

The Rarity of Sun-like Cycles and their Dependence on the Rossby Number

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Cool Stars 20, Boston – Jul 31, 2018

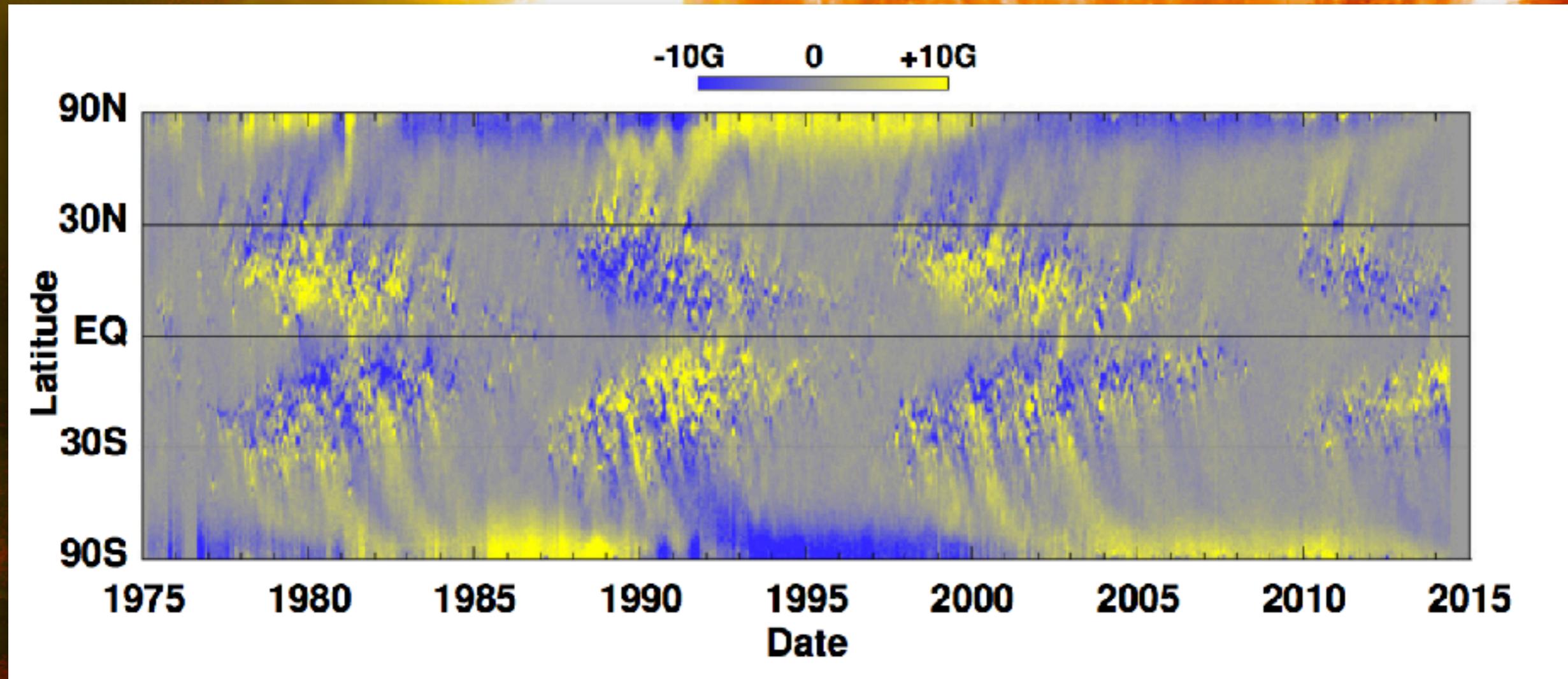
collaborators:

Willie Soon – Harvard CfA
Jeffrey C. Hall – Lowell Observatory
Alexei Pevtsov – National Solar Observatory
Travis S. Metcalfe – Space Science Institute

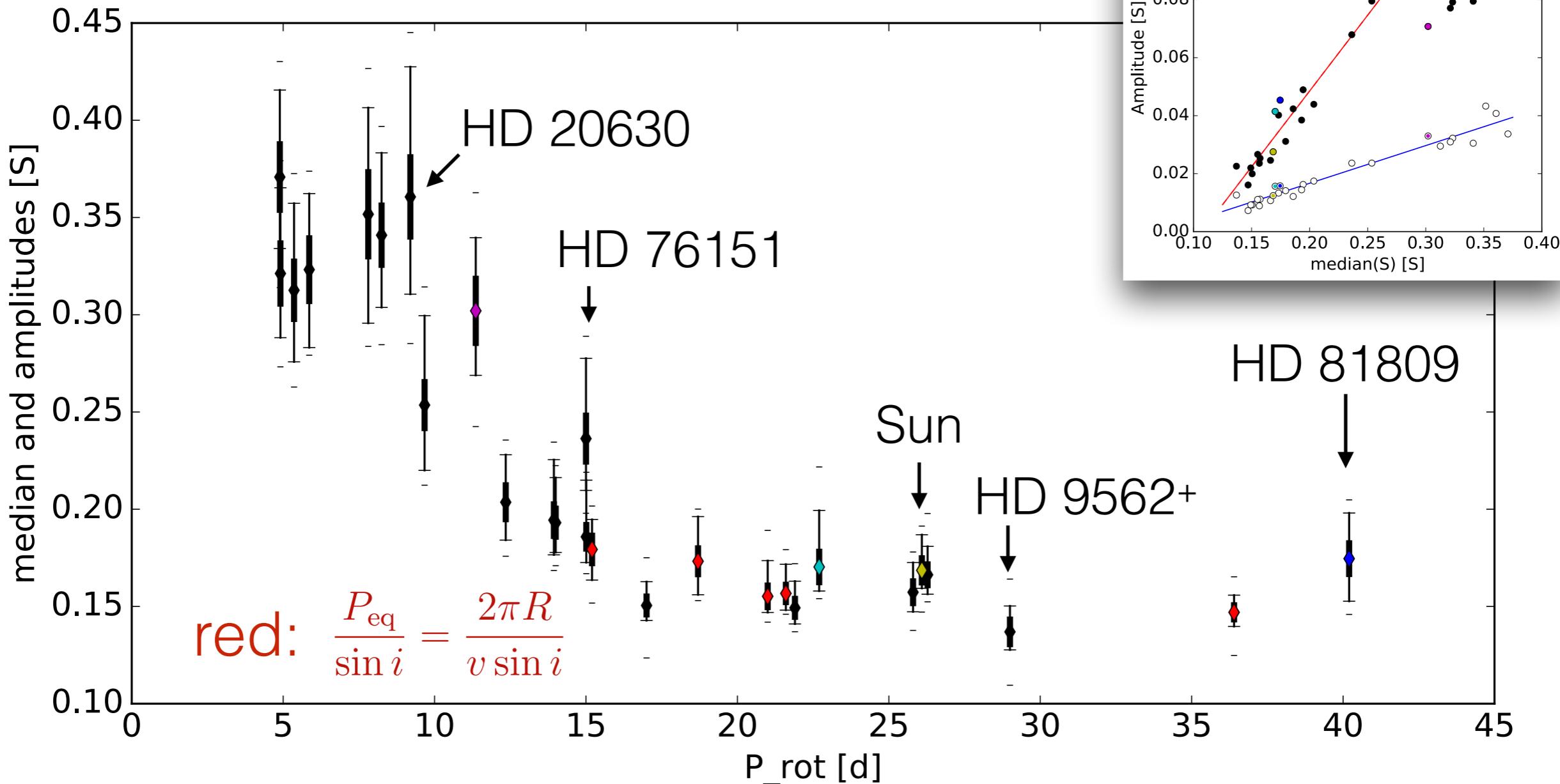
advisors

Phil Judge – High Altitude Observatory
Piet Martens – Georgia State University



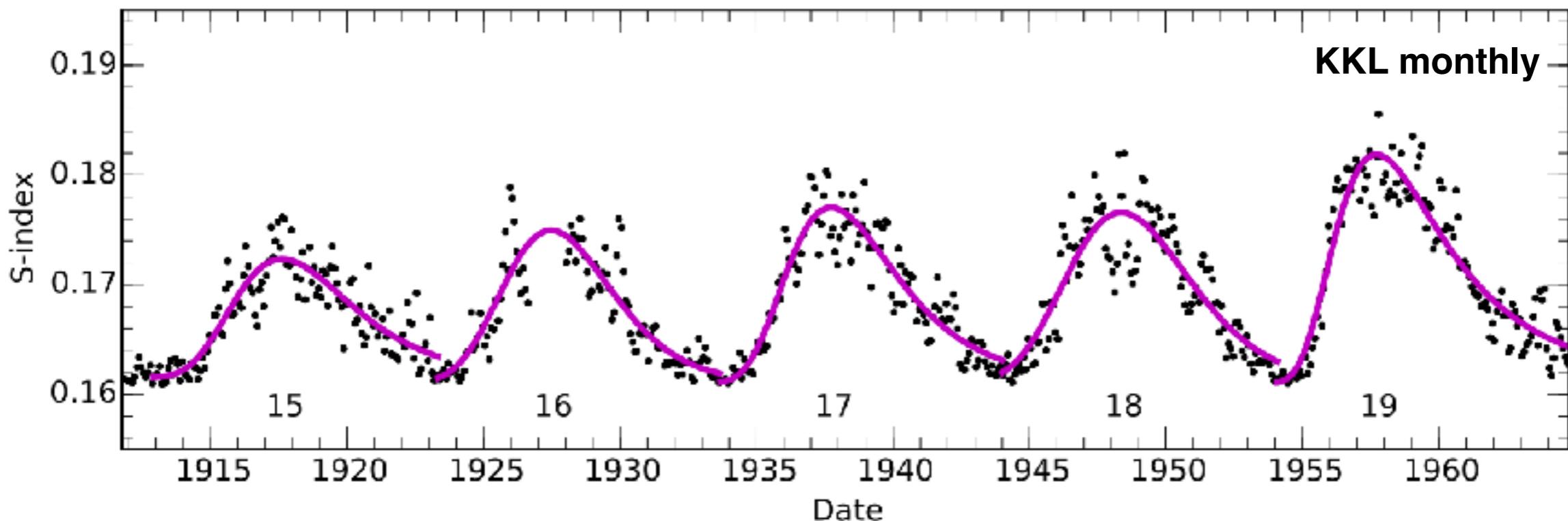
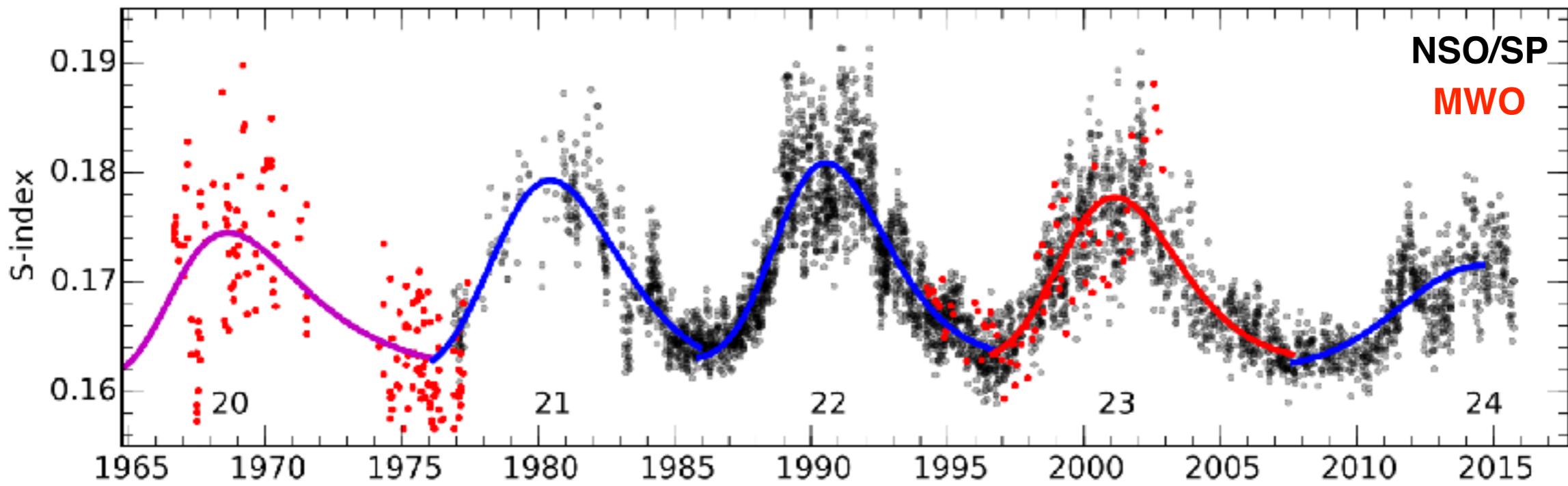


Activity, Amplitude, Rotation, and Variability of solar analogs ($\pm 5\%$ solar T_{eff}) with 50-year Ca HK time series



(Egeland 2017, PhDT)
(Egeland et al. 2018, in prep.)

This is a Sun-like Cycle

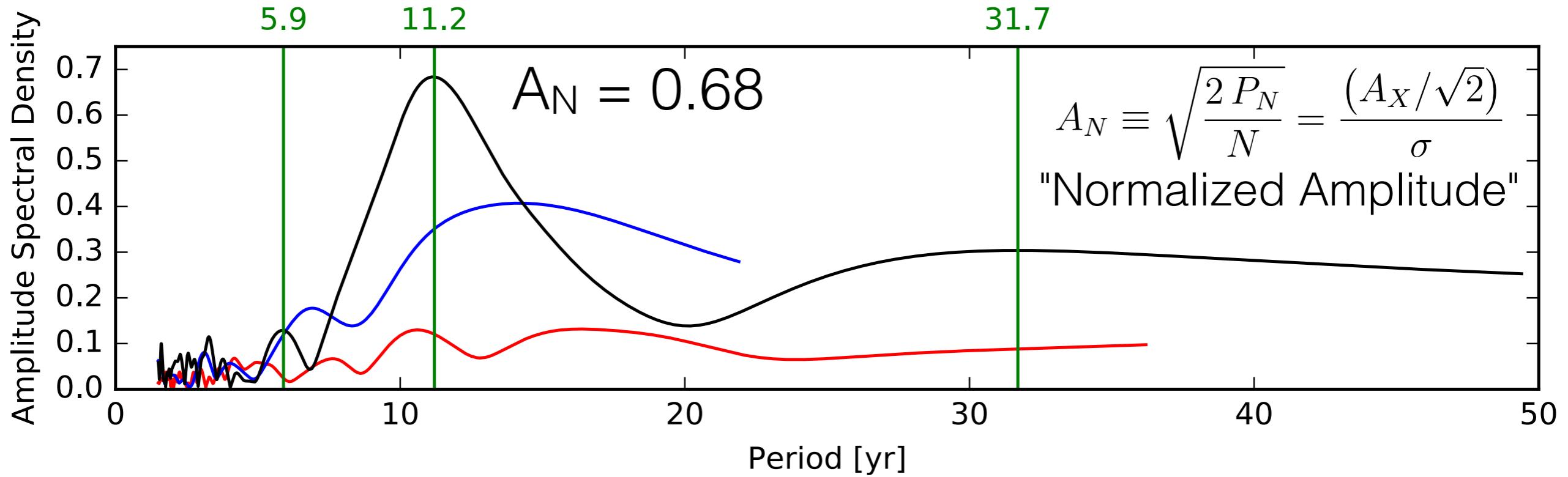
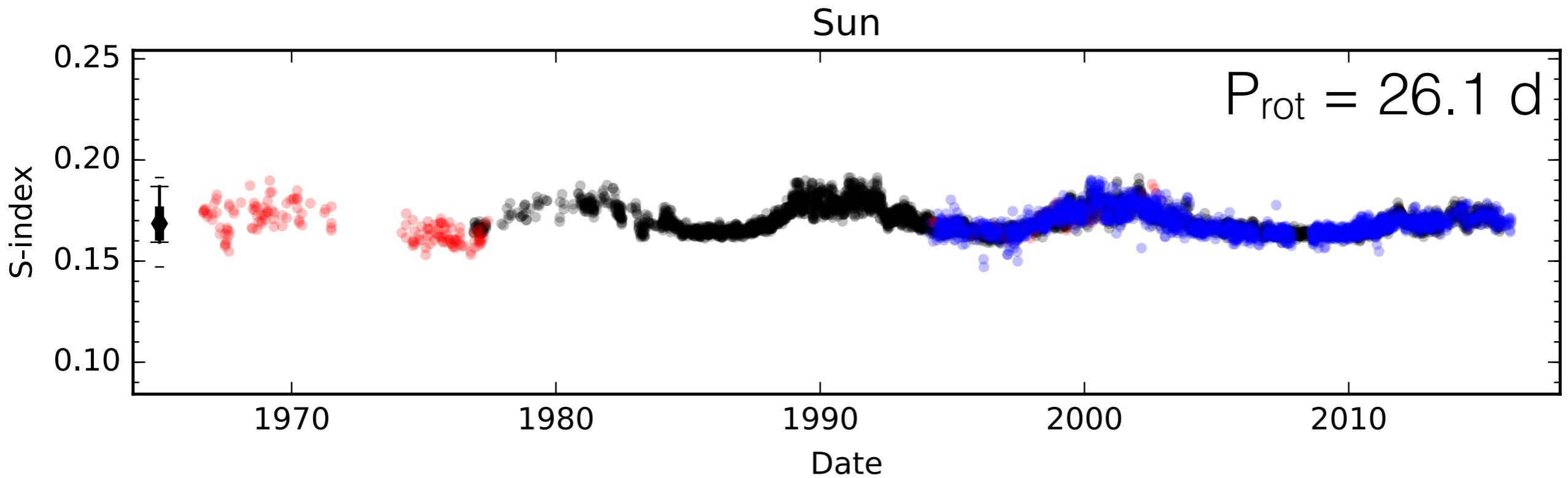


$$\langle S \rangle = 0.1694 \pm 0.0005$$

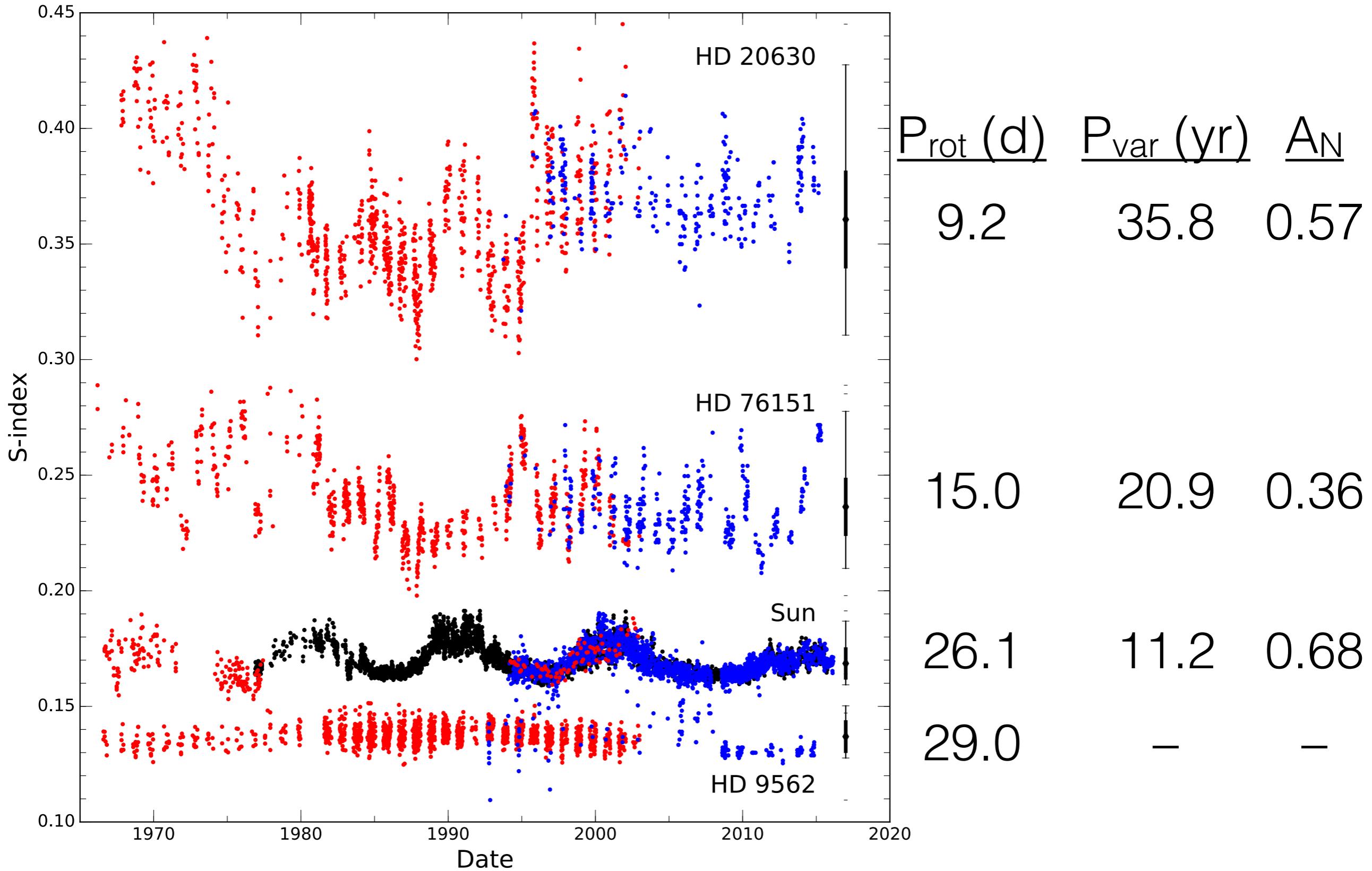
$$\langle 15-24 \rangle: \quad \Delta \langle S \rangle = 0.0145 \pm 0.0012 \quad (8.6\%)$$

(Bertello et al. 2016, SoPh)
(Egeland et al. 2017, ApJ)

This is a Sun-like Cycle

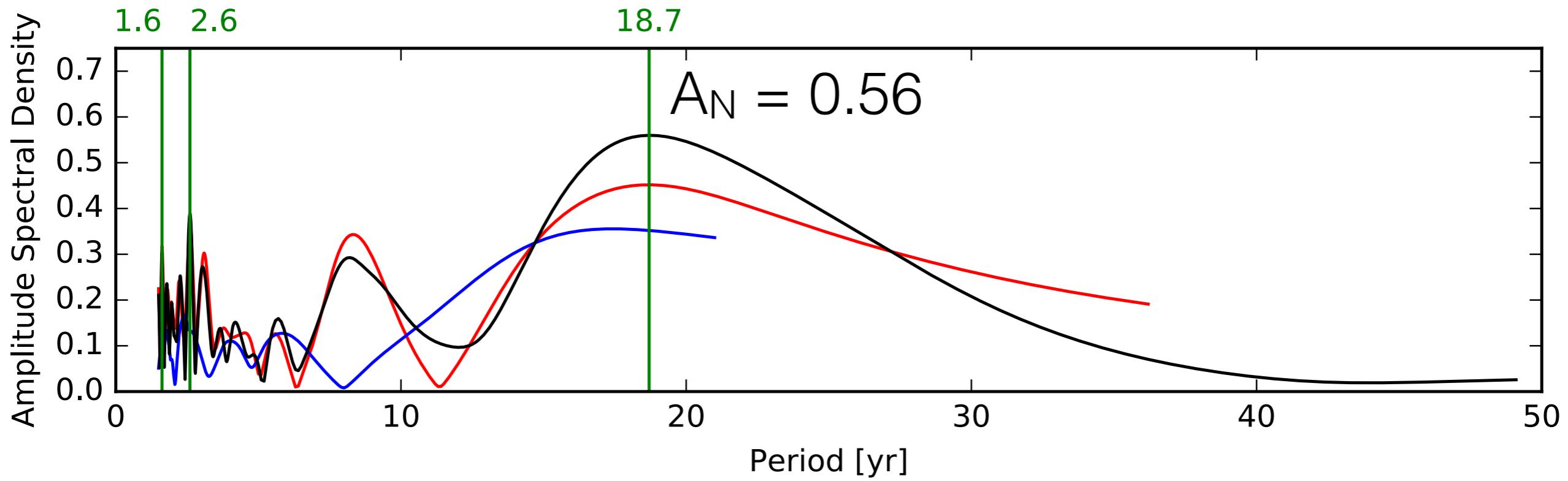
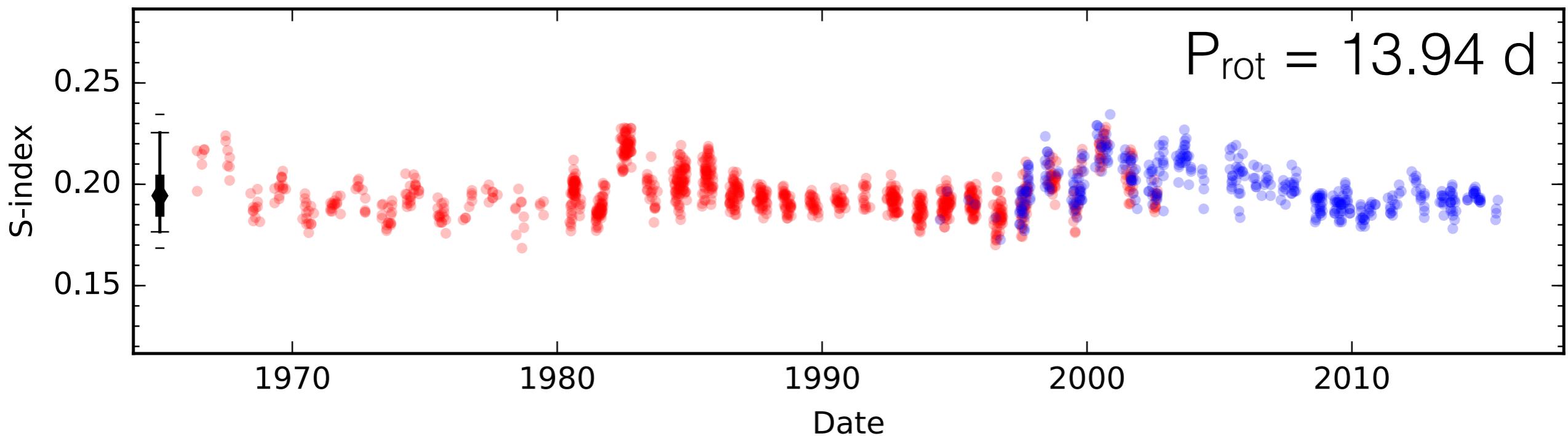


These are not Sun-like Cycles



Also not Sun-like.

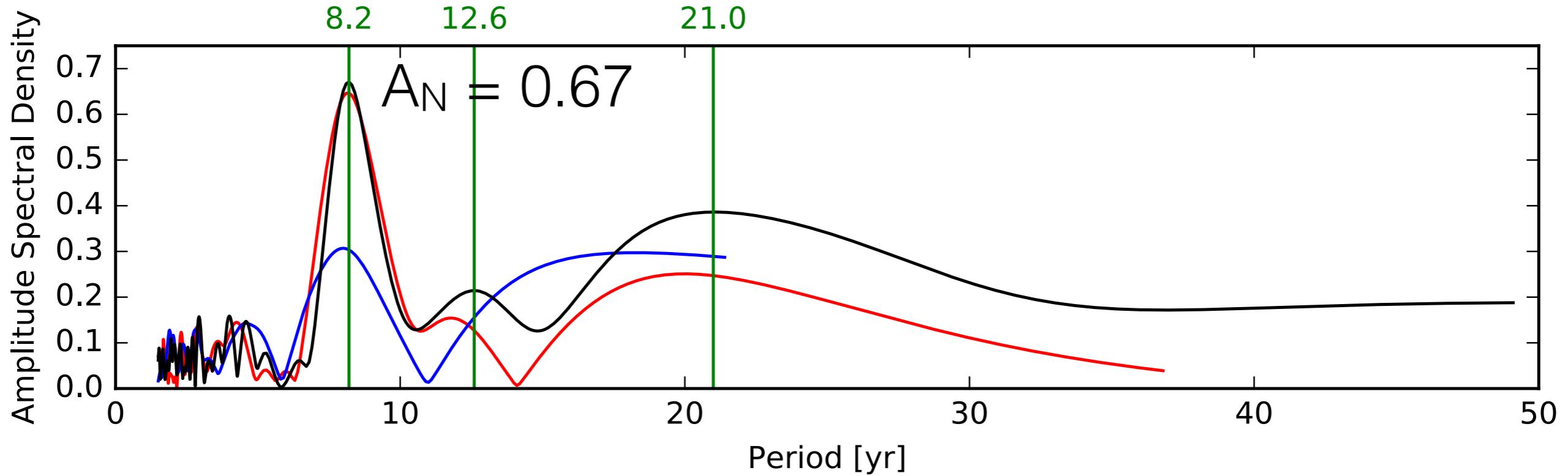
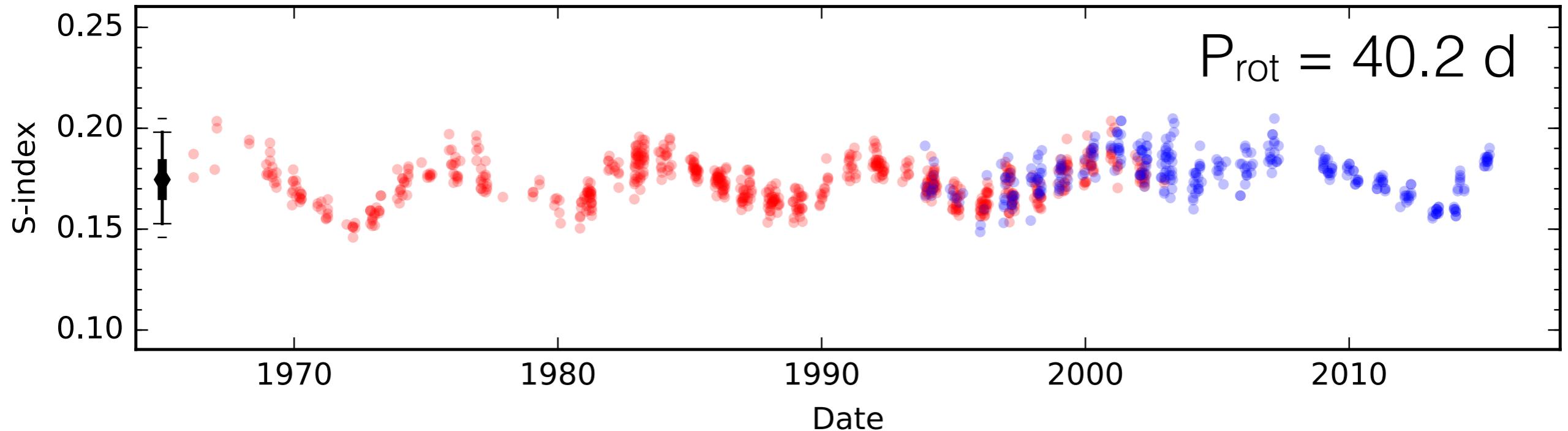
HD 190406



This is a Sun-like Cycle

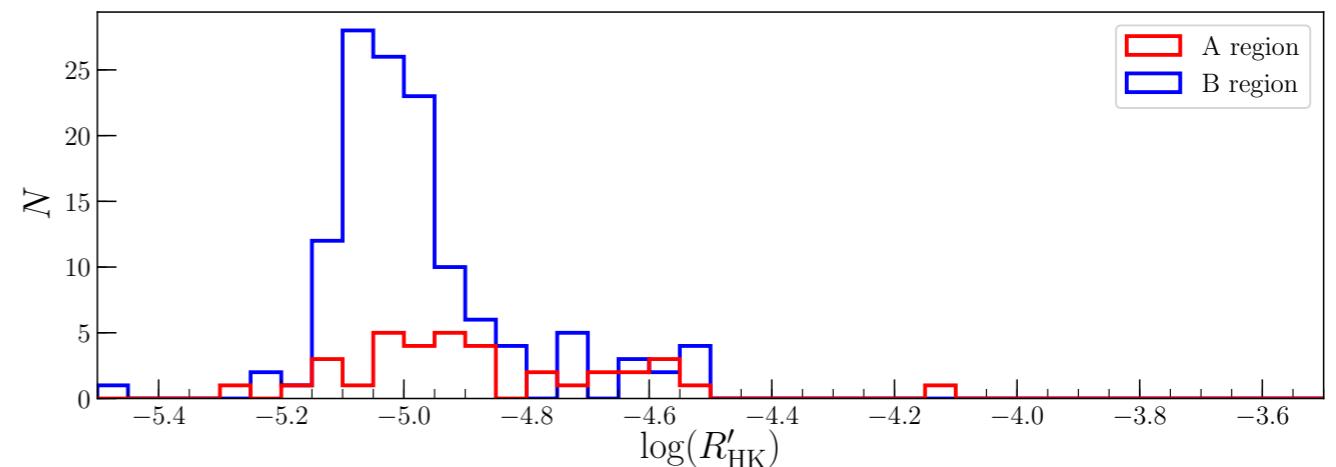
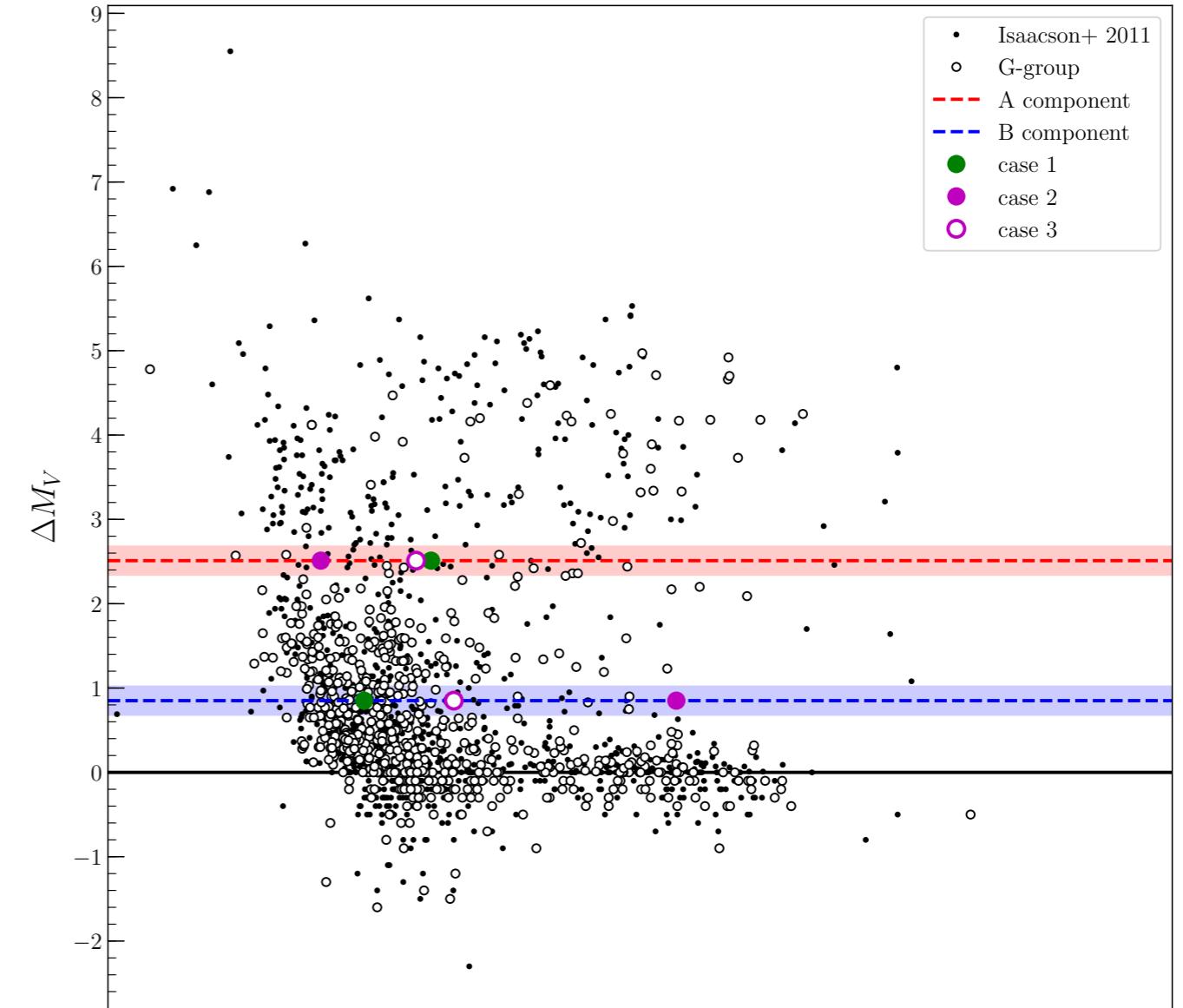
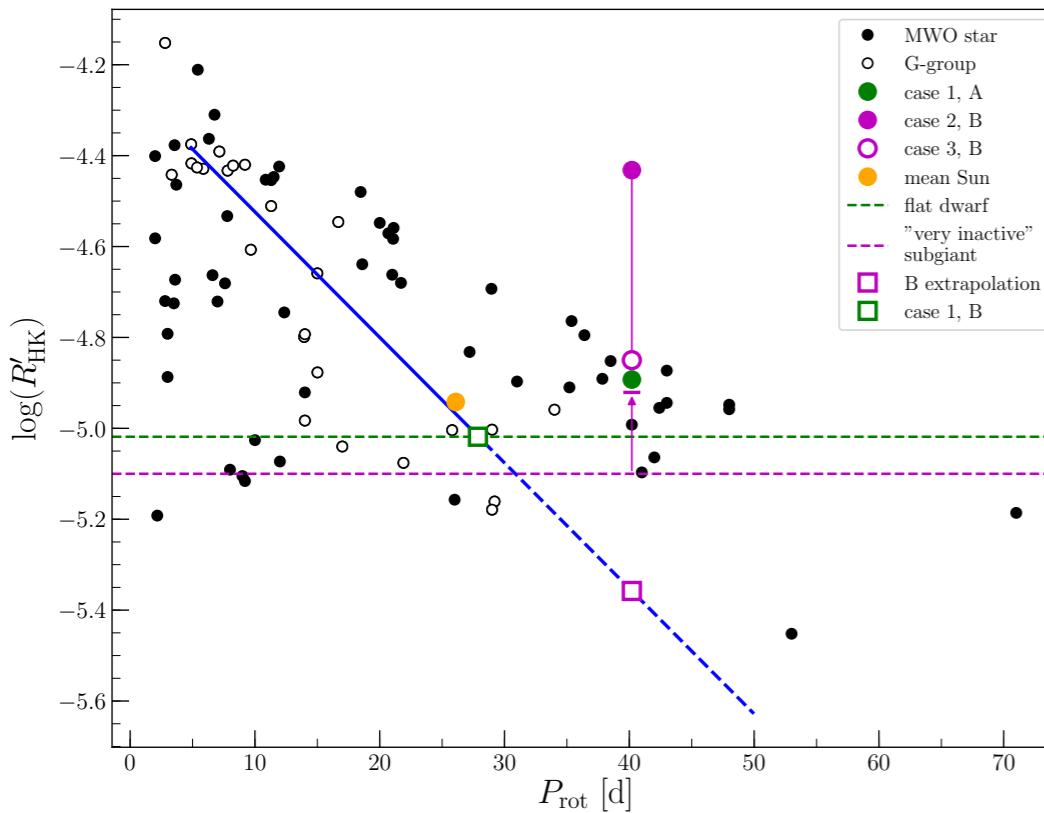
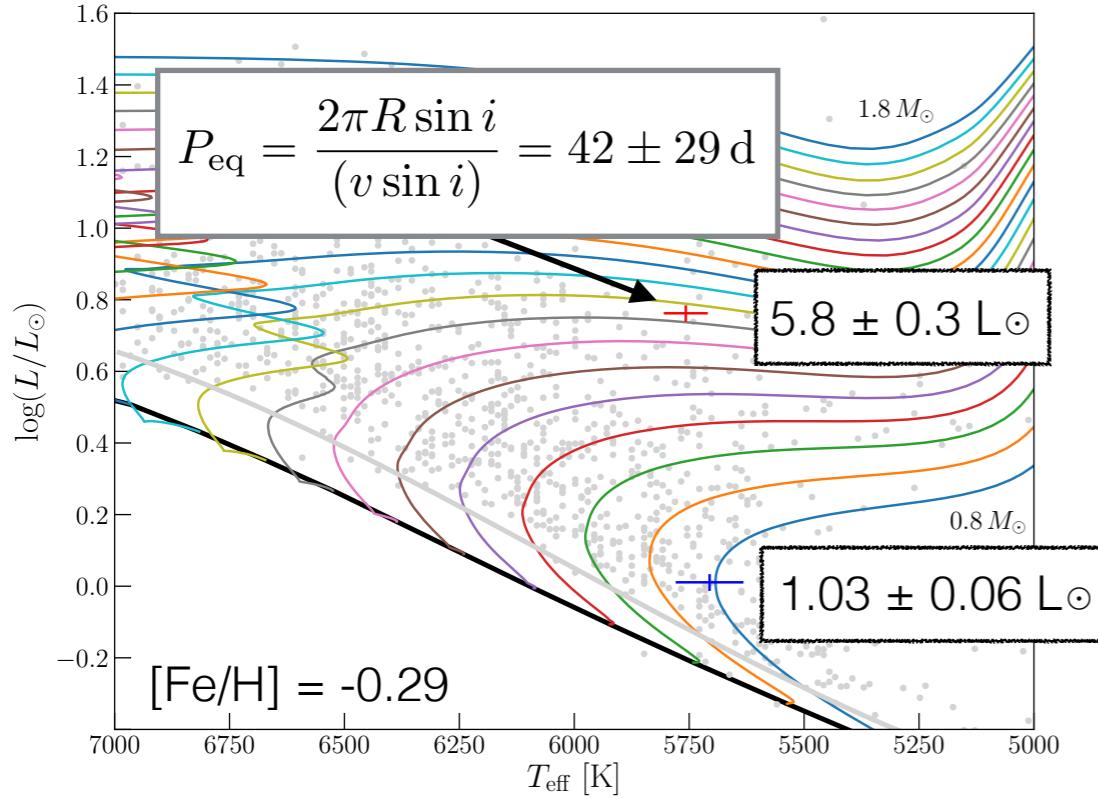
But what is the source?

HD 81809



HD 81809 is a Cycling Subgiant

(Egeland et al. 2018, ApJ submitted; arxiv: 1807.10870)



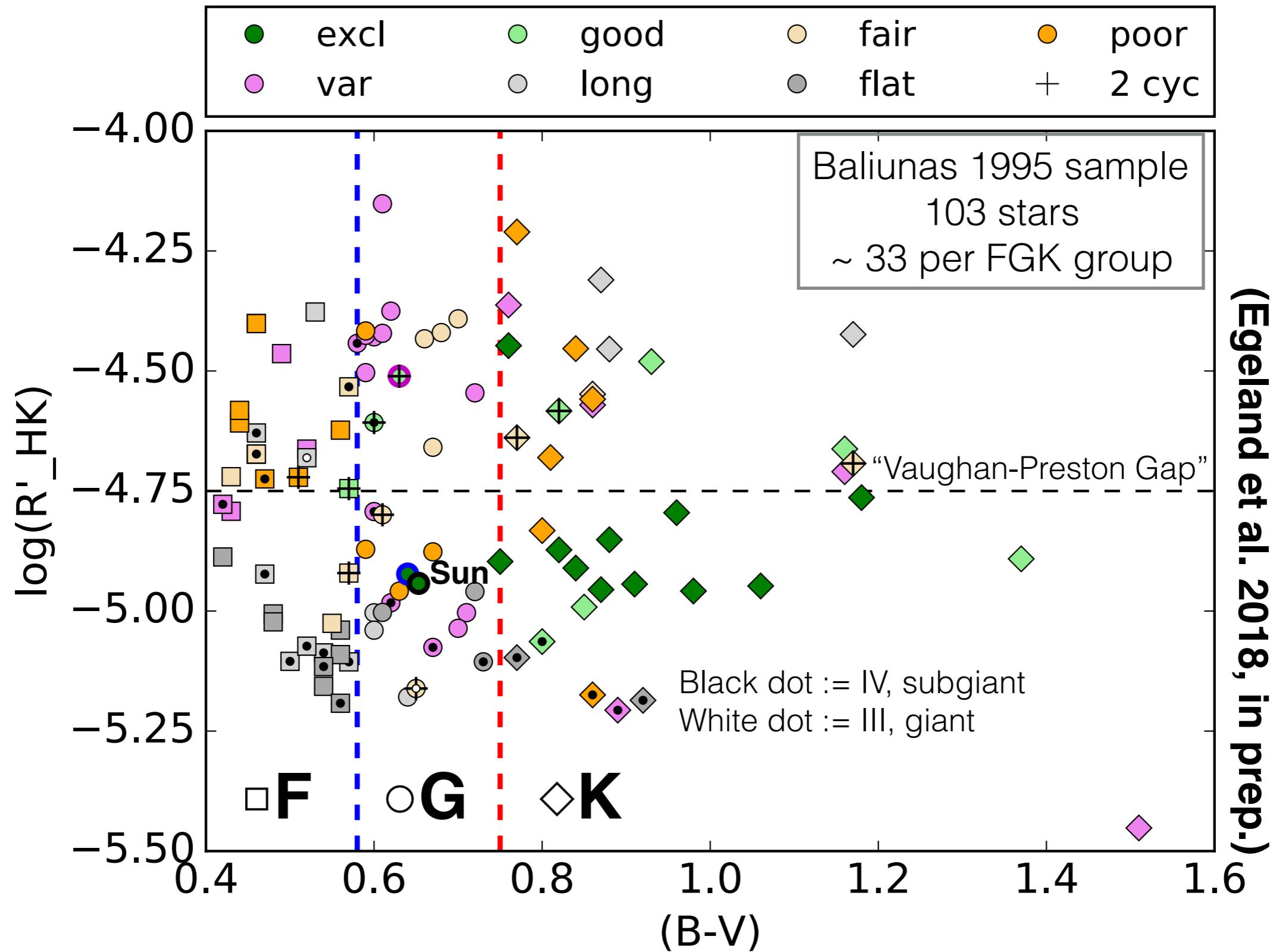
The Solar Cycle is Exceptional

$$Q_{\text{cyc}} = 100 \left(1 - 0.5 \frac{P_{\text{var}}}{T} \right) A_N \quad Q_{\text{cyc},\odot} = 61$$

$Q_{\text{cyc},1}$ Bin	N Stars	N also with $Q_{\text{cyc},2}$
$Q_{\text{cyc}} \geq 50$	3	0
$40 \leq Q_{\text{cyc}} < 50$	5	2
$30 \leq Q_{\text{cyc}} < 40$	11	8
$20 \leq Q_{\text{cyc}} < 30$	6	2
$Q_{\text{cyc}} < 20$	2	—

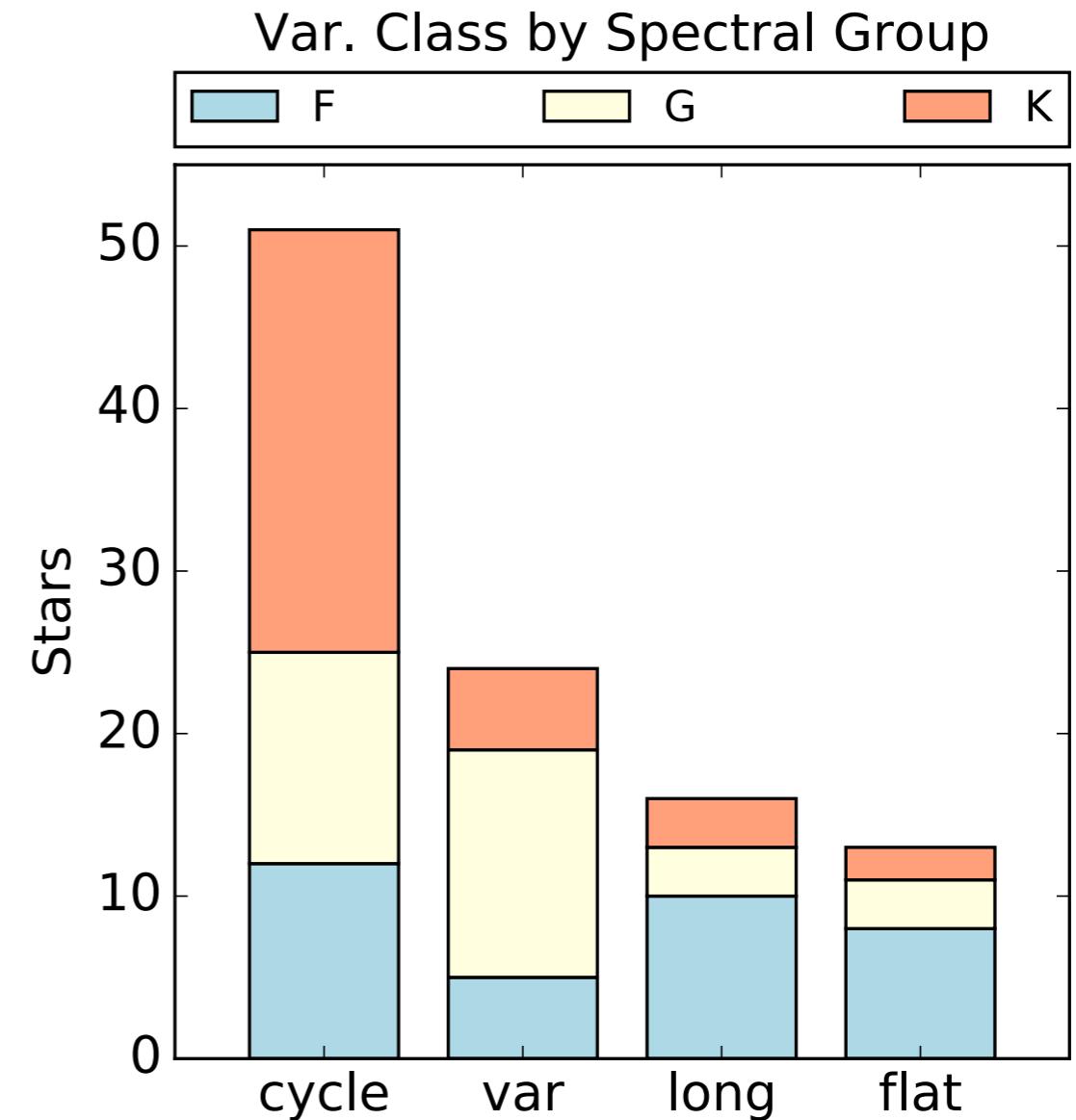
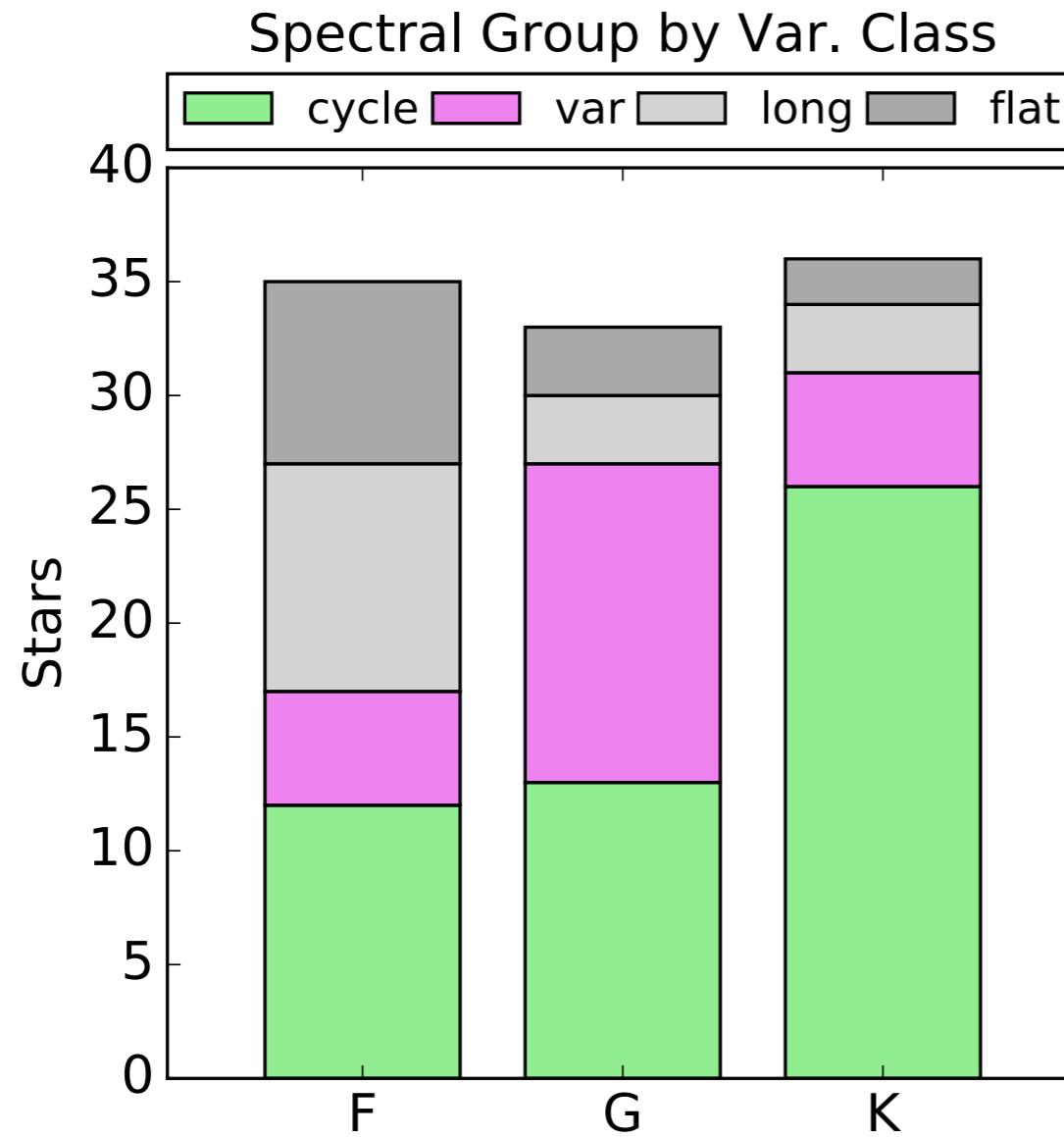
Considering $Q_{\text{cyc}} > 40$ and no secondary cycle as “solar-like”, only 5/26 ($\sim 19\%$) of the sample has a cycle similar to the Sun’s.

So where are the Sun-like cycles?



K-stars Have More & Better Cycles

note: generous definition of "cycle": a statistically significant periodogram peak



K-group most likely to be cycling: 71%

G-group and F-group cycling: ~34%

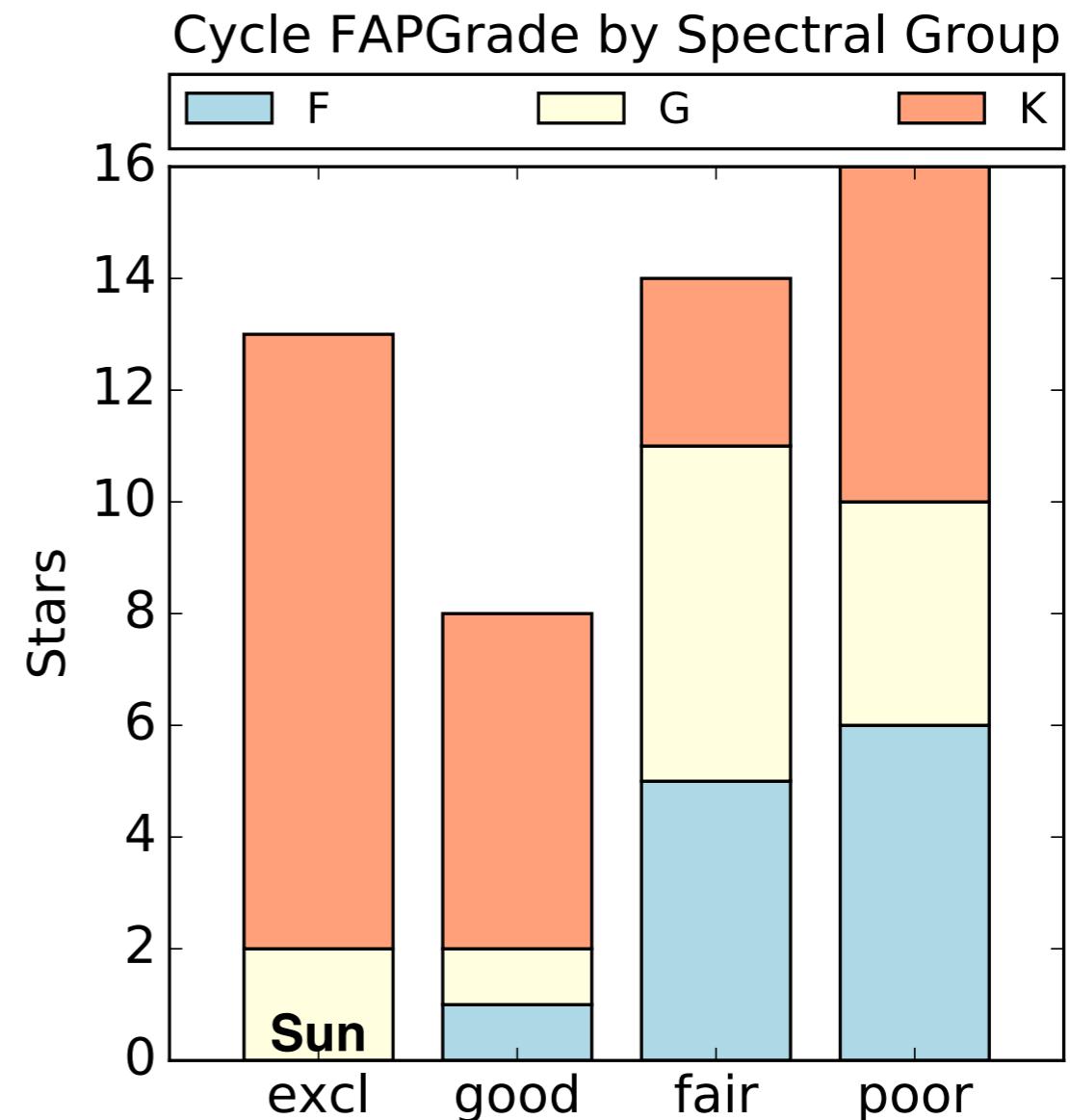
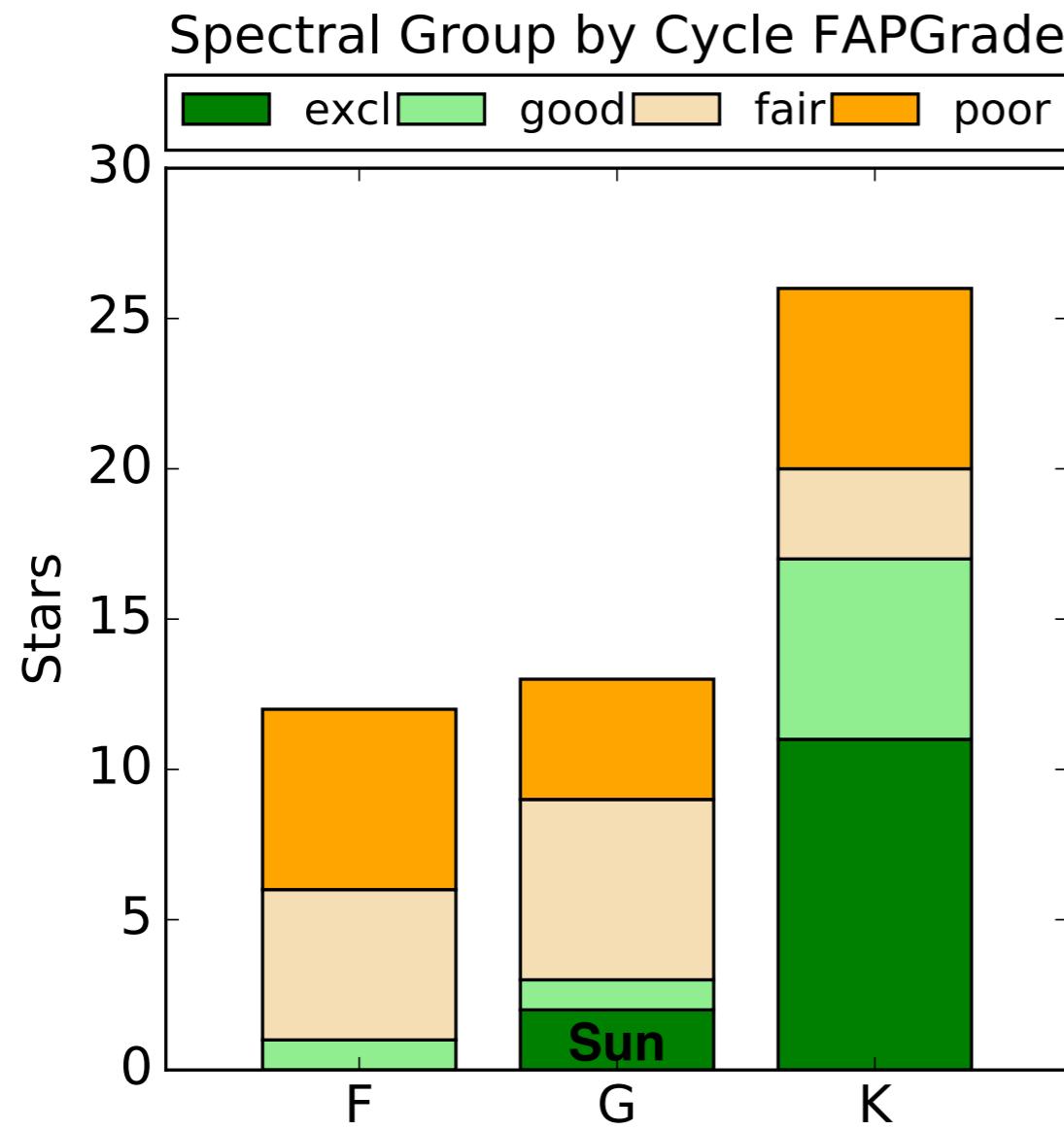
F-group most likely to be (flat + long): 49%

G-group most likely to be Var: 43%

(Egeland et al. 2018, in prep.)

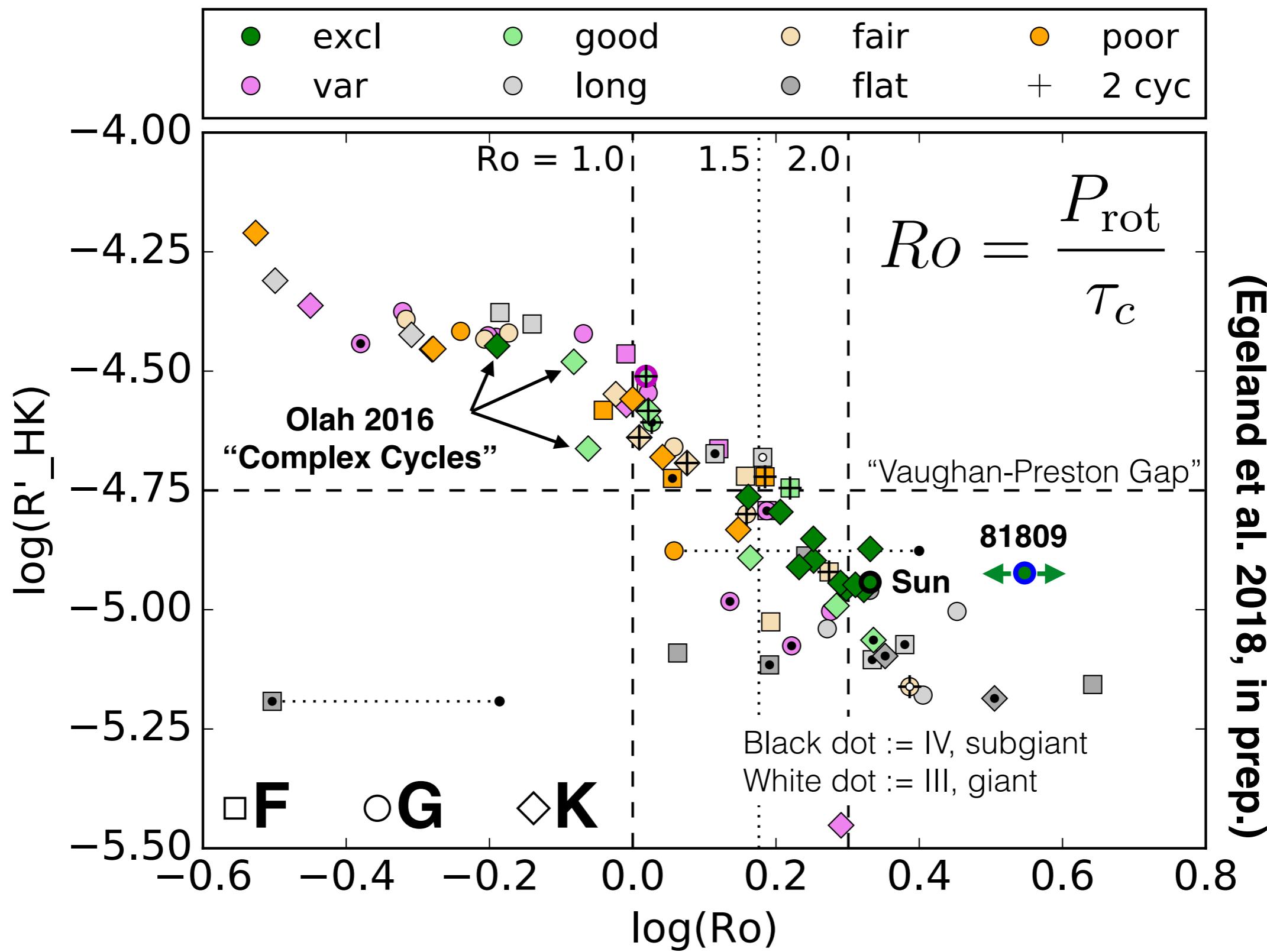
K-stars Have More & Better Cycles

(Egeland et al. 2018, in prep.)



K-group most likely to be excl or good: 65% of K-cyclers, 47% of K-group
or, of the (excl + good) stars, **81% of them are K-group!**
G-group (excl + good): 23% of G-cyclers, **9% of G-group!**
F-group (excl + good): 8.3% of F-cyclers, **2.9% of F-group!**

Why does the Sun have a Sun-like cycle?



Hypothesis: For G & K main-sequence stars, Sun-like variability happens iff $Ro > 1.5$

Advertisement: sunstardb

sunstardb is a publicly accessible database of observations relevant to the study of stellar magnetism.

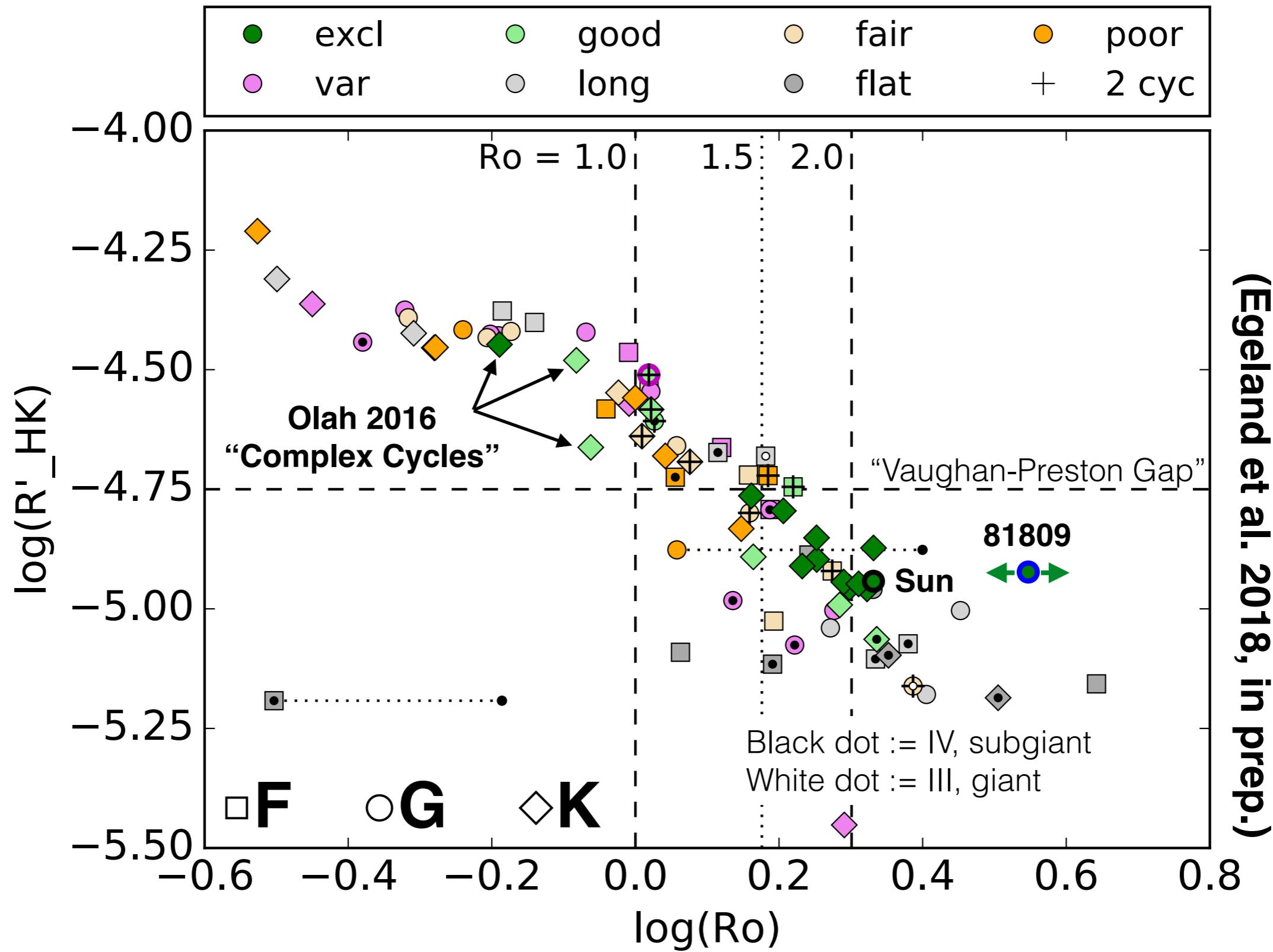
See Egeland 2018, ApJS or search "sunstardb".

It is designed to make it easy to extract stellar ensembles with the desired properties, with full provenance information attached to each datum.

It currently has a [python interface](#) and enough data to make most of the plots in this presentation, but it needs more work and more data.

Contributions welcome!

Conclusions



Hypothesis: For G & K main-sequence stars, Sun-like variability happens iff $\text{Ro} > 1.5$