

# The History of KH 15D (V582 Mon) and Status of Observations/New Interpretations

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## The Main Take Aways:

- 1) KH 15D is an **ordinary binary system** that just happens to be **oriented in a unique way**, which we have been utilizing for the past 20 years.
- 2) As we have seen at this conference, precessing, non-aligned circumbinary/circumstellar rings are everywhere. KH 15D provides us with the **ability to map the inner disk structure/composition** – but not for much longer! We need to exploit the system while we have time!
- 3) There is still much more to learn!



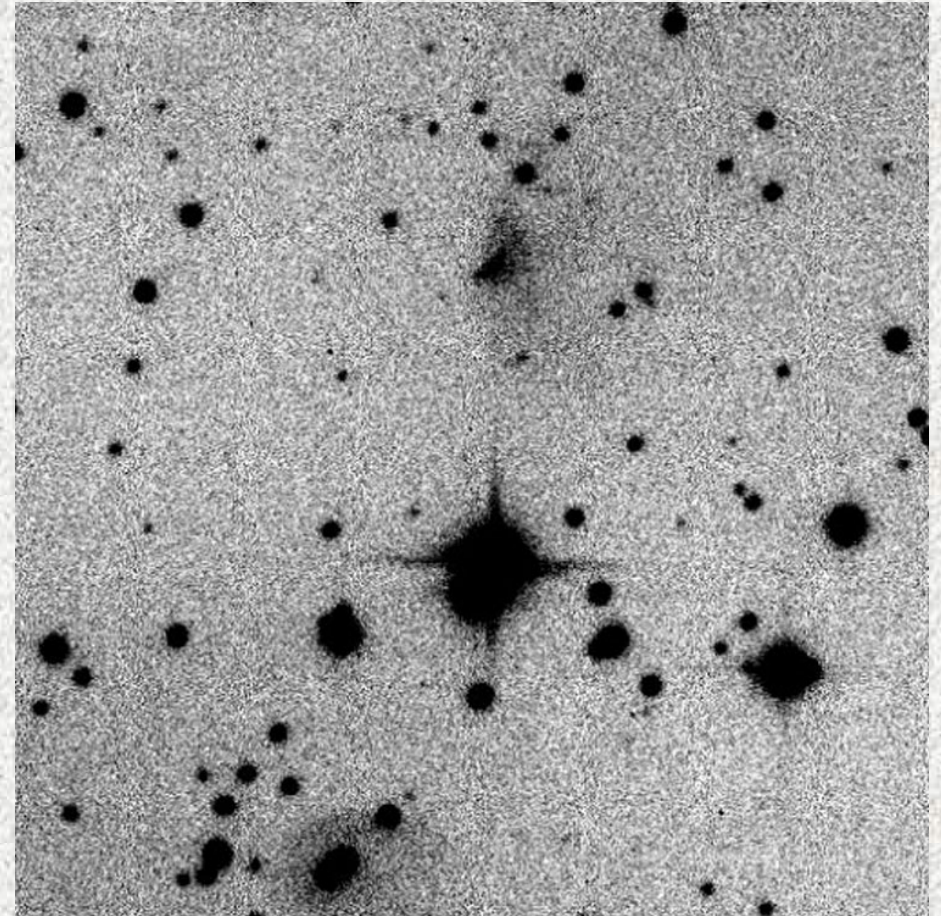
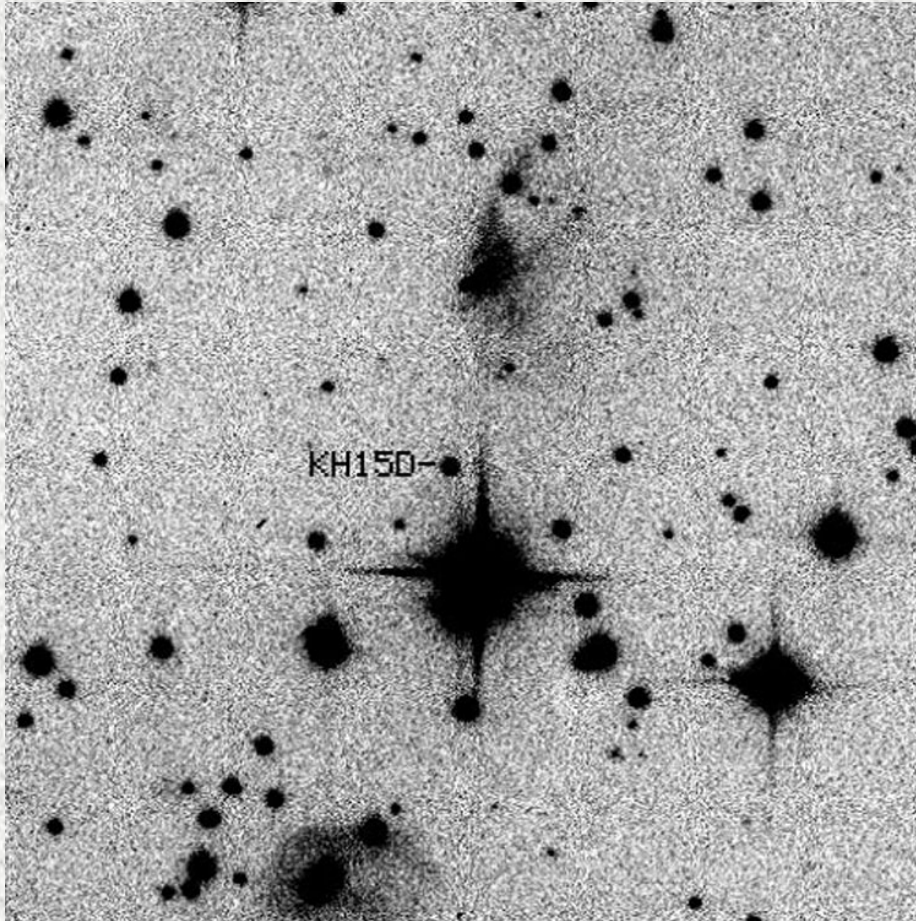
# A Project to Monitor Variable Stars Begins...



- Photometric monitoring program initiated at Wesleyan University in 1990  
⇒ Goal: Determine rotation periods in the Orion Nebula Cluster ( $t \sim 1$  Myr)
- 1995/1996 Monitoring of 4 fields in the young cluster NGC 2264 ( $t \sim 3$  Myr) began  
⇒ Goal: Search for evidence of angular momentum evolution
- From these observations, **Kearns & Herbst (1998)** “discover” a unique and important object: **15D**



# The Eclipsing System KH 15D



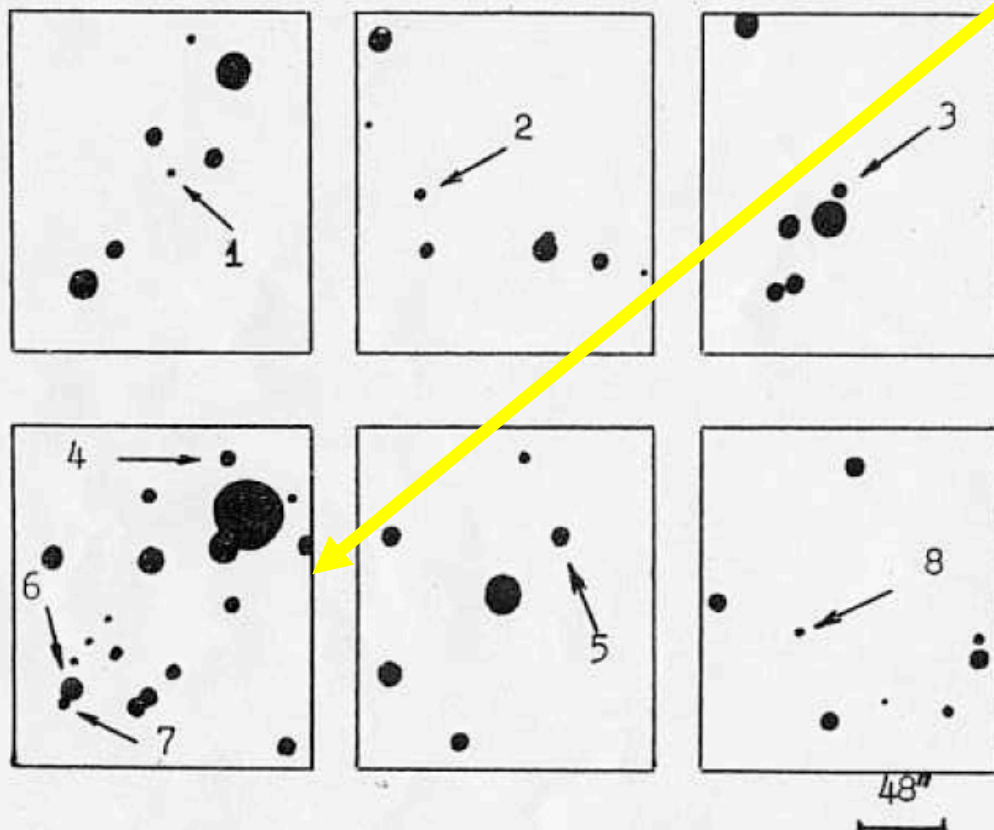
- Light diminished by 96%
- Period of  $\sim 48$  days



# Новые переменные в NGC 2264 New Variable Stars in NGC 2264

Из полученного Г.С. Бадалянном нового наблюдательного материала [1] на метровом телескопе системы Шмидта Бюраканской обсерватории, мы выбрали наилучшие по качеству пластинки, из которых были образованы 3 независимые пары. Предельная величина пластинок  $m_{pg} = 18.7$ . Путем бликования и последующего просмотра нам удалось найти 8 новых переменных, карты окрестностей которых приведены на рисунке.

N



Для наиболее слабых переменных были определены их звездные величины по синей карте Паломарского атласа сравнением со звездными величинами звезд шарового скопления М3 [2]. В пятом столбце таблицы приводятся эти данные.

## KH 15D/V582 Mon →



Hamilton et al. 2005

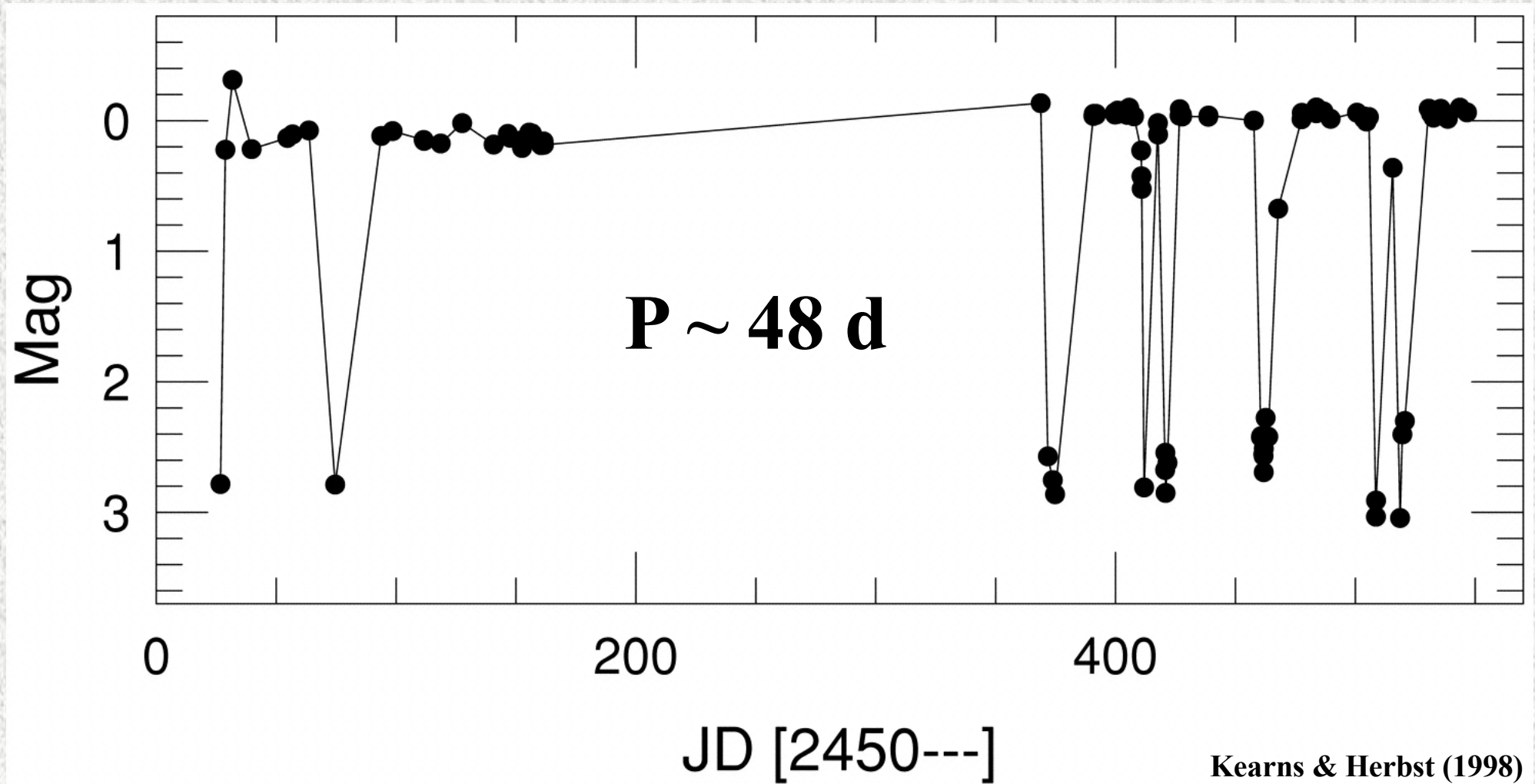
Таблица

№	СПЗ	$\alpha_{1900.0}$	$\delta_{1900.0}$	$m_{pg}$	$m_{pg}$	Наличие На
1	1720	06 <sup>h</sup> 35 <sup>m</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup>	09°40'3	16 <sup>m</sup> 97–18 <sup>m</sup> 64	19 <sup>m</sup> 9	
2	1721	06 35 22	09 34.7	17.86–(18.7)	21	
3	1722	06 35 35	09 42.3	17.64–(18.7)	18.7	
4	1723	06 35 41	09 34.3	16.20–17.34		
5	1724	06 35 44	09 37.5	16.18–18.7	18.7	
6	1725	06 35 45	09 31.8	14.52–15.79		
7	1726	06 35 45	09 31.7	16.21–17.86		
8	1727	06 36 28	09 48.9	17.49–(18.7)	18.2	Аро 73

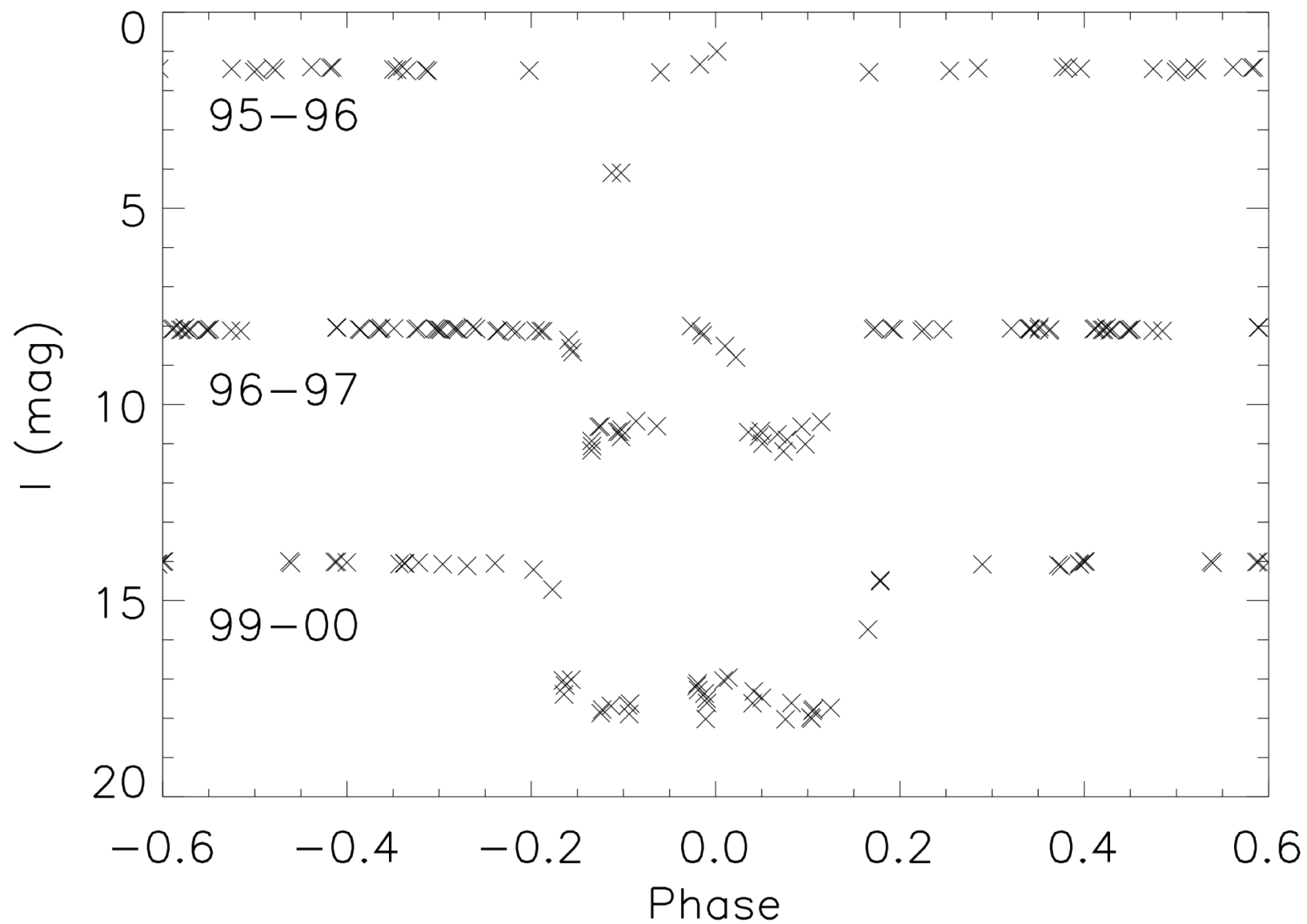
Badalian &amp; Erastova 1970



# Initial Eclipses

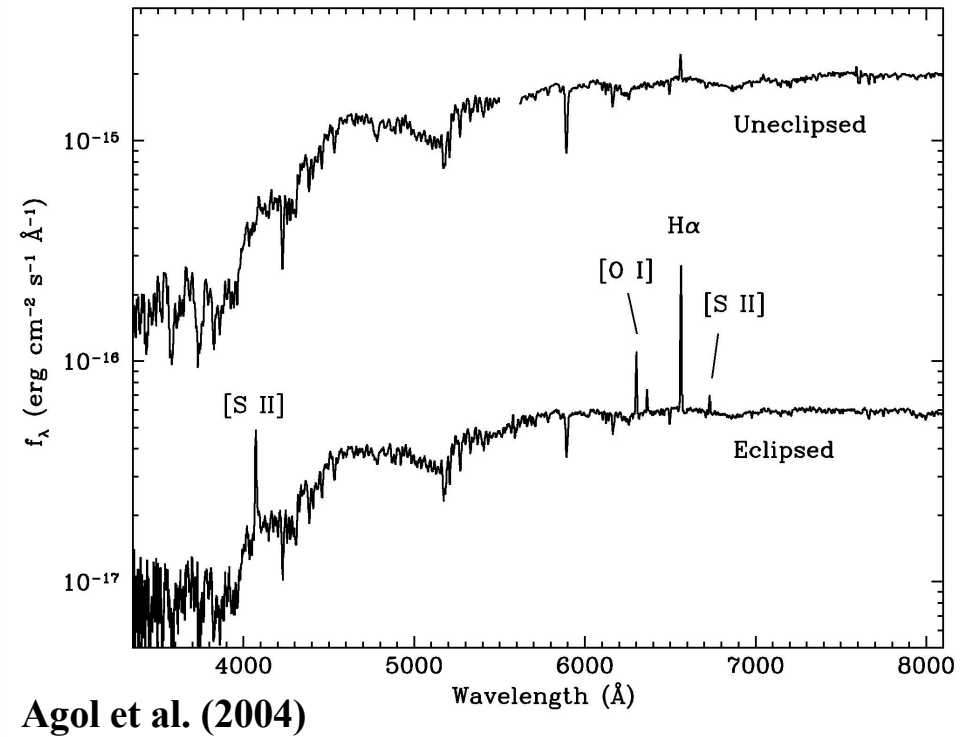
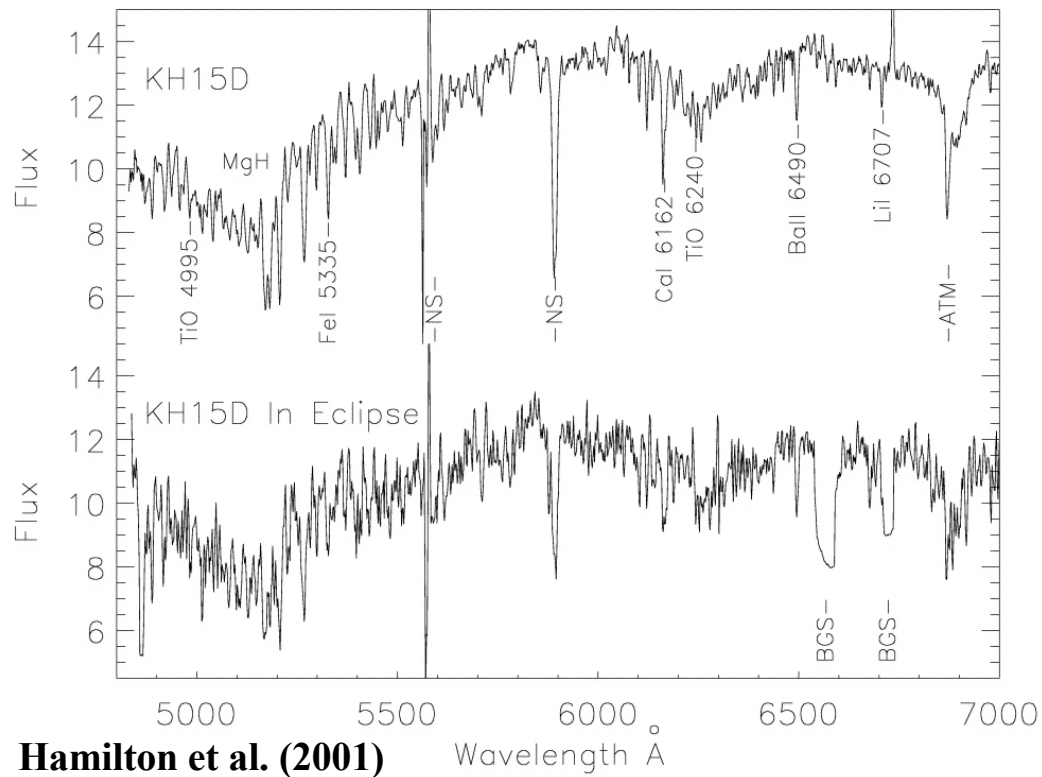


# Initial Eclipses Phased



Hamilton et al. (2001)

# Low Resolution Spectra



- Little or no change is seen in the absorption spectrum
- Suggests that obscuring grains are large, or that the star is occulted by an optically thick disk (**or both**)

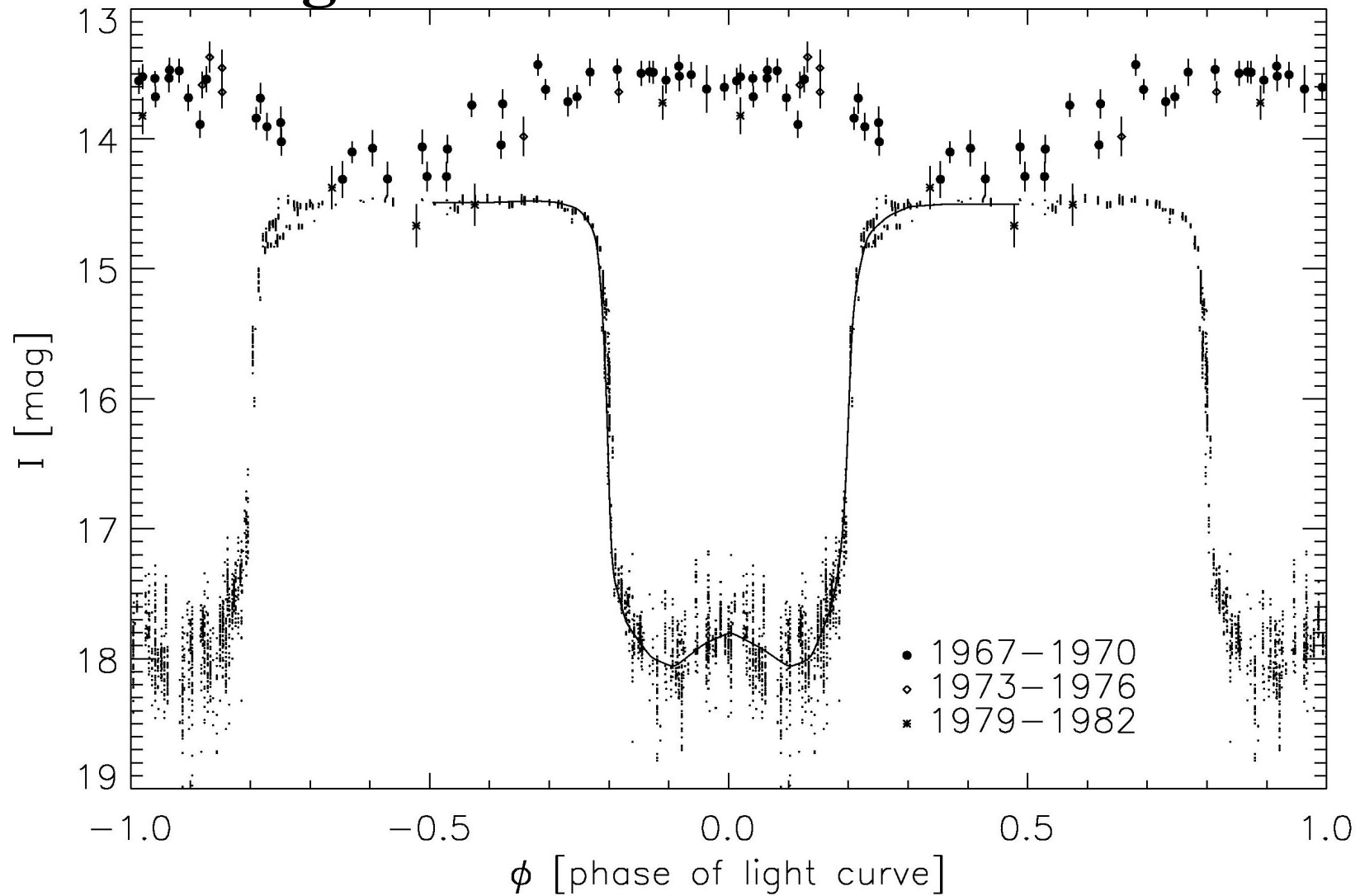


## Historical Studies Found...

- No eclipses between 1913 and 1955 (Winn et al. 2003)
- Noted as an irregular variable between 1963 and 1968 (Badalian & Erastova 1970)
- Between 1967 and 1982, the system alternated from bright to faint with the same period as observed today, but  $180^\circ$  out of phase with today's eclipses (Johnson & Winn 2004)

# Historical Studies Found...

## Light Curve from 1967 – 1982



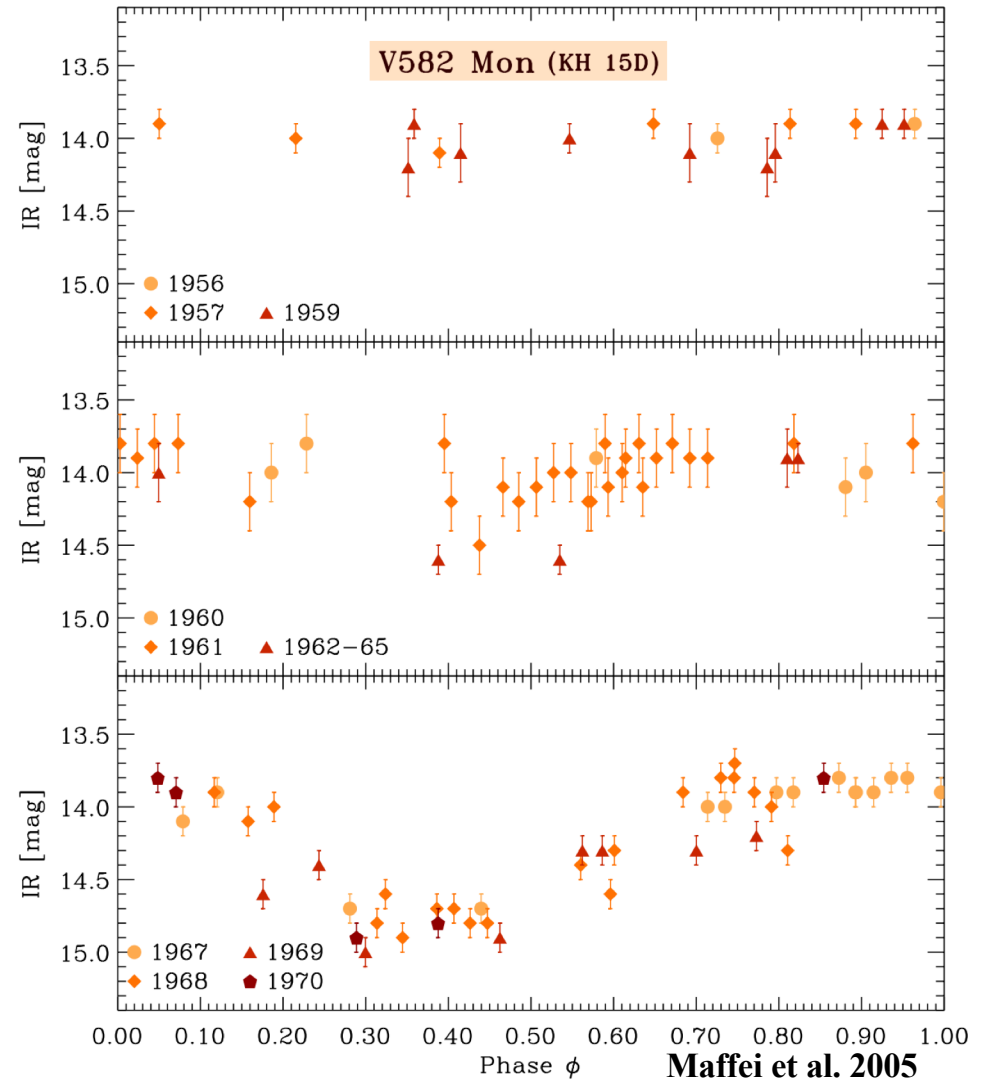
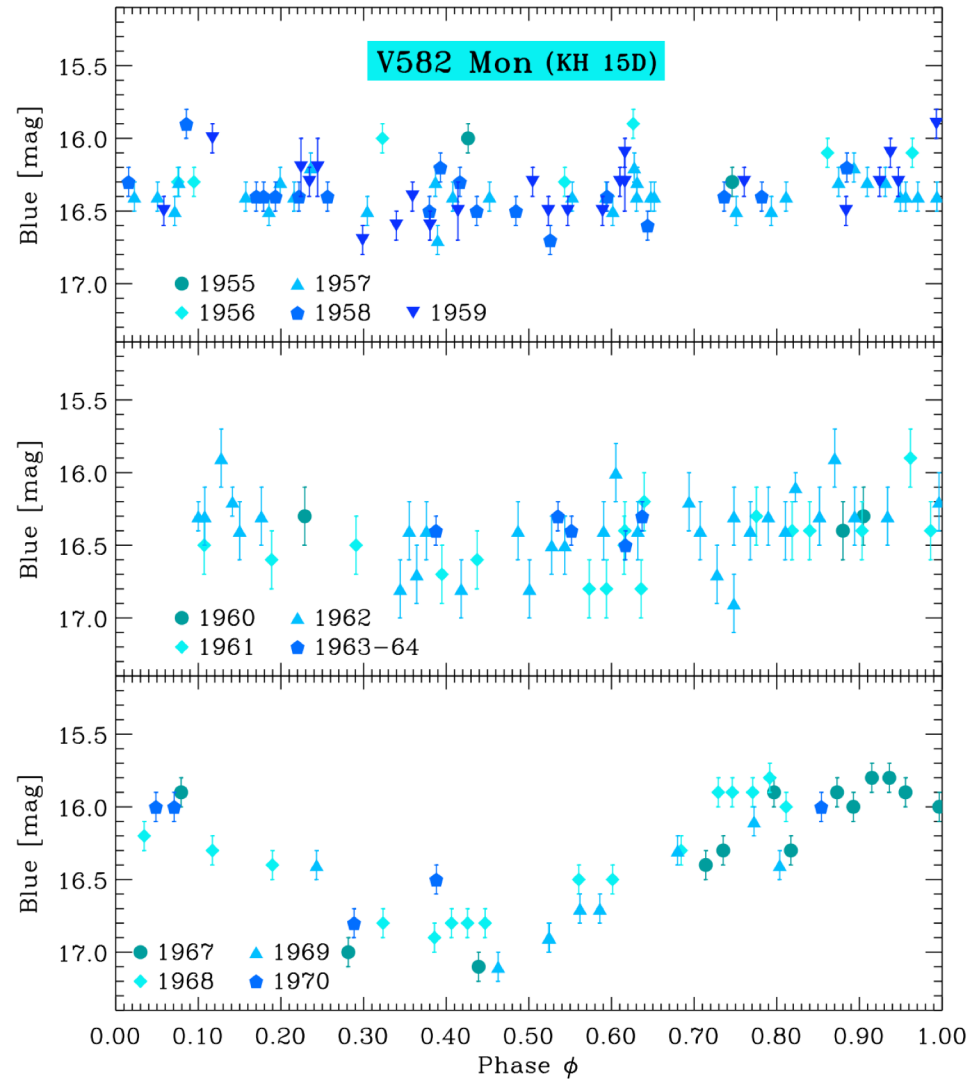
(Johnson & Winn 2004)

## Historical Studies Found...

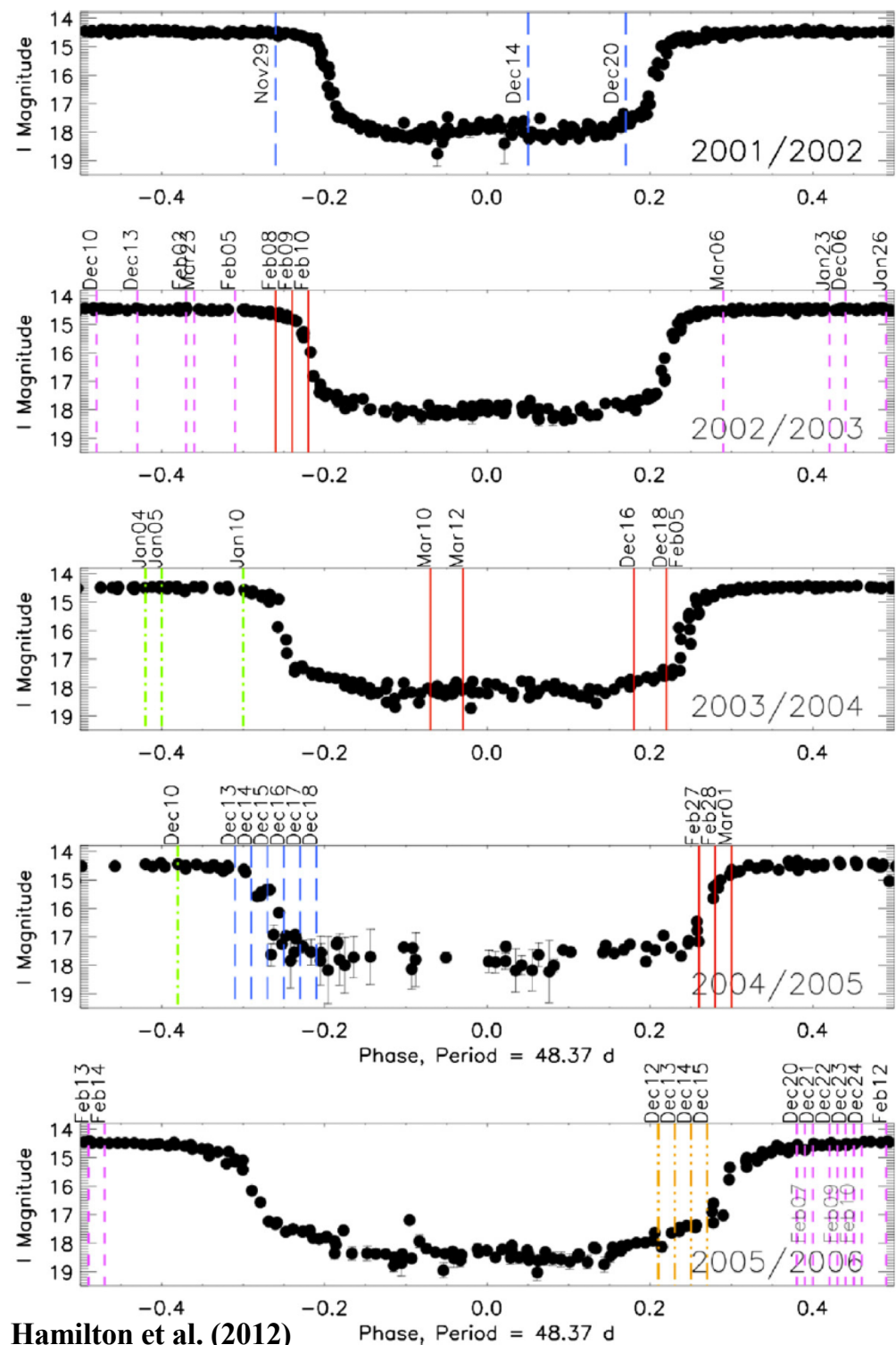
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- Between 1967 and 1982, the system alternated from bright to faint with the same period as observed today, but  $180^\circ$  out of phase with today's eclipses (Johnson & Winn 2004)
- Maffei et al. (2005) re-examined blue and IR plates from 1955-1970 and was able to estimate the timeframe when the eclipses began



# Historical Studies Found...

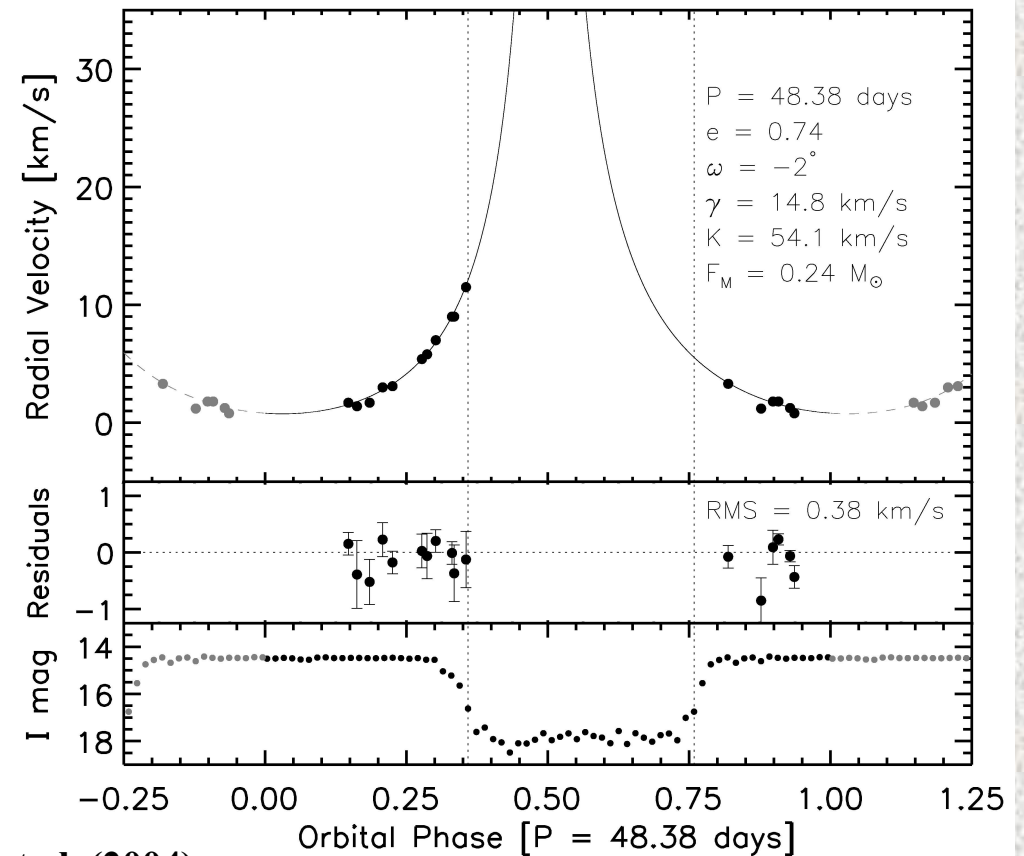
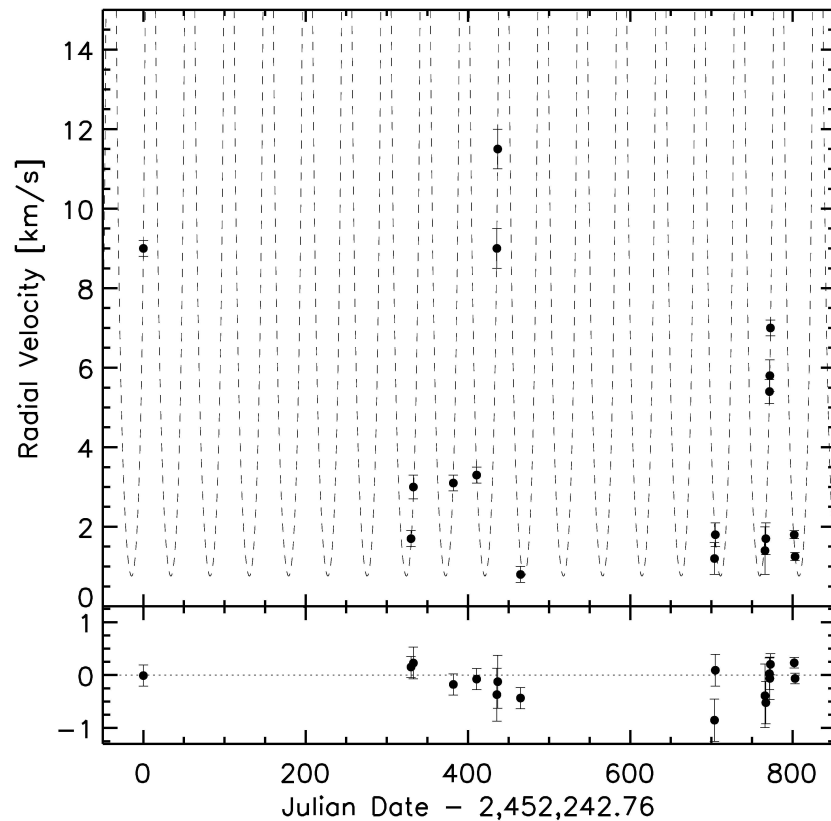


# High Resolution Spectra



Hamilton et al. (2012)

# A Radial Velocity Study

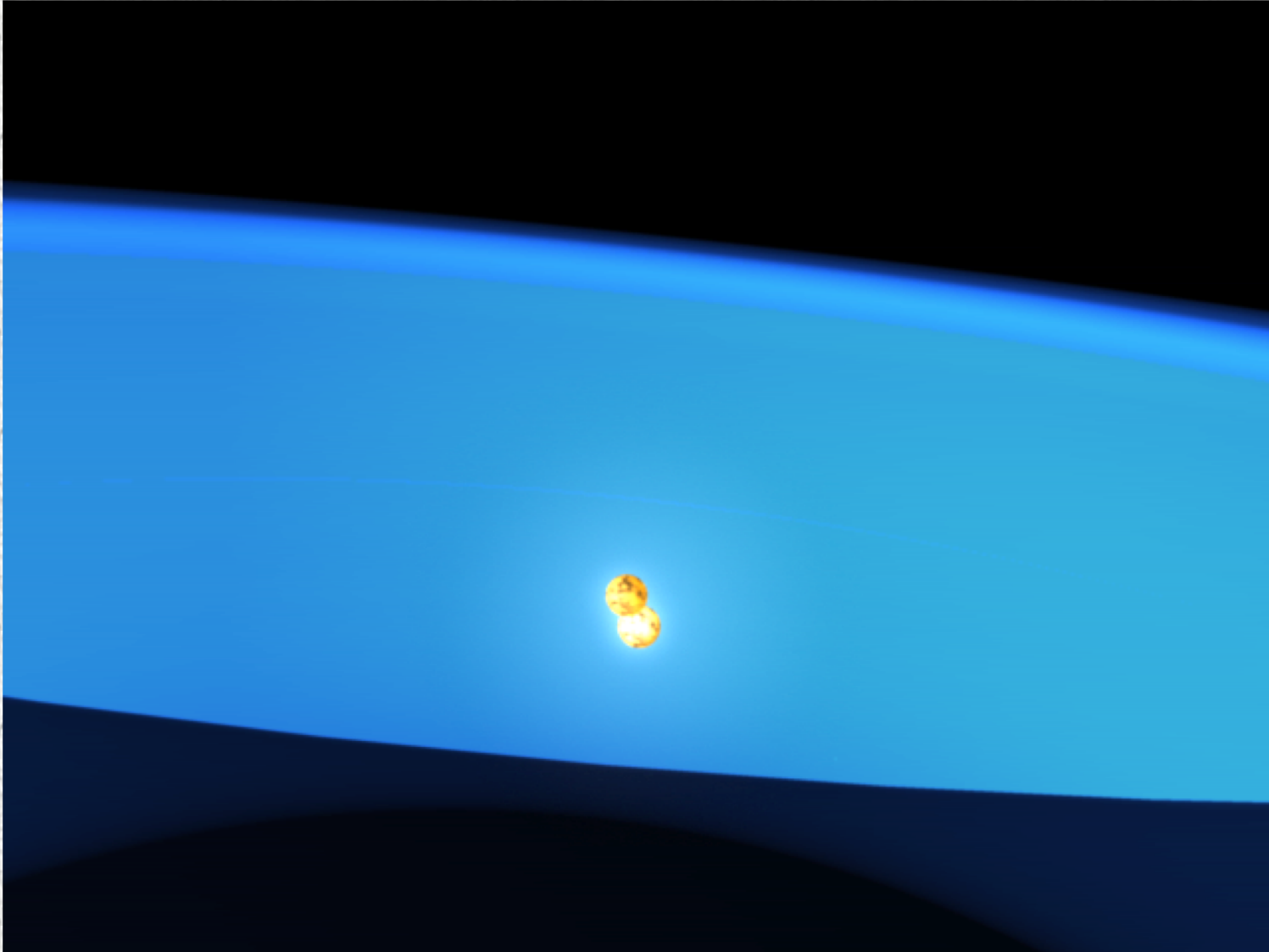


Johnson et al. (2004)

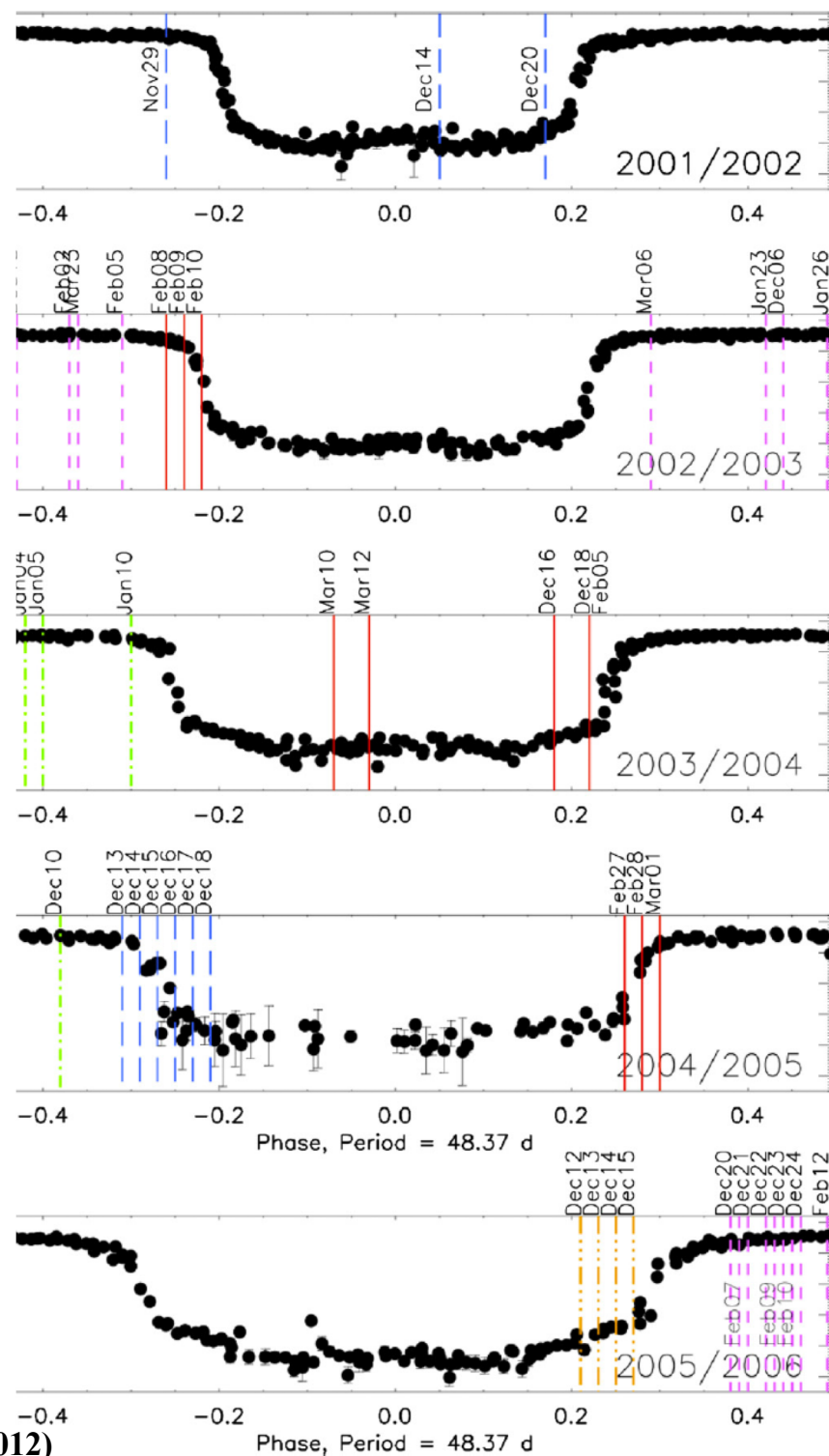
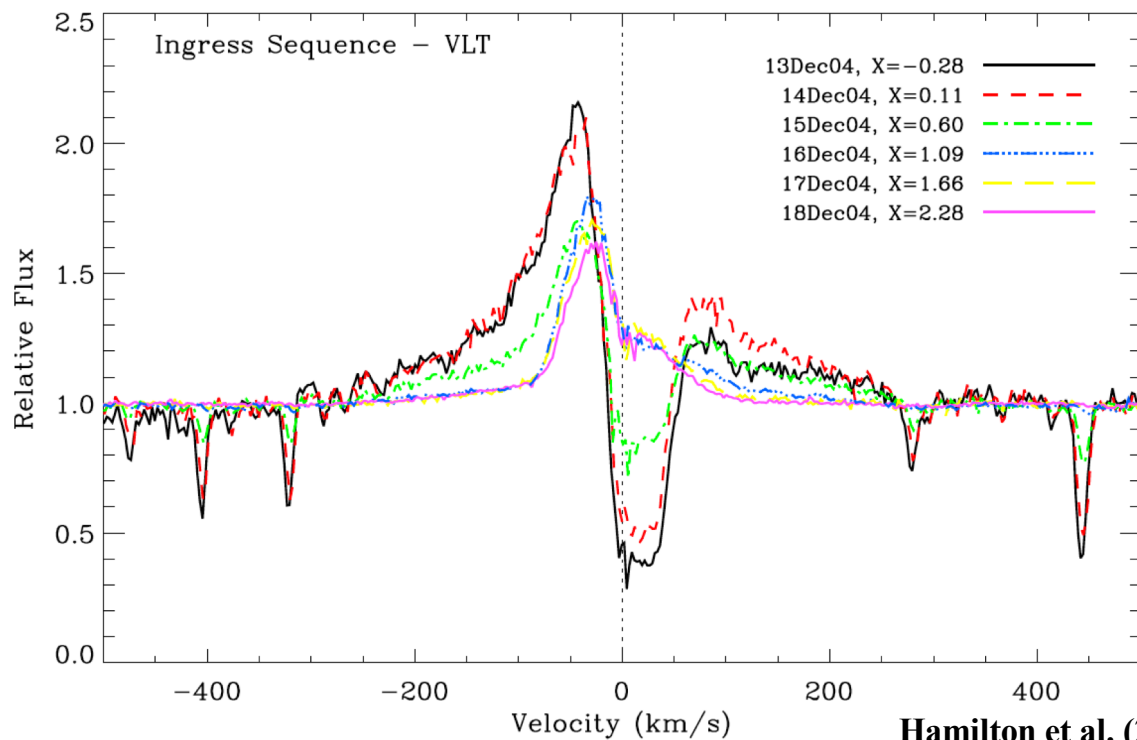
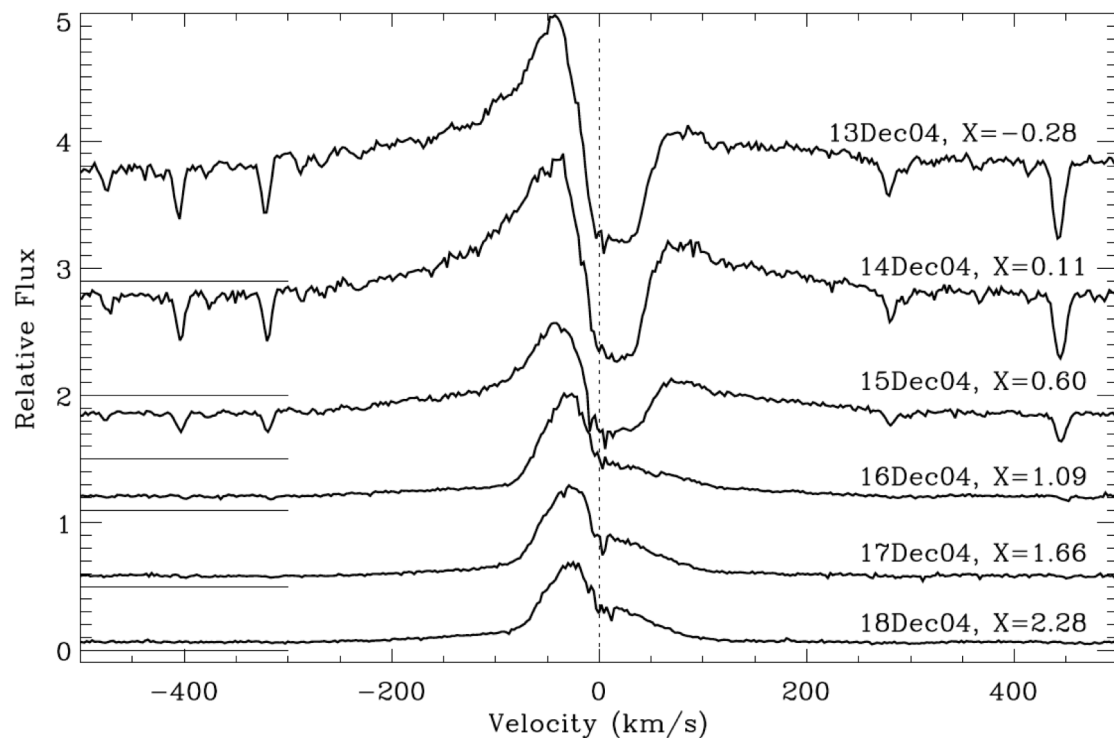
- Variations have been observed and are consistent with a **binary companion** with an orbital period equal to the 48-day photometric period



# The Eclipsing KH 15D System: Artist's Rendition (~2010)



**Credit:** Wesleyan University



Hamilton et al. (2012)

# [OI] Profiles

Forbidden emission lines  
are an important diagnostic  
for outflows close to a star  
on scales of 20-40 AU

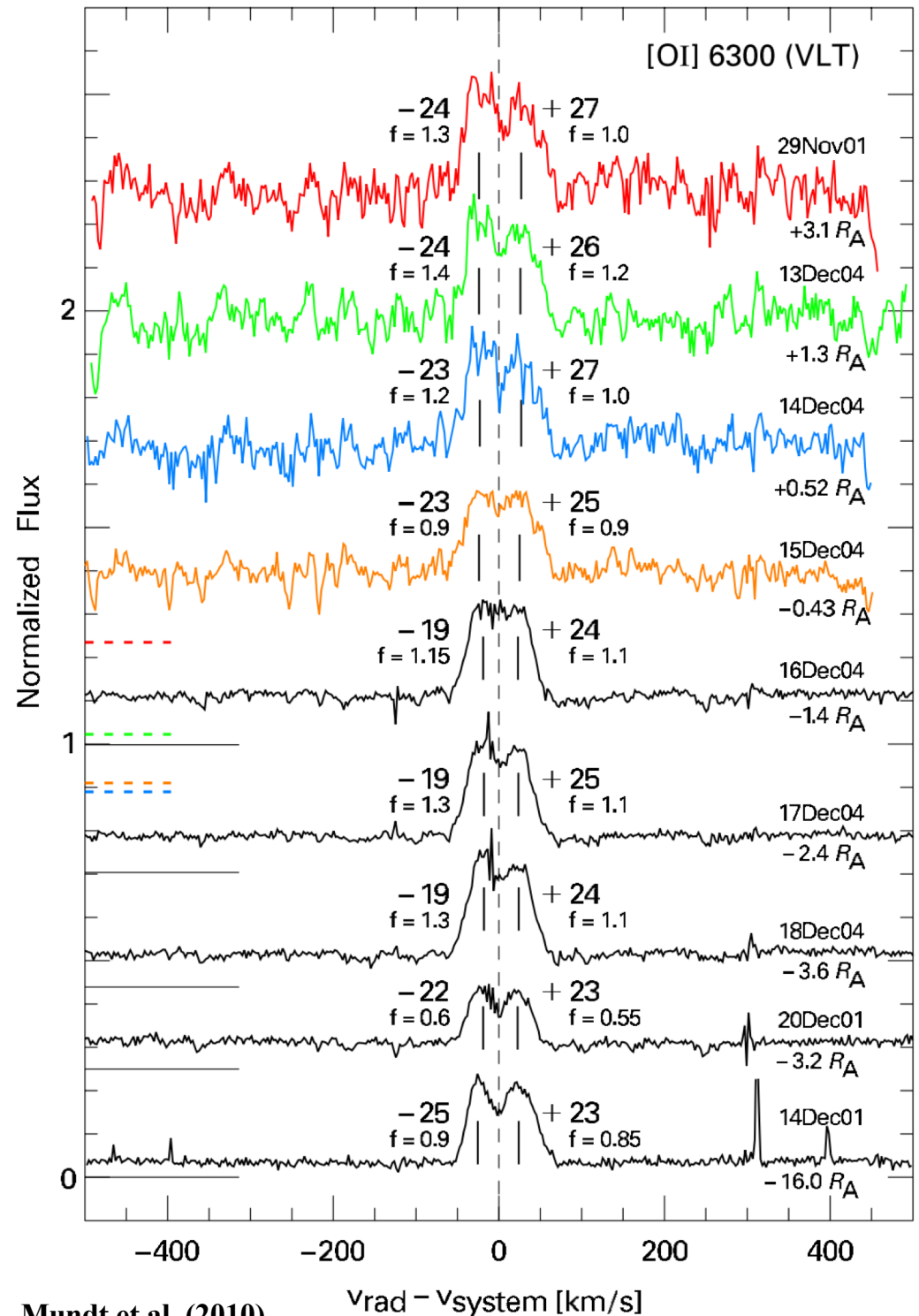
(Hartigan et al. 1995)

assuming a jet speed of  
 $\sim 200 \text{ km s}^{-1}$   
 $\rightarrow i_{\text{jet}} = 81^\circ$

## New Interpretation!

Profiles arise from the hot  
surface of a gaseous disk  
surrounding the binary

(see Fang et al. 2019)





# Evidence of Outflow

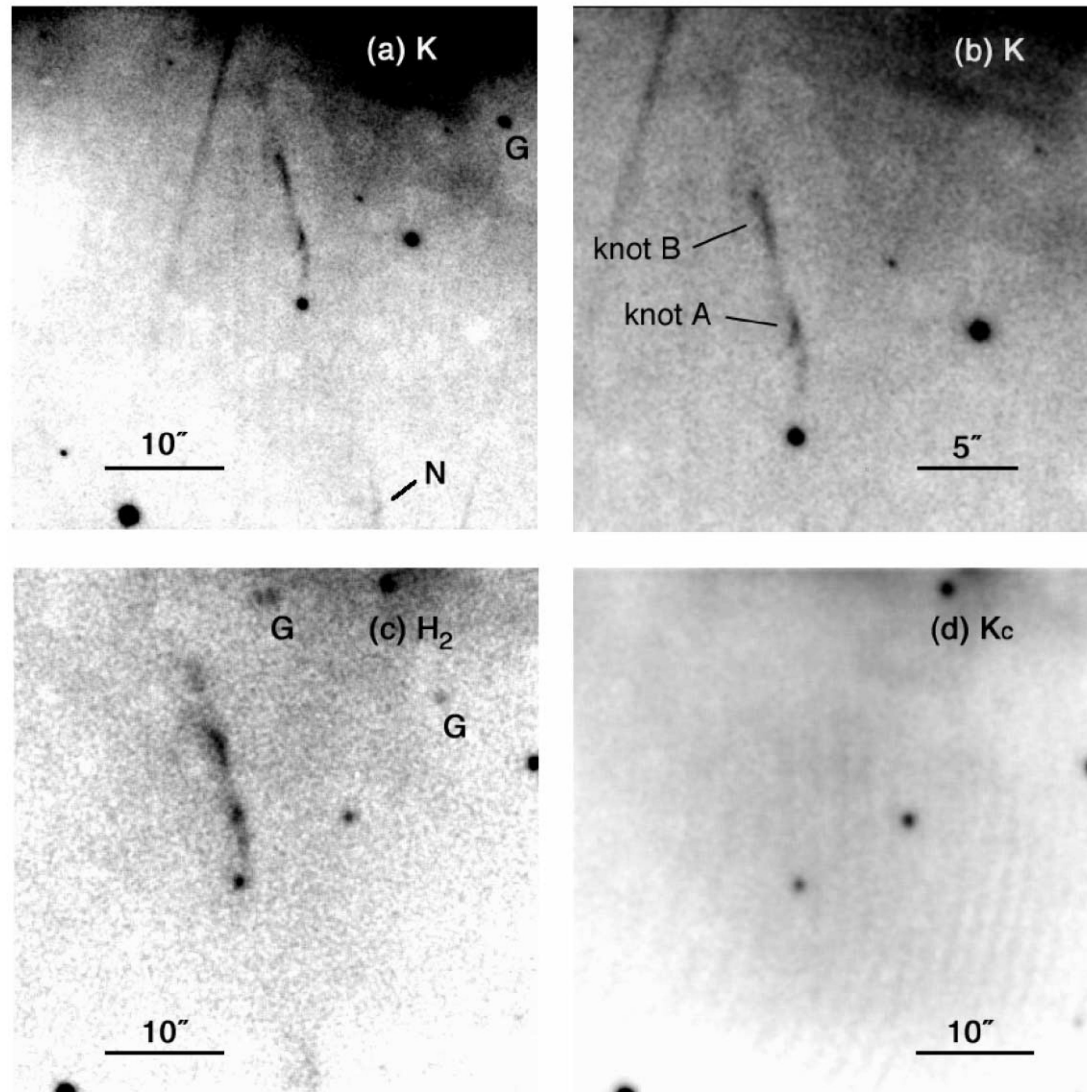


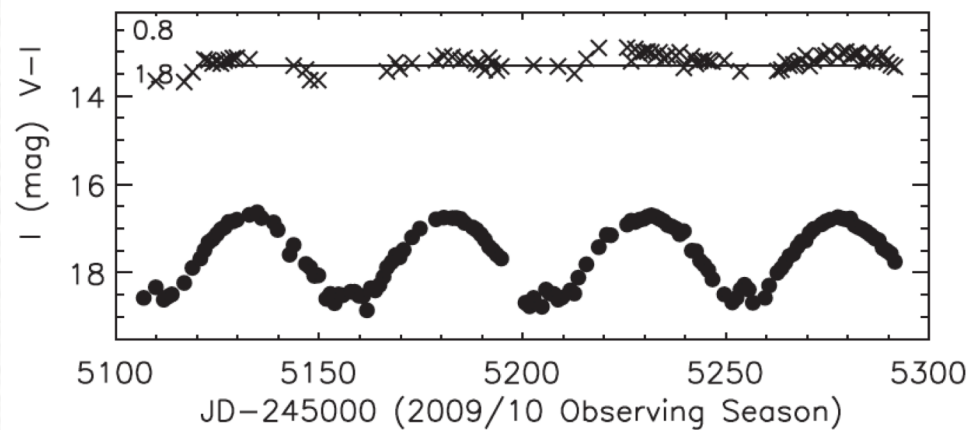
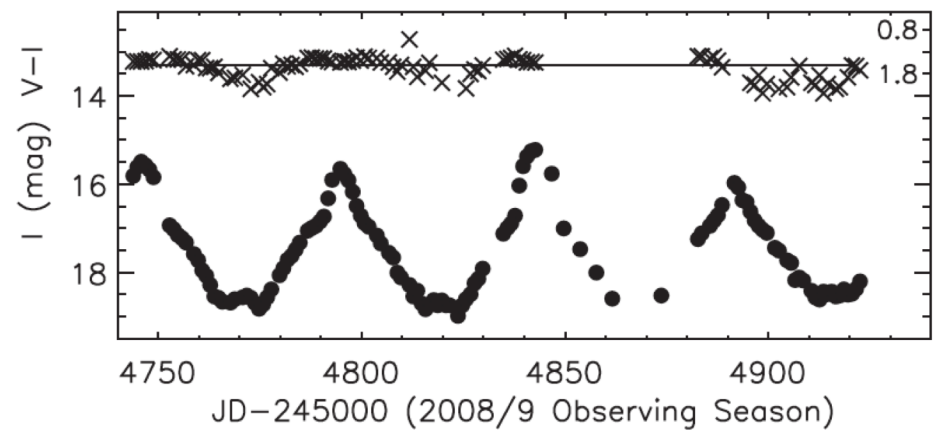
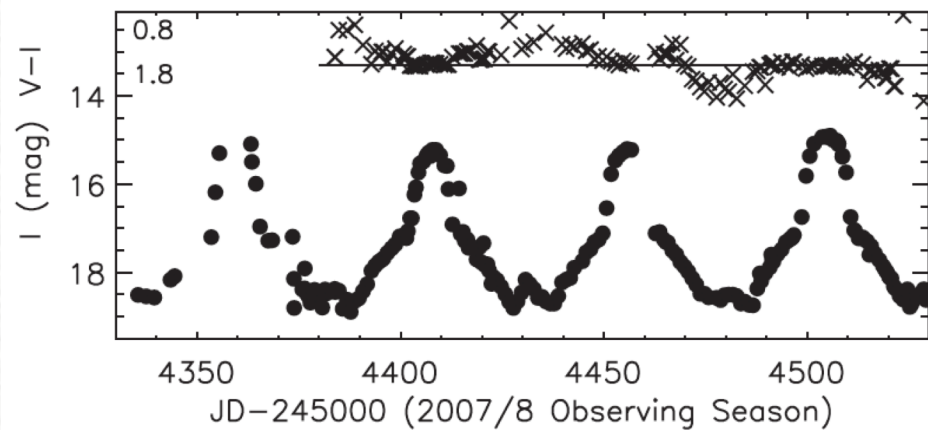
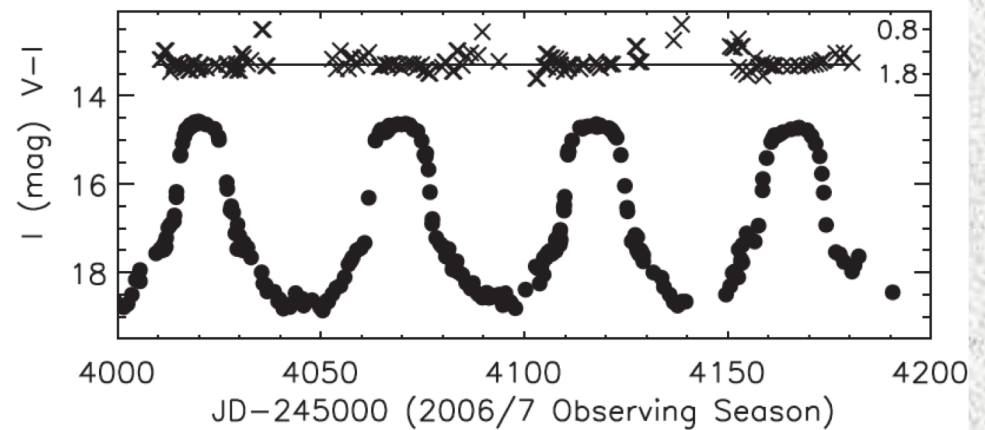
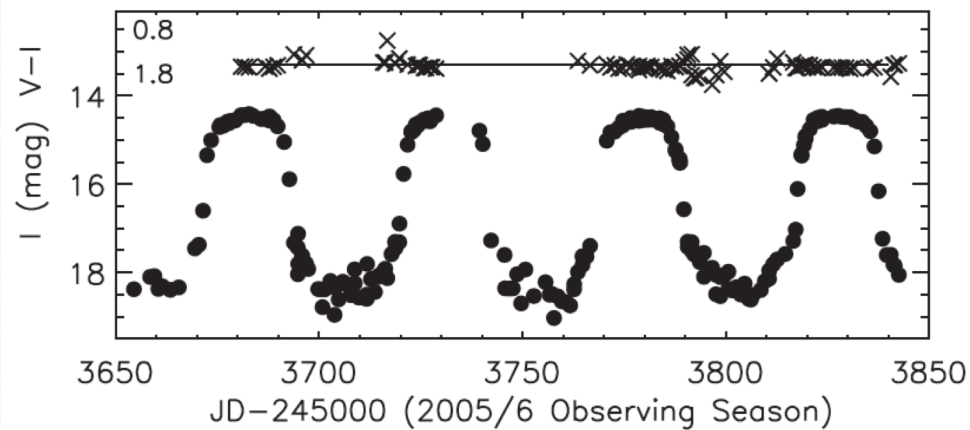
FIG. 1.—Images of KH 15D obtained with the Subaru Telescope. (a) *K*-band image. (b) Same as (a), but expanded to show the details of the filament. (c) Narrowband H<sub>2</sub> image. (d) Narrowband *K* continuum image. In these figures, north is up, and east is to the left. The filament extends 6'' to the north at a position angle of 1° and then extends 7''.5 to the east at a position angle of 15°. "G" denotes ghost images that arise from the beam splitter in IRCS. "N" denotes faint nebulosity that may be a counterjet.

(Tokunaga et al. 2004)

# The Eclipsing System KH 15D/V582 Mon

- Member of NGC 2264, Age  $\sim 3$  Myr,  $d \sim 760$  pc (Park et al. 2000)
- Pre-main sequence binary,  $0.6 M_{\odot}$  and  $0.7 M_{\odot}$  (Johnson et al. 2004)
- $P = 48.37$  days,  $e = 0.6$ ,  $a = 0.25$  AU,  $i \sim 84^{\circ}$  (Hamilton et al. 2001, 2003, 2005; Johnson et al. 2004)
- Encircled by a tilted, precessing circumbinary disk that extends from  $\sim 0.5$  AU to  $\sim 5$  AU (Winn et al. 2004, 2006; Chiang & Murray-Clay 2004; Silvia & Agol 2008)
- Evidence for outflow and H $\alpha$  variability (Tokunaga et al. 2004; Deming et al. 2004; Hamilton et al. 2003, 2012)
- Weak X-ray emitter (Herbst & Moran 2005)

# Light Curve Circa 2010





# Radio Observations



**SMA**

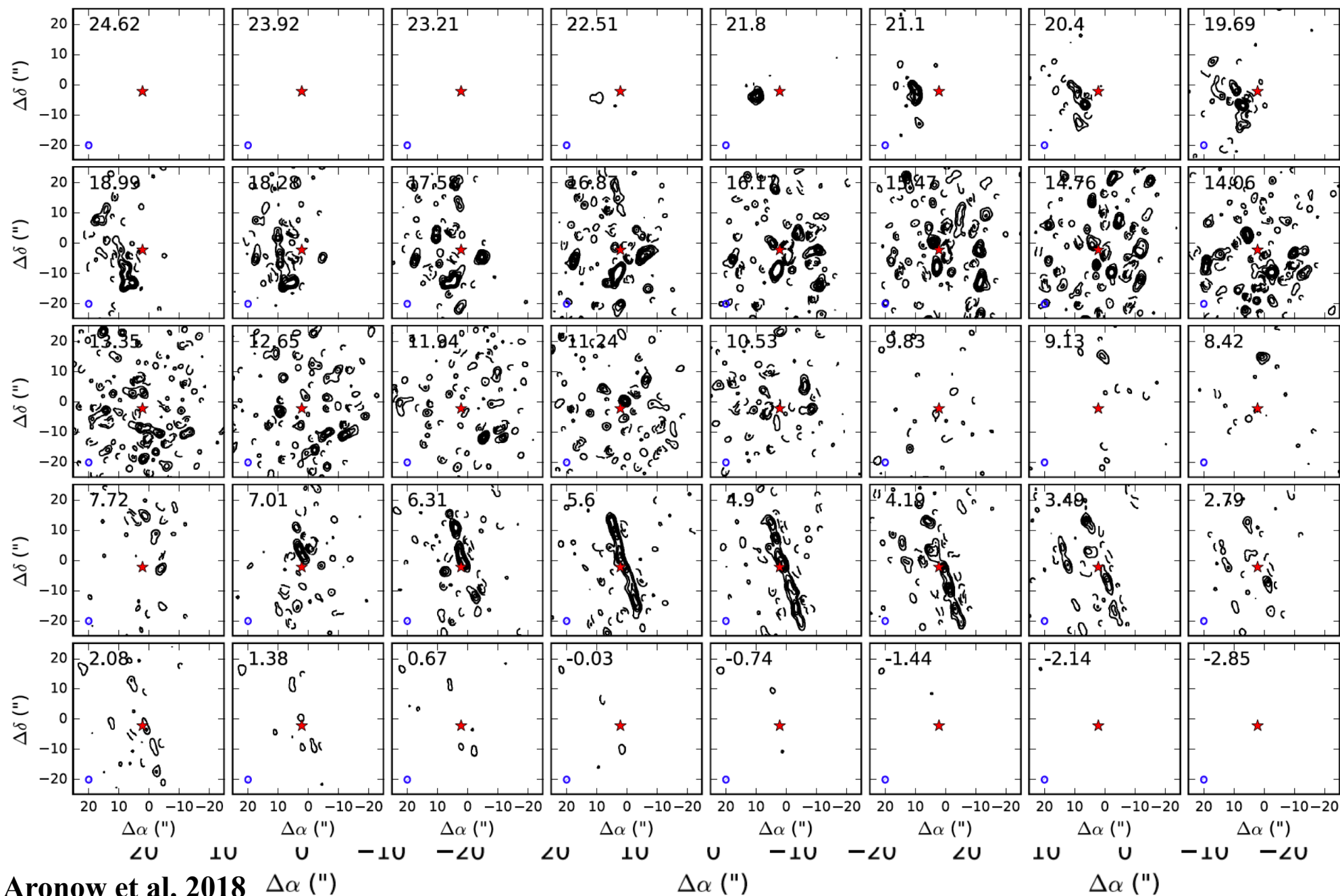
2010 Oct 13

2011 Oct 25

→ Search for  
870 $\mu$ m dust  
continuum emission

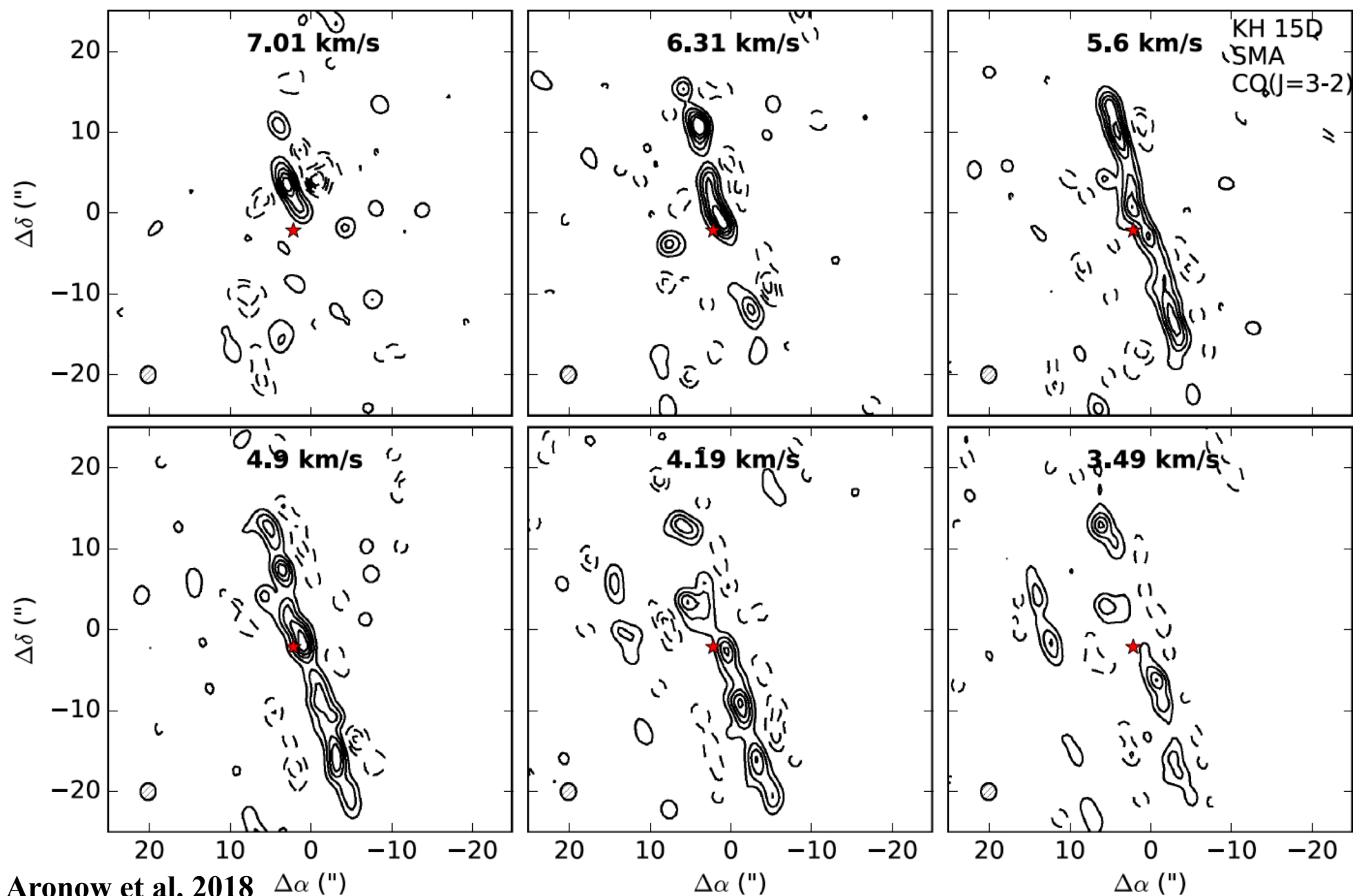
- $4\sigma$  detection in 2010 ( $5.1 \pm 1.9$  mJy), but non-detection in 2011
- Molecular line emission was detected: CO  $J = 3-2$  line source spatially coincident with the filamentary H<sub>2</sub> jet

## Radio Observations



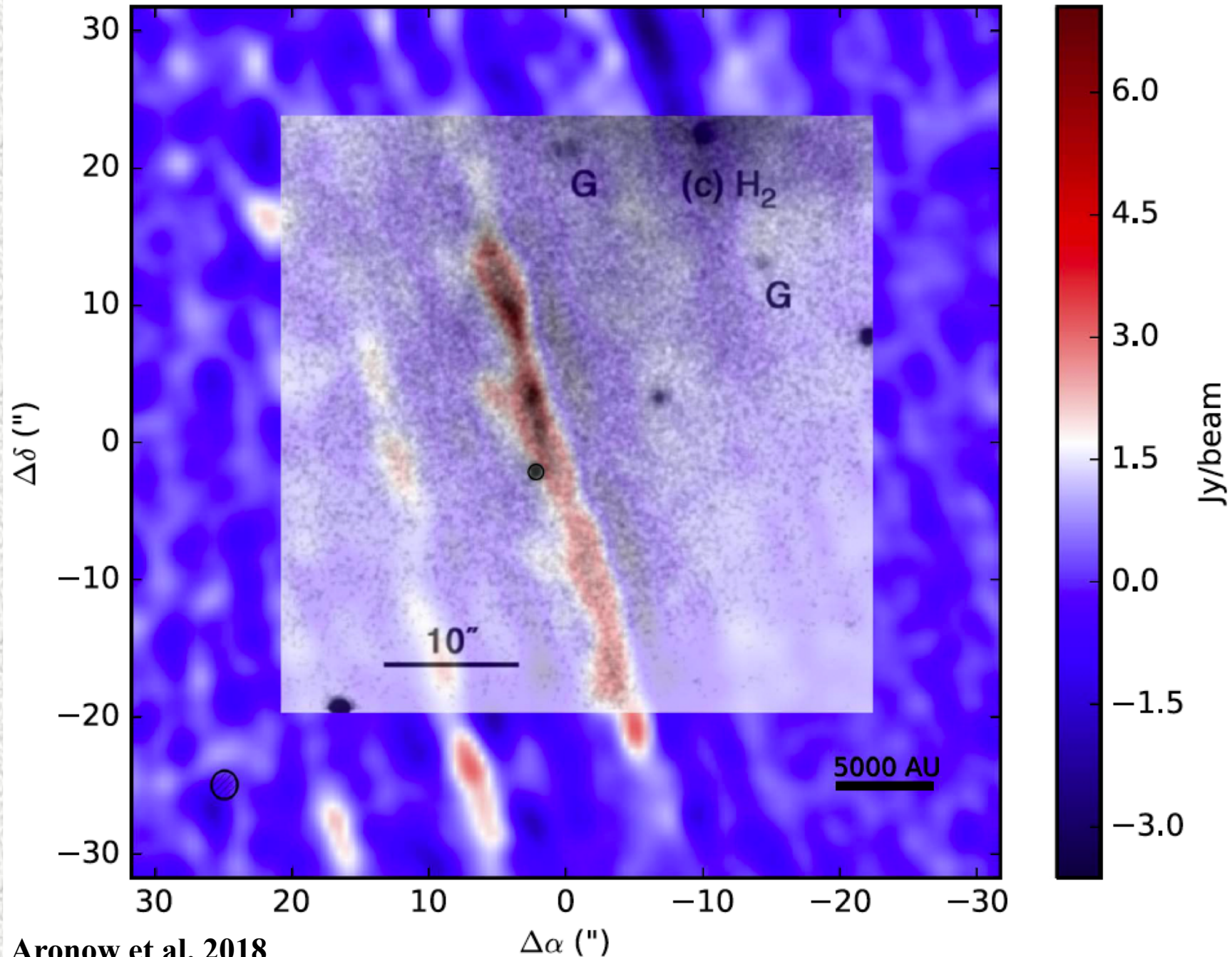


# Radio Observations

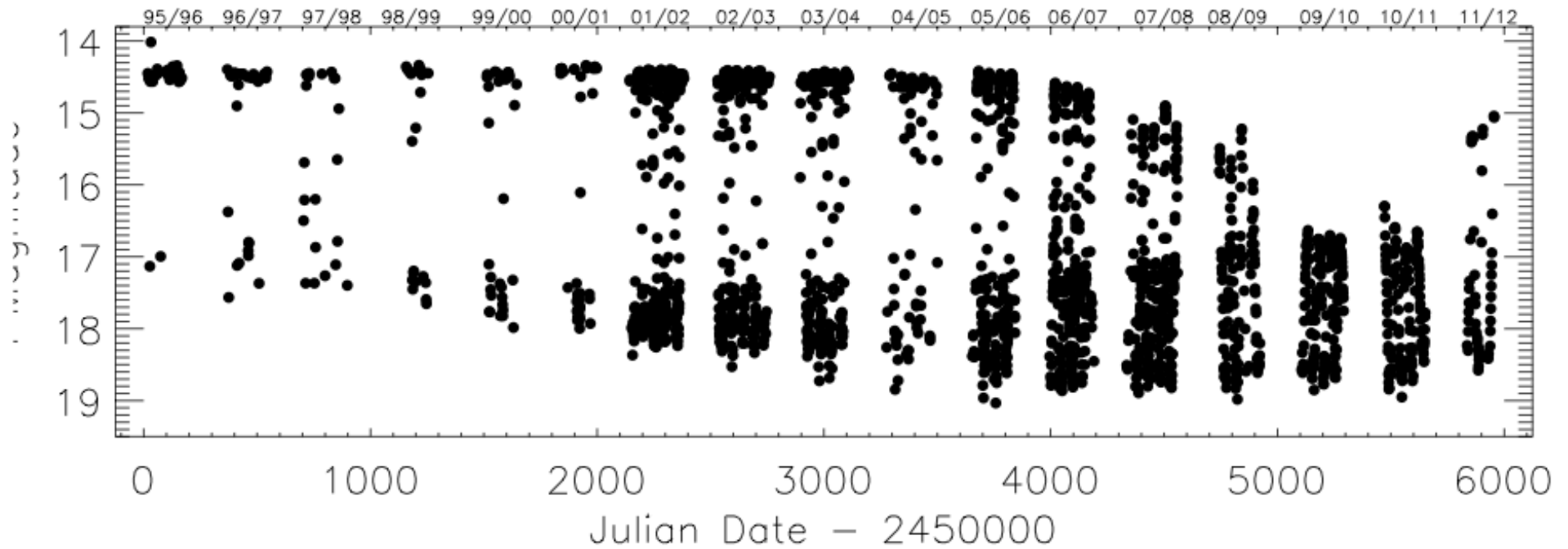




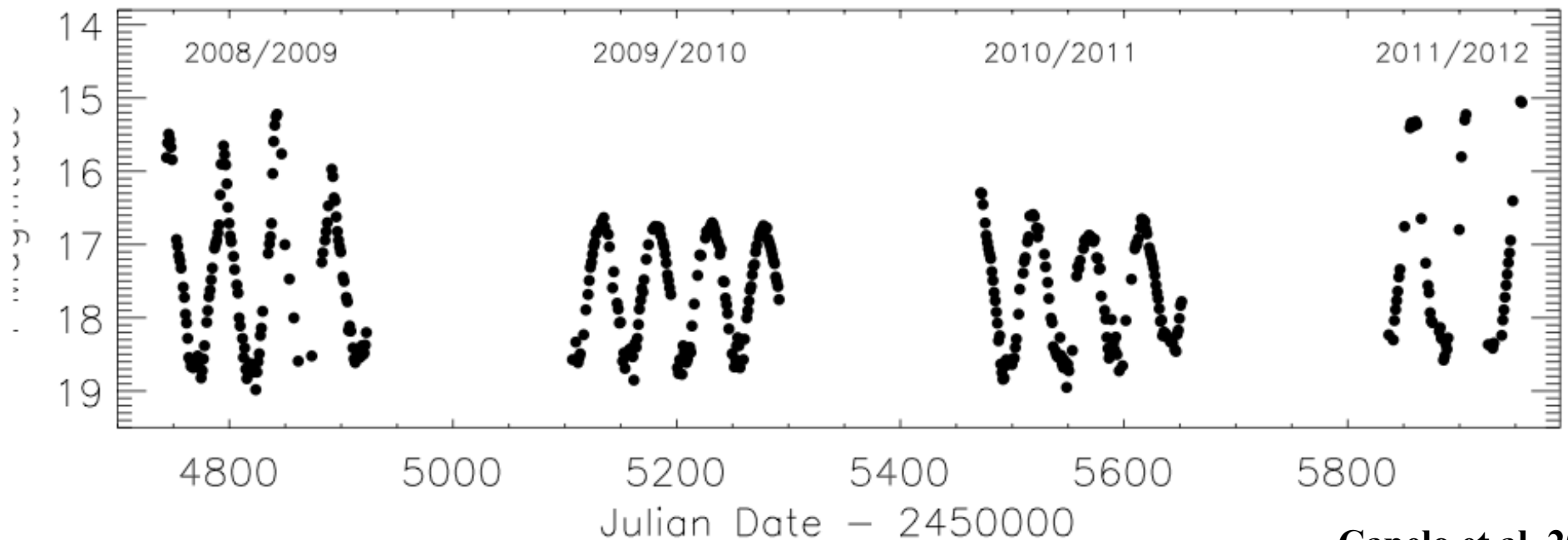
# Radio Observations

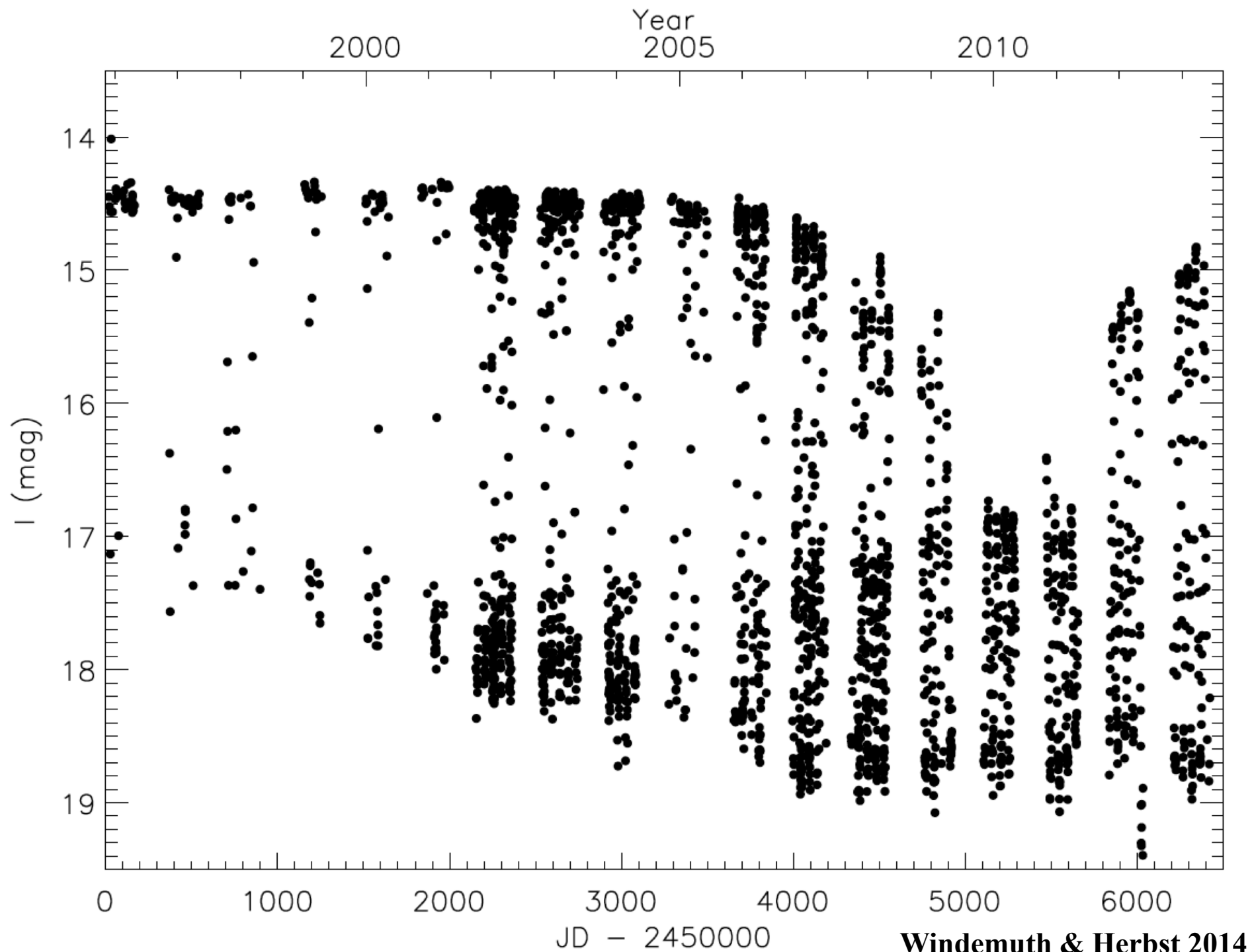


Aronow et al. 2018



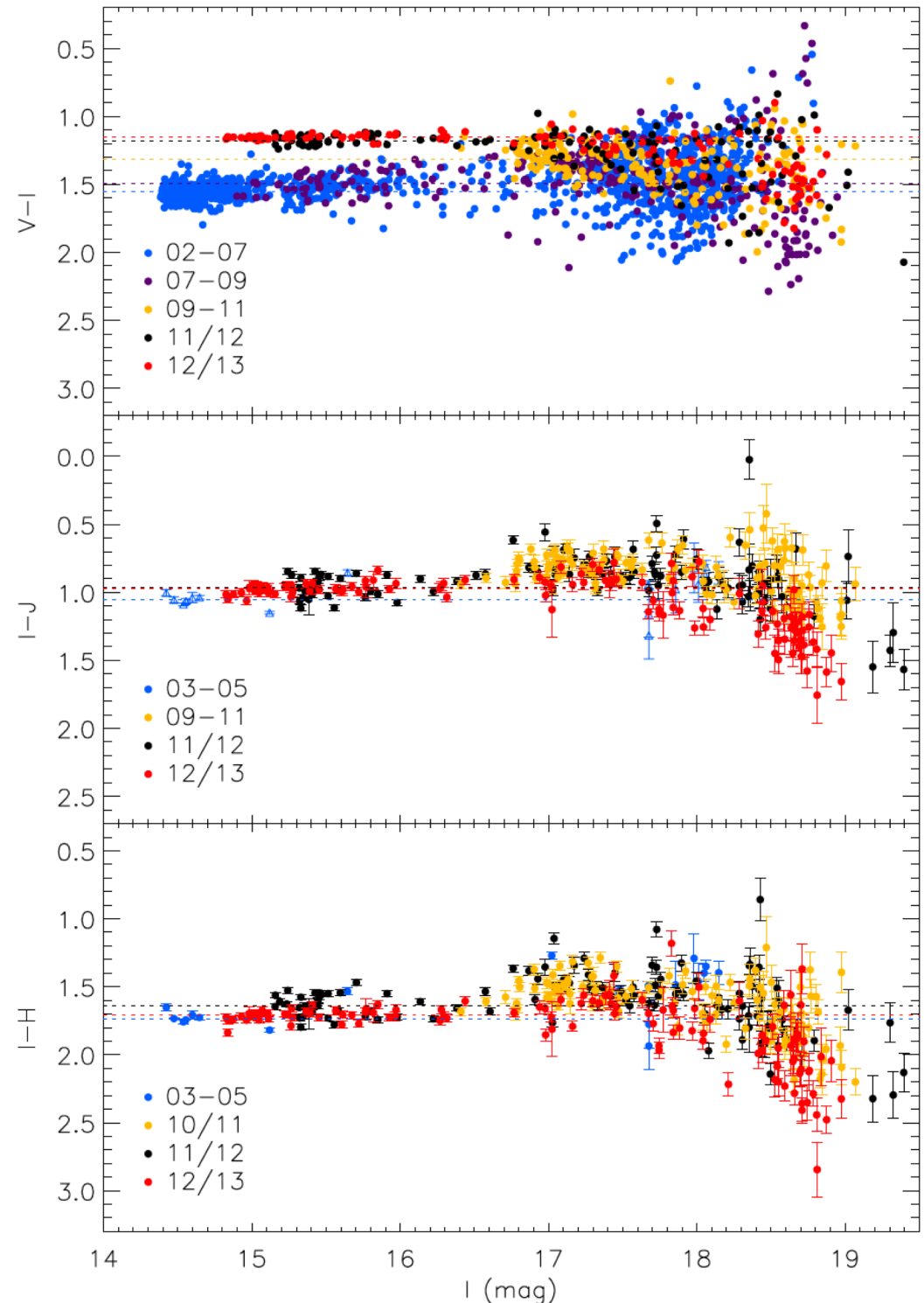
Star B is found to be of spectral type K1







- Two distinct bright phase colors corresponding to Star A (2002-2009) and Star B (2011-2013)
- 2012/2013 color redden dramatically, in excess of the photometric colors of either star A or star B  
→ Light from a 3rd body?



# ALMA Observations



Credit: <http://www.eso.org/public/images/ann13040a/>

- Observed 16 January 2016; did not reveal a source at the location of KH 15D
- Non-detection sets an upper limit on the 2 mm flux density and allows for an estimate on the upper limit for the total mass of the disk  $\Rightarrow \sim 1.7 M_{\text{Jup}}$

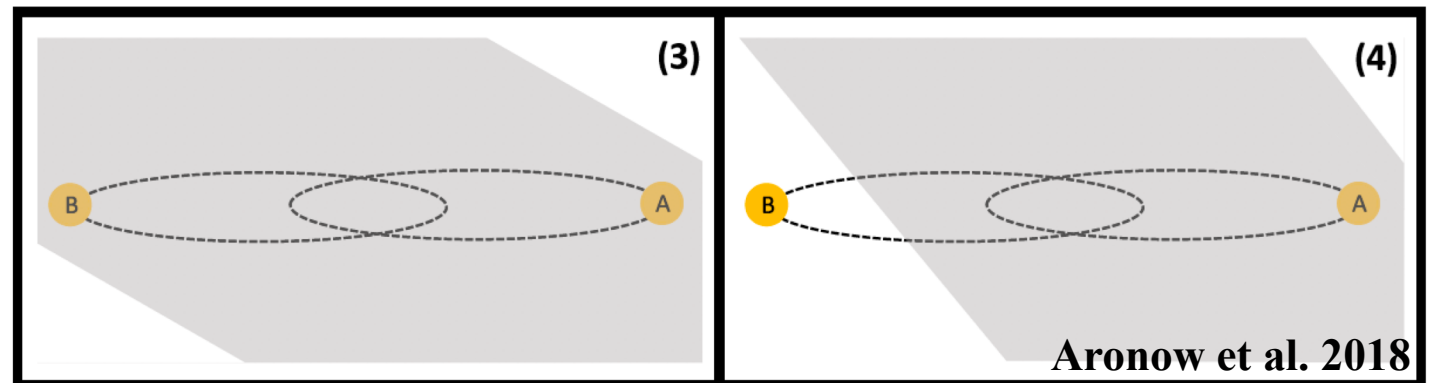
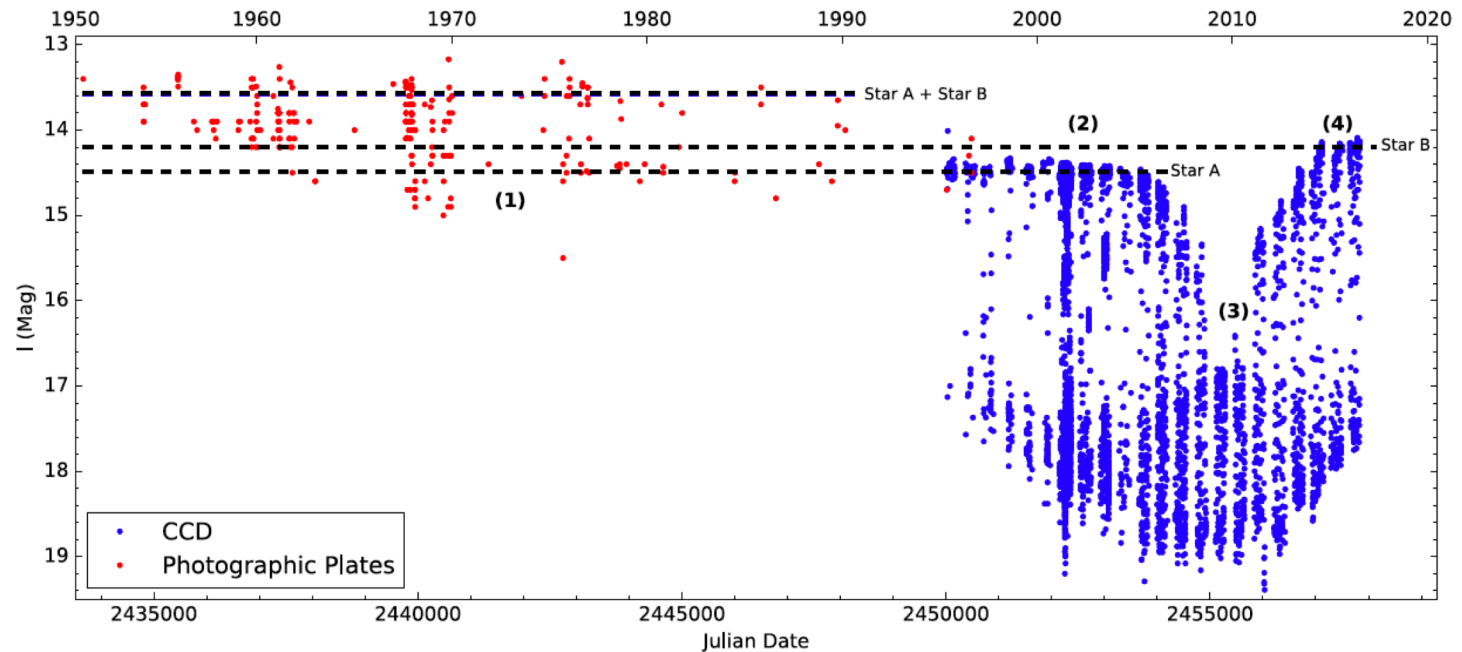
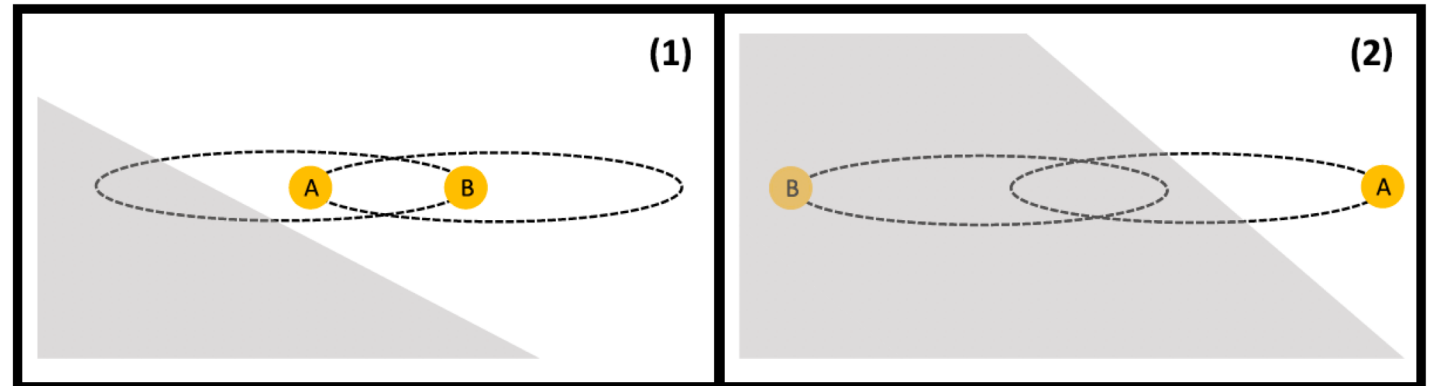
Aronow et al. 2018



- Projected ring edges move together across the sky at  $\sim 15$  m/s, fully supporting the rigid precession of a ring theory

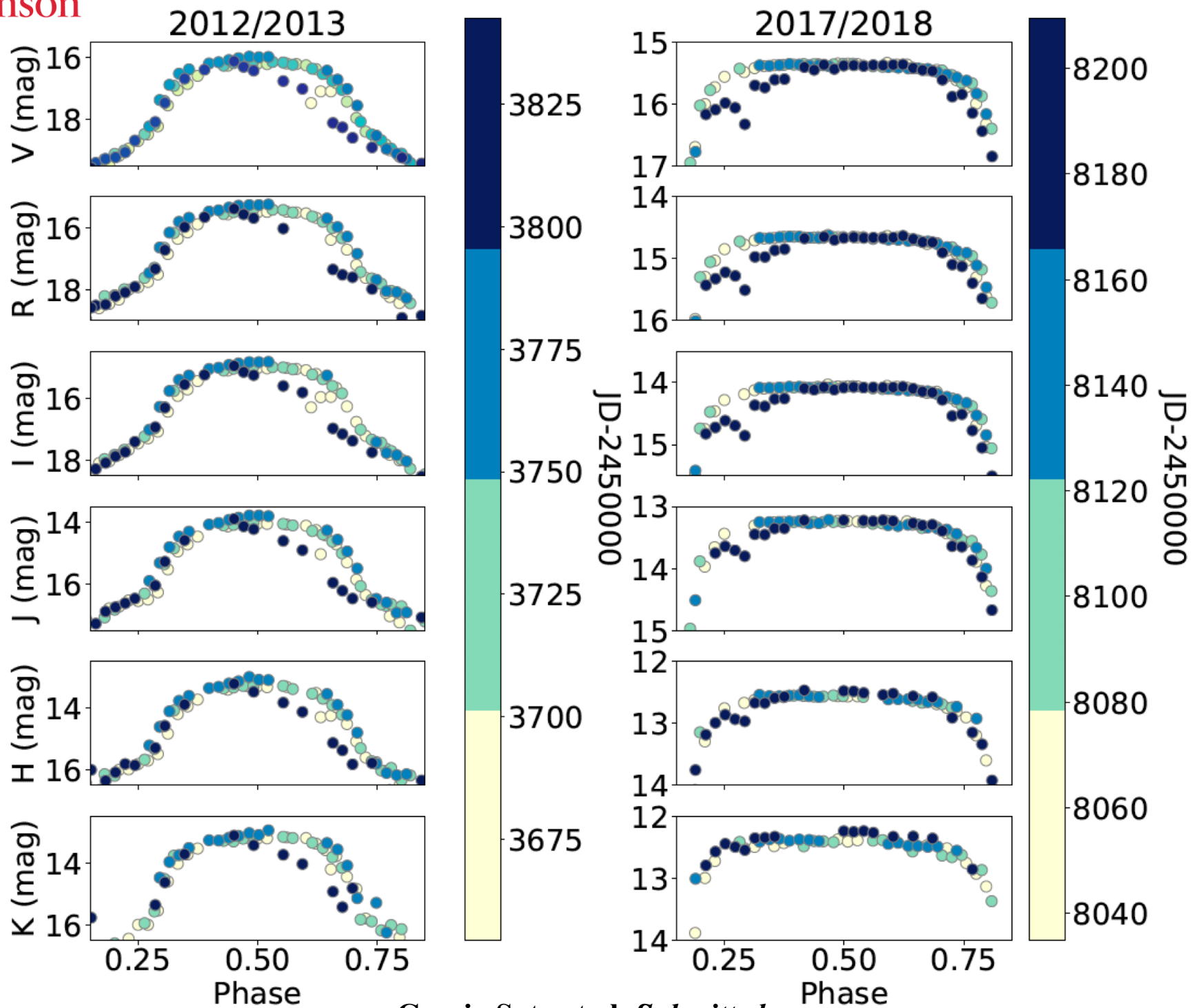
- Ring radius  $\sim 4$  AU with precession period of  $\sim 6500$  yrs

(Arulanantham et al. 2016)



Aronow et al. 2018

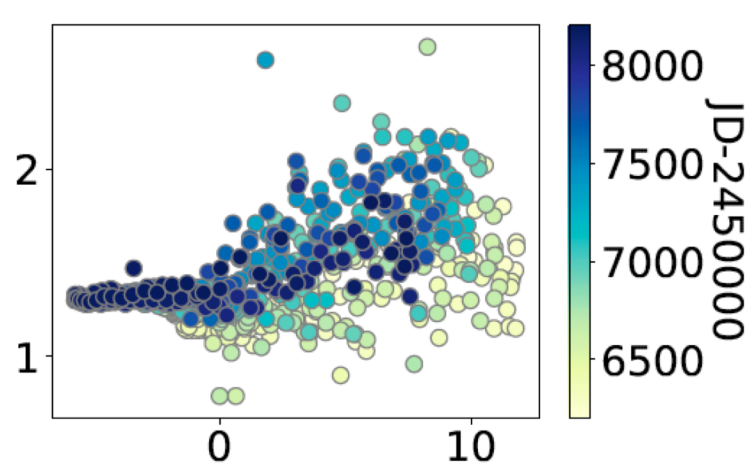
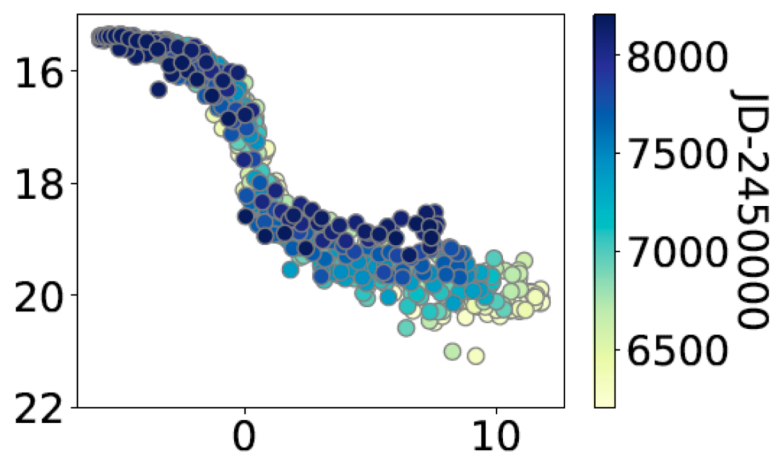
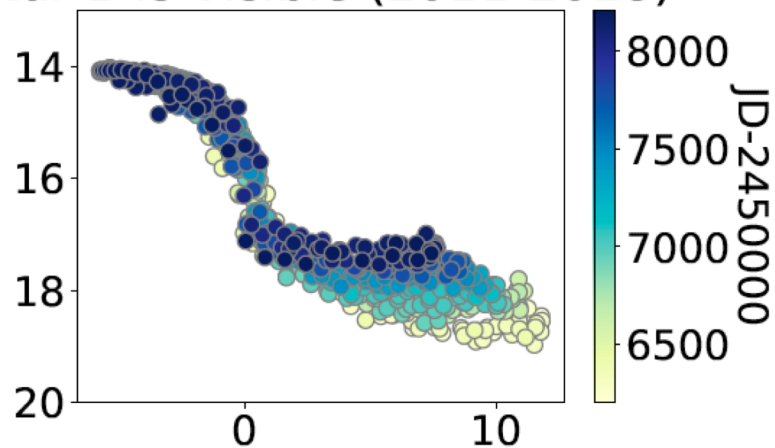
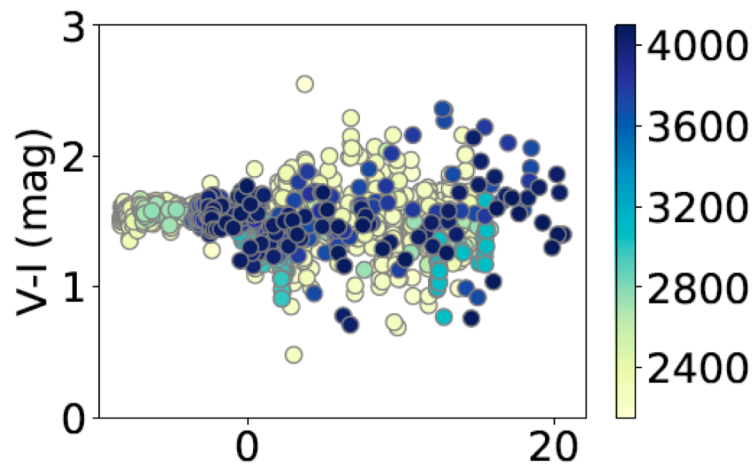
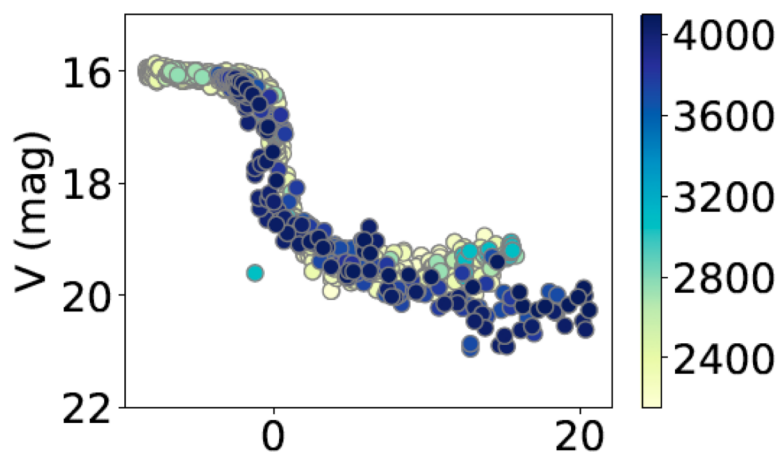
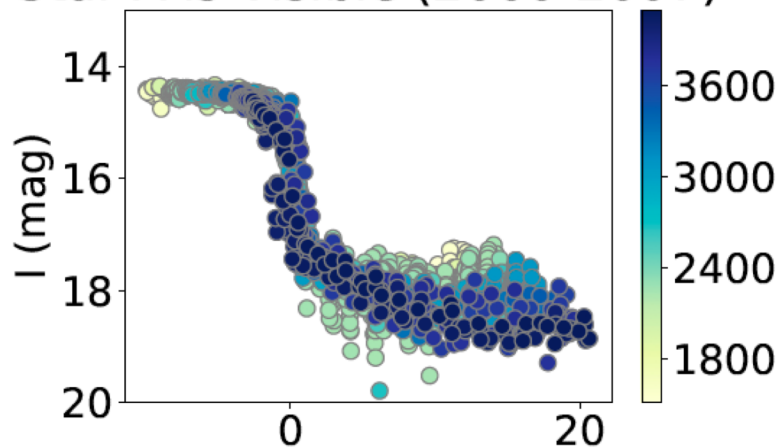




Dickins

Star A is Visible (2000-2007)

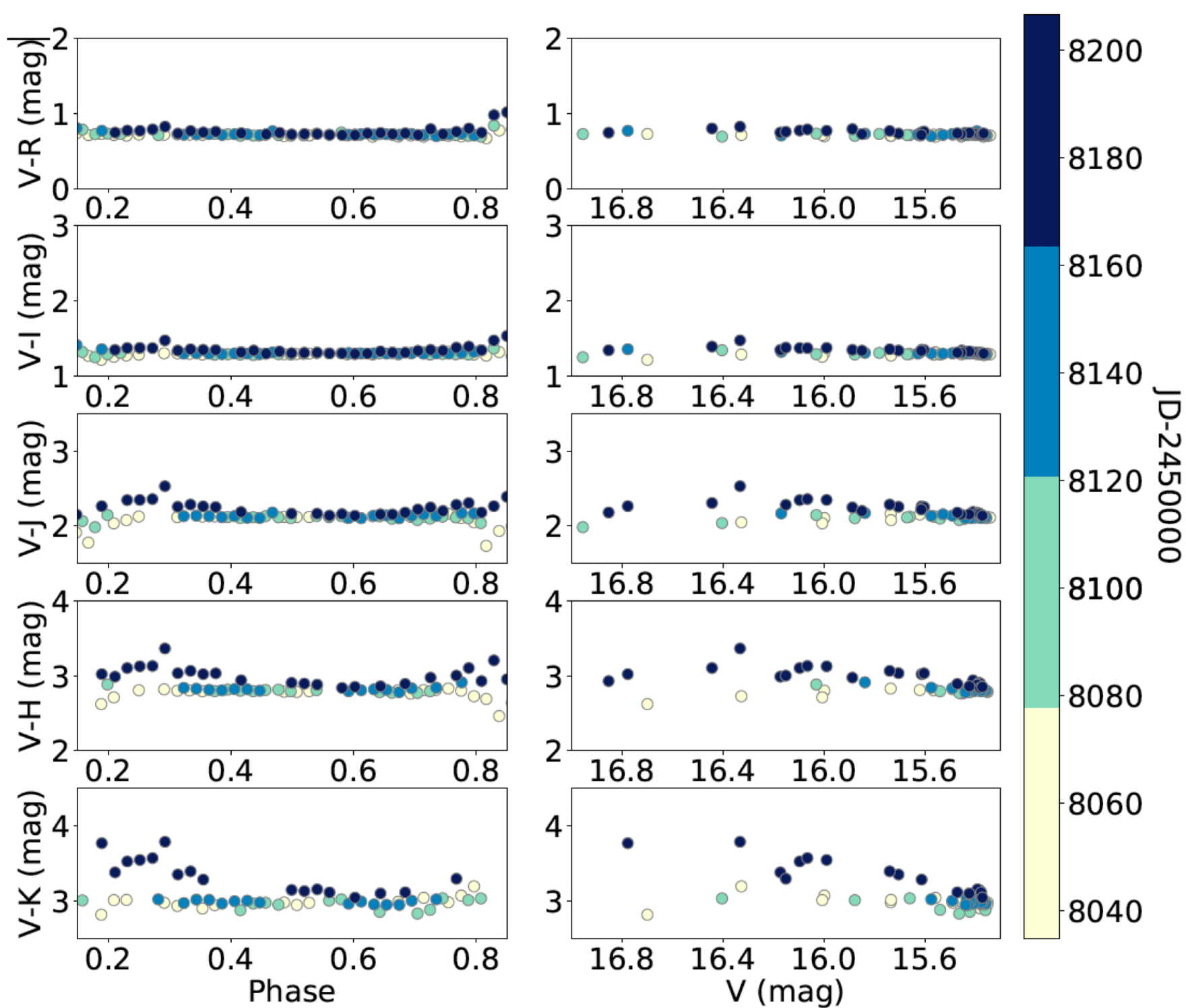
Star B is Visible (2011-2018)



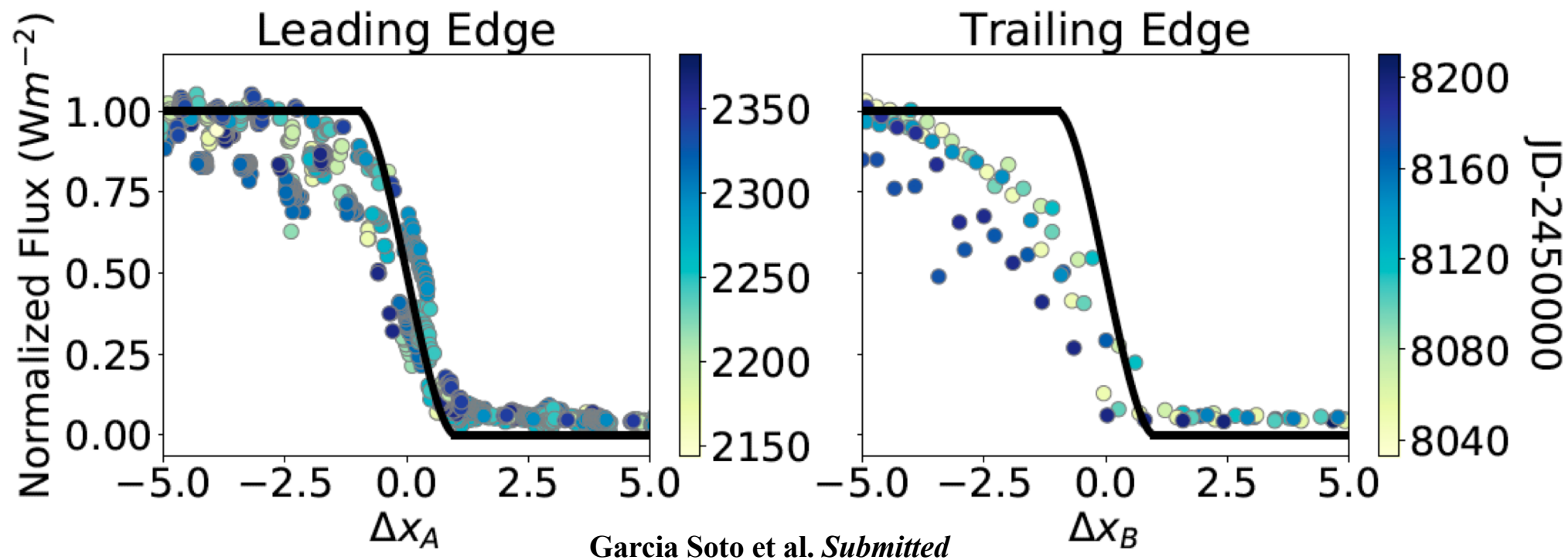
$$\Delta X_A = (X_{sf} - X_A)/R_A$$

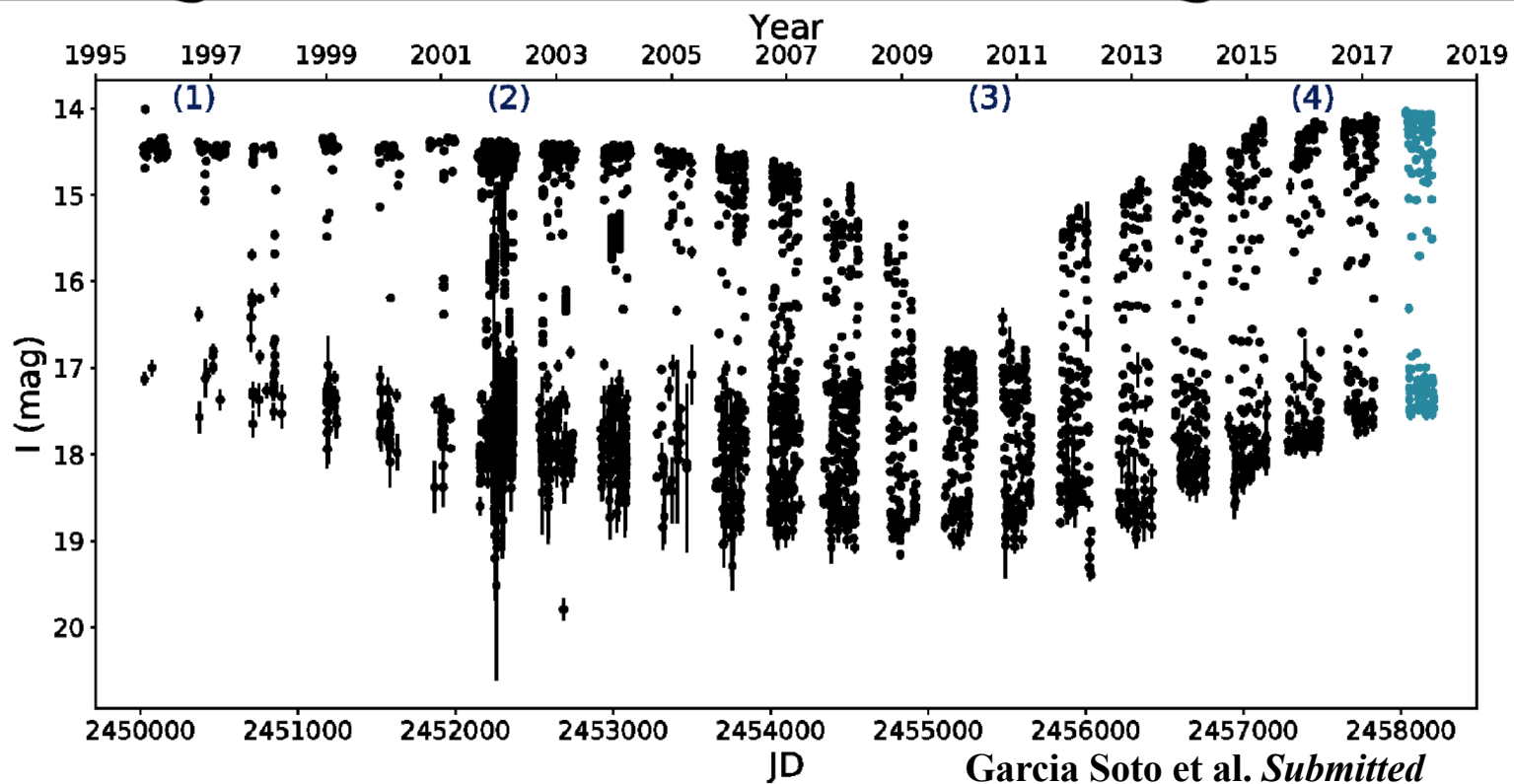
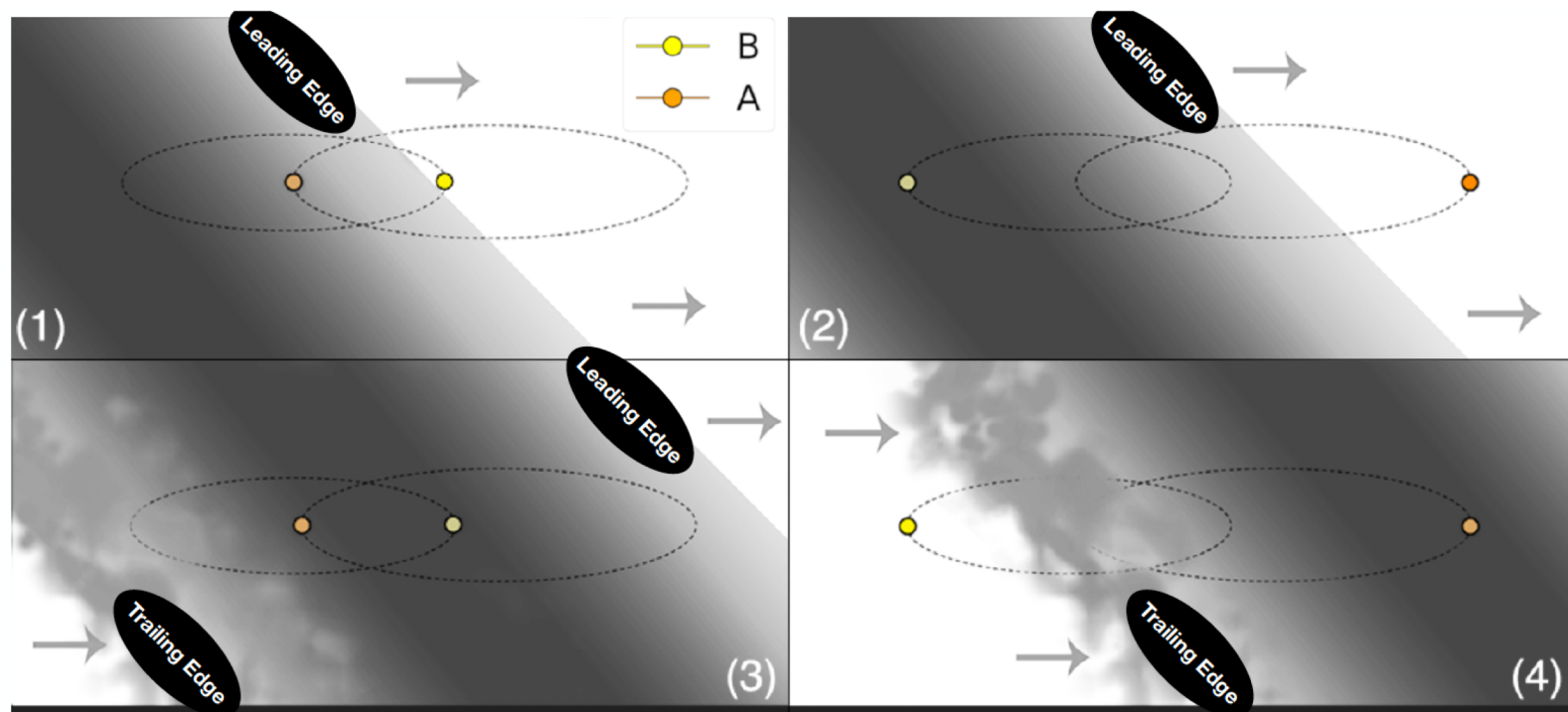
$$\Delta X_B = (X_{sb} - X_B)/R_B$$

Garcia Soto et al. *Submitted*









## Open Questions

- Is it a planet that maintains the rigid precession or something else?
  - Redder colors during the 2012/2013 season hint at one  
(Windemuth & Herbst 2014)
- New models (Lyra & Kuchner 2013) propose ways to form rings without shepherding planets.
  - Depends on gas-to-dust ratio of the disk
- Has the environment photoevaporized the outer portion of the disk?  
(Fang et al. 2019)
- How is the jet launched?

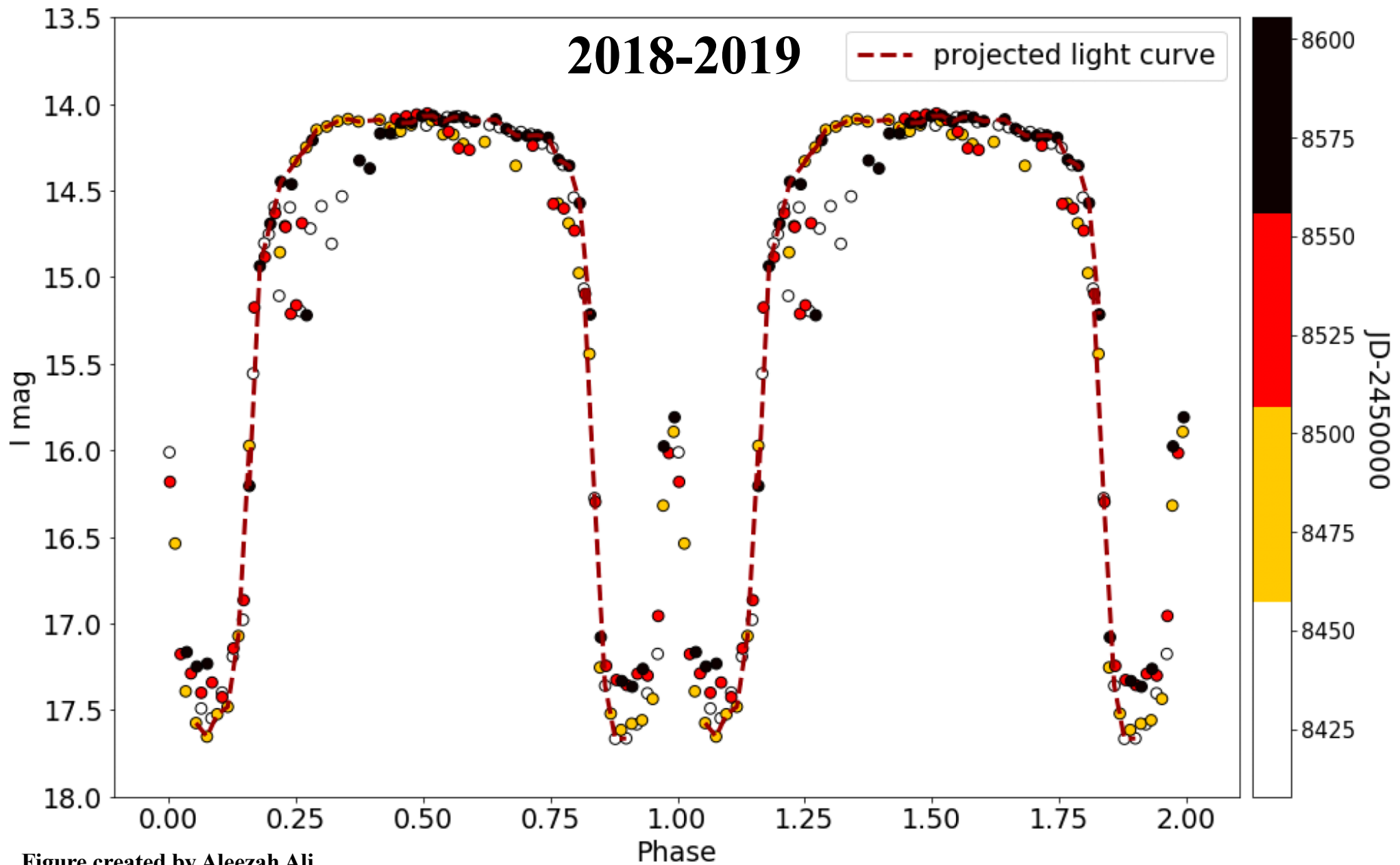


# Conclusions

**2018-2019**

**KEEP WATCHING IT, BECAUSE...**

# Conclusions



## Collaborators:

William Herbst, Wesleyan University

Reinhard Mundt, Max Planck Institut für Astronomie

Joshua Winn, Princeton

Meredith Hughes, Wesleyan University

Christopher Johns-Krull, Rice University

John Johnson, Cal Tech

Sandy Leggett, Gemini Observatory

David Wilner, Harvard/CfA

Eric Agol, University of Washington

Lisa Prato, Lowell Observatory



## **Master's Students (Wesleyan):**

Kristin Kearns (1998)

Diana Windemuth (2014)

Kathy LeDuc (2008)

Nicole Arulanantham (2016)

Samantha Lawler (2010)

Rachel Aronow (2018)

Holly Capelo (2012)

## **Undergraduate Students:**

Aylin Garcia Soto (2019) (Wesleyan U.)

Aleezah Ali (2019) (U. Washington)

## What is needed...

- More photometry! IR options?
- High resolution spectra in optical/NIR

Interested in collaborating?

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