

# THE VOLUME-LIMITED A-STAR (VAST) SURVEY

## BINARIES WITH A-TYPE PRIMARIES

A COMPARISON BETWEEN DYNAMICAL MASSES AND THEORETICAL MODELS

Robert De Rosa

HIP87836 near the Galactic Centre  
Observed as a part of the VAST survey

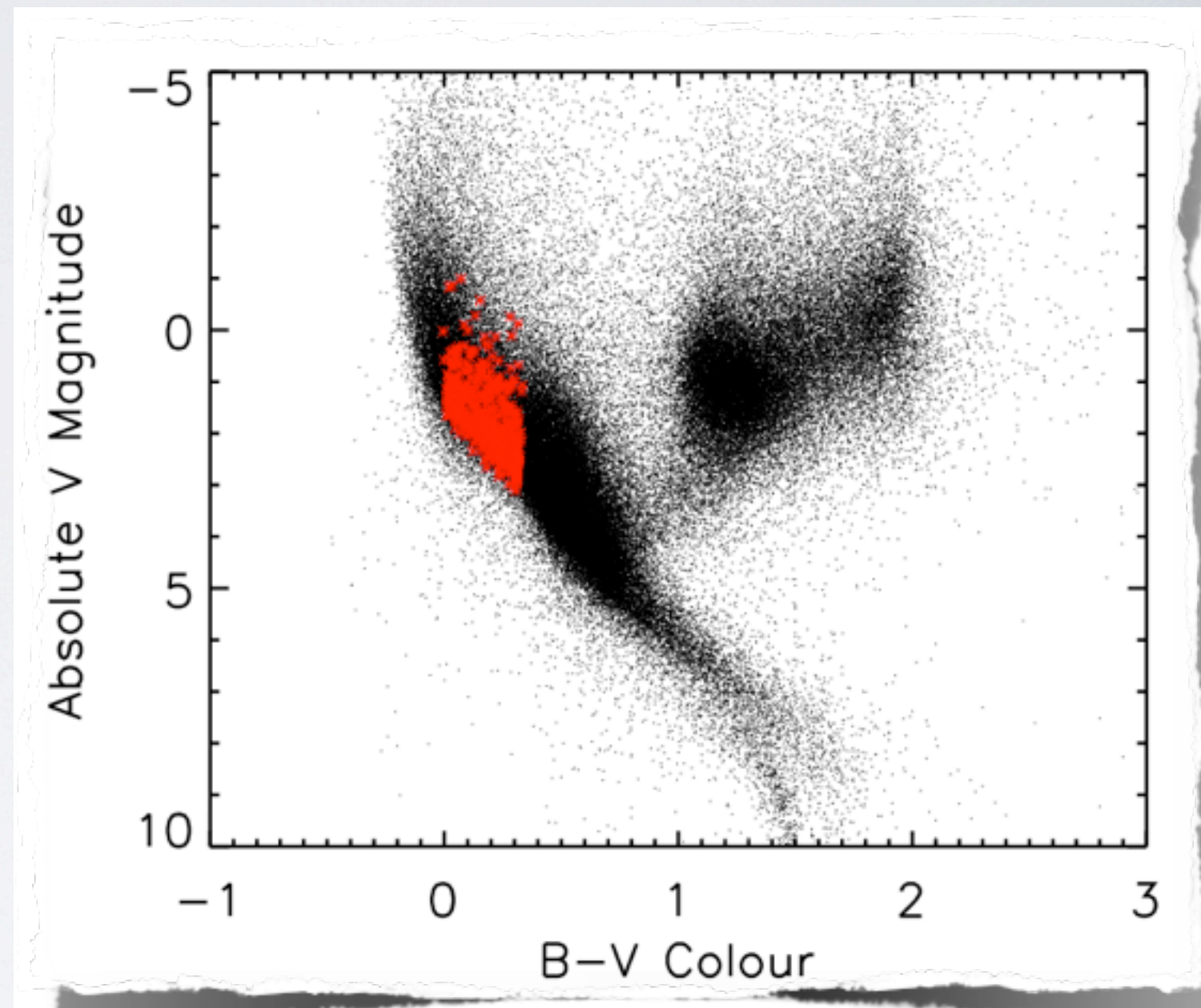
Advisor - Prof. Jenny Patience

Cols - J. Bulger, A. Vigan, P. Wilson, B. Macintosh, A. Schneider, I. Song,  
C. Marois, N. McConnell, J. R. Graham, M. Bessell, R. Doyon,



# THE VAST SURVEY

- Adaptive-optics survey of 500 A-type stars within 75pc
- Will provide first constraints on multiplicity within 10-1000s of AU.
- Comparable to studies of Solar-type stars (Duquennoy & Mayor, Raghavan et al.) and M-dwarfs (Fischer & Marcy)

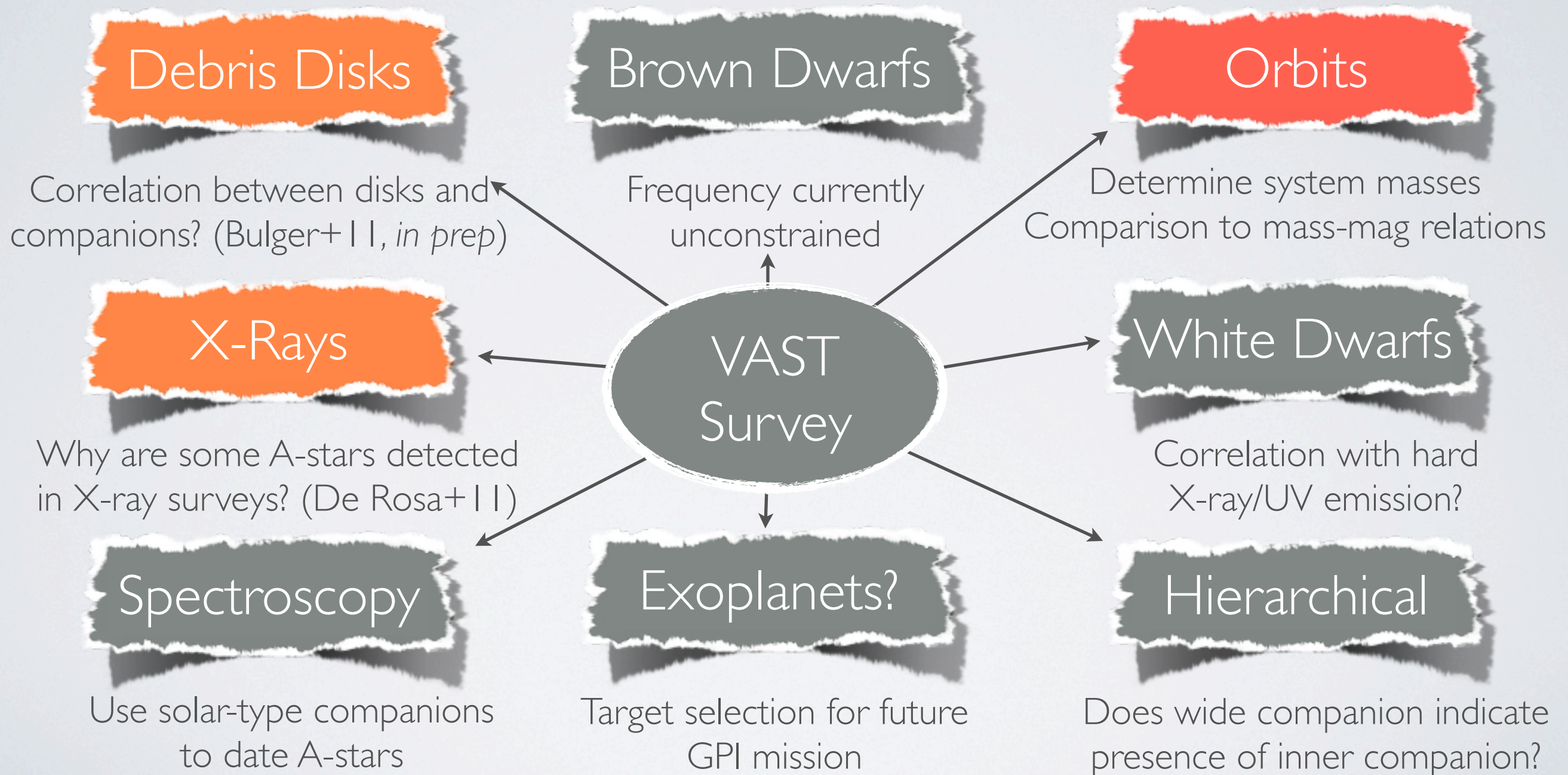


The Hipparcos catalogue (ESA 1997)



# WHAT CAN WE DO?

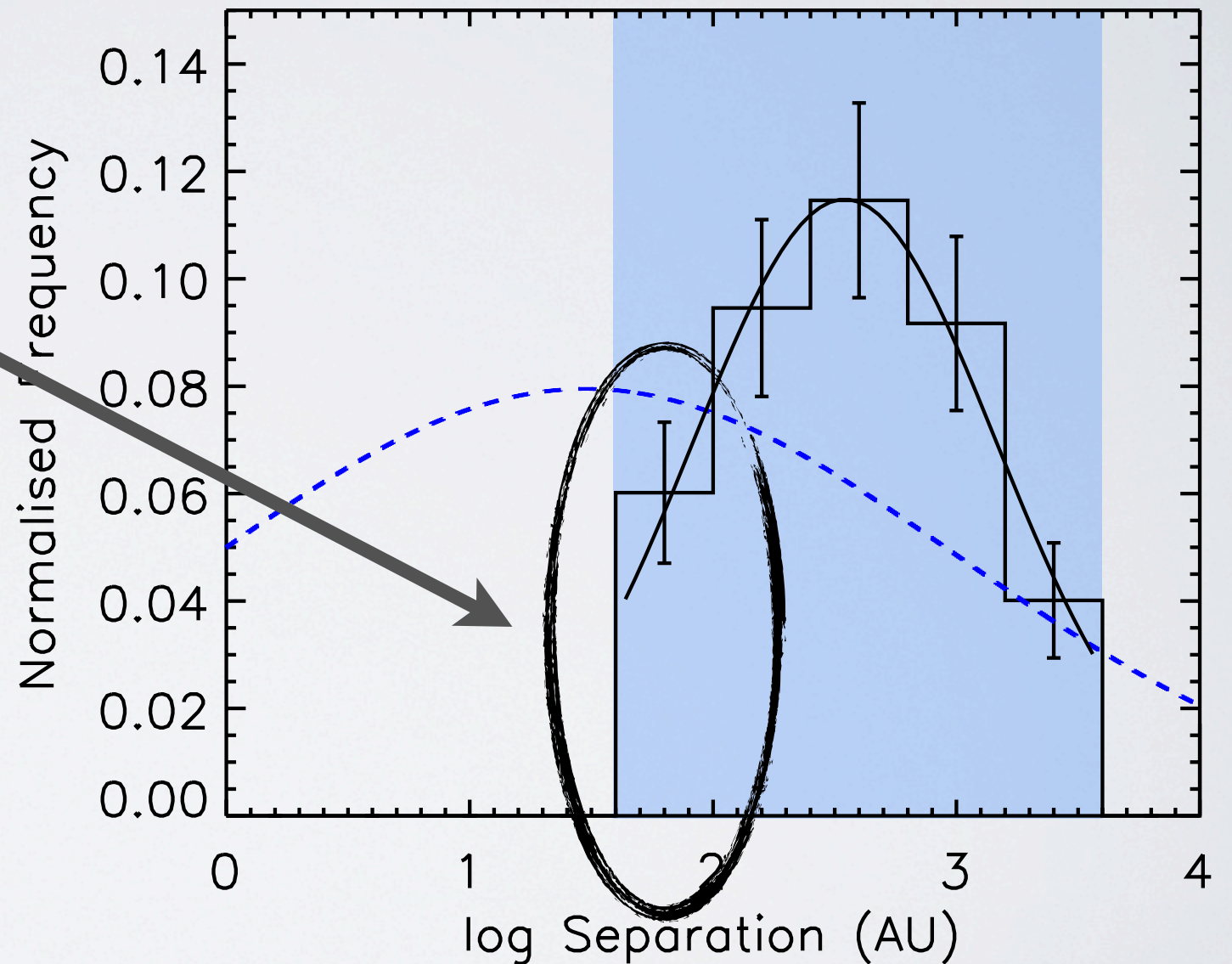
We have a large dataset which can be used to investigate numerous topics





# SUB-100AU BINARIES

- Focus in on one bin of the separation distribution.
- Orbits short enough to be resolved within reasonable baseline.
- All 26 systems used, 13 with sufficient measurements to estimate the orbital parameters.



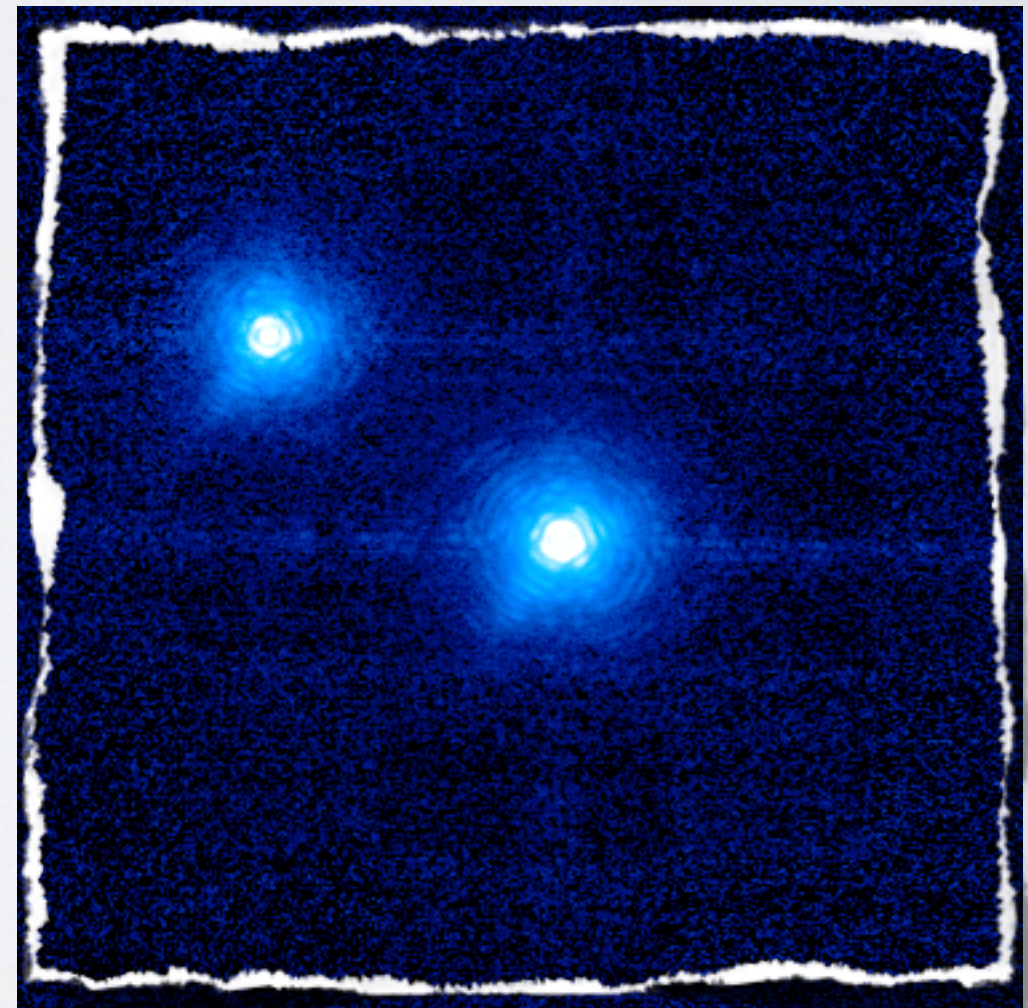


# SUB-100AU BINARIES

- Combining with historical measurements (WDS - Mason et al. 2001) allows for an estimate of the orbital parameters and dynamical system mass

Our primary motivations:

- Refinement of orbital parameters
- Comparison with theoretical mass-mag relations - can we provide benchmark for the models?
- Lower-limit of the higher-order multiplicity of A-type stars (companions within  $\sim 100\text{AU}$ ).





# ORBIT DETERMINATION

- Can determine companion position  $(x_i, y_i)$  within orbit plane based solely on the period  $(P)$ , eccentricity  $(e)$ , time of periastron passage  $(T_0)$  and the epoch of observation  $(t_i)$ .

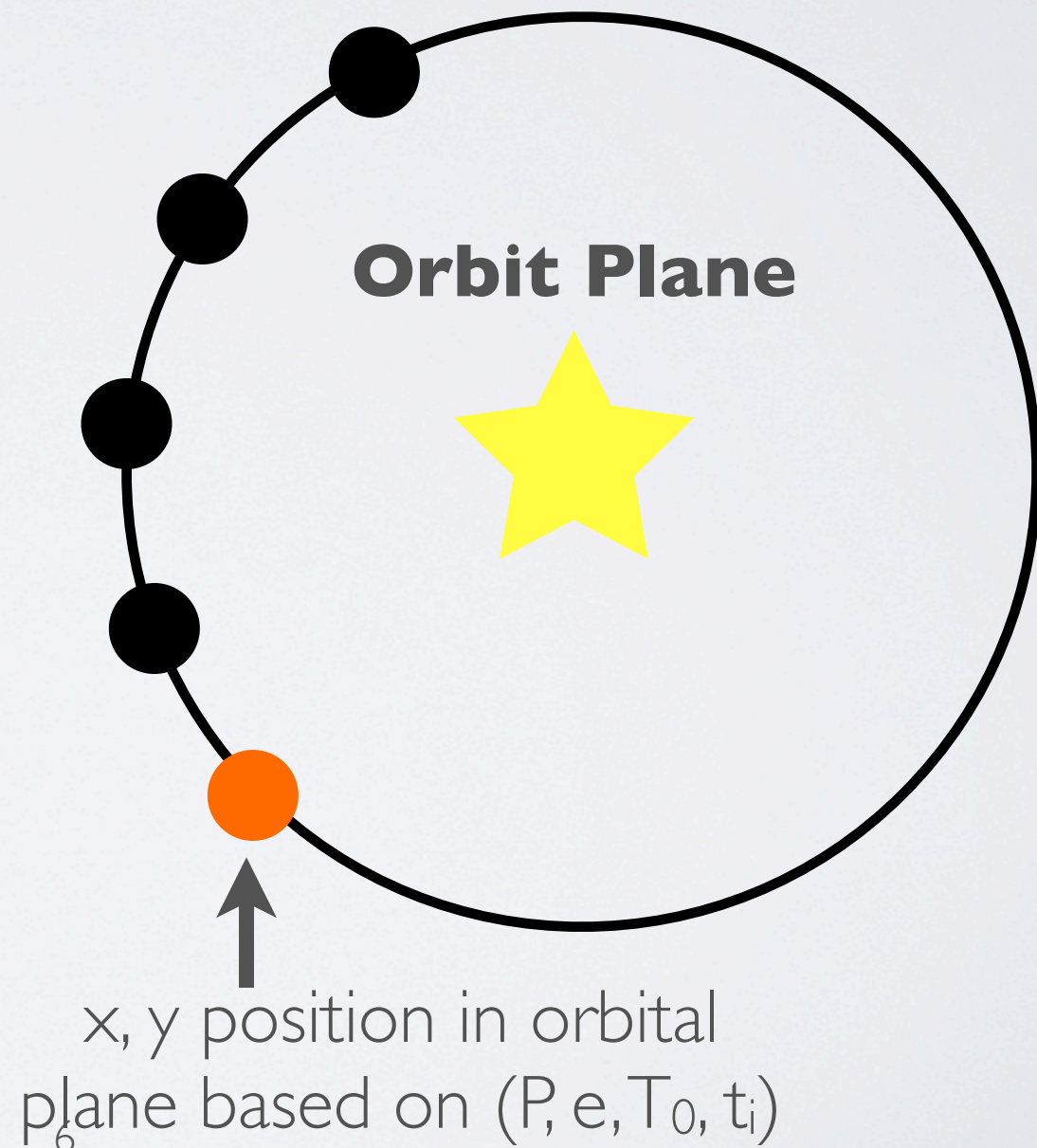
$$x_i = \cos E - e$$

$$y_i = \sqrt{1 - e^2} \sin E$$

$$x'_i = Bx_i + Gy_i$$

$$y'_i = Ax_i + Fy_i$$

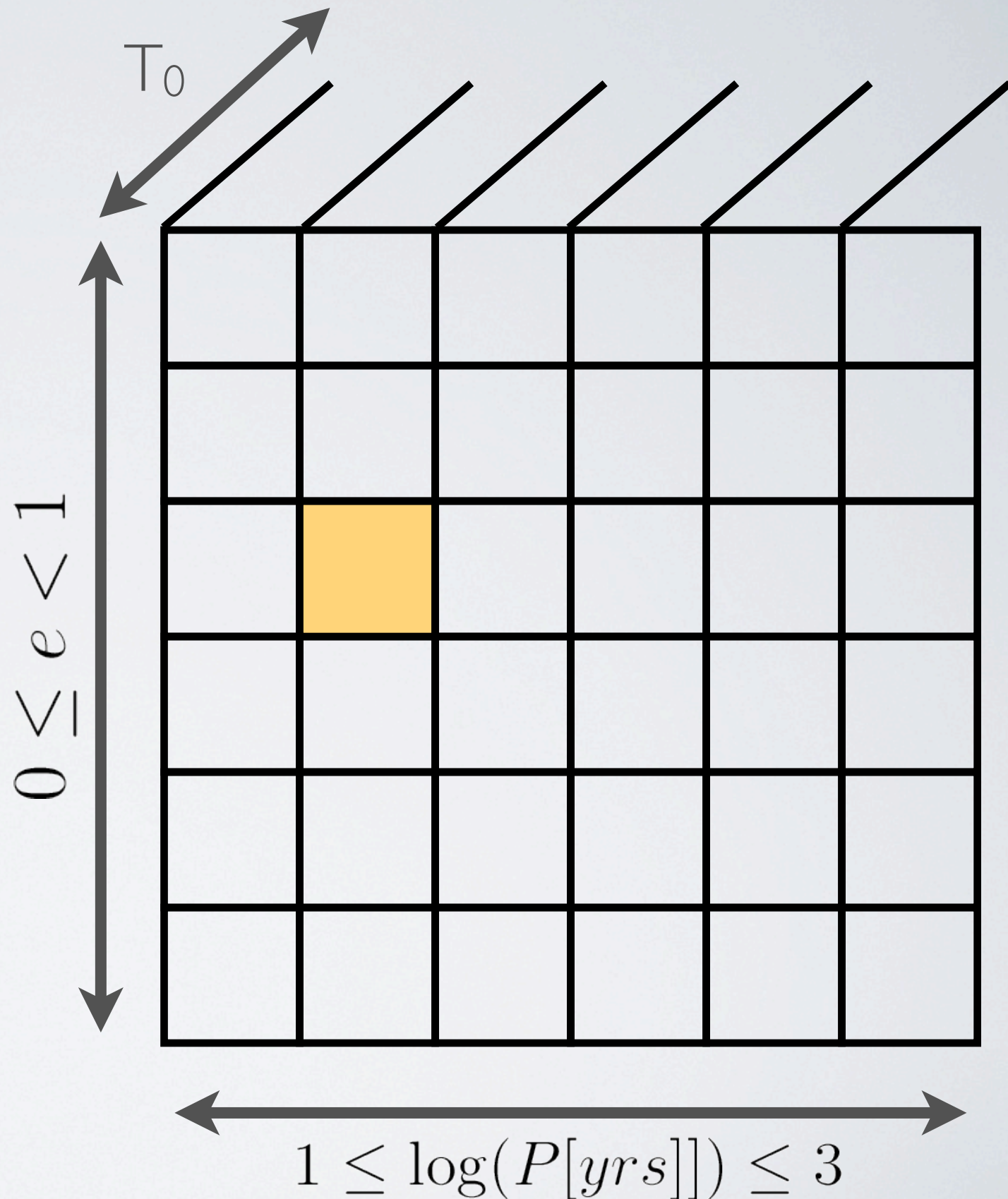
Corresponding position within  
observed tangent plane





# ORBIT DETERMINATION

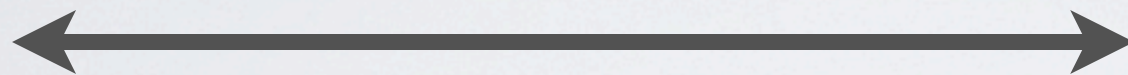
- Our implementation of method presented by Kohler et al. 2008 and Hilditch 2001
- Reduces problem from 7D to 3D
- Set up a 2D grid of  $P$  and  $e$  with sensible ranges.
- For each  $(P, e)$  position, a range of  $T_0$  values will be tested





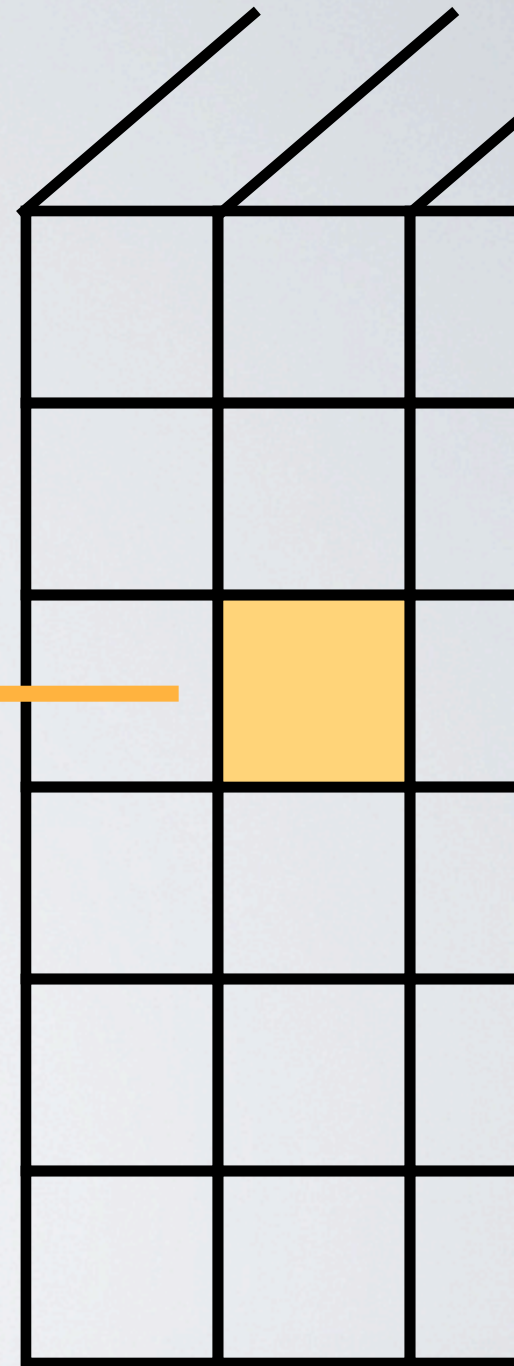
# ORBIT DETERMINATION

$$\left(2000 - \frac{P}{2}\right) \leq T_0 \leq \left(2000 + \frac{P}{2}\right)$$



|      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1950 | 1970 | 1990 | 2010 | 2030 | 2050 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|

$P = 100 \text{ yr}$   
 $e = 0.6$

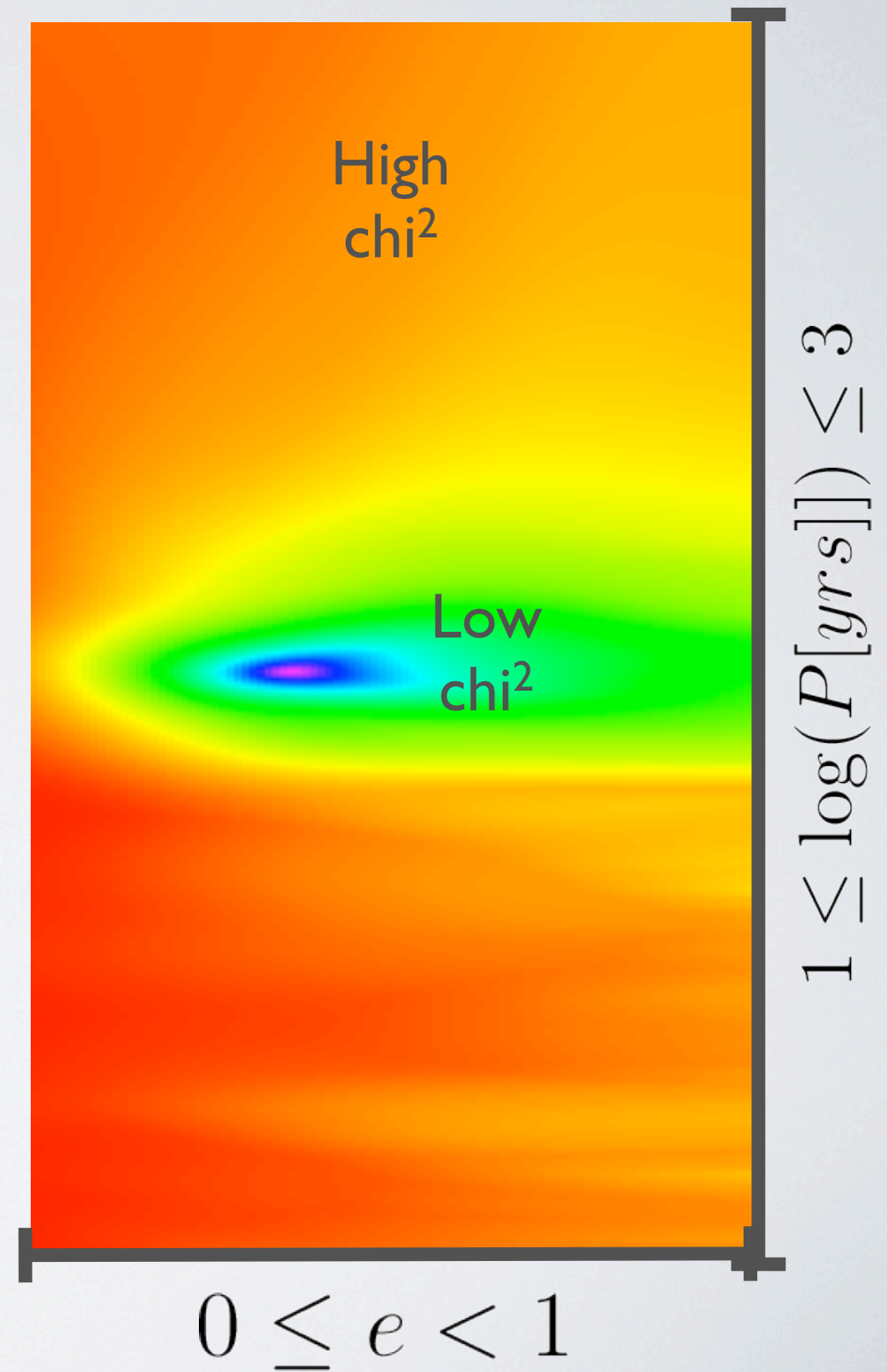
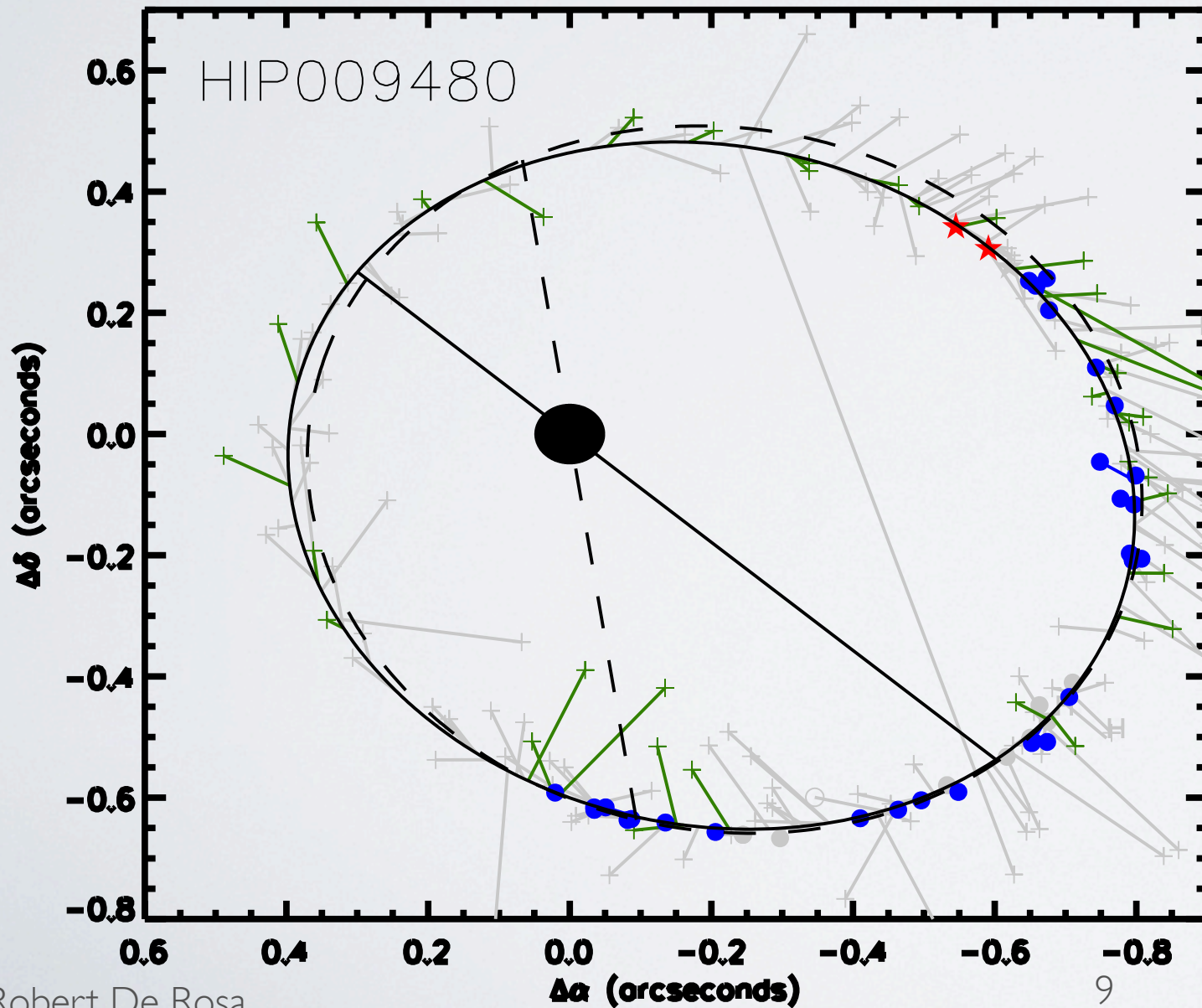


- Companion positions calculated for each position within the  $(P, e, T_0)$  grid through a least-squares fit to the Thiele-Innes elements  $(A, B, F, G)$
- For each  $(P, e)$  grid point, find  $T_0$  which minimises the  $\chi^2$  statistic through iterative method.



# ORBIT DETERMINATION

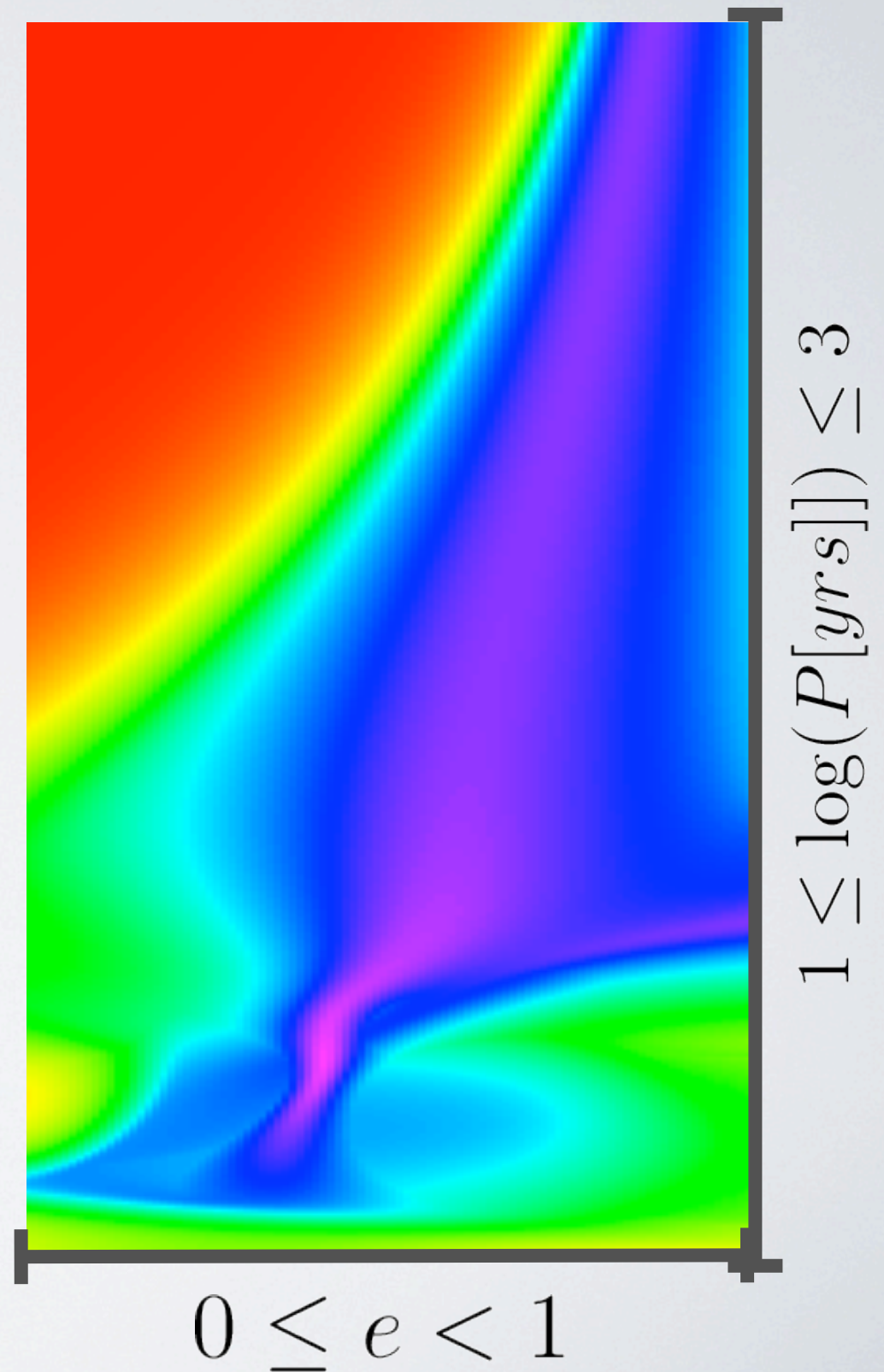
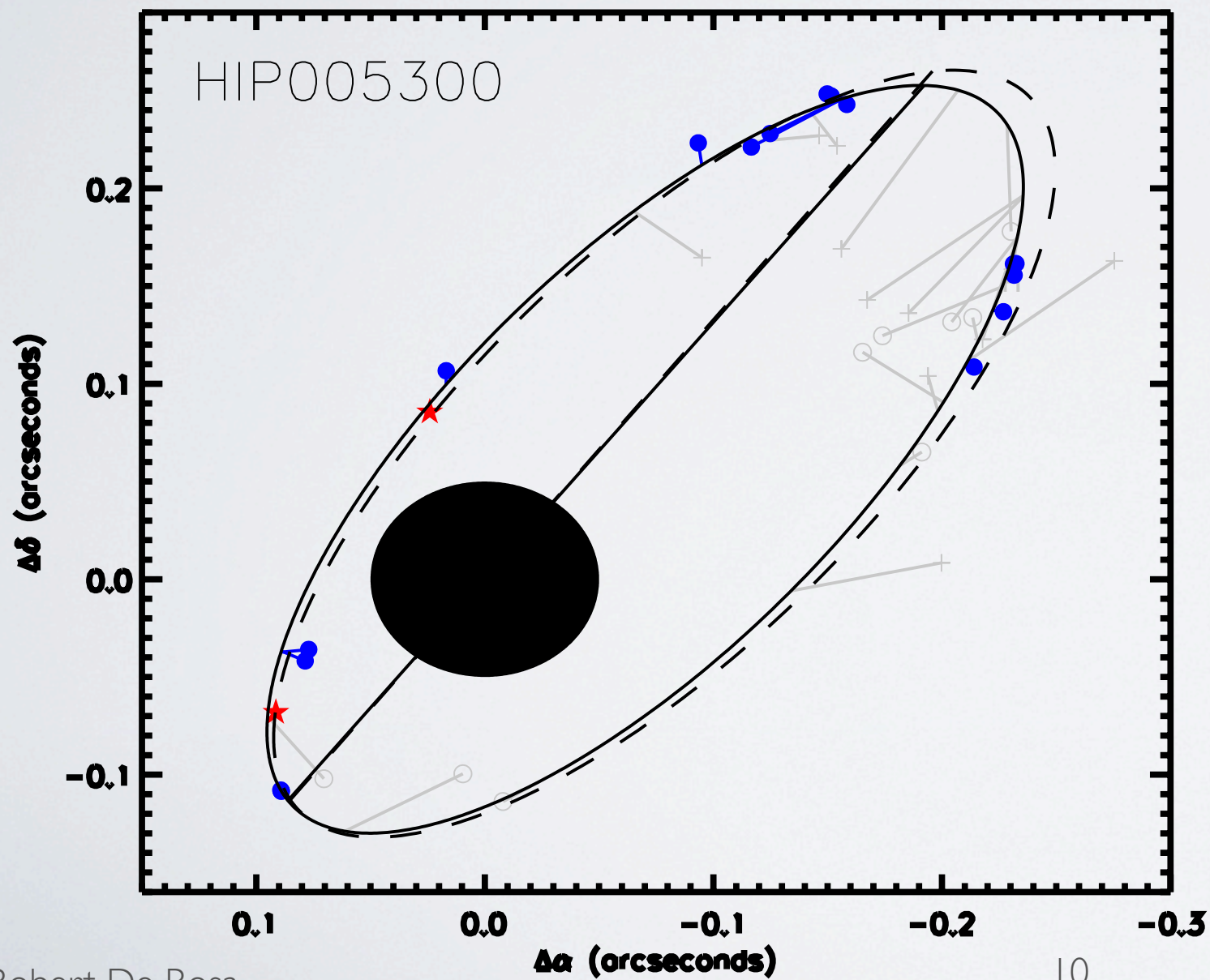
- Example of minimum  $\chi^2$  distribution
- Period and eccentricity well constrained





# ORBIT DETERMINATION

- Not true for all systems...
- Need to ensure *global* minima reached



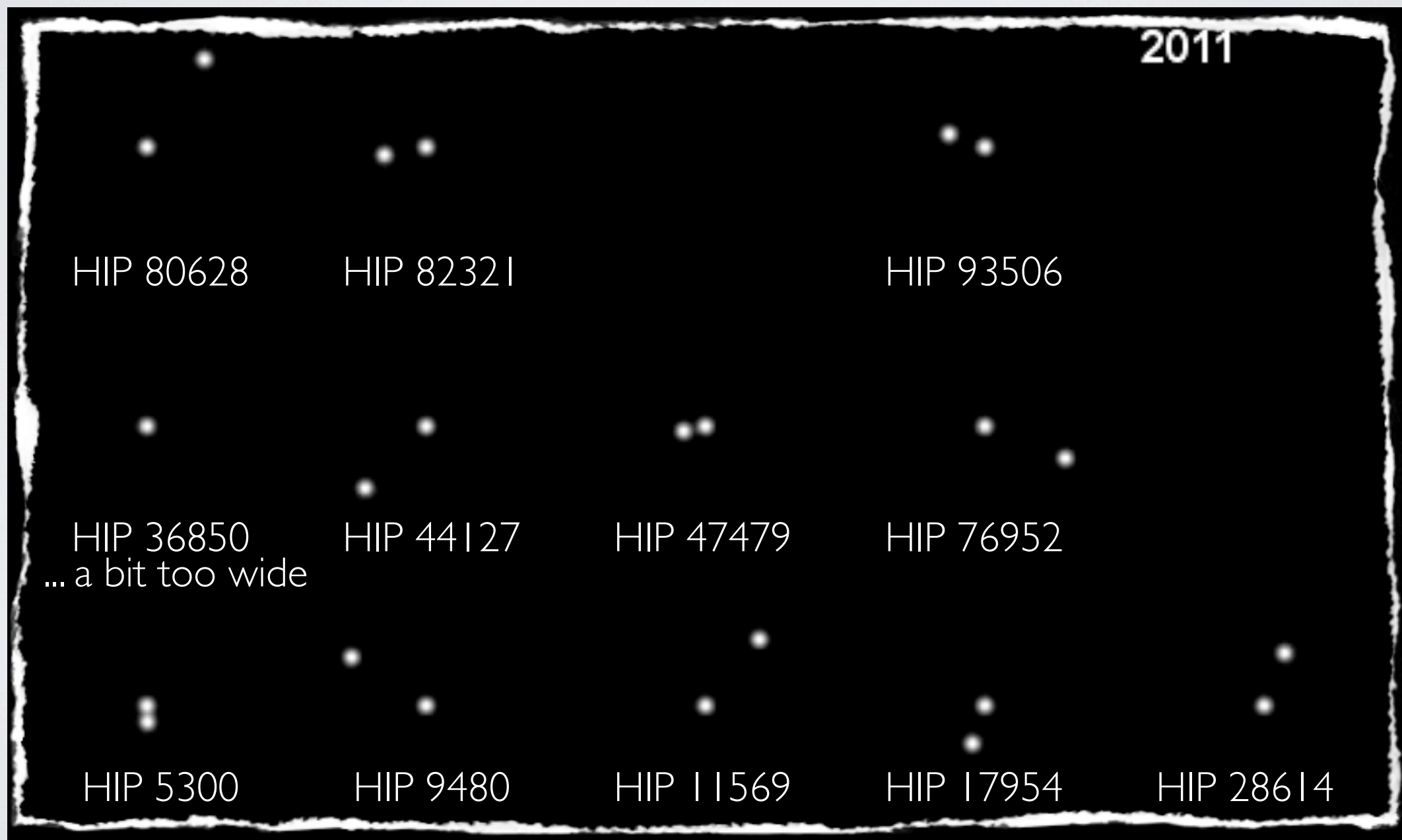


# ORBIT REFINEMENT

- Return to  $(P, e)$  grid, and at each position calculate  $(P, e, T_0, a, \boldsymbol{\omega}, \boldsymbol{\Omega}, i)$
- Use these as a starting point for a Levenberg-Marquardt minimisation
- Ensures the global minima of the  $\chi^2$  distribution is found
- Implementation verified by comparison to 6th Orbit Catalogue members



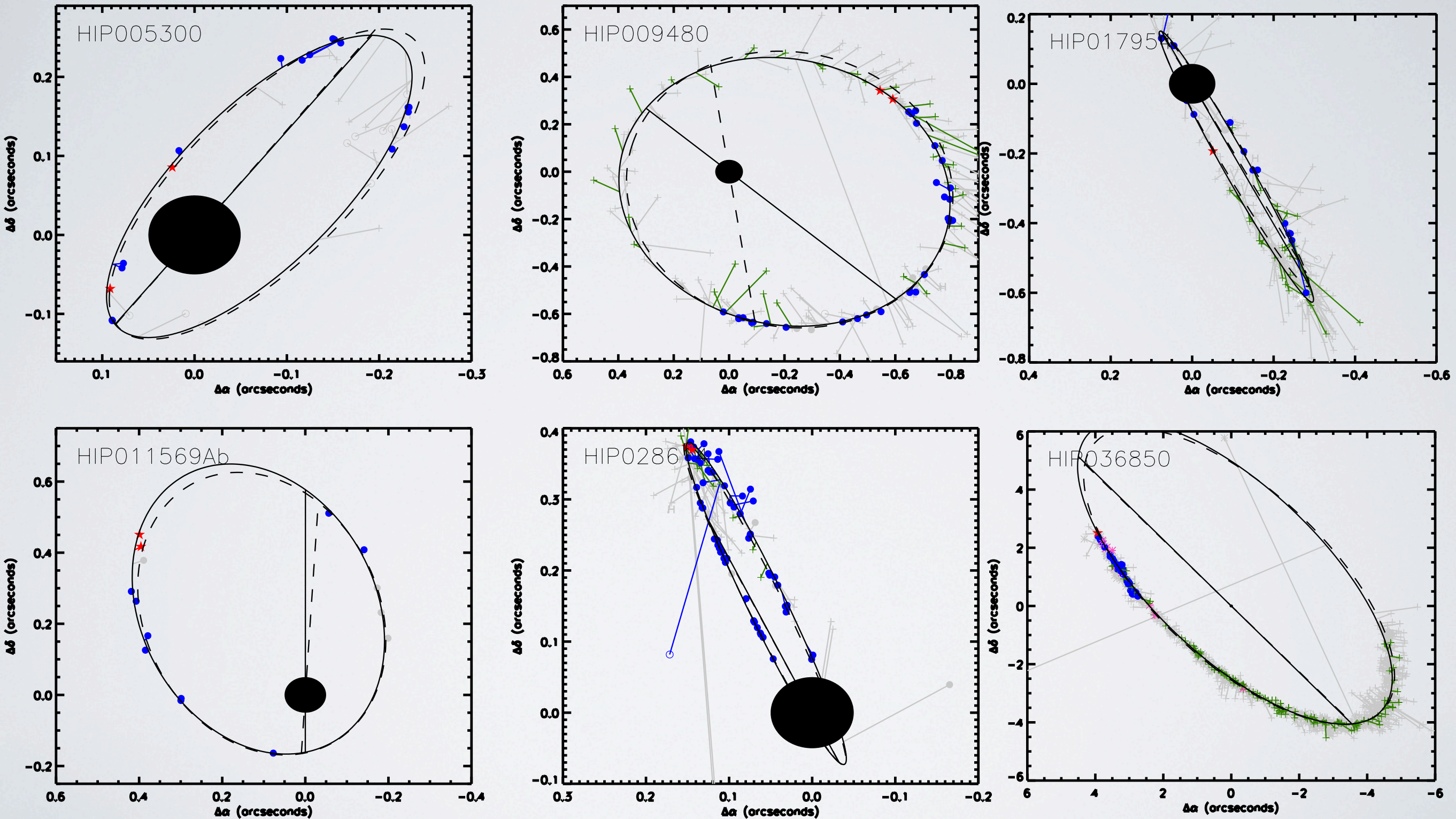
# ORBITS





● Interferometric/Speckle ★ Our Adaptive-optics data

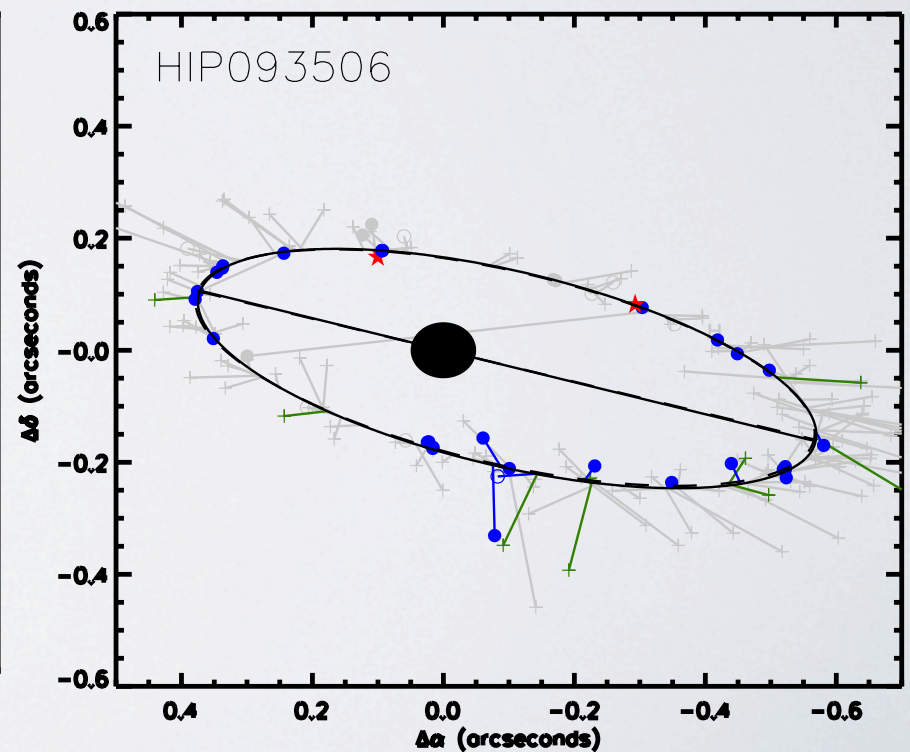
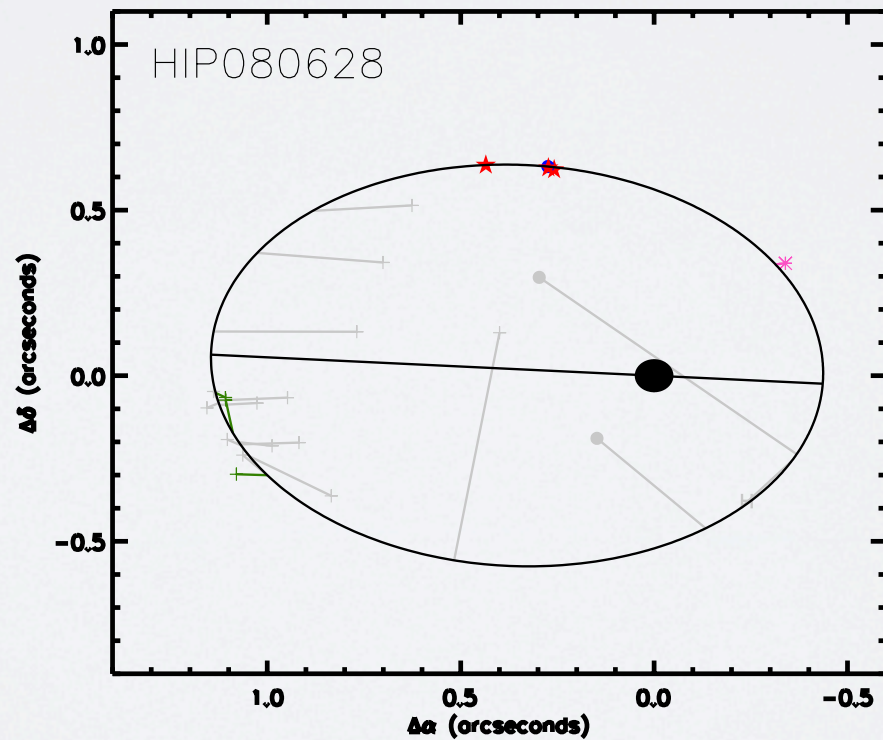
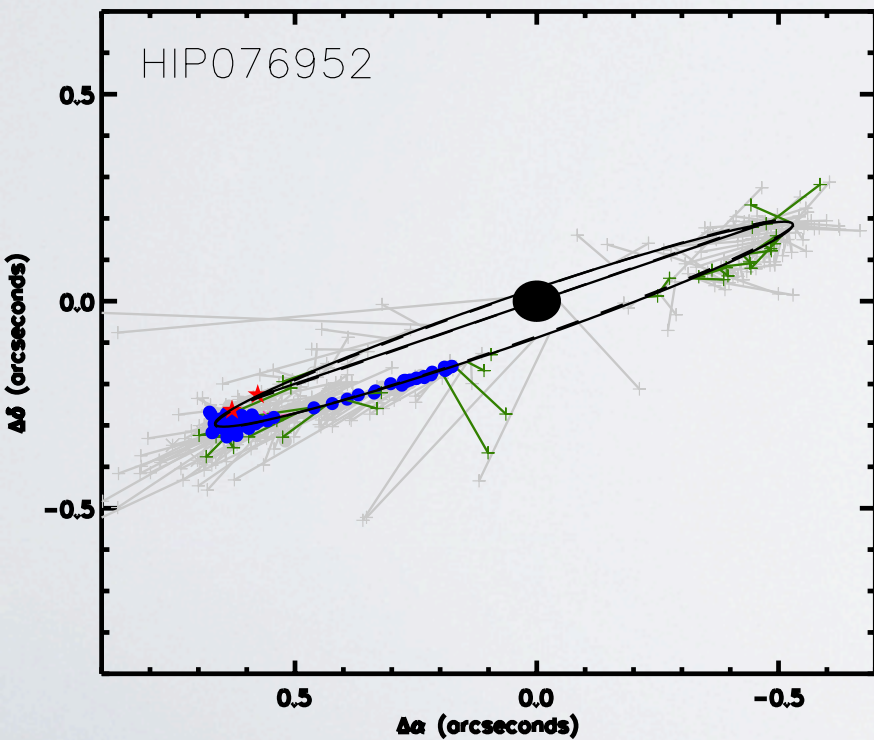
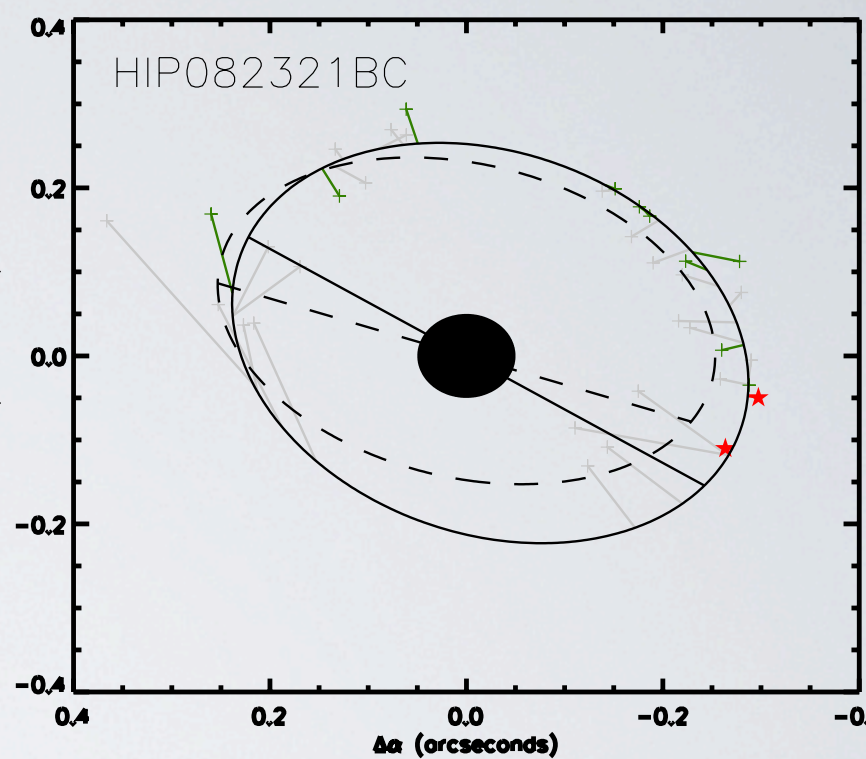
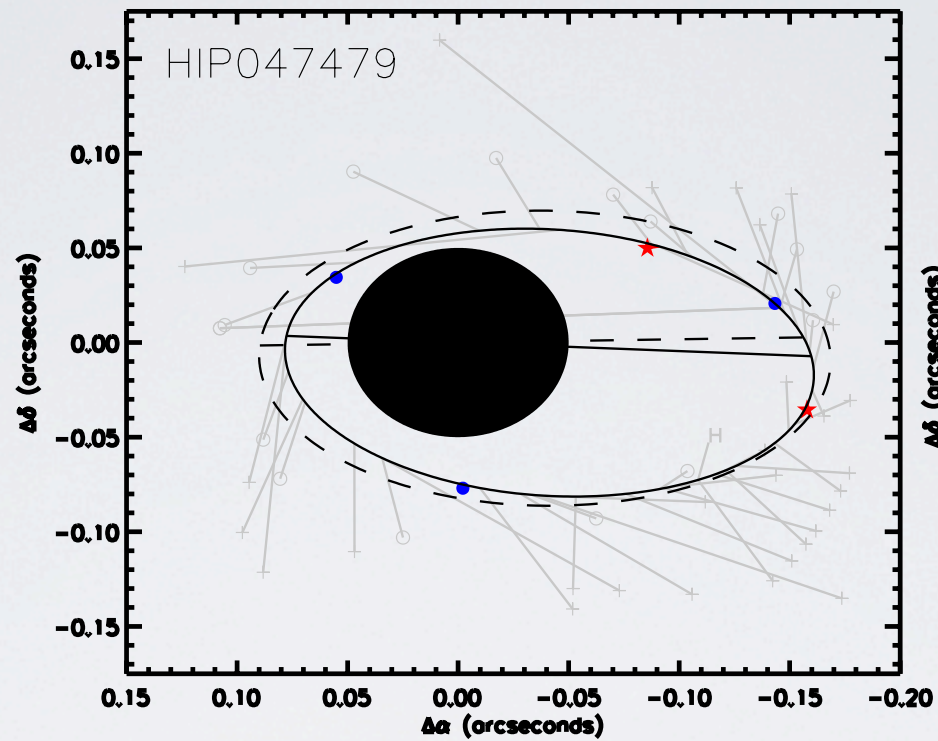
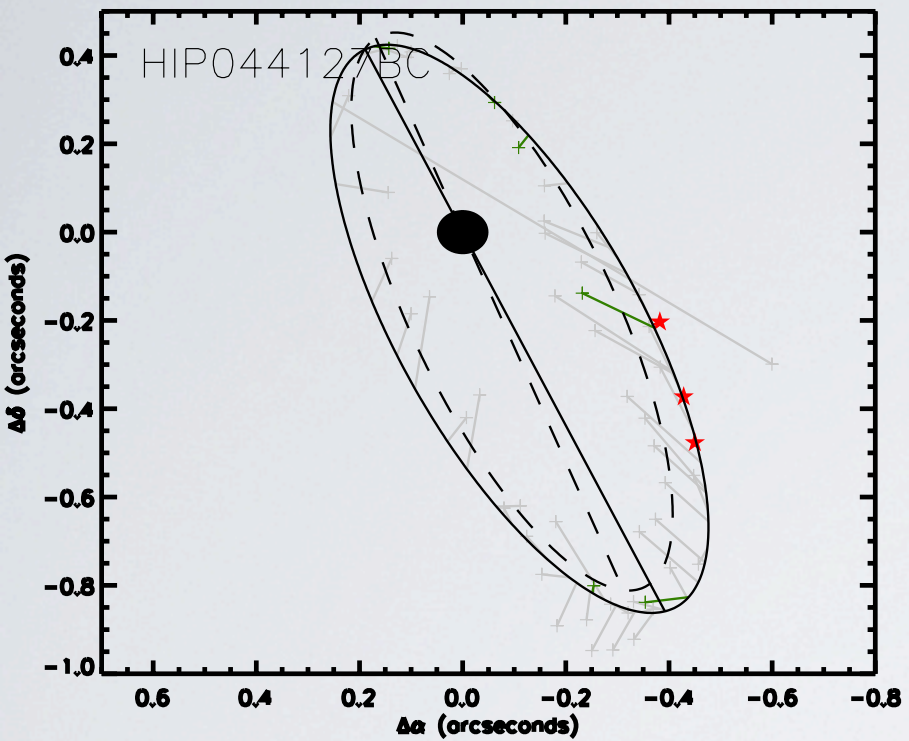
+ Visual/Eyepiece + Unused measurement due to lack of uncertainties





● Interferometric/Speckle ★ Our Adaptive-optics data

+ Visual/Eyepiece + Unused measurement due to lack of uncertainties





# ORBITS

## 6th Orbit Catalogue



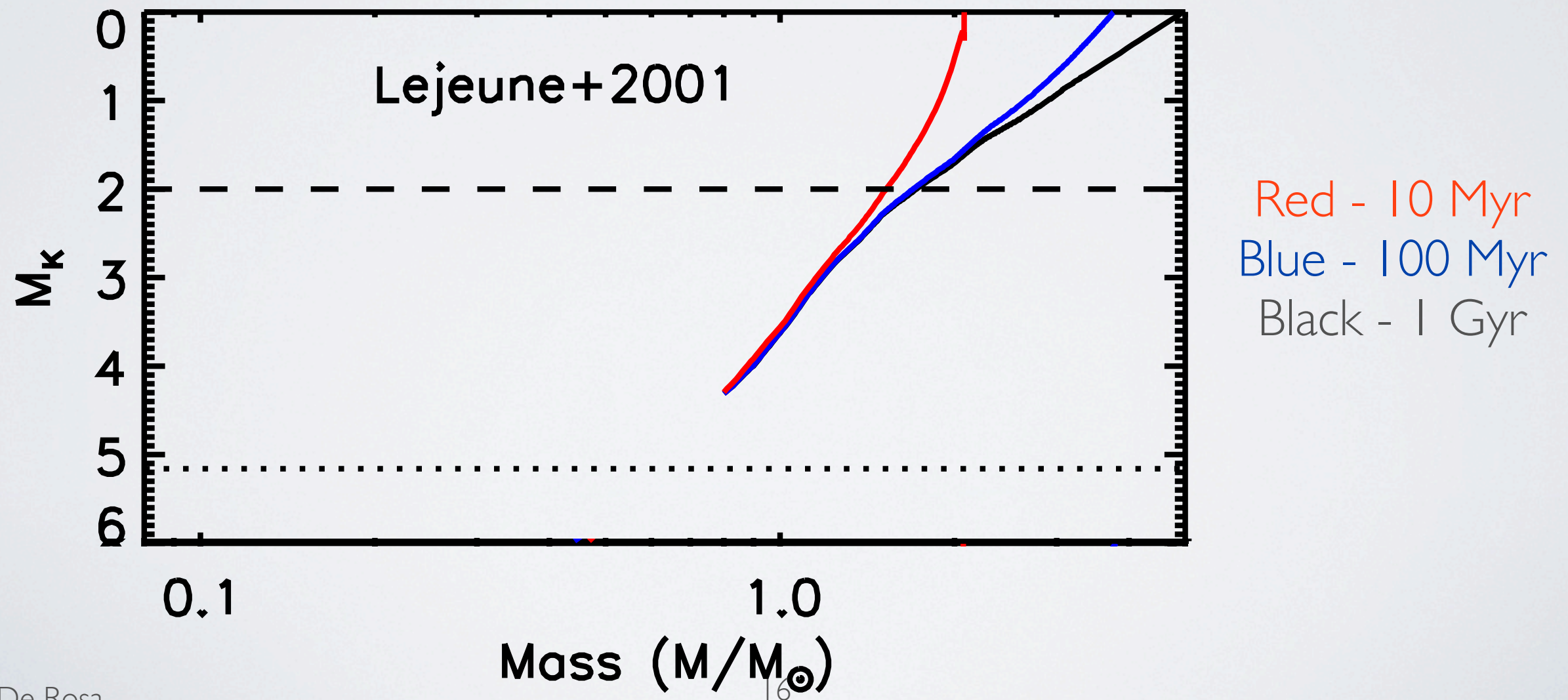
- Orbits estimated ranging from 10 to 500 years (0.12'' - 6.78'')
- Dynamical mass estimated from Hipparcos parallax (van Leeuwen et al. 07), typically small difference between old and new
- While the majority have significant number of measurements, some pairs do require further observations during periastron/apastron passage.

| HIP   | Old Mass | New Mass  |
|-------|----------|-----------|
| 5300  | 3.44     | 3.16±0.02 |
| 9480  | 2.97     | 2.72±0.03 |
| 11569 | 2.22     | 2.12±0.11 |
| 17954 | 3.37     | 4.15±0.12 |
| 28614 | 6.33     | 6.36±0.01 |
| 36850 | 5.50     | 5.42±0.12 |
| 44127 | 0.61     | 0.68±0.04 |
| 47479 | 7.49     | 5.83±0.08 |
| 76952 | 4.14     | 4.19±0.10 |
| 80628 | n/a      | 4.99±0.48 |
| 82321 | 1.00     | 1.16±0.06 |
| 93506 | 5.22     | 5.26±0.04 |



# THEORETICAL MODELS

- Obtained four theoretical model grids with solar metallicity, and constructed mass-magnitude relations at a range of ages.



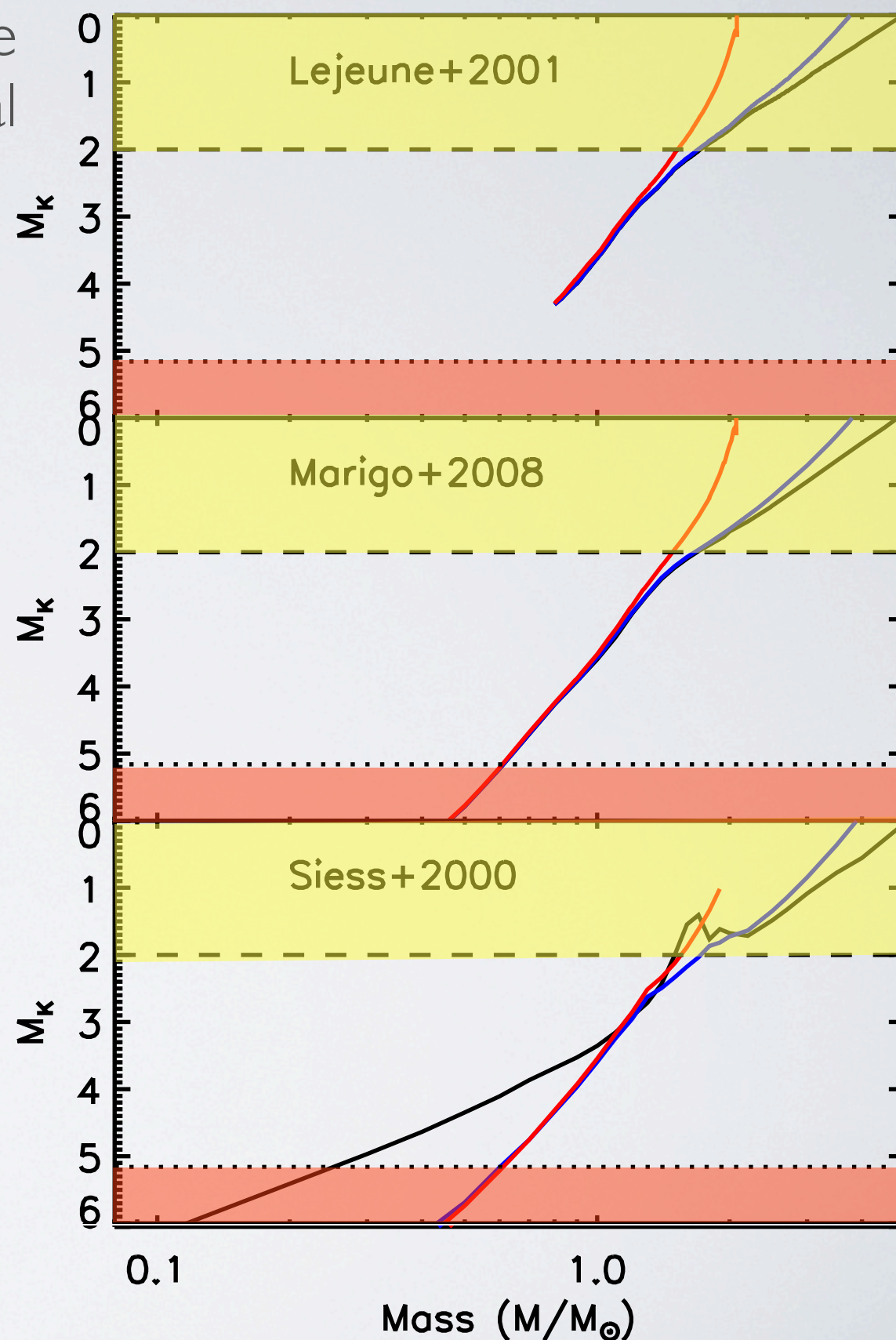


Mass-magnitude relations are dependant on age for stars with  $M_K < 2$ , corresponding to spectral type A and earlier. Caused by expansion of star away from the Main Sequence

Similarly, for M-dwarfs due to their contraction onto the Main Sequence

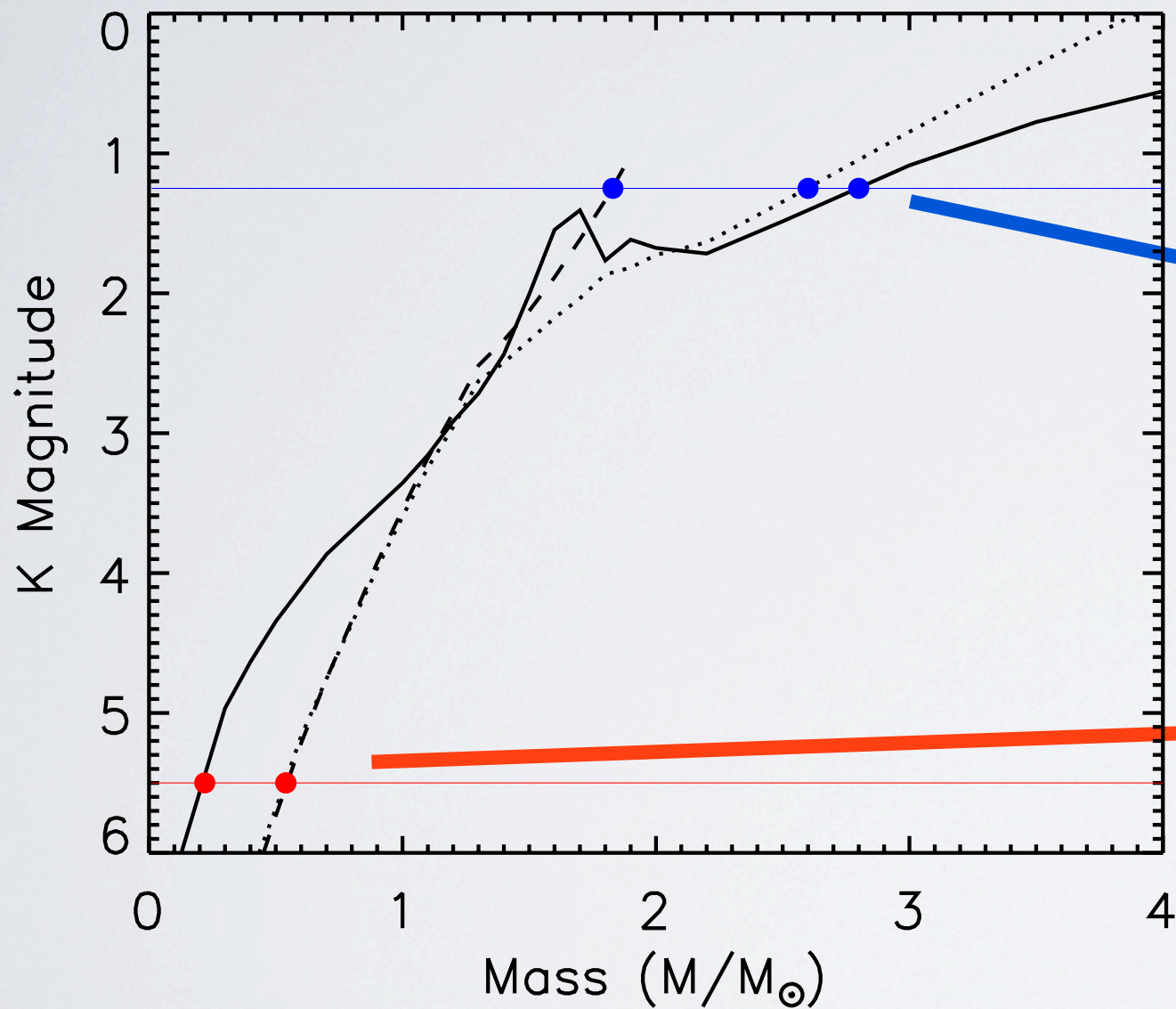
The differences between the models within these two regimes is important to test with observations. Requires tight constraints on orbital parameters and photometry

*More interested in what the models can tell us about the systems...*

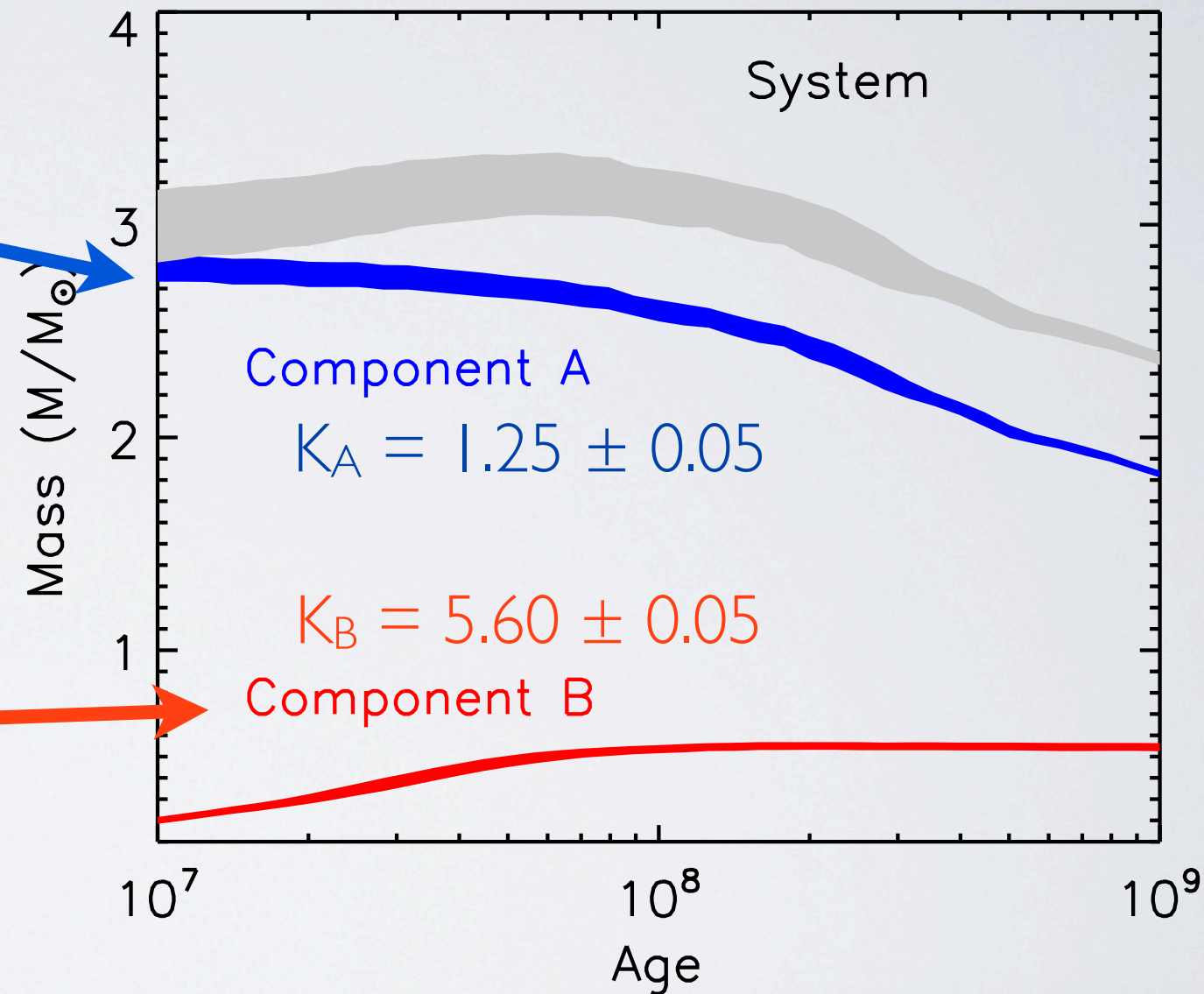




# THEORETICAL MODELS



- A series of mass-magnitude relations at different ages



- A mass-age relation for components of given magnitudes

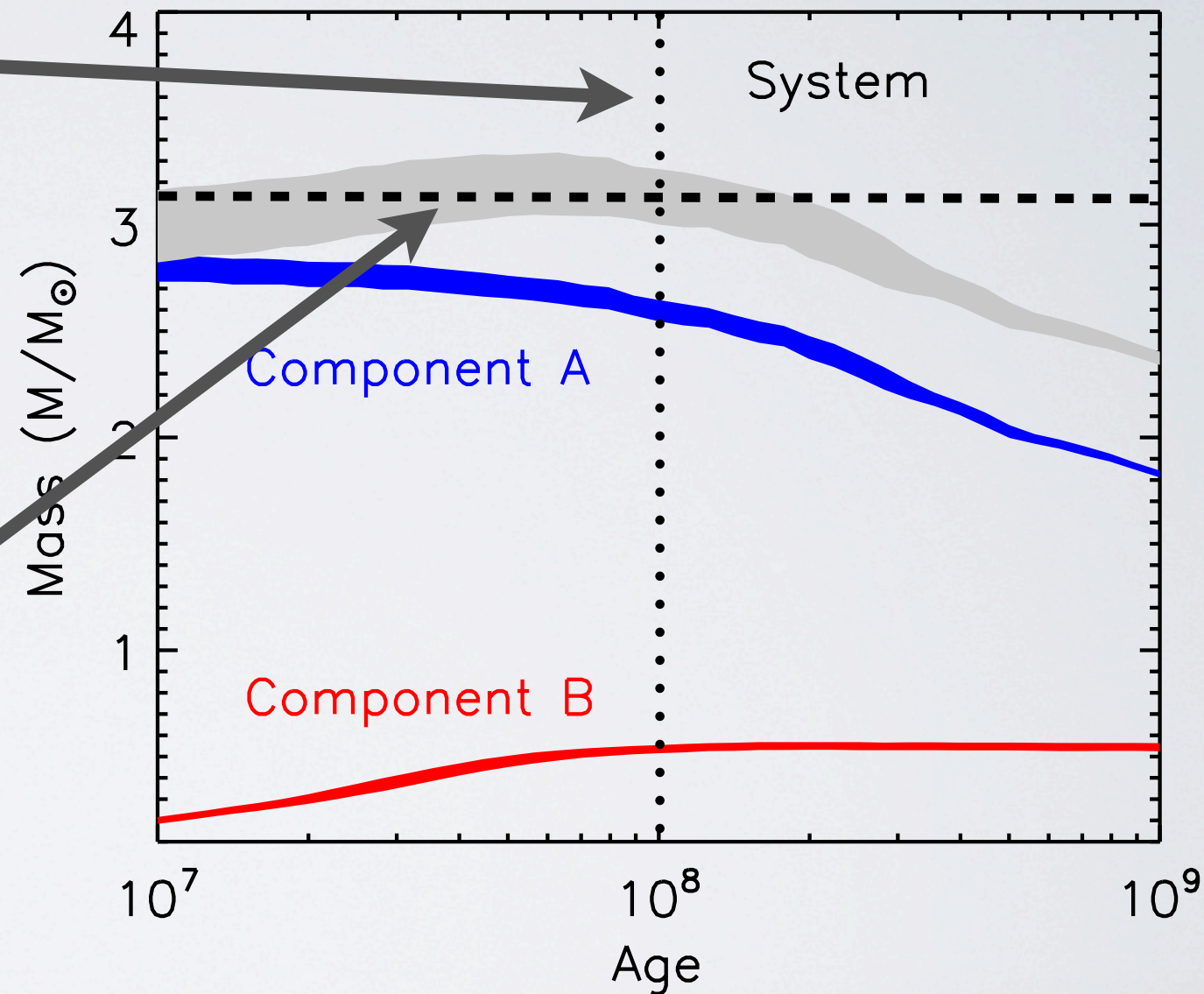


# THEORETICAL MODELS

The position of the primary on the CMD is then used to estimate the age of the system (e.g. 100 Myr)

The system mass based on the mass-magnitude relations can then be determined

This is compared to the dynamical system mass obtained from the orbit





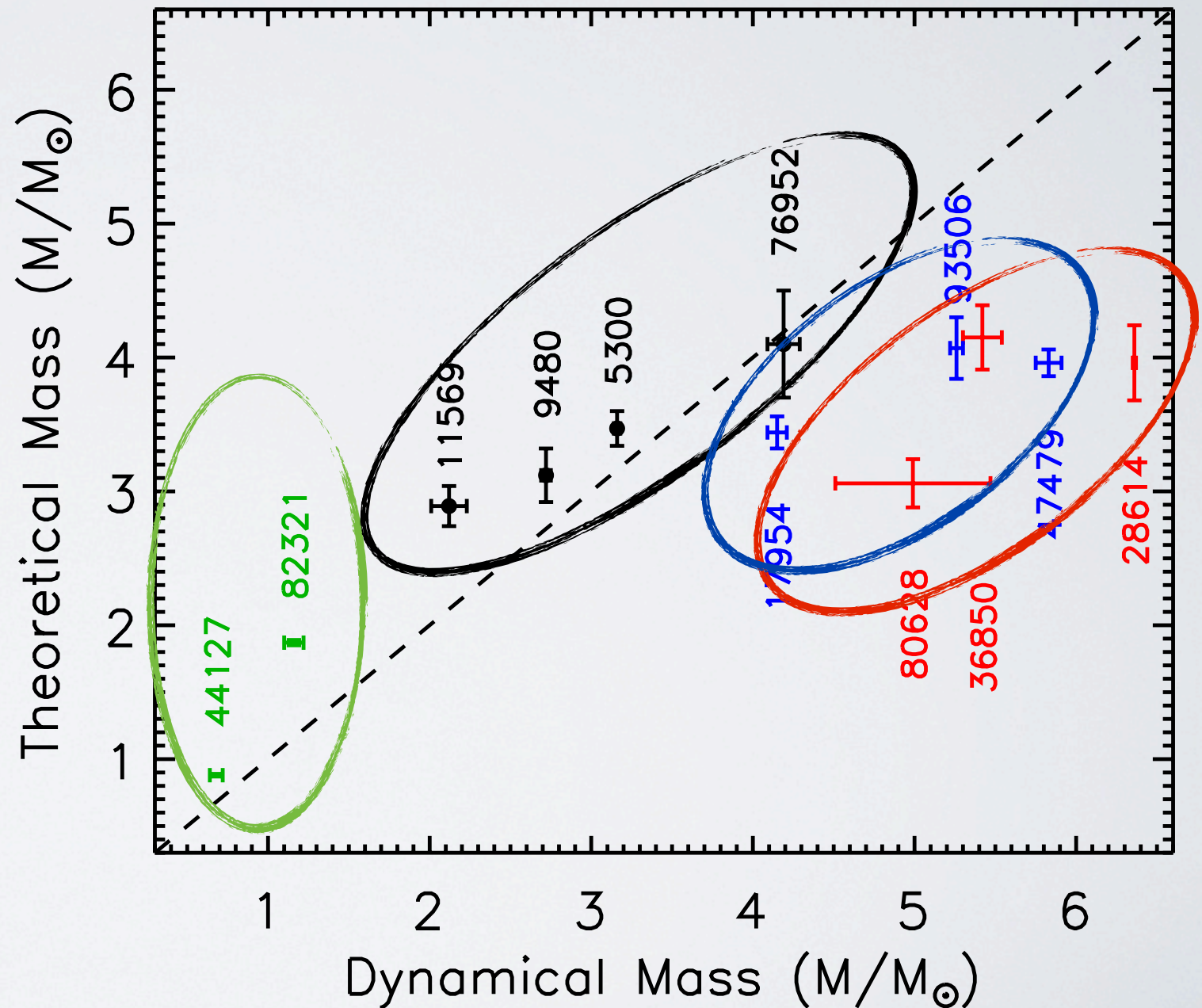
# MASS COMPARISON

Binary stars

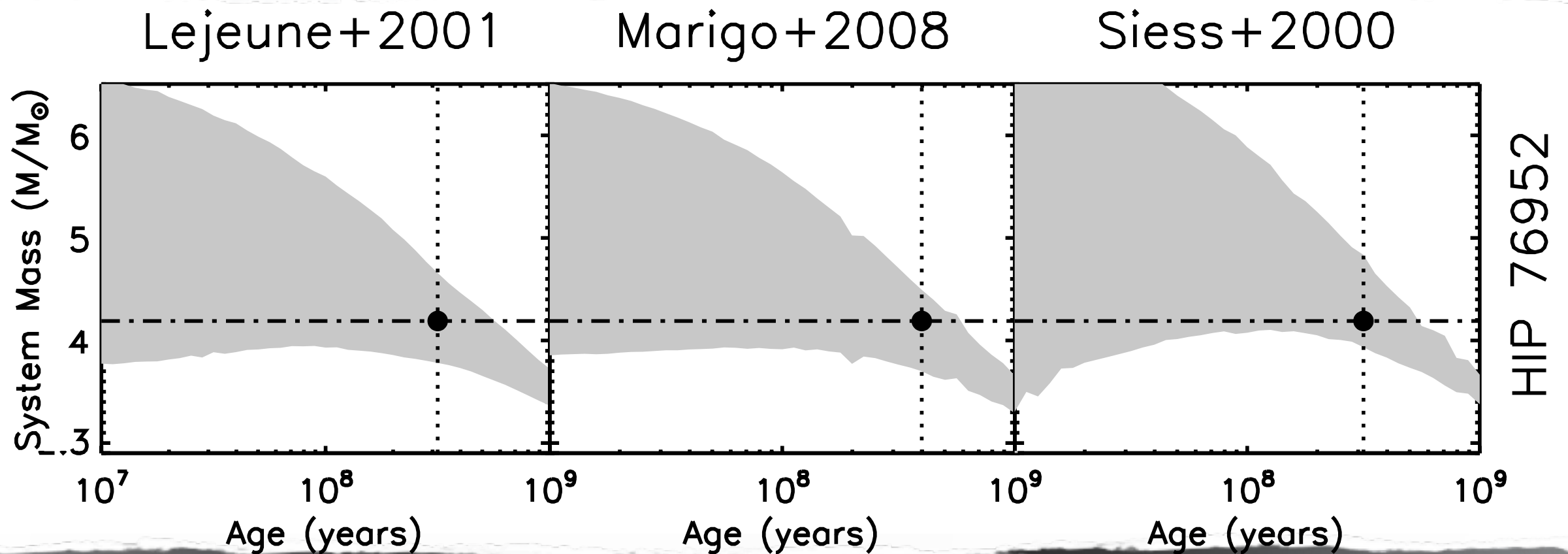
Hierarchical triples

Known spectroscopic components

Significant dynamical mass excess  
- suspected unresolved SB?

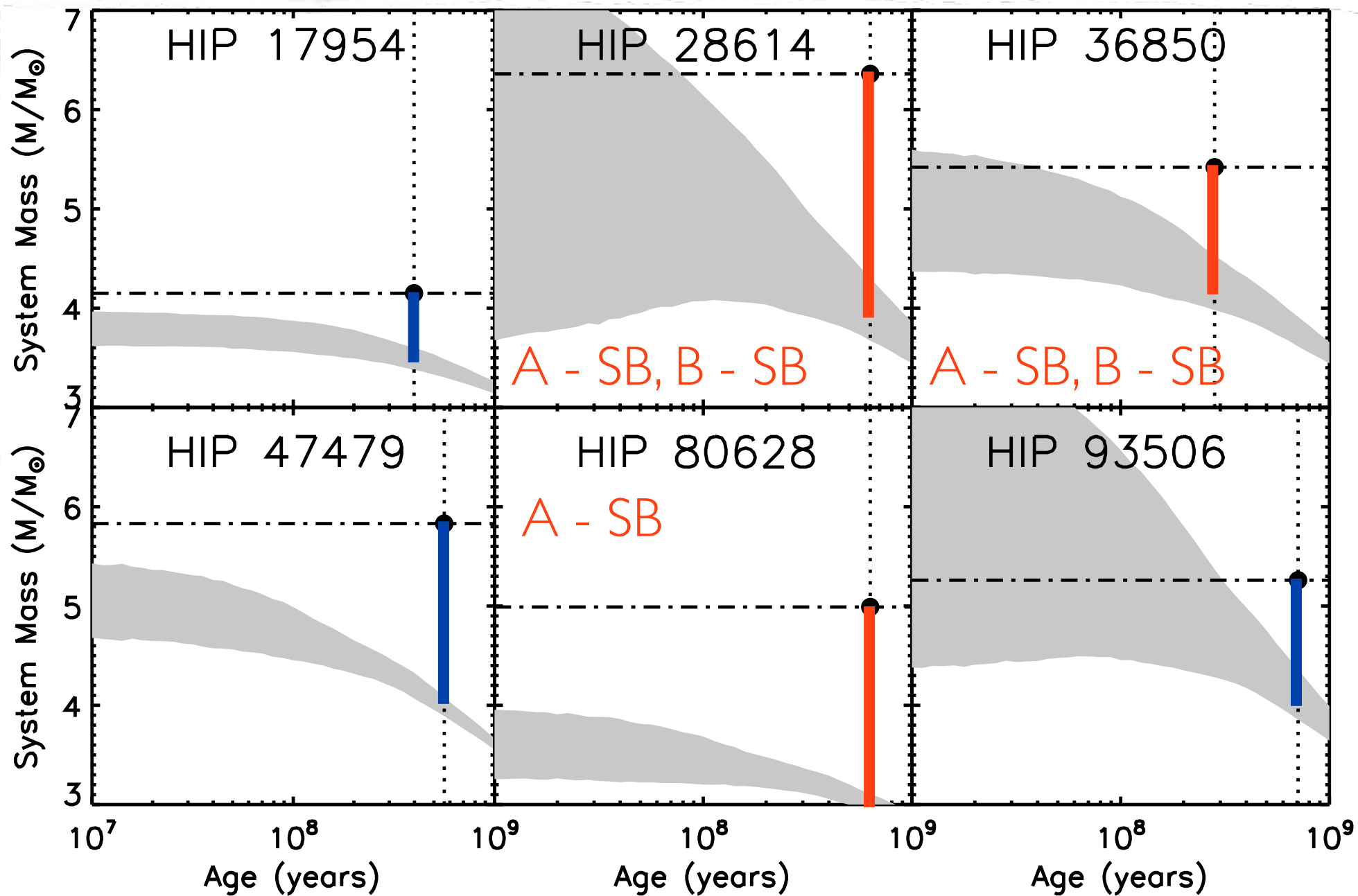






- Surprisingly, only one system had dynamical mass consistent with mass-mag relations
- Poor constraints on 2MASS K-band magnitude ( $\sigma_K=0.226$ ) leads to large uncertainty in the mass-age relation.
- B-V colour consistent with age of  $\sim 350$  Myr
- Dynamical mass  $\pm 0.1 M_{\text{sol}}$

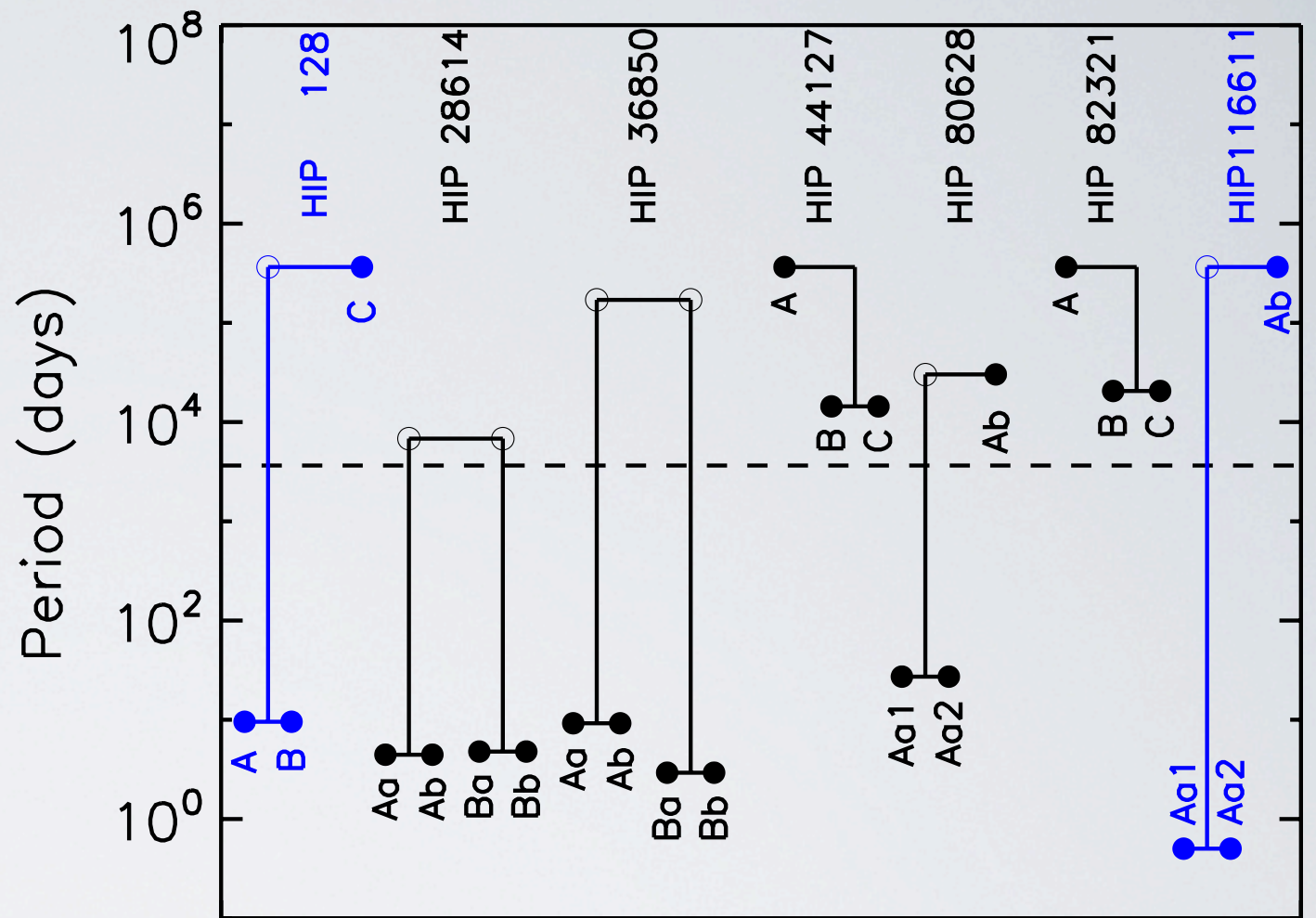




- 3 systems with known spectroscopic sub-components have significant dynamical mass excesses
- 3 systems showing the same excess have no known spectroscopic sub-components.



- Can use this information to estimate higher order multiplicity
- Combine with known spectroscopic components of the 26 systems



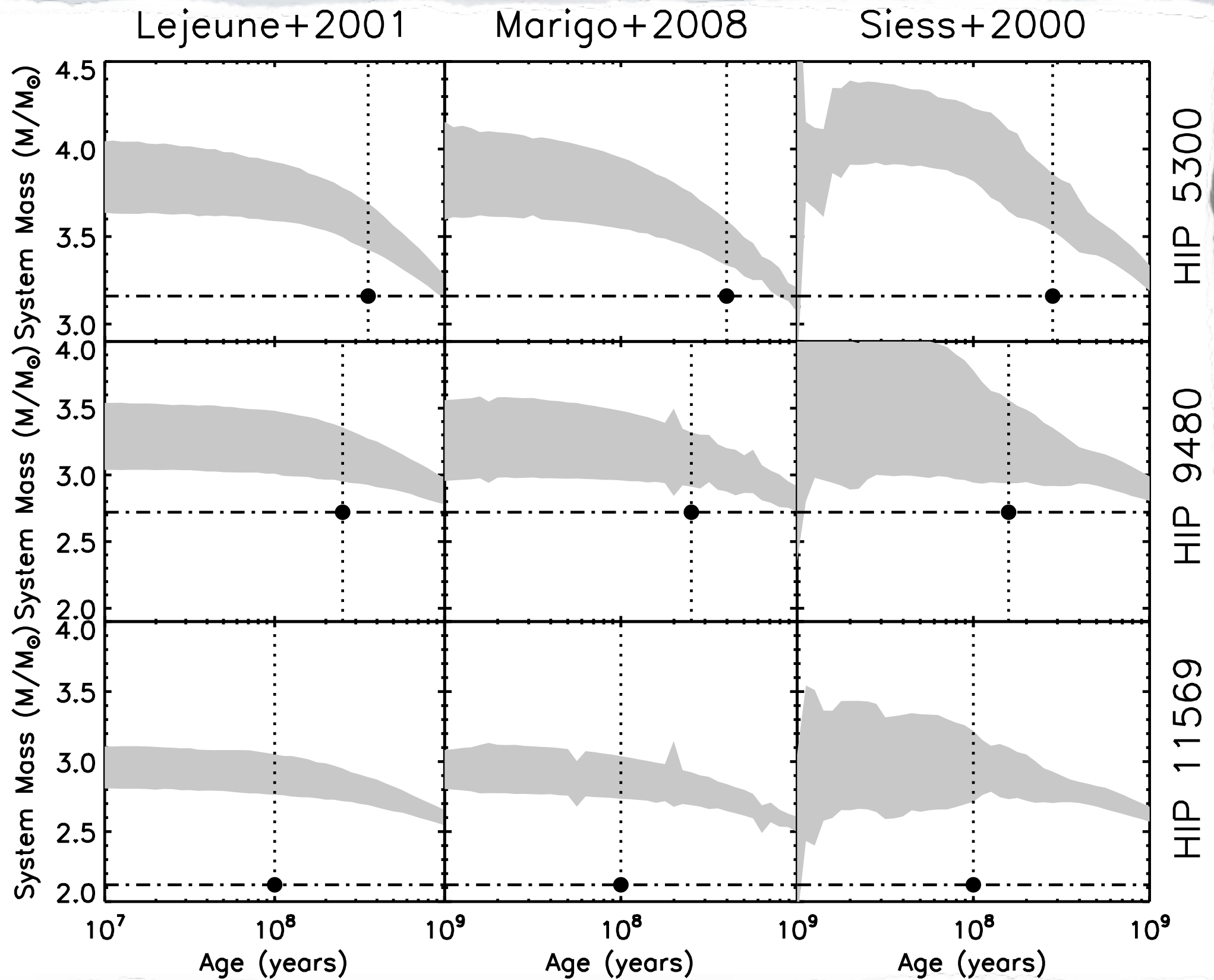
Hierarchical Systems

For binaries with projected separations < 100AU

**Double : Triple : Quadruple**  
**62% : 31% : 8%**

Solar (Raghavan+10) (75% : 18% : 7%)

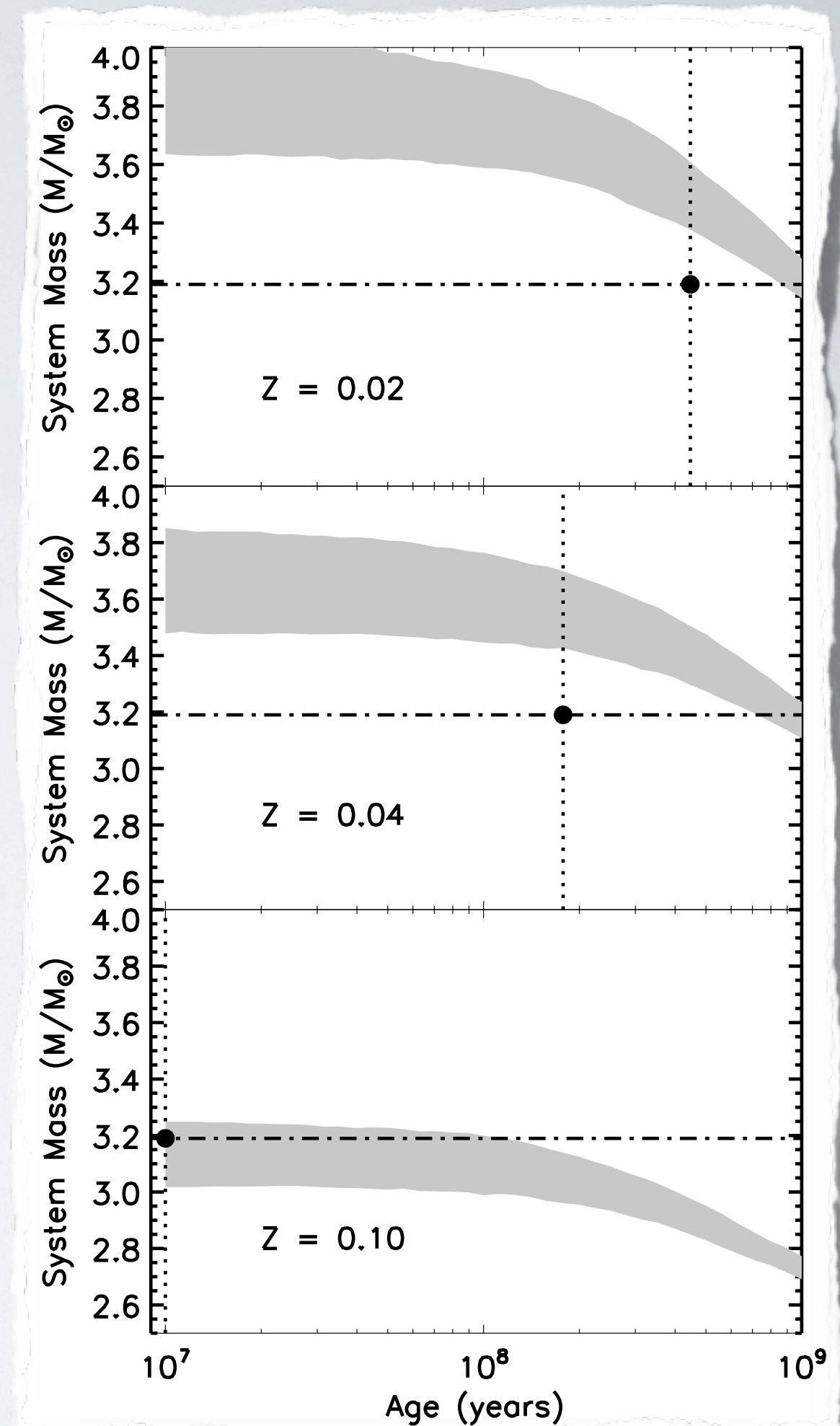




- Three binary systems show a significant dynamical mass defect

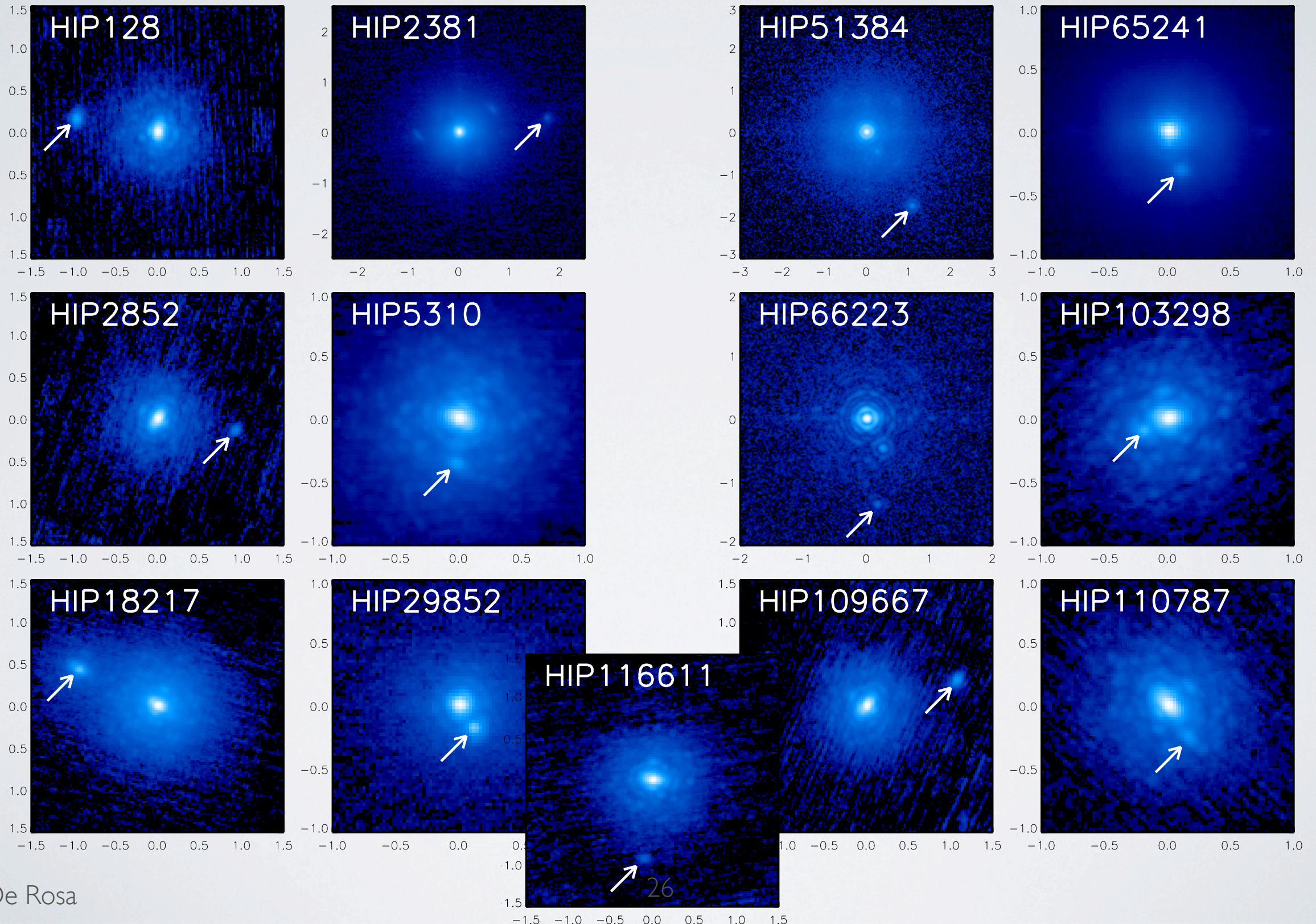


- A possible explanation for this mass defect is an incorrect assumption of the metallicity.
- Due to lack of published estimates, we have assumed solar metallicity for each target
- By increasing metallicity relative to Solar, this adjusts both the age estimate from the CMD, and the mass-age relation.





# NEWLY RESOLVED SYSTEMS





# SUMMARY

- Estimated orbital parameters for 12 systems, including dynamical mass
- Comparison to theoretical mass-magnitude relations:
  - Evidence of potential spectroscopic components for 3 systems
  - Lower-limit of higher-order multiplicity within 100 AU
  - Complications due to lack of metallicity measurements - perhaps Strömgren photometry would help us here?
  - $\Delta V$  would help us place companion on CMD - speckle interferometry?
  - Potential for this technique to be applied to all high-quality orbits from the WDS catalogue with measured  $\Delta m$ .
- 13 newly resolved systems - typically fainter, so perhaps more challenging for speckle measurements?