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# An Astrophysically-Motivated Predictor of Stellar RV Jitter

Jason Wright, Angie Wolfgang, Howard Isaacson, Andrew Howard

Special thanks to Fabienne Bastien

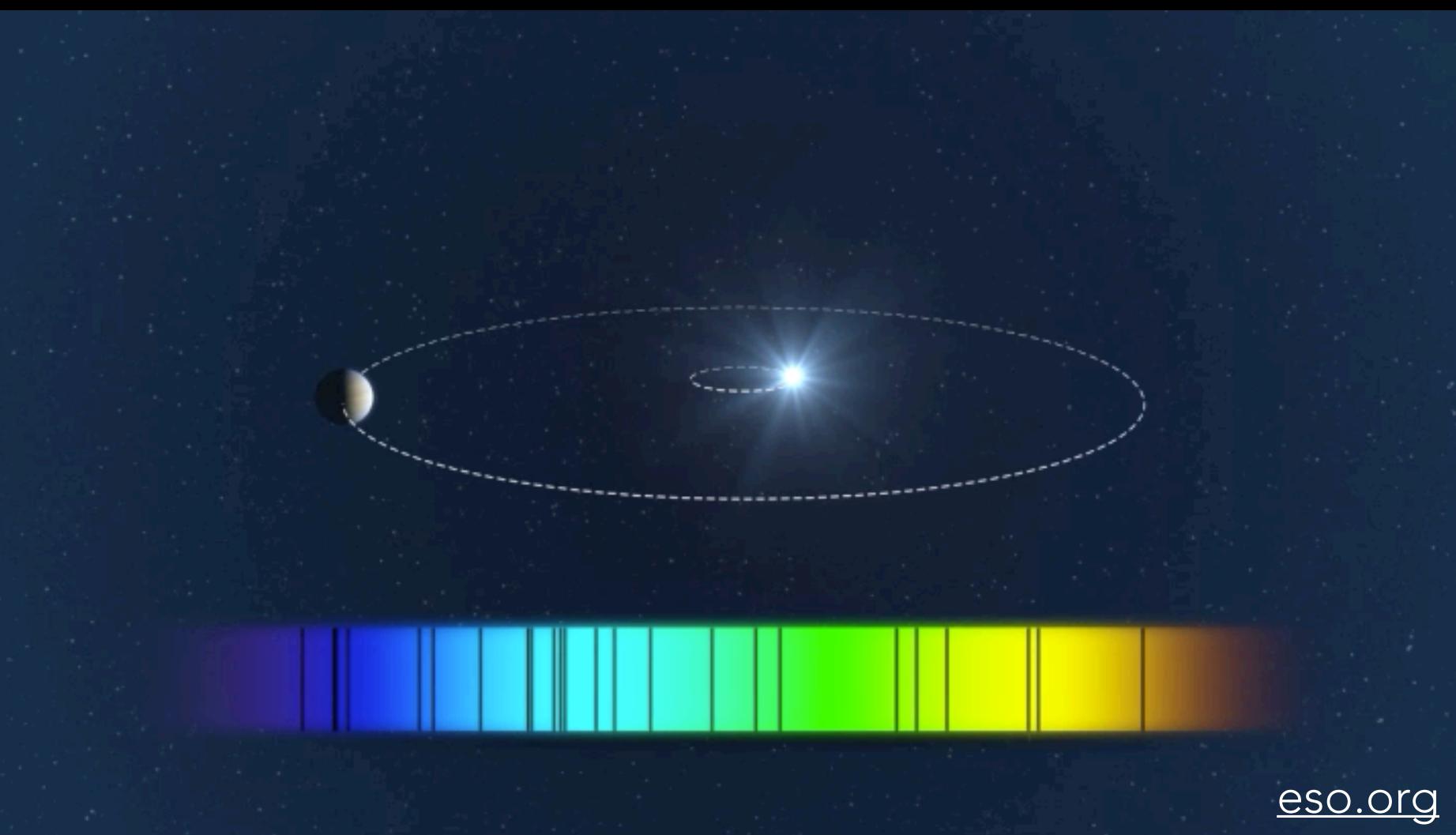


PennState

# RVs IN THE TRANSIT ERA

Radial velocities are crucial for transit follow-up:

- planet confirmation/rejection
- mass (RV) + radius (transit) = planet densities



Between survey programs and follow-up,  
**RV facilities can't keep up!**

# STELLAR RADIAL VELOCITY JITTER

In short, RV variations induced by stellar variability

Magnetically driven

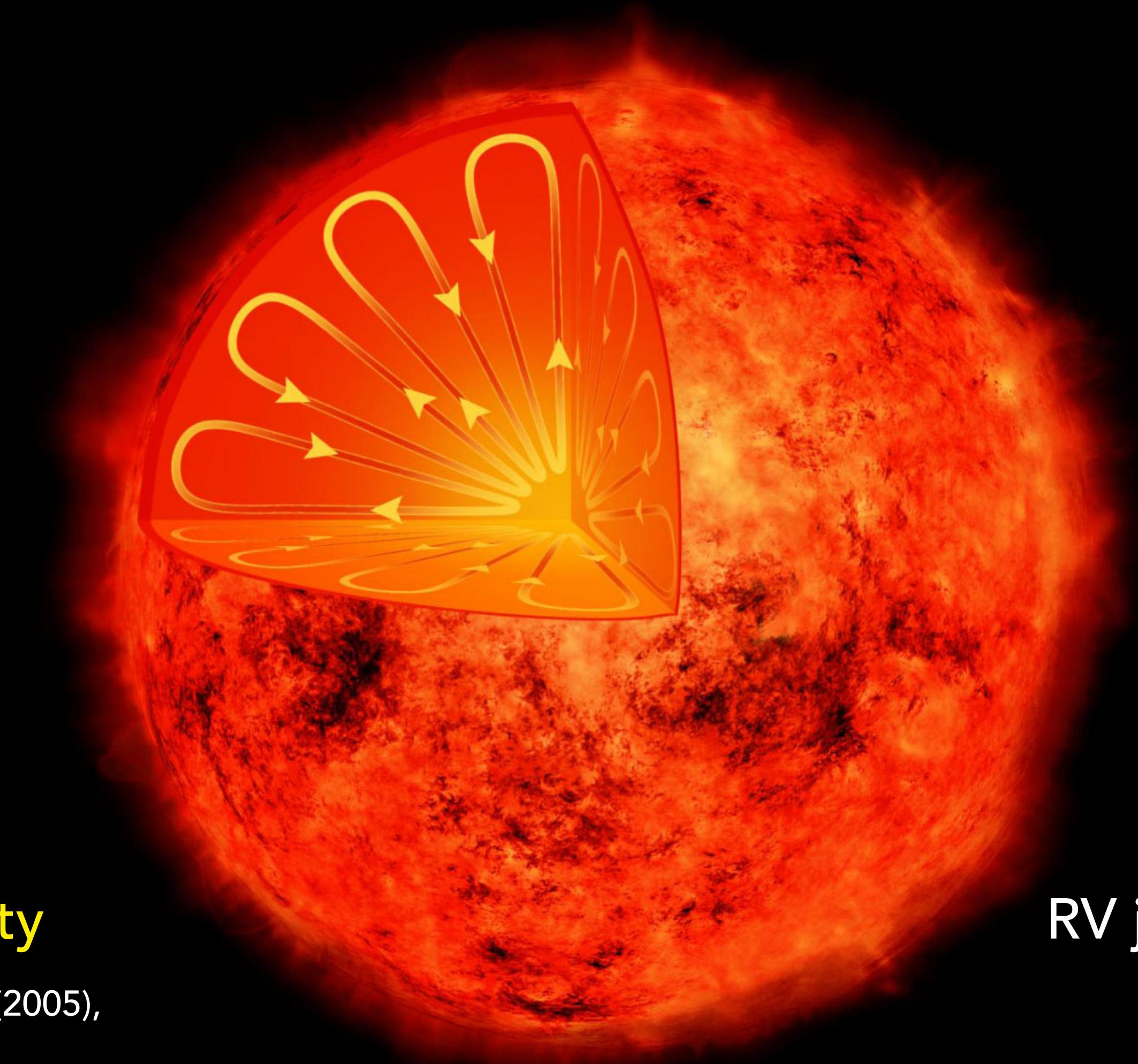
star spots/faculae

flares

...

RV jitter increases with **activity**

Saar et al. (1998), Santos et al. (2000), Wright (2005),  
Isaacson & Fischer (2010)...among others



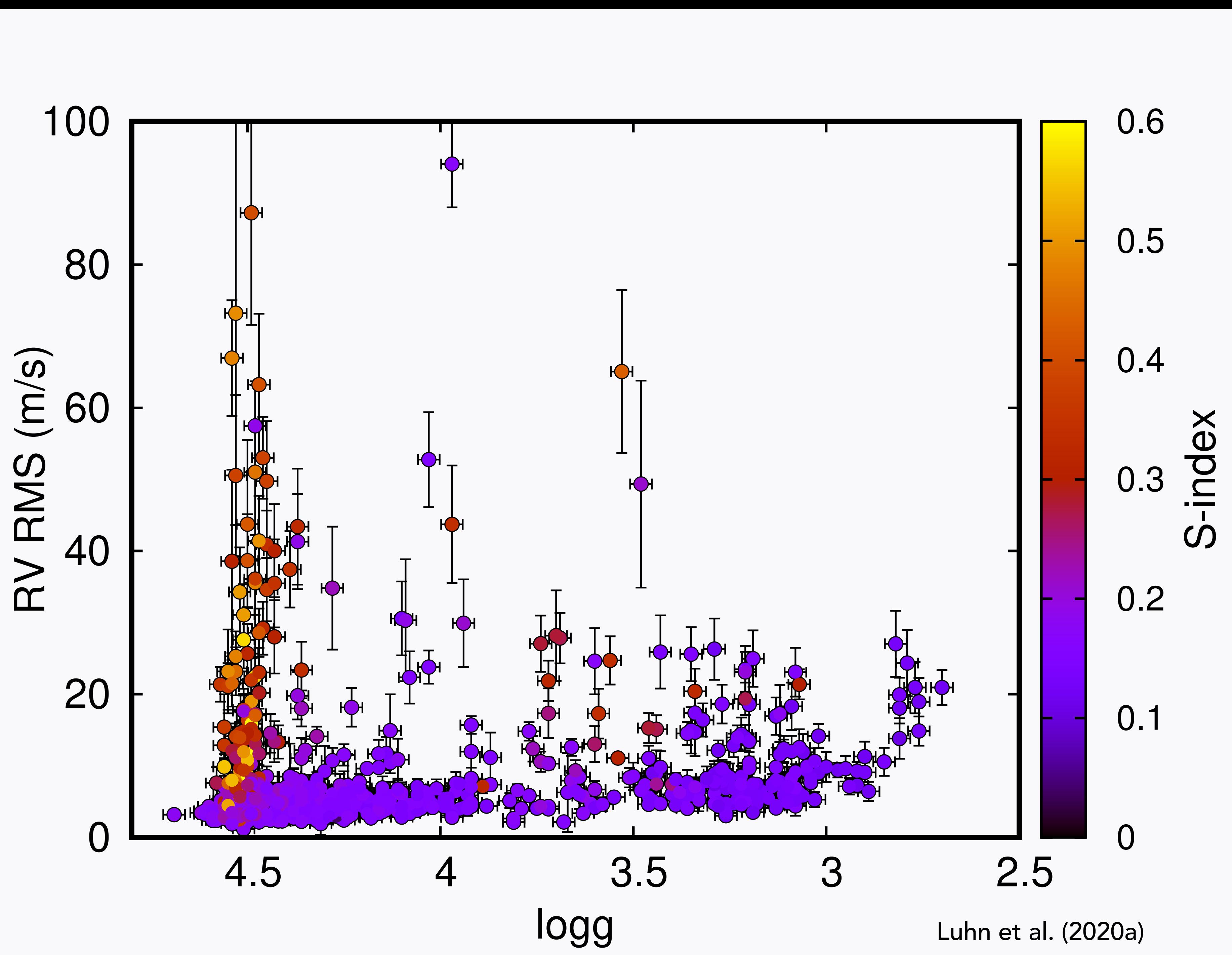
Convection driven

granulation

oscillations

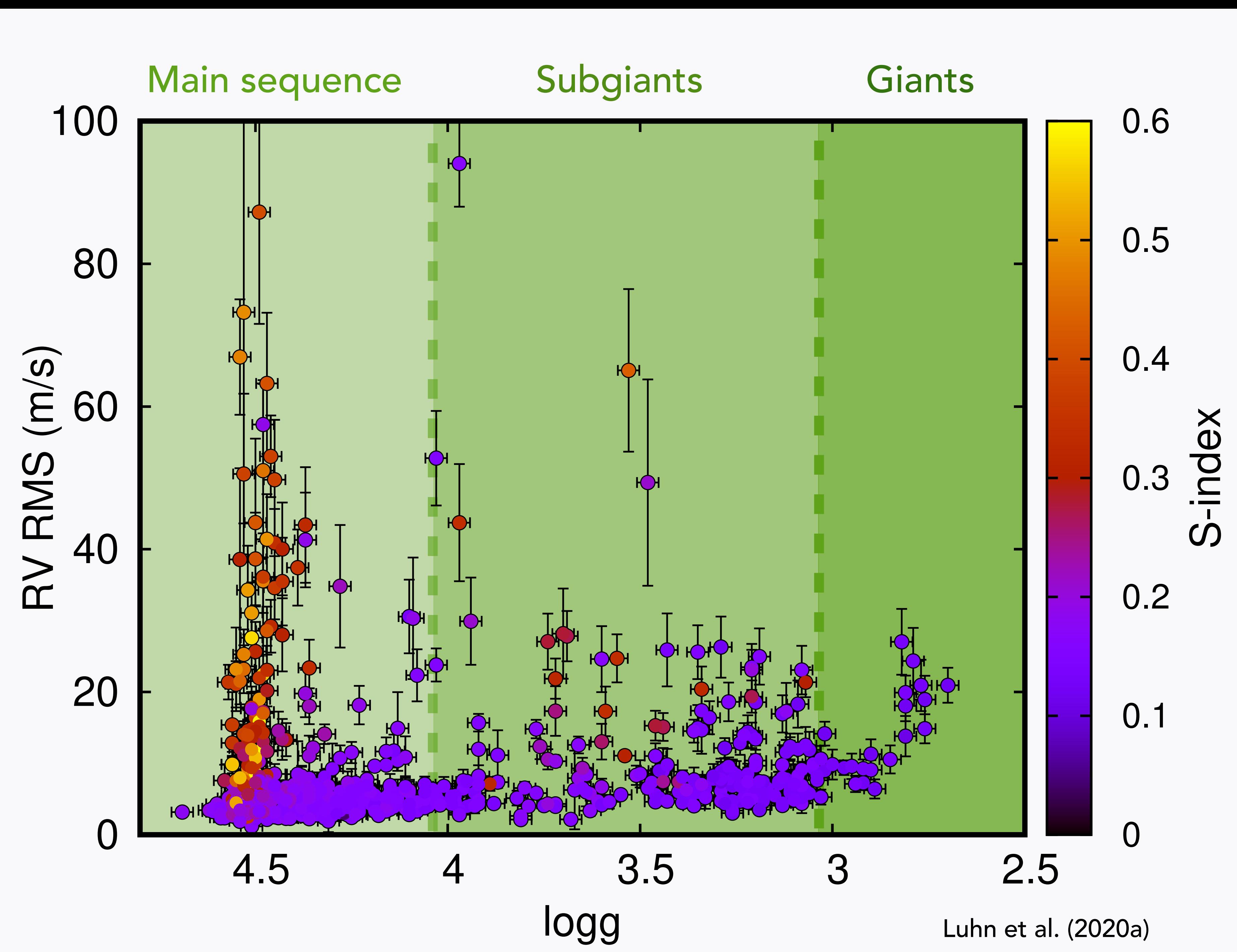
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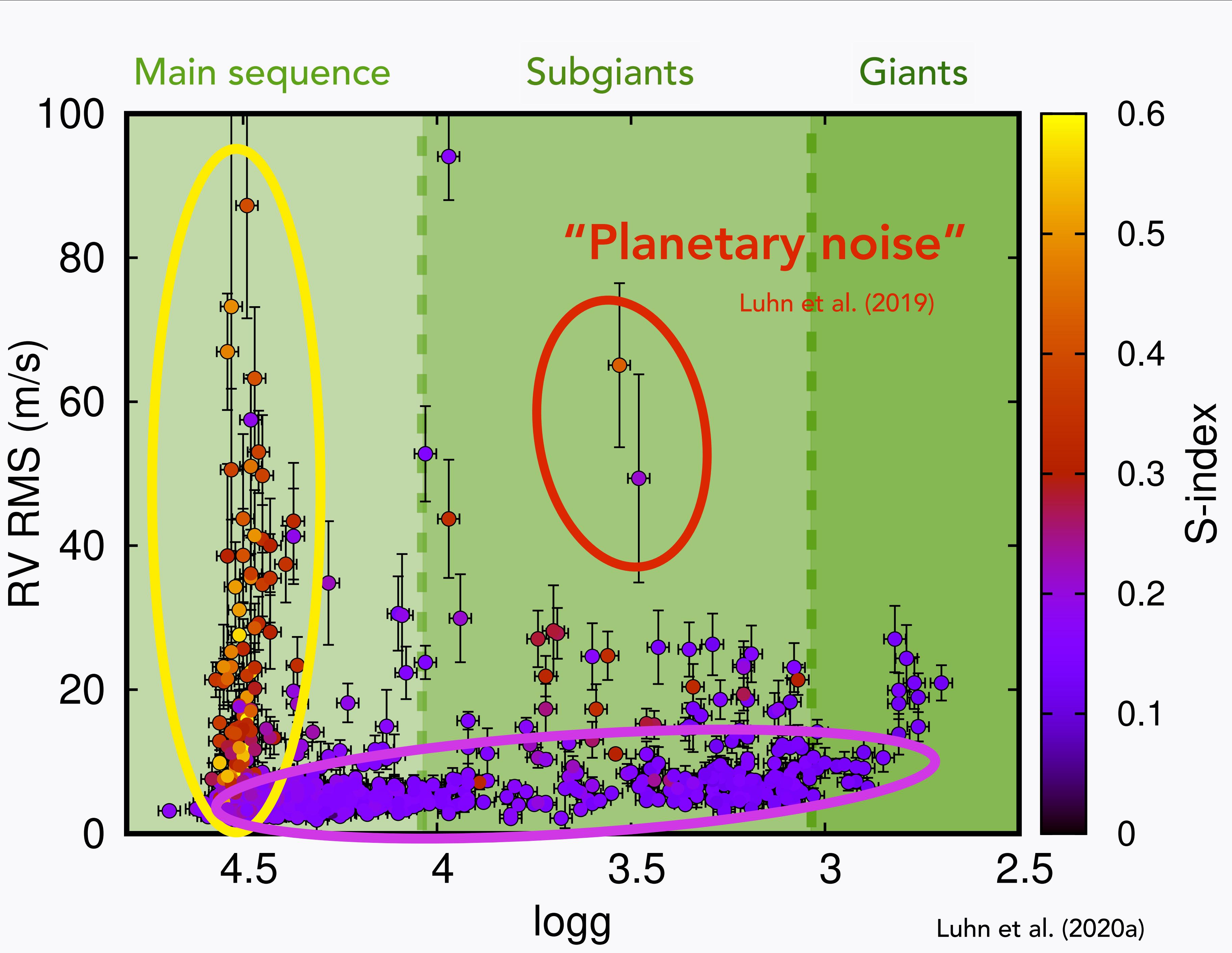
Wright et al. (2005), Dumusque et al. (2011),  
Bastien et al. (2014)



logg

Luhn et al. (2020a)

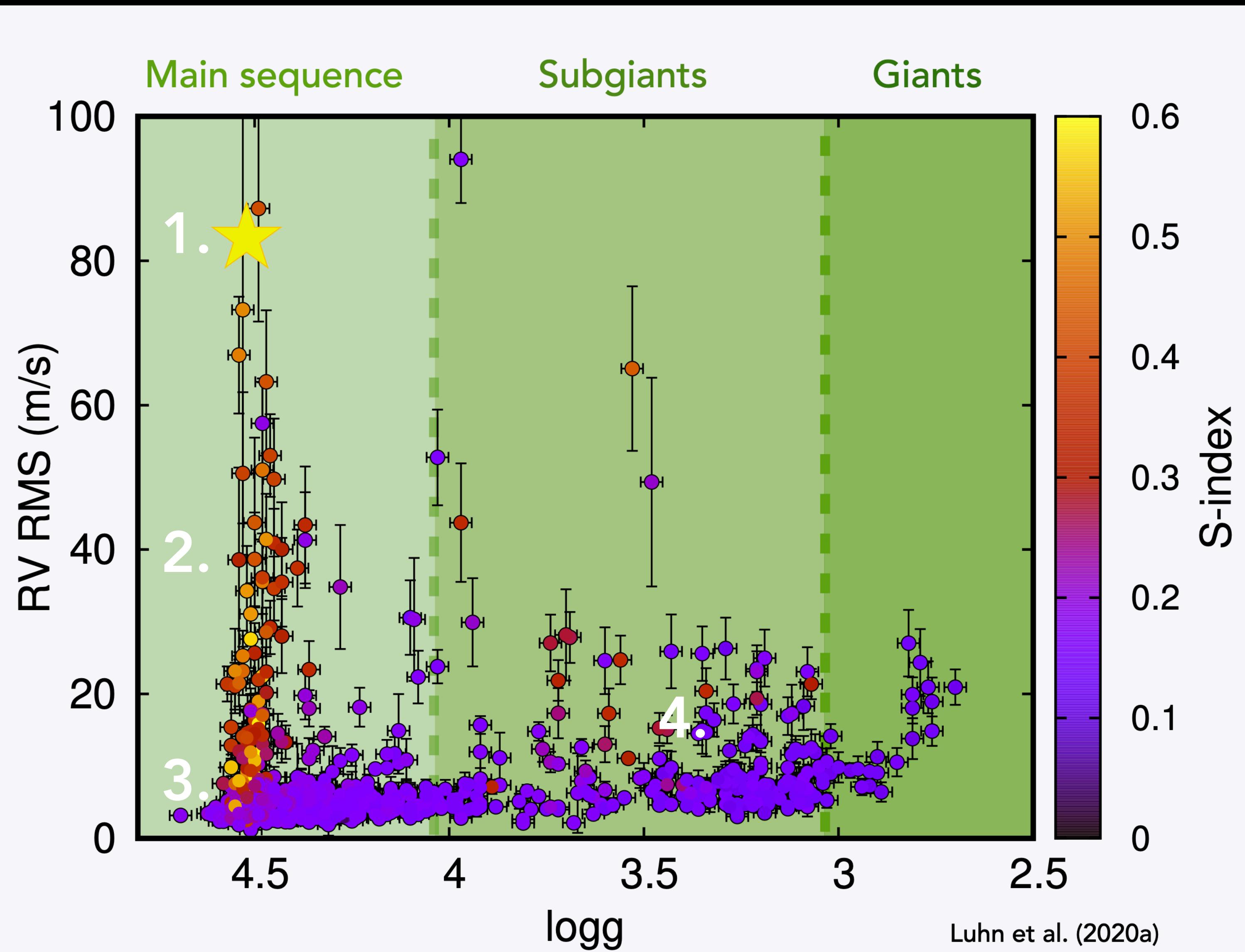




Activity-dominated  
Active stars pile up  
toward high logg  
(~ZAMS)

Convection-dominated  
Inactive stars increase  
with evolution

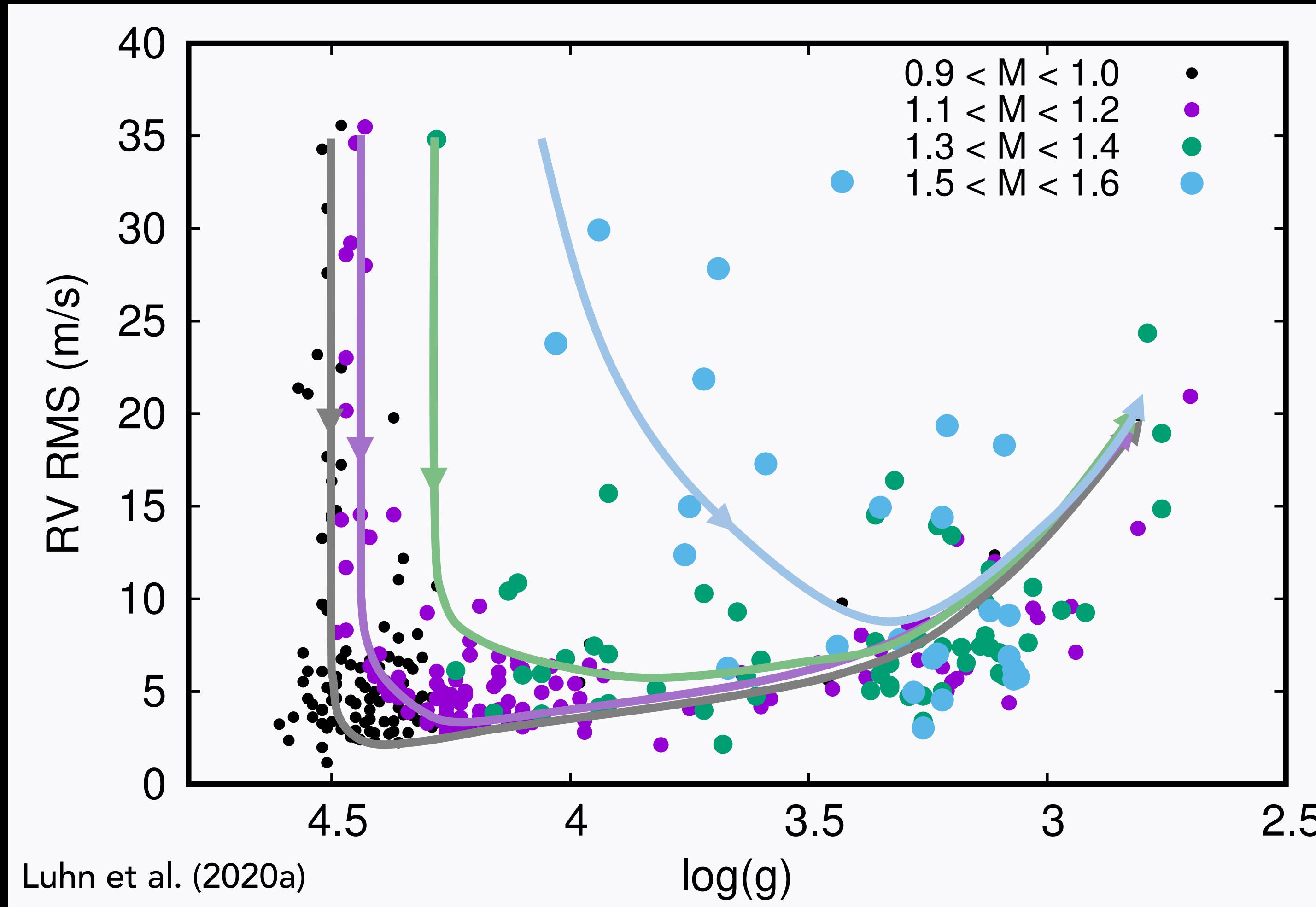
# RV JITTER TRACKS STELLAR EVOLUTION



1. Star is born, active and jittery
2. Spins down, decrease in activity/jitter
3. Falls to "jitter minimum"
4. Gradual increase from convection

Luhn et al. (2020a)

# JITTER MINIMUM DEPENDS ON MASS

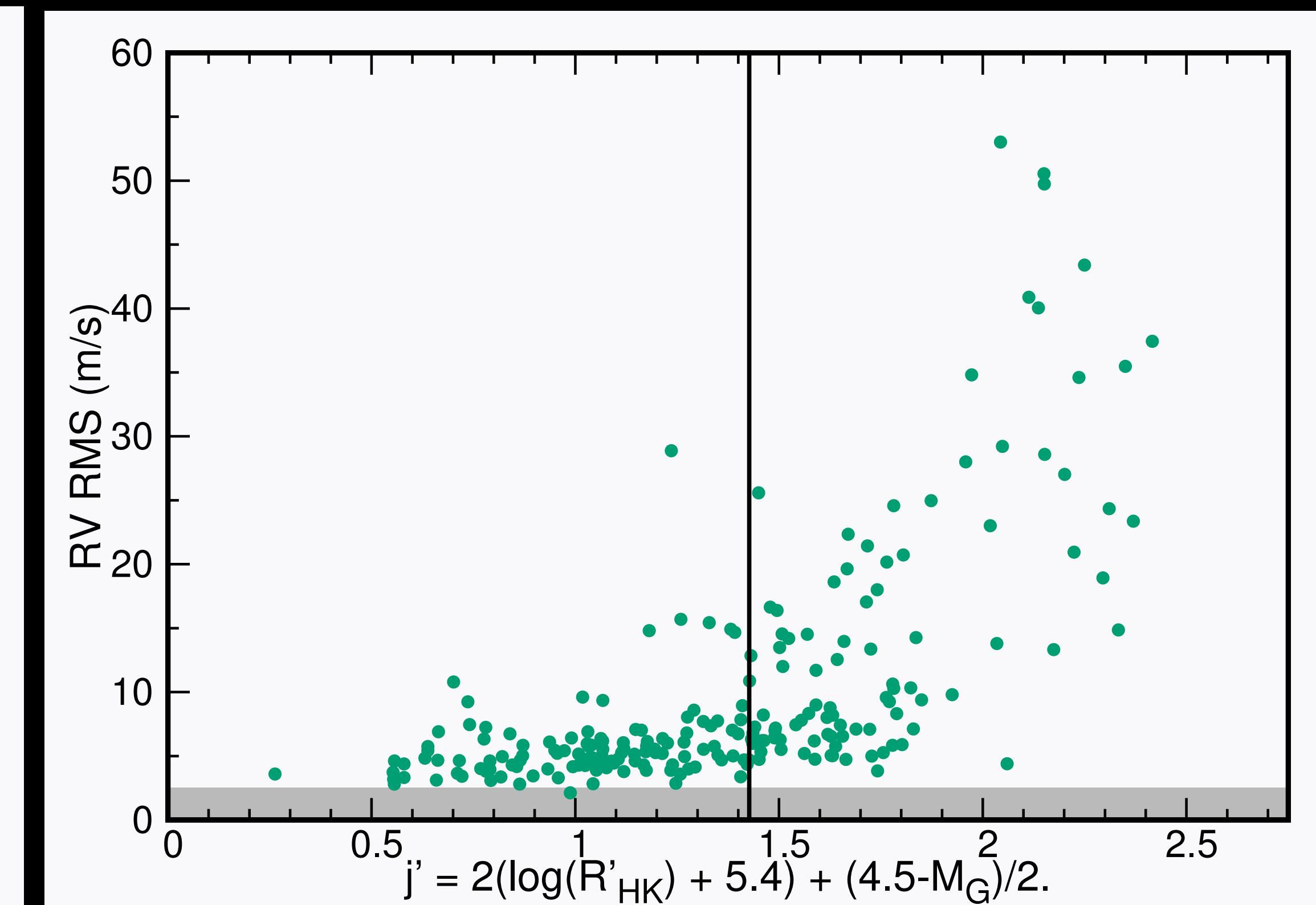
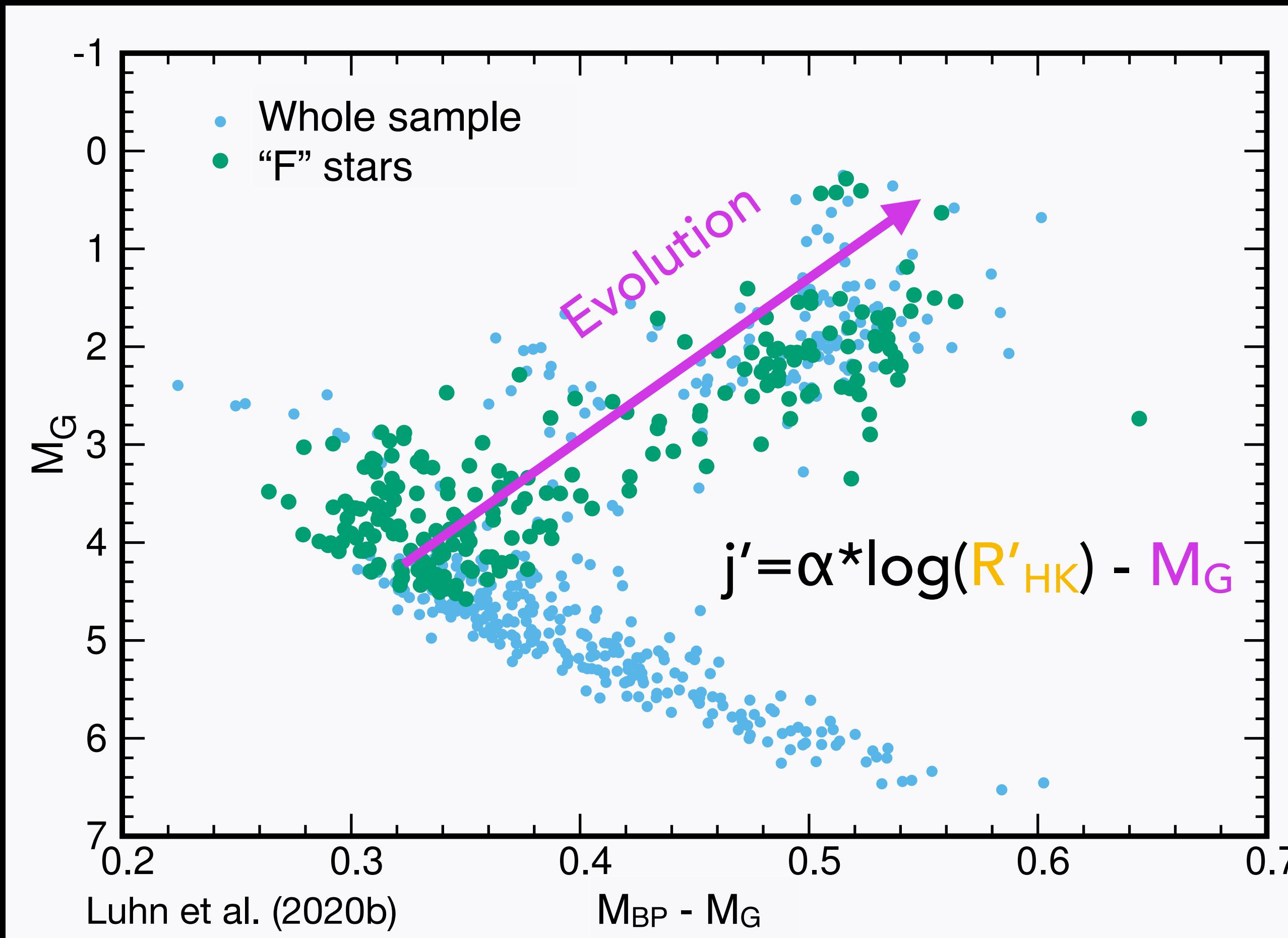


More massive stars hit jitter minimum at later evolutionary stages

- Massive stars evolve more quickly
- Stars above the Kraft break only spin down after they gain a convective envelope in the SG phase

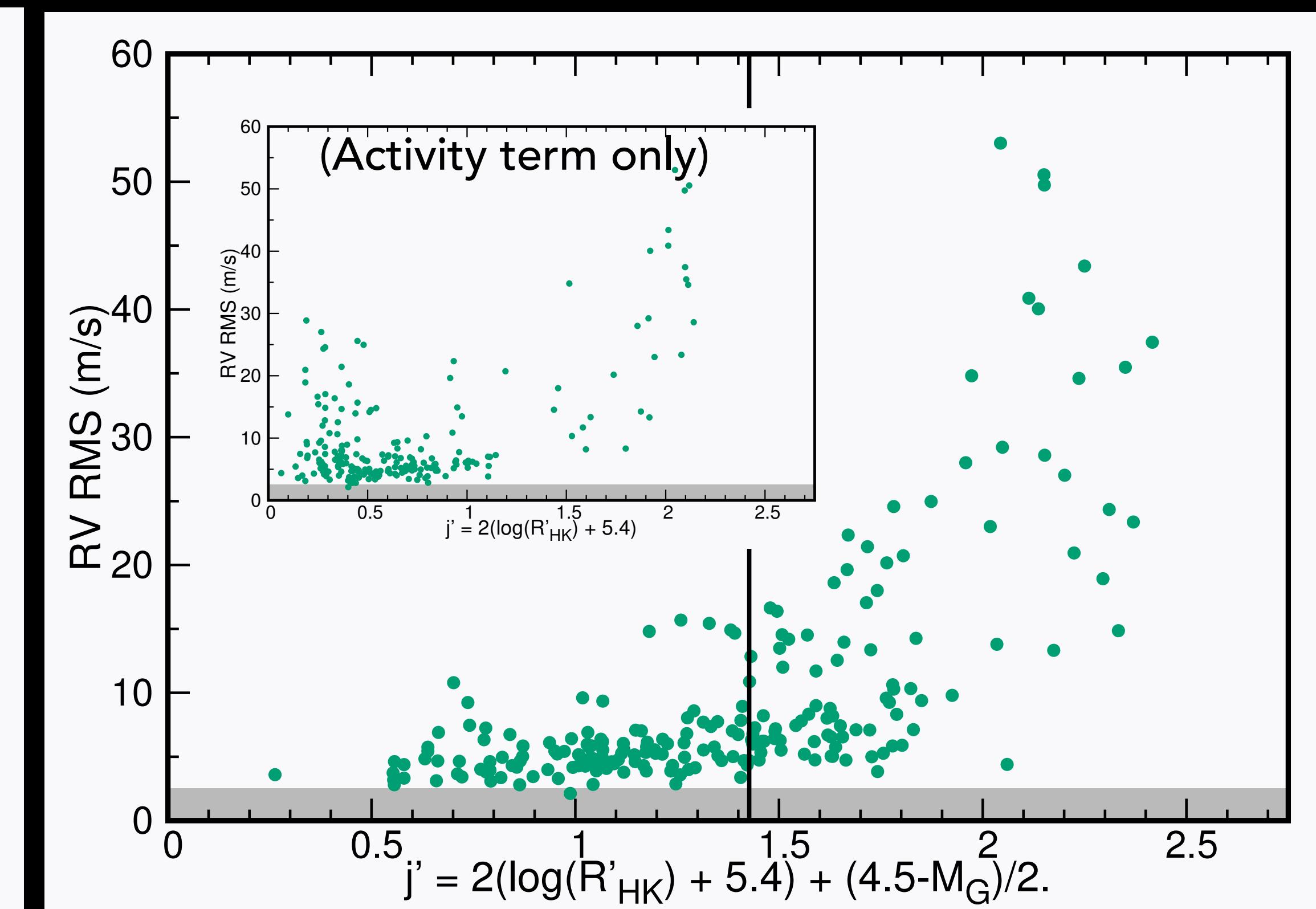
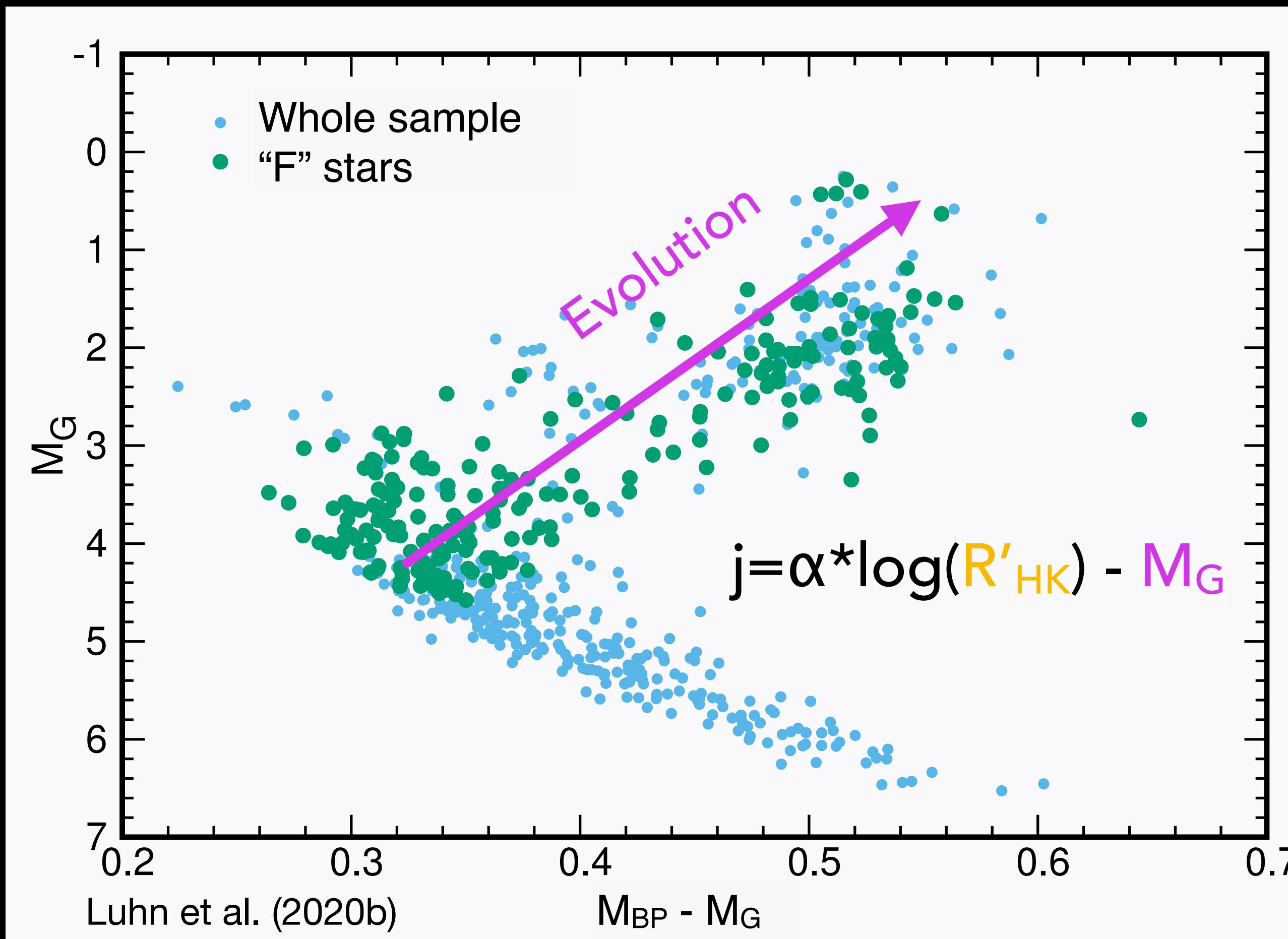
# DISTINGUISHING LOW JITTER F STARS

Insight: high jitter stars will be either **active** or **evolved**



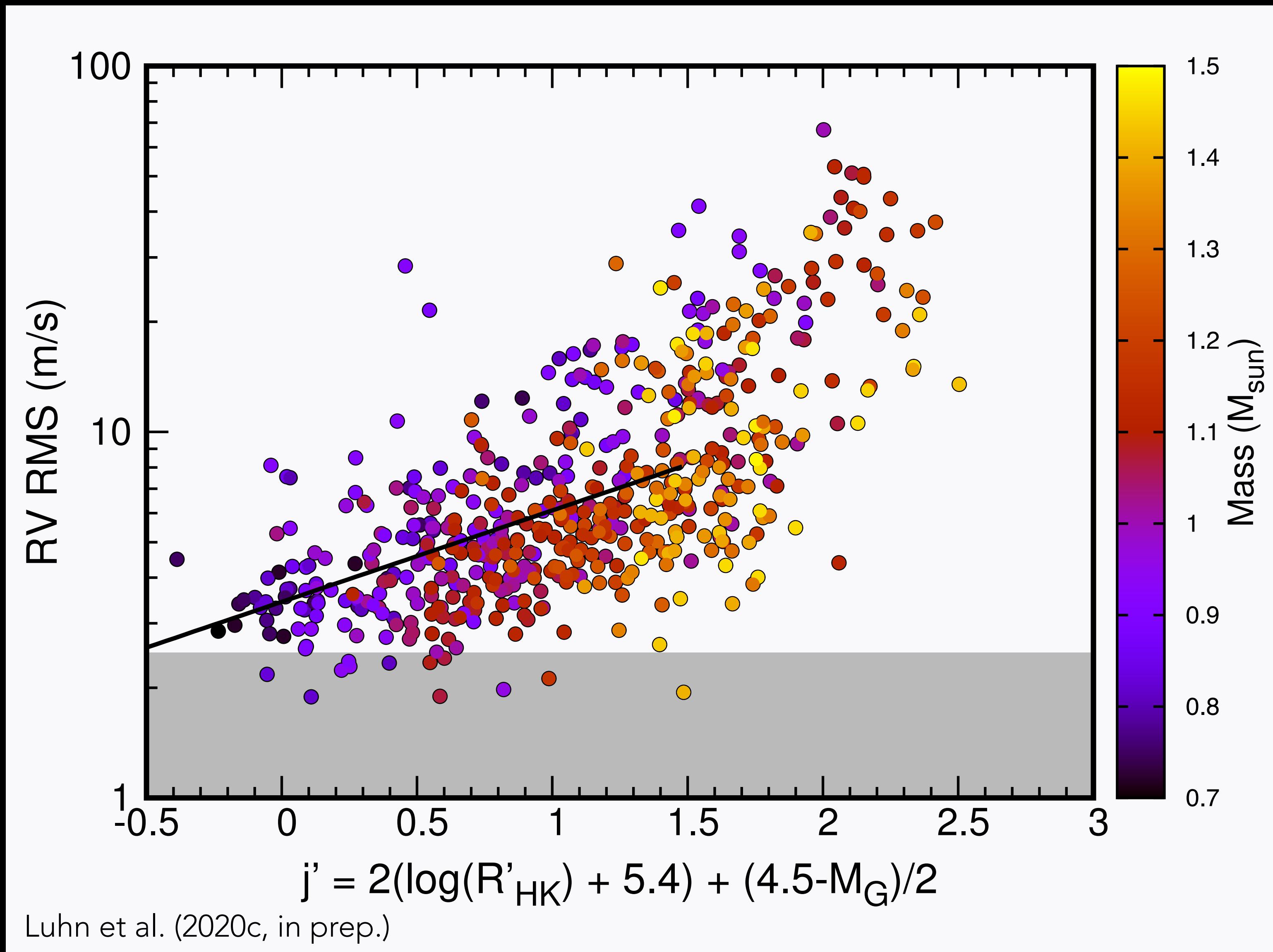
# DISTINGUISHING LOW JITTER F STARS

Insight: high jitter stars will be either **active** or **evolved**



Made to separate high and low jitter F stars

# A SIMPLE JITTER PREDICTOR



Stars with  $j' < 1.5$

$$\log(\sigma_{RV}) = a \times j' + b$$

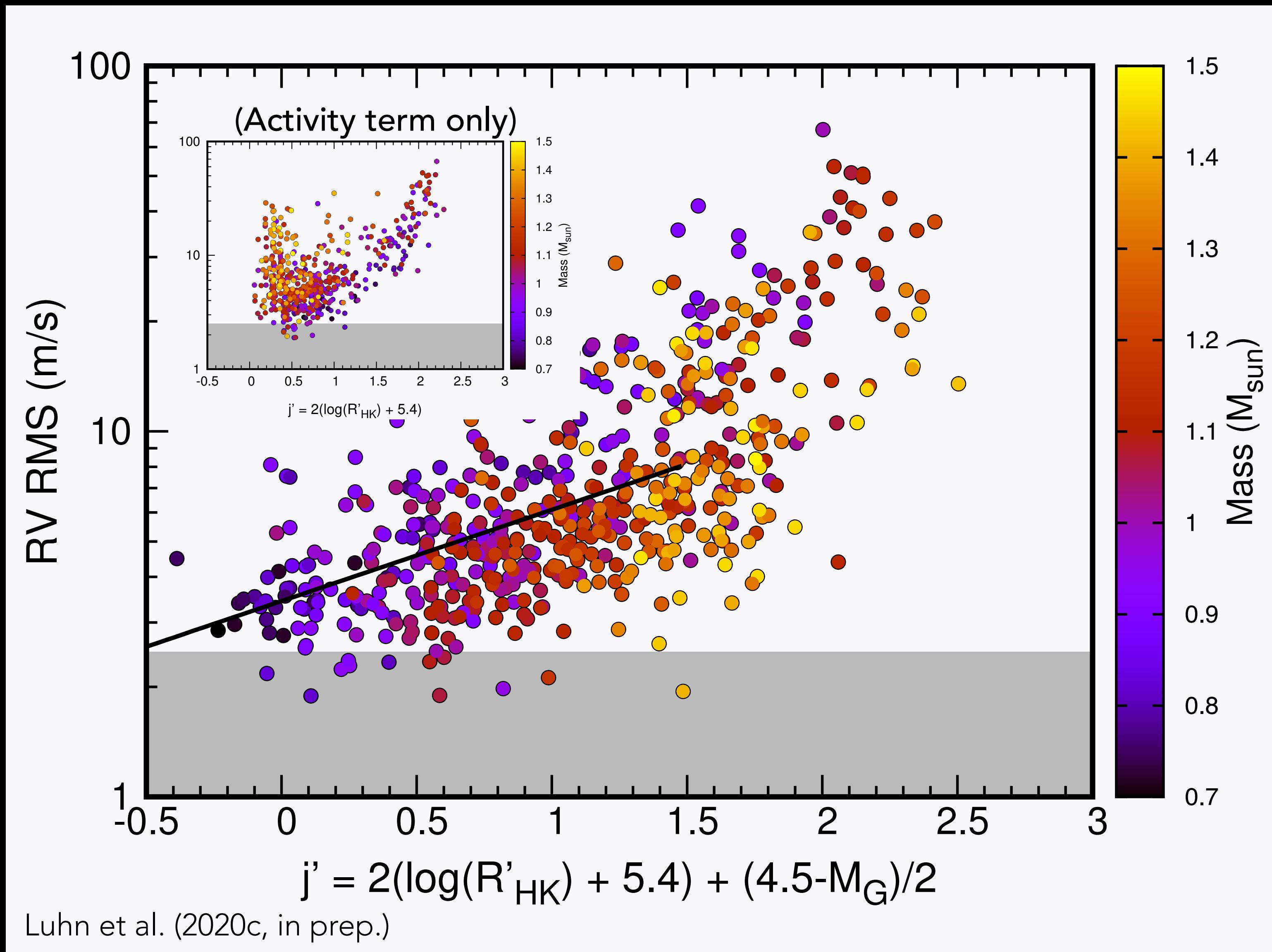
$$a = 0.24978$$

$$b = 0.53587$$

Median percent  
error: 27%

Wright (2005) predictor is good to a factor of ~2

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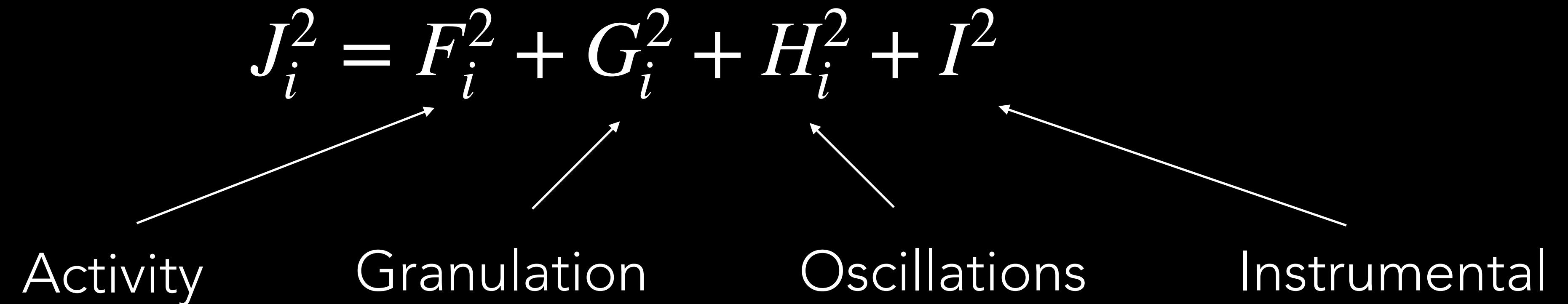
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# JITTER PREDICTOR: HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN MODEL



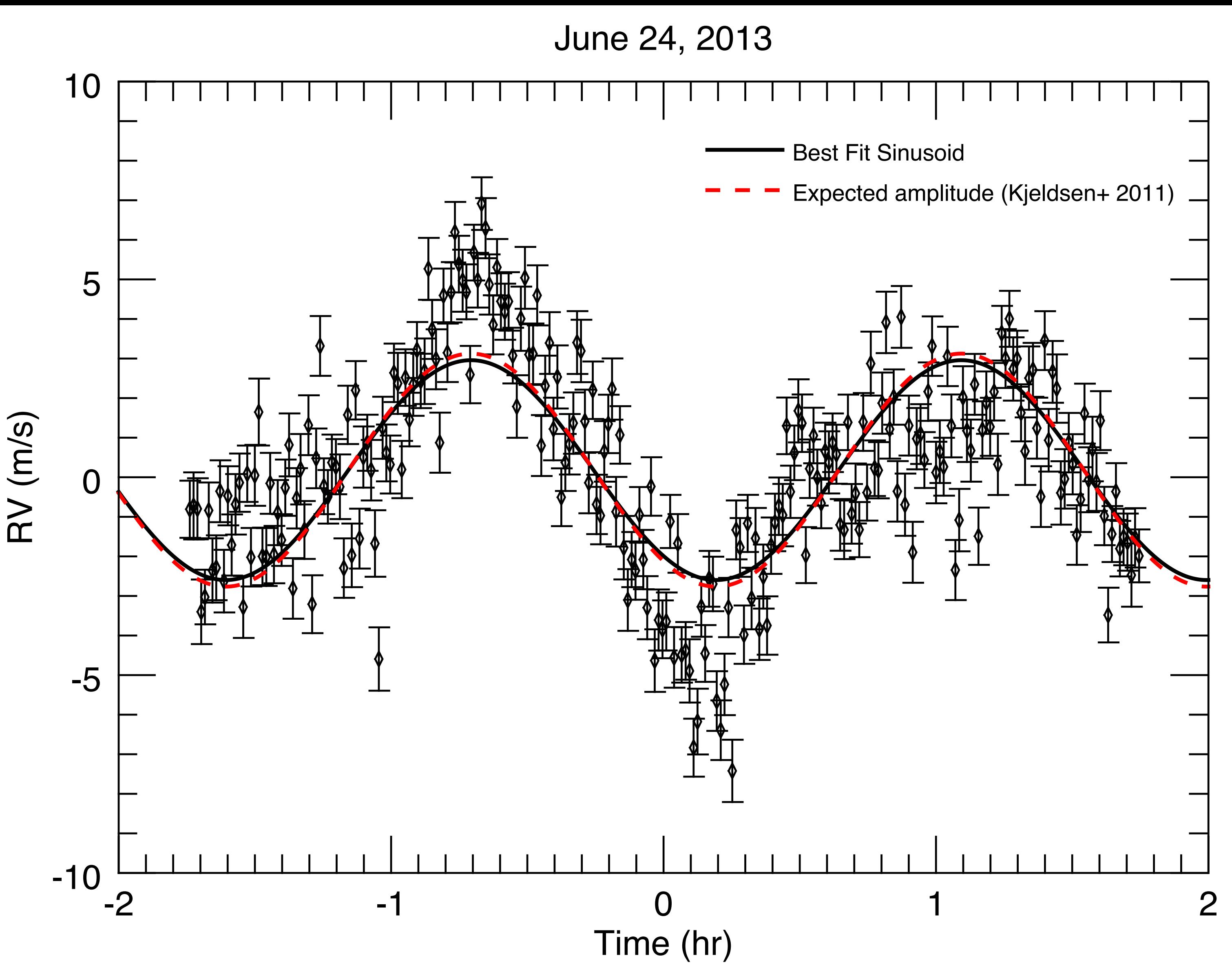
$$\log F_i = \eta_1 \log R'_{HK,i} + \kappa_1 \log M_i + c_1$$

$$\log G_i = \gamma_2 \log T_{eff,i} + \beta_2 \log g_i + \alpha_2 \log R_i + c_2$$

$$\log H_i = \gamma_3 \log T_{eff,i} + \beta_3 \log g_i + \alpha_3 \log R_i + c_3$$

Priors on hyperparameters for **G** and **H** come from scaling relations in Luhn et al. (2020a), based on Kjeldsen & Bedding (2011)

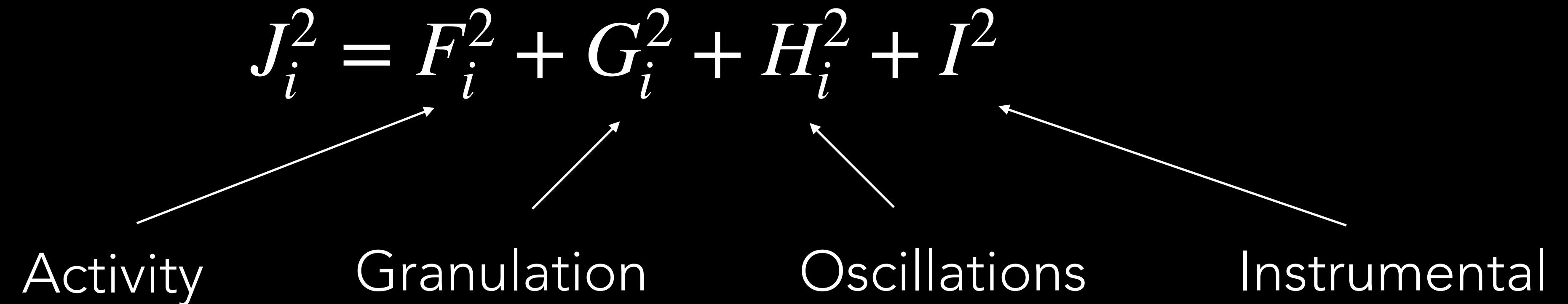
# JITTER PREDICTOR: HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN MODEL



Resolved oscillations  
match predicted  
amplitude of Kjeldsen  
& Bedding (2011)

+  $I^2$   
oscillations & instrumental  
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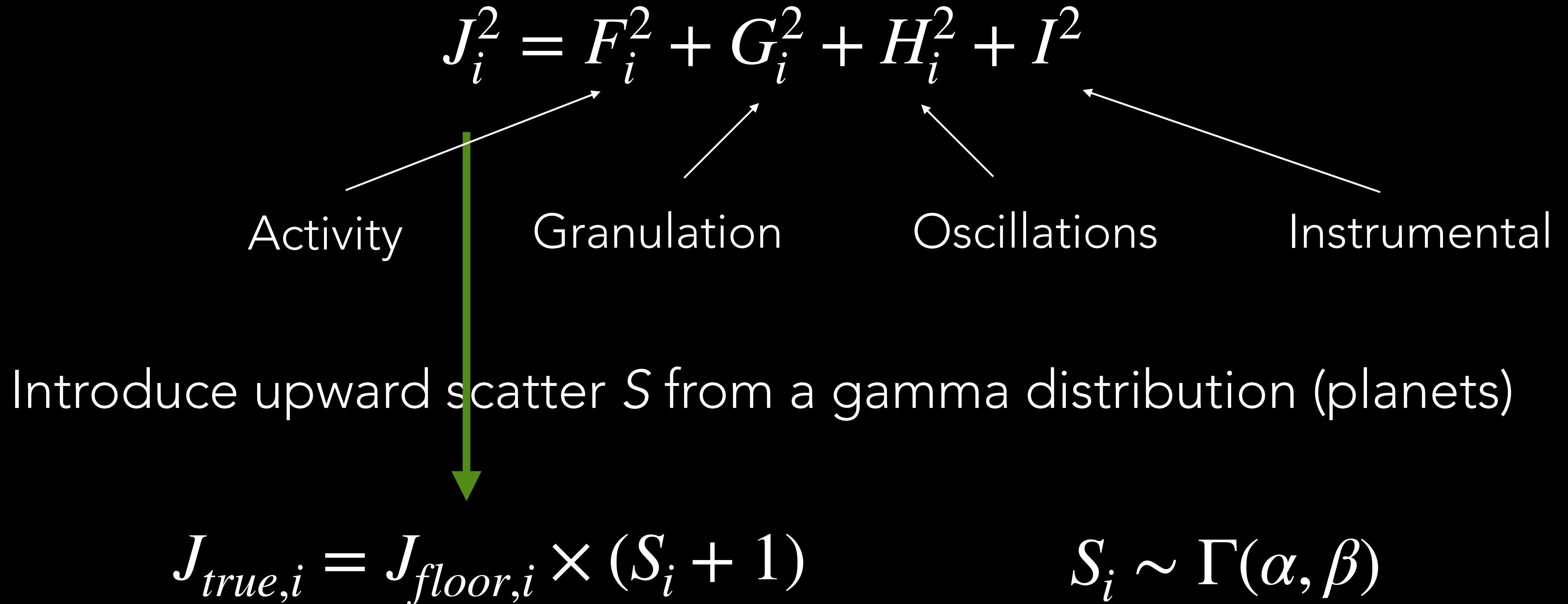
Luhn et al. (2020c, in prep.)

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With this model we can easily incorporate the stellar uncertainties into the fit

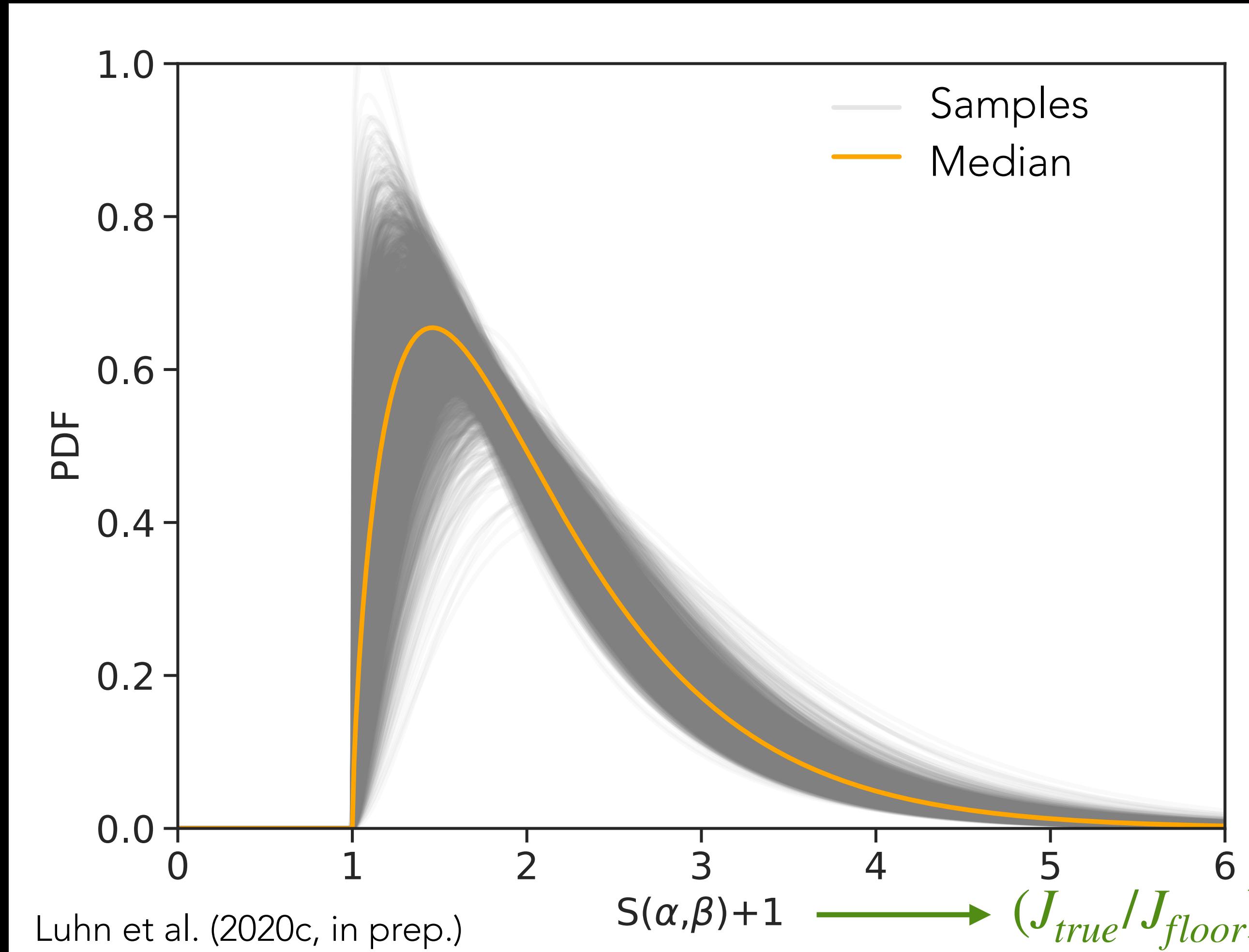
# JITTER PREDICTOR: HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN MODEL

## Fitting the Jitter *Floor*



# JITTER PREDICTOR: HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN MODEL

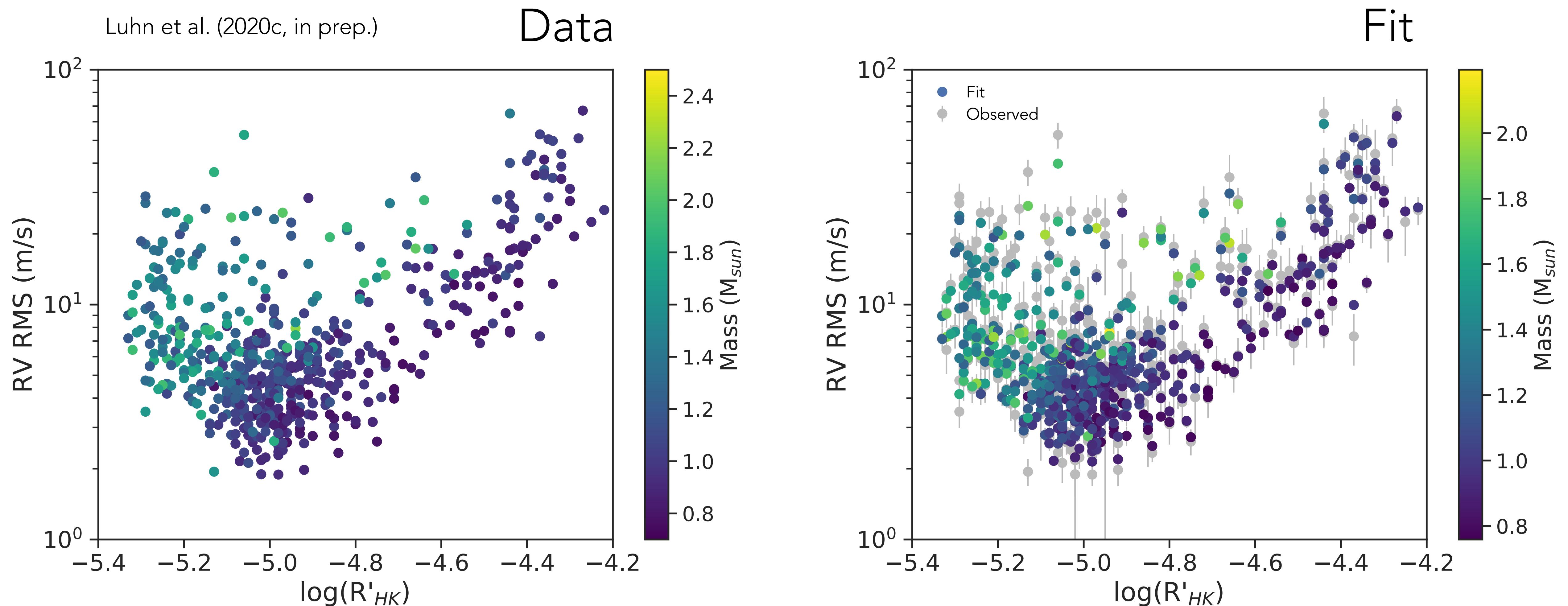
## Fitting the Jitter *Floor*



$$J_{true,i} = J_{floor,i} \times (S_i + 1)$$

# JITTER PREDICTOR: HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN MODEL

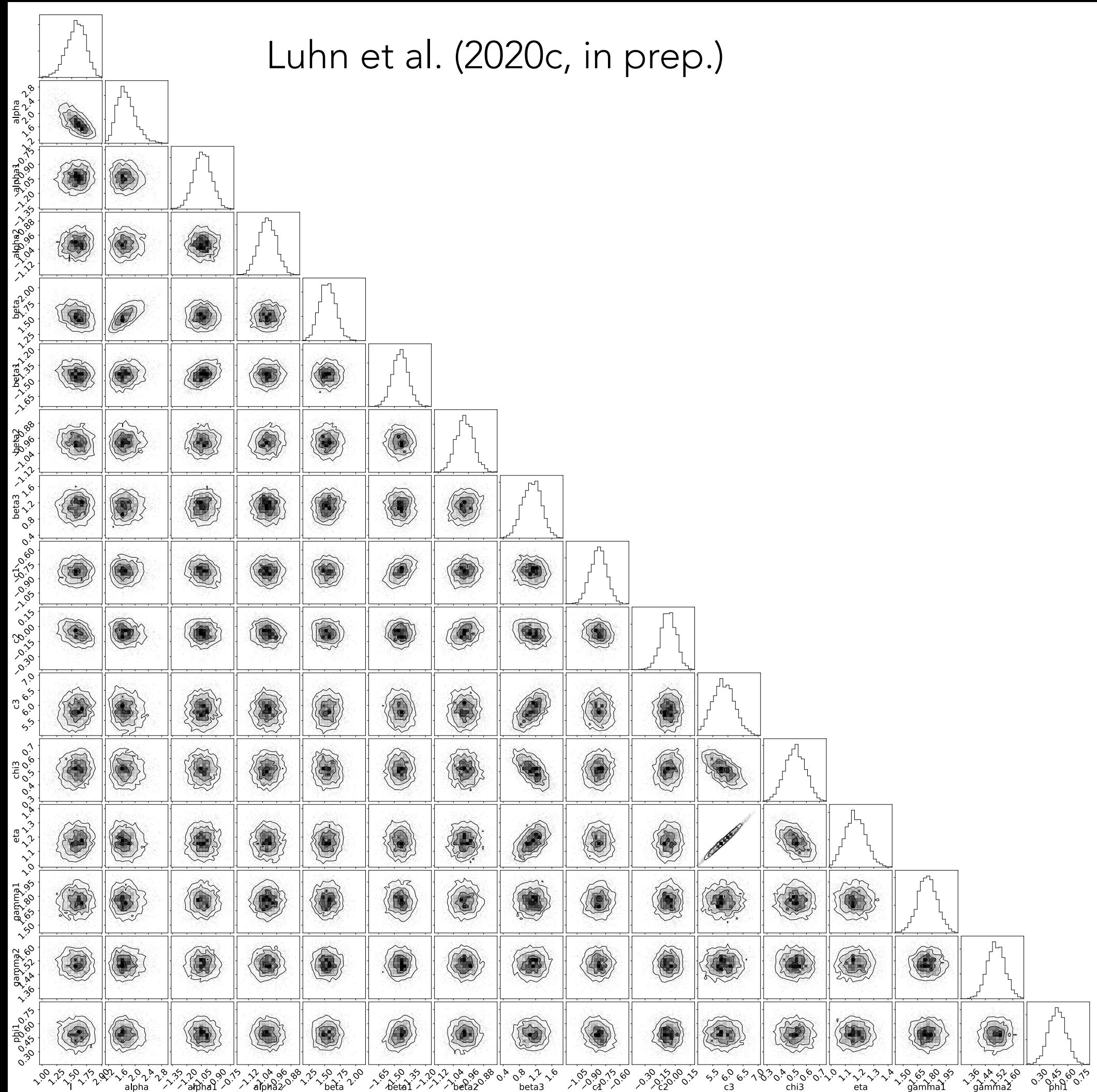
## Fitting Results



This is our ability to *fit* with this model...

we want to *predict*

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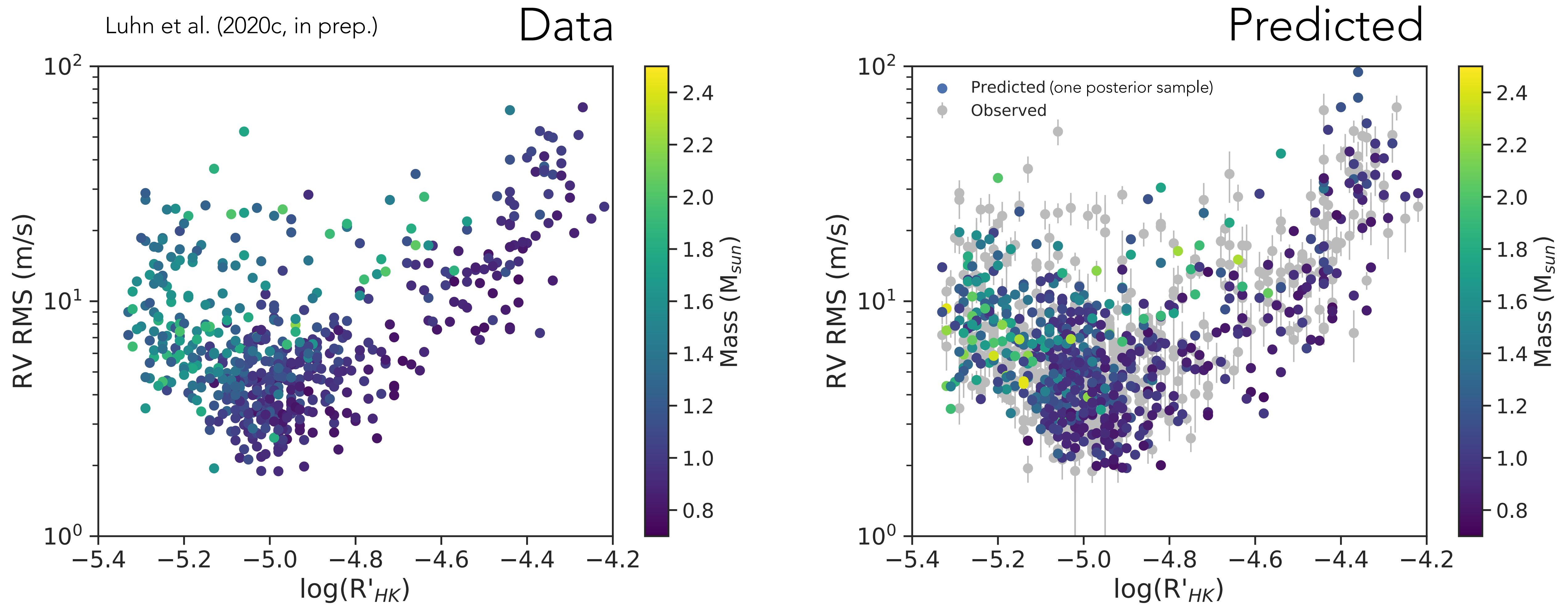
Sample from the best fit posterior  
using the input stellar parameters  
to predict RV jitter

This gives a *probabilistic RV jitter with  
uncertainty coming from:*

- hyperparameter uncertainties
- stellar uncertainties
- scatter above the floor

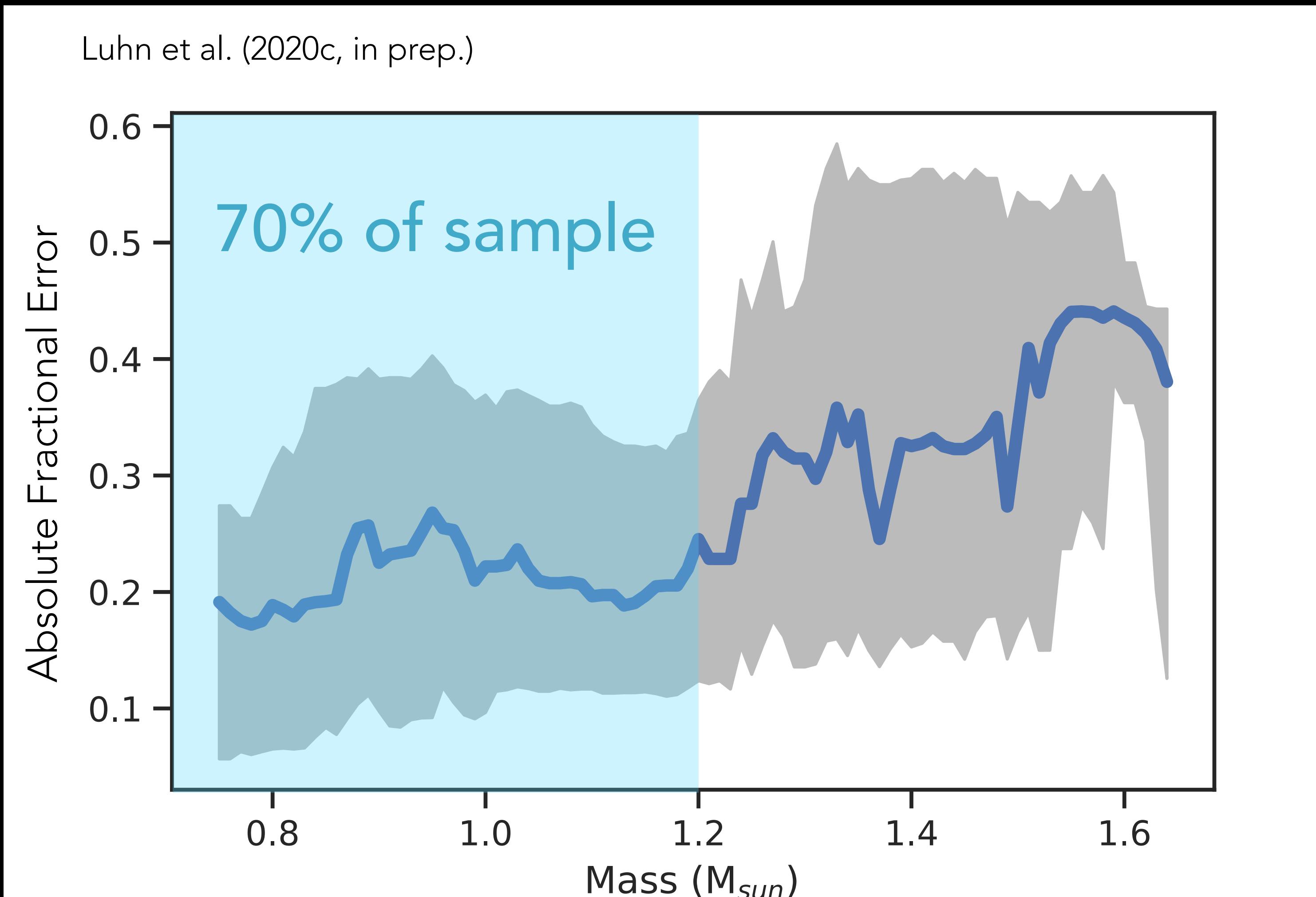
# JITTER PREDICTOR: HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN MODEL

## Predicting Results



# JITTER PREDICTOR: HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN MODEL

## Predicting Results



Can predict jitter to 20-25% error for most stars!

Models all stars in sample!

Models individual components of RV jitter!

# JITTER IS THE TOOL TO ESTIMATE RV



A public Python package to allow users to predict RV jitter ...coming soon

- Returns individual components of RV jitter for the astrophysical floor
- Allows for user-input stellar parameter PDFs
- Modeling instrumental uncertainty allows translating to other instruments

# CONCLUSIONS

RV jitter evolves from activity- to convection-dominated

More massive stars reach their “jitter minimum” at later evolutionary stages

Low jitter ( $< \sim 5\text{m/s}$ ) F stars exist and can be distinguished

The F star “jitter metric” works for other stellar types!

We are building a tool to predict jitter for a wide range of stars!

By modeling individual components of RV jitter we can inform:

- target selection & prioritization
- observation strategies (mitigating individual components)