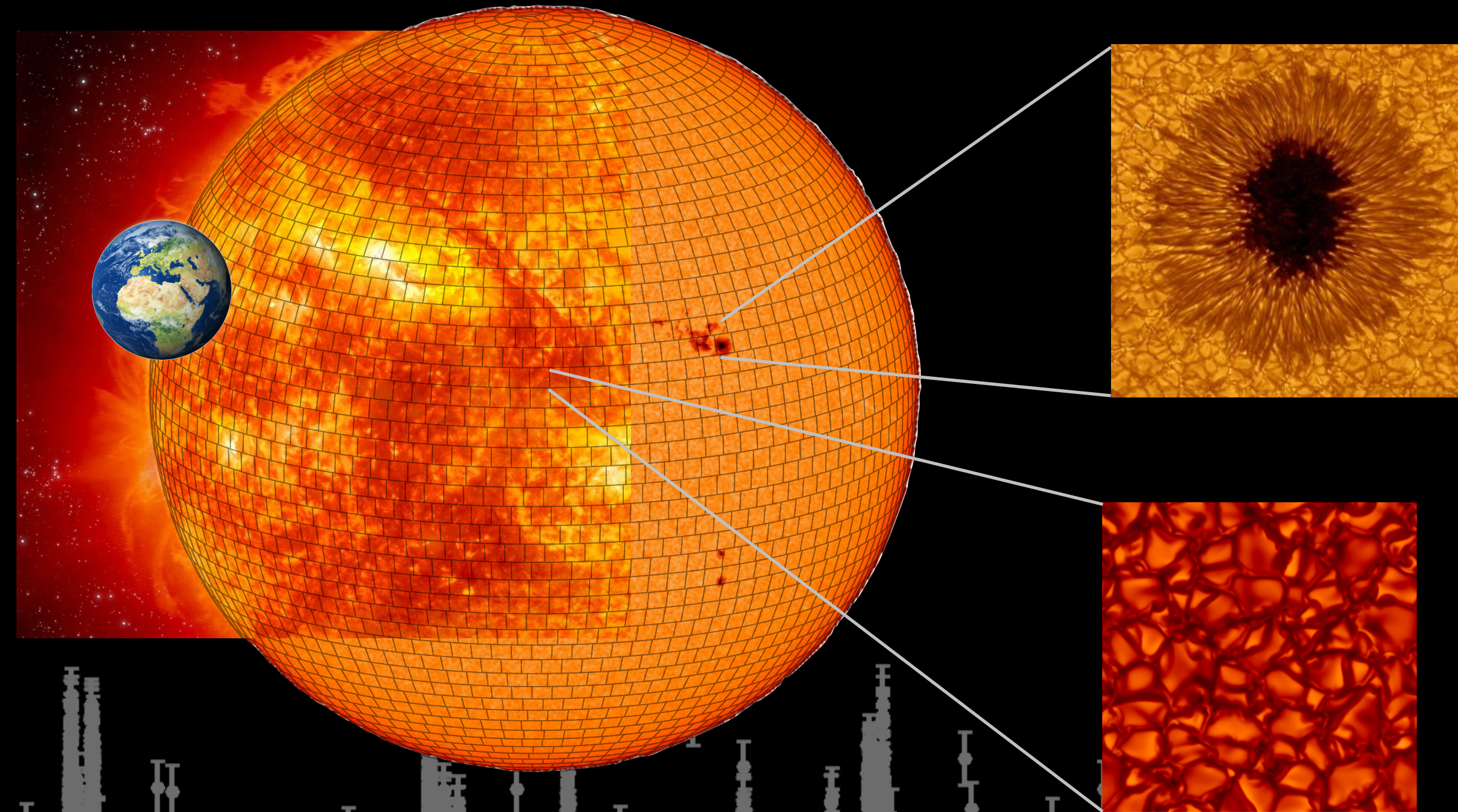


# Physics Responsible for Various Sources of Stellar Variability



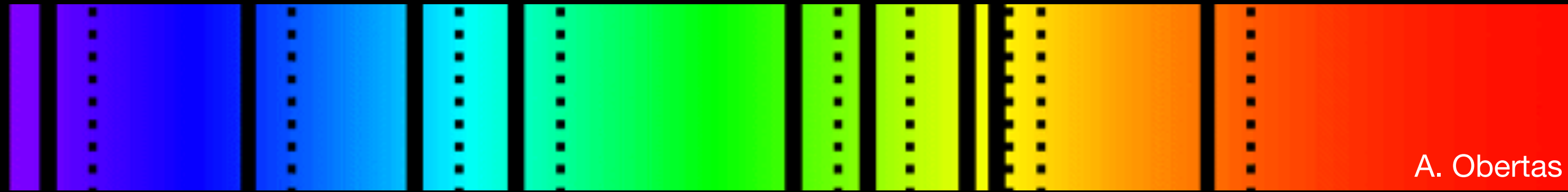
Dr. Heather Cegla  
Senior Research Fellow  
UKRI Future Leaders Fellow



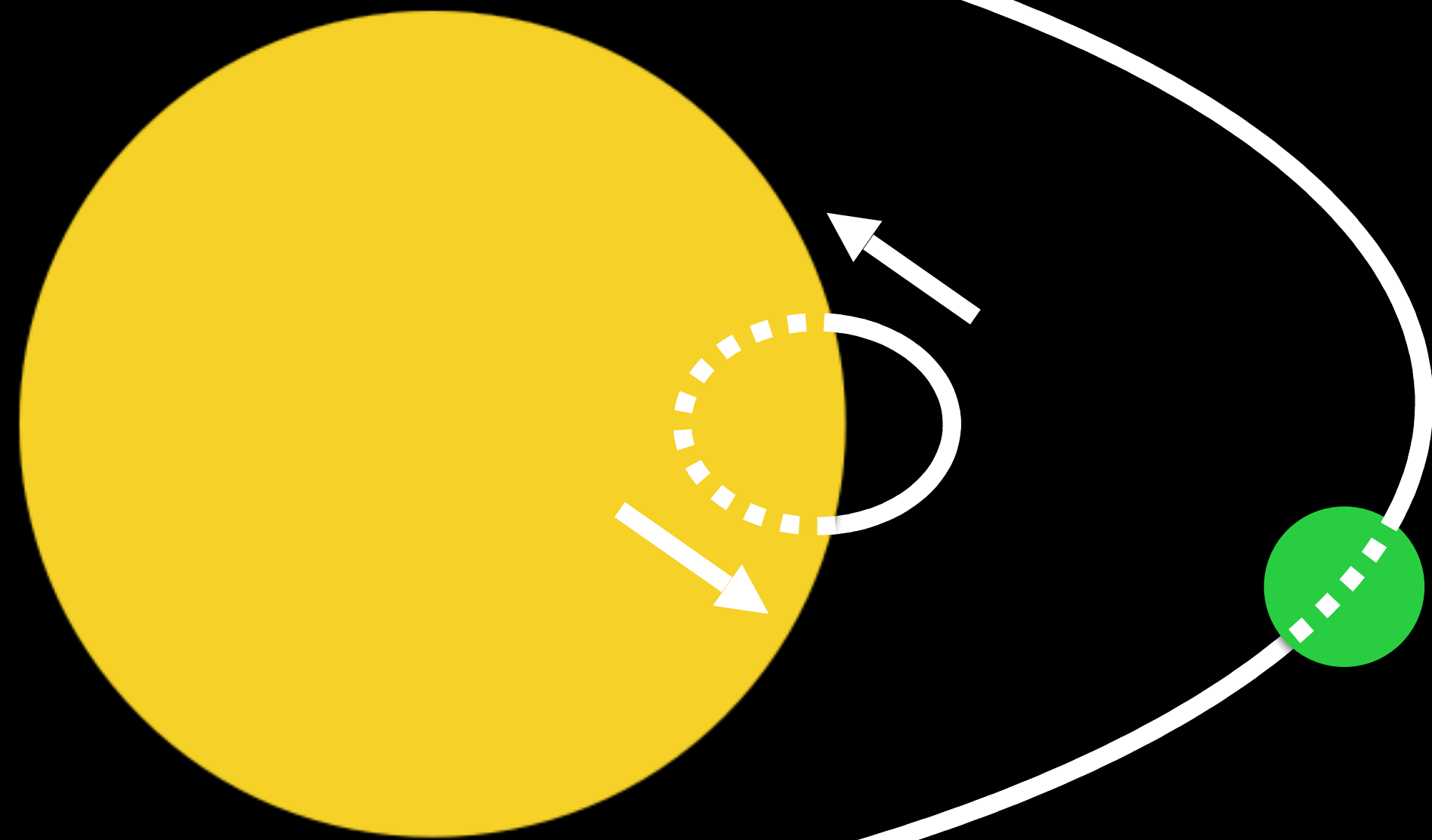
**WARWICK**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK



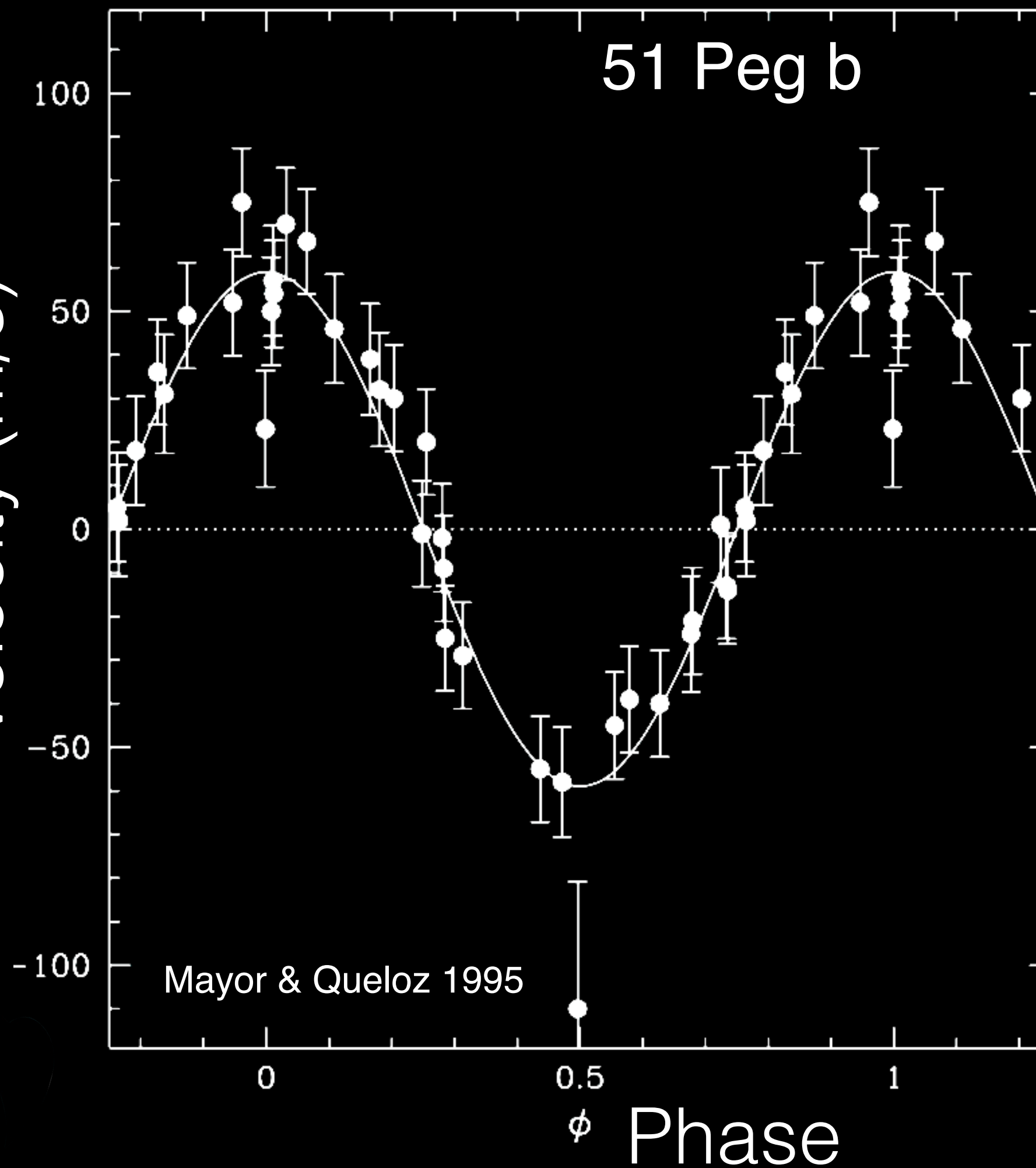
# Confirming Alien Worlds & Determining Planet Mass



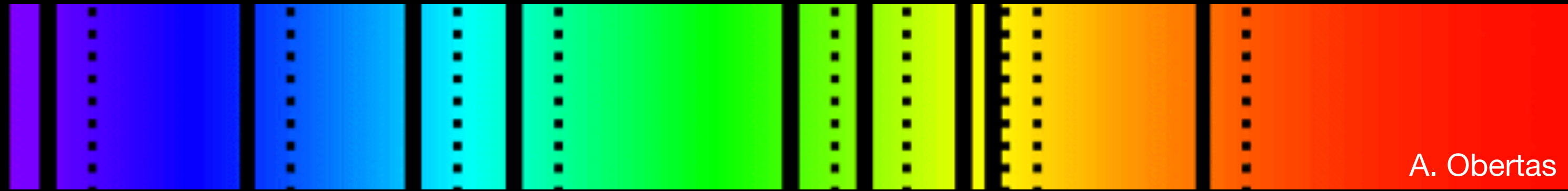
Rest Position



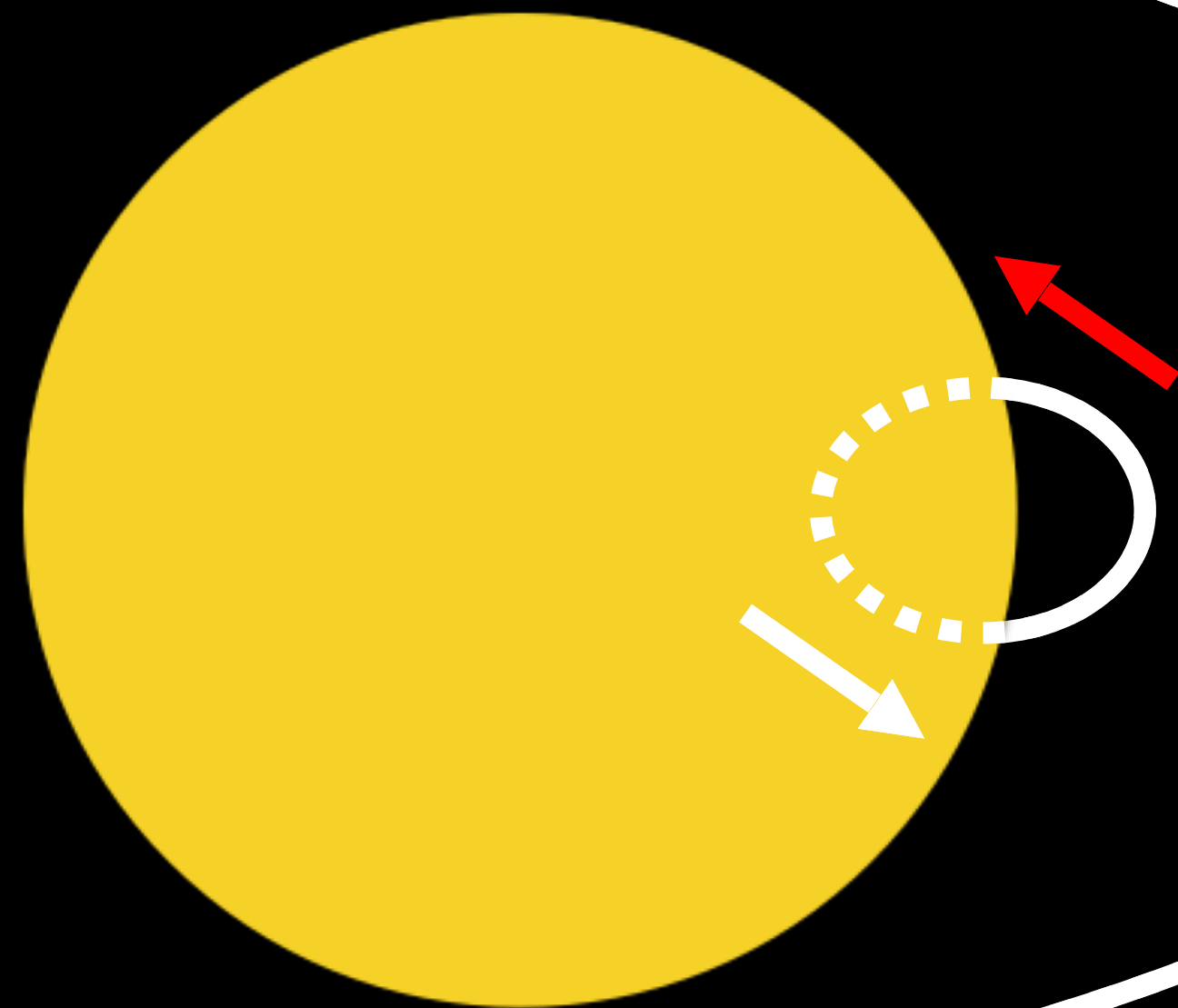
Velocity (m/s)



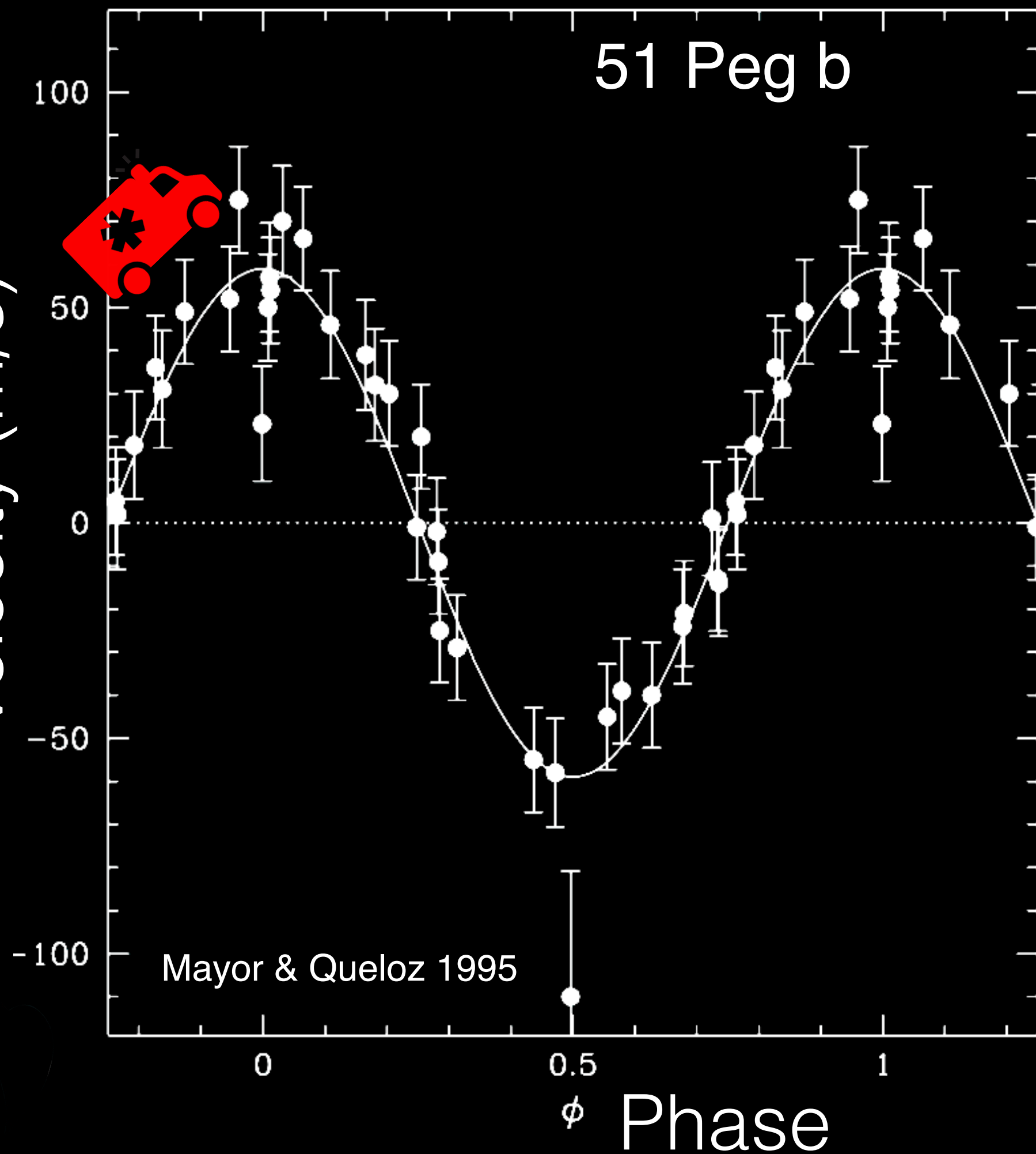
# Confirming Alien Worlds & Determining Planet Mass



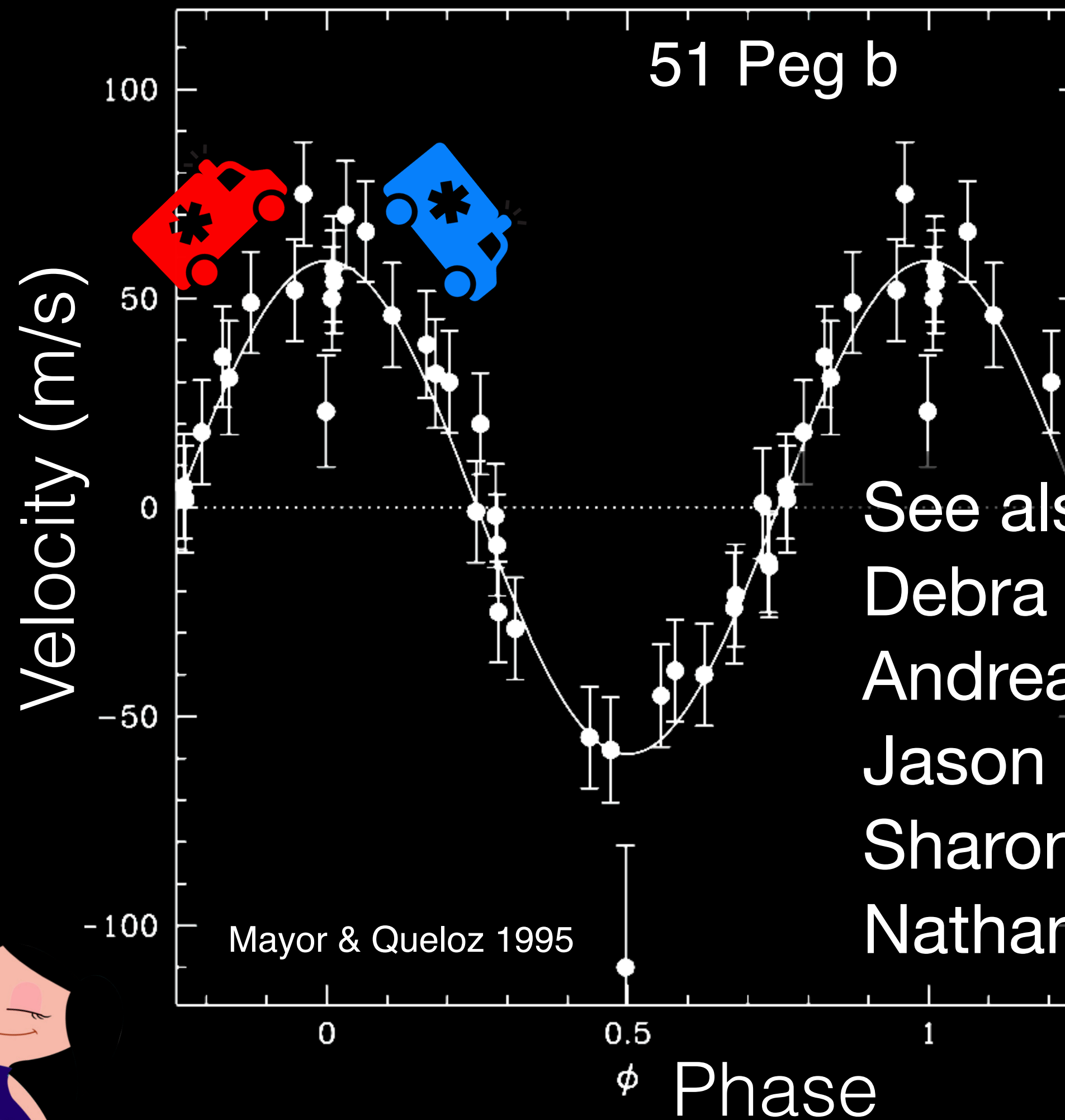
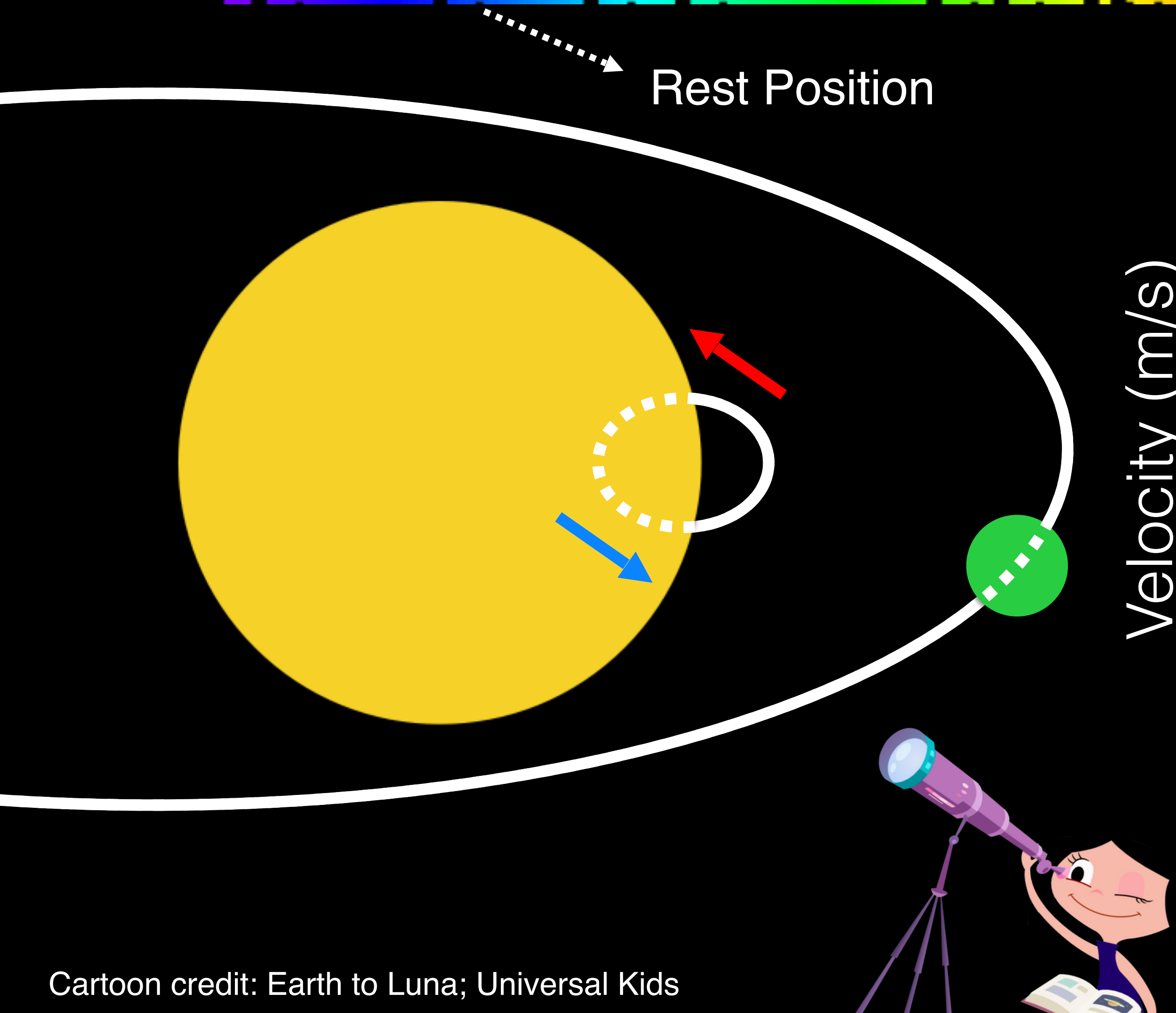
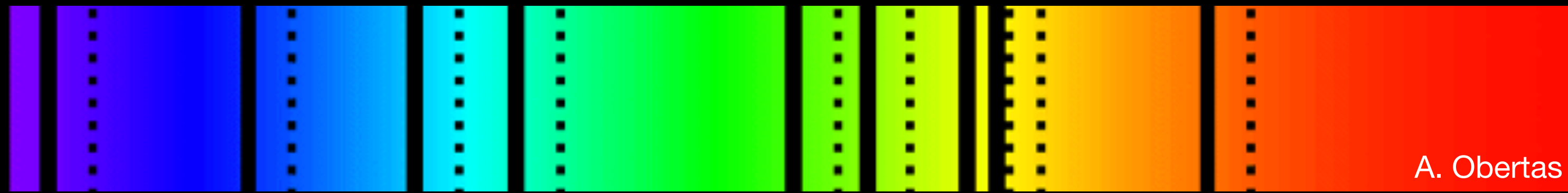
Rest Position



Velocity (m/s)

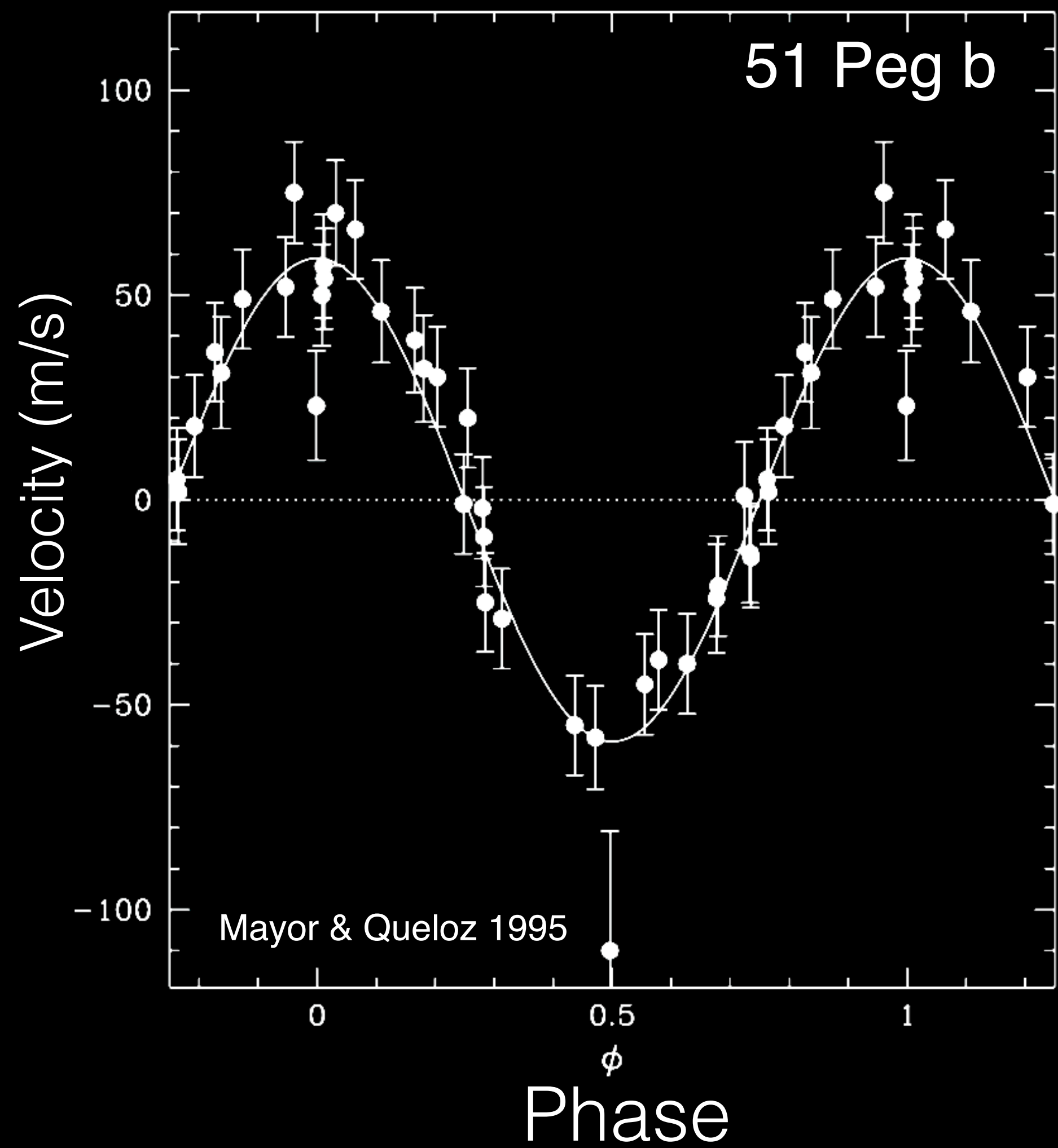


# Confirming Alien Worlds & Determining Planet Mass

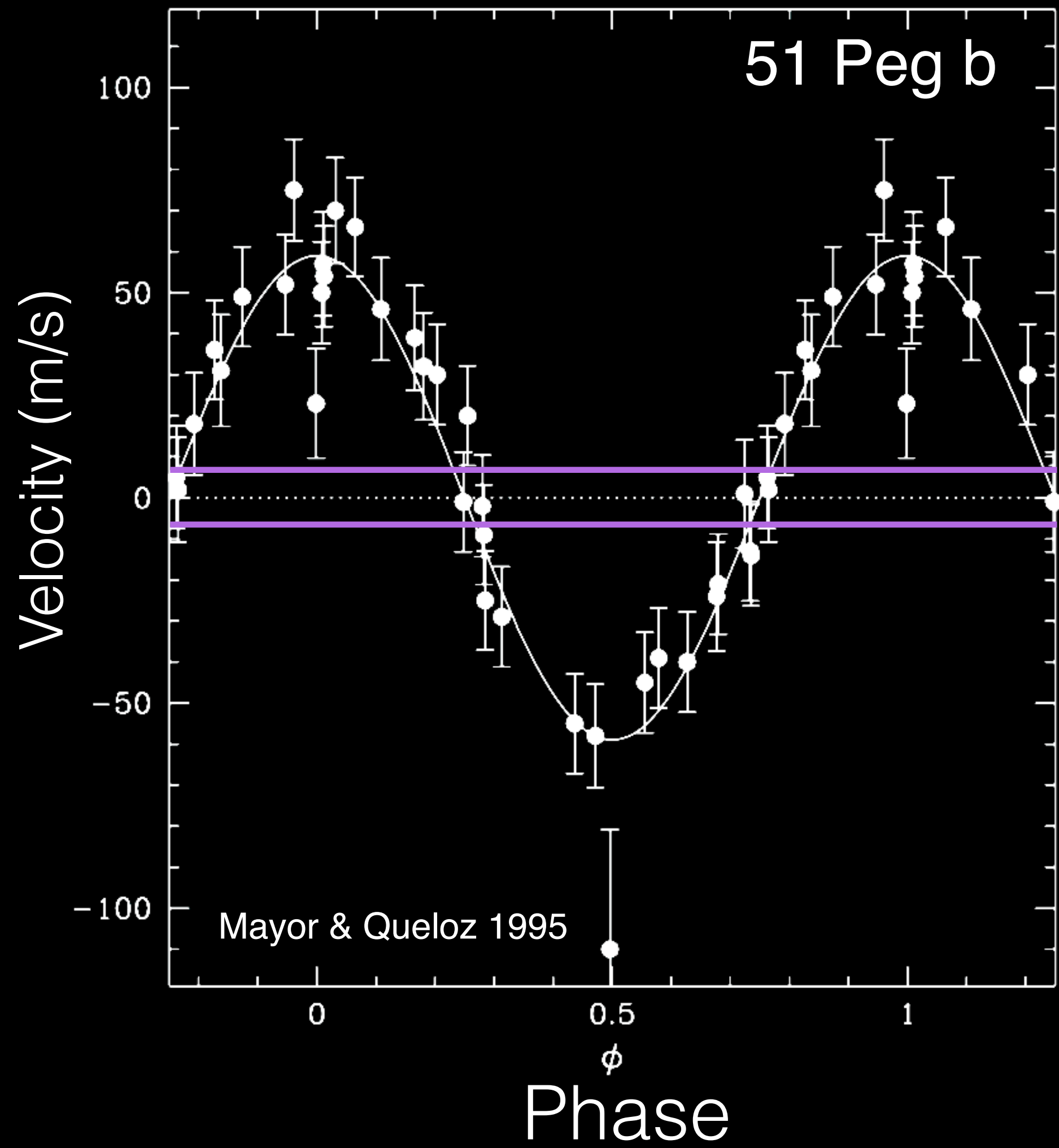




# Confirming Alien Worlds & Determining Planet Mass

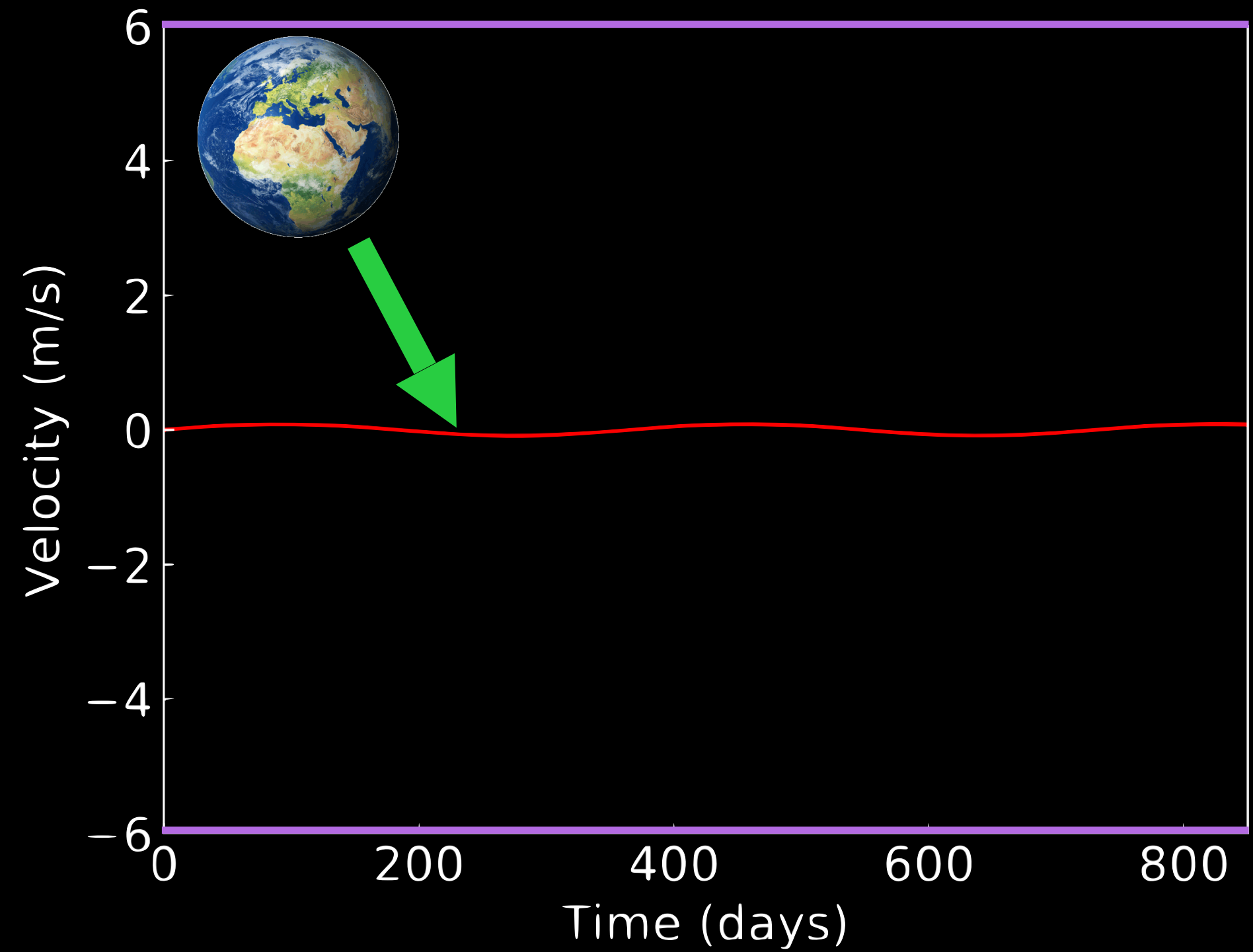
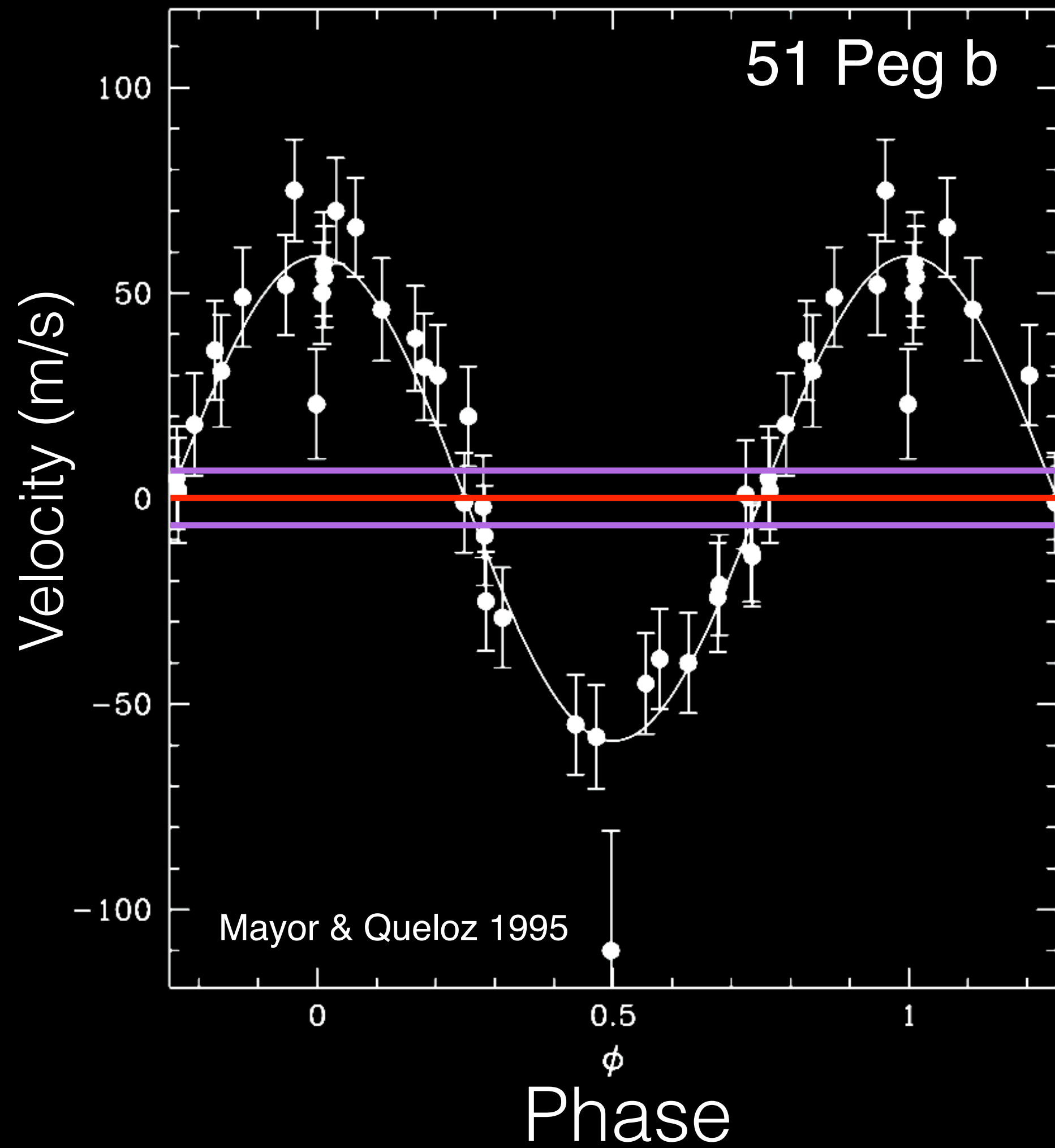


# Confirming Alien Worlds & Determining Planet Mass

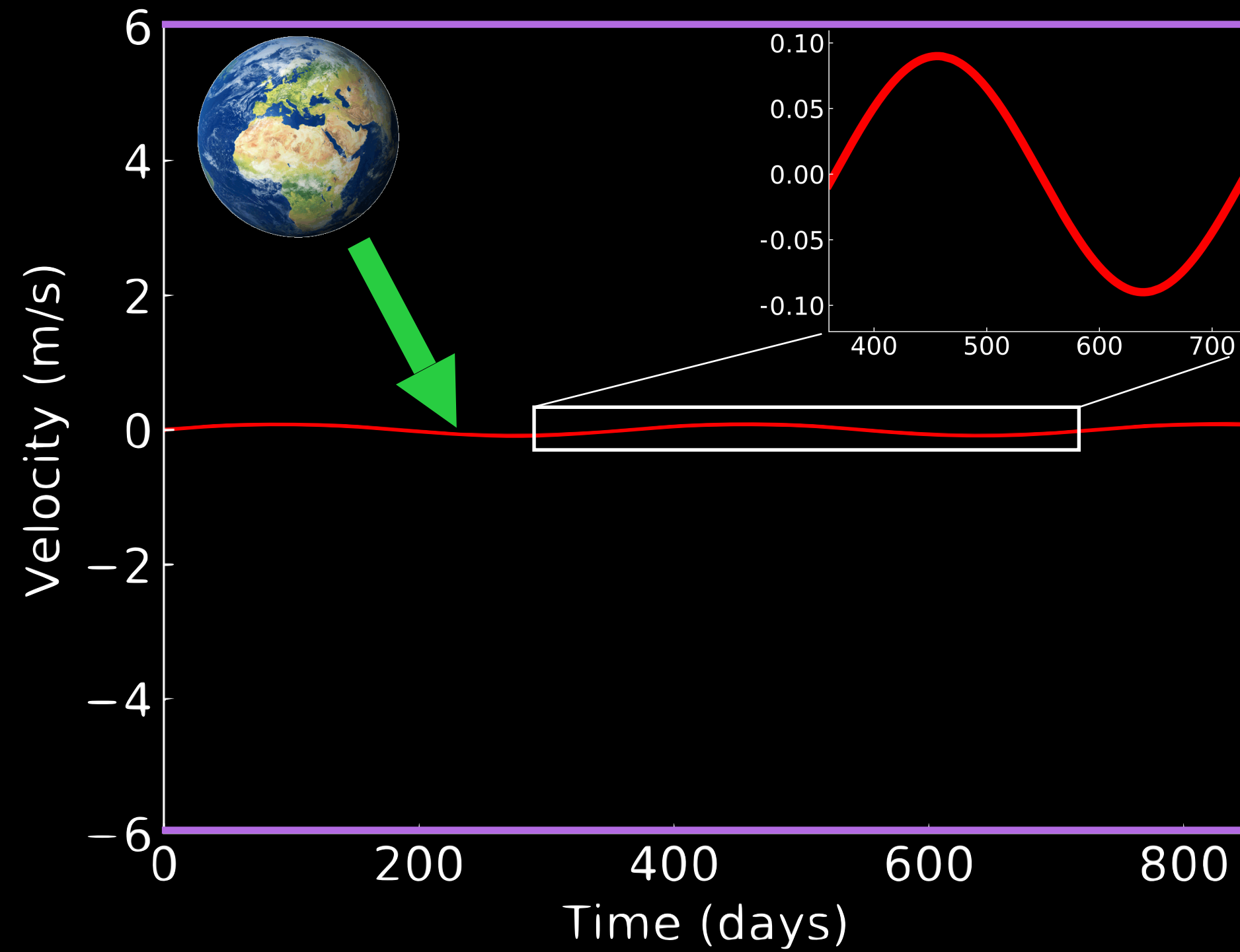
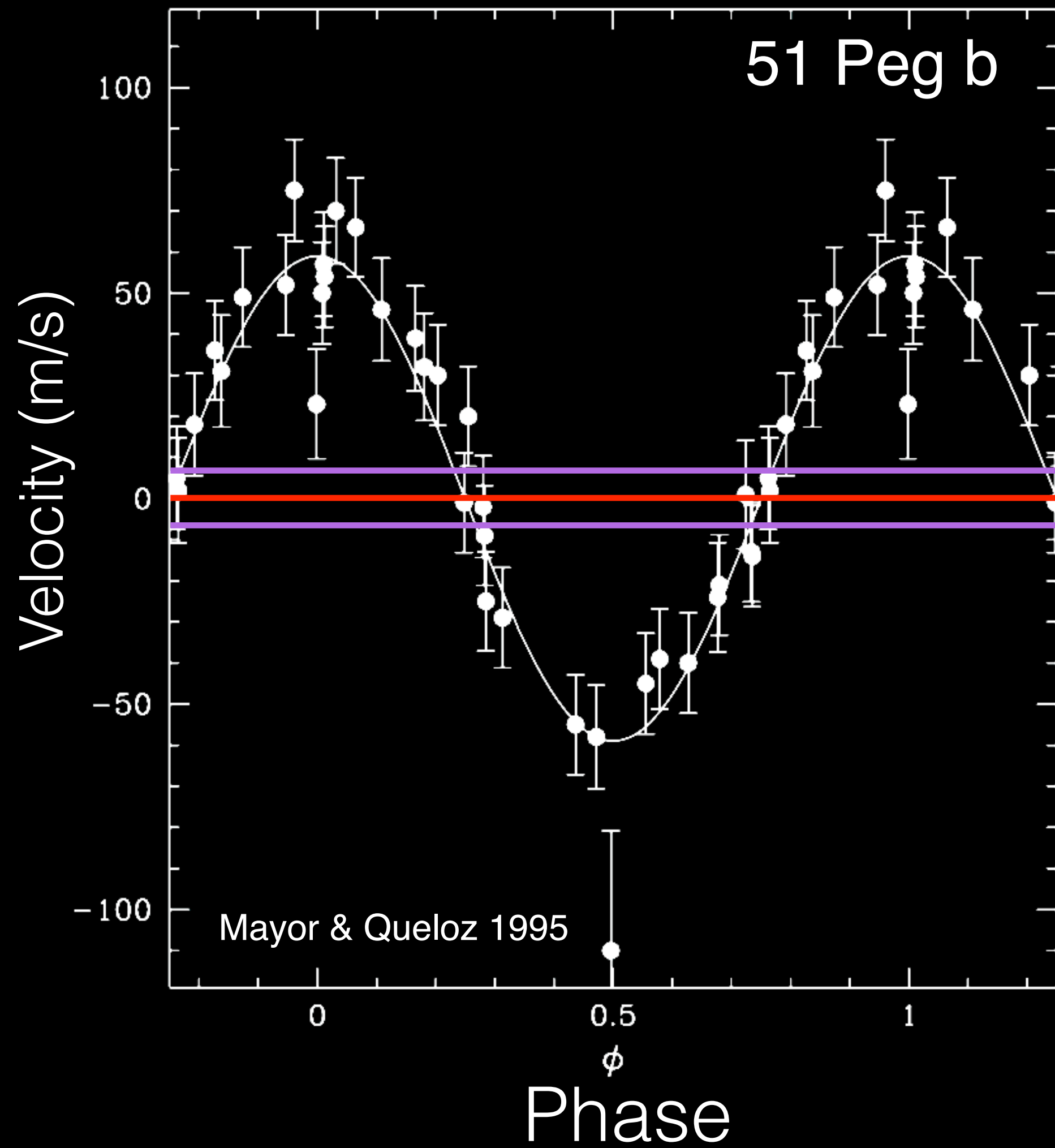




# Confirming Alien Worlds & Determining Planet Mass

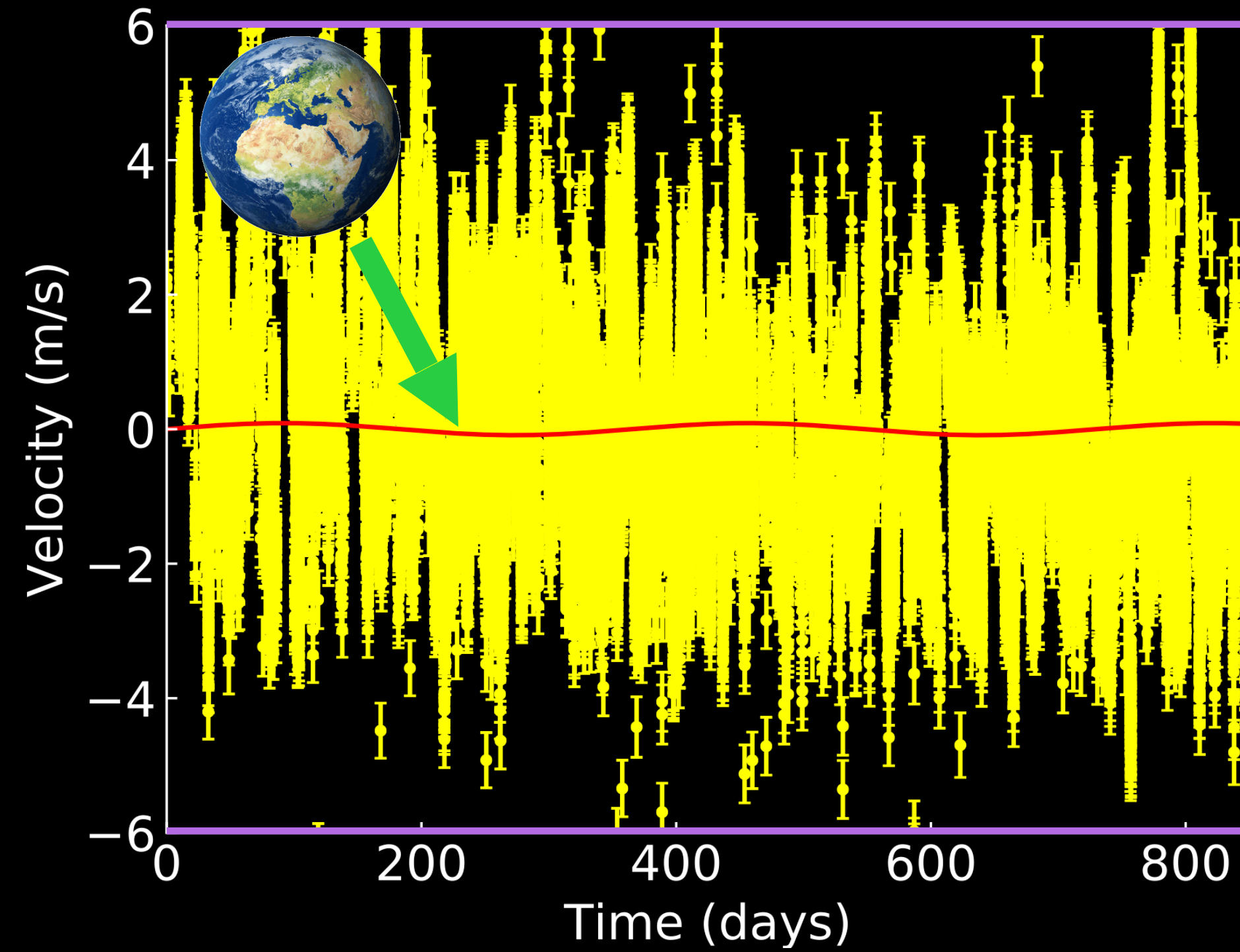
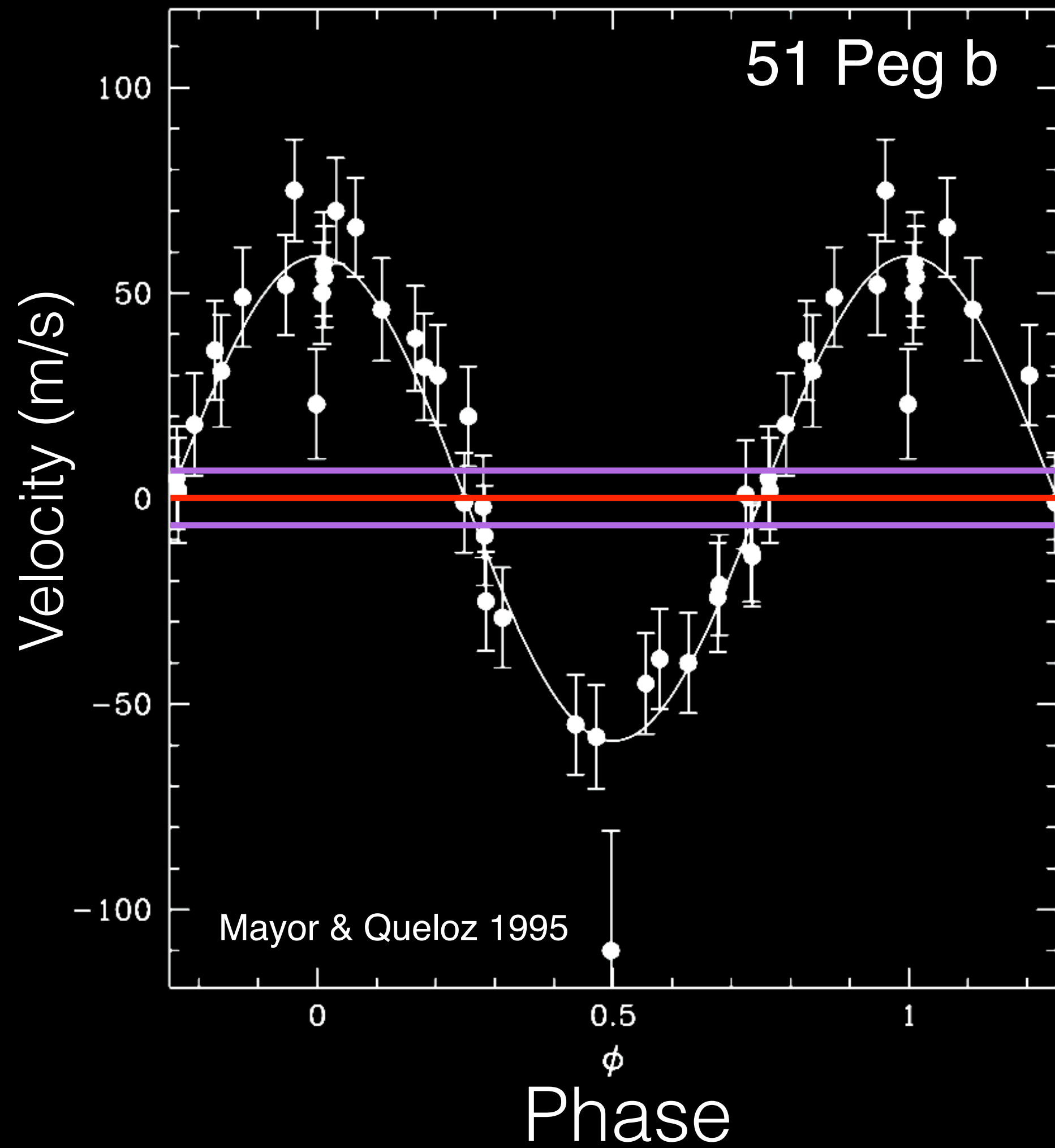


# Confirming Alien Worlds & Determining Planet Mass

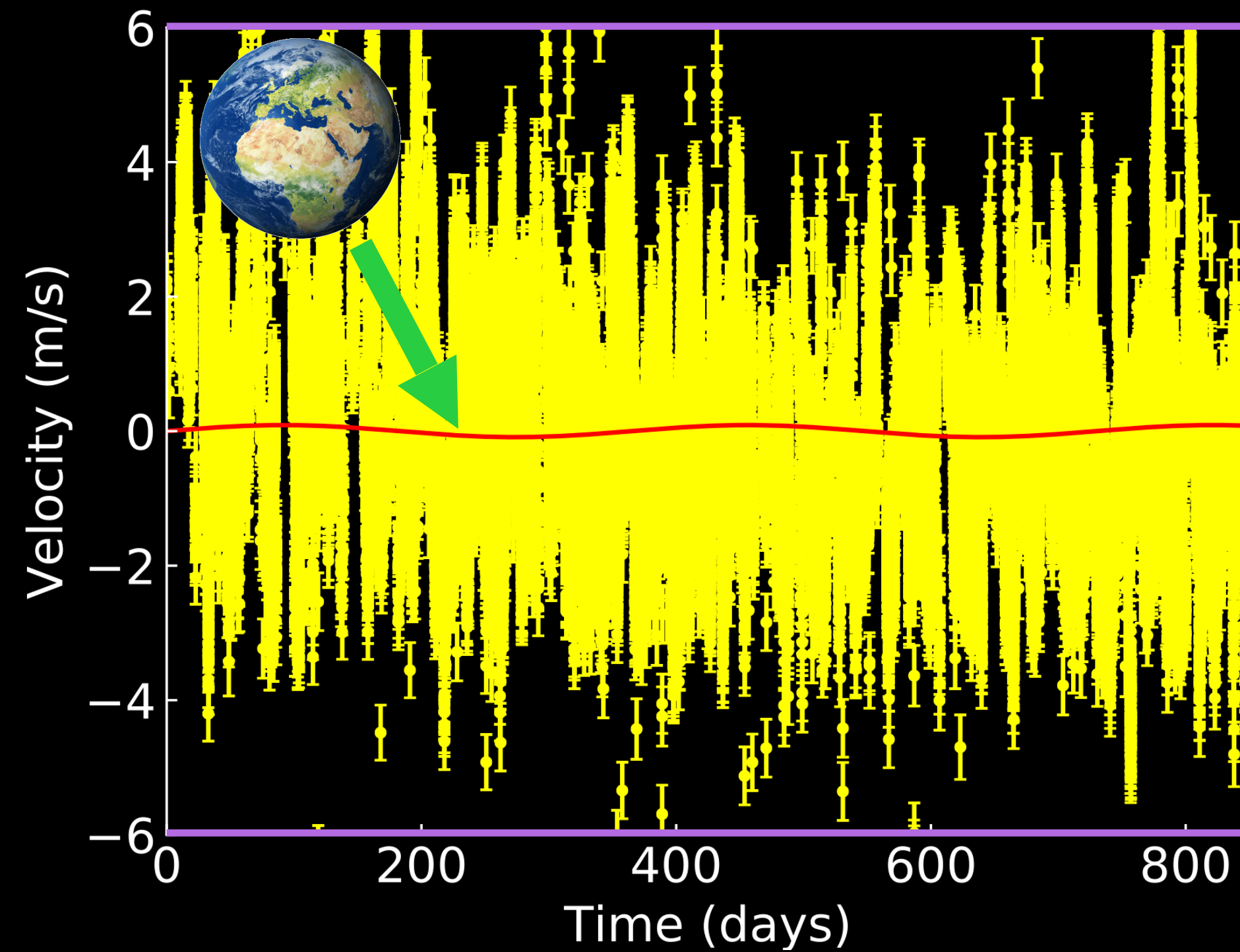
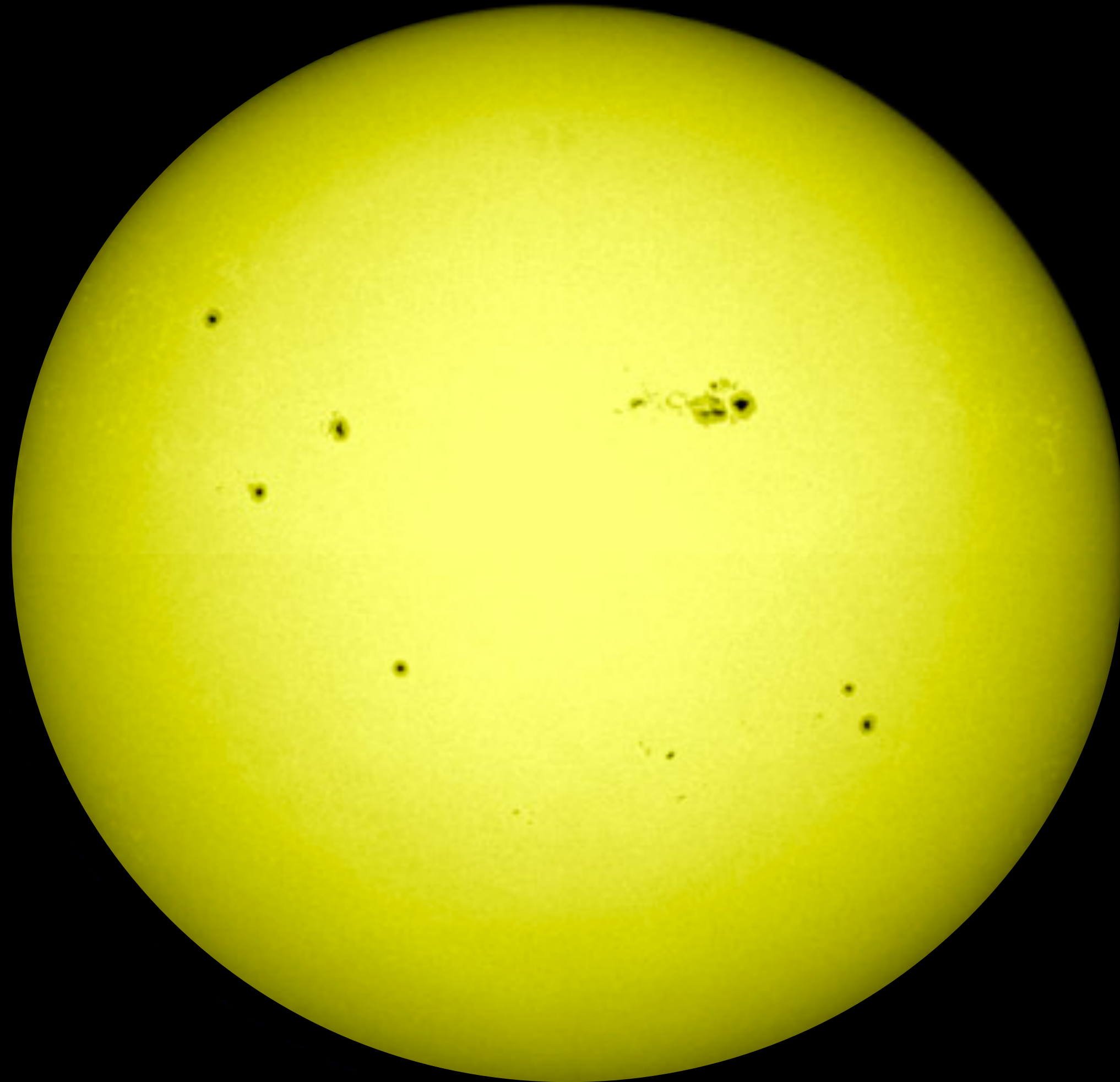




# Confirming Alien Worlds & Determining Planet Mass

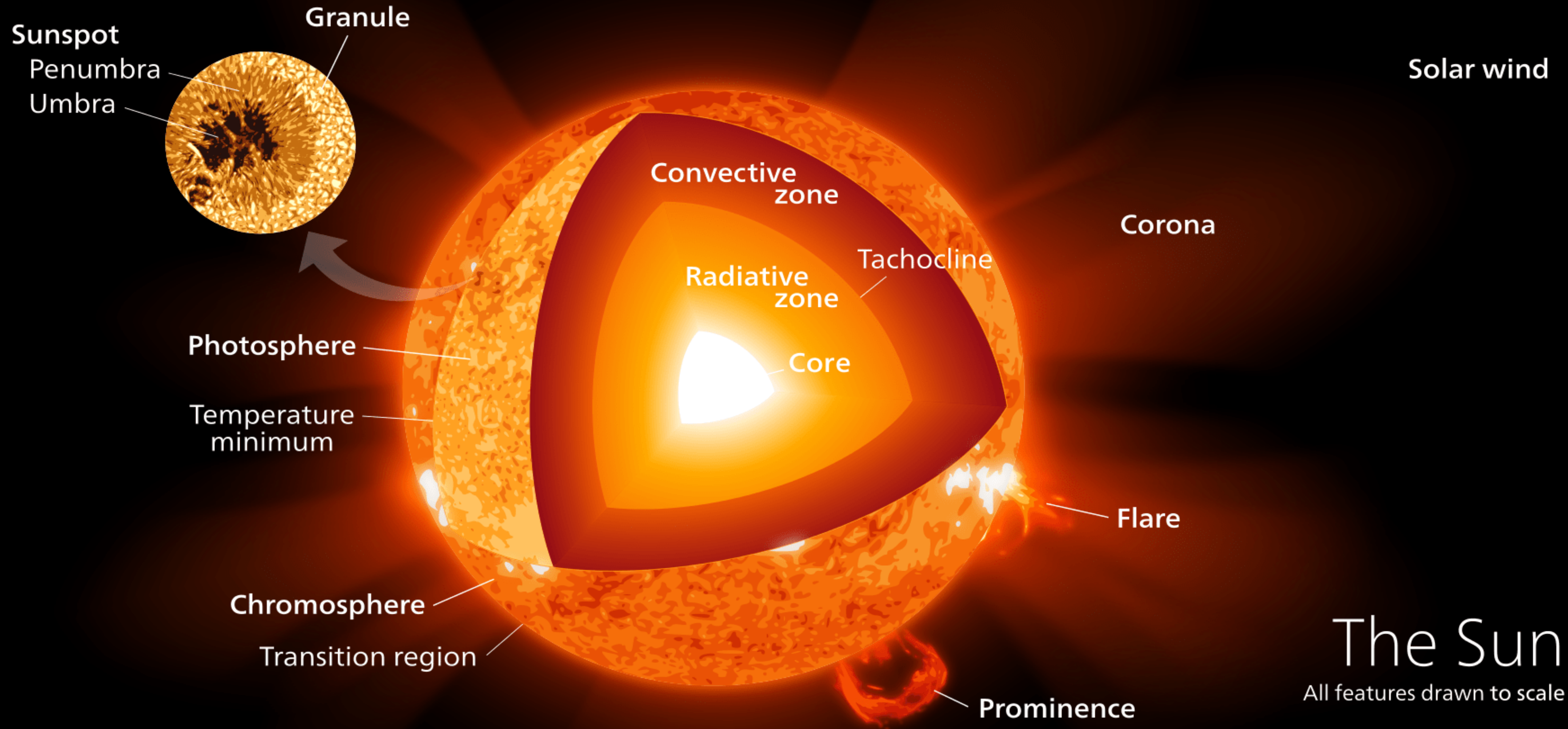


# Stellar Variability Induces Spurious Velocity Shifts



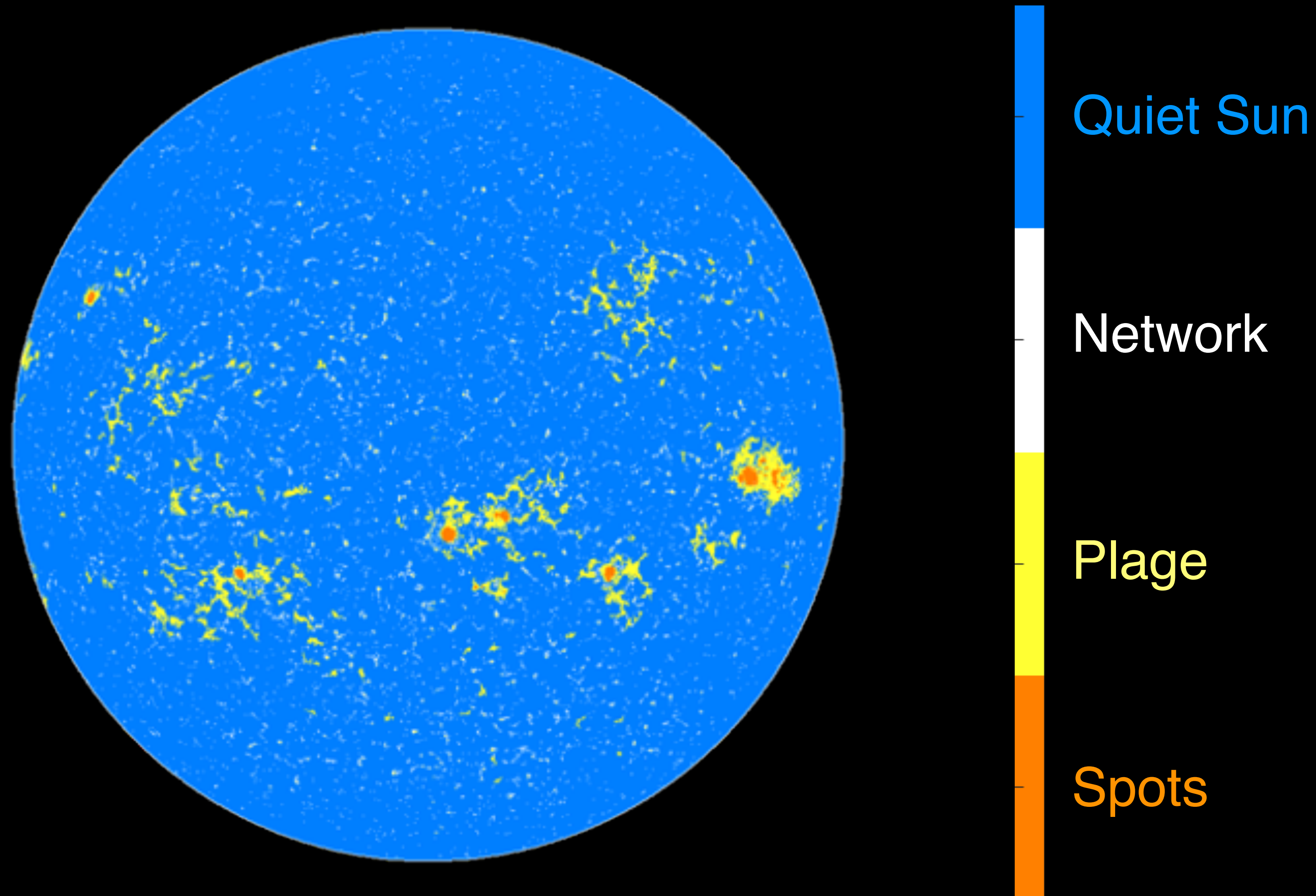


# Stellar Variability



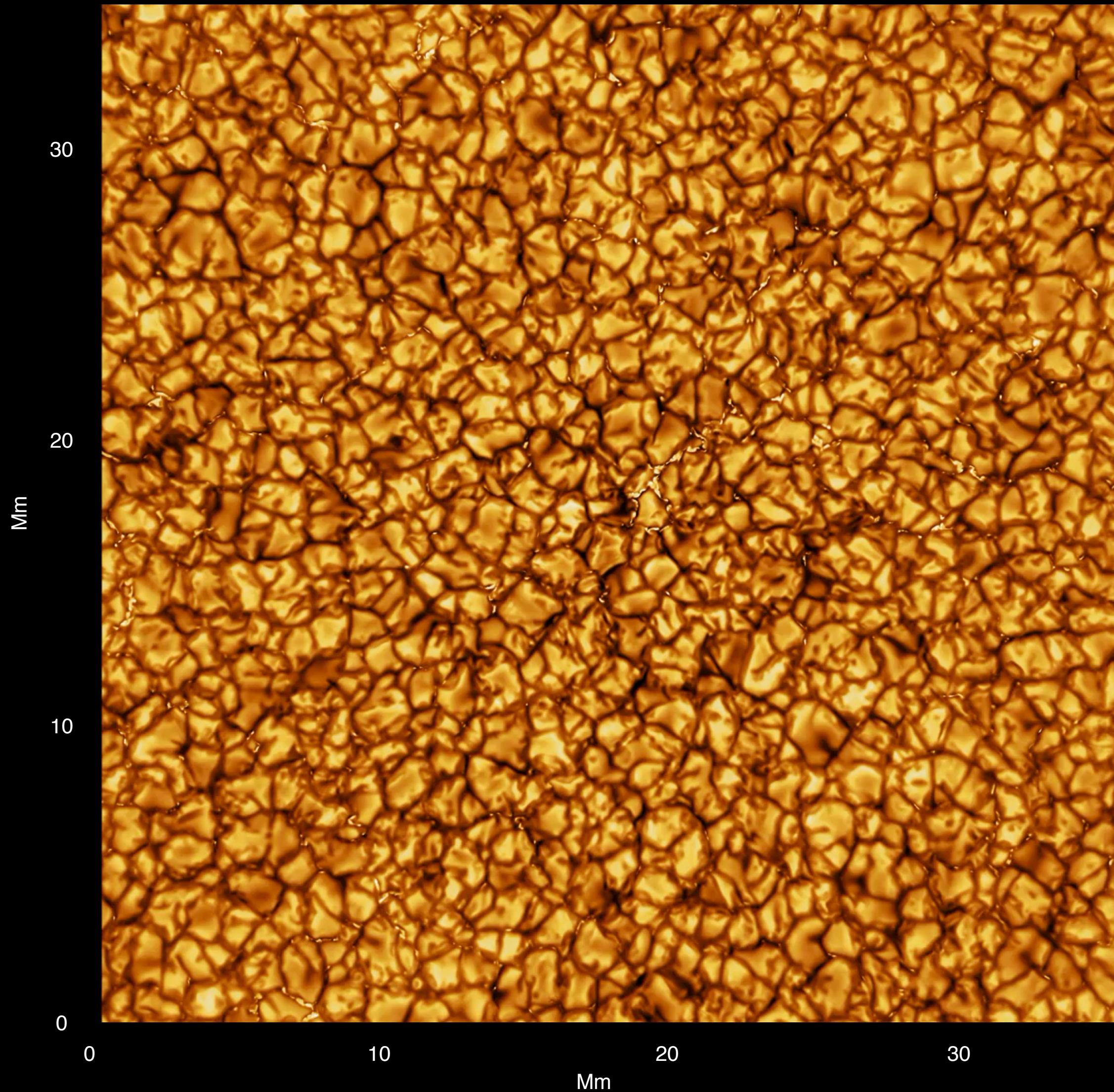


# Stellar Photosphere Components

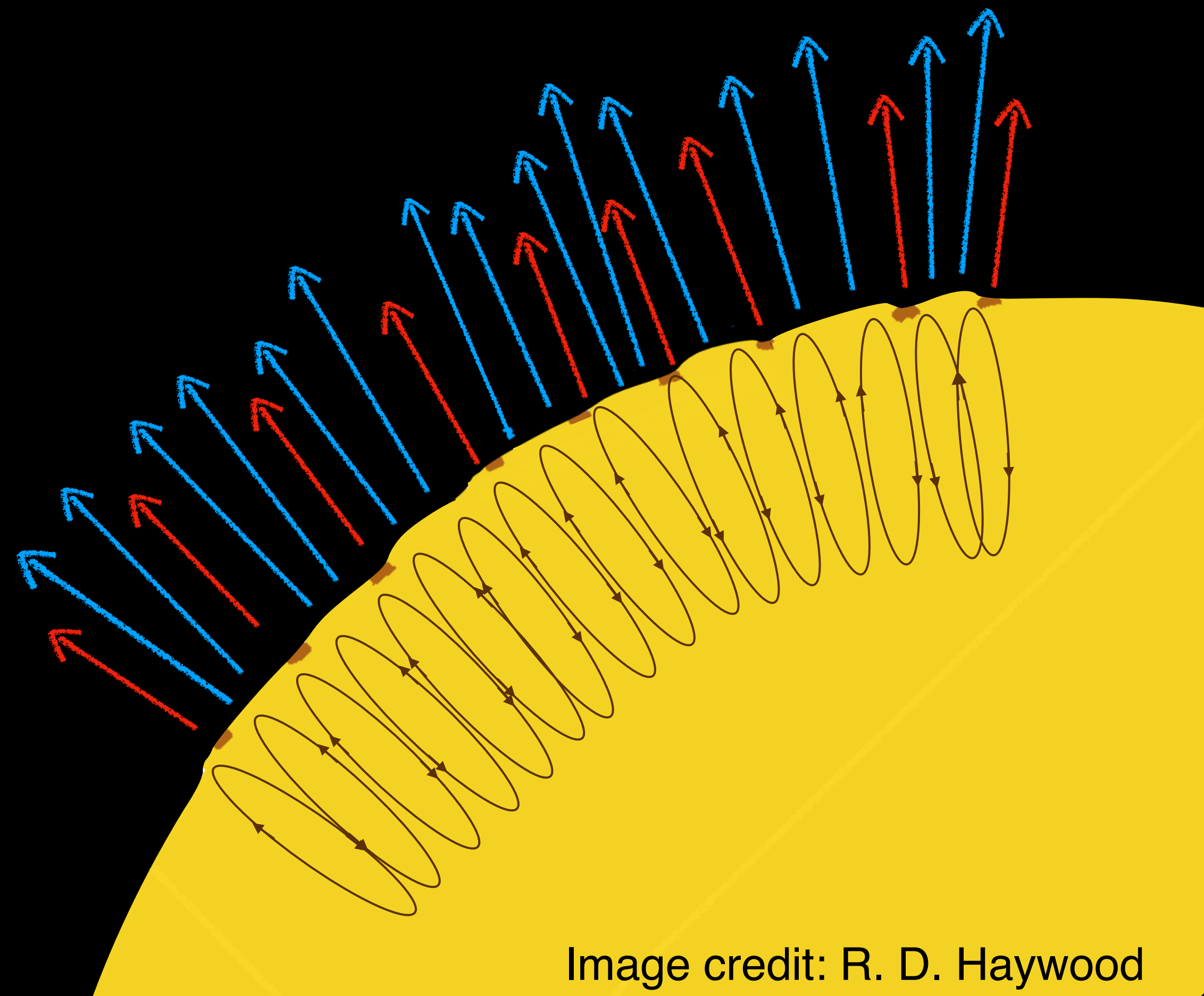




# Stellar Variability: Convection/Granulation



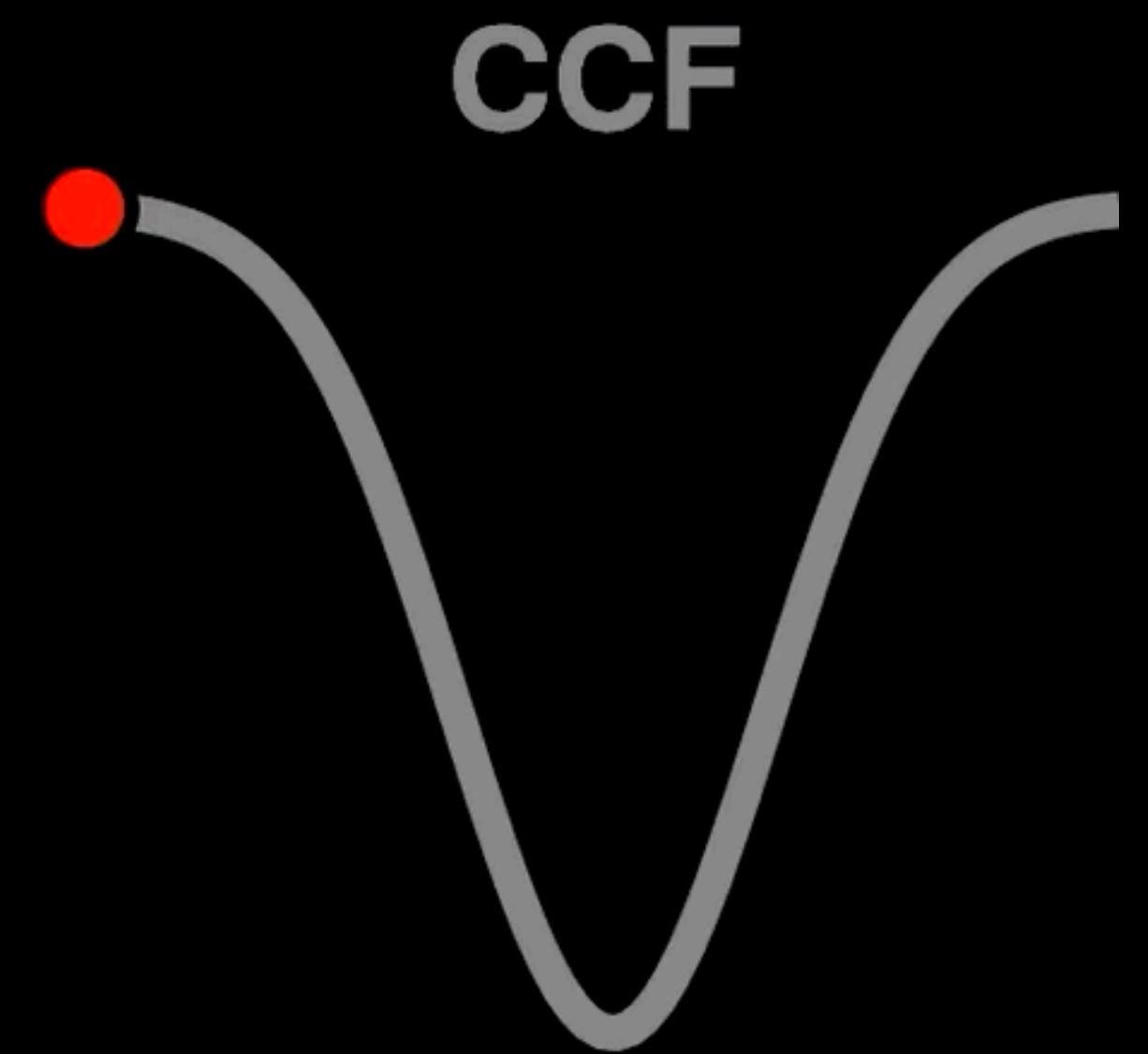
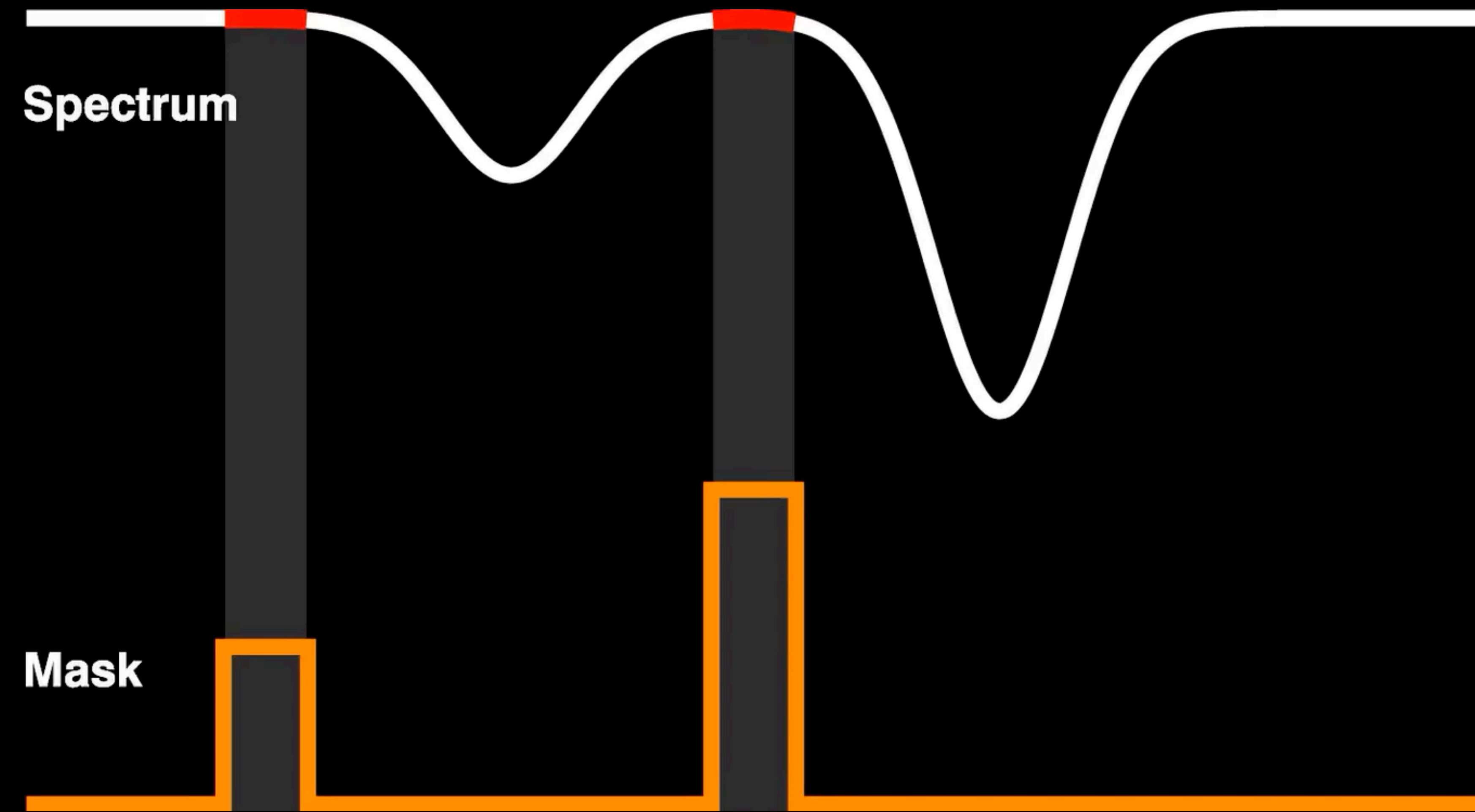
“Quiet Sun”







# Confirming Alien Worlds: Measuring Velocities

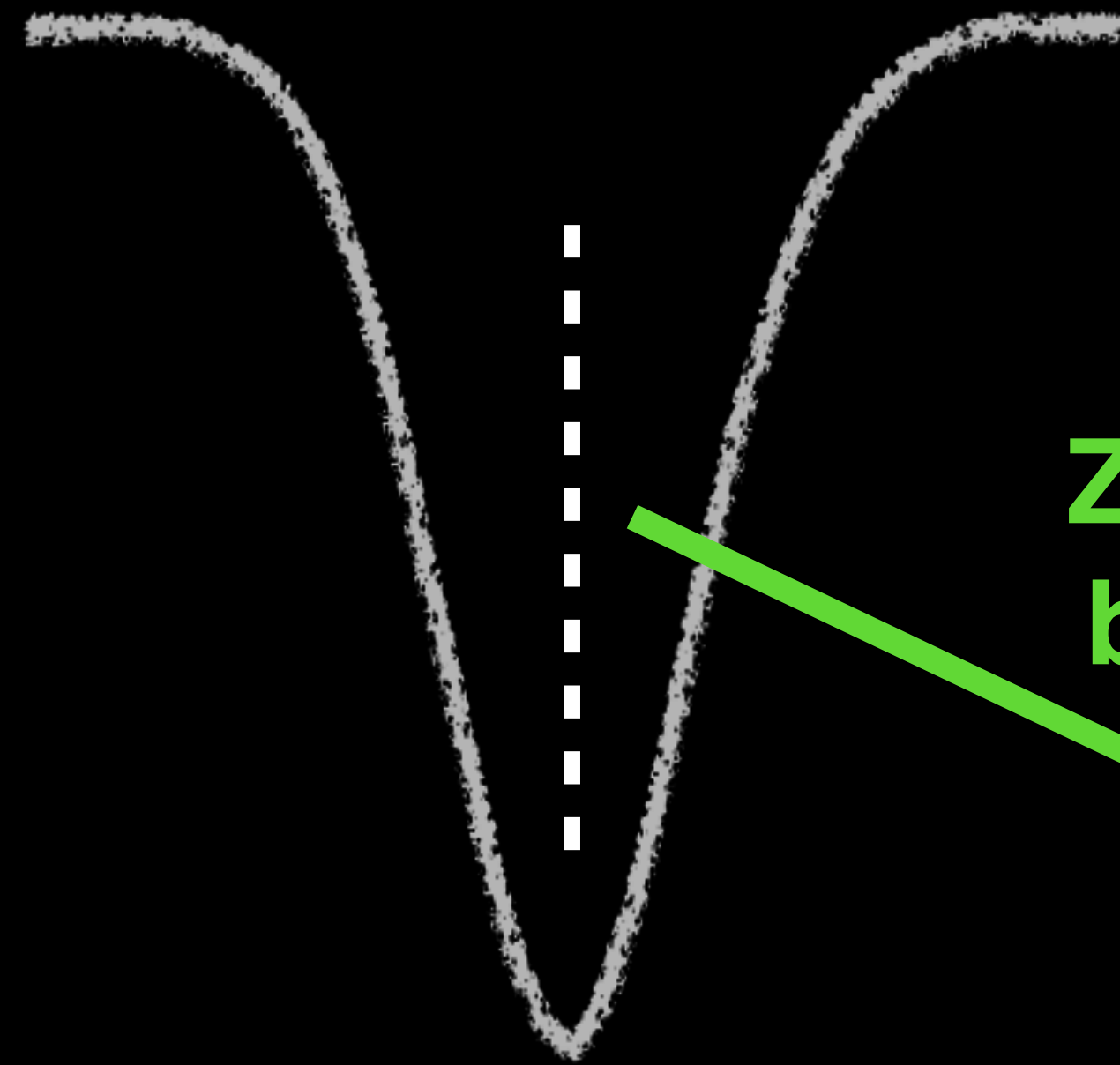


Sam Halverson

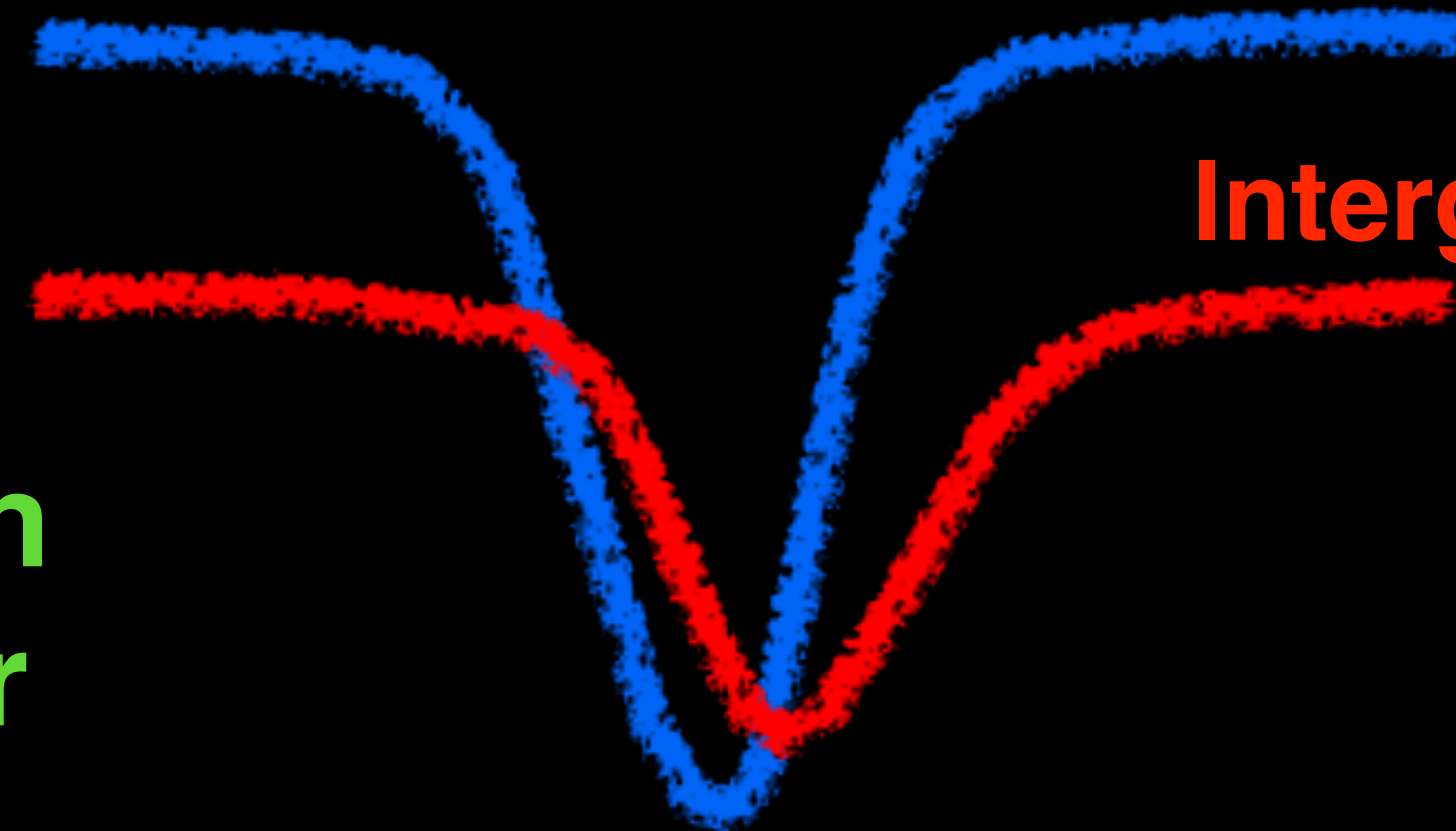
See talks by Sharon Wang, Stephanie Leifer and Sam Halverson for more details

# Stellar Variability: Convection/Granulation

Total line profile

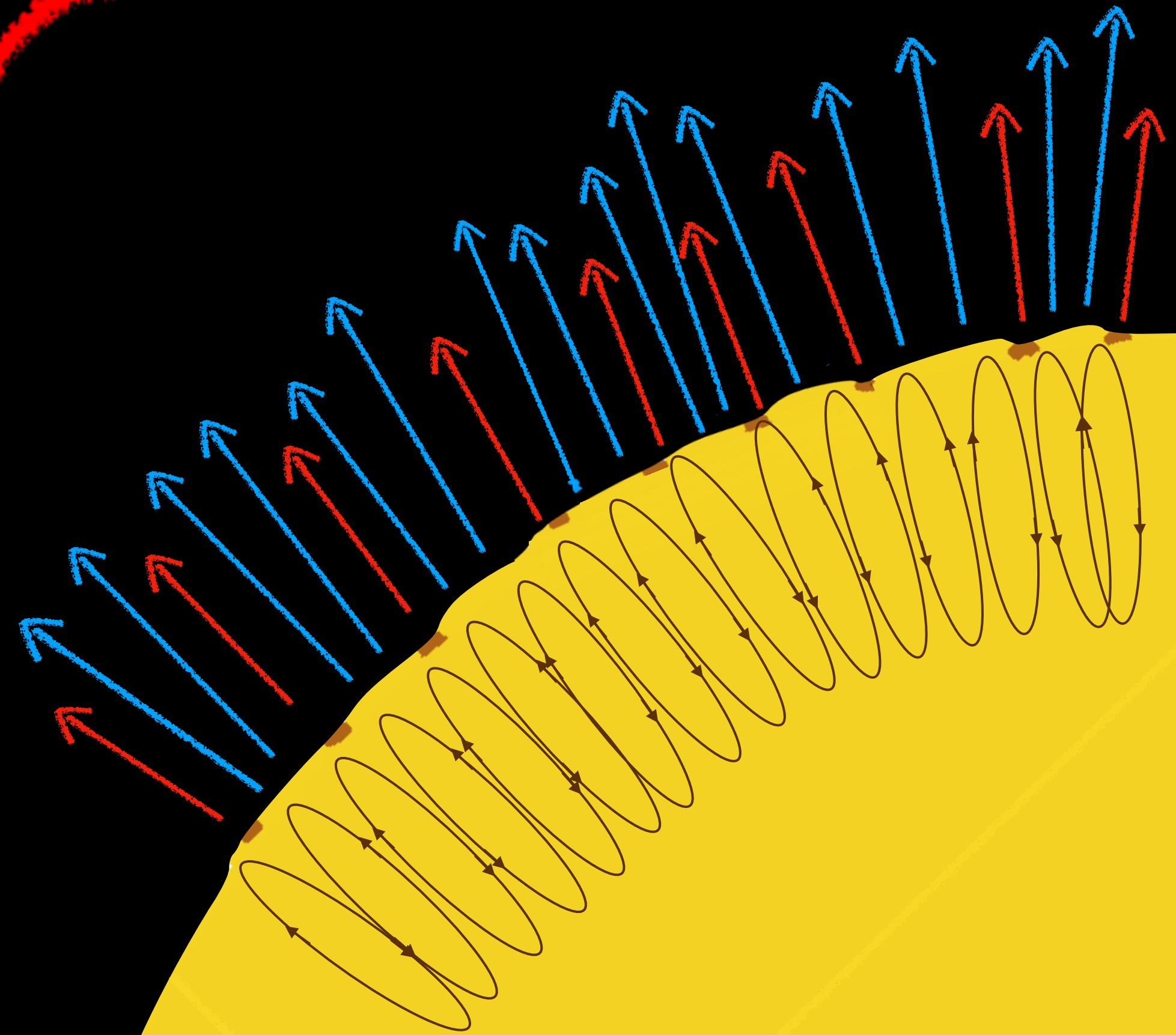
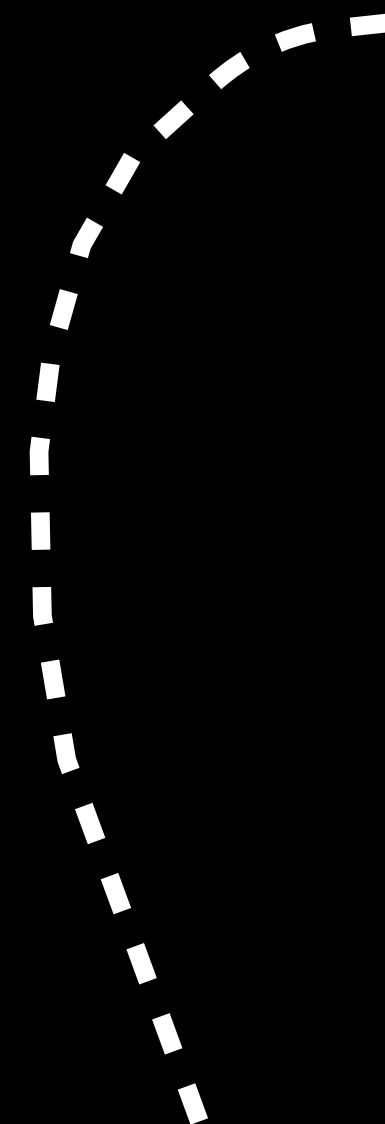


Zoom on bisector



Granule

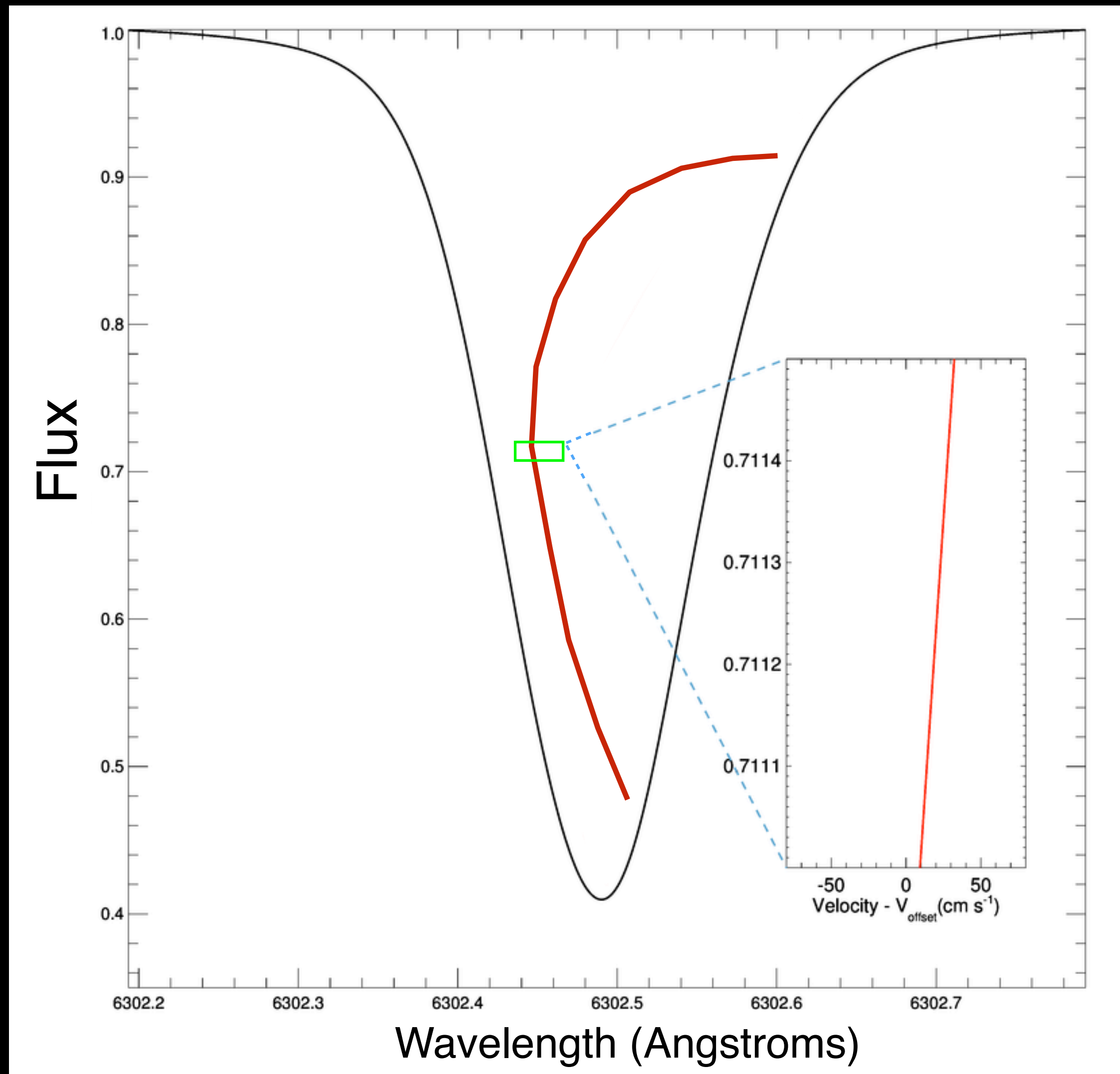
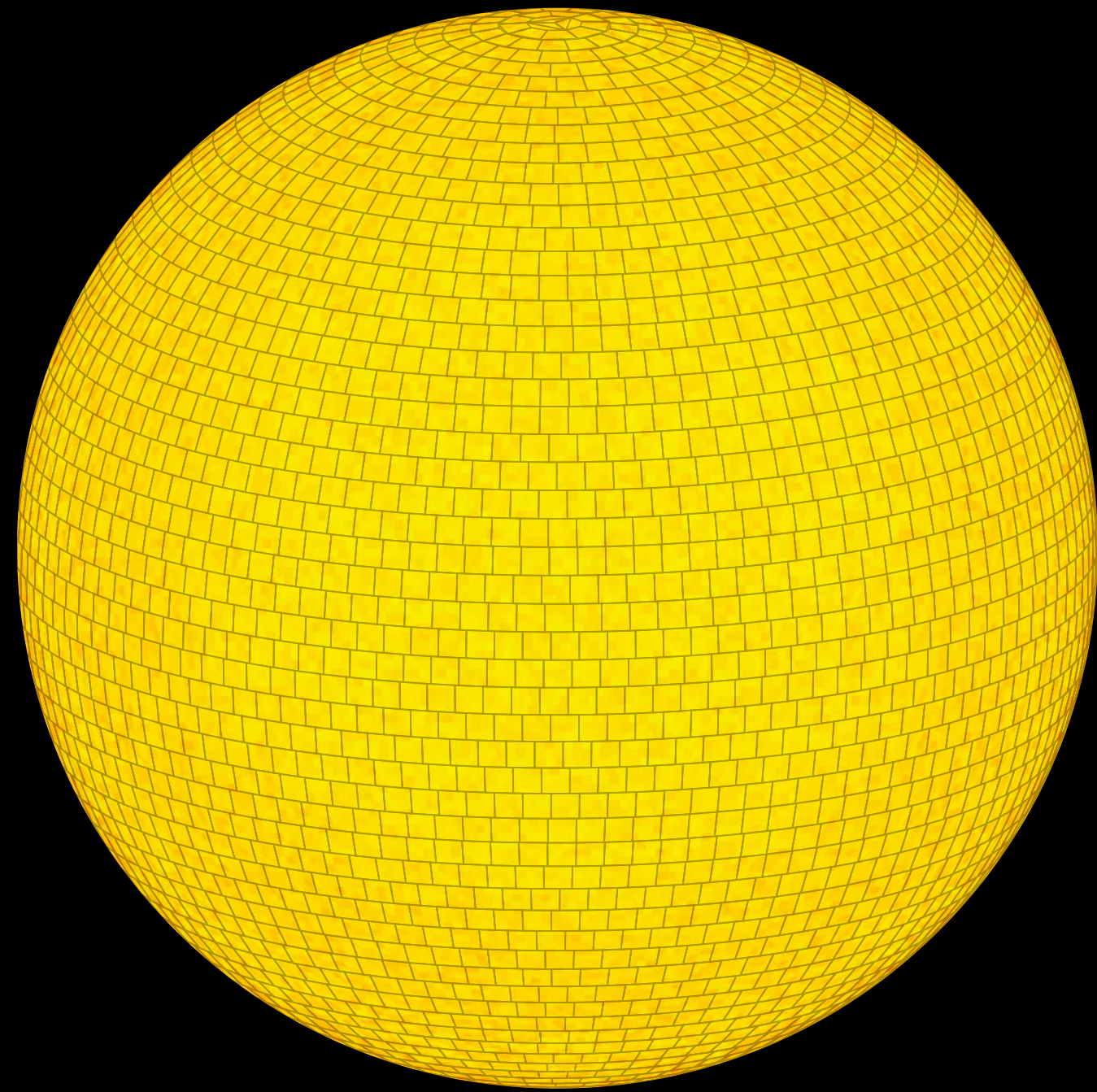
Intergranular Lane



**Convection induces asymmetries, a net blueshift, and temporal velocity shifts**

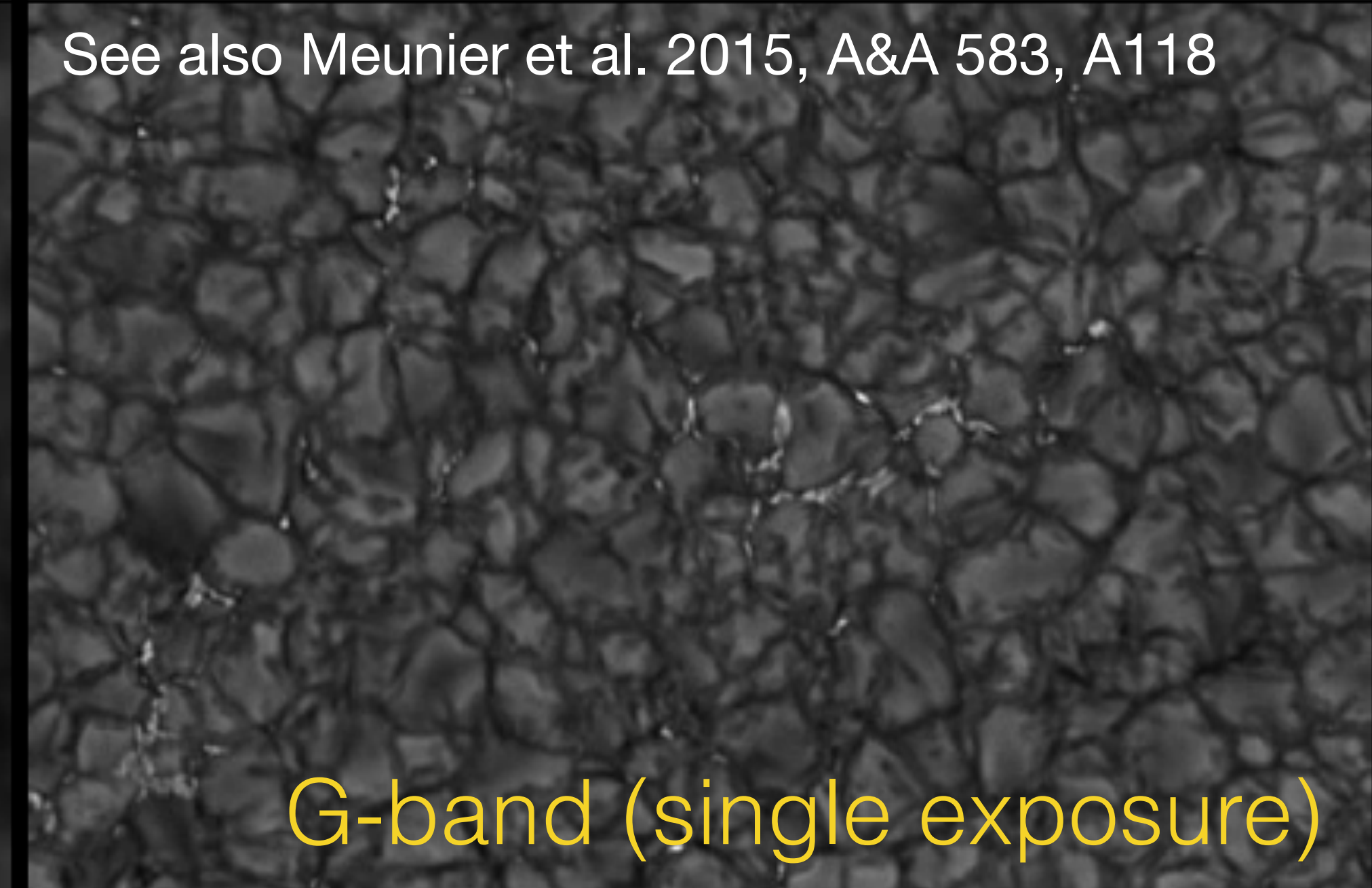
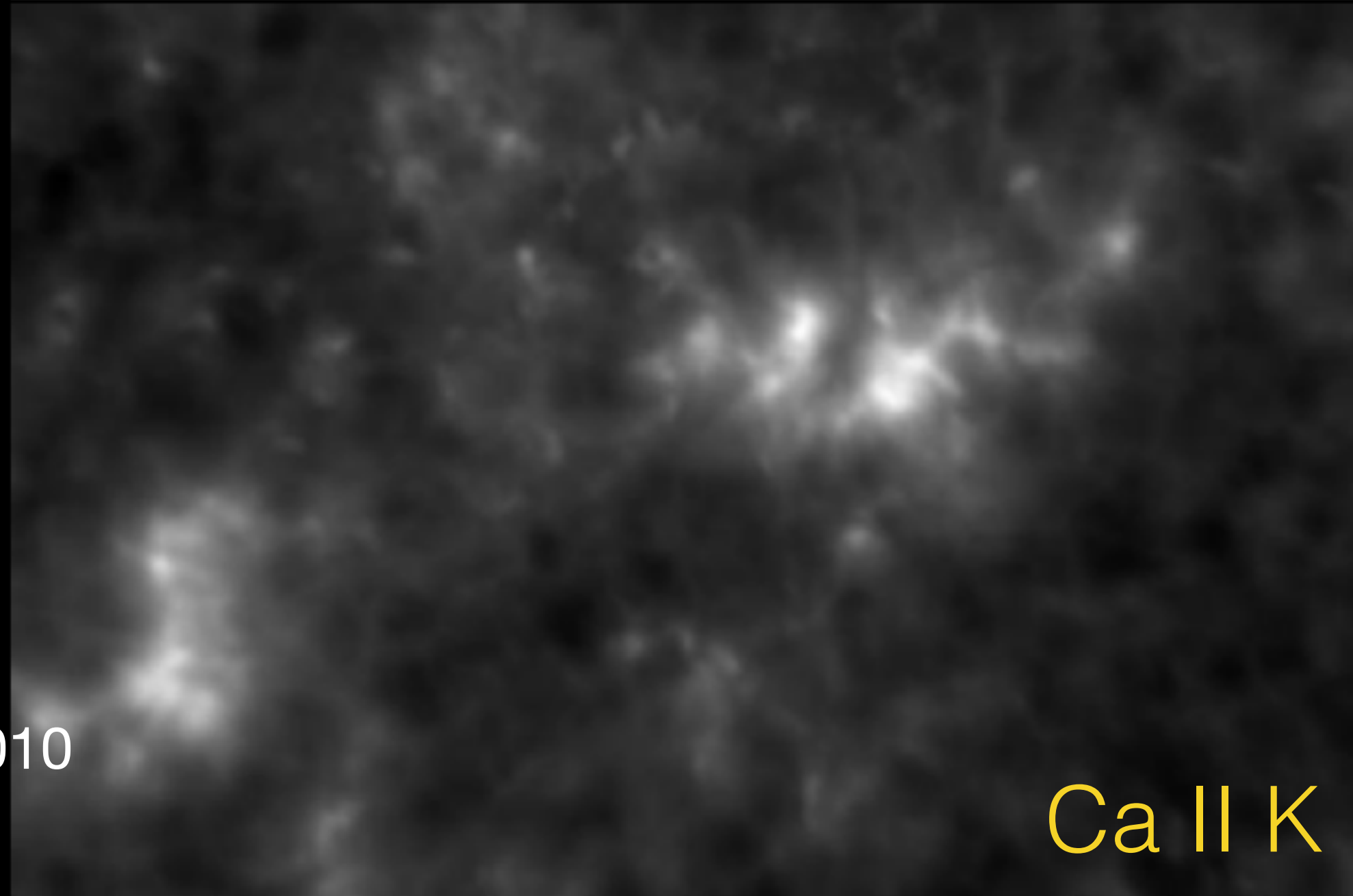
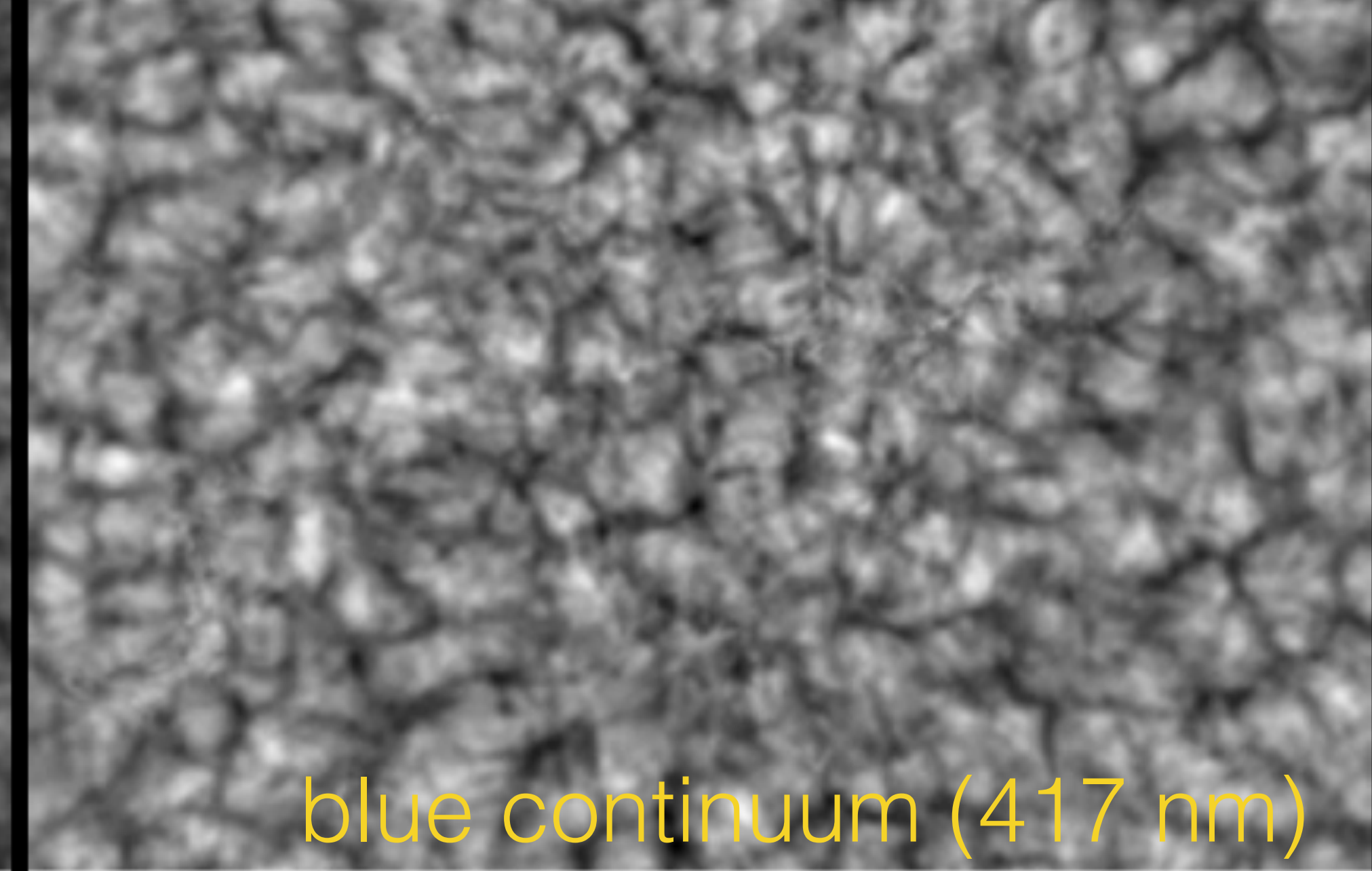
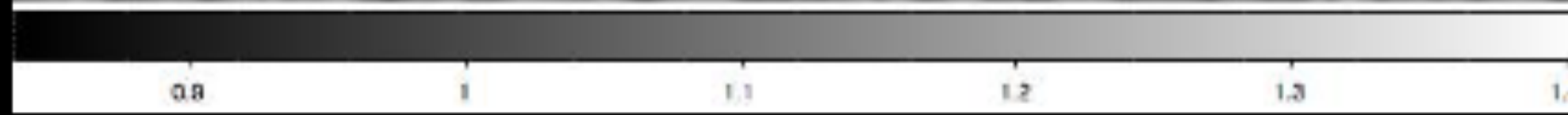
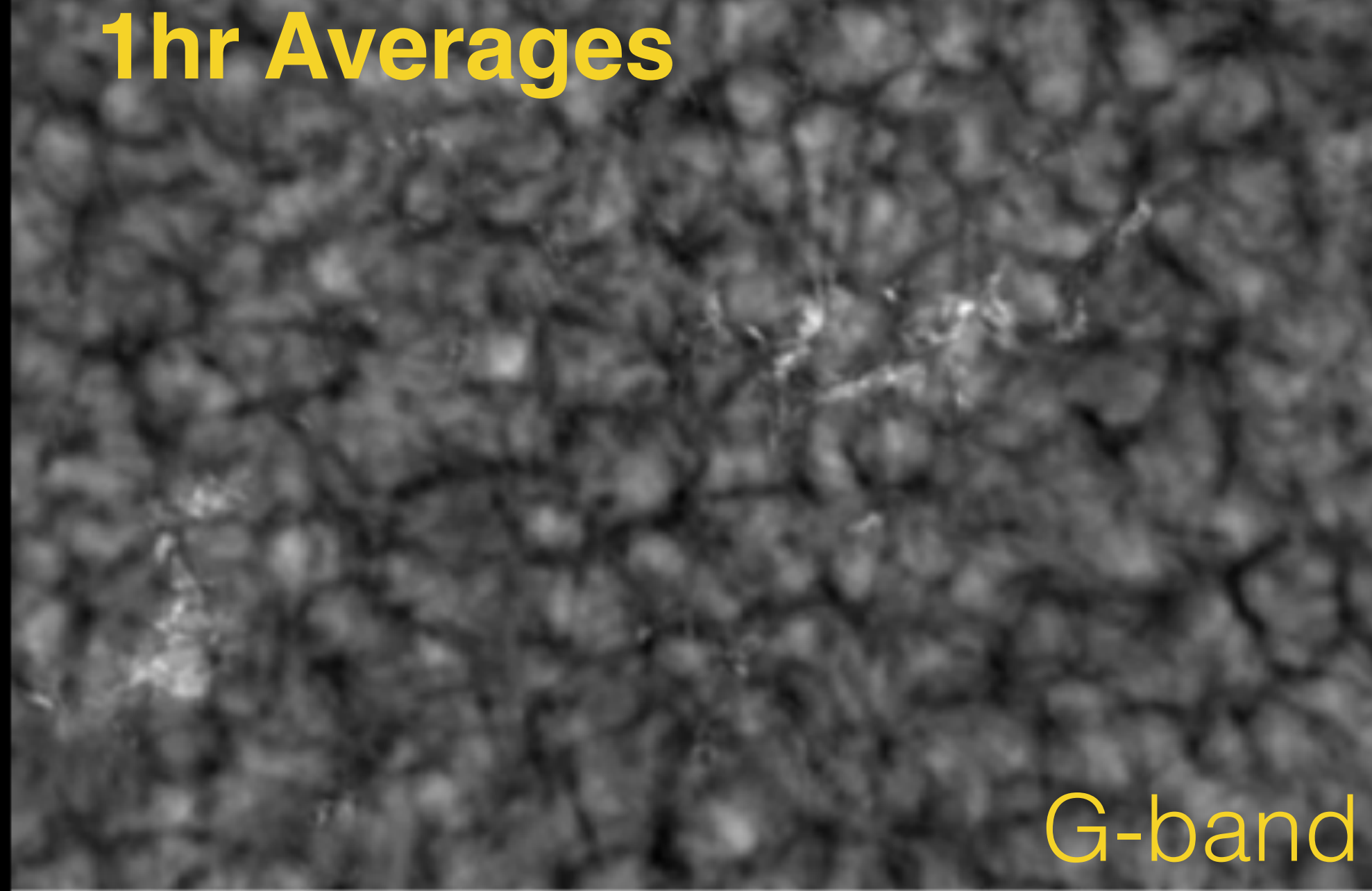


# Stellar Variability: Convection/Granulation





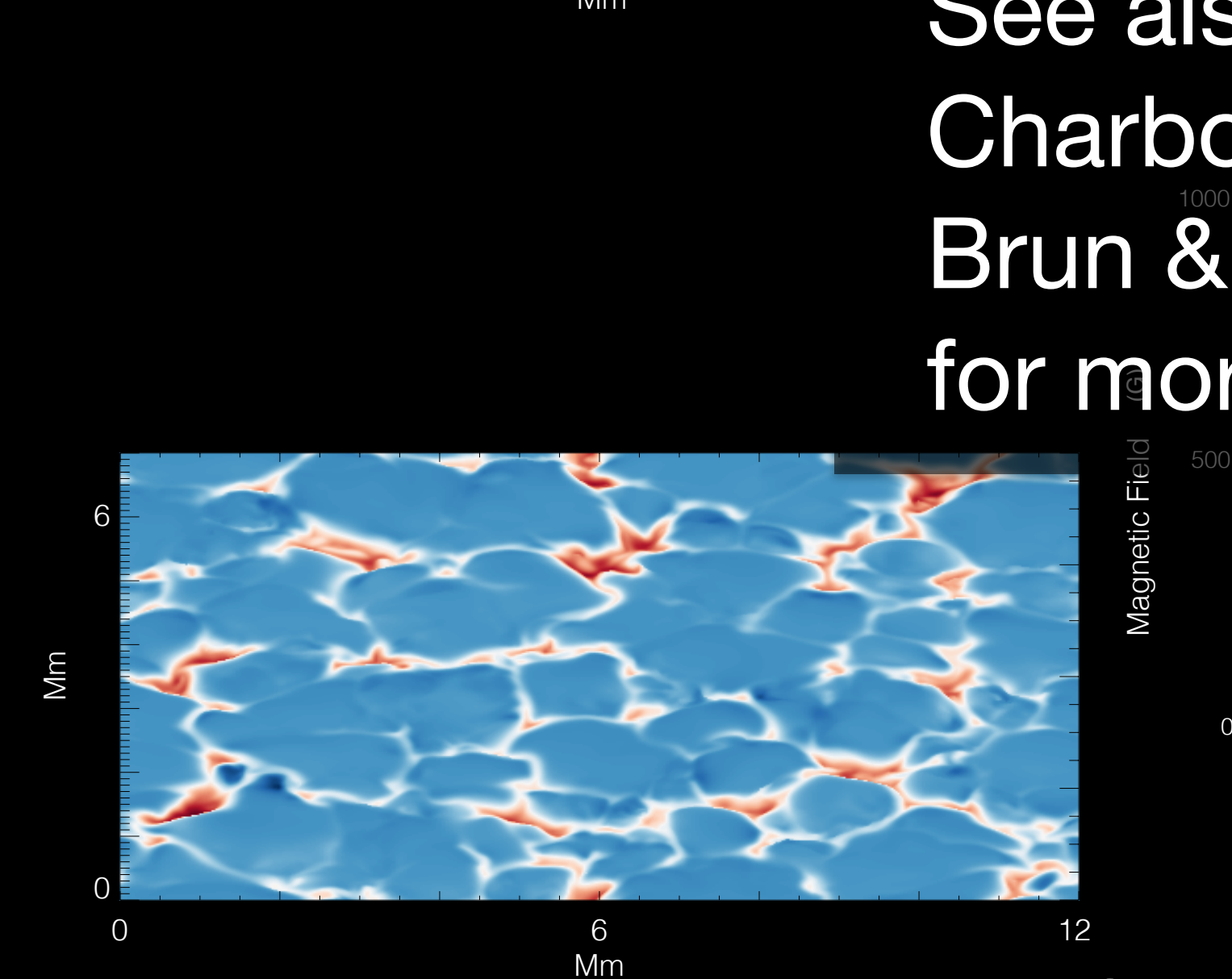
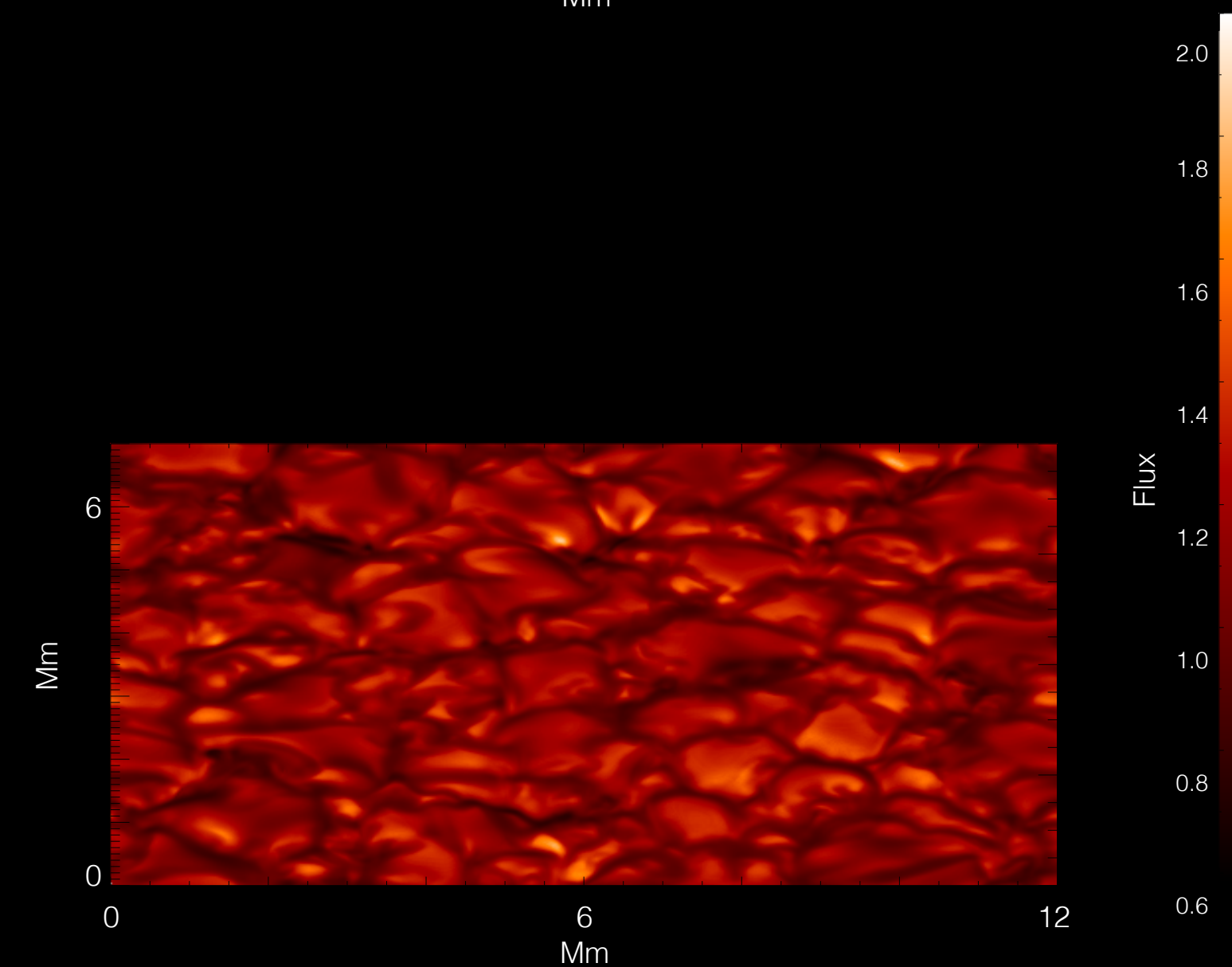
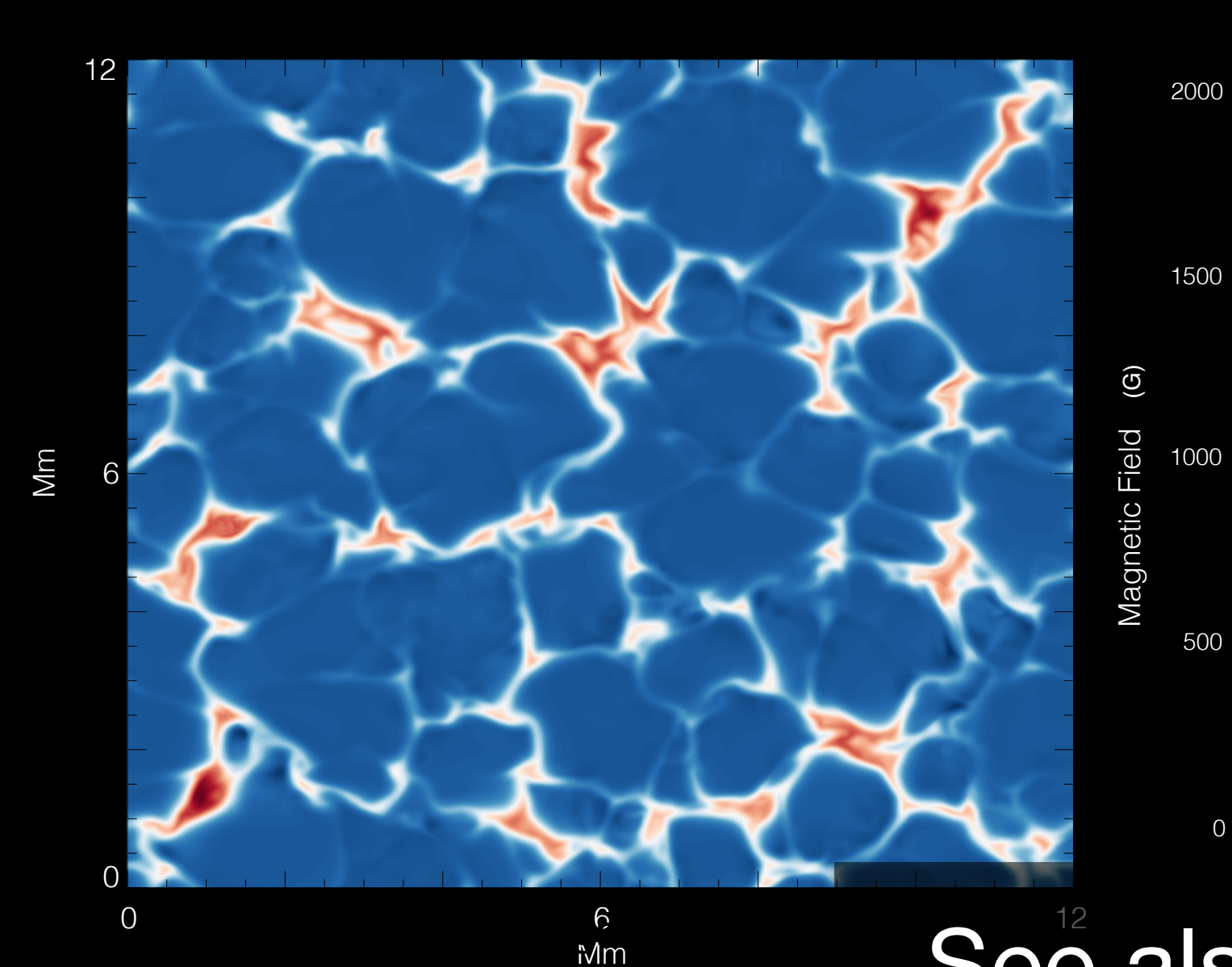
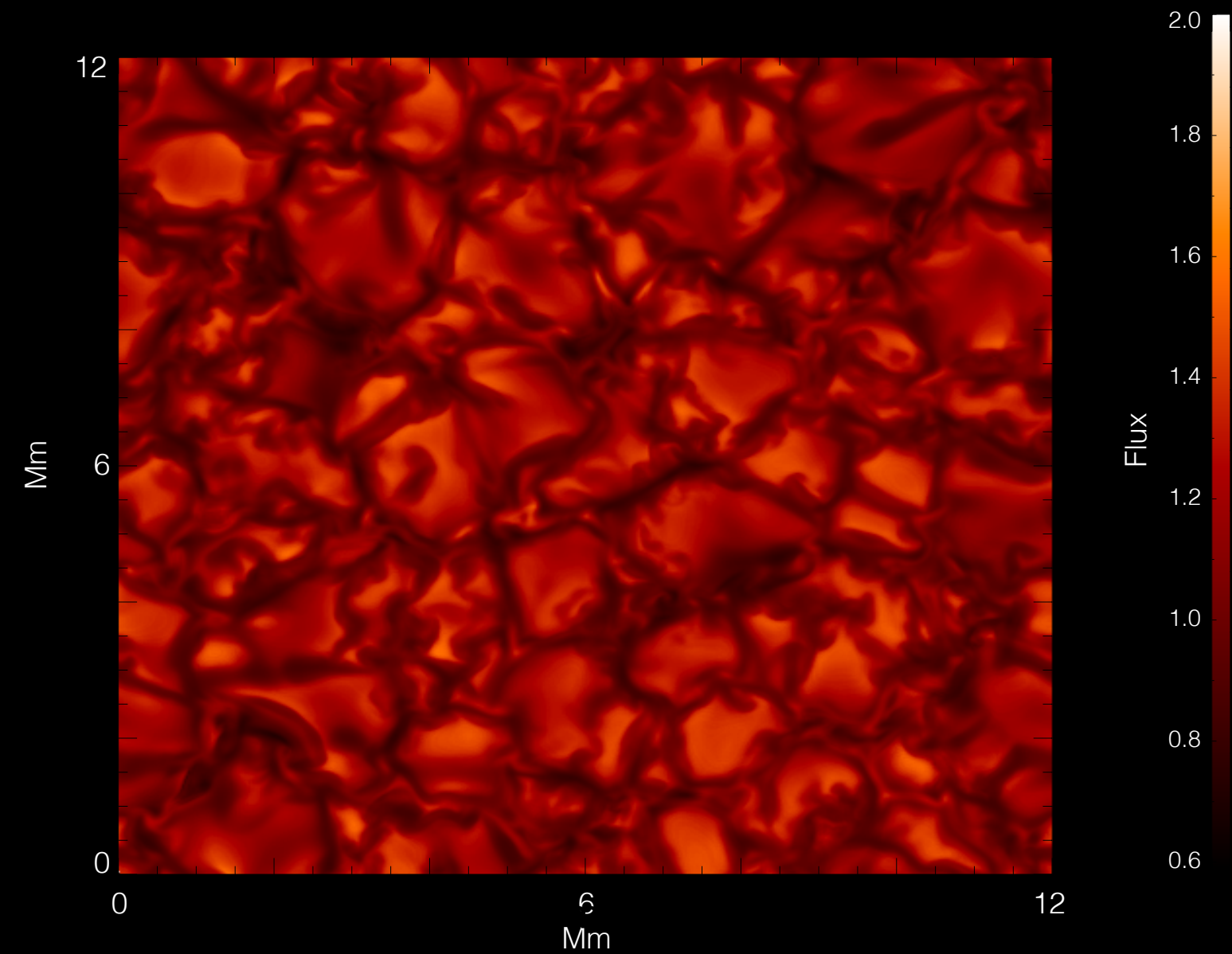
# 1hr Averages



See also Meunier et al. 2015, A&A 583, A118



# Stellar Variability: Convection $\rightarrow$ Magneto-convection



See also  
Charbonneau 2010/14,  
Brun & Browning 2017  
for more on dynamos



## Takeaways: Magneto-convection/Granulation

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Granule lifetimes from ~2 to 10 min

Individual granules have 1-4 km/s velocities

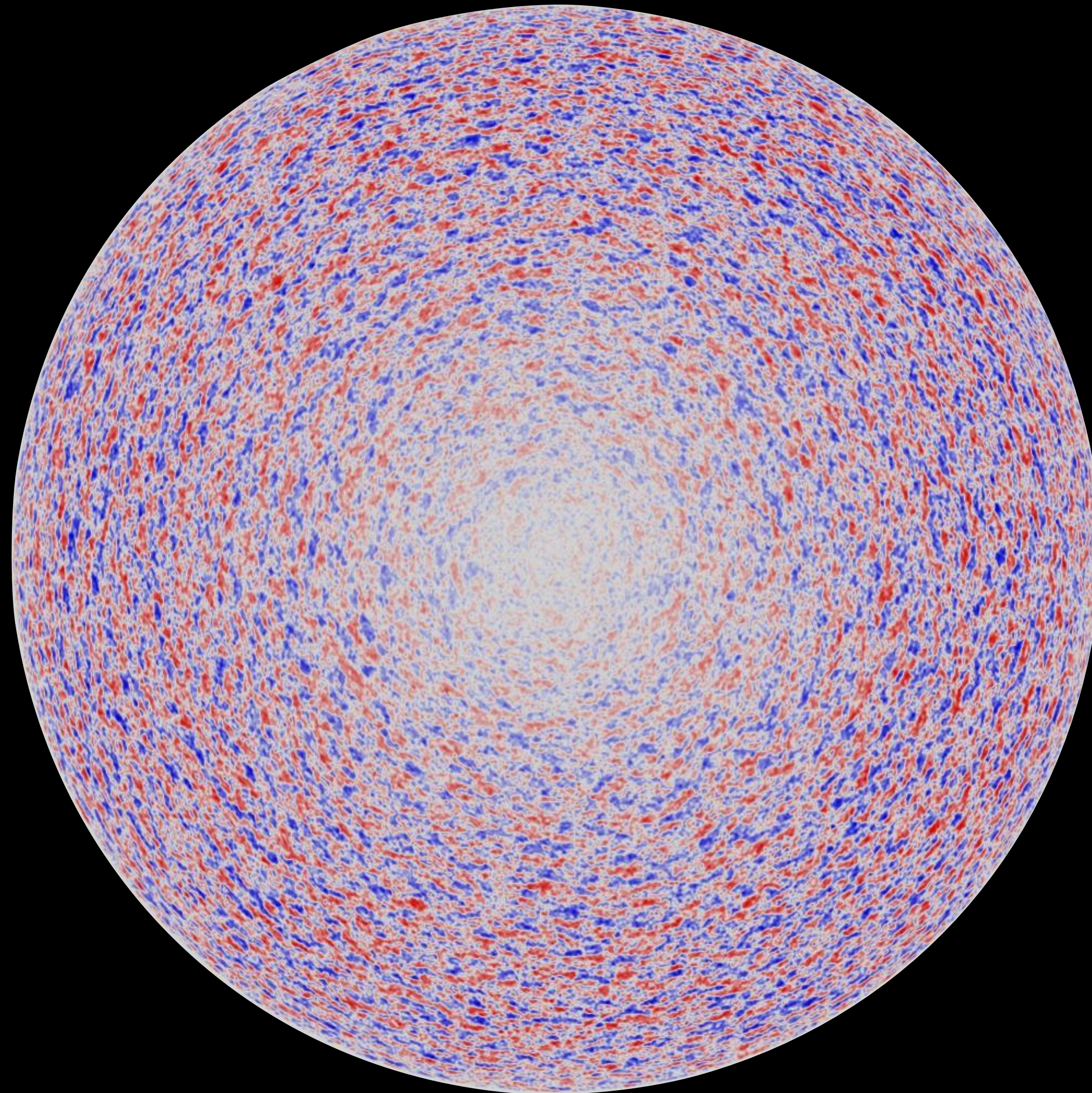
Net effect is several 10s of cm/s

Net RV effect decreases for cooler stars and increases for evolved stars

**Most 'stellar variability' governed by interplay between convection and magnetic fields**

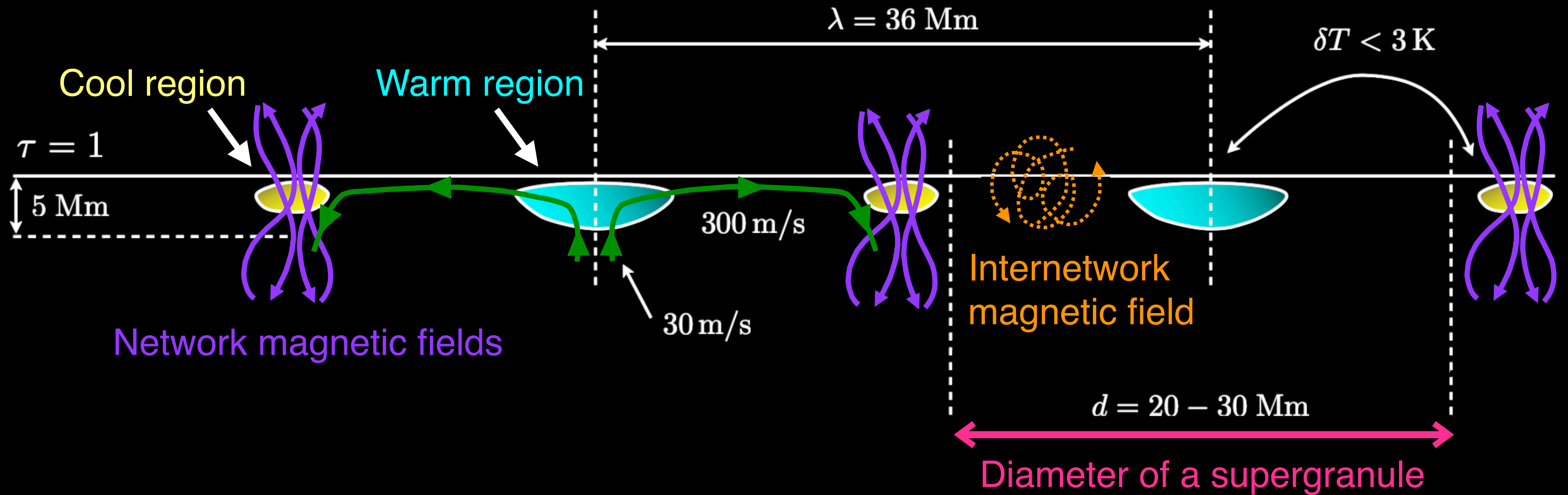


# Stellar Variability: Supergranulation





# Stellar Variability: Supergranulation





## Takeaways: Supergranulation

---

Supergranular lifetime on the Sun is  $\sim 1.8$  days

Collections of granules in  $\sim 30$  Mm diameter

Horizontal flows of  $\sim 300$  m/s on the Sun

Net effect is on the m/s level

Origin remains unclear, largely only studied on the Sun

# Stellar Variability: Mesogranulation

“... it is very likely that mesogranulation is a ghost feature of surface convection generated by averaging procedures.”

Rieutord & Rincon 2010

“... high-resolutions, space-based observations with the SDO ... have now clearly confirmed the lack of a distinctive spectral bump at mesogranulation scales”

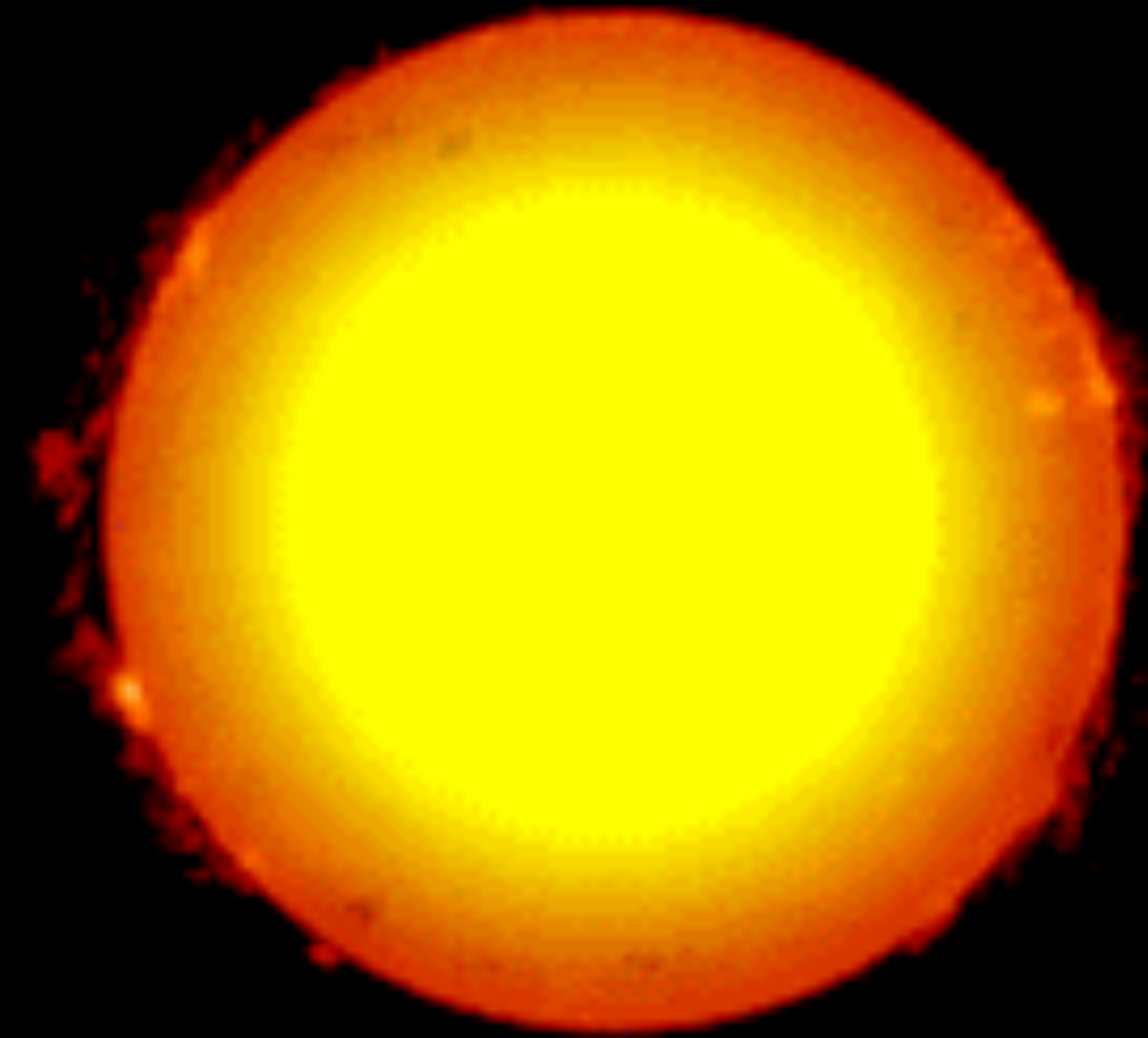
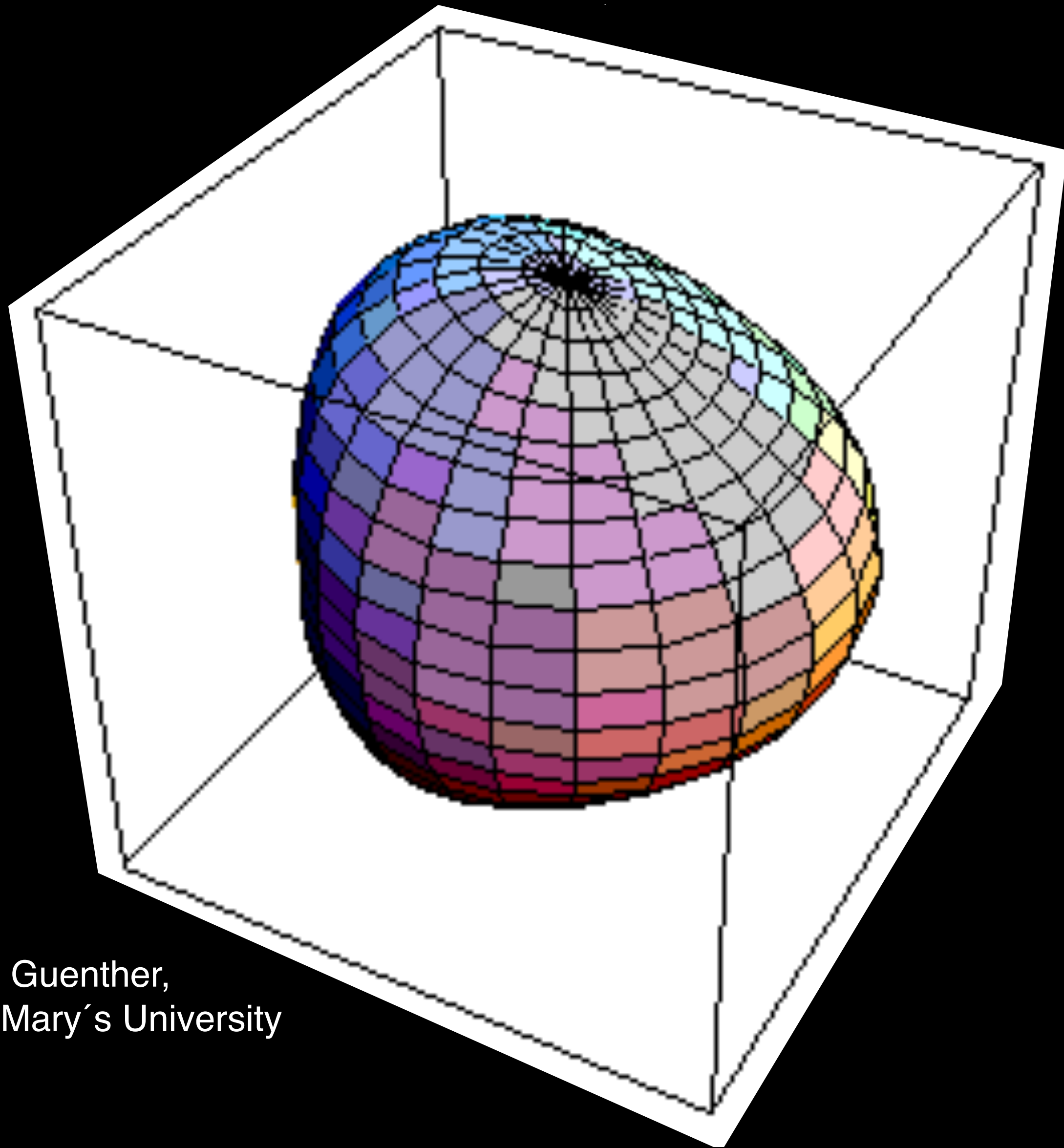
Rincon & Rieutord 2018

But this remains somewhat controversial ...

Corsaro et al. 2017; Kessar et al. 2019



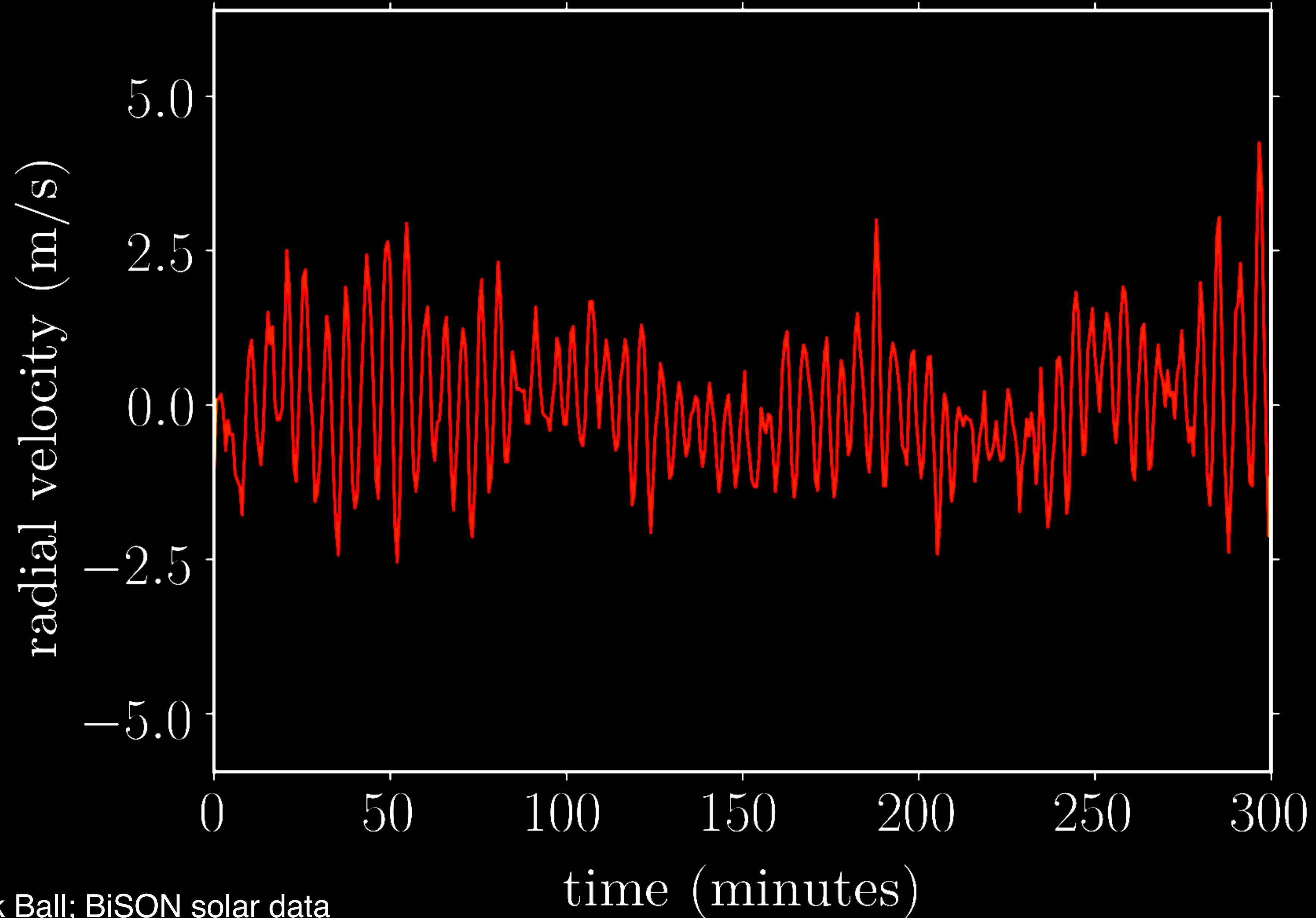
# Stellar Variability: Pressure-mode Oscillations



<http://bison.ph.bham.ac.uk>

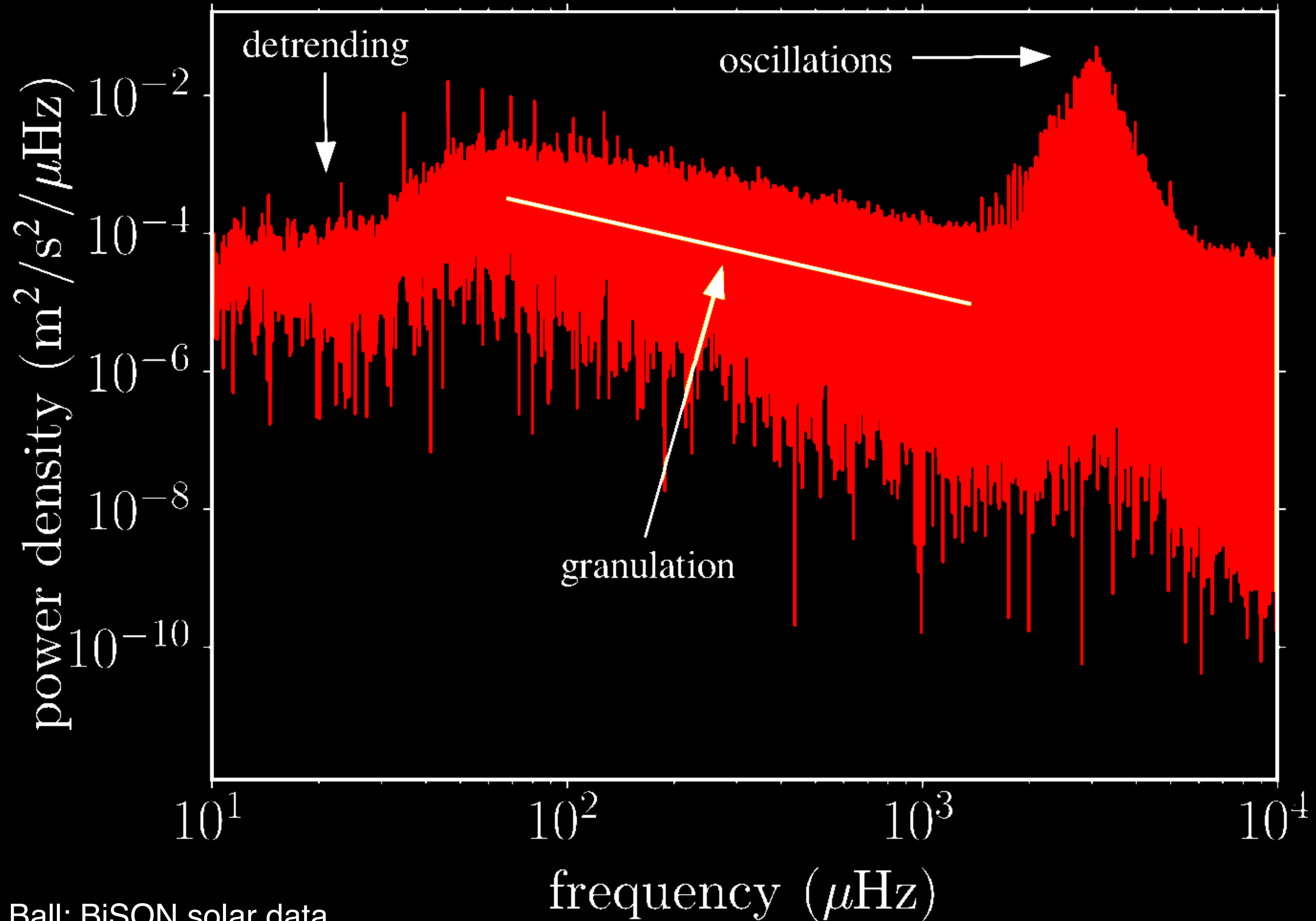
David Guenther,  
Saint Mary's University

# Granulation & Oscillations

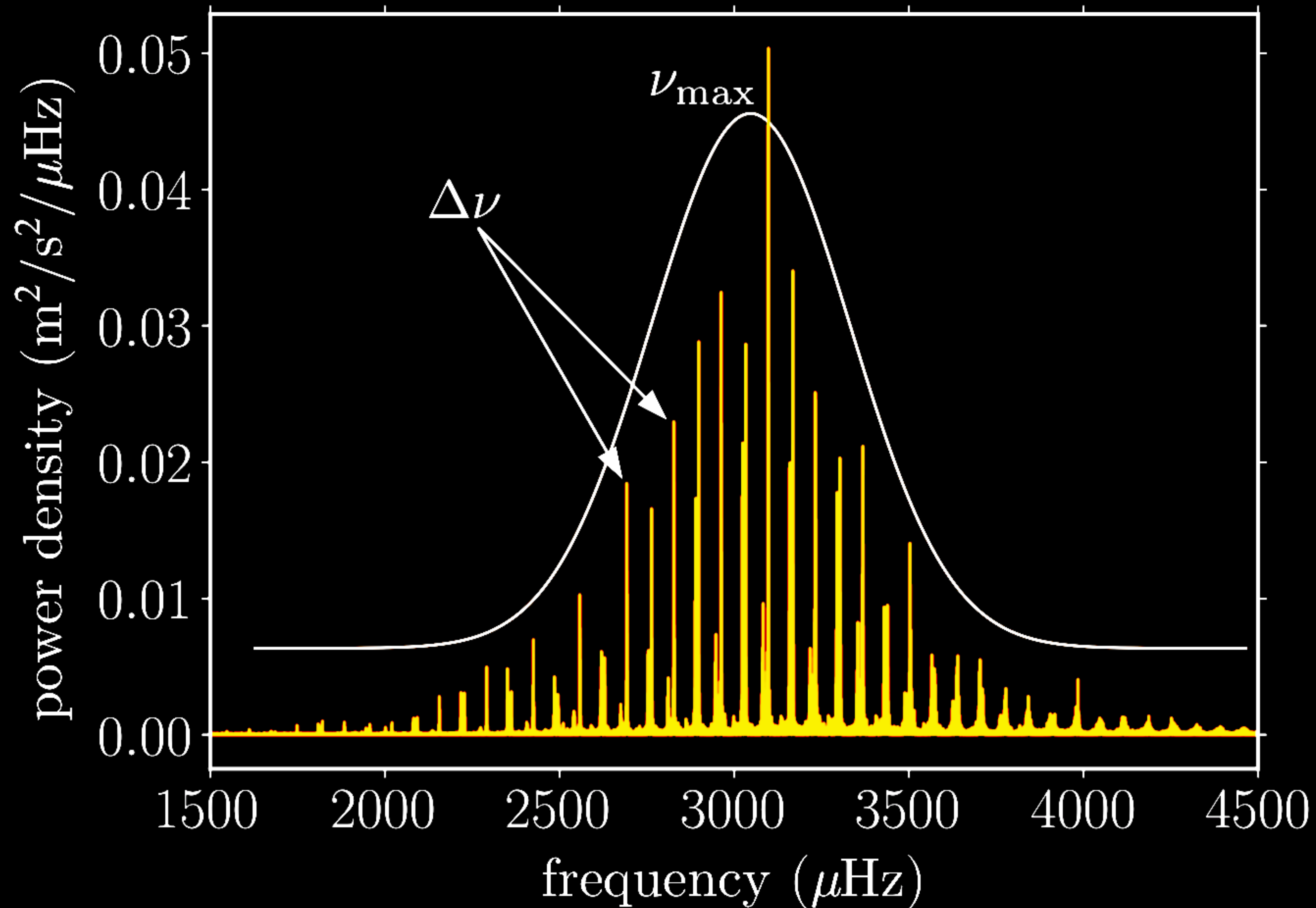




# Granulation & Oscillations



# Global Oscillation Properties



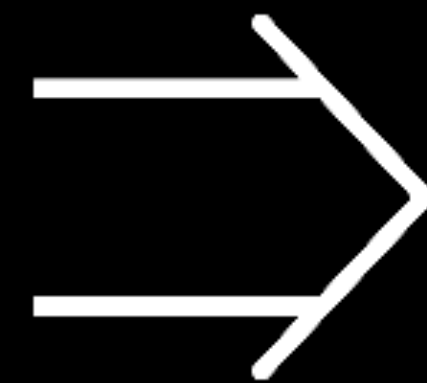


## Scaling relations

Kjeldsen & Bedding (1995)

$$\Delta\nu \propto \sqrt{\bar{\rho}} \propto \sqrt{\frac{M}{R^3}}$$

$$M \propto \frac{\nu_{\max}^3}{\Delta\nu^4} T_{\text{eff}}^{3/2}$$



$$\nu_{\max} \propto \frac{g}{\sqrt{T_{\text{eff}}}} \propto \frac{M}{R^2 \sqrt{T_{\text{eff}}}}$$

$$R \propto \frac{\nu_{\max}}{\Delta\nu^2} T_{\text{eff}}^{1/2}$$

# Stellar Variability: Pressure-mode Oscillations

---

Excited by convection

'5-minute' solar oscillation

Individual mode lifetimes of a few days on the Sun

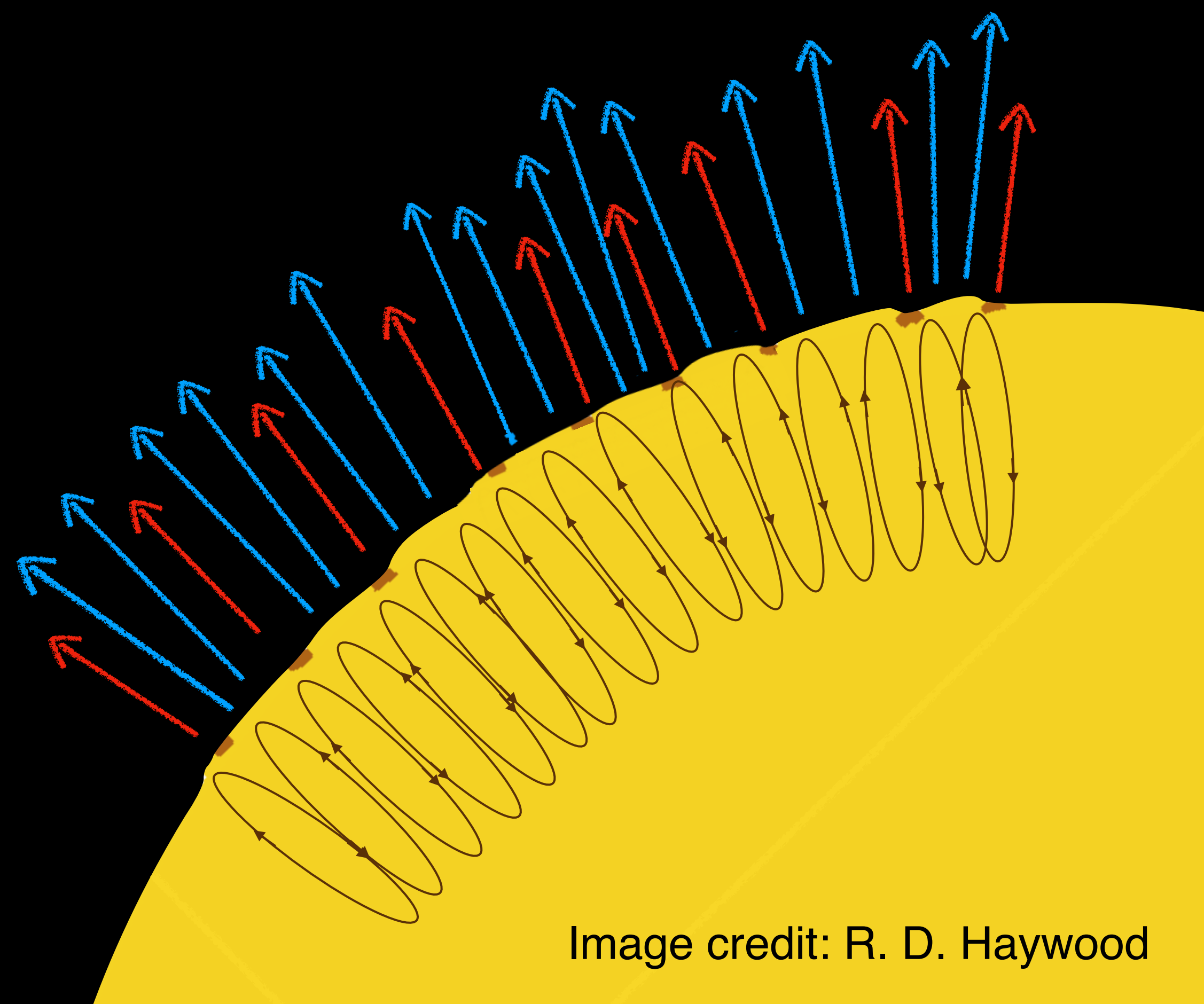
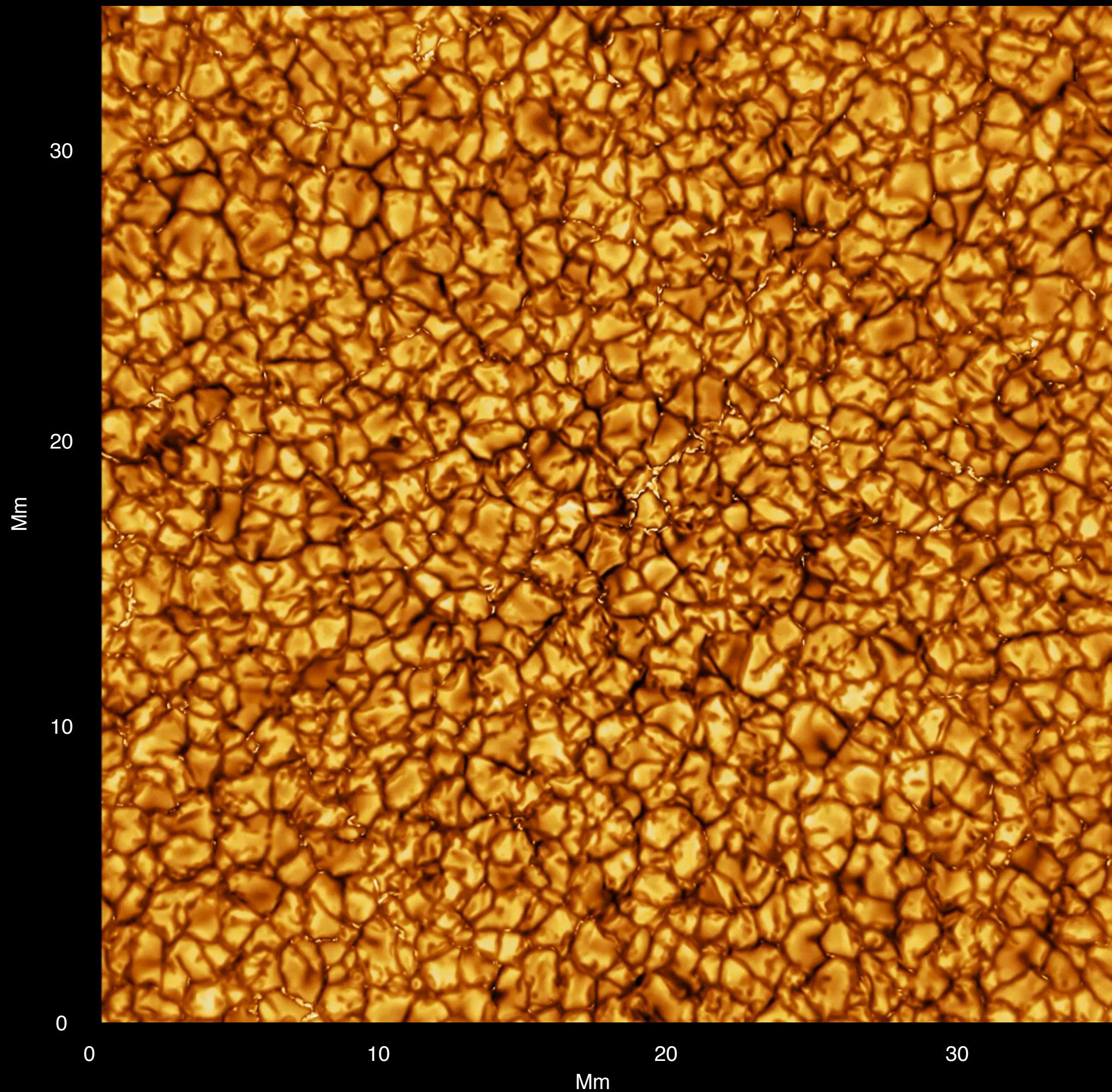
Net effect is a few m/s on the Sun

Net RV effect decreases for cooler stars and increases for evolved stars

**Can fine-tune observations to largely mitigate RV effect**

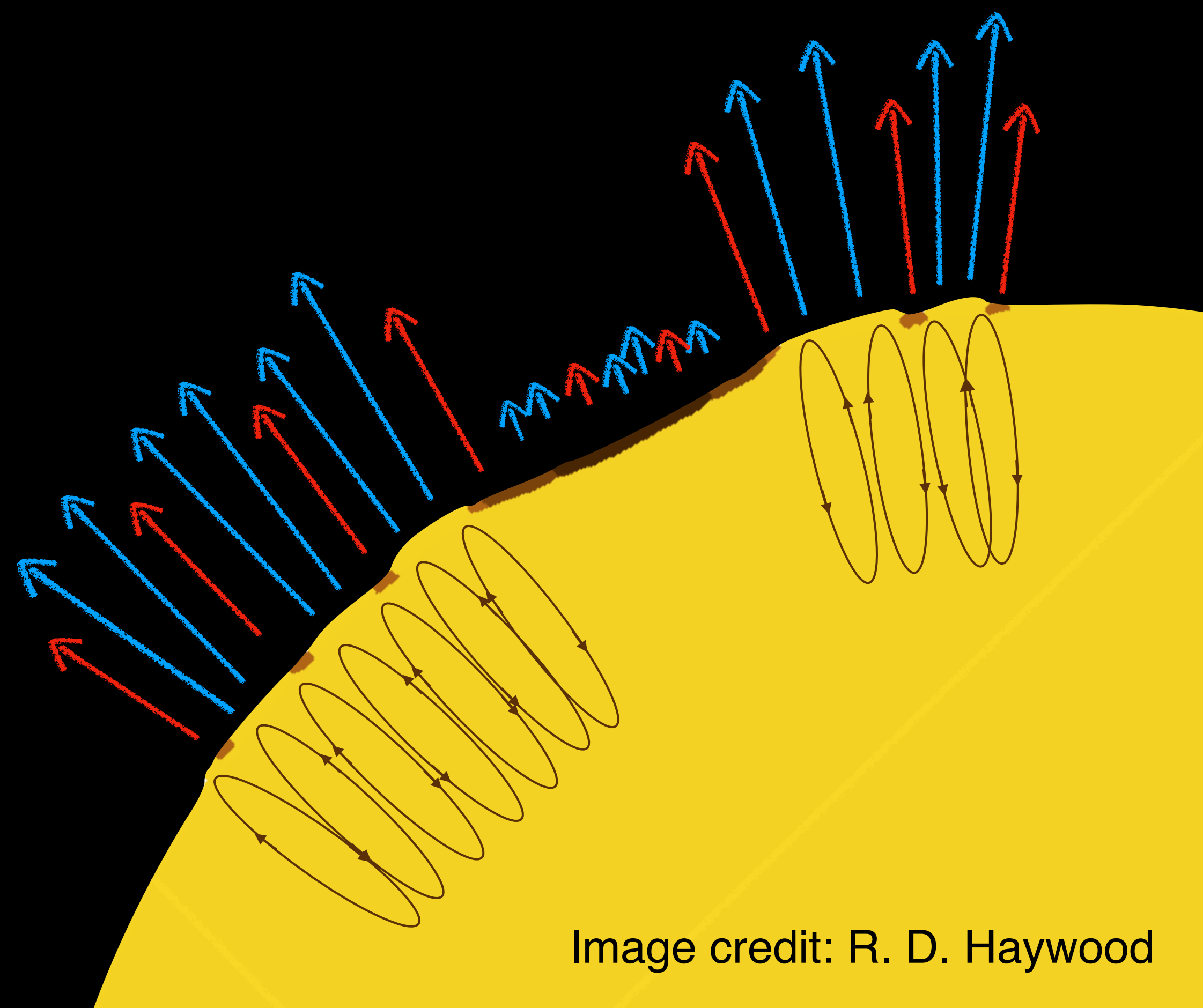
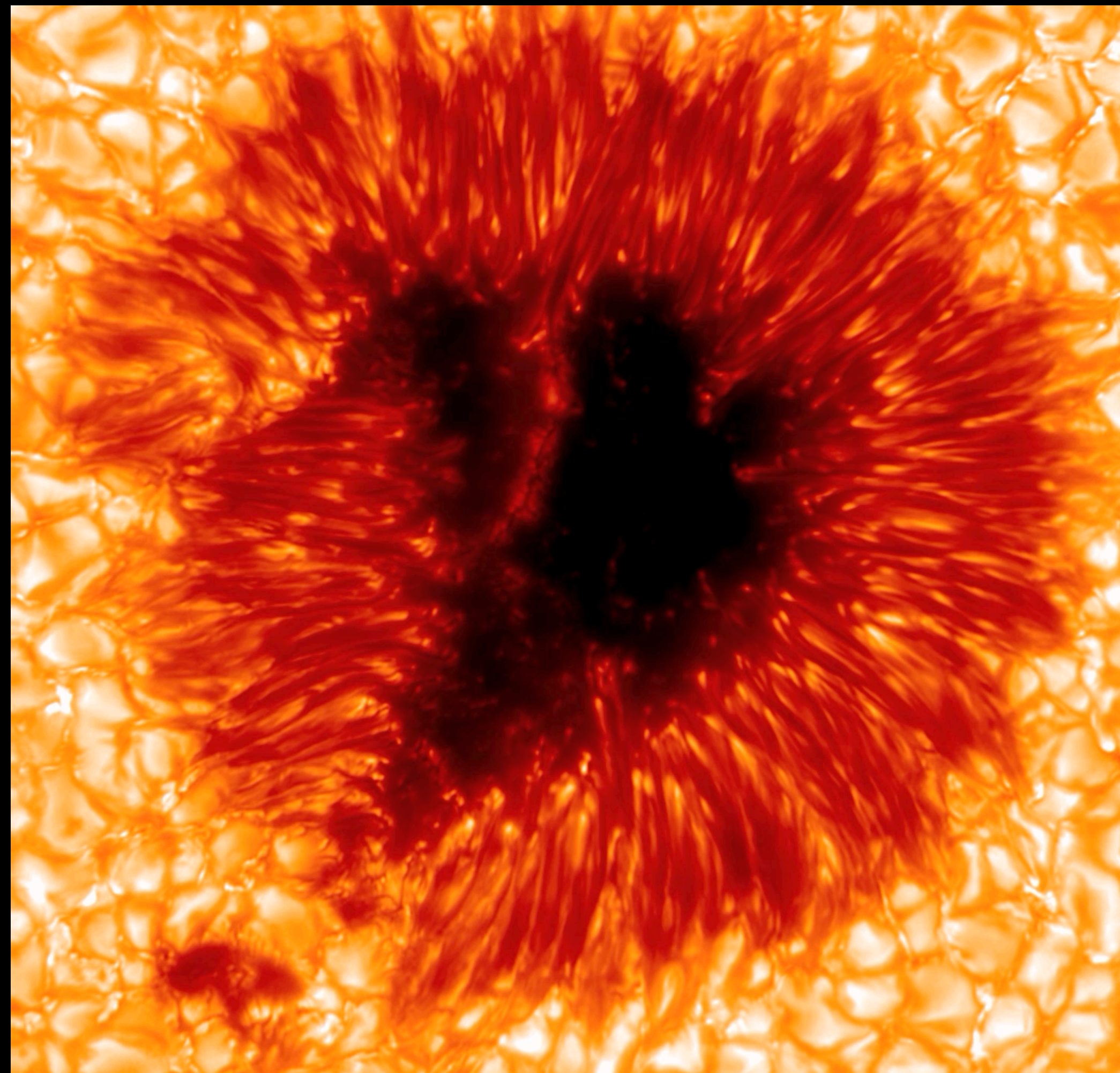


# Stellar Variability: Convection



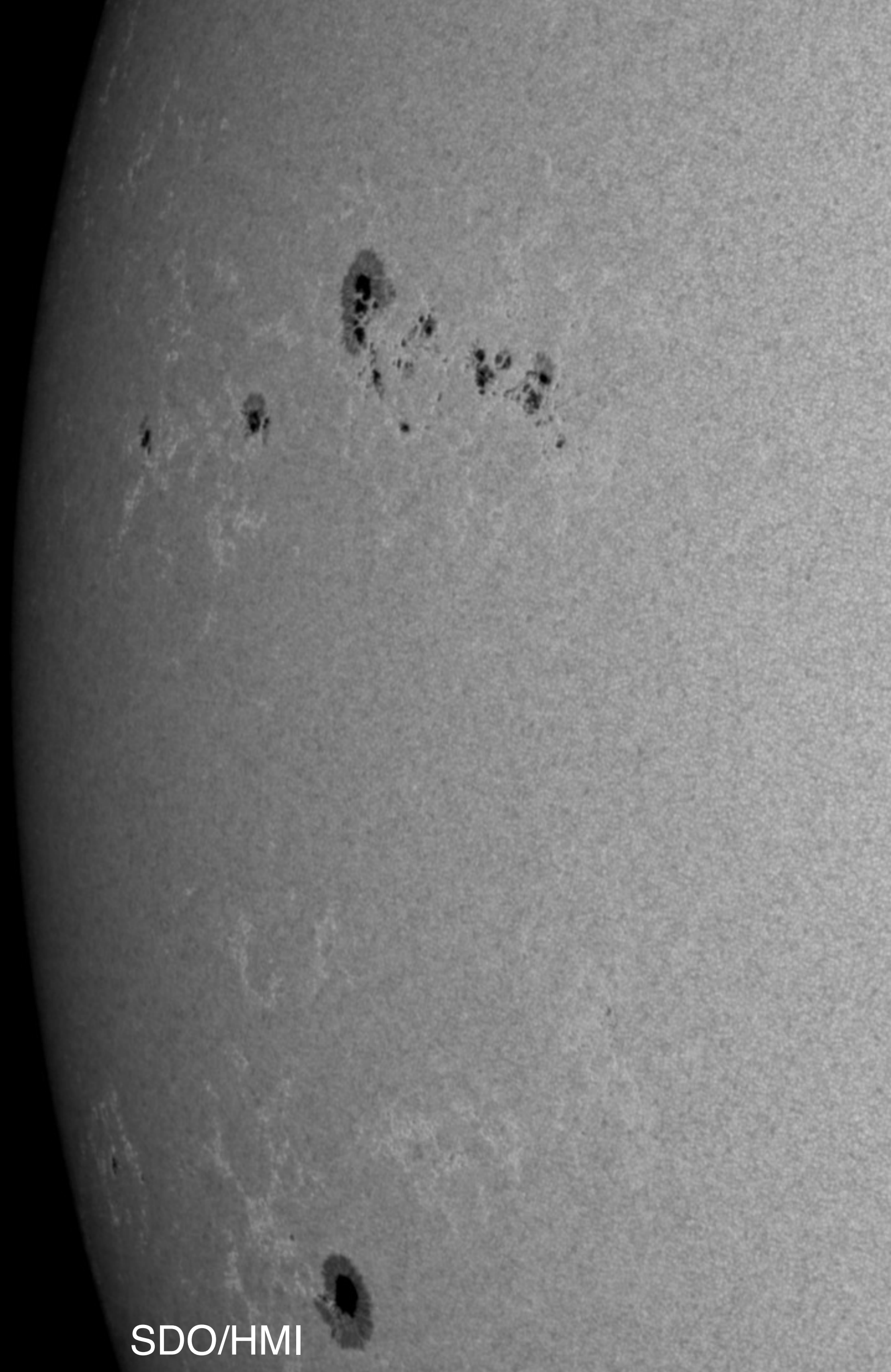
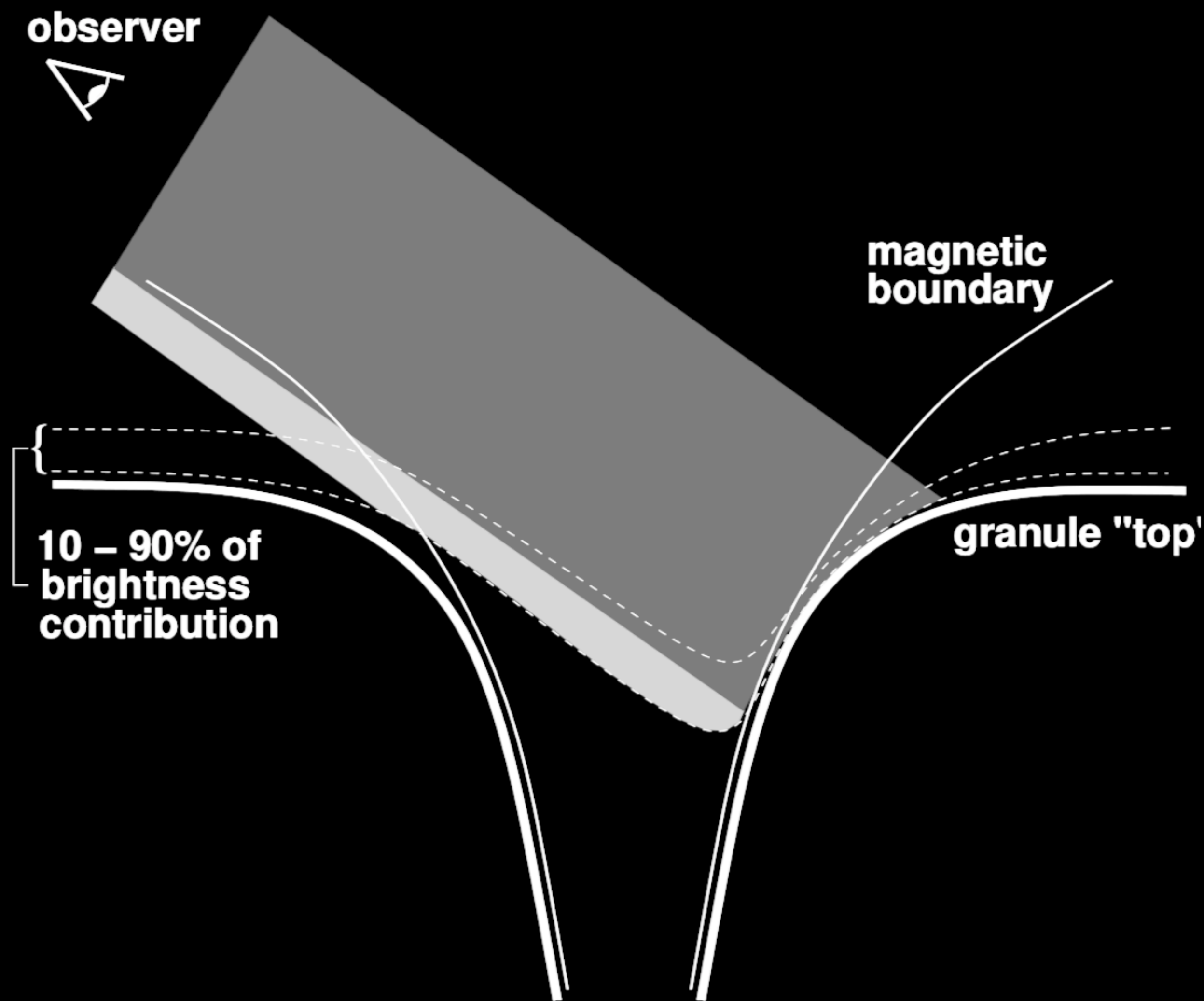


# Stellar Variability: Suppression of Convection



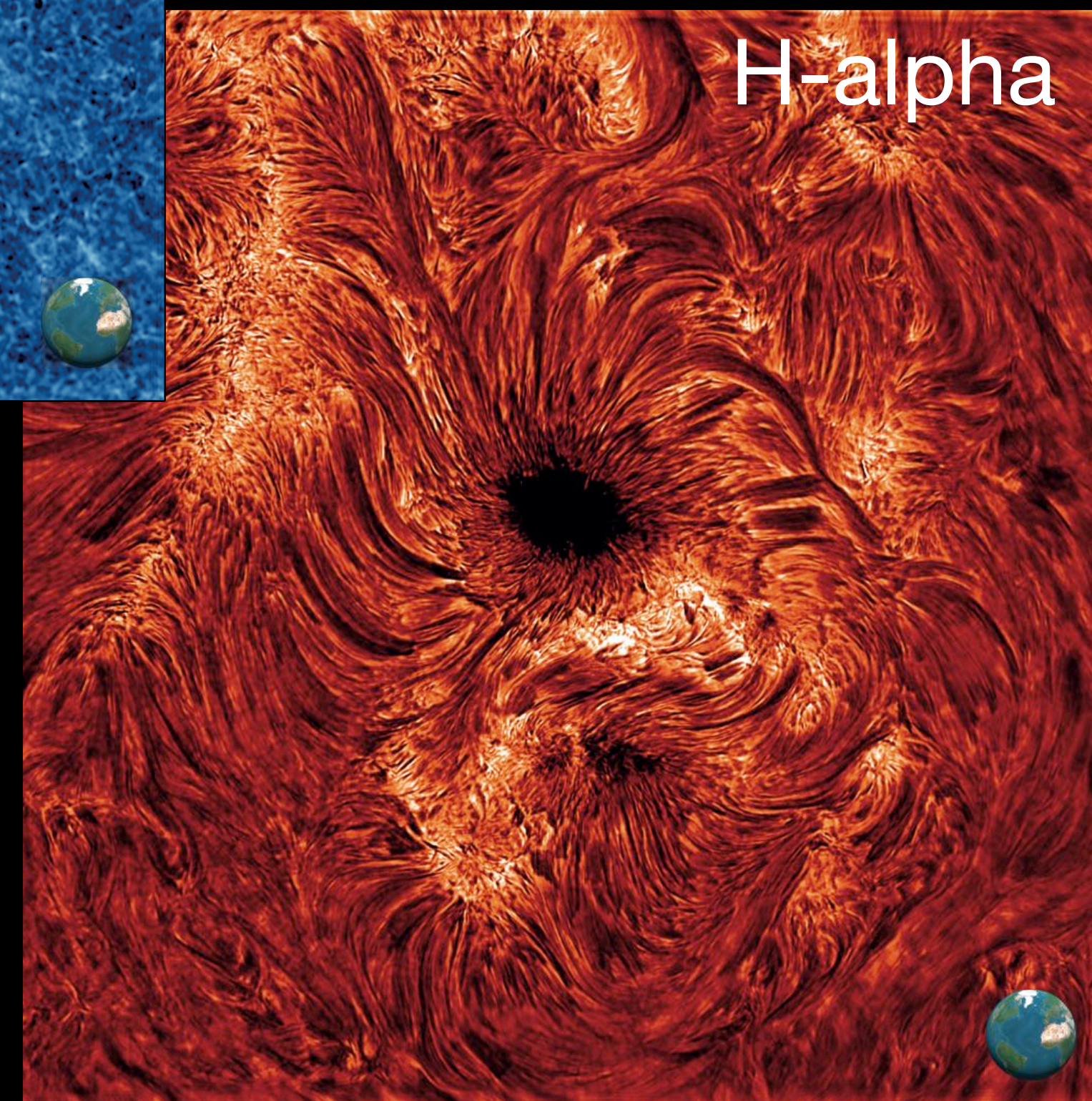
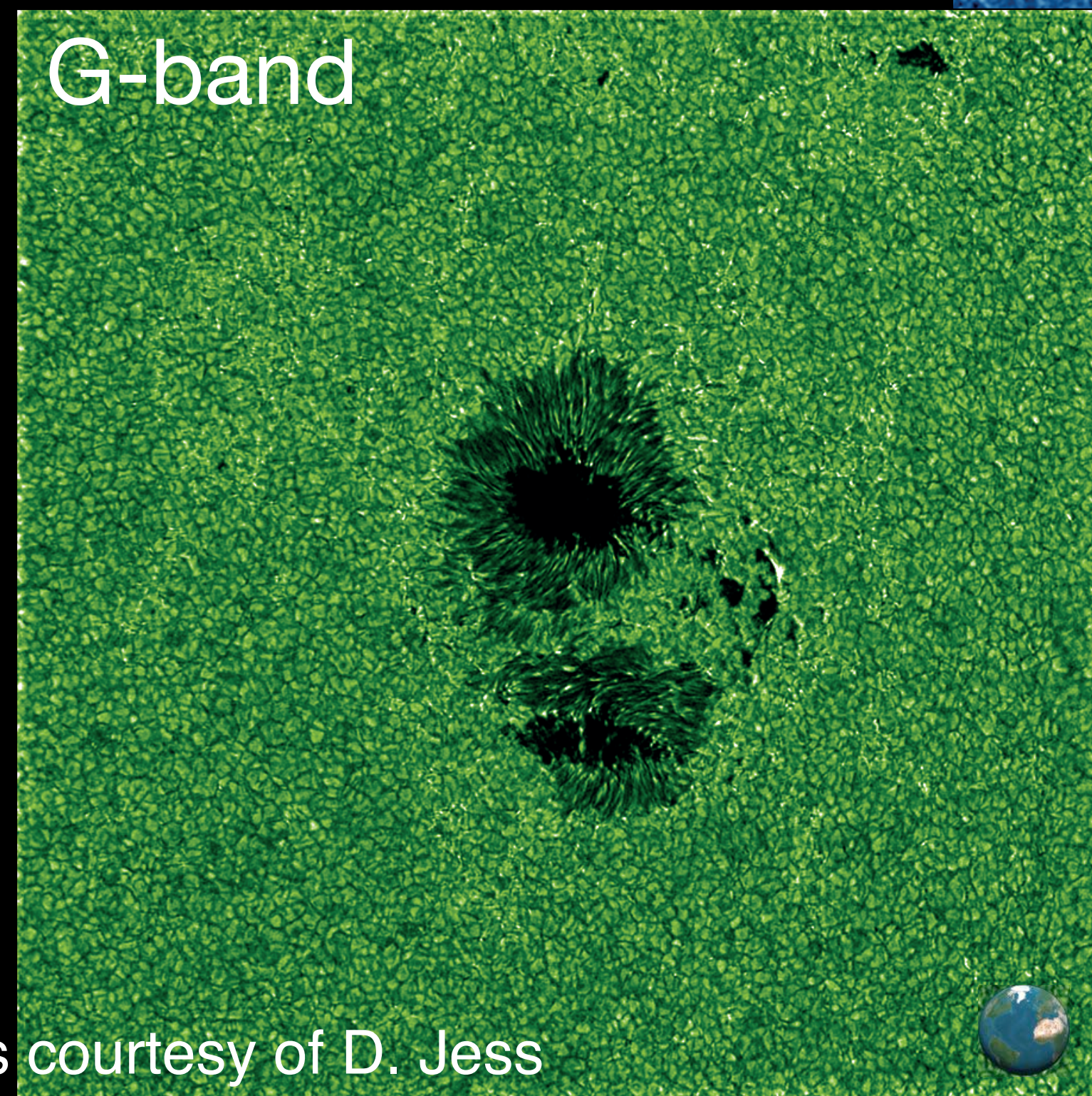
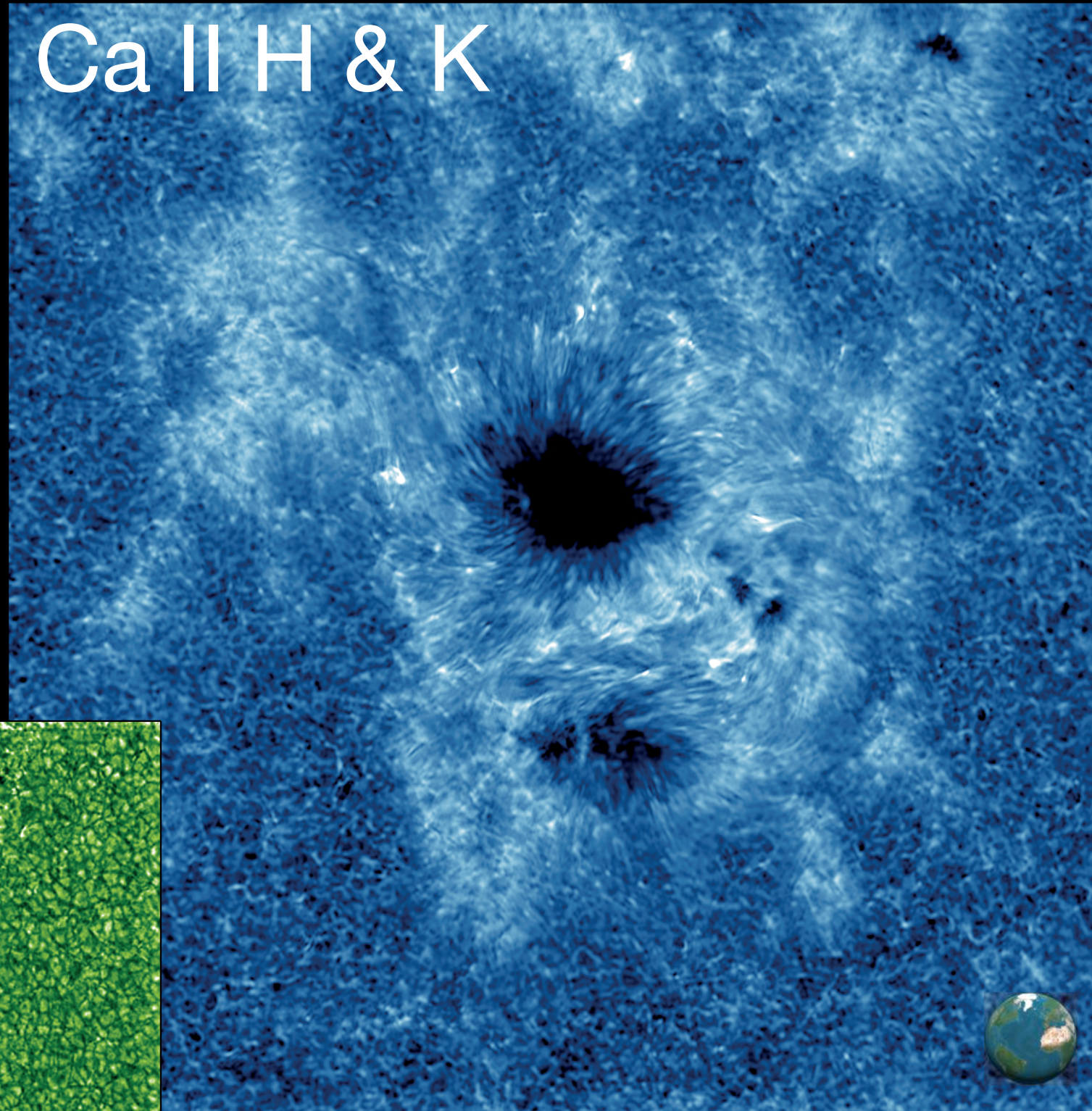


# Stellar Variability: Spots & Faculae/Plage



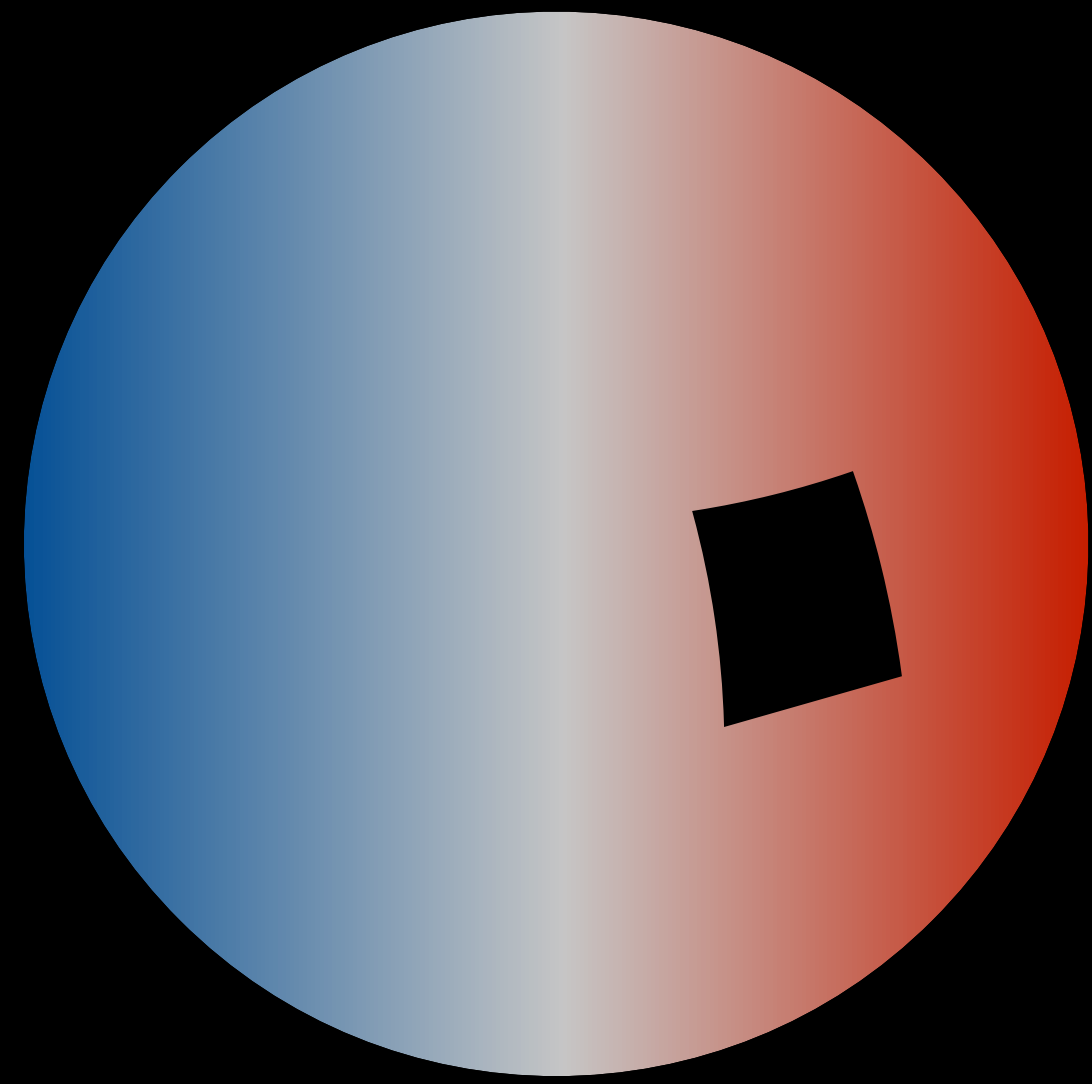


# Stellar Variability: Spots & Faculae/Plage

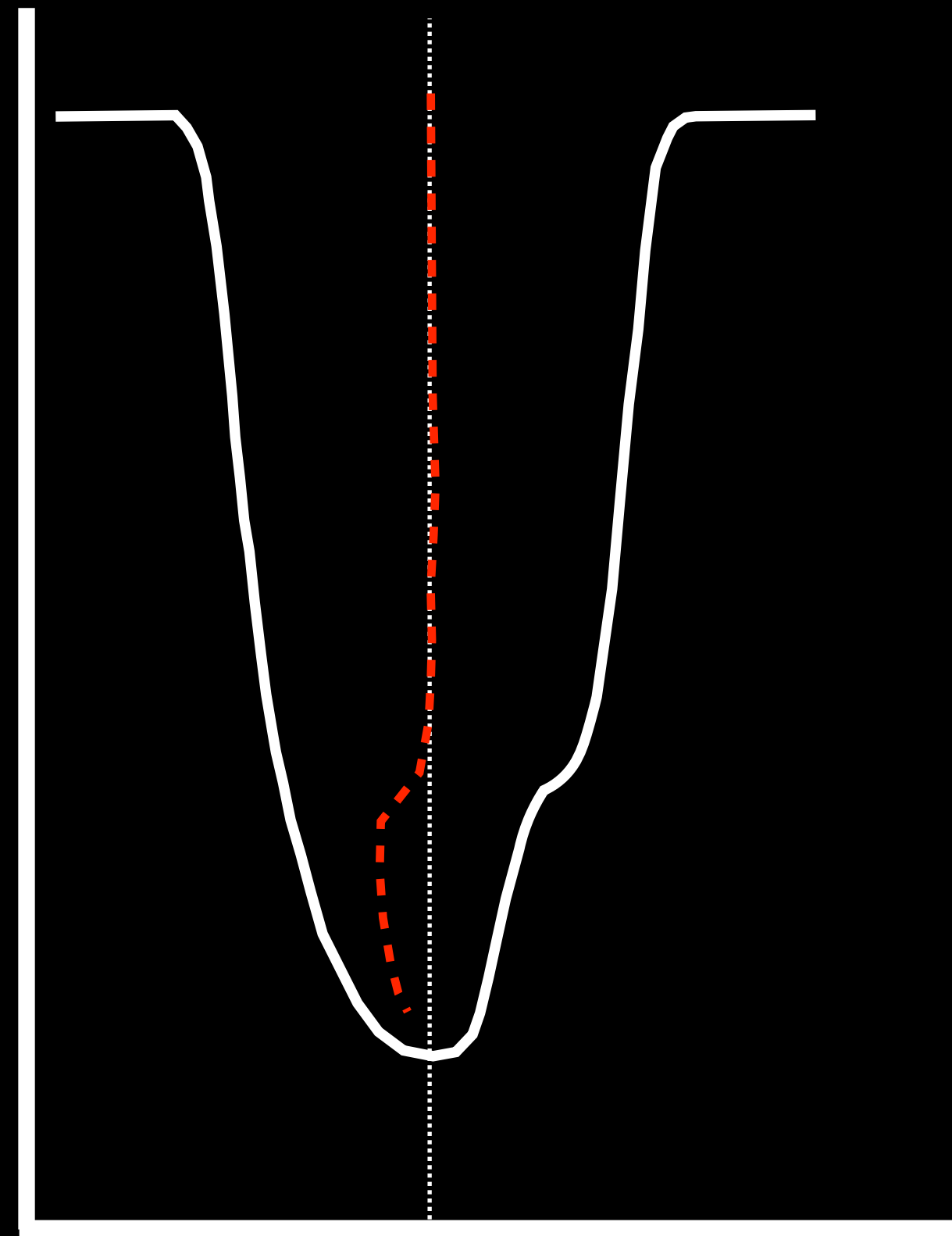




# Stellar Variability: Spots & Faculae/Plage



Flux



Velocity

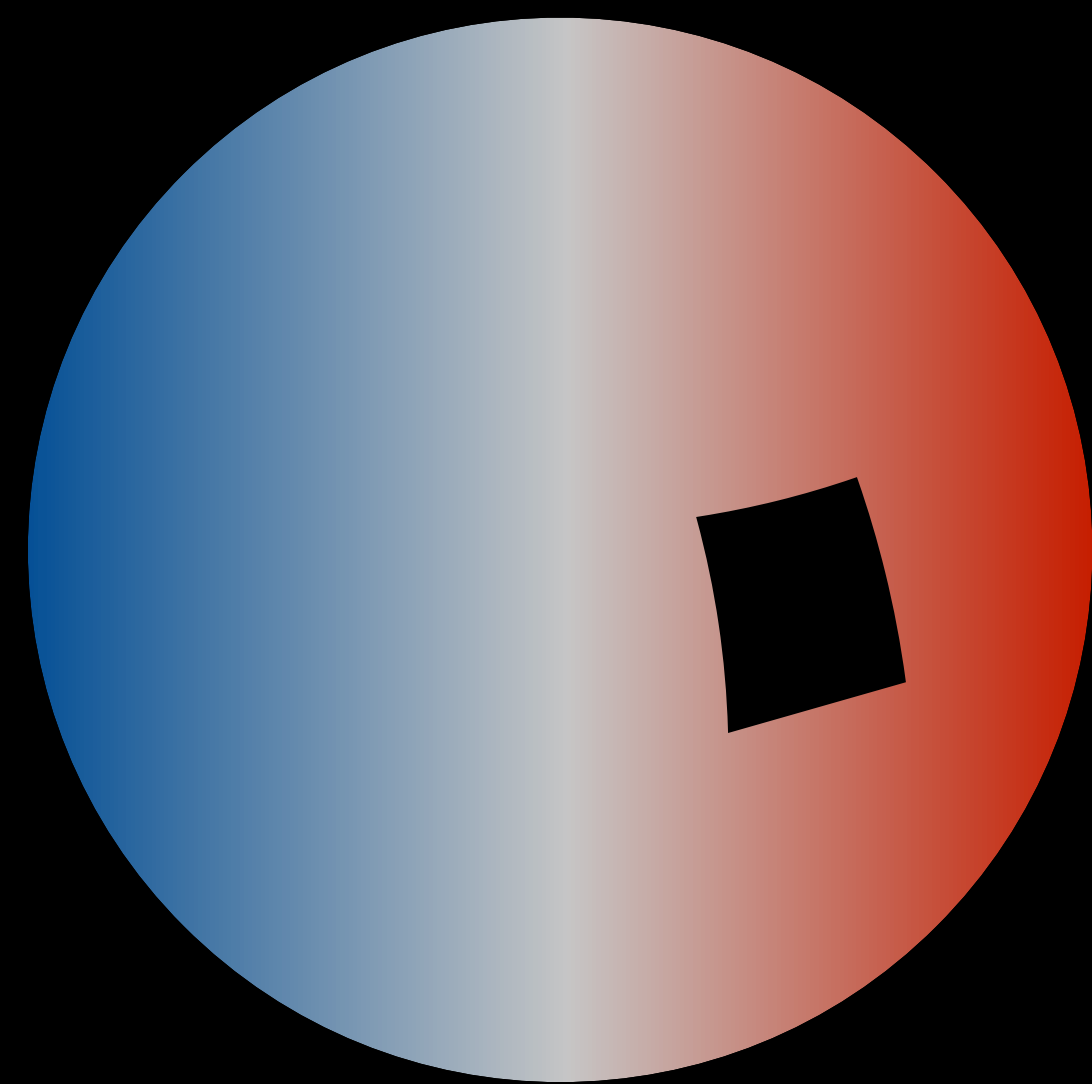


SDO/HMI

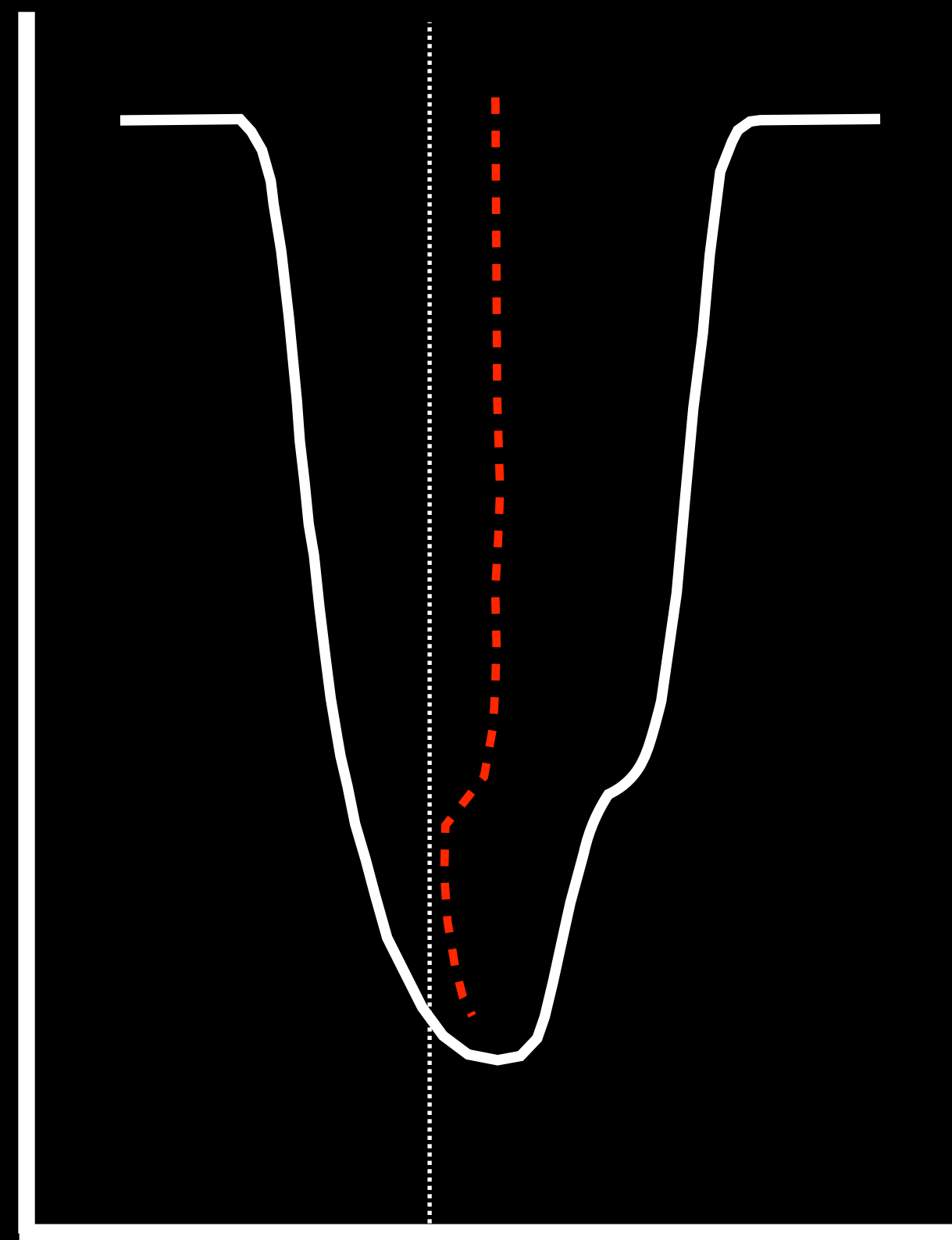
Photometric Effect



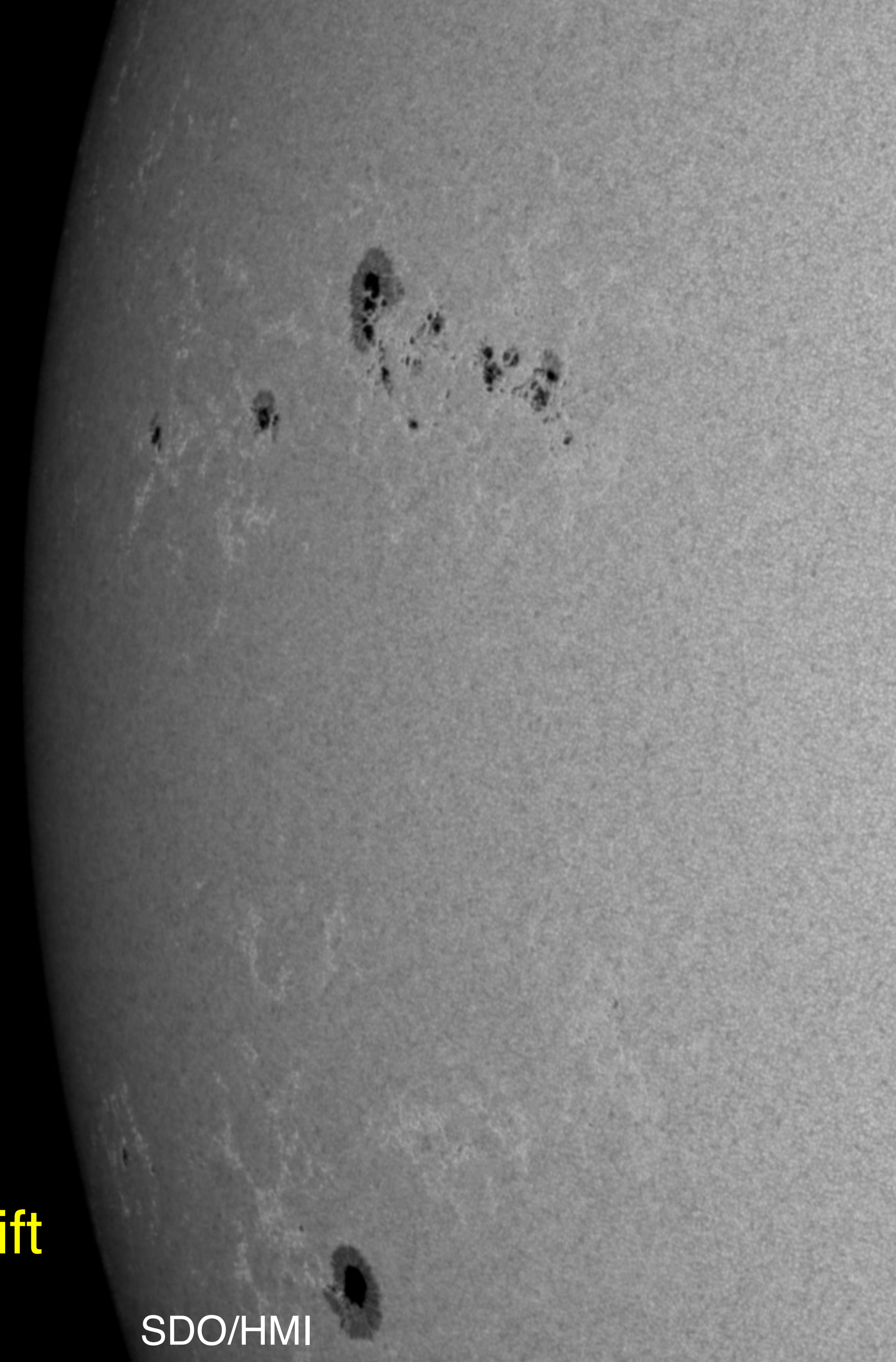
# Stellar Variability: Spots & Faculae/Plage



Flux



Velocity

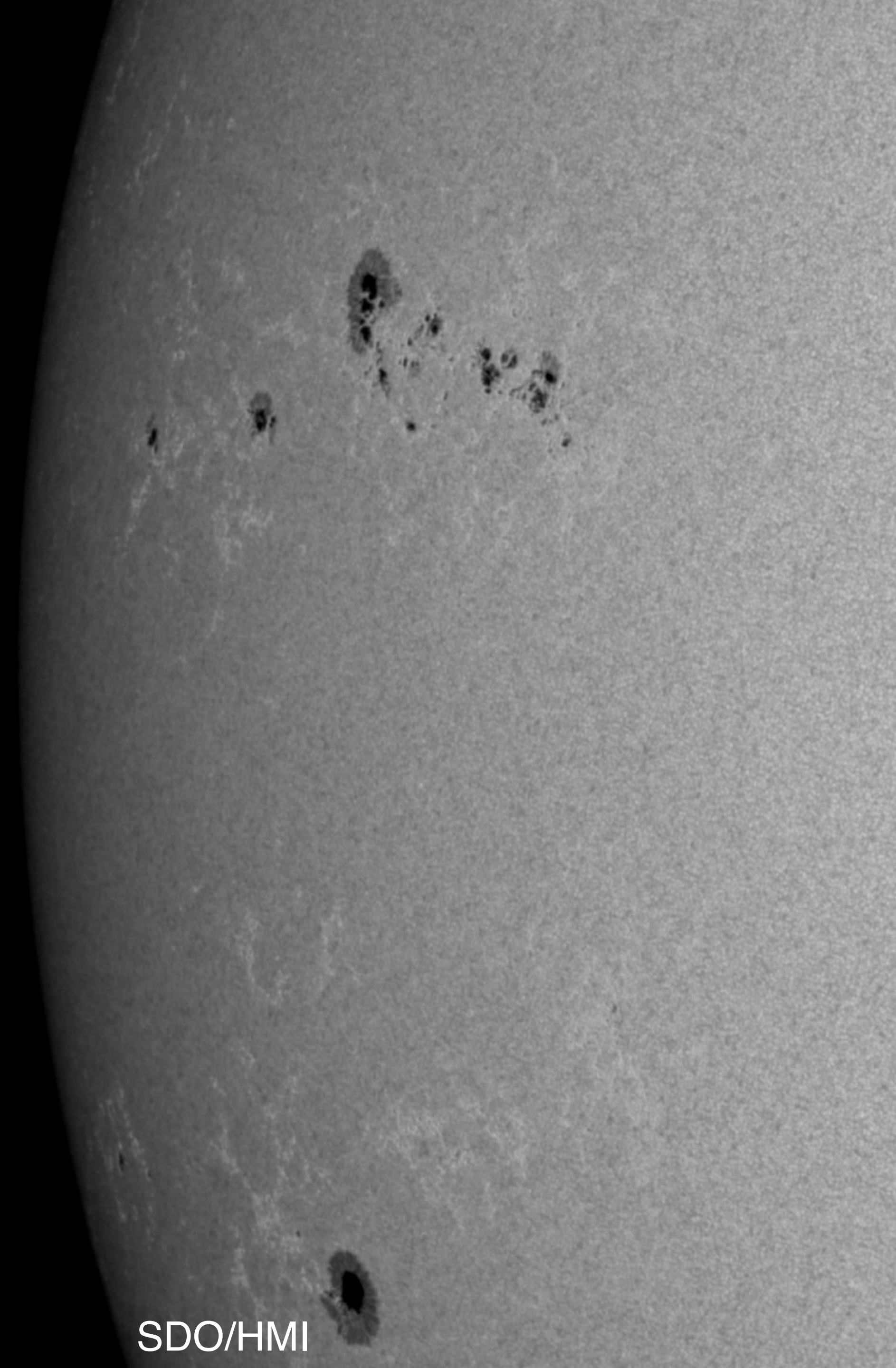
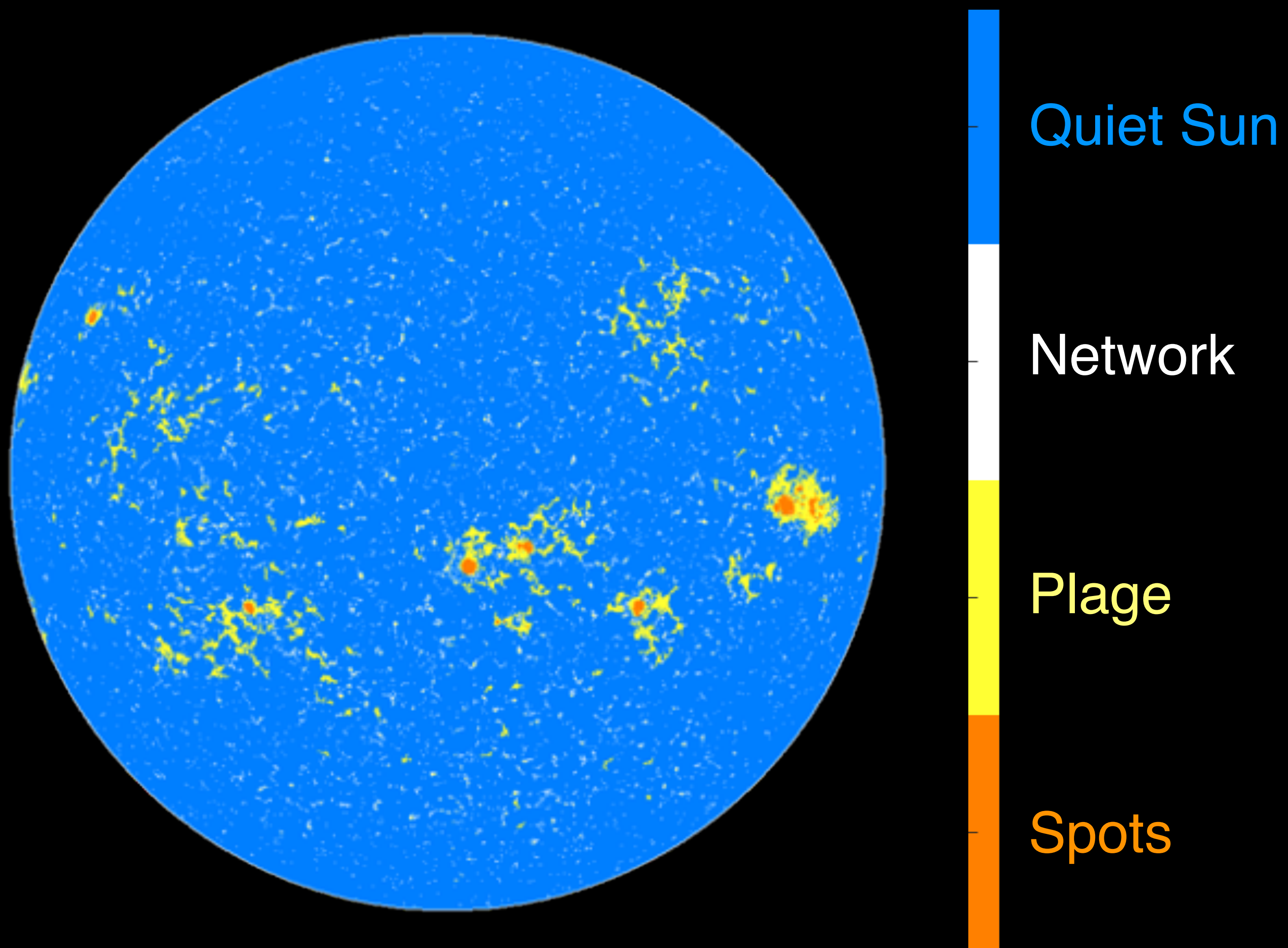


SDO/HMI

Photometric Effect + Suppression of Convective Blueshift



# Stellar Variability: Spots & Faculae/Plage





## Takeaways: Plage/Spots

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**Faculae/Plage are bright:** high magnetic fields evacuate flux tubes & alter opacity -> see hotter/deeper regions

At disc centre: MBPs; near limb: hot granular walls

**Spots are dark:** cooler because magnetic fields significantly suppress the convection, despite also being physically deeper

Additional velocity flows: Moat flows/Evershed flows

Pores: small spots without a penumbra

**Both alter brightness and suppress convection**



## Takeaways: Plage/Spots

---

RV effect tied to the stellar rotation

Spot lifetimes similar to rotation period ( $\sim 27$  d for the Sun), but plage can survive several rotations

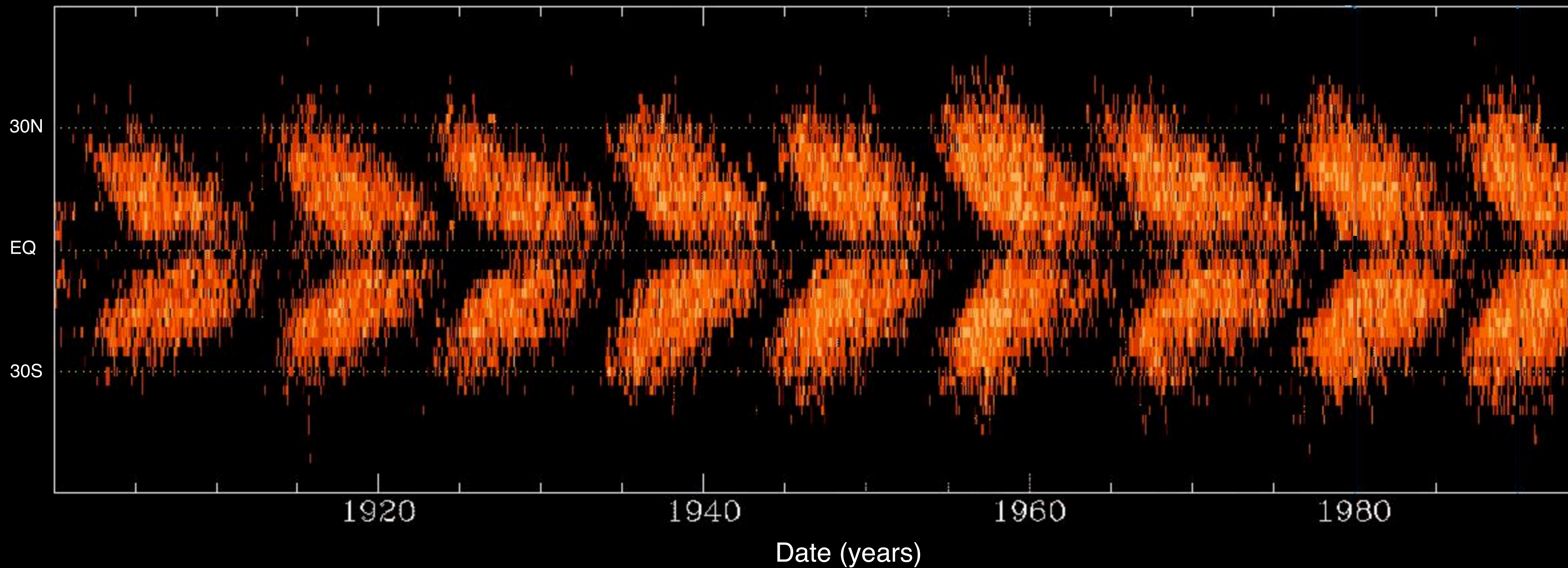
Active region to quiet star contrast decreases for cooler stars

Net RV effect for the Sun is a few m/s, but can be much larger for spot-dominated, young stars

**Dominant effect for Sun-like stars is the suppression of convective blueshift in sufficiently large magnetic regions**

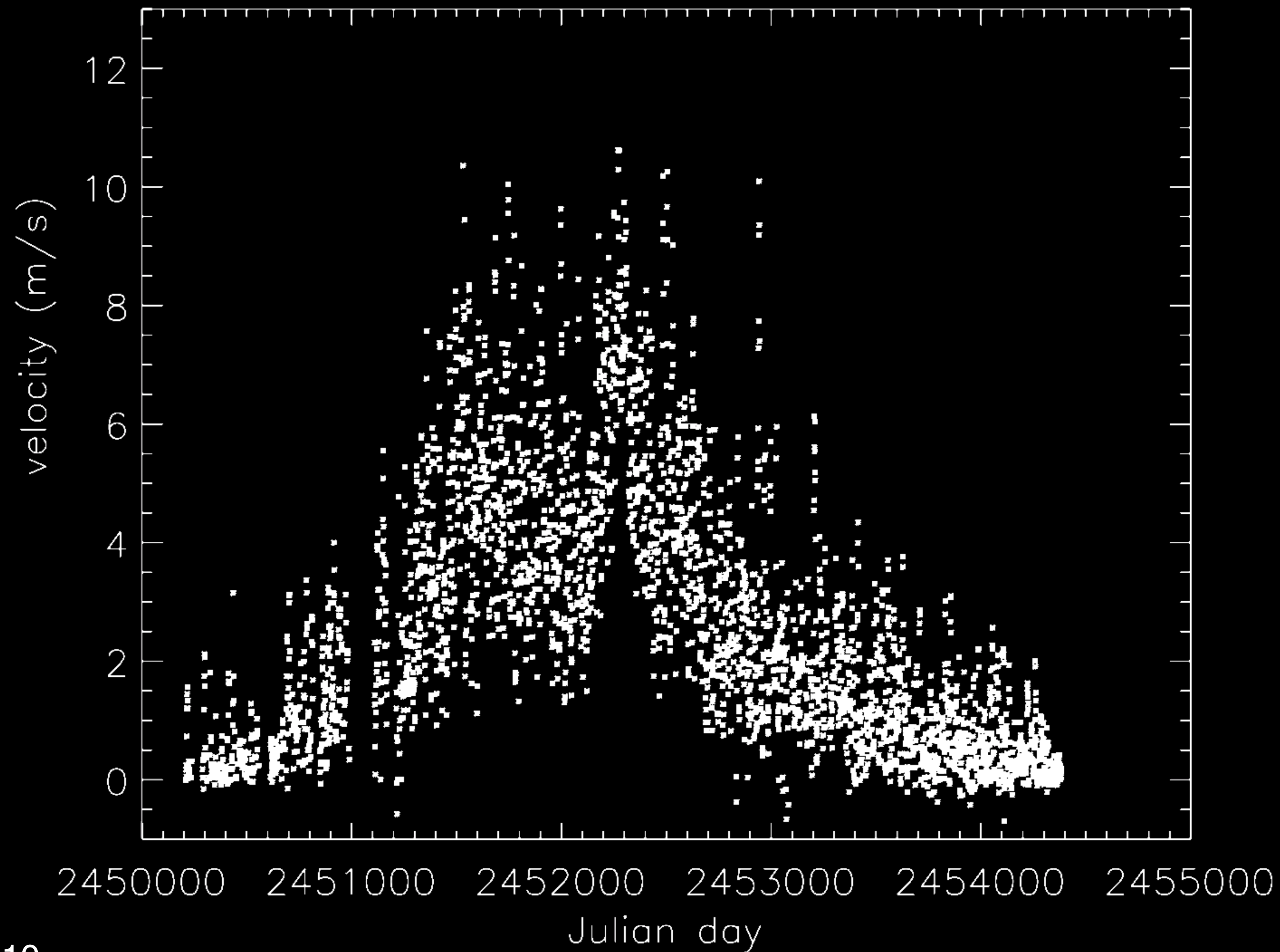


# Solar Butterfly Diagram



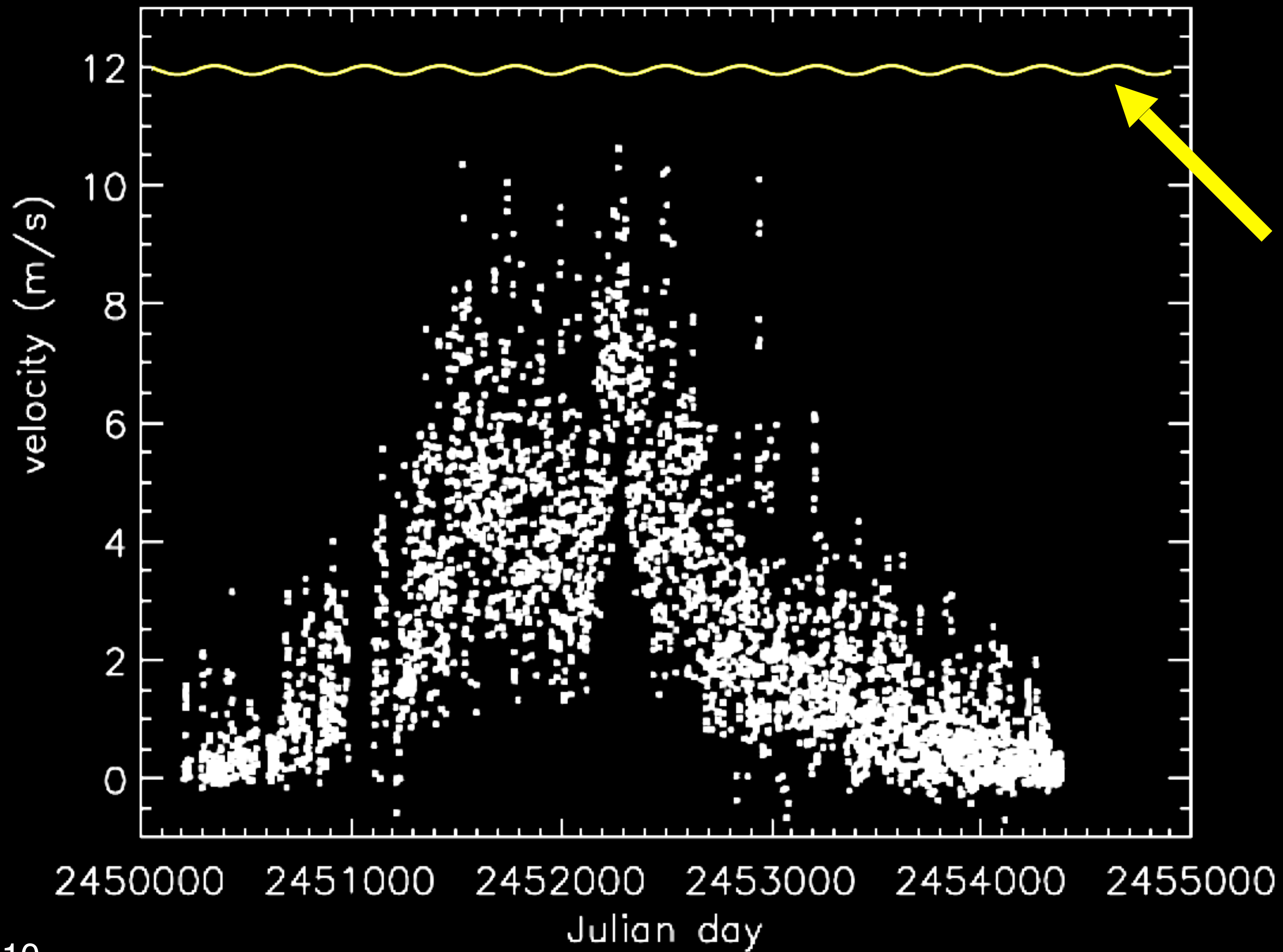


# Stellar Variability: Magnetic Activity Cycles





# Stellar Variability: Magnetic Activity Cycles





## Takeaways: Magnetic Activity Cycles

---

Timescale of few years to decades, solar cycle  $\sim 11$  (22) years

Amplitudes on the  $\sim 10$  m/s level

Impacts any stellar variability source related to magnetic field

**Net increase in magnetic field increases the suppression of the convective blueshift over the cycle**



# Stellar Variability: Other Sources

Flares/CMEs

Meridional flows / active regions flows

R-mode oscillations

Variable gravitational redshift

+ more!

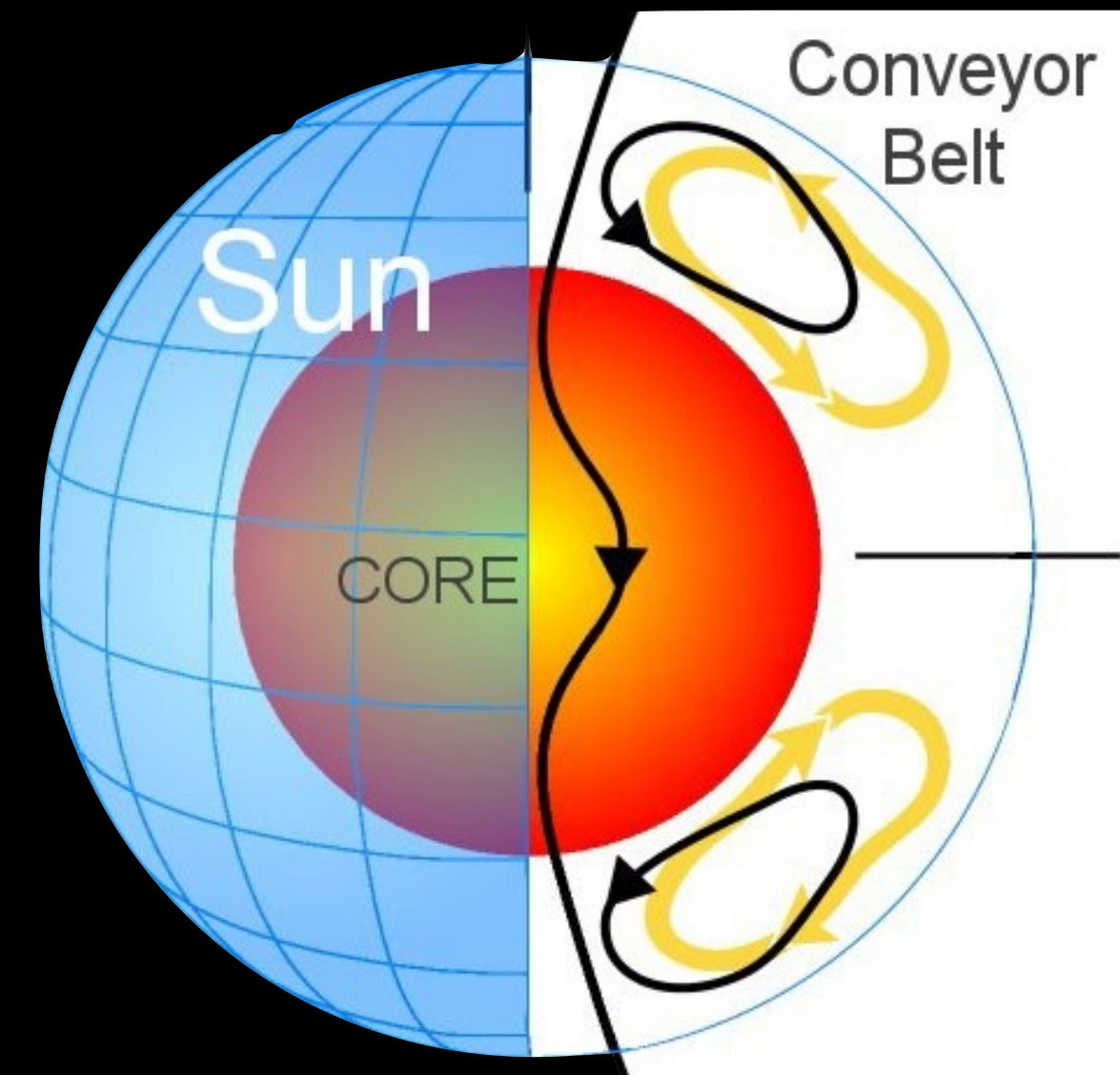


Image Credit: NASA



Movie credit: NASA

$\gamma$

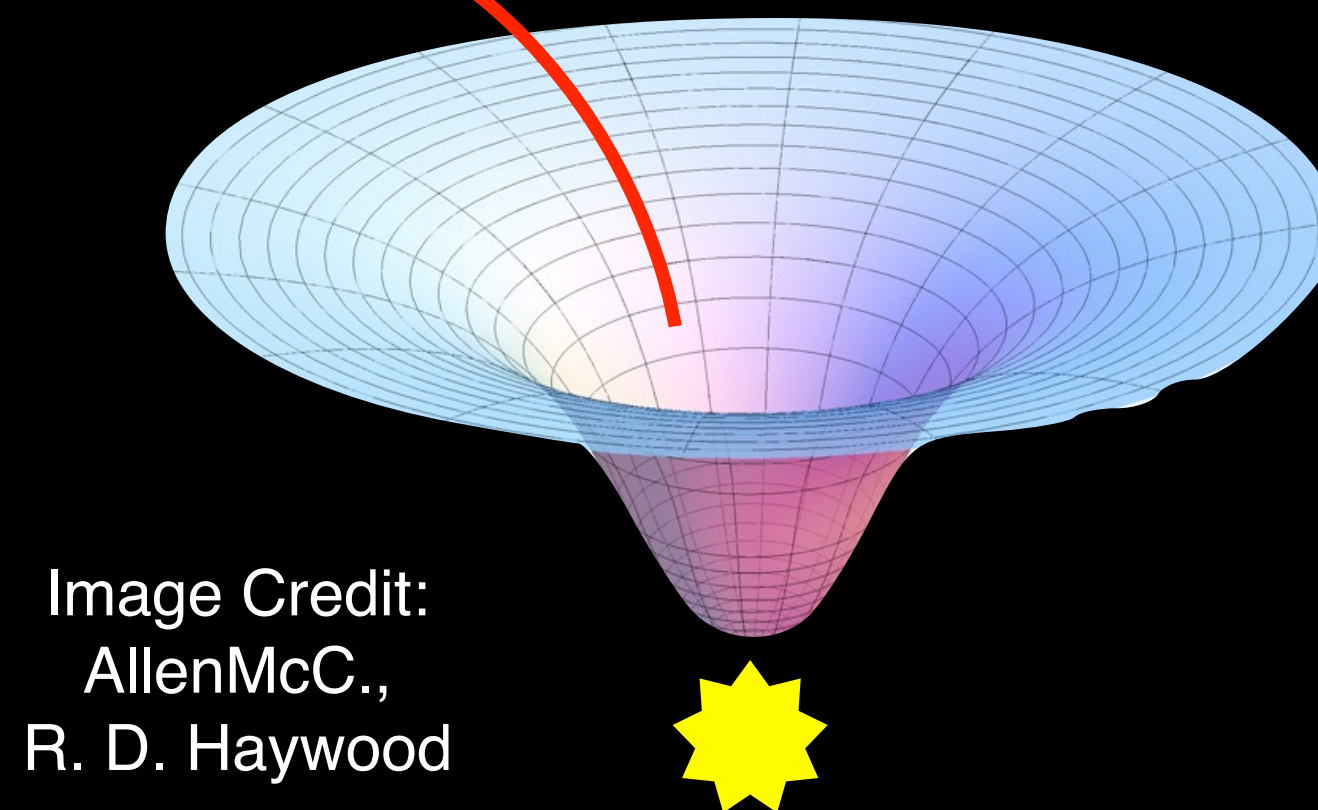


Image Credit:  
AllenMcC.,  
R. D. Haywood

See also:

Reiners 2009

Suárez Mascareño et al 2020

Beckers 2007

Makarov 2010

Lanza et al 2019

Cegla et al 2012



**Don't miss these!**

---

Debra Fischer - Fundamentals of PRV

Andreas Quirrenbach - Fundamentals of instrumentation

Jason Wright - How planets manifest in RVs and how to find them

Sharon Wang - How to measure RVs

**Annelies Mortier - What we can learn from the Sun**

**Jenn Burt - Techniques to mitigate stellar variability**

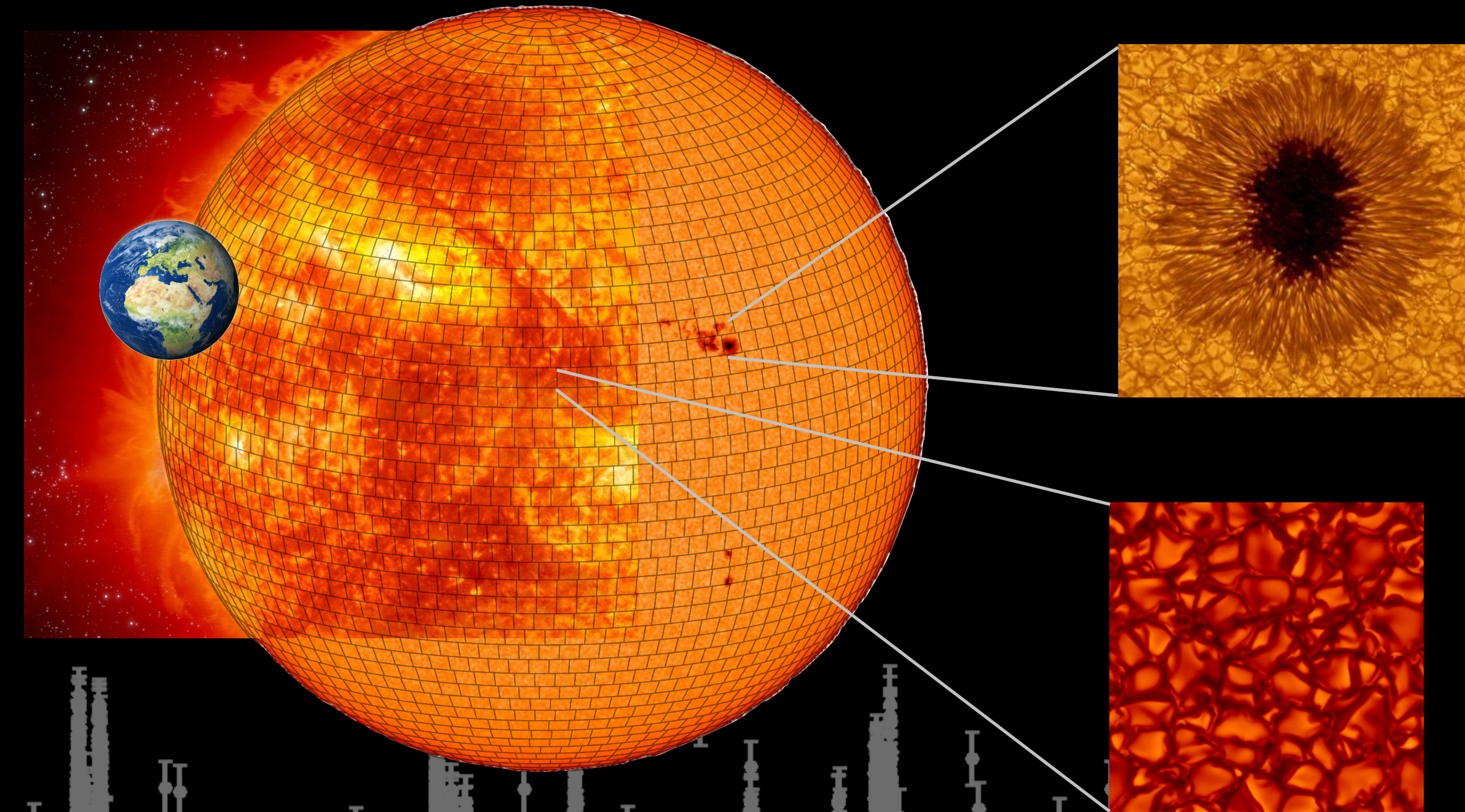
Nathan Hara - How to evaluate the significance of stellar/planetary signals

Vinesh Maguire-Rajpaul - Power and danger of Gaussian Processes

**Scott Gaudi - The EPRV initiative**



# Stellar Variability: Next Steps

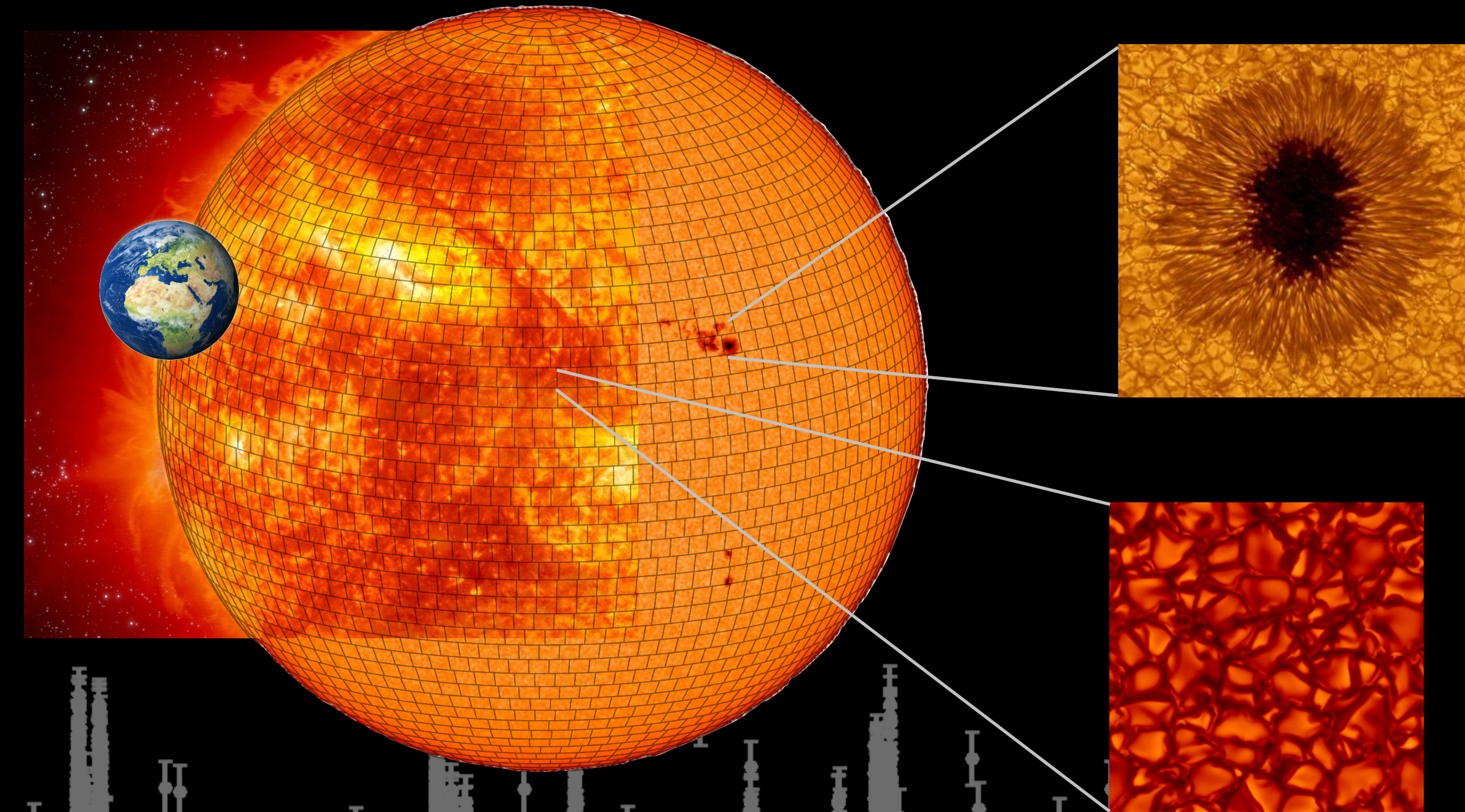


Physical effect
Understanding the Sun <i>in connection to EPRV</i>
Spectral line formation and behaviour in the stellar atmosphere <i>in connection to EPRV</i>
Magnetic fields
Faculae/plage
Spots
Evershed flows, moat flows, plage inflows ...
Granulation
Super-Granulation
Meridional flows
Long-term magnetic cycles
Pulsations - p modes
Pulsations - r modes
Flares
Gravitational redshift

H. M. Cegla  
University of Warwick



# Stellar Variability: Next Steps

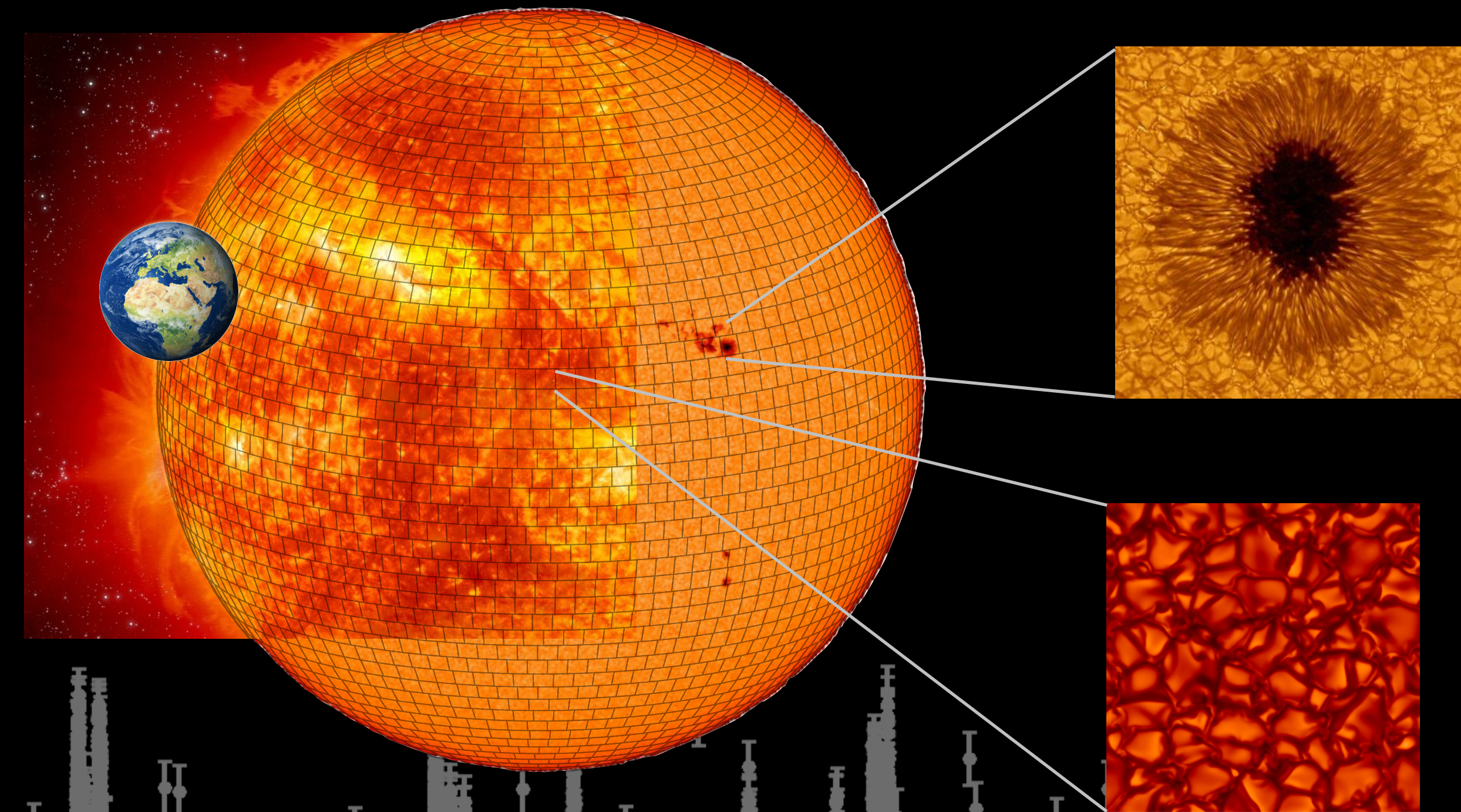


Physical effect
Understanding the Sun <i>in connection to EPRV</i>
Spectral line formation and behaviour in the stellar atmosphere <i>in connection to EPRV</i>
Magnetic fields
Faculae/plage
Spots
Evershed flows, moat flows, plage inflows ...
Granulation
Super-Granulation
Meridional flows
Long-term magnetic cycles
Pulsations - p modes
Pulsations - r modes
Flares
Gravitational redshift

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# Interplay between convection & magnetic fields drives most stellar surface variability

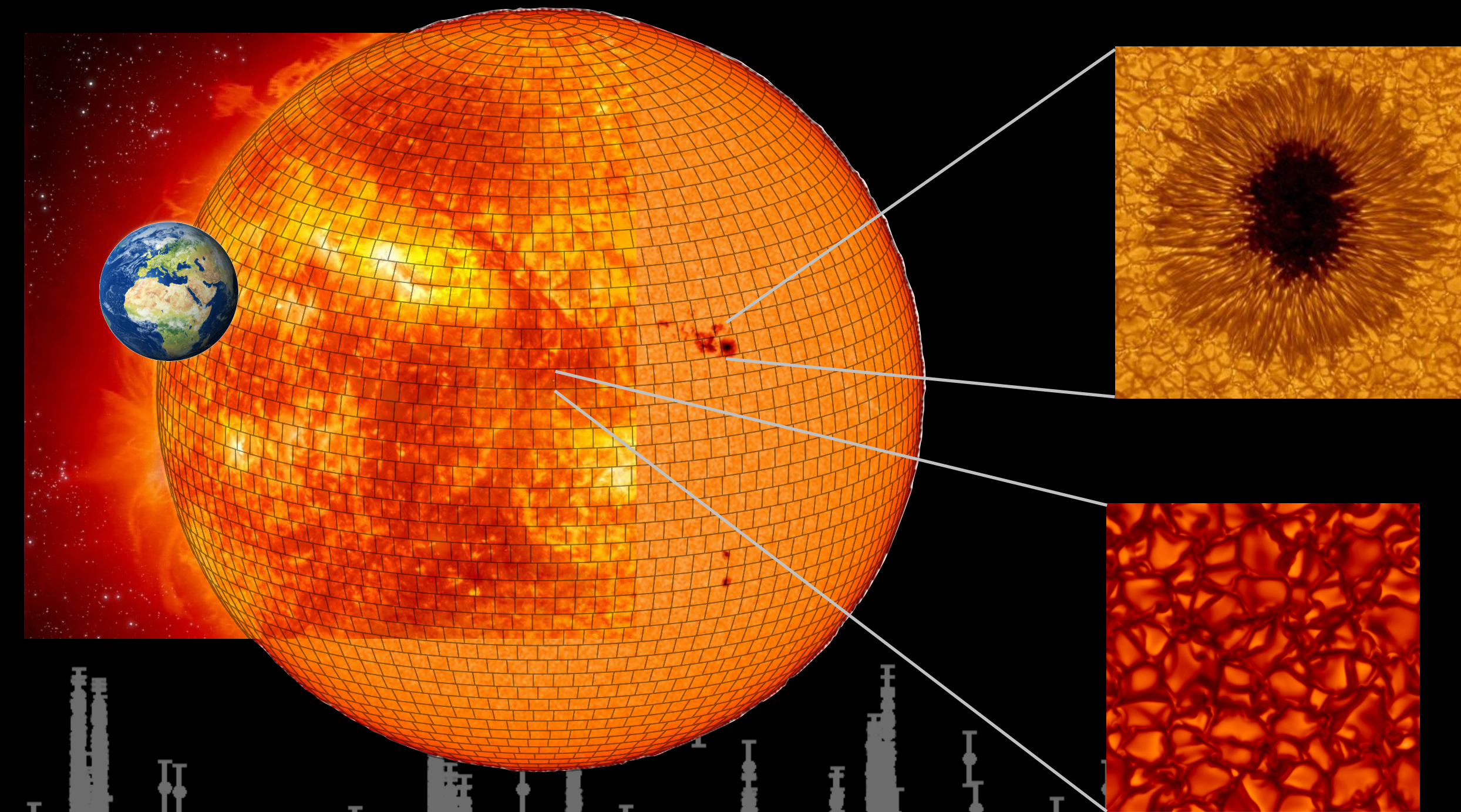


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# Interplay between convection & magnetic fields drives most stellar surface variability

and swamps the Doppler wobble from low-mass, long-period planets

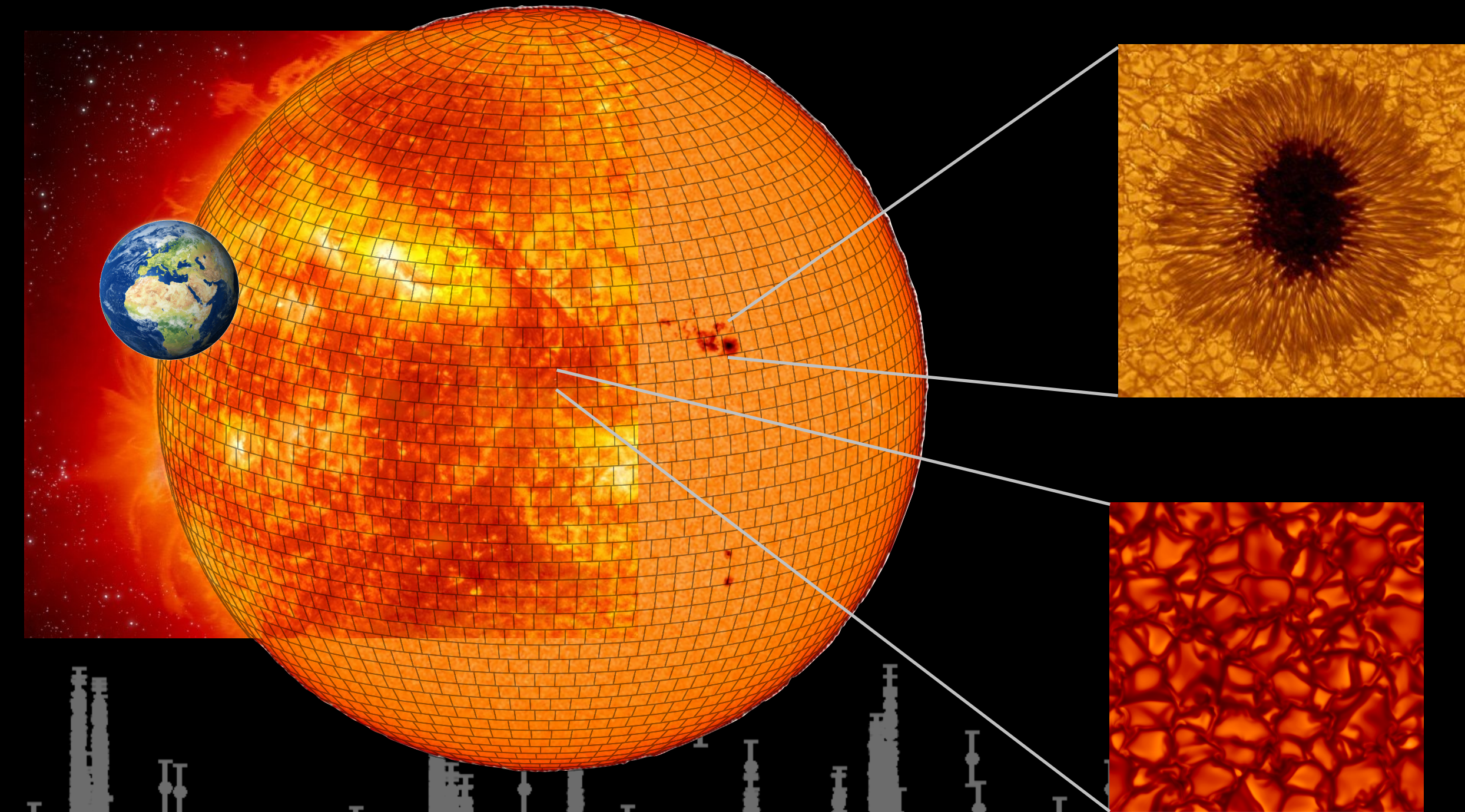


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# Interplay between convection & magnetic fields drives most stellar surface variability

We must understand the host stars to unveil rocky, temperate alien worlds



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