### On the metallicity distribution across the Galactic thin disk using Cepheids

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OUTLINE OF THE TALK
→ Setting the scene
→ Metallicity gradients
→ Age dependence
→ [La/Eu] & [hs/ls] element ratios
→ Future developments
→ Conclusions

## **Cepheid Pulsation & Evolutionary Properties**



Cepheid Instability Strip

Intermediate-mass stars central Heburning phase





# The largest NIR data set ever collected for MC Cepheids

Inno et al. (2013, NIR light curve template by Soszynski et al. 2005 + single epoch measurements – IRSF survey Matsunaga, Kato et al. 2007)

Absolute calibration Based on HST Galactic Cepheids (9, Benedict + + new ones Riess et al.)



# WHY CEPHEIDS as stellar tracers? PROS

- 1) They are bright & can be easily recognized
- 2) Robust primary distance indicators (individual)
- 3) Robust stellar tracers of young SPs
- 4) Overcome reddening uncertainties (PW relations)
- 5) We know the physics of their engines

# CONS

- 1) Identification  $\rightarrow$  time series data
- 2) Multiband observations
- 3) Pulsation amplitude decreases from optical to NIR
- 4) Limited range in age 10-300 Myr



Mosaic House of the faun (Pompei)

Homogenous individual iron & α-element & n-capture abundances + NIR distances

# DIONYSOS

### DIsk Optical Near-infrared Young Stellar Objects Spectroscopy



### **UVES@VLT spectra for ~115 Cepheids**

R~38,000 Red & blue arm Δλ=3750—9500A t~80—2000 s S/N > 100-200

From several tens to hundreds of weak FeI lines (EW<120mA)

From several to tens of FeII lines

Multiple spectra for Calibrating Cepheids (~12)



Genovali et al. (2013;2014)



# **WHY?**

# Four good reasons!

- 1) Inner disk & transition with NB+Bar
- 2) Age dependence
- 3) Disk fine structure
- 4) Chemical enrichment history  $\rightarrow$  Theory

# [1] The inner disk



Nuclear Bulge—Galactic Bulge—Inner disk Reid+ (2009)

The presence of a bar-like structure is crucial to explain the high SFR of the NB (Yusef+ 2009; Davies+ 2009, Matsunaga+ 2011)

It is the bar-like structure to drag the gas & the molecular clouds from the inner disk into the Nuclear Bulge (Athanassoula+ 1992; Kim+ 2011, Freeman+ 2012; Ness+2013a,b)

### Difference between inner disk & NB+Bar



# [2] Cepheids and age effects HII regions & OB associations



Inversion in the chemical gradient in the innermost regions No relevant change for young tracers



# [3] Evidence for a bi-modal chemical evolution model (Lepine+ 2011,2013)



The jump in the metallicity gradient associated with the corotation resonance of the spiral pattern (Rg~9.5 kpc)

See also Scarano+ (2013) for extragalactic evidence

# The fine structure of the rotation curve



Evidence for a secondary dip located at Rg~9.5 kpc associated to the Perseus arm



A new and independent approach to open the path!

### The fine structure of the metallicity gradient



# [4] Chemical evolution models

Minchev et al. (2013) Chemo-dynamical models)

Steady increase in the inner disk & in the NB+Bar ([Fe/H]~0.8-1.0!)

Beyond the corotation resonance of the bar and the OLR

Shallower gradients for ages Older than 4 Gyrs

Cescutti et al. (2006,2007) Predicted gradients for heavy elements



### α-element abundance gradients

Light & a-elements



#### α-element gradients: a new spin (Genovali + 2015)



Almost the entire sample of Cepheids (~440) for which we have iron abundances

α-elements (Mg, Si,Ca) + Na,Al show abundance gradients similar to Fe

> Si & Ca explosive Mg hydrostatic McWilliam+ (2013)

### [α/Fe]: comparison with the literature



Najarro + 2009  $\rightarrow$  LBVs

Davies + 2009a,b  $\rightarrow$  RSGs

Mikolaitis + 2014 Gaia/ESO good agreement with this disk but Si

Solar ratios across the entire disk + the Bar + the Centre!!

#### α-element gradients: a new spin (Genovali + 2015)



very very flat distribution over the entire Galactocentric

#### The slopes are minimal (Na, Al, Si) but Mg & Ca

Mg probably dominated by intrinsic scatter

Ca appears real .... But what about the age dependence!!

#### [element/Fe]: age dependence (Genovali + 2015)



very very flat distribution over the entire Period/Age range!!

#### The slopes are minimal (Na, Al, Si, Mg) but Ca

Ca appears real ....

Note that Cepheids in the outer disk have periods ranging from 2 to 20 days!

#### Comparison with the literature

Soubiran & Girad (2005) 743 thin & thick disk dwarves

Mikolaitis + (2014) Gaia-ESO

Good agreement but Na due to evolutionary & NLTE effects





Field stars display well defined correlation between Mg & Al

The offset in Na—O is due to NLTE effects in Na giants vs dwarves [O corrected]

Carretta + McWilliam + (Sagittarius)



[Mg/Ca] abundance ratio of hydrostatic & explosive elements

+ field dwarves by Bensy + (2005) and Mikolaitis + (2015)

Flat distribution in the metal-poor regime increase for supersolar Iron abundances

# n-capture element gradients

# Ba $\rightarrow$ no evidence of gradient



NLTE analysis of Ba abundances for a sub-sample of 210 Galactic Cepheids with Galactocentric distances from 5 to 18 kpc found a vanishing gradient d[Ba/H]/dR  $\approx$  -0.01 dex kpc<sup>-1</sup> ~thre times smaller than other n-capture elements

Ba is mainly produced in low-mass AGB stars [1.5Mo 10X > 3Mo]

→Only those elements that are produced by more massive AGB stars and/or SNe should show a negative gradient.

## n-capture elements



n-capture elements

Slopes shallower than Fe & α-elements .... But Yittrium

No Clear difference Between s- & r elements



n-capture elements comparison with the literature

Good agreement with field dwarves & giants in the thick & thin disk .....

But the Galactic center

No evidence for an age effect



#### n-capture element/Fe ratios

Negative slopes mainly caused by [Fe/H] gradient  $\rightarrow$  Y flat



### n-capture elements: age dependence

Positive slopes with age ... younger Cepheids more polluted by AGB



# [s/r] [La/Eu] adundance ratio



Thin disk Galactic dwarves & giants by Simmerer + (2004)

+ Sagittarius dSph RGs collected by McWilliam + (2013)

# [hs/ls] [La/Y] adundance ratio



M-P AGB stars favor production of hs elements such as La M-R AGB stars favor production of Is elements such as Y

current data display a well defined anticorrelation with Fe more complex La enrichment in Sagittarius



+ neutrons, poisons, seeds

A very good agreement between the current data & simple yields from AGB

NO SHIFT!!!!

More detailed chemical evolution models are required

Very promising to constrain chemical enrichment in nearby dwarf gal.







#### Mishenina + (2015)

Ba enrichment when compared with other n-capture elements in OCs cannot be explained as a s-/r-process element.

It can explained assuming an additional contribution from intermediate-neutron capture process.

# CONCLUSIONS

 $\rightarrow$  Cepheids are solid young stellar tracers

→n-capture elements provide a new spin to constrain the recent chemical enrichment of the Galactic thin disk strong link with AGB

→There is evidence of a similarity between hs & ls in the MW disk & in Sagittarius dSph

→Very good agreement between predicted (AGB yields) & observed [hs/ls] abundance ratios

# Future developments

- → Galaxy: Outer disk - KISOGP survery Inner disk + NB → IRFS survey Open Clusters!!!
- → Magellanic Clouds: field & cluster Cepheids
- → Transition from HR optical to HR NIR spectra GIANO, WINERED, CRIRES
- $\rightarrow$  Kinematics & chemo-dynamical models

**First Generation E-ELT Instruments** 

First Light E-ELT -- CAM (MICADO): R. Davies E-ELT -- IFS (HARMONI): N. Thatte E-ELT -- MIR: L, M, N: B. Brandl

MAORY (AO module) E. Diolaiti

4) E-ELT – HIRES (Optical – NIR)
5) E-ELT – MOS: Fibers + IFUs (optical, NIR)

6) E-ELT – Not defined yet

# GLOBAL GROWTH

Evolutionary, Pulsation, Atmosphere models  $\rightarrow$  1D vs 3D

Opacity, EOS, line identifications, molecules (NIR)

**Multiband Asymmetric PSF** 

Integral field spectroscopy

# Credits

To young, differently young & senior colleagues with whom I have the pleasure to share this wonderful adventure

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# THANKS!