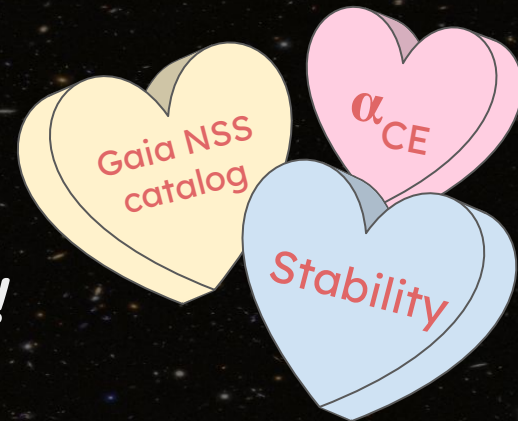
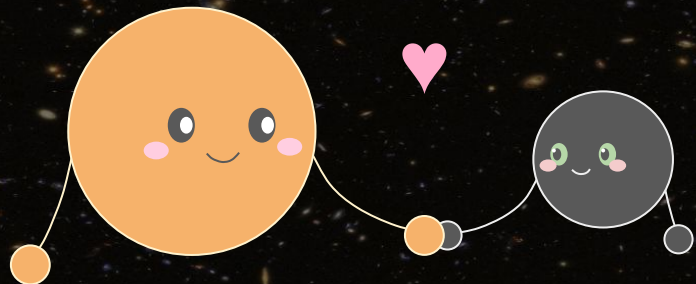


# WD + MS binaries as probes of binary interactions

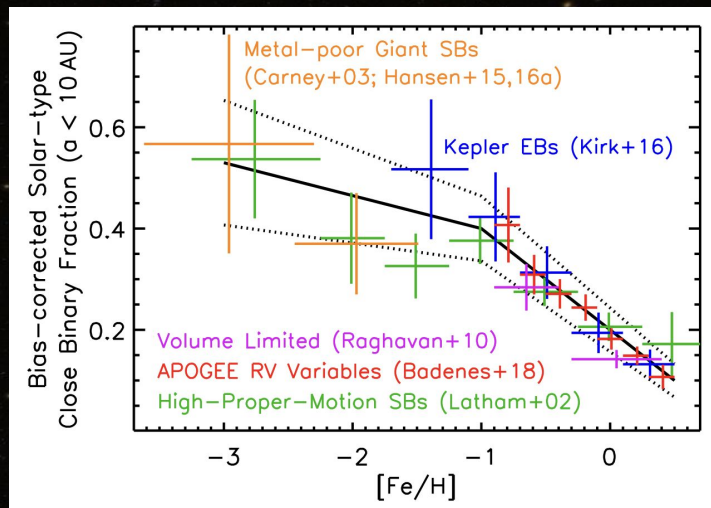
Natsuko Yamaguchi  
(G3, Astrophysics)

*Happy Valentine's Day!*



# Binary interactions are ubiquitous.

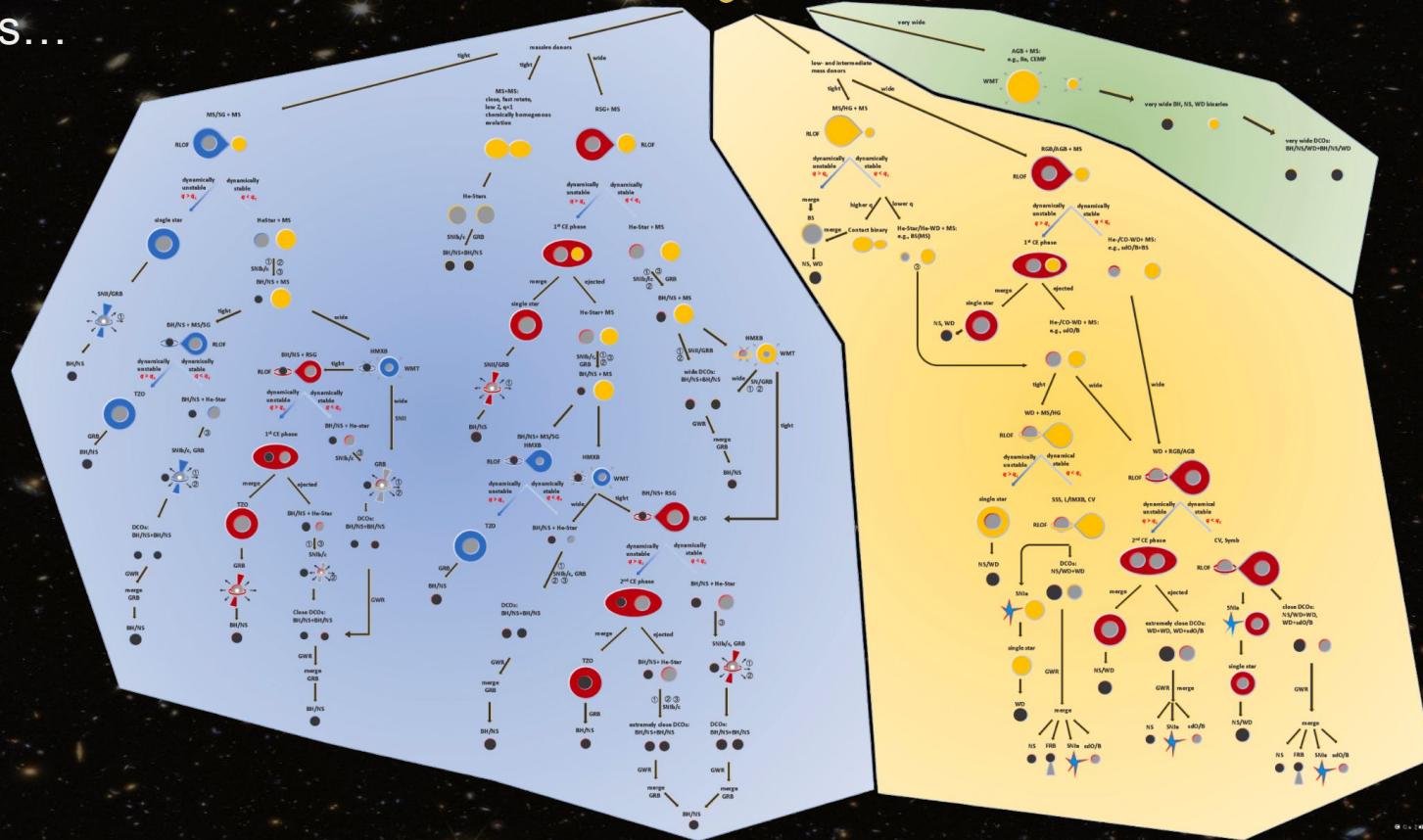
- Many stars will interact with a companion in their lifetime
- These interactions are critical to the formation of many important and exotic astrophysical phenomena
- But these processes can get complicated



Moe et al. (2019)



# Many possible pathways...

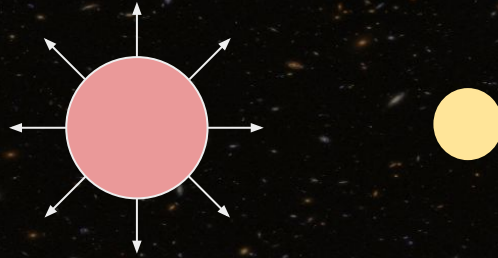


Han et al. (2020)

# There are many types of binary mass transfer.

## 1. Wind accretion

- Wide separations, giants

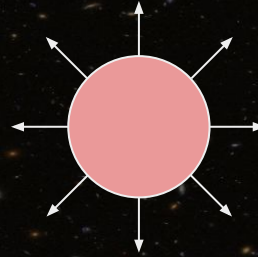




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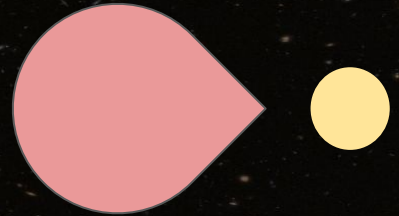
## 1. Wind accretion

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## 2. Roche Lobe Overflow (RLOF)

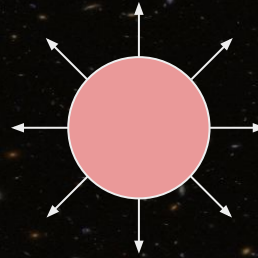
- Conservative vs. Non-conservative MT



# There are many types of binary mass transfer.

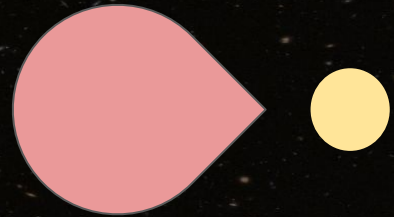
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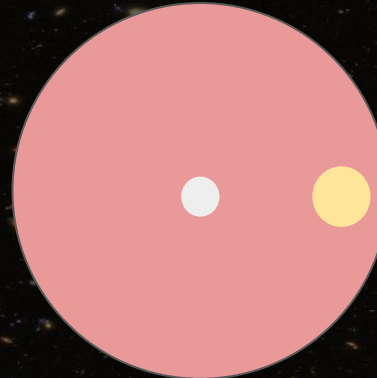
## 2. Roche Lobe Overflow (RLOF)

- Conservative vs. Non-conservative MT



## 3. Common Envelope Evolution (CEE)

- Unstable MT
- Can end in stellar merger or form post-common envelope binary (PCEB)





# Unresolved questions remain regarding these processes.

## Common Envelope Evolution (Paczynski 1976; Ivanova 2013)

- How much does the orbit shrink? (Livio and Soker 1988; Zorotovic et al. 2010; Davis et al. 2011; Zorotovic and Schreiber 2022; Scherbak and Fuller 2024)

$$E_{\text{bind}} = \alpha \Delta E_{\text{orbital}}$$

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$$E_{\text{grav}} + E_{\text{int}} + E_{\text{rec}} + E_{\text{jet}} + \dots? = E_{\text{bind}} = \alpha \Delta E_{\text{orbital}}$$

- What physics do we need to consider?
  - Recombination energy? (Lucy 1967; Paczyński and Ziółkowski 1968; Sabach 2017; Ivanova et al. 2015; Ivanova 2018; Grichener et al. 2018)
  - Jets from accretor? (Armitage and Livio 2000; Soker 2004, 2014; Moreno-Mendez 2017; Sabach 2017)



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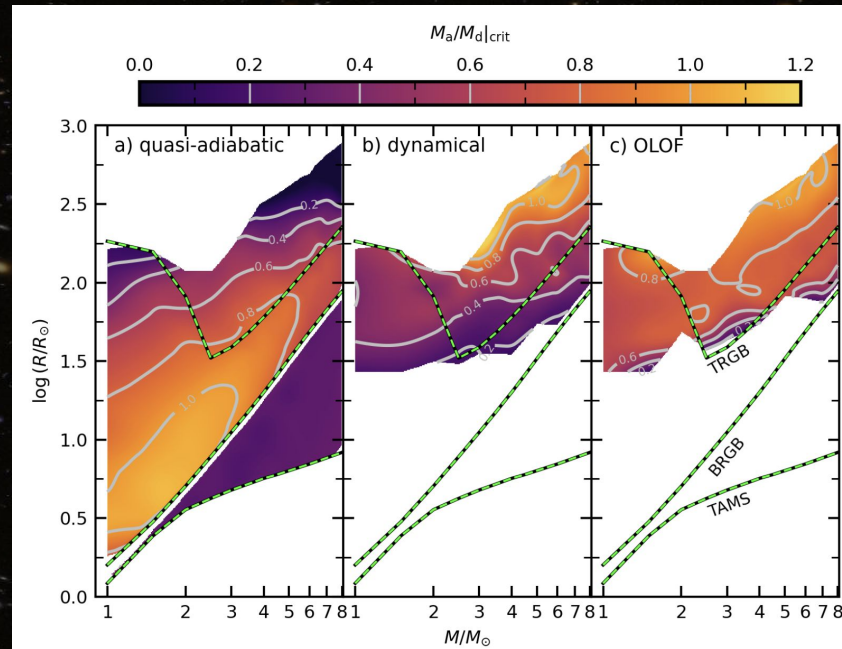
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  - Jets from accretor? (Armitage and Livio 2000; Soker 2004, 2014; Moreno-Mendez 2017; Sabach 2017)
- Does the orbit circularize completely? (Glanz and Perez 2021, Trani et al. 2022, Sand et al. 2020, Bronner et al. 2024)

# Unresolved questions remain regarding these processes.

## Stable mass transfer

- What is the stability boundary? (i.e. the critical mass ratio; Paczynski 1965; Webbink 1985; Hjellming and Webbink 1987; Passy et al. 2012; Pavlovskii and Ivanova 2015; Ge et al. 2015, 2020; Temmink et al. 2022)



Temmink et al. (2022)



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- How much mass is accreted onto the companion vs. lost from the system? (i.e.  $\beta$  parameter; Paczyński and Ziółkowski 1967; Sarna 1993; Langer 2003; Tauris and van den Heuvel 2006; de Mink et al. 2007)

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- How do we deal with eccentric RLO? (Hadjidemetriou 1969; Sepinsky et al. 2007; Hamers and Dosopoulou 2019; Kyle et al. 2024)



# My approach: WD + MS binaries

Close ( $P_{\text{orb}} \lesssim 10^3$  days) WD + MS binaries

→ interacted prior to the formation of the WD

→ post-MT binaries

**Goal:** Use their properties to constrain MT models



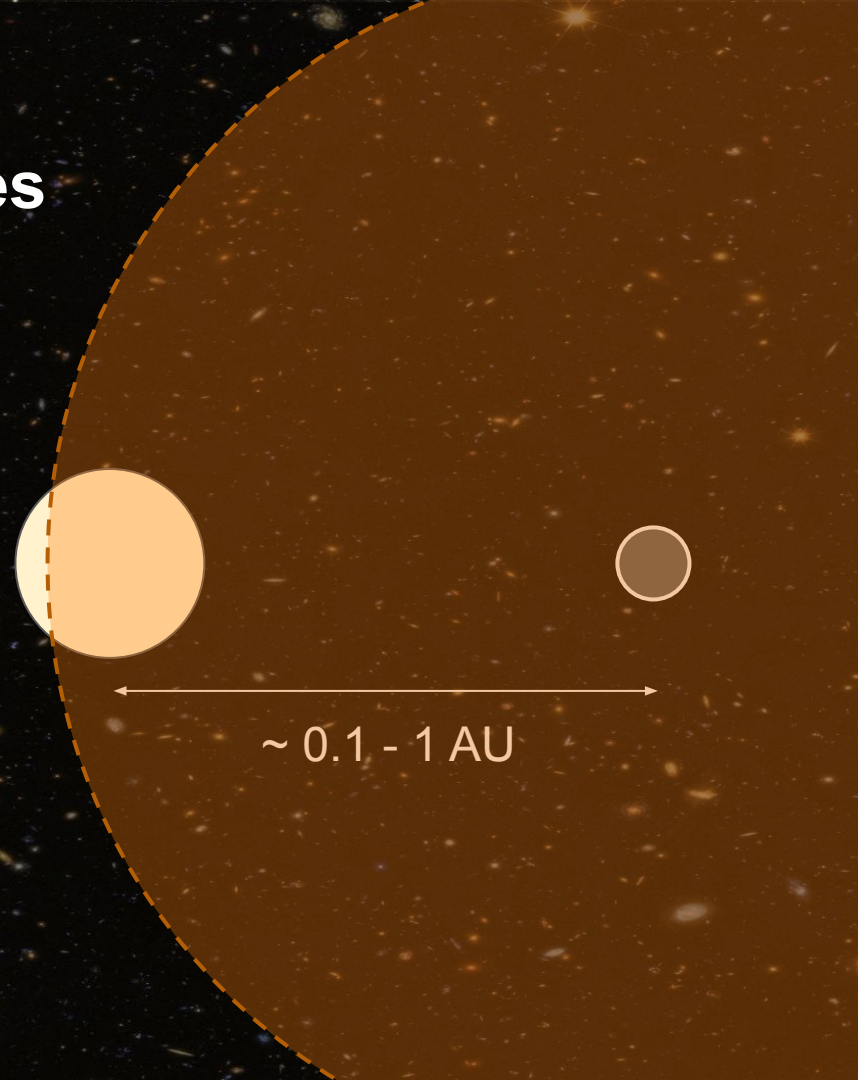
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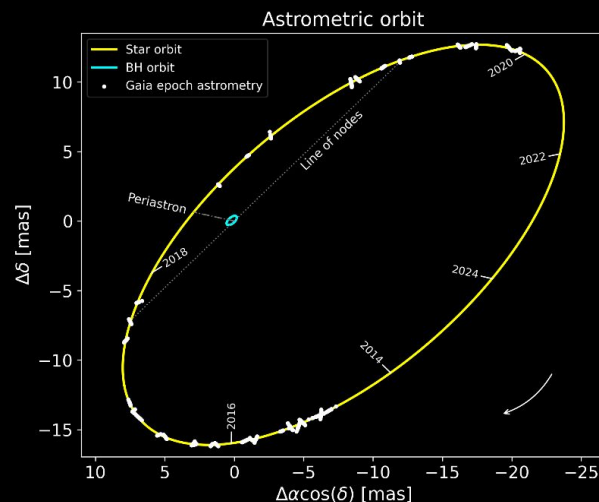
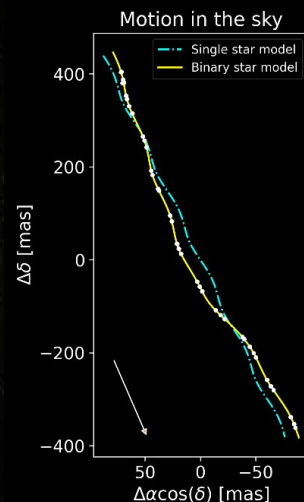
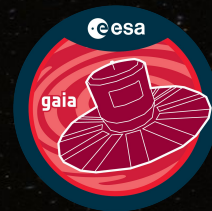
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# Gaia DR3 Non-Single Stars (NSS) catalog: a treasure box of binaries

> 160,000 astrometric orbital solutions

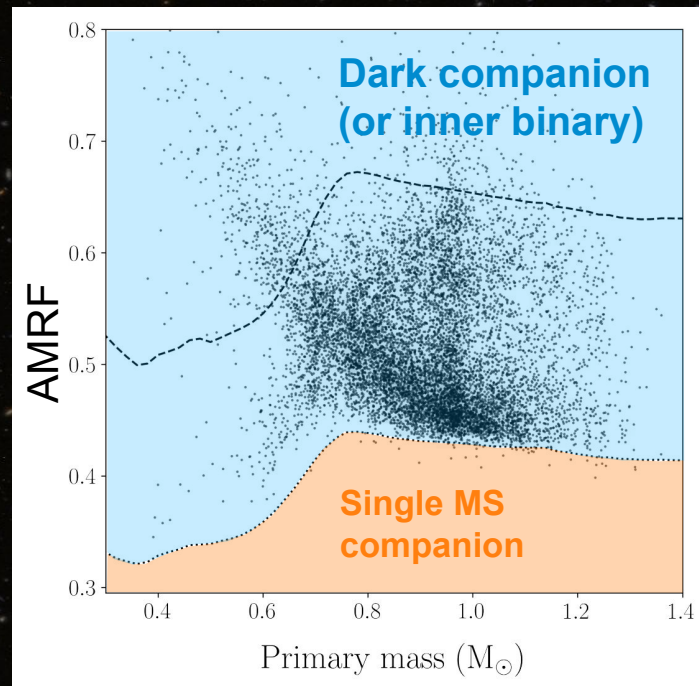


Gaia Collaboration, P. Panuzzo, et al. (2024)

# Gaia DR3 Non-Single Stars (NSS) catalog: a treasure box of binaries

> 160,000 astrometric orbital solutions

+ Astrometric Mass Ratio Function (AMRF; Shahaf et al. 2019, 2024)



Shahaf et al. (2024)



# A little tangent about the “triage” technique... (Shahaf et al. 2019, 2022, 2024)

Astrometric mass  
ratio function:

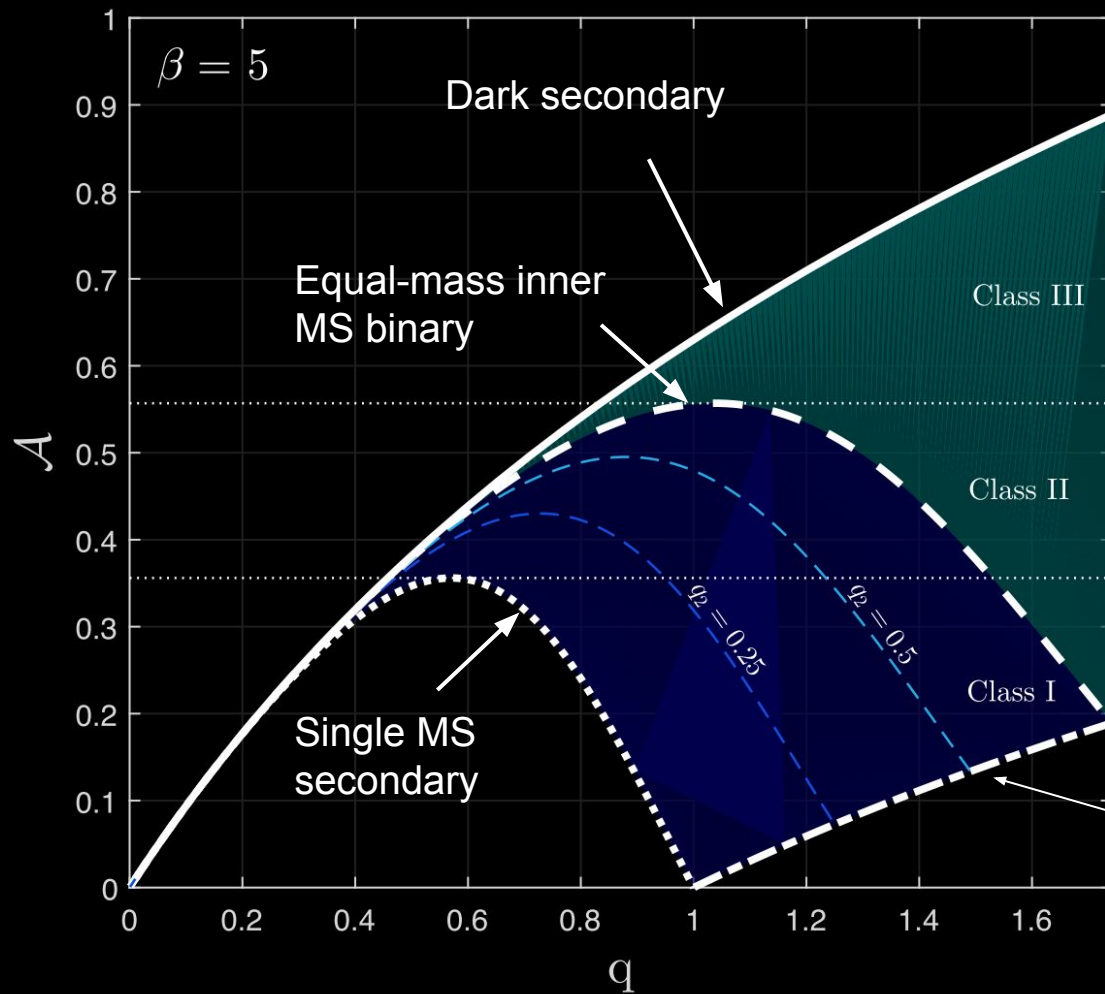
$$\mathcal{A} = \frac{\alpha}{\varpi} \left( \frac{M_1}{M_\odot} \right)^{-1/3} \left( \frac{P}{\text{yr}} \right)^{-2/3}$$

$$= \frac{q}{(1+q)^{2/3}} \left( 1 - \frac{\mathcal{S}(1+q)}{q(1+\mathcal{S})} \right)$$

Consider three possible types of secondaries:

(1) Dark compact object:  $\mathcal{S} = 0$

(2) Single MS star or (3) Inner MS binary  $\rightarrow$  need MLR,  $I \propto M^\beta$ , to get  $\mathcal{S}(q)$





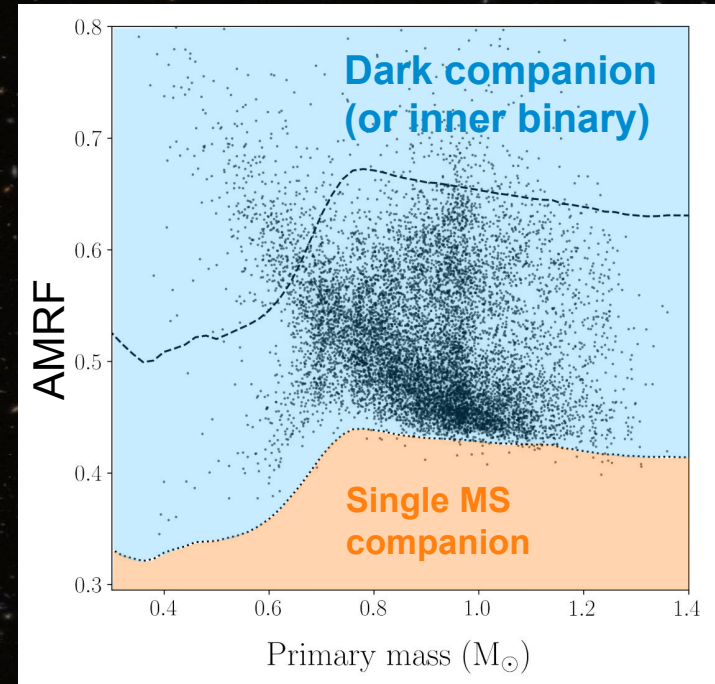
# Gaia DR3 Non-Single Stars (NSS) catalog: a treasure box of binaries

> 160,000 astrometric orbital solutions

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⇒ > 3000 WD + MS binary candidates!

Probing a unique region of parameter space



Shahaf et al. (2024)

# Gaia DR3 Non-Single Stars (NSS) catalog: a treasure box of binaries

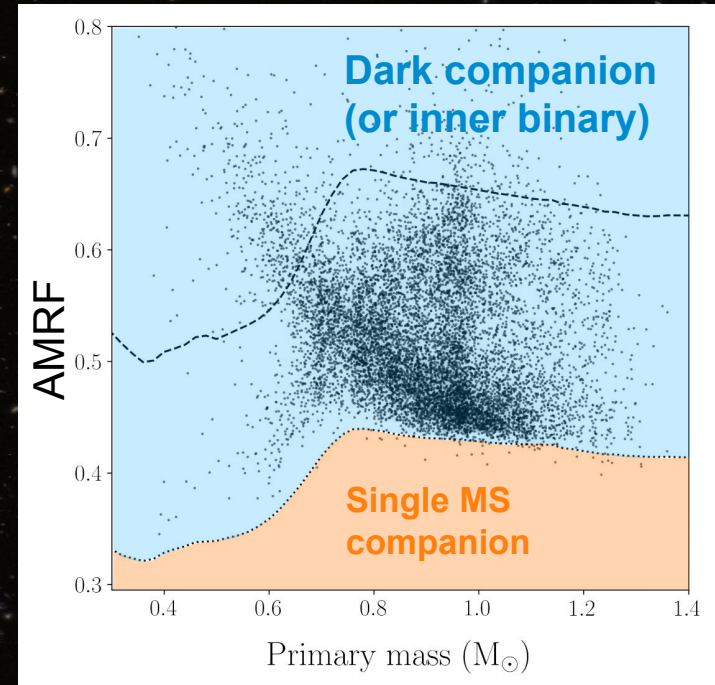
> 160,000 astrometric orbital solutions

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⇒ **> 3000 WD + MS binary candidates!**

Probing a unique region of parameter space

Also, > 180,000 SB1/SB2 solutions

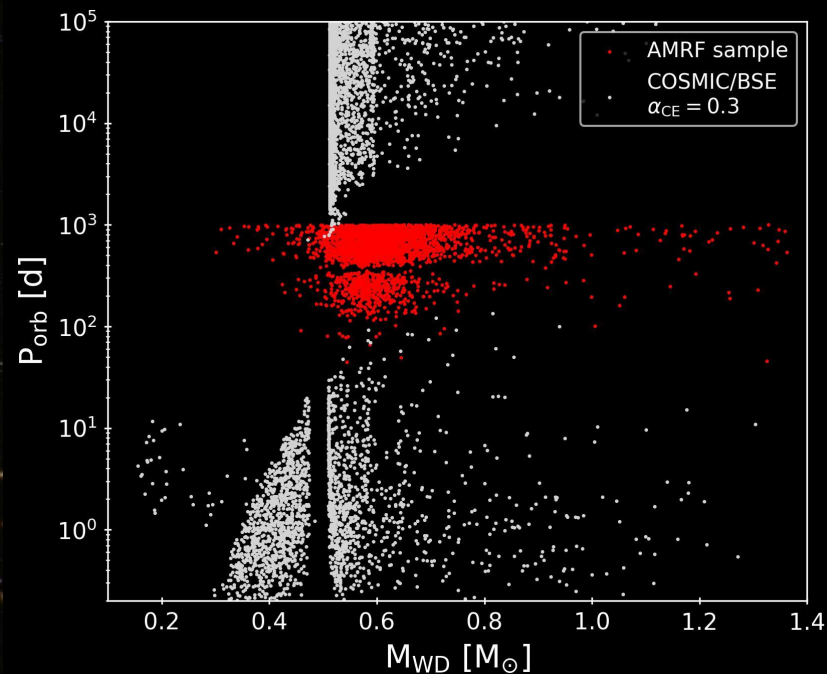


Shahaf et al. (2024)



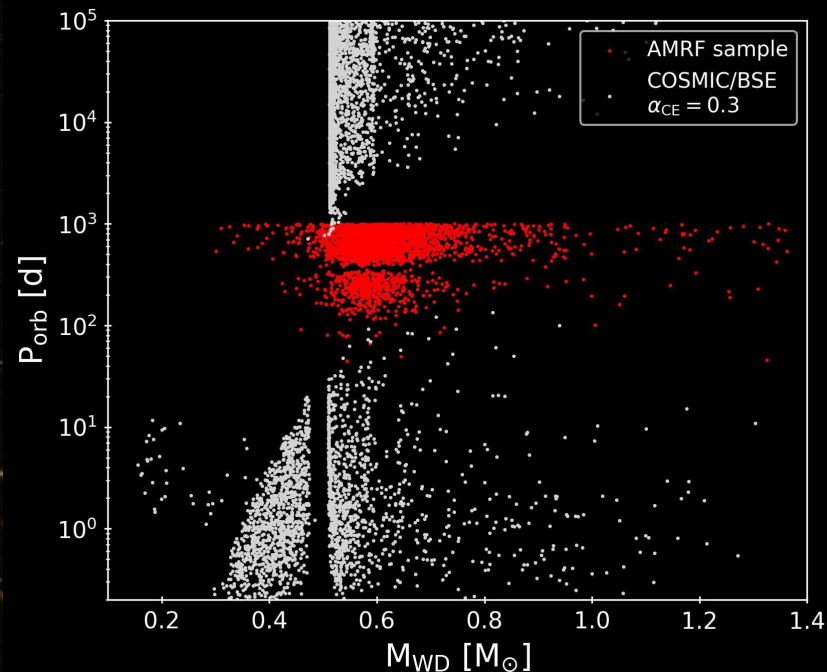
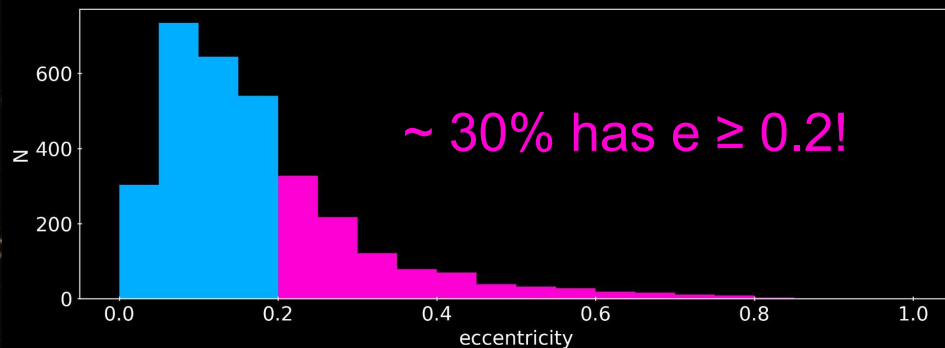
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- Lots of systems with  $P_{\text{orb}} \sim 100 - 1000$  d
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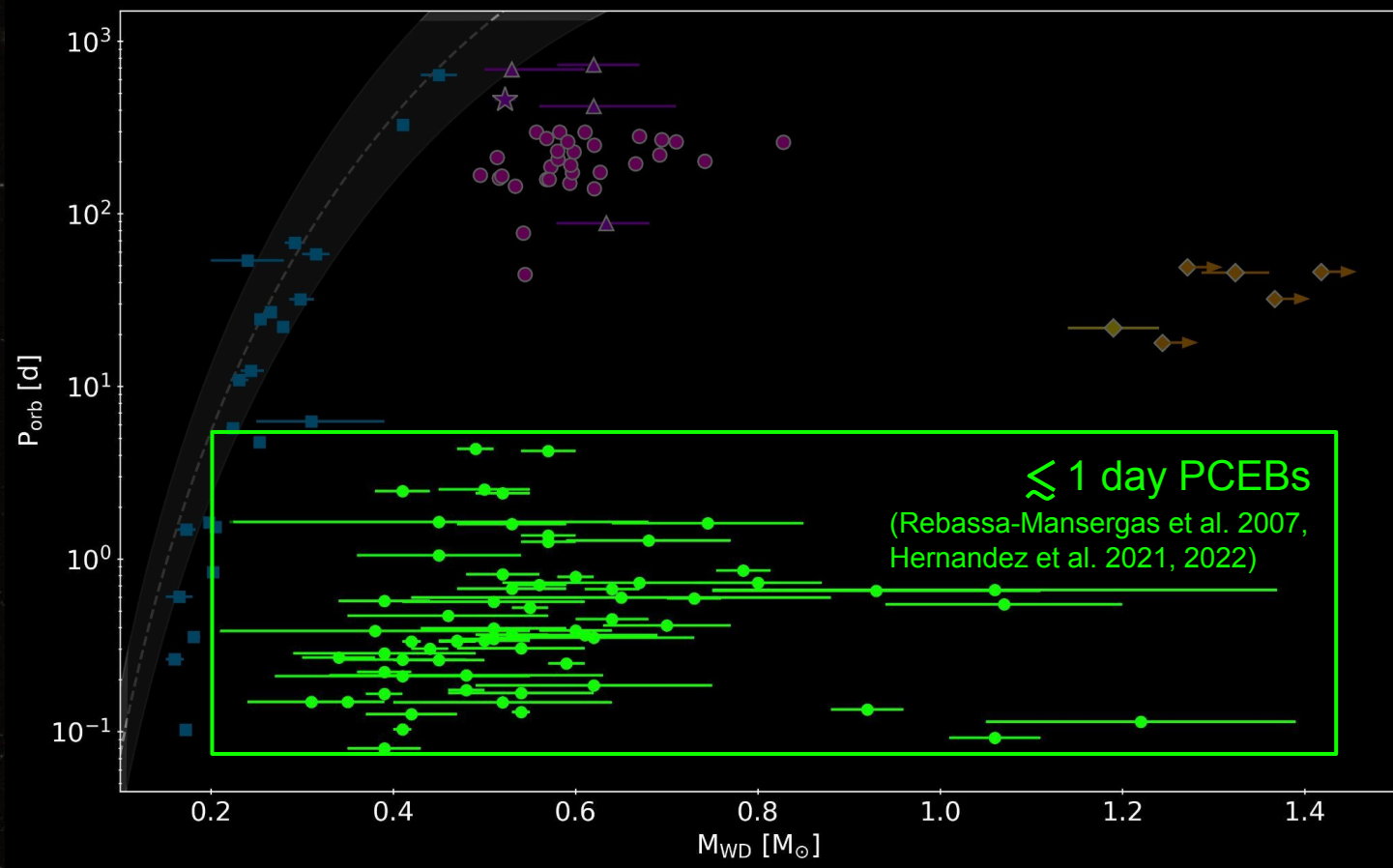


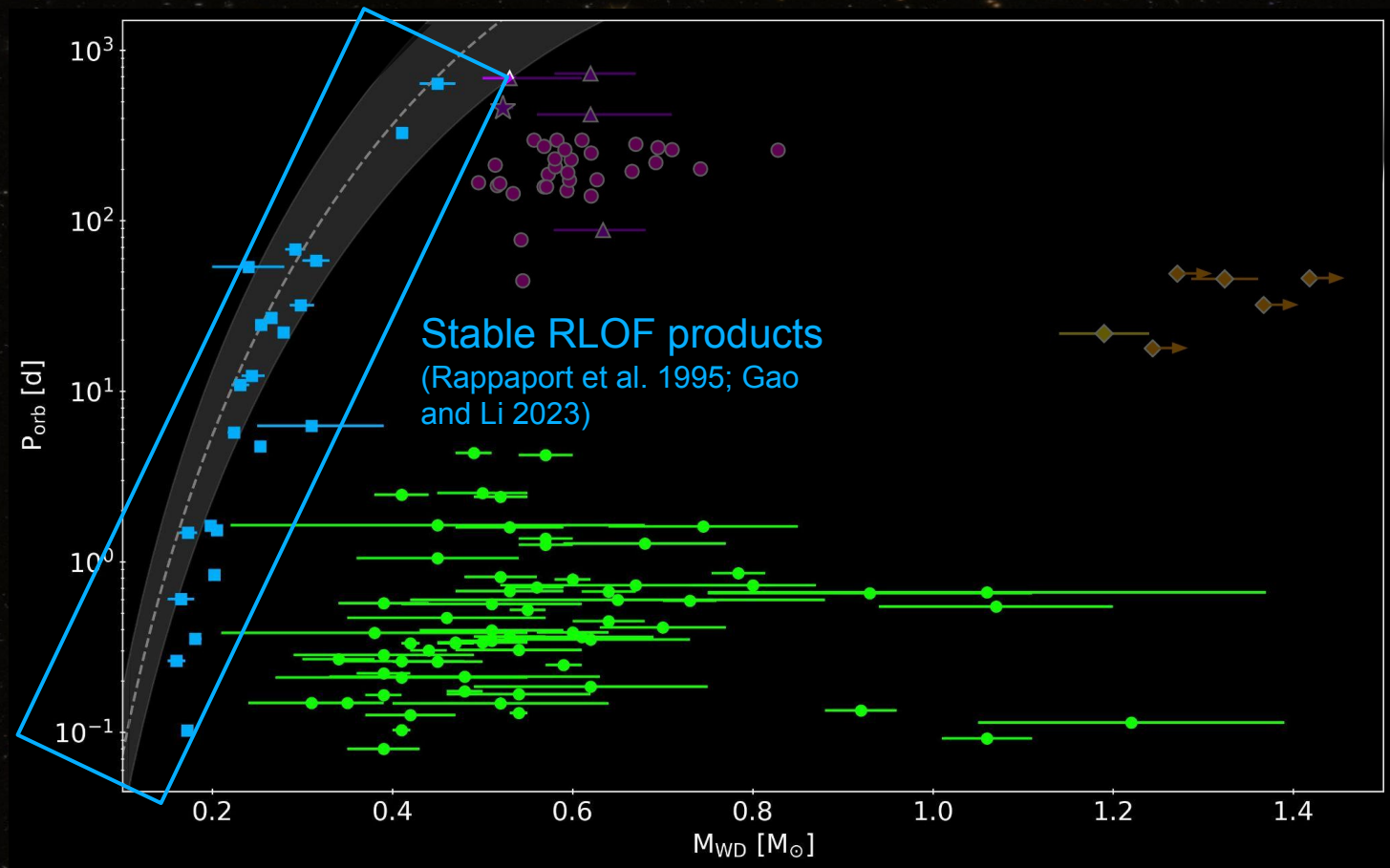
# Gaia DR3 WD + MS binaries weren't as expected.

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  - PCEB? Post - stable RLOF?
- Many eccentric systems!
  - Inefficient tidal circularization?  
Eccentricity pumping?

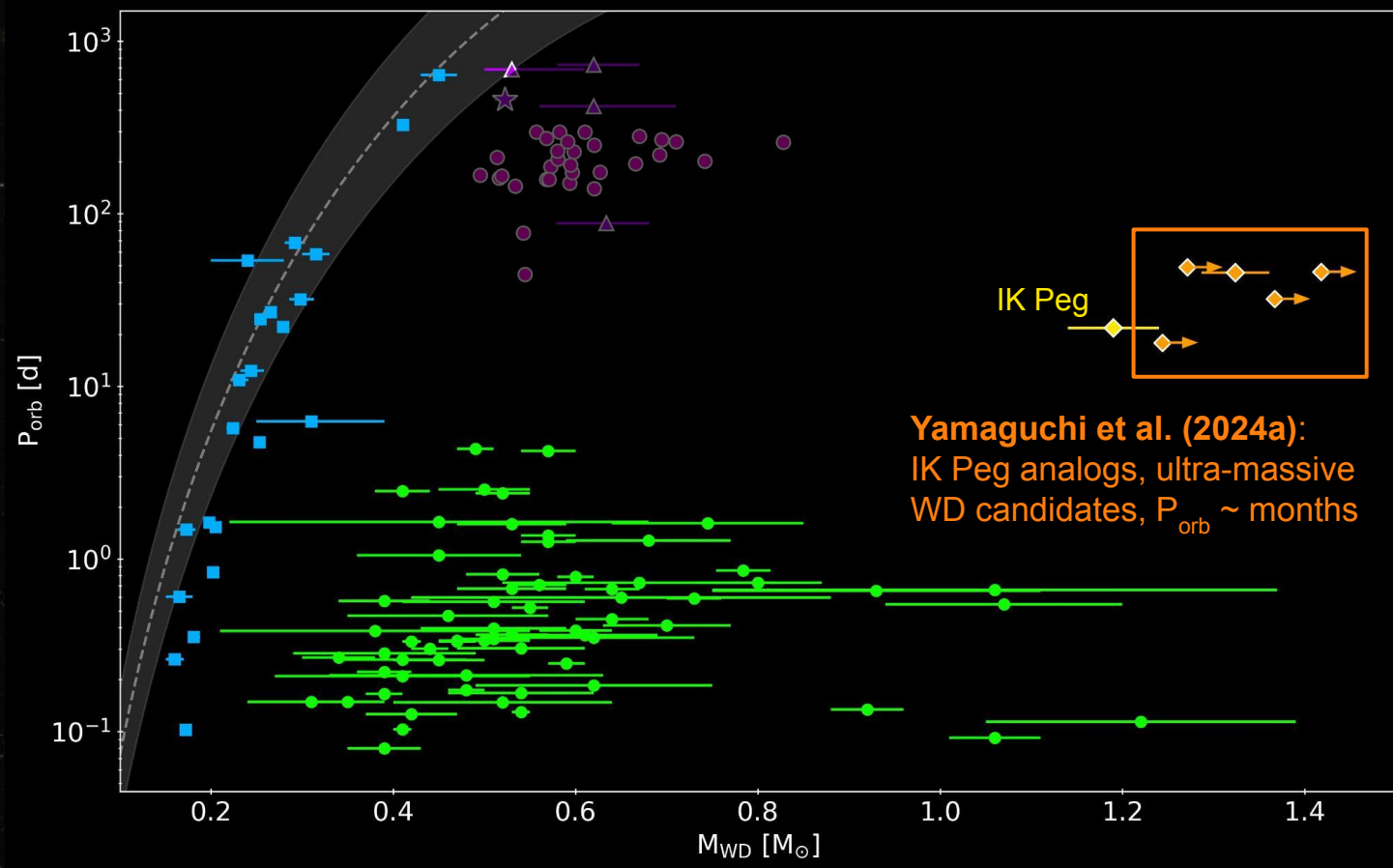


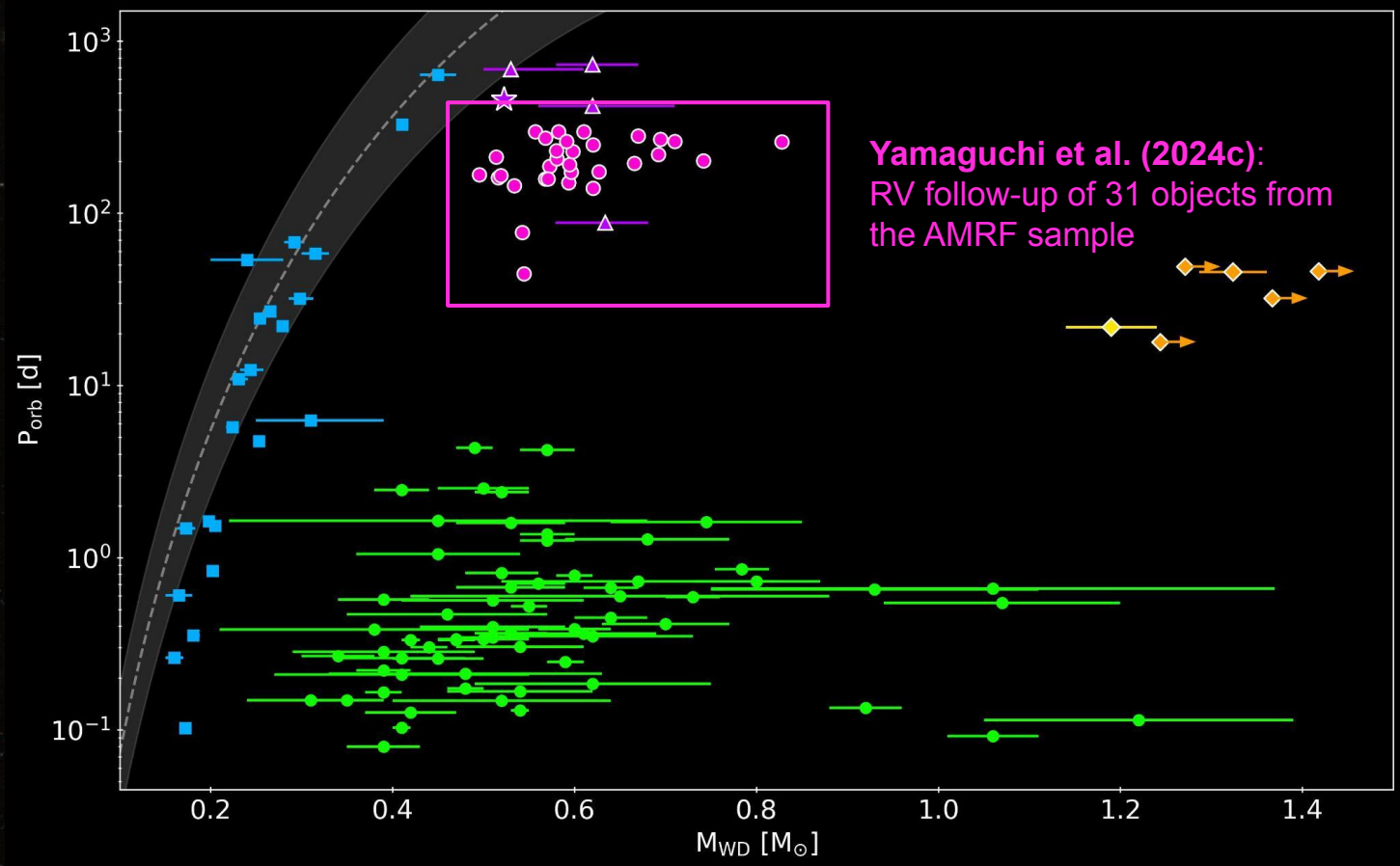




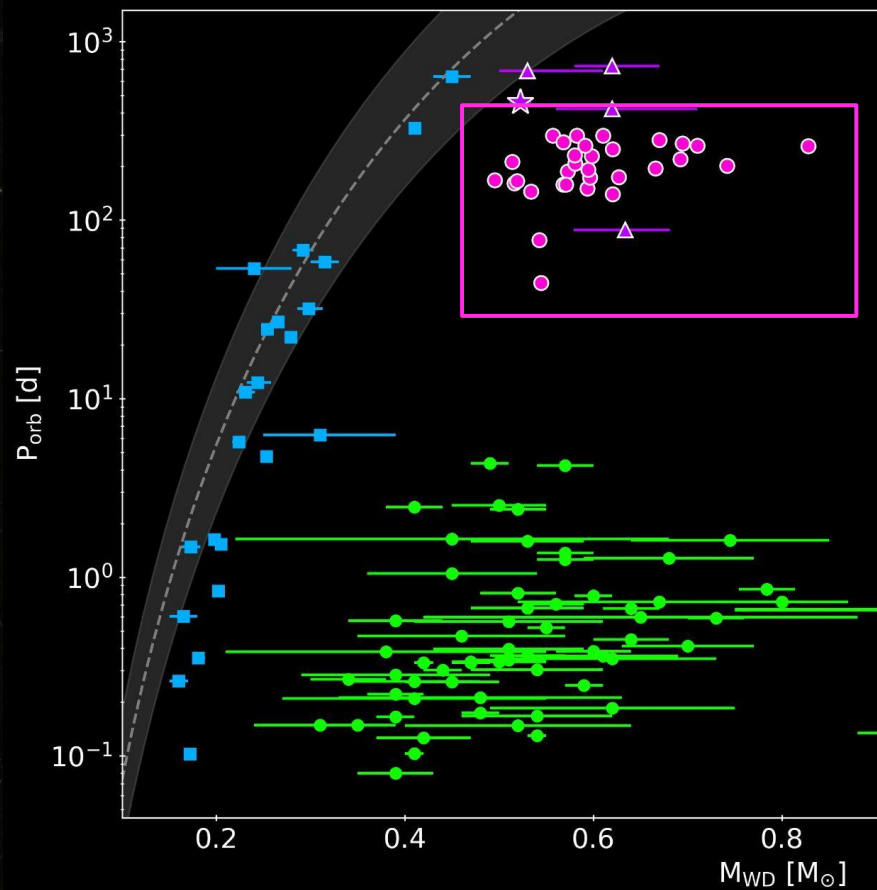




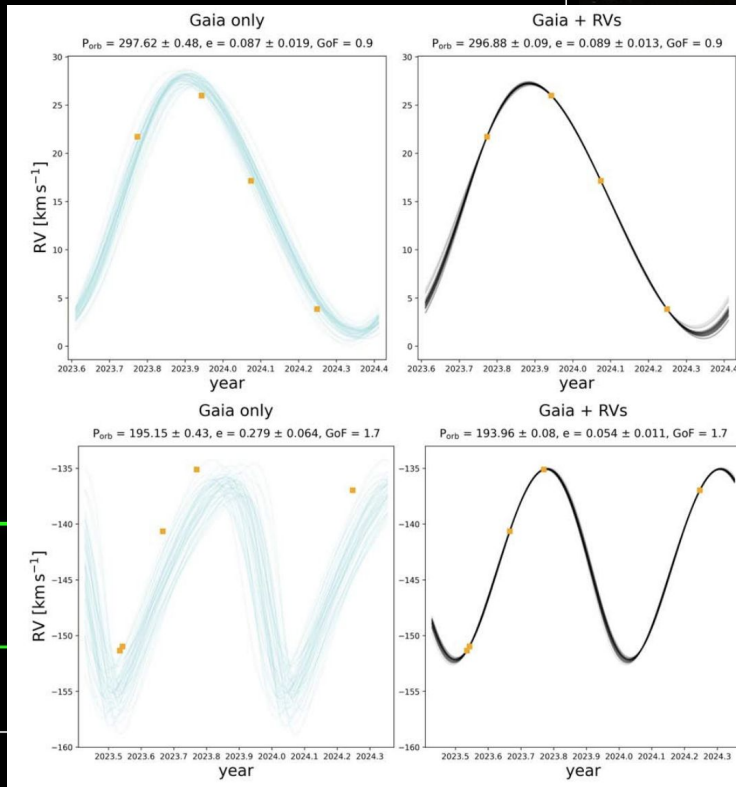


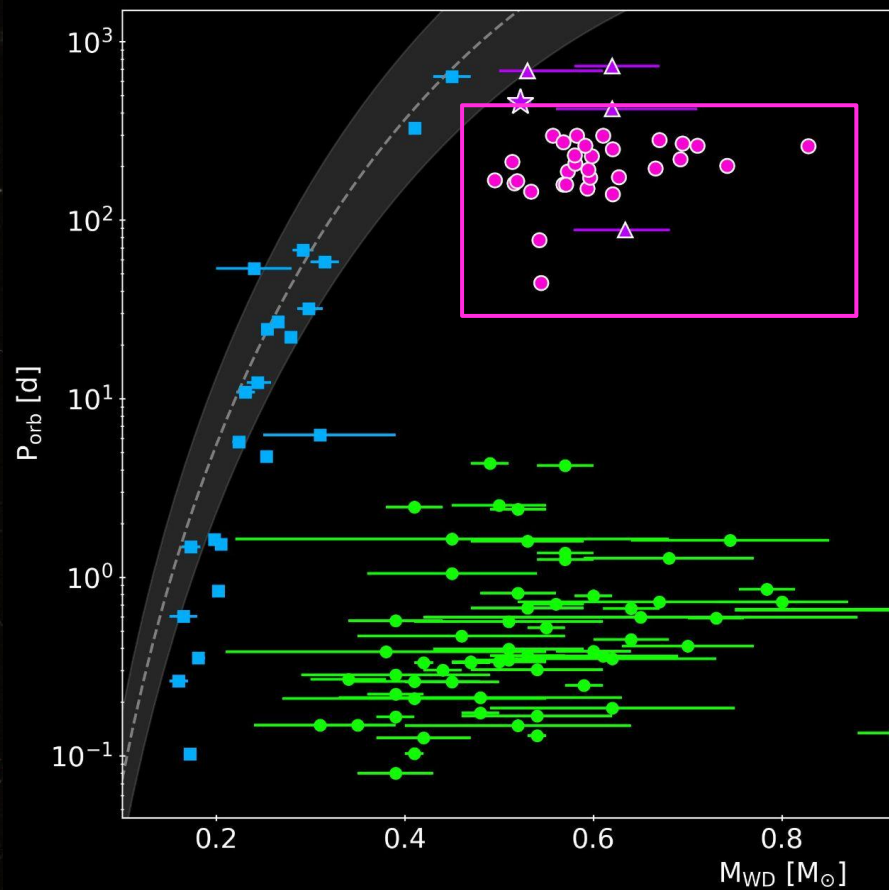




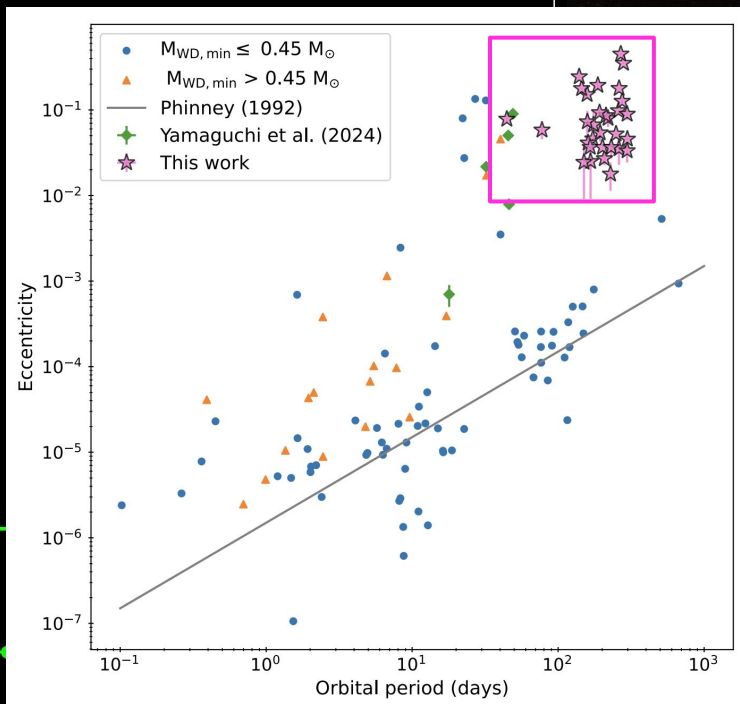


Yamaguchi et al. (2024c):

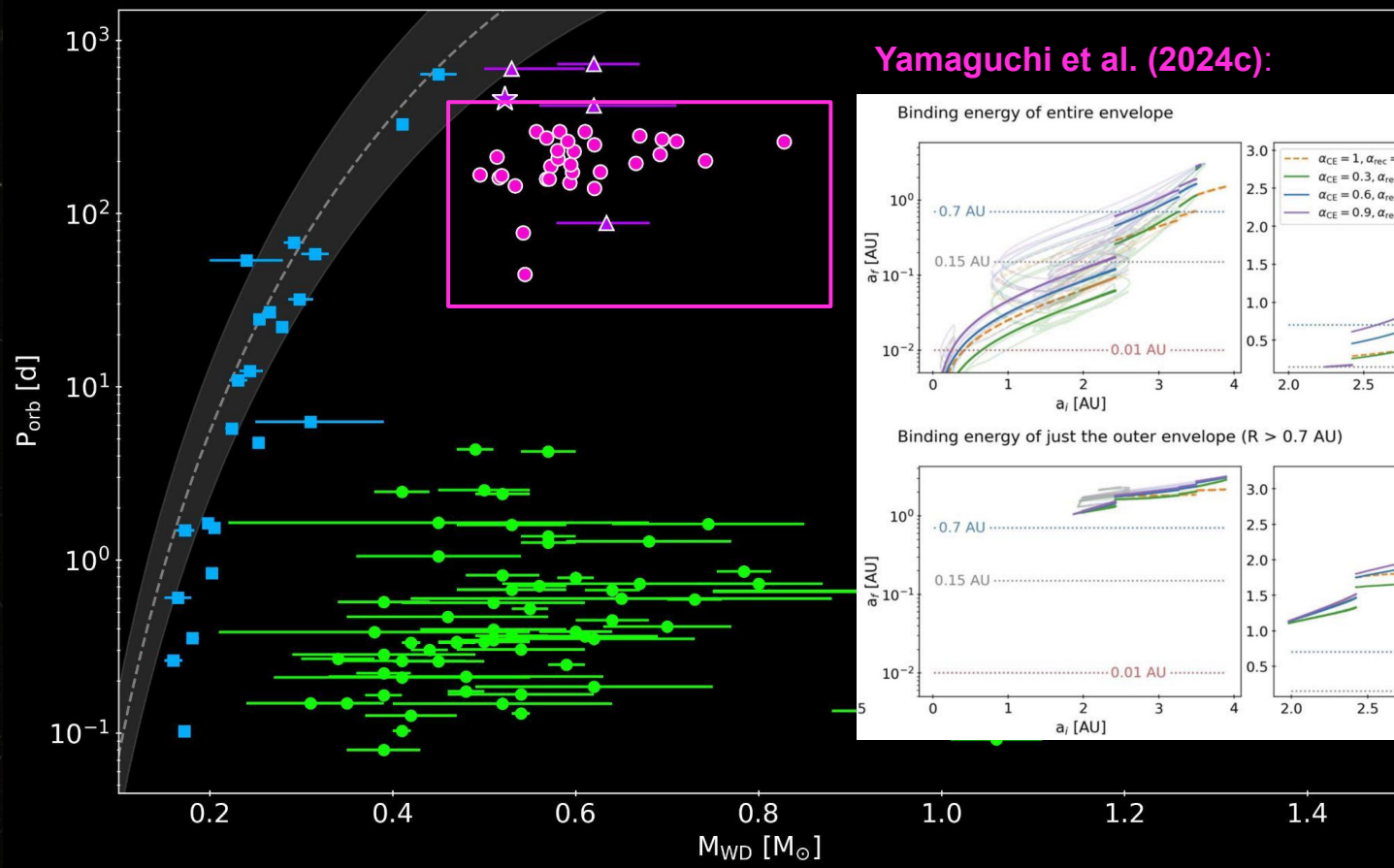




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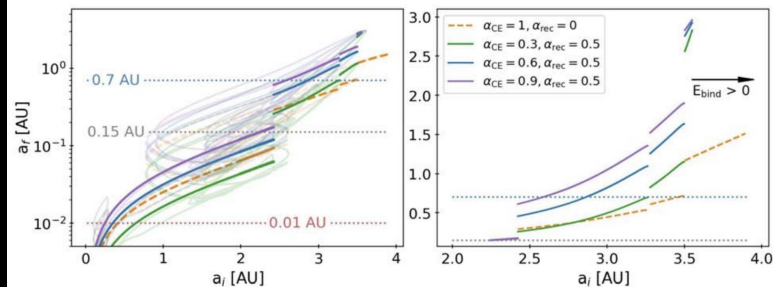




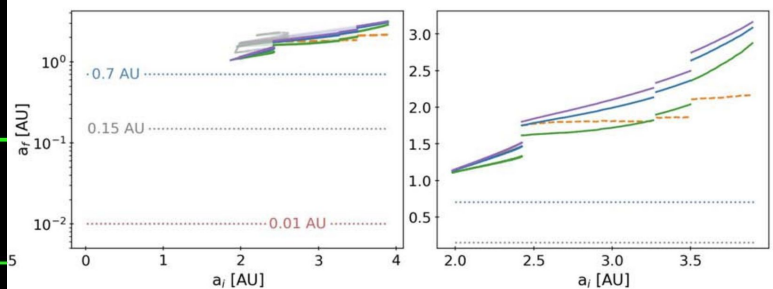


Yamaguchi et al. (2024c):

Binding energy of entire envelope



Binding energy of just the outer envelope ( $R > 0.7$  AU)



# Ongoing work: Constructing a mock AMRF Sample

Lots of interesting systems discovered from Gaia DR3 NSS astrometric binaries catalog

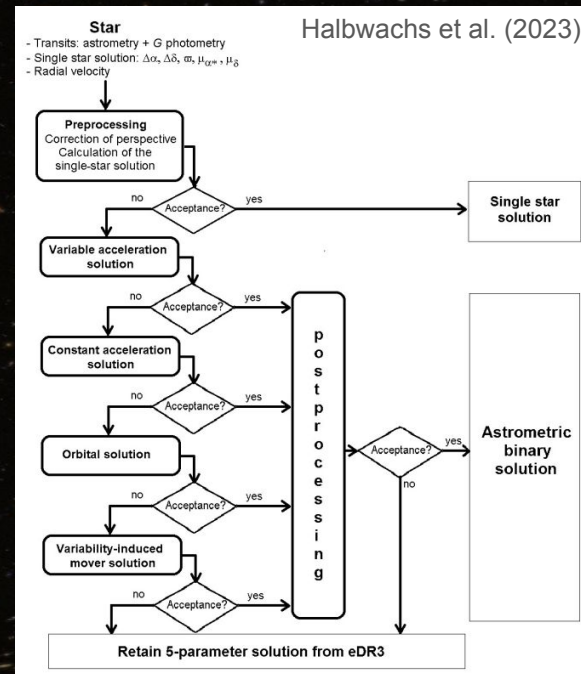
...But how can we learn about the intrinsic population from these?



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→ El-Badry et al. (2024): Forward model of the catalog

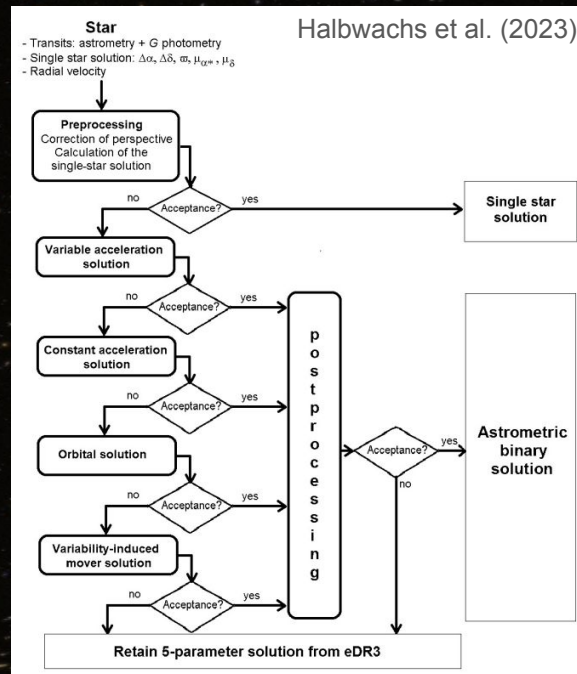
Synthetic stellar  
population  
Galaxia + COSMIC

Gaia scanning law +  
noise

Mock observations

Fit epoch astrometry,  
make cuts

Mock NSS  
Catalog



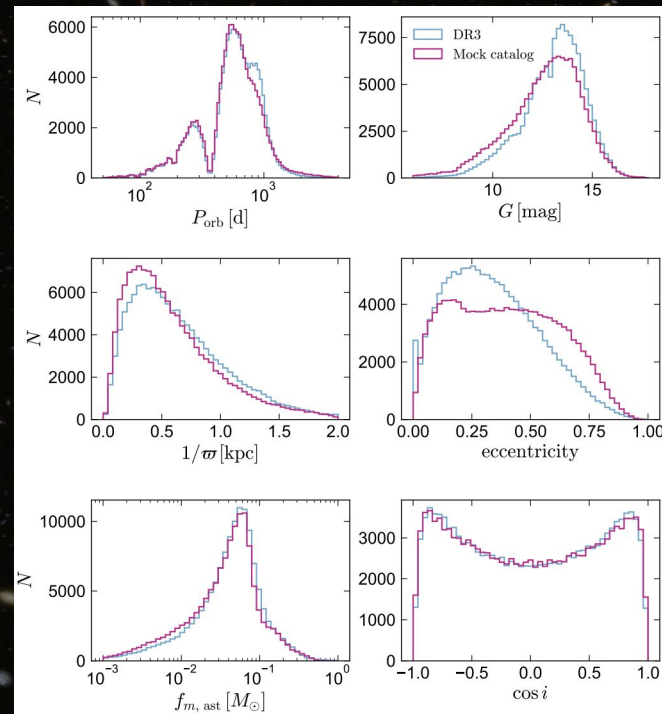


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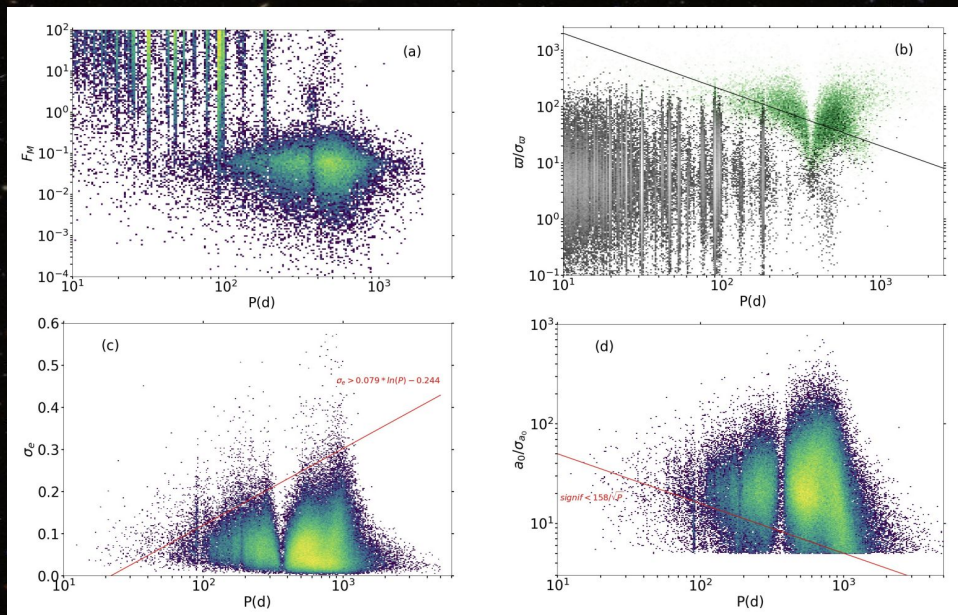
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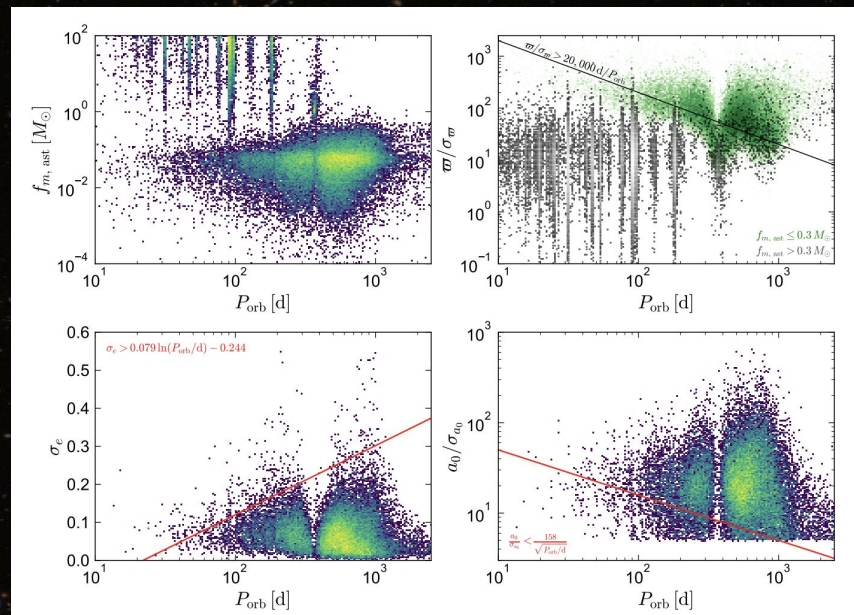
Fit epoch astrometry,  
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Catalog

# REAL



# MOCK





# Ongoing work: Constructing a mock AMRF Sample

My plan: Extend this work to reproduce AMRF sample

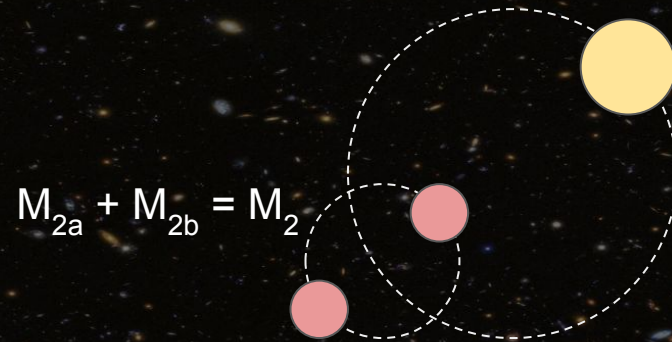
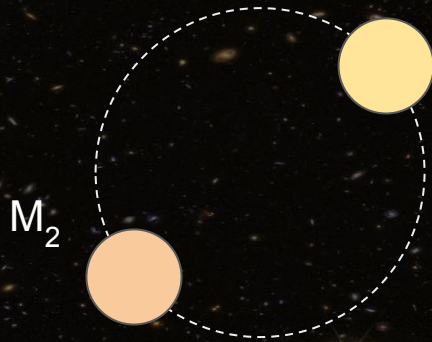


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Questions:

1. How many false candidates make it in? How many real ones are excluded?



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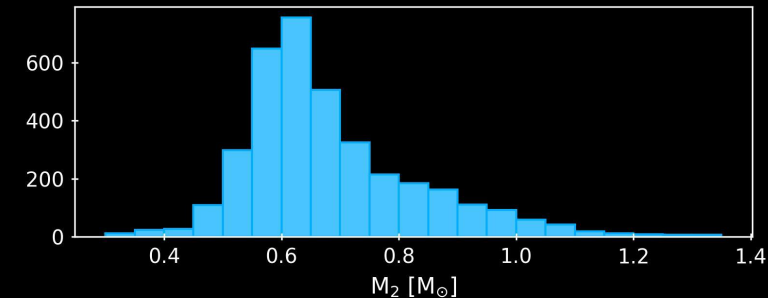
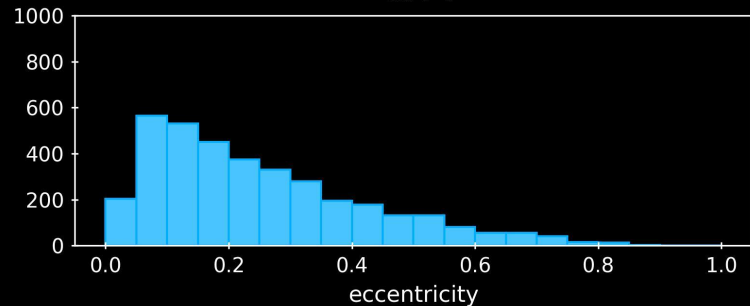
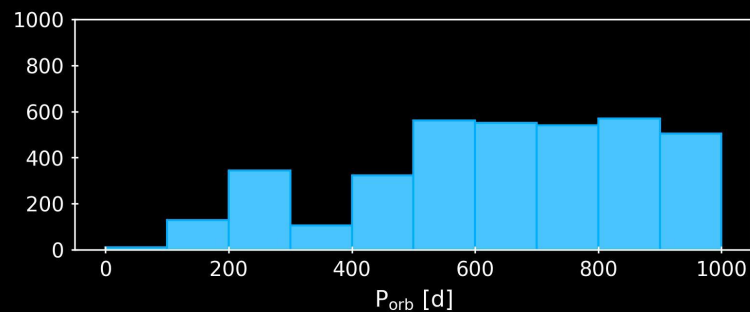
1. How many false candidates make it in? How many real ones are excluded?
2. What period, eccentricity, and WD mass distributions best reproduce features of the real catalog?
3. Can we physically motivate these distributions?



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Key properties of AMRF catalog:

- Large population with  $P_{\text{orb}} \sim 100 - 1000$  d
- Many eccentric systems
- Deficit of high-mass WDs (Hallakoun et al. 2024)



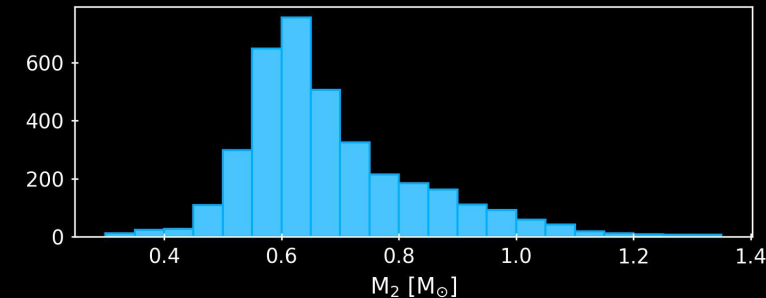
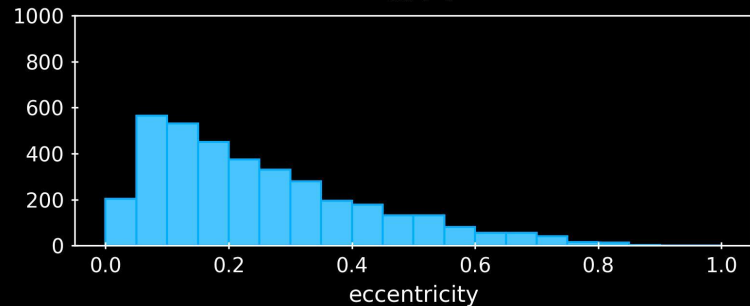
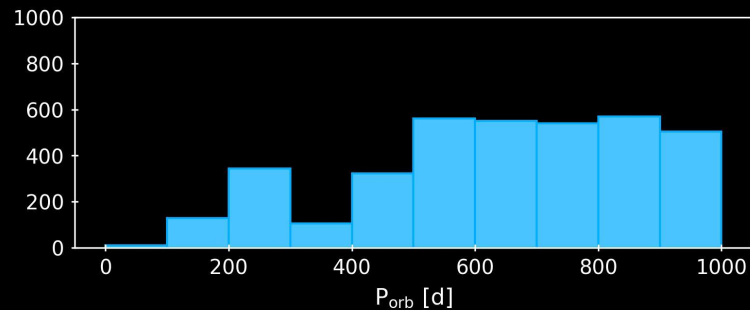
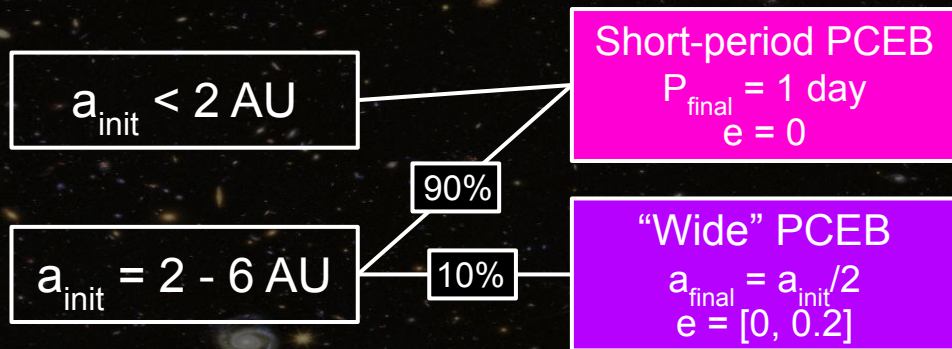


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How was CEE handled in the original model?

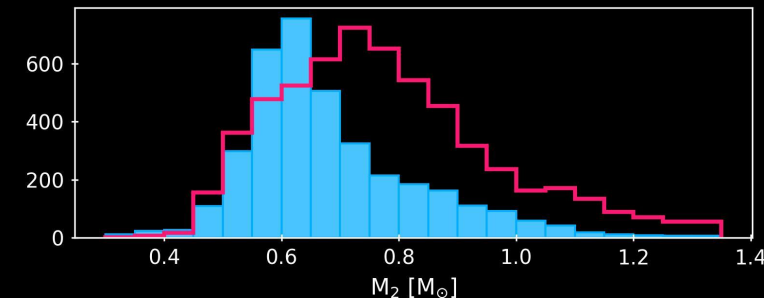
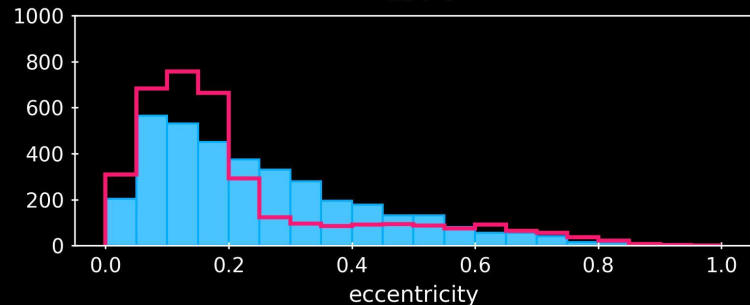
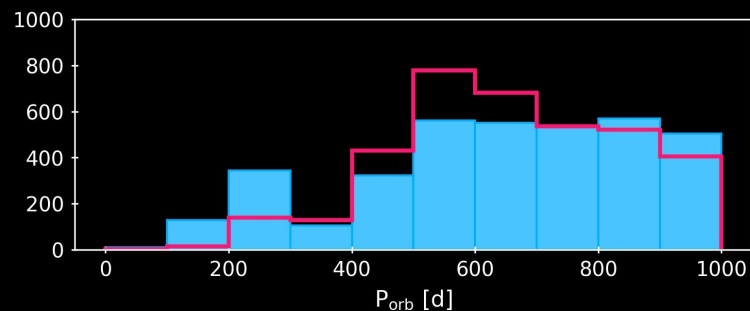
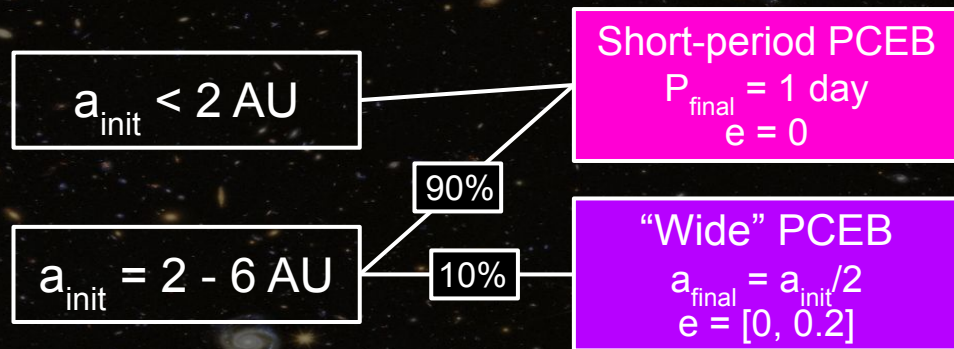


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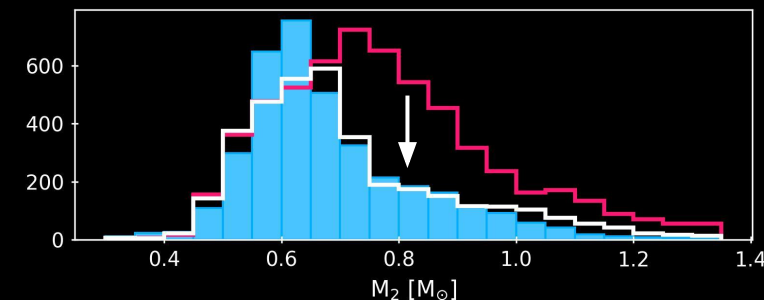
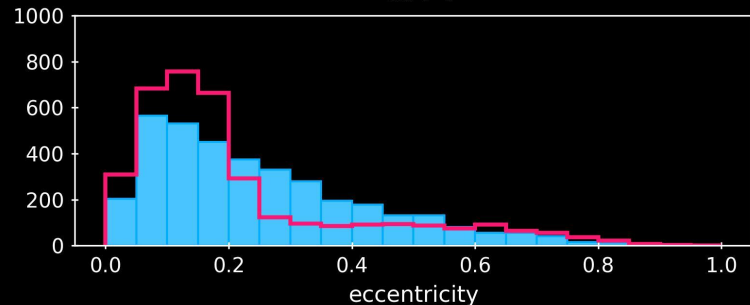
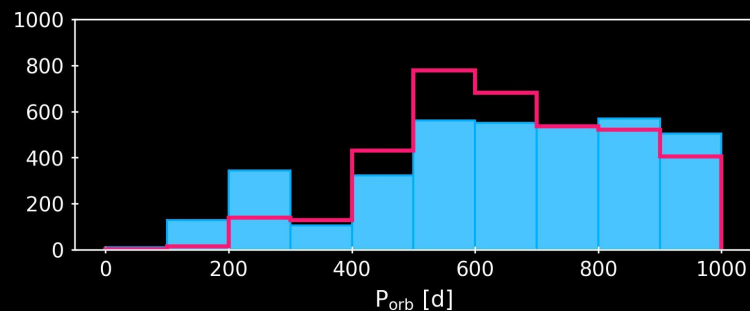
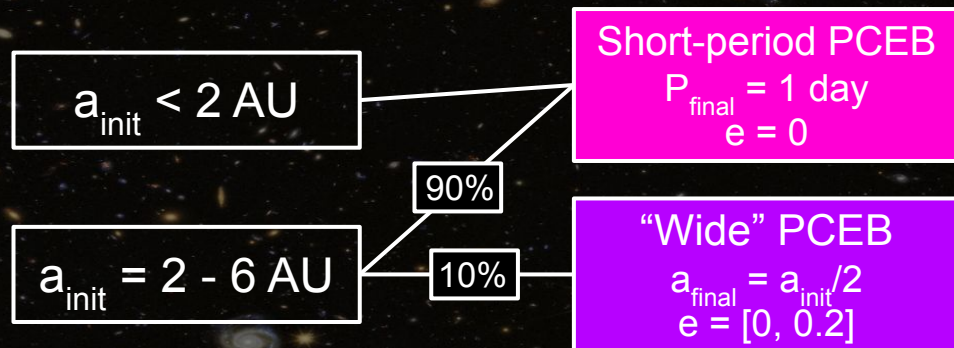


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How was CEE handled in the original model?





# Ongoing work mock AMRFB

## Key properties of AMRFB

- Large population
- Many eccentric
- Deficit of high

How was CEE handled

$$a_{\text{init}} < 2 \text{ AU}$$

$$a_{\text{init}} = 2 - 6 \text{ AU}$$

## A forward model of Gaia DR3 WD + MS binaries

NATSUKO YAMAGUCHI<sup>1</sup> AND KAREEM EL-BADRY<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Astronomy, California Institute of Technology, 1200 E. California Blvd, Pasadena, CA, 91125, USA

### ABSTRACT

The third data release of the Gaia mission included astrometric orbital solutions for a large number of binaries – an unparalleled dataset in which to look for hosts of compact objects. We report on the discovery of an abundance of white dwarf (WD) + main sequence (MS) binaries with orbital periods ranging from  $\sim 100 - 1000$  d. These systems are expected to have undergone mass transfer, but which is intermediate in time between the envelope burning phase and the common envelope phase.

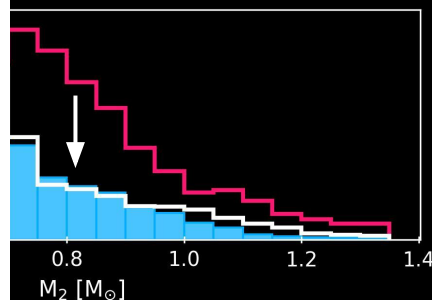
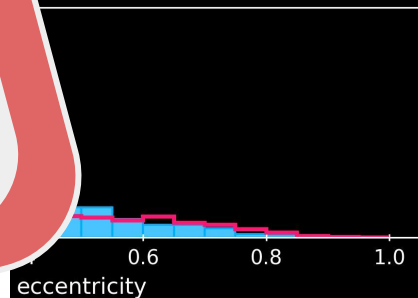
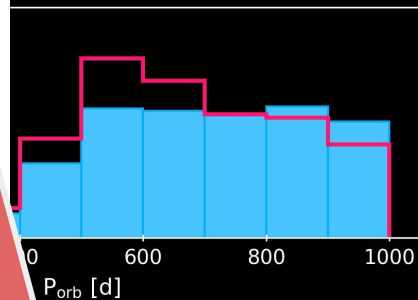
**COMING SOON!**

These systems are made of a white dwarf and a main sequence star. The model is only fit if simpler solutions provide a sufficiently good fit to the data. This means that while the published orbits have been shown to be largely reliable (Yamaguchi et al. 2024a), many true binaries do not make it into the NSS catalog. Therefore, the selection function of this catalog, as well as any of its products, is complex.

However, recently, El-Badry et al. (2024a) took a forward modeling approach to tackle this problem. Starting with a model of the galactic stellar population, they got synthetic Gaia observations for each source which they ran through an analysis pipeline similar to that used by the collaboration to end up with a mock NSS catalog. They showed that the distributions of orbital

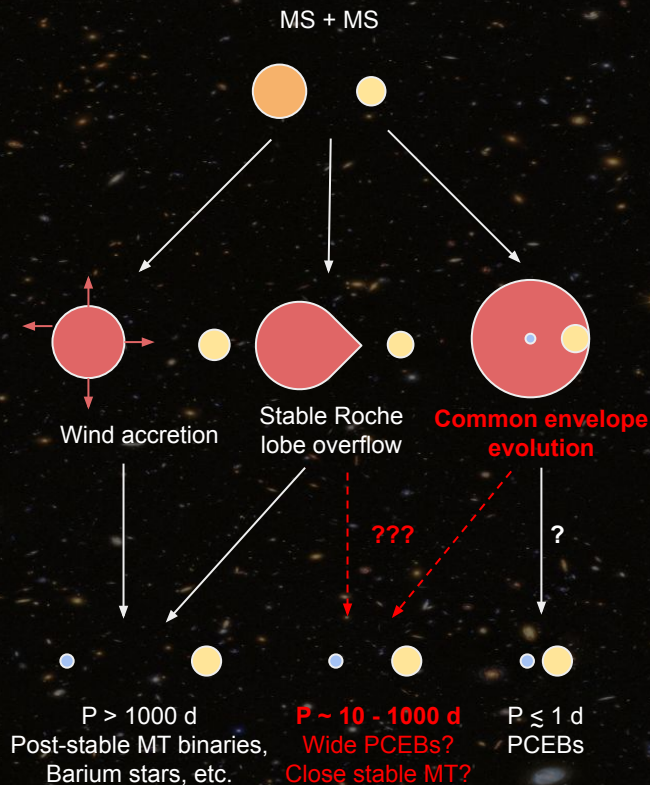
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# To summarize...

- Close WD + MS binaries are useful probes of binary evolution
- Gaia DR3 lead to the discovery of a large population of AU-scale WD + MS binaries
  - Intermediate to standard predictions of stable vs. unstable MT
- My work aims to explore various aspects of this population to learn about their MT histories
  - Spectroscopic follow-up
  - 1D stellar evolution models
  - Forward modeling





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