



# Gaia

C. Cacciari

INAF - Osservatorio Astronomico, Bologna

The primary objective of Gaia is the Galaxy: to observe the physical characteristics, kinematics and distribution of stars over a large fraction of its volume, with the goal of achieving a full understanding of the MW dynamics and structure, and consequently its formation and history.

(Concept and Technology Study Report, ESA-SCI(2000)4)

# Gaia in a nutshell

- ESA cornerstone mission building on the Hipparcos heritage
- Satellite & payload by industry  
management & operations by ESA  
data processing by scientists (DPAC)
- Launch 19 Dec 2013 with Soyuz from Kourou
- 5 years of operations at L2
- Commissioning completed 18 July 2014
- Data collection: up to 21 million transits per square deg up to end of March



- all sky survey to  $R_{\text{lim}} = 20 - 21$ ,  $\geq 10^9$  sources
- $\mu\text{as}$  accuracy **astrometry** (parallaxes, positions, proper motions)
- optical **spectrophotometry** (luminosities, astrophysical parameters)
- **spectroscopy** to  $V = 15-16$  (radial velocities), to  $V = 11-12$  (rotation, chemistry)

Lissajous orbit around L2

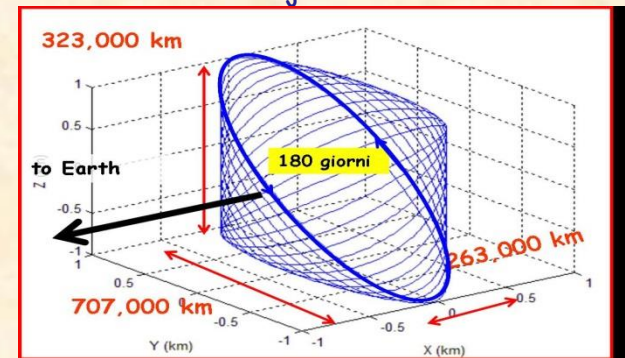


Figure courtesy A. Buzzoni

[www.cosmos.esa.int/web/gaia](http://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/gaia)

# Payload and Telescope

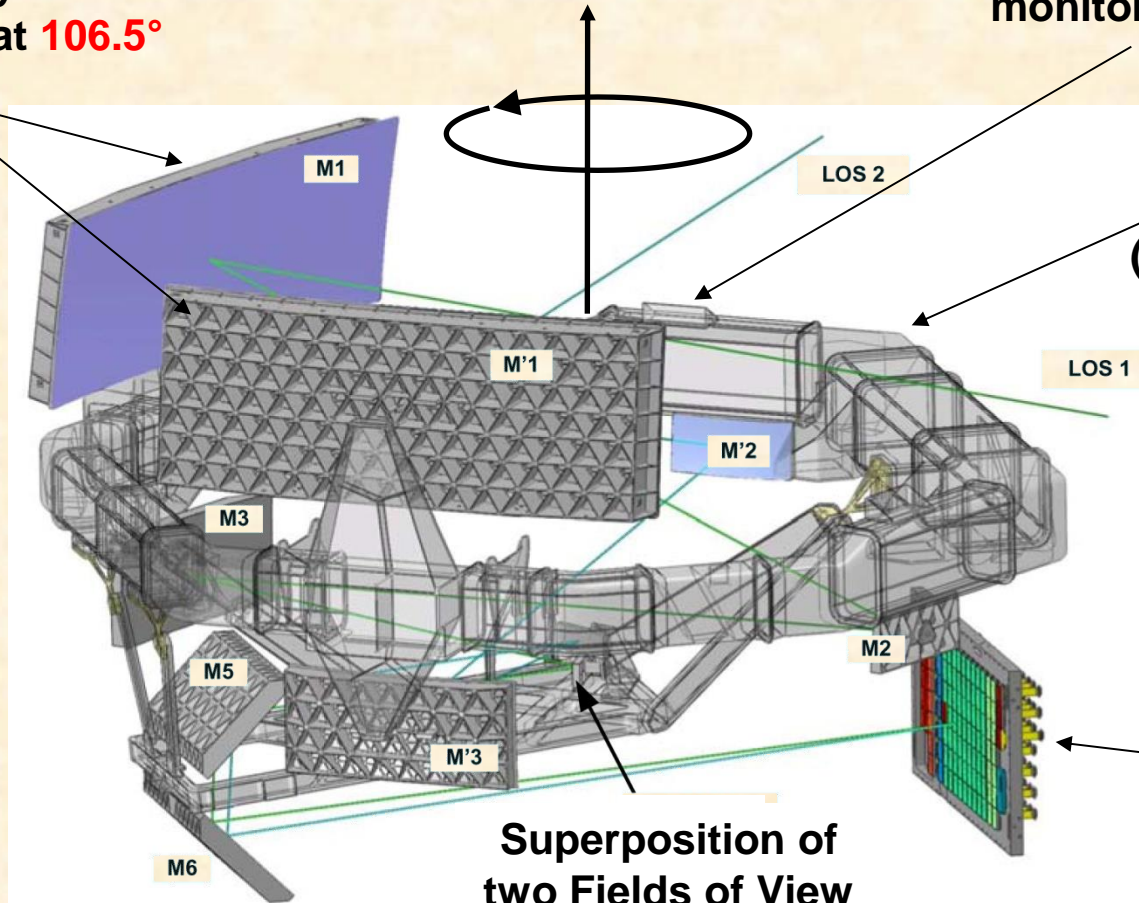
Two SiC primary mirrors  
 $1.45 \times 0.50 \text{ m}^2$  at  $106.5^\circ$

Rotation axis (6 h)

Basic angle monitoring system

FoV  
 $1.7^\circ \times 0.6^\circ$

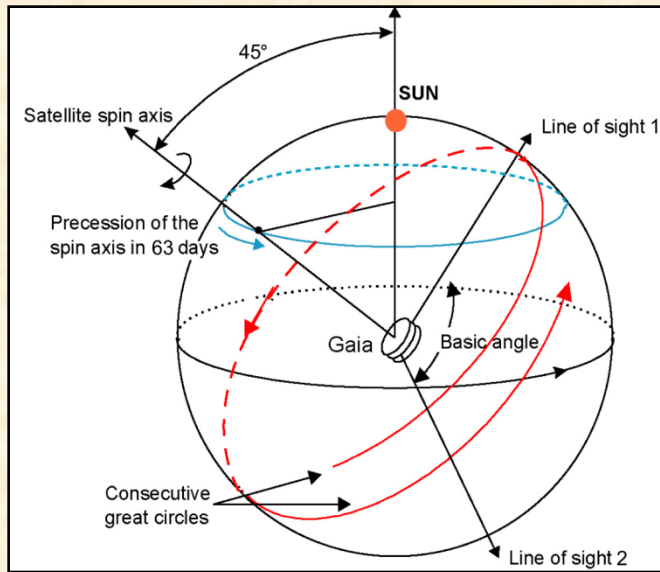
SiC toroidal structure  
(optical bench)



Superposition of  
two Fields of View  
(FoV)

Combined  
focal plane  
(CCDs)

# Sky Scanning Principle



Spin axis:  $45^\circ$  to Sun  
Spin/Scan rate: 60 arcsec/s  
Spin period: 6 hr

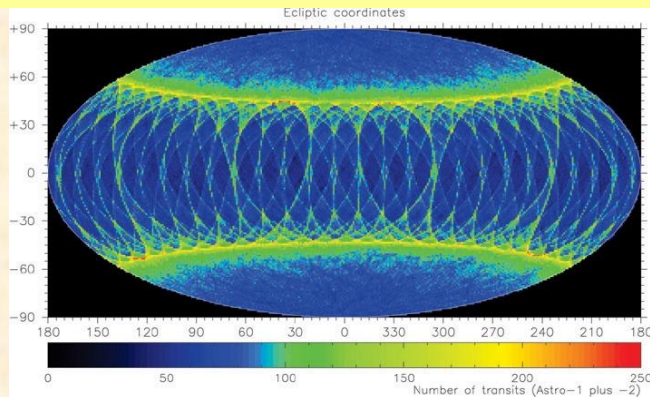
FoV-1:  $t_0$  &  $t_0 + 6\text{hr}$

FoV-2:  $t_0 + 106.5\text{m}$  &  $t_0 + 106.5\text{m} + 6\text{hr}$

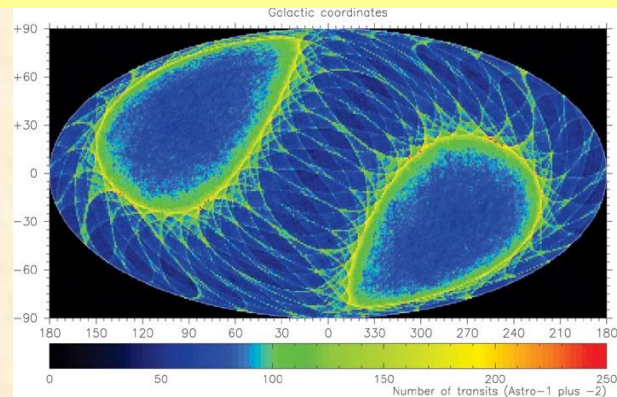
repeated 10-30 days later

Precession of spin axis around solar direction  
in 63 days  $\rightarrow$  29 revolutions in 5 yr

End of mission sky-average number of transits:  $\sim 70$   
(max  $\geq 200$  at  $|\beta| = 45^\circ \pm 10^\circ$ )



Ecliptic coordinates

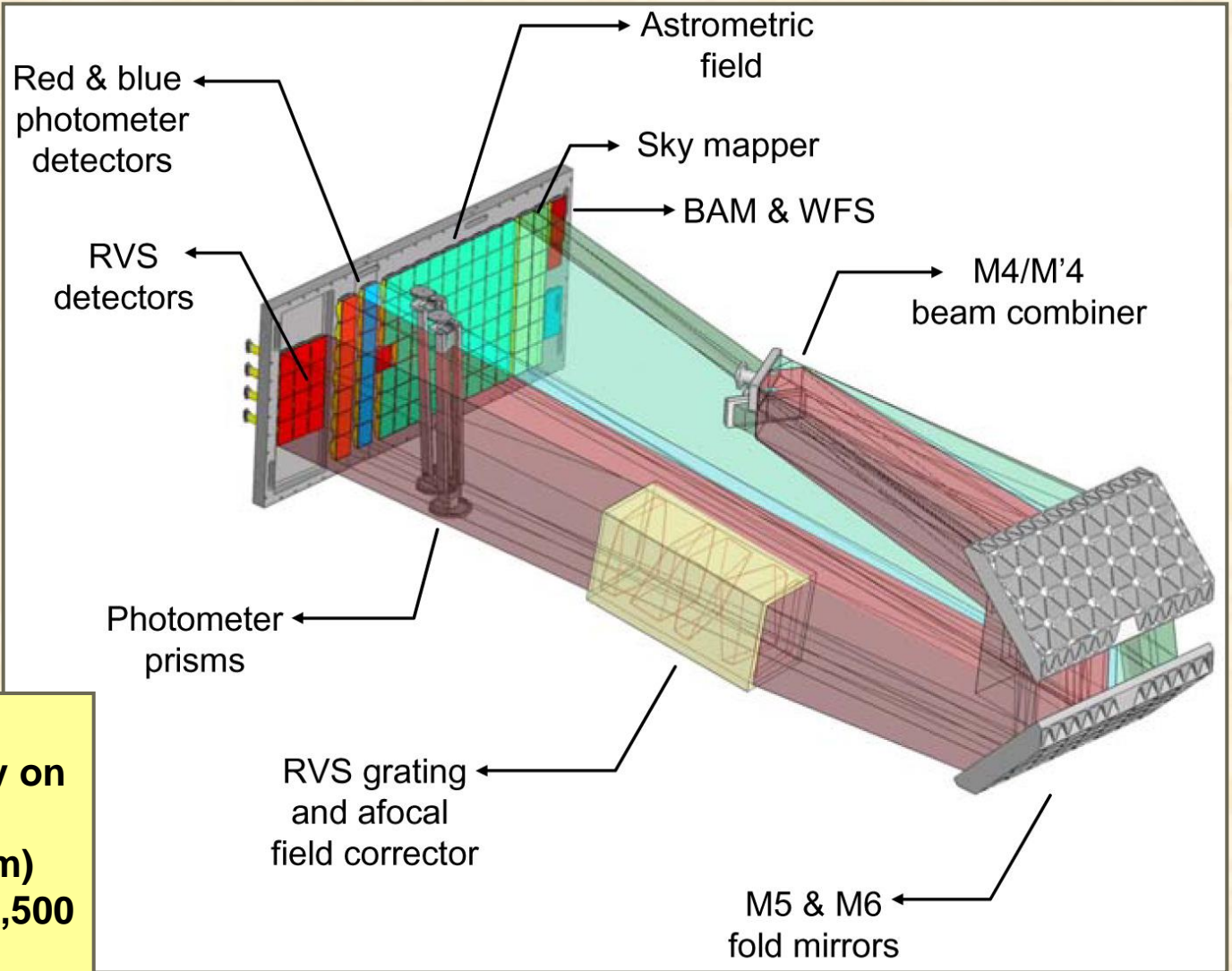


Galactic coordinates

# The instruments

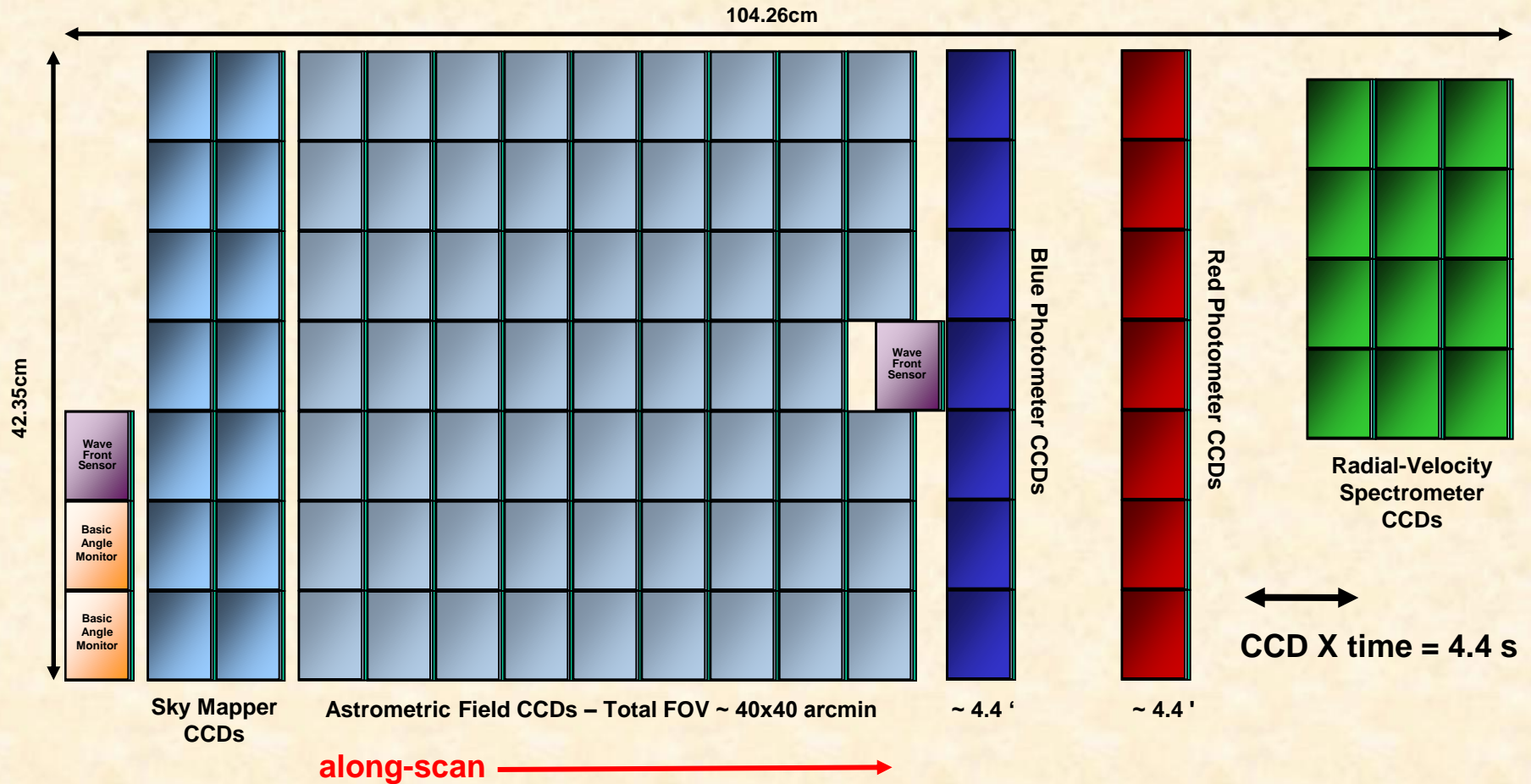
R ~ 80 – 20

R ~ 90 – 70



**Slitless  
spectroscopy on  
Ca triplet  
(845–872 nm)  
Resolution 11,500**

# Focal Plane



## Total field:

- active area: 0.75 deg<sup>2</sup>
- CCDs: 14 + 62 + 14 + 12
- each CCD: 4500x1966 px (TDI)
- pixel size = 10 μm x 30 μm  
= 59 mas x 177 mas

## Sky mapper:

- detects all objects to 20 mag
- rejects cosmic-ray events
- FoV discrimination

## Astrometry:

- total detection noise: 6 e<sup>-</sup>

## Photometry:

- spectro-photometer
- blue and red CCDs

## Spectroscopy:

- high-resolution spectra
- red CCDs

# Gaia science products: census of ...

## Stellar pops in the Galaxy

(based on the Besançon Galaxy model -  
*Robin et al. 2003, 2004*)

- Disk:  $9.0 \times 10^8$
- Thick disk:  $4.3 \times 10^8$
- Spheroid:  $2.1 \times 10^7$
- Bulge:  $1.7 \times 10^8$

## Special objects in the Galaxy

- Solar System bodies ( $3 \times 10^5$ )
- exoplanets (a few  $10^4$ )
- binaries & rare stellar types  
(fast evolutionary phases)
- WDs ( $\sim 2 \times 10^5$ ), BDs ( $\sim 5 \times 10^4$ )

## Outside the Galaxy

- brightest stars in nearby (LG) galaxies
- supernovae and burst sources ( $\sim 2 \times 10^4$ )
- galaxies ( $10^6 - 10^7$ )
- QSOs ( $\sim 5 \times 10^5$ )
- gravitational lensing events:  
<  $10^2$  photometric; a few  $10^2$  astrometric

## Fundamental Physics

- $\gamma$  to  $\sim 5 \times 10^{-7}$  ( $10^{-4} - 10^{-5}$  present)

# One billion stars in 5D (6D ... 9D) will provide:

## in the Galaxy ...

positions & distances, velocity distributions and astrophysical parameters (APs) of all **stellar populations in the MW** to unprecedented accuracy, allowing to:

- map the **spatial and dynamical structure** of bulge, disk(s) and halo(s)
- derive **formation and chemical history** (e.g. accretion and/or interaction events) of the MW & star formation history throughout
- obtain the trigonometric calibration of primary distance indicators (**RR Lyraes, Cepheids**) → accurate and robust definition of the **cosmic distance scale**

## and beyond the Galaxy ...

- QSO detection and definition of rest frame
- structure & stellar population studies in nearby galaxies

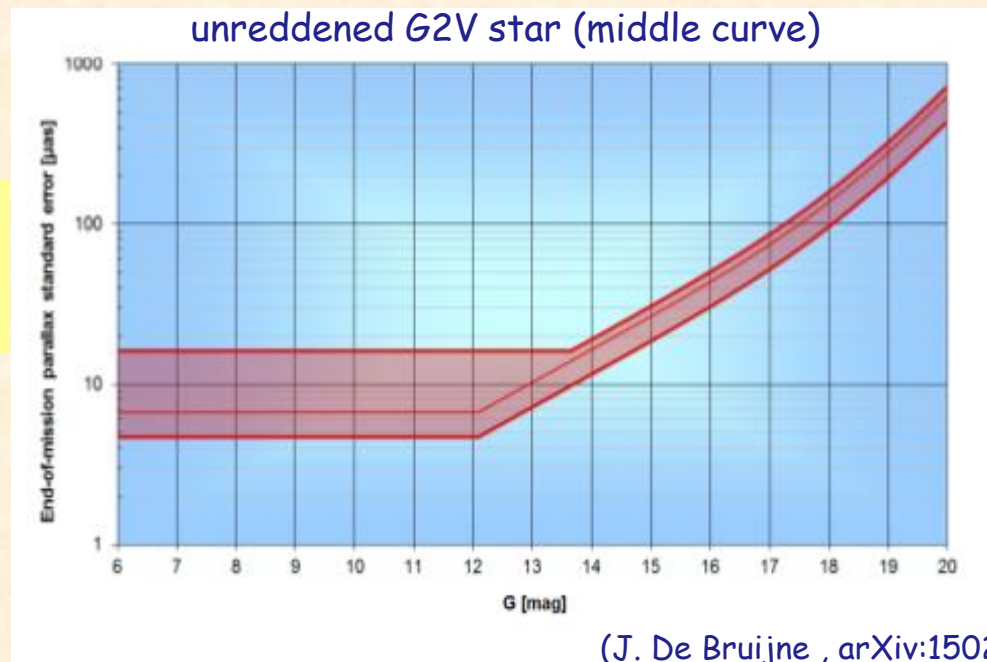


# Astrometric performance

- Sky-averaged end-of-mission parallax standard error in units of  $\mu\text{as}$
- Upper and lower curves show expected variations due to position on the sky, star colour, and bright-star observing conditions (TDI gates, onboard mag-estimation errors etc.)
- The slight upturn of the linear relation in log space starting at  $\sim 17$  mag is mainly caused by straylight

$$\sigma_{\text{pos}} = 0.74 \sigma_w$$

$$\sigma_{\mu} = 0.53 \sigma_w$$



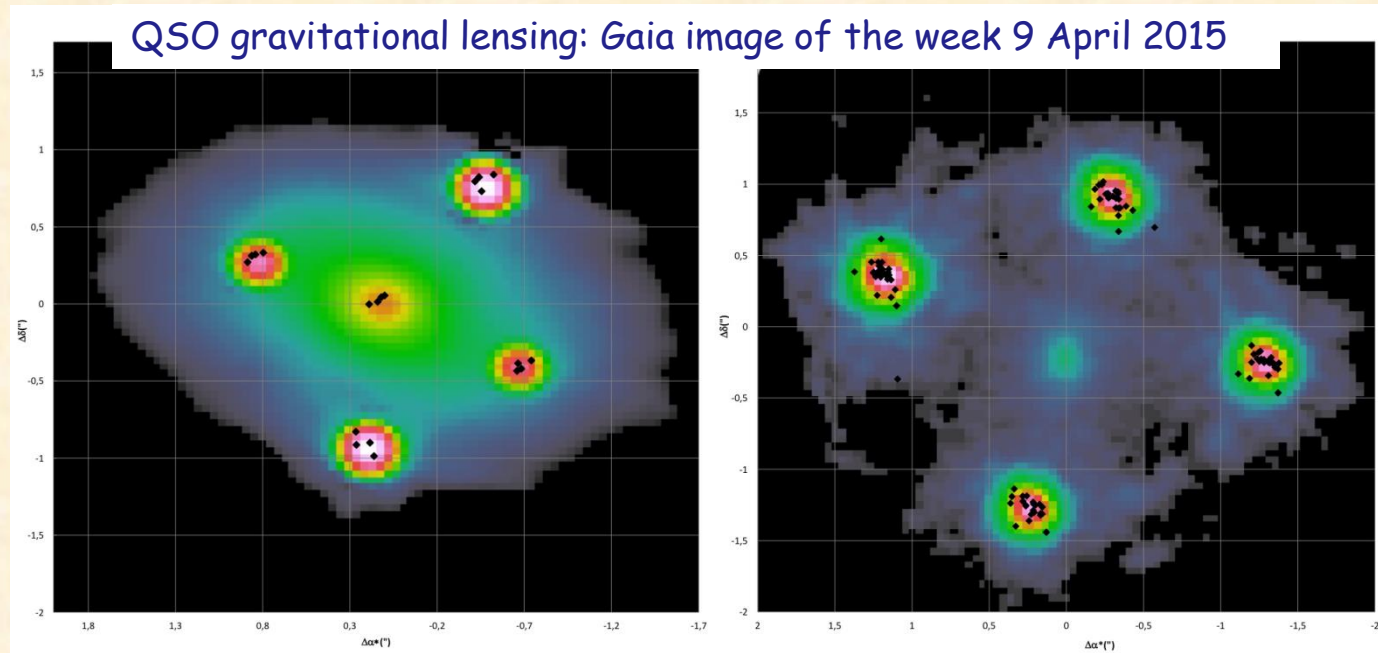
$\sigma_w$	V
540 $\mu\text{as}$	20
137 $\mu\text{as}$	18
24 $\mu\text{as}$	15
5-14 $\mu\text{as}$	3-12

(J. De Bruijne , arXiv:1502.00791)

# Preliminary results: astrometry

Lensed  
images  
17-19 mag

Image  
position  
accuracy for  
Einstein  
Cross  
~ 50 mas  
(better for  
HE0435-  
1223).



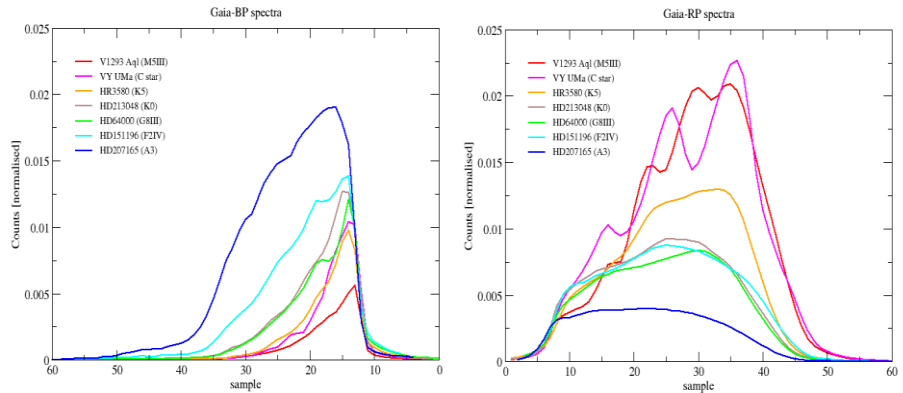
Einstein Cross (Q2237+030) (z=1.7) HE0435-1223

Gaia astrometric positions placed over HST images. Gaia positions from Initial Data Treatment in a routine mode, with a very preliminary attitude determination.

9 new observations of Q2237+030 and 16 for HE0435-1223 by end 2015 + improved attitude determination → much better accuracy

# Photometric performance

Figure courtesy C. Jordi & J.-M. Carrasco



	B1V			G2V			M6V		
G [mag]	G	BP	RP	G	BP	RP	G	BP	RP
15	1	4	4	1	4	4	1	7	4
18	2	8	19	2	13	11	2	89	6
20	6	51	110	6	80	59	6	490	24

End-of-mission photometric errors, in units of **mmag**, considering all known instrumental effects including straylight, as well as a 20% science margin

- **Astrophysical parameters (AP)** can be derived using Gaia spectro-photometric data, sometimes in combination with astrometric and spectroscopic data.
- Preliminary internal accuracy ( rms residuals) of AP estimates - **to be reassessed on real data** - on F, G, K, M dwarfs and giants for a wide range of metallicities and interstellar extinctions are (Bailer-Jones+2013, A&A 559, A74):

	$T_{\text{eff}}$	$A_v$	$\text{logg}$	[M/H]
G=15 (V~15-17)	~ 100 K	0.1 mag	0.25 dex	0.2 dex

The accuracy is a strong function of the parameters themselves, varying by a factor of more than two up or down over this parameter range

# Preliminary results: photometry I

## RR Lyraes in the LMC

G-band light curves of RRL stars in the LMC observed by Gaia during the Ecliptic Pole scanning (July 2014)

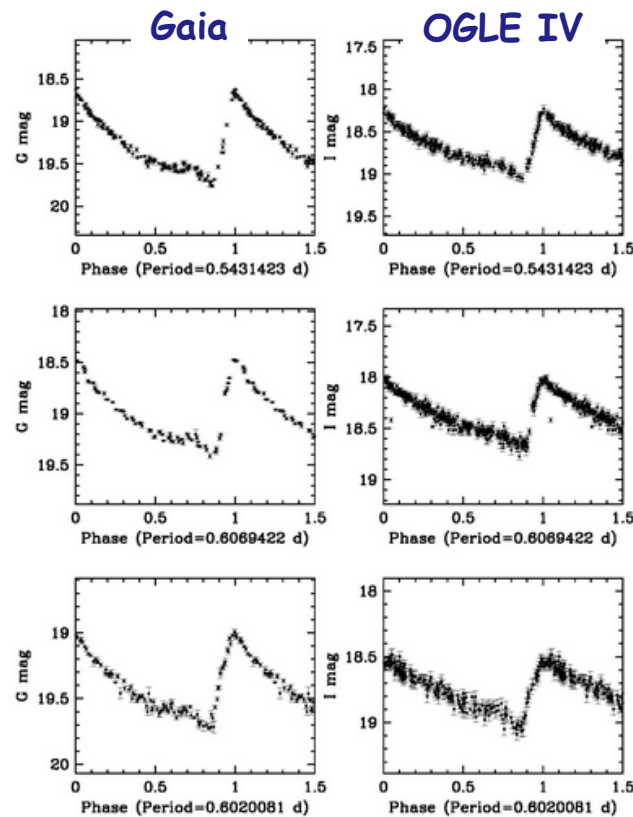
-- Data points from 118 and 96 observations spread over 28 days

-- median uncertainty of measurements  $\sim 0.02$  mag

> 800 measured, including some hundreds new discoveries, with typical average mag  $G \sim 19.5$

Gaia image of the week 5 March 2015

RR LYRAE STARS IN THE LARGE MAGELLANIC CLOUD AS SEEN BY GAIA



I-band light curves obtained by OGLE IV for the same stars

# Preliminary results: photometry II

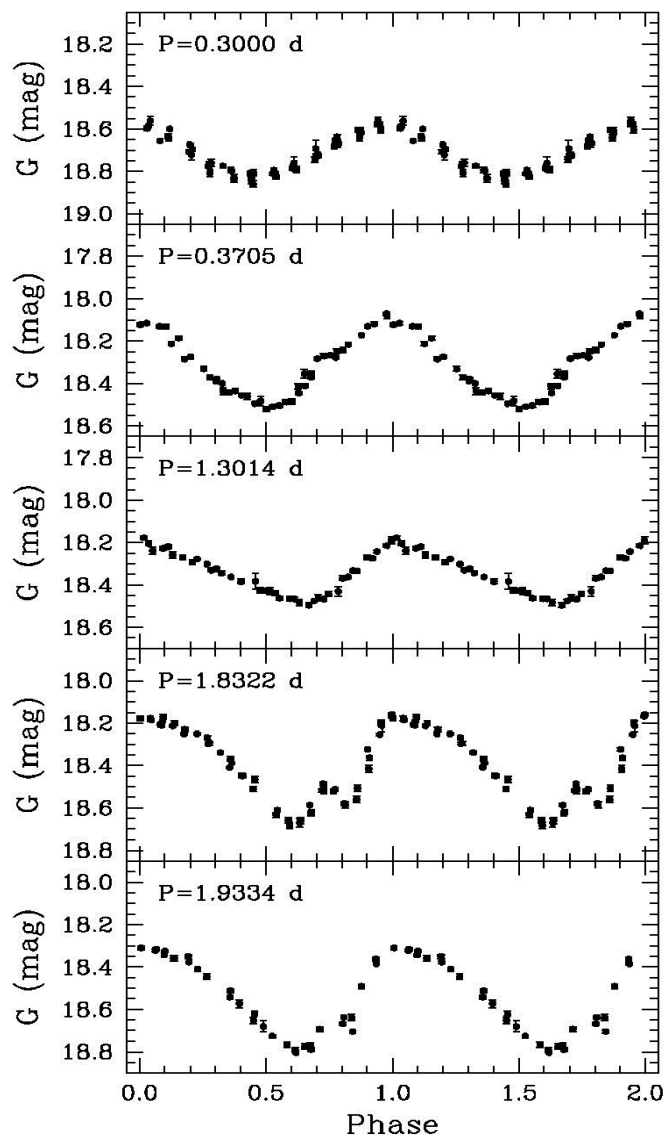
## Cepheids in the LMC

**G-band** light curves of **short period/faint** ( $G = 18.3-18.7$ ) **Cepheids in the LMC** observed by Gaia during the Ecliptic Pole scanning (July 2014)

- Data points from 31 to 56 observations each star, spread over 32 days
- median uncertainties of the measurements  $\sim 10-15$  mmag
- Cepheid magnitude distribution peaks at  $G \sim 15.5$  mag ( $M_v \sim -3$ ,  $P \sim 3-5$  days)

Credits: ESA/Gaia/DPAC/CU5/DPCI/CU7/INAF-OABo/INAF-OACn G. Clementini, V. Ripepi, S. Leccia, L. Eyer, L. Rimoldini, I. Lecoer-Taibi, N. Mowlavi, D. Evans, Geneva CU7/DPCG and the whole CU7 team. The photometric data reduction was done with the PhotPipe pipeline at DPCI; processing data were received from the IDT pipeline at DPCE.

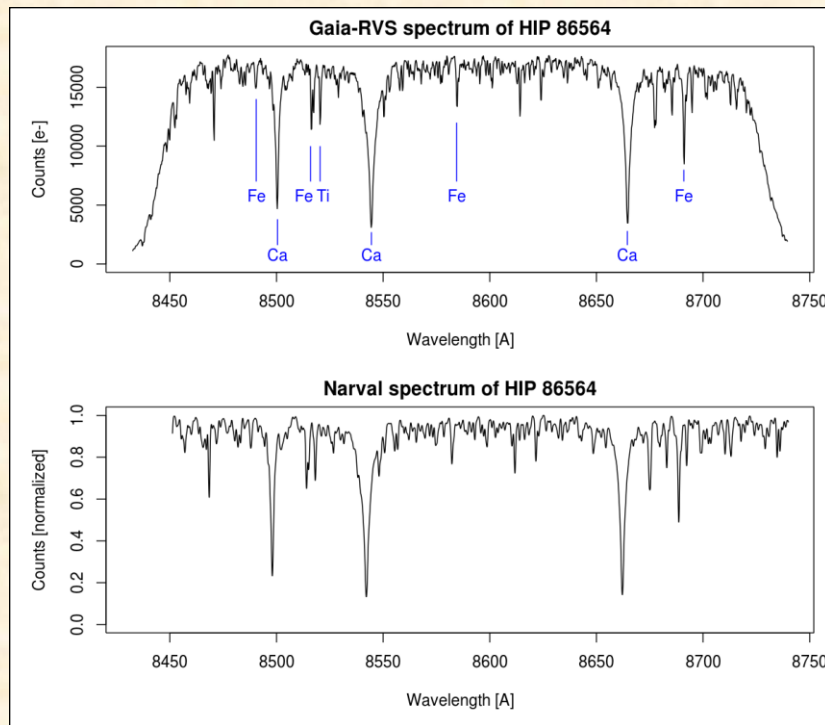
Gaia image of the week 28 May 2015



# Spectroscopic performance

End-of-mission radial-velocity errors, considering all known instrumental effects including straylight as measured during the in-orbit commissioning phase, as well as a 20% science margin

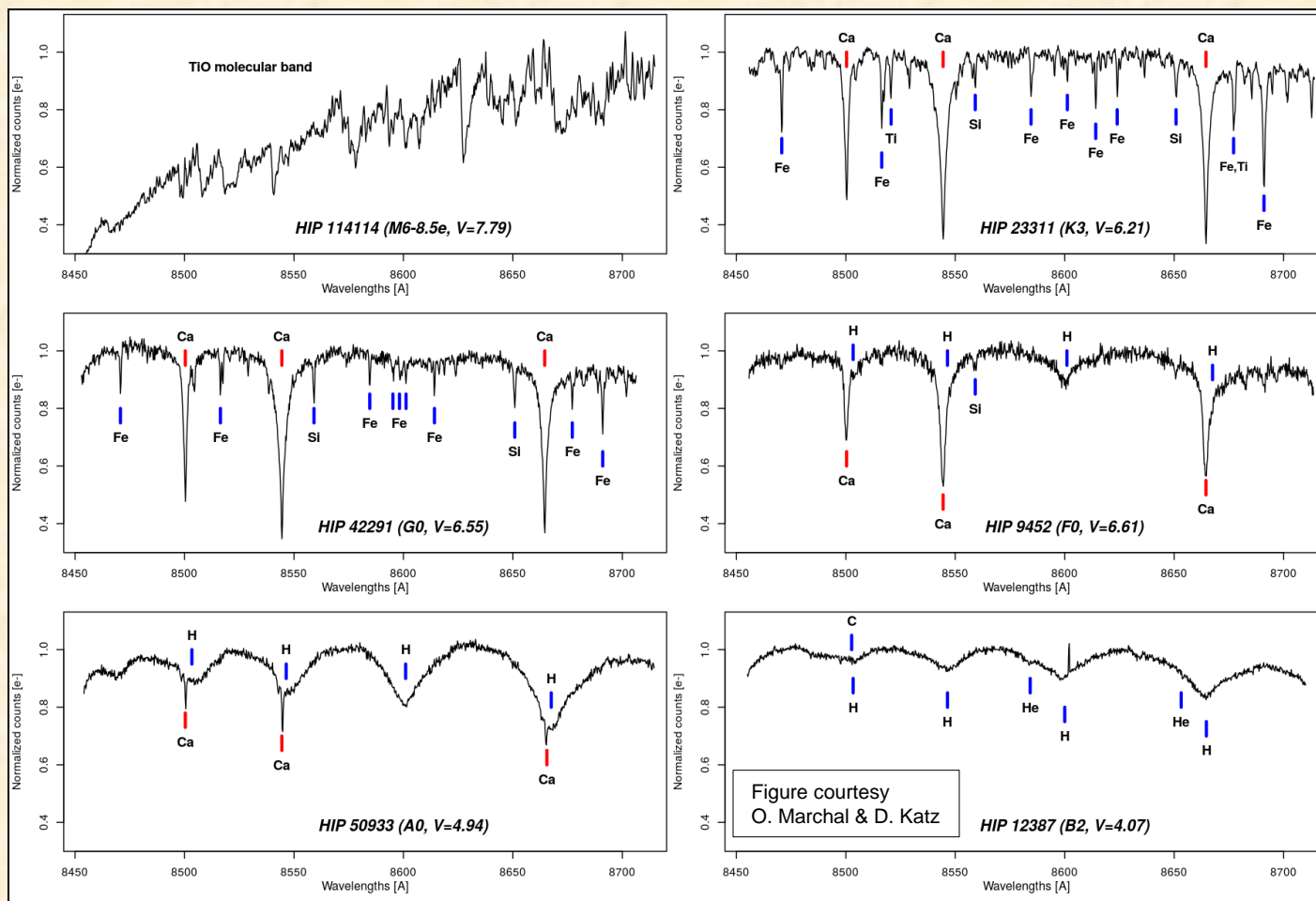
Spectral type	V [mag]	Radial-velocity error [km s <sup>-1</sup> ]
B1V	7.5	1
	11.3	15
G2V	12.3	1
	15.2	15
K1III-MP (metal-poor)	12.8	1
	15.7	15



HIP 86564  
K5 V=6.64

Figure courtesy D. Katz, O. Marchal, C. Soubiran

# Preliminary RVS results at bright end



# Data processing & distribution

- Data Processing and Analysis Consortium (DPAC): ≥ 450 people from 20 European countries and ESA
- No proprietary data rights
- Science alerts (e.g. SNe) data released immediately
- **Final catalogue ~ 2020-22**
- Intermediate data releases:
  - GDR1: Mid-2016** Positions +  $G$  magnitude ( ~ 90% sky, single stars)  
Includes more often scanned Ecliptic Pole regions ( ~ 1 deg)  
Hundred Thousand Proper Motions (HTPM Hipparcos-Gaia, ~ 50  $\mu\text{as/yr}$ )
  - GDR2: Early 2017** radial velocities for bright stars, two-band photometry, and full astrometry ( $\alpha$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\mu_\alpha$ ,  $\mu_\delta$ , ) where available
- Two more intermediate releases (**2017/18 and 2018/19**) TBD

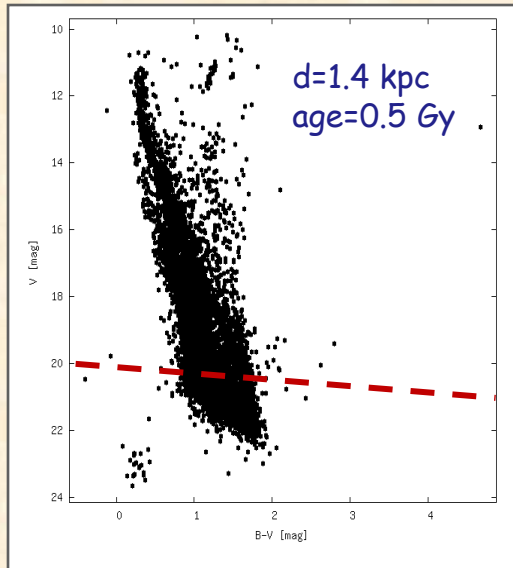


# Stellar populations of the MW

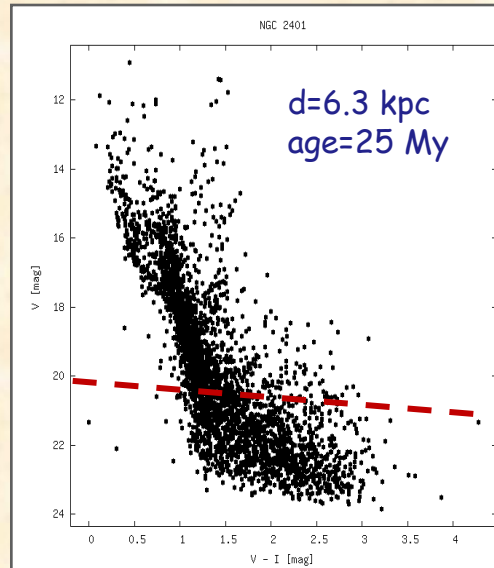
Some selected kinematic tracers:  $\sigma_{\text{vel}}$  = velocity dispersion of MW component

MW component	Tracer	Mv mag	Av mag	D kpc	V mag	$\sigma_{\text{vel}}$ km/s	Gaia $\sigma_{\mu}$ $\mu\text{as/yr}$ - km/s
Bulge	gM (M0III)	-1	5	8	18.5	100	67 – 2.5
	HB (A5V)	+0.5	5	8	20	100	324 – 12
	MS-TO (G2V)	+4.5	2	5	20	100	290 – 6.9
Thin disk warp	gK (K3III)	0	2	10	17	10-20	33 – 1.6
	gM (M0III)	-1	2	10	16	10-20	20 - 0.9
Thick disk	gK (K3III)	0	2	8	16.5	50-60	25 – 1.0
	HB (A5V)	+0.5	2	8	17	50-60	39 – 1.5
	gK (K3III)	0	2	15	18	30	59 - 4.2
	HB (A5V)	+0.5	2	15	18.5	30	100 – 7.1
Spiral arms	Cepheids (F8)	- 3	5	10	17	10-20	37 – 1.8
	SgB (B0I)	- 5	5	10	15	10-20	14 - 0.7
	SgM (M7III)	- 5	5	10	15	10-20	4 - 0.2
Inner	gK (K3III)	- 1	0	10	14	100	8 - 0.4
Halo	HB (A5V)	+0.5	0	10	15.5	100	18 - 0.9
	MS-TO (G2V)	+4.5	0	10	19.5	100	193 – 9.1
Outer	gK (K3III)	-1	0	30	16.5	100	25 – 3.6
	HB (A5V)	+0.5	0	30	18	100	71 - 10

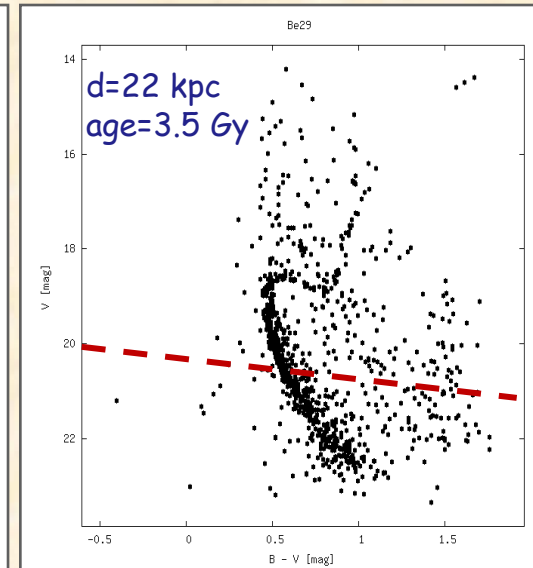
# The disk: open clusters



NGC 2099 - Kalirai et al. 2001



NGC 2401 - Baume et al. 2006



Be 29 - Tosi et al. 2004

All the MW open clusters will be observed by Gaia

# The distance scale: Galactic RR Lyraes

GEOS database photometry:

$M_V = 0.52$  ( $\sim [Fe/H] = -1.5$  dex)

$V-I = 0.50$

$\langle V \rangle = (V_{max} + V_{min})/2$

Zero reddening

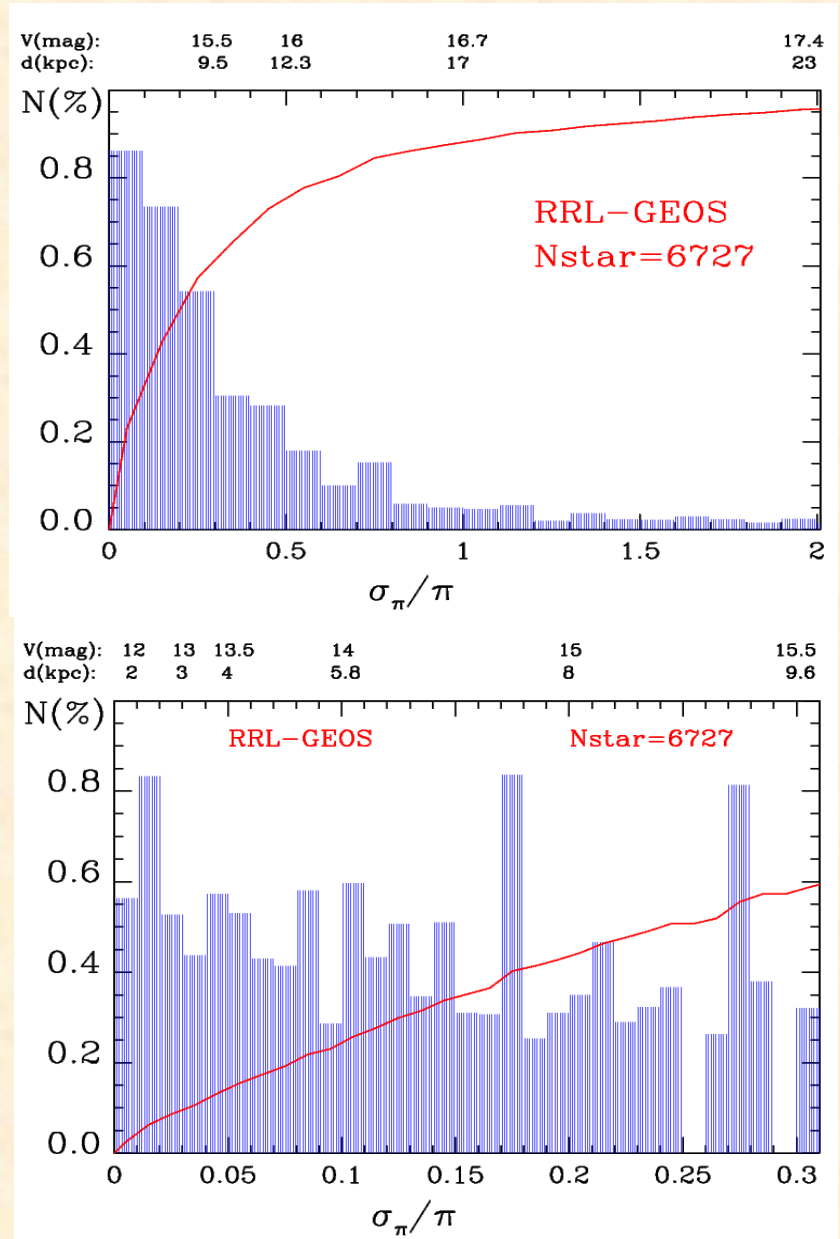
→ Individual end-of-mission  $\sigma_\pi/\pi$  estimates



n. stars	$\sigma_\pi/\pi$	D(kpc)
~ 5 % (~ 340)	$\leq 1\%$	$\leq 2$
~ 15 % (~ 1000)	$\leq 5\%$	$\leq 4$
~ 26 % (~ 1750)	$\leq 10\%$	$\leq 6$
~ 43 % (~ 2900)	$\leq 20\%$	$\leq 8$
~ 60 % (~ 4000)	$\leq 30\%$	$\leq 10$



Expected from Gaia  
 ~ 15-40  $10^3$  bulge  
 ~ 70  $\times 10^3$  halo  
 > 25  $\times 10^3$  LMC  
 (Eyer & Cuypers, 2000)



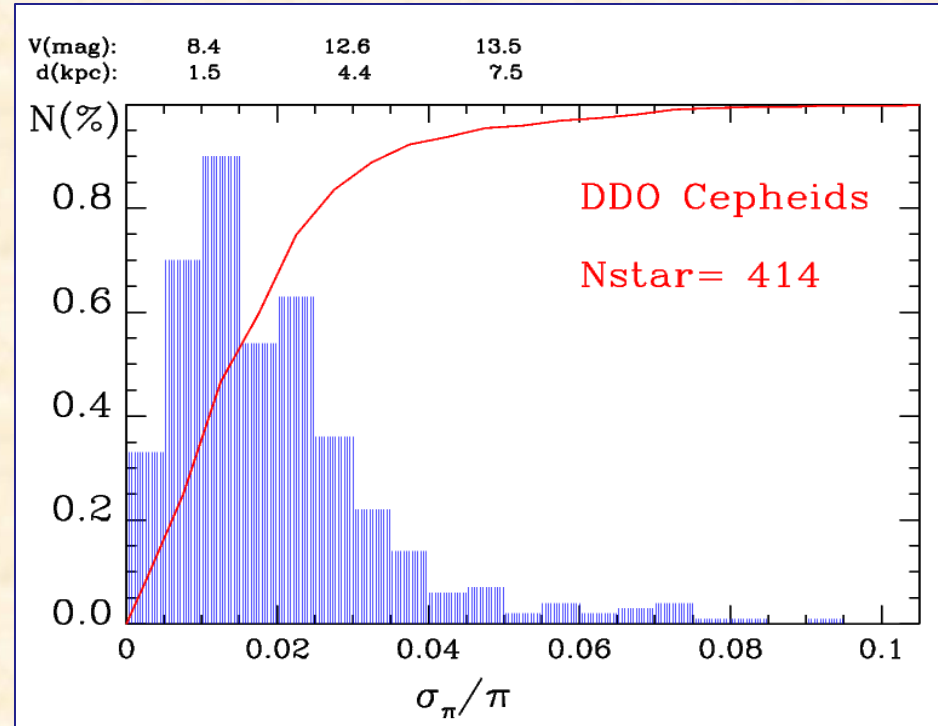
# The distance scale: Galactic Cepheids

Fernie et al. (1995)

Only  $\leq 1000$  Galactic Cepheids are known - most are located in the Solar neighbourhood

~ 400 Galactic Cepheids from David Dunlap Observatory DB  
→ photometry, reddening, distance, magnitude

Gaia predicted accuracy  
 $\leq 1\%$  for 145 stars (35%)  
 $\leq 2\%$  for 290 stars (70%)  
 $\leq 4\%$  for 390 stars (95%)



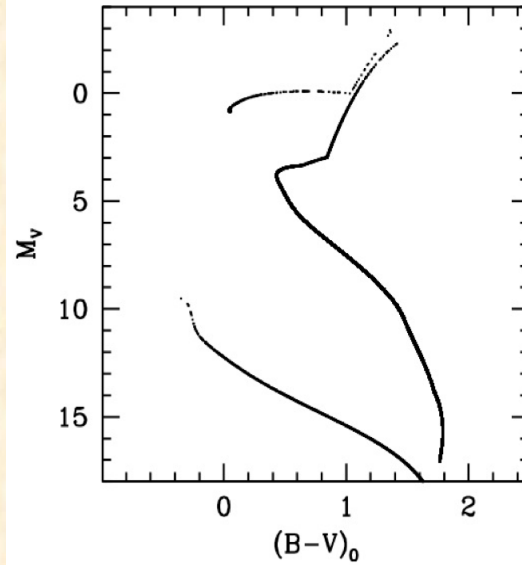
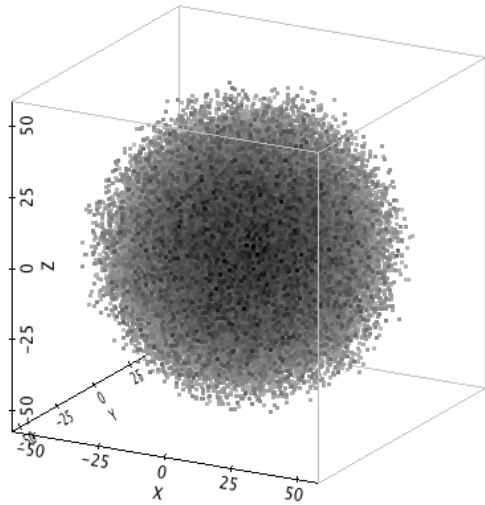
Presently, there are only ~ 250 Cepheids with parallax & photometry  
→ ~ 100 with  $\sigma_{\pi} \leq 1$  mas (Hipparcos) - 10 with HST parallax

**Estimated MW Cepheids for Gaia:  $2-9 \times 10^3$**  (Eyer & Cuypers, 2000; Windmark 2011)

→ direct (trigonometric) calibration of local standard candles for the cosmological distance scale

# Case 1: globular clusters

Pancino, Bellazzini, Marinoni 2013, MemSAIt, 84, 83



## Simulation tool

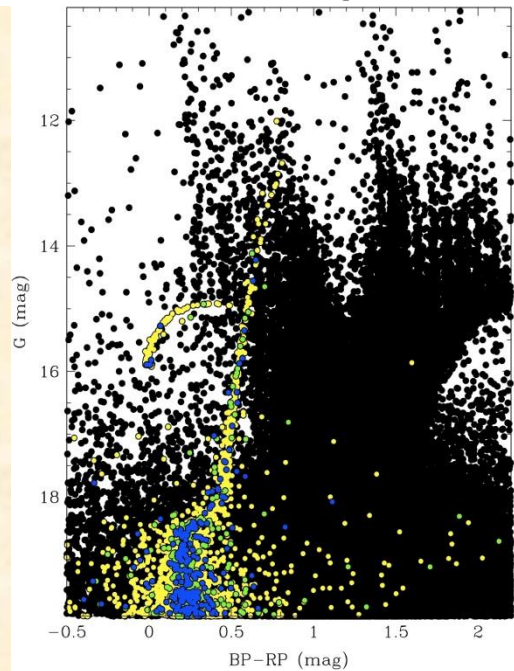
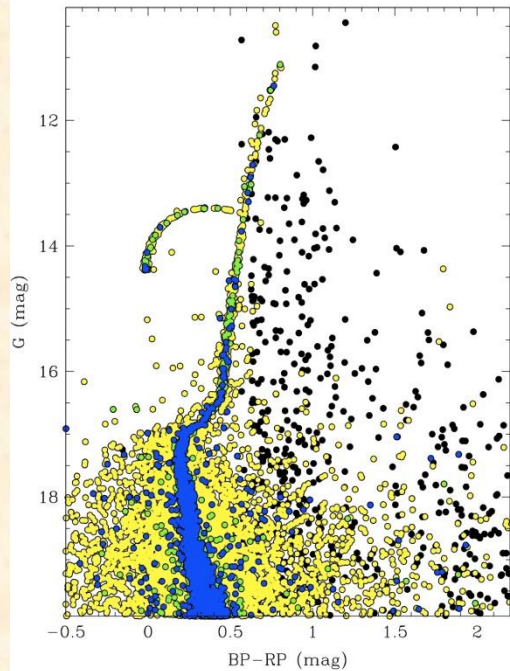
Produce a full 3-D synthetic cluster  
at dynamical equilibrium

Assign magnitudes to all stars  
from appropriate stellar models:  
old & metal-poor

Place it at a given distance

Add reddening  
and contamination by field stars  
[from a Galactic model: Besançon]

Simulate the process  
of Gaia observation  
[end of mission]  
including crowding



# Astrometry: systemic motion

**Easy cluster**

$M_V = -7.6$

**Difficult cluster**

$\mu_{RA/Dec} = 5000 \mu\text{as/yr} = 118 \text{ km/s}$   
 Distance = 5 kpc

$\mu_{RA/Dec} = 5000 \mu\text{as/yr} = 237 \text{ km/s}$   
 Distance = 10 kpc

With (de)blends (16838):

$\mu_{RA} = 4998.7 \pm 0.8 \mu\text{as/yr}$   
 $\mu_{Dec} = 5000.2 \pm 0.7 \mu\text{as/yr}$   
 $\pi = 199.7 \pm 0.7 \mu\text{as}$   
 $D = 5.007 \pm 0.007 \text{ kpc}$

With deblends (3513):

$\mu_{RA} = 4993 \pm 3 \mu\text{as/yr}$   
 $\mu_{Dec} = 4994 \pm 3 \mu\text{as/yr}$   
 $\pi = 101.2 \pm 1.4 \mu\text{as}$   
 $D = 9.997 \pm 0.017 \text{ kpc}$

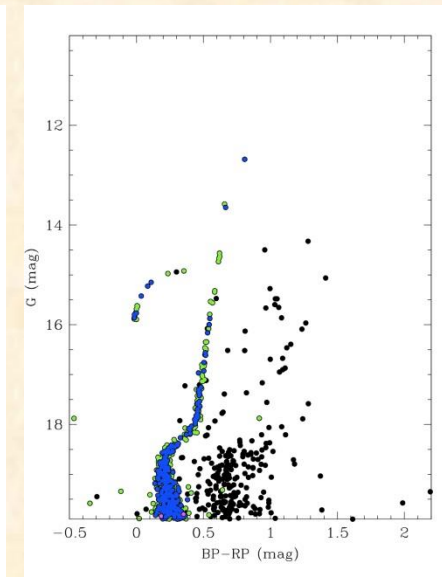
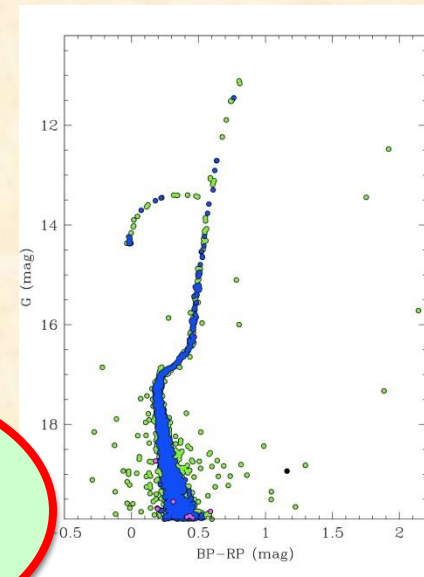
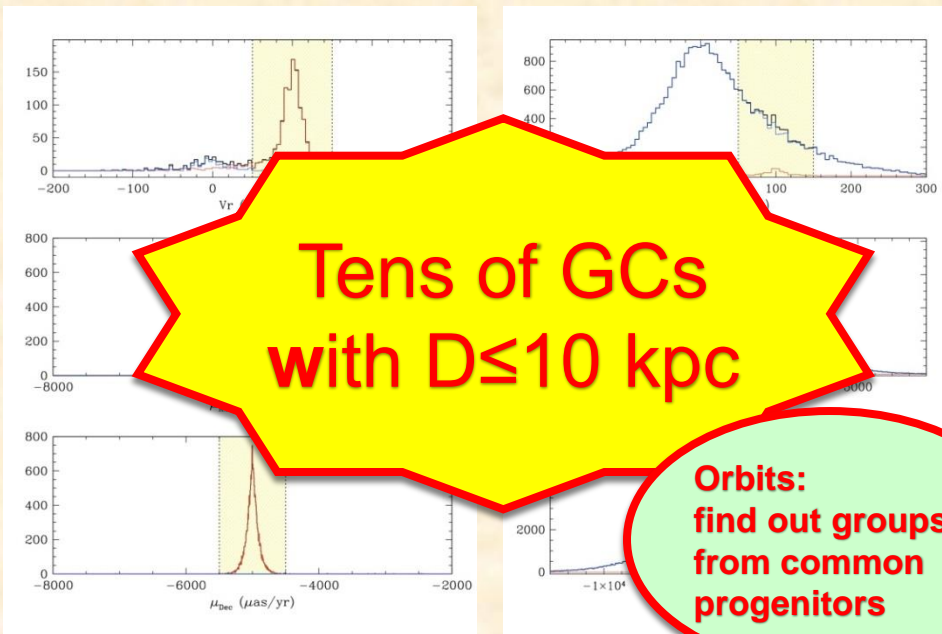
< 1 km/s

< 20 pc

Credits: Elena Pancino (INAF-OABO)

Tens of GCs  
 with  $D \leq 10 \text{ kpc}$

Orbits:  
 find out groups  
 from common  
 progenitors

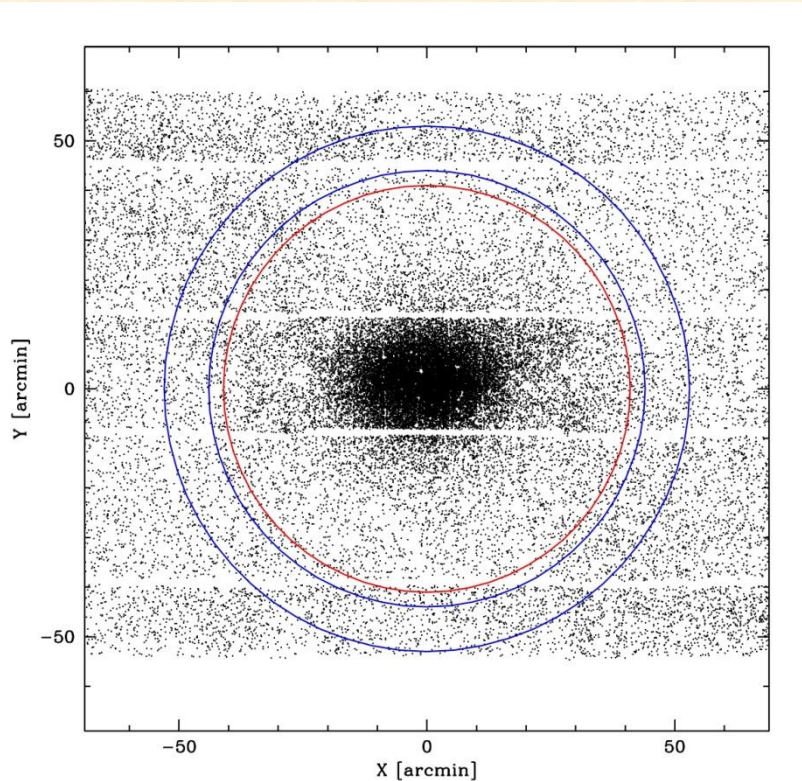


## Case 2: dwarf spheroidal galaxy Draco

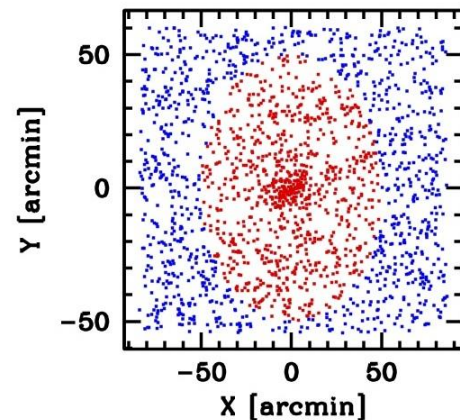
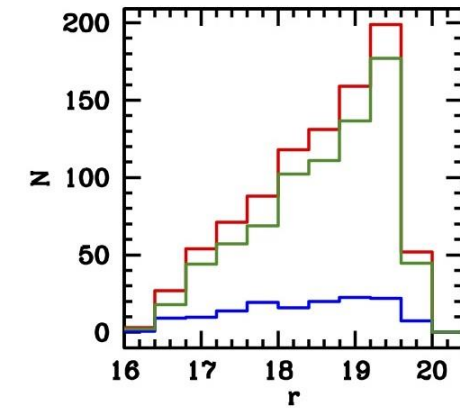
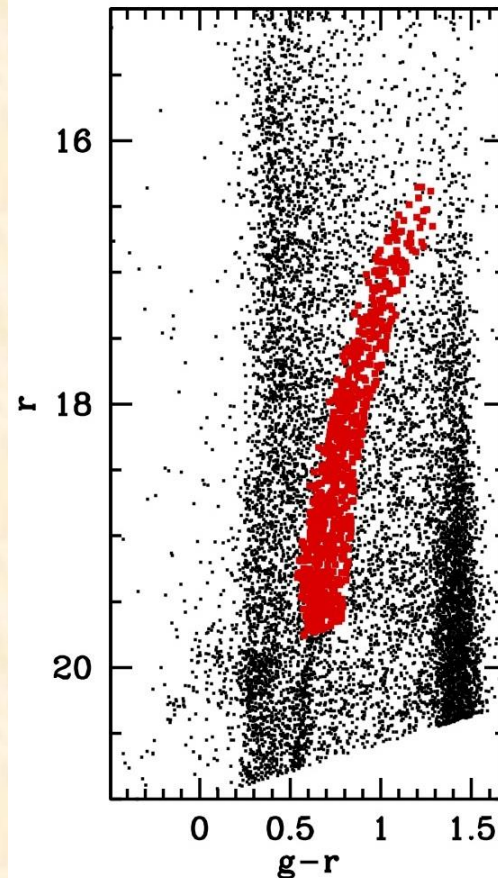
$M_V = -9.0$     $\mu_{V,0} = 25.0 \text{ mag/arcsec}^2$     $D = 93 \text{ kpc}$

2°x2° CFHT photometry from Segall et al 2007

After statistical decontamination → 750 RGB stars with  $V \leq 20$



Courtesy Michele Bellazzini, OABO



**Simulating Gaia observations of real Draco stars  
(motions - velocity dispersion)**

To each of the 750 Draco member stars observable by Gaia I associate :

- A realistic SYSTEMIC tangential motion (amplitudes from HST estimates)
  - A realistic velocity dispersion (9.1 km/s, assuming isotropy)
  - Observational errors from de Bruijne's model
- To simulate non-perfect knowledge of individual observational errors a Gaussian component of amplitude 10% is added to the error

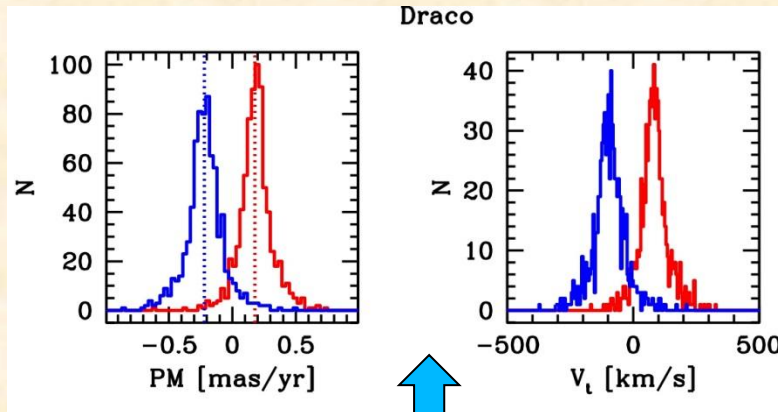
For each star observed by Gaia  
I obtain realistic:

**PMRA  $\pm$  ePMRA & PMDE  $\pm$  ePMDE**



# Case 2: dwarf spheroidal galaxy Draco

Maximum Likelihood estimate of **systemic proper motion and velocity dispersion** using a simple gaussian model. In input **PMRA ± ePMRA & PMDE ± ePMDE**



State of the art **systemic** PM with HST:  
uncertainty = **0.063 mas/yr**  
(Pryor et al. 2015)

$N_*/M_V$	Error inaccuracy	TRUE $\langle \text{PMRA} \rangle$	Measured $\langle \text{PMRA} \rangle$	TRUE $\langle \text{PMDE} \rangle$	Measured $\langle \text{PMDE} \rangle$	TRUE $\sigma$	Measured $\sigma$	Gaia/HST
<b>750/-9.0</b> in mas/yr	10%	0.177	0.175 $\pm 0.0033$	-0.221	-0.217 $\pm 0.0031$	0.0206	0.0210 $\pm 0.0054$	<b>~19</b>
750/-9.0 in km/s	10%	78.0	77.1 $\pm 1.4$	97.4	-95.6 $\pm 1.4$	9.1	9.2 $\pm 2.4$	
<b>75/-6.5</b> in mas/yr	10%	0.177	0.172 $\pm 0.0119$	-0.221	-0.217 $\pm 0.0093$	0.0206	0.0420 $\pm 0.0156$	<b>~6</b>
<b>10/-4.3</b> in mas/yr	10%	0.177	0.180 $\pm 0.030$	-0.221	-0.185 $\pm 0.030$	0.0206	-----	<b>~2</b>

# Summary - Conclusions

- In the *Galaxy Gaia* will provide the distances, velocity distributions and APs of all stellar populations to unprecedented accuracy as far as 10 kpc (and beyond), allowing to:
  - map the spatial and dynamical structure of the MW components
  - identify merger debris, streams etc. (evidence of accretion and/or interaction events), and derive the MW formation and chemical history
  - derive the star formation history throughout the *Galaxy*
  - obtain the trigonometric calibration of primary distance indicators  
→ a definitive and robust definition of the cosmic distance scale
- Comparable astrometric accuracy may be achieved by other present (future) space- & ground-based facilities, but on small areas of the sky
- **Several surveys** (especially the high-resolution **spectroscopic** ones, see talk by Carlos Allende-Prieto) will be very important: none will provide all-sky coverage, but all will contribute to complement and extend the scientific potential of the *Gaia* data

more information on Gaia at

<http://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/gaia>

Thank you !

