

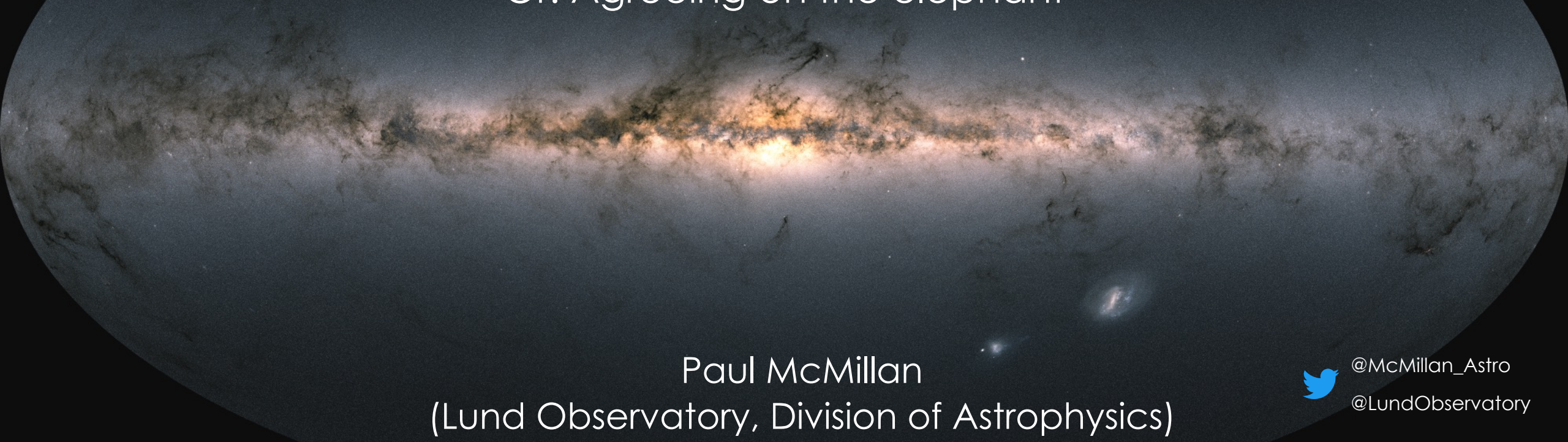


LUND  
UNIVERSITY



# Gaia and the disturbed Milky Way

Or: Agreeing on the elephant



Paul McMillan  
(Lund Observatory, Division of Astrophysics)



@McMillan\_Astro

@LundObservatory

(Collabs: Simon Alinder, Thomas Bensby, Viktor Hrannar Jönsson, Jonathan Petersson, Thor Teppar-Garcia, Joss Bland-Hawthorne, Teresa Antoja, Georges Kordopatis and the Gaia EDR3 anticentre paper team, Gaia DPAC)







IEEC 

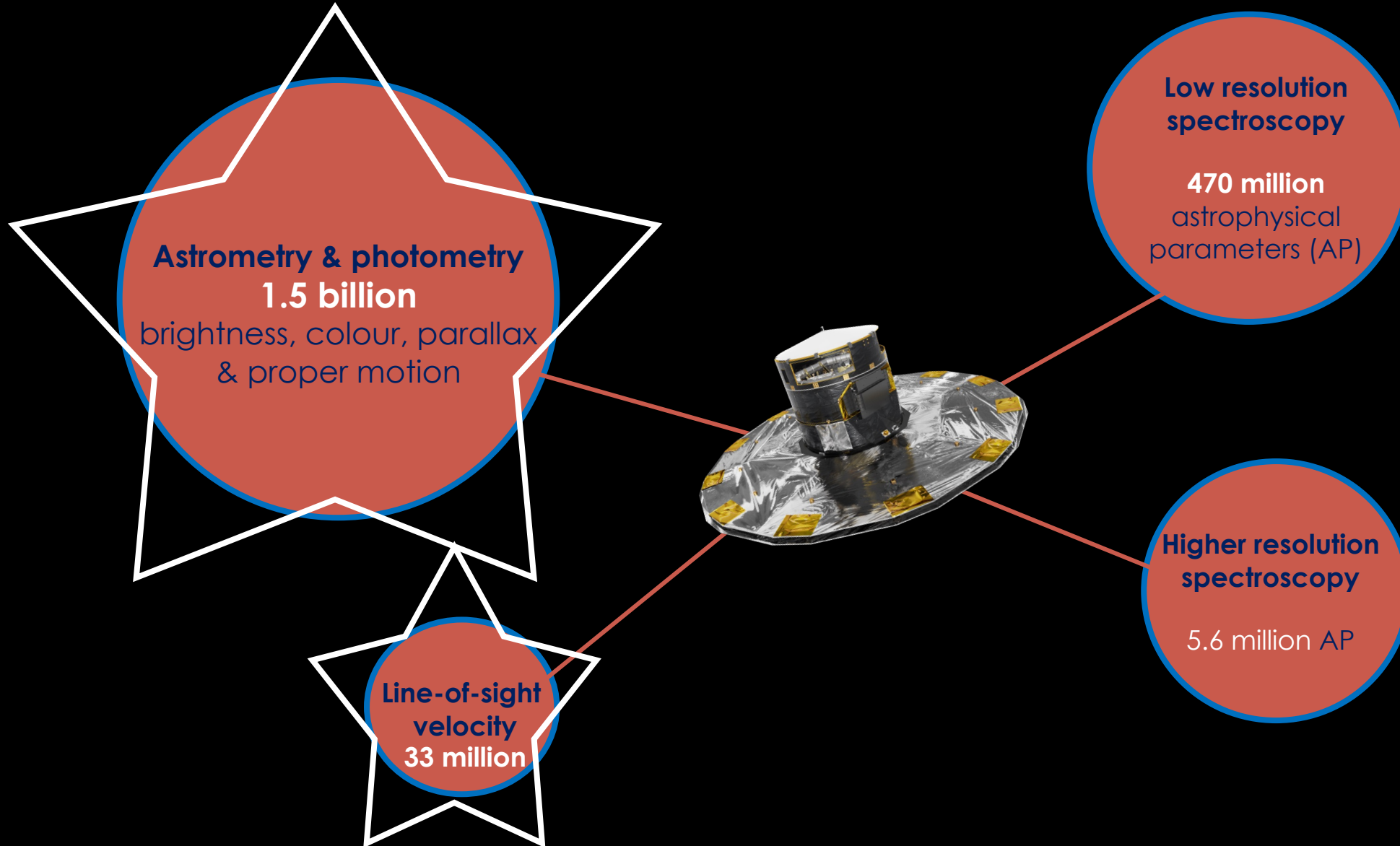


 Gaia  
DPAC





# Gaia DR3 contains:



# Why do we go to all this effort?

Milky Way is a fairly average Galaxy...

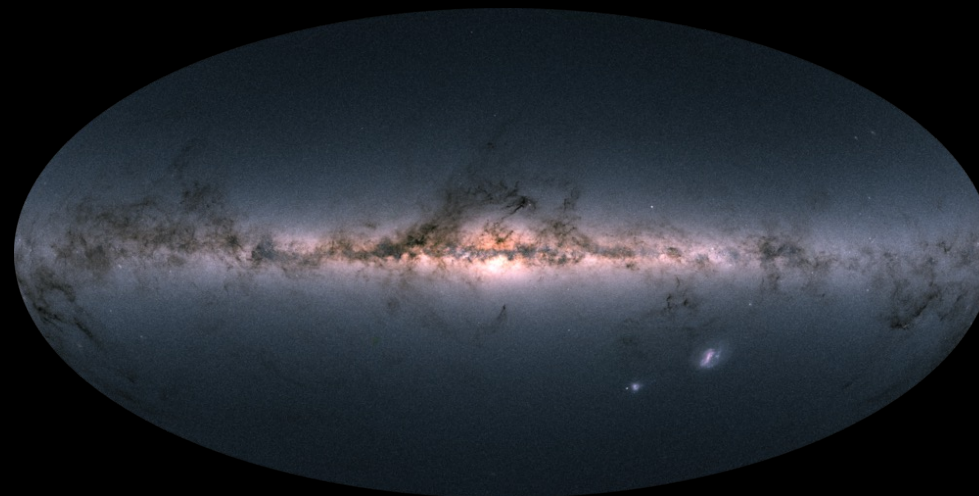
... but the way we view it is unique

BIG advantages:

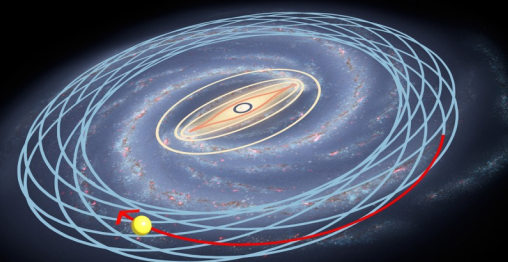
6D phase-space data, detailed chemical abundances on star-by-star basis.

Important disadvantage:

We can't see it from the outside!



ESA/Gaia/DPAC



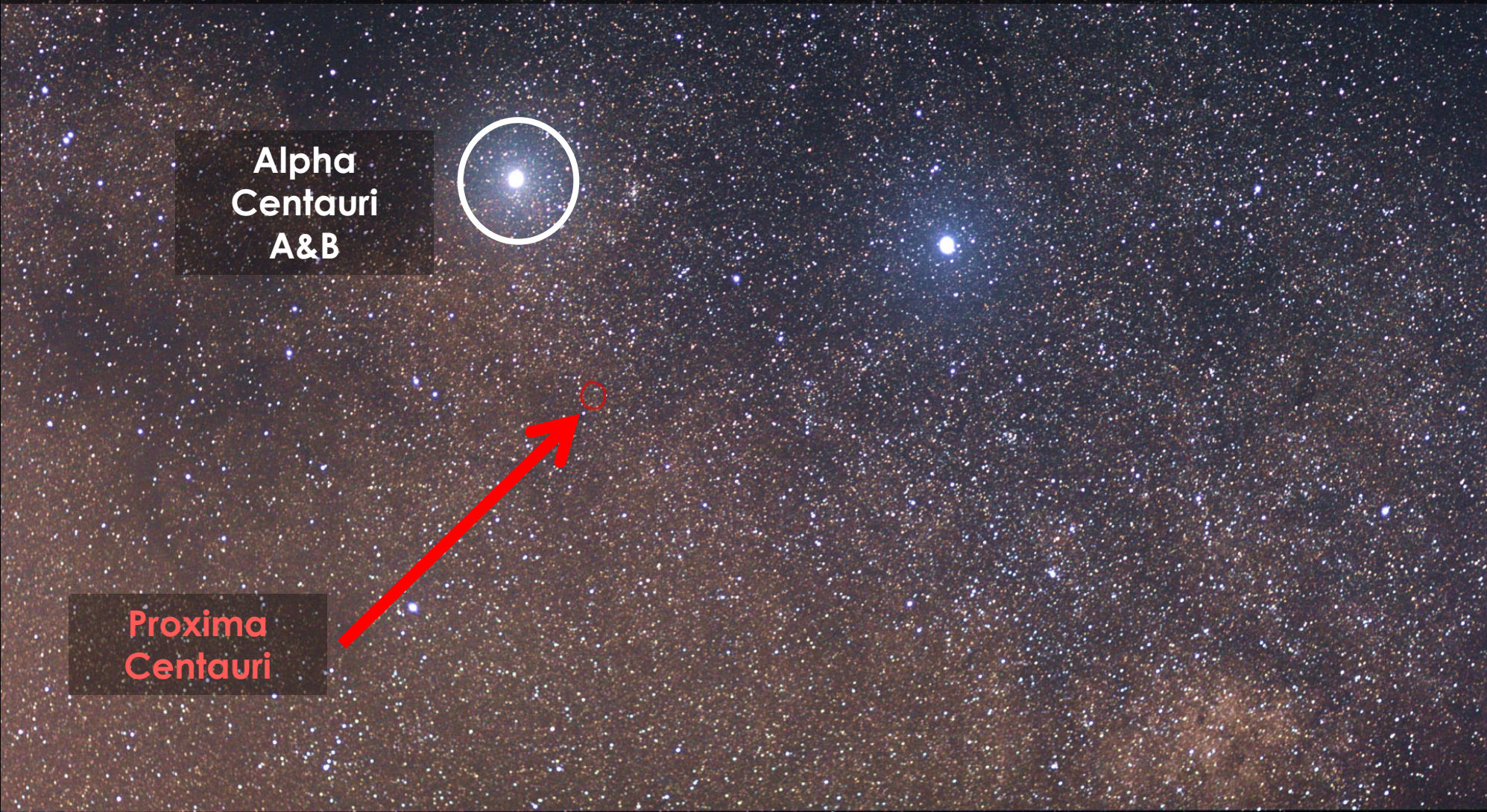
Adapted from NASA/JPL/Hurt image

# The three closest stars to the Sun

Alpha  
Centauri  
A&B



# The three closest stars to the Sun

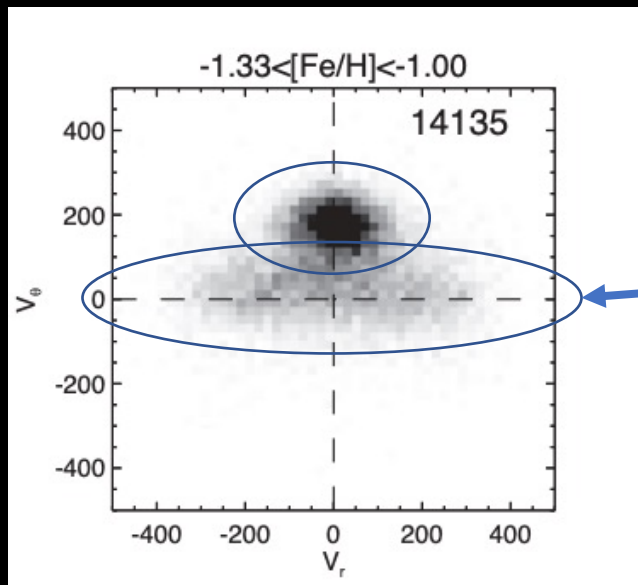
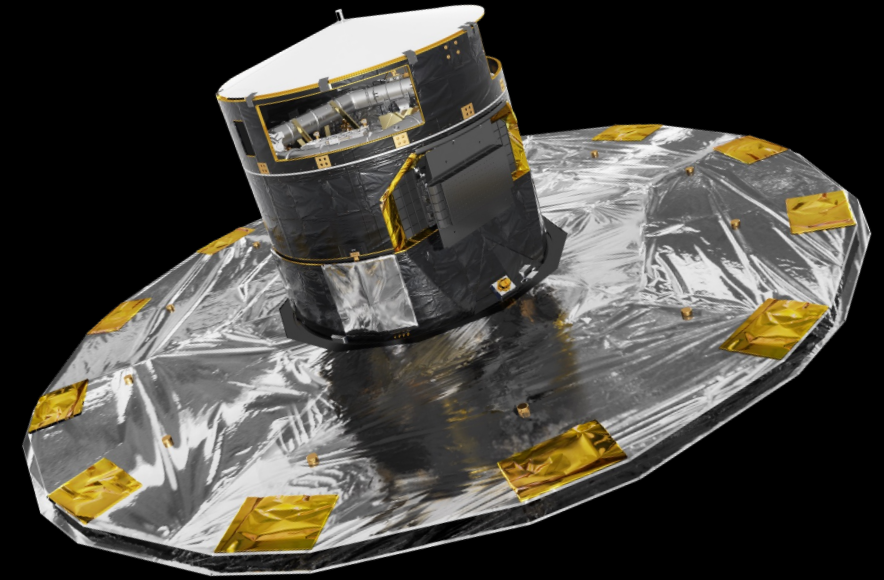




Gaia has been unbelievably influential

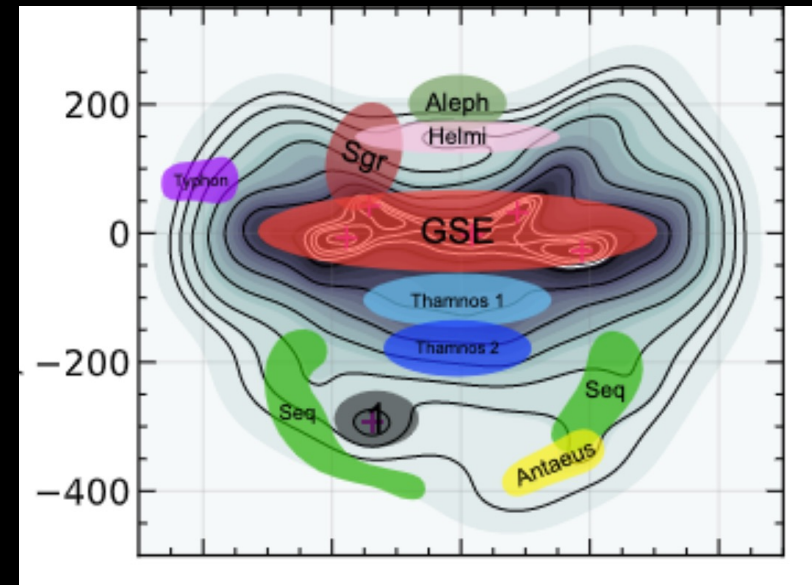
Over 10,000 unique citations to data release/mission papers.

Incredible scientific output (on which I will just scratch the surface)

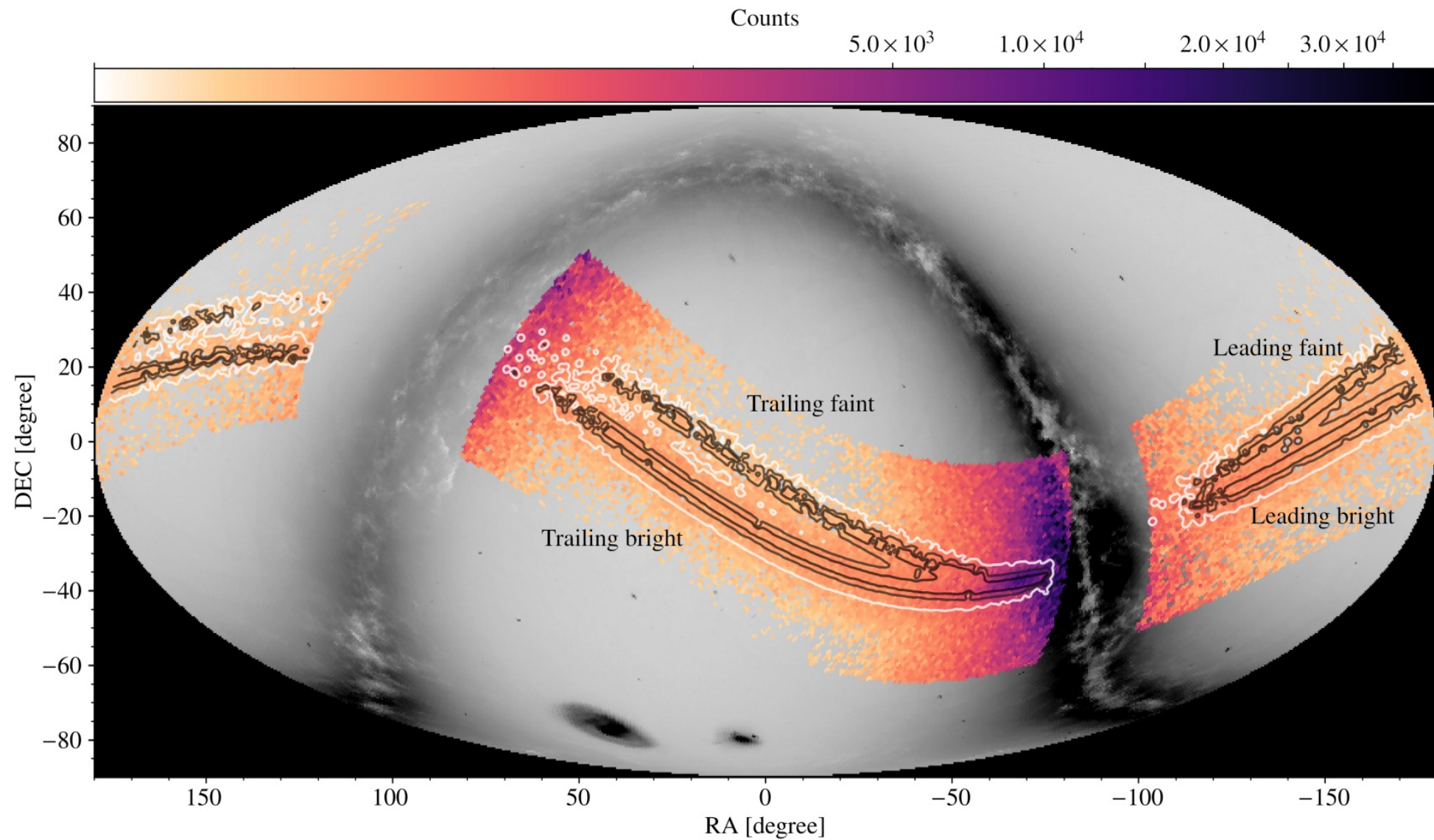


The 'Gaia sausage'

Belokurov et al (2018)



Mikkola, McMillan & Hobbs (2023)



New clarity about streams and disrupted dwarfs  
(e.g., Ramos et al 2022)

Galactic disc  
dynamics in  
the Gaia era  
(an artist's  
impression )



# The disturbed Milky Way



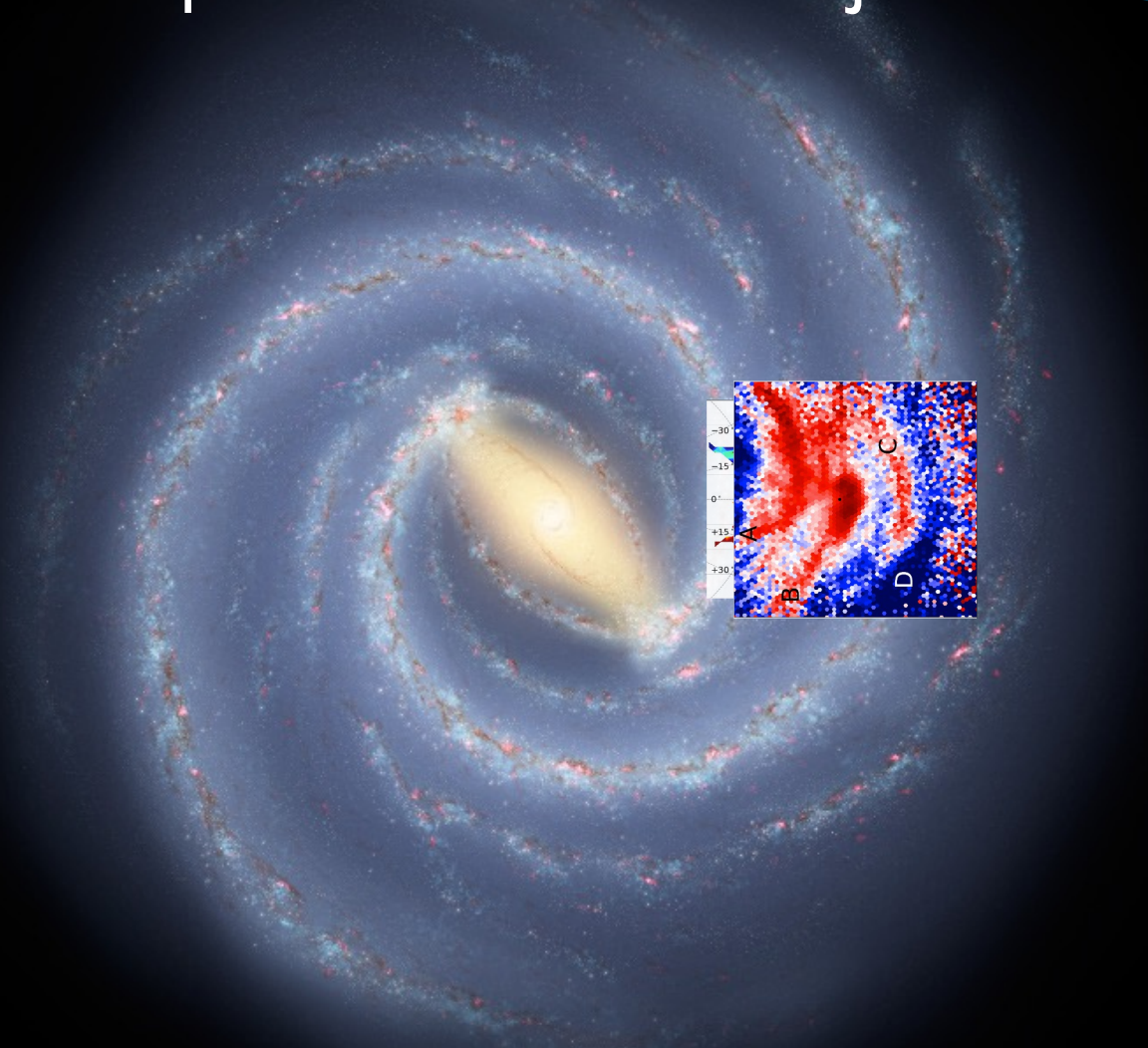
# The Milky Way is not a simple smooth object

We know it has  
spiral arms & a bar

Gaia has measured associated velocity  
disturbance

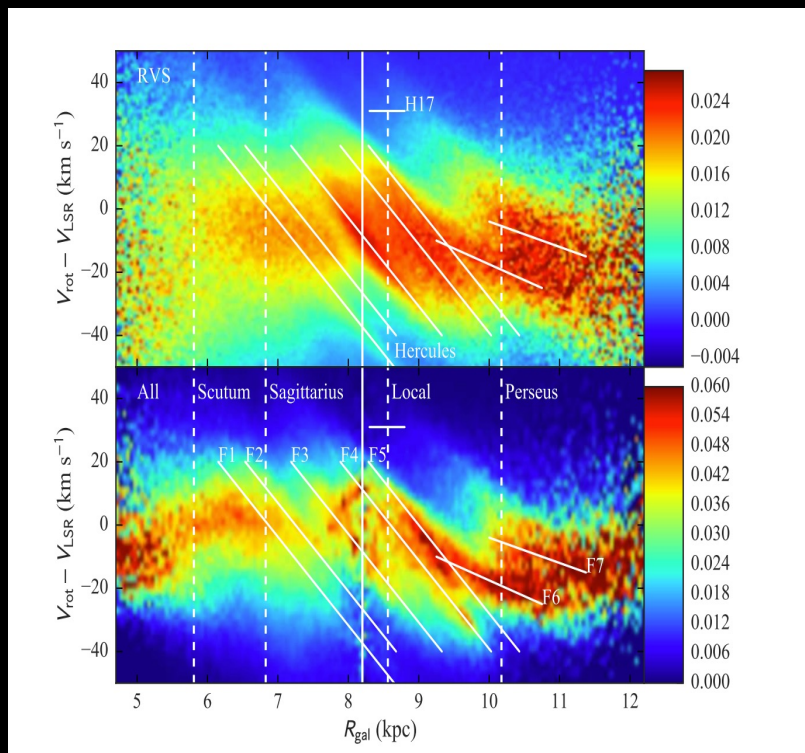
(Gaia Collaboration: Katz et al 2018)

(Palicio et al. 2023)

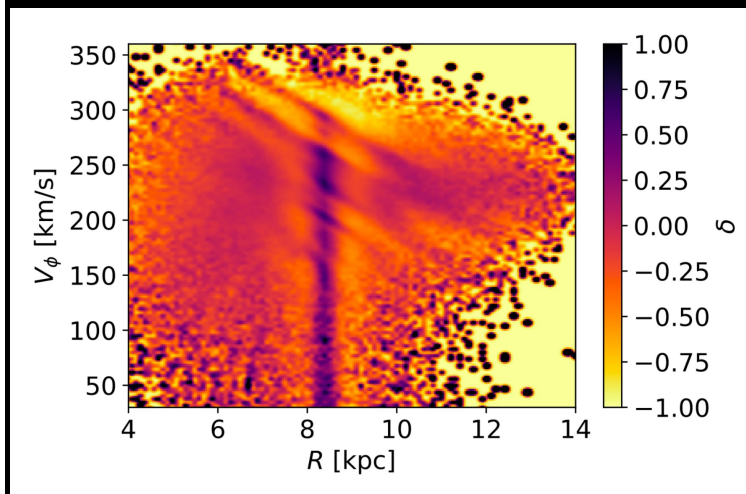


This is not a photo!  
Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/R. Hurt

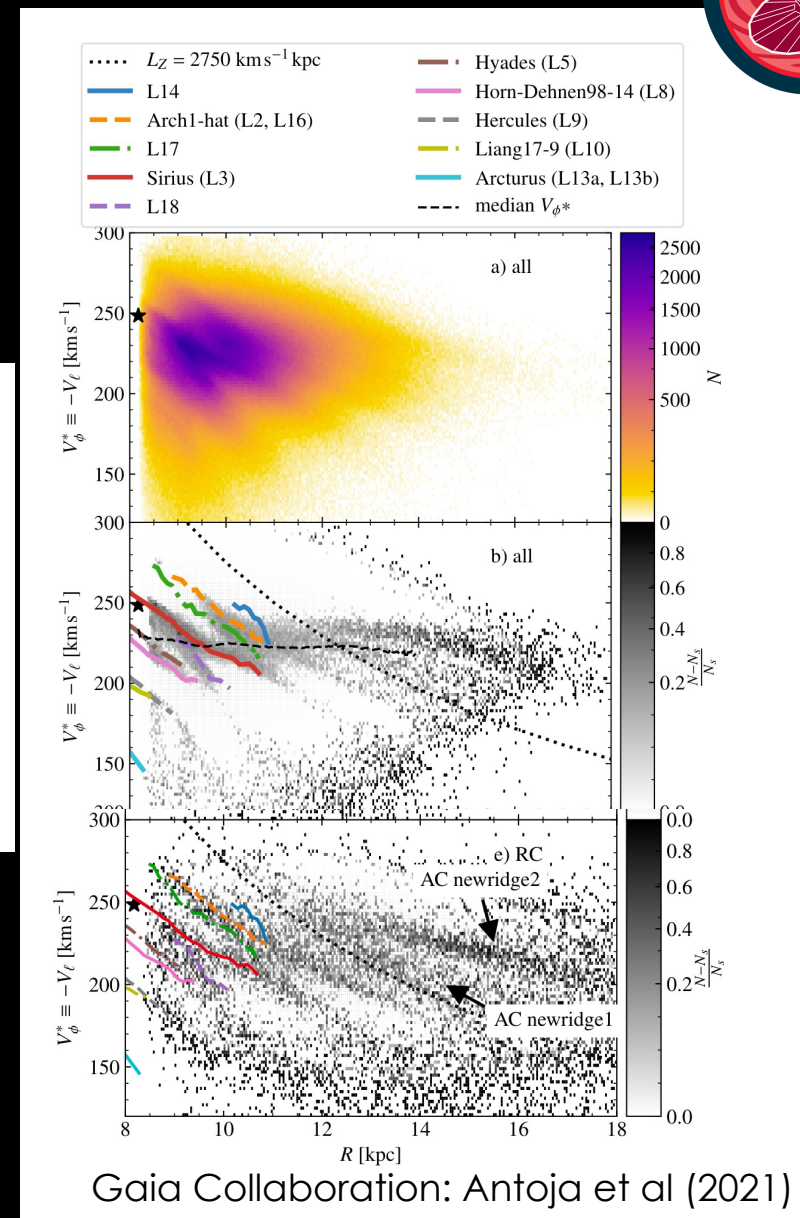
# Velocity ridges



Kawata et al (2018)



Laporte et al (2019)



Gaia Collaboration: Antoja et al (2021)



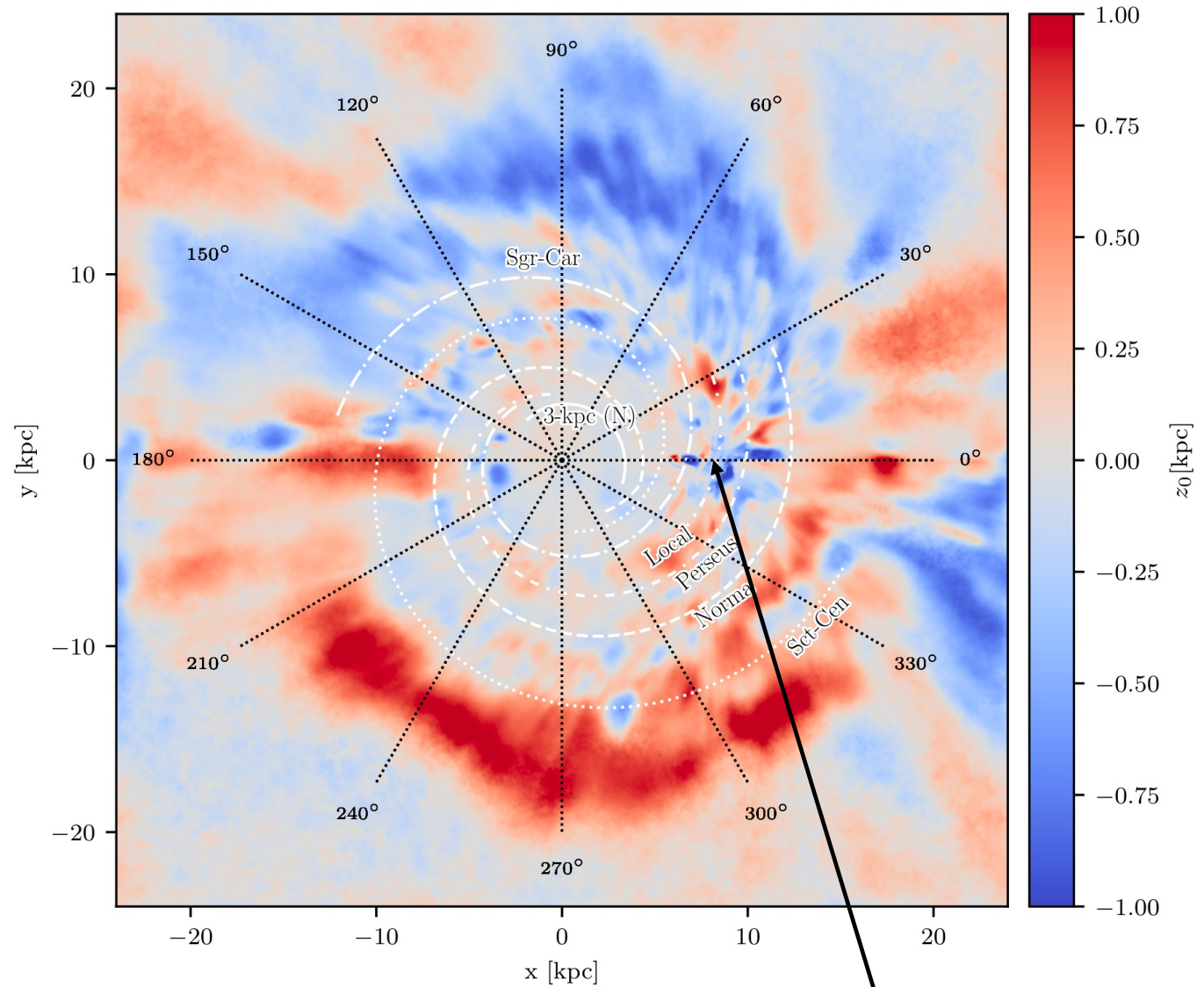
# And a warp



Also not a photo  
Credit: Stefan Payne-Wardenaar

Clearly seen in  
the distribution  
of H<sub>I</sub> gas

(Mertsch &  
Phan 2022)

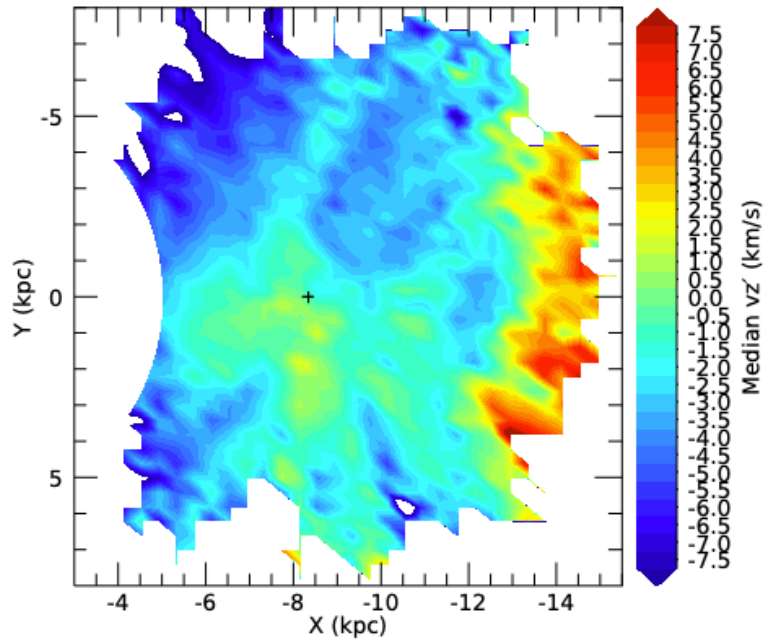


You are here

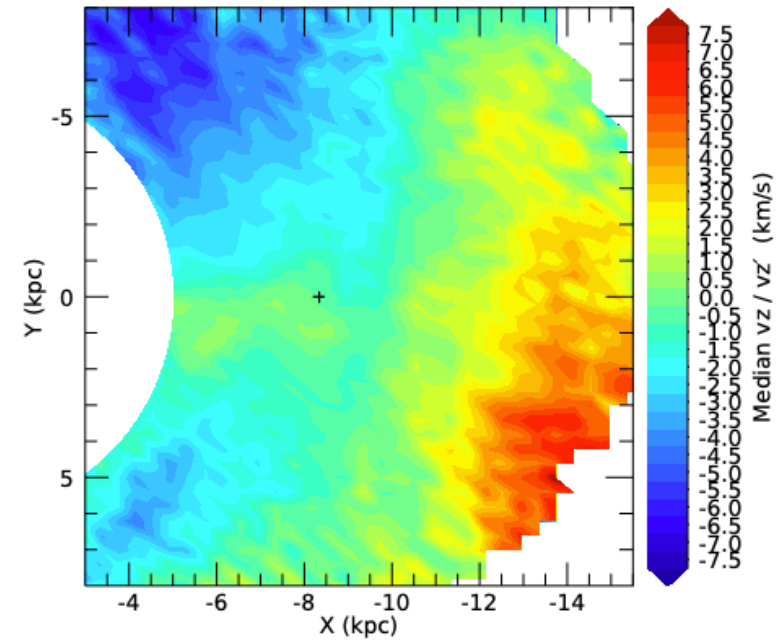


# And a warp

(C) UMS sample: vertical velocity

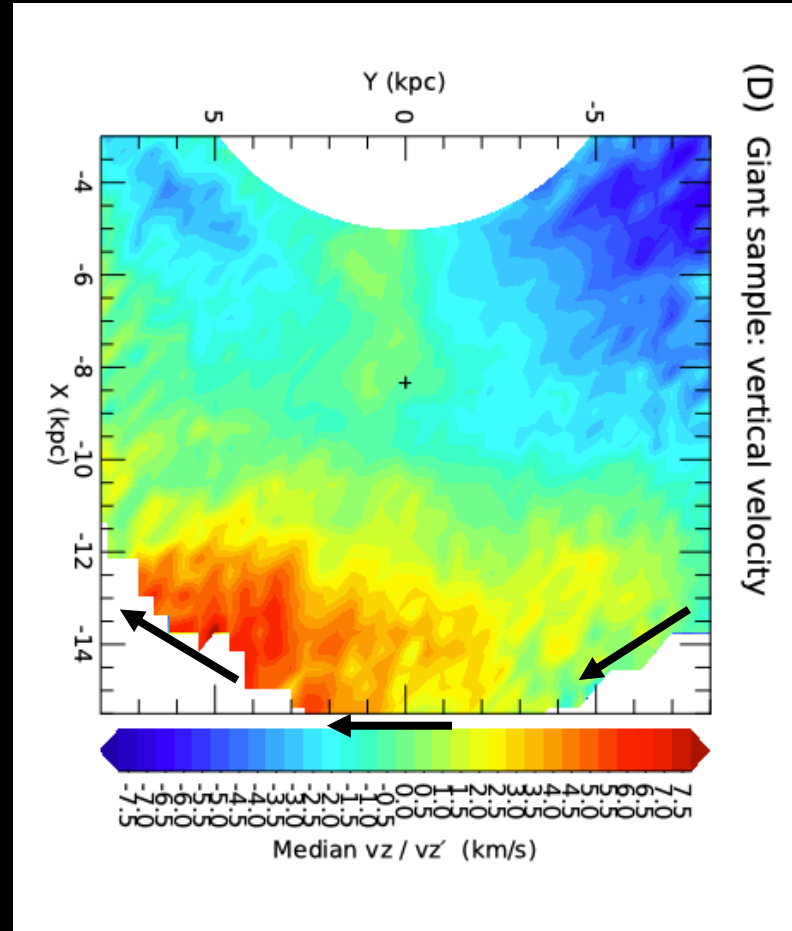


(D) Giant sample: vertical velocity



Poggio et al 2018

# And a warp



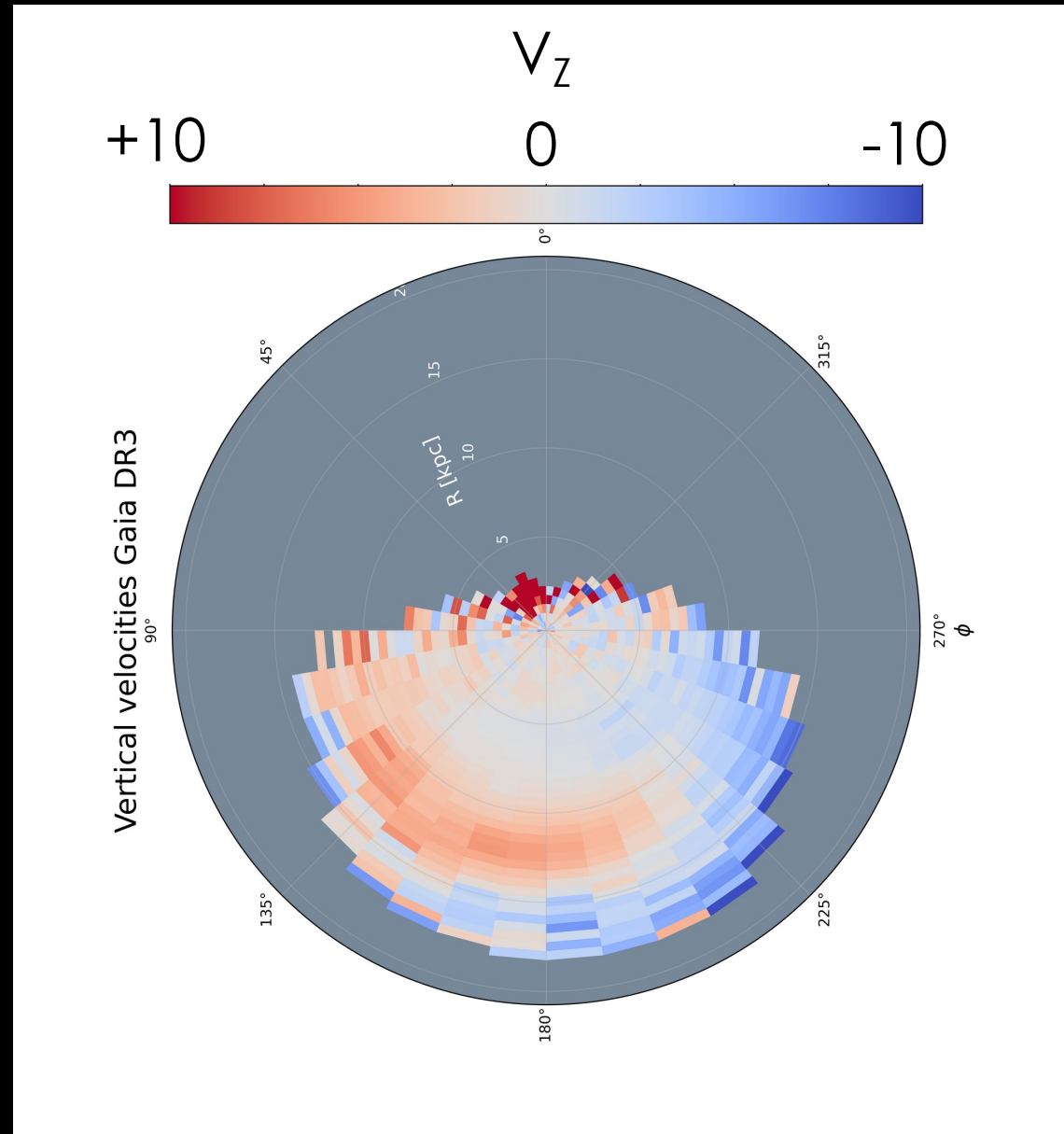
Poggio et al 2018



Looking a bit further  
with Gaia DR3

Note that the  
velocity goes  
upwards, then  
downwards

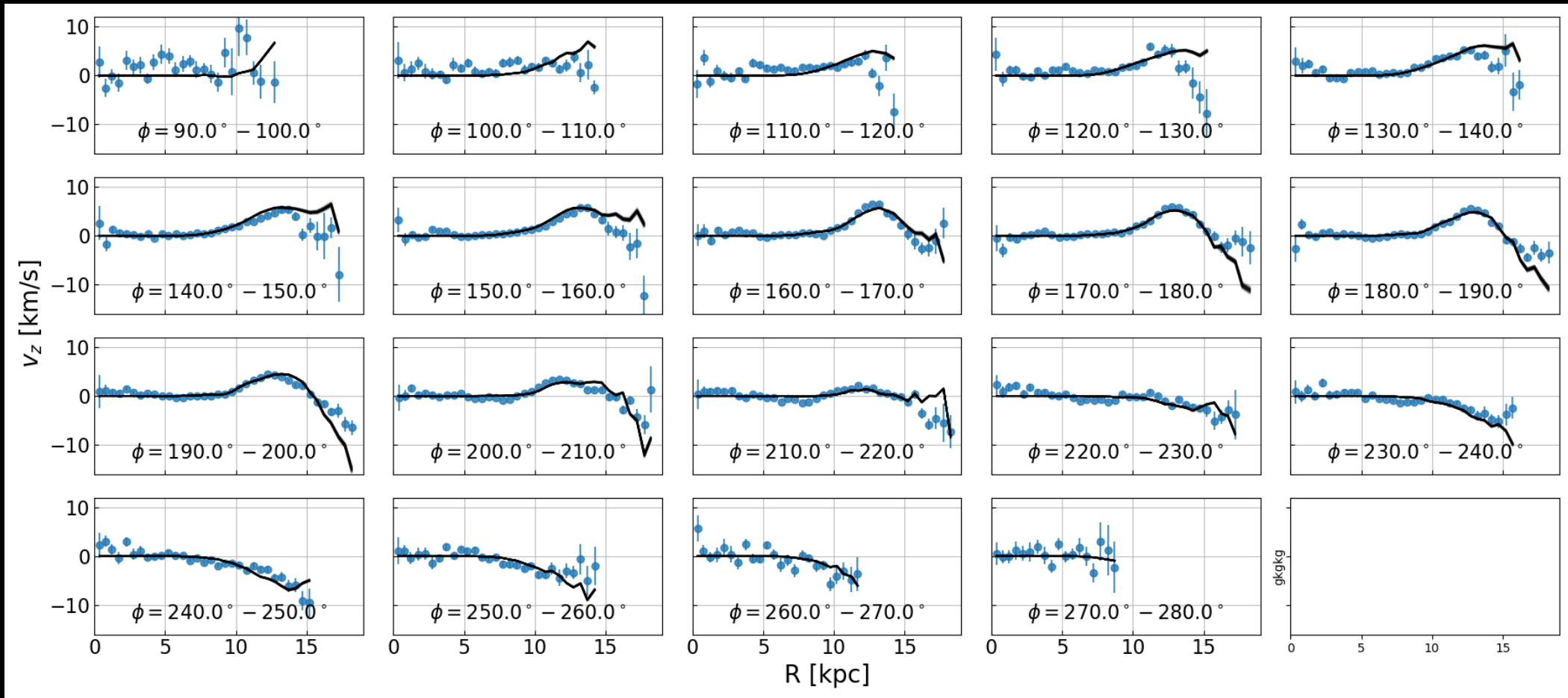
This is the warp  
precession catching  
up with the stars!



Hrannar Jónsson (Master's project – in progress)

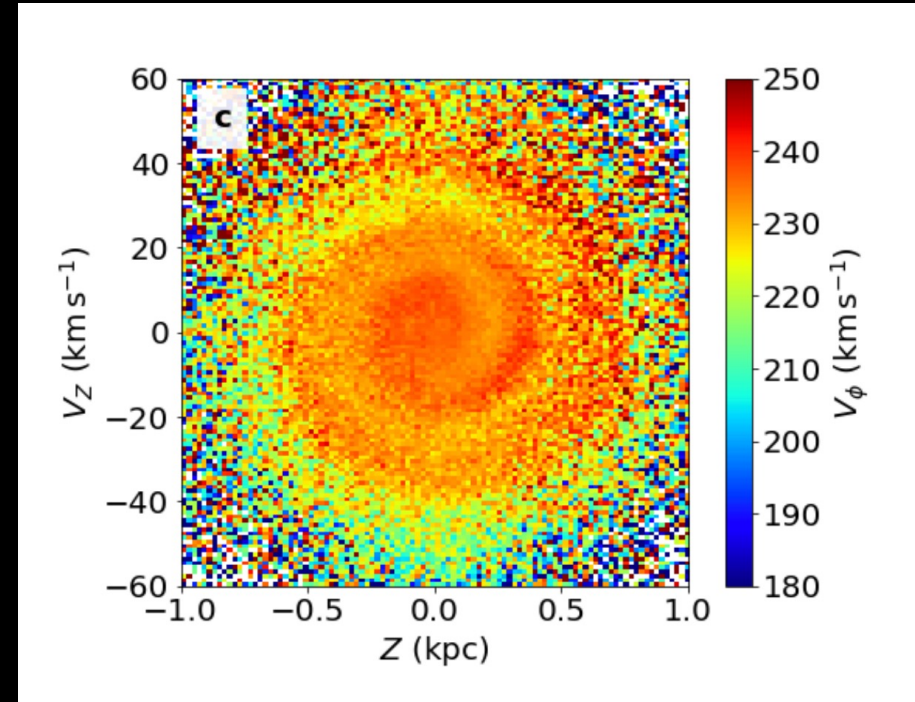
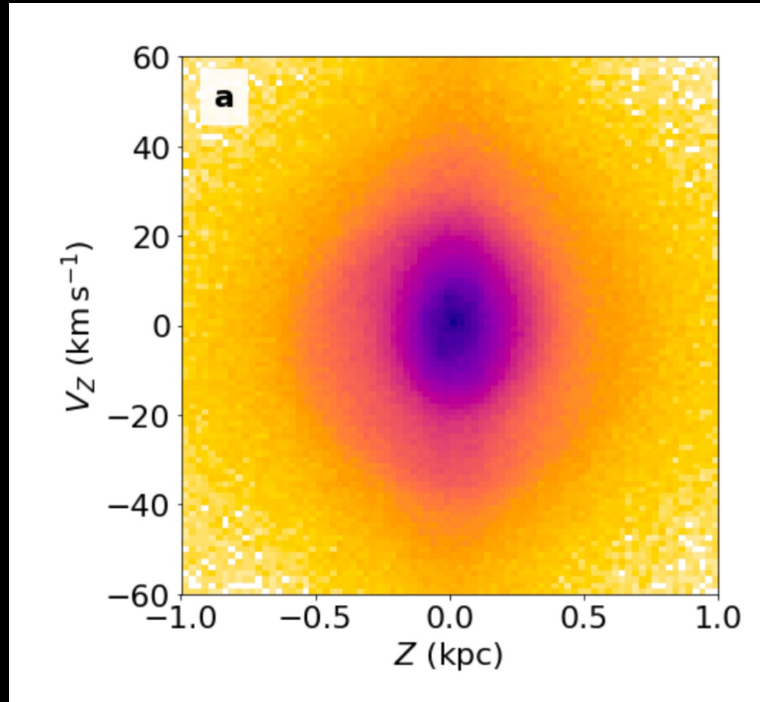


We can fit a warp model to this data with some success  
Precession  $\sim 10$  km/s/kpc



Hrannar Jónsson (Master's project – in progress)

# There's even something going on in the Solar neighbourhood

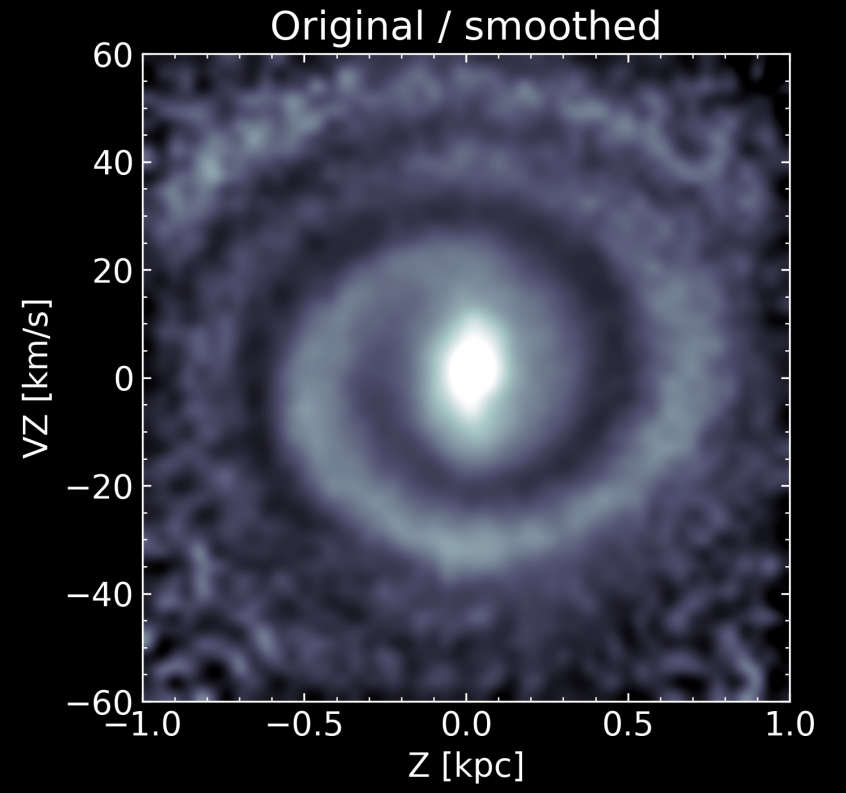


$R \sim 8 \text{ kpc}$

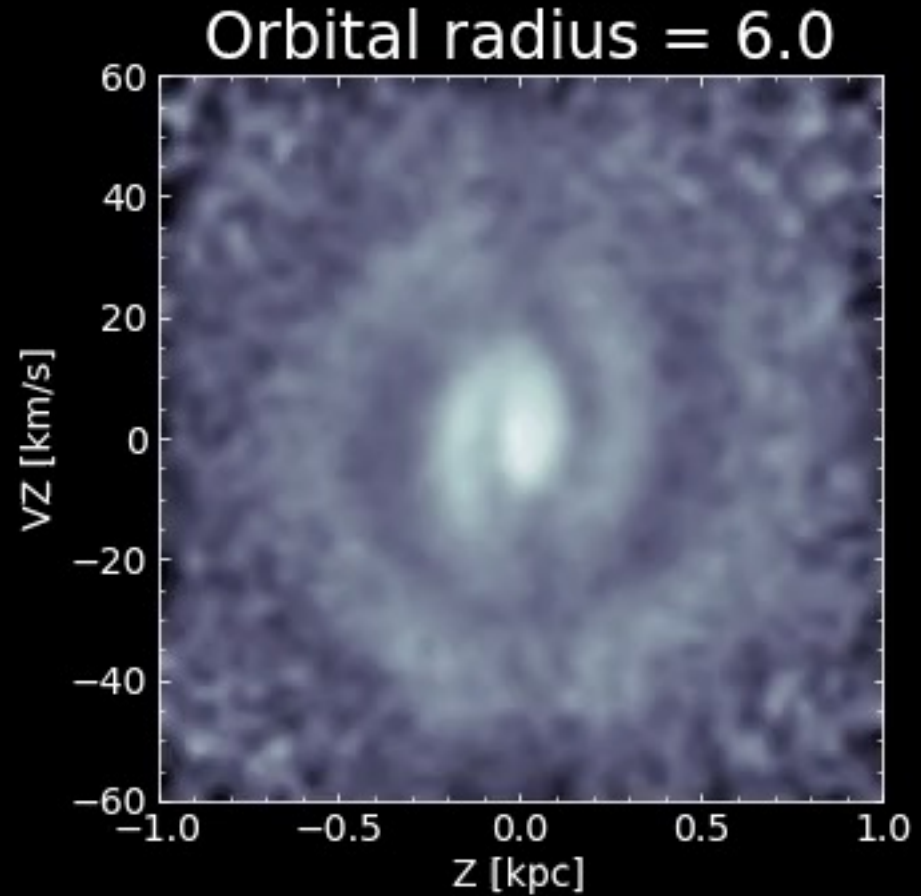
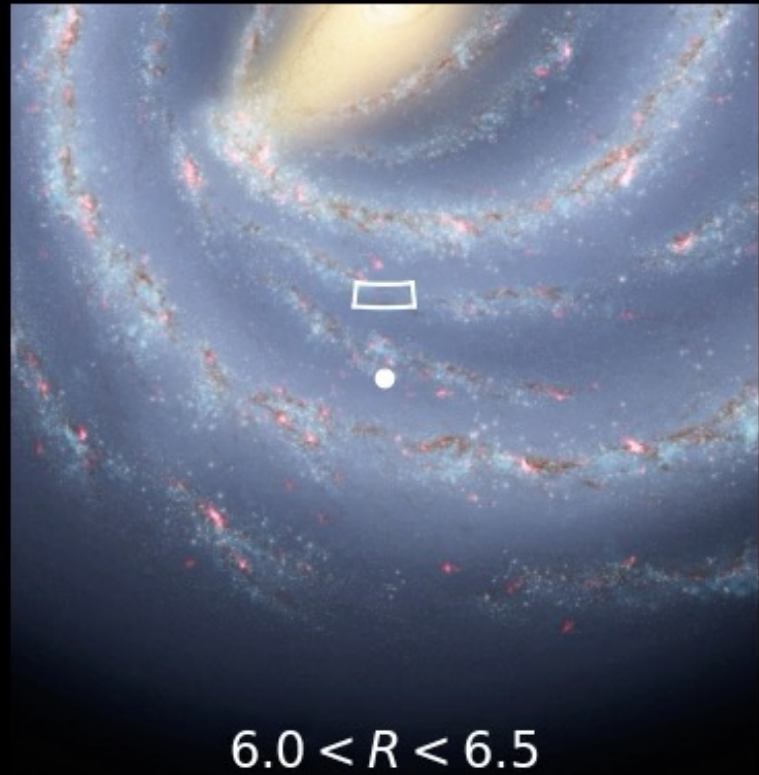
Phase-space snail, Phase-spiral, ...  
(Antoja et al 2018, and others)



Kanelbulle



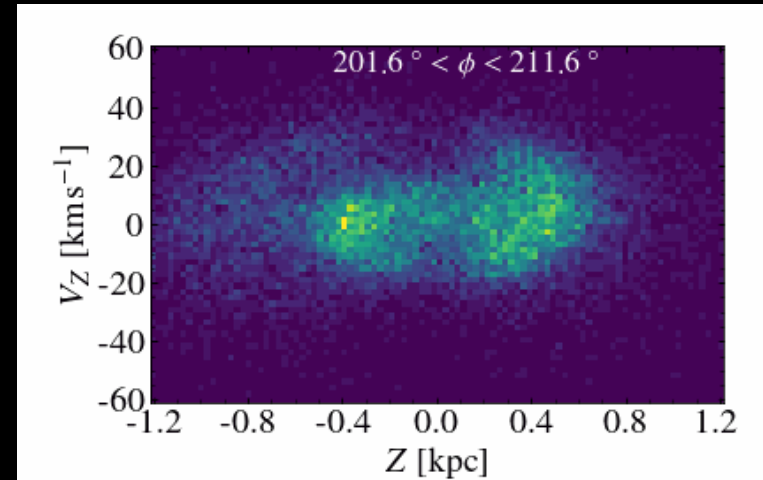
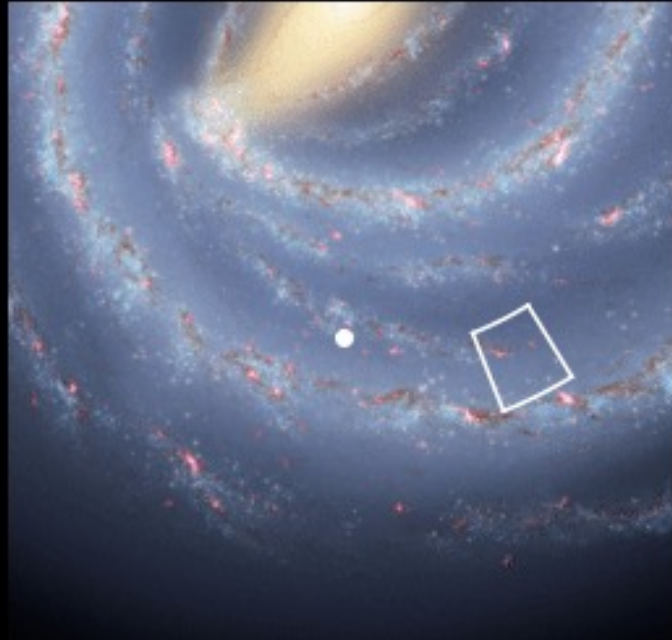
# Kanelbulle changes in shape and character as I look outwards in the disc



[Orbital radius =  $L_z/236$  km/s]



Looking carefully, you can even see the kanelbulle rotate when you look around the Galaxy



Alinder, McMillan & Bensby (submitted, arXiv:2303.18040)



# How do we make kanelbullar?



## Ingredienser

ca 40 bullar eller 4 längder

150 g smör eller margarin,  
rumsvarmt (eller 1½ dl flytande)

5 dl mjölk

50 g (1 pkt) jäst för söta degar

1 dl strösocker eller vit baksirap

½ tsk salt

eventuellt 2 tsk stött  
kardemumma

800 g (ca 1,4 l) [Kungsörnen  
Vetemjöl av fint kärnvete](#)

## Kanelfyllning:

150 g rumsvarmt smör eller  
margarin

1 dl strösocker

2 msk kanel

## Kanelbullar - grundrecept

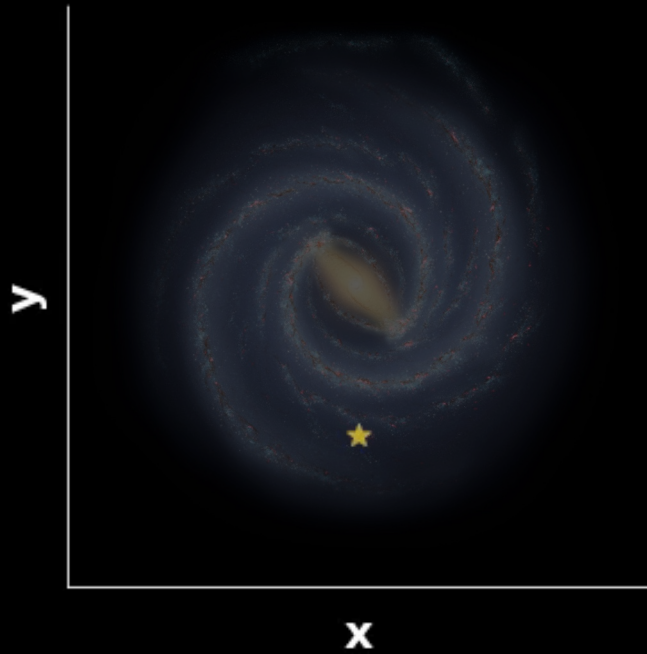
Vårt klassiska recept på Vetebullar/Kanelbullar/Vetebröd, samma recept som återfinns på våra vetemjöls-förpackningar! Receptet ger 40 småbullar eller 4 längder. Förutom den klassiska fyllningen med kanel finner du nedan tips på nya alternativ - testa Choklad- och hasselnötsfyllning, mandelmassa- och apelsinfyllning, eller Nutellafyllning och tyck till nedan om vilken som är din favorit!

## Så här tillagar du receptet (ca 120 minuter):

1. Värm mjölken till 37°C (fingervarmt).
2. Smula ner jästen i en degskål på 3-4 l. Häll över mjölken och rör om. Tillsätt matfettet i bitar, socker eller sirap, salt och eventuell kardemumma.
3. Mät upp mjölet. Häll det luftigt direkt ur påsen i ett litermått. Skaka inte måttet. Tillsätt mjölet men spar ½ dl till utbakningen.
4. Arbeta degen kraftigt, cirka 5 minuter med maskin eller 10 minuter för hand, tills den känns smidig.
5. Låt degen jäsa övertäckt med bakduk cirka 30 minuter.
6. Arbeta ner degen med maskin eller knåda den lätt på mjölat bakbord. Dela degen i 4 delar. Kavla ut varje del till en avlång kaka.
7. Rör ihop ingredienserna till valfri fyllning och bred ett tunt lager på kakan. Rulla ihop till en rulle. Fler utbakingförslag, se längre ner.
8. Låt bröden svalna på galler under bakduk.

**Bullar:** Skär rullen i 10 delar och lägg dem med snittytan upp i pappersformar eller på plåtar täckta med bakplåtspapper. Låt jäsa under bakduk cirka 40 minuter. Värm ugnen till 225-250°C. Pensla med ägg och grädda sedan bullarna mitt i ugnen, 5-10 minuter.

View from  
above



View from  
the side



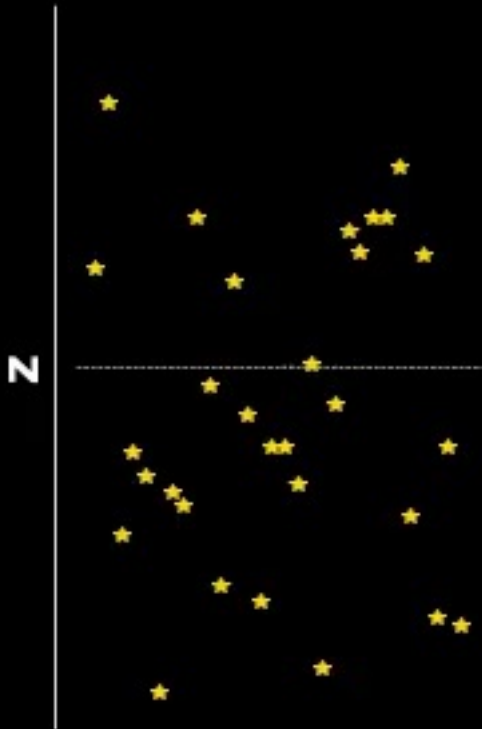
Orbiting stars also  
oscillate above and  
below the plane

To a good\*  
approximation for stars at  
the same radius, we can  
isolate this and ignore  
other movement

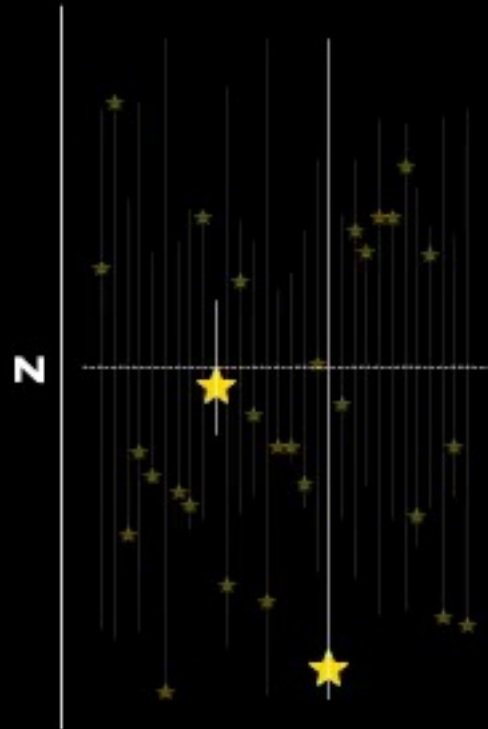
\* good enough for now, anyway

Stars oscillate around  $z = 0$

Frequency decreases as  
oscillation gets bigger



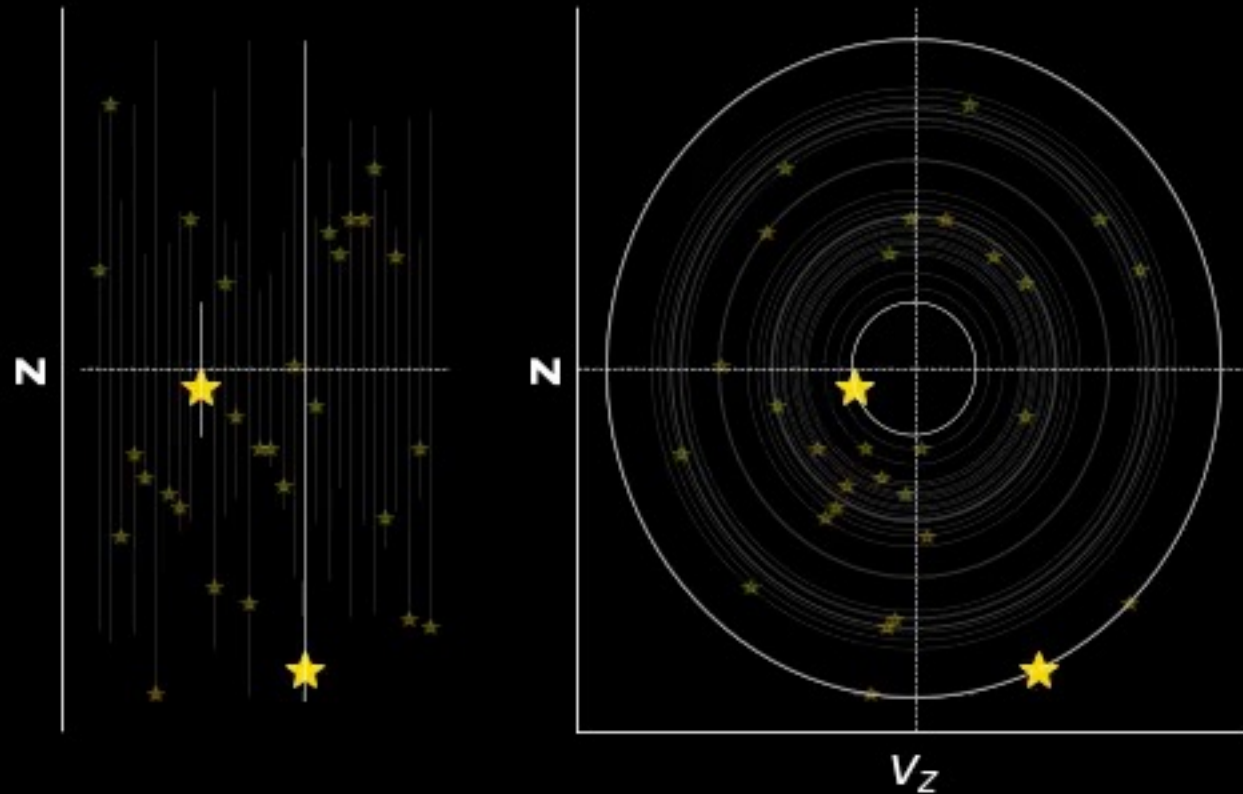
N.B. offset on x-axis completely arbitrary



Stars oscillate around  $z = 0$

Frequency decreases as  
oscillation gets bigger

(isolating two stars so you can  
see this clearly)

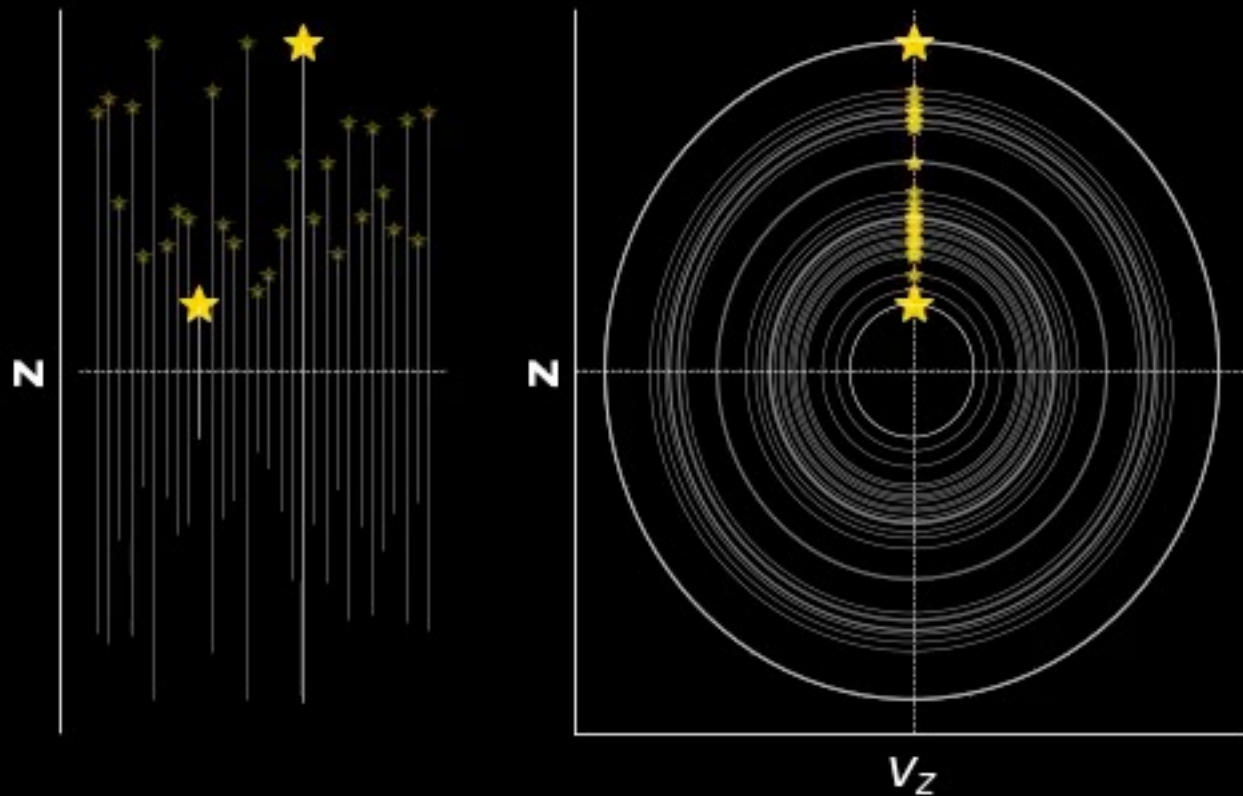


Stars oscillate around  $z = 0$

Frequency decreases as oscillation gets bigger

In the  $z$ - $v_z$  plane, each star follows an ellipse/circle\*

\*roughly.



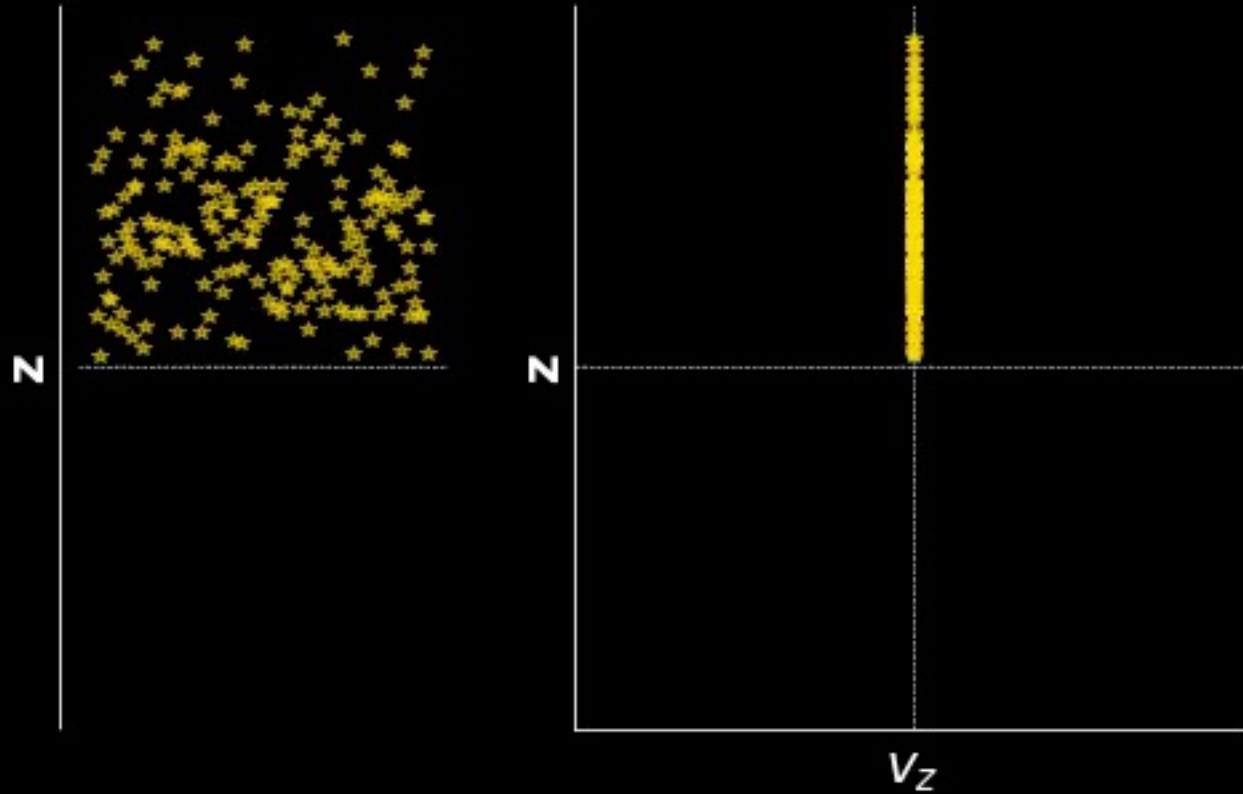
Stars oscillate around  $z = 0$

Frequency decreases as oscillation gets bigger

In the  $z$ - $v_z$  plane, each star follows an ellipse/circle\*

If we start all orbits at their maximum  $z$ , decreasing frequency corresponds to

\*roughly.



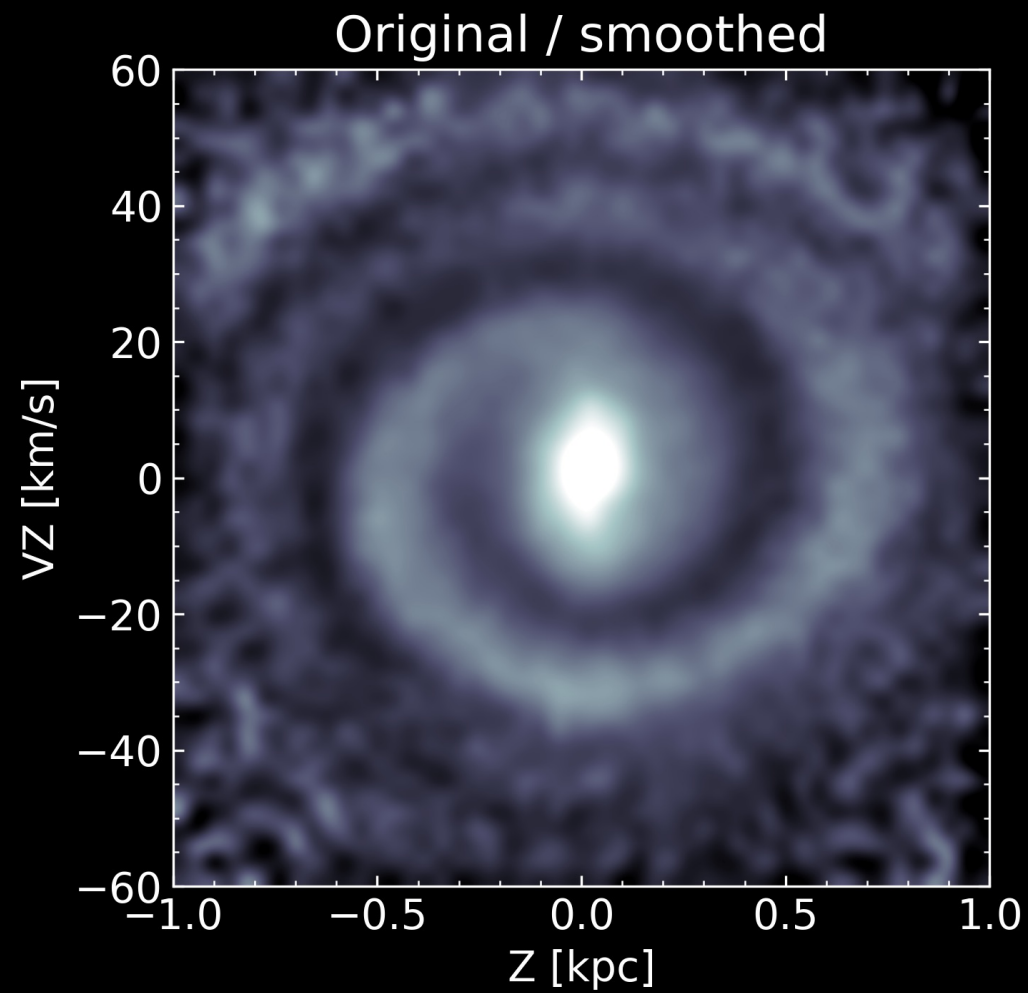
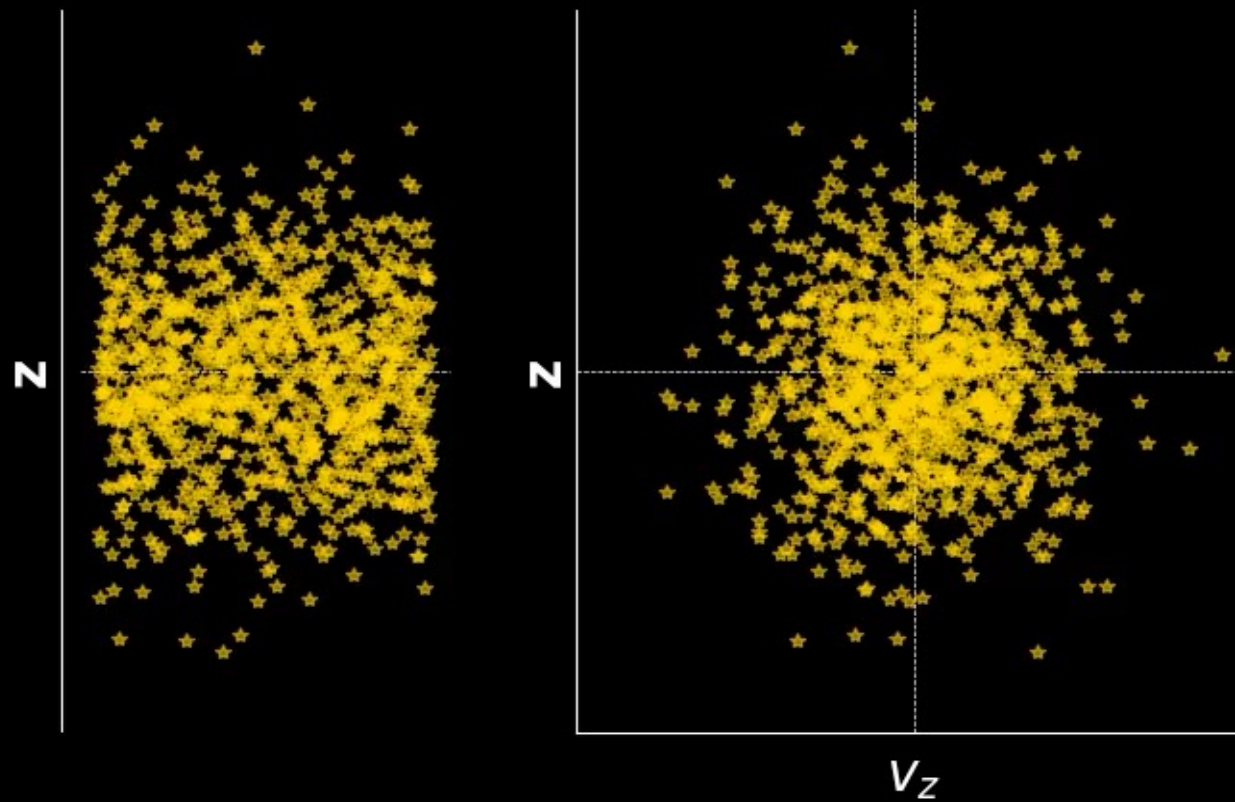
Stars oscillate around  $z = 0$

Frequency decreases as oscillation gets bigger

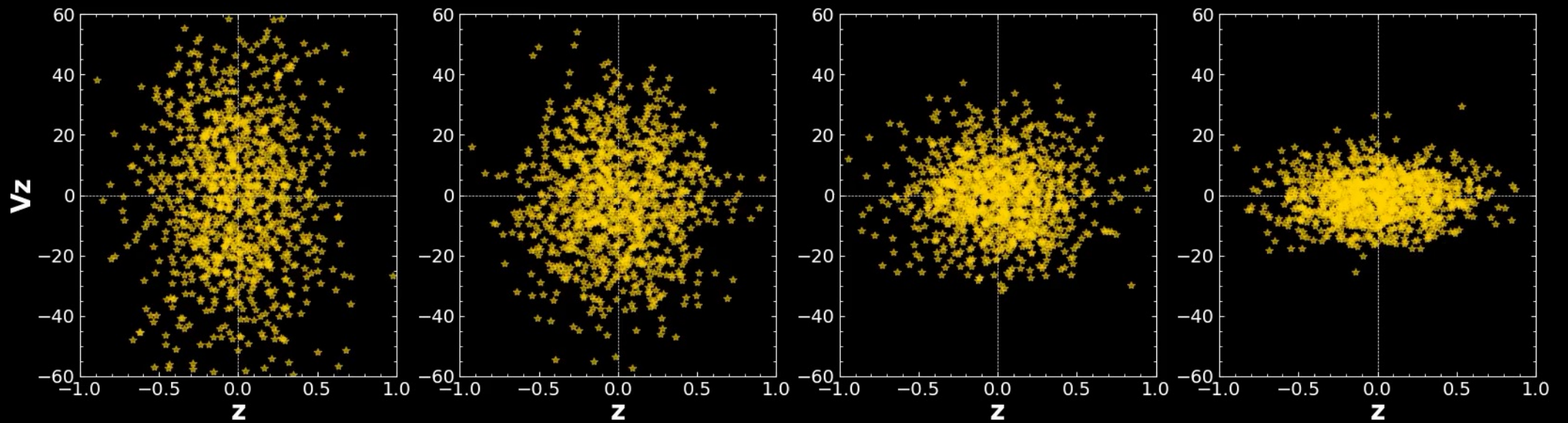
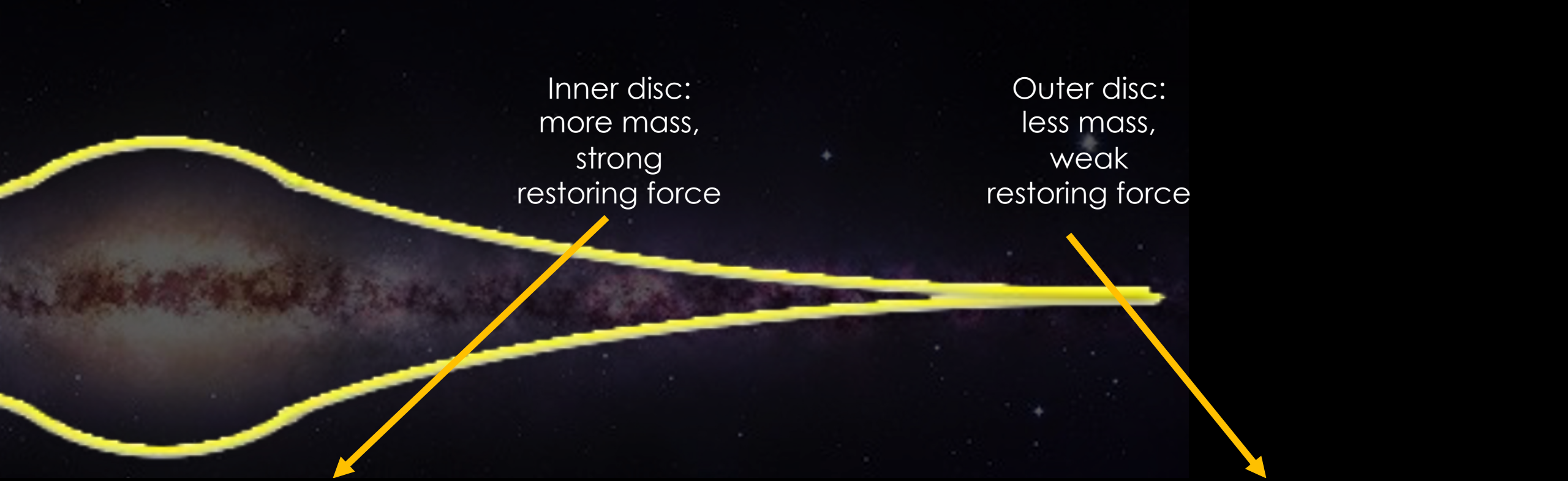
In the  $z$ - $v_z$  plane, each star follows an ellipse/circle\*

If we start all orbits at their maximum  $z$ , decreasing frequency  $\rightarrow$  kanelbulle

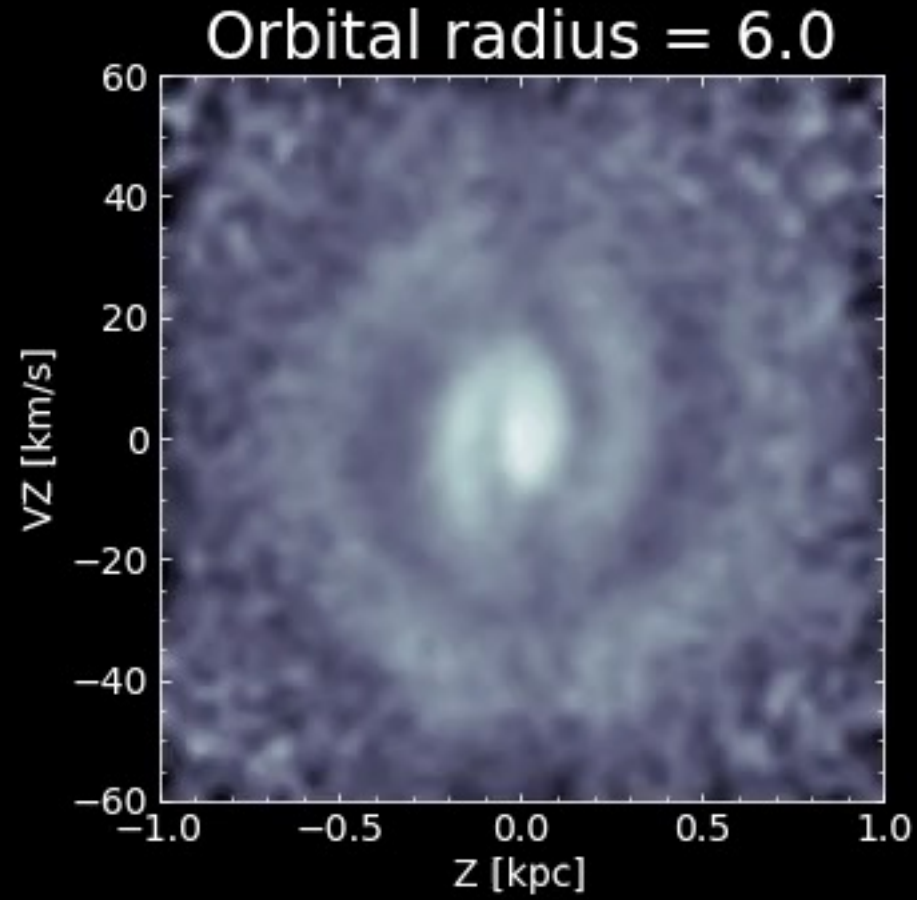
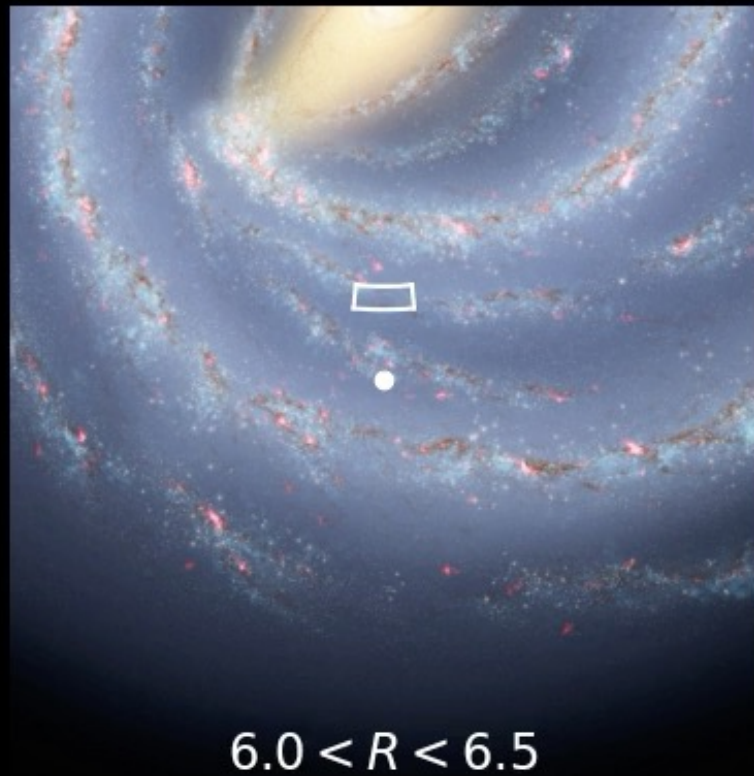
\*roughly.







Which explains (some of) what we see here



What else can we see in the outer disc?



# The Galactic anticentre

( $l \approx 180^\circ$ ,  $b \approx 0^\circ$ ) i.e. looking directly away from the Galactic centre

In this direction,  $V_z$  and  $V_\phi$  are in (roughly) proper motion directions

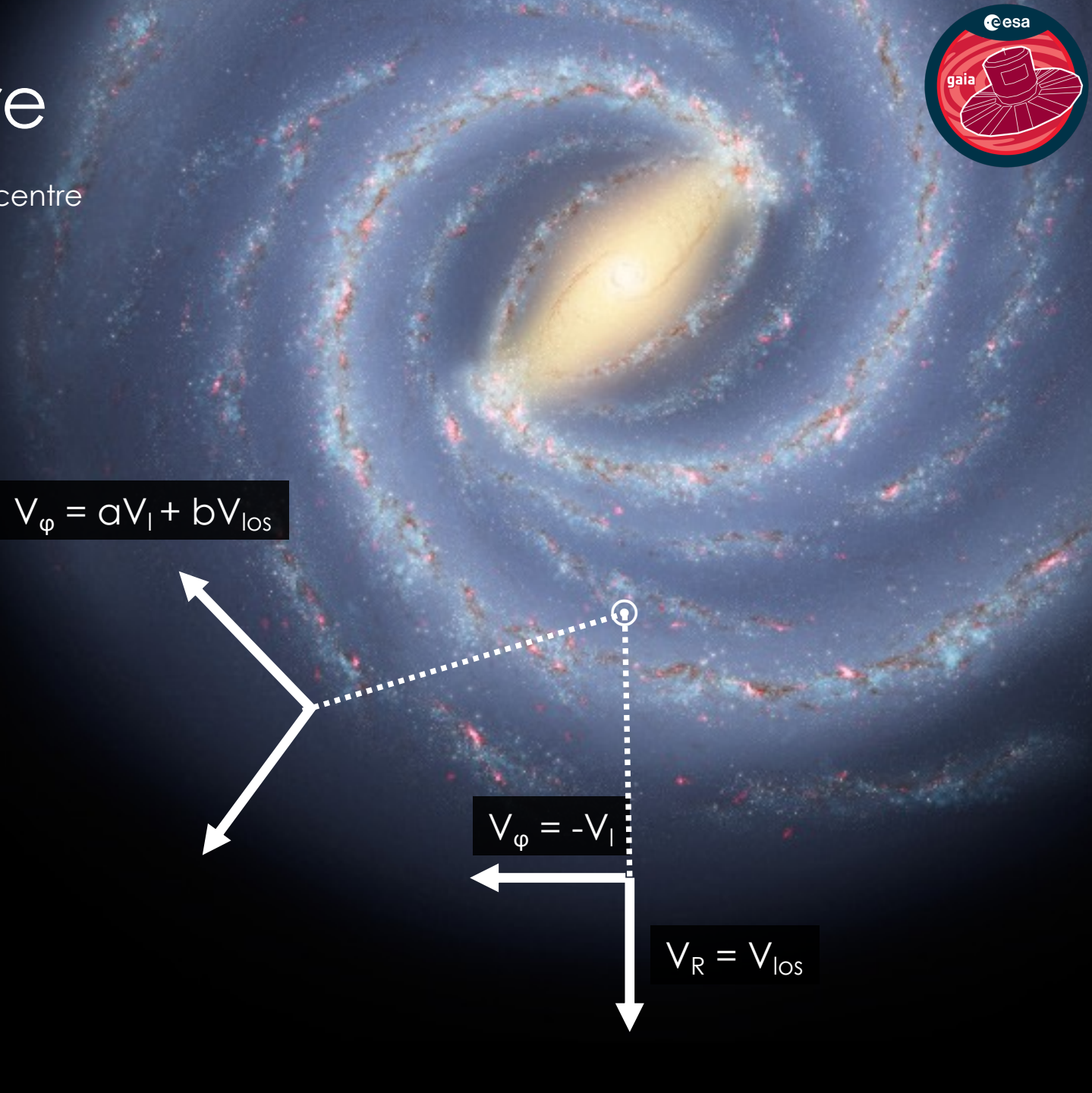
We use a large fraction of Gaia stars, not just the  $<1\%$  with radial velocities

$$V_\phi = aV_l + bV_{los}$$

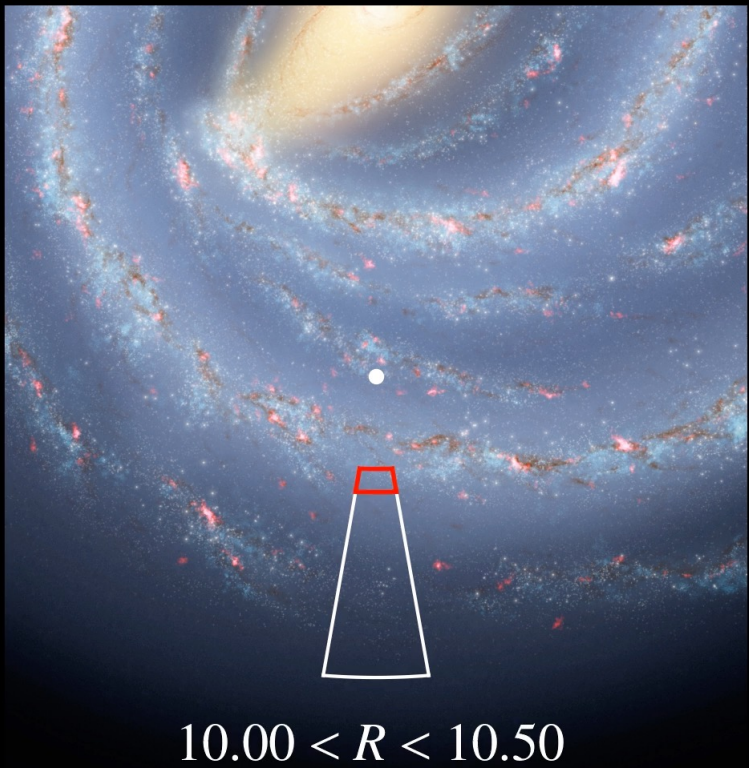
$$V_\phi = -V_l$$

$$V_R = V_{los}$$

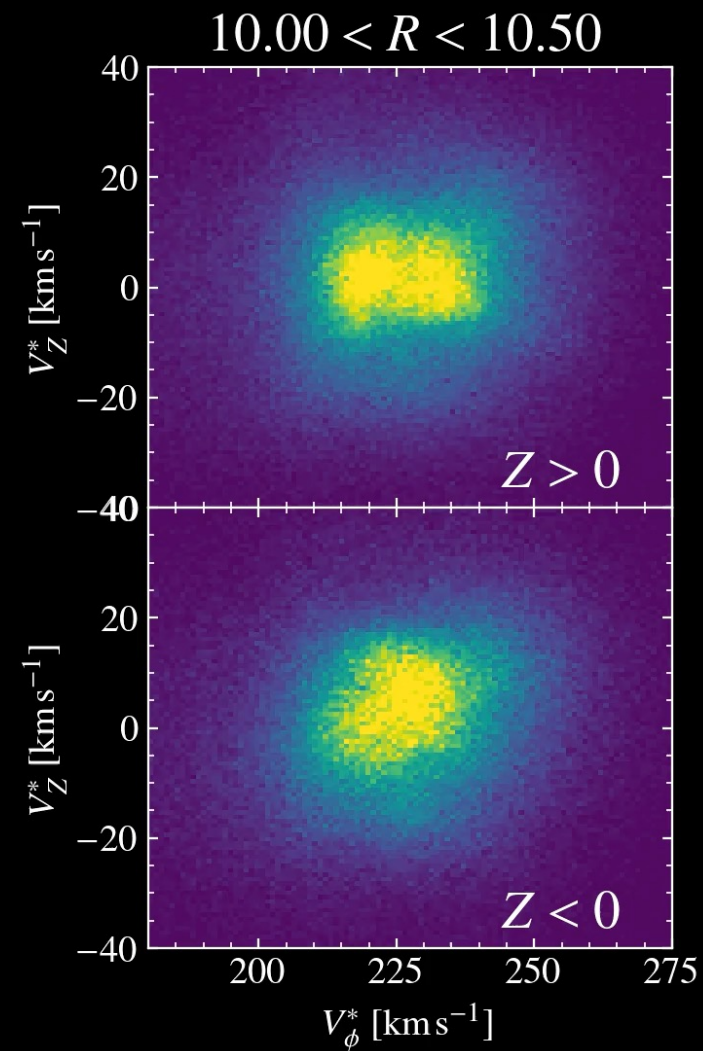
Gaia Collaboration: Antoja, McMillan et al. (2021)



# The Galactic anticentre



Vertical velocity (km/s)



Rotation velocity around the Galactic centre (km/s)

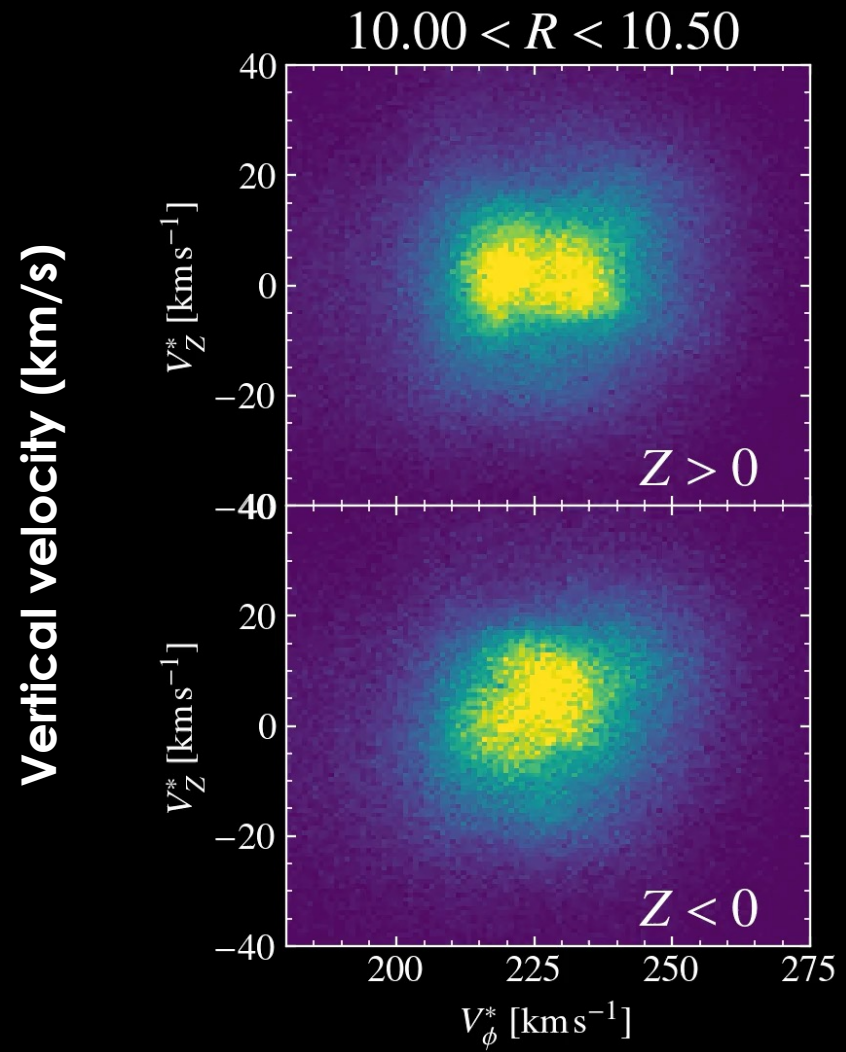


# The Galactic anticentre

Clear bimodal structure

Above plane, dominated by stars moving downwards, rotating slower

Below plane, dominated by stars moving upwards and rotating faster



Rotation velocity around the Galactic centre (km/s)



# Away from anticentre

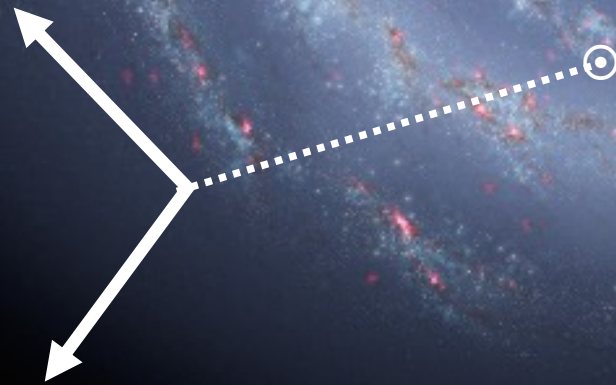
Either

1) Restrict analysis to stars with measured radial velocities

$$V_{\phi} = aV_l + bV_{los}$$

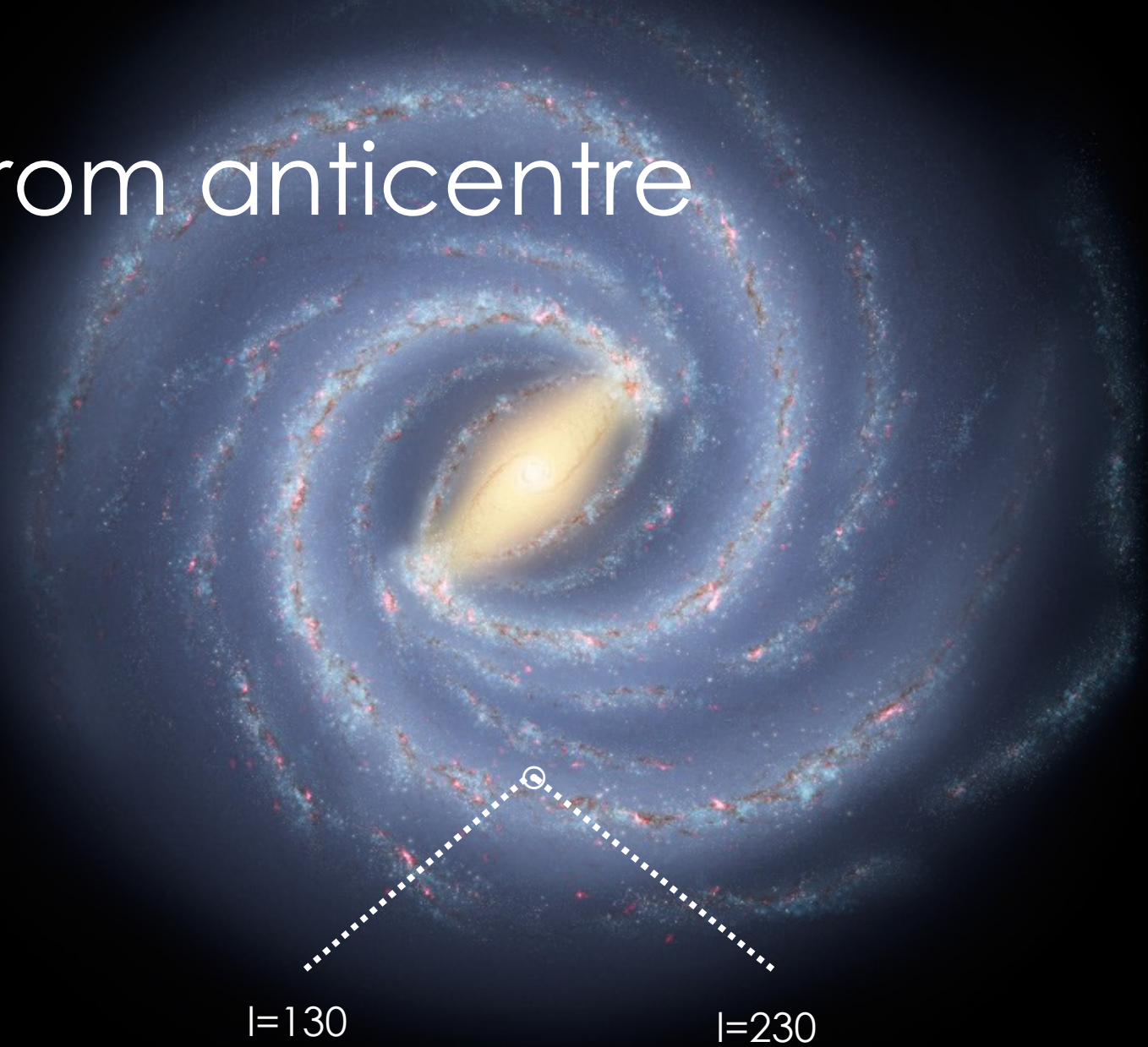
2) Make an approximation:

$$V_R = cV_l + dV_{los} \approx 0$$





# Away from anticentre



l=130

l=230

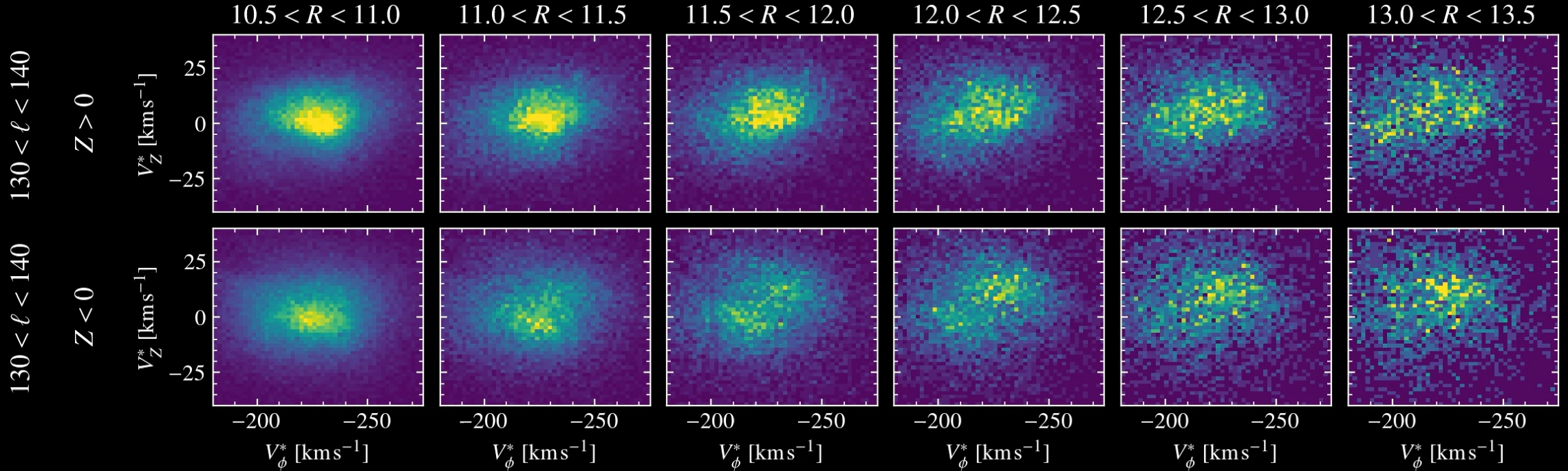
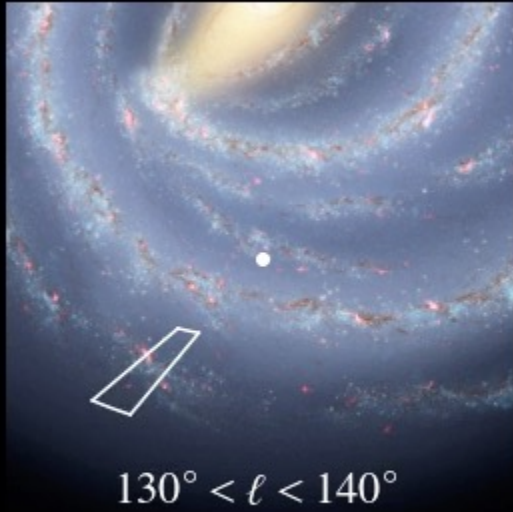
McMillan et al (2022)

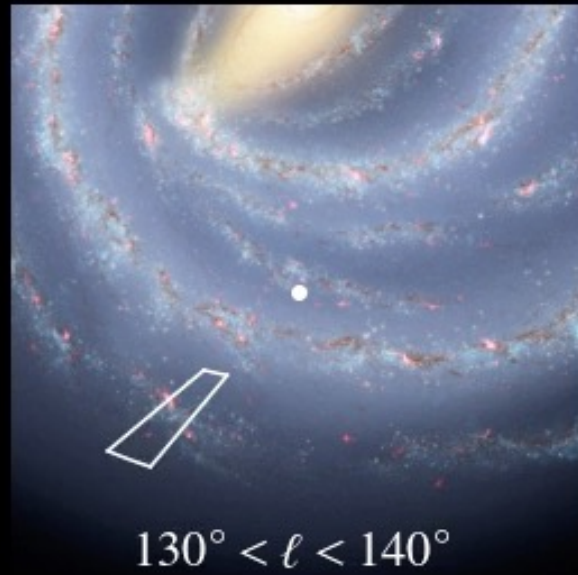
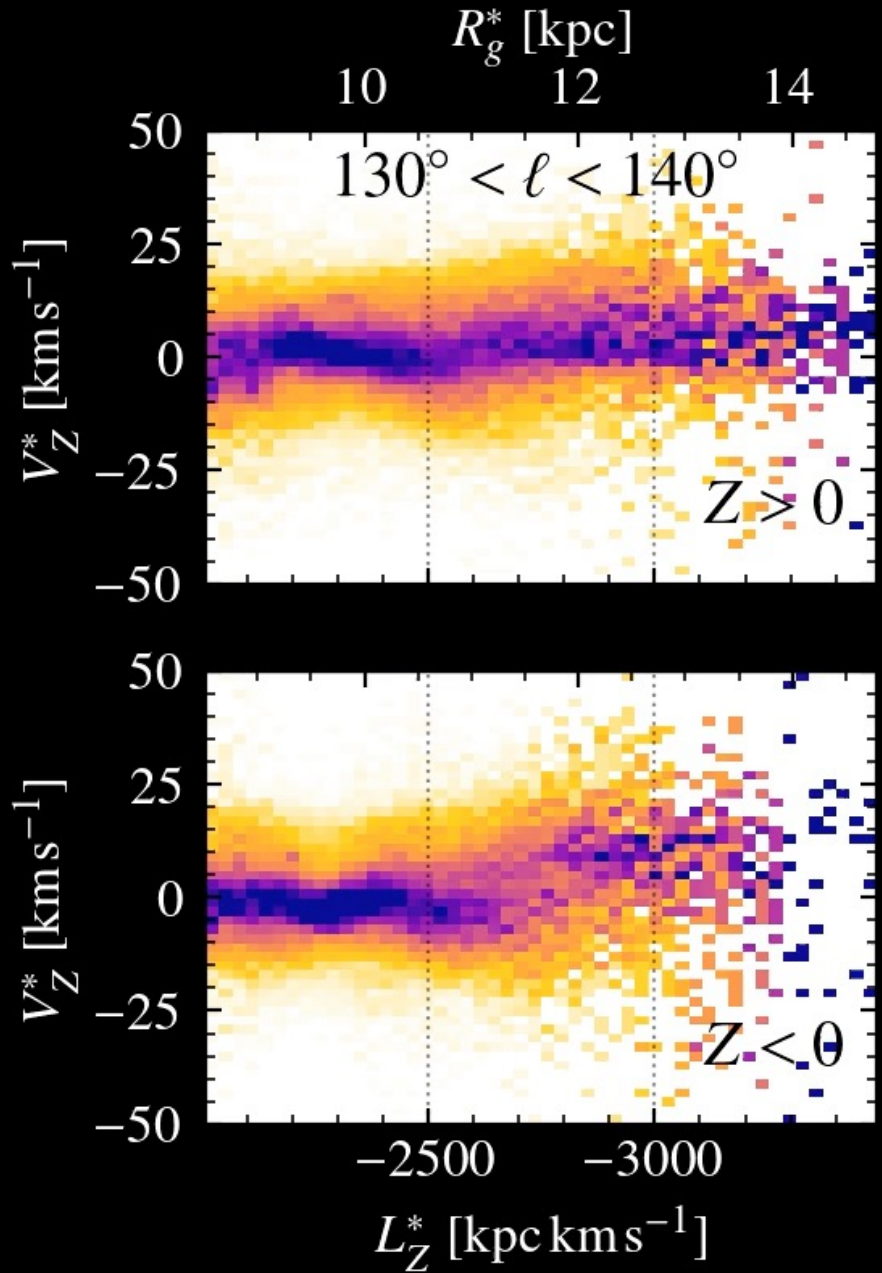


Star velocities across the  
outer galaxy are:

Bimodal

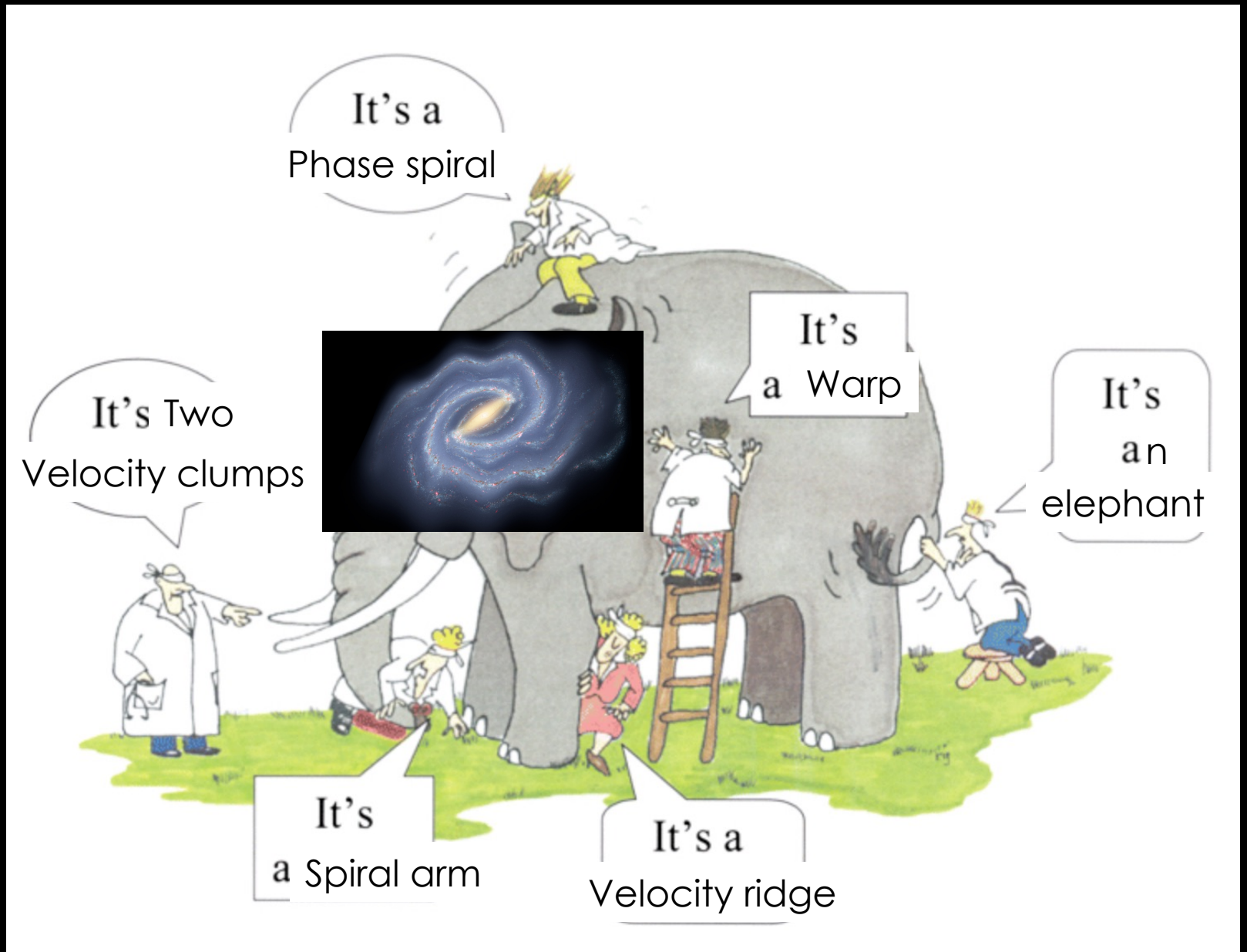
Different above and below  
plane





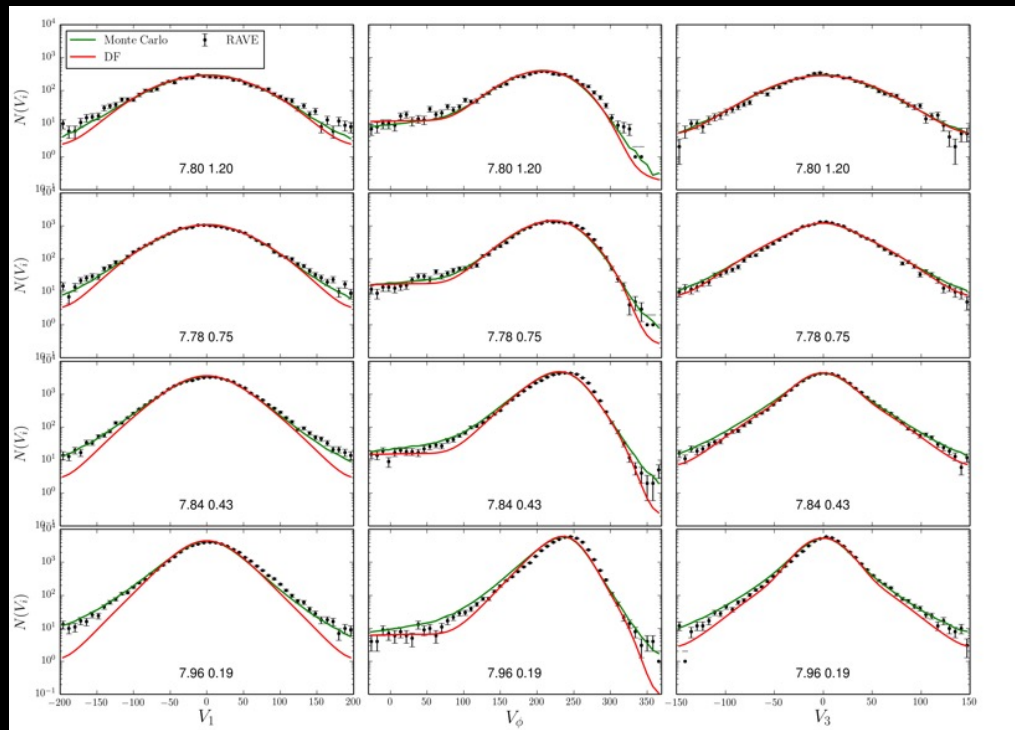
Nicely  
shown in  
angular  
momentum

Galactic dynamics in the Gaia era (an artist's impression )

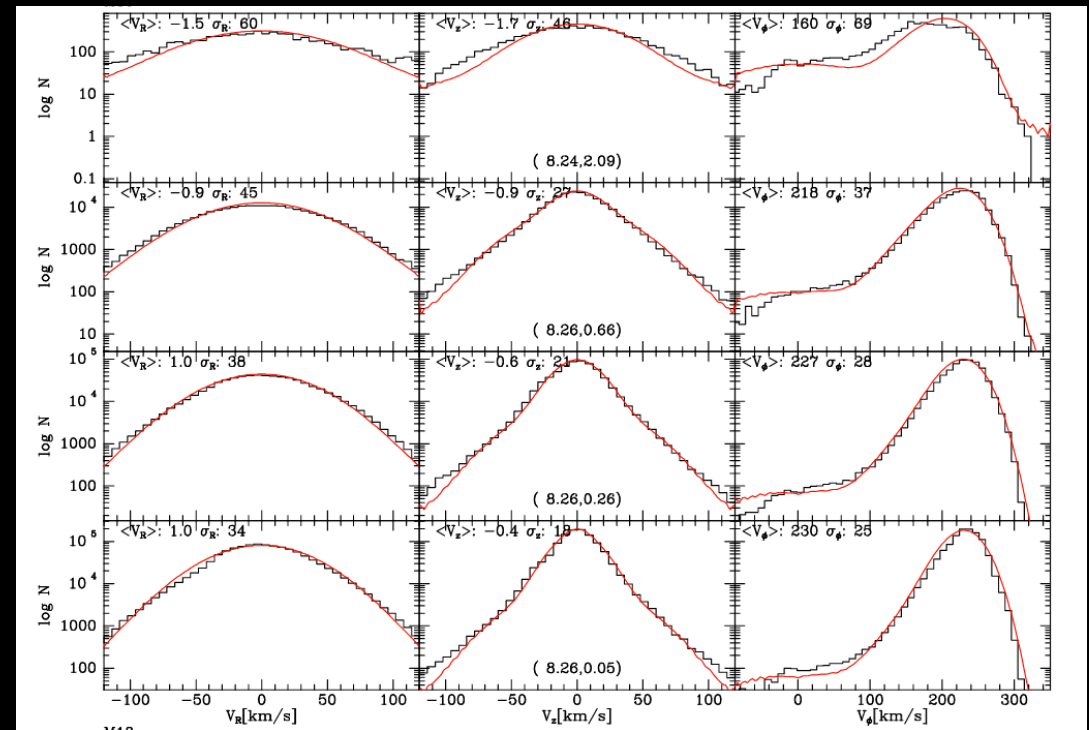


So, what can  
theorists do about  
this?

# We were prepared to analyse the data under the approximation that the galaxy was in equilibrium



Piffl et al (2014)



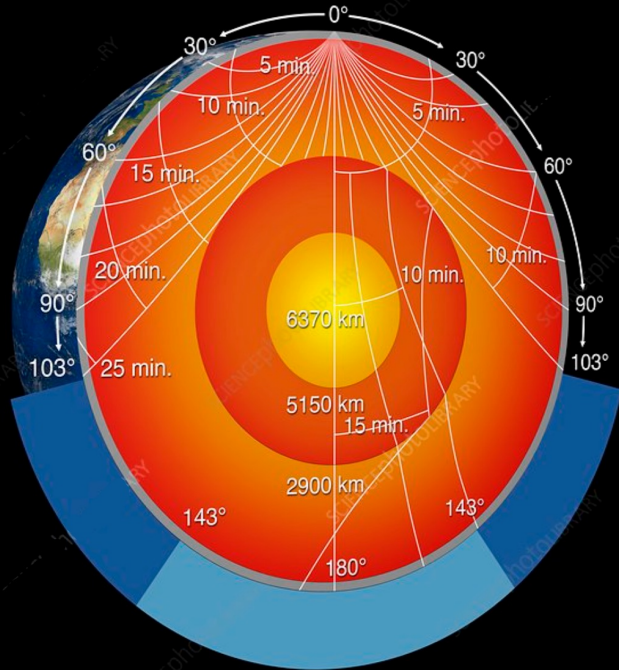
Binney & Vasiliev (2022)

Fitting equilibrium models to velocity histograms

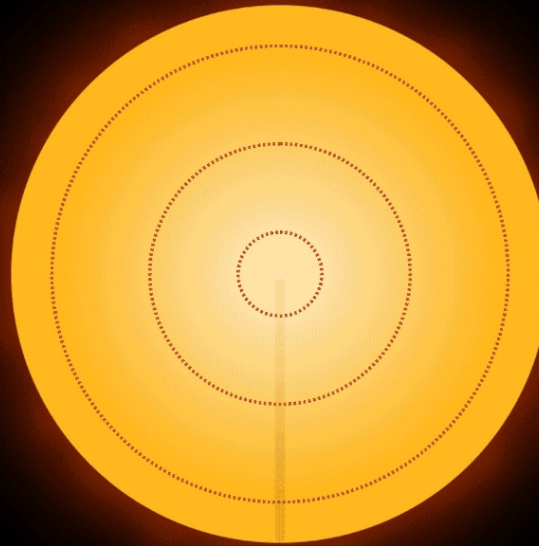
# Crisis vs Opportunity?



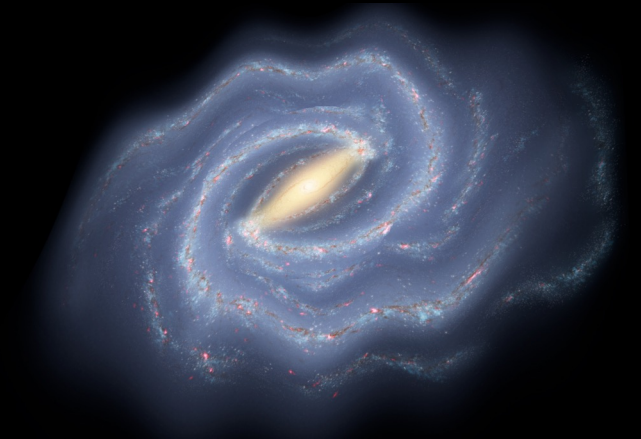
# Seismology



# Asteroseismology



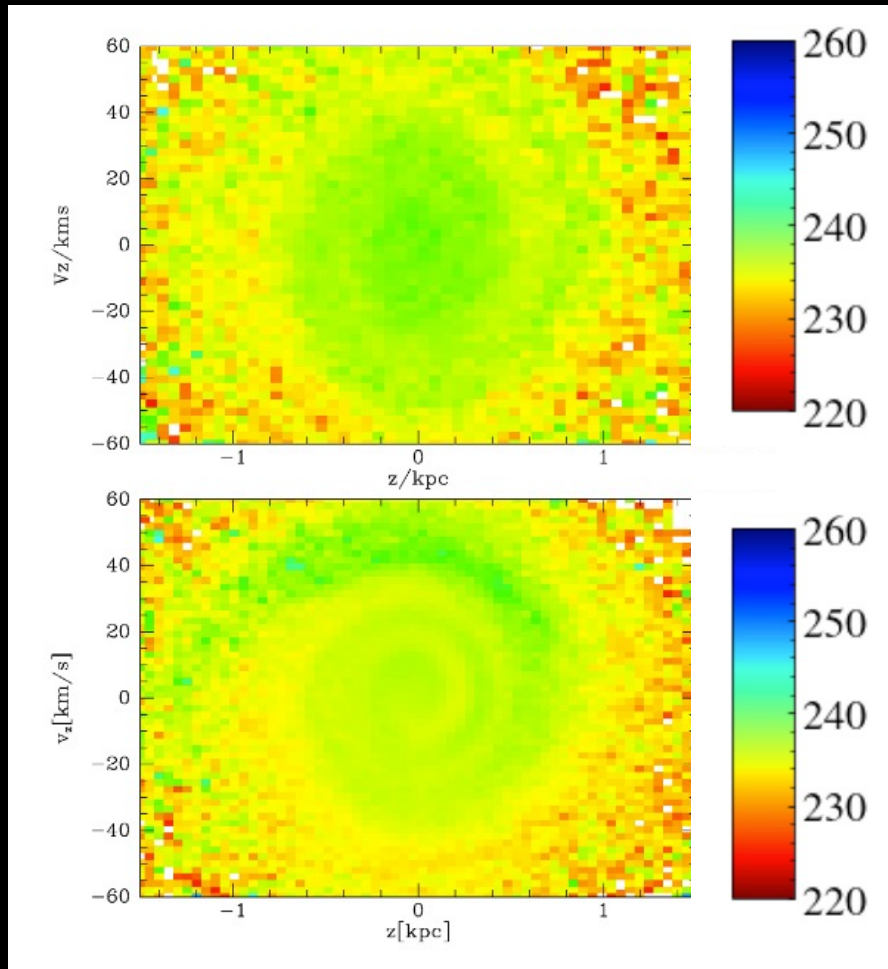
# Galactoseismology?



# Simple (self-gravity-free) model of Sagittarius' impact

400 Myr  
after  
impulse  
(model)

Gaia  
data



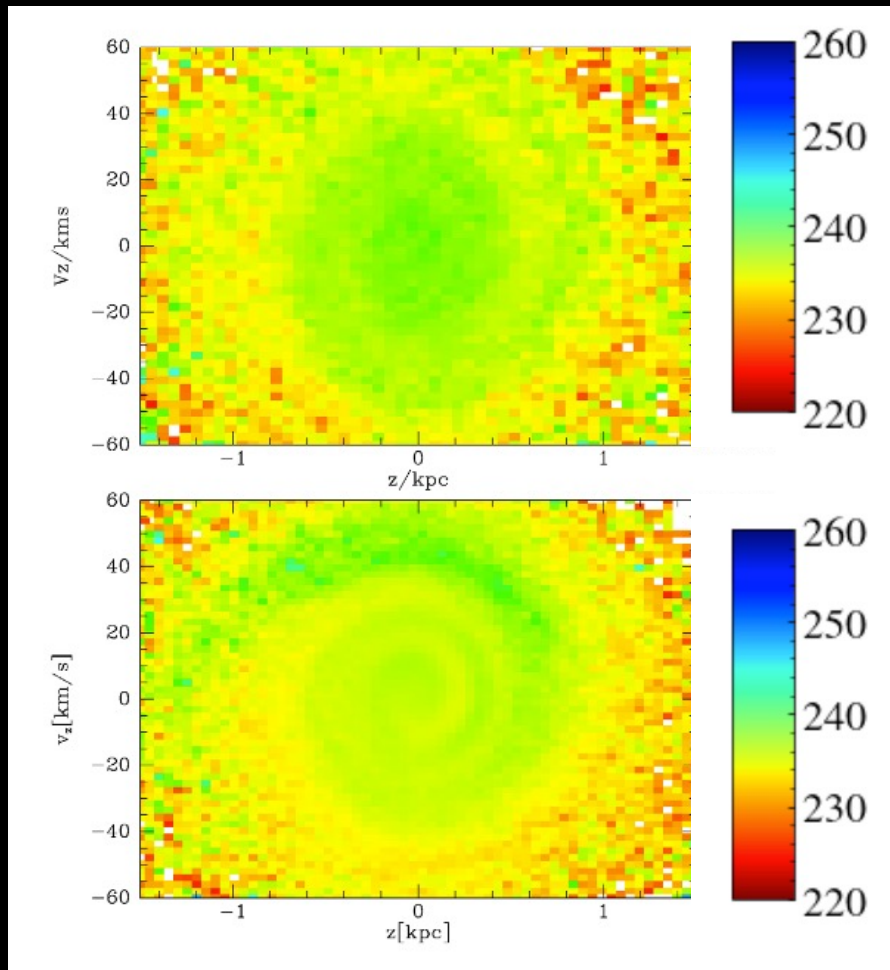
Binney & Schönrich (2018)  
Requires  $2 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  Sgr



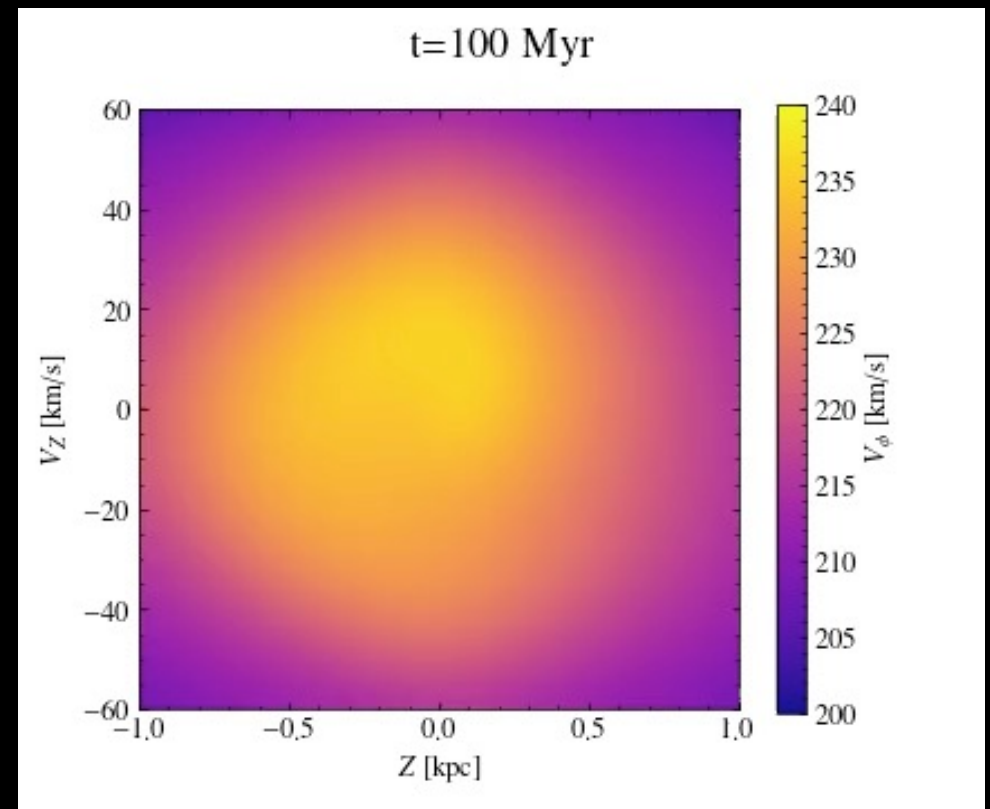
# Simple (self-gravity-free) model of Sagittarius' impact

400 Myr  
after  
impulse  
(model)

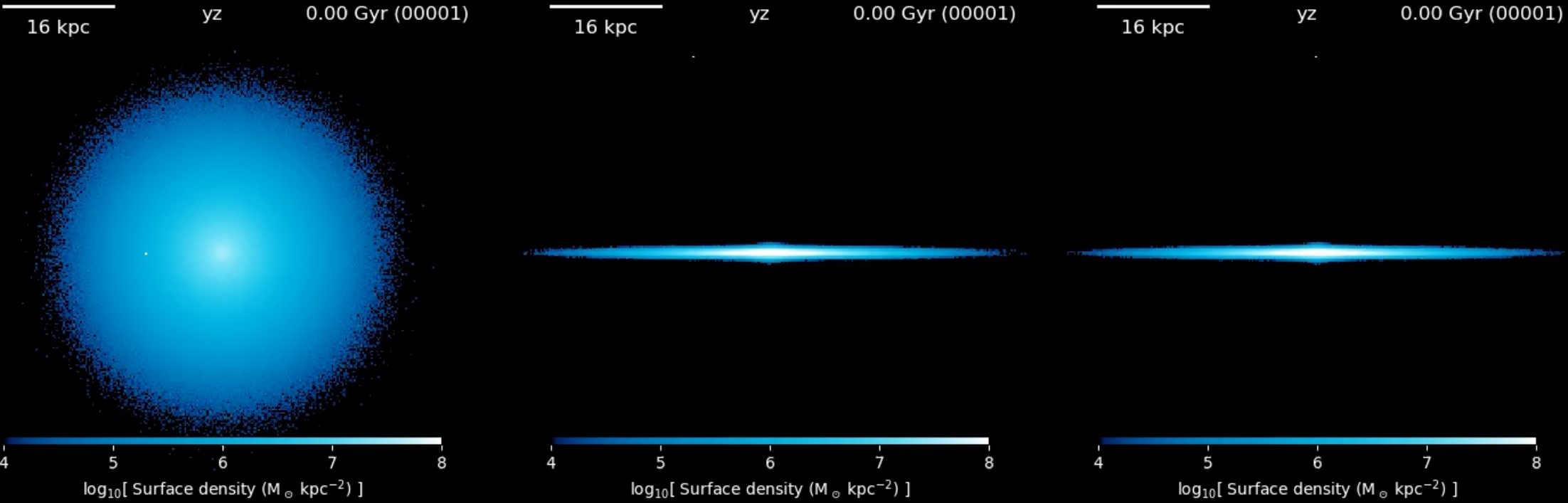
Gaia  
data



Binney & Schönrich (2018)  
Requires  $2 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  Sgr



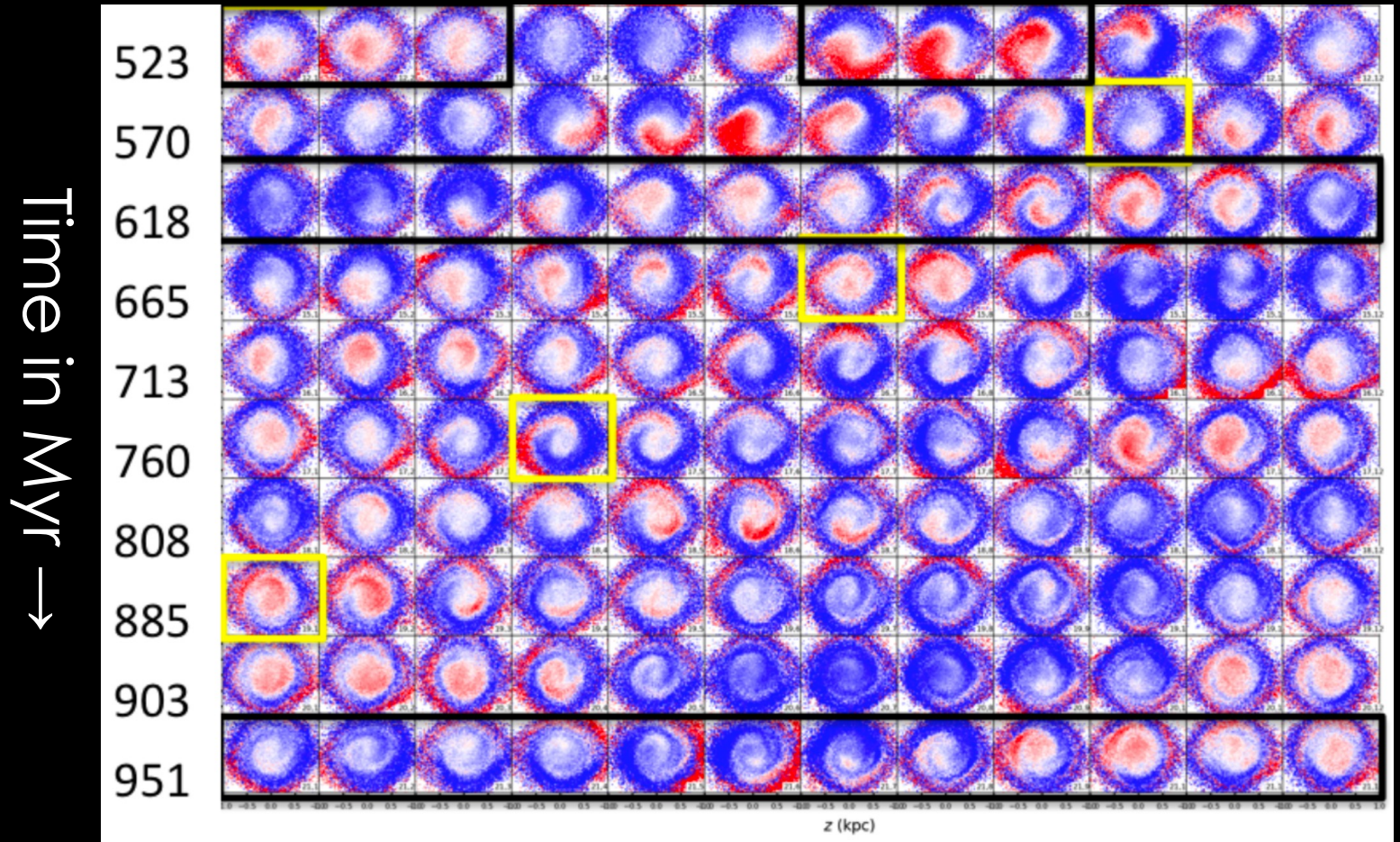
# Bland-Hawthorn & Tepper-Garcia (2021)



Simplified simulation of impact

Set up to be a self gravitating ~equivalent to the Binney & Schönrich calculations.

Phase-spiral forms later and is less wound

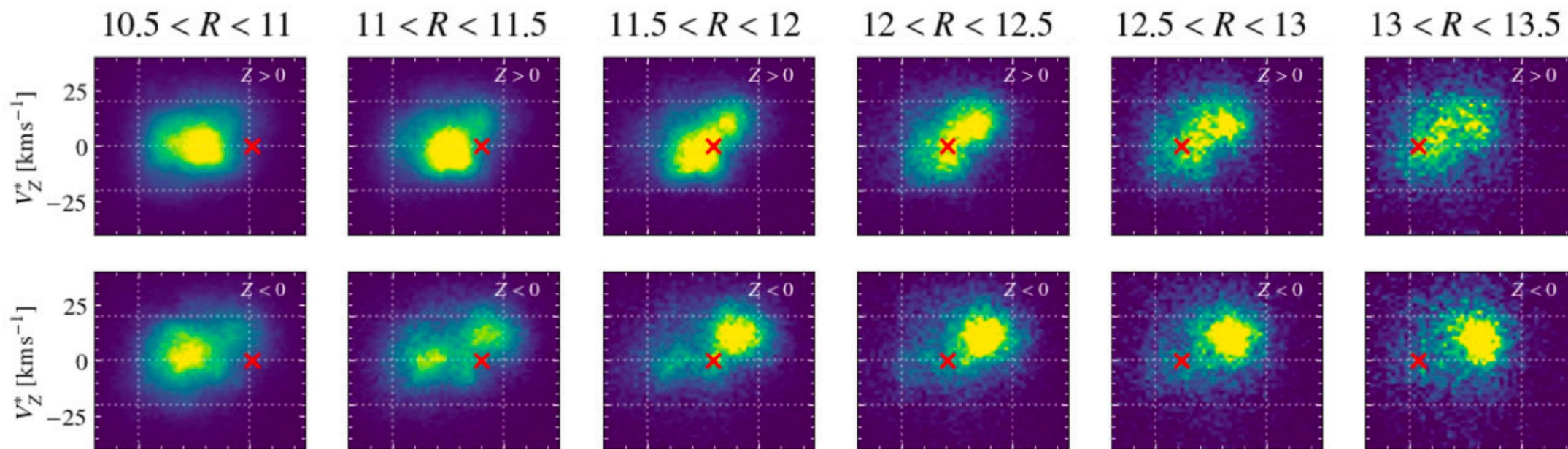


← Different angles around galaxy →

See also Laporte et al 2019, Hunt et al 2021, Gandhi et al 2022

# Reminder of what we see in the Milky Way

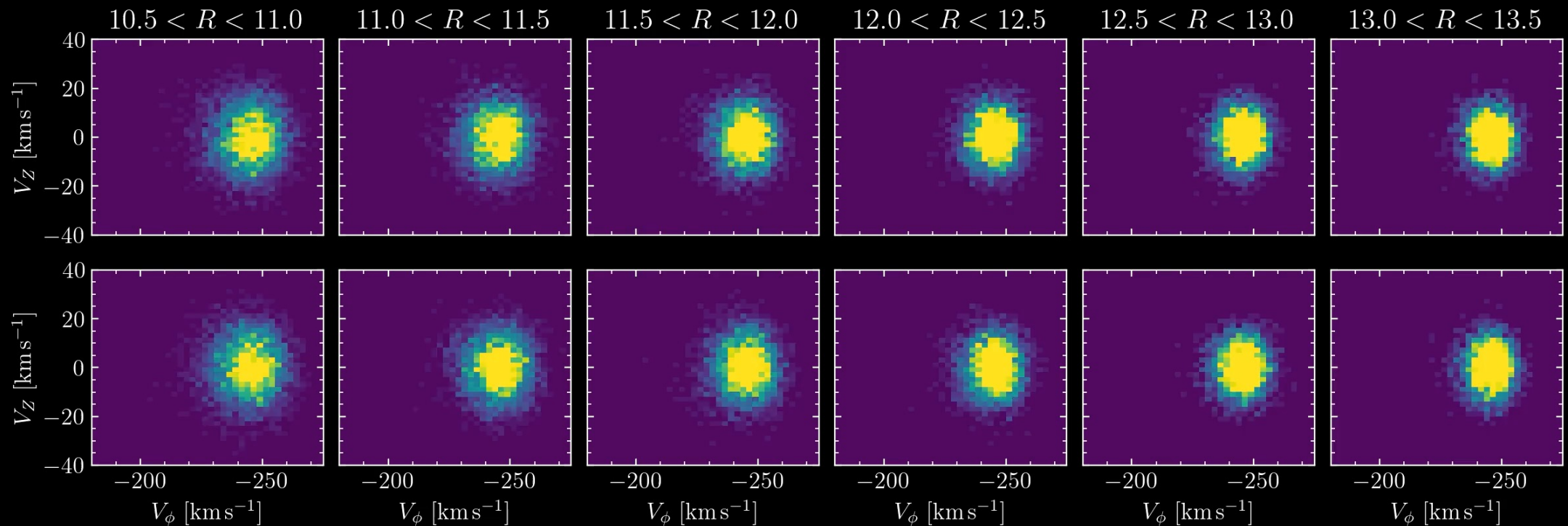
$170^\circ < \ell < 190^\circ$





# Simulations of 'Sgr dwarf'

0.00 Gyr





# Summary

The outer disc is shaking, probably because of a recent flyby of the Sgr dwarf

Reproducing all the parts of the elephant (or: all we see in the Milky Way) will allow us to learn its structure & history through “Galactic seismology”

This probably isn't going to be as easy as I'd hope

1.5 billion >> 33 million. We must not be afraid to work without all components of velocity