

Eavesdropping on accretion disks: Broad-band variability properties of cataclysmic variables and their connections to XRBs/AGN

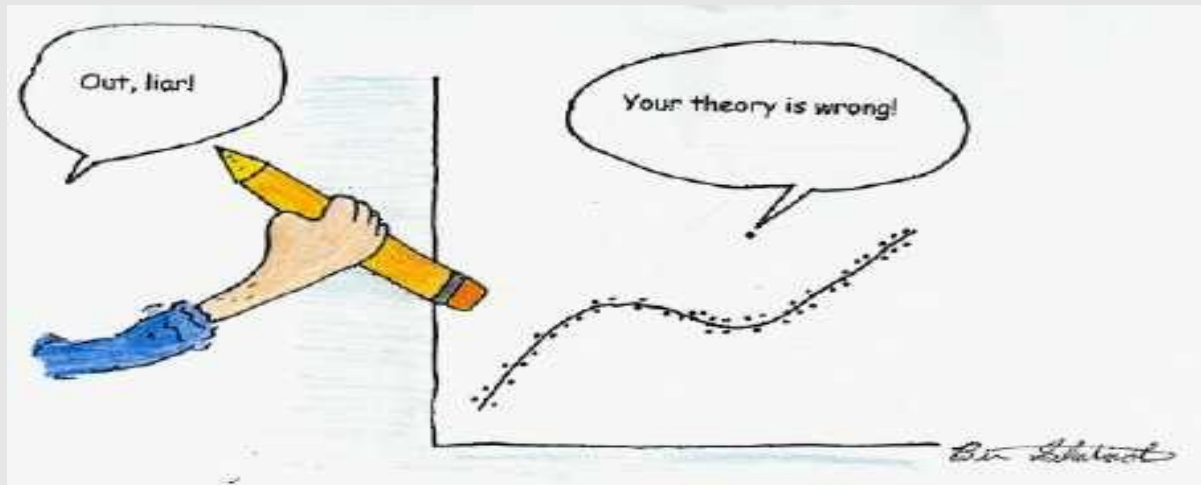
Simone Scaringi

*E. Körding, P. Uttley, C. Knigge, P.J. Groot,
C. Aerts, P. Jonker, M. Still*



Overview

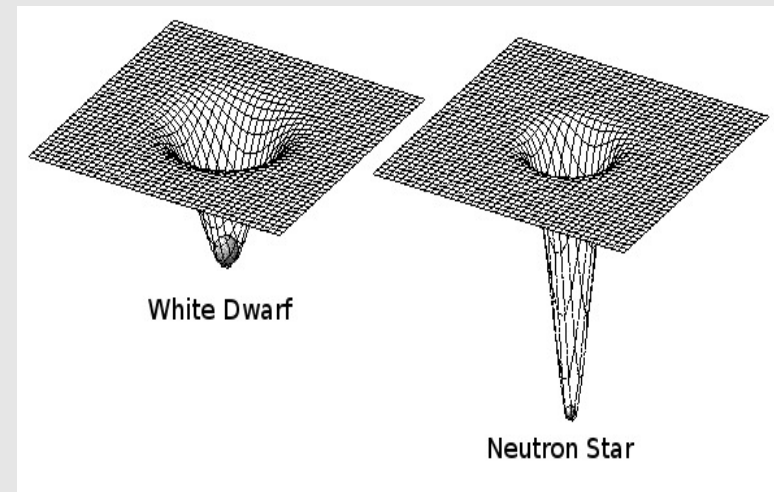
- Why look at CVs?
- The first timing connection: the rms-flux relation
- QPO evolution in CVs
- Coherence and Fourier time-lags in CVs
- Future work / Making sense?



Why look at CVs?

- Observationally both XRBs and CVs exhibit large-amplitude outbursts
- Theoretically explained through thermal/viscous instabilities in the accretion disks (Shakura & Sunyaev 1973)
- Radio emission/jets observed in conjunction with spectral changes (Koerding et al. 2008)
- Accretion disk dynamics governed by the embedded gravitational potential

CVs offer a unique laboratory to study accretion in the absence of strong gravity and strong X-ray emission!



Why look at CVs? (with Kepler)

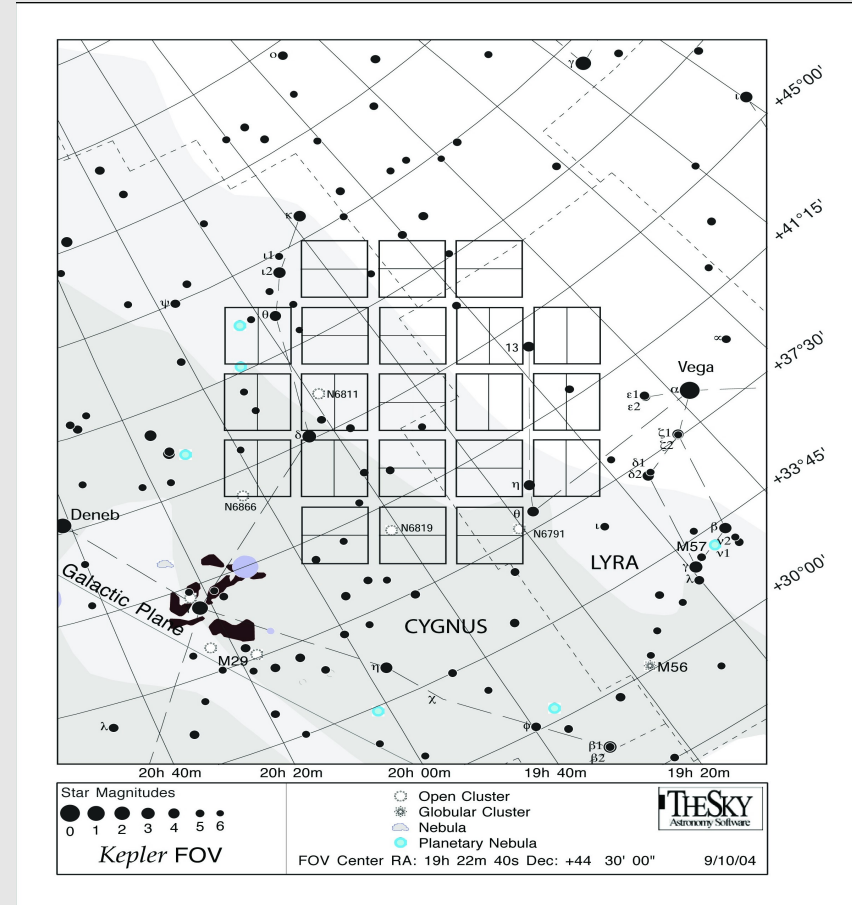
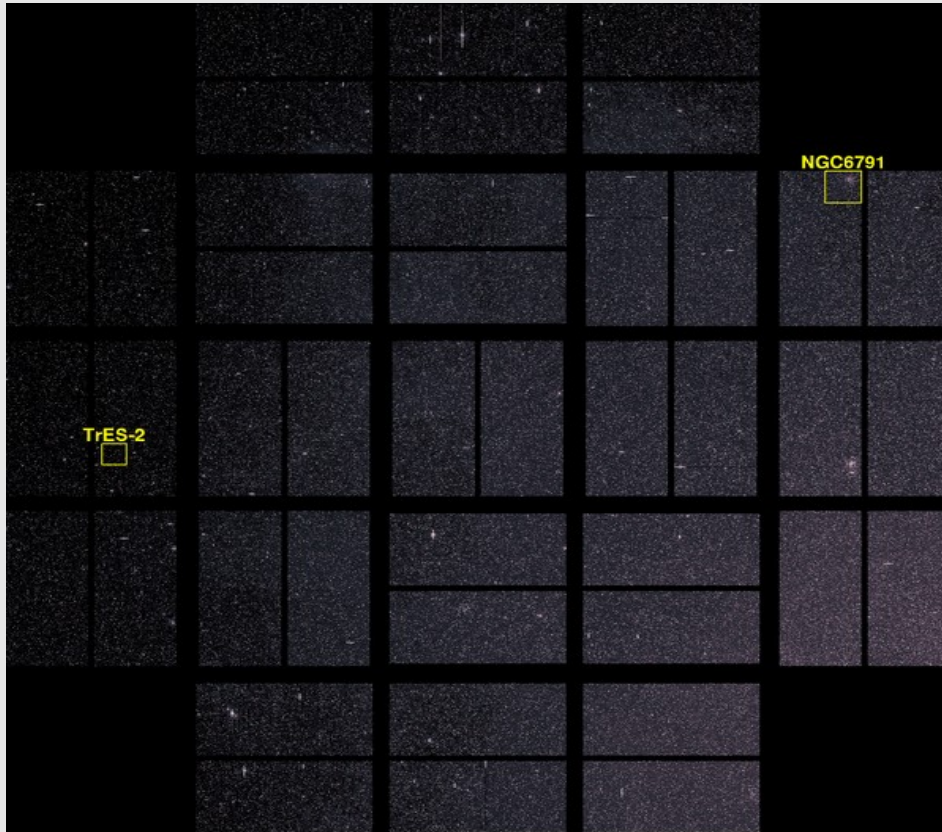
32 CCDs → 95 Megapixels!



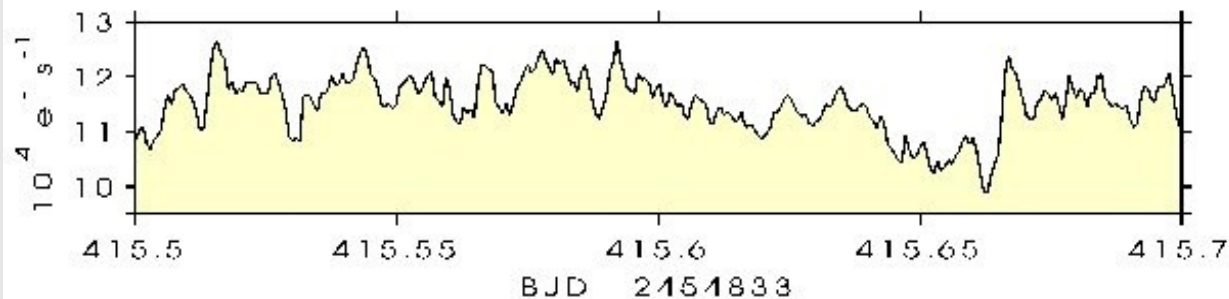
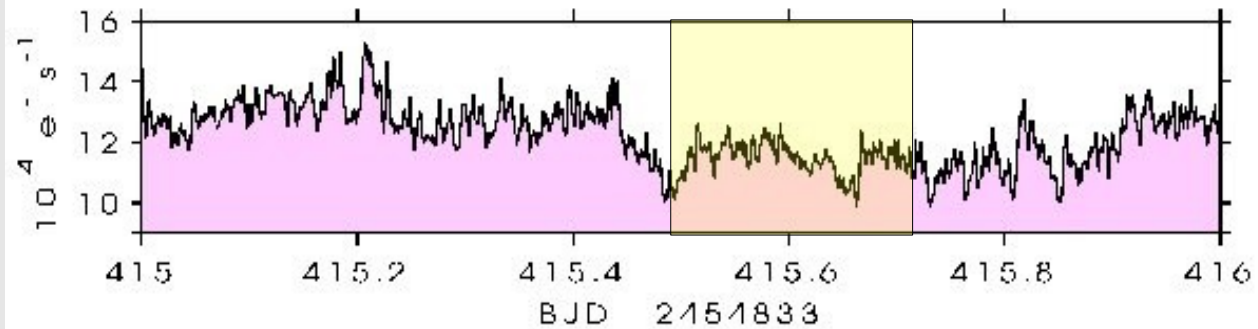
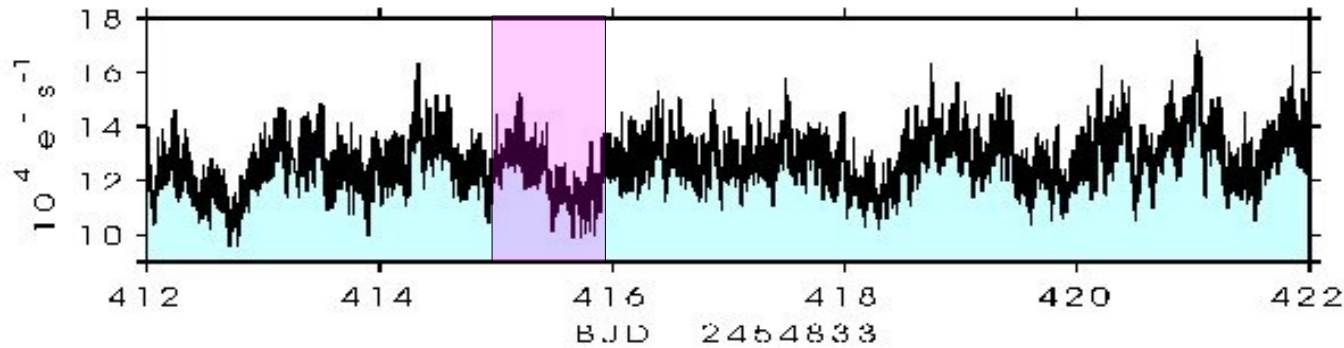
Kepler

Why look at CVs? (with Kepler)

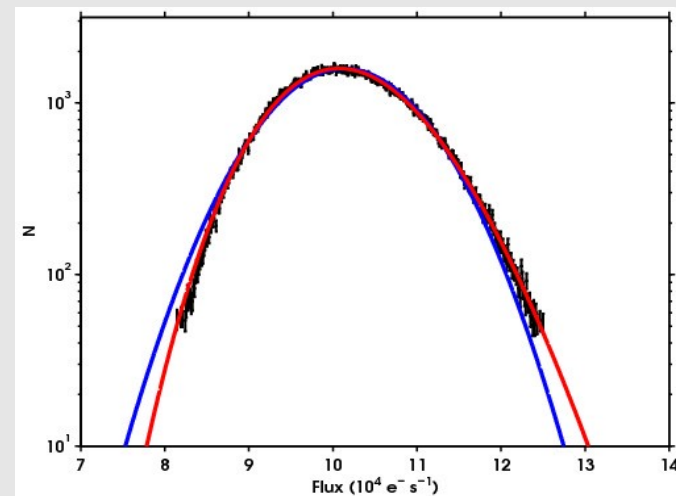
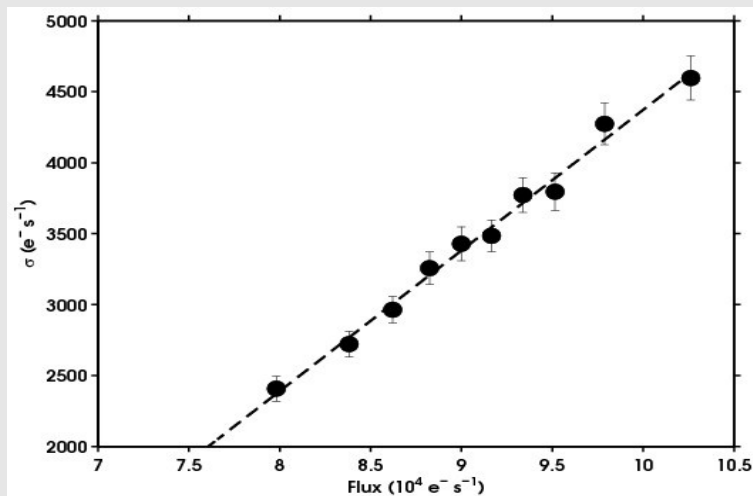
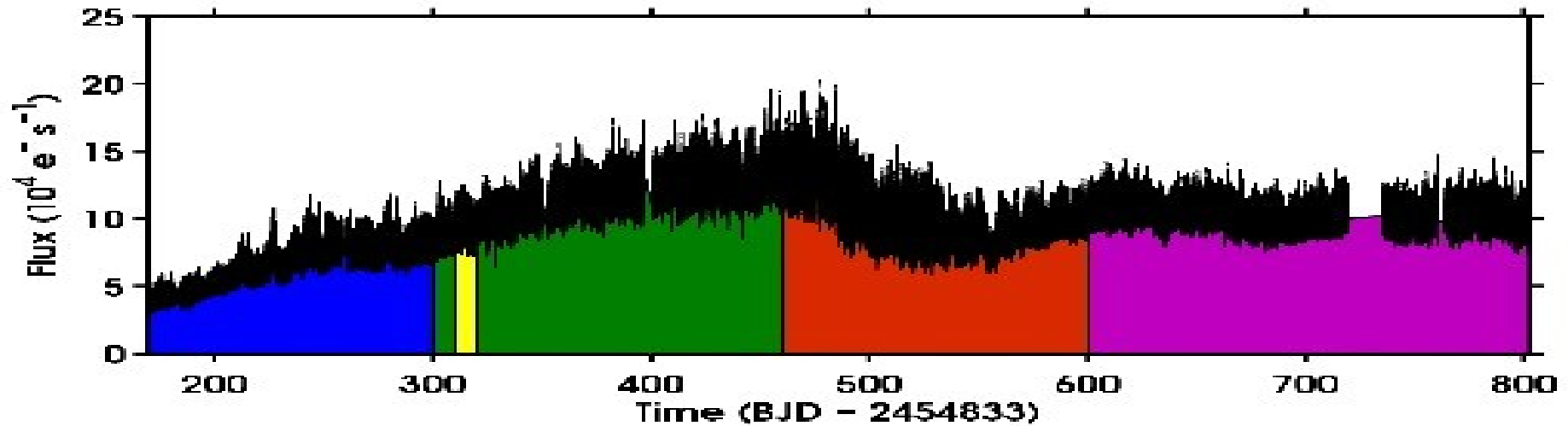
100 square degree field-of-view



MV Lyrae with Kepler



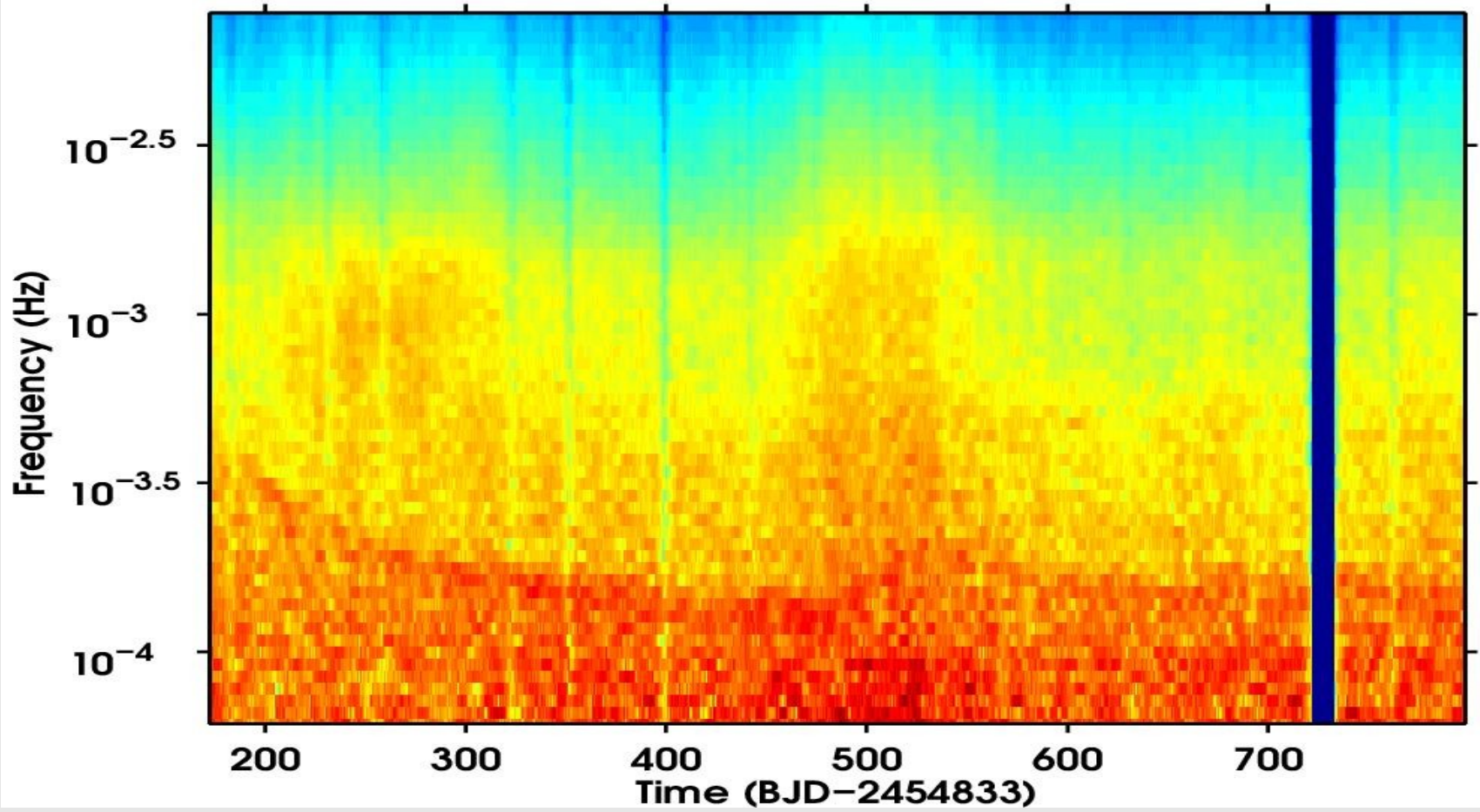
MV Lyrae with Kepler



(Scaringi et al. 2012a)

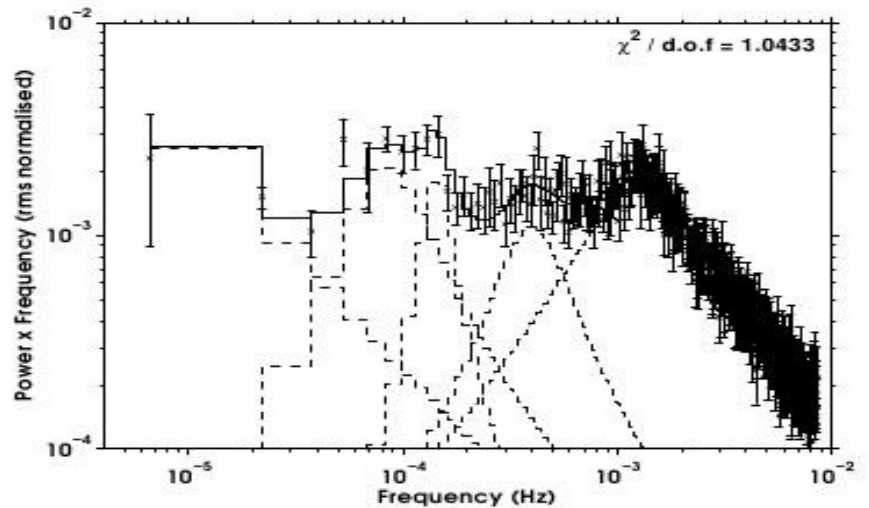
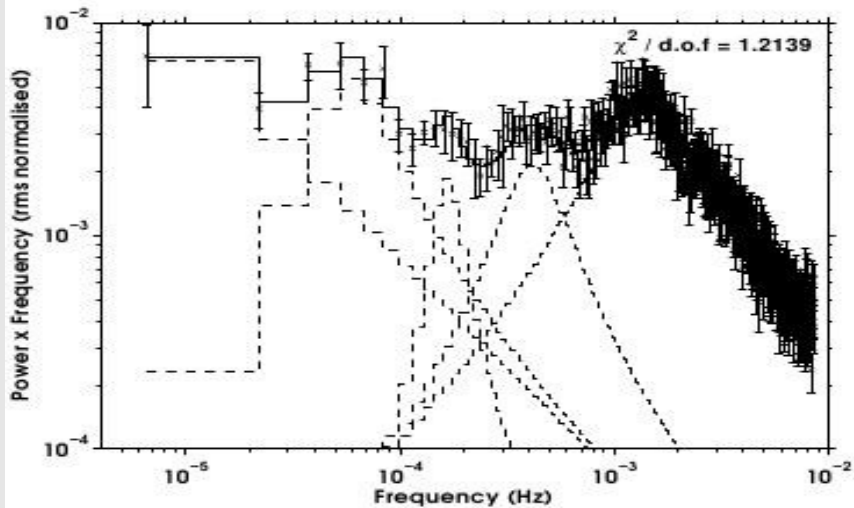
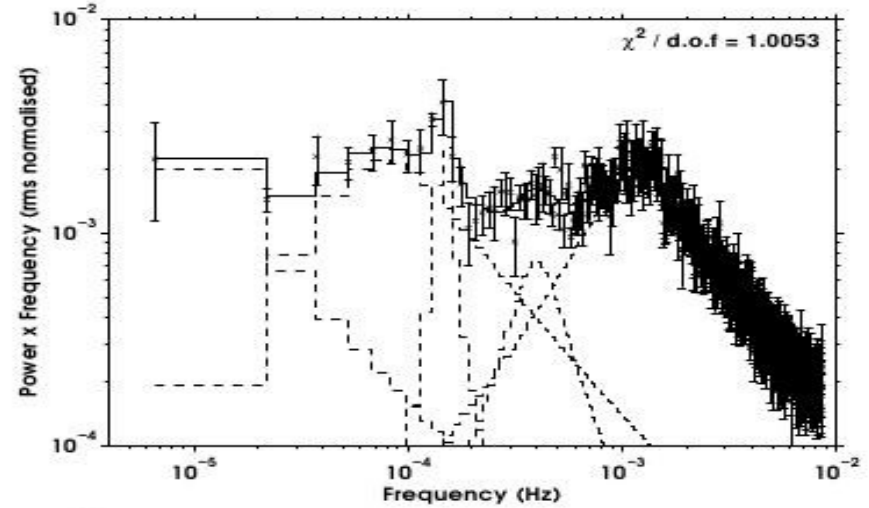
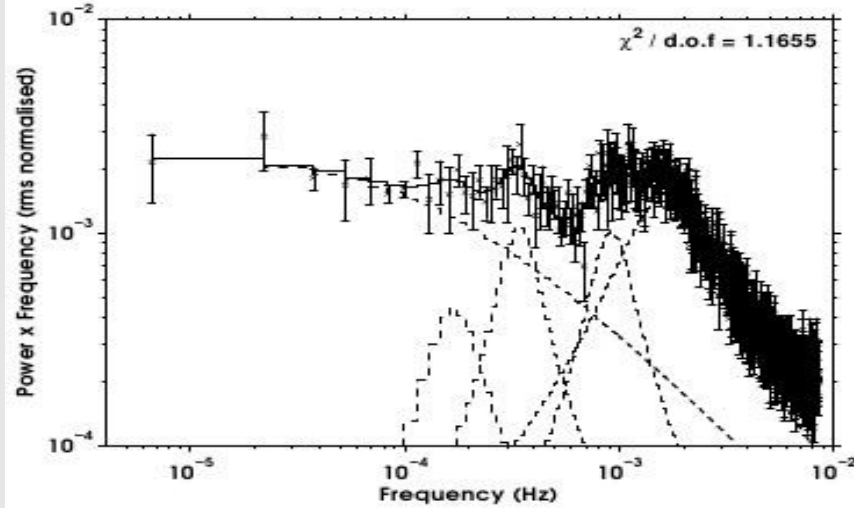
QPOs in MV Lyrae

- Dynamic PSD \rightarrow 5.3 day segments with 50% overlap



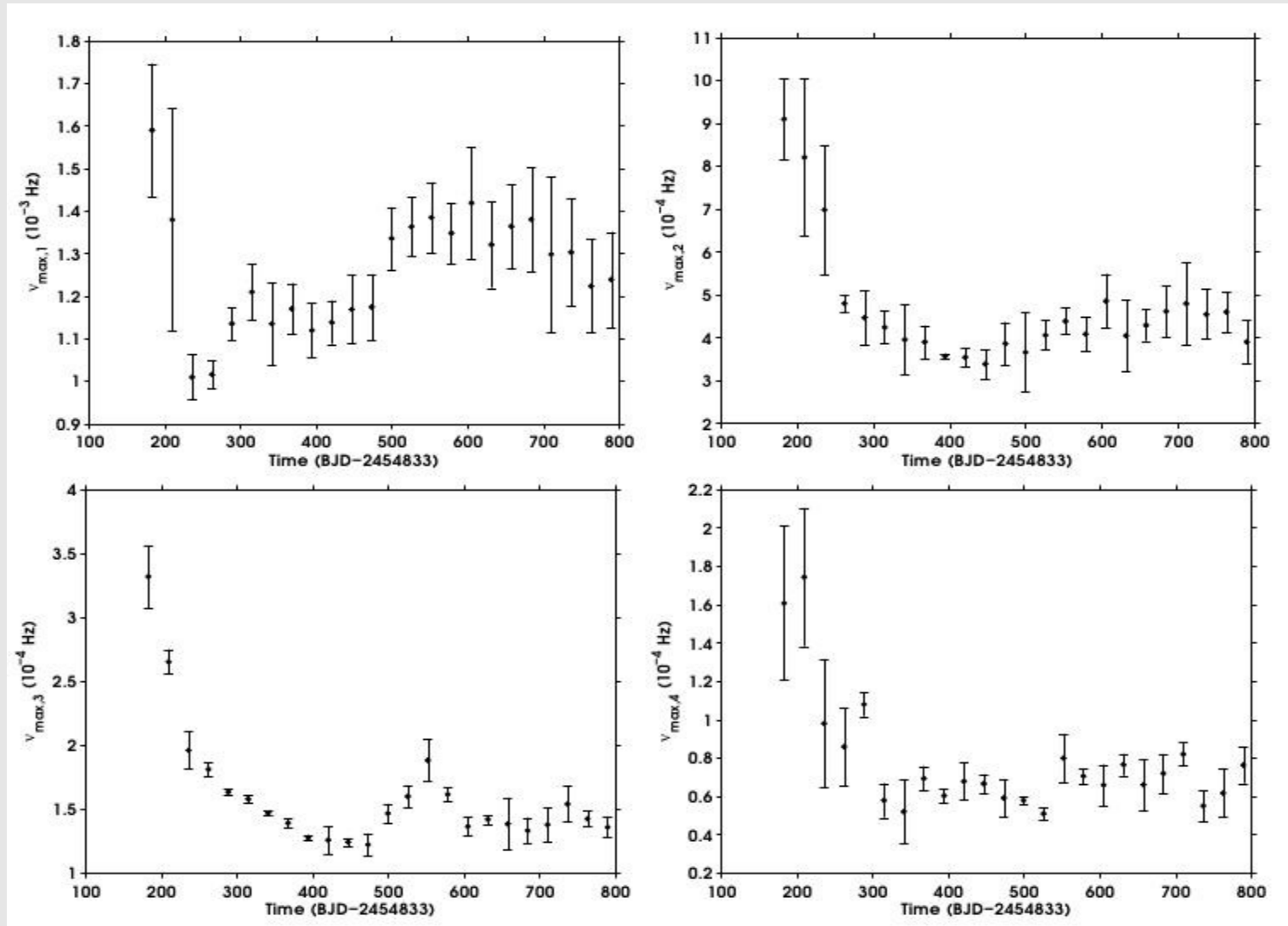
(Scaringi et al. 2012b)

QPOs in MV Lyrae

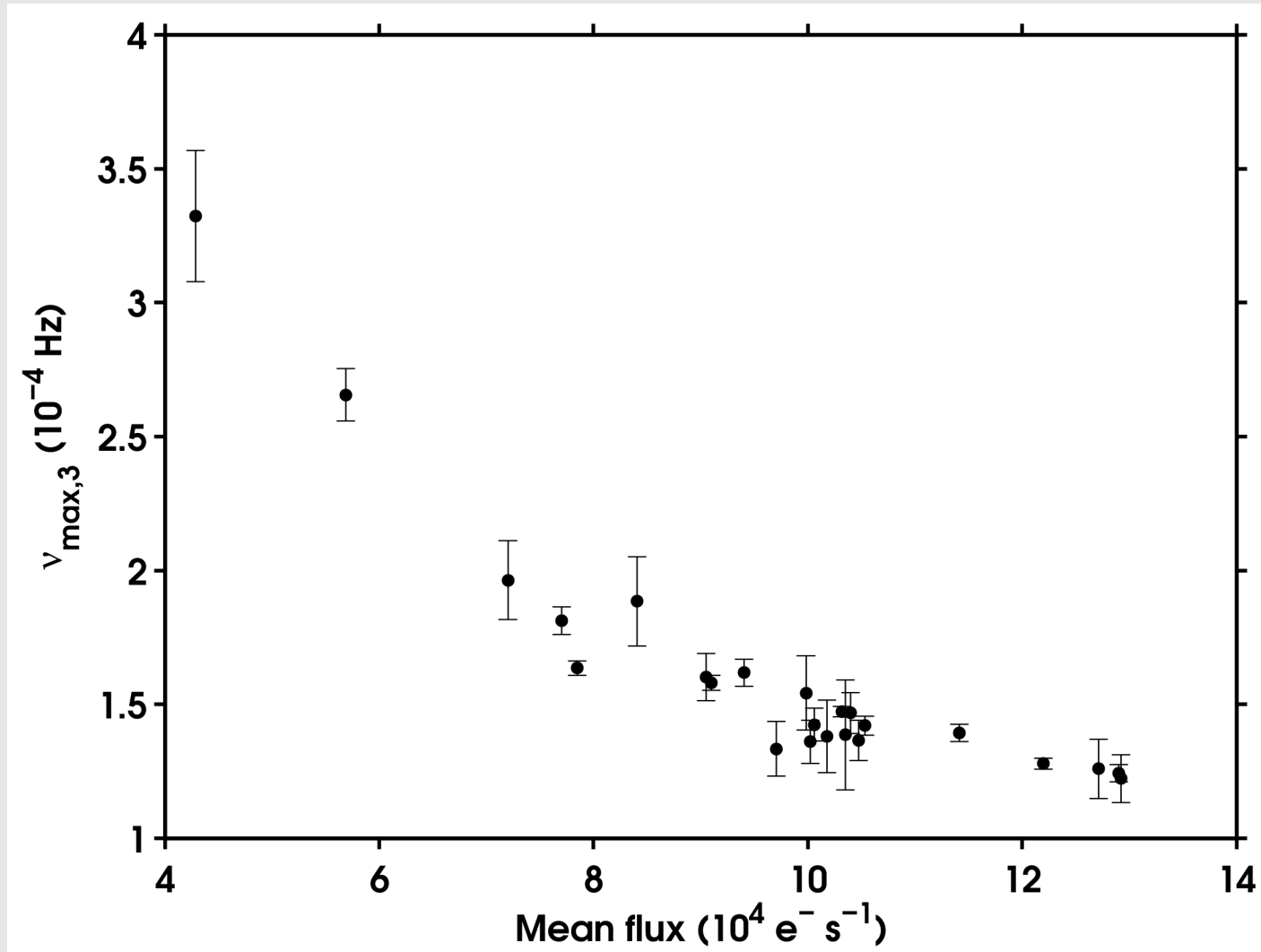


Average of 5 independent PSDs

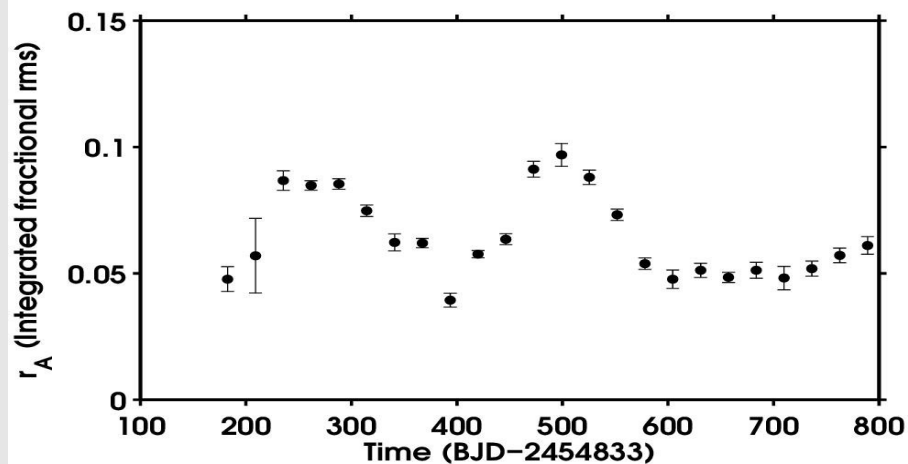
QPOs in MV Lyrae



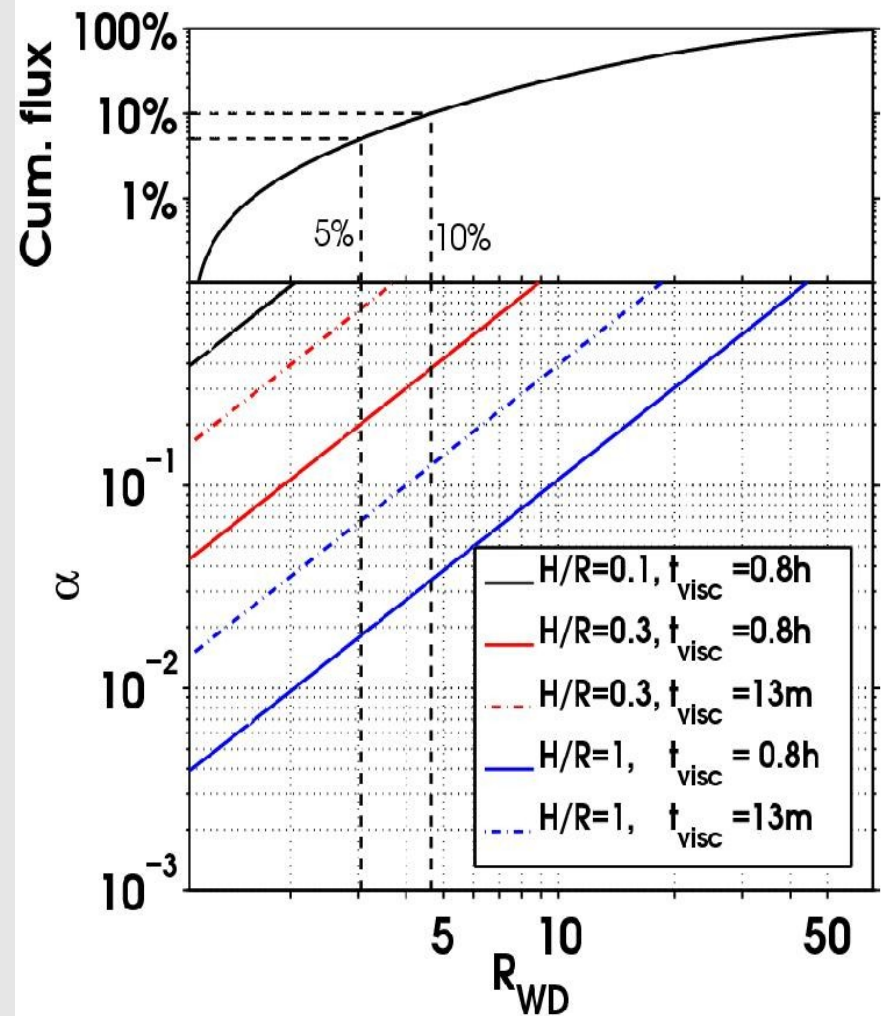
QPOs in MV Lyrae



QPOs in MV Lyr



- Highest frequency Lorentzian:
 - varies between 5%-10%
 - Use this to constrain the minimum size of the emitting region



(Scaringi et al. 2012b)

Viscous or dynamical?

$$\nu_{dyn}(r) = \frac{1}{t_{dyn}(r)} = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{r^3 4\pi^2}},$$

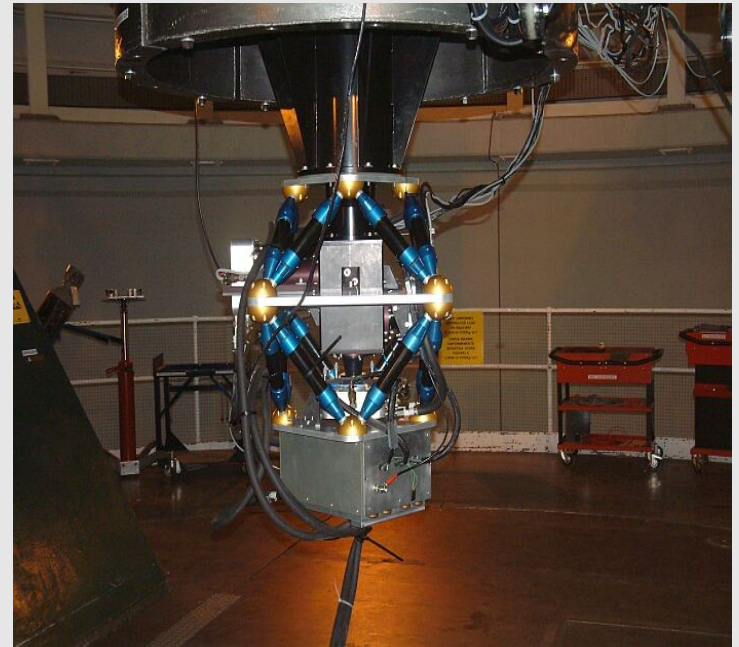
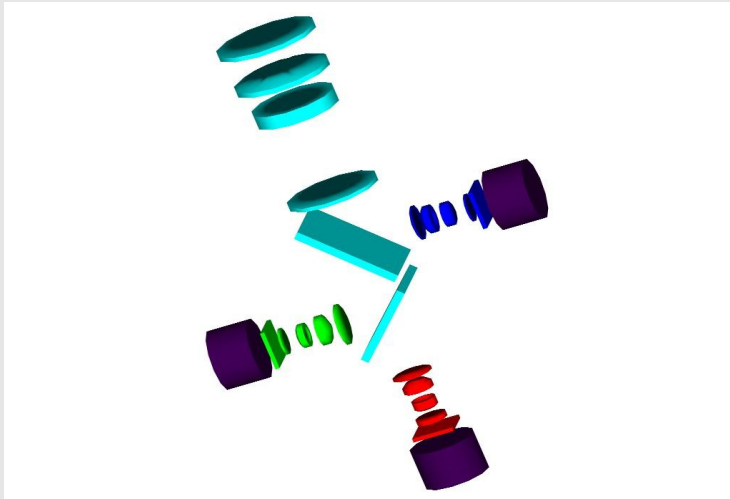
- High frequency break
→ Accretion disk truncates at $\sim 10R_{WD}$
- Lowest frequency Lorentzian
→ Outer disk edge is beyond L1 point

$$\nu_{visc}(r) = \alpha(H/R)^2 \nu_{dyn}(r),$$

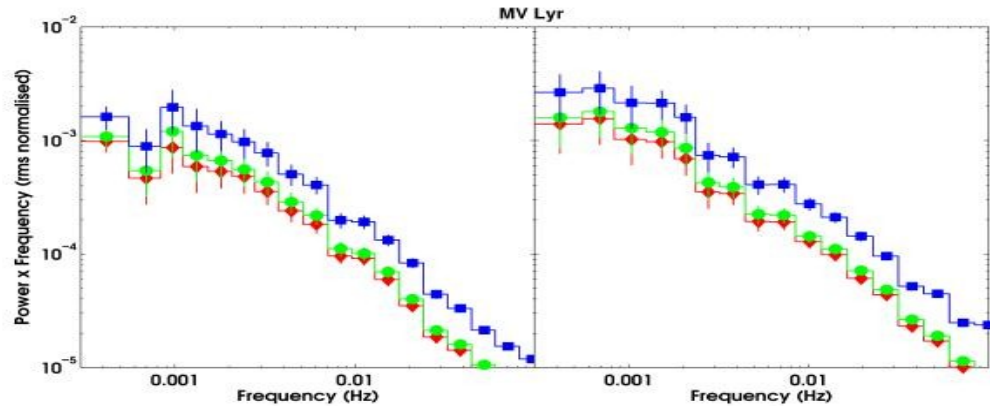
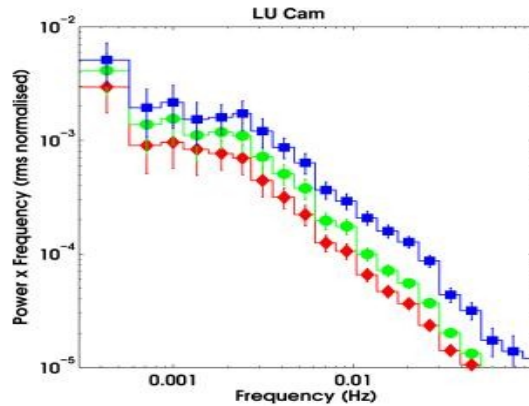
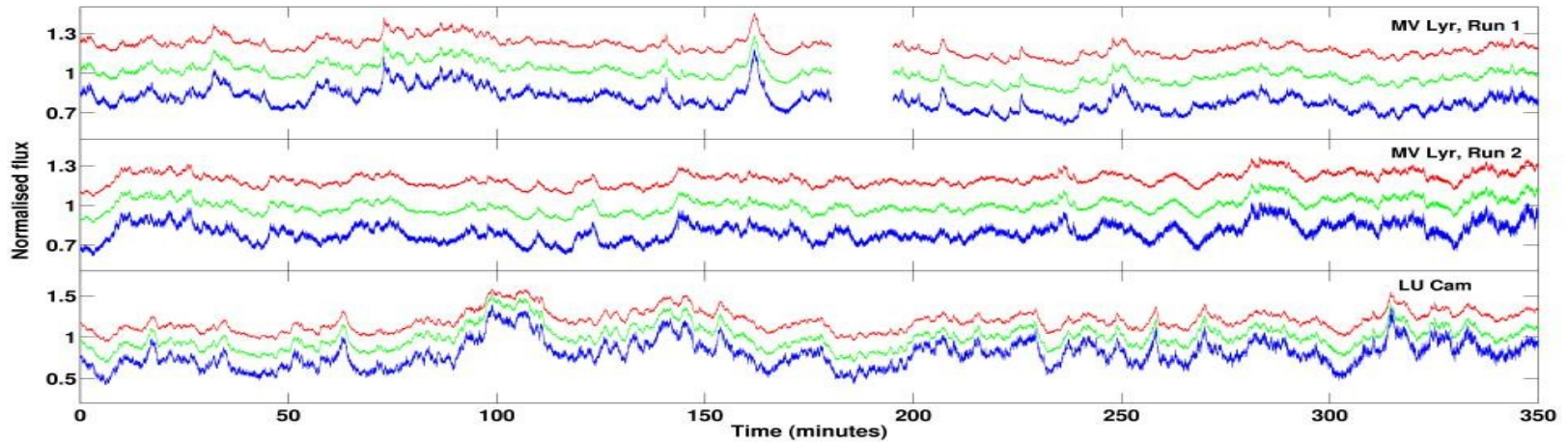
- Both high and low frequency components
→ Large $\alpha > 0.1$
→ Large $H/R > 0.3$

Coherence and Fourier time lags in MV Lyr and LU Cam

- ULTRACAM observations on the 4.2 m WHT with simultaneous u' , g' , r'
- MV Lyr \rightarrow 12h, ~ 0.8 s cadence
- LU Cam \rightarrow 6h, ~ 1.3 s cadence

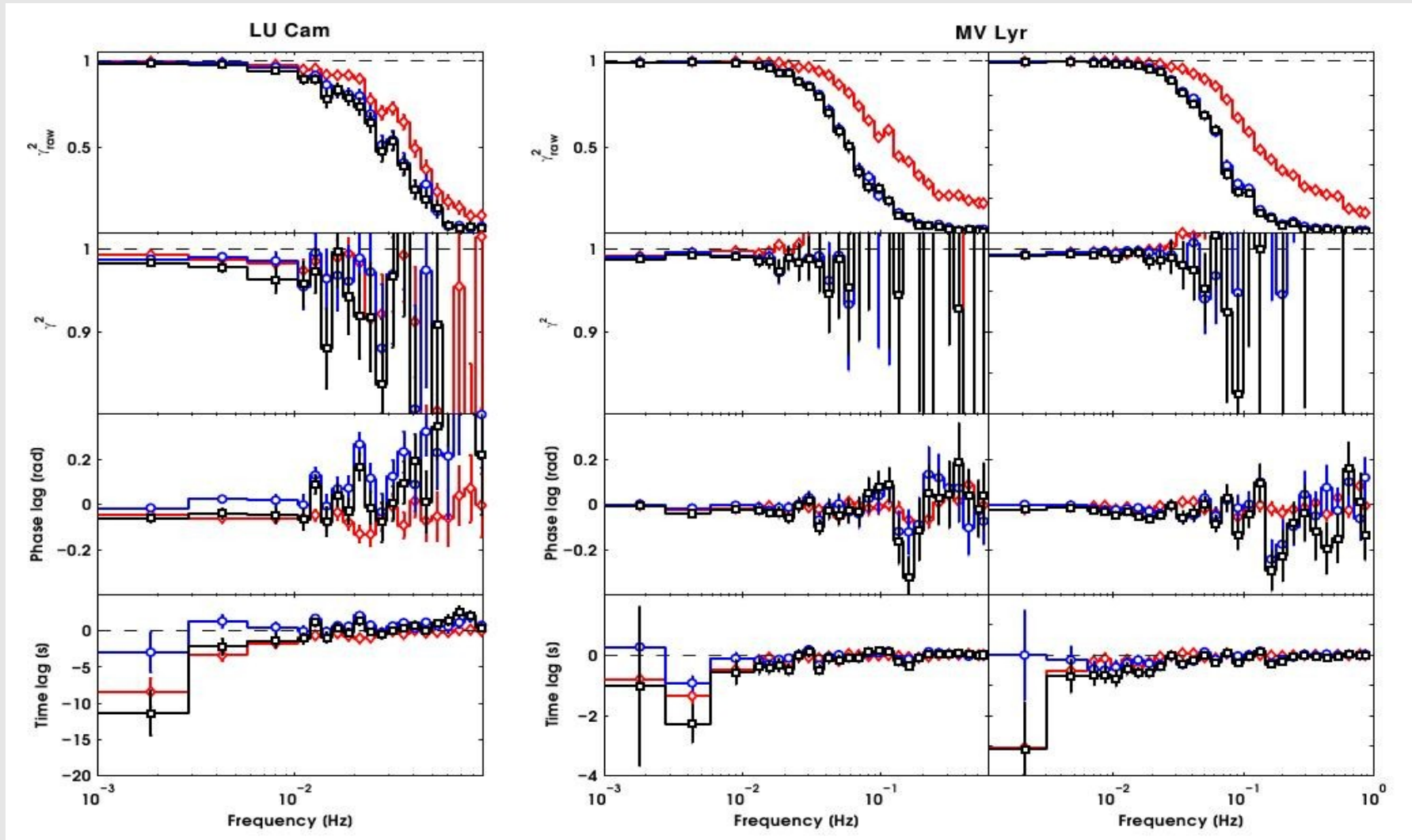


Coherence and Fourier time lags in CVs



u'
g'
r'

Coherence and Fourier time lags in CVs



$u'-r'$ $g'-r'$ $u'-g'$

(Scaringi et al. 2013)

Coherence and Fourier time lags in CVs

- Soft-lags → ~~Viscous propagation~~
- Disk reprocessing from boundary layer photons/"corona"/?

AGN - XRBs

High-energy photons photoionising disk surface layers

→ Soft-lags observed as "reflection" from different disk radii (Fabian et al. 2009, De Marco et al. 2013)

→ Lags interpreted as light-crossing time from central object to disk

CVs

UV photons heating disk surface layers

→ Disk reprocesses photons and re-emits them on the thermal timescale

→ Lags interpreted as thermal timescale at specific disk radius?

Future work...

- Look at Fourier-dependent time-lags in Dwarf Nova (SS Cyg?)
 - Will the more "standard" CVs show hard-lags?
- Broad-band variability comparison of a population of CVs to XRBs/AGN
 - Known Kepler CVs ~40, and more to be found! (maybe an XRB as well?)
- AGNs with Kepler! (~400 in the FOV)
- Making sense of all of it!

SPECTRAL/TIMING PROPERTIES OF ACCRETING OBJECTS: FROM ~~X-RAY BINARIES~~ TO AGN CVs

ESA/ESAC, MADRID, SPAIN, APRIL 3-5, 2013

[HTTP://WWW.SCIOPS.ESA.INT/INDEX.PHP?PROJECT=CONF2013&PAGE=ACCRETION2013](http://www.sciops.esa.int/index.php?project=conf2013&page=accretion2013)

TOPICS

- ACCRETION MODES AT DIFFERENT SCALES
- STATES AND STATE TRANSITIONS
- INFLOW/OUTFLOW CONNECTIONS
- ACCRETION/EJECTION MECHANISMS
- UNIFICATION SCHEMES



Thanks!

Kepler-INT Survey (KIS) (U, g, r, i, Ha)

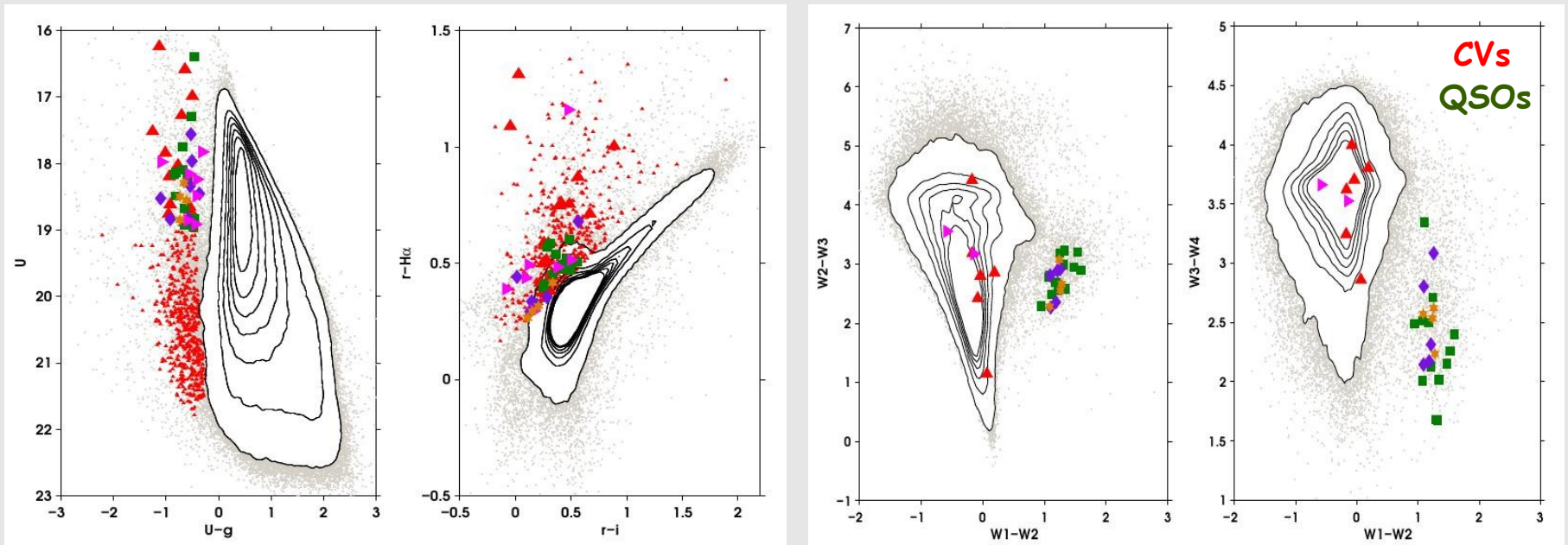
Blue excess
sources

+

H-alpha excess
sources

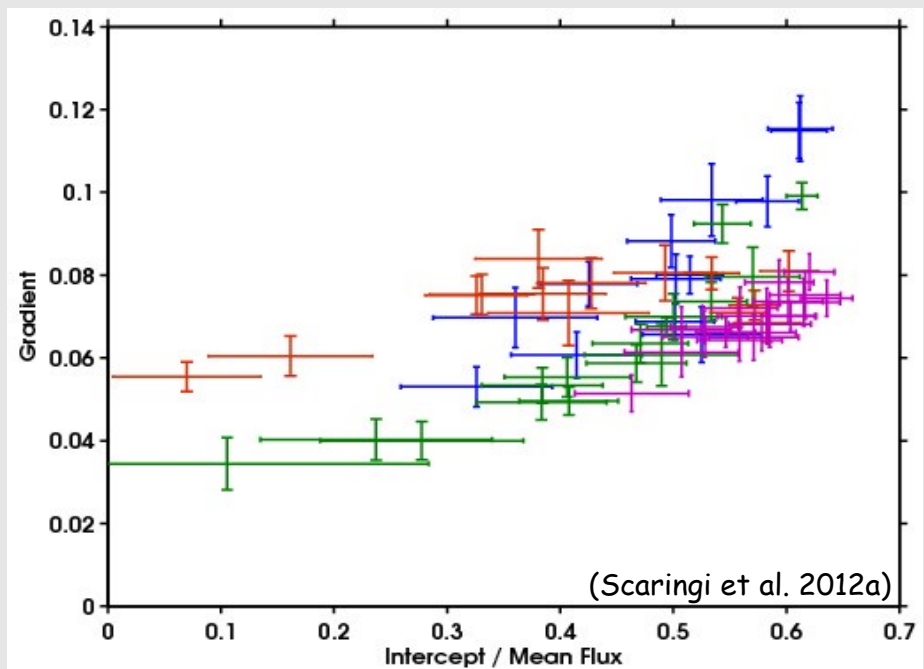
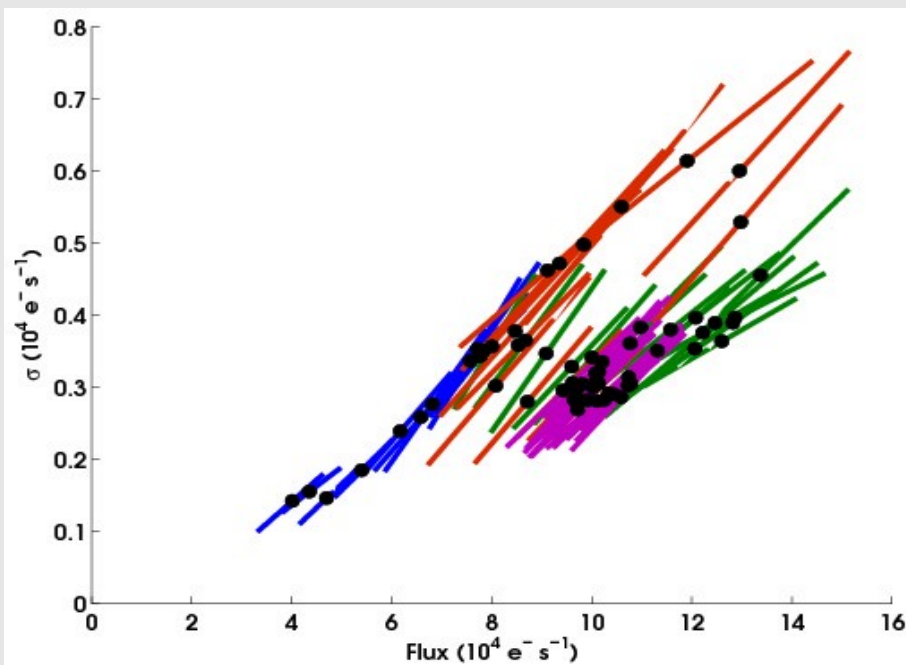
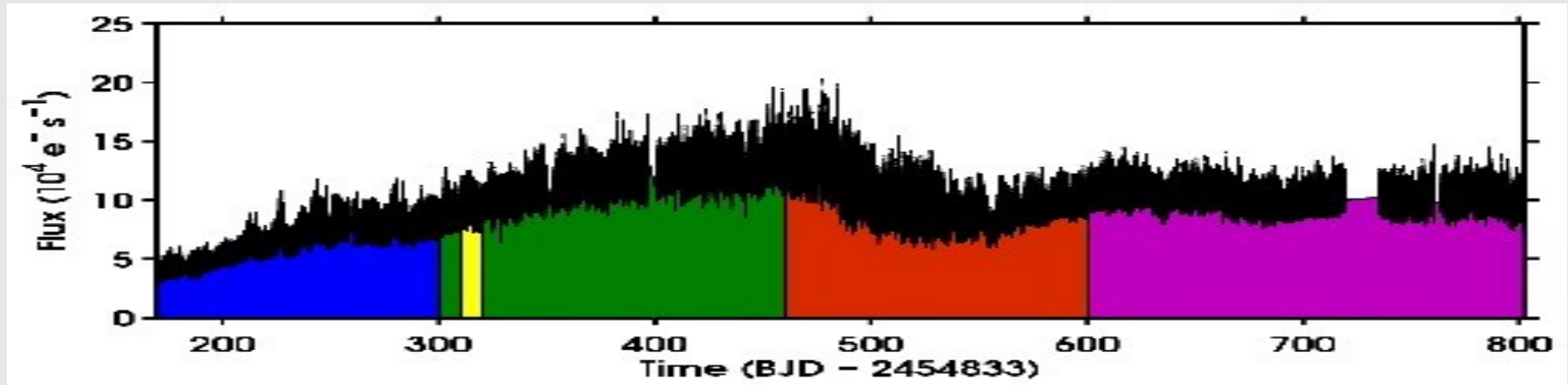
+

WISE colours

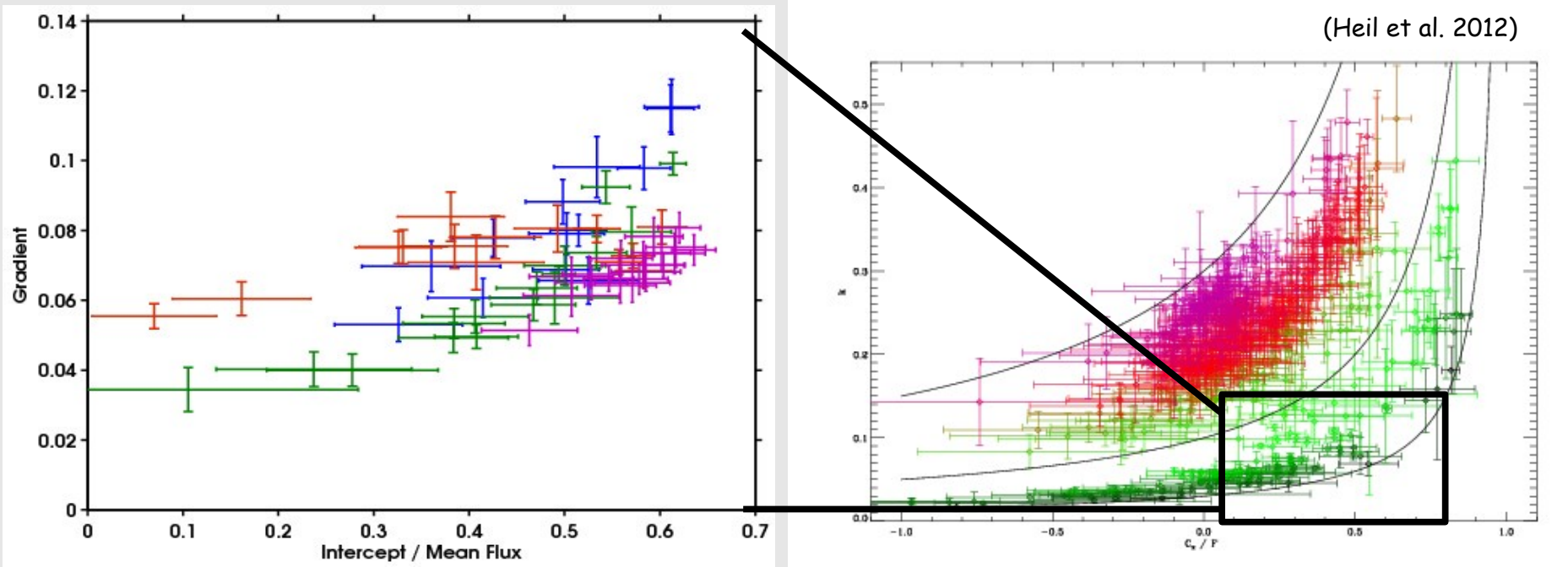


(Scaringi et al. 2012c)

MV Lyrae



MV Lyrae vs. Black holes



- The obtained rms-flux relations are remarkably similar between BH accretors (X-rays) and WD accretors (optical)

MV Lyrae

AAVSO DATA FOR MV LYR - WWW.AAVSO.ORG

