

IWAA 2018  
ZÁNKA, HUNGARY

LECTURE 4



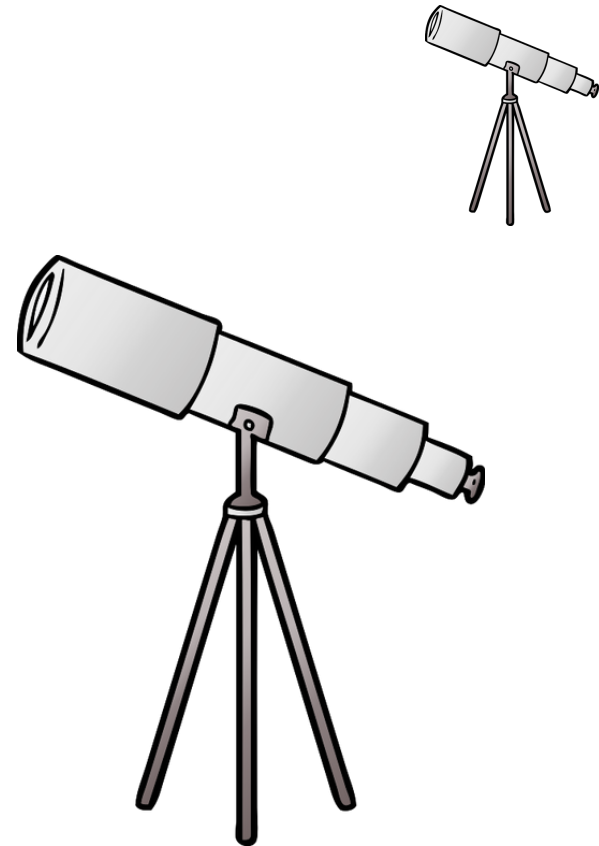
# THE COSMIC DISTANCE LADDER

GERGELY DÁLYA

We know the size of objects

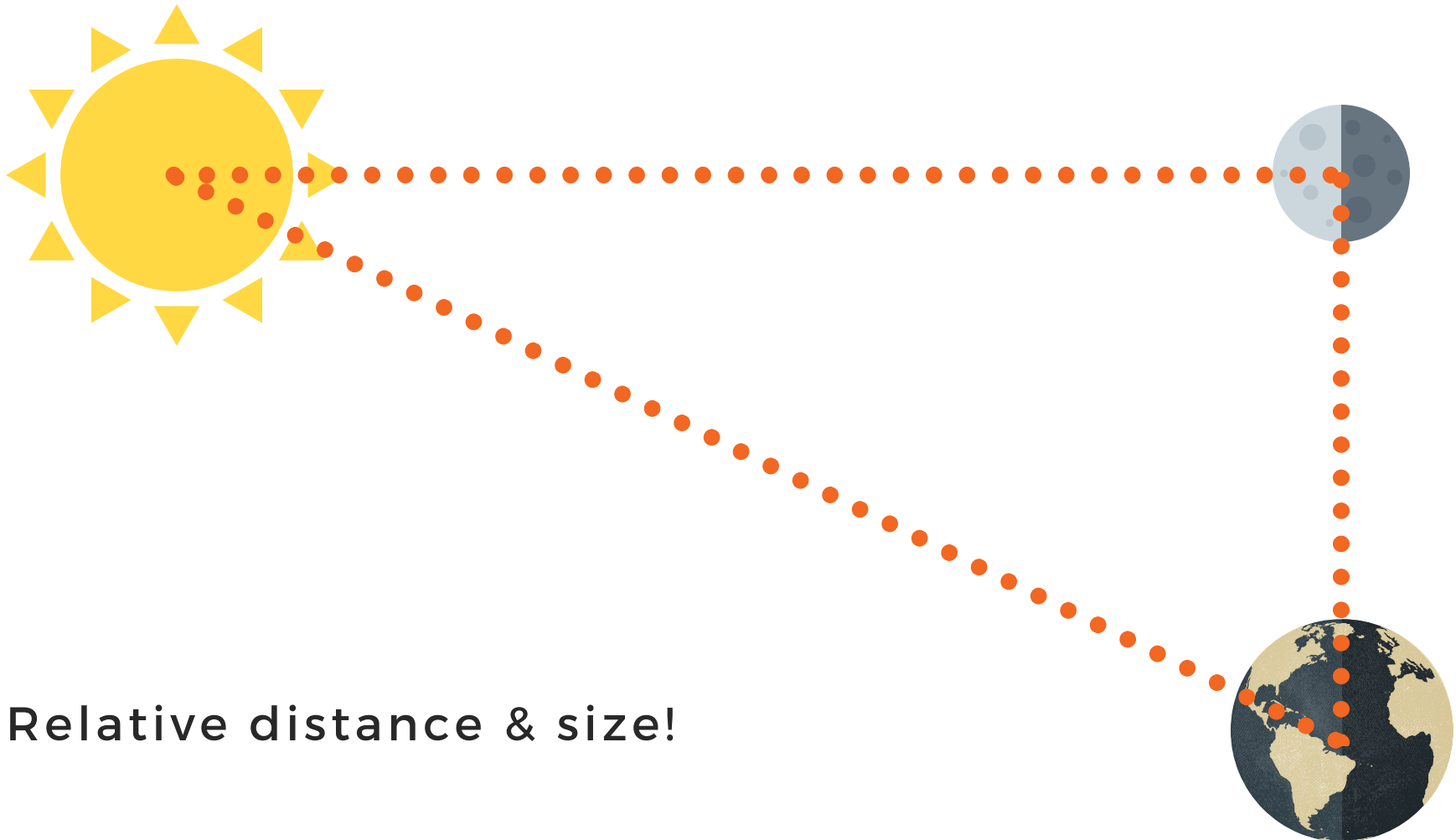


If its farther away, it seems  
to be smaller



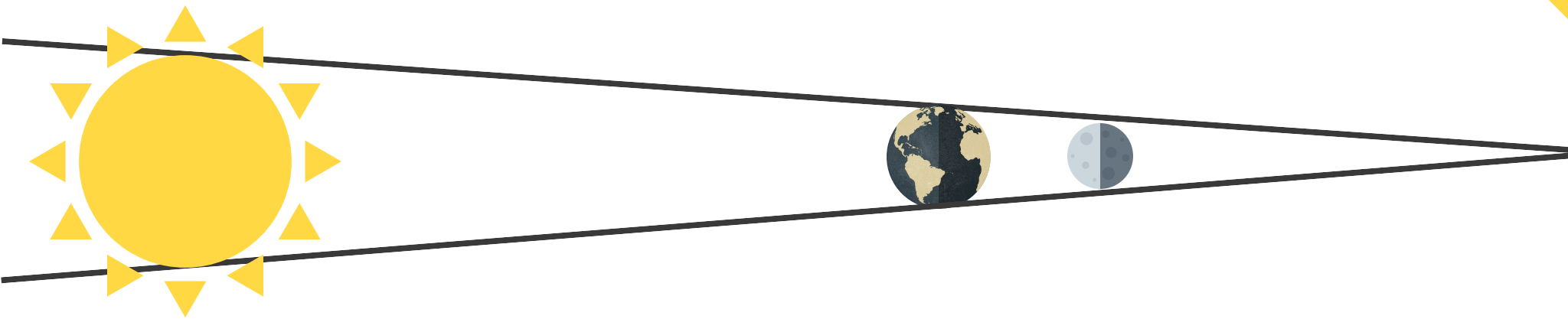
It can't be done in astronomy...

## Aristarchus @ lunar dichotomy

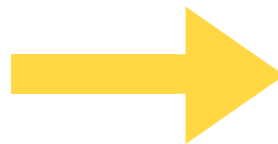


Relative distance & size!

Aristarchus @ lunar eclipse



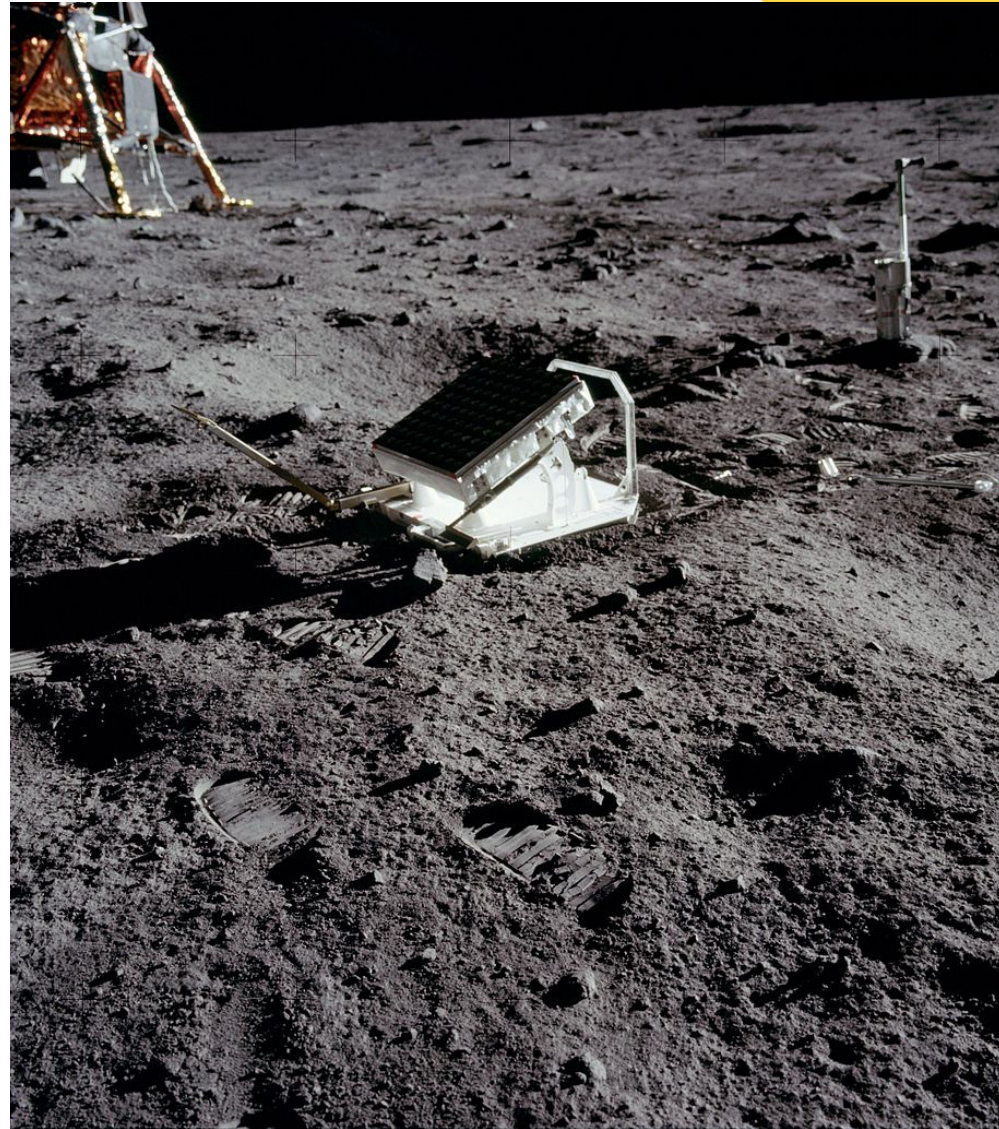
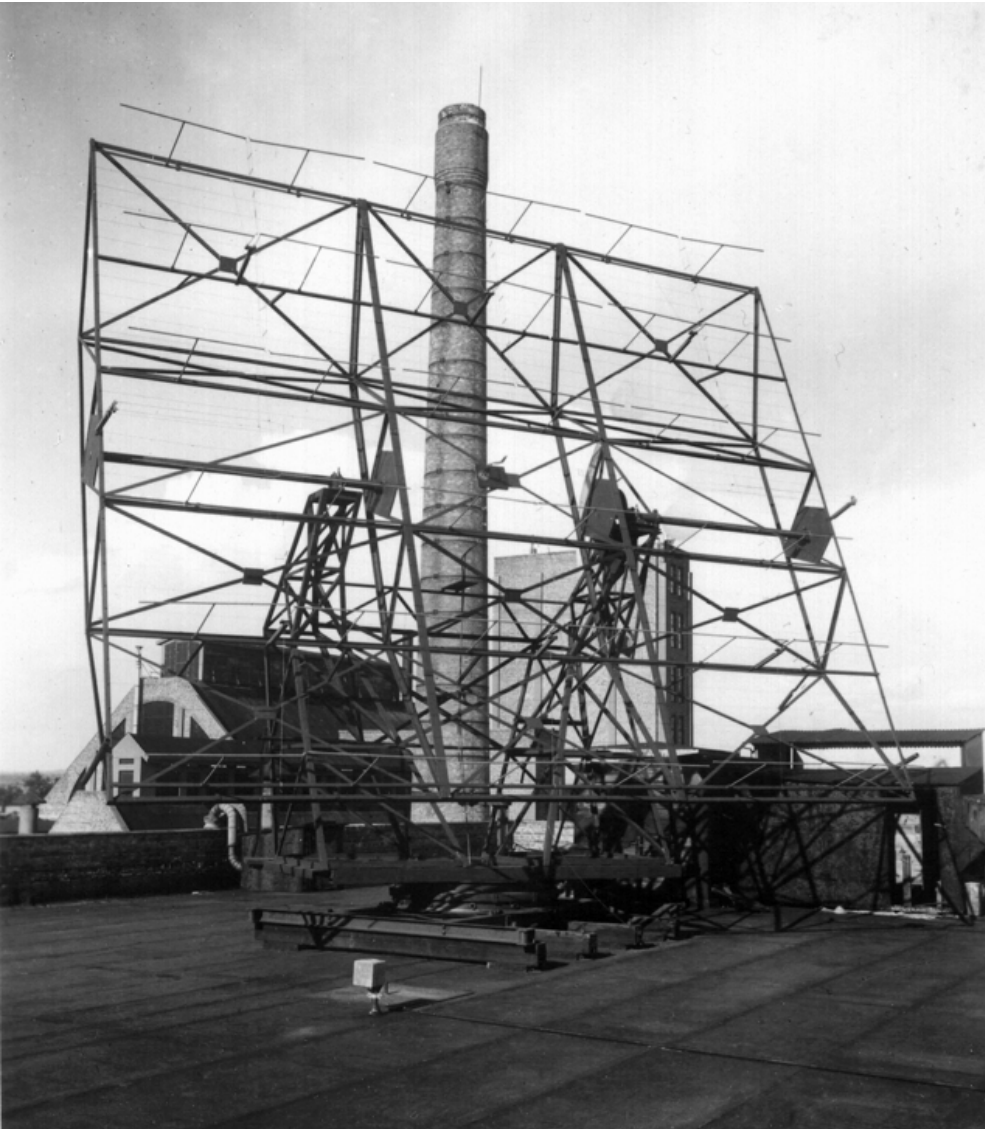
Earth is 3 times  
bigger than the Moon



Sun is bigger than the  
Earth: heliocentric  
model!

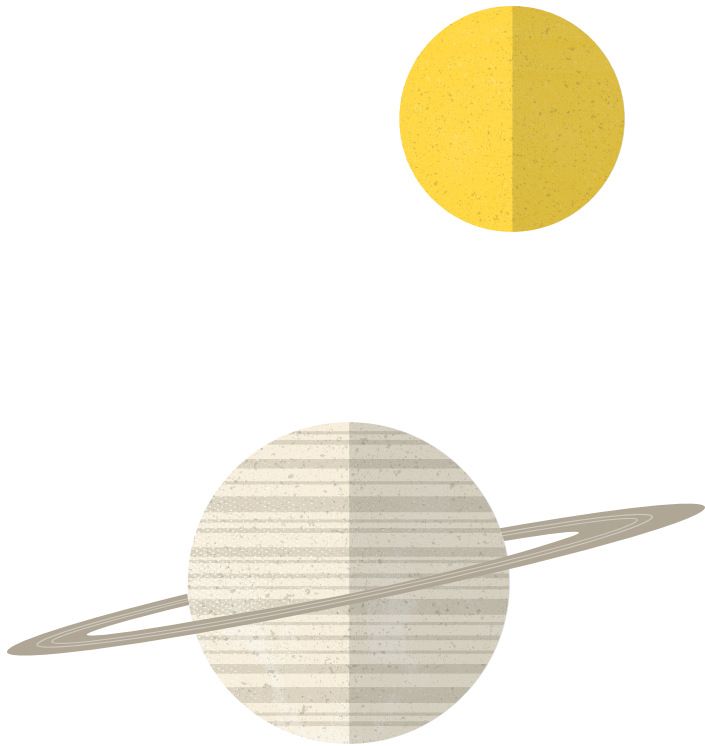


Moon radar: Zoltán Bay 1946; Laser ranging: Apollo 11

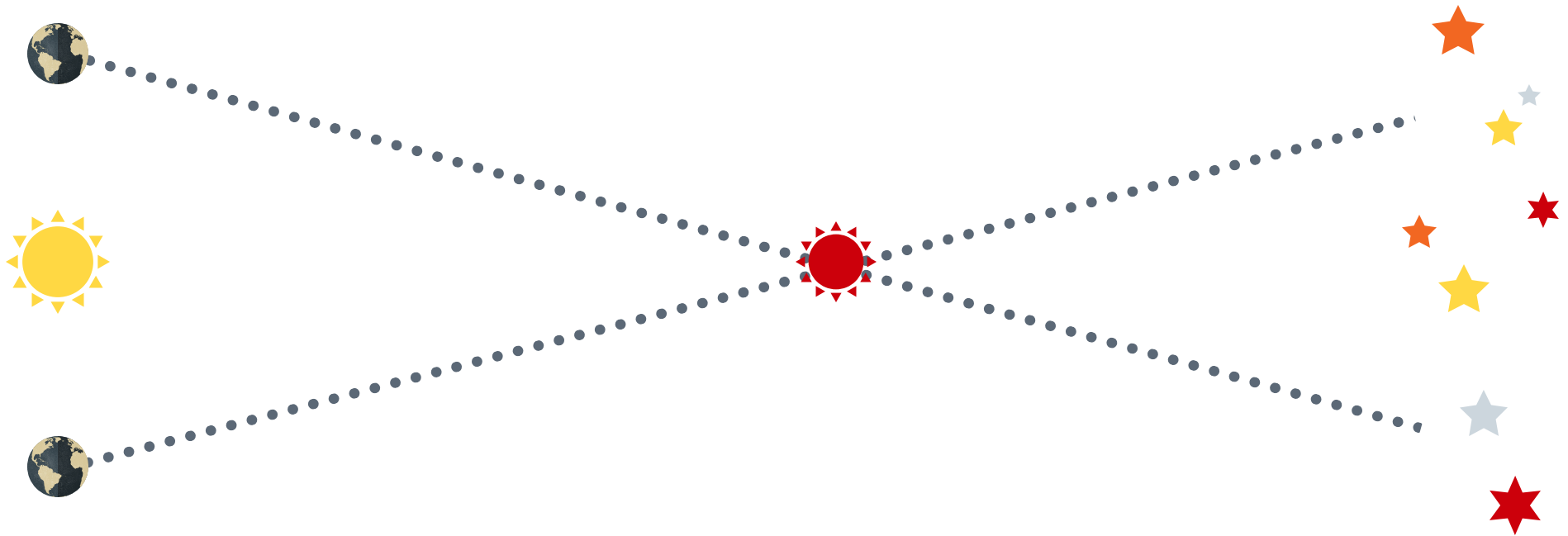


1 absolute + several relative measurements

Planets? With Kepler's 3rd law.



## Method of yearly parallax



Relative method: you've to know how big 1 AU is...

If only we knew the absolute  
brightness of objects...



Cepheids, RR Lyraes, SNe, ...

## Period-Luminosity relation

$$L \sim P^{\beta}$$

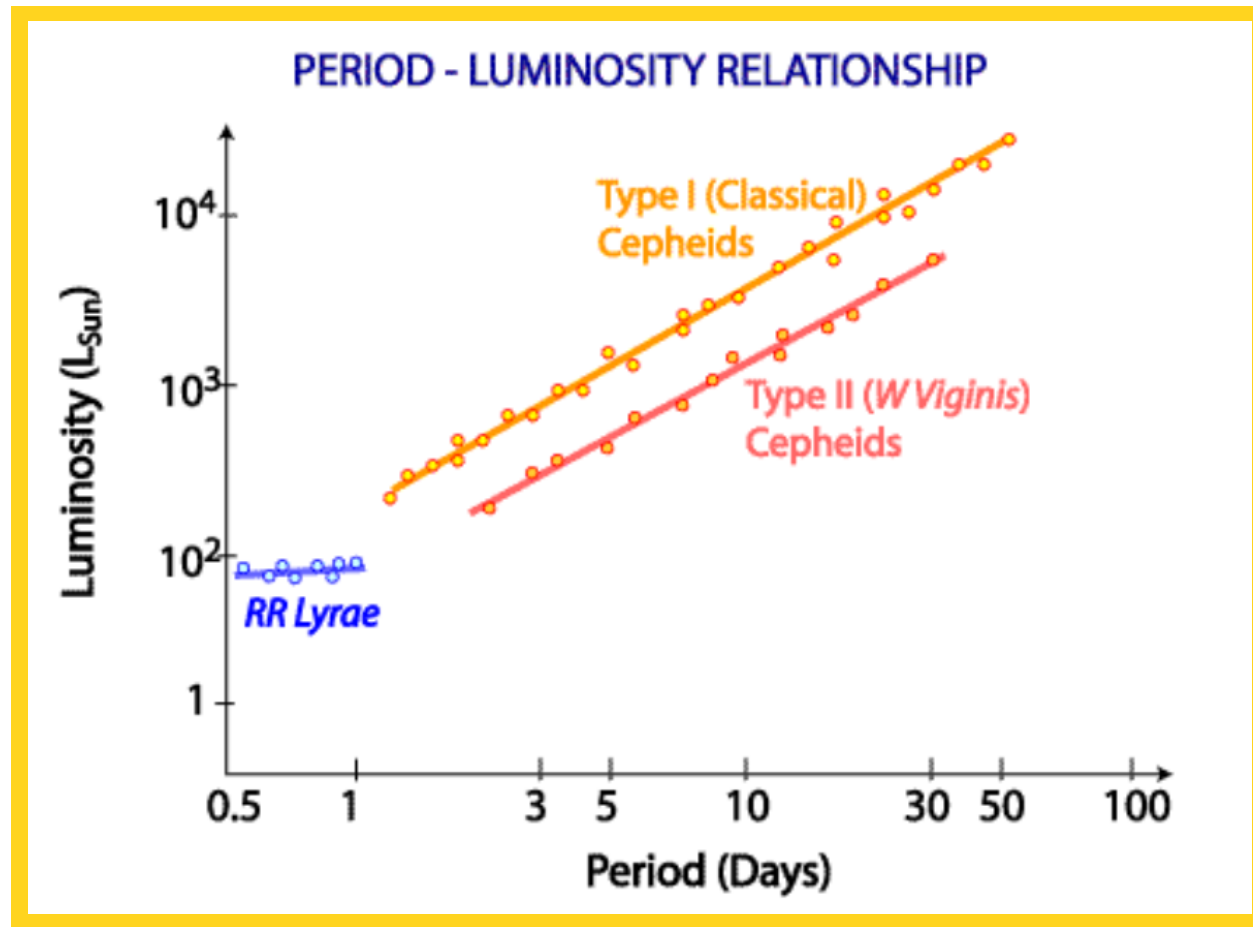
$$\log L = \beta \log P + C$$

$$M = \beta \log P + C'$$

cf. IOAA 2017, D1 (depends on color as well)



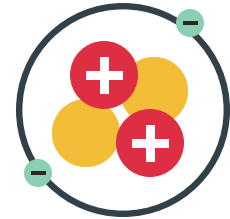
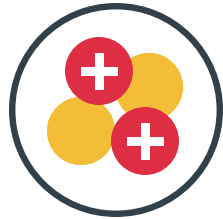
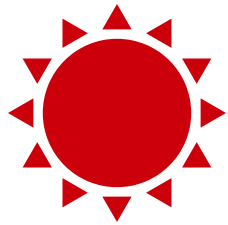
## Period-Luminosity relation



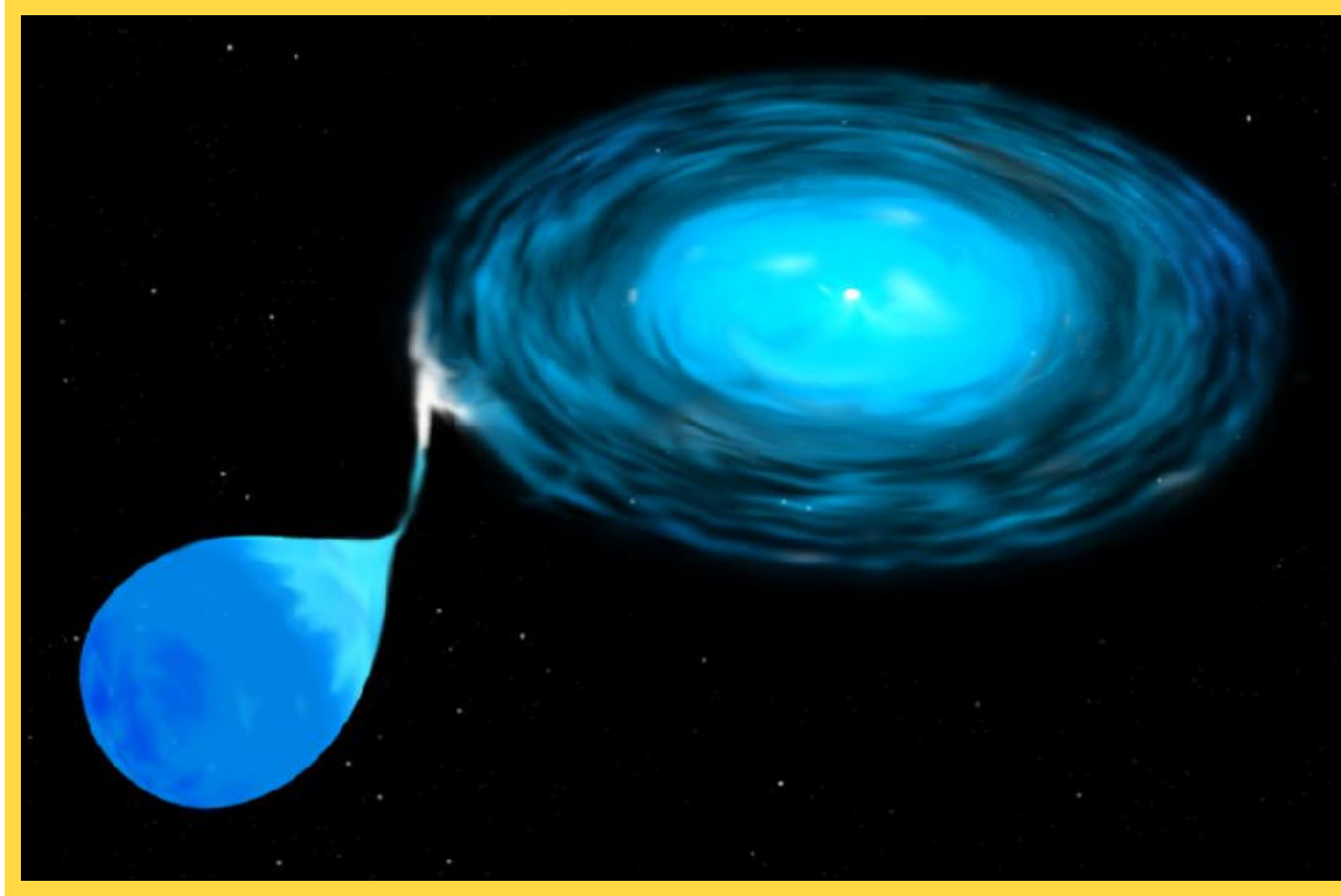
Either use log scale or log P!

$$m - M = -5 + 5 \log d$$

## KAPPA-MECHANISM

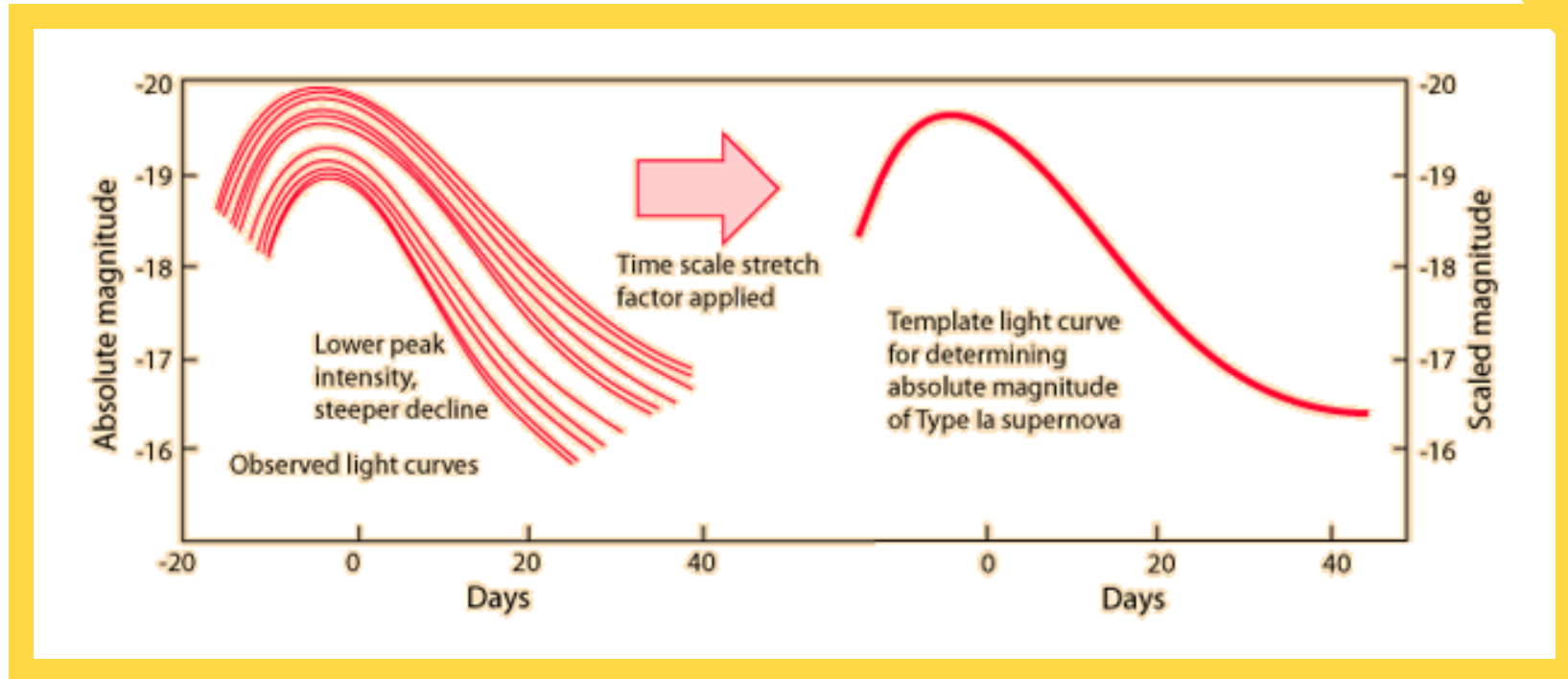






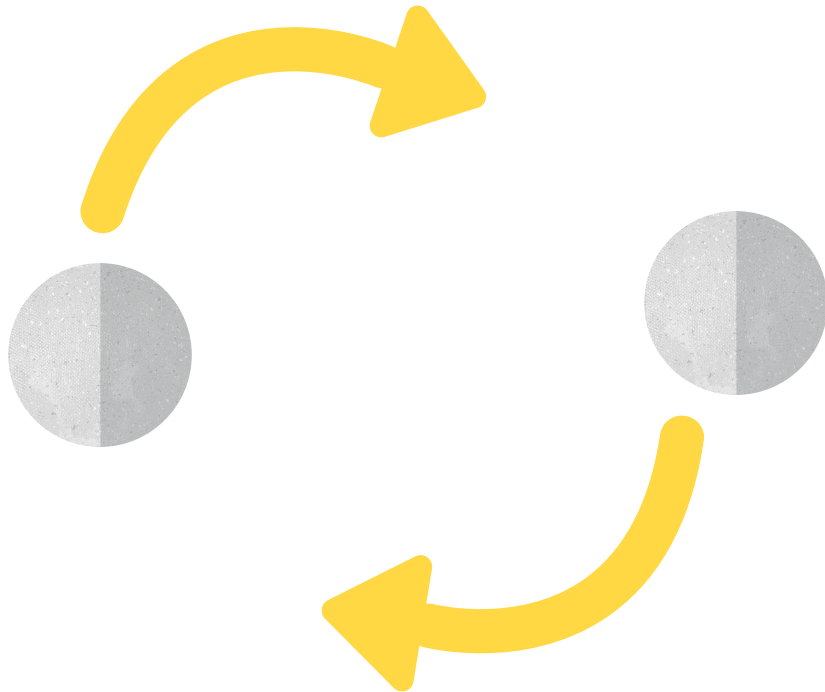
Chandrasekhar limit: 1.44 solar masses

Not quite as simple...



$$\langle M_B \rangle \simeq \langle M_V \rangle \simeq -19.3^{\text{m}} \pm 0.03^{\text{m}}$$

## Super-Chandrasekhar mass SNe



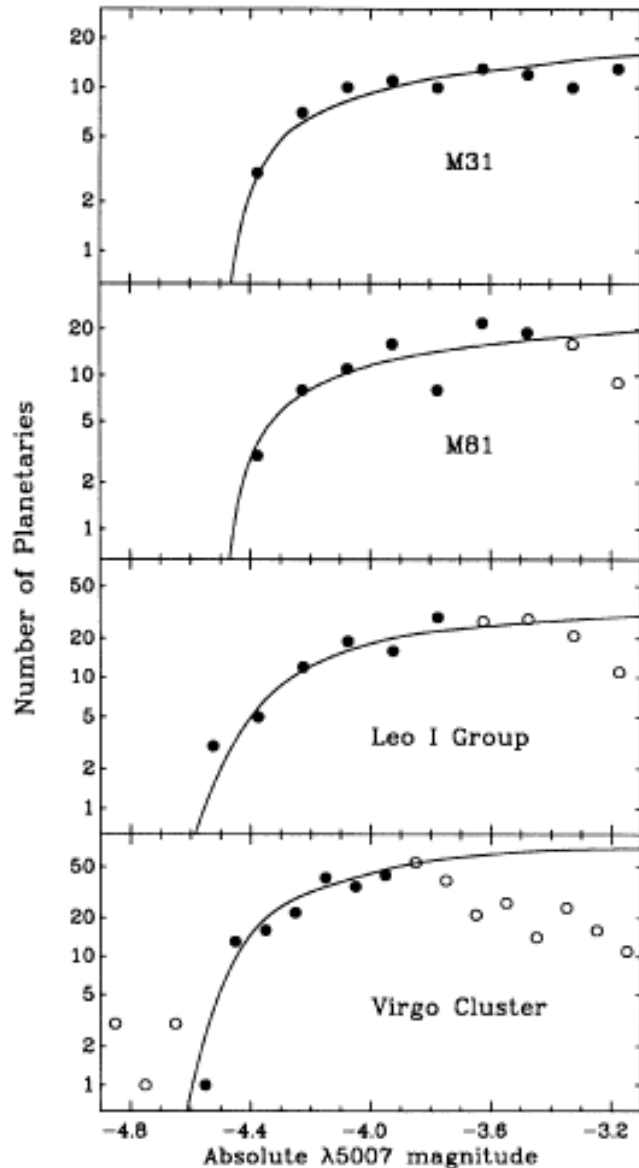
Challenges the  
standard candle  
picture...

## Planetary nebula luminosity function

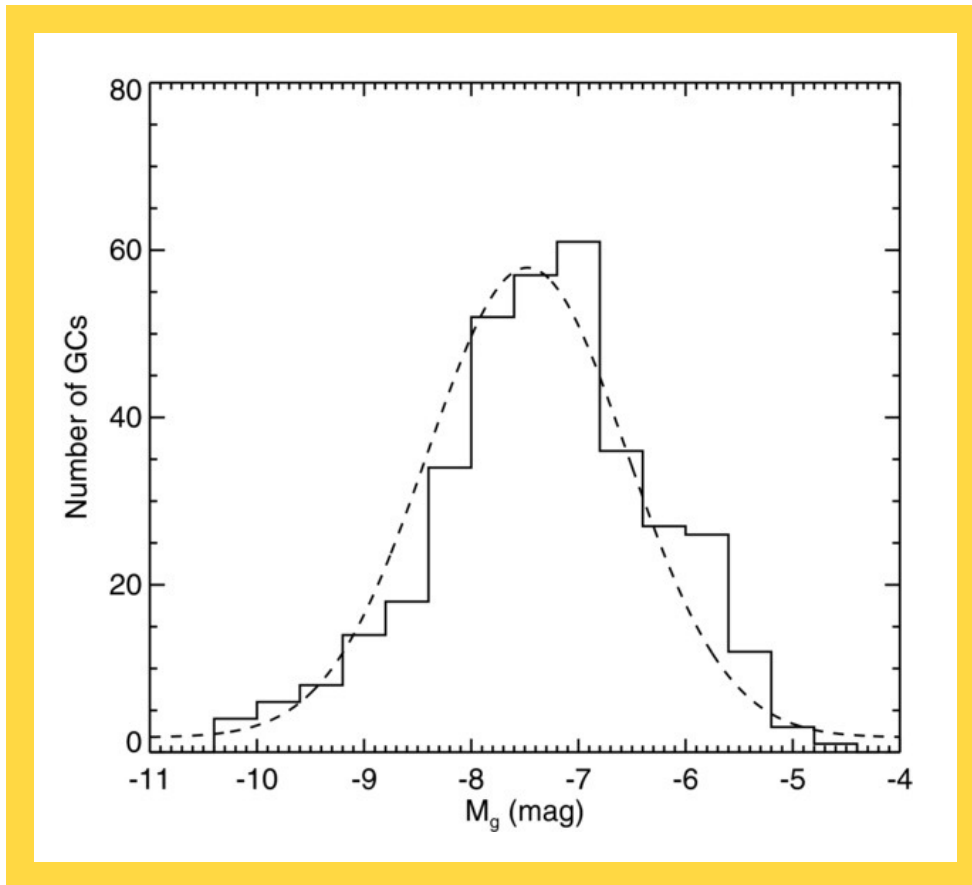
[OIII] 500.7 nm line

$$N(M) \sim e^{0.307M} (1 - e^{3(M^* - M)})$$

Works for all types of galaxies



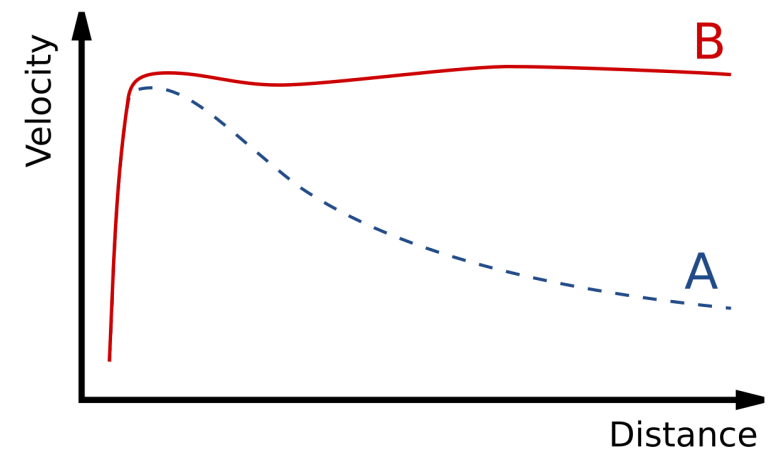
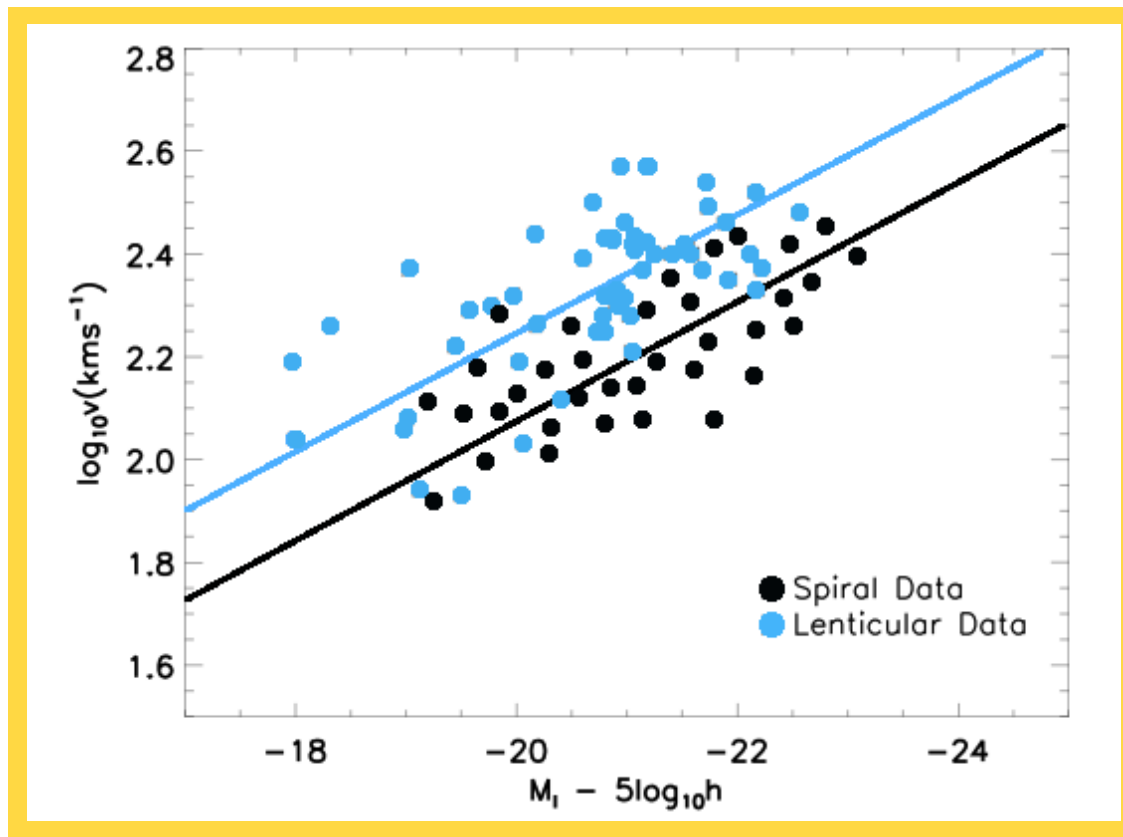
## Globular cluster luminosity function



$$\Phi(m) = A e^{(m-m_0)^2 / 2\sigma^2}$$

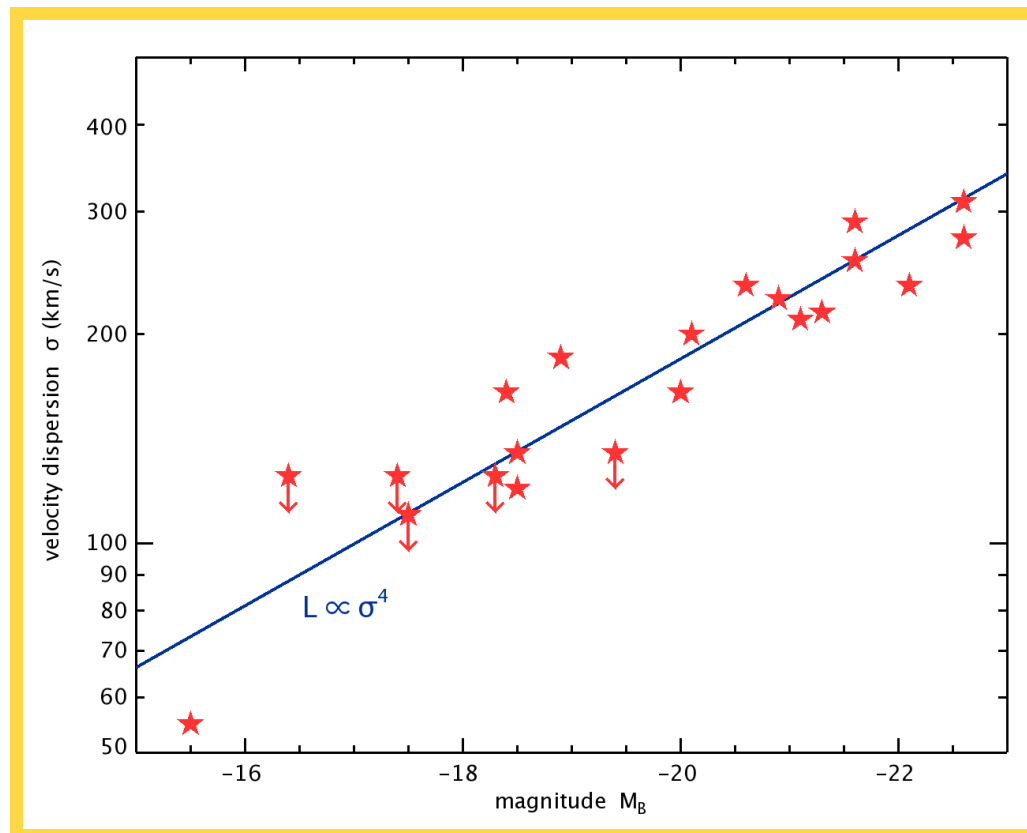
Does not depend on properties of host galaxy

Rotational velocity ~ Absolute brightness



For spirals & lenticulars only!

Stellar vel. dispersion  $\sim$  Absolute brightness



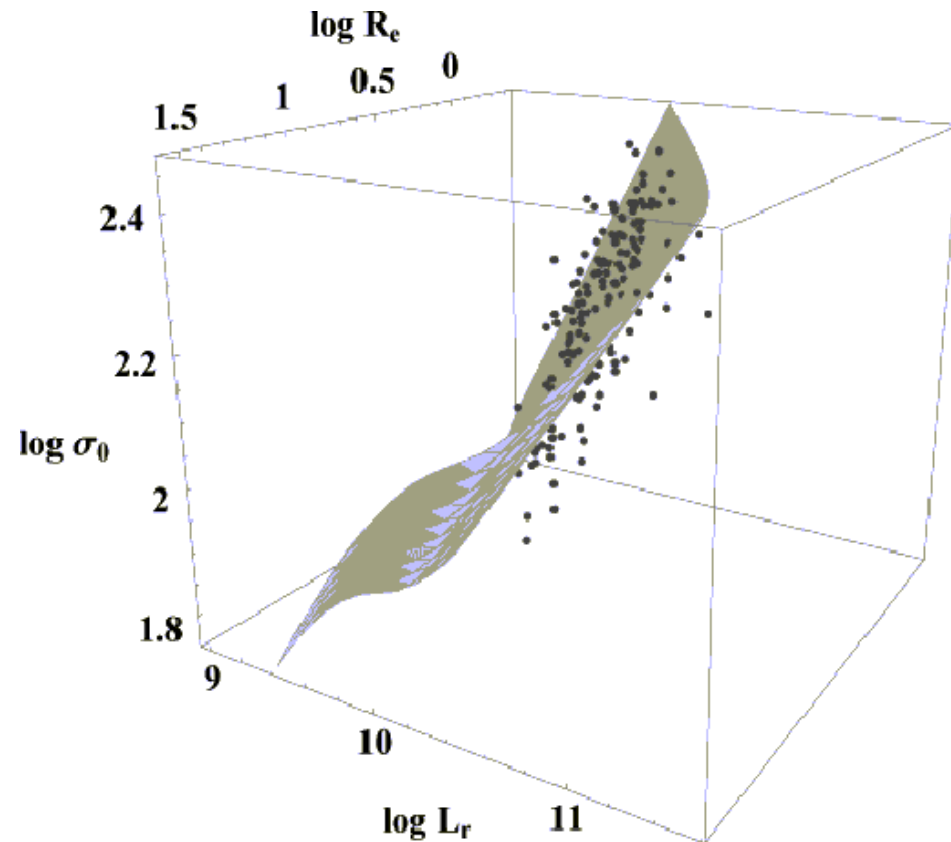
For ellipticals only!



Let's take 3 properties, e.g.:

- Velocity dispersion
- Surface brightness
- Radius

$$L \sim \sigma^4 \Sigma^{-1}$$

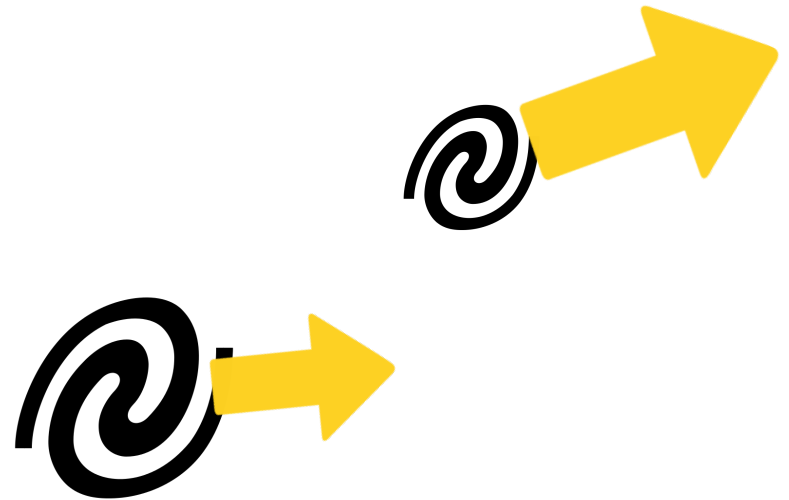


Calculated + measured radii



Distance

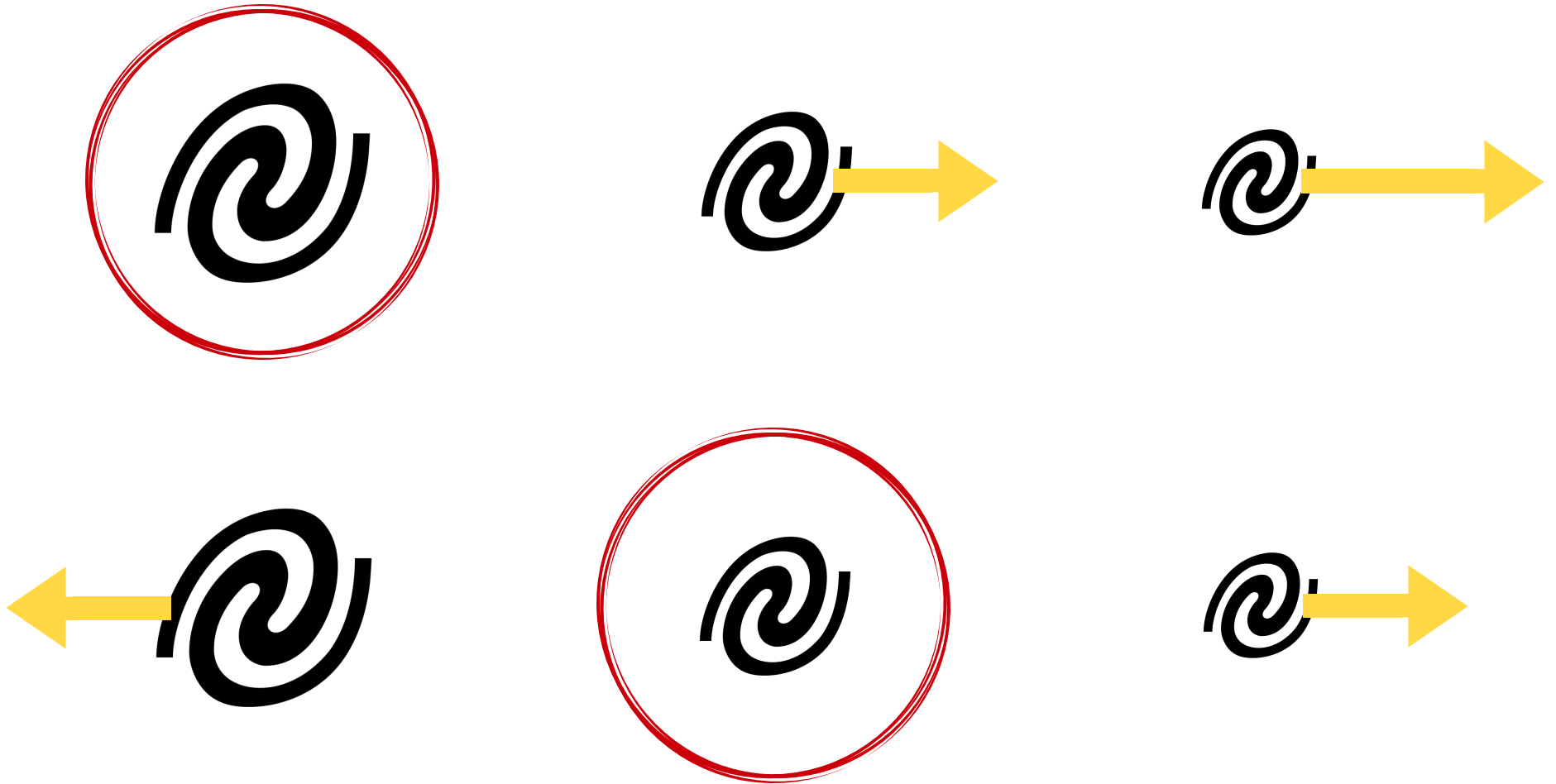
$$v = H_0 D$$

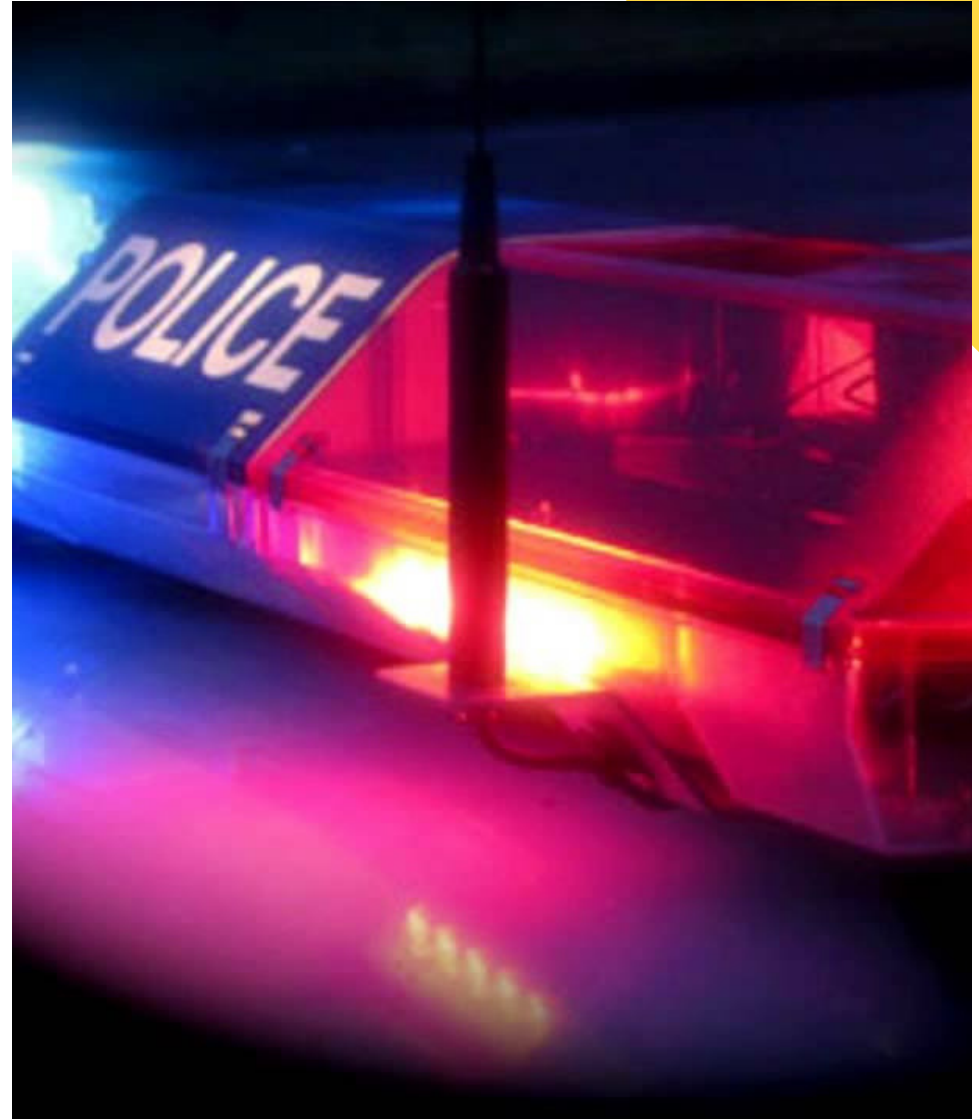




EVERY GALAXY MOVES AWAY  
FROM US... ARE WE THE CENTER  
OF THE UNIVERSE?

IT IS THE SAME FROM EVERYWHERE:







GW150914: 440 (+160, -180) Mpc  
GW170104: 880 (+450, -390) Mpc  
GW170817: 40 (+8, -14) Mpc





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# QUESTIONS?

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