

Low-Mass Brown Dwarfs and the Initial Mass Function

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Overview

- Introduction
- Objectives and Observations
- Extraction and Data Quality
- Candidate IC 4665 members

- Calibration and Selection

• Young T-Dwarfs in IC 348

- Candidates and Initial Mass Function

Perspectives



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Low-Mass Star Formation

Collapse of a molecular cloud:-

- Quiescent
 - many larger mass cores
 - photoerosion of prestellar cores by nearby stars
 - lower dynamical ejection
- Turbulent
 - fragmentation
 - reduces Jean's mass
 - many lower mass cores



Bate 2009: log(column density), 600AU across



Initial Mass Function (IMF)

is the outcome of the star formation process, and can be found from the prediction of the present day MF

Depends on initial state of the cloud



Hennebelle & Chabrier 2009: normalised mass function vs mass for predicted MF for different numerical simulations.

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Observed IMF

Generally known for many clusters down to 30 Jupiter masses $(\sim 0.03 M_{\odot})$



No apparent variations with log-normal fits

e.g. Pleiades:

- Peak mass: $m_0 \sim 0.25 M_{\odot}$
- Dispersion $\sigma = 0.52$

Moraux et al '03: mass function vs mass

Need to investigate the IMF for masses lower than $\sim\!30M_{_J}$



Sub-Stellar Objects

Properties:-

- between planets and stars
- No stable H-fusion
- ~ 0.07M_°
- Deuterium burning
- $\sim 0.012 M_{\odot}$
- T_{effective} decreases with age



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Models

Atmospheres

- Molecular species
 - Define M L T Y dwarfs
- Dust formation
- Settling
- Sedimentation
- Mixing

Allard et al '10: absolute flux vs wavelength: cool dwarf GJ866 (red) vs model (dark blue) (T_{eff}=2900K, log(g)=5.0, solar metallicity) cyan= • AMES

- NextGen: solar to hot BDs, ~3700K
- Dusty, Cond: grains/settling

BT-Settl

- Abundances & Opacities



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Motivation

How do/can the lowest mass objects form?

How do these objects overlap with planets?

How do these objects contribute to the IMF?

CONSTELLATION Work Package 3

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Objectives & Strategy

Constrain the low-mass end of the Initial Mass Function

- Where are the best places to observe these lowest mass objects?
 - IC 4665 ~40Myr open cluster:

low mass objects earlier than ~L3, ~15M,

- IC 348 3Myr star forming region:
 - T dwarfs later than spectral type ~T3, ~10M



Observational Strategy

- These clusters require deep and wide field photometric observations:
 - Field of View (different footprints)
 - Infrared (cool objects brighter in IR than optical)
- Photometric considerations
 - PSF (Seeing)
 - Atmospheric considerations
 - Extinction





Instrumentation

Canada France Hawaii Telescope 3.6m

- WIRCam:
 - 20'x20' FOV



- Y, J, H, K_s + methane narrowbands
- MegaCam
 - 1°x1° FOV
 - z'



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Conclusions & Perspectives



Data Treatment Overview

CFHT/TERAPIX pipelines (2MASS calibrated) Extraction (Sextractor, PSFEx)

Detection and Photometry



Zero-point/intrafield calibration Amalgamation

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Detection and Photometry

Sky background estimation





Detection band, threshold and filter optimisation

~4'

 Aperture and PSF modeling



~1'

green: 1σ cyan: 3.5σ purple: 5σ

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Calibration

- 2MASS or UKIDSS zero point adjustment
 - Median of good, bright overlapping objects
 - If required
- Intrafield calibration



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Catalogue Amalgamation

TOPCAT/STILTS and shell scripts:

- All bands for each position of detection image
- Also based on saturation/IMA flags
- For short+long required either/or for bands
- 1 catalogue uniquely populated for each field





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Image: Stefan Binnewies and Josef Pöpsel

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IC 4665

Open cluster

- 17^h46^m18^s +05°43′0″ (J2000)
- 350+/-15pc
- ~30-40Myr, low proper motion
- Average extinction $A_v \sim 0.59$ mag
- Y J H Ks (21,20.5,19.75,18.5mag)
- $0.012 M_{\odot}$ (YJH) and $0.015 M_{\odot}$ (Ks)
- 10 fields + 2 control fields

-~1.1 sq. deg.





Field of View





Candidates

- Selection (from ~380,000)
 - Use BT-Settl 30 & 50 Myr isochrones for selection over 6 CMDs and 15 COLDs Y-J/J-H etc
 - Two isochrones to address age uncertainty
 - Y-J colour most constraining
 - (~4,500 potential cluster members)
 - J-H least (~140,000 objects)

Field	Identifier	RA	DEC	Y	Yerr	J	Jerr	Н	Herr	K	Kerr
				/ mag	/ mag						
D	168841111	266.46933	5.47968	20.131	0.141	18.974	0.141	18.327	0.141	17.818	0.142
В	6280000	266.82553	5.31048	17.305	0.141	16.309	0.140	15.811	0.140	15.207	0.140
Α	8280000	266.75516	5.65025	19.200	0.148	18.138	0.144	17.493	0.144	17.059	0.140



CMD Selection - 2278



Top: one field one colour (Y-J); bottom all fields all colours (J-H)



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COLD Selection - 1163

Possible discrepancy wrt the Y-band in the theoretical models. Requires testing.



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Visual Inspection

- Filtering to 590:
 - PSF FWHM <5.0pix</p>
 - Completeness
 - No sat/IMA flags
 - No duplicates
 - Visually inspected with these criteria
- 510 'OK'









Spectral Type



Empirical selection (Hewett+2006) – YJ/JH and JH/HK empirical locations – 63 L, 485 M-dwarf 'OK'

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Conclusions:

IC 4665: Detection of candidate members down to the L-dwarf regime. Work in Progress.

- Empirical candidate selection and model testing also required
- Contamination (at least 20% from control field analysis), further spectral type analysis, IMF, *Spitzer* data, spectroscopy
- Collaboration (Selection and UKIDSS), with N. Lodieu from the IAC.

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IC 348



20'

Image: Adam Block and Tim Puckett

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IC 348 Overview

Aim to constrain the low-mass IMF e.g.

- ONC: 15 low-mass objects ~8-15M_J (Lucas et al. 2001)
- σ Ori: 7 objects ~6-8M_J; Power law IMF 110-6M_J with x=-0.4+/-0.2 (Caballero et al. 2007)
- One T-dwarf (T6) S Ori 70 (Zapatero Osorio et al. 2002, 2008)

Search for young and low-mass objects

- Masses ~few M_{jup}
- Nearby star forming region IC 348



IC 348

Clustered star forming region

- 03^h44^m34^s +32°09′8″ (J2000) in Perseus
- 300+/-15pc, ~40pc in front of Per OB2 association
- ~1-3Myr, low proper motion; ~2 < A_v < 20mags
- IMF complete to \sim 35M_J (though for A_V<4mag)
- WIRCam IR survey to find the lowest mass objects

Cernis 1993, Herbig 1998, Herbst 2008, Luhman et al. 2003, Muench et al. 2003, Scholz et al. 1999.

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Thibault et al. 2003, Boulade et al. 2003

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Field of View



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Methane



 CH_4 on- CH_4 off colour (1.69µm-1.58µm) vs SpT L & T 5Gyr field dwarf spectra - convolved

SpT latens with colour

e.g. T3 => ~0.4mag



T-Dwarf Selection



 $CH_4 on - CH_4 off vs CH_4 off$

Asymmetry from local reddening

0.4 mag equates to a confidence of $\sim 3.5\sigma$

3 good candidates all above 4σ



Extinction

Extinction vector

Dereddened to COND 3Myr model

SpT found from dereddened colours

Candidates have SpT T4-T7



Allard et al. 2001, Chabrier et al. 2000 SVO extinction co-efficients (svo.laeff.inta.es/theory/filters)

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Three Candidates

Follows 3Myr model Younger objects are brighter than field objects from larger radii

Comparison: ~T6 S Ori 70, 1-8Myr, 350pc

IC348_CH4_2 close to S Ori 70



Luhman et al 2006, Zapatero Osorio et al. 2002, 2008.

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Candidate Rejection



Luhman et al 2006, Zapatero Osorio et al. 2002, 2008.

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Membership

- Remaining candidate is very close to the core (4')
- Extinction ~12mag consistent with membership rather than field
- Dereddened object brighter than field objects
- Statistically expect <1 foreground field T3-T5.5 dwarfs in our FOV (Metchev et al. 2008)



IMF

- One candidate with mass estimated $<7M_{J} (\pm 50\%)$
- ~420 members in IC 348
- Log-normal IMF extrapolated to 1-10M_J (1.6-4 expected)
- 10x fewer objects in this mass bin when compared to σ Ori
- This candidate is consistent with log-normal extrapolation to low mass domain for IC 348





IC 348 Summary

"Young T-Dwarf Candidates in IC 348" published: Burgess et al. 2009 (2009A&A...508..823)

- Three objects based on methane colours detected
- Two rejected by too blue z'-J colours unknown idents
- One very likely a member of IC 348 and consistent for a 3Myr old, ~T6 Dwarf
- Among lowest-mass T-dwarf detected so far



LAOG



Conclusions:

One good T6 candidate: supports the extrapolation of the log-normal IMF to a few M_J

Supports variations of the low mass end of the IMF, e.g. σ Ori with 10x more objects

- Spectroscopy of all three candidates
- Ascertain identity of 2 rejected cool subdwarfs?
- Full census using zJHK data to extend confirmed IMF to masses < 30M_J



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How does this work fit in with current scientific understanding?

T6 dwarf possibly formed in isolation Helped constrain the lower mass IMF: One object (IC 348) v.s. ~10 objects (σ Ori) Requires more clusters for wider picture Information on initial conditions – cloud state Simulations/models v.s. Observations:

e.g. Y-band discrepancy



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- Constellation Network
 - Schools
 - International Conferences
 - Presenting work
 - Networking
 - Languages
 - Friends







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Questions



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