



From DENIS to VMC

a near-infrared perspective of the Magellanic Clouds

A historic view

- “Some of the most interesting objects of research can be reached only from the southern hemisphere: the central parts of the galaxy and the nearest extragalactic systems” (A. Blaauw 1991).
 - Two micron sky survey (TMSS) limited to sources with $K=3$ (Neugebauer & Leighton 1969).
 - 1970s: ESO plan for a “Chili-map” (details?)
 - 1989: DENIS (PI Epchtein) and 2MASS (PI Kleinmann) to survey the sky in the near-IR on a joint effort in the northern and southern hemispheres respectively to $K\sim 14$.
 - 1991: DENIS and 2MASS took separate routes and would differ in: observing strategy, spatial resolution, filters and sensitivity.
 - 1997: I joined the DENIS team to work on the Magellanic Clouds.
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DENIS: Deep Near-Infrared Survey of the southern sky (PI N. Epchtein)

ESO 1mT
La Silla



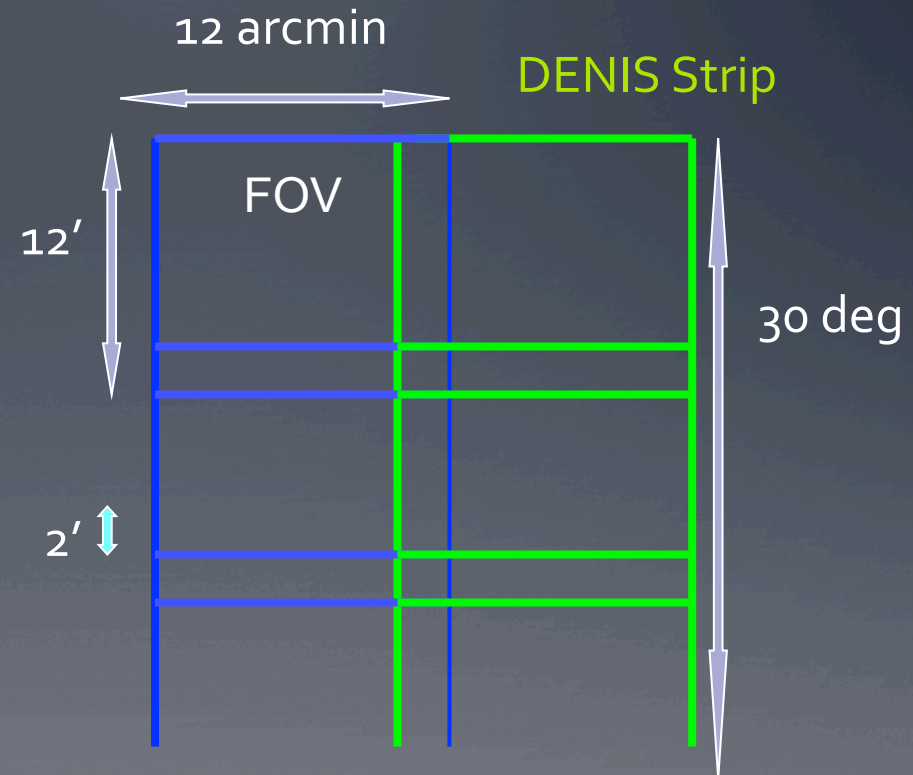
Filters: I, J, Ks (simultaneously)

Camera: NICMOS₃ 256x256 arrays for J and Ks and Tektronix 1024x1024 CCD for I

Sampling: 1 arcsec

Sensitivity: I=18, J=16 and Ks=14 at 3σ (Vega)

Time: 1995 – 2001



Consortium of several EU institutes.
Data centers: IAP and Leiden.

DCMC: DENIS Catalogue towards the Magellanic Clouds (Cioni et al. 2000)

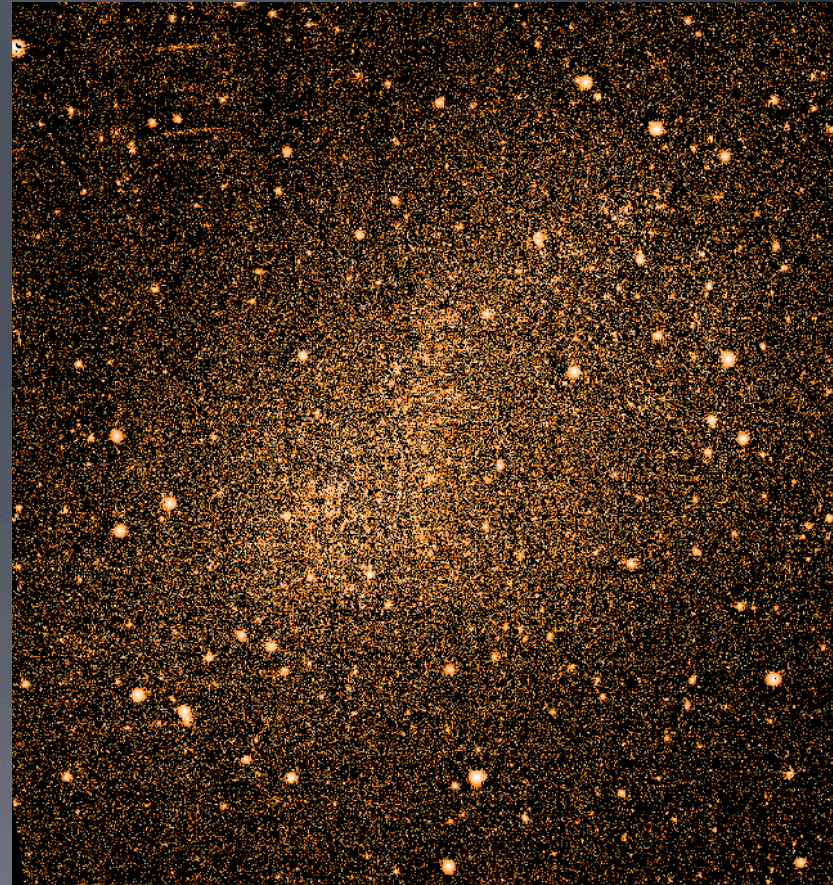
Coverage: $20 \times 20 \text{ deg}^2$ (LMC)
and $15 \times 10 \text{ deg}^2$ (SMC)

Sources: 1.4 million (LMC) and
0.3 millions (SMC)

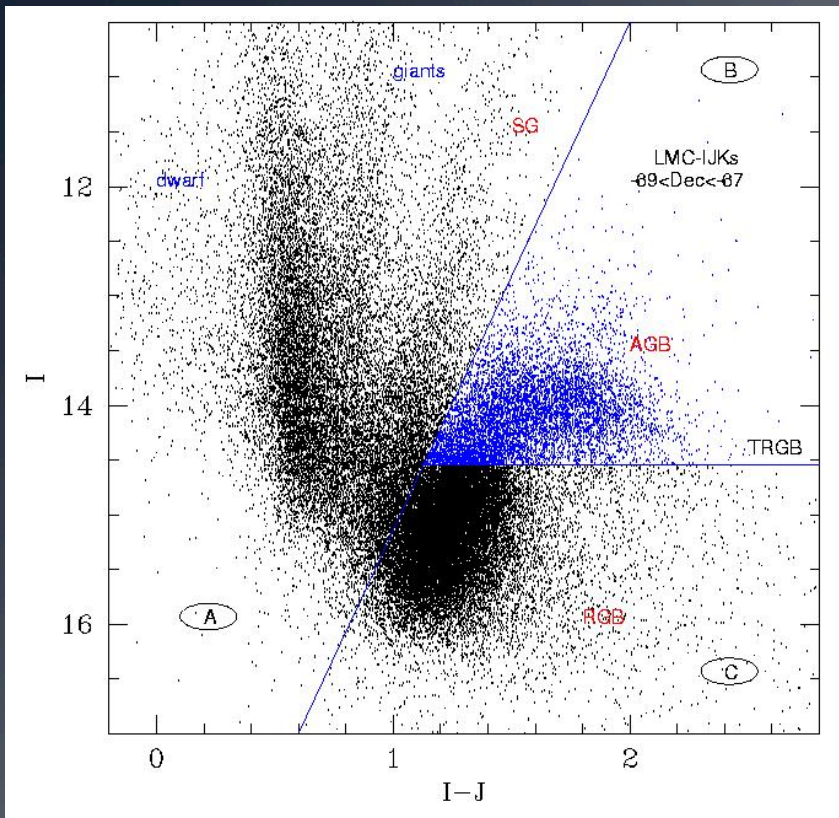
Astrometry: 0.001 – 1.32 arcsec

Photometry: 0.01-0.2 mag

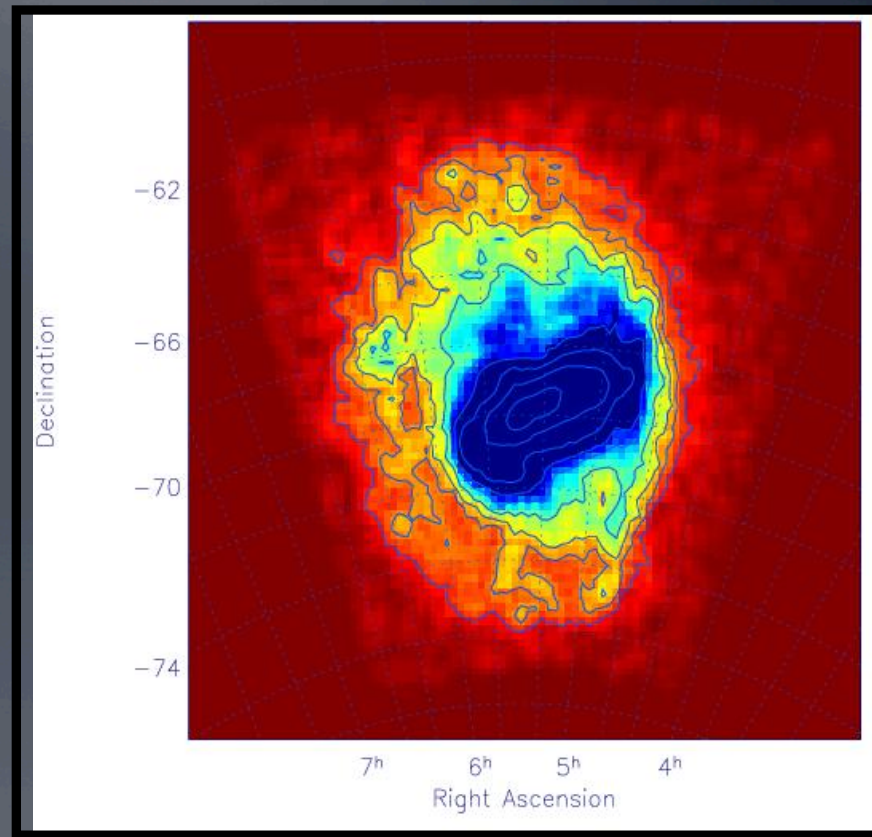
Objects: 70% of them belong
to the Magellanic Clouds and
most of them are red and
asymptotic giant branch stars



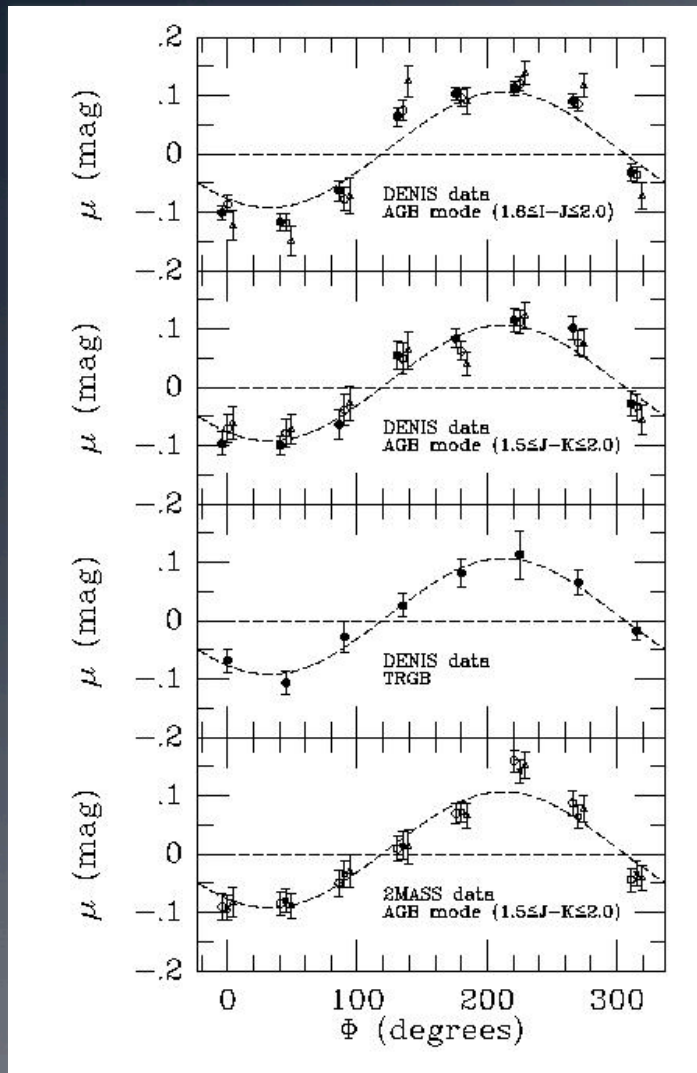
DENIS I-band image of the SMC



LMC morphology from the distribution of AGB stars (Cioni, Habing & Israel 2000)



AGB stars are smoothly distributed. AGB stars trace a disc, a thick bar with a clear nucleus as well as possible spiral arms.



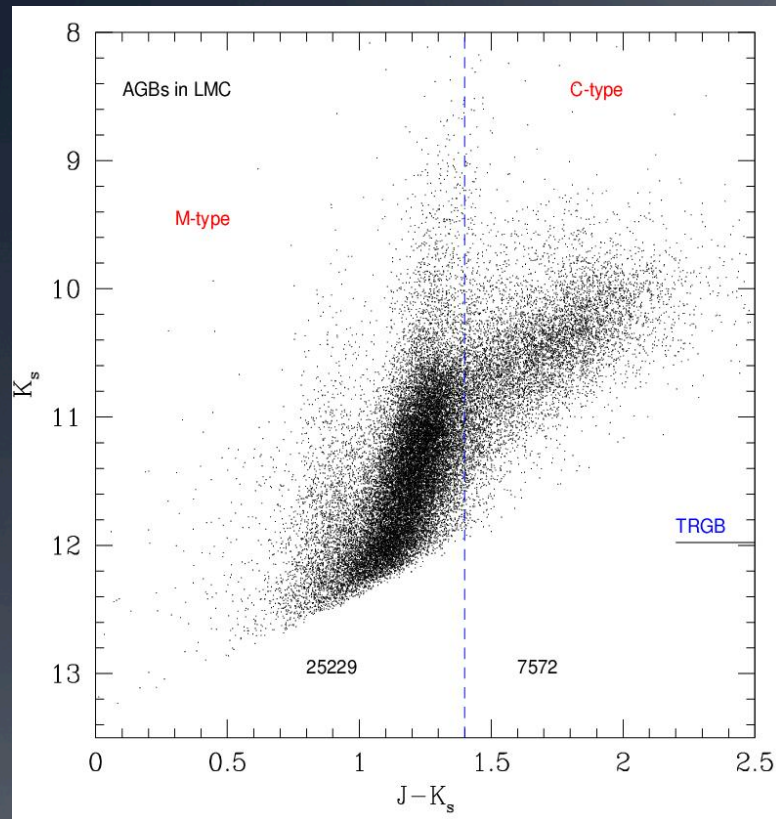
Geometry of LMC disc (van der Marel & Cioni 2001)

Inclination = 30-40 deg

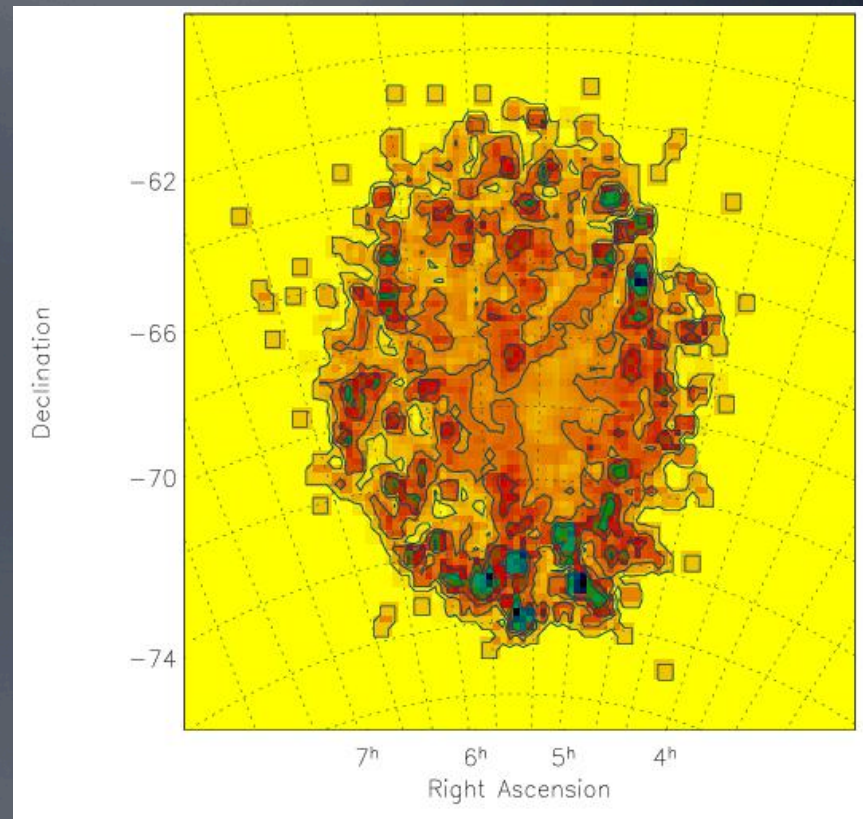
Line of nodes position angle =
120-150 deg

The LMC disc is elliptical with
ellipticity $\varepsilon=0.2-0.3$.

Variations of the parameters
depend on: type of tracer, warps
and twists of the disc, spatial
sampling and systematic errors.



The C/M ratio across the LMC
(Cioni & Habing 2003;
Cioni 2009; Feast et al. 2010)



The C/M ratio shows a positive
gradient in the LMC and no bar. This
corresponds to $\Delta[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]=0.3$ dex.

Other imaging observations of the Magellanic Clouds

Near-IR: 2MASS (1997-2001), IRSF (2001-2006)

- provided population boxes in (J-Ks) vs. Ks, morphology

Optical: MCPS (1995-2001), HST (2005), NOAO outer limits (on-going)

- provided SFH, morphology, proper motion, disk extent

Microlensing: MACHO (1992-1999), EROS (1990-2003) ,
OGLE (1992-)

- provided frequently sampled light-curves
- provided, in combination with DENIS and 2MASS, multiple period luminosity relations for evolved stars

Mid-IR: mini-ISO (1995-1998), MSX (1996-1997), Spitzer (2005)

- provided data for obscured giant stars
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VISTA survey of the Magellanic Clouds system (PI M. Cioni)

VISTA 4mT
Paranal



Filters: Y, J, Ks

Camera: 16 Raytheon detectors over
a FOV=1.65 deg²

Sampling: 0.34 arcsec/pix

Area: 218 deg²

Sensitivity: Y=21.9, J=22 and Ks=21.5
at 5 σ (Vega) – Saturation: Ks=10

Epochs: 3 (Y) and 12 (Ks)

Time: 2009 – (~25% complete)

SMC clusters

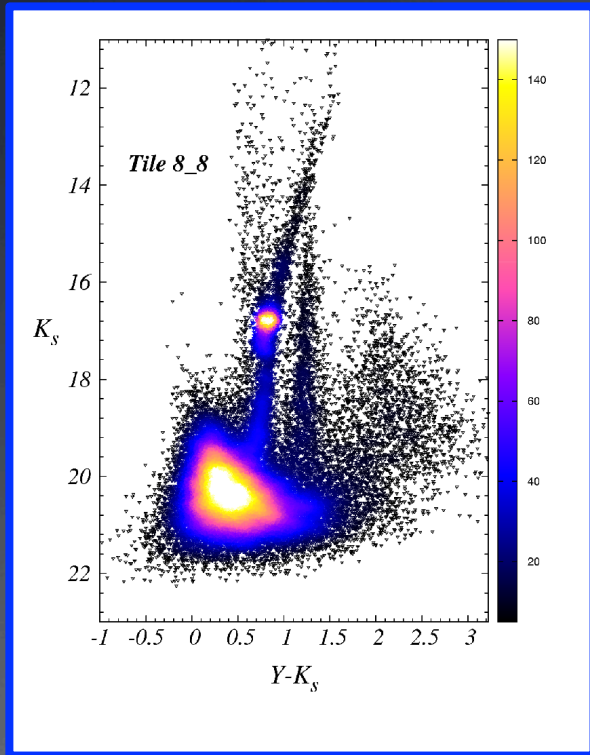


Team of several Institutes worldwide.
Data centers: Cambridge and Edinburgh.

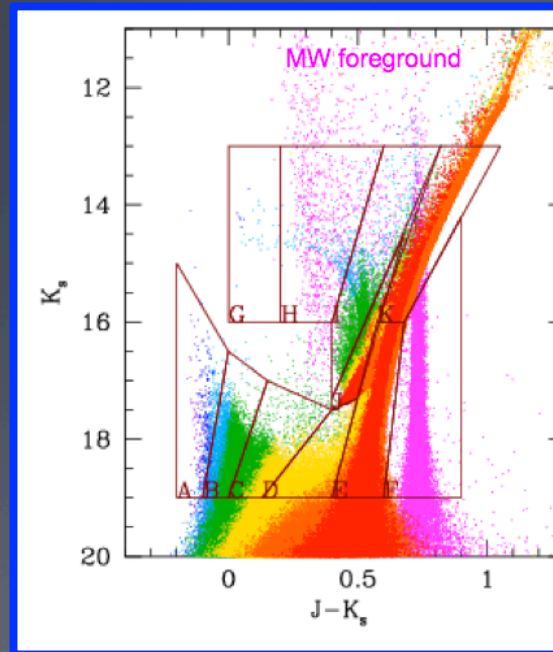


Star formation history

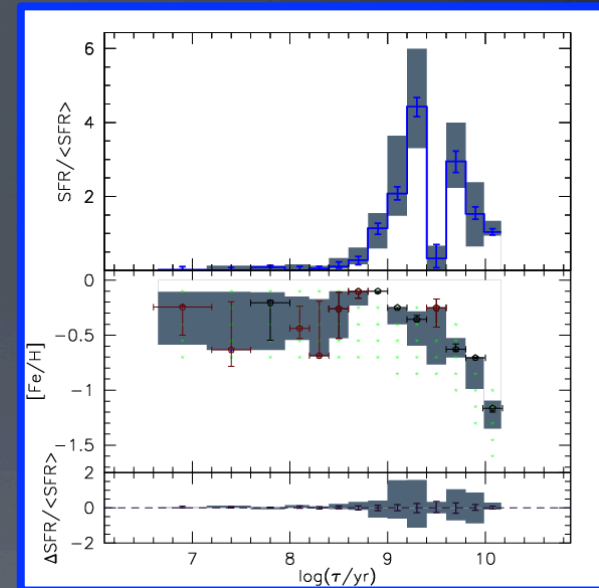
Rubele et al. 2012 (VMC Paper IV)



CMD of tile LMC 8_8 (1.65 deg²).



Stellar population models.

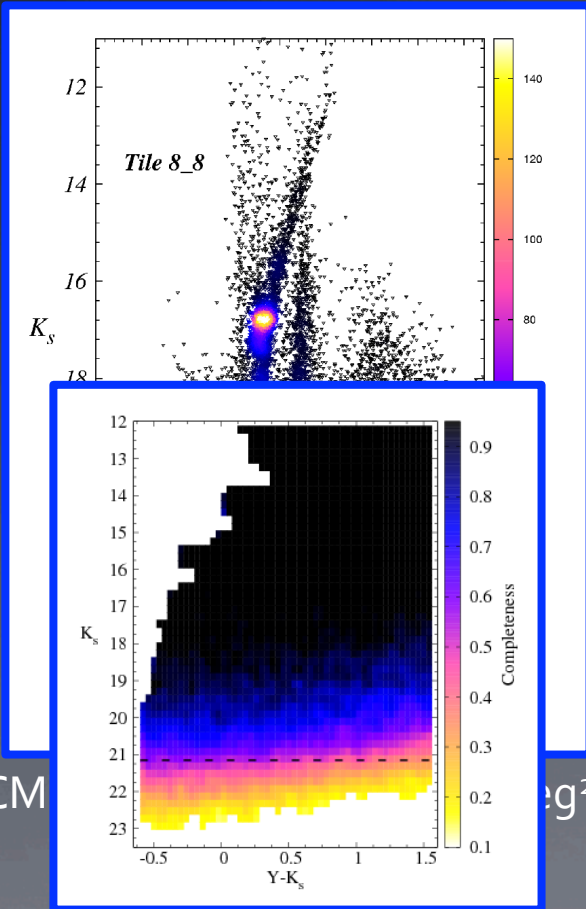


Derived SFR(t) and [Fe/H](t) for sub-regions of 0.12 deg².

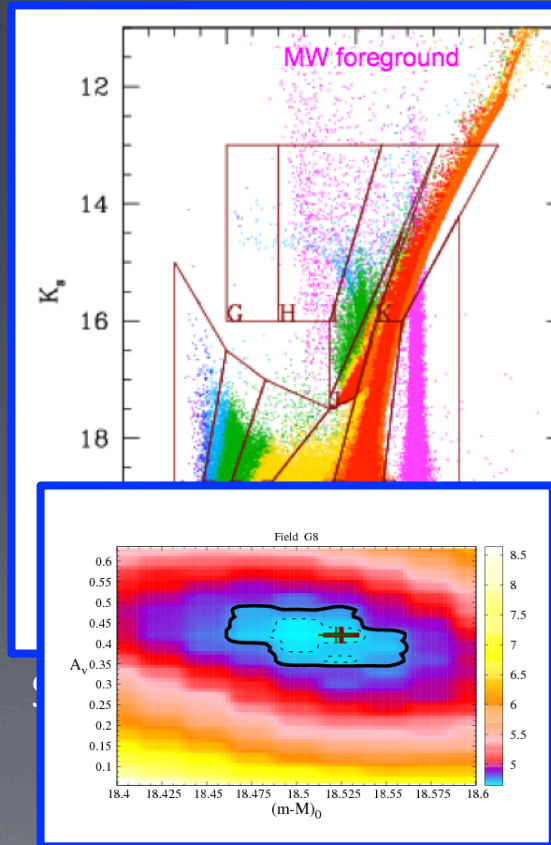


Star formation history

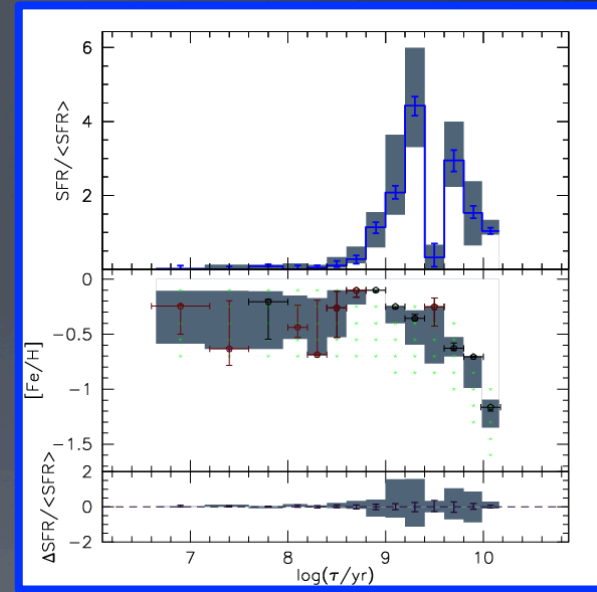
Rubele et al. 2012 (VMC Paper IV)



Completeness via ASTs.



X^2 resulting from STARFISH code



Derived SFR(t) and [Fe/H](t) for sub-regions of 0.12 deg^2 .

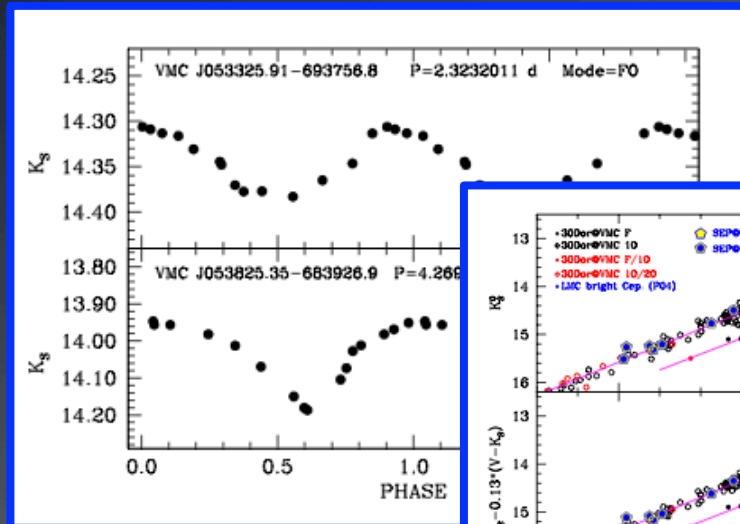
Results:

- 1) Near-Infrared SFH works!
- 2) Disk geometry with 4 tiles
- 3) Further reduction of systematic errors.

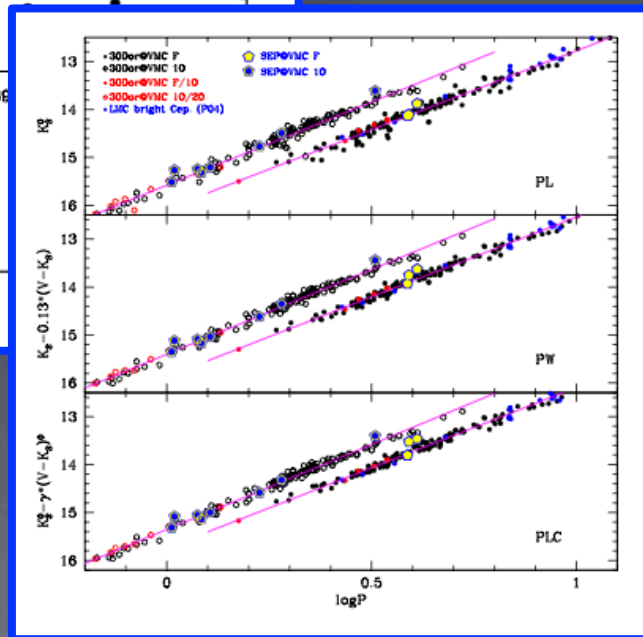


Variable stars - Cepheids

Ripepi et al. 2012 (VMC Paper V)



Cepheid light-curve where $\sigma \approx 0.01$ mag.



Period-luminosity, period-wasenhheit, period-luminosity-colour relations where period is from OGLE or EROS-2.

Points include both 30 Dor area and SEP area in LMC.

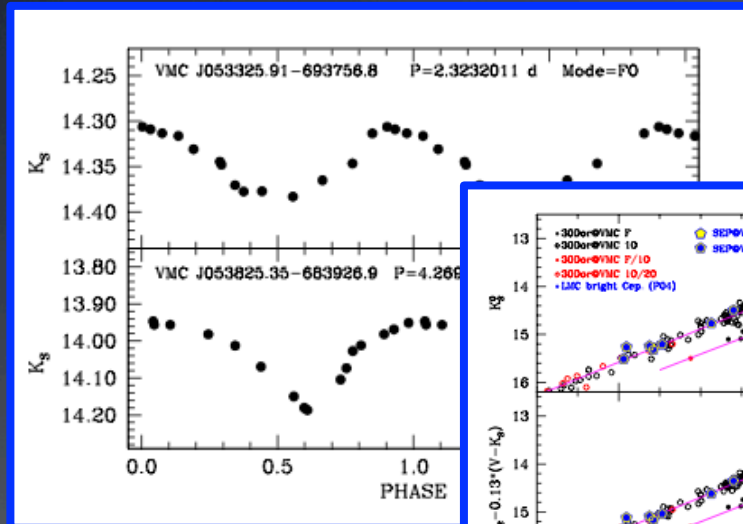
Short period Cepheids are included for the first time! The $(V-K_s)$ colour is used for the first time!

rms ~ 0.07 mag.
 $(m-M)_0 = 18.46 \pm 0.03$ mag

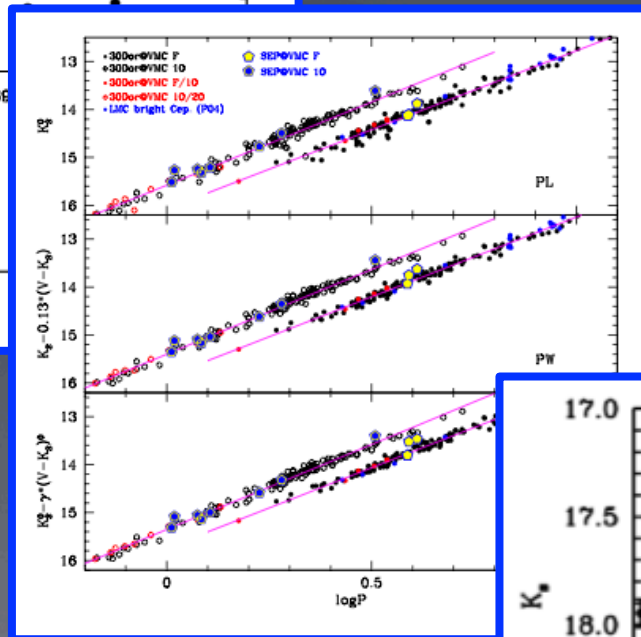


Variable stars - Cepheids

Ripepi et al. 2012 (VMC Paper V)



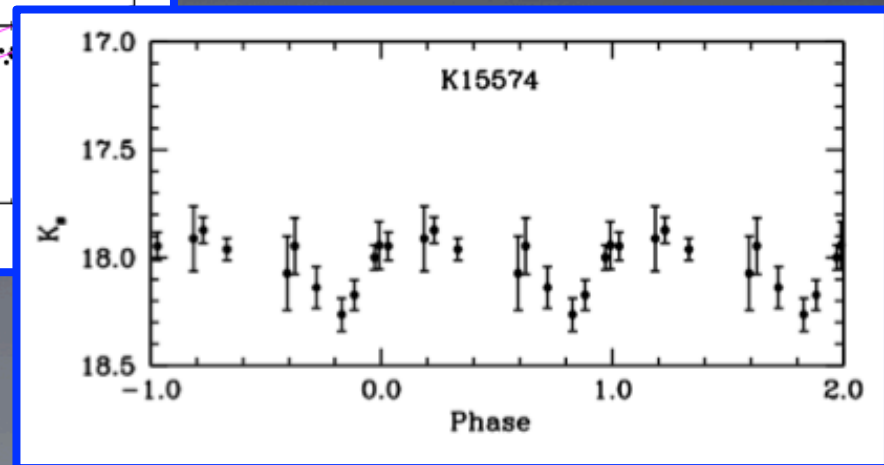
Cepheid light-curve where $\sigma \approx 0.01$ mag.



Similar work on RR Lyrae stars is in final stages of preparation (Moretti et al.)

Period-luminosity, period-wasenhheit, period-luminosity-colour relations where period is from OGLE or EROS-2.

Points include both 30 Dor area and SEP area in LMC.

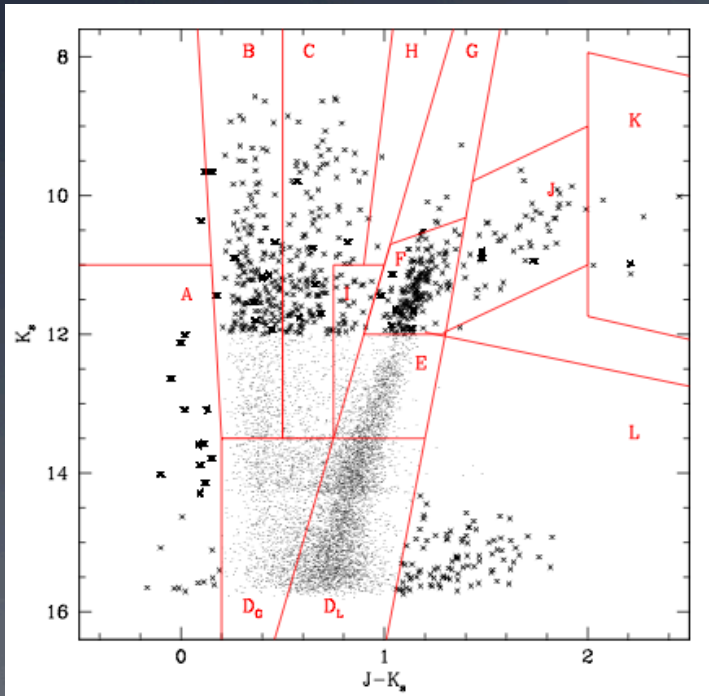




Proper Motion: 2MASS-VMC

Cioni et al. in prep.

2MASS all sky + 6x and VMC



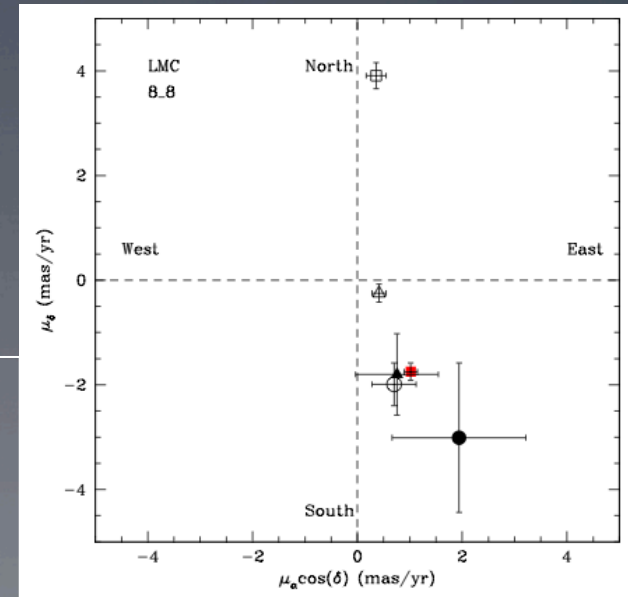
BCD _{MW}	2338
JK	59
D _{LMC} E	5140
AGH	32
FJK	228

- = MW foreground (empty square)
- = LMC carbon stars (filled triangle)
- = LMC RGB stars (empty triangle)
- = LMC young stars (filled circle)
- = LMC AGB stars (empty circle)

Preliminary results:

Time range ~ 10 years,
 Tile LMC 8_8 (outer disk - SEP),
 Population boxes adapted from Nikolay &
 Weinberg (2000).

Different types
 of stars show a
 different proper
 motion.



VMC and future studies

VMC main goals:

- spatially resolved SFH
- 3-dimensional geometry

Other teams are aiming at measuring the 3-D geometry using other data, e.g. OGLE-IV, Spitzer.

VMC has no real competitor and the Ks band is going to remain unique also in the E-ELT era.

Planned facilities, GAIA, Euclid and LSST will provide data for studies of the proper motion and source variability across the Magellanic system.

Follow-up observations with instruments under study, 4MOST and MOONS, will provide the radial velocity and chemical information for many Magellanic objects.
