

Characterising stars with AIMS and SPInS

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Introduction

- AIMS = Asteroseismic Inferences on a Massive Scale
 - goal: obtain probability distribution functions (PDFs) for stellar properties, from a set of classic (Teff, log g, [M/H]) and seismic constraints
- SPInS = Stellar Parameters INferred Systematically
 - basically the same as AIMS without the seismic constraints
 - can be seen as a spin-off of AIMS

AIMS website

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SPInS website

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Some history – AIMS

- 2015: initial version written during my postdoc in Birmingham
 - written in python in order to make it easier for others to contribute to the code
- 2016: tutorial on AIMS with Mikkel Lund
 - various parts of the code are translated to Fortran to speed up calculations
- 2019: publication of Rendle et al. (2019, MNRAS 484, 771)
- 2021: inclusion of age parameter (in addition to physical age)
- 2019, 2022: inclusion of seismic indicators based on WhoSGIAd method (Farnir et al. 2019)
 - method based on Gram-Schmidt orthogonalisation

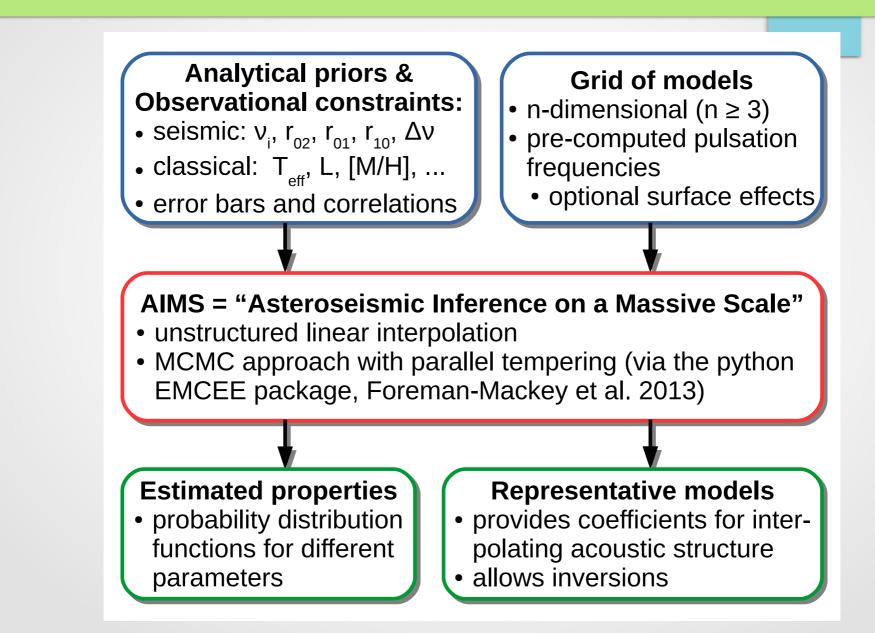
AIMS – contributors

- Daniel R. Reese
- Andrea Miglio
- Benoît D. C. P. Herbert
- Ben Rendle
- Gael Buldgen
- Guy R. Davies
- Martin Farnir
- Martin W. Long
- Mikkel N. Lund
- Tiago L. Campante

Some history – SPInS

- 2018: initial version written for the 5th International Young Astronomer's School (Paris)
 - derived from AIMS
 - included a physical age and an age parameter from the start
- 2020:
 - official release
 - improved treatment of age
 - possibility of handling multiple systems
 - publication of Lebreton & Reese (2020, A&A 642, 88)
- Main contributors: Daniel R. Reese & Yveline Lebreton

Flowchart



Observational constraints

classic constraints (typically Gaussians)



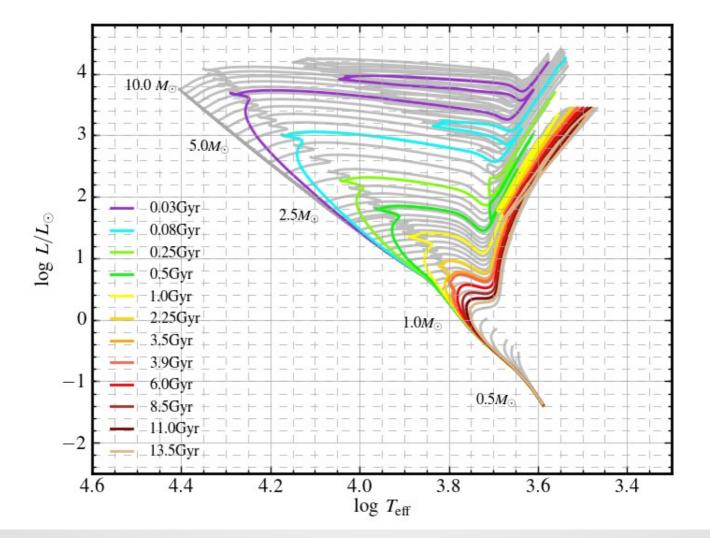
- may apply elementary functions (e.g. log)
- may also specify other distributions (uniform, truncated gaussian)
- seismic constraints (AIMS only)
 - individual frequencies with ℓ and with or without n
 - error distributions are assumed to be Gaussian and independant
 - frequency combinations (e.g. separations/ratios) are calculated subsequently and correlations are calculated analytically

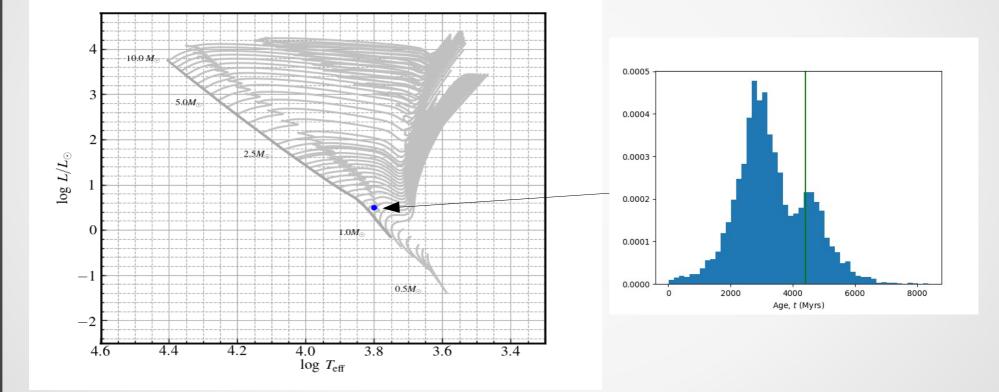
Grid of models

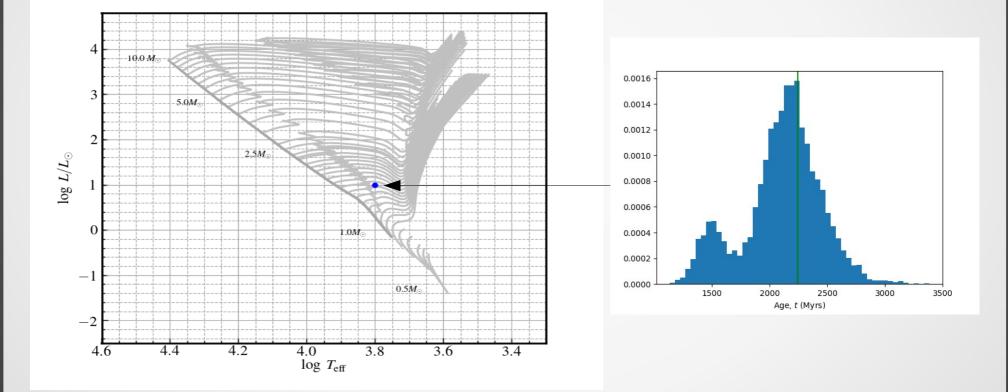
- made of evolutionary tracks characterised by a set of parameter (e.g. M, X, Y)
 - model parameters read from list file by AIMS/SPInS
 - AIMS/SPInS will reconstruct the evolutionary tracks

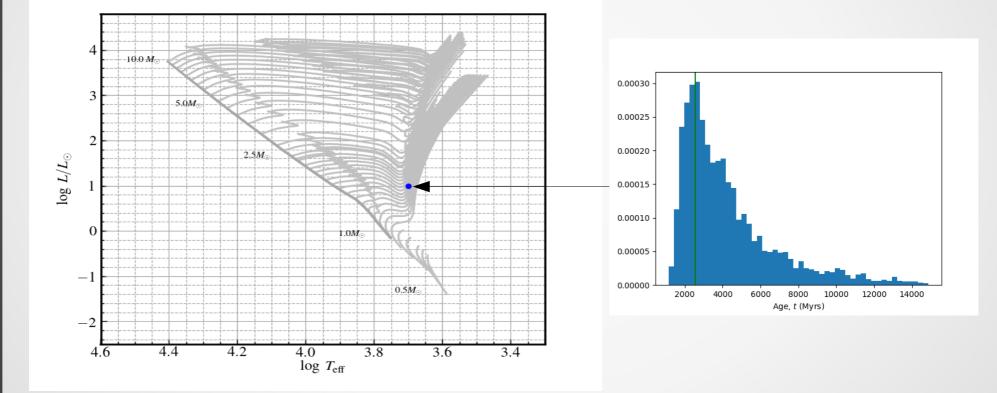
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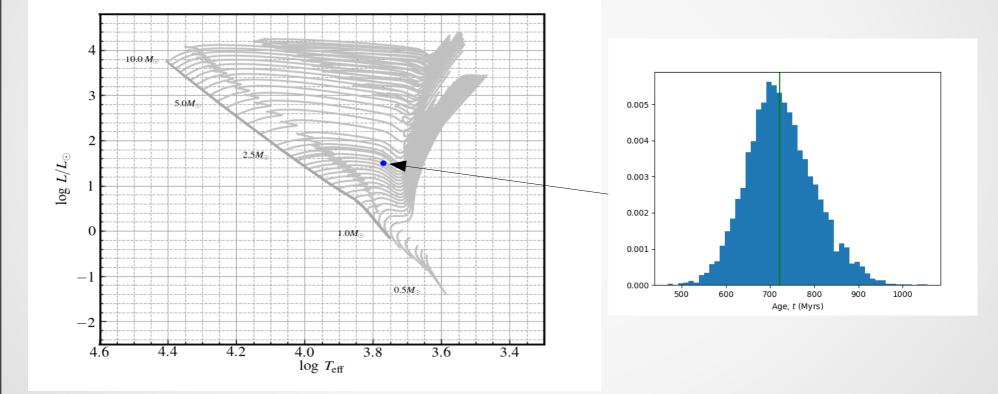
- for AIMS only: model frequencies stored in individual files (their paths are specified in the list file)
- a first run is necessary to generate a binary grid file with all of the models parameters, frequencies, and grid tessellation (see interp.)

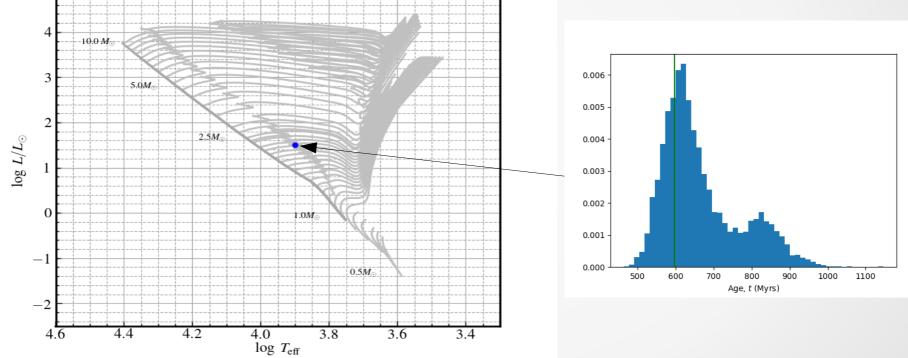


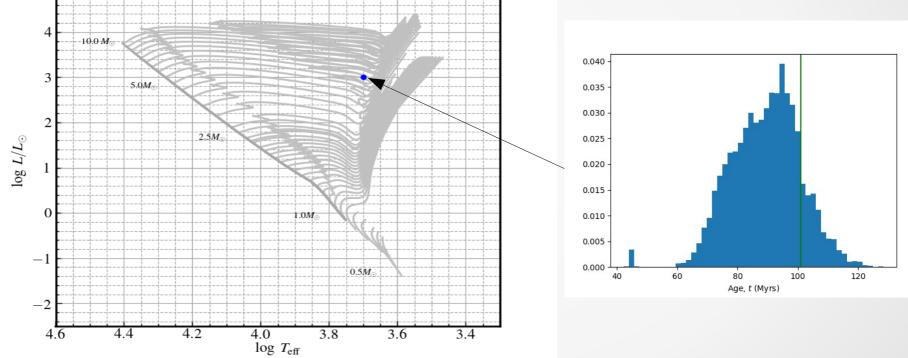




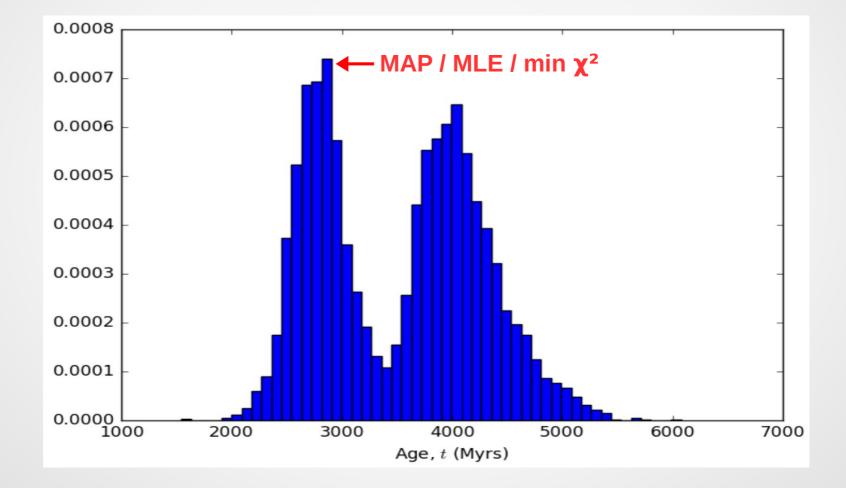








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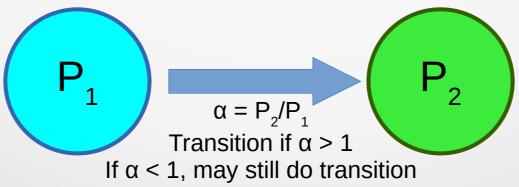


• **Bayes' theorem:** $P(model|data) \propto \underbrace{P(data|model)}_{Likelihood function} \underbrace{P(model)}_{Prior}$

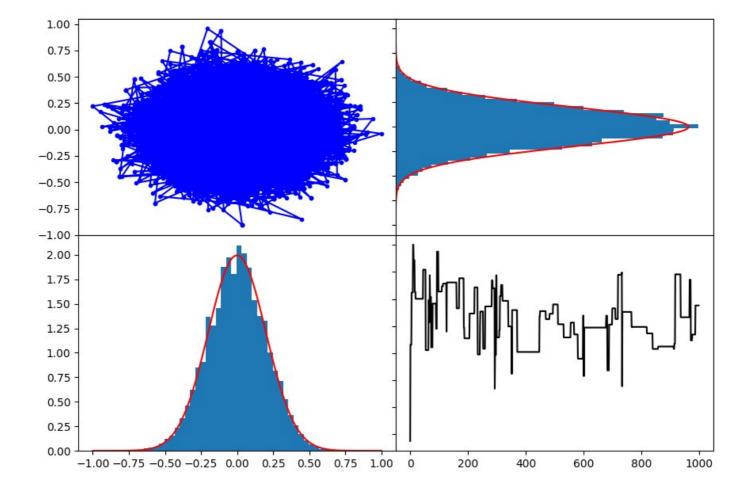
- Priors: initial mass function (IMF), metallicity distribution function (MDF), star formation rate (SFR)
- Likelihood function: observational constraints

The MCMC algorithm

- MCMC = Monte Carlo Markov Chain
- one approach: Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
 - explores the model parameter space so as to
 - spend little time in unlikely regions
 - spend a lot of time in likely regions
 - the distribution of explored points corresponds to PDF



The MCMC algorithm



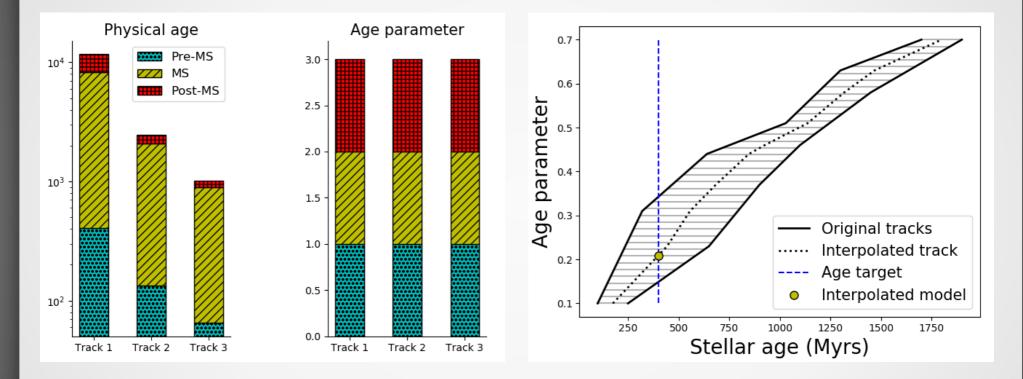
Model interpolation

- two parts
 - age interpolation
 - track interpolation

Age interpolation

- AIMS/SPInS uses 2 age parameters:
 - the physical age, t
 - the equivalent age parameter, τ (corresponds to evolutionary stage)
- MCMC according to age, t
 - this avoids introducing unwanted priors on age
 - components of multiple systems typically have the same physical age
- interpolation according to τ
 - this enables combining models at equivalent evolutionary stages when interpolating across tracks

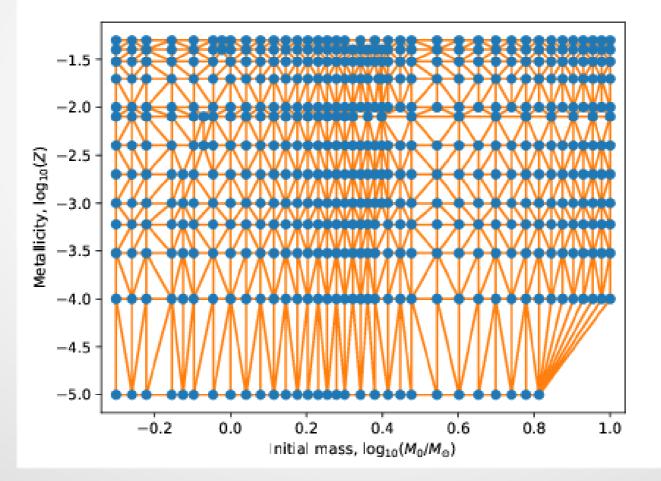
Age interpolation



- AIMS/SPInS is constantly going back and forth between t and τ
 - need for efficient algorithm

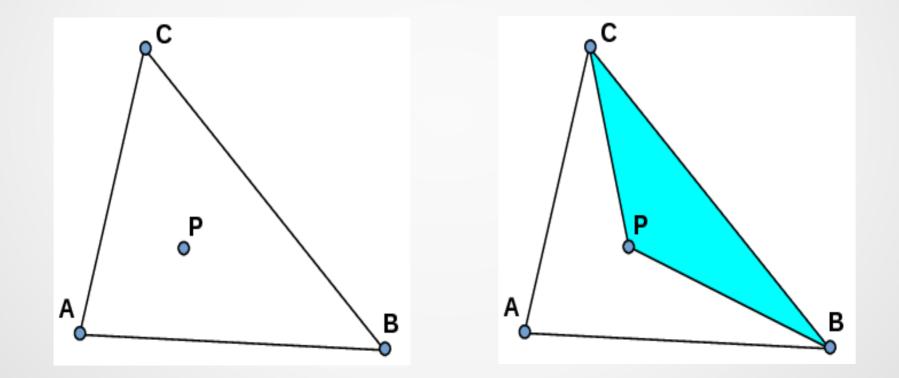
Track interpolation

apply a Delaunay tessellation



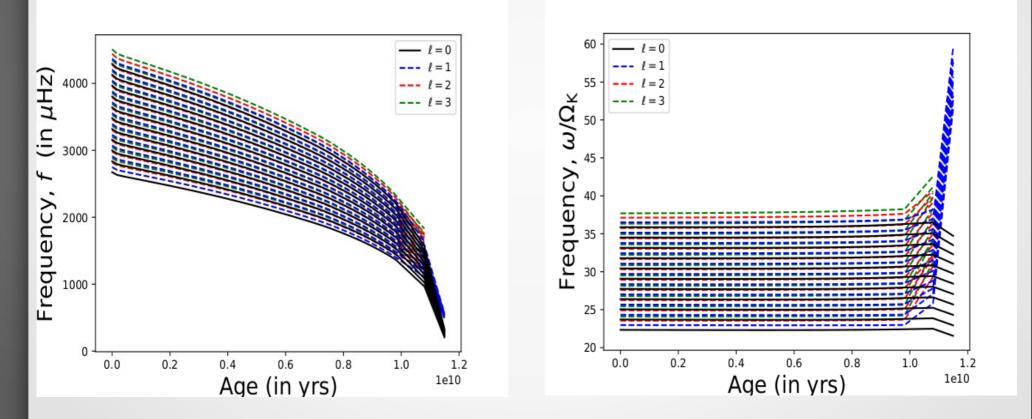
Track interpolation

calculate linear integration weights within selected simplex



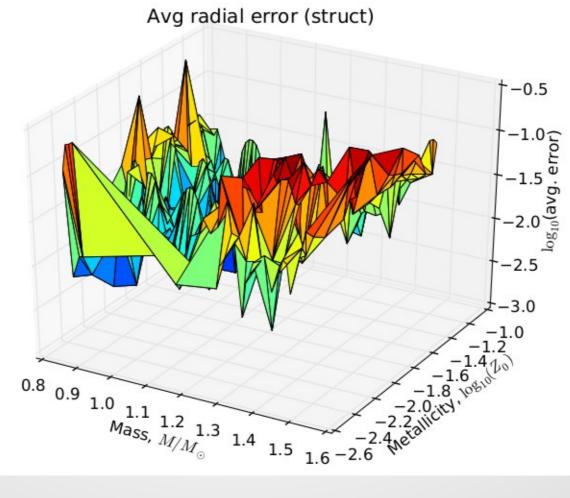
Frequency interpolation (AIMS only)

non-dimensional frequencies are interpolated along tracks



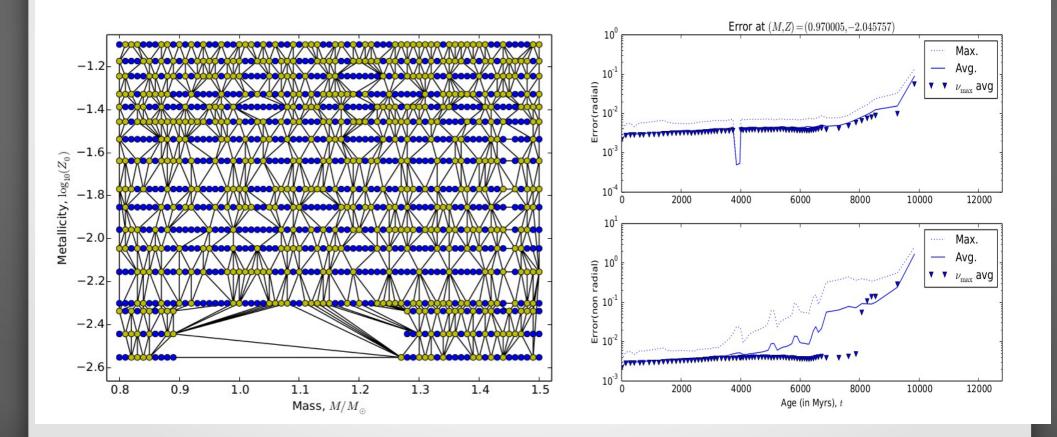
Accuracy of the interpolation

 internal tests may be applied to analyse interpolation accuracy

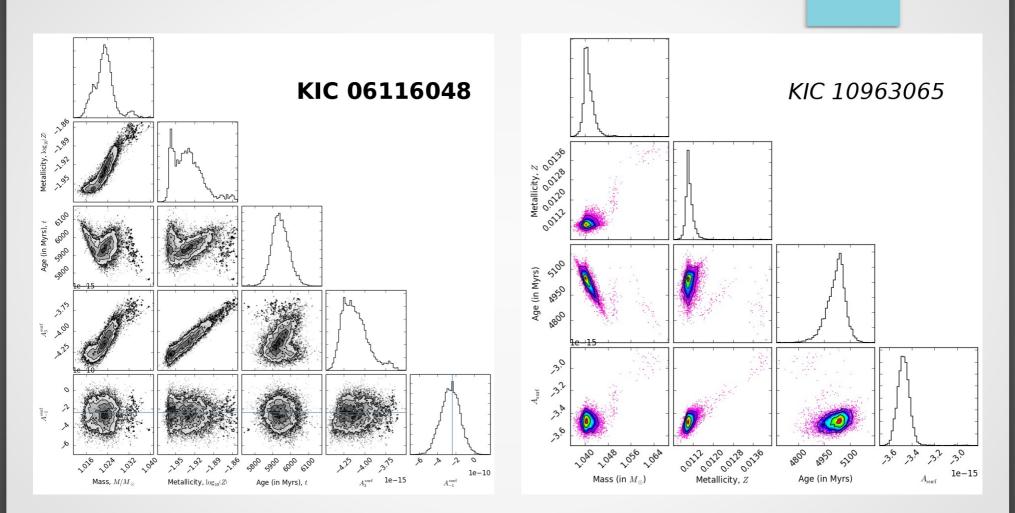


Accuracy of the interpolation

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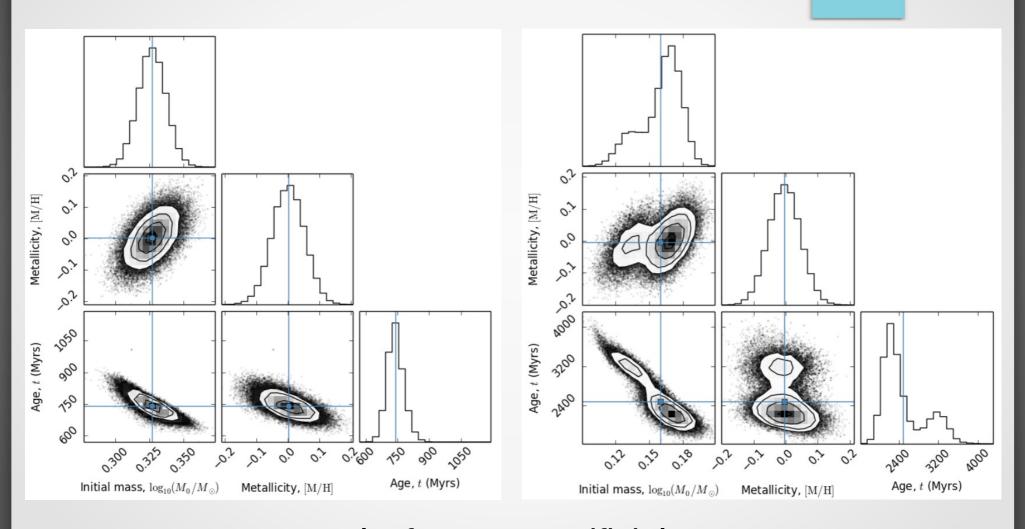


Some results with AIMS



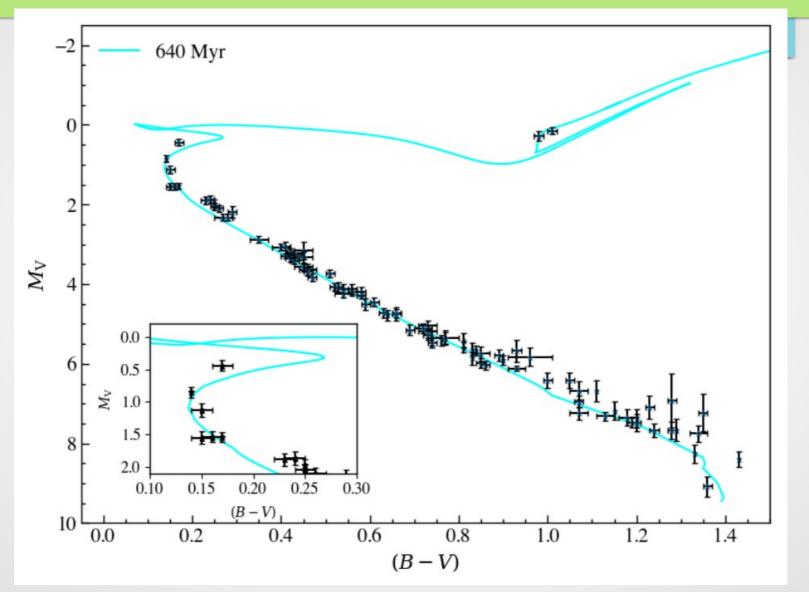
Solutions obtained with AIMS for Kepler LEGACY stars (Lund et al. 2017, Silva Aguirre 2017) – solutions are sometimes multimodal

Some results with SPInS



Results for some artificial stars

Some results with SPInS



Best fitting isochrone obtained with 92 stars from the Hyades cluster

Conclusion & perspectives

- AIMS and SPInS are helping to characterise stars and improve our understanding of various effects, e.g.:
 - AIMS: internal systematic effects and surface effects (Nsamba et al. 2018)
 - SPInS starting to be used extensively for the FLAME work package for Gaia and various other groups
- future improvements
 - automatic stopping criterion for the MCMC sampler
 - possibility of isolating separate modes in multimodal solutions
 - extend AIMS to handle multiple systems
 - extend AIMS to handle rotating stars