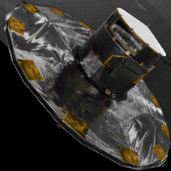


# Gaia Mission Extension

Anthony Brown & Timo Prusti

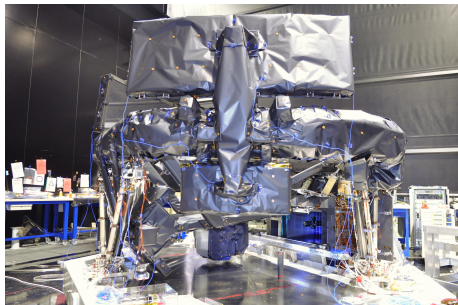
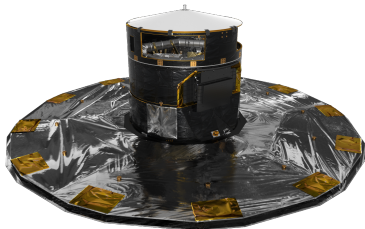
Leiden Observatory & ESA

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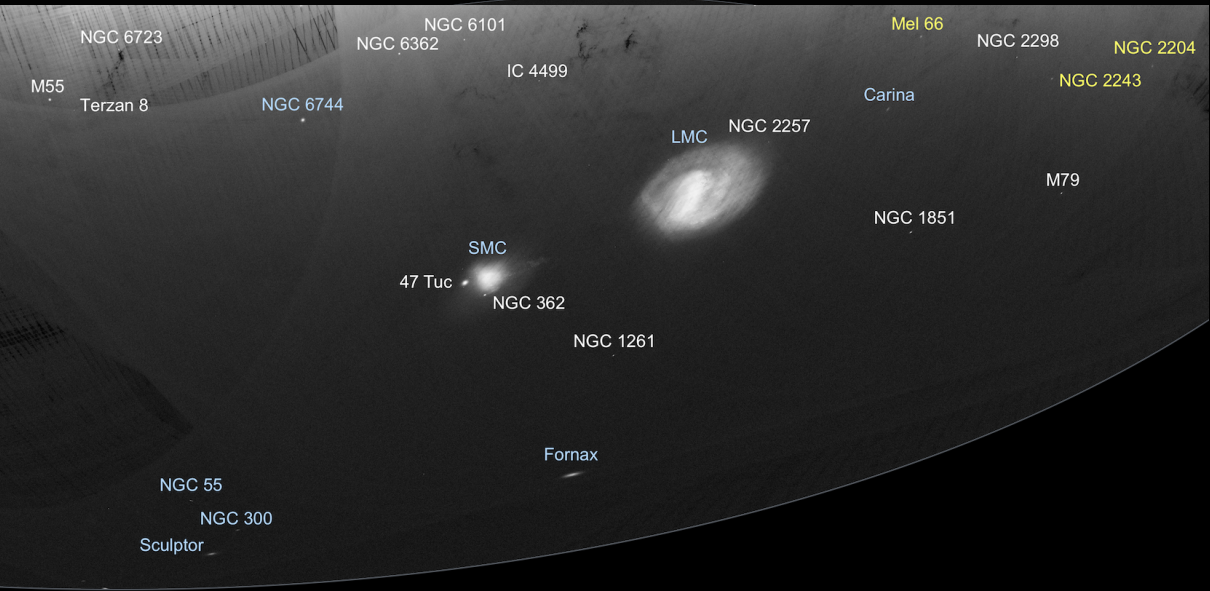


# Gaia

- Astrometry and spectrophotometry for  $> 1$  billion objects
- Radial velocities for  $> 100$  million objects
- Survey
  - ▶ Complete to  $G = 20.7$  ( $V = 20-22$ )
  - ▶ Quasi-regular time-sampling over 5 years ( $\sim 70$  observations)
- Launch December 2013
- 5 years of operations at L2
- ◆ First data release Sep 2016
  - ▶ Gaia DR2 April 2018
- ◆ Photometric alerts started in 2014
- ◆ Alerts on new solar system objects started end 2016







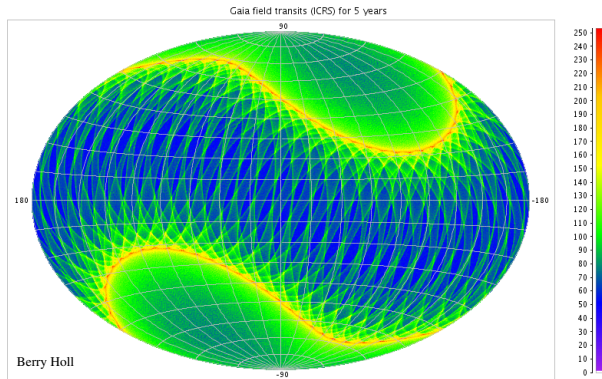


# Gaia extension

- Nominal Gaia mission ends mid-2019 after 5 years of measurements
- Hardware and operations designed for a 5-year survey for sky homogeneity
- Scientifically the best option is to start a new 5-year survey on top of the nominal 5-year survey

## Notes on continued S/C operations

- ◆ All hardware in good shape
- ◆ Only limiting factor is micro-propulsion system fuel
- ◆ Estimated to run out by mid 2024



# Improvement of scientific performance

- Basic mission results improve with  $t^{-0.5}$ 
  - ▶ Positions, parallaxes, photometry and radial velocities
- Rapidly increasing gain in kinematics and dynamics
  - ▶ Proper motion improvement scales as  $t^{-1.5}$
  - ▶ More complex systems scale faster, e.g. improvement in unambiguous determination of orbital period, mass and distance of a perturbing body scales as  $t^{-4.5}$

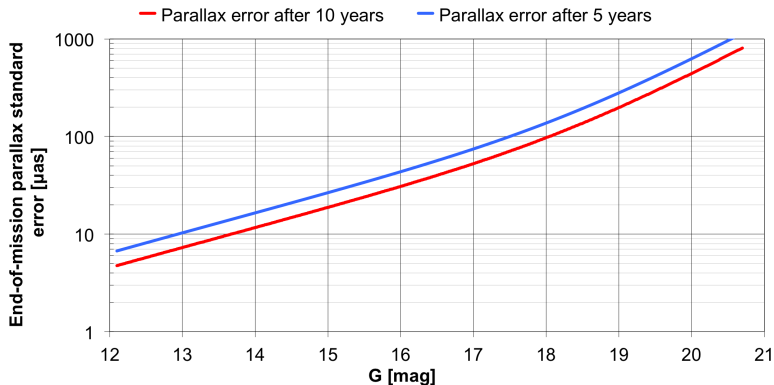
| Improvement factor for mission length increase from 5 to 10 years | Distance increase at the same accuracy | Volume increase at the same accuracy |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Parallax  | 1.4                                    | 2.8                                  |
| Proper motion   | 2.8                                    | 23                                   |

## Parallax improvement

- At a given magnitude 40% improvement is achieved

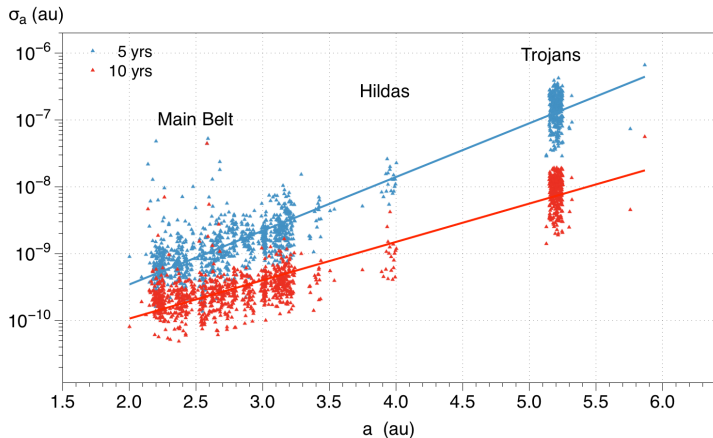
OR

- Same performance can be achieved for 0.5 mag fainter objects



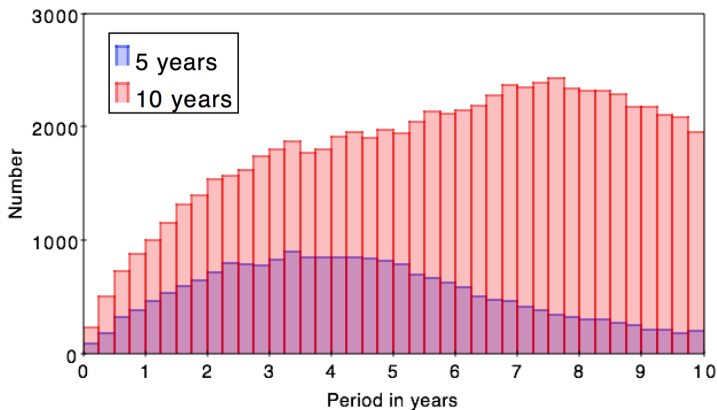
# Solar system

- For the main belt asteroids, Hildas and Trojans the huge improvement is related to covering a larger fraction of the orbit
- Masses from close encounters
- Improvement of stellar catalogues allow re-calibration of old images and plates



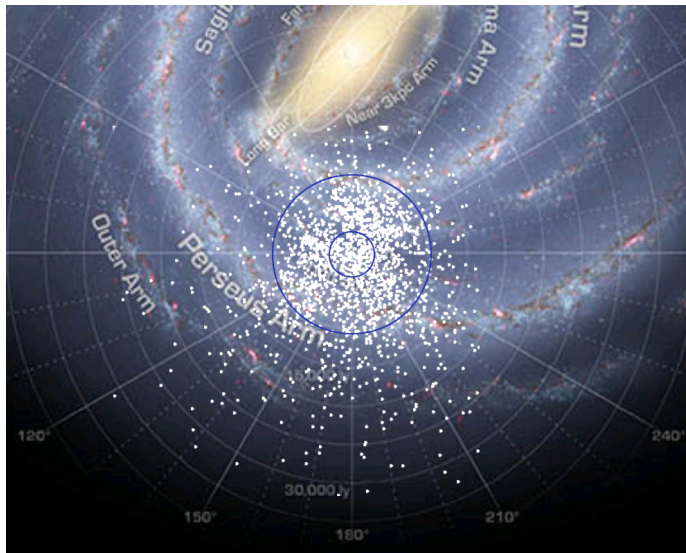
# Exoplanets

- Gaia's strength is Neptune-Jupiter mass planets around stars
- Mission extension reveals population of giant planets above several AU distances from the parent star
  - ▶ giant planets before migration, systems with giant 'guarding' habitable zone
- Exoplanets research gains enormously from the improved parallaxes helping to describe the host star



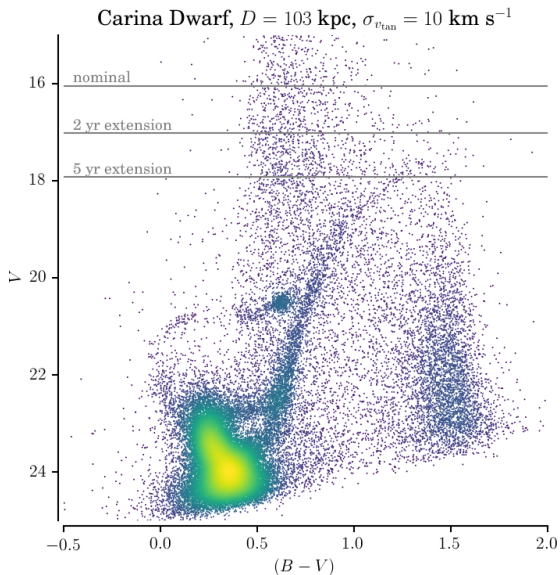
# Stars and stellar clusters

- Factor  $\sim 8$  more clusters
- Reach inner and Perseus spiral arms
- Reach larger diversity of environments and cluster types
- Probe low stellar masses at larger distances



# Structure and evolution of the Milky Way Galaxy

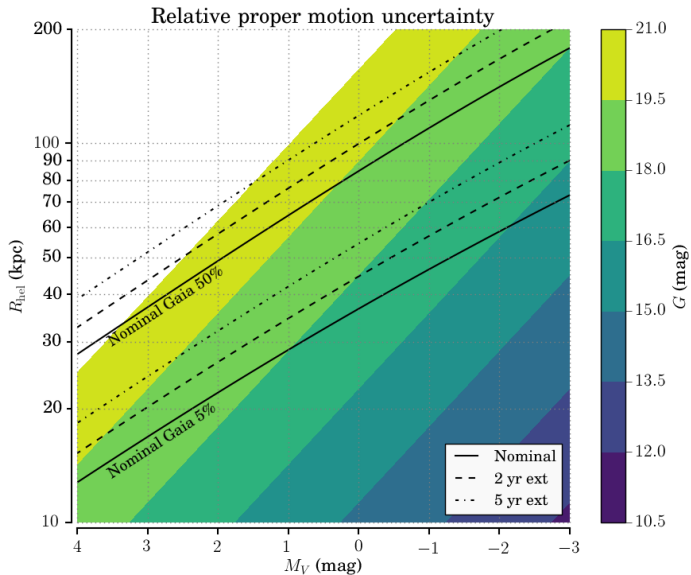
- Internal kinematics of local group galaxies
- Brightest populations in classical dwarf galaxies at  $\sim 100$  kpc only reachable with 5 yr extension





# Structure and evolution of the Milky Way Galaxy

- Larger volume reached throughout the halo at given proper motion accuracy
- Tidal streams detection improvement
- Probe young and unmixed debris located beyond 20–30 kpc
- Calibration of photometric distance indicators on nearby samples  $\Rightarrow$  full gain in tangential motion performance

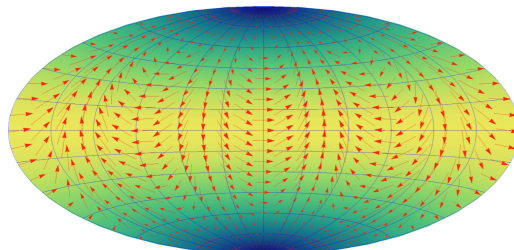
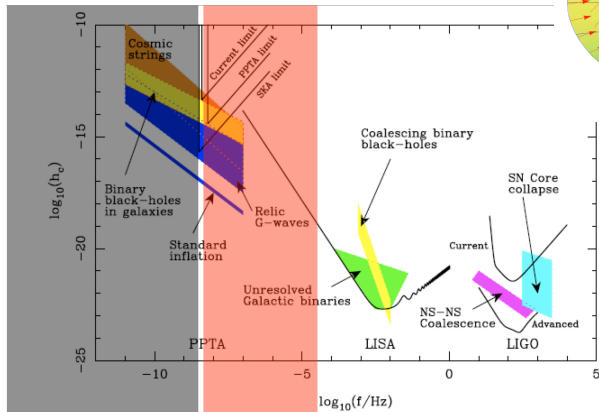


# Fundamental physics

## ● Gravitational waves

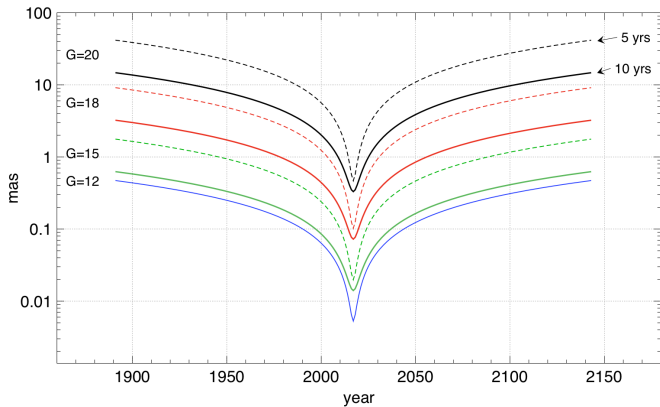
- ▶ Low to ultra-low frequency

This is for a GW propagating in the direction  $\delta=90^\circ$ :



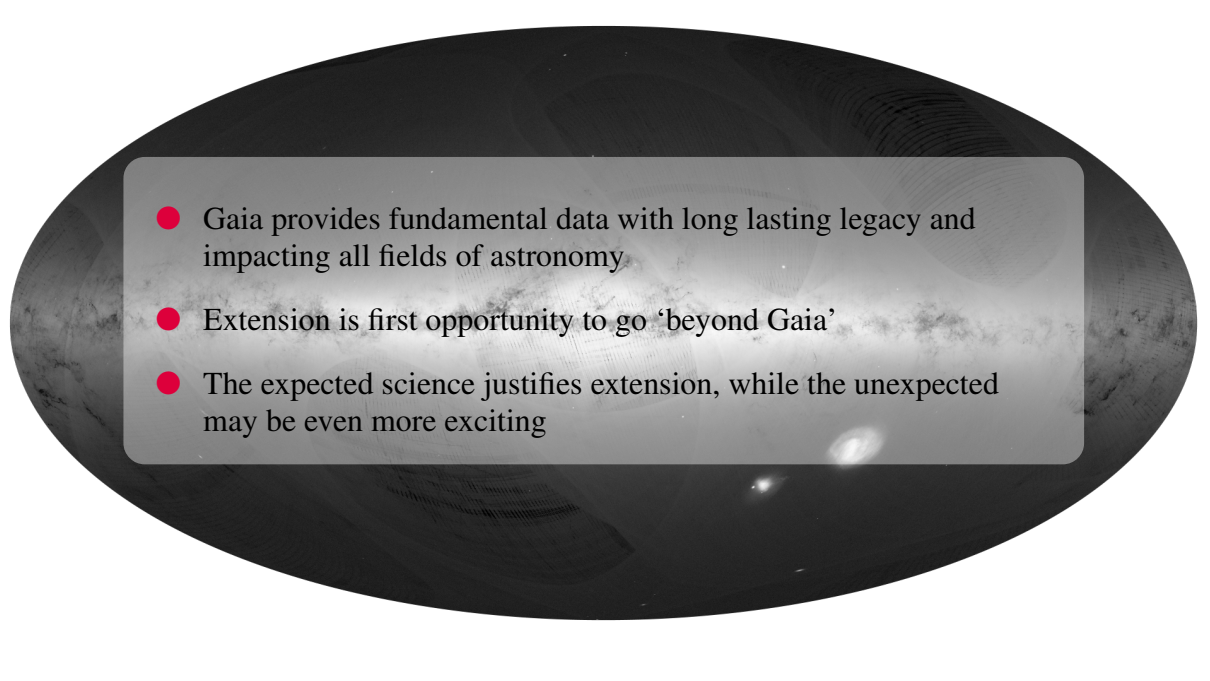
## Reference frames

- Reference frame degradation is due to proper motion errors
- Mission extension improves proper motions quicker than parallaxes
- 30–40 m class telescopes reference frame
- Practically everything in the past limited by accuracy of reference stars will be limited by precision of the data itself



## Other example science cases

- Near Earth Objects
  - Variability of sources over decade time scale
  - Double stars with 5–10 year orbits
  - Distance ladder improvements with Cepheids and RR Lyrae
  - Solar system (barycentre) motion around the Galactic centre
  - Jupiter quadrupole moment
- 
- ◆ Target selection for exoplanet missions
  - ◆ Euclid and LSST time overlap synergies

- 
- Gaia provides fundamental data with long lasting legacy and impacting all fields of astronomy
  - Extension is first opportunity to go ‘beyond Gaia’
  - The expected science justifies extension, while the unexpected may be even more exciting