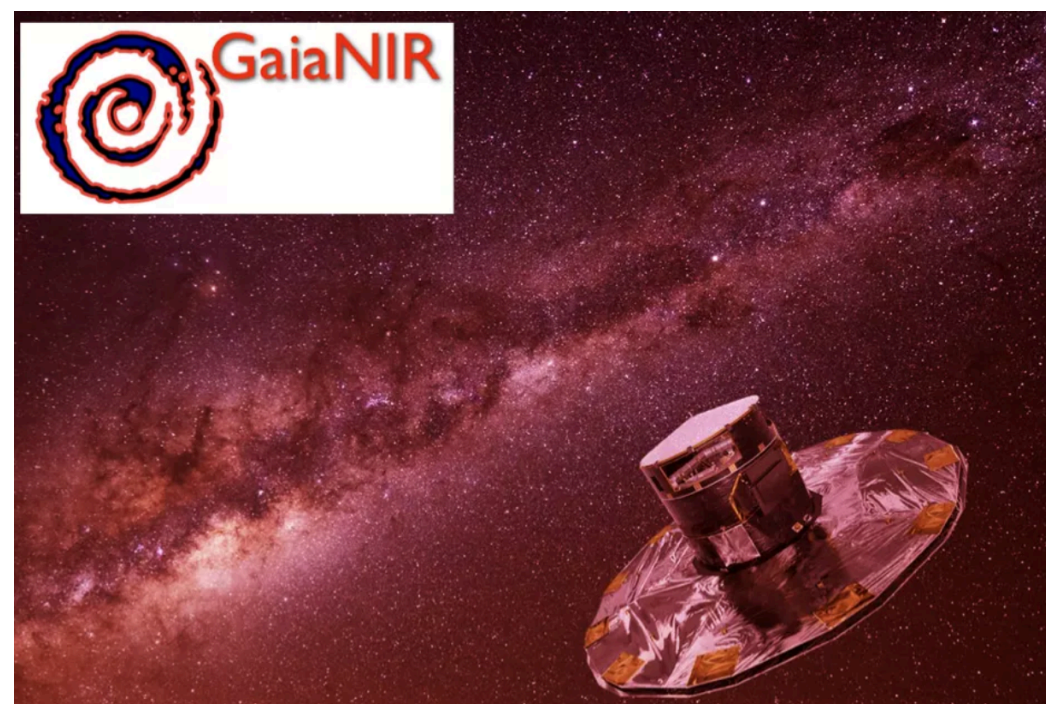


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# The Solar System at *mas* and *μas* accuracy

Paolo Tanga

Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur



# Summary: implications of a Gaia-like NIR-extended mission

- Taxonomy and composition
- Epoch photometry
- Astrometric accuracy

# Why we need asteroid spectra?

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- Reflectivity —> a proxy of composition
  - Comparison possible with meteorite spectra in the lab

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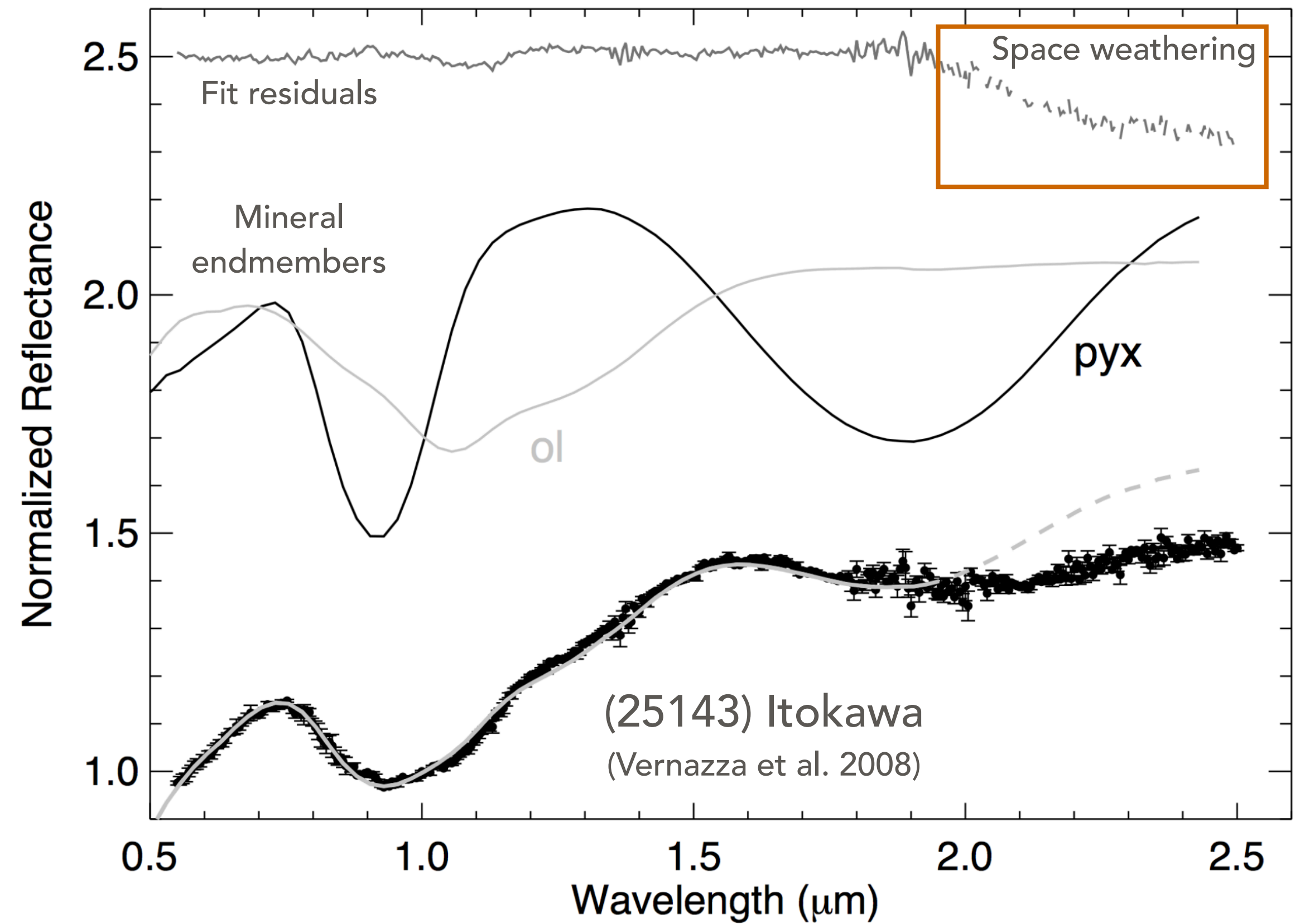
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- Composition —> internal structure
  - Mineralogy can provide density of material
  - If bulk density measurement available —> macro-porosity
  - Depends on the collisional evolution

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  - Depends on the collisional evolution
- Composition —> origin
  - Hydrated asteroids - formed far from the Sun, bringing water to Earth
  - “Primitive types”, unaltered since formation (?)
  - Family members —> composition of the parent body...
  - Near Earth Asteroids —> source regions / mitigation strategies
  - etc.

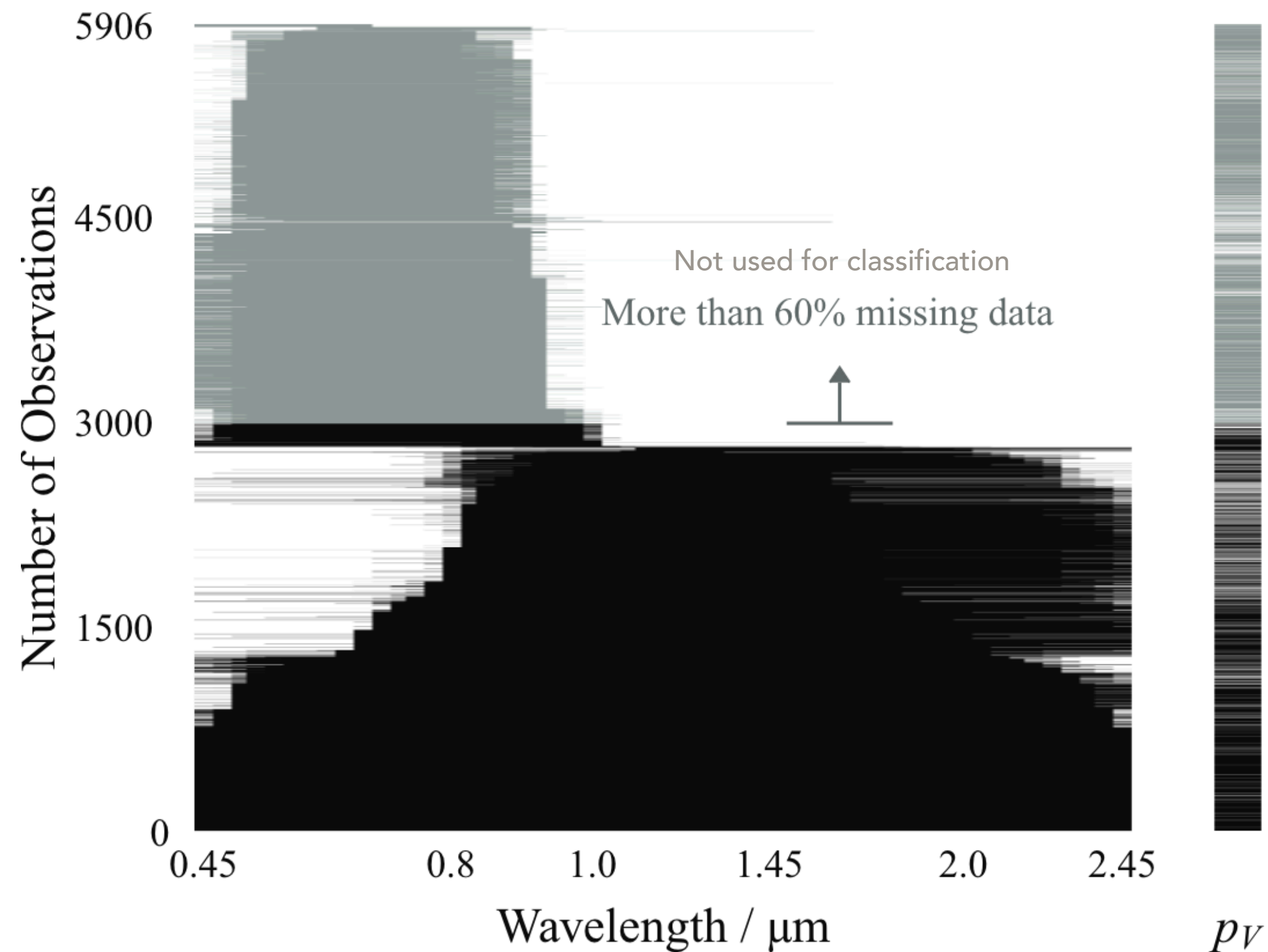
# Asteroid spectrum from vis to NIR - an example

- Reflectance spectra: fit to laboratory spectra of different minerals
- Note the important bands at 1 and 2  $\mu\text{m}$



# Sample available for classification (pre-DR3)

One line = one spectrum  
(6038 spectra of 4526 individual asteroids)

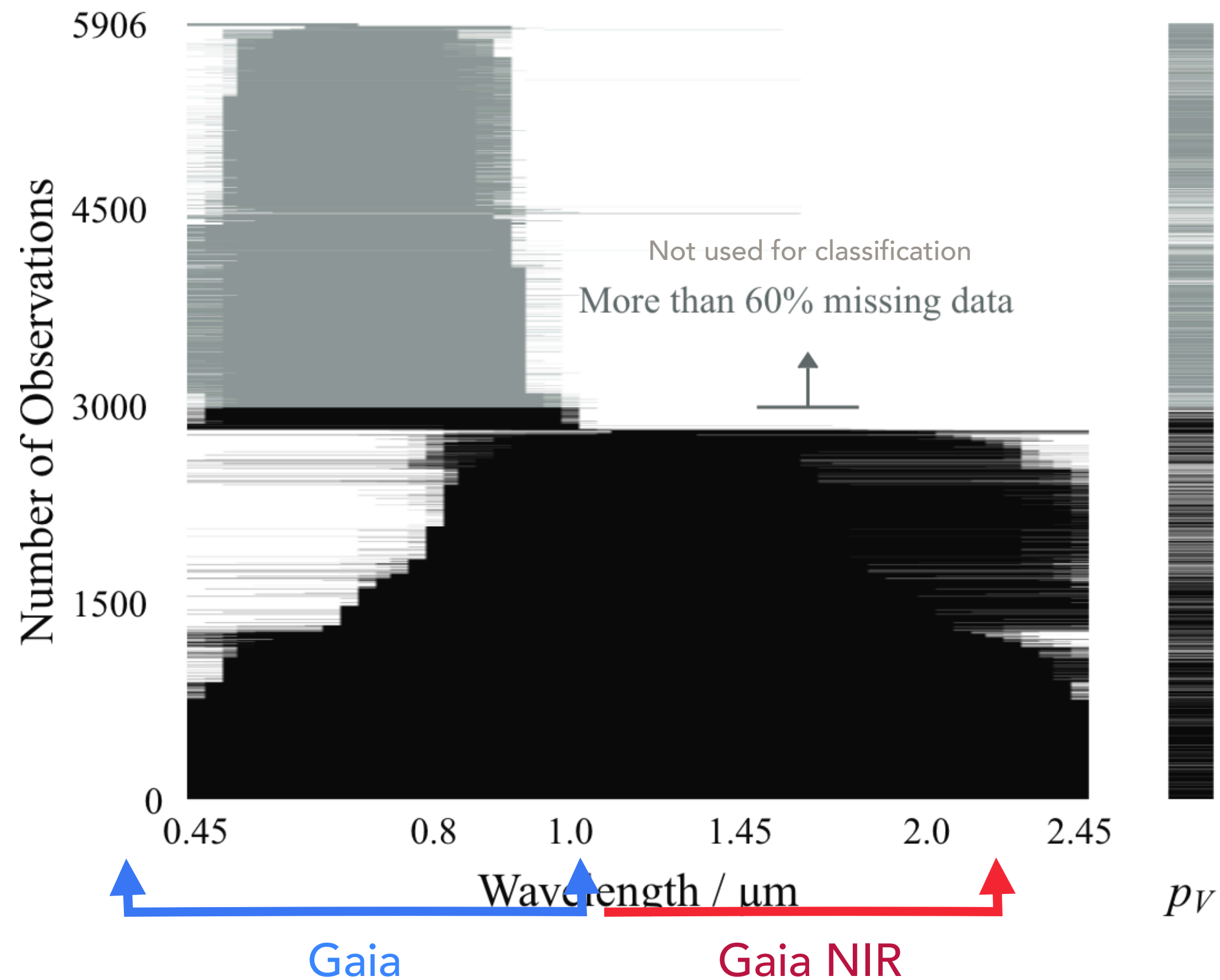


- Spectra in literature, used by Manlike et al. 2023 to build new taxonomy (with new classes!)
- Threshold at 40% coverage of the 0.45-2.45  $\mu\text{m}$  range
- Note the current coverage by Gaia... and the possible contribution by GaiaNIR



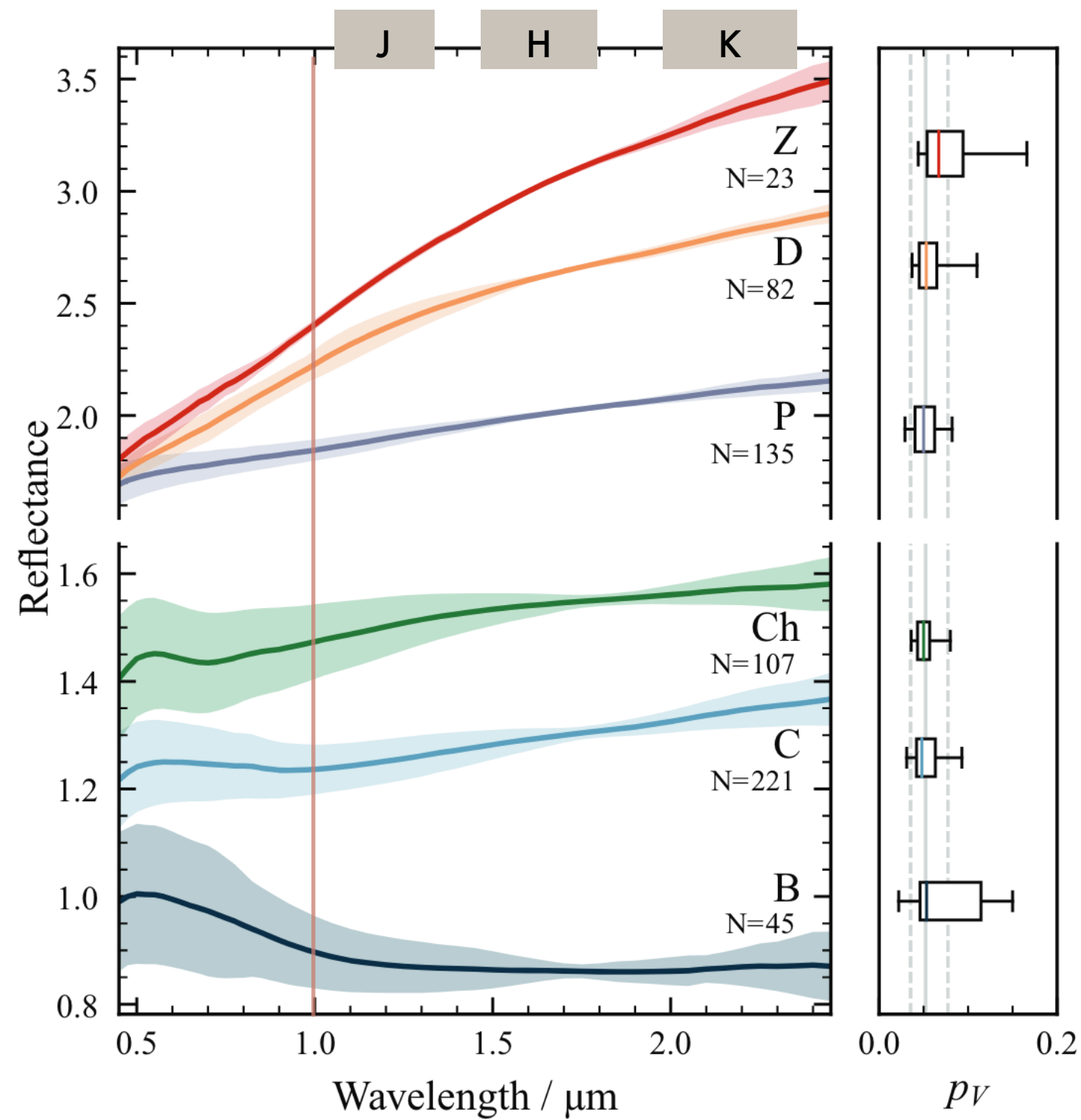
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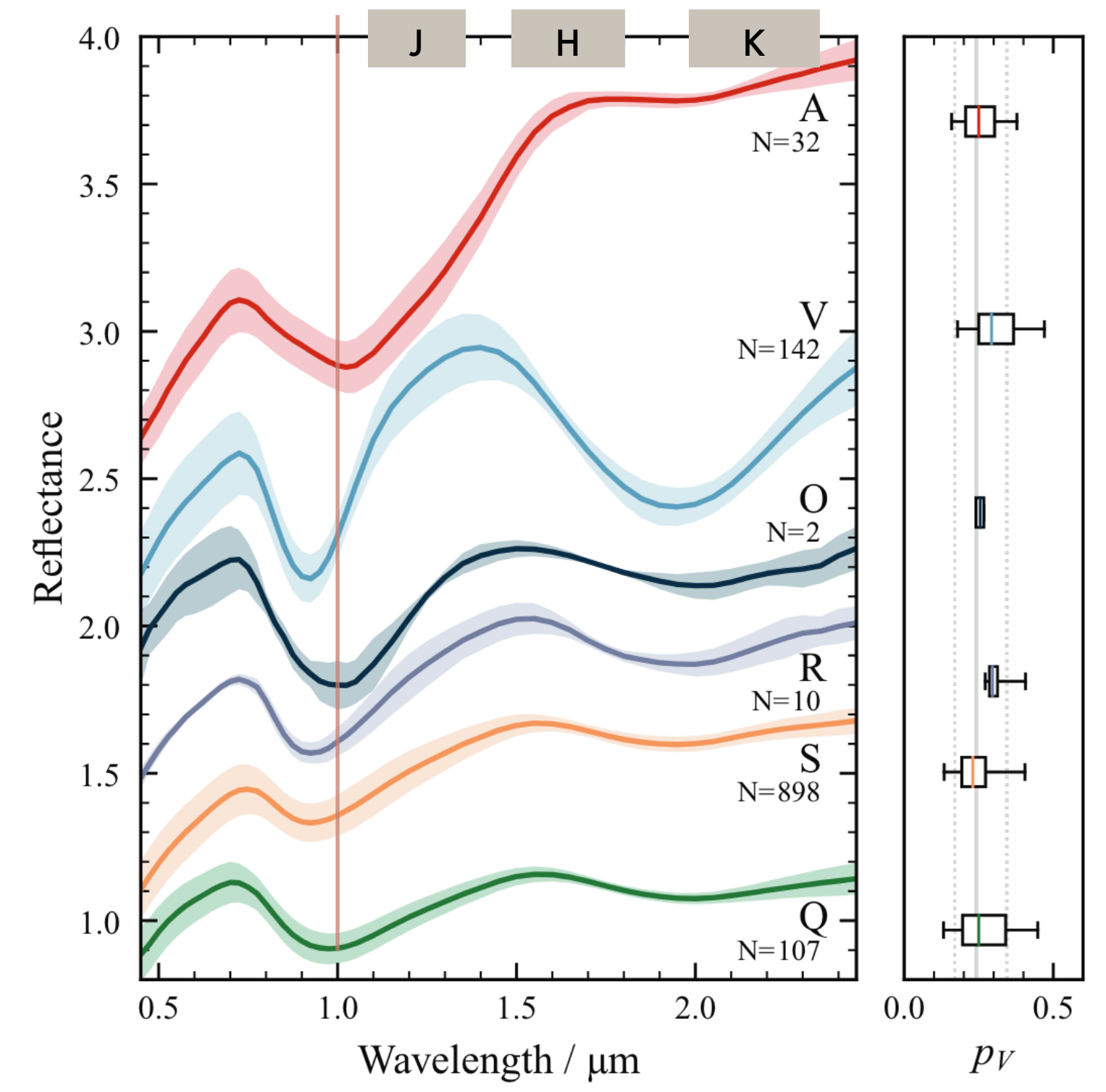
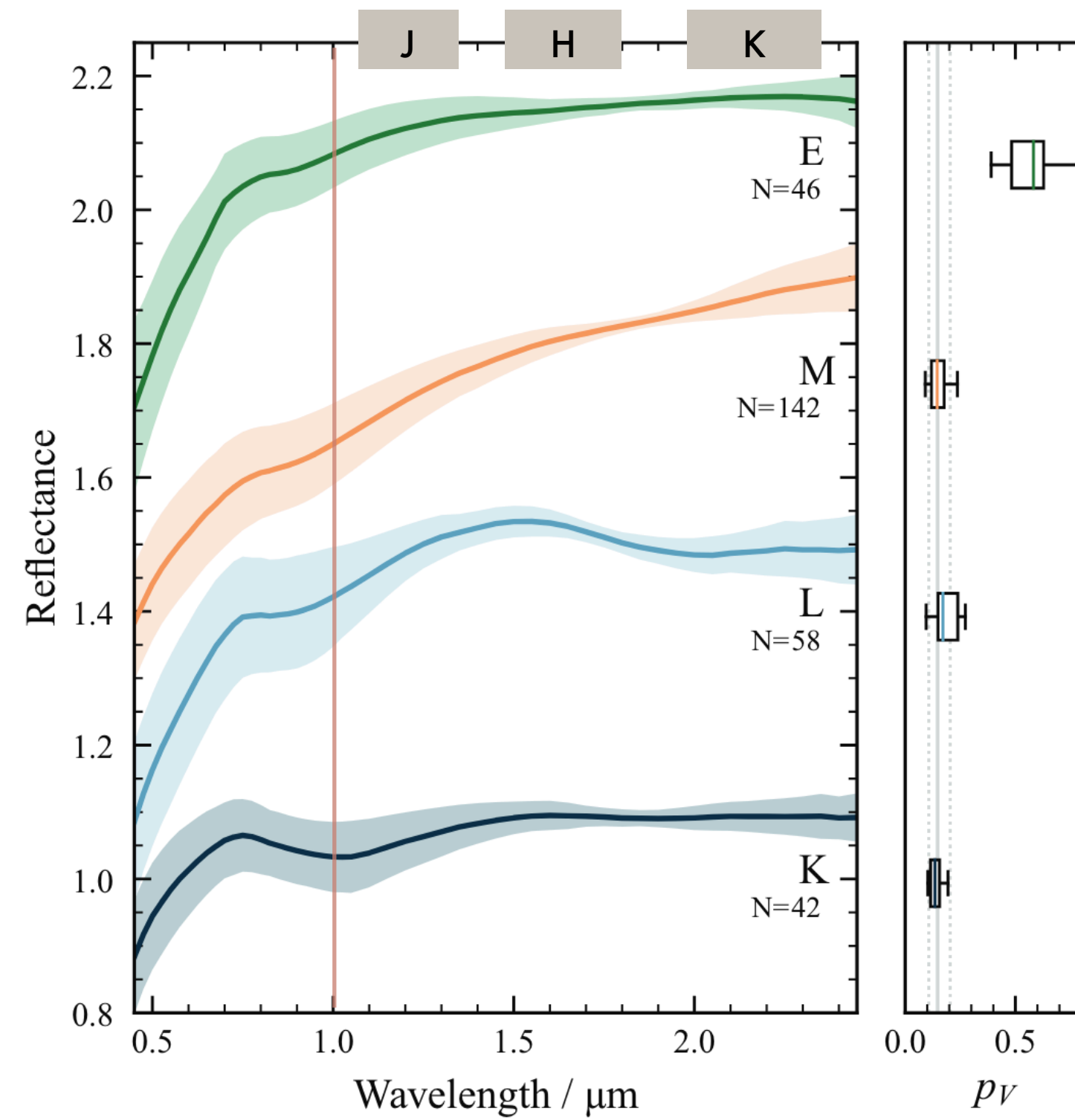


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# Main spectral classes



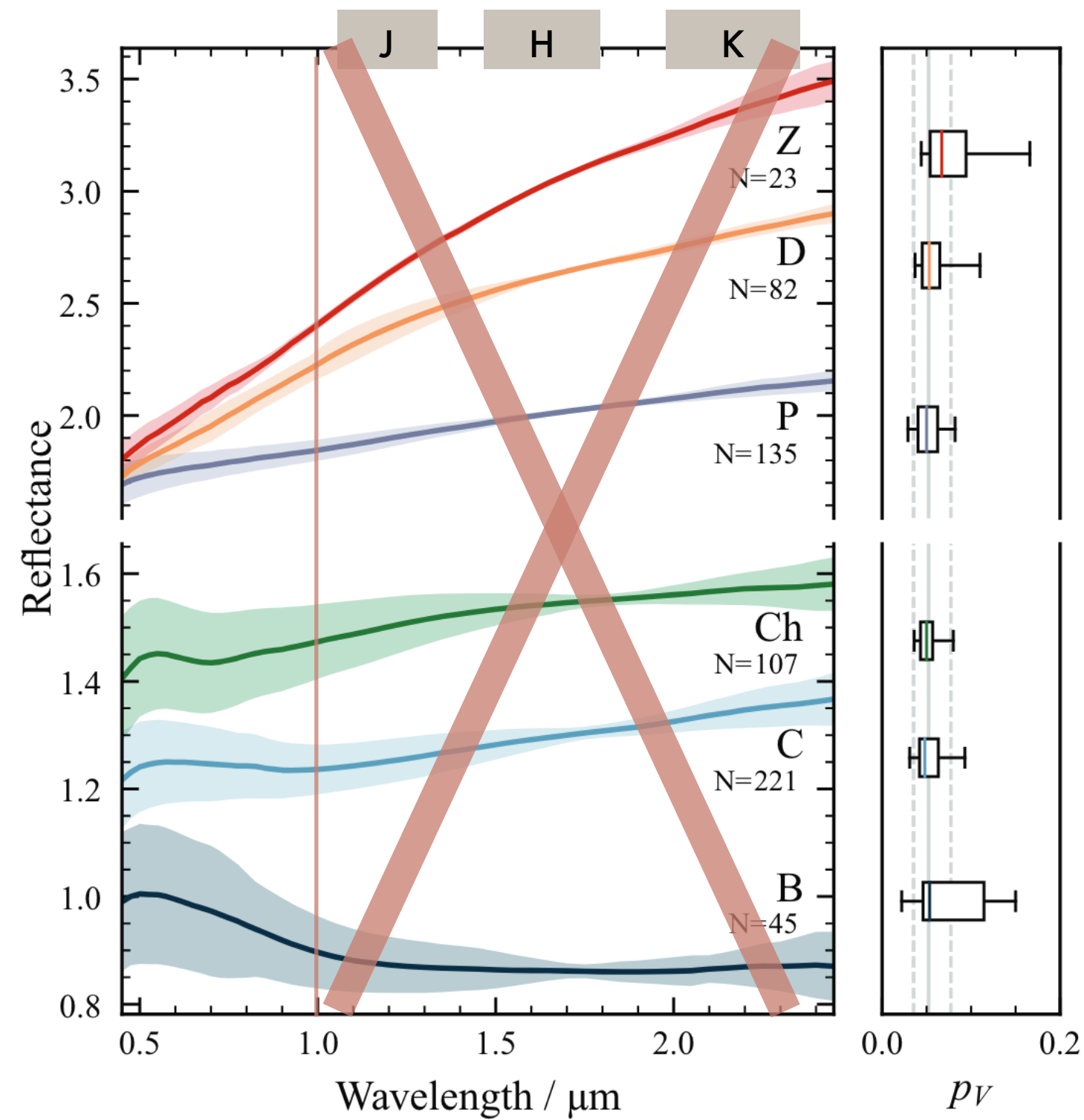
Some degeneracy in the NIR (B, C, Ch)



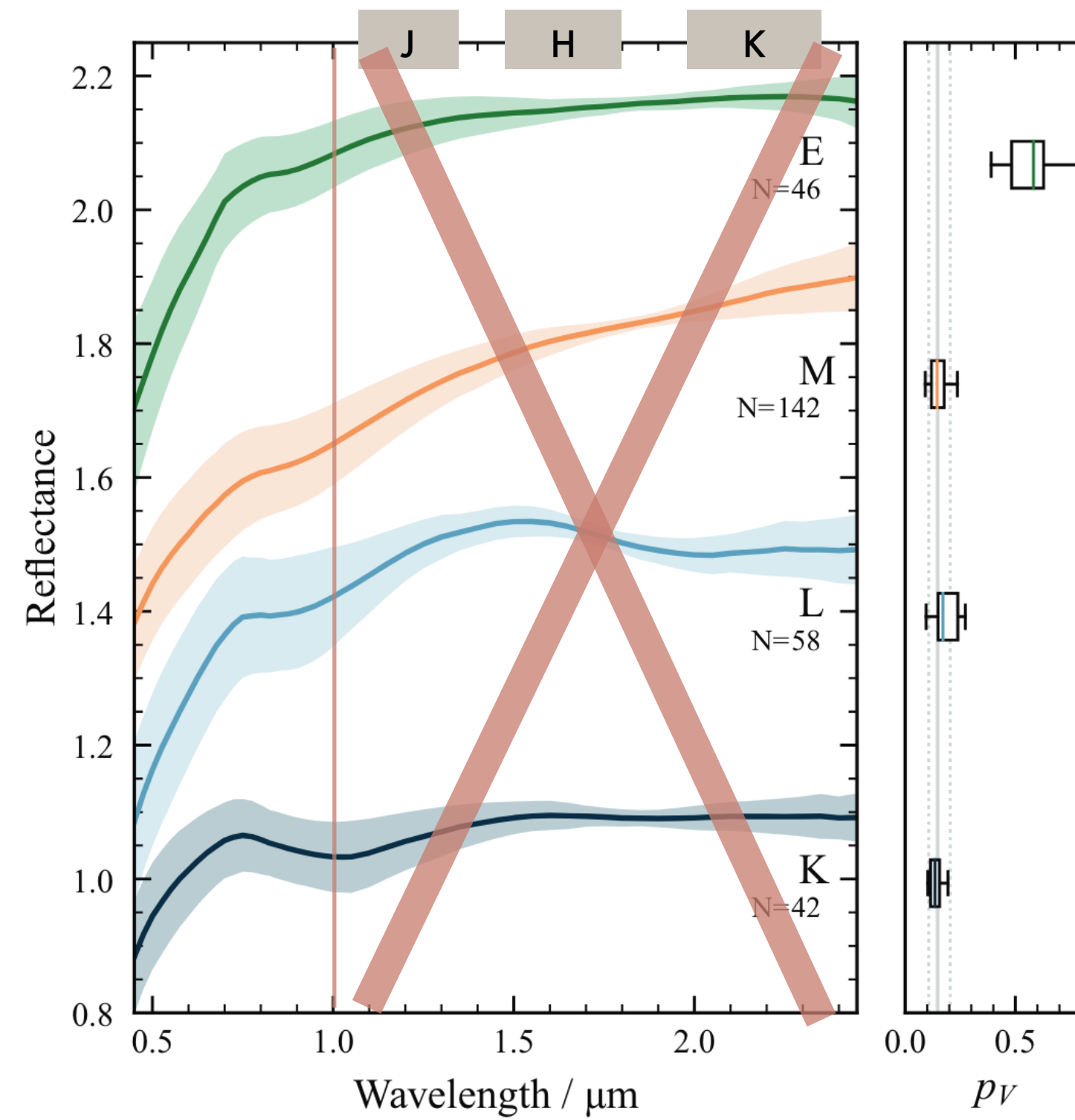
Mainly distinguished from the varying ratio between the two bands

Mahlke et al. 2023

# Main spectral classes

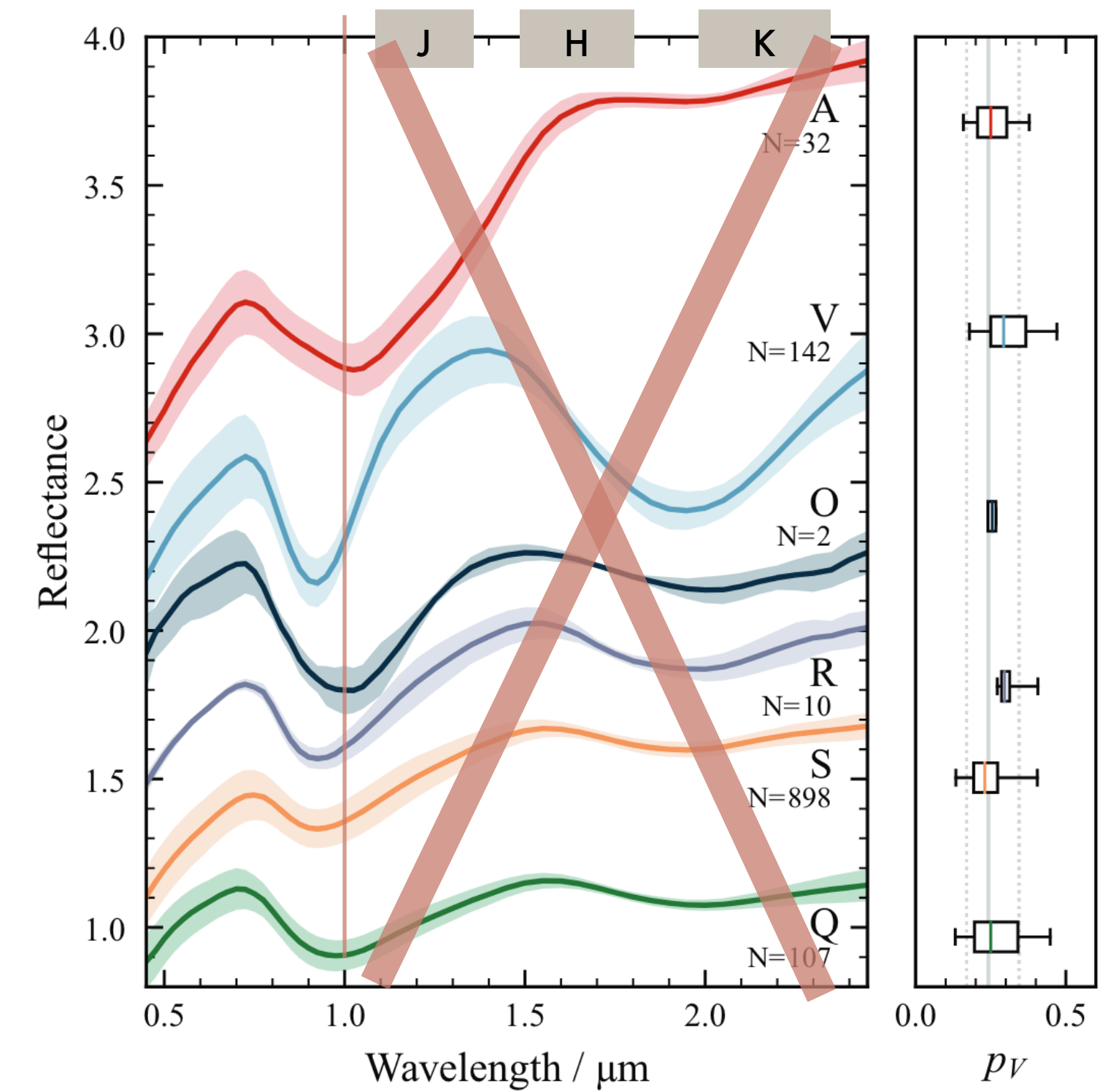


Some degeneracy in the NIR (B, C, Ch)



(M) K-L degeneracy in the Vis

E-M-P degeneracy in the Vis

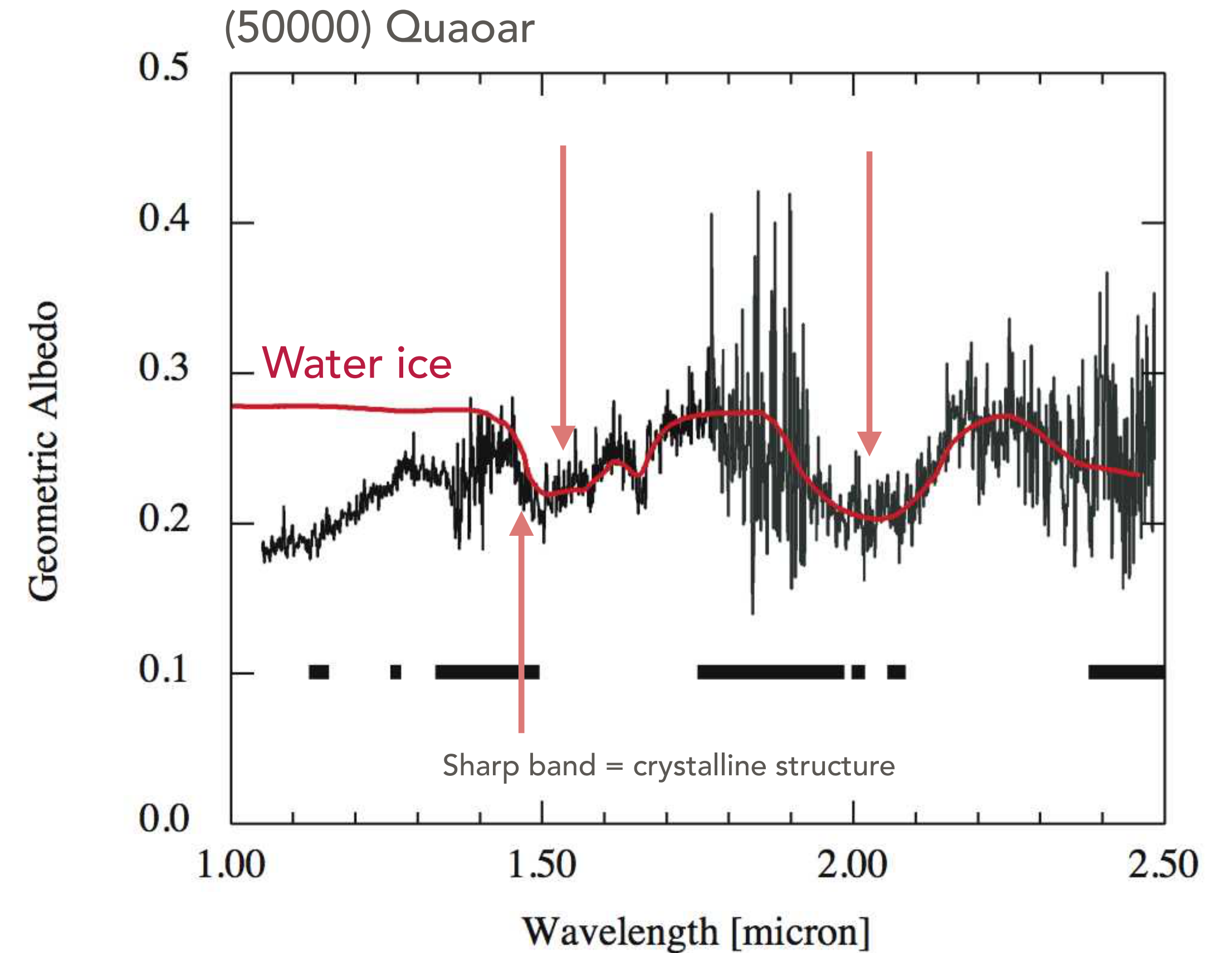


Mainly distinguished from the varying ratio between the two bands

Mahlke et al. 2023

# More distant objects - the Kuiper Belt and the comets

- Signatures of water ice
  - Broad features compatible with filter photometry (low spectral resolution) but band details are not accessible
  - Similar for comets
    - Most chemicals have specific signatures in the IR ( $> 3 \mu\text{m}$ )



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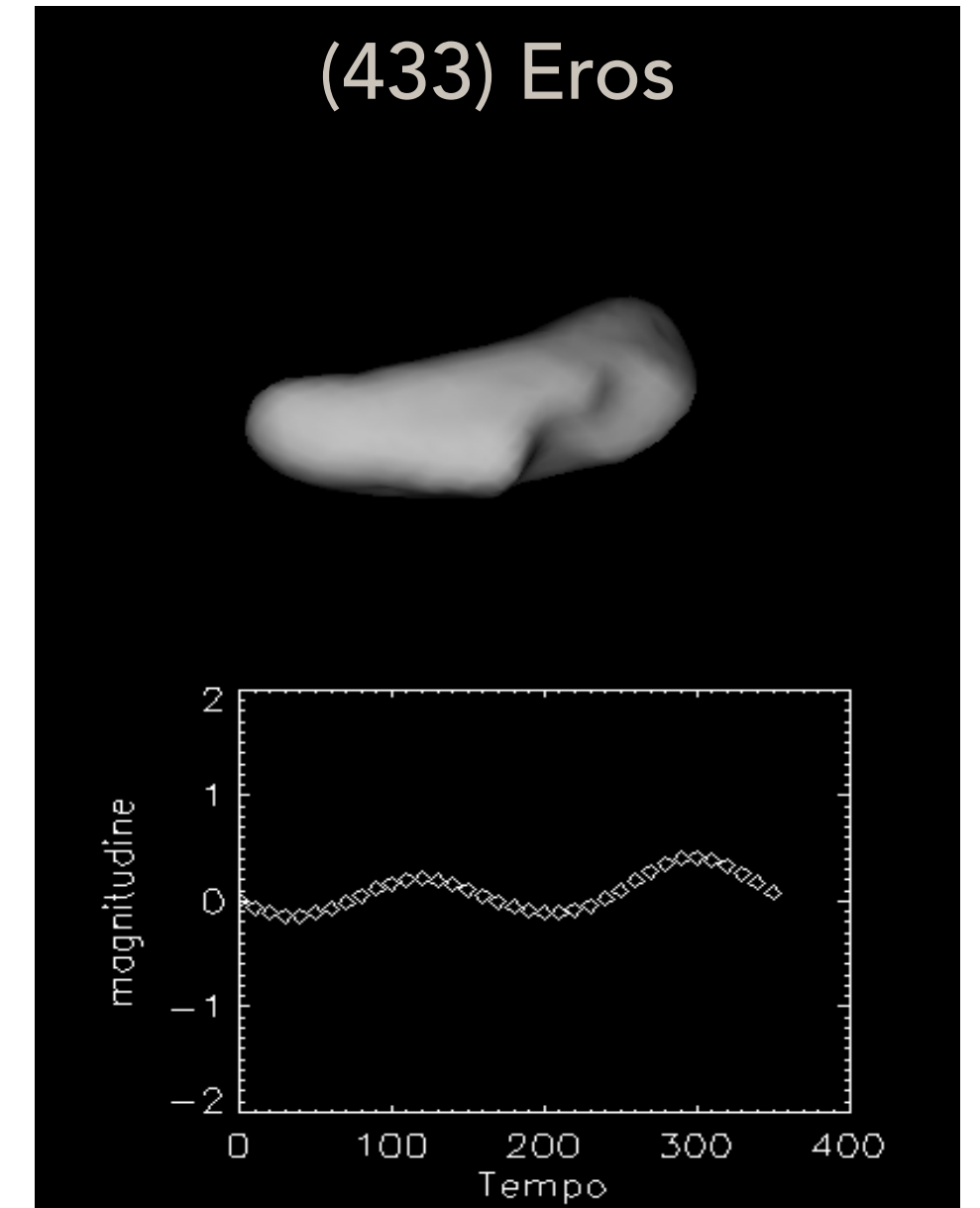
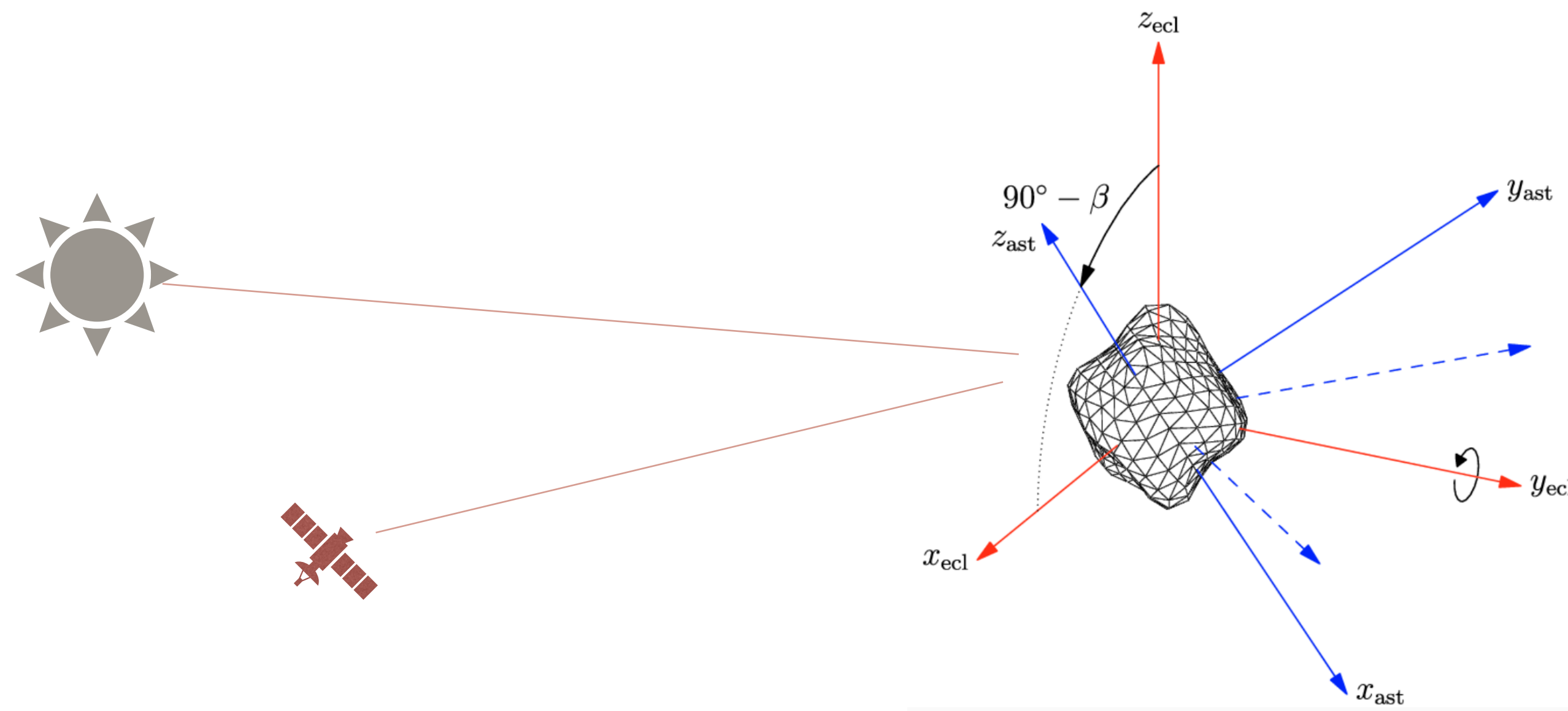
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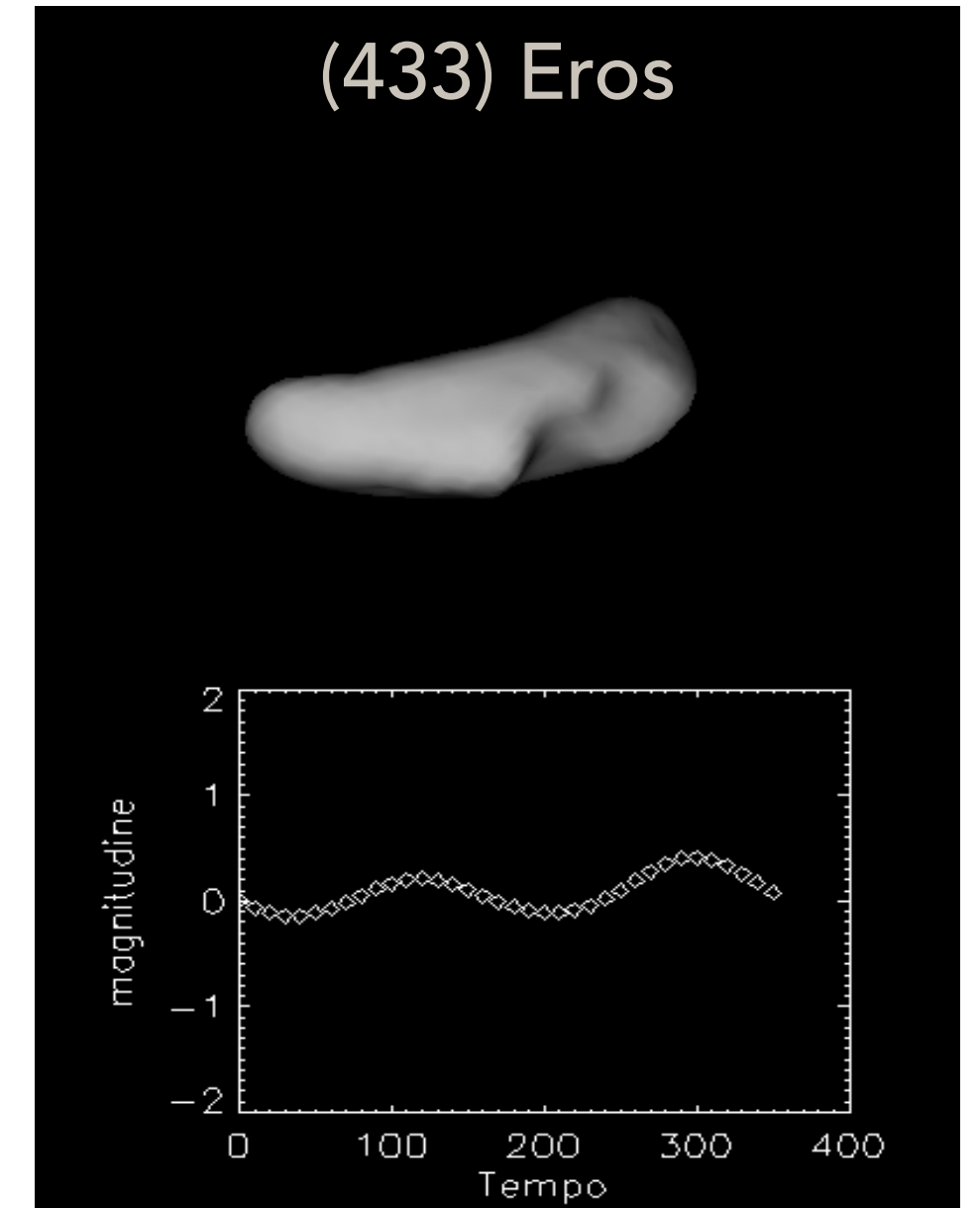
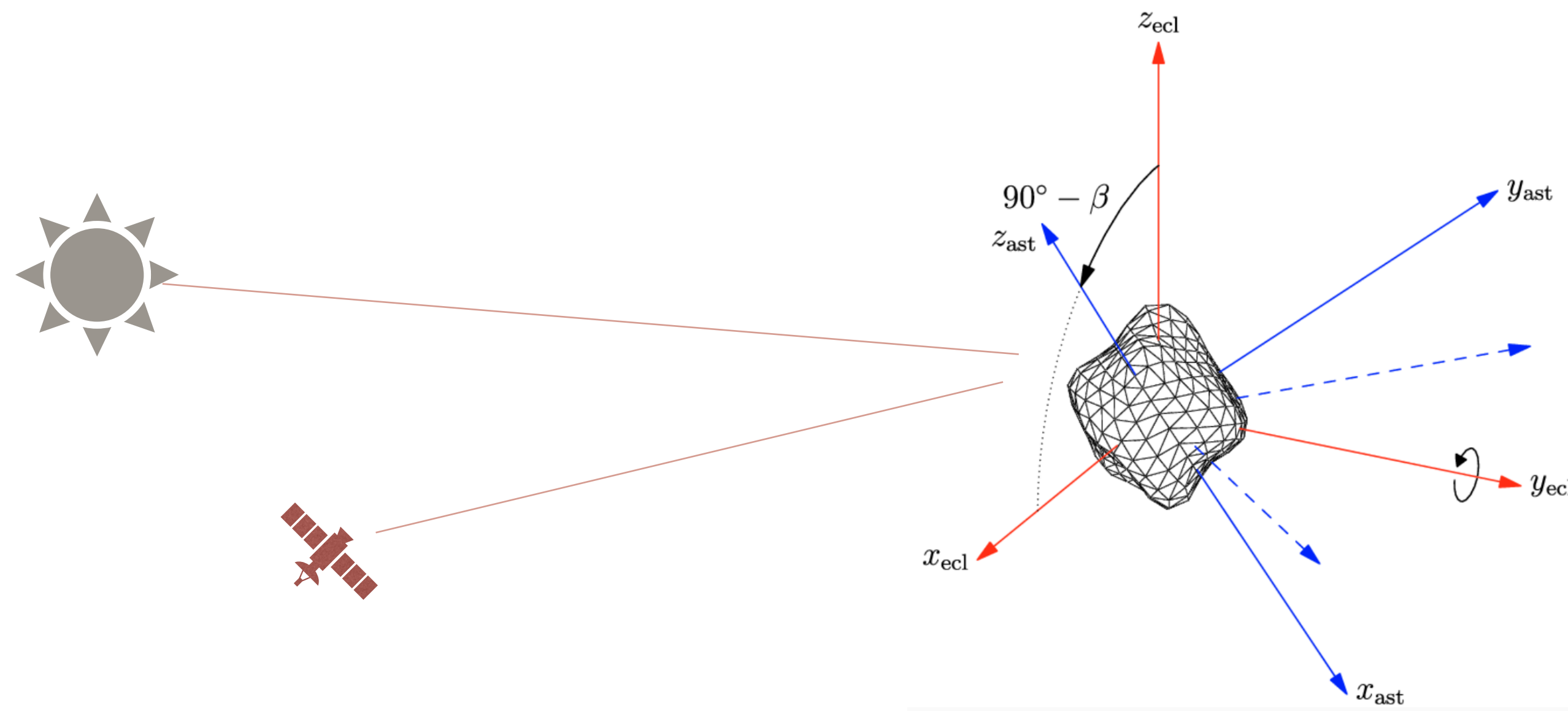
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  - We can consider (at first order) that Gaia + LSST will cover the Vis part
  - ...provided that calibration and some physical effects (different epochs / rotation effects) can be dealt with
- **No large scale survey exists in the NIR - but essential to have a complete picture of the composition**

# Inversion of epoch photometry

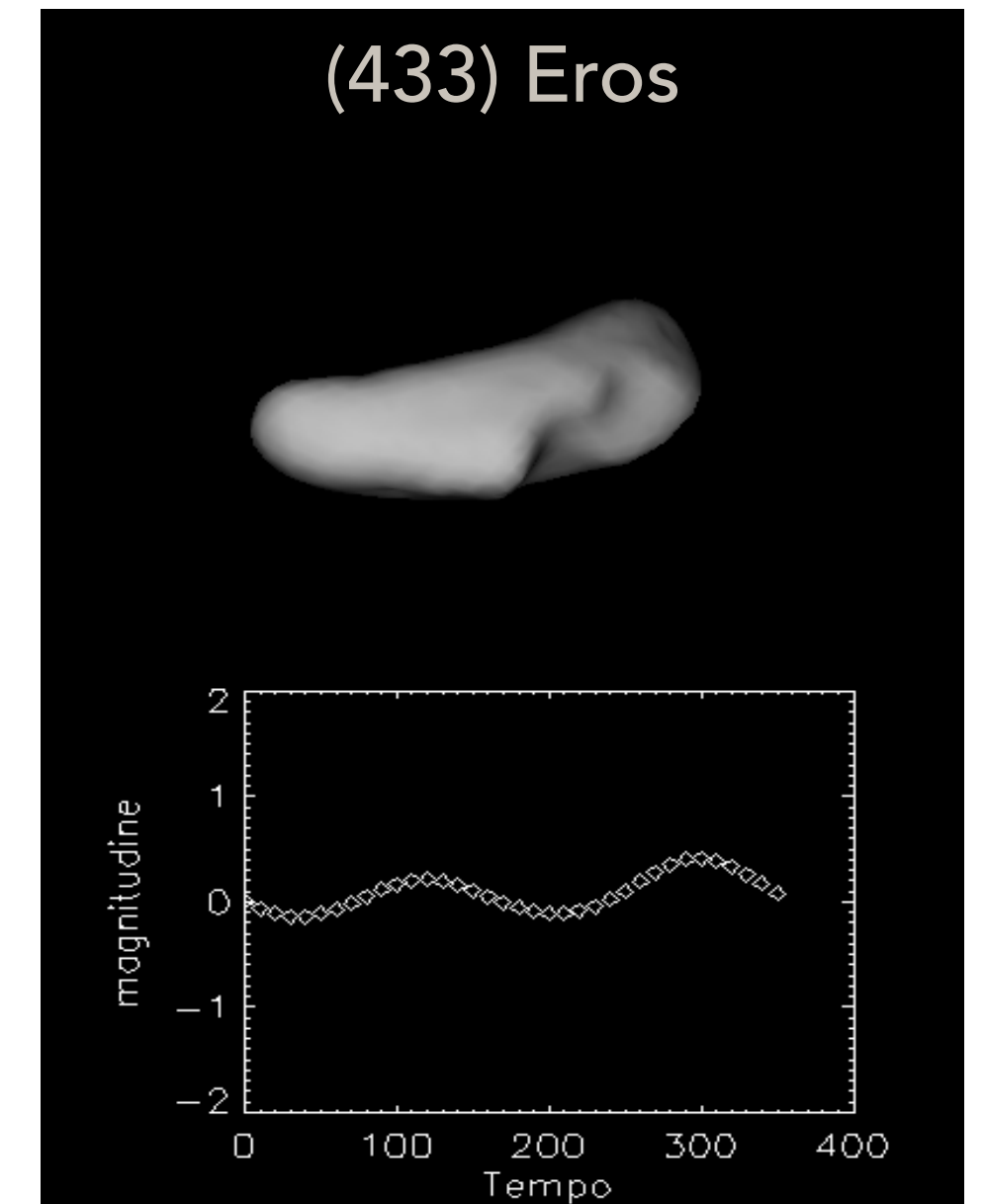
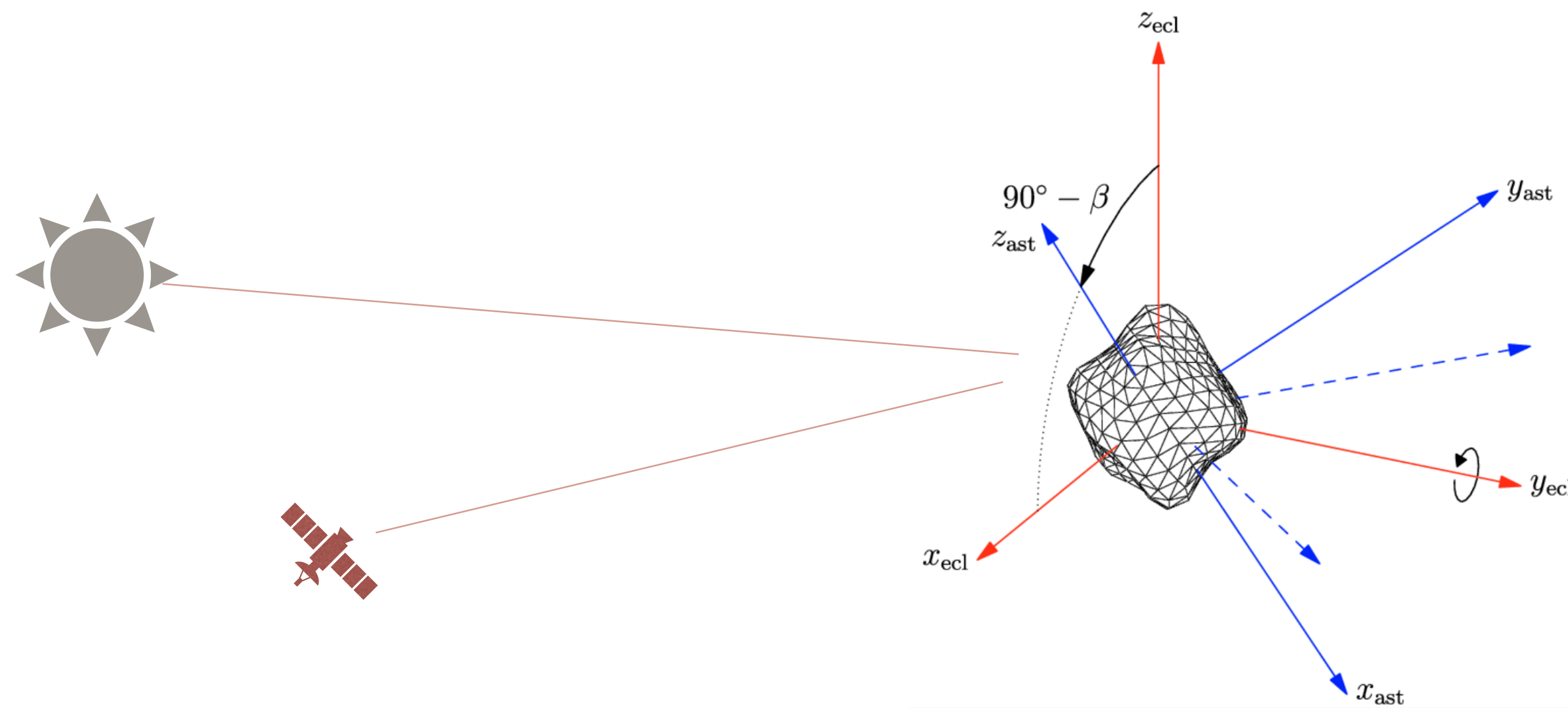


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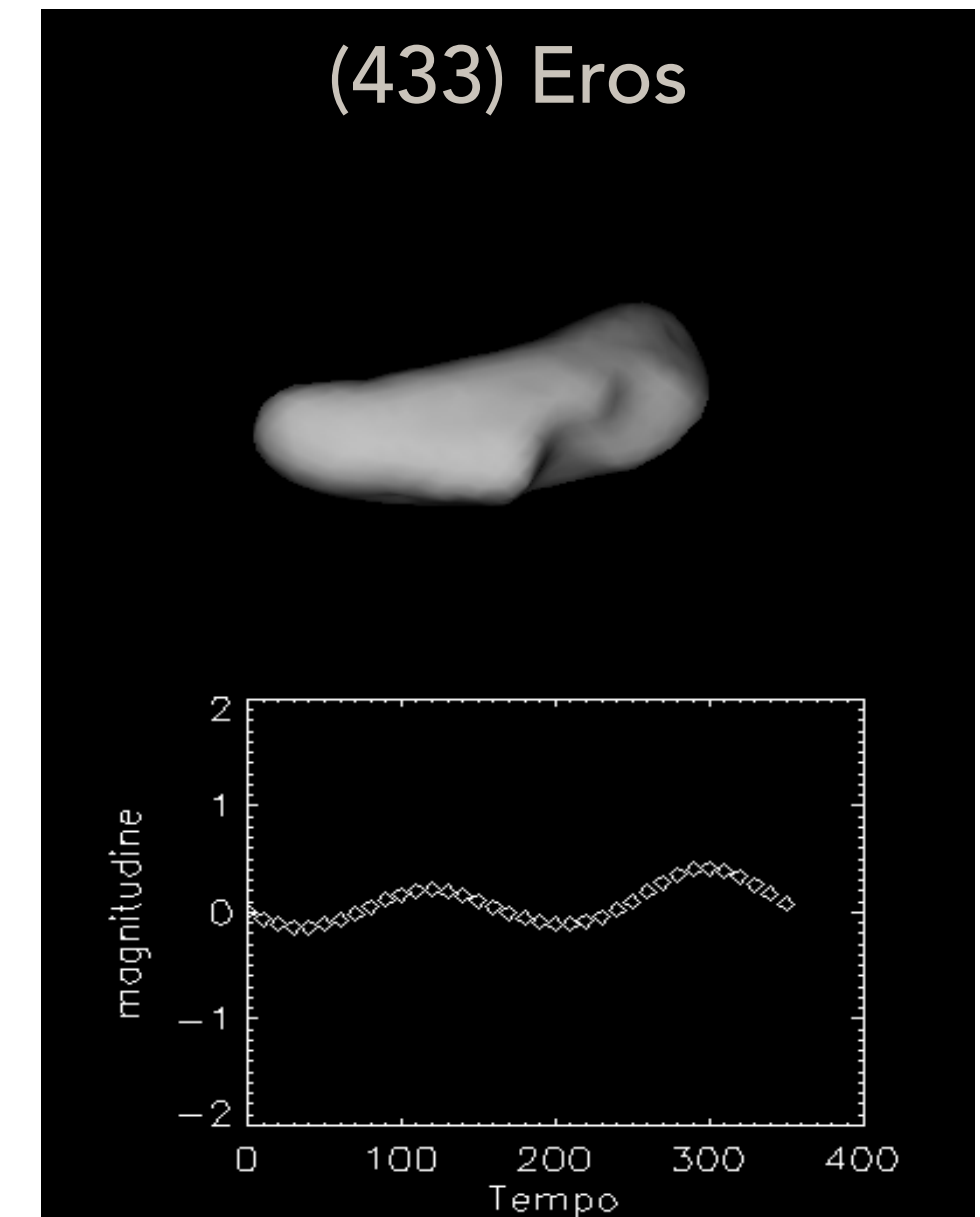
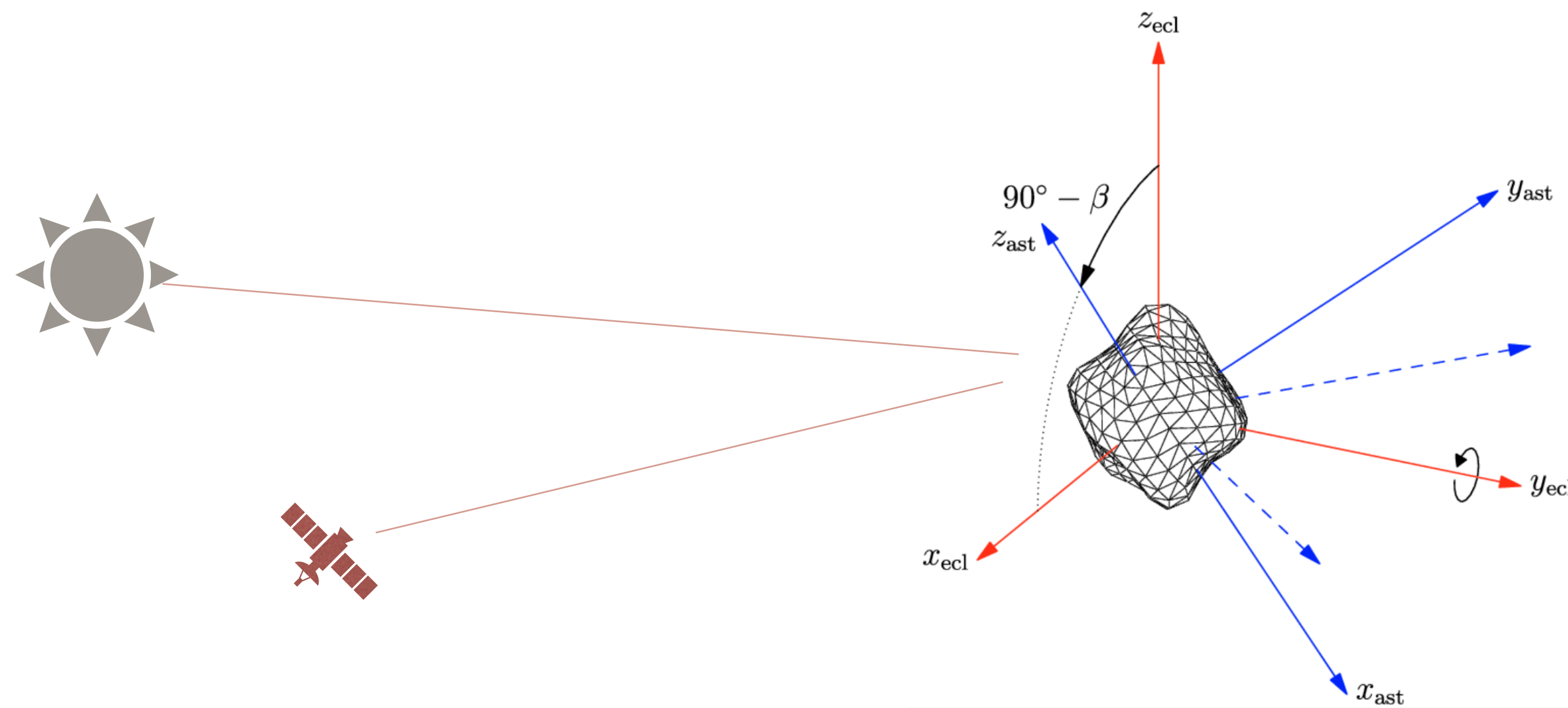
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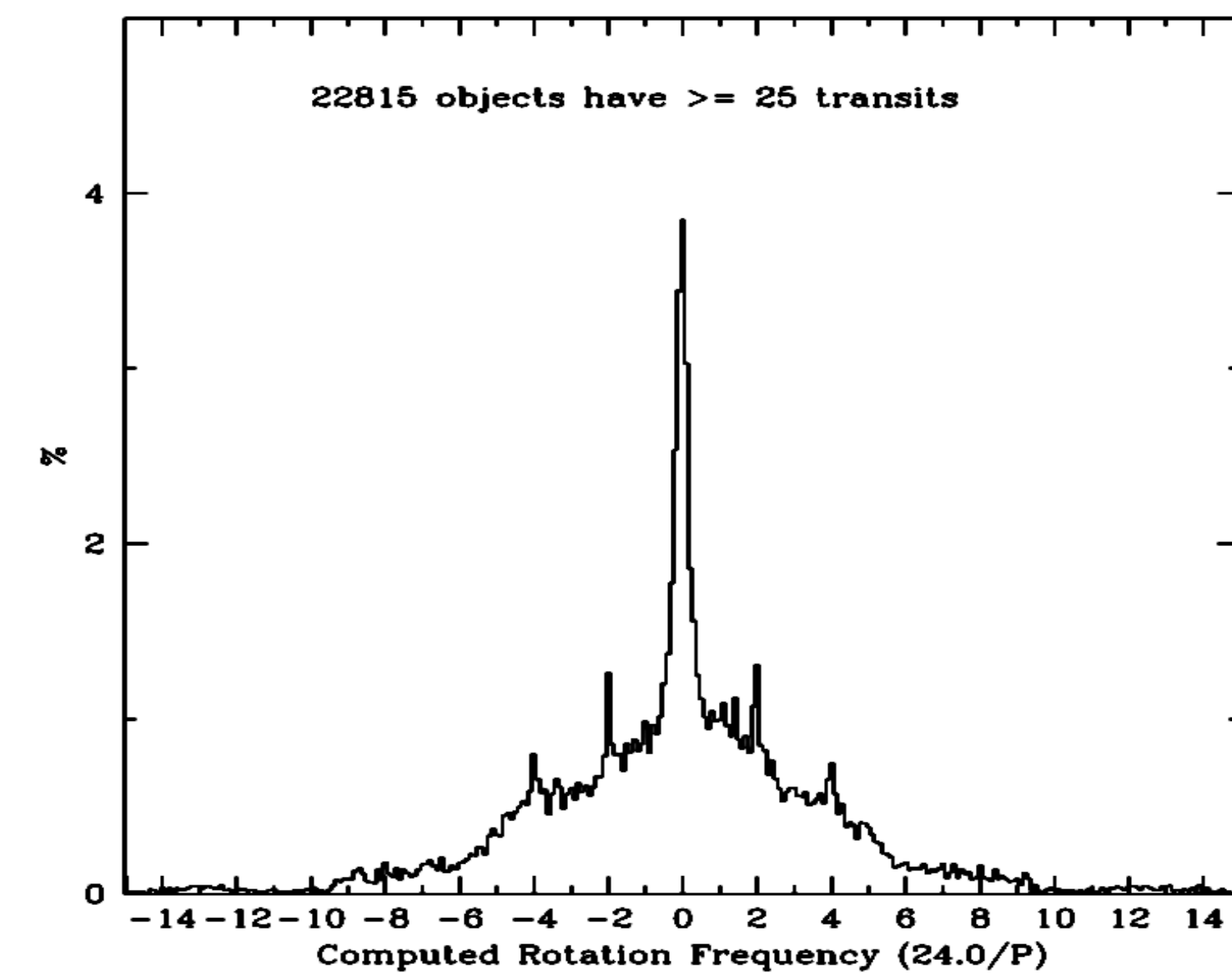
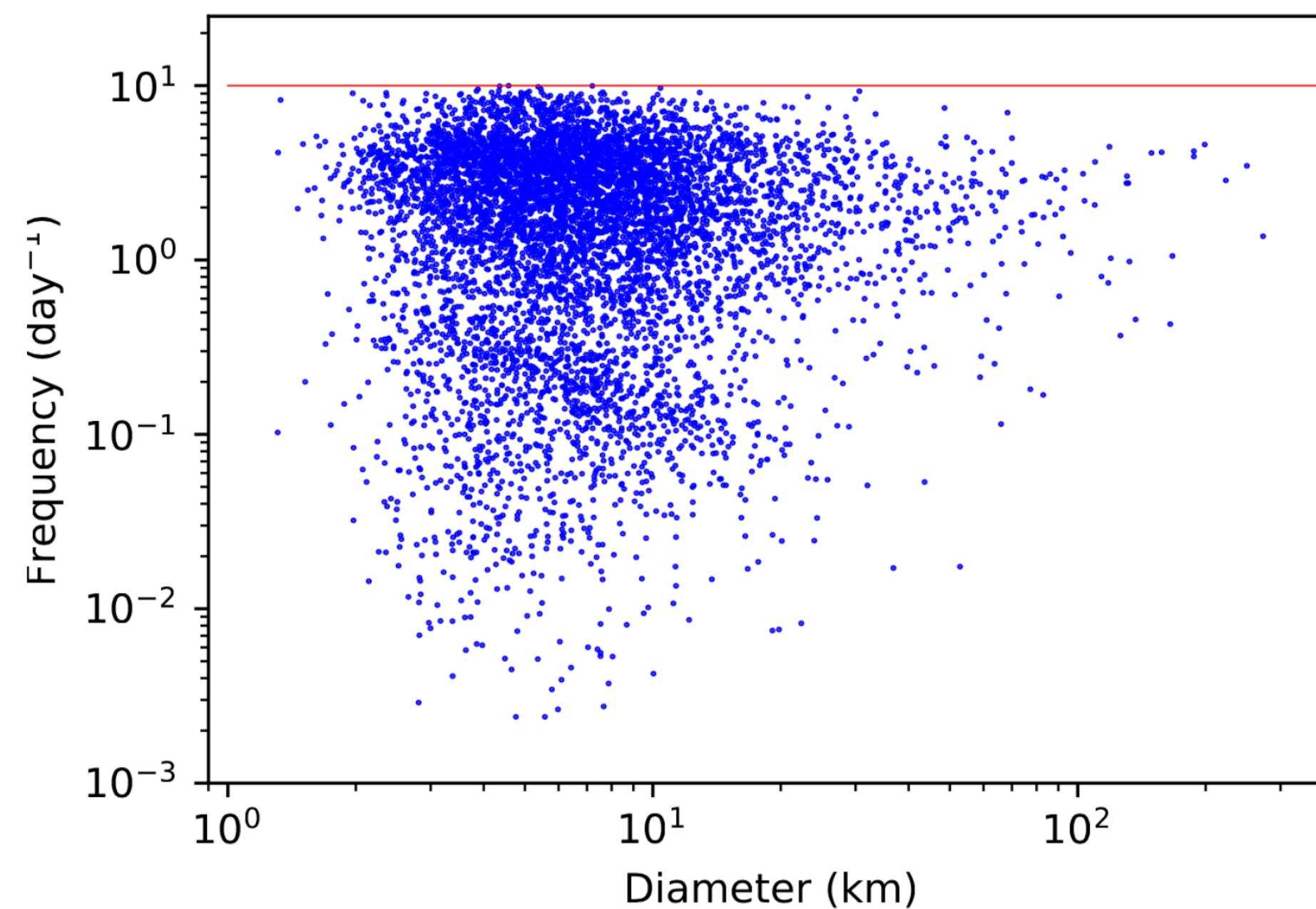
- Simplest inversion: 1st order, an ellipsoid + rotation period + direction of the spin axis (6 parameters)
- The success of the inversion depends on:
  - Photometric accuracy
  - A good coverage of the different aspects of the asteroid wrt the observer, changing with:
    - 1 - Rotation around its axis ( $\sim$  hours)
    - 2 - Relative Sun - Observer - Target geometry ( $\sim$  years)
- Sparse photometry poorly samples (1)
- ...but algorithms can still converge if enough data are corrected (articles by Cellino et al., CU4)



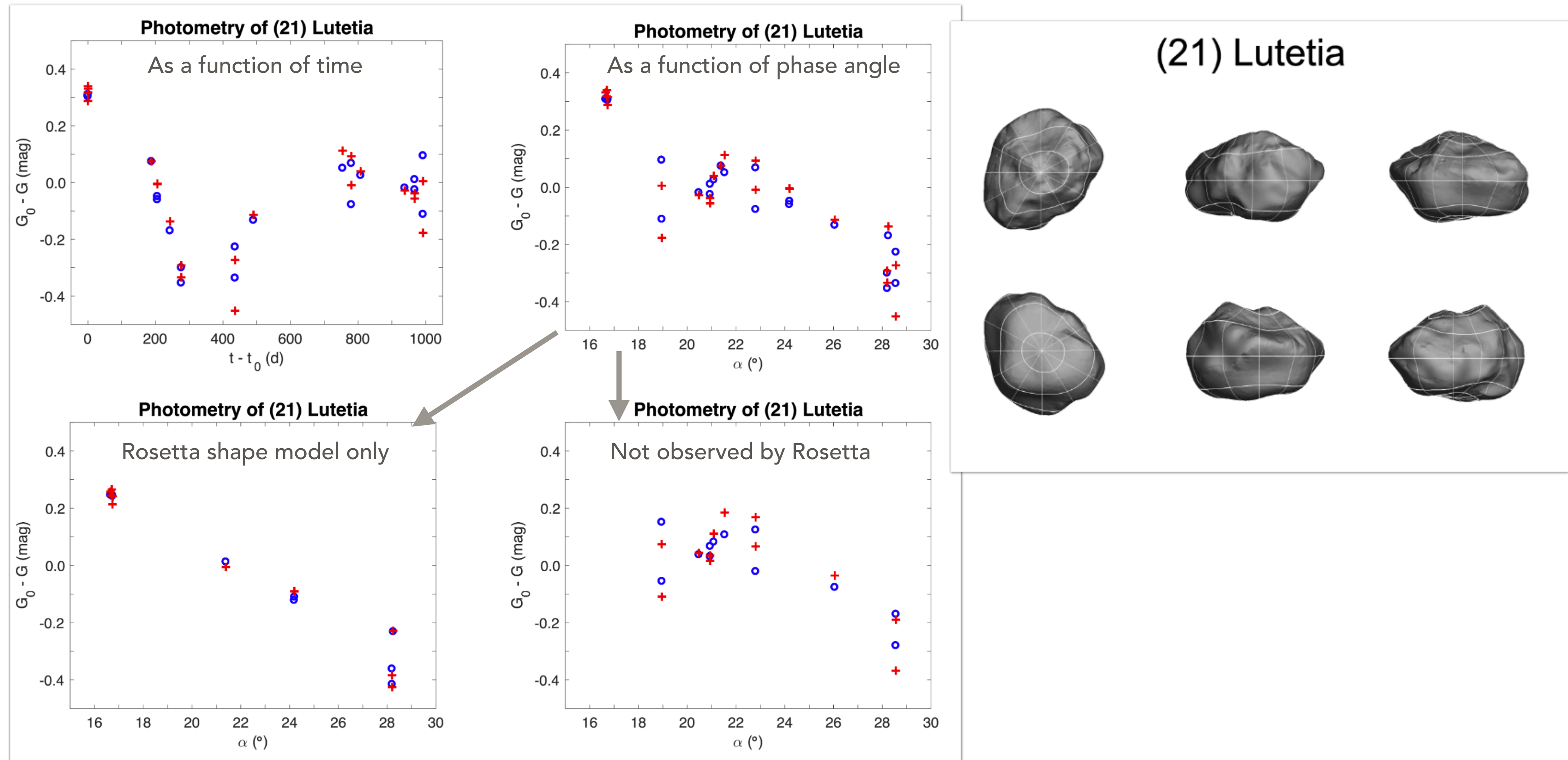
# Inversion of epoch photometry: the experience on Gaia DR3

- ~8600 rotation and shape parameters from two independent inversions
  - Durech & Hanus A&A 2023
  - Cellino et al. 2023, in preparation
- Important amount of slow rotators
  - Possible population of tumblers

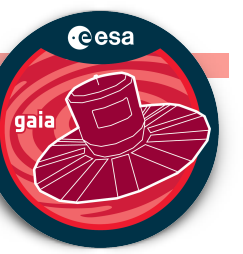
- Important filtering to get rid of spurious periods



# A glimpse into photometric performance (DR3)



Modelling limited by the knowledge of scattering properties.  
 Not possible to assess accuracy below  $\sim 0.01$  mag



# Gaia NIR: impact on epoch photometry



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- Photometric variations due to shape are considered to be achromatic (little/no evidence of rotational colour variations)
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- Vis (Gaia 1) + NIR (Gaia 2): very useful to increase the sample of size/shapes

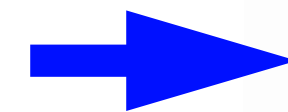
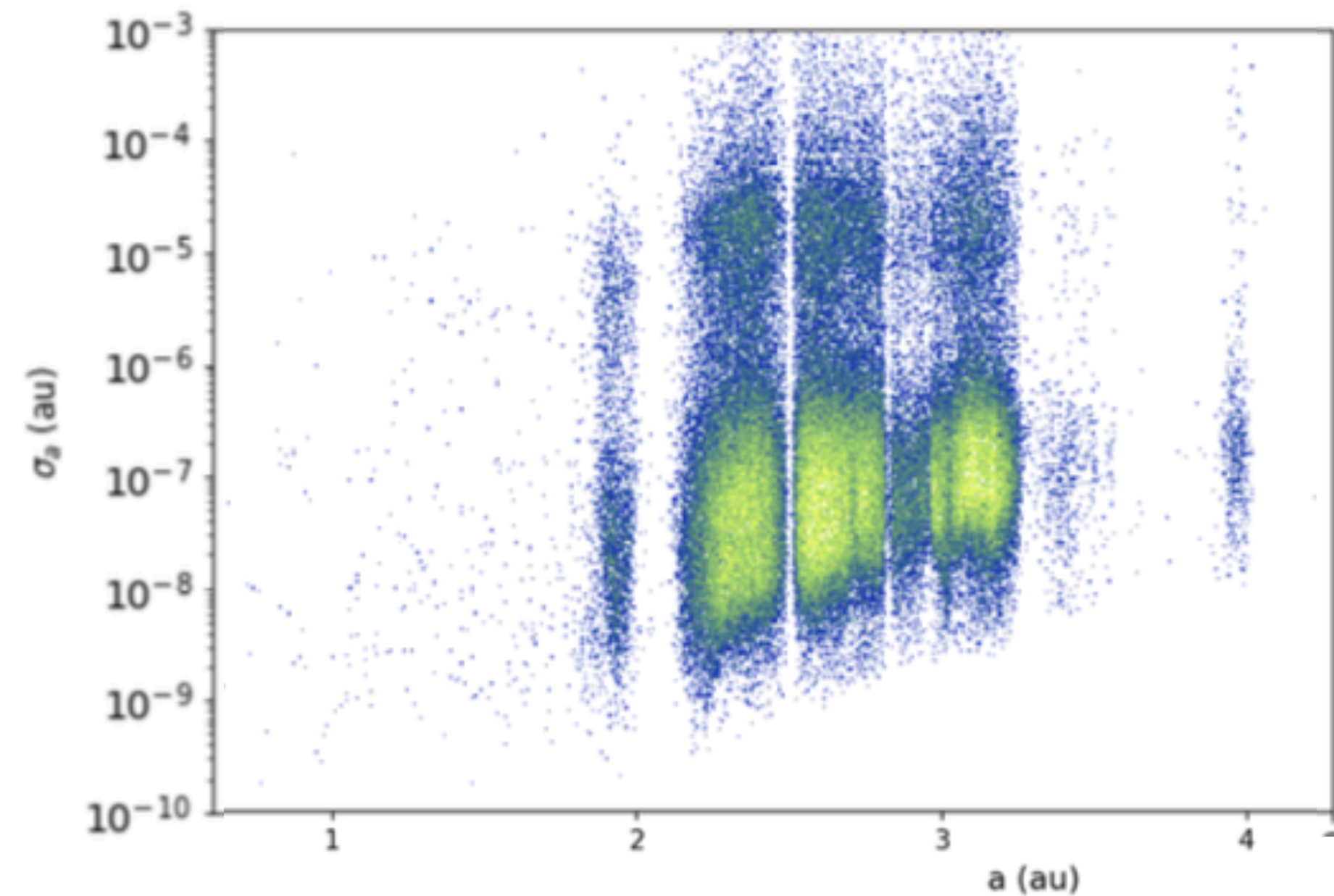
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- Vis (Gaia 1) + NIR (Gaia 2): very useful to increase the sample of size/shapes
- Different scanning law periods between the two missions → mitigation of spurious periods
  - This would be useful for ALL epoch data

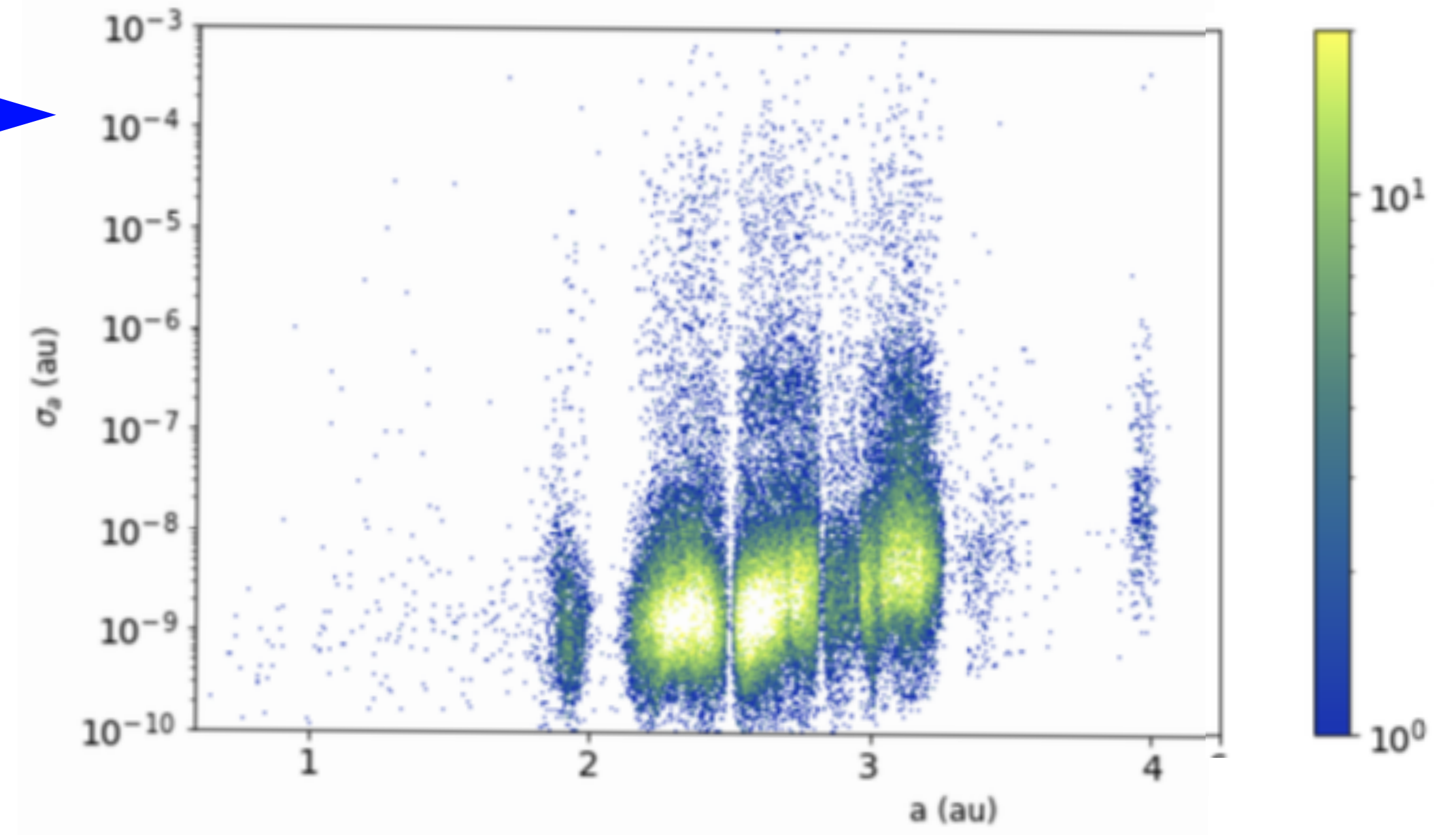
# Astrometry: gain on orbit accuracy

Strongly non linear and large gain when time span  $\sim$  orbit period

DR3 (34 months)



FPR (66 months)



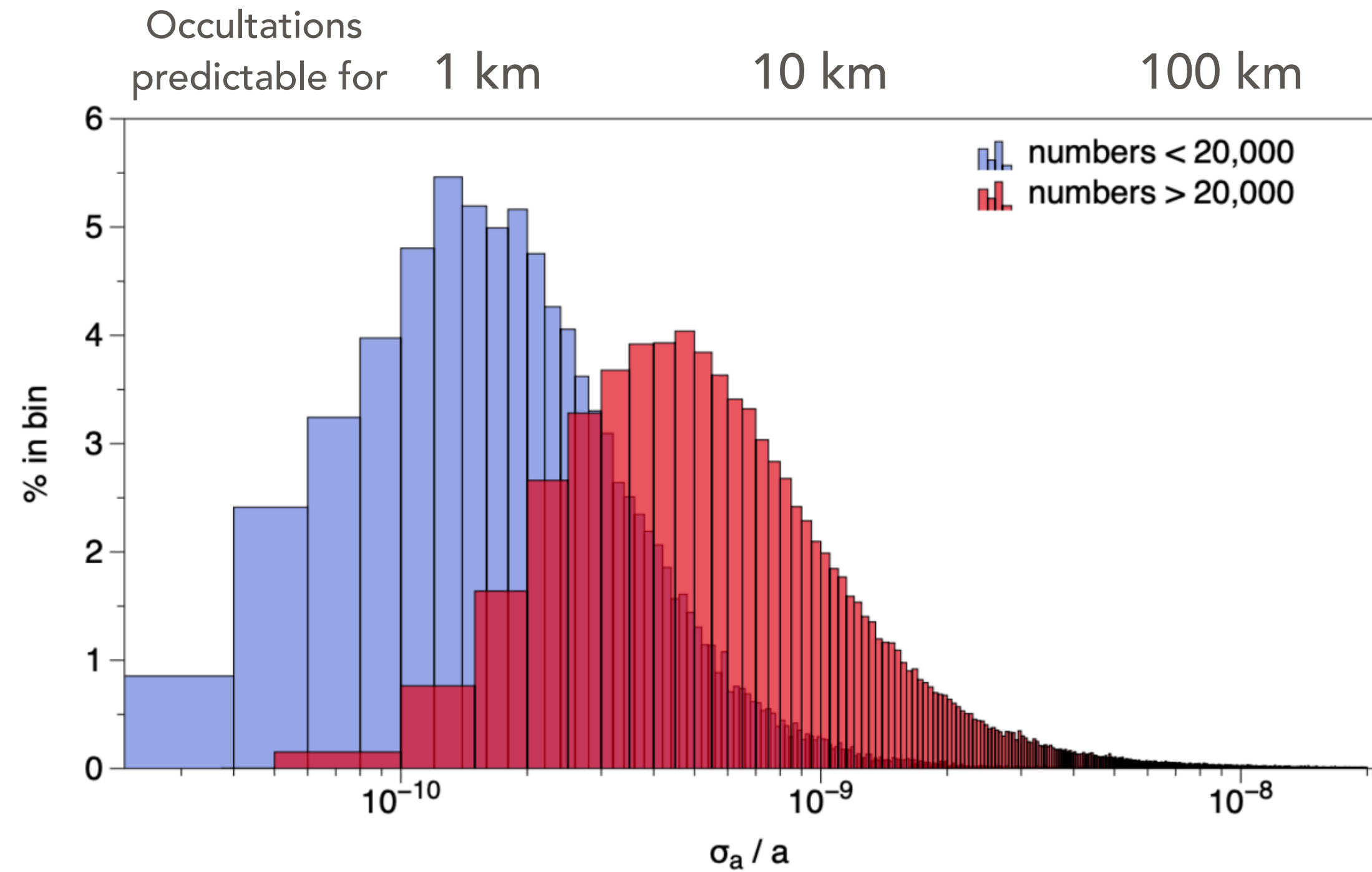
- Increased arc length : 20 X improvement with respect to DR3
- Impact on:
  - Mass determination
  - Prediction of stellar occultations

## Orbit accuracy, which perspectives by Gaia NIR?

- Strong gain on orbits whose period is similar (or  $\leq$ ) to the time gap between the missions
  - Situation analogue to what is observed between DR3 and FPR:
    - 66 months  $\rightarrow$  3 au
    - 20-30 years  $\rightarrow$  7.4 - 10 au
  - Strong gain also for the exterior of the Solar System (inner KBOs)
- Orbits of shorter period: incremental gain
  - Which are the limits?

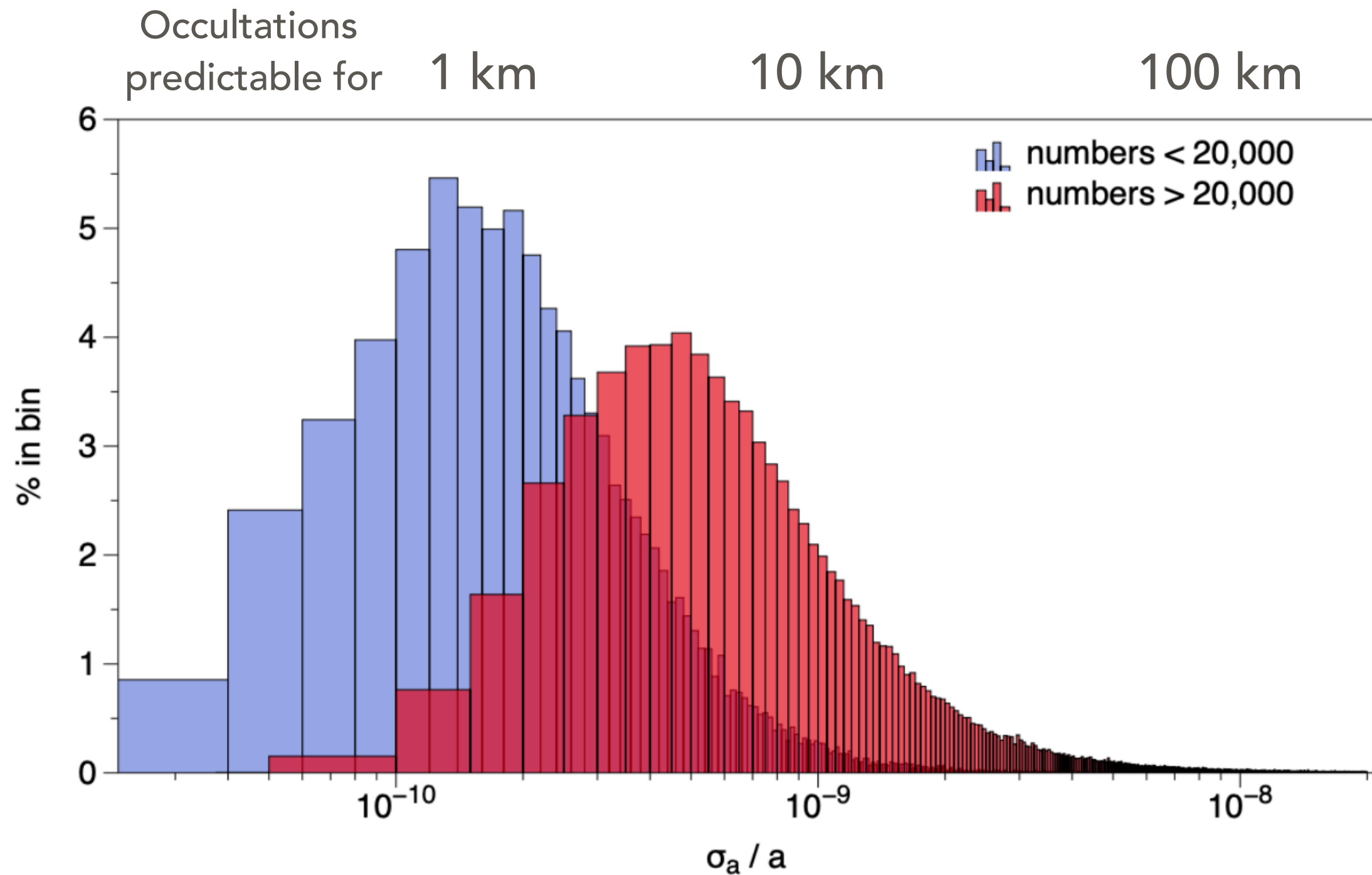
# Orbit accuracy: can we do better...?

FPR: formal orbit uncertainties



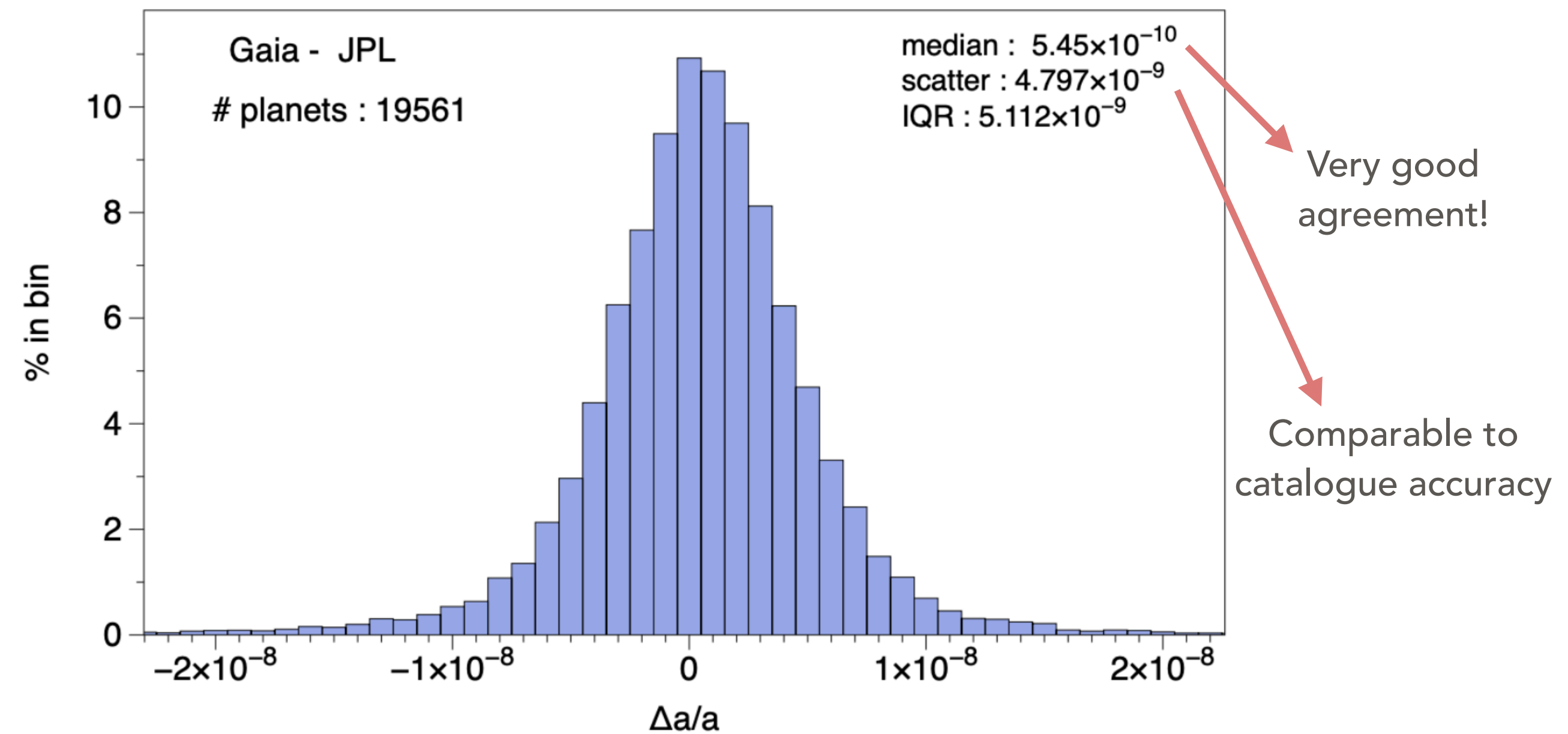
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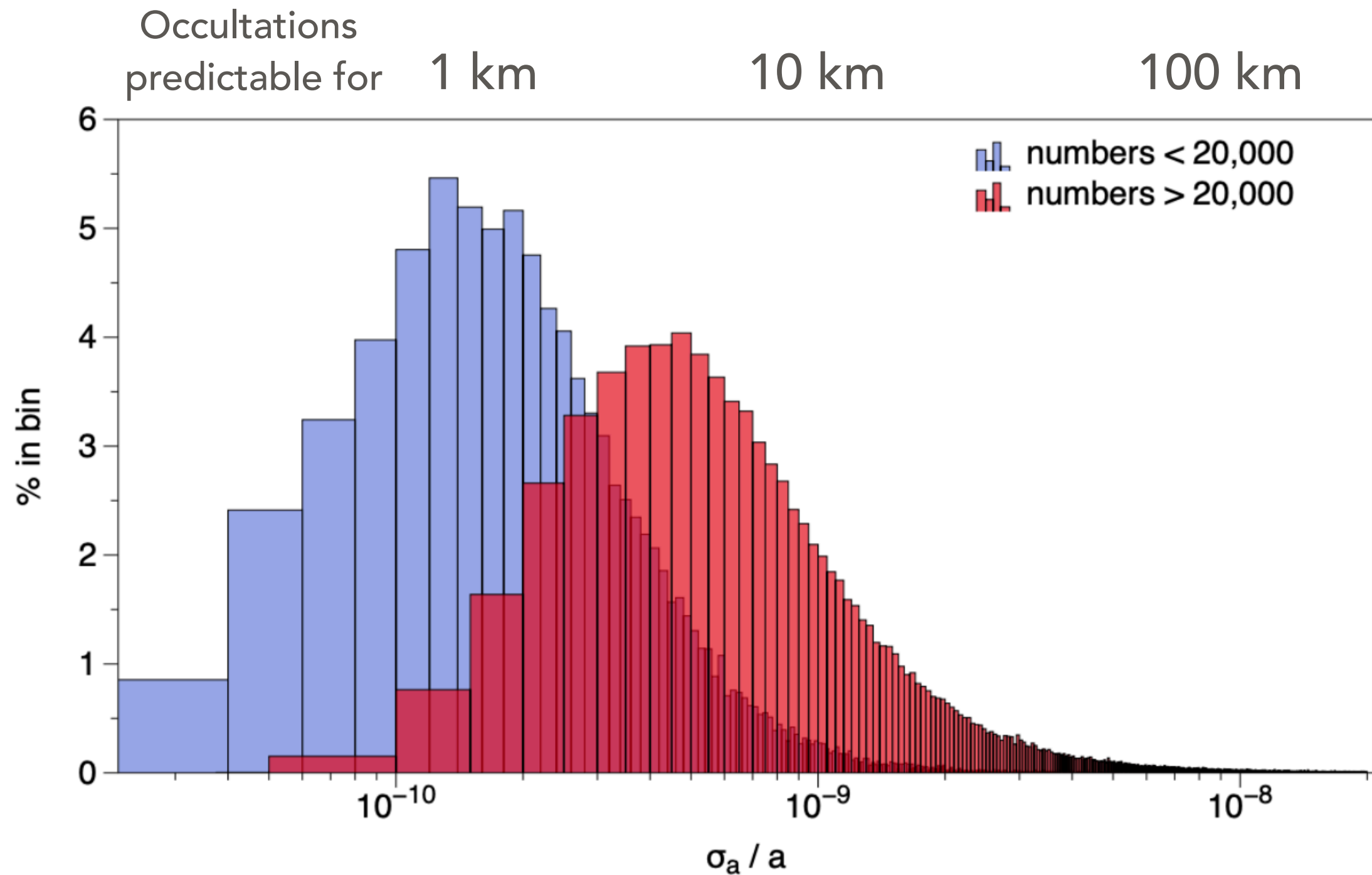
FPR: comparison to JPL

1000s observations per objects over 10s-100s yr !!



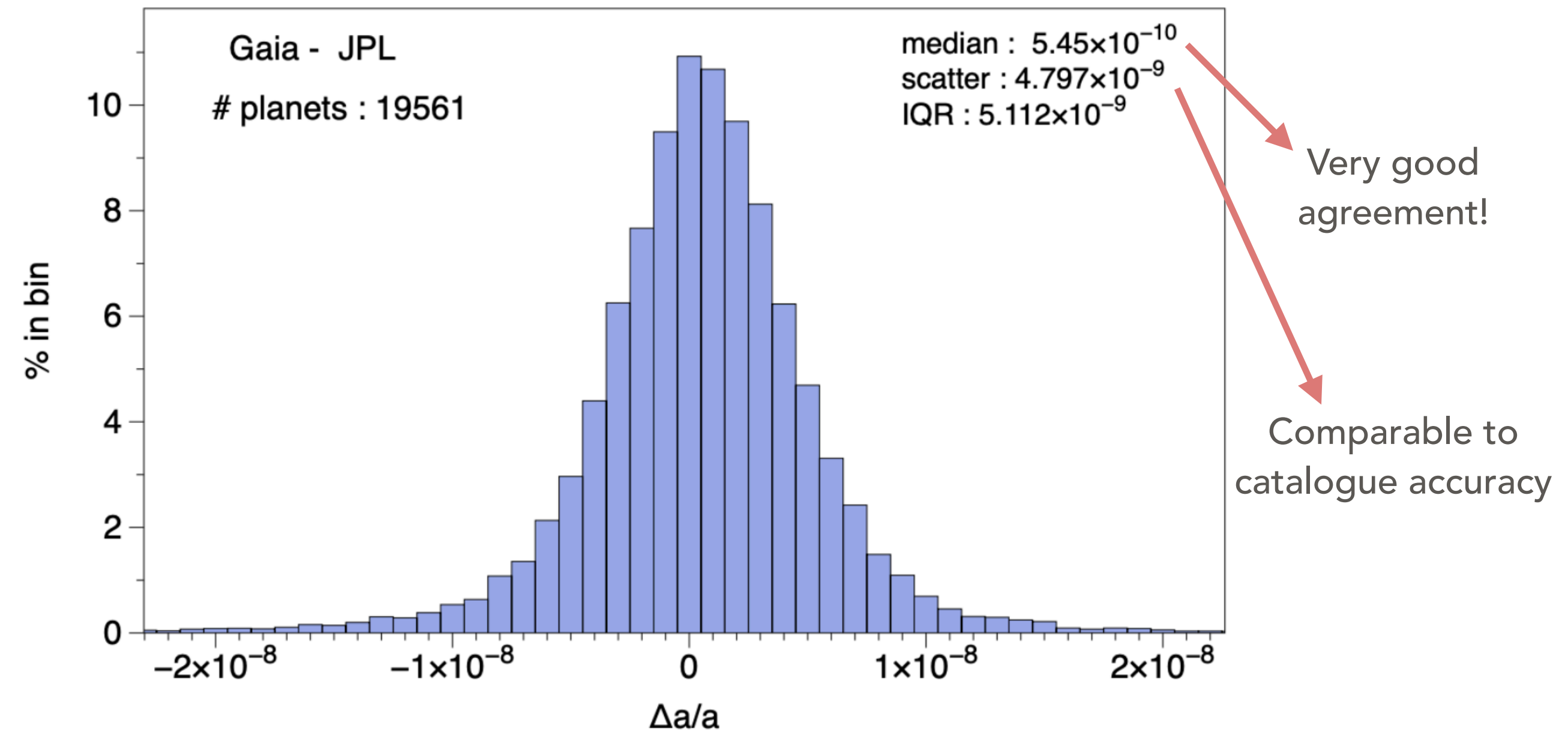
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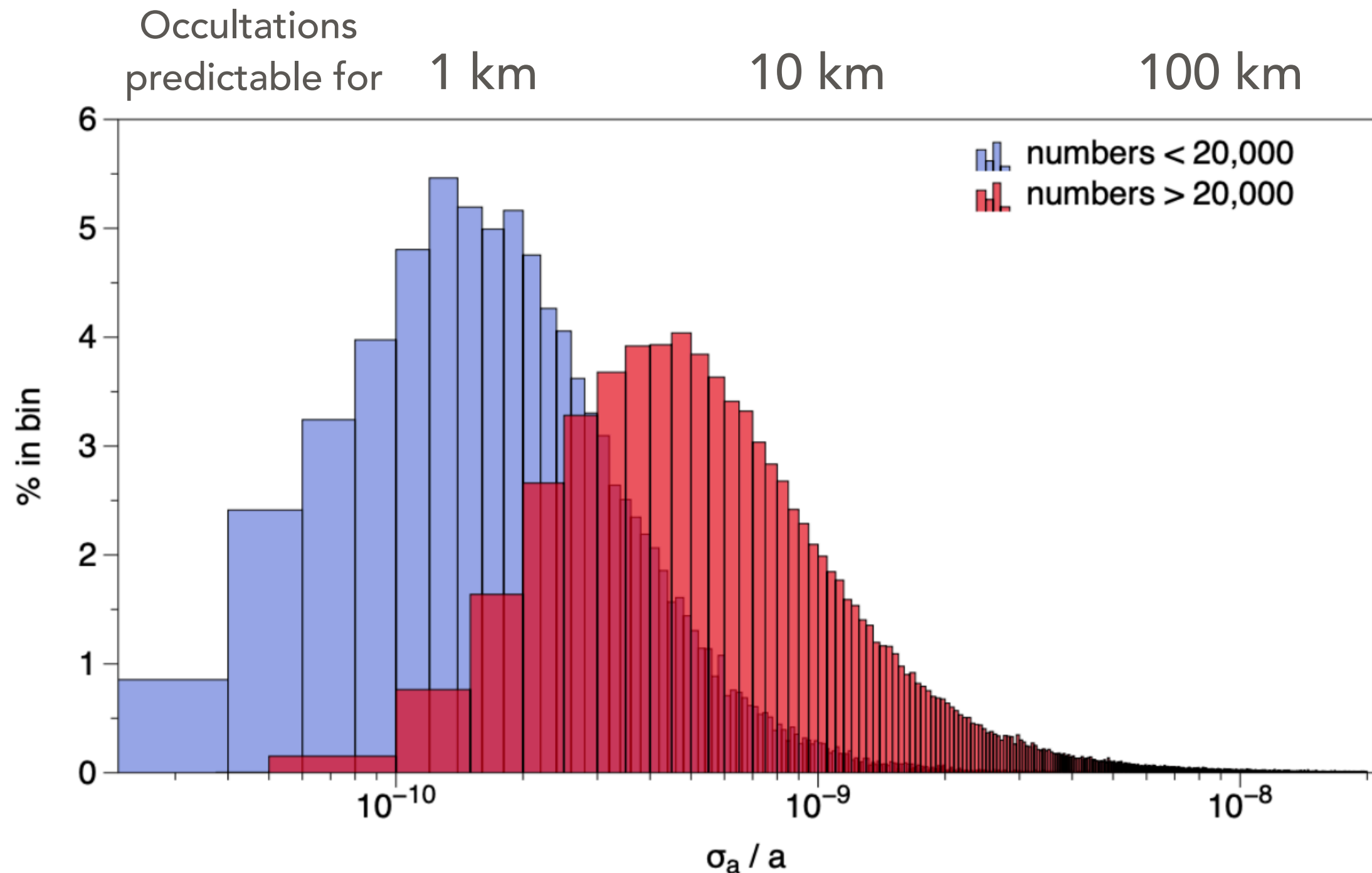


- Answer: yes, for faint objects whose accuracy has margins of improvement



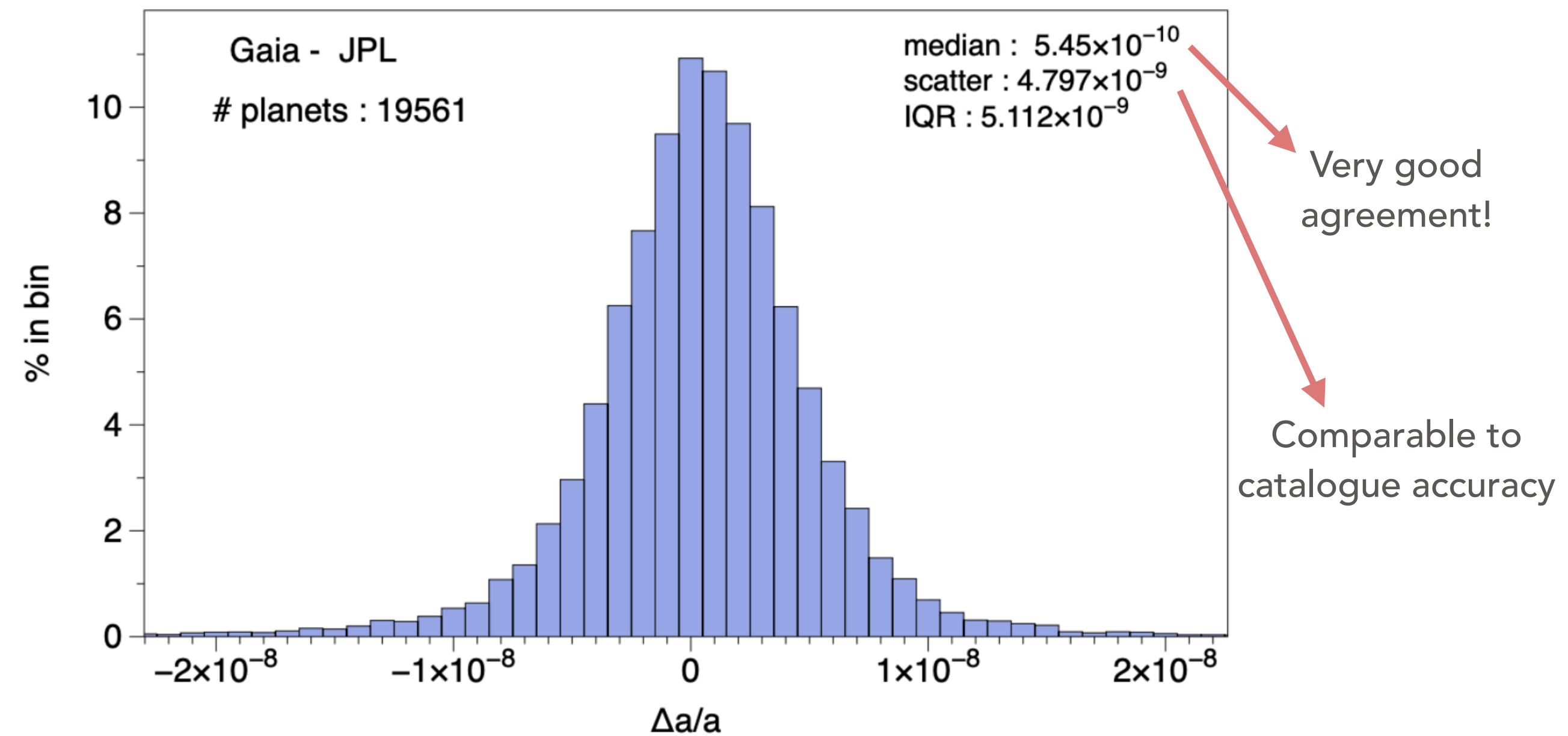
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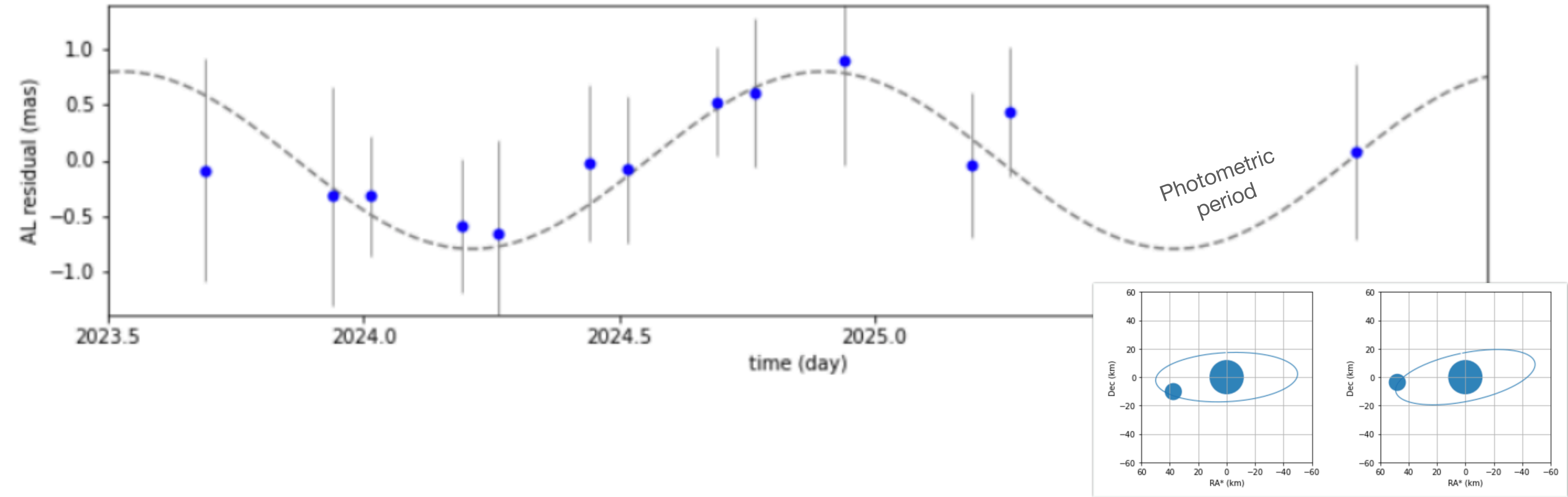
1000s observations per objects over 10s-100s yr !!



- Answer: yes, for faint objects whose accuracy has margins of improvement
- ...and, no, for the best sample: if the dynamical model is not improved at the same time
  - Going below  $1e-10$  requires a careful evaluation of the masses of perturbers, the treatment of J2 for the largest planets, the Earth-Moon model, etc. → a better dynamical model

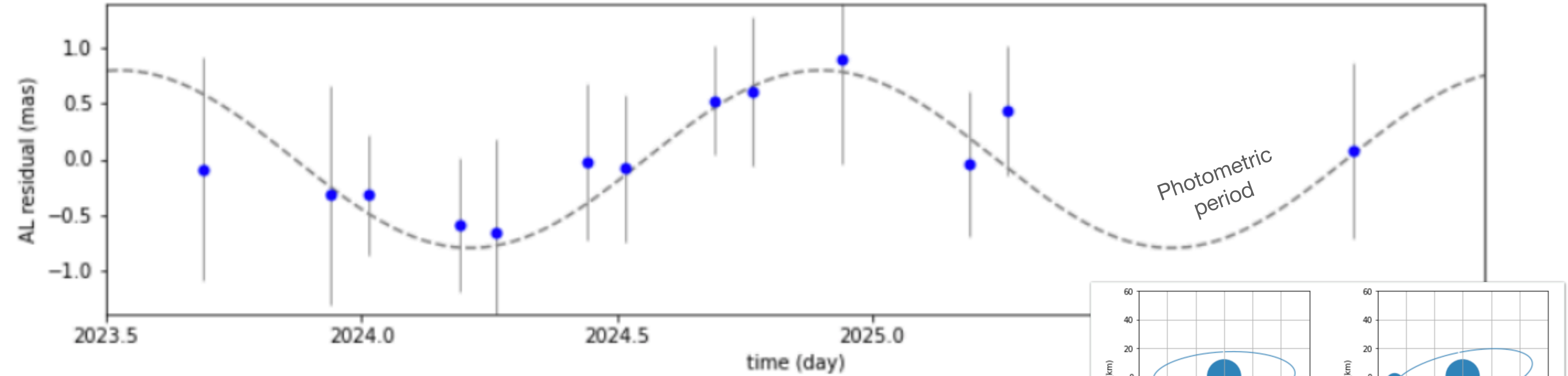
# Added complexity at mas level: physical properties and astrometry

- Satellite-induced wobble in DR3 astrometry of (4337) Arecibo

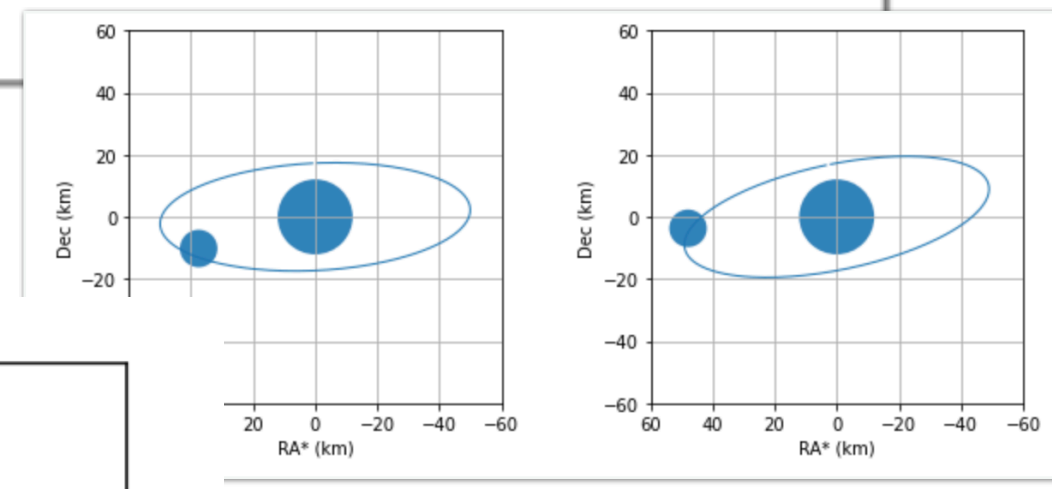
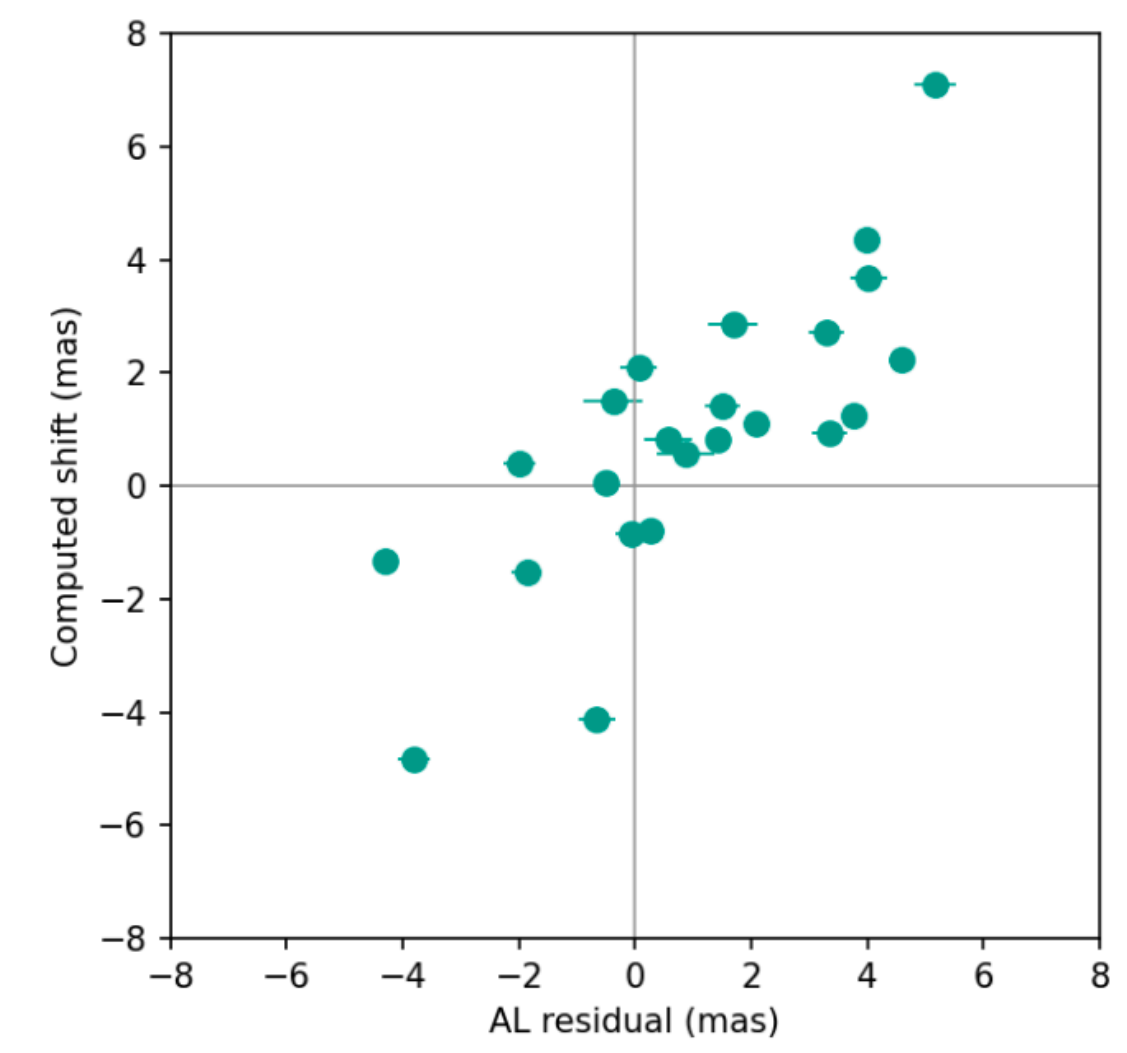
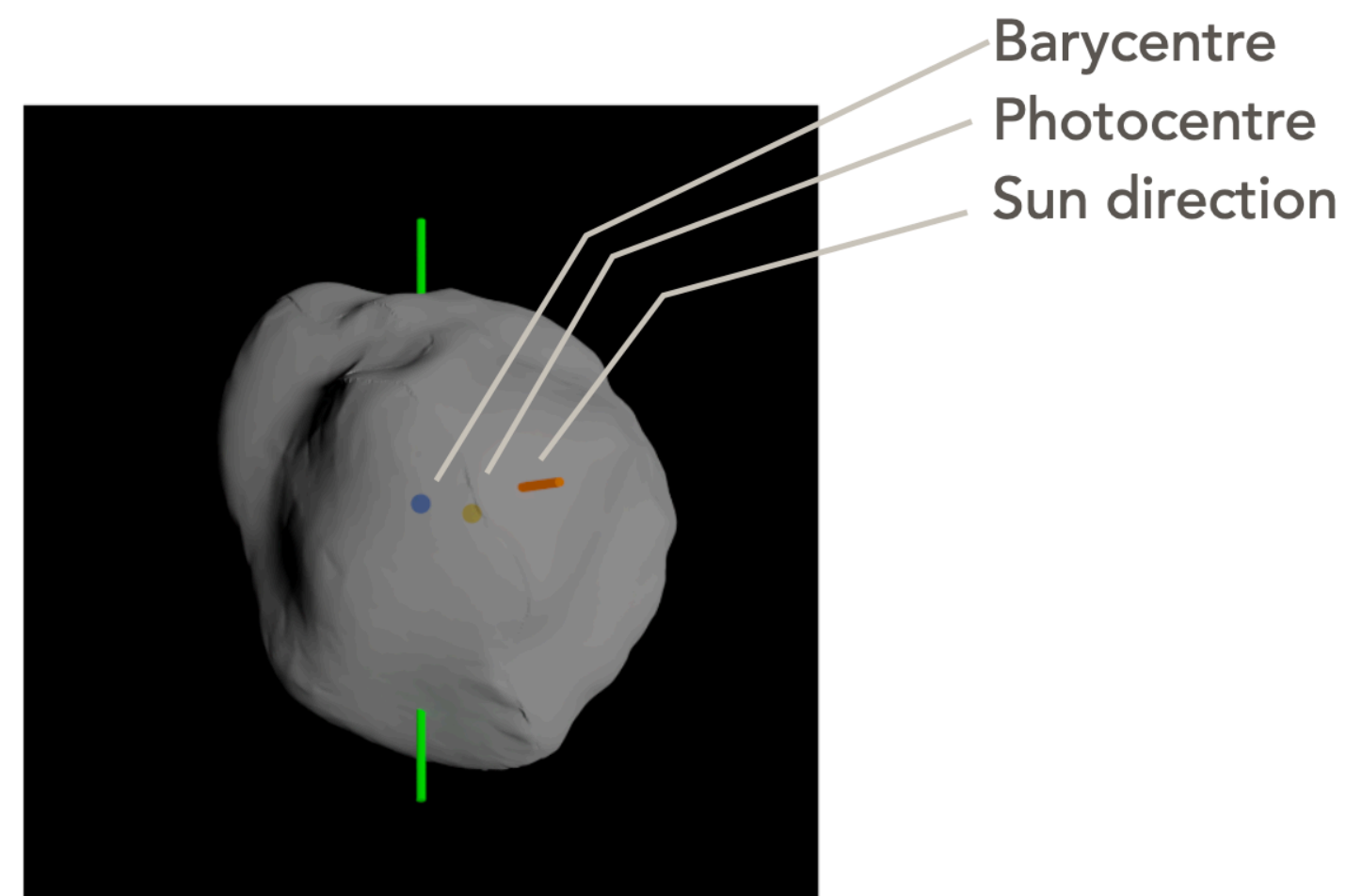


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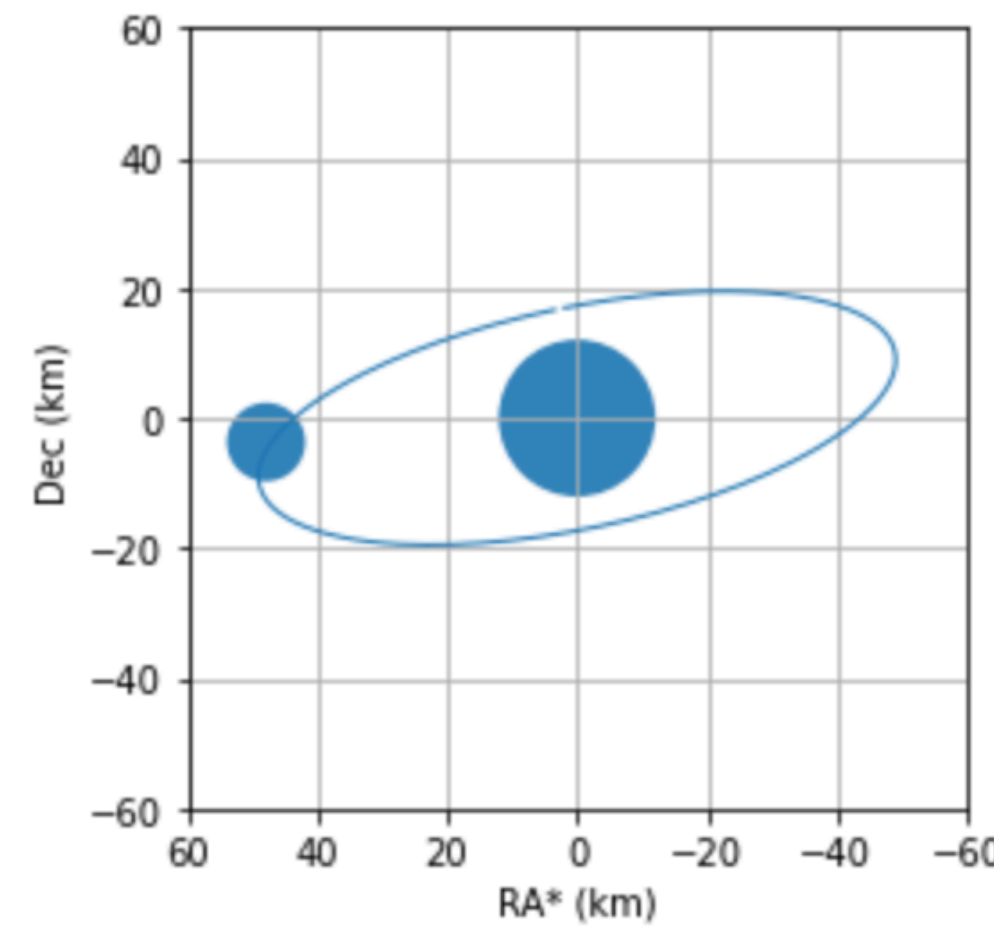
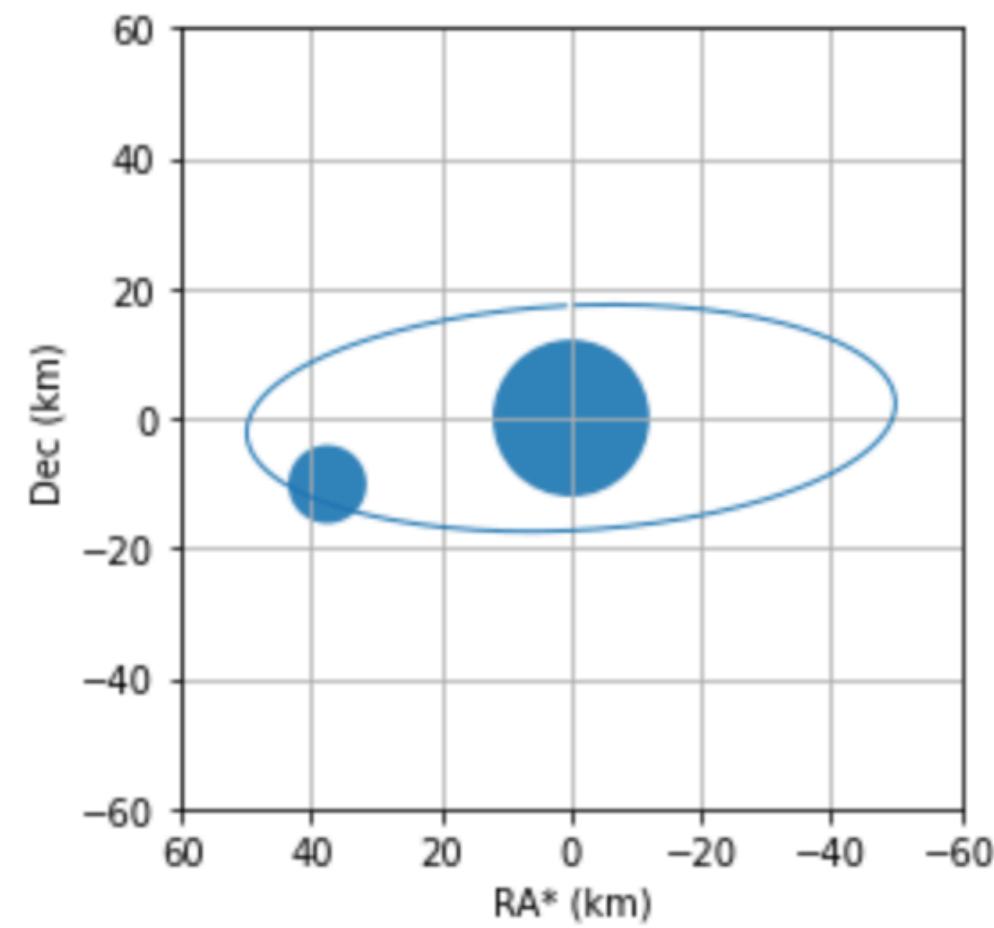
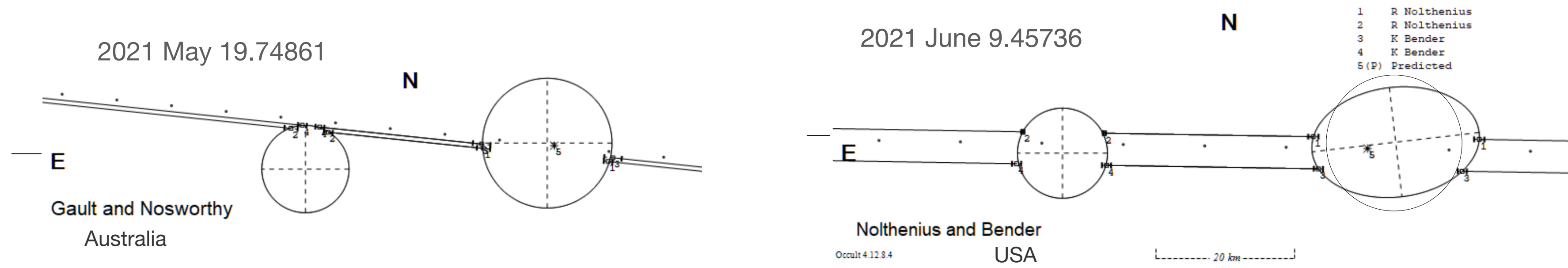
- Photocenter - barycenter difference: modelling surface properties by astrometry



Tanga et al. A&A special issue 2022

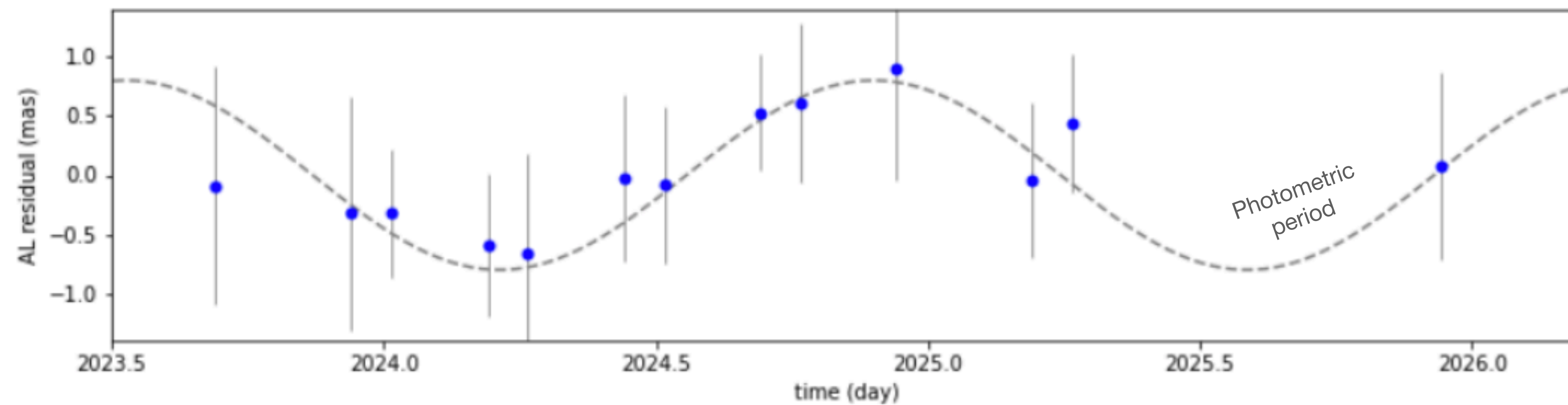
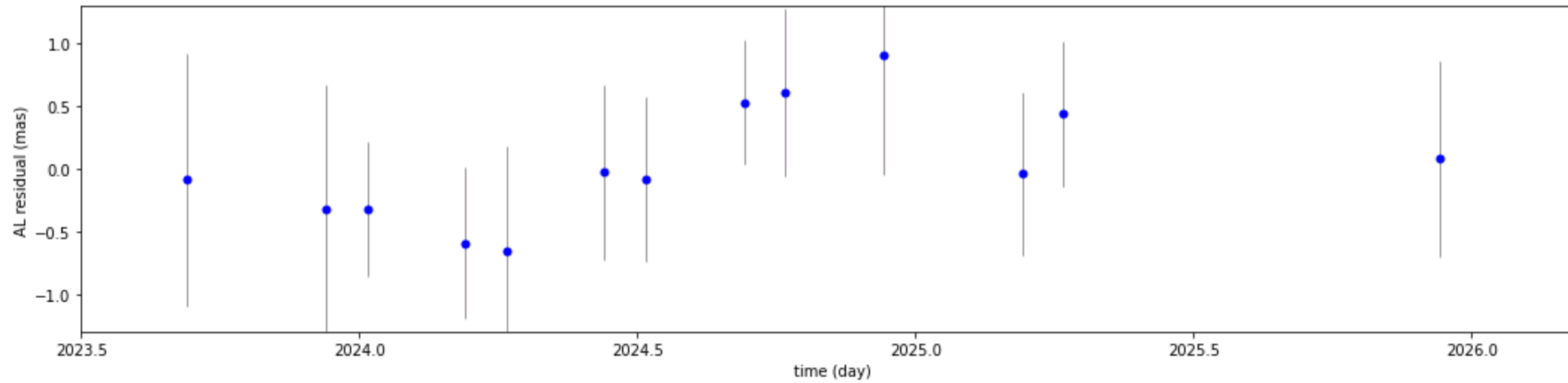
# 4337 Arecibo

Binary discovered by two stellar occultations - independent observers

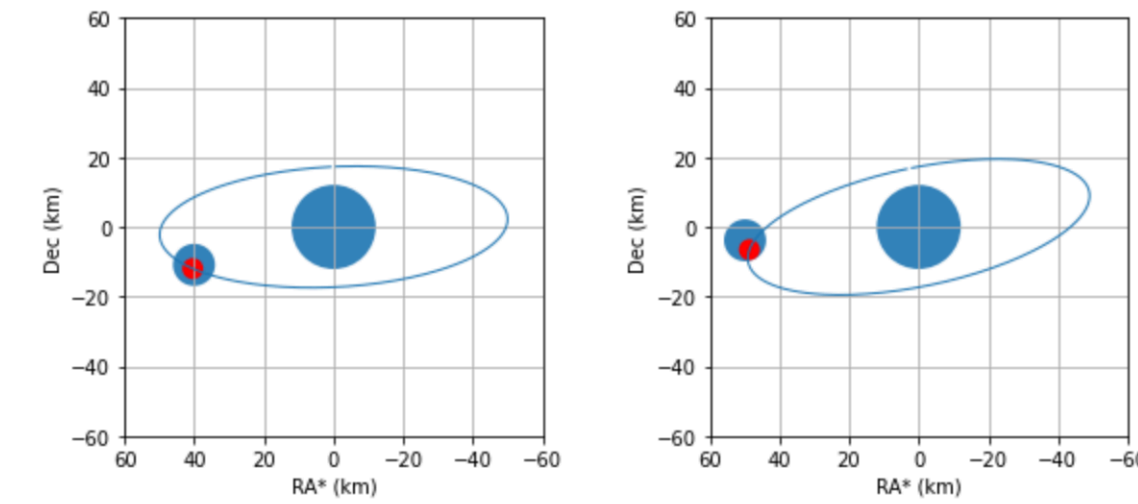
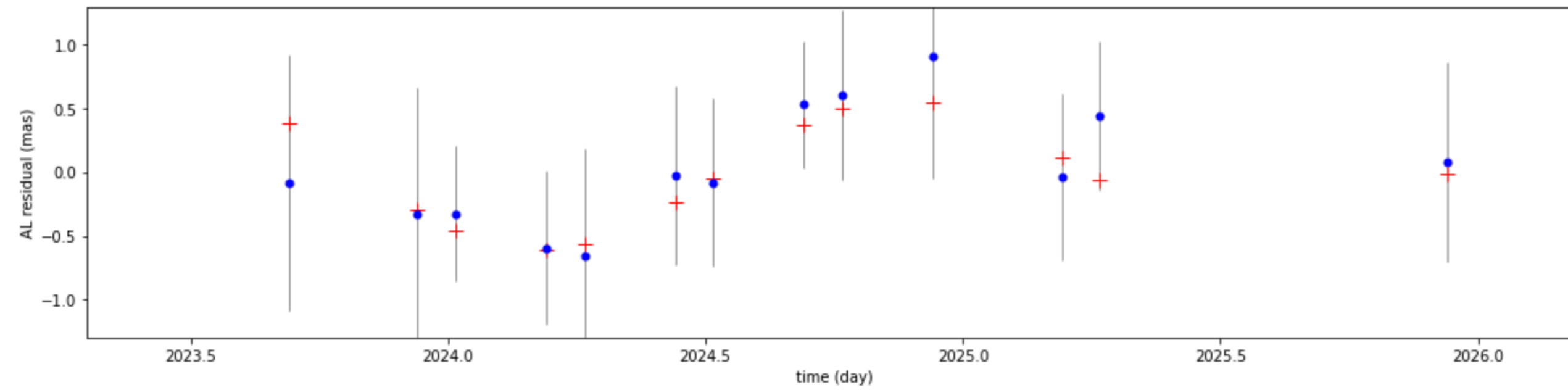


Two accurate relative positions  
Size ratio  $k \sim 0.55$

# Post-fit residuals - Gaia observations of (4337) Arecibo



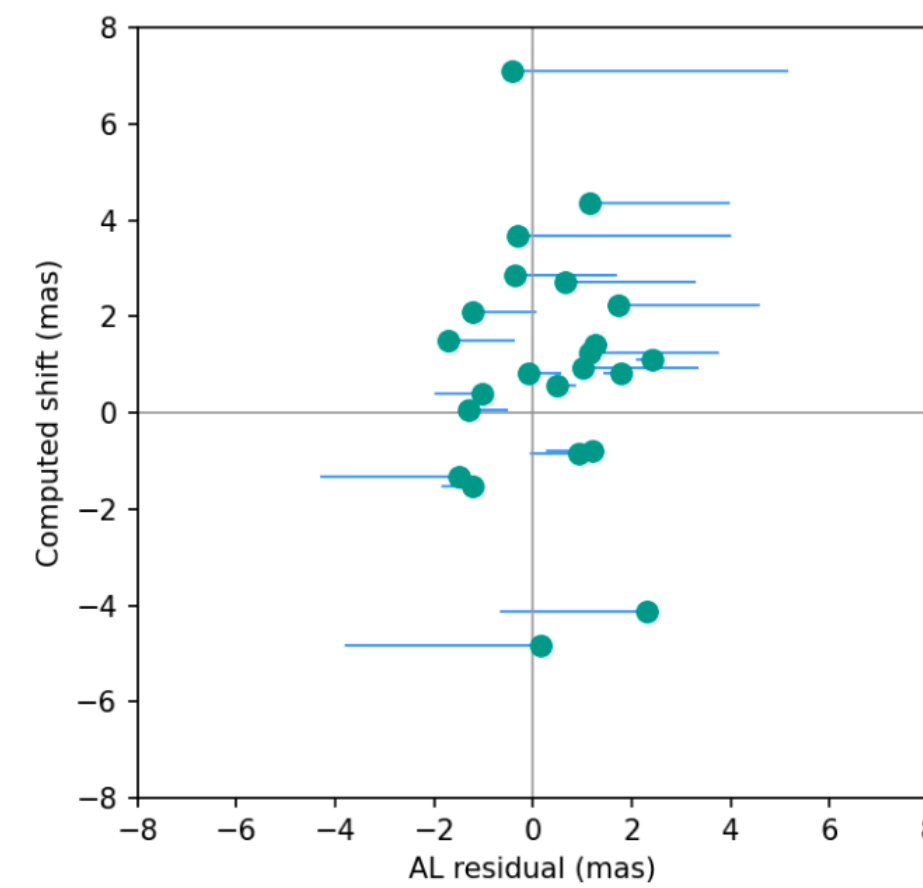
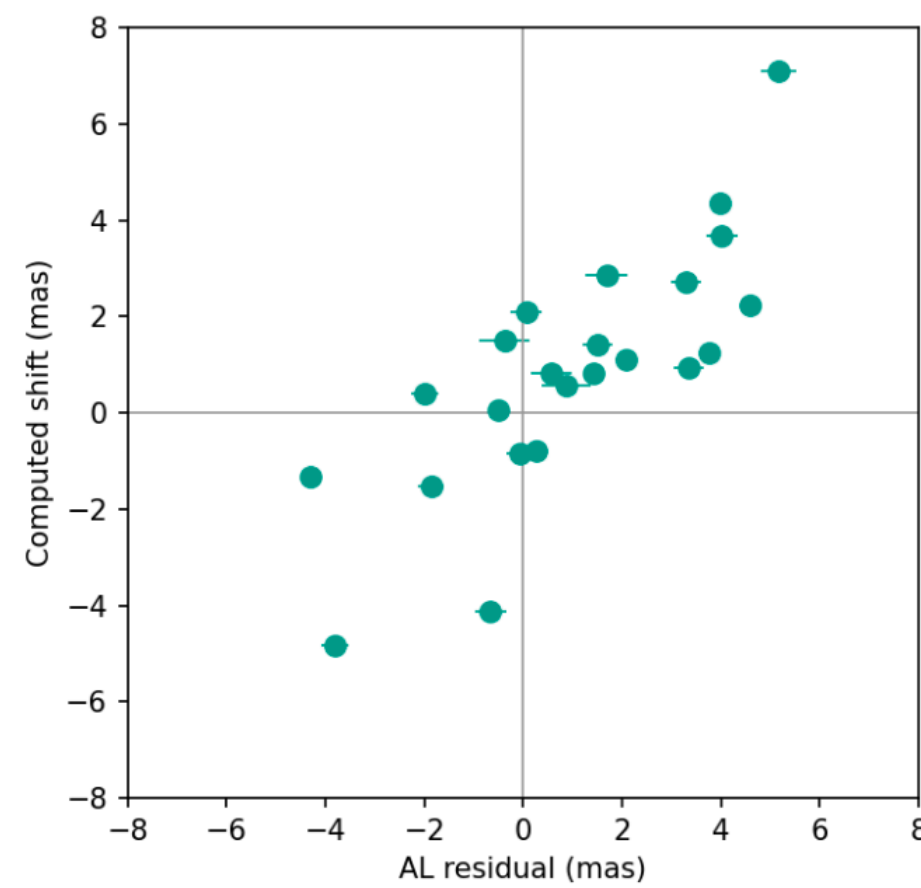
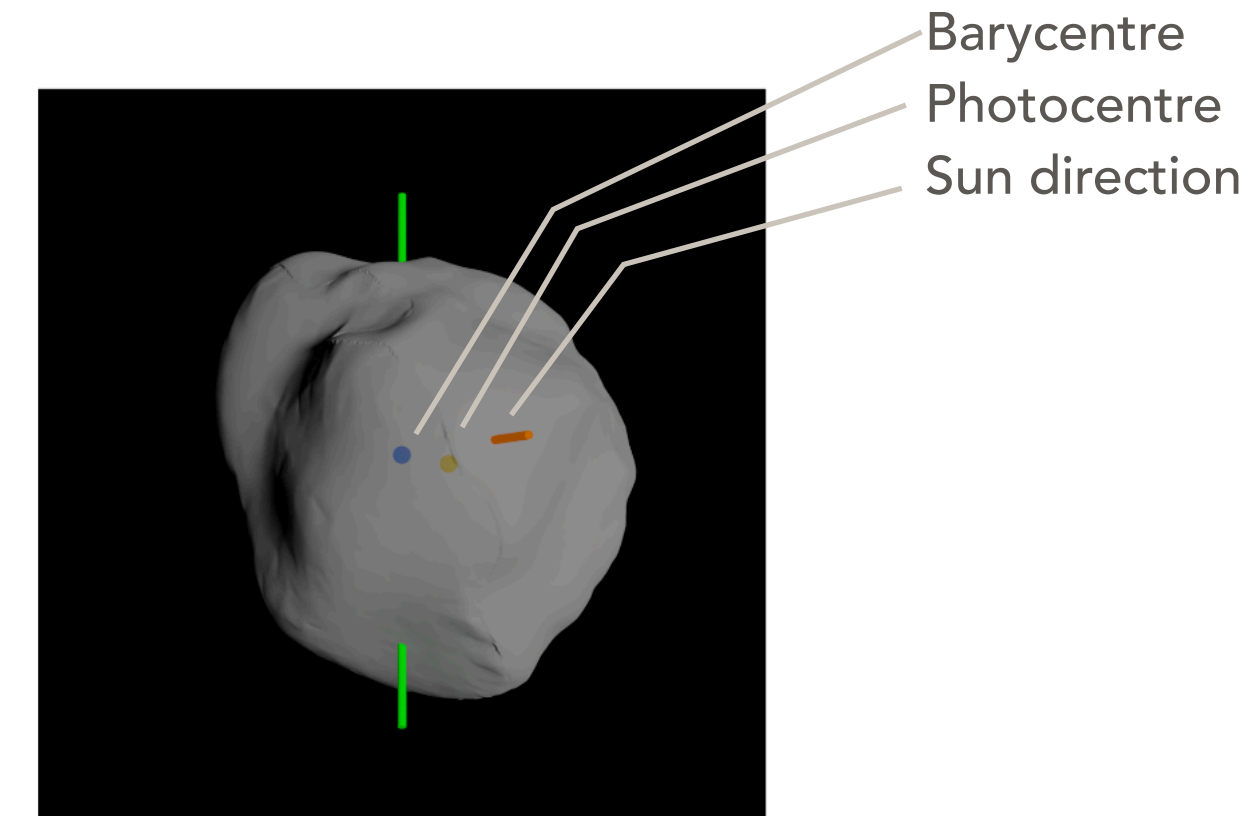
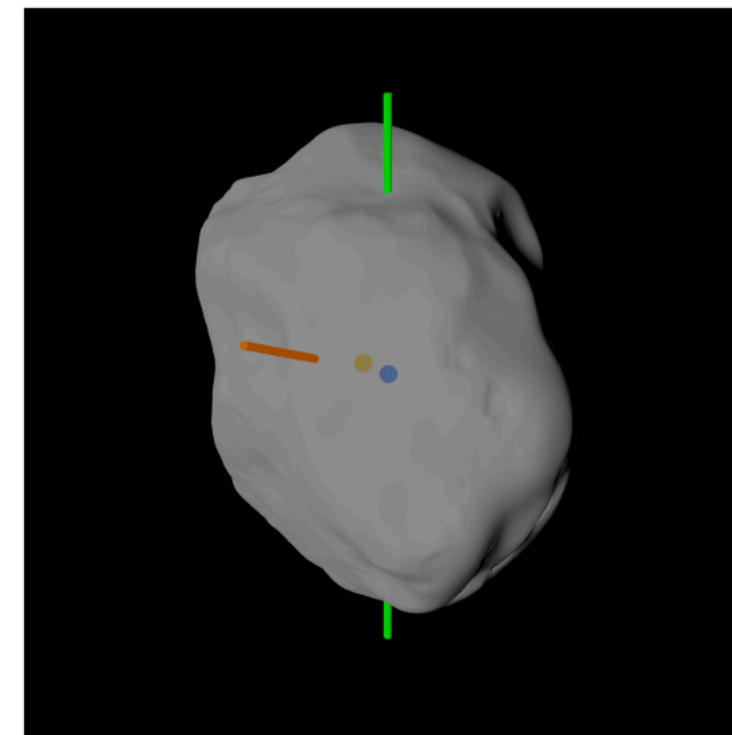
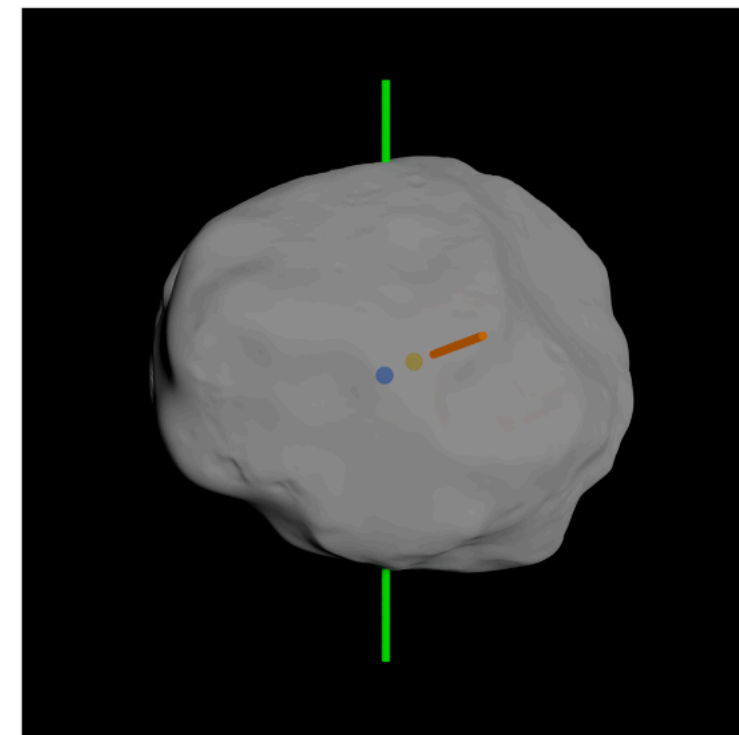
# A complete solution for (4337) Arecibo



- From photometry:
  - $T = 32.972823$  h
- Parameter optimisation:
  - Pole coordinates  $(\lambda, \beta)$ , rotation origin, separation
  - Size ratio 0.35 (smaller than obtained by the occultations)
    - Probable flattened shape of the 2 components
- Through Kepler's law: bulk density =  $1.0 \text{ g/cm}^3$ 
  - In agreement with Themis family ( $< 1.3 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ) !

# Application of astrometry: shape effects

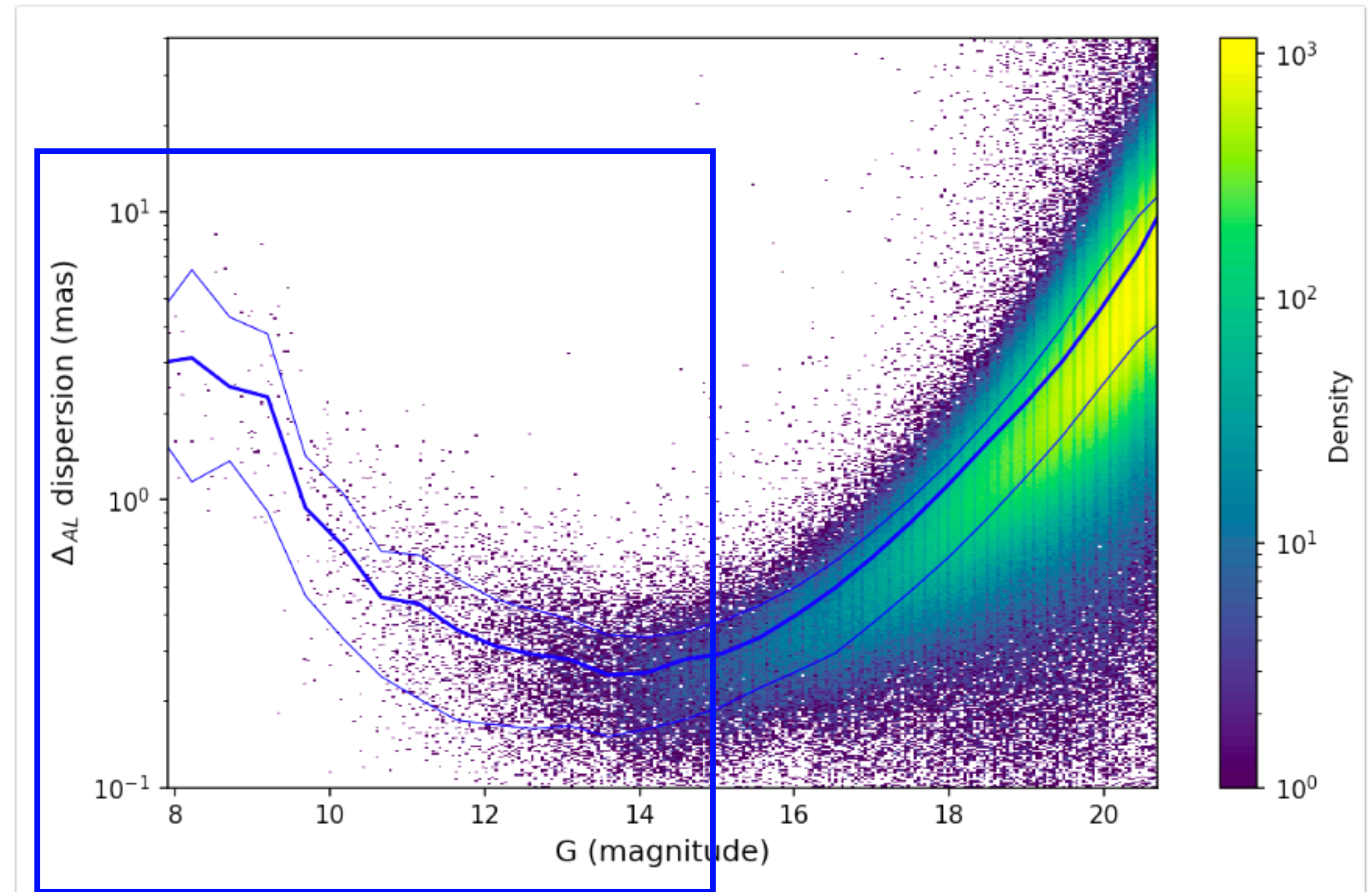
Example of 21 Lutetia



Residuals corrected for the shape model and the illumination geometry

# DR3, astrometric accuracy: post- orbital fit residuals

- Shape probably affecting asteroid astrometry for objects >10-15 km
  - > 10.000 objects
- Even larger sample affected with more precise orbits



Tanga et al. A&A DR3 special issue, 2022



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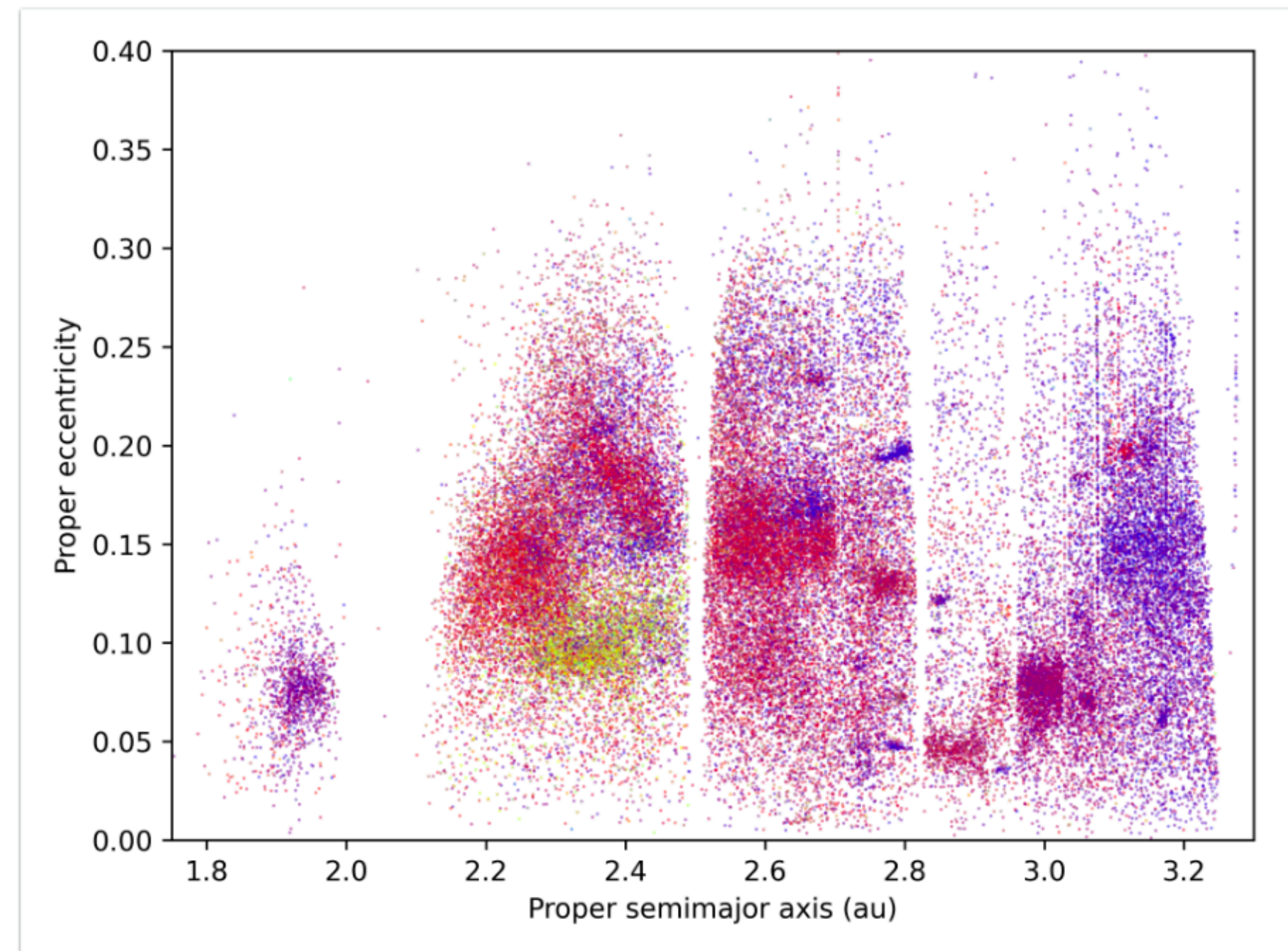
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  - But for NEOs in general: a better treatment of fast movers would be highly desirable
- Epoch astrometry
  - Further increase in accuracy based on the Gaia + Gaia NIR
  - Physical and dynamical properties to be modelled at the same time for a larger number of objects
  - Would trigger improvement in the dynamical model of the Solar System (more perturber masses.... )

# Thank you !



Galluccio et al. A&A DR3 special issue (2022)

