

# Preliminary Results from CLASSY:

Lots of little cold classicals, and maybe a distant TNO

**PIs:**

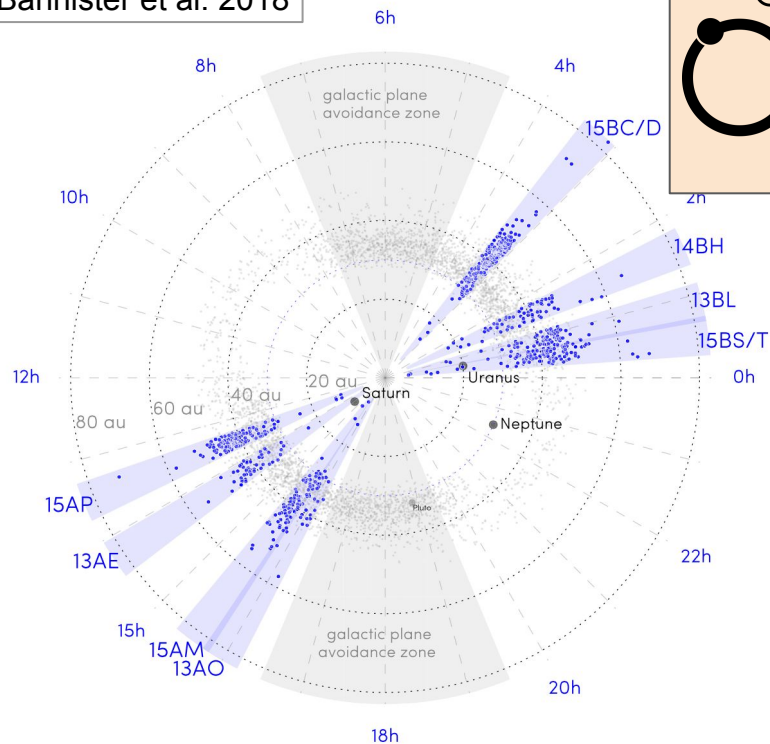
**Samantha Lawler** (U. of Regina, Saskatchewan)  
**Wesley Fraser** (NRC-Herzberg)

Mike Alexandersen (CfA/MPC)  
Edward Ashton (ASIAA)  
Michele Bannister (U. Canterbury)  
Rex Chang (ASIAA)  
Charles Chen (ASIAA)  
Andy Connolly (UW)  
Preeti Cowan (Auckland U.)  
Marielle Eduardo (UVic)  
Brett Gladman (UBC)  
Stephen Gwyn (NRC)  
Yukun Huang (UBC)  
JJ Kavelaars (NRC/UVic)

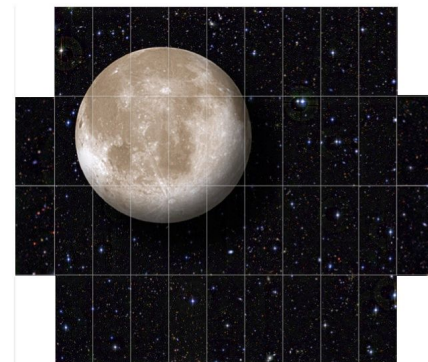
J. Bryce Kalmbach (UW)  
Ruth Murray-Clay (UCSC)  
Benoit Noyelles (OSU THETA)  
Lowell Peltier (UVic)  
Jean-Marc Petit (OSU THETA)  
Rosemary Pike (CfA/MPC)  
Cameron Semenchuck (UVic)  
Nicole Tan (U. Canterbury)  
Christa Van Laerhoven (RASC)  
Kat Volk (PSI)  
Shiang-Yu Wang (ASIAA)



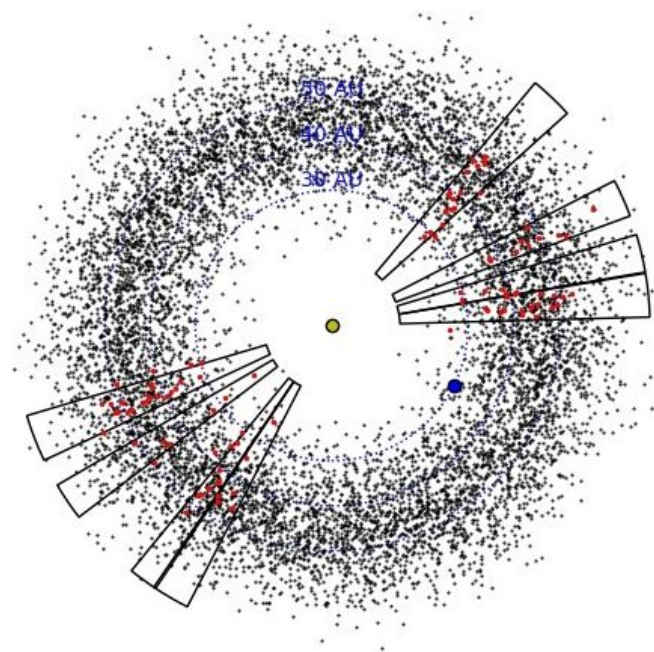
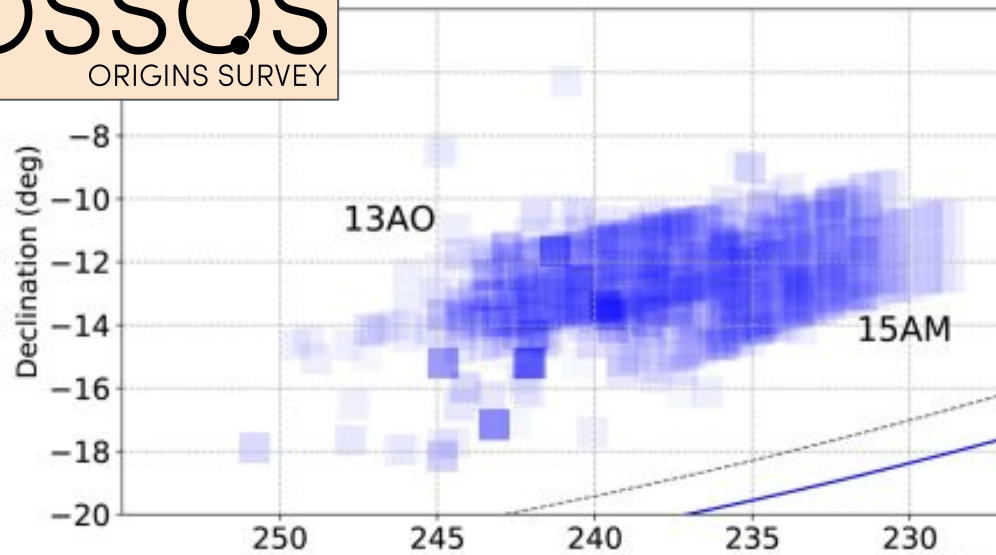
# OUTER SOLAR SYSTEM OSSOS ORIGINS SURVEY



1 square degree FOV



- Both surveys build on the framework of OSSOS/CFEPS (early 2000s-now).
- Using Megacam on CFHT, queue-observing
- CLASSY will be “well-characterized”: we know all our biases and can account for them in simulations. Currently in **preliminary** data reduction stage



Each survey block has a known magnitude limit, sky coverage, date of observation, detection efficiency, and tracking efficiency.

This lets us **debias** our measurements - how many TNOs with what size distribution in each subpopulation are required to match our detections in orbital elements and magnitude?

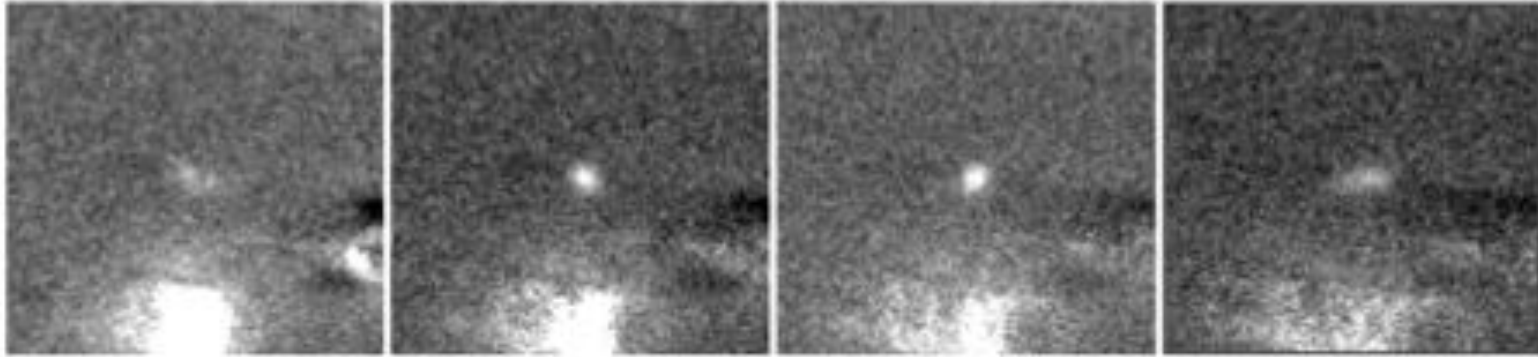
# CLASSY = deeper OSSOS

1.5"/hr

2.0"/hr

2.5"/hr

3.0"/hr



By shifting and stacking observations taken over the course of ~3-5 hours on CFHT, we should be able to go to much deeper magnitude limits

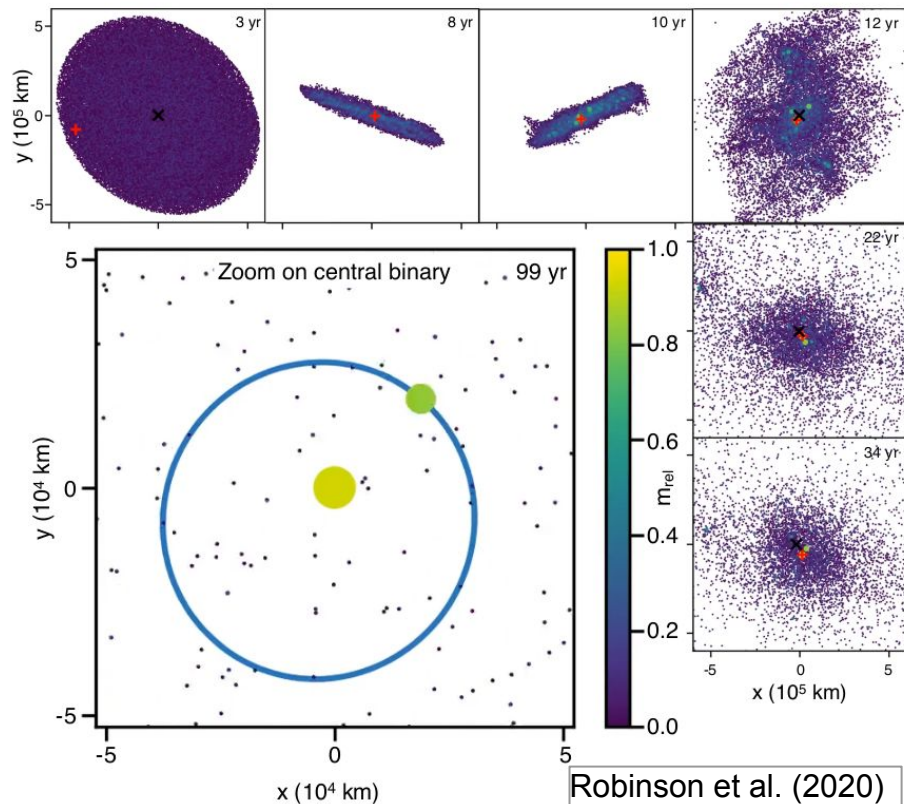
Goal: find **smaller** and **more distant** TNOs

# CLASSY science goal #1: Cold Classical size distribution

Predict we'll detect ~400 cold classical TNOs

Cold classicals so far are consistent with pebble collapse simulations

What does the size distribution of the smaller pieces look like?

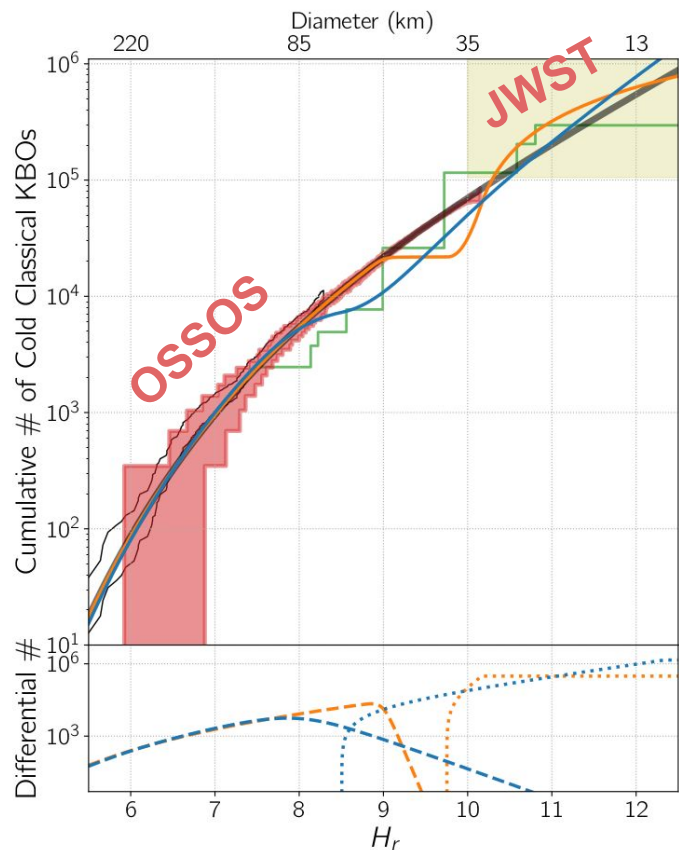


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Based on  
Kavelaars et  
al. (2021)

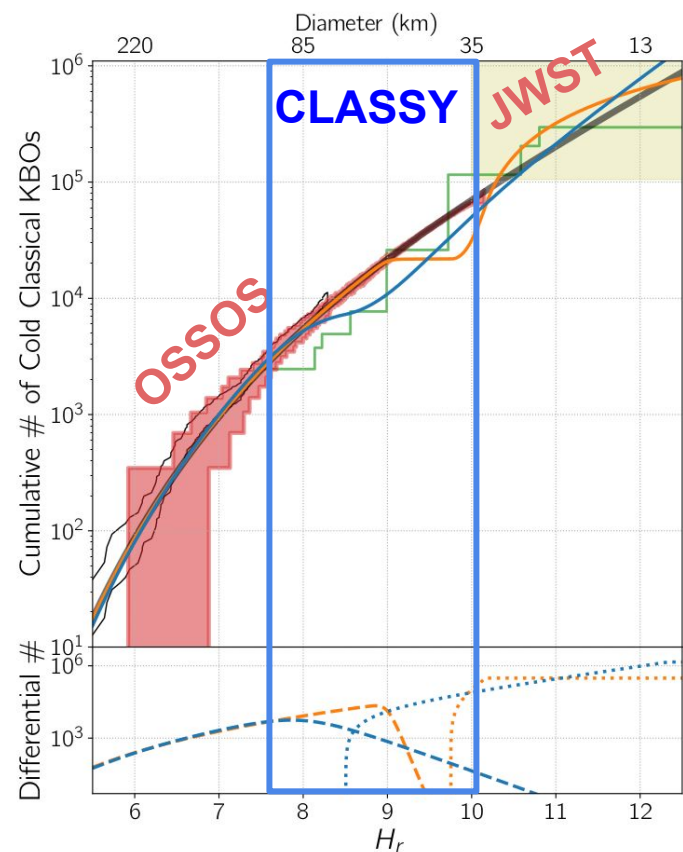


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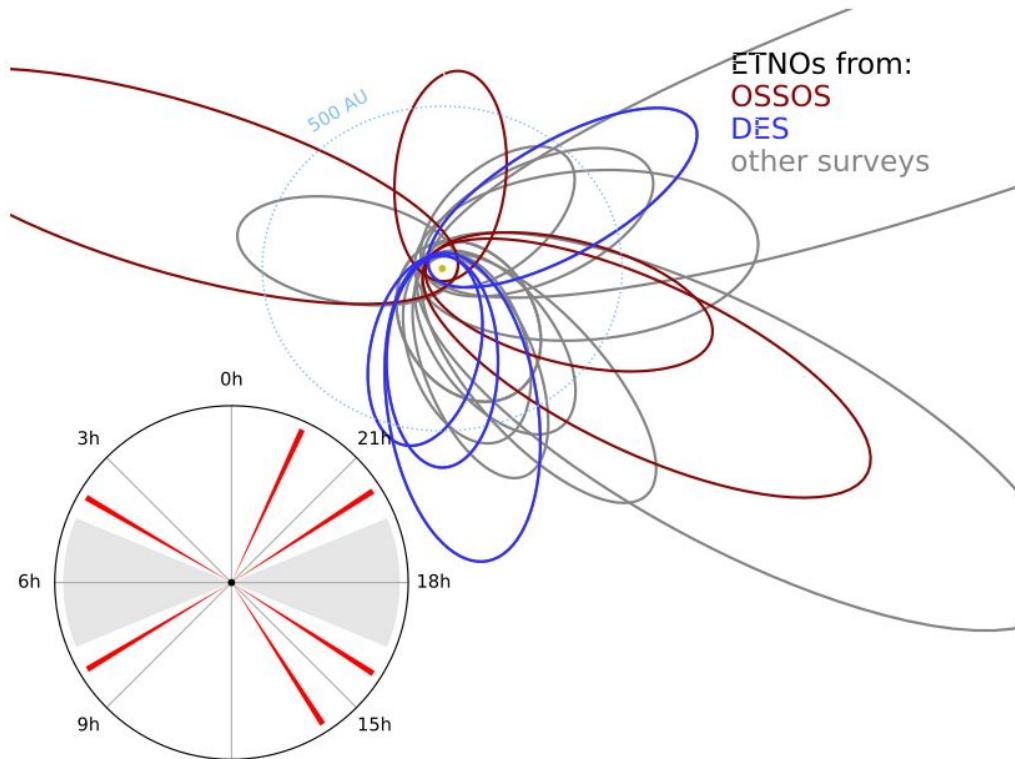
Based on  
Kavelaars et  
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# CLASSY science goal #2: Find distant TNOs all around Solar System

Fairly equally spaced discovery  
blocks around ecliptic

Each block has similar depths,  
will (hopefully!) have similar  
tracking fractions

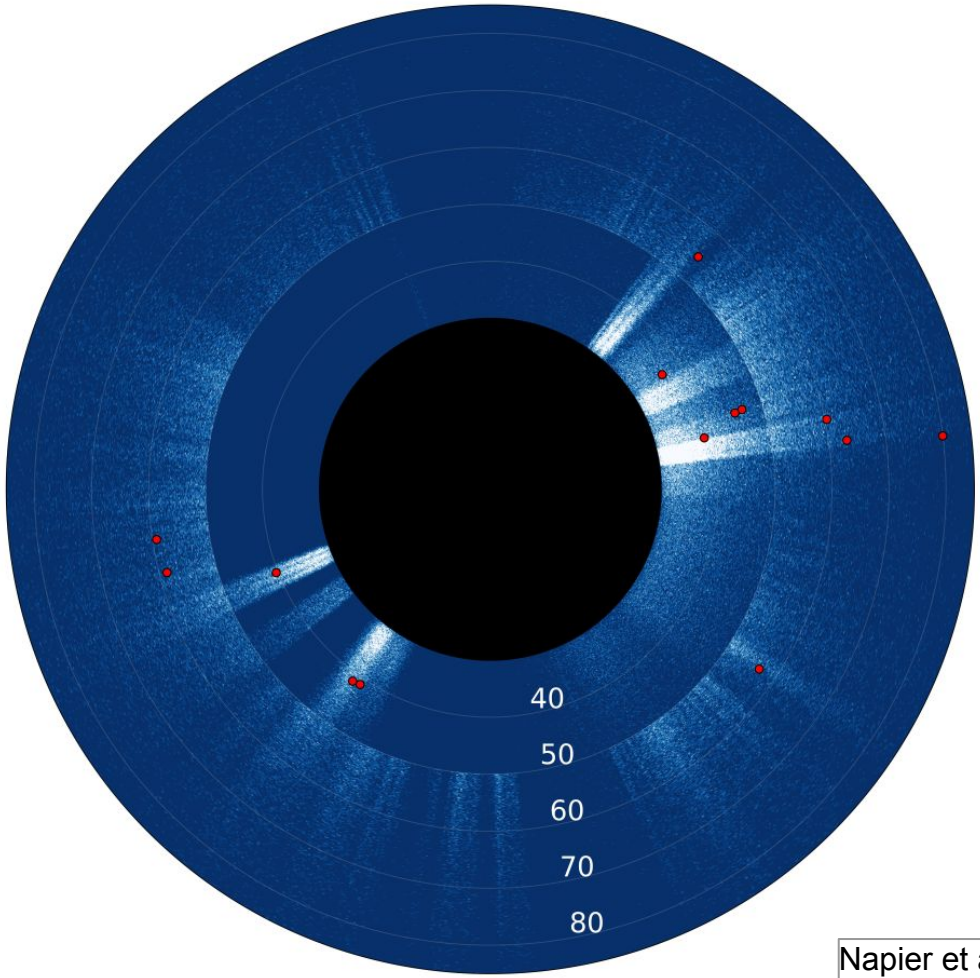
Could find a few ETNOs per  
pointing. Any patterns in the  
distribution?





You find high-q TNOs where you look for them.

Weather, Milky Way, telescope pressure all effect what parts of sky have been searched effectively



Napier et al. (2021)

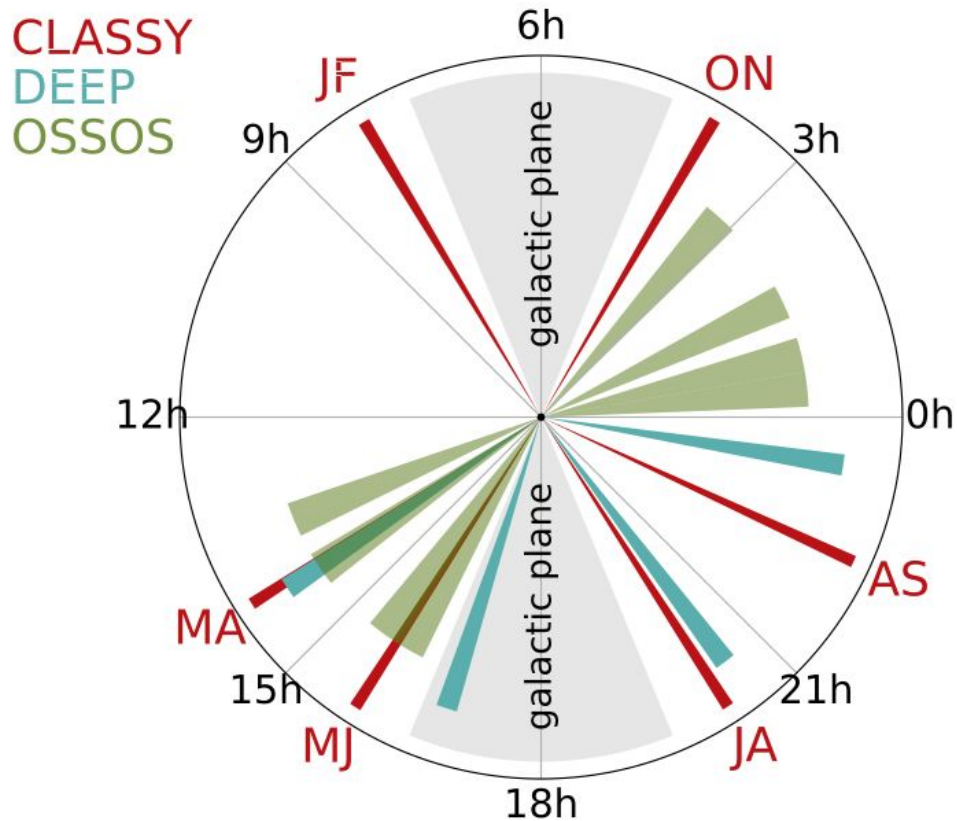
CLASSY's strategy: look in all directions (except the Milky Way).

Complement rather than duplicate DEEP (tiny bit of overlap with 1 OSSOS block, maybe one DEEP block, good sanity check!)

Will require a bit of luck to have excellent observing conditions in winter on Maunakea, but so far so good!

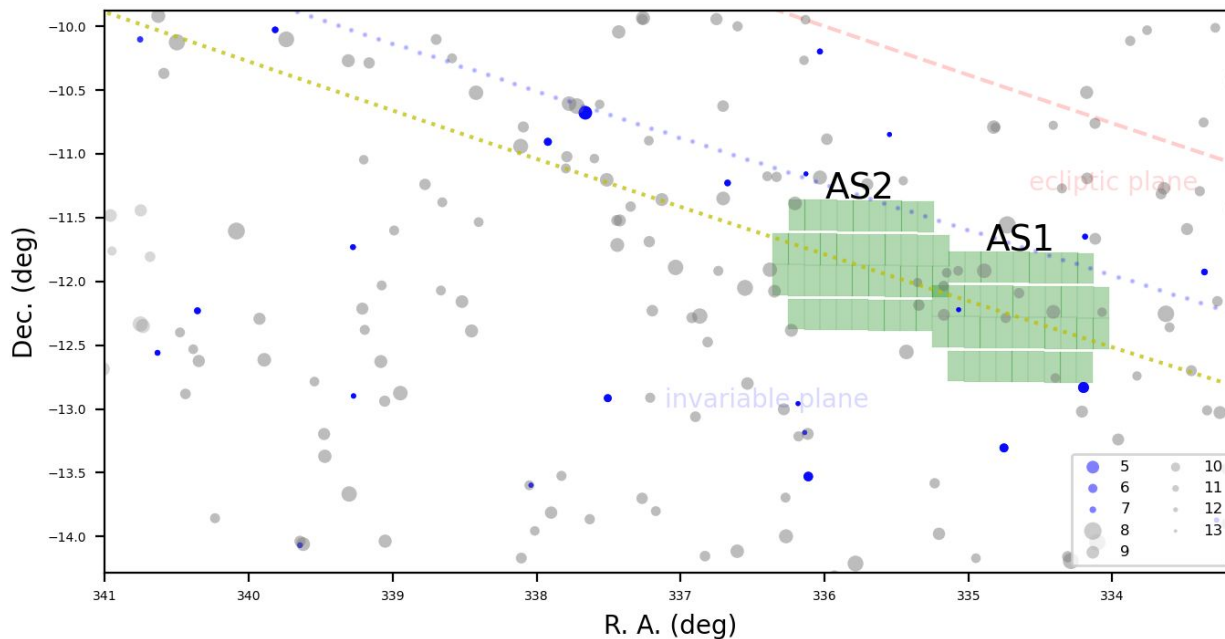
Observing started Aug 2022

Discovery sets all successful!

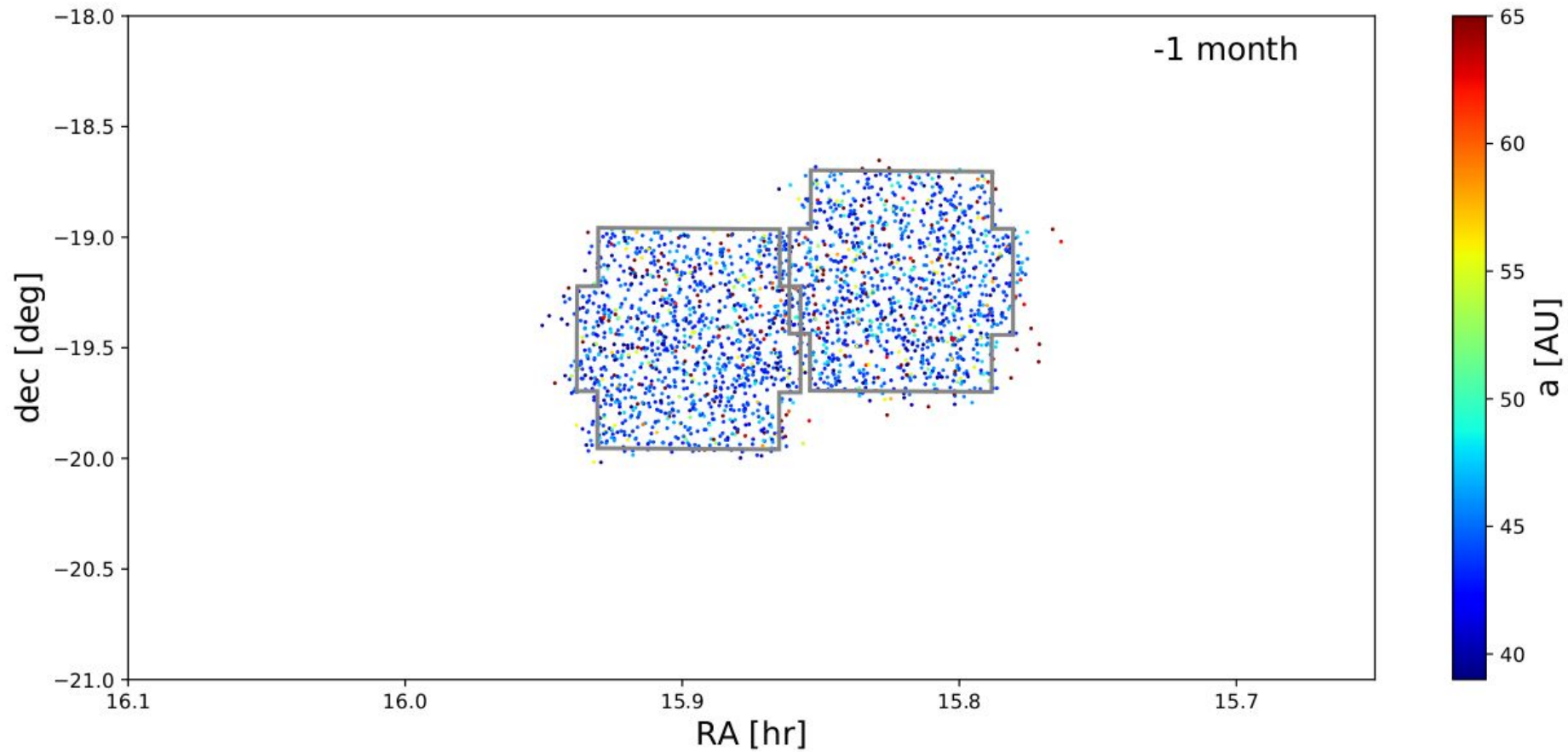


# CLASSY discovery strategy

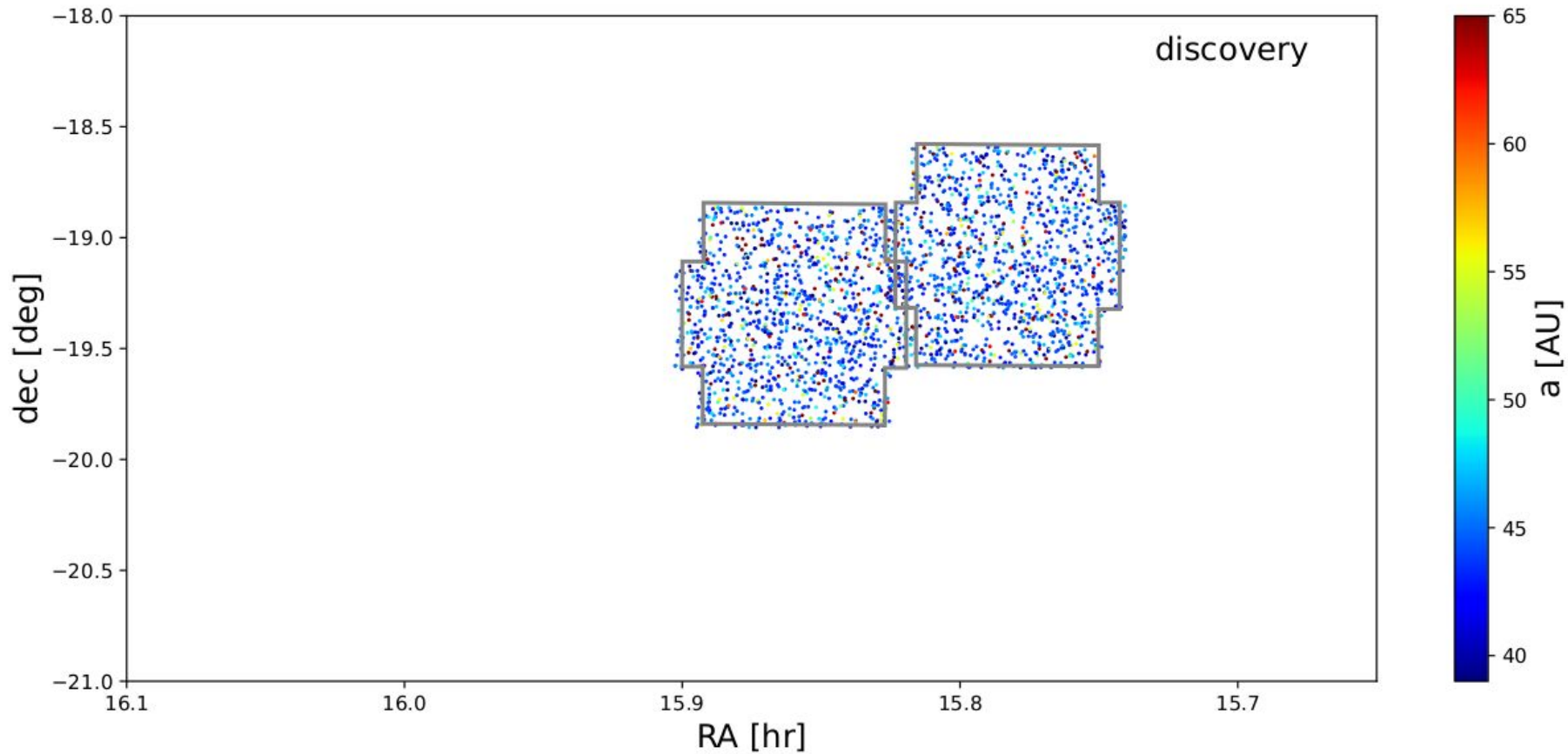
Highest density of TNOs will not be on the ecliptic plane, or the invariable plane, but on the “forced plane” (Huang, Gladman, & Volk 2022) - varies with distance and longitude



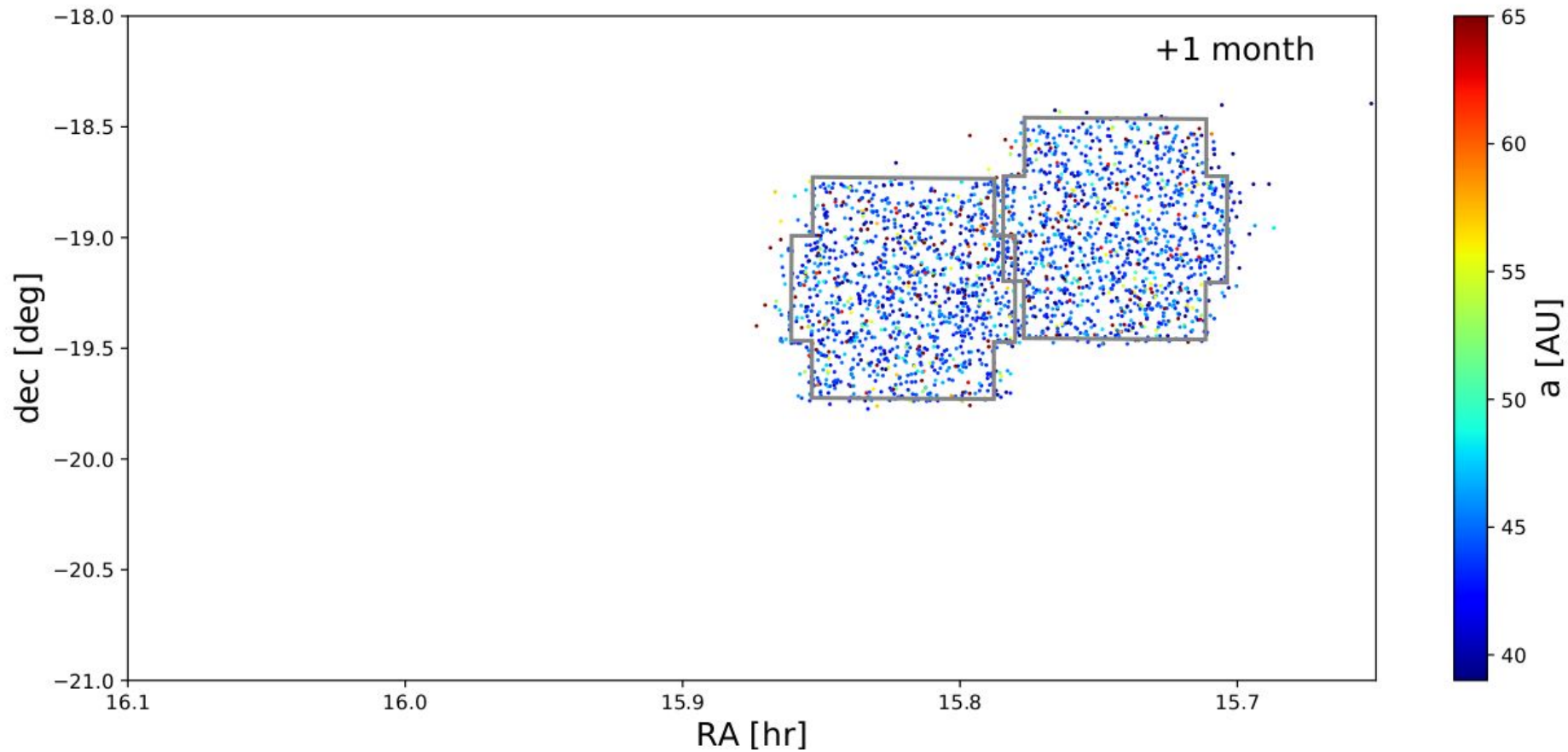
# CLASSY discovery strategy



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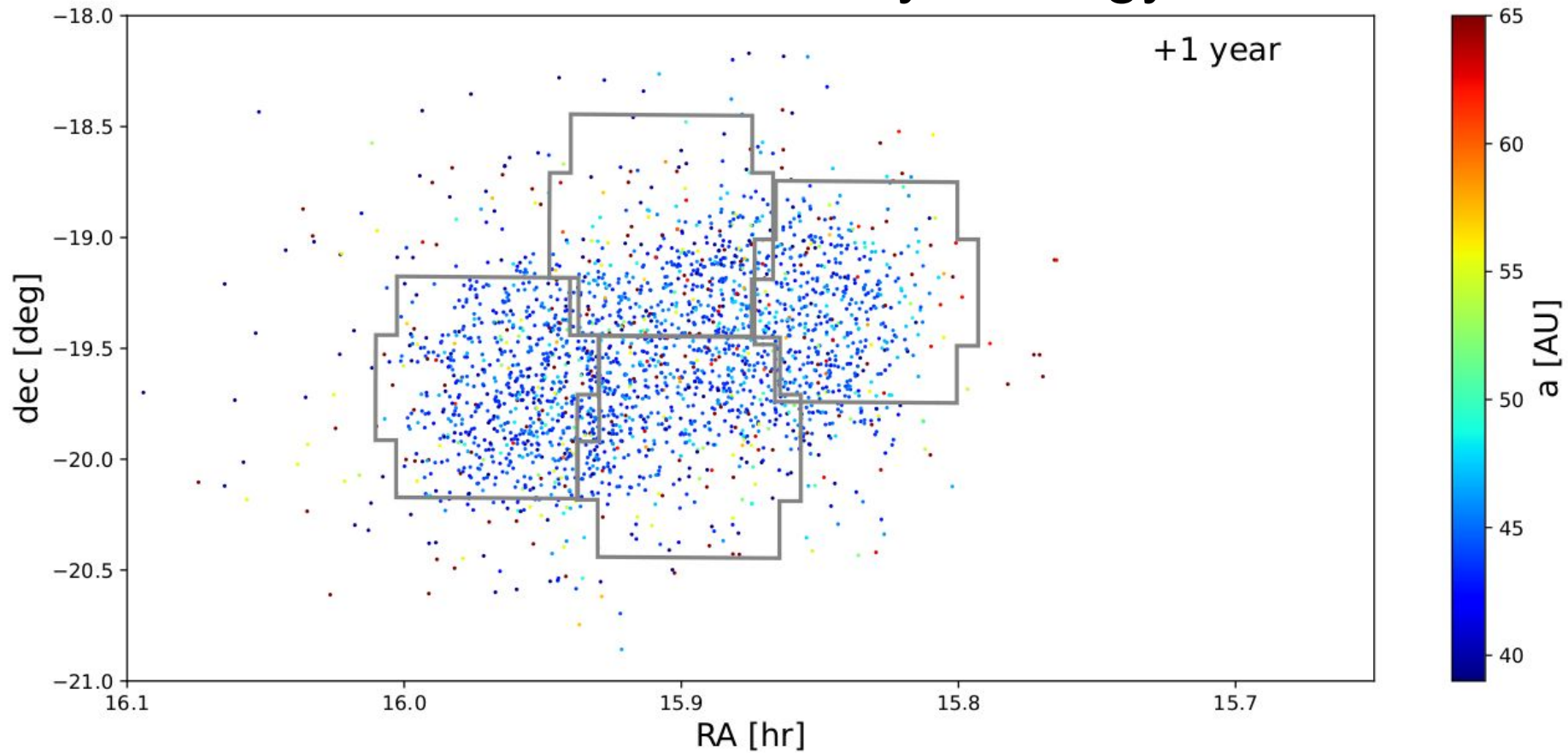


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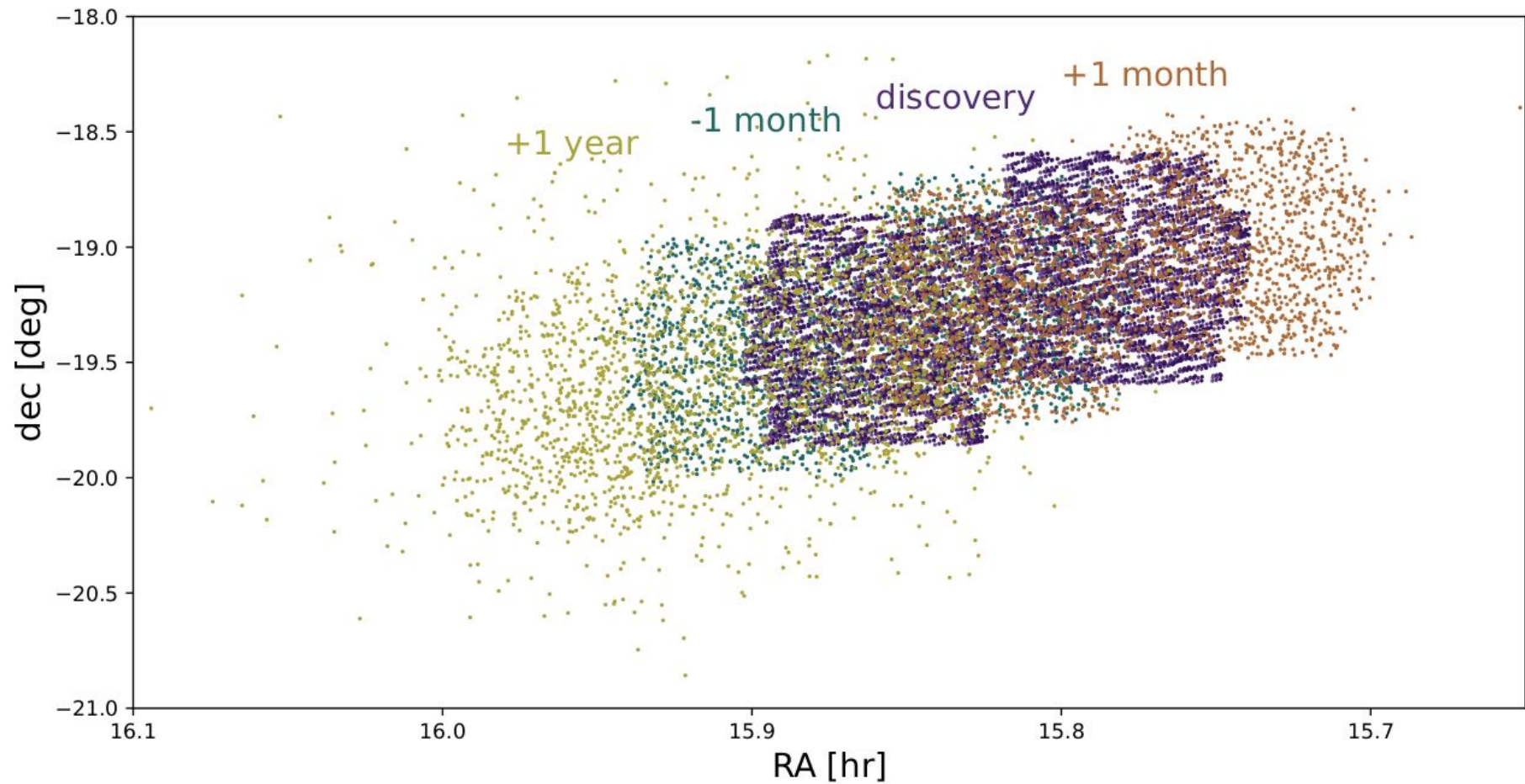




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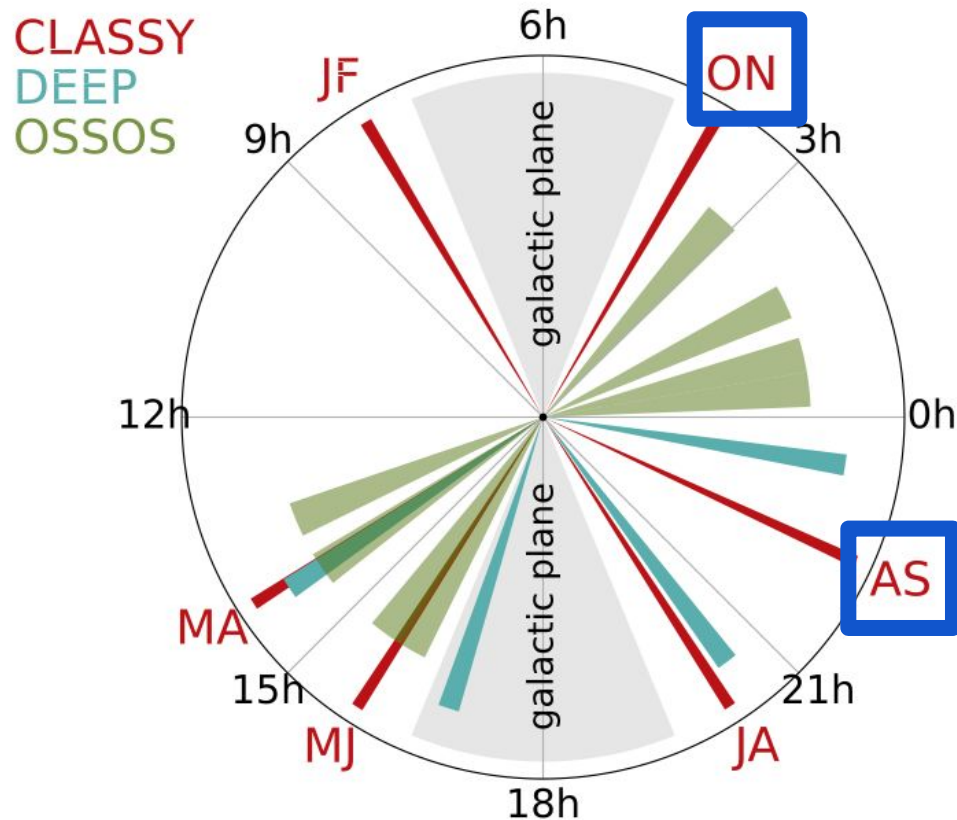


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Observing started Aug 2022  
“+1 year follow-ups” in progress:



# The pipeline

Based on New Horizons DKBO search

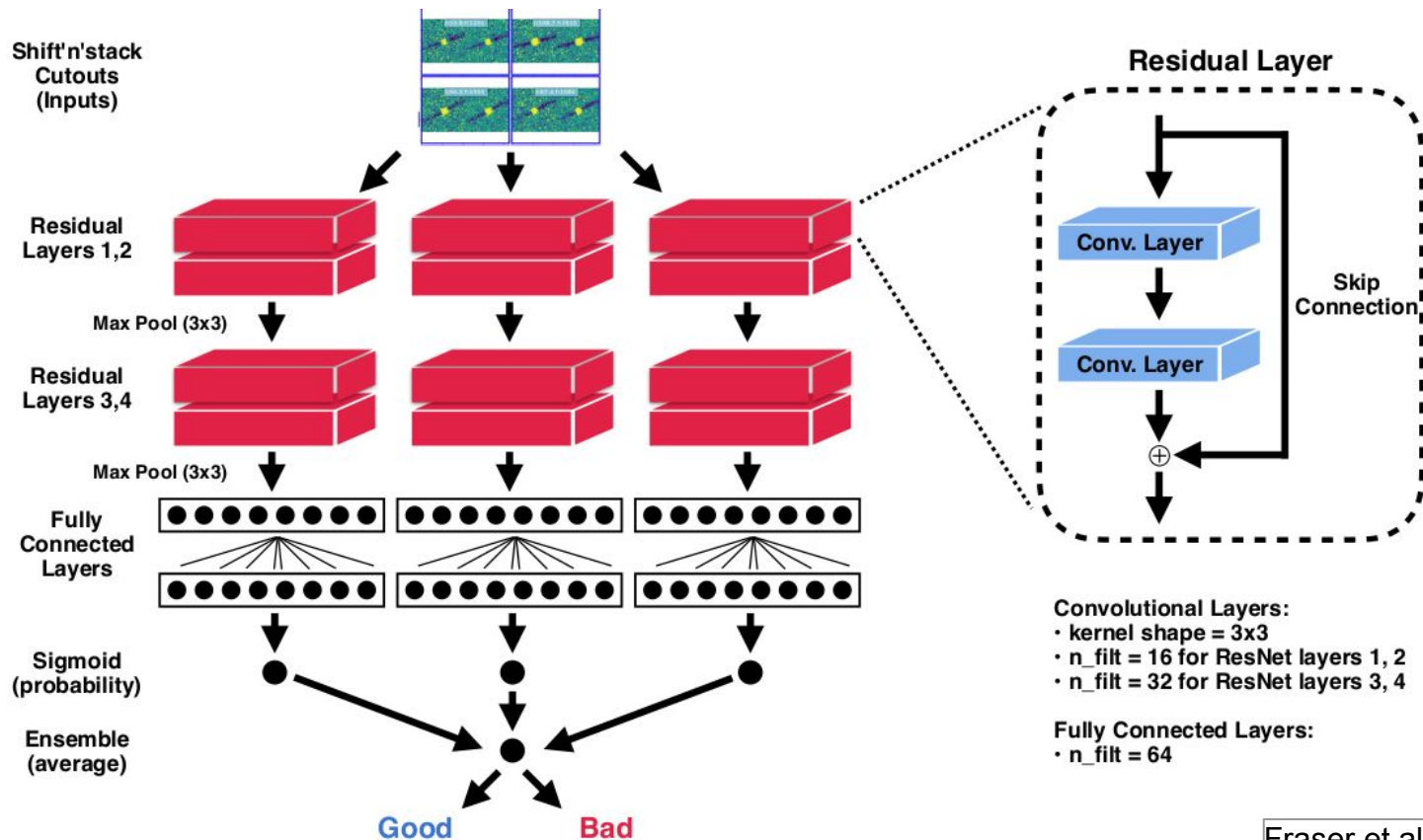
## **Nightly:**

- CADC Megapipeline for photometric and astrometric calibrations (Gwyn 2008)
- TRailed Image Photometry in Python (TRIPPY) for artificial source implantation (Fraser et al. 2016)
- LSST pipeline (v19) for image subtraction
- KBmod for shift and stack detections (Whidden et al. 2019)
- ResNet for good/bad source rejection (New Horizons DKBO search)
- Human vetting to clean up rare obvious garbage sources
- Repeat 1-6 for randomized-time implanted sources

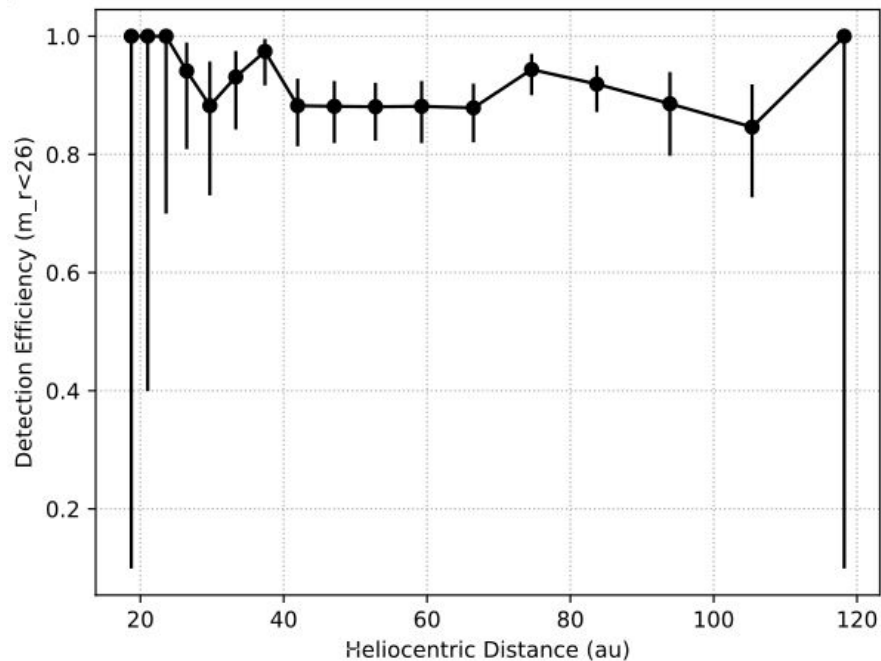
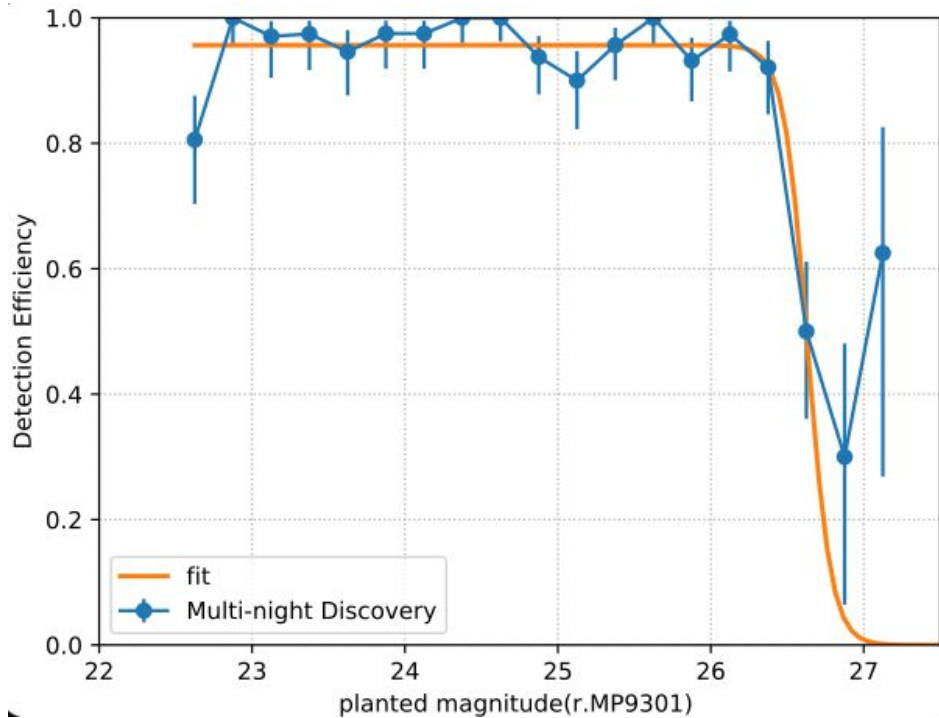
## **Discovery Luration:**

- Source grouping

# The Residual Network

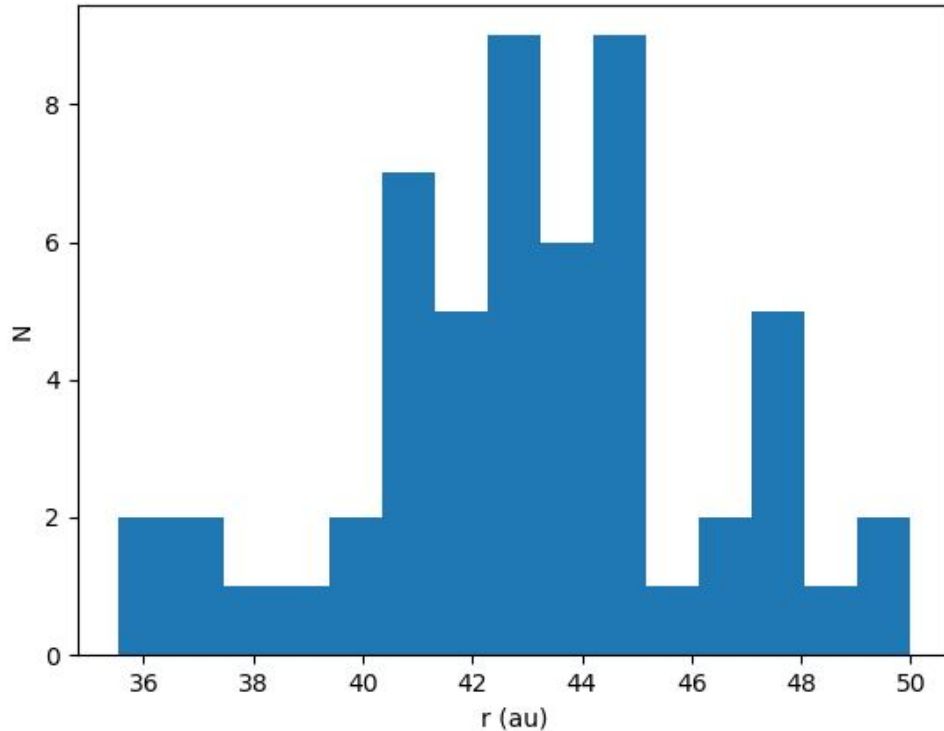


# Initial detection efficiencies





# PRELIMINARY discoveries for AS1 pointing

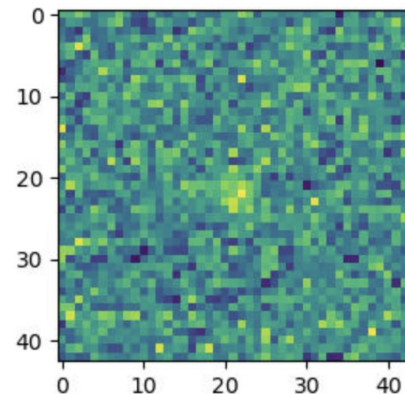
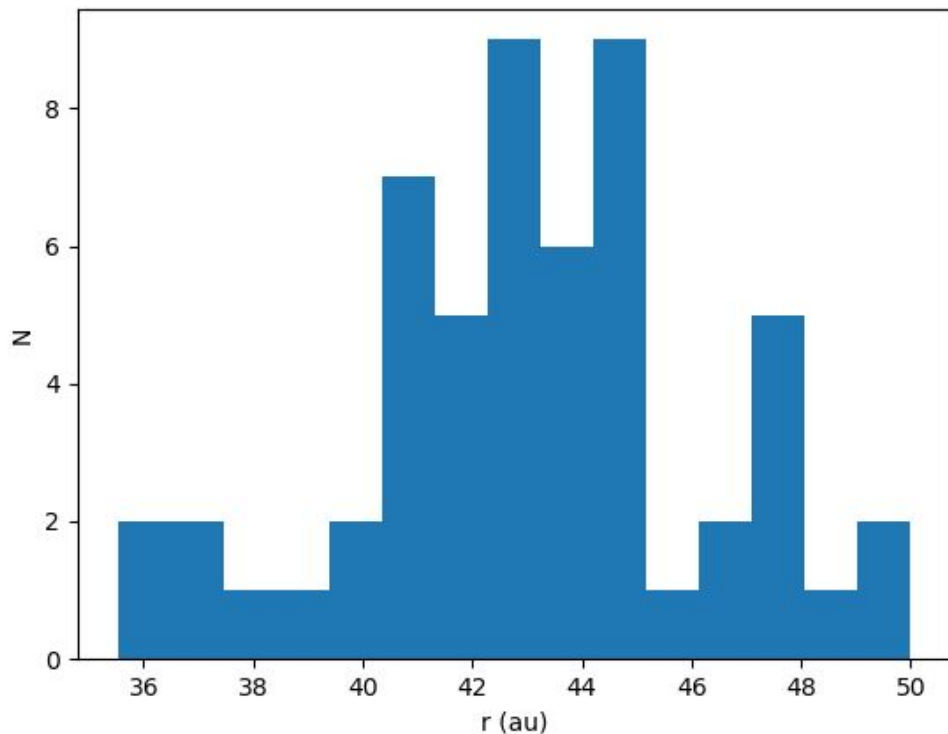


From discovery triplets

Now in the process of linking to +1 month and -1 month

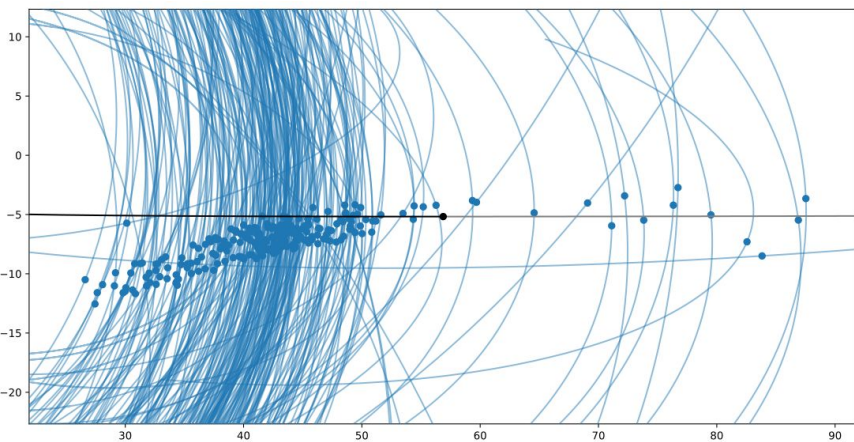
# PRELIMINARY discoveries for AS1 pointing

**Very preliminary** from single-night shift-n-stack (one night with EXCELLENT seeing)



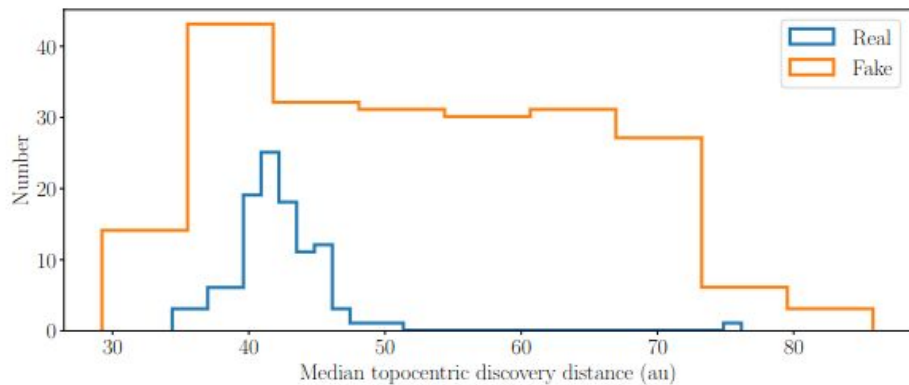
**80AU!**

# Previous deep TNO search data



S. Porter

NH distant TNO search

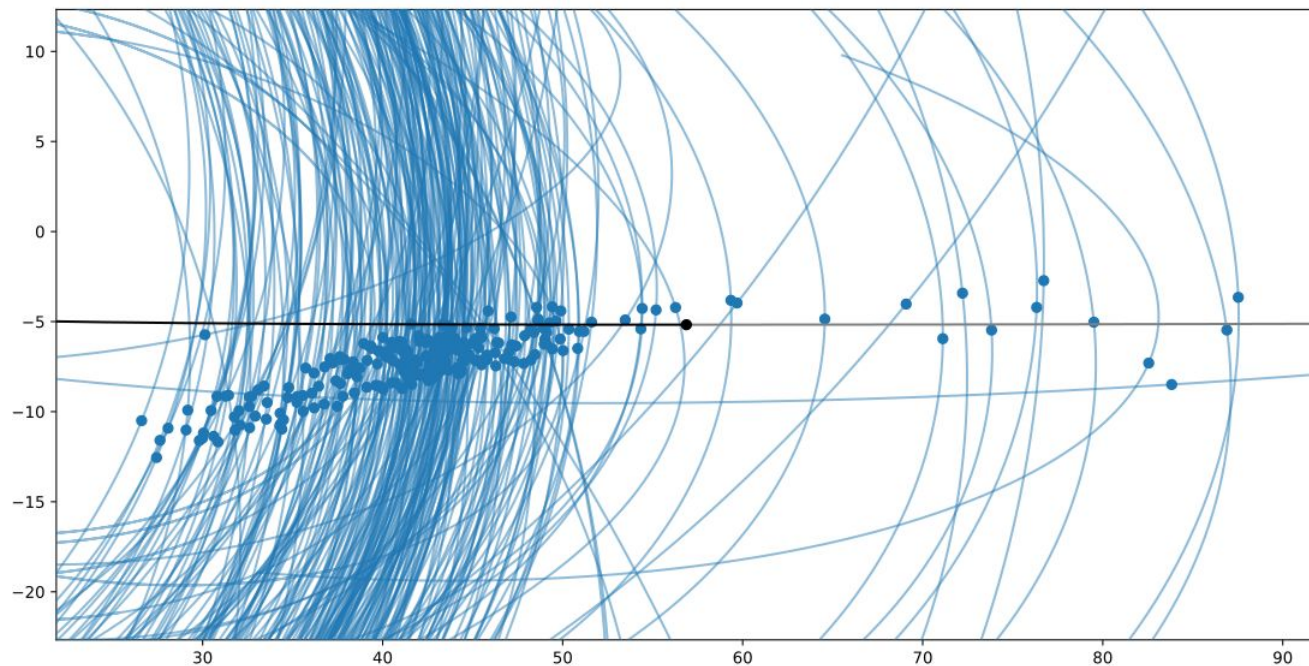


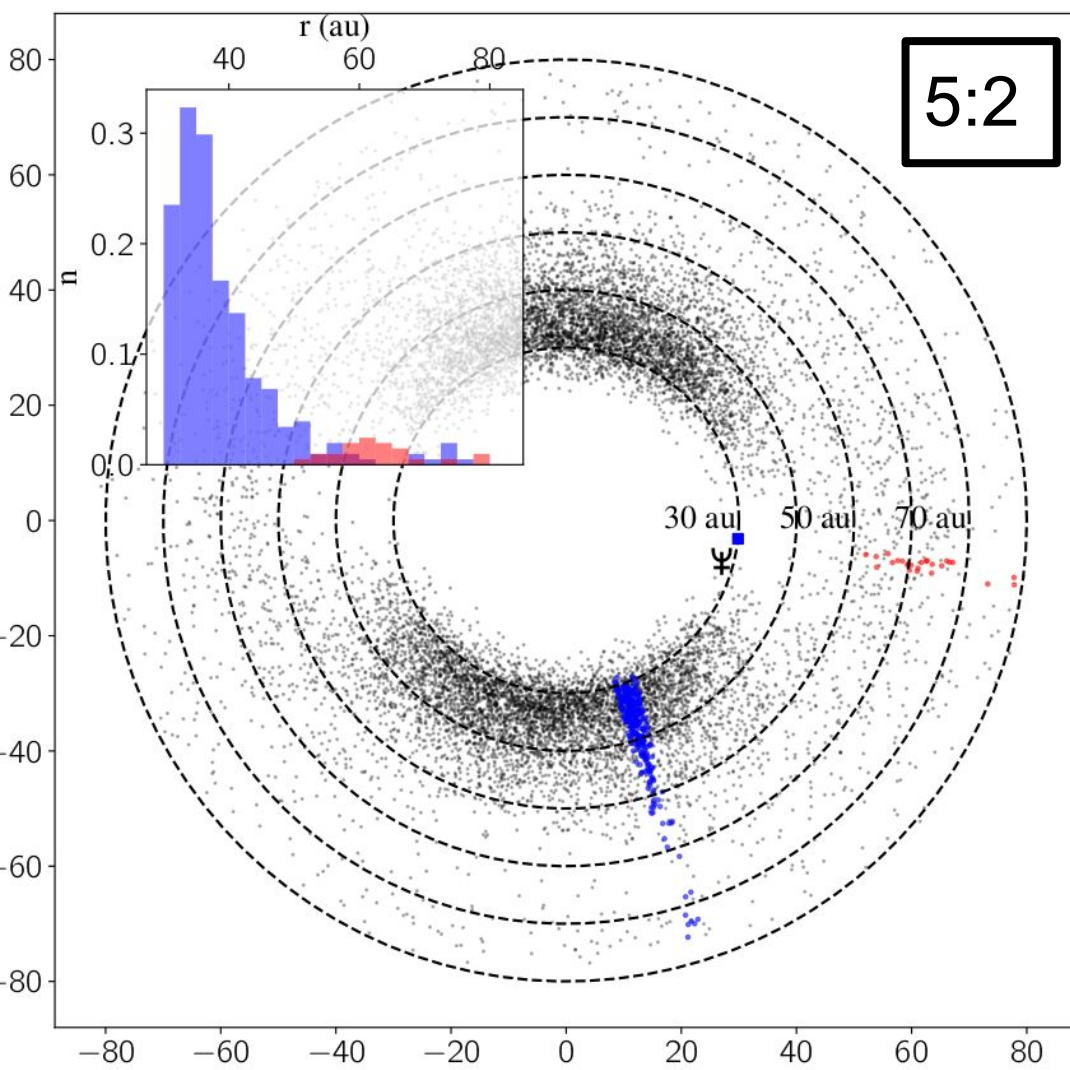
Smotherman et al. 2023

DEEP Survey

# What does this mean if real?

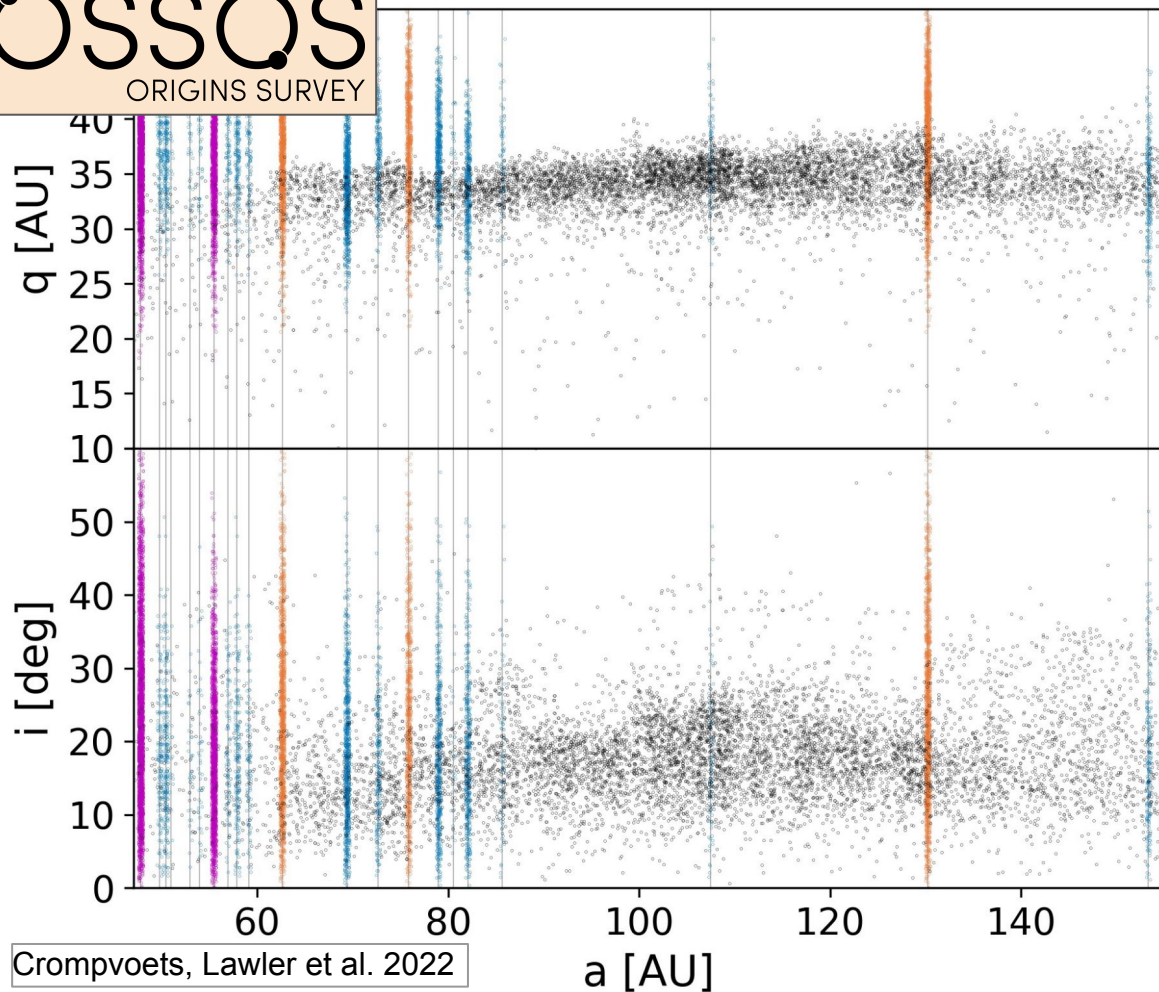
Lots of distant TNOs! What are their orbits?





The distant resonant populations might be able to account for the distant detections





## Debiased populations

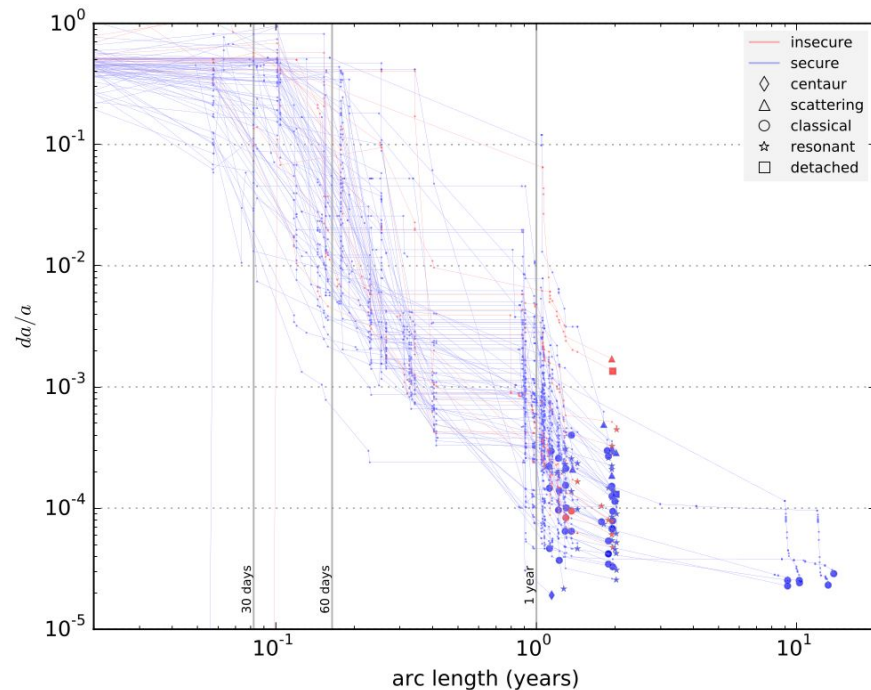
Resonance	Semimajor axis [AU]	Number of detections	$q_c$ [AU]	$q_w$ [AU]	$\sigma_i$ [°]	Median Population ( $H_r < 8.66$ )
3:1	62.5	12	36	3	20	17000 <sup>+11000</sup> <sub>-8000</sub>
4:1	75.7	5	38	3	20	13000 <sup>+15000</sup> <sub>-8000</sub>
5:1	87.9	3	38	4	25	11000 <sup>+19000</sup> <sub>-8000</sub>
9:1	130.0	2	40	4	25	18000 <sup>+39000</sup> <sub>-15000</sub>
5:2 <sup>a</sup>	55.3	29	39	5	17	6600 <sup>+4100</sup> <sub>-3000</sub>
7:2	69.3	2	34	3	14.5	2300 <sup>+5400</sup> <sub>-1900</sub>
9:2	81.9	1	34	3	14.5	1100 <sup>+6000</sup> <sub>-1100</sub>
23:2	153.1	1	34	3	14.5	4000 <sup>+15000</sup> <sub>-4000</sub>
7:3	52.9	1	37.5	3	14.5	3000 <sup>+5000</sup> <sub>-2300</sub>
8:3	57.8	2	37.5	3	14.5	2300 <sup>+5000</sup> <sub>-2000</sub>
10:3	67.1	1	37.5	3	14.5	1400 <sup>+6000</sup> <sub>-1400</sub>
11:4	59.0	2	37.5	3.5	25	3900 <sup>+9000</sup> <sub>-3400</sub>
15:4	72.5	2	37.5	3.5	25	2600 <sup>+12000</sup> <sub>-2500</sub>
17:4	78.8	1	37.5	3.5	25	3100 <sup>+12000</sup> <sub>-3000</sub>
27:4	107.3	1	37.5	3.5	25	5000 <sup>+23000</sup> <sub>-4800</sub>
11:5	50.8	2	38	4	20	2100 <sup>+4900</sup> <sub>-1800</sub>
12:5	53.9	2	38	4	20	2400 <sup>+5600</sup> <sub>-2000</sub>
13:5	56.8	3	38	4	20	1200 <sup>+4800</sup> <sub>-1200</sub>
24:5	85.5	1	38	4	20	2500 <sup>+11000</sup> <sub>-2400</sub>
13:6	50.3	5	37.5	3.5	14.5	1700 <sup>+4300</sup> <sub>-1400</sub>
23:6	73.6	1	37.5	3.5	14.5	1800 <sup>+7400</sup> <sub>-1800</sub>
17:8	49.7	2	37.5	3.5	14.5	700 <sup>+3100</sup> <sub>-700</sub>
35:8	80.4	1	37.5	3.5	14.5	2600 <sup>+11000</sup> <sub>-2500</sub>
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>110,000</b> <sup>+240,000</sup> <sub>-82,000</sub>

~Same population in distant resonances as in the entire scattering or main classical belt. (With big uncertainty!)



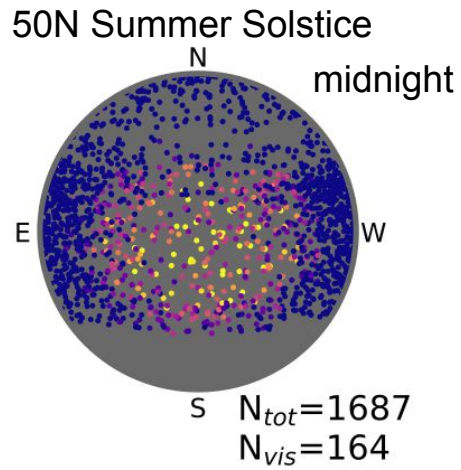
# We should find between 2-12 distant TNOs in CLASSY

If we do as good a job at follow-up as OSSOS, should know if these distant objects are near-resonant at 1 year, could possibly diagnose resonances with 1 more year of follow-up astrometry

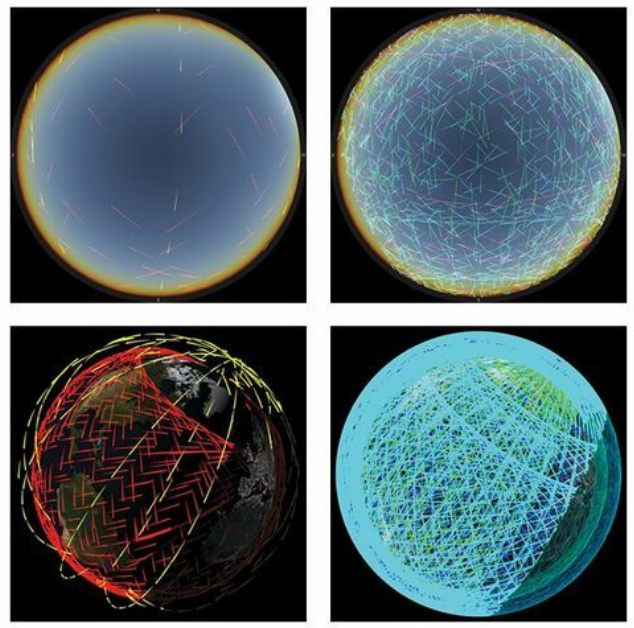


...but future TNO observations (as well as all of observational astronomy) could be severely hampered by megaconstellations of bright satellites, like Starlink.

**Please help fight for regulation!** Tell people what's happening to the sky, talk to your gov't reps, and get outside to a dark site to enjoy the sky yourself - it's changing right now



Lawler, Boley & Rein 2022



**Starlink:** 4,968 (34k planned)  
**OneWeb:** 634 (7k planned)  
**Kuiper:** 2 (3k planned)  
**Others:** 1,000,000 filed

IAU Centre for the Protection of the Dark and Quiet Sky from Satellite Constellation Interference: [cps.iau.org](https://cps.iau.org)

AAS COMPASSE committee