# Intermediate mass black holes in star clusters: "fake" clusters and strange centers

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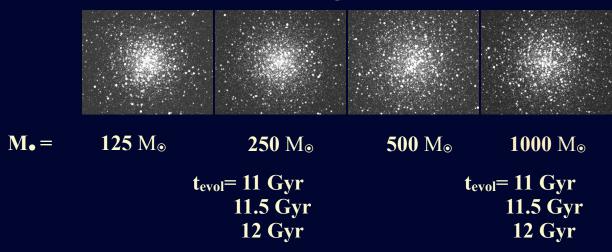
Holger Baumgardt, Nora Lützgendorf, Behrang Jalali, Karl Gebhardt, Markus Kissler=Patig, Tim de Zeeuw, Marcel Bergmann



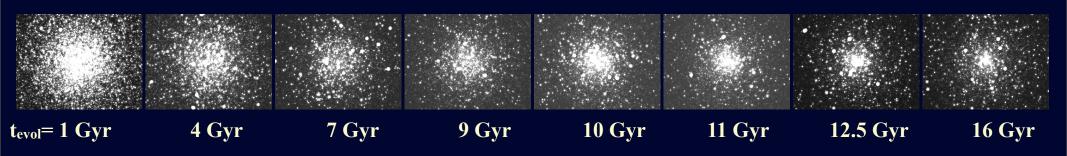


#### Turning N-body models into realistic images

Models containing central black holes



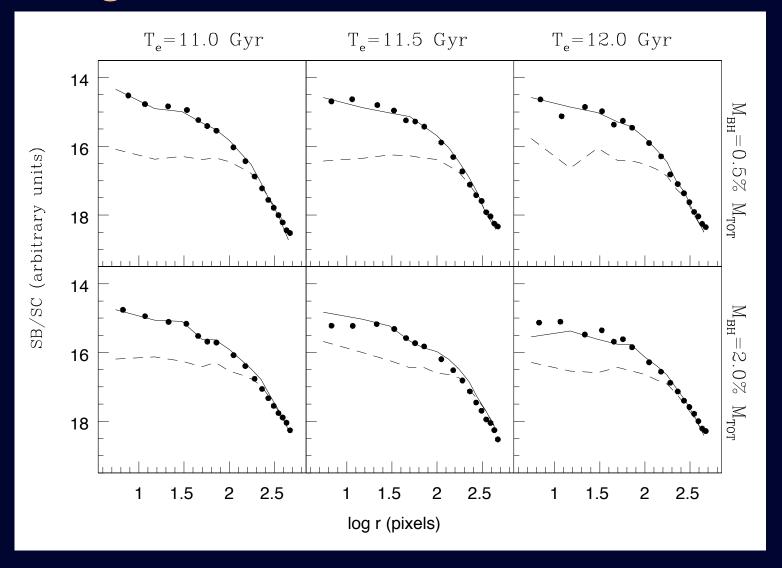
Models without a central black hole



Noyola & Baumgardt, 2011, submitted

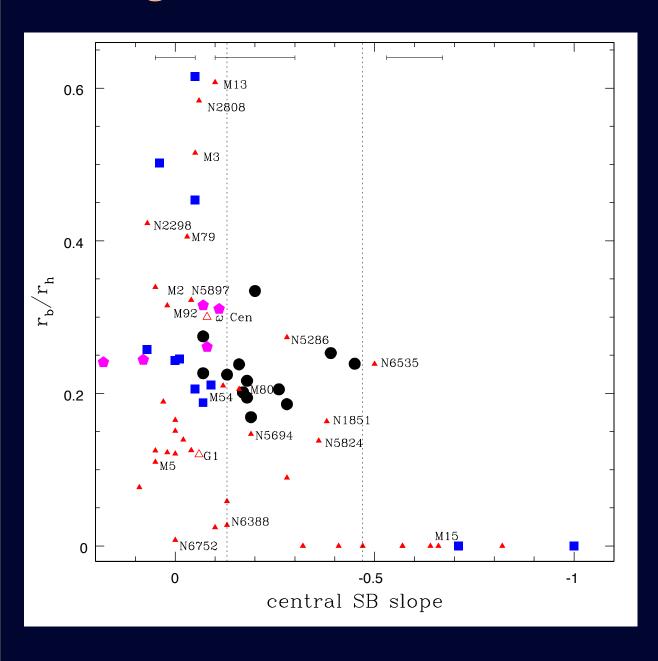
• Clusters placed at 5 kpc, scaled to observed average half-light radii

#### Integrated light vs. star counts



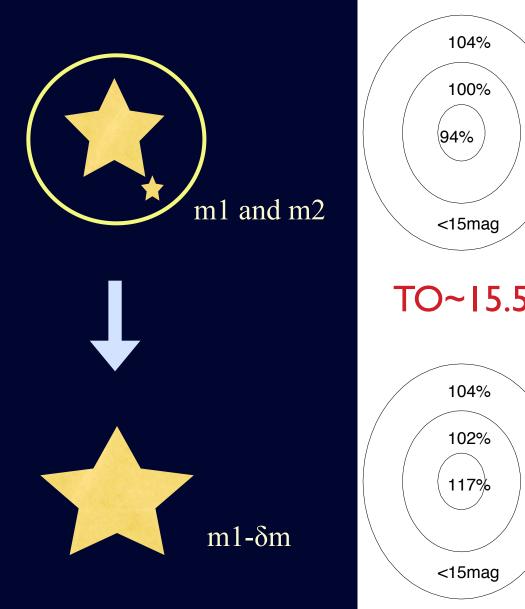
- Integrated light follows input profile for stars brighter than 16 magnitudes
- Star counts from the same brightness group, require corrections due to crowding. Corrections vary from model to model

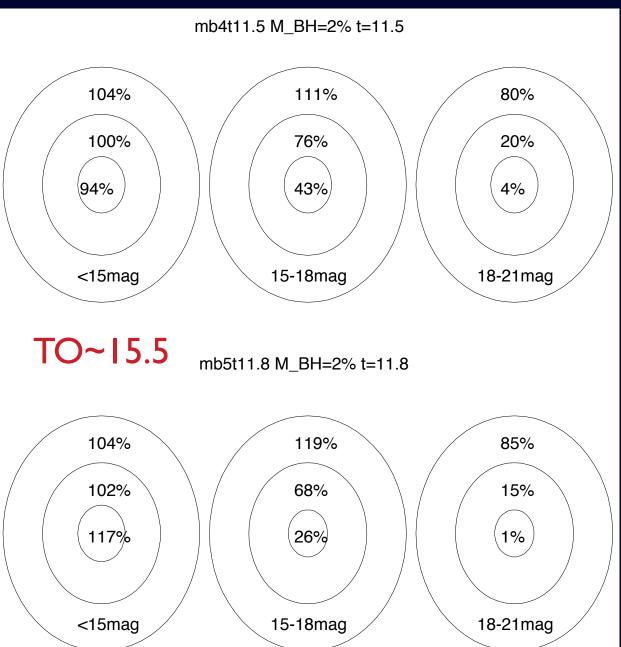
#### **BH** diagnostics



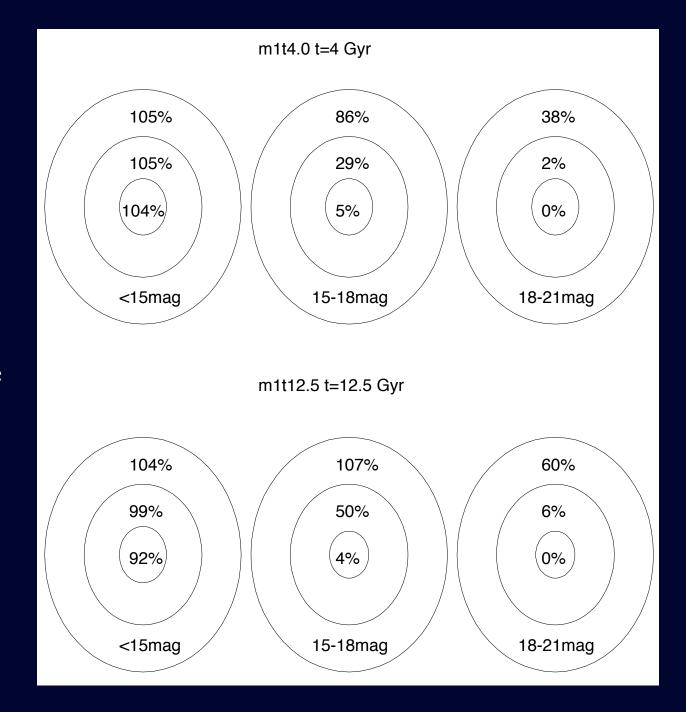
- models with central IMBH
- models without central IMBH
- models with stellar mass BHs
- Very concentrated clusters (such as M15) appear not to have central BHs
- Models with IMBHs show cusps steeper than -0.12
- •There are models containing IMBHs very flat central profiles

# **Completeness issues**

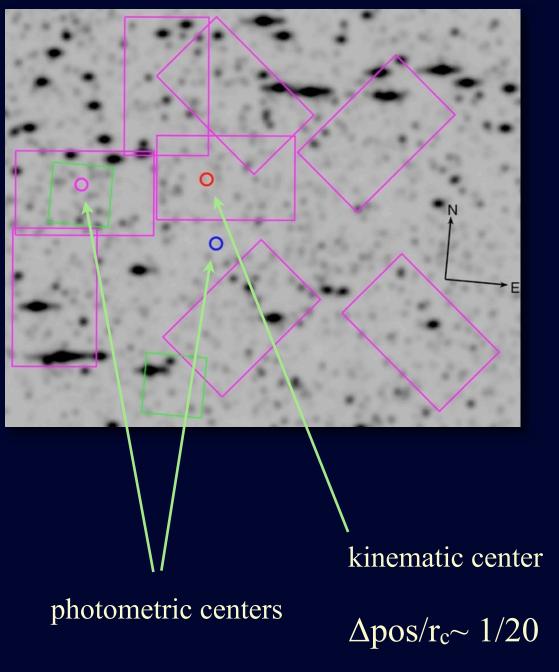


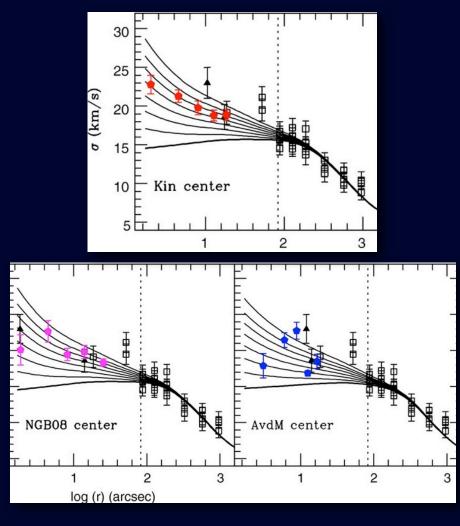


- For rich clusters, incompleteness is a huge problem inside the core, even at intermediate magnitudes
- The problem is worse for younger and concentrated clusters
- How problematic is this for finding centers?



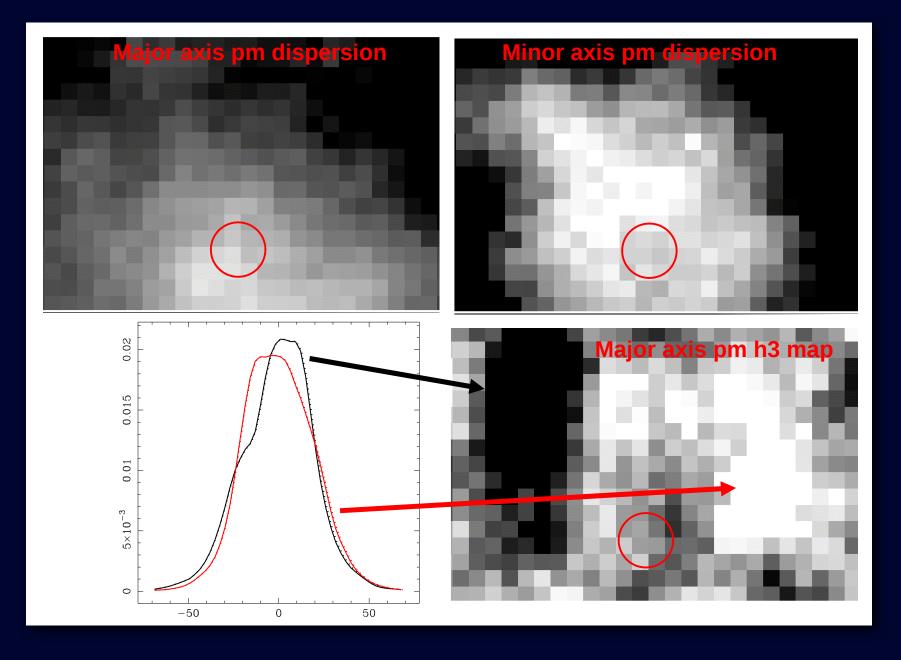
# The many centers of omega Centauri



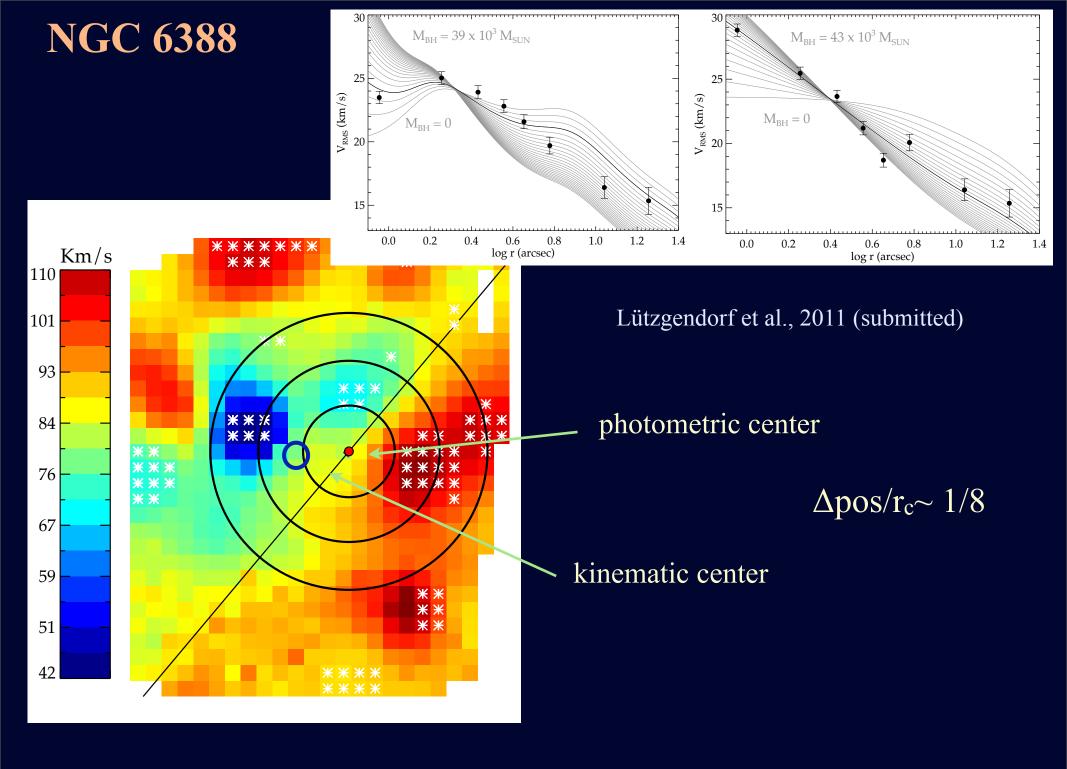


Noyola et al., 2010

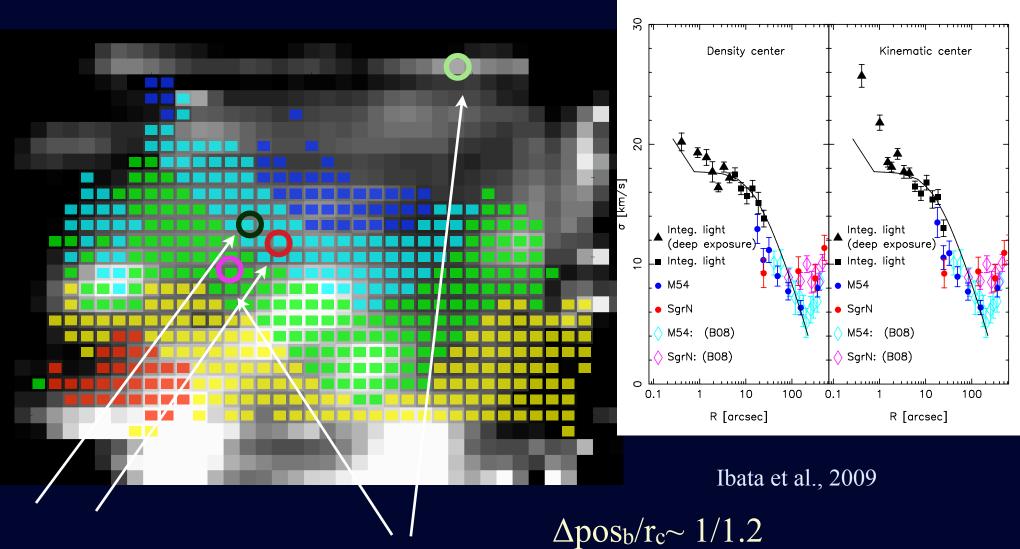
# Kinematic center from proper motion velocities



Accounting for rotation is key



**M54** 



photometric centers

kinematic centers

 $\Delta pos_a/r_c \sim 1/6$ 

### Conclusions

- It is worth turning models into images when comparing them to observations
- Photometric corrections due to crowding are heavily dependent on the detailed structure of each star cluster, they also affect bright stars
- Can the center discrepancies be blamed on photometric errors?
- Are kinematic centers systematically different than photometric centers?