

Observational properties of brown dwarfs (end)

Polarimetry—expectations

- Dust in the photosphere
 - produces scattering
- Non-spherical:
Relation eccentricity e –angular velocity ω :
 - uniform density ρ
 - uniform rotation
 - Chandrasekhar (1933)

Sengupta & Krishan (2001)

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Polarimetry—expectations

- A lot of assumptions:
 - rotational velocities
 - density profile
 - cloud location
 - particle size distribution
 - single/multiple scattering

Sengupta et al. (2005)

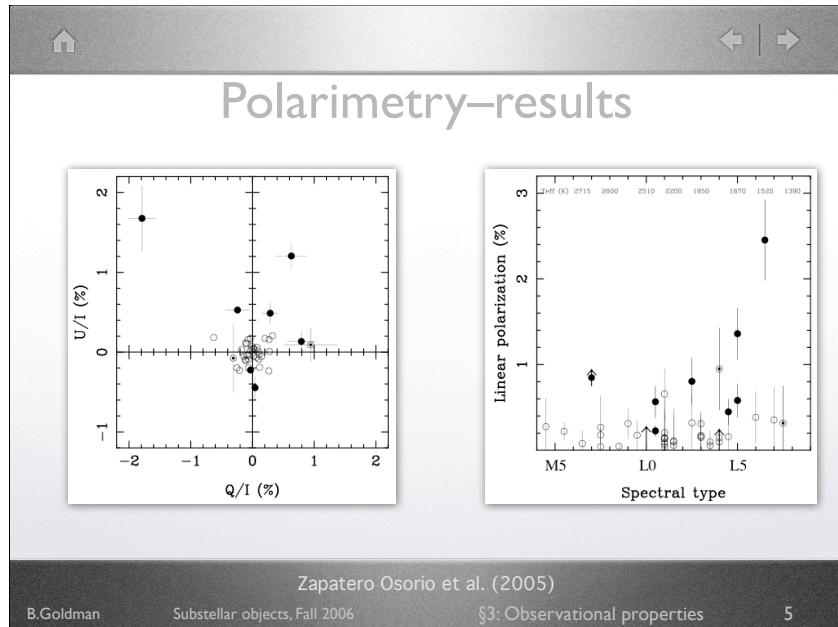
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Polarimetry—example

2MASS J0036+1821 (L3.5)

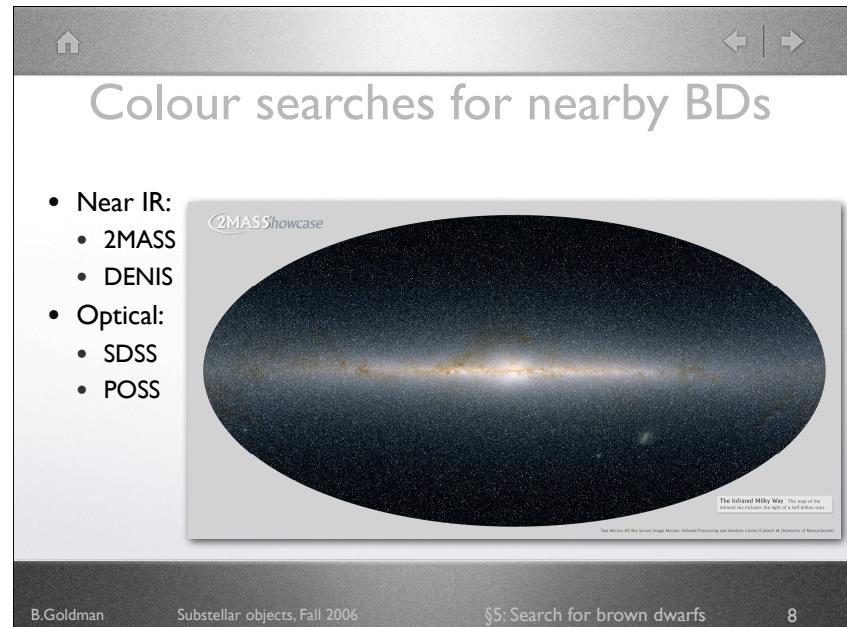
Sengupta et al. (2005)

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How to search for brown dwarfs

- ## Methods
- Wide-field surveys:
 - colour selection
 - proper motion selection
 - Brown dwarfs as companions to nearby stars (and brown dwarfs)
 - Imaging
 - Doppler shift and astrometric wobbling
 - Microlensing (gravitational effects)
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Technical advances

- Larger detectors
 - SDSS: 142 Mpixel CCD mosaic
 - larger IR arrays
- Simultaneous observations through dichroic beam splitter
 - 2MASS, DENIS
- Schmidt plate scanners

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SDSS camera

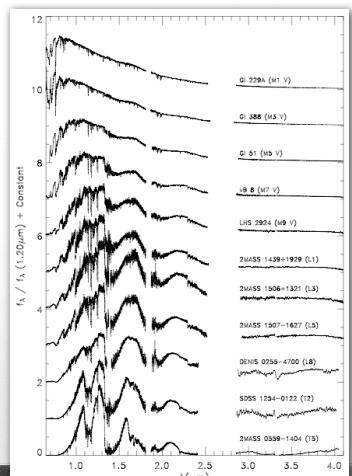


MAMA, Paris

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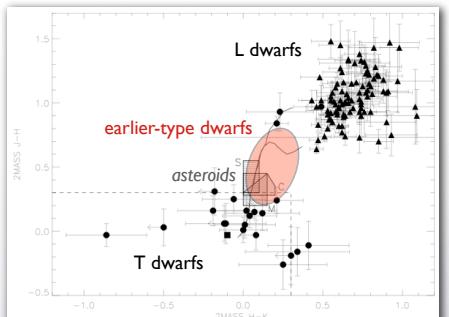
Colour searches

Near infrared (2MASS)



Cushing et al. (2005)

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Burgasser et al. (2002)

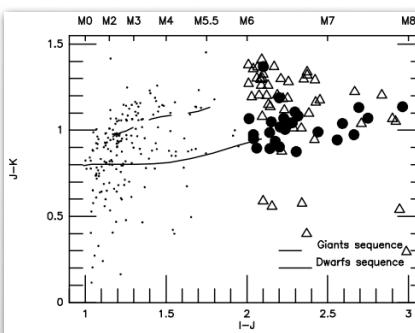
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Colour searches

Optical/near infrared (DENIS)

- Very red colours
- Needs to identify giants

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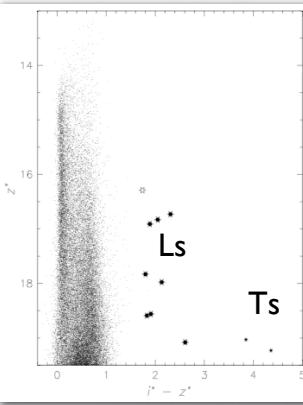


Phan-Bao et al. (2002)

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Colour searches

Optical (SDSS)



Fan et al. (2000)

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The case of young clusters

- Example: Pleiades
- Search for young M, L dwarfs
- [Proper motion confirmation]
- Deeper observations:
→ more extragal. contamination

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Issues: contamination

- Survey dependent:
 - simultaneous vs. multi-epoch observations
 - single-band detections
- Astrophysical contaminants:
 - very red extragalactic objects (EROs, QSOs)
 - cool giant stars
 - asteroids
- Artifacts:
 - bright star illumination
 - detector (bad pixels, memory effects,...)
 - cosmic rays

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Confirmation

- Photometry:
 - second epoch observations
 - methane band imaging for T dwarfs
- Spectroscopy (low resolution):
 - spectral classification
 - effective temperature (through atmospheric models)
 - Lithium test (for old objects)

Burrows et al. (2001) Substellar objects, Fall 2006 §5: Search for brown dwarfs 15

Proper motion surveys

- Identify high angular velocity objects:
 - nearby, and/or
 - have high transverse velocity (thick disk, halo)
- Requires 2+ epochs
 - additional contamination: mismatches, galaxies (faint end)
 - second life of photographic plate surveys

Gould (2003) Substellar objects, Fall 2006 §5: Search for brown dwarfs 16

Companions

- Observe nearby stars at high angular resolution
 - HST/Adaptive optics
 - distance and age known from primary
- Also: radial velocity search for close binaries; astrometric monitoring; spectroscopic binaries; infrared excess

HST/WFPC2

Bouy et al. (2003)

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Microlensing

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Microlensing

Gaudi: <http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/~sgaudi/movies.html>

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Announcements:

Astronomisches Kolloquium
Gilles Chabrier (CRA Lyon)
Birth and Evolution of Protostars, Brown Dwarfs and Giant (Exo-)Planets
Tomorrow, 17:15 Uhr, im Grossen Physik-Hoersaal
Physikalisches Institut, Philosophenweg 12

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The Victor Rothschild Memorial Symposium

The 24th Jerusalem Winter School in Theoretical Physics

General Director: David Gross

The Lives of Low-Mass Stars and Their Planetary Systems

Directors: Lars Bildsten & Tsvi Piran

December 27, 2006- January 5, 2007

- Lars Bildsten > KITP
Basis of Stellar Structure, Fully Convective Stars and Contraction to the Main Sequence
- Adam Burgasser > MIT
Properties and Magnetic Activity of Low-Mass Stars and Brown Dwarfs
- Adam Burrows > University of Arizona
Giant Planet Formation and the Atmospheres and Spectra of Extra-Solar Giant Planets
- Eugene Chiang > UC-Berkeley
Observation and Theory of Proto-Planetary and Debris Disks Including the Kuiper Belt
- Ralf Klessen > Heidelberg
Turbulence and Fragmentation during Low-Mass Star Formation
- Ralph Pudritz > McMaster University
Hydromagnetic Outflows and Jets from Low-Mass Stars and Stellar Spin Evolution
- Re'em Sari > Caltech
Terrestrial Planet Formation in Disks around Young Stars
- Dimitar Sasselov > Harvard
Extra-Solar Planet Observations, Solar Seismology and New Searches

Within the last decade, more than 100 planets have been found around nearby stars, revealing worlds quite different than our own and challenging our notions about planet formation. This school will focus on the formation and evolution of low-mass stars and brown dwarfs, provide probes of the environments conducive to star and planet formation. This diversity arises from the fact that the study of low-mass stars and brown dwarfs provides probes of the environments conducive to star and planet formation. This diversity arises from the fact that the study of low-mass stars and brown dwarfs provides probes of the environments conducive to star and planet formation. This diversity arises from the fact that the study of low-mass stars and brown dwarfs provides probes of the environments conducive to star and planet formation. This diversity arises from the fact that the study of low-mass stars and brown dwarfs provides probes of the environments conducive to star and planet formation.

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Next lecture

- ARI, Monday November 20th, 15:15
- Initial mass function(s?) of brown dwarfs (observations):
 - in the field
 - in young clusters
 - in the Dark Halo: brown dwarfs and dark matter
- Readings:
 - New light on dark stars: §9
 - Chabrier, 2003 PASP 115 763 (link on the web)

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