# The K2 Bright Star Survey

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(Received January 1, 2019; Revised January 7, 2019; Accepted May 16, 2019)

# Submitted to ApJ

# ABSTRACT

While the Kepler Mission was designed to look at tens of thousands of faint stars  $(V \gtrsim 12)$ , brighter stars, which saturate the detector, are important because they can be and have been observed by other instruments at very high signal-to-noise ratio. By analyzing the unsaturated scattered-light 'halo' around these stars, we can and do retrieve precise light curves of most of the brightest stars in K2 fields from Campaign 4 onwards. The halo method is highly agnostic about the cause and form of systematics

and we show that it nevertheless it is effective at extracting light curves from both normal and saturated stars. The key methodology is to optimize the weights of a linear combination of pixel time series with respect to an objective function. We test a range of such objective functions, finding that generalizations of Total Variation perform well on both saturated and unsaturated K2 targets. Applying this to the bright stars across the K2 Campaigns, this reveals stellar variability ubiquitously, including effects of stellar pulsation, rotation, and binarity. Here we describe our pipeline, and present a catalogue of the bright stars studied, with classifications and parametrizations of their variability and remarks on interesting objects. These light curves are publicly available as a High Level Science Product from the Mikulski Archive for Space Telescopes (MAST).  $\Box$ 

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Kepler Space Telescope was launched with a main goal of determining the frequency of Earth-sized planets around Solar-like stars (Borucki et al. 2010), a goal which it has substantially achieved (e.g. Fressin et al. 2013; Petigura et al. 2013; Foreman-Mackey et al. 2014). In order to explore these populations it was necessary to observe hundreds of thousands of stars, with the consequence that the Kepler exposure time and gain were set to optimally observe eleventh or twelfthmagnitude stars, while bright stars are saturated and intentionally avoided. In the two-wheeled revival as the K2 mission, the Kepler telescope observed a sequence of ecliptic-plane fields containing many more very-saturated stars. While it is difficult to obtain precise light curves of these stars because of their saturation, they are some of the most-valuable targets to follow up with photon-hungry methods such as interferometry and high-resolution spectroscopy, and they typically have long histories of previous observations. Dedicated bright-star space photometry missions such as MOST (Walker et al. 2003) and the BRITE-Constellation (Weiss et al. 2014; Pablo et al. 2016) use very small telescopes (15 and 20 cm apertures respectively), and we would prefer to use much larger telescopes such as Kepler (0.95 m) to obtain higher precision lightcurves.

The Kepler detector saturates at a magnitude of  $K_p \sim 11.3$  in both long- (30 min) and short (1 min)-cadence data, since these both represent sums of 6s exposures (Gilliland et al. 2010). For objects brighter than this, excess electrons 'bleed' into adjacent pixels in both directions along the column containing the star. Simple aperture photometry (SAP) – adding all the flux contained in a window around the bleed column – has recovered light curves with precisions close to the photon noise limit of the V=6 16 Cyg AB, V=4.48  $\theta$  Cyg, and the V=7.2 RR Lyr (e.g. Kolenberg et al. 2011; White et al. 2013; Guzik et al. 2016). In the nominal Kepler mission this was only attempted for a few bright stars, and in K2, the larger spacecraft motion significantly increased the size of the required apertures for SAP photometry of very saturated stars, while also making their systematics more difficult to deal with. While

the second-version pixel-level-decorrelation (PLD) pipeline EVEREST 2.0 was able to correct systematics in saturated SAP photometry (Luger et al. 2018), this is not possible for the very brightest stars whose bleed columns may run to the edge of the detector. Furthermore, bandwidth constraints meant that pixel data were not downloaded for many bright targets in K2.

In order to recover precise light curves of the brightest stars in K2, we have therefore developed two main approaches, 'smear' and 'halo' photometry. Smear photometry (Pope et al. 2016b) uses collateral 'smear' calibration data to obtain a 1-D spatial profile with  $\sim 1/1000$  of the flux on each CCD. This can be processed recover light curves of stars that were not necessarily conventionally targeted and downloaded with active pixels, because smear data are recorded for all columns. The main disadvantage of this method is that it confuses all stars in the same column, which means that in crowded fields smear light curves tend to be significantly contaminated.

The more precise method of halo photometry, which is the subject of this paper, uses the broad 'halo' of scattered light around a saturated star to recover relative photometry, by constructing a light curve as a linear combination of individual pixel time series and minimizing a Total Variation objective function (TV-min). It has been employed for example on the Pleiades (White et al. 2017) and the brightest-ever star on Kepler silicon, Aldebaran ( $\alpha$  Tau; Farr et al. 2018), recovering photometry with a precision close to that normally obtained from K2 observations of unsaturated stars. Unlike smear, this requires downloading data out to a 12–20 pixel radius around each star, and has accordingly only been possible for stars that were specifically proposed and targeted with apertures optimized for this method, plus a small number of other stars for which this is fortuitously the case. The pixel requirements for this are sufficiently low that, with the help of the K2 Guest Observer office, such apertures were obtained for most of the bright targets from Campaign 4 onwards.

In this Paper we describe numerical experiments testing the TV-min method and extending it to generalizations with different exponents and timescales. We show that the method as previously employed applying standard TV-min is suboptimal, and gain a modest improvement from taking finite differences close to the timescale of K2 thruster firings. We also document the main changes in the halo data reduction pipeline, halophot, with respect to previous releases. We go on to present complete catalog of long-cadence K2 halo light curves, which we have made publicly available. We have employed halo photometry on all stars targeted with appropriate apertures, and have done a preliminary characterization of interesting astrophysical variability. These include oscillating red giants, pulsating and quiet main-sequence stars, and eclipsing binaries, many of which are among the brightest objects of their type to have been observed with space photometry. We hope that this diverse catalog of light curves will be useful for a range of astrophysical investigations.

### 2. HALO PHOTOMETRY METHOD

This method was first described by White et al. (2017) and applied to the Pleiades' Seven Sisters. It was also applied to Aldebaran with further developments by Farr et al. (2018). We follow the 'OWL' concept described by Hogg & Foreman-Mackey (2014, unpublished: preprint github.com/davidwhogg/OWL/) in our assumptions. We assume that a star has a wide PSF sampled by many pixels with different sensitivities, which moves around on the detector within a small region and which may vary to a small extent in time. We do not have metadata describing the spacecraft motion, pixel gains, PSF variations or noise processes. Because photometry is a linear operation, any estimator of the flux is necessarily a weighted sum of pixel values, which we choose to be time-invariant but note that this strong constraint is not necessary in general.

The additional constraint beyond the OWL axioms is that some pixels are saturated, so that SAP is not possible. Instead the measurements are made using the unsaturated pixels  $p_j$  at the wings of the broad and structured PSF. We construct a light curve as a linear combination of these time series with weights  $w_j$ , so that flux at cadence i is

$$f_i \equiv \sum_j w_j p_{ij}. \tag{1}$$

In our updated pipeline presented here, the weights are chosen to minimize an objective function

$$Q_{k,l} \equiv \sum_{i} |f_i - f_{i-\delta}|^k, \tag{2}$$

subject to the constraints

$$\forall_j w_j > 0 \tag{3}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} f_i = N. \tag{4}$$

This is a classic convex optimization program with constraints, which we solve with the scipy (Jones et al. 2001) L-BFGS-B nonlinear optimization code (Zhu et al. 1999).  $Q_{k,l}$  has analytic derivatives with respect to  $w_j$  (calculated with autograd; Maclaurin et al. 2015), and it is therefore extremely fast to optimize and converges well on a global solution. In practice, for computational reasons we optimize over parameters  $\tilde{w}_j$  such that  $w_j = \operatorname{softmax}(\tilde{w}_j, \text{ as this satisfies the constraint that } \forall_j w_j > 0$ , and while this also constrains their sum to be unity, we renormalize f to satisfy its normalization constraint before calculating the objective function and this additional constraint is removed again.

The objective function  $Q_{k,l}$  is the  $L_k$  norm on a 'lagged' finite difference with a lag parameter  $\delta$ . For k=1 and  $\delta=1$ ,  $Q_{1,1}$  is the standard Total Variation objective (TV) used in previous halo papers (e.g. White et al. 2017; Farr et al. 2018), and can be seen as the L1 norm on the derivative of f or as a discrete approximation to its arc length. The L2 Variation (L2V) with k=2 is sometimes referred to in image processing literature as the 'smoothness' regularizer, as it seeks to penalize large gradients without necessarily making them sparse. The lag parameter  $\delta$  allows for flexibility in modelling systematics occurring at different timescales from cadence-to-cadence, and we investigate its effects below. The order parameter k allows for flexibility in how sensitive we are to normally-distributed versus long-tailed noise. For convenience in the rest of this paper, we will refer to the k=1 case as TV, the k=2 case as L2V, and the k=3 case as L3V.

Unlike other methods for calibrating Kepler systematics, other than the value of  $\delta$ , no knowledge of the spacecraft motion or the behaviour of an ensemble of other stars is used to inform our algorithm. The signal and the noise are jointly estimated from the data. The method is a self-calibration that is independent of the details of the systematics it is calibrating, operating on the assumption that a single signal is present across many individual time series which otherwise are contaminated by noise.

It is therefore likely that significant improvements can be made to the method by including cotrending basis vectors with mean zero and whose weights are allowed to be negative, which would represent systematics which are common to all pixels in the halo aperture and therefore masquerade as signal. Any linear combination of convex objective functions is itself convex, and future extensions to the method could enforce combinations of different lags and orders to better represent systematics occurring on different timescales (e.g. thruster firings, red noise) and with different levels of smoothness.

In addition to expanding the range of possible objective functions, we have also added a feature 'deathstar' to deal with contamination. We apply the watershed-based image segmentation algorithm from K2P2 (Lund et al. 2015) to the input target pixel file datacube to identify possible background sources and cut them out. More here from Tim. Other than this, we have adopted less-aggressive quality flagging, having found that many cadences were being classified as bad quality for spurious 'cosmic ray' events, which were actually caused by a combination of saturation and spacecraft motion. We instead chose to iteratively sigma-clip outliers and retain cadences with the lightkurve default quality mask.

While the halo procedure produced a fairly clean light curve in most cases, there were nevertheless residual systematic errors related to spacecraft motion. In order to correct these, we employed the K2SC code (Aigrain et al. 2015, 2016), which simultaneously models a light curve as a 3D Gaussian Process (GP) in time and predicted position (the K2 standard data product POS\_CORR) in pixels (x, y). The model predic-

tion in time for fixed position is then a nonparametric model of the stellar variability, and the prediction for the x,y component evaluated for fixed time represents the pointing systematics. We subtracted the systmatics model from the input fluxes to obtain a final corrected flux, which is the time series we use and recommend for science. Campaigns 9, 10, and 11 were observed in two blocks each, denoted C91/C92, C101/C102 and C111/C112 by the K2 Team. The target pixel files for C91, C92, and C101 include no position information, and there are no halo apertures for C112. As a result K2SC-corrected data are not available for these targets.

# 2.1. Choosing the Objective Function

In order to choose the values for k and  $\delta$  in our objective function, we used the quiet star 36 Ophiuchi, the lowest-mass main sequence star in the sample of stars with halo apertures, and one with very little high frequency variability detected or predicted. It was also observed at short cadence. We chose the 6.5 hour Combined Differential Photometric Precision (CDPP, Christiansen et al. 2012) as implemented in lightkurve (Vinícius et al. 2018) as a proxy for the 'noise' in a lightcurve, with lower being better.

We calculated halo lightcurves of 36 Oph and their CDPPs for  $k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , and  $\delta \in [1, 50]$  for long cadence and for various valies of  $\delta \in [1, 2500]$  for short cadence data. The results are displayed in Figures 1 and 2. We found that for long cadence data, k = 1 (TV) and a lag  $\delta = 10$  provide the best CDPP. This is unsurprising: that this is one cadence shorter than the 12 cadence thruster firing period. In this context we can understand the optimum as suppressing systematics on the same timescale as they occur. On the other hand, for short cadence data, performance at short lags is very poor but the method performs similarly for  $k \in \{1,2\}$  with slow improvement with larger  $\delta$ , and performs very poorly for k = 3 at all lags.

We accordingly use a lag  $\delta = 10$  for all long cadence light curves, and a lag  $\delta = 300$  for short cadence for consistency in timescale with the long cadence processing.

### 2.2. Benchmarking

As the halo method is the only available means of obtaining light curves of stars as bright as in our sample, and they are ubiquitously found to be variable, it is difficult based on this sample alone to determine the accuracy and precision of the light curves obtained. While Kallinger & Weiss (2018) have found agreement between the White et al. (2017) halo observations of Atlas and their BRITE-Constellation observations, the BRITE observations have a lower precision and cannot be obtained for most of the stars in our sample.

We want to compare the photometric precision obtained to that from SAP and normal calibration pipelines, and ascertain whether we systematically distort the scale of variation or the power spectrum of variability. In order to do this, we take the sample of stars with 11.5 < Kp < 12.5 from K2 Campaign 6, for which K2SC light curves are available, choosing 2466 stars that are as bright as possible without

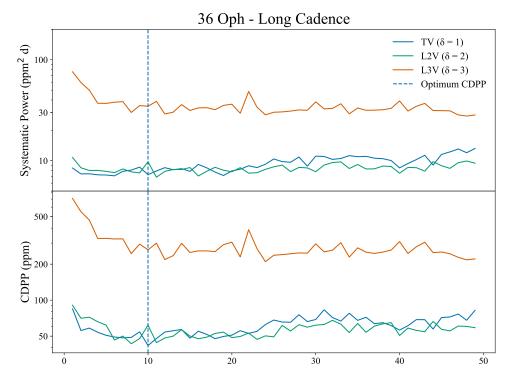
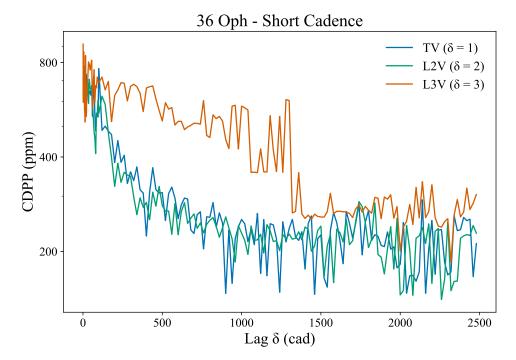


Figure 1. Behaviour of long cadence 6.5 hour CDPP (bottom) and 4c/d systematics power (top) for the quiet dwarf 36 Ophiuchi as a function of lag parameter  $\delta$ . CDPP shows a minimum for L1 norm and  $\delta = 10$ , i.e. for objective function  $Q_{1,10}$ , which is marked with a blue dashed vertical line. This does not correspond to an optimum in systematic power, which is slightly lower for smaller  $\delta$ . Nevertheless, we have chosen  $\delta = 10$  for the light curves in this catalog because of its improvement in overall CDPP as a measure of planet detection efficiency and overall light curve quality.

saturation. The planets in this campaign are well characterized (e.g. Pope et al. 2016a), and eight singly-transiting systems are known in this magnitude range. We take the entire target pixel file without using any aperture restriction, and run TV-min with  $\delta=10$  for each of these planets and compare these to light curves from the PDC pipeline. In both cases, we correct residual systematics with K2sC, prewhiten with the GP time trend model, clip  $3\sigma$  upwards outliers, and normalize the final fluxes to unity. These are then folded on the known transit period and zero epoch as tabulated in the NASA Exoplanet Archive (Akeson et al. 2013), and the folded lightcurves are binned in 3-cadence bins to reduce white noise in the comparison. The results are displayed in Figure 4.

We now seek to establish the global noise properties of the whole unsaturated sample, and compare these to PDC. We process all 2466 stars with TV-min and  $\delta = 10$ , using all pixels in the TPF unmasked. Because these stars are so bright and the TPFs so small, in the great majority of cases we do not expect significant contamination, and this is a way of testing how well the weights assigned by TV-min match the flux distribution over pixels. For each lightcurve we calculated the 6.5 hr CDPP proxy with lightkurve as a measure of SNR, and we plot the results of the two pipelines



**Figure 2.** Behaviour of short cadence 6.5 hour CDPP for the quiet dwarf 36 Ophiuchi as a function of lag parameter  $\delta$ . CDPP continuously improves for higher lags and shows no strong differences between L1 and L2 norms, while L3 performs poorly.

against one another in Figure 5. We see that a significant number of stars have high PDC CDPP but low TV-min CDPP, which raises the possibility that these are variables for which halo is overcorrecting. We found by inspection of the weightmaps and Kepler pipeline aperture masks that these mostly consist of stars for which the SAP aperture is significantly smaller than the PSF. In this case, by ignoring the pipeline apertures, halophot is in fact generating significantly better light curves. Over all stars, we found that the fractional enclosed halo weight in the Kepler pipeline aperture is only  $0.19\pm0.11$ , which suggests that in fact the apertures are systematically smaller than optimal for stars of this magnitude, and that TV-min is using information in the fainter pixels to help correct systematics.

Histograms of the CDPPs of the SAP, PDC and halo light curves with and without K2SC are displayed in Figure 6. We see that both halo and PDC significantly outperform SAP, with halo performing better than PDC with no additional correction. Nevertheless, after K2SC, we found that the best PDC lightcurves have a smaller CDPP than the best similarly pointing-corrected halo. We conjecture that PDC with its improved calibration for common-mode systematics and blended/background light is correcting for effects that halo, as a single-star and instrument-agnostic method, does not.

### 3. SAMPLE

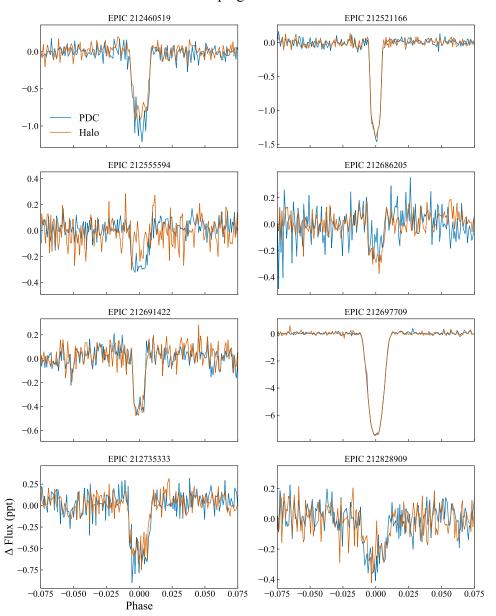
The full sample of stars for which halo apertures were obtained is listed in Table 1. Some very bright stars were observed with conventional apertures as part of these

# $\rho$ Leo (EPIC 200182931) Detrended



Figure 3. Summary plots for K2SC-corrected final halo light curve for  $\rho$  Leonis. The top three panels illustrate K2SC systematics correction: at the top, flux minus the GP time trend (blue dots) with GP x,y trend superimposed (orange line); in the middle, flux minus GP x,y components with GP time trend superimposed, and in green, a fifteenth-order polynomial trend; at the bottom the 'whitened' light curve with flux minus both GP components. Middle two panels: log-flux map (left) and halo log-weight map (right). Bottom two panels: periodograms in linear (top) and log (bottom) units of the residuals of the corrected light curve minus the long term polynomial trend. Plots of this form are available in supplementary online material for all long-cadence stars, together with similar plots for all short-cadence stars but without K2SC. The period at maximum power (16 d) is marked on all plots, though for  $\rho$  Leonis all variability is consistent with red noise (Bowman et al. 2019).

# Campaign 6 Planets



**Figure 4.** The eight transiting single-planet systems in K2 Campaign 6 in the magnitude range 11.5 < Kp < 12.5, with PDC light curves (blue) and TV-min light curves (orange) overlaid. These have been identically K2SC-corrected, whitened, outlier-clipped, folded and binned as described in Section 2.2. The depths and shapes of the transits agree closely except for EPIC 212460519, for which the TV-min transit is slightly shallower, and EPIC 212555594, for which TV-min is significantly shallower.

programs, but we exclude them from the present discussion and data release, which is oriented towards targets only observable with halo photometry. We include  $\alpha$  Vir (Spica), which was observed in Campaign 6 without a halo aperture but in Campaign 17 with a halo aperture. In Campaign 6 it was assigned a normal aperture by mistake and simple aperture photometry performed extremely poorly, so we have

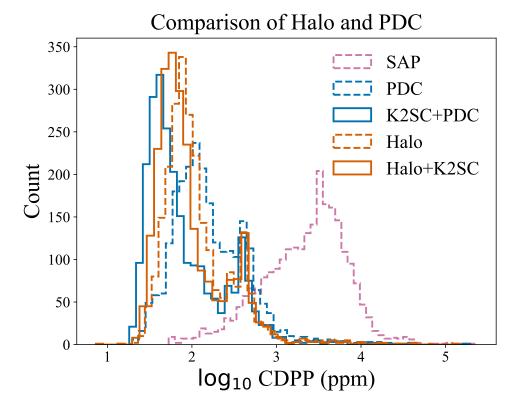
# Comparison of Halo and PDC 1:1 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0 log<sub>10</sub> PDC CDPP (ppm)

Figure 5. Correlation diagram of the lightkurve-computed 6.5 hr CDPP for K2 Campaign 6 stars in the magnitude range 11.5 < Kp < 12.5, as processed with the PDC pipeline (x-axis) and TV-min pipeline (y-axis), both after correction and whitening with K2sc. The severe outliers where halo significantly outperforms PDC are shown by individual inspection to consist of stars for which there is contamination, or for which the SAP aperture assigned by the Kepler pipeline is significantly smaller than the PSF.

processed these data with the halo pipeline. The stars in Campaign 18 in our sample were also on-silicon in Campaign 5, but were not assigned apertures suitable for halo photometry in C5. A possible further extension of the present work would be to recover C5 light curves for these objects using smear and/or modified halo photometry.

Seven stars in Campaign 13 and one in Campaign 16 were assigned short-cadence halo apertures. For these targets we have provided both long- and short-cadence reductions. Following the analysis in Section 2 showing the insensitivity of short cadence CDPP to lags longer than  $\sim 100\,\mathrm{cad}$  and on choice of objective function, and for consistency with long cadence, we have adopted a 300 cadence lag (i.e.  $30\times$  the long cadence lag of 10) and the L1 TV objective function. With their many time samples, the short-cadence stars are computationally intractable for the Gaussian Process model in K2SC and we present otherwise uncalibrated halo lightcurves.

Analyses for some of our sample have been previously published, we include their light curves in this data release: the Pleiades Seven Sisters (White et al. 2017),  $\alpha$  Tau (Aldebaran; Farr et al. 2018),  $\iota$  Lib (Buysschaert et al. 2018), and  $\epsilon$  Tau (Arentoft



**Figure 6.** Histograms of the lightkurve-computed 6.5 hr CDPP for five different pipelines applied to K2 Campaign 6 stars in the magnitude range 11.5 < Kp < 12.5: SAP (purple dashed), PDC with (blue solid) and without (blue dashed)  $\kappa$ 2sc, and TV-min with (orange solid) and without (orange dashed)  $\kappa$ 2sc.

et al. 2019), as well as  $\rho$  Leo, which was studied with halo pixels but without our objective functions (Aerts et al. 2018).

### 4. DISCUSSION

### 4.1. Oscillating Red Giants

31 of the evolved stars in our sample have detectable stochastically-excited solar-like acoustic oscillations. In the asymptotic limit, these consist of a comb of modes separated by the large frequency separation  $\Delta\nu$ , approximately the sound-crossing-time of the star, with a Gaussian envelope centred on the frequency of maximum power  $\nu_{\rm max}$ , which scales with the acoustic cutoff frequency at the star's surface. These can be used to constrain stellar fundamental parameters, and detailed studies of the deviations from this asymptotic limit for acoustic p-modes, for example due to their interaction with gravity-wave g-modes, can be used to accurately determine the stellar evolutionary state, for example to distinguish hydrogen shell burning red giant branch from helium core burning red clump stars. Summary plots for a good example of such a star,  $\eta$  Cancri, are shown in Figure 7.

Using the Sydney pipeline (Huber et al. 2009) with modifications to the extraction of  $\Delta\nu$  detailed in (Yu et al. 2018), we extract the global asteroseismic parameters  $\nu_{\rm max}$  and  $\Delta\nu$  for all 31 giants for which oscillations are detected. These parameters are

listed in Table 2. High precision spectroscopy of these stars would permit detailed stellar modelling and the extraction of precise elemental abundances, which would make these stars valuable as benchmarks for large spectroscopic surveys or testing detailed stellar models. This sample would be a valuable addition to the 36 Gaia FGK benchmark stars (Jofré et al. 2014; Heiter et al. 2015; Jofré et al. 2018), the 23 BRITE-Constellation asteroseismic giants (Kallinger et al. 2019), and the 33 Kepler Smear Campaign spectroscopic benchmark red giants (Pope et al., 2019, under review).

### 4.2. Classical Variables

# Variability catalog?

### 4.3. Chemically-Peculiar Stars

The chemically-peculiar A0V star 98 Tau is of special interest for studies of surface inhomogeneity. We detected variability with a fundamental period of 1.74 d with twice as much power at the first harmonic ( $P = 0.87 \,\mathrm{d}$ ), which is consistent with  $\alpha^2 \,\mathrm{CVn}$  spot modulation from a rapidly-rotating star with a period of 1.74 d. This star also experiences a transit of depth 0.03, which for a 1.87  $\mathrm{R}_{\odot}$  typical A0V star implies an  $0.3 \,\mathrm{R}_{\odot}$  stellar mass companion. With rotational modulation and an eclipse to break degeneracies, models such as starry (Luger et al. 2019) can infer surface brightness maps and reveal the spatial distribution of the star's chemical peculiarity.

### 5. CONCLUSIONS

Some of the objects presented here are the subject of more detailed work in preparation, namely  $\alpha$  Vir (Spica), interferometry of the Hyades giants, and main-sequence stars.

The sample of K2 bright stars presented here only includes those with halo apertures. While some others are available conventionally, many were not assigned target pixels and were not downloaded at all. Smear photometry has been used to recover the brightest otherwise-unobserved stars in nominal *Kepler* (Pope et al., under review), and this can also be done in K2, although the sample is much smaller due to allocation of halo apertures and the systematics correction is more challenging. A natural extension of both pieces of work would be to produce smear light curves of all bright stars without halo apertures in K2, which would finally make the *Kepler* extended mission magnitude-complete at the bright end.

The halo method naturally extends to other contexts where simple aperture photometry is not possible, such as for saturated stars observed by the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS; Ricker et al. 2015). Although the saturation limit is brighter  $(T_{mag} \sim 6)$  and this problem accordingly affects fewer stars and less badly, there are stars such as  $\alpha$  Centauri and  $\beta$  Hydri where the bleed column reaches the edge of the chip and a SAP light curve is irrecoverable. We expect that TV-min halo photometry will therefore be valuable in ensuring that TESS can observe the very brightest stars.

# $\eta$ Cnc (EPIC 200200359) Detrended

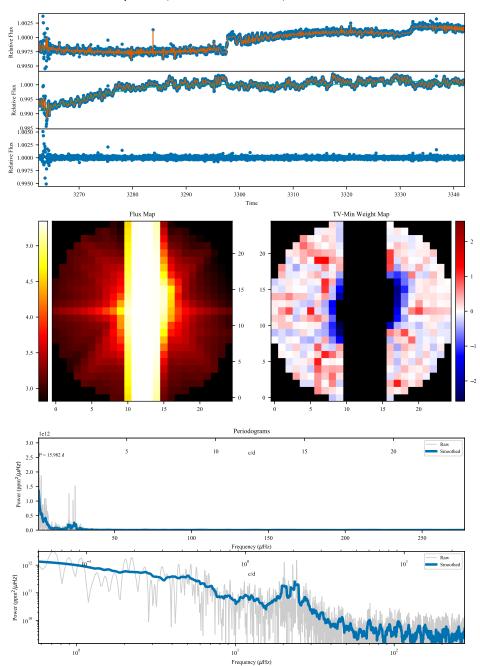


Figure 7. Summary plots for K2SC-corrected final halo light curve for the red giant  $\eta$  Cancri, in the same format as Figure 3. Solar like oscillations are clearly detected with  $\nu_{\rm max} = 22.9 \pm 0.9$  and  $\Delta \nu = 2.7 \pm 0.03$ .

There are directions for improvement of the halo method itself, and for applying it beyond Kepler/K2 and TESS. It remains to be seen how well the method of optimizing convex objective functions can deal with significantly varying PSFs, such as from ground-based observations. The rapidly varying and moving seeing-limited PSF couples to flat field errors as is the case with Kepler, and leads to severe short-timescale

instrumental noise. Self-calibration by the halo method, or a similar method, may permit improvements in ground-based photometry. Likewise, there may be other convex objective functions, including linear combinations of currently-used objective functions, which offer superior performance, for example by using combinations of different lagged functions to suppress systematics occurring at different timescales. The remaining unexplored space of convex objective functions suitable may offer significant improvements on existing self-calibration techniques in high-cadence photometry and related problems in astronomy.

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This work was performed in part under contract with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) funded by NASA through the Sagan Fellowship Program executed by the NASA Exoplanet Science Institute. TRW acknowledges the support of the Australian Research Council (grant DP150100250) and the Villum Foundation (research grant 10118). The halo apertures were kindly provided by the K2 team as part of the Guest Observer programs GO6081-7081, GO8025, GO9923, GO10025, GO11047-13047, GO14003-16003, and GO17051-19051, and as a Director's Discretionary Time program in Campaign 4 as GO4901. We are grateful for the associated funding provided by the K2 GO office which has been essential in bringing this project to fruition.

This project was developed in part at the Building Early Science with TESS meeting, which took place in March 2019 at the University of Chicago.

BJSP acknowledges being on the traditional territory of the Lenape Nations and recognizes that Manhattan continues to be the home to many Algonkian peoples. We give blessings and thanks to the Lenape people and Lenape Nations in recognition that we are carrying out this work on their indigenous homelands. We would like to acknowledge the Gadigal Clan of the Eora Nation as the traditional owners of the land on which the University of Sydney is built and on which some of this work was carried out, and pay their respects to their knowledge, and to their elders past, present, and future.

This research made use of NASA's Astrophysics Data System; the SIMBAD database, operated at CDS, Strasbourg, France. Some of the data presented in this paper were obtained from the Mikulski Archive for Space Telescopes (MAST). STScI is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc., under NASA contract NAS5-26555. Support for MAST for non-HST data is provided by the NASA Office of Space Science via grant NNX13AC07G and by other grants and contracts. We acknowledge the support of the Group of Eight universities and the German Academic Exchange Service through the Go8 Australia-Germany Joint Research Co-operation Scheme.

Software: IPython (Pérez & Granger 2007); SciPy (Jones et al. 2001); and Astropy, a community-developed core Python package for Astronomy (Astropy Collaboration et al. 2013).

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# APPENDIX

Table 1. All stars observed with halo photometry in K2.

Name	EPIC	Spectral	V	Campaign	Comments
		Type	(mag)		
Alcyone	200007767	B7III	2.986	4	a
Atlas	200007768		3.763	4	a
Electra	200007769	B6IIIe	3.851	4	a
Merope	200007770	B6IVe	4.305	4	a
Maia	200007771	B8III	4.305	4	a
Taygeta	200007772	B6IV	4.448	4	a
Pleione	200007773	B8Vne	5.192	4	a
$\gamma$ Tau	200007765	G9.5IIIabCN0.5	3.474	4	
$\delta 1$ Tau	200007766	G9.5IIICN0.5	3.585	4	
Spica	212573842	B1V	0.97	6, 17	Normal Mask
69 Vir	212356048	K0III-IIIbCN1.5CH0.5	4.75	6	
Ascella	200062593	A2.5Va	2.585	7	
Albaldah	200062592	F2II-III	2.88	7	
au Sgr	200062591	K1.5IIIb	3.31	7	
$\xi 2 \text{ Sgr}$	200062590	G8/K0II/III	3.51	7	
$o \operatorname{Sgr}$	200062589	G9IIIb	3.77	7	
$52~\mathrm{Sgr}$	200062585	B8/9V	4.598	7	
Ainalrami	200062588	K1II	4.845	7	
$\psi$ Sgr	200062584	K0/1III+A/F	4.85	7	
$43~\mathrm{Sgr}$	200062587	G8II-III	4.878	7	
$\nu 2~{ m Sgr}$	200062586	K3-II-III:CN1Ba1	4.98	7	
$\epsilon \ \mathrm{Psc}$	200068392	G9IIIbFe-2	4.28	8	
Revati	200068393	A7IV	5.187	8	
$80 \; \mathrm{Psc}$	200068394	F2V	5.5	8	
42  Cet	200068399	G8IV+A(8)	5.87	8	
33  Cet	200068395	K4/5III	5.942	8	
$60 \; \mathrm{Psc}$	200068396	G8III	5.961	8	
$73  \mathrm{Psc}$	200068397	K5III	6.007	8	
WW Psc	200068398	M2.5III	6.14	8	
HR 243	200068400	G8/K0II/III	6.368	8	
HR 161	200068401	K3III	6.407	8	
HR 6766	200069361	G7: IIIbCN-1CH-3.5HK+1	4.56	9	
HR 6842	200069360	K3II	4.627	9	
$4 \mathrm{~Sgr}$	200069357	A0	4.724	9	

Table 1 continued on next page

Table 1 (continued)

		(			
Name	EPIC	Spectral	V	Campaign	Comments
		Type	(mag)		
11 Sgr	200069358	K0III	4.98	9	
7 Sgr	200069362	F2II-III	5.34	9	
$15~\mathrm{Sgr}$	200069359	O9.7Iab	5.37	9	
HR 6838	200069363	K2III	5.75	9	
Y Sgr	200069364	F8II	5.75	9	Cepheid
HR 6716	200069365	B0Iab/b	5.77	9	
HR 6681	200069366	A0V	5.929	9	
$9 \mathrm{~Sgr}$	200069368	O4V((f))z	5.97	9	
$16~\mathrm{Sgr}$	200069367	O9.5III	6.02	9	
HR $6825$	200069369	ApSi	6.15	9	
63 Oph	200069370	O8II((f))	6.2	9	
HR 6679	200069373	A1V	6.469	9	
HD 165784	200069371	A2Iab	6.58	9	
HD 161083	200069374	F0V	6.58	9	
$5~\mathrm{Sgr}$	200069372	K0III	6.64	9	
HD 167576	200069378	K1III	6.66	9	
HR 6773	200069380	B3/5IV	6.71	9	
HD 163296	200071159	A1Vep	6.85	9	
$HD\ 165052$	200069379	O5.5:Vz+O8:V	6.87	9	
$17~\mathrm{Sgr}$	200069375	G8/K0III	6.886	9	
HD 169966	200069376	G8/K0III	6.97	9	
$\rm HD\ 162030$	200069377	K1III	7.02	9	
Porrima	200084004	F1V+F0mF2V	2.74	10	
Zaniah	200084005	A2IV	3.9	10	
21 Vir	200084006	B9V	5.48	10	
FW Vir	200084007	M3+IIICa0.5	5.71	10	
HR 4837	200084008	G8III	5.918	10	
HR 4591	200084009	K1III	6.316	10	
HR 4613	200084010	G8/K0III	6.364	10	
HD 107794	200084011	K0III	6.46	10	
$\theta$ Oph	200128906	OB	3.26	11	
44 Oph	200128907	kA5hA9mF1III	4.153	11	
45 Oph	200128908	F5III-IV	4.269	11	
51 Oph	200128909	A0V	4.81	11	
36 Oph	200129035	K2V+K1V	5.03	11	
o Oph	200128910		5.2	11	
26 Oph	200129034	F3V	5.731	11	
HR 6472	200128911	K0III	5.83	11	

Table 1 continued on next page

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Table 1 (continued)

		Table 1 (continued)			
Name	EPIC	Spectral	V	Campaign	Comments
		Type	(mag)		
HR 6366	200128913	Fm dD	5.911	11	
HR 6365	200128912	K0III	5.977	11	
191 Oph	200128914	K0III	6.171	11	
$\kappa$ Psc	200164167	A2VpSrCrSi	4.94	12	
83  Aqr	200164168	F0V	5.47	12	
$24  \mathrm{Psc}$	200164169	K0II/III	5.94	12	
HR 8759	200164170	G5II/III	5.933	12	
$14  \mathrm{Psc}$	200164171	A2II	5.87	12	
HR $8921$	200164172	K4/5III	6.191	12	
$81 \mathrm{\ Aqr}$	200164173	K4III	6.215	12	
HR $8897$	200164174	K4III	6.34	12	
Aldebaran	200173843	K5+III	0.86	13	$\mathbf{c}$
$\theta 2$ Tau	200173845	A7III	3.41	13	$\operatorname{SC}$
$\epsilon$ Tau	200173844	G9.5IIICN0.5	3.53	13	d
$\theta 1$ Tau	200173846	G9IIIFe-0.5	3.84	13	
$\kappa 1$ Tau	200173847	A7IV-V	4.201	13	$\operatorname{SC}$
$\delta 3$ Tau	200173849	A2IV-Vs	4.25	13	C4
$\tau$ Tau	200173850	B3V	4.258	13	
$\upsilon$ Tau	200173848	A8Vn	4.282	13	$\operatorname{SC}$
$\rho$ Tau	200173851	A8V	4.65	13	SC
11 Ori	200173853	A1VpSiCr	4.661	13	
HR 1427	200173855	A6IV	4.764	13	SC
15 Ori	200173854	F2IV	4.82	13	
75 Tau	200173852	K1IIIb	4.969	13	
97 Tau	200173857	A7IV-V	5.085	13	SC
HR 1684	200173856	K5III	5.163	13	
$\kappa 2$ Tau	200173859	F0Vn	5.264	13	SC
56 Tau	200173861	A0VpSi	5.346	13	
81 Tau	200173860	$\mathrm{Am}$	5.454	13	
53 Tau	200173864	B9Vsp	5.482	13	
HR 1585	200173858	K1III	5.49	13	
80 Tau	200173866	F0V	5.552	13	
51 Tau	200173865	F0V	5.631	13	
HR 1403	200173867	$\mathrm{Am}$	5.711	13	
89 Tau	200173868	F0V	5.776	13	
HR 1576	200173871	B9V	5.776	13	
98 Tau	200173870	A0V	5.785	13	
99 Tau	200173862	K0III	5.806	13	

Table 1 continued on next page

Table 1 (continued)

Name	EPIC	Spectral	V	Compaign	Comments
Name	EPIC	-		Campaign	Comments
		Type	(mag)		
105 Tau	200173869	B2Ve	5.92	13	
HR 1554	200173874	F2IVn	5.961	13	
HR 1385	200173875	$\mathrm{F4V}$	5.965	13	C4
HR 1741	200173873	K0III	6.107	13	
HR 1633	200173872	K0	6.188	13	
HR 1755	200173876	K0III	6.205	13	
$\rho$ Leo	200182931	B1Iab	3.87	14	е
58 Leo	200182925	K0.5IIIFe-0.5	4.838	14	
48 Leo	200182926	G8.5IIIFe-1	5.07	14	
53 Leo	200182928	A2V	5.312	14	
65 Leo	200182927	K0III	5.52	14	
35  Sex	200182929	K2II-III+K1II-III	5.79	14	
43 Leo	200182930	K3III	6.08	14	
Dschubba	200194910	B0.3IV	2.32	15	
Zubenelhakrabi	200194911	G8.5III	3.91	15	
$\iota 1$ Lib	200194912	B9IVpSi	4.54	15	b
41 Lib	200194913	G8III/IV	5.359	15	
$\zeta 4~{ m Lib}$	200194914	B3V	5.499	15	
HR 5762	200194915	A2IV	5.52	15	
HR 5806	200194916	K0III	5.79	15	
$\zeta 3 \text{ Lib}$	200194917	K0III	5.806	15	
HR 5810	200194918	K0III	5.816	15	
$\iota 2$ Lib	200194919	A2V	6.066	15	b
HR 5620	200194920	K0III	6.14	15	
28 Lib	200194921	G8II/III	6.17	15	
HD 138810	200194958	K1(III)(+G)	7.02	15	
Asellus Australis	200200356	K0+IIIb	3.94	16	
Acubens	200200357	$\rm kA7VmF0/2III/IVSr$	4.249	16	
$\xi$ Cnc	200200358	G8.5IIIFe-0.5CH-1	5.149	16	
o1 Cnc	200200360	A5III	5.22	16	
$\eta   \mathrm{Cnc}$	200200359	K3III	5.325	16, 18	
$45~\mathrm{Cnc}$	200200728	A3III:+G7III	5.65	16	$\operatorname{SC}$
o2 Cnc	200200361	F0IV	5.677	16	
$50~\mathrm{Cnc}$	200200363	A1Vp	5.885	16, 18	
82 Vir	200213053	M1+III	5.01	17	
76 Vir	200213054	G8III	5.21	17	
68 Vir	200213055	K5III	5.25	17	
80 Vir	200213056	K0III	5.706	17	

Table 1 continued on next page

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Table 1 (continued)

Name	EPIC	Spectral	V	Campaign	Comments
		Type	(mag)		
HR 5106	200213057	A0V	5.932	17	
HR 5059	200213058	A8V	5.965	17	
$\gamma~{ m Cnc}$	200233186	A1IV	4.652	18	C5
$\zeta   \mathrm{Cnc}$	200233643	F8V+G0V	4.67	18	C5
$60~\mathrm{Cnc}$	200233188	K5III	5.44	18	C5, C16
$49~\mathrm{Cnc}$	200233189	${\rm A1VpHgMnSiEu}$	5.66	18	C5
HR 3264	200233190	K1III	5.798	18	C5
$29~\mathrm{Cnc}$	200233192	A5V	5.948	18	C5
HR 3222	200233193	G8III	6.047	18	C5
$21~\mathrm{Cnc}$	200233196	M2III	6.08	18	C5
$25~\mathrm{Cnc}$	200233644	F5IIIm?	6.1	18	C5
HR 3558	200233195	K1III	6.146	18	C5
HR 3541	200233194	C-N4.5	6.4	18	C5

 $a_{\text{White et al.}}$  (2017)

bBuysschaert et al. (2018)

 $c_{\text{Farr et al. (2018)}}$ 

 $d_{\text{Arentoft et al.}}$  (2019)

eAerts et al. (2018)

 $<sup>1</sup>_{\rm abCN0.5}$ 

**Table 2.** Global asteroseismic parameters for the 31 red giants for which solar-like oscillations were detected.

Name	EPIC	$ u_{ m max}$	$\Delta \nu$
		$(\mu \mathrm{Hz})$	$(\mu \mathrm{Hz})$
$\gamma$ Tau	200007765	$62.9 \pm 1.44$	$5.6 \pm 0.17$
$\delta^{'}_{1}$ Tau	200007766	$62.6 \pm 1.74$	$5.7 \pm 0.07$
$\nu 2~{ m Sgr}$	200062586	$7.3 \pm 0.15$	$1.3 \pm 0.05$
$o \operatorname{Sgr}$	200062589	$46.3 \pm 1.02$	$4.8 \pm 0.06$
$\xi 2 \operatorname{Sgr}$	200062590	$11.7 \pm 0.65$	$1.9 \pm 0.15$
$ au~\mathrm{Sgr}$	200062591	$19.8 \pm 0.80$	$2.5 \pm 0.07$
Albaldah	200062592	$47.0 \pm 0.43$	$6.0 \pm 0.20$
$\epsilon \ \mathrm{Psc}$	200068392	$33.3 \pm 1.22$	$3.6 \pm 0.07$
HR 8759	200164170	$10.1 \pm 0.39$	$1.6 \pm 0.05$
$81 \mathrm{\ Aqr}$	200164173	$11.4 \pm 0.23$	$1.7 \pm 0.06$
$\epsilon$ Tau	200173844	$54.5 \pm 1.44$	$5.1 \pm 0.13$
75 Tau	200173852	$35.0 \pm 0.96$	$4.2 \pm 0.04$
HR 1585	200173858	$9.4 \pm 1.01$	$1.5\pm0.10$
99 Tau	200173862	$21.4 \pm 1.07$	$2.4\pm0.07$
HR 1755	200173876	$18.8\pm0.41$	$2.0 \pm 0.04$
58 Leo	200182925	$17.0\pm0.46$	$2.0 \pm 0.23$
48 Leo	200182926	$53.3 \pm 0.79$	$5.4\pm0.04$
65 Leo	200182927	$61.6 \pm 1.38$	$6.4 \pm 0.03$
35  Sex	200182929	$11.5 \pm 0.15$	$1.5\pm0.05$
43 Leo	200182930	$71.6 \pm 2.81$	$7.2 \pm 0.08$
Zubenelhakrabi	200194911	$34.9 \pm 0.98$	$3.6 \pm 0.10$
41 Lib	200194913	$54.3 \pm 1.79$	$5.2\pm0.03$
HR 5806	200194916	$53.2 \pm 0.75$	$4.9 \pm 0.06$
$\zeta 3 \text{ Lib}$	200194917	$44.2 \pm 1.00$	$3.6 \pm 0.26$
HR 5810	200194918	$45.0\pm0.46$	$4.5 \pm 0.03$
HR 5620	200194920	$96.8 \pm 0.74$	$9.3 \pm 0.03$
28  Lib	200194921	$41.0 \pm 0.86$	$4.1\pm0.17$
$\eta~\mathrm{Cnc}$	200200359	$22.9\pm0.86$	$2.7\pm0.03$
76 Vir	200213054	$40.0 \pm 2.62$	$3.8 \pm 0.09$
80 Vir	200213056	$37.0\pm1.83$	$4.4\pm0.08$
HR 3264	200233190	$22.9\pm0.17$	$3.0 \pm 0.18$