

An Intrinsic Relation between a Function of the Right Ascension and Declination with the Angular Distance to the Vertex for Hyades Stars

Mohamed Adel Sharaf¹, Hadia Hassan Selim²

¹*Astronomy Department, Faculty of Science, King Abdul Aziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia*

²*Mathematics Department, Faculty of Science, University of Dammam, Dammam, Saudi Arabia*

E-mail: Sharaf_adel@hotmail.com, hassanselim@yahoo.com

Received February 16, 2011; revised April 22, 2011; accepted April 30, 2011

Abstract

In this paper, an intrinsic relation was developed for Hyades stars between a function of the right ascensions α and declination δ with the angular distance λ from the vertex. The precision criteria of this relation are very satisfactory and a correlation coefficient of value ≈ 1 was found which proves that the attributes are completely related linearly.

Keywords: Techniques, Astrometry and Kinematic, Moving Clusters, Open Clusters-Hyades Cluster

1. Introduction

Hyades is an open cluster occupies a unique place in the history and literatures of astronomy. It is one of the few star clusters to have been recognized by the ancients, and shares with the Pleiades and Coma clusters the distinction of being sufficiently close to us for the brighter members to be individually visible to the naked eye. Hyades cluster, with some possible members, a total mass of some 300 - 400 Solar mass. Since no strict information is gathered for the chemical composition of the Hyades cluster, as a result of degeneracy in the color-magnitude diagram, then by adopting hydrogen abundance [1] to be $X = 0.676$, it was found that, the age to be 670 Myr, while by adopting hydrogen abundance to be $X = 0.718$, the age is 720 Myr. Hyades has an extension in the sky of about 20° . Hyades cluster provides a well known example of a moving cluster, that is a group of stars whose parallel motions in space yield, on the celestial sphere, directions of proper motion that appear to converge to a point called the vertex of the motion (or of the cluster). The determination of the equatorial coordinates of the vertex, that is, its right ascension and declination (A, D) is one of the most important problem in the kinematical, astrometry and physical studies of moving clusters [2-6]. In particular, the color -magnitude diagram of the Hyades cluster has been of prime importance in establishing the Zero Age Main Sequence (ZAMS) as well as in calibrating luminosity criteria which permit the determination of the absolute

magnitudes of the stars from observable features in their spectra [7,8]. In fact the determination of the mass functions of open clusters of different ages allows us to infer the efficiency with which brown dwarfs are evaporated from clusters to populate the field. Very recently [9] compare the mass function of Praesepe cluster and Hyades cluster (nearly of the same age), it was found out that their mass functions differs significantly, indicating that the two clusters did not have the same initial mass function, or that dynamical evolution (e.g. evaporation of low mass members) has proceeded differently in the two clusters. Recently, new method for the statistical determination of open cluster metallicities was established [10] and applied to the Hyades. The importance of the study of cluster metallicities helps to understand the local stellar formation and evolution throughout the Milky Way.

The kinematic distance of the Hyades derived from a combination of proper motions and spectroscopic radial velocities, has been one of the fundamental starting points for the calibration of the photometric distance scale [3,5,11].

In fact, the availability of the final results of the Hipparcos mission, provide a radical improvement in astrometry data on all stars. In Hipparcos observing program, including approximately 240 candidate Hyades members, the first detailed study distance, structure, membership, dynamics and age of the Hyades cluster, using Hipparcos data [8]. Relation between apparent magnitude and parallax was developed [12].

Also, on a detailed analysis of the binaries of the Hyades, in which the masses of the components are well known, it was shown that, there is a very definite relationship between the mixing-length parameter and the stellar mass [1].

In the present paper, an intrinsic relation was developed for Hyades stars between a function of the right ascensions α and declination δ with the angular distance λ from the vertex. As a test for the existence of such relation for Hyades cluster, we used 133 stars of Schwan's table [11]. The precision criteria of the relation are very satisfactory and a correlation coefficient of value ≈ 1 was found which proves that the attributes are completely related linearly.

List of symbols

Before starting, we see profitable to list the symbols appear in the present paper

(α, δ) : The right ascension and declination

(μ_α, μ_δ) : The components of the proper motion (μ) in the right ascension and declination.

$(\theta_{obs}, \theta_{cal})$: The observed and calculated position angles of the total proper motion (μ)

(ρ, V_t) : The radial and tangential velocities.

(M, m) : The absolute and apparent magnitudes

p: The parallax.

V: The velocity of the cluster.

d: The distance of the cluster

(A, D) : The right ascension and declination of the vertex of the cluster.

λ : The angular distance of a star from the vertex of the cluster.

(x_c, y_c, z_c) : The heliocentric coordinates of the center of the cluster.

2. Basic Formulations

2.1. Best Rational Approximation

In what follows, we shall develop an algorithm for the best rational approximation $P(x)/Q(x)$ to a discrete function, $f(x)$, in the least-squares sense.

Given positive integers n_p, n_q and N , arguments x_i , and function values $f_i; i = 1, 2, \dots, N$. The problem is to determine the coefficients of the polynomials:

$$P(x) = a_1 + a_2x + a_3x^2 + La_{n_p}x^{n_p-1}$$

$$Q(x) = b_1 + b_2x + b_3x^2 + Lb_{n_q}x^{n_q-1}$$

Such that

$$F = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[f_i - \frac{P(x_i)}{Q(x_i)} \right]^2 = \text{minimum} \quad (1)$$

A direct approach to the problem (1) leads to a system of nonlinear equations. Therefore, the problem is reformulated in the following way:

Let $P_0(x)$ and $Q_0(x)$ be an approximate solution to (1). The problem is then to determine the increments $\Delta P_0(x)$ and $\Delta Q_0(x)$ such that:

$$\Delta Q_0(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_q-1} c_i x^i; \quad \Delta P_0(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_p-1} d_i x^i,$$

where we assume, without loss of generality that, the constant term of $Q_0(x)$ remains unchanged, that is, the constant term c_0 of $\Delta Q_0(x)$ is zero. By letting $d_i = c_{n_q+i}$ in the second sum, then the problem reduces to that of determining the c 's coefficients of the increments $\Delta P_0(x)$ and $\Delta Q_0(x)$, where

$$\Delta Q_0(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_q-1} c_i x^i, \quad (2)$$

$$\Delta P_0(x) = \sum_{k=n_q}^n c_k x^{k-n_q}, \quad (3)$$

$$n = n_p + n_q - 1. \quad (4)$$

The minimization problem of Equation (1) then becomes:

$$F = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[f_i - \frac{P_0(x_i) + \Delta P_0(x_i)}{Q_0(x_i) + \Delta Q_0(x_i)} \right]^2 = \text{minimum}. \quad (5)$$

Linearizing $\frac{P_0 + \Delta P_0}{Q_0 + \Delta Q_0}$ with respect to ΔP_0 and ΔQ_0

we get.

$$\frac{P_0 + \Delta P_0}{Q_0 + \Delta Q_0} \approx \frac{P_0}{Q_0} \left[1 + \frac{\Delta P_0}{P_0} - \frac{\Delta Q_0}{Q_0} \right]. \quad (6)$$

Using Equation (6) into Equation (5) gives the approximation $F \approx F_0$, where

$$F_0 = \sum_{i=1}^N \omega_i^* \left[f_i^* - g(x_i) \right]^2, \quad (7)$$

$$f_i^* = f_i Q_0(x_i) - P_0(x_i), \quad (8)$$

$$\omega_i^* = \frac{1}{Q_0^2(x_i)}, \quad (9)$$

$$g(x) = \Delta P_0(x) - \frac{P_0(x)}{Q_0(x)} \Delta Q_0(x). \quad (10)$$

Using Equations (2) and (3) into Equation (10) we get

$$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i g_i(x), \quad (11)$$

$$g_k(x) = -\frac{P_0(x)}{Q_0(x)} x^k; \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n_q - 1, \quad (12)$$

$$g_k(x) = x^{k-n_q}; \quad k = n_q, n_q + 1, \dots, n. \quad (13)$$

Now the coefficients c_i are determined so that $F_0 = \text{minimum}$. This is a typical weighted linear least squares [13] with function values f_i^* , weights ω_i^* and fundamental functions $g_i(x)$ and leads to a system of linear equations

$$Hc = R, \quad (14)$$

with H symmetric positive semi-definite coefficient matrix, where

$$h_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^N \omega_k^* g_{ik} g_{jk}, \quad (15)$$

$$r_i = \sum_{k=1}^N \omega_k^* g_{ik} f_k^* \quad (16)$$

And

$$g_{ik} = g_i(x_k). \quad (17)$$

Given a solution ΔP_0 and ΔQ_0 to the problem $F_0 = \text{minimum}$, a new approximation is formed using

$$P_1 = P_0 + \Delta P_0,$$

$$Q_1 = Q_0 + \Delta Q_0.$$

In general, given approximation P_k and Q_k increments ΔP_k and ΔQ_k are determined as indicated above, and the next approximation are:

$$P_{k+1} = P_k + \Delta P_k, \quad (18)$$

$$Q_{k+1} = Q_k + \Delta Q_k \quad (19)$$

This process is started with some initial approximation, usually with $P_0(x) \equiv 0$ and $Q_0(x) \equiv 1$ and is stopped when there is indication of convergence according to certain criteria (Equation (20) or Equation (21)).

2.2. Refinement of the Calculation Procedure

The above approach has two defects:

1) There is no guarantee for improvement of the rational fit obtained with successive iterations if the initial approximation is not close enough to a true solution.

2) Zeros may come into the denominator, causing a complete breakdown of the procedure. To overcome these defects we use Press's approach [14] as follows: Let.

$$S_k = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[f_i - \frac{P_k(x_i)}{Q_k(x_i)} \right]^2.$$

Then, instead of using the relations (18) and (19) we use

$$P_{k+1} = P_k + \nu \Delta P_k, \quad Q_{k+1} = Q_k + \nu \Delta Q_k,$$

where the relaxation factor ν is chosen so that S_{k+1} is close to a minimum when regarded as a function of ν and $S_{k+1} \leq S_k$. Choosing ν sufficiently small also pre-

vents zeros from entering the denominator.

2.3. Convergence Criteria

Let T_k denote the sum of the absolute values of the coefficients of $P_k(x)$ and $Q_k(x)$. Then, the process is stopped if either.

$$\frac{S_k - S_{k+1}}{S_{k+1}} \leq \nu \varepsilon \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{|T_k - T_{k+1}|}{T_{k+1}} \leq \nu \varepsilon. \quad (21)$$

3. Relation between H and λ

By using Schwan's table [11] and the computational algorithm of Sharaf *et al.* [6], we get for A and D together with their probable errors the values $A = 96.533^\circ \pm 0.563$; $D = 6.5735^\circ \pm 0.226$. Then by using the rational model of Section 2, we get new relation between (α, δ) and the angular distance to the vertex λ as:

$$\lambda = c_1 + c_2 H, \quad (22)$$

$$H = -0.1181833$$

$$+ \frac{3.40937(1.12138 - 0.293914\alpha^2 + 3.52822\delta^4)}{2.72602 + 0.813121\alpha^2 + 5.47896\delta^4} \quad (23)$$

Where the coefficients and the error analysis of the model can be obtained using [13] as:

$$c_1 = -0.118599 \pm 0.00207903$$

$$c_2 = -3.40917 \pm 0.0104621$$

The probable error of the fit is $e = 0.00258377$

The average squared distance between the exact solution and the least squares solution $Q = 0.00025009$

The linear correlation coefficient between (H, λ) is $r = 0.998647$

The graphical representation between the raw and the fitted data is given in **Figure 1**.

The distribution of the residual errors between the raw and the fitted data is shown in **Figure 2**.

4. Conclusions

In concluding the present paper, a relation was developed for Hyades stars between a function of the right ascensions α and declination δ with the angular distance λ from the vertex. The precision criteria of this relation are very satisfactory and a correlation coefficient of value ≈ 1 was found which proves that the attributes are completely related linearly. Consequently, we can say that,

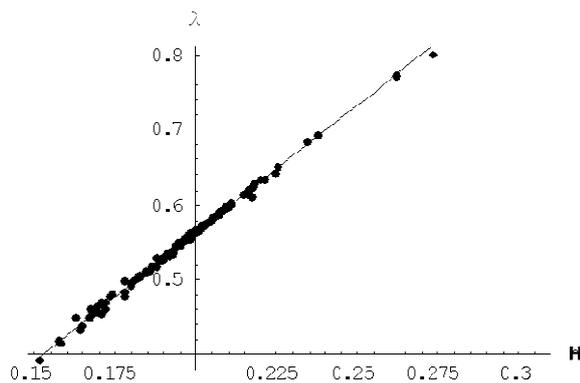


Figure 1. Graph of the raw and fitted data.

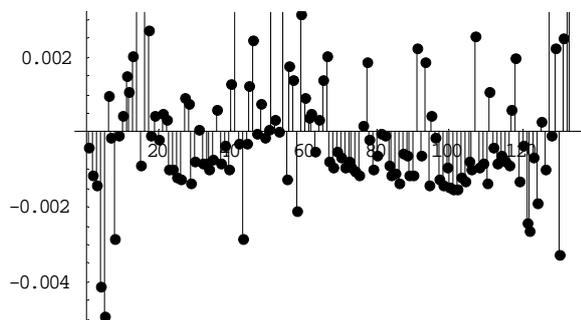


Figure 2. The distribution of the residual errors between the raw and the fitted data.

this relation, is an intrinsic relation for Hyades cluster, by which most of the properties of the cluster could be determine just from the observed data of N (say) cluster members. Of these properties are: The velocity of the cluster; the radial velocities of the cluster members; the parallaxes of the cluster members; the absolute magnitudes of the cluster member; the heliocentric coordinates of the cluster center, and the distance of the cluster. In addition to these properties, the relation could be used to obtain initial values of the vertex coordinates, which then be improved iteratively using the procedure of differential corrections. Finally, the relation provide new membership criterion of Hyades cluster and we call it the angular distance criterion.

5. References

- [1] M. Yildiz, K. Yakut, H. Bakis and A. Noels, "Modeling the Components of Binaries in the Hyades: The Dependence of the Mixing-Length Parameter on Stellar Mass," *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, Vol. 368, No. 4, 2006, pp. 1941-1948. [doi:10.1111/j.1365-2966.2006.10275.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2966.2006.10275.x)
- [2] P. A. Wayman, L. S. T. Symma and K. C. Blacwell, "Proper Motions and Radial Velocities of Hyades Stars," Joint Publication of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, 1965.
- [3] R. B. Hanson, "A Study of the Motion, Membership, and Distance of the Hyades Cluster," *Astronomical Journal*, Vol. 80, 1975, pp. 379-401. [doi:10.1086/111753](https://doi.org/10.1086/111753)
- [4] O. J. Eggen, "A Systematic Search for Members of the Hyades Supercluster. III. Near-Main-Sequence G and K Stars with Very Active Chromospheres," *Astronomical Journal*, Vol. 89, 1984, pp. 1358-1365. [doi:10.1086/111753](https://doi.org/10.1086/111753)
- [5] J. E. Gunn, R. F. Griffin, R. E. M. Griffin and B. A. Zimmerman, "A Radial-Velocity Survey of the Hyades," *Astronomical Journal*, Vol. 96, 1988, pp. 172-197. [doi:10.1086/114800](https://doi.org/10.1086/114800)
- [6] M. A. Sharaf, A. A. Bassuny and B. A. Korany, "An Error Controlled Method to Determine Parameters of Moving Clusters with Application to Hyades," *Astrophysical Letter and Communications*, Vol. 40, 2000, p. 39.
- [7] J. H. J. de Bruije, R. Hoogerwerf and P. T. de Zeeuw, "A Hipparcos Study of the Hyades Open Cluster—Improved Colour-Absolute Magnitude and Hertzsprung-Russell Diagrams," *Astronomy and Astrophysics*, Vol. 367, 2001, pp. 111-147. [doi:10.1051/0004-6361:20000410](https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361:20000410)
- [8] M. A. C. Perryman, A. G. A. Brown and Y. A. A. Lebreton, "The Hyades: Distance, Structure, Dynamics, Age," *Astronomy and Astrophysics*, Vol. 331, 1998, pp. 81-120.
- [9] S. Boudreault, C. A. L. Bailer-Jones, B. Goldman, T. Henning and J. A. Caballero, "Brown Dwarfs and Very Low Mass Stars in the Praesepe Open Cluster: A Dynamically Unevolved Mass Function?" *Astronomy and Astrophysics*, Vol. 510, 2010, Article ID A27. [doi:10.1051/0004-6361/200913011](https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/200913011)
- [10] H. Poehnl and E. Paunzen, "A Statistical Method to Determine Open Cluster Metallicities," *Astronomy and Astrophysics*, Vol. 514, 2010, Article ID A81.
- [11] H. Schwan, "The Distance and Main Sequence of the Hyades Cluster Based on 145 Stars with Highly Accurate Proper Motions Obtained from Work on the Catalogues FK 5 and PPM," *Astronomy and Astrophysics*, Vol. 243, 1991, pp. 386-400.
- [12] M. A. Sharaf, "Relation between the Apparent Magnitude and the Parallax for Hyades Stars," *New Astronomy*, Vol. 8, No. 7, 2003, pp. 645-653. [doi:10.1016/S1384-1076\(03\)00052-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1384-1076(03)00052-6)
- [13] Z. Kopal and M. A. Sharaf, "Linear Analysis of the Light Curves of Eclipsing Variables. I. Analysis of the Fractional Loss of Light," *Astrophysics and Space Science*, Vol. 70, No. 1, 1980, pp. 77-101. [doi:10.1007/BF00641665](https://doi.org/10.1007/BF00641665)
- [14] W. H. Press, S. A. Teukolsky, W. T. Vetterling and B. P. Flannery, "Numerical Recipes in Fortran," Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1992.