MGB and the new Galactic O-Star Spectroscopic Survey spectral classification standard grid

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Abstract

In this poster we present three developments related to the Galactic O-Star Spectroscopic Survey (GOSSS). First, we are making public the first version of MGB, an IDL code that allows the user to compare observed spectra to a grid of spectroscopic standards to measure spectral types, luminosity classes, rotation indexes, and spectral qualifiers. Second, we present the associated grid of standard stars for the spectral types O2 to O9.7, with several improvements over the original GOSSS grid of Sota et al. (2011). Third, we present a list of egregious classification errors in SIMBAD: stars that are or have been listed there as being of O type but that in reality are late-type stars.

1 What is GOSSS?

GOSSS stands for Galactic O-Star Spectroscopic Survey (Maíz Apellániz et al. 2011). In this project we are observing all Galactic stars that anybody has ever classified as O (if we get time on a large enough telescope) with $R \sim 2500$ spectroscopy in the blue-violet region and a $S/N \sim 300$ (in $\sim$90\% of the cases). The telescopes used so far are: 1.5 m OSN, 3.5 m CAHA, WHT, and GTC (north); 2.5 m LCO and Gemini (south). We have 2000+ stars observed so far, with completeness to $B=8$ ($B=10$ by 2015) and objects as dim as $B=16$.
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Figure 1: Example of fitting an SB2 system with MGB. Eight parameters can be adjusted: the spectral subtypes, luminosity classes, and velocities of both the primary and secondary, the flux fraction of the secondary, and the rotation index n. Here HD 93161 A (black) is fitted with a combination (red) of 60% of HD 152590 and 40% of 10 Lac separated by 325 km/s.

(B = 19 planned). In some cases we have multiple epochs for extreme SB2s and variables. GOSSS uses a devoted pipeline and quality control systems.

2 GOSSS goals

The primary goal of GOSSS is spectral classification. More specifically, we aim to:

- Identify and classify all optically accessible Galactic O stars.
- Improve classification criteria and possibly define new special types.
- Identify objects wrongly classified as O.

GOSSS also has five secondary goals:

- Derive physical properties of O stars.
- Study SB2s in collaboration with high-resolution sister surveys (OWN, CAFÉ-BEANS, IACOB, and NoMaDS, see contributions by I. Negueruela and S. Simón-Díaz in these proceedings).
- Study the extinction law and study its relationship with the ISM (see contribution by J. Maíz Apellániz in these proceedings).
Table 1: The OB2500 v2.0 grid of standards.

| O2 | HD 64 568 | ... | V | IV | III | H | Lr | LA/H | Ls |
|----|------------|-----|---|----|----|---|----|------|----|
| O3 | HD 93 128 | ... | ... | Cyg OB2-7 |
| O4 | HD 46 223 | HD 168 076 AB | HD 93 050 AB | HD 190 429 A |
| O4.5 | HD 15 629 | ... | HD 14 947 |
| O5 | HDE 319 699 | HD 108 112 | CPD -43 3965 |
| O5.5 | HD 93 204 | ... | Cyg OB2-11 |
| O6 | CFD -39 9600 | HD 101 190 | ... | HDE 229 196 | ... | ... | HD 169 582 |
| O6.5 | HD 157 833 | HDE 322 417 | HD 198 864 | HD 157 857 | ... | ... | ... | HD 163 758 |
| O7 | HD 93 146 A | HDE 242 926 | HD 93 160 | Cyg OB2-4 A | HD 94 964 | HD 69 484 | ... | ... |
| O7.5 | HD 156 990 | ... | HD 167 633 | HD 64 966 | ... | ... |
| O8 | HD 101 223 | HD 156 154 | HD 152 590 | HD 163 800 | ... |
| O8.5 | HDE 298 429 | HD 154 594 | HD 152 424 | HD 152 424 |
| O9 | HD 157 528 | ... | HD 154 811 | HD 154 268 |
| O9.5 | HDE 322 196 | HD 202 124 | HD 202 124 | HD 202 124 |
| O9.7 | HD 46 202 | ... | HD 163 808 | HD 163 808 |
| O9.7 | HD 207 538 | HD 154 811 | HD 154 811 | HD 163 808 |
| Notes | Normal, italic, and bold typefaces are used for stars with $\delta > +20^\circ$, $\delta < -20^\circ$, and the equatorial intermediate region, respectively.

- Analyze the spatial distribution of massive stars and dust.
- Obtain the massive-star IMF.

## 3 MGB

MGB is a code that attacks spectral classification (Maíz Apellániz et al. 2012) by doing classical visual (non-automatic) spectral classification by interactively comparing with a standard grid. The MGB user can adjust four parameters:

- Spectral subtype (horizontal classification).
- Luminosity class (vertical classification).
- $n$ index (broadening).
Table 2: Stars classified as O in SIMBAD that are actually of spectral types A to K.

| Name            | Spectral type | SIMBAD | New  | SIMBAD reference | Notes                                                                 |
|-----------------|---------------|--------|------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BD -03 2178     | O5            | K      |      | MacConnell & Bidelman (1976) | Recently fixed in SIMBAD, confusion with BD -03 2179, a sdO           |
| BD +01 3974     | O5            | F      |      | Kelly & Kilkenny (1986)       |                                                                      |
| BD -03 3929     | O8f           | F      |      | Hiltner & Johnson (1956)      | Confusion with BD +37 3927                                            |
| BD +40 4213     | O9.5 I        | F      |      | Massey & Thompson (1991)      |                                                                      |
| BD +45 4132 A   | O             | F      |      | Not given*                   |                                                                      |
| BD +61 100 AB   | O/B2          |       | G    | Radoslavova (1989)            |                                                                      |
| CPD -61 4623    | O             | K      |      | Not given*                   |                                                                      |
| HDE 226 144     | O9 V          |       | A    | Mikolajewska & Mikolajewski (1980) |                                                                      |
| Tyc 0468-02112-1| O...           | F      |      | Not given*                   |                                                                      |

* These classifications were removed from SIMBAD after this poster was presented.

- Alternative standards at each grid point (e.g. ONC or f variants).

MGB also includes fitting of SB2 systems (Figure 1). The default grid covers the O2-O9.7 spectral subtypes using GOSSS data (see below). Other grids (O-type or other) at various resolutions using the original or degraded spectra from different ongoing high-resolution surveys (e.g. IACOB, OWN, IACOBsweG) are planned. MGB v1.0 is available now from [http://jmaiz.iaa.es](http://jmaiz.iaa.es).

4 The new GOSSS standard grid

We present the OB2500 v2.0 GOSSS standard grid, which is integrated with MGB. It covers the spectral subtypes from O2 to O9.7 and the luminosity classes from V to Ia (Table 1). The grid has two types of gaps: non-existing types (blank) and standards not yet found (...). It is similar to OB2500 v1.0, the grid in Sota et al. (2011), but with some small changes introduced by Sota et al. (2014) e.g. the addition of O9.2 and new standards. The grid is available from [http://jmaiz.iaa.es](http://jmaiz.iaa.es) with MGB v1.0. A future extension to A0 (including all B stars) and luminosity class Ia+ is planned.

5 Spectral classification errors

During the course of GOSSS we have discovered a large number of classification errors in the literature. More specifically:

- 24.9% of the alleged O stars observed by mid 2013 were not of that type (false positives, Maíz Apellániz et al. 2013).
Figure 2: Spectrograms for the stars in Table 2.
The current number of false positives is closer to 30%.

False negatives are much lower (6.4%, Maíz Apellániz et al. 2013).

SIMBAD has many errors in O-type spectral classifications, which are related to different issues:

- Some spectral types are actually of photometric, not spectroscopic origin.
- Other classifications are of unknown origin (no reference is provided).
- Misidentifications (in the source or in SIMBAD) are present.
- Sometimes the lower quality classification is shown at the top, leaving the higher quality one “hidden” in the text below.

The most egregious errors we have found are A-K stars that appear or have appeared in SIMBAD as O stars (Table 2 and Figure 2).

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