

Talk at Splinter Meeting

Splinter J

ACME: THE ANDROMEDA C- AND M-STAR EXPLORATION

M.J. Frank<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Landessternwarte, Zentrum für Astronomie der Universität Heidelberg*

Galactic stellar halos are thought to be composed of a metal-poor, in-situ component, and of stars that were accreted from infalling satellites. Depending on the metallicity and star formation history of their progenitor, the accreted components vary in chemical composition and tend to have younger ages. Carbon- (C-type) and oxygen-rich (M-type) asymptotic giant branch stars are the most luminous tracers of such intermediate-age (2-9 Gyr) stellar populations.

In the ‘Andromeda C- and M star Exploration’ (ACME) we use our CN- and TiO- narrow-band filters in the Large Binocular Camera to identify these stars in the M31 outer halo, aiming to address the questions ”What fraction of M31’s stellar halo was accreted?” and ”Which were the progenitors contributing most?”. I will show the results from our pilot run last October.