

***PLAnetary Transits  
and Oscillations of stars***

<http://www.oact.inaf.it/plato/PPLC/Home.html>

**PLAT**



- *Ultra-high precision photometric space mission*
- *Candidate M-class mission in ESA Cosmic Vision programme*

# ***PLATO Science Objectives***

## **Main objectives:**

1. detect and characterize exoplanets of all kinds around stars of all types and all ages including telluric planets in the habitable zone
2. provide full observational basis to study stellar evolution
3. enable very wide additional science programme: stellar rotation, stellar activity, binarity, circumstellar environments, etc.

## **Three complementary techniques:**

- photometric transits :  $R_p/R_s$  ( $R_s$  known thanks to Gaia)
- groundbased follow-up in radial velocity :  $M_p/M_s$
- seismic analysis of host-stars (stellar oscillations) :  $R_s$ ,  $M_s$ , age
  - > measurement of radius and mass, hence of planet mean density
  - > measurement of age of host stars, hence of planetary systems

## **Tool:**

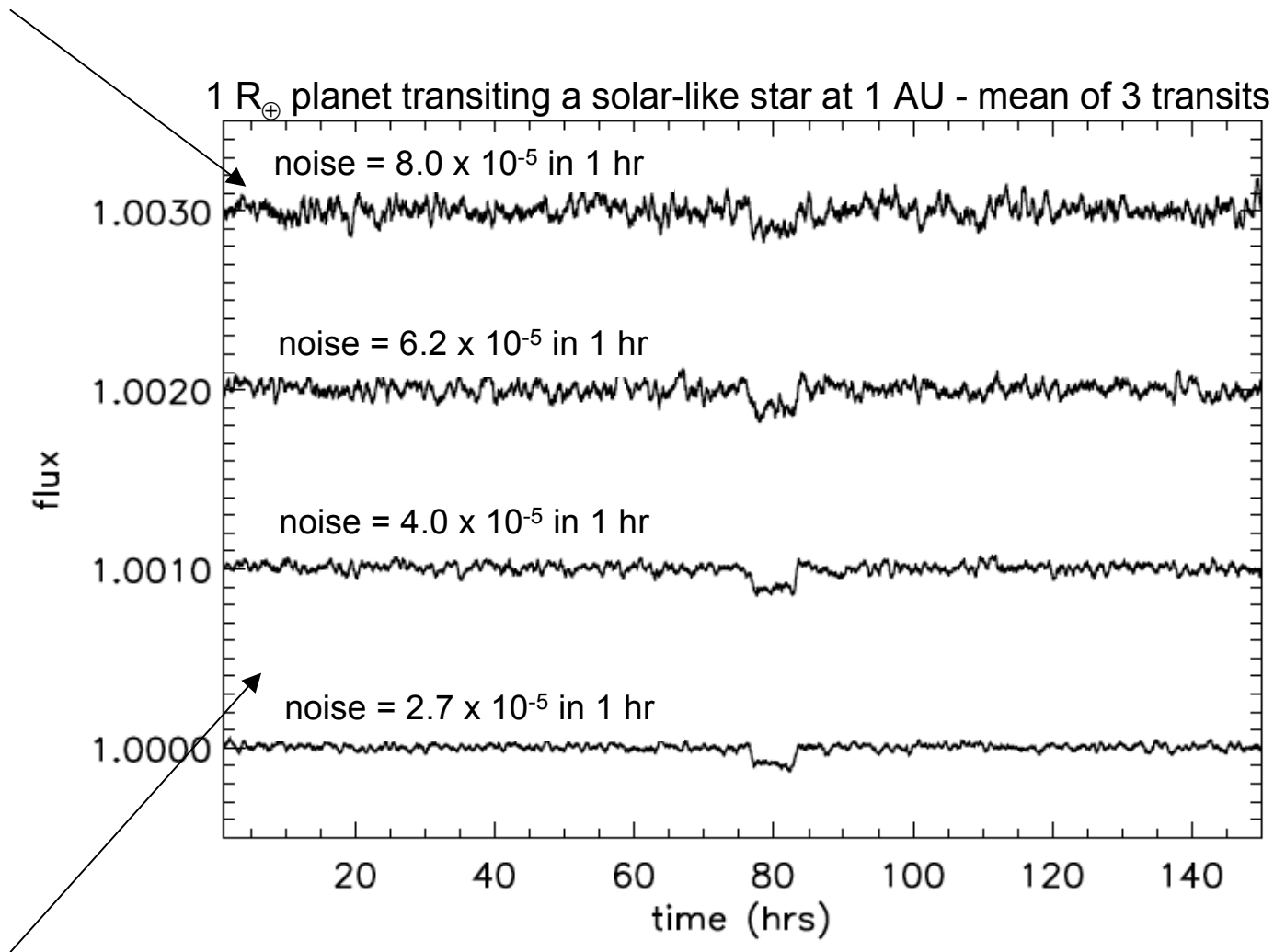
- ultra-high precision, long, uninterrupted, CCD photometric monitoring of very large samples of **bright stars**: CoRoT - Kepler heritage
- **bright stars**: capability of seismic analysis and efficient groundbased follow-up

# ***The PLATO challenge***

- very large number of targets
- bright and very bright stars
- very long term monitoring
- ultra-high precision photometry

# Noise level requirements for PLATO

$8.0 \times 10^{-5}$  in 1 hr for marginal transit detection (faint targets)



$3.4 \times 10^{-5}$  in 1 hr for high S/N transit measurement: also required for seismic analysis

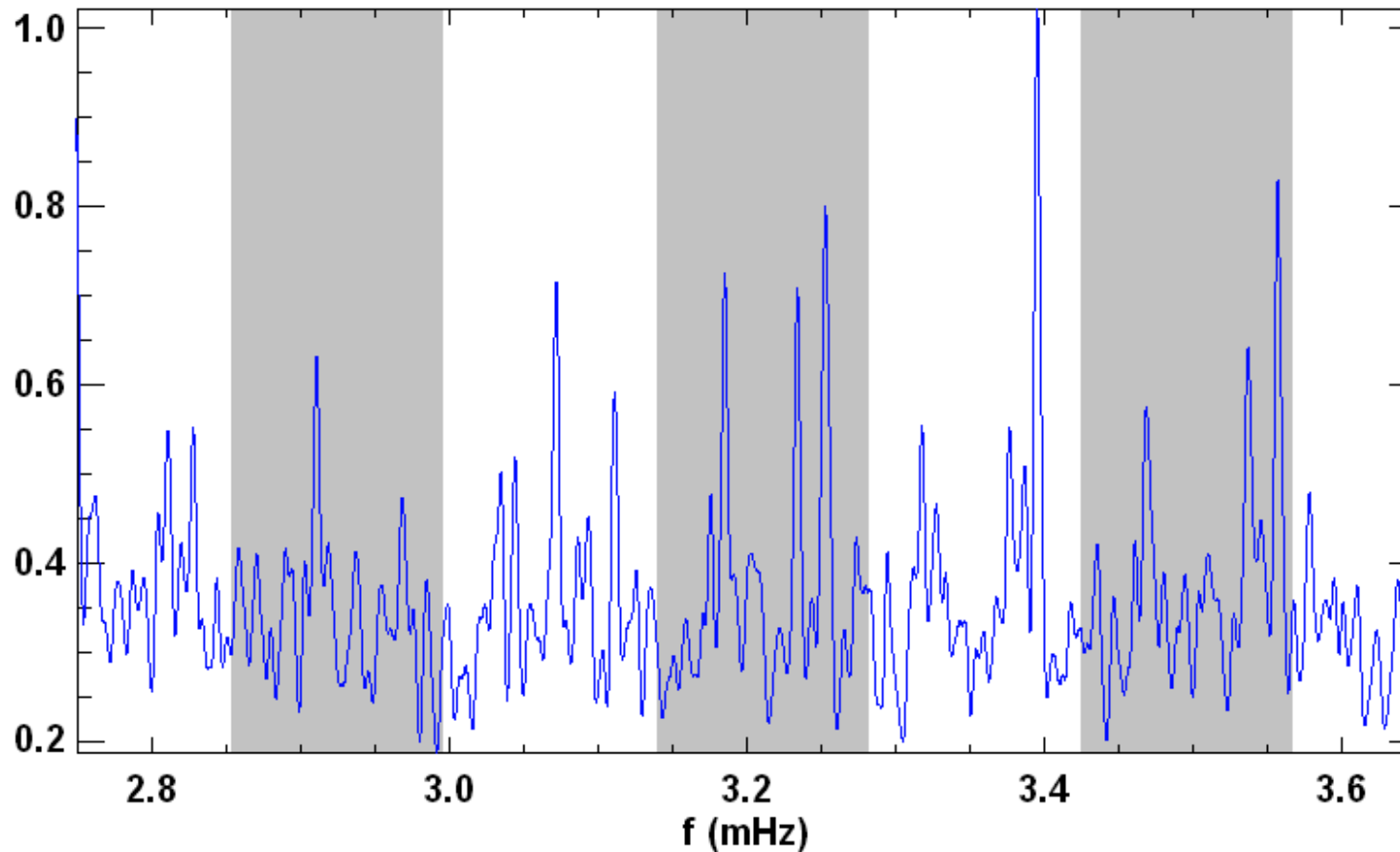
# ***Noise level requirements for PLATO***

CoRoT observation of a G type star:

noise level =  $3.4 \times 10^{-5}$  in 1 hr

duration 3.2 months

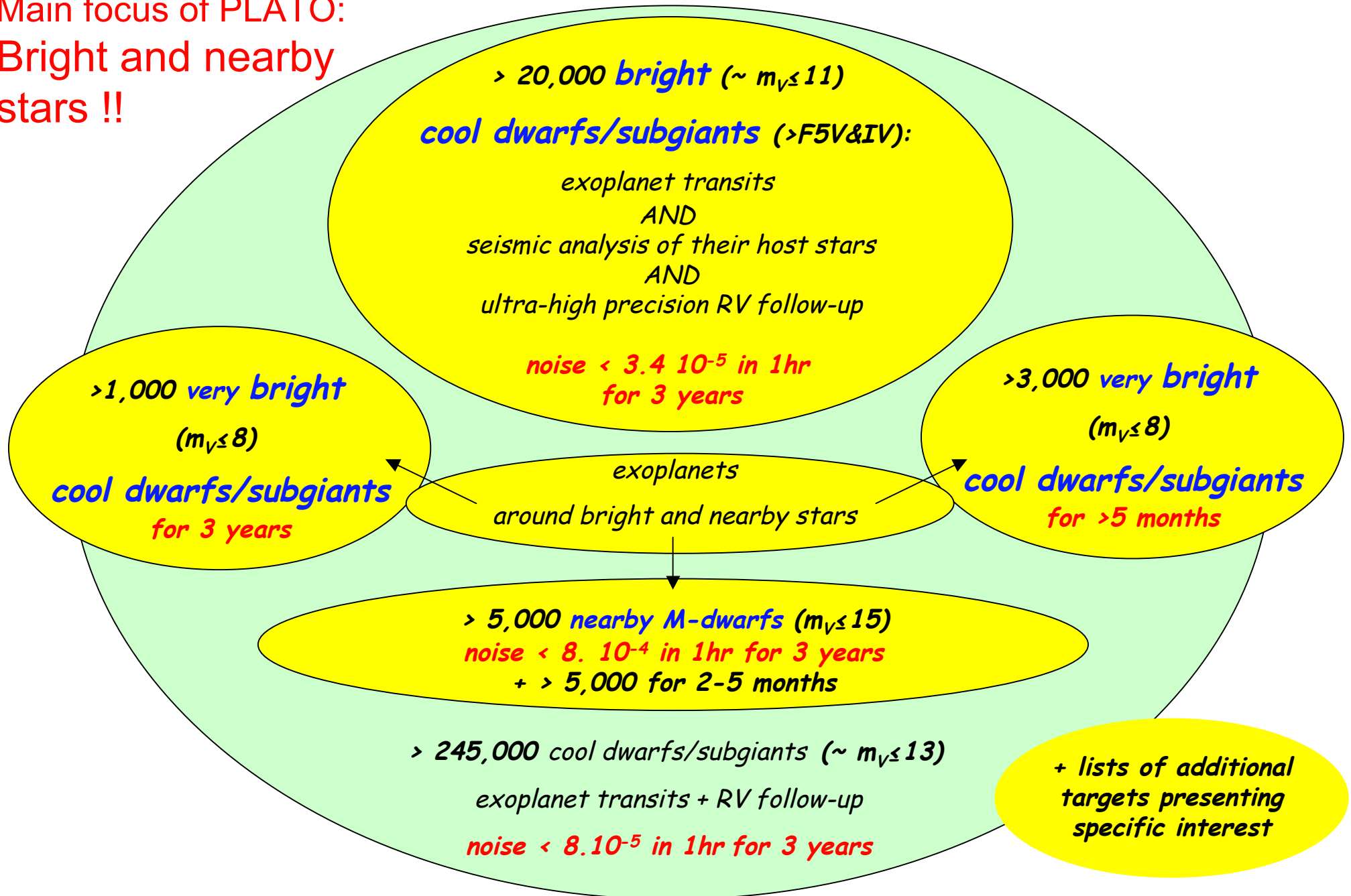
$\Delta\nu$  accuracy  $1.2 \mu\text{Hz}$



$3.4 \times 10^{-5}$  in 1 hr sufficient for seismic analysis

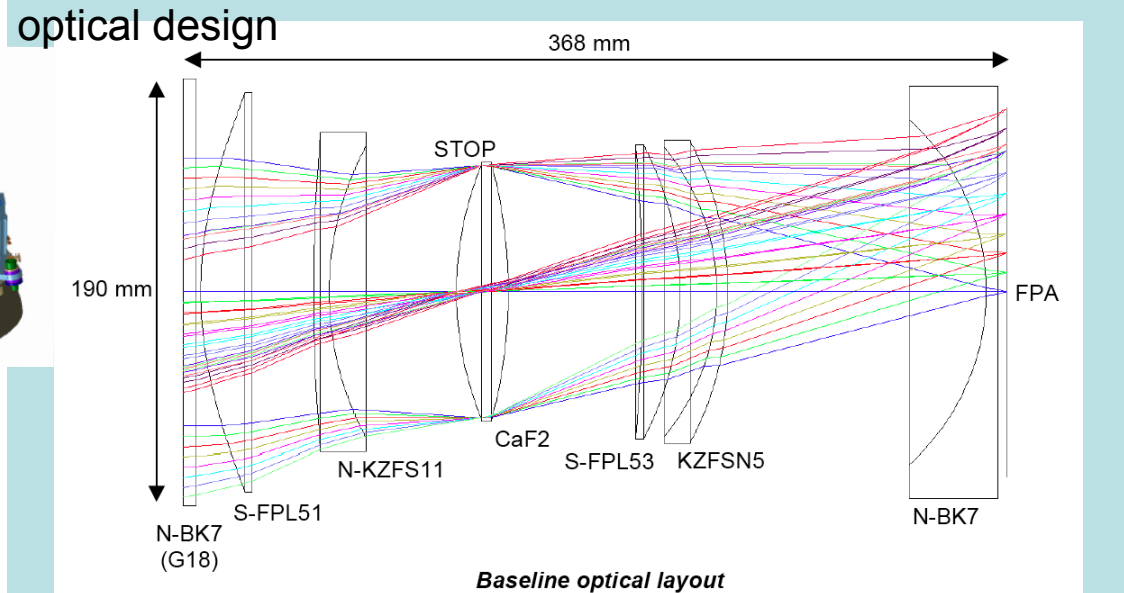
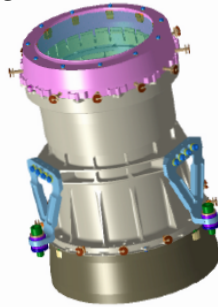
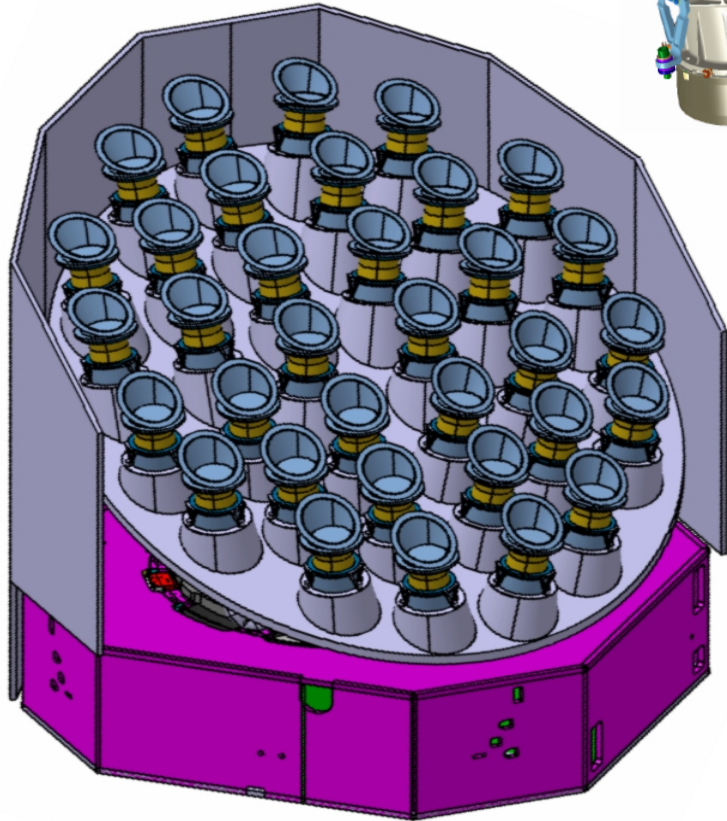
# PLATO target samples

Main focus of PLATO:  
Bright and nearby  
stars !!



# Instrumental Concept

Very wide field + large collecting area :  
multi-instrument approach

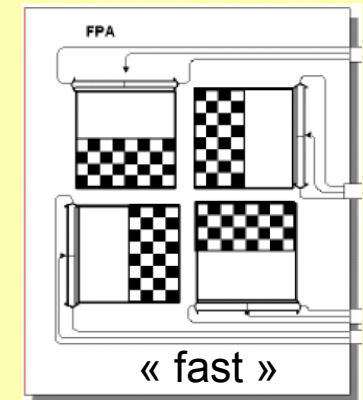
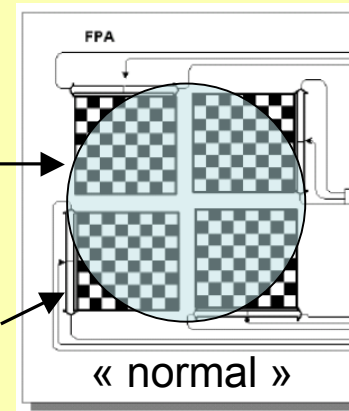


fully dioptric, 6 lenses + 1 window

focal planes

optical field  
37°

4 CCDs:  
4510<sup>2</sup> 18μm



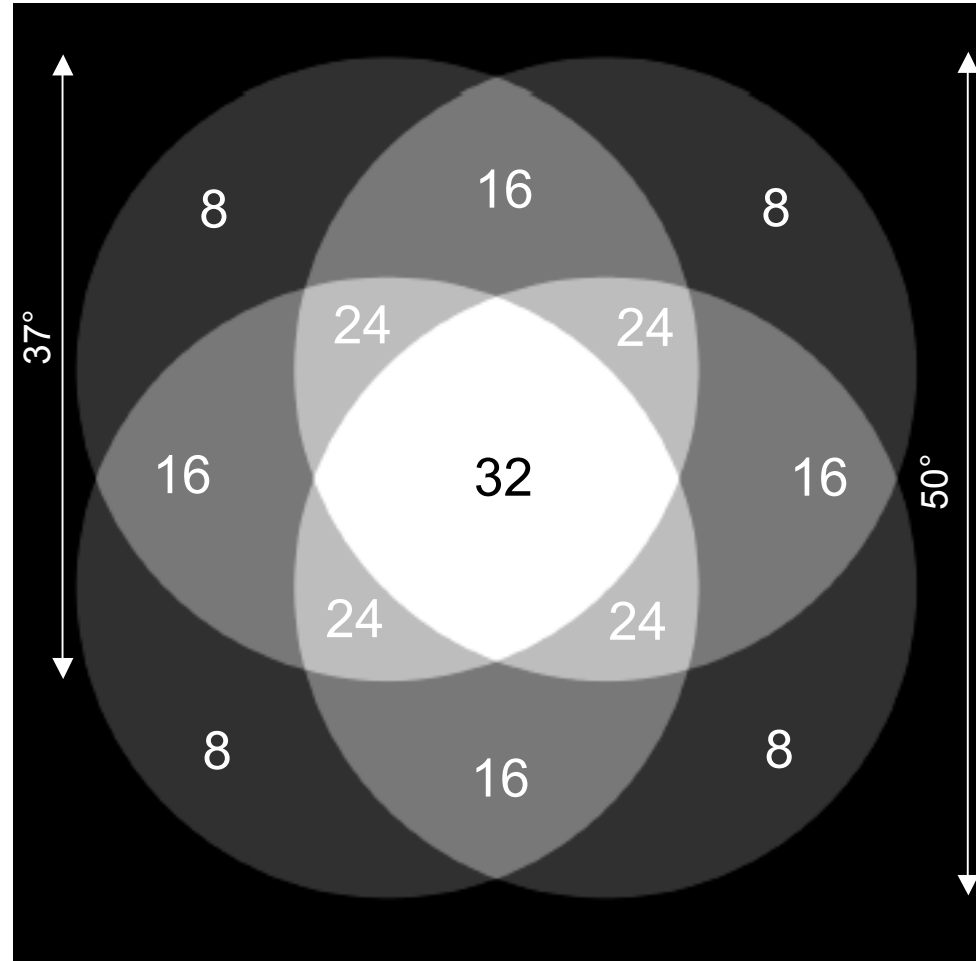
- 32 « normal » cameras : cadence 25 sec
- 2 « fast » cameras : cadence 2.5 sec, 2 colours
- pupil 120 mm
- dynamical range:  $4 \leq m_v \leq 16$

On board data treatment: 1 DPU /2 cameras + 1 ICU  
Science ground segment

Orbit around L2 Lagrangian point, 6+2 year lifetime

# ***Concept of overlapping line of sight***

4 groups of 8 cameras with offset lines of sight  
offset = 0.35 x field diameter

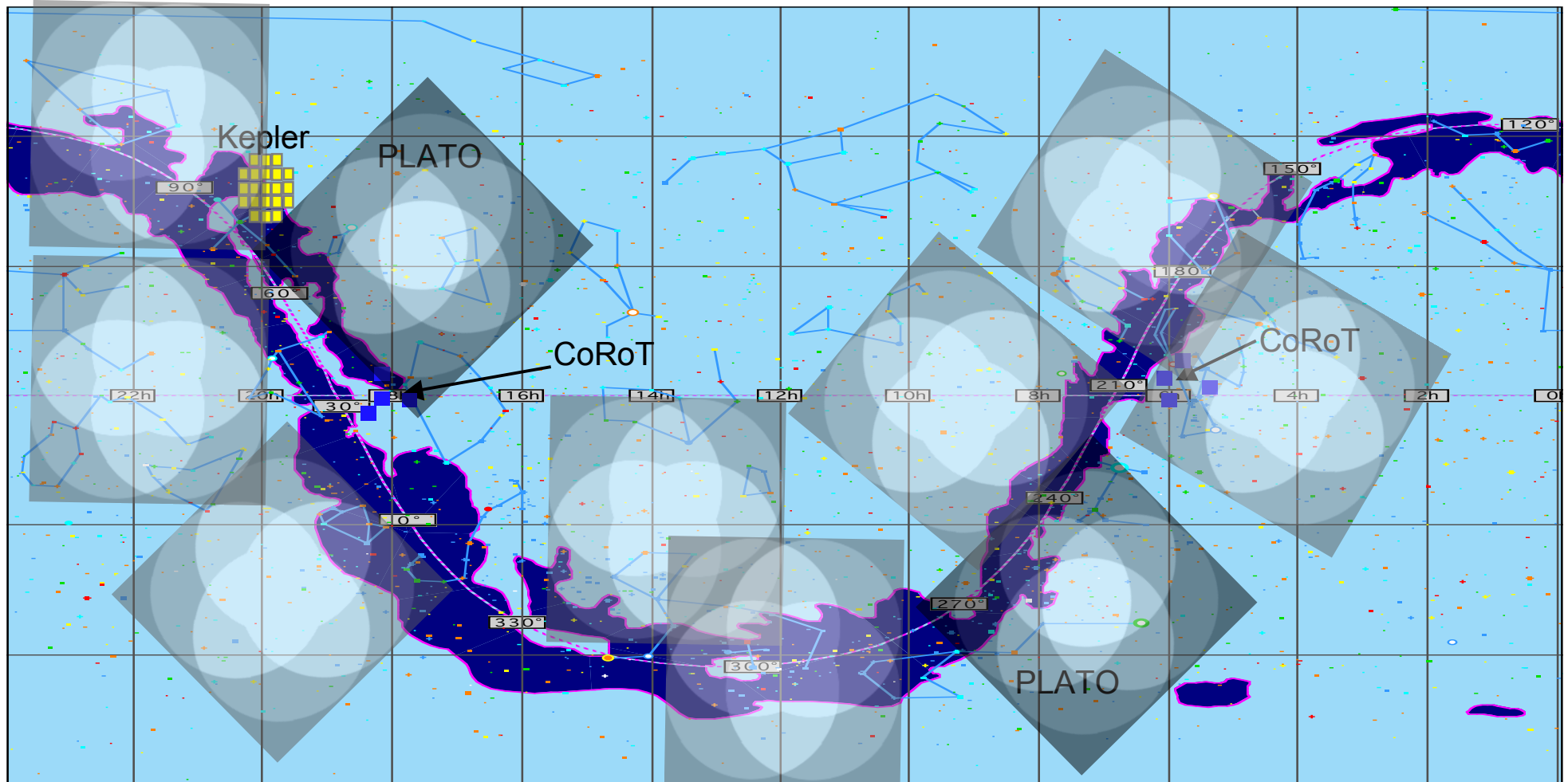


Optimization of number of stars at given noise level  
AND of number of stars at given magnitude



# Observation strategy and sky coverage

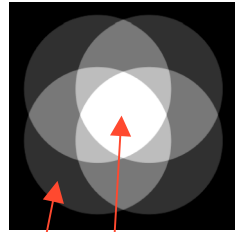
1. two long pointings : 3 years or 2 years
2. « step&stare » phase (1 or 2 years) :  $N$  fields 2-5 months each



**~ 50% of the sky !**

# Expected performances

as a function of noise level

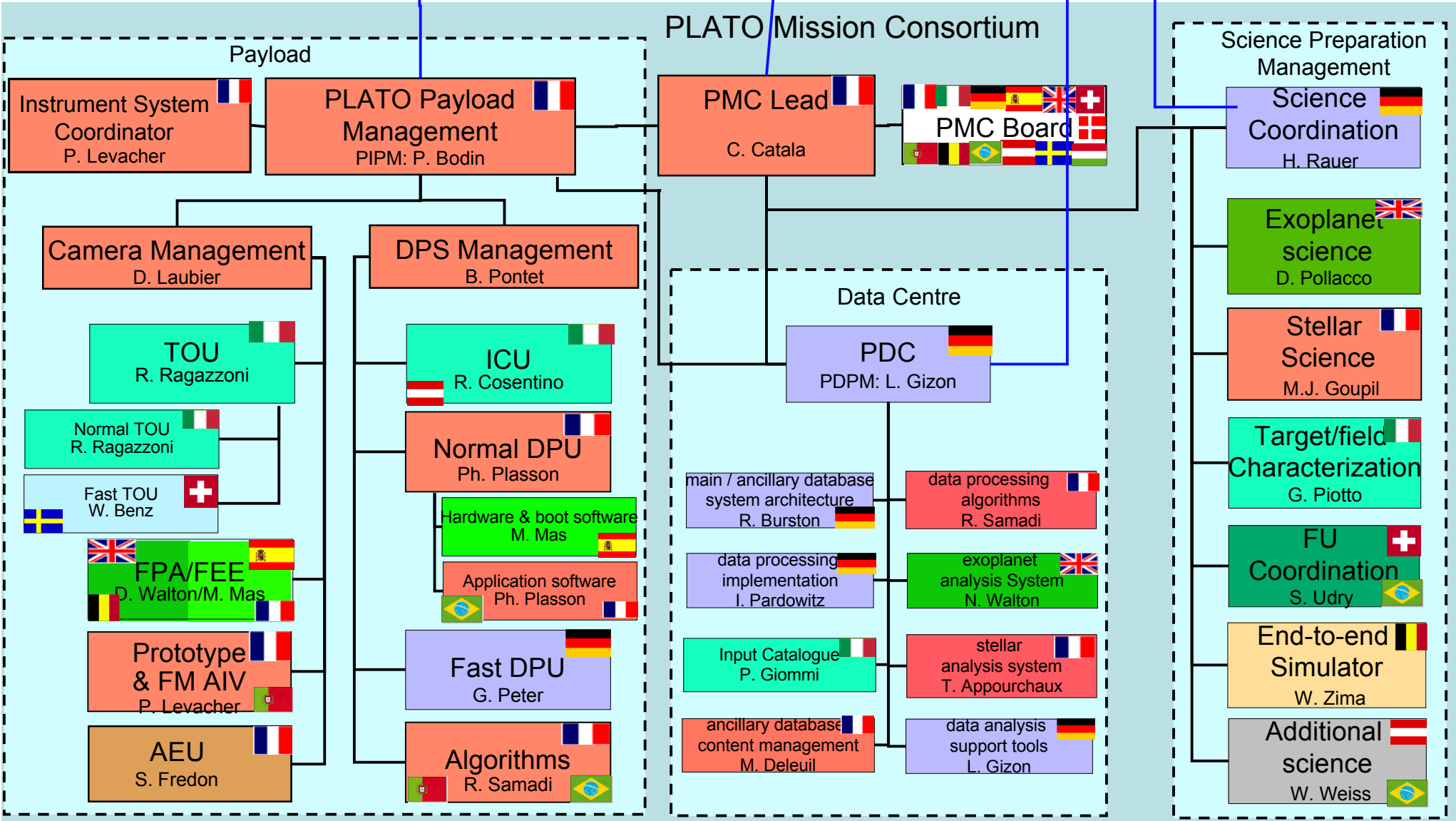
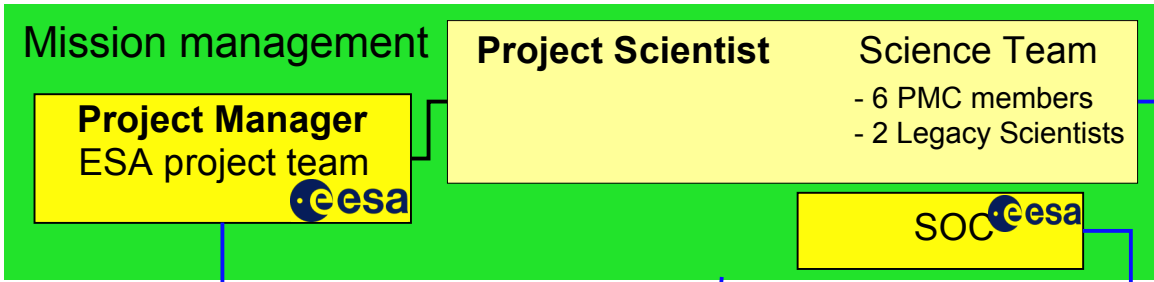


cf presentation by Giampaolo Piotto this afternoon

	PLATO (4300 deg <sup>2</sup> )		20,000 deg <sup>2</sup>	KEPLER (100 deg <sup>2</sup> )	
noise level (ppm/√hr)	nb of cool dwarfs & subgiants long monitoring	m <sub>v</sub>	nb of cool dwarfs & subgiants incl. step&stare	nb of cool dwarfs & subgiants	m <sub>v</sub>
27	15,000	9.3 - 10.8	60,000	1,300	11.2
34	<b>22,000</b> <small>20,000</small>	9.8 - 11.3	88,000		
80	292,000 <small>245,000</small>	11.6 - 12.9	1,000,000	25,000	13.6
	<b>1,300</b> <small>1,000</small>	8	<b>5,000</b> <small>3,000</small>	30	8
	36,000	11	145,000	1,300	11



as a function of magnitude



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***Danke !***

# *Expected noise level*

