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RAVE – the Radial Velocity Experiment

10 years of observations (2003. - 2013.)
1.2 UK Schmidt Telescope of the Australian Astronomical Observatory
574.630 spectra; 483.330 stars
up to ~3 kpc from the Sun
magnitude range: 8 < *I* < 12 mag
spectral region: 8410 – 8794 Å



Repeated observations

- randomly selected stars
- more than one observation of the same star is needed to identify variable radial velocities and single lined binary stars
- Figure 2: distribution of the time span between the consecutive observations of the same object

- resolution: $R \sim 7000$
- accuracy of velocity determination: ~ 1.5 km/s

dark matter (everywhere) ©G. Kordopatis & RAVE collaboration, background adapted from Sparke/Gallagher CUP 2007 Figure 1

Radial velocities

• quantitative criterion for RV variability

 $p_{\log} = -\log_{10}(1 - \mathbf{P})$

where *P* is probability

 $P(2>1) = \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + erf\left(\frac{RV_2 - RV_1}{\sqrt{2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)}}\right)\right]$



- the adopted lower limit indicating real variability (Pourbaix et. al, 2005) is $p_{\log} = 2.87$
- Figure 3: distribution of maximum radial velocity changes between two measurements of the same star



- most of the repeats were observed in the following few days
- maximal time span between two observations is ~3000 days
- 39715 stars (< 10%) observed more than once
- morphological classification (Matijevič et. al, 2012): excluded double lined binary stars, chromospherically active stars and other peculiar stars (5 – 10%)
- 1965 normal stars which are high probability SB1 candidates ($p_{\log} > 2.87$)
- \sim 5 % of all stars with repeated observations



10	-	-	100.0	2	100.0	1	10.0
13	5	5	100.0	5	100.0	2	40.0

△*RV_{max}* [km s⁻¹] Figure 3

Figure 2

Single lined binary stars (SB1) candidates

- most SB1 candidates are short period systems
- Figure 4: vertically rescaled distributions of the effective temperature, metallicity, magnitude and S/N
 two peaks at 4500 K (red clump and giant stars with masses larger than 1.2 M_{sun})
 - and at 6000 K (mostly main sequence dwarfs with masses ~1-1.2 M_{sun})
- SB1 candidates have slightly lower metallicity than general population (may be due to contribution from a secondary star spectrum)
 apparent J (2MASS) Magnitude
- S/N of re-observed stars and SB1 is higher than in general population brighter stars are observed more frequently than the faint ones
- Figure 5: HR diagram of SB1 candidates
 - \sim isochrones for [*M*/*H*]= -0.3 and [*M*/*H*]= -0.7 for stars with log ages between
 - 9 and 10 and a step of 0.2. (Marigo et. al, 2008)
 - Adshed line divides giants and red clump stars from the main sequence dwarf stars



Figure 4

20 30

40

-2.5 - 2.0 - 1.5 - 1.0 - 0.5

80

S/N

RAVE sample

6000

 T_{eff} [K]

SB1 candidates

Repeated observations

7000

8000

5000 7000 6000 5000 4000 3000 2000 τ_{eff} [K] Figure 5

Conclusions

- fraction of observed SB1 candidates is a function of the number of observations
- systems with larger RV amplitudes probably have shorter periods
- reanalysis of spectra may identify contribution from a secondary component
- this possibility is mostly limited to main sequence pairs with similar masses

References

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