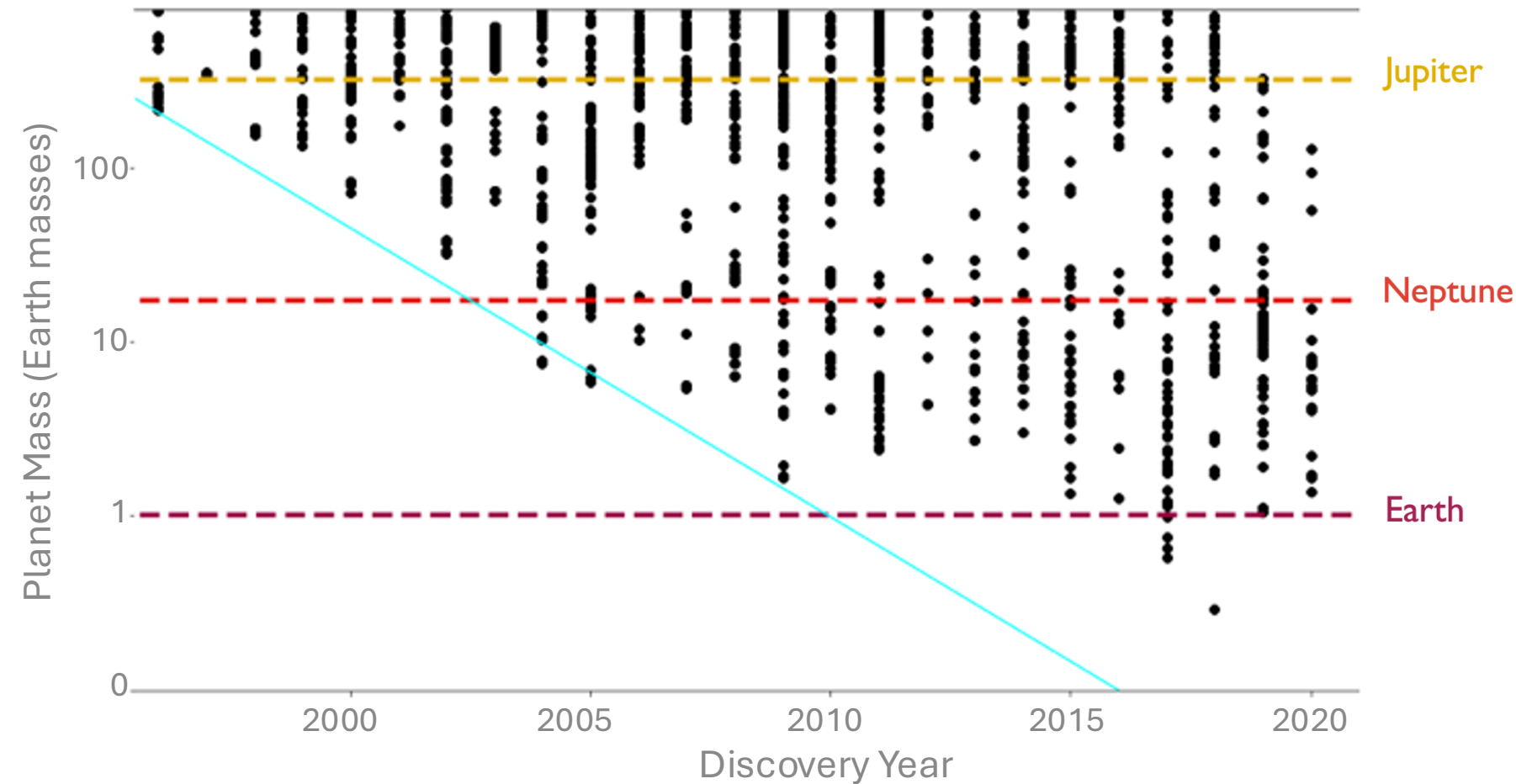


Enhancing radial velocity precision with machine learning

Zoë de Beurs, MIT
Andrew Vanderburg, Julien de Wit,
Naomi McWilliam

Know Thy Star
Know Thy Planet 2,
February 5, 2025

We have reached a **plateau** in increasing our sensitivity to smaller mass planets due to stellar variability



Background

NNs for solar RVs

CALM across the HR diagram

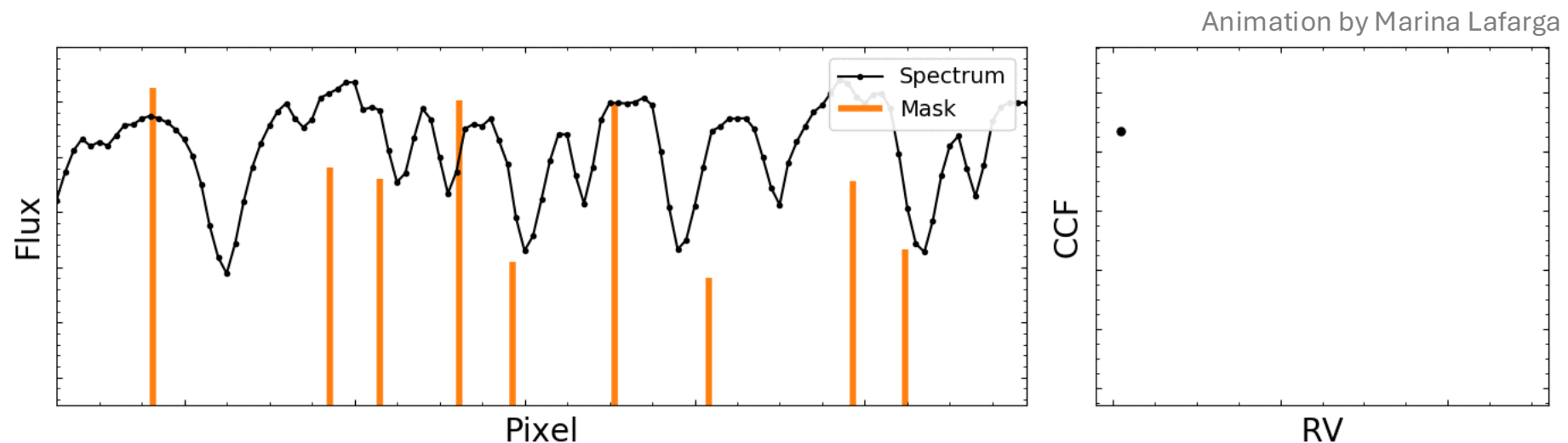
Nonlinear PCA

Beyond CCFs and instrumental noise

Takeaways

Cross-correlation functions (CCF) capture **shape changes** in spectral lines

- CCFs are represent the average line profile of a star
- Stellar variability encodes its signatures in the individual spectral lines
- CCFs are sensitive to line shape changes that persist in most spectral lines



Background

NNs for solar
RVs

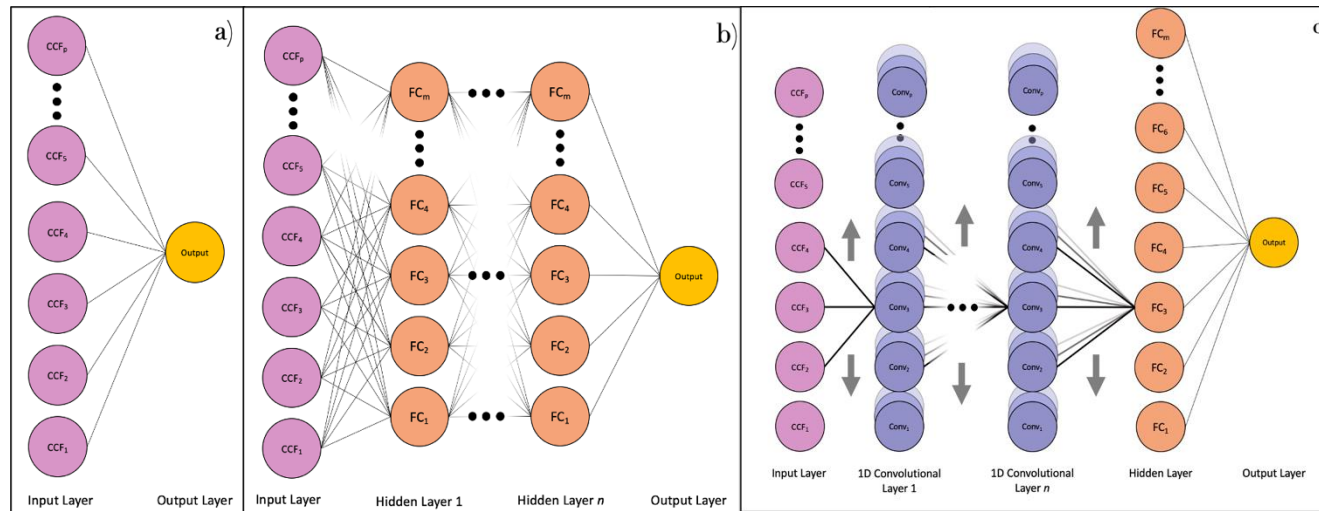
CALM across the
HR diagram

Nonlinear
PCA

Beyond CCFs and
instrumental noise

Takeaways

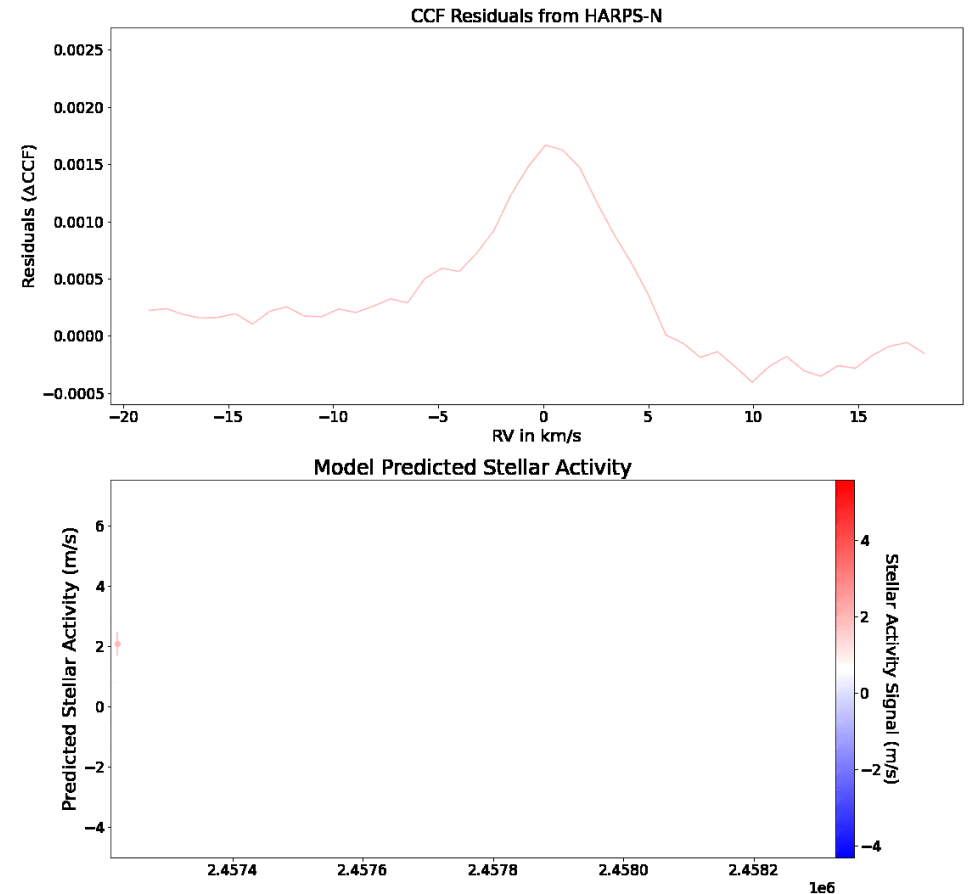
Neural networks **reduce RV scatter** for solar observations by 40% using CCF shape changes



Linear

Fully Connected

Convolutional



de Beurs et al. 2022

Background

Ch. 1: NNs for solar RVs

CALM across the HR diagram

Nonlinear PCA

Beyond CCFs and instrumental noise

Takeaways

For other stars, we developed the CALM linear regression method to model stellar variability



Designed to address two Challenges:

1. Modeling stellar variability patterns with relatively small datasets (50-100 datapoints) requires a smaller number of free parameters
2. Simultaneously modeling planetary signals

CCF Activity Linear Model (CALM)

$$a_1 \cdot CCF_1 + a_2 \cdot CCF_2 + \dots + a_n \cdot CCF_n + b_1 \cdot Kepler_1 + b_2 \cdot Kepler_2 + \dots + b_m \cdot Kepler_m = RV$$

Stellar variability

Planetary Doppler Shifts

Background

NNs for solar RVs

CALM across the HR diagram

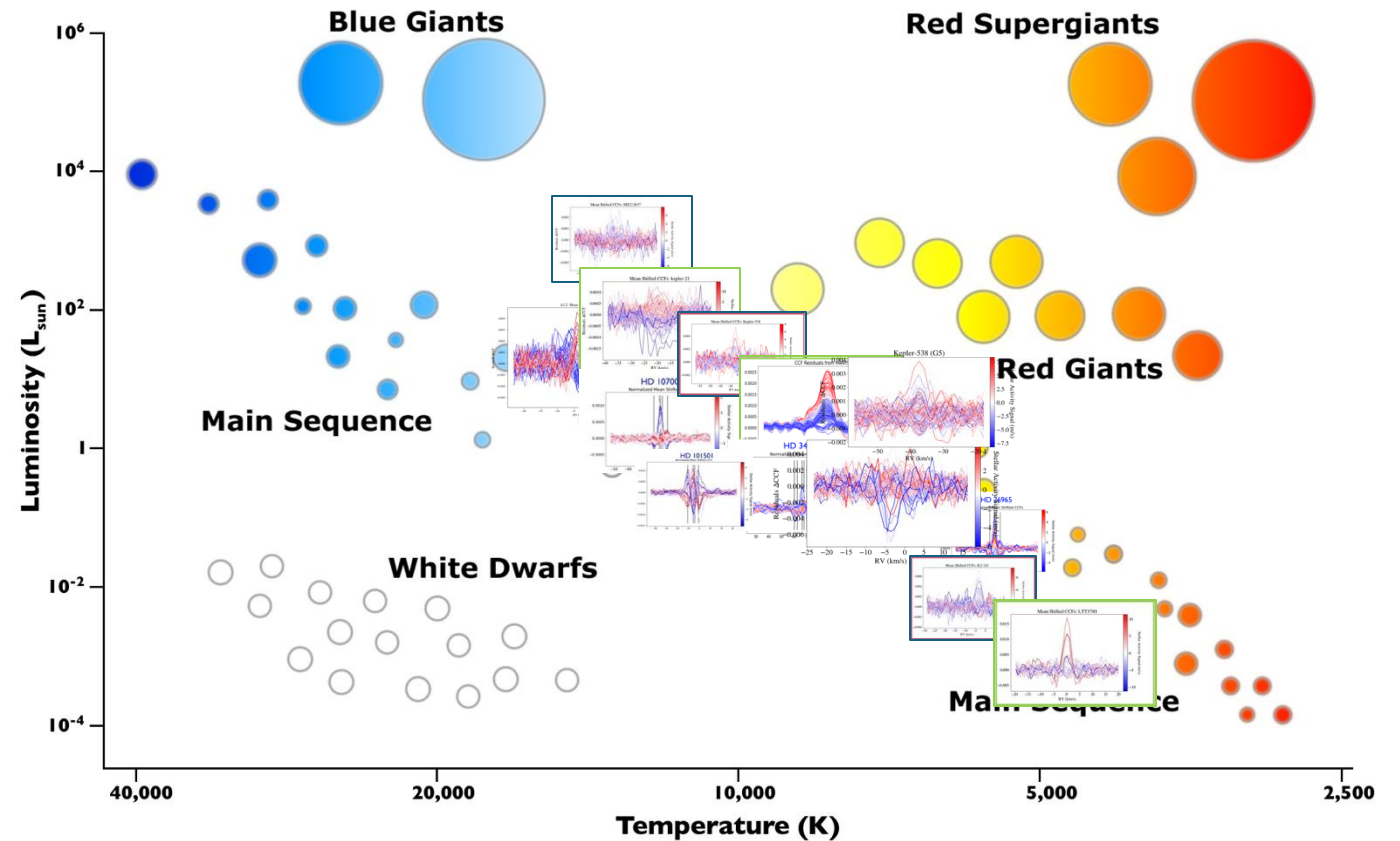
Nonlinear PCA

Beyond CCFs and instrumental noise

Takeaways

Our stellar sample

- F type
 - Kepler-21 – F6
 - K2-167 – F7
 - HIP41378 – F8
- G type
 - HD 34411 – G0
 - The Sun – G2
 - Kepler-538 – G5
 - HD 101501 – G8
 - Tau Ceti – G8
- K-type
 - K2-2 – K0
 - HD 26965 – K1
 - Kepler-78 – K2
 - K2-141 – K4
- M-type
 - HD 79211 – M0
 - TOI-700 – M2
 - LTT3780 - M4



Background

NNs for solar
RVs

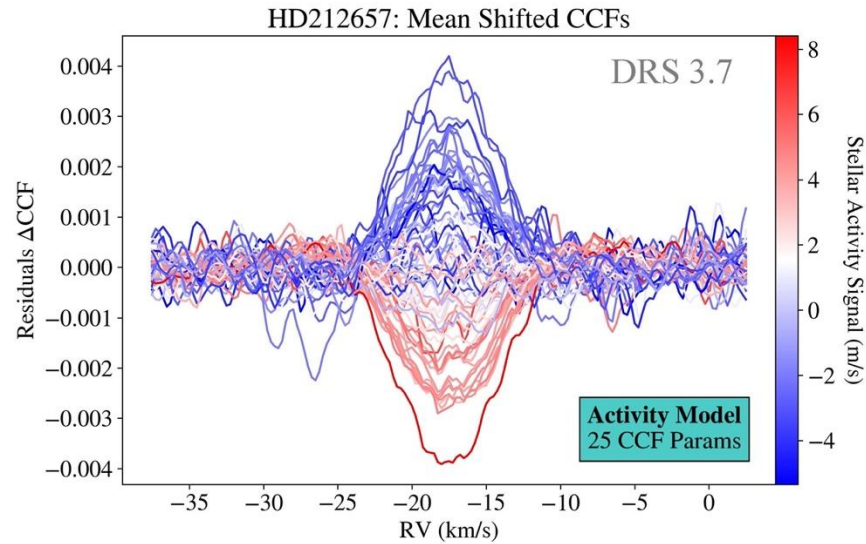
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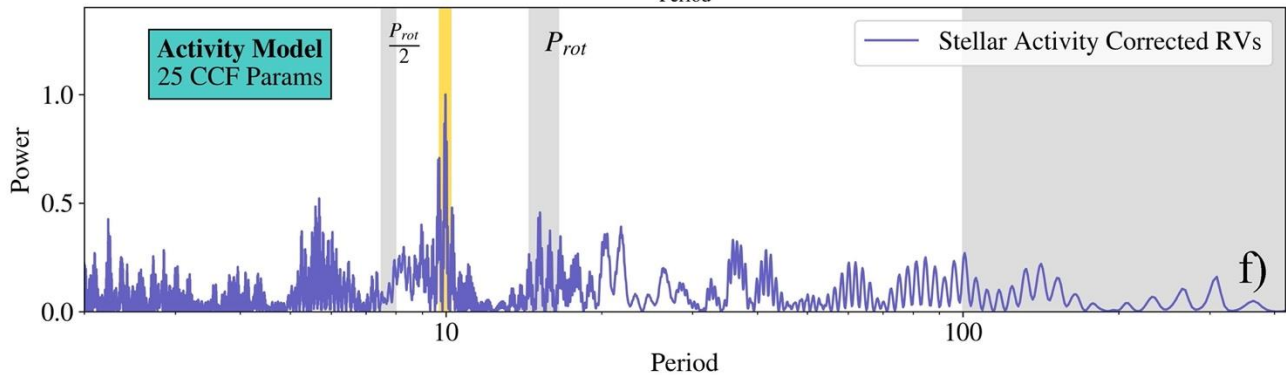
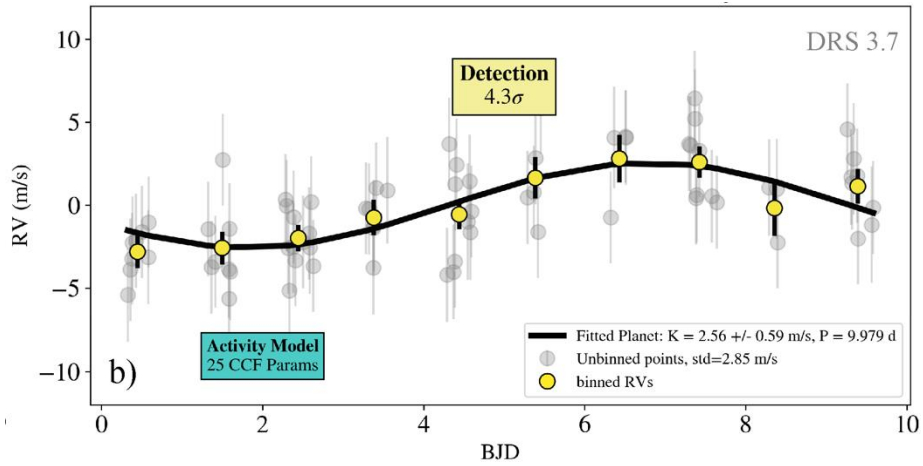
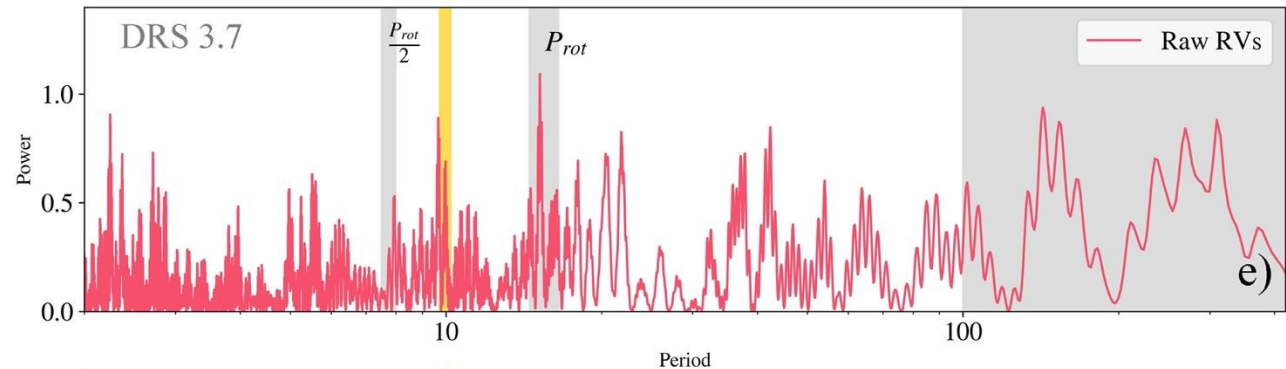
Takeaways

CALM Results - K2-167 (F7)



$\sigma_{raw} = 4.02 \text{ m/s}$
 $\sigma_{us} = 2.04 \text{ m/s}$
 Planet detection significance: 4.3σ

de Beurs et al. 2024



Background

NNs for solar RVs

Ch.2: CALM across the HR diagram

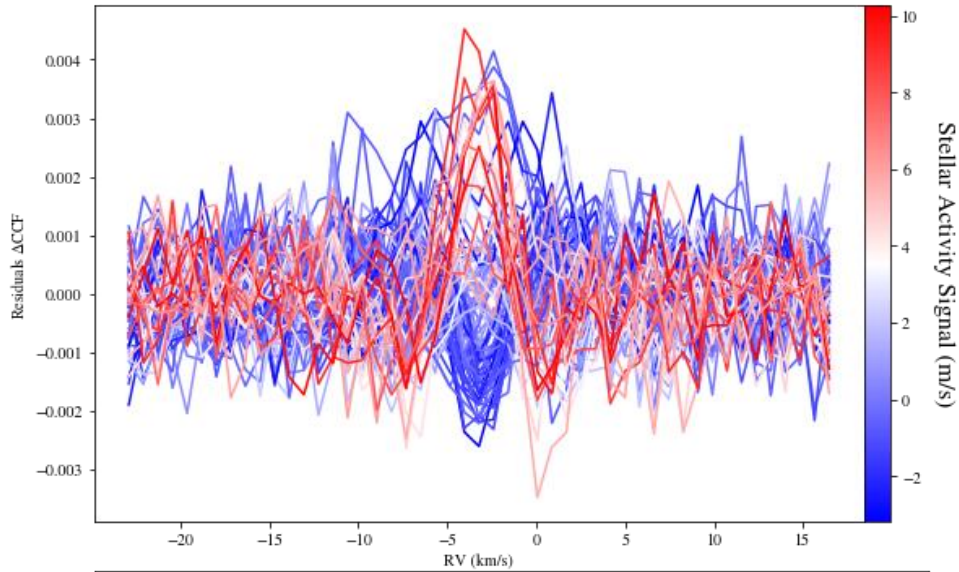
Nonlinear PCA

Beyond CCFs and instrumental noise

Takeaways

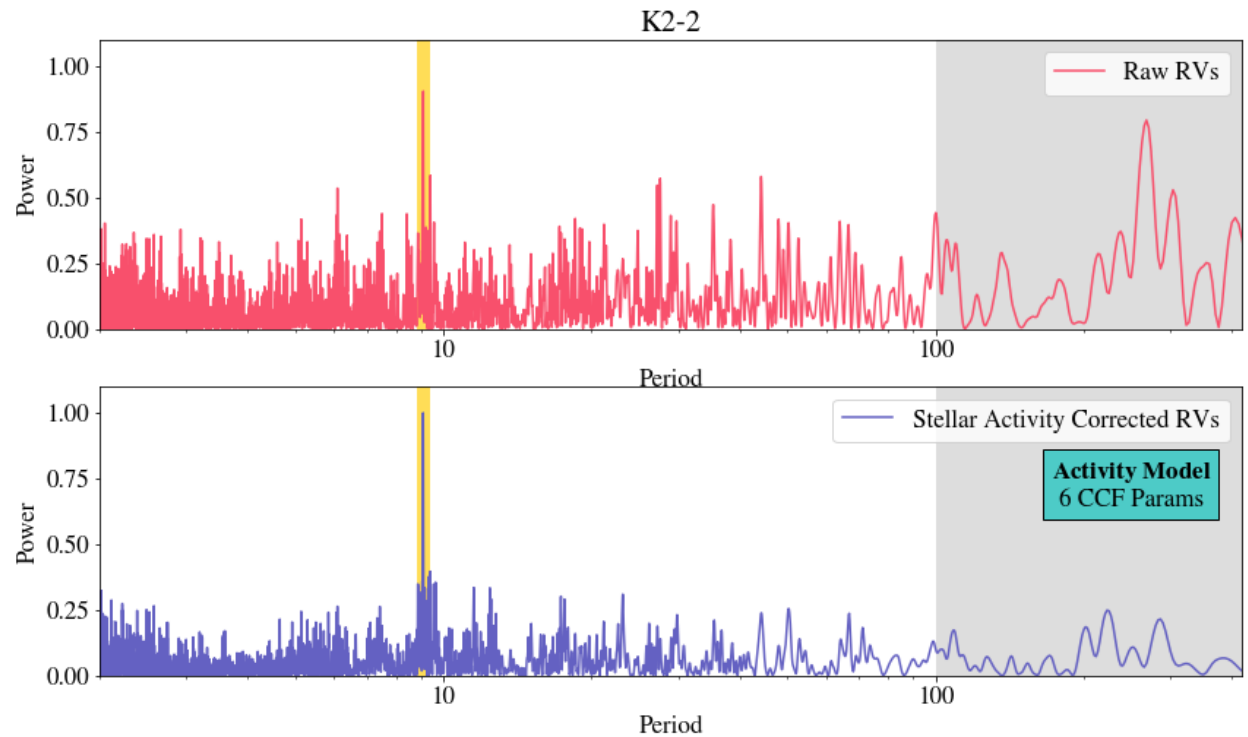
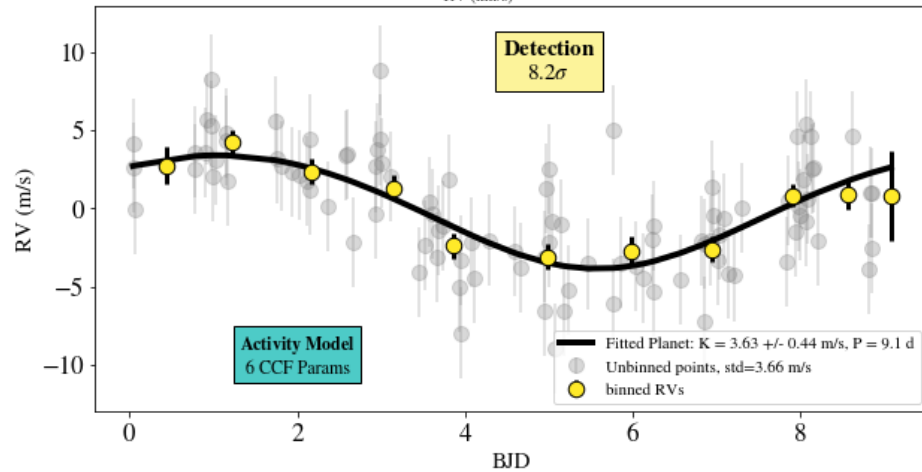
CALM Results - K2-2 (K0)

k2-2: Mean Shifted CCFs



$\sigma_{raw} = 4.72 \text{ m/s}$
 $\sigma_{us} = 2.70 \text{ m/s}$
Planet detection significance: 8.2σ

Thygesen, Rodriguez, de Beurs et al. 2024



Background

NNs for solar RVs

CALM across the HR diagram

Nonlinear PCA

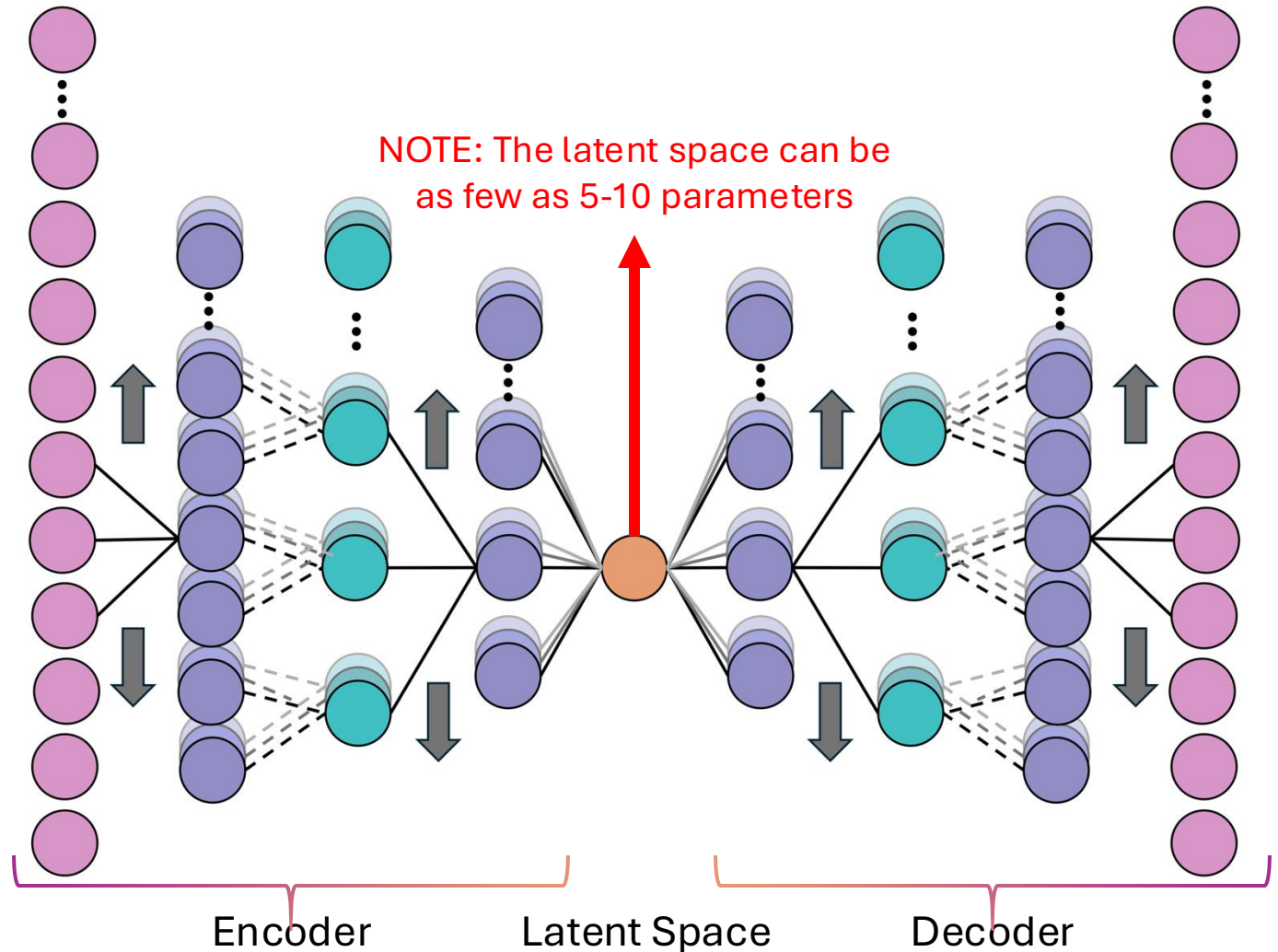
Beyond CCFs and instrumental noise

Takeaways

CALM uses only a subset of the CCF to model activity

Using a subset of the CCF decreases the number of free parameters, but results in a loss of information.

- Could autoencoders (nonlinear PCA) extract the most important information from CCFs?
- Can autoencoders do this without timing information and without stellar activity labels?
- Could this work for stars beyond the Sun?



Background

NNs for solar RVs

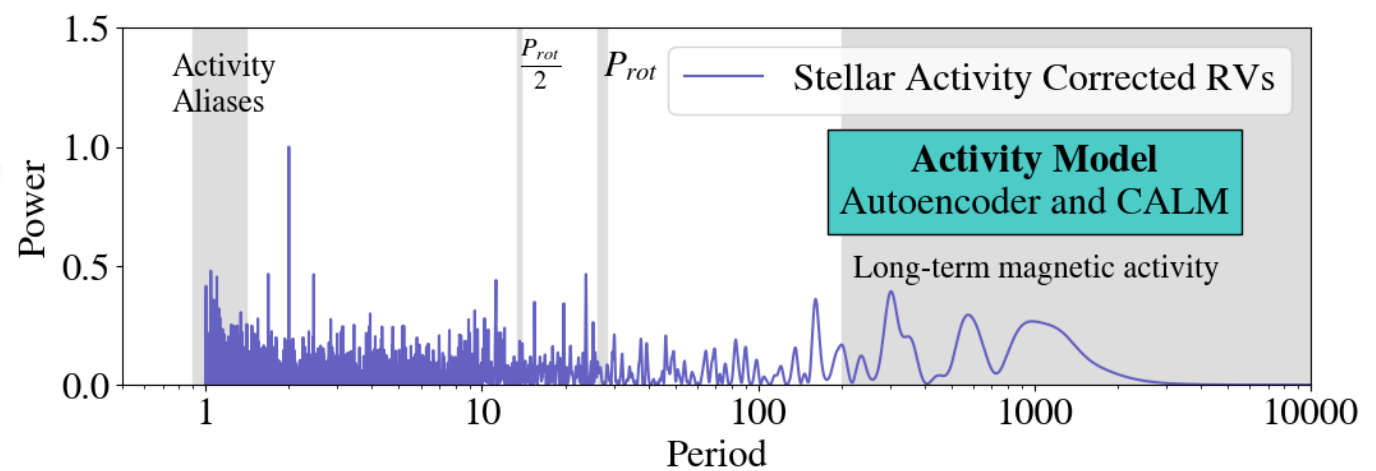
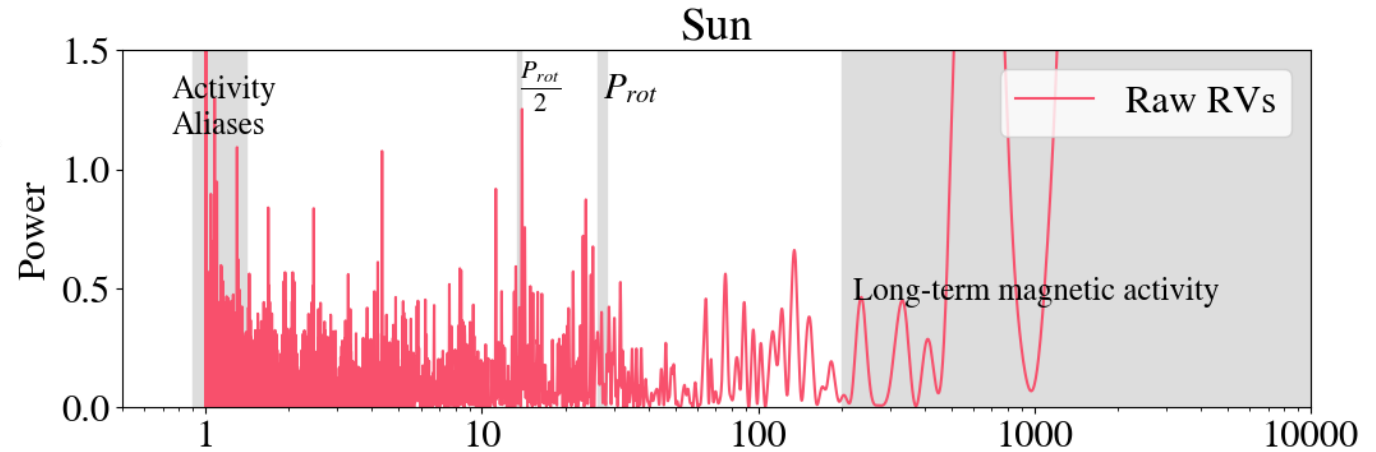
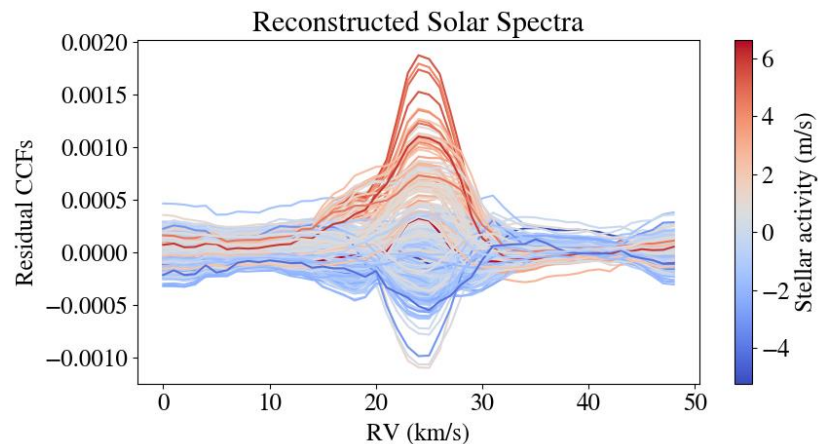
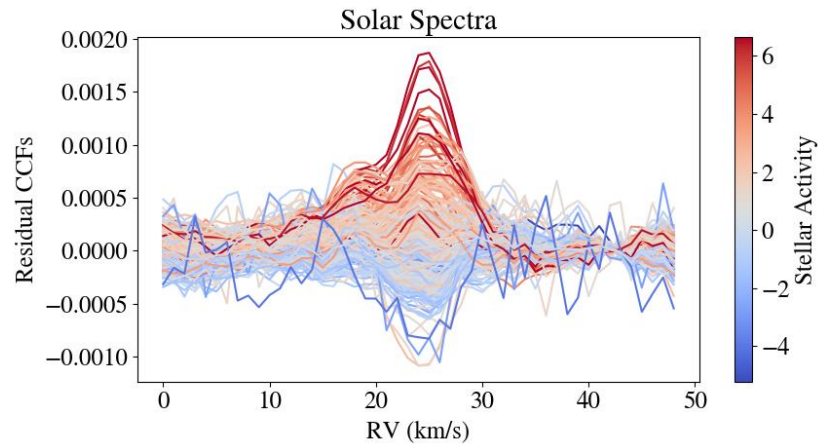
CALM across the HR diagram

Nonlinear PCA

Beyond CCFs and instrumental noise

Takeaways

Autoencoders can reproduce key features from solar CCFs using 10 latent params and reduce the RV scatter



Preliminary

Background

NNs for solar RVs

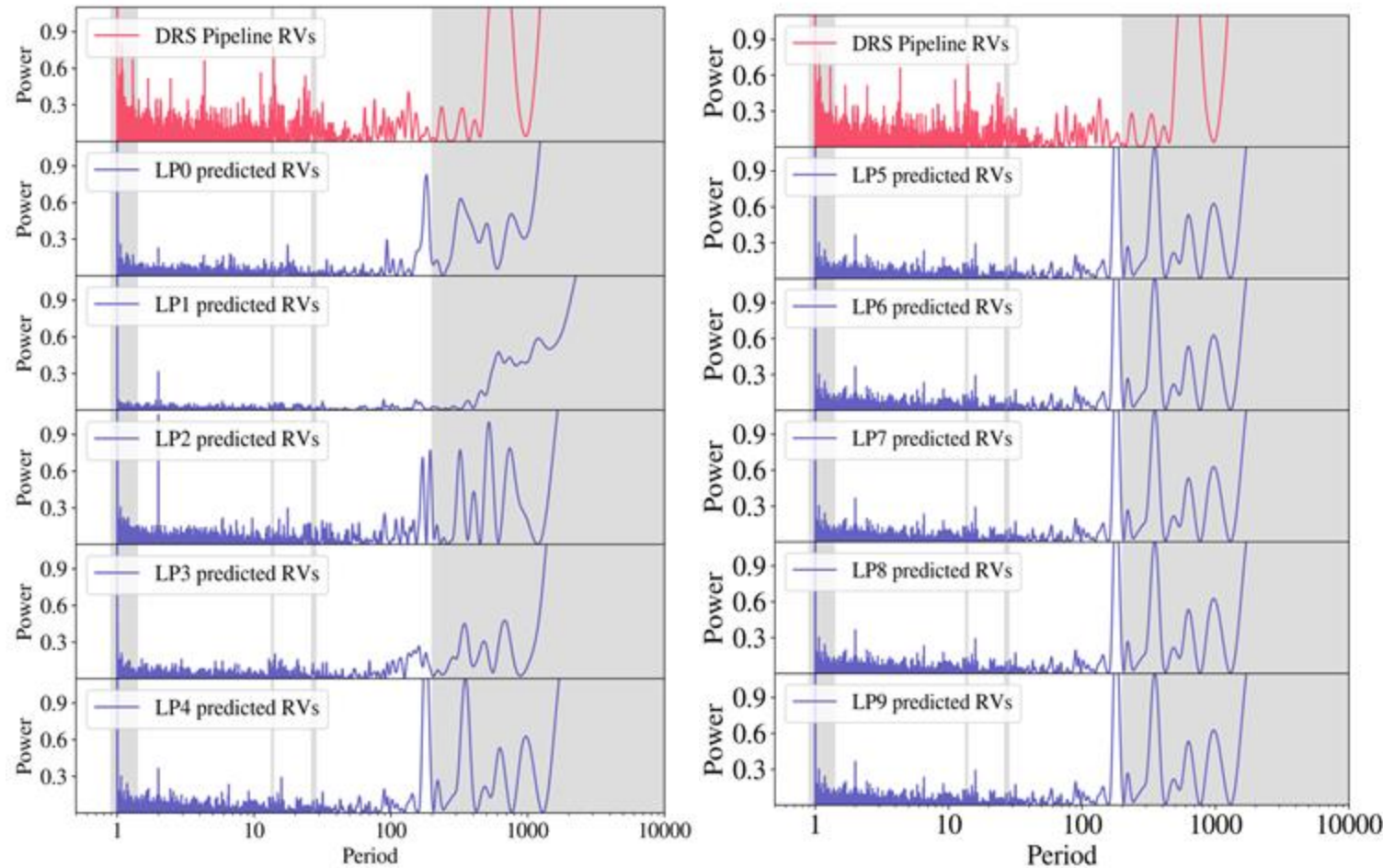
CALM across the HR diagram

Nonlinear PCA

Beyond CCFs and instrumental noise

Takeaways

The latent parameters appear to trace CCF phenomena at different **timescales**



Preliminary

Background

NNs for solar RVs

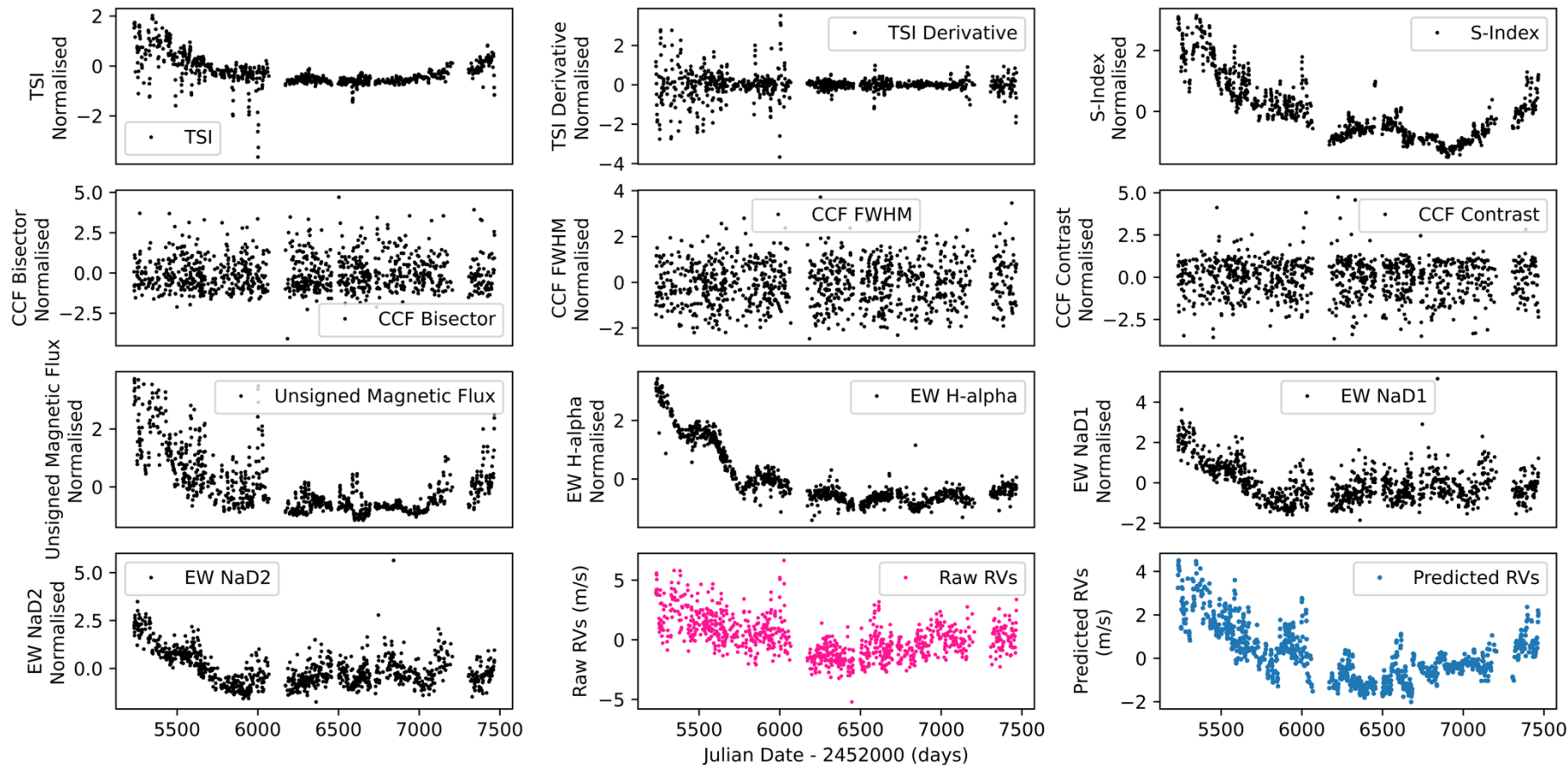
CALM across the HR diagram

Nonlinear PCA

Beyond CCFs and instrumental noise

Takeaways

Beyond CCFs, we trained a neural network a multitude of common activity tracers to find orthogonal information



Work by Naomi McWilliam, PhD student at ICL

McWilliam, de Beurs, Vanderburg et al. Under Review

Background

NNs for solar RVs

CALM across the HR diagram

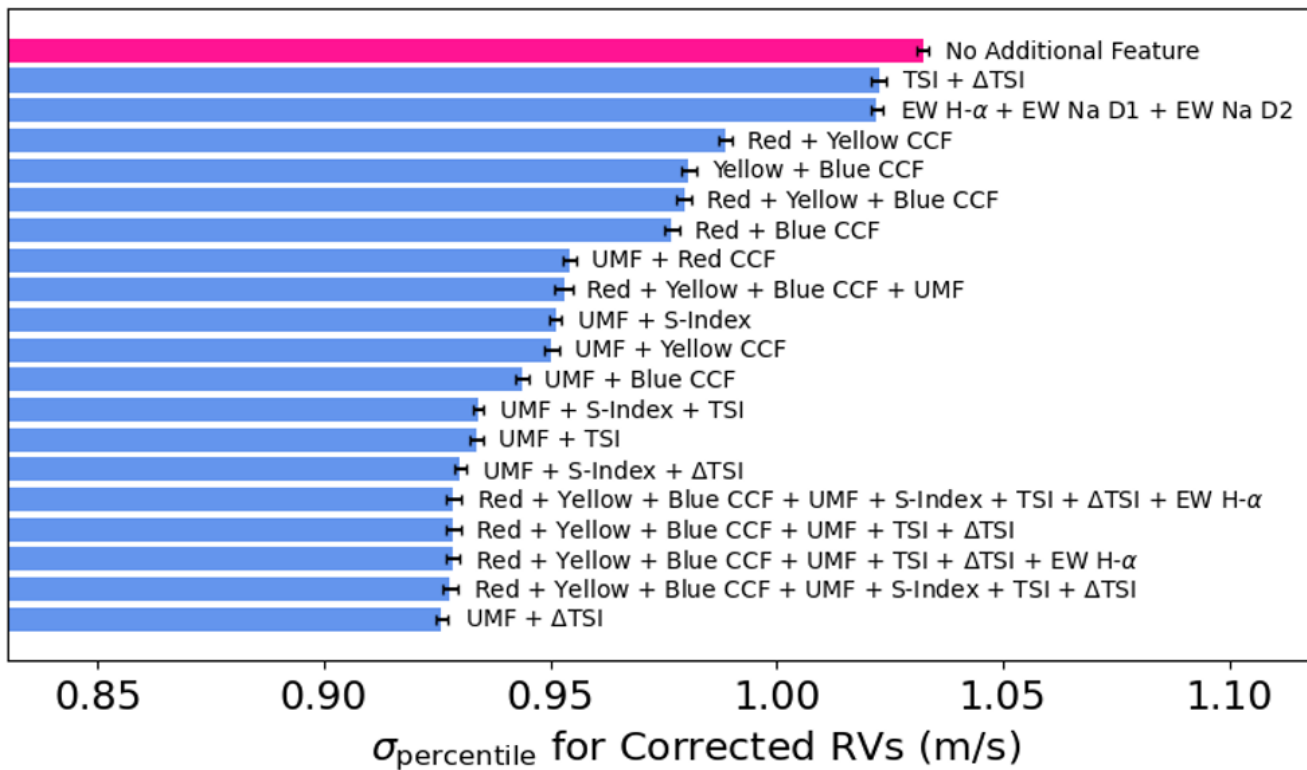
Nonlinear PCA

Beyond CCFs and instrumental noise

Takeaways

Adding photometry and unsigned magnetic flux improves the neural network performance

Combined Multiple Features



McWilliam, de Beurs, Vanderburg et al.
Under Review

Background

NNs for solar
RVs

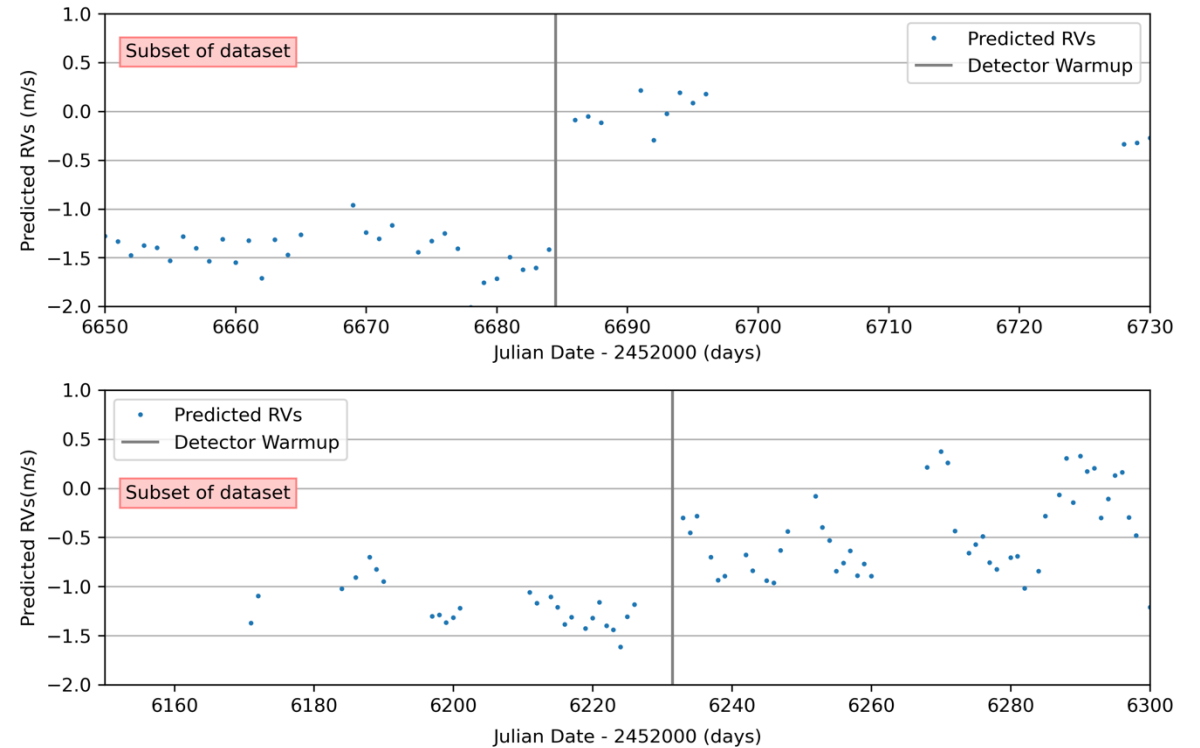
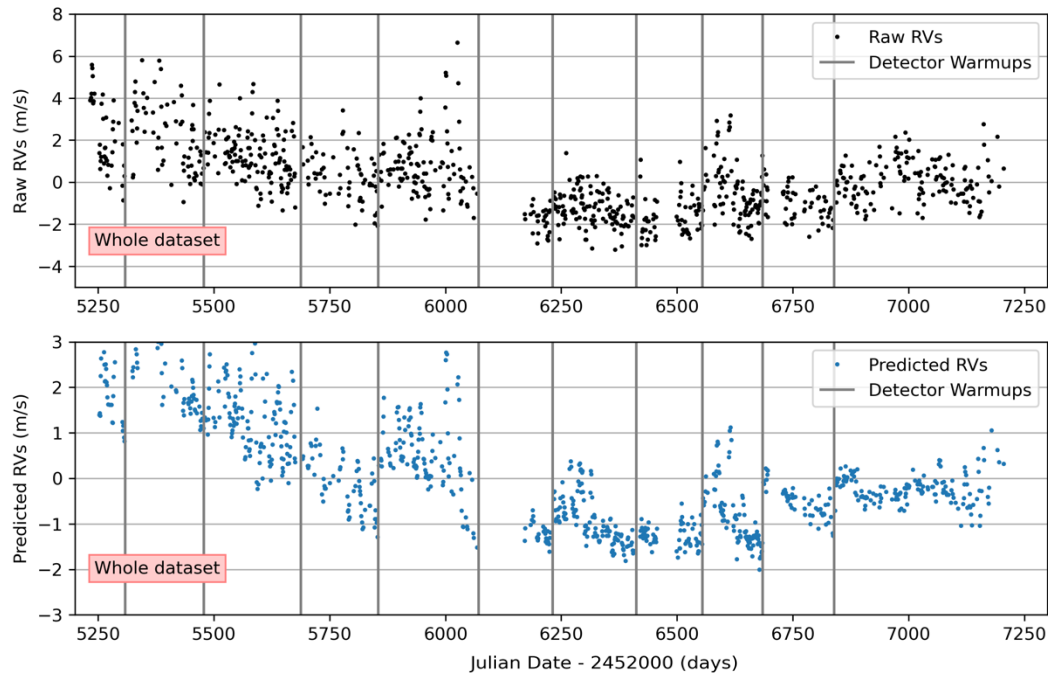
CALM across the
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Takeaways

Know Thy Star and Know Thy Instrument?



Background

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Takeaways

Including temperature readings in our NN model reduces the RV scatter by 10% during low magnetic activity

Low Magnetic Activity [Oct 2019 to July 2020]

Raw RV Scatter: 113.9 cm/s

Corrected RV scatter

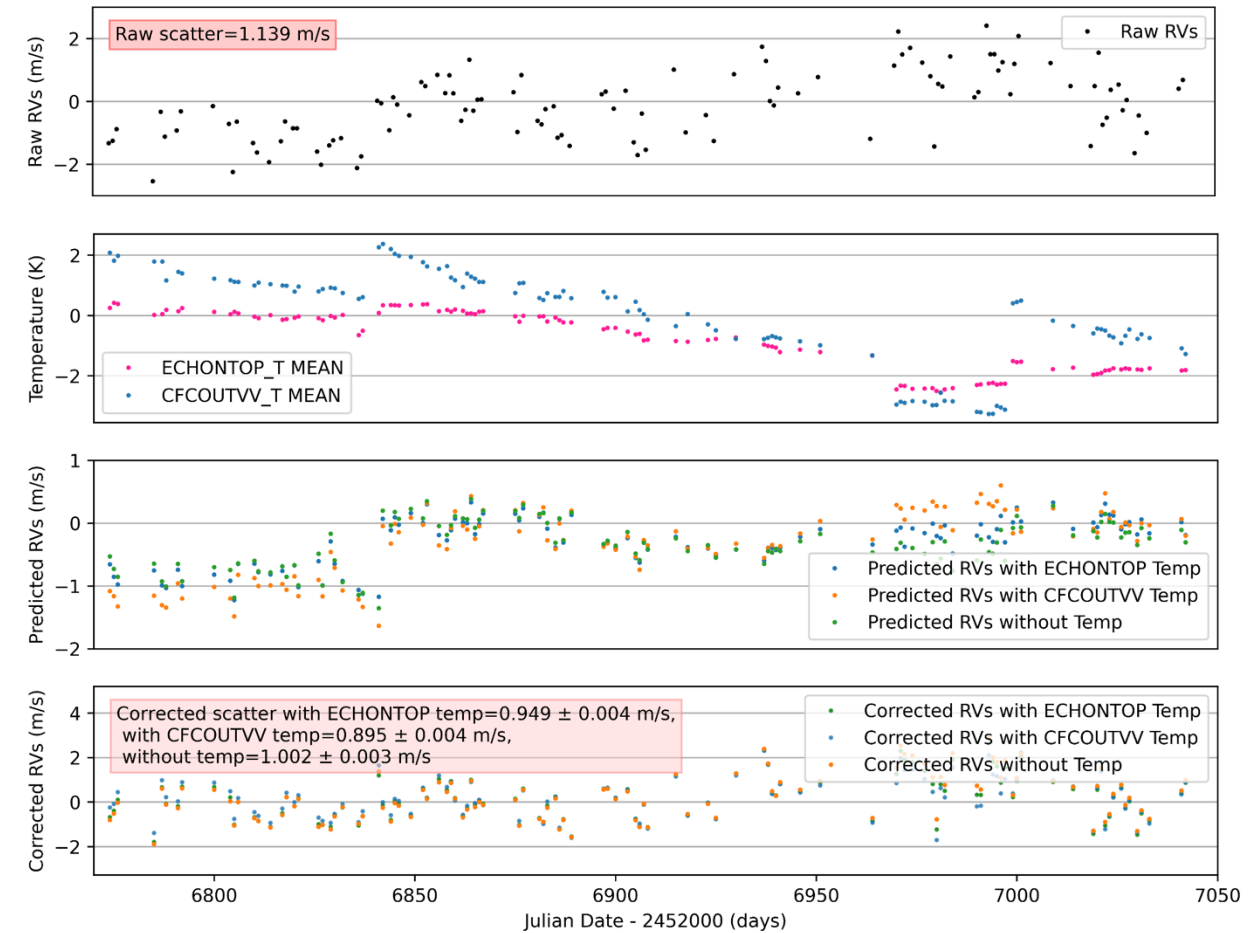
Without temperature readings: 100.2 ± 0.3 cm/s

With ECHONTOP* temperature: 94.9 ± 0.4 cm/s

With CFCOUTVV** temperature: 89.5 ± 0.4 cm/s

* ECHONTOP = Echelle grating on top

** CFCOUTVV = Temperature of cryostat (output vacuum vessel)



Background

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Takeaways

Takeaways

- We trained neural networks on solar CCFs to predict the stellar variability contributions and reduced the RV scatter by 40% (de Beurs et al. 2022)
- Our CALM method reduces the RV scatter for HARPS-N data, constraining the mass of K2-167 b (de Beurs et al. 2024) and increase the detection significance of K2-2 (Thygeson, Rodriguez, de Beurs et al. 2024)
- Autoencoders seems a promising path towards constructing stellar activity tracers that maximizing information content while minimizing the number of free parameters
- Including photometry and unsigned magnetic flux in addition to CCFs improves NN performance and reduces solar RV scatter by additional 10% (McWilliam, de Beurs, et al. Under review)
- Neural networks can correct for instrumental systematics → Know Thy Star and Know Thy Instrument

Background

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Takeaways