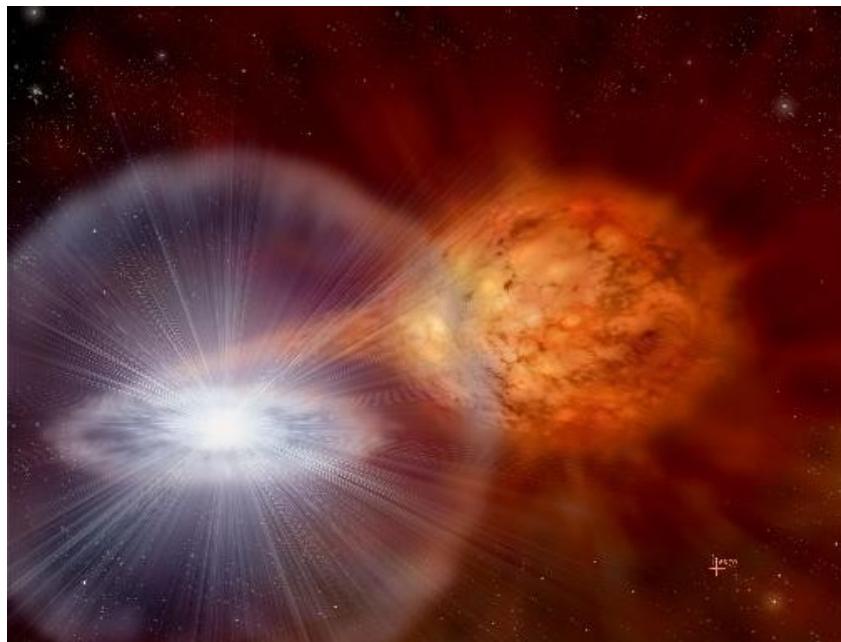


# *ASBE part II: binary evolution*



- how does the evolution of stars in binary systems differ from that of single stars?
- which kind of interaction processes play a role in binary stars, and how do they affect their evolution?
- how do observed types of binary systems fit into this evolution picture?

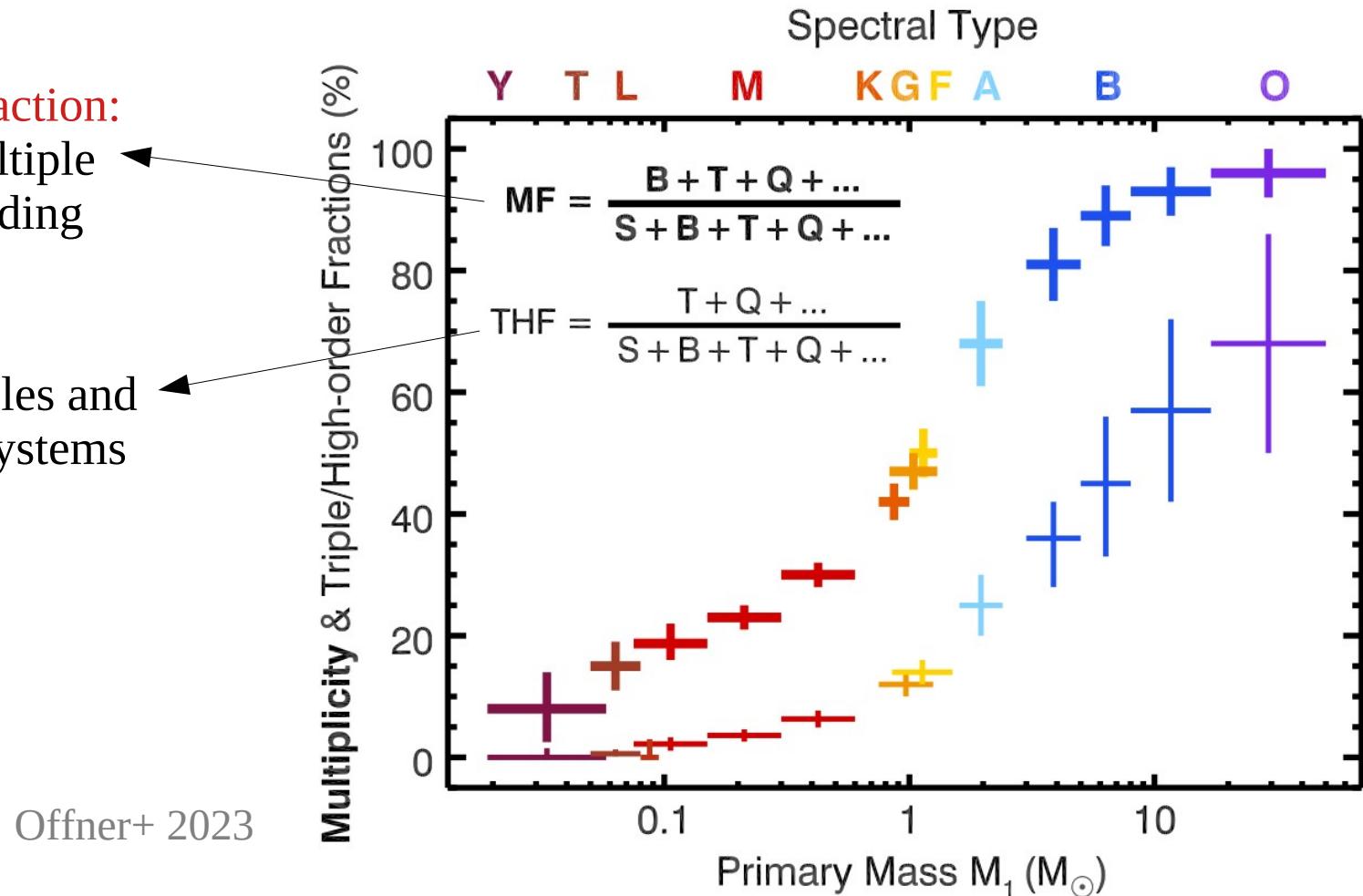
*lecture 8:*  
**binary star statistics,  
orbits and structure**

# binary and multiple systems

- incidence of binaries and multiples in stellar populations increases with stellar mass

**multiplicity fraction:**  
fraction of multiple systems (including binaries)

fraction of triples and higher-order systems

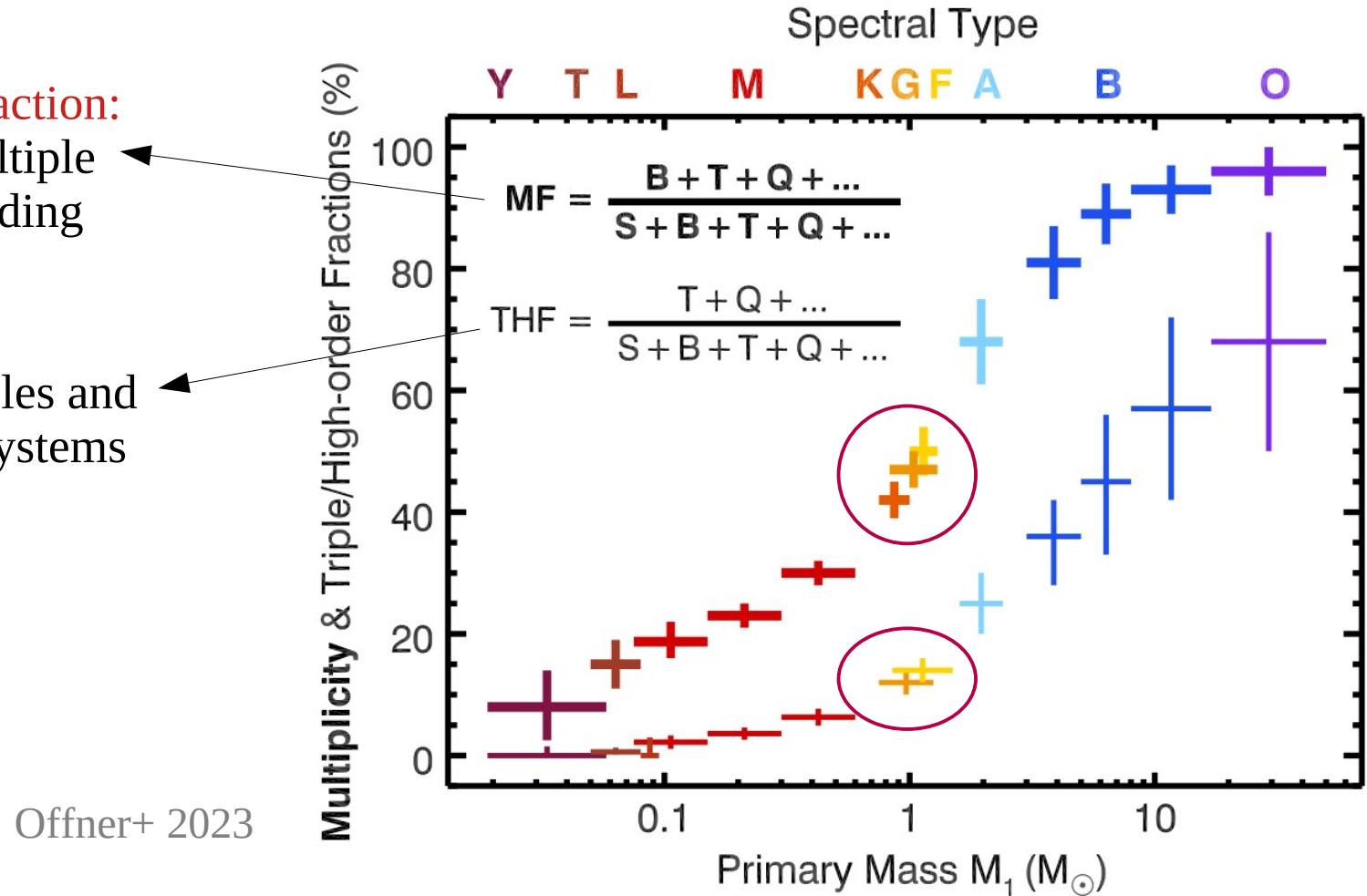


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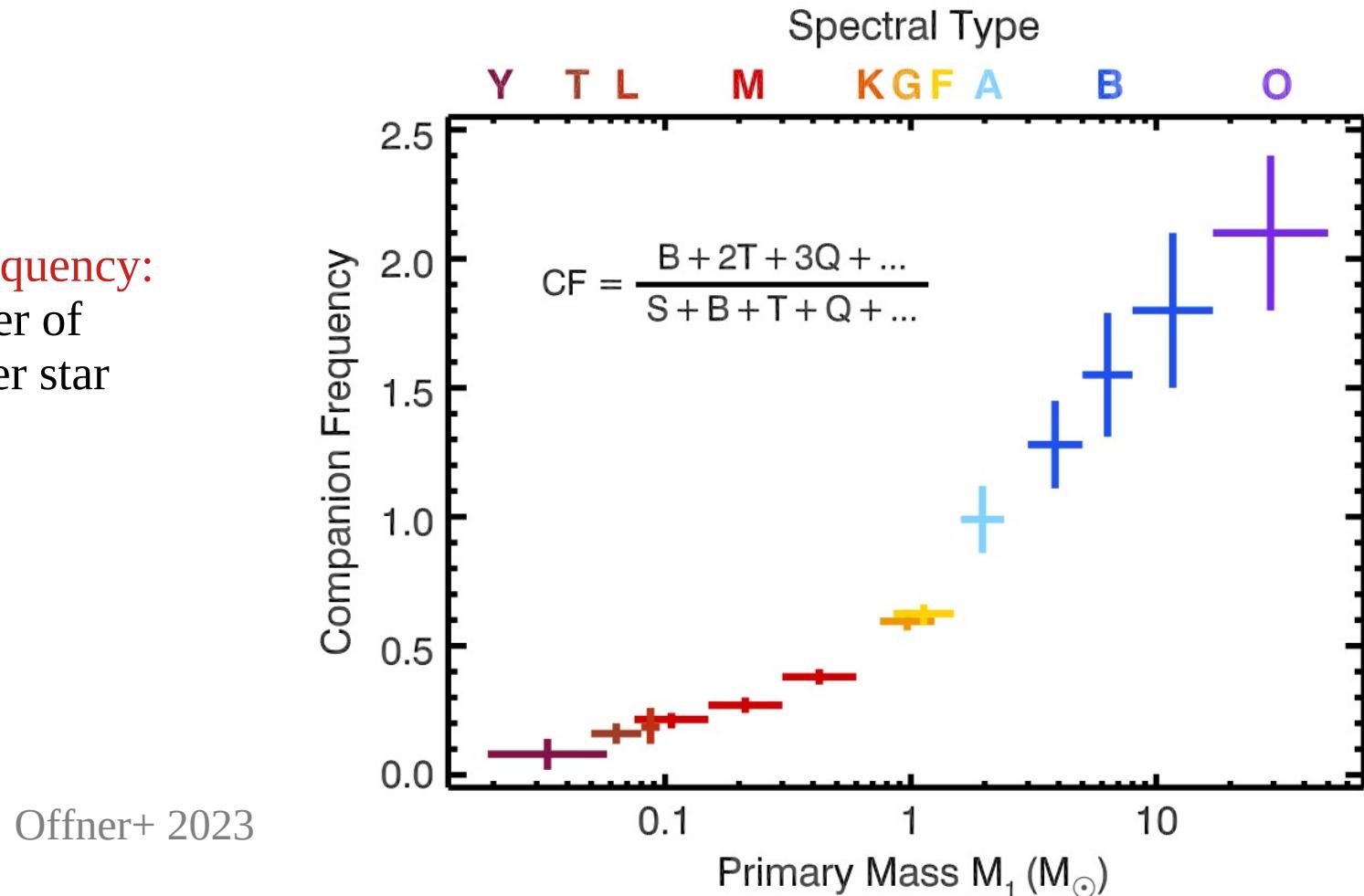


- solar-type stars:  $\approx 55\%$  single,  $\approx 34\%$  binaries,  $\approx 8\%$  triples,  $\approx 3\%$  higher-order

# binary and multiple systems

- incidence of binaries and multiples in stellar populations increases with stellar mass

companion frequency:  
average number of  
companions per star



# binary orbital dynamics

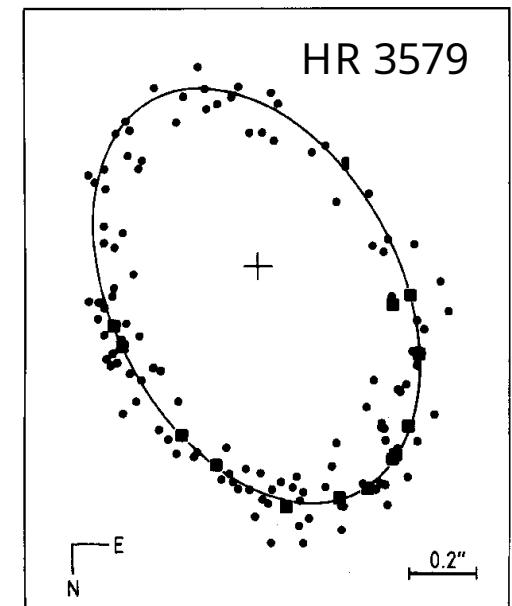
- *see lecture notes, sec. 15.1*



# measuring binary stars

- visual binaries (VB):

projected relative orbit of 2 stars on sky  $\Rightarrow$   
measure  $P, e, i, \alpha = a/d$



# measuring binary stars

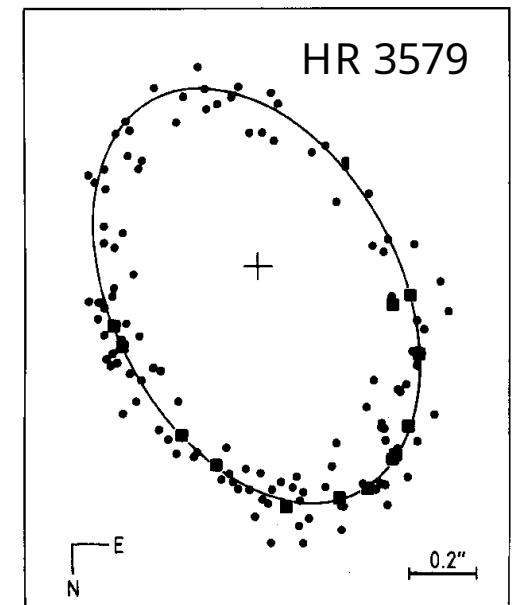
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measure  $P, e, i, \alpha = a/d$

- using Kepler: 
$$\frac{GM}{d^3} = \left(\frac{2\pi}{P}\right)^2 \alpha^3$$

if distance  $d$  is known  $\Rightarrow$  total mass  $M$

- if both stellar orbits known, relative to centre  
of mass:  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \Rightarrow$  mass ratio  $q = M_1/M_2$



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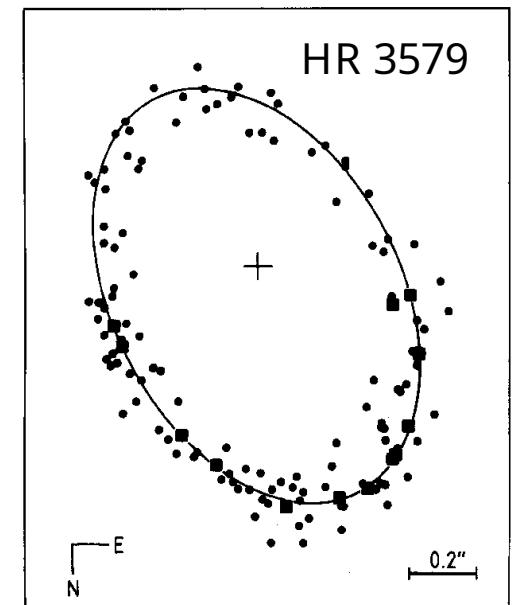
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- if both stellar orbits known, relative to centre  
of mass:  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \Rightarrow$  mass ratio  $q = M_1/M_2$

- astrometric binaries:

orbit of the binary *photocentre* relative to fixed point on sky  $\Rightarrow$   
measure  $P, e, i$ , and  $\alpha_{\text{photocentre}} = f(a/d, q, L_1/L_2)$

- *Gaia* is able to do this for millions of binaries...



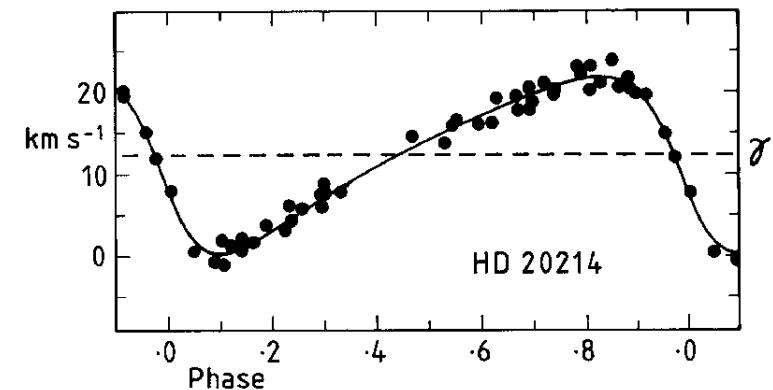
# measuring binary stars

- spectroscopic binaries (SB):  
radial velocity curve of brightest star (SB1)  
⇒ measure  $P$ ,  $e$ , and RV amplitude  $K_1$ :

$$K_1 = 2\pi a_1 \sin i (1-e^2)^{-1/2} / P$$

⇒ mass function:

$$f(M_2) = \frac{M_2^3 \sin^3 i}{(M_1 + M_2)^2} = K_1^3 \frac{P}{2\pi G} (1 - e^2)^{3/2}$$



# measuring binary stars

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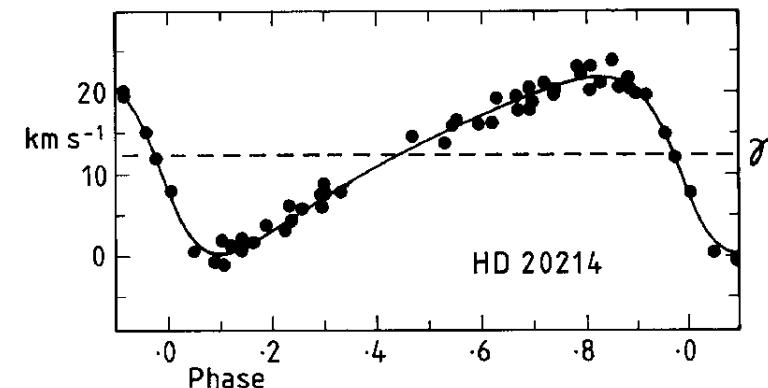
⇒ mass function:

$$f(M_2) = \frac{M_2^3 \sin^3 i}{(M_1 + M_2)^2} = K_1^3 \frac{P}{2\pi G} (1 - e^2)^{3/2}$$

- double-lined spectroscopic binaries (SB2):

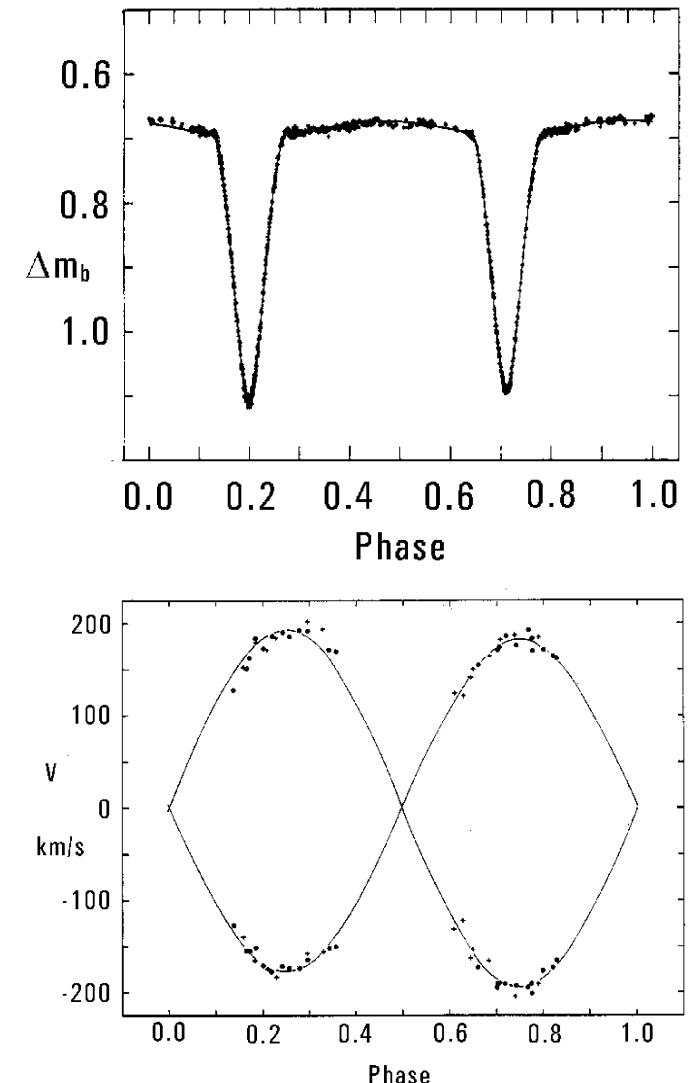
$f(M_1)$  and  $f(M_2)$  ⇒  $q = M_1/M_2$  (but not individual masses, only  $M_i \sin i$ )

- if visual/astrometric *and* spectroscopic orbit known ⇒ inclination  $i$   
⇒  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , independent of distance



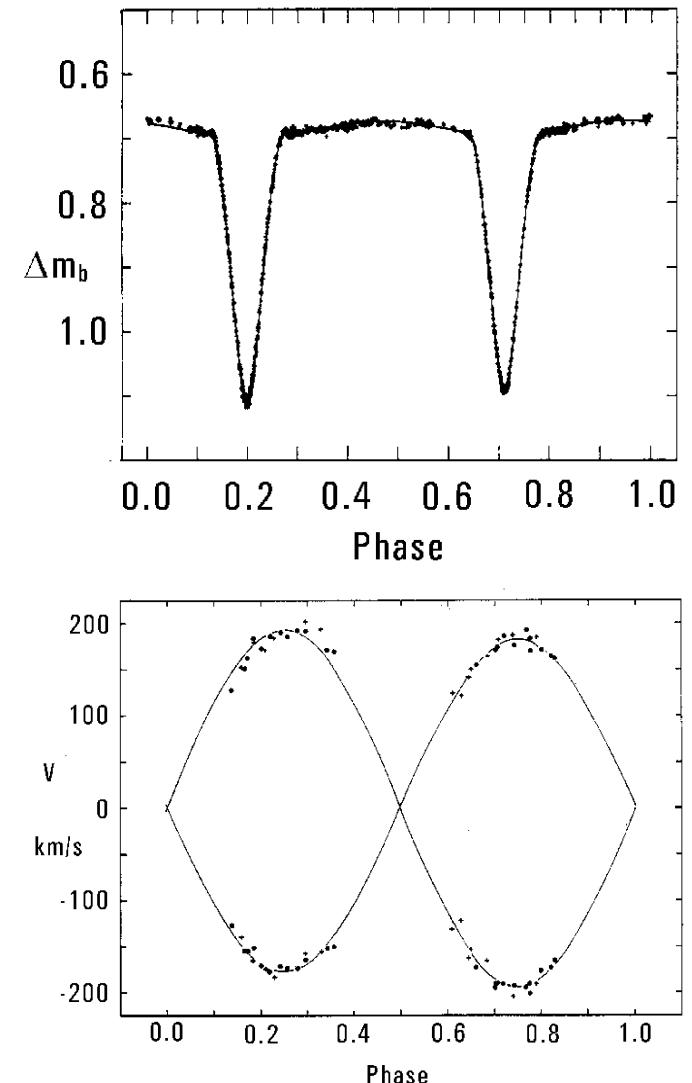
# measuring binary stars

- eclipsing binaries (EB):  
observed lightcurve + accurate modelling of stellar atmospheres and distortions  $\Rightarrow$   
measure  $P, e, i, R_1/a, R_2/a$  and  $T_{\text{eff},1}, T_{\text{eff},2}$
- double-lined spectroscopic eclipsing binaries (ESB2):  
 $P, e, i, a, M_1, M_2, R_1, R_2, T_{\text{eff},1}, T_{\text{eff},2}$  and  $d$  (!)



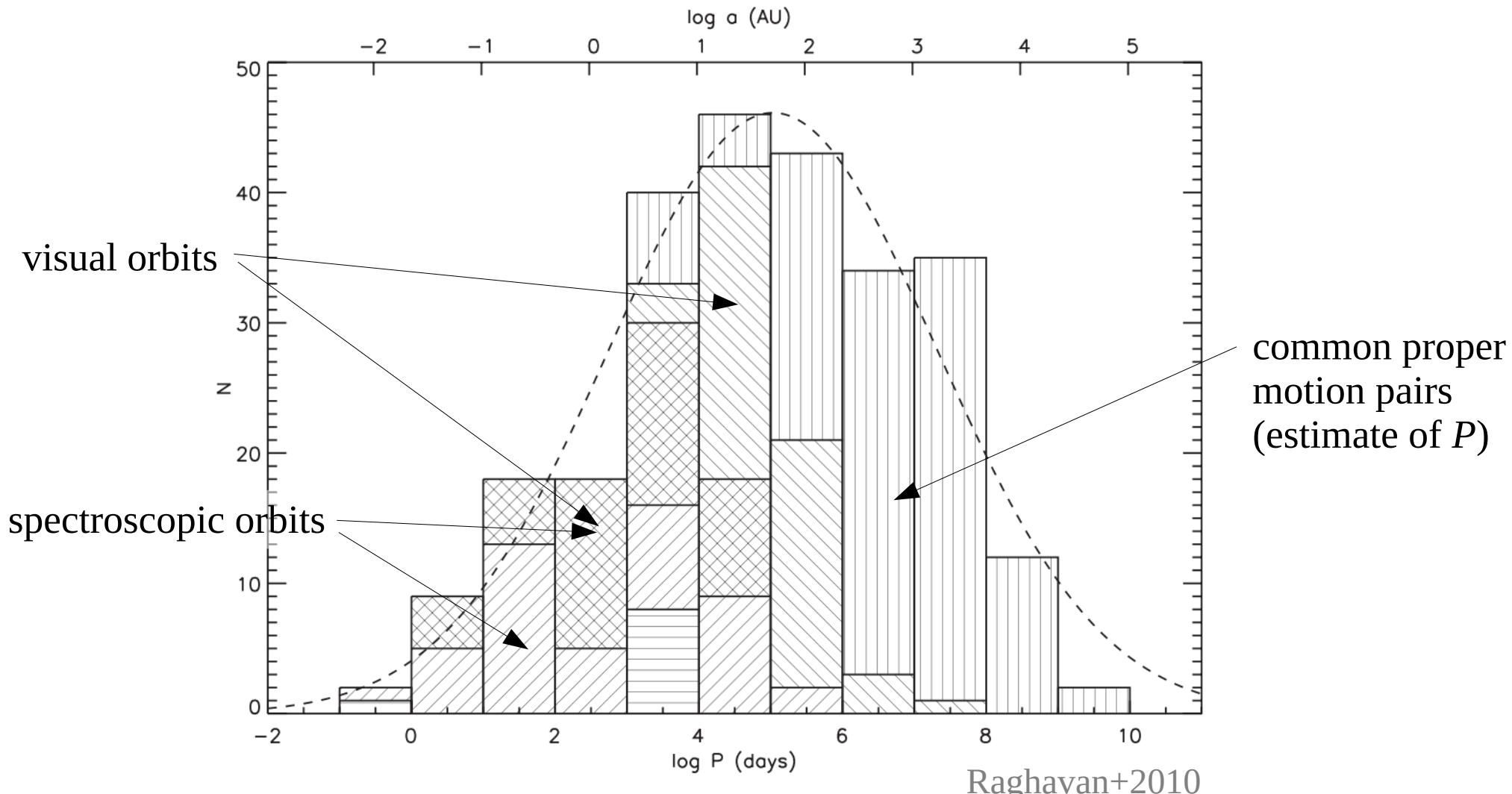
# measuring binary stars

- eclipsing binaries (EB):  
observed lightcurve + accurate modelling of stellar atmospheres and distortions ⇒  
measure  $P$ ,  $e$ ,  $i$ ,  $R_1/a$ ,  $R_2/a$  and  $T_{\text{eff},1}$ ,  $T_{\text{eff},2}$
- double-lined spectroscopic eclipsing binaries (ESB2):  
 $P$ ,  $e$ ,  $i$ ,  $a$ ,  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $T_{\text{eff},1}$ ,  $T_{\text{eff},2}$  and  $d$  (!)
- binary systems are the only *direct* source of information on **stellar masses** and (in some cases) provide independent **distance** measurements



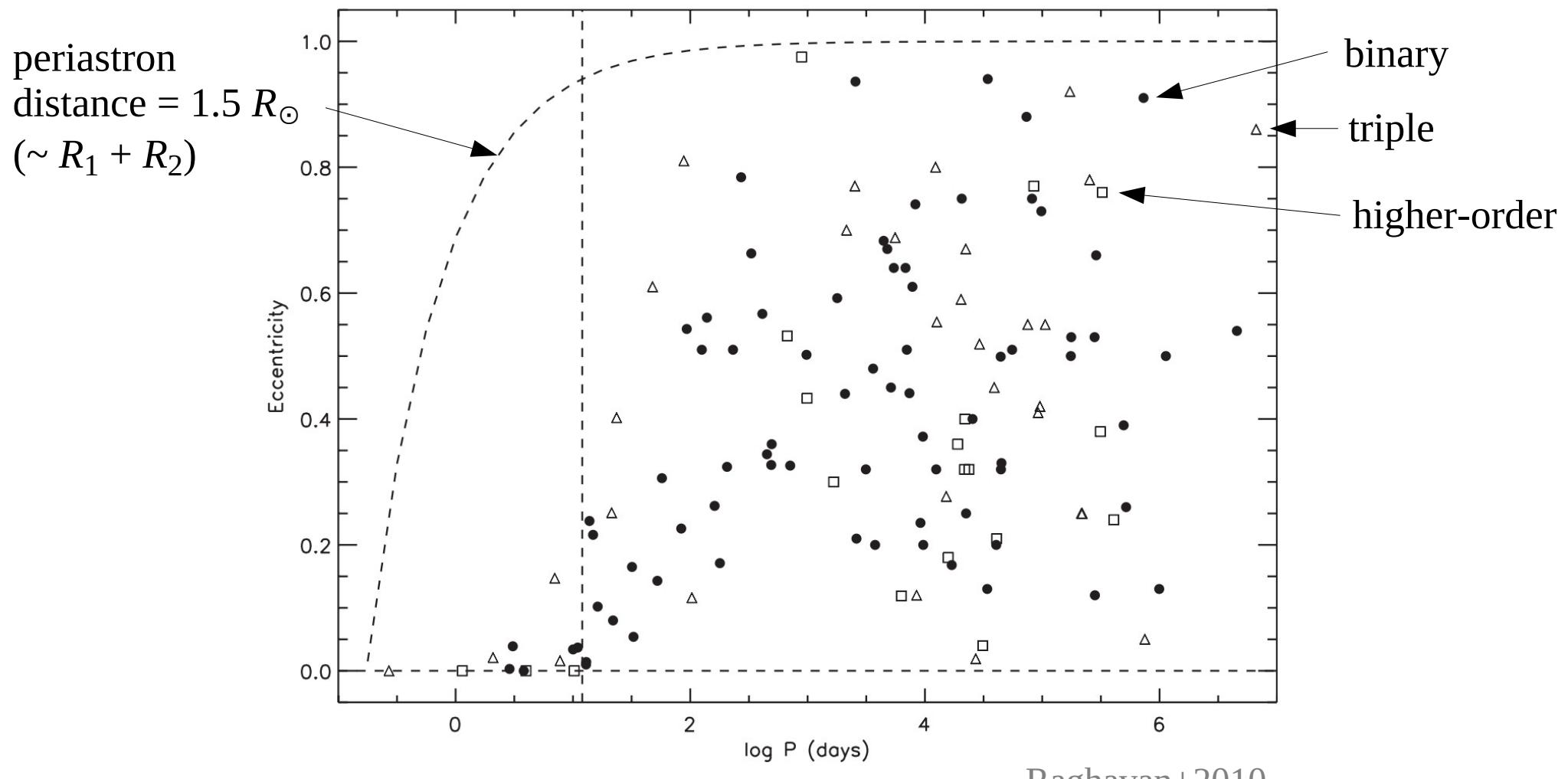
# binary statistics

- complete sample of solar-type stars within  $\sim 25$  pc:  
**distribution of orbital periods**



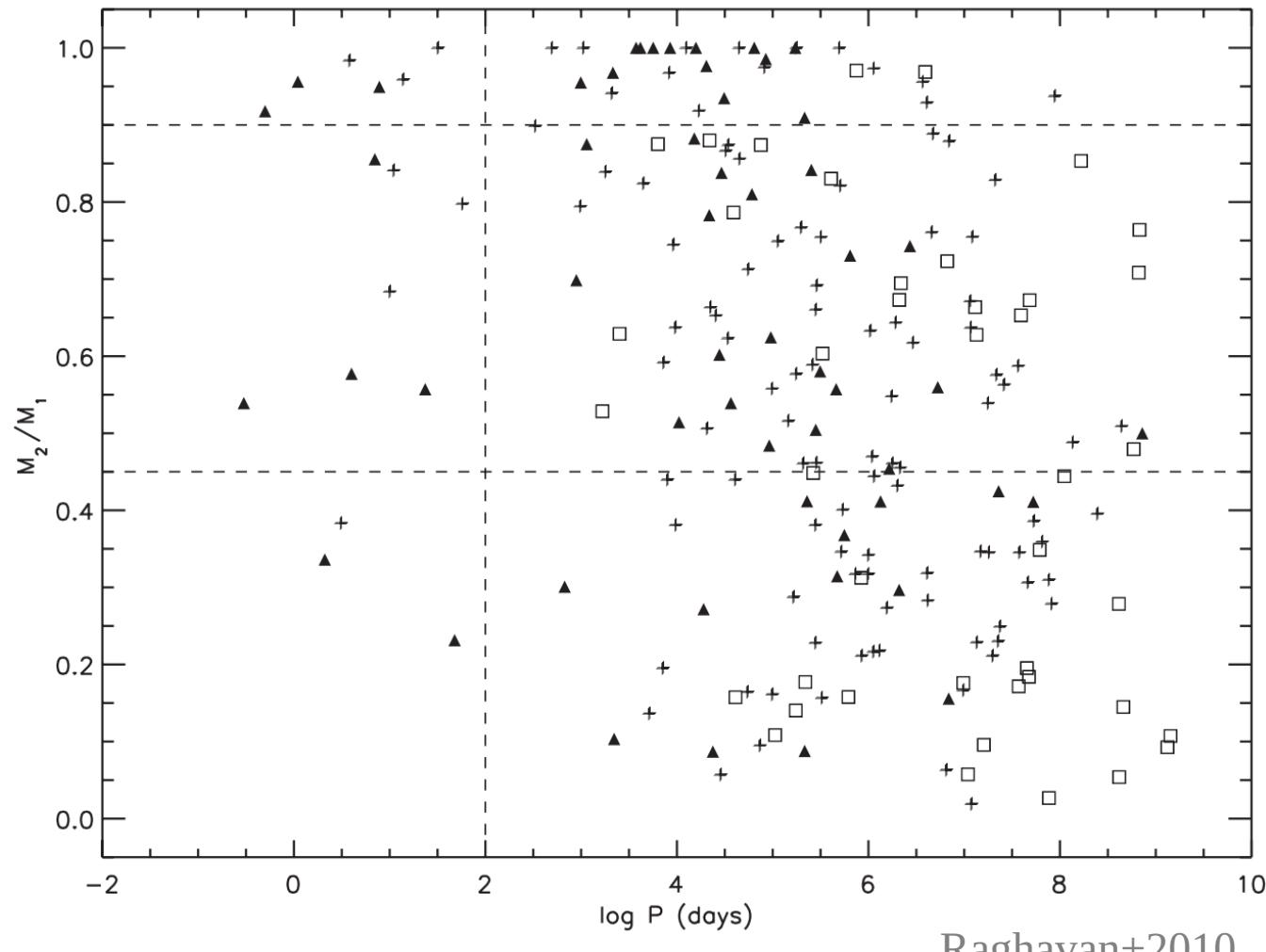
# binary statistics

- complete sample of solar-type stars within  $\sim 25$  pc:  
**orbital periods** and **eccentricities**



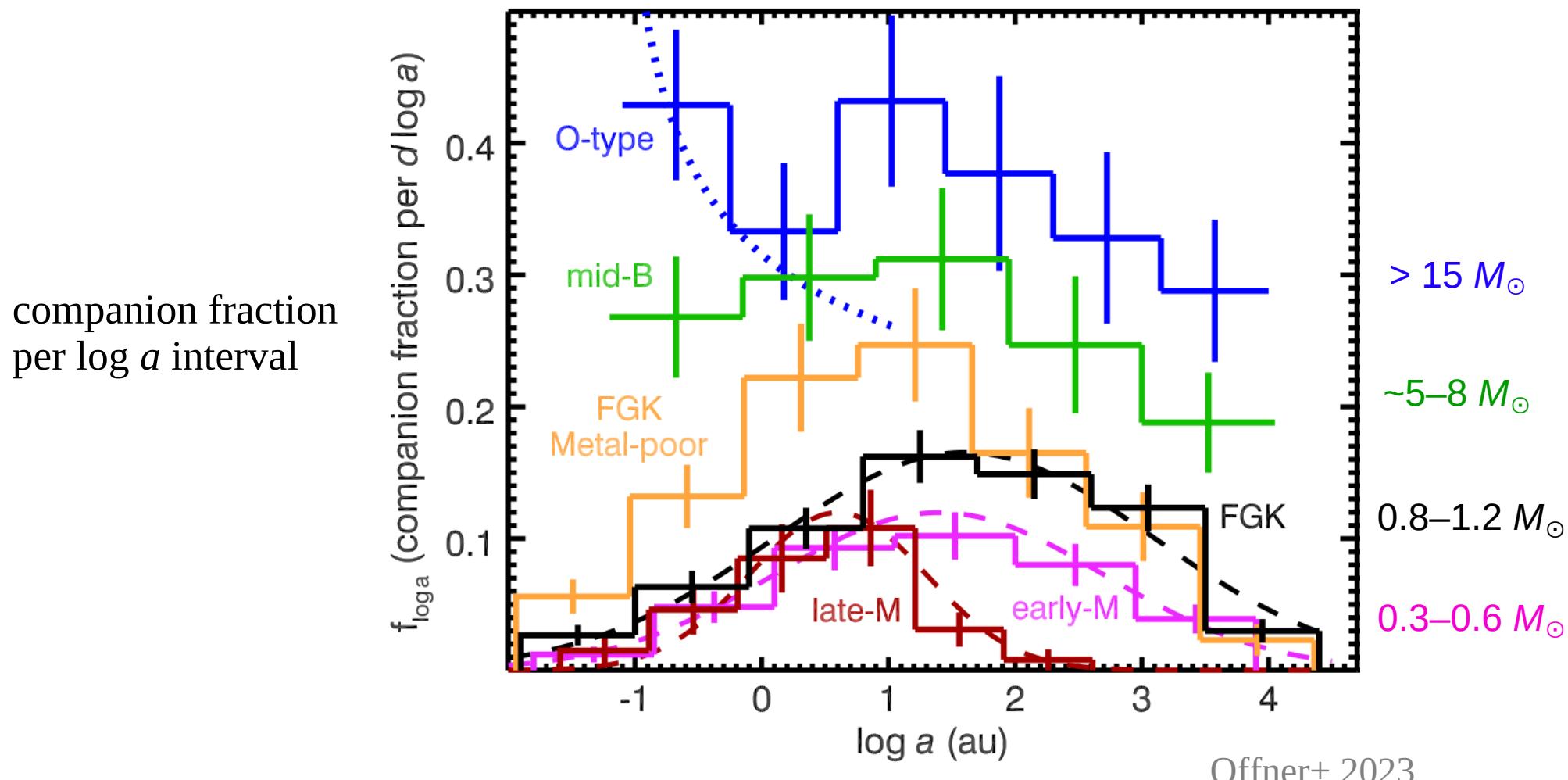
# binary statistics

- complete sample of solar-type stars within  $\sim 25$  pc:  
period versus mass ratio



# binary statistics

- orbital period distributions for different populations:  
strongly dependent on mass (and metallicity)





# the Roche geometry

- structure of a binary system is usually described in the *Roche geometry*: combined effect of gravity of the two stars and their orbital motion, in the co-rotating frame of the binary
- assumptions:
  - gravity of both stars is the same as for point masses
  - the orbit is circular ( $e = 0$ )
  - all matter co-rotates with the orbit, with angular frequency  $\omega = 2\pi/P$   
( $\Rightarrow$  stellar rotation is synchronized with orbit)

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( $\Rightarrow$  stellar rotation is synchronized with orbit)
- stellar structure determined by the Roche potential:

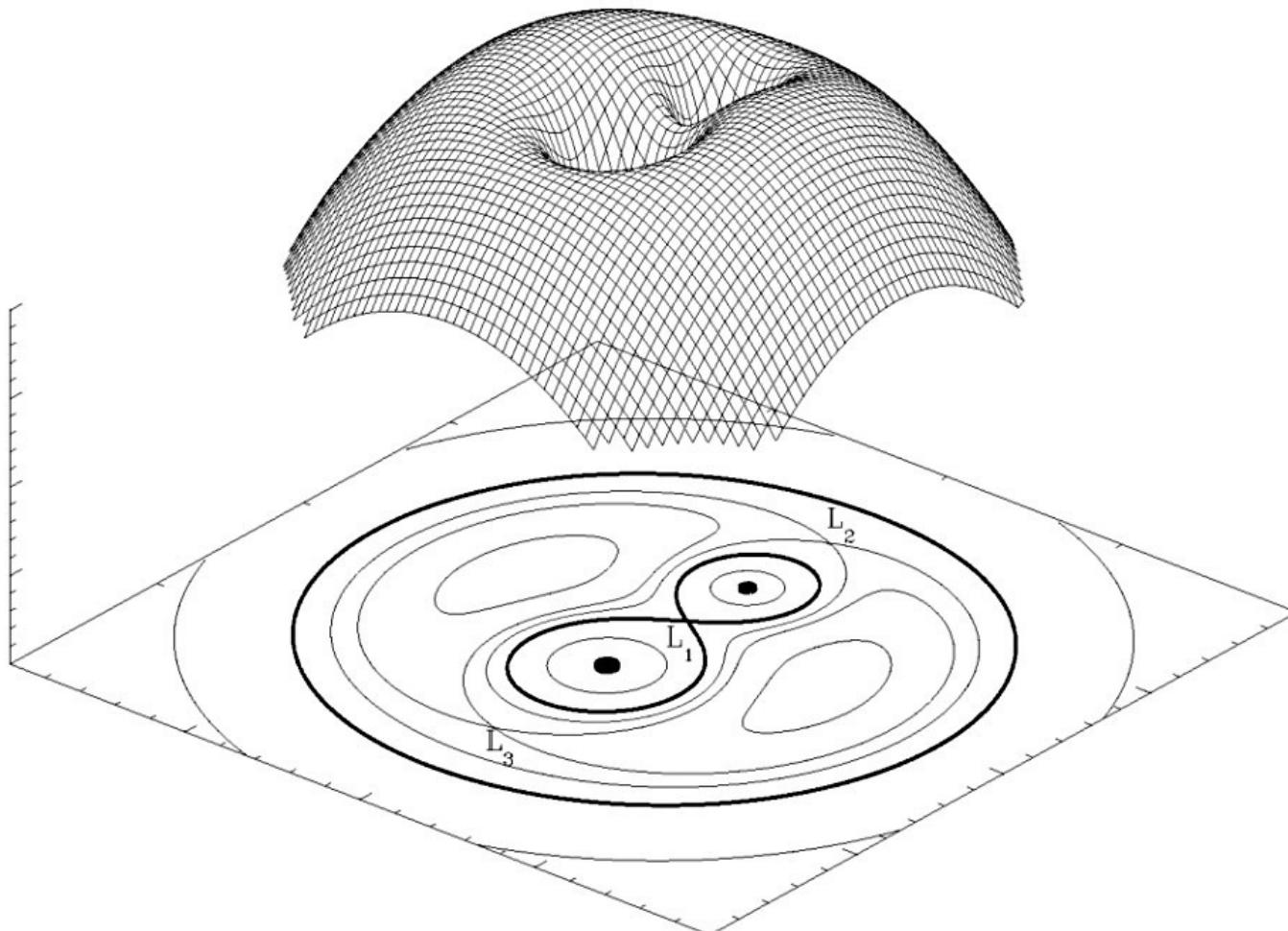
$$\Phi = -\frac{GM_1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{s}_1|} - \frac{GM_2}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{s}_2|} - \frac{1}{2}\omega^2 r_{\perp}^2$$

The diagram shows the Roche potential formula with three arrows pointing to specific terms:

- An arrow points from the term  $\frac{GM_1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{s}_1|}$  to the text "positions of star 1 and 2".
- An arrow points from the term  $\frac{GM_2}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{s}_2|}$  to the text "positions of star 1 and 2".
- An arrow points from the term  $\frac{1}{2}\omega^2 r_{\perp}^2$  to the text "distance from orbital axis".

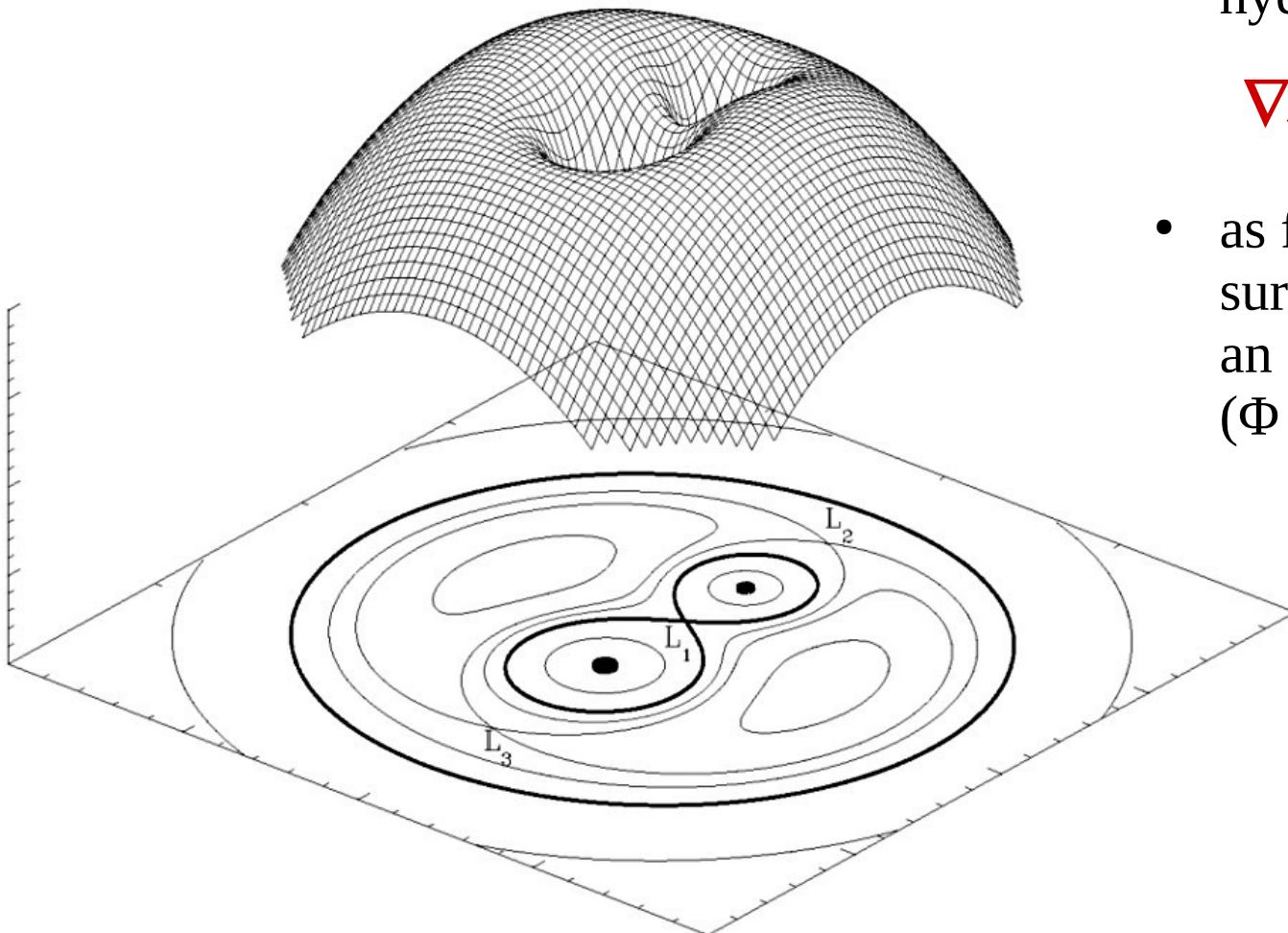
# the Roche potential

- the Roche potential in the plane of the orbit, for  $q = M_2/M_1 = 0.5$

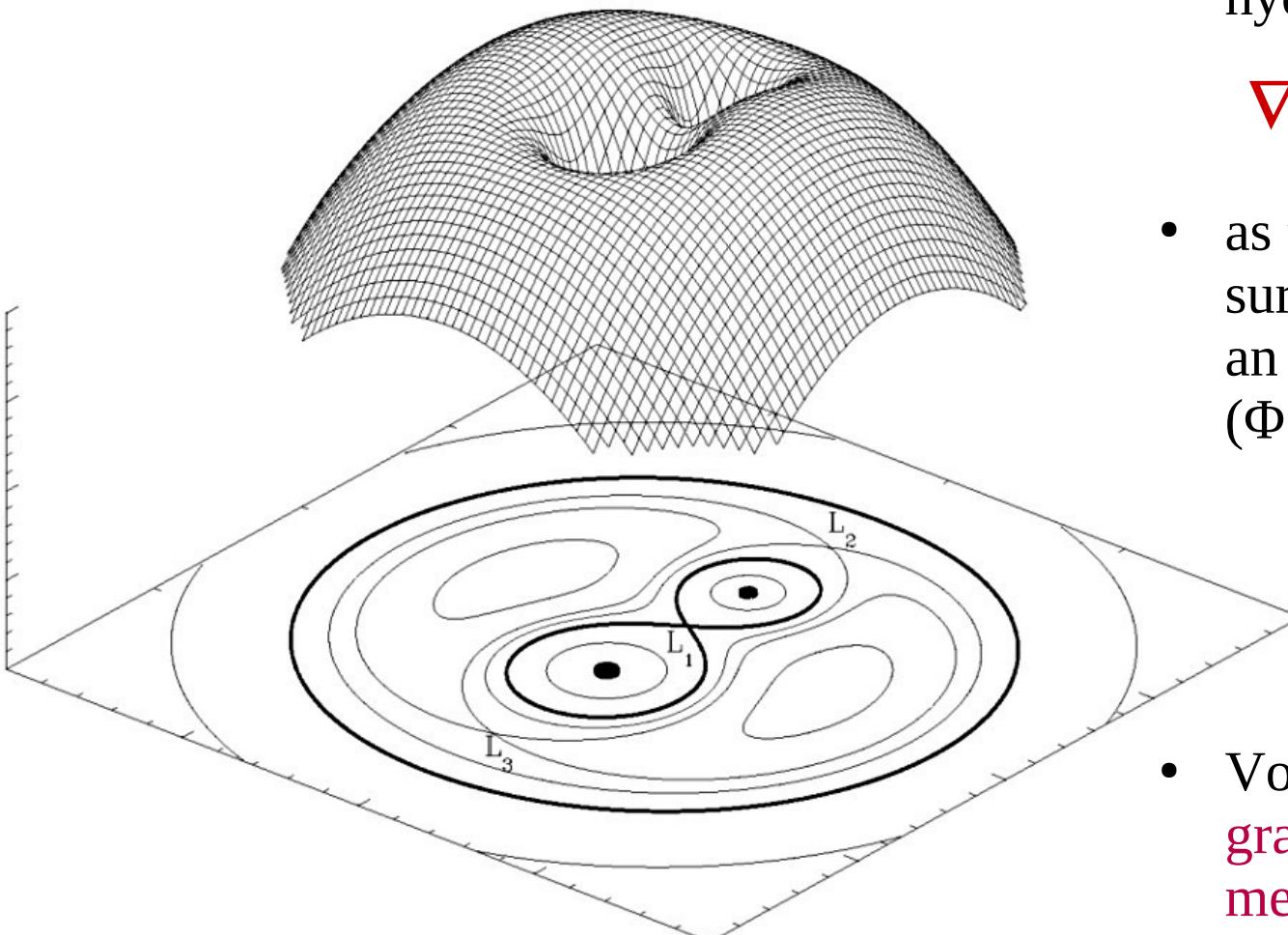


# the Roche potential

- the Roche potential in the plane of the orbit, for  $q = M_2/M_1 = 0.5$ 
  - hydrostatic equilibrium:
$$\nabla P = -\rho \nabla \Phi$$
  - as for rotating stars, stellar surface should coincide with an **equipotential surface** ( $\Phi = \text{constant}$ )

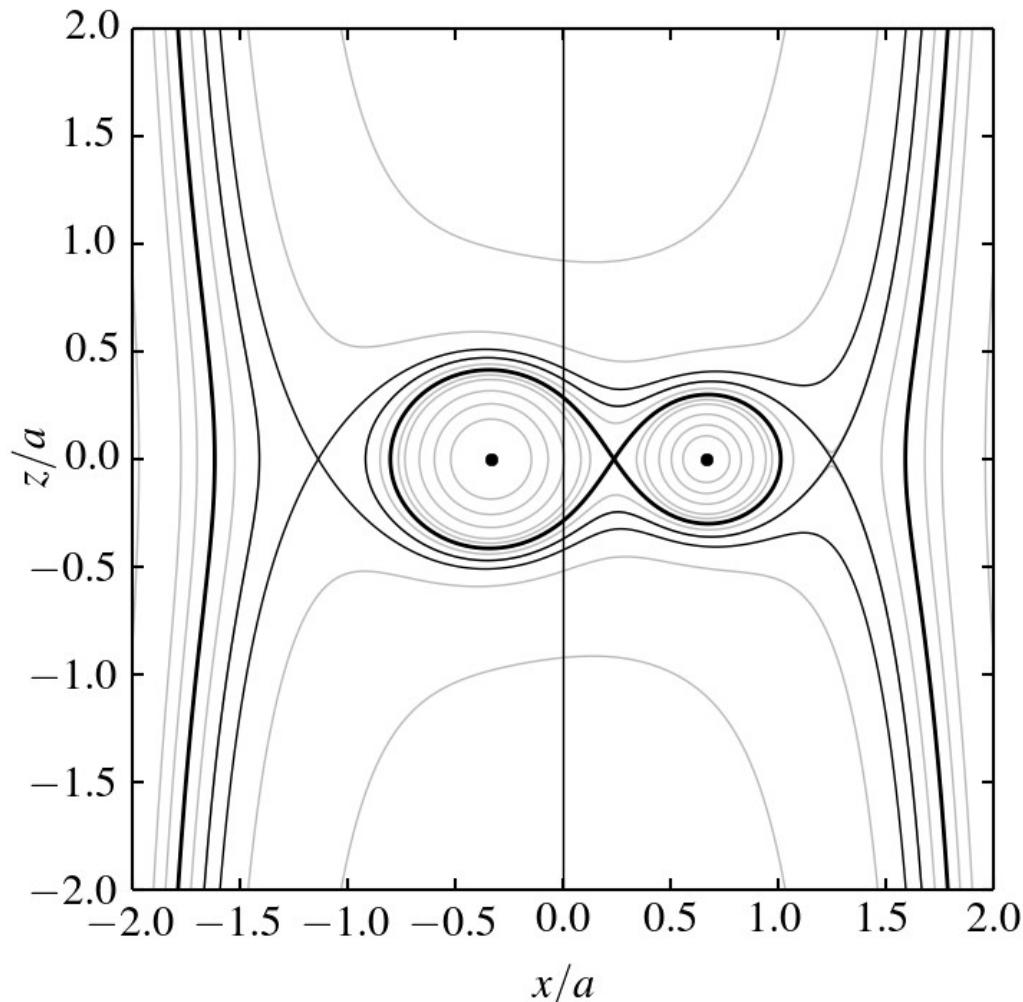


# the Roche potential

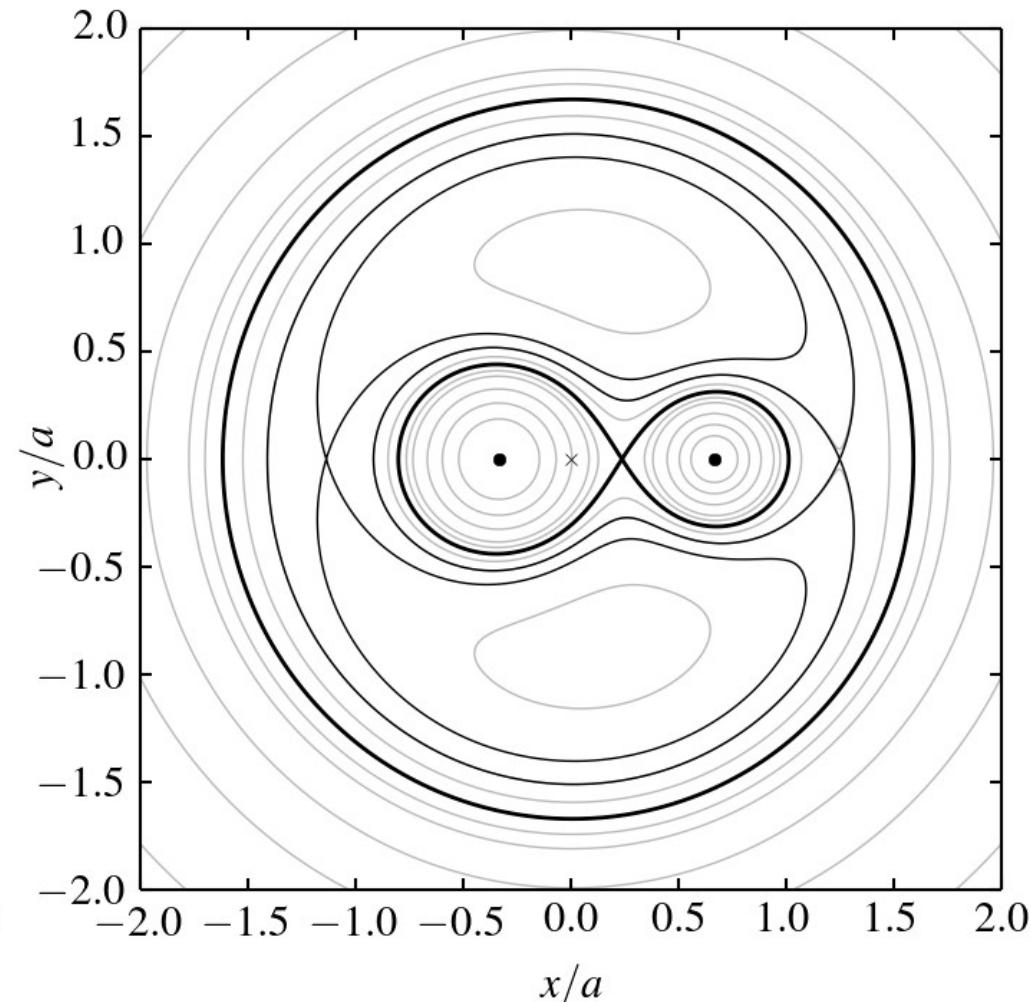
- the Roche potential in the plane of the orbit, for  $q = M_2/M_1 = 0.5$ 
    - hydrostatic equilibrium:
$$\nabla P = -\rho \nabla \Phi$$
    - as for rotating stars, stellar surface should coincide with an **equipotential surface** ( $\Phi = \text{constant}$ )
    - Von Zeipel's theorem  $\Rightarrow$  **gravity darkening** and **meridional currents** (but in non-axisymmetric way...)
- 

# the Roche potential

- equipotential surfaces of the Roche potential, for  $q = M_2/M_1 = 0.5$



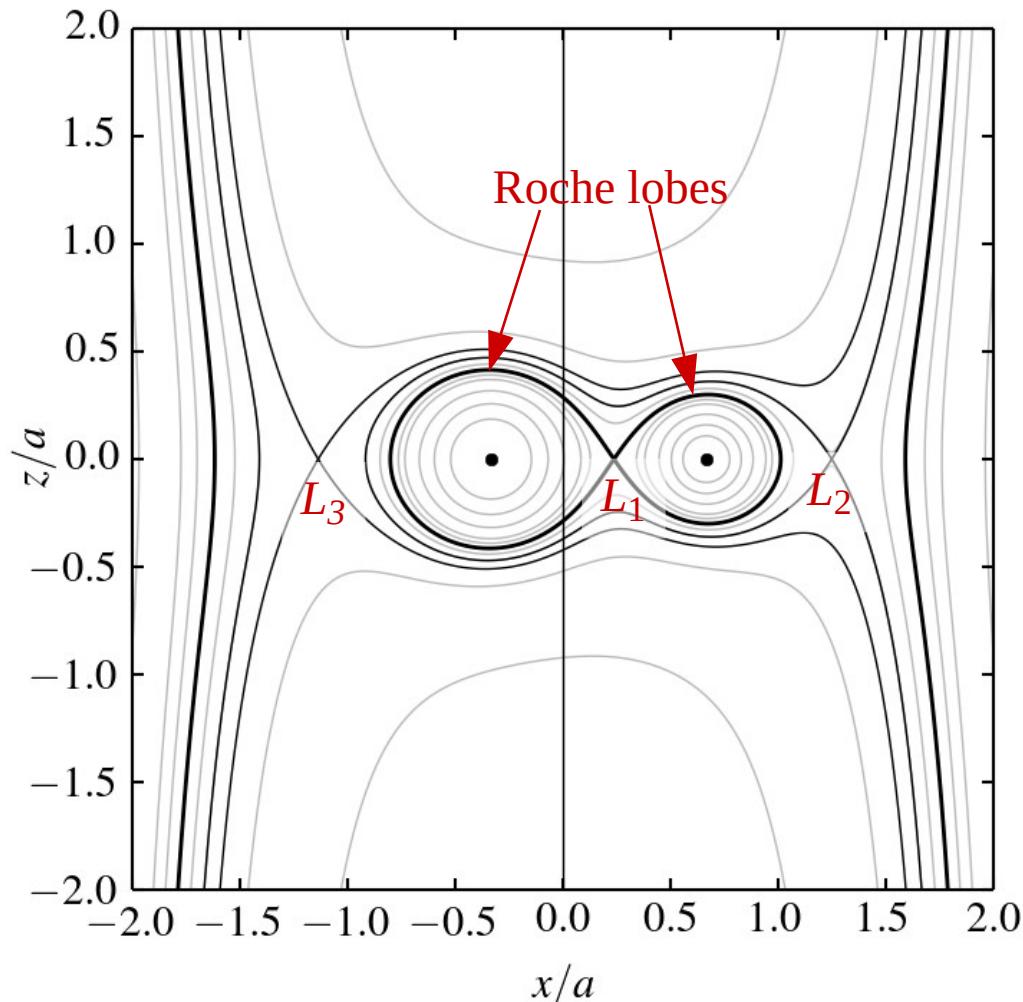
along the orbital axis



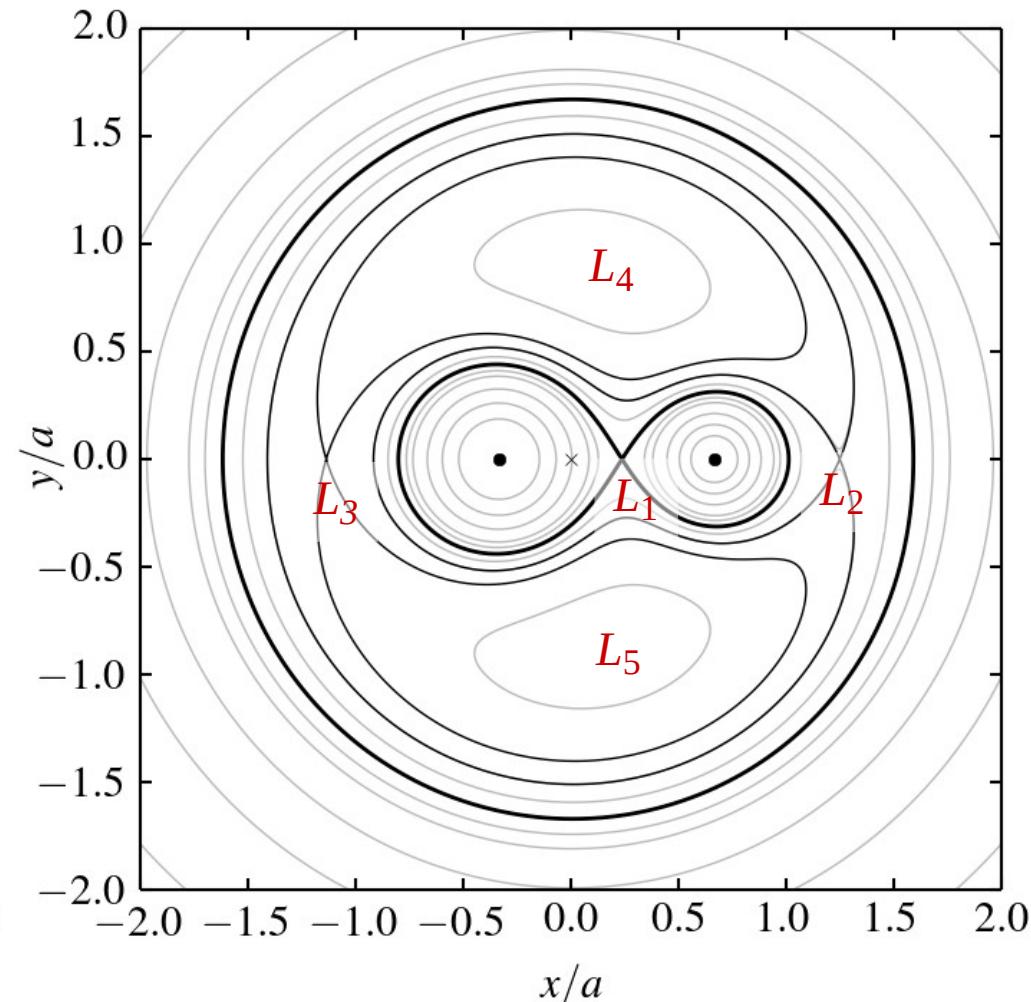
in the orbital plane

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- equipotential surfaces of the Roche potential, for  $q = M_2/M_1 = 0.5$



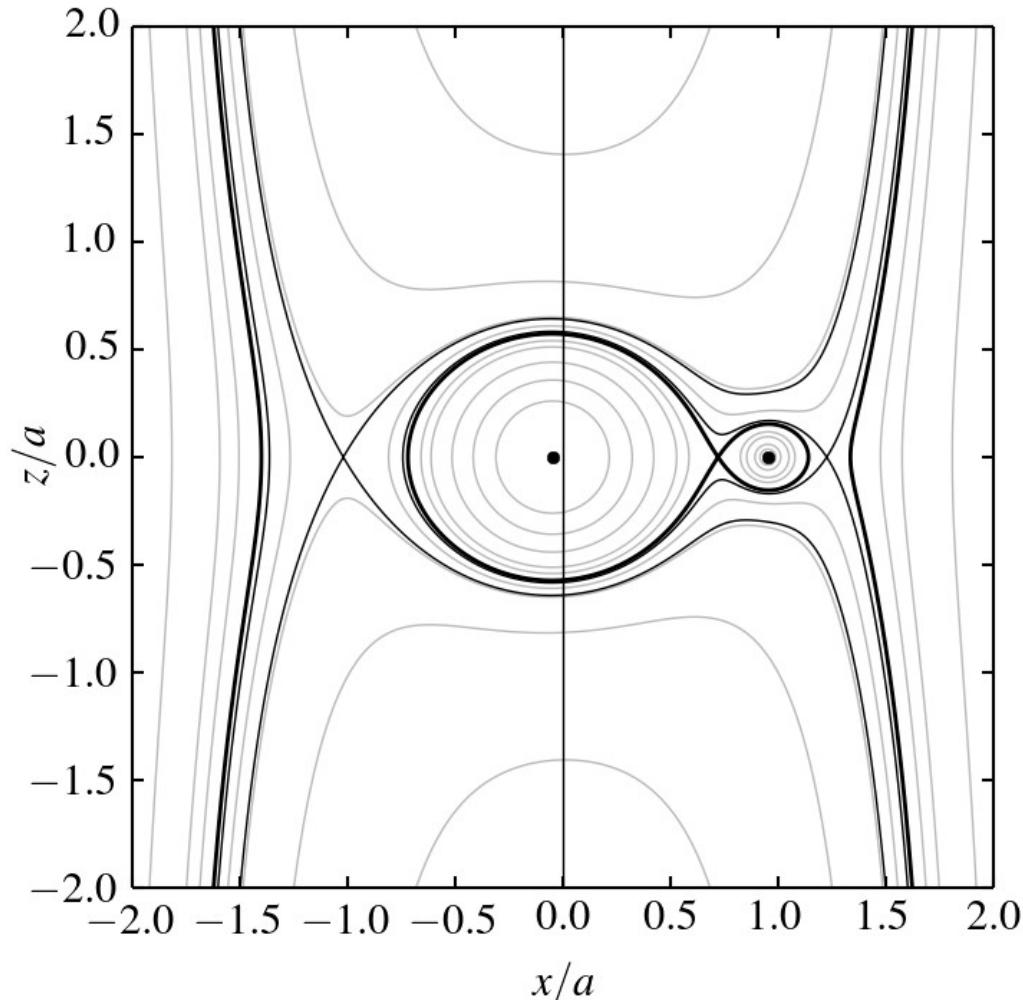
along the orbital axis



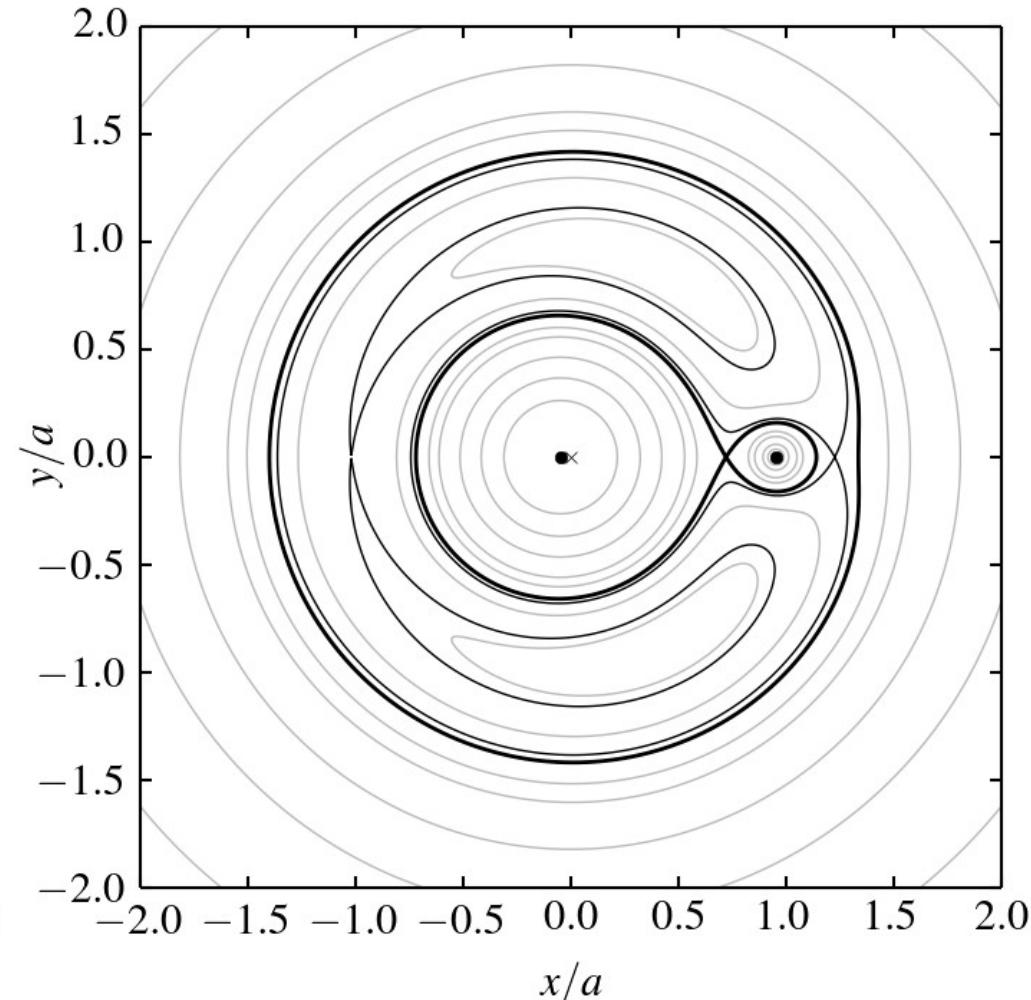
in the orbital plane

# the Roche potential

- the **shape** of equipotential surfaces depends *only* on the **mass ratio**  
e.g. for  $q = M_2/M_1 = 0.05$ :

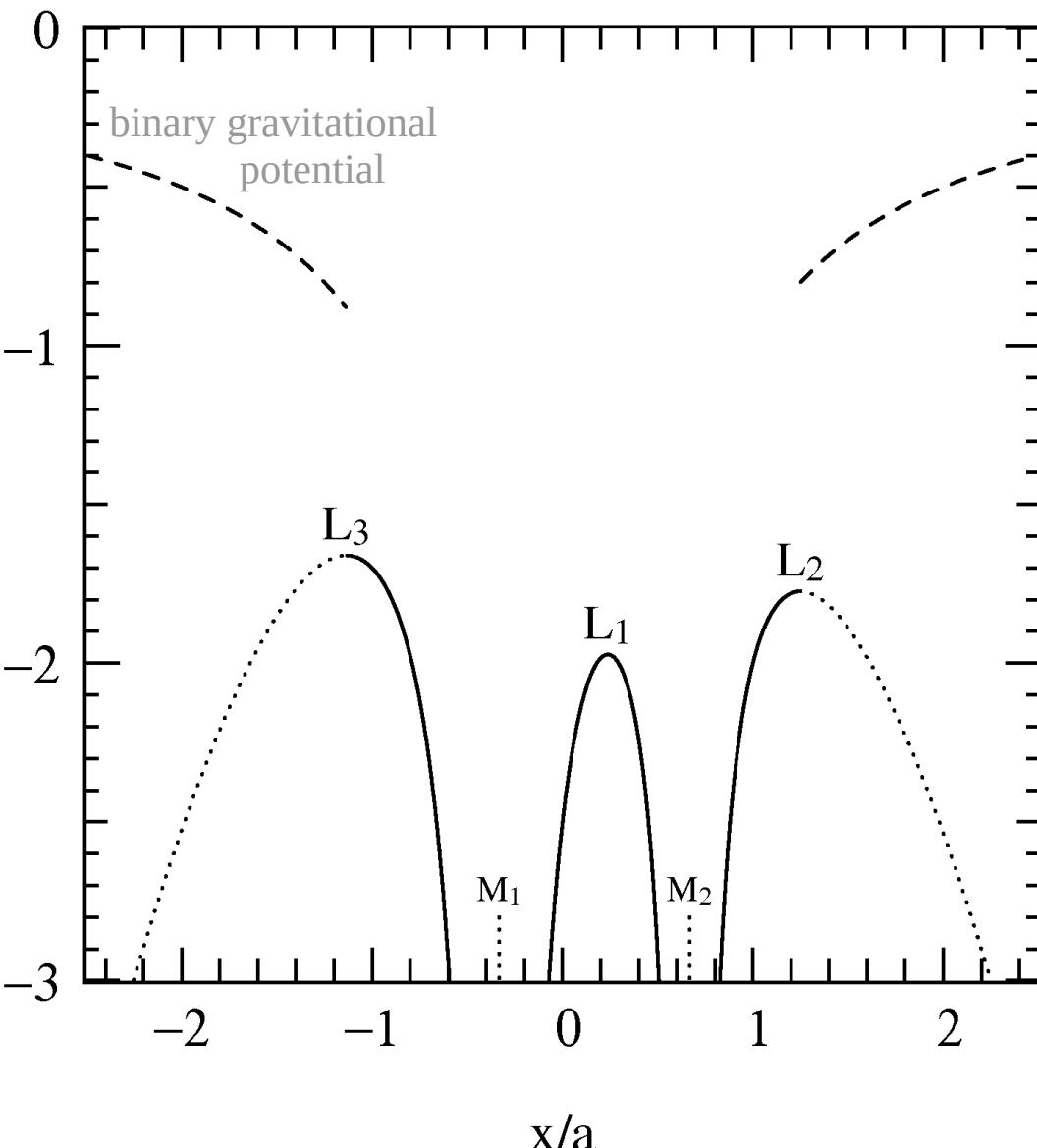


along the orbital axis



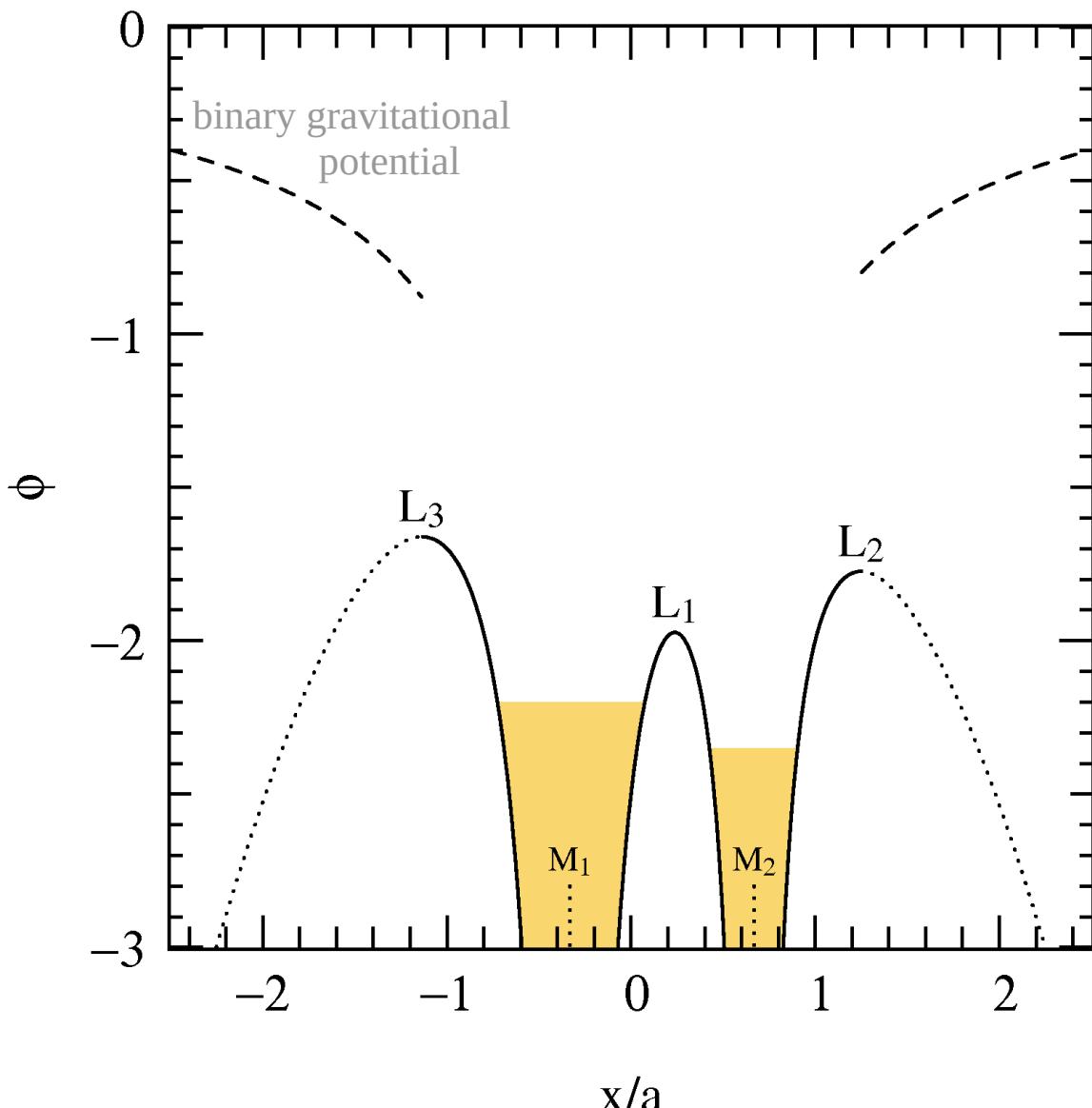
in the orbital plane

# the Roche geometry



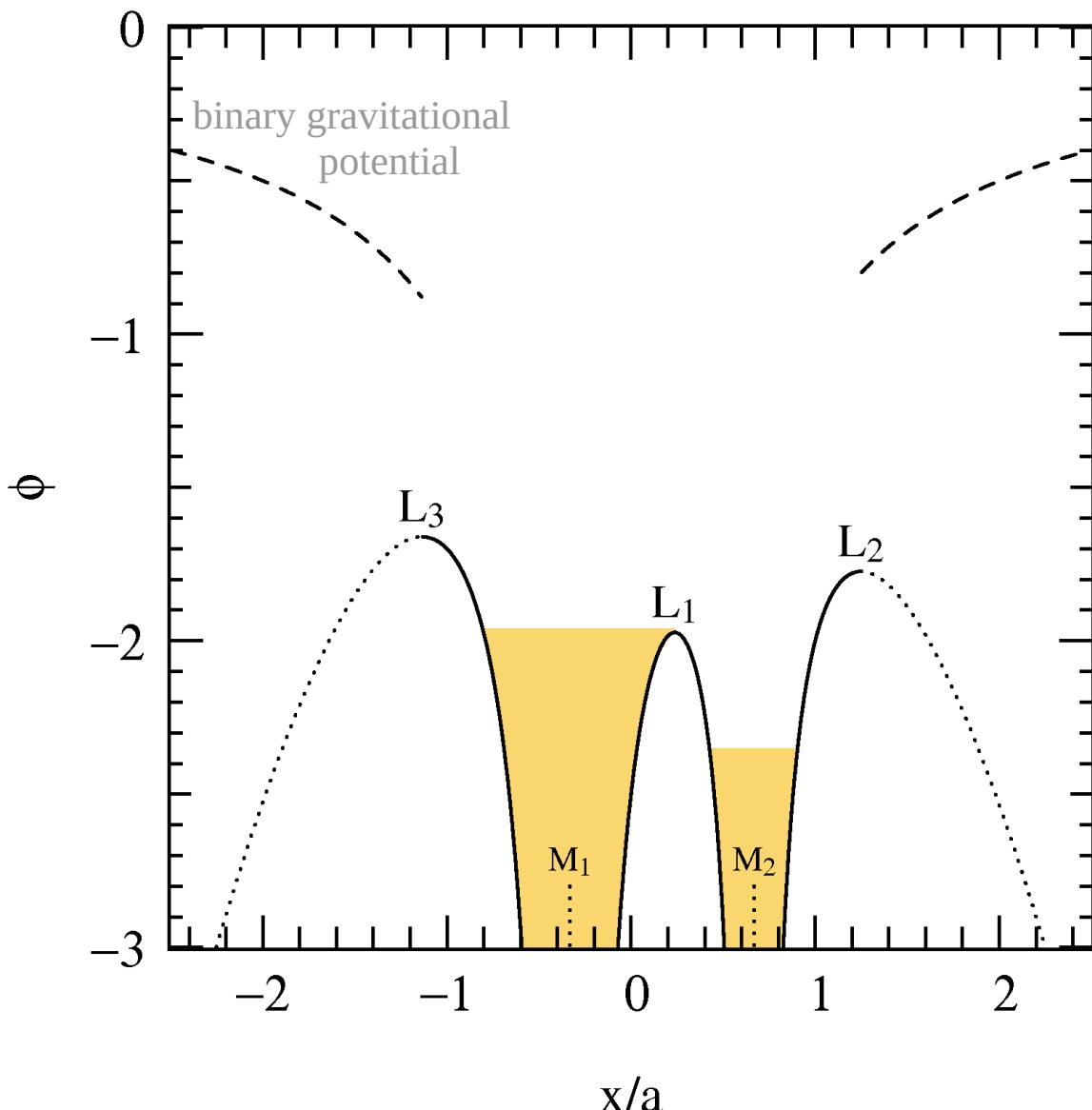
- shape of Roche potential along  $x$ -axis (connecting the stars) for  $q = 0.5$

# the Roche geometry



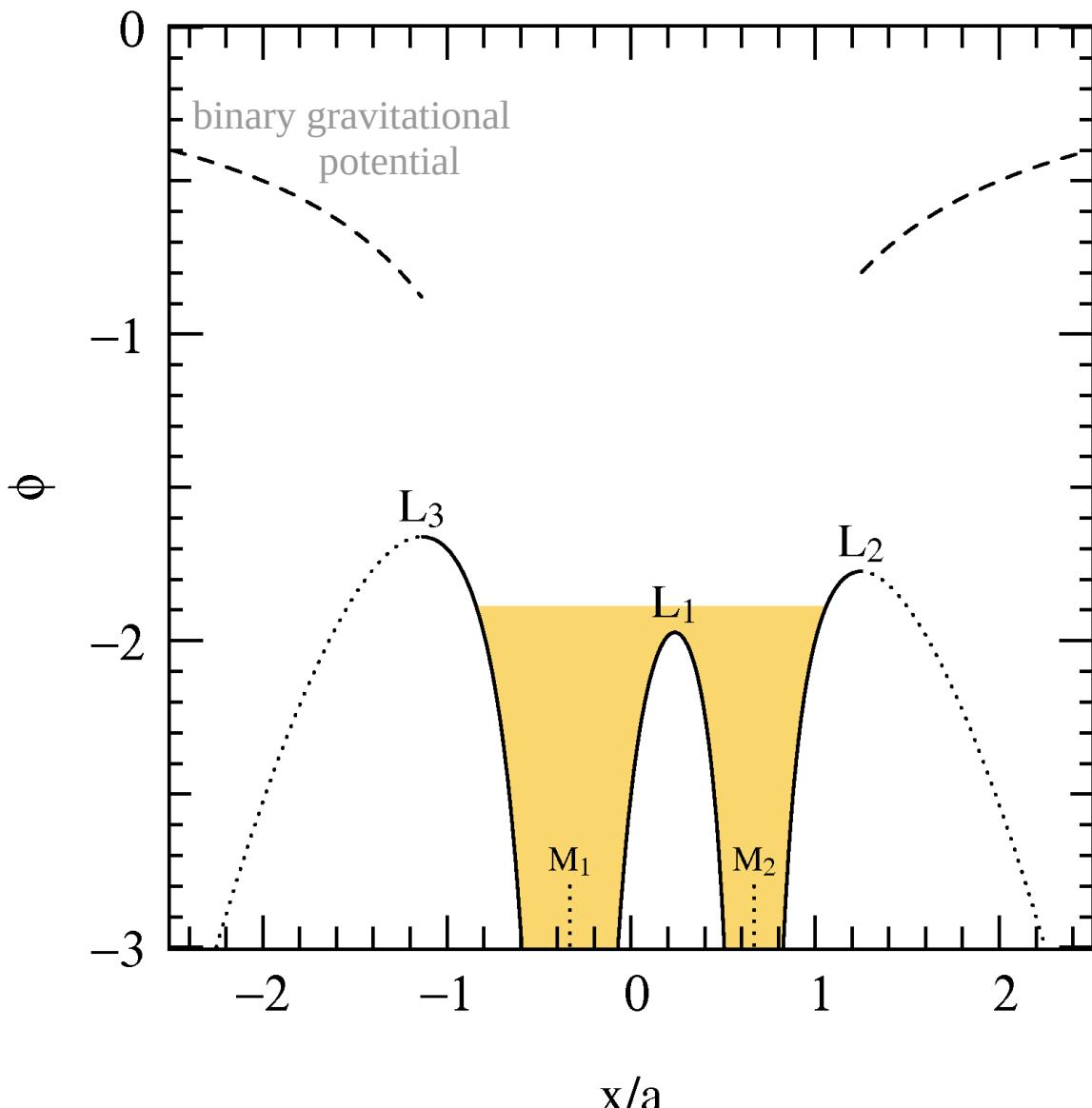
- shape of Roche potential along  $x$ -axis (connecting the stars) for  $q = 0.5$
- hydrostatic equilibrium allows three possible configurations:
  - a **detached binary**

# the Roche geometry



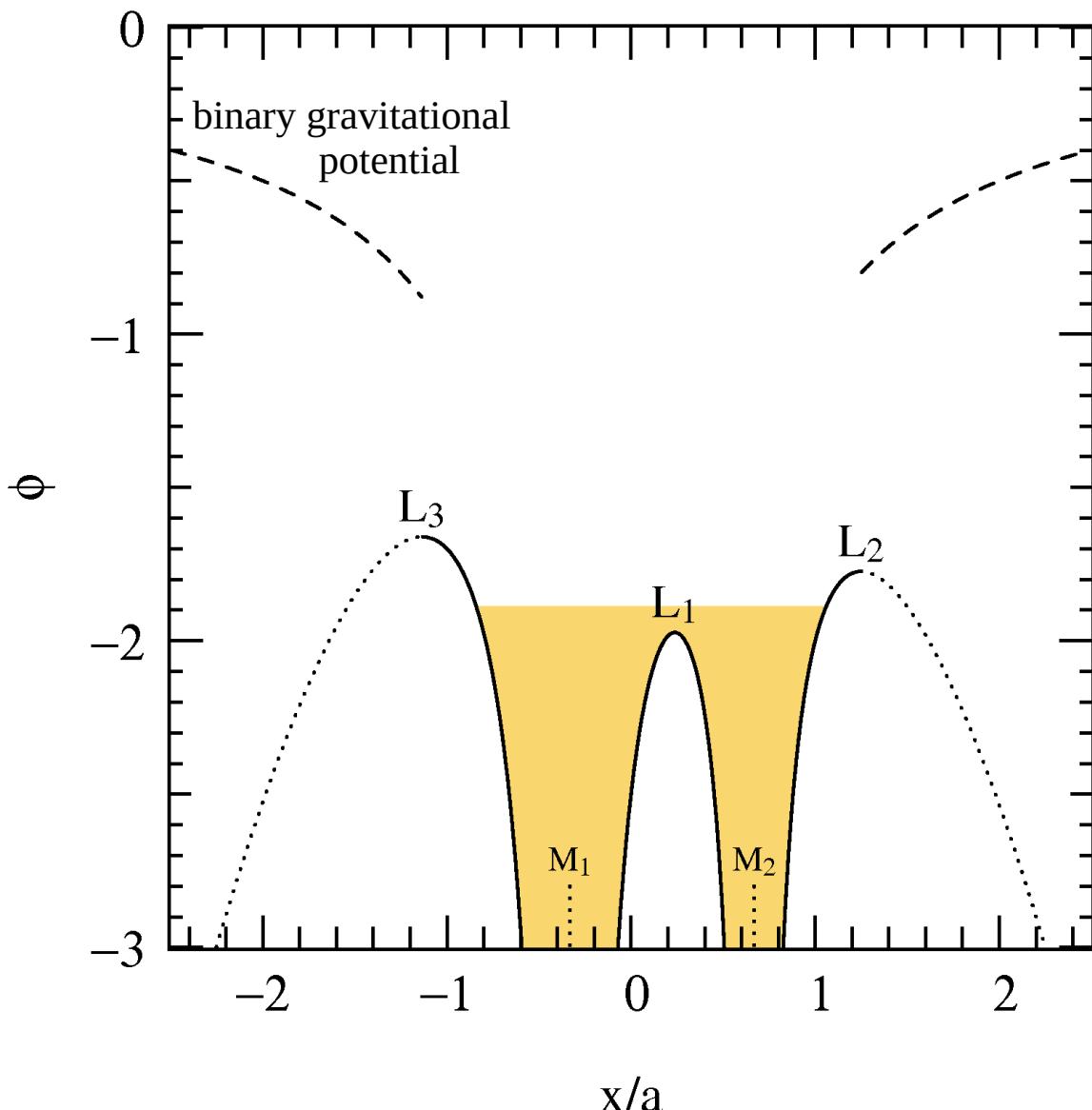
- shape of Roche potential along  $x$ -axis (connecting the stars) for  $q = 0.5$
- hydrostatic equilibrium allows three possible configurations:
  - a detached binary
  - a **semi-detached binary**

# the Roche geometry



- shape of Roche potential along  $x$ -axis (connecting the stars) for  $q = 0.5$
- hydrostatic equilibrium allows three possible configurations:
  - a detached binary
  - a semi-detached binary
  - a **contact binary**

# the Roche geometry

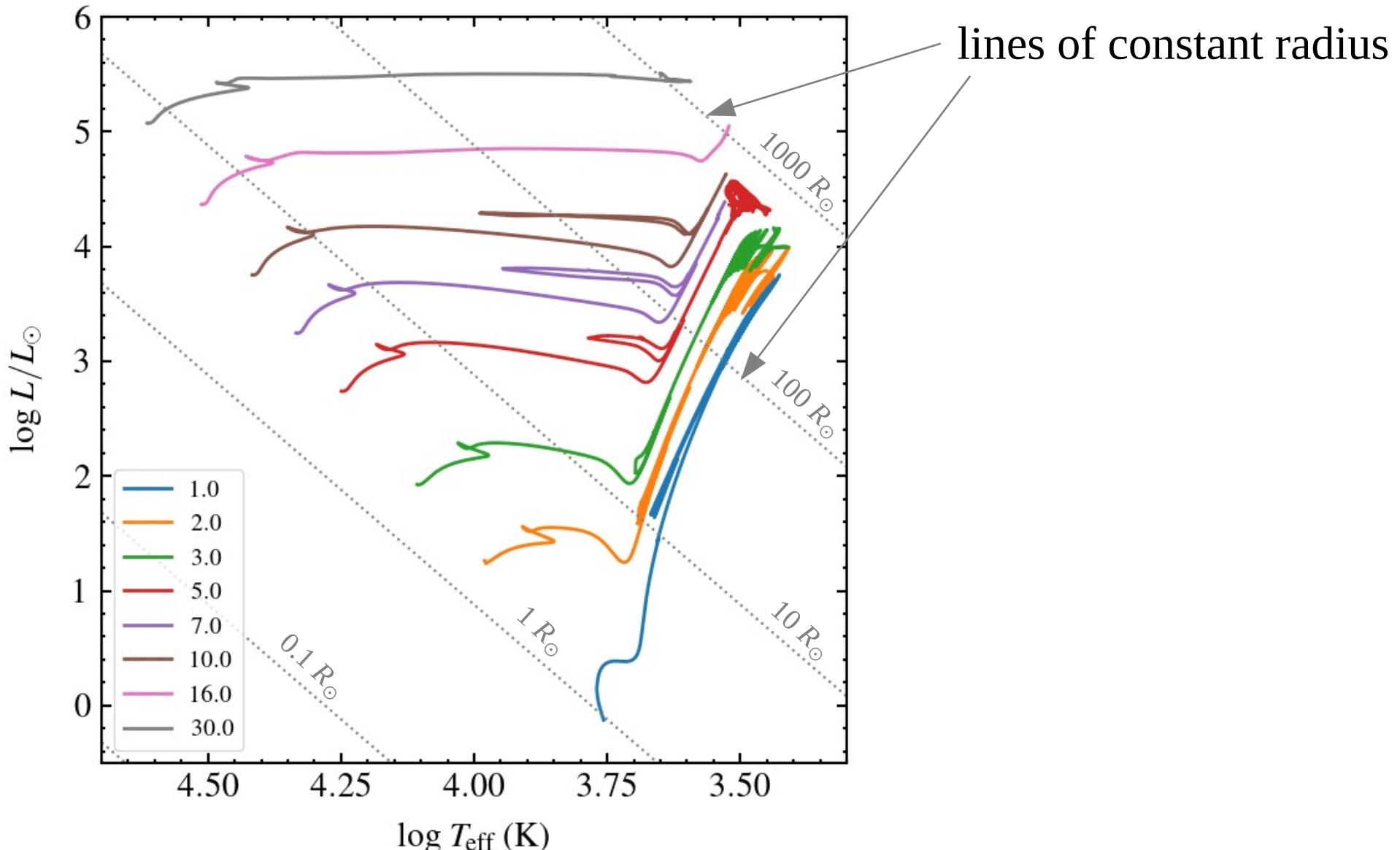


- shape of Roche potential along  $x$ -axis (connecting the stars) for  $q = 0.5$
- hydrostatic equilibrium allows three possible configurations:
  - a detached binary
  - a semi-detached binary
  - a **contact binary**
- outside  $L_2/L_3$ , corotation cannot be maintained  $\Rightarrow$  Roche geometry no longer applies, escaping gas is still bound...

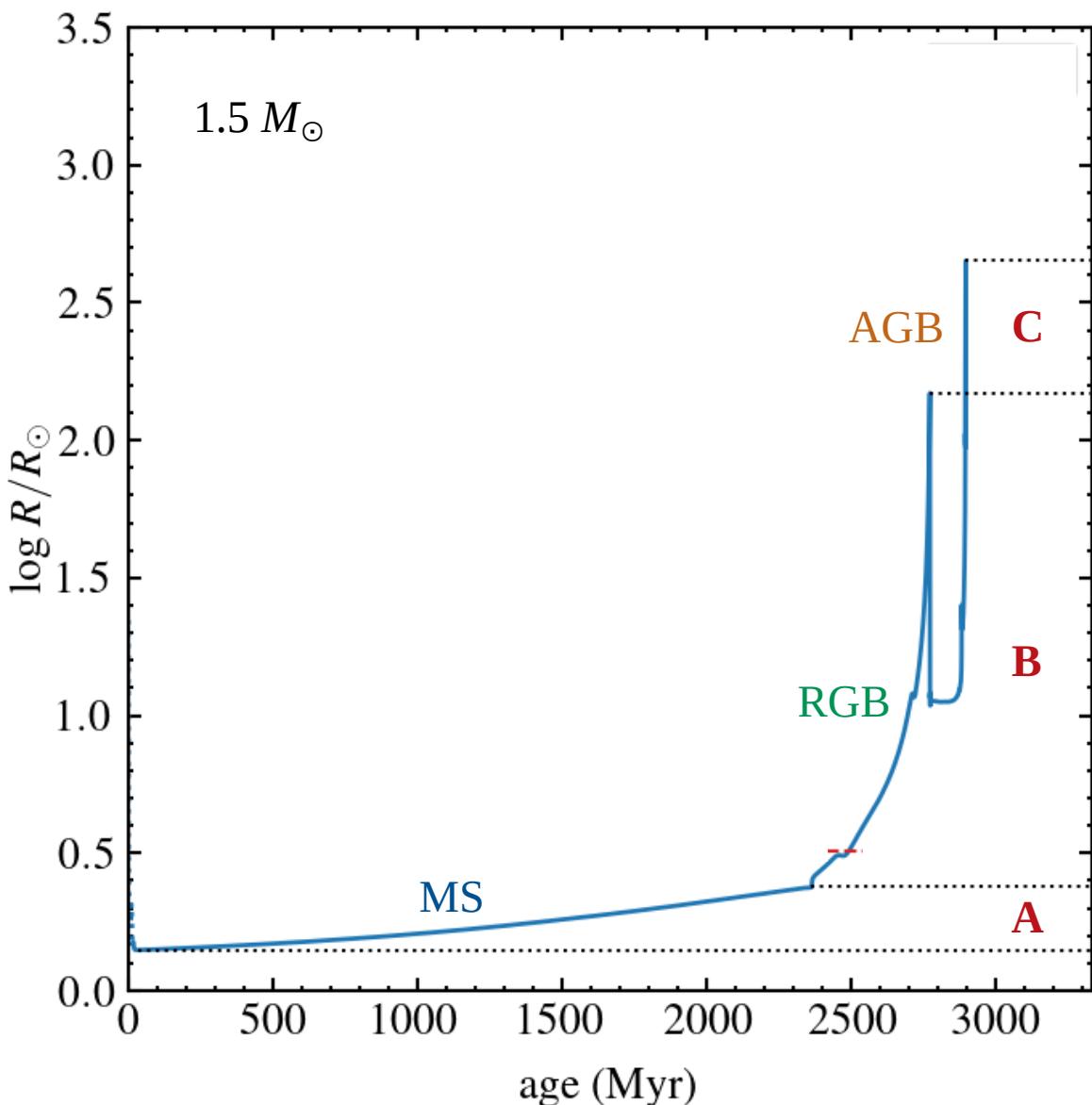
# the Roche geometry

- assumptions:
  - gravity of both stars is the same as for **point masses** OK
  - the orbit is **circular** ( $e = 0$ ) ??
  - all matter **co-rotates with the orbit** (stellar rotation is synchronized with orbit) ??
- last two assumptions may not generally hold, but are satisfied in case of strong **tidal interaction** (next lecture)

# evolution of stellar radius

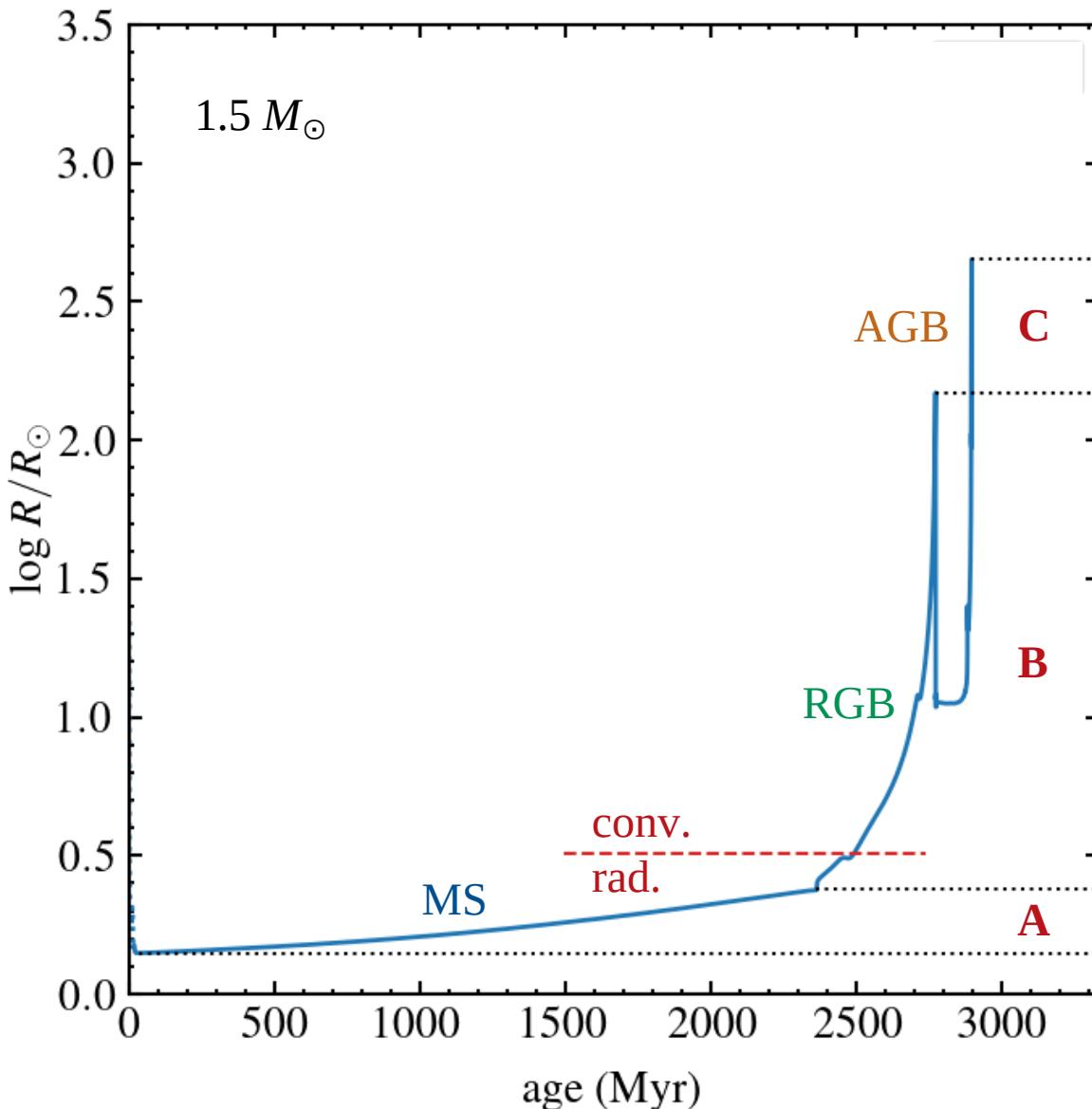


# cases of binary evolution



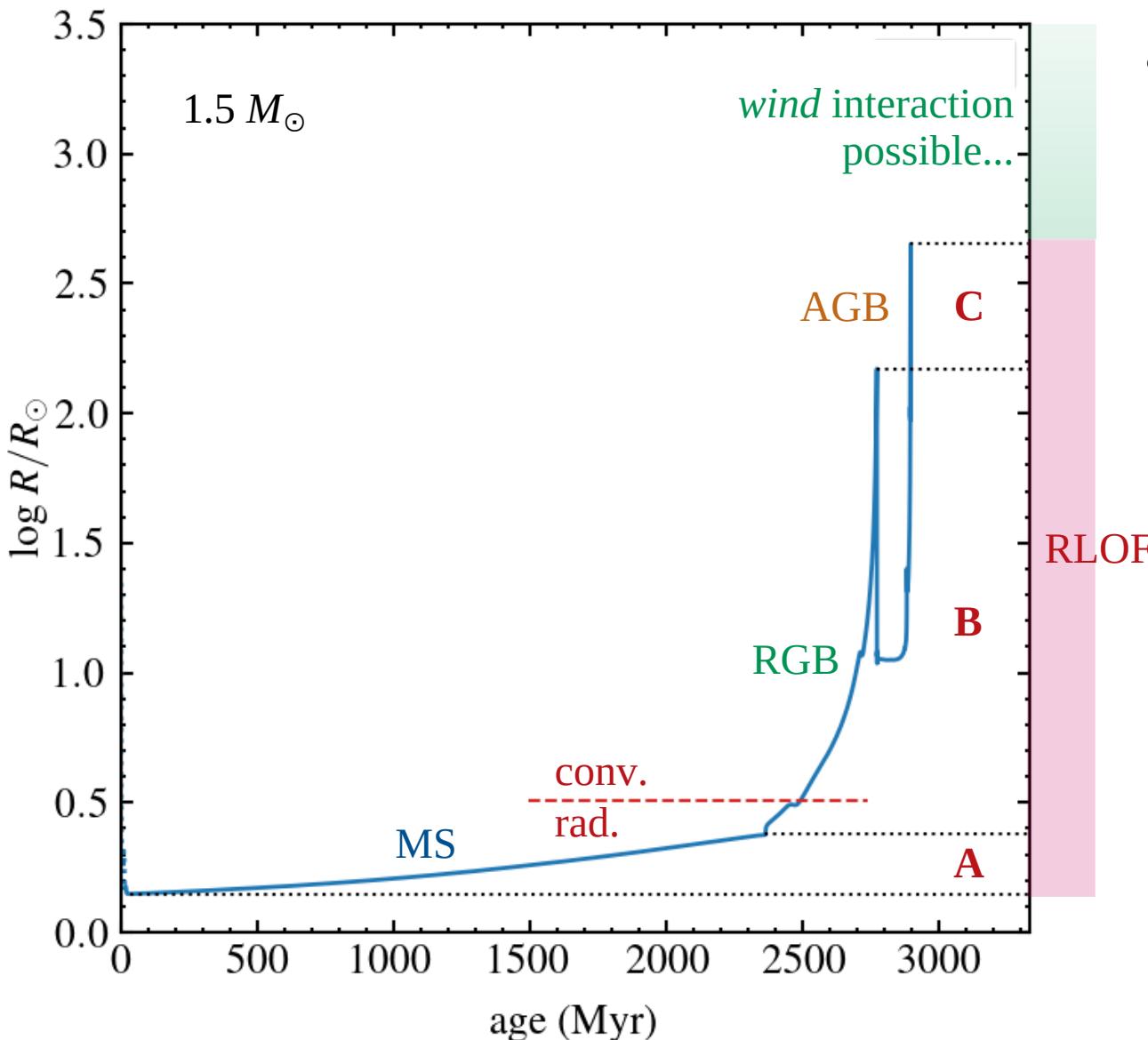
- distinguish **three cases of binary evolution**, depending on when a star first fills its Roche lobe
  - **case A:** during the main sequence
  - **case B:** during H-shell burning, but before He-ignition
  - **case C:** after He exhaustion

# cases of binary evolution



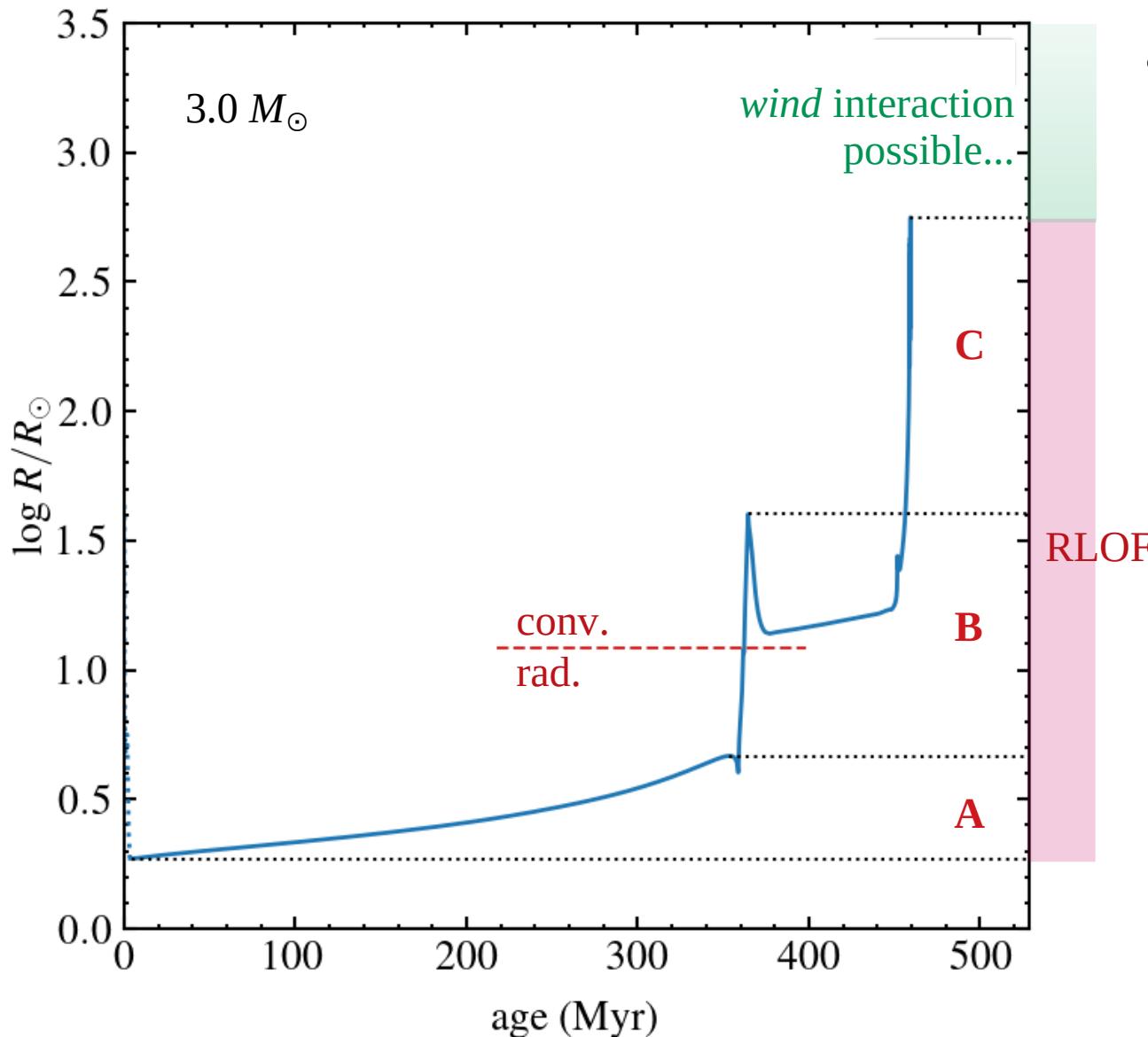
- an equally important distinction that affects how mass transfer proceeds:
  - **radiative outer envelope** (main sequence, Hertzsprung gap)
  - **convective outer envelope** (red giant, or very low-mass MS star)

# evolution of stellar radius



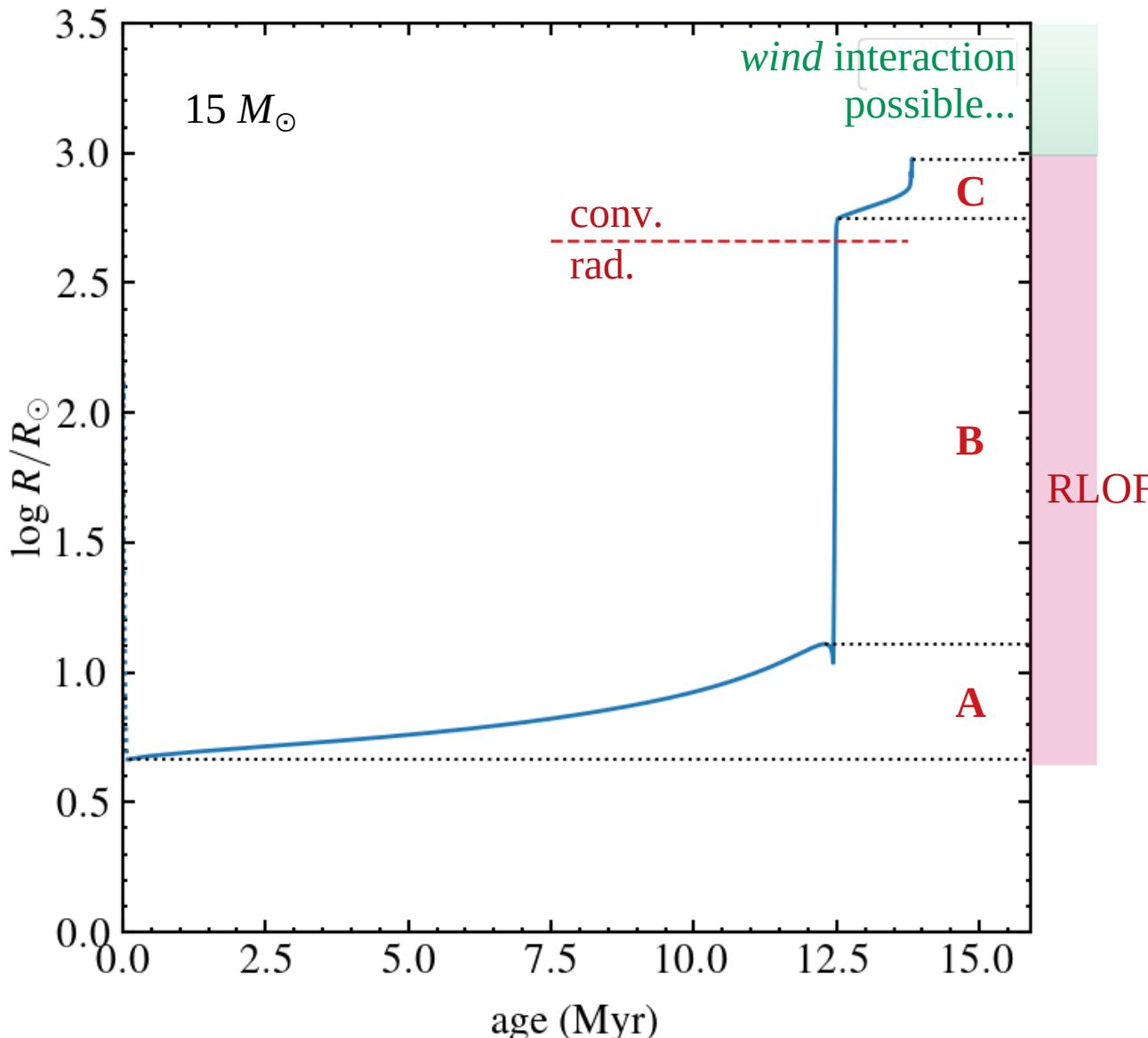
- low-mass stars:
  - most expansion occurs on the RGB
  - large range of orbital periods for case B (as red giant with *convective* envelope)
  - AGB-wind interaction in wider orbits

# evolution of stellar radius



- intermediate-mass stars:
  - expansion during all phases (HG, RGB, AGB)
  - large range of orbital periods for case B and case C
  - AGB-wind interaction in wider orbits

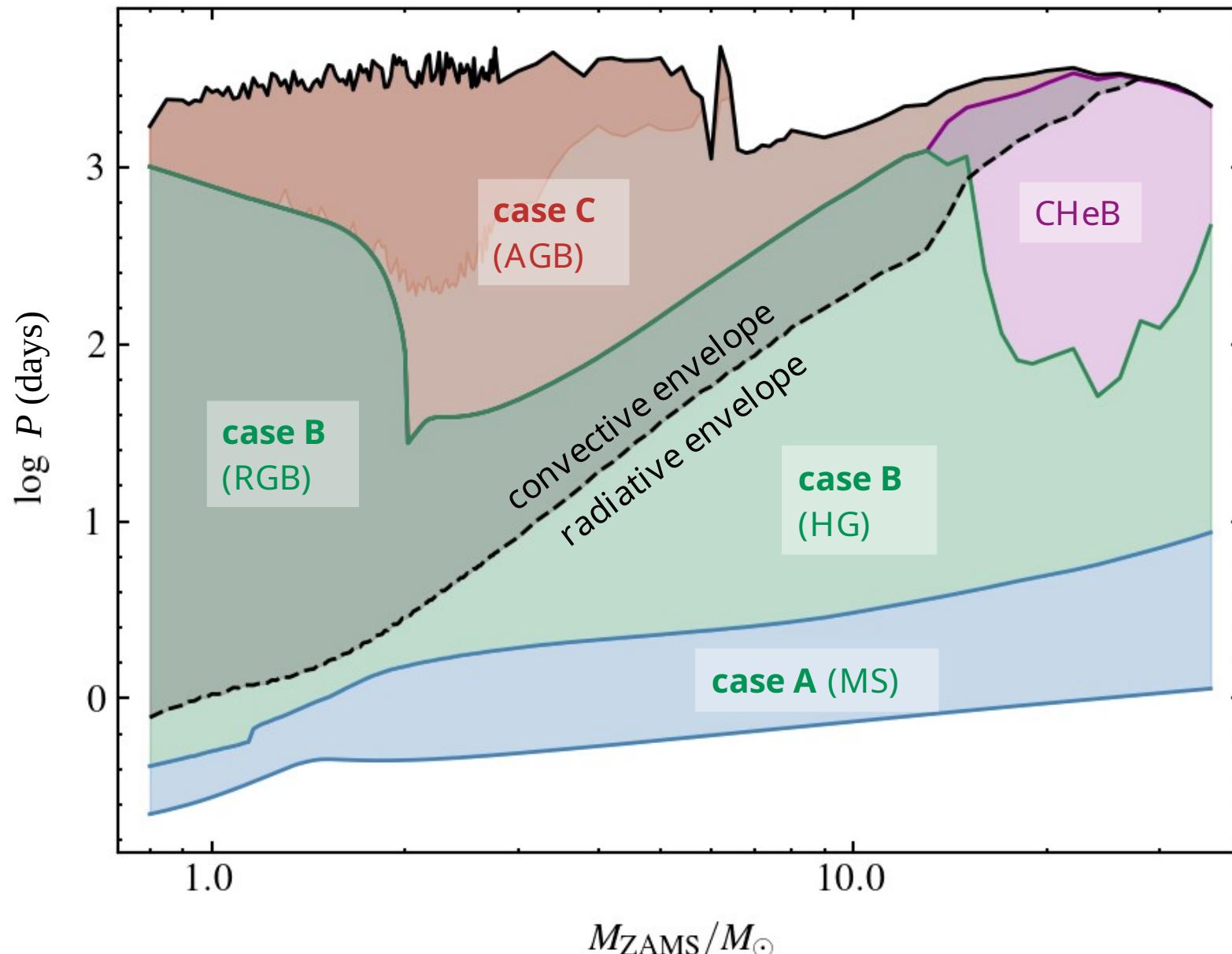
# evolution of stellar radius



- high-mass stars:
  - most expansion occurs during HG
  - large range of orbital periods for case B (with *radiative* envelope)

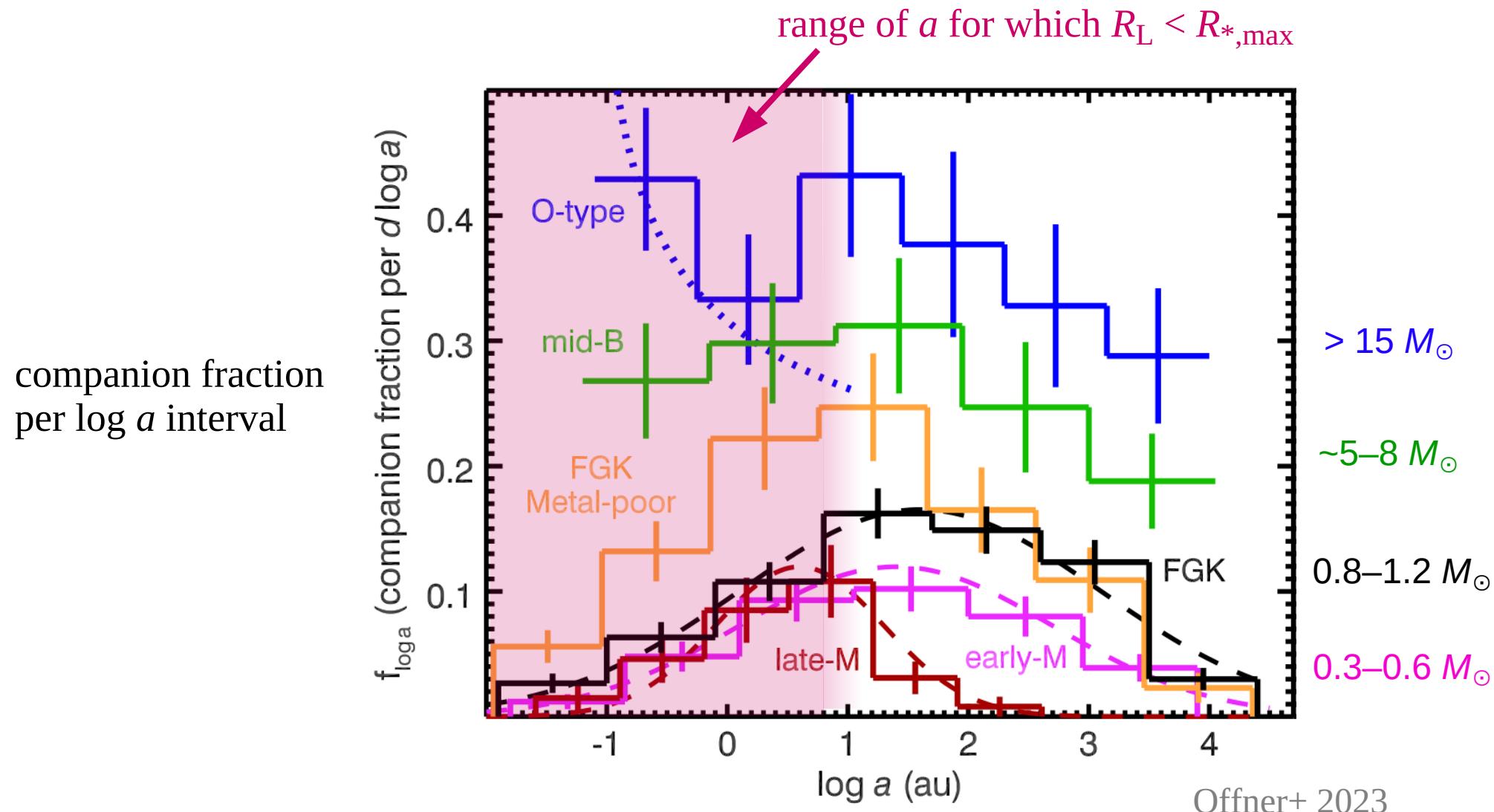
# parameter space for RLOF

- dependence on primary mass and orbital period:



# binary statistics

- orbital period distributions for different populations:

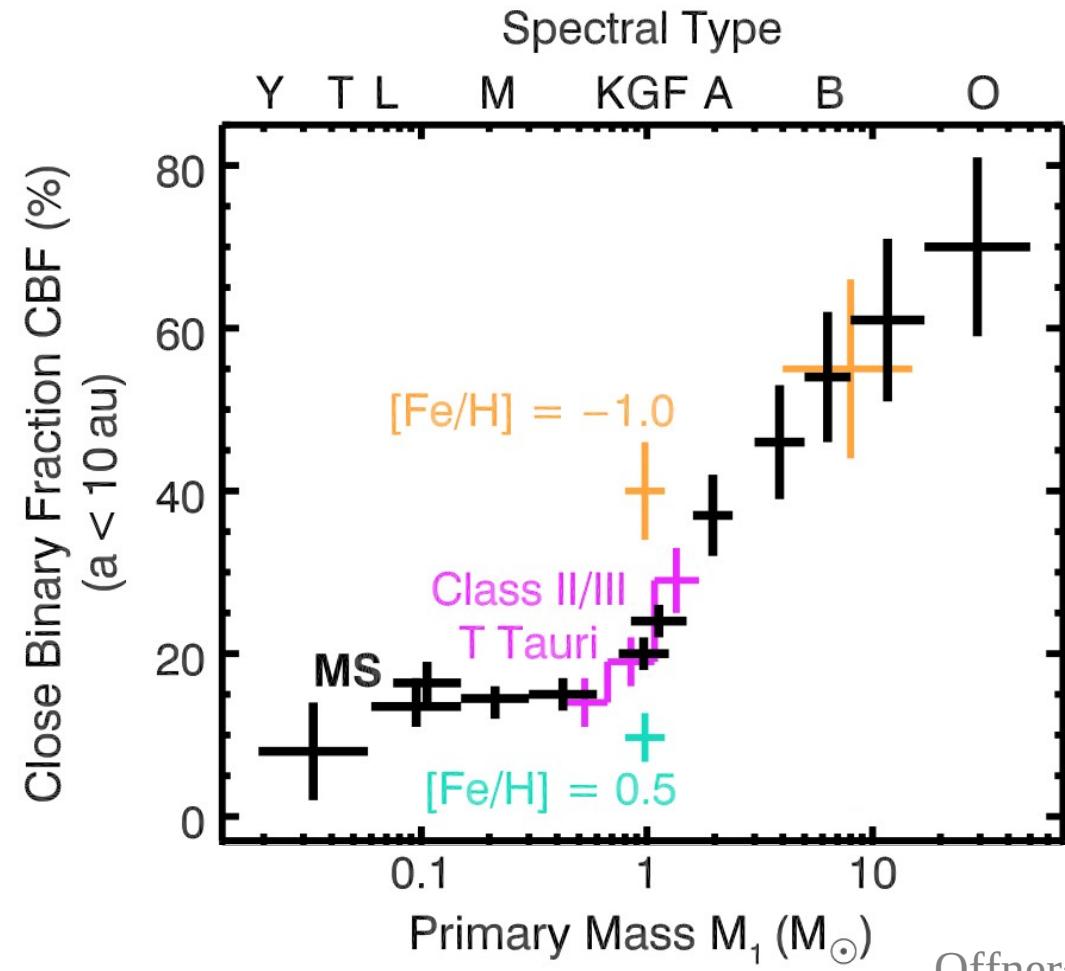


# interacting binaries

- fraction of primary stars that will interact by RLOF with a companion during evolution:

~20% of solar-type stars

~70% of massive stars



Offner+ 2023

- N.B wider binaries ( $a > 10$  AU) can also interact by means of their stellar winds

