

$$H \approx I_1^2 + I_1 \delta - \epsilon I_1^{1/2} \cos \phi - \beta I_1^{1/2} \cos[\phi + \nu t + \gamma]$$



Simpson's paradox in Galactic archaeology and other stories

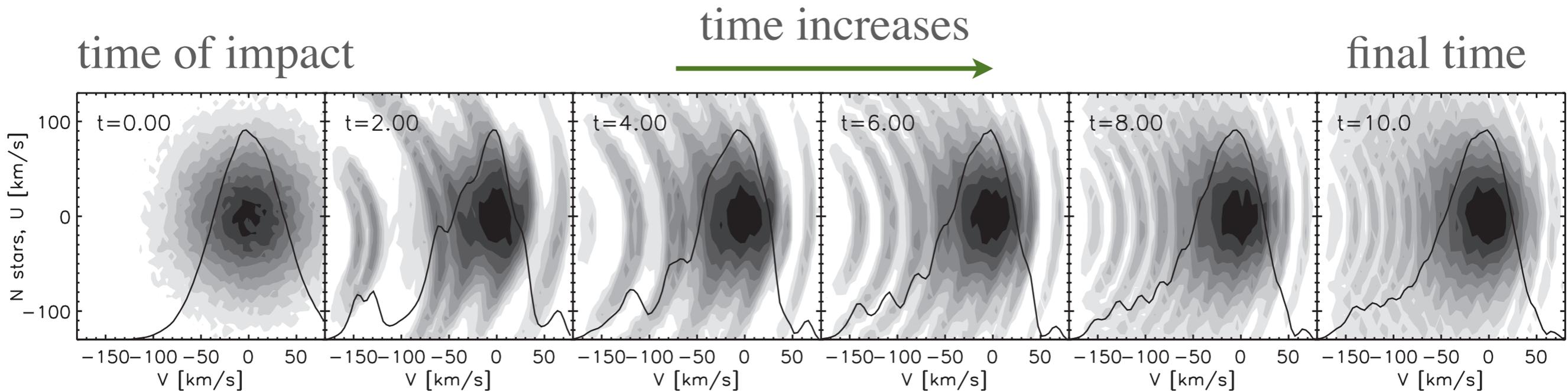
Ivan Minchev



Leibniz-Institut für Astrophysik Potsdam

Is the Milky Way ringing?

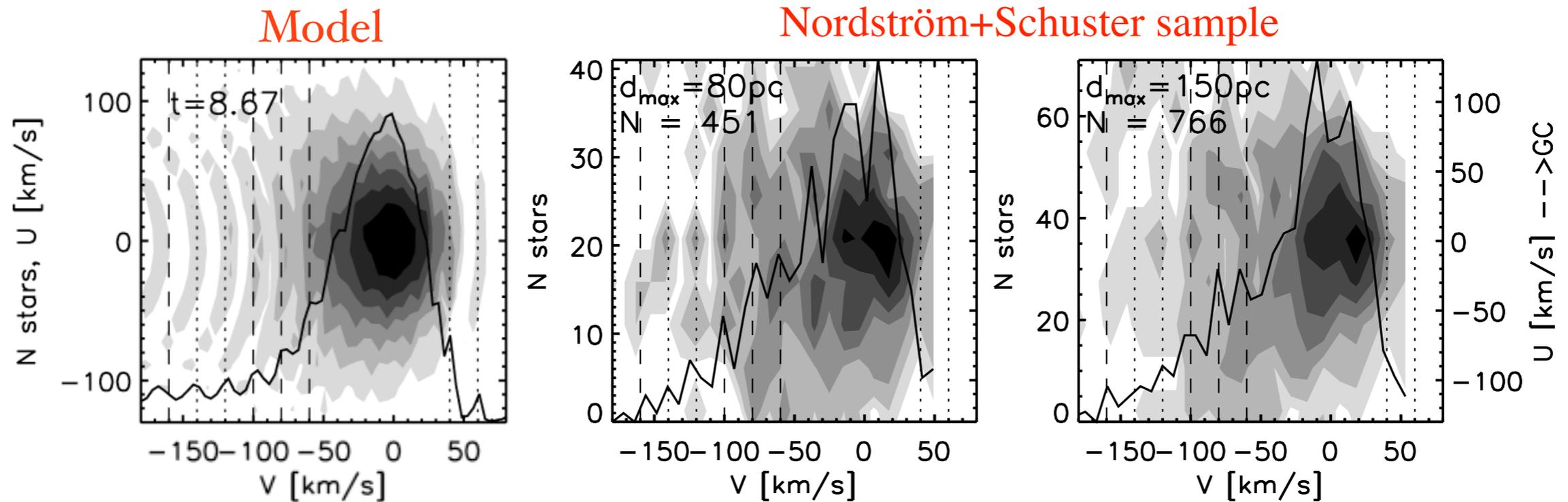
Phase wrapping following a massive minor merger impact on the Milky Way disk



Minchev et al. (2009)

Only a handful of works pre-Gaia DR2 suggesting MW disk is phase wrapping: Quillen et al. (2009), Gomez et al. (2012a, 2012b), de la Vega et al. (2015, Monari et al. (2018).

Is the Milky Way ringing?

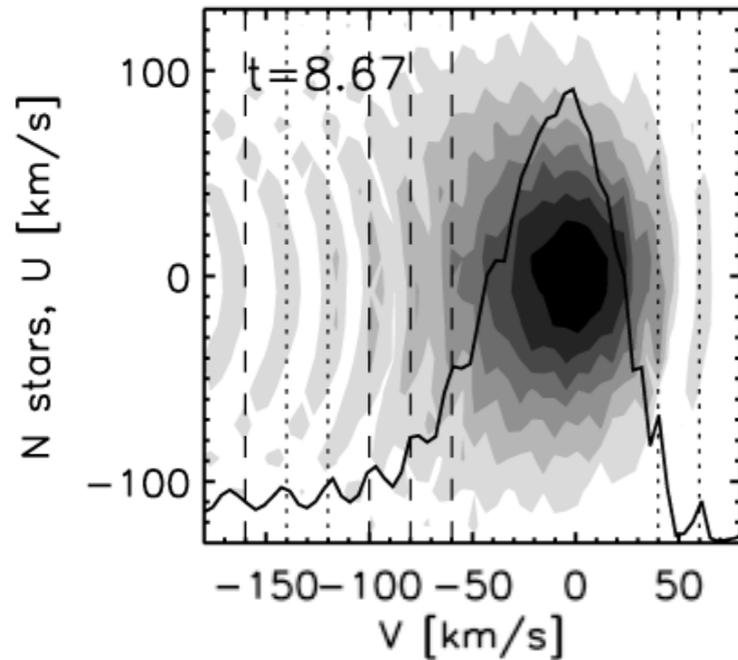


Minchev et al. (2009)

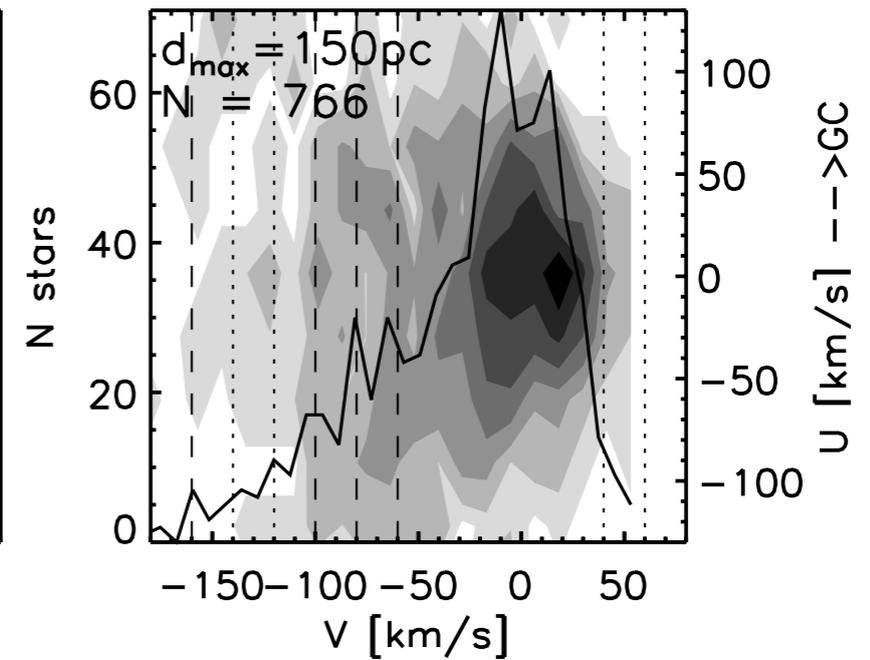
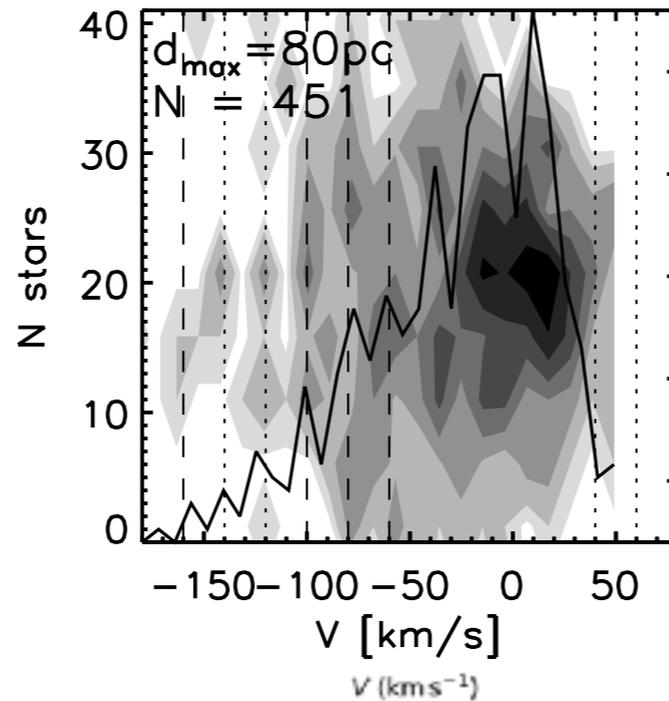
Prediction for a merger
1.9 Gyr ago

Is the Milky Way ringing?

Model



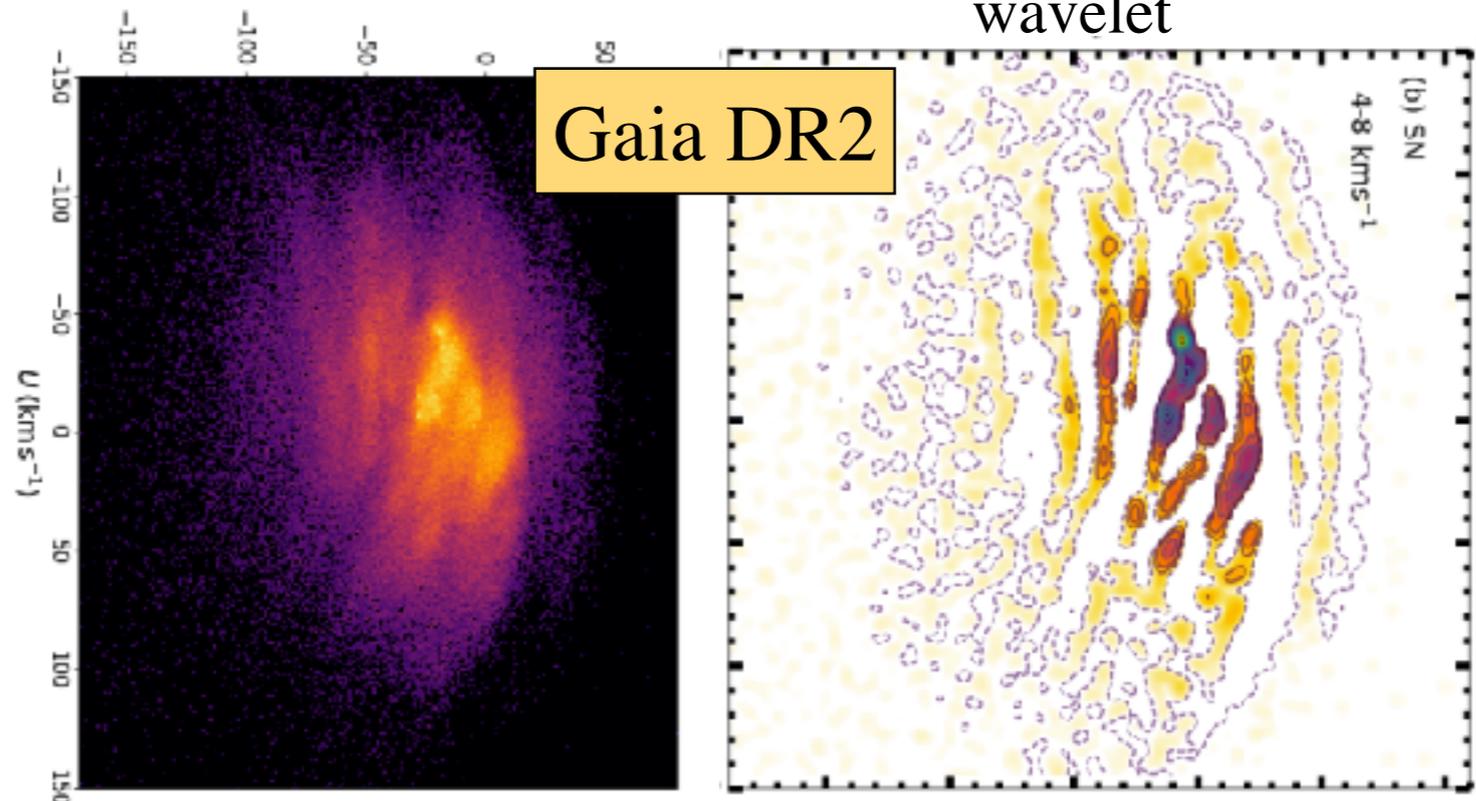
Nordström+Schuster sample



Minchev et al. (2009)

Prediction for a merger
1.9 Gyr ago

Yes, indeed!



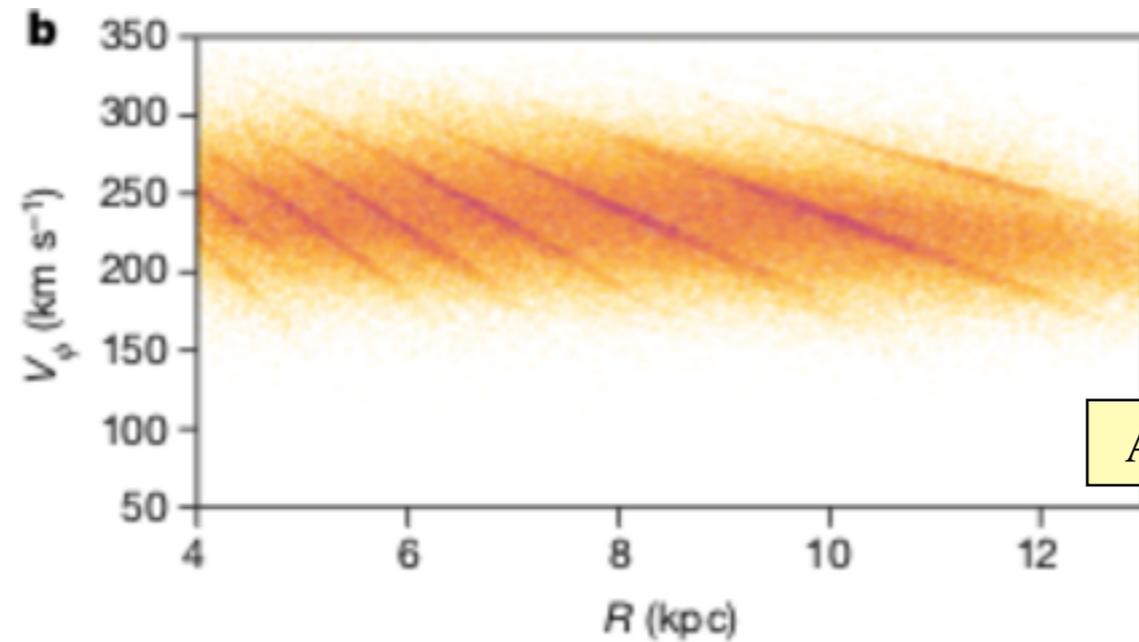
Gaia DR2

Katz et al. (2018)

Ramos et al. (2018)

Is the Milky Way ringing?

It turns out ringing model predicted V_{ϕ} - R ridges

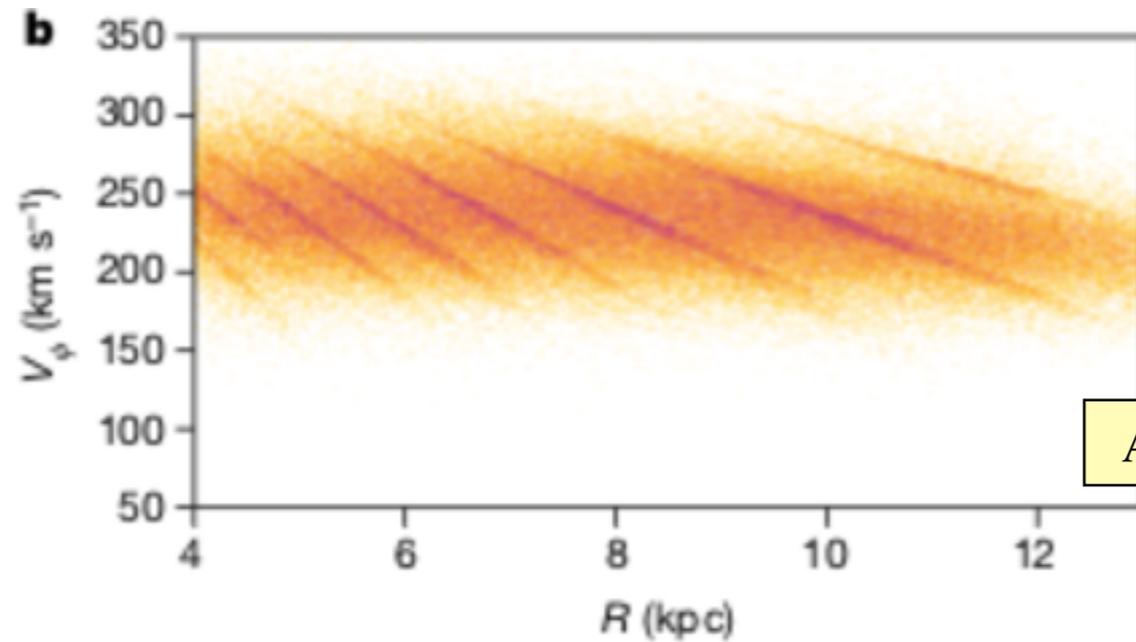


Uneven distribution in epicyclic angle,
using Dehnen (1999) epicyclic
approximation (as in M. et al. 2009)

Antoja et al. (2018)

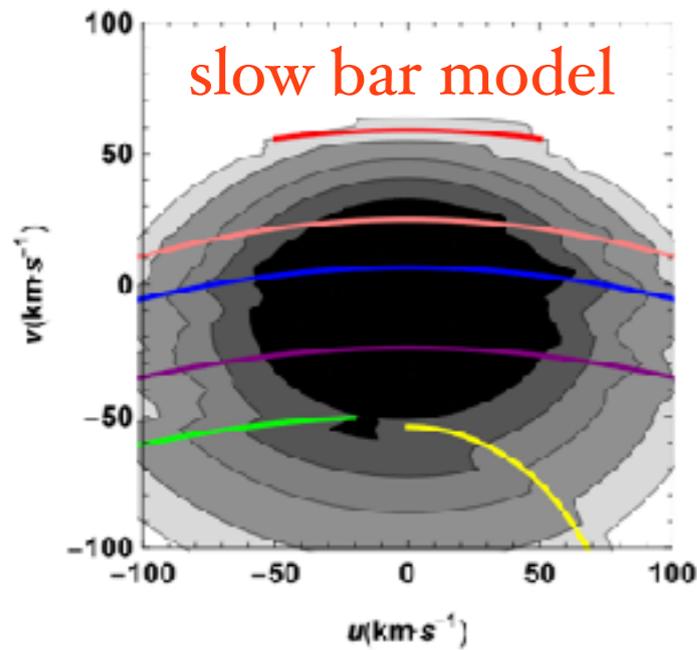
Is the Milky Way ringing?

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Antoja et al. (2018)

Uneven distribution in epicyclic angle, using Dehnen (1999) epicyclic approximation (as in M. et al. 2009)

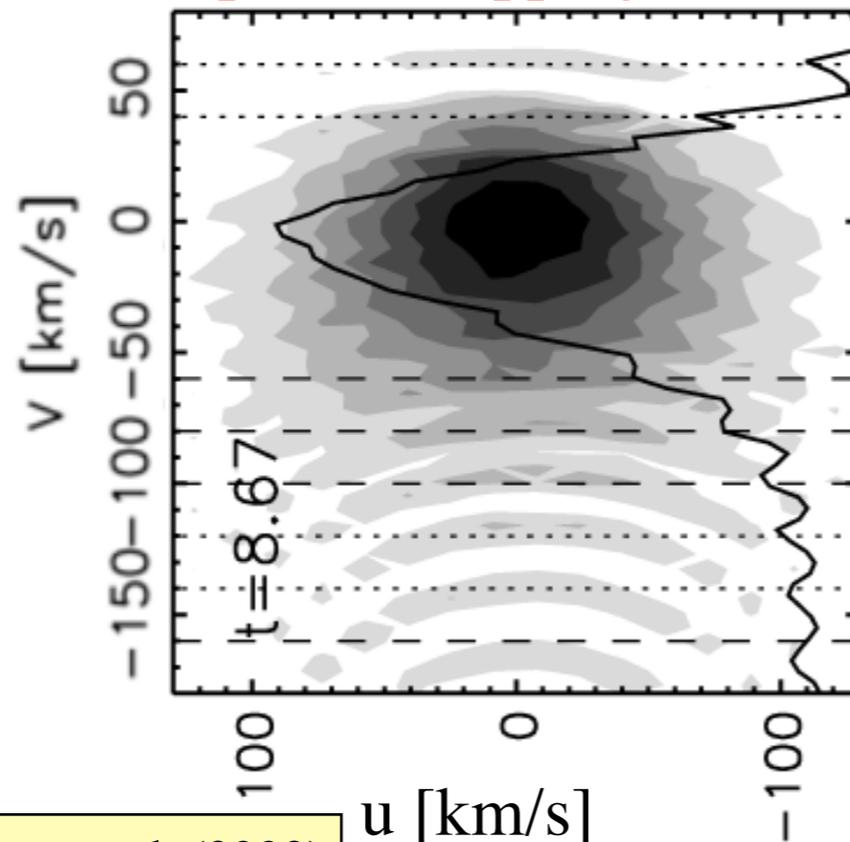


Monari et al. (2019)

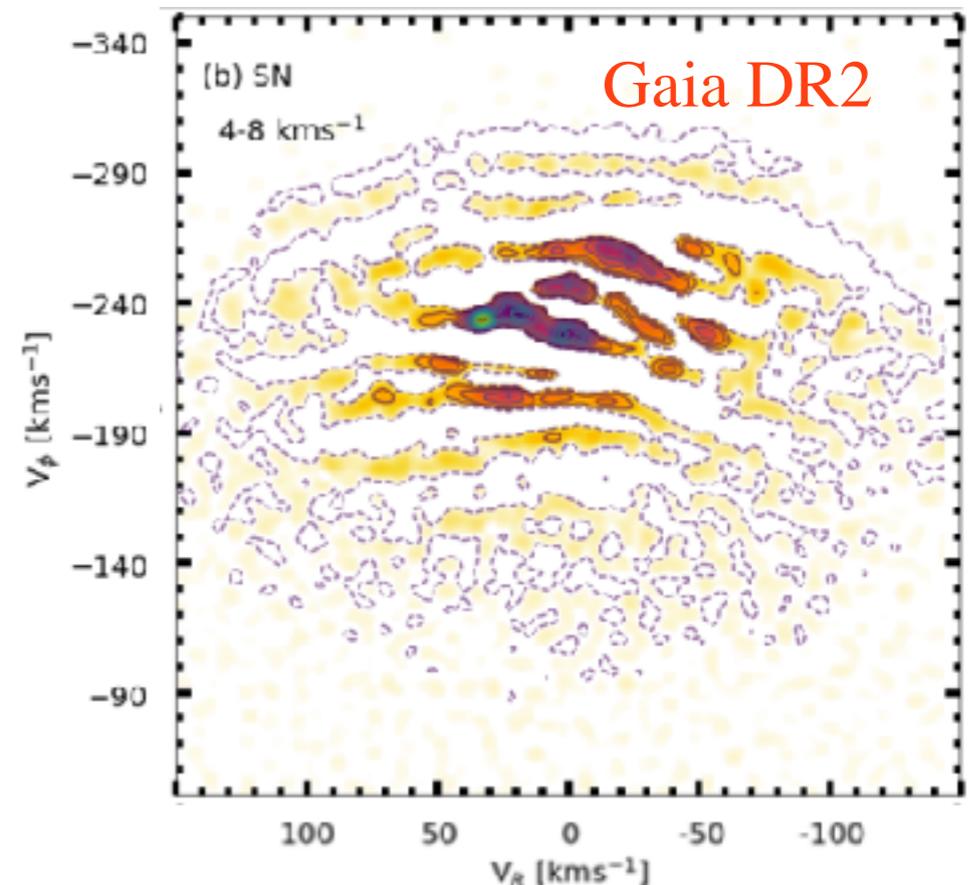
Similarly, Quillen et al. (2018) explained ridges with tight spirals

Minchev et al. (2009)

phase-wrapping model



u [km/s]



Gaia DR2

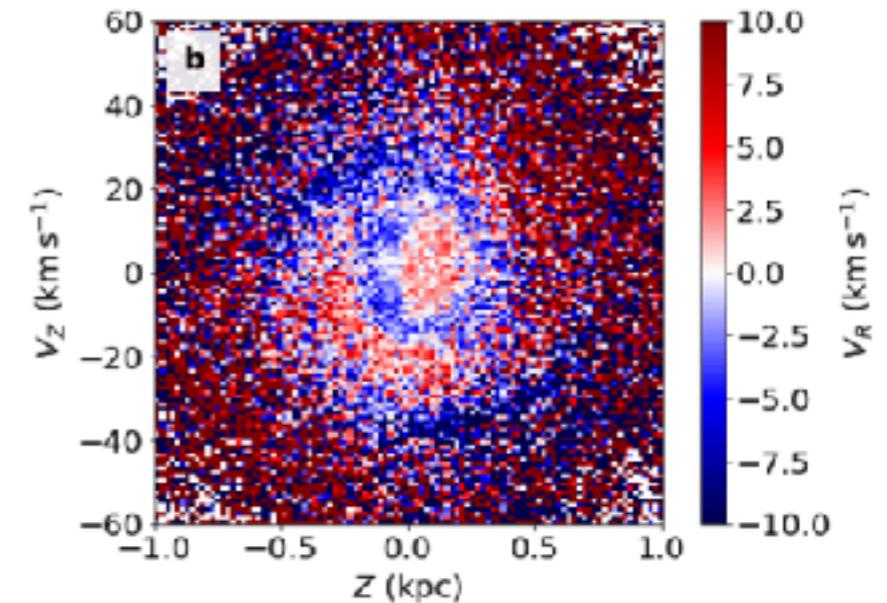
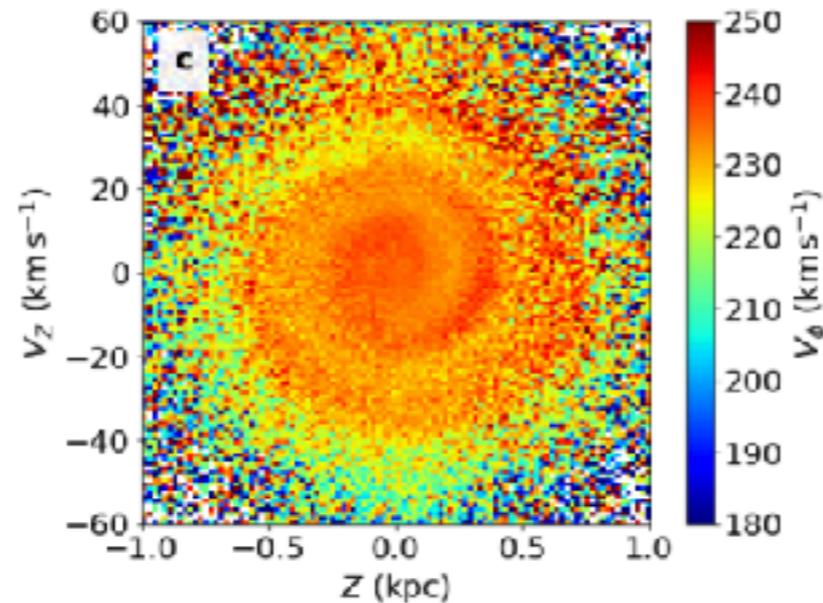
Ramos et al. (2018)

Sgr-Milky Way interaction

Laporte et al. (2018a,b) model predicted Antoja z-vz spiral!

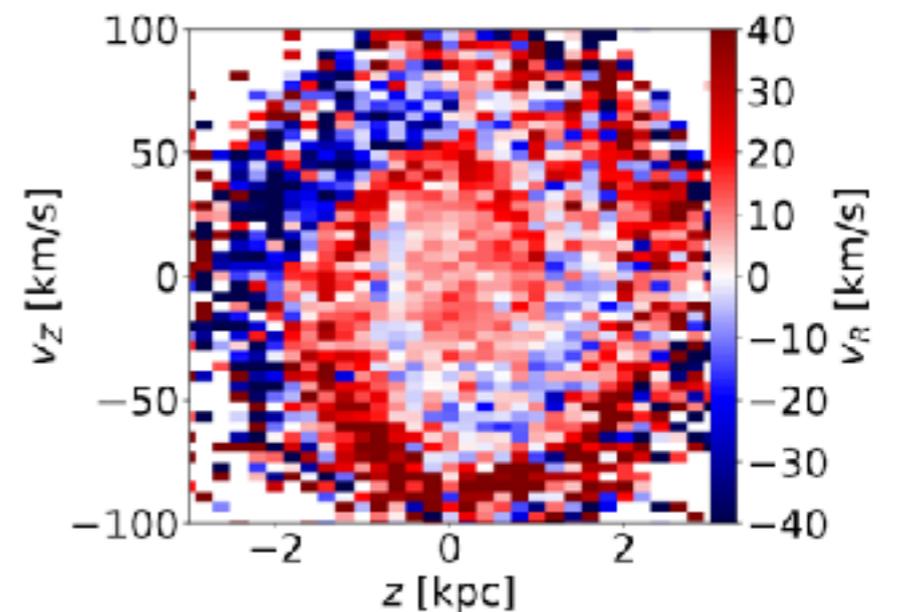
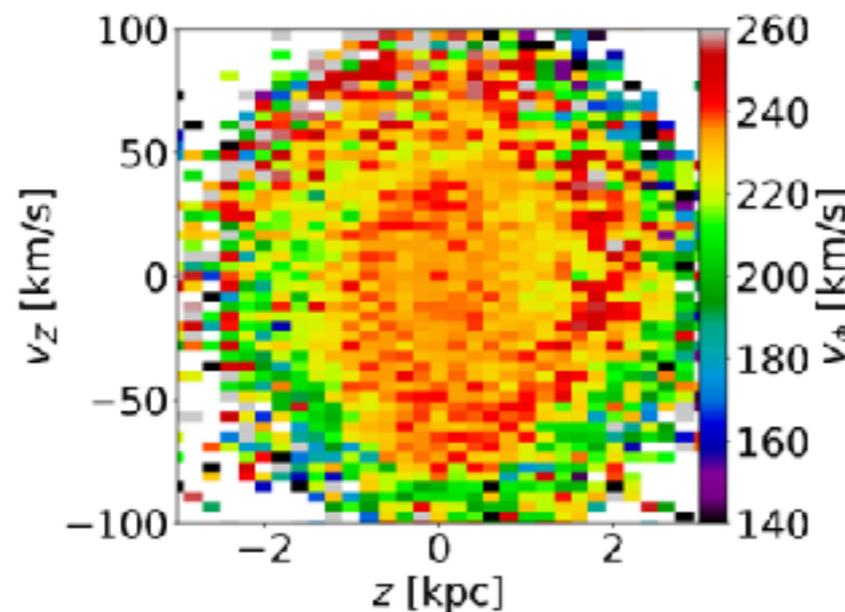
Antoja et al. (2018)

Gaia DR2



Laporte et al. (2019)

Simulation



Also:

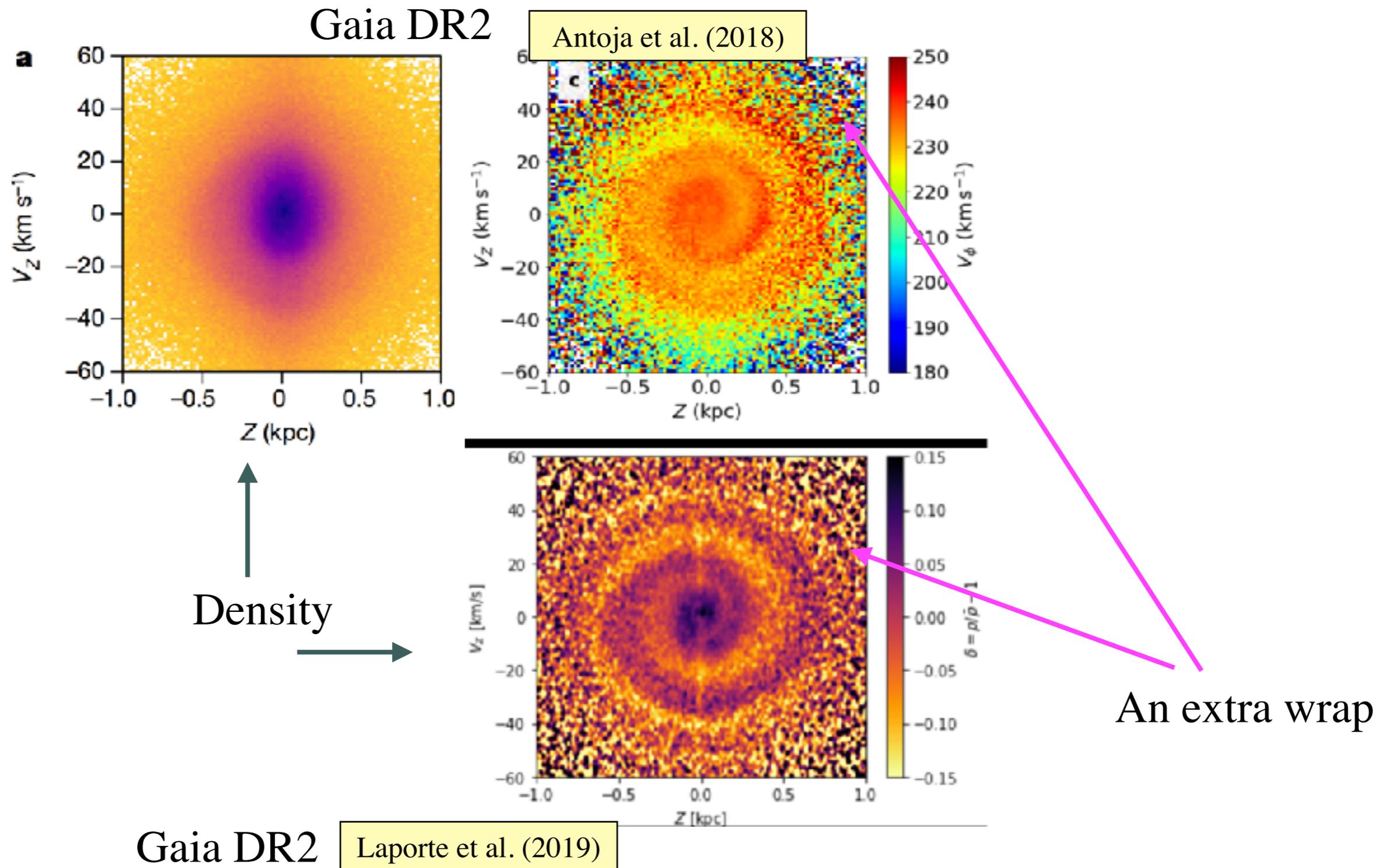
Bland-Hawthorn et al. (2018)

Binney & Schoenrich (2018)

Darling & Widrow (2018)

Sgr-Milky Way interaction

Unsharp masking reveals clearly spiral **in density** - already hinted in Antoja et al.



Unsharp masking

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Unsharp masking (USM) is an [image sharpening](#) technique, often available in [digital image processing](#) software.

The "unsharp" of the name derives from the fact that the technique uses a [blurred](#), or "unsharp", negative image to create a [mask](#) of the original image.^[1] The unsharped mask is then combined with the positive (original) image, creating an image that is less blurry than the original. The resulting image, although clearer, may be a less accurate representation of the image's subject. In the context of [signal processing](#), an unsharp mask is generally a [linear](#) or [nonlinear](#) filter that amplifies the high-frequency components of a signal.



Unsharp masking applied to lower part of image 5

Contents [\[hide\]](#)

- [1 Photographic darkroom unsharp masking](#)
- [2 Digital unsharp masking](#)
 - [2.1 Local contrast enhancement](#)
- [3 Comparison with deconvolution](#)
- [4 Implementation](#)
- [5 See also](#)
- [6 References](#)
- [7 External links](#)

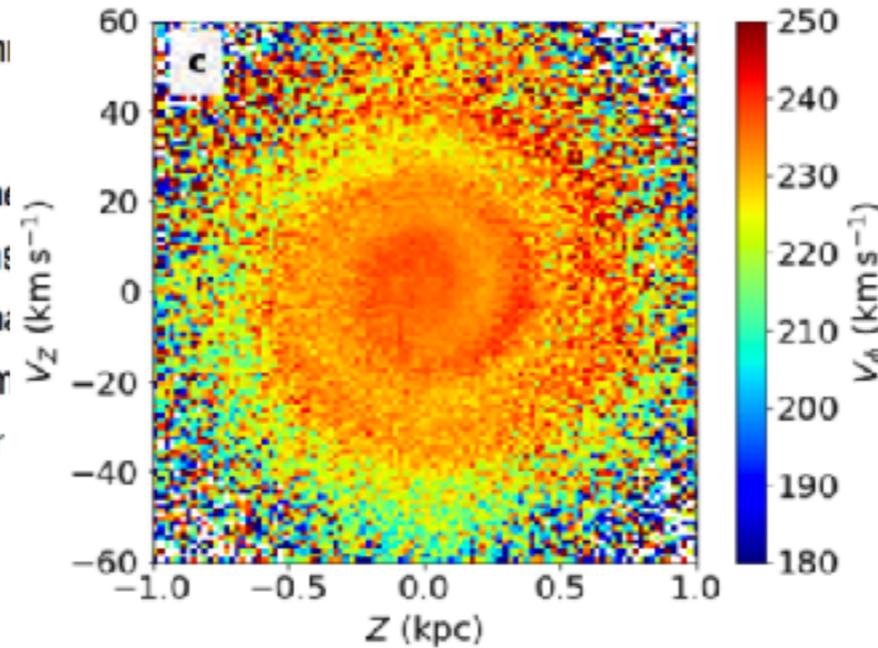
Phase Spiral was predicted!

Unsharp masking

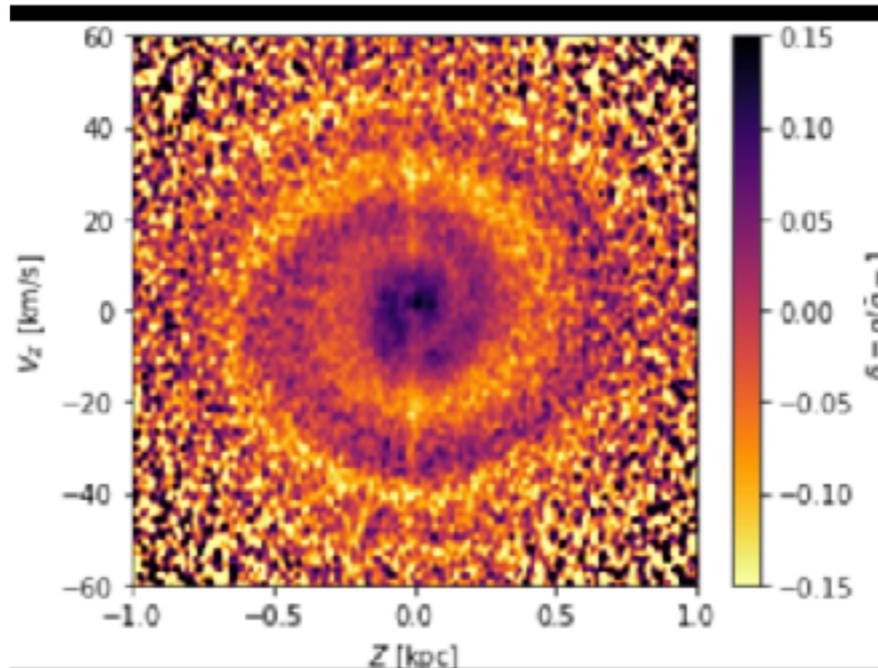
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Unsharp masking applied to lower part of image



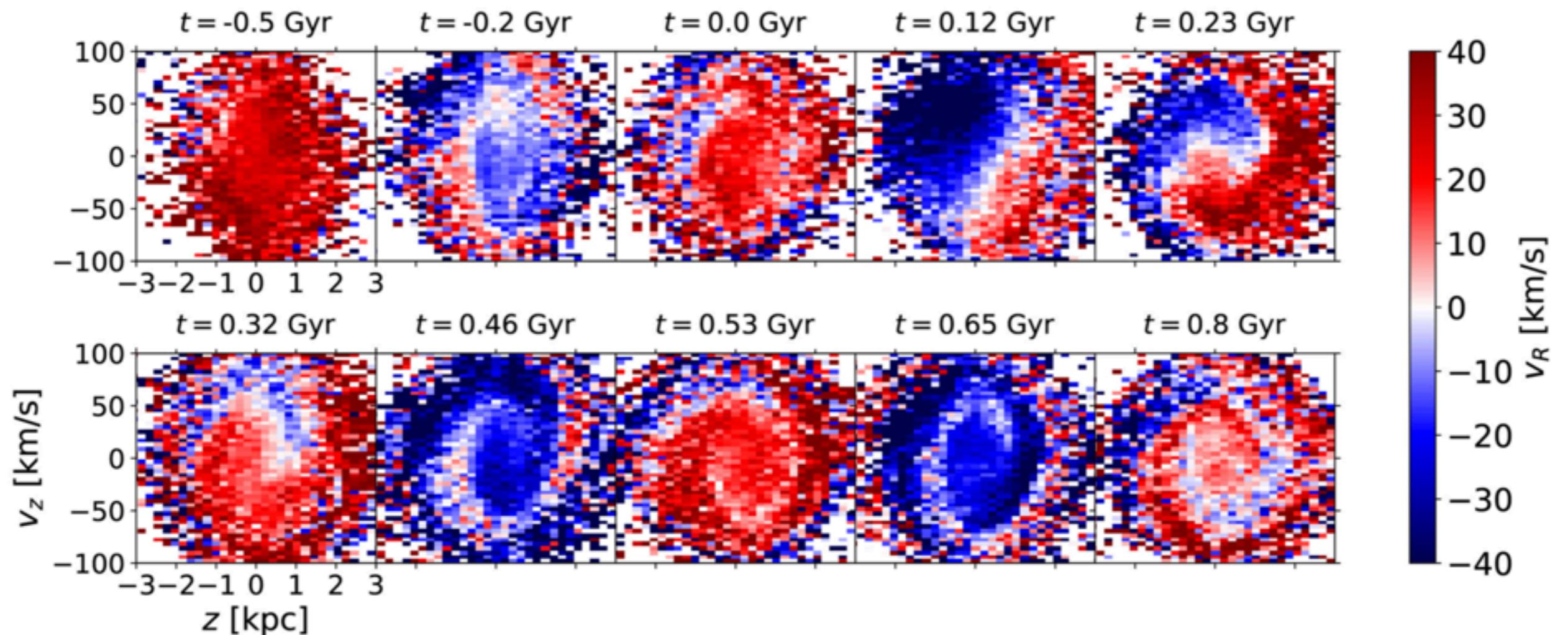
Phase Spiral was predicted!

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- 1 [Photographic darkroom unsharp masking](#)
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- 6 [References](#)
- 7 [External links](#)

Sgr-Milky Way interaction

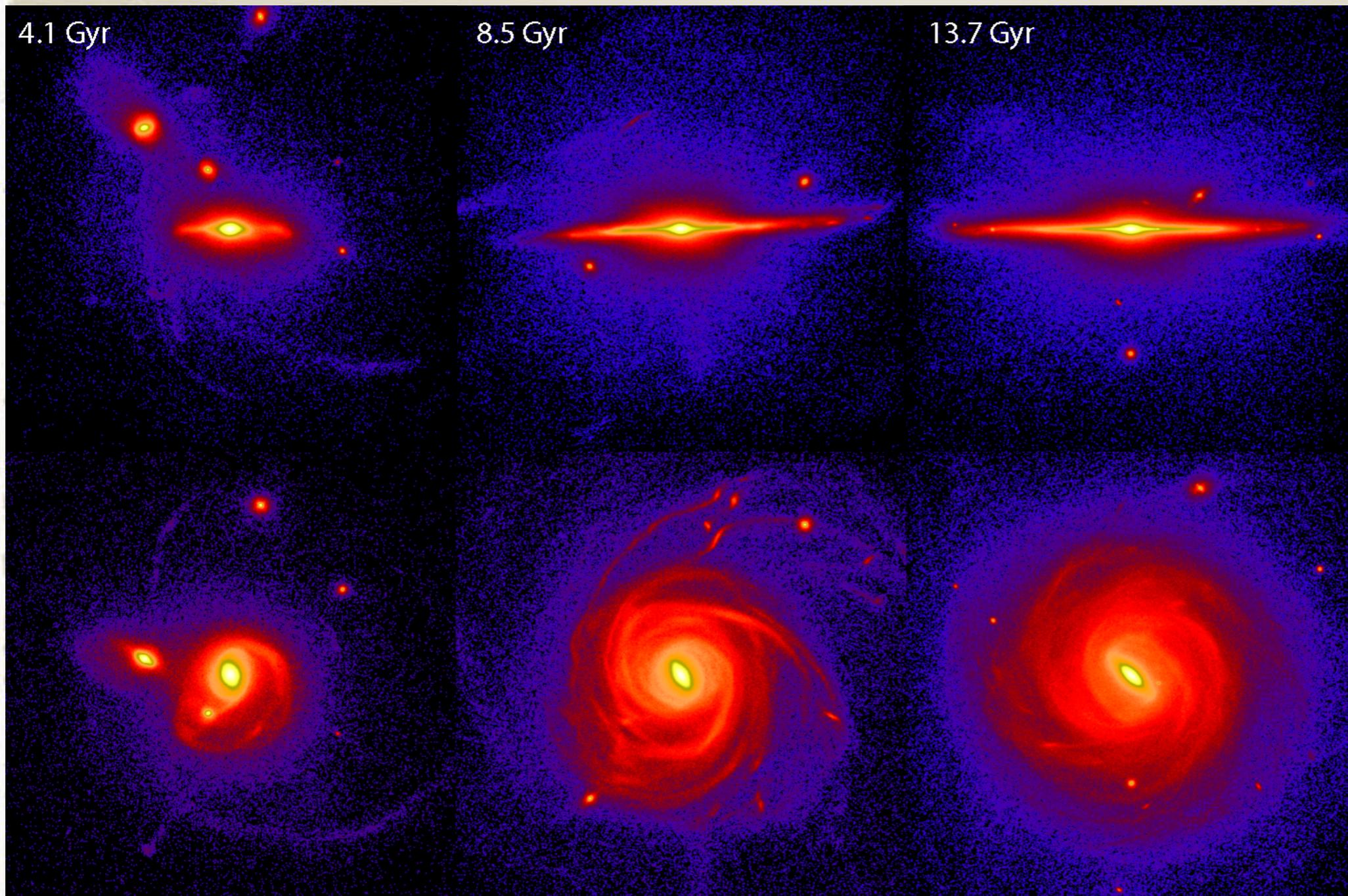
z - V_z spiral seems to reset at each Sgr pericenter passage



Galactic Archaeology

- **Galactic Archaeology** strives to reconstruct the past history of the Milky Way from the present day stellar kinematics, abundances, and age:
 - Dynamical information is not sufficient as stars move away from their birth places (i.e., migrate radially)
 - Stellar chemical composition largely preserved over time
 - Precise ages very important to break degeneracies among models
 - By combining kinematics, chemistry and ages we can understand how Milky Way's main components were formed.

MCM13 hybrid chemo-dynamical evolution model



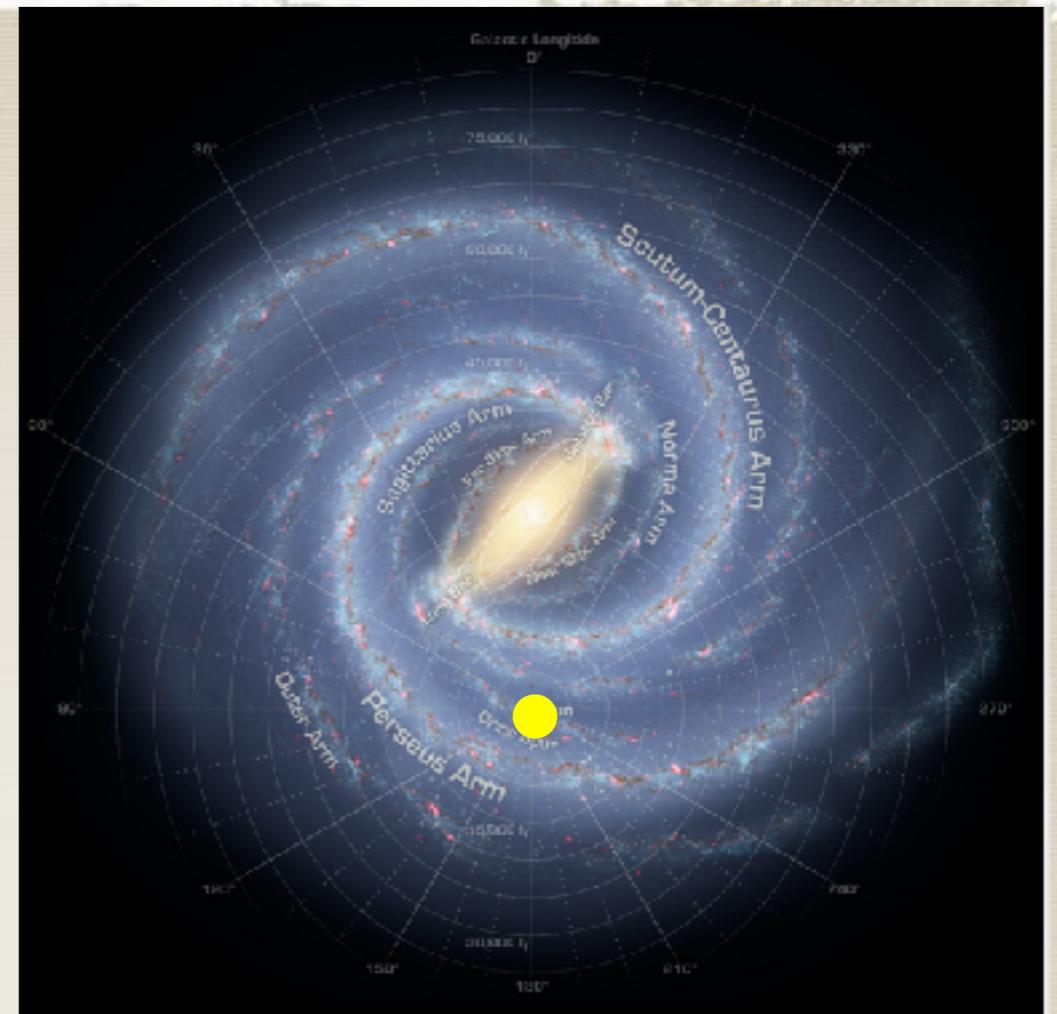
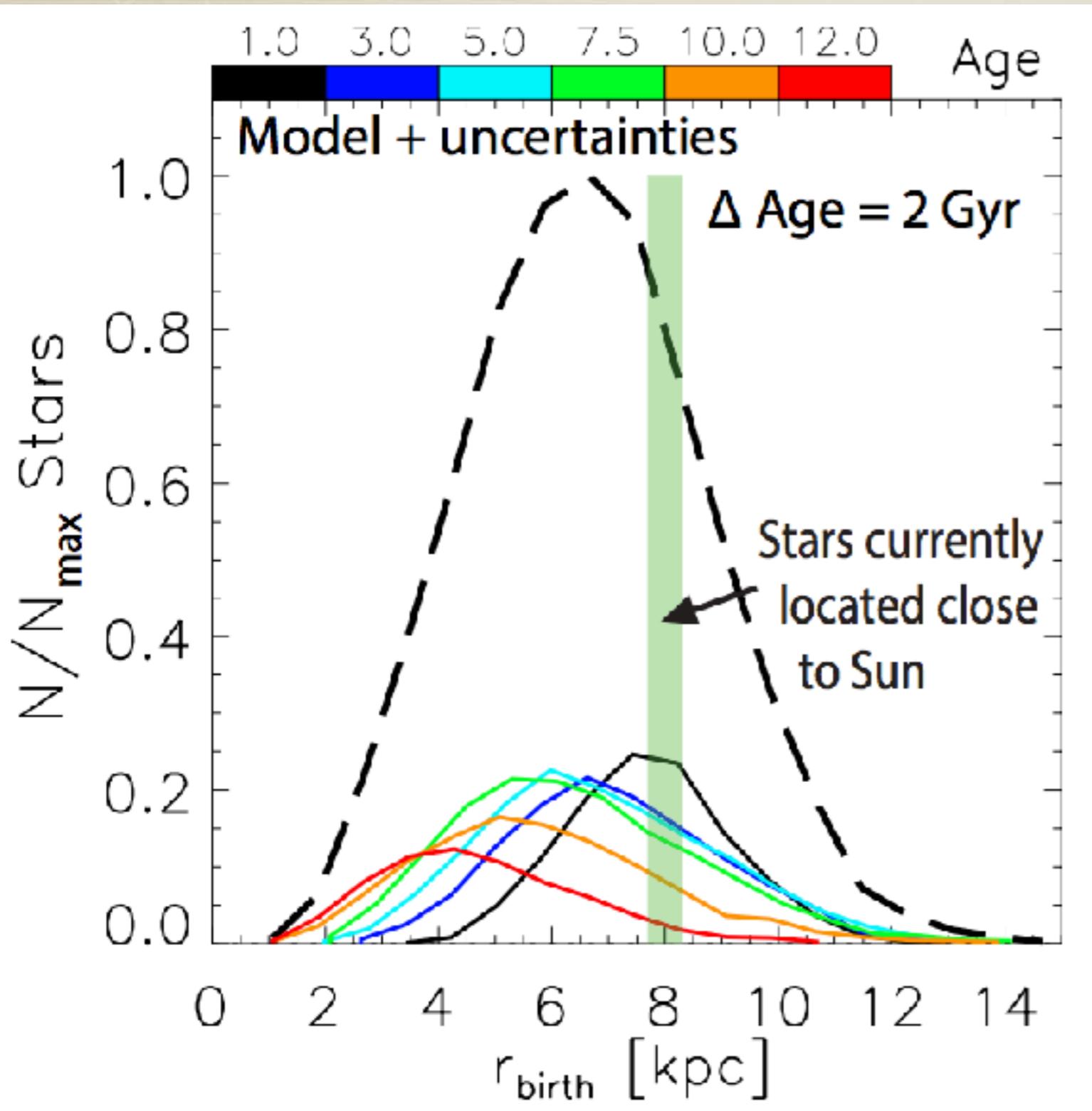
Minchev,
Chiappini, and
Martig (2013)

**Stars born hot at
high redshift:**
Similar to
Brook et al. (2012),
Stinson et al. (2013),
Bird et al. (2013)

Simulation in cosmological context Martig et al. (2009, 2012)

Chemistry similar to Chiappini (2009)

Stellar radial migration effect on solar vicinity



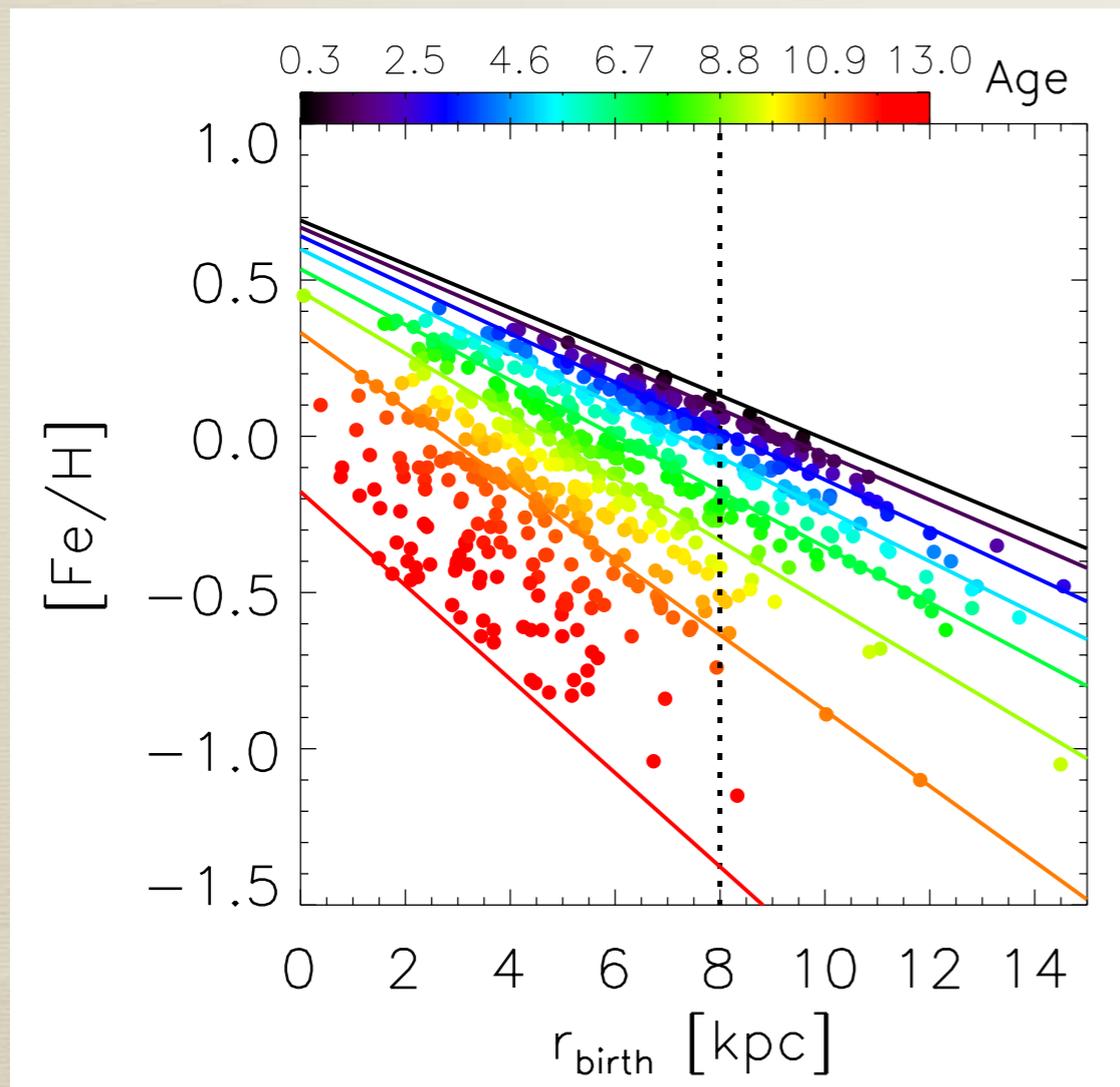
R_{birth} mono-age distributions expected from **inside-out** disk formation simulations (e.g., Roškar et al. 2008; Brook et al. 2012, Bird et al. 2013; Ma et al. 2017)

Estimating stellar birth positions

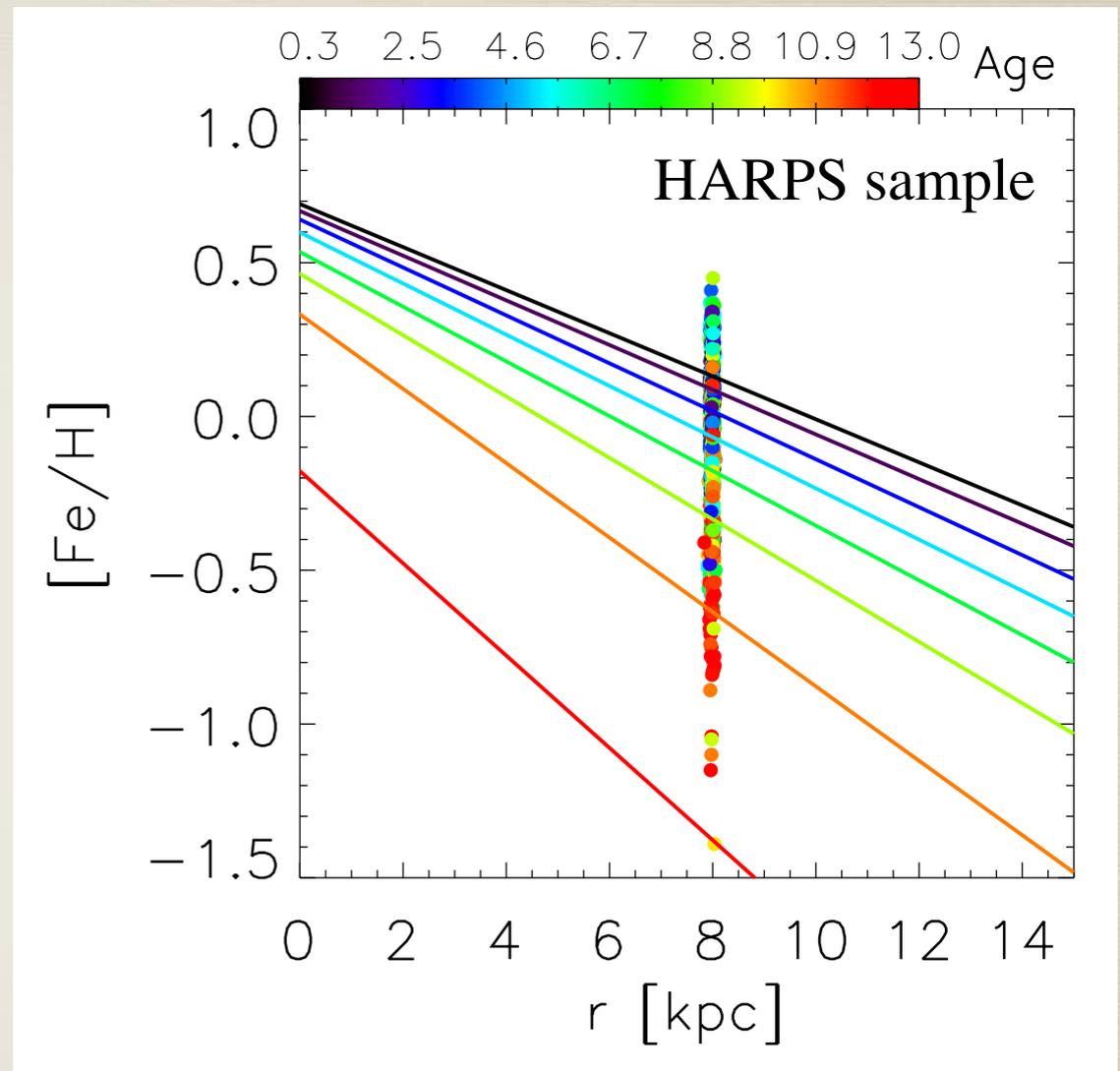
Minchev + (2018)

Finding the birth positions of stars

- ✓ Only age and metallicity necessary
- ✓ Assume ISM metallicity gradient evolving with time
- ✓ Place stars on the slope by shifting in r according to age and $[Fe/H]$



HARPS:AMBRE or HARPS-GTO
isochrone ages

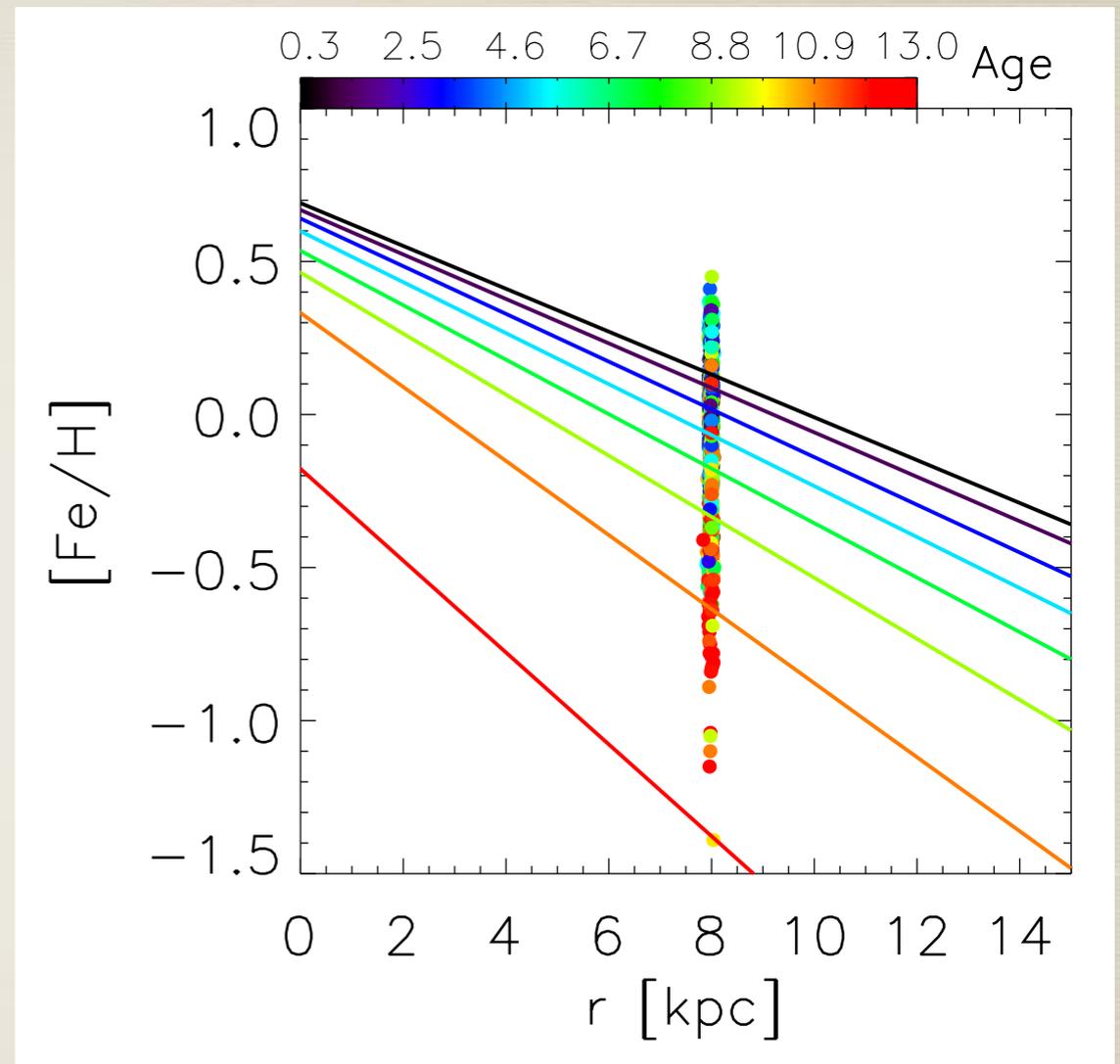


Assume some ISM $[Fe/H](r, t)$

What if gradient was flatter? How flat is too flat?

- ✓ Only age and metallicity necessary
- ✓ Assume ISM metallicity gradient evolving with time
- ✓ Place stars on the slope by shifting in r according to age and $[Fe/H]$

HARPS:AMBRE or HARPS-GTO
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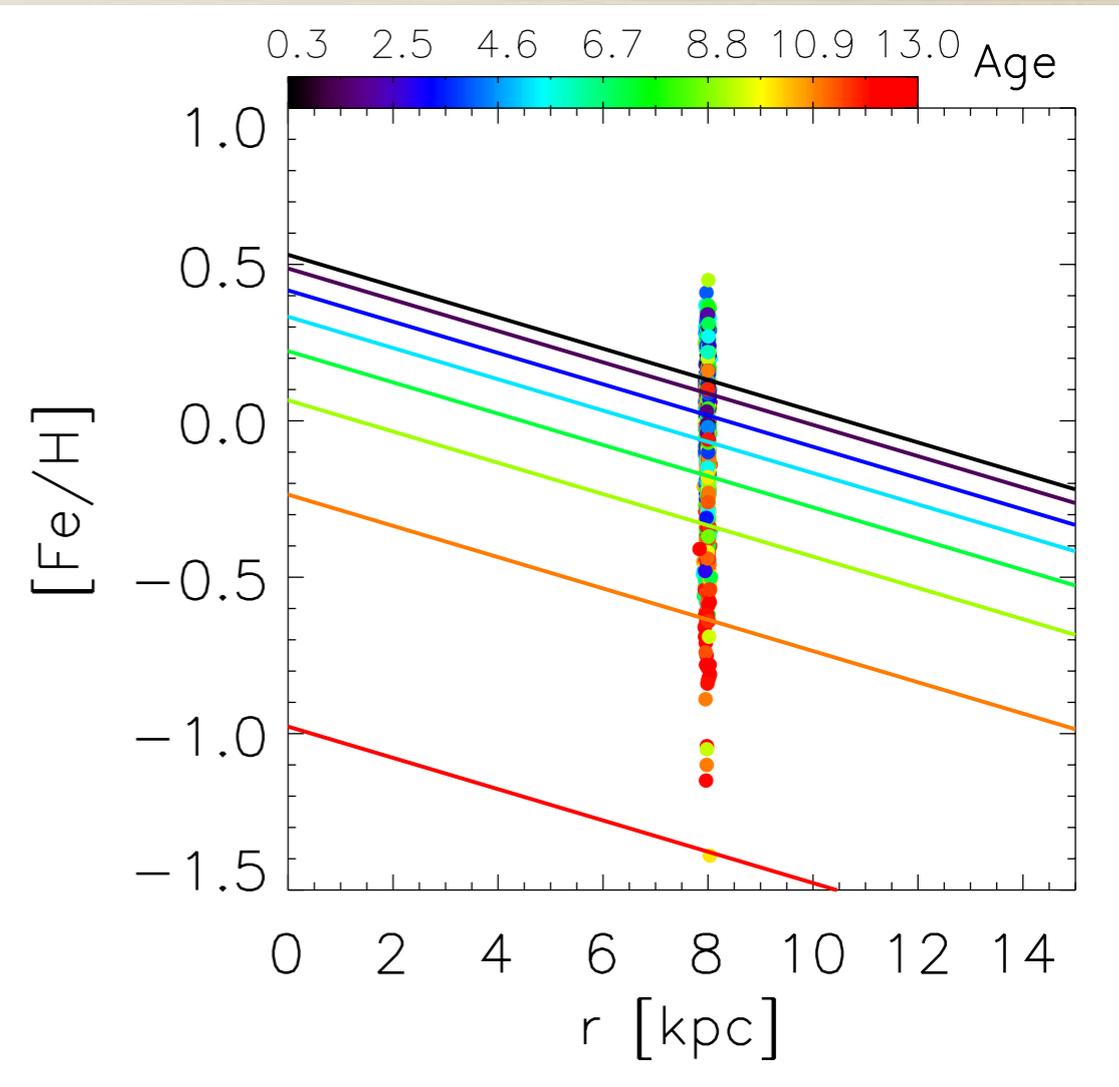
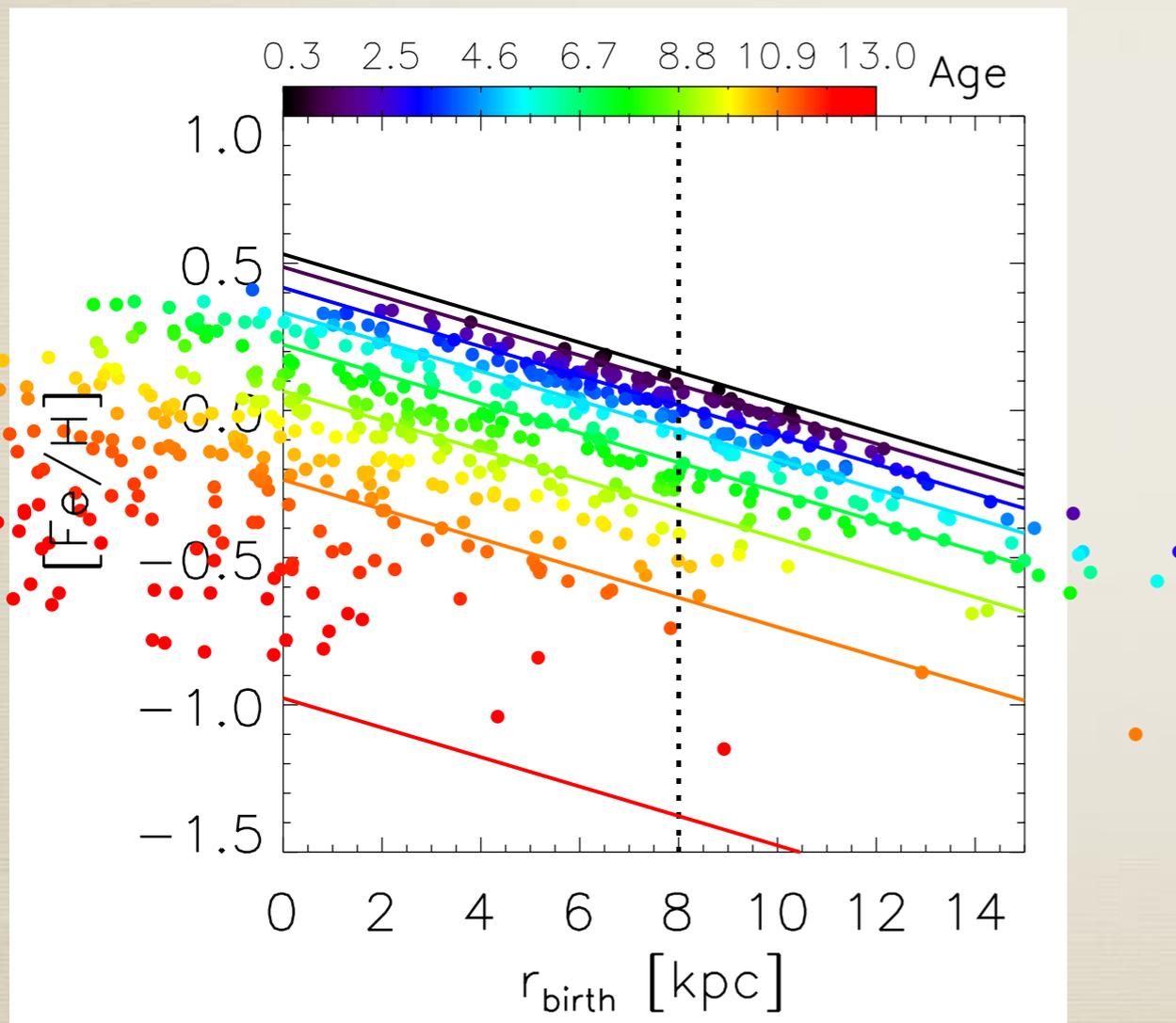


- Same scatter in $[Fe/H]$ gives wider birth radius distributions
- When you start getting negative birth radii you know something is wrong

What if gradient was flatter? How flat is too flat?

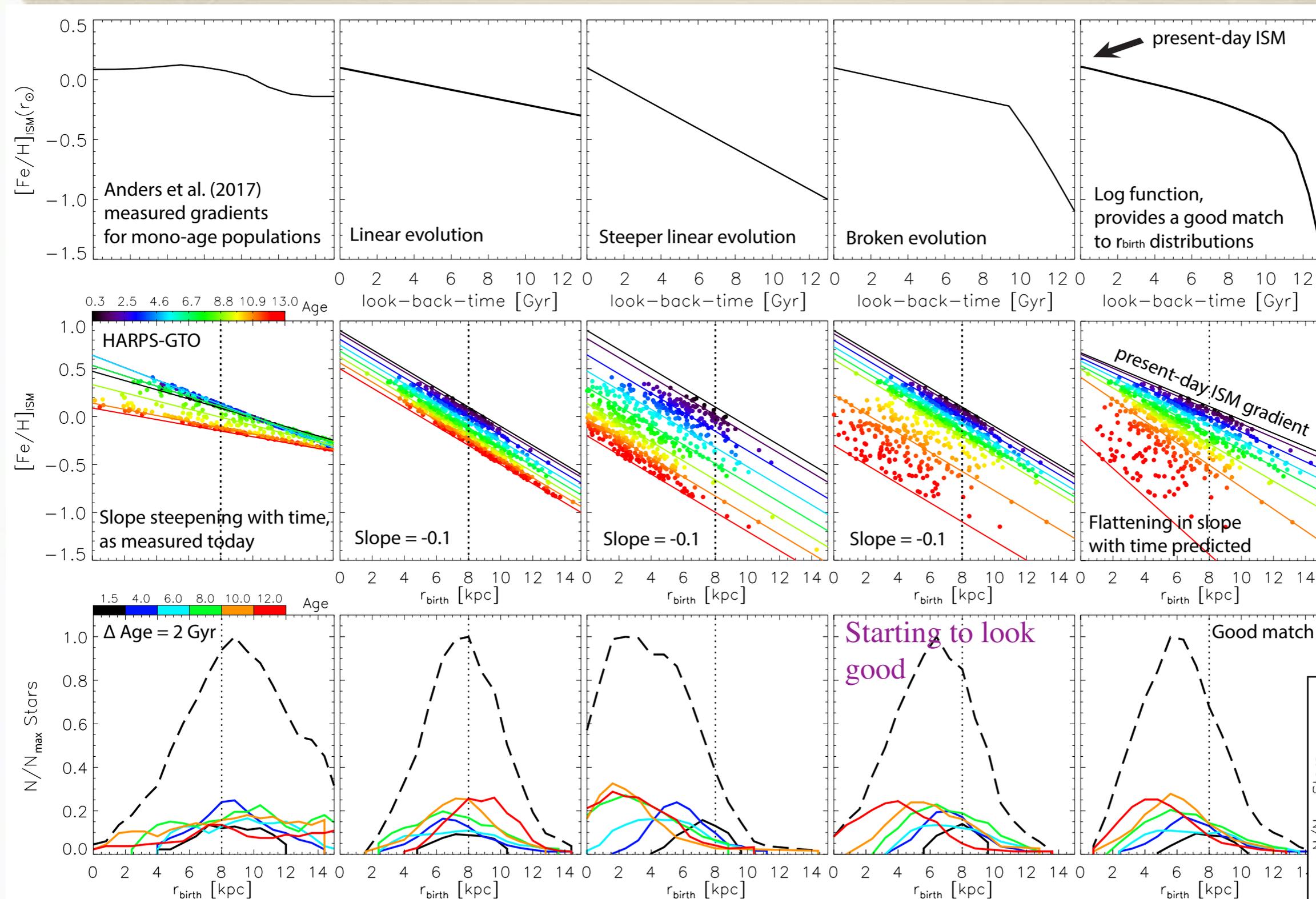
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HARPS:AMBRE or HARPS-GTO
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- Same scatter in $[Fe/H]$ gives wider birth radius distributions
- When you start getting negative birth radii you know something is wrong

We can try different possibilities for the ISM $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}](r, t)$



Time evolution of $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ at R_{sol}

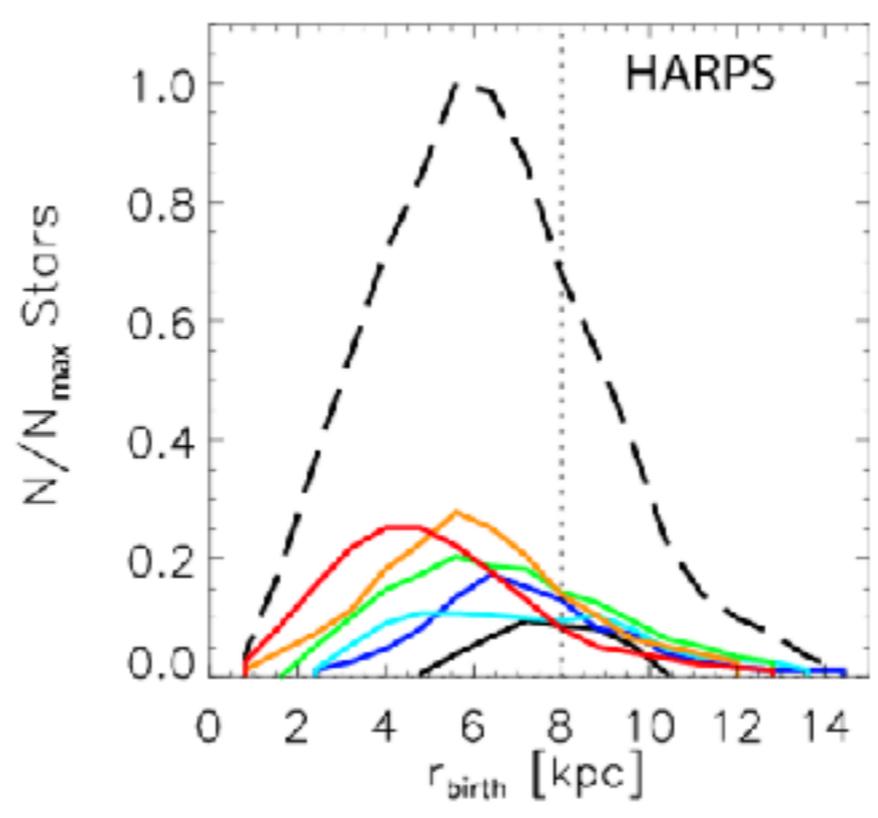
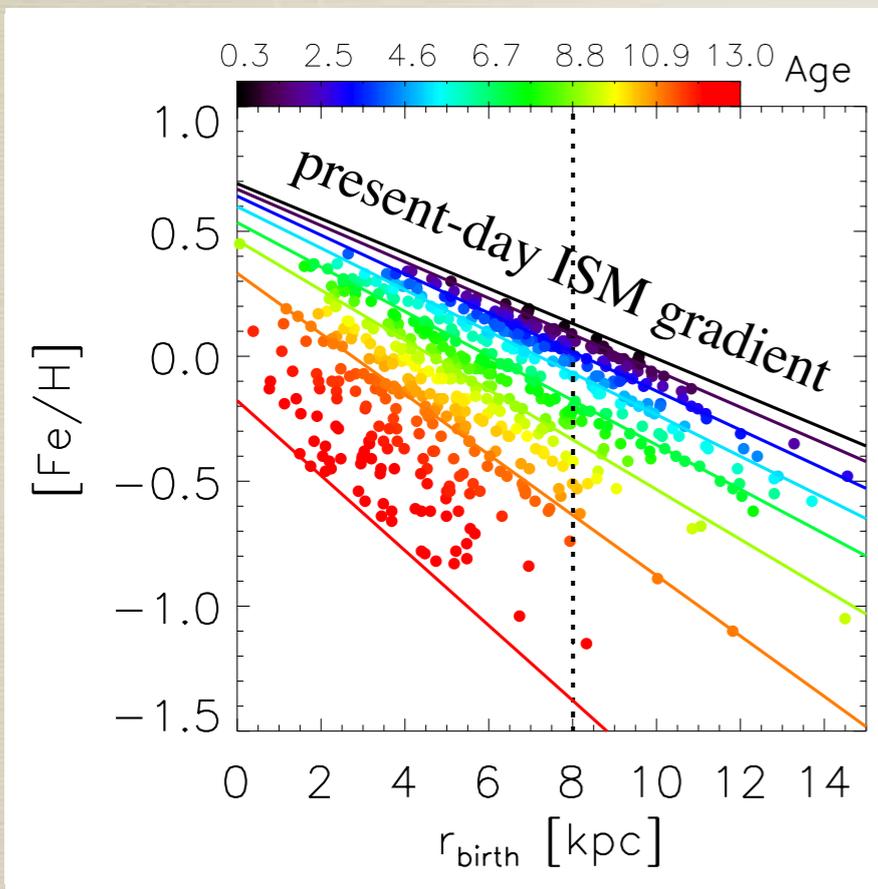
Time evolution of $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ slope

Typical Model

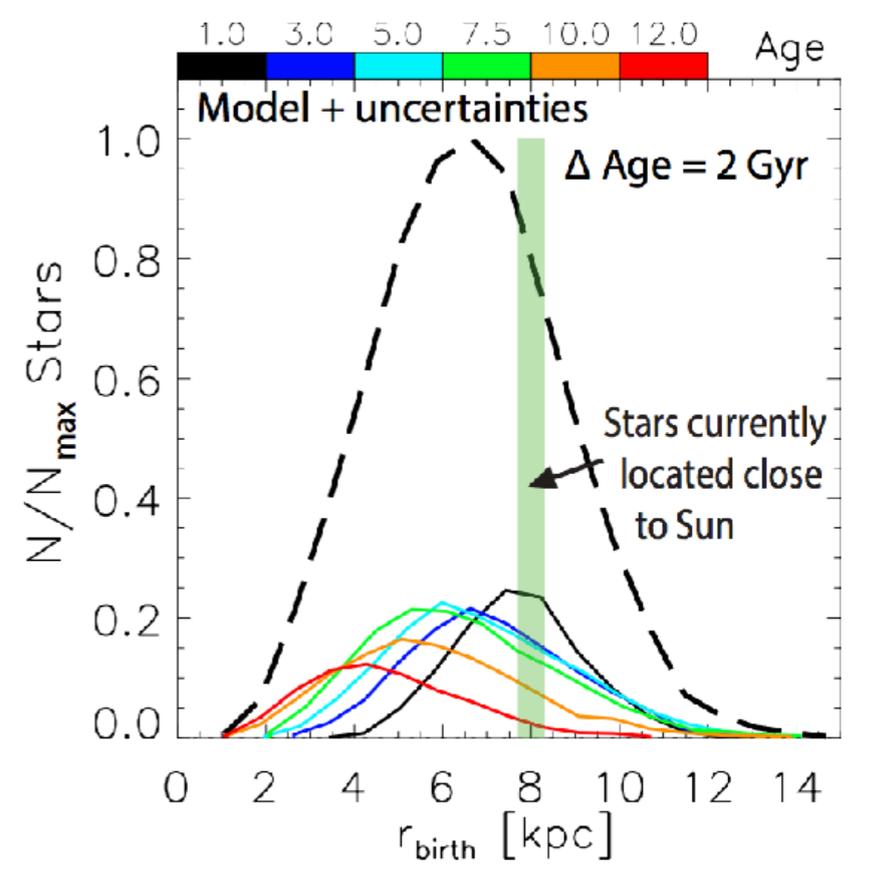
Birth radii of mono-age populations

Distribution of birth radii

HARPS data

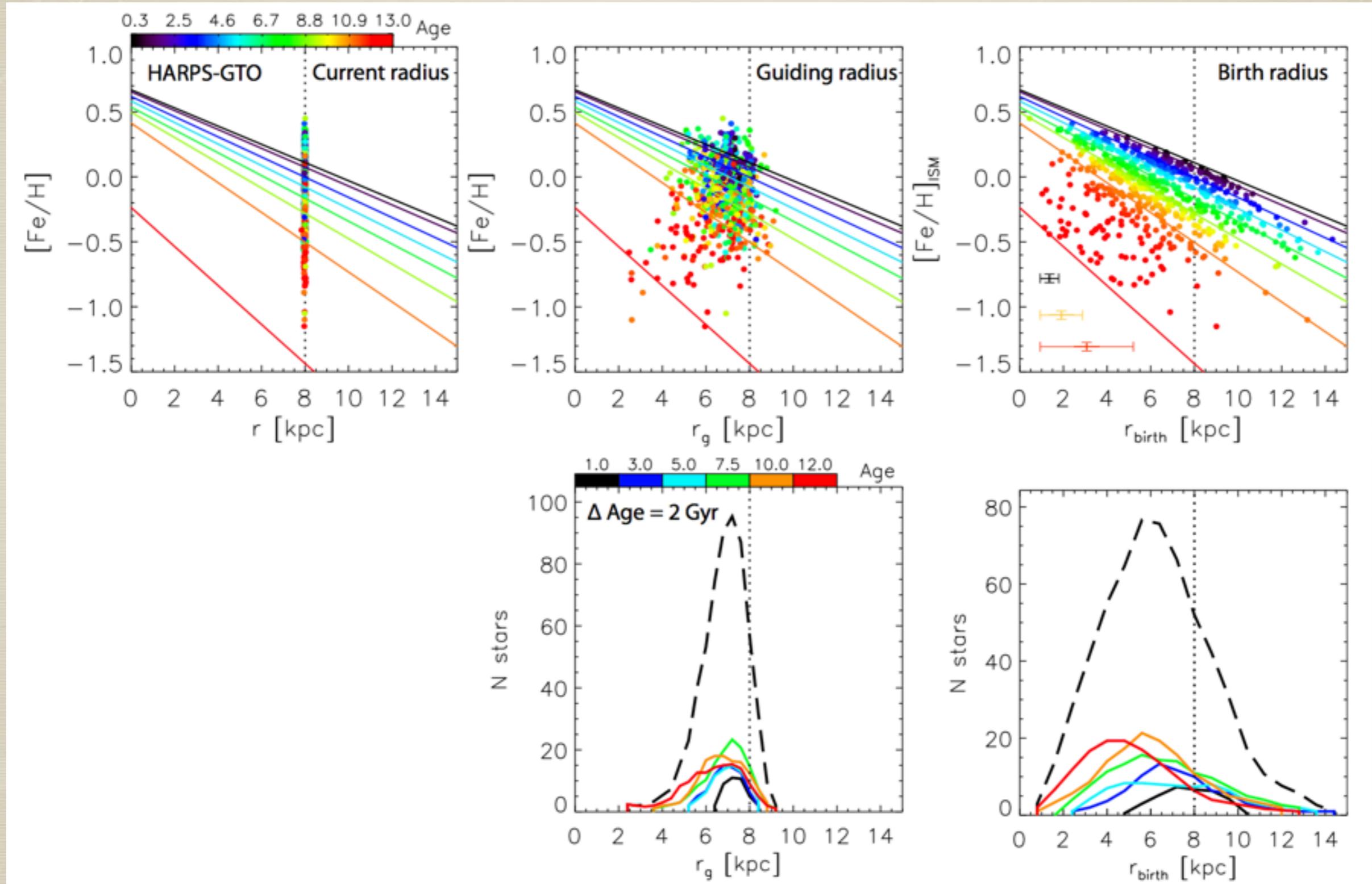


Model

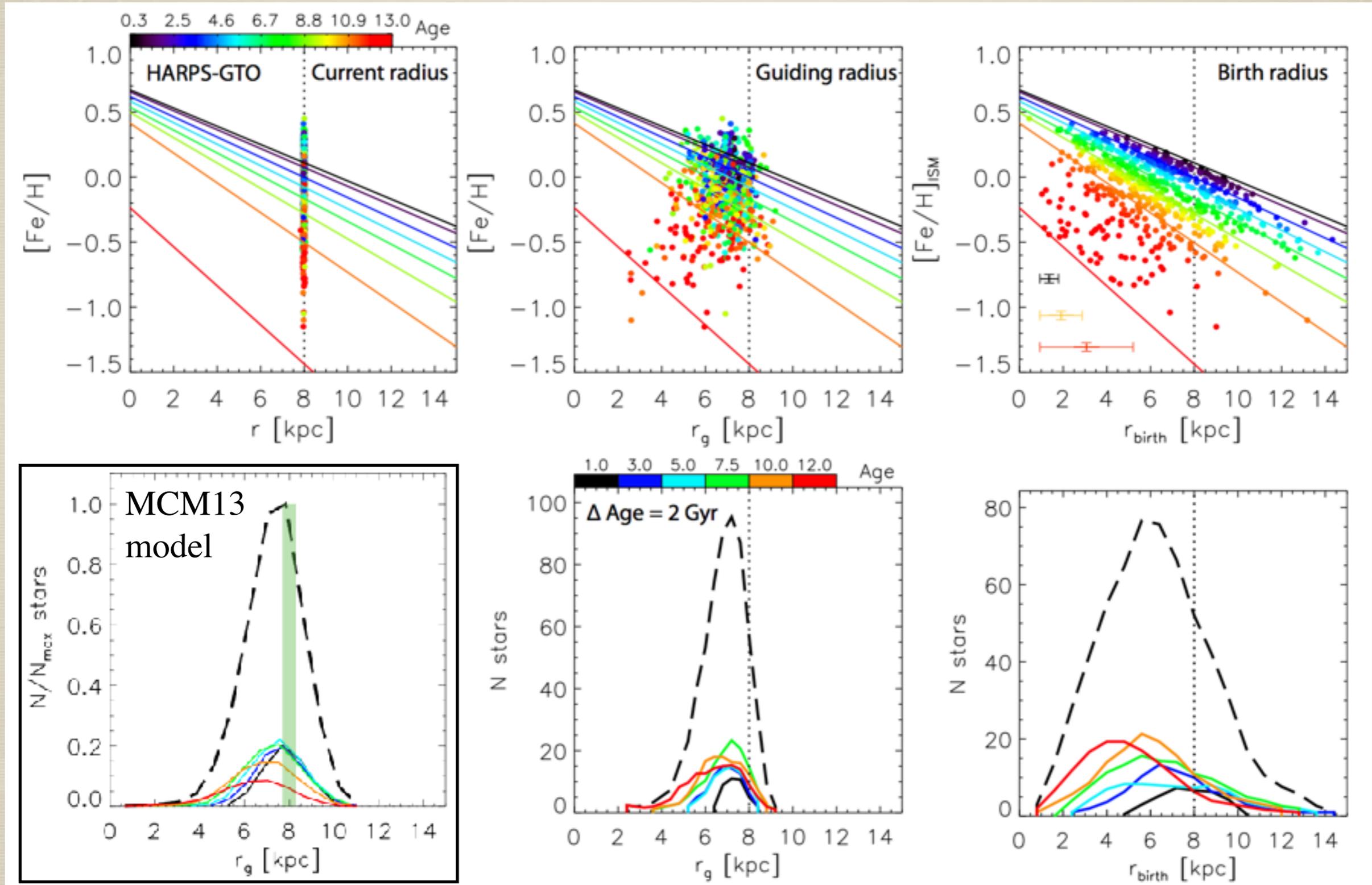


- ▶ $[Fe/H]$ slope sets the **peak position** of mono-age r_{birth} distributions
- ▶ $[Fe/H]$ time evolution at a given r sets the r_{birth} **spread**

Migration vs blurring



Migration vs blurring



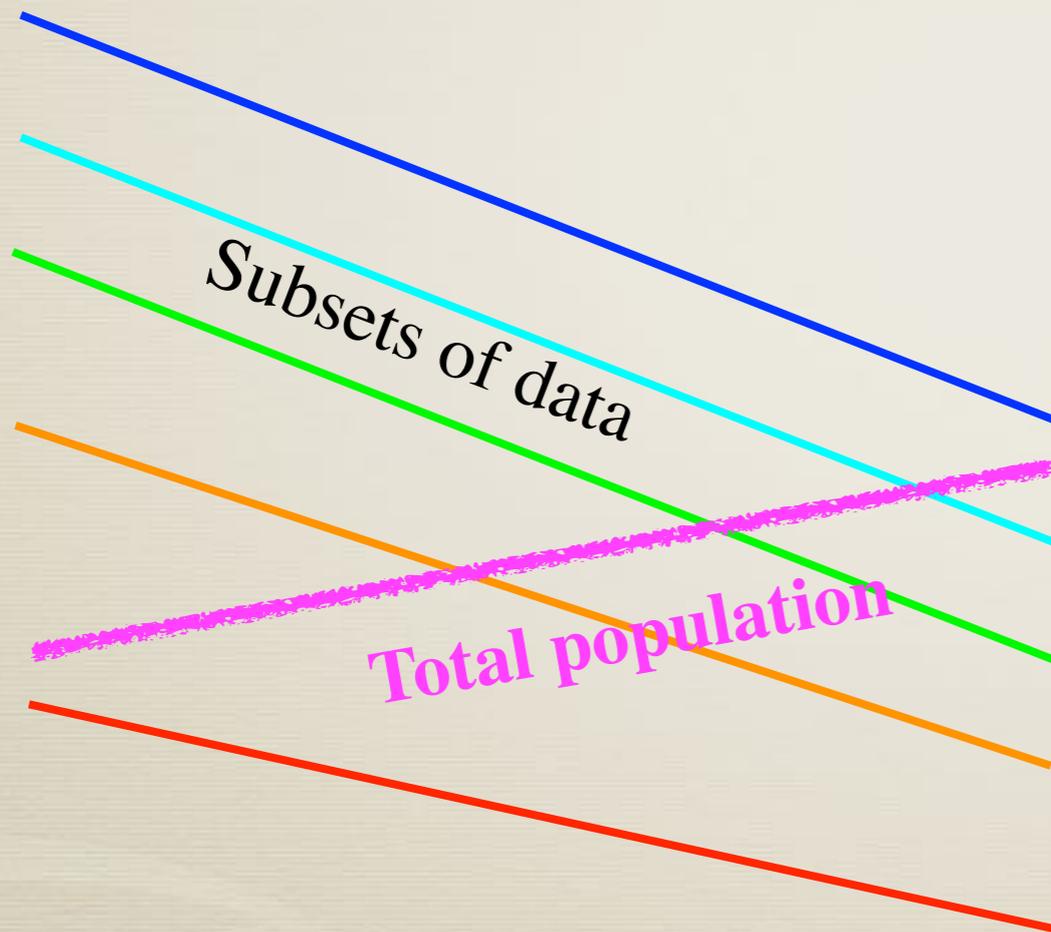
Simpson's paradox

Simpson's paradox, or the Yule-Simpson effect, arises when a trend appears in different subsets of data but **disappears or reverses** when these subsets are combined (Yule 1902, Simpson 1951)

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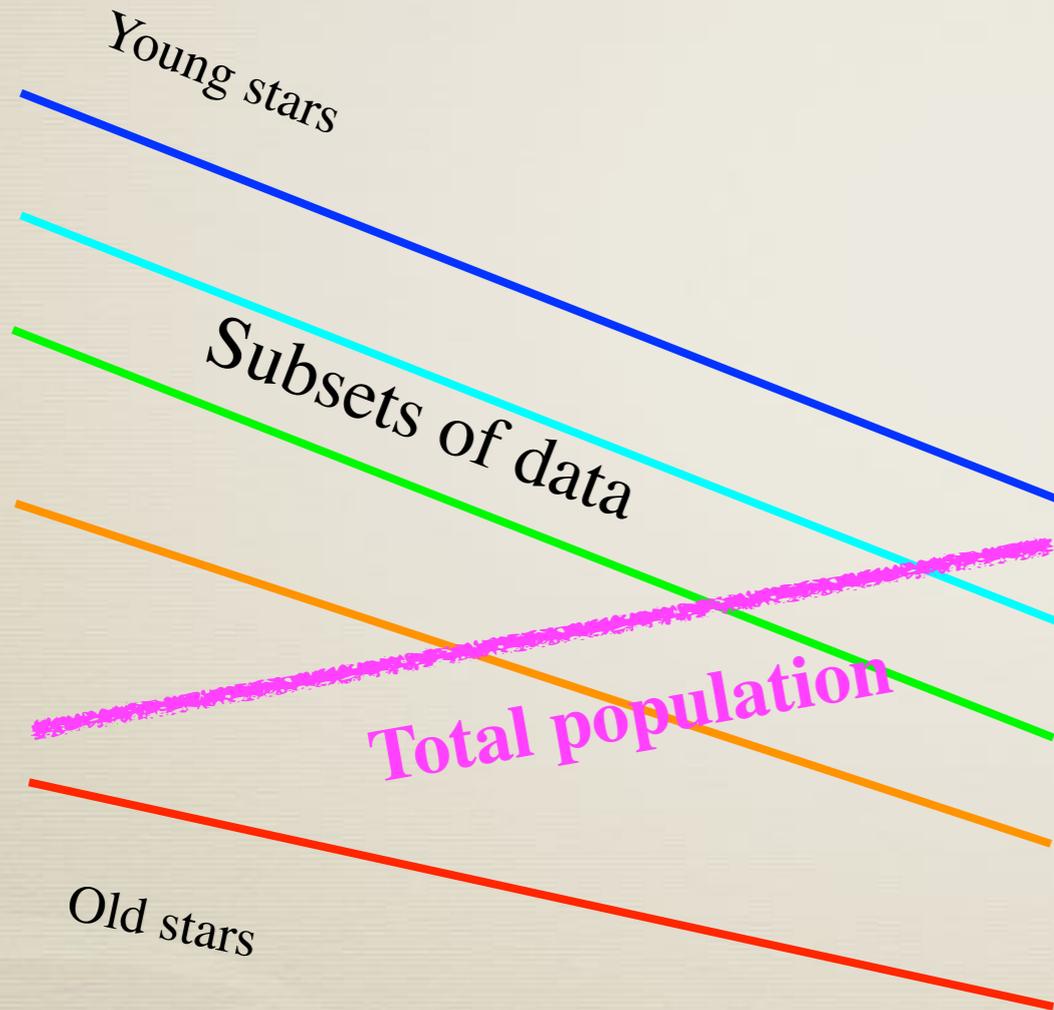
Following discussion and figures based on Minchev et al. (2019)



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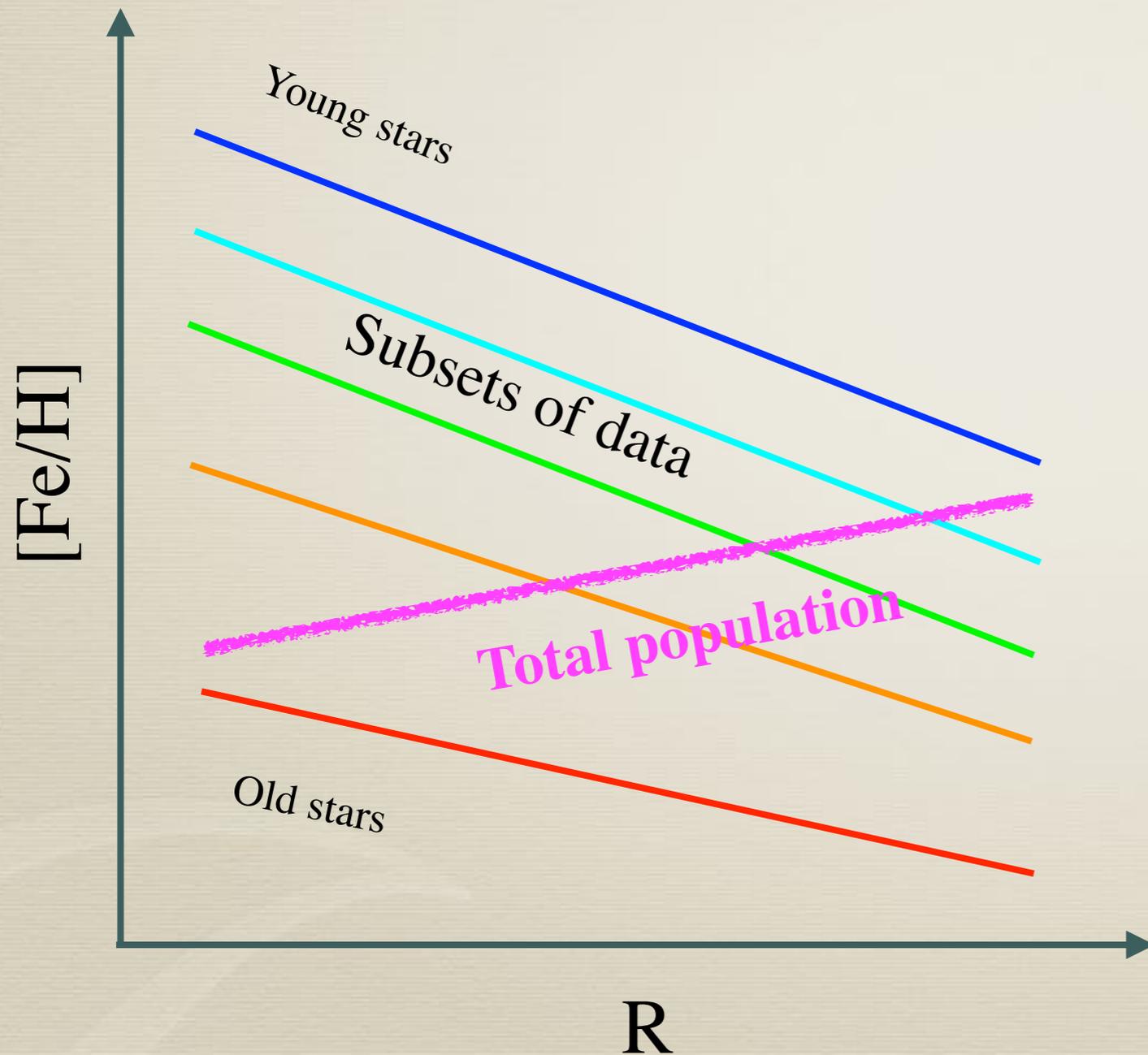
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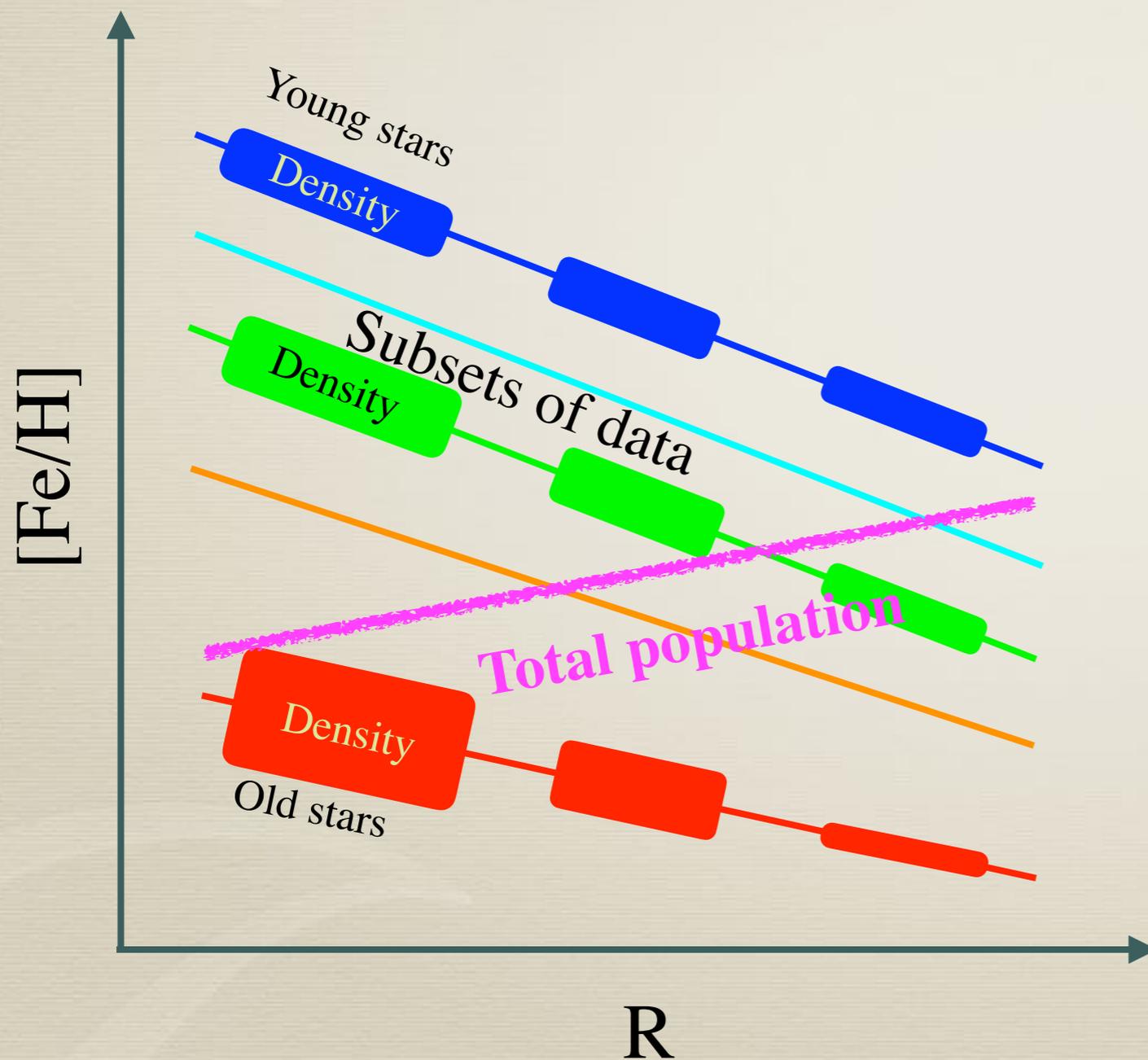
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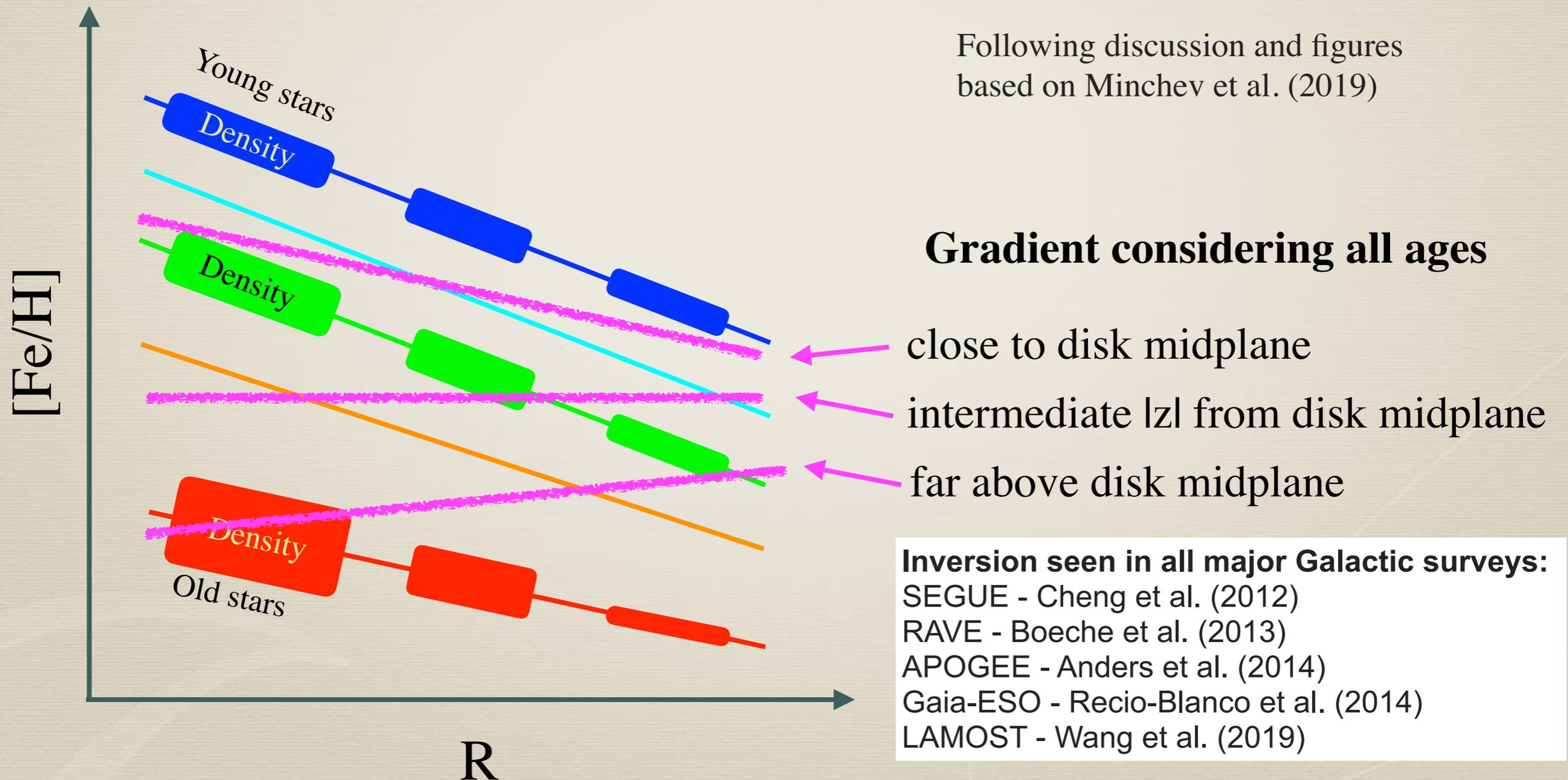
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Simpson's paradox

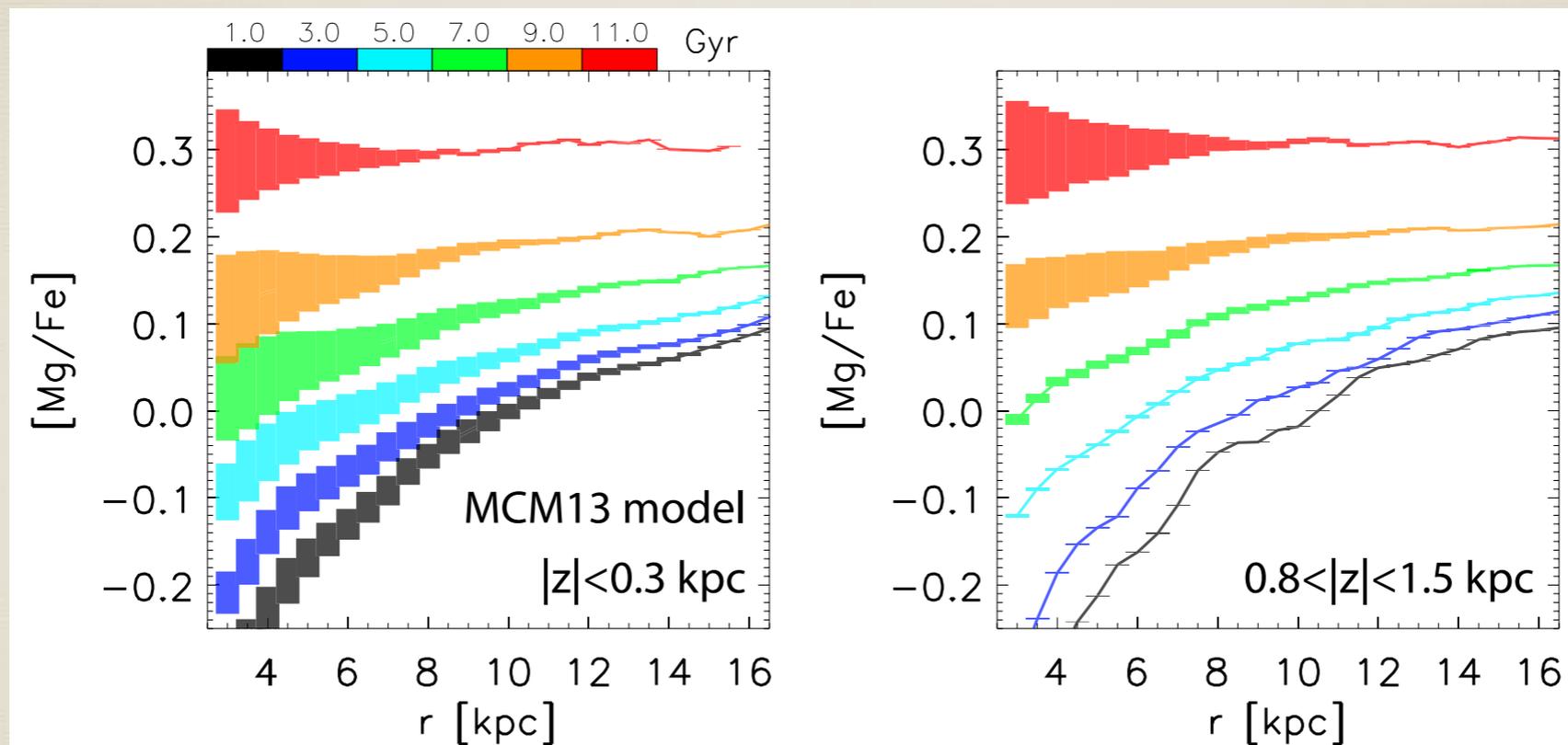
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Following discussion and figures based on Minchev et al. (2019)



Inversion of radial [Mg/Fe] gradient

Milky Way chemo-dynamical model (MCM13)



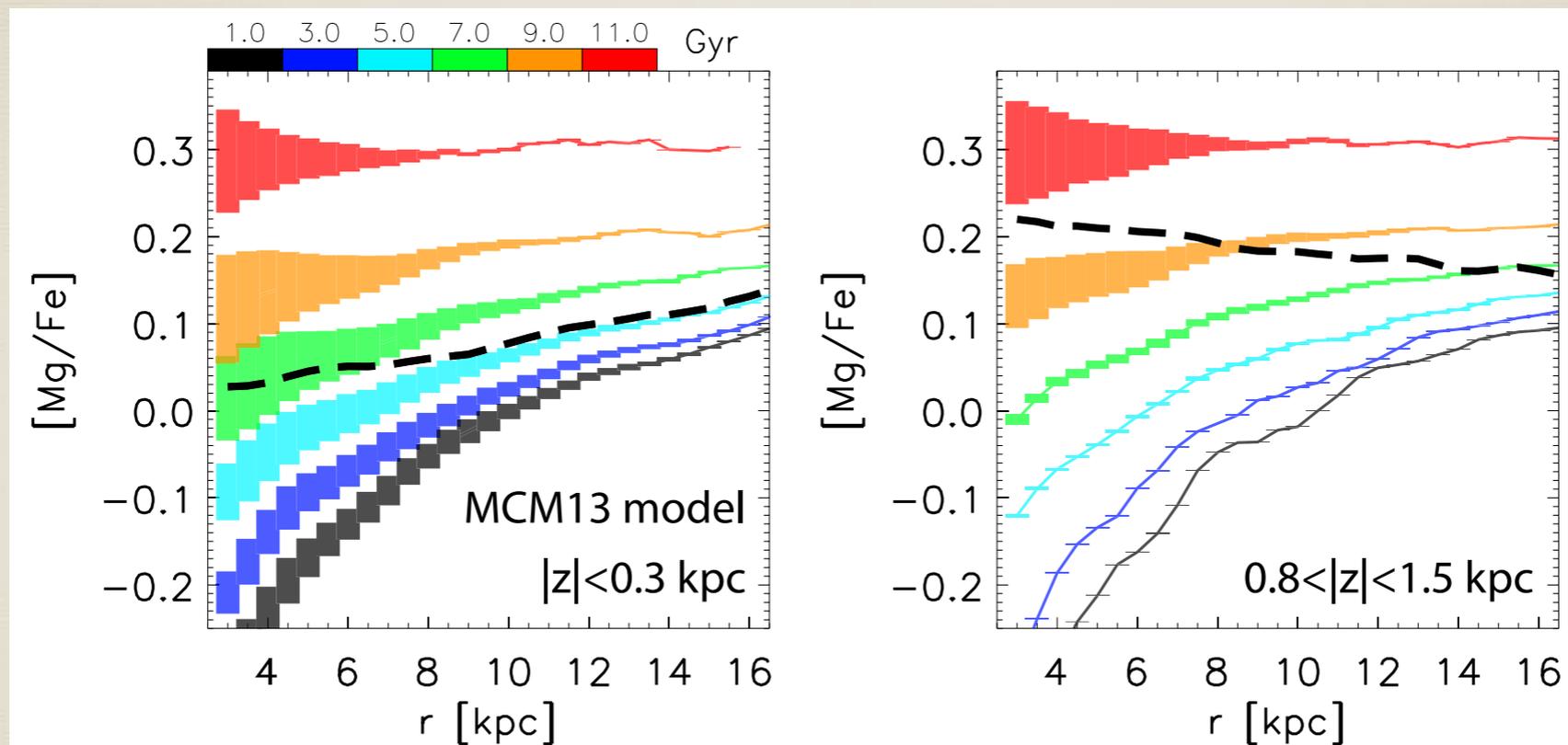
Minchev et al. (2014, 2019)

line thickness represents $\Sigma(r)$

Gradient inverts above disk midplane due to inside-out formation + disk flaring
— proposed explanation by Minchev, Chiappini, and Martig (2014), see Fig.10.

Inversion of radial [Mg/Fe] gradient

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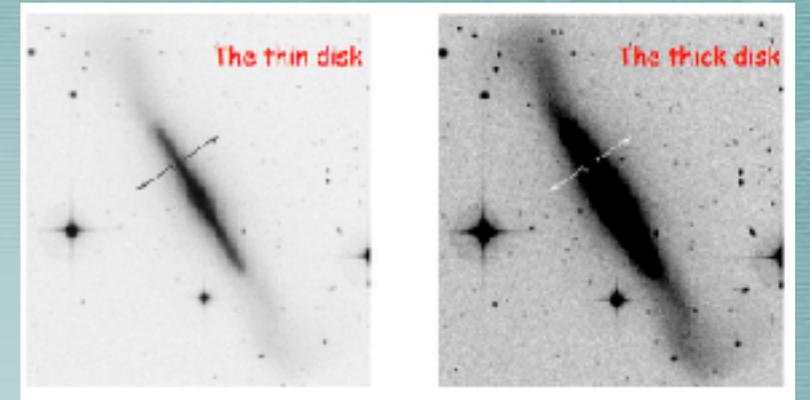


Minchev et al. (2014, 2019)

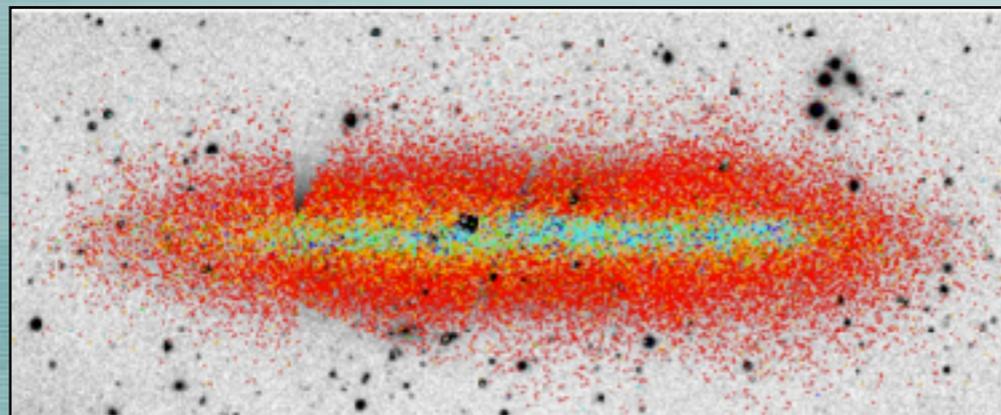
line thickness represents $\Sigma(r)$

Strong case of Simpson's paradox

Gradient inverts above disk midplane due to inside-out formation + disk flaring
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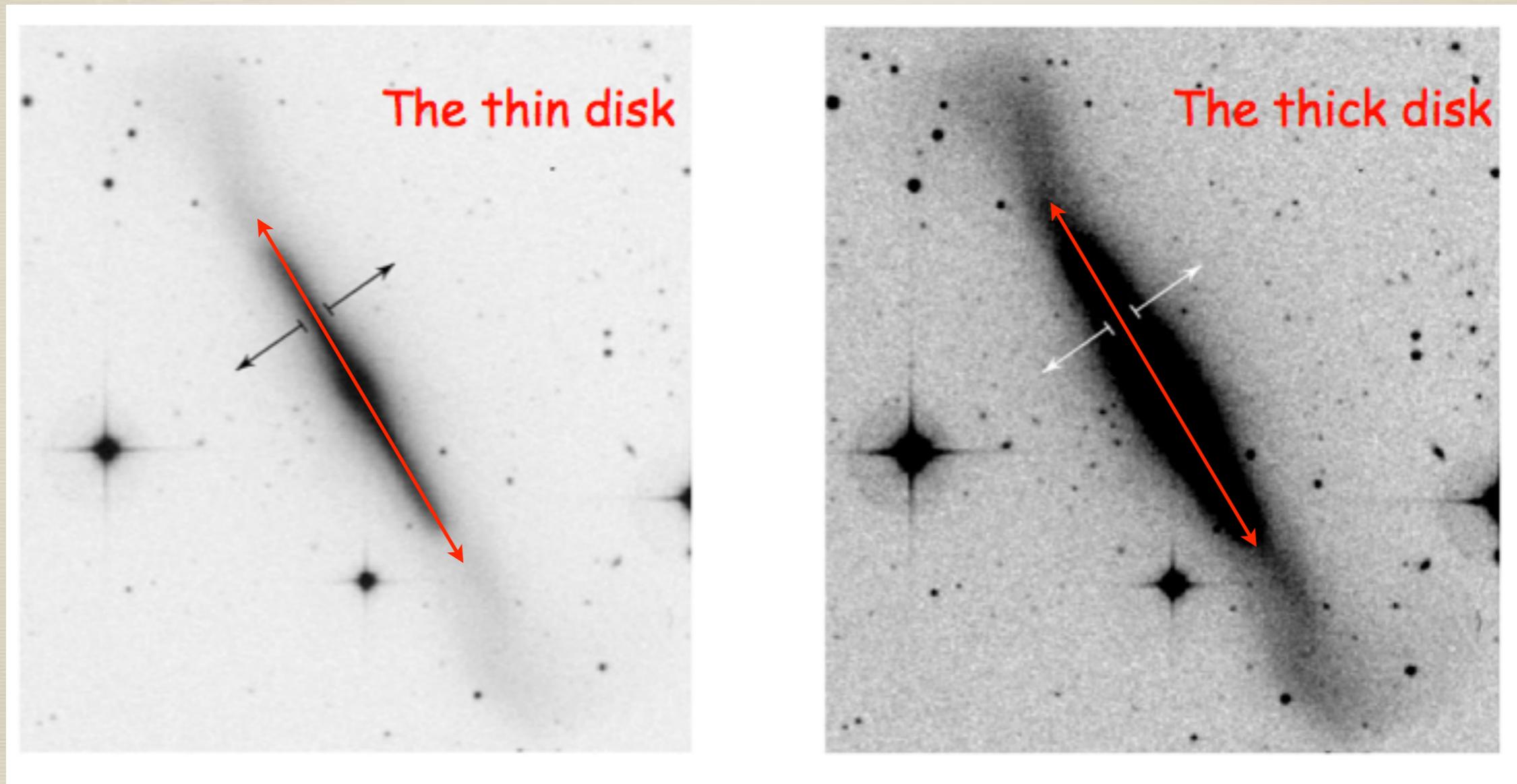


On the formation of galactic thick disks



Thick disks are extended and do not flare

NGC 4762 (Tsikoudi 1980)



Flaring in inside-out forming galactic disks

Simulations by Aumer/Scannapieco

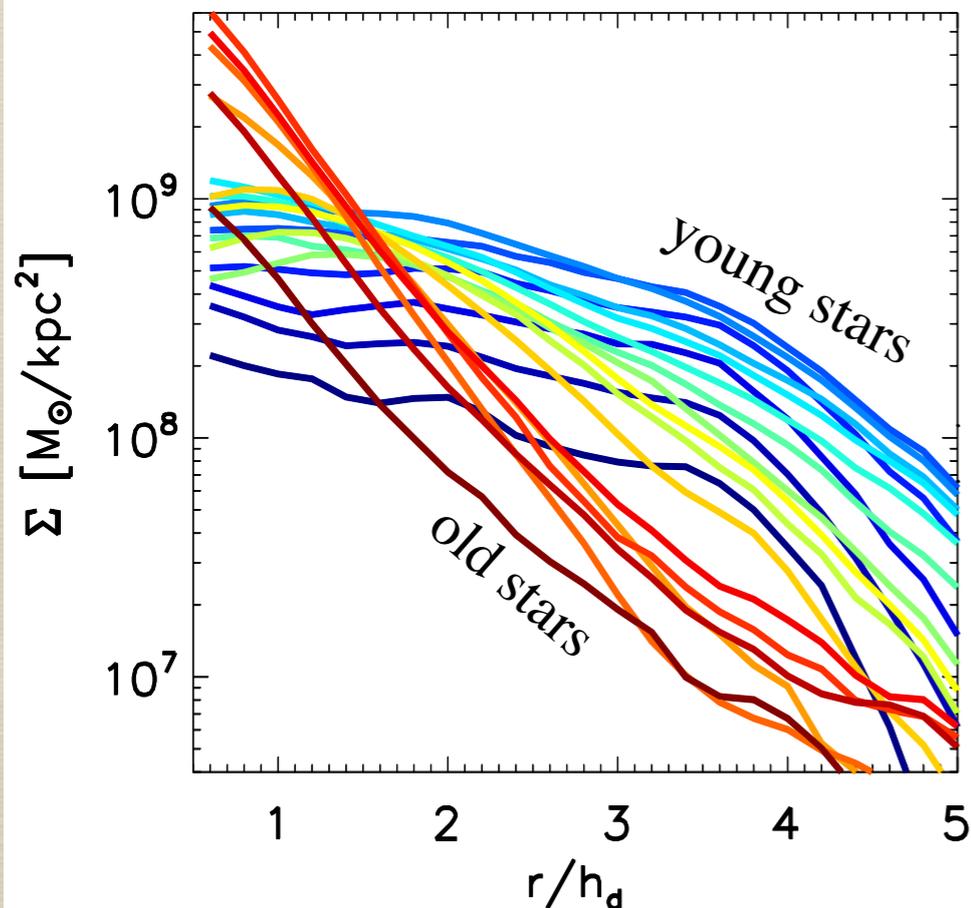
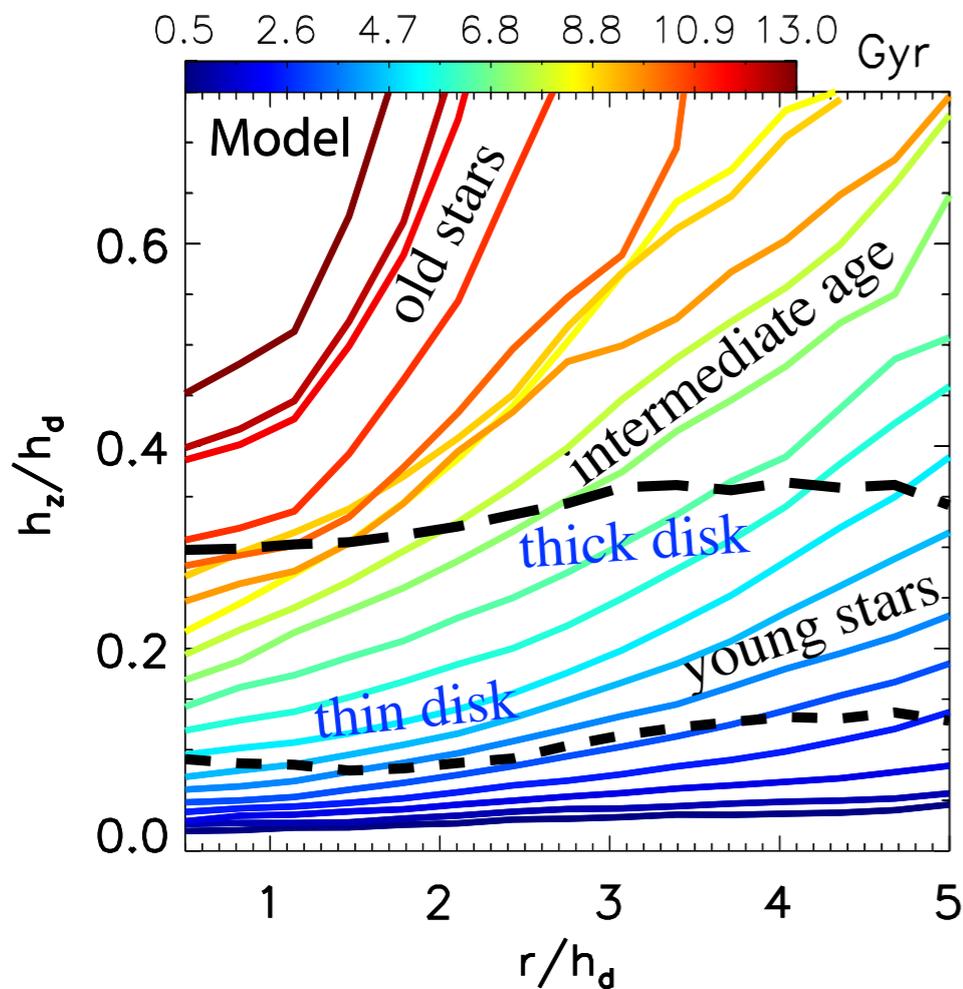
- All mono-age disks flare. Also found in Auriga sims (Grand et al. 2016)
FIRE sims (Ma et al. (2017)
Pillepich simulations
- No flaring in thin and thick disks when total population considered

Weak case of Simpson's paradox

Density of **old stars** dominates in **inner disk**

Young stars dominate in **outer disk**

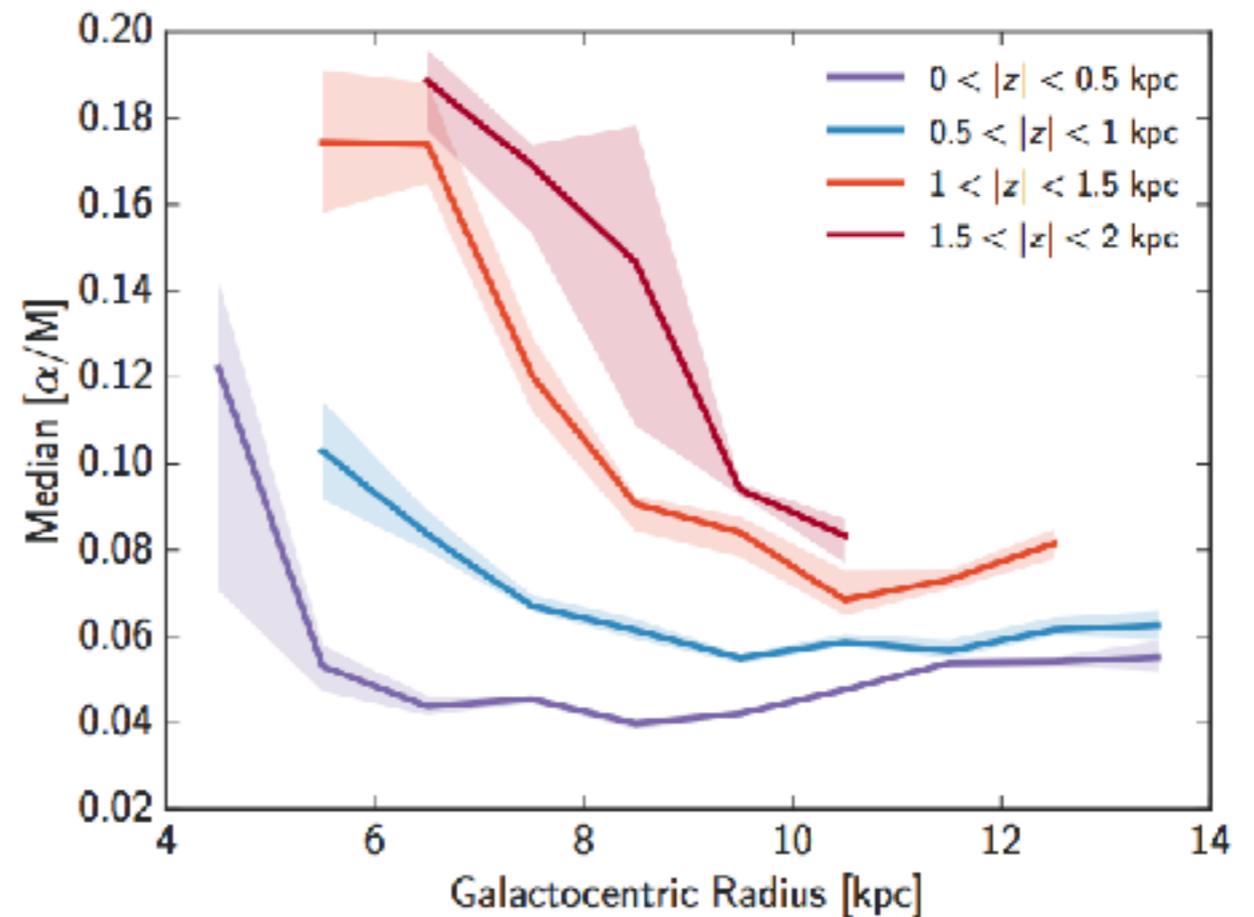
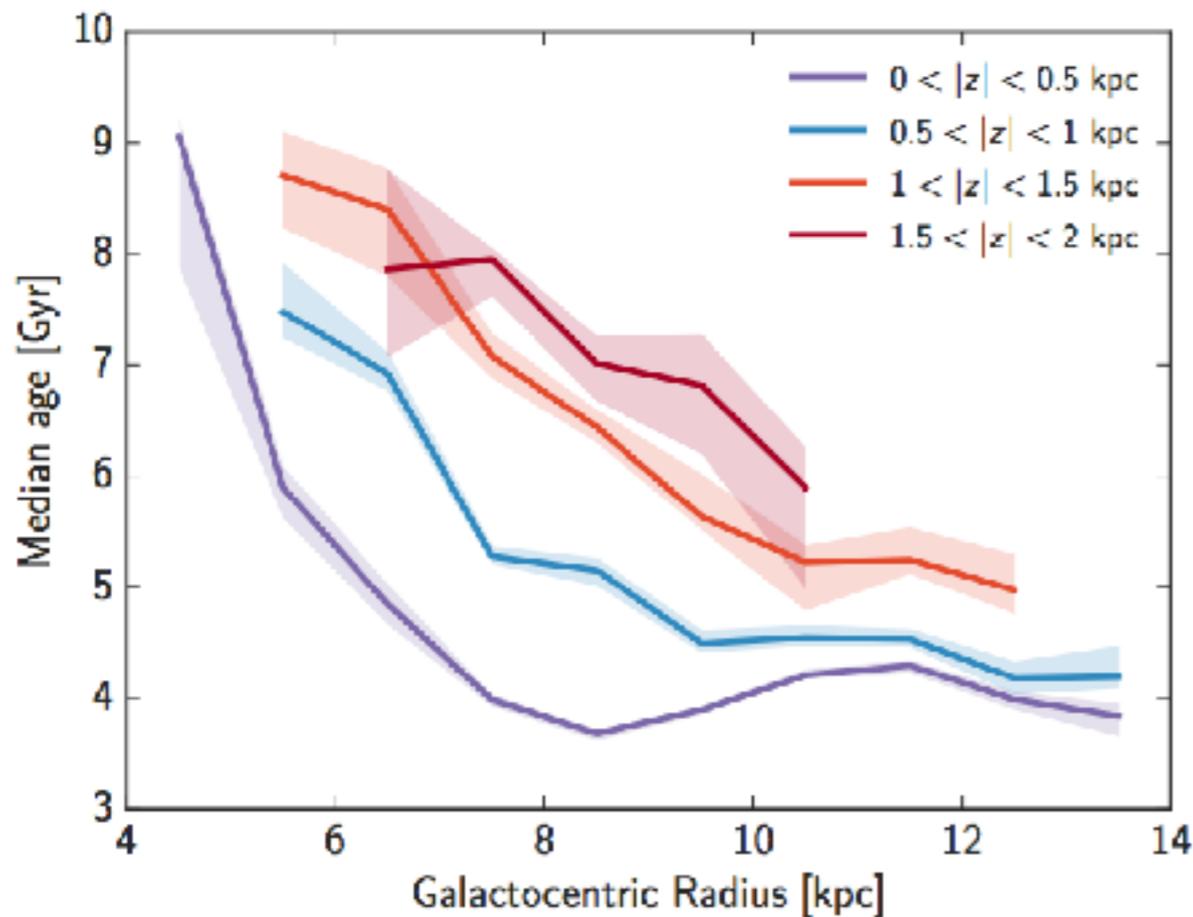
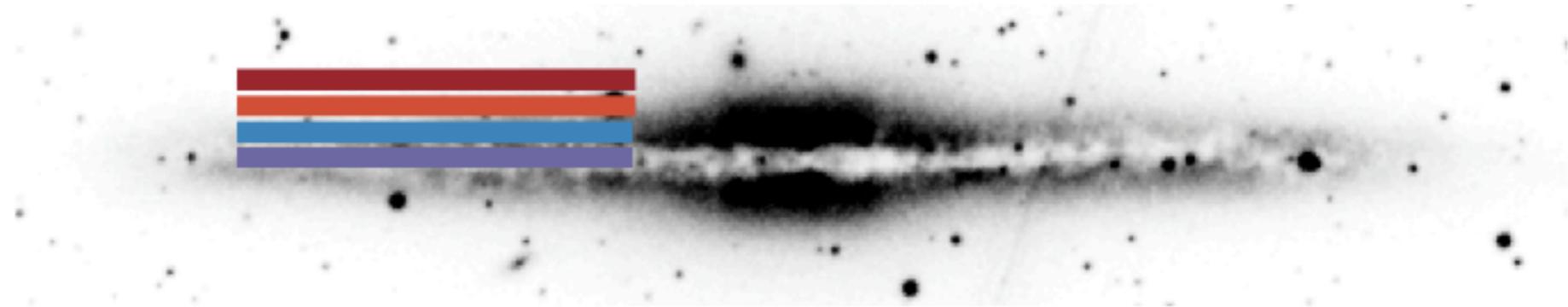
Disk thickness



Minchev et al. (2015)

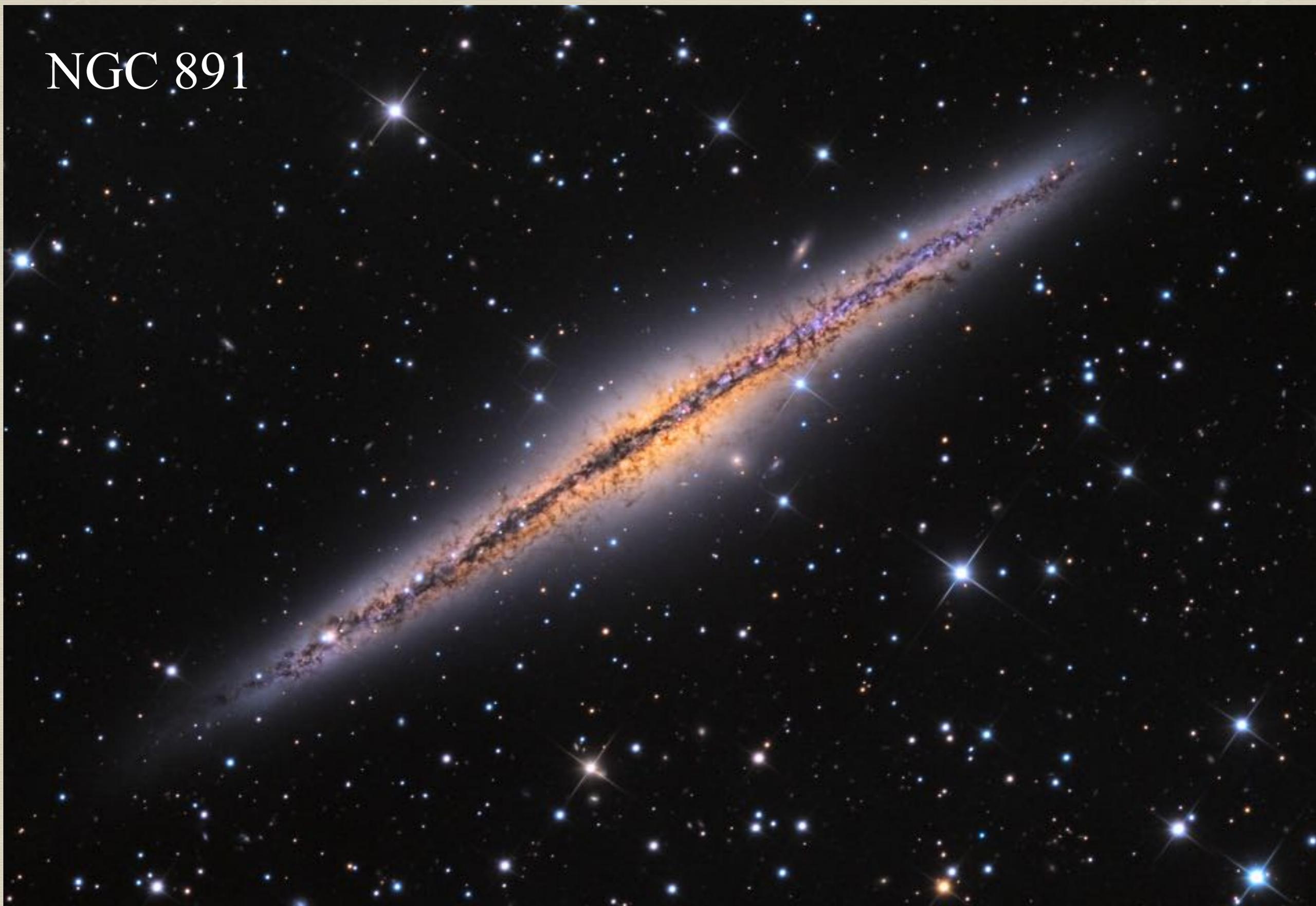
Negative age and $[\alpha/\text{Fe}]$ gradients at high $|z|$ in APOGEE

Consistent with flaring of mono-age populations

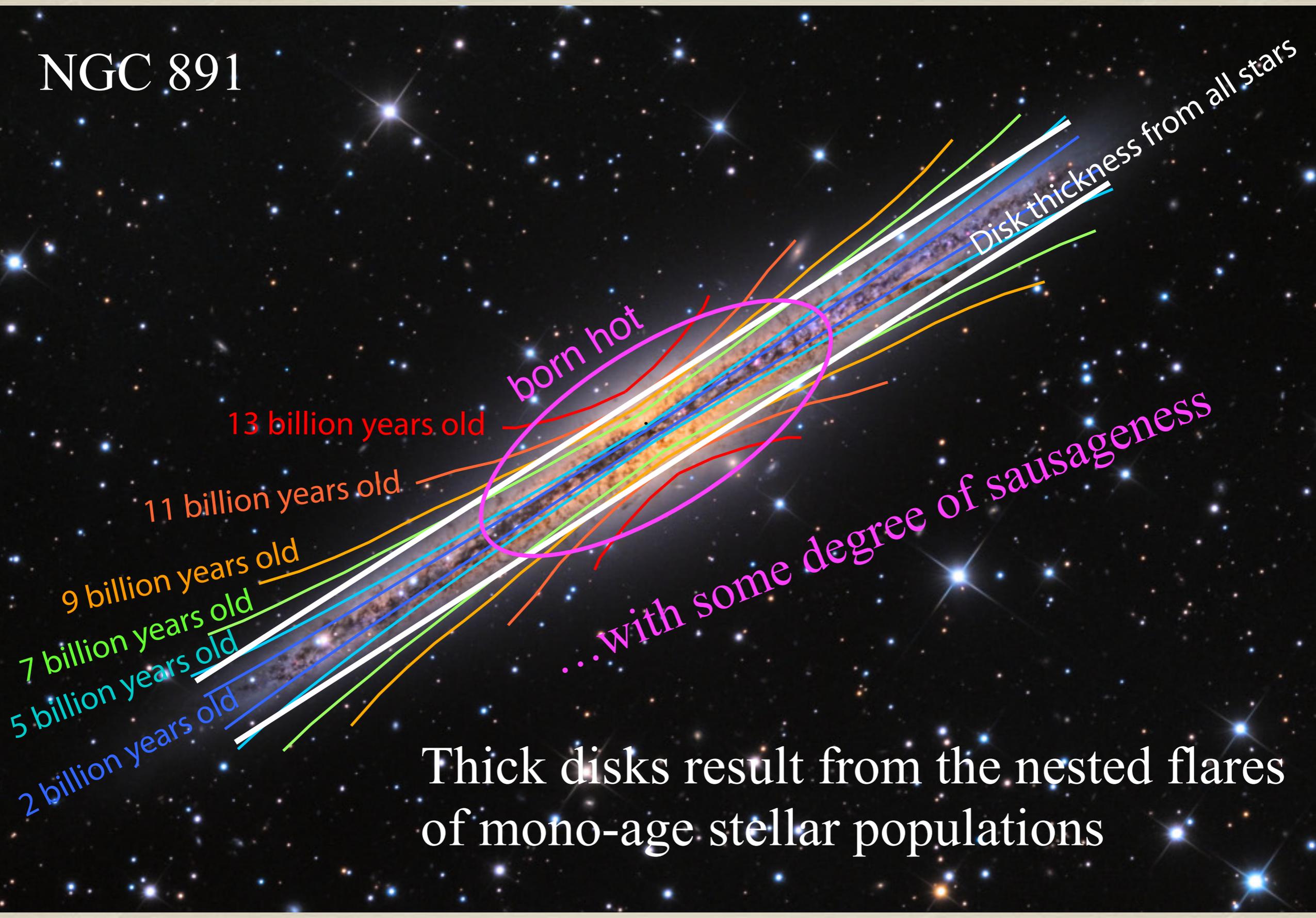


Martig et al. (2016)

NGC 891



NGC 891



13 billion years old

11 billion years old

9 billion years old

7 billion years old

5 billion years old

2 billion years old

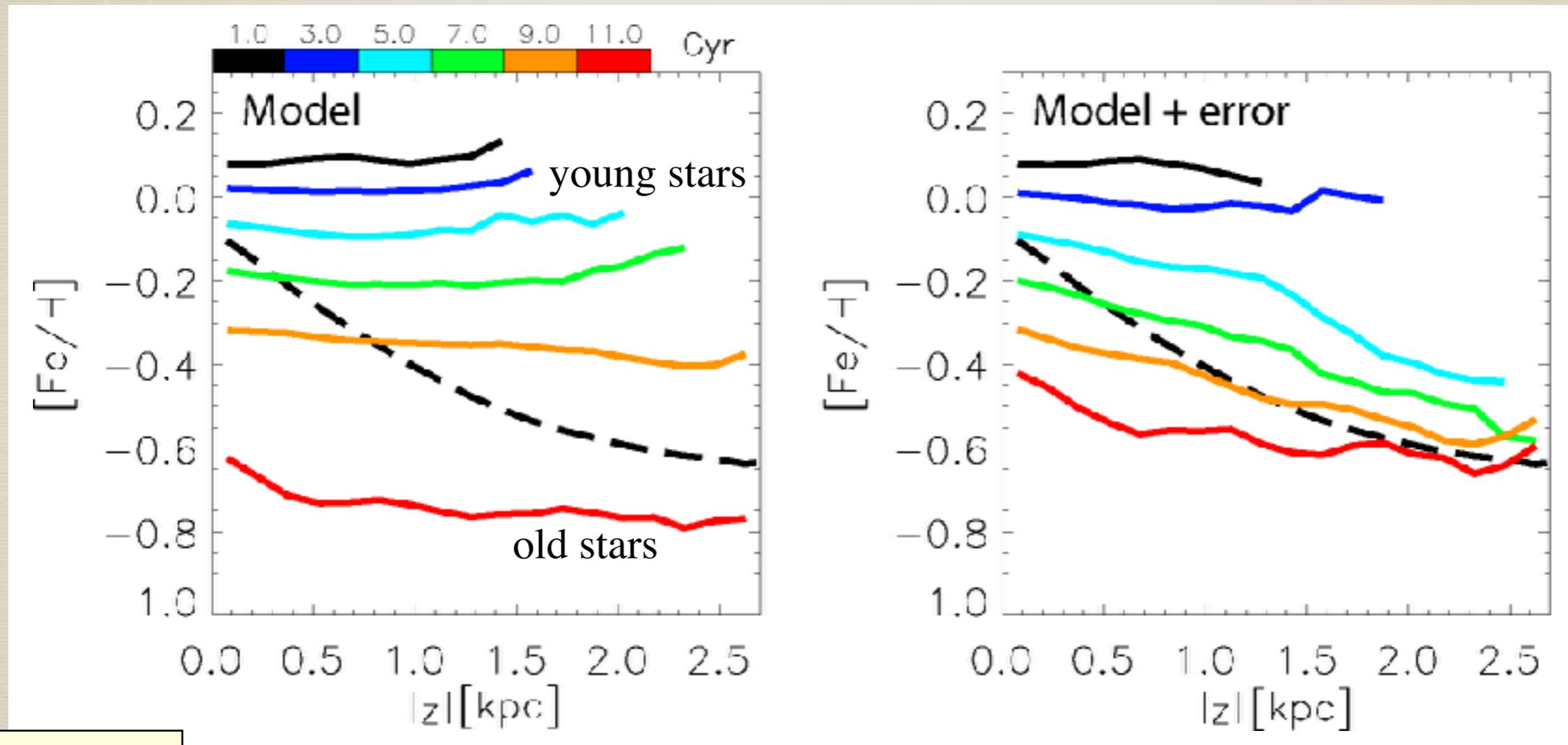
born hot

Disk thickness from all stars

...with some degree of sausageness

Thick disks result from the nested flares of mono-age stellar populations

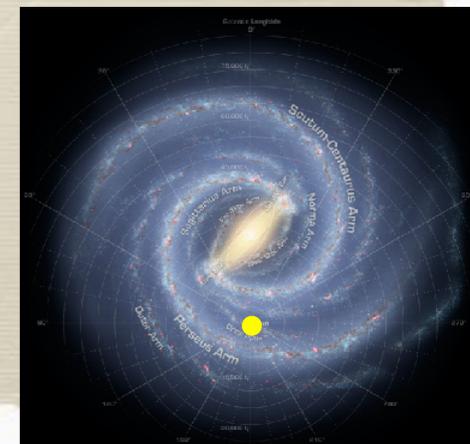
The vertical metallicity gradient



MCM13 model

Distance from disk midplane

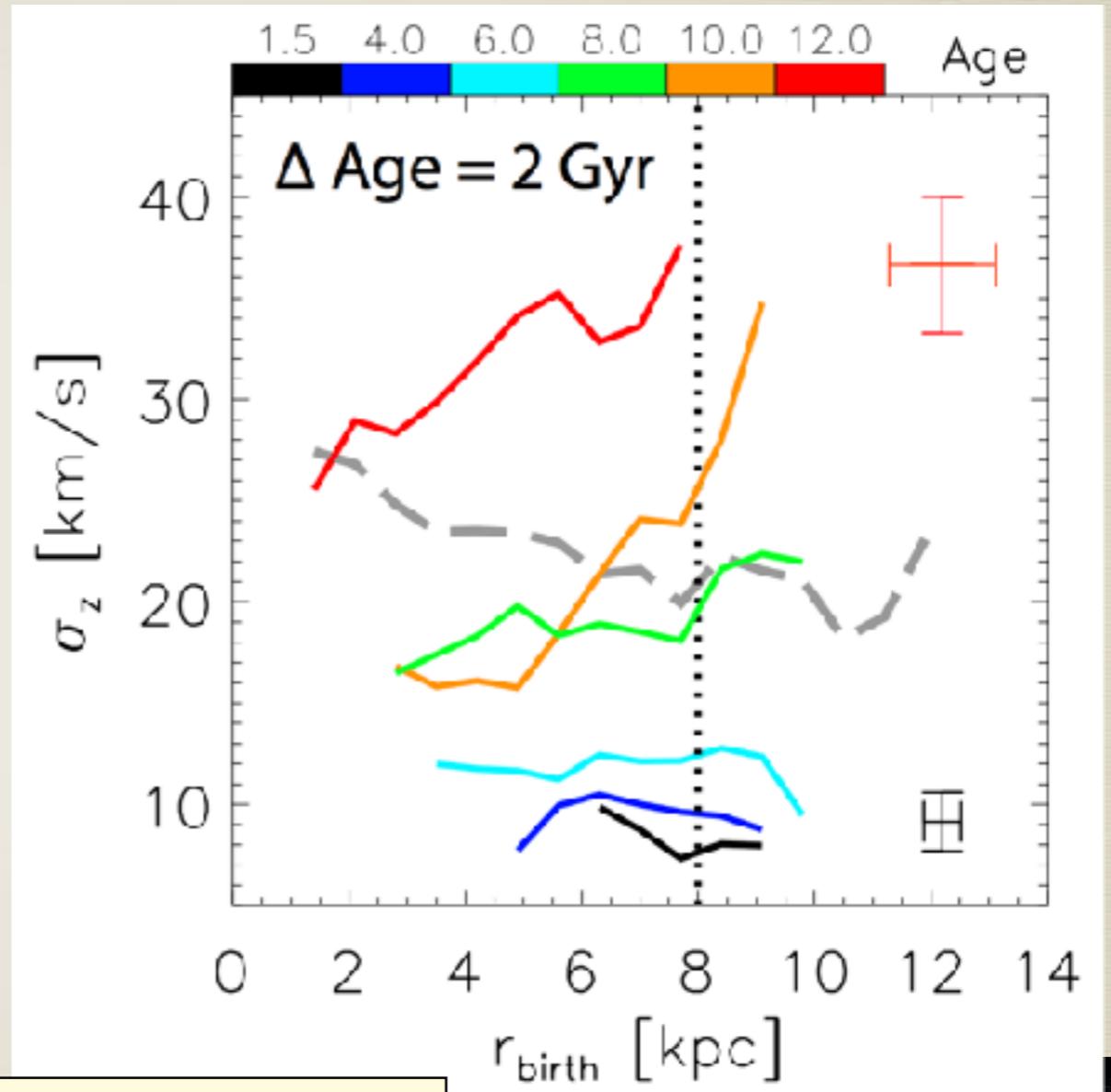
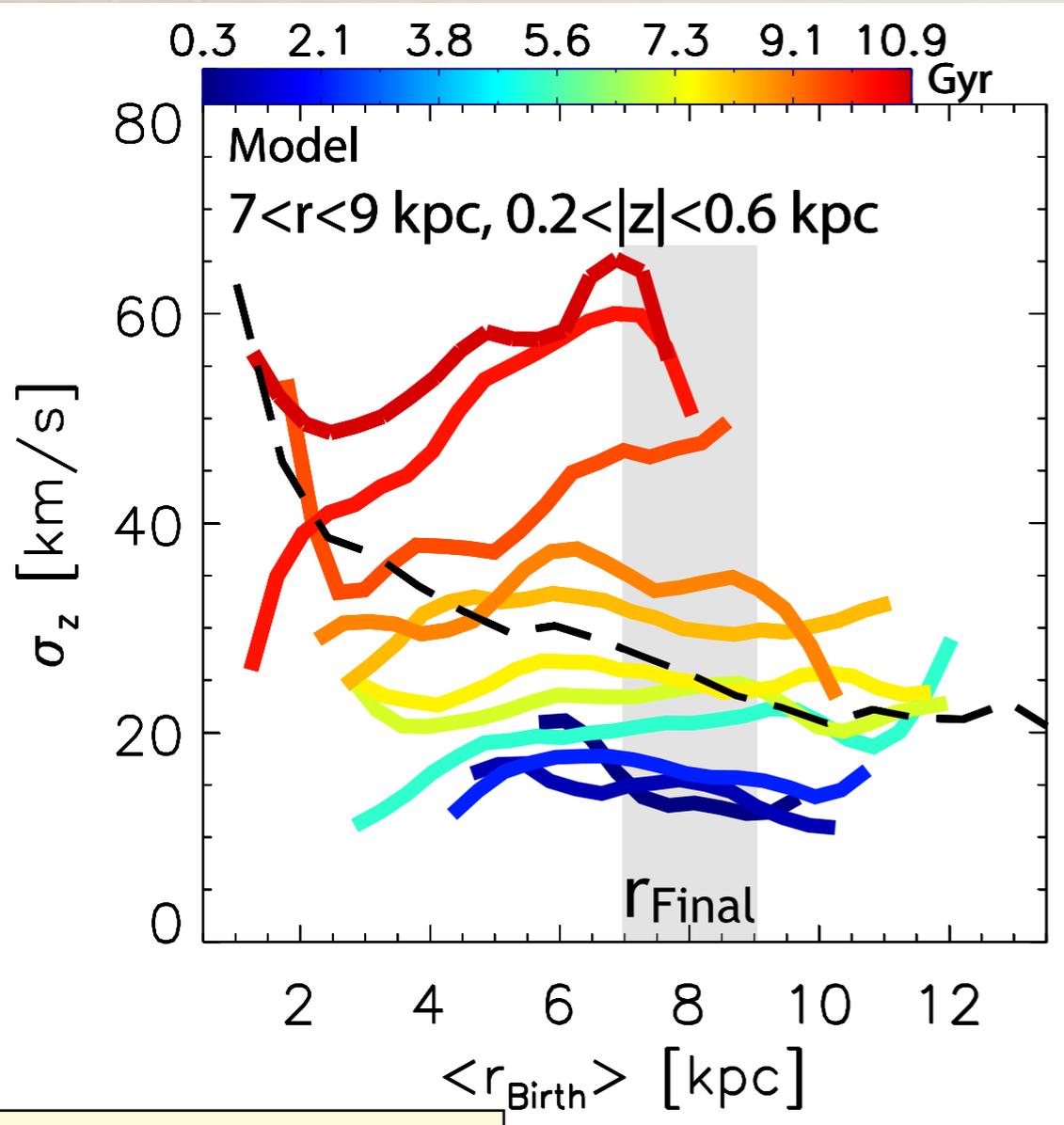
Seen in data by, e.g.,
Schlesinger et al. (2014)
Hayden et al. (2014)
Cuica et al. (2018)



Birth radius vs vertical velocity dispersion

Strong case of Simpson's paradox

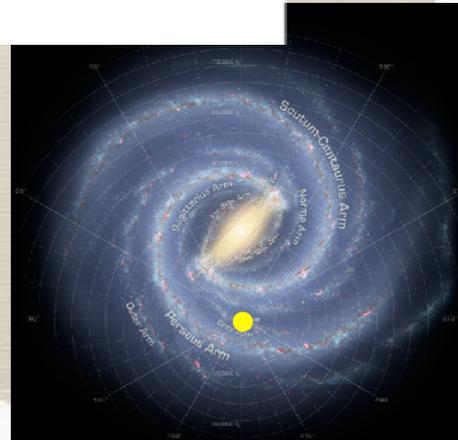
HARPS data (isochrone ages)
Birth radius from age+[Fe/H]



Minchev + RAVE (2014)

Minchev et al. (2018)

- Hot local stars born in outer disk as in model
- Indicate disk flaring due to mergers at high redshift
- Note that kinematics are independent from r_{birth} estimate

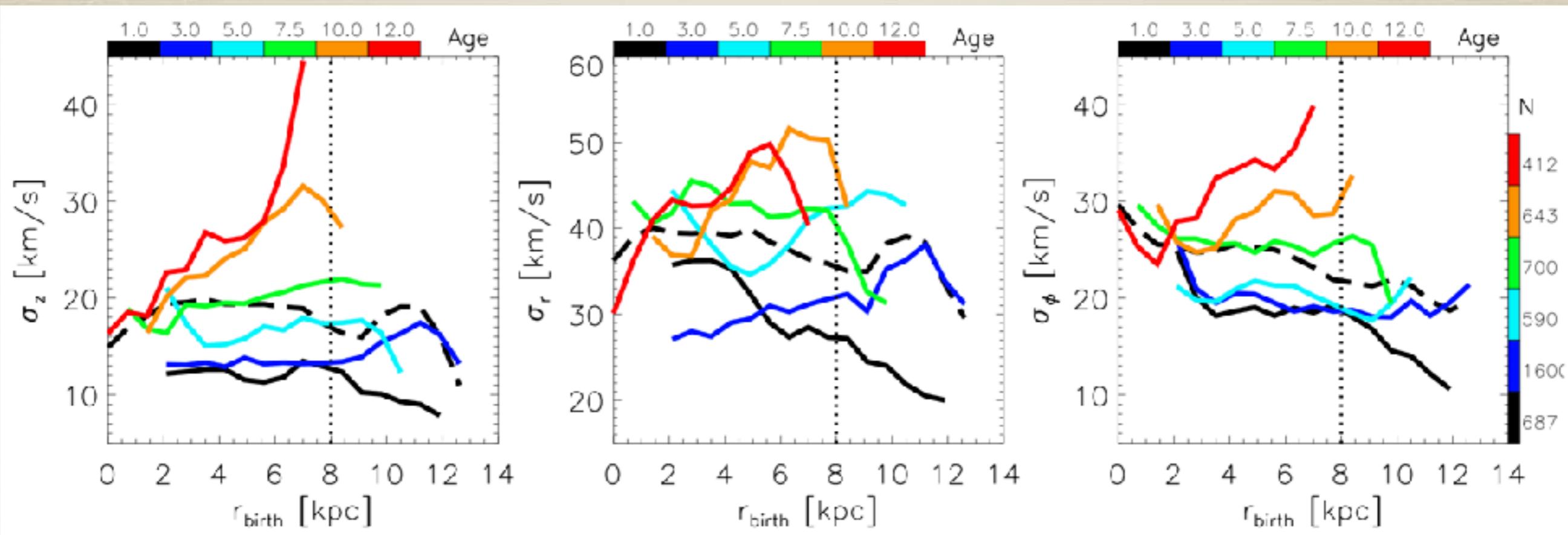


RAVE DR6 velocity dispersion vs birth radius

V_z

V_r

V_ϕ

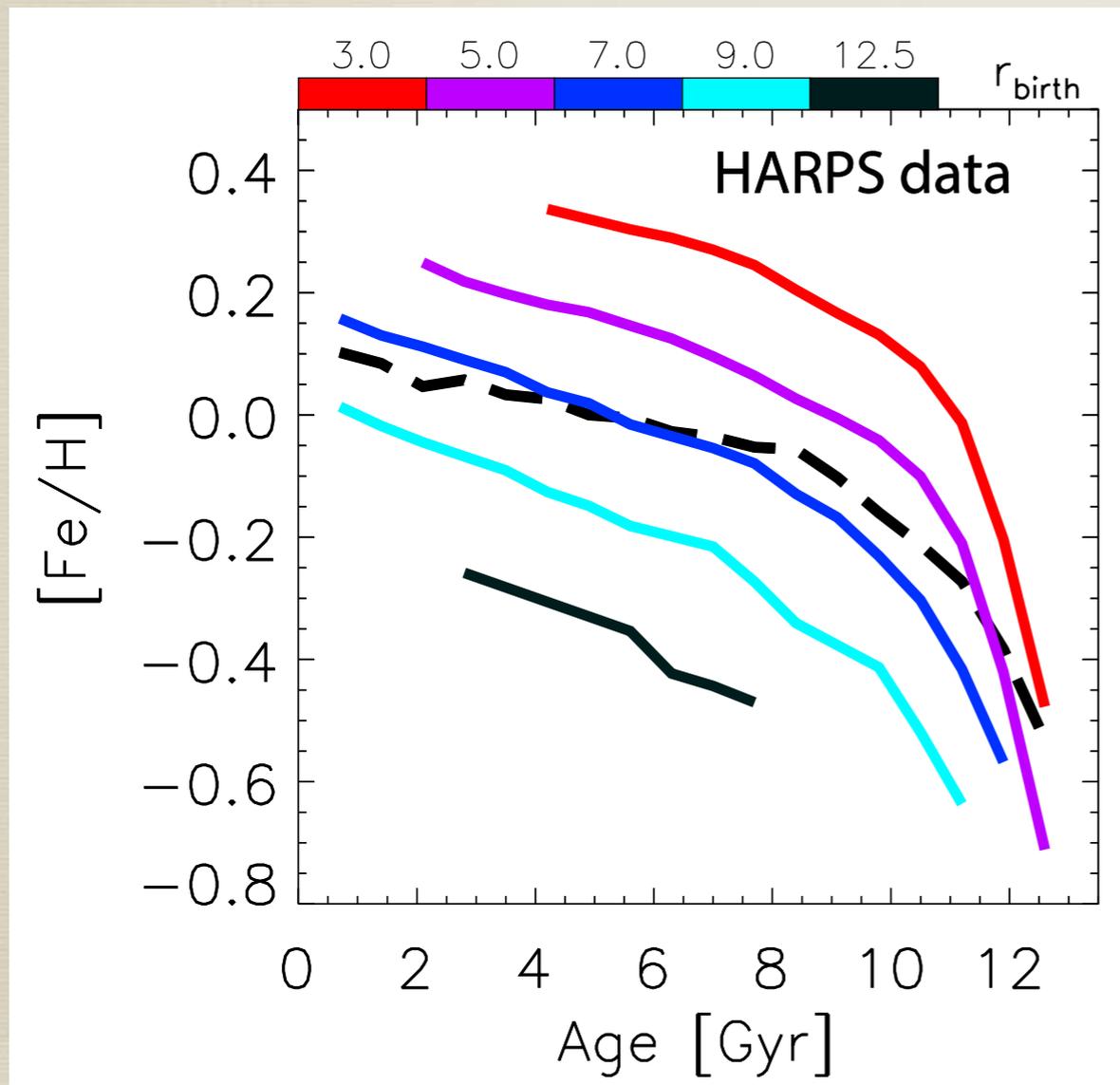


Ages estimated by P. McMillan

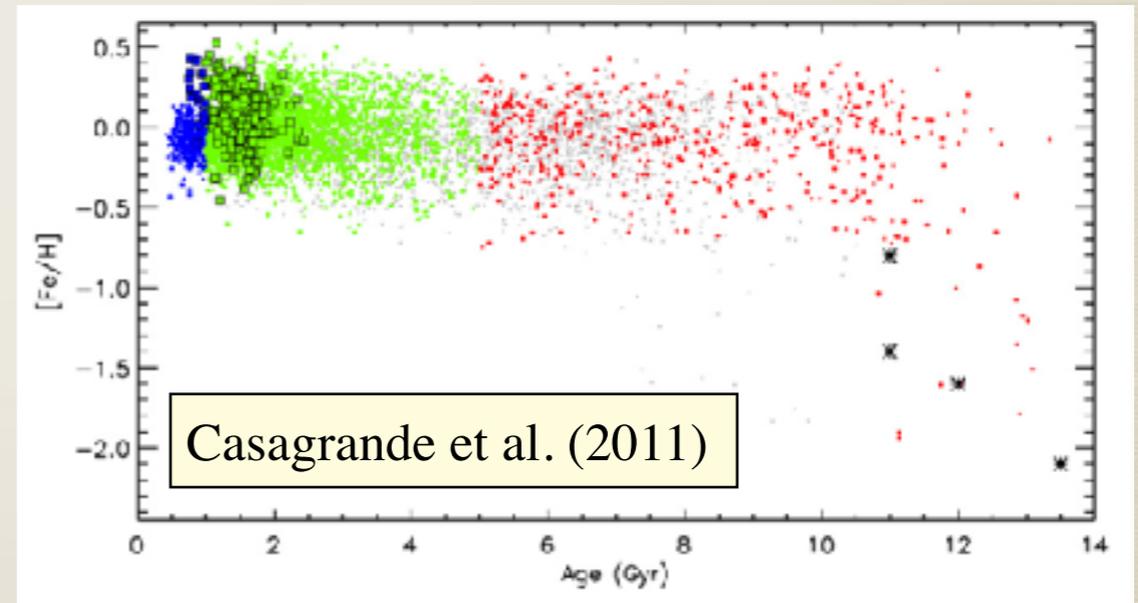
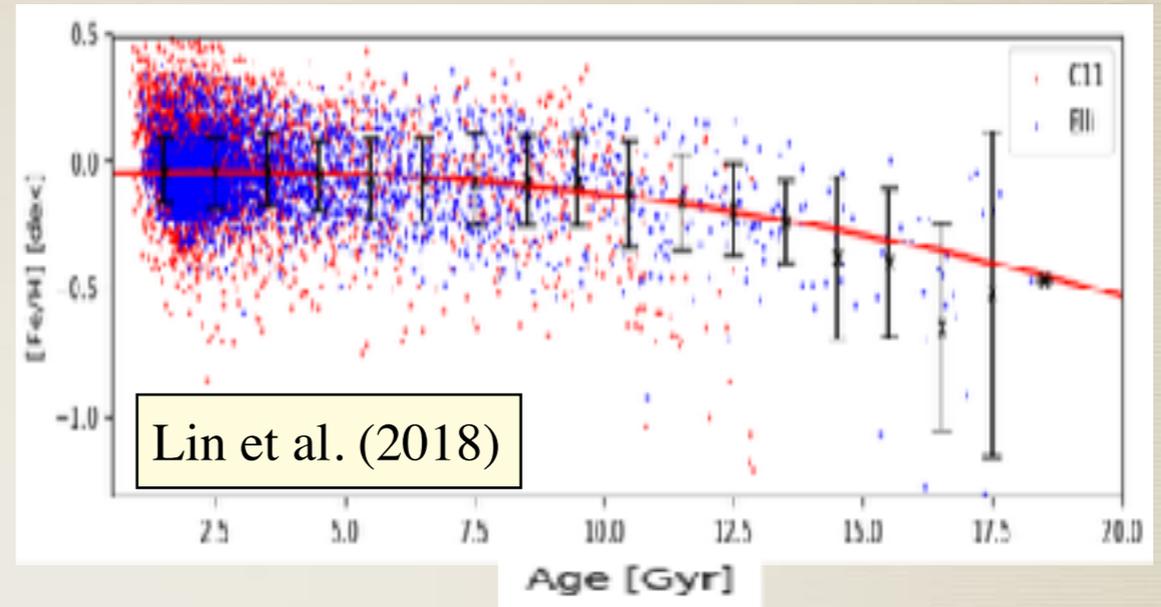
- For all 3 velocity components dispersion follows positive trends for old stars
- Indicates stronger heating in outer disk and migration of cooler stars from inner disk
- Note that kinematics are independent from r_{birth} estimate

Age-metallicity relation (AMR)

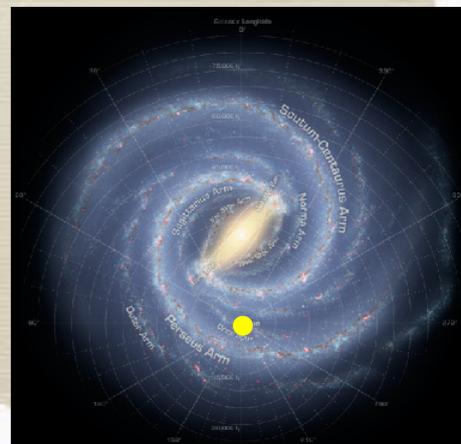
HARPS data. Birth radius estimated from age+[Fe/H]



Minchev et al. (2018)

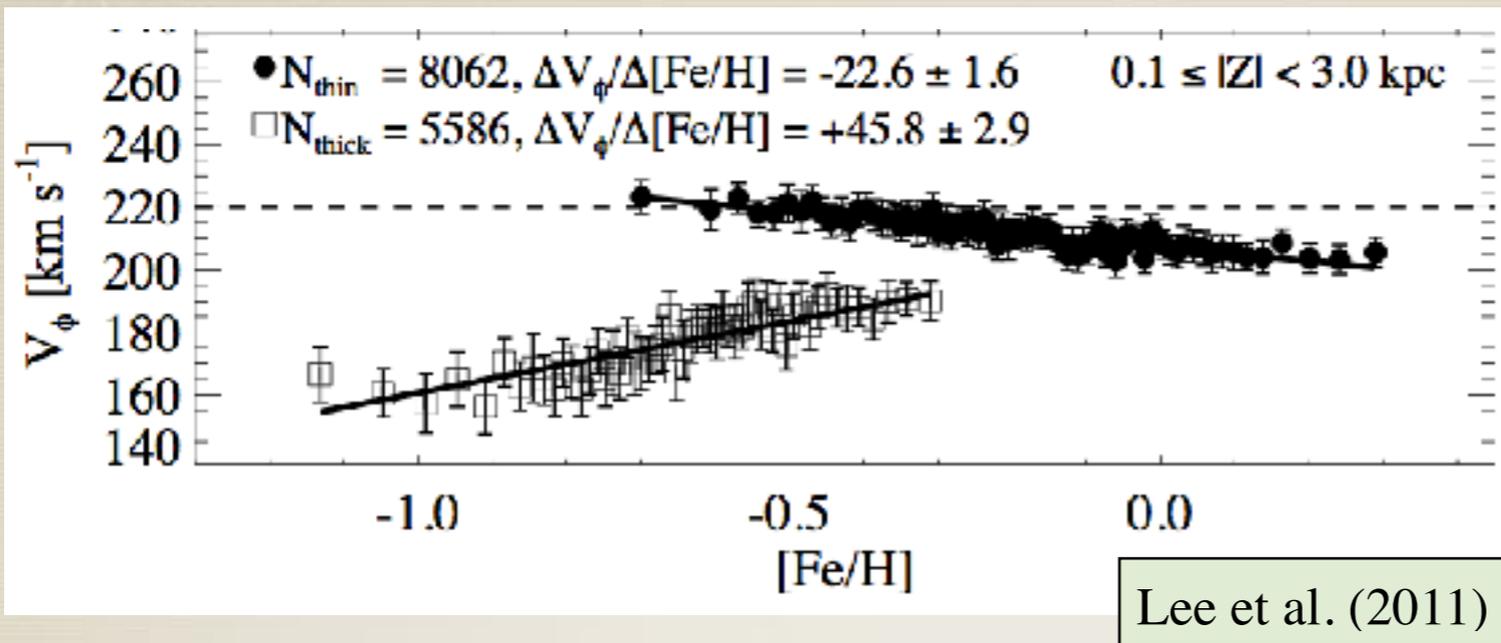


Flatter AMR of total sample results from well-defined AMR of **mono- r_{birth}** populations



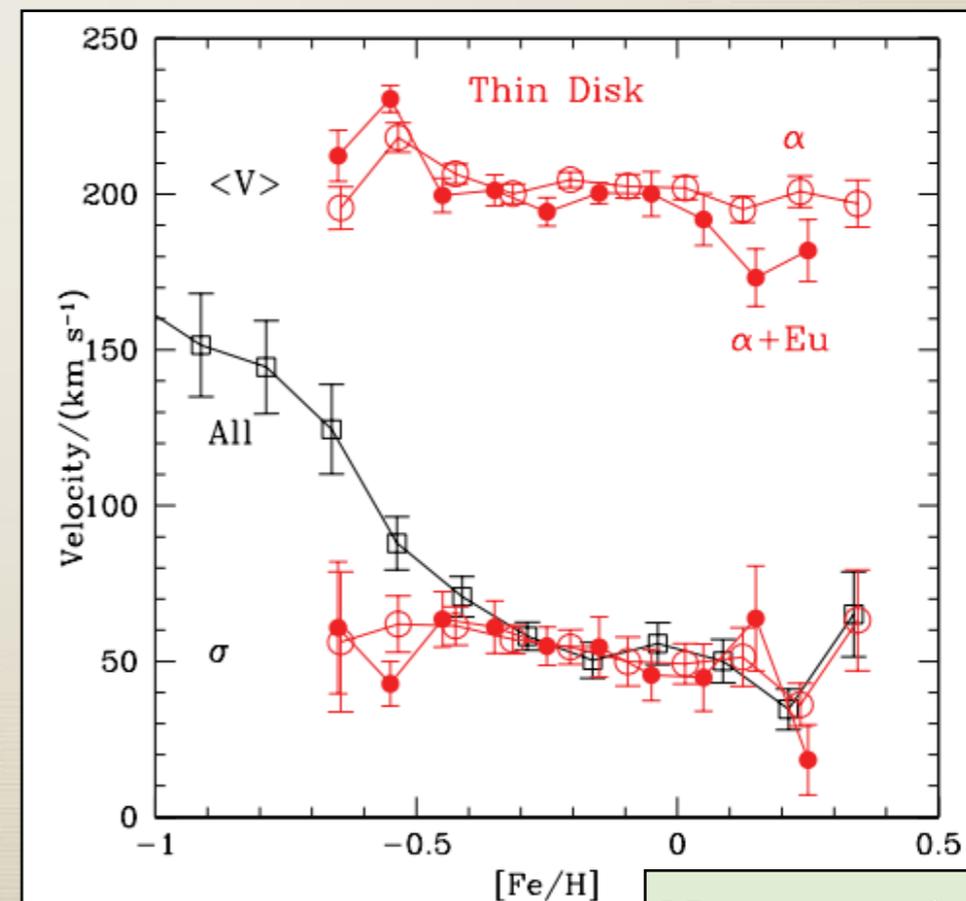
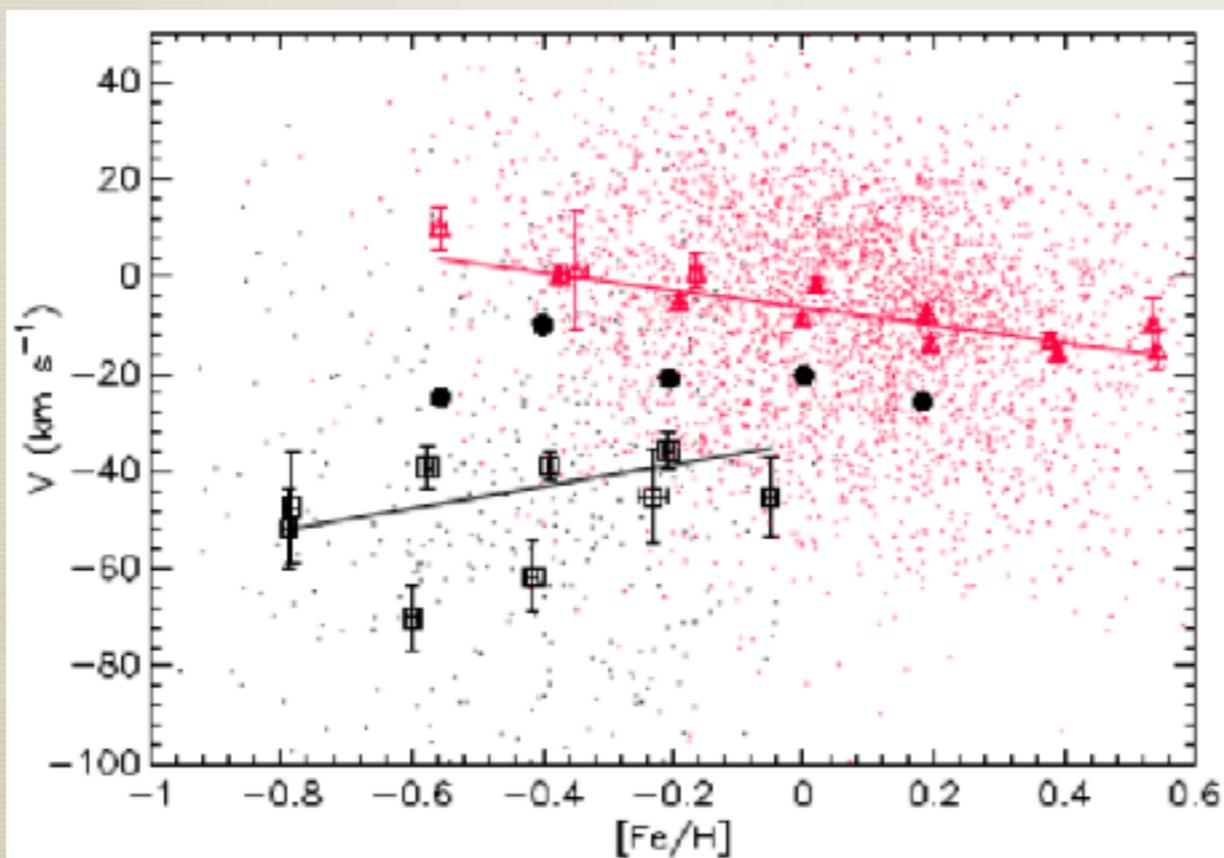
The Metallicity-Velocity Relation (MVR) in RAVE

The MVR in the solar vicinity



Why are slopes different for low- and high-[α /Fe] stars?

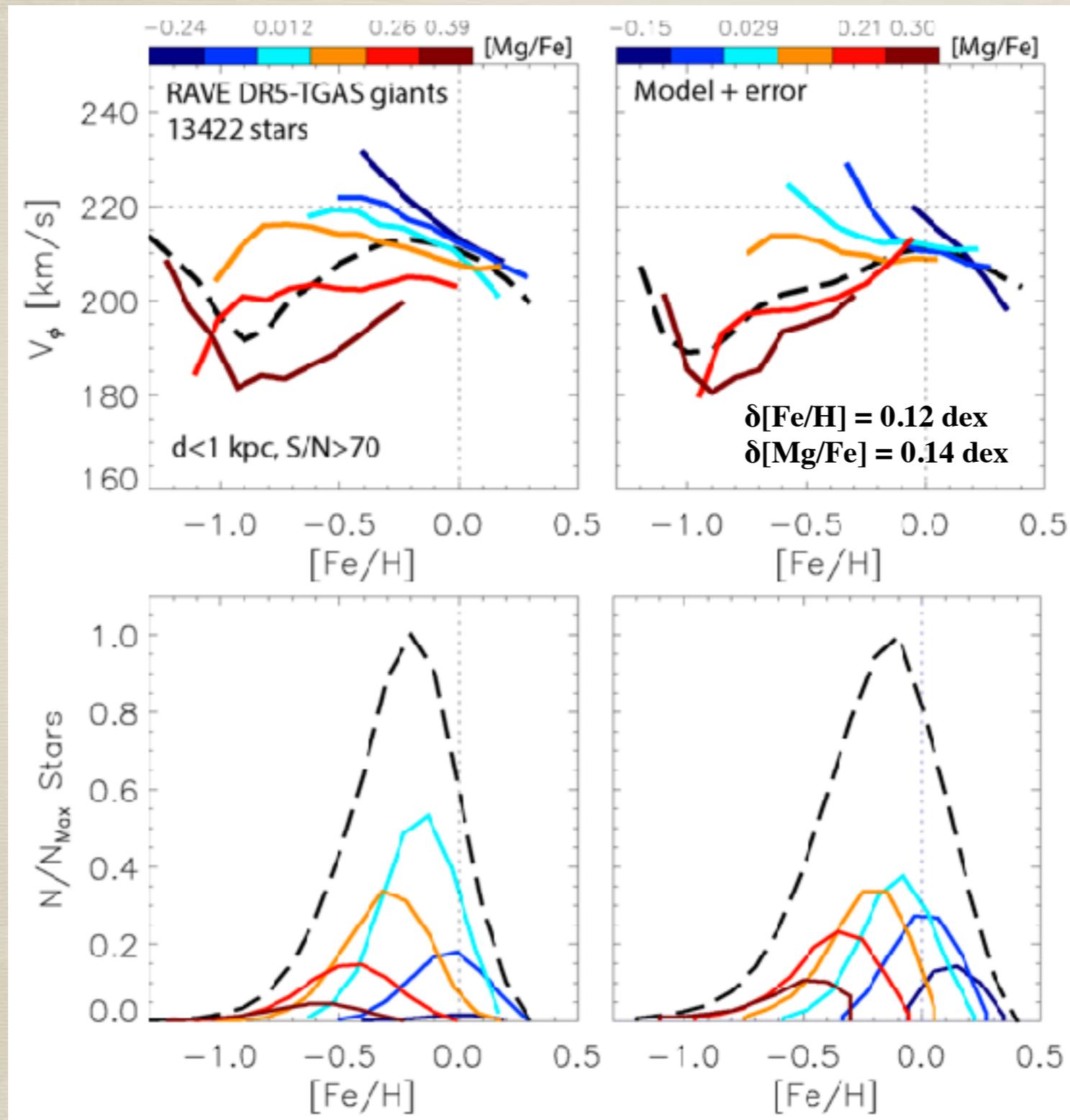
Does it tell us something about disk evolution, migration (as argued by Haywood+08, Schoenrich & Binney09)?



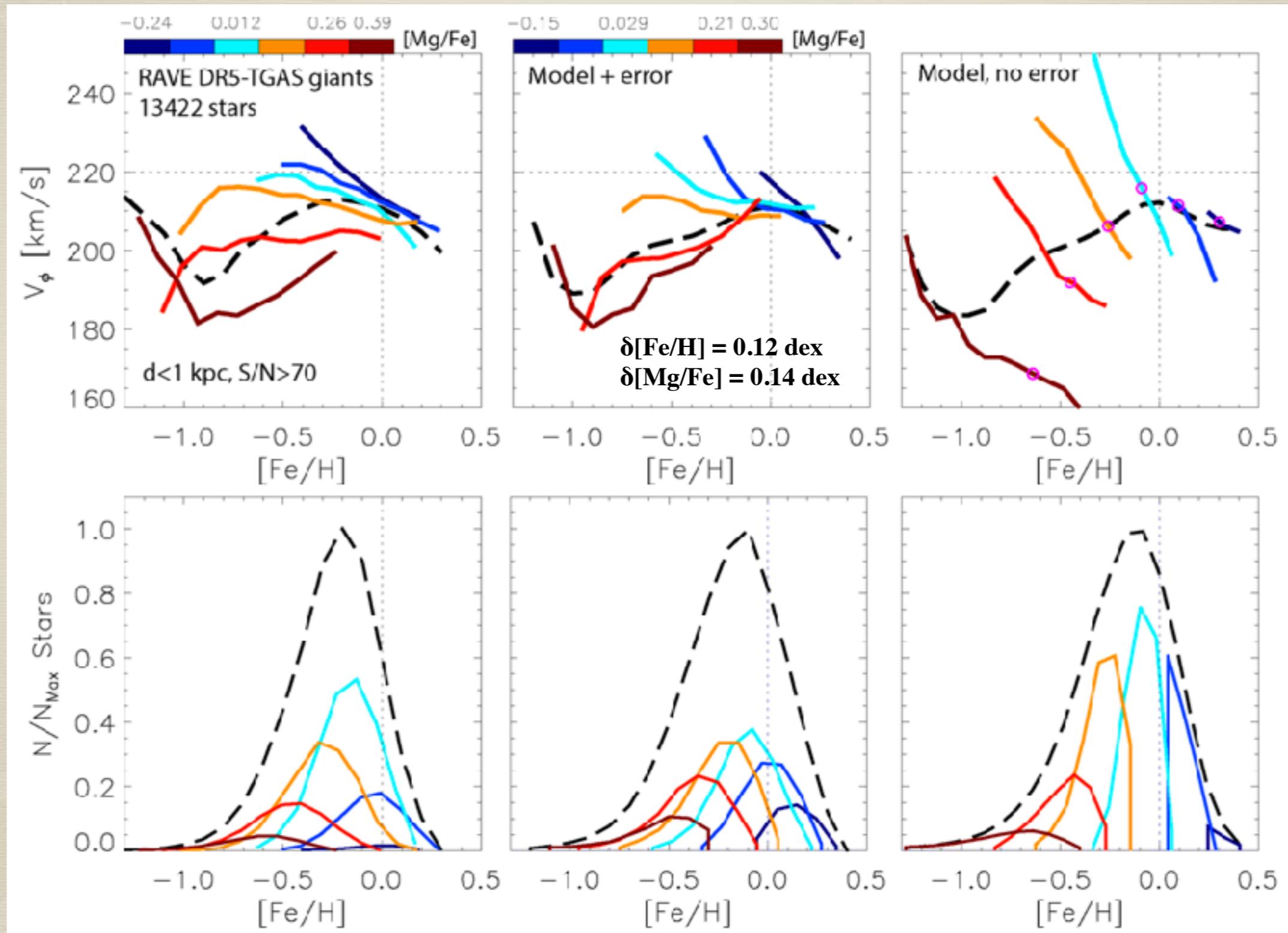
Allende Prieto et al. (2016)

Navarro et al. (2011)

Decomposing RAVE data and model into narrow $[\text{Mg}/\text{Fe}]$ populations



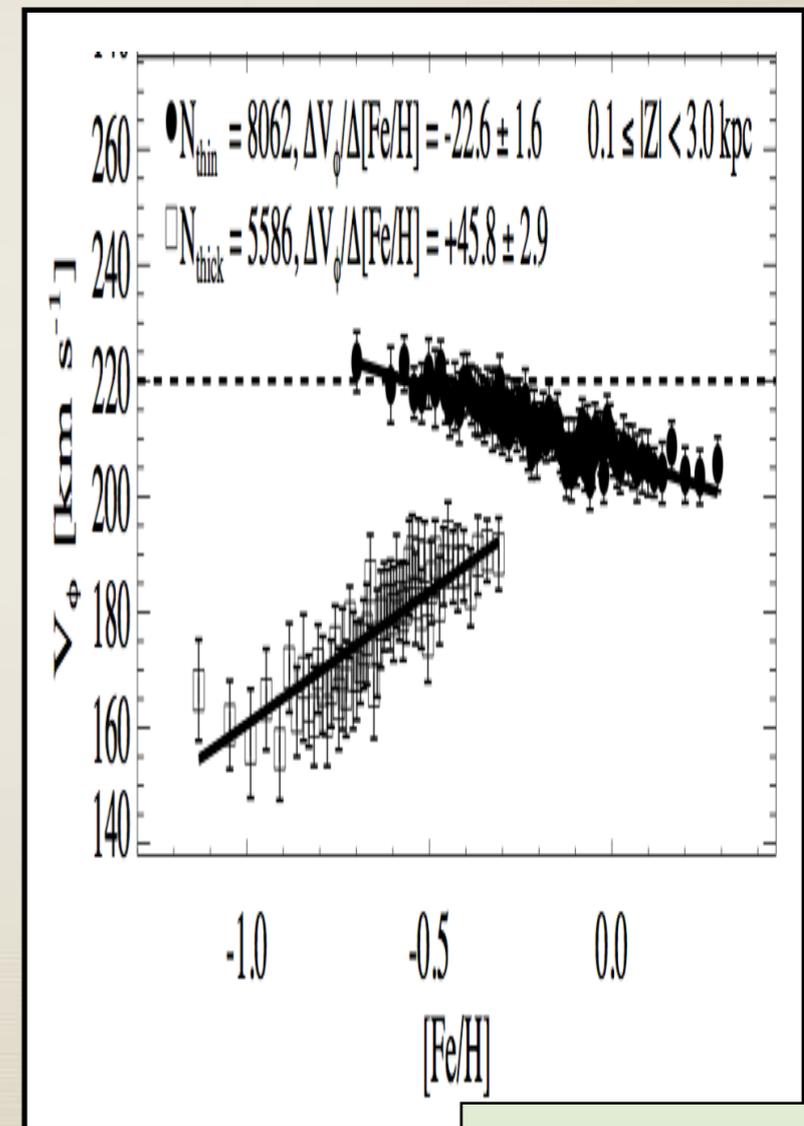
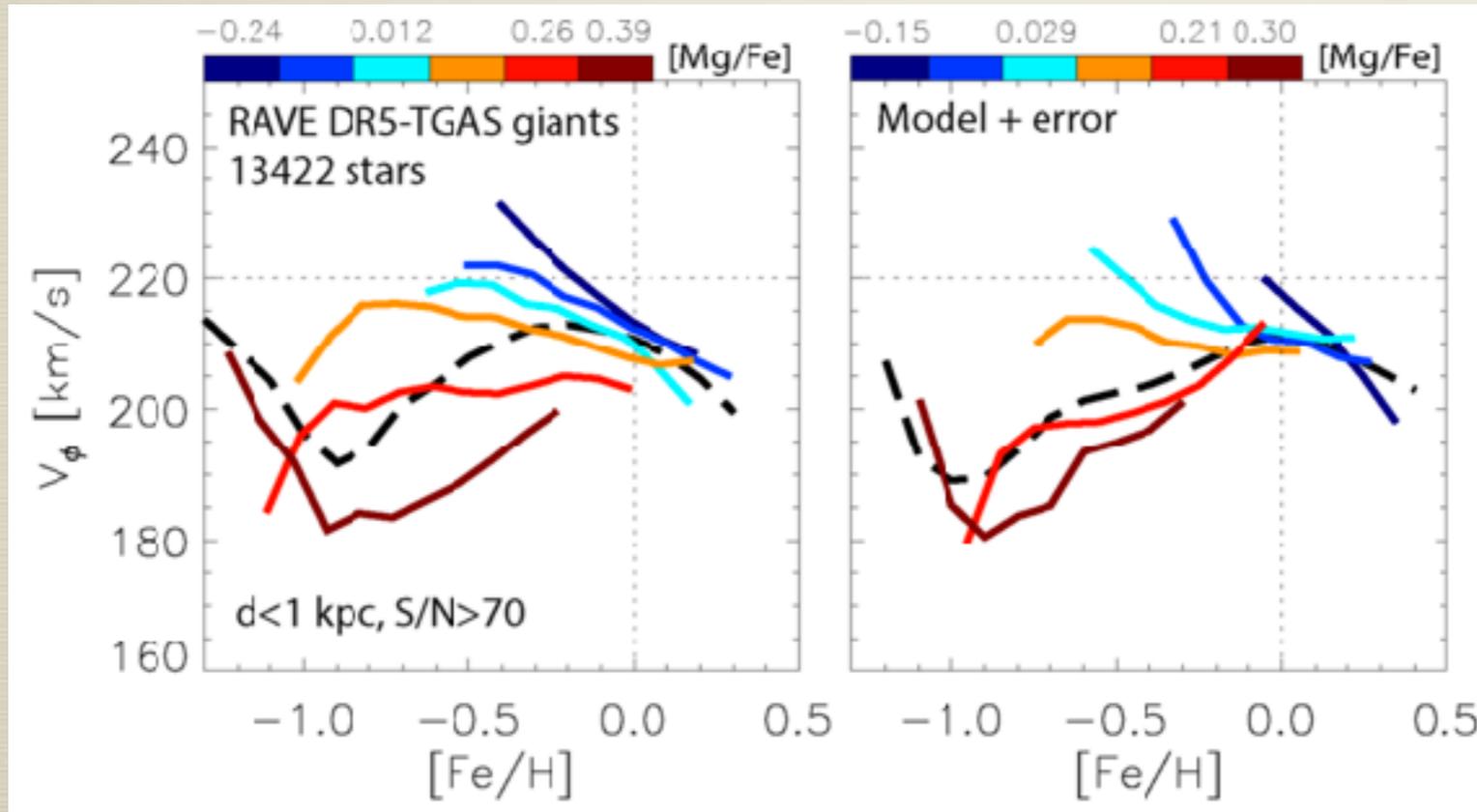
Decomposing RAVE data and model into narrow $[\text{Mg}/\text{Fe}]$ populations



RAVE, SEGUE and model

RAVE-TGAS
Giants S/N>70

Model with RAVE-
like uncertainties

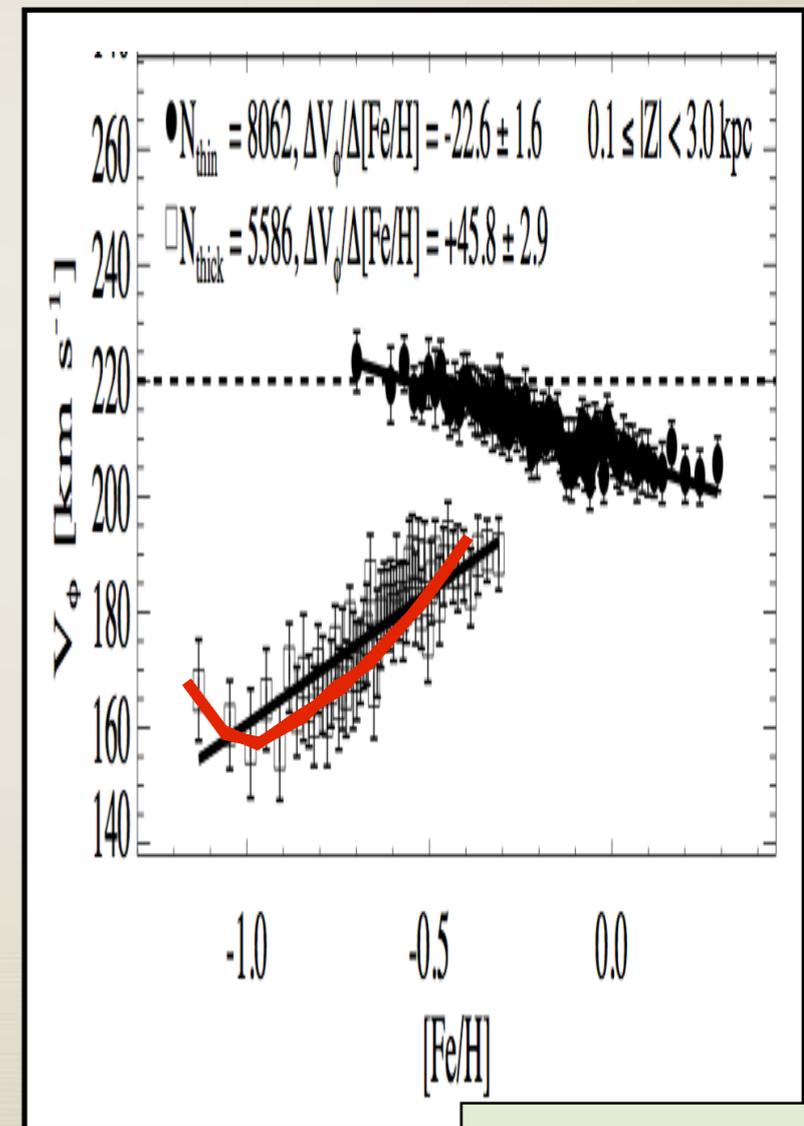
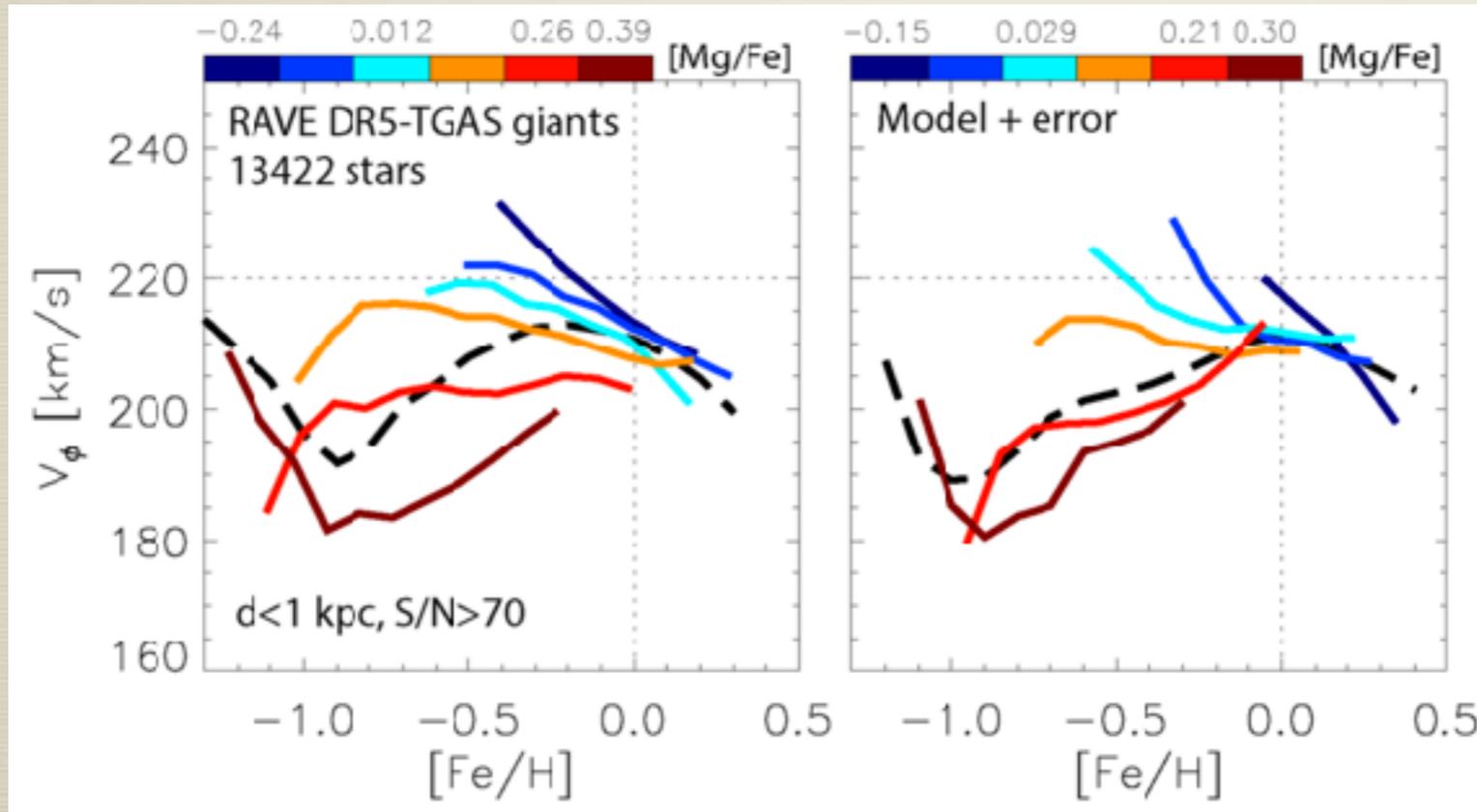


Lee et al. (2011)

RAVE, SEGUE and model

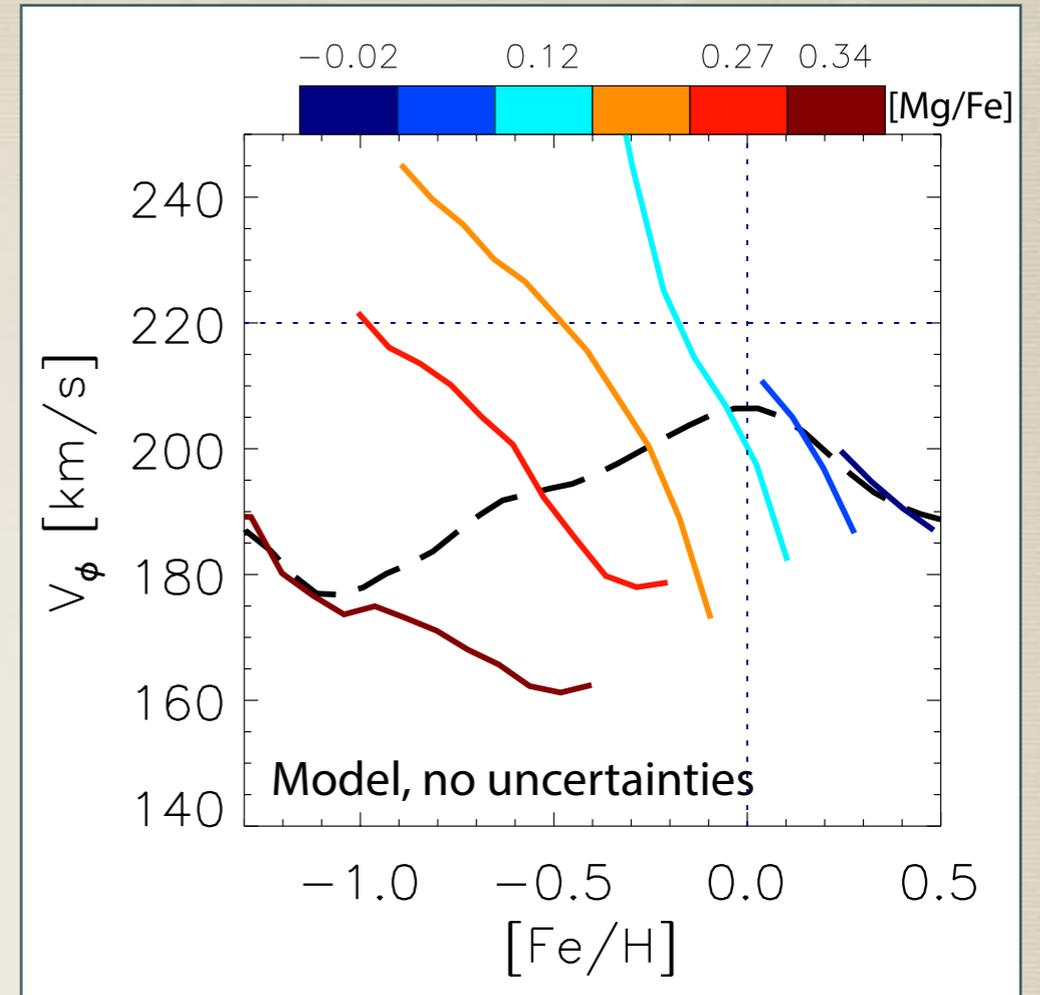
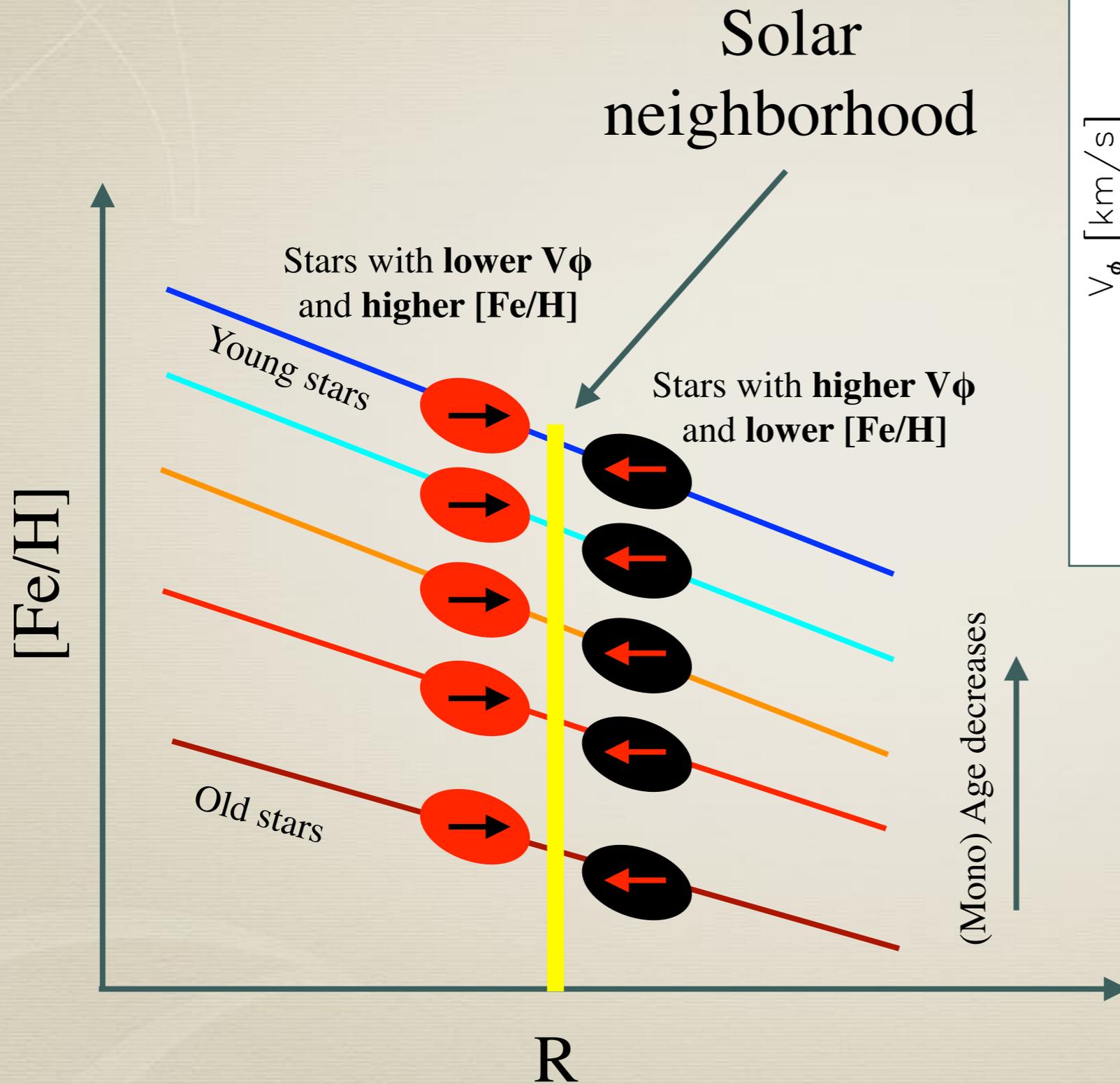
RAVE-TGAS
Giants S/N>70

Model with RAVE-
like uncertainties



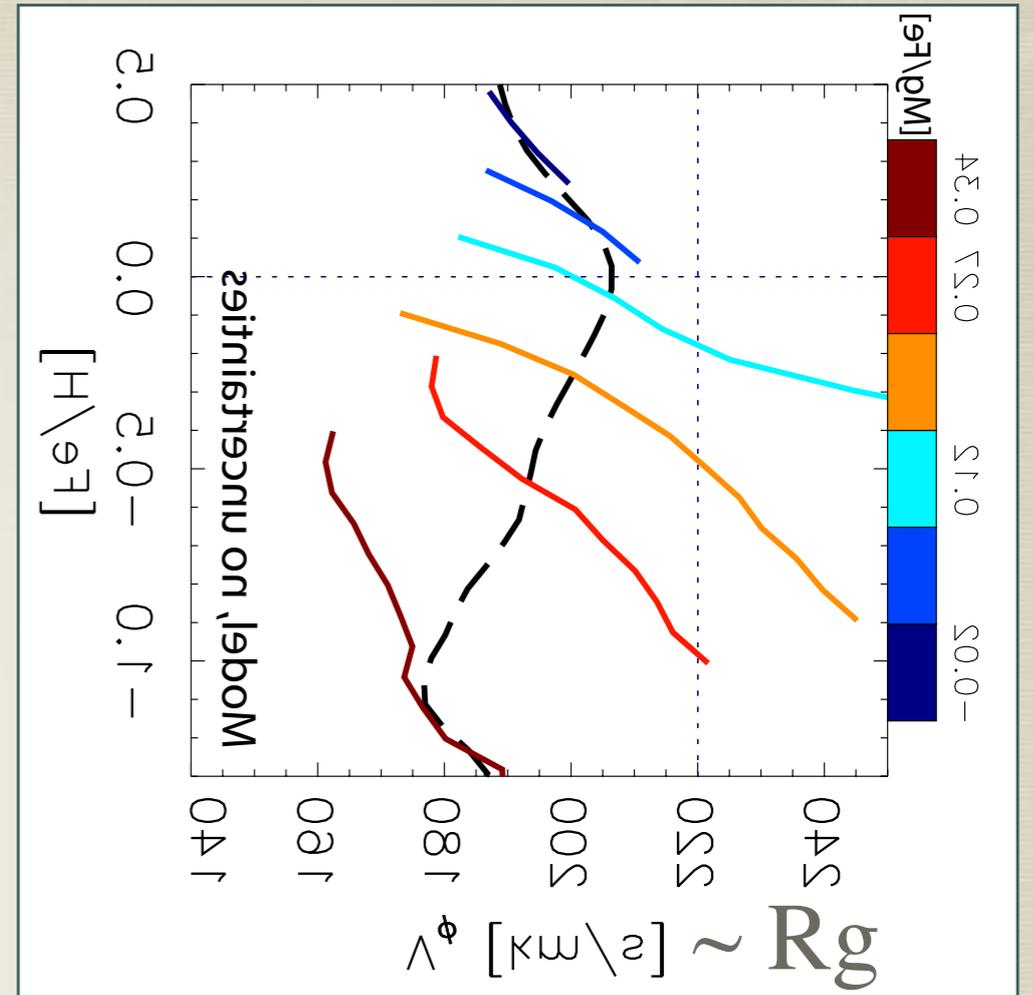
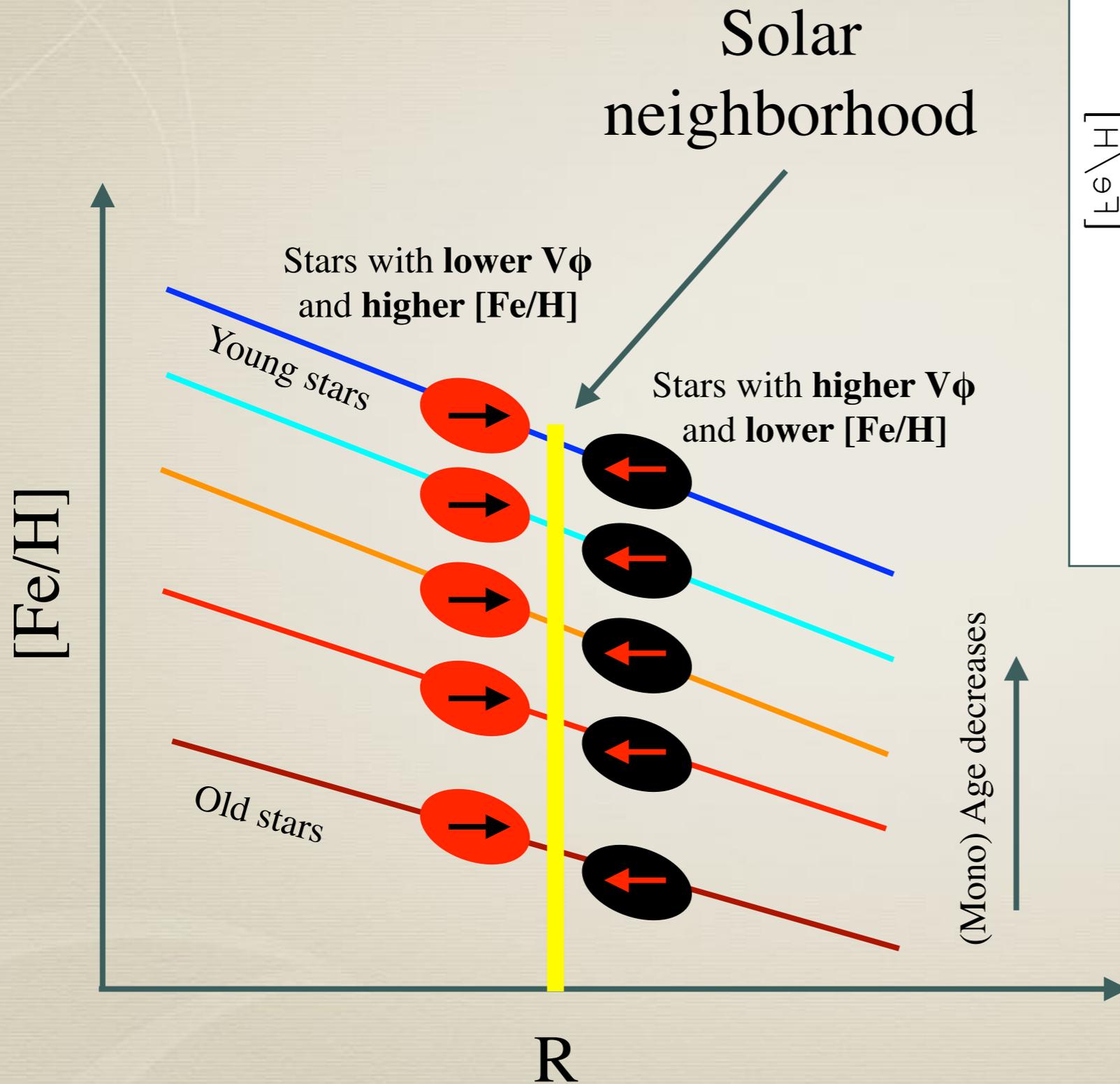
Lee et al. (2011)

Interpretation of the MVR



Both radial migration and blurring give similar effect

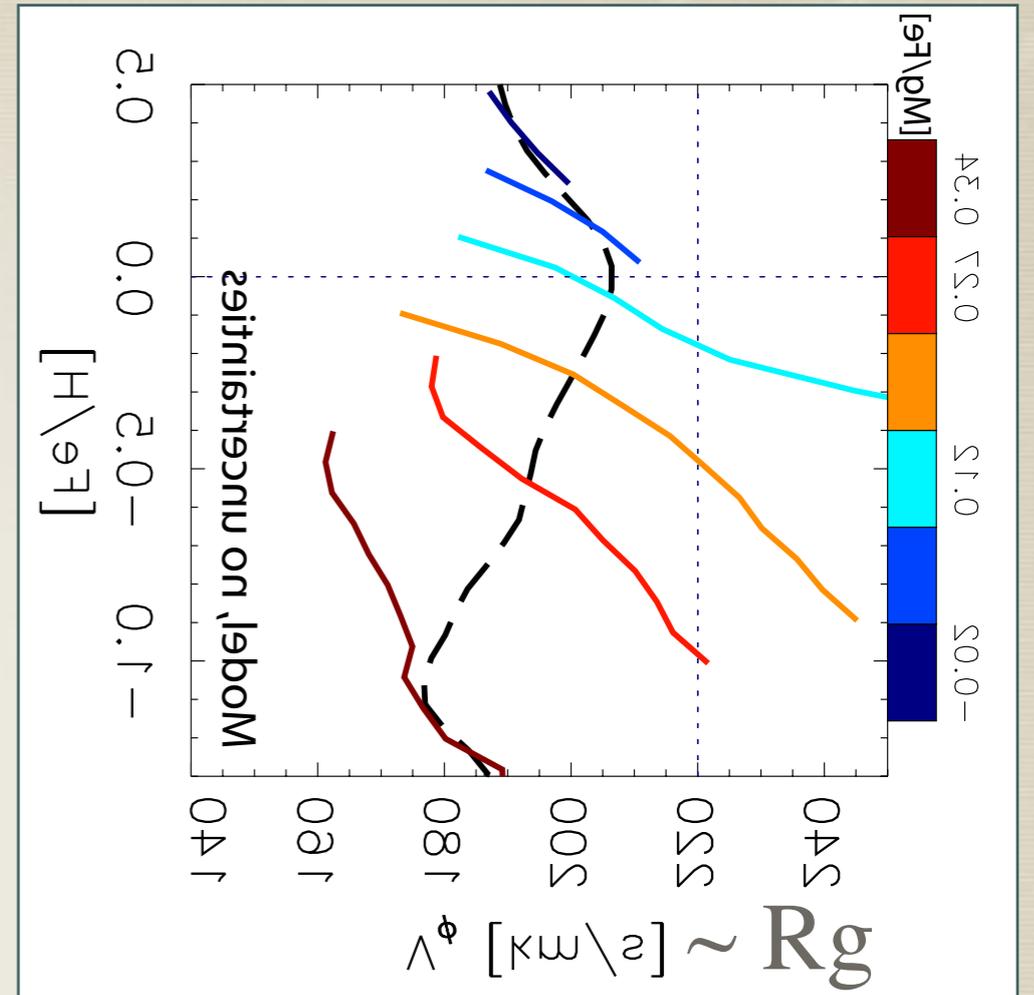
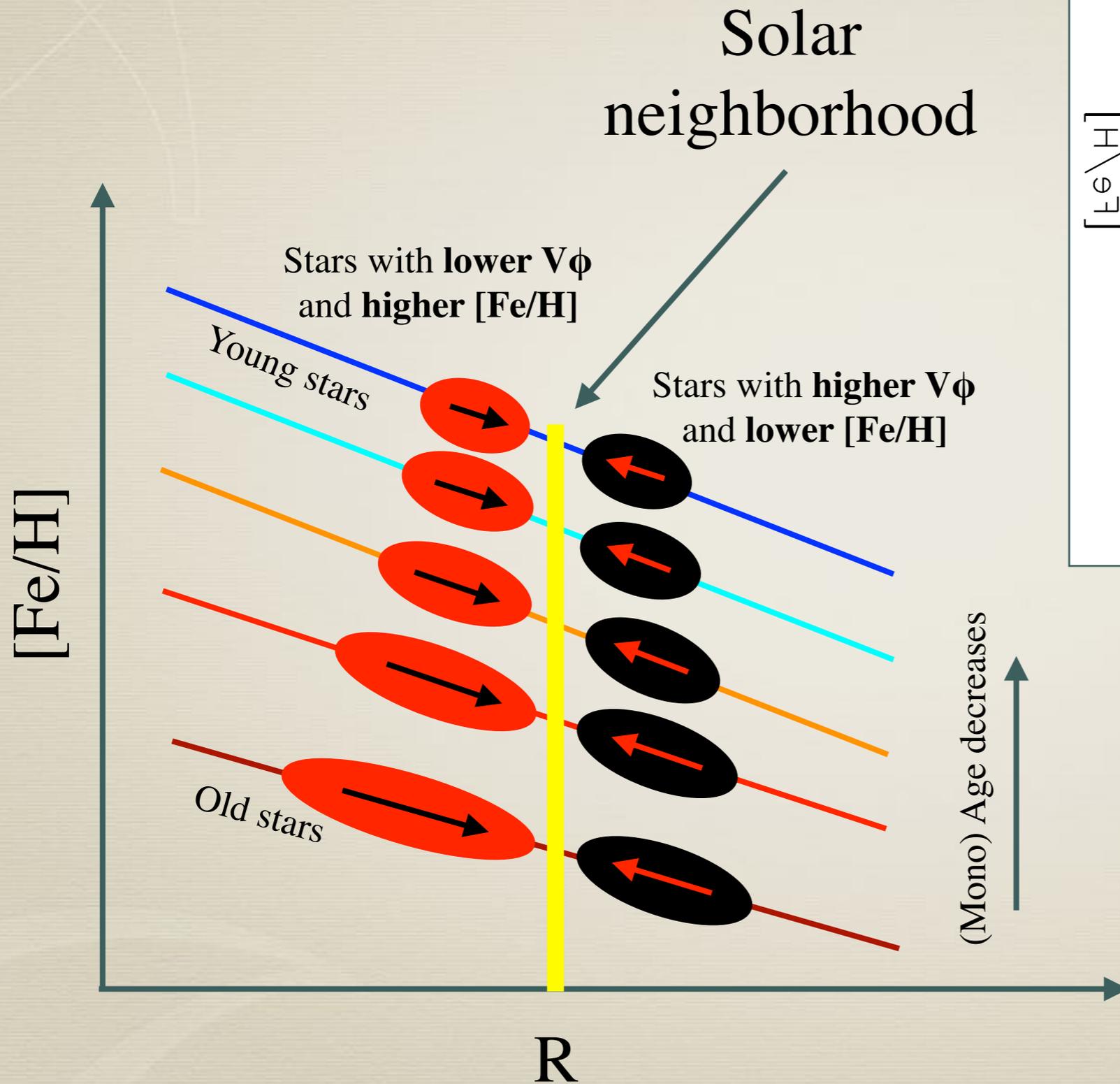
Interpretation of the MVR



MVR reflection of radial metallicity gradient

Both radial migration and blurring give similar effect

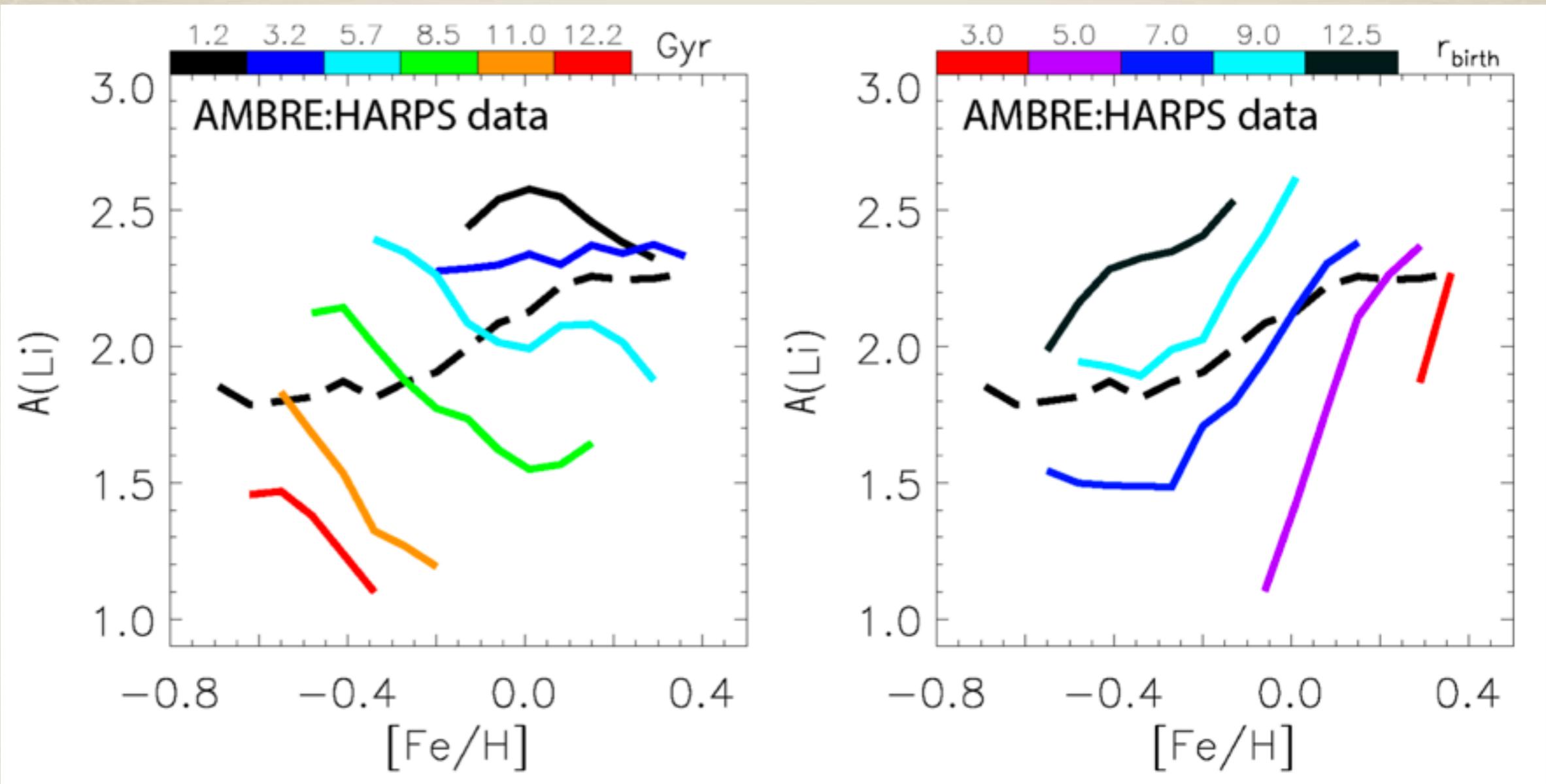
Interpretation of the MVR



MVR reflection of radial metallicity gradient

Both radial migration and blurring give similar effect

Lithium - [Fe/H]



Minchev et al. (2019)

Drop in $A(\text{Li})$ at $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] > 0$ indeed due to stars born at progressively lower radii, as suggested by Guiglion et al. (2019)

Conclusions

- Simpson's paradox **omnipresent** in Galactic Archaeology
 - can result in erroneous interpretation of data
 - found in both local and global disk relations
 - lurking variable is age or birth radius (possibly other)
- For **mono-age** and **mono- r_{birth}** relations selection biases less important - stars born at the same time and same place are affected the same by dynamical processes
- Age information is **crucial** for understanding the Milky Way disk structure and evolution - great expectations from K2, PLATO and TESS in the near future
- Simpson's paradox **must exist in your field** - look for it!