The Stellar Initial Mass Function of Massive Galaxies

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Motivation

What is the (integrated) efficiency of star formation in massive dark matter haloes?



Motivation

Different studies agree, but all assume a universal stellar Initial Mass Function (IMF)



Why the IMF is important for galaxy masses

Light comes from ~2 M_{sun} stars

Mass comes from low mass stars, or stellar remnants of massive stars

Feedback

- Supernova rates
- Gas recycling



Van Dokkum 2008

What do we know about the Stellar IMF?

Star Counts in the Milky Way

- Power-law at high masses (Salpeter 1955)
- Turn over at low masses (Kroupa 2001, Chabrier 2003

Galaxy Dynamics: Upper limits to M/L

Salpeter too "heavy" for spiral galaxies and fast rotating early-type galaxies
(Bell & de Jong 2001; Cappellari et al. 2006)

Consistent with a universal IMF



Van Dokkum 2008

Upper limits: Strong



Brewer et al. 2012



✦ Strong lensing: projected total mass with critical curve: Mlens

Stellar Pop Synthesis: projected stellar mass within critical curve, assuming an IMF: Msps

f* = M_{SPS} / M_{lens}

A physical IMF has f* < 1

Upper limits: Strong Lensing

- ✦ IMF is lighter than Salpeter in massive spirals
- ✦ IMF can be ~2 x heavier than Salpeter in most massive galaxies

Brewer et al. 2012



0820+4847 0930+2855 1032 + 53221117 + 47041313+0506

Lensing+Dynamics Scaling Relations Massive Early-Type Galaxies σ~250 ± 40 km/s SLACS - Sloan Lens ACS Survey



Bolton et al. 2006, 2008; Auger et al. 2009

Lensing+Dynamics with Dark Matter Halo

 $\log M_{star} / M_{SPS} = \log \alpha + \eta (\log M_{star} - 11)$



All reasonable choices of DM halo result in non-MW IMF

A bottom heavy IMF in massive ellipticals



A bottom heavy IMF in massive ellipticals



Van Dokkum & Conroy 2010

Full Spectral Fitting

Conroy & van Dokkum 2012



Correlation with dispersion, alpha abundance

Conroy & van Dokkum 2012



Consistency check: M/L_{SPS} < M/L_{dyn} spectral masses vs total dynamical masses Conroy & van Dokkum 2012



We expect some galaxies to be scattered here due to measurement errors.

total dynamical mass / light (SAURON)

Consistency Check: Dense Galaxies



Select early-type galaxies from SDSS with surface densities



(SPS masses from MPA/JHU: ugriz, BC03, Chabrier IMF)

Dynamical Mass vs SPS Mass

Dynamical masses from Spherical Jeans equations
 Only mild (5%) dependence on anisotropy (since R_{ap} > R_e)



Evidence for Mass-Follows-Light

Relation between offsets of VM ($\Delta \log V$) and RM ($\Delta \log R$) relations depends on dark matter fraction (Courteau & Rix 1999)



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Correlation between aperture velocity dispersion (σ_{ap}), and size (R_e) at fixed stellar pop mass (M_{SPS})

(150 000 early-type galaxies from SDSS - Dutton et al. 2013)



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Full Sample $\Delta \log \sigma = -0.3 \Delta \log R$ Tilt of the Fundamental Plane

Dense galaxies follow the virial FP: $\Delta \log \sigma = -0.5 \Delta \log R$ Implies mass follows light

Spectra and dynamics agree!



Correlation with dispersion

ATLAS3D, 260 nearby early-types





ACDM based models of Early-Type Galaxies

Stars (4 parameters: R_{exp} , R_{dev} , f_{dev} , Δ_{IMF} - stellar mass normalization)
 Dark Matter (3 parameters: M_{vir}; c; v - dark halo response)

Galaxy Structure: SDSS Simard et al. (2011)

Halo masses: WL+SK Dutton et al. (2010) Halo structure: N-body sims Macciò et al. (2008)



ACDM based models of Early-Type Galaxies

ASSUMPTIONS:

Spherical Jeans equation to predict SDSS aperture velocity dispersions

$$\frac{d(\rho_*\sigma_r^2)}{dr} + \frac{2\beta}{r}\rho_*\sigma_r^2 = -\rho_*\frac{GM(r)}{r^2}$$

No stellar M/L gradients

Constant anisotropy

Scatter in galaxy size is UNCORRELATED with:

- dark halo response;
- scatter in halo mass;
- scatter in halo concentration.

STEP 1:

Use the Faber-Jackson relation to constrain allowed combinations of halo response and IMF



Degeneracy between IMF and dark matter



Stellar Pop Synthesis Mass

STEP 2: Use the Fundamental Plane to break the halo response - IMF degeneracy



Correlation between aperture velocity dispersion (σ_{ap}), and size (R_e) at fixed stellar pop mass (M_{SPS})

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Fundamental Plane breaks the degeneracy



Why? Dark Matter dampens the FP



Thick black lines = acceptable model



Dutton, Macciò, Mendel, Simard 2013

Summary

Stellar mass-to-light ratios of massive galaxies are a factor ~ 2 higher than predicted by a Milky Way IMF



Testing the model assumptions

Strong lensing enables robust measurement of average mass density slope inside ~ half-light radius



Testing the model assumptions

Select a sub-sample of galaxies with σ ~250 ± 40 km/s

Lensing gives same result as fundamental plane!



It gets better:

Select a sub-sample of galaxies with σ ~250 ± 40 km/s NFW model matches correlations as well!



Dutton & Treu 2014