## Gaia status

Timo Prusti ESA





## Gaia Summary

- Gaia: science with 1 billion objects in three dimensions
- ESA corner stone mission building on the Hipparcos heritage
- Astrometry, Photometry and Spectroscopy
- Satellite, including the payload, by industry, management and operations by ESA and data processing by scientists (DPAC)
- Launch 19 December 2013 with Soyuz from Kourou
- Commissioning formally completed 18 July 2014
- 5 years of operations in L2
- First intermediate data release summer 2016, but Science Alerts started







## Gaia Summary

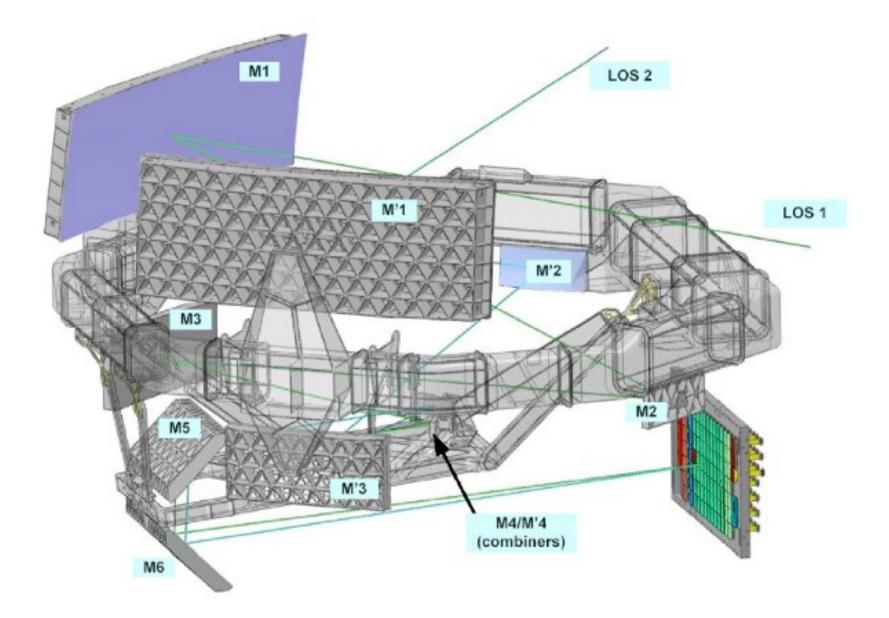
#### Science topics

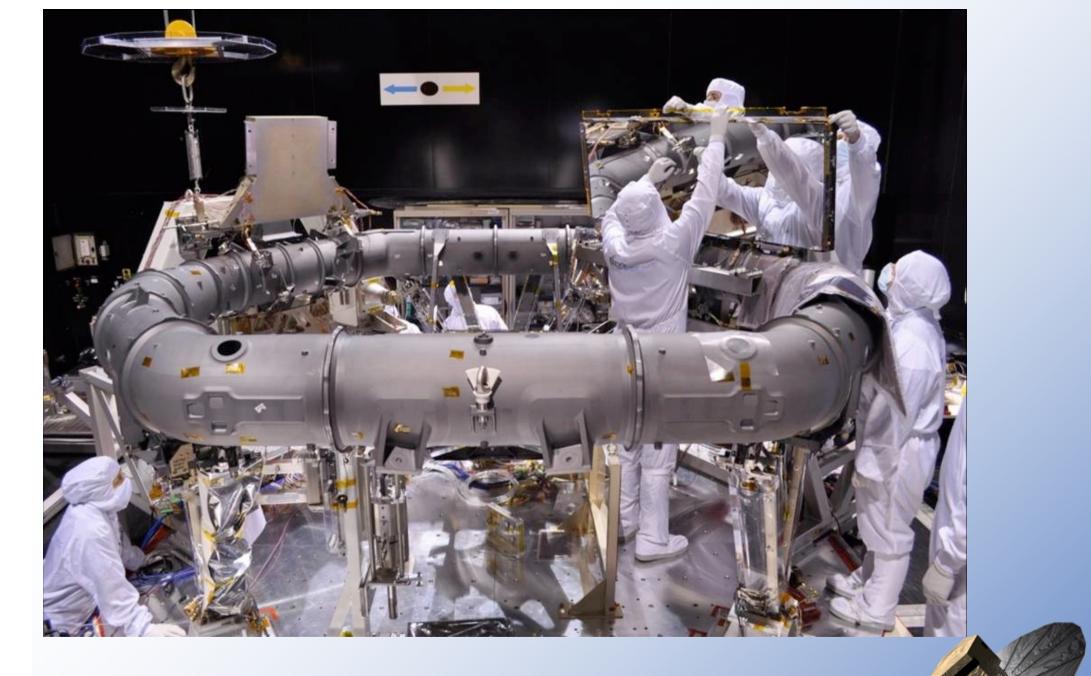
- Structure and dynamics of the Galaxy
- The star formation history of the Galaxy
- Stellar astrophysics
- Binaries and multiple stars
- Brown dwarfs and planetary systems
- Solar system
- Galaxies, Quasars and the Reference Frame
- Fundamental physics: General relativity



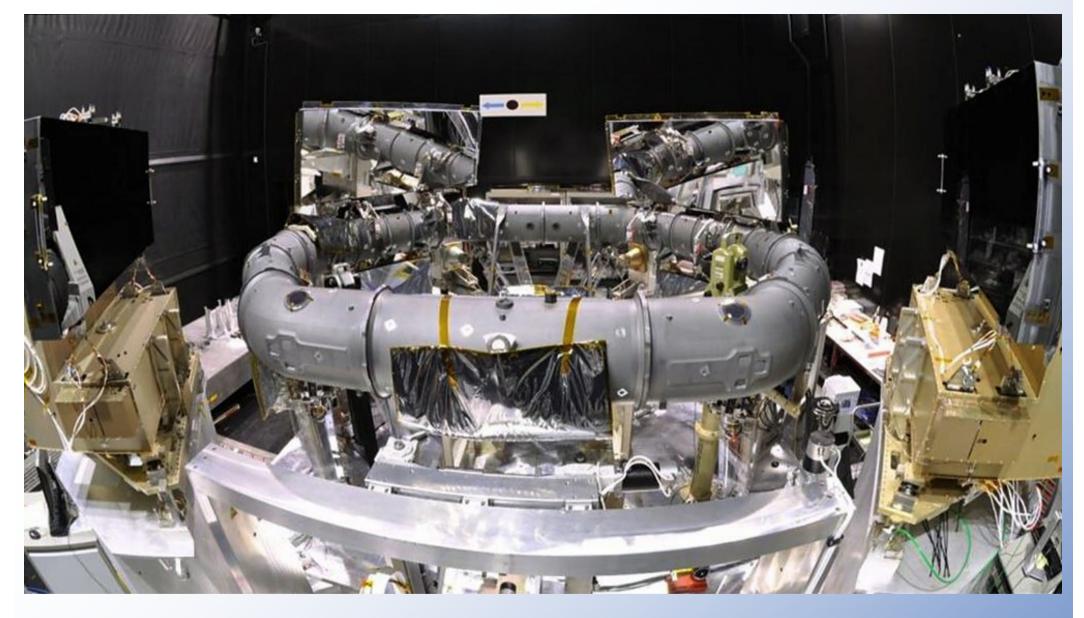


### Payload and Telescope







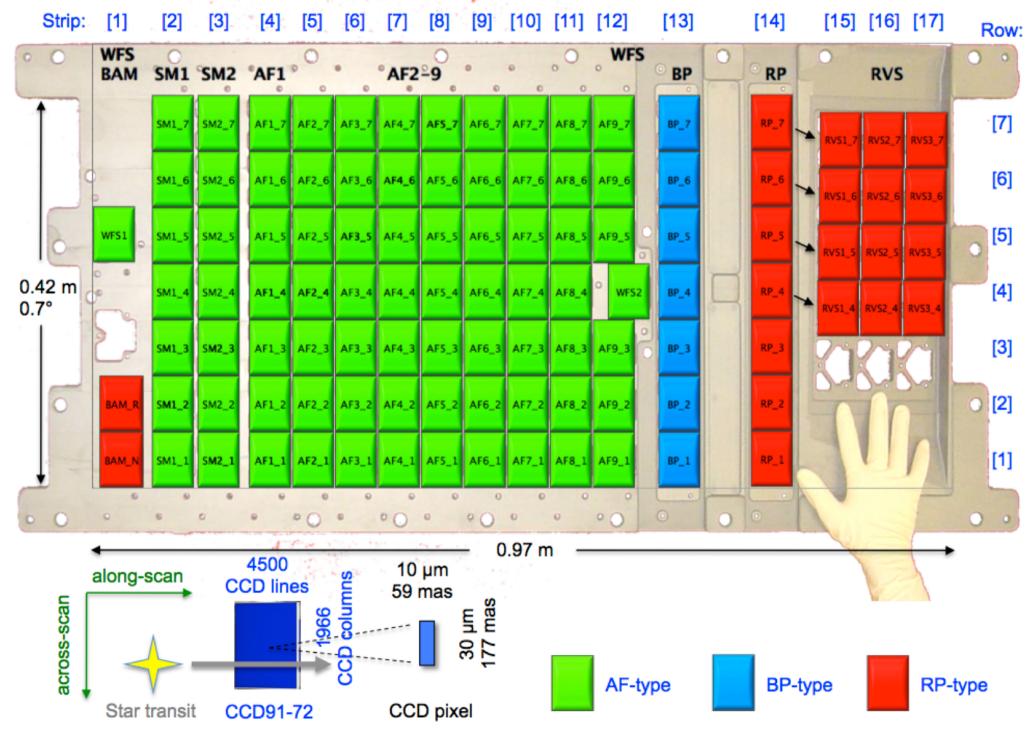


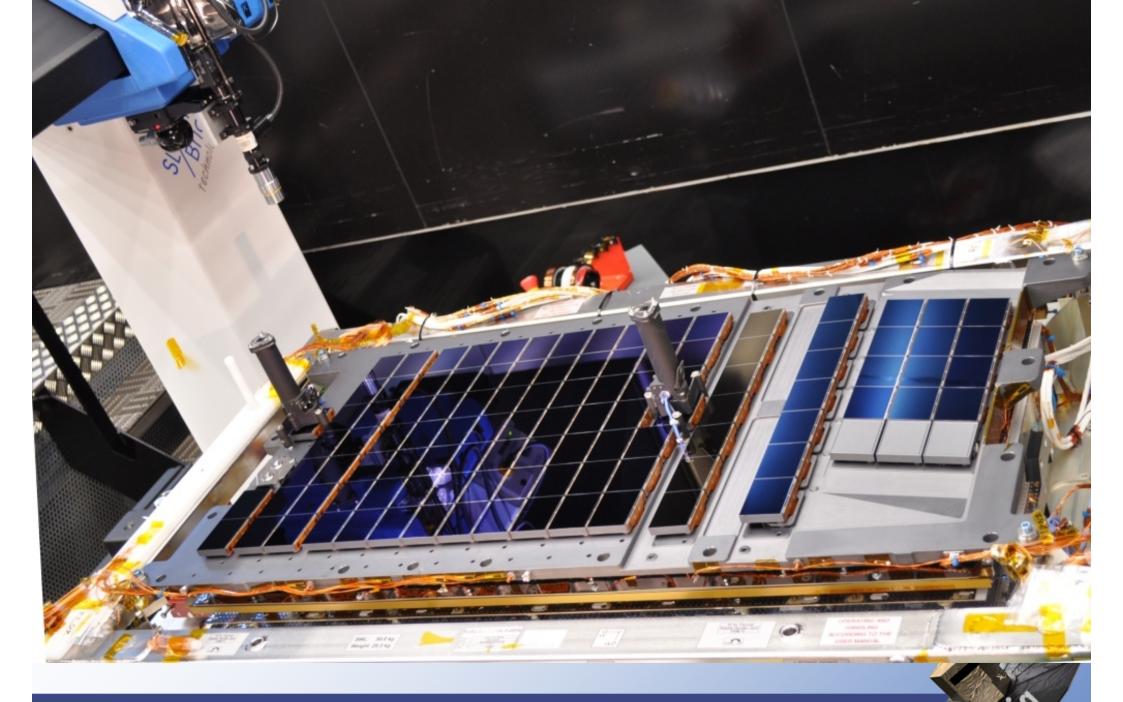




### **Focal Plane**

#### Figure courtesy Ralf Kohley









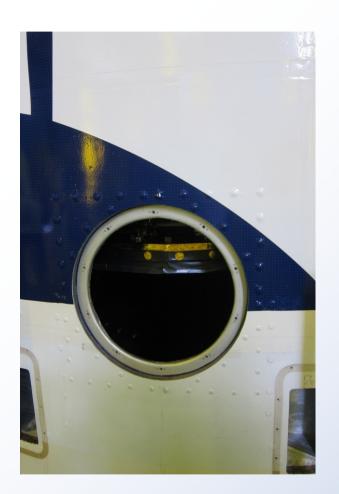
#### Gaia integration on Fregat







#### Gaia inside the fairing





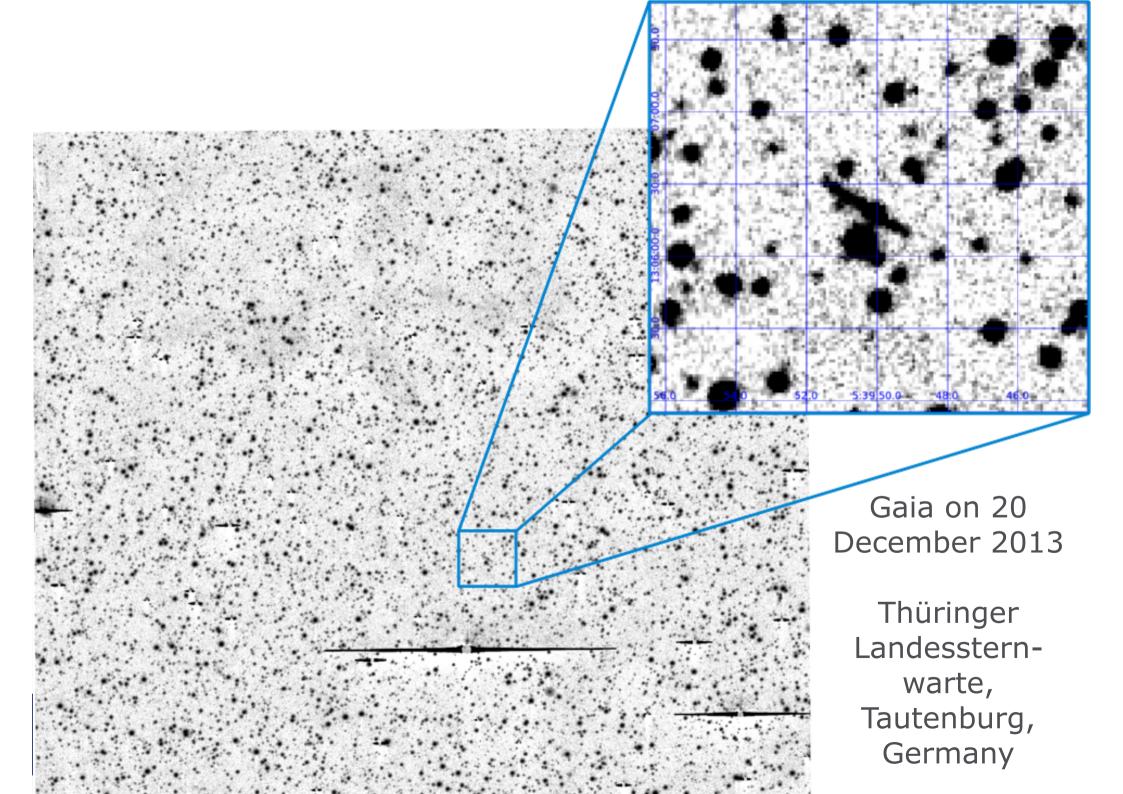




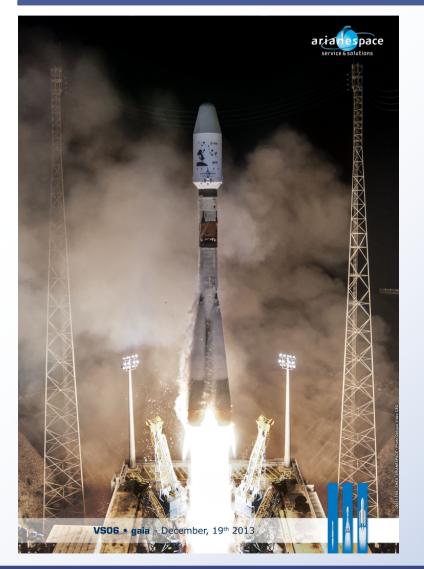








# LEOP

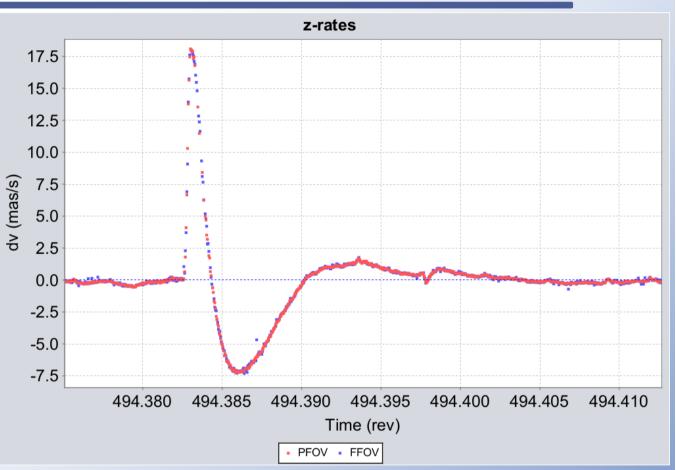


- After launcher separation automatic sequence:
  - transmitter, gyroscopes, Payload module bipod release, CPS priming, thermal control configuration
- Acquisition of Sun pointing attitude
- Sunshield deployment
- Start of Payload decontamination
- Star tracker switch-on and preparation for day-2 manoeuvre
- Day-2 trajectory correction

# Commissioning results

- Micro propulsion system working well
- Attitude and Orbit Control System working well
- Phased Array Antenna operating with healthy link budget
- Clock working at required accuracy
- 106 CCDs, electronics, data acquisition and storage all functioning





Micro-meteoroid hit example. Figure by F. van Leeuwen

### Moving object "detection"

 Solar system object detection 4997 Ksana (V=18.5 mag)

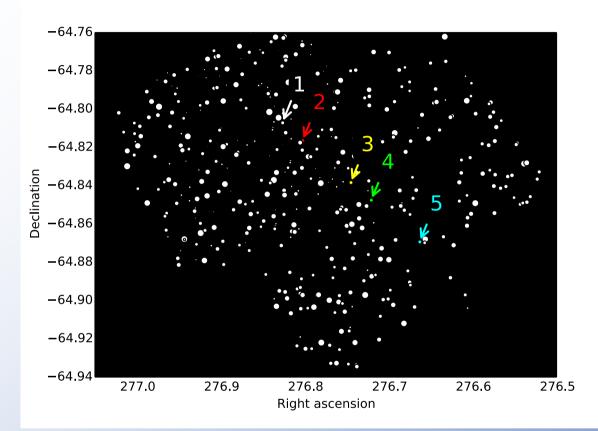
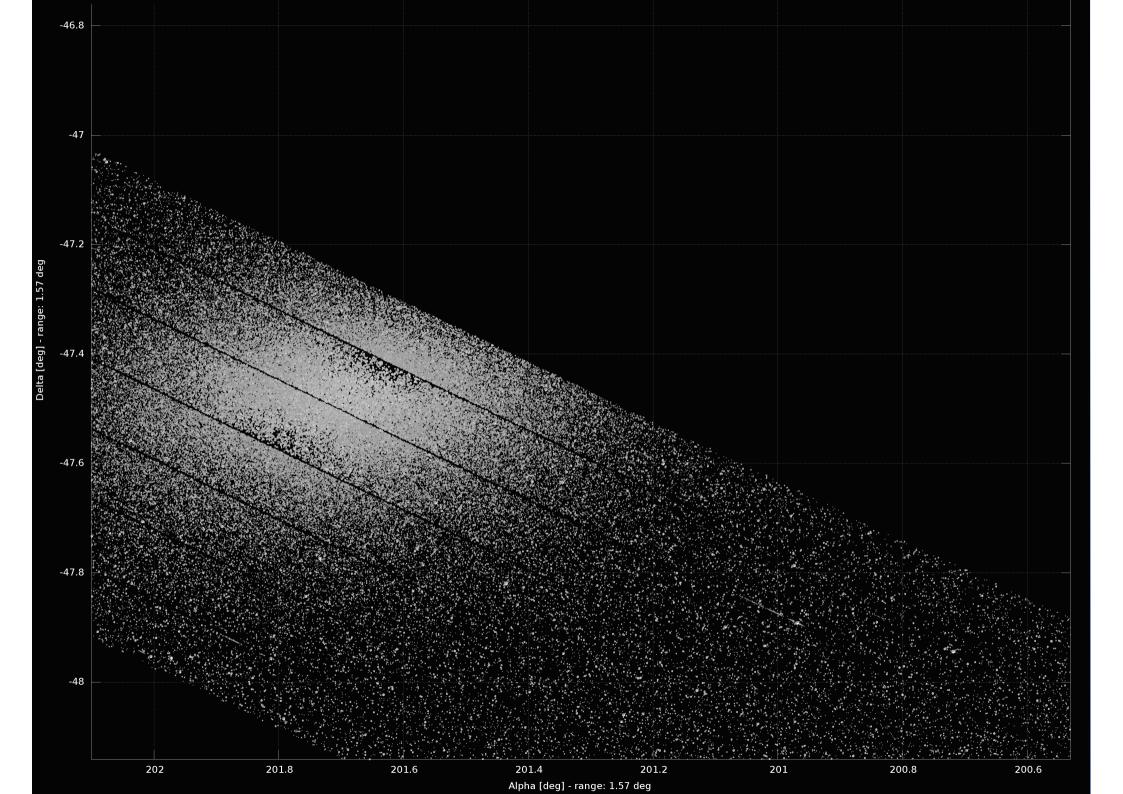


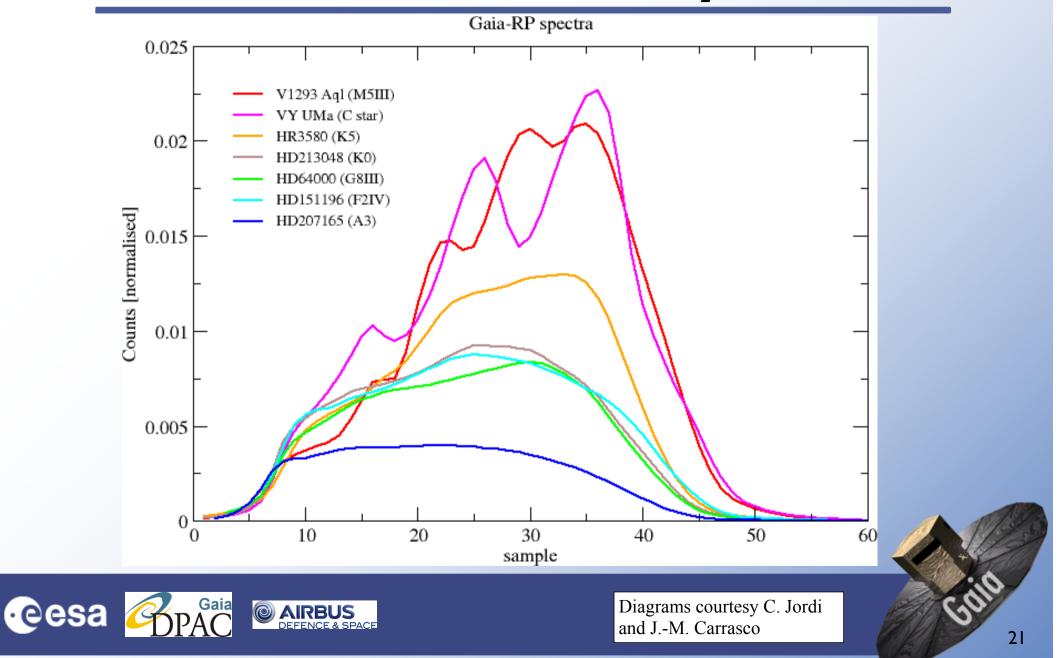
Image courtesy of Paolo Tanga



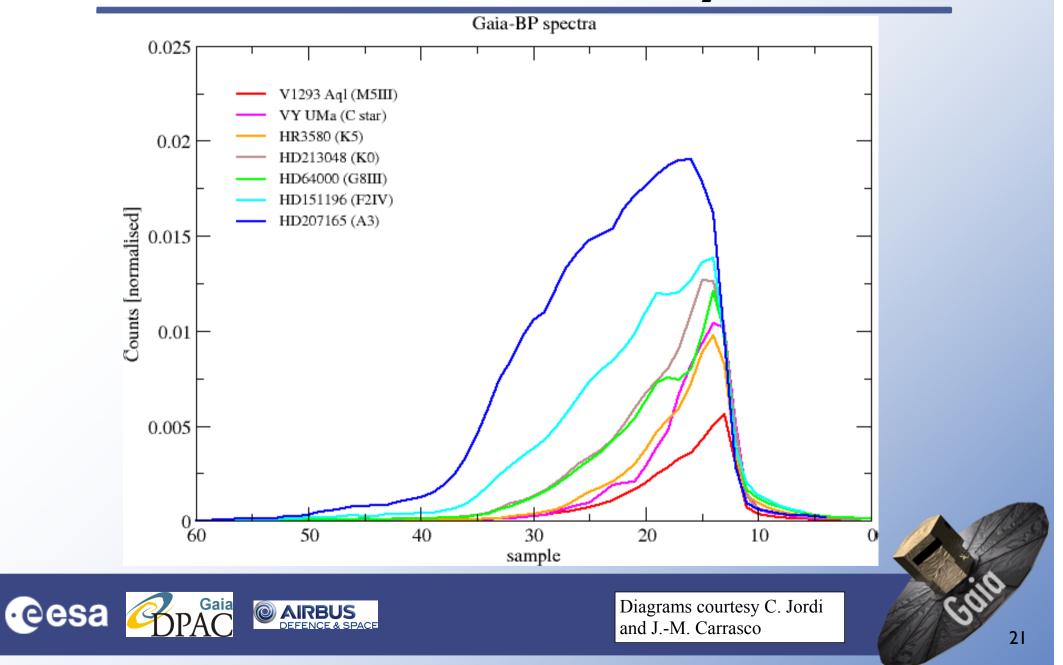


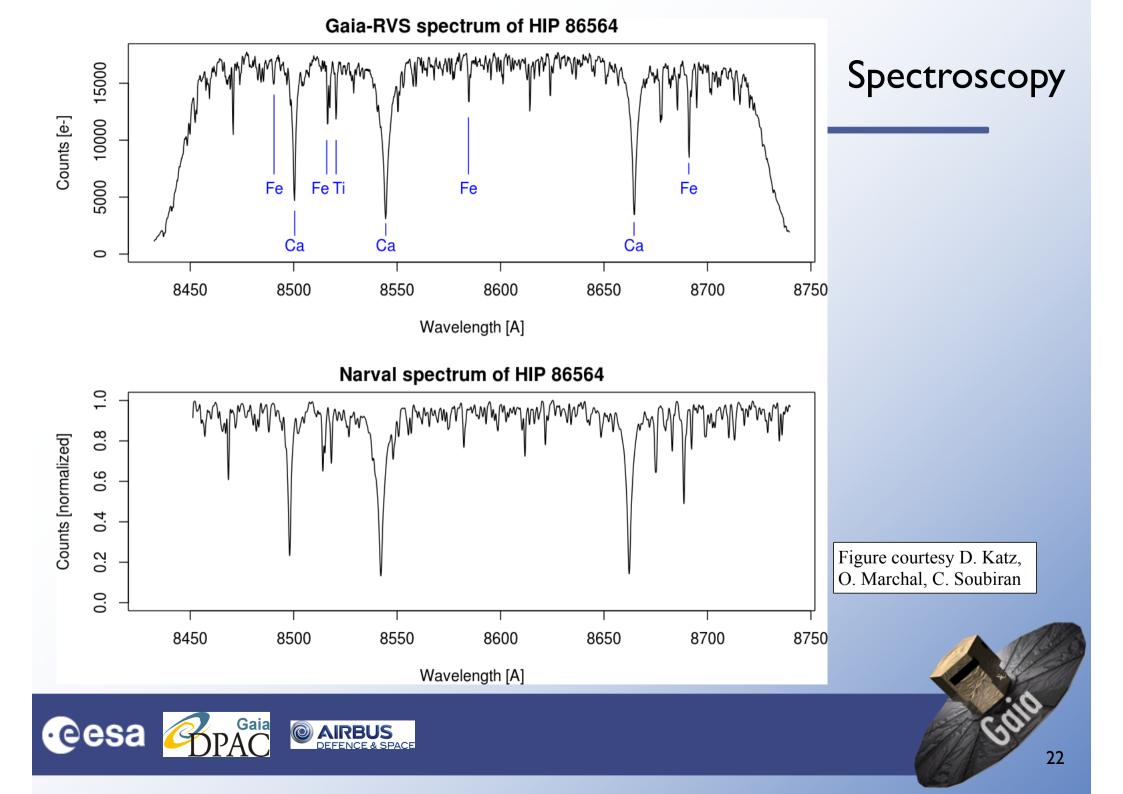


### Photometry



### Photometry





## Unwanted surprises

- Stray light both from astronomical sources and the Sun
  - Sun stray light paths not yet identified
  - Impacts faint sources and especially in spectroscopy
- Transmission loss due to continuing contamination of mirrors by water
  - Water source not yet exhausted with maximum contamination rate about I mmag/day
- Basic Angle variation larger than expected



## Next steps

- Stray light
  - Current work on edge effects of the Sun shield
  - On-board s/w modification under development for spectroscopy
- Contamination
  - A new decontamination procedure has been executed involving a short heating of mirrors (executed 22-23 September) => full transmission recovery and now monitoring
  - Re-focus 24 October and now monitoring
- Basic Angle variation larger than expected
  - Analysis of dedicated measurements have verified Basic Angle variation being true
  - Working group established to chase the root cause of the variations



## Scientific performance

#### For unreddened Solar type (G2V) star

(parallax)	(BP/RP integrated)	Spectroscopy (radial velocity) 1 km/s		
<i>5-14</i> μ <b>as</b>	4 mmag			
25 µas	5 mmag	13 km/s		
540 μas	60 (RP) – 80 (BP) mmag			
	25 µas	25 μas 5 mmag		

Calculations by: Airbus DS, D. Katz, C. Jordi, L. Lindegren, J. de Bruijne



# Scientific performance

For unreddened Solar type (G2V) star

- Single epoch precisions for BP integrated photometry
  - 0.01 mag reached at G=15.0 mag
  - 0.1 mag reached at G=17.8 mag
- Single epoch precisions for RP integrated photometry
  - 0.01 mag reached at G=16.0 mag
  - 0.1 mag reached at G=18.8 mag

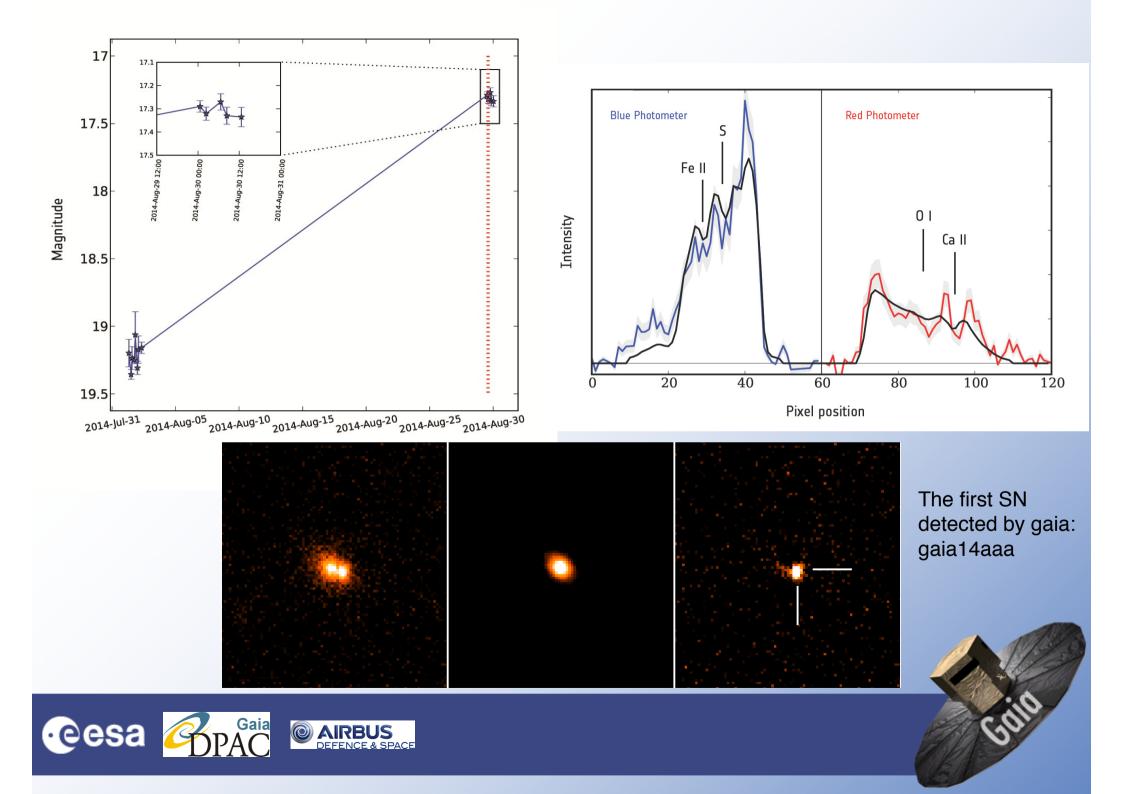
Calculations by: Airbus DS, D. Katz, C. Jordi, L. Lindegren, J. de Bruijne



## Time Line

- Routine phase started with 28 days of Ecliptic Pole Scanning
- Now operating in optimised Nominal Scanning Law
- Activities to be finished:
  - Magnitude limits for astrometry and photometry
    - Currently -∞ 2 3 6 20 21 mag
  - Magnitude limit for spectroscopy
    - Currently 2-3 16.2 mag
  - Decontamination as needed followed with focus check
  - Completion of BA and stray light WG tasks and possible follow-up
  - Sort out ground station time for larger amounts of telemetry
- Consolidate intermediate release schedule for summer 2016 and early 2017





## Alerts

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- Agreed approach for photometric alerts
  - Make science alert public to the whole world even in validation phase (with appropriate caveats)
    - Caveat I: validation phase thus many false alarms may be triggered
  - Ensure partner observatories conducting follow-up
    - Caveat 2: well prepared affiliated units will do follow-up work
- SSO FUN approach?

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Gaia > 0	Gaia Science Ho	omepage		Gaia-F	UN-SSO-3				Photo	metric Scie
Column	Name	Description								
1	Name	GaiaYYnnn								
2	UTC timestamp	The time of the triggering datapoint (not the date we notice it).								
3	RA	Right Ascension (ICRS, decimal degrees, note the comment on systematics above).								
4	Dec	Declination (ICRS, decimal degrees).								
5	AlertMag	Alert magnitude.								
6	HistMag	Historic magnitude.								
7	HistStdDev	Historic standard deviation.								
8	Class	To begin with, we will classify everything as 'unknown'. As we learn more, this will start as a manual best-guess classification and should be treated with suspicion (until we begin running classification software.)								
9	Comment	Time permitting we may add contextual information here.								

The table can by sorted by Name, UTC timestamp, RA, Dec and AlertMag - click column heading to sort.

Name 🚽	UTC timestamp	RA	Dec	AlertMag	HistMag	HistStdDev	Class	Comment
Gaia14adg	2014-11- 06 16:55:39	177.63660	-2.10474	18.94	19.50	0.04	unknown	On top of SDSS starformi galaxy z=0.156
Gaia14adf	2014-11- 11 16:37:00	182.37337	20.10370	18.08	18.76	0.04	unknown	Starforming galaxy in SDS z=0.06. Transient could b ~0.8 arcsecs away from nucleus.
Gaia14ade	2014-11- 11 08:25:59	357.71672	28.98319	17.78	19.30	0.13	unknown	very blue star: CV?
Gaia14add	2014-11- 11 04:44:38	182.15532	11.99387	17.70	18.71	0.04	unknown	QSO at z=0.36. Brightenin of 1 mag
Gaia14adc	2014-11- 06 02:55:24	316.06927	51.32732	15.92	18.10	0.06	unknown	Very red spectrum, possi Mira
	2014-10-							Near SDSS galaxy SDSS





Columns

