



INSTITUTO DE ASTROFÍSICA  
FACULTAD DE FÍSICA

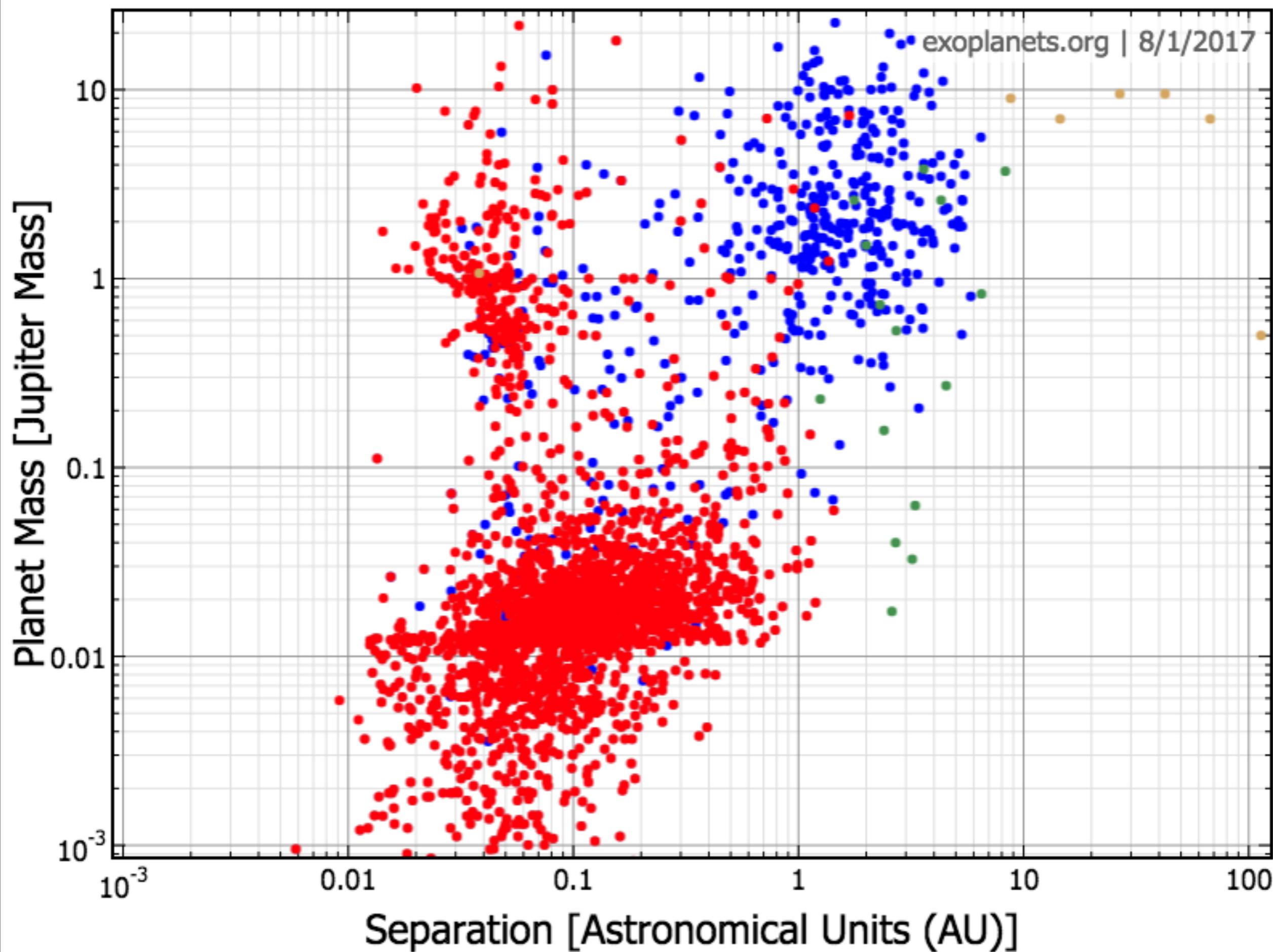


# Lithium as a chemical signature of planet engulfment

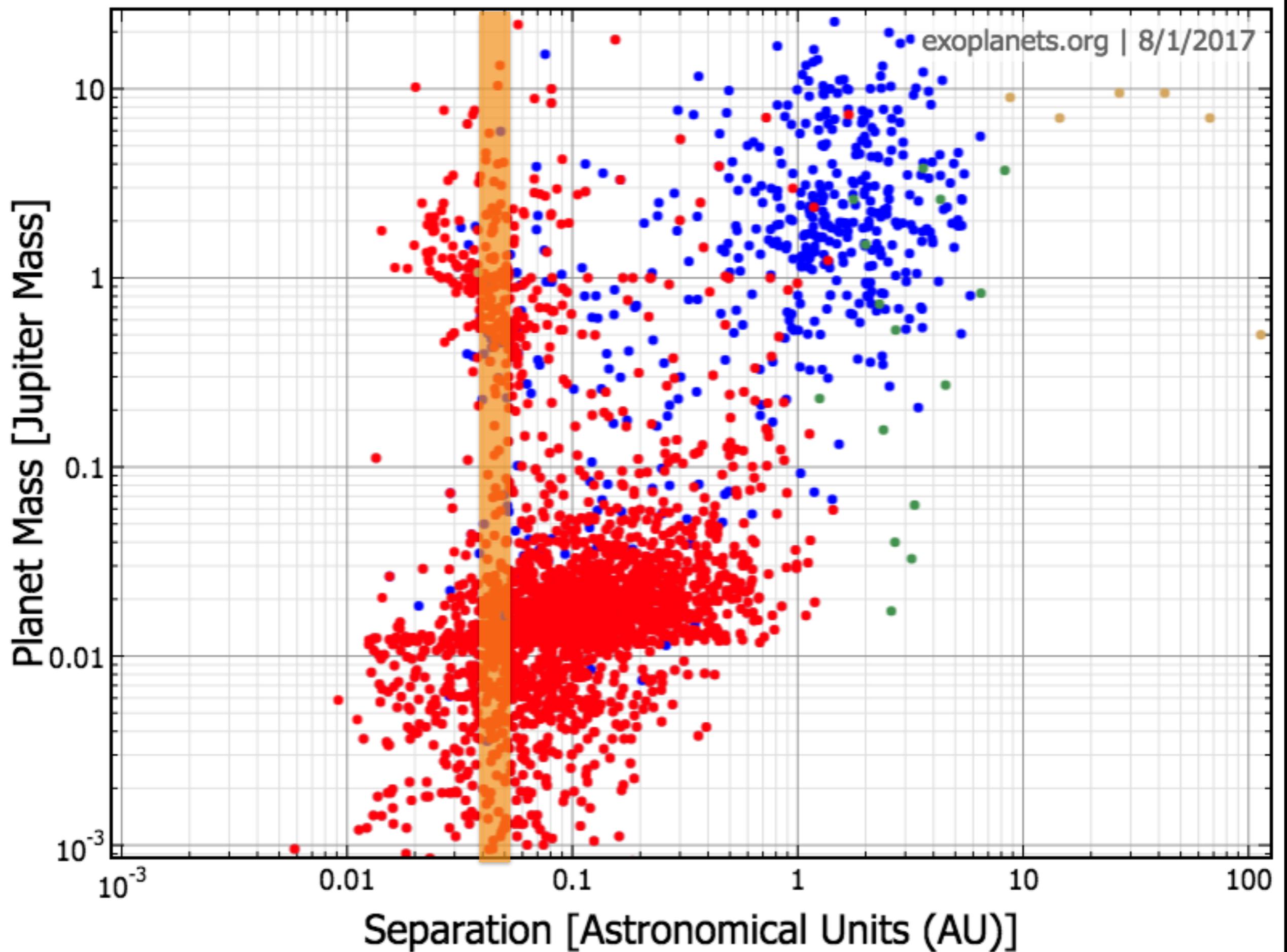
**Claudia Aguilera Gómez**

**Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile  
Instituto Milenio de Astrofísica, Chile**

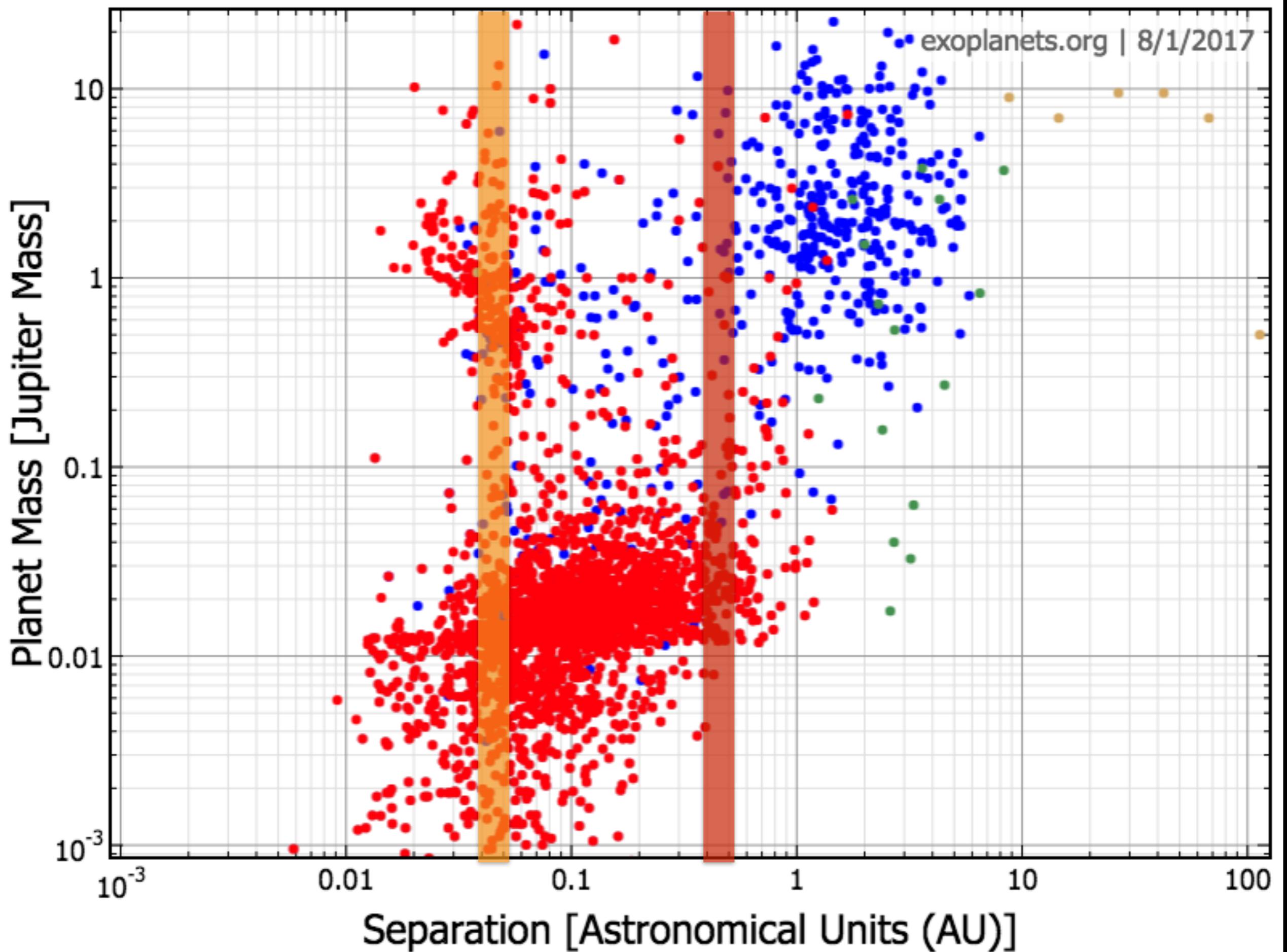
**Julio Chanamé, Marc Pinsonneault, Joleen Carlberg, Matías Jones**



10 R<sub>⊙</sub>



10 R<sub>⊙</sub>    100 R<sub>⊙</sub>

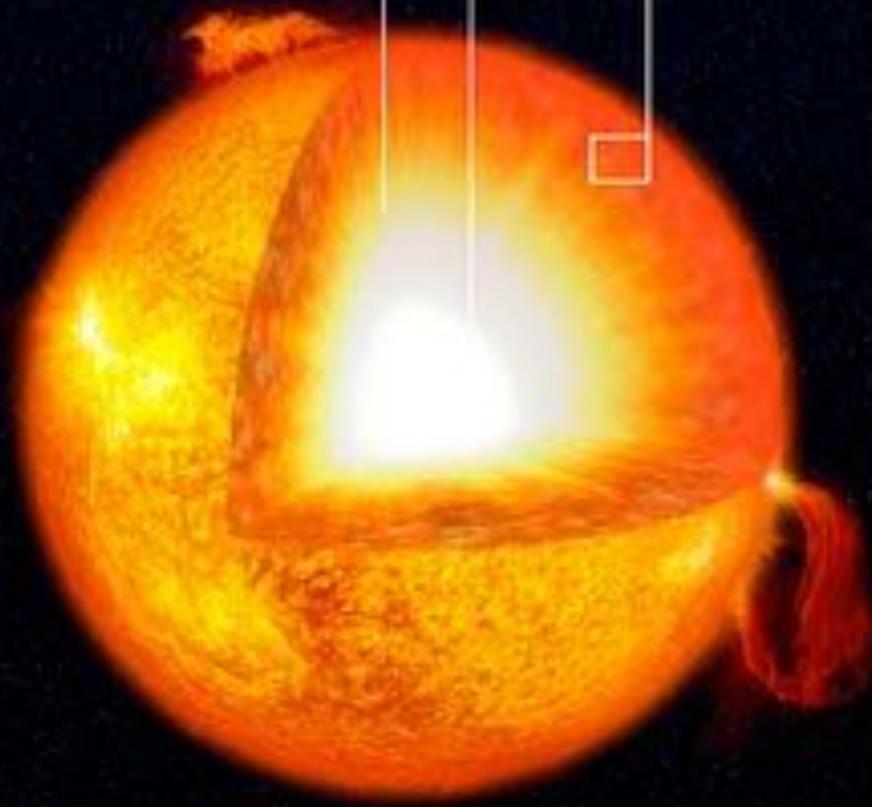


Radiative Zone

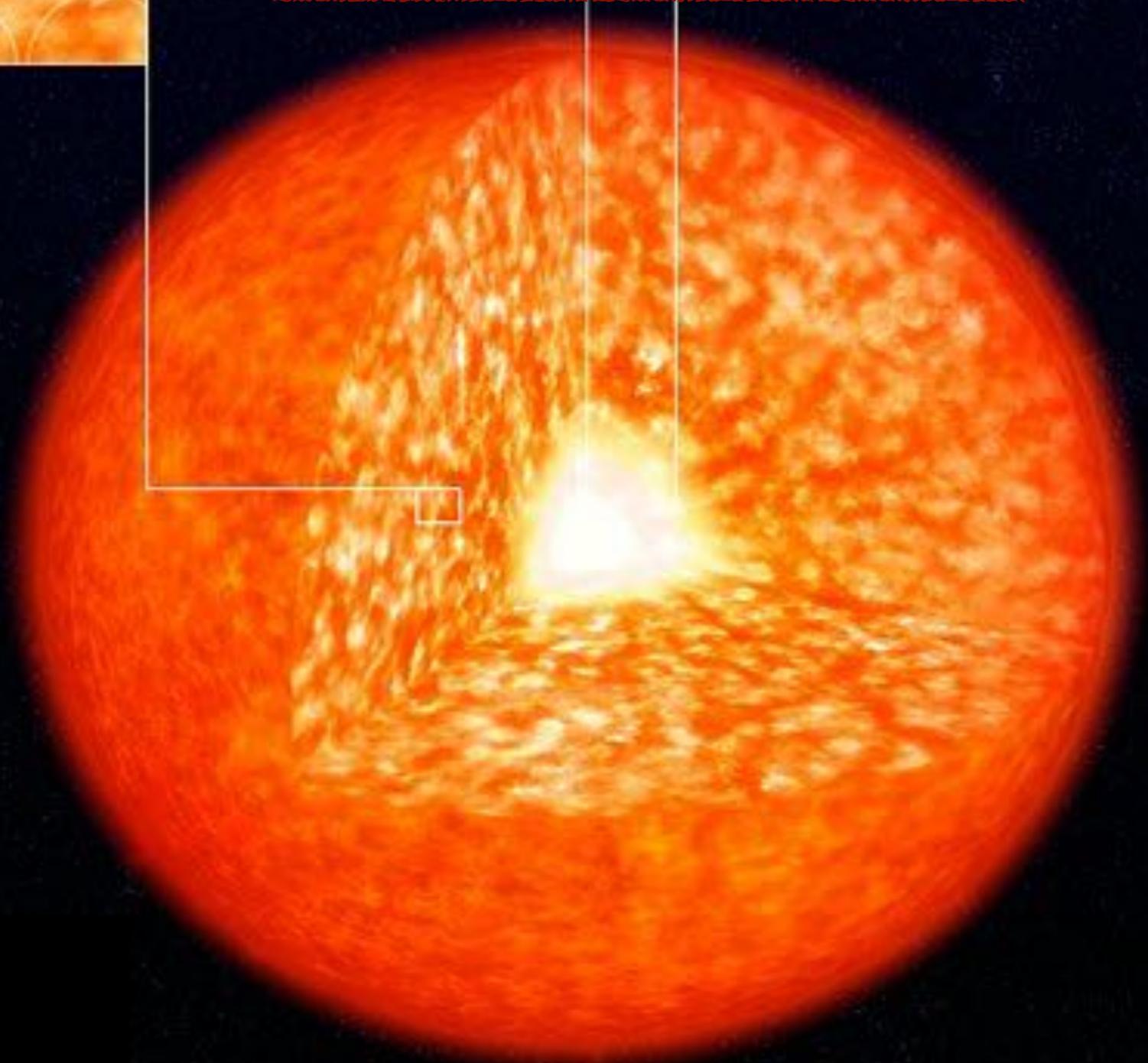
Core

Convective Zone

# First dredge-up



Solar type



Red giant



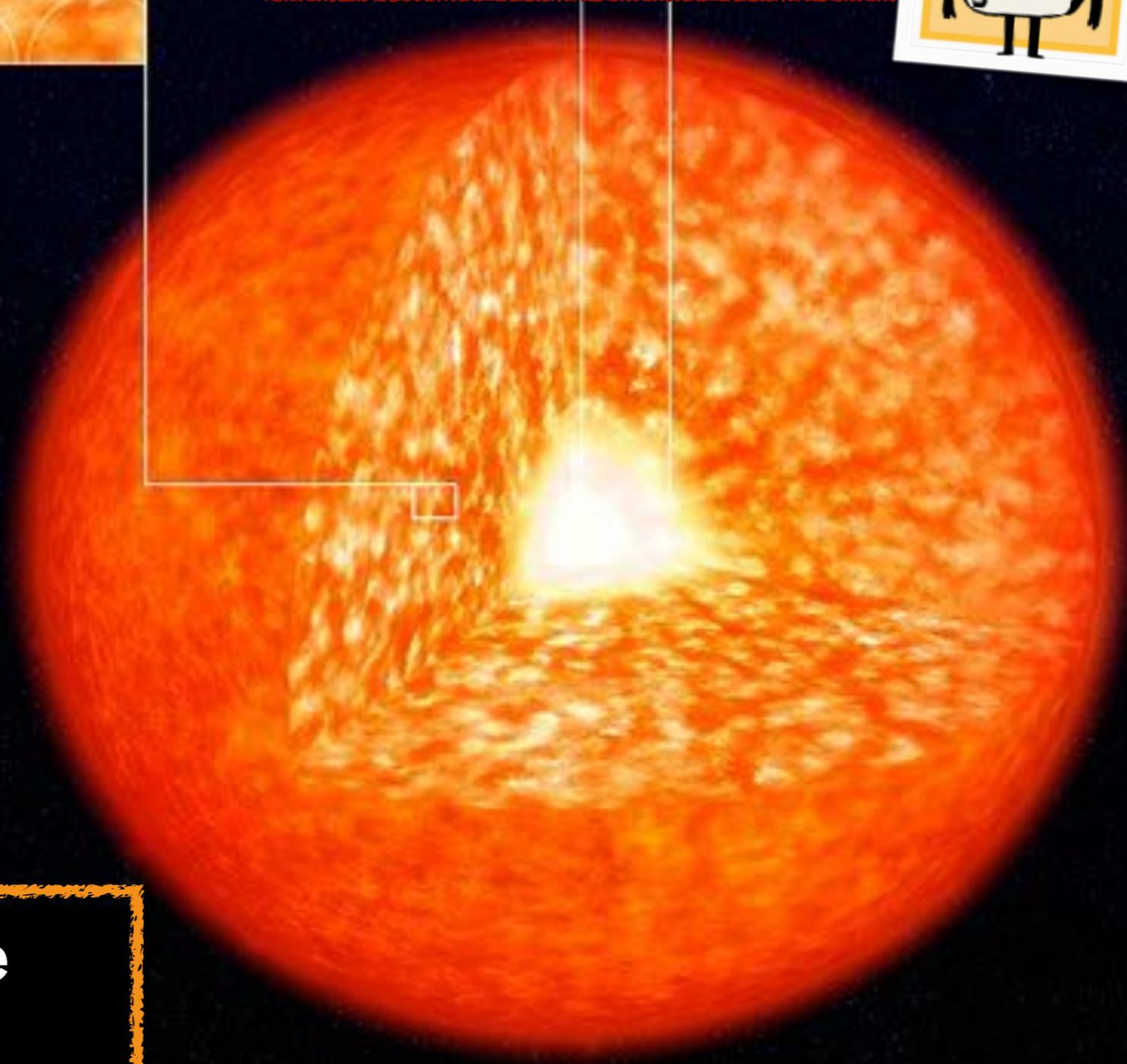
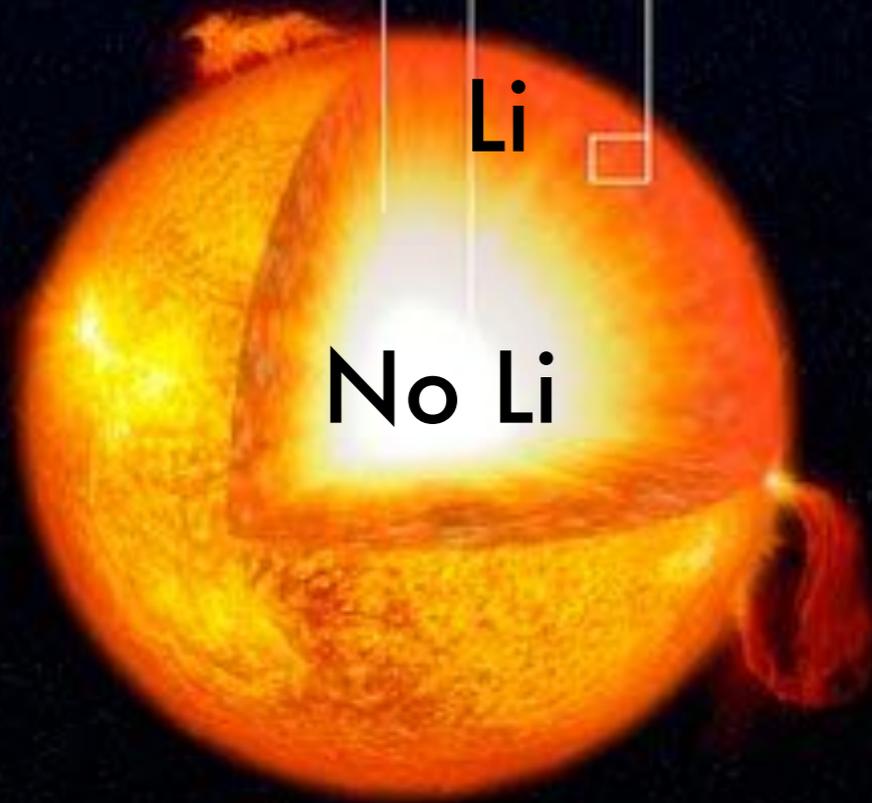
Scale  $\rightarrow$  200 Earth Radii

Radiative Zone

Core

Convective Zone

# Lithium?



Li decreases during the first dredge up.

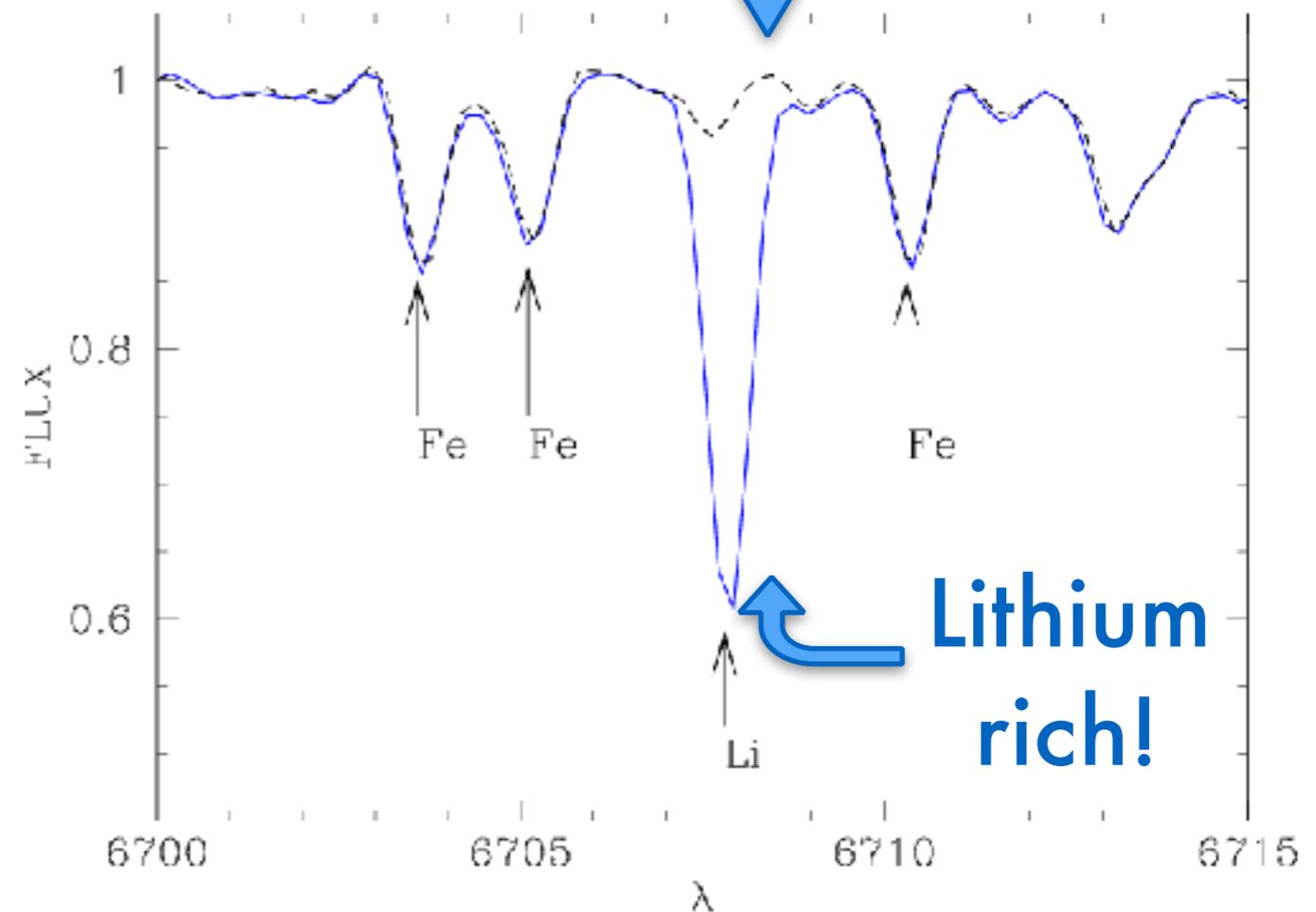
$A(\text{Li}) = 1.5$  max.



Scale  $\rightarrow$  200 Earth Radii

# Lithium Rich Red Giants

Lithium-“poor” - Most of the giants



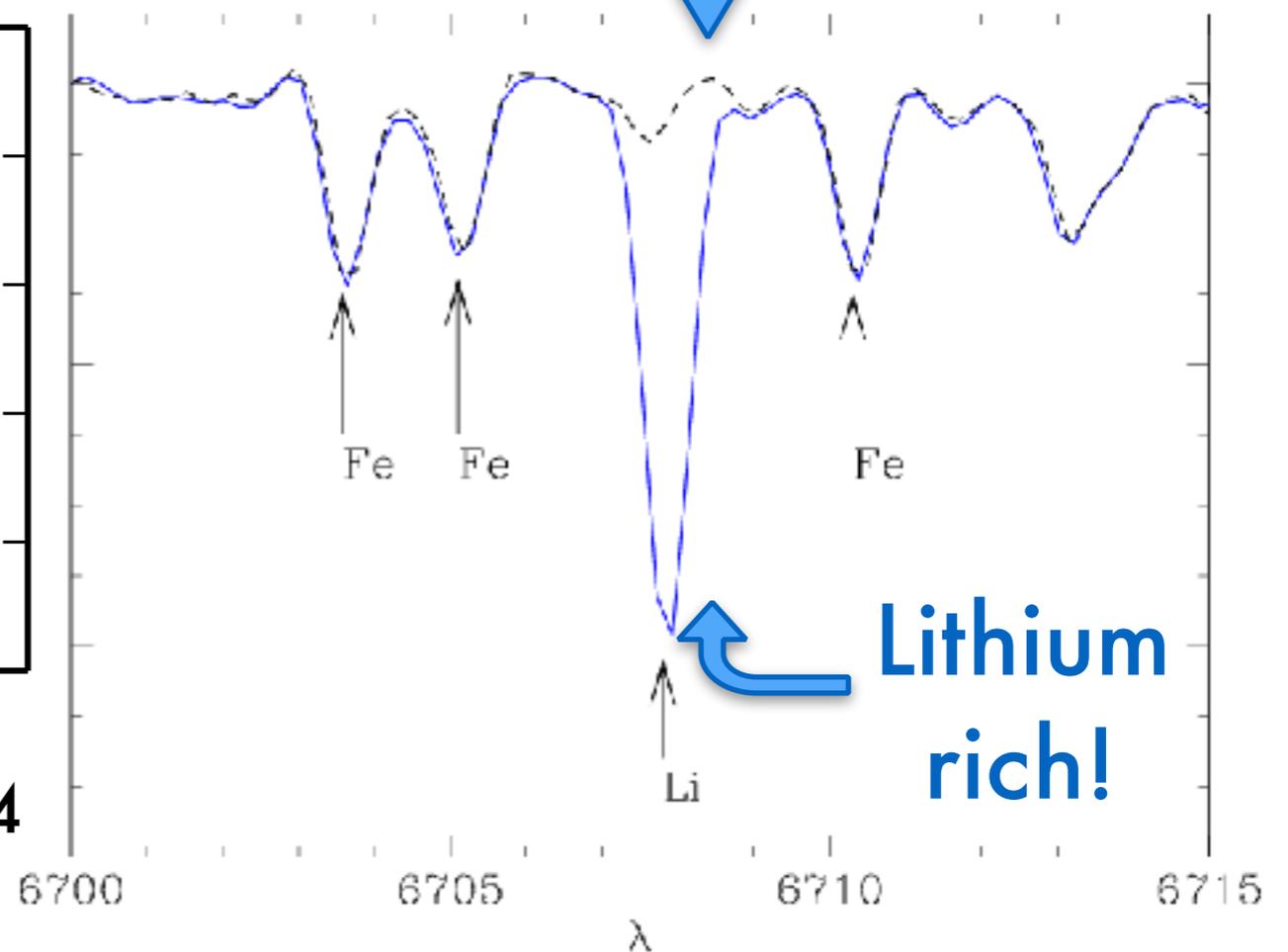
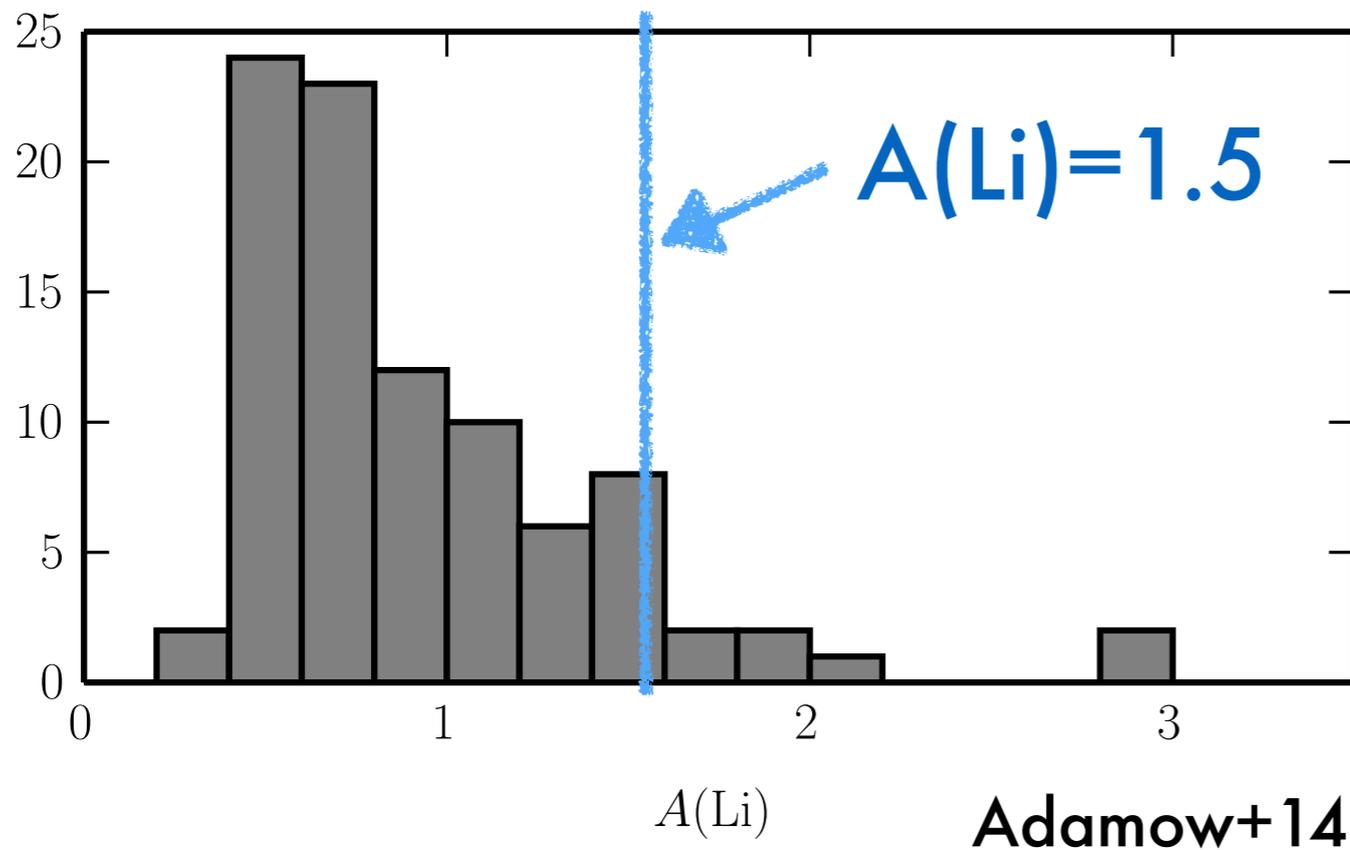
\*  $A(\text{Li}) > 1.5$

\* Small percentage of the population.

Anthony-Twarog+13

# Lithium Rich Red Giants

Lithium-"poor" - Most of the giants



\*  $A(\text{Li}) > 1.5$

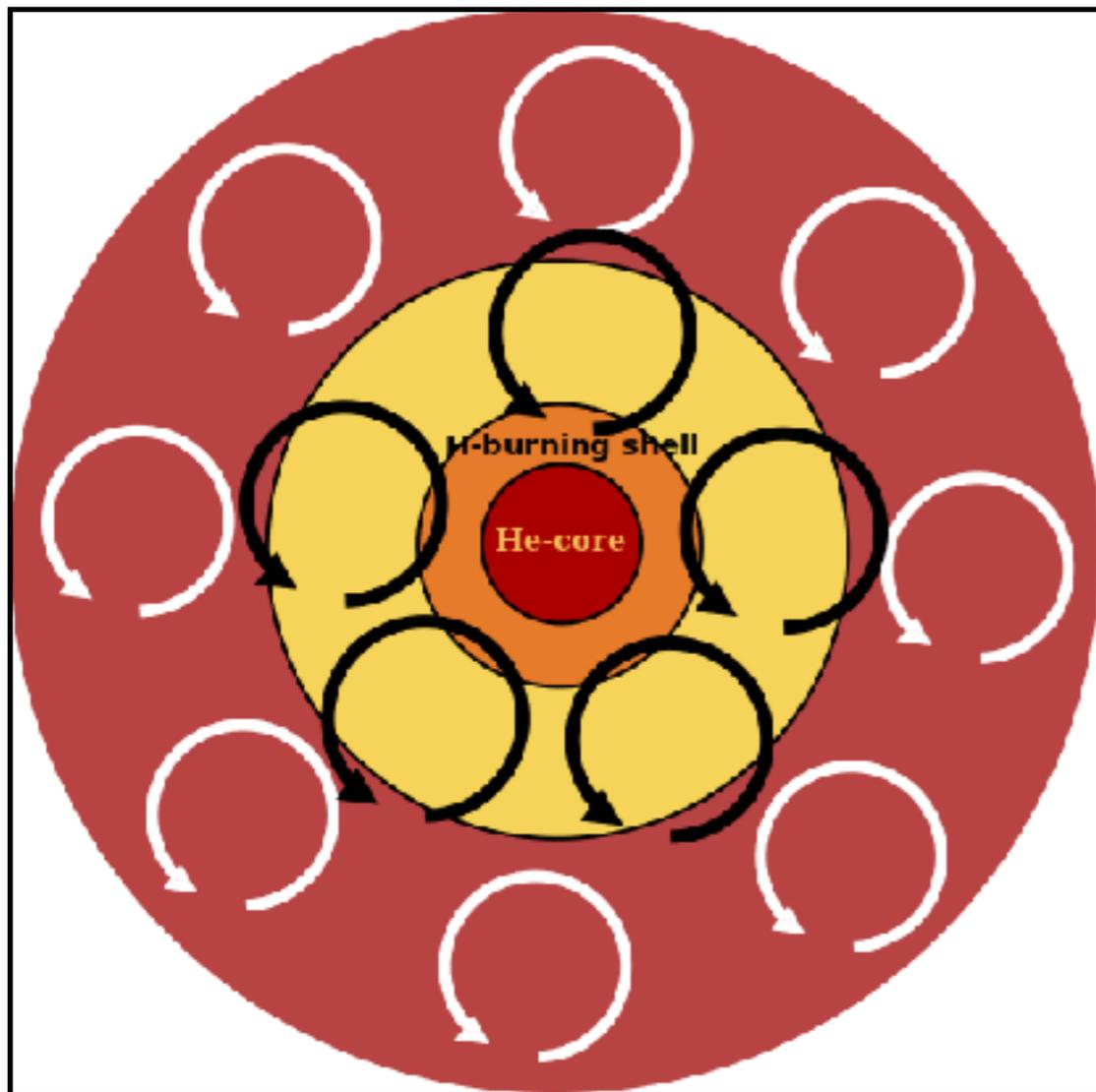
\* Small percentage of the population.

# Suggested explanations

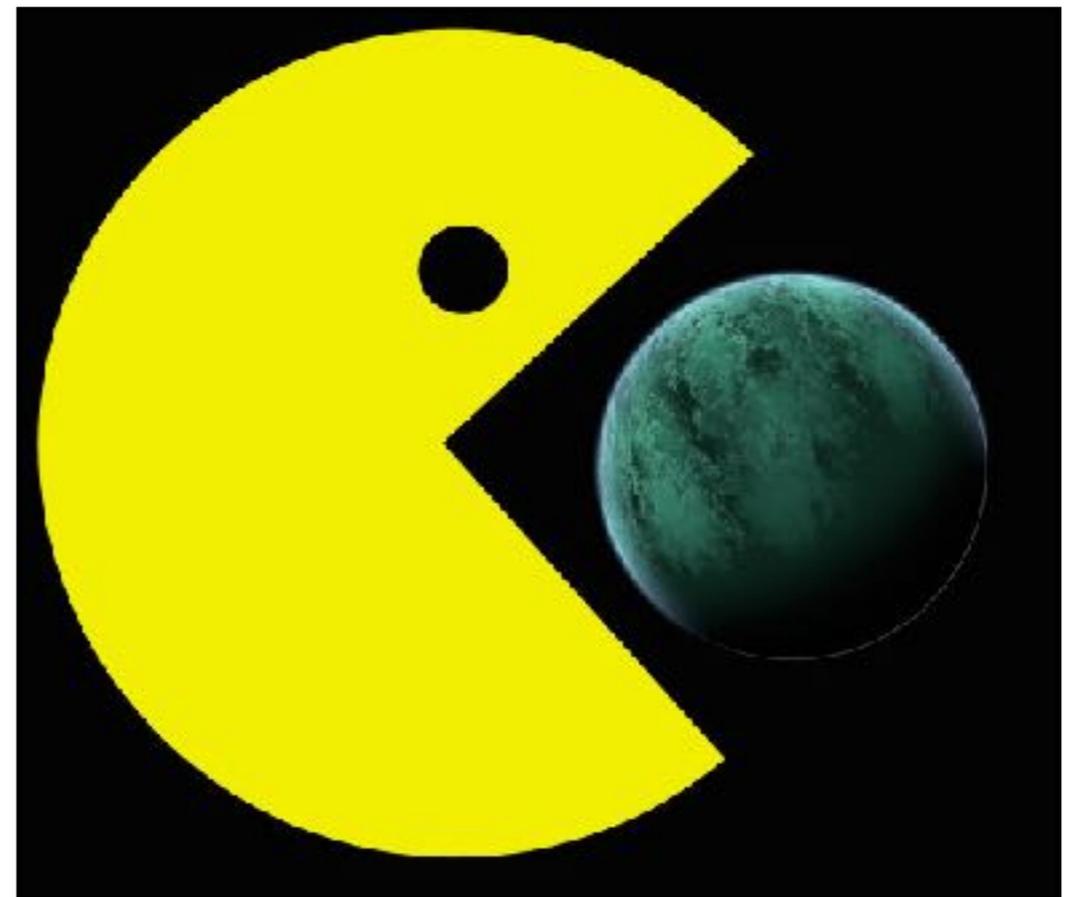
Non-canonical physics needed!

## Internal Mechanisms

Lithium production + Mixing



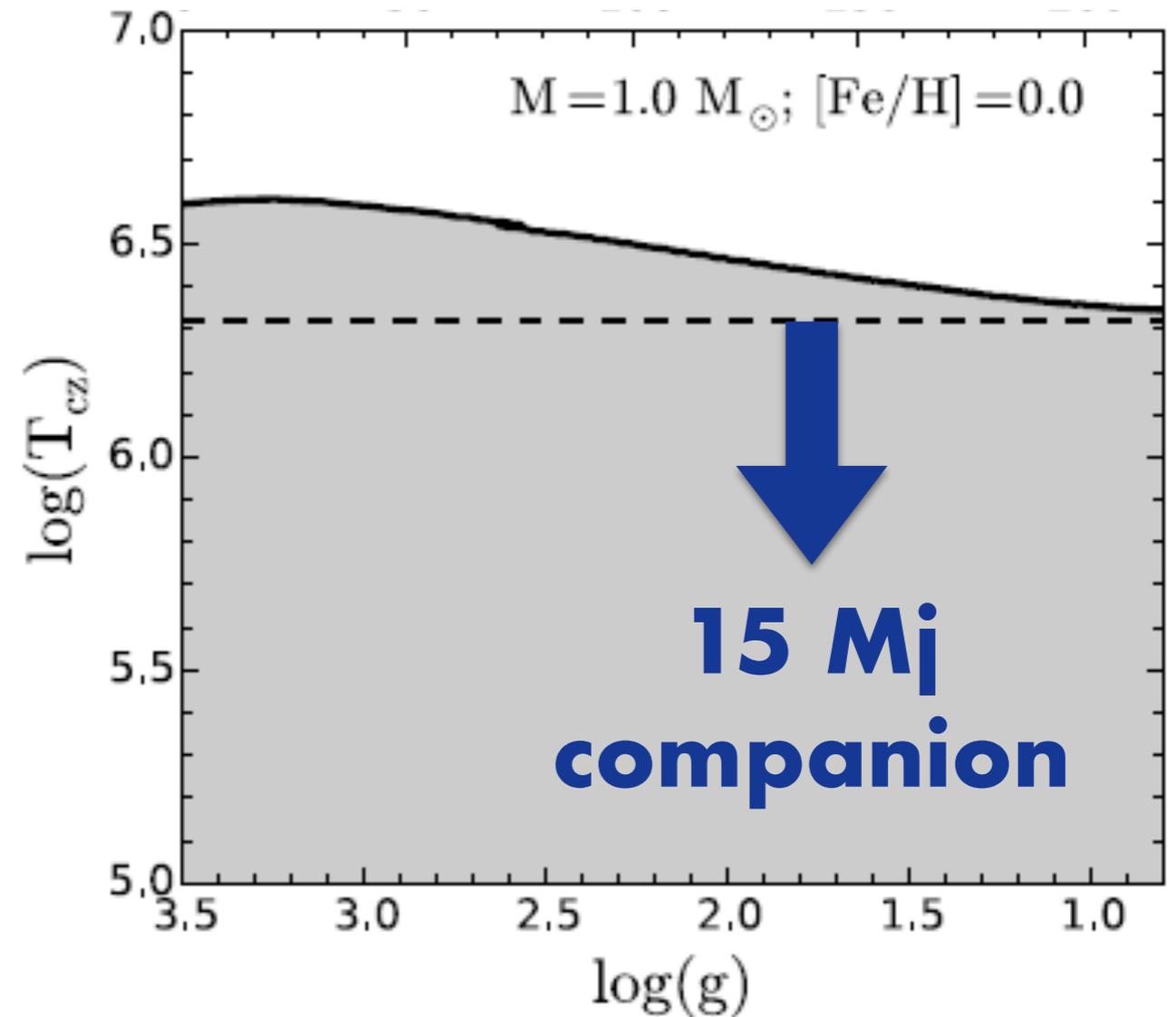
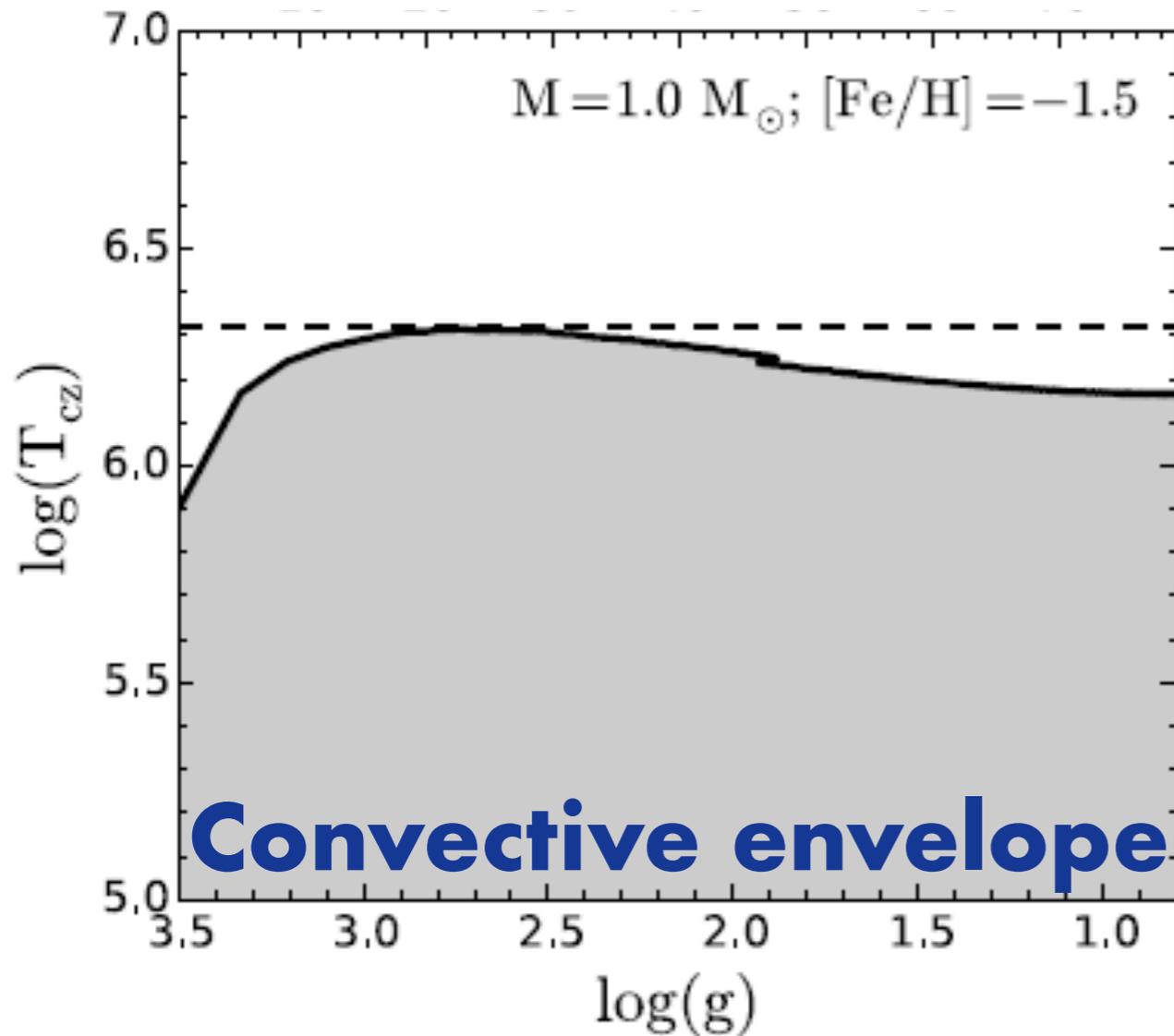
## External Mechanisms



Need external object:  
Planet? Brown dwarf?

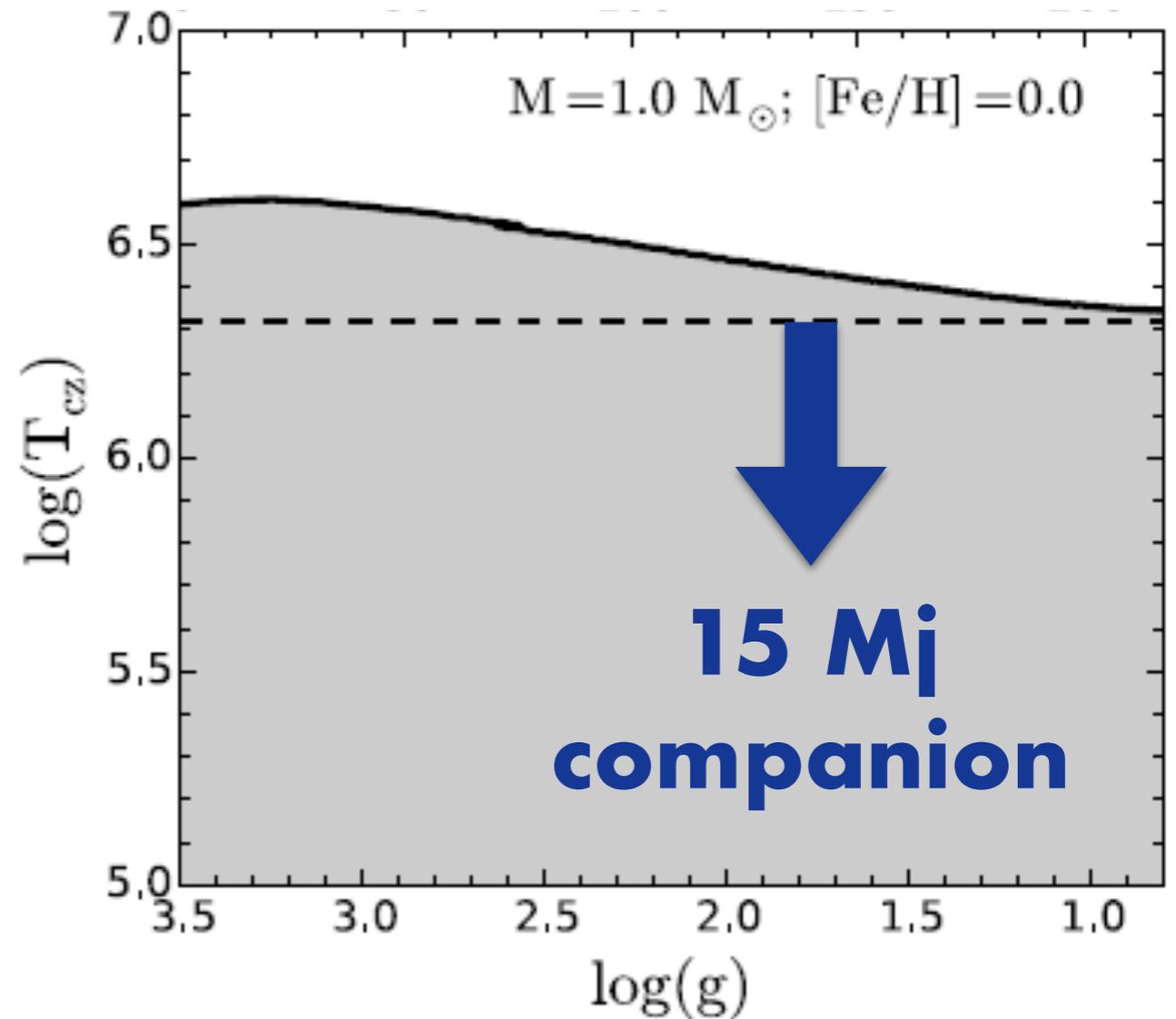
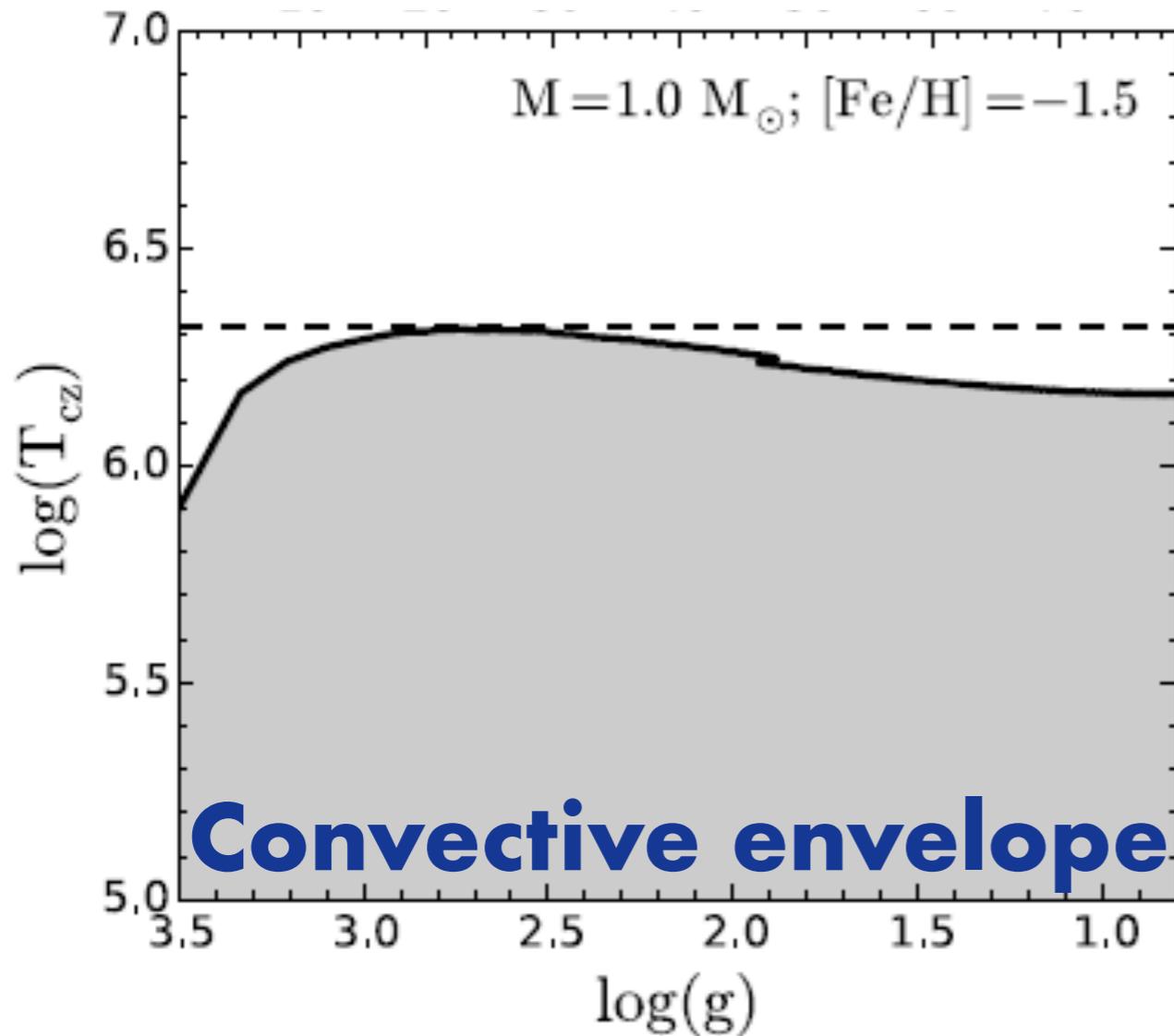
# Planet or brown dwarf engulfment

## Point of substellar companion dissipation



# Planet or brown dwarf engulfment

Point of substellar companion dissipation



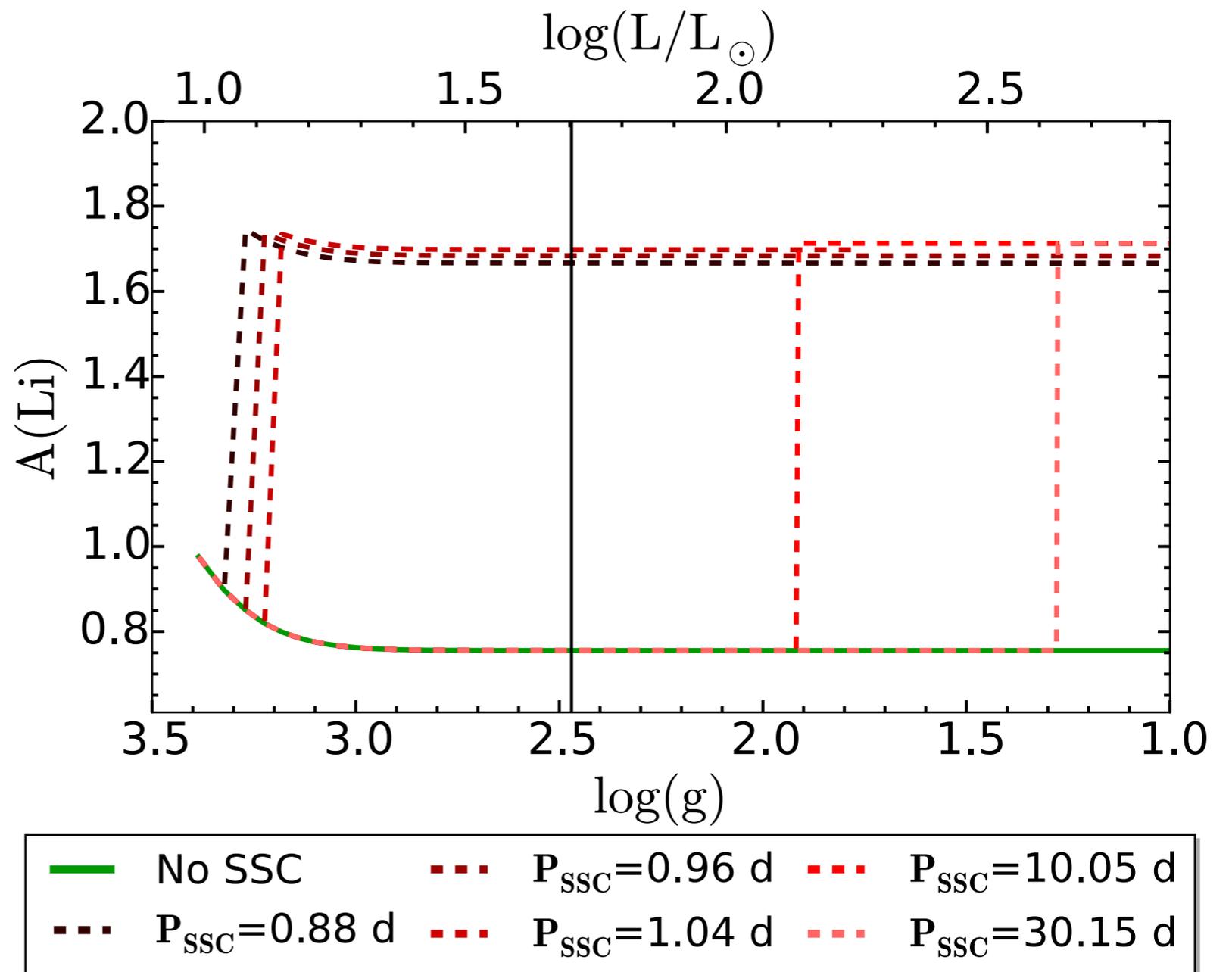
**To produce Li enrichment:  
 $M < 15$  Jupiter masses**

# Planet or brown dwarf engulfment

## Surface Li abundance

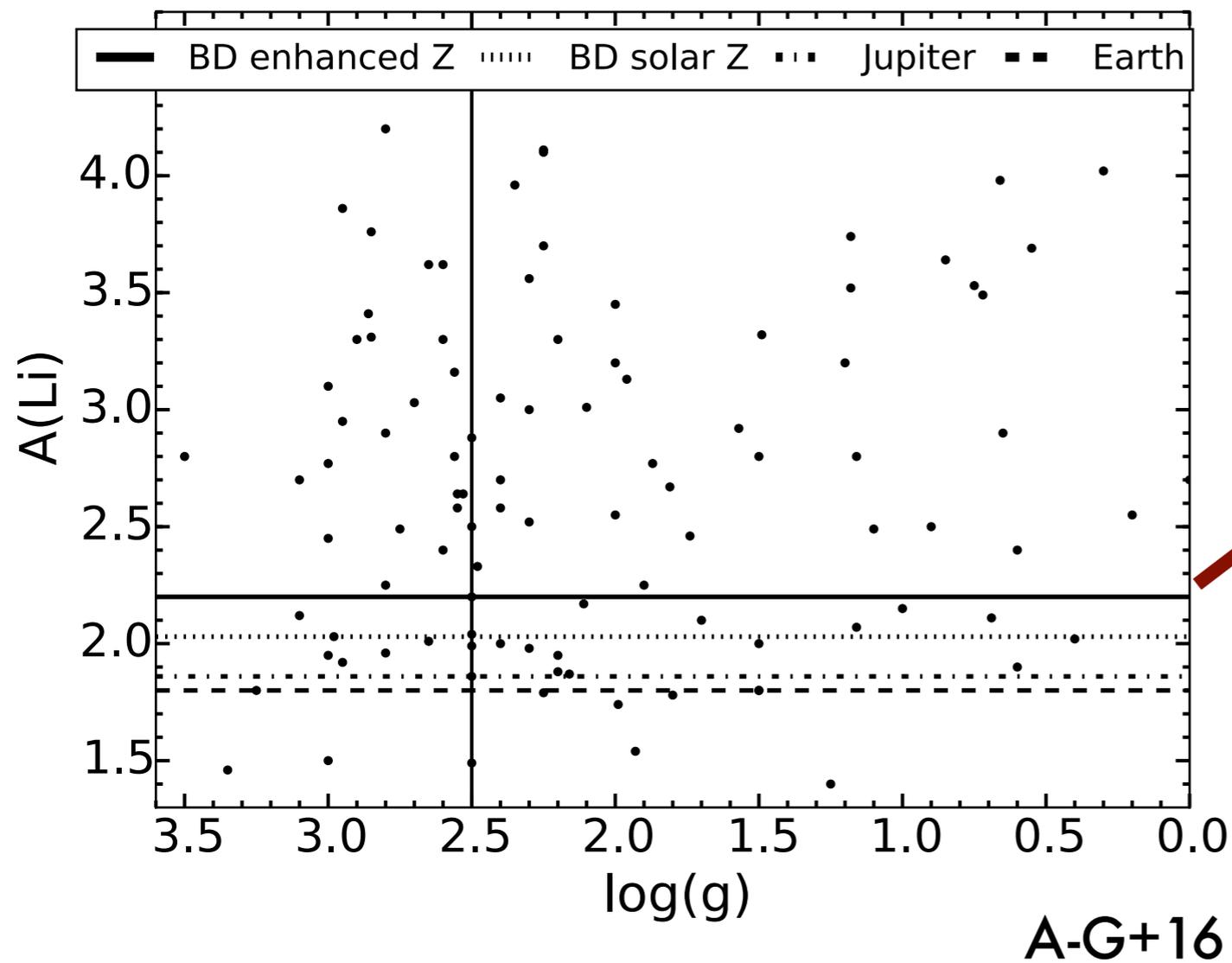
$$M = 1.5 M_{\odot}; [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = -0.05$$

- ✿ Li abundance depends on stellar properties
- ✿ Increases Li after engulfment
- ✿ Planet period does not affect



# Planet or brown dwarf engulfment

## Maximum Li enrichment



Engulfment increases Li.

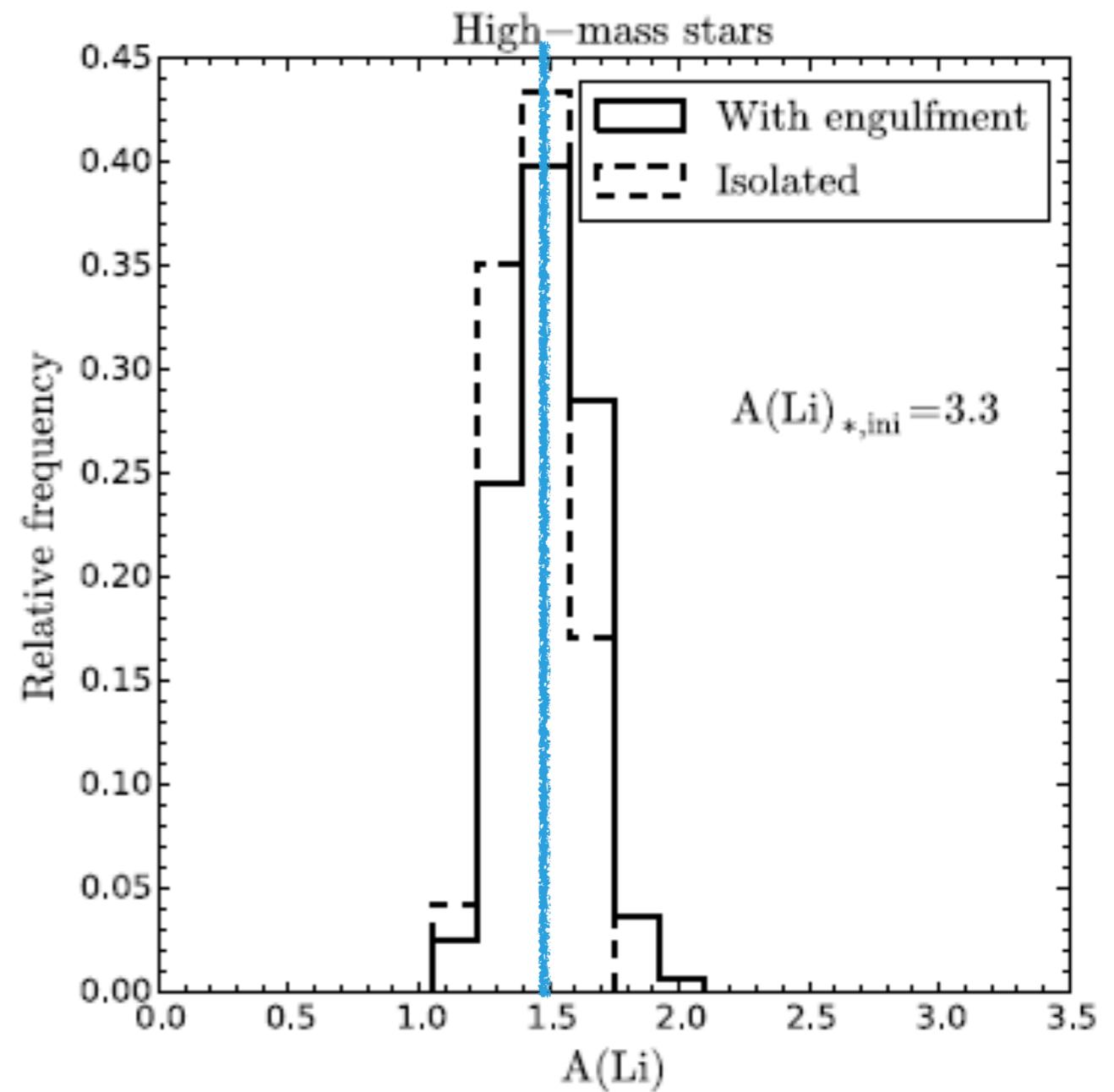
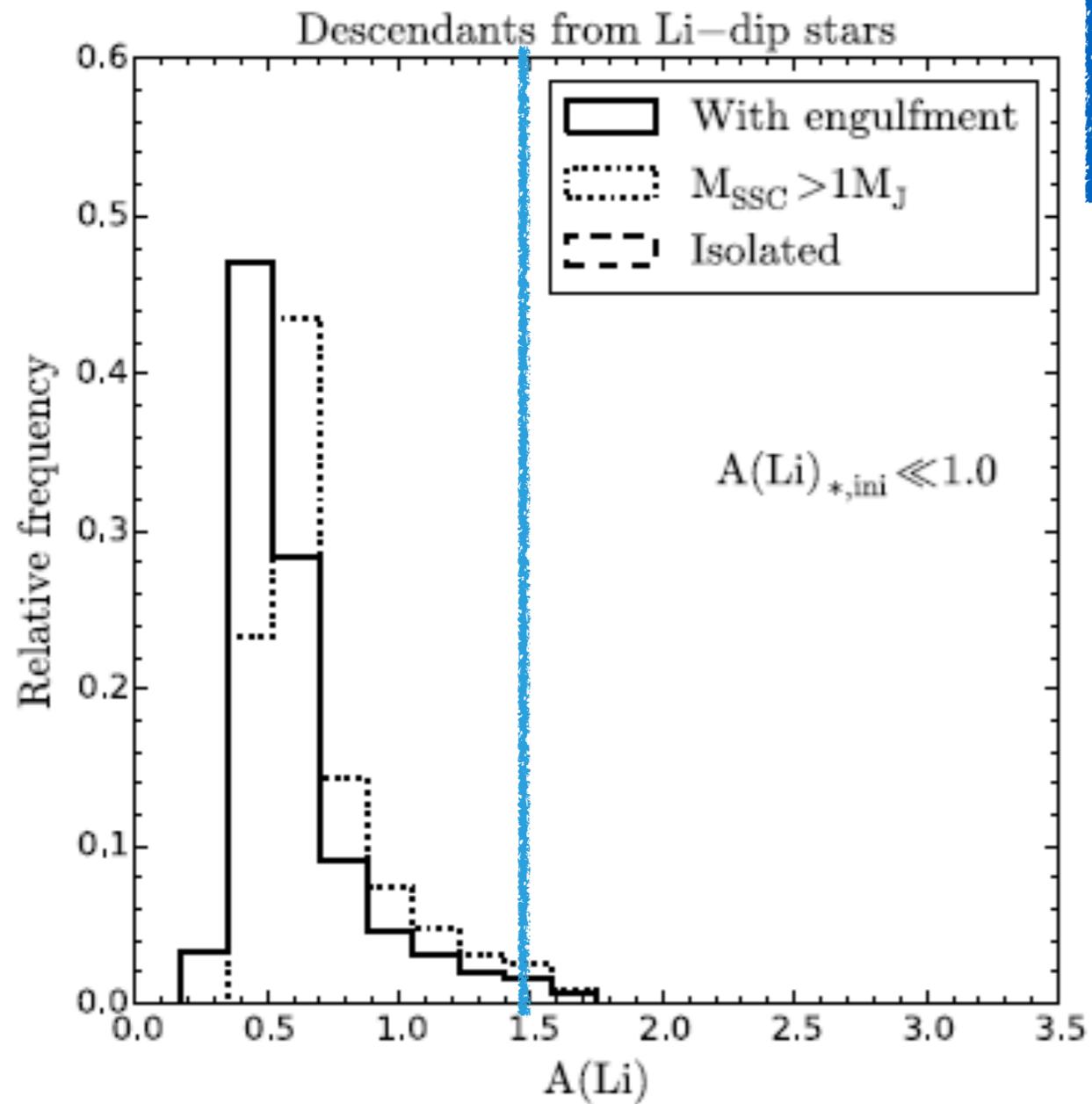


Maximum enrichment:  
 $A(\text{Li})=2.2$



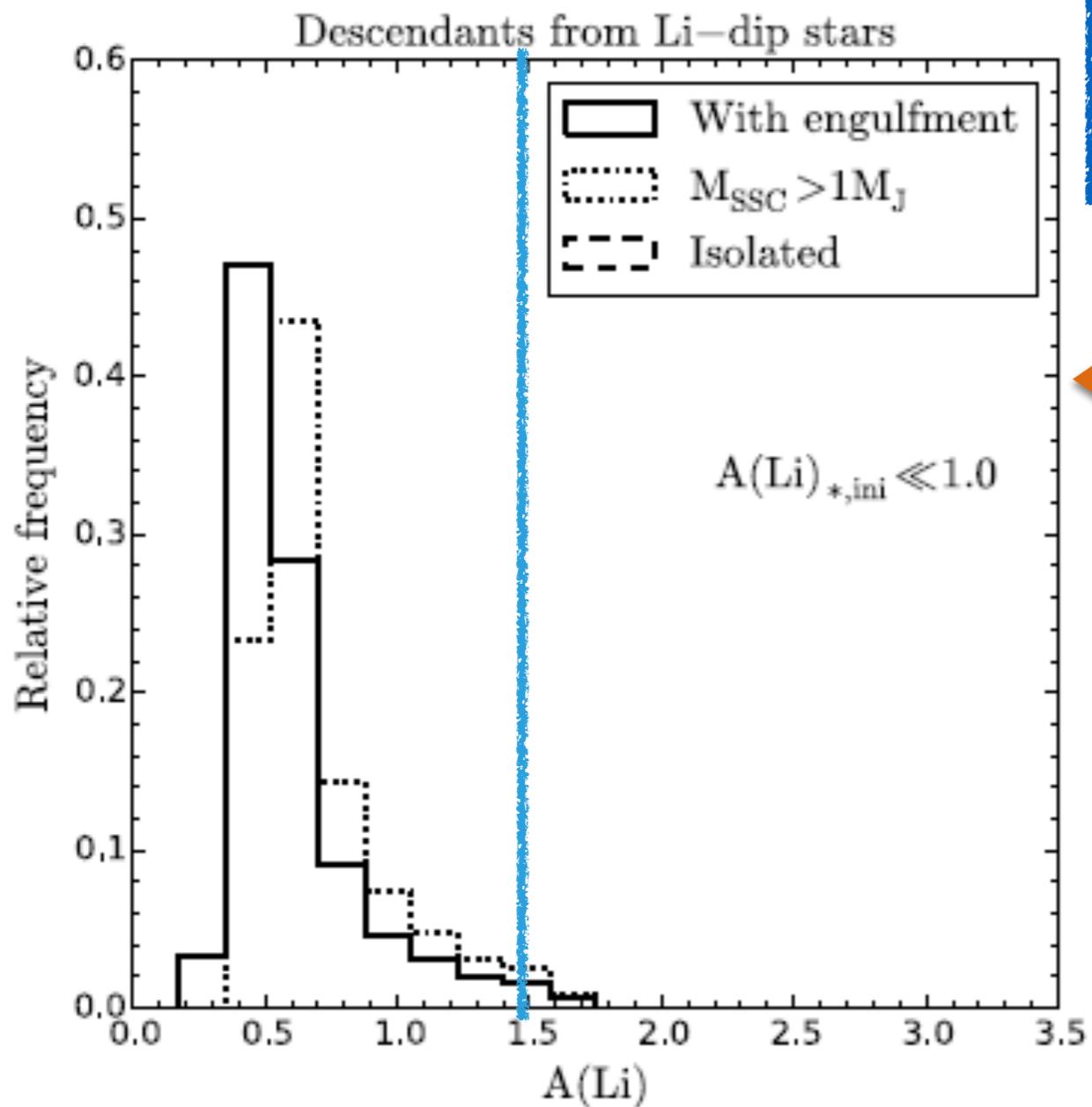
Promising scenario to explain some Li-rich giants.

# Li abundance distributions

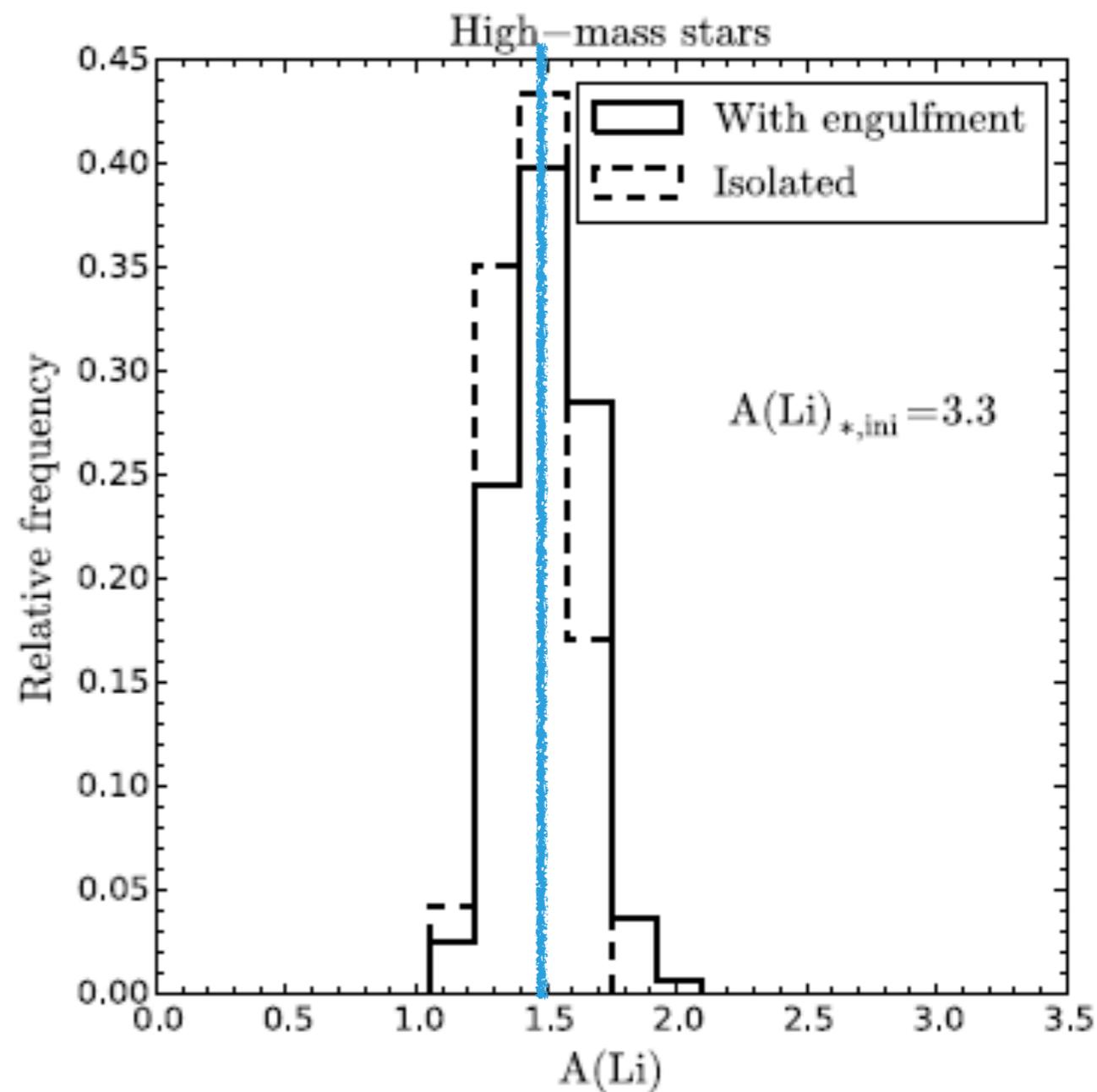


A-G+16

# Li abundance distributions



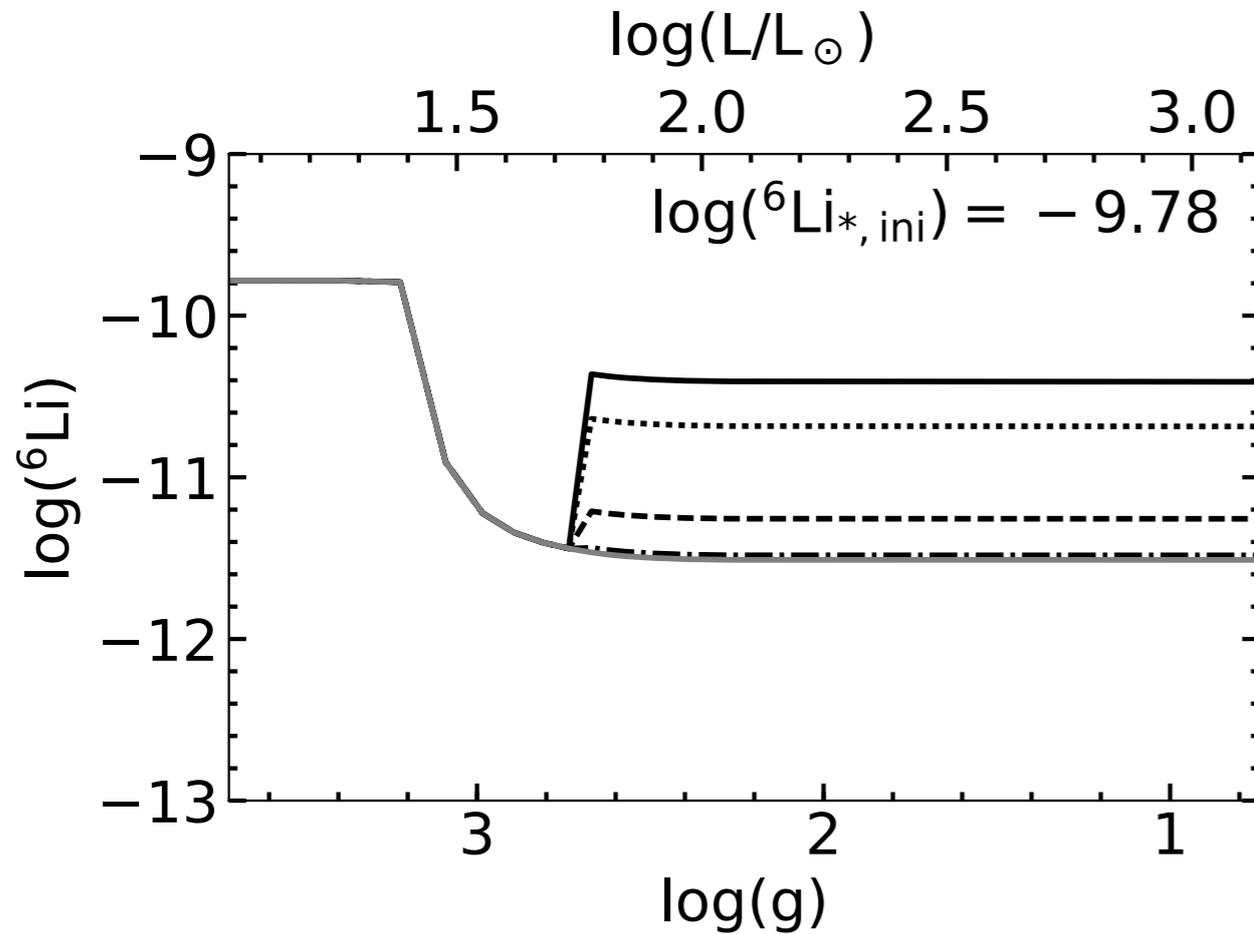
**Ideal mass range to test engulfment**



**Traditional definition of Li-rich giants is misleading!**

A-G+16

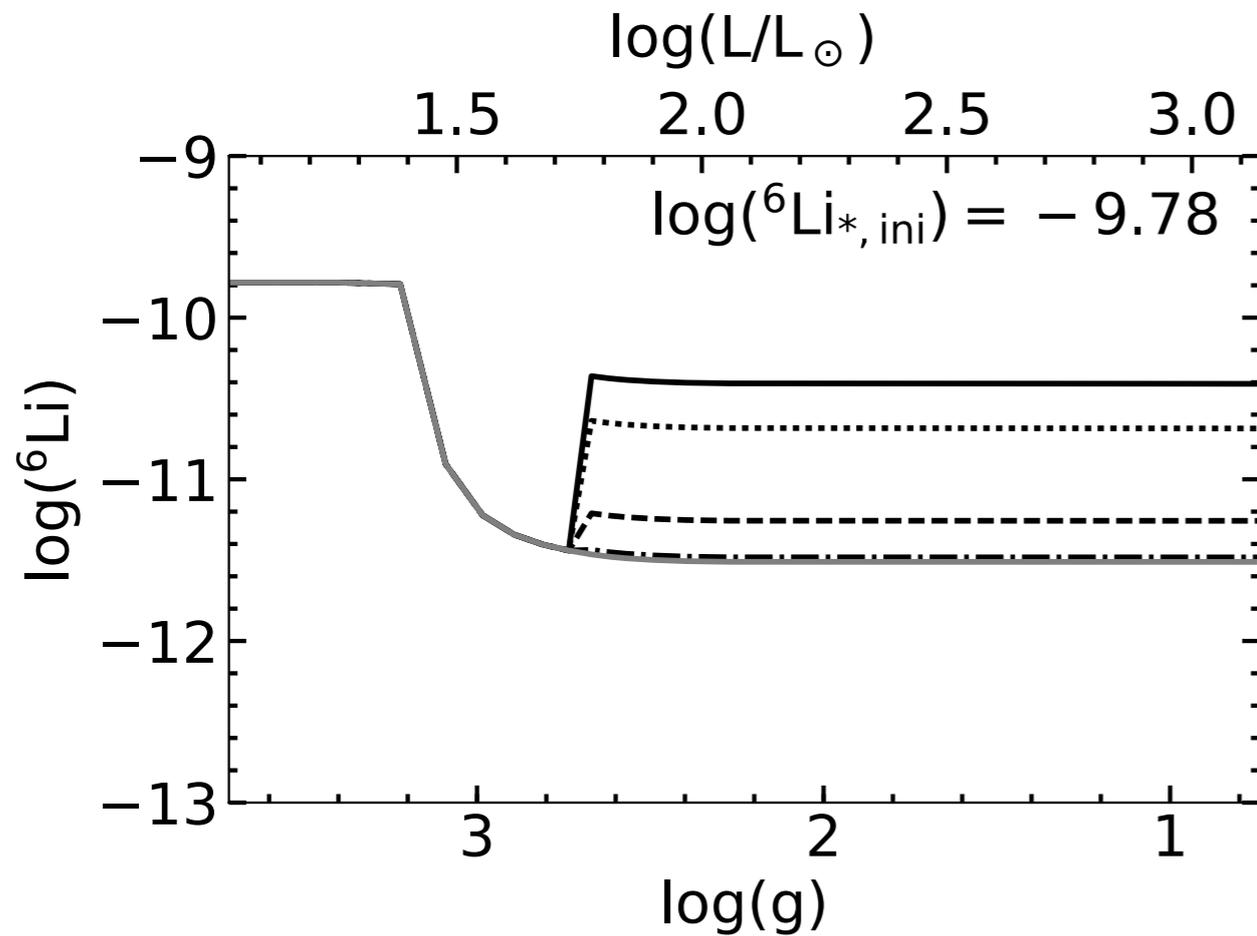
# Surface Li-6 abundance



## Low metallicities

Similar increase in Li-6 than for Li-7 after engulfment. It can be preserved up to the tip of the RGB.

# Surface Li-6 abundance

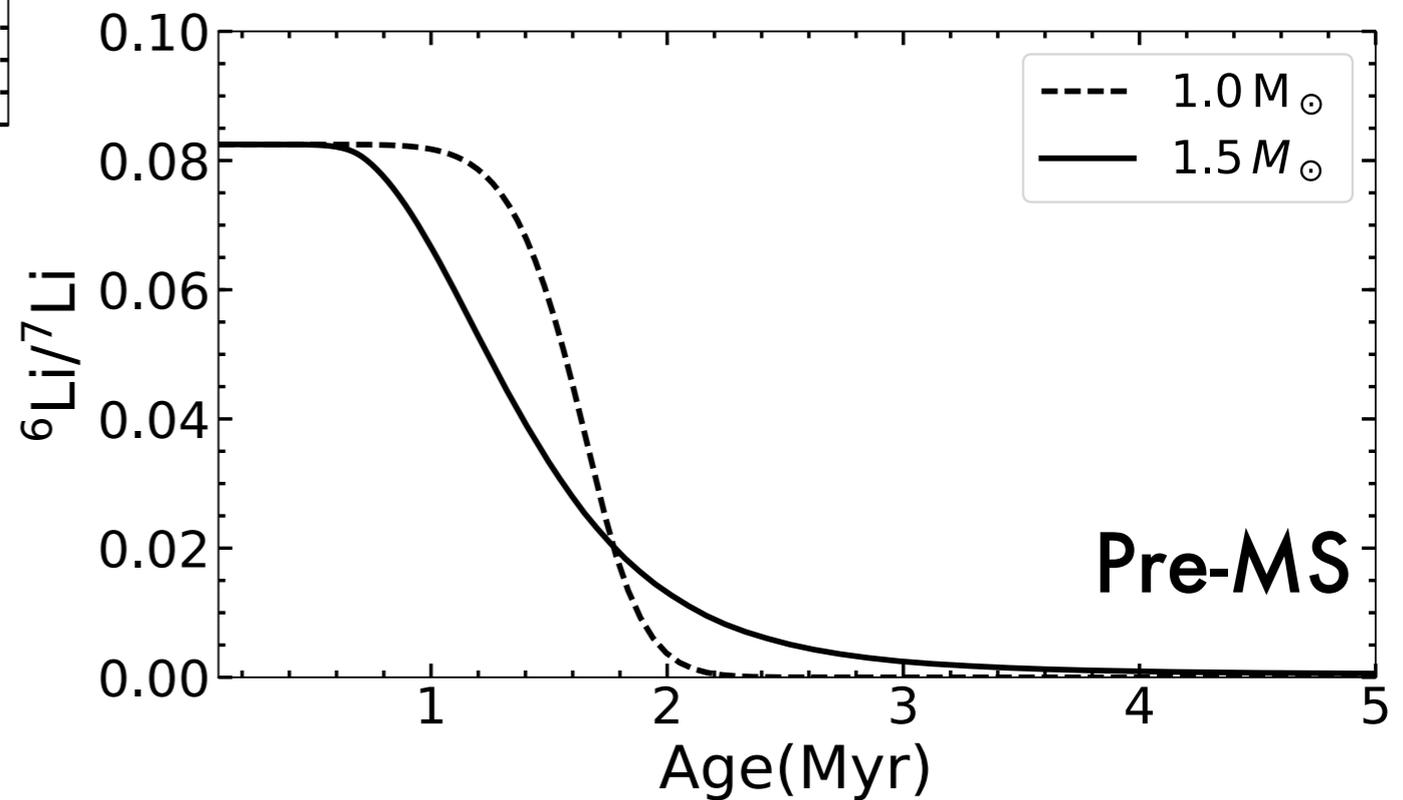


High metallicities

Li-6 is burned!

Low metallicities

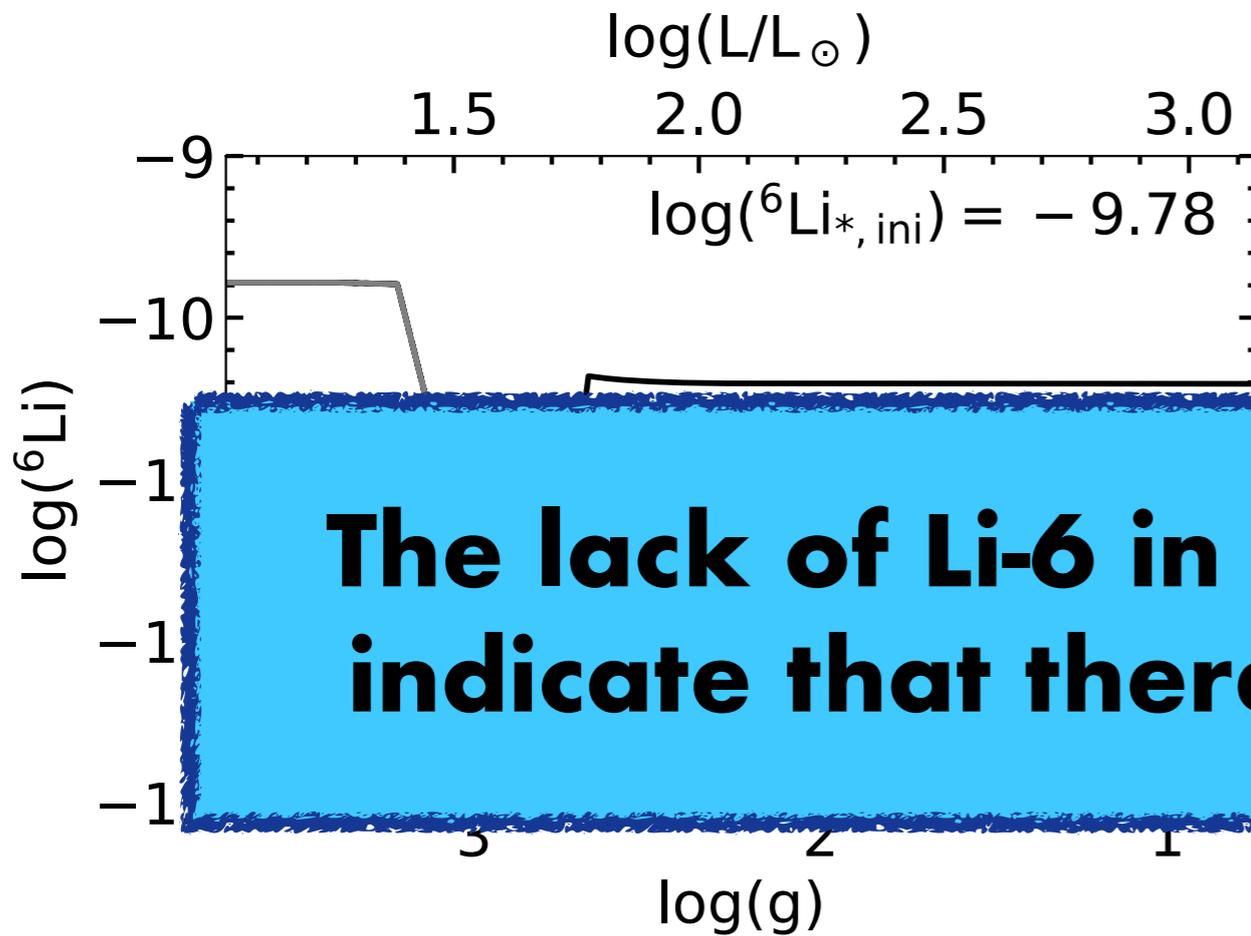
Similar increase in Li-6 than for Li-7 after engulfment. It can be preserved up to the tip of the RGB.



# Surface Li-6 abundance

Low metallicities

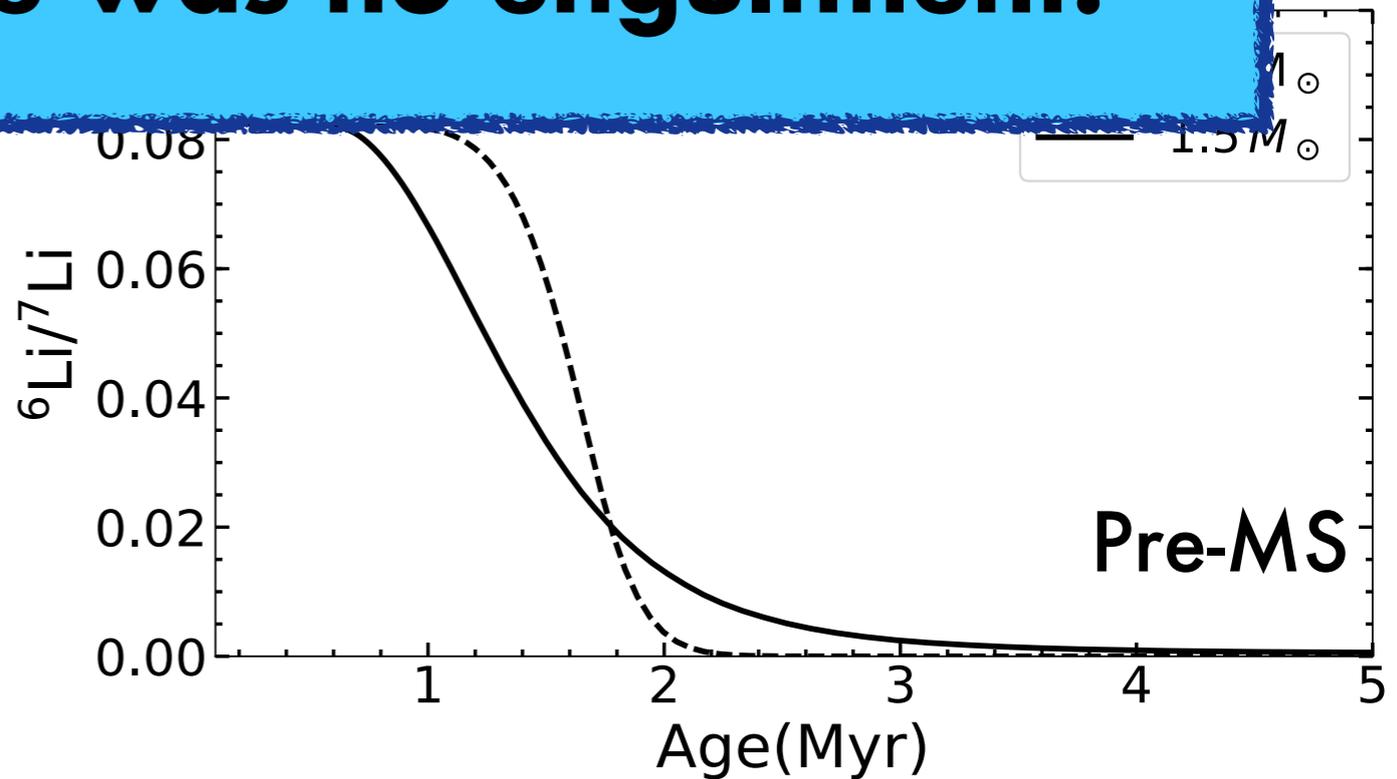
Similar increase in Li-6 than for Li-7 after engulfment.



**The lack of Li-6 in Li-rich giants does not indicate that there was no engulfment.**

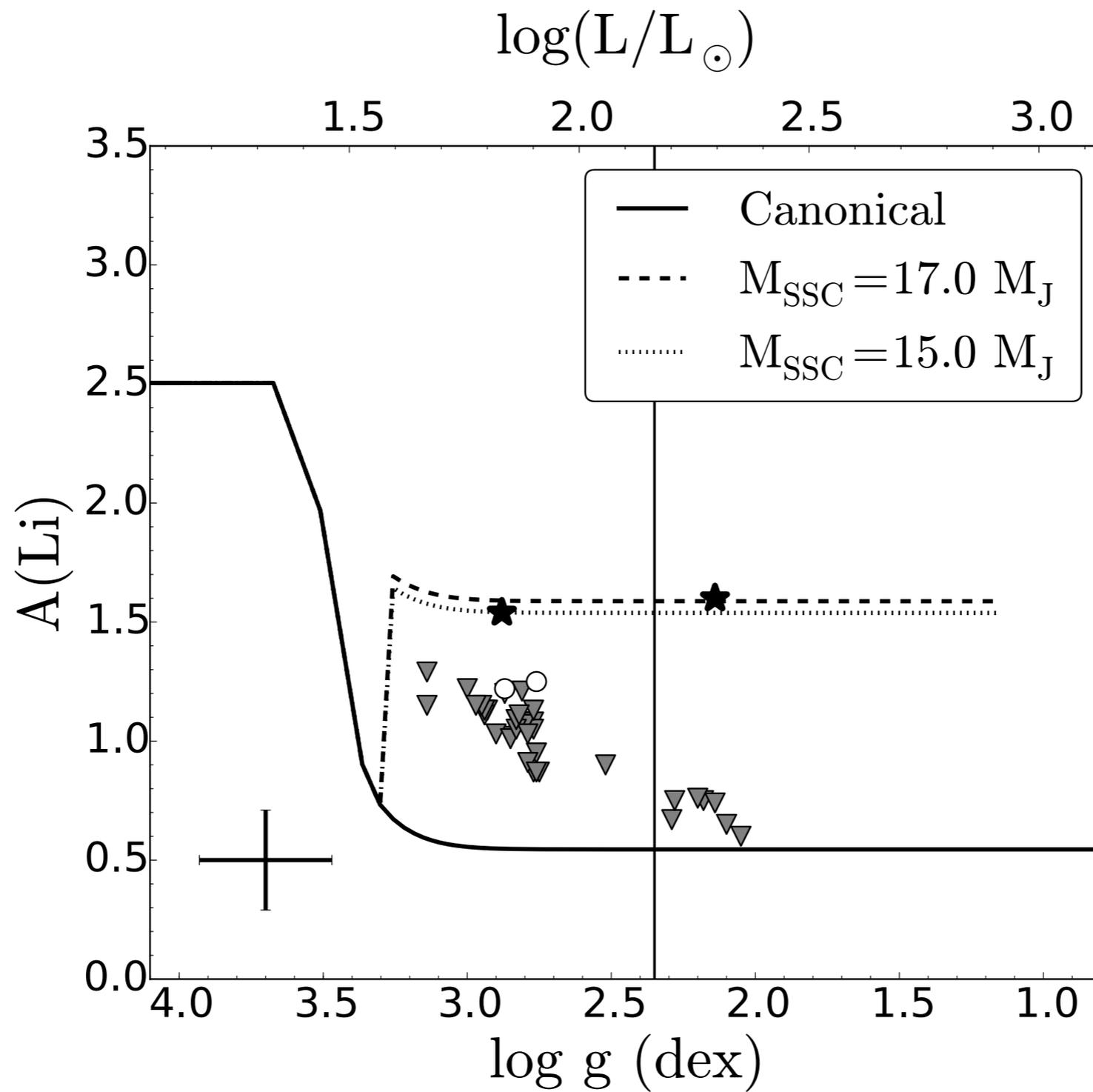
High metallicities

Li-6 is burned!



# Observational applications

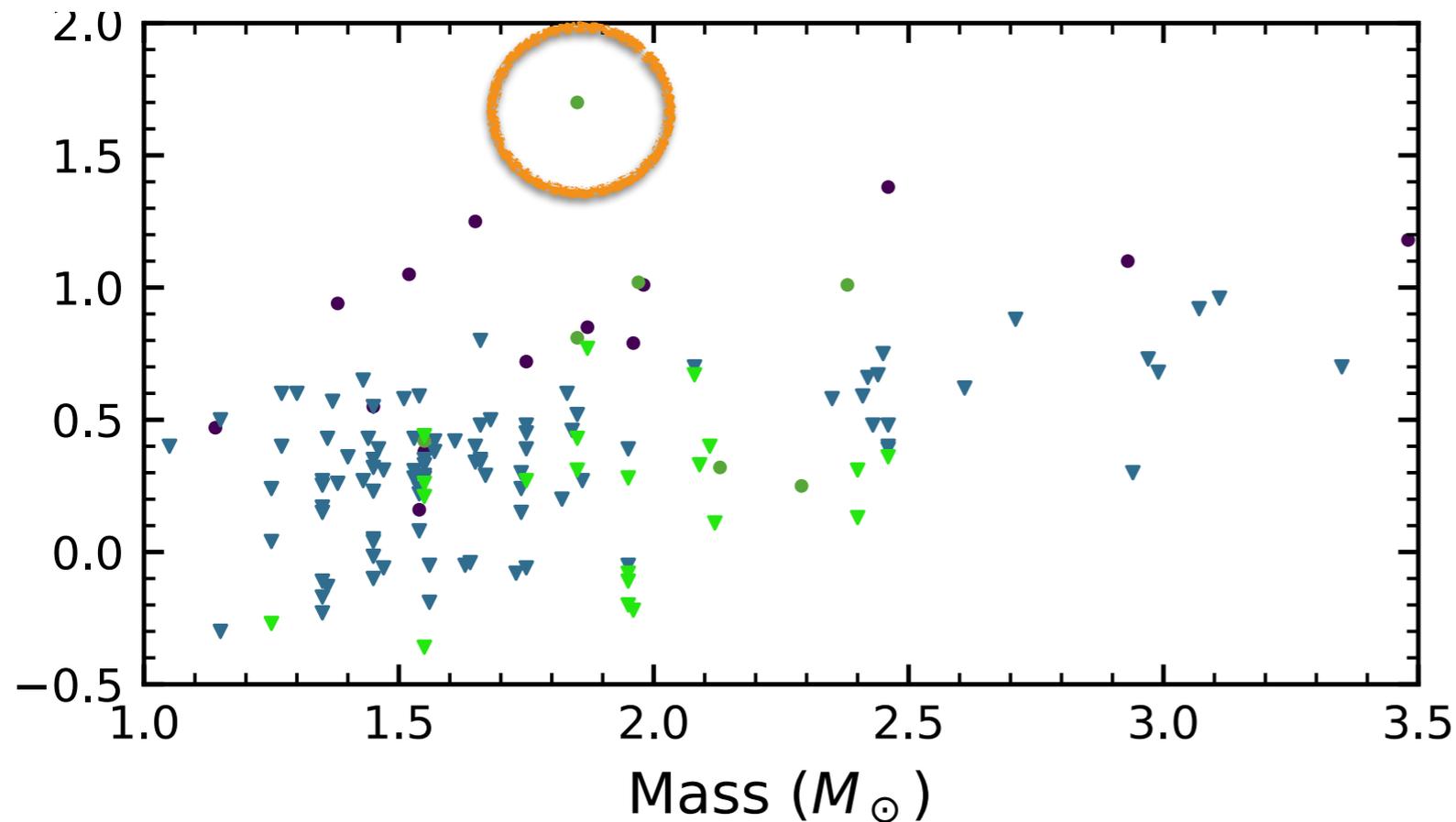
## Trumpler 20



A-G+16b

# Observational applications

## Field giants



- 164 giants
- Part of a planet search program (Jones+11)
- Hipparcos parallaxes

A-G+17, in prep

- \* Measured masses
- \* Enriched giant?

# Summary

- \* Only accreted objects of  $M < 15 M_j$  can produce a signal.
- \* Traditional definition of Li-rich giants is misleading.
- \* After planet engulfment  $A(\text{Li}) < 2.2$
- \* There are some ideal mass ranges and samples to test this scenario.
- \* The lack of Li-6 in a star does not imply that the star has not engulfed a substellar mass companion.
- \* Two Li-rich giants found in Trumpler 20 could be the product of engulfment.