

Measuring The Initial Mass Function in Embedded Clusters

Form Cores to Clusters, Porto Portugal, Oct. 2004



Optical Image



Infrared Image

Team: Charles Lada (CfA), Gus Muench (CfA), Liz Lada (Florida), Joao Alves (ESO)

Young Embedded Clusters and the IMF

Advantages:

- **Present day mass function = IMF**
few stars lost due to stellar evolution;
few stars lost due to dynamical evolution.
- **Most members are PMS stars and are brighter than any other time in their subsequent evolution.**
- **Richness: statistically significant sampling of entire range of stellar mass. Membership issues also minimized.**

- ## Disadvantages:
- **PMS = nonunique mass-luminosity relation.**
 - **Extinction (variable).**
 - **Contamination from circumstellar matter**

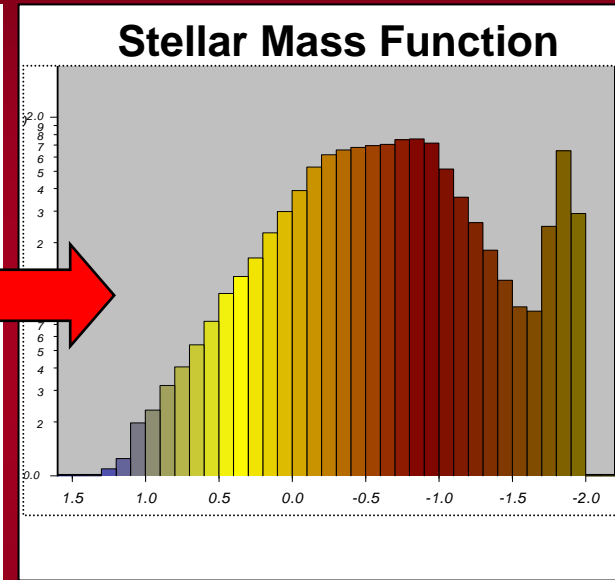
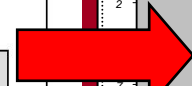
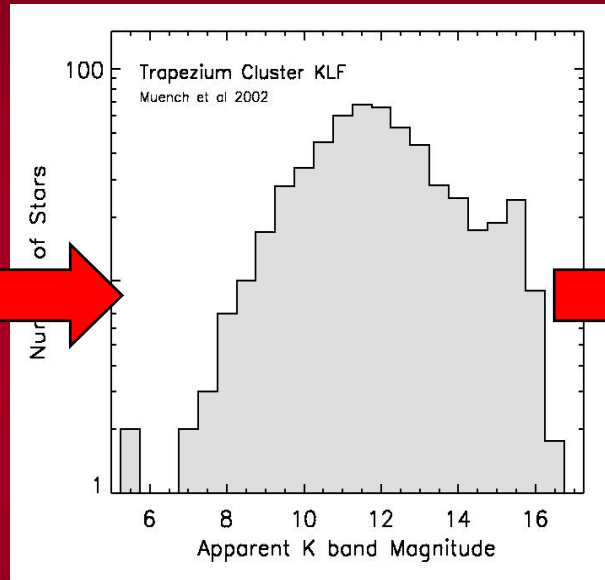
Why Infrared ?



Why Infrared ?



Modelling The IMF in Young Embedded Clusters



From Luminosities to Masses: Defining the Initial Mass Function

A mass-luminosity relation is needed to convert stellar luminosities into masses.

For main sequence stars:

$$L_{bol} \sim m_*^p \text{ so:}$$

$$M_{bol} \sim \log(L_{bol}) \sim \log(m_*)$$

**Therefore it is appropriate and useful to define an *Initial Mass Function* (IMF)
 $\xi(\log m_*) = \#$ of stars per unit volume per unit logarithmic mass**

The IMF and the ILF are related as:

$$\Psi(M_\lambda) dM_\lambda = \xi(\log m_*) d\log m_*$$

From Luminosities to Masses:

$$\Psi(M_\lambda) = \xi(\log m) \frac{d \log m}{dM_\lambda}$$

ILF

IMF

Mass-to-luminosity relation

Notes:

The IMF is often expressed in the form:

A-

$$dN = \xi(\log m_*) d\log m_* = K m_*^{-\gamma} d\log m_*$$

B-

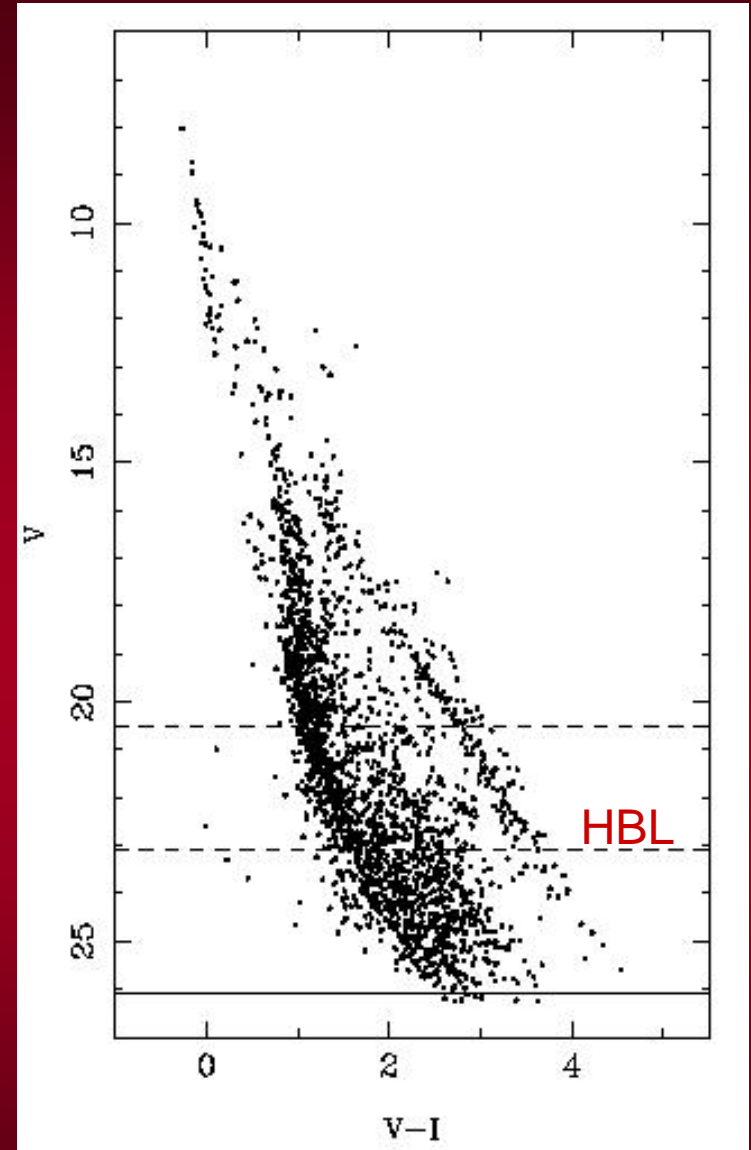
The IMF and the initial mass spectrum (IMS) are related by:

$$\xi(\log m_*) = m_* f(m_*) / 0.434$$

NGC 2362



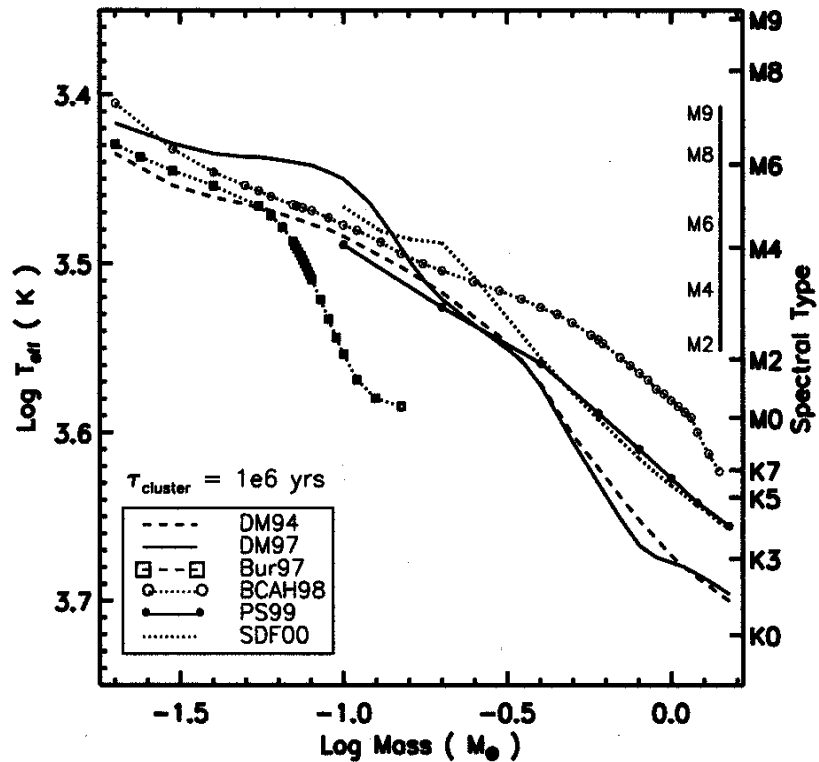
Alves, Moitinho, Lada, Lada, Muench 2004



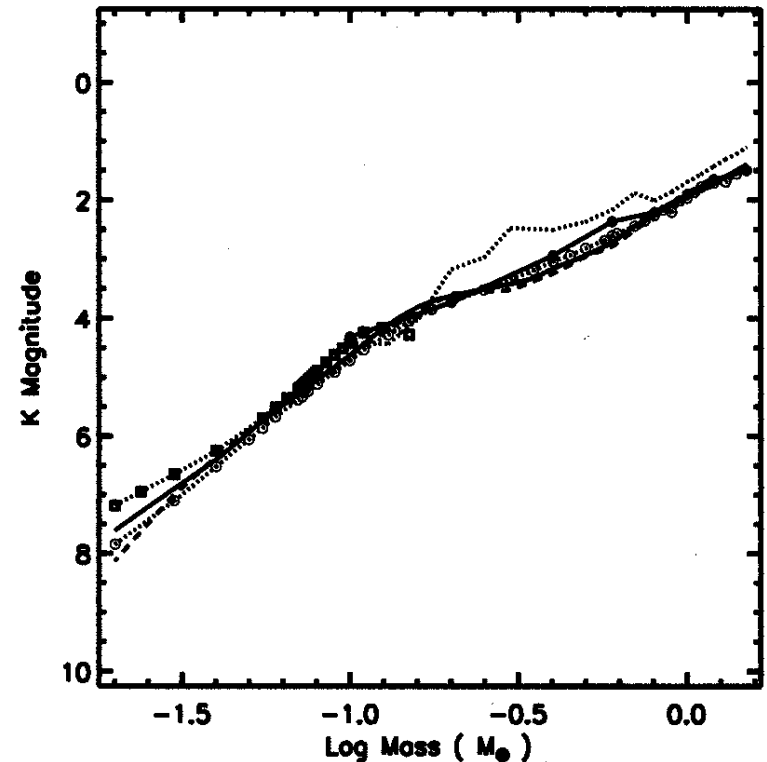
Stellar and PMS luminosities very sensitive to stellar mass!!

PMS Effective Temperatures and Luminosities

PMS luminosities are very sensitive to stellar masses.
Model KLFs are relatively insensitive to input PMS tracks!



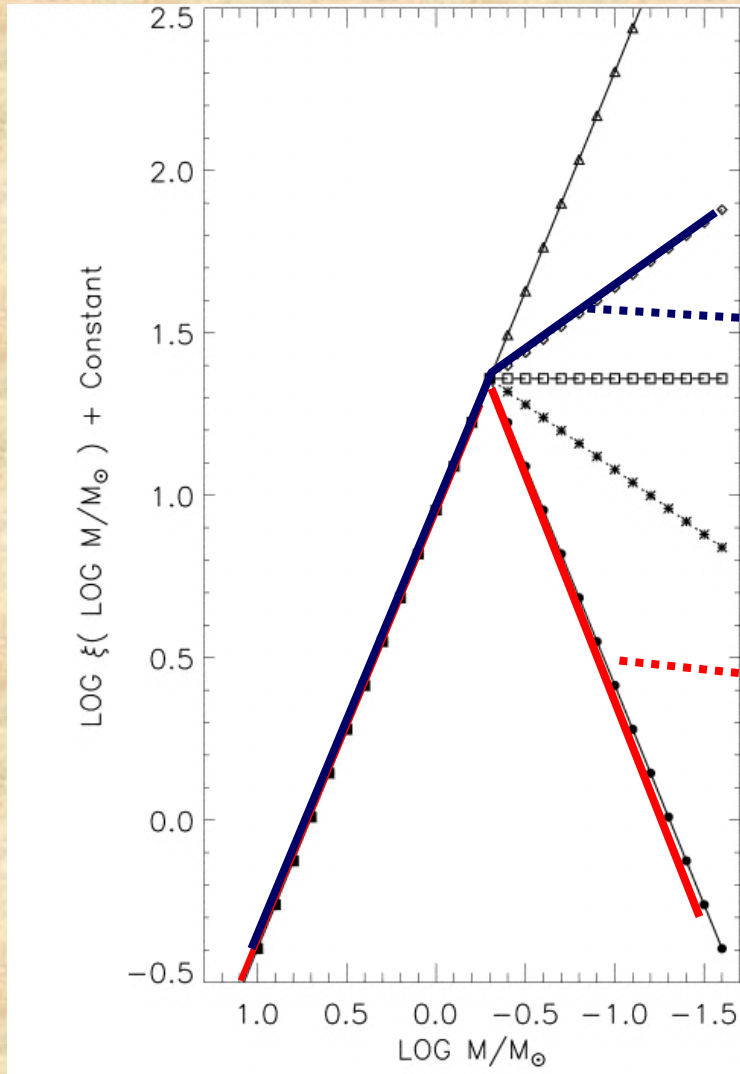
Predicted Effective Temperatures



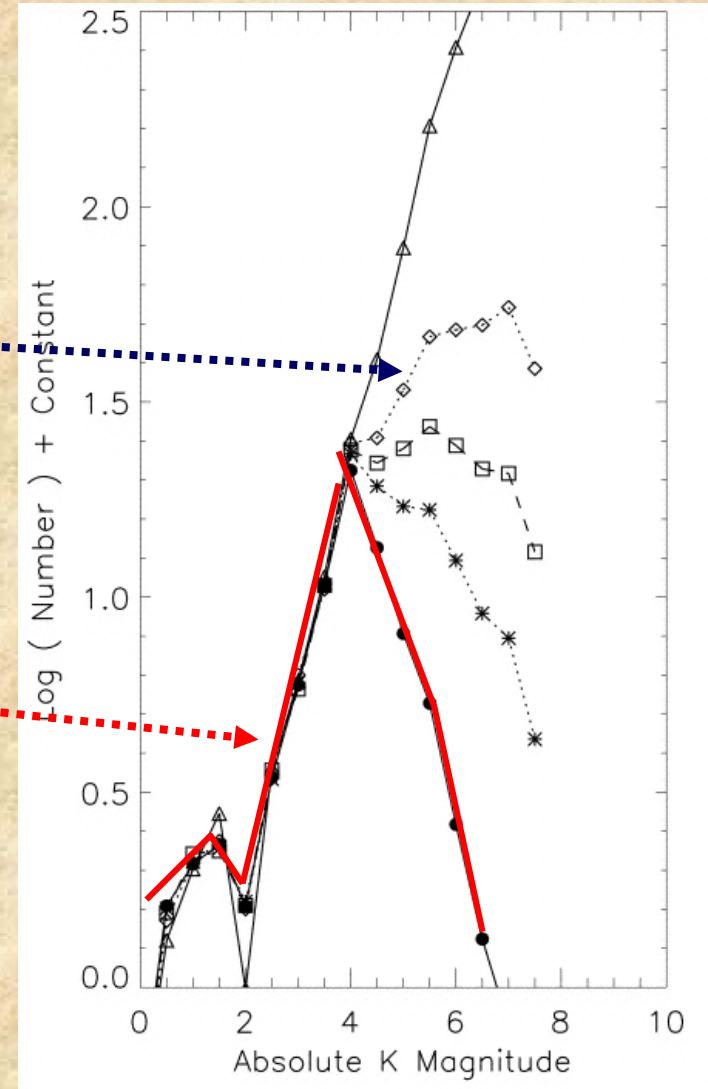
Predicted Luminosities

KLF Sensitivity to Underlying IMF

Form of KLF very sensitive to form of IMF!



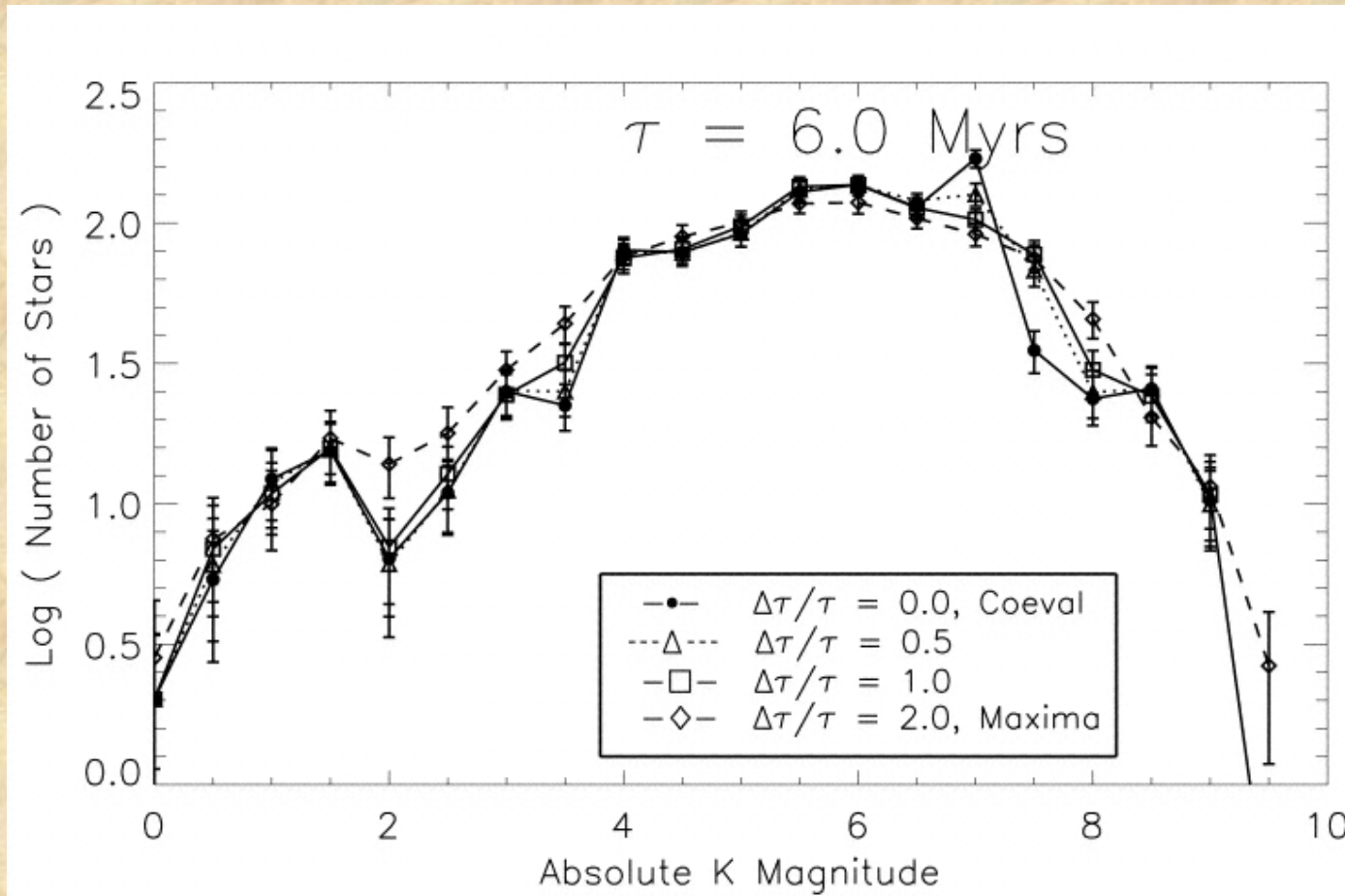
Input IMFs



Predicted Luminosity Functions

KLF Sensitivity to Ages

KLF depends on mean age but not age spread



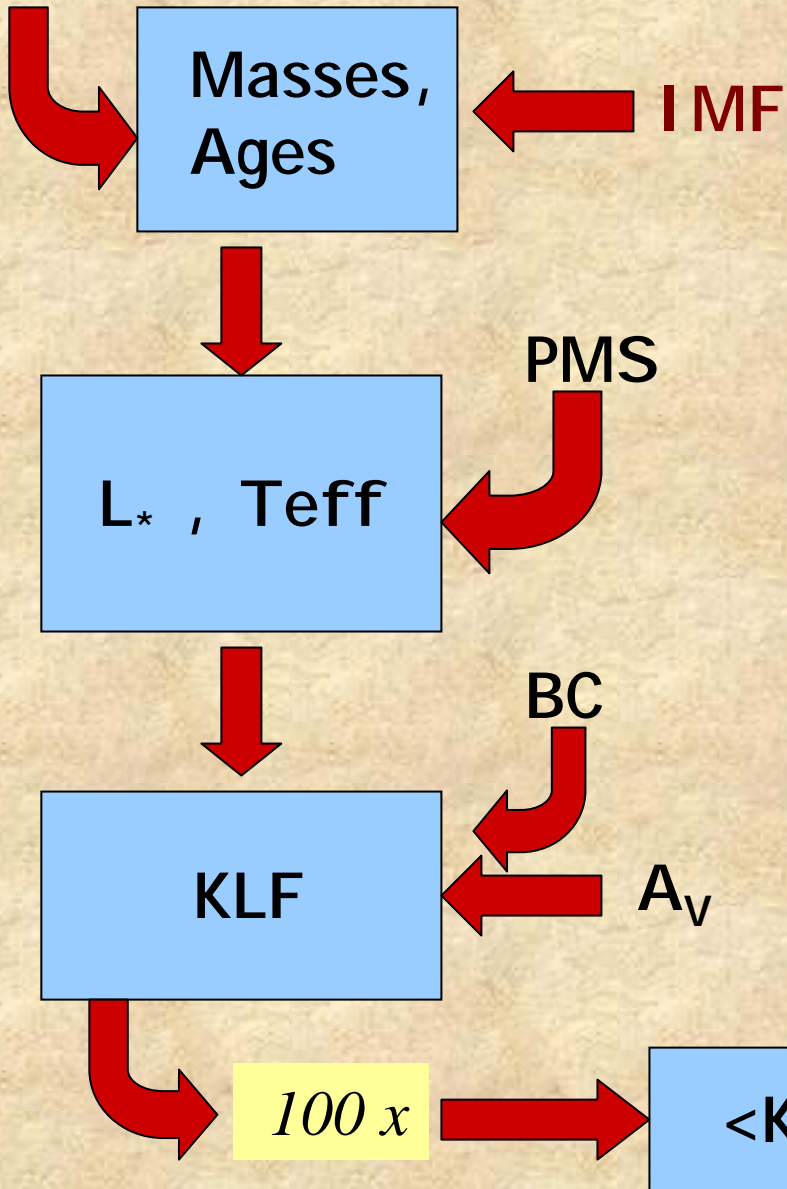
Luminosity Evolution

Method: Population Synthesis Models of Pre-Main Sequence Stellar Populations

- Monte Carlo based FORTRAN population synthesis models for pre-main sequence stars;
- Allows rapid changes to the fundamental parameters;
- Allows statistical tests;
- Allows for the inclusion of many physical inputs such as extinction, excess ir emission, and binarity;
- Produces model luminosity functions, color-color and color-mangitude diagrams as well as samples of any of the synthetic star's parameters.

Monte Carlo Modeling of the KLF

star formation history



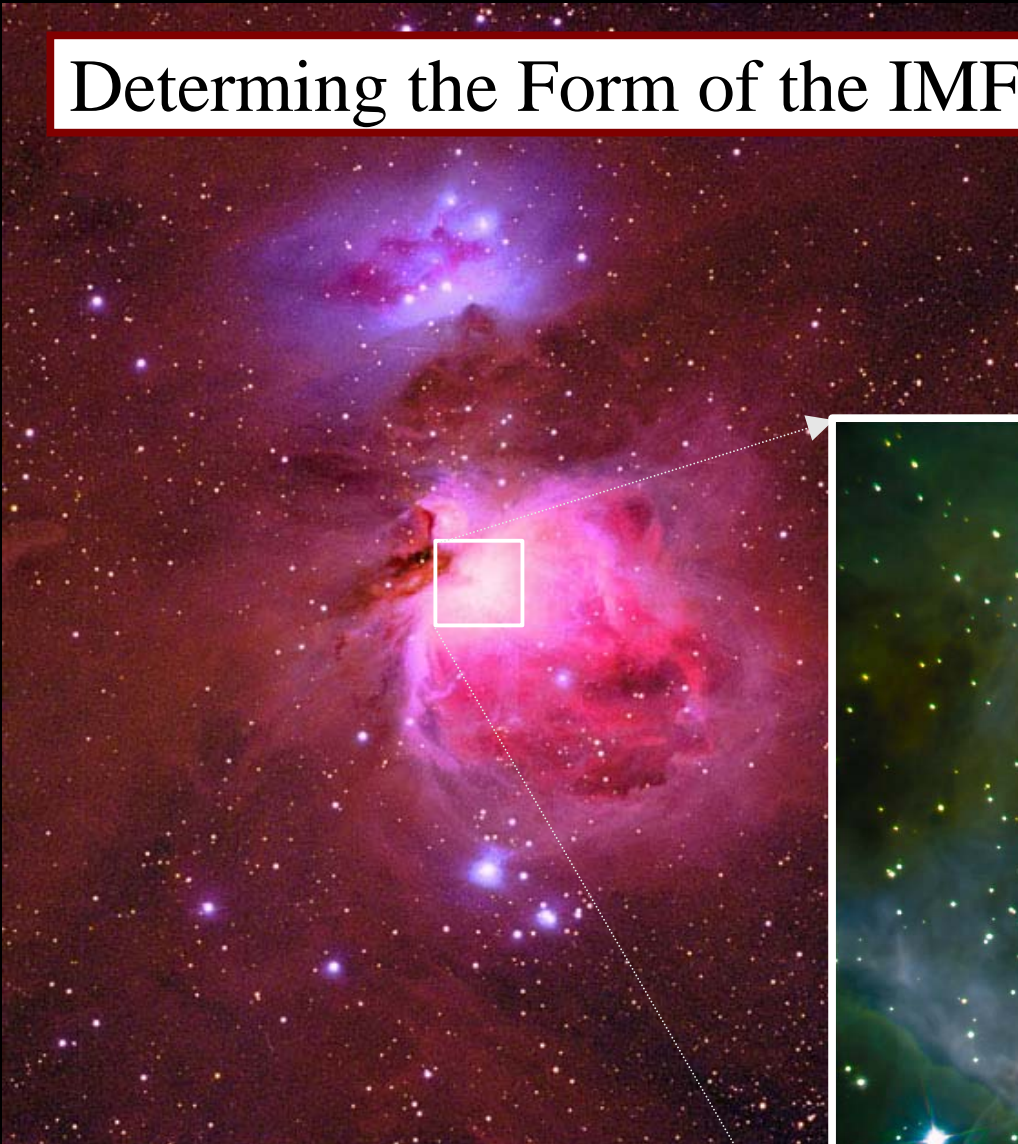
$$1) \quad \frac{dN}{dM_K} = \frac{dN}{d \log m} \times \frac{d \log m}{dM_K}$$

$$2) \quad \frac{d \log m}{dM_k} = f(t)$$

IMF

KLF(obs)

Determining the Form of the IMF in the Trapezium Cluster



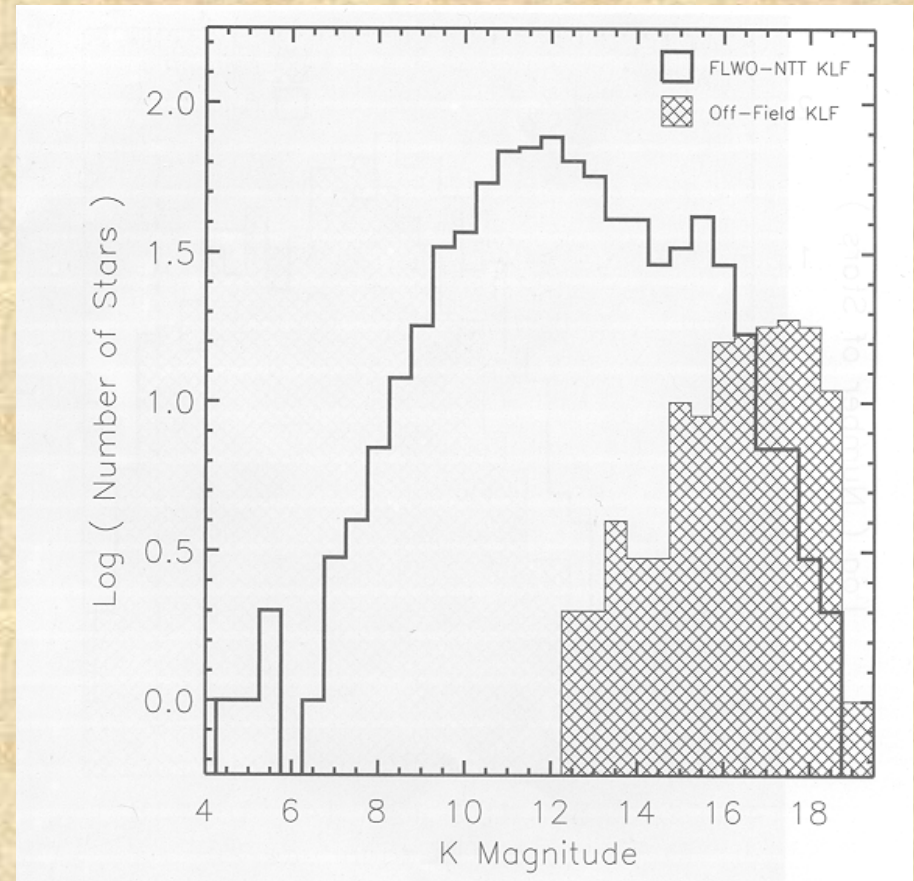
Photograph of Orion Cluster courtesy George Greaney

*ESO NTT JHKs Image of the Trapezium Cluster
Muench et al 2002*



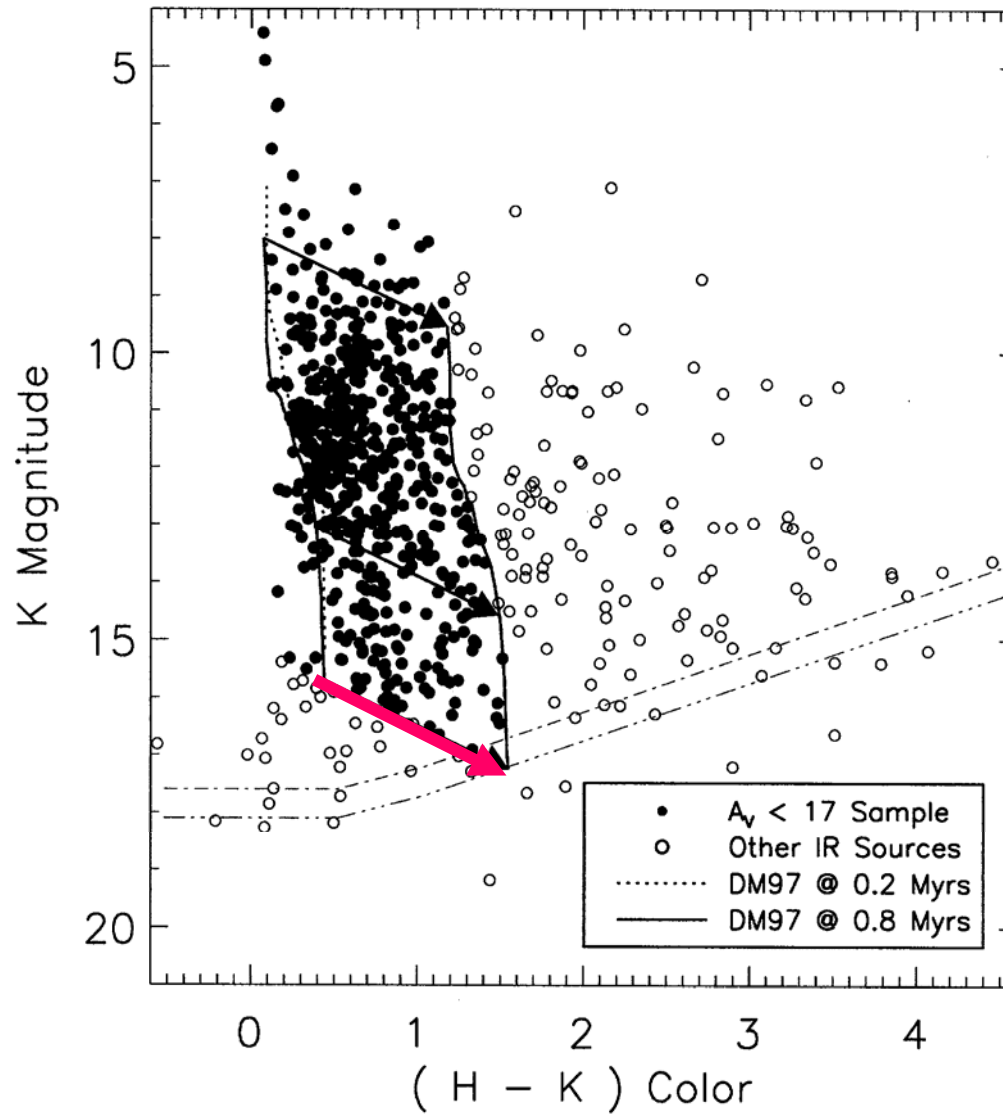
Stellar Luminosity Functions

- **Stellar Mass is not an observable quantity**
- **Stellar radiant flux or luminosity is the observable quantity**
- **Constructing the appropriate luminosity function is the starting point for determining the IMF**



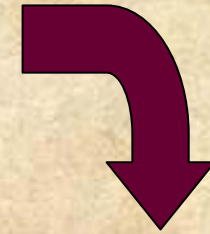
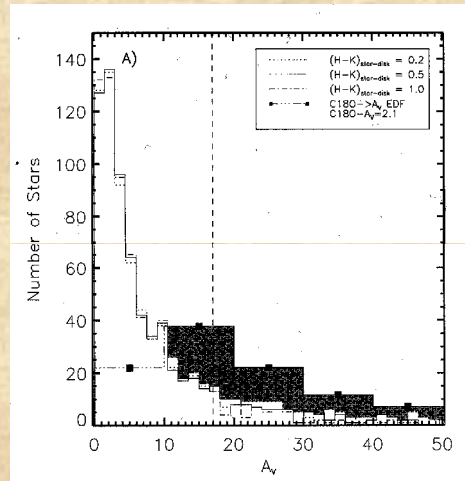
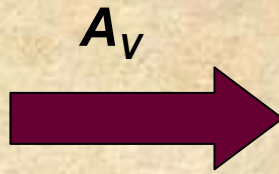
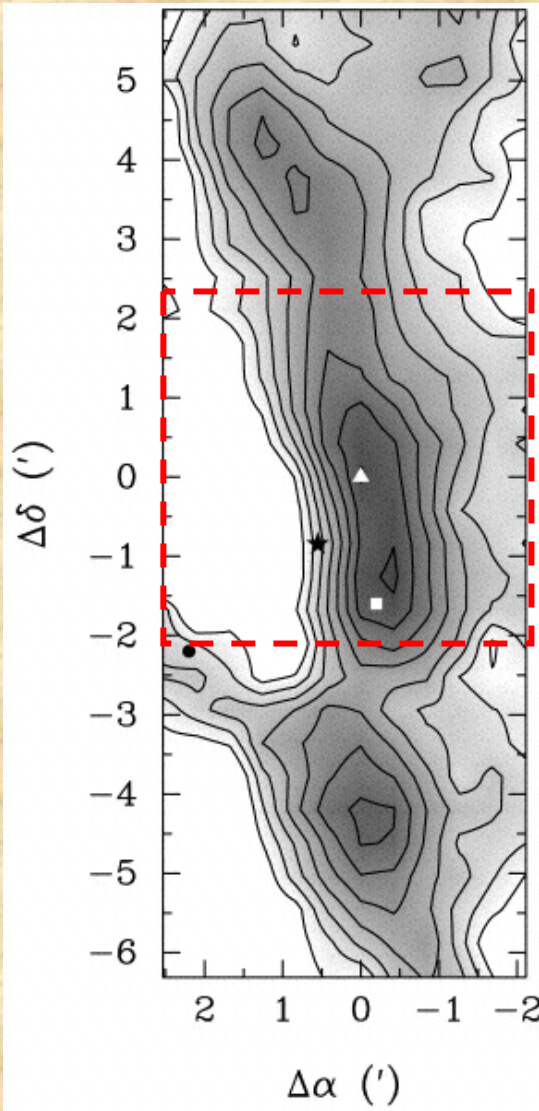
Infrared K-band luminosity function of the Trapezium cluster (Muench et al 2002).

Complete Magnitude-Limited KLF

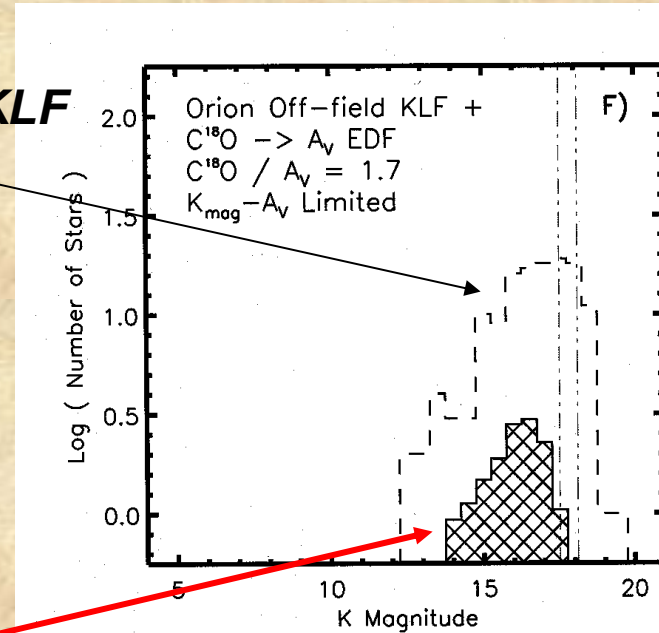


Field Star Correction

$N(C^{18}O)$



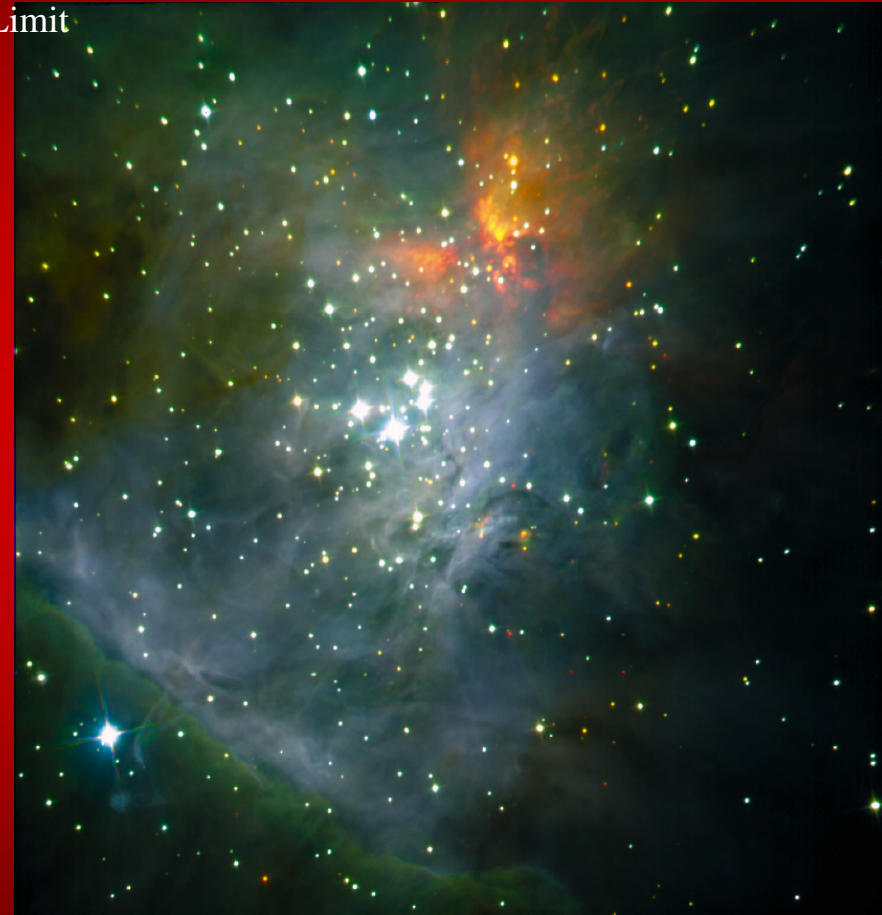
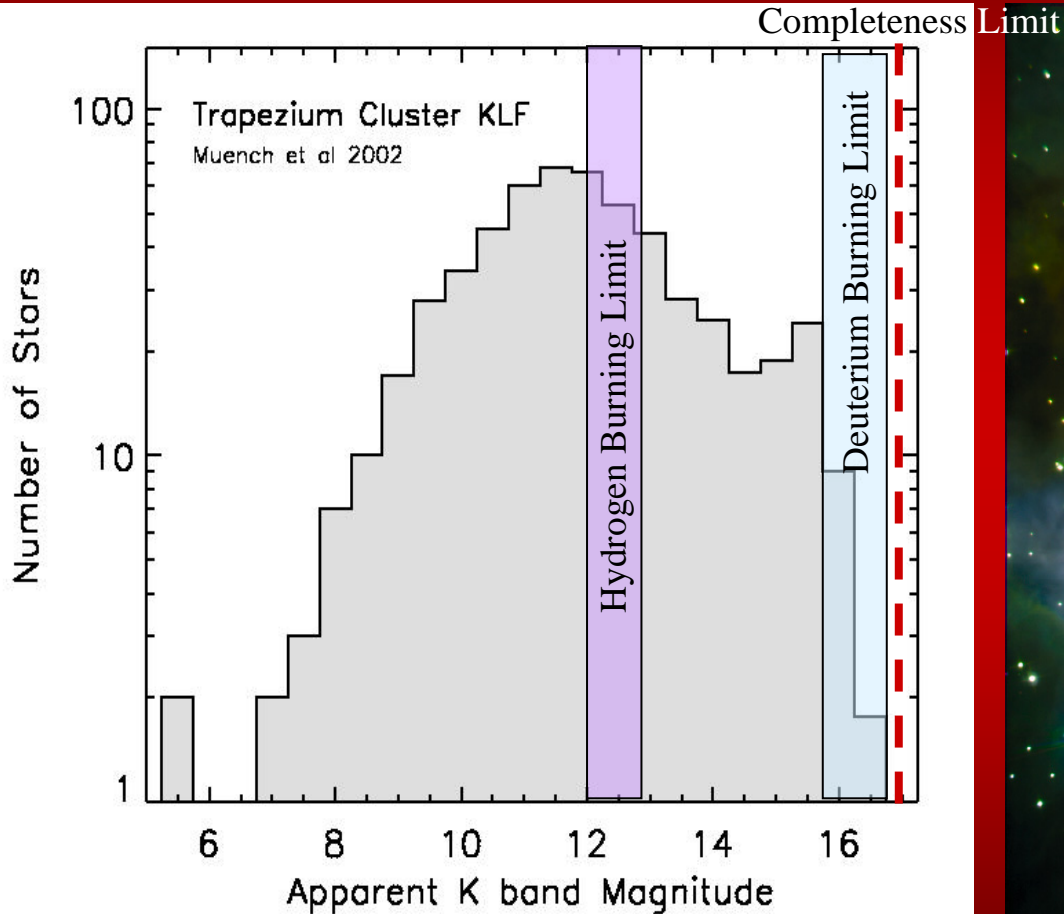
Unextincted control field KLF



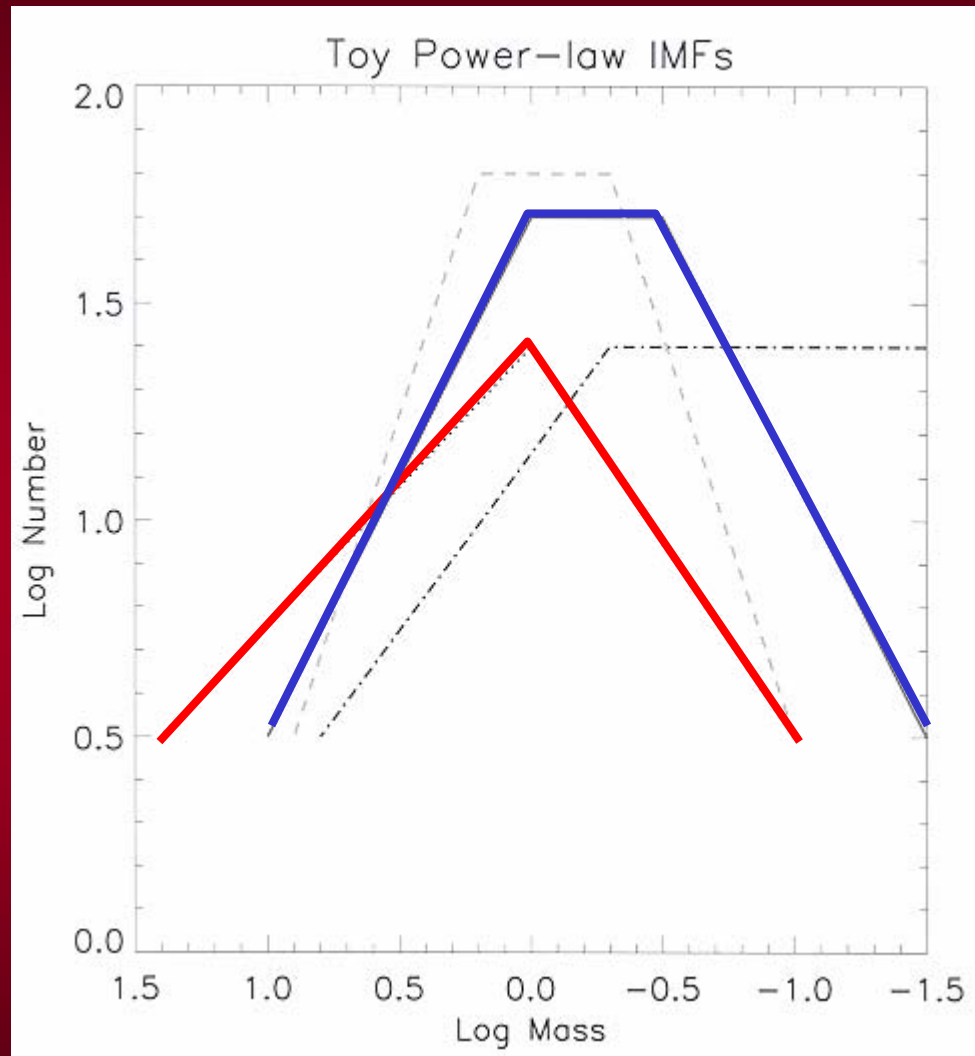
Extincted control field KLF

Embedded Clusters: Astrophysical Laboratories

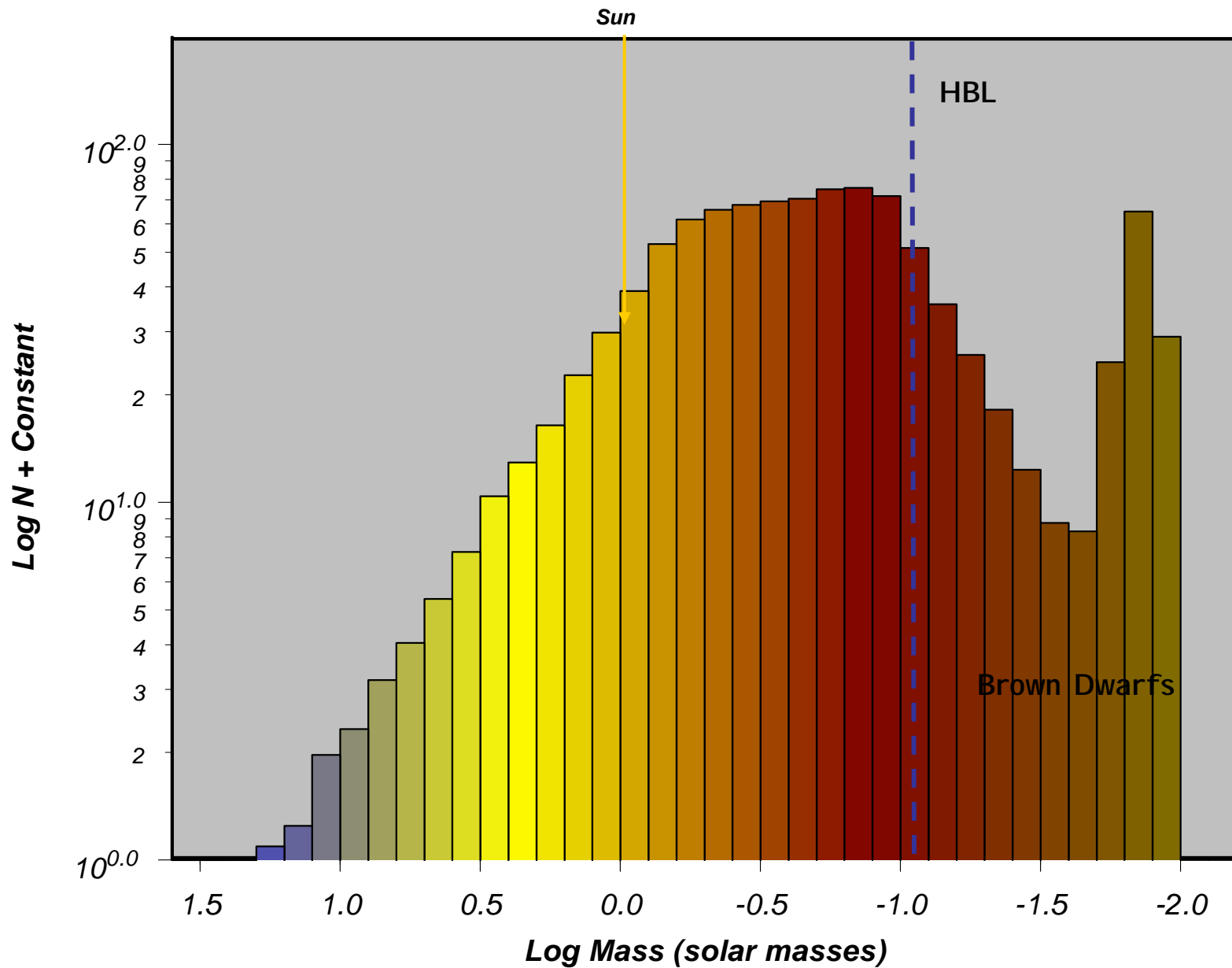
The Initial Mass Function

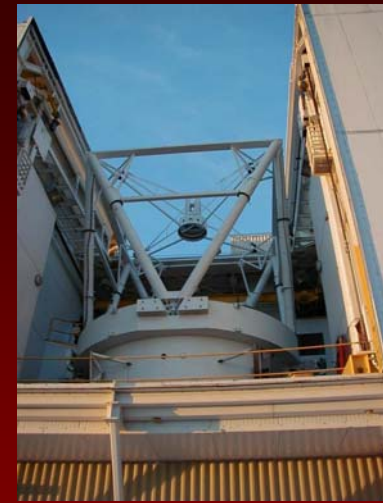
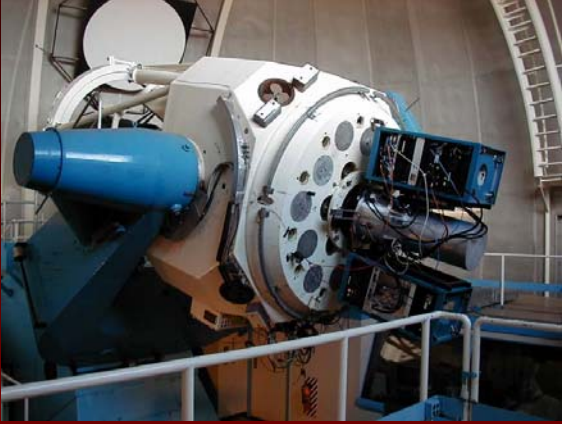


Synthetic IMFs

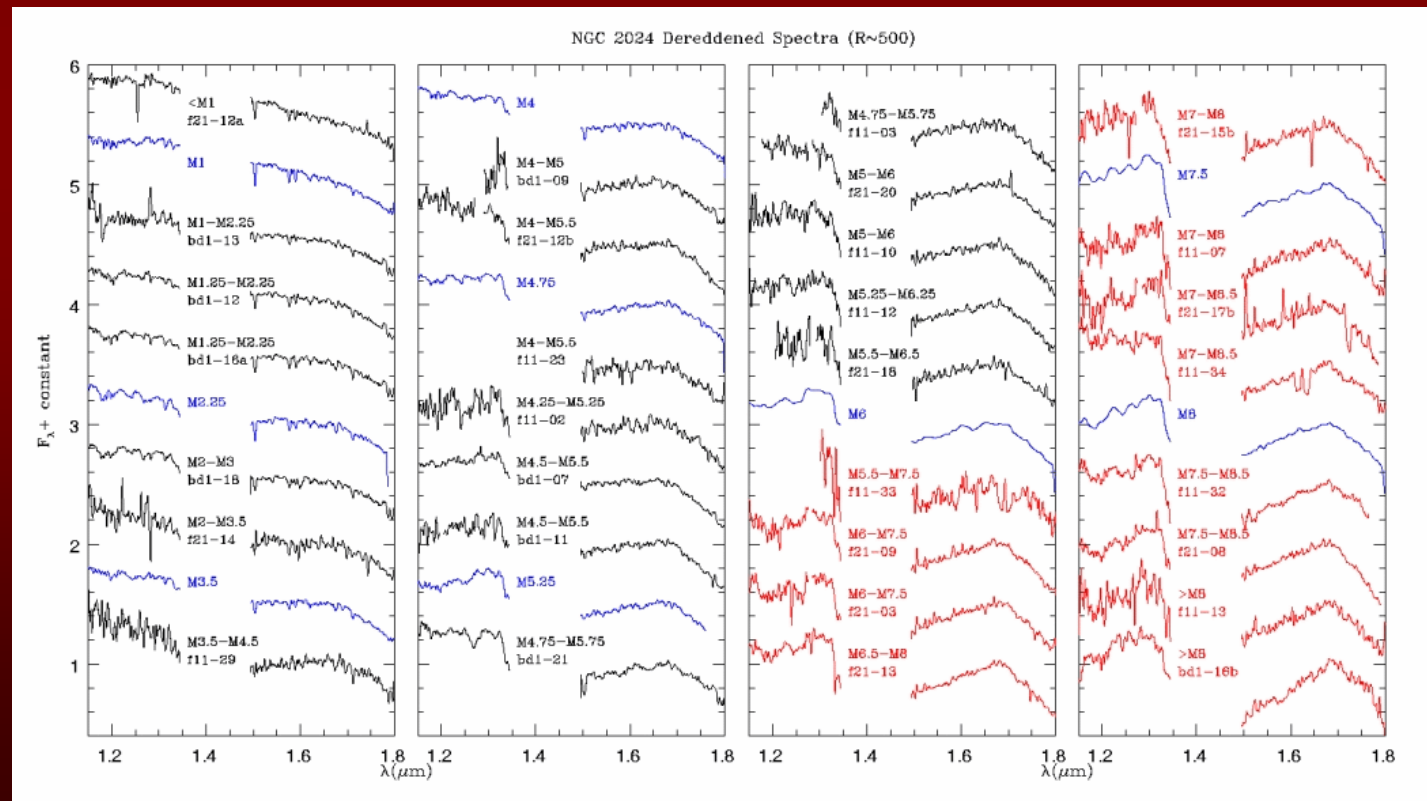


Trapezium Cluster Initial Mass Function

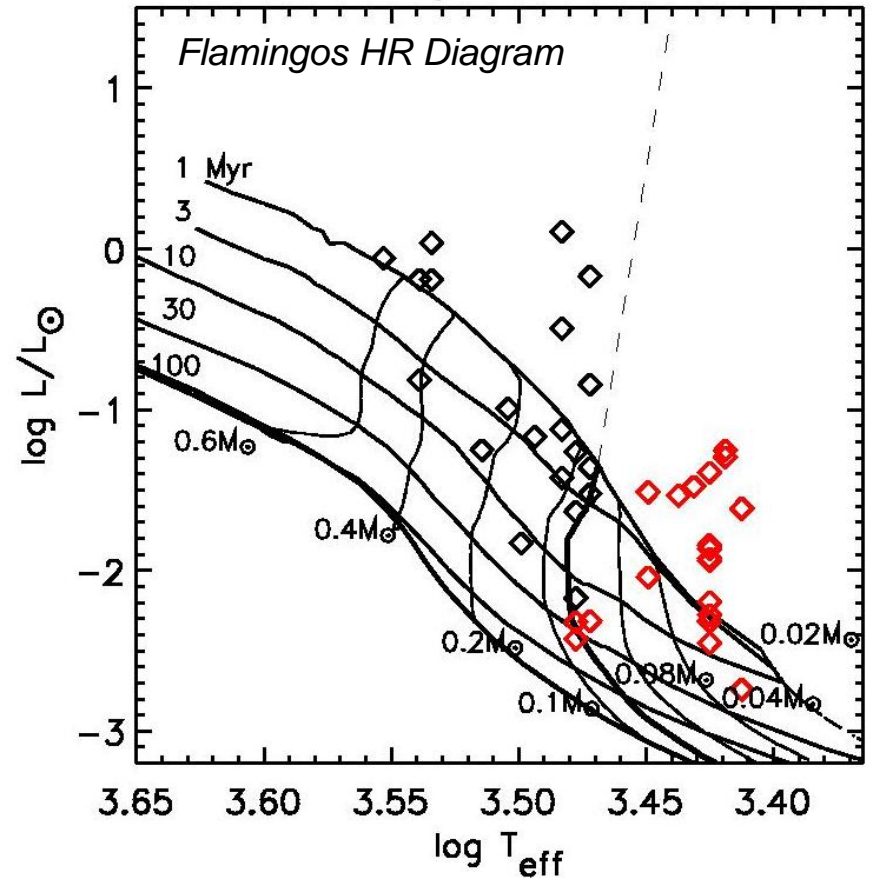
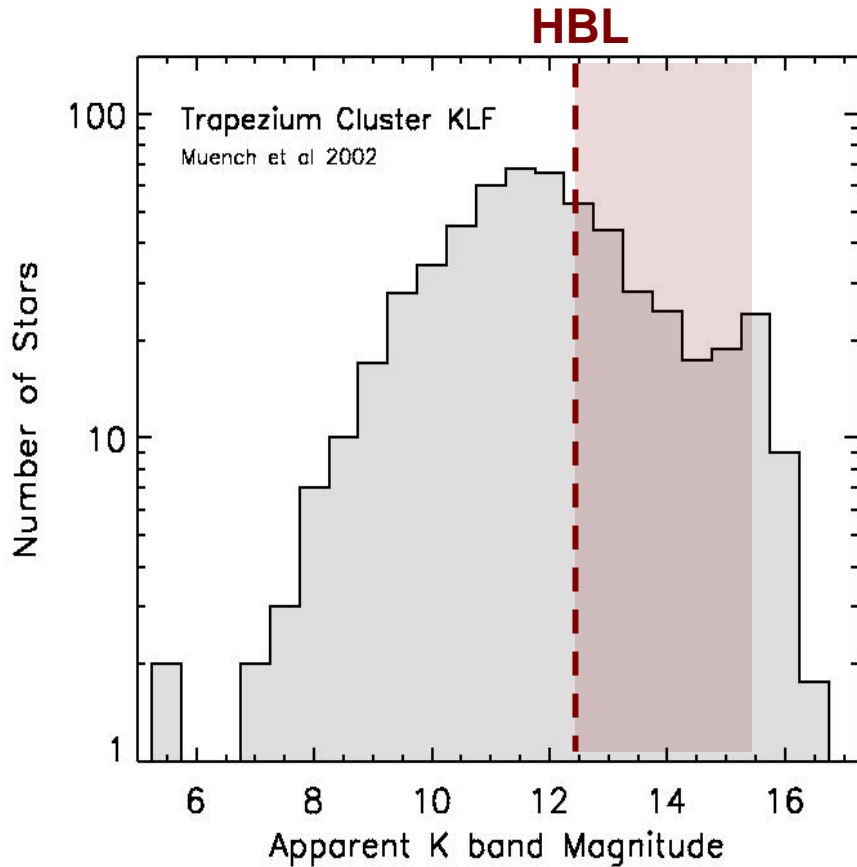




FLAMINGOS: Florida's Infrared Multi-Object and Imaging spectrometer



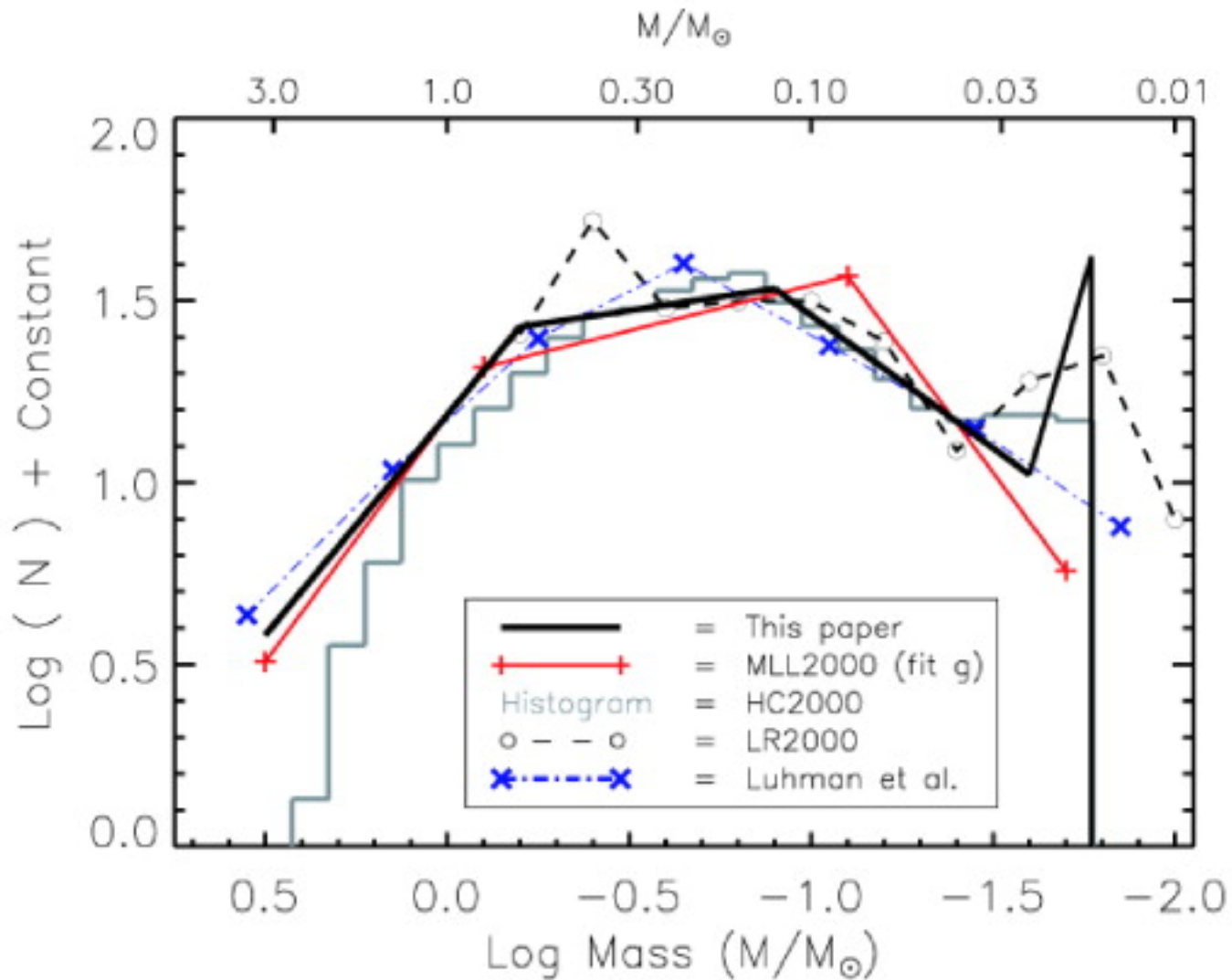
Brown Dwarfs in the Trapezium: Flamingos Spectroscopic Survey



Steinhauer et al. 2004

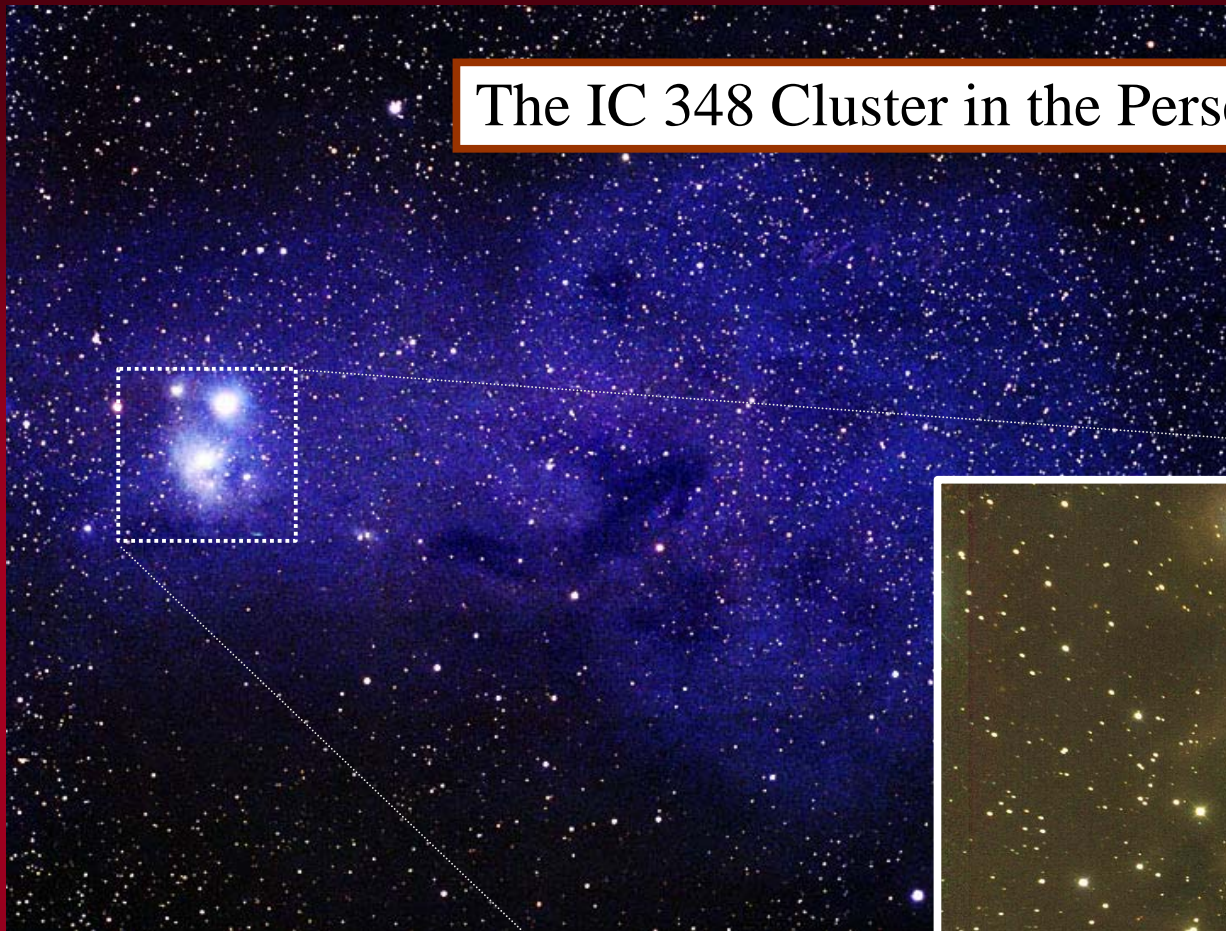
18/30 (60%) sources with $K > 13$ are substellar (BDs)!

Comparison of Derived IMFs for the Trapezium Cluster



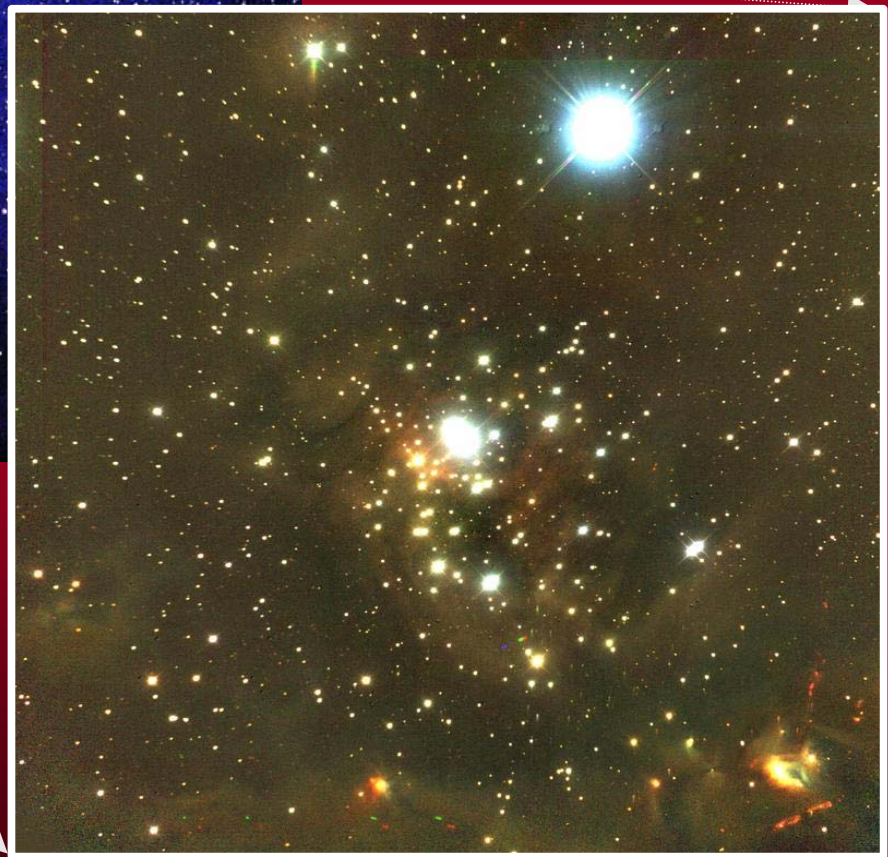
On The Universality of the IMF

The IC 348 Cluster in the Perseus Molecular Cloud



Photograph of Perseus courtesy George Greaney

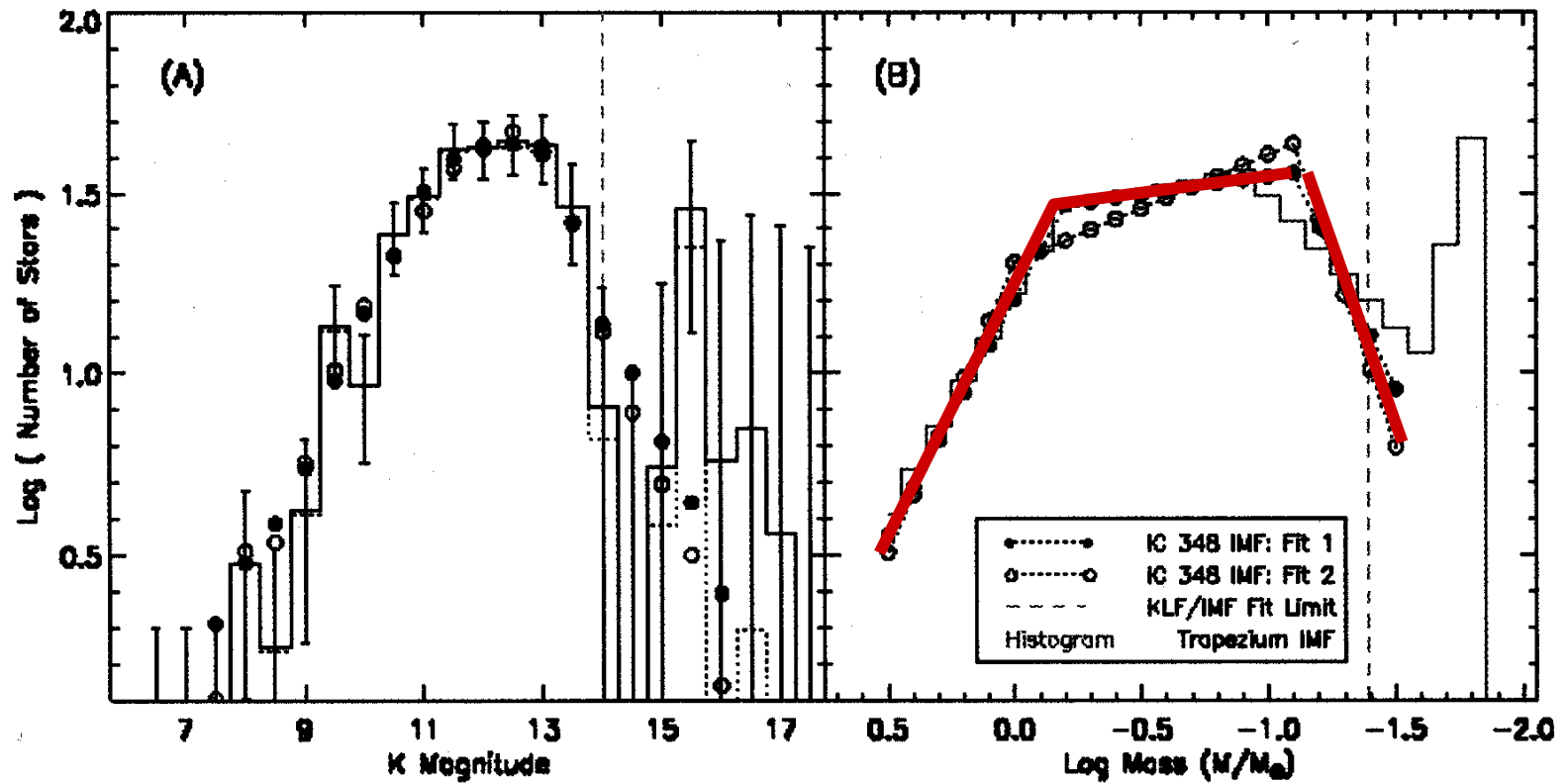
*FLAMINGOS JHKs Image of IC 348
Muench et al 2003*



IMFs: IC 348 vs the Trapezium

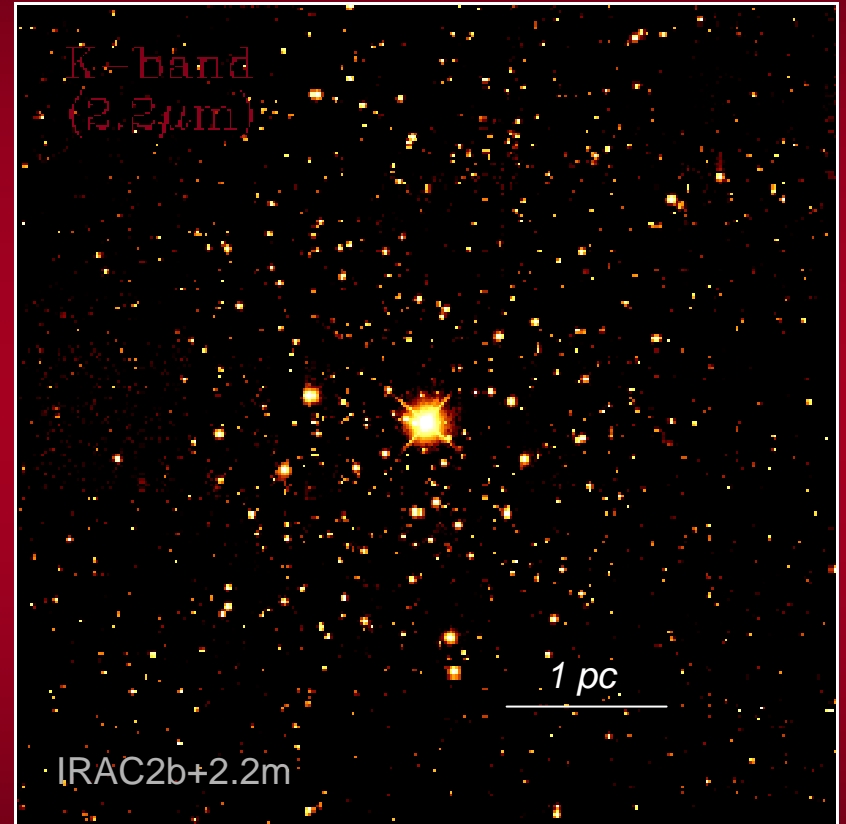
Luminosity Function

Mass Function

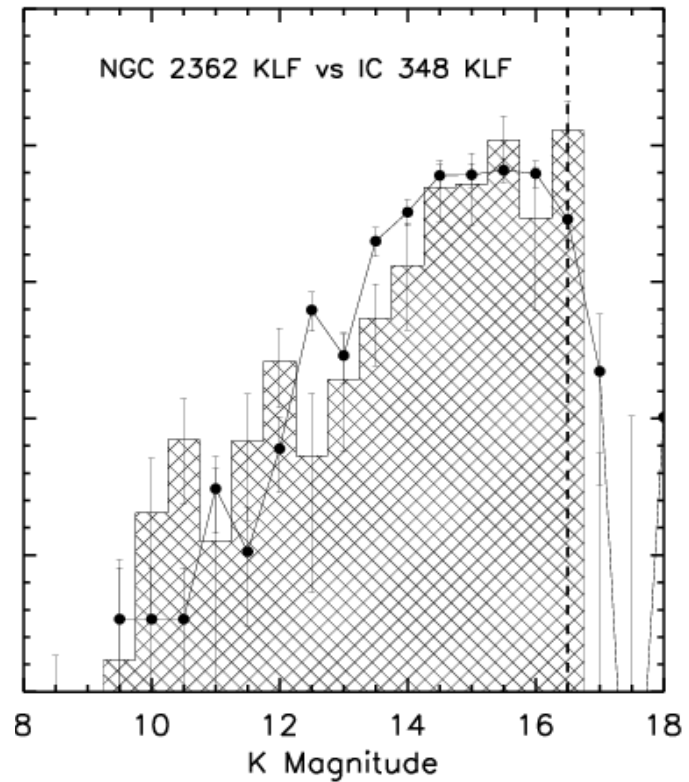
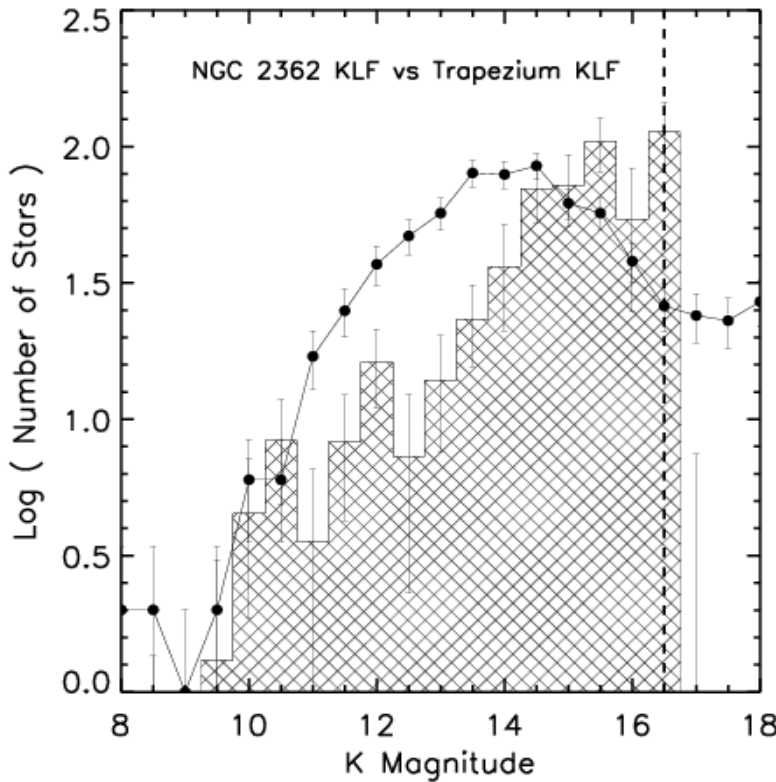


Muench et al. 2003

NGC 2362



NGC 2362

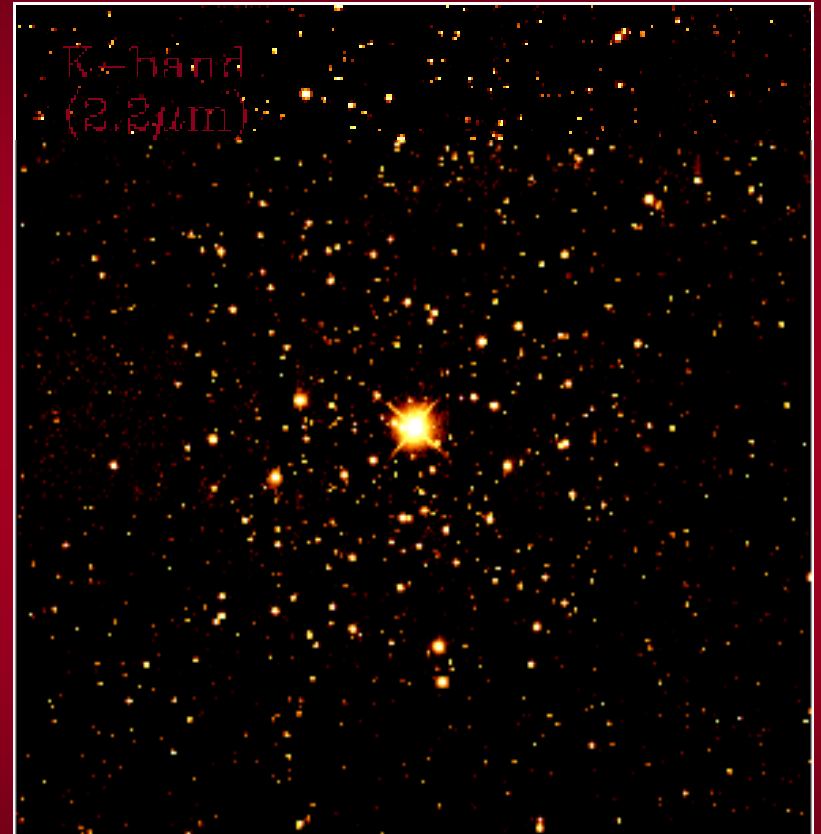
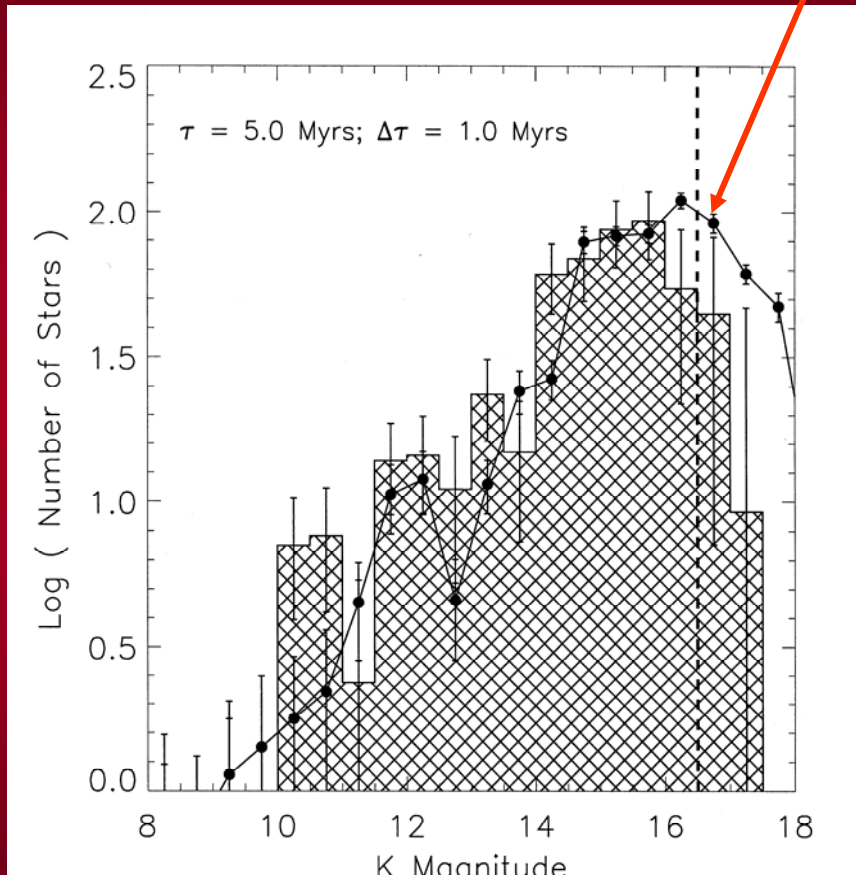


- Comparison of NGC 2362, Trapezium and IC 348 KLFs.
- Clear evolution of the cluster KLFs to fainter magnitude with age.

NGC 2362

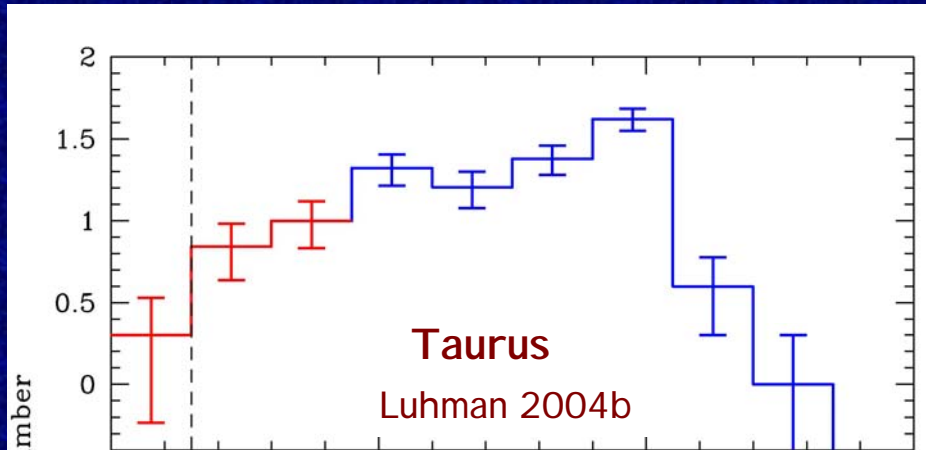
Universal IMF?

Trapezium IMF



Luhman 2000
Briceno et. al. 2002
Luhman et al. 2003

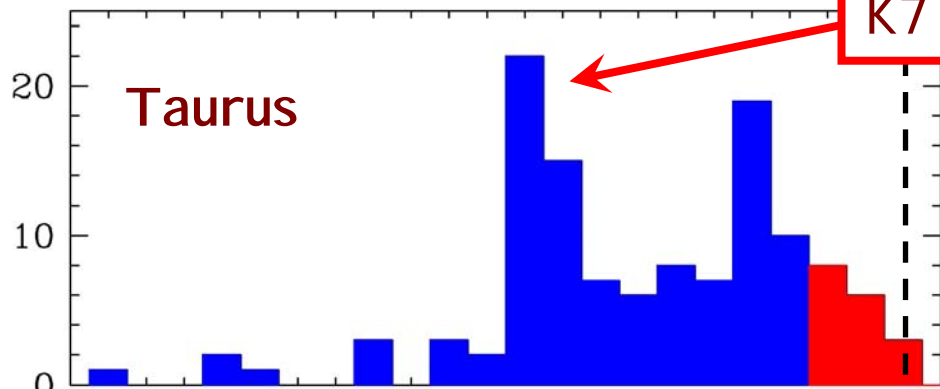
Comeron et al. 1999
Luhman 2004a



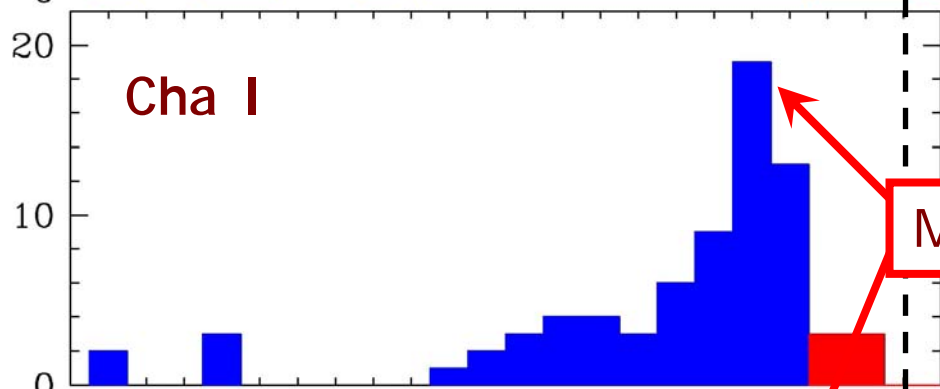
Herbig 1998
Luhman 1999, Luhman et al. 1998, 2003
Lada & Lada 1996, Muench et al. 2003

Hillenbrand 1997, Hillenbrand & Carpenter 2000
Slesnick, Hillenbrand, & Carpenter 2004
Luhman et al. 2000

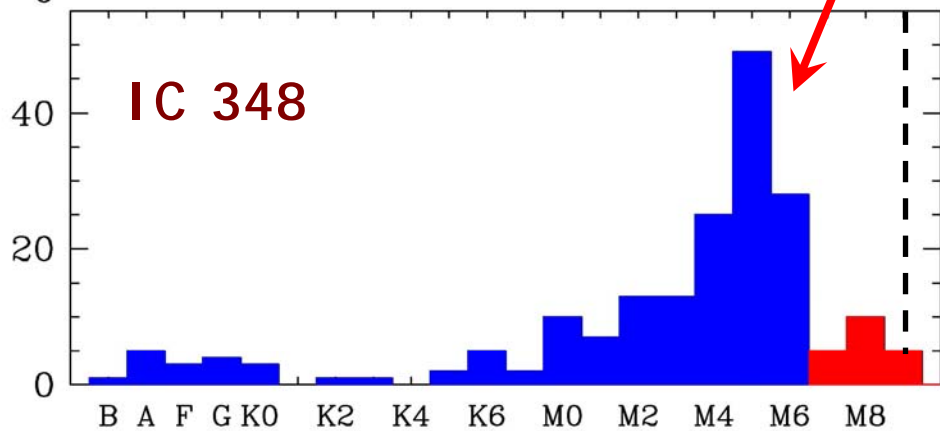
Data from Kevin Luhman 2004



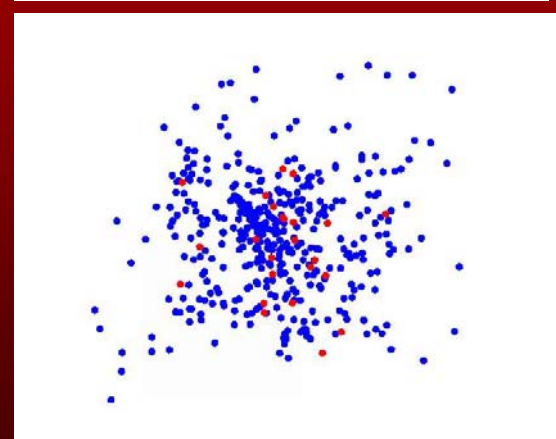
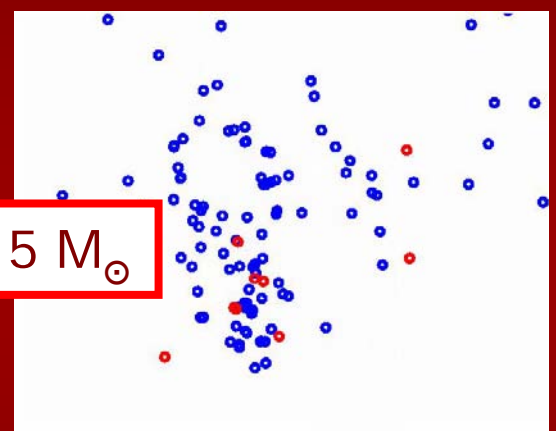
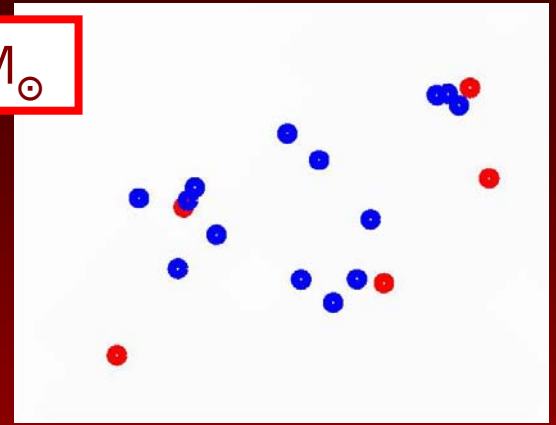
K7 = 0.8 M_⊙



M5 = 0.15 M_⊙



Spectral Type stars brown dwarfs



3 pc

Comparison with The Field Star IMF

The Field Star Initial Luminosity Function

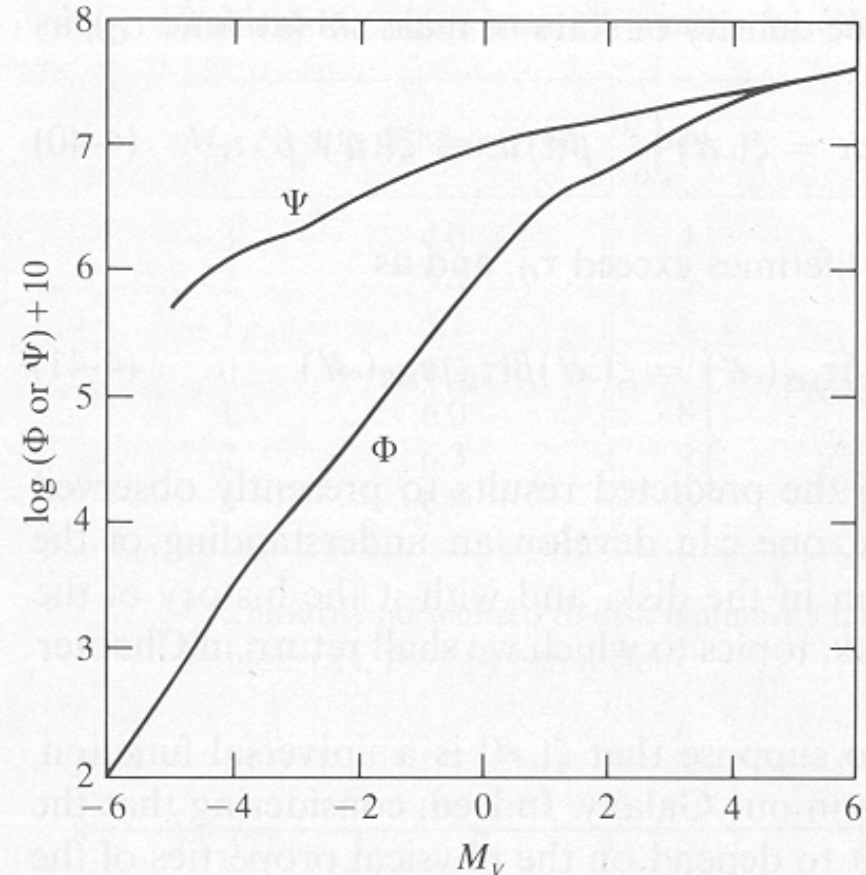
A complete luminosity function, $\Phi(M)$, must be constructed and adjusted for stellar evolution to derive the initial luminosity function, $\Psi(M)$:

$$\Psi(M_\lambda) = \Phi(M_\lambda) \text{ for } \tau_{ms} \geq \tau_G$$

and

$$\Psi(M_\lambda) = \frac{\tau_G}{\tau_{ms}} \Phi(M_\lambda) \text{ for } \tau_{ms} < \tau_G$$

(e.g. Salpeter 1955)



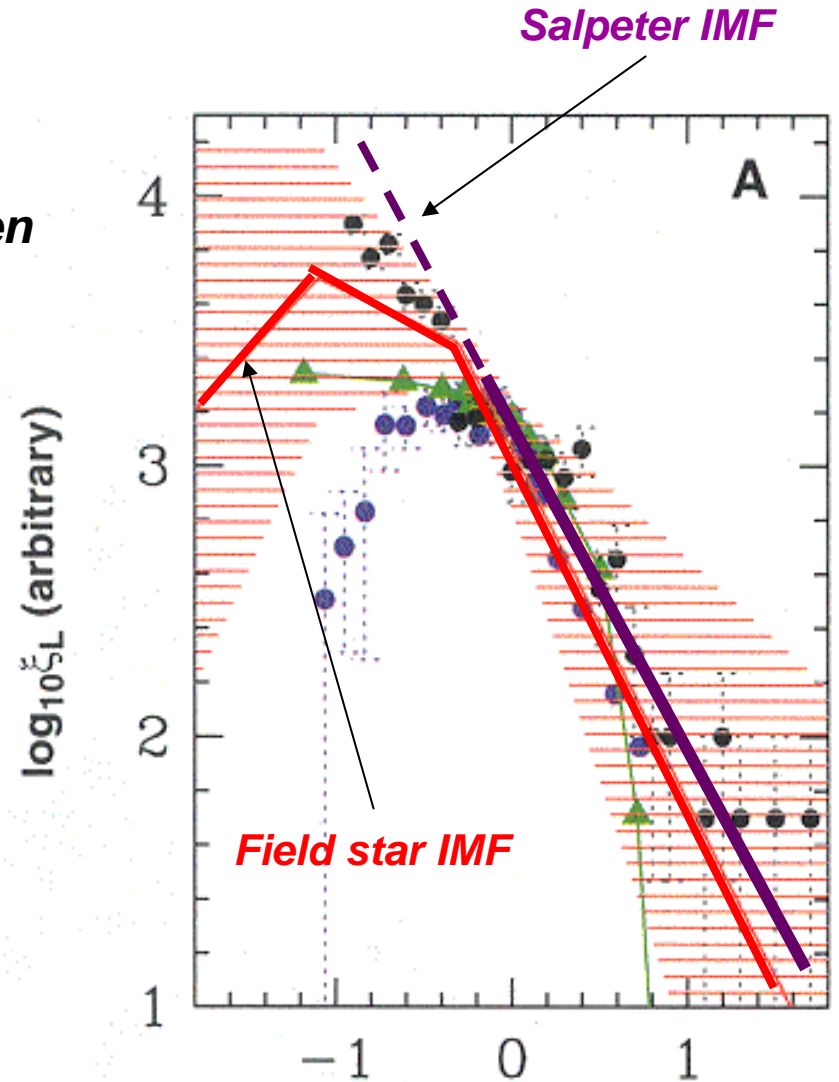
Mihalas & Binney 1981

The IMF for Local Field Stars

Salpeter (1955) found a single power-law characterized the IMF with $\gamma = 1.35$ between roughly 1—10 solar masses.

Scalo (1977) found IMF to depart from a single power-law near $1 M_{\odot}$ and proposed lognormal form with peak near $0.1 M_{\odot}$

Current consensus favors multiple (3-4) power-law form.



SUMMARY

- 1.- The **IMF** is populated by objects which **continuously span** a range of mass from the most massive stars to substellar objects near the deuterium burning limit (DBL).
2. - The IMF is characterized by a broad peak near $0.2 M_{\odot}$ suggesting a **characteristic mass** for star formation near **0.1-0.3 solar masses**.
- 3.- **Substellar** objects account for only **20-25%** of all sources produced by the IMF. The IMF declines from the HBL to the DBL. Freely floating objects of planetary mass are very rare.
- 4.- The IMF in clusters appears **universal** in form and very similar to the field star IMF.*

*However observations of Taurus suggest that significant variation can occur.

The End

The IMF for Open Clusters

However, field star IMF is very uncertain at high stellar masses and below the hydrogen burning limit.

Open clusters offer advantages of coeval star formation and statistically significant samples of stars over a large range of masses.

Significant limitations arise due to issues of membership and loss of members due to stellar and dynamical evolution.

