

An imprint of **planet formation**  
in the deep interior of the **Sun**

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Take-home message

**Planet formation**  
does **not** affect the **solar abundance problem**,  
but **does** affect the **solar central metallicity**

**Kunitomo & Guillot, in prep.**

see also [Kunitomo+18,A&A](#) and [Kunitomo+17,A&A](#)

Cool Stars 20.5@online



# Solar abundance problem

*e.g., Asplund+09, Serenelli+09*

- Solar models from stellar evolution simulations disagree with helioseismic constraints
- In 2000s, the solar surface abundances were revised  
→ the problem became prominent

## Proposed scenarios

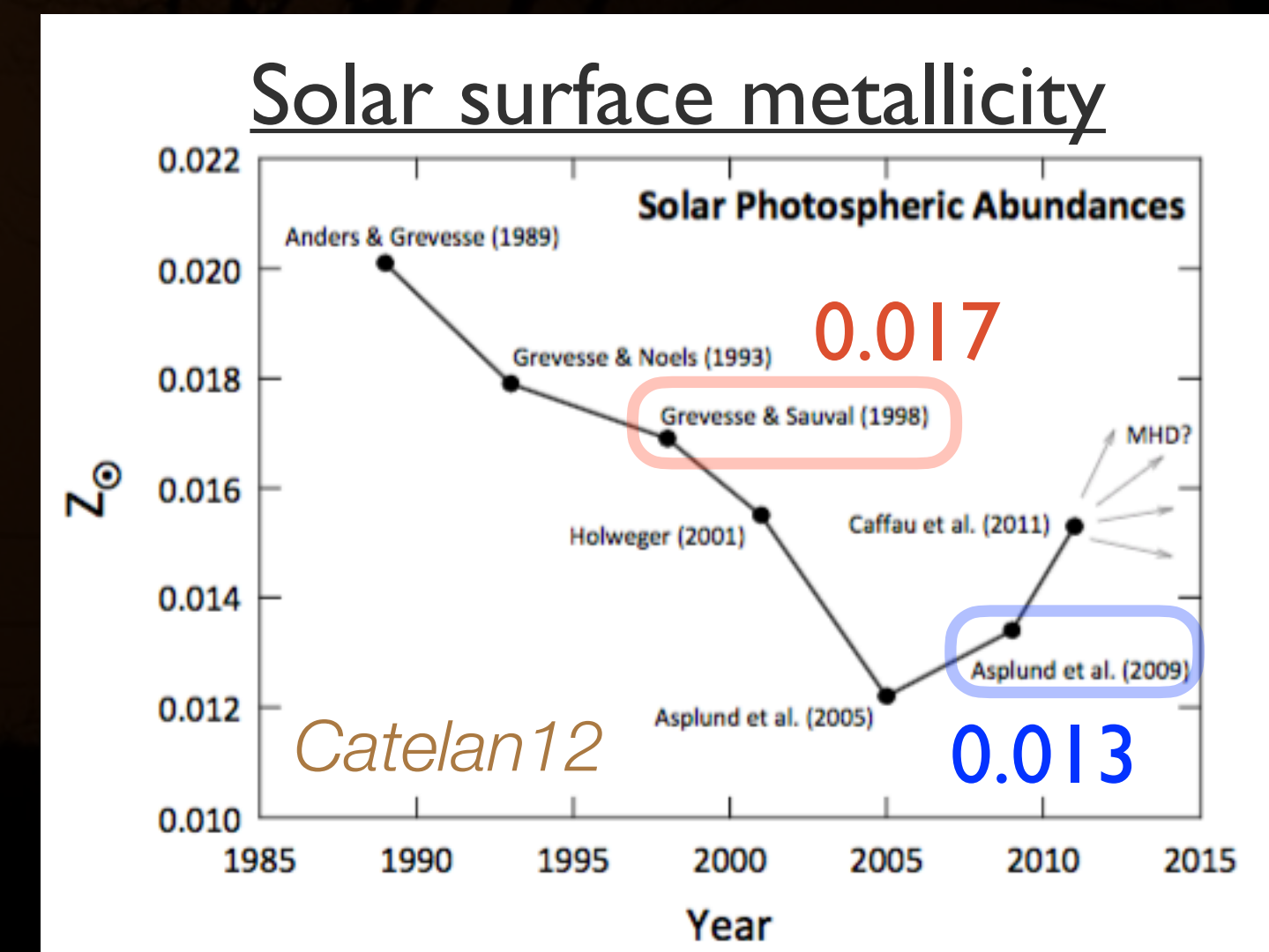
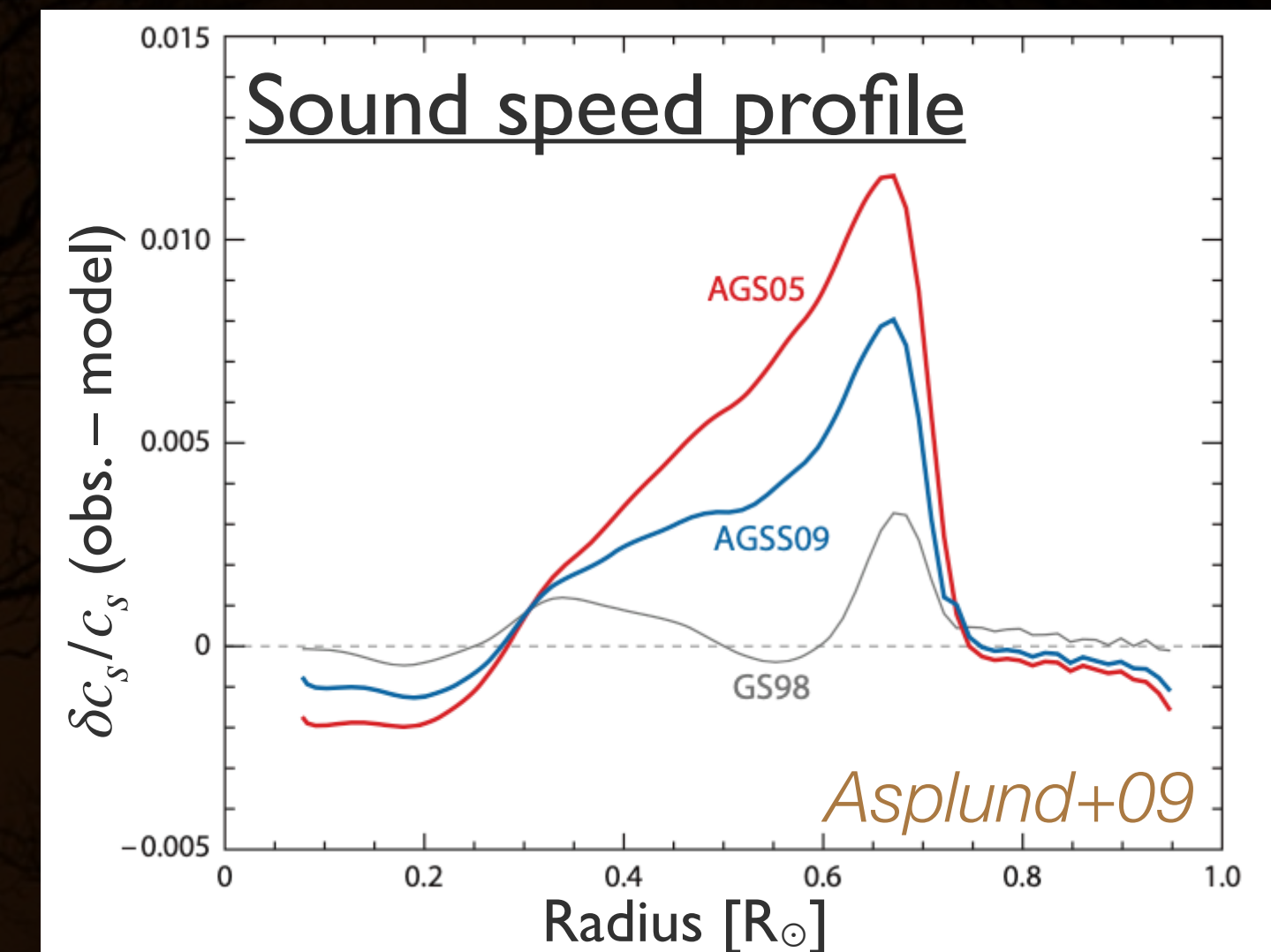
- Uncertainties in opacity
- **Composition gradient due to accretion**
- Extra mixing (overshooting, rotation, etc.)

*Christensen-Dalsgaard+09,  
Bailey+15, Serenelli+11,  
Yang19*

## This study

**We revisit the effect of accretion considering the recent progress in planet formation theory**

- Even if the surface is metal-poor, the interior may be metal-rich
- Planet formation can induce metal-poor gas accretion

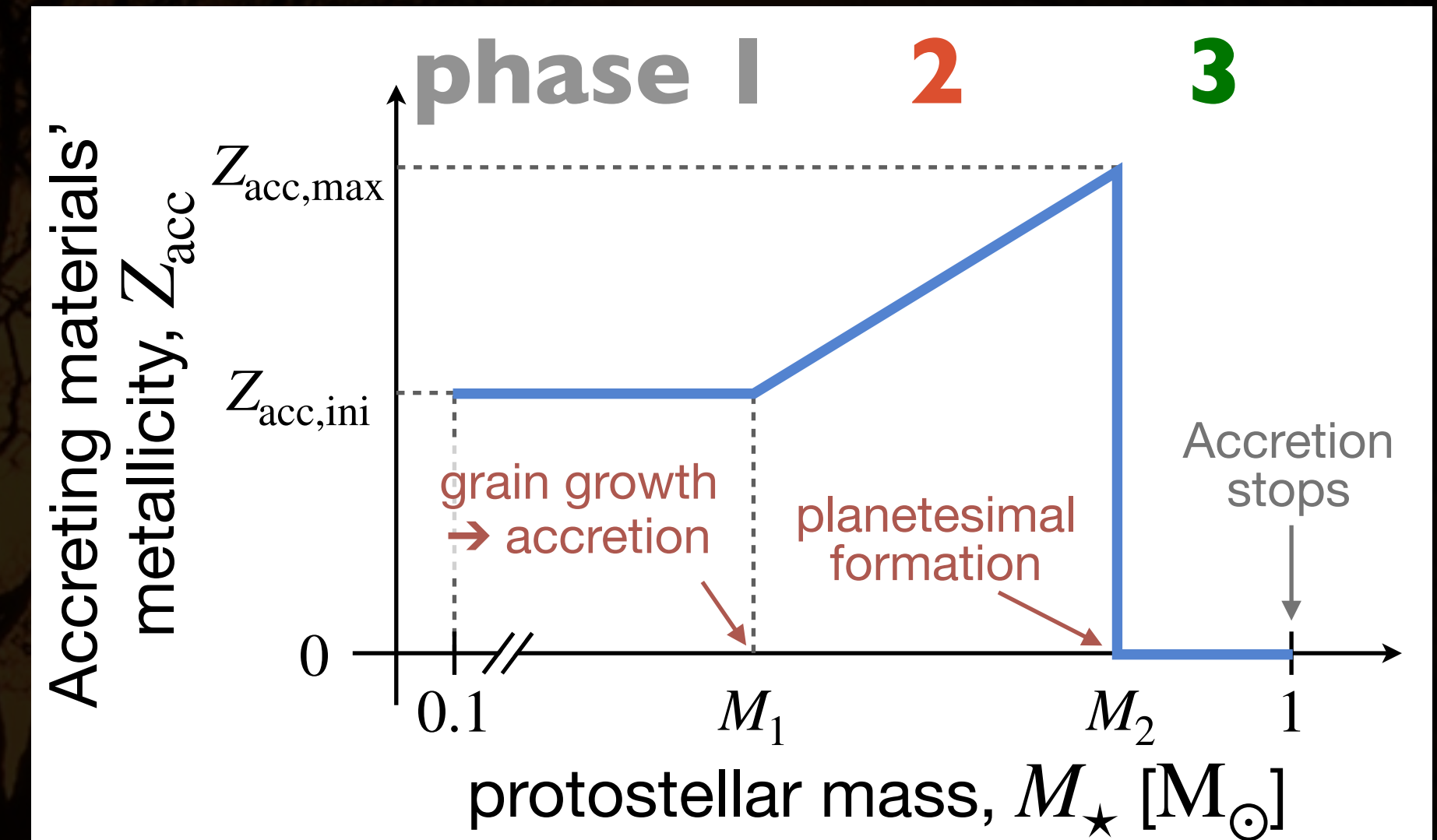




# Composition of accreting materials

- Evolution of dust grains in disks is complicated:

- phase 1: Small ( $\approx$  mm) dust grains couple to gas
- phase 2: Once dust grains grow to  $\sim$ cm size (pebbles), they are decoupled and grains migrate inward  
→ Accreting materials' metallicity,  $Z_{\text{acc}}$ , increases
- phase 3: Once planetesimals or protoplanets form, they efficiently filter grains →  $Z_{\text{acc}}$  decreases



*Garaud+07, Guillot+14, Applegren+20, Elbakyan+20*

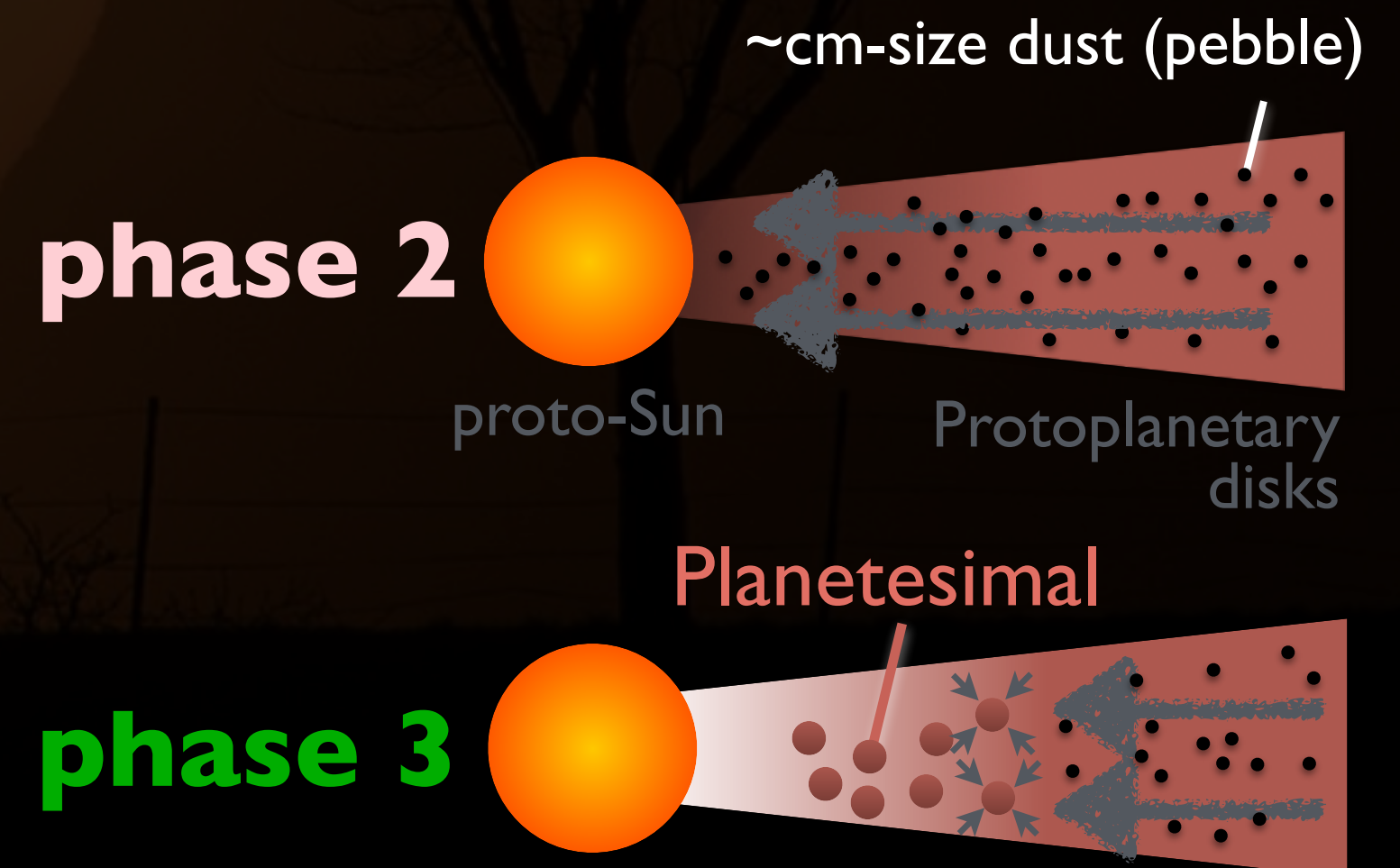
- Grain growth is likely to occur in the protostellar phase (class 0/I)

*Tsukamoto+17, Manara+18*

→ We investigate solar models including planet formation in the **protostellar phase**

- $M_1 = [0.8, 0.99] M_{\odot}$ ,  $M_2 = [0.9, 0.99] M_{\odot}$
- Previous studies investigated solar models with pre-main-sequence accretion and showed that it does not solve the solar abundance problem.

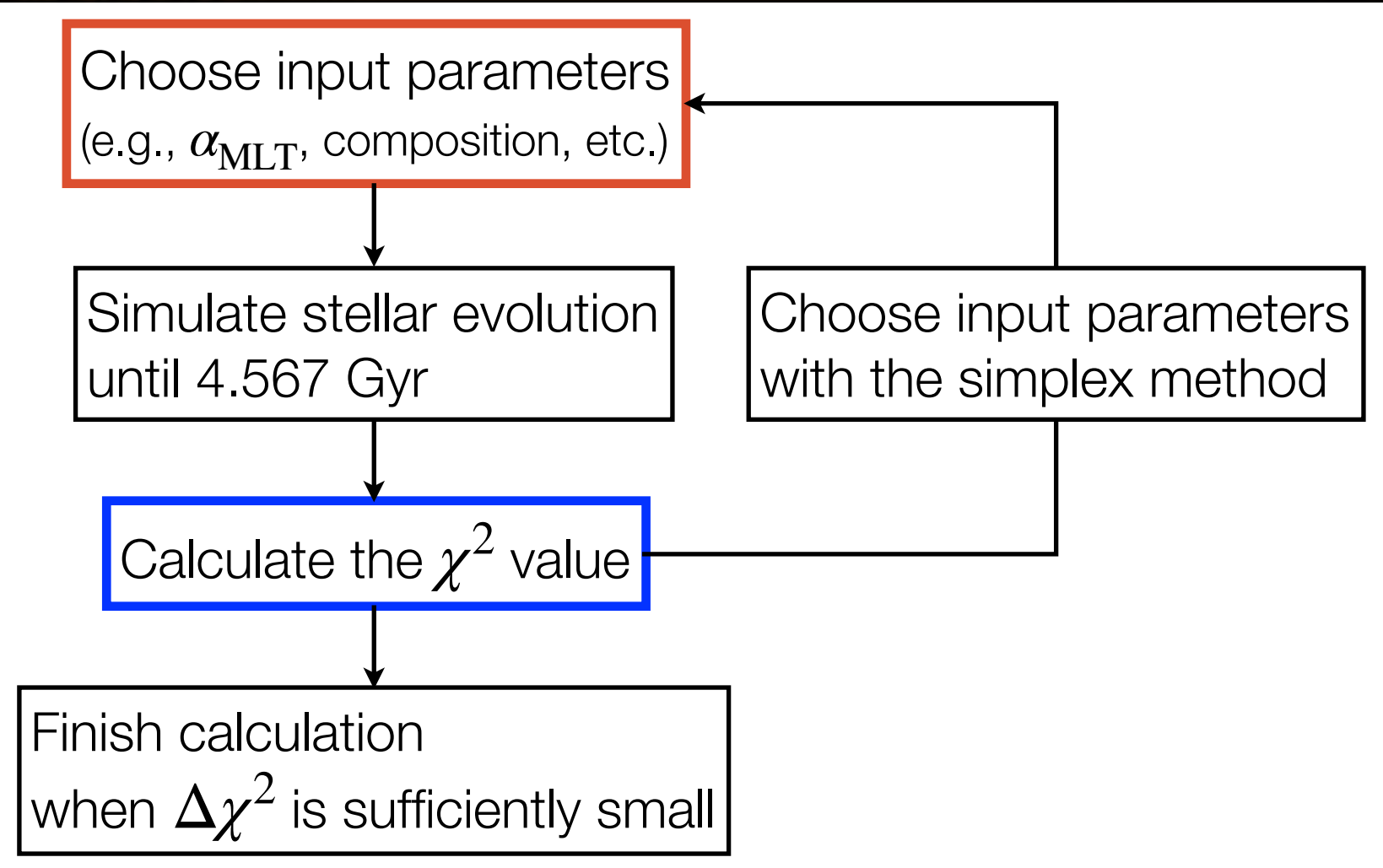
*Guzik+05, Serenelli+11, Hoppe+20*





# stellar evolution calculations + minimization

- Simulate the protostellar phase to the solar age (4.567 Gyr)
  - 1D quasi-static simulation with the MESA code *Paxton+11, 13, 15, 18, 19*
  - Three effects: **planet formation, opacity increase, overshooting**
  - Accretion: from 0.1  $M_{\odot}$  to 1  $M_{\odot}$  with  $\dot{M} \propto t^{-3/2}$  *Hartmann+98*
- Minimization of the  $\chi^2$  value with the simplex method *Nelder-Mead65*
  - When a simulation ends, we calculate the  $\chi^2$  value by comparing the result with observed values. By iterating this, we search for the best input parameters.
  - Input parameters:
    - mixing-length parameter  $\alpha_{\text{MLT}}$ , overshooting parameter  $f_{\text{overshoot}}$ , Initial composition ( $Y_{\text{acc,ini}}, Z_{\text{acc,ini}}$ )
    - $+M_1, M_2, Z_{\text{acc,max}}$  for planet formation *Herwig00*
    - $+ \text{opacity changes}$



Name	Description	Value	Uncertainty
$(Z/X)_{\text{surf}}$	Abundance ratio of metals to hydrogen <sup>a</sup>	0.0181	$10^{-3}$
		0.02292	$10^{-3}$
$Y_{\text{surf}}$	Surface helium abundance	0.2485	0.0035
$R_{\text{CZ}}$	Location of the convective-radiative boundary [ $R_{\odot}$ ]	0.713	$0.01^b$
$\text{rms}(\delta c_s)$	Root-mean-square sound speed	0	$10^{-3}{}^c$
$\log L_{\star}$	Bolometric luminosity [ $L_{\odot}$ ]	0	$0.01 \text{ dex}^c$
$T_{\text{eff}}$	Effective temperature [K]	5777	$10^c$

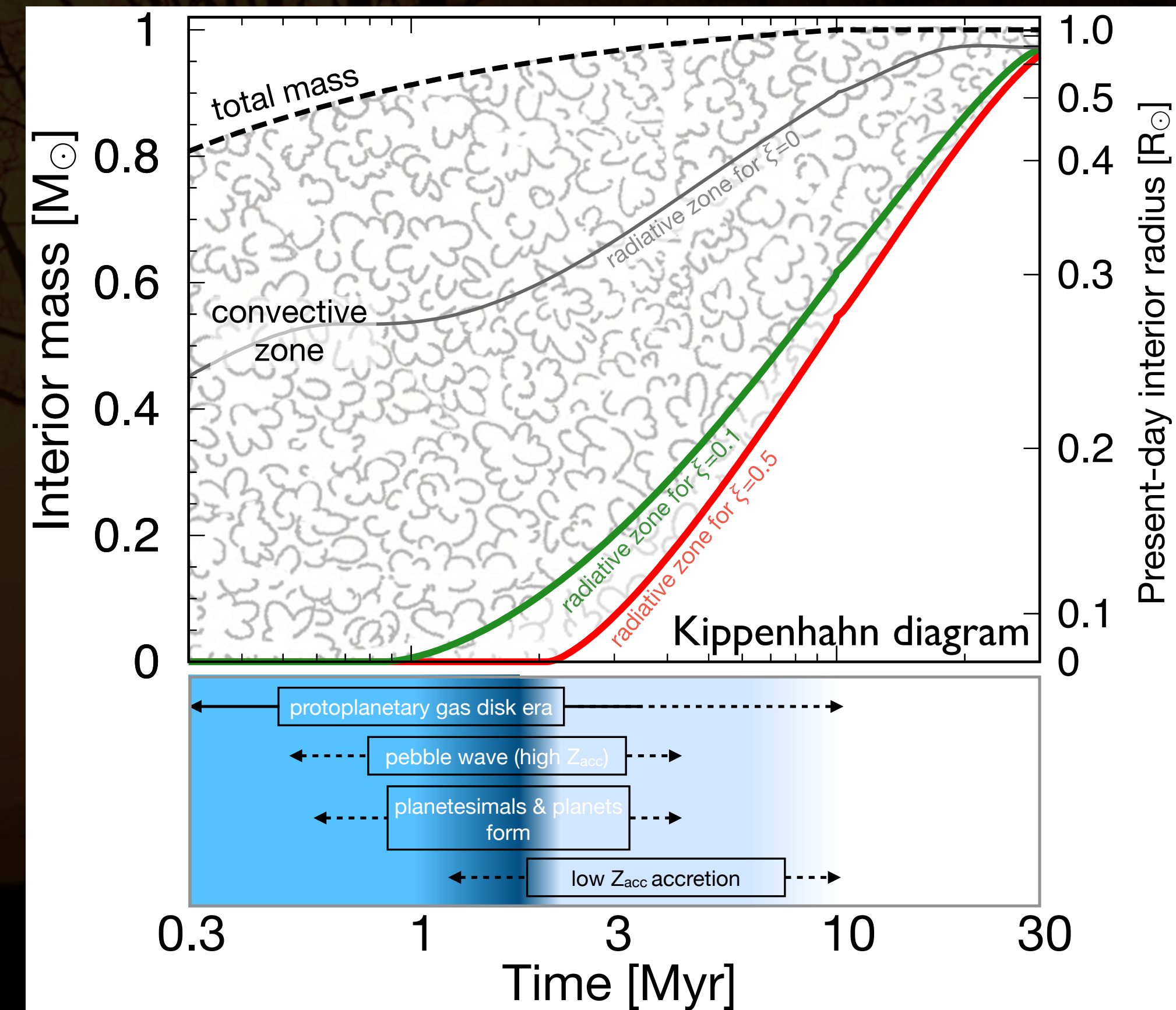
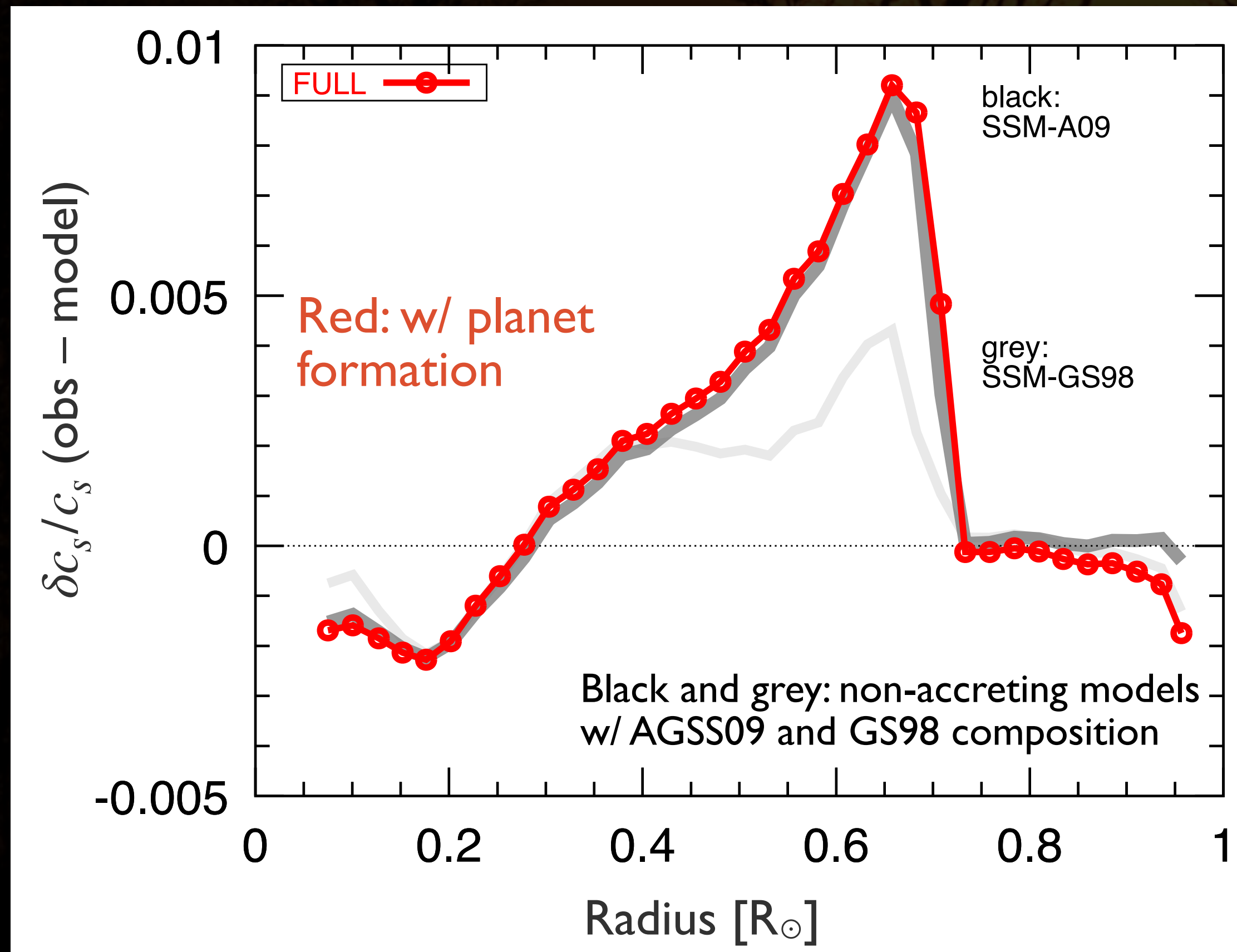
AGSS09  
GS98



Result (1)

# Planet formation alone does not solve the problem

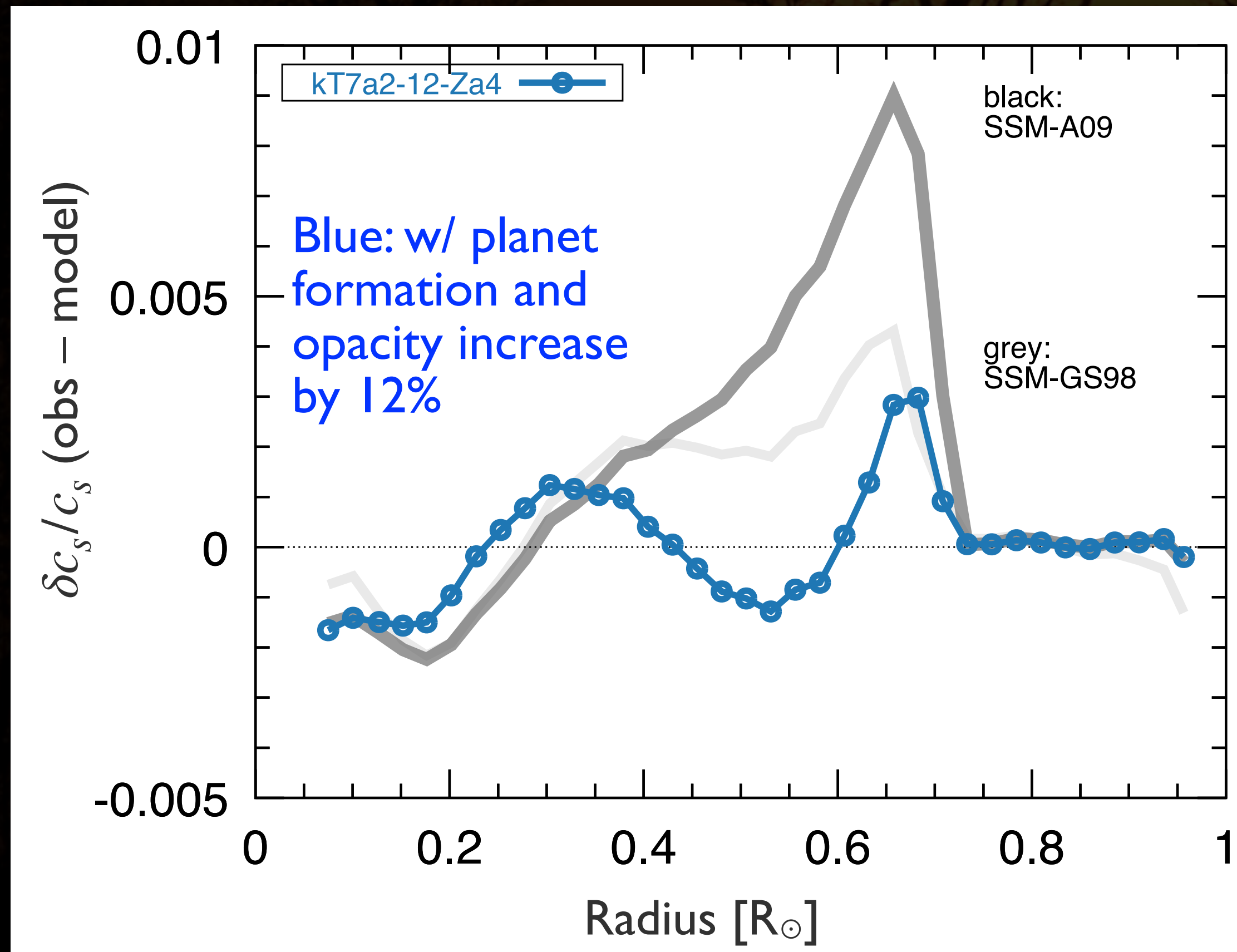
- Metal-poor accretion (by planet formation) does not improve the sound-speed profile
  - Low-mass protostar and pre-MS have a thick convective zone → accreting materials are mixed and diluted





# Opacity increase has a great effect

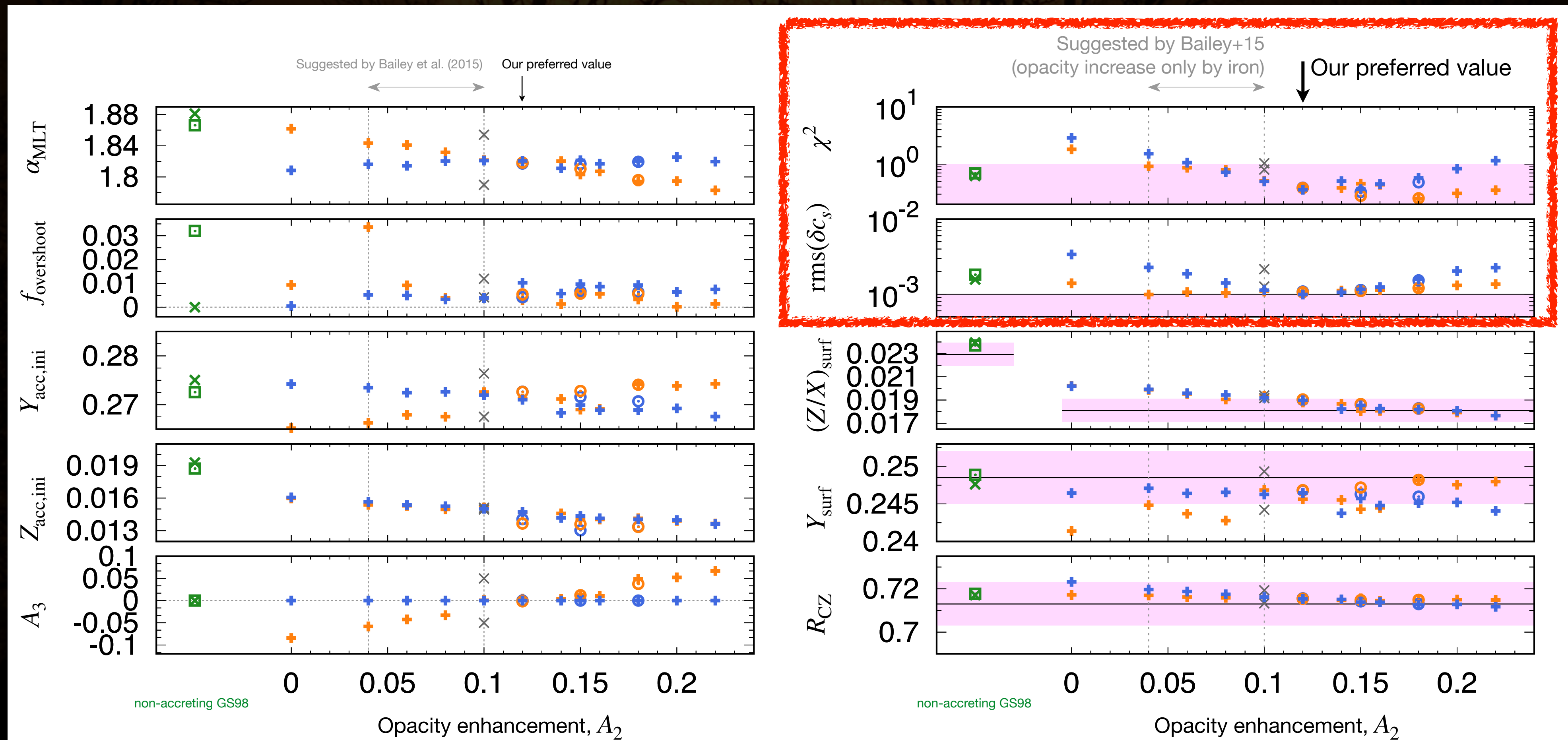
- Opacity increase improves the sound-speed profile, as suggested by previous studies *e.g., Christensen-Dalsgaard+09*
  - Opacity affects the stellar structure (e.g., the size of convective zone)
  - Opacity depends on metallicity
    - Solar structure is reproduced even with the low metallicity, if opacity increase is considered





# How much increase do we need?

- **~12–18%** opacity increase at around  $\sim 3 \times 10^6$  K
- Recent experiments at Los Alamos suggested  $7 \pm 3\%$  increase (Bailey+15; only by iron opacity increase). Our solution is slightly larger but qualitatively in good agreement.

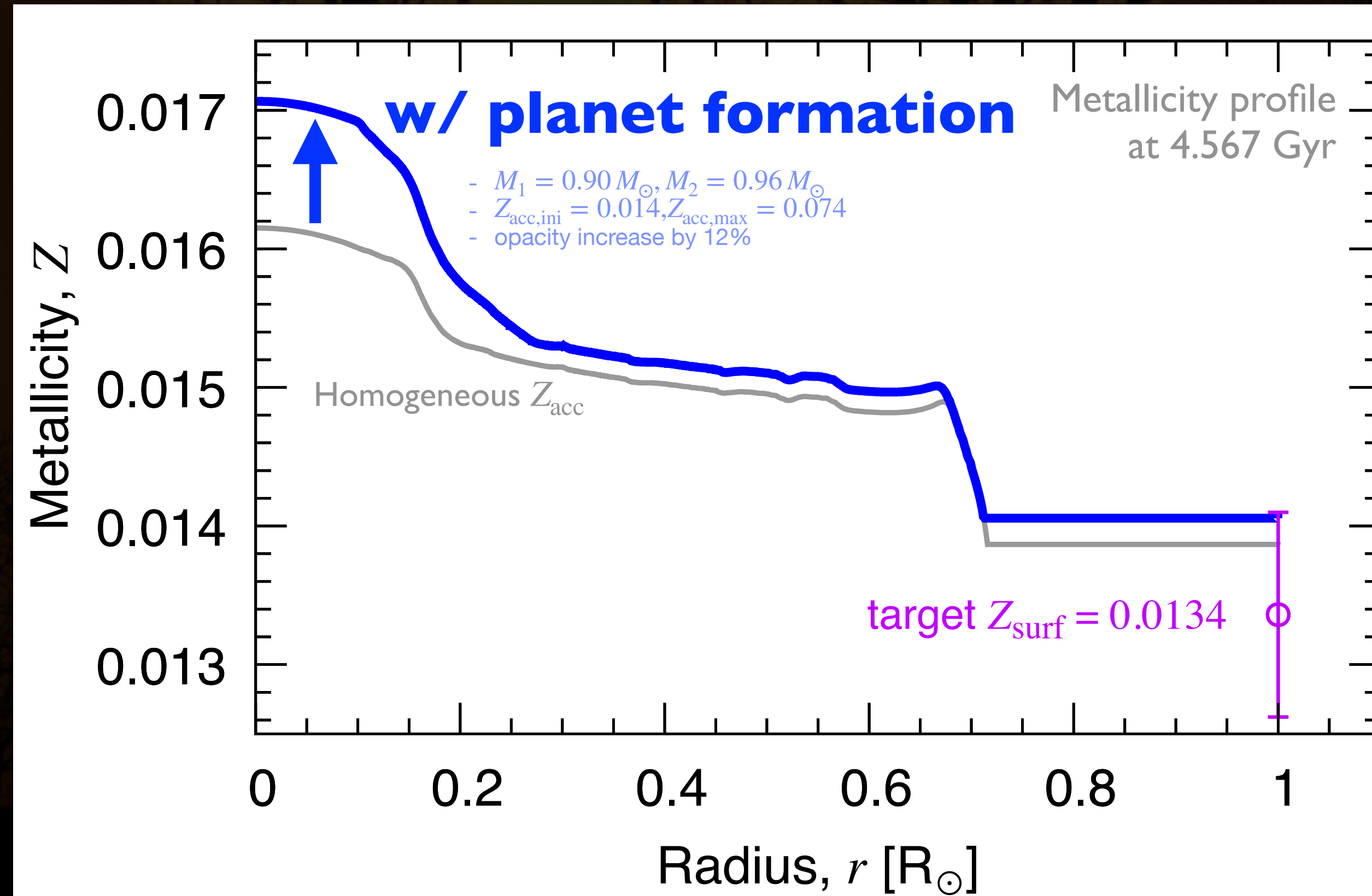




# Solar neutrino: imprint of planet formation?

- Planet formation can increase **the solar central metallicity**
  - Recent neutrino observations have suggested a metal-rich solar core → consistent!
  - Detailed comparison with neutrino fluxes is our future work

*Agostini+18,  
Borexino Collaboration 20*





# Summary

- In the 2000s, the estimate of the solar surface metallicity decreased considerably, but both helioseismic and neutrino observations have suggested the old metal-rich composition
- We investigated the effect of planet formation (metal-poor accretion) on the solar abundance problem by performing a large number of stellar evolutionary simulations
- We found that
  - planet formation has little impact on the sound-speed profile, whereas opacity increase has a great impact
  - the required opacity increase is  $\sim 12\text{--}18\%$
  - planet formation, instead, has a great impact on the **solar central metallicity**, which is important for neutrino fluxes

## Future work:

- Finding a solution that is quantitatively consistent with both helioseismic and neutrino observations
- Optimization using MCMC instead of the simplex method