HD 202206: A Circumbinary Brown Dwarf System*

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Abstract

Using Hubble Space Telescope Fine Guidance Sensor astrometry and previously published radial velocity measures, we explore the exoplanetary system HD 202206. Our modeling results in a parallax, \( \pi_{\text{obs}} = 21.96 \pm 0.12 \) milliarcseconds of arc, a mass for HD 202206 B of \( \mathcal{M}_B = 0.089^{+0.007}_{-0.006} \mathcal{M}_\odot \), and a mass for HD 202206 c of \( \mathcal{M}_c = 17.9^{+2.0}_{-1.8} \mathcal{M}_\text{Jup} \). HD 202206 is a nearly face-on G + M binary orbited by a brown dwarf. The system architecture that we determine supports past assertions that stability requires a 5:1 mean motion resonance (we find a period ratio, \( \nu_B/\nu_c = 4.92 \pm 0.04 \)) and coplanarity (we find a mutual inclination, \( \Phi = 6^\circ \pm 2^\circ \)).

Key words: astrometry – binaries: general – brown dwarfs – planetary systems

Supporting material: machine-readable tables

1. Introduction

We present our astrometric investigation of HD 202206, yielding parallax, proper motion, and measures of the perturbations due to companions HD 202206 B and c. Companion masses and the HD 202206 system architecture are the ultimate goals. Udry et al. (2002) first reported on the discovery of possible exoplanetary companions to HD 202206, using Doppler spectroscopy. Correia et al. (2005) found a second companion with additional radial velocity (RV) data. The title of the Correia et al. (2005) paper, “A pair of planets around HD 202206 or a circumbinary planet?” indicated a need for astrometry capable of measuring inclination.

The issue of the stability of the HD 202206 system has engaged dynamicists from its original discovery as multi-component (Correia et al. 2005). Using a symplectic integrator (Laskar & Robutel 2001) and frequency analysis (Laskar 1990), Correia et al. concluded that islands of stability (in longitude of periastron—semimajor axis space) existed for a system in 5:1 mean motion resonance (MMR). Coutedic et al. (2010) incorporated the Correia et al. (2005) RV and additional RV data into their analysis of the stability of the HD 202206 system. Using similar tools they found that a 5:1 MMR was most likely to provide stability, and also found increased stability for coplanar system architecture. According to a stability criterion devised by Petrovich (2015), the HD 202206 system is unstable, unless it is coplanar and in a MMR. Critically missing in all of these dynamical analyses are the true masses of each component.

With only RV the inferred masses depend on their orbital inclination angle, \( i \), providing minimum mass values \( \mathcal{M}_B \sin i = 17.4 \mathcal{M}_\text{Jup} \) and \( \mathcal{M}_c \sin i = 2.44 \mathcal{M}_\text{Jup} \). Hence, we included this system in a Hubble Space Telescope (HST) proposal (Benedict 2007) to carry out astrometry using the Fine Guidance Sensors (FGS). They produced astrometry with which to establish the architectures of several promising candidate systems, all relatively nearby, with companion \( \mathcal{M} \sin i \) values and periods suggesting measurable astrometric amplitudes. Table 1 contains previously determined information and sources for the host star subject of this paper, HD 202206.

In this paper we follow analysis procedures previously employed for the putative (now established) exoplanetary systems \( \nu \) And (McArthur et al. 2010), HD 136118 (Martìoli et al. 2010), HD 38529 (Benedict et al. 2010), and HD 128311 (McArthur et al. 2014). As summarized in Benedict et al. (2017), perturbation amplitudes measured with the FGS have rarely exceeded a few milliseconds of arc (hereafter mas).

Section 2 describes our modeling approach, combining FGS astrometry with previously available ground-based RV. We present the results of this modeling, component masses, and mutual inclination in Section 3, and briefly discuss these results (Section 4) in the context of dynamical explorations of the overall stability of the HD 202206 system. Lastly, in Section 5 we summarize our findings.

2. Parallax, Proper Motion, and Companion Masses for HD 202206

For this study astrometric measurements came from Fine Guidance Sensor 1r (FGS 1r), an upgraded FGS installed in 1997 during the second HST servicing mission. It provided superior fringes from which to obtain target and reference star positions (McArthur et al. 2002). We utilized only the fringe tracking mode (POS mode; see Benedict et al. 2017 for a review of this technique, and Nelan 2015 for further details) in this investigation. POS mode observations of a star have a typical duration of 60 s, during which over 2000 individual position measures are collected. The astrometric centroid is estimated by choosing the median measure, after filtering large outliers (caused by cosmic-ray hits and particles trapped by the Earth’s magnetic field). The standard deviation of the measurements provides a measurement error. We refer to the aggregate of astrometric centroids of each star secured during one visibility period as an “orbit.” Because one of the pillars of the scientific method involves reproducibility, we present a complete ensemble of time-tagged HD 202206 and reference star astrometric measurements.

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measurements, OFAD and intra-orbit-drift-corrected, in Table 2, along with calculated parallax factors in R.A. and decl. These data, collected from 2007.5 to 2010.4, in addition to providing material for confirmation of our results, might ultimately be combined with *Gaia* measures, significantly extending the time baseline of astrometry, thereby improving proper motion and perturbation characterization.

### 2.1. HD 202206 Astrometric Reference Frame

The astrometric reference frame for HD 202206 consists of five stars (Table 3). The HD 202206 field (Figure 1) exhibits the distribution of astrometric reference stars (ref-5 through ref-11) used in this study. The HD 202206 field was observed at a very limited range of spacecraft roll values (Table 2). Figure 2 shows the distribution in FGS 1r coordinates of the 31 sets (epochs) of HD 202206 and reference star measurements. HD 202206 (labeled “×”) had to be placed in many different locations within the FGS 1r total field of view (FOV) to maximize the number of astrometric reference stars in the FGS field of view and to ensure guide star availability for the other two FGS units. However, because the average radial distance of HD 202206 from FGS FOV center was \( \langle r \rangle = 32 \)", the astrometric impact of this displacement is indistinguishable from measurement noise. At each epoch we measured each reference star 1–4 times, and HD 202206 3–5 times.

#### 2.1.1. Modeling Priors

The success of single-field parallax astrometry depends on prior knowledge of the reference stars, and, sometimes, of the science target. Catalog proper motions with associated errors, lateral color corrections, and estimates for reference star parallax are entered into the modeling as quasi-Bayesian priors, data with which to inform the final solved-for parameters. These values are not entered as hard-wired quantities known to infinite precision. We include them as observations with associated errors. The model adjusts the corresponding parameter values within limits defined by the data input errors to minimize \( \chi^2 \), yielding the most accurate parallax and proper motion for the prime target, HD 202206, and the best opportunity to measure any reflex motion due to the companions detected by RV.

1. **Reference Star Absolute Parallaxes**—Because we measure the parallax of HD 202206 with respect to reference stars which have their own parallaxes, we must either apply a statistically derived correction from relative to absolute parallax (van Altena et al. 1995, Yale Parallax Catalog, YPC95), or estimate the absolute parallaxes of the reference frame stars. We again choose the second option as we have since we first used it in Harrison et al. (1999). The colors, spectral type, and luminosity class of a star can be used to estimate the absolute magnitude, \( M_V \), and \( V \)-band absorption, \( A_V \). We estimate the absolute parallax for each reference star through this expression,

\[
\pi_{\text{obs}} = 10^{-(V-M_V+5-A_V)/5}.
\]

Our band passes for reference star photometry include: \( B V R I \) photometry of the reference stars from the NMSU 1 m telescope located at Apache Point Observatory and JHK (from 2MASS).\(^4\) Table 4 lists the visible and infrared photometry for the HD 202206 reference stars.

To establish spectral type and luminosity class, the reference frame stars were observed on 2009 December 9 using the RCSPEC on the Blanco 4 m telescope at CTIO. We used the KPGL1 grating to give a dispersion of 0.95 Å/pix. Classifications used a combination of template matching and line ratios. We determine the spectral types for the higher S/N stars to within ±1 subclass. Classifications for the lower S/N stars have ±2 subclass uncertainty. Table 5 lists the spectral types and luminosity classes for our reference stars. Note that we had no prior IR photometry or spectral information for reference star, ref-11 (just above and quite close to HD 202206 in Figure 1), hence no input prior parallax for the modeling.

Figure 3 contains a \( (J-K) \) versus \( (V-K) \) color–color diagram for HD 202206 and the reference stars. Schlegel et al. (1998) find an upper limit \( A_V \sim 0.15 \) toward HD 202206, consistent with the small absorptions we infer comparing spectra and photometry (Table 5). The reference star derived absolute magnitudes critically depend on the assumed stellar luminosity, a parameter impossible to obtain for all but the latest type stars using only Figure 3. To check the luminosity classes obtained from classification spectra we obtain proper motions from the UCAC4 (Zacharias et al. 2013) for a one-degree-square field centered on HD 202206, and then produce a reduced proper motion diagram (Stromberg 1939; Gould & Morgan 2003; Yong & Lambert 2003) to discriminate between giants and dwarfs. Figure 4 contains the reduced proper motion

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\(^4\) The Two Micron All Sky Survey is a joint project of the University of Massachusetts and the Infrared Processing and Analysis Center/California Institute of Technology.

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### Table 1

| Parameter   | Value   | Source |
|-------------|---------|--------|
| SpT         | G6V     | 1      |
| \( T_{\text{eff}} \) | 5766 K  | 6      |
| \( \log g \)   | 4.5 ± 0.1 | 4     |
| [Fe/H]      | 0.3 ± 0.1 | 6     |
| age         | 2.9 ± 1.0 Gy | 5     |
| mass        | 1.07 ± 0.08 \( M_\odot \) | 4     |
| distance    | 45.5 ± 0.3 pc | 2     |
| \( A_V \)    | 0.0     | 1      |
| Radius      | 1.04 ± 0.01 \( R_\odot \) | 5     |
| \( v \sin i \) | 2.3 ± 0.5 km s\(^{-1}\) | 4     |
| \( m-M \)    | 3.30 ± 0.01 | 2     |
| \( V \)      | 8.07 ± 0.01 | 1     |
| \( K \)      | 6.49 ± 0.02 | 3     |
| \( V - K \)  | 1.58 ± 0.03 | 1, 3  |

*Note. 1. SIMBAD; 2. this paper; 3. 2MASS; 4. Exoplanets Website (Han et al. 2014); 5. Bonfanti et al. (2016); 6. Hinkel et al. (2016).*
### Table 2
HD 202206 Field Astrometry

| Set | Star | HST ID | V | V3 roll | X | Y | \( \sigma_X \) | \( \sigma_Y \) | \( \tau_{\text{ref}} \) | \( P \_1 \) | \( P \_2 \) |
|-----|------|--------|---|---------|---|---|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1   | 1    | F9YM0102M | 8.2 | 280.612 | -5.3808719 | 2.5181351 | 0.0024 | 0.0030 | 54285.60839 | 0.579256385 | 0.098856994 |
| 1   | 5    | F9YM0103M | 14.41 | 280.612 | -232.7332958 | -81.5462095 | 0.0035 | 0.0030 | 54285.60979 | 0.578137858 | 0.098769874 |
| 1   | 9    | F9YM0105M | 13.96 | 280.612 | -163.6020442 | -32.1472399 | 0.0035 | 0.0038 | 54285.61266 | 0.578449684 | 0.098684265 |
| 1   | 5    | F9YM0106M | 14.42 | 280.612 | -232.7333590 | -81.5463100 | 0.0035 | 0.0045 | 54285.61403 | 0.578095365 | 0.098753214 |
| 1   | 11   | F9YM0108M | 15.8 | 280.612 | -163.4548466 | -23.3057775 | 0.0037 | 0.0040 | 54285.61709 | 0.579047299 | 0.098937542 |
| 1   | 5    | F9YM0109M | 14.44 | 280.612 | -232.7329783 | -81.5462846 | 0.0036 | 0.0053 | 54285.61858 | 0.577974028 | 0.098734923 |
| 1   | 1    | F9YM010AM | 8.2 | 280.612 | -5.3805110 | 2.5179985 | 0.0028 | 0.0059 | 54285.61983 | 0.578095365 | 0.098753214 |
| 1   | 5    | F9YM010BM | 14.42 | 280.612 | -232.7339517 | -81.5449234 | 0.0033 | 0.0038 | 54285.62132 | 0.577923291 | 0.098723367 |
| 1   | 5    | F9YM010CM | 14.43 | 280.612 | -232.7326267 | -81.5462821 | 0.0037 | 0.0041 | 54285.62263 | 0.577896611 | 0.098717663 |
| 1   | 9    | F9YM010DM | 13.97 | 280.612 | -163.6020574 | -32.1466724 | 0.0033 | 0.0034 | 54285.62382 | 0.578243003 | 0.098638334 |
| 1   | 11   | F9YM010EM | 15.79 | 280.612 | -11.4345429 | -23.3038134 | 0.0036 | 0.0038 | 54285.62524 | 0.578962197 | 0.098902322 |
| 1   | 1    | F9YM010FM | 8.2 | 280.612 | -5.3807179 | 2.5170693 | 0.0024 | 0.0035 | 54285.62623 | 0.578930526 | 0.098726047 |
| 1   | 5    | F9YM010GM | 14.42 | 280.612 | -232.7327101 | -81.5468546 | 0.0036 | 0.0031 | 54285.62767 | 0.577819214 | 0.098694251 |
| 2   | 1    | F9YM0301M | 8.2 | 253.022 | 1.8998570 | -1.7028268 | 0.0515 | 0.0015 | 54297.38994 | 0.400934043 | 0.038705436 |
| 2   | 5    | F9YM0302M | 14.42 | 253.022 | 251.8430113 | -10.0603051 | 0.0026 | 0.0017 | 54297.39127 | 0.399679689 | 0.038708668 |

Note.

* Set (orbit) number, star number (\( \neq 1 \) = HD 202206; reference star numbers same as Table 3), HST orbit and target identifier, \( V \) magnitude from FGS measure, spacecraft + V3 axis roll angle as defined in Chapter 2, PGS Instrument Handbook (Nelan 2015), OFAD \( X \) and \( Y \) positions in arcseconds, position measurement errors in arcseconds, time of observation = JD-2400000, 5. R.A. and decl. parallax factors. We provide a complete table in the electronic version of this paper. (This table is available in its entirety in machine-readable form.)

### Table 3
Astrometric Reference Stars

| ID  | R.A. (J2000.0) | Decl. b | \( V \) |
|-----|---------------|---------|-------|
| 5   | 318.666441    | -20.778502 | 14.30 |
| 6   | 318.705720    | -20.830115 | 14.54 |
| 9   | 318.689335    | -20.788494 | 13.95 |
| 10  | 318.756629    | -20.809268 | 15.98 |
| 11  | 318.740855    | -20.782022 | 15.92 |

Notes.

* Positions from PPMXL (Roeser et al. 2010), J2000.
* \( V \) magnitude, this paper.
* Position from UCAC4 Catalog (Zacharias et al. 2013).

(This table is available in machine-readable form.)

### 3. Lateral Color Corrections
To effectively periscope the entire FGS FOV, the FGS design includes refractive optics. Hence, a blue star and a red star at exactly the same position on the sky would be measured as having different positions. A series of observations of pairs of red and blue stars with small angular separation at various spacecraft roll positions yields the required corrections. The discussion in Section 3.4 of Benedict et al. (1999) describes how we derive this correction for FGS 3. A similar analysis resulted in FGS 1r lateral color corrections \( \Delta c = -0.83 \pm 0.11 \) mas and \( \Delta c_y = -0.8 \pm 0.08 \) mas, quantities introduced as observations with error in the model shown below. These corrections have very little impact on the final results, given the small spread in \( B-V \) color (Table 4) between HD 202206 and the reference stars.

### 2.2. The Astrometric Model
While the HD 202206 usable reference frame contains five stars, due to guide star availability we average four observed reference stars stars per epoch. From positional measurements we determine the scale, rotation, and offset “plate constants” relative to an arbitrarily adopted constraint epoch for each observation set. We employ GaussFit (Jefferys et al. 1988) to minimize \( \chi^2 \). The solved equations of condition for the HD 202206 field are:

\[
\begin{align*}
x' &= x + \Delta c \cdot (B-V), \\
y' &= y + \Delta c y \cdot (B-V), \\
\xi &= \xi_x + \Delta \xi + \xi_y + \Delta \xi_y - \mu_x \Delta t - \mu_y \Delta t - P_x \pi - (\text{ORBIT}_{x,B} + \text{ORBIT}_{y,B}), \\
\eta &= \eta_x + \Delta \eta_x + \eta_y + \Delta \eta_y - \mu_x \Delta t - \mu_y \Delta t - P_y \pi - (\text{ORBIT}_{x,C} + \text{ORBIT}_{y,C}).
\end{align*}
\]

\( x \) and \( y \) are the measured coordinates from \( HST; (B-V) \) is the Johnson \( (B-V) \) color of each star; and \( \Delta c \), \( \Delta c_y \), are the lateral color corrections, which have little impact due to the
small range of color for HD 202206 and reference stars (Table 4). \(\Delta \), \(\mu\), and \(\Delta \) are offsets; \(\mu_0\) and \(\mu_0\) are proper motions; \(\Delta t\) is the time difference from the constraint epoch; \(P_\alpha\) and \(P_\delta\) are parallax factors; and \(\pi\) is the parallax. Note that we apply no cross-filter corrections (c.f. Benedict et al. 2007) because HD 202206 is faint enough that the FGS 1r F5ND neutral density filter is unnecessary.

We obtain the parallax factors from a JPL Earth orbit predictor (Standish 1990), version DE405. We obtain an orientation to the sky for the FGS 1r constraint plate (set 11 in Table 2) from ground-based astrometry (the UCAC4 Catalog) with uncertainties of 0.06.

ORBIT and ORBIT, are functions of the classic parameters \(\alpha\), the perturbation semimajor axis, \(i\), inclination, \(e\), eccentricity, \(\omega\), argument of periastron, \(\Omega\), longitude of ascending node, \(P\), orbital period, and \(T_0\), time of periastron passage (Heintz 1978; Martioli et al. 2010). We model a sequence of measures of the host star motion (including parallax, proper motion and perturbations) relative to the reference frame seen in Figure 1.

The elliptical rectangular coordinates \(x\), \(y\), of the unit orbit are

\[
\begin{align*}
( ) &= - \cos \, E, \\
( ) &= - \sin \, E,
\end{align*}
\]

with eccentricity, \(e\), and \(E\) as the eccentric anomaly. \(E\) depends on time, \(t\), through Kepler’s equation,

\[
\frac{2\pi}{P} (t - T_0) = E - e \sin E,
\]

with an epoch of periastron passage, \(T_0\), and the orbital period, \(P\). The eccentric anomaly, \(E\), relates to the true anomaly, \(f\), through

\[
\tan \frac{f}{2} = \sqrt{1 + e} \tan \frac{E}{2}.
\]

The projection of this true orbit onto a plane tangent to the sky yields the coordinates ORBIT, ORBIT,

\[
\text{ORBIT}_x = Bx + Cy,
\]

Figure 1. Positions within FGS 1r (blue-shaded region) of HD 202206 (1) and the astrometric reference stars (5–11) identified in Table 3. Note that due to HST roll restrictions, not all reference stars can be observed at each epoch. For example, ref-6 lies outside the FGS 1r FOV at this epoch.

Figure 2. Positions of HD 202206 (HD) and astrometric reference stars (5–11) in FGS 1r FOV coordinates. Due to guide star availability it was not possible to keep HD 202206 in the FOV center at each epoch, but the distance from the FOV center always remained \(<100\) s of arc, with an average distance, \(r\) = 32'.
with Thiele–Innes constants $B_{\text{TIT}}, A_{\text{TIT}}, G_{\text{TIT}}, F_{\text{TIT}}$:

\begin{align*}
B_{\text{TIT}} &= \alpha (\cos \omega \sin \Omega + \sin \omega \cos \Omega \cos i), \\
A_{\text{TIT}} &= \alpha (\cos \omega \cos \Omega - \sin \omega \sin \Omega \cos i), \\
G_{\text{TIT}} &= \alpha (-\sin \omega \sin \Omega + \cos \omega \cos \Omega \cos i), \\
F_{\text{TIT}} &= \alpha (-\sin \omega \cos \Omega - \cos \omega \sin \Omega \cos i).
\end{align*}

Note.

\[ \text{ORTIT,} = Ax + Fy, \]  

**Table 5**

| ID | Sp. T. | $V$ | $m-M$ | $A_V$ | $\pi_{\text{abs}}$(mas) |
|----|--------|-----|--------|-------|------------------------|
| 5  | K1.5V  | 14.30 | 6.3 | 0.00 | 2.5 $\pm$ 0.6 |
| 6  | K0V    | 14.54 | 5.9 | 0.00 | 1.9 0.4 |
| 9  | G5V    | 13.95 | 5.1 | 0.06 | 1.6 0.4 |
| 10 | G5V    | 15.98 | 5.1 | 0.00 | 0.7 0.2 |

Note.

* Spectral types and luminosity class estimated from classification spectra, colors, and a reduced proper motion diagram (Figures 3 and 4).

**Table 4**

| ID | V   | $B-V$ | $K$   | $(J-H)$ | $(J-K)$ | $(V-K)$ |
|----|-----|-------|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1  | 8.08$\pm$0.03 | 0.72$\pm$0.03 | 6.485$\pm$0.023 | 0.283$\pm$0.031 | 0.365$\pm$0.035 | 1.60$\pm$0.04 |
| 5  | 14.30$\pm$0.03 | 0.73$\pm$0.10$^a$ | 12.442$\pm$0.023 | 0.423$\pm$0.034 | 0.484$\pm$0.032 | 1.86$\pm$0.04 |
| 6  | 14.00$\pm$0.03 | 0.74$\pm$0.05 | 12.465$\pm$0.026 | 0.456$\pm$0.033 | 0.537$\pm$0.035 | 2.08$\pm$0.04 |
| 9  | 13.95$\pm$0.03 | 0.70$\pm$0.05 | 12.318$\pm$0.025 | 0.330$\pm$0.034 | 0.385$\pm$0.036 | 1.63$\pm$0.04 |
| 10 | 15.98$\pm$0.03 | 0.65$\pm$0.09 | 14.150$\pm$0.066 | 0.255$\pm$0.064 | 0.497$\pm$0.073 | 1.83 0.07 |
| 11 | 15.92$\pm$0.10 | 0.87$\pm$0.09 |

Note.

*a* Estimated from 2MASS photometry.

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Figure 3. $(J-K)$ vs. $(V-K)$ color–color diagram for HD 202206 and astrometric reference stars identified in Table 4. The lines are the assumed (Cox 2000) locus of dwarf (luminosity class V, dashed) and giant (luminosity class III, dot-dashed) stars of various spectral types. The reddening vector indicates $A_V = 1.0$ for the plotted color systems. Along this line of sight maximum extinction is $A_V \approx 0.15$ (Schlegel et al. 1998). There exists no 2MASS photometry for ref-11.

Figure 4. Reduced proper motion diagram for 2200 stars in a 1° field centered on HD 202206. Star identifications are in Table 4 and proper motions are from Tables 7 and 8. For a given spectral type, giants and sub-giants have more negative $HK$ values and are redder than dwarfs in $(J-K)$. $HK$ values are derived from proper motions in Table 7. The small cross at the lower left represents a typical $(J-K)$ error of 0.04 mag and $HK$ error of 0.17 mag. Ref-11, omitted from the plot, lacks 2MASS photometry. The horizontal line indicates a separation between dwarfs and sub-giant/giant stars.

Table 6

| Star | $V$ | $\xi$ | $\eta$ |
|------|-----|------|-------|
| 1    | 8.08 | 0.19070 $\pm$ 0.00013 | 20.77968 $\pm$ 0.00014 |
| 5    | 14.3 | $-249.19116$ $0.00011$ | 60.23407 $0.00007$ |
| 6    | 14.54 | $-117.09436$ $0.00046$ | $-125.45195$ $0.00032$ |
| 9$^b$ | 13.95 | $-172.23627$ $0.00018$ | 24.24109 $0.00015$ |
| 10   | 15.98 | $54.06826$ $0.00052$ | $-50.63166$ $0.00047$ |
| 11   | 15.92 | $1.50403$ $0.00018$ | 47.38927 $0.00017$ |

Notes.

* Units are arcseconds, rolled to R.A. ($\xi$) and decl. ($\eta$), epoch 2008.4085 (J2000). Roll uncertainty $\pm 0.06$.
* R.A. $= 318.699355$, decl. $= -20.788494$, J2000.

* Indicates a separation between dwarfs and sub-giant/giant stars.
ORBIT_{B} and ORBIT_{C} denote the coordinates of the parent star around the barycenter. For HD 202206 the FGS detects and characterizes a superposition of the perturbation sizes, \( \alpha_B \) and \( \alpha_C \), due to components \( B \) and \( C \), through \((\text{ORBIT}_{B,x} + \text{ORBIT}_{C,x})\) and \((\text{ORBIT}_{B,y} + \text{ORBIT}_{C,y})\).

### 2.3. The RV Model

Udry et al. (2002), Correia et al. (2005), and Couetdic et al. (2010) measured the radial component of the stellar orbital motion around the barycenter of the system with Doppler spectroscopy. This changing velocity, \( \nu \), is the projection of a Keplerian orbital velocity to the observer’s line of sight plus a constant velocity \( \gamma \). Therefore, for components \( B \) and \( C \)

\[
\nu_B = \gamma + K_B [\cos(f_B + \omega_B) + e_B \cos \omega_B],
\]

\[
\nu_C = \gamma + K_C [\cos(f_C + \omega_C) + e_C \cos \omega_C],
\]

\[
\nu_{\text{tot}} = \nu_B + \nu_C,
\]

where \( K \) is the velocity semi-amplitude. The total RV signal (Couetdic et al. 2010) we model \( (\nu_{\text{tot}}) \) includes contributions from both components \( B \) and \( C \).

### 2.4. Determining Perturbation Orbits for HD 202206 B and C

To derive companion perturbation orbital elements we simultaneously model RV values from Couetdic et al. (2010) and HST astrometry (Table 2). Because our GaussFit modeling results critically depend on the input data errors, we first modeled only the RV (Equation (18)) to assess the validity of the original (Couetdic et al. 2010) input RV errors. Solving for the orbital parameters of components \( B \) and \( C \), to achieve a \( \chi^2/\text{DOF} \) of unity, where DOF represents the degrees of freedom in the solution, required increasing the original errors by a factor of 1.4.

Tables 7 and 8 list the results of this modeling: the proper motions (relative), absolute parallaxes, and absolute magnitudes and their errors \( (1\sigma) \) for the five reference stars and HD 202206. Table 9 contains final orbit parameter values and errors for a model including both RV and astrometry; the period \( (P) \), the epoch of passage through periastron in years \( (T) \), the eccentricity \( (e) \), and the angle in the plane of the true orbit between the line of nodes and the major axis \( (\omega) \) are the same for an orbit determined from RV or from astrometry. The remaining orbital elements \( (i, \Omega, \alpha) \) come only from astrometry. Our model allows the astrometry and the RV to describe two companions, HD 202206 B and C. Astrometry and RV are forced to describe the same system through this constraint (Pourbaix & Jorissen 2000), shown for component \( B \), though in the model applied to both the \( B \) and \( C \) components,

\[
\frac{\alpha_B \sin i_B}{\pi_{\text{abs}}} = \frac{P_B K_B (1 - e^2_B)^{1/2}}{2\pi \times 4.7405},
\]

where quantities derived only from astrometry (parallax, \( \pi_{\text{abs}} \), host star perturbation orbit size, \( \alpha \), and eccentricity, \( e \)), or radial velocities only (the RV amplitude of the primary, \( K \), induced by a companion), are on the right. Given the sparse orbital coverage of the HD 202206 B and especially the \( C \) perturbation afforded by the astrometry (Figures 7 and 8), the RV data were essential for determining the component orbits. For most of the orbital parameters in Table 9 a combination of astrometry and previously existing RV has reduced the Correia et al. (2005) and Couetdic et al. (2010) formal errors.

### 2.5. Assessing Modeling Residuals

From histograms of the FGS astrometric residuals (Figure 5) we conclude that we have a well-behaved solution exhibiting residuals with Gaussian distributions with dispersions \( \sigma \sim 0.8 \) mas. The slight skew in the \( Y \) residuals can be seen in either \( X \) or \( Y \) residuals, which are either positive or negative in many previous modelings, e.g., Benedict et al. (2009, 2010, 2011), McArthur et al. (2011), and Benedict et al. (2016) with no discernible impact on results. The reference frame “catalog” from FGS 1r in \( \xi \) and \( \eta \) standard coordinates (Table 6) was determined with average uncertainties, \( \langle \sigma_\xi \rangle = 0.26 \) and \( \langle \sigma_\eta \rangle = 0.22 \) mas. Because we have rotated our constraint plate to an R.A., decl. coordinate system, \( \xi \) and \( \eta \) are R.A. and decl.

At this stage we can assess the quality of the HD 202206 B and HD 202206 C astrometric perturbations by plotting the RV and astrometric residuals from our modeling of the component \( B \), \( C \) orbit. We show the RV orbit with adopted errors and final residuals to the simultaneous modeling in Figure 6. Figure 7 shows the R.A. and decl. components at each observational epoch (the 31 data sets listed in Table 2) plotted on the final component \( B \), \( C \) orbit. We plot averages of FGS residuals at each epoch plotted as small symbols, connected to their calculated position on the orbit. These normal point residuals have an average absolute value residual, \( \langle \text{residual} \rangle = 0.34 \) mas. Figure 8 shows our average (typically five positions) measures for each Table 2 data set with a associated standard deviation of the mean plotted on the R.A. and decl. components of the combined \( B \), \( C \) orbit described by the model-derived orbital elements in Table 9.
Table 8
Reference Frame Statistics, HD 202206 Parallax, and Proper Motion

| Parameter          | Value              |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Study duration     | 2.91 yr            |
| number of observation sets | 31                 |
| reference star (V) | 14.94              |
| reference star (B - V) | 0.79              |
| **HST Absolute π** | 21.96 ± 0.12 mas   |
| Relative μ_0       | -41.54 ± 0.11 mas yr⁻¹ |
| Relative μ_1       | -117.87 ± 0.11 mas yr⁻¹ |
| μ = 124.98 mas yr⁻¹ |                   |
| P.A. = 199°4       |                   |
| **Gaia DR1 Absolute π** | 21.94 ± 0.26 mas   |
| Absolute μ_0       | -39.22 ± 0.07 mas yr⁻¹ |
| Absolute μ_1       | -120.29 ± 0.04 mas yr⁻¹ |
| μ = 126.53 mas yr⁻¹ |                   |
| P.A. = 198°1       |                   |
| **HIP 07 Absolute π** | 22.06 ± 0.82 mas   |
| Absolute μ_0       | -38.40 ± 0.94 mas yr⁻¹ |
| Absolute μ_1       | -119.81 ± 0.37 mas yr⁻¹ |
| μ = 125.81 mas yr⁻¹ |                   |
| P.A. = 197°8       |                   |

Table 9
Orbital Elements for the HD 202206 B and c Perturbations

| Parameter          | Units    | B   | err | c   | err |
|--------------------|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| P                  | days     | 256.33 | 0.02 | 1260 | 11  |
| P                  | years    | 0.70180 | 0.00005 | 3.45 | 0.03 |
| T₀                 | JD-2400000 | 52176.14 | 0.12 | 53103 | 452 |
| ε                  |         | 0.432 | 0.001 | 0.22 | 0.03 |
| K                  | km s⁻¹   | 0.567 | 0.001 | 0.041 | 0.001 |
| i                  | °        | 10.9 | 0.8 | 7.7 | 1.1 |
| ω                  | °        | 161.9 | 0.2 | 280 | 4 |
| Ω                  | °        | 121 | 4 | 91 | 11 |
| α                  | mas      | 1.40 | 0.10 | 0.76 | 0.11 |

Derived Parameters

| α                  | au       | 0.064 | 0.005 | 0.035 | 0.005 |
| a                  | au       | 0.83 | ... | 2.41 | ... |
| a                  | mas      | 18.2 | ... | 52.9 | ... |
| M sin i            | M_{rup} | 17.7 | ... | 2.3 | ... |
| M                  | M_{rup} | 93.6 | ±7.2 | 17.9 | ±19 |
| M                  | M_{rup} | 0.089 | ... | 0.017 | ... |

Stability Parameters

| P_i / P_B          | ... | 4.92 | 0.04 | ... | ... |
| φ^*                | °    | 6    | 2    | ... | ... |

Note.

* Mutual inclination from Equation (20).

3. Masses and Mutual Inclination

For the parameters critical for determining the masses of the companions to HD 202206, we find a parallax, \( \pi_{\text{abs}} = 21.96 \pm 0.12 \) mas, and a proper motion in R.A. of \(-41.54 \pm 0.11 \) mas yr⁻¹ and in decl. of \(-117.87 \pm 0.11 \) mas yr⁻¹. Table 8 compares values for the parallax and proper motion of HD 202206 from HST, Gaia (Brown et al. 2016), and the Hipparcos re-reduction (van Leeuwen 2007). While the parallax values agree within their respective errors, we note a small disagreement in the proper motion vector (μ) absolute magnitude and direction. This could be explained by our non-global proper motion measured against a small sample of reference stars. Our measurement precision and extended study duration have significantly improved the precision of the parallax of HD 202206.

For the perturbation due to component \( B \) we find \( \alpha_B = 1.4 \pm 0.1 \) mas, and an inclination, \( i_B = 10°9 \pm 0°8 \). We find \( \alpha_c = 0.76 \pm 0.11 \) mas, and an inclination, \( i_c = 7°7 \pm 1°1 \). We list all modeled orbital elements in Table 9 with 1σ errors. The mutual inclination, \( \Phi \), of the B and c orbits can be determined through (Kopal 1959; Muterspaugh et al. 2006)

\[
\cos \Phi = \cos i_B \cos i_c + \sin i_B \sin i_c \cos(\Omega_B - \Omega_C), \tag{20}
\]
where \( i_B \) and \( i_c \) are the orbital inclinations and \( \Omega_B \) and \( \Omega_C \) are the longitudes of their ascending nodes. Our modeling yields a suggestion of coplanarity with \( \Phi = 6 \pm 2° \).

Figure 9 illustrates the Pourbaix and Jorrisen relation (Equation (19)) between parameters obtained from astrometry and RV and our final estimates for each component \( \alpha \) and \( i \). In essence, our simultaneous solution uses the Figure 9 component \( B \) and \( c \) curves as quasi-Bayesian priors, sliding along them until the astrometric residuals and orbit parameter errors are minimized.

The planetary mass depends on the mass of the primary star, for which we have adopted \( M_* = 1.07 M_\odot \) (Han et al. 2014).
Figure 6. RV values from Couetdic et al. (2010) and the final RV two-component orbit (Table 9) obtained from modeling the RV and the FGS observations of HD 202206 and the FGS reference frame with Equations (2)-(5). The original RV errors (Couetdic et al. 2010) have been increased by a factor of 1.4 to achieve a unity $\chi^2$. Residuals are plotted in the top panel tagged with the adopted RV errors. We note the rms residual value in the plot.

Figure 7. Residuals to the combined $B, c$ perturbation described by the Table 9 final orbital elements. Normal points (o) for each Table 2 epoch (unique set number) attach to their calculated locations (•) on the combined orbit (−), representing 4.8 years from 2006 September to 2011 July. Actual observations spanned 2007 July to 2010 June. The residual rms is 0.35 mas in R.A. and 0.32 mas in decl. The errors are the standard deviation of the mean for each normal point, typically comprised of 5 separate observations per set.
We find $M_B = 93.6^{+7.7}_{-6.6} \, M_{\text{up}} = 0.089^{+0.007}_{-0.006} \, M_\odot$. The central mass controlling the component $c$ orbit is now the sum of the component $A$ and $B$ masses, $M_{A+B} = 1.16 \, M_\odot$. Hence, for component $c$, $M_c = 17.9^{+2.8}_{-2.3} \, M_{\text{up}}$. In Table 9 the final mass values for components $B$ and $c$ do not incorporate the present uncertainty in the stellar mass, $M_\star$.

Table 8 shows the FGS proper motion to have a small disagreement with previously measured Hipparcos and Gaia values. Our modeling can include any priors, but we generally resist including priors for the prime scientific target. If we include HD 202206 proper motion priors (and estimated errors) from the Hipparcos (van Leeuwen 2007), Gaia (Brown et al. 2016), PPMXL (Roester et al. 2010), UCAC4 (Zacharias et al. 2013), and SPM 4.0 (Girard et al. 2011) catalogs, we obtain a proper motion in agreement with the Gaia value. The resulting masses and mutual inclinations of components $B$ and $c$ agree within the Table 9 errors. However, the $\chi^2$ increases by 5.2%, while the degrees of freedom increase by 1.1%. Hence, we prefer the Table 9 results from a solution without HD 202206 proper motion priors.

### 4. Discussion

From the Benedict et al. (2016) mass–luminosity relations we can estimate absolute magnitudes for an M dwarf star with mass $M = 0.089 \, M_\odot$. Those relations yield $M_V = 17.80$ and $M_K = 9.79$. Our parallax, $\pi_{\text{abs}} = 21.96$, and an interstellar absorption, $A_V = 0$, provide a distance modulus, $(m-M)_0 = 3.30$, and for the host star HD 202206 $M_V = 4.77$ and $M_K = 3.19$. HD 202206 $B$ at apastron has a separation $r_B = a_B(1 + e_B) = 26.1$ mas with $\Delta V = 13.0$ and $\Delta K = 6.6$, a challenging upcoming (2019 March–December) test for any existing high-contrast imaging system.

Our characterization of the HD 202206 system comes close to providing a solution to the vexing problem of stability. With only $M \sin i$ values for components $b$ and $c$ Correia et al. (2005), Couetdic et al. (2010), and Petrovich (2015) argued that...
a stable HD 202206 system should be in a 5:1 mean motion resonance (MMR) and coplanar. Our re-determination of the periods (listed in Table 9) yield \( P_c/P_B = 4.92 \pm 0.04 \), a value less than 3σ from MMR. Our mutual inclination, \( \Phi = 6 \pm 2^\circ \), differs from coplanarity by 3σ.

Our modeling platform, GaussFit, easily accommodates any priors as data with associated errors. Given that stability seems to require a 5:1 MMR, we constructed a model that includes a new piece of “data,” \( P_{\text{diff}} \), a new parameter, \( P_{\text{diff}} \), and the associated equation of condition relating the two,

\[
P_{\text{diff}} = (P_B \times 5.0) - P_c,
\]

\[
\text{value} = P_{\text{diff}} - P_{\text{diff}}.
\] (21)

This addition to our model introduces the period ratio, \( P_c/P_B = 5 \), as a prior constraint, where the observable derived from theory is \( P_{\text{diff}} = 0 \pm 20 \) days, and \textit{value} is the quantity to be minimized (in \( \chi^2 \)) by the modeling. The adopted error for \( P_{\text{diff}} \) represents a 1.7% difference in the expected 5:1 MMR.

We present the orbital parameters and component masses resulting from that modeling in Table 10, which now includes the parameter, \( P_{\text{diff}} = 3 \pm 5 \) days, effectively zero, suggesting a 5:1 MMR. The component masses are a little higher, but agree within the errors with those (Table 9) resulting from a model with no prior knowledge of a possibly required resonance. The parallax and proper motions were unchanged from the Table 8 values. The assertion of a 5:1 MMR has forced a higher degree of coplanarity, i.e., the smaller \( \Phi \) value shown in Table 10.

Finally, we plot component \( B \) and \( c \) actual orbits (in au, from the Table 9 parameters) in Figure 10 from three vantage points; as seen on the sky (along the \( z \) axis), and plots looking north toward \(-y\) and east in the direction of \(-x\). These views demonstrate the degree of coplanarity (without prior knowledge of a coplanarity requirement) determined through our modeling.

### 5. Summary

For the HD 202206 system we find:

1. A parallax, \( \tau_{\text{abs}} = 21.96 \pm 0.12 \) mas, agreeing with the \textit{Hipparcos} and \textit{Gaia} values within the errors.
2. A relative, not absolute proper motion relative to our reference frame, \( \mu = 124.98 \) mas yr\(^{-1}\) with a position angle, P.A. = 199°7′, differing by 1.5 mas yr\(^{-1}\) and 1°3 compared to \textit{Gaia}.
3. An inclination for HD 202206 B, \( i_B = 10^\circ 79 \pm 0^\circ 8 \), and, with the assumption of a HD 202206 A mass, \( M_A = 1.07 \, M_{\odot} \), a component B mass, \( M_B = 0.089 \pm 0.007 \, M_{\odot} \).
4. HD 202206 B is an M8 dwarf star (Dupuy & Liu 2017).
5. A component \( c \) inclination, \( i_c = 7^\circ 77 \pm 1^\circ 2 \), that with a central mass of \( M_{A+\ast} = 1.16 \, M_{\odot} \), yields a component c mass, \( M_c = 17.9 \pm 2.9 \, M_{\odot} \).
6. HD 202206 c is a brown dwarf.
7. A period ratio \( P_c/P_B = 4.92 \pm 0.04 \), near a 5:1 MMR, and a flat HD 202206 system architecture with a \( B-c \) mutual inclination of \( \Phi = 6^\circ \pm 2^\circ \), near coplanarity.
8. That including proper motion priors from multiple sources yields the same component \( B \) and component \( c \) masses as ignoring those priors.
Thus the question posed in the title of the Correia et al. (2005) paper, “A pair of planets around HD 202206 or a circumbinary system?” is answered with a single word; neither. The HD 202206 system consists of a low-inclination, nearly face-on G8V + M6V binary orbited by a brown dwarf.

A combination of additional RV measurements and Gaia astrometry should further illuminate our understanding of the dynamics of this interesting system, particularly by reducing the errors on periods and coplanarity. We repeat an old question: is the HD 202206 system stable, or just close to stable?

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