



Prospects and challenges for the study of extragalactic globular clusters in the LSST-era

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STELLAR GLOBULAR CLUSTERS

- Globular clusters (GCs) are formed by tens of thousands to millions of stars;
 - Spherical arrangement of stars;

• • • •

• Among the oldest objects in the Universe >10 Gyrs;



Globular Cluster: M92

see: Krumholz et al. (2019), Chies-Santos et al. (2011b) and Forbes & Bridges (2010)

STELLAR GLOBULAR CLUSTERS

- GC system assembly: in-situ/ex-situ;
- Metal-rich GCs -> redder -> in-situ;
- Metal-poor GCs -> bluer -> ex-situ;
- In the Milky Way, the distribution of metallicity is typically referenced as bimodal;
- GCs are valuable tracers of the assembly history of their host galaxy.





Laboratories for Stellar Evolution and Tracers of Dark Matter.



see: Hudson, Harris, & Harris (2014), Zaritsky (2022) and Krumholz et al. (2019)

Early-Type

- Smoother light profile;
- Predominantly old, low-mass, and cool stars;
- Mass range: $10^8 10^{14} M_{\odot}$





Images: E. Wehner, Gemini Observatory and J-PLUS



• Disk, arm structures, and central bulge; • Active star formation; • Mass range: $10^9 - 10^{12} M_{\odot}$

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DWARF 0 - 10

SPIRAL 10 - 100

pe galaxy have?

galaxy's mass



ELLIPTICAL 100 - 10000



Image: JWST

Preparation for LSST

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Band	m	m	N_{GC}
	Visit	$10 \mathrm{yr}$	
u	23.60	25.45	4×10^5
g	24.41	26.54	1×10^7
r	23.98	26.71	3×10^7
i	23.39	26.20	2×10^7
z	22.79	25.51	9×10^6
y	22.00	24.73	$3 imes 10^6$

Usher et al. (2023)





J-PLUS



12 Filters

J-PLUS maps the northern hemisphere sky using 12 bands, 5 broad and 7 narrow. Ranging from near-infrared to UV-A light.

4 Filters

Euclid is a space telescope that observes the sky in 4 filters, 1 for visible light and 3 for infra-red light.







Foreground Star

Globular Cluster

Background Galaxy

Images: ESO, NASA and J-PLUS



CHALLENGES FOR SELECTION

Images: J-PLUS

NGC 3077

NGC 4449

NGC 2403

M81

Data Preparation

Rubin Early Science – Data Release Scenario													
	Jun 2021	Jun 2022	Jun 2023	Jun 2025 – Jul 2025	Mar 2026 – May 2026	Sep 2026 – Jan 2027	Sep 2027 – Jan 2028	Sep 2028 - Nov 2028					
	DP0.1	DP0.2	DP0.3	DP1	DP2	DR1	DR2	DR3					
Data Product	DC2 Simulated Sky Survey	Reprocessed DC2 Survey	Solar System PPDB Simulation	ComCam Data	LSSTCam Science Validation Data	LSST First 6 Months Data	LSST Year 1 Data	LSST Year 2 Data					
Raw Images	•	•	-	•	•	•	•	•					
DRP Processed Visit Images and Source Catalogs	•	•	-	•	•	•	•	٠					
DRP Coadded Images and Object Catalogs	•	•	-	•	•	•	•	٠					
DRP Cell-based Coadded Images and ShearObject Catalog	-	-	-	-	•	•	•	•					
DRP ForcedSource Catalogs	•	•	-	•	•	•	•	۲					
DRP Difference Images and DIA Catalogs	-	•	-	•	•	•	•	•					
DRP SSP Catalogs	-	-	•	-	•	•	•	•					

At first, we work with the automatic pipeline catalogues

Data Preparation by Stractor

When necessary, we work with images and run photometry ourselves

Bertin (1996)

Photometric Correction

NGC 2403: Extinction Map, gSDSS-filter

Schlegel, Finkbeiner & Davis (1998)

External Data

<u>GAIA EDR3</u>: Astrometric data is used in the identification of non-cluster contaminants and enhancement of candidate selection.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO WORK

We need Catalogues, and in the following DRs, we need Images to create more complete catalogues and to have visual inspection

•eesa

gaia

CANDIDATE SELECTION

Simple Cuts

The candidates are selected by using singular magnitude and color cuts based on SSP models or spectroscopically confirmed GCs.

Multi-Dimensional Analysis

Is there a more clever way to prepare and/or transform the available data to better separate promising GC candidates?

Simple Cuts

Cantiello et al. 2017

BEYOND COLOR-COLOR DIAGRAMS

- Dimensionality
 - reduction with PCA
- Statistical matching
- Combine labelled data
 - from different galaxies
 - and surveys

J-PLUS + Euclid NGC 2403

Euclid ERO data for NGC 2403

L. K. Hunt et al. (2024)

J-PLUS + Euclid NGC 2403

<u>The candidates (selected without Y or H bands)</u> coincide with an overdensity known to host GCs

L. K. Hunt et al. (2024)

L. K. Hunt et al. (2024)

Visual Inspection

72 stars
40 galaxies
39 potential GCs
9 undefined

Euclid vs J-PLUS, Euclid

LSST-LIKE PHOTOMETRY OF THE FORNAX CLUSTER

• Fornax Deep Survey (FDS): ugri • Dark Energy Survey (DES): grizY LSST: ugrizy ~ 1000 spect. conf. GCs

> Abbott et al. (2021) Cantiello et al. (2020) Pota et al. (2018) Schuberth et al. (2010)

• We are convicted that exploring more sophisticated methods, creating machine learning models, etc. is the way to go.

PROSPECTS

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PROSPECTS

We are making tests with autoencoders!

Schweder-Souza et al. (in prep.)

LINCC Frameworks Incubators

- We wrote a proposal that's being analyzed: we're on the 2nd phase.
- Make our autoencoder model compatible with LSDB and the HATS format in order to select GC candidates over very large amounts of data.

Uncovering and understanding the population of extragalactic globular clusters (GCs) is important for a wide array of research areas in astronomy, from galaxy formation and evolution to dark matter halos to high energy and multi-messenger astrophysics. Globular clusters -densely-packed clusters of 10⁸ or more stars- are known to birth unusual high energy and transient astrophysical sources thanks to the dynamical evolution that takes place within their crowded interiors. Unlike the Milky Way, which apparently hosts fewer than 200 elobular clusters, galaxies in the nearby Universe can host many thousands of globular clusters; the spatial distribution and properties of the clusters can directly inform on the properties of the dark matter halos and the assembly history of the host galaxy and its environment (e.g. Beasley et al. 2020).

Many extravolactic GC system studies select cluster candidates based on photometric measurements: alobular clusters fall into a specific parameter space in terms of magnitude and color. These "color cuts" can be straightforward to implement, but they lead to imperfect selection. Depending on how the selection is carried out and which filters are used, there are substantial rates of contamination from other sources - namely, foreground Galactic stars and compact background galaxies - that have similar magnitudes and colors. Due to its broad sky coverage, excellent image quality, and accurate photometry in multiple filters across a wide

wavelength range, LSST will enable a thorough census of the GC populations of the galaxies that lie in the survey footprint (see e.g. Usher et al. 2023). In particular, LSST's six-filter photometry will help minimize contamination in the GC candidate samples, since color selection in three or more filters allows background galaxies with low to moderate redshifts to be eliminated. LSST's wide wavelength coverage (from ~3200Å to ~1 micron) will also make it possible to more accurately quartify the color distributions and color gradients of the GC populations in the galaxies. The survey will thus enable robust measurements of important quantities like the total number of OCs. the specific frequency of the GC system (i.e., the number of globular clusters normalized by the mass or luminosity of the galaxy), the spatial distribution of the GC population around the galaxy, and the colors of the GC populations (which serve as a useful proxy for metallicity in old stellar populations). Rubin Observatory will usher in a new era of large-scale survey astrophysics. The challenge of GC identifi-

cation on a large scale with LSST data is dounting because astronomers interested in star clusters currently lack a general methodology capable of producing very clean extragalactic GC candidate catalogues. To contribute to the community interested in studying star clusters, we envision a selection tool capable of flagging promising GC candidates within multi-band photometric catalogues with millions of sources, covering areas as large as an entire galaxy cluster in the nearby universe, utilizing the available data in the most optimal way. What is needed is a model capable of identifying probable extragalactic GC candidates while maximizing detection completeness and minimizing contamination from non-clusters. More specifically, our efforts aim at facilitating future investigations about extragalactic GCs in the context of LSST, as our potential data products will allow researchers to start their studies with an already filtered list of possible sources of interest. We propose to use Alfmachine learning techniques to achieve such a model. As we will handle large amounts of data, we wish to make our model compatible with the LSDB framework: one should be able to input into the model a large catalog written in the HATS format, and/or be able to call our code from within LSDB.

Machine learning model and LSST-like datasets

To achieve our goal, we will construct a model composed of an auto-encoder that will receive multi-band photometric data as input and generate an optimal lower-dimensional embedding (Michelucci 2022), upon which a statistical tool -e.g. propensity score matching (Ho et al. 2007 and Austin 2011)- can be used to select promising GC candidates. We plan to select GC candidates over a combination of data seleases already available in the HATS formats. as described in the documentation of LSDB: cross-matching S-PLUS DR4 (dual) and DES DR2 to represent LSSTlike photometry (in the bands ogrigs) over a very large area of the southern sky. In what regards the training of our model, we will use LSST-like photometry of spectroscopically confirmed GCs in the Fornes Cluster (compilation from Saifellahi et al. 2024 and references therein), which contains galaxies of all types that can be used to test our

An Automated Tool for Selecting Extragalactic Globular Cluster Candidates for the Rubin/LSST Community

- Photometry data in the LSST filter-set is inevitably limitated.
 - We wanto to eventually incorporate different types of data into our model to improve it: complementary photometry, images, spectra

PROSPECTS

F275W	F336W	F475W	F814W	
		24.869	25.920	
	26.015	24.718	25.926	
22.656	22.578	22.958	23.512	
23.235	22.673	22.097	23.865	
23.282	22.878	22.416	23.986	
		24.827	25.762	
23.545	22.882	22.850	24.346	
22.766	22.619	22.917	23.720	
23.178	22.295	21.837	23.356	
		23.712	25.093	

- Make our <u>GC candidate finder</u> <u>model</u> available to the community
- Hosted by LIneA? Associated with

WHAT DO WE NEED TO WORK

- At first: CATALOGUES
- Then: IMAGES
- Future: Multiple types of data from multiple surveys

THANK YOU! OBRIGADO!

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