Mass accretion rates from HST photometry The case of LH95 in the Large Magellanic Cloud



INAF – Catania Astrophysical Observatory

GUIDO DE MARCHI – European Space Research and Technology Centre (Netherlands)

NINO PANAGIA – Space Telescope Science Institute (USA)

GIACOMO BECCARI – European Southern Observatory (Germany)

Rome: June 26, 2018

Protoplanetary disks seen through the eyes of new-generation high-resolution instruments

Accretion from a circumstellar disk



Signature of accretion process Multiple Tracers from UV to NIR



Signature of accretion process Multiple Tracers from UV to NIR



Methods to derive accretion properties

Primary/Secondary diagnostics

♦ UV-optical continuum excess ⇒ L_{acc} (e.g., Herczeg & Hillenbrand 2008, Rigliaco et al. 2012, Alcalá et al. 2014, 2017)
 ♦ Emission lines from infalling gas (e.g., Alcalá et al. 2017)

- \circ logL_{acc}=1.05 logL_{H15} + 3.43 UV
- o logL_{acc}=1.25 logL_{He6678} + 4.70 VIS
- \circ logL_{acc}=1.19 logL_{Bry} + 4.02 NIR

Some caveats

- ♦ When L_{acc}-L_{line} relations are used: asynchronous measurements, emission lines can trace also winds and chromospheric activity, etc.
 ♦ These methods require spectroscopy, laborious, hence only some hundreds objects have measured L_{acc} and M_{acc}
- Most regions studied so far are **nearby**, cover a limited range of age, solar metallicity (e.g., Taurus-Auriga, Ophiucus, Lupus, Orion)

What about other environments?

Low Metallicity SFRs

- Any stars in the Universe formed at redshift z≈2 (e.g., Madau & Dickinson 2014), when metallicity was ≤1/3 Z_☉, like in the Magellanic Clouds (De Marchi et al. 2017), but...
 Spectroscopy of individual stars in MCs hampered by crowding
 - (VLT observations attempted, but limit is angular resolution)

Photometric Method

(Tested by De Marchi et al. 2010 in the LMC)

It combines broad-band V,I and narrow-band Hα HST photometry, allowing to:

- Identify stars with Hα excess emission
- Derive their L_{acc} and \dot{M}_{acc}
- For hundreds of stars simultaneously!

Applied in several regions of the LMC (De Marchi et al. 2017; Spezzi et al. 2012), SMC (De Marchi et al. 2011, 2013), MW (Beccari et al. 2010, 2015; Zeidler et al. 2016) and confirmed spectroscopically (e.g., Barentsen et al. 2011)

The case of LH95

One of nine regions in the MW, LMC, SMC
 observed with HST and representative of different environments (metallicity, star formation rate, density, content of massive stars, etc.)

 Located North of the LMC (Lucke & Hodge 1970), low in density (≈0.06 M_☉/pc³), with a few blue stars (Kontizas et al. 1994), low reddening (Gouliermis et al. 2002)

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Debated evidence of **age spread** (Da Rio et al. 2010) and **clustering** (Gouliermis et al. 2007)

The case of LH95



The case of LH95

HST Observations



LH 95

♦ ACS/WFC photometric data in three bands:

- **F555W** (V band)
- F658N (Hα band)
- **F814W** (I band)
- Among the deepest
 observations ever
 taken toward LMC

Credits: DSS

The Method Identification of PMS candidates

- Initial catalogue of 24515 sources (black dots)
- Selection of stars with δ_{555} , δ_{658} , δ_{814} <0.05 mag (1294 most
 - probable old MS; grey dots, dashed line)

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Within the targets with δ₅₅₅, δ₈₁₄<0.1 mag, δ₆₅₈<0.3 mag: ΔHα > 4σ
 (247 bona fide PMS; red circles)





From Ha colour excess to EW_{Ha} and L_{Ha}

EW_{Hα}

Instrumental phot. properties (ACS website)

<EW_{Hα}> ≈ 30 Å

245 probable low-mass accretors (lower limit)



 $\Delta H\alpha$ -

L_{Hα}

ΔΗα

Instrumental phot. properties (ACS website) d=51.1±1.2 kpc (Panagia 1999)

<L_{H α}> $\approx 0.2 \times 10^{-2}$ L_{\odot}

 $logL_{acc}/L_{\odot}$ = (1.13±0.05) $L_{H\alpha}/L_{\odot}$ + (1.74±0.19)

KB, De Marchi, Panagia, Beccari 2018, in prep

Accretion vs Stellar Parameters (Luminosity and Effective Temperature)



Accretion evolution with Time & Mass



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 $\dot{M}_{acc}^{H\alpha} = 1$ $L^{Hlpha}_{acc}R_*$ *R*_{*}

M_★, R_★ stellar mass and radius R_{in}≈5R_★ disk inner radius G universal gravitational constant



- Higher mass have higher M_{acc} at all ages
- \dot{M}_{acc} decreases more slowly with time at lower Z
- ♦ M_{acc} higher for **younger** stars
- Slope of the M_{acc}-M_{*} relationship changing according to age and similar for MW and extra-Galactic SFRs

Accretion evolution with Time & Mass The LMC



Multivariate regression fit: $\log \dot{M}_{acc} \approx a \log t + b \log M_{\star} + c$ $a \approx -0.6$ $b \approx 0.8$

 ◇ Similar findings in the Local Group (MW, LMC, SMC; De Marchi et al. 2017)
 ◇ "c" is not a constant (dependence on other environmental parameters: metallicity, gas density, magnetic field, etc.; De Marchi et al. 2017)
 ◇ Stronger constraints from JWST

Multiple generations Spatial distribution of accreting PMS stars



Multiple generations in the Local Group



Future Perspectives with



NGC346 (SMC)

Credits: NASA,ESA/STScl

Challenges <pr

♦How accretion depends on M_{*},
Age, Z (+ gas kinematics)



"Star formation in the Local Group" (15 hours) https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/jwst/jwst-esa

NIRSPEC GTO

Team: <u>Guido De Marchi (PI)</u>, Pierre Ferruit, Catarina Alves de Oliveira, Tracy Beck, Giovanna Giardino, Roberto Maiolino, James Muzerolle, Nino Panagia, Katia Biazzo



Talk by Alessio Caratti o Garatti

