

Astrofisica di frontiera con l'ottica adattiva italiana  
Roma, Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei 17-18-19 Febbraio 2020

## AO-assisted spectroscopy in crowded stellar fields: present and future science opportunities

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1-100 stars/arcsec<sup>2</sup> spectroscopically measurable

- central regions of Galactic globular clusters
- the Galactic center and the nuclear star cluster
- star clusters in the LG and beyond

# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

## Top Level Requirements

- **spatial resolution:**  
**20-200mas** → to resolve stars down to the limiting magnitude
- **multiplex:**  
**>10 to >100** → population studies
- **minimum FoV:**  
from a few arcsec<sup>2</sup> (densest [sub-]structures)  
to several tens arcmin<sup>2</sup> (entire extension)
- **spectral resolution:**  
**R<5,000** → RVs with a few km/s accuracy and global metallicity  
**5,000<R<20,000** → progressively optimal for RVs and reasonable for some chemical abundances  
**R>20,000** → progressively optimal for detailed chemical abundances
- **simultaneous spectral coverage:**  
**>50nm, goal >100nm** → minimum of spectral features for science analysis and at least one telluric line for RV zeropoint

# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

matching science TLRs with instrument capabilities → *trade-offs*

## finite number of detector pixels

- finite number of spectral elements  
*trade-off* between spectral resolution and coverage
- finite number of spatial elements  
*trade-off* between spatial resolution and FoV
- finite number of spatial & spectral elements  
*trade-off* between resolution, coverage & multiplex

## limited sensitivity

*trade-off* between resolution and depth

*however, note that ...*

*in dense stellar fields* more sensitivity → fainter BUT more crowding

*hence more sensitivity AND spatial resolution*

# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

matching science TLRs with instrument capabilities

## multi-instrument approach

high multiplex, limited spectral resolution and coverage

- wide-field, multi-object spectroscopy at lower densities
- high spatial res, integral field spectroscopy  
at the highest densities

low multiplex, enhanced spectral resolution & coverage

- echelle spectroscopy

# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

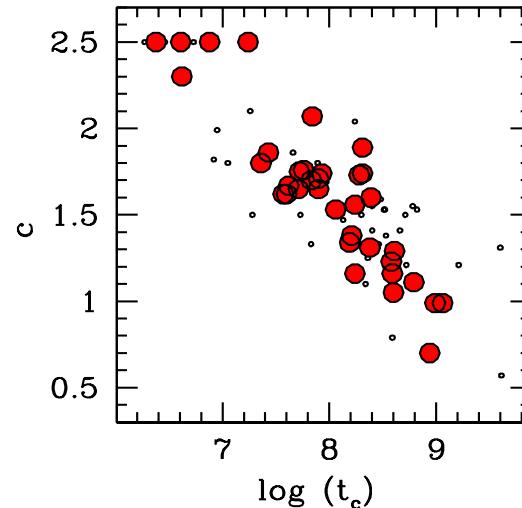
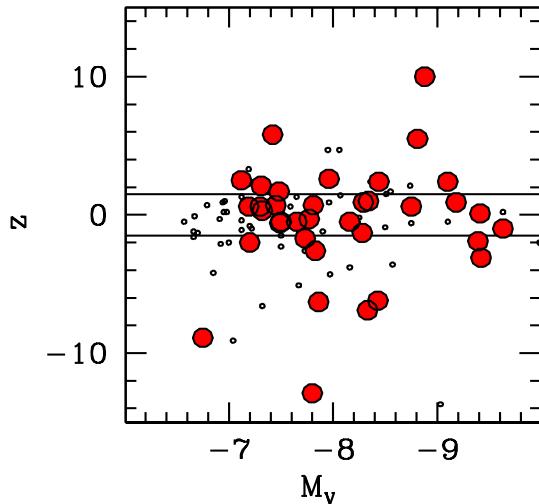
## science case #1: internal kinematics of globular clusters

### Multi Instrument Kinematic Survey (MIKiS) of GGCs

UniBO (Ferraro, Lanzoni, Mucciarelli, Pallanca *et al*), INAF-OAS (Dalessandro, Origlia, Bellazzini *et al*)

- ESO LP 193.D-0232 194 hr with KMOS+FLAMES
- ESO LP 195.D-0750 101 hr with SINFONI
- other normal programmes with  
MUSE-AO, FLAMES & XShooter at VLT (about 100 hrs)  
OSIRIS-AO, NIRSPEC & DEIMOS at Keck (about 70 hrs)

### the sample of GGCs



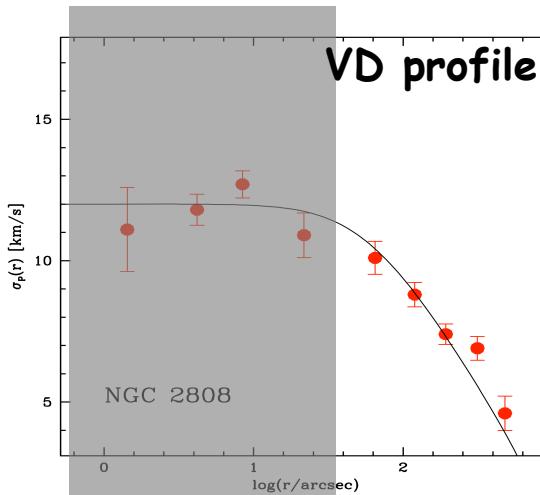
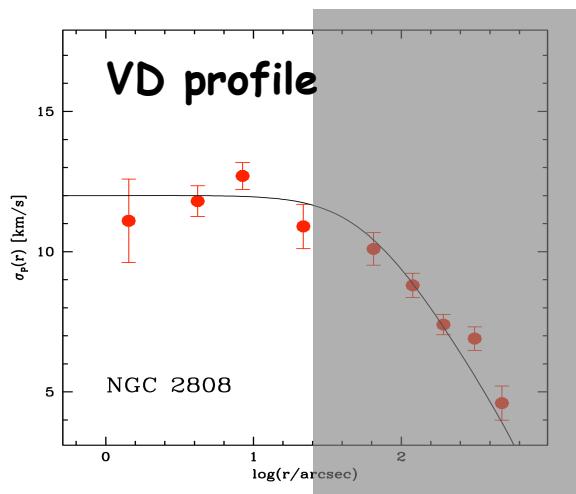
- (i) massive ( $M > 5 \times 10^5 M_{\odot}$ )
- (ii) a wide range of Log p, c & relaxation times
- (iii) different stages of dynamical evolution, including PCC
- (iv) different environmental conditions (sampling halo & bulge/disk populations)

# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

## science case #1: internal kinematics of globular clusters

### VELOCITY DISPERSION & ROTATION PROFILES

from RVs of individual stars over the entire cluster extension



central VD

flat?

- isothermal core

central cusp or dip?

- IMBH?
- rotation?
- anisotropy?

outer VD

- rotation?
- tidal tails?
- dark matter halo?

combined with

- HST & Gaia PMs for a 3D view of the velocity space
- HST and other wide-field photometry to obtain LFs & density profiles for determining structural parameters, dynamical evolution etc.

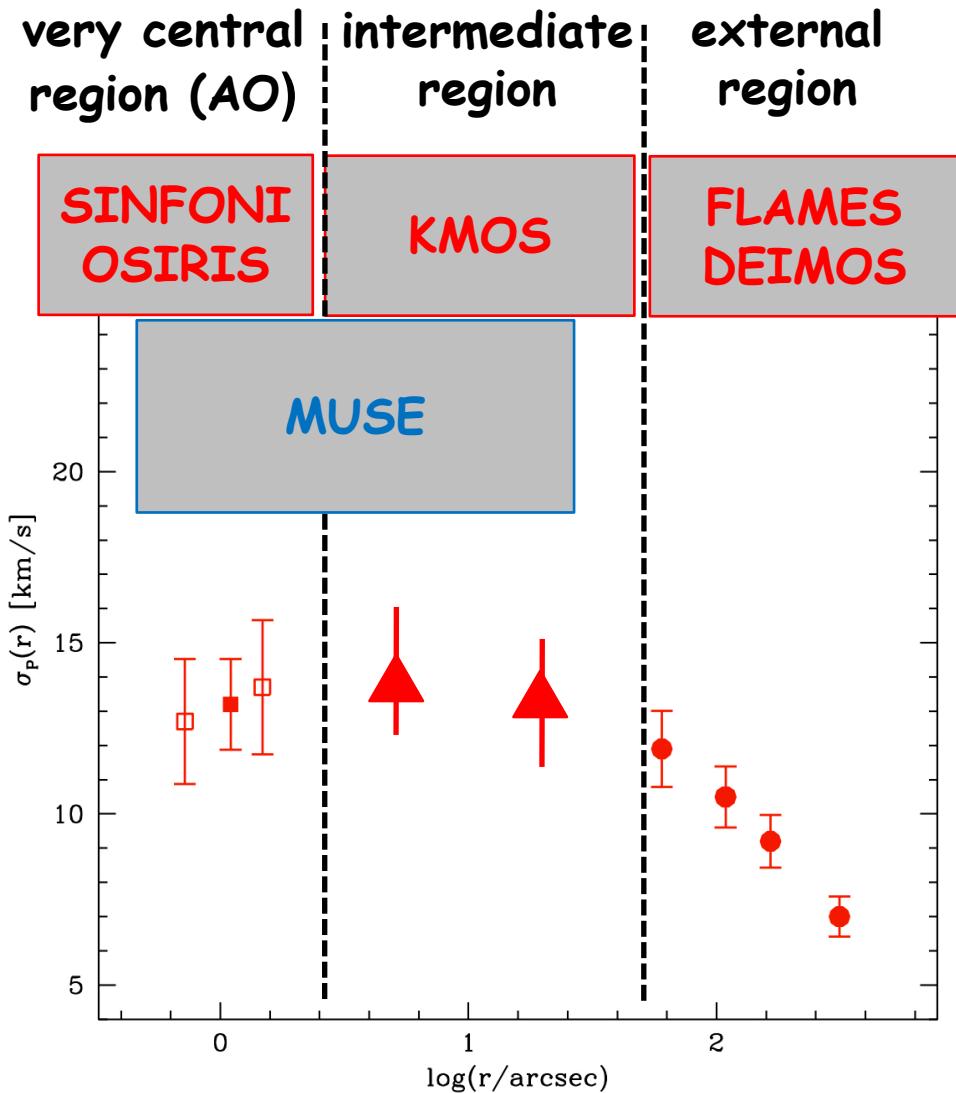
impact at large

- formation and evolution of collisional systems
- interplay between dynamics and stellar + chemical evolution

# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

## science case #1: internal kinematics of globular clusters

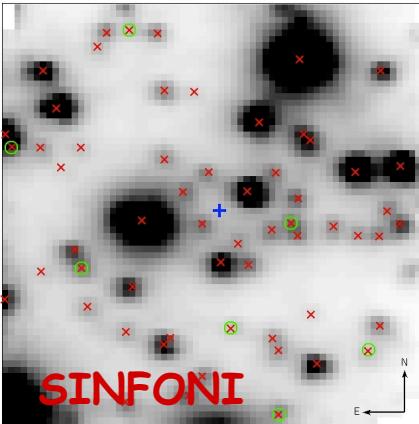
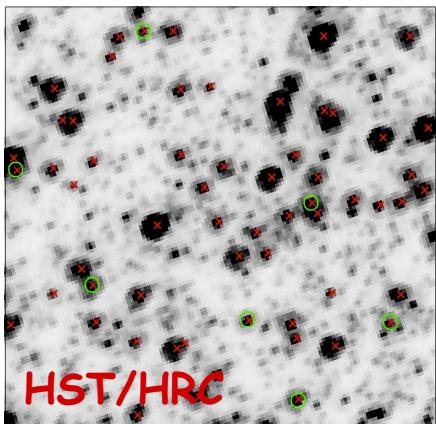
RVs of individual stars over  
the entire cluster extension  
a multi-instrument approach



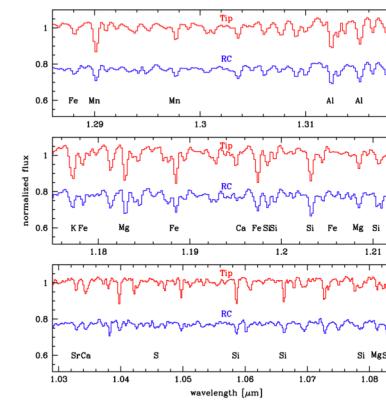
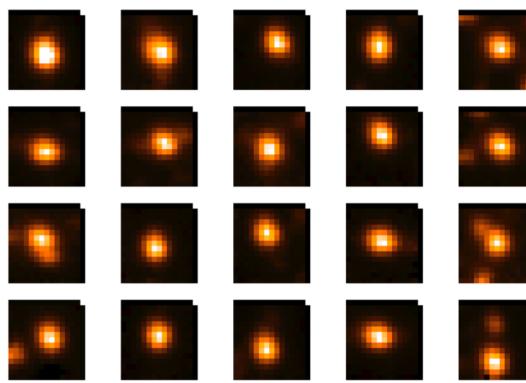
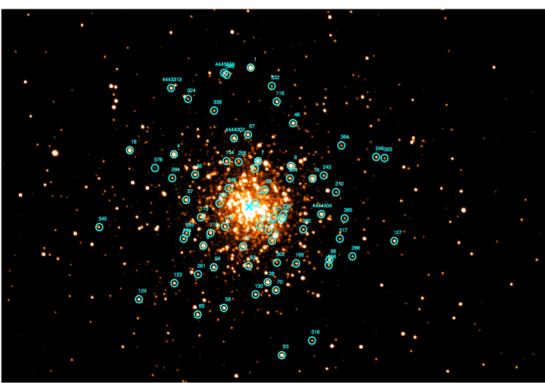
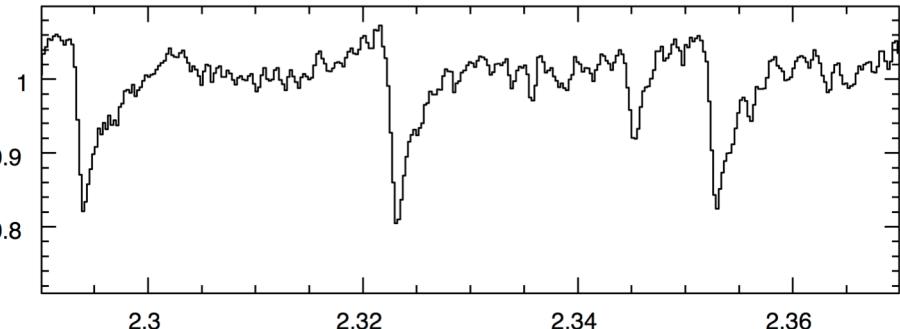
# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

science case #1: internal kinematics of globular clusters

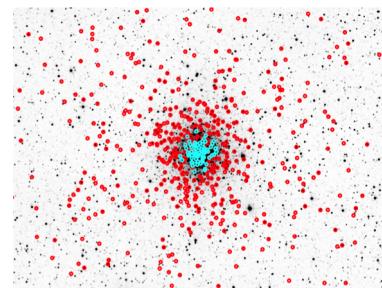
the pilot project: NGC6388



SINFONI+AO K-band spectra  
R~4000, ~60 stars at  $r < 1.6''$



KMOS YJ  
spectra  
R~3,400  
4 pointings  
~90 stars  
at  $r < 70''$

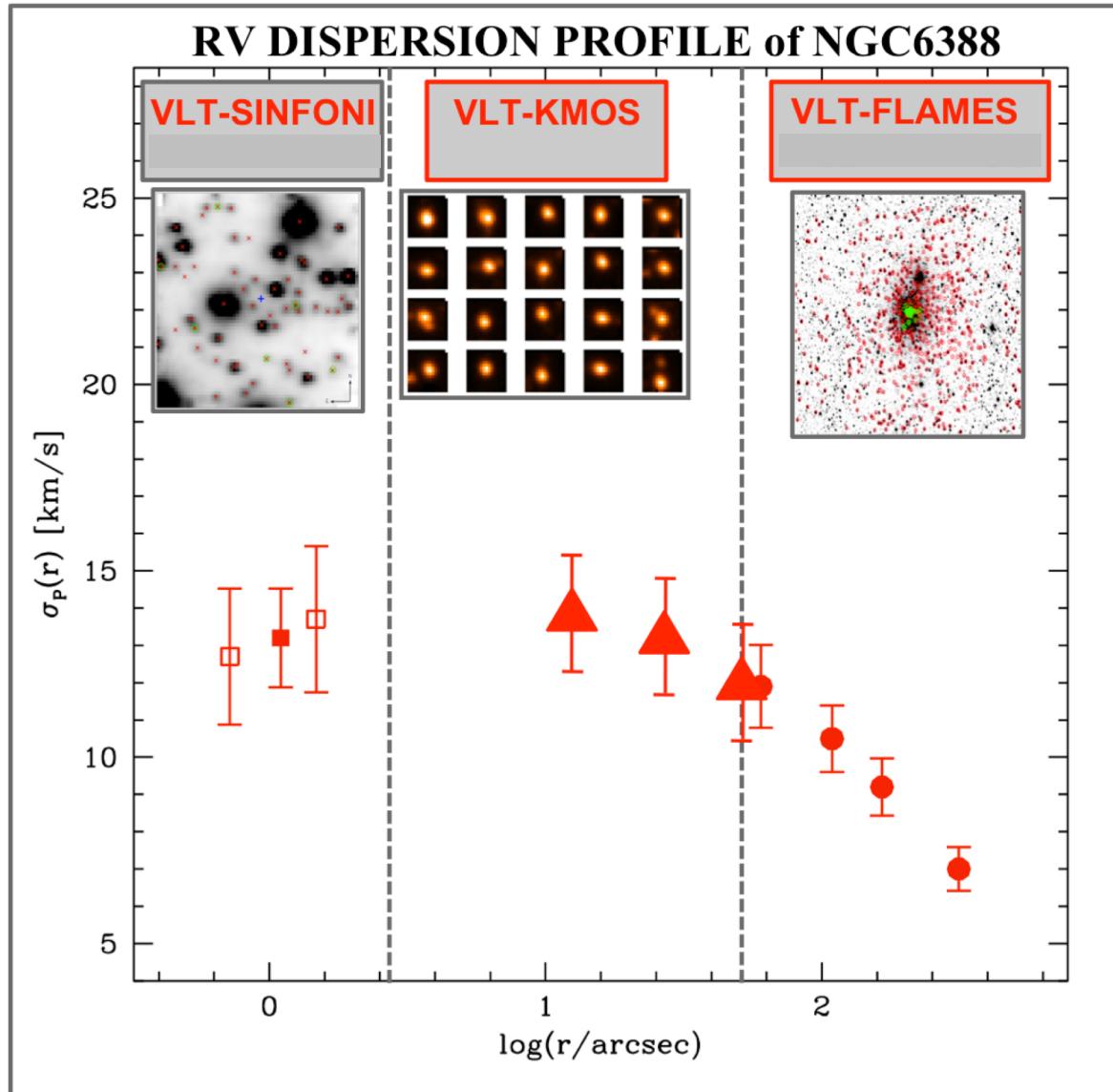


FLAMES CaT spectra  
a few pointings  
~220 stars at  $70'' < r < 600''$

# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

science case #1: internal kinematics of globular clusters

the pilot project: NGC6388



at odds with the claim by Lützgendorf+ (2011) of a  $\text{MBH} \sim 1.7 \times 10^4 M_\odot$  from integrated spectroscopy

we find

no evidence  
or at most an  
 $\text{IMBH} < 2 \times 10^3 M_\odot$

evidence of some  
rotation in the core

Lanzoni+ 2013

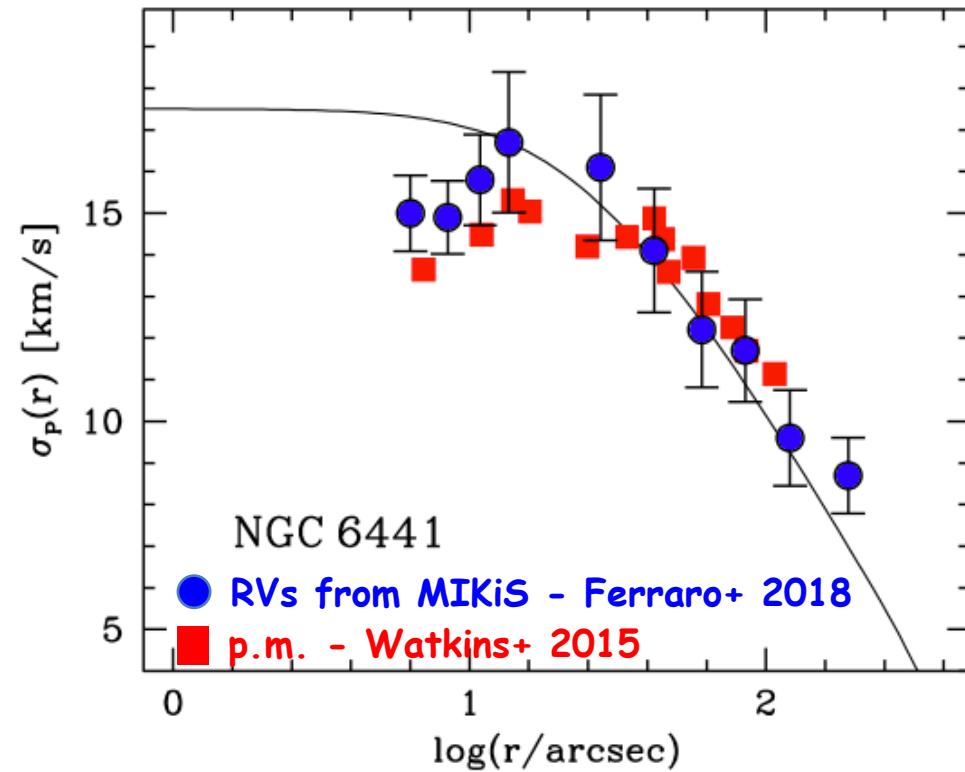
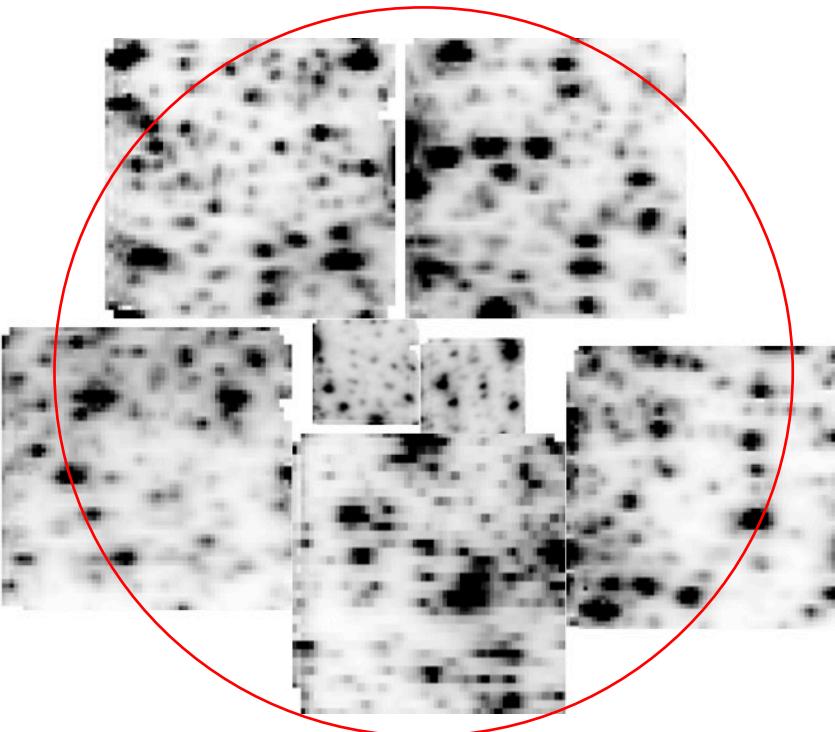
# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

science case #1: internal kinematics of globular clusters

NGC 6441 ( $r_c=7$  arcsec)

SINFONI mosaic: 2 HR + 5 LR

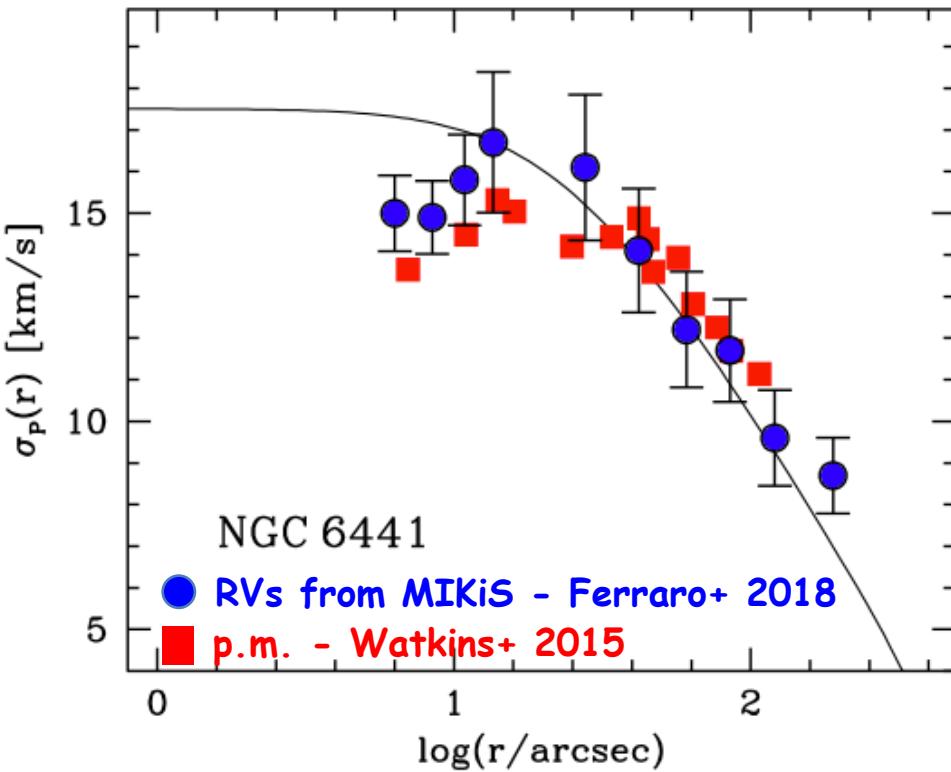
700 stars in the central  $R < 10''$



VD dip in the core  
tangential anisotropy?  
rotation ?

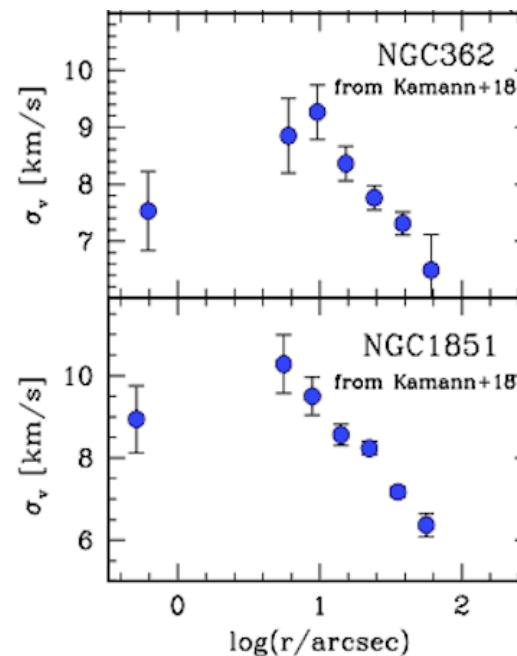
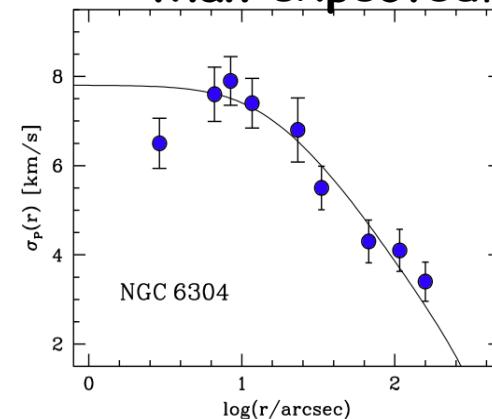
# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

## science case #1: internal kinematics of globular clusters



VD dip in the core  
tangential anisotropy ?  
rotation ?

...more common  
than expected...



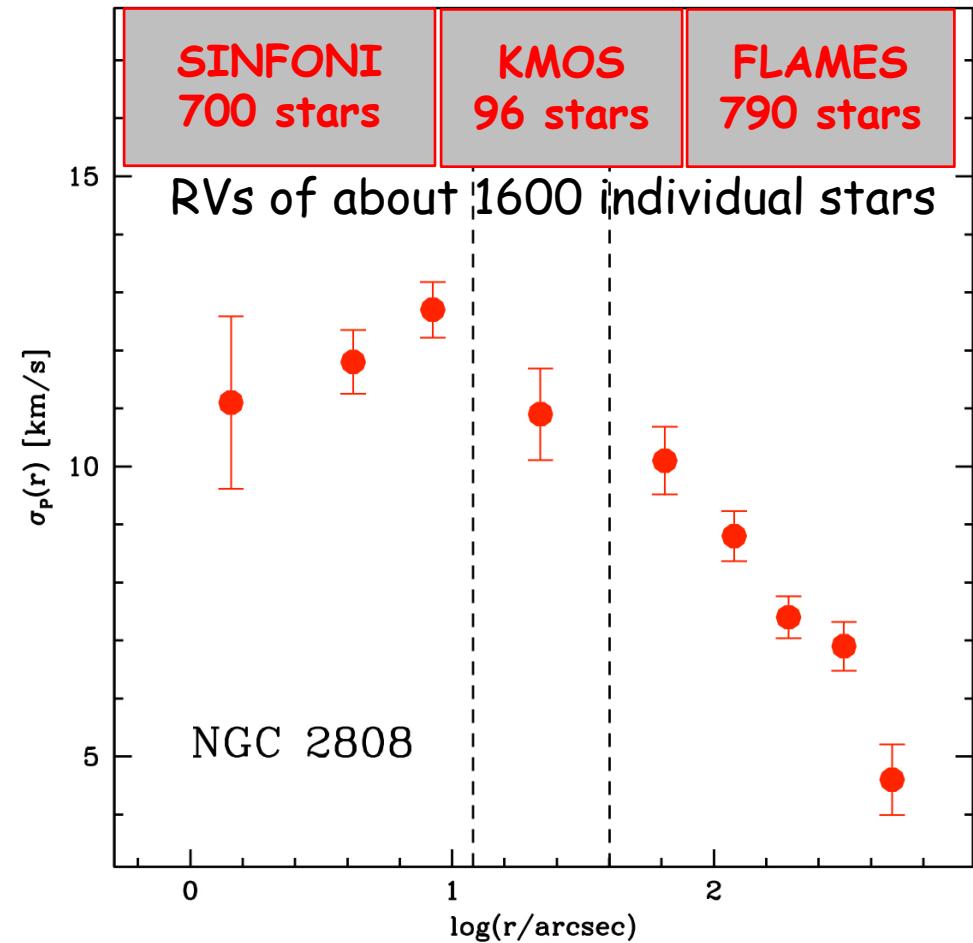
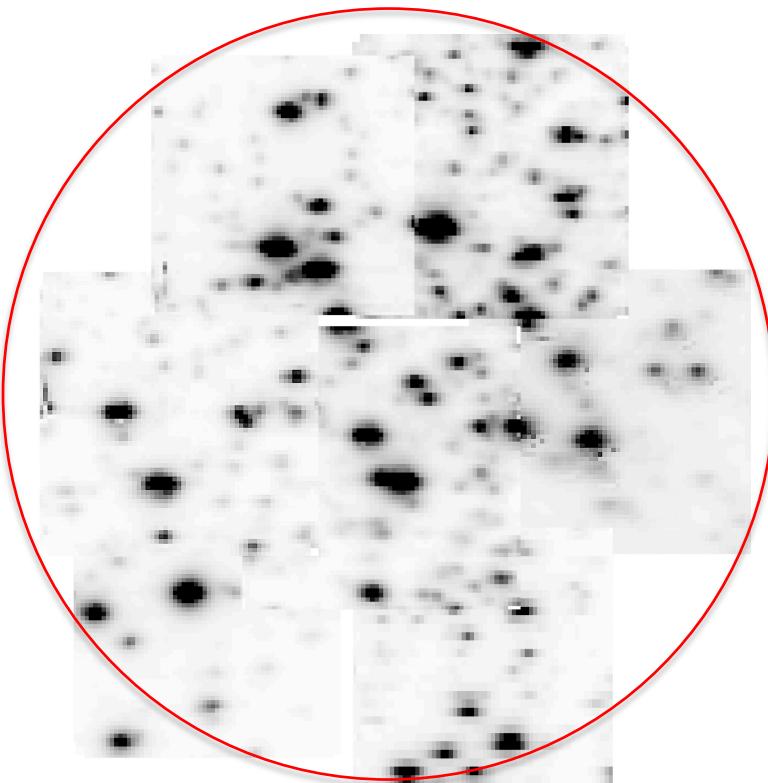
# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

## science case #1: internal kinematics of globular clusters

NGC 2808 ( $r_c=7$  arcsec)

SINFONI mosaic: 7 LR

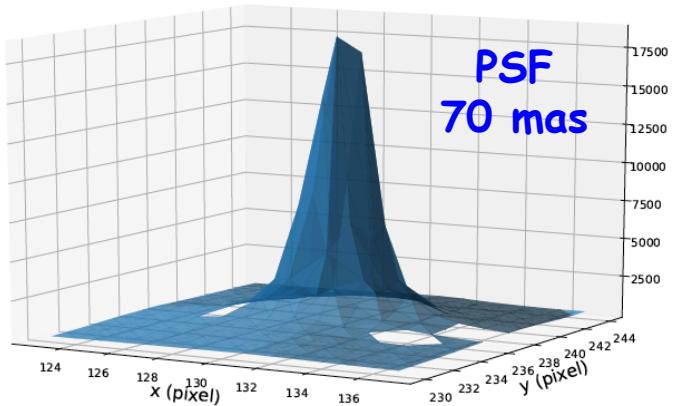
700 stars in the central  $R < 12''$



no VD cusp in the core  
no evidence of an IMBH

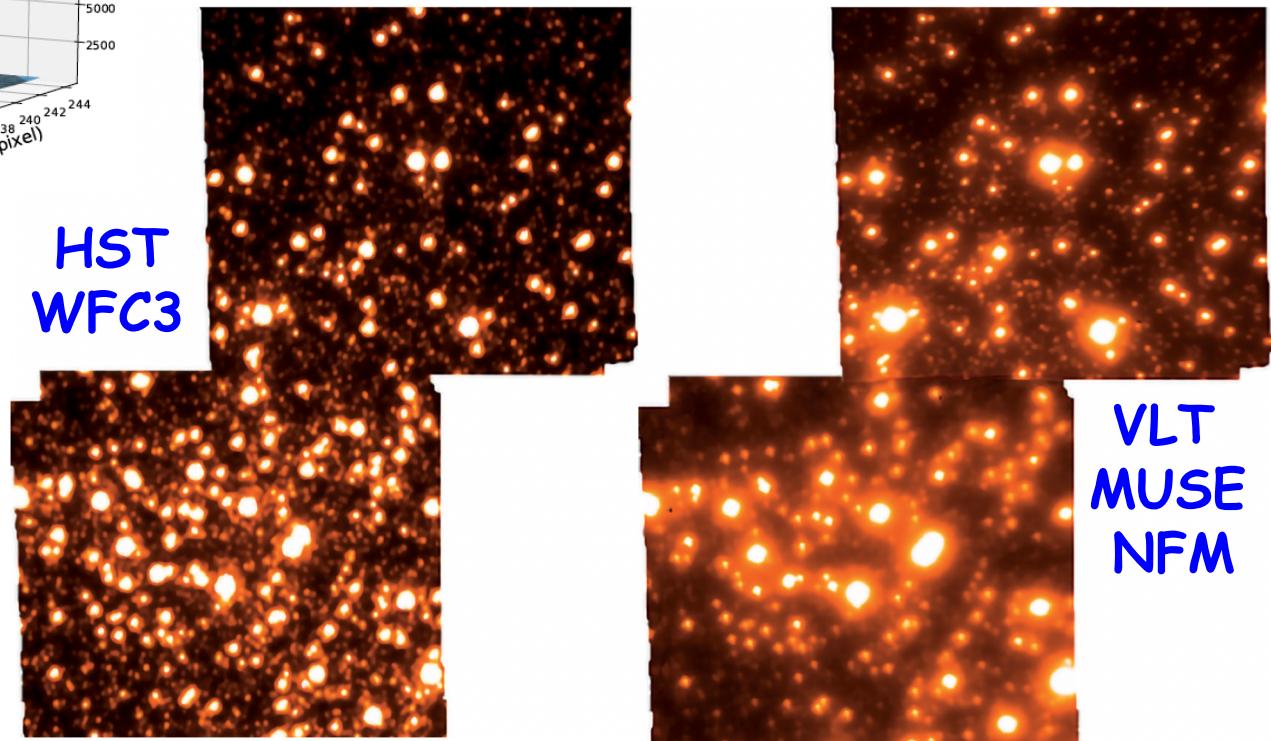
# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

science case #1: internal kinematics of globular clusters



**NGC 6440 ( $r_c=8$  arcsec)**

Science Verification of MUSE/NFM  
(program 60.A-9489 - PI:Ferraro)

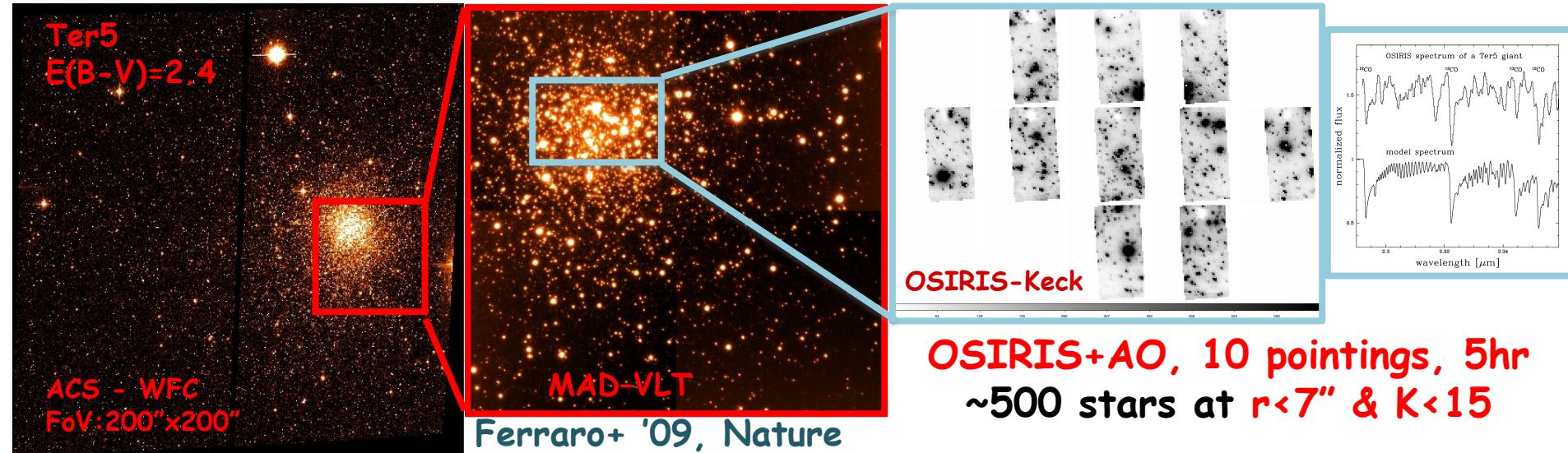


**600+ stars in the central  $R < 4$  arcsec**

one of the major highlight in the Leibundgut+ 2019 MUSE-NFM SV summary

# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

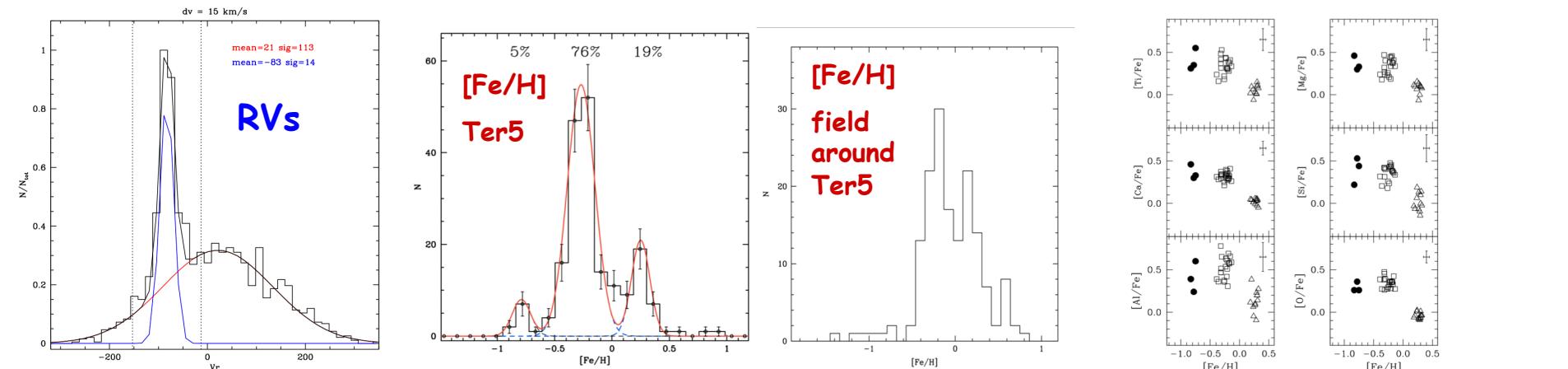
## science case #2: internal kinematics & chemistry of Ter5



X-Shooter+NIRSPEC , ~120 stars at  $r < 60''$

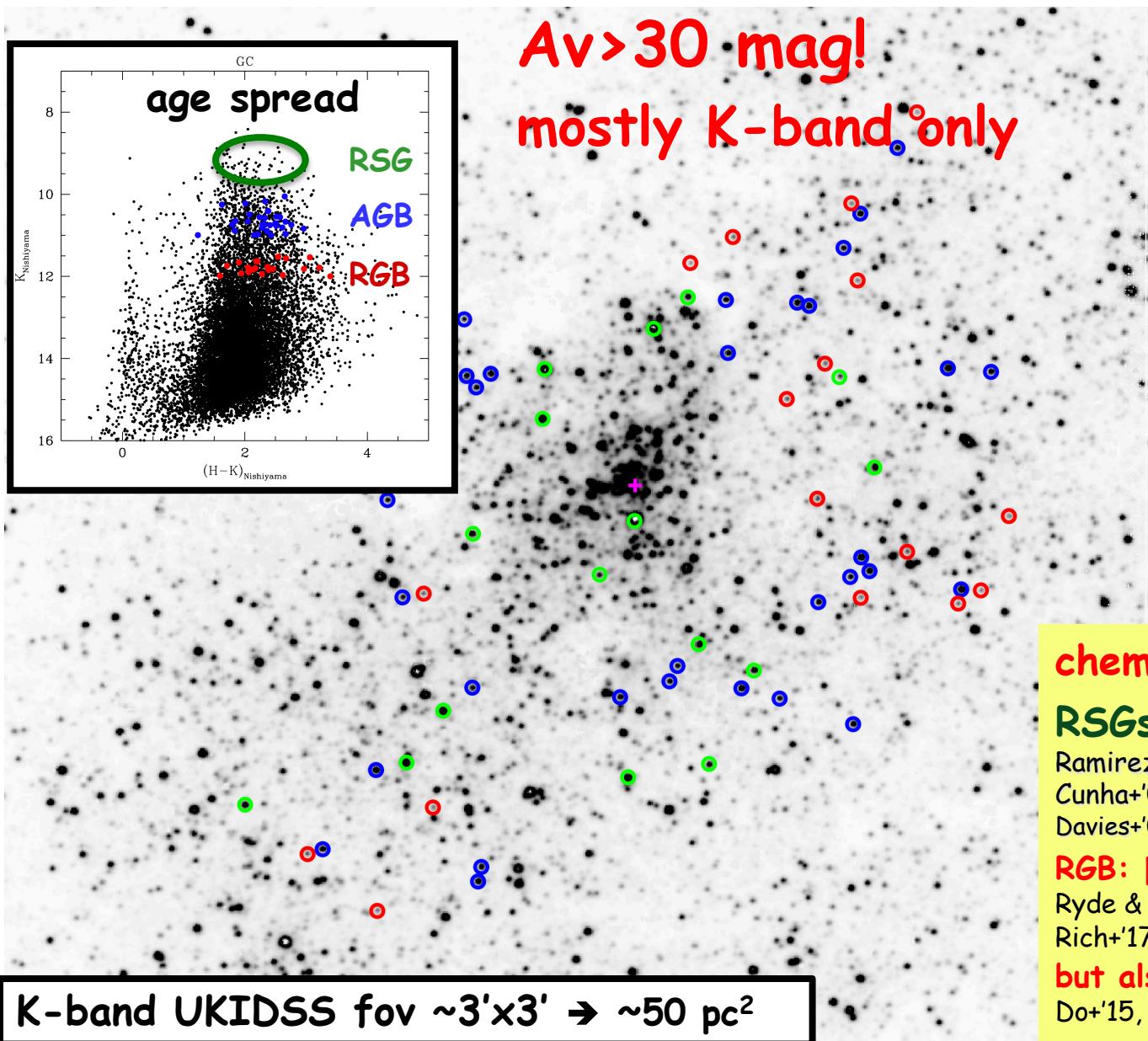
FLAMES+DEIMOS, ~1500 stars out to 800''

RVs & chemical abundances  
Origlia+ '11,'13; Massari+ '14

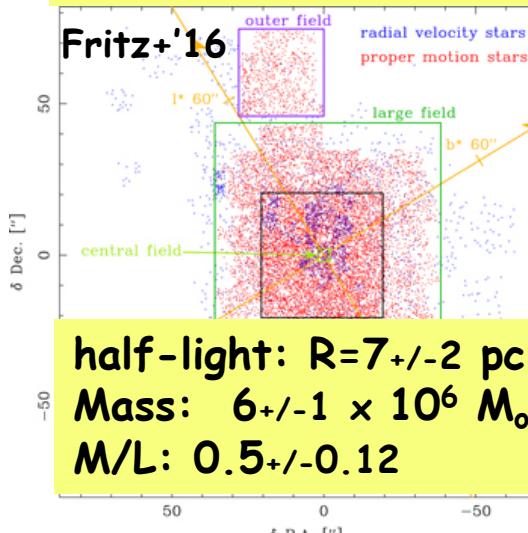


# spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

## science case #3: kin+chem of the nuclear star cluster



structure, PMs & RVs  
VISTA, WFC3/IR,  
VLT/NACO+SINFONI



chemistry - high res spec

RSGs: [Fe/H]~solar

Ramirez+'00 CSHELL@IRTF

Cunha+'07 PHOENIX@Gemini

Davies+'09 NIRSPEC@Keck

RGB: [Fe/H]~+0.1, [a/Fe]~solar

Ryde & Schultheis '15 CRIRES@VLT

Rich+'17, Nandakumar+'18, Thorsbro+'20

but also metal-poor!

Do+'15, Schultheis+'15, Ryde+'16

# IFU spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

spectrograph	telescope	spectral range	max spec resolution	max f.o.v.	max spaxel
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## IFU - diffraction limited

SINFONI	VLT	YJ,H,K	4,000	8" x 8"	250mas
OSIRIS	Keck	YJ,H,K	4,000	4.8" x 6.4"	100mas
MUSE	VLT	visible	4,000	7.5" x 7.5" NFM	25mas
NIRSPEC	JWST	YJ,H,K,L,M	2,700	3" x 3"	100mas
ERIS	VLT	J,H,K	4&8,000	8" x 8"	250mas
MAVIS	VLT	visible	5&12,000	8" x 8"	50mas

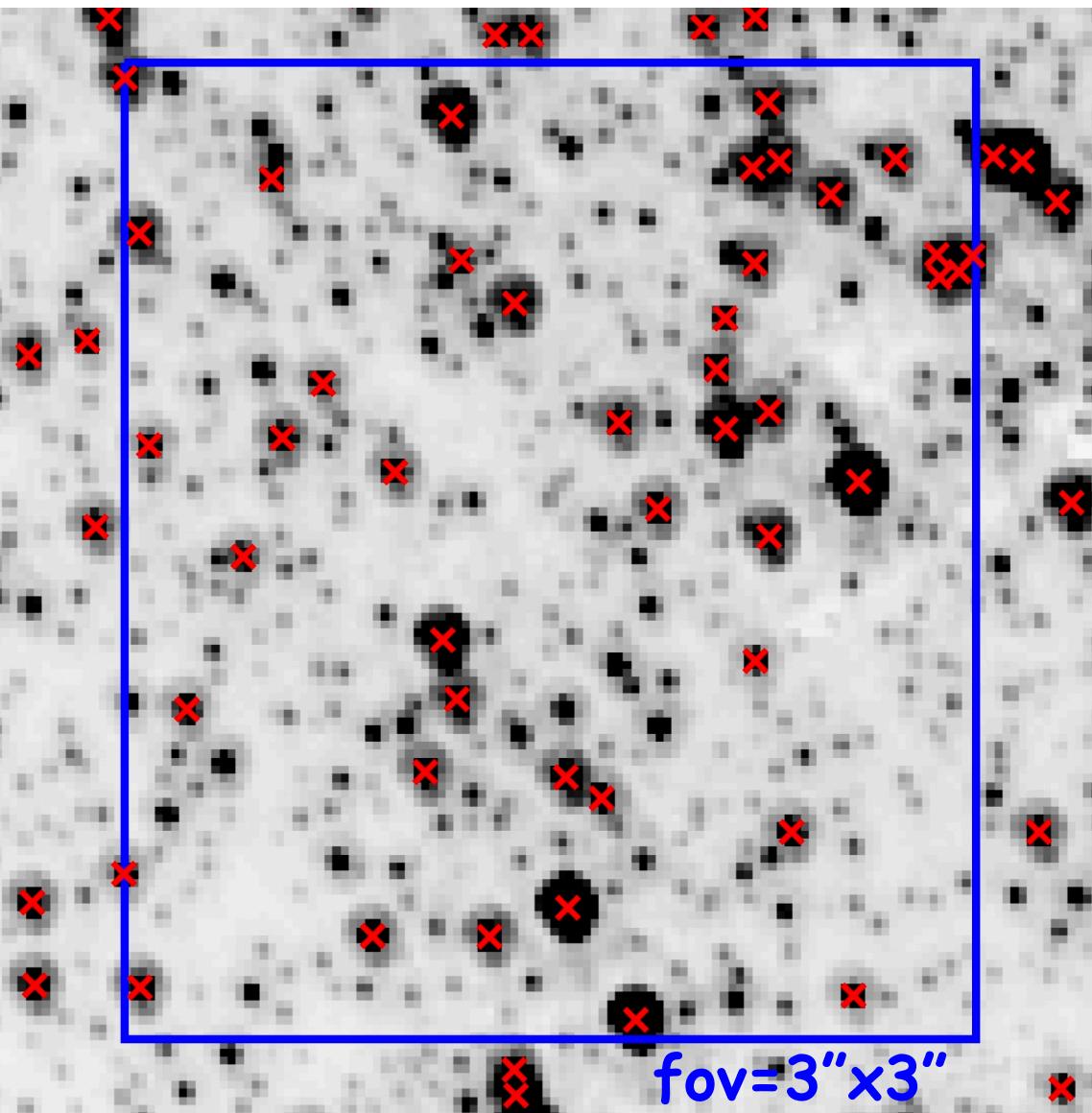
## IFU - GLAO/seeing limited

KMOS	VLT	YJ,H,K	4,000	24 IFUs 2.8"x2.8"	200mas
MUSE	VLT	0.465-0.930	4,000	1' x 1' WFM	200mas

current generation of IFUs have only low spectral resolution  
mostly RVs with a few km/s errors and a global metallicity

# ELT-HARMONI spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

ACS-HRC 25 mas/pix



Galactic star cluster

Mass =  $2.6 \times 10^6 M_\odot$

R<sub>core</sub> = 7.2'' c=1.8

in the central ~3''x3''

spaxel of 20mas, R~20,000

~600 stars down to H~19

chemical abundances

RVs with < 1 km/s accuracy &

VD profile in bins of ~0.3''

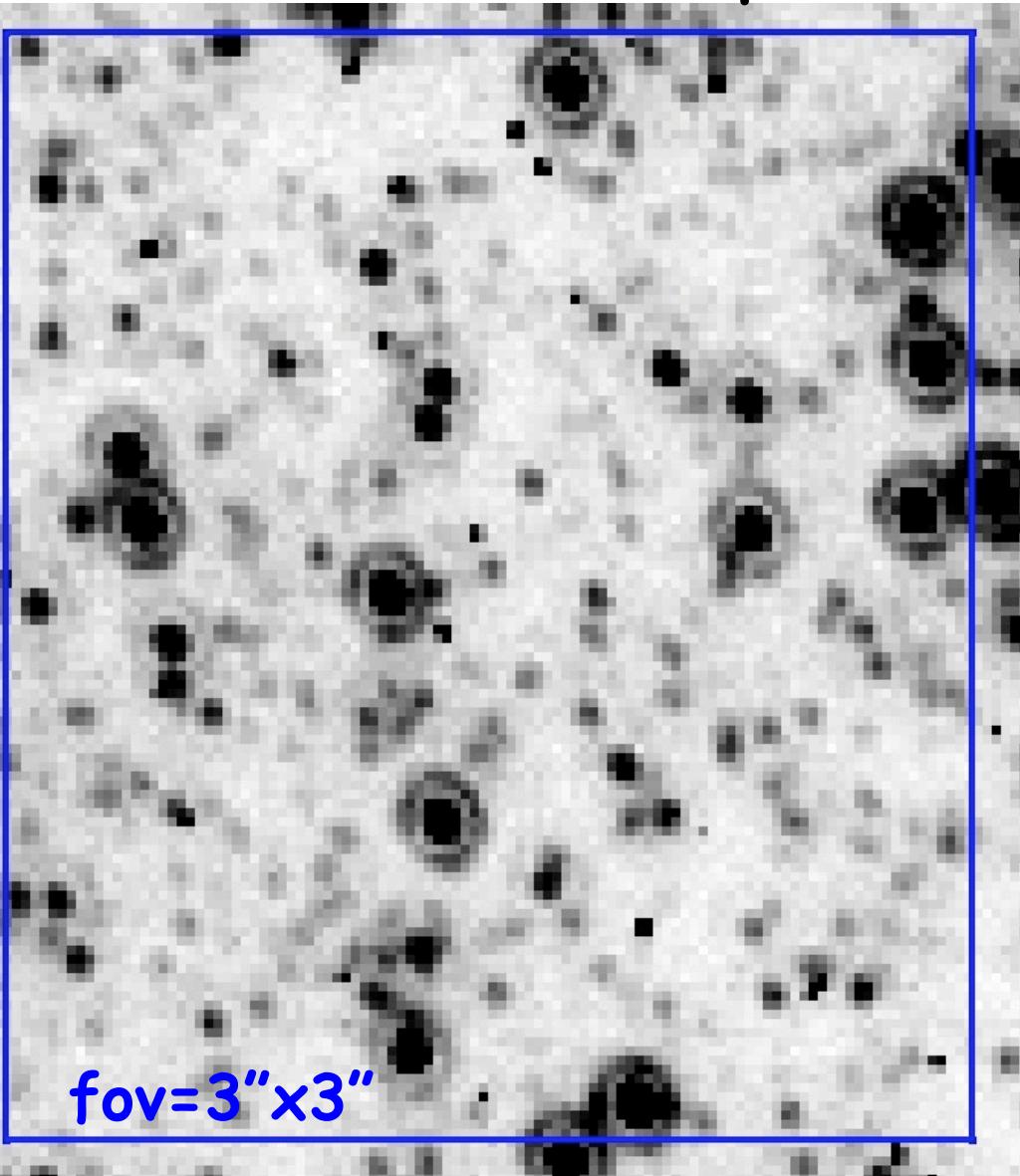
central 1 arcsec →  
sampling the sphere of  
influence of an IMBH

$$r_{\text{BH}} \sim G \times M_{\text{BH}} / \sigma^2 \sim 0.9''$$

$$M_{\text{BH}} = 2 \times 10^3 M_\odot \quad \sigma = 14 \text{ km/s} \quad D = 10 \text{ kpc}$$

# ELT-HARMONI spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

ACS-HRC 25 mas/pix



NGC 121

SMC star cluster

Mass =  $3 \times 10^5 M_\odot$

$R_{\text{core}} = 10''$  c=0.9

in the central 3''x3''

spaxel of 20mas, R~20,000

~200 stars down to H~20

chemical abundances

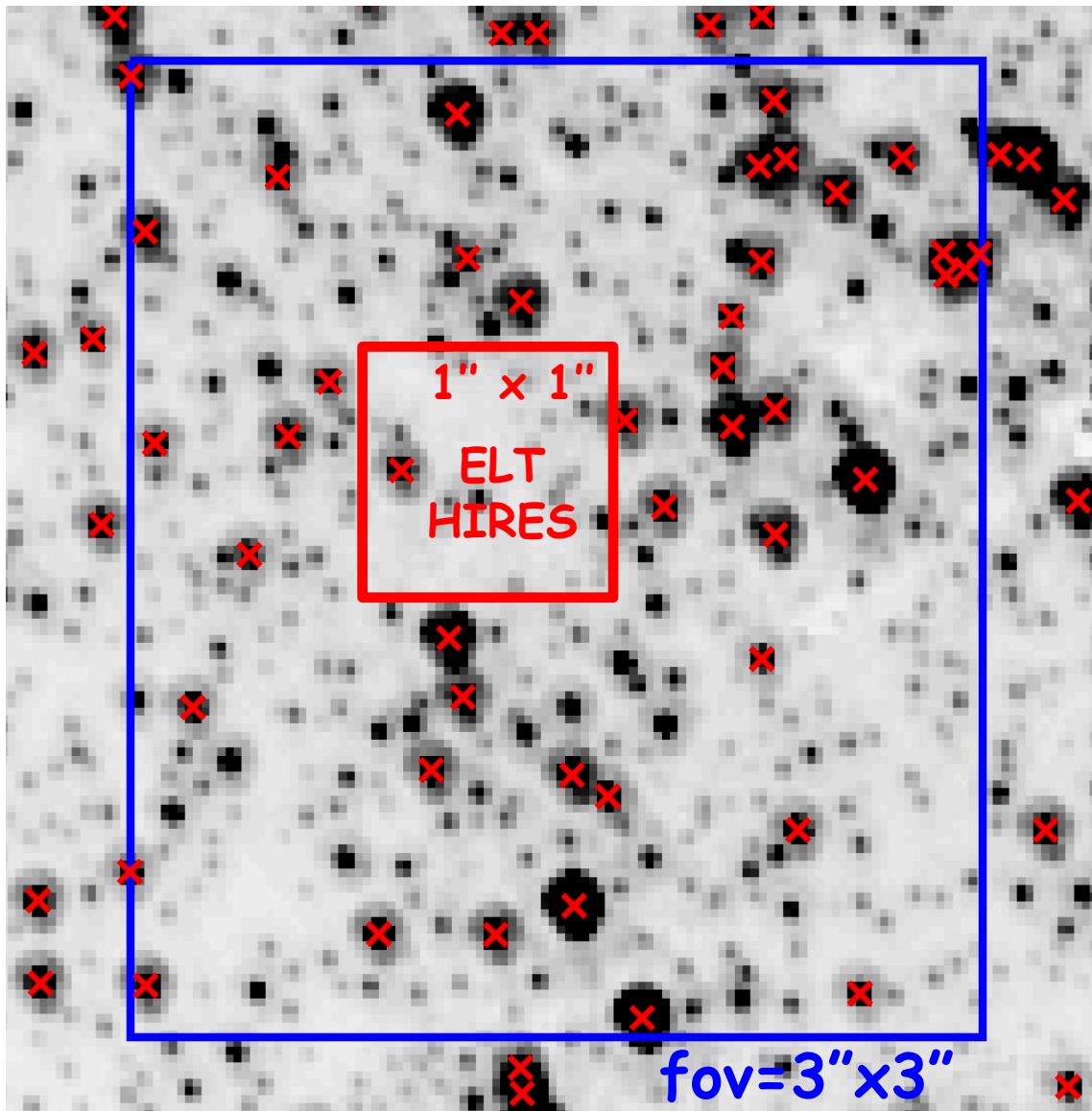
RVs with <1 km/s accuracy &

VD profile in bins of ~0.5''

# ELT-HIRES spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

## current design

small IFU+SCAO with 69 spaxels of possible scales from 7 to 120 mas



R=100,000

full spectral coverage  
in one exposure from  
0.9 to 1.8 micron

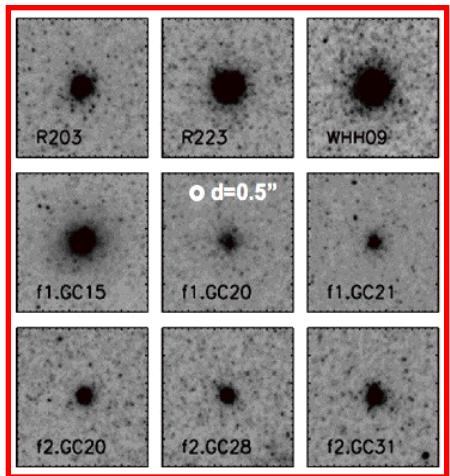
complementary to [HARMONI](#)

**detailed chemistry**  
of <10 stars simultaneously

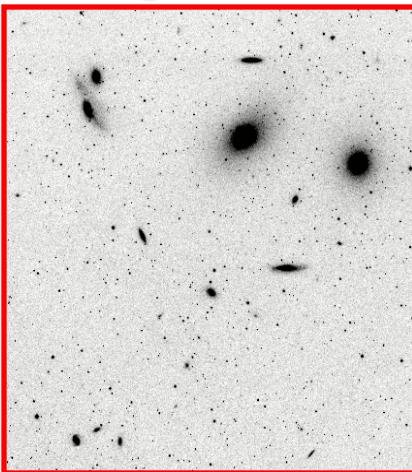
# ELT spectroscopy in dense stellar fields

extra-galactic star clusters → UCDs at 5-20 Mpc  
tracers of the stellar pops, IMFs etc. of their host galaxy

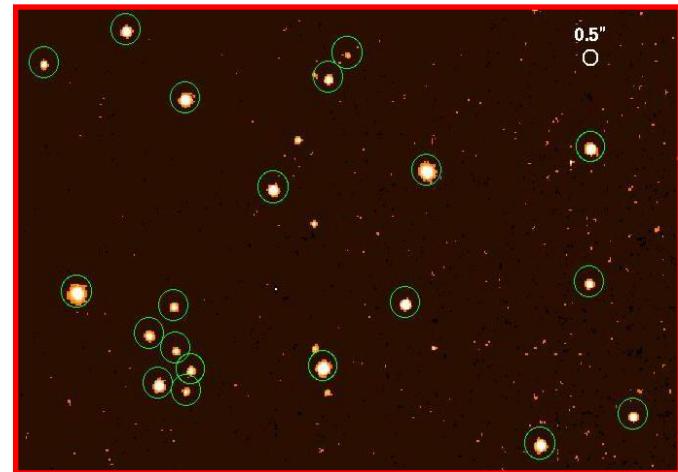
Centaurus



Virgo Cluster



M87



typical extension → from a few hundreds mas to a few arcsec

integrated light → detailed chemistry & dynamical mass

velocity dispersion & rotational profiles in annuli of some core radii (~100mas) out to a few tidal radii → check for DM halos