



The Roman Galactic Exoplanet Survey Will Find the Coolest Planets

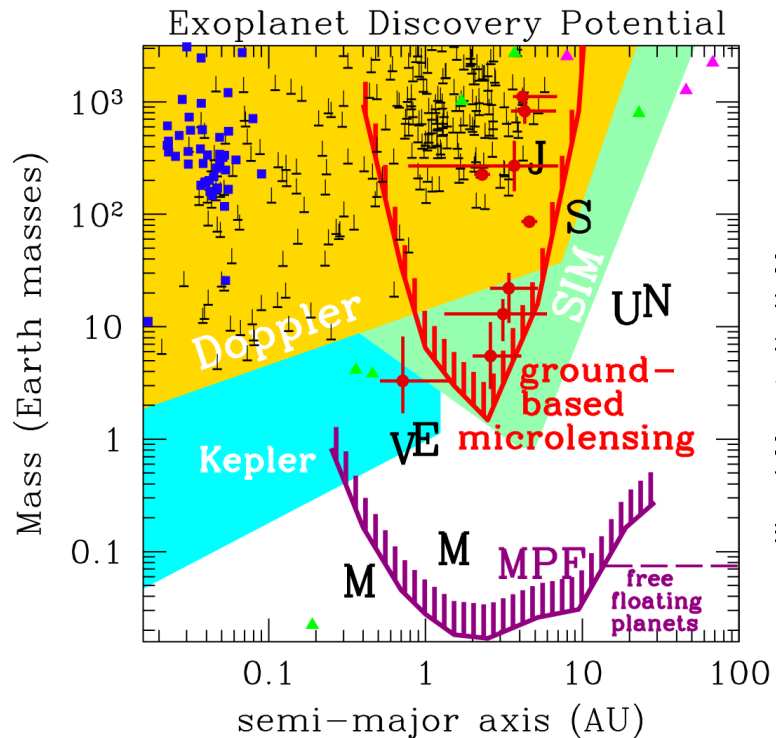
David Bennett

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and University of Maryland
for the Roman Galactic Exoplanet Survey Project Infrastructure Team

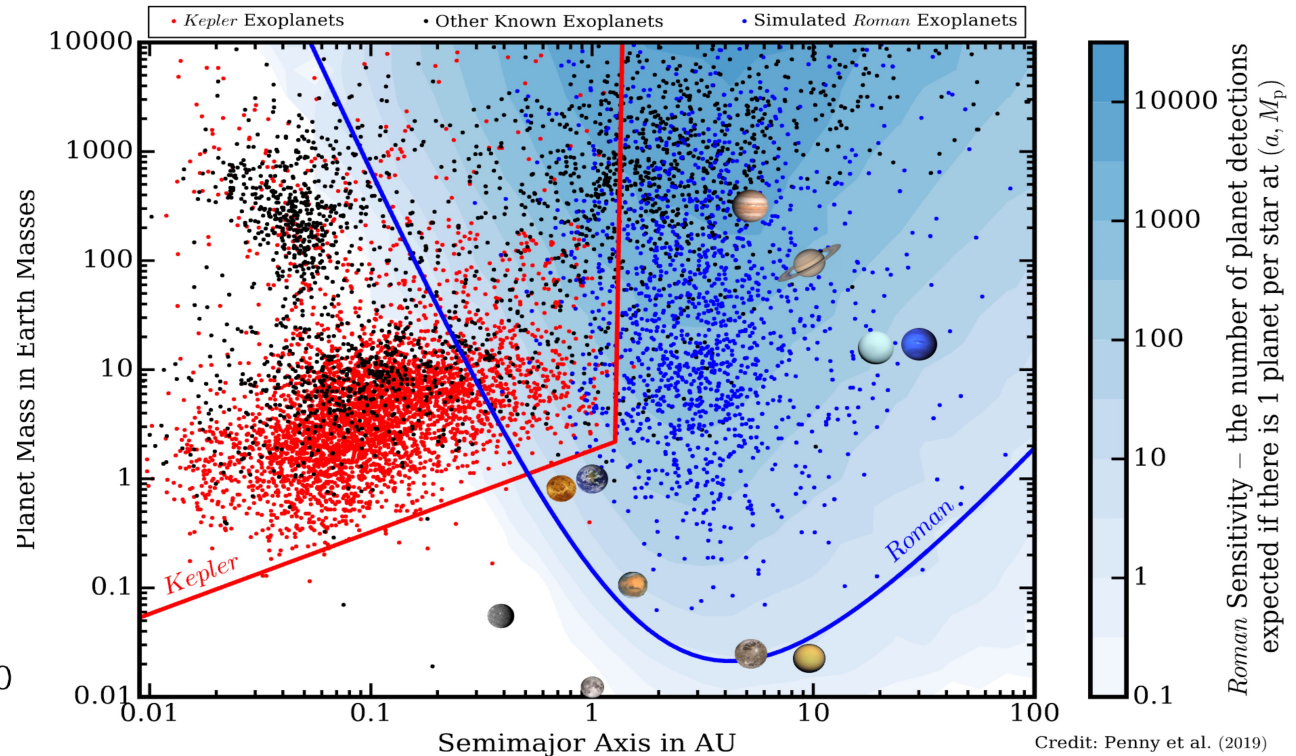
July 13, 2026



A Complete Statistical Census of Exoplanets



Predicted sensitivity for the Microlensing Planet Finder (MPF) in Astro2010 submission



Credit: Penny et al. (2019)
ApJS 241, 3

Planets found by Kepler

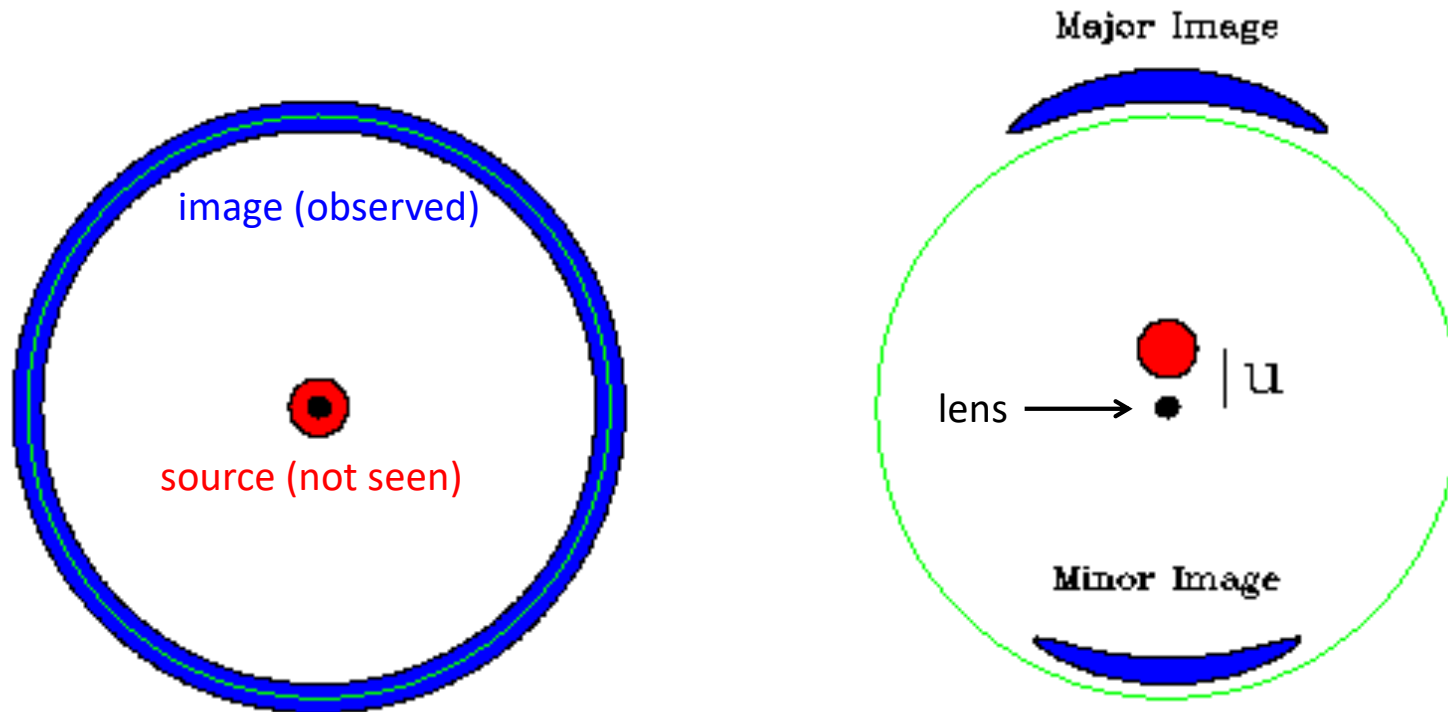
Planets found by other methods

Planets predicted to be found by the Roman Galactic Exoplanet Survey (RGES) (Penny et al. 2019)

Outline

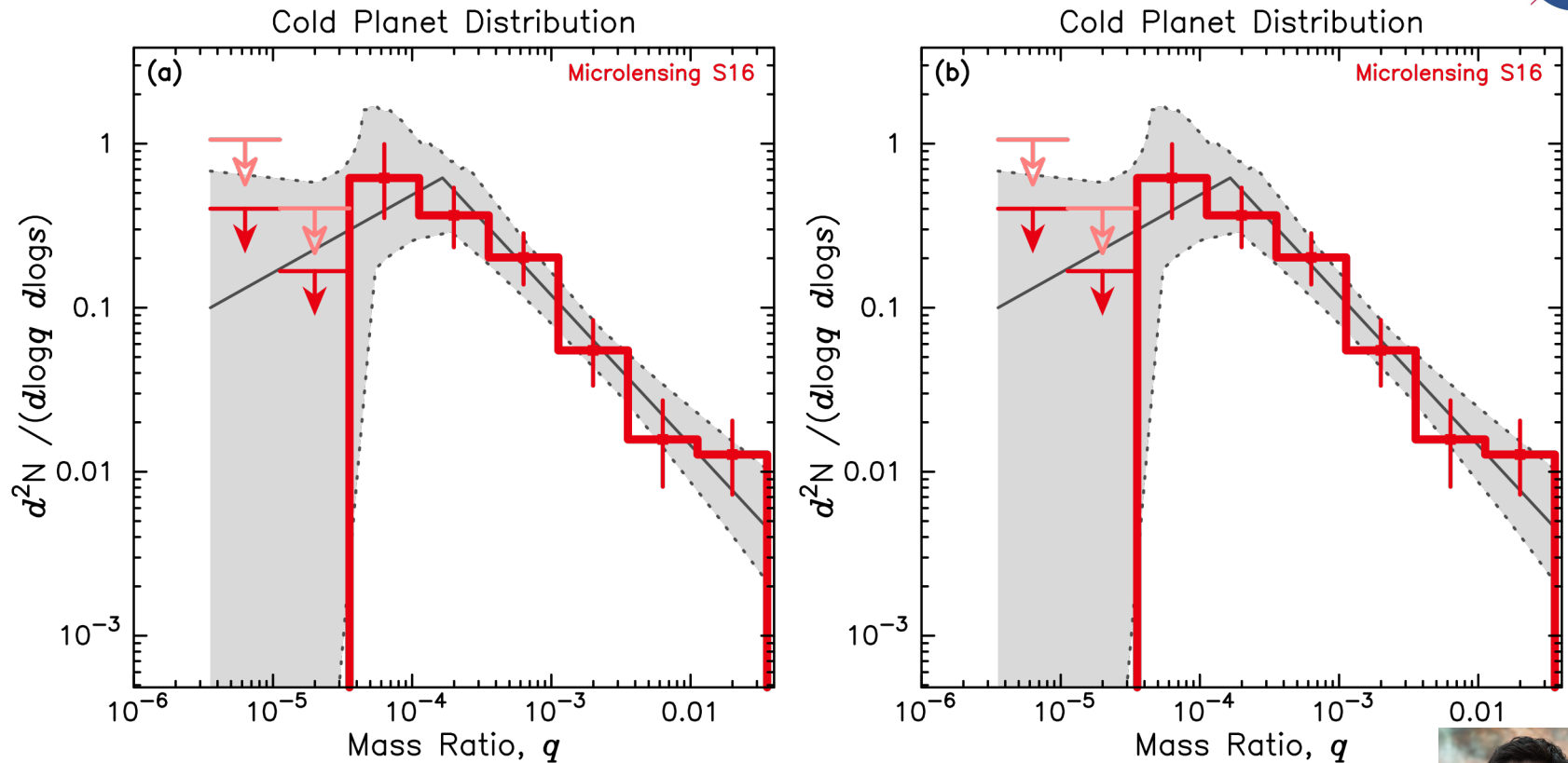
- Astro2010 selection
- Post-Astro2010 developments
 - Exoplanet mass ratio function shows no “sub-Saturn desert” due to runaway gas accretion
 - Roman’s exoplanet mass measurement methods find that the planet hosting probability scales as M_{host}^1 for fixed mass ratio, q
 - verified by radial velocity measurements
 - Rogue planet discoveries from MOA, OGLE, and KMTNet
 - **Most planets are cold and lonely!**

Lensed Images (Einstein 1936)

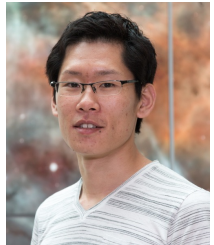


When source is distant, we see distorted, magnified images. Perfect alignment gives an “Einstein Ring” image, and images are highly magnified near the Einstein ring when the alignment is nearly perfect. Planets are most easily detected near the Einstein ring (typically at 2-3 AU) when they distort one of the lensed image. $2\text{AU} \approx \sqrt{D_{\text{Lens}} R_{\text{Sch}}}$

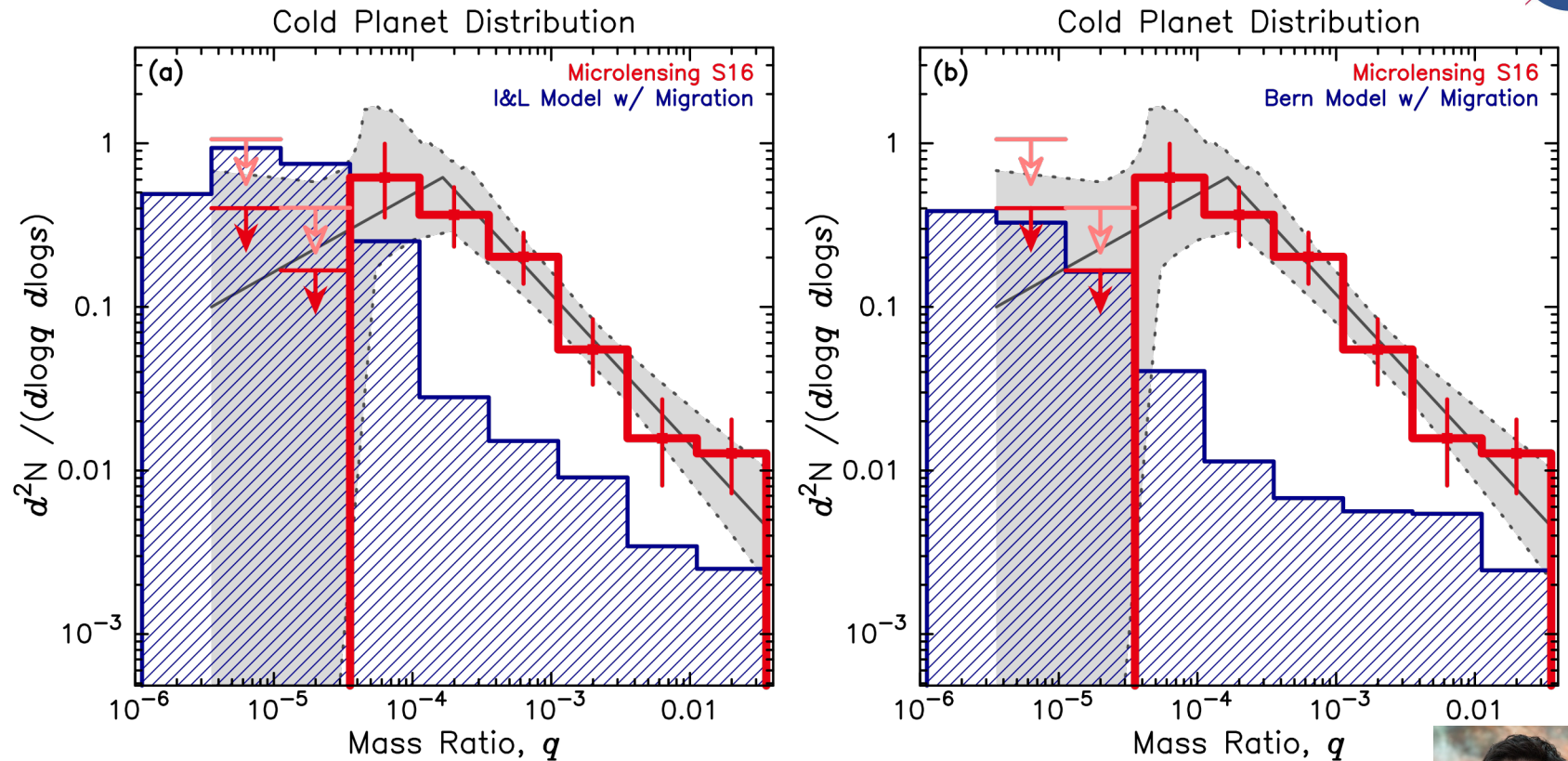
Comparison to Population Synthesis Models



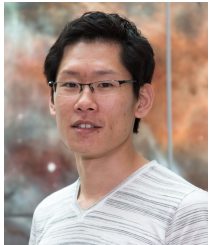
Turning off migration improves the cold planet distribution, but does not generate enough planets at $q \sim 1-5 \times 10^{-4}$, about $20-80 M_{\oplus}$ (Suzuki+18)



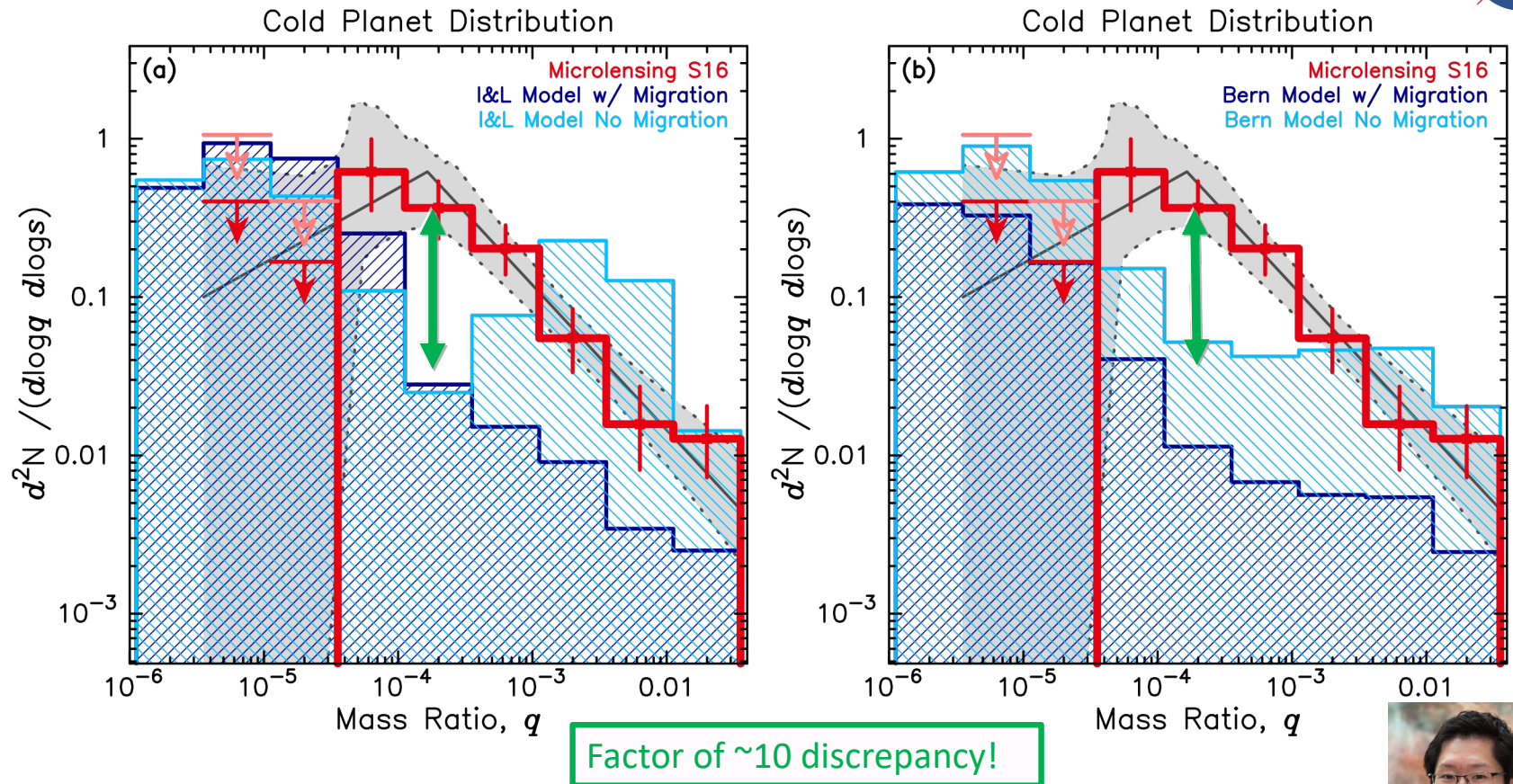
Comparison to Population Synthesis Models



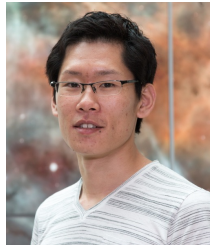
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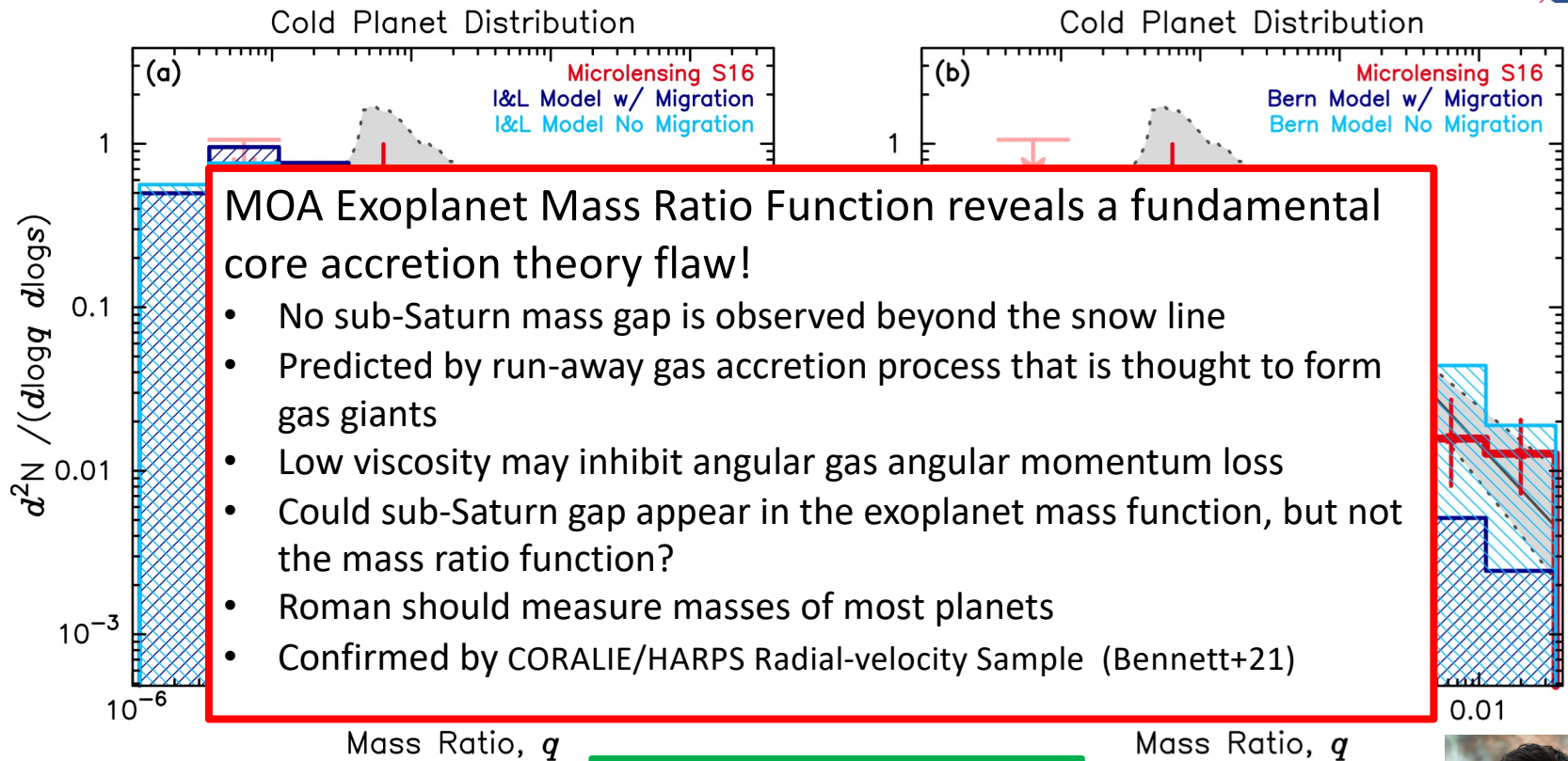
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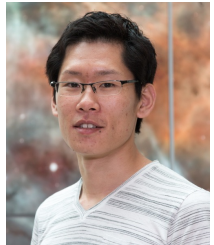
Turning off migration improves the cold planet distribution, but does not generate enough planets at $q \sim 1-4 \times 10^{-4}$, about $20-80 M_{\oplus}$ (Suzuki+18)



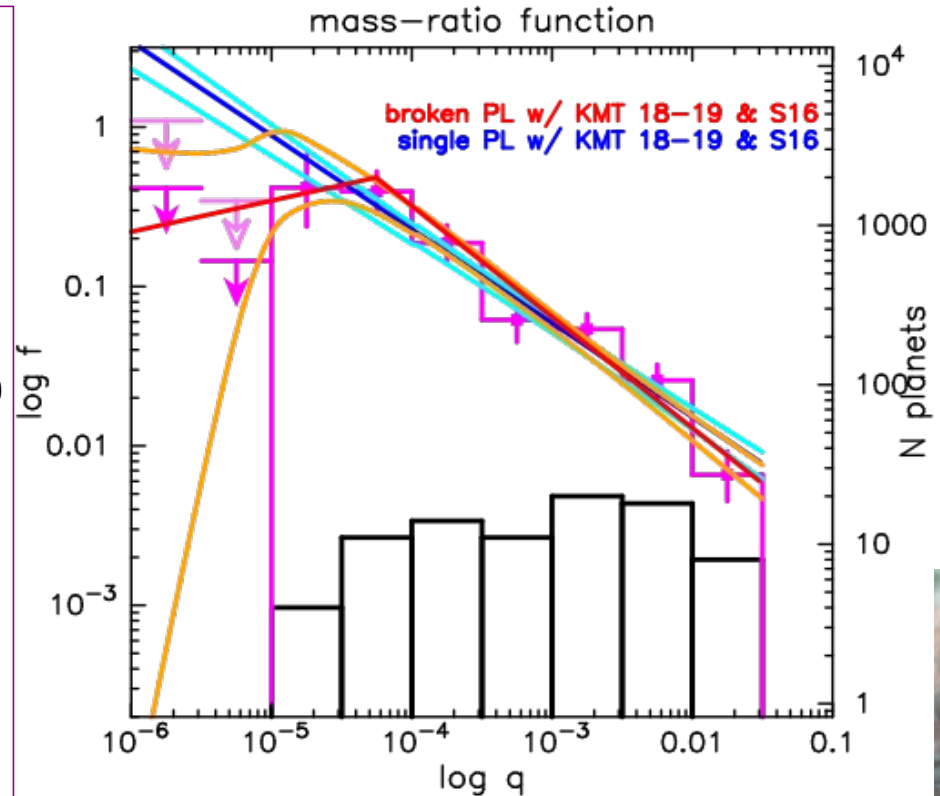
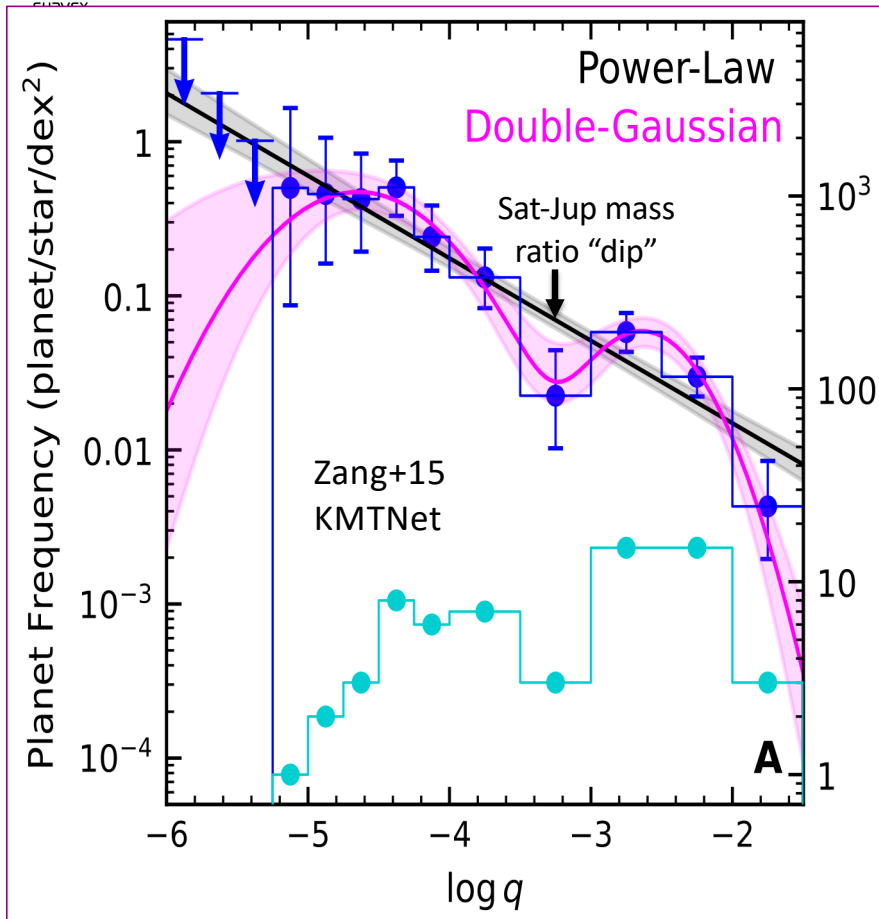
Comparison to Population Synthesis Models



Turning off migration improves the cold planet distribution, but does not generate enough planets at $q \sim 1-5 \times 10^{-4}$, about $20-80 M_{\oplus}$ (Suzuki+18)

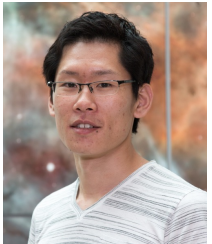


Comparison to KMTNet results

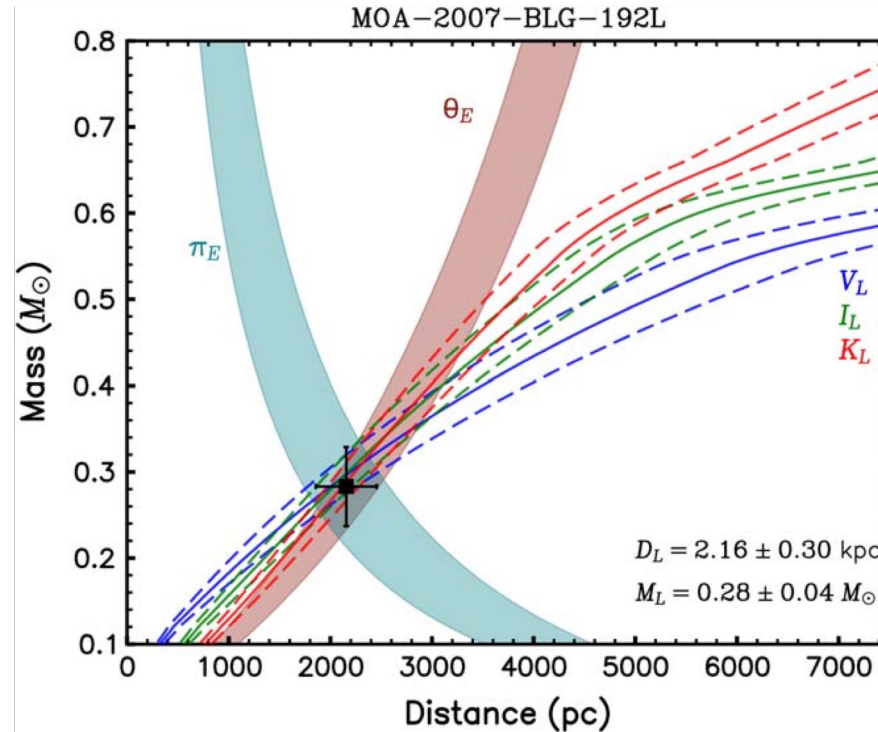
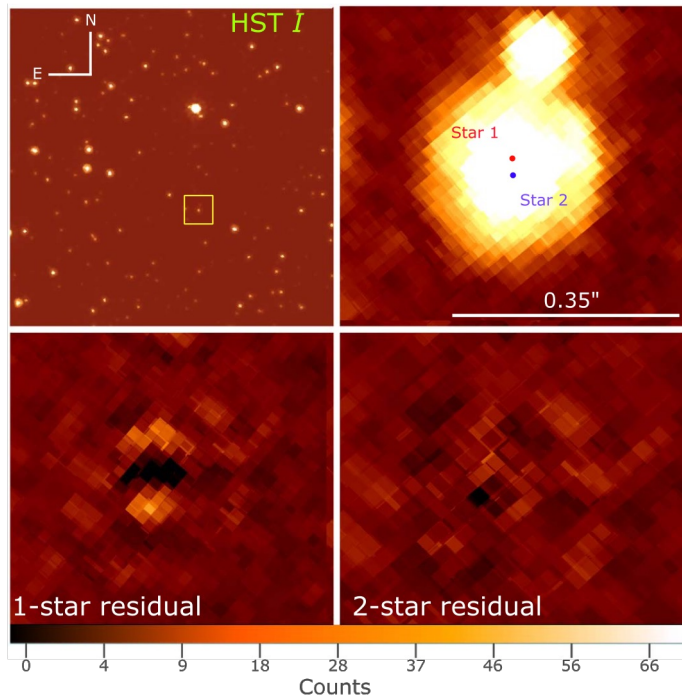


Combination of 55 KMTNet planets and 29 MOA planets removes dip in KMTNet-only analysis (Suzuki+26)

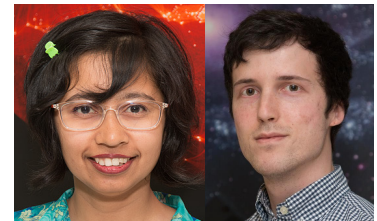
More recent KMTNet data seems to confirm smooth of this "dip"



Roman's High Angular Resolution Imaging Yields Mass Measurements



Mass Measurement
method developed
by Goddard team
and collaborators



Aparna Bhattacharya Sean Terry



Katie Vandorou Natalia Reksini

Terry+24 use HST + Keck to measure the lens magnitudes and lens-source relative proper motion yielding planet masses for MOA-2007-BLG-192 host and planet.

Roman imaging will reveal host and planet masses for most planetary microlensing events!

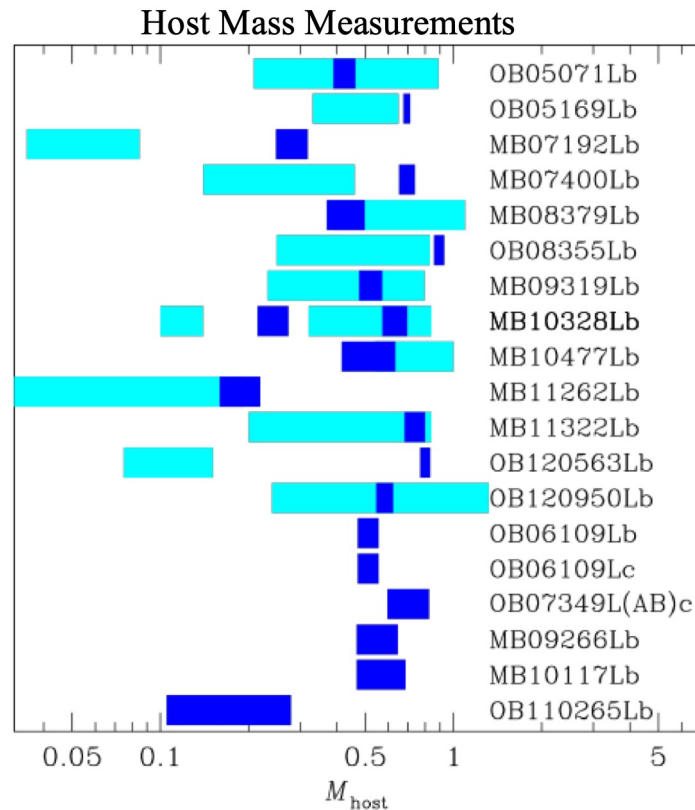
Cool Planet Host Mass Dependence

Bennett+26 (in preparation)

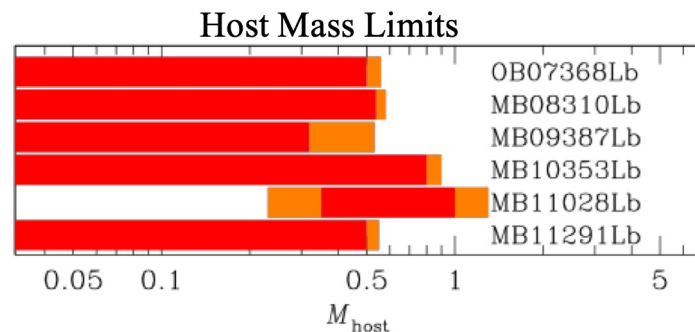
- 29 planets (in 28 events)
- 19 planets with mass measurements
- 6 planets with mass limits
- 4 planets without limits due to giant source and no π_E measurement

Host mass dependence at fixed mass ratio, q , scales as $\sim M_{\text{host}}^{1.0 \pm 0.3}$ for $q \geq 5 \times 10^{-5}$

- implies more mass measurements for Roman due to brighter host stars and more π_E measurements



Discovery paper estimated host mass in cyan, and measured mass in blue.



Allowed mass range in red, and 1- σ mass range in orange.

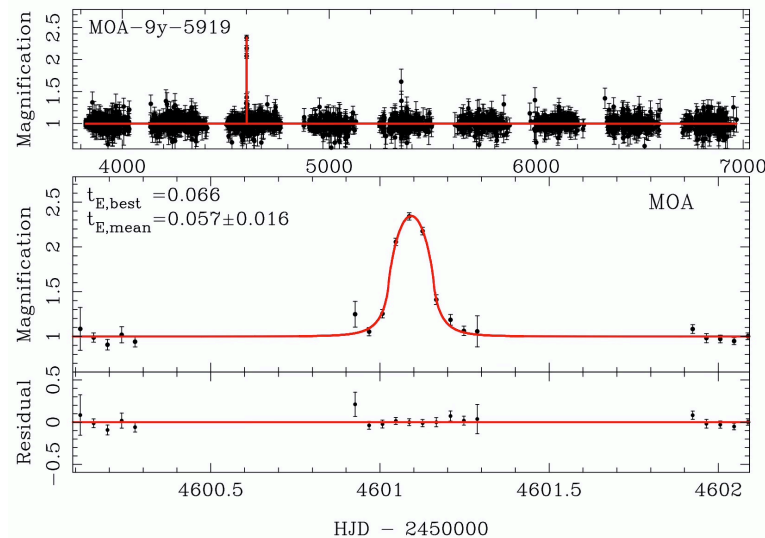
Low Mass Free-Floating Planets (FFPs) Seem to be Common

Free-floating Planet Mass Function from MOA-II 9 yr Survey toward the Galactic Bulge

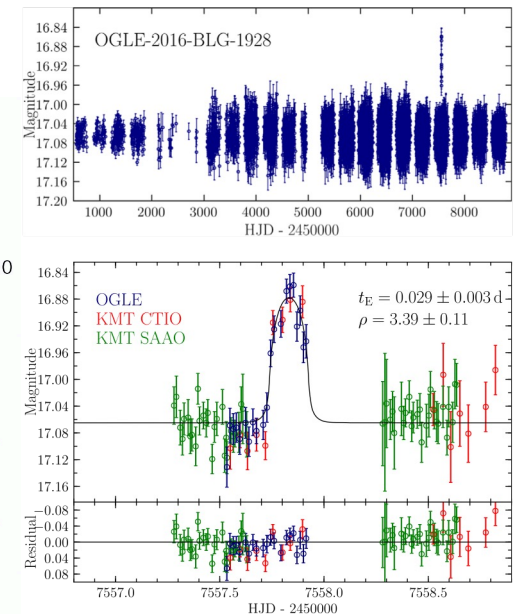
Takahiro Sumi¹, Naoki Koshimoto^{1,2,3}, David P. Bennett^{2,3}, Nicholas J. Rattenbury⁴, Fumio Abe⁵, Richard Barry²,
Aparna Bhattacharya^{2,3}, Ian A. Bond⁶, Hirosane Fujii⁵, Akihiko Fukui^{7,8}, Ryusei Hamada¹, Yuki Hirao⁹,
Stela Ishitani Silva^{2,10}, Yoshitaka Itow⁵, Rintaro Kirikawa¹, Iona Kondo¹, Yutaka Matsubara⁵, Shota Miyazaki¹¹,
Yasushi Muraki⁵, Greg Olmschenk², Clément Ranc¹², Yuki Satoh¹, Daisuke Suzuki¹, Mio Tomoyoshi¹,
Paul . J. Tristram¹³, Aikaterini Vandenroux^{2,3}, Hibiki Yama¹, and Kansuke Yamashita¹
(MOA Collaboration)

2 likely sub-Earth-mass
planets found by OGLE
and MOA

MOA solves for FFP
mass function

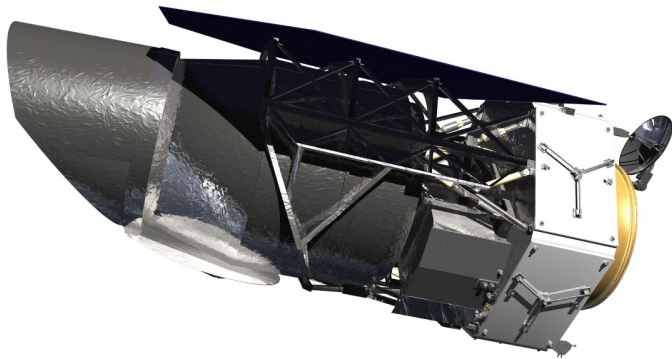


MOA-9y-5959 $\theta_E = 0.90 \pm 0.14 \mu\text{as}$,
 $t_E = 0.057 \pm 0.016$ days Koshimoto+23



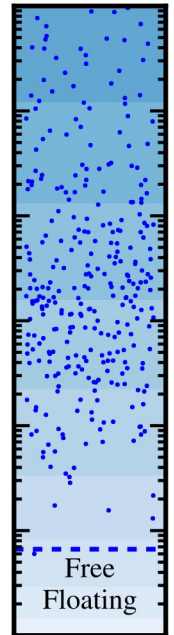
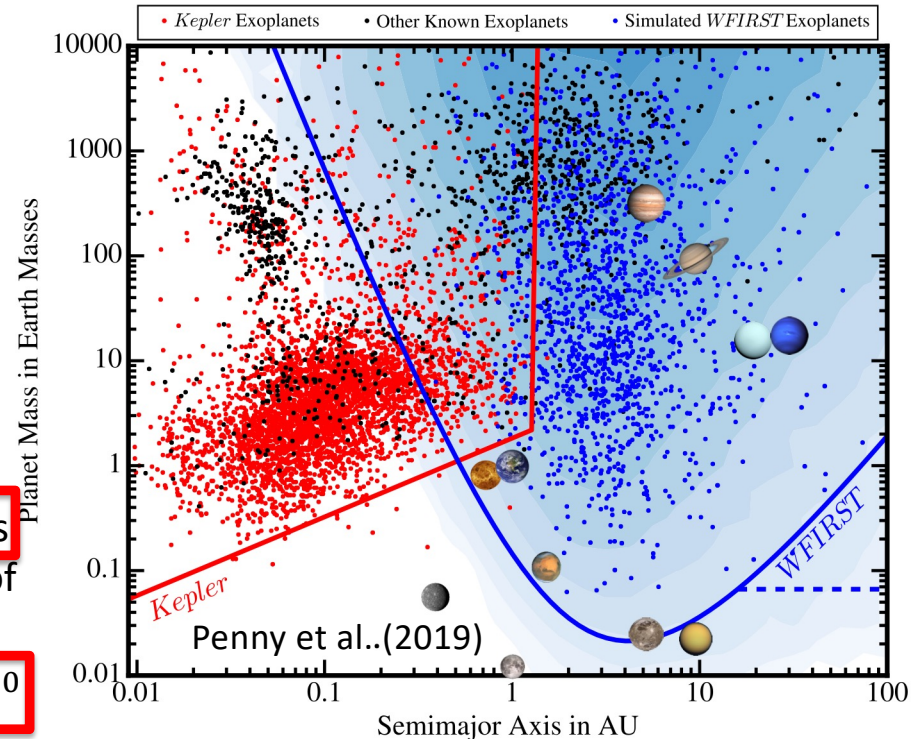
OGLE-2016-BLG-1928
 $\theta_E = 0.84 \pm 0.06 \mu\text{as}$,
 $t_E = 0.029 \pm 0.003$
days Mroz+20 19

Free-Floating Planet (FFP) Mass Function Implications



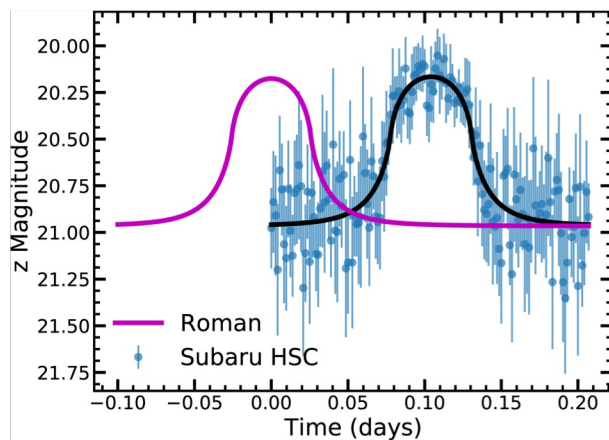
Most Planets Are Free! There are $5.6^{+6.4}_{-3.8}$ FFPs per known bound planet, but the total mass of bound planets is a little larger.

The Roman Space Telescope will find 990^{+1850}_{-560} FFPs down to the mass of Mars, including 580^{+1730}_{-420} between the masses of Mars and Earth (Sumi+23)

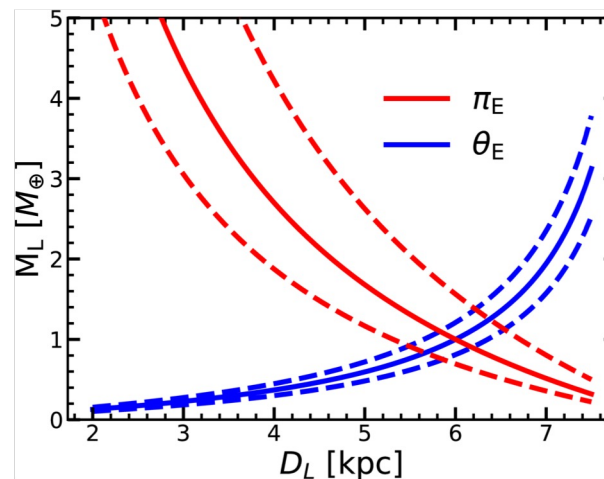


The Roman Galactic Exoplanet Survey will do for wide orbit exoplanets what Kepler did for transiting planets.

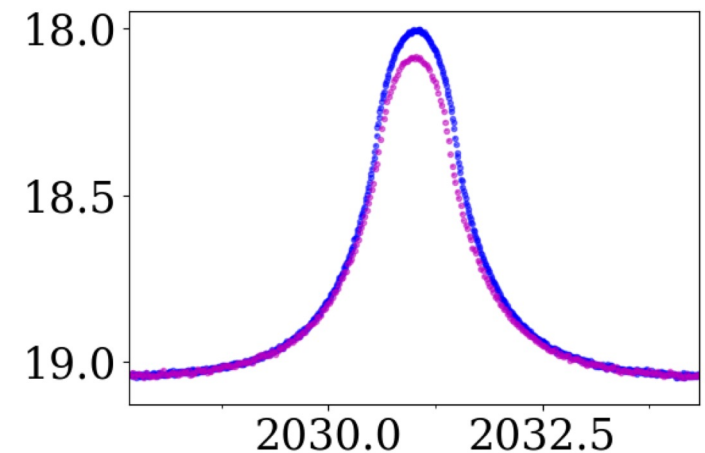
FFP Mass Measurements with Simultaneous Roman + Euclid (or Subaru, Blanco+DECam, ...) Observations



Simulated Roman & Subaru data
for a $1M_{\oplus}$ FFP



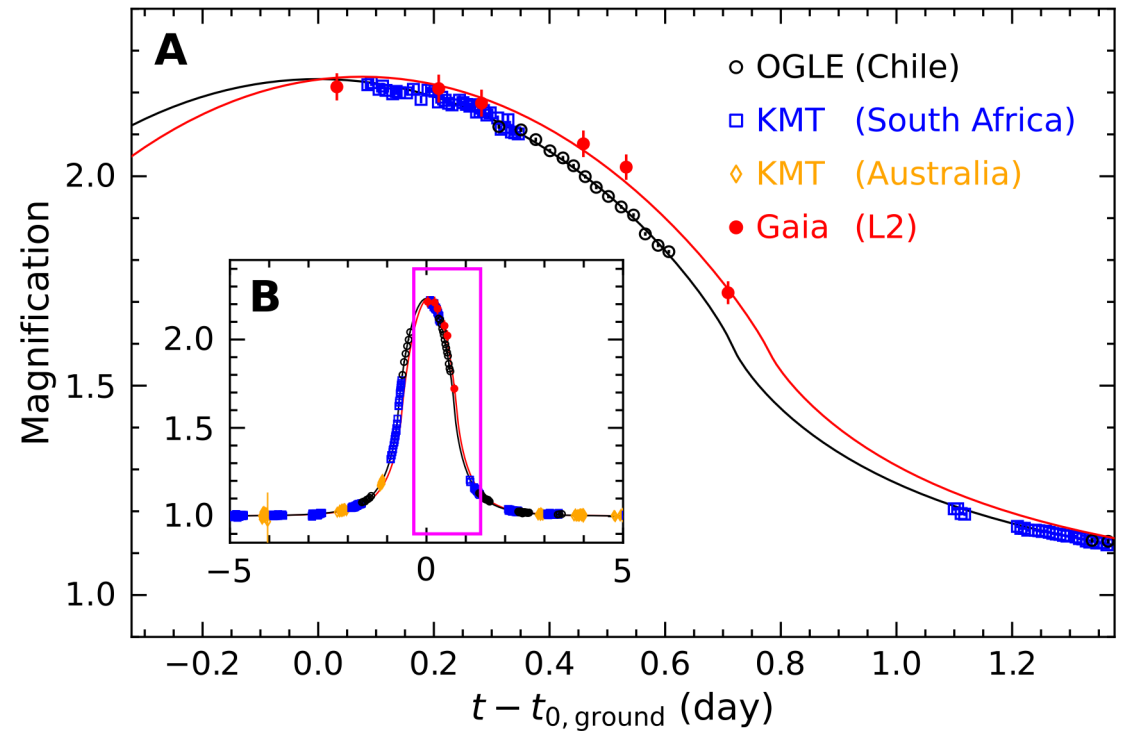
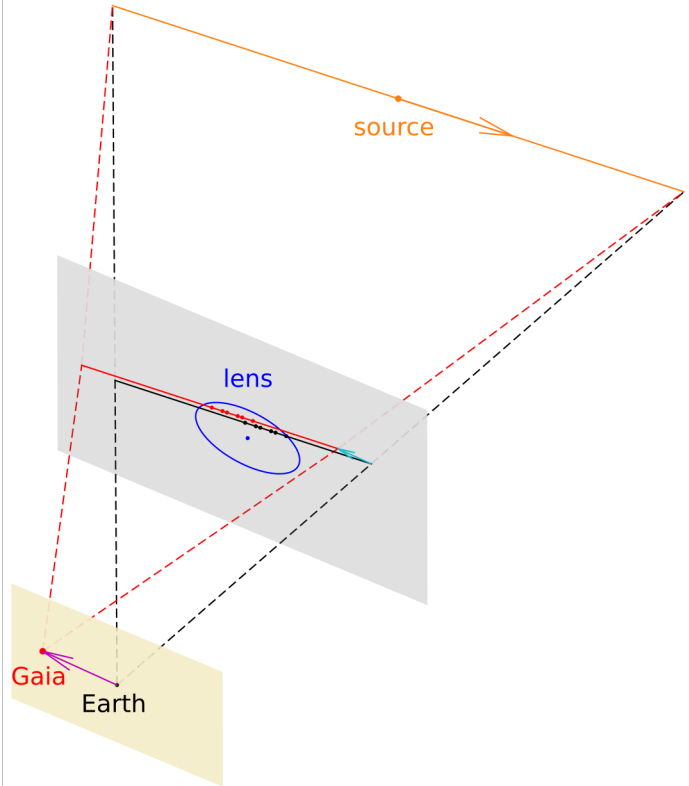
⇒ mass-distance relations
from μ lens parallax & finite source



Simulated Roman & Euclid data
for a $97M_{\oplus}$ FFP

Simultaneous observations by Roman and another wide FOV telescope on Earth or in a different L2 halo orbit can determine lens mass

FFP Mass Measurement Demonstrated w/ Gaia!



Finite source effects plus microlensing parallax using **observations from Earth and L2** for KMT-2024-BLG-0792 yield a mass $M_p = 70^{+24}_{-18} M_{\oplus}$ for this FFP candidate (Dong et al. 2026)

Roman will Search for Possible Host Stars for FFP Candidates that Provide no Microlensing signal

- Apply the same methods that are used to measure masses of bound planet host stars

