



2nd LAMOST-Kepler workshop  
2017 August 1st (Tue)  
16:30 - 17:00 (23+7min)

# Active stars in the Kepler field of view



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S. Notsu, K. Namekata, K. Ikuta, D. Nogami, K. Shibata (Kyoto Univ., Japan)  
(+ S. Hawley (Univ. of Washington, USA))



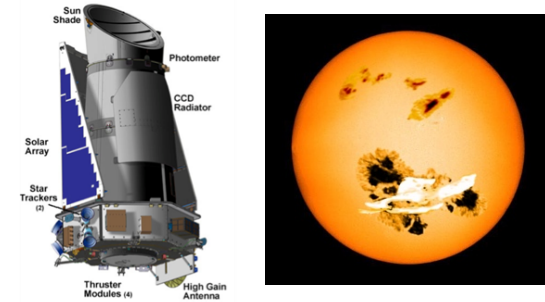
Reference:

Maehara et al. 2012, Nature, 485, 478  
Shibayama et al. 2013, ApJS, 209, 5  
Notsu et al. 2013, ApJ, 771, 127  
Shibata et al. 2013, PASJ, 65, 49  
Maehara et al. 2015, EPS, 67, 59

Notsu et al. 2015a&b, PASJ, 67, 32&33  
Karoff et al. 2016, Nature Communications, 7, 11058  
Maehara et al. 2017, PASJ, 69, 41  
Notsu et al. in prep

# Topics

[1.1] Superflares found from **Kepler data**



[1.2] Superflare studies with our high dispersion spectroscopic observations (**Subaru 8.2m & APO 3.5m**)



[2] Superflare studies with **LAMOST-Kepler Survey data**

(Summary of Karoff et al. 2016

and introduction of collaborative studies

we are NOW working on)

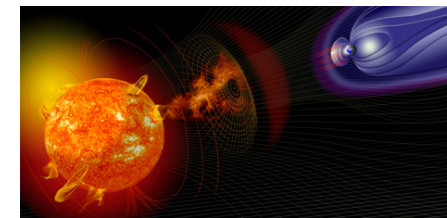


# Solar flares

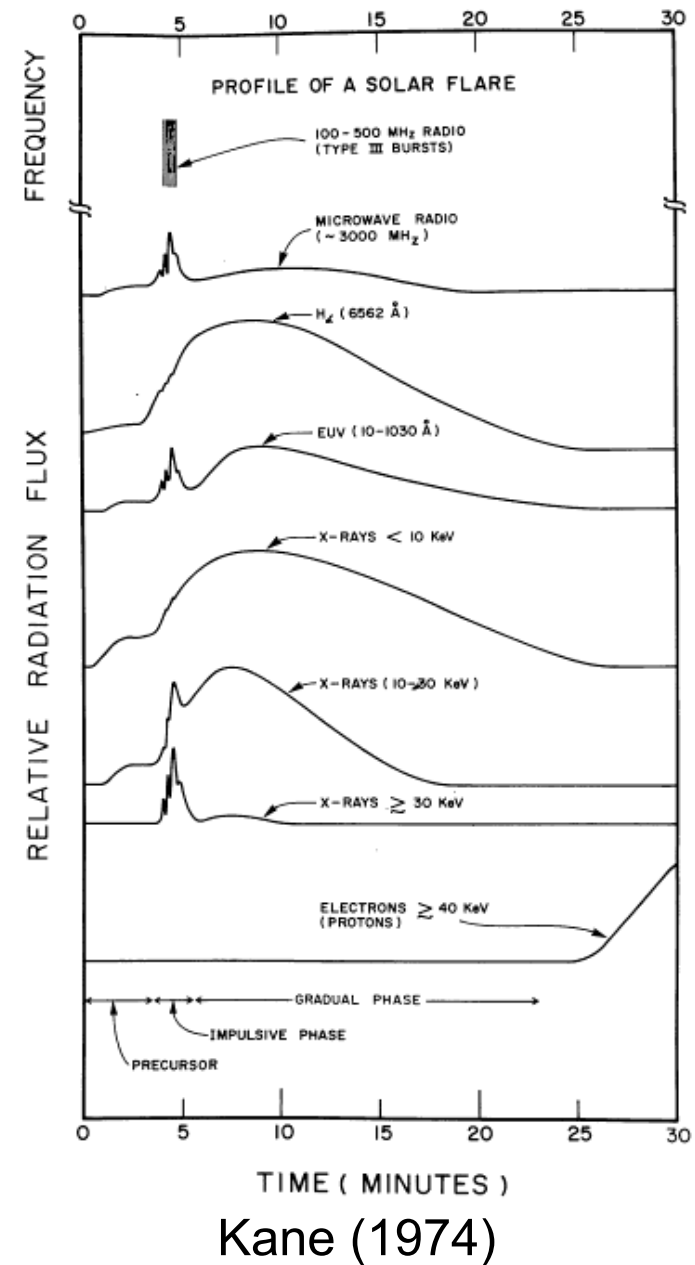
- Large eruptive events in the solar atmosphere
  - Magnetic energy release by reconnection
- Observed in all wavelengths
  - Radio ~ X-ray
- Timescale: 1 min – 1 hour
- Total energy:  $10^{29} - 10^{32}$  erg



← Yohkoh (JAXA/ISAS)  
Soft X-ray



©NASA



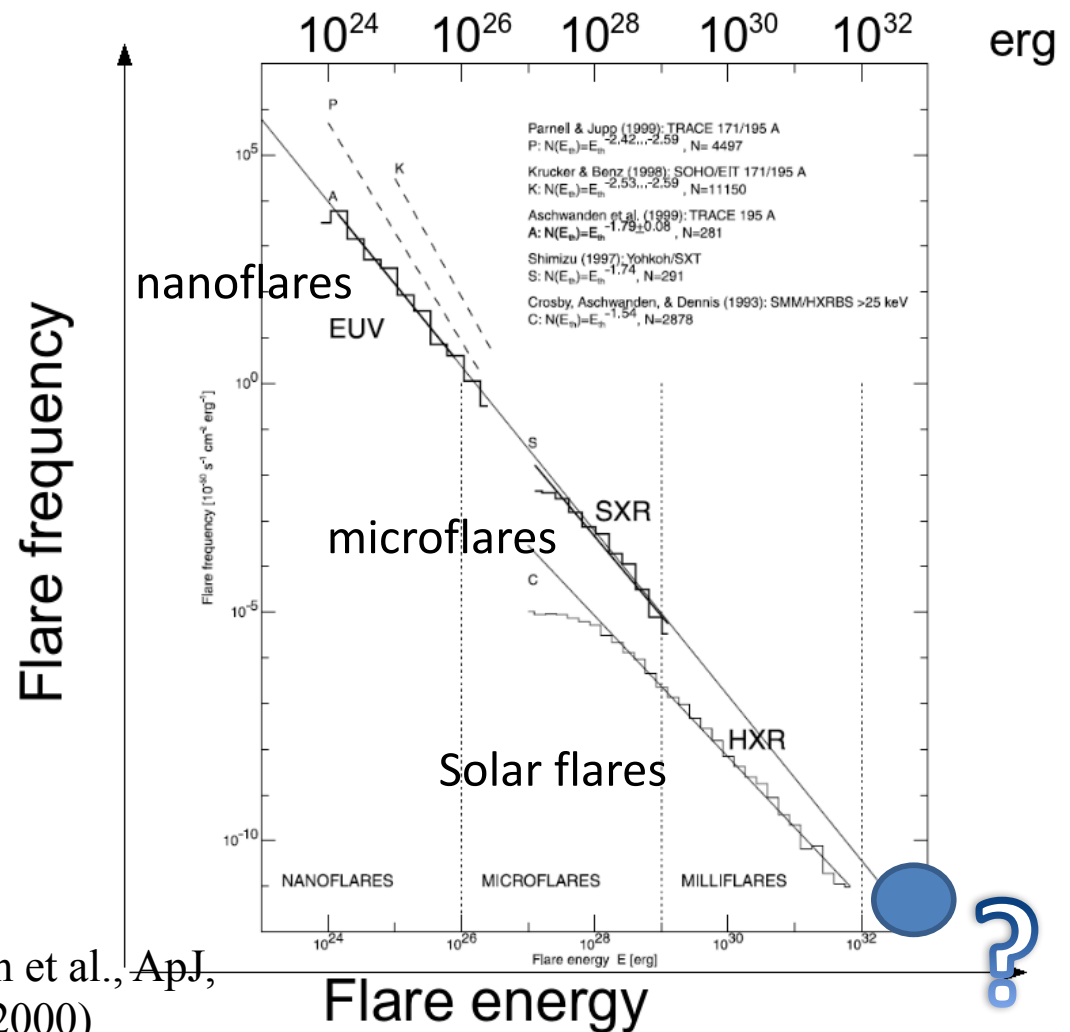
# Frequency-energy distribution of solar flares

- Frequency of flares decreases as the flare energy increases.
  - Power-law distribution:  $dN/dE \propto E^{-1.5 \sim -1.9}$ 
    - Flare energy:  $10^{24} \sim 10^{32}$  ergs

## Largest solar flares

- Energy:  $\sim 10^{32}$  erg
- Frequency:  $\sim 1$  in 10 years

Can much larger flares (superflares) occur on our Sun?



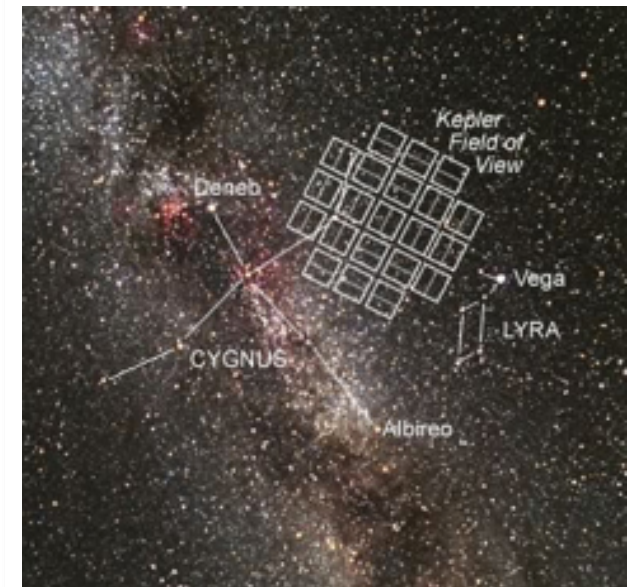
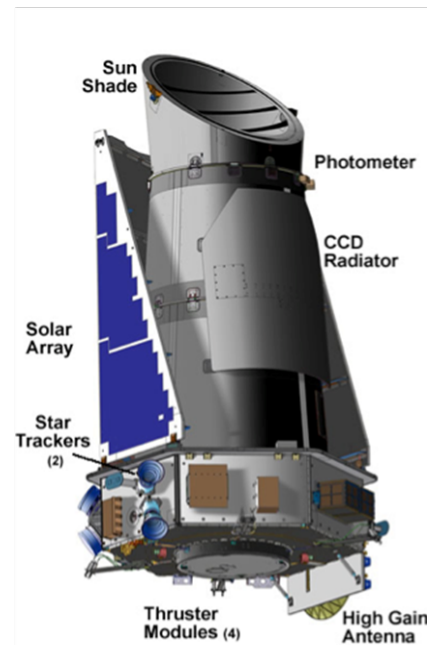
# Kepler space telescope



- Kepler is the best space telescope to search for superflares.
  - High photometric precision ( $\sim 10^{-4}$  →  $> 10^{32}$  erg flares on G-dwarfs)
  - Continuous observations of large number of targets ( $\sim 160,000$  stars, 4 years)

We searched for flare-like events (sudden brightenings) from the Kepler public data.

[solar-type (G-type main sequence) stars]  
Long (30-min) cadence data  
~90,000 stars  
Short (1-min) cadence data  
~1,400 stars



# Discoveries of superflares with *Kepler* data

We discovered many (>1000) **superflares** ( $10^{33} \sim 10^{36}$  erg:  $10 \sim 10^4$  times more energetic than the largest solar flares) on many (~300) solar-type (G-type main sequence) stars.

[Data]

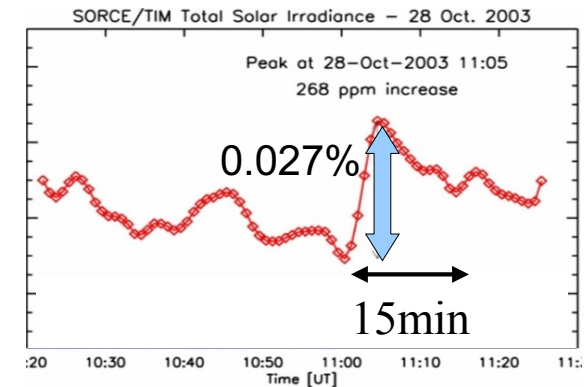
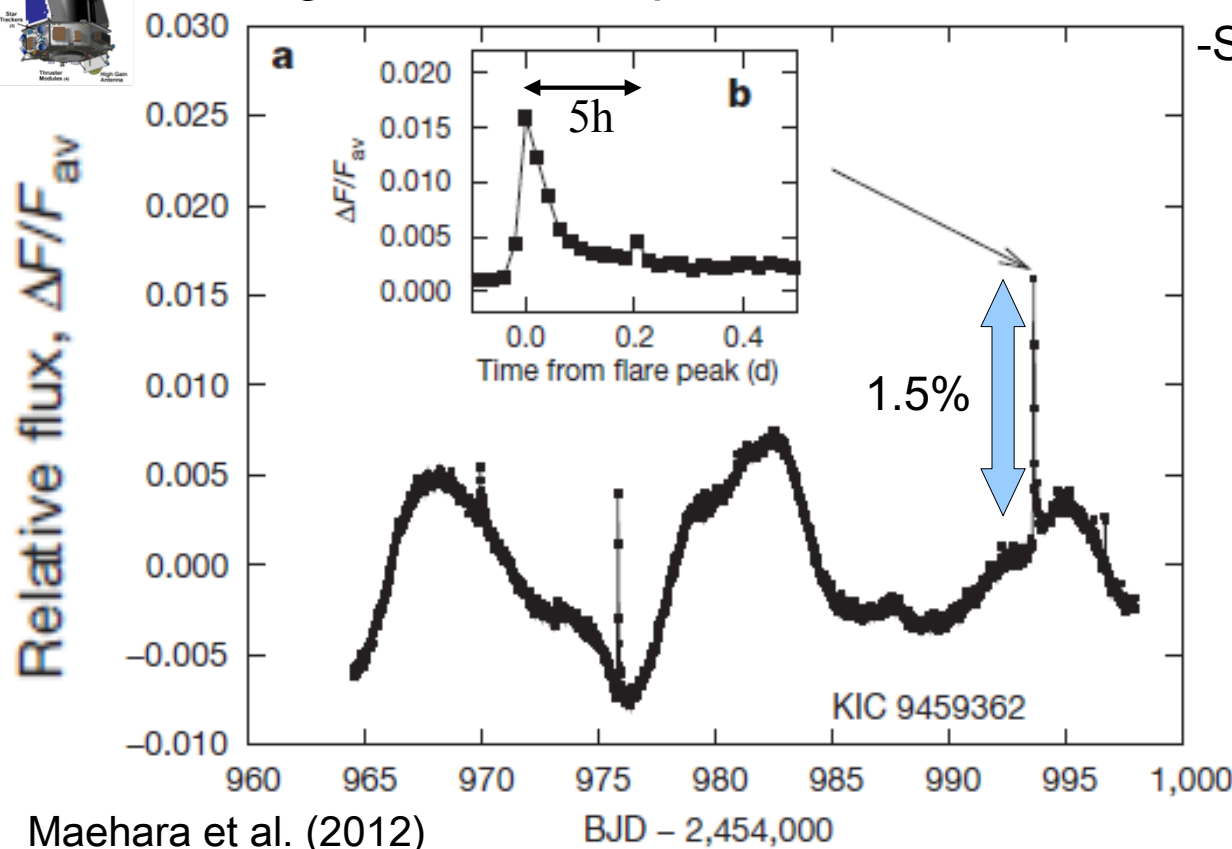
-Long (30-min) cadence data  
Shibayama+2013 (~90,000 stars)  
~500 days

-Short (1-min) cadence data  
Maehara+2015 (~1,400 stars)  
~all data

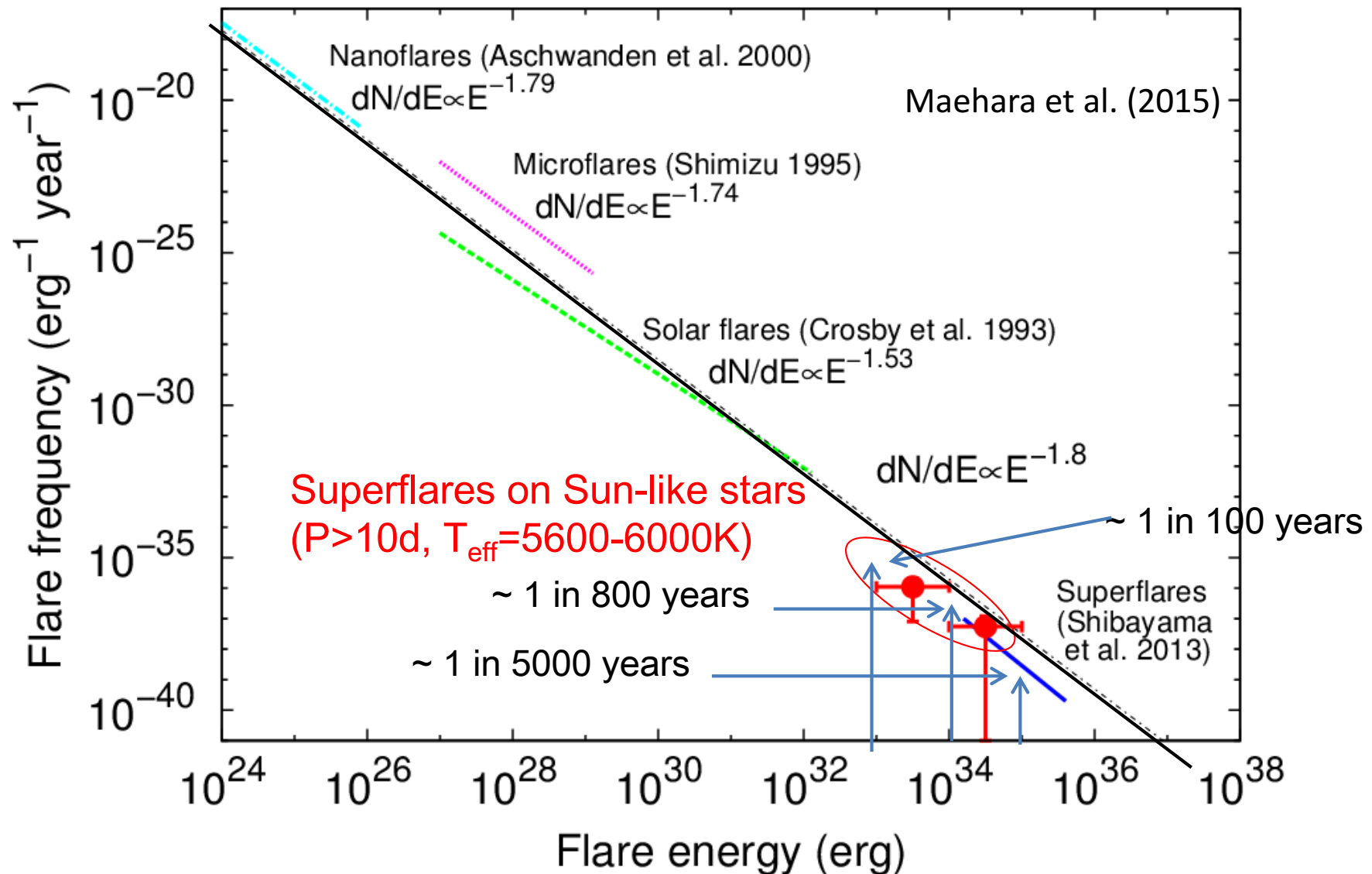
Cf. Example of  
large solar flares  
(Solar brightness variation)



Lightcurve of superflare ↓

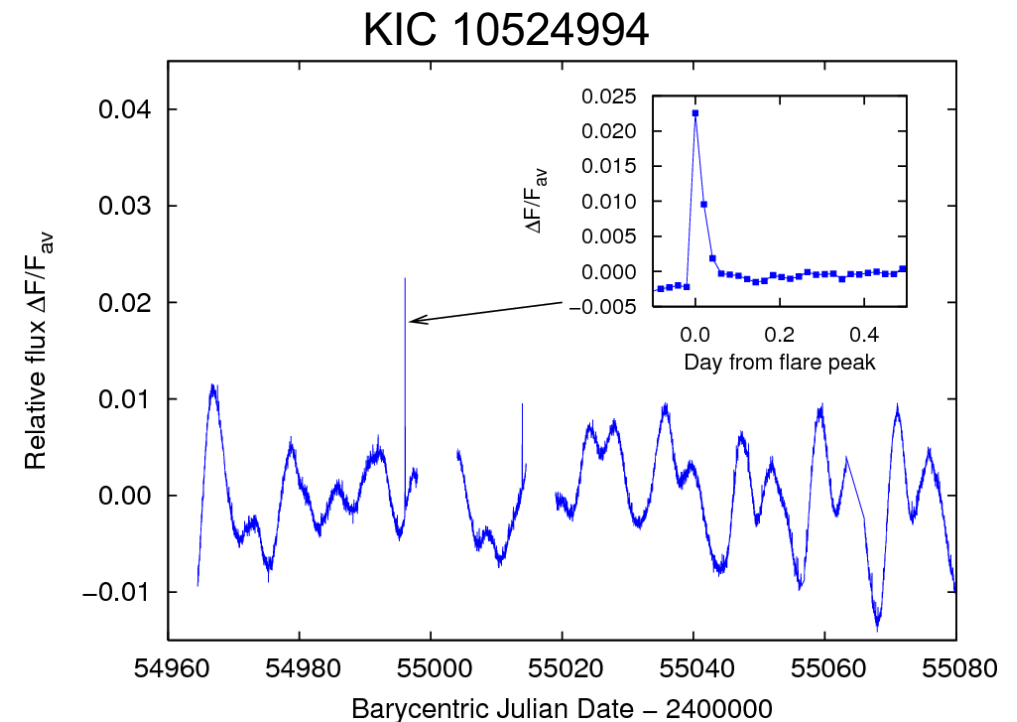
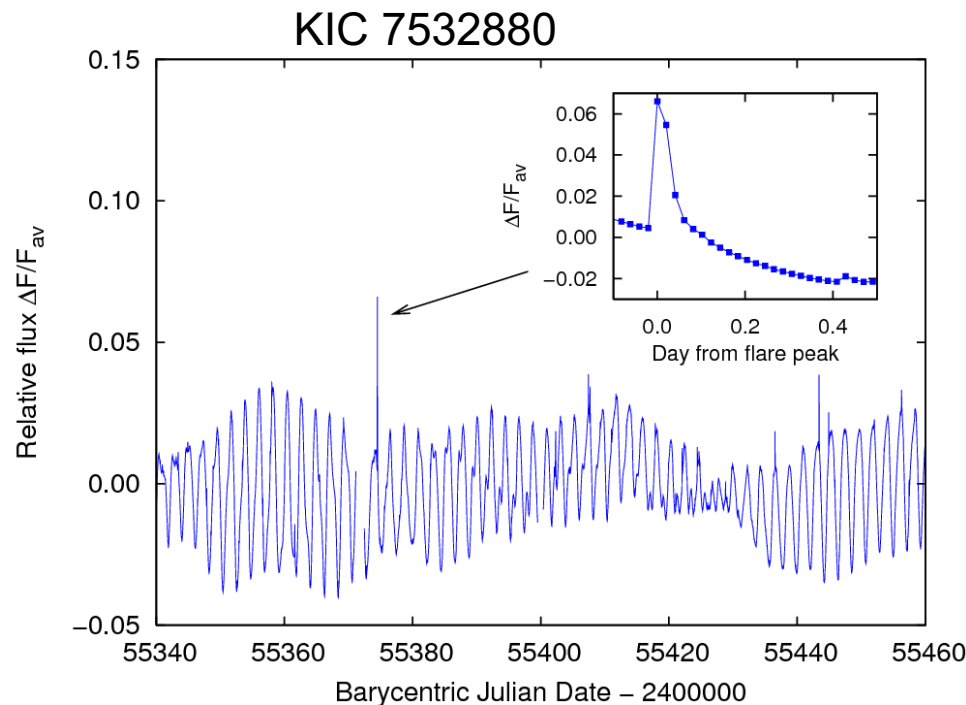


# Flare frequency vs. flare energy



# Long-term brightness variations

- Most of superflare stars show quasi-periodic brightness variations.
  - Period:  $\sim 0.5 - 30$  days
  - Amplitude: 0.1 - 10%
    - Amplitude of light variations changes with time.





# Can large starspots explain the brightness variation?

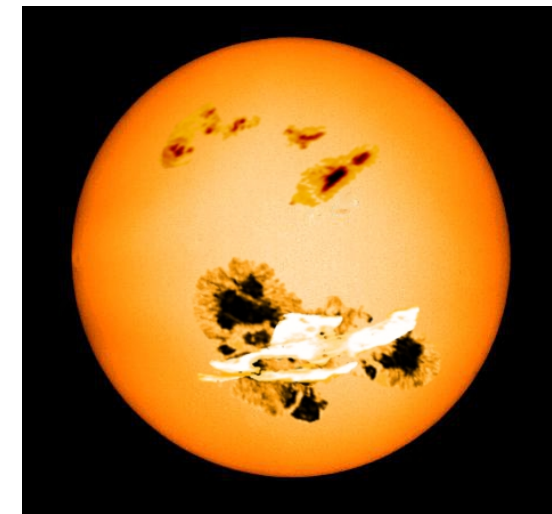
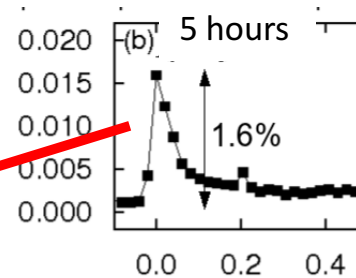
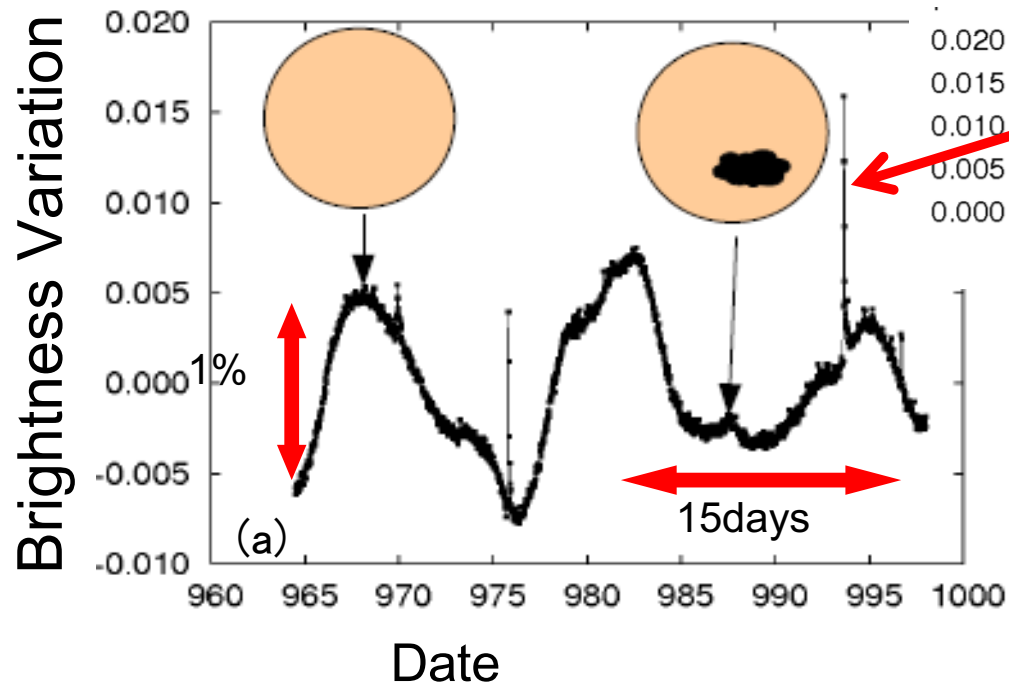
Many superflare stars show **quasi-periodic brightness variations**.



**Rotation** of a star with **large starspots**!?

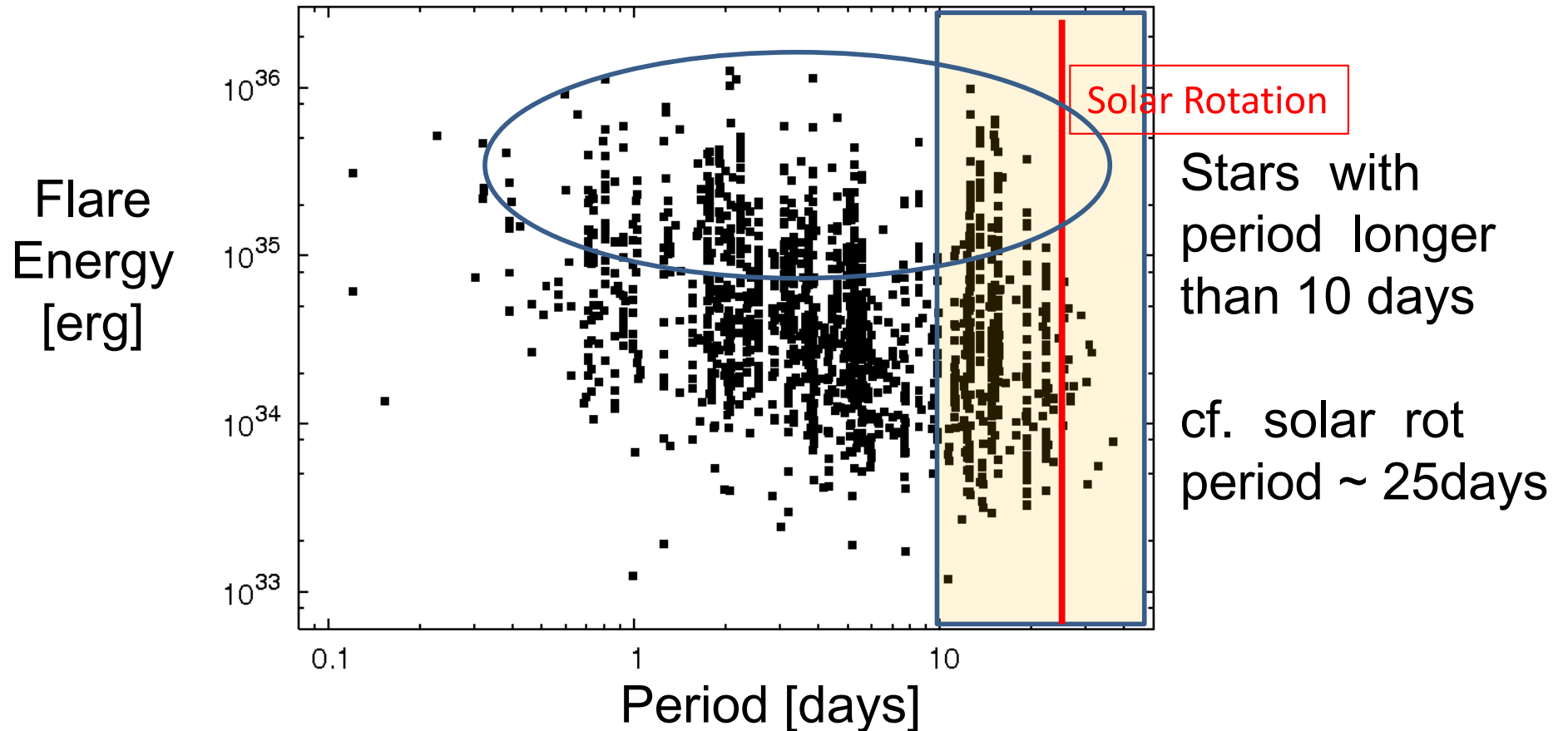
Period of brightness variation → **rotation period**

Brightness Variation Amplitude → **total area of starspots**



Artificial Image of a superflare star

# Flare energy vs. rotation period



- The energy of the largest flares observed in a given period bin does **not** have a clear correlation with the rotation period.
  - Superflares may occur on the slowly-rotating stars.
  - (In addition, flare frequency decrease as rotation period increases.)

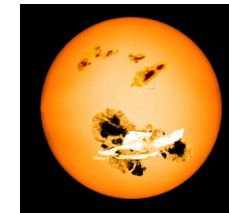
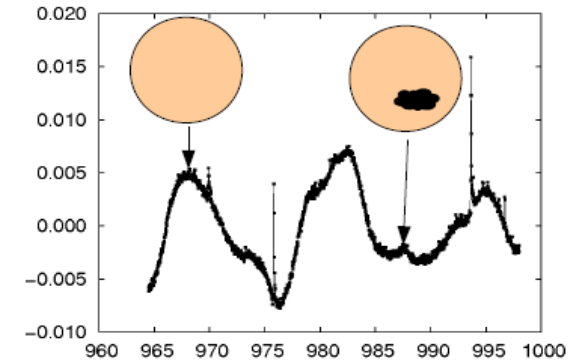
# <Assumptions>

Period of brightness variation

→ rotation period

Brightness Variation Amplitude

→ total area of starspots



Are these assumptions right?

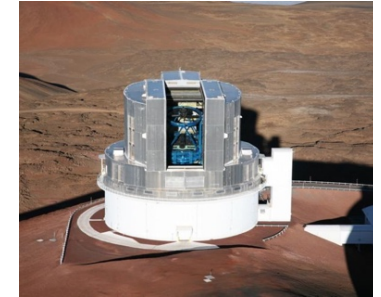
((We cannot reject the other effects (binary etc.)  
only with Kepler photometric data.))



**Spectroscopic observations !!**

# Spectroscopic observations with Subaru and APO 3.5m

- **Subaru/HDS** (during 2011-2013, Notsu+2015a&b PASJ):  
50 superflare stars (from 30min cadence data)  
 $R=\lambda/\Delta\lambda=50,000 \sim 100,000$  &  $\lambda=6100\sim 8800\text{\AA}$  (Ca II IRT, Ha)



Subaru  
(at Hawaii)

- **Apache Point Observatory (APO)**

**3.5m telescope** (2016~, Notsu+ in prep)

15(+3 also in Subaru) superflare stars (from 1min cadence data)

$R=\lambda/\Delta\lambda=32000$  &  $\lambda=3,200\sim 10,000\text{\AA}$  (Ca II HK, Ca II IRT, Ha)



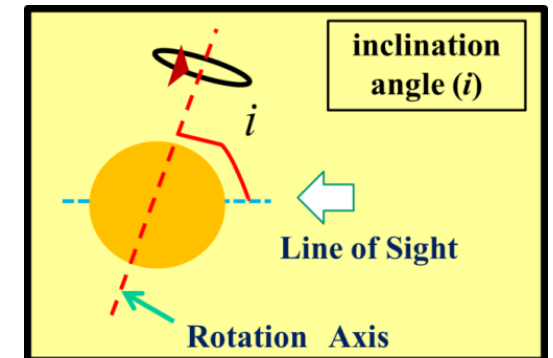
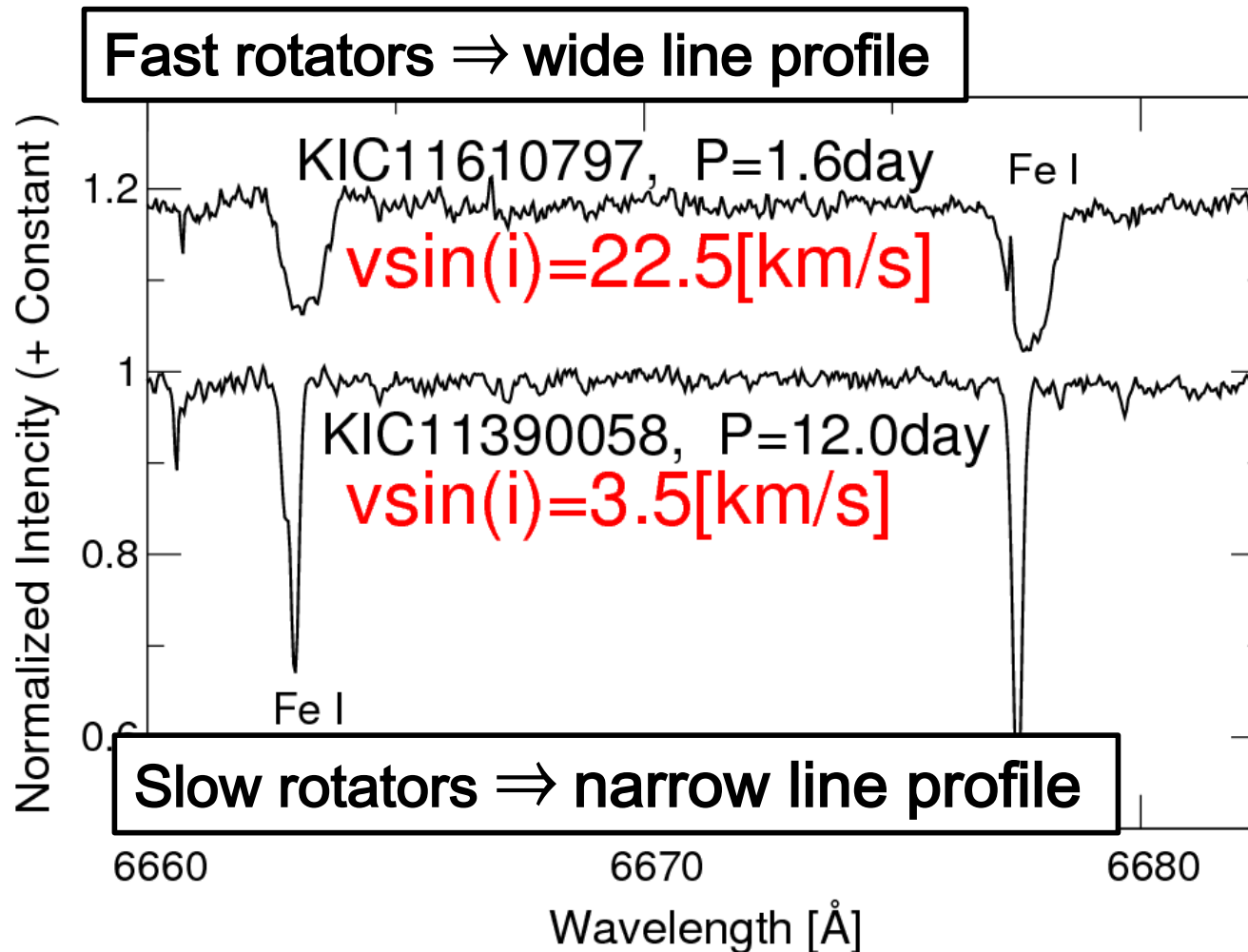
Apache Point  
Observatory  
(at New Mexico)

**More than half** (~47 stars) of the 65 target stars  
are found to be **single solar-type stars** !!

We conduct detailed analyses for these 47 “single” stars.

# Projected rotation velocity ( $v \sin i$ )

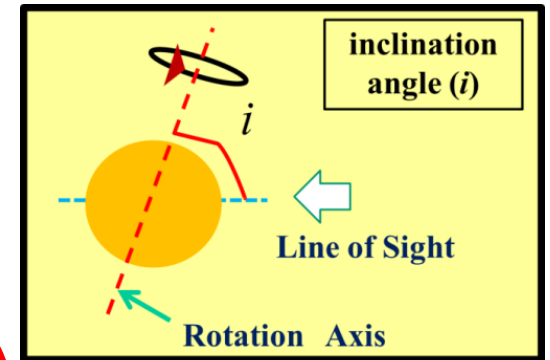
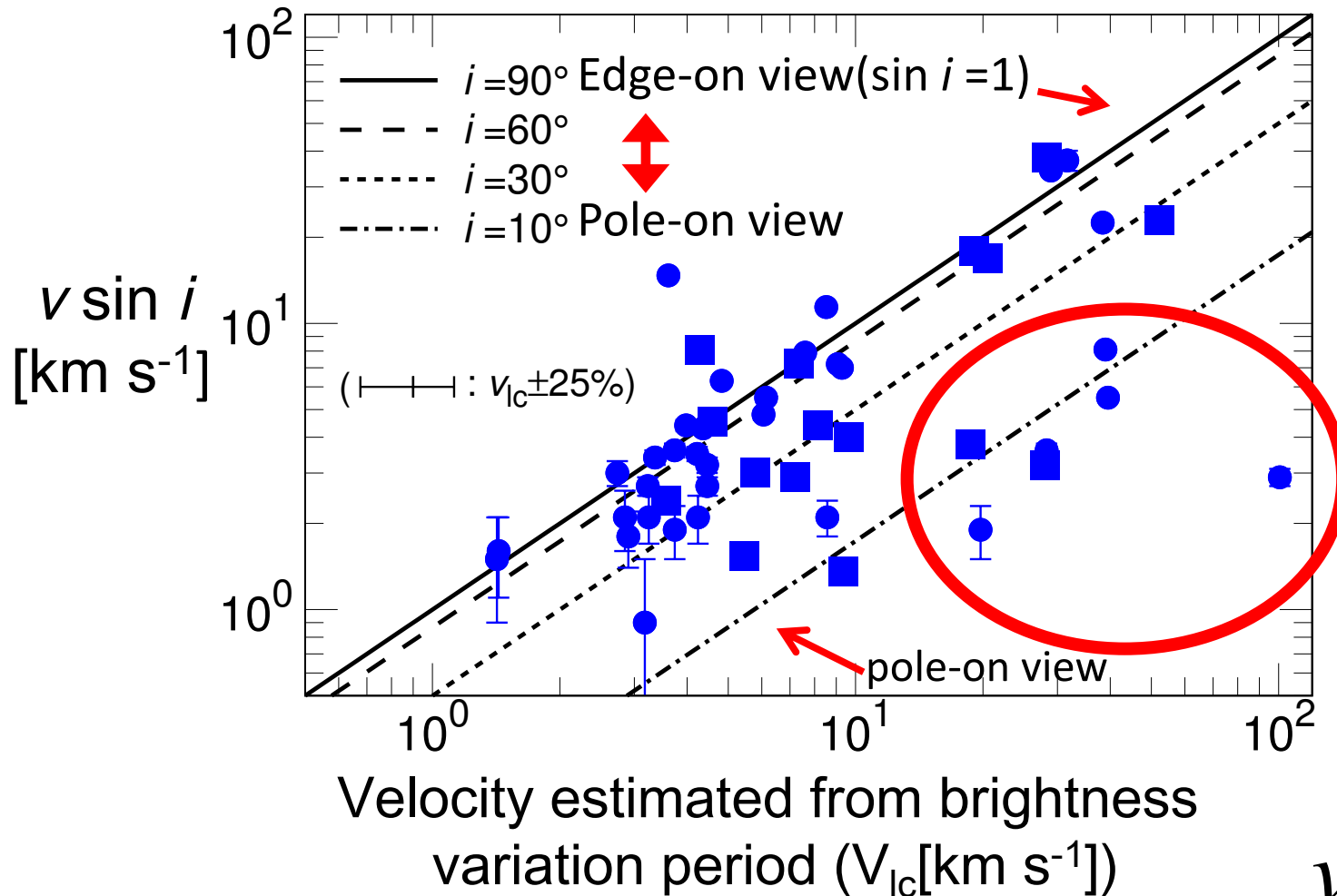
We can estimate projected rotation velocity ( $v \sin i$ ) from the Doppler broadening of absorption lines.



※ Measurement methods  
Takeda et al.(2008etc)

# Rotation Period $\Leftrightarrow$ Brightness variation period ?

Most of the data points locate below the line of  $i=90^\circ$   
 $\Rightarrow$  "Brightness variation  $\approx$  Rotation" is OK!!

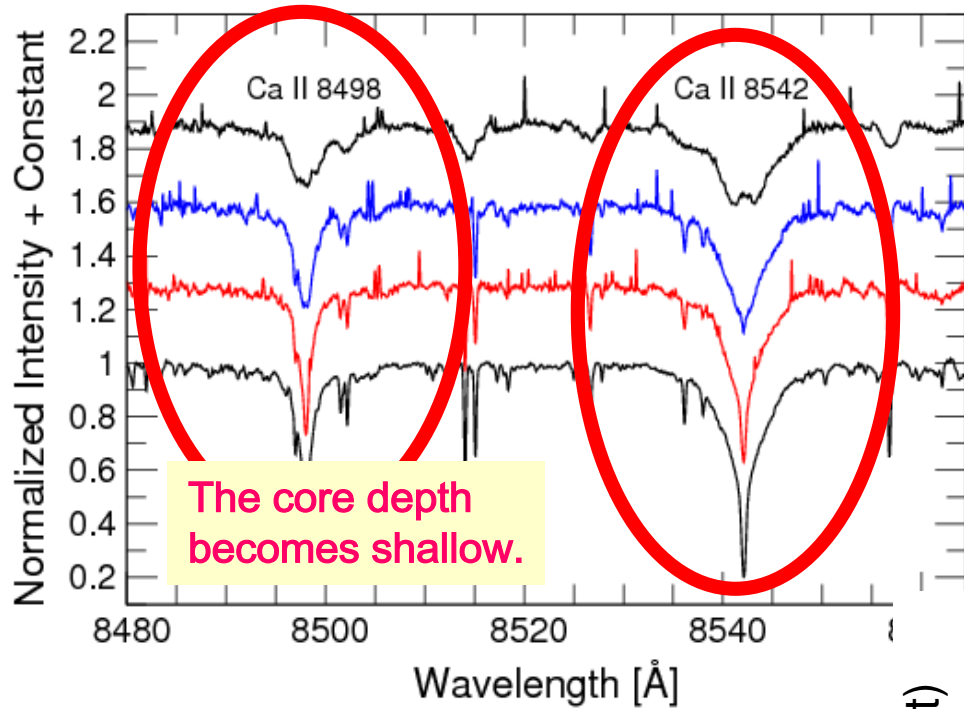


- Subaru data
- APO data

※Sun:  $v_{rot} \sim 2$  [km s<sup>-1</sup>]

$$v_{lc} \approx \frac{2\pi R_{star}}{P}$$

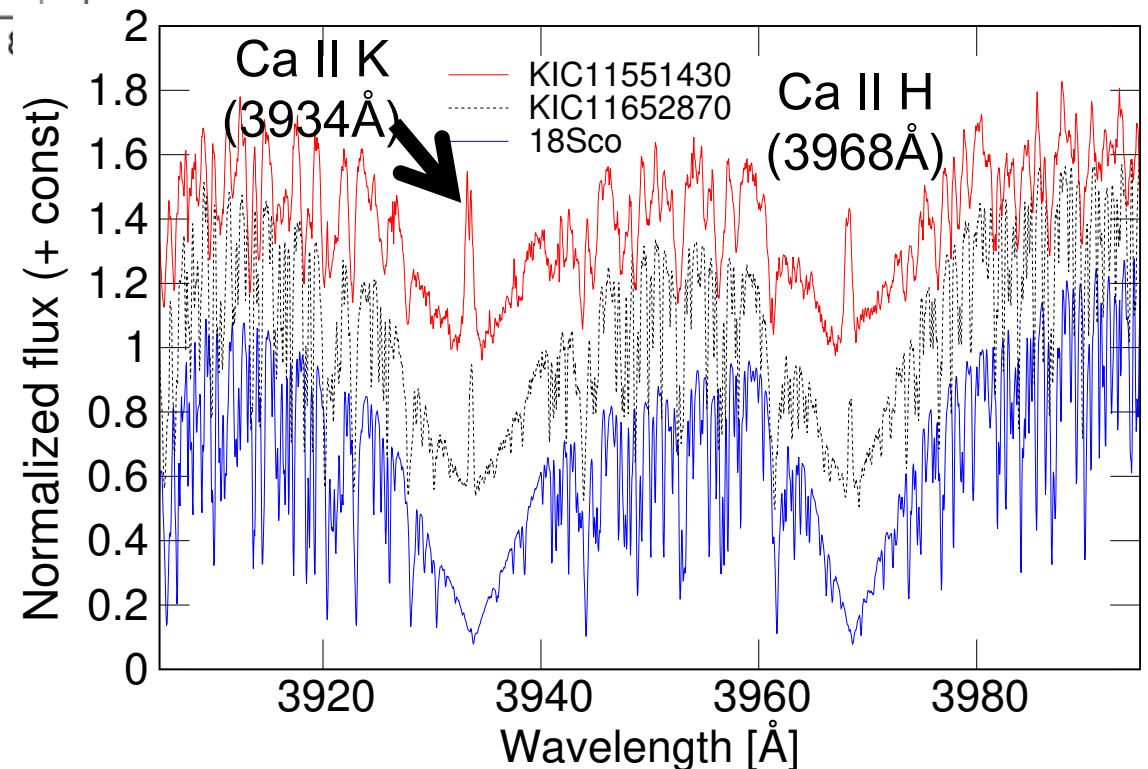
# Indirect estimation of starspot coverage with Ca II lines



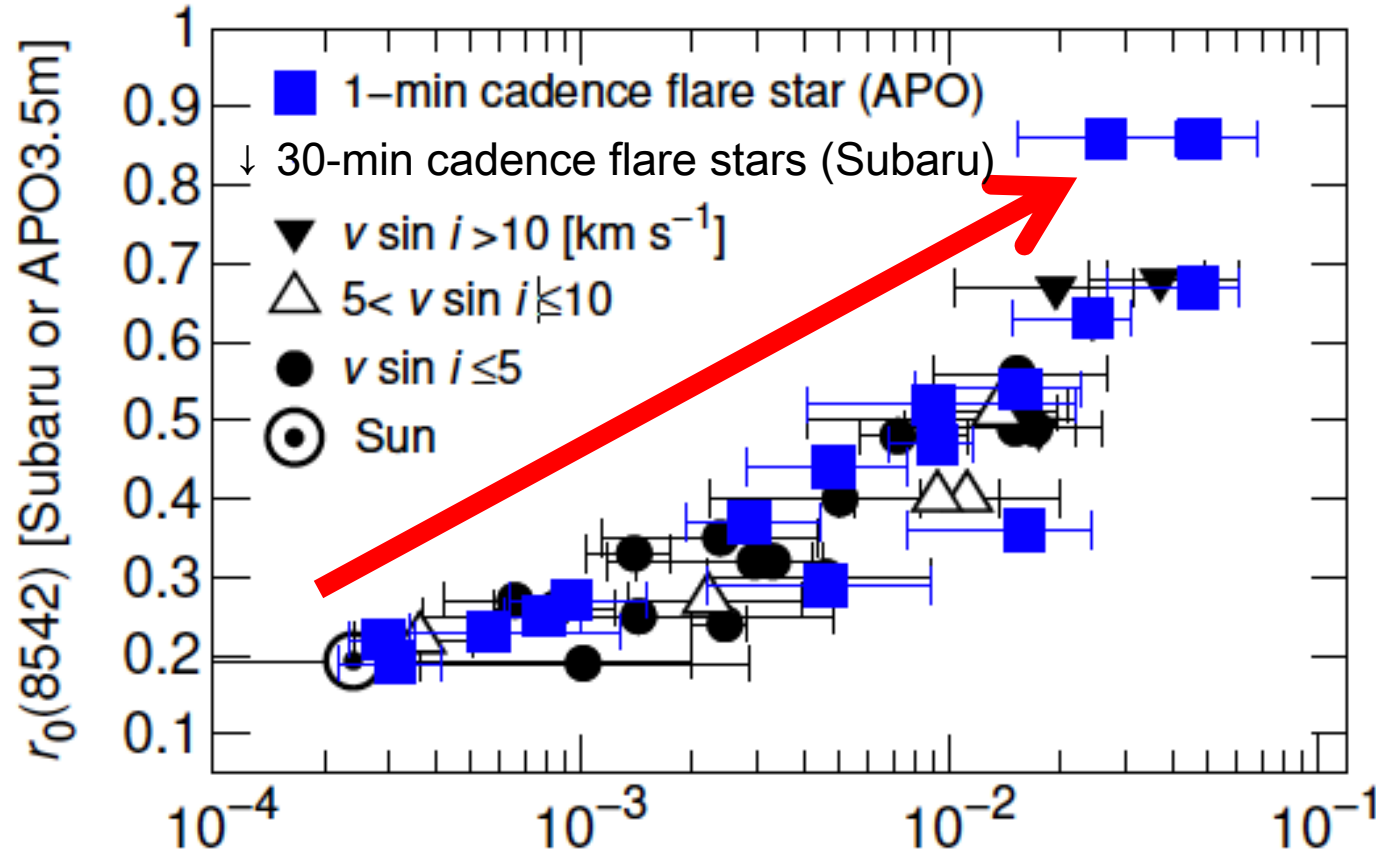
As the magnetic activity enhanced, the core depth becomes shallow because of the greater amount of the emission from the chromosphere.

⇒ We can indirectly confirm existence of large starspots !!

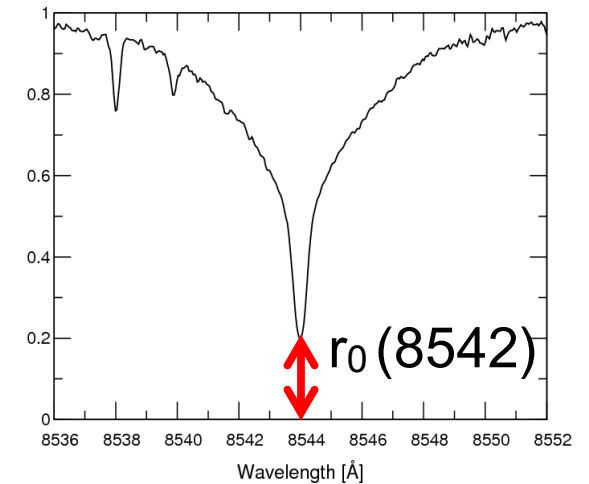
In both figures, the bottom spectrum is solar-twin star (18Sco), and the others are superflare stars.



# Starspot coverage vs Ca II 8542 intensity



$r_0$ : Normalized intensity of Ca II 8542

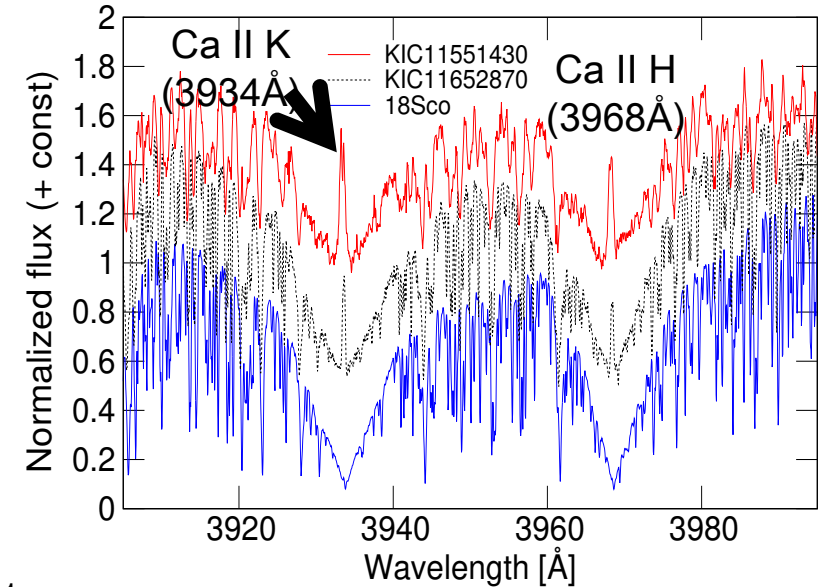
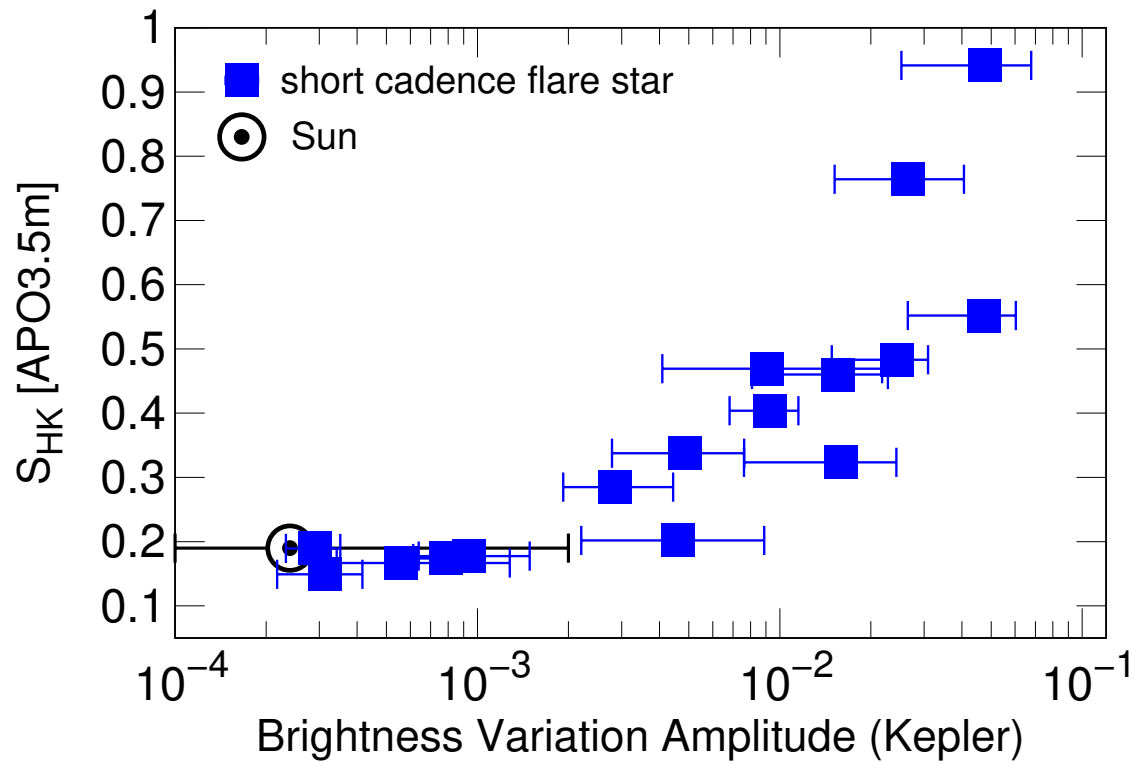


Brightness Variation Amplitude (Kepler)  $\doteq$  starspot coverage

- There is a clear correlation between the amplitude of photometric variation and Ca II intensity.
- As for spot coverage, Kepler results are consistent with spectroscopic results.



# Starspot coverage vs. Ca II HK



Brightness Variation Amplitude (Kepler)  $\hat{=}$  starspot coverage

- Ca II H&K lines, which are observed only at APO observations (not with Subaru) show basically the same results as those from Ca II 8542.

# Summary of Part I : Superflare studies with Kepler and high-dispersion spectra (Subaru & APO3.5m)

- Kepler discovered many (>1000) **superflares** on many (~300) solar-type (G-type main sequence) stars.

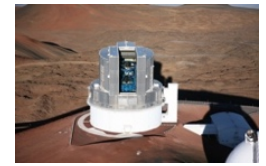
- Brightness Variations of Kepler data

Period of brightness variation → **rotation period** (0.5 – 30 days)

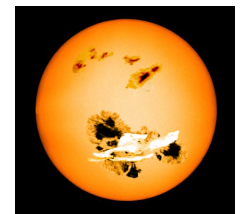
Brightness Variation Amplitude → **total area of starspots (0.1-10%)**

– **supported from spectroscopic observations**

- $v \sin i$
- intensity of chromospheric lines (Ca II IRT & Ca II HK)

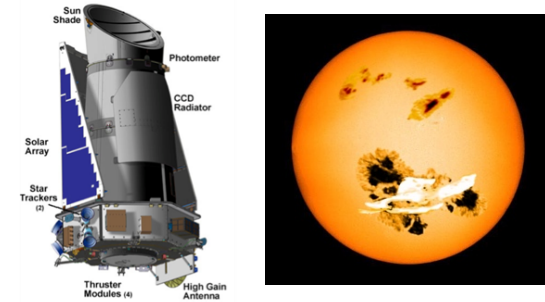


- Superflare stars (including slowly-rotating stars) are characterized by the **existence of large starspots (active regions)**.



# Topics

[1.1] Superflares found from **Kepler data**



[1.2] Superflare studies with our high dispersion spectroscopic observations (**Subaru 8.2m & APO 3.5m**)

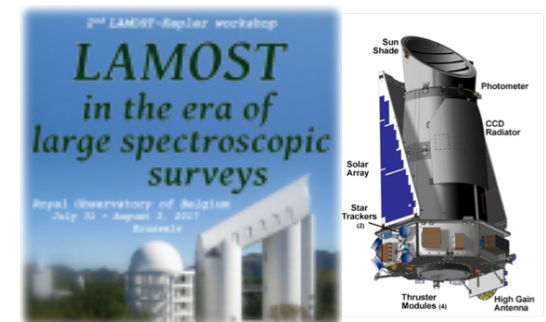


[2] Superflare studies with **LAMOST-Kepler Survey data**

(Summary of Karoff et al. 2016

and introduction of collaborative studies

we are NOW working on)



# Superflare studies with LAMOST

- Our previous **high-dispersion** spectroscopic observations (Subaru & APO 3.5m)

- detailed analyses ( $R > \lambda / \Delta\lambda = 32000$ )

- (atmospheric parameters,  $v_{\text{sin}i}$ , Ca II, etc)

- limited number of observed stars (~65 stars) & **Only superflare stars**



- **LAMOST-Kepler survey**

- Mainly strong lines (=1,800)

- **Much larger sample size of observed stars**



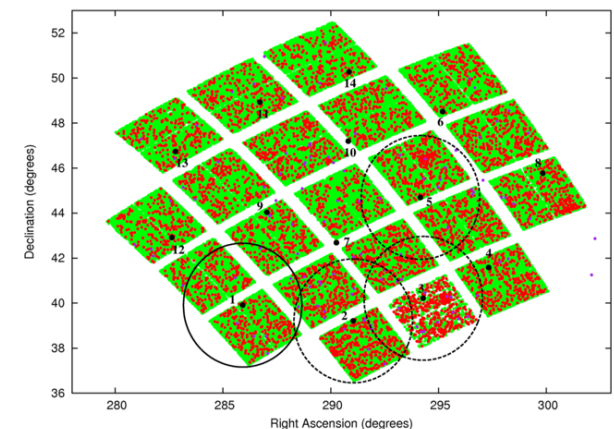
Karoff et al. 2016

**5648** solar-type stars including 48 superflare stars



How superflare stars are **generally characterized compared with other stars**, including the Sun.

C. Karoff (Aarhus Univ)



Karoff et al.  
(2016 Nature Communications)



C. Karoff  
(Aarhus Univ,  
Denmark)

ARTICLE

Received 29 Jun 2015 | Accepted 17 Feb 2016 | Published 24 Mar 2016

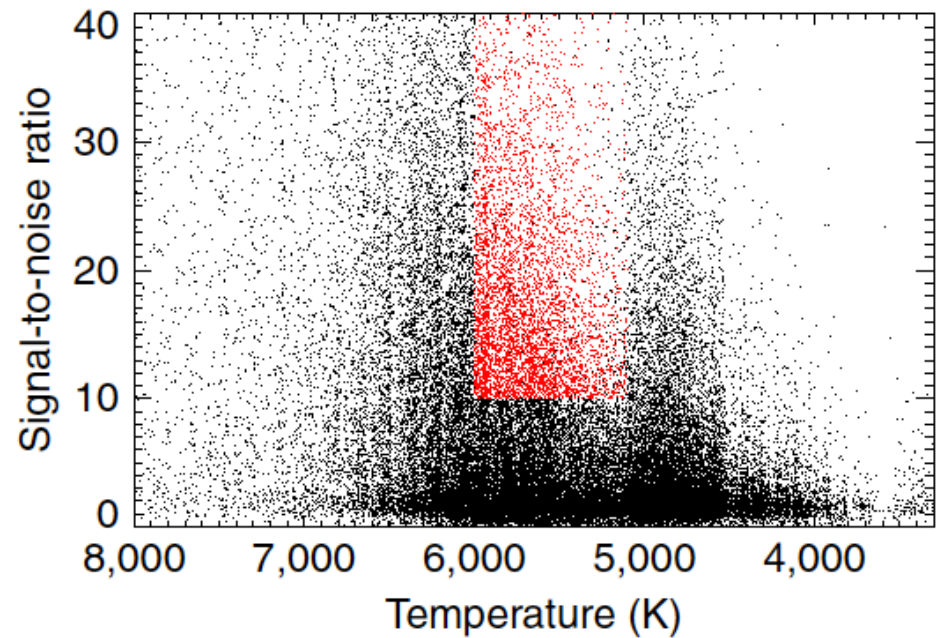
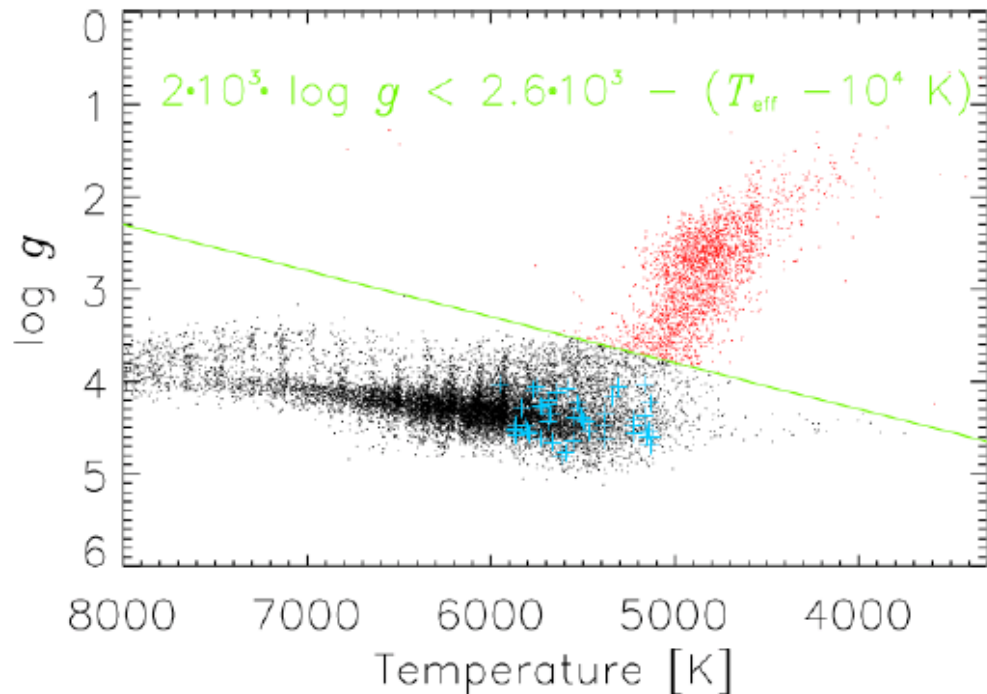
DOI: 10.1038/ncomms11058

OPEN

# Observational evidence for enhanced magnetic activity of superflare stars

Christoffer Karoff<sup>1,2</sup>, Mads Fauschou Knudsen<sup>1</sup>, Peter De Cat<sup>3</sup>, Alfio Bonanno<sup>4</sup>, Alexandra Fogtmann-Schulz<sup>1</sup>, Jianning Fu<sup>5</sup>, Antonio Frasca<sup>4</sup>, Fadil Inceoglu<sup>1</sup>, Jesper Olsen<sup>6</sup>, Yong Zhang<sup>7</sup>, Yonghui Hou<sup>7</sup>, Yuefei Wang<sup>7</sup>, Jianrong Shi<sup>8</sup> & Wei Zhang<sup>8</sup>

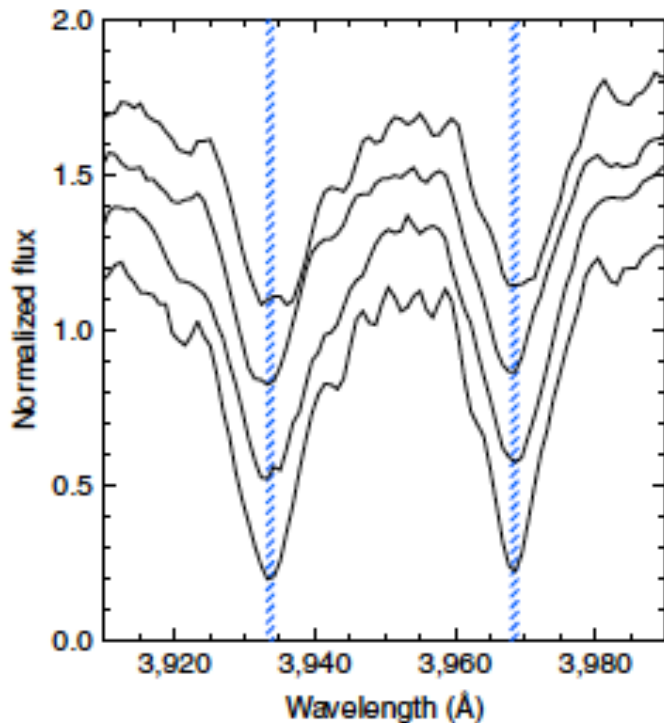
5648 main-sequence stars with effective temperature between 5000 and 6000 K and S/N > 10 (including 48 superflare stars)



71733 spectra in total

# Ca II H&K S index of LAMOST spectra

LAMOST spectra: 5648 solar-type stars including 48 superflare stars



$$S = \alpha \cdot \frac{H + K}{R + V}$$

## H & K

Recorded counts in a 1.09Å full-width at half-maximum triangular bandpasses centred on the H and K lines at 396.8 and 393.4 nm.

## V & R

20 Å wide reference bandpasses centered on 390.1 and 400.1 nm.

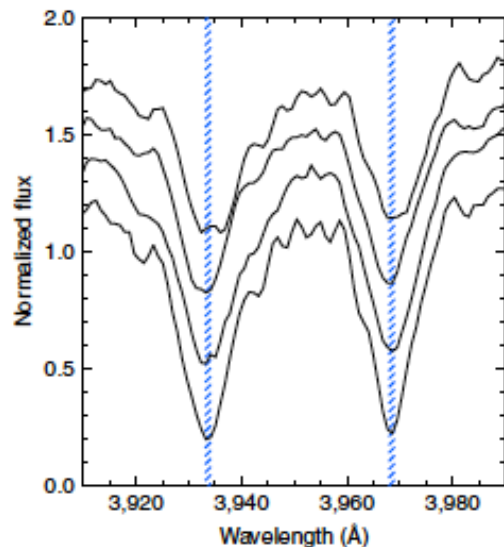
$\alpha$ : Normalization constant

Karoff et al.

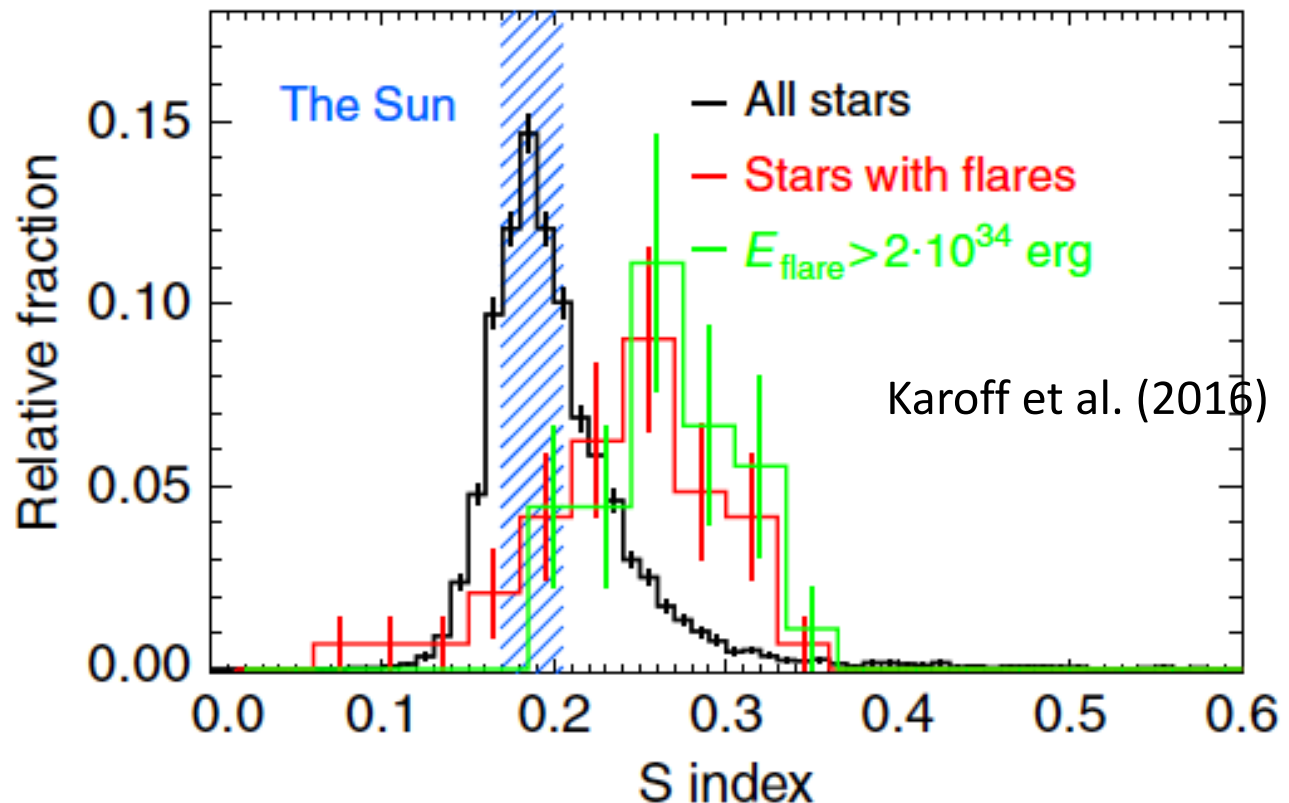
(2016 Nature Communications)

# Ca II H&K S index of LAMOST spectra

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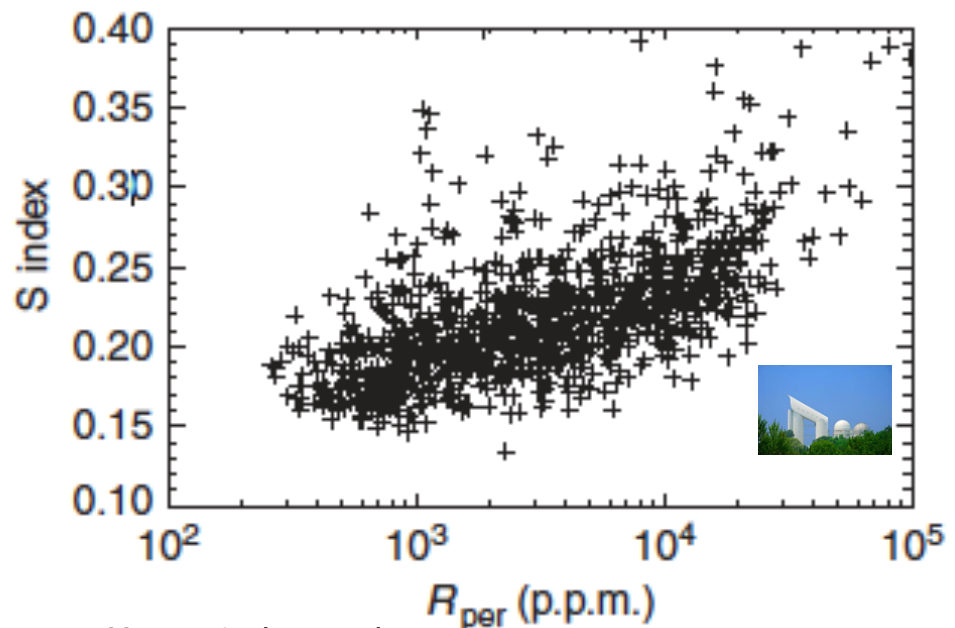


Superflare stars are generally characterized by larger chromospheric emissions than other stars.

→ Superflare stars have large active regions and starspots, as also suggested from Kepler data.

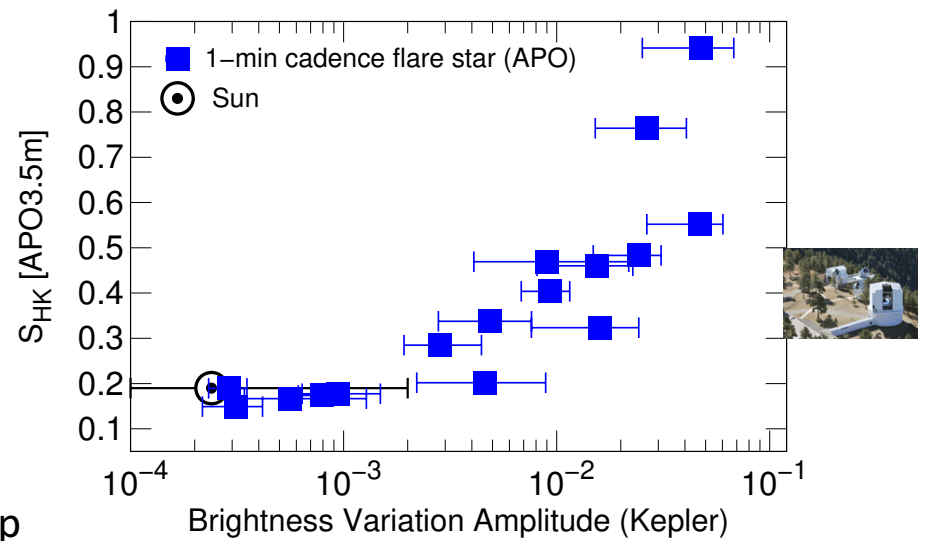
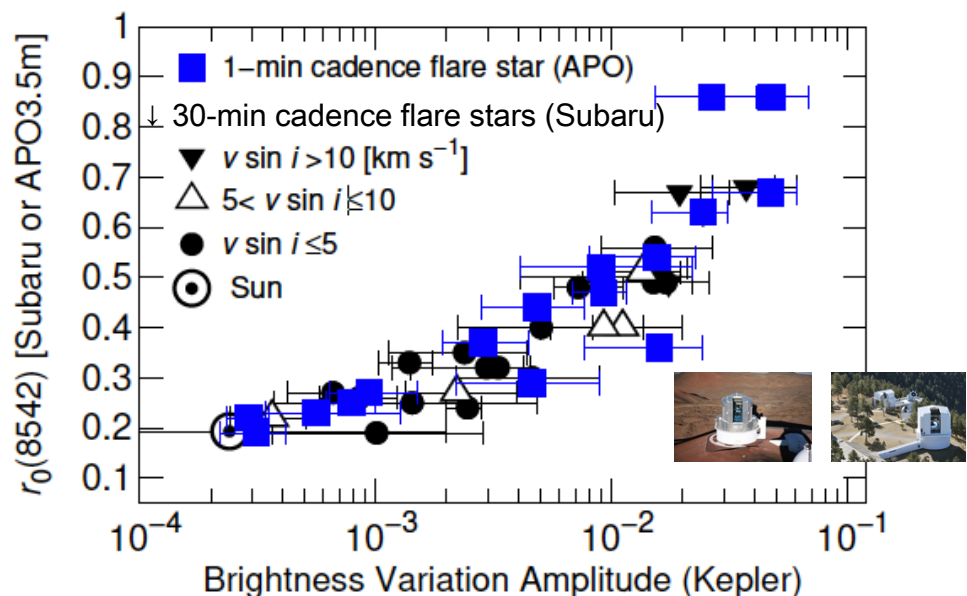
# Comparison of LAMOST data with Kepler & high-dispersion spectroscopic data

LAMOST S index (Ca II HK)  
vs. Kepler Brightness Variation Amplitude



Karoff et al. (2016)

Ca II intensity (Subaru & APO3.5m)  
vs. Kepler Brightness Variation Amplitude

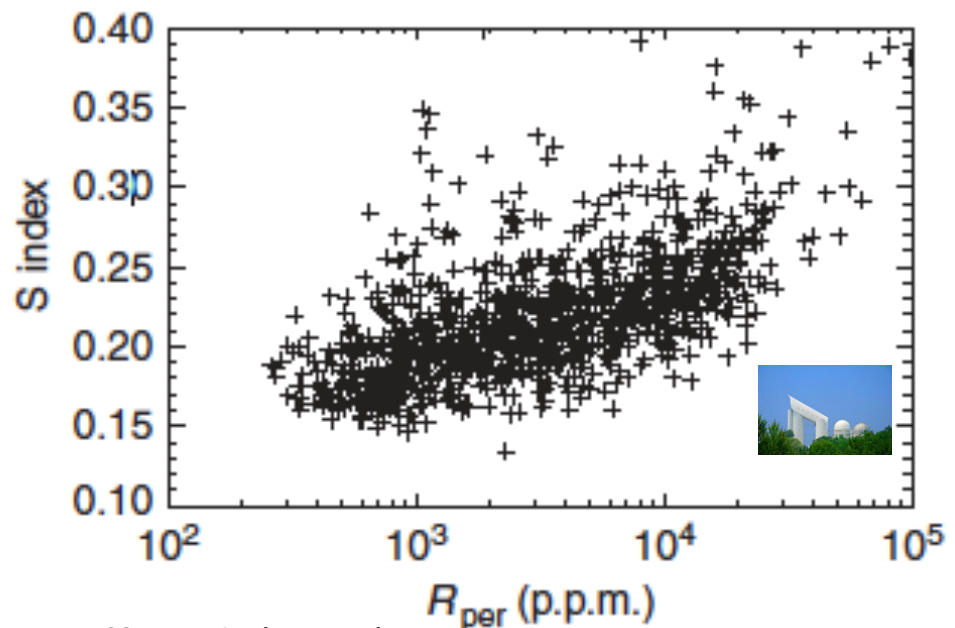


Notsu+2015b & 2017 in prep



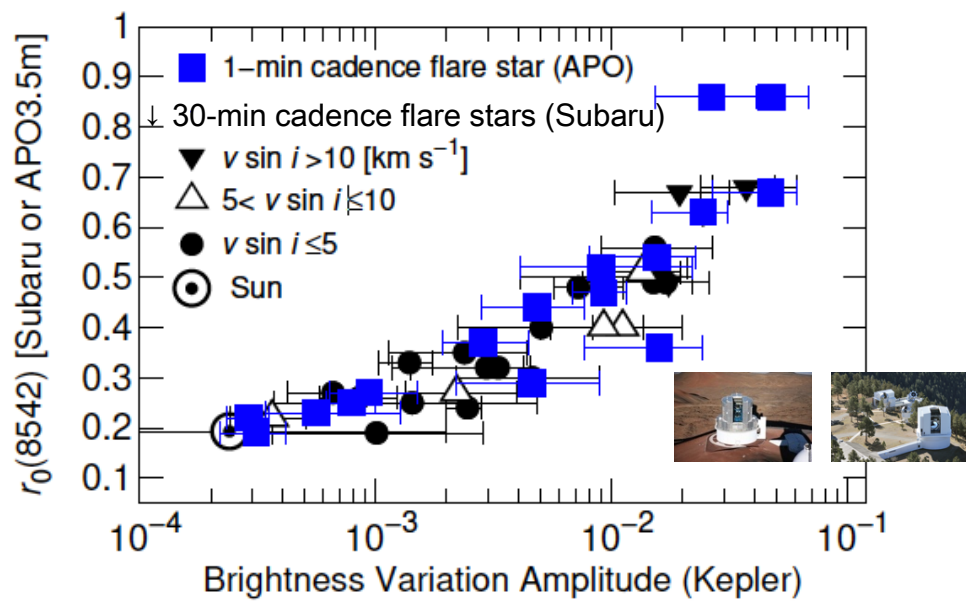
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Karoff et al. (2016)

Ca II intensity (Subaru & APO3.5m) vs. Kepler Brightness Variation Amplitude



Notsu+2015b & 2017 in prep

As for **spot coverage**, results from ①, ②, and ③ are roughly **consistent**.

- ① **Kepler** : Brightness Variation Amplitude
- ② High dispersion spectroscopy (**Subaru & APO**): Ca II lines
- ③ **LAMOST** Ca II H&K **S index** (low resolution but **large number of samples** useful for many purposes)

# Comparison of Ca II H&K lines with other chromospheric lines (Ca II 8542)



- One collaborative study we have just tried (Notsu & Karoff)

**Many chromospheric lines** used for stellar activity studies:

Ca II H&K (3933/3968Å), Ca II IRT (8498/8542/8662Å)

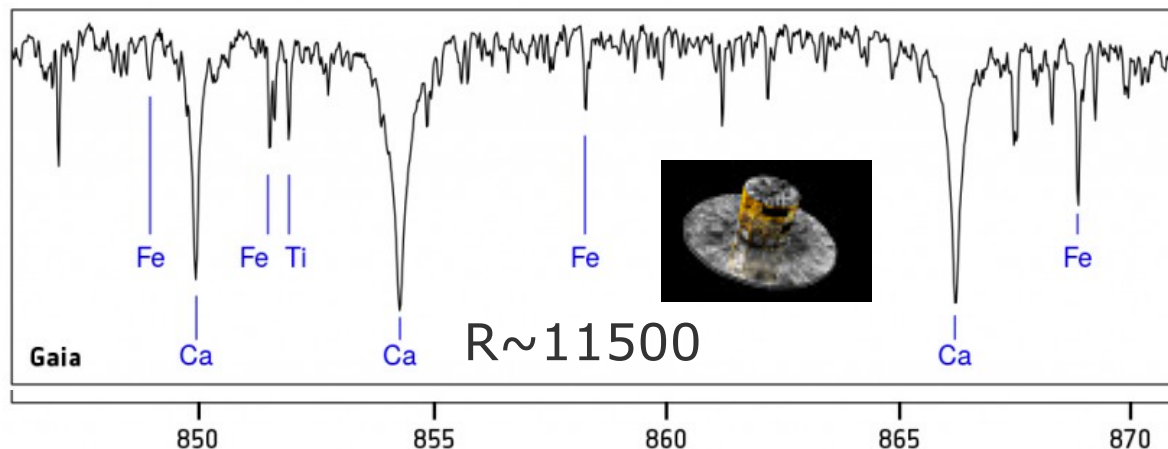
H $\alpha$  6563Å, He I 5876Å, etc

Historically, Ca II H&K lines have been widely used.

It is interesting to compare how well correlate with other lines.

**Gaia spectroscopy (including Ca II IRT)**

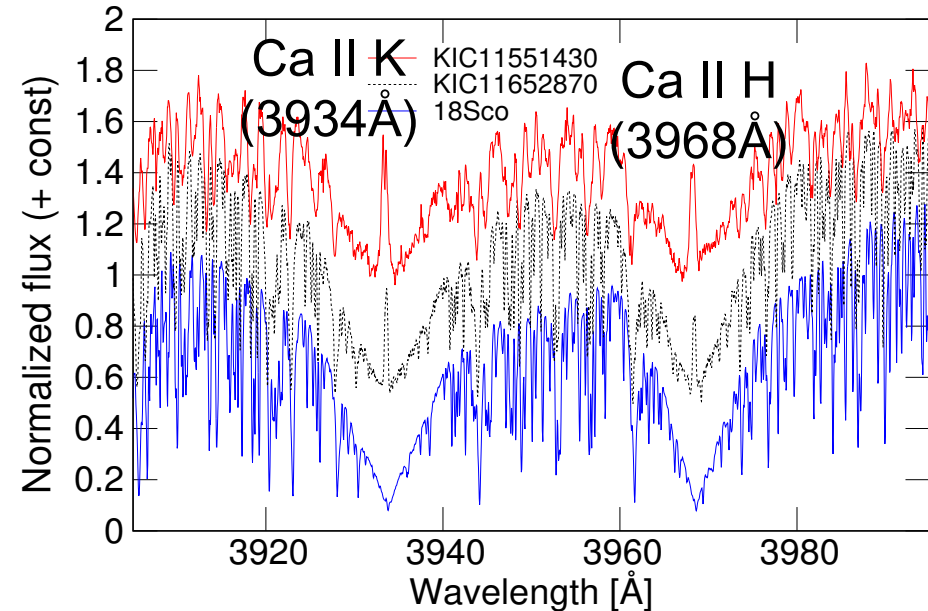
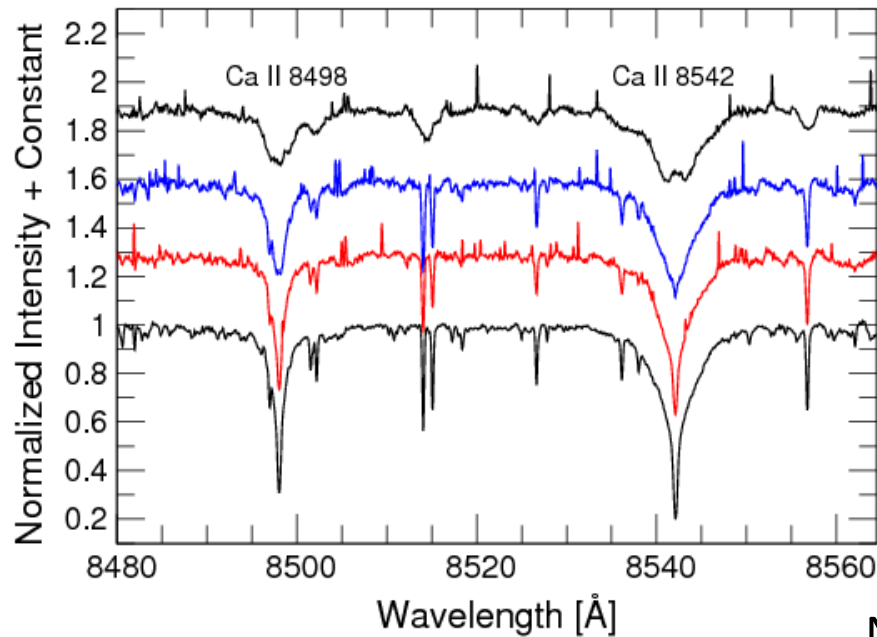
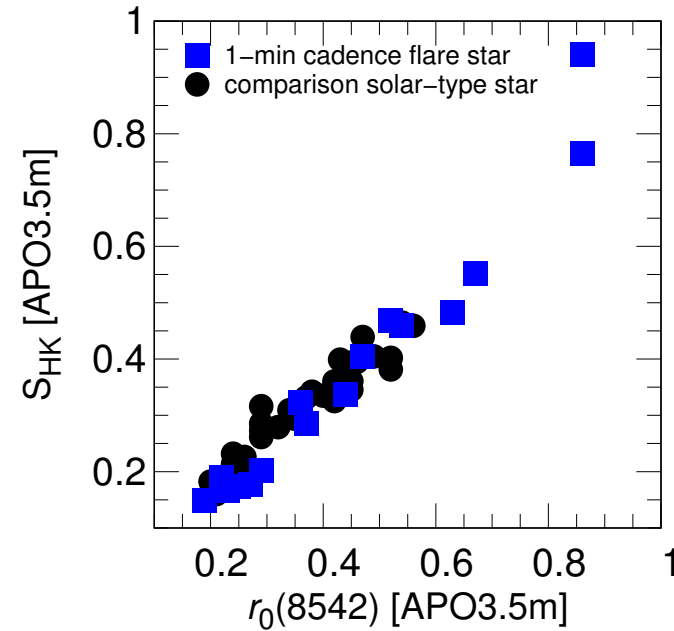
In future, Ca II IRT lines are possibly important with Gaia data??



Gaia Third release (mid to late 2020) ?? Wavelength (nm)

# Comparison of Ca II H&K lines with other chromospheric lines (Ca II 8542)

In high dispersion spectra:



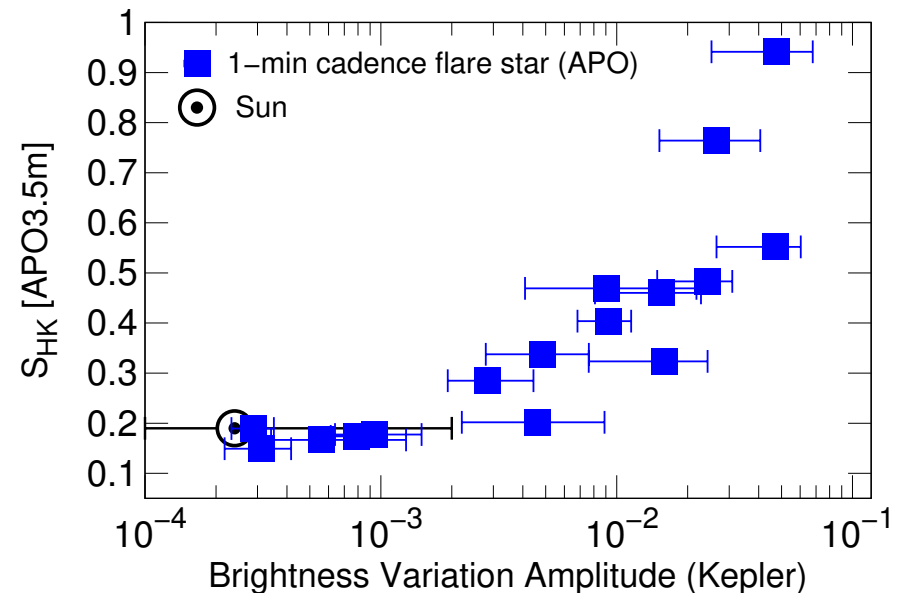
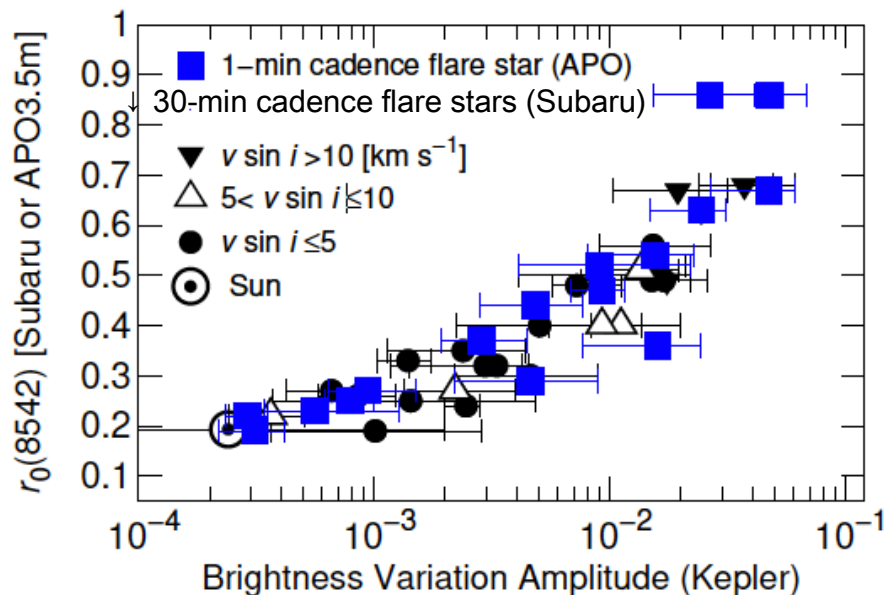
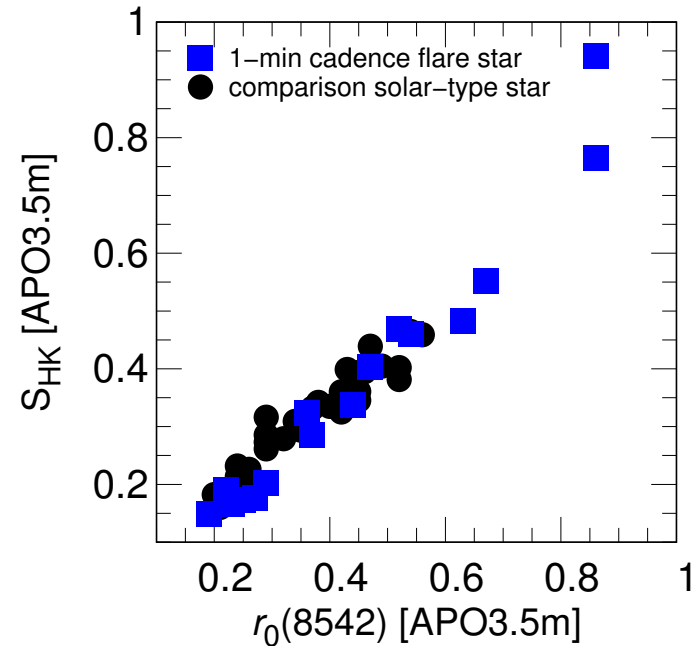
Notsu et al. in prep

# Comparison of Ca II H&K lines with other chromospheric lines (Ca II 8542)

In high dispersion spectra:

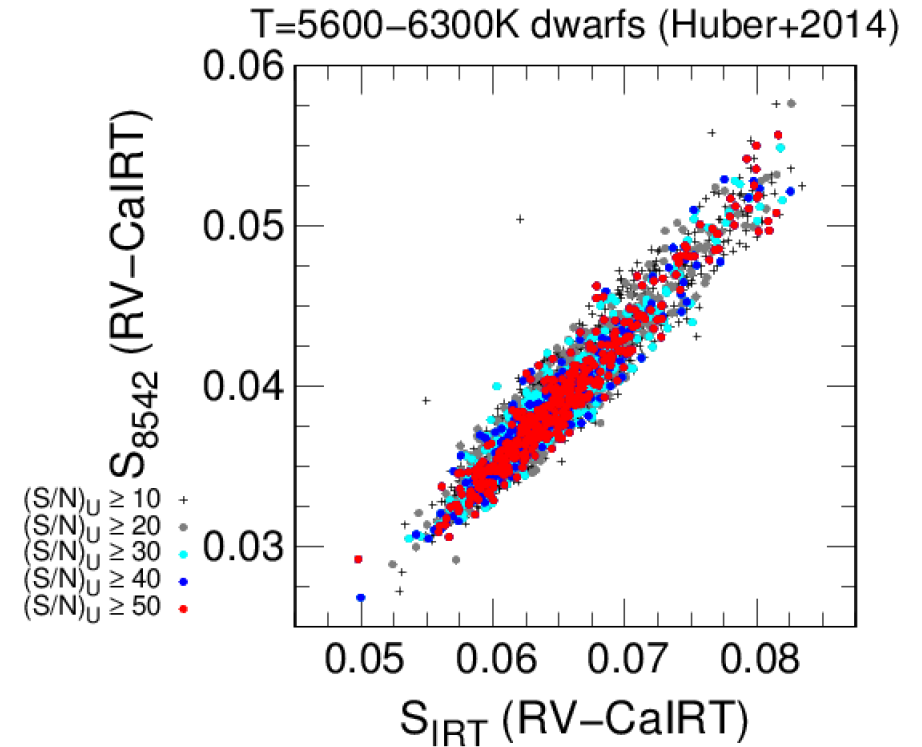
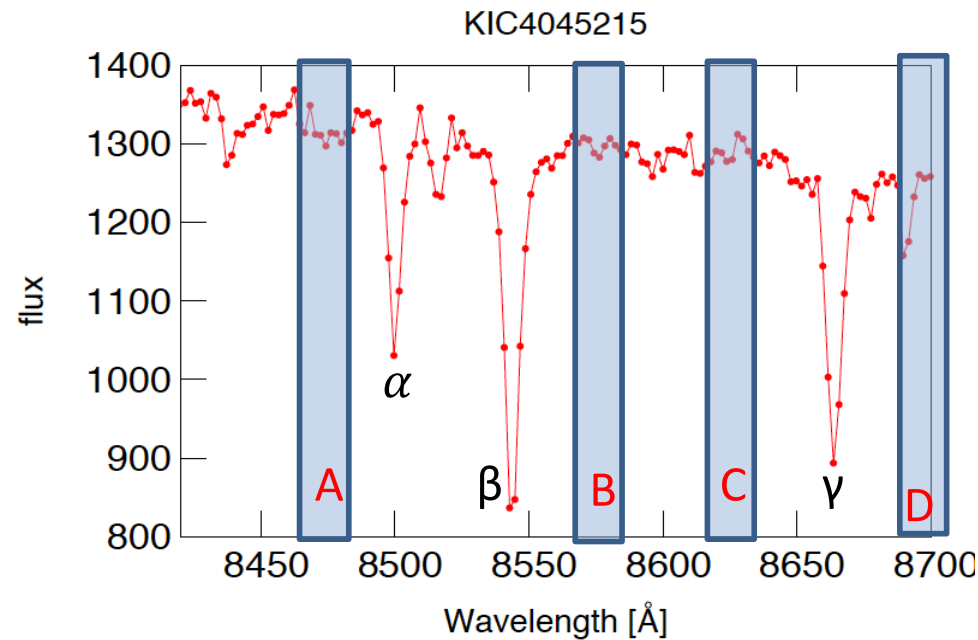


Notsu et al. in prep



# Comparison of Ca II H&K lines with other chromospheric lines (Ca II 8542)

In LAMOST spectra (R=1800) :



Triangles around (FWHM=2.18Å)

$\alpha$ : Ca II 8498.023Å

$\beta$ : Ca II 8542.091Å

$\gamma$ : Ca II 8662.141Å

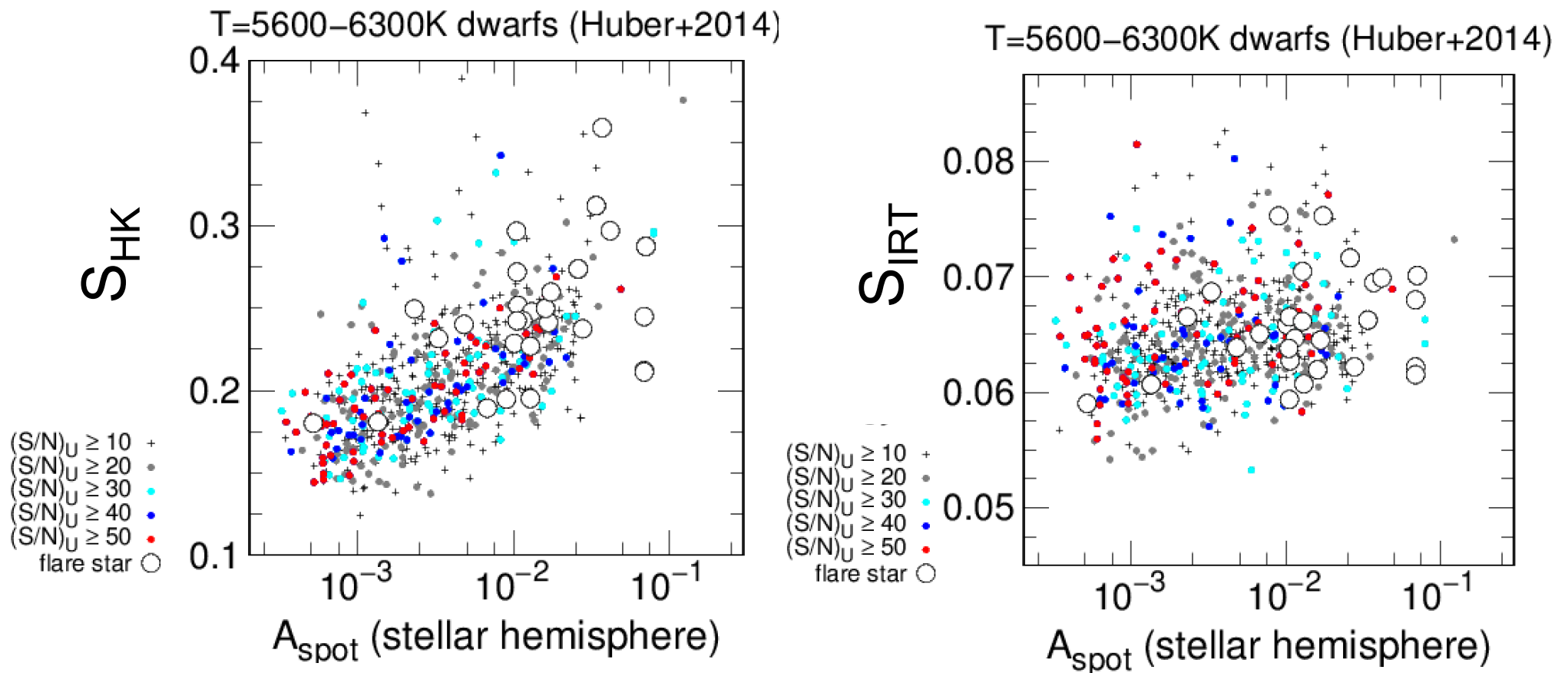
$$S_{8542} = \frac{\beta}{A + B}$$

$$S_{IRT} = \frac{\alpha + \beta + \gamma}{A + B + C + D}$$

# Comparison of Ca II H&K lines with other chromospheric lines (Ca II 8542)

!! Very Preliminary results !!

In LAMOST spectra ( $R \sim 1800$ ), Ca II HK spectra are better indicator if we compare with Kepler data ??  
How about Gaia ( $R \sim 11500$ )??



## Summary of Part 2:

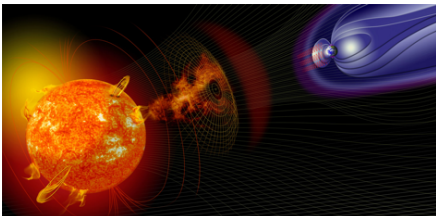
### Superflare studies with **LAMOST-Kepler Survey data**

- Ca II H&K data (Karoff+2016: **5648** stars with 48 flare stars)  
Superflare stars are generally characterized by **larger chromospheric emissions** than other stars.
- As for **spot coverage**, results from ①, ②, and ③ are roughly **consistent**.
  - ① **Kepler** : Brightness Variation Amplitude
  - ② **High dispersion spectroscopy** (Subaru & APO): Ca II lines
  - ③ **LAMOST** Ca II H&K S index (low resolution but **large number of samples** useful for many purposes)
- Comparison of Ca II H&K lines with Ca II IRT (8542)
  - High dispersion spectroscopy ( $R \sim 32000$ ): good correlation
  - LAMOST ( $R=1800$ ): a bit hard ?? (Ca II 8542: not so good)
  - **Gaia** ( $R \sim 11500$ ): ??
- Future comparison?: M-dwarfs (e.g, Frasca's talk, Chang et al. 2017), TESS data, other survey(4-most etc), .... etc





# Backup slides



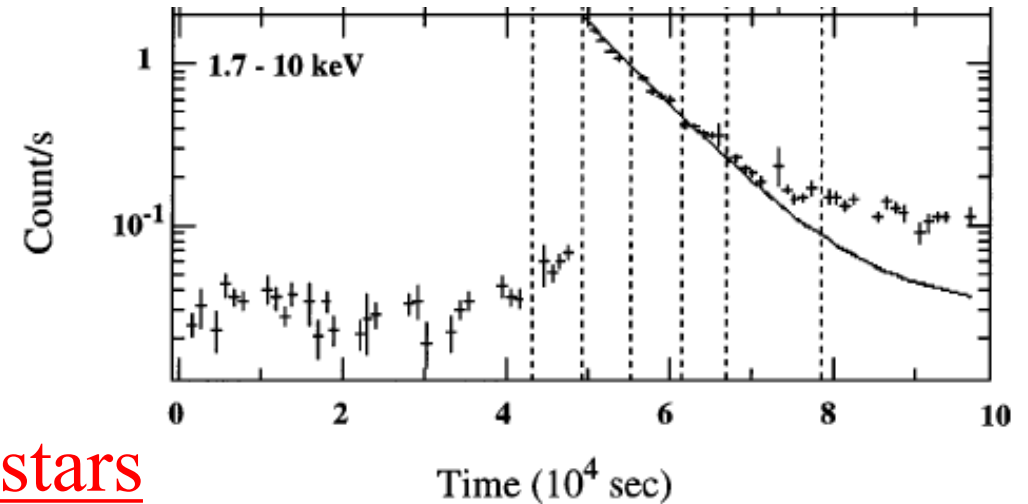
©NASA

# Superflares

- Larger flares (energy  $10^{33} - 10^{38}$  ergs) are observed on a variety of stars.

- close binary systems
- YSOs (e.g. T Tauri stars)
- Active M-dwarfs

→ Mainly rapidly rotating stars



V773 Tau (T Tauri binary)

Tsuboi et al., ApJ, 503, 894 (1998)

In contrast, the **Sun** is not young and **rotates slowly**

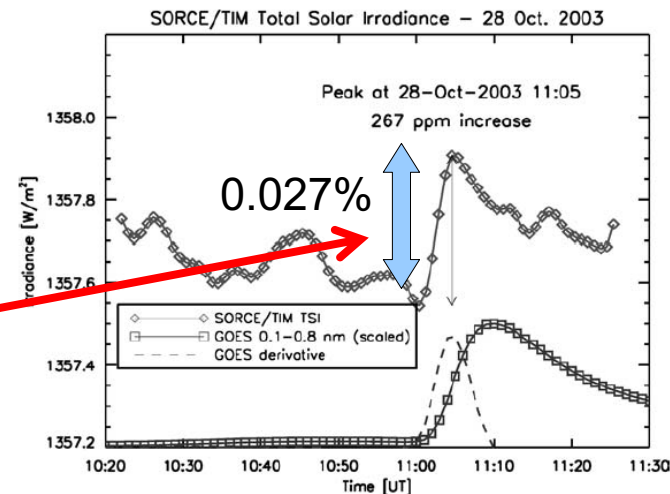
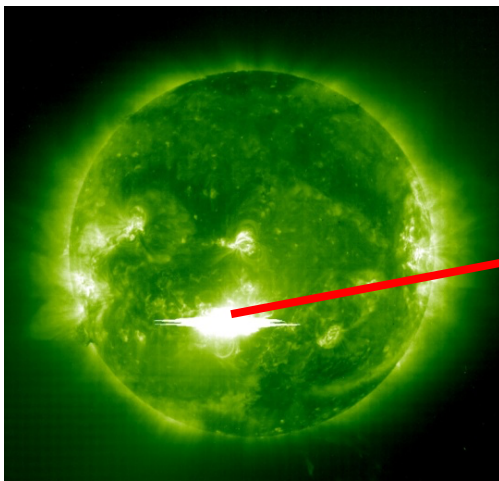
→ It has been believed our Sun does not have superflares.

Really ??

# Difficulties of detection of flares on solar-type stars

- The change in the stellar brightness due to flares on solar-type stars is very small.
  - X17 solar flare:  $\Delta F/F \sim 10^{-4}$  → X1000 flare:  $\Delta F/F \sim 10^{-2}$
- The frequency of superflares may be extremely low.
  - X1000 flares may be 100 times less frequent than X10 flares.
- Flares are sudden and impulsive events !

→ Continus monitoring observation with high time resolution is important.



Kopp et al., Solar Phys. 230, 129 (2005)

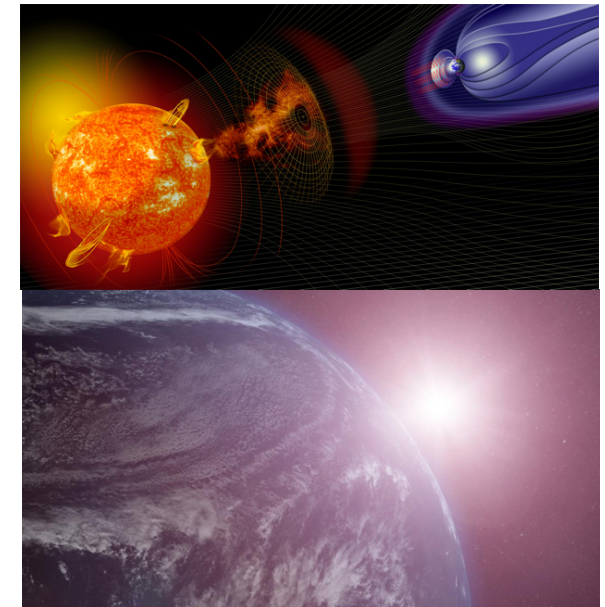
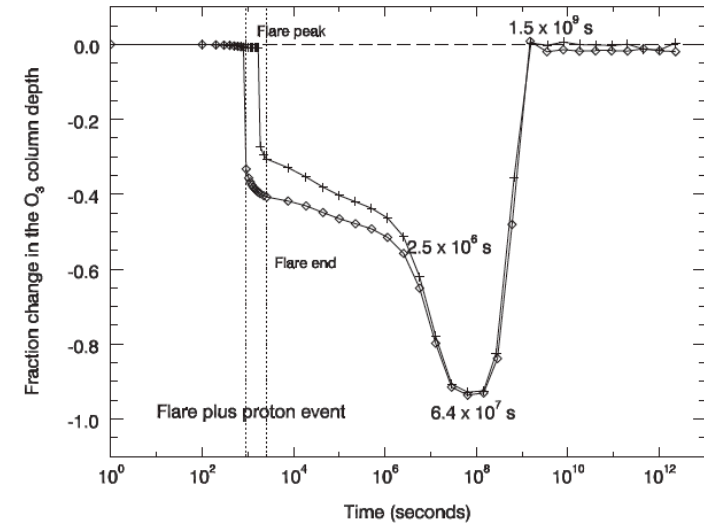
# Potential impacts on habitability from large flares (superflares)

For example ....

[Segura et al. 2010 Astrobiology]  
**Ozone depletion** of Earth-like planet orbiting a M-dwarf **flaring** star

[Airapetian et al. 2016 Nature Geoscience]  
**Active young Sun** has large effects on **atmospheric warming** and **prebiotic chemistry** of early Earth.

**Statistical studies of flares on G,K,M-type stars** are important for evaluating the potential impacts on (exo)planetary habitability



# Flare energy vs. area of starspots

- Flare energy is consistent with the magnetic energy stored around the starspots.

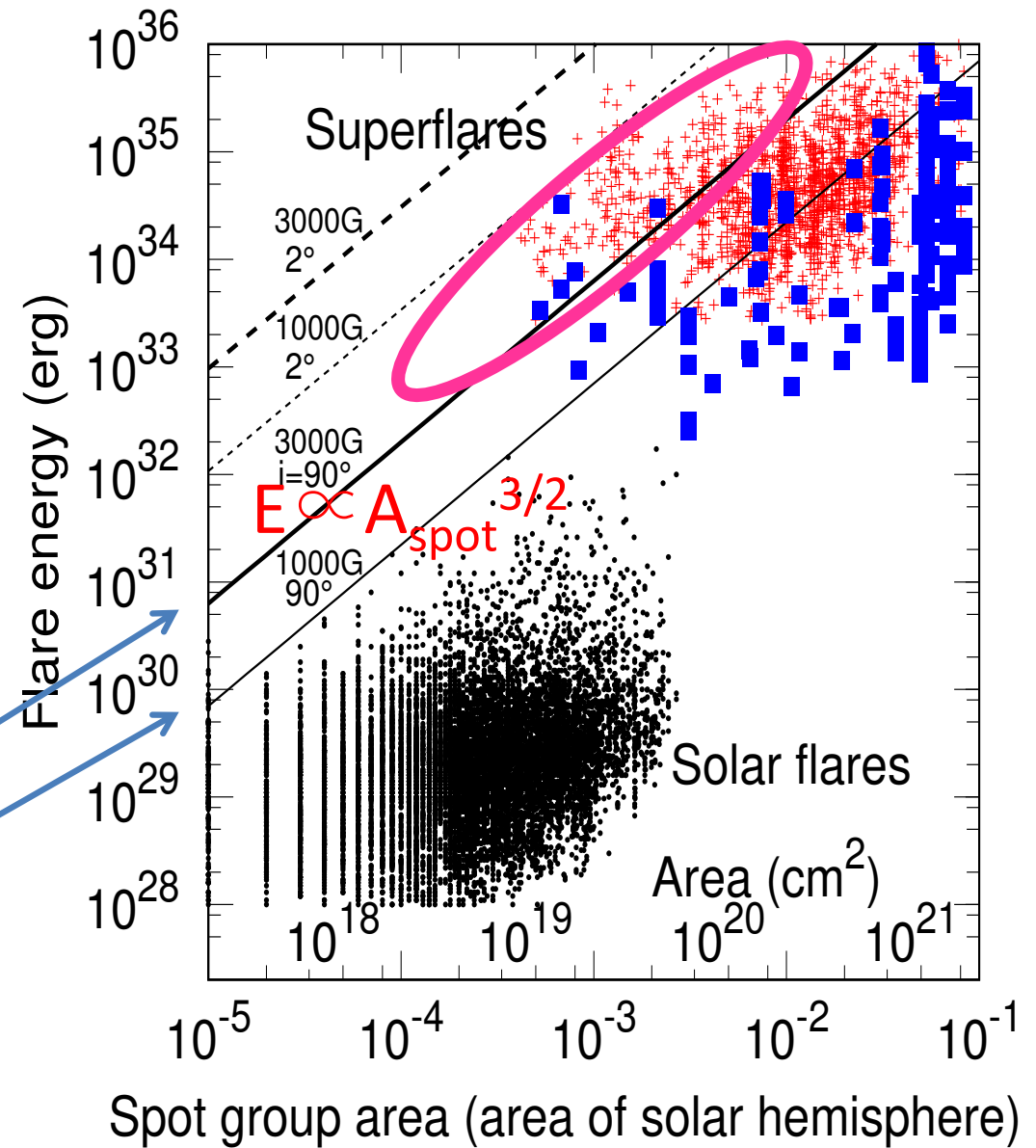
⇒ Large starspots are necessary.

$$E_{\text{flare}} \approx f E_{\text{mag}} \approx f \frac{B^2 L^3}{8\pi} \approx f \frac{B^2}{8\pi} A_{\text{spot}}^{3/2}$$

- Flares above the line may occur on the stars with low-inclination angle (or stars with polar spots?)

f=0.1, B=3000G

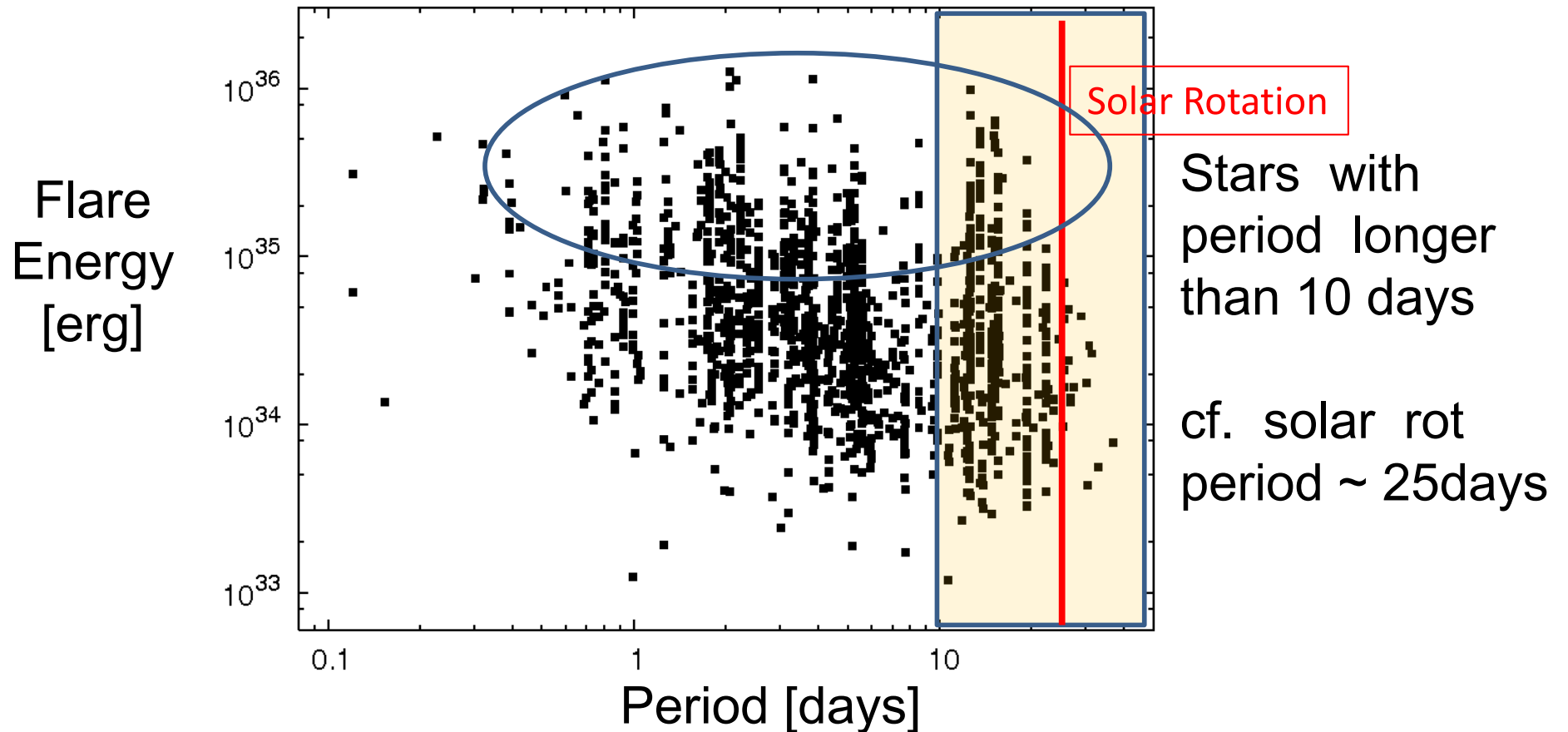
f=0.1, B=1000G



Notsu+2013

Maehara+2015 EPS

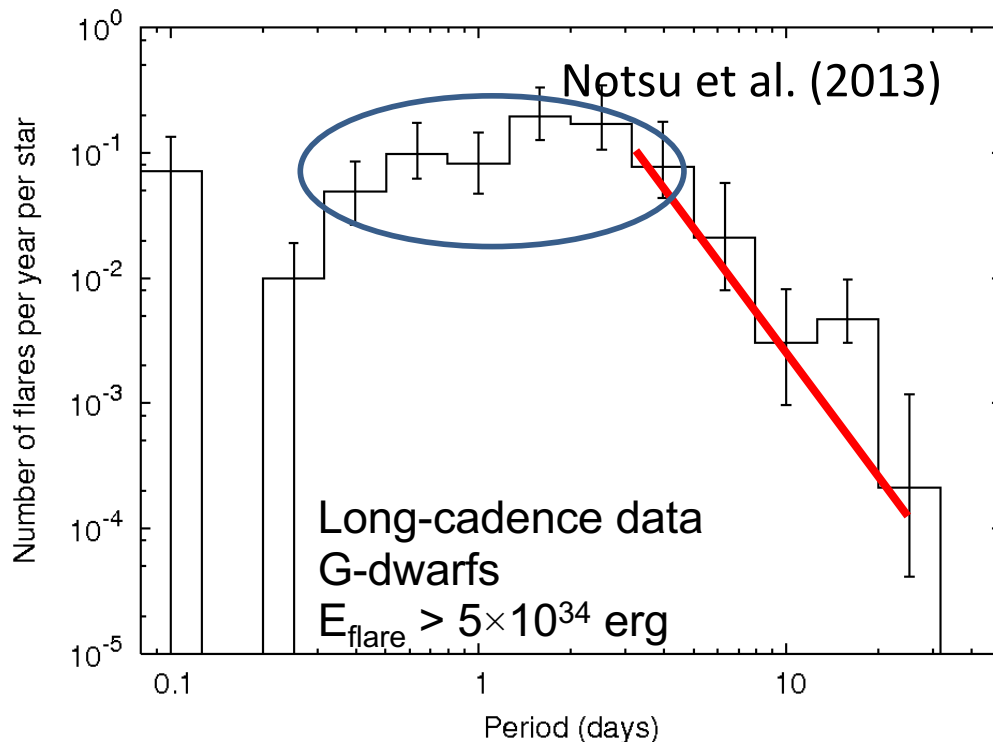
# Flare energy vs. rotation period



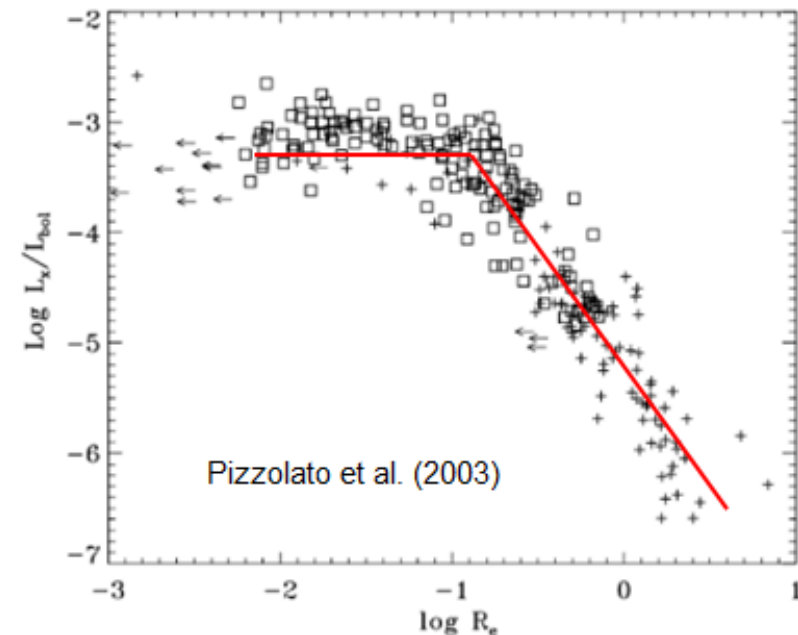
- The energy of the largest flares observed in a given period bin does **not** have a clear correlation with the rotation period.
  - Superflares may occur on the slowly-rotating stars.
  - (Of course, flare frequency decrease as rotation period increases.)

# Flare frequency vs. rotation period

- The frequency of superflares decreases as the rotation period increases ( $P > 2-3$  days).
  - The frequency of superflares shows the “saturation” for a period range  $< 3$  days.
    - similar to the relation between  $L_x$  vs. Rotation period



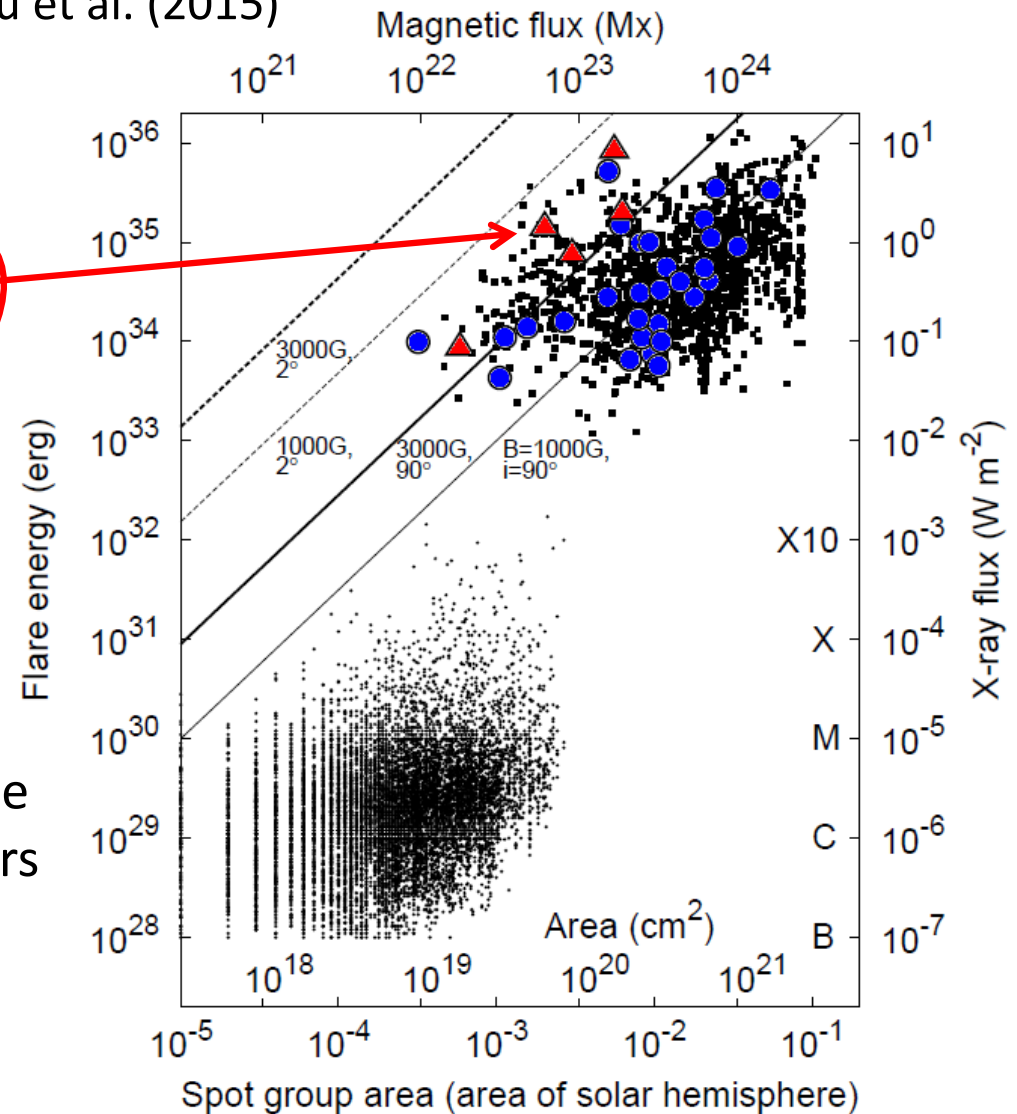
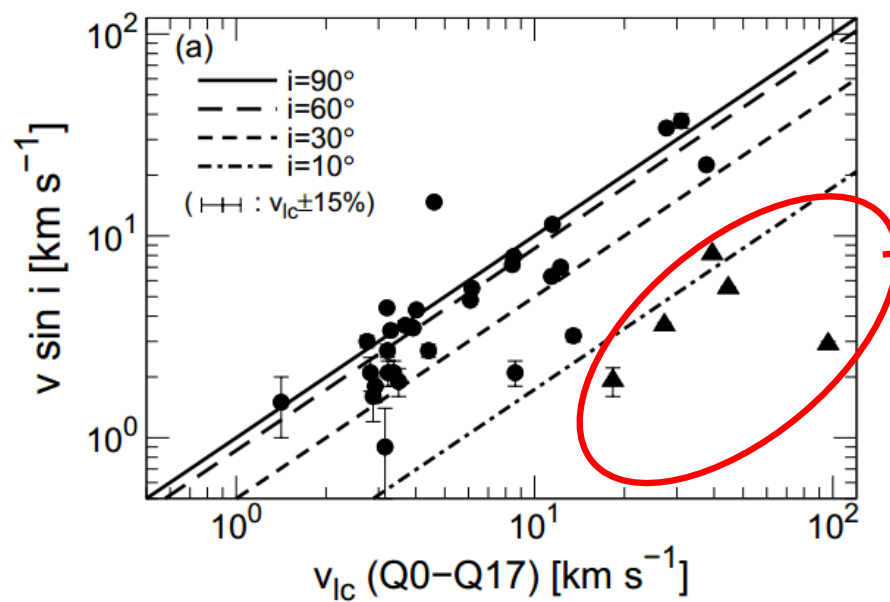
## $L_x/L_{\text{bol}}$ vs. Rossby number



$$(R_o = P_{\text{rot}} / t_{\text{conv}})$$

# Flare energy vs. area of starspots

Notsu et al. (2015)



Flares above the line may occur on the stars with **low-inclination angle** or stars with **“polar spots”**.



# Evidence of superflare ?

## LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature11123

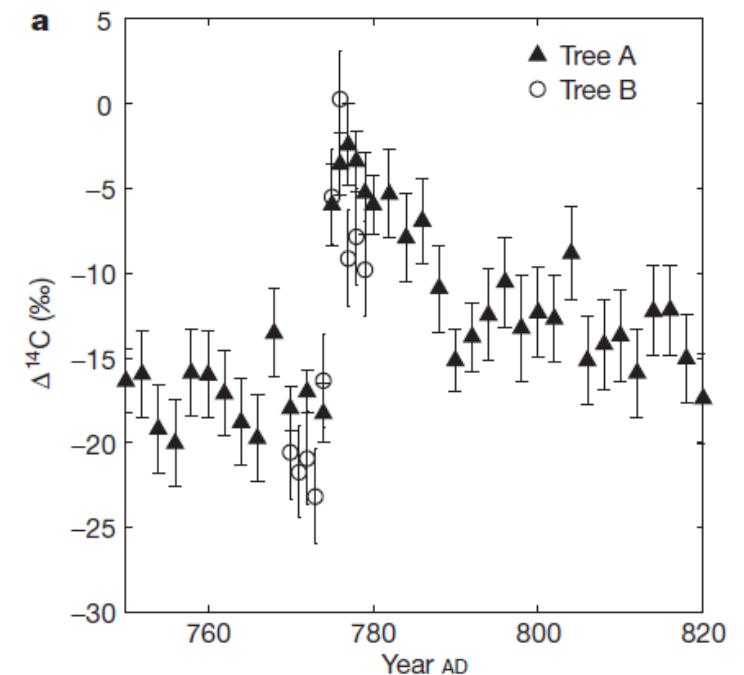
### A signature of cosmic-ray increase in AD 774–775 from tree rings in Japan

Fusa Miyake<sup>1</sup>, Kentaro Nagaya<sup>1</sup>, Kimiaki Masuda<sup>1</sup> & Toshio Naka

Increases in  $^{14}\text{C}$  concentrations in tree rings could be attributed to cosmic-ray events<sup>1–7</sup>, as have increases in  $^{10}\text{Be}$  and nitrate in ice cores<sup>8,9</sup>. The record of the past 3,000 years in the IntCal09 data set<sup>10</sup>, which is a time series at 5-year intervals describing the  $^{14}\text{C}$  content of trees over a period of approximately 10,000 years, shows three periods during which  $^{14}\text{C}$  increased at a rate greater than 3‰ over 10 years. Two of these periods have been measured at high time resolution, but neither showed increases on a timescale of about 1 year (refs 11 and 12). Here we report  $^{14}\text{C}$  measurements in annual rings of Japanese cedar trees from AD 750 to AD 820 (the

Corresponding to  $10^{34}$ – $10^{35}$  erg superflare  
If this is due to a solar flare

(Miyake et al. Nature,  
2012, June, 486, 240)



**Figure 1 | Measured radiocarbon content and comparison with IntCal98.** The concentration of  $^{14}\text{C}$  is expressed as  $\Delta^{14}\text{C}$ , which is the deviation (in ‰) of the  $^{14}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$  ratio of a sample with respect to modern carbon (standard sample), after correcting for the age and isotopic fractionation<sup>30</sup>. **a**,  $\Delta^{14}\text{C}$  data for tree A (filled triangles with error bars) and tree B (open circles with error bars) for the period AD 750–820 with 1- or 2-year resolution. The typical precision of a single

# Another evidence ?

From Miyake et al. (2013)

Nature Communications 2783

