

# Learning the properties of our Galaxy's Dark Matter with Stellar Streams

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Observatoire astronomique  
de Strasbourg



# Outline

- **Dynamics with Machine Learning (ActionFinder)**
  - The STREAMFINDER search for stellar streams
  - Perturbations of the GD-1 stream

# Canonical Transformations

$$\dot{q} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \quad \dot{p} = - \frac{\partial H}{\partial q}$$

$H$  is the scalar field whose derivatives (rotated by  $\pi/2$ ) show how to advance the point through  $(q, p)$  phase space

consider a change of coordinates  $(q, p)$  to  $(Q, P)$ , that preserves this “canonical” form, i.e.

$$\dot{Q} = \frac{\partial K}{\partial P} \quad \dot{P} = - \frac{\partial K}{\partial Q}$$

so again:  
 $K$  is the scalar field whose derivatives (rotated by  $\pi/2$ ) show how to advance the point through  $(Q, P)$  phase space

# Action-angle variables

consider further a canonical transformation  $(q, p)$  to  $(\theta, J)$ ,  
in which the new Hamiltonian  $K$  is independent of  $\theta$

Then:

$$\dot{\theta} = \frac{\partial K(J, t)}{\partial J} \quad j = -\frac{\partial K(J, t)}{\partial \theta} = 0$$

Hence:

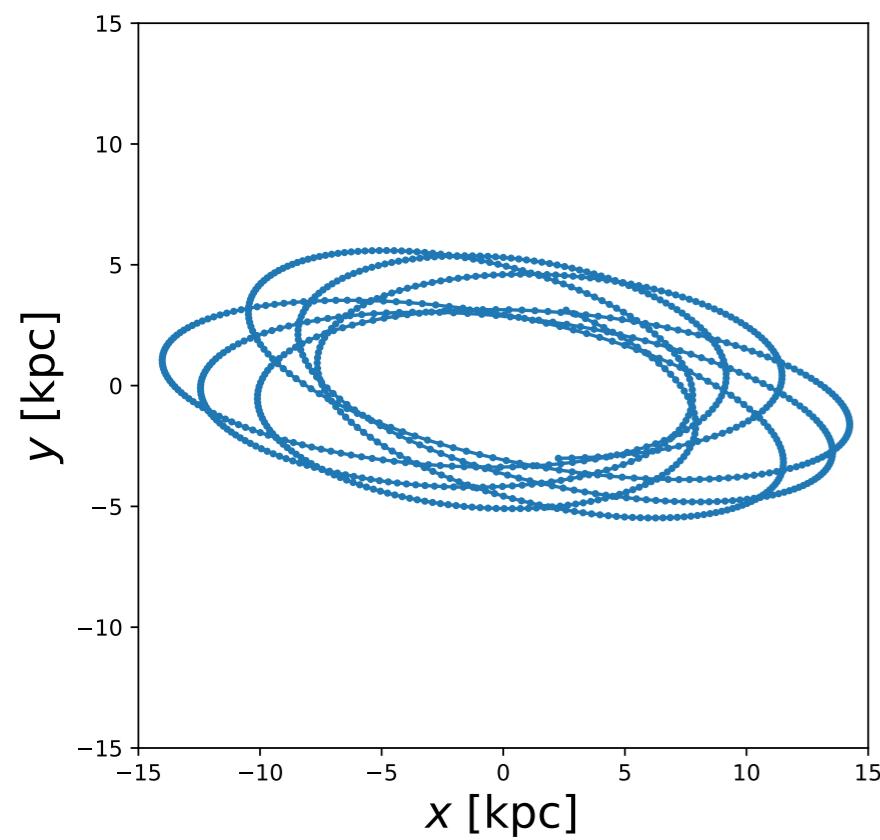
$J = J_0$  (the constant “action” along the path)

$\theta$  is called the “angle” variable

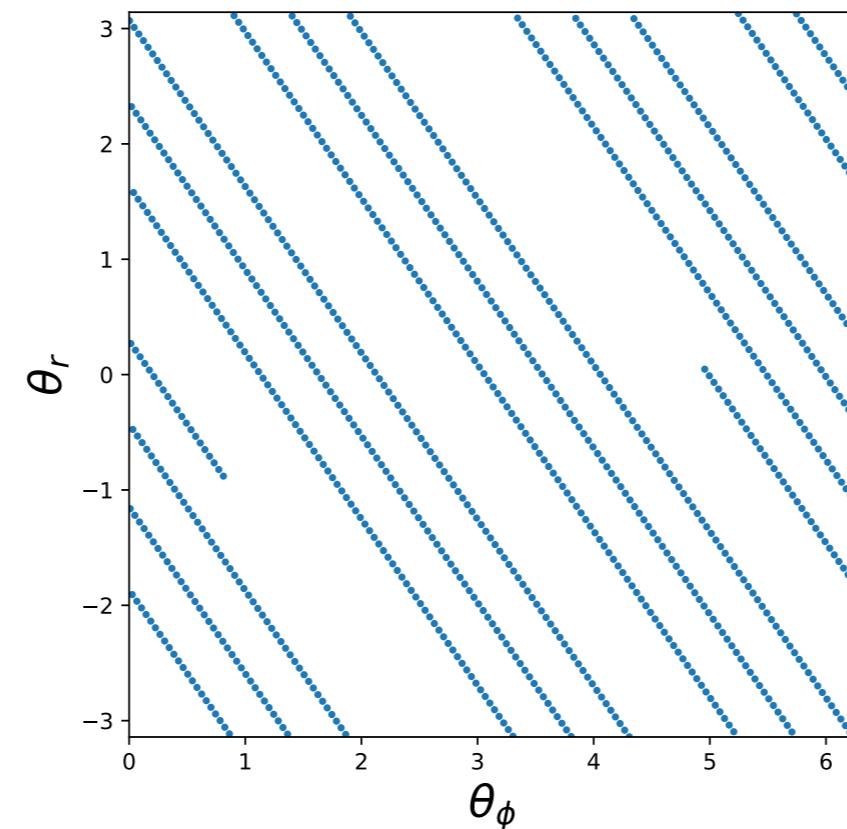
Dynamics in action-angle variables is very simple  
if  $K$  is independent of  $t$ :

$$\theta = \theta_0 + t \frac{\partial K}{\partial J} \Big|_{J_0} \quad (\text{i.e. } \theta \text{ advances linearly in time})$$

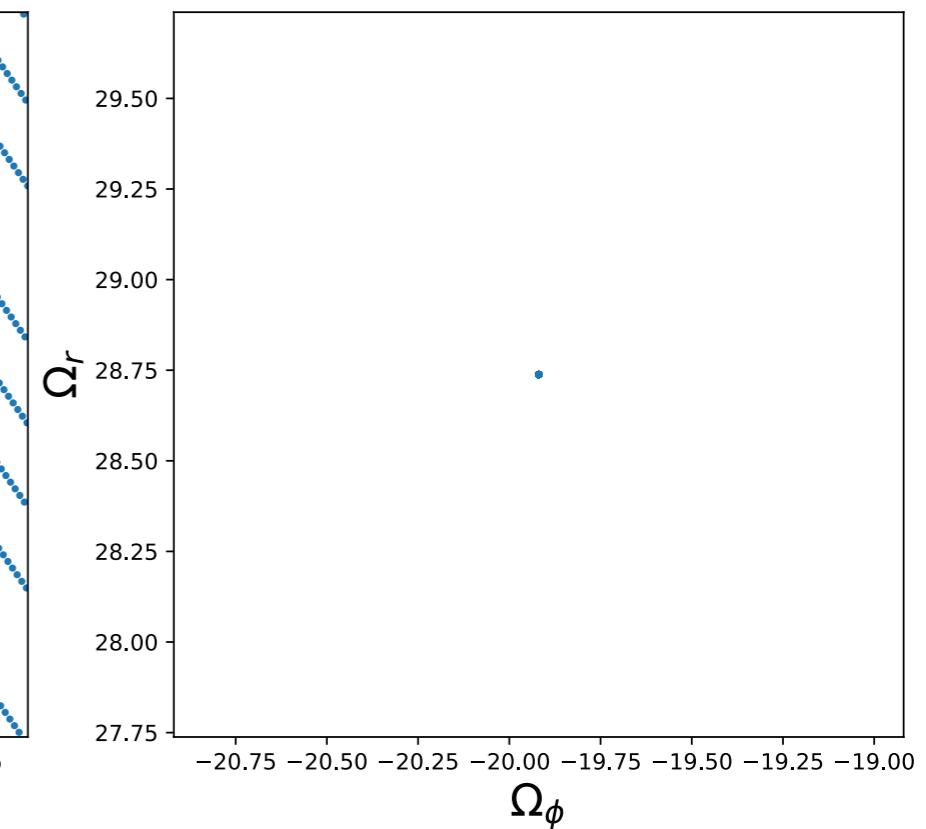
## orbit (like that of Palomar 5)



positions



angles



Frequencies

2 Gyr integration in isochrone model with  $v_c(R = 8 \text{ kpc}) = 220 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

# Action-angle variables

Avantages:

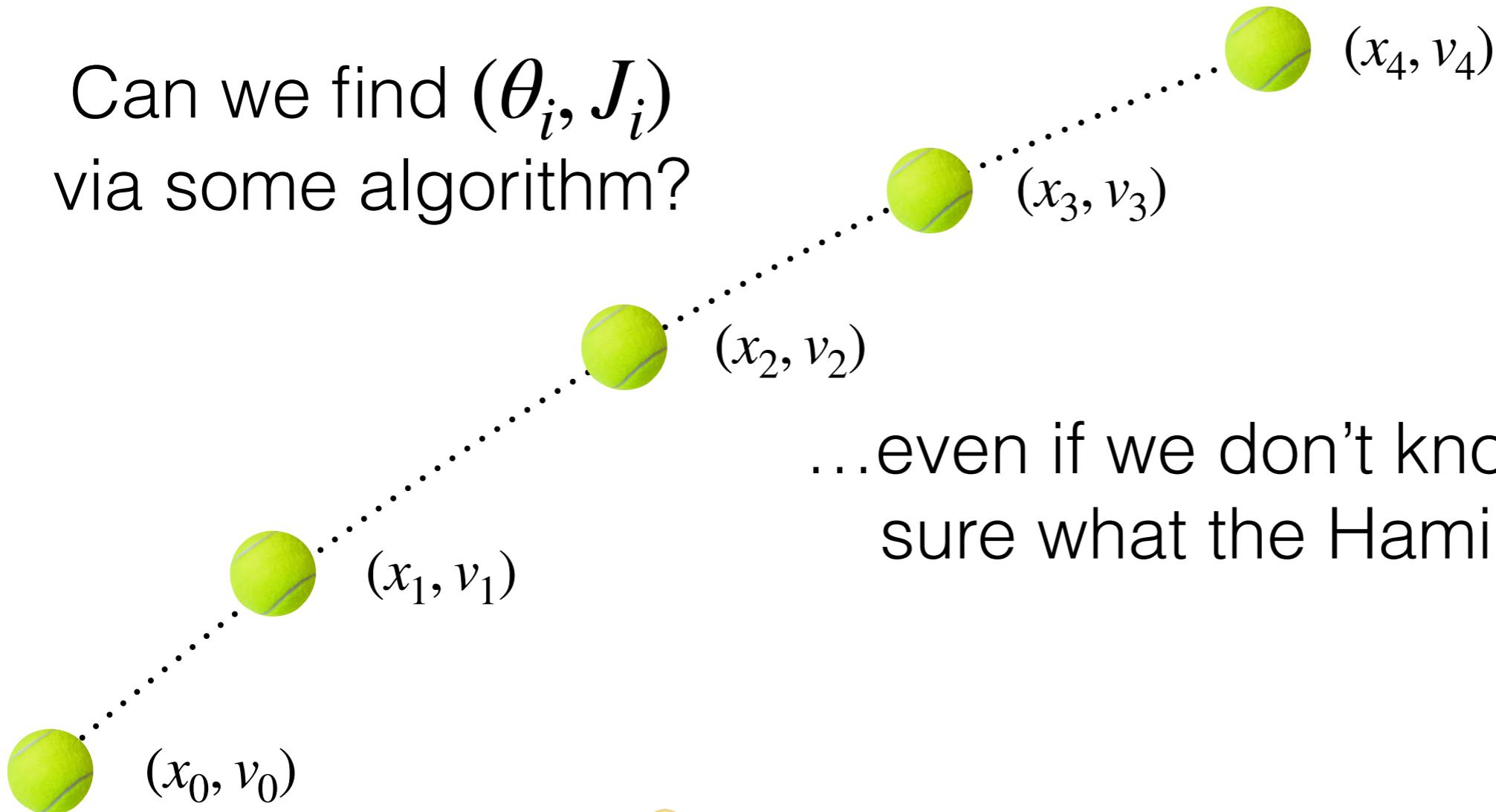
- $J$  are integrals of motion, giving a means to identify objects on the same phase-space trajectory
- $J$  are adiabatic invariants, hence are the best “archeological” coordinates
- $(\theta, J)$  are natural coordinates for perturbation theory
- If system is static:  $H(J)$
- Acceleration field can be derived from

$$\ddot{j}_i = \frac{\partial J_i}{\partial x_j} \dot{x}_j + \frac{\partial J_i}{\partial \dot{x}_j} \ddot{x}_j = 0$$

But the coordinate transformation is challenging to compute.

Suppose we have measurements of phase space trajectories of a deterministic and reversible system

Can we find  $(\theta_i, J_i)$   
via some algorithm?



...even if we don't know or are not  
sure what the Hamiltonian is?

### 💡 Lockdown idea 1:

Can we implement this with a neural net  
 $(\theta, J) = N_{\text{net}}(x, v)$  ?



## Lockdown idea 1:

Can we implement the transformation in 6D phase space with  
a neural net  
 $\eta = N_{\text{net}}(\xi)$  ?

Objective function: minimize spread of  $J$  on same trajectory,  
& minimize symplectic constraint  $M^T \mathbb{J} M - \mathbb{J}$

where

$$M_{ij} = \partial \eta_i / \partial \xi_j \quad \mathbb{J} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{I}_3 \\ -\mathbb{I}_3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Result: a huge waste of time!

reason:  $M_{ij}(\xi)$  has  $(2n)^2 = 36$  entries, whereas only  
 $2n^2 + n = 21$  should be independent if symplectic



## Lockdown idea 2:

Actually ~200 year old idea of Jacobi of using a generating function involving the old and new canonical coordinates

Consider the transformation generated by  $S(q, P, t)$

$$p = \frac{\partial S}{\partial q} \quad Q = \frac{\partial S}{\partial P}$$

This transformation is canonical as  $\{Q_i, P_j\}_{q,p} = \delta_{ij}$

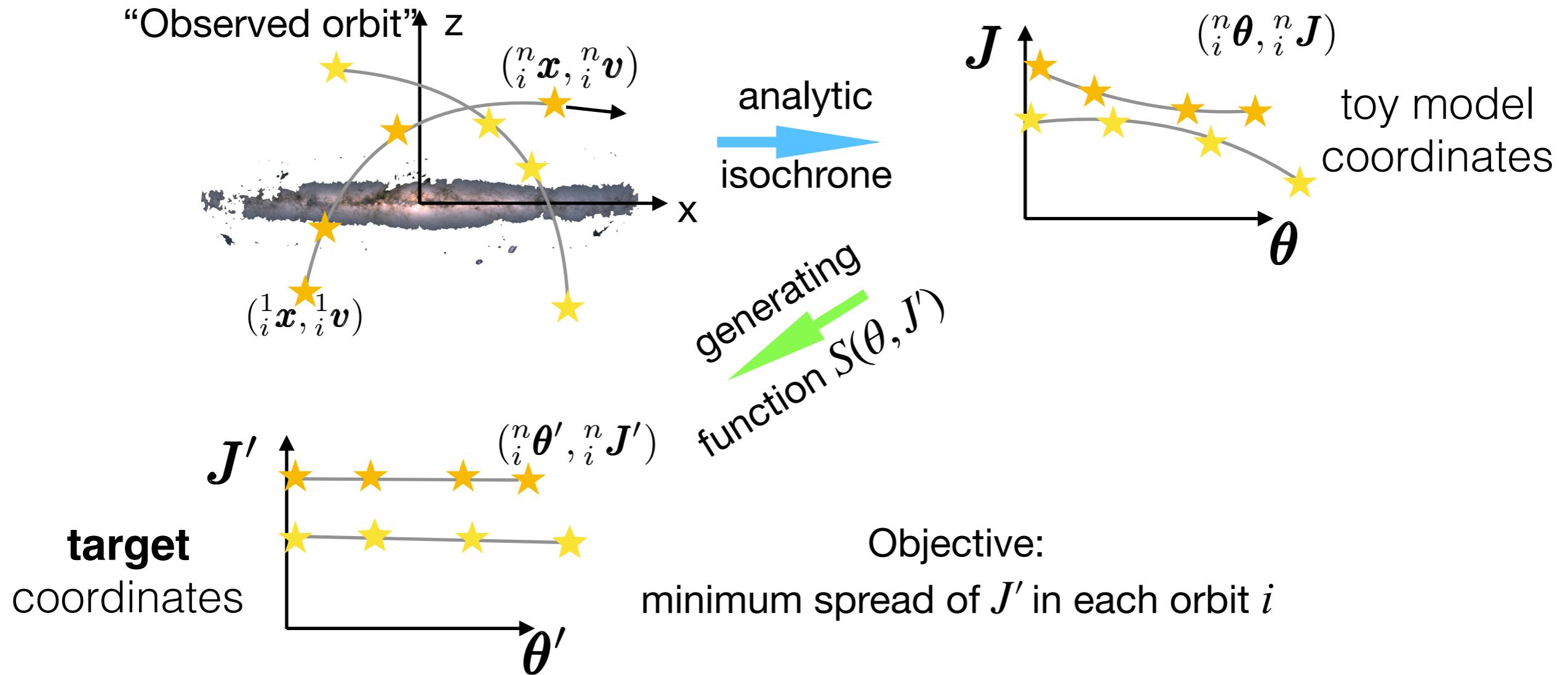
In general  $S$  is very challenging to find!

If  $H$  is known and system is axisymmetric  $S$  can be approximated with a Fourier series (McGill & Binney 1990)

Can we make this more powerful with a **neural network**, and avoid needing to know  $H$  in advance?

# Learn the transformation from orbits

We convert  $(x, v) \rightarrow (\theta', J')$  in an **unsupervised** way,  
**learning** a generating function  $S(\theta, J')$  for the canonical transformation...



**ADVANTAGE:** We have not had to assume  $H(x, v)$  or  $\Phi(x)$  or any symmetry

Network derives the acceleration field.

RI, Diakogiannis, Famaey, Monari (2021)

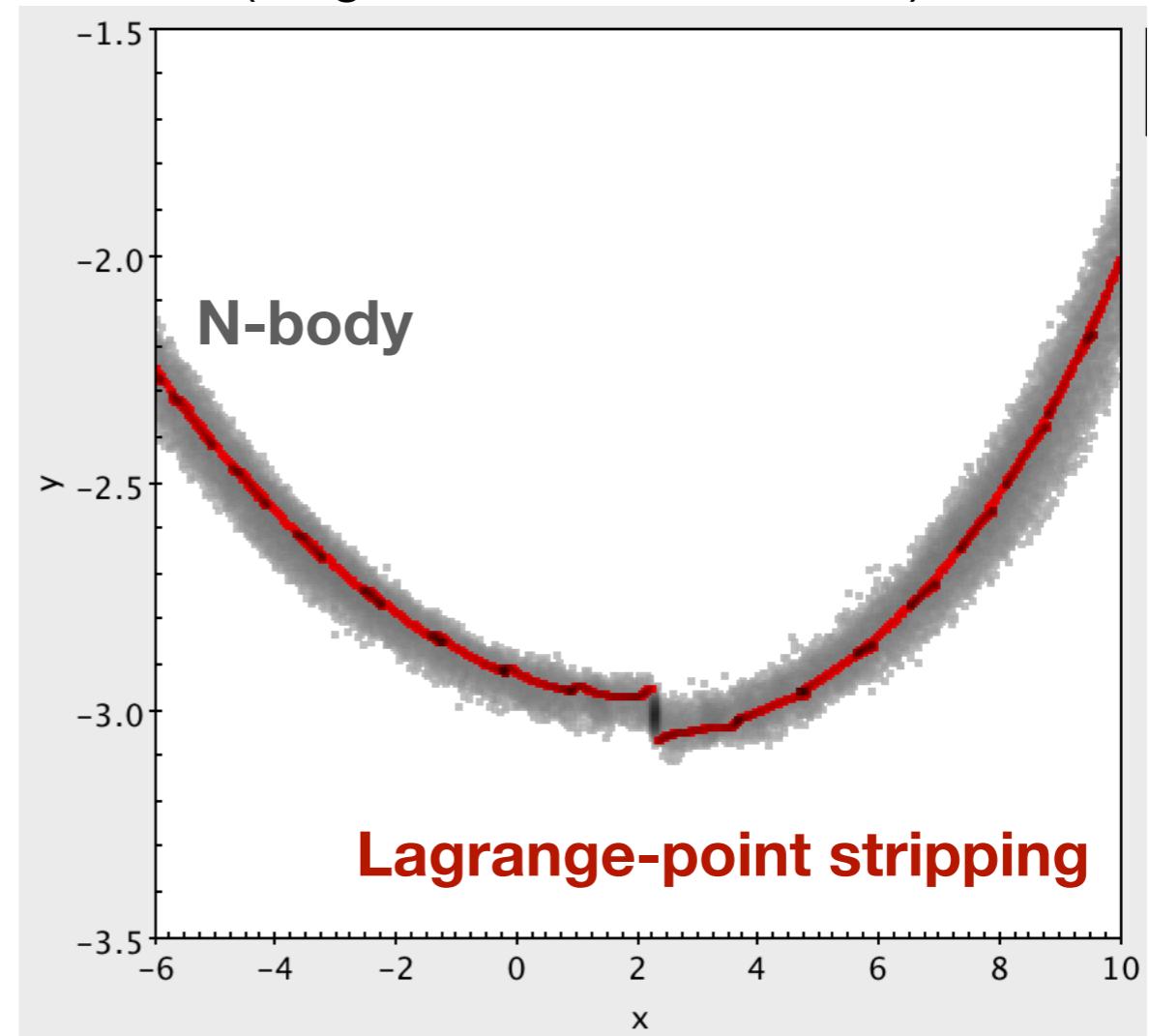
<https://github.com/Rodrigolbata/ActionFinder>

But we don't observe orbits, as  $T_{\text{human}} \ll T_{\text{orbit}}^{\dagger}$

$\dagger$  except in the Galactic center

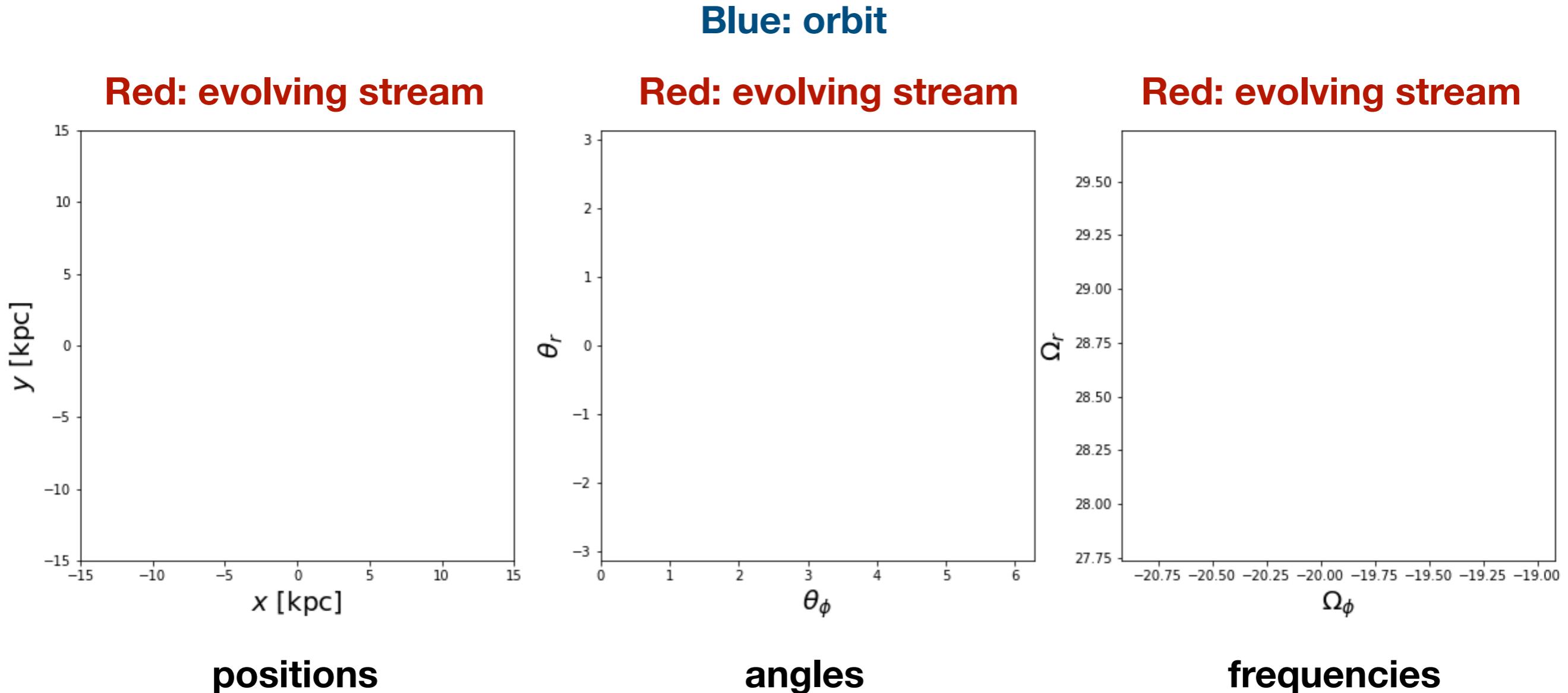
Could we apply  
the ActionFinder  
to **real data** from  
stellar streams?

Stream model by  
Lagrange-point stripping  
(Varghese, RI & Lewis 2011)



Palomar 5 -like model

# Simple stream by Lagrange-point stripping

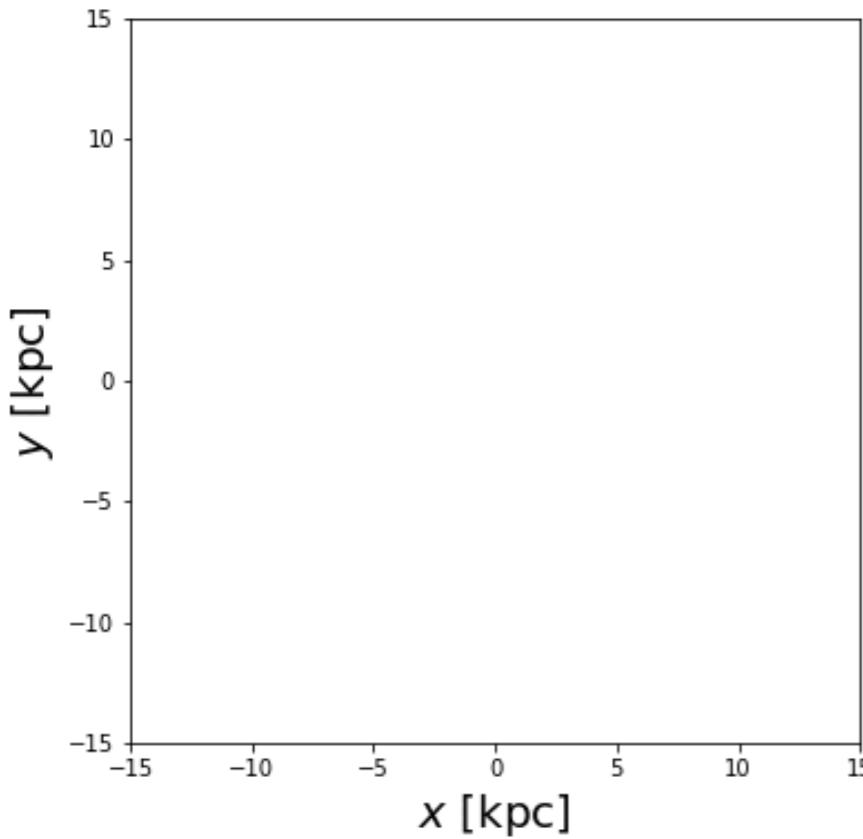


Palomar 5 -like model

2 Gyr integration in isochrone model with  $v_c(R = 8 \text{ kpc}) = 220 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

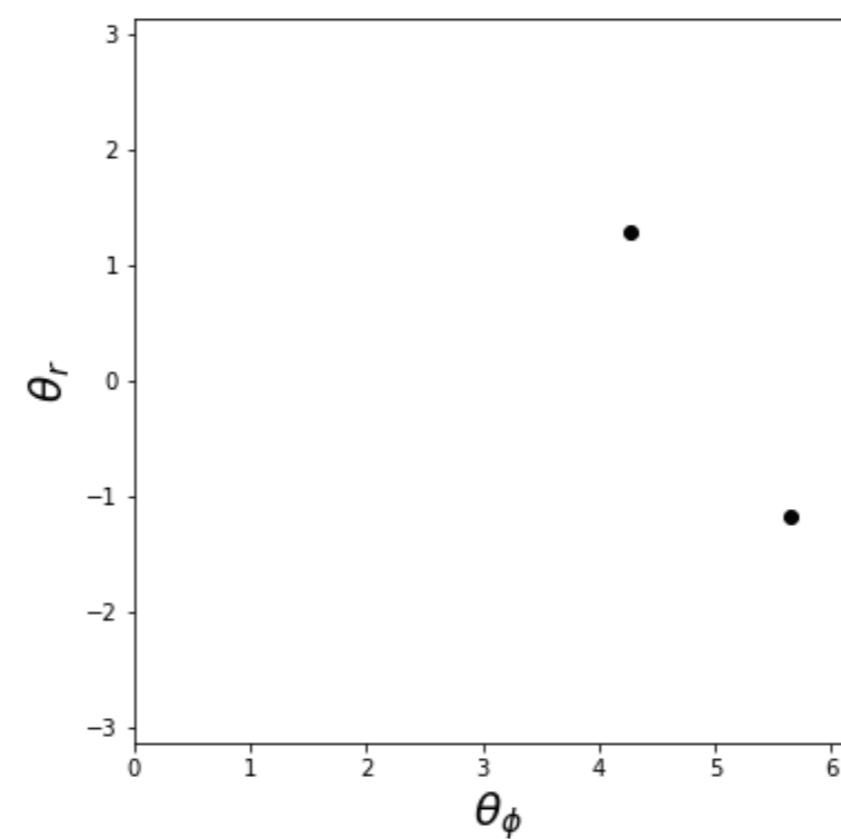
# Simple stream by Lagrange-point stripping

Red: final stream



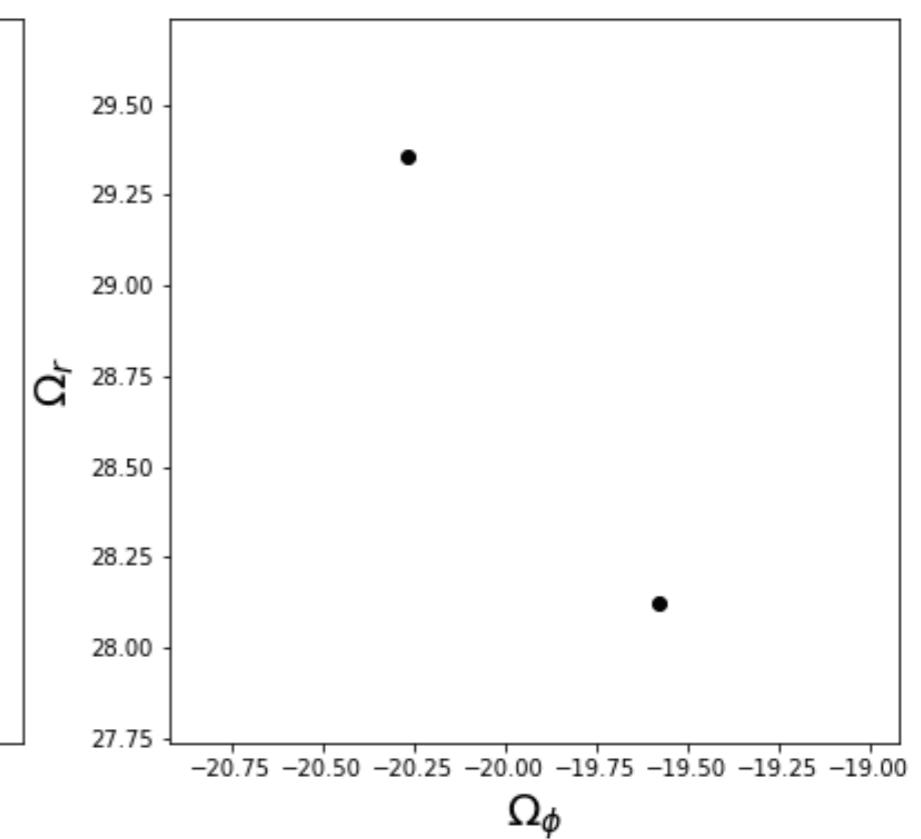
positions

Red: final stream



angles

Red: final stream

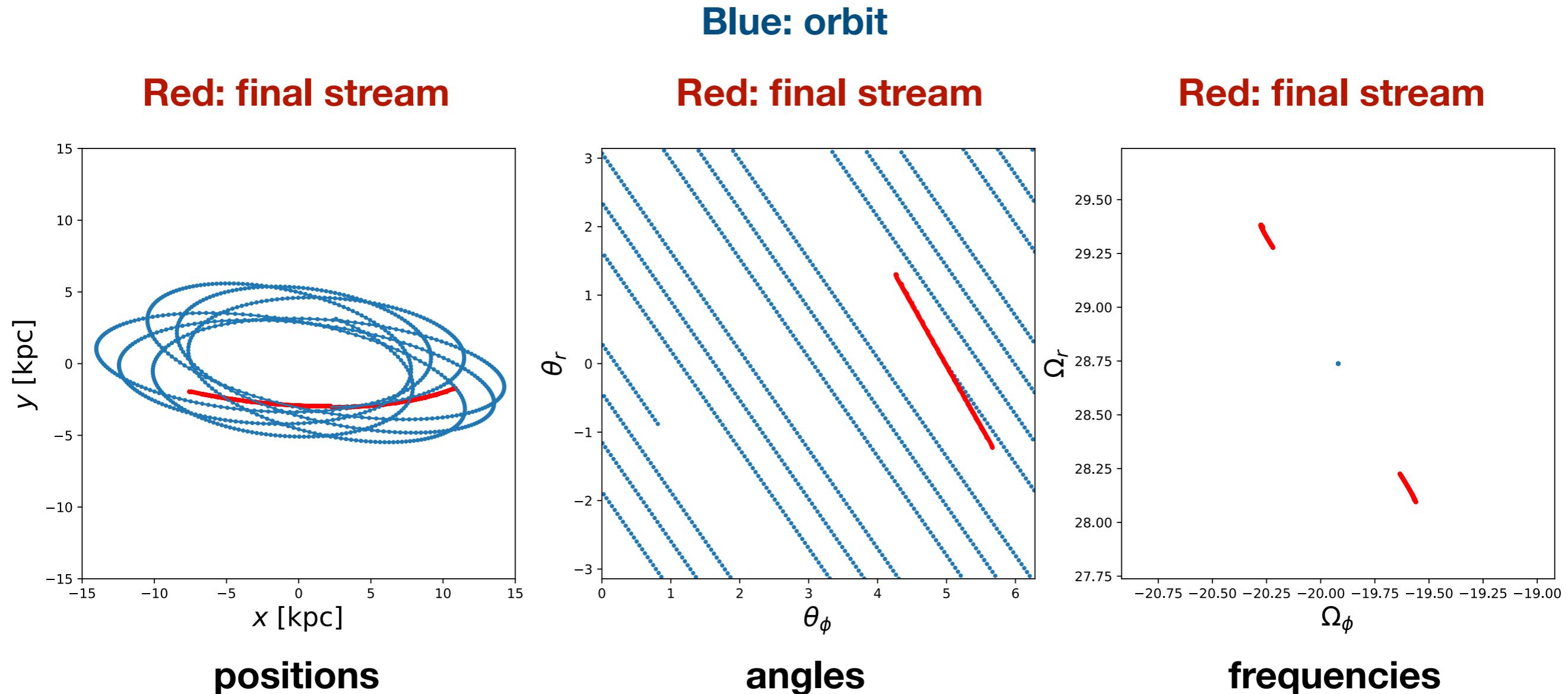


Frequencies

Palomar 5 -like model

2 Gyr integration in isochrone model with  $v_c(R = 8 \text{ kpc}) = 220 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

# Simple stream by Lagrange-point stripping



Palomar 5 -like model

2 Gyr integration in isochrone model with  $v_c(R = 8 \text{ kpc}) = 220 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

# ActionFinder for streams

Start by treating stream as if it were an orbit. The objective (i.e. loss function) is to minimize:

$$\mathcal{L} = \left\langle \left\langle |\mathbf{J} - \langle \mathbf{J}_{\text{stream}} \rangle| \right\rangle_{\text{stream}} \right\rangle_{\text{set of streams}}$$

Then refine solution of neural net representation of  $S(\theta, J')$  using insight from Sanders & Binney (2013). As  $\Delta \vec{\theta} = t \vec{\Omega}$ , revised objective:

$$\mathcal{L} = 1 - \left\langle \langle \hat{\mathbf{e}}_\theta \rangle_{\text{stream}} \cdot \langle \hat{\mathbf{e}}_\Omega \rangle_{\text{stream}} \right\rangle_{\text{set of streams}}$$

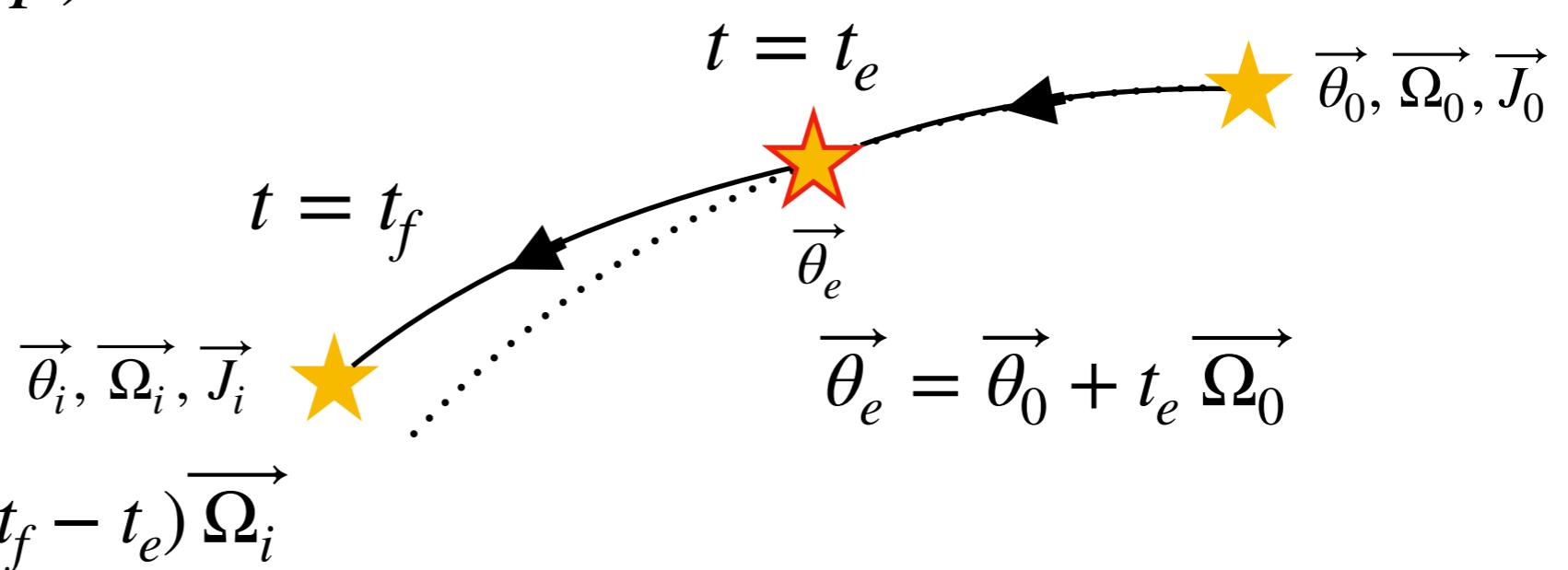
This gives <0.1% bias with simple potentials with 8,000 particles.

**We also only need full 6-D phase space information for small subsample of each stream** (with further loss function tweak)

# A Time Machine for Streams

Easy if  $H = H(q, p)$

(as  $\Delta \vec{\theta} = t \vec{\Omega}$ )



$$\vec{\theta}_i = \vec{\theta}_0 + t_e (\vec{\Omega}_0 - \vec{\Omega}_i) + t_f \vec{\Omega}_i$$

global parameter of stream  
parameter of star

$$\vec{\theta}(\text{remnant}) = \vec{\theta}_0 + t_f \vec{\Omega}_0$$

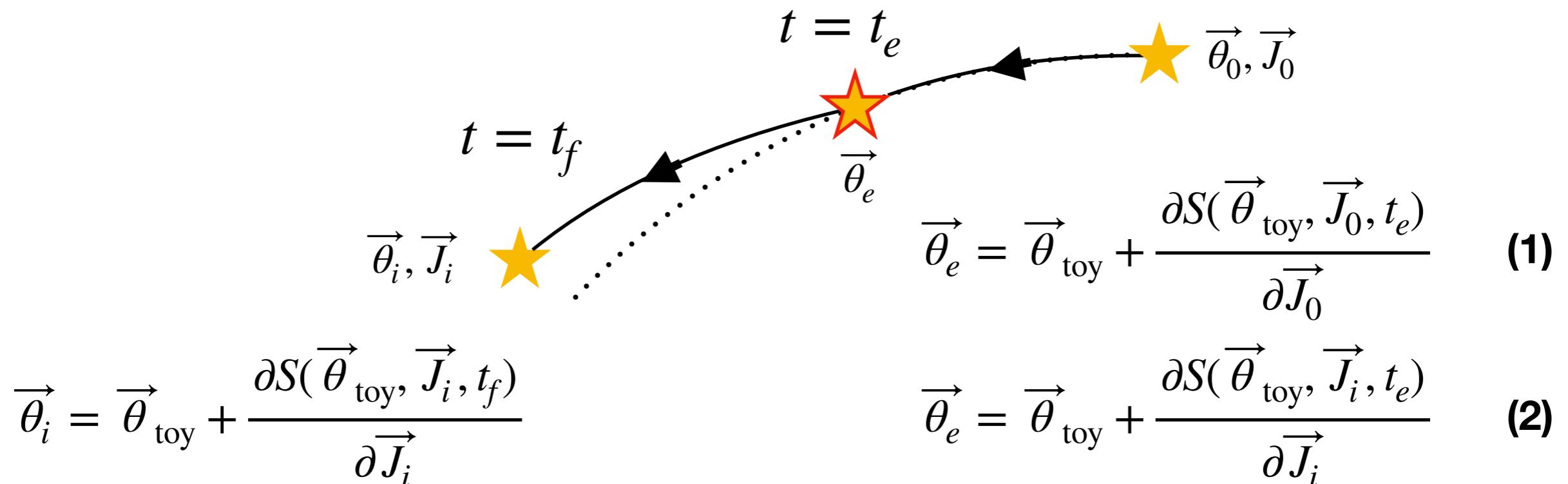
This gives progenitor orbit and past path ( $\vec{x}, \vec{v}, t$ ) of stars, and hence also when (and perhaps “why?”) stars were lost

# A Time Machine for Streams

If  $H = H(q, p, t)$ , i.e.,  $S = S(\vec{\theta}_{\text{toy}}, \vec{J}, t)$

(note  $\Delta \vec{\theta} \neq t \vec{\Omega}$ )

$$\vec{\theta}_0 = \vec{\theta}_{\text{toy}} + \frac{\partial S(\vec{\theta}_{\text{toy}}, \vec{J}_0, 0)}{\partial \vec{J}_0}$$
$$t = 0$$



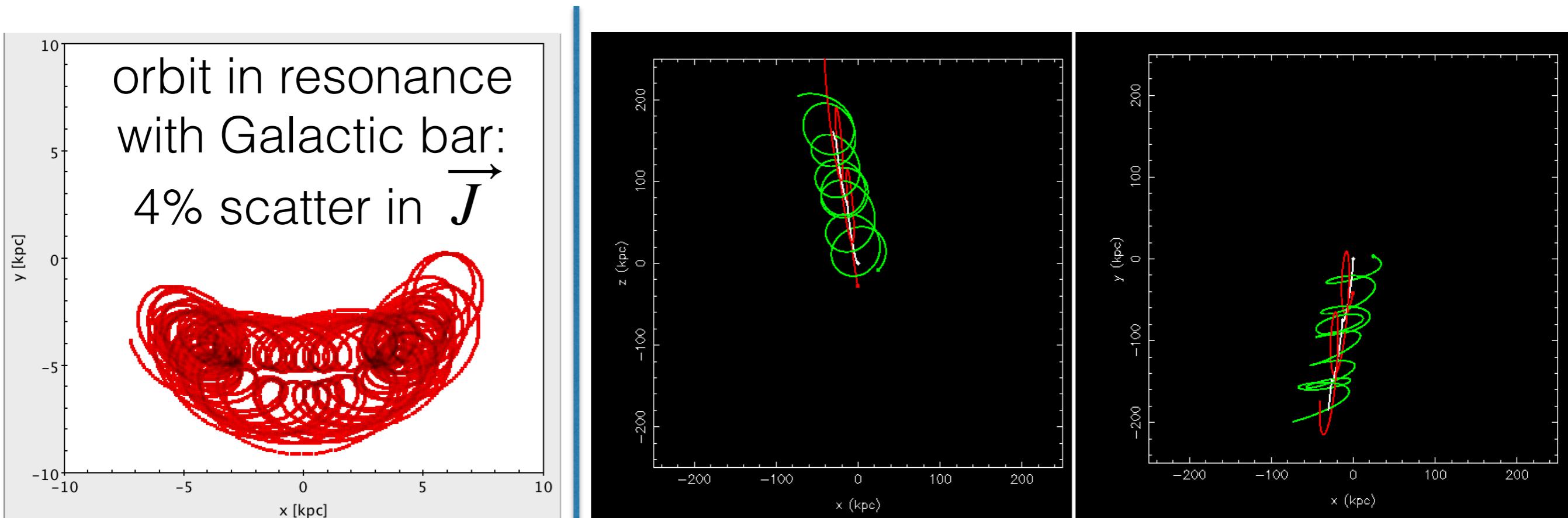
We haven't coded this up yet, but it *should* be straightforward.

Search for  $t_e$  values that obey (1) & (2)

This could reveal how the acceleration field changes in time.

# Time-dependence in orbits

We have already upgraded the ActionFinder to find time-dependent generating functions  $S(\overrightarrow{\theta}_{\text{toy}}, \overrightarrow{J}, t)$  when  $t$  is provided explicitly

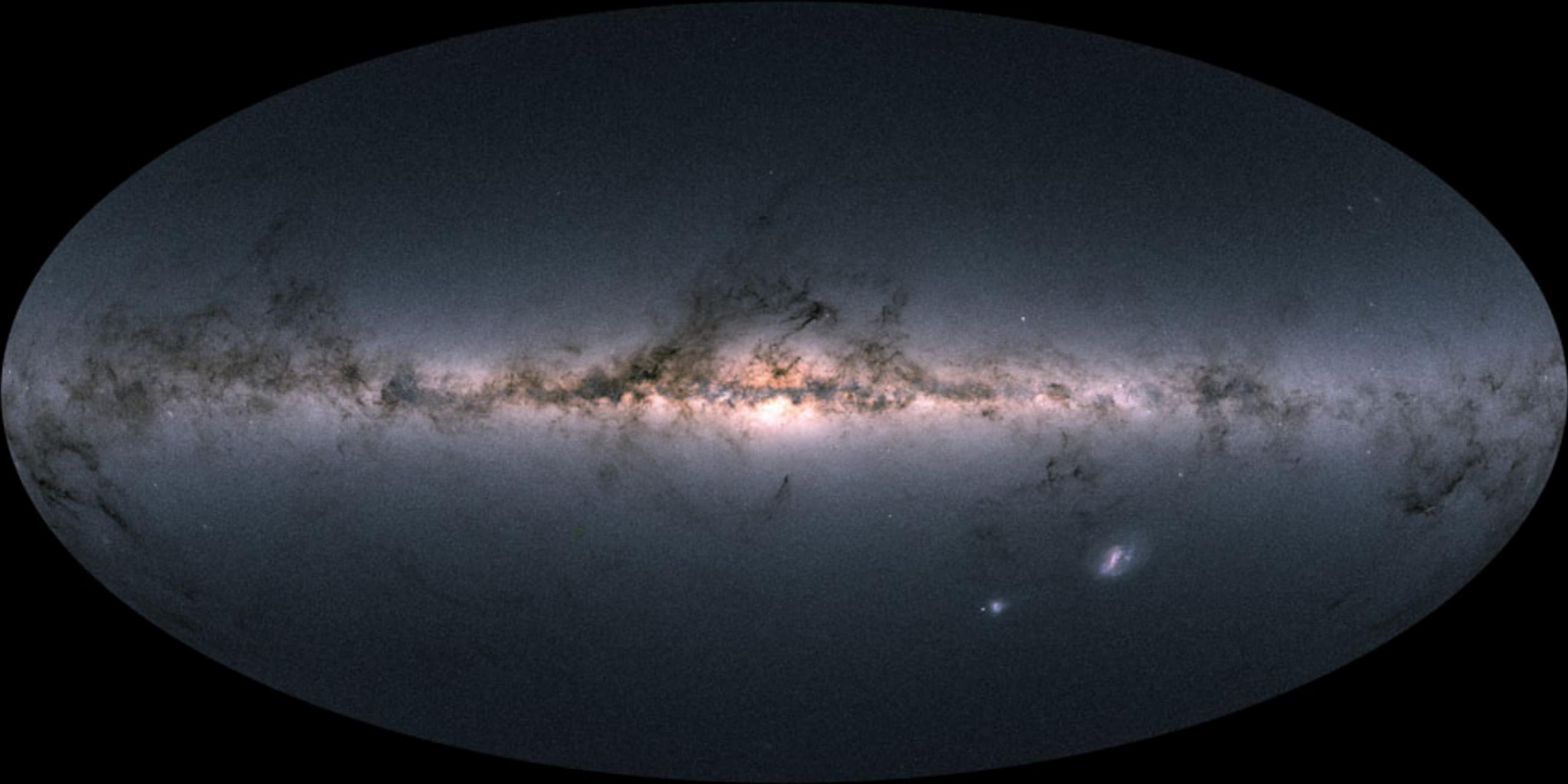


Toy MW+LMC+Sgr system, 1% scatter in  $\overrightarrow{J}$

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- **The STREAMFINDER search for stellar streams**
- Perturbations of the GD-1 stream

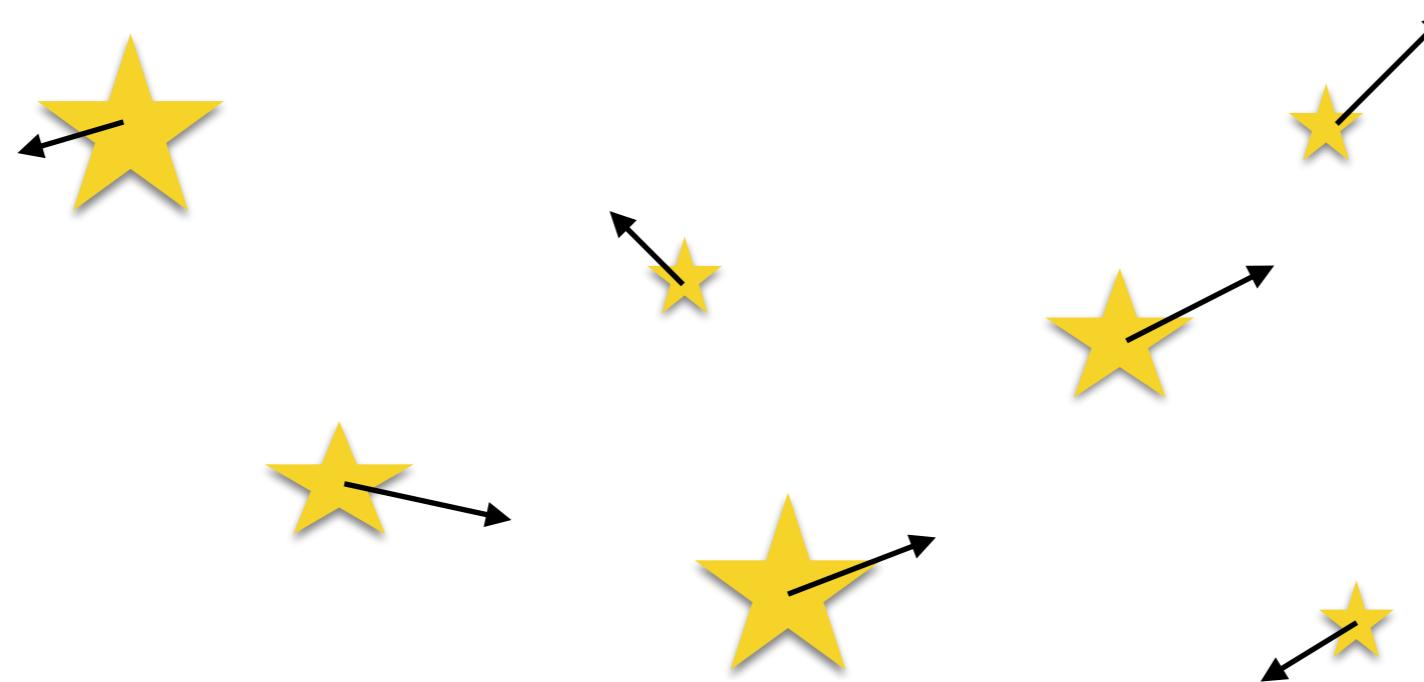
# How do we best find streams with Gaia?



# Finding streams in heterogenous datasets

Gaia:  $\alpha, \delta, \varpi, \mu_\alpha, \mu_\delta, G, G_{BP}, G_{RP}$  for  $> 10^9$  stars  
position<sup>1/dist.</sup> motion<sup>brightness temperature</sup>  
heliocentric velocity for  $7.2 \times 10^6$  stars

Distance, chemistry & line of sight velocity information much poorer than proper motions and photometry



Malhan, RI (MNRAS 2018)

Malhan, RI, Martin (MNRAS 2018);

Malhan et al. (MNRAS 2019)

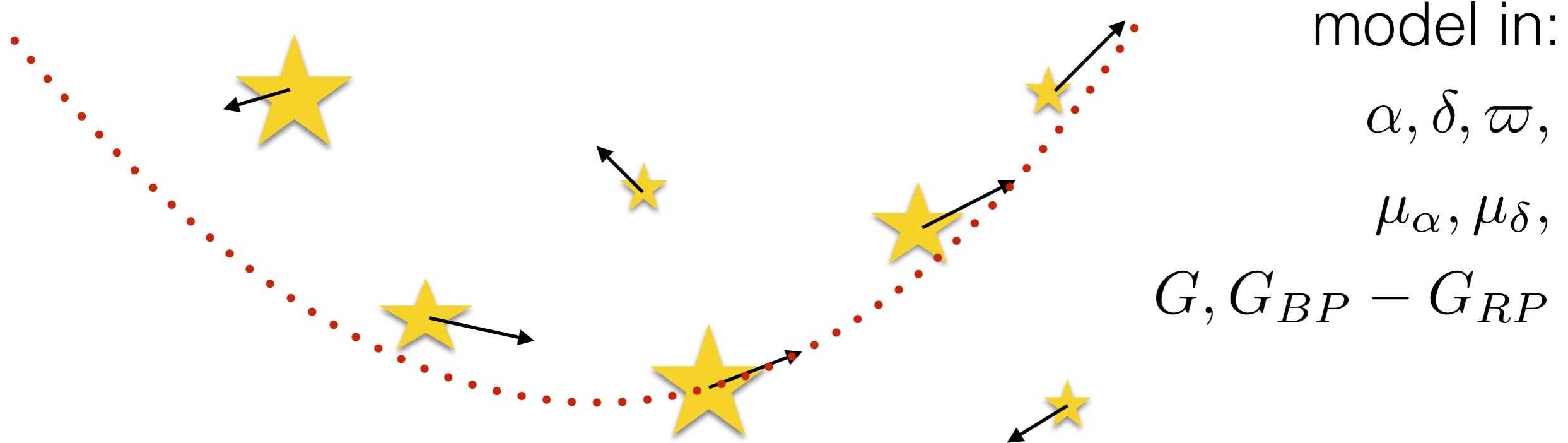
RI, Malhan, Martin (ApJ 2019)

RI, Bellazzini, Malhan, Martin, Bianchini (Nature Ast. 2019)

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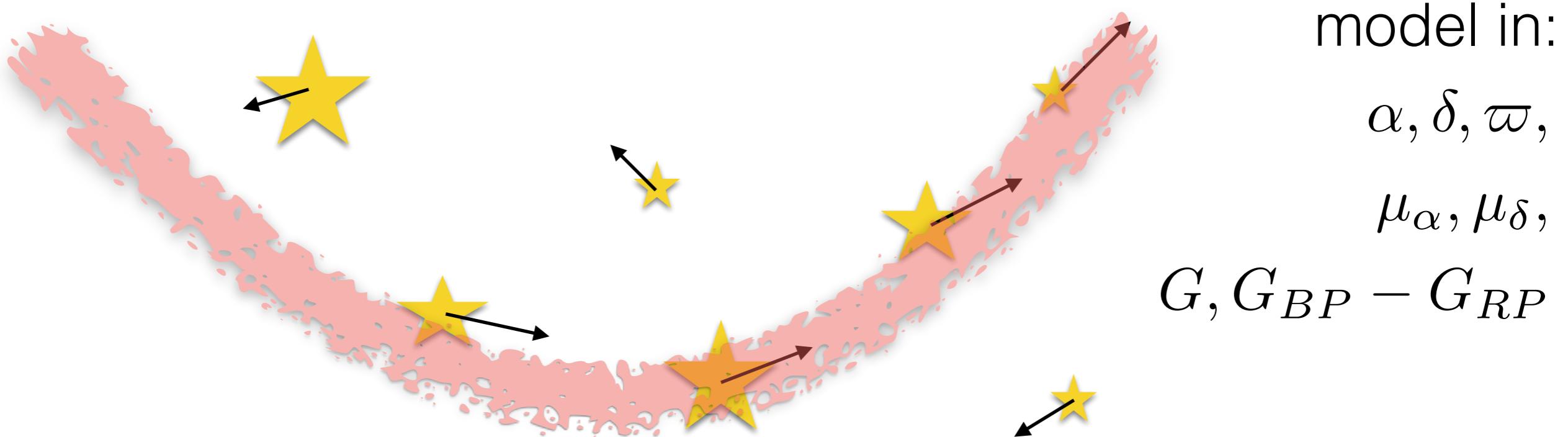
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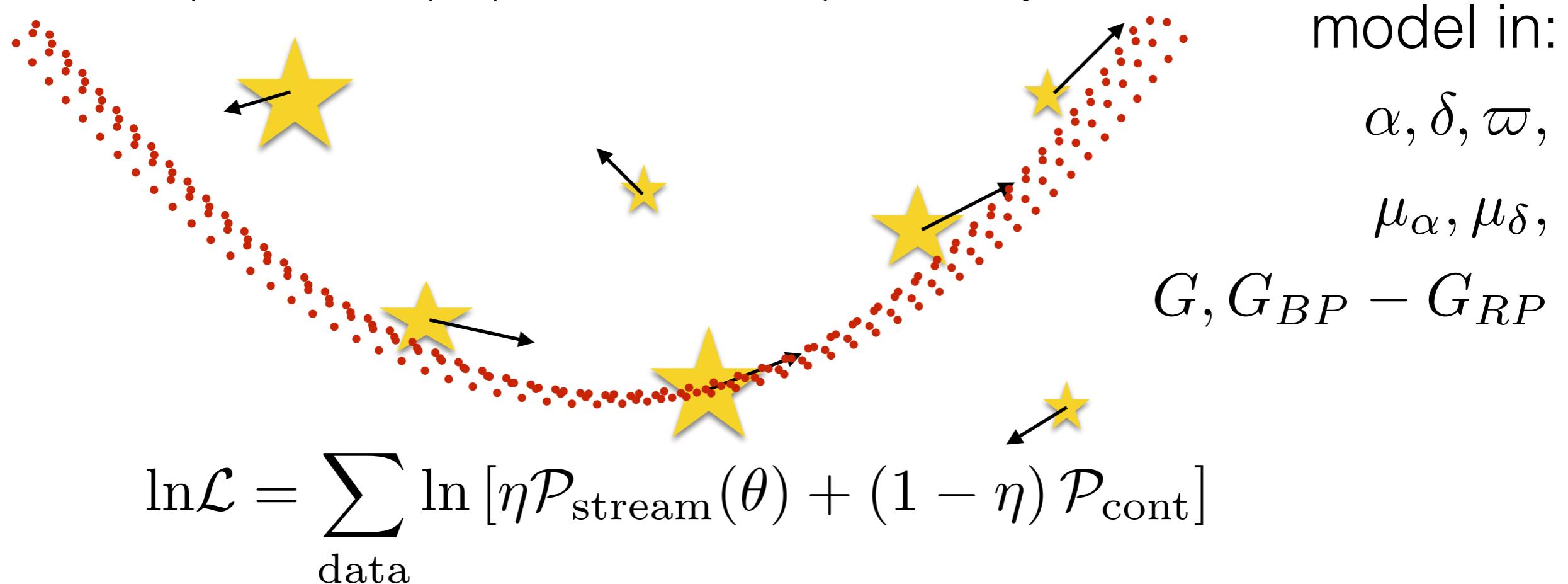
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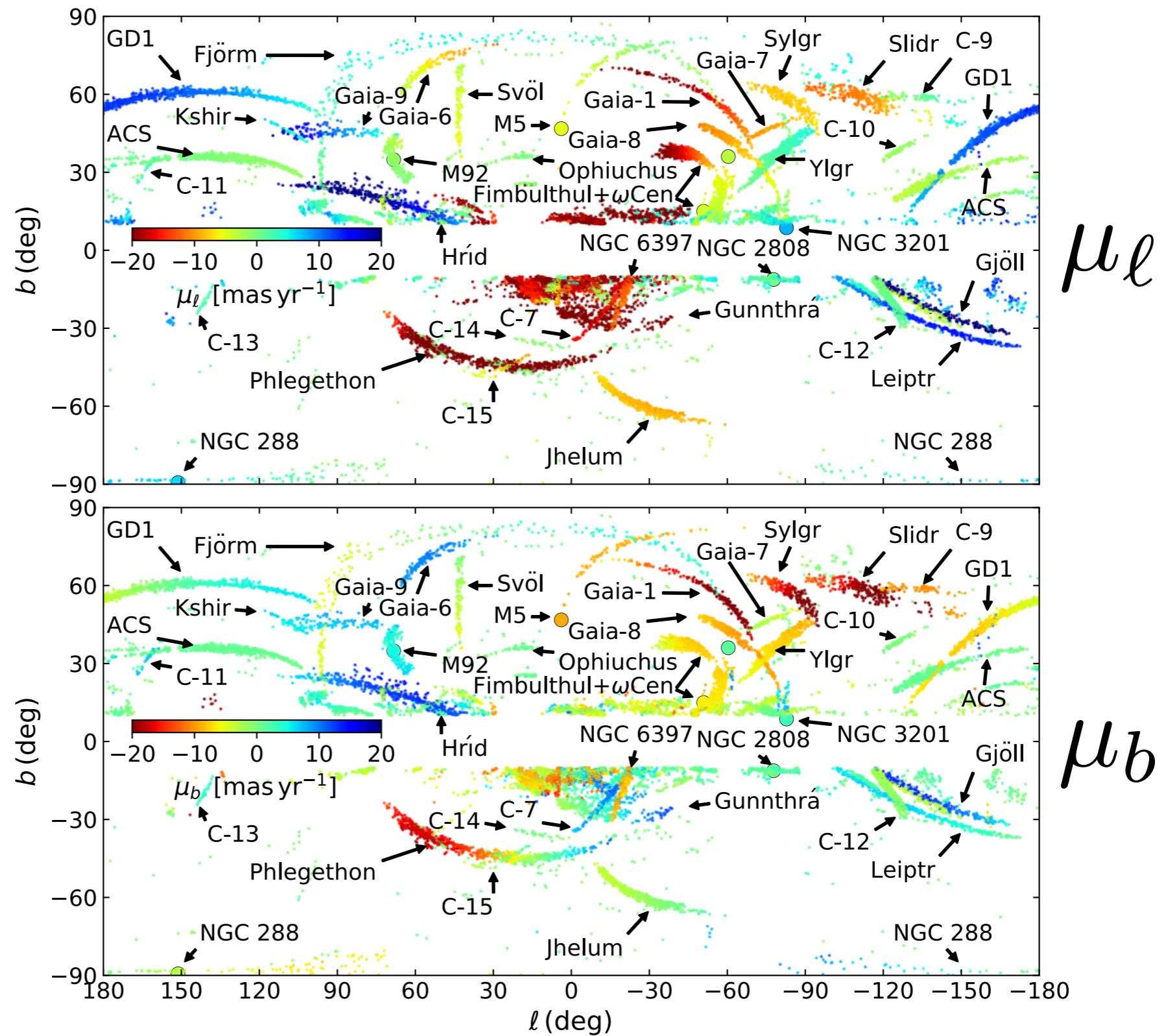
Distance, chemistry & line of sight velocity information much poorer than proper motions and photometry



For each star: What is  $\ln \mathcal{L}$  of the most likely value of eta?  
Hence maps of “streaminess”

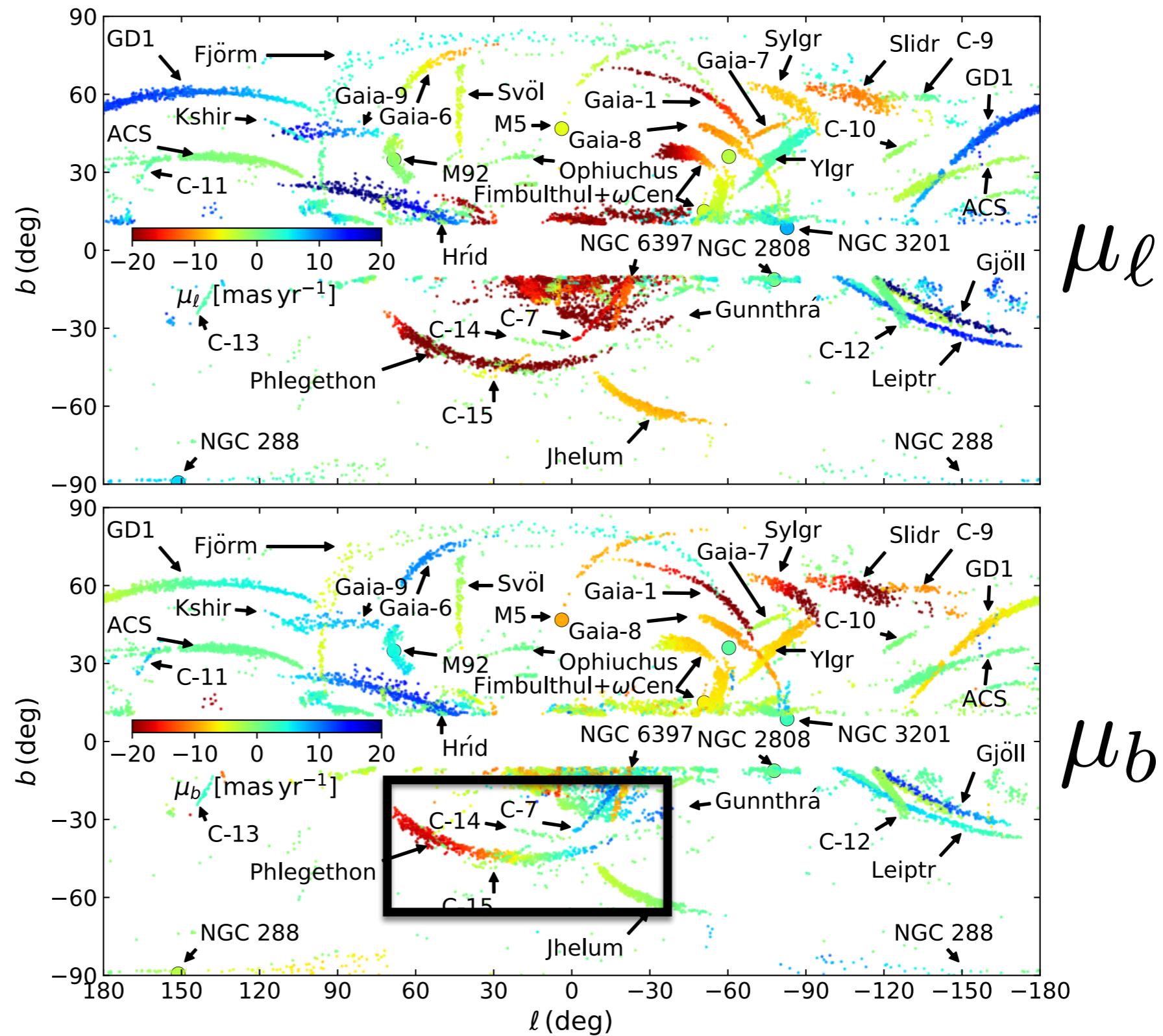
# New stream maps [3,12] kpc

$10\sigma$  detections,  
50 pc half-width



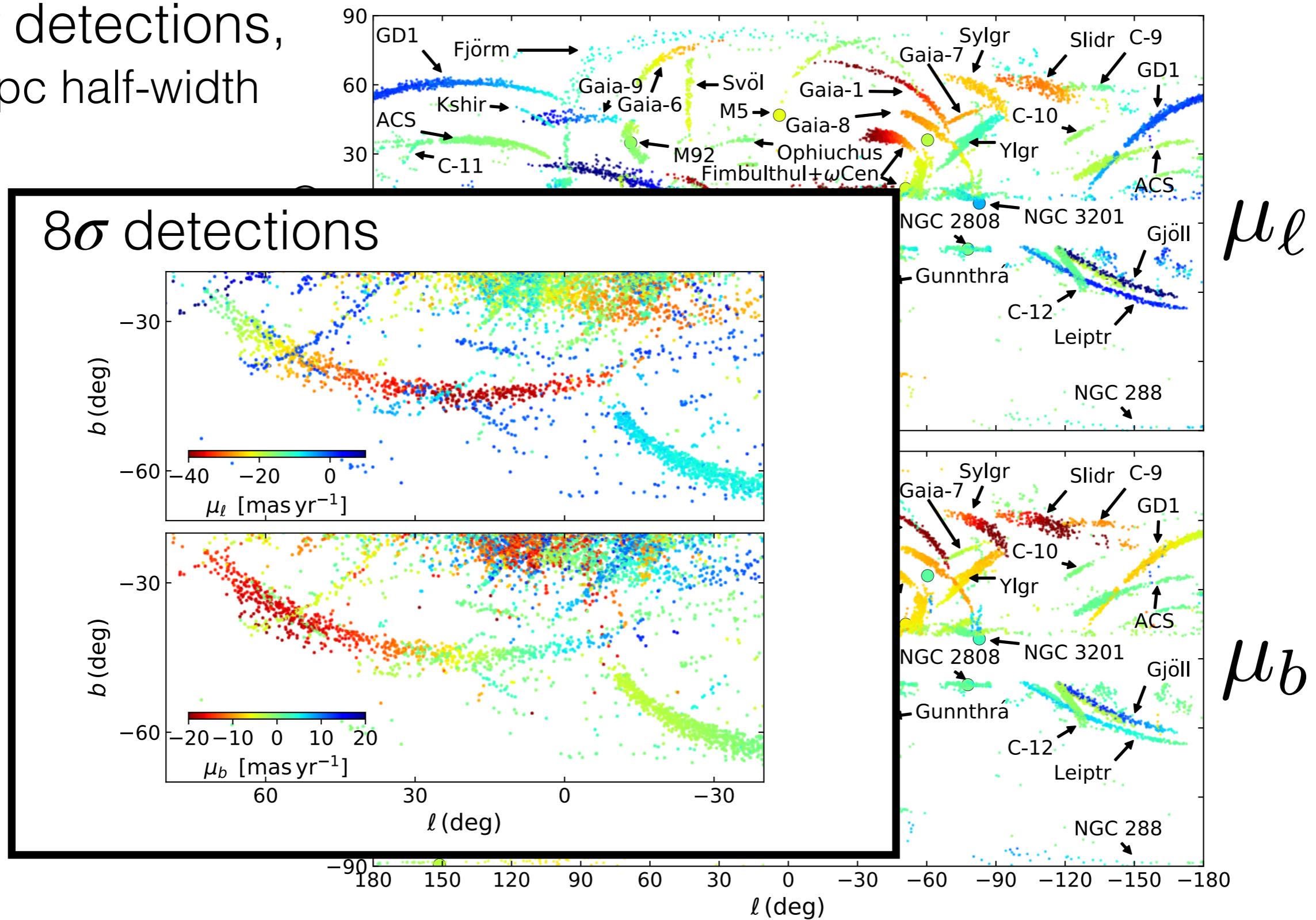
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# New stream maps [3,12] kpc

$10\sigma$  detections,  
50 pc half-width

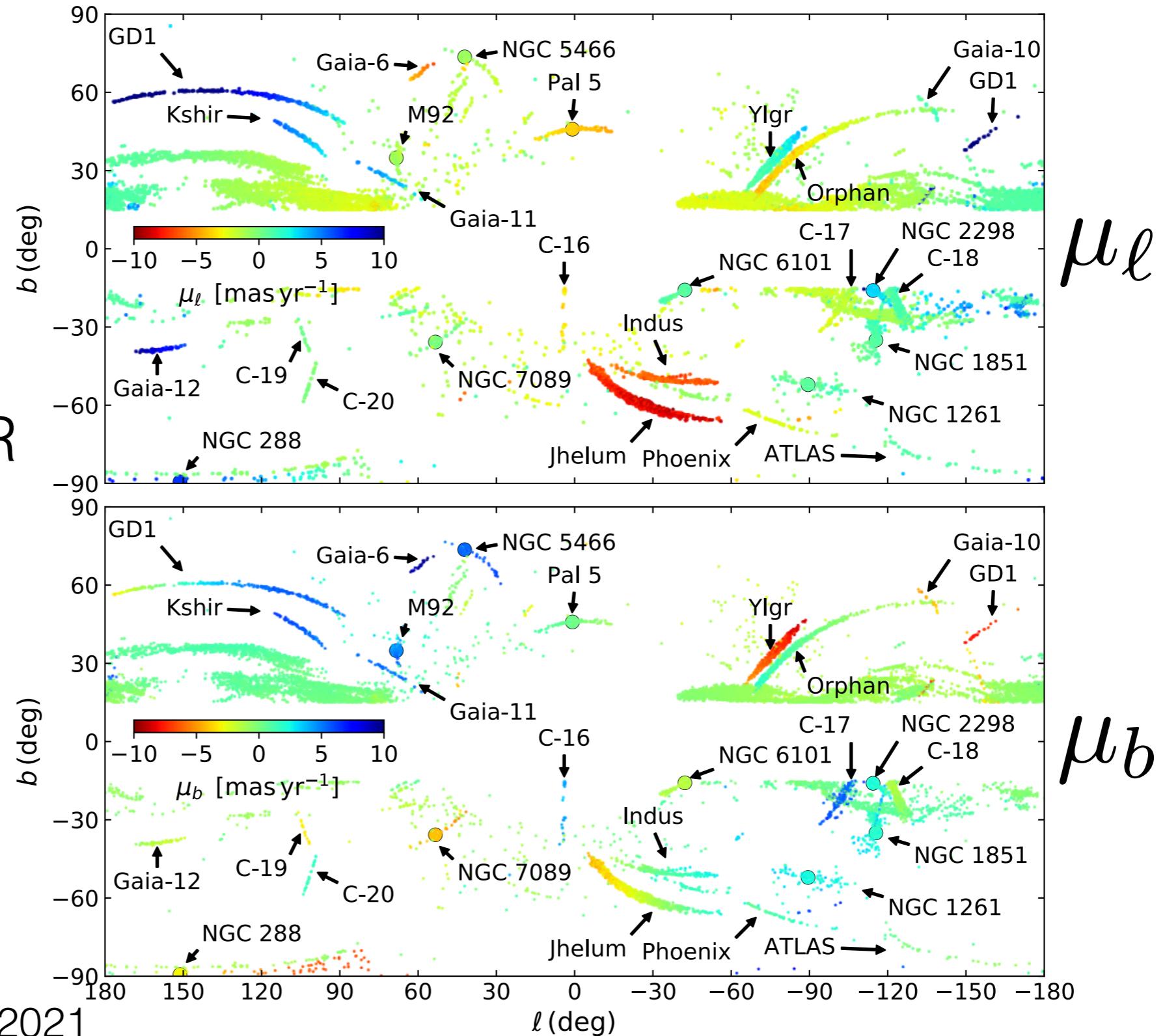


# New stream maps [10,30] kpc

$10\sigma$  detections,  
50 pc half-width

STREAMFINDER  
high-resolution  
spectroscopic  
survey

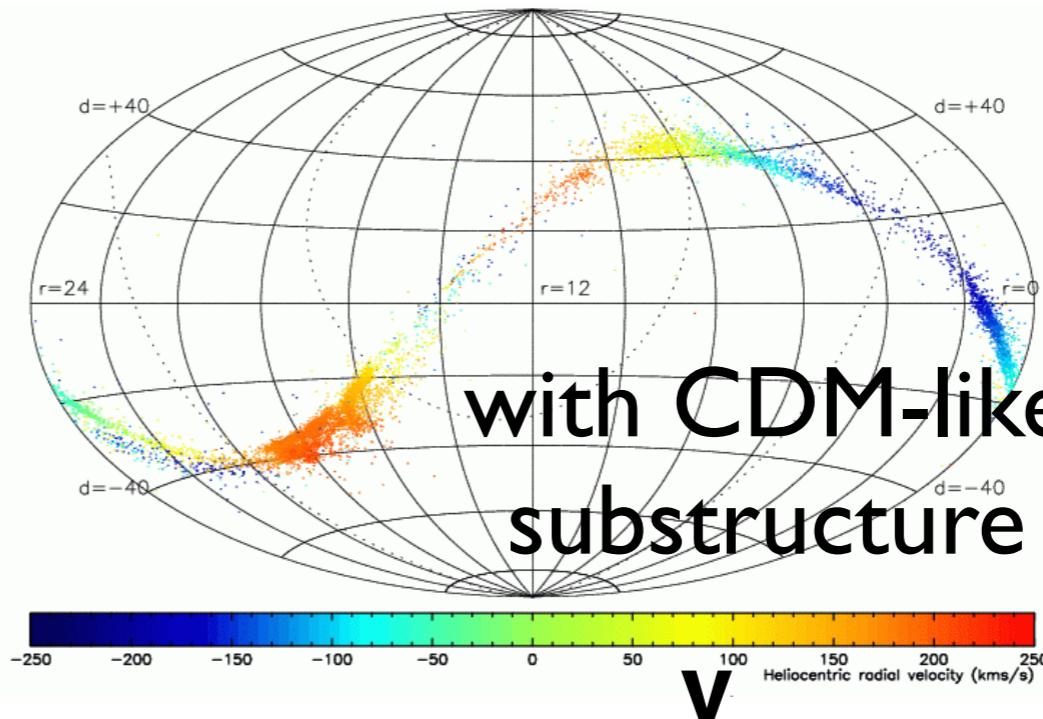
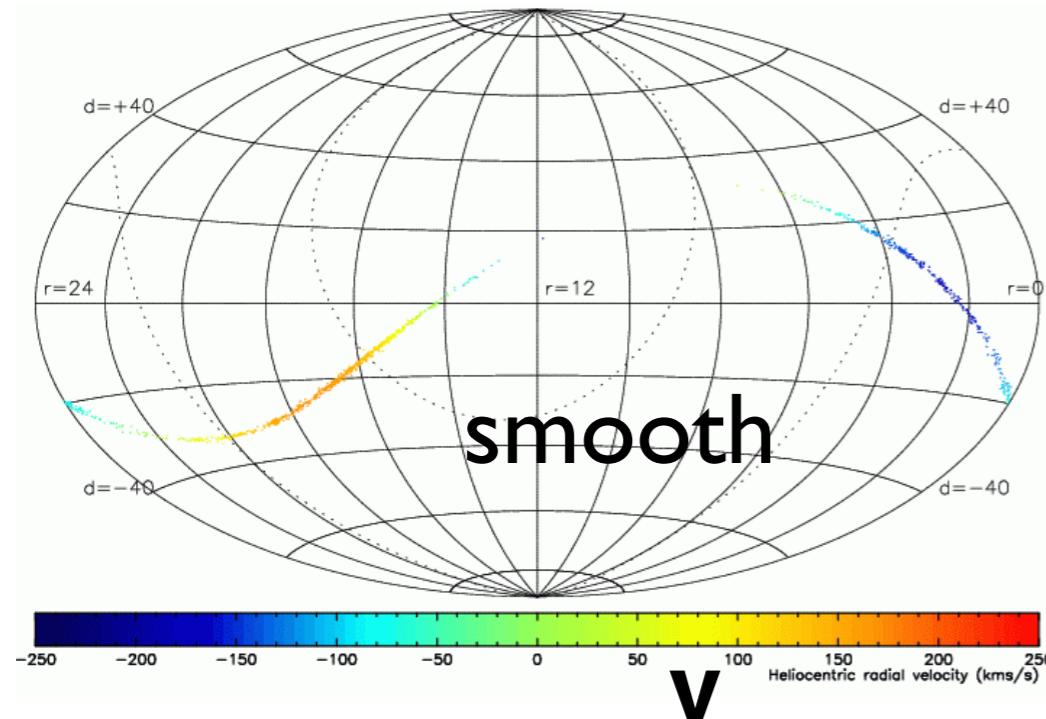
ESPaDOnS(CFHT)  
+ UVES(VLT)



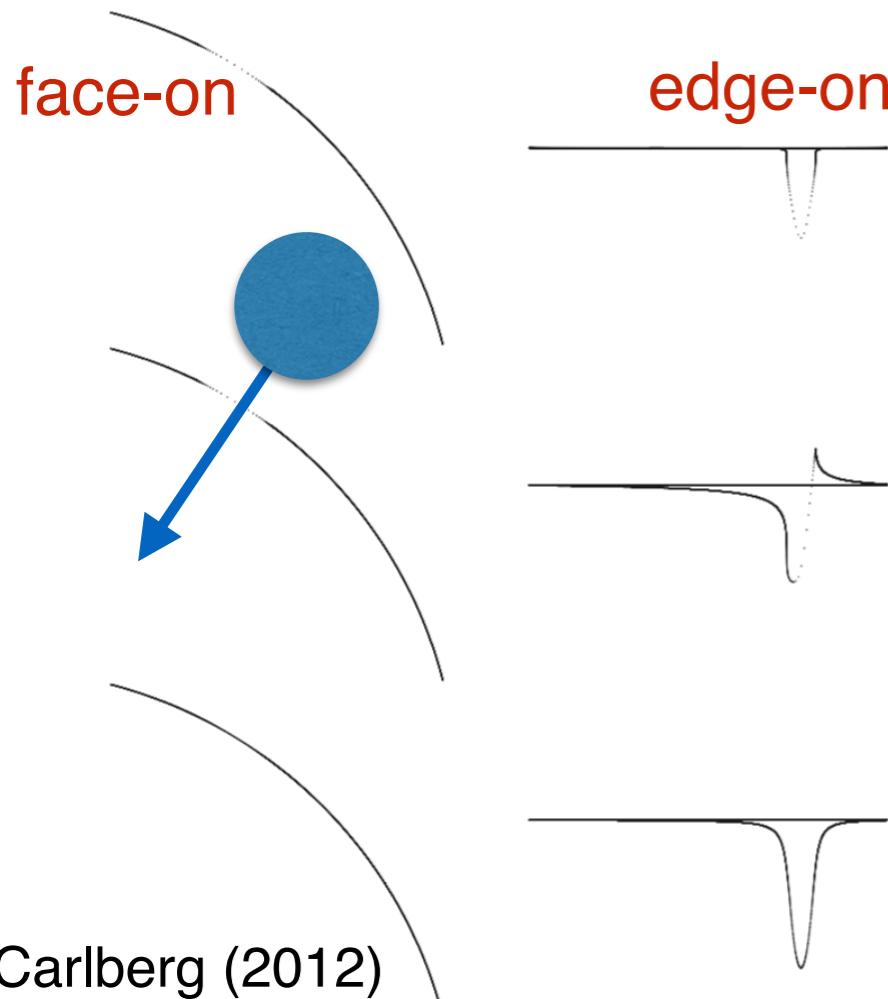
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# Stellar Streams as seismometers



RI, Lewis, Irwin,  
Quinn (2002)  
Johnston et al.  
(2002)  
Dalal & Kochanek  
(2002)



Gaps in streams  
from sub-halo encounters

matched filter map around  
Palomar 5:

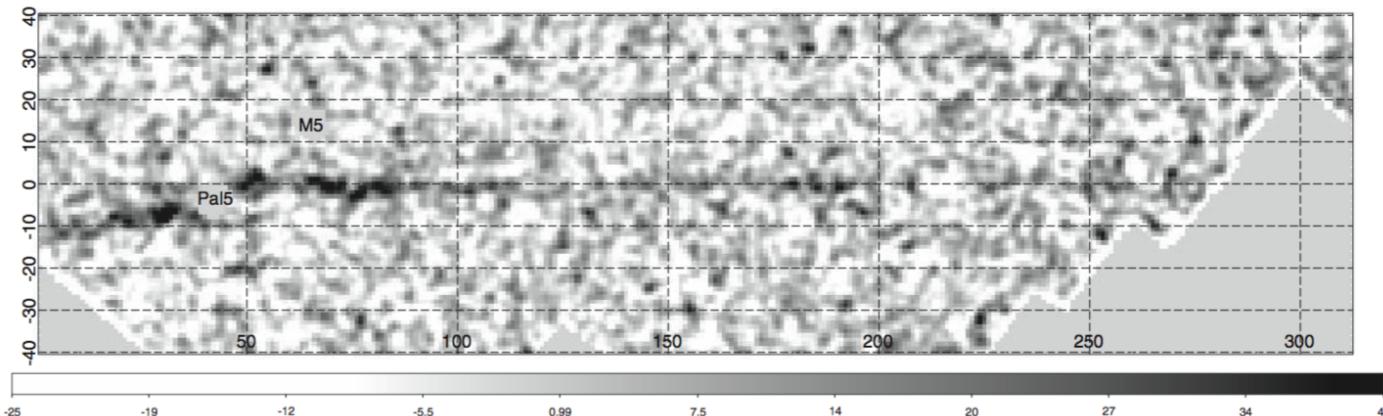
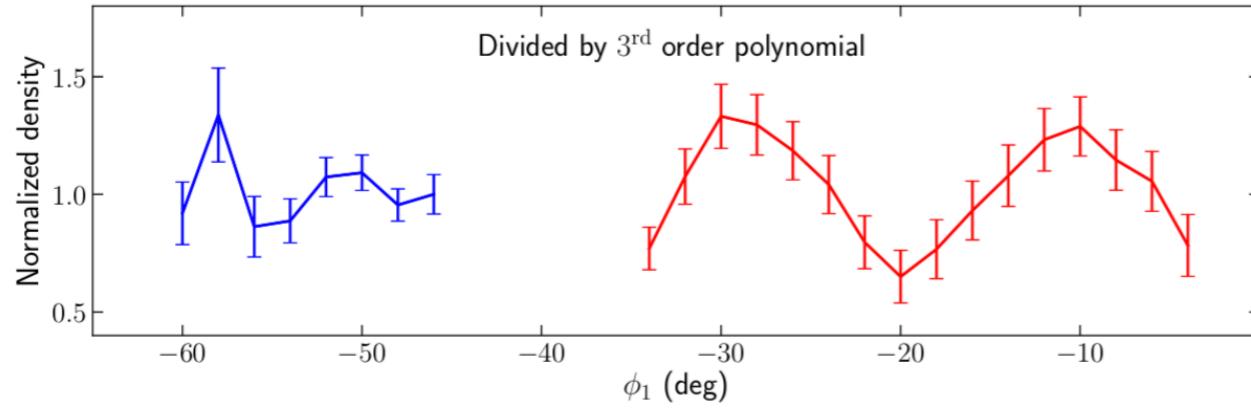
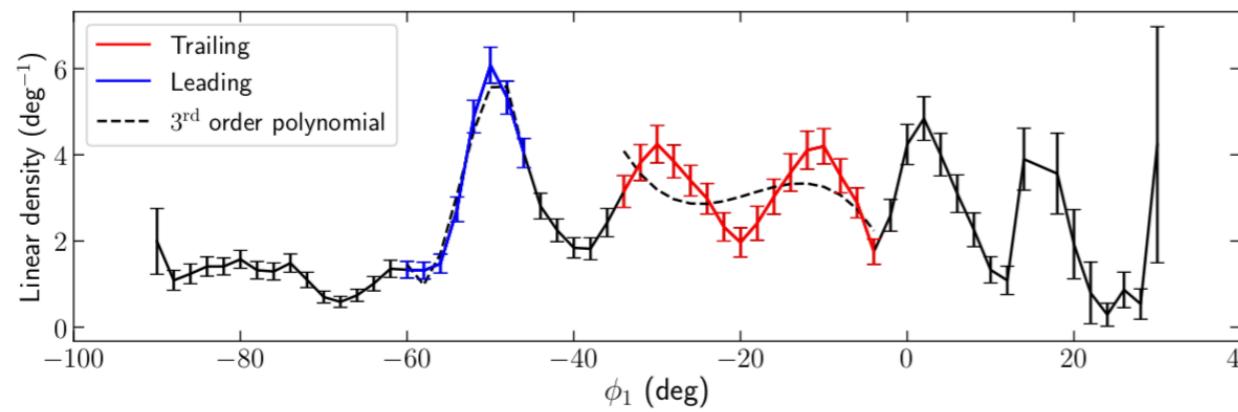


Figure 2. Matched filtered star map of the Pal 5 field, with Pal 5 and the foreground M5 cluster masked out. To remove the varying background, the masked image has been smoothed over  $4^\circ$  and subtracted from the original image, and then smoothed with a 2 pixel, or  $0.2$  Gaussian. The analysis is conducted on the original uncorrelated pixels. We have made no attempt to straighten the southern part of the stream, left of the cluster in this image.

# Gaps in the GD1 stream

Data

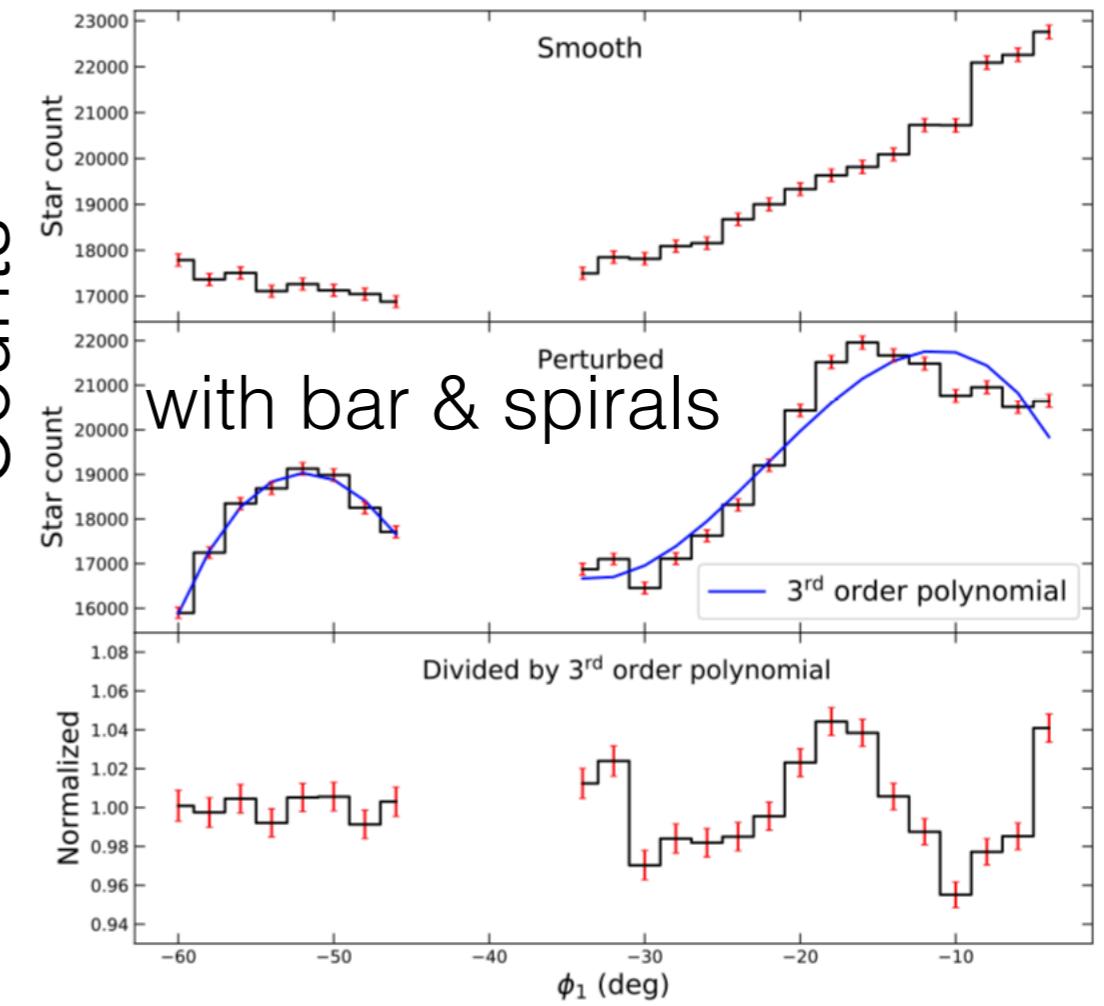
Counts



angle along stream

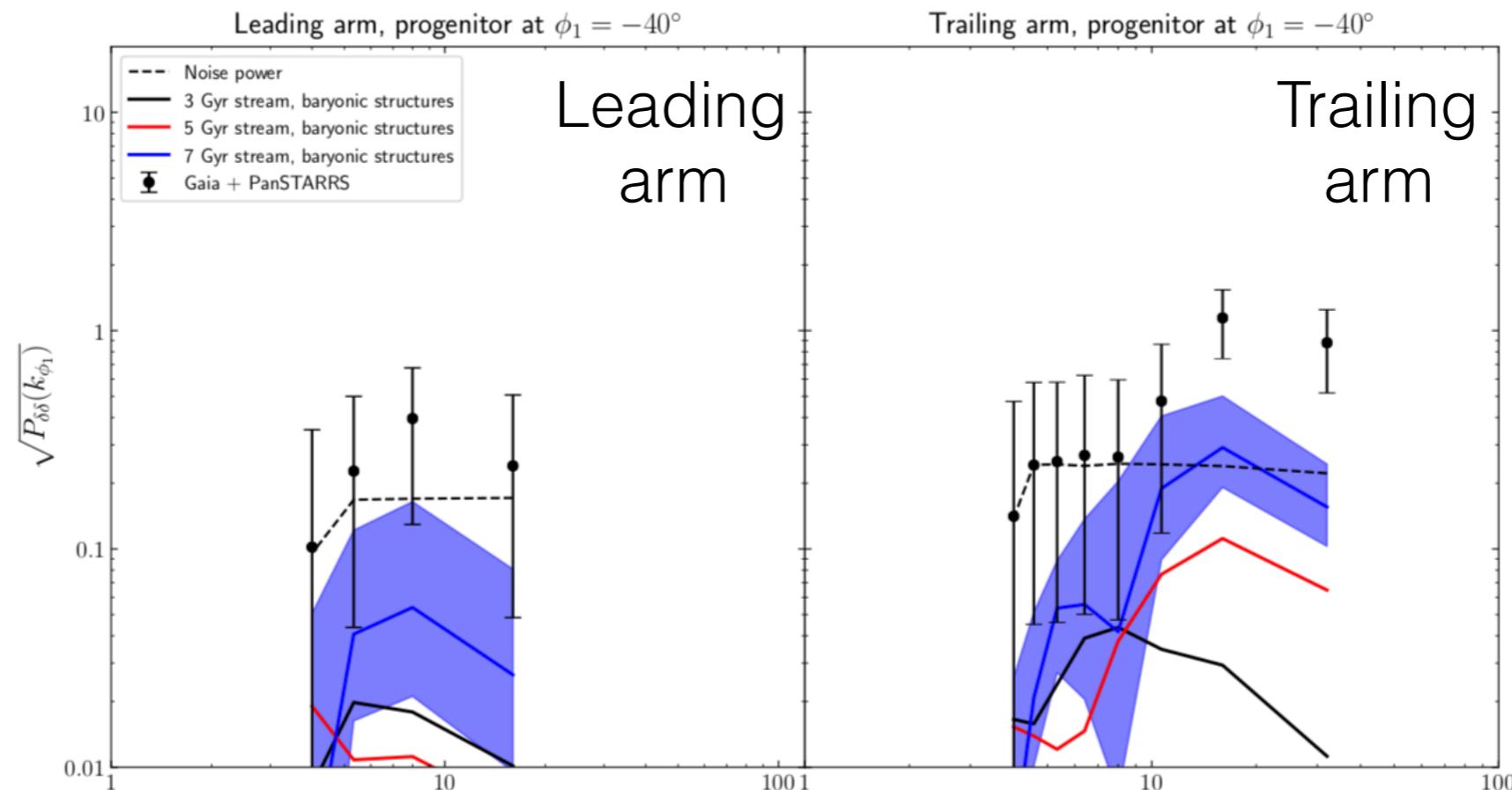
Simulations

Counts



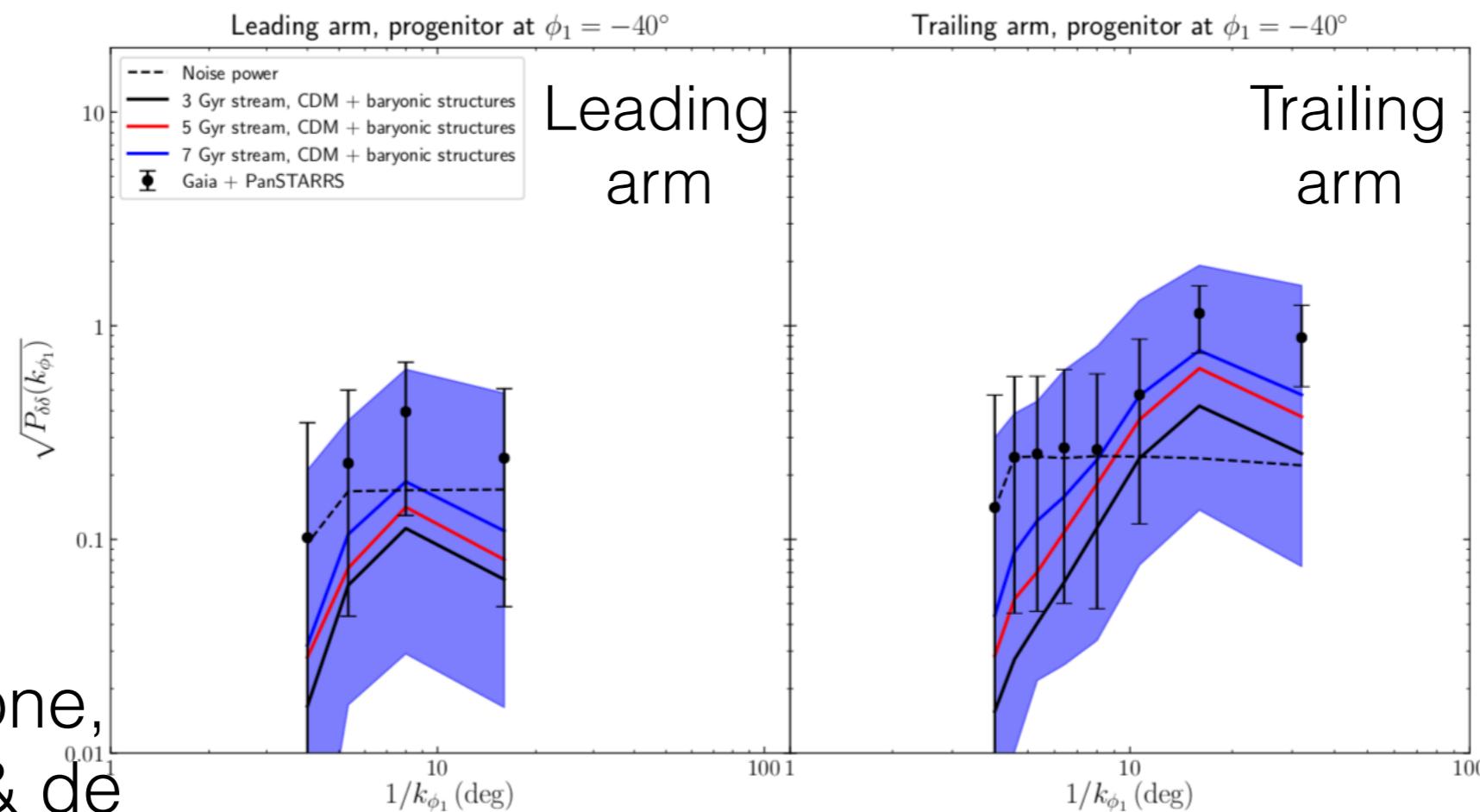
angle along stream

Power



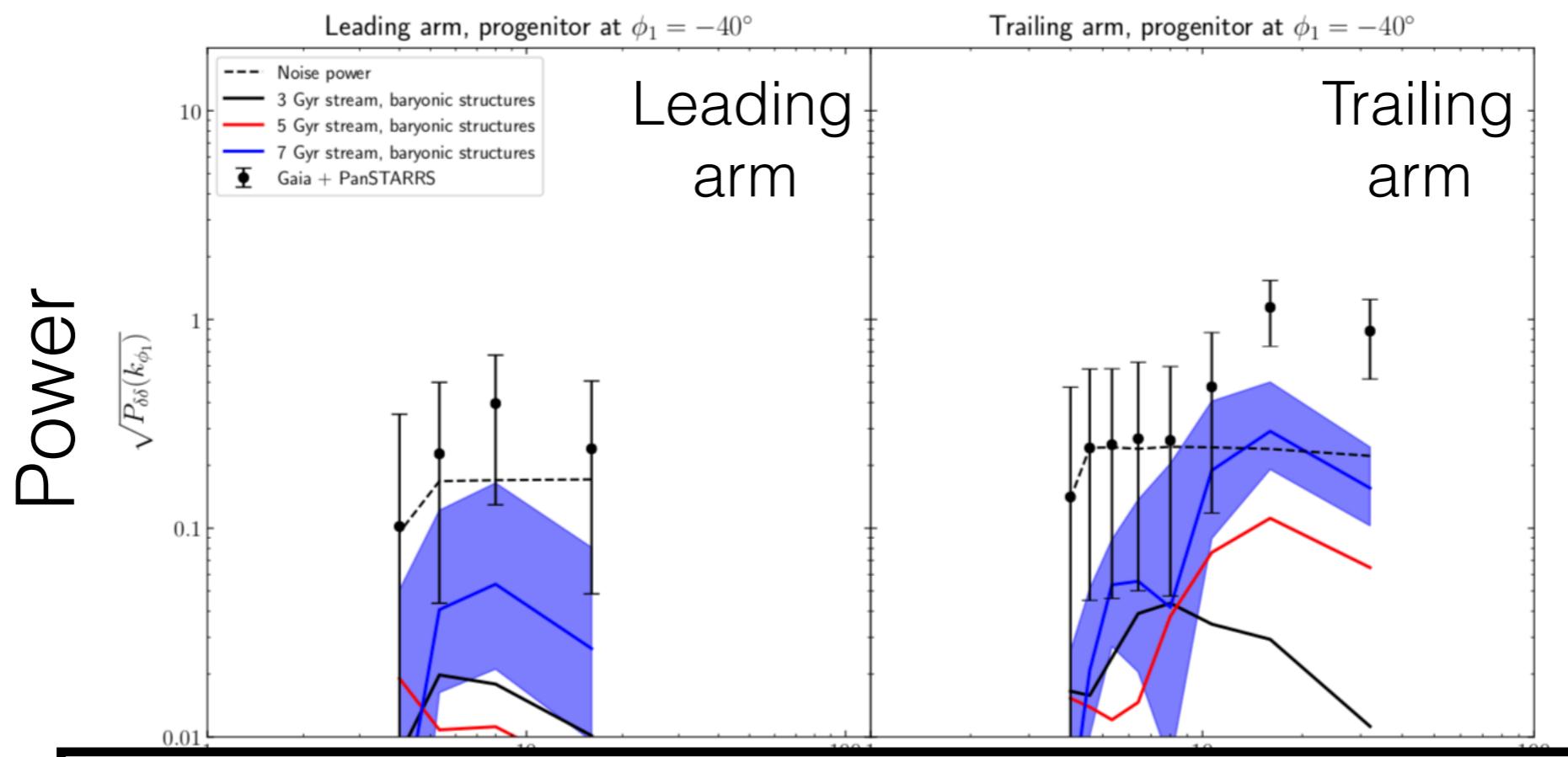
**no  
LCDM  
lumps**

Power

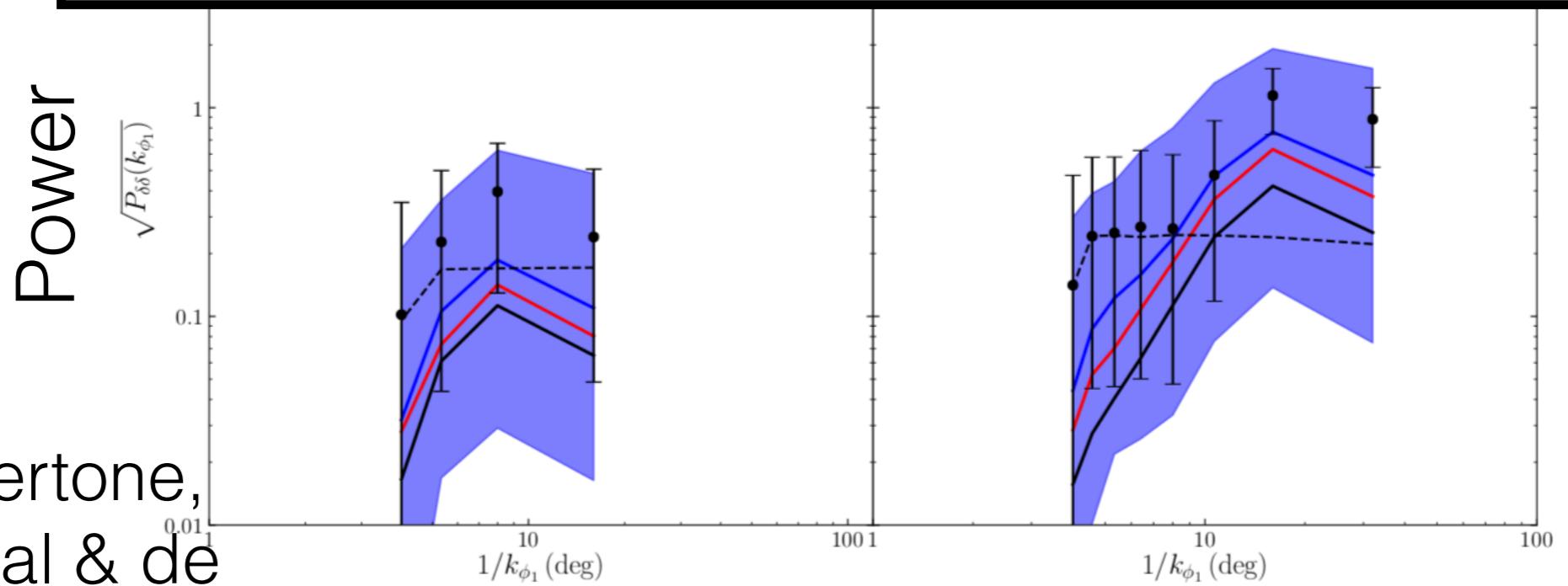


**with  
LCDM  
lumps**

inverse angular wavenumber [deg]

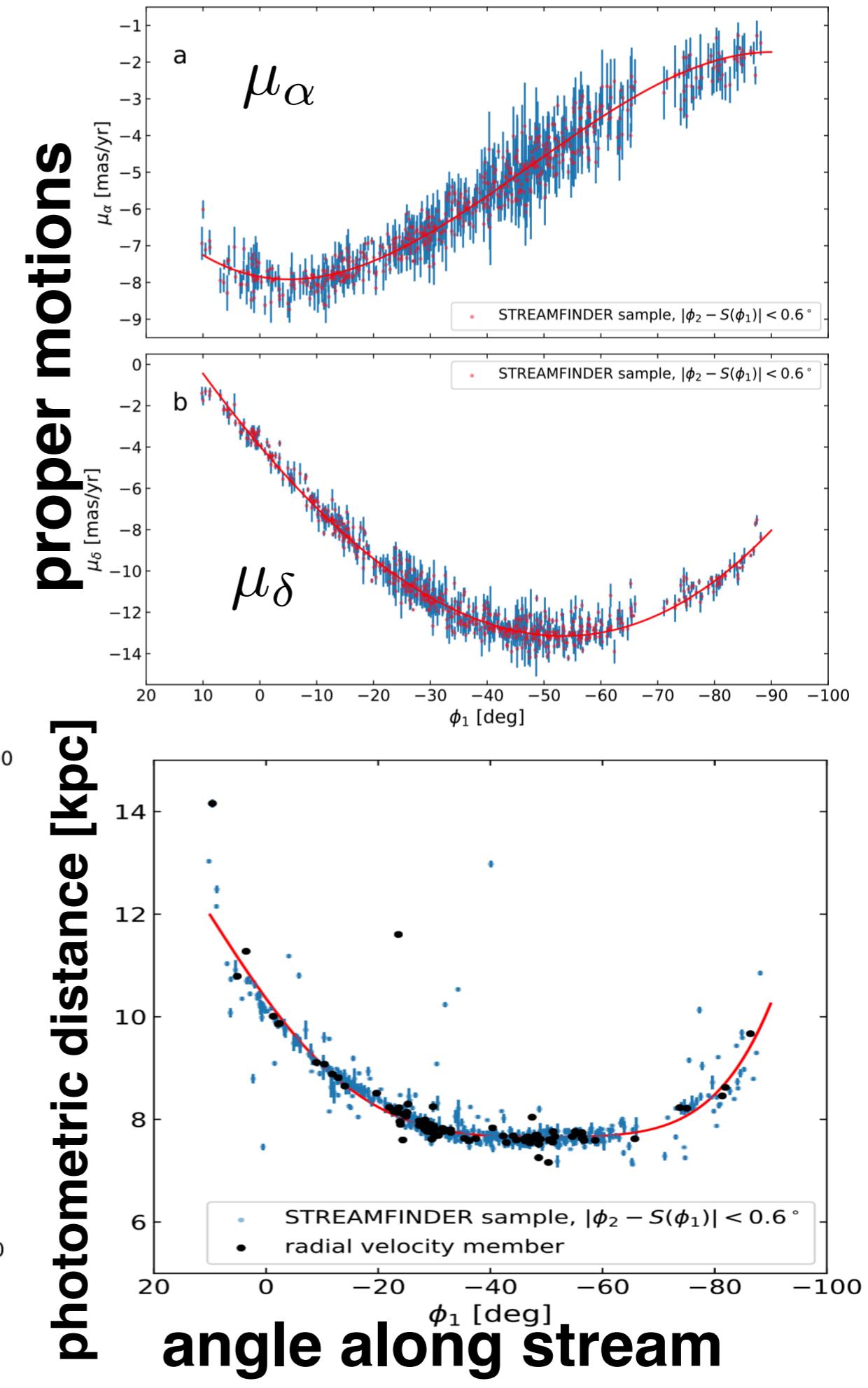
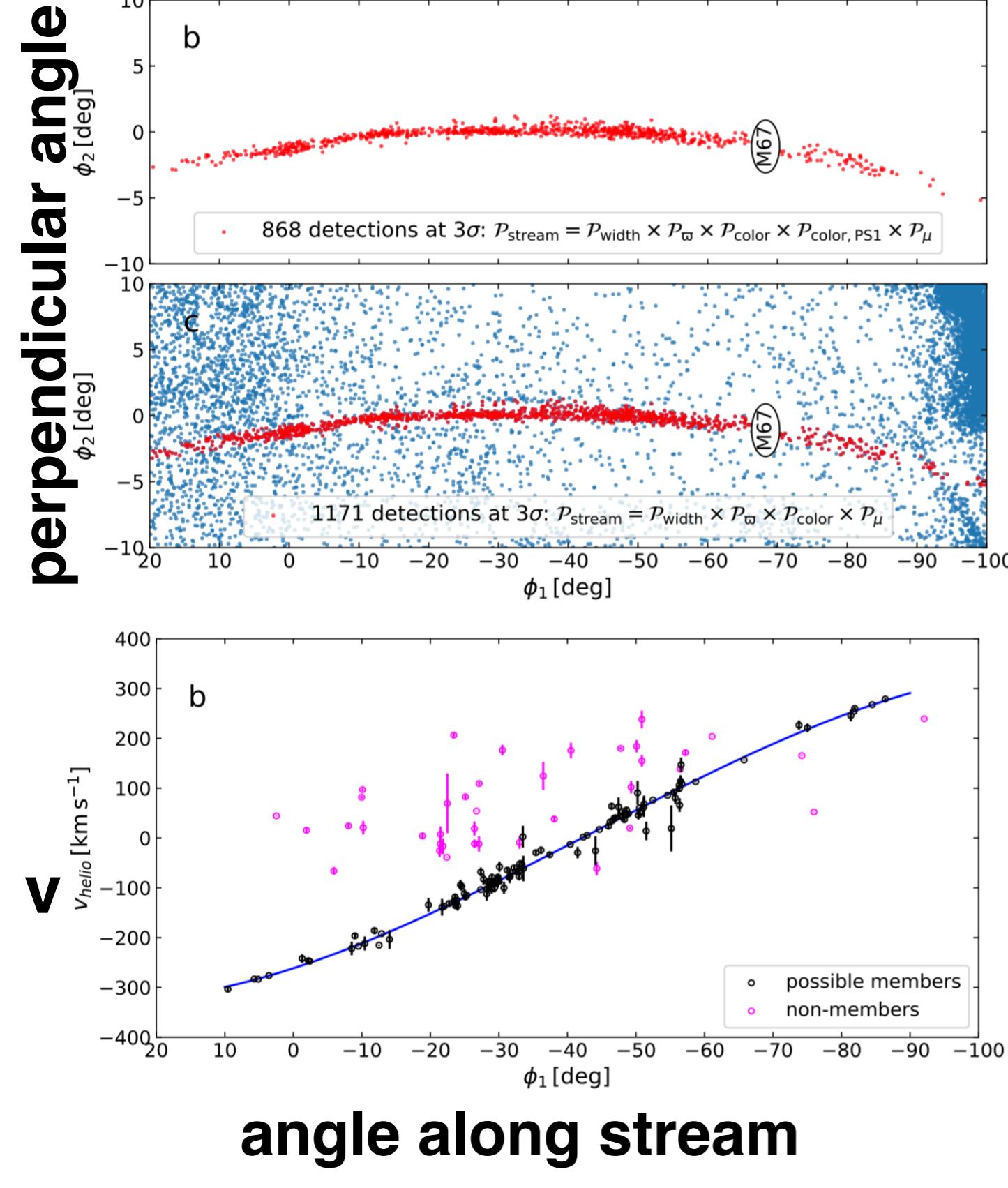


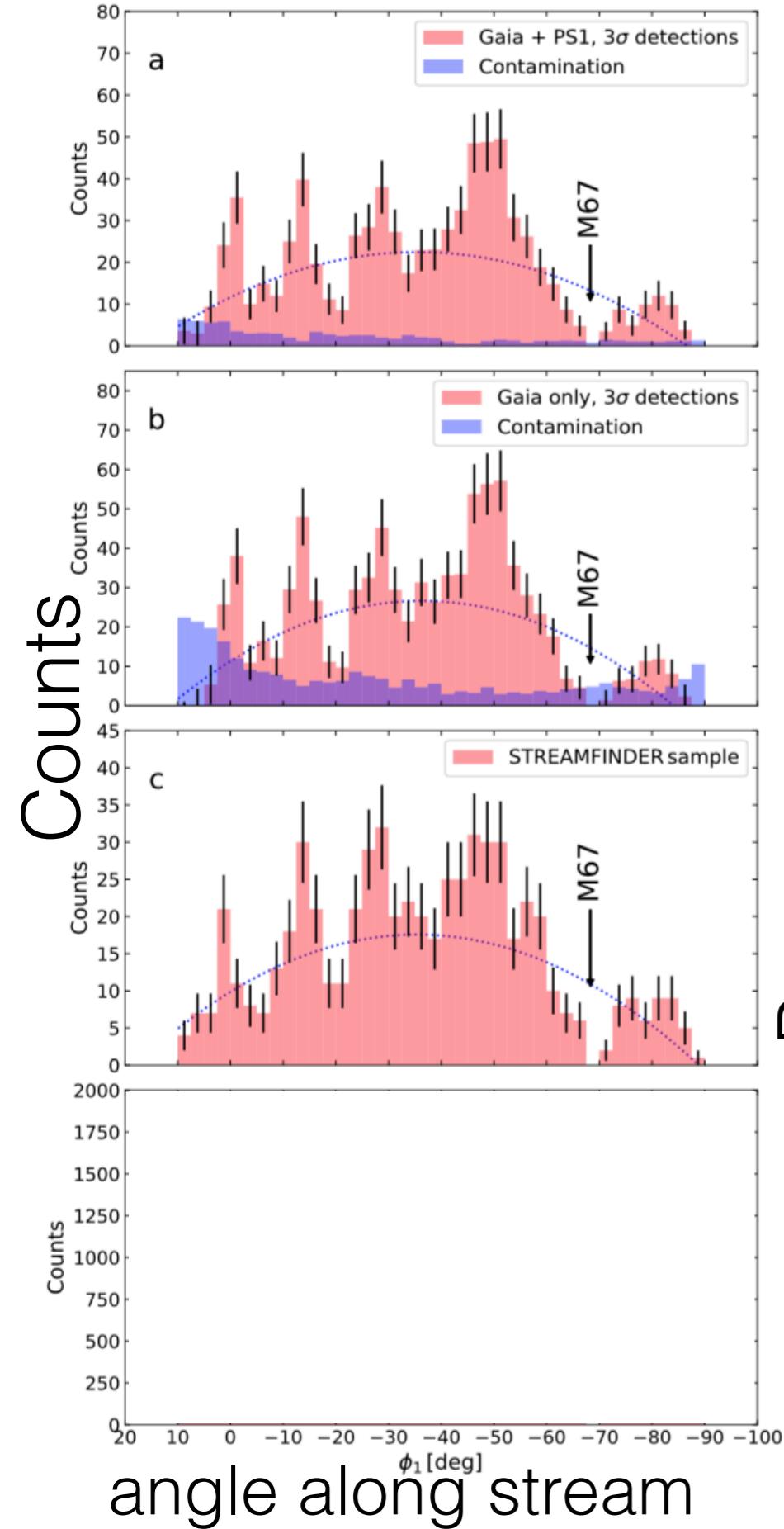
Implies abundance of sub halos of  
 $0.4^{+0.3}_{-0.2}$  compared to CDM



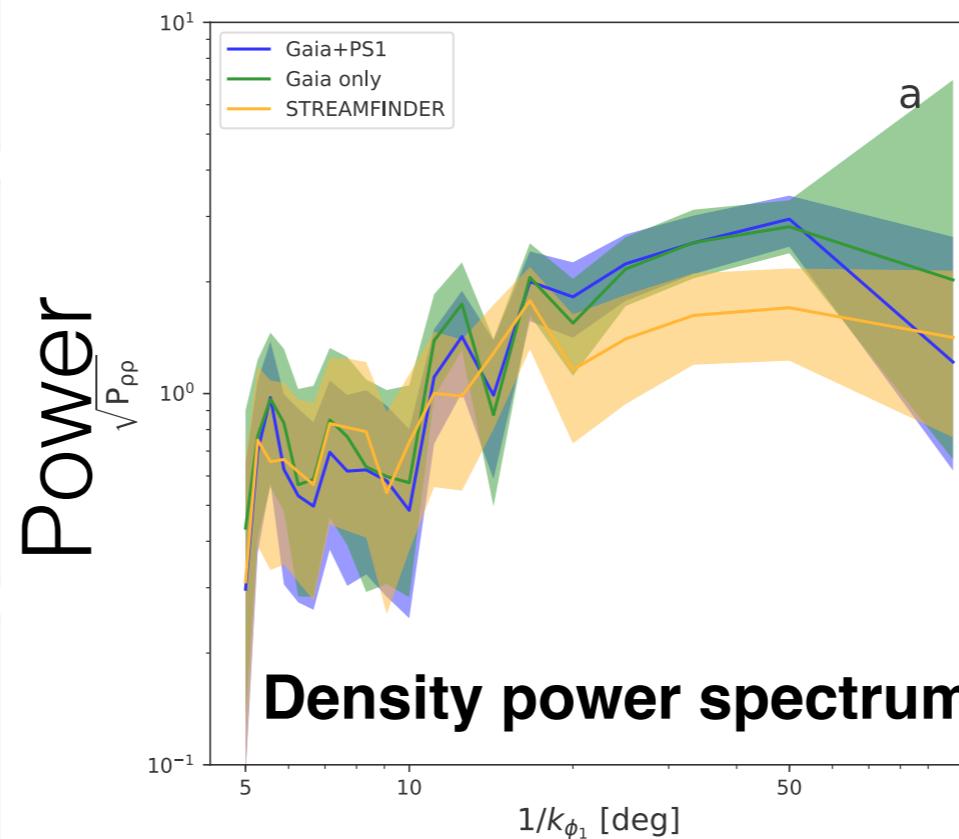
# GD1 stream

RI, Thomas, Famaey, Malhan, Monari (2020)





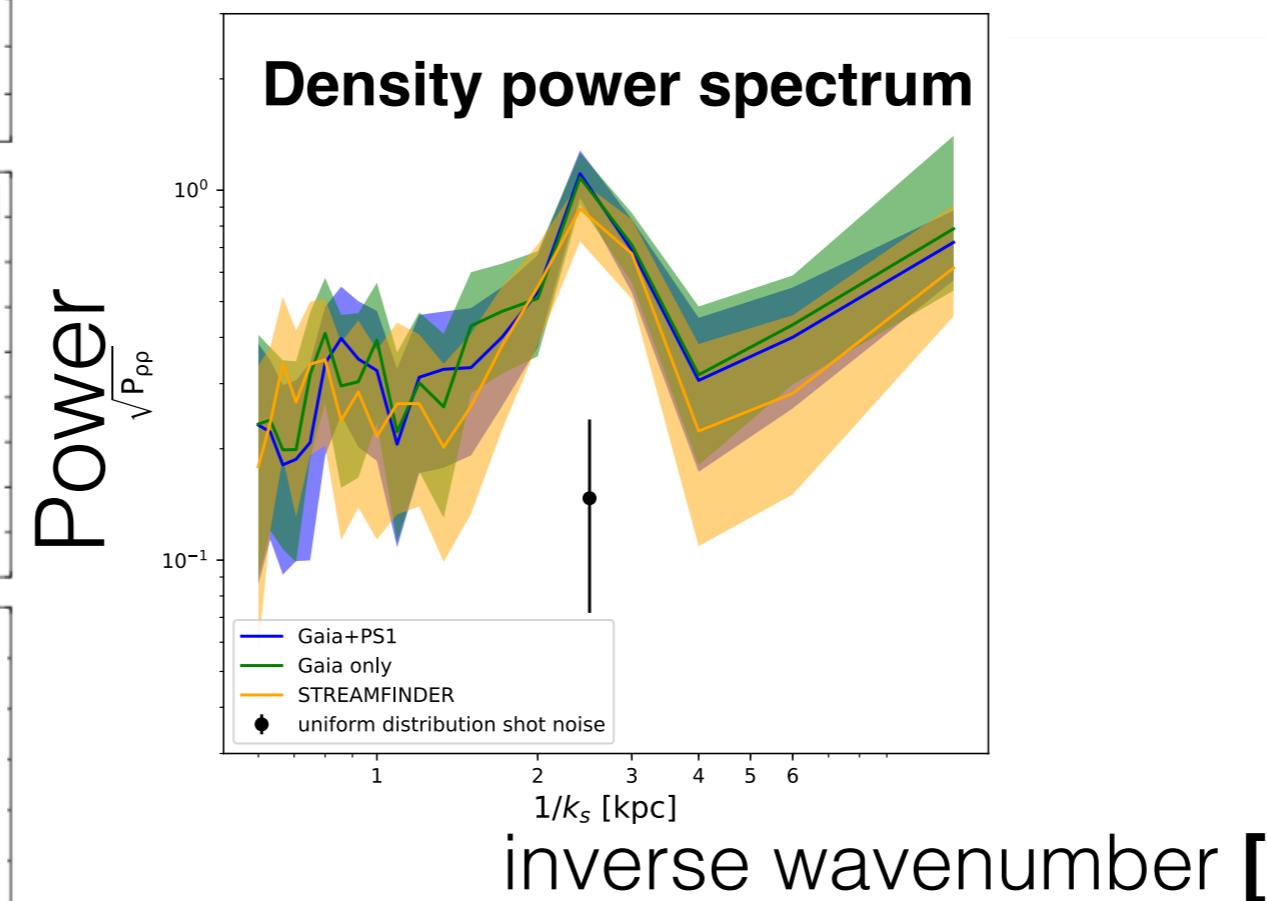
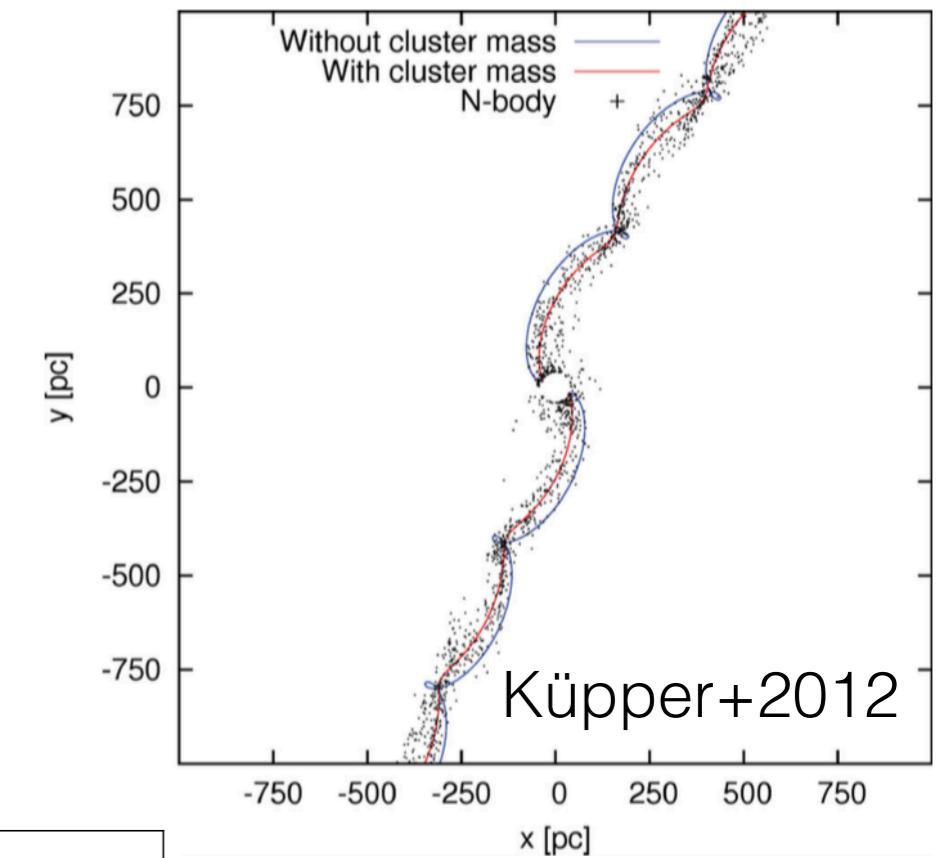
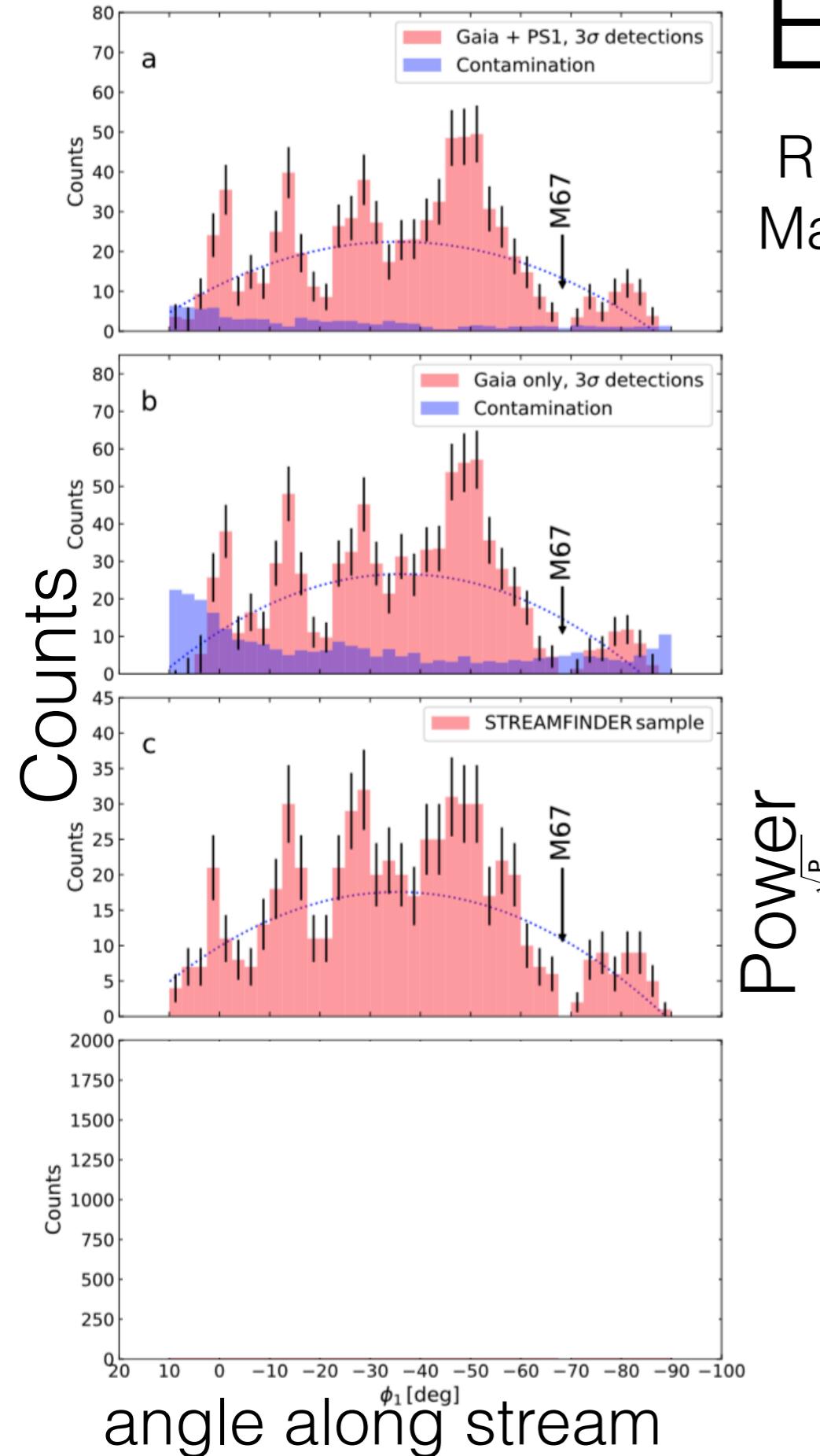
RI, Thomas, Famaey,  
Malhan, Monari (2020)



Density power spectrum  
inverse wavenumber [deg]

# Epicycles!

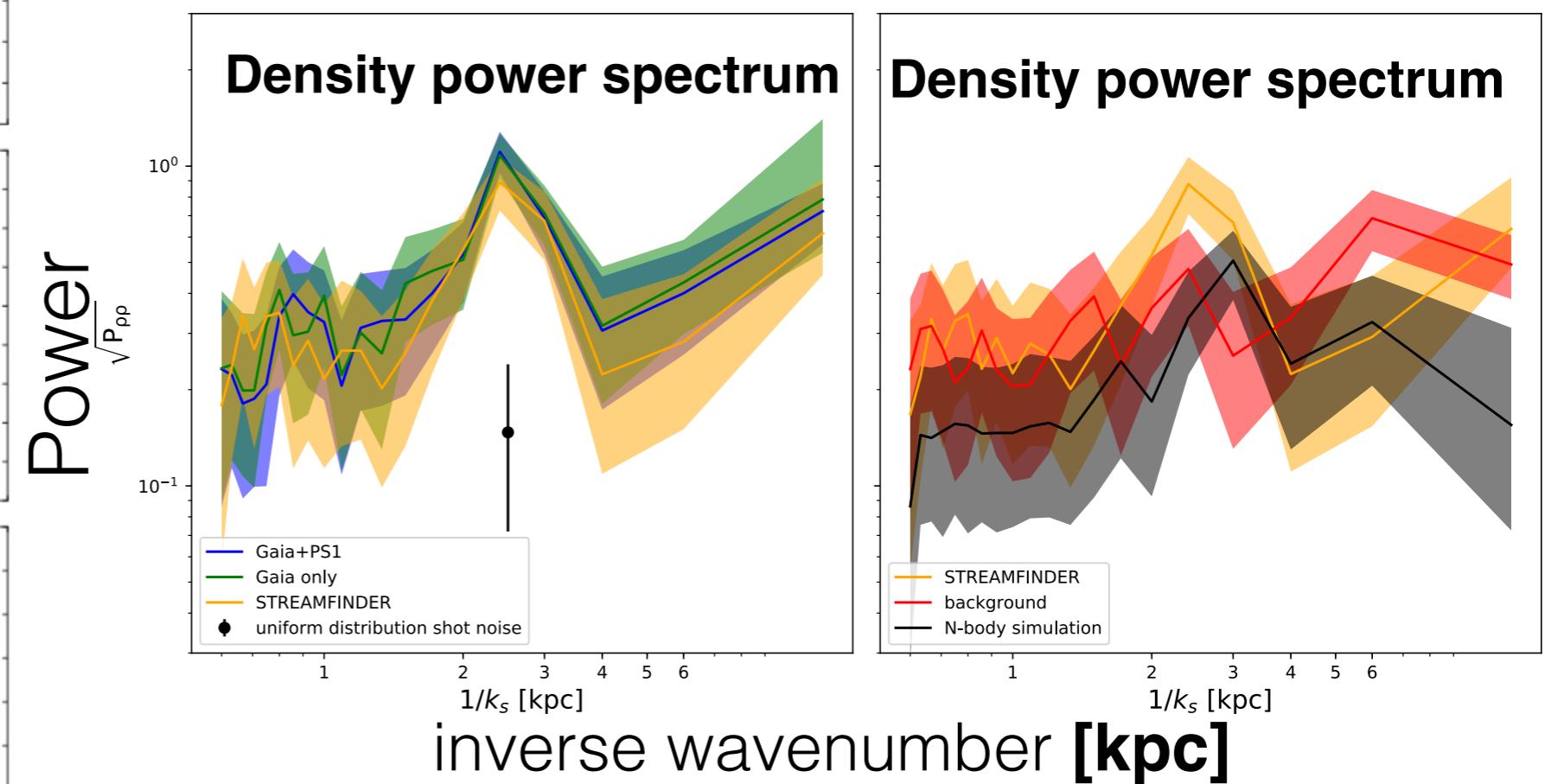
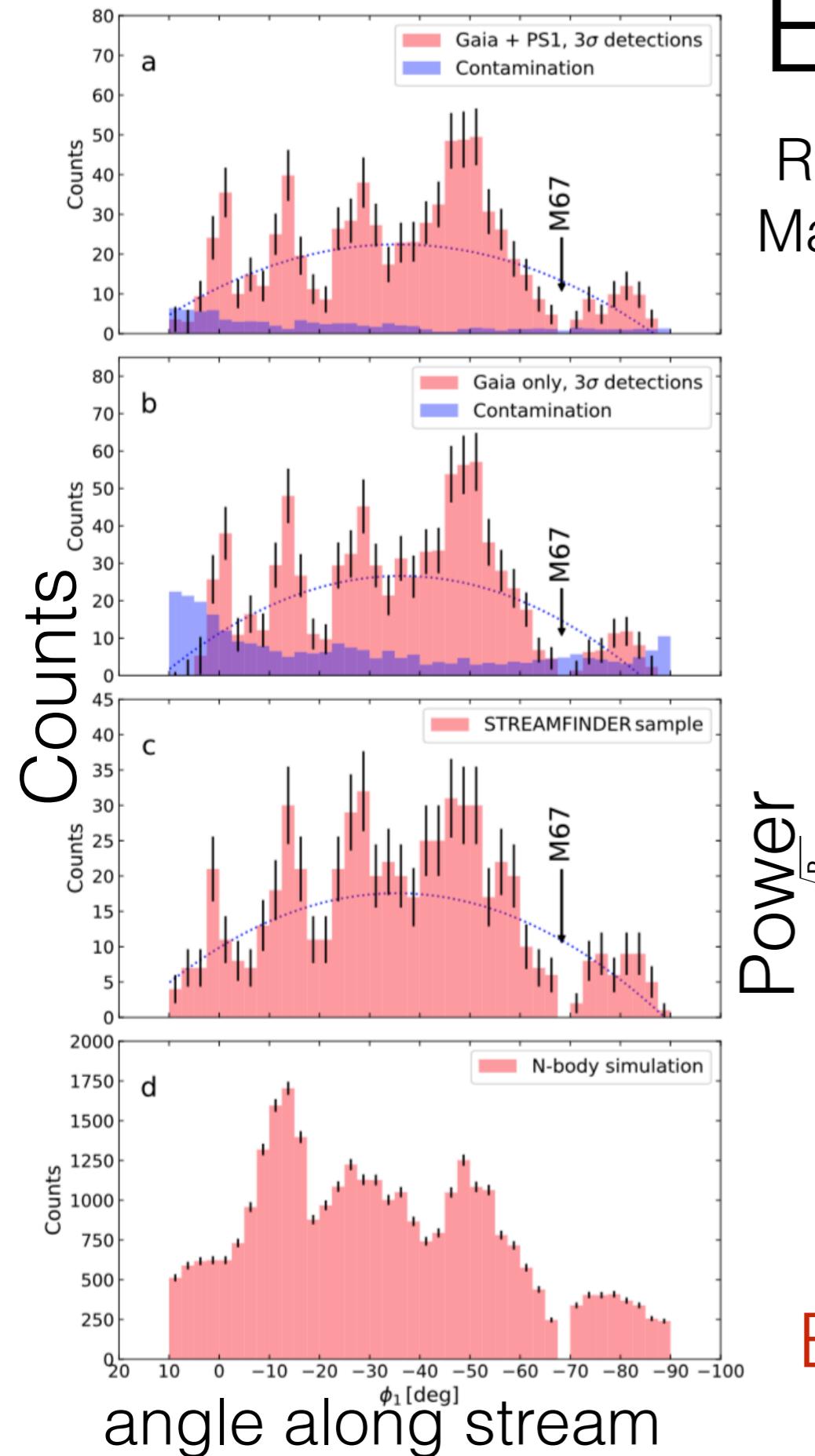
RI, Thomas, Famaey,  
Malhan, Monari (2020)



inverse wavenumber [kpc]

# Epicycles!

RI, Thomas, Famaey,  
Malhan, Monari (2020)



Epicycles, not LCDM subhalo flybys...!

angle along stream

# Wrapping up...



- Stellar streams hold much promise as probes of the dark matter
- Have developed a Deep Learning algorithm to find canonical transformations  $(x, v) \rightarrow (\theta, J)$ , and recover  $\Phi$  and  $H(J)$ . Now works with realistic stream (6D+5D) astrometric observables.
- This is a fairly generic method that may work throughout much of physics!
- Very soon: Galactic acceleration field from streams
- TBD: Confront acceleration field with predictions of different theories of dark matter & gravity
- TBD: Confront stream properties with predictions of DM & gravity theories