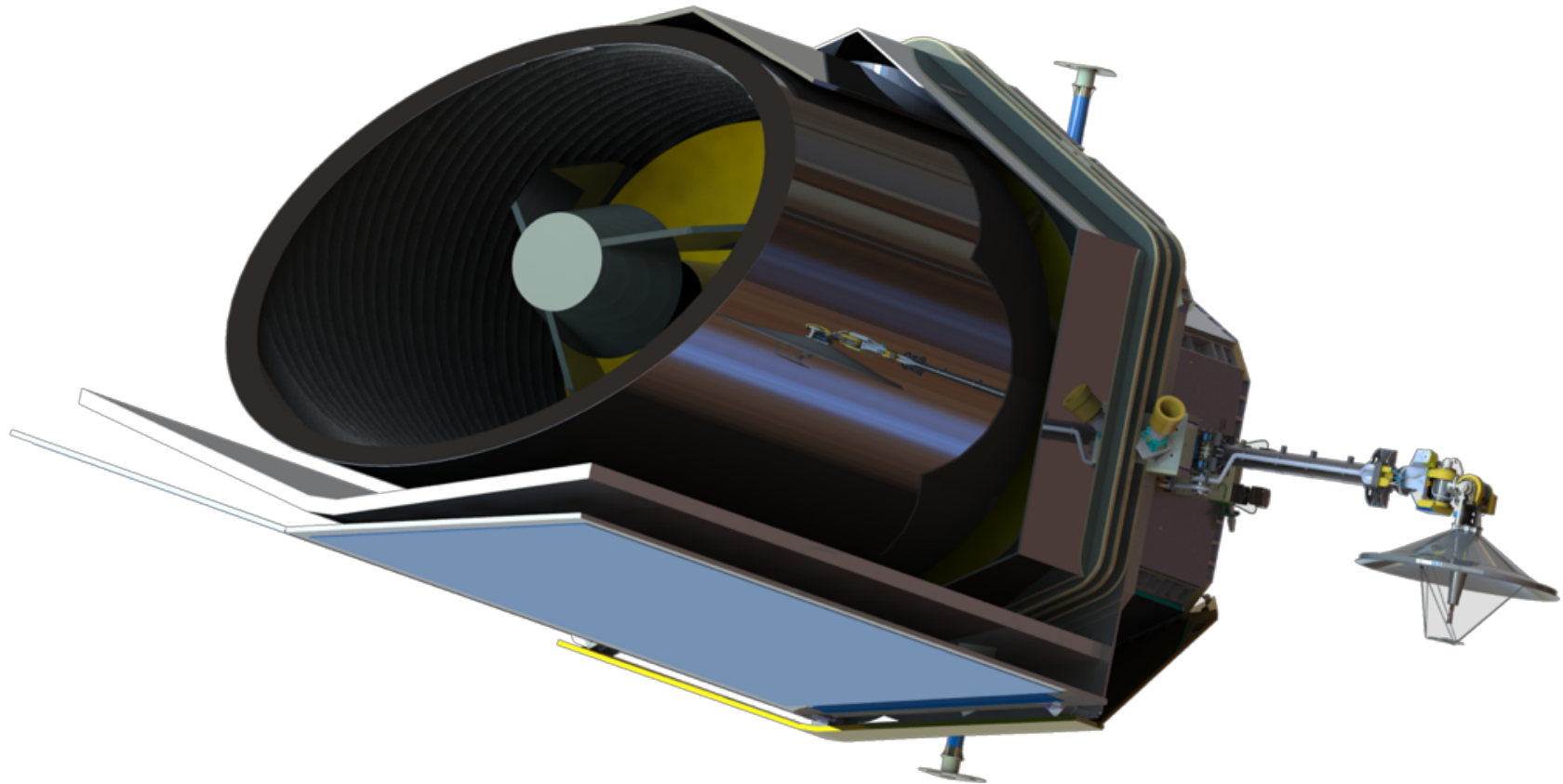


Precise Near-Infrared Radial Velocities with iSHELL

Peter Plavchan
George Mason University
twitter: @PlavchanPeter

EarthFinder

- **Probe (\$1B) Mission Concept Study Report submitted to NASA 3/15**
- **Please see poster by Mason undergrad William Matzko in poster session for summary**

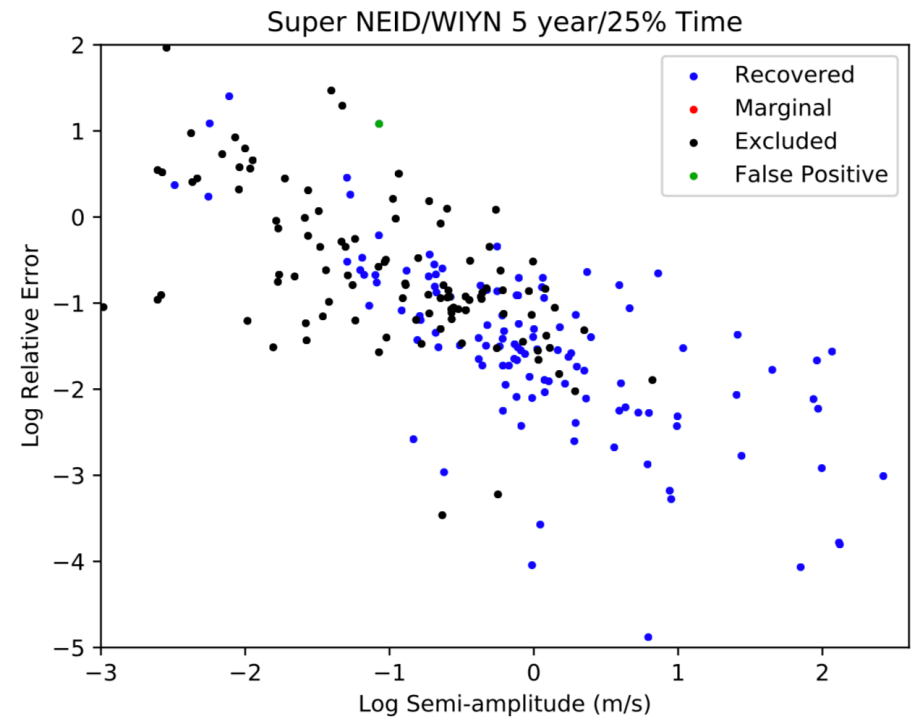
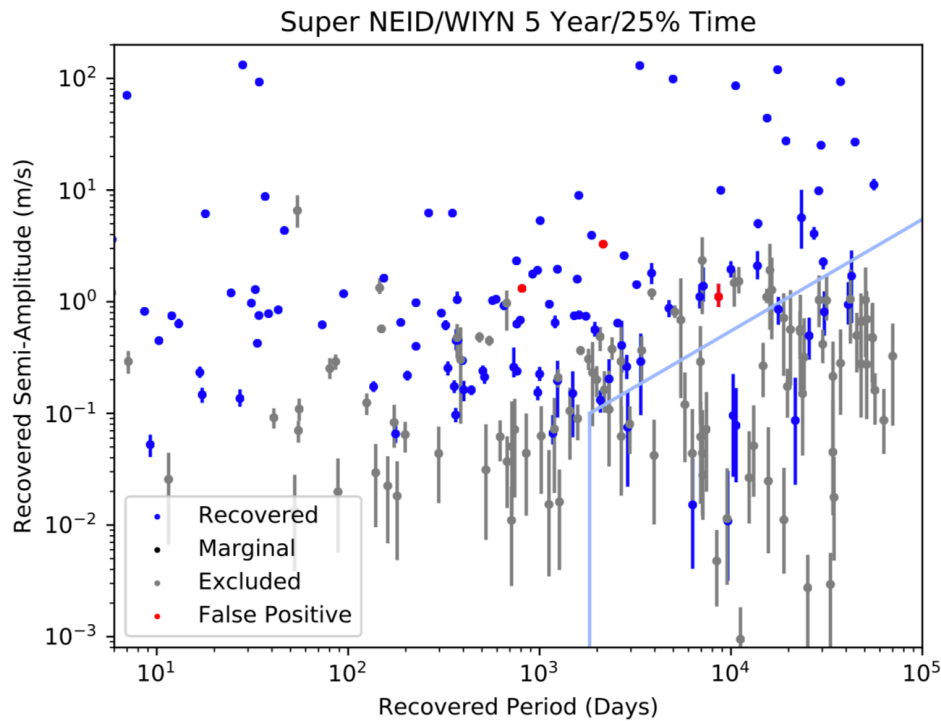


Credit: Ball Aerospace

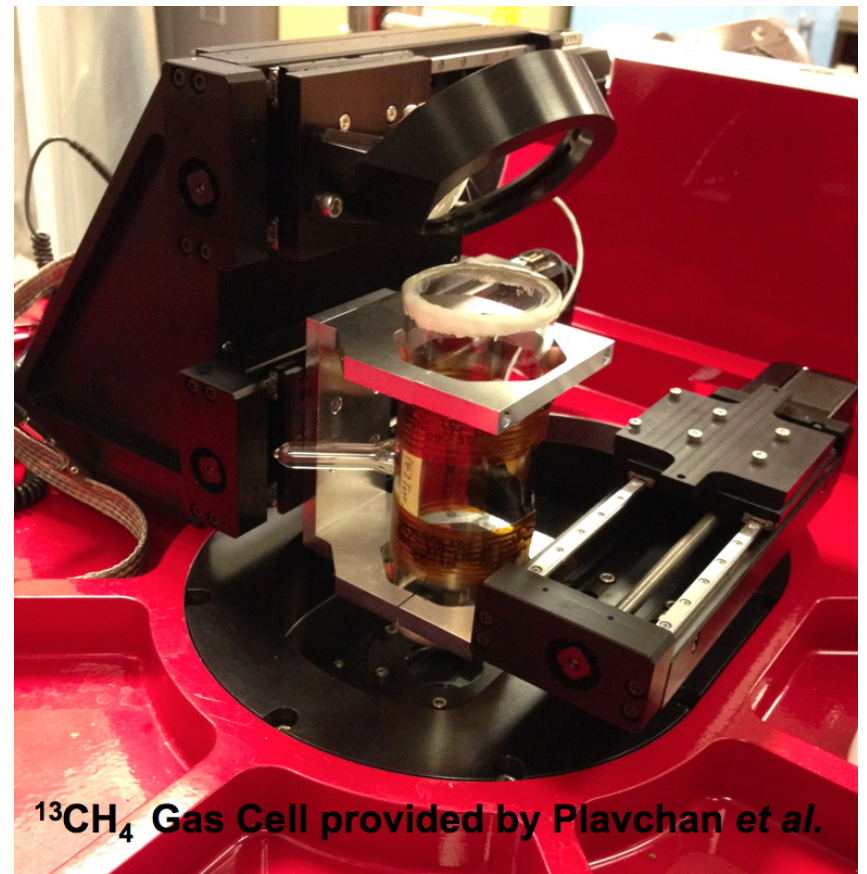
Radial Velocities ... *in space!*

RV Survey Simulations

- See poster by Mason PhD student Patrick Newman.



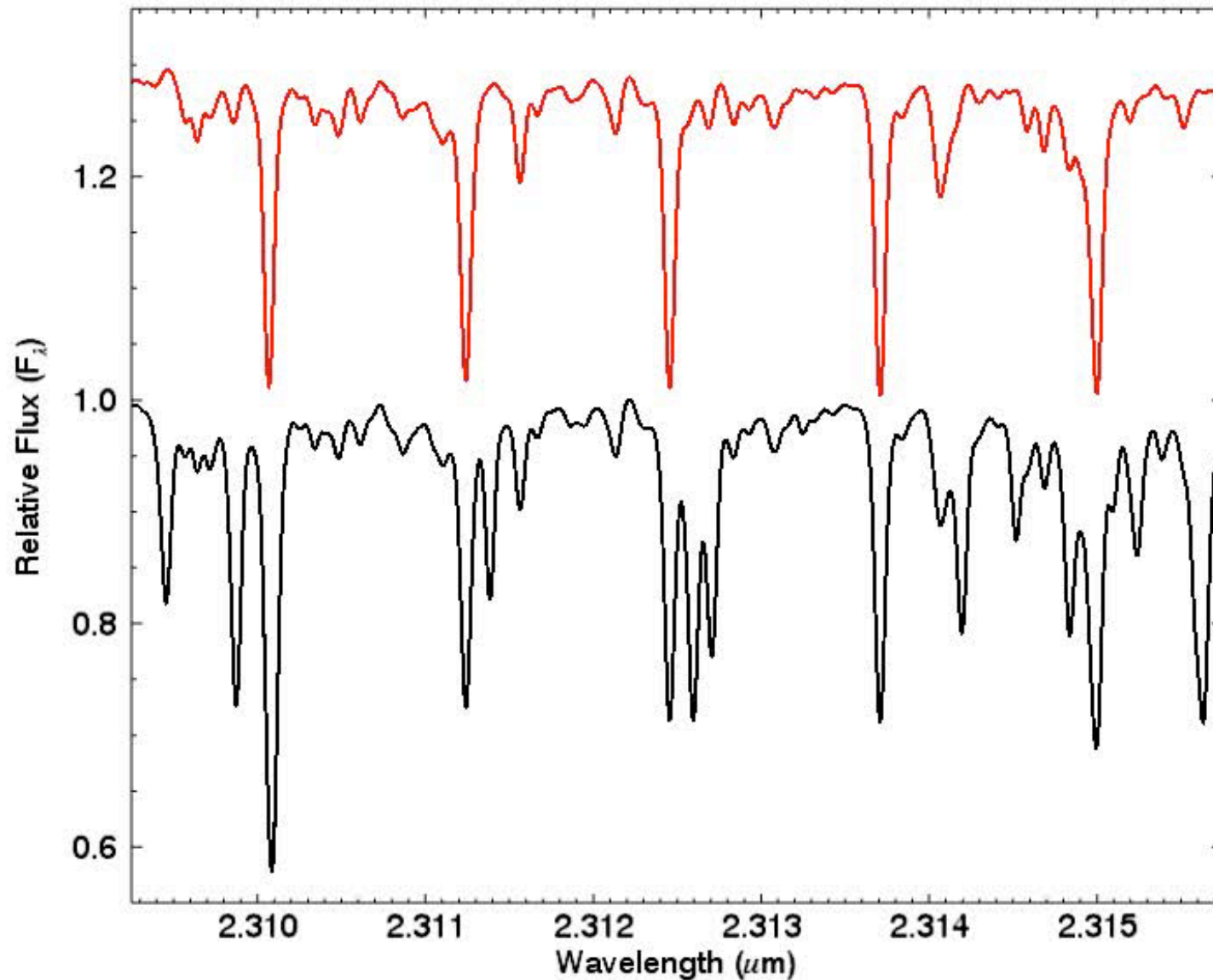
iSHELL



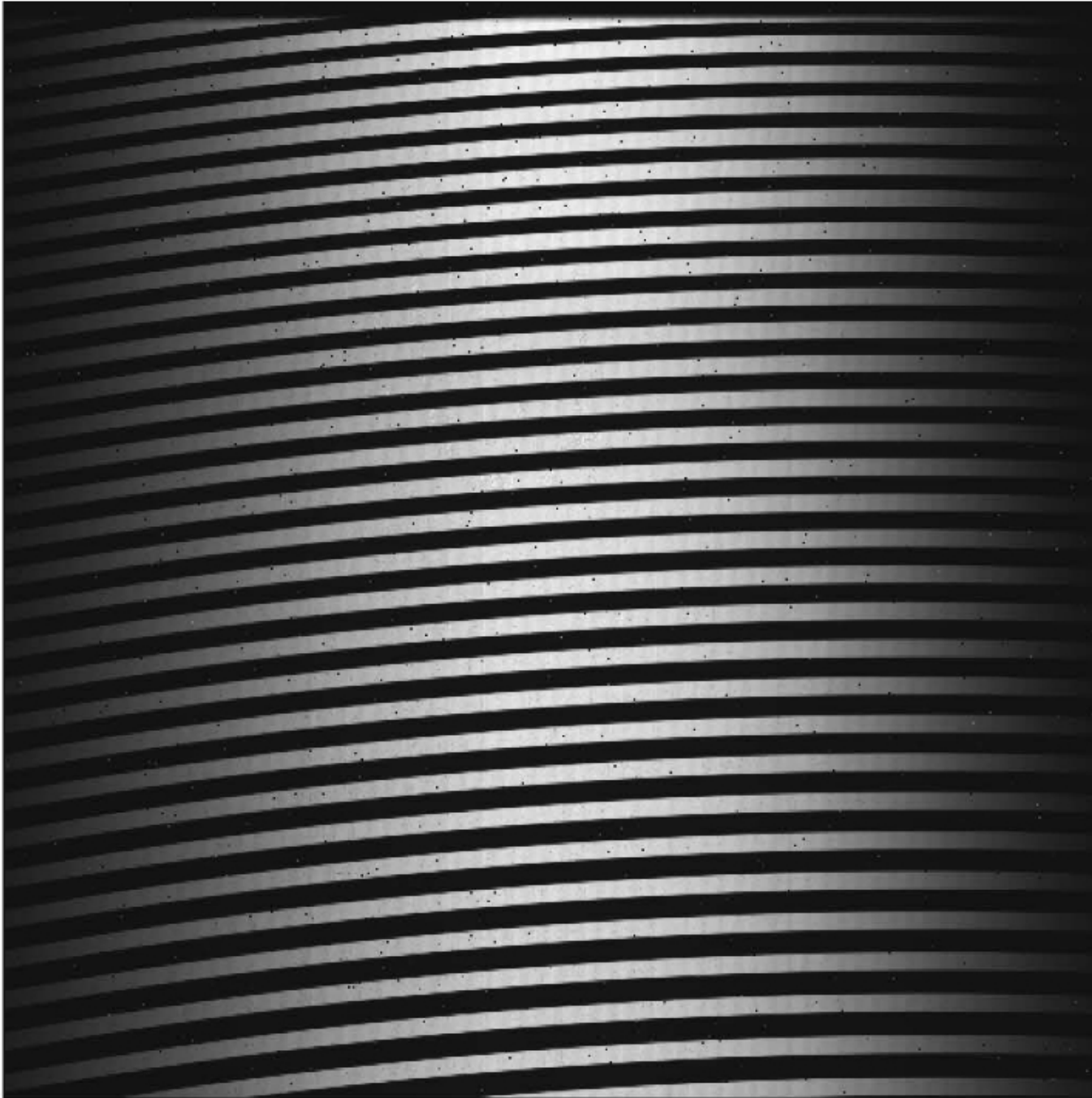
$^{13}\text{CH}_4$ Gas Cell provided by Plavchan *et al.*

**Operational since fall 2017
Facility 1-5 μm instrument at Cass
focus**

Gas Absorption Cell



Gas Cell Lines

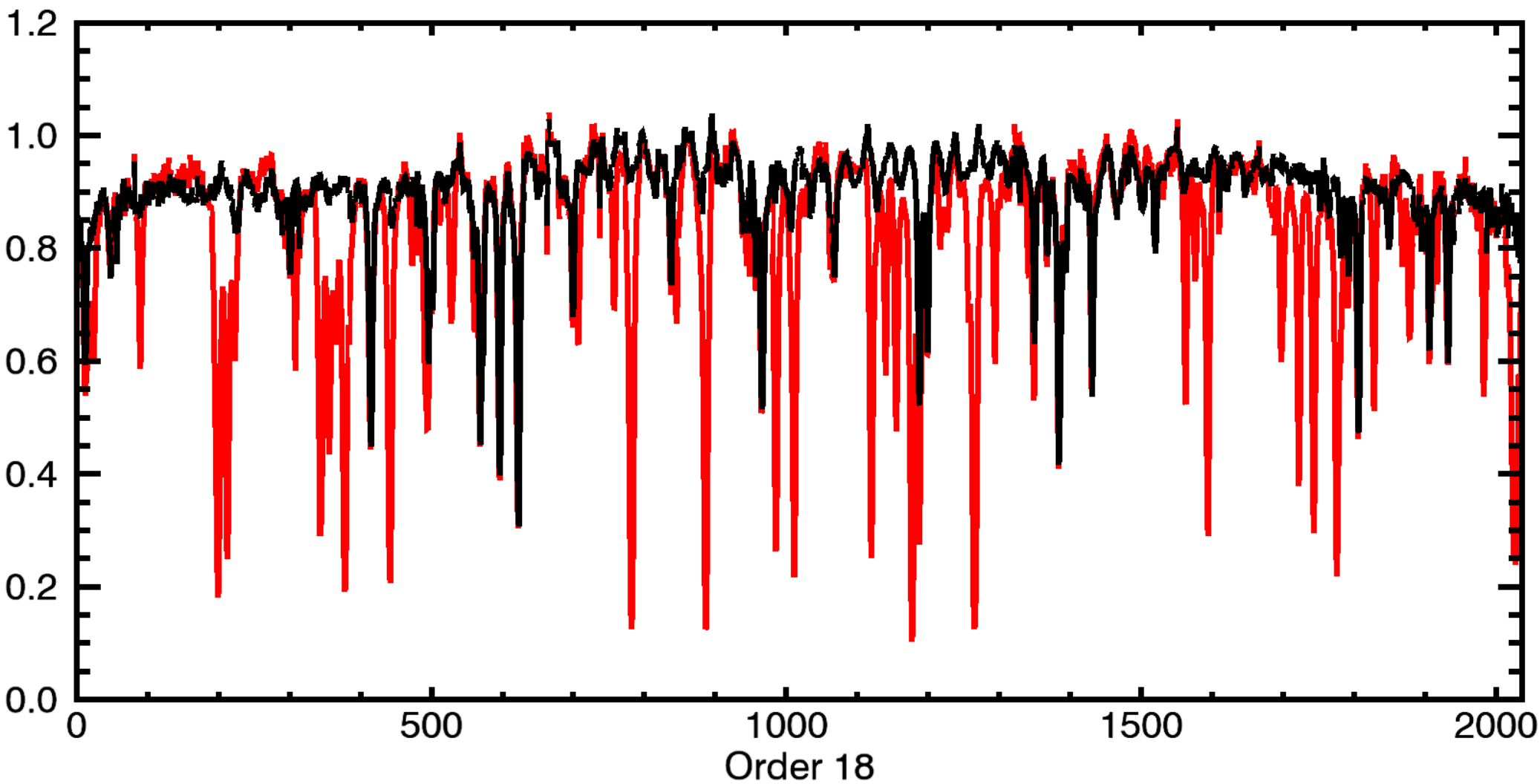


2.18- 2.47 μm

Extracted Data

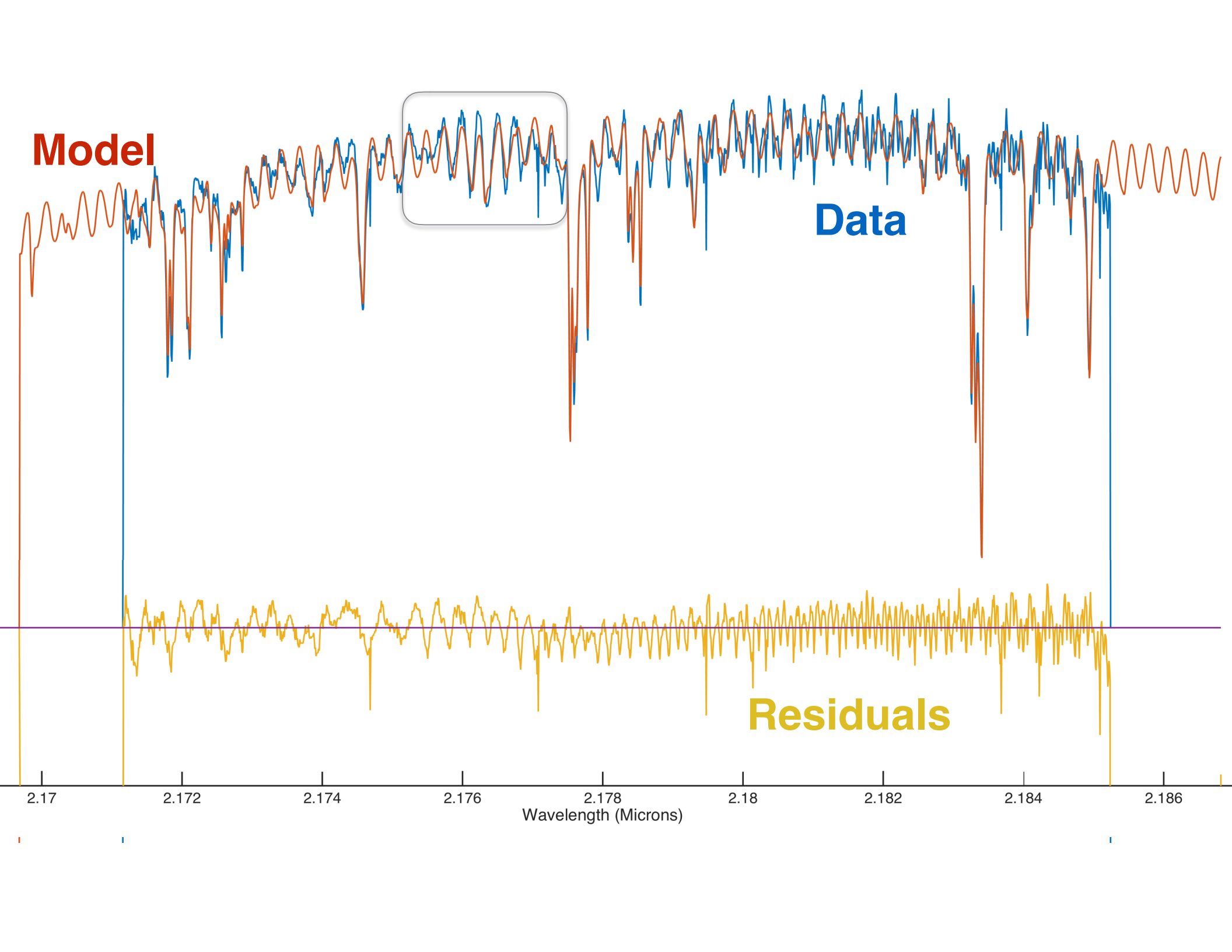
Vega

Single Order



Without gas cell 

With gas cell 



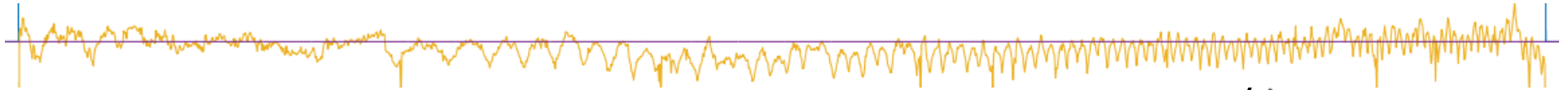
Model

Data

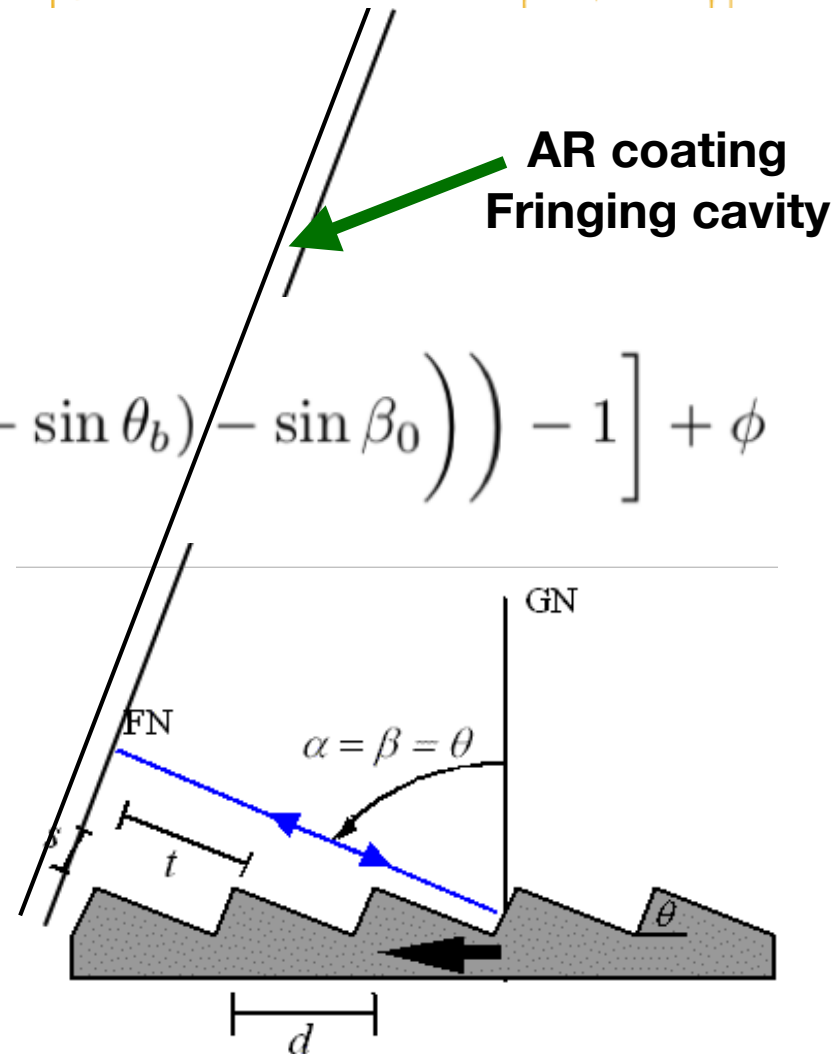
Residuals

Wavelength (Microns)

Silicon Immersion Grating Exit Face Fringing



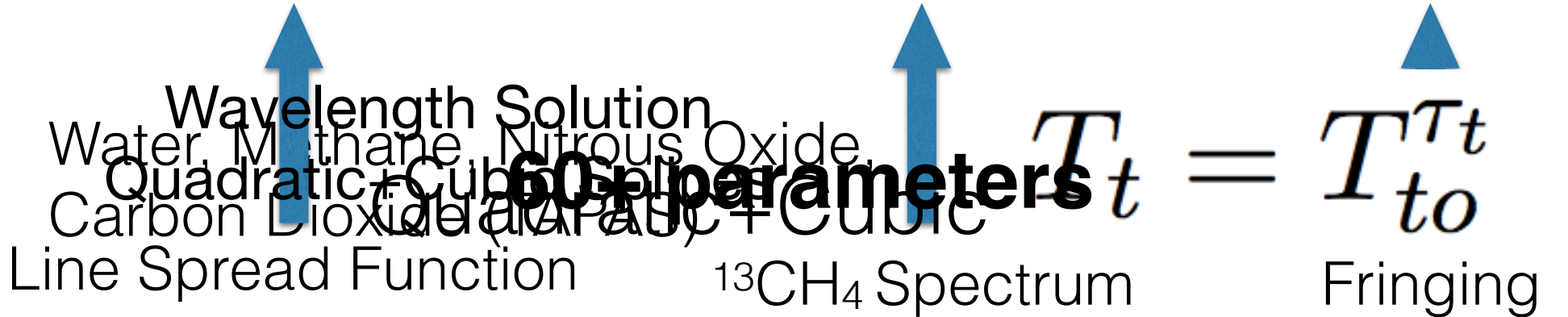
$$\delta_{AR} = \frac{C_{AR}}{\lambda} \left[\cos \left(\beta_0 - \arcsin \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda_0} (\sin \beta_0 + \sin \theta_b) - \sin \beta_0 \right) \right) - 1 \right] + \phi$$



Spectral Model

$$\delta_{AR} = \frac{C_{AR}}{\lambda} \left[\cos \left(\beta_0 - \arcsin \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda_0} (\sin \beta_0 + \sin \theta_b) - \sin \beta_0 \right) \right) - 1 \right] + \phi$$

$$I_{obs}(\lambda) = LSF(\lambda) * [I_s(\lambda + \Delta\lambda_s) T_g(\lambda + \Delta\lambda_g) T_t(\lambda + \Delta\lambda_t) \Sigma(\lambda) K(\lambda)]$$



Solved with a custom downhill simplex algorithm in Python

The Grand Solution

(Gao et al. 2016)

Initial guess for I_s

Deshift residuals

Median Δt line

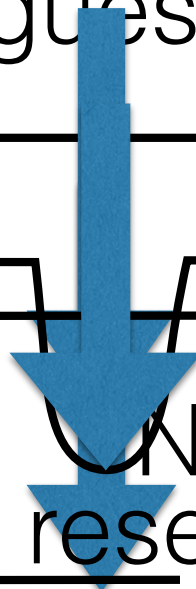
barycenter correction

Noncoherent features

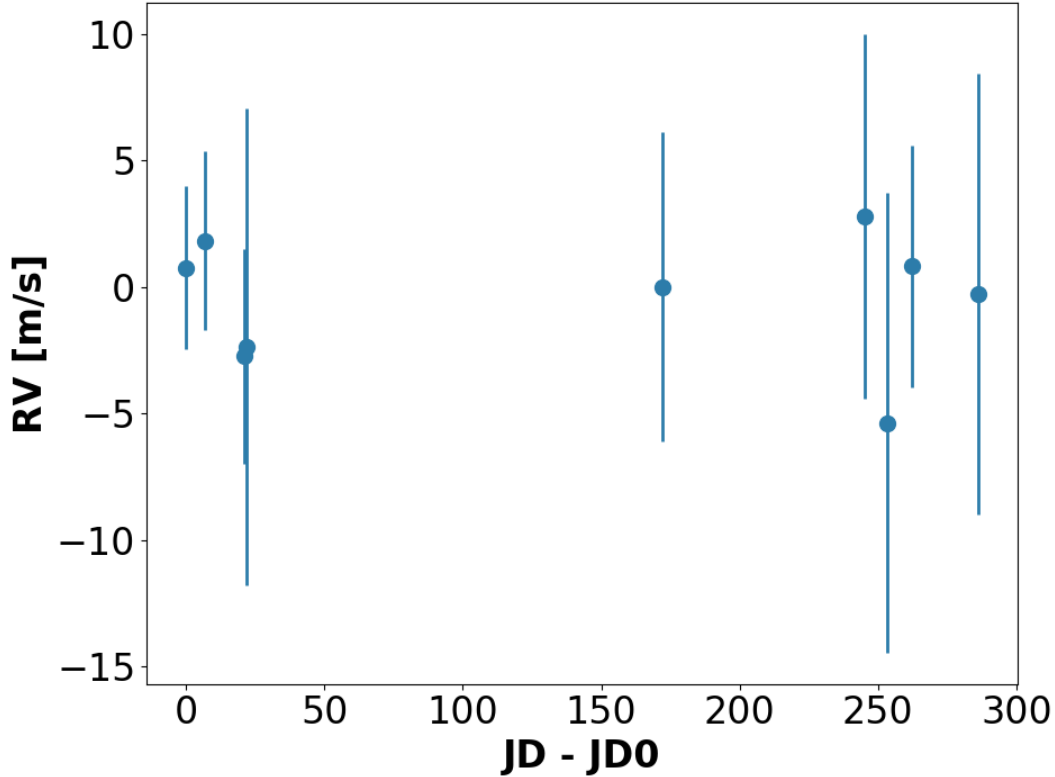
Residuals from fit resemble a distorted I_s
are removed

Accepted I_s templates

Observations throughout the year
iteration's template

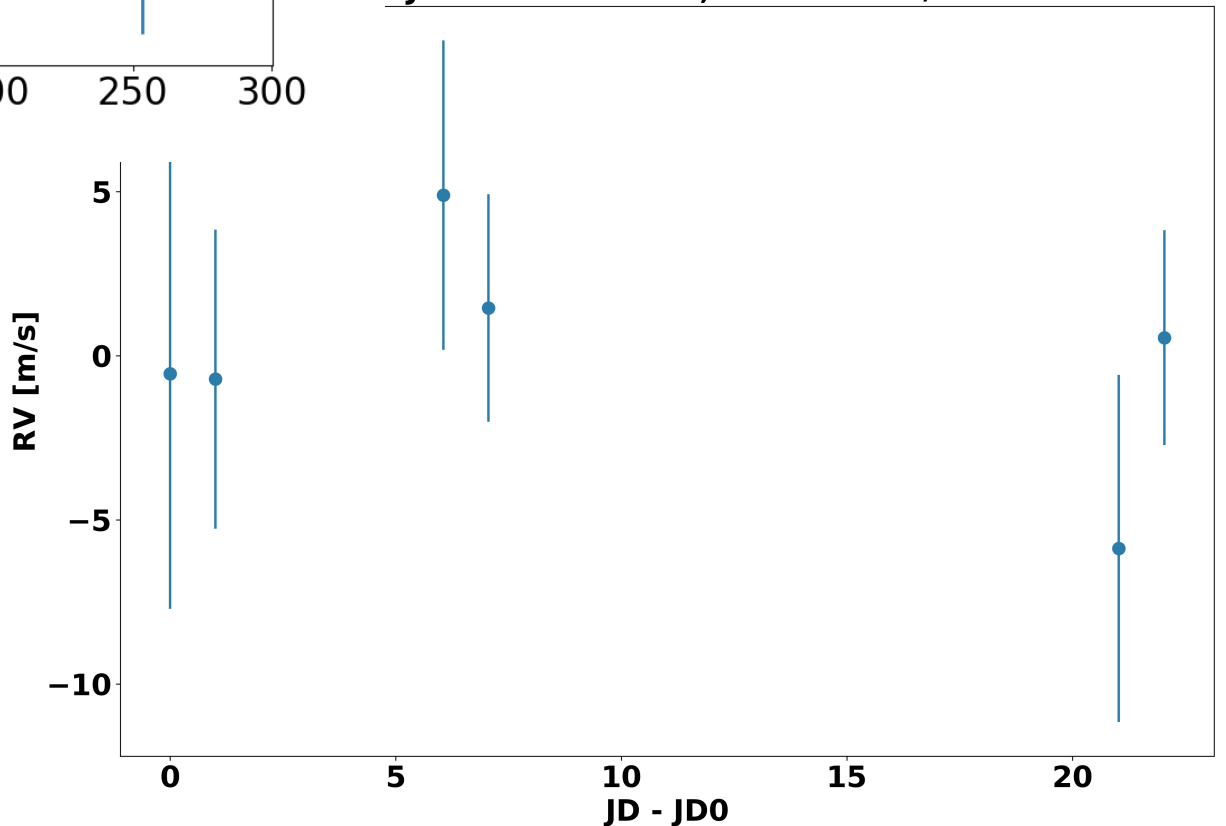


Barnard's Star iSHELL RVs, $\sigma = 2.41$ m/s



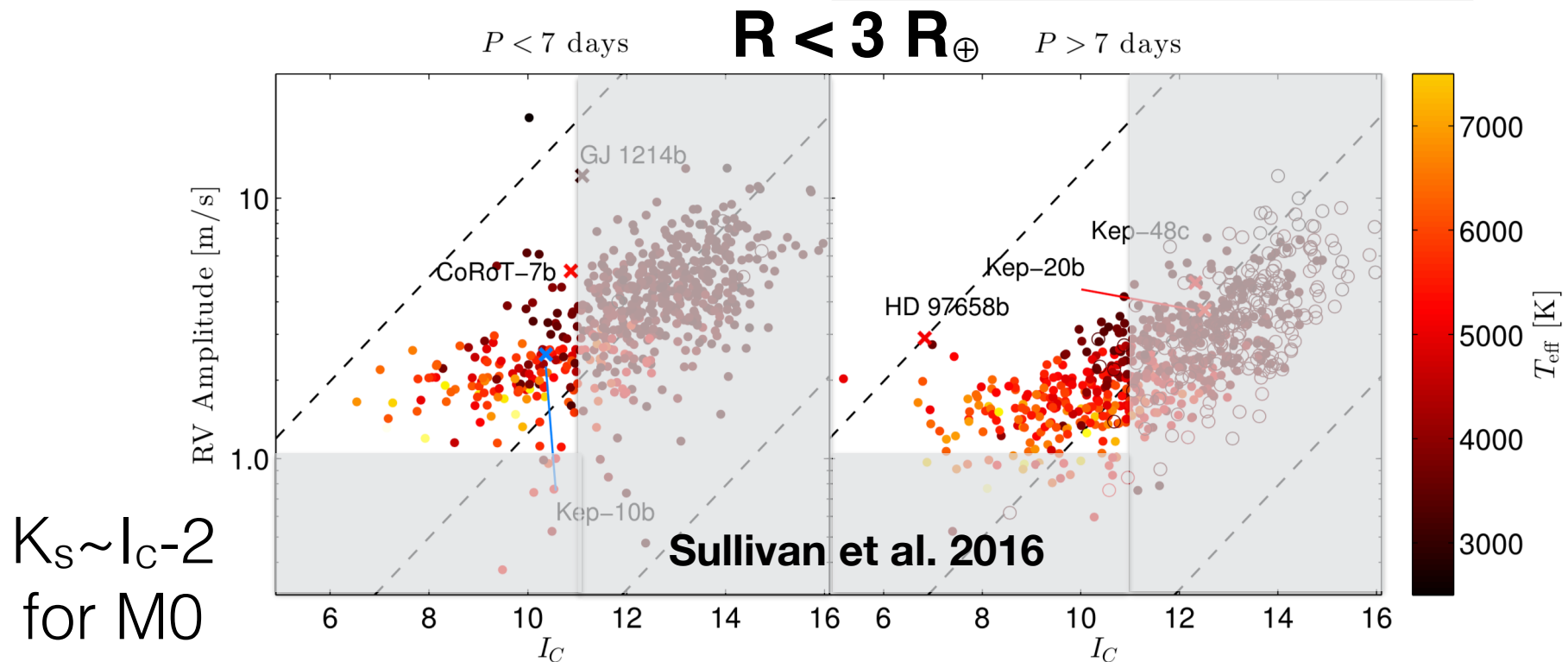
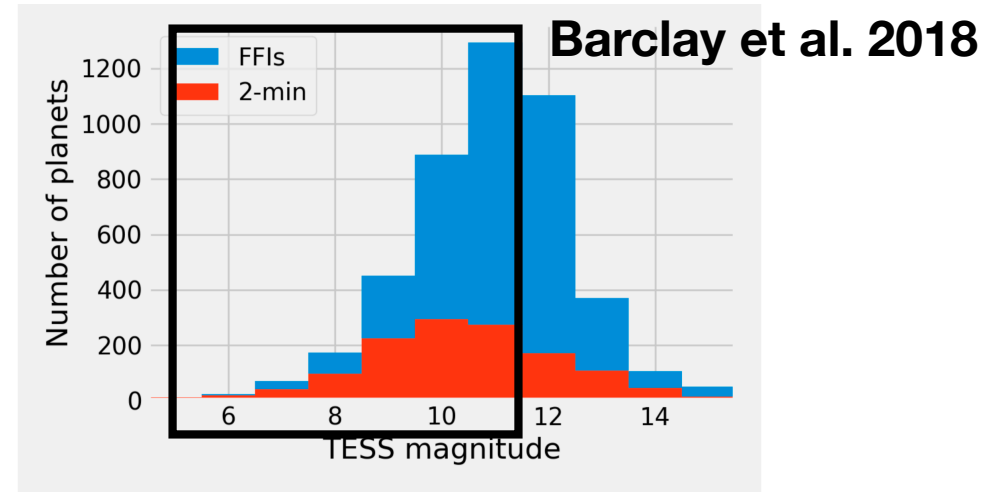
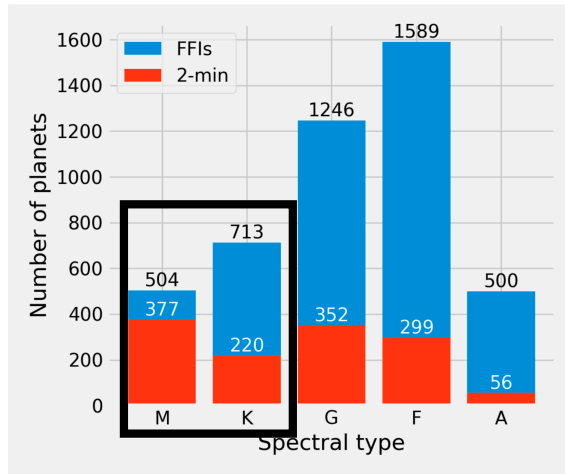
Collected commissioning data for one year on RV standards late G,K,M dwarfs

GJ 15 A iSHELL RVs, $\sigma = 3.204$ m/s



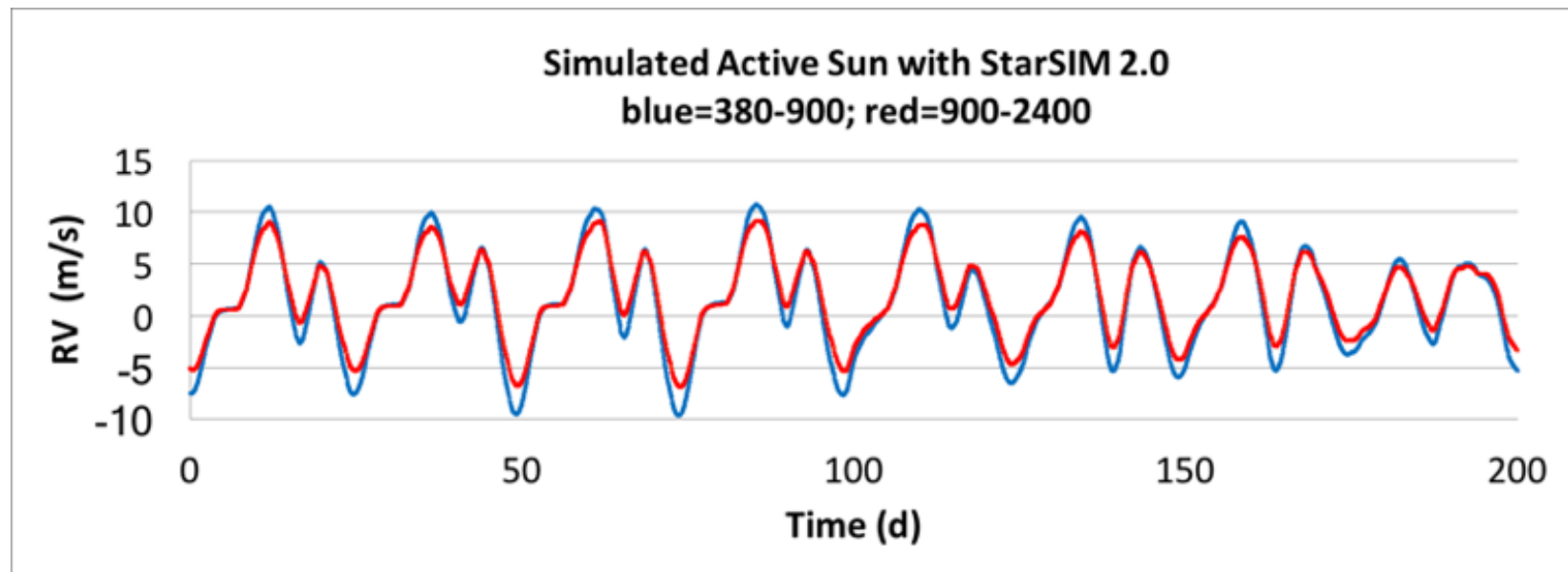
**Analysis works!
Computationally expensive**

TESS Follow-Up

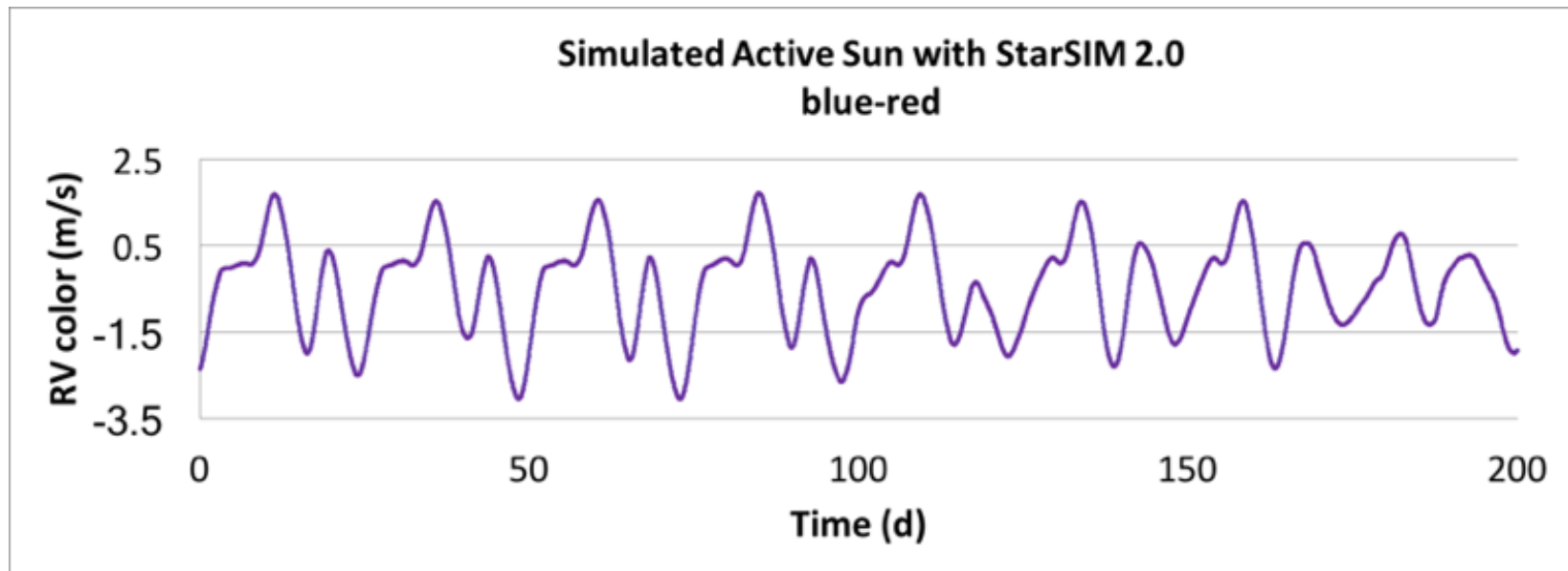


$K_s \sim I_c - 2$
for M0

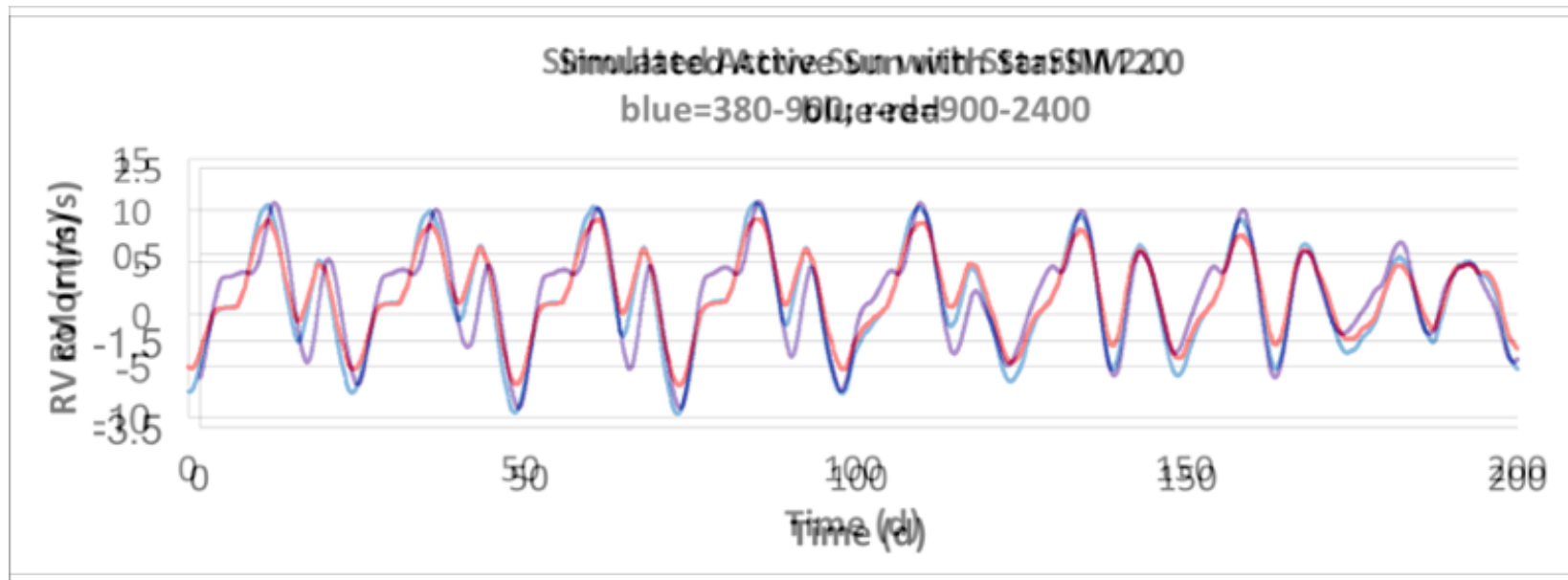
RV Color



RV Color



RV Color



Summary

- We have achieved 2.5 m/s long-term precision with iSHELL swinging at Cass focus using a methane isotopologue gas cell. Not sure yet what is limiting our current precision (fringing, tellurics, or otherwise).
- iSHELL RV mode is available to all US PIs for proposing
- Excellent facility for TESS follow-up on a NASA-owned telescope of $K < 9$ ($V < 13$) M dwarfs and active stars late G, K and M stars, and for probing the wavelength dependence of activity with simultaneous RV color
- Thank you to my wonderful group of students, including Patrick Newman, William Matzko & Natasha Latouf here at this meeting, and Bryson Cale whose work on iSHELL I presented; and to Jonathan Gagne, Peter Gao and others who contributed to observing sessions and the software analysis.
- Stay away from fringing from immersion gratings. Please. But it is a solved problem; Cale et al. in prep.