

# **SAG-14: Characterization of Stars Targeted for NASA Exoplanet Missions**

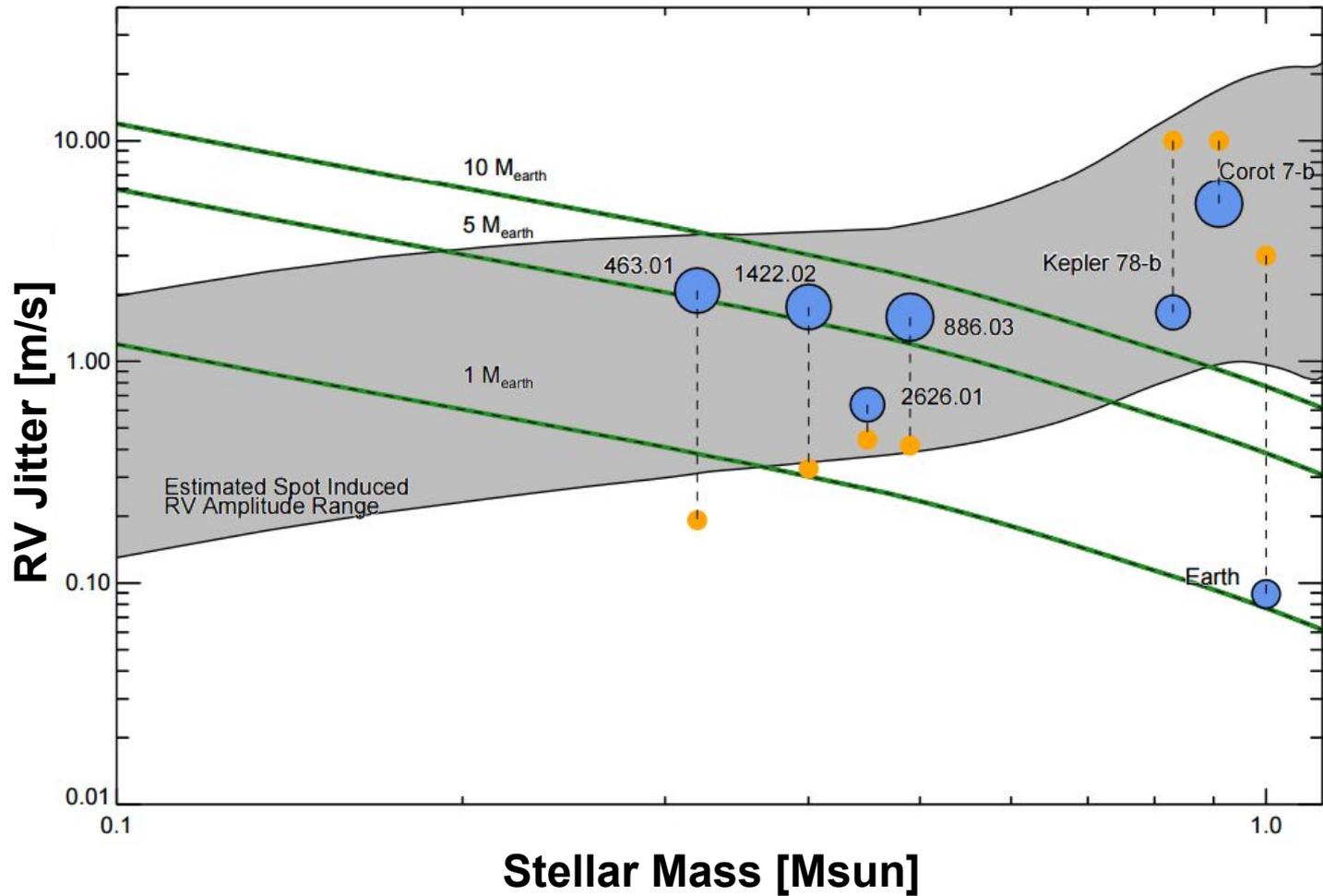
*Report Part 1:  
RV Stability of TESS Candidate Target Stars*

# Mission deliverables and challenges for TESS

- Primary goal: discover **50 Earth-sized transiting planets** ( $R < 4 R_{\text{Earth}}$ ) **whose masses can be measured** by follow-up radial-velocity measurements.
- Desire a sufficient number of target stars that:
  - have good Doppler stability, i.e., **low RV jitter**
  - preferably are bona fide dwarfs and **not subgiants**
  - ideally have known **metallicities/abundances**
  - especially in the TESS continuous viewing zones.
- TESS begins in ~18 months (south), ~30 months (north).

# Potential challenges

- 1. TESS target sample includes rapidly rotating, magnetically active stars.**
  - Risk: Doppler noise (“RV jitter”) complicates measurement of planet masses.
  - Solution: Rotational velocity measurements via high-resolution *spectroscopy* to weed out high-activity stars.
- 2. TESS target sample includes many subgiants.**
  - Risk: Larger stellar radii complicates detection of small planets.
  - Solution: (1) Gaia *parallaxes* or (2) surface gravity measurements via high-resolution *spectroscopy* to weed out subgiants.
- 3. TESS target sample has very few stars with known abundances.**
  - Solution: Metallicity measurements via high-resolution *spectroscopy*.



Vanderburg et al. (2016)

# Quantifying the risk of high-activity target stars:

Number of Planets with Measurable Masses: All Sky, not pre-screened

Ratio of planet orbital RV semi-amplitude to RV jitter amplitude

	High Activity	Median Activity	Low Activity	Total
	Planets < 4 Rearth			
Total	293 (16%)	1247 (68%)	293 (16%)	1833
Ratio > 1	119	931	283	1333
Ratio > 3	18	678	223	879
Ratio > 5	8	448	183	639

Worst case: Rapidly rotating, high-activity stars

Best case: Slowly rotating, low-activity stars

# Quantifying the risk of high-activity target stars:

Number of Planets with Measurable Masses: North Ecliptic Pole  
Continuous Viewing Zone, not pre-screened

Ratio of planet orbital RV semi-amplitude to RV jitter amplitude

	High Activity	Median Activity	Low Activity	Total
	Planets < 4 Rearth			
Total	43 (16%)	172 (68%)	43 (16%)	258
Ratio > 1	12	101	39	152
Ratio > 3	2	65	25	92
Ratio > 5	1	38	20	59

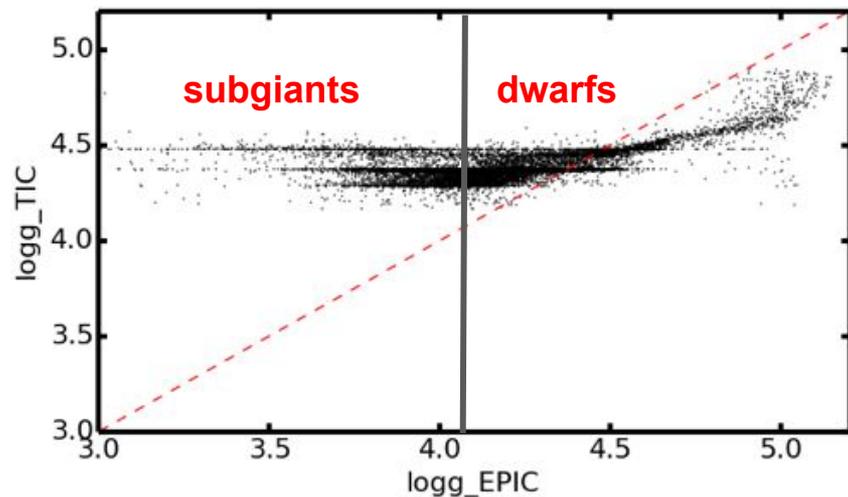
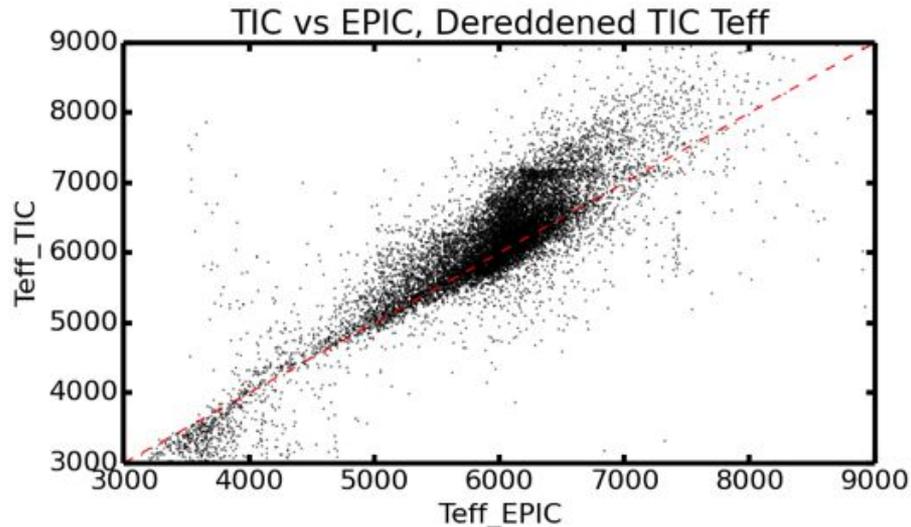
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# TESS Dwarfs vs Subgiants

Based on spectroscopic samples in TESS Input Catalog, nominal TESS dwarfs are in fact:

- 2-3% red giants
- 50-60% subgiants



# APOGEE Spectroscopic Survey: TESS NEP CVZ

- In CVZ (450 square degrees total area), TESS observes for 1 year, enabling ***discovery of Earth-like planets in the habitable zones*** of K-type stars and even solar-like G-type stars.
  - There are ~6500 nominal TESS targets in NEP CVZ with spectral types of G2 and later.
- APOGEE: 7 square degree FOV, 200 fibers. At the faint limit of TESS targets, need 3 visits for APOGEE to get S/N = 100.
  - Multiple epochs on all stars in order to identify RV variables.
  - Need  $450 / 7 = 65$  fields to cover NEP CVZ, times 3 visits each gives  $65 \times 3 = 200$  visits.
  - 100 targets per field on average, which leaves about half of the fibers available.
  - 30 nights of observing, or about 30,000 fiber-hours for 100 fibers in average field/visit.
  - SDSS estimates cost of \$2.5M to guarantee the full 30,000 fiber-hours, process the data, deliver shovel-ready stellar parameters and make them fully publicly accessible.
- Deliverables:
  - Rotational velocities, surface gravities, effective temperatures, detailed chemical abundances.