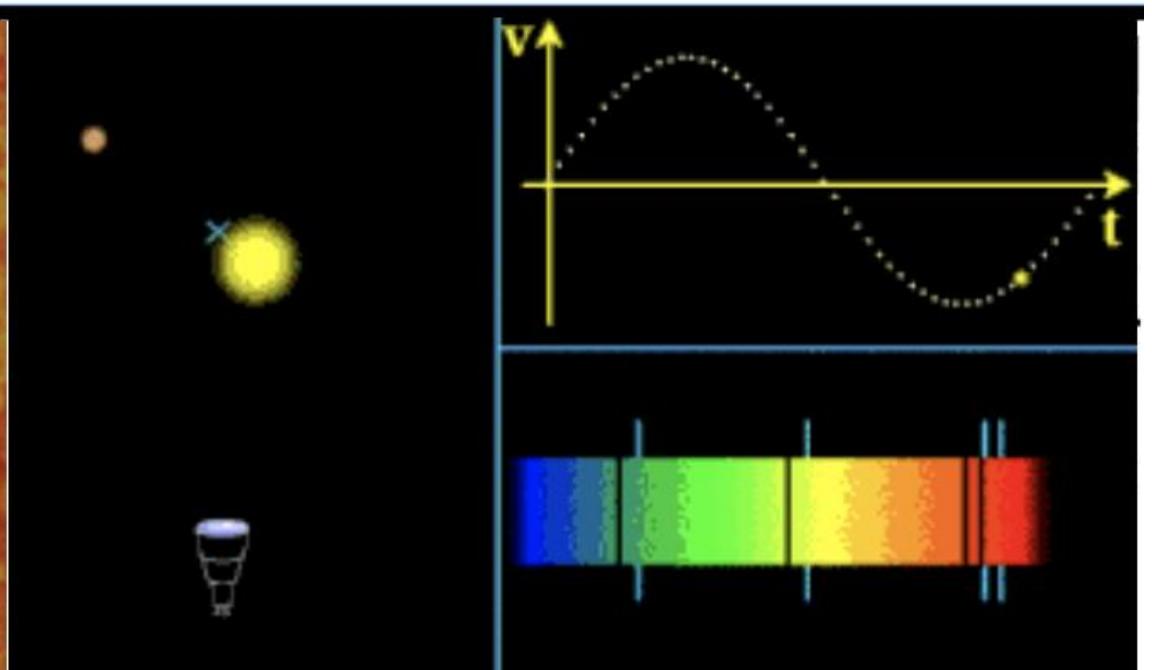
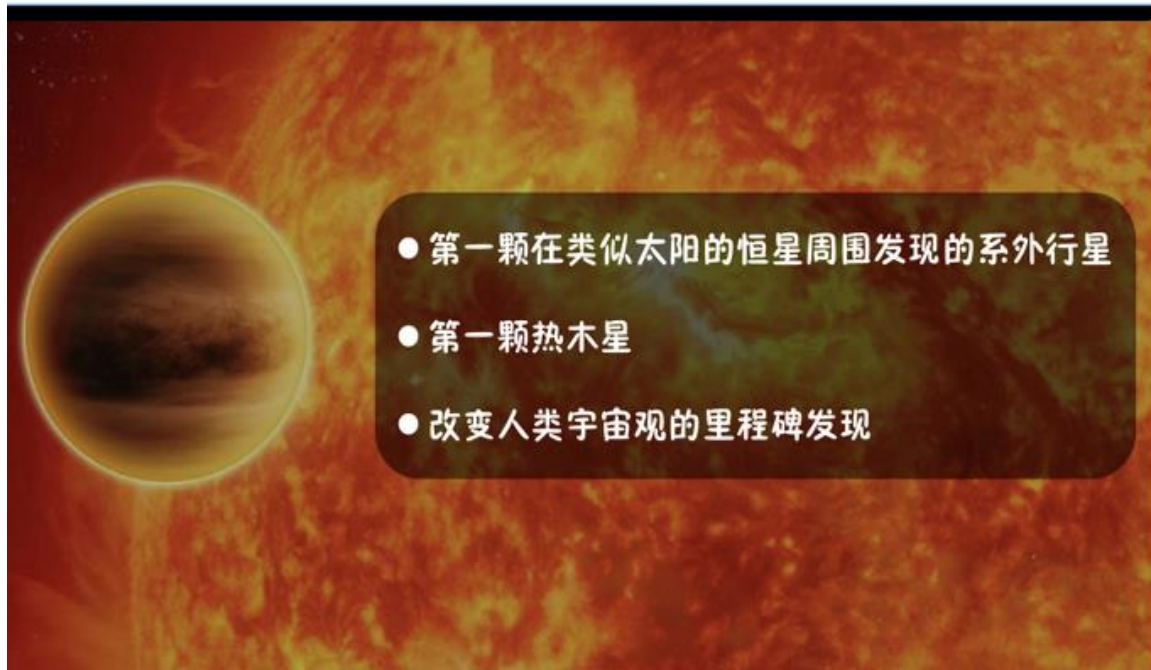


2019诺贝尔物理学奖

## A Jupiter-mass companion to a solar-type star

Michel Mayor & Didier Queloz

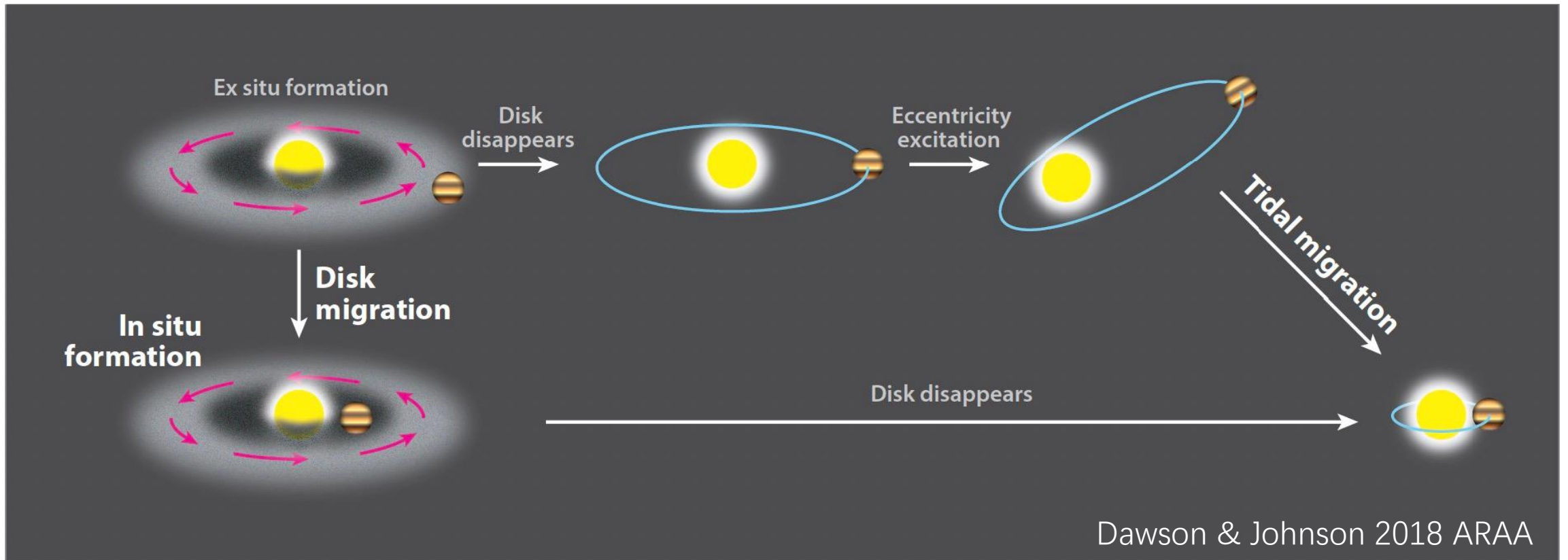
揭开了系外行星探测研究的序幕



# The Mystery of Hot Jupiters (1)

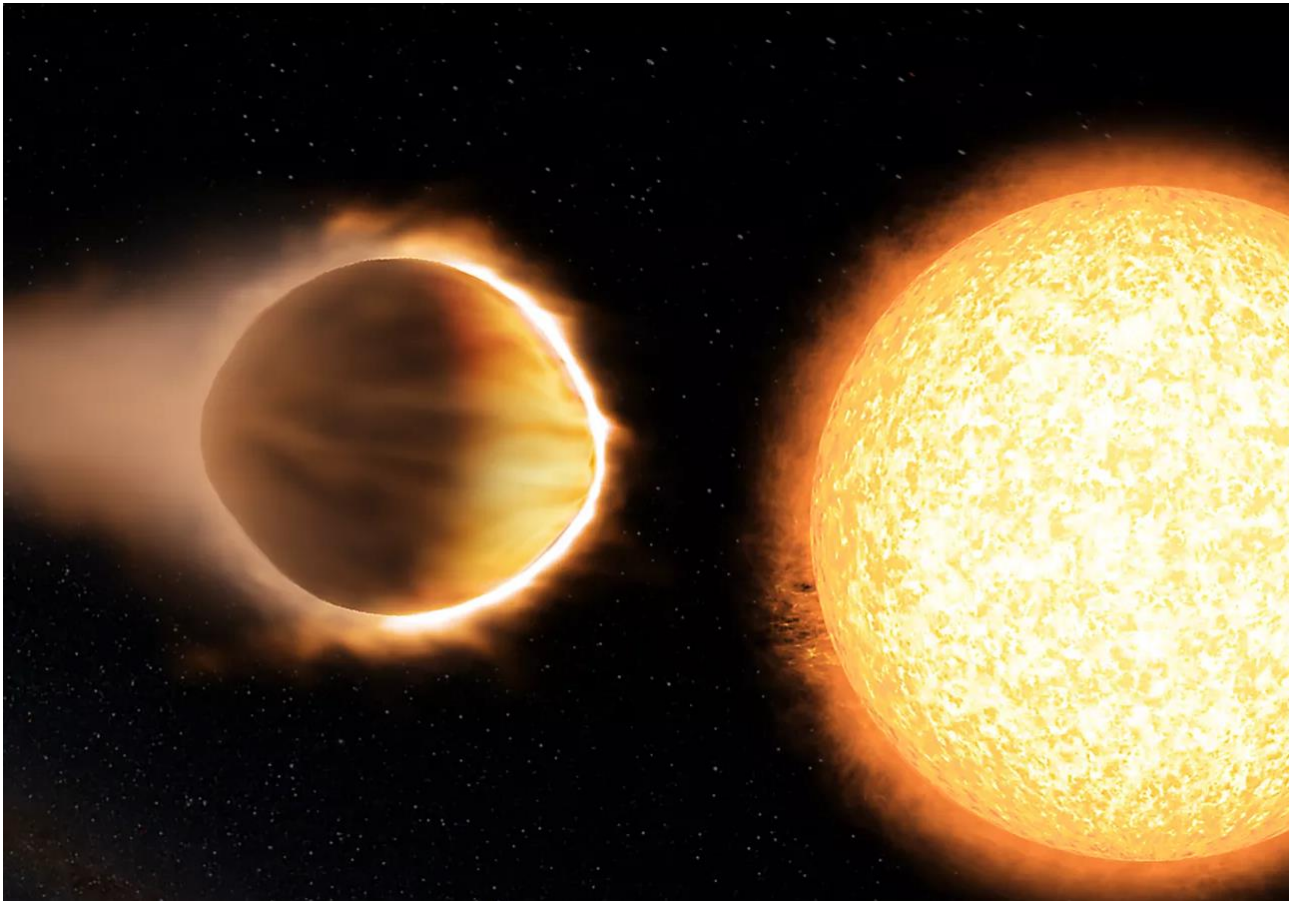
## How do hot Jupiters form?

lack of important observational evidences to distinguish between various models



# The Mystery of Hot Jupiters (2)

Will Hot Jupiters crash into the Stars ?



**Tidal theory: YES!**

**BUT: lack large-sample  
observational evidence**

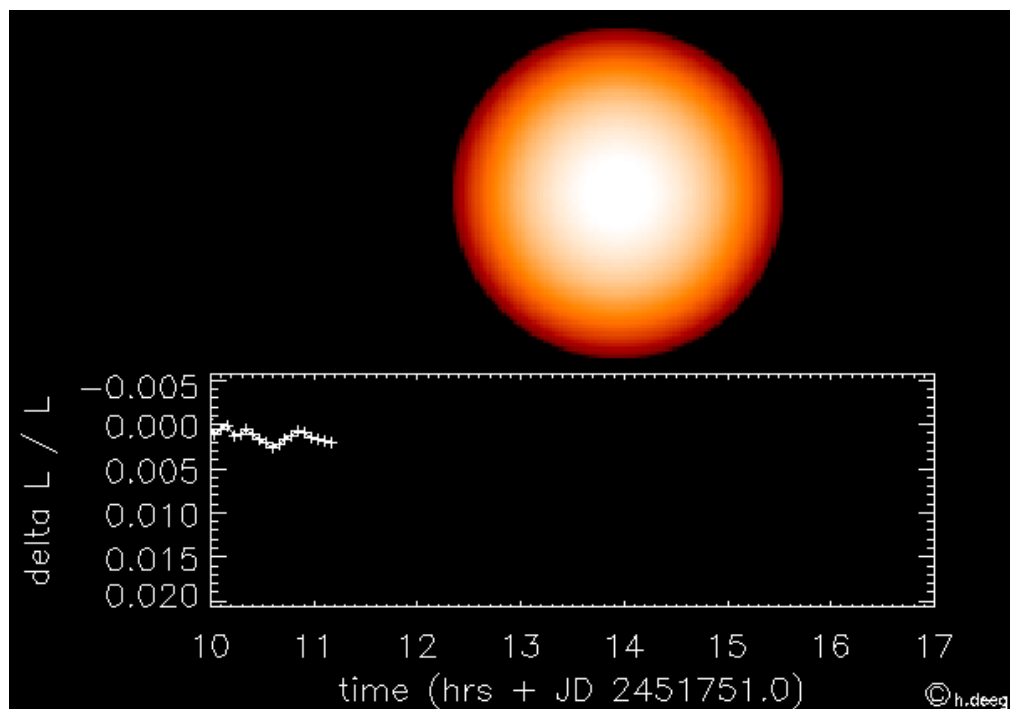
WASP-12 b is currently the only one with  
solid evidence on orbital decay (Yee et al. 2020)

# The Mystery of Hot Jupiters (3)

## Contradiction on the Occurrence of Hot Jupiter

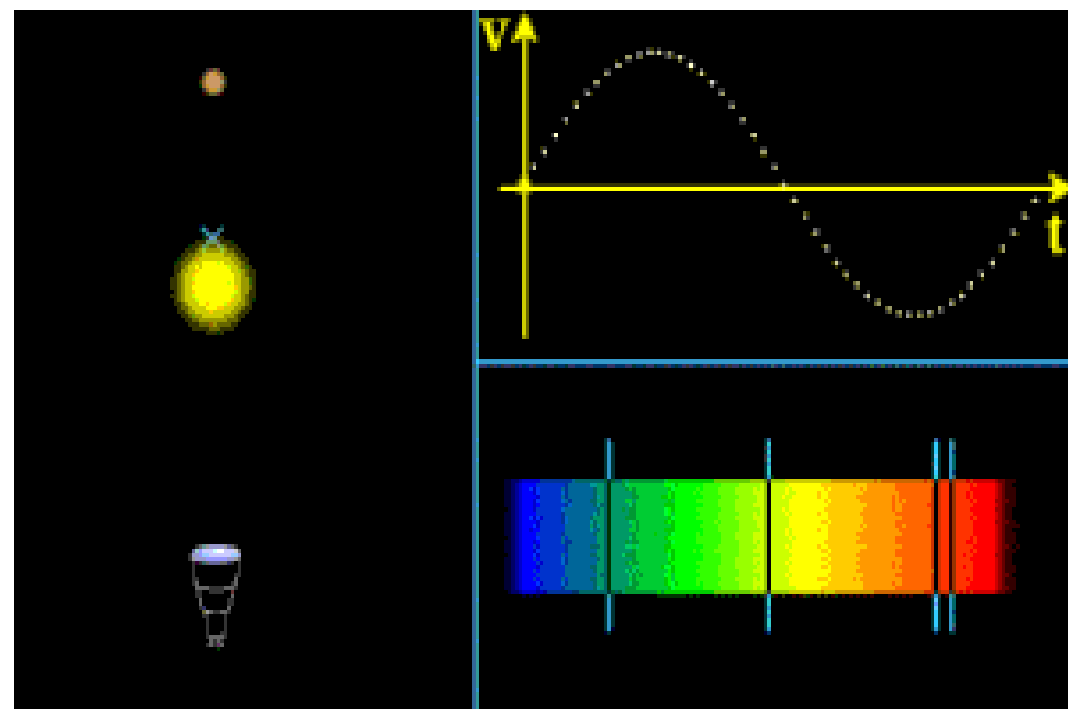
Gould+06, Howard+12, Santerne+16

**Transit:**  $F_{HJ} \sim 0.5\%$



Cumming+08, Mayor+11, Wright+12

**Radial Velocity:**  $F_{HJ} \sim 1\%$





# The Mystery of Hot Jupiters (4)

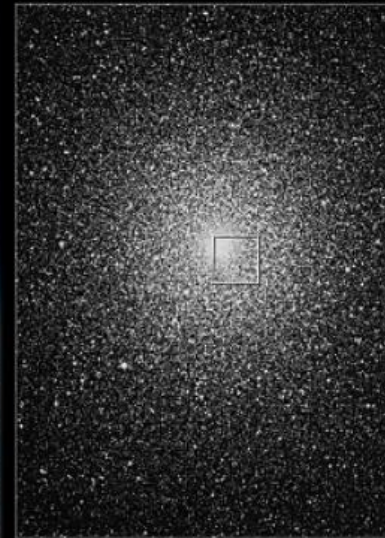
## Searching for hot Jupiters in Globular Clusters

**Expected: 17**  $\neq$  **Result: 0 !** Gilliland et al. (2003)

RONALD L. GILLILAND



Globular Cluster  
47 Tucanae



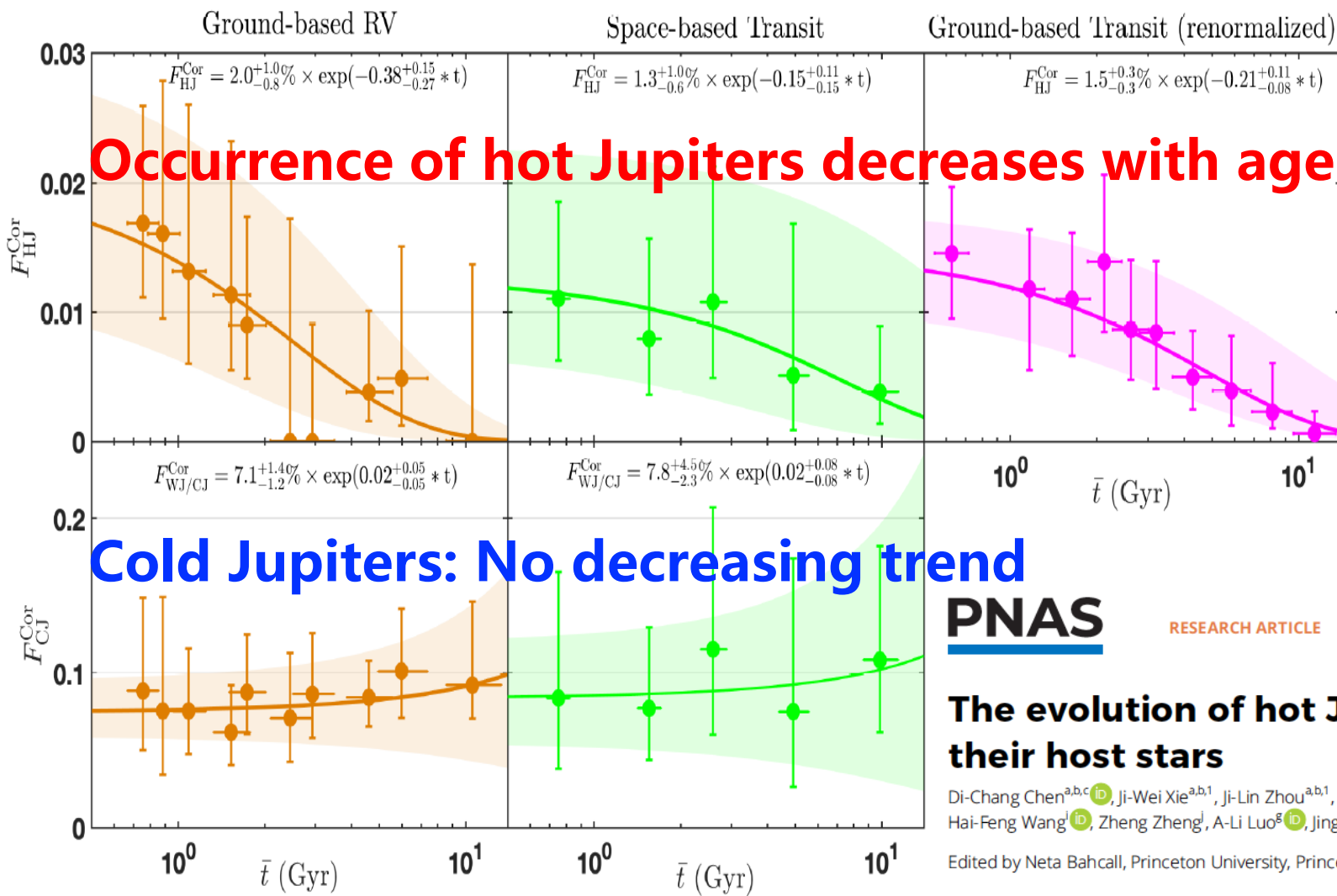
Ground • AAT

NASA and R. Gilliland (STScI)  
STScI-PRC00-33



Hubble Space Telescope • WFPC2

# Hot Jupiters are Decaying



PNAS

RESEARCH ARTICLE

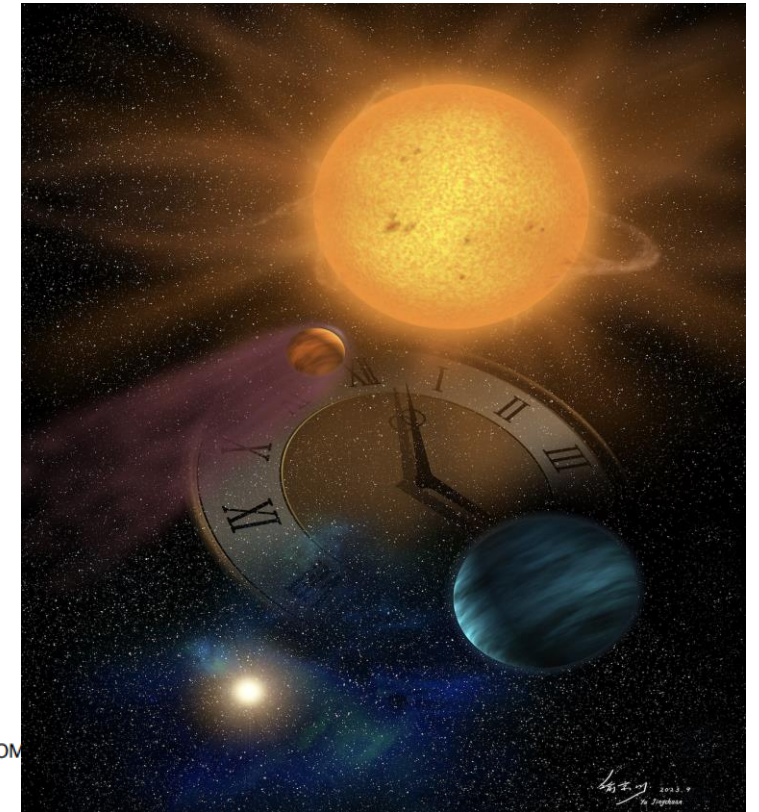
ASTRONOMY

## The evolution of hot Jupiters revealed by the age distribution of their host stars

Di-Chang Chen<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Ji-Wei Xie<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Ji-Lin Zhou<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Subo Dong<sup>d,e,1</sup>, Jia-Yi Yang<sup>a,b</sup>, Wei Zhu<sup>f</sup>, Chao Liu<sup>g</sup>, Yang Huang<sup>g,h</sup>, Mao-Sheng Xiang<sup>g</sup>, Hai-Feng Wang<sup>i</sup>, Zheng Zheng<sup>j</sup>, A-Li Luo<sup>g</sup>, Jing-Hua Zhang<sup>g</sup>, and Zi Zhu<sup>a,b</sup>

Edited by Neta Bahcall, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ; received March 15, 2023; accepted August 15, 2023

PAST-5: Chen, Xie & Zhou et al. 2023 PNAS

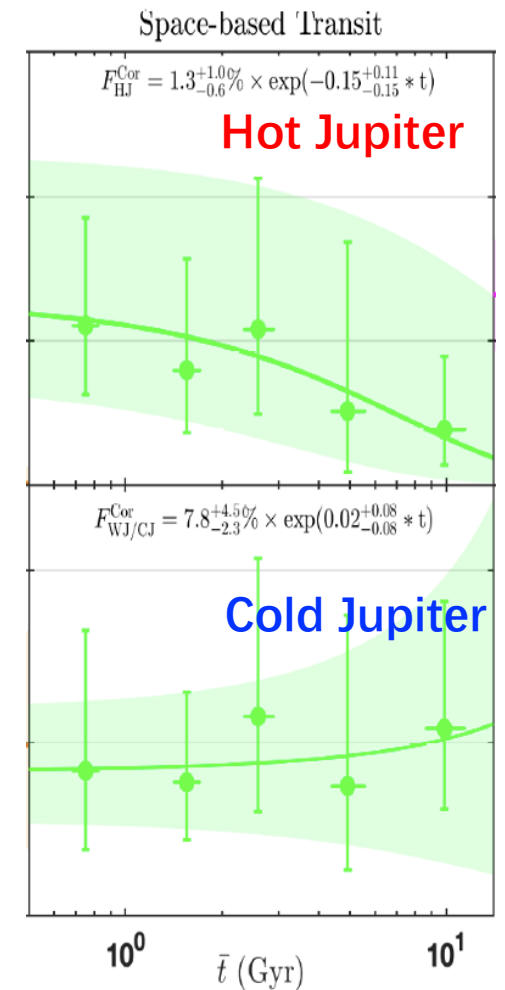
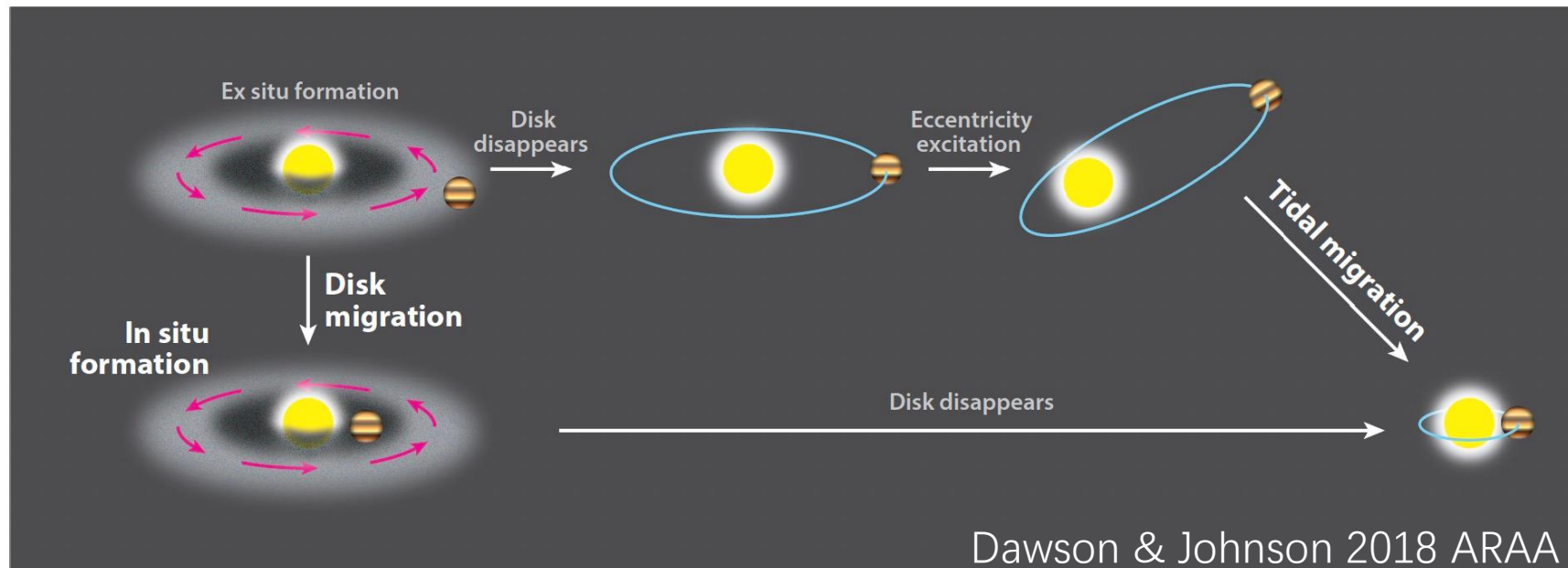


# Implications

**Mystery(1): How do HJ form?**

PAST-5: Chen, Xie & Zhou et al. 2023 PNAS

**Answer (1) : Providing time constraint for the formation mechanism, and the majority of hot Jupiters should form within ~1 Gys**



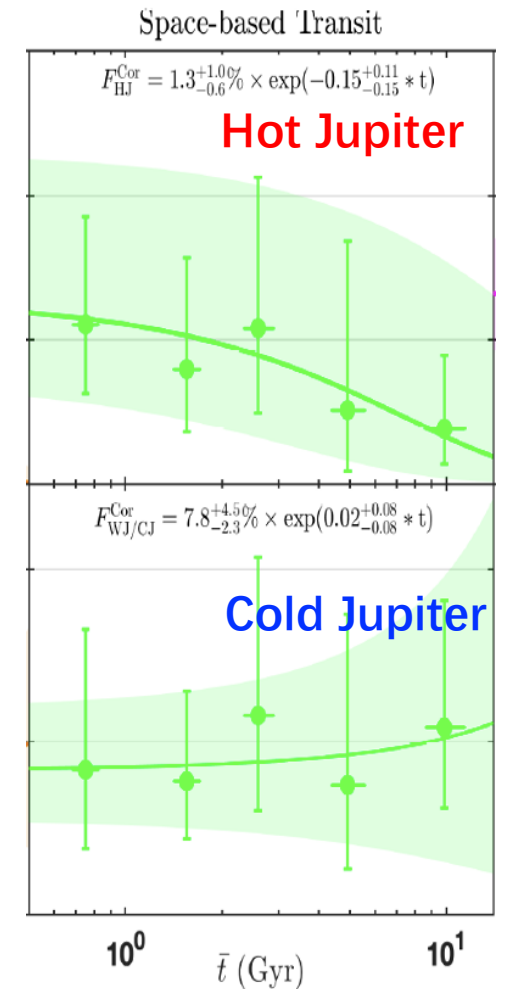
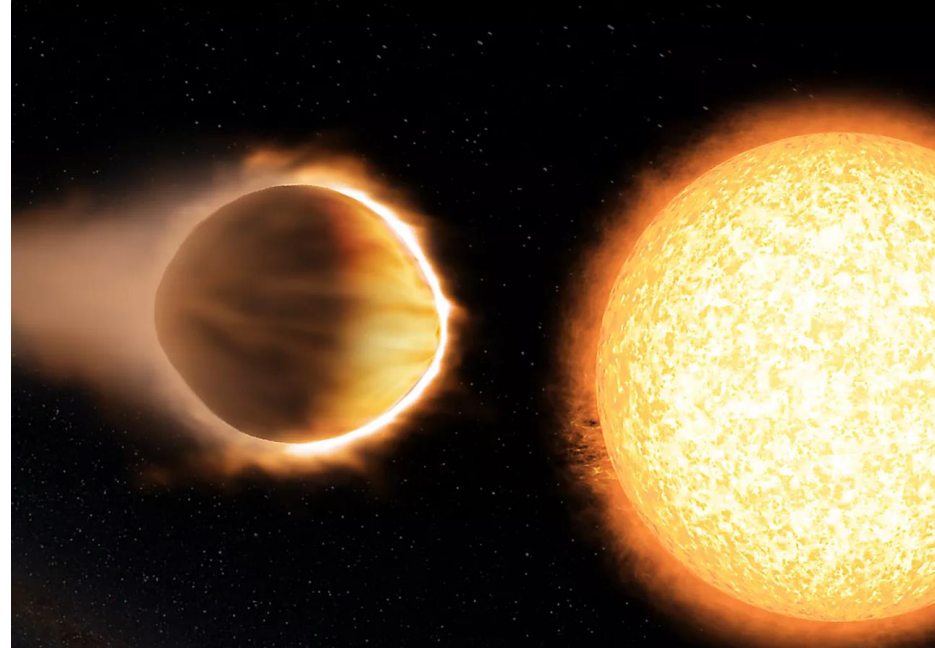


# Implications

PAST-5: Chen, Xie & Zhou et al. 2023 PNAS

## Mystery(2): HJ crash into the Stars ?

**Answer (2):** Yes! Providing large-sample evidence of hot Jupiters being engulfed due to tidal evolution. Provide observational constraints for stellar tidal factors.





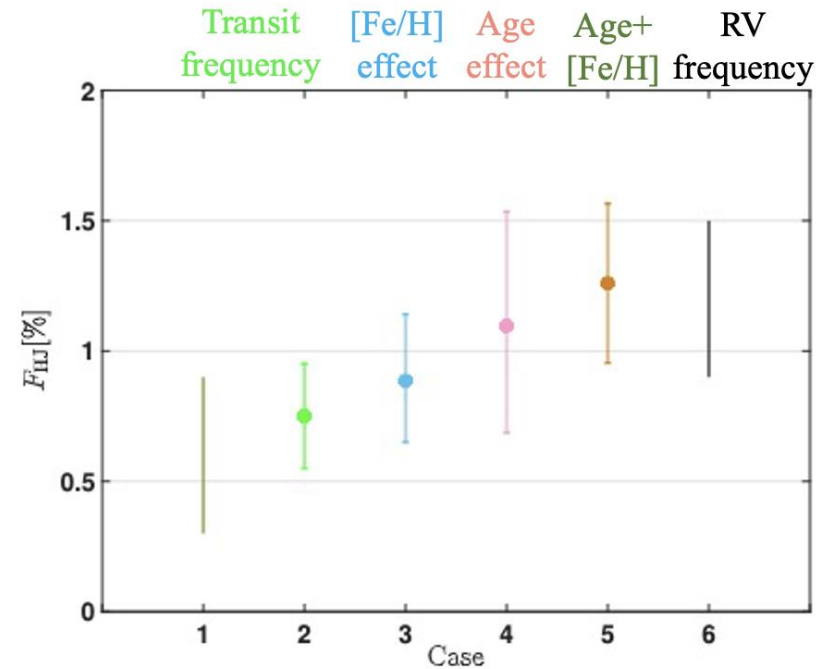
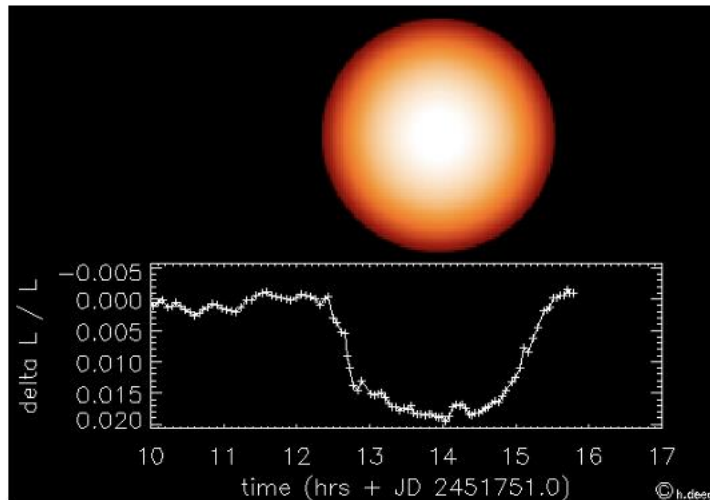
# Implications

**Mystery (3) : Why are the occurrence rates for HJ different?**

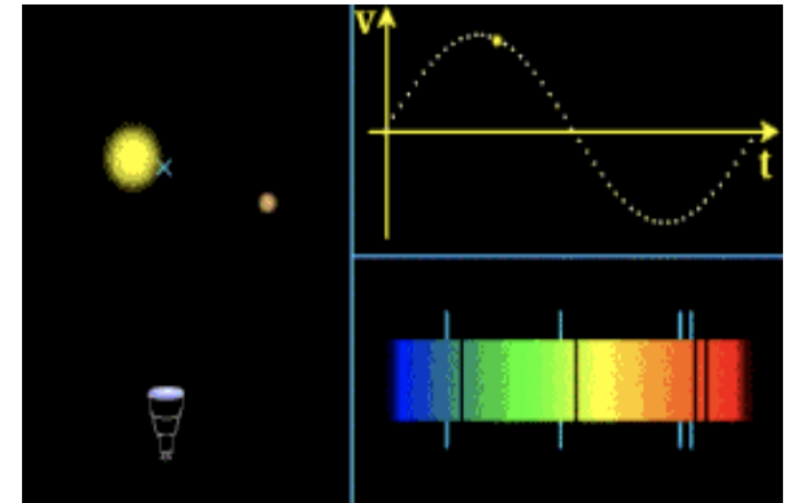
**Answer (3): Because the RV sample are metal richer and younger.**

PAST-5: Chen, Xie & Zhou et al. 2023 PNAS

**Transit :  $F_{HJ} \sim 0.5\%$**



**Radial Velocity :  $F_{HJ} \sim 1\%$**

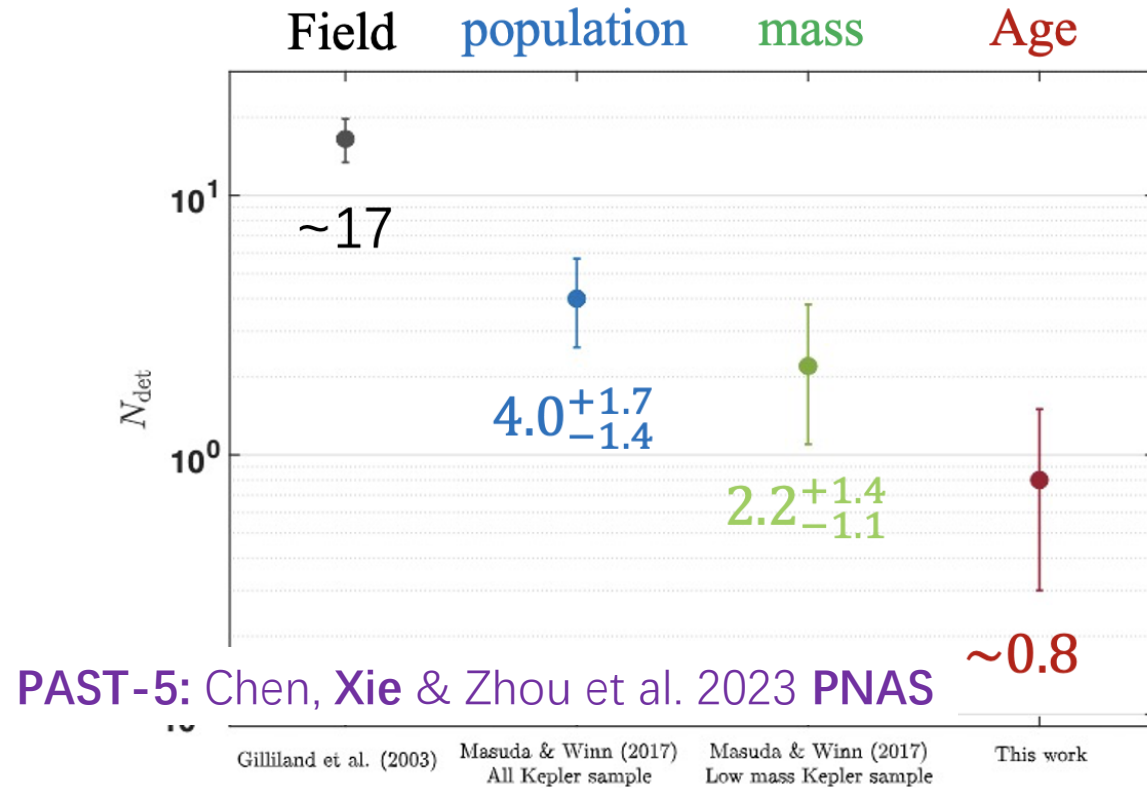


# Implications

**Mystery(4):** Zero detection of HJ in globular cluster ?

**Answer (4):** Because globular clusters are too old, and most hot Jupiters have already been engulfed.

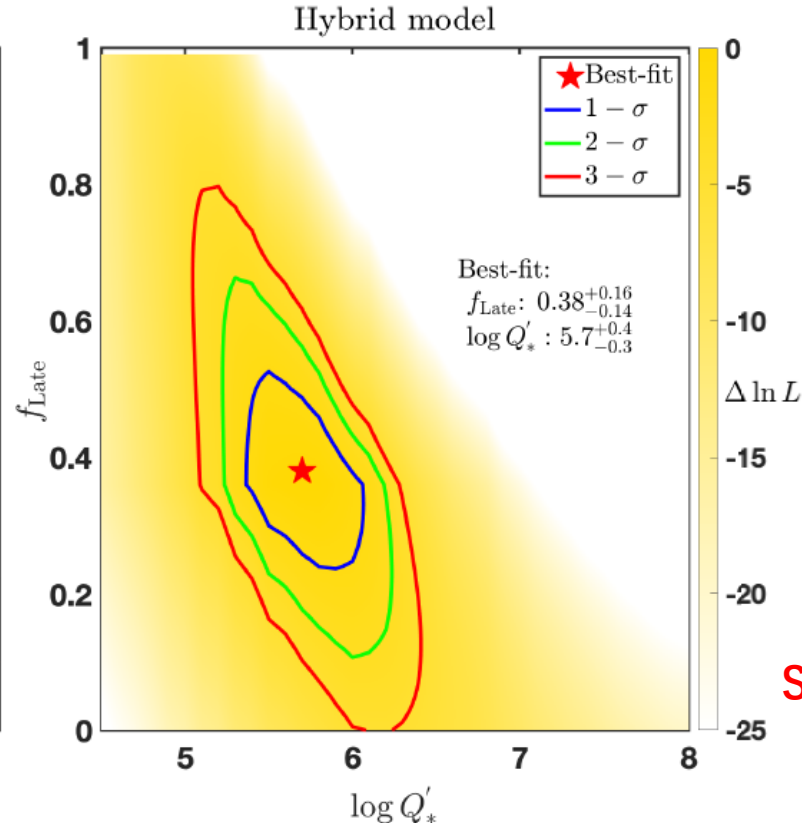
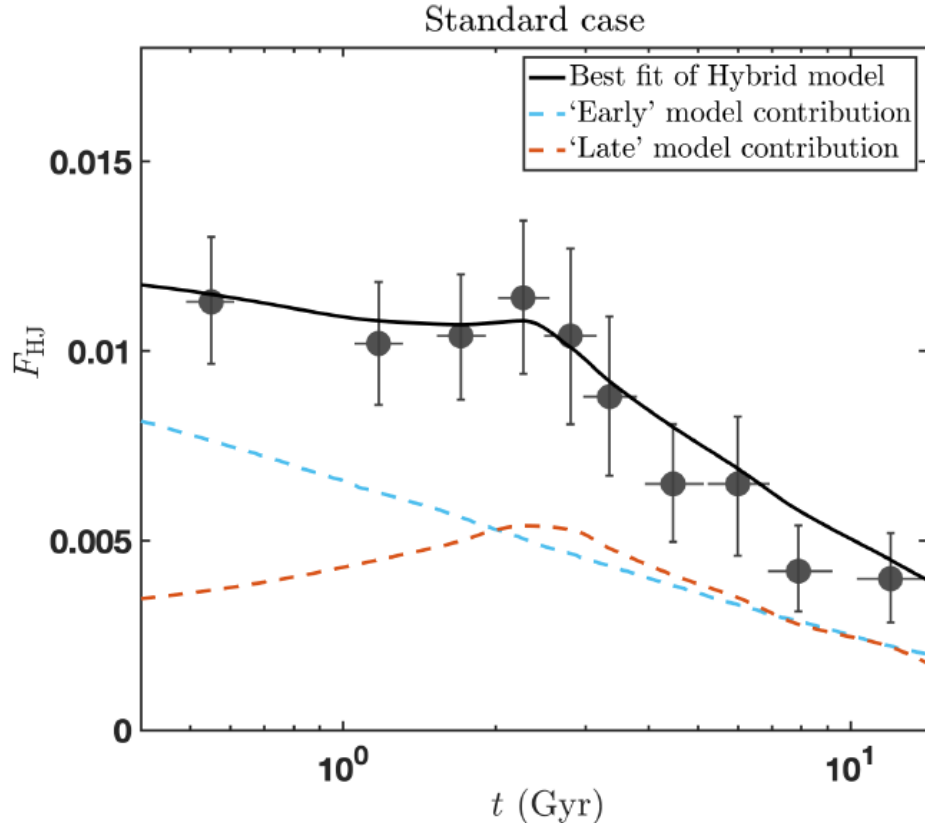
47 Tucanae : Globular cluster ,  
low [Fe/H] , low-mass, ~ 11.6 Gyr



# New Progress !

## Hot Jupiter Origin and Tidal Evolution Constrained by a Broken Age–Frequency Relation

**PAST-7:** Chen, **Xie\***, Zhou et al. 2025 **Nature Astronomy**, accepted

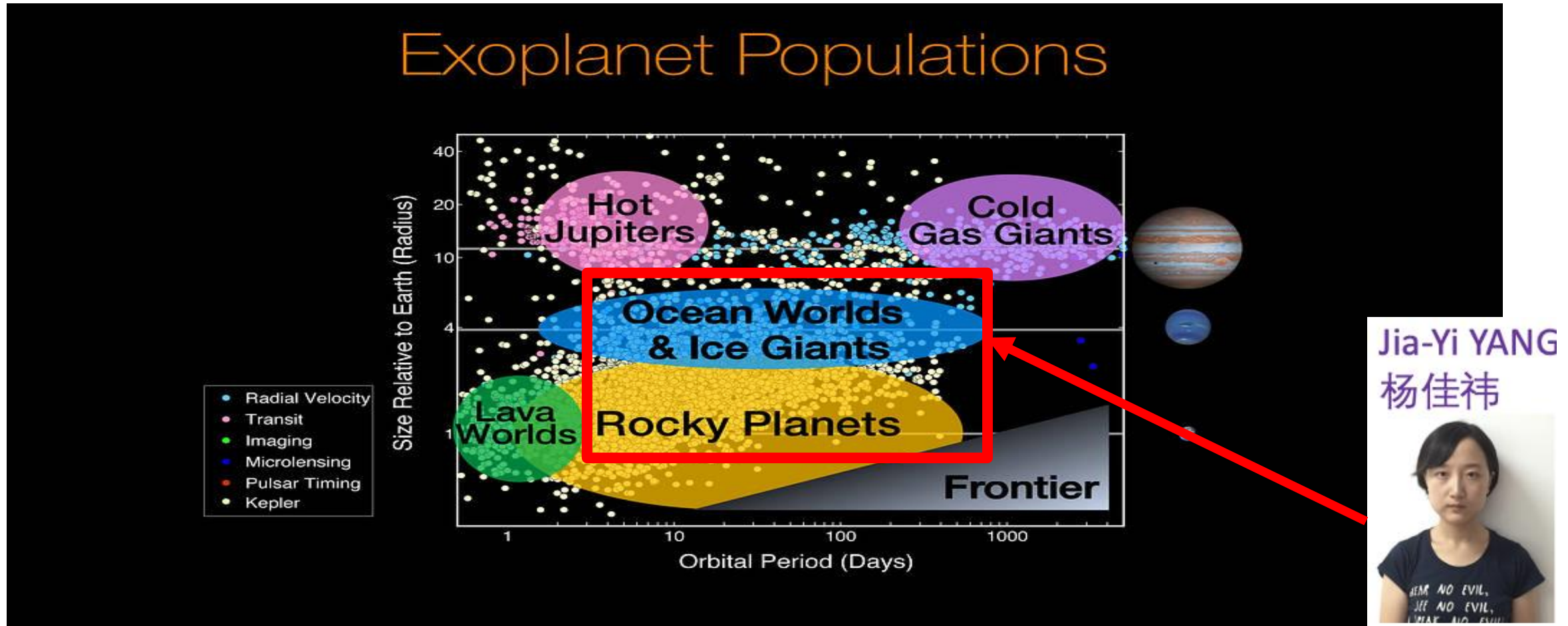


**Quick model: ~ 60%**  
Timescale within < 0.1 Gyr  
In-situ formation, disk migration  
planet scattering/Kozai-Lidov

**Slow model: ~40%**  
Timescale from ~0.1-10 Gyr  
Secular chaos in multiple systems

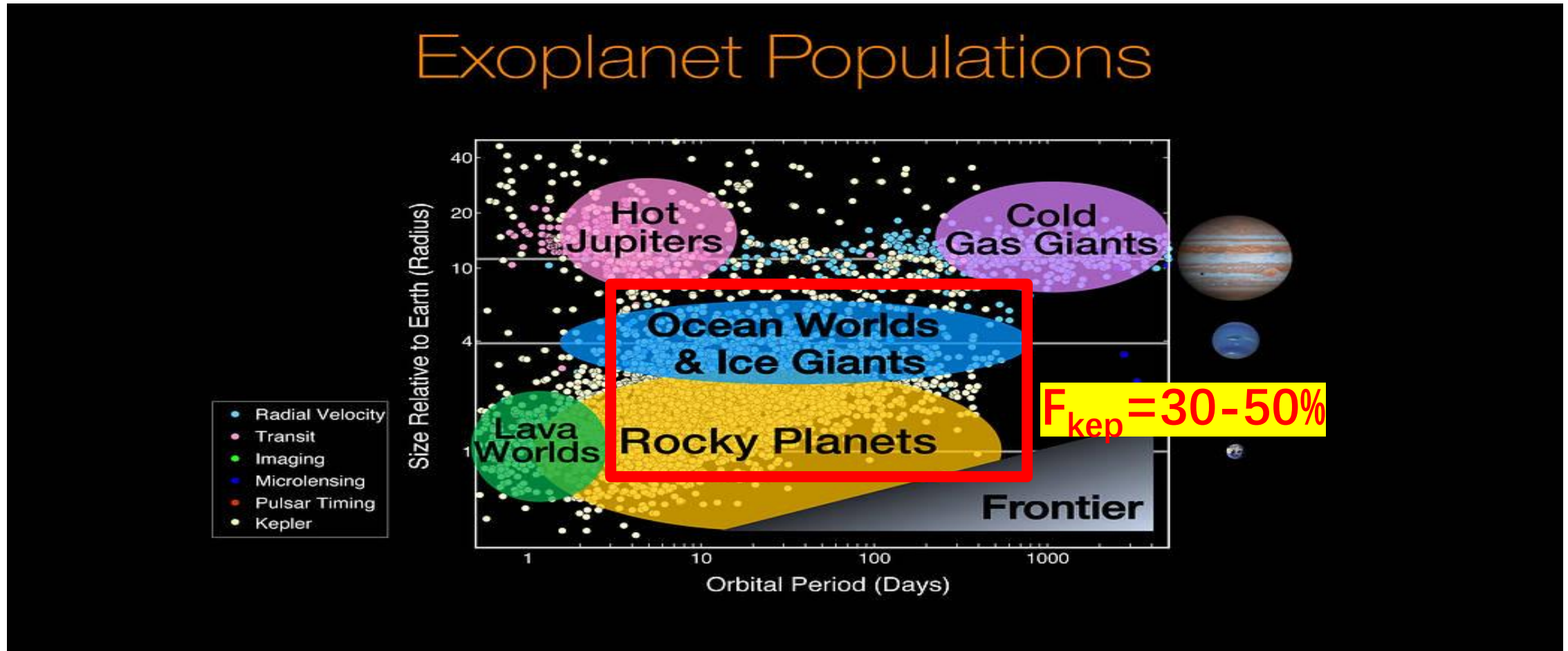
**Stellar tidal factor:  $\log Q'_* = 5.7^{+0.4}_{-0.3}$**

# Super-Earths / Sub-Neptunes





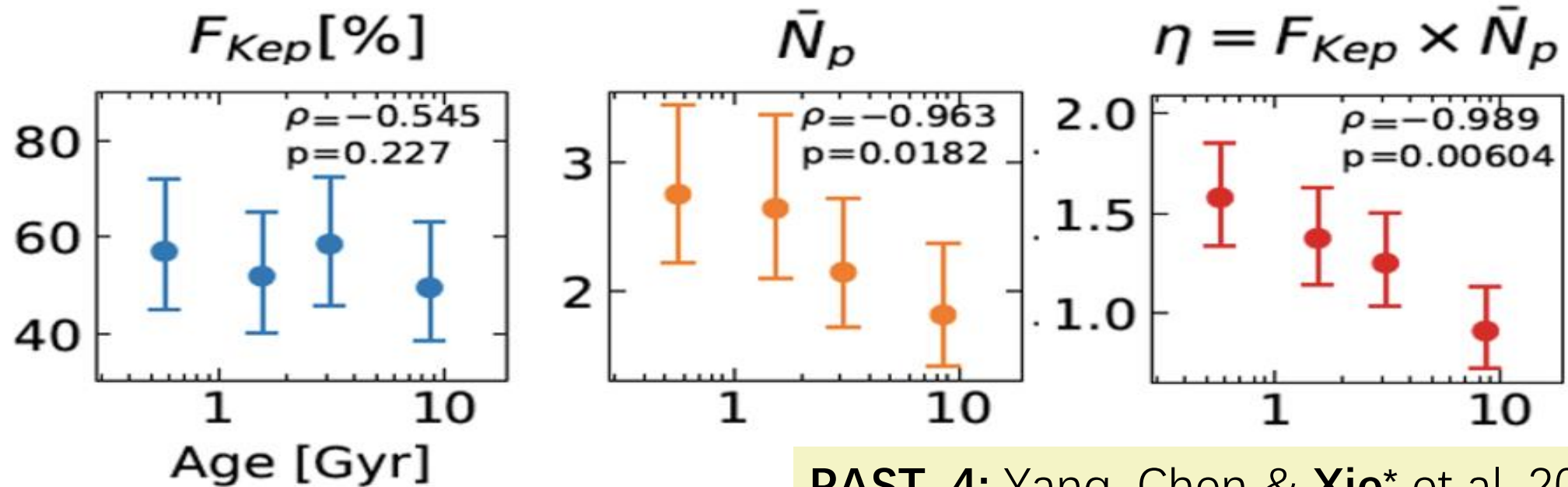
# Super-Earths / Sub-Neptunes



see review by Zhu & Dong 2021

# Age dependence of Occurrence and Architecture

Planet formation is robust and stable across the Galaxy history.



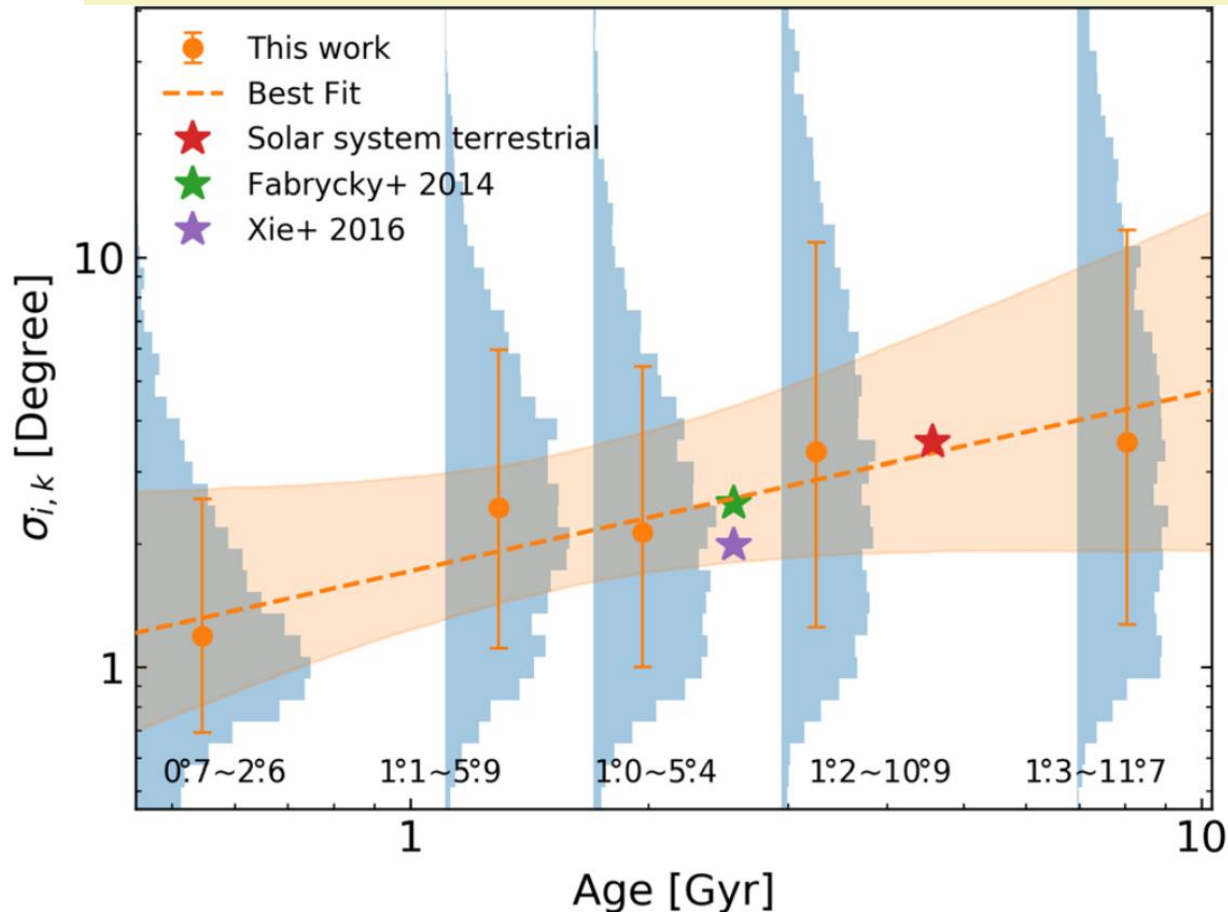
PAST-4: Yang, Chen & Xie\* et al. 2023 AJ

Fraction of stars with Kepler-like planets ( $F_{kep}$ ) is relatively stable around 50%.  
Average planet multiplicity ( $N_p$ ) decreases ( $\sim 2\sigma$  significance) with age.  
Number of planets per star ( $\eta$ ) decreases ( $\sim 3\sigma$  significance) with age.

# Age dependence of Occurrence and Architecture

Orbital inclination dispersion ( $\sigma_{i,k}$ ) generally increases with age.

**PAST-4:** Yang, Chen & Xie\* et al. 2023 **AJ**



Inference



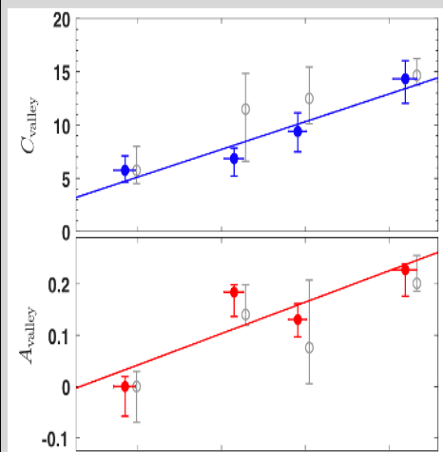
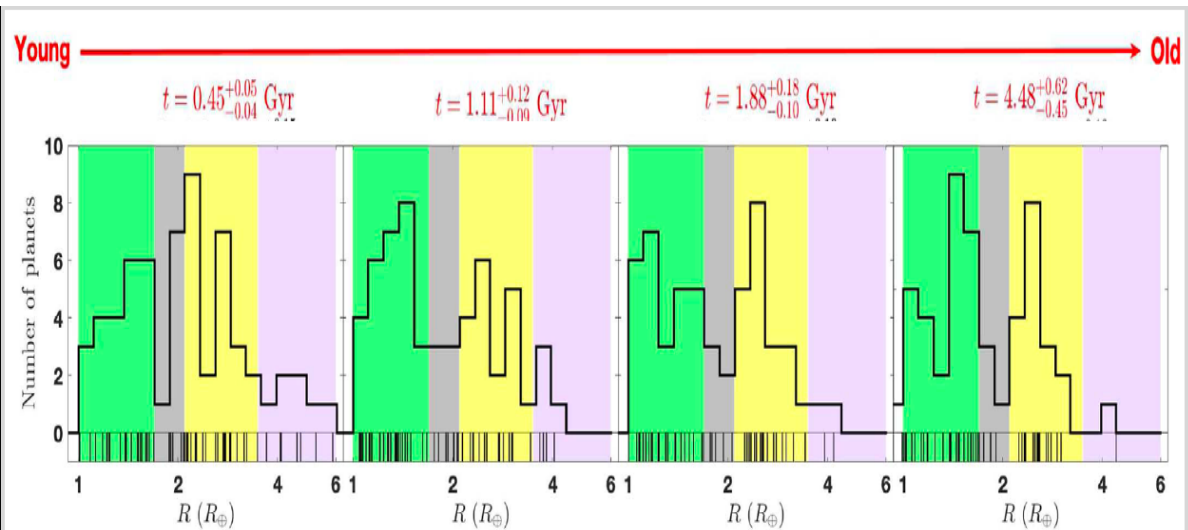
Early Solar System:  
more coplanar?  
more planets ?

**e.g., The Planet V model**

(Chambers & Lissauer 02;  
Chambers 07; Brasser & Morbidelli)

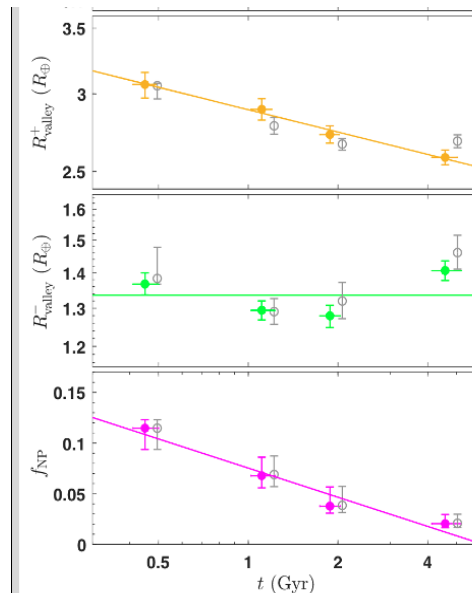
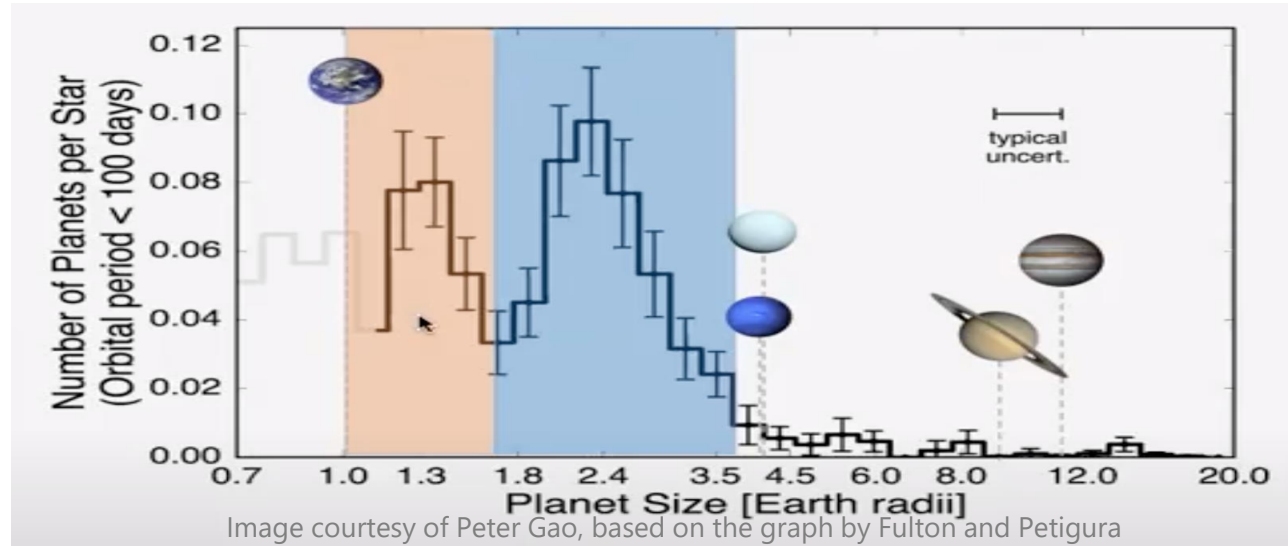
# The “Radius Valley” is Evolving

PAST-3: Chen, Xie\* et al. 2022 AJ



The radius valley emerged before 1 Gyr and the contrast ( $C_{\text{valley}}$ , number ratio of super-Earths plus sub-Neptunes to the valley planets) increase with time.

The asymmetry ( $A_{\text{valley}}$ , the number ratio in logarithm of super-Earths to sub-Neptunes) increase with time.



The  $R_{\text{valley}}^+$  (average radius of planets with size larger than Valley planets) Decrease with time.  
(sub-Neptunes are shrinking! Due to cooling?)

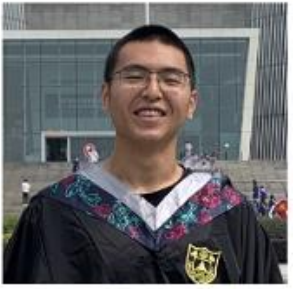
The  $R_{\text{valley}}^-$  (average radius of planets with size smaller than Valley planets. i.e., super-Earths) does not change significantly.

Fraction of Neptune sized planets ( $f_{\text{NP}}$ ) decreases with time.



# Ultra Short Period (USP) Planets

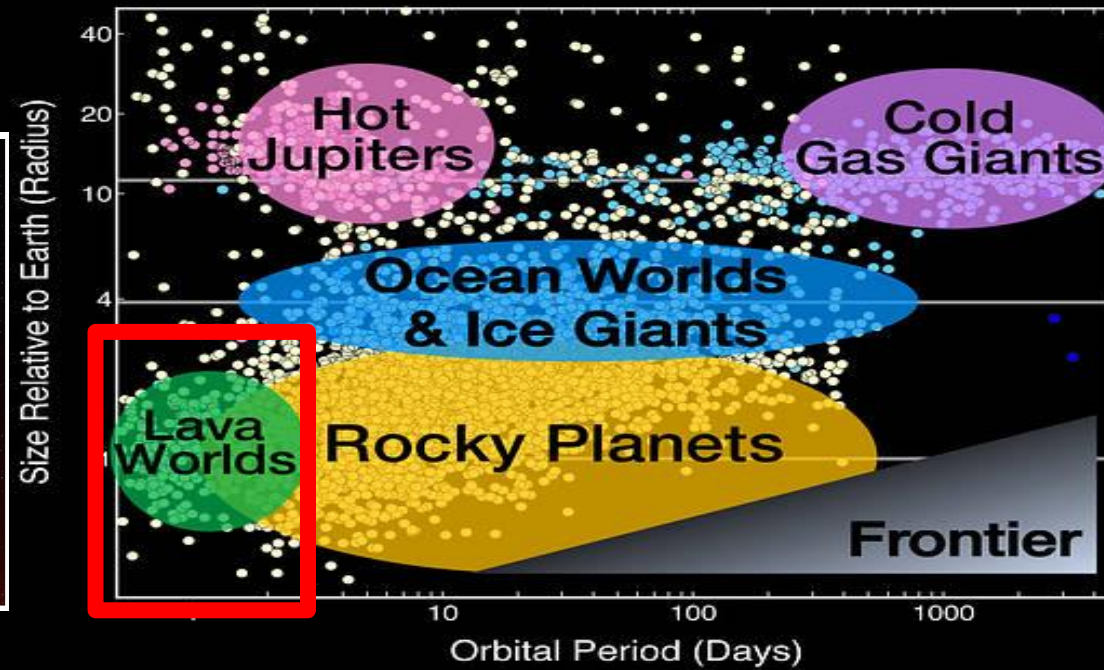
Pei-Wei TU  
涂培玮



Artist's impression of COROT-7b, an USP planet, image via ESO



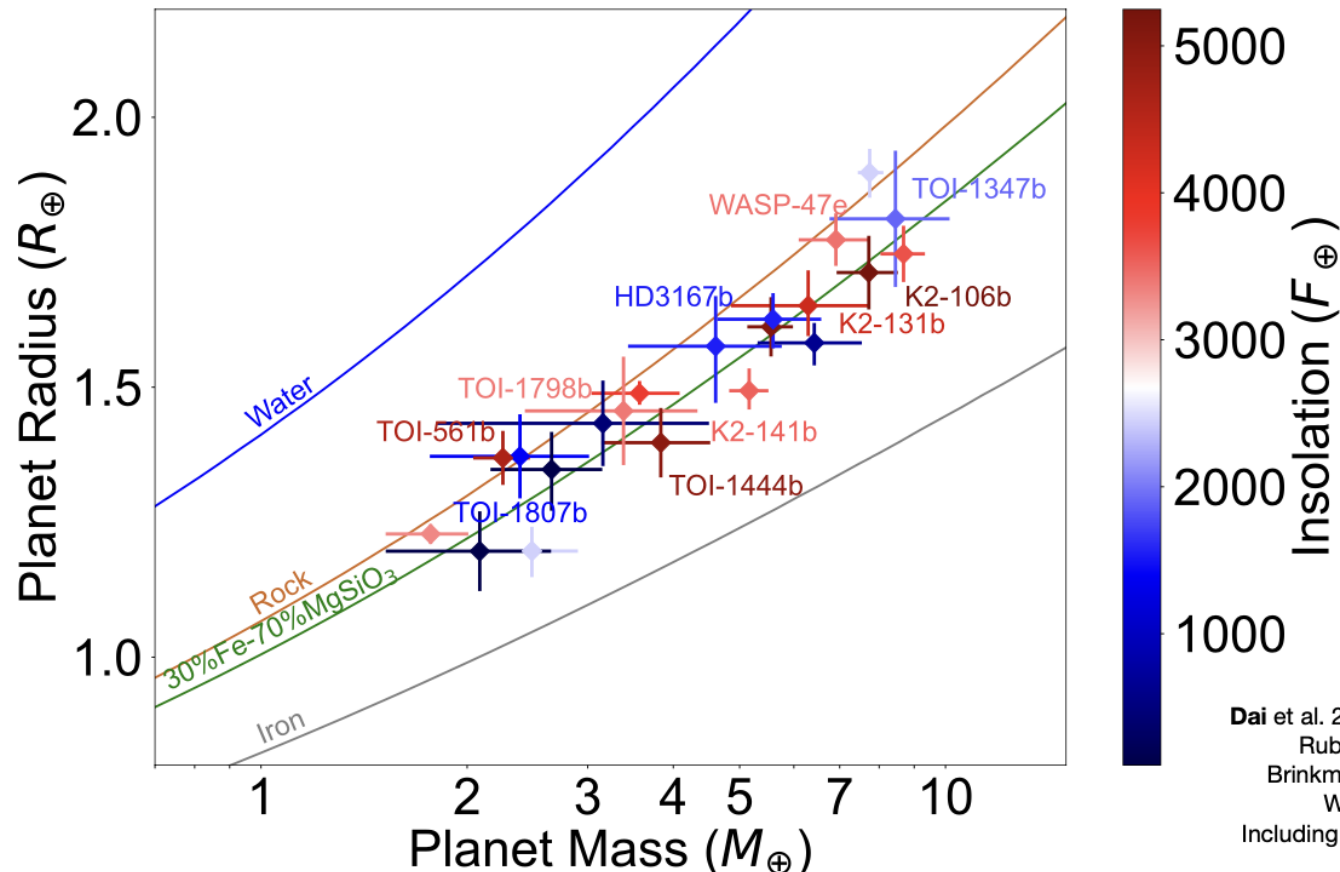
## Exoplanet Populations



# Ultra Short Period (USP) Planets

- Earth-sized or super-Earth planets with orbital period **< 1 day**.
- Occurs around  **$0.51 \pm 0.07\%$**  of Sun-like stars Winn et al. 2018
- $T_{\text{eq}} = 1000\text{K}-2000\text{K}$  — Lava worlds!

A population-wide  $0.32 \pm 0.04$  CMF



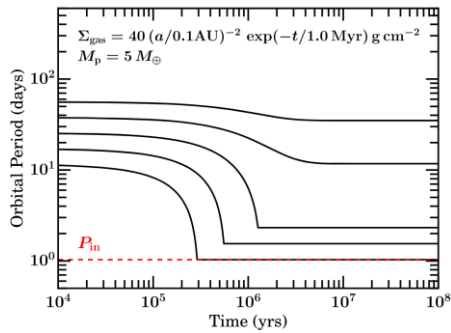
They are rocky!

Dai et al. 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021  
Rubenzahl, Dai et al. 2023  
Brinkman, Weiss, Dai et al. 2022  
Weiss, Dai et al. 2021  
Including Murphy, Scarsdale, Batalha

# Migration forms USP planets

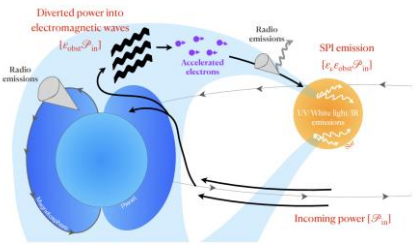
Arrival time at the USP's orbit

$\ll \sim 1$  Gyr



disk migration

Becker et al. 2021, Lee & Chiang 2017

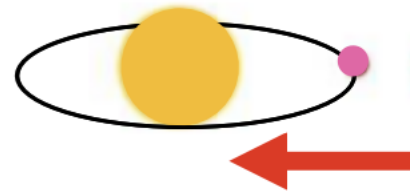


magnetic effects

Strugarek et al. 2017, 2025  
Colle et al. 2025 Lee & Owen 2025

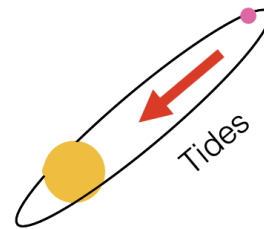
See also Eve J. Lee and Douglas Lin's talk on April 23

Myrs to Gyrs, depend on initial conditions



stellar tides

Schlaufman et al. 2010, Lee & Chiang 2017



planetary eccentricity tides

Petrovich et al 2019, Pu & Lai 2019

Eccentric, Inclined Orbit

planetary obliquity tides

Millholland & Spalding 2020

**USP planets' origins remain enigmatic**

# Evolution of USP Occurrence Rate and Architecture

nature astronomy

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Article | Published: 28 April 2025

## Age dependence of the occurrence and architecture of ultra-short-period planet systems

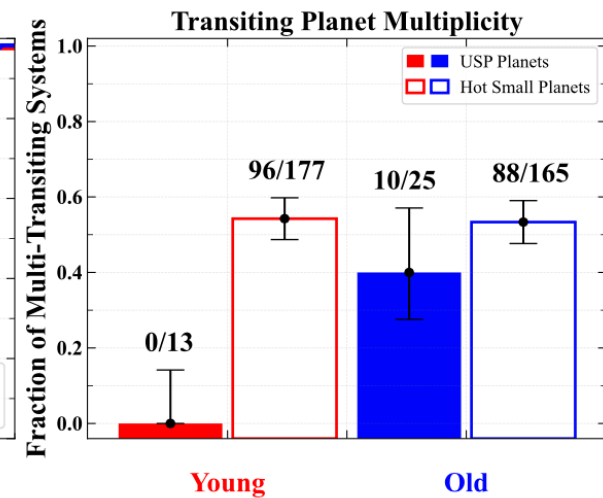
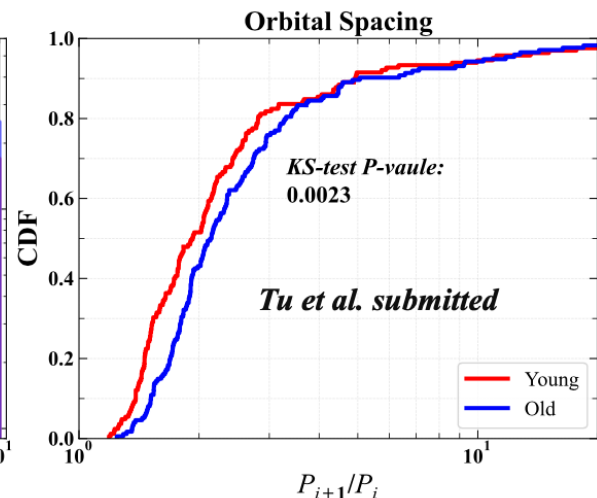
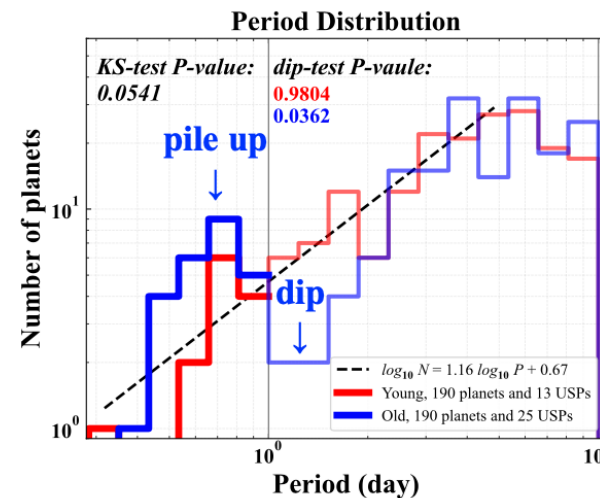
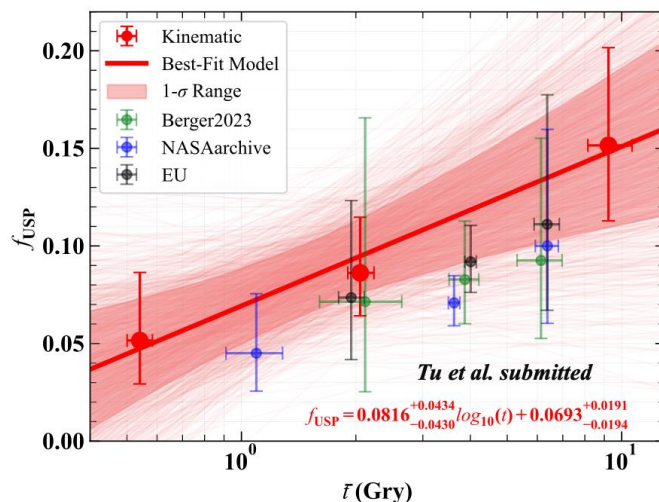
Pei-Wei Tu, Ji-Wei Xie✉, Di-Chang Chen & Ji-Lin Zhou

PAST-6: Tu, Xie\*, et al. 2025 Nature Astronomy

USP migration formation spans billions of years, formation rate increases over time.

Early-formed ( $\lesssim 1$  Gyr) USPs have larger orbital inclinations => violent formation process.

Late-formed ( $\gtrsim 1$  Gyr) USPs have smaller orbital inclinations => quiet formation process.





# Outline

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## 1. Research Background

Importance and Important Progresses of Planetary Statistics

## 2. Exoplanet Statistical Research Based on LAMOST

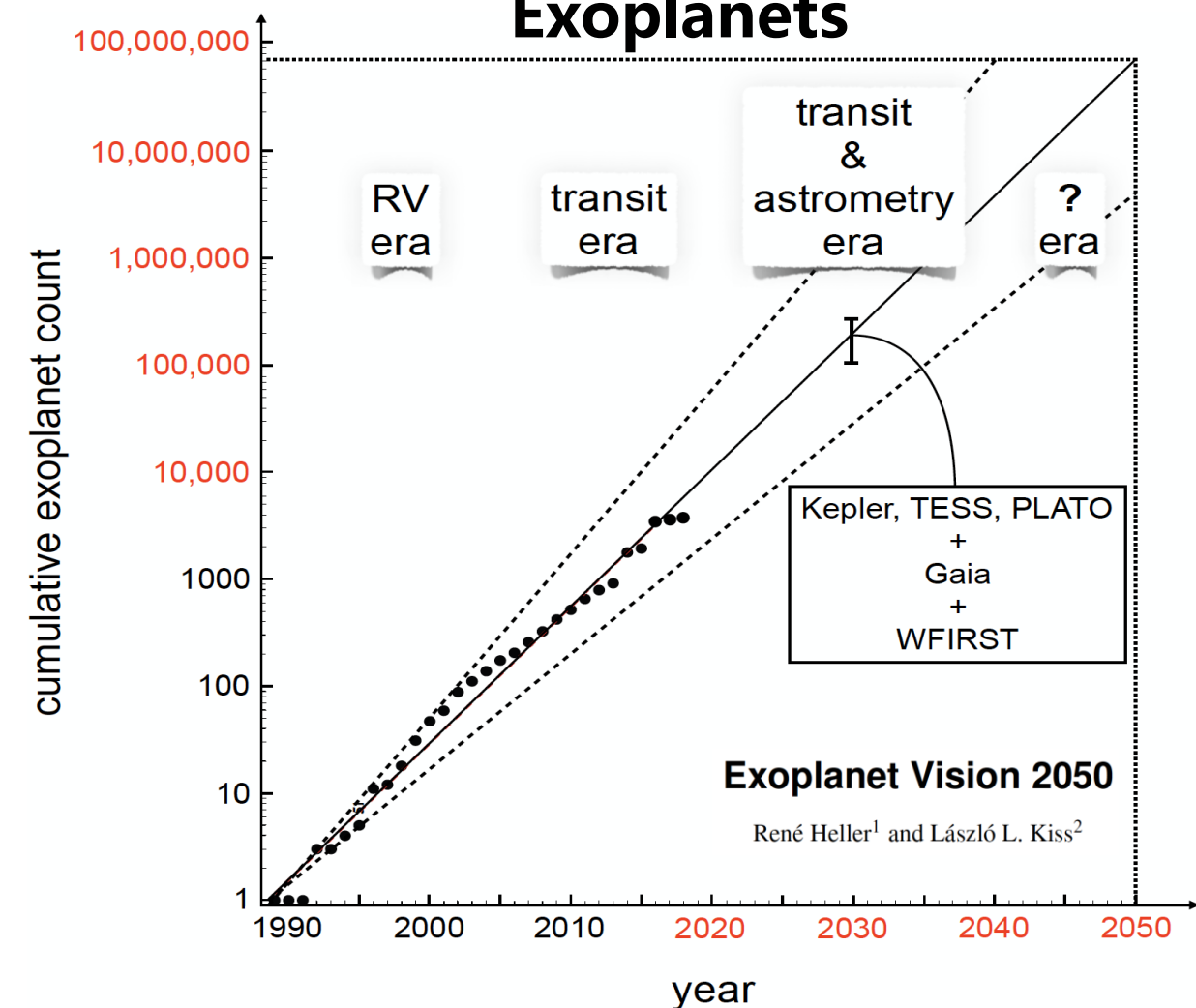
Research highlight of the “PAST” (穿越) Series

## 3. Prospects and Summary

# Bright Future of Exoplanet Statistics

太阳系外行星系统

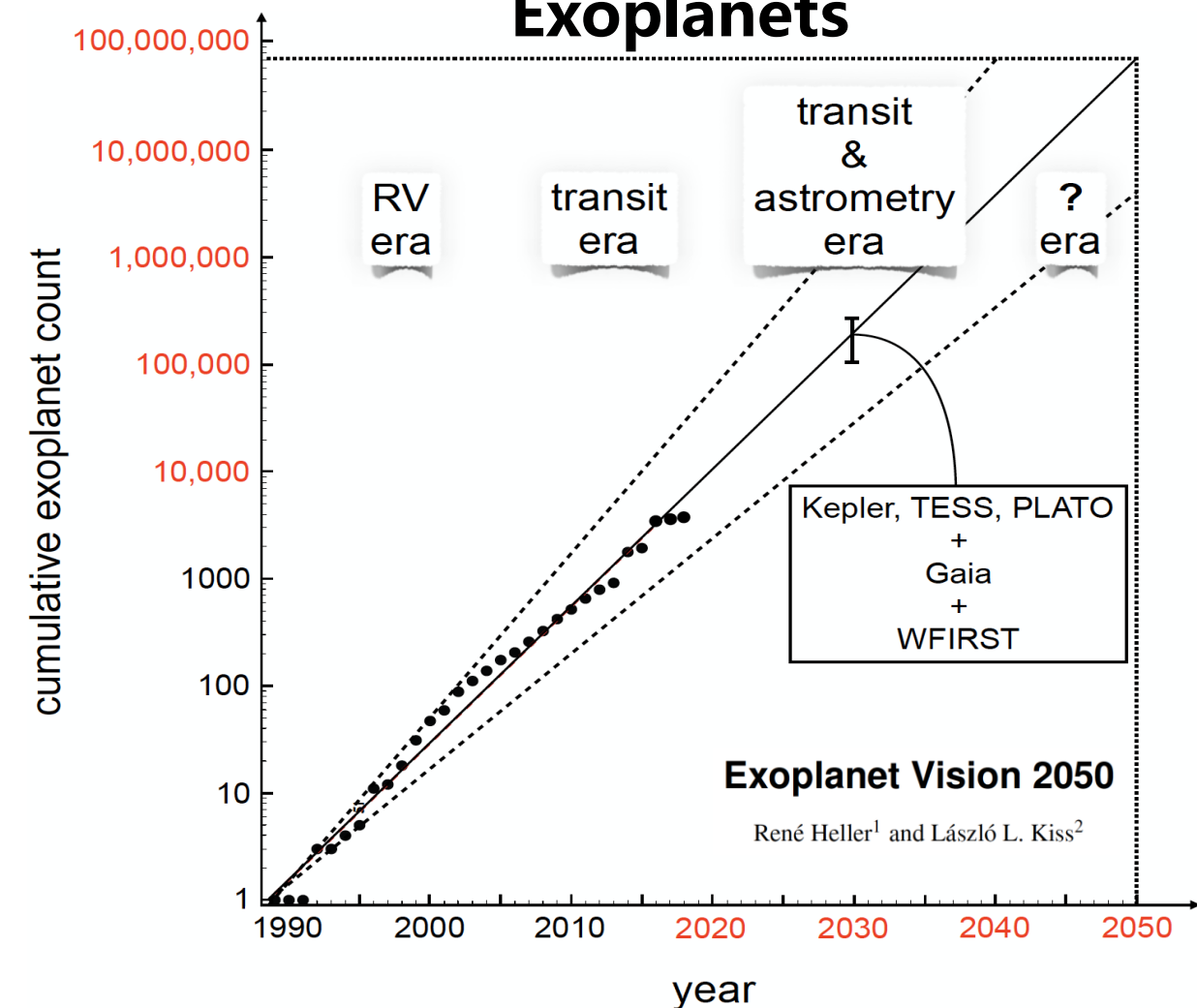
**Exoplanets**



# Exoplanets vs. Galaxies

太阳系外行星系统

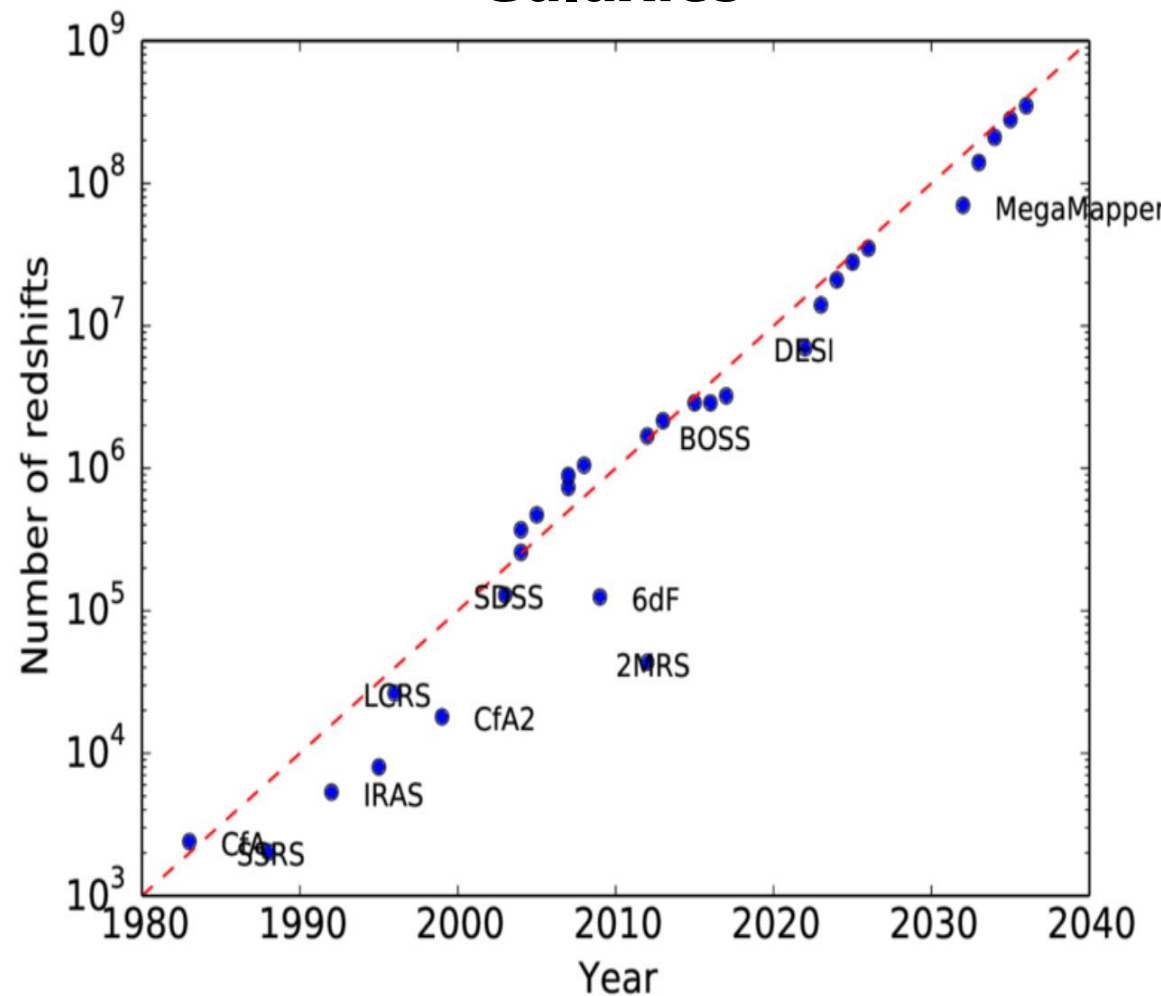
**Exoplanets**



VS

银河系外恒星系统

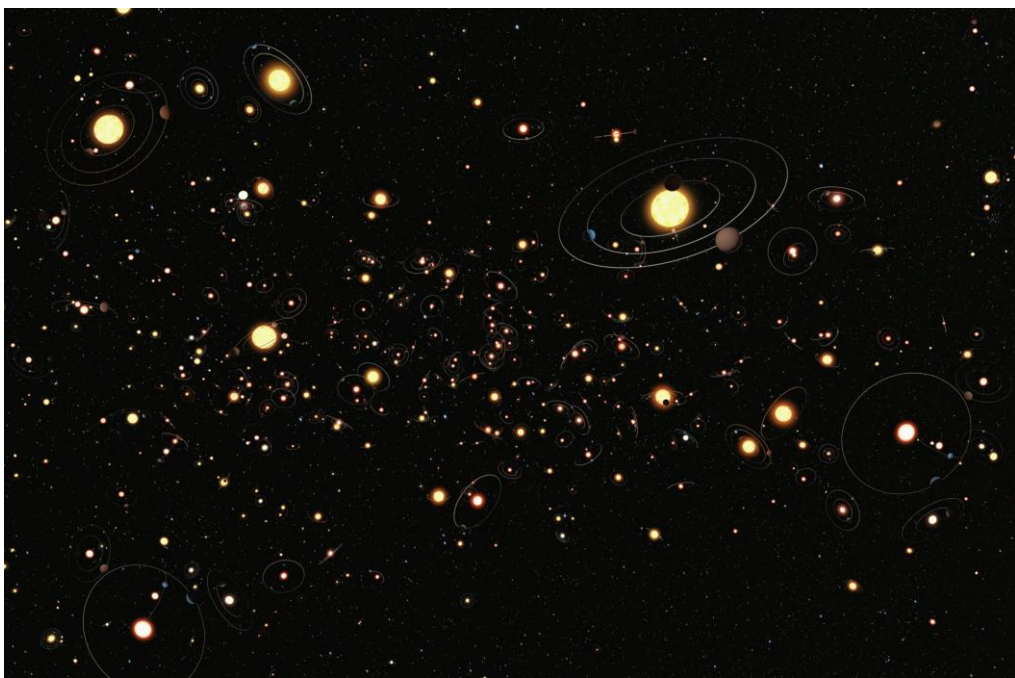
**Galaxies**



# Lessons from the extragalactic astronomy

## 太阳系外行星系统 Exoplanets

See the **future of the exoplanet** field



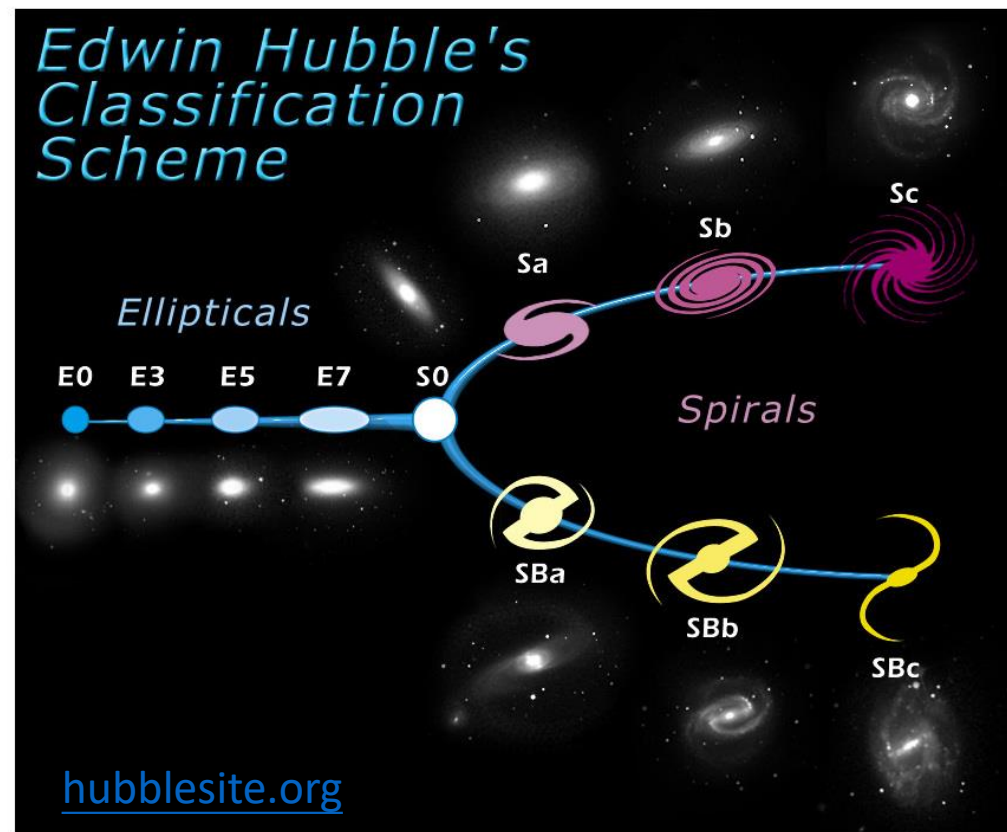
How to classify exoplanets **with AI**

VS



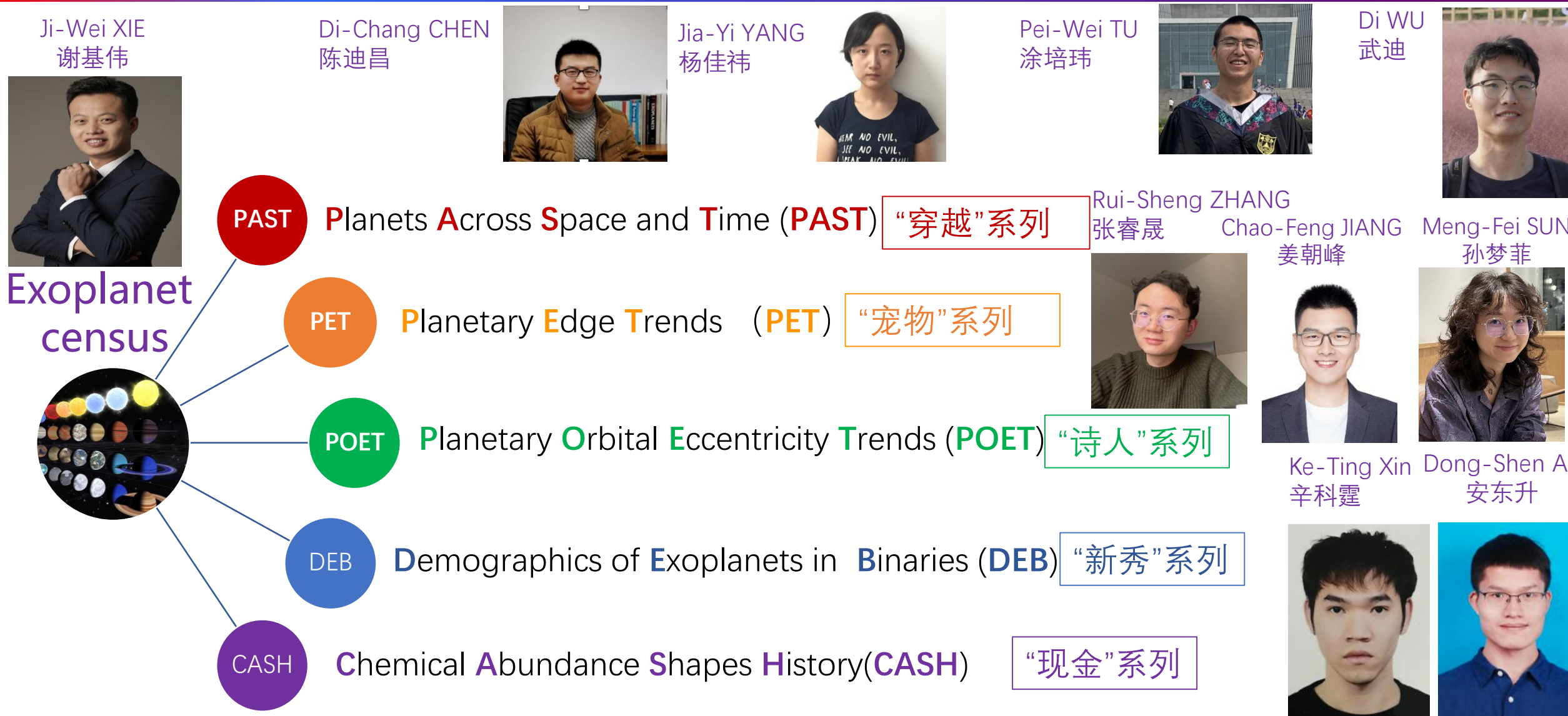
## 银河系外恒星系统 Galaxies

the **past of the galaxy** field





# Future Plans and Layout: NJU Exoplanet Census Team



# Summary

- The Future for **Exoplanet Census** is bright.  
系外行星普查统计前途光明
- Large scale **star survey** (**LAMOST**) is **essential** for planet census.  
大型恒星巡天 (如LAMOST) 是非常必要的
- **Time (or Age)** is an important dimension to explore → **observational planet evolution.**  
时间 (年龄) 维度方面的探索是关键 → 直接揭示行星演化