

ABSTRACT ONLY

MASSIVE YOUNG STELLAR CLUSTERS FROM THE VVV SURVEY

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Near and mid-infrared all-sky surveys such as 2MASS (Skrutskie et al. 2006), GLIMPSE (Benjamin et al. 2003), and UKIDSS (Lawrence et al. 2007) were key in the discovery of young and very obscured stellar clusters in our Galaxy. But the census is still far from complete; up to 3000 open clusters may still remain hidden in our Galaxy (Bonatto et al. 2006).

We present the latest clusters discovered using the ESO public survey Vista Variables in the Vía Láctea (VVV; Minniti et al. 2010, Saito et al. 2012), particularly those with spectroscopically confirmed massive stellar population (Wolf-Rayet, massive young stellar objects or OB-dwarfs). These objects are part of our long-term program dedicated to build a database of a great number of open clusters with homogeneously derived physical parameters.

With our database we are starting to build relations between the cluster stellar population, the clusters themselves and the Milky Way. We review in this talk some of these relations; one example is the relation between the clusters total mass M_{ecl} and the mass of their most massive stellar member m_{max} , for clusters with an age < 10 Myr.

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