# Calibrer une caméra grand champ : l'expérience de SNLS

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SNLS / CFHTLS-DEEP MegaCam : 1 deg2 1500 hours on CFHT 1500 hours on 8-m telescopes ~ 500 SNela with spec-id









# OUTLINE

- Imager Uniformity
  - Response maps / "grids" / star flats
- Flux metrology chain
  - Fundamental flux standards
  - Building robust metrology chains
- Instrumental calibration

#### **INSTRUMENT RESPONSE**

- Flat fields
  - Affected by plate scale variations
    (well measured ↔ astrometry)
  - contaminated by ghosts
    (reflections in the WFC)
- Filter uniformity
  - MegaCam filters vary by
    - ~ 5-nm center-to-corner.

(Magnier et al, '04) (Regnault et al, '09) (Betoule et al, '13)





NGC3489 (MATLAS) http://irfu.cea.fr/Projets/matlas/atlas3D/NGC3489.html





flat field [L4 ghost]

flat field [L3 ghost]



## MAPPING THE INSTRUMENT RESPONSE



- Dithered observations of dense stellar fields
  - Logarithmically Increasing steps  $(1.5' \rightarrow 0.5 \text{ deg})$
  - Observed every ~ 6 months
- Model

 $m(x) = m(x_0) + \delta z p(x) + \delta k(x) \times col$ 

Maps

(~ 100 pars)

#### Star mags @ center (~ 100,000 pars)

(Magnier & Cuillandre, 2004; Regnault et al, 2009)

#### PLATE SCALE + GHOSTS



# Filter variations (in $\lambda$ )



(a)  $\delta k_{g,g-r}(\mathbf{x})$ 



(b)  $\delta k_{r,r-i}(\mathbf{x})$ 









#### Preferable to measure the filters on a bench...)

### VARIABILITY OF THE IMAGER RESPONSE









# UNIFORMITY

- Mapping techniques rely on sets of dithered observations which are
  - Costly in terms of observing time

 $\rightarrow$  taken every ~ 6 months / 1 year

- BUT
  - ~ 1% variations observed, over ~ 6 months timescales
- Best solution would be a mix of
  - dithered observations
  - instrumental monitoring of the uniformity (every week)
- Why not instrumental monitoring only ?
  - because uniformity maps depend on flux estimator used...

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## FLUX METROLOGY CHAIN



- Instrument response
  - Measure flux ratios in a single image



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- Instrument response
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- Calibration transfer
  - HST standards as primary flux calibrators



# SNLS/SDSS (JLA) CALIBRATION PATHS



- Direct observations of SDSS & HST stars
- Several calibration paths
- 0.3% accuracy in gri

(Betoule et al, 2013)

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#### **INSTRUMENTAL CALIBRATION**



- Stellar flux standards
   vs
   Laboratory standards
- Precision monitoring of large focal planes
- 0.1% calibration accuracy

# Switching to a Lab Standard



### A NEW METROLOGY CHAIN



### A NEW METROLOGY CHAIN





# CALIBRATION PROJECTS

- Harvard (Stubbs et al)
  - ESSENCE
  - PanSTARRS
- Texas A&M (DePoy et al)
  - DES (Dark Energy Survey)
- NIST (Cramer et al)
  - Artificial star  $\rightarrow$  recalibration of Vega
- ACCESS (Kaiser et al)
  - Small rocket-borne telescope (IR spectrophotometry)
- LPNHE
  - SnDICE (MegaCam)
  - SkyDICE (SkyMapper)

Monochromatic Source Full-system Throughput Determination







# DICE : A STABLE LED SOURCE





## TYPICAL LED COVERAGE



# The "Cooler-brighter effect"



(Regnault et al, submitted to A&A)

About 0.5% / °C for all LEDs

#### LONG TERM STABILITY STUDIES



# A Spectrophotometric model for the LED source



Predicts the LED spectral intensity (watts / sr / nm) in a range of temperature (0°C < T < 25°C)

SnDICE LEDs  $\rightarrow \sim$  microWatts / sr / nm  $\rightarrow \sim O(1000 \text{ e-} / \text{ s / pixel})$ 

(Regnault et al, submitted to A&A)

# GHOSTS



## CONCLUSION

- Steady progress over the last decade
  - ~ 10 years to increase accuracy by a factor ~ 10
- Each step requires
  - New techniques
  - more data
- We are ~ on-par with the precision of the fundamental (HST) flux calibrators

 $\rightarrow$  Artificial sources under development