Revisiting the helium abundance from multiple MSs in Globular Clusters

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Insights from nearby stars

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Fundamental stellar parameters (T_{eff}, F_{bol}) : empirical / reliable determination (IRFM)



L. Casagrande; I. Ramírez;
M. Asplund (MPA)
J.Meléndez (CAUP)
M. Bessell (ANU)

✓ Comparison with stellar models (directly T_{eff}-F_{bol} plane) : pitfalls

✓ Implication for multiple MSs in Globular Clusters : downward revision of Y ?

L. Portinari & C. Flynn (Tuorla/Turku)L. Girardi (Padova)

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InfraRed Flux Method

Blackwell et al. (1977, 1978, 1979)



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Casagrande, Portinari & Flynn (2006) Casagrande, Ramírez, Meléndez, Bessell, Asplund (submitted) → ✓ HST absolute flux (Bohlin 2007)

✓ Solar Twins (Meléndez et al. 2009)

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Absolutely calibrated $T_{\rm eff}$ scale



Casagrande, Ramírez, Meléndez, Bessell, Asplund (submitted)

HST Spectro-photometry



HST Spectro-photometry



More Spectro-photometry

M. Bessell (private comm.)





•Melendez's talk : Spite plateau

•Friday, 12:05 - 12.50, Discussion D

Broadening low MS



Effect of helium more prominent in theoretical HRD (*Castellani et al. 1999*)

Broadening low MS



Effect of helium more prominent in theoretical HRD (*Castellani et al. 1999*)

> Extended grid in Y,Z (Padova isochrones, Bertelli et al. 2008)

Broadening low MS



























•Is the broadening predicted by the models at low Z reliable ?



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•Reproducing the observed broadening with orthodox Y abundances : implications for multiple MSs in GCs ? Alias: <u>if</u> <u>observed broadening is narrower, is then 'easier' to invert the MS?</u> An empirical approach... (Portinari, Casagrande & Flynn, to be submitted)

Multiple populations in GCs

(e.g. Renzini 2008; Piotto 2009; Yi 2009)









MS: wCen / NGC2808



MS: wCen / NGC2808



Huge helium enhancement difficult to explain for stellar nucleosynthesis and chemical evolution models (e.g. Prantzos & Charbonnel 2006; Maeder & Meynet 2006; Decressin et al. 2007a,b; Romano et al. 2007, 2009; Renzini 2008; Yi 2009)

MS broadening: homology relations

•They provide a <u>simple analytical tool</u> to study the broadening of the MS (straightforward to apply on field dwarfs & GCs)

<u>it suits to be empirically</u> <u>calibrated</u>

MS broadening: homology relations



 $\log(T_{eff})$

(Padova)

 $P_3 = 670 \pm 200$



•Homology relations describe very well the behavior of theoretical isochrones as function of ΔY and $\Delta Y/\Delta Z$

•For our sample of local stars, homology relations return a similar Y(Z) plot as isochrones



Homology relations: WCen



Homology relations: NGC2808











Homology relations: empirical calibration

- •We define empirical homology relations, calibrated to fulfill BBN constraint at low Z ($\Rightarrow \Delta Y/\Delta Z = 2$)
- •We will use them to reassess the multiple MSs in GCs

•molecular weight (50%)
•nuclear energy generation (40%)
•opacity (10%)

$$\Delta \log T_{\text{eff}} = -P_1 \log \left[1 - \frac{\delta}{(0.6+X_r)} (Z - Z_r) \right]$$

$$-P_2 \log \left(\frac{P_3 Z + 1}{P_3 Z_r + 1} \right)$$

$$2^{\text{nd}} \text{ term: (opacity) depends only on Z}$$

2nd term:



$$\Delta \log T_{\text{eff}} = -0.50 \log \left[1 - \frac{\delta}{(0.6 + X_r)} (Z - Z_r) \right] -0.064 \log \left(\frac{150Z + 1}{150Z_r + 1} \right)$$

no effect on the GC multiple MS, since in GC the metallicity difference is minimal or vanishing

Huge scatter: problem with Y_P resolved on average, but considerable fraction of stars still below BBN

Ist term:



$$\Delta \log T_{\text{eff}} = \left(-1.5 \log \left[1 - \frac{\delta}{(0.6 + X_r)} (Z - Z_r) \right] -0.064 \log \left(\frac{670Z + 1}{670Z_r + 1} \right) \right)$$

It is the preferred solution in terms of agreement with BBN

Consequences for Globular Clusters



Revision for Globular Clusters ?

•Compelling evidence for Y enhancement...

- **but intriguing** problems for low MS, low Z models!
- •Our approach (homology) is just "toy model".

•Go into the physics of stellar models (Y dependence more than Z): worth exploring.

Conclusions

- •T_{eff} scale : precise & accurate, now.
- •Low MS stellar models at low Z predict unacceptably low Y \ll Y_{P.}
- •Our exercise highlights the possible connection with the puzzle of extreme helium enrichment in some GCs.

•If the fault lies in the response of stellar models to the helium fraction, the extreme helium population in GCs could be far less rich (Y = 0.30/0.32 vs Y = 0.40).