



Credit: Brian Kent

# *Low-mass young stars with the Next Generation VLA: multiplicity and the small-scale architecture of multiple systems*

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January 4, 2015



January 4, 2015

Next Generation Very Large Array  
Workshop

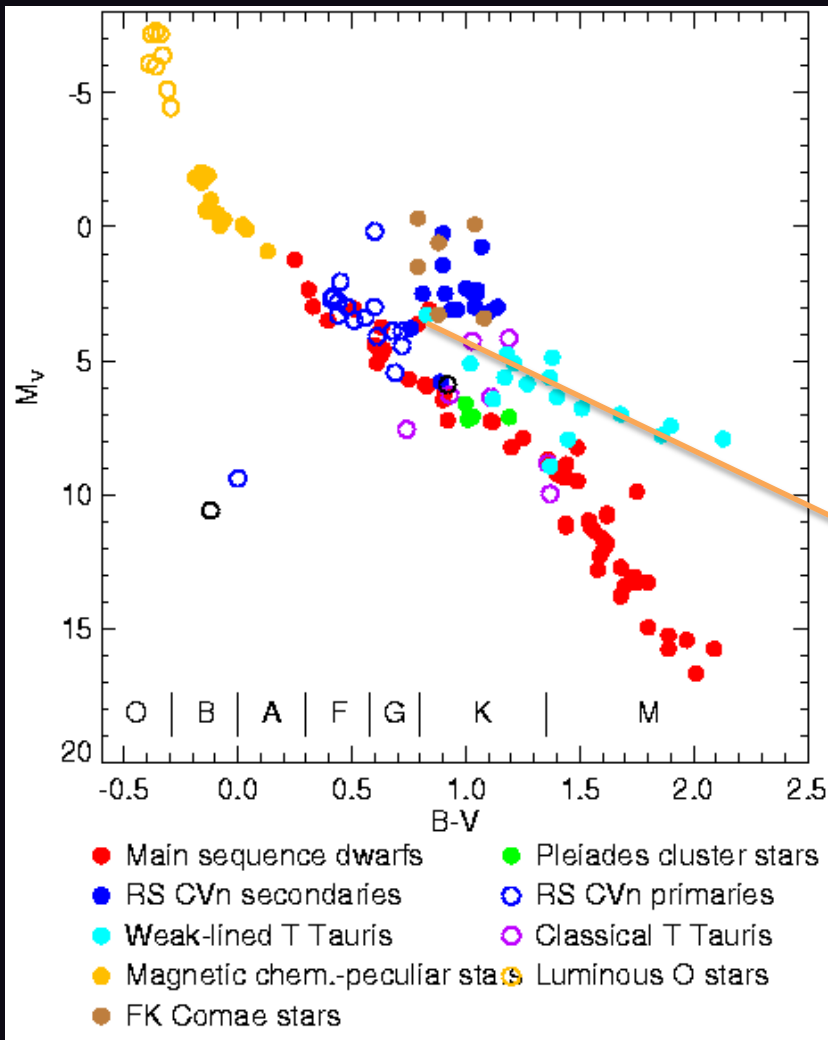
Credit: Brian Kent

# Radio Astronomy in Mexico

20 to 25 professional radio astronomers



# Radio emission from stars

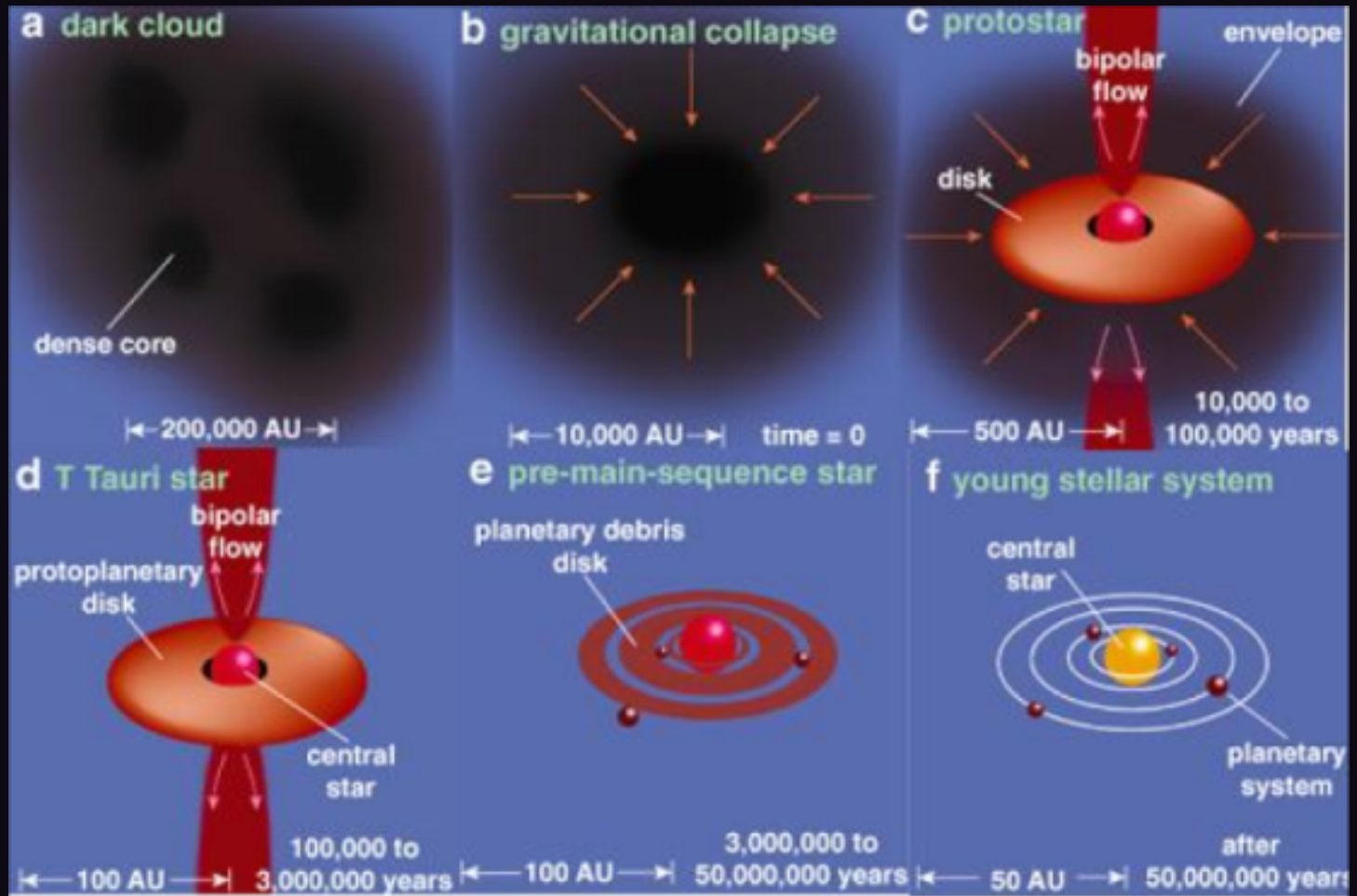


Radio emission has been detected from stars across the HR diagram.

Low-mass YSOs (Young Stellar Objects)

@ Stephen White

# ...and from protostars





# Emission mechanisms / Types of sources

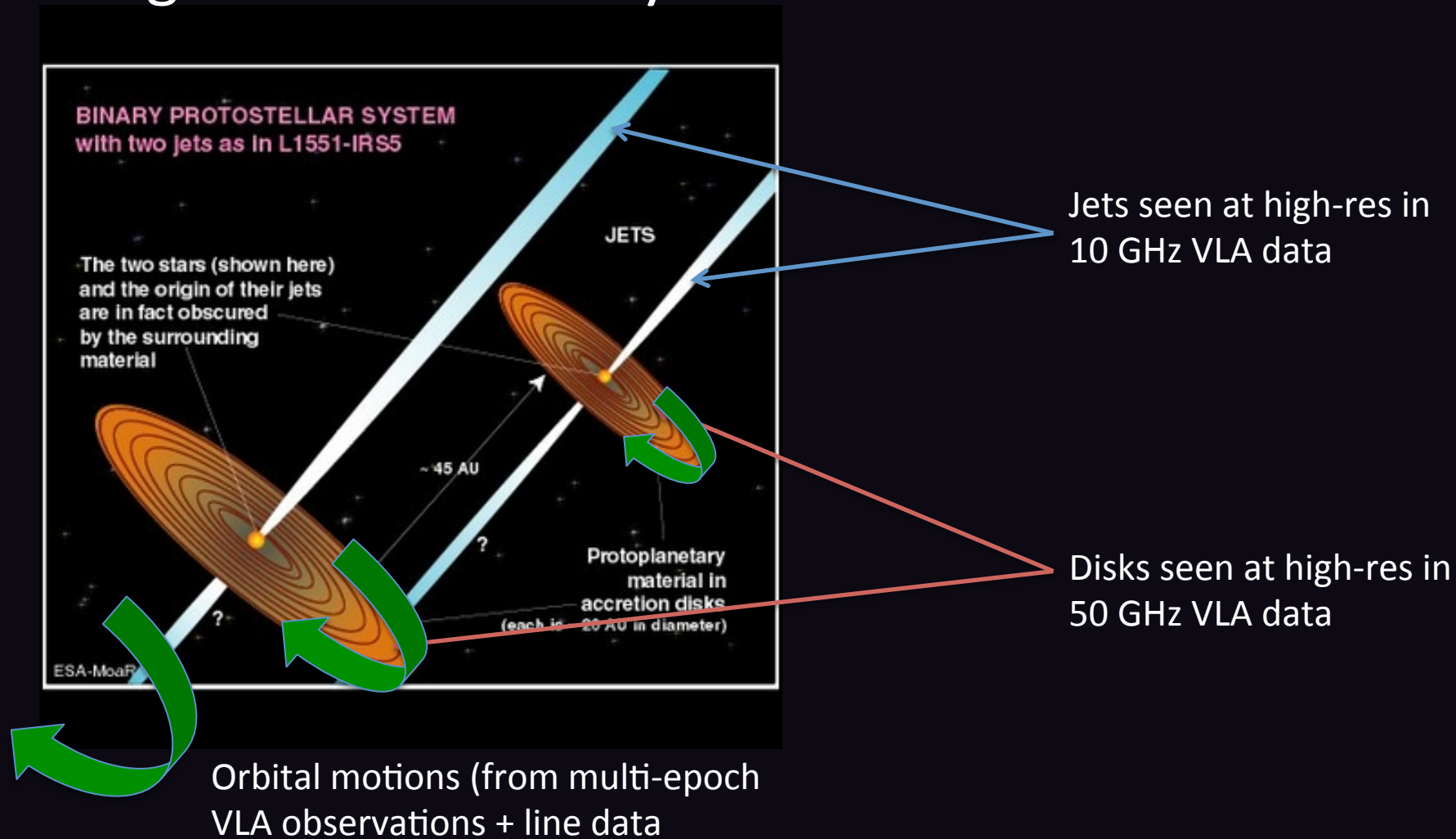
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- **Lines** (HI, masers, RRLs, molecules, ...)
- **Continuum**
  - Thermal (Bremsstrahlung, dust, ...)
  - Non-thermal (cyclotron; synchrotron, ...)

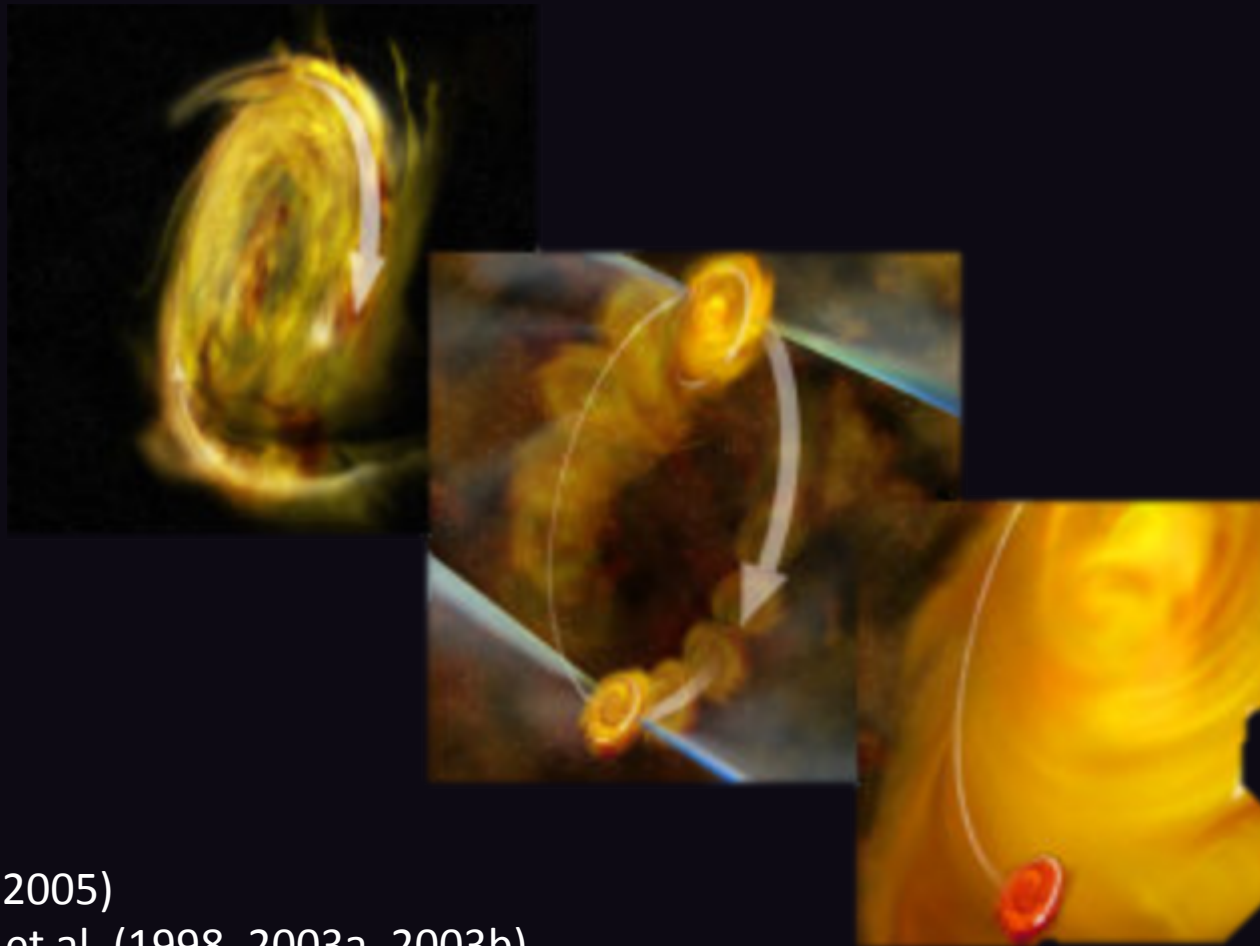
HII regions, thermal jets, protoplanetary disks, shocks, stars with active coronae, jets, outflows, ...

→ Radio emission can be used as a probe of phenomena and structures around young stars

# Testing models of binary star-formation



# Testing models of binary star-formation

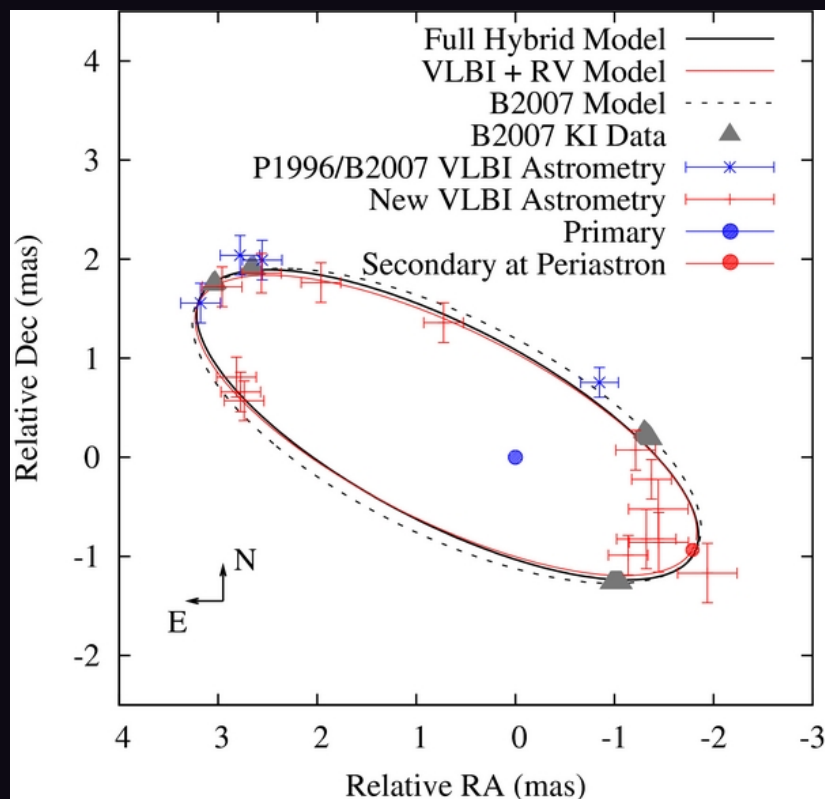
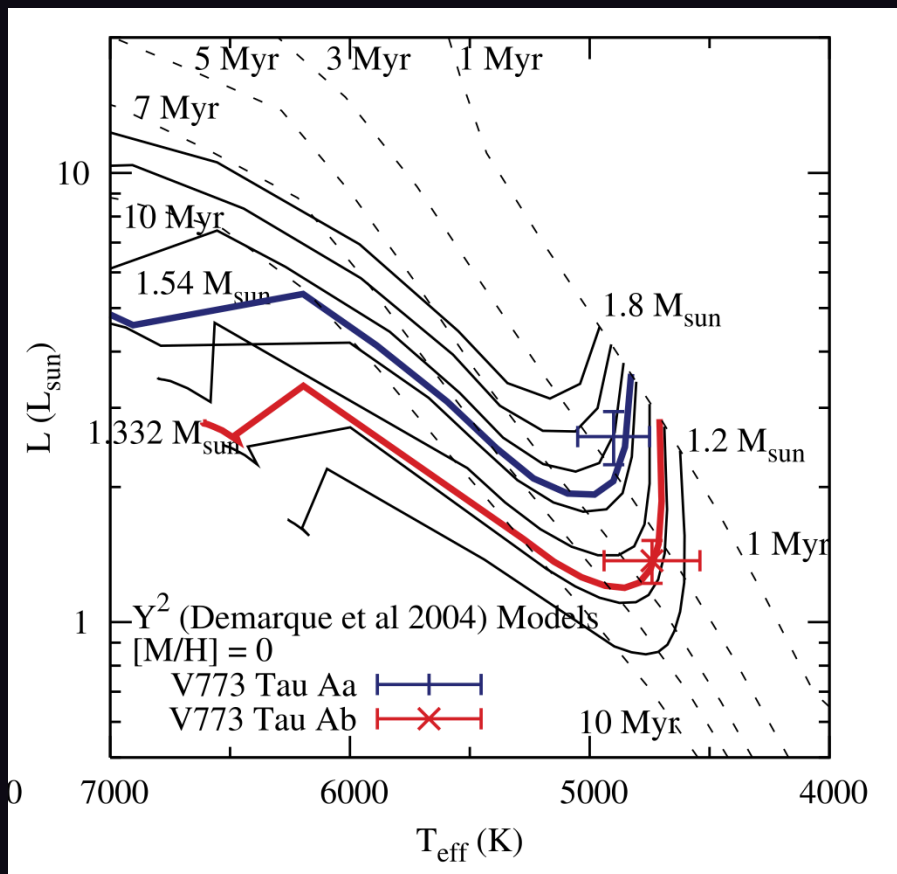


Lim et al. (2005)

Rodríguez et al. (1998, 2003a, 2003b)

# Constraining PMS evolutionary models

## V773 Tau A – tight binary system



Massi et al. 2006; Boden et al. 2009; Torres et al. 2013



# Measuring multiplicity as a function of age

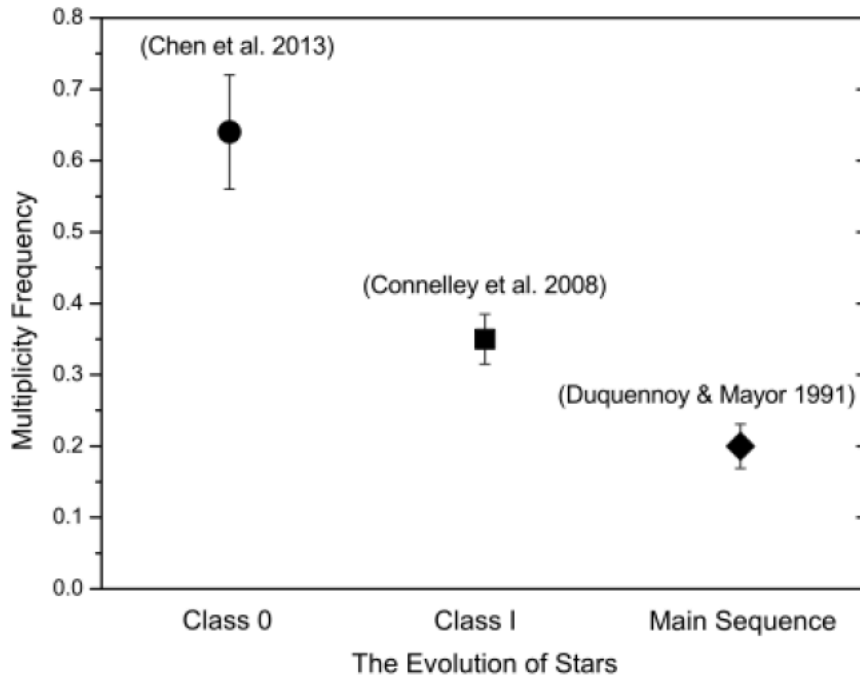
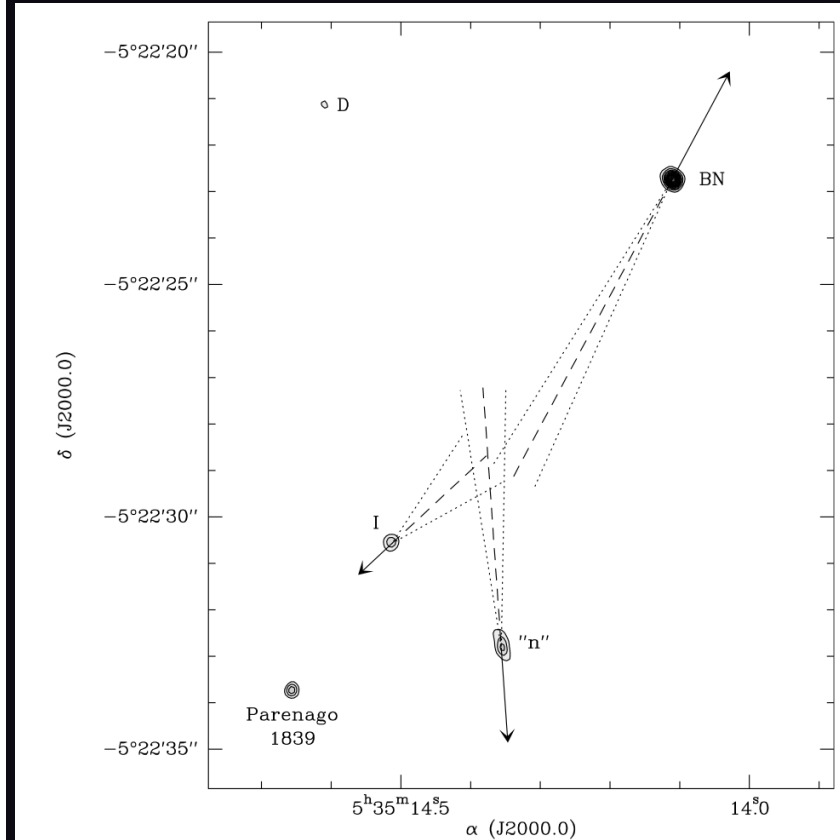


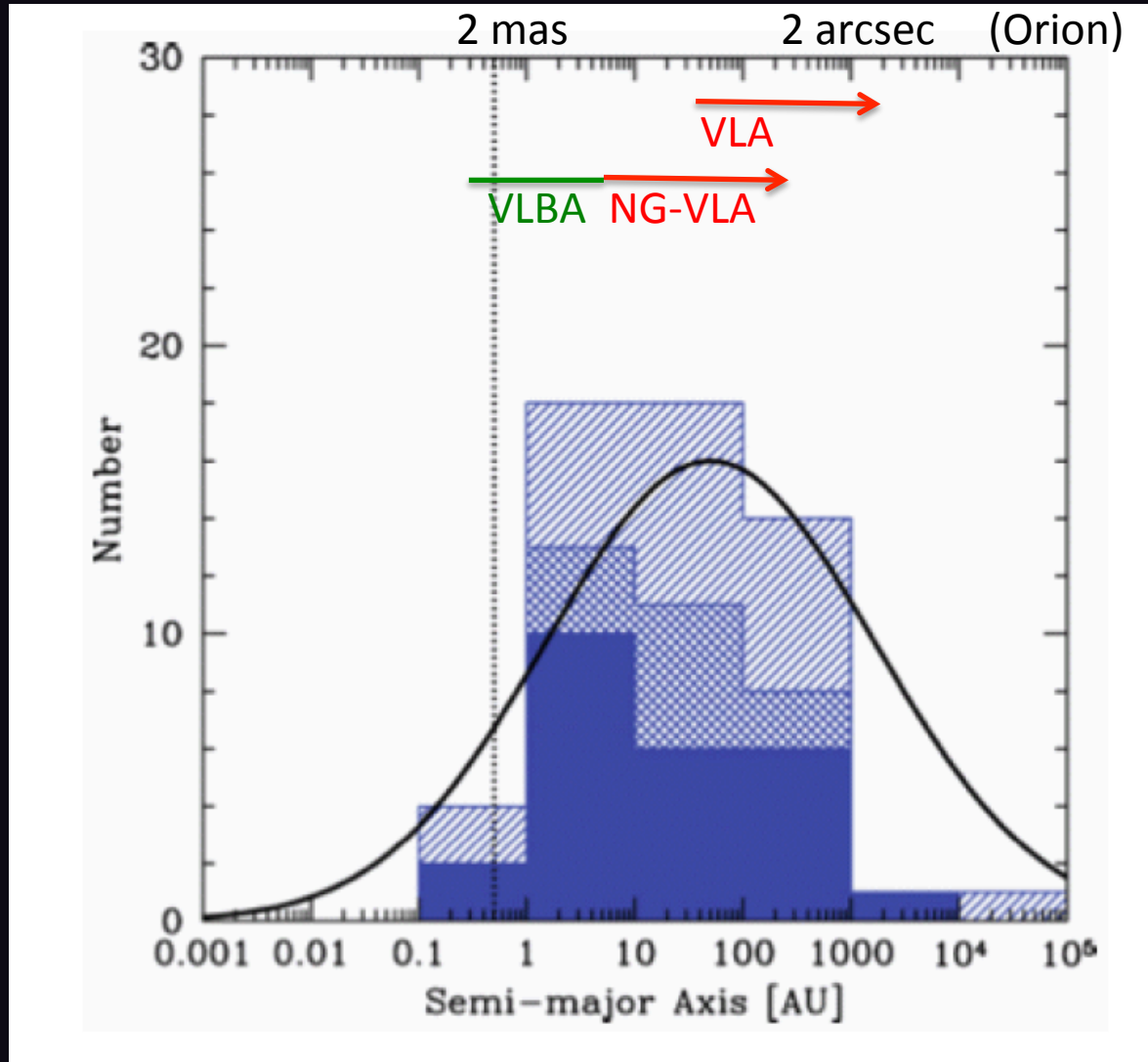
Fig. 4.— The multiplicity frequency declines through the protostellar phase because of the breakup of small multiple systems. From *Chen et al.* (2013).

Reipurth et al. 2014



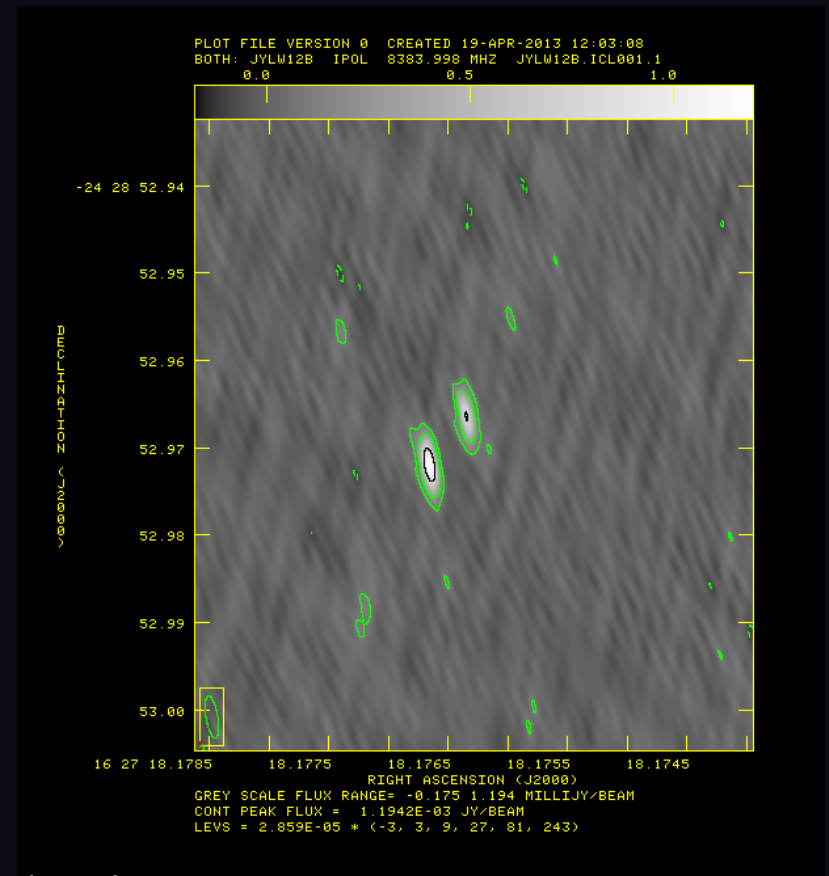
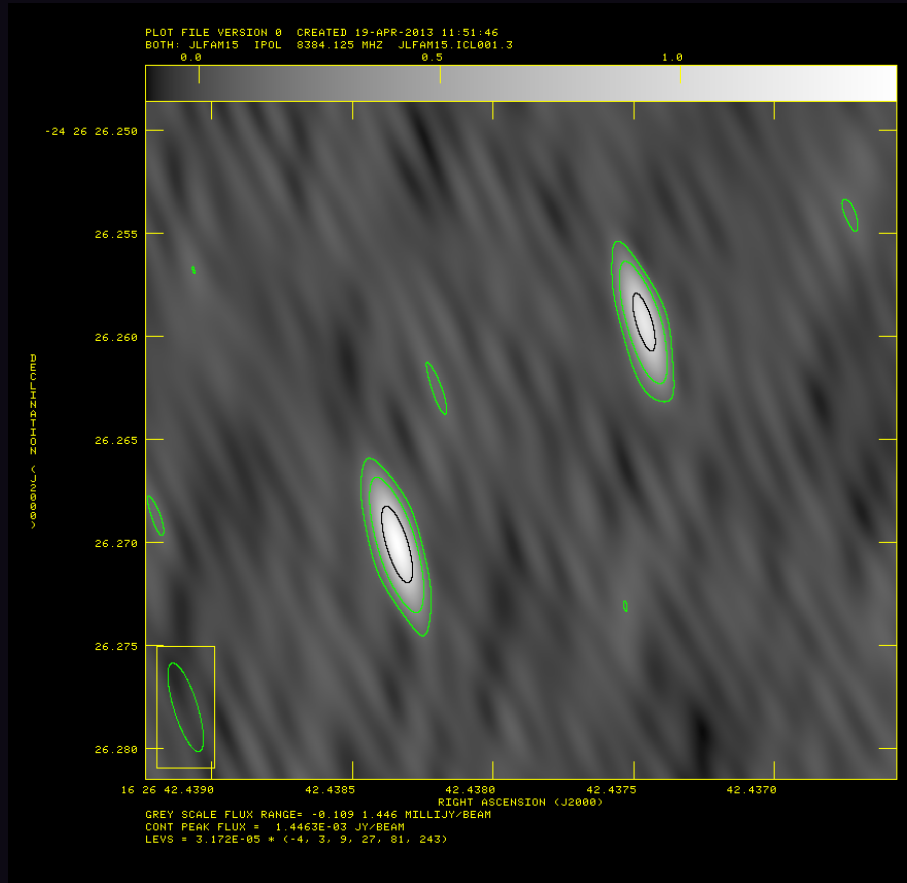
Gomez et al. 2008

# NG-VLA: improvement in separation coverage



Bate et al. 2002

# Tight (VLBA) binaries in Ophiuchus



# Improvement to sensitivity (number of detections)

THE ASTRONOMICAL JOURNAL

VOLUME 100, NUMBER 5

NOVEMBER 1990

## A RADIO SURVEY OF WEAK T TAURI STARS IN TAURUS-AURIGA

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18 July 1990

### ABSTRACT

A multi-epoch radio survey to identify or confirm weak T Tauri stars in the Taurus-Auriga molecular cloud was conducted with the Very Large Array. The stars were chosen from those having detectable H&K emission, chromospheric emission, and weak-emission-line pre-main-sequence stars found by O'Neal & Feigen (1989). Snapshots of 99 VLA fields containing 119 candidate stars were obtained with a sensitivity of  $1 \text{ mJy}$ ; most fields were observed on two or three dates. Nine radio sources coincident with cataloged stars were found. One may be an RS CVn binary system; the other eight are pre-main-sequence stars. Three of the detected stars—HD 283447, V410 Tau, and FK X-ray 1—were previously known radio sources. Five new detections are Herbig's Anon 1, Hubble 4, HDE 283572, Elias 12, and HK Tau/c. At least five of the sources are variable, and no linear or circular polarization was found. Several lines of evidence suggest that the radio-detected weak T Tauri stars are quite young, perhaps younger on average than nondetected stars. Also, these data support earlier evidence that about 12% of weak-emission-line pre-main-sequence stars emit at GHz frequencies at levels  $\geq 2 \times 10^{16} \text{ ergs/s/Hz}$ . This emission is probably due to gyrosynchrotron radiation occurring in large flares near the stellar surface.

6.7% detection rate

# The Jansky VLA era

$\Delta\nu$  went from 50 MHz to 1-8 GHz

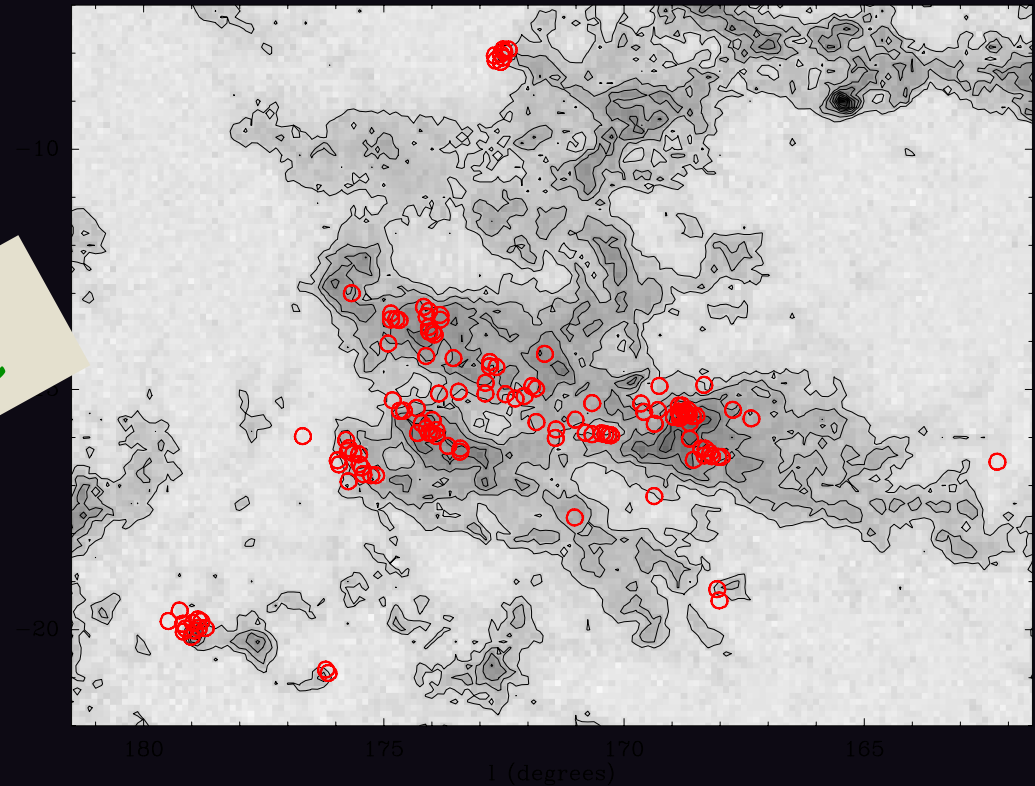
128 fields containing 196 known YSOs

$\sigma = 22 \mu\text{Jy}$

610 detected sources

77 YSOs detected

40% detection rate

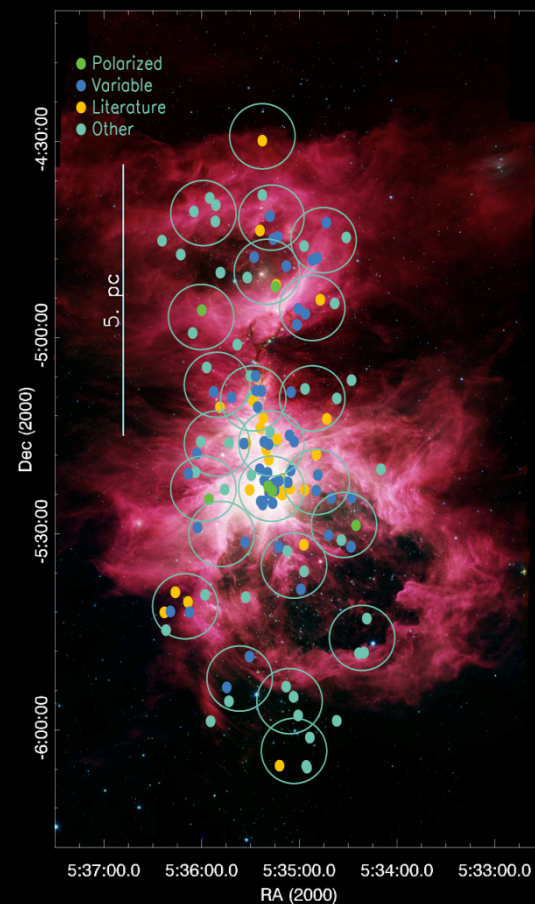
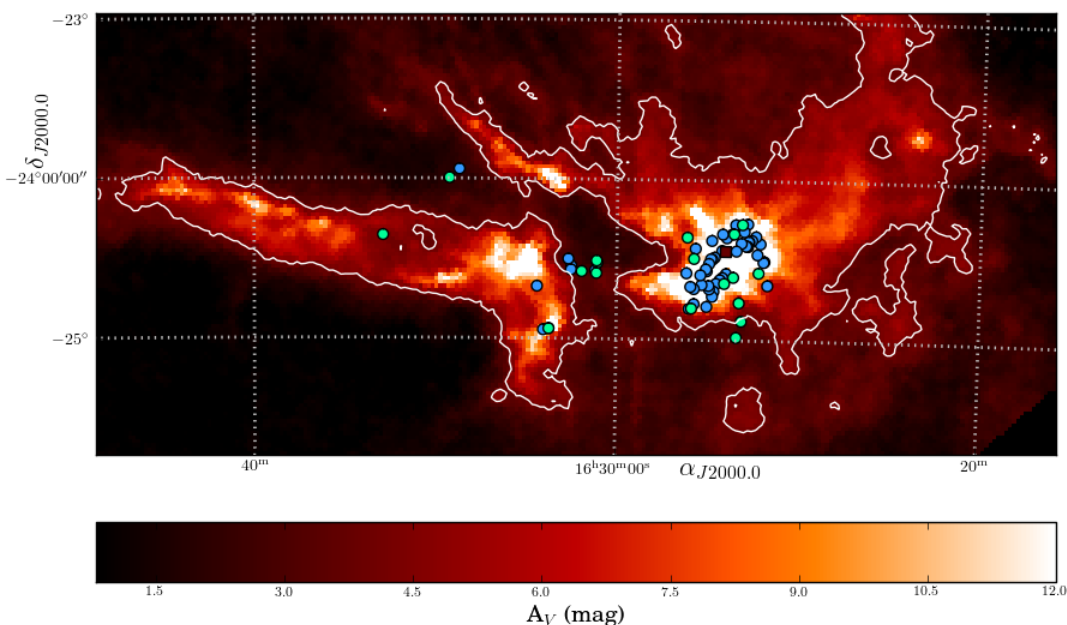




# That's a general trend

Orion (Kounkel et al. 2014)

Ophiuchus (Dzib et al. 2013)



# Detections of candidate young brown dwarfs!!

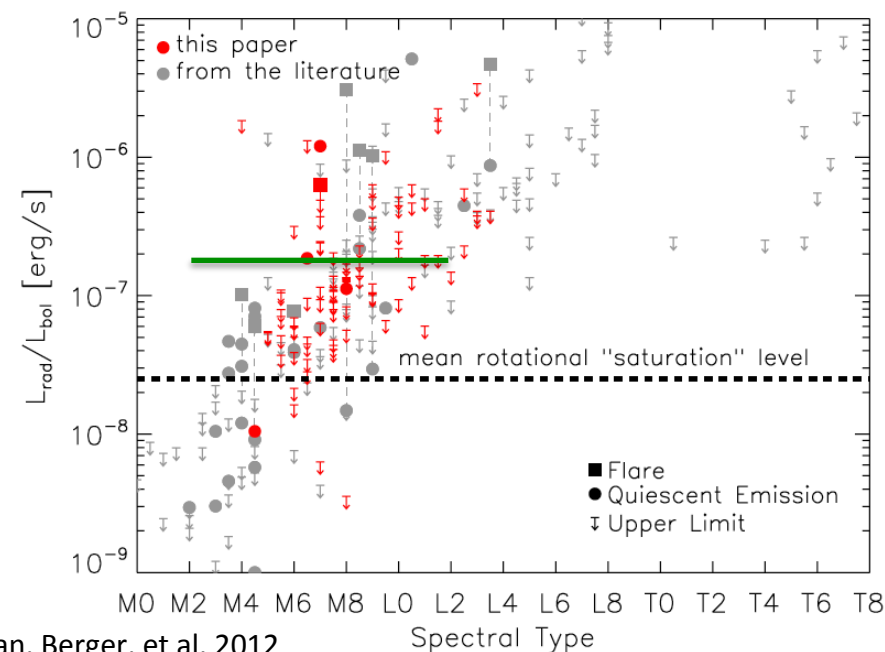
GBS-VLA J162722.96-242236.6	Marsh et al. (2010)	BD Candidate
GBS-VLA J162715.70-243845.6	Alves de Oliveira et al. 2010)	BD Candidate
GBS-VLA J162556.09-243015.3		M5 / Class III
GBS- VLA J162759.95-244819.5		M4.75 / WTTS

0.02 Msun...  
Believable?

Properties similar to that of more mature brown dwarfs detected in radio...

Loinard et al., in prep.

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 746:23 (12pp), 2012 February 10



The NG-VLA will detect all nearby low-mass young stars  
( $> 1,000$  in the 500 pc around the Sun)

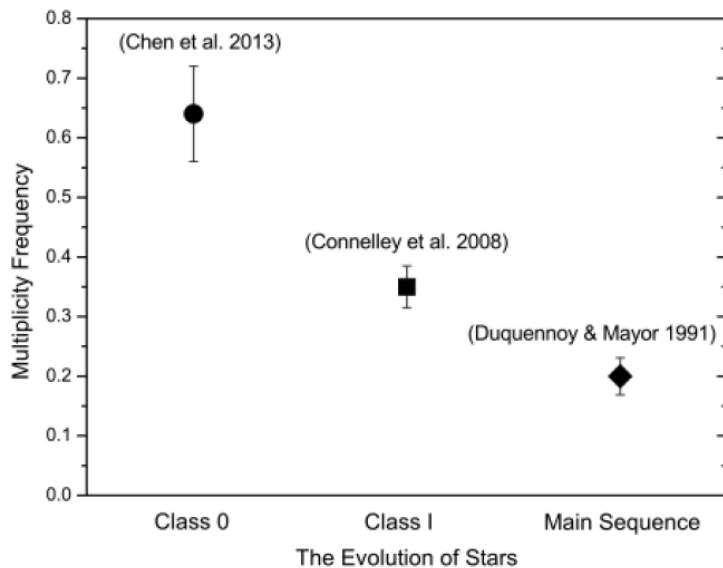
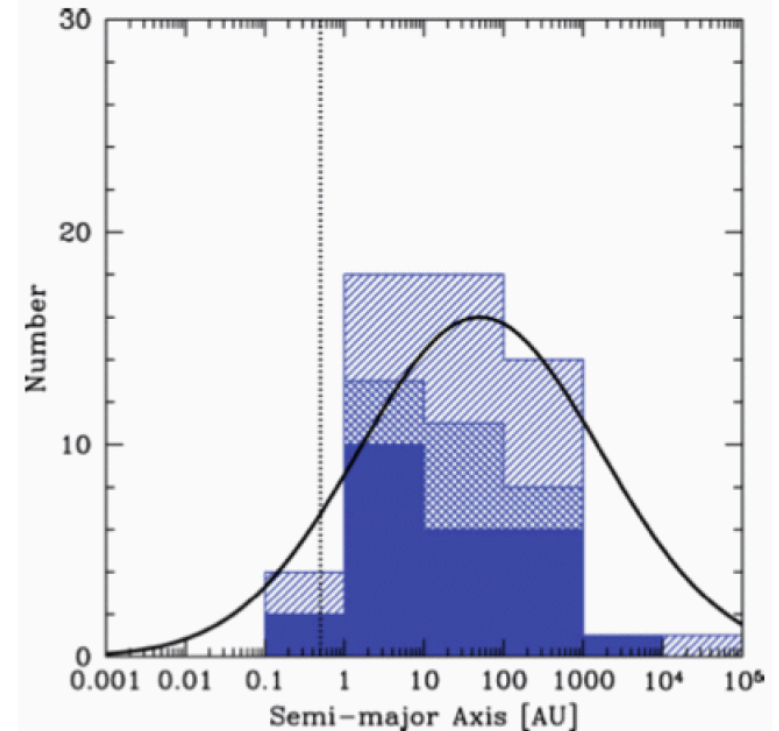
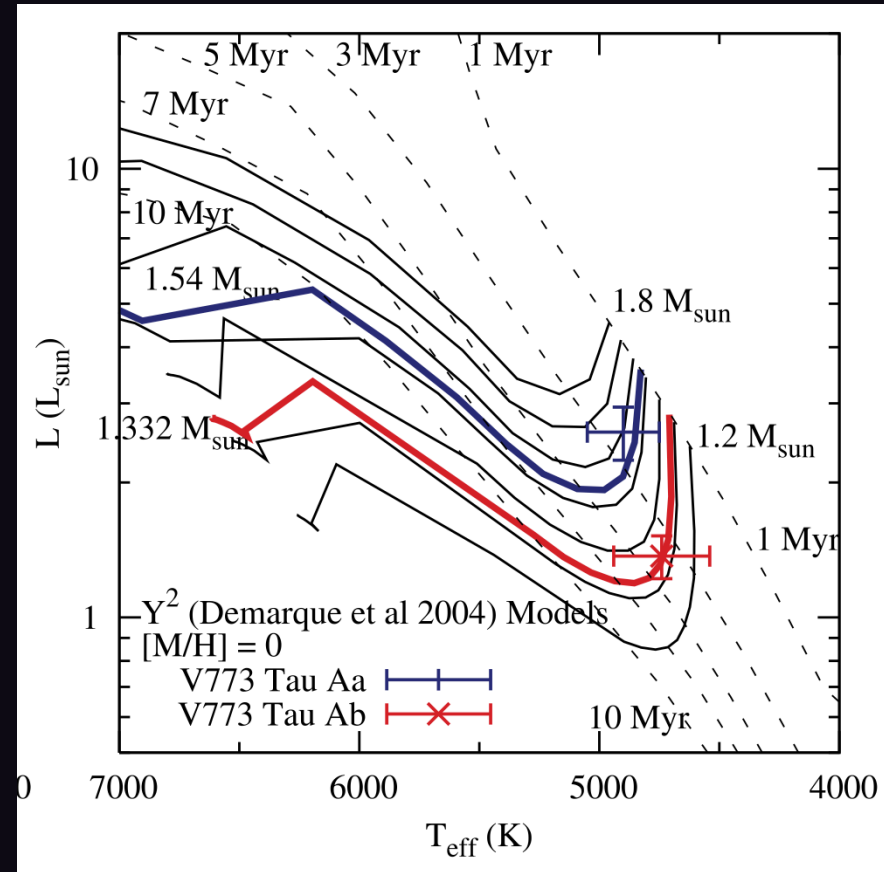
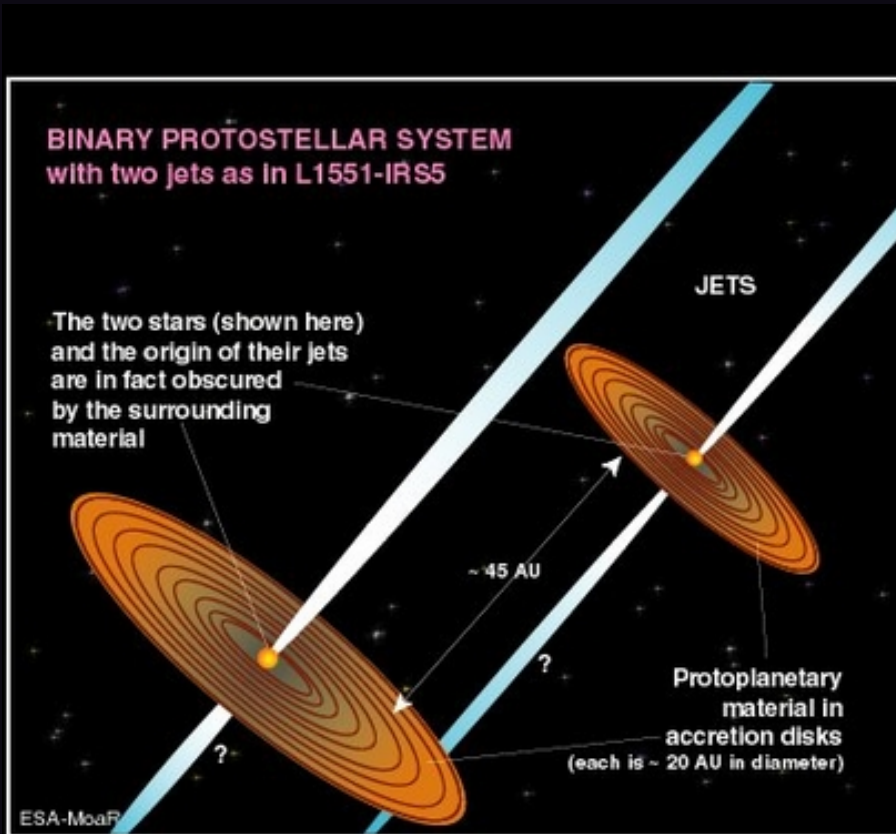


Fig. 4.— The multiplicity frequency declines through the protostellar phase because of the breakup of small multiple systems. From *Chen et al.* (2013).



Possibility of producing this type of diagram as a function of age...

The NG-VLA will detect all nearby low-mass young stars (> 1,000 in the 500 pc around the Sun)



This type of detailed study could be done for tens of systems...

# Conclusion and perspectives

So...

The NG-VLA with a large field-of-view; speedy mapping; high sensitivity; high resolution; multi-frequency; multi-epoch; full Stokes would have an enormous impact on study of low-mass star-formation.

In particular, it would enable systematic studies of hundreds of low-mass multiple systems, and address the issue of their formation and evolution.

It would also provide important constraints for PMS models.



This map is part of the  
Global Overlay Mapper  
suite. See online demo  
at [www.qsl.net/ei8ic](http://www.qsl.net/ei8ic)

