

Physics of Galaxies

Hand-in exercises 2015

Instructions: These are the two problems you need to solve to pass the course if you have already actively participated in the two exercise sessions. In case you failed to participate in either of these, you should contact the teacher for additional problems to solve in order to pass the course. Hand-written solutions are quite acceptable, but submission via email is highly encouraged (and will allow for a swifter evaluation), so please consider scanning your solutions and submitting them as a pdf file. The deadline for handing in solutions to these problems is **June 12, 2015**.

1. *Population synthesis.* Use the table of stellar parameters below to generate a simple population synthesis model. Assume that the stellar population of your model galaxy only consists of three types of stars (O5, A0 and M0), all formed at the same time, and that the relative number of stars of each type is given by the Salpeter IMF.

- What is the (B-V) colour and M/L_V ratio of this population at an age of 1 Myr?
- Assuming that the population has aged sufficiently for all the O stars to die (and no longer contribute to the light emitted), what is the (B-V) colour and the M/L_V ratio (where M is defined as $M = M_{\text{stars}} + M_{\text{gas}} + M_{\text{remnants}}$)?

Table 1: Stellar parameters

Stellar type	Mass (M_{\odot})	Luminosity in V ($L_{\odot,V}$)	(B-V)	Main sequence lifetime (yr)
O5	40	2.5×10^5	-0.35	1.6×10^6
A0	4	80	0.00	5.0×10^8
M0	0.5	0.06	1.45	7.9×10^{10}

2. *Surface brightness.* Derive an expression which converts surface brightness in units of mag arcsec⁻² to $L_{\odot} \text{ pc}^{-2}$ and show that surface brightness is independent of distance (as long as redshift dimming is neglected).

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