Interior Rotation from Red Giants

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Solar-type pulsators on the main-sequence: pressure modes

- $\bullet\,$ Solar-like pulsators \to stable oscillations, excited in a stochastic way by turbulent convection in the external envelope.
- $\bullet~$ On the MS \rightarrow only pressure modes essentially visible, gravity modes confined in the core.
- \rightarrow No information on the core of solar-like pulsators on the MS.



Red giant stars: mixed-modes probing the core

- Coupling between pressure waves in the convective envelope and gravity waves in the radiative interior \rightarrow mixed-modes, rich oscillation spectrum.
- Mixed-modes \rightarrow probe the red giant (RG) core.

 \rightarrow Unique opportunity to derive observational constraints on the rotation of stellar cores with RG.



Credits: C. Pinçon

Core rotation measurements: 2012

- Slow down of the core rotation on the red giant branch (Mosser et al. 2012): paradox \rightarrow the core is contracting!
- Important extraction of angular momentum from the core \rightarrow we need to identify the physical processes at work.



Source: Mosser et al. 2012, Deheuvels et al. 2014

- Models based on physical prescriptions for the angular momentum transport \rightarrow still predict too fast core rotation rates.
- Major discrepancy between models and measurements → we don't yet fully understand the physical mechanisms transporting angular momentum in red giants.



Core rotation measurements: 2018

- Gehan et al. (2018) \rightarrow mean core rotation measurements for 875 RGB stars.
- Mixed-mode density $\mathcal{N} = \frac{\Delta \nu}{\Delta \Pi_1 \nu_{max}^2} \rightarrow \text{proxy of stellar evolution on the RGB.}$
- Refinement of Mosser et al. (2012) diagnosis \rightarrow constant rotation with evolution on the RGB instead of slowing down.
- $\bullet~\mbox{Measurements} \rightarrow \mbox{low}~\mbox{RGB}$ below the bump.



• Measurements of Gehan et al. (2018) for a sample 10 times larger \rightarrow confirm that we still need to identify the physical mechanism(s) slowing down the red giant core rotation.



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- $\bullet\,$ Fuller et al. (2019) \to roughly reproduce core rotation measurements for red giants and white dwarfs.
- Problem → prediction of a spin-down for subgiants instead of a spin-up, and a spin-up on the RGB instead of a constant evolution.
- Encouraging result to predict effective core rotation rates along stellar evolution \rightarrow but still a lot to understand to solve the angular momentum transport problem.



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Angular momentum transport problem: parameterization

- Spada et al. (2016) \rightarrow parametrize the efficiency of the angular momentum transport using a diffusion coefficient $D = D_0 \left(\frac{\Omega_{\text{rad}}}{\Omega_{\text{env}}}\right)^{\alpha}$.
- Reproduce both subgiant and RGB measurements → need to enforce a rigid rotation not only during the MS but also during the early subgiant phase.
- Allows to put constraints on the unknown mechanism transporting angular momentum → but this/these mechanism(s) still need to be identified!



Source: Spada et al. 2016

- With a correct angular momentum transport, we can constrain stellar evolution from the main-sequence to the red giant phase, including the subgiant phase.
- Evolution of the core rotation of red giants → still not correctly predicted by models including angular momentum transport.
- Additional observational constraints from a larger sample with PLATO \rightarrow crucial to solve the angular momentum transport problem.

 \rightarrow All we learn on red giants allows us to constrain the evolution of main-sequence stars, for which the core cannot be probed.

 \rightarrow Red giants are key to unravel the internal rotation of exoplanet host stars on the main-sequence.

Perspectives: Planet host red giants

- \bullet Measurement of the mean core rotation \to possible to derive measurements of the stellar inclination angle of the rotation axis.
- Large-scale measurements of inclinations for ~ 1200 red giants (Gehan et al. in prep) → catalogue of red giants with large *i* to look for exoplanetary transits.

 \rightarrow Perspective to have a direct constraint on the core rotation of planet host stars.





Rotational signature in oscillation spectra

- \bullet Rotation \to similar to the Zeeman effect on modes of same radial order and angular degree but different azimuthal orders.
- Rotational splitting of gravity-dominated dipole modes \rightarrow mean core rotation rate (Mosser et al. 2012, Goupil et al. 2013):

$$\delta
u_{
m rot,core} \simeq rac{1}{2} \left\langle rac{\Omega}{2\pi}
ight
angle_{
m core}$$



Source: Di Mauro et al. 2016

Red giant branch: complicated cases

- Confusion limit between rotational splittings and mixed-mode spacings \rightarrow more likely reached when stars evolve along the red giant branch.
- $\bullet\,$ Consequence $\to\,$ overlapping $\delta\nu_{\rm rot}$ and mixed-mode frequency spacings at low frequency.



Source: Mosser et al. (2012)

Stretching the spectra: the ζ function

• The ζ function characterizes the different nature of $\ell = 1$ p-m and g-m modes:

$$\zeta = \frac{l_{\text{core}}}{l_{\text{env}} + l_{\text{core}}} = \left[1 + \frac{\nu^2}{q} \frac{\Delta \Pi_1}{\Delta \nu_p} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{q^2} \sin^2\left(\pi \frac{\nu - \nu_p}{\Delta \nu_p}\right) + \cos^2\left(\pi \frac{\nu - \nu_p}{\Delta \nu_p}\right)} \right]^{-1} \simeq \frac{\Delta P}{\Delta \Pi_1}$$



Source: Gehan et al. (2018)

Automatic identification of the rotational components

- Correlation of the observed spectrum with a synthetic spectrum.
- The stellar inclination impacts the number of visible rotationally split components: three components $m = \{-1, 0, +1\}$ for dipole mixed-modes.



The choice of the mixed-mode density as a proxy of stellar evolution

- Stars enter the red giant branch with a radius depending dramatically on the stellar mass.
- Mixed-mode density → remarkably monitors the fraction of the stellar radius occupied by the inert helium core along the red giant branch.



Source: Gehan et al. (2018)

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Does the slow-down rate of the core rotation depend on stellar mass?

• Selection of different mass ranges.



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Evolution of the core rotation as a function of the stellar mass

- $\bullet\,$ Evolution of the core rotation on the red giant branch \to independent of the stellar mass.
- Refinement of the diagnostic of Mosser et al. (2012) → the core rotation is almost constant on the red giant branch instead of slightly slowing down.



Source: Gehan et al. (2018)

Effect of metallicity on the core rotation

 $\bullet\,$ Measured rotational splittings and their evolution \to no apparent dependence with metallicity.



Source: Gehan et al. (2018)

Internal rotation profile: stellar inversion techniques

- We cannot firmly constrain the shape of the rotation profile.
- $\bullet~$ Studies $\rightarrow~$ the core rotates 5 to 10 faster than the envelope.
- $\bullet\,$ Di Mauro et al. (2018) \to constant core rotation in the He core, differential rotation starts in the H-burning shell.
- Deheuvels et al. (2015) \rightarrow core-envelope rotation gradient much milder for secondary clump stars, more efficient angular momentum redistribution.



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