Acoustic Glitches in 16 Cygni (work in progress)

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Acoustic what?

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What are acoustic glitches?

- Regions where sound speed changes rapidly
- Caused by localized changes in the stratification

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Acoustic glitches

What are acoustic glitches?

Regions where sound speed changes rapidly

Caused by localized changes in the stratification

$$c^2 = \frac{\Gamma_1 P}{\rho}$$

Derivative wrt. acoustic depth $\frac{d \log c^2}{d\tau} = \frac{d \log \Gamma_1}{d\tau} + \frac{g}{c} \left[(\Gamma_1 - \gamma) + (\gamma - 1) \frac{\nabla}{\nabla_a} \right]$

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What are acoustic glitches?

- Regions where sound speed changes rapidly
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Base of the convection zone and second helium ionization region

Oscillatory signal

Each glitch causes a shift in the eigenfrequencies that is an oscillatory function of the frequency itself

- period: determined by acoustic depth of glitch
- amplitude: determined by "size" of glitch discontinuity

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Signal will be present on frequencies and frequency combinations



$$\Delta_2\nu(n,\ell) = \nu(n-1,\ell) - 2\nu(n,\ell) + \nu(n+1,\ell)$$

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How do we detect them?

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Detection of the signal

Need to fit an appropriate functional form...

$$\begin{split} \nu &\simeq \nu_{smooth} + \\ &+ A_{\rm BCZ} \left(\frac{\nu_r}{\nu}\right)^2 \cos(4\pi \tau_{\rm BCZ} \nu + 2\phi_{\rm BCZ}) + \\ &+ A_{\rm HeIIZ} \left(\frac{\nu_r}{\nu}\right) \sin^2(2\pi \beta_{\rm HeIIZ} \nu) \cos(4\pi \tau_{\rm HeIIZ} \nu + 2\phi_{\rm HeIIZ}) \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} \Delta_2 \nu &\simeq \sum_{k=0}^3 c_k \nu^{-k} + \\ &+ \left(c_4 / \nu^2 \right) \sin \left(4 \pi \nu \tau_{\text{BCZ}} + 2 \phi_{\text{BCZ}} \right) + \\ &+ \left[c_5 \, \nu \, \exp \left(- c_6 \, \nu^2 \right) \right] \sin \left(4 \pi \nu \tau_{\text{HeIIZ}} + 2 \phi_{\text{HeIIZ}} \right) \end{split}$$

(a)

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Detection of the signal

... to extract important parameters

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Detection methods

Detection of the signal



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Detection methods

Detection of the signal



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- no assumptions on form of smooth component
- can use every frequency
- may be less robust
- BCZ and HeIIZ fitted separately

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 - amplitude of signal is higher
 - smooth component is simpler (but assumes functional form)
 - requires frequencies of consecutive orders
 - increased errors

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Detection methods

Detection of the signal - improvements

In the actual frequencies (Monteiro et al. 1994, Monteiro & Thompson 2000)

- no assumptions on form of smooth component difficult parameter λ X
- can use every frequency
- **•** may be less robust global minimization (PIKAIA¹) + IRLS \checkmark
- BCZ and HeIIZ fitted separately together \checkmark

In the second differences (Basu et al. 1994, Mazumdar & Antia 2001)

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- smooth component is simpler (but assumes functional form)
- requires frequencies of consecutive orders
- increased errors
- global minimization (PIKAIA) + IRLS \checkmark

¹Charbonneau, P., 1995, ApJS, 101, 309

The data

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The 16 Cyg binary

Data

- Evolved solar-type stars
- No dynamical masses
- On Kepler SC target list since Q7



The 16 Cyg binary

Data



16 Cyg A

16 Cyg B

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Results - frequencies

• 9 months data from *Kepler*



16 Cyg A

16 Cyg B

Results - second differences

• 9 months data from *Kepler*



16 Cyg A

16 Cyg B

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Results - comparison

	16 Cyg A		16 Cyg B	
	$ au_{\scriptscriptstyle BCZ}$	$ au_{_{HeIIZ}}$	$ au_{BCZ}$	$ au_{_{HeIIZ}}$
$\delta \nu$	2407.22 ± 133	915.03 ± 8	2577.48 ± 141	777.08 ± 16
$\Delta_2 \nu$	2328.23 ± 249	967.38 ± 67	2511.74 ± 255	857.42 ± 35

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Is this useful?

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Results - Helium abundance (16 Cyg A)



The two detection methods give consistent results for signal parameters

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- Consistent with stellar models fitted to the frequencies

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Thank you!