

# Statistical Methods for Characterizing Variability in Stellar Spectra

**Jessi Cisewski**  
Yale University

229th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society  
January 7, 2017

**Allen Davis (Yale)**, Xavier Dumusque (U. of Geneva), Debra  
Fischer (Yale), Eric Ford (Penn State)

★Special thanks to **SAMSI** for supporting this session★

# SAMSI ASTRO Working Group IV

## Astrophysical Populations

WG leaders: Jessi Cisewski, Eric Ford

David Stenning (SAMSI/Duke): [dstenning@samsi.info](mailto:dstenning@samsi.info)\*

\*Contact David if interested in joining group

Some of the group's goals:

- ▶ improve the statistical methodology for interpreting detections of exoplanets, gravitational waves (GW), as well as using those to infer the underlying population of planetary systems and GW sources
- ▶ developing techniques to robustly detect and characterize planets in the presence of stellar activity from Doppler Surveys for which we do not have a first-principles model
- ▶ detecting gravitational wave sources for which the details of the primary GW signal and/or backgrounds are unknown

Allen B. Davis Poster **425.04** TODAY

*Insights on the spectral signatures of RV jitter from PCA*

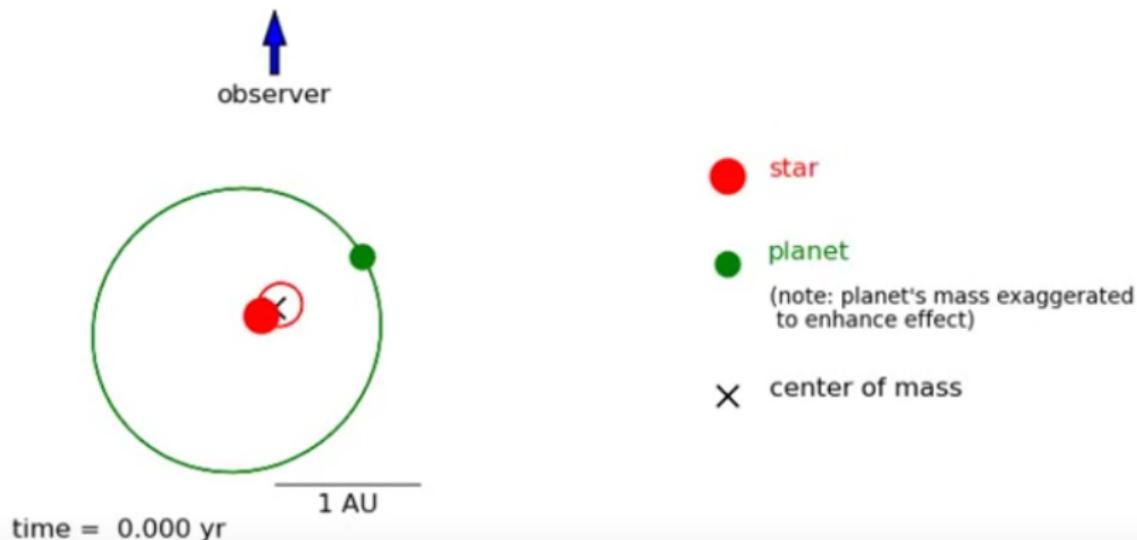


425. Extrasolar Planets Late Poster Session

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

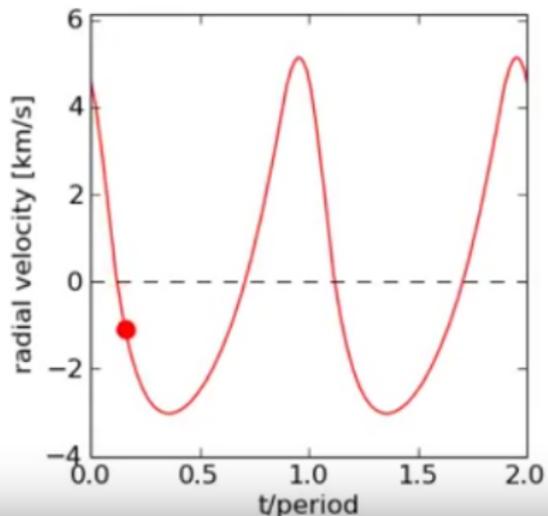
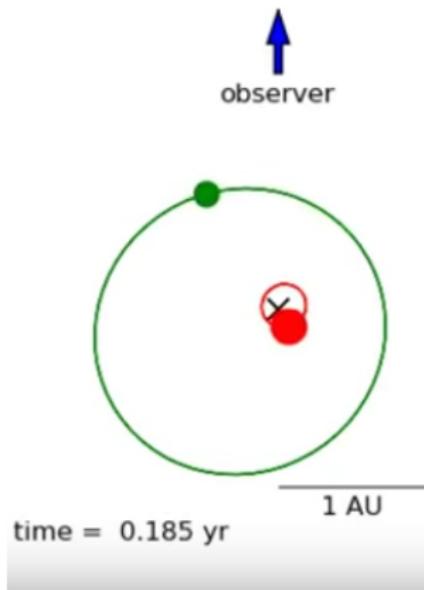
Longhorn D (Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center)

# Radial Velocity Method



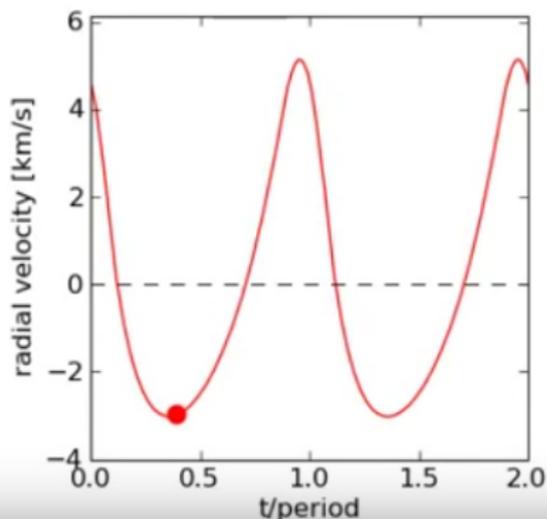
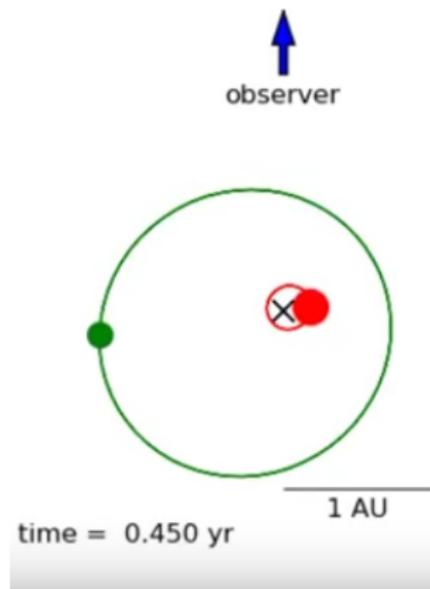
Plots: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUzDK1aTHFM>

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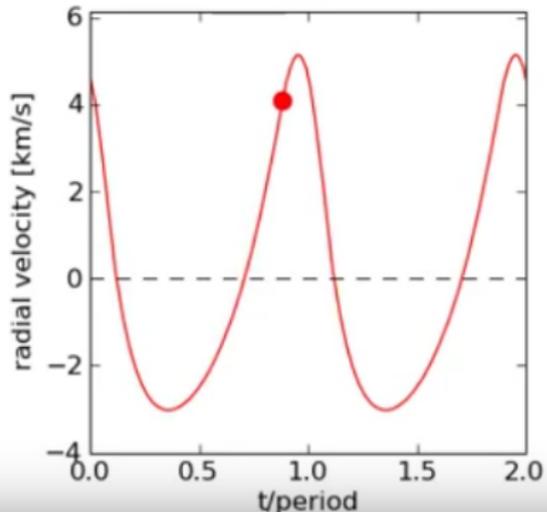
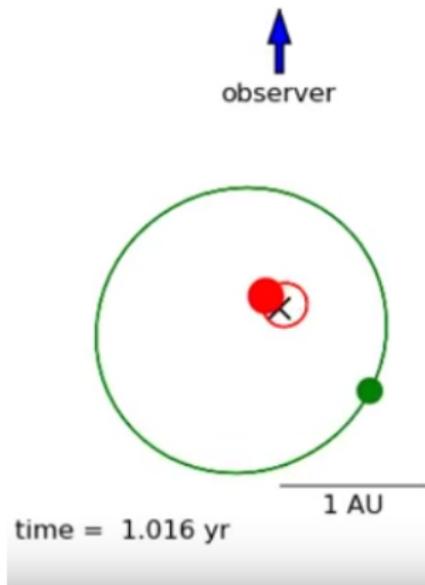
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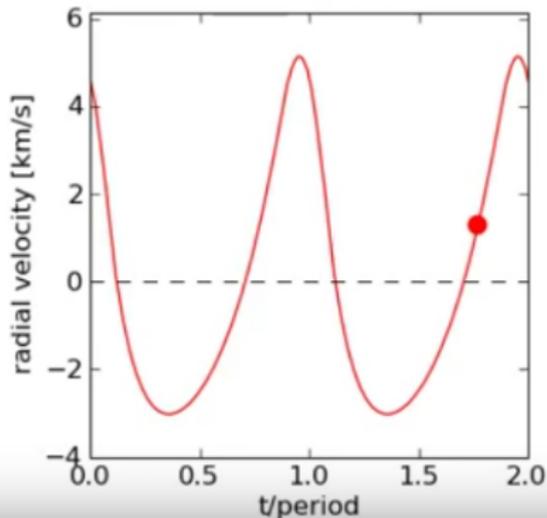
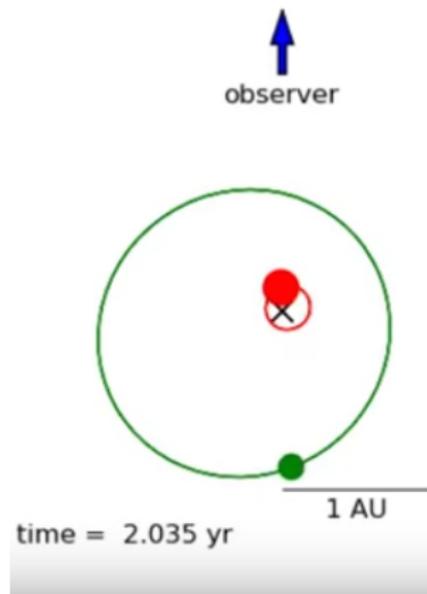
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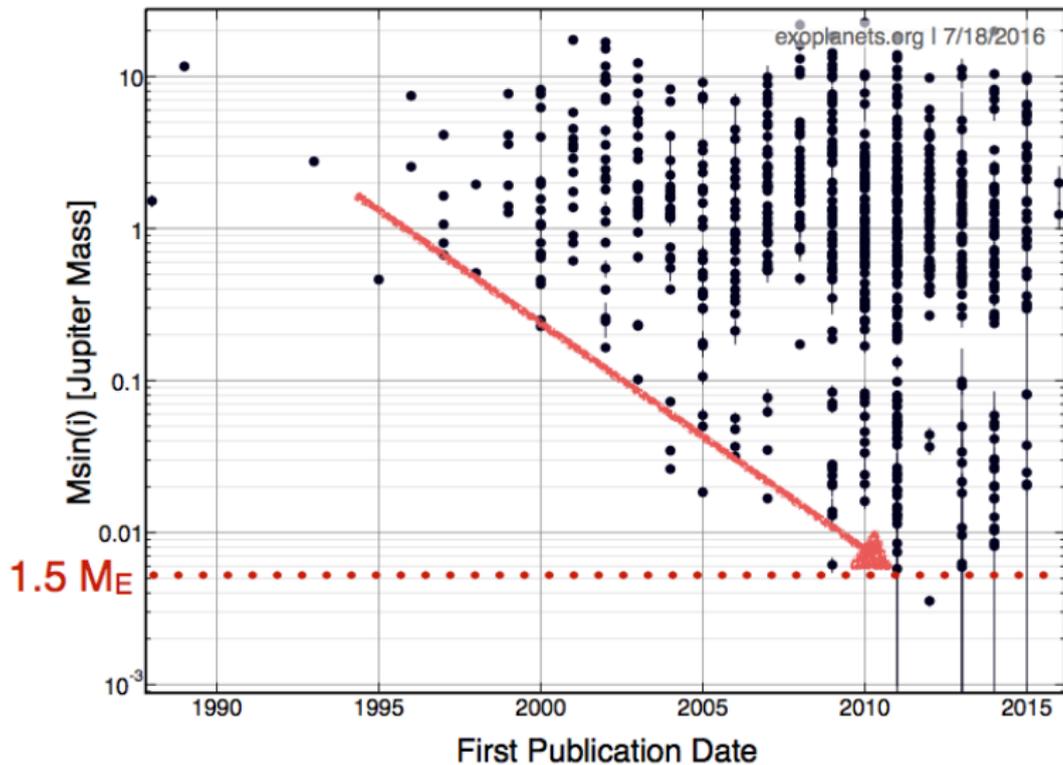


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Plot: Debra Fischer and <http://exoplanets.org>

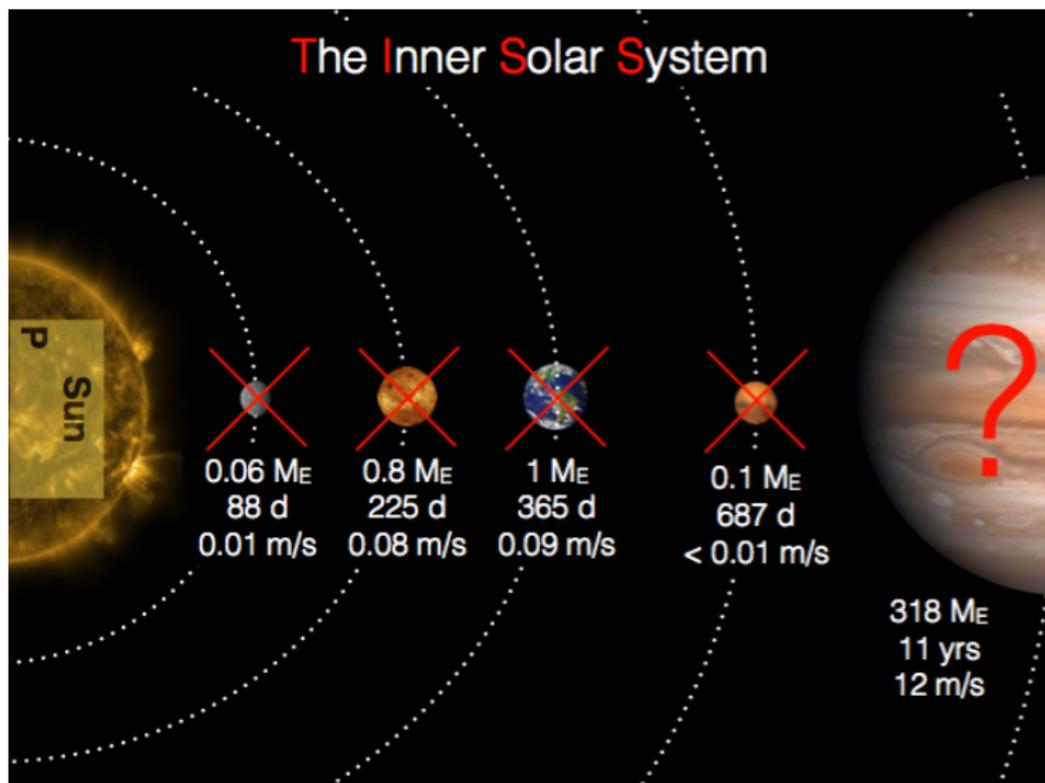


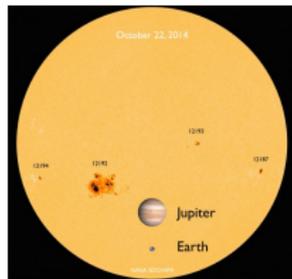
Figure: Xavier Dumusque (Geneva)

# What's the problem?

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## Stellar activity

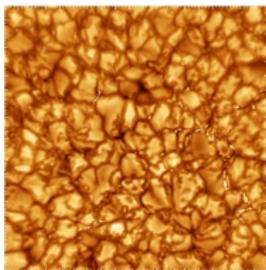
Spots, plages, faculae, limb darkening, convective blue shift, stellar oscillation and magnetic cycles, ...



**Spots**

Credit: SDO/HMI/Alex

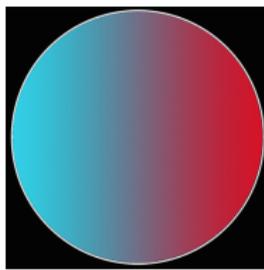
Young, universetoday.com



**Granulation**

Credit: BBSO/NJIT,

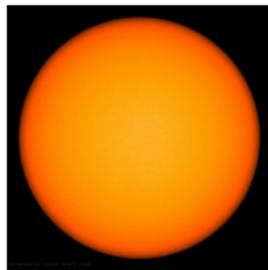
<http://phys.org>



**Rotation**

Credit: Xavier Dumusque

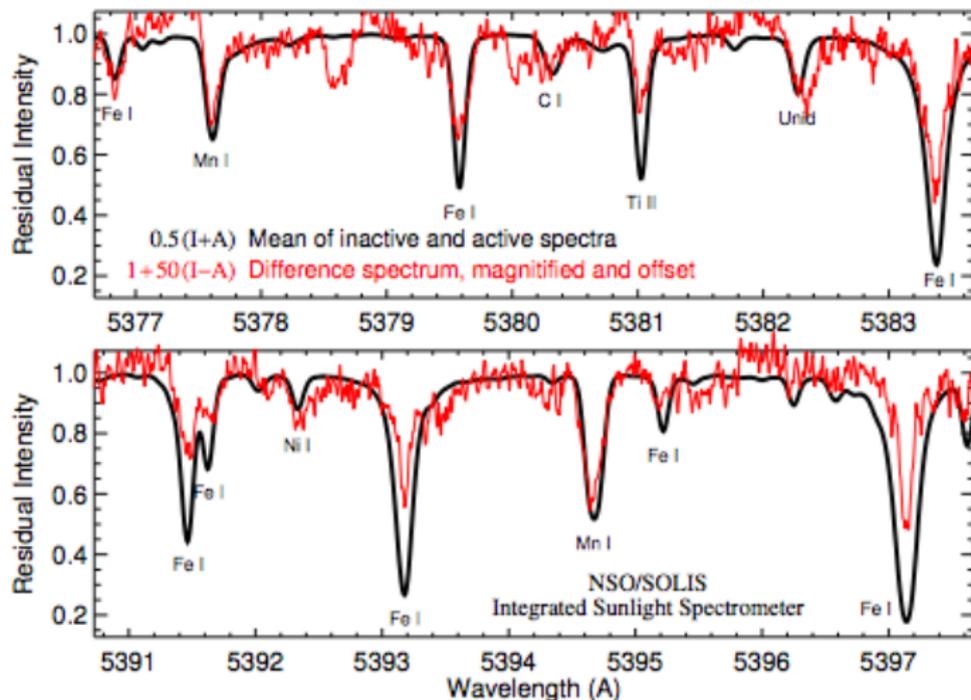
(Geneva)



**Limb  
Darkening**

Credit: SDO/HMI

# Stellar activity



► Figure 1 from Davis et al. (2017) (courtesy of J. Valenti)

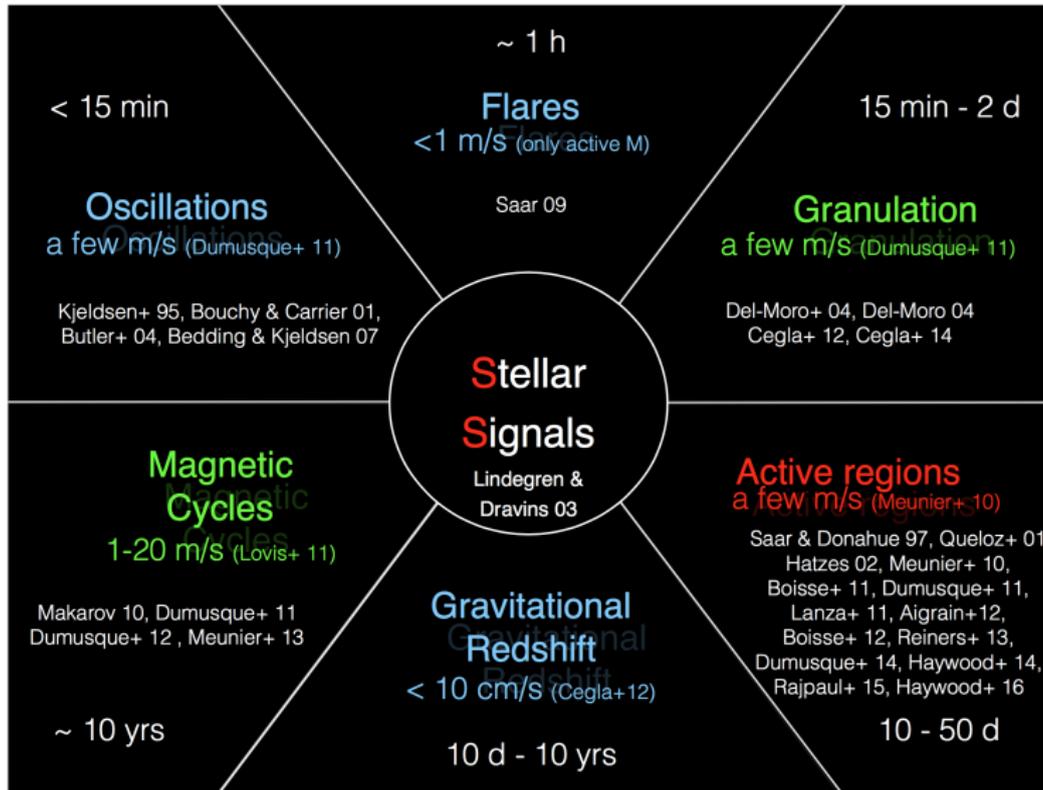
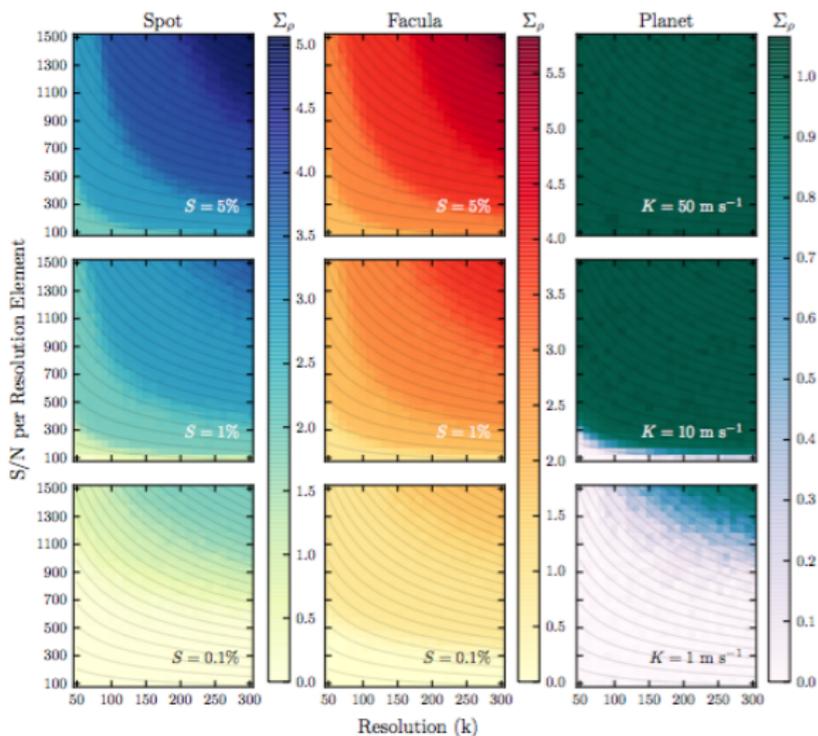
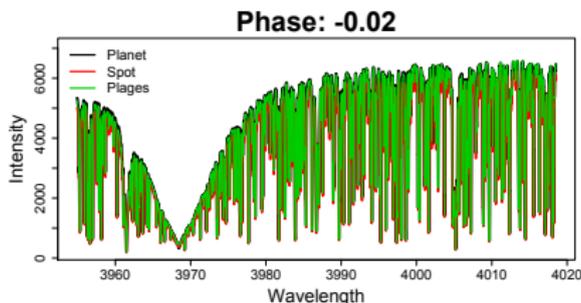


Figure: Xavier Dumusque (Geneva)

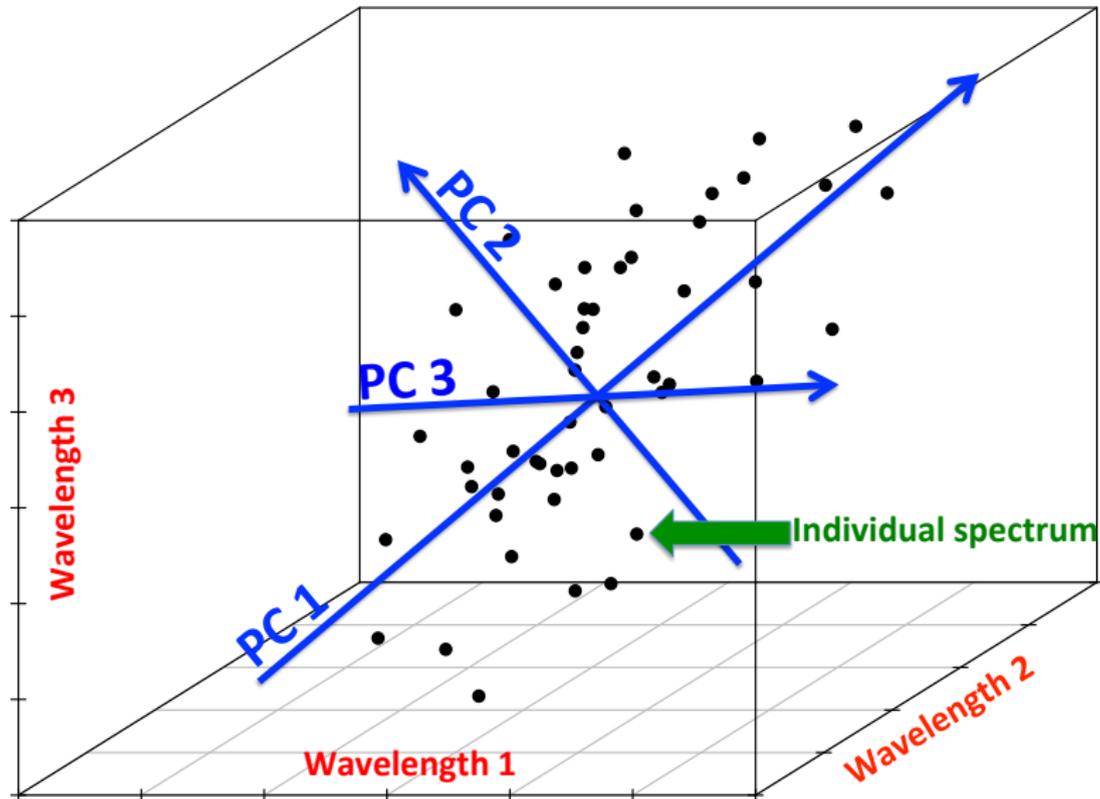


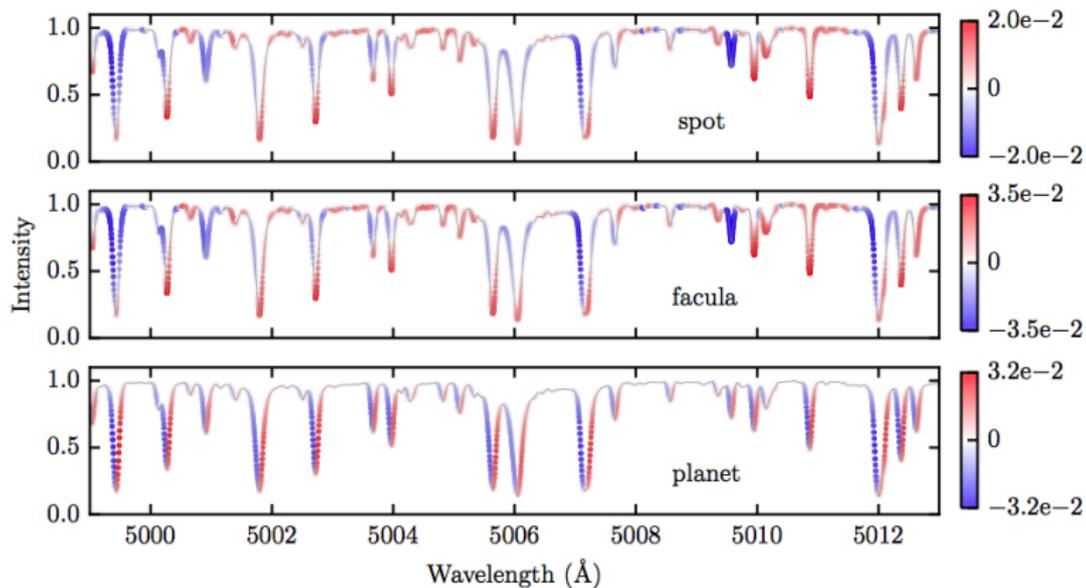
► Figure 7 from Davis et al. (2017)

- ▶ SOAP 2.0 spectra (Dumusque et al., 2014)
- ▶ Wavelengths: 3925.87 Å to 6661.54 Å ( $\sim 500,000$  measurements)
- ▶ An equatorial **spot**/**facula** with coverage area of 0.1%, 1%, 5%
- ▶ A **planet** in circular orbit with RV semi-amplitude of 1, 10, 50 m/s
- ▶ Stellar rotation period of 25 days, 1 spectra/day

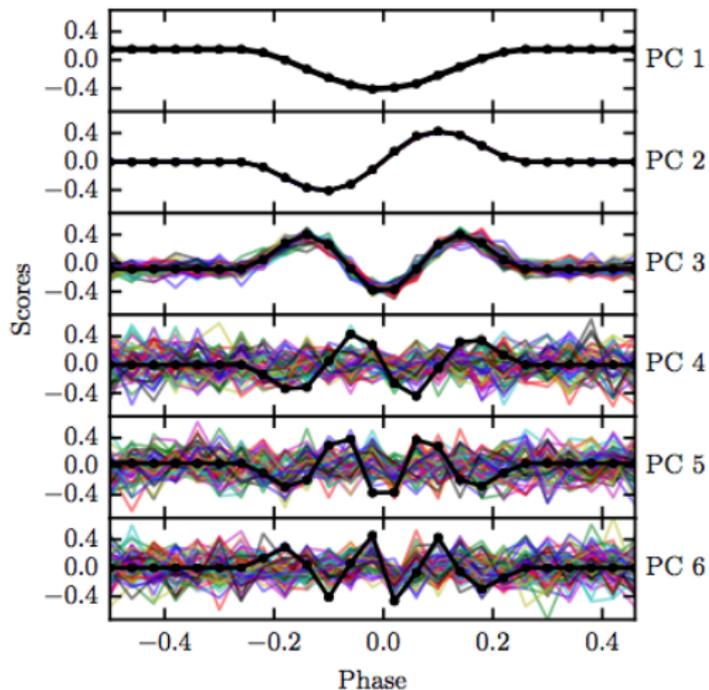


# Principal Components Analysis





► Figure 3 from Davis et al. (2017)



- ▶ Figure 5 from Davis et al. (2017)
- ▶ 50 realizations of noise for the 1% spot
- ▶ Resolution = 150,000, S/N = 800

- ▶ 1% spot, Res = 150,000, S/N = 800, 50 sets of spectra

$$\Sigma_{\rho} = \sum_{i=1}^{10} \sum_{j=1}^{50} g(\rho_{ij}) \frac{\rho_{ij}}{50}$$

$\rho_{ij}$  = correlation of PC  $i$  scores for realization  $j$  with PC  $i$  scores of high-res, noise-free PC scores

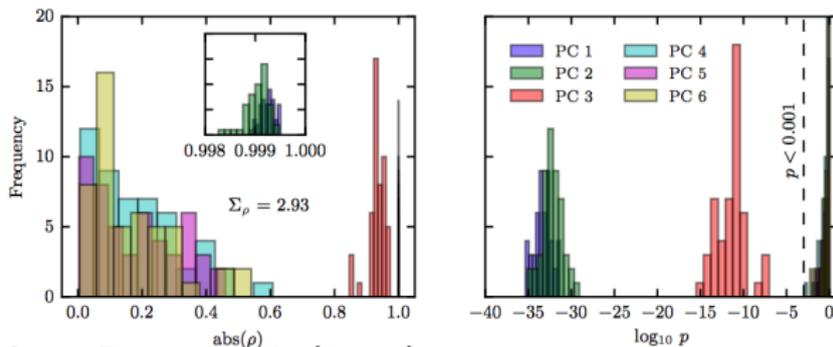
$i$  = PC,  $j$  = independent realization of noise,  $g(\rho_{ij}) = 1$  for small p-value (otherwise = 0)

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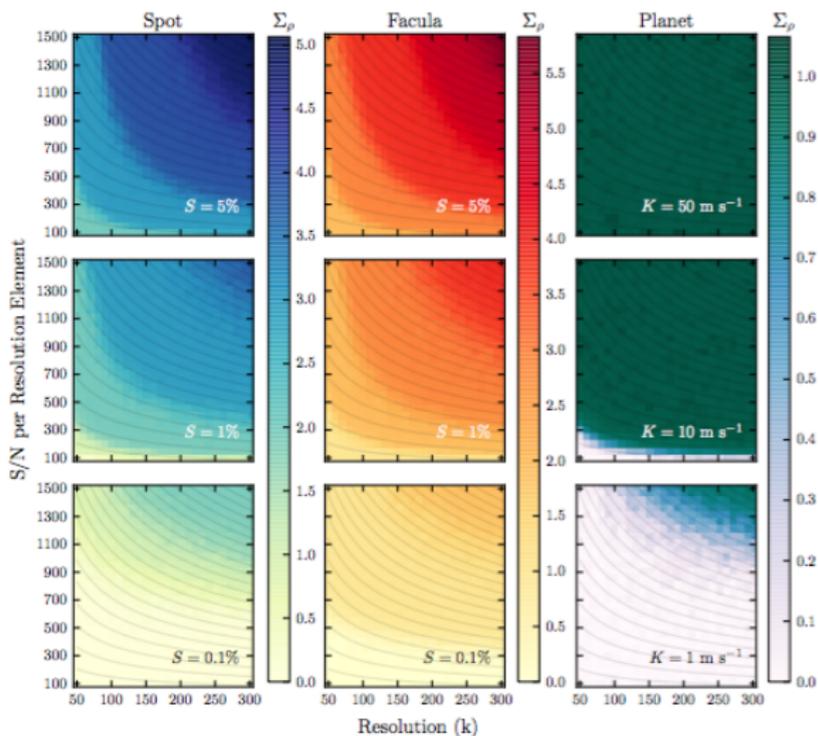
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- ▶ Figure 6 from Davis et al. (2017)



► Figure 7 from Davis et al. (2017)

## Summary

- ▶ Radial velocity method is an effective technique for detecting exoplanets
- ▶ Signals for less massive planets require accounting for stellar activity
- ▶ Stellar activity can mimic planetary signals
- ▶ Statistical methods are needed to distinguish Doppler shifts from other variability in the spectra
- ▶ The sources of variability appear to have different effects on the spectra
  
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**THANK YOU!!!**

## Bibliography

- Davis, A. B., Cisewski, J., Dumusque, X., Fischer, D. A., and Ford, E. B. (2017), "INSIGHTS ON THE SPECTRAL SIGNATURES OF RV JITTER FROM PCA," Submitted.
- Dumusque, X., Boisse, I., and Santos, N. (2014), "SOAP 2.0: A TOOL TO ESTIMATE THE PHOTOMETRIC AND RADIAL VELOCITY VARIATIONS INDUCED BY STELLAR SPOTS AND PLAGES The tool is available at <http://www.astro.up.pt/soap>. The work in this paper is based on observations made with the MOST satellite, the HARPS instrument on the ESO 3.6 m telescope at La Silla Observatory (Chile), and the SOPHIE instrument at the Observatoire de Haute Provence (France)." *The Astrophysical Journal*, 796, 132.