

The Diversity of Stellar Interactions in the ONC

Evolution of protoplanetary discs, binarity, and mass segregation

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Thomas Henning (MPIA Heidelberg)

Susanne Pfalzner (MPIfR Bonn)

Some facts about star and planet formation

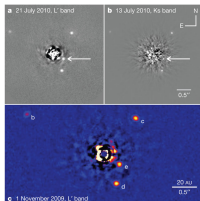
Planets and their hosts:

- stars form with dusty discs
⇒ *protoplanetary discs*
- protoplanetary discs serve as hosts of planet formation
- protopl. discs last for $\lesssim 10$ Myr



Ori 114-426

O'Dell & Beckwith (1997)

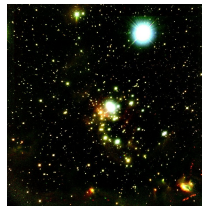


HR 8799

Marois et al. (2010)

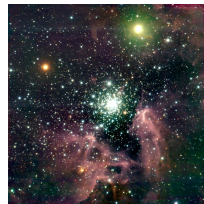
Stars and their hosts:

- up to 90 % of all stars form in clusters
(Lada & Lada, 2003; Evans et al., 2009)
- 50 % of all stars form in *massive* clusters
($N > 1000$)
- star clusters last for $\gtrsim 10$ Myr



IC 348

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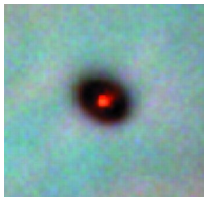
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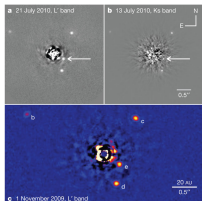
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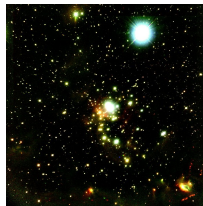


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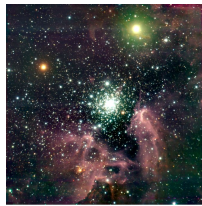
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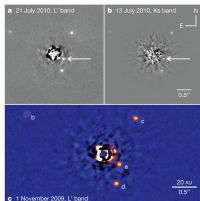
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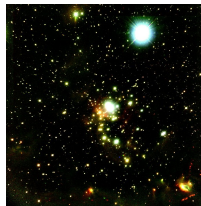


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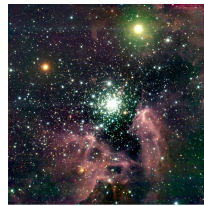
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⇒ formation and evolution of stars and planets potentially affected by the cluster environment

⇒ investigation of the effect of stellar encounters on stars and their discs

The dynamically outstanding role of massive stars

The effect of stellar encounters is dominated by massive stars twofold:

Gravitational focusing

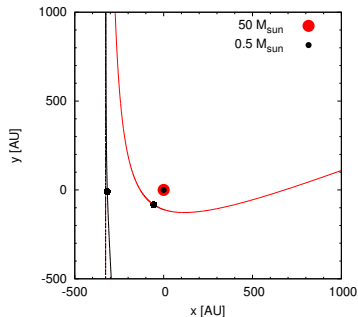
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Gravitational focusing

$$b^2 = r_{\text{enc}}^2 \left(1 + \frac{2GMm}{\mu r_{\text{enc}} v^2} \right) = r_{\text{enc}}^2 (1 + \Theta)$$



Mass-ratio dependent perturbation

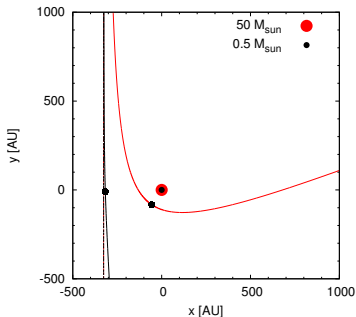
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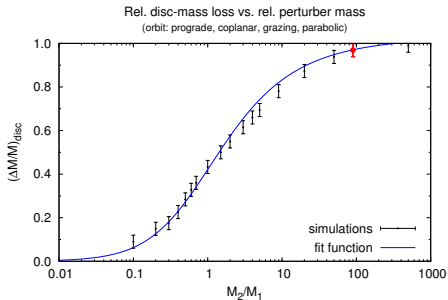
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Mass-ratio dependent perturbation



Equivalent disc-mass loss:

$50 M_{\odot}$ perturber at $r_{\text{enc}} = 500 \text{ AU}$

$0.5 M_{\odot}$ perturber at $r_{\text{enc}} = 100 \text{ AU}$

Disc destruction (97% mass loss):

$50 M_{\odot}$ perturber at $r_{\text{enc}} = 100 \text{ AU}$.

Protoplanetary discs at different wavelengths

Observations in a wide wavelength range, from near-infrared to millimeter, trace different spatial regimes of protoplanetary discs.

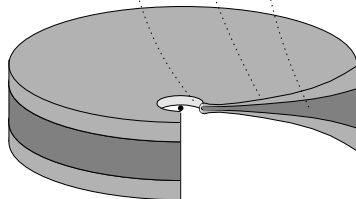
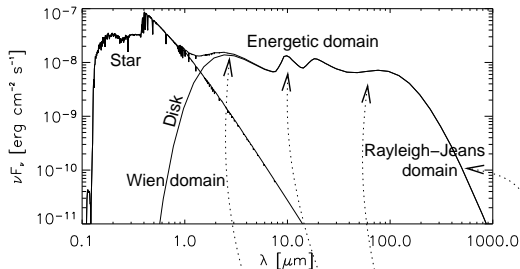
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- dust temperature T
 - determines dominant wavelength
 - $T \uparrow \Rightarrow \lambda \downarrow$
- size of dust grains R
 - determines scattering process
 - $R \uparrow \Rightarrow \lambda \uparrow$
- density of dust grains ρ
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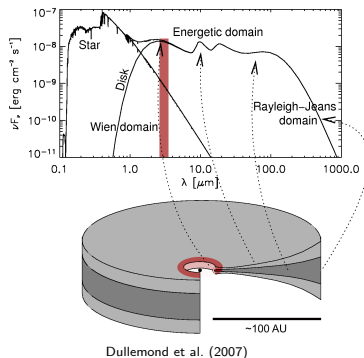
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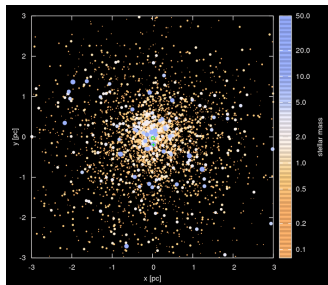
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Note: near-infrared \Rightarrow hot dust \Rightarrow inner disc
 $\sim 3 \mu$ $\sim 1000 \text{ K}$ $\lesssim 1 \text{ AU}$

Realization of the numerical simulations

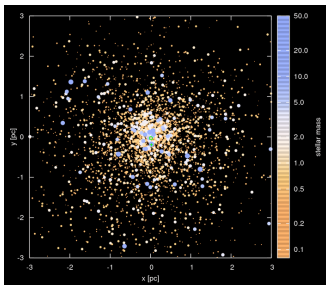


simulations of star cluster dynamics
 (pure particle model, ~ 1000 simulations, JUMP)
 → direct N-body code NBODY6++

tracking of encounters

record of encounter
 parameters

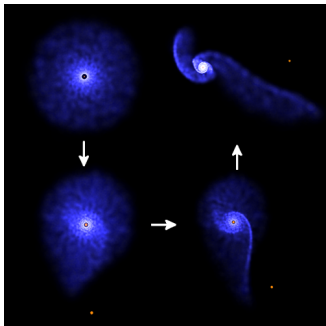
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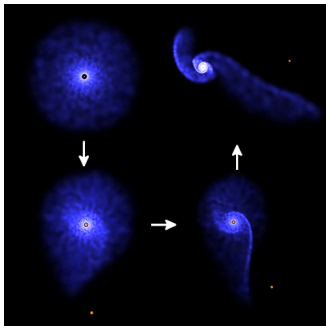
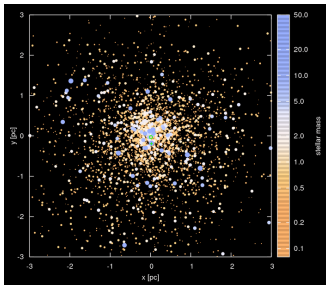
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- disc mass
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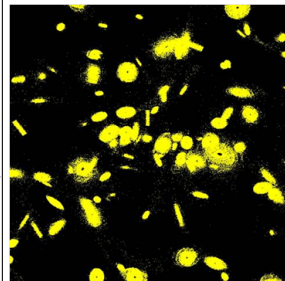
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encounter-induced evolution
of star-disc systems in a
cluster environment

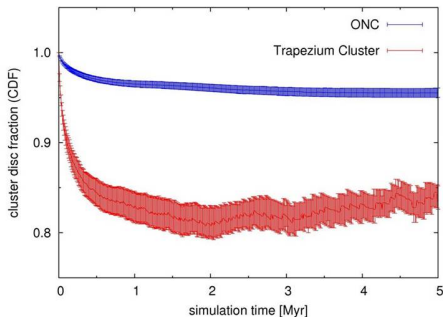
Encounter-induced disc destruction in the ONC

Numerical evolution of the dynamical model of the ONC ($t \approx 1$ Myr).

Investigation of the disc-mass loss over time (destruction: $> 90\%$ mass loss).

→ **Stellar encounters lead to significant disc destruction** (Olczak et al., 2006):

- $\sim 5\%$ discs destroyed in entire cluster ($R = 2.5$ pc)
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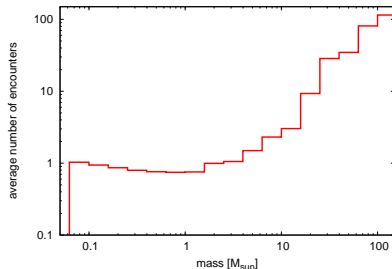
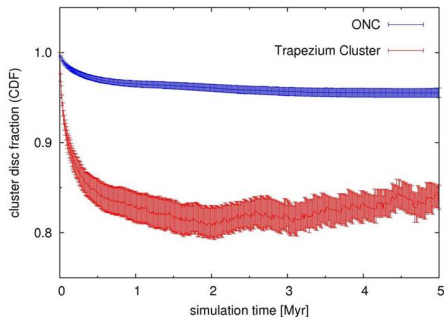
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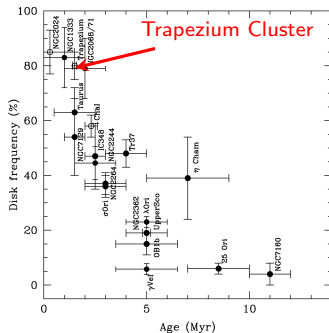
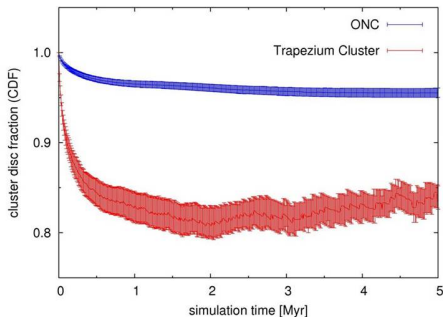


Figure: Hernández et al. (2007)

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Conclusion

Gravitational interactions in star clusters

- 1 cause very rapid disc destruction,
- 2 lower disc frequency close to massive stars (independent of photoevaporation!),
- 3 make planet formation around massive stars improbable.

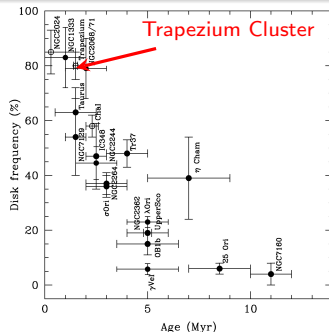
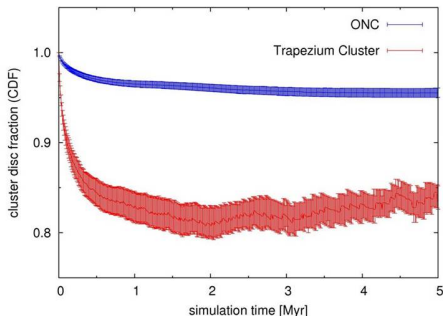


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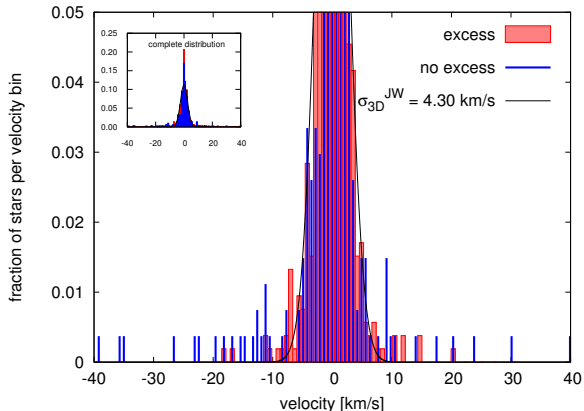
Observational imprints of encounter-induced disc destruction

How to identify stars that have been ejected in a three-body encounter?

→ High-velocity signature in cluster velocity distribution.

What influence do encounters have on the discs of ejected stars?

→ Combine disc signatures and cluster velocity distribution.



- Proper motions:
Jones & Walker (1988)
- Disc signature (IR-excess):
Hillenbrand et al. (1998)

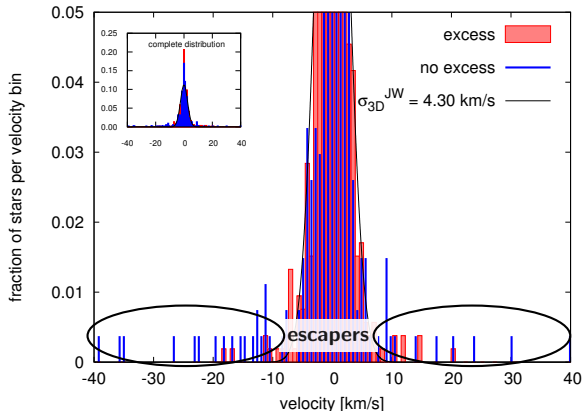
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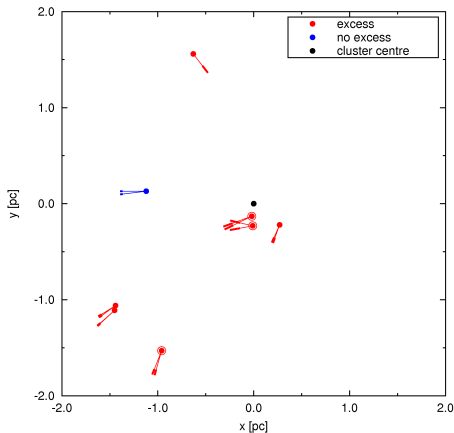
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→ Two features:

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observations



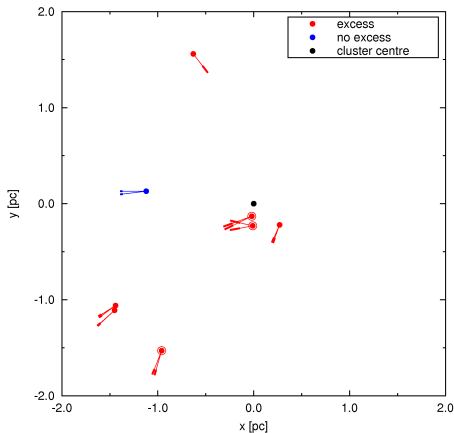
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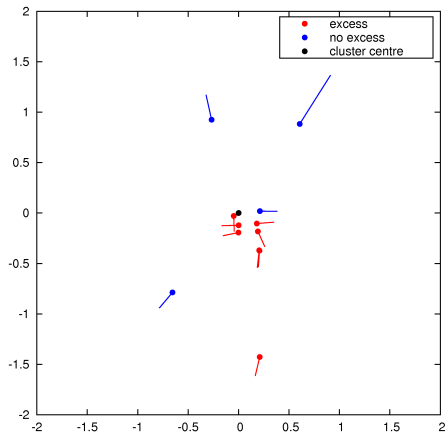
→ Two features:

- 1 Star-disc systems do not seem to have been expelled from the cluster centre.
- 2 Disc-less stars are moving on radial tracks from the cluster centre.

observations



simulations

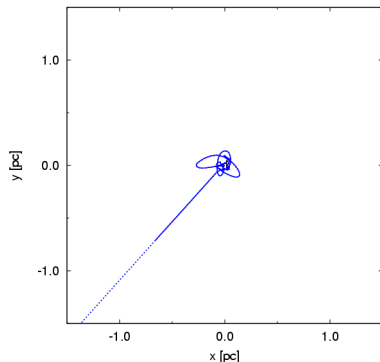
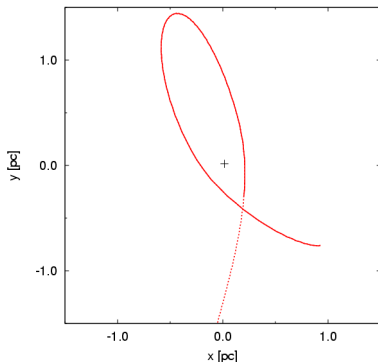


Observational imprints of encounter-induced disc destruction

What is the dynamical history of the escapers?

→ Two scenarios:

- ① **Star-disc:** formation in **outer cluster** → escape on **wide non-closed orbit**
- ② **Disc-less:** formation in **cluster core** → escape on **radial trajectory**

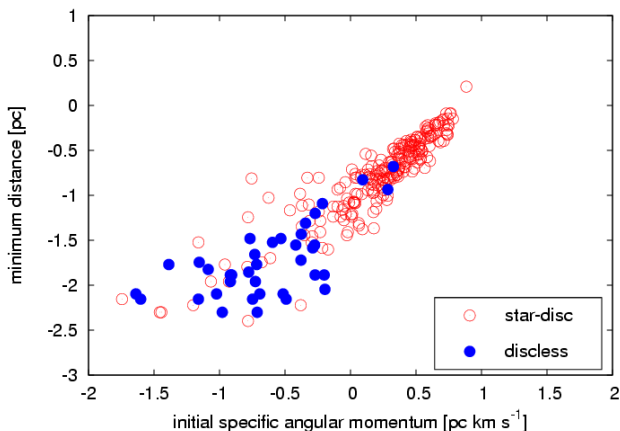


Observational imprints of encounter-induced disc destruction

Conclusion

Two fundamental classes of ONC escapers in terms of dynamics and stellar properties:

- 1 formation in outer cluster \leftrightarrow star-disc system \leftrightarrow wide non-closed orbit
- 2 formation in cluster core \leftrightarrow disc-less \leftrightarrow radial trajectory

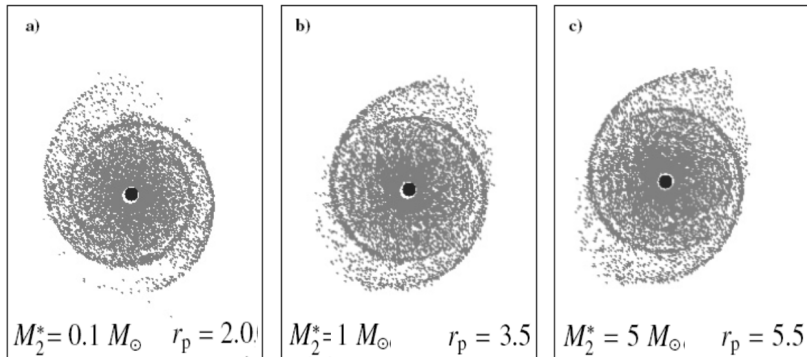


Encounter-induced angular momentum loss in the ONC

Investigation of the angular momentum loss (AML) in the ONC over time ($t \approx 1$ Myr).

→ **Stellar encounters lead to 3-5 % average AML in the ONC** (Pfalzner & Olczak, 2007a).

⇒ Pronounced spiral arm structure triggered by encounters in most of the cluster stars.



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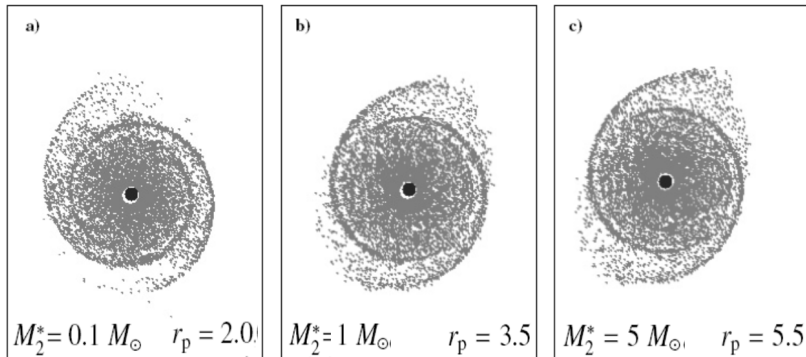
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→ **Planet formation via gravitational instabilities might be common.**

(see Rice et al., 2004, 2006; Clarke & Lodato, 2009)



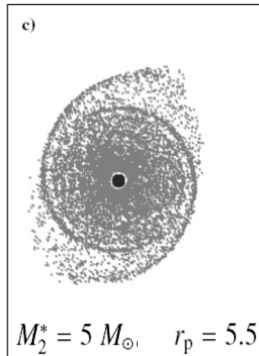
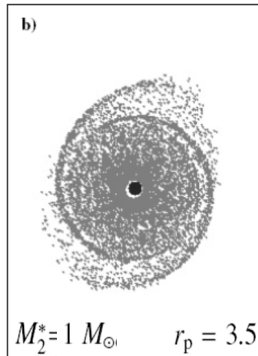
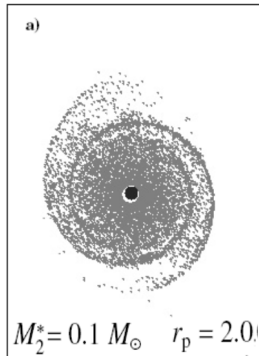
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Gravitational interactions in star clusters

- 1 cause significant perturbations of most protoplanetary discs,
- 2 potentially trigger “synchronous” (giant?) planet formation.

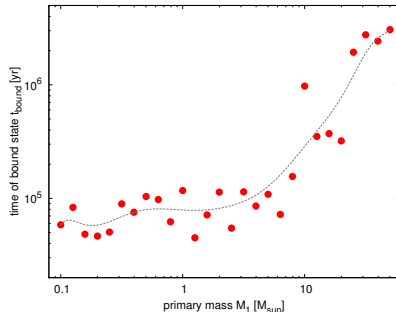
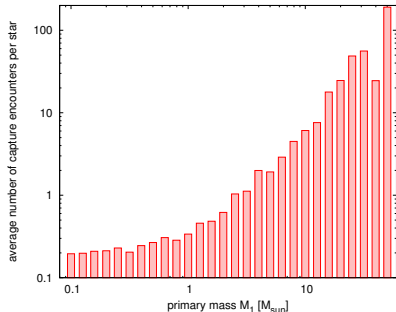


Capture-induced binarity in the ONC

Investigation of three-body encounters in pure single star models (Pfalzner & Olczak, 2007b).

Temporary capture events lead to the formation of **Transient Bound Systems (TBS)**.

→ **Massive stars are affected the most** (see also Moeckel & Bally, 2007a,b).



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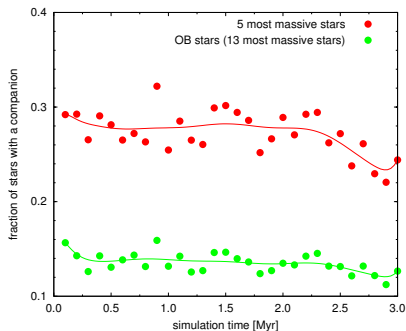
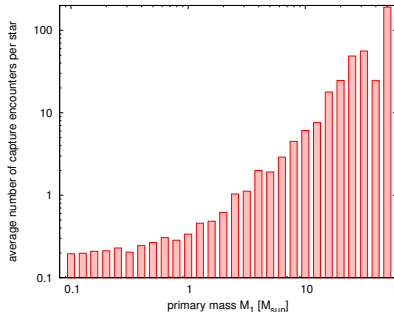
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→ **Formation of TBS highly affects the (apparent/observed) binary rate.**

- 15% of the 13 OB stars
- 30% of the five most massive stars

are in a bound state on average



A new efficient measure of mass segregation

Problem

- Do young star clusters really show evidence for mass segregation?
- Is the observed mass segregation in young clusters due to initial conditions (i.e. *primordial*)?
- Does the observed degree of (*dynamical*) mass segregation in old clusters agree with theory?

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Goal

Efficient measure of mass segregation for observational and numerical data.

- Geometrically independent.
- Independence of quantitative mass measurement.
- Numerical robustness.
- Simple, intuitive measure.

A new efficient measure of mass segregation

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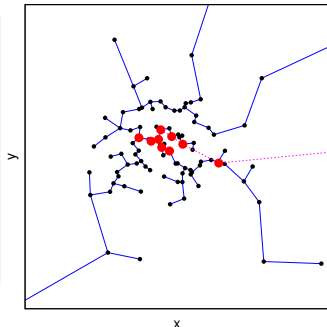
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⇒ **Minimum Spanning Tree (MST)**



Definition

MST \equiv shortest connecting graph $G = (V, E)$ of all vertices $v_i \in V$ without closed loops, where $V := \{v_1, \dots, v_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$, $E := \{\{v_i, v_j\} \mid v_i, v_j \in V\}$.

Measuring mass segregation via the MST

Construction

- 1 Construct sub-MST, i.e. shortest connecting subgraph $G' = (V', E')$ of $n < N$ stars, where $V' := \{v'_1, \dots, v'_n\} \subset V$, $E' := \{\{v'_i, v'_j\} \mid v'_i, v'_j \in V'\}$.
- 2 Assign to each edge $e = \{v'_i, v'_j\} \in E'$ the weight $w_e \equiv w_{ij} \equiv \|v'_i - v'_j\|$.

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Quantifying mass segregation

Allison et al. (2009)

- 1 Define a measure L of the sub-MST:
- 2 Calculate L of the n most massive stars:
- 3 Calculate \bar{L} , ΔL of k sets of n random stars:
- 4 Normalize L (**signature** if $L > 1$):
- 5 Normalize ΔL (**significance** $\kappa = \frac{L-1}{\Delta L}$):

$$\lambda = \sum_{e \in E'} w_e$$

$$I_{\text{MST}}^{\text{mass}}$$

$$I_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}, \Delta I_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{MST}} = \frac{I_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}}{I_{\text{MST}}^{\text{mass}}}$$

$$\Delta \Lambda_{\text{MST}} = \frac{\Delta I_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}}{I_{\text{MST}}^{\text{mass}}}$$

Measuring mass segregation via the MST

Construction

- 1 Construct sub-MST, i.e. shortest connecting subgraph $G' = (V', E')$ of $n < N$ stars, where $V' := \{v'_1, \dots, v'_n\} \subset V$, $E' := \{\{v'_i, v'_j\} \mid v'_i, v'_j \in V'\}$.
- 2 Assign to each edge $e = \{v'_i, v'_j\} \in E'$ the weight $w_e \equiv w_{ij} \equiv \|v'_i - v'_j\|$.

Quantifying mass segregation

- 1 Define a measure L of the sub-MST:
- 2 Calculate L of the n most massive stars:
- 3 Calculate \bar{L} , ΔL of k sets of n random stars:
- 4 Normalize L (**signature** if $L > 1$):
- 5 Normalize ΔL (**significance** $\kappa = \frac{L-1}{\Delta L}$):

Allison et al. (2009)

$$\lambda = \sum_{e \in E'} w_e$$

$$l_{\text{MST}}^{\text{mass}}$$

$$l_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}, \Delta l_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}$$

$$\Lambda_{\text{MST}} = \frac{l_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}}{l_{\text{MST}}^{\text{mass}}}$$

$$\Delta \Lambda_{\text{MST}} = \frac{\Delta l_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}}{l_{\text{MST}}^{\text{mass}}}$$

Olczak et al. (2011)

$$\gamma = \sqrt[n]{\prod_{e \in E'} w_e}$$

$$\gamma_{\text{MST}}^{\text{mass}}$$

$$\gamma_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}, \Delta \gamma_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{MST}} = \frac{\gamma_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}}{\gamma_{\text{MST}}^{\text{mass}}}$$

$$\Delta \Gamma_{\text{MST}} = \frac{\Delta \gamma_{\text{MST}}^{\text{ref}}}{\gamma_{\text{MST}}^{\text{mass}}}$$

Use the *geometric mean* Γ_{MST} of the edges rather than their sum Λ_{MST} .

⇒ Acts as an intermediate pass that damps contributions from extreme edge lengths.

Mass-segregation in the ONC

Application of Γ_{MST} :

- **Observational data** of the ONC obtained by Hillenbrand (1997).
Analysis via cumulative and differential mass groups:
→ **Very strong segregation of the five most massive stars.**

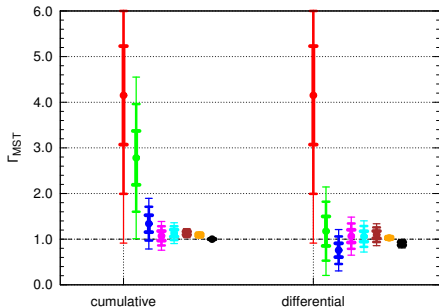


Figure: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, 700 most massive stars.

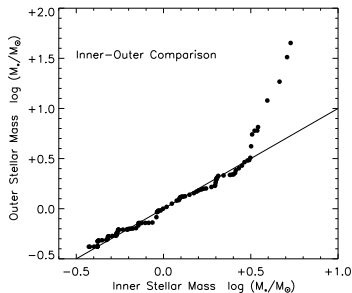


Figure: Huff & Stahler (2006), Fig. 4

Mass-segregation in the ONC

Application of Γ_{MST} :

- **Observational data** of the ONC obtained by Hillenbrand (1997).
Analysis via cumulative and differential mass groups:
→ **Very strong segregation of the five most massive stars.**
- **Numerical simulations** of dynamical models of the ONC.
→ **Subvirial initial conditions drive very rapid segregation of the most massive stars.**

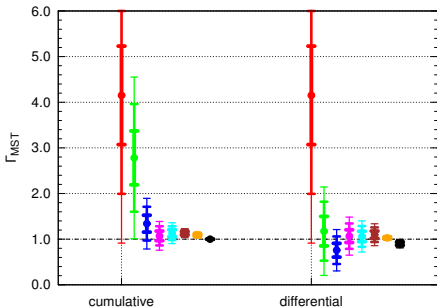


Figure: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, 700 most massive stars.

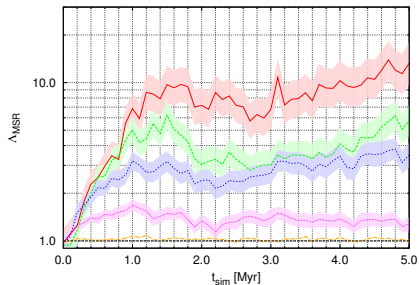


Figure: 5, 10, 20, 50, 500 most massive stars.

Summary

Stellar interactions in the ONC

Stellar encounters affect the formation and evolution of stars and planets in a huge variety:

- Massive stars act as gravitational foci of **very rapid** encounter-induced disc destruction.
→ Escapers provide observational signatures.
- Most star-disc systems are (weakly) perturbed: triggering of planet formation?
- Very efficient dynamical formation of **massive transient binary systems** (TBS).

Mass segregation in the ONC

Mass segregation in young star clusters is a key observable of the star formation process:

- New measure of mass segregation: Γ_{MST} = Minimum Spanning Tree + geometrical mean.
→ Γ_{MST} **highly advantageous over previous methods**.
- The ONC shows significant segregation of the five most massive members.
- Very rapid mass segregation induced by subvirial initial conditions.

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