Probing the dark halo of the Milky Way with GeMS/GSAOI



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Open questions in near field cosmology

- Mass of the Milky Way uncertain, e.g. compare
 - 1.6±0.4*10¹² M_{sol} (Boylan-Kolchin et al. 2013)
 - 0.56±0.12*10¹² M_{sol} (Gibbons et al. 2014)
- Too big to fail:
 - There are too few dwarf galaxies with central dispersion of 30~<v~<60 km/s. (Zavala et al 2009, Boylan-Kolchin et al. 2012)
 - Are such dwarf galaxies missing?
 - Or have the dwarf less dense cores?
 - Less massive Milky Way could be (part of) the solution (Wang et al 2012)
- Shape of the halo uncertain:
 - Oblate but edge on the disk? (Law & Majewski 2010)
- We address these points with proper motions in the halo of the Milky Way.

The Targets



- 15 targets
- 6 M-giants in the Sagittarius stream
- 5 globulars
 - 3 possible members of Sagittarius system: Arp 2, Terzan 7, Terzan 8
 - 2 others in outer halo: NGC5824, Pyxis
- 4 dwarf galaxies:
 - Sagittarius, Hercules, Sextant, Carina



M-giant density map from Koposov et al. 2015

Strategy

- Two epochs of astrometric data with a two year base line for proper motions
 -with wide field adaptive optics (GeMS/GSAOI) usually 1h in K'/H
- Reference frame: Background galaxies

 -using many galaxies reduces the impact of systematic errors
- Colors with H/K'-band GSAOI, GMOS i-band for -object separation (object stars, foreground stars, galaxies) -differential chromatic refraction correction
- Usually 2 fields per target for
 -systematic error control
 -error reduction

Some Galaxies and Stars in the images



High image quality: FWHM of 79 mas



δx ["]

Pyxis field 1 K'-band

Object classes can be well separated with colors



Carina field 1 (Preliminary)

Position uncertainties of stars



- For single 120 sec images of Pyxis field 1
 - Dithered images to cover chip gap (up to 5"), with pointings of slight dithers (0.8")
- For distortion correction: Quadratic transformation, shown different variability trials.
- Position uncertainty of 0.2 to 0.4 mas on single image
- Error always <0.4 mas on 3600 sec -> Precise transformation scheme not very important (Preliminary)

Position uncertainty of galaxies



- For full (3600 sec) image of Pyxis field 1
- Position fit: single Sersic with Galfit
- Results in total registration error of ~0.3 mas. That includes a distortion systematics of 0.5 mas per object. (Neichel et al 2014)
- \rightarrow total proper motion error of ~0.15 mas/yr per target

(Preliminary)

Pyxis Field 1: HST + Gemini



Palomar 5: globular cluster + stream



10' Faint (M_V=-5.2), low mass (σ <1 km/s, Odenkirchen et al. 2002)



Proper motion of Palomar 5 cluster



15 years baseline with SDSS and LBT/LBC First CCD measurement





Constraining the Milky Way



- We investigate V₀, distance of Palomar 5 and its proper motion using Galpy (Bovy 15).
 - Standard model: V₀=220 km/s, d=22.05 kpc, -2.25/-2.21 mas/yr
- We change one parameter in each other model.
- Standard model does not match the data.

->But V_0 =220 km/s + some other parameter changed (probably distance to ~24kpc) matches roughly

• Our proper motion matches with the proper motion predictions of Pearson et al 2015 for a **spherical halo**, that strengthens their case for such an inner halo.

Conclusions

- The large and long Program (143 h, 3 years; 2014 to 2017)
 "Probing the dark halo of the Milky Way with GeMS/GSAOI" has already observed 16 fields with usually good image quality. But 9 fields not yet, due to too few Laser blocks, bad weather has impact.
- Morphology & colors work well to separate between the different object classes.
- There are enough background galaxies to obtain an accuracy of ~0.15 mas/yr over two years.
- The proper motion of Palomar 5 matches roughly a spherical Milky Way halo with V₀~220 km/s with d_{Pal5}~24 kpc

Reduced images are available at http://www.astro.virginia.edu/~tkf4w/Gemini_Data/