Stellar populations in the GALAH Survey

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GALAH at a glance





- Simple selection function(s)
- Thorough sample of the local 3 kpc (giants to 8 kpc)
- Abundances of 32 elements across all nucleosynthetic channels



GALAH and stellar populations: chemical evolution

Even among Solar-metallicity, thin disk stars there are "doppelgängers" – as similar to each other in abundance as stars from the same open cluster





GALAH and stellar populations: chemical evolution

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This fraction drops when you include r- and s-process elements in the abundance difference metric





GALAH and stellar populations: chemical evolution

Age trends across elements – here based on Solar twins in DR4







We can use G-E stars in the Solar neighbourhood to compare Li evolution in dwarf galaxies to models





We can use G-E stars in the Solar neighbourhood to compare Li evolution in dwarf galaxies to models

Good news! We've found a property of lithium that isn't a problem



- Designing the best tools for identifying stars with extragalactic origins
 - Depends on the available information



Buder, SLM et al. 2022



- Designing the best tools for identifying stars with extragalactic origins
 - Depends on the available information
- Elemental abundances and orbital properties both carry information but they don't completely agree
 - Is this contamination? Complex chemical or kinematic evolution?





GALAH and stellar populations: supercatalogs



Different observing strategies and analysis methods create offsets in the results, even for the same stars Nandakumar et al. 2022 used The Cannon to shift them to a common scale





GALAH and stellar populations: supercatalogs



Nandakumar, SLM et al. 2022





Using the Milky Way as a benchmark for spiral galaxies requires some translation

GalCraft: converting the E-Galaxia model of the Milky Way into mock IFU data





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GalCraft: converting the E-Galaxia model of the Milky Way into mock IFU data

Distance (26.5 Mpc) and inclination (86°) set to match NGC 5746

Wang et al. 2024





Analysing the mock cube like it was a real galaxy tests the accuracy of the results

Kinematics: there is clear structure in the residuals (bottom row)





Analysing the mock cube like it was a real galaxy tests the accuracy of the results

Age, metallicity, alpha are very dependent on regularization and light-weighted vs mass-weighted mappings

The Milky Way is a reference for many aspects of galaxies



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10³



















datacentral.org.au has the data galah-survey.org has the details

