

ExoPAG SAG13: Exoplanet Occurrence Rates and Distributions

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on behalf of SAG13



SAG13 members

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Batalha, Natalie (Steering Committee)

Burke, Chris (Steering Committee)

Angerhausen, Daniel

Apai, Daniel

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Blackwood, Gary

Boss, Alan

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Swain, Mark

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Charter

Over 5000 exoplanets and exoplanet candidates have been discovered to date. Many studies have been published and are on-going to determine exoplanet occurrence rates and distributions, particularly for potentially habitable worlds. These studies employ different statistical and debiasing methods, different definitions of terms such as η_{Earth} and habitable zone, different degrees of extrapolation, and present distributions in different units from each other. The primary goal of this SAG is to evaluate what we currently know about planet occurrence rates, and especially η_{Earth} , by consolidating, comparing, and reconciling discrepancies between different studies. A secondary goal is to establish a standard set of occurrence rates accepted by as much of our community as possible to be used for mission yield estimates for missions to be considered by the decadal survey.

Key objectives and questions:

Completed

→ 1. Propose standard nominal conventions, definitions, and units for occurrence rates/distributions to facilitate comparisons between different studies.

Current activity

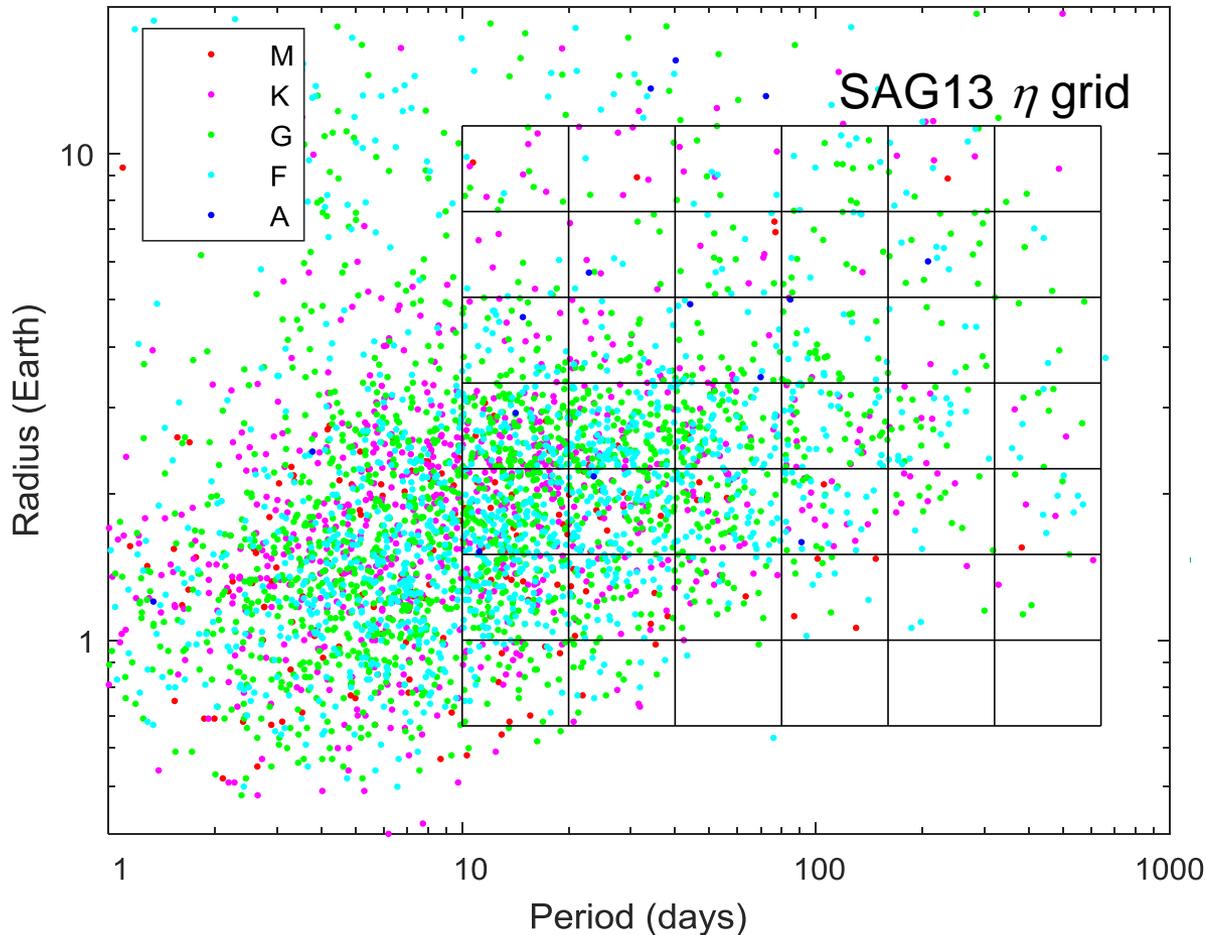
→ 2. Do occurrence estimates from different teams/methods agree with each other to within statistical uncertainty? If not, why?

Current activity

→ 3. For occurrence rates where extrapolation is still necessary, what values should the community adopt as standard conventions for mission yield estimates?



Standardized eta grid



11 community sourced occurrence tables

Batalha, Natalie (2)

Belikov, Rus

Burke, Chris

Catanzarite, Joe

Dressing, Courtney*

Farr, Will

Foreman-Mackey, Daniel*

Kopparapu, Ravi

Mulders, Gijs

Petigura, Erik*

Traub, Wes**

*dataset was based on prior publications and re-integrated across SAG13 bins by Burke
** expected soon

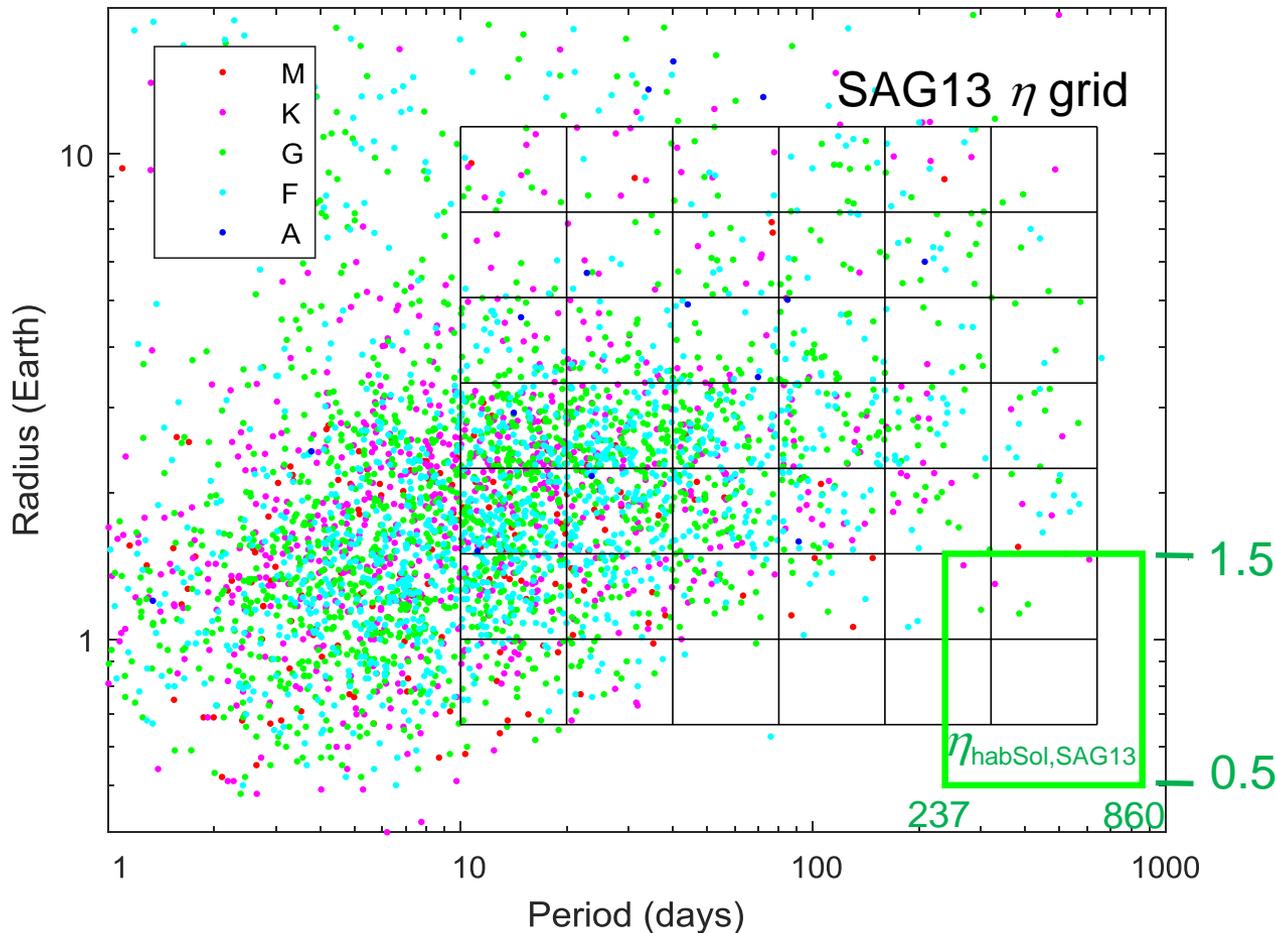
All datasets and documents can be found on SAG13 repository:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B520NCfkP4aOQUJYdmUzQTJkdkE>

- Dots are an example catalog: Kepler candidates from Q1-Q17, dr24

- SAG participants are free to choose any catalog and method



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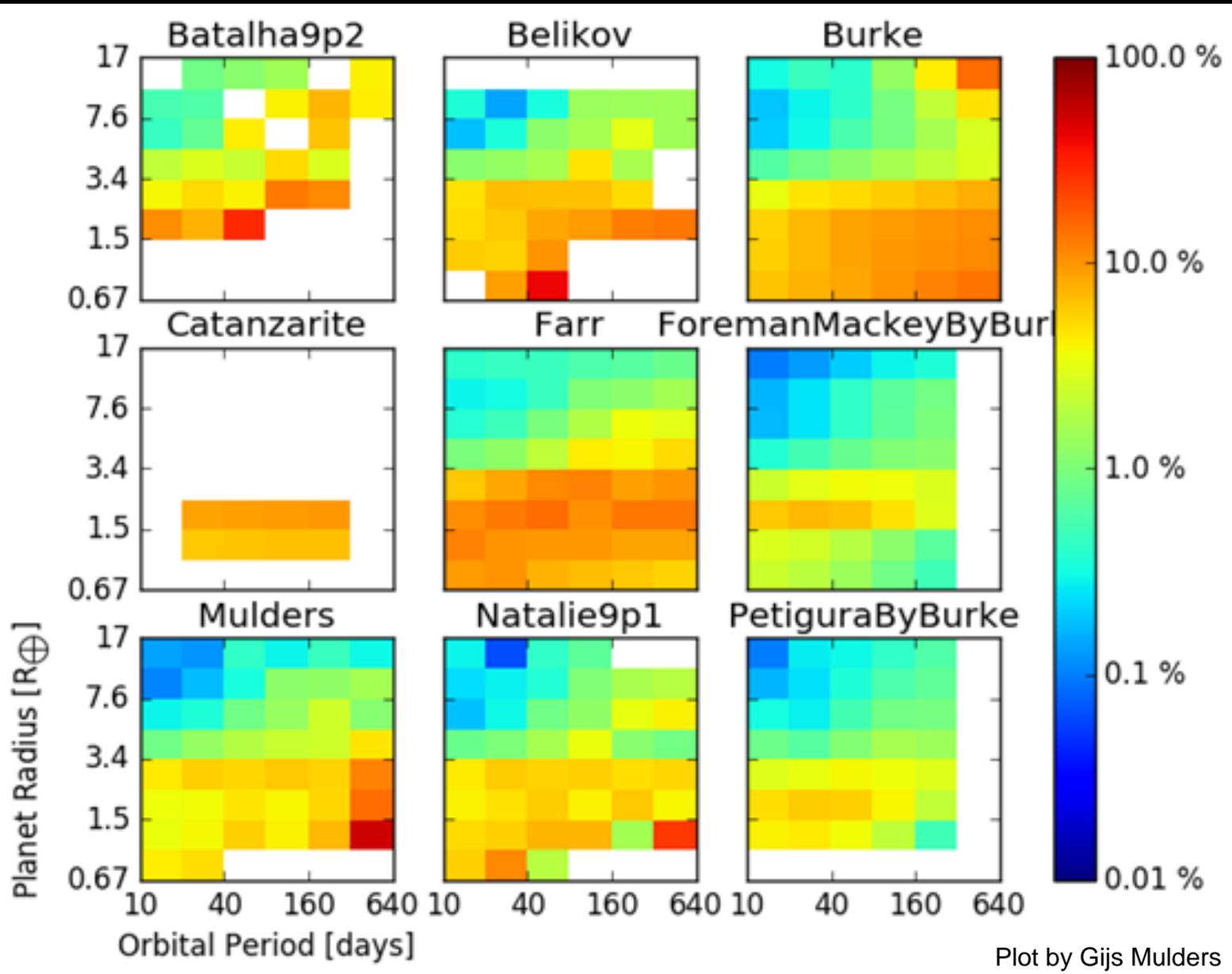
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$\eta_{habSol,SAG13}$

- $R = [0.5 - 1.5], P = [237 - 860]$ (Kopparapu extended HZ for Sol twin)
- This is not exactly η_{Earth} , just a tentative rough representation of a potentially habitable region

NASA Example: submitted occurrence rates for G-dwarfs



Plot by Gijs Mulders



How do we combine different submissions into one occurrence table?

Full accounting:
Only “independent” submissions
are averaged

Accounting for “dependency”
between submissions

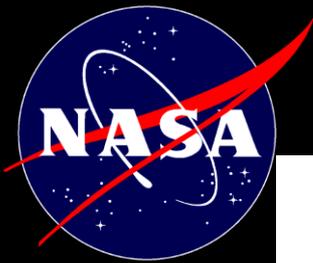
No accounting:
Simply average all
submissions



- Best for producing an actual scientific measurement
- Measuring “dependency” is not trivial (and may be impossible in principle)
- Consensus on method can be challenging
- Psychological biases are challenging to identify and control

- Will not generate a scientific measurement, but possibly best for predictions?
- Simple method
- Easier consensus: all submissions are automatically fairly represented
- Crowdsourcing / Prediction market philosophy: psychological biases are in theory averaged out

The question of which method is “correct” is possibly philosophical
Will probably do both, explicitly describe the process, and leave interpretation to the reader
Feedback on our strategy is welcome and encouraged

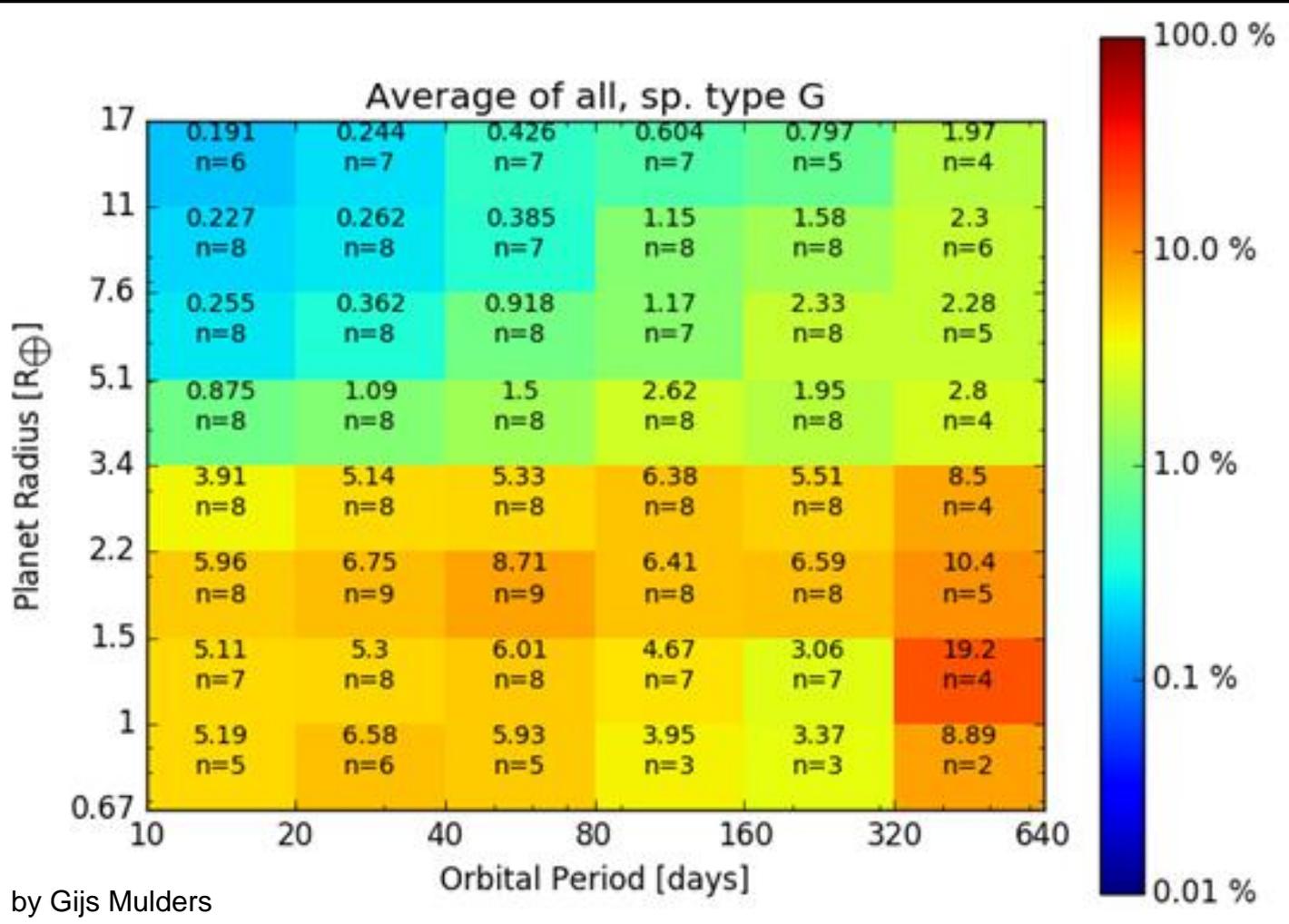


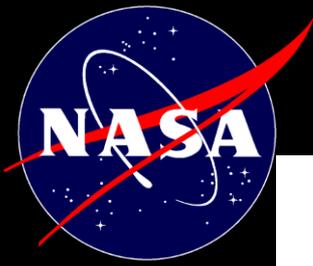
Closer look at G-dwarf average

legend

% occurrence

of submissions



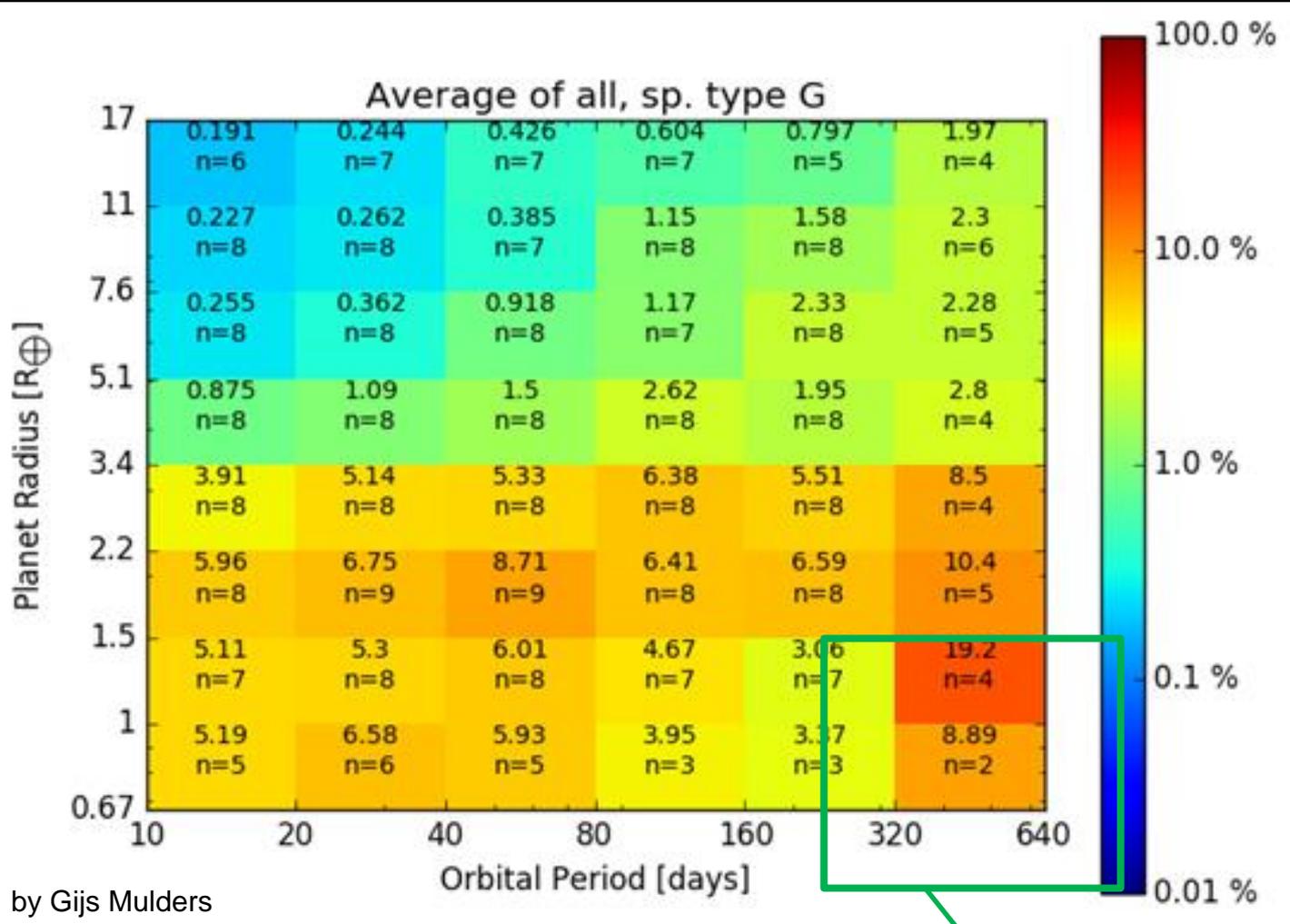


Closer look at G-dwarf average

legend

% occurrence

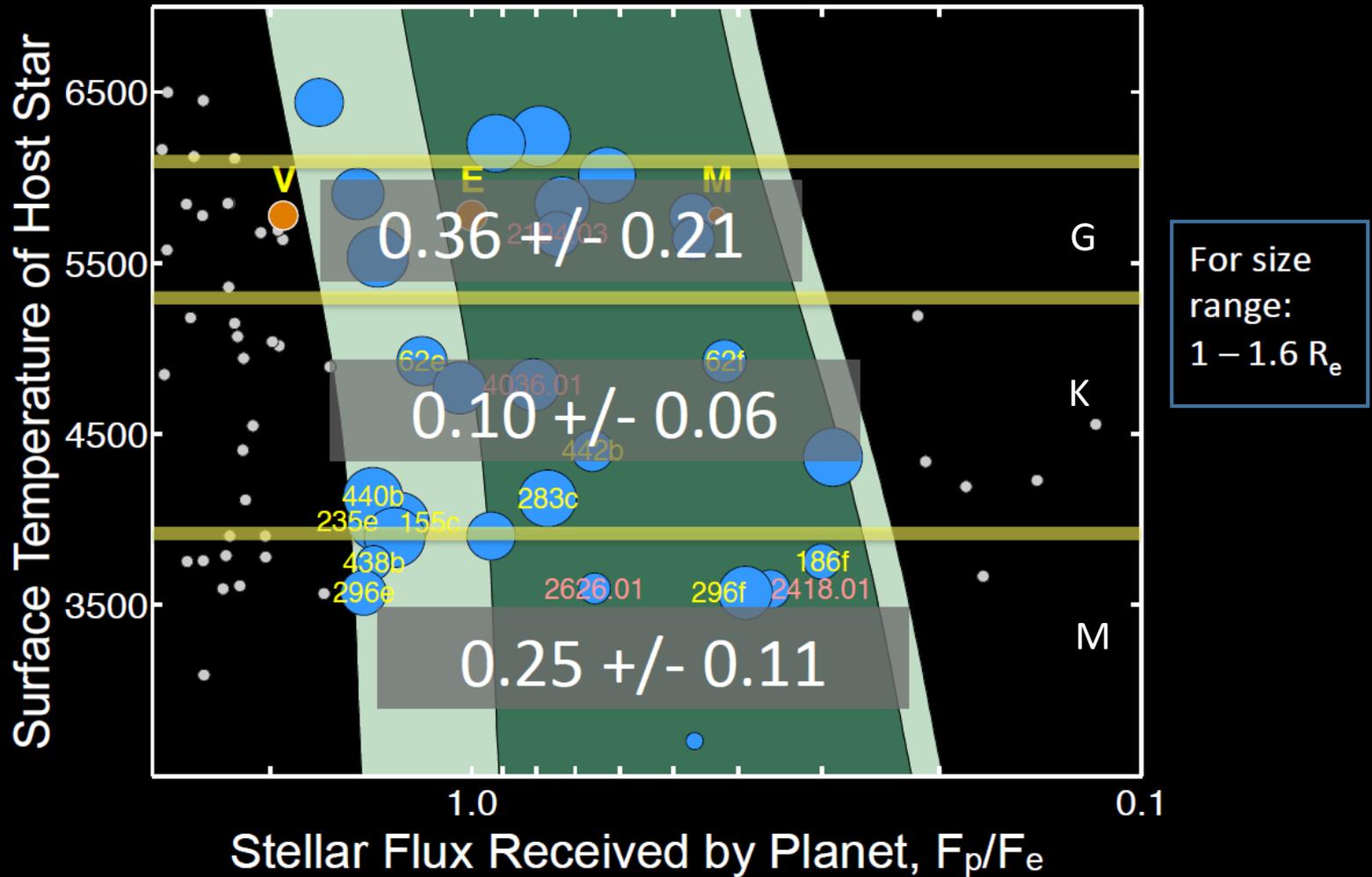
of submissions



Average occurrence per SAG13 bin in green box: ~10%
 Area of green box: 5x SAG13 bins
 Uniform extrapolation implies green box occurrence of **50%**
 Note: this number is *not* an official SAG13 value for $\eta_{\text{habSol,SAG13}}$, it is just an example of a simple extrapolation.

Small ($< 2 R_e$) Planets in the HZ: 4 yr

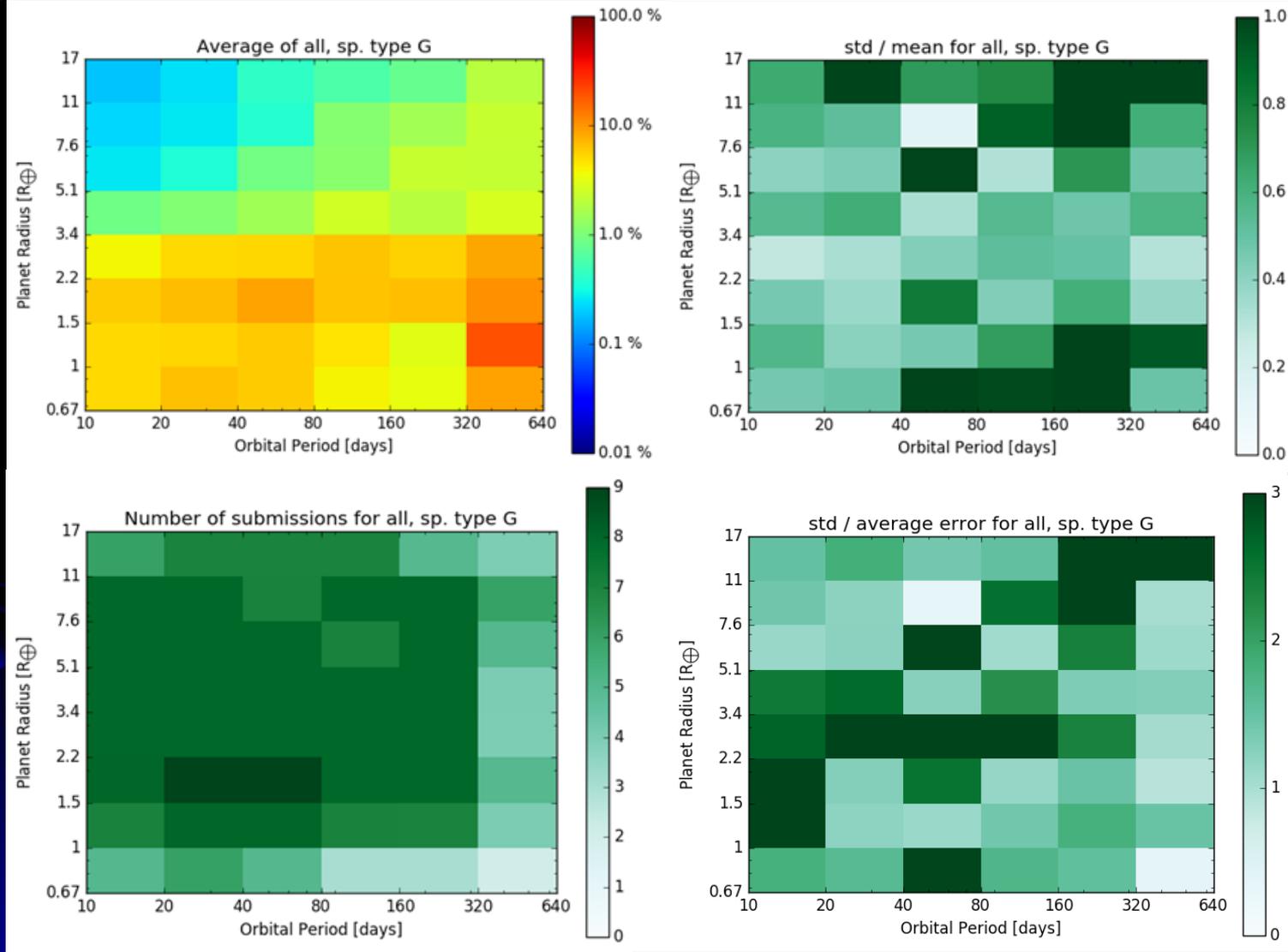
Empirical HZ
 Narrow HZ
 In HZ, symbol scaled to size of Earth



Note: for planet size range of $0.5 - 1.6 R_e$, expected # of planets may be a factor of $\sim 2-3$ higher (based on extrapolation)



Analysis of variations in submissions (for G-dwarfs)



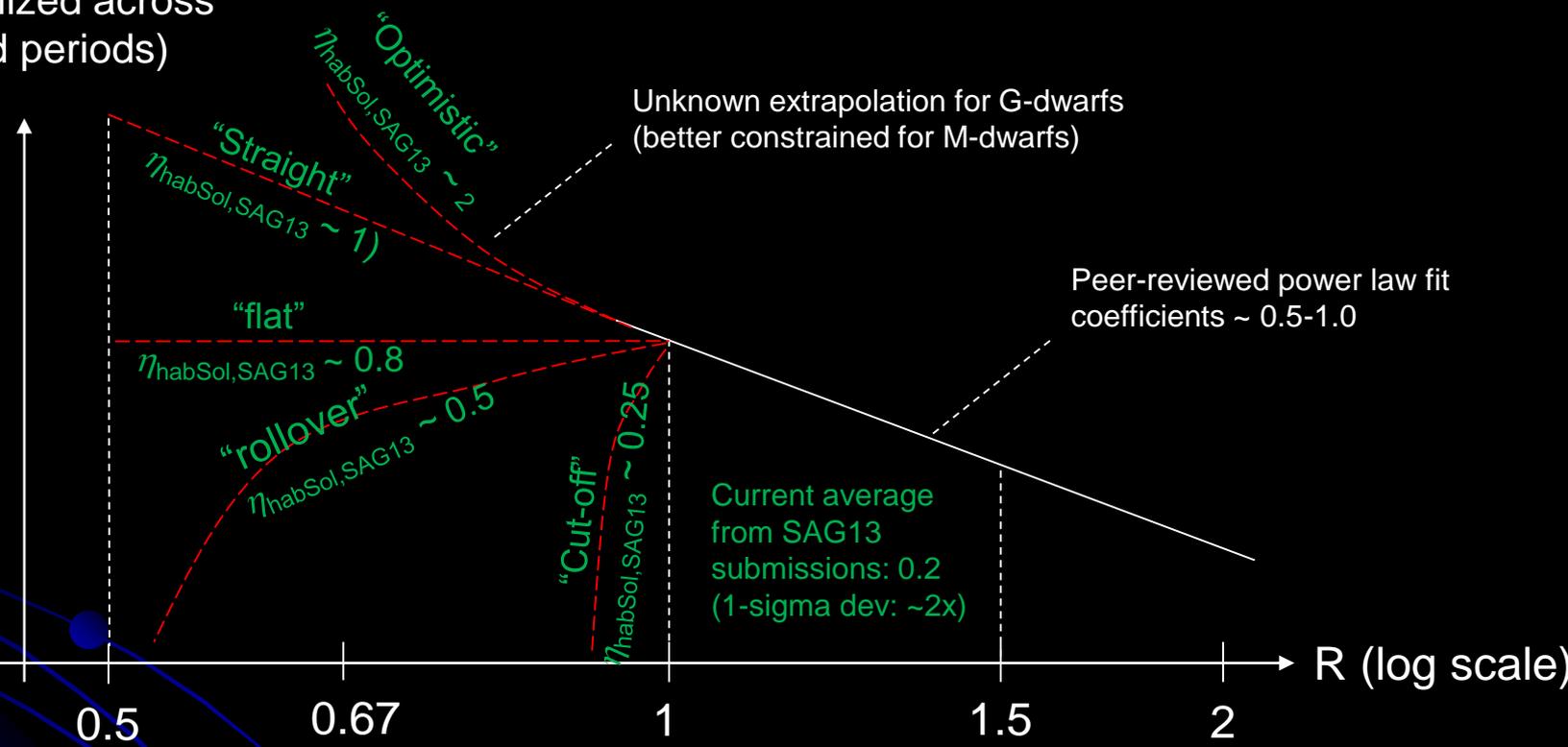
Crowdsourced
standard
deviation
normalized
to submitted
occurrence
uncertainty

by Gijs Mulders



Importance of 0.5-1.0 Earth size bin

$dN / d\ln(R)$
(marginalized across
237-860d periods)



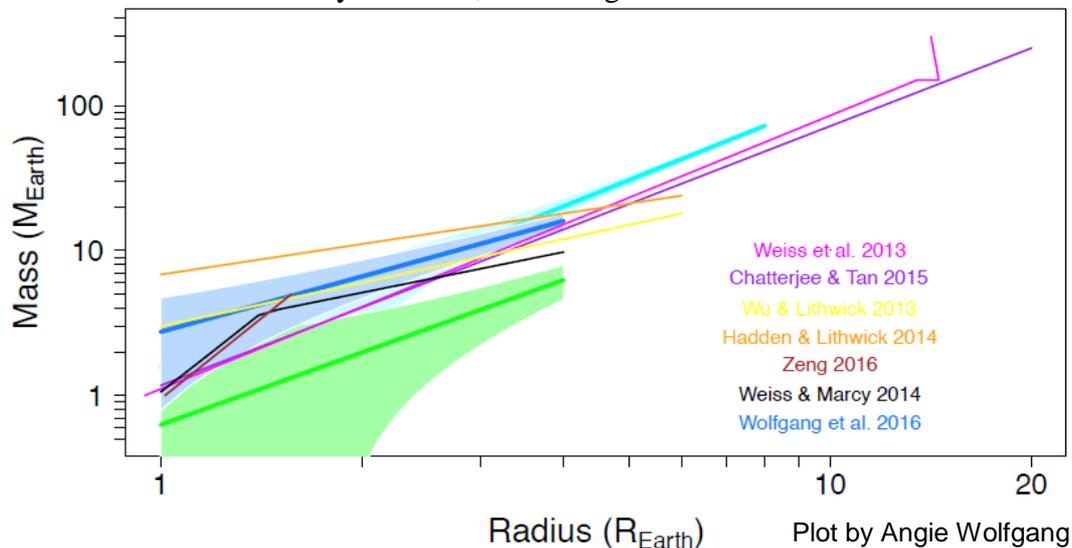
- Any estimate of η_{Earth} should always very clearly specify:
 - Whether 0.5-1.0 bin is included or not
 - What extrapolation assumption was made
- Many discrepancies in η_{Earth} estimates can be traced to inclusion or exclusion of 0.5-1.0 bin
- Mission study teams may want to consider the possibility of a large number of potentially habitable planets in the 0.5-1.0 bin



New focus group: Mass-Radius relationship led by Angie Wolfgang and Lauren Weiss

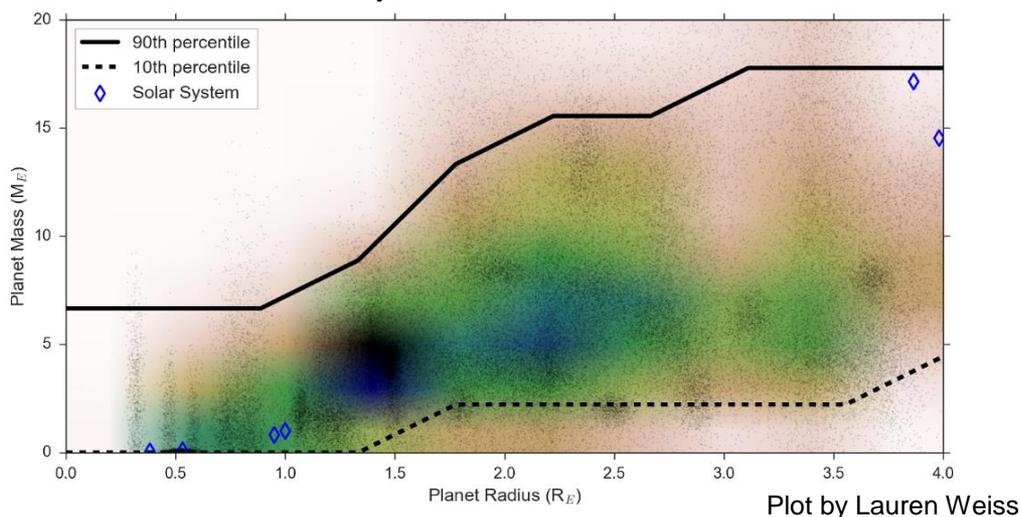
Previous M-R relations in the literature:

wide variety of radius, mass ranges and datasets used

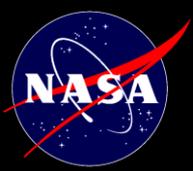


- Purpose: enable SAG13 occurrence rate submissions based on RV planets
- M-R relationship is fundamentally not a 1-1 map (e.g. $M = f(R)$), but a correlation (e.g. density function $C(M,R)$)
- M-R focus group deliverables
 - an estimate of this correlation based on open community input
 - analysis of uncertainties and dependency on period and other parameters

Preliminary estimate of M-R correlation

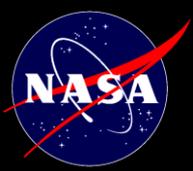


- Notes about plots / methods
 - TTV data is included
 - Black dots: MC posterior simulation accounting for uncertainties on currently known M-R planets
 - Color map: estimate of the 2D correlation density function (using Gaussian kernel density estimator)

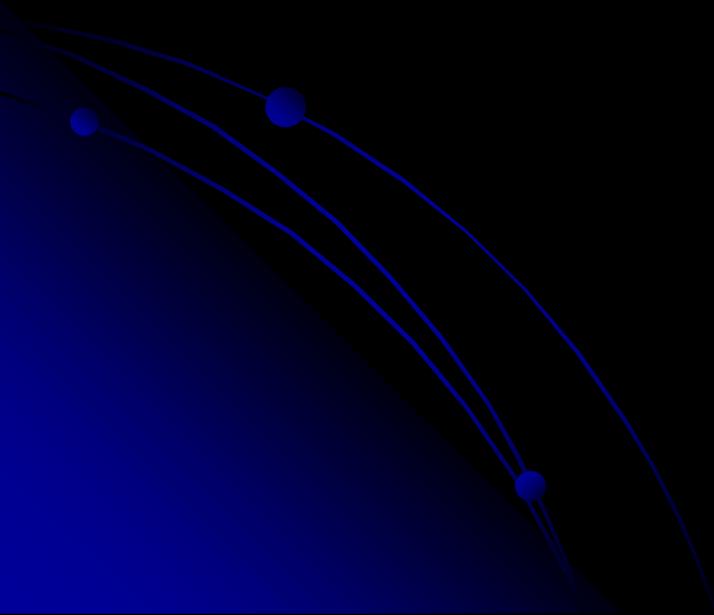


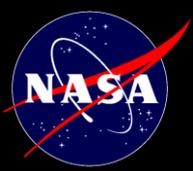
Conclusions

- Completed products
 - Proposed conventions for binning planet periods, sizes, and star temperatures
 - Living repository of occurrence rate datasets submitted by scientists
 - Code to visualize them and compute statistics (first version done, evolving)
 - All can be found on <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B520NCfkP4aOQUJYdmUzQTJkdkE>
- Expected products (by start of 2017)
 - More thorough analysis of submissions
 - Final 3D matrix of SAG13 bin values representing a combination of all submissions
 - With uncertainties and analysis of deviations
 - Recommendation for a standard assumption(s) of parametrized multi-variate distribution(s) for missions
 - With a discussion of uncertainties and method
 - Estimates of occurrence rates relevant to habitable planets based on this distribution
- Latest estimates of occurrences of potentially habitable planets seem to be converging (at least to a factor of $\sim 2-3$), and explanations for discrepancies are starting to clarify



Backup slides



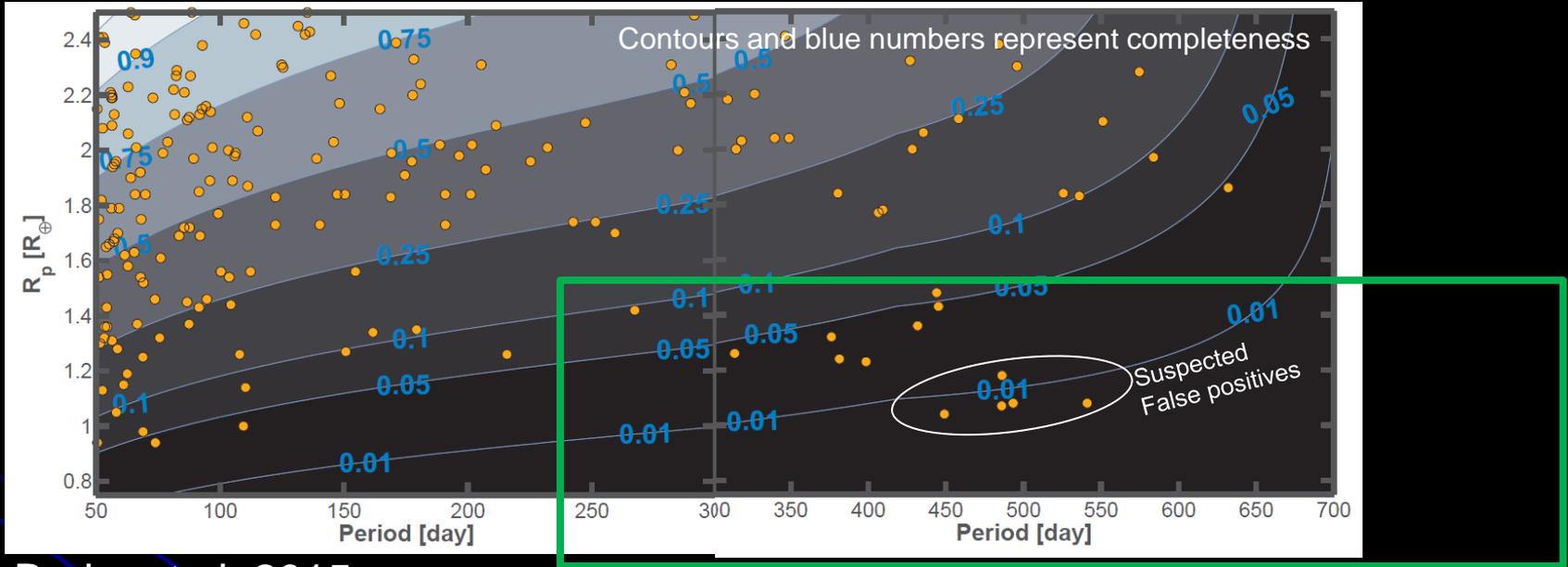


Extrapolation vs. using long-period candidates

[potential slide, meant to show actual planets and thus better visualize Poisson uncertainty]

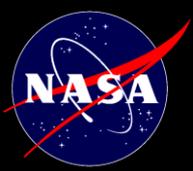
Shorter periods, more reliable

Longer periods, less reliable



Burke et al. 2015

0.5-1.5 Earth size
237-860 days (Kopparapu extended HZ for Sun)



Coordination with ExEP Standards Committee

- Schedule
 - Standards team needs to have final consensus by Aug 2017
 - Standards committee product by end of 2016
 - August 2016
 - Define what the product is going to contain
- How do we extrapolate to long periods
- Mass-radius relationship
- Two versions of the green box
 - One that does not need extrapolating
 - One that does
- Pick a milestone date where the Kepler team thinks there would be no more updates



Variance in submissions

