

# Planet Formation and the CoRoT planet census

Günther Wuchterl  
Thüringer Landessternwarte Tautenburg

# Making good planets is hard!

- Understand star formation
- Understand nebula formation
- Understand planetesimal formation

- You heard that we do not know a lot of things
- You heard that theory is hankering behind observations.
- Can we change this,
- Can we build a new theory that is both fast and predictive for all stellar masses and periods?

# General Theory of Planet Formation



# Assumptions and Principles

- ***Diversity of nebulae:*** study planet formation in any gravitationally stable nebula for all stellar masses,
- ***Strong planetesimal hypothesis:*** there are always enough planetesimals,
- ***Study cores of all masses including zero -***  
Do not separate into nucleated instability or disk instability;

# Calculate and Count

- Choose host star and orbital period
- Planetary equilibria with all core masses
- Hydrostatic equilibrium (P vs. core and gas)
- Thermal equilibrium (L vs. planetesimal accr.)
- Connected to the nebula:
  - mechanically: force balance with neb. pressure, and
  - thermally: radiate into equilibrium temperature nebula

# How to understand this?

- Think of planet formation as analogy to the van der Waals gas with gravity as the long-range force,
- Take planets as analogy to the liquid phase in coexistence with the nebula as gas,
- Look at
  - Pečnik and Pečnik+W for the isothermal case
  - Schönke 2007 etc., for stability and analytics
  - Broeg and Broeg+W for realistic planets
  - Wuchterl et al. For the CoRoT-stellar-mixture

# Results

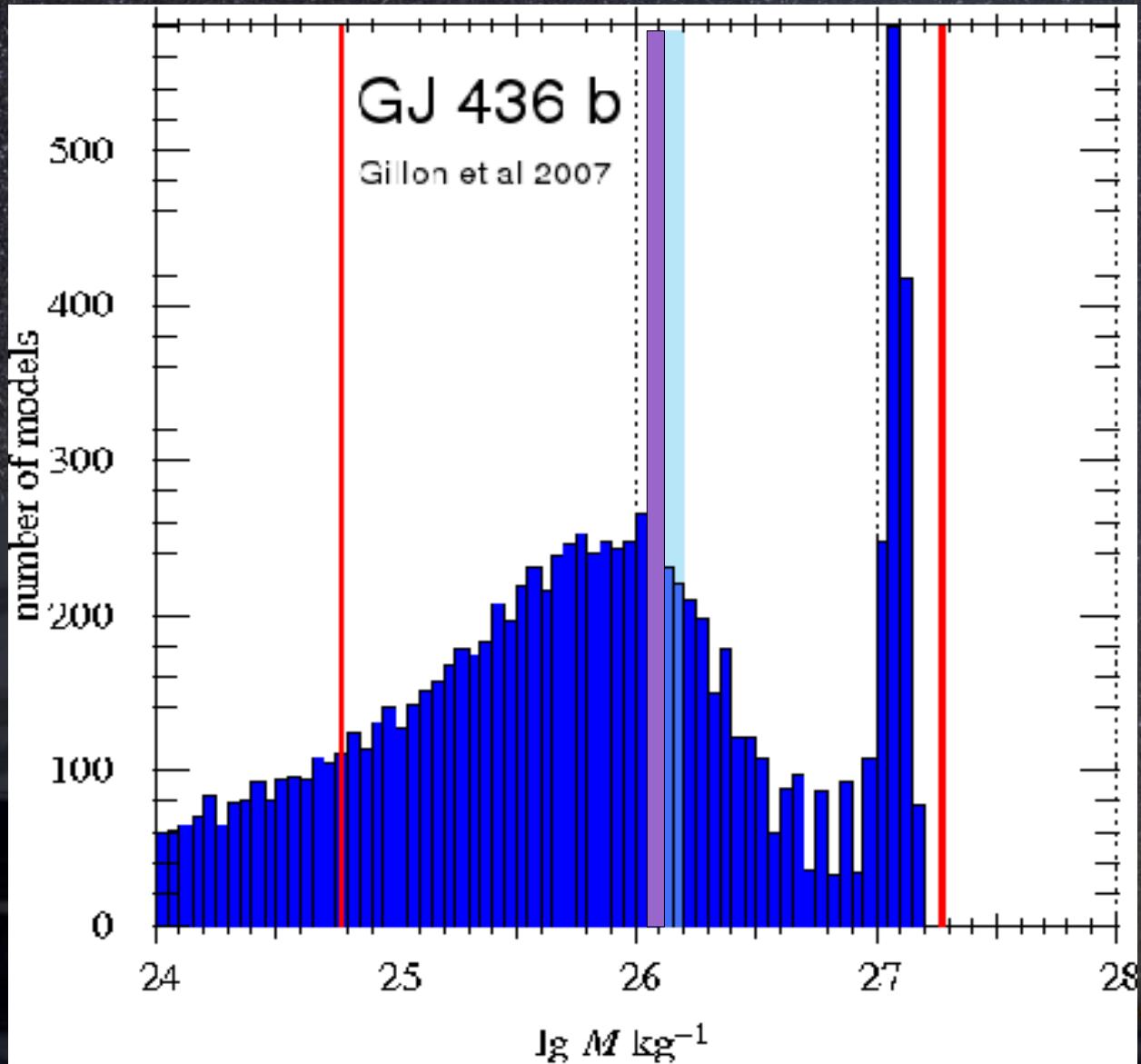
## Planetary equilibria in stable nebulae

Radiative/Convective gas-spheres; SCVH + Ferguson  
Stars: spectral types A,G,K,M; 0.4 to  $2 M_{\odot}$   
Periods: 1 to 64 days.

Mark 1: Dec 2005  
Mark 2: Sept 2007  
Mark 3: June 2008

At Chris Broegs webpage  
<http://www.space.unibe.ch/~broeg/>

# GJ 436 b + HAT-P11b: Hot Super-Neptunes



## Planetary masses

**Blue:** CoRoT Mark 1 theoretical mass spectrum for  $0.4 M_{\text{Sun}}$  and 4 d period (Mark 1.1 Broeg '06);  
**Red:** Earth and Jupiter;  
**Light-blue:** GJ 436b.

HAT-P-11 bNeptune  
 $25.7 M_E$   
4.9 d

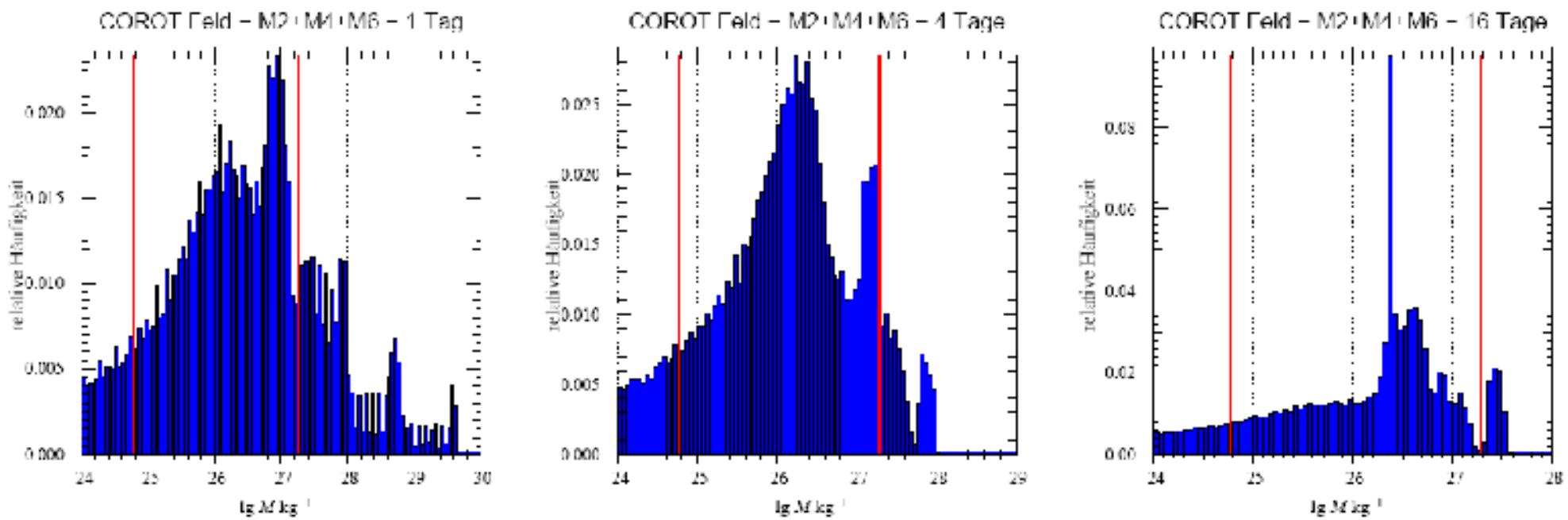
# Theoretical planet populations for CoRoT – Two Steps

1. *Formation at short periods (“launch prediction”): planetary IMFs for CoRoT stellar masses and CoRoT planet periods,*
2. *Evolution for these initial populations: radii and epoch of observation radius distributions;*

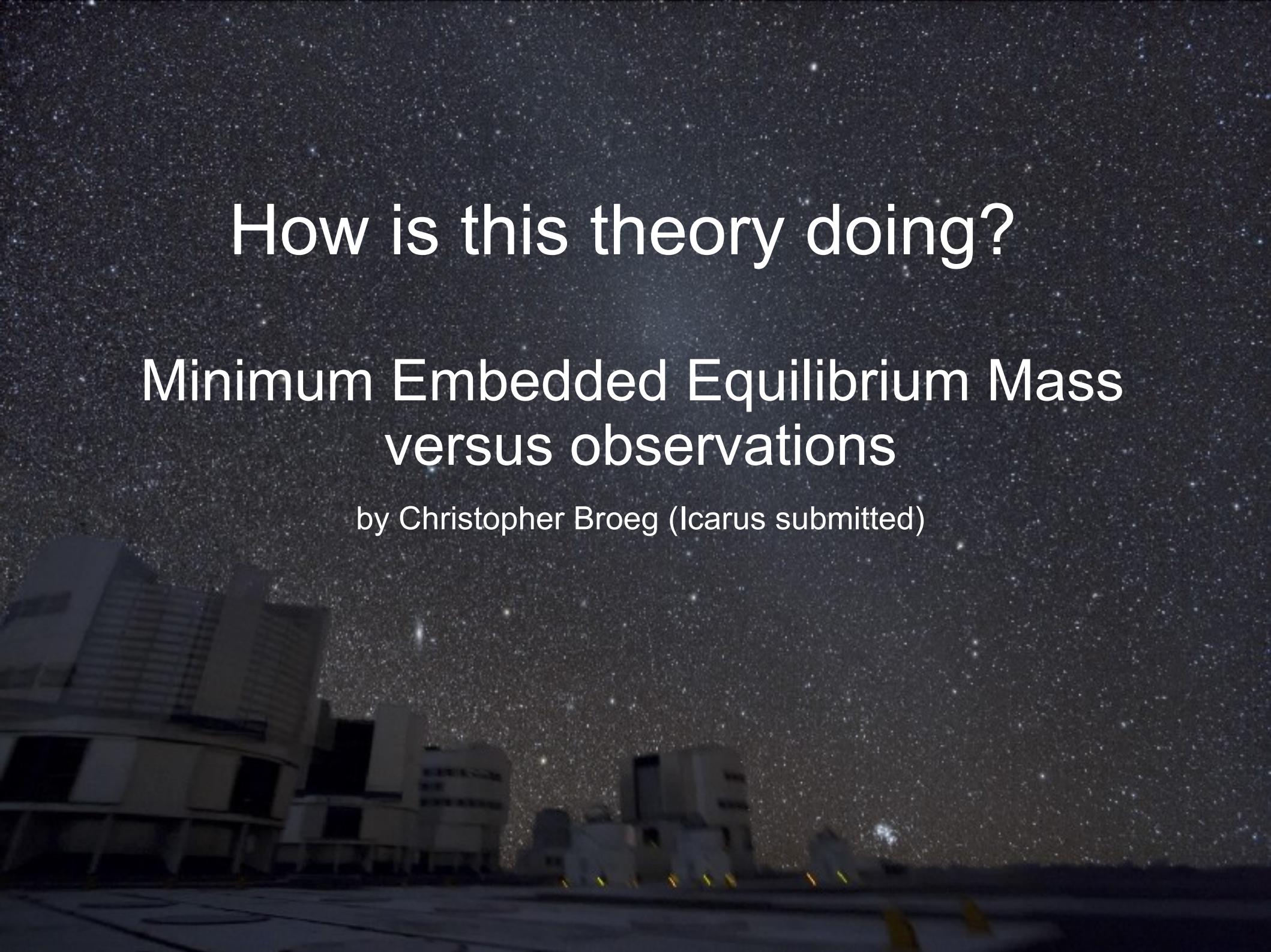


# 1: 2006 Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>: CoRoT Launch Prediction: Planetary Masses from Formation Theory

Wuchterl et al.; 2006+n, Lammer et al. 2006+n  
Dec. 26th: [astro-ph/0701003](#) ;[astro-ph/0701565](#)



**Fig. 1.** Theoretical planetary initial mass functions calculated from planet formation theory for a typical CoRoT-field. Results are shown for planetary orbital periods of 1, 4, and 16 days, from left to right. The relative frequency is plotted as function of  $\lg$  mass in kg. Vertical red lines mark the Earth and Jupiter masses.  $\sim 10^6$  planetary models in total. Structures of width < 0.3 dex have to be taken with care, because of undersampling in spectral type due to the unexpected richness of the mass-spectra. ('M2+M4+M6' designates planetary core-accretion and is not related to the stellar population).



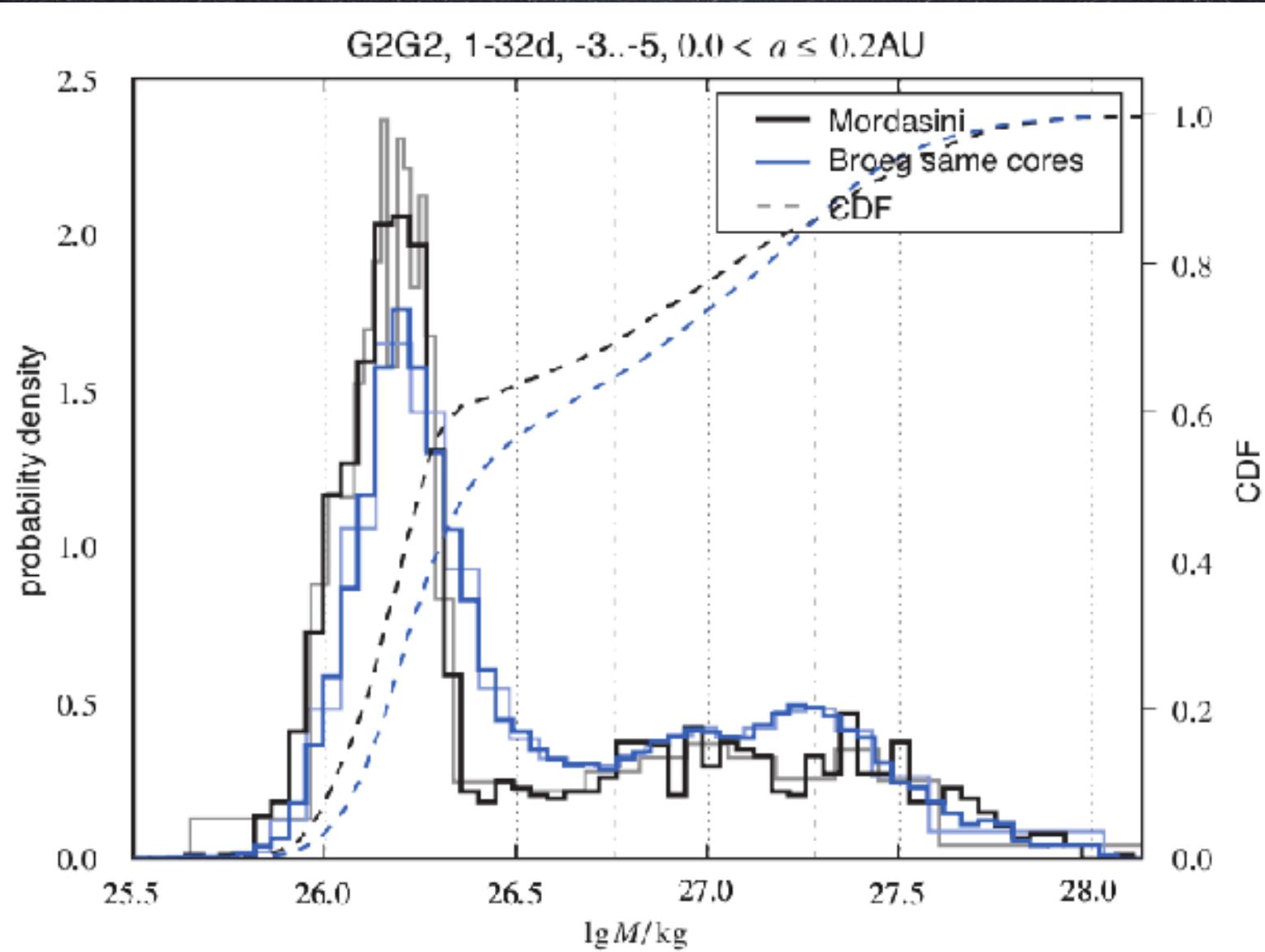
# How is this theory doing?

## Minimum Embedded Equilibrium Mass versus observations

by Christopher Broeg (Icarus submitted)

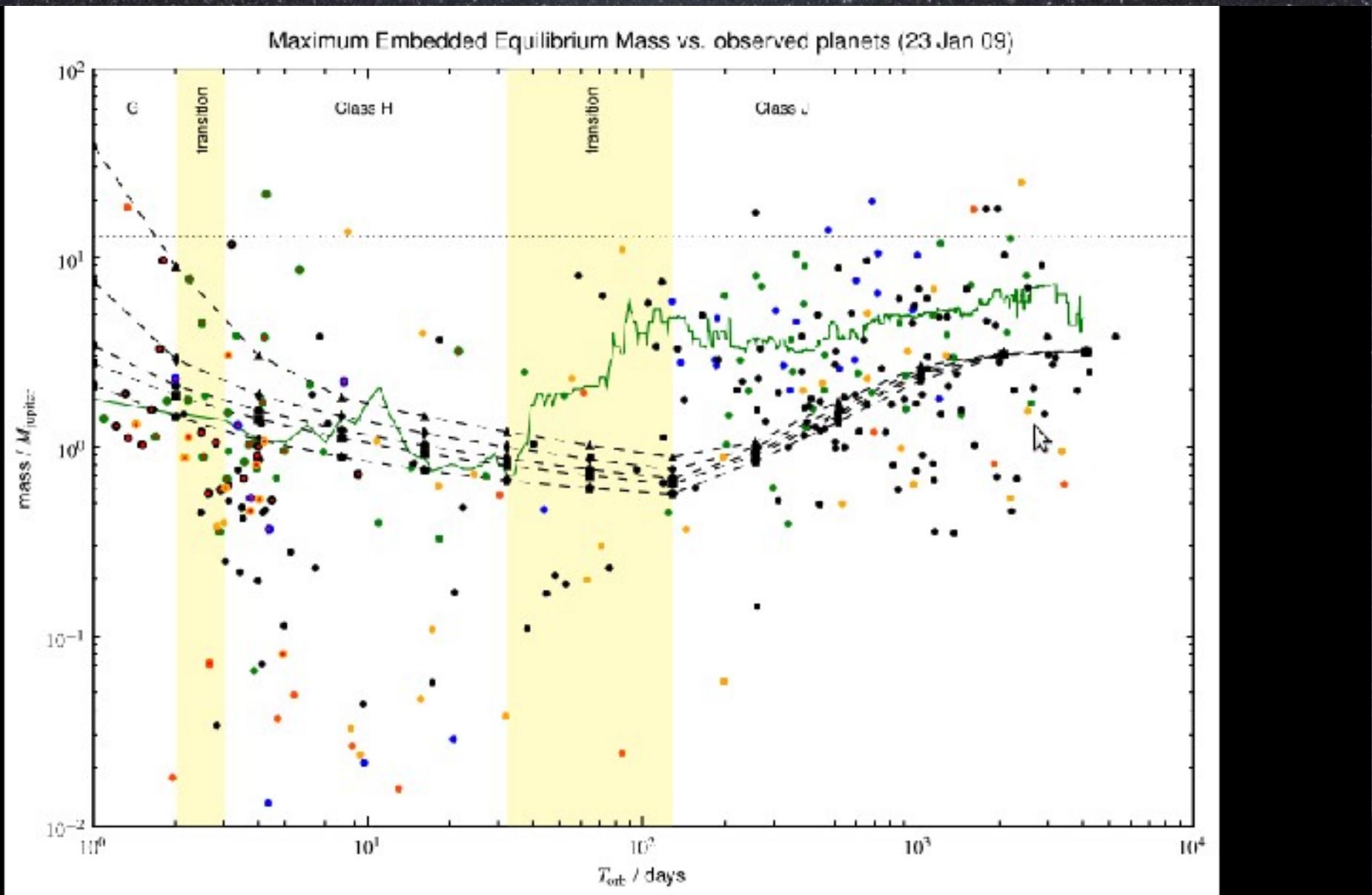
# Is this queer? Comparison to conventional theory

see Broeg at  
Symp CoRoT



# What about observations?

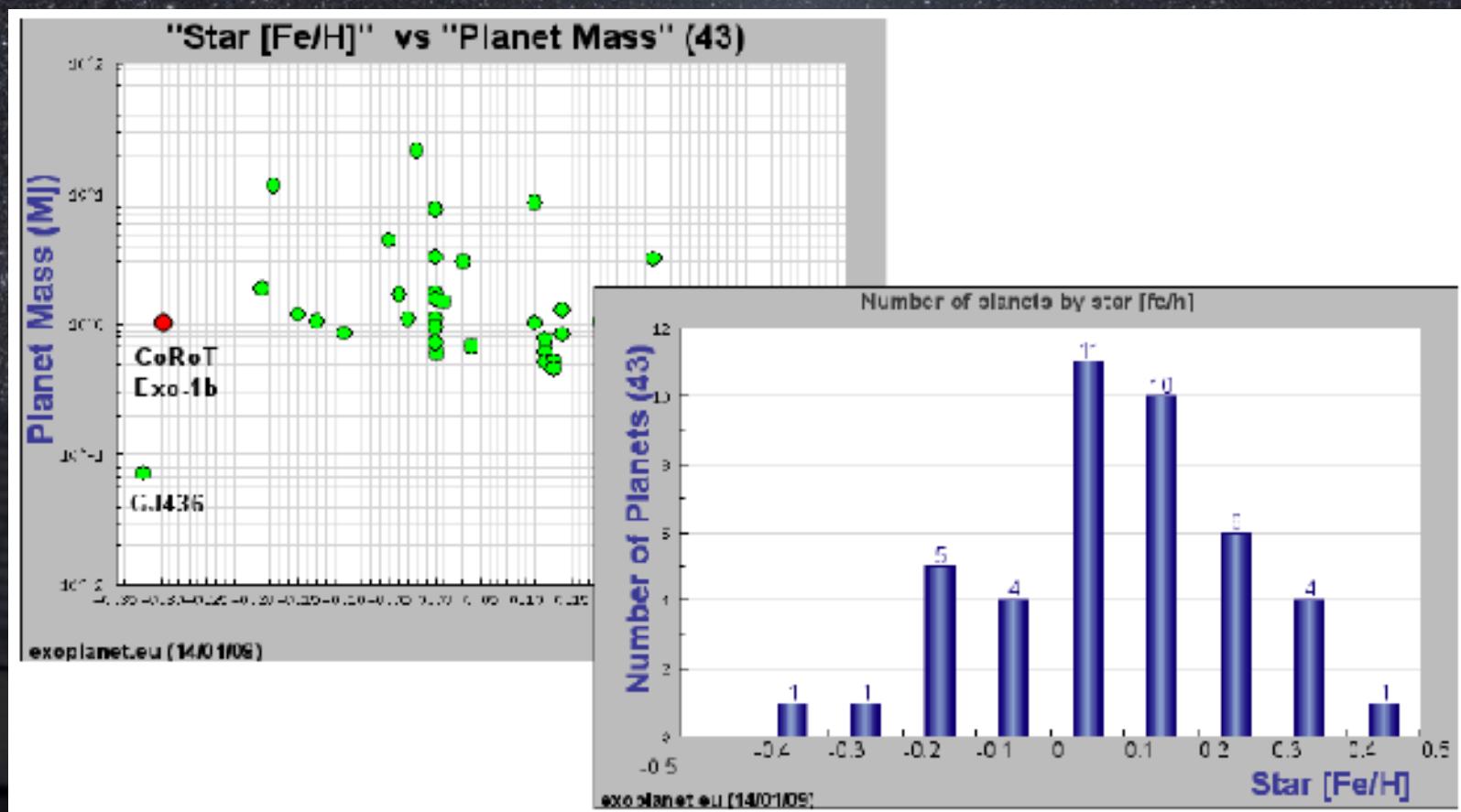
See Poster by Broeg



The background of the image is a dark, star-filled night sky. In the lower-left foreground, the white and grey structure of the CoRoT satellite is visible, its solar panels extended. The text "The CoRoT Seven" is centered in the upper half of the image.

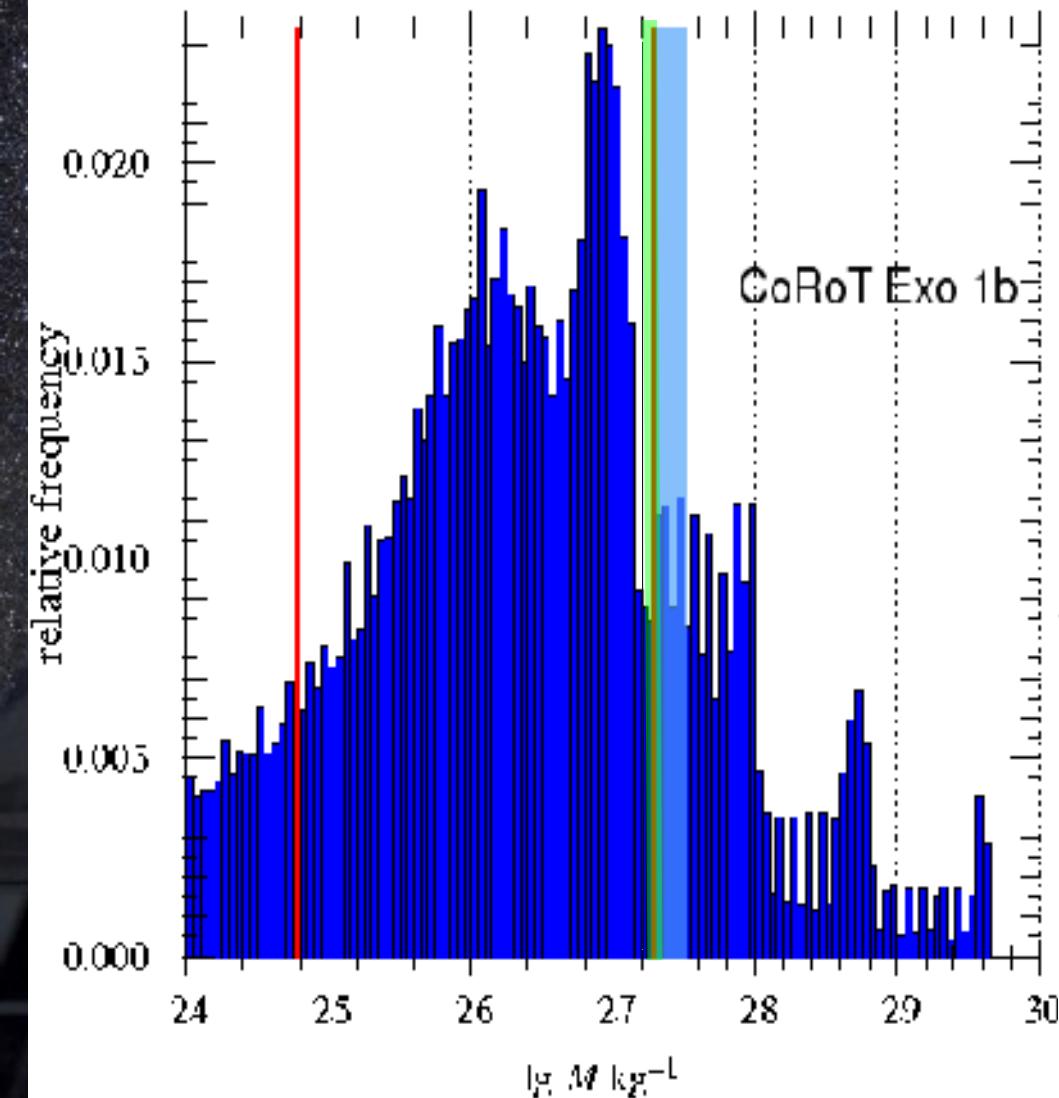
# The CoRoT Seven

# 1: Planet around a metal poor star

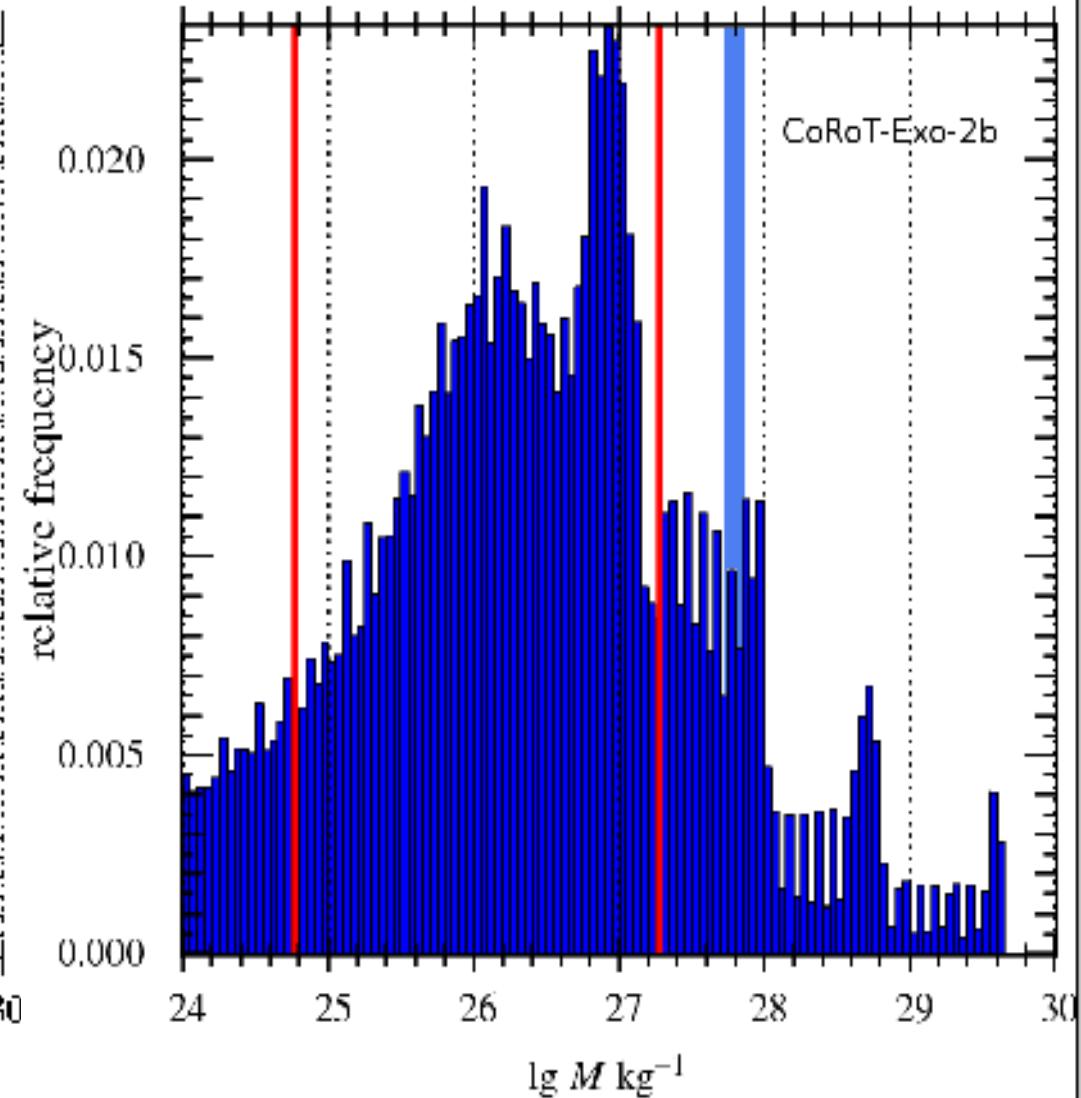


# CoRoT-Exo-1b, -Exo-2b

COROT field – M2+M4+M6 – 1 day

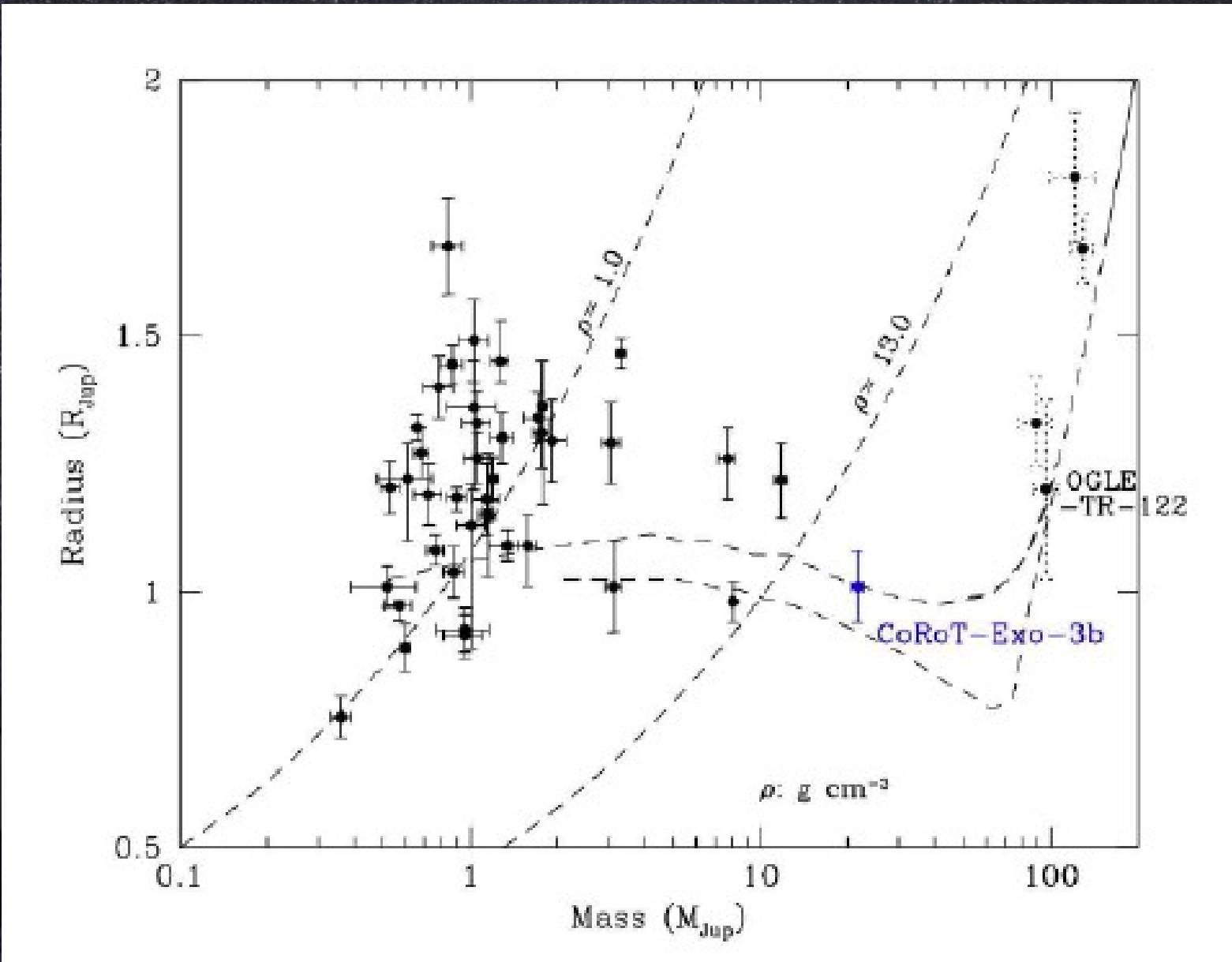


COROT field – M2+M4+M6 – 1 day

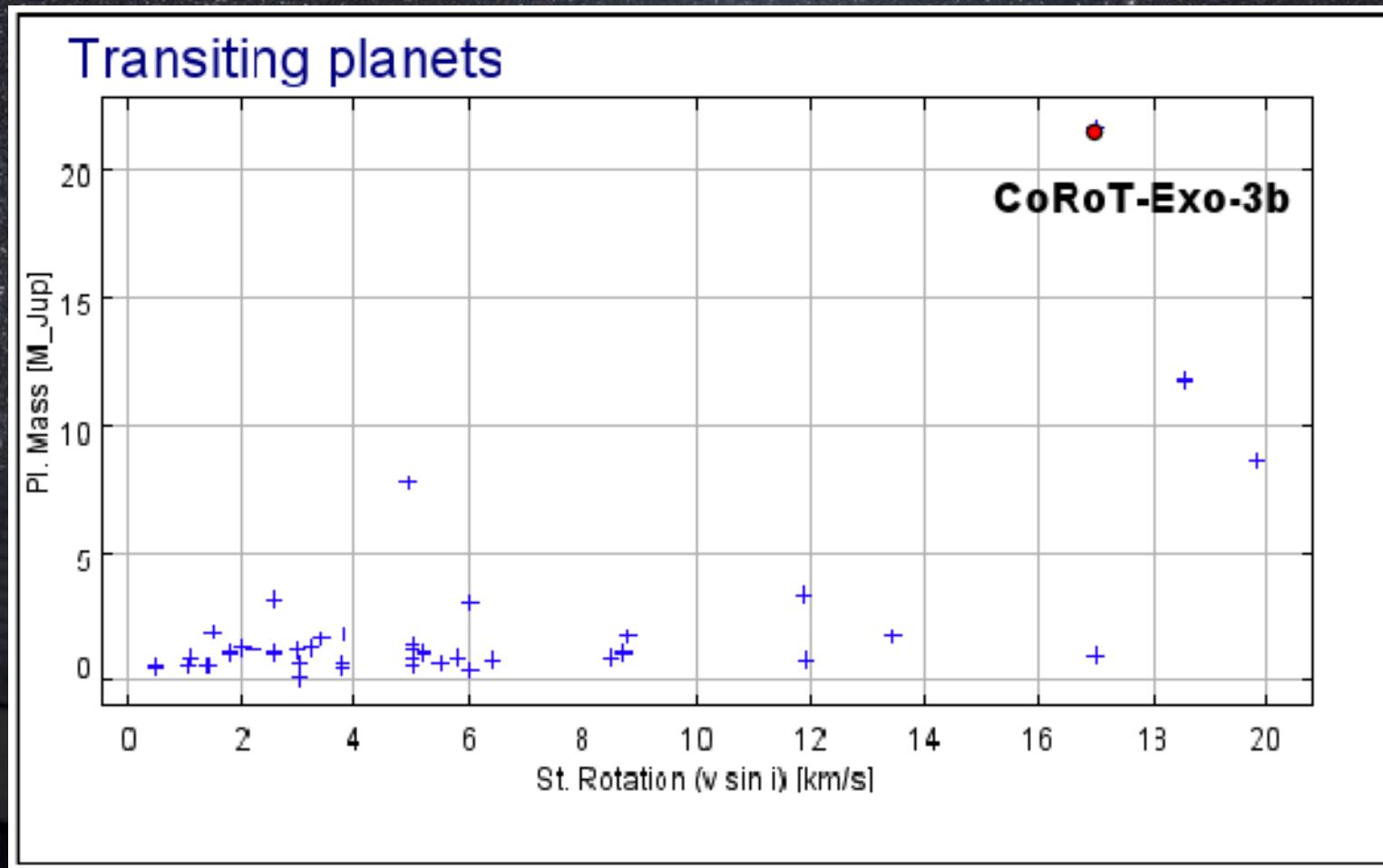


Theoretical predictions: Broeg 2006, 2007, Wuchterl et al. at CoRoT-launch, astro-ph/0701003

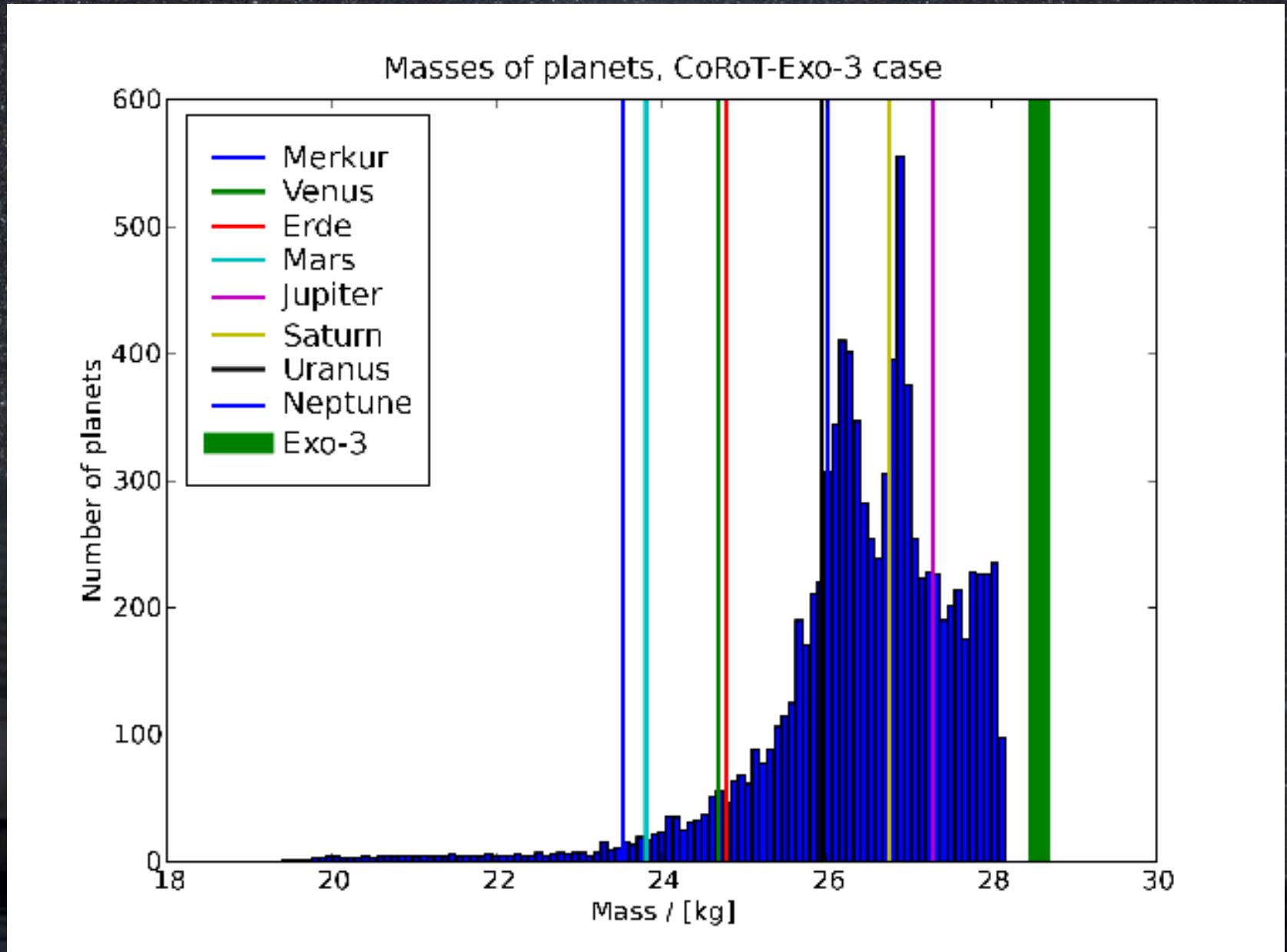
# 3: Planet or failed star !



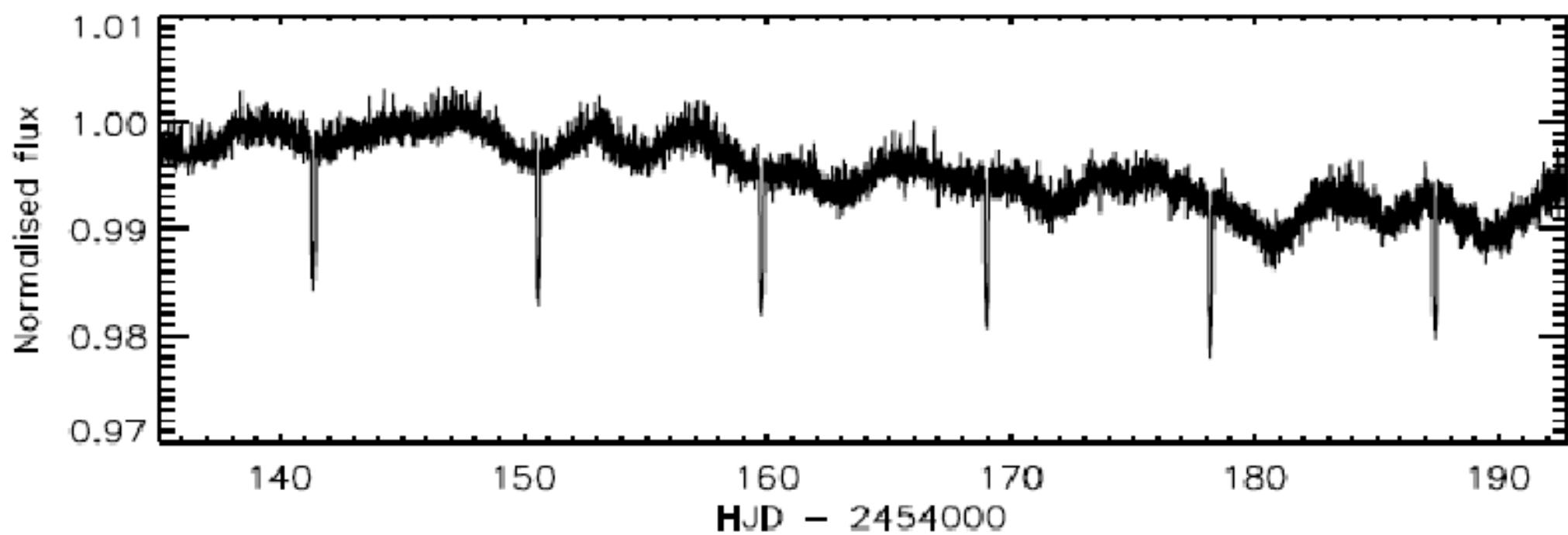
# Planet around fast rotator



# Planets at $1d/1M_{\odot}$ vs CoRoT-Exo-3b



# Loose synchronous 9d orbit

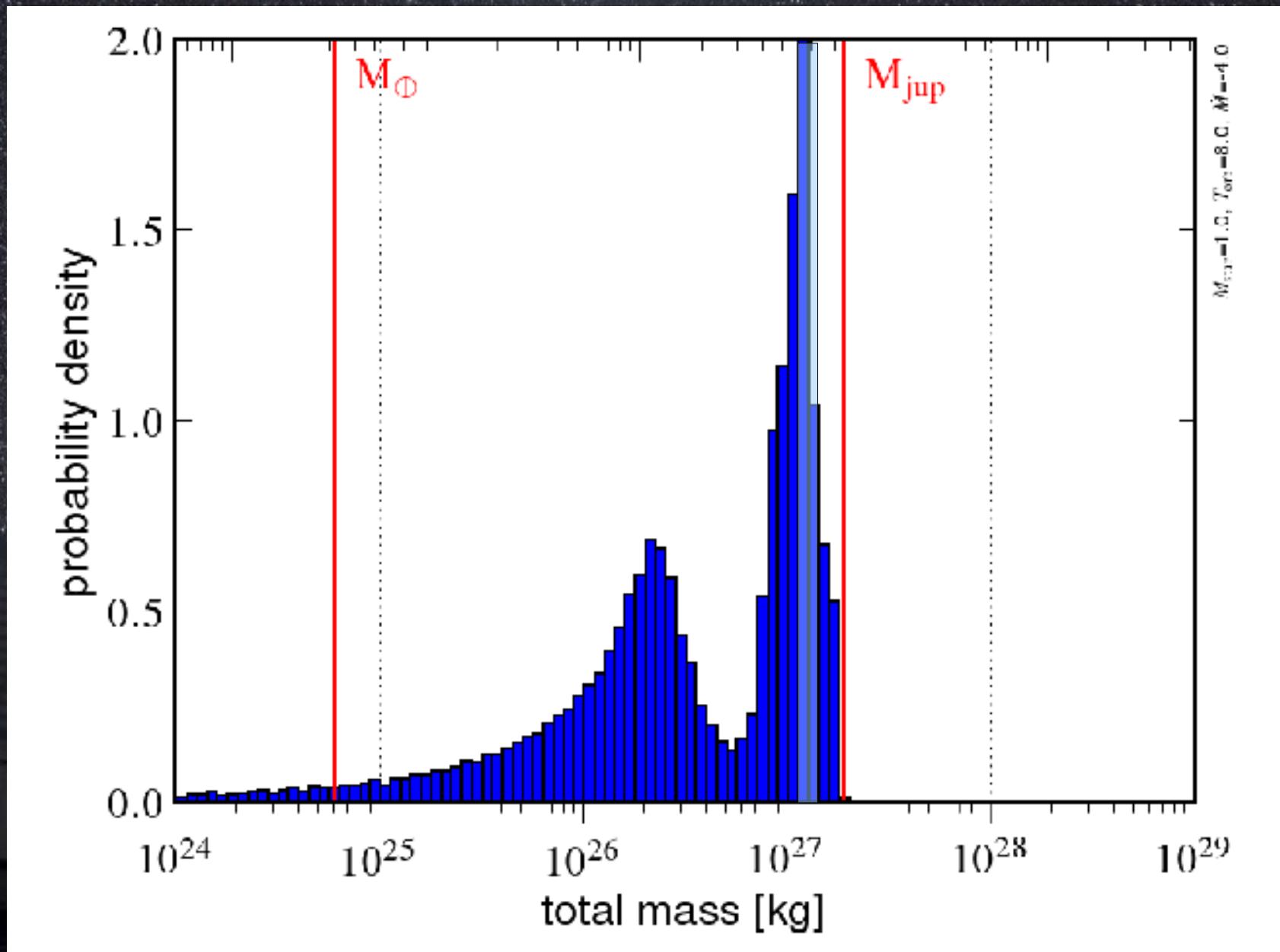


FUV

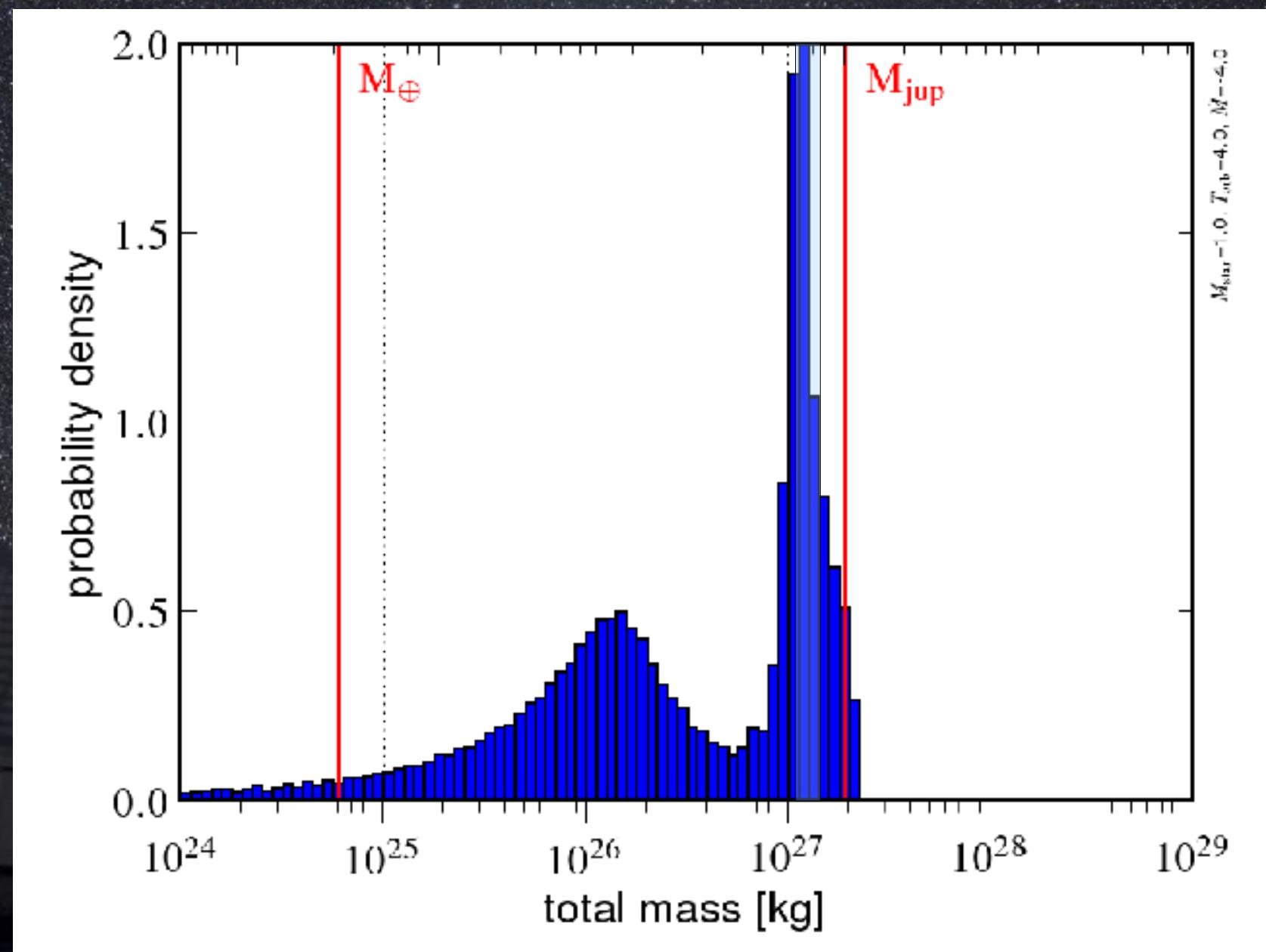
V=13.7 mag

**P\*=8.87+/-1.12**

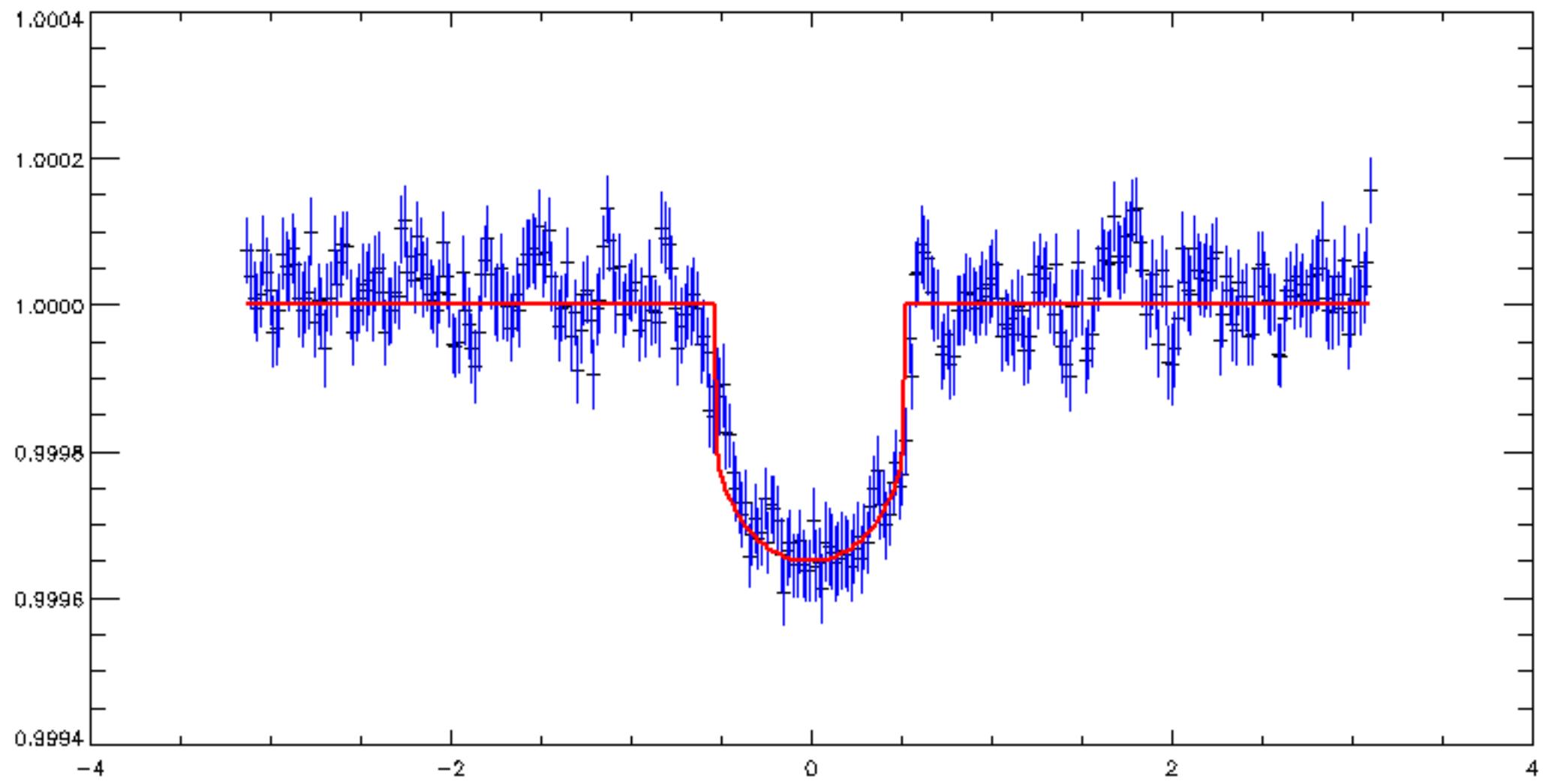
# CoRoT-Exo-4b and theory for Exo-4

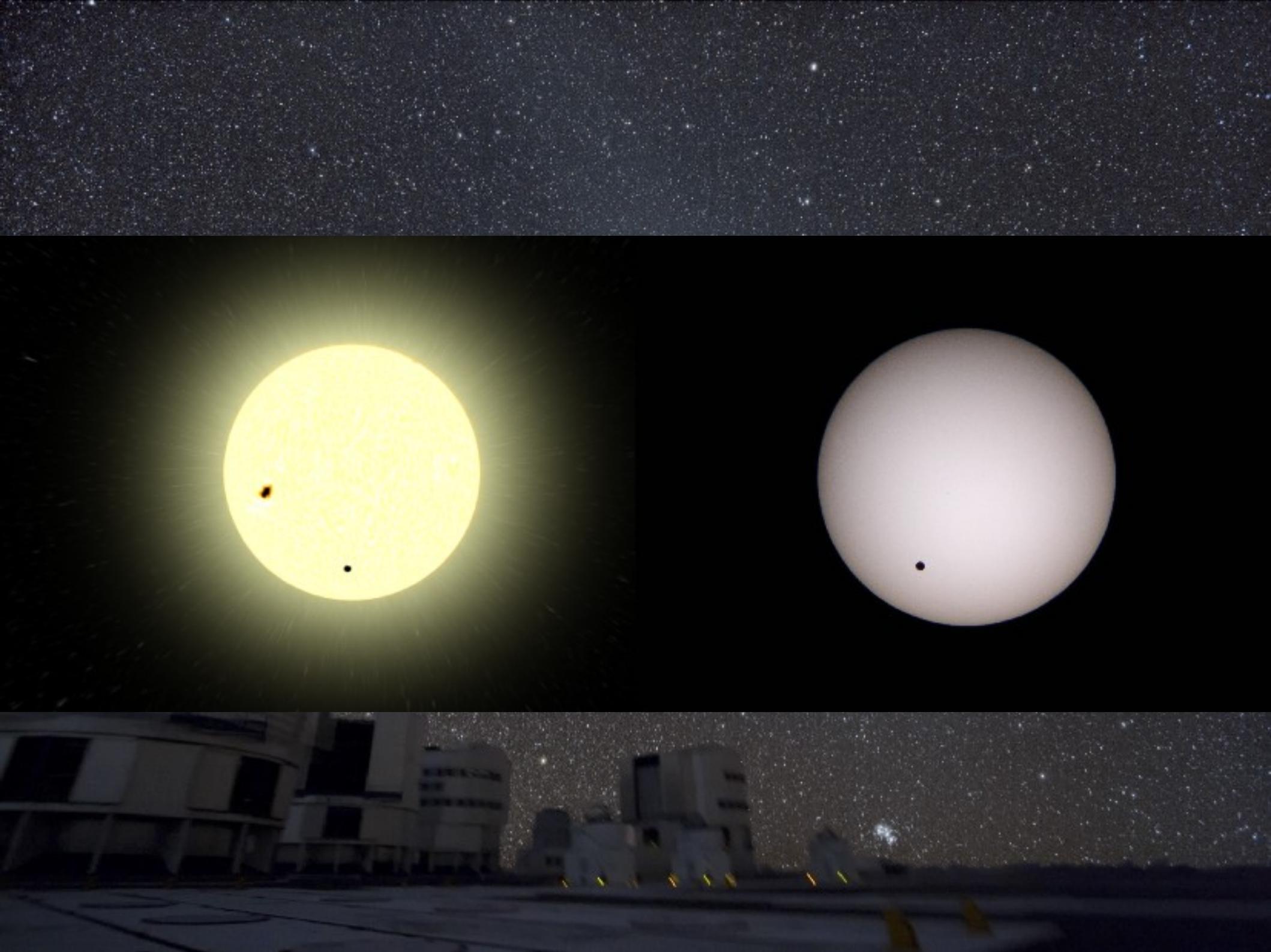


# CoRoT-Exo-5b and theory for Exo-5



# Transit signal: LRa01\_E2\_0165

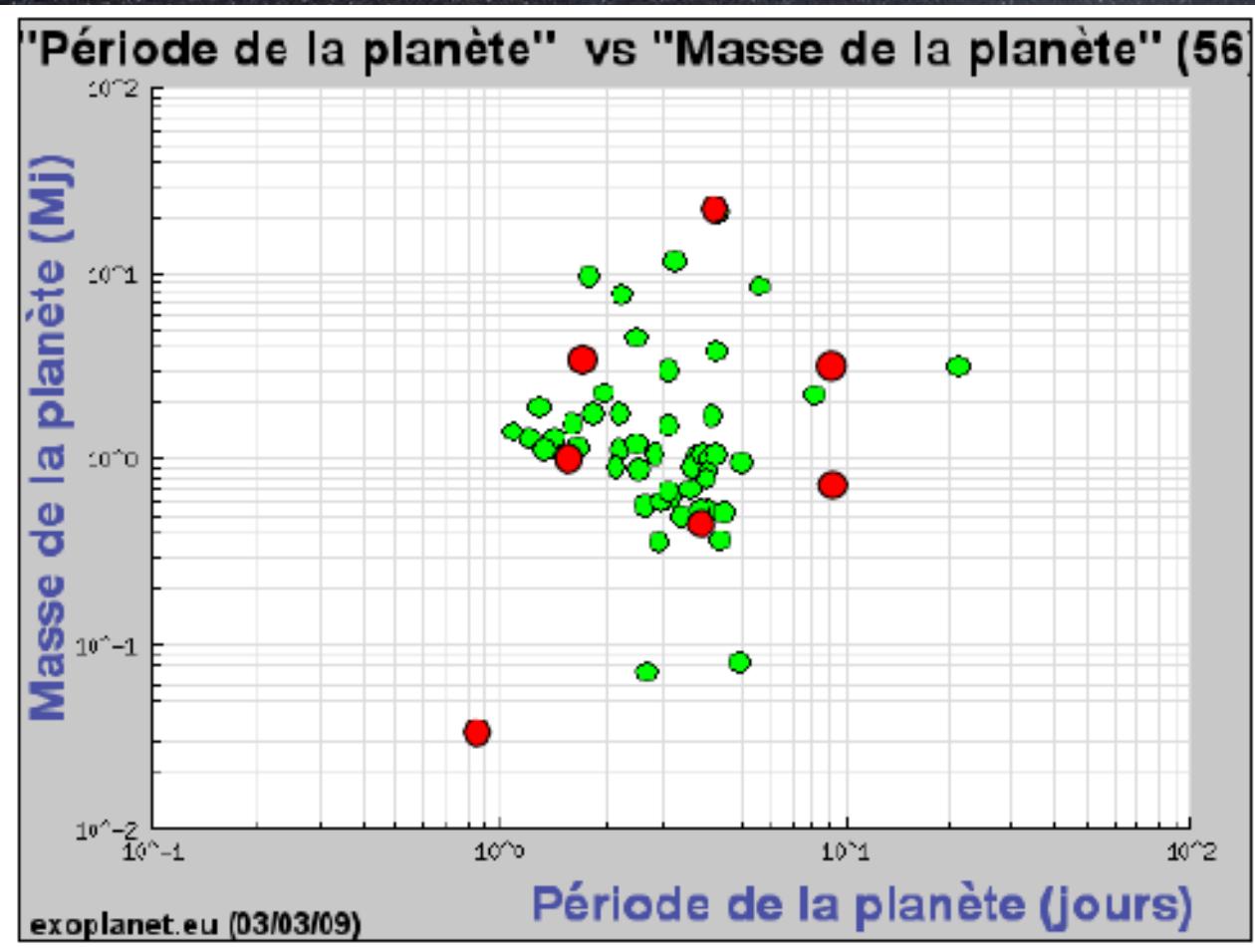






# CoRoT-Exo-7b the movie

# CoRoT planets in red



## Planet

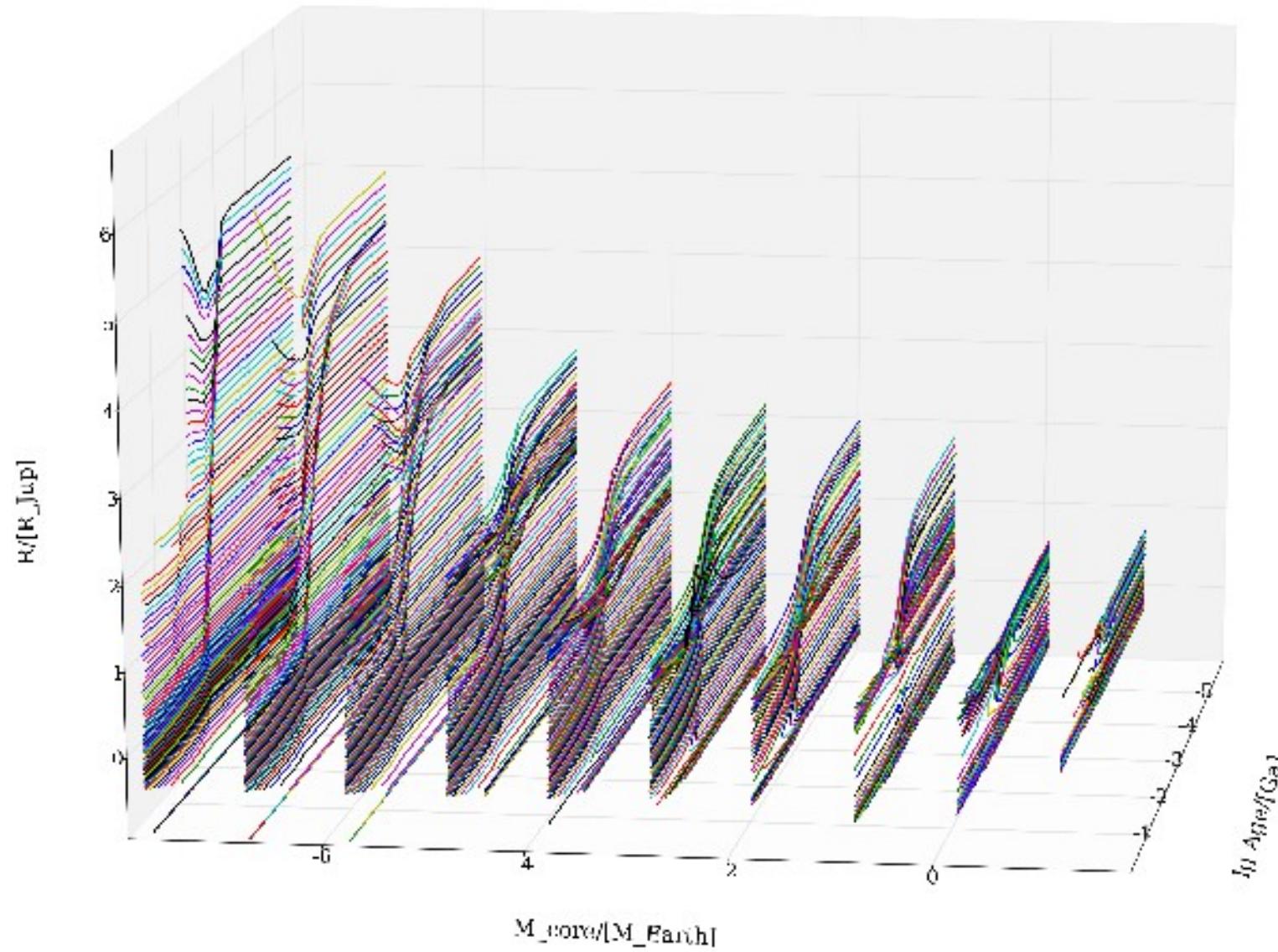
- around fast rotator
- around the most metal poor star
- on loose synchronous orbit (~10 days)
- Super Earth at very short period ( $R_p = 1.6 R_{\text{Earth}}$ )

## 2: Evolution and Age From initial to present radii

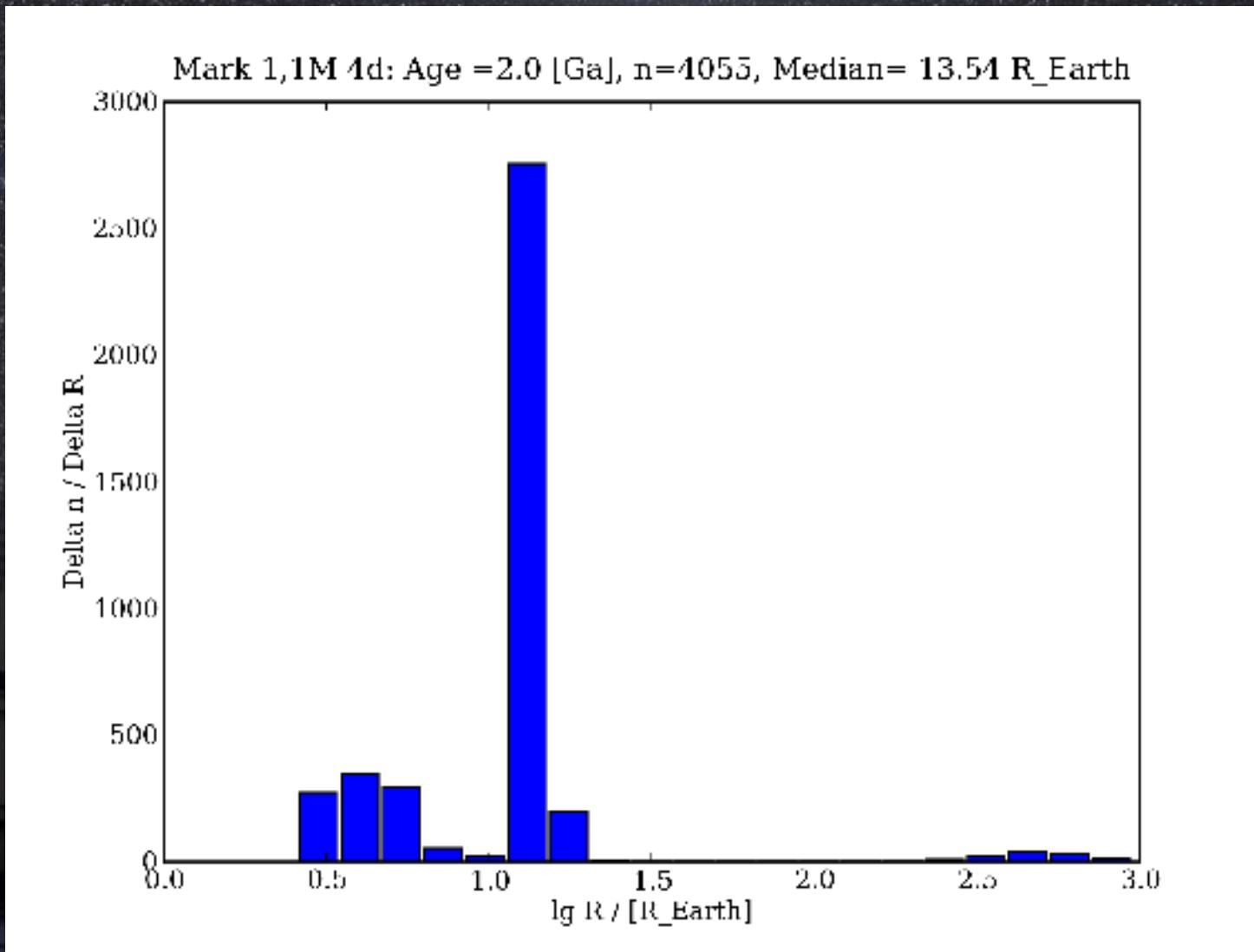
Initial masses and interior structure for  
the “IMF”-ensemble of planets

Evolution of planetary populations:  
switch-off planetesimal accretion  
nebula decompression (if any)

# Radius versus time for population



Evolution with constant mass =>  
radius function: M\_Sun, 4 d, 2 Ga

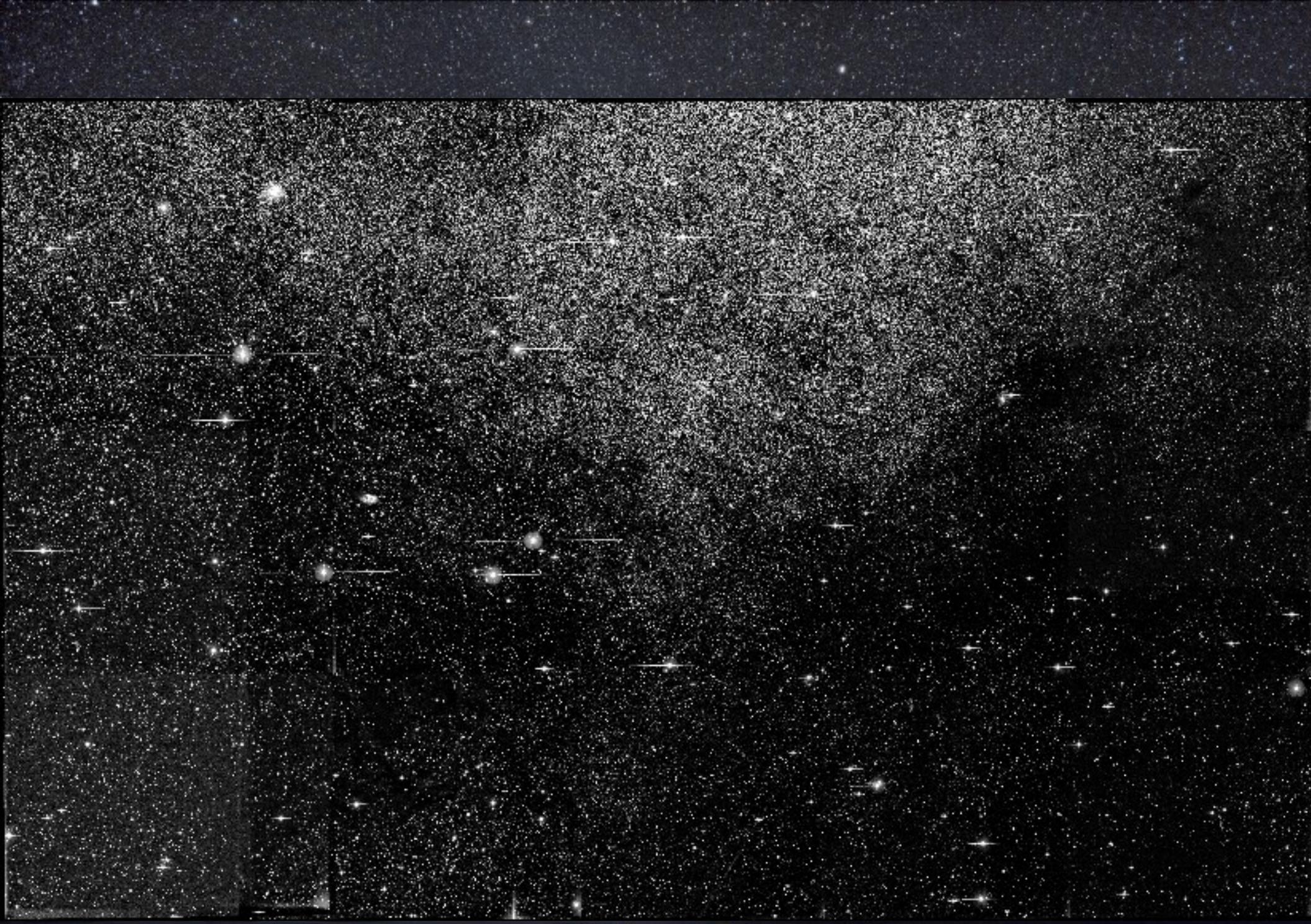


# Conclusion

- General Theory is faster than observation,
- ... is predictive for the entire discovery space, stellar masses 0.4 to 2 , 1 to 50 day online,
- CoRoT-planets at or near peaks in the mass spectra,
- Distribution of radii bimodal as masses,
- Transit searches need to “jump” from Jupiters to Neptunes with not much in between.

# CoRoT-Exo-7b - goodies

<http://corot.TLS-Tautenburg.de/Exo-7b>



Src01 mosaic, Alfred Jensch 2m TLS Tautenburg, Bringfried Stecklum

# Main sequence - requirements

- Force equilibrium
- Energy balance
- Main Sequence:
  - Force-equilibrium
  - Energy balance: source (planetesimals) = loss  
( radiation into exterior )

# A planetary main sequence

## To be or not to be

- Planet formation and evolution is near static most of the time: checked by non-linear rad-fluid-dynamics (Wuchterl 1993)
- Dynamical paths to multiple planetary equilibria (Wuchterl 1995, Wuchterl, Guillot + Liss 2000)
- ... is hydrostatic for HD 149 026 case (huge core) and short periods (< 16d) in general (Broeg and Wuchterl)