A Revised Pre-Main-Sequence Age Scale

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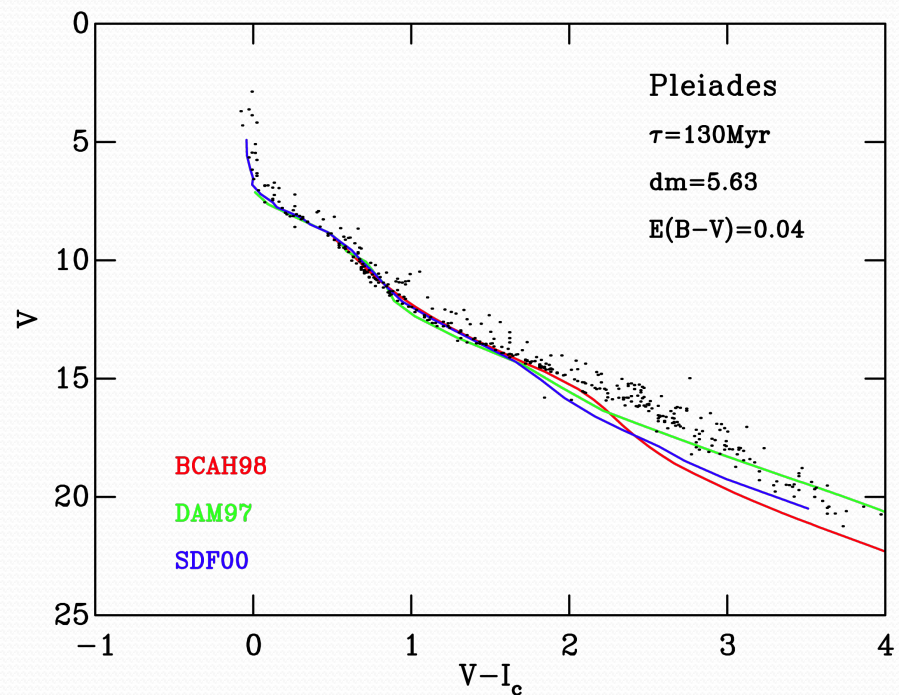
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Setting the scene

- Why the poor fit in the pre-MS regime?
  - photometric calibration
  - transformation from H-R to CMD
  - extinction as a function of colour
  - problems with models themselves

Pleiades
$\tau = 130\,\mathrm{Myr}$
dm=5.63
E(B−V)=0.04

BCAH98
DAM97
SDF00

Photometric data from Stauffer et al. 2007

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Setting the scene

- Why the poor fit in the pre-MS regime?
  - photometric calibration
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⇒ spread in pre-MS ages for a given region!

Photometric data from Stauffer et al. 2007

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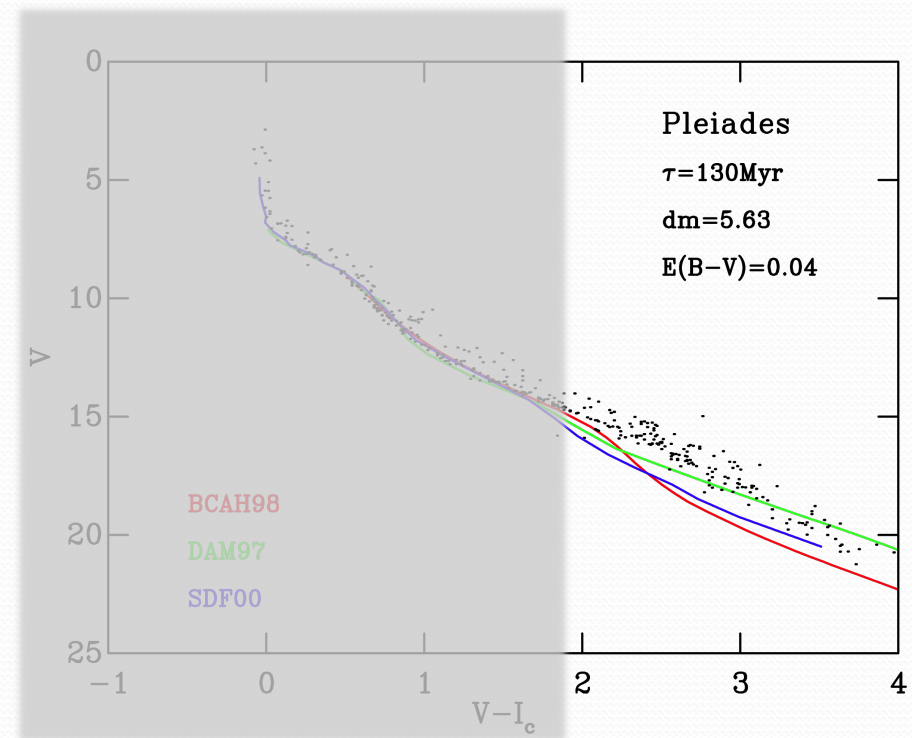
Photometric calibration

- Like to convert INT-WFC survey to SDSS
  - main-sequence star observations.

- Model INT-WFC system responses
  - transformations.

- Traditional calibration would place pre-MS stars in wrong position in CMD space
$\Rightarrow$ continue study in natural INT-WFC photometric system.

Cep OB3b, χ Per, IC 348, IC 5146, λ Ori, NGC 1960, NGC 2169, NGC 2244, NGC 2362, NGC 6530, NGC 6611, NGC 7160, ONC, Pleiades, σ Ori

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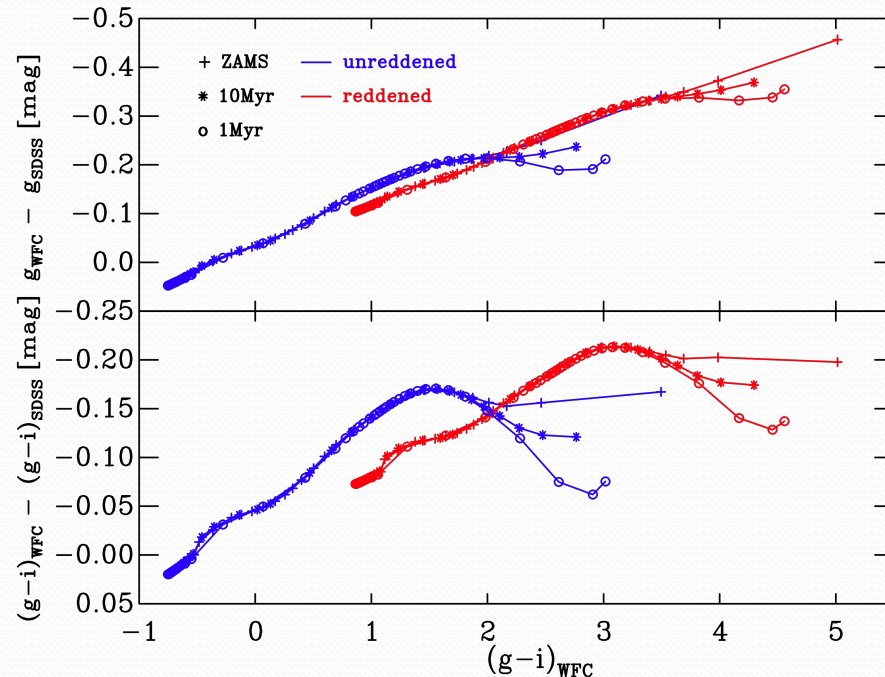
A simple test

- Still notice that the models do not fit pre-MS population
  - missing sources of opacity?
  - treatment of convection?
  - missing physics?

- Create semi-empirical pre-MS isochrones using an empirical sequence.
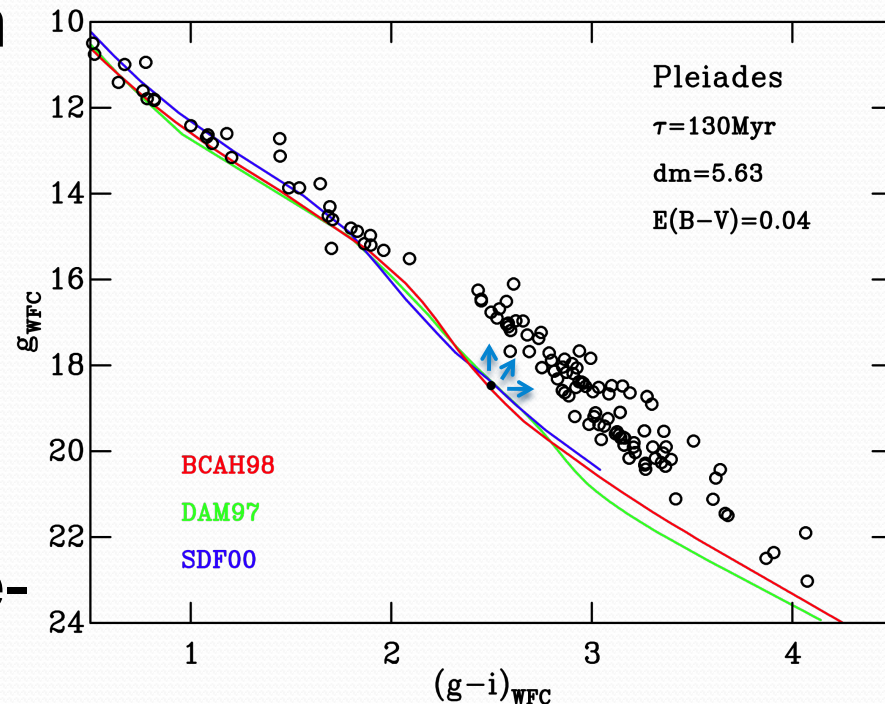
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Defining the mass scale

- Eclipsing and spectroscopic binaries give system magnitude
  - $q \longrightarrow 1$ (same mass)
  - $q \longrightarrow 0$ (mass = primary)

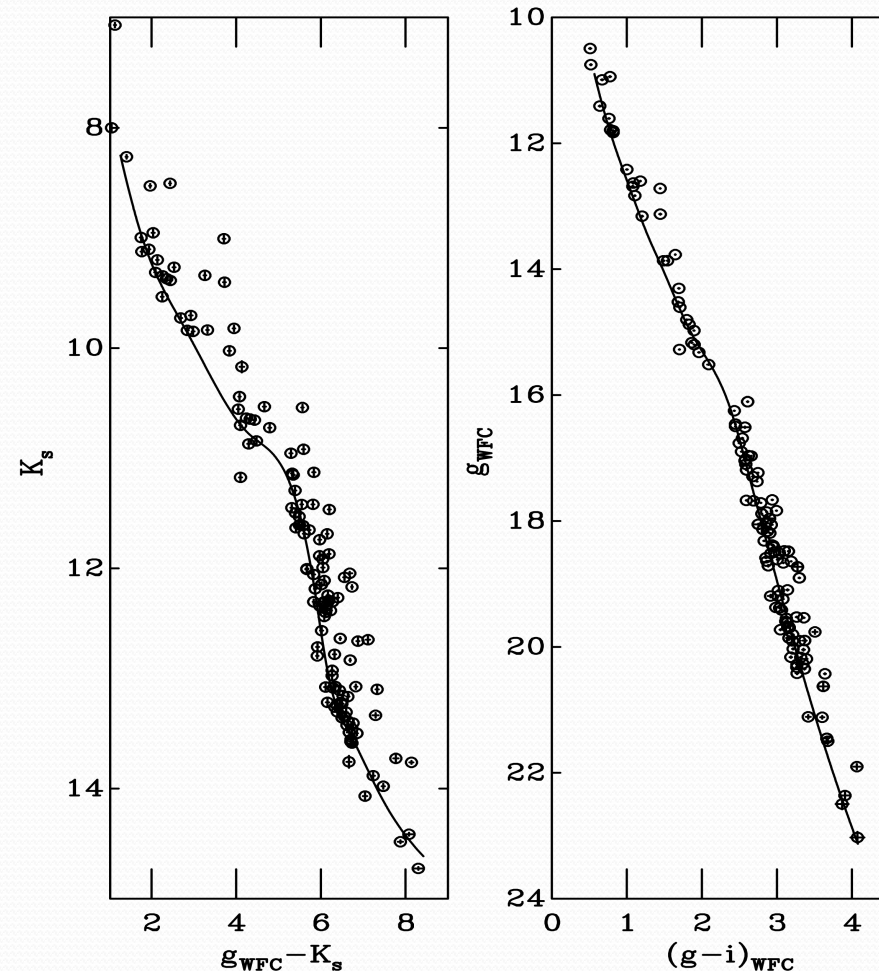UNIVERSITY OF
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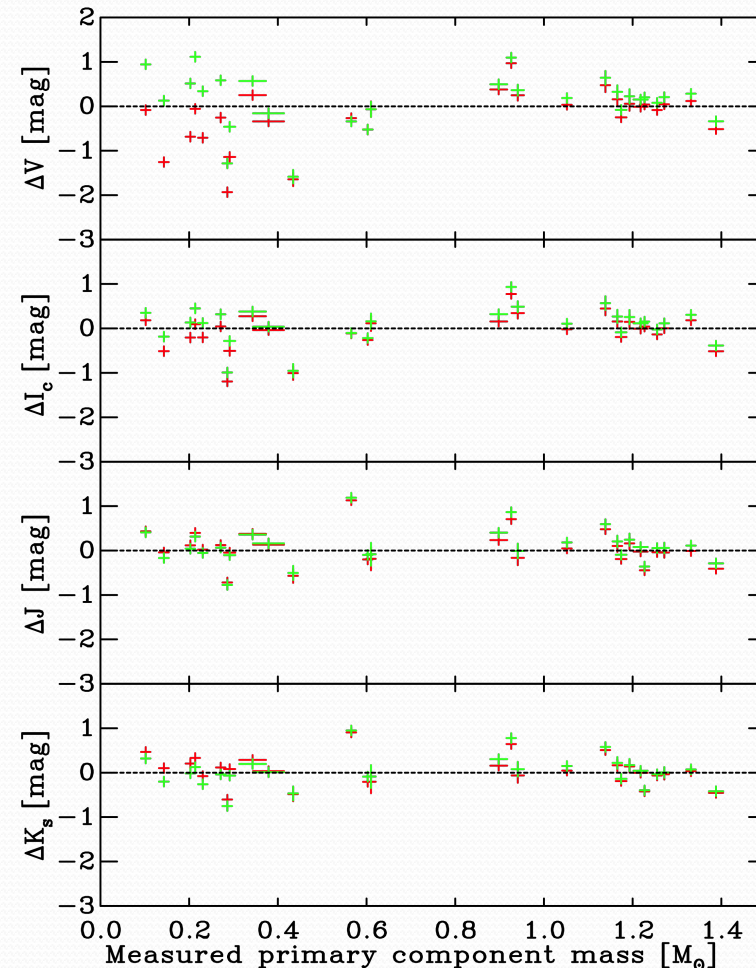
Defining the mass scale

- Eclipsing and spectroscopic binaries give system magnitude
  - q $\longrightarrow$ 1 (same mass)
  - q $\longrightarrow$ 0 (mass = primary)

- Use K_s-band as a reliable mass indicator
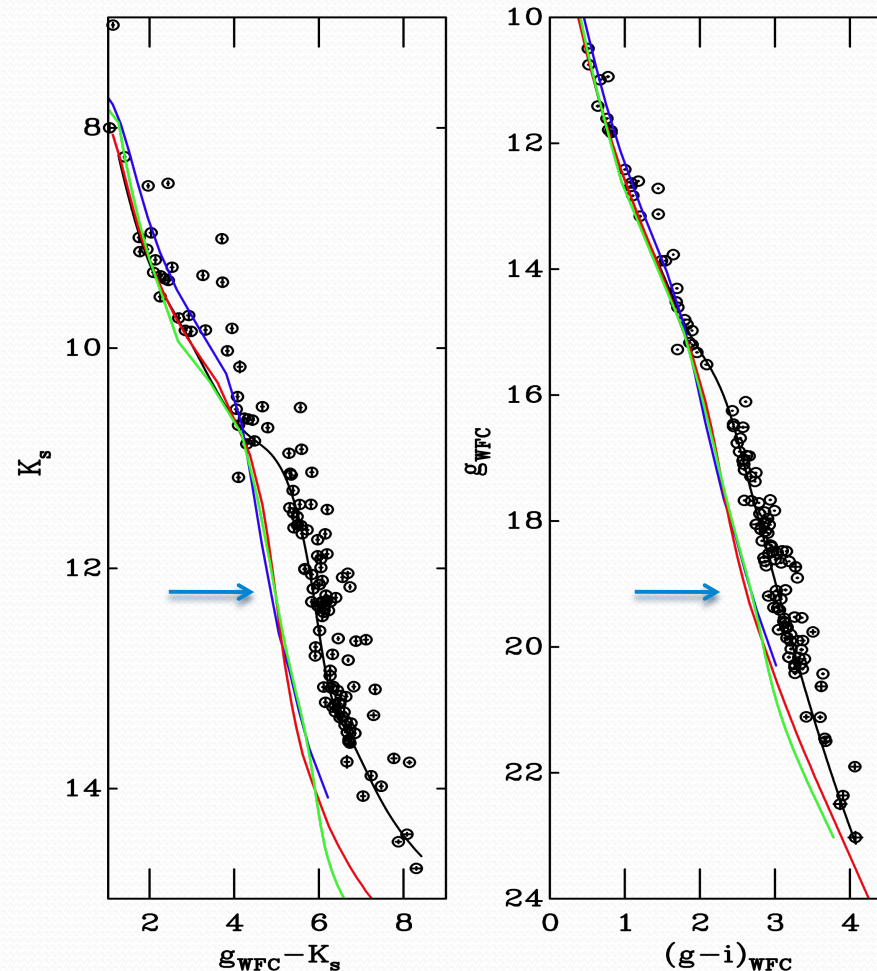
$\Rightarrow$ "tune" other bandpasses.
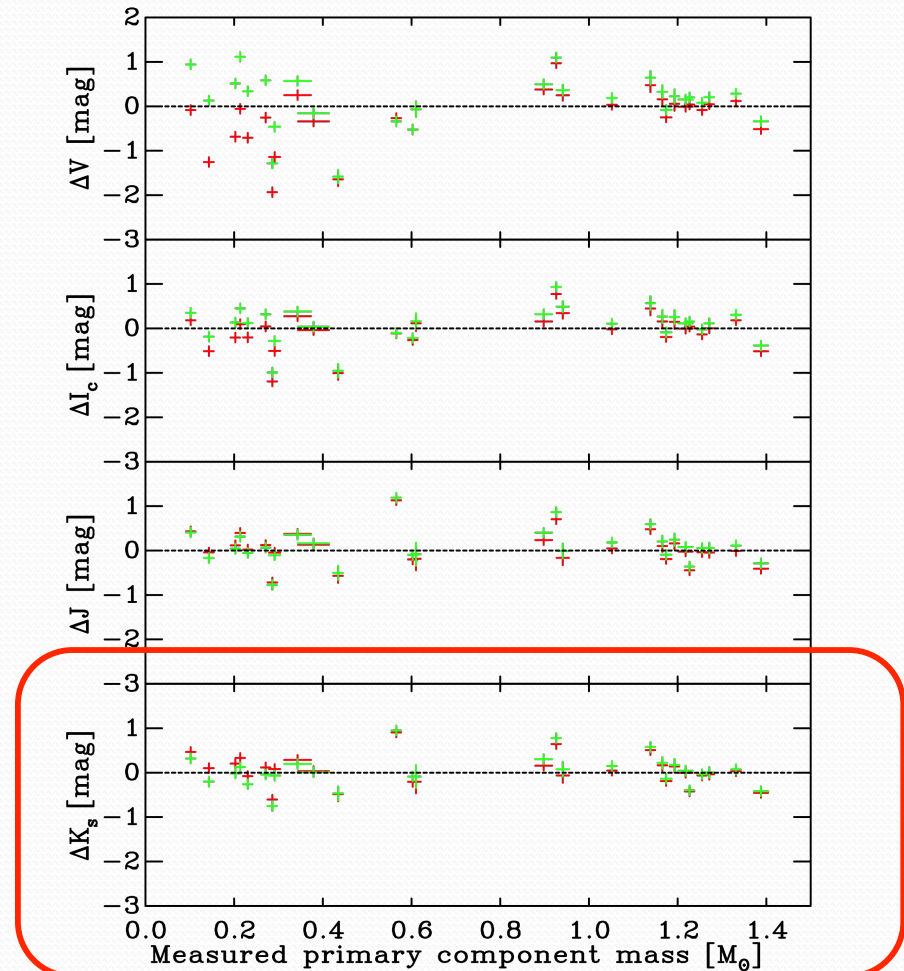
Semi-empirical pre-MS models

- Empirical fit to observed sequence.

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Semi-empirical pre-MS models

- Empirical fit to observed sequence.

- "Tune" other photometric bandpasses assuming $K_{obs} = K_{calc}$ at a given T_{eff}.

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Semi-empirical pre-MS models

- Empirical fit to observed sequence.

- "Tune" other photometric bandpasses assuming $K_{obs} = K_{calc}$ at a given T_{eff}.

- Repeat for all T_{eff} along isochrone and for each bandpass

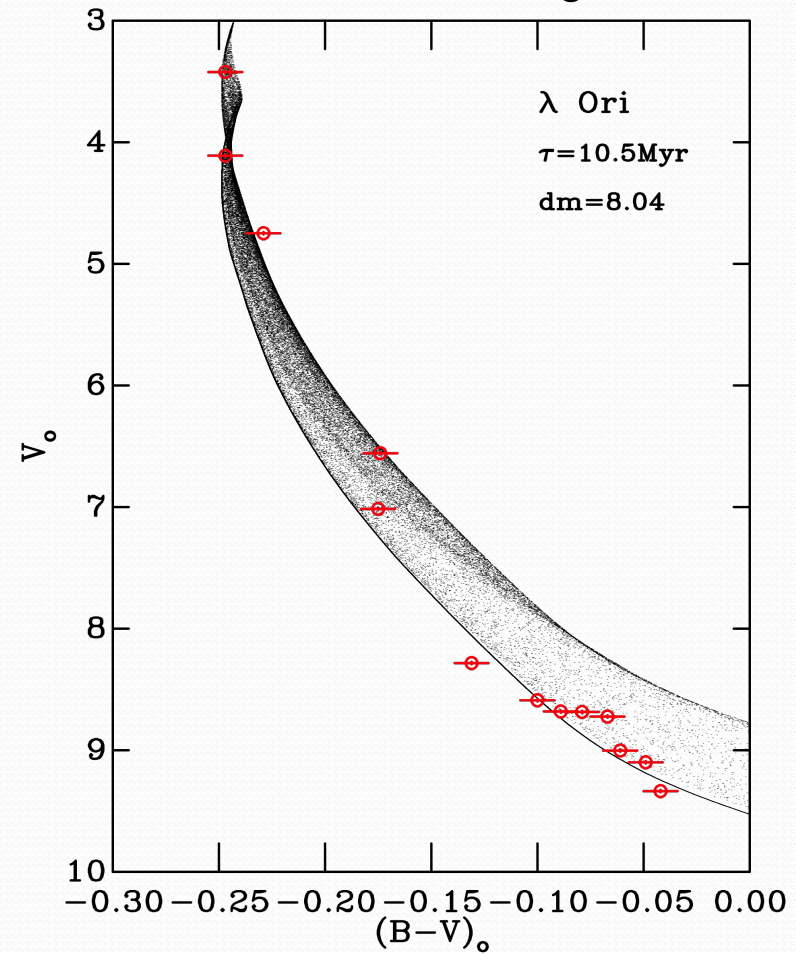$\Rightarrow$ recalibrated bolometric correction relation.

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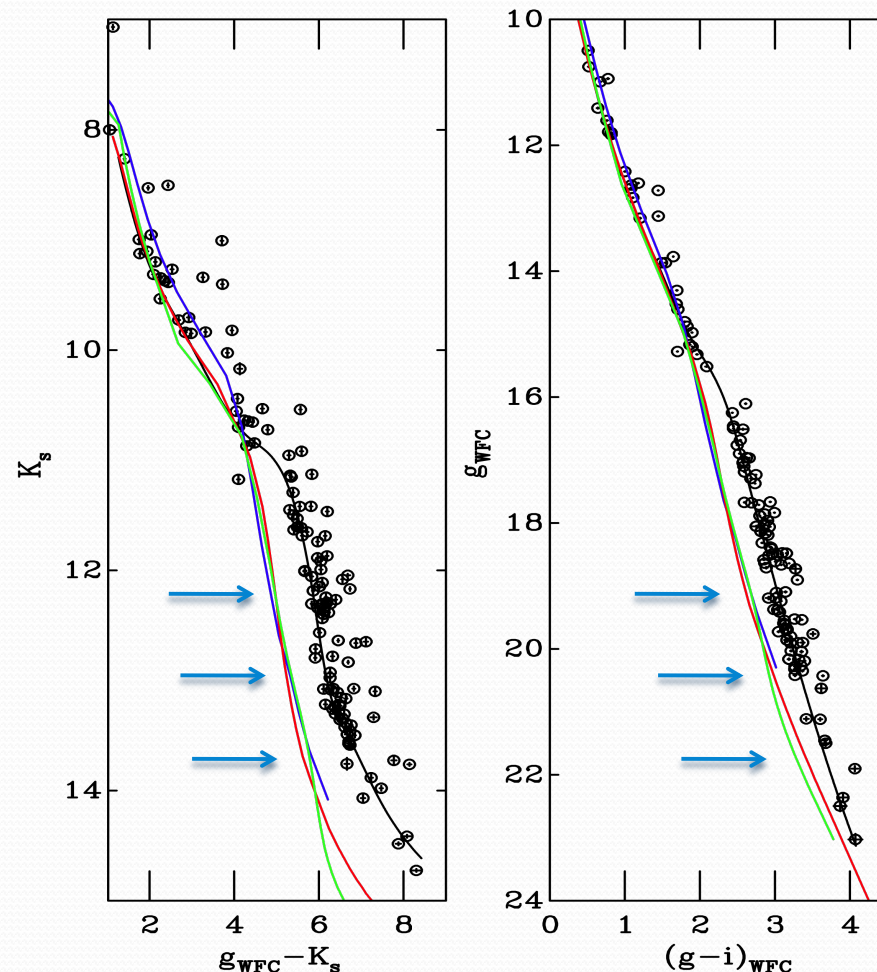
Fitting the main-sequence

Reddening

Distance and age

λ Ori
E(B−V)=0.11

λ Ori
τ=10.5Myr
dm=8.04
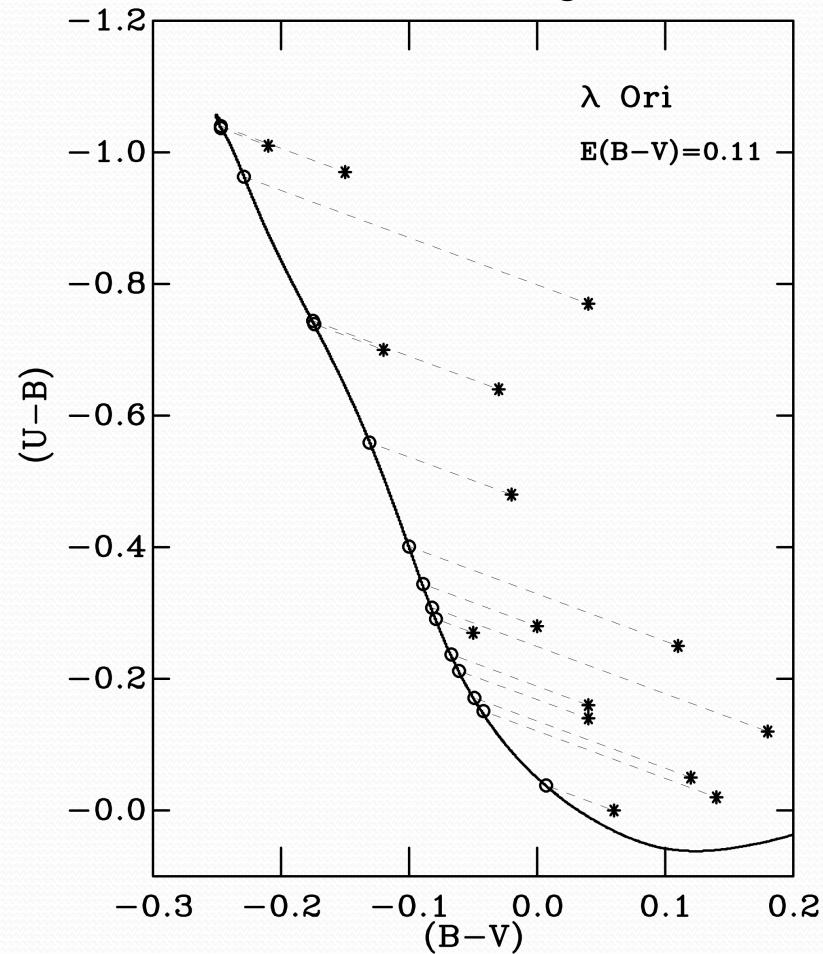
Photometric data from Murdin & Penston 1977
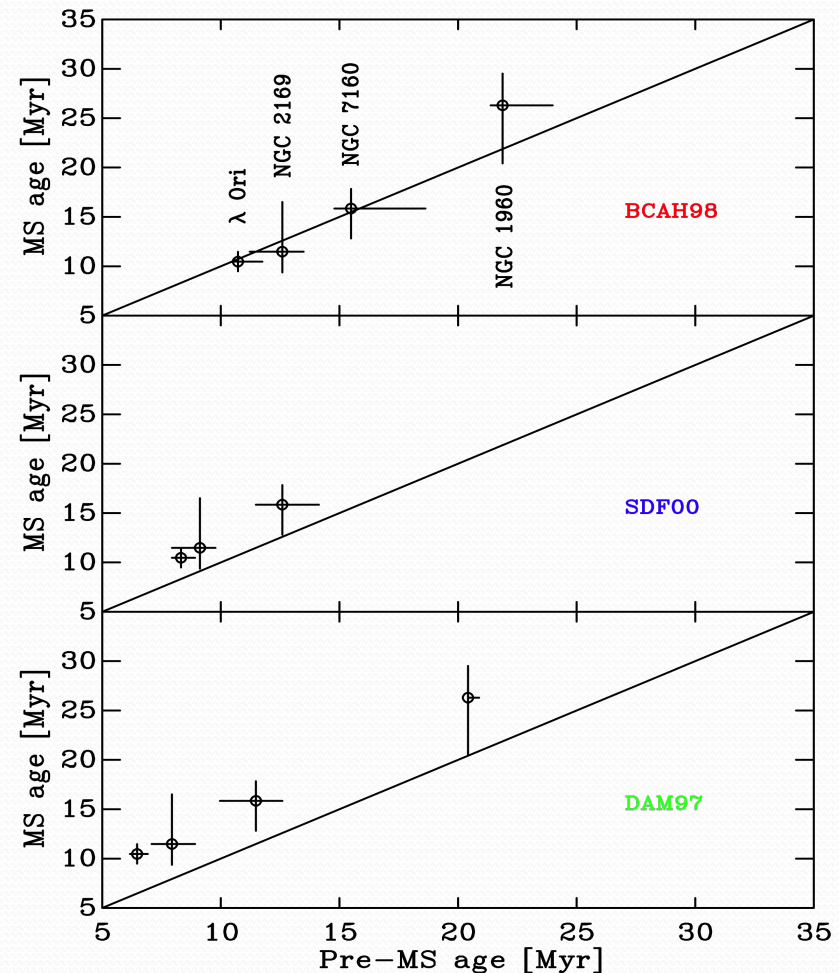
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Fitting the pre-MS

- Model CMD comprises 10^6 stars based on stellar interior models.

- Fit using τ^2 fitting statistic (see Naylor & Jeffries 2006).

- Use main-sequence distance and allow age to float.
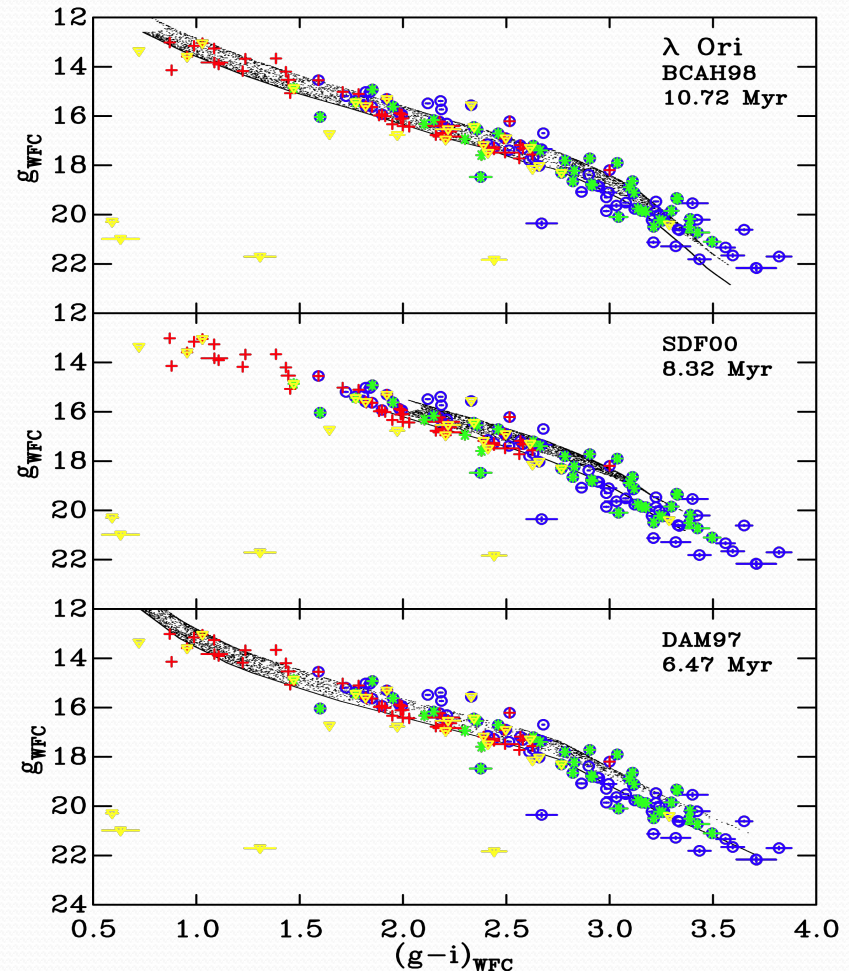
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Revised pre-MS age scale?

- Consistent main-sequence and pre-MS ages.

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Revised pre-MS age scale?

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- Compare λ Ori with recent results of Upper Sco (Pecaut et al. 2012)

⇒ pre-MS ages for clusters are a factor 2 too young.

- Circumstellar disc fraction of ~ 20% at ages of 11Myr

⇒ simple solution to disparity between planet formation timescales and disc lifetimes.

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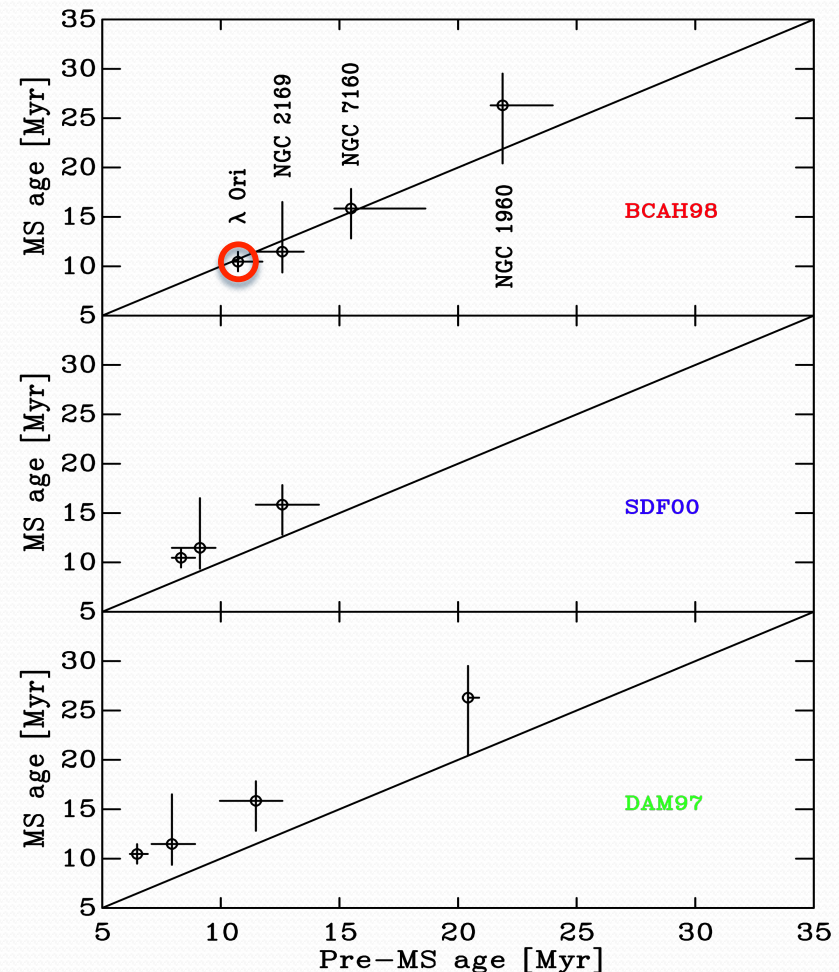
Thank you and questions?

- Created set of semi-empirical pre-MS isochrones.

- Consistency between main-sequence and pre-MS age derivations.

- Pre-MS ages are a factor of 2 older.

- Circumstellar discs survive long enough to create gas giant planets without invoking additional physics.

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Main-sequence ages

Figure taken from Naylor 2009

- Age derived from star between the ZAMS and TAMS.

- Example – NGC 6530

- Left panel
  - Age=2Myr
  - $P_r(\tau^2)=0.03$
- Right panel
  - Age=5.5Myr
  - $P_r(\tau^2)=0.67$

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