

# Hidden in the haystack: low-luminosity globular clusters towards the Milky Way bulge

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CION – 1 C1-20

Slides available at:  
[fegrان.github.io/files/OCA-Seminar-FGran.pdf](https://fegrان.github.io/files/OCA-Seminar-FGran.pdf)



# Hidden in the haystack: low-luminosity globular clusters towards the Milky Way bulge



Gran et al. 2019

**F. Gran**, G. Kordopatis, V. Hill,  
M. Zoccali, I. Saviane, E. Valenti, R. Contreras Ramos,  
A. Rojas-Arriagada, J. Hartke, J. A. Carballo-Bello,  
C. Navarrete, M. Rejkuba, J. Olivares

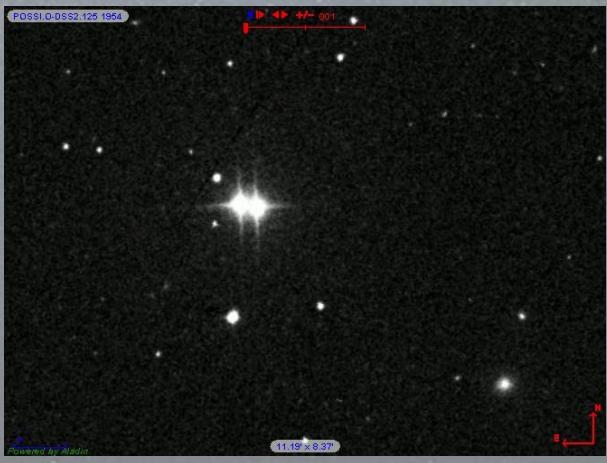
# Key concept #1: stellar proper motions



POSS1, POSS2, DSS



Steve Quirk,  
Wikipedia Commons



DSS/STScI

# Key concept #1: stellar proper motions

- ★ Brief (and biased) history of proper motion measurements:
- ★ Halley 1717: ~few stars

I. *Considerations on the Change of the Latitudes of some of the principal fixt Stars.* By Edmund Halley, R. S. Sec.

Having of late had occasion to examine the quantity of the Precession of the Equinoctial Points, I took the pains to compare the Declinations of the fixt Stars delivered by Ptolomy, in the 3d Chapter of the 7th Book of his Almag. as observed by Timocharis and Aristyllus near 300 Years before Christ, and by Hipparchus about 170 Years after them, that is about 130 Years before Christ, with what we now find: and by the result of very many Calculations, I concluded that the fixt Stars in 1800 Years were advanced somewhat more than 25 degrees in Longitude, or that the Precession is somewhat more than 50" per ann. But that with so much

Halley 1717



POSS1, POSS2, DSS



Steve Quirk,  
Wikipedia Commons

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- ★ Brief (and biased) history of proper motion measurements:
  - ★ Halley 1717: ~**few** stars
  - ★ Ground-based observations until 1995: ~**8000** stars



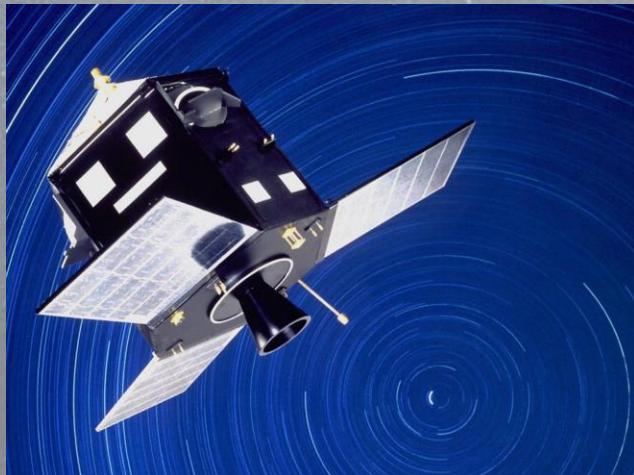
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  - ★ ESA Hipparcos space mission (early 90s): ~**115,000** stars



ESA, Hipparcos



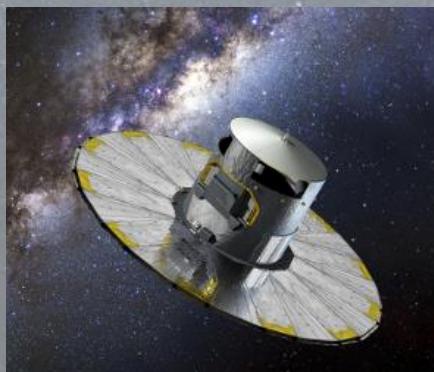
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  - ★ Ground-based observations until 1995: ~**8 000** stars
  - ★ ESA Hipparcos space mission (early 90s): ~**115 000** stars
  - ★ ESA Gaia space mission (active):  
~**1.801 billion** stars  
~**1 801 000 000** stars



ESA, Gaia



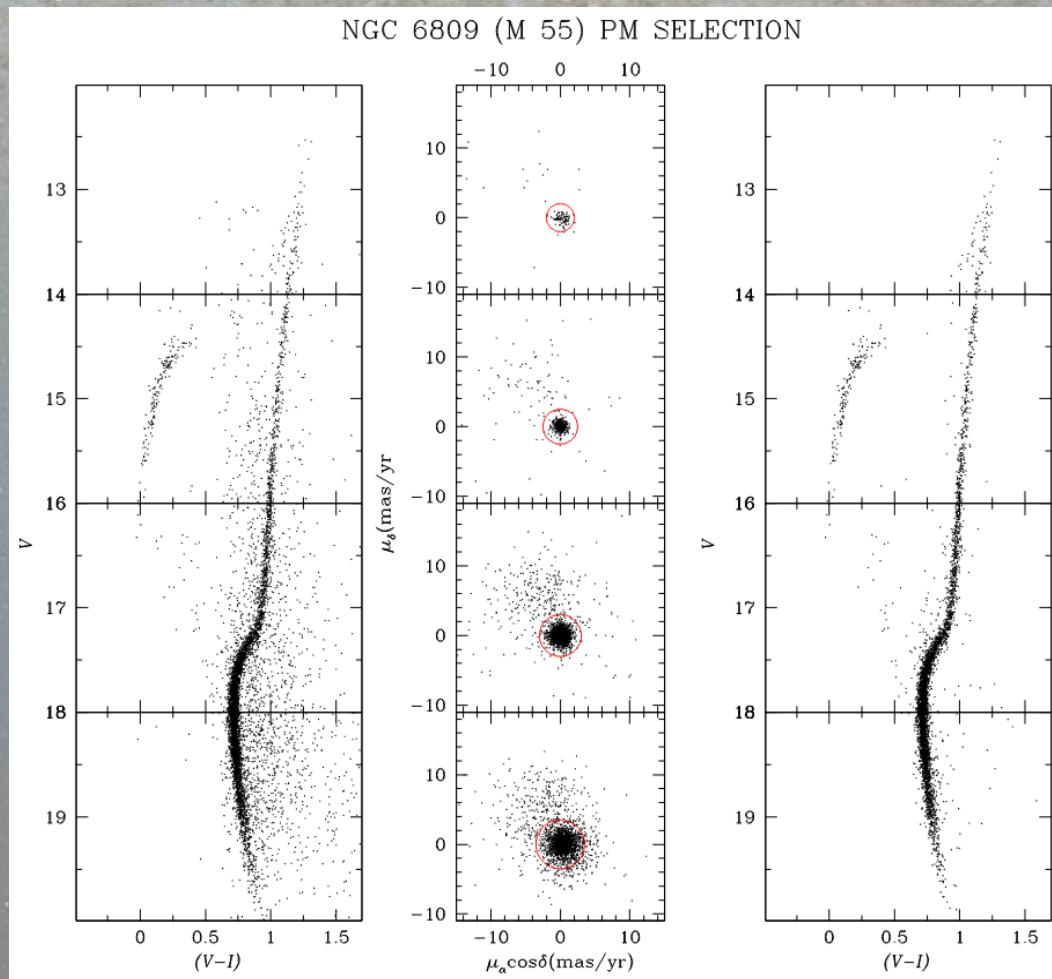
POSS1, POSS2, DSS



Steve Quirk,  
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# Key concept #2: globular clusters as a "simple" stellar population

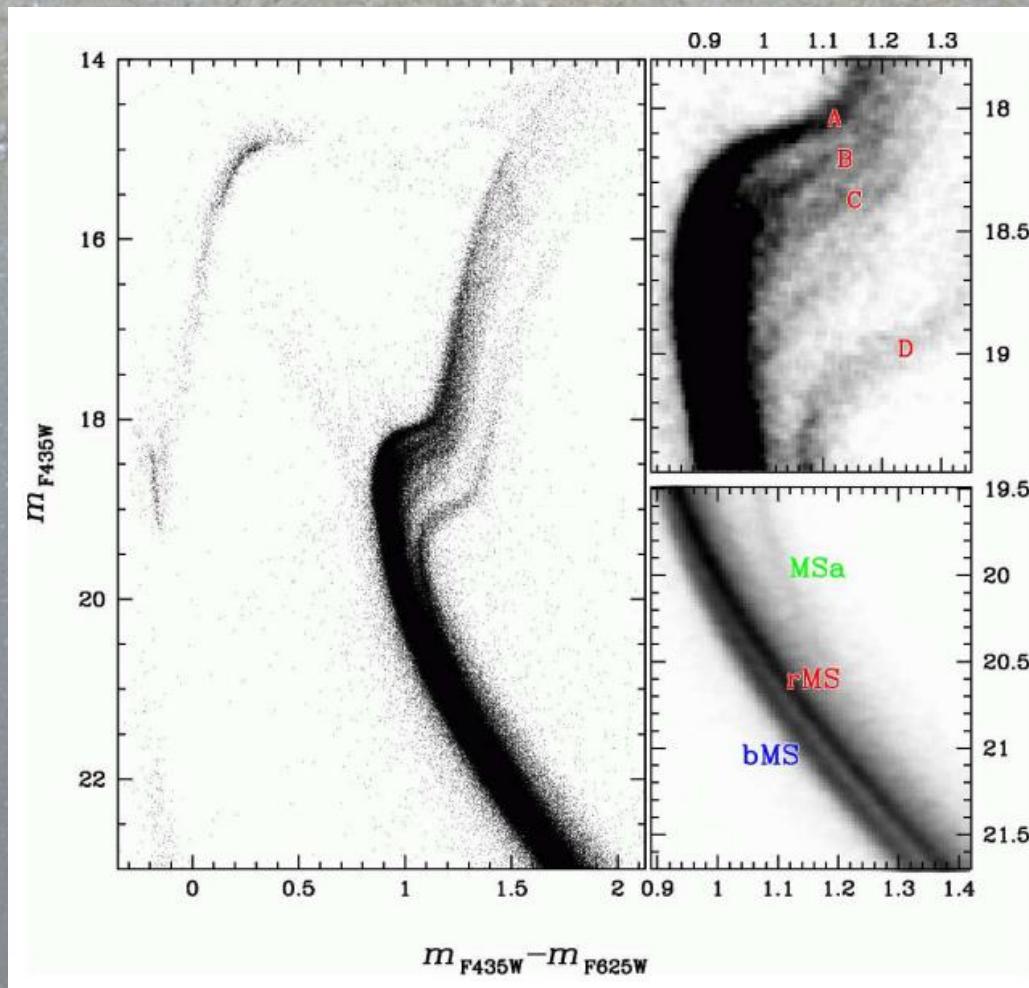
- ★ From “simple stellar population” to the Pandora’s box: photometrical and spectroscopical differences.



Sariya et al. 2012

# Key concept #2: multiple stellar populations within globular clusters

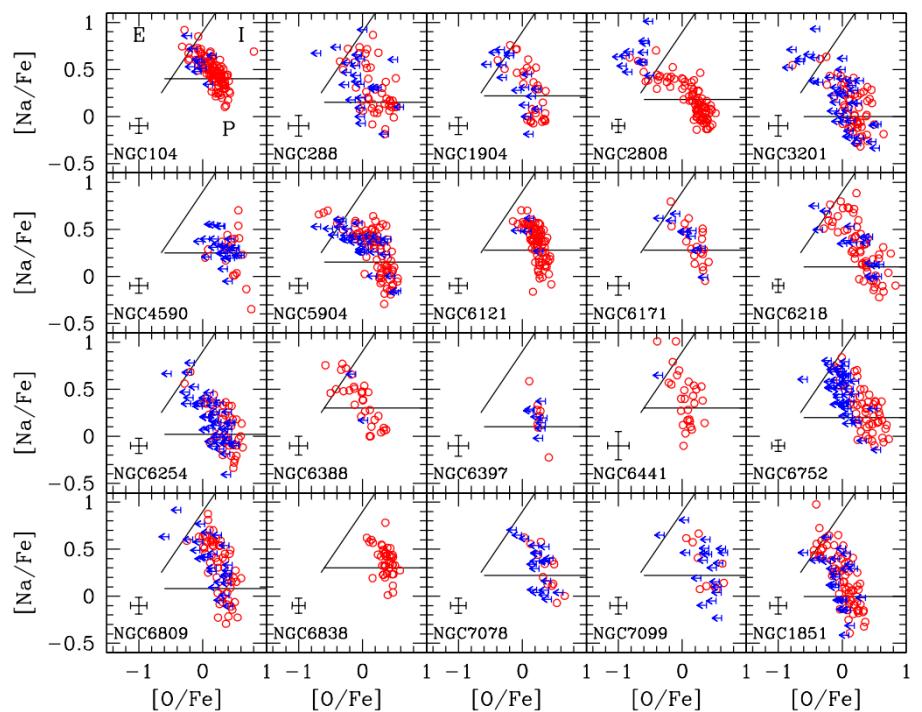
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Bellini et al. 2010, 2017

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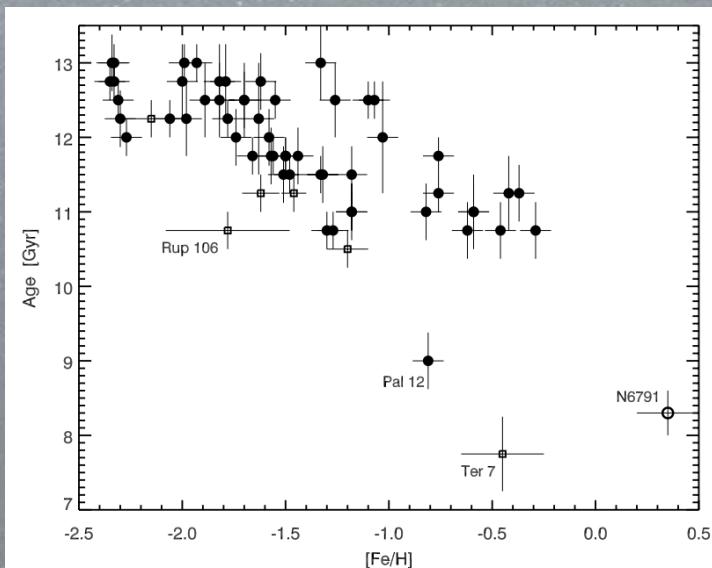
- ★ From “simple stellar population” to the Pandora’s box: photometrical and spectroscopical differences.



- ★ Fe enrichment in only a limited cases: massive clusters
- ★ Light-element (proton capture) variations:
  - ★ C, N, O, Na, Mg, Al, Si, ... among others!
- ★ AGB and massive fast rotators: most likely contributors

# Key concept #3: the Galaxy evolution told by its globular clusters

- ★ **Globular clusters** are one of the most valuable **tracers** when trying to understand **galaxy evolution** (Kruijssen et al. 2019). But also see Pagnini et al. 2022 as a cautionary tale.
- ★ We can constrain **ages**, **masses**, and **distances**: the primary laboratory of stellar evolution including **chemical** and **enrichment processes**.

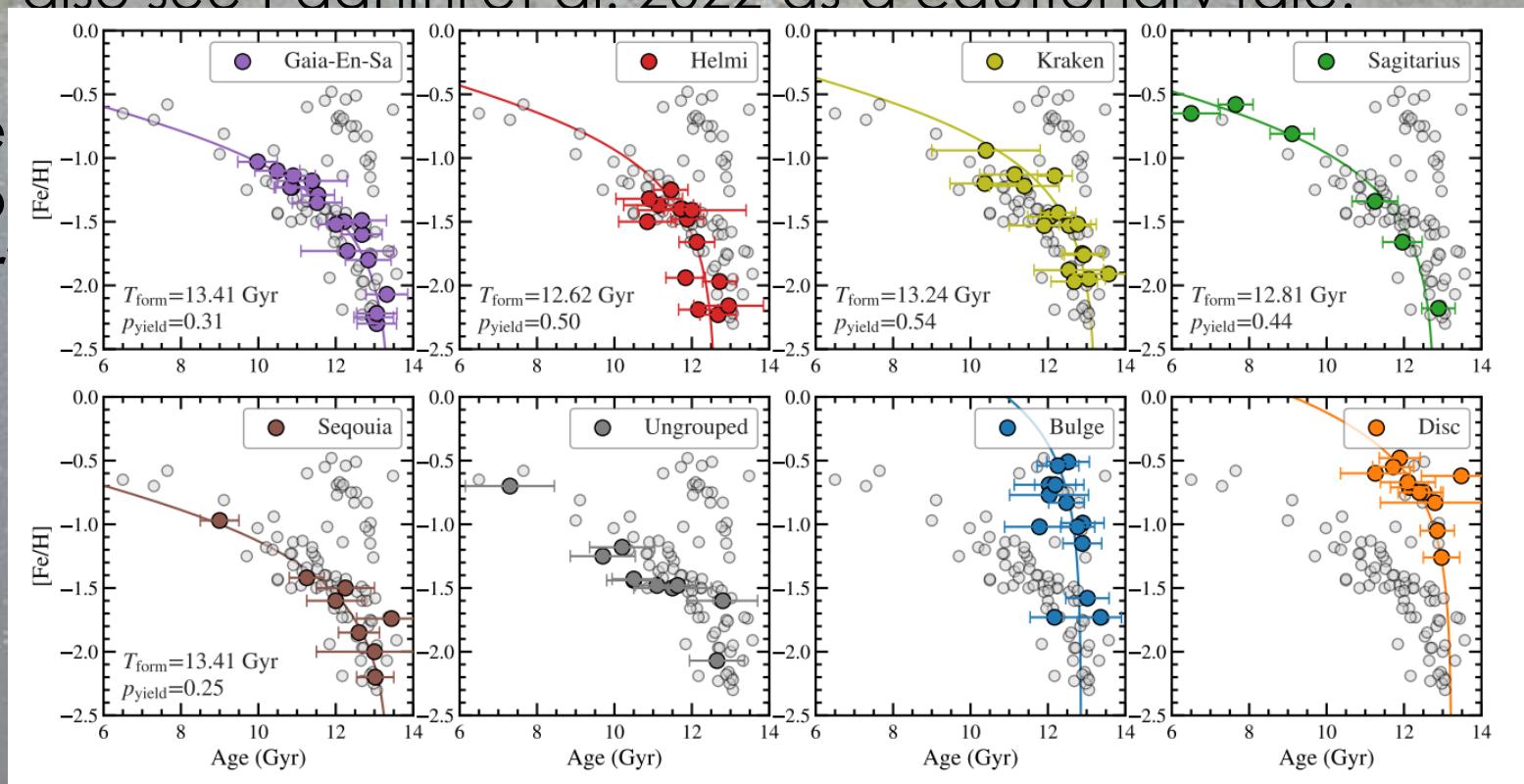


Leaman et al. 2013

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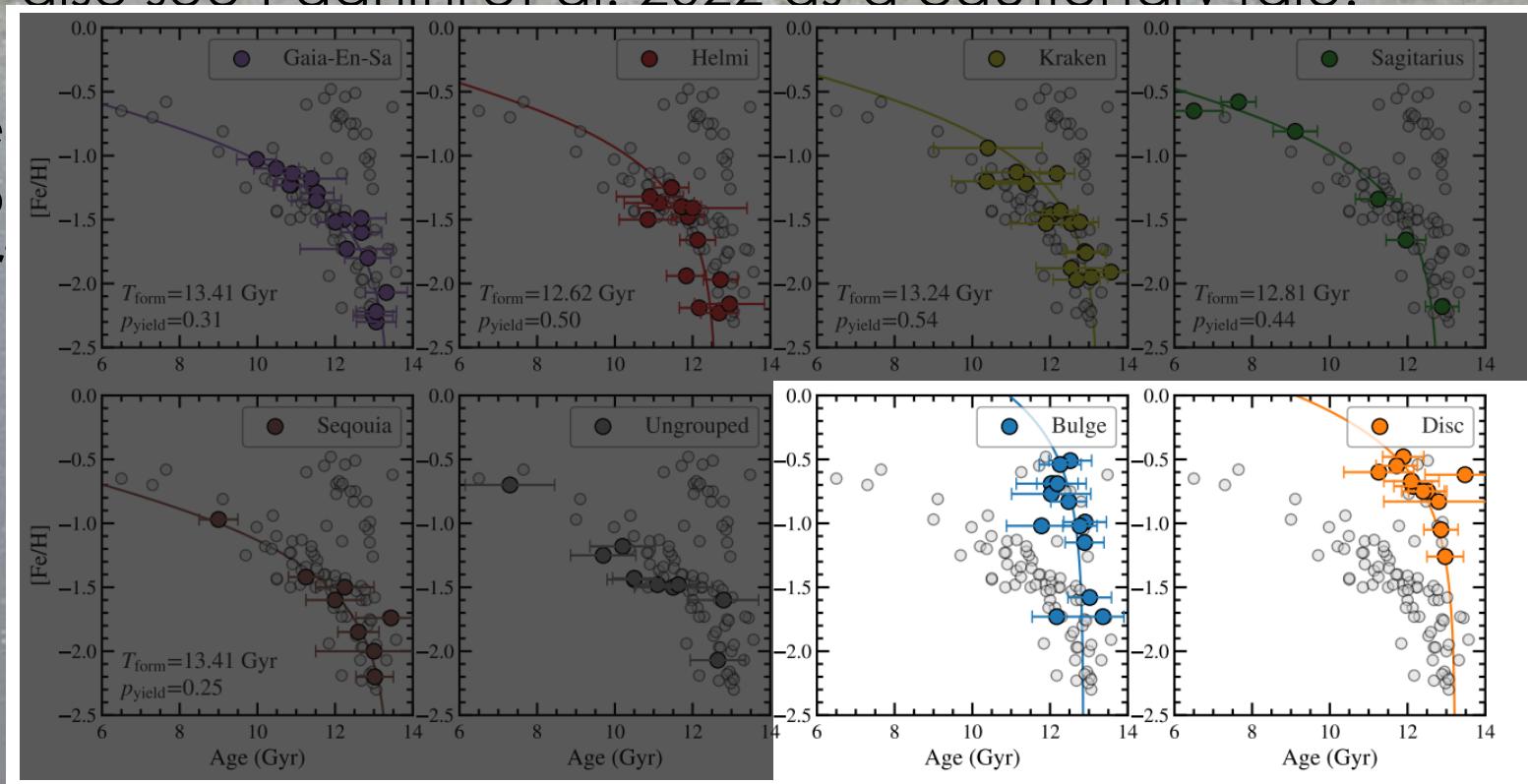
★ We lab enr



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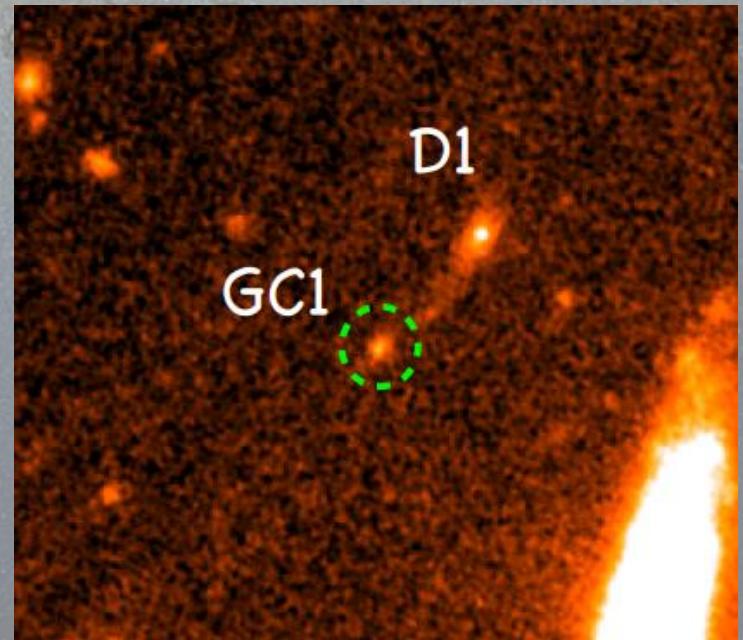
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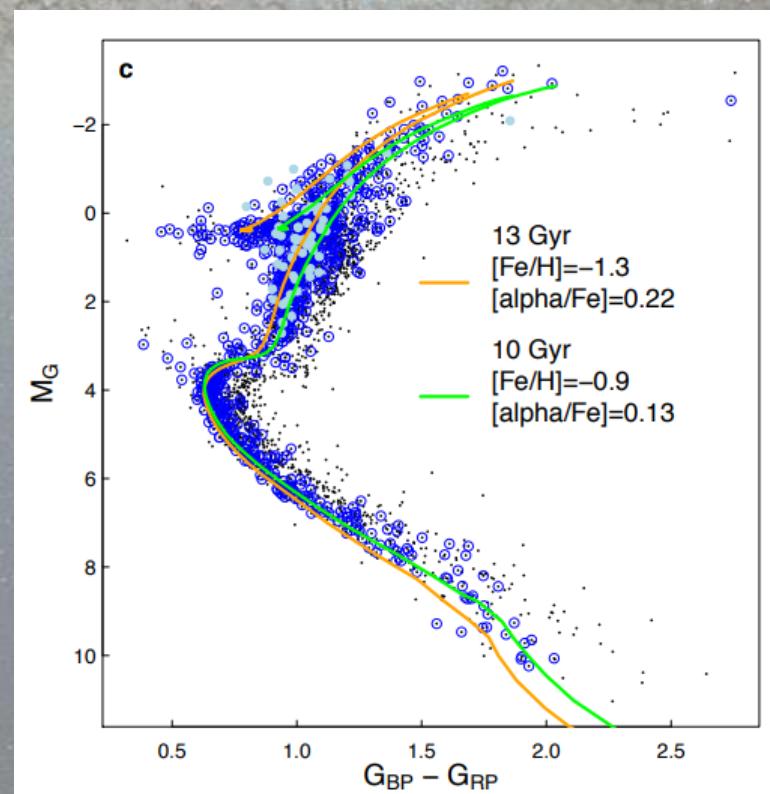
- ★ **Globular clusters** are one of the most valuable **tracers** when trying to understand **galaxy evolution**.
- ★ We can constrain **ages, masses,** and **distances**: the primary laboratory of stellar evolution including **chemical** and **enrichment processes**.
- ★ **Observations** and **simulations** can work together to account the different properties of **nowadays** clusters and the ones formed at **high redshift**.



Vanzella et al. 2017

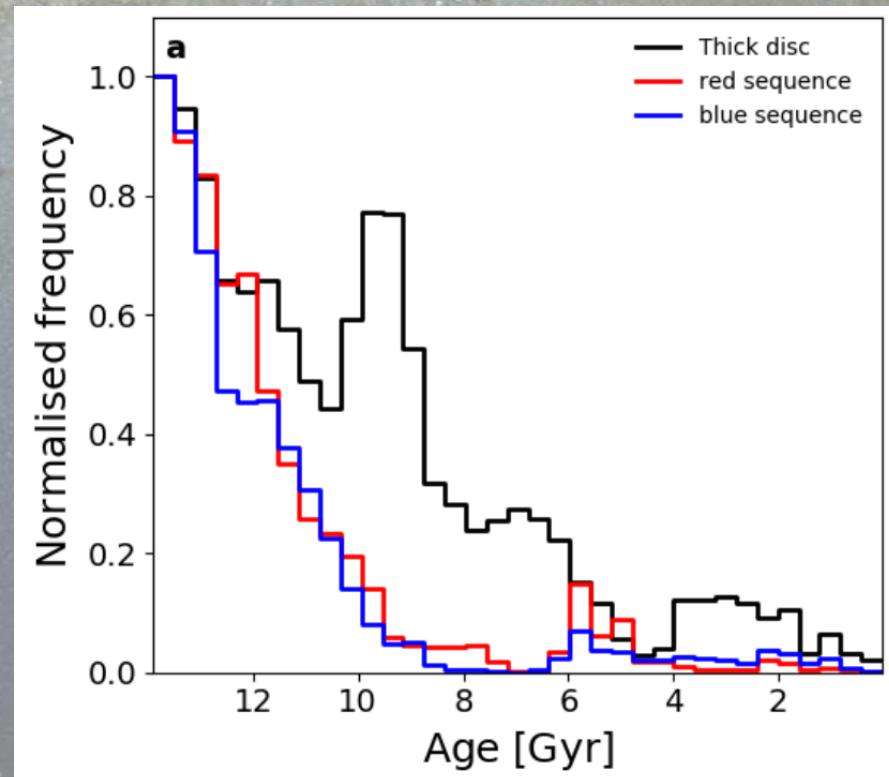
# Key concept 1+2+3 = #6: proper motions to isolate different stellar populations

- ★ The Gaia satellite change our understanding of the Milky Way, giving us **dynamical information** of ~1.8 billion stars.
- ★ Discovery of a major Milky Way merger from orbital parameters



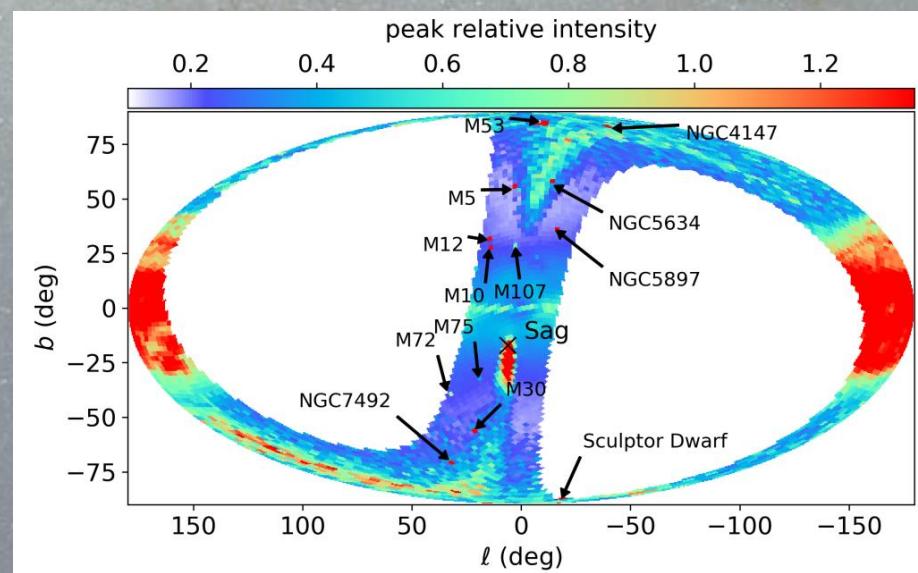
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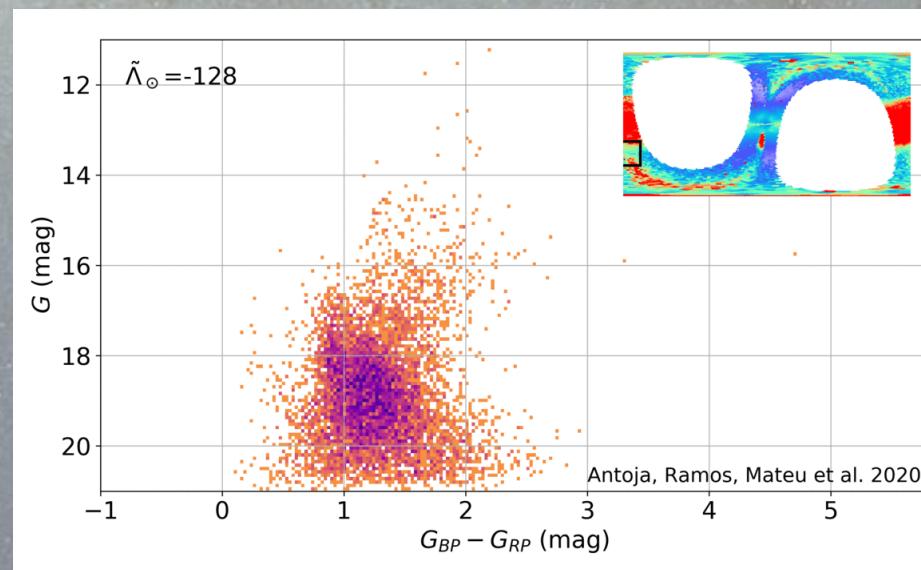
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Antoja et al. 2020;  
Ramos et al. 2020

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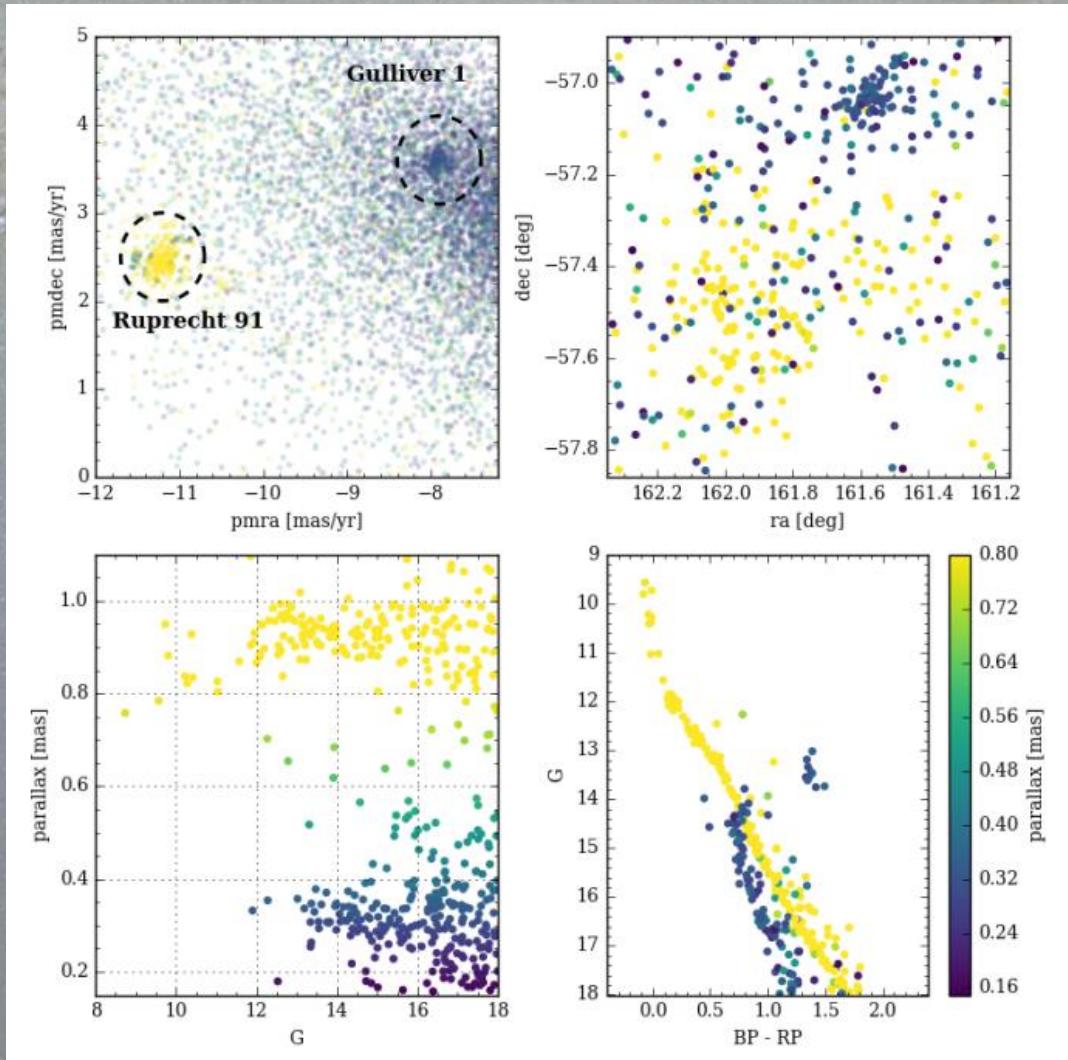
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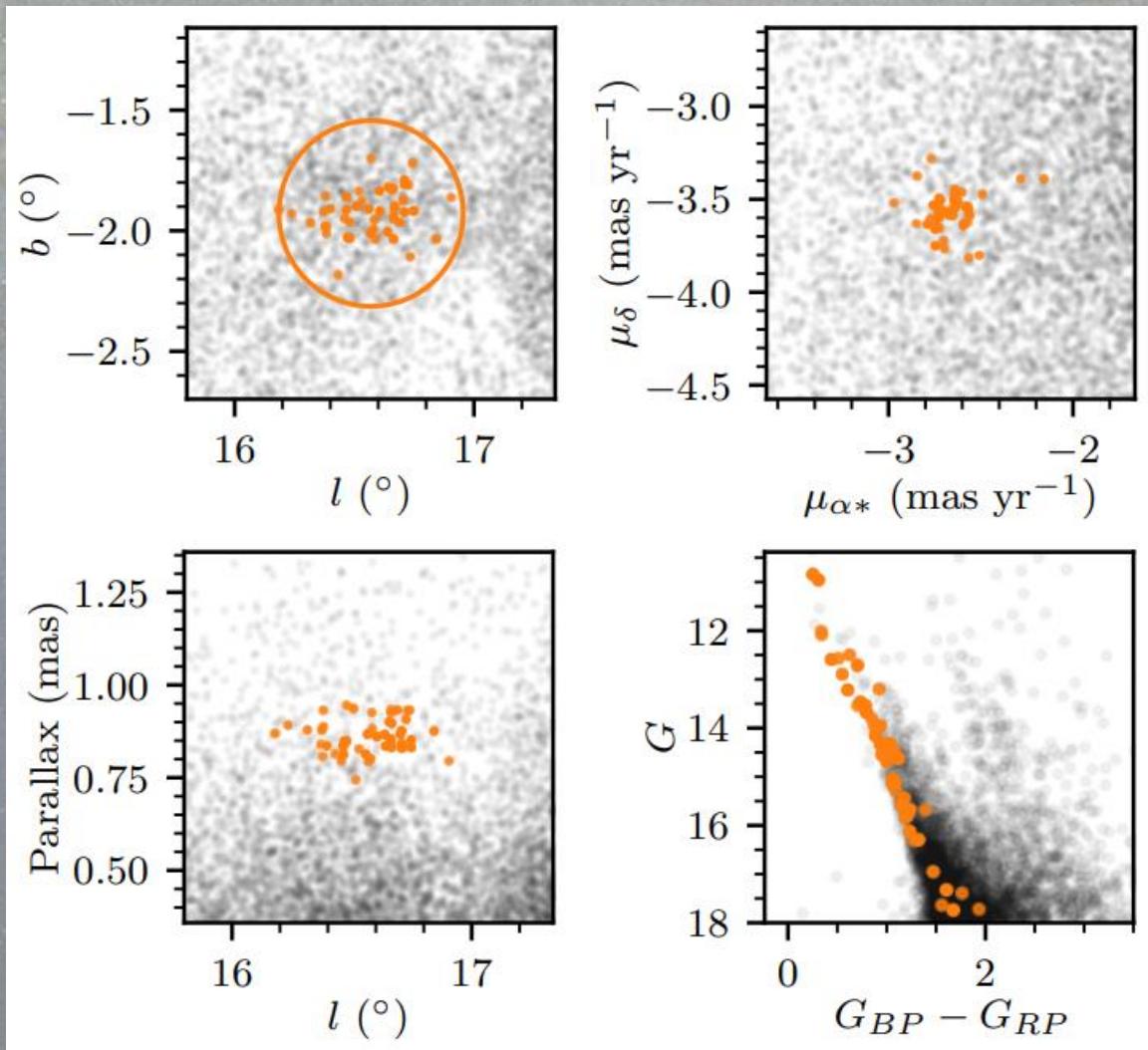
★ CLUSTER SCIENCE!



Cantat-Gaudin et al. 2018

# Key concept 1+2+3 = #6: proper motions to isolate different stellar populations

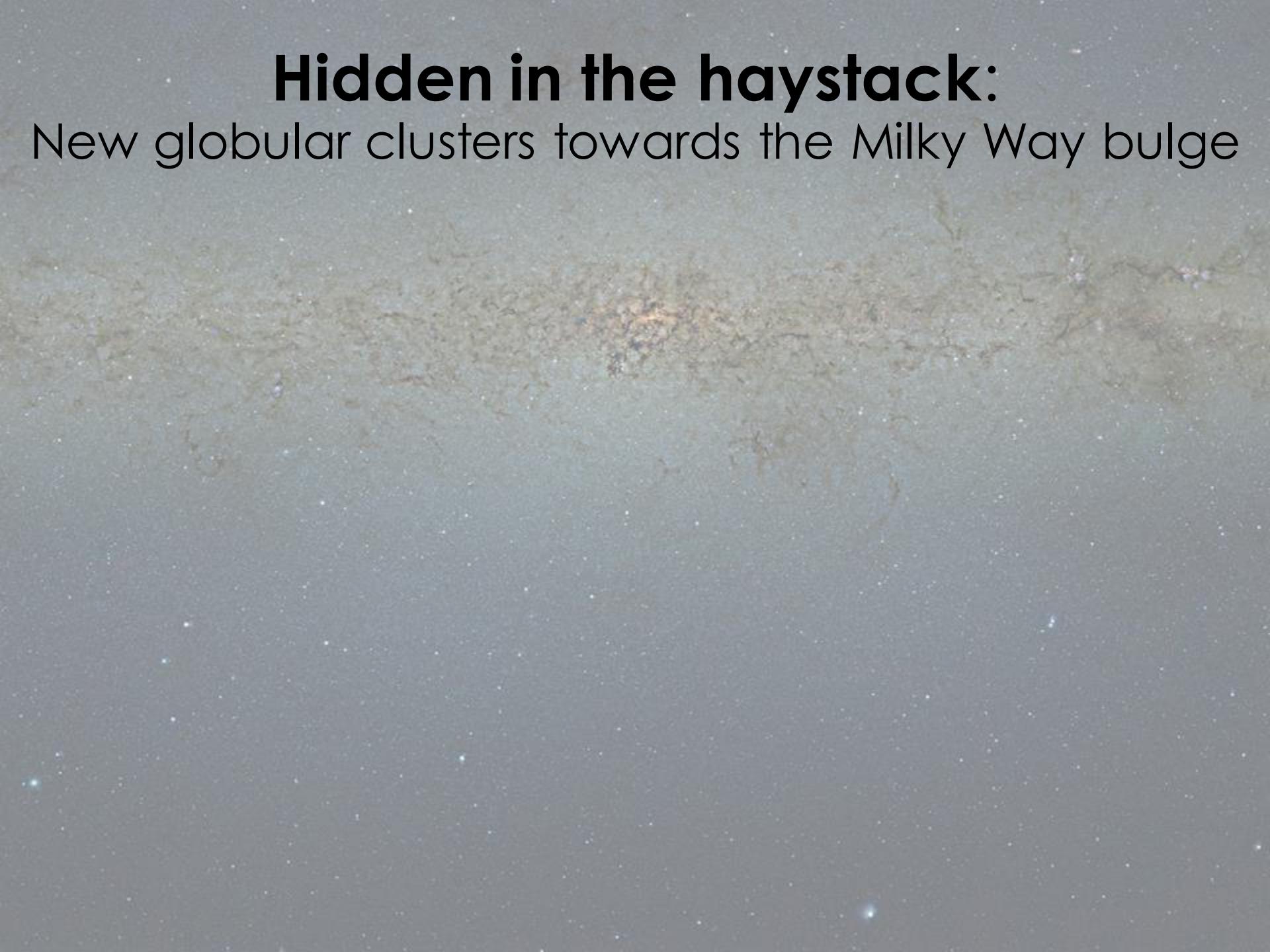
★ CLUSTER SCIENCE!



Hunt & Reffert 2021

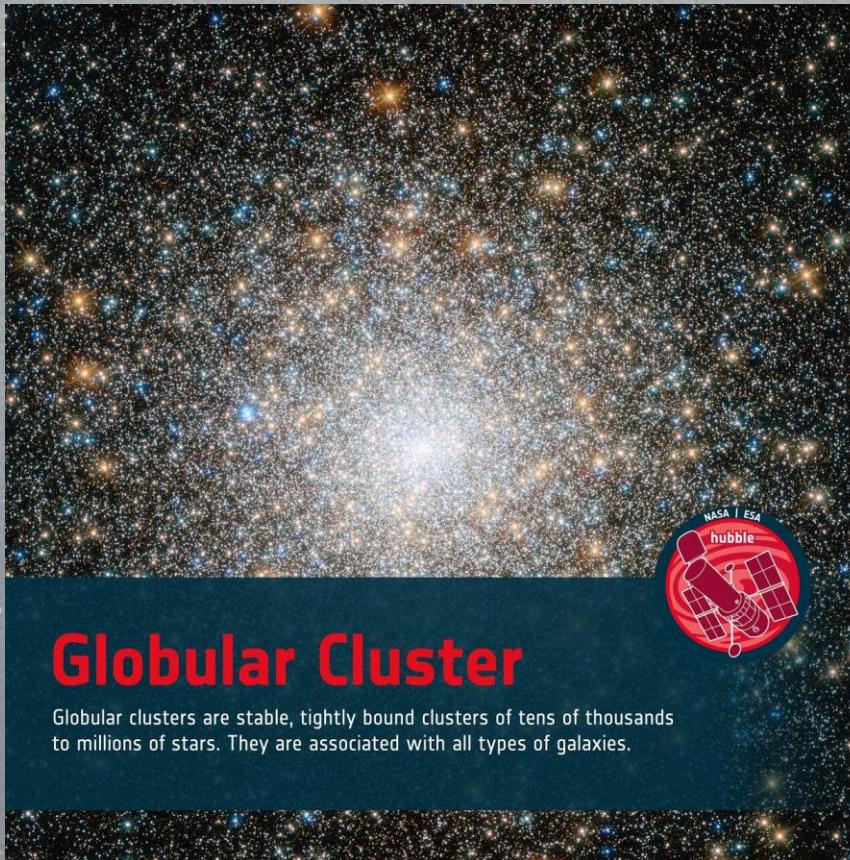
# **Hidden in the haystack:**

New globular clusters towards the Milky Way bulge



# Hidden in the haystack:

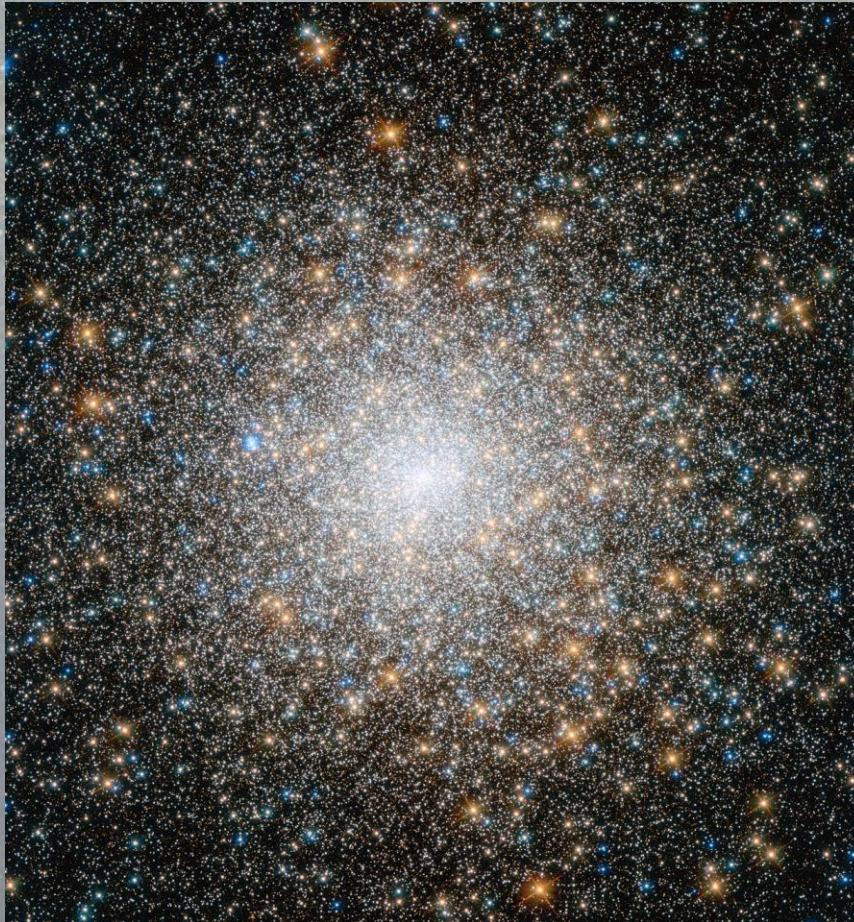
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Credit: NASA & ESA

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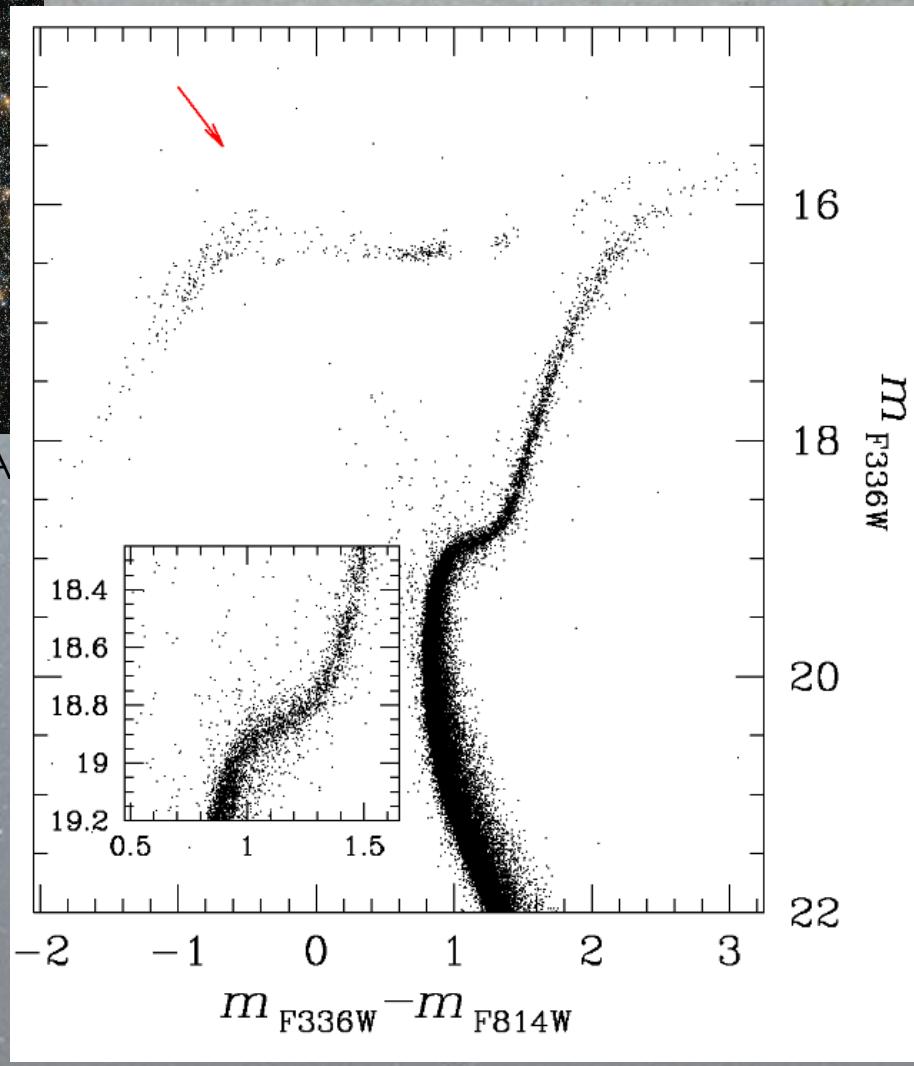
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Nordjøll et al. 2018

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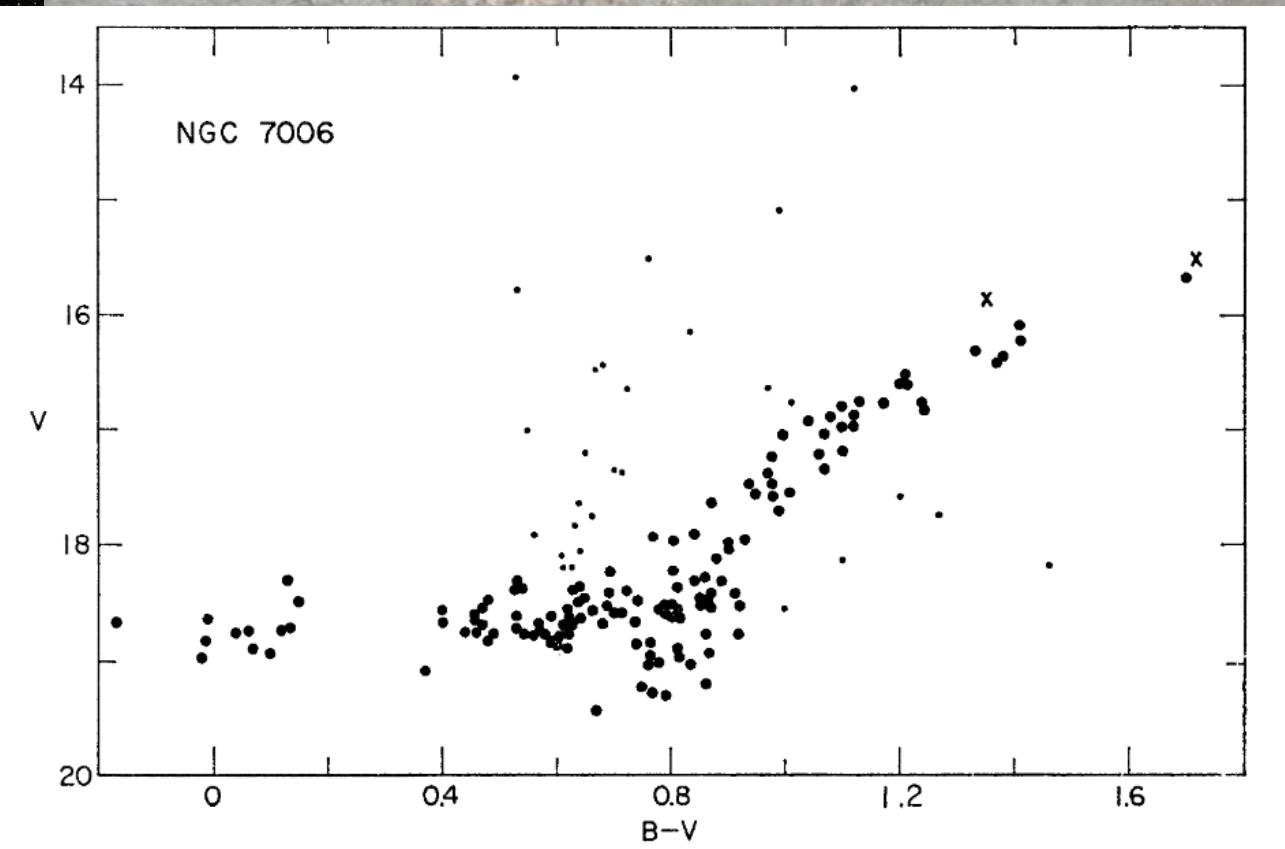
Aladin Sky Atlas (Bonnarel et al. 2000,  
Boch & Fernique 2014)

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Aladin Sky Atlas (Boch & Fernique)



Sandage & Widley 1967

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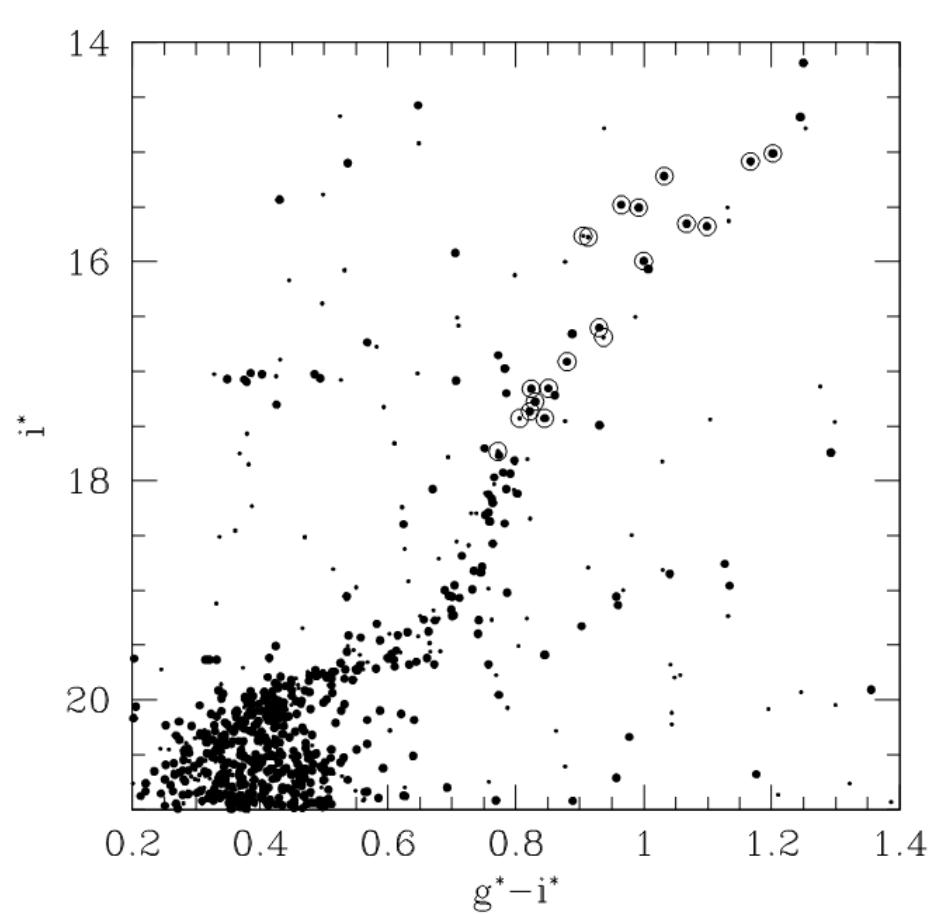
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Odenkirchen et al. 2002

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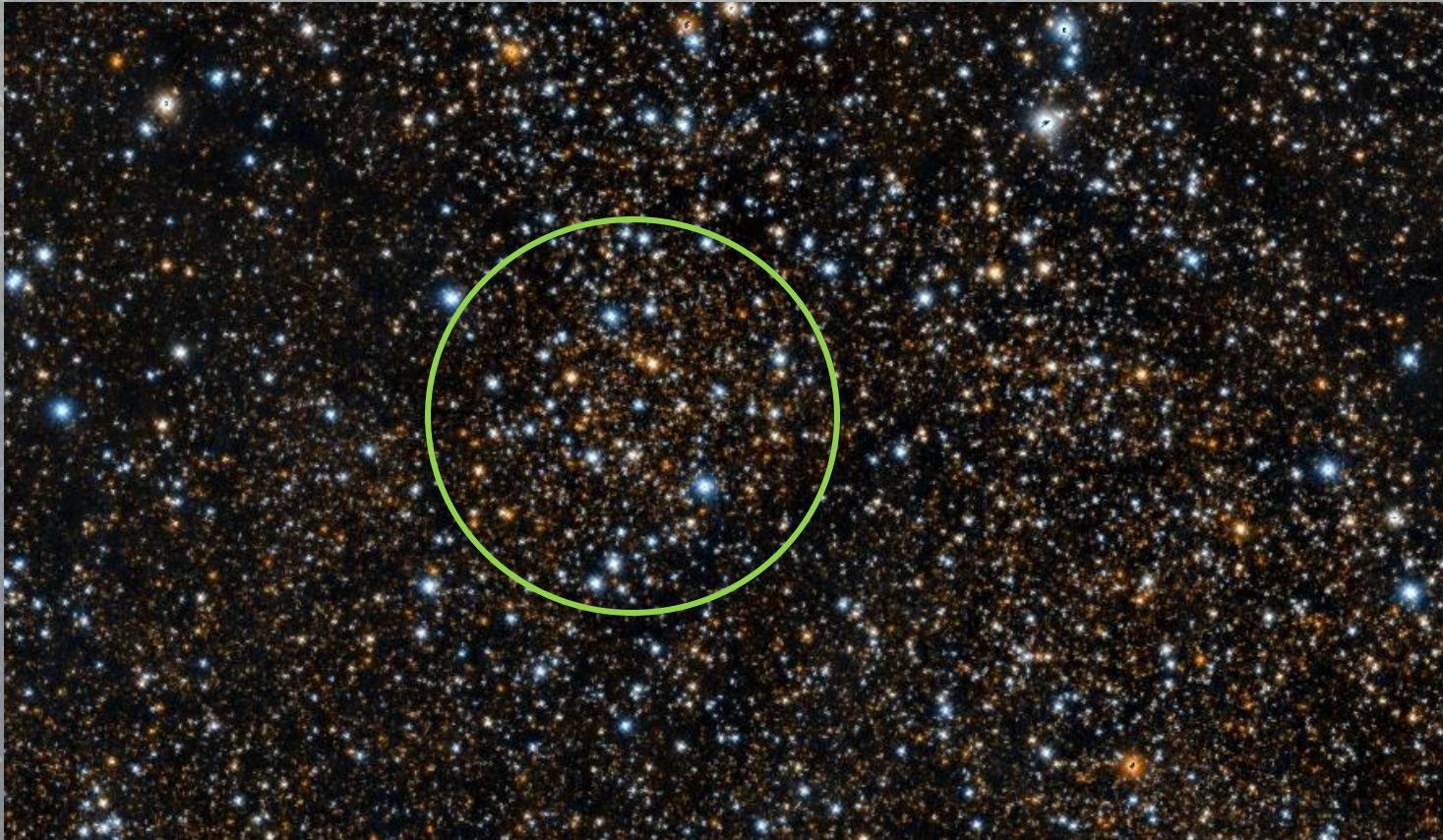
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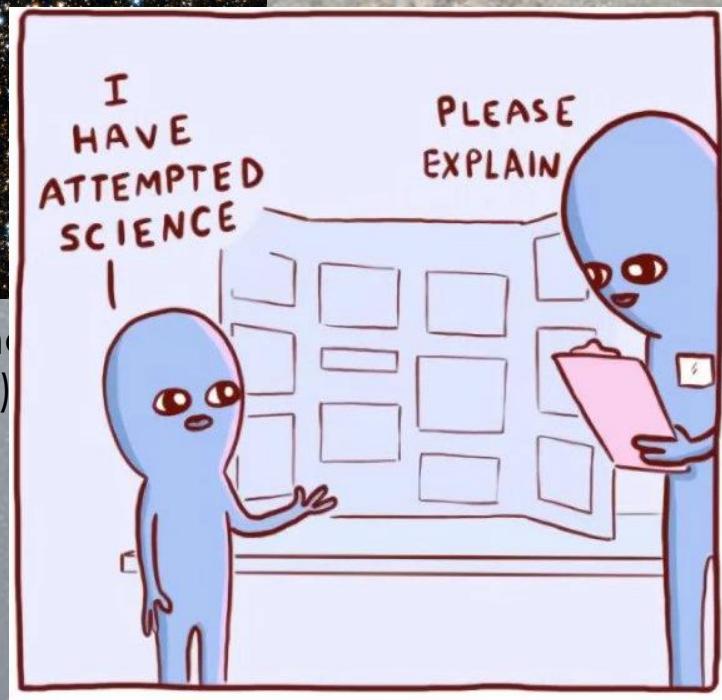
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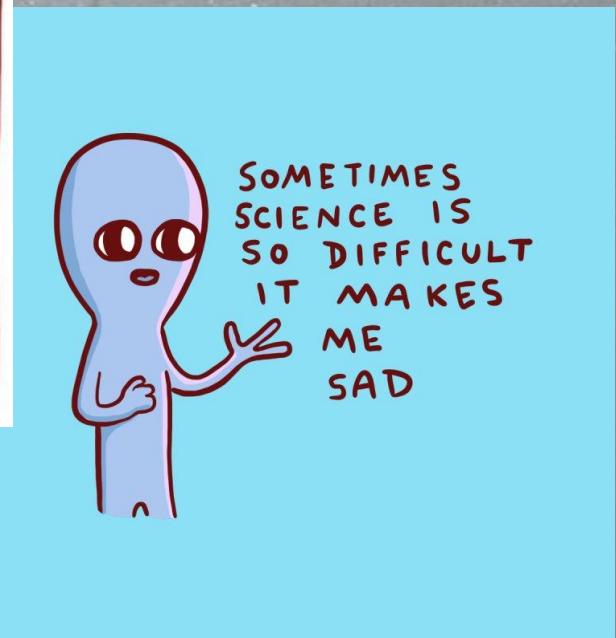
New globular clusters towards the Milky Way bulge



Aladin Sky Atlas (Bonnie  
Boch & Fernique 2014)



@nathanwpyle: STRANGE PLANET



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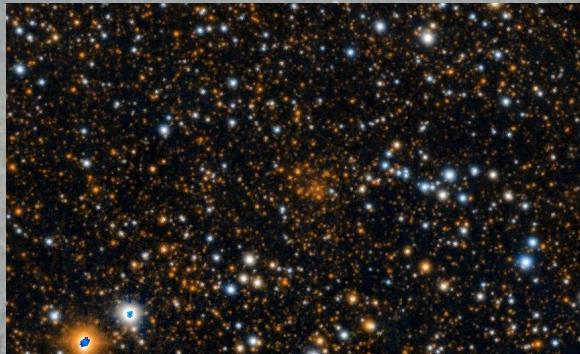
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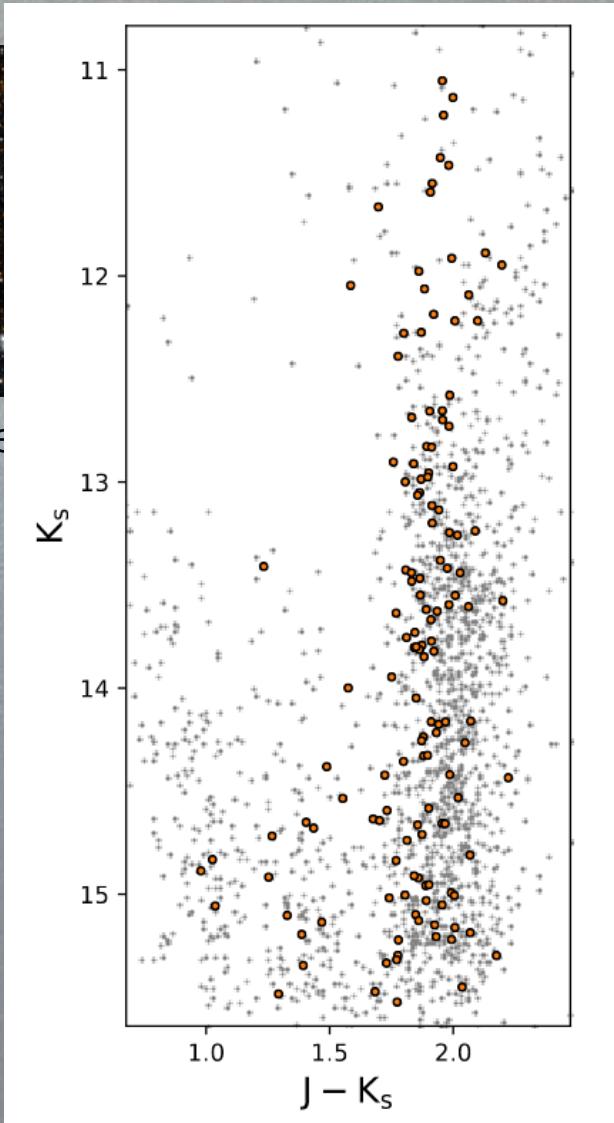
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Gran et al. 2019

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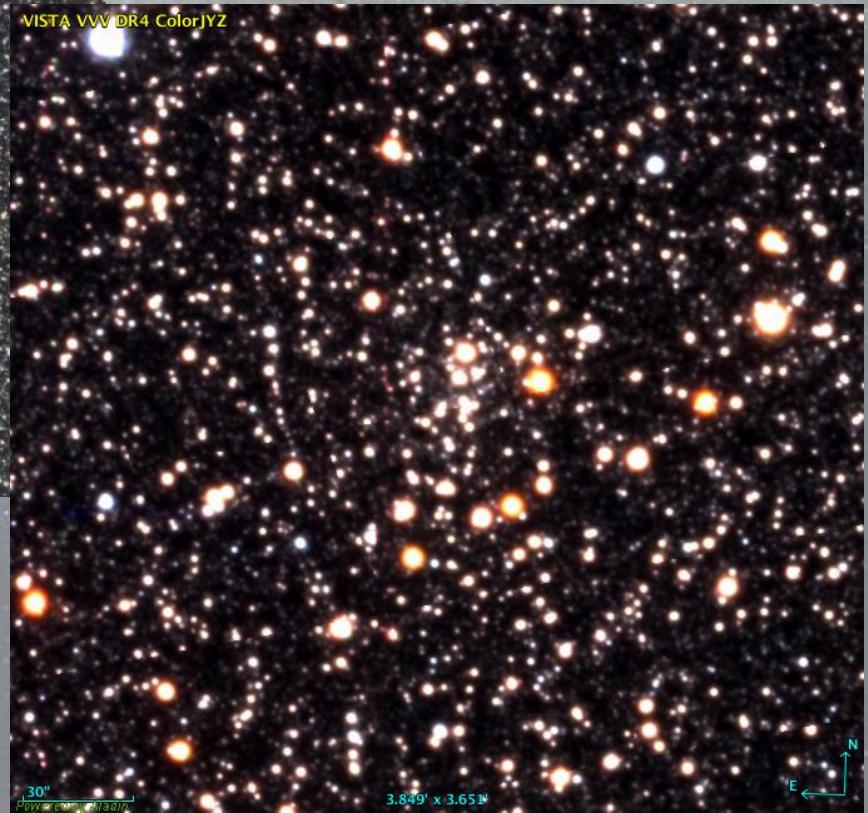
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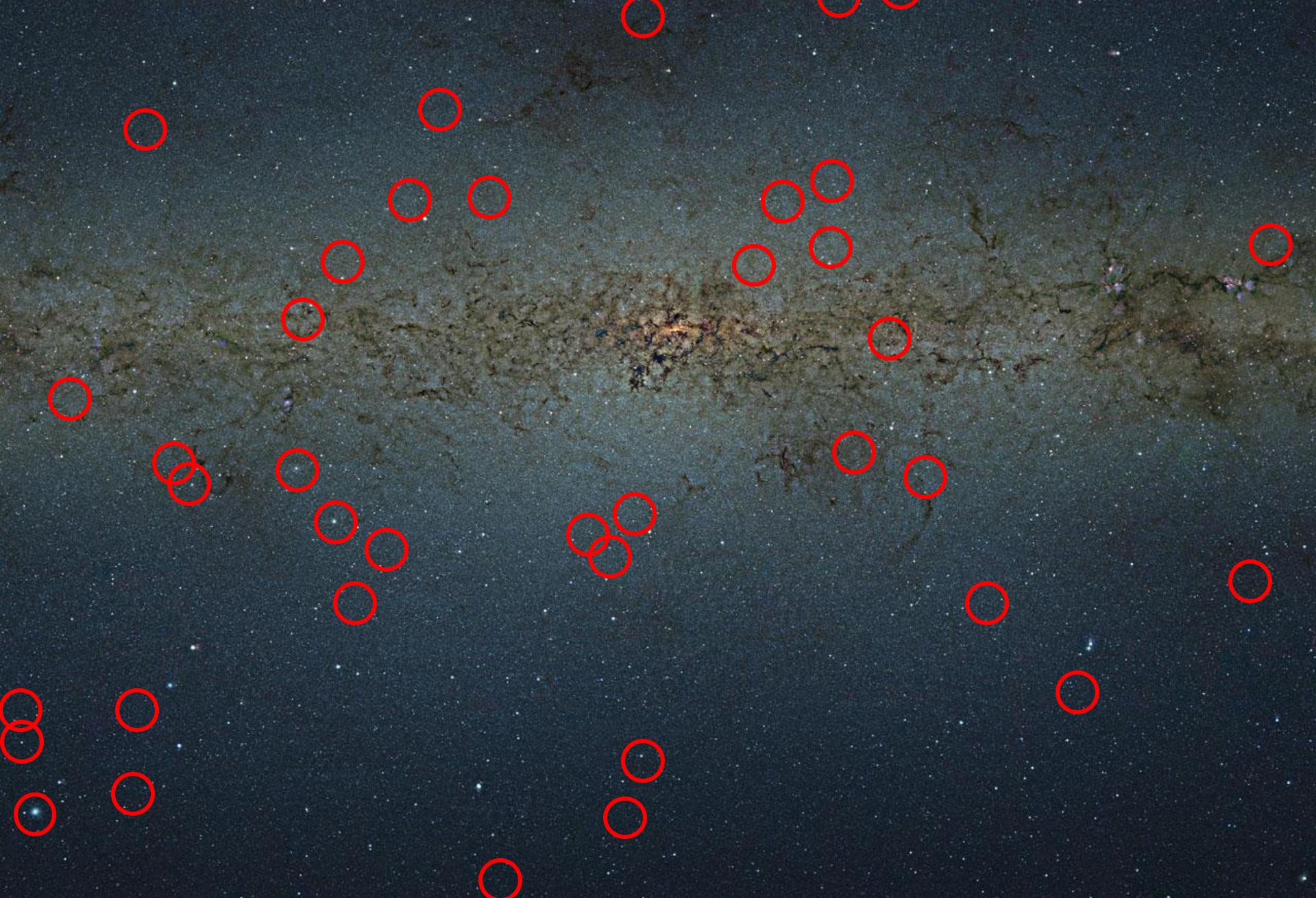


Aladin Sky Atlas (Bonnarel et al. 2000,  
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- ★ Valuable tracers of understanding the Milky Way evolution
- ★ Galactic bulge GCs compose a major part of the ***in situ*** component (Myeong et al. 2018)
- ★ The total number of GCs in the Milky Way is still **unknown**



© ESO/VVV Survey/D. Minniti/I. Toledo/M. Kornmesser



More than ~48 globular clusters are known towards the bulge area

# Photometric searches of GCs

Several observational efforts have been done to characterize **new GCs** in the Galaxy.

Most of the recently discovered GCs belong to the **Milky Way halo**.

## A NEW DISTANT MILKY WAY GLOBULAR CLUSTER IN THE PAN-STARRS1 $3\pi$ SURVEY

BENJAMIN P. M. LAEVENS<sup>1,2</sup>, NICOLAS F. MARTIN<sup>1,2</sup>, BRANIMIR SESAR<sup>2</sup>, EDOUARD J. BERNARD<sup>3</sup>, HANS-WALTER RIX<sup>2</sup>, COLIN T. SLATER<sup>4</sup>, ERIC F. BELL<sup>4</sup>, ANNETTE M. N. FERGUSON<sup>3</sup>, EDWARD F. SCHLAFLY<sup>2</sup>, WILLIAM S. BURGETT<sup>5</sup>, KENNETH C. CHAMBERS<sup>5</sup>, LARRY DENNEAU<sup>5</sup>, PETER W. DRAPER<sup>6</sup>, NICHOLAS KAISER<sup>5</sup>, ROLF-PETER KUDRITZKI<sup>5</sup>, EUGENE A. MAGNIER<sup>5</sup>, NIGEL METCALFE<sup>6</sup>, JEFFREY S. MORGAN<sup>5</sup>, PAUL A. PRICE<sup>7</sup>, WILLIAM E. SWEENEY<sup>5</sup>, JOHN L. TONRY<sup>5</sup>, RICHARD J. WAINSCOAT<sup>5</sup>, AND CHRISTOPHER WATERS<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA

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A NEW DISTANT MILKY WAY GLOBULAR CLUSTER IN THE PAN-STARRS1  $3\pi$  SURVEY

**Segue 3: the youngest globular cluster in the outer halo<sup>★</sup>**

S. Ortolani,<sup>1,2</sup> E. Bica<sup>3</sup> and B. Barbuy<sup>4</sup>†

<sup>1</sup>Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia Galileo Galilei, Università di Padova, Vicolo dell’Osservatorio 2, I-35122 Padova, Italy

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<sup>4</sup>Universidade de São Paulo, IAG, Rua do Matão 1226, Cidade Universitária, São Paulo 05508-900, Brazil

# Photometric searches of GCs

## KIM 3: AN ULTRA-FAINT STAR CLUSTER IN THE CONSTELLATION OF CENTAURUS

DONGWON KIM, HELMUT JERJEN, DOUGAL MACKEY, GARY S. DA COSTA, AND ANTONINO P. MILONE

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*Received 2015 December 10; accepted 2016 February 12; published 2016 March 29*

## DISCOVERY OF A FAINT OUTER HALO MILKY WAY STAR CLUSTER IN THE SOUTHERN SKY

DONGWON KIM, HELMUT JERJEN, ANTONINO P. MILONE, DOUGAL MACKEY, AND GARY S. DA COSTA

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## A NEW DISTANT MILKY WAY GLOBULAR CLUSTER IN THE PAN-STARRS1 $3\pi$ SURVEY

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# **Gaia 1 and 2. A pair of new Galactic star clusters**

S. Koposov,<sup>1,2</sup> V. Belokurov<sup>1</sup> and G. Torrealba<sup>1</sup>

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Accepted

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## **A NEW DISTANT MILKY WAY GLOBULAR CLUSTER IN THE CONSTELLATION OF CENTAURUS**

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Received 2015 February 12; published 2016 March 29

## **DISCOVERY OF A FAINT**

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Received 2015 January 1; accepted 2016 February 12

## **A NEW DISTANT MILKY WAY GLOBULAR CLUSTER**

### **Segue 3: the youngest globular cluster in the Milky Way**

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<sup>1</sup> University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 0HA, UK

<sup>2</sup> Center for Cosmology, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

5213, USA

## A STAR CLUSTER IN THE

DISCOVERY OF TWO EXTREMELY LACK

S. KOPOSOV,<sup>1,2</sup> J. T. A. DE JONG,<sup>3</sup>  
N. W. EVANS,<sup>2</sup> G.

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published 2012 June 15

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THE SOUTHERN SKY

R. MILONE

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VIEW OF A FAINT

CATS AND DOGS, HAIR AND A HERO: A QUINTET OF NEW MILKY WAY COMPANIONS<sup>1</sup>

V. BELOKUROV,<sup>2</sup> D. B. ZUCKER,<sup>2</sup> N. W. EVANS,<sup>2</sup> J. T. KLEYNA,<sup>3</sup> S. KOPOSOV,<sup>4</sup> S. T. HODGKIN,<sup>2</sup> M. J. IRWIN,<sup>2</sup> G. GILMORE,<sup>2</sup>  
M. I. WILKINSON,<sup>2</sup> M. FELLHAUER,<sup>2</sup> D. M. BRAMICH,<sup>2</sup> P. C. HEWETT,<sup>2</sup> S. VIDRIH,<sup>2</sup> J. T. A. DE JONG,<sup>4</sup> J. A. SMITH,<sup>5,6</sup>  
H.-W. RIX,<sup>4</sup> E. F. BELL,<sup>4</sup> R. F. G. WYSE,<sup>7</sup> H. J. NEWBERG,<sup>8</sup> P. A. MAYEUR,<sup>8,9</sup> B. YANNY,<sup>10</sup> C. M. ROCKOSI,<sup>11</sup>  
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M. HARVANEK,<sup>15</sup> S. J. KLEINMAN,<sup>16</sup> J. KRZESINSKI,<sup>15,17</sup> D. LONG,<sup>15</sup> A. NITTA,<sup>18</sup> AND S. A. SNEDDEN<sup>15</sup>

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# *Gaia* 1 and 2. A pair of new Galaxies

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<sup>2</sup> Center for Cosmology

DONGWON  
Research School of Astronomy  
and  
V. Belokurikha  
CATS AND DUST  
A faint halo star cluster discovered in the Blanco Imaging of the Southern Sky Survey

THE DISCOVERY OF TWO EXTREME  
Deep SOUTHERN COMPANIONS  
R. R. Muñoz  
Federal University of São Paulo,  
São Paulo, Brazil

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W. Scarpine,<sup>4</sup> R. Suchyta,<sup>34</sup>  
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(BLISS COLLABORATION)

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106 September 2018

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# Photometric searches of GCs

Thanks to the recent **near-IR photometric surveys**, the number of star cluster candidates has risen exponentially in the last few years in the **bulge region**.



vvv CL 001

Minniti et al. 2011,  
Gran et al. 2019

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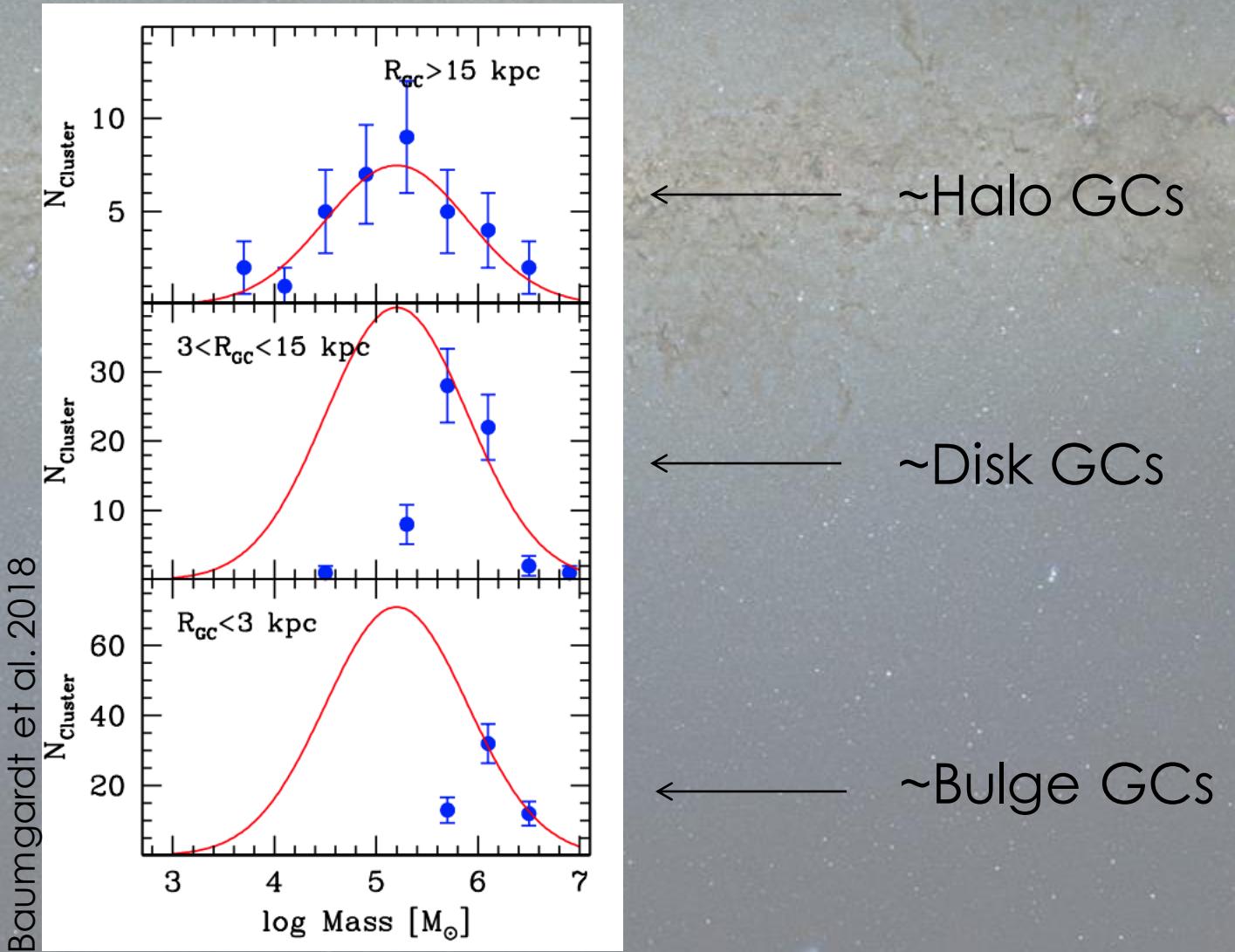
# Photometric searches of GCs

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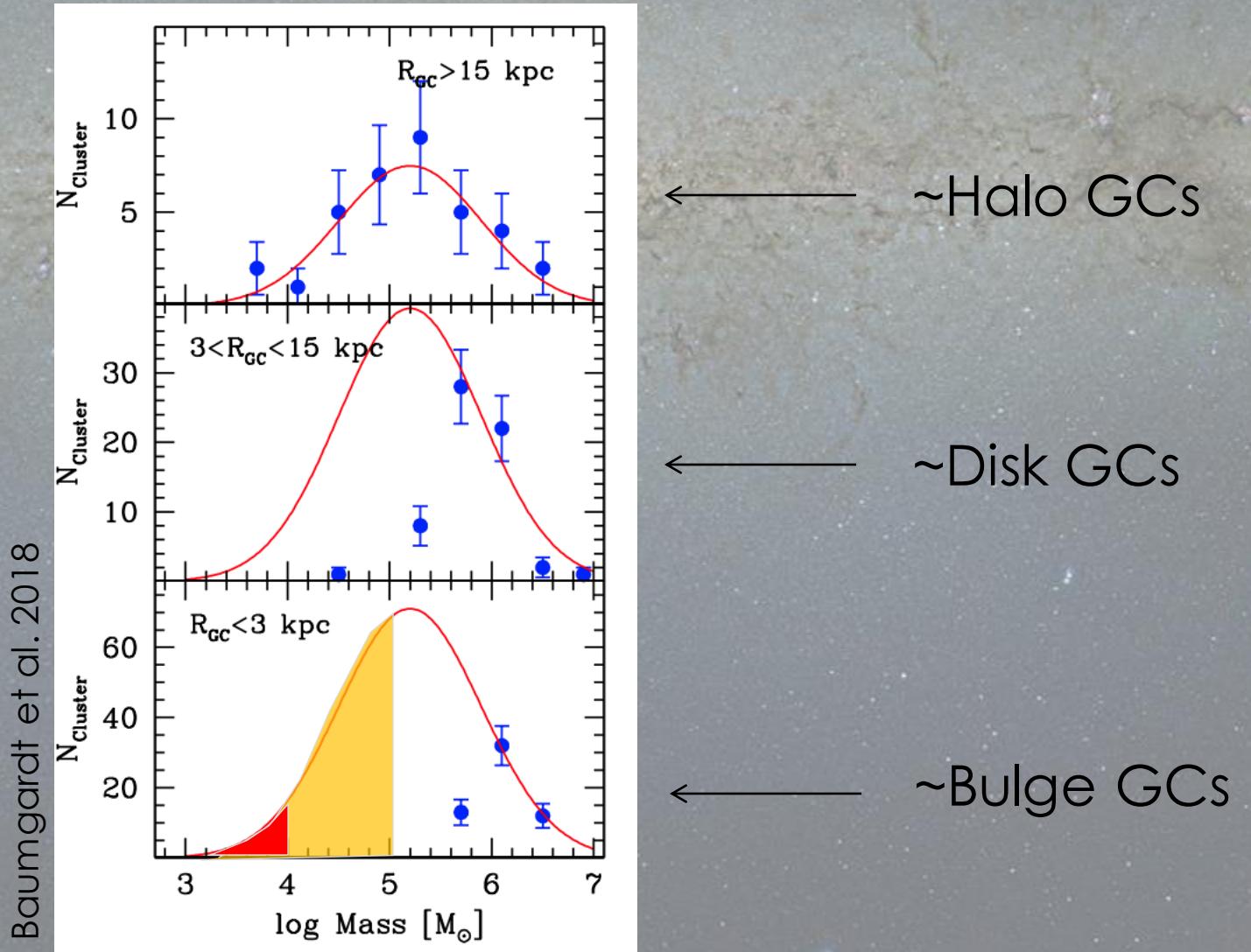
Unfortunately, most of them were recently **ruled out** using proper motions (**Gran et al. 2019**):

- ★ Spatial overdensities 
- ★ CMD different from field 
- ★ Coherent space motion 

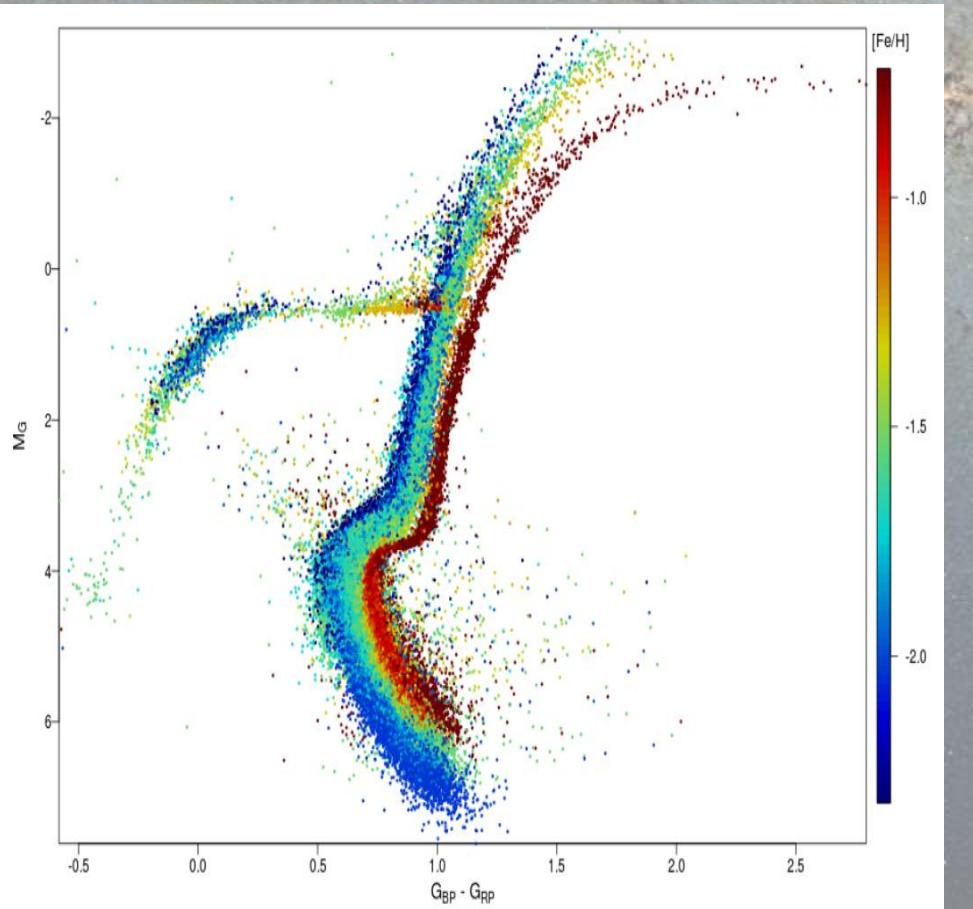
# Initial mass distribution of GCs in the MW



# Initial mass distribution of GCs in the MW



# Gaia DR3 proper motion catalogue



Gaia Collaboration et al. 2018



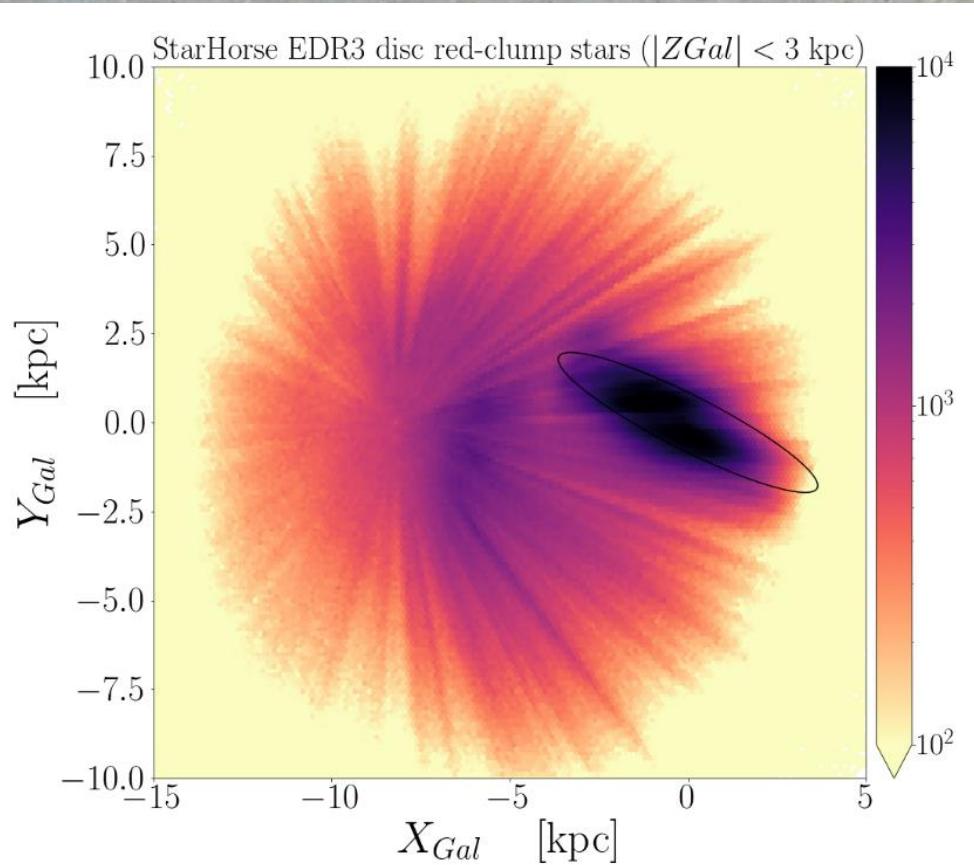
Optical survey  
( $G, G_{BP}, G_{RP}$ ,  
 $G_{RVS}$ , XP spectra)

Valid for  $|b| \geq 2^\circ$

Absolute proper motions:  
 $\mu_a \cos(\delta), \mu_\delta$

Gaia Collaboration 2022

# Gaia DR3 proper motion catalog



Optical survey  
( $G, G_{BP}, G_{RP},$   
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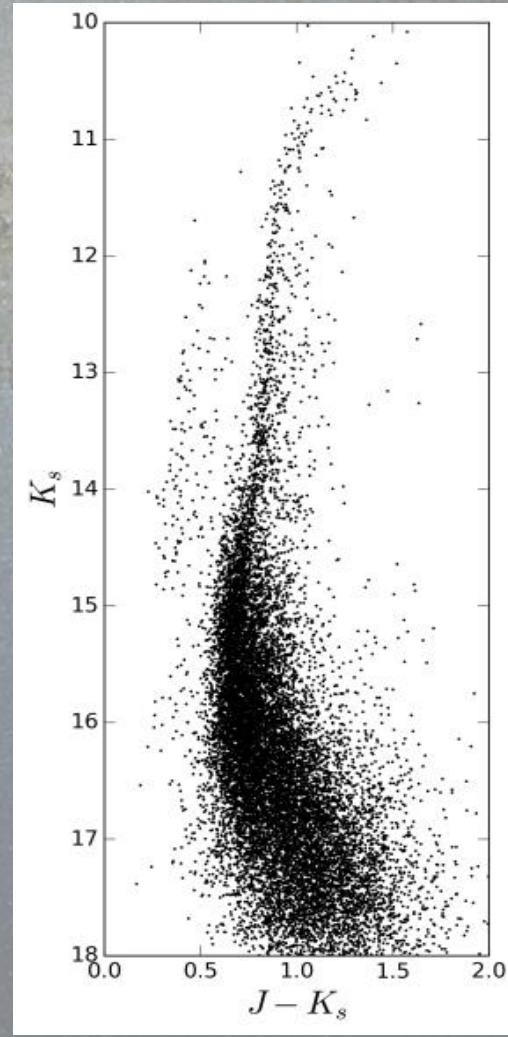
# VVV survey catalogue



Near-IR survey  
(ZYJHK<sub>s</sub>)

~100+ K<sub>s</sub> epochs

Relative proper  
motions:  
 $\mu_l \cos(b)$ ,  $\mu_b$



Minniti et al 2010,  
Contreras Ramos et al. 2017

# Clustering on a 5-D phase-space

$-10 \leq l \text{ (deg)} \leq 10$   
 $-10 \leq b \text{ (deg)} \leq 10$



$l, b, \mu_l \cos(b), \mu_b, G_{BP} - G_{RP}$   
 $l, b, \mu_l \cos(b), \mu_b, J - K_s$



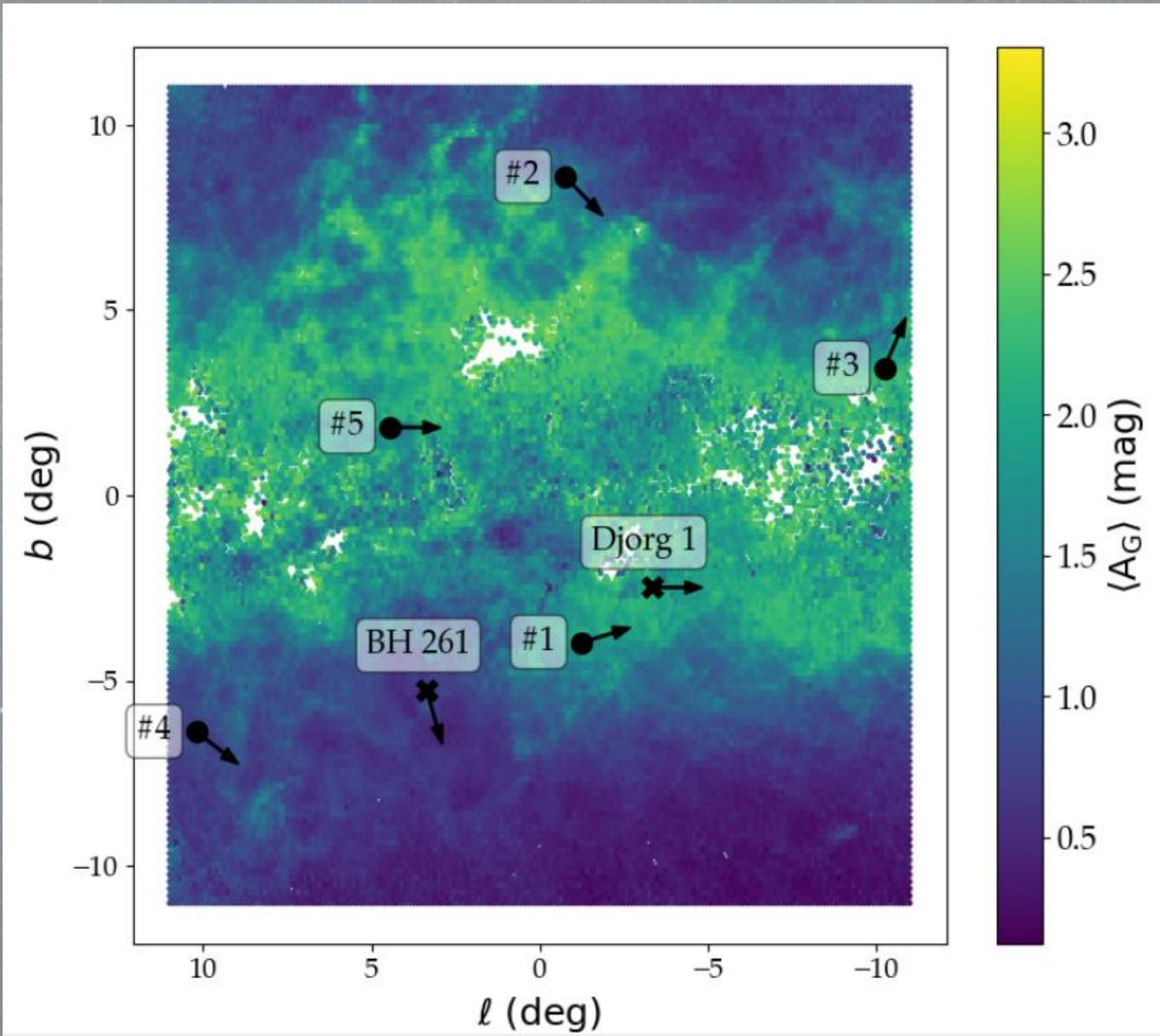
scikit learn: KDTree  
and DBScan



Candidate  
clusters in the 5-D  
phase space



# Map of the new GCs

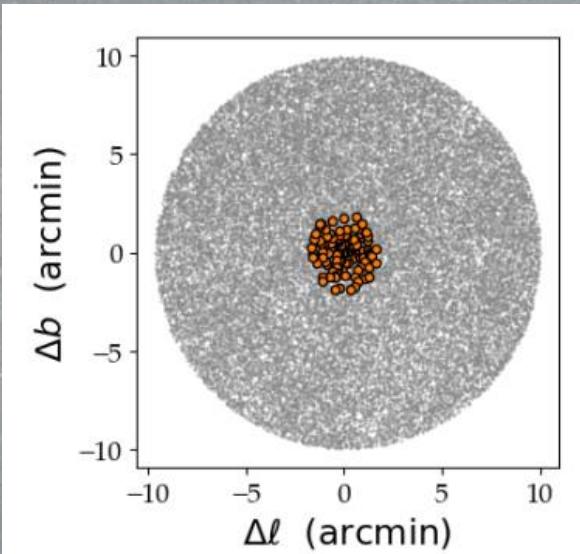


Gran et al. 2022

# New GCs: the case of Gran 3

**Clustering requirements:**

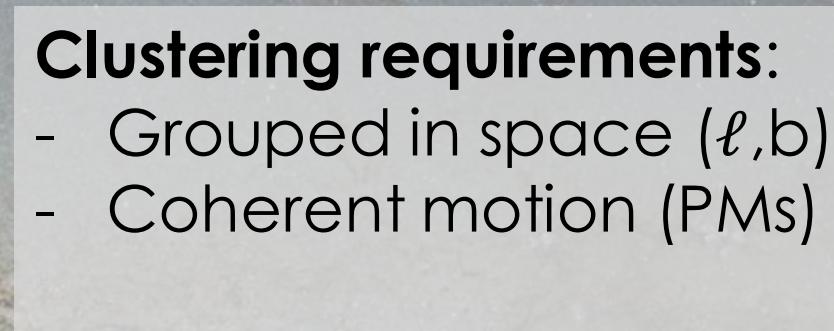
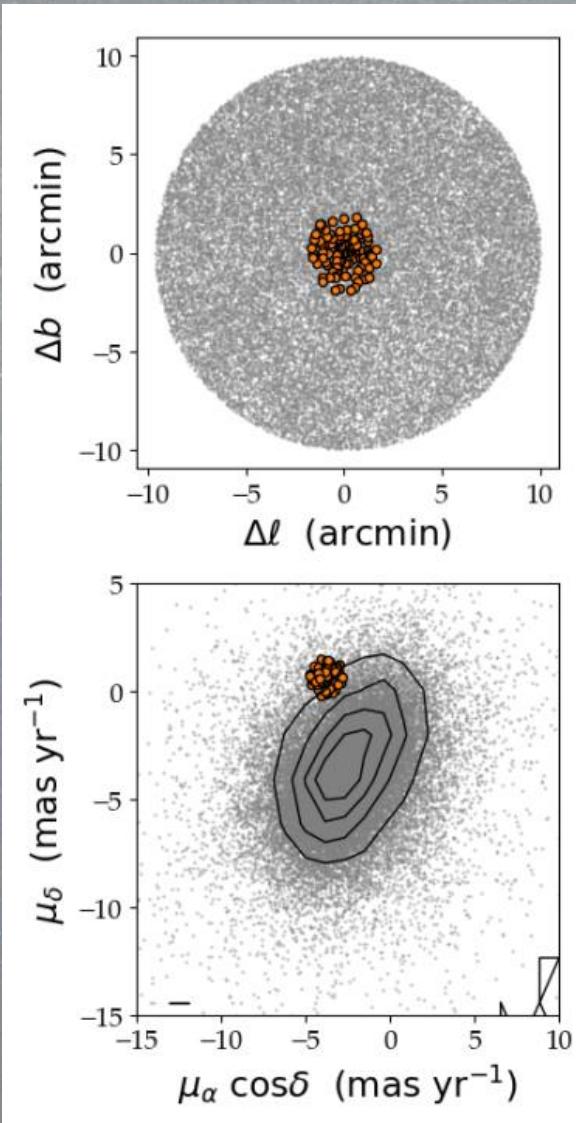
- Grouped in space ( $\ell, b$ )



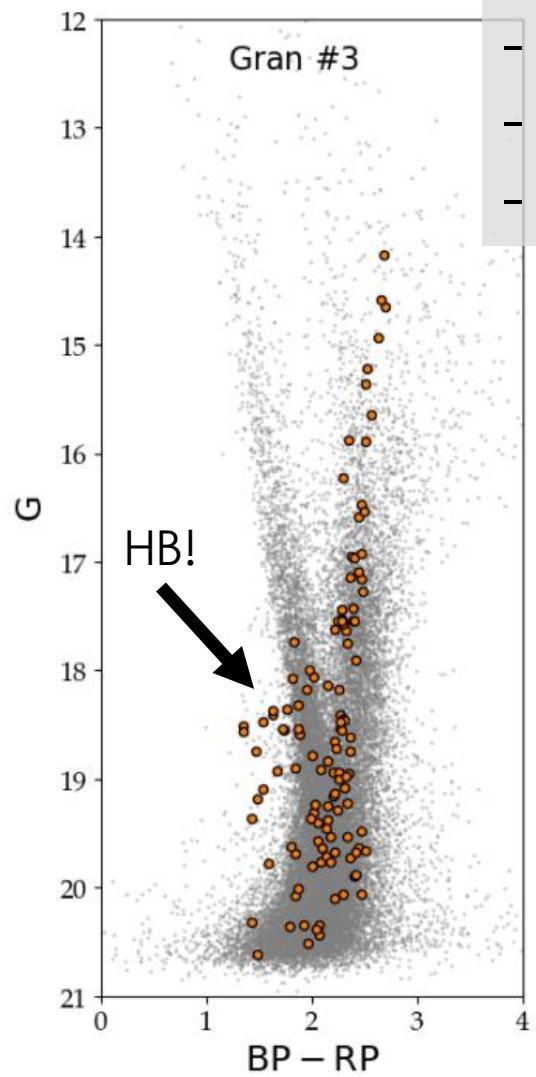
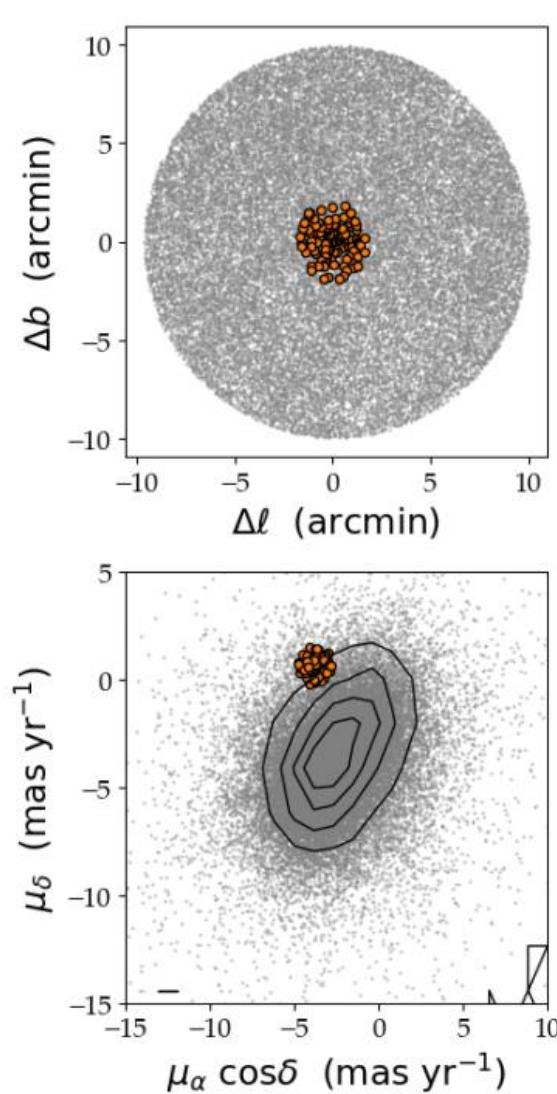
# New GCs: the case of Gran 3

## Clustering requirements:

- Grouped in space ( $\ell, b$ )
- Coherent motion (PMs)



# New GCs: the case of Gran 3

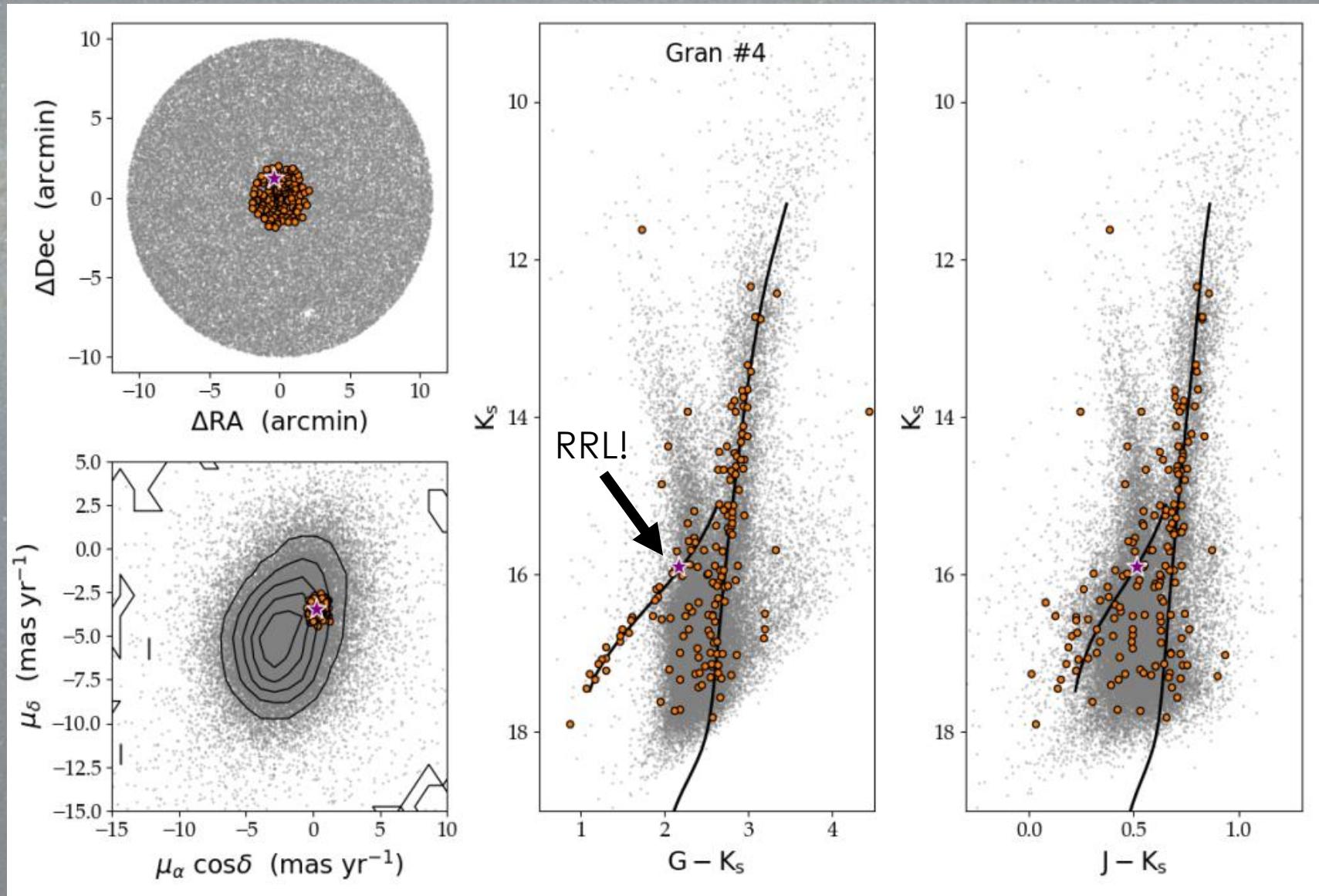


**Clustering requirements:**

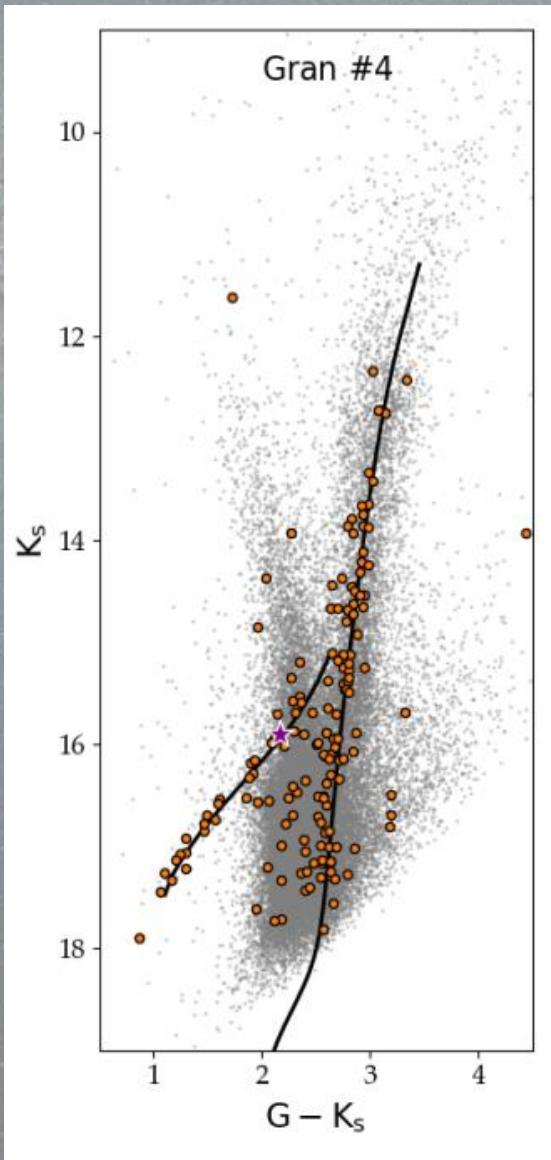
- Grouped in space ( $\ell, b$ )
- Coherent motion (PMs)
- Old stellar sequences

Gran et al. 2022

# New GCs: the case of Gran 4



# New GCs: the case of Gran 4



Gran et al. 2022

## Clustering requirements:

- Grouped in space ( $\ell, b$ )
- Coherent motion (PMs)
- Old stellar sequences

## Cluster parameters:

- Age  $\sim 12$  Gyr
- Distance  $\sim 22$  kpc
- $[Fe/H] \sim -2.4$  dex
- $r_h \sim 1.15$  arcmin
- $M_{dyn} \sim 4 \times 10^5 M_\odot$

# New GCs: full characterisation

GC	$\ell$ (deg)	$b$ (deg)	RA (deg)	Dec (deg)	$\mu_\alpha \cos(\delta)$ (mas yr $^{-1}$ )	$\mu_\delta$ (mas yr $^{-1}$ )	$\mu_\ell \cos(b)$ (mas yr $^{-1}$ )	$\mu_b$ (mas yr $^{-1}$ )	$N_{\text{members}}$ (number)
Gran 1	-1.233	-3.977	269.651	-32.020	-8.10	-8.01	-10.94	3.03	57
Gran 2	-0.771	8.587	257.890	-24.849	0.19	-2.57	-1.86	-1.76	102
Gran 3	-10.244	3.424	256.256	-35.496	-3.78	0.66	-1.76	3.71	118
Gran 4	10.198	-6.388	278.113	-23.114	0.46	-3.49	-2.88	-2.01	155
Gran 5	4.459	1.838	267.228	-24.170	-5.32	-9.20	-10.55	-0.10	76
Cluster candidates									
C1	-3.589	4.174	260.151	-29.673	-2.90	-6.11	-6.61	-1.07	113

GC	dm (mag)	Distance (kpc)	E(J – K <sub>s</sub> ) (mag)	A <sub>K<sub>s</sub></sub> (mag)	A <sub>G</sub> (mag)	A <sub>V</sub> (mag)	V <sub>t</sub> (mag)	M <sub>V</sub> (mag)	r <sub>h</sub> (arcmin)	[Fe/H] (dex)
Gran 1	14.60	7.94	0.45	0.24	2.70	3.38	12.41	-5.46	0.86	-1.19
Gran 2	16.10	16.60	—	—	1.90	2.37	12.56	-5.92	1.07	-2.12
Gran 3	15.40	12.02	—	—	2.60	3.25	12.63	-6.02	1.05	-2.33
Gran 4	16.84	22.49	0.20	0.14	1.20	1.50	11.81	-6.45	1.14	~-2.4
Gran 5	13.25	4.47	0.63	0.43	3.24	4.05	12.11	-5.95	0.94	-1.56

# New GCs: MUSE observations

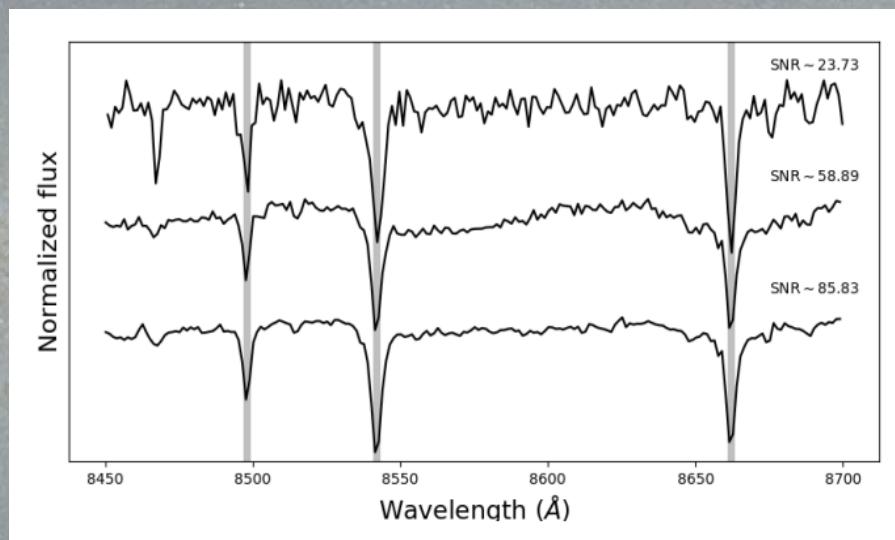


**ESO P103-105**  
**PI: F. Gran**

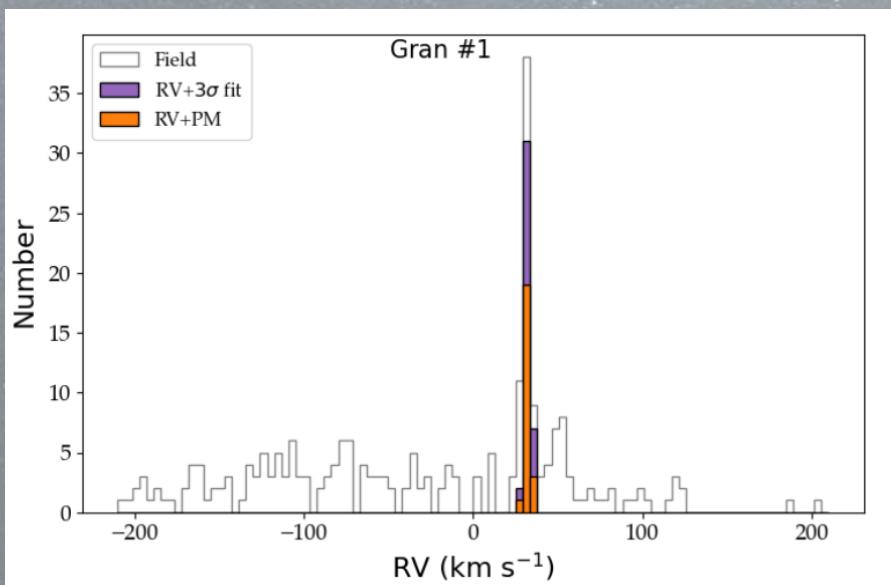
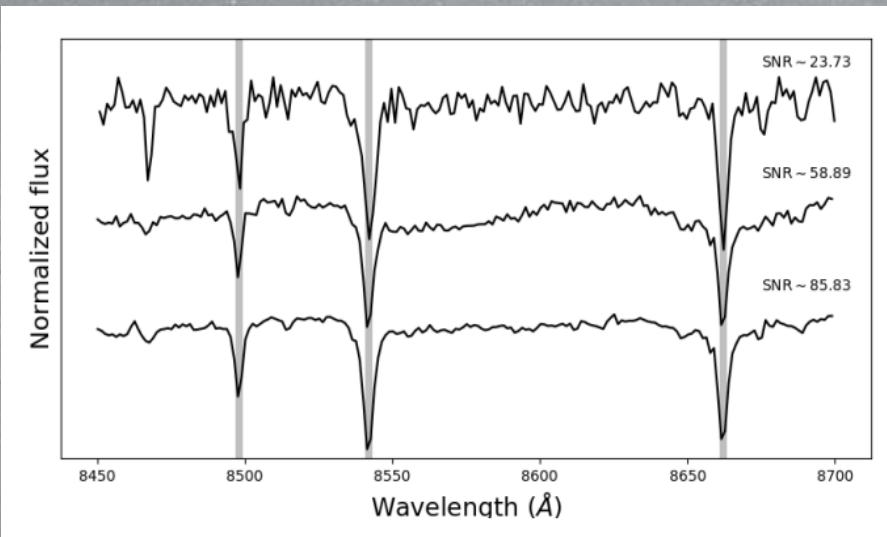
14 hours  
WFM  $\sim 1 \text{ arcmin}^2$   
 $4650 < \lambda (\text{\AA}) < 9300$   
R @ 8800 Å  $\sim 4000$



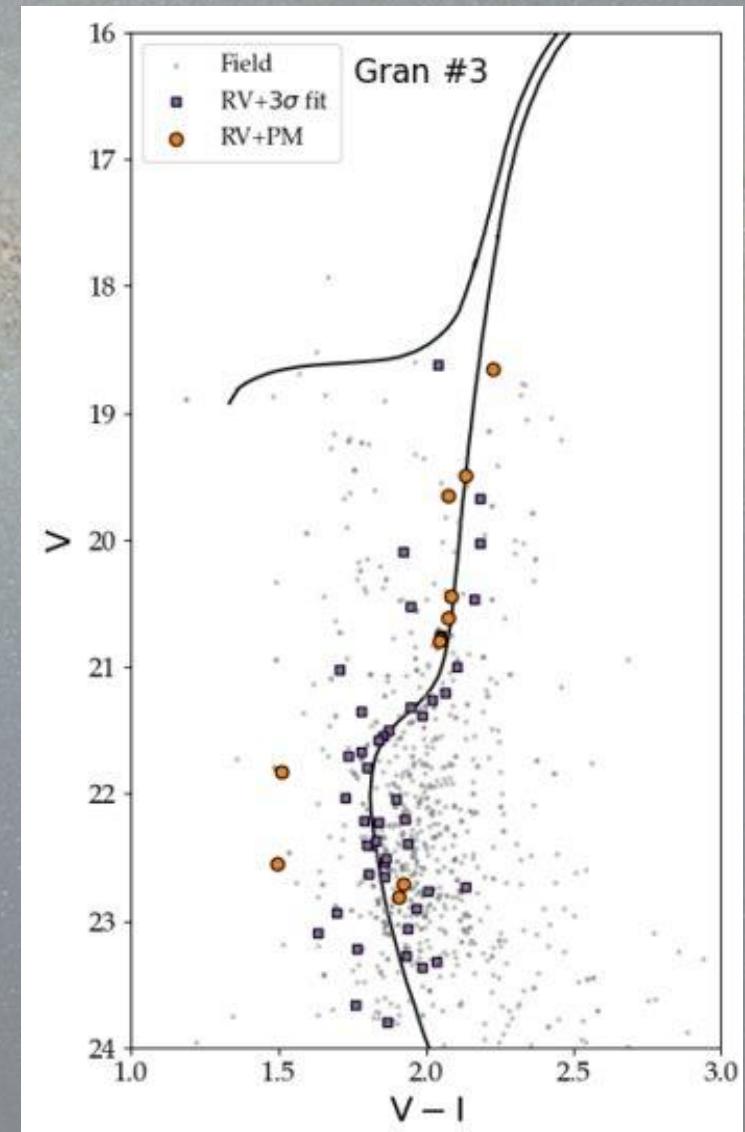
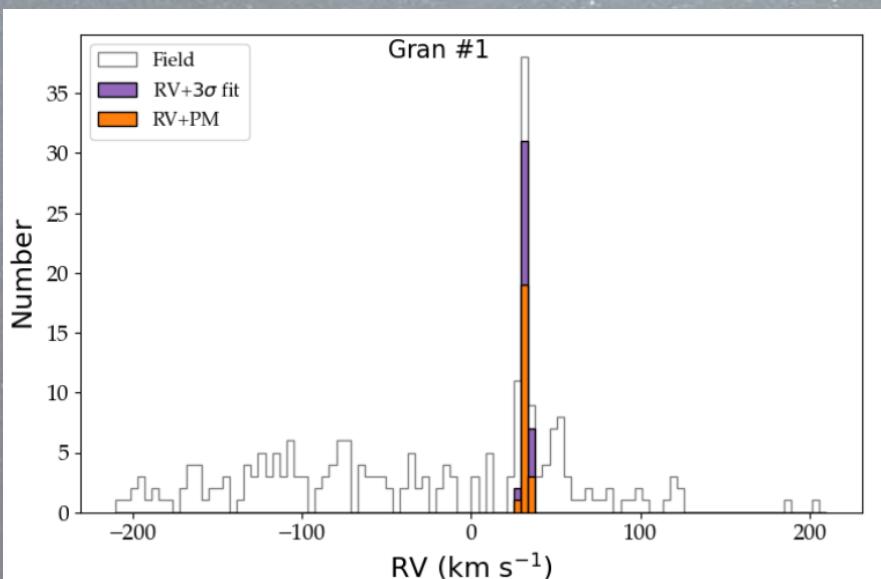
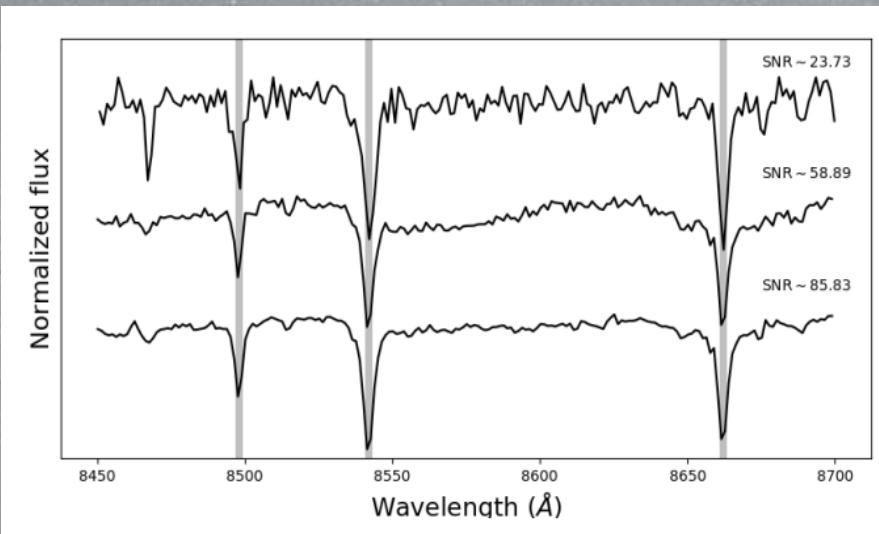
# New GCs: MUSE observations



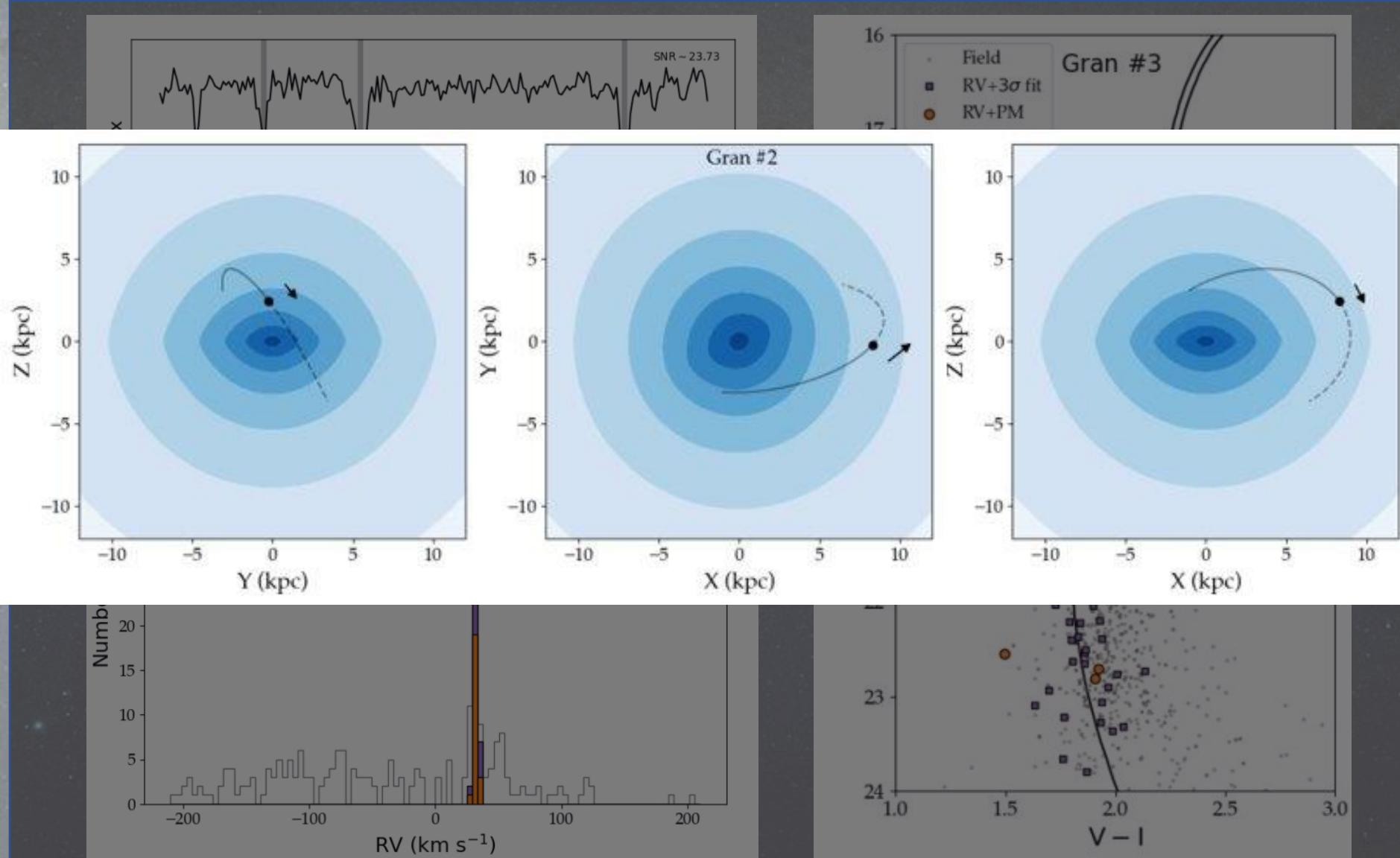
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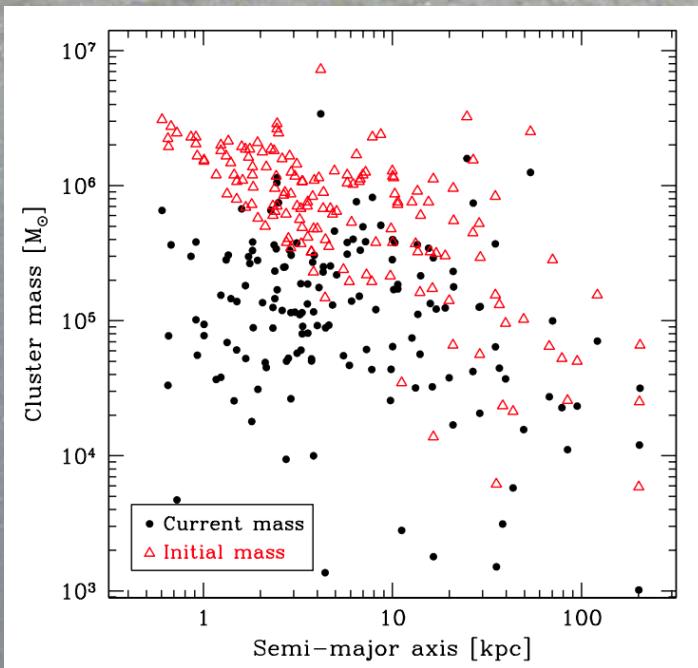
# New GCs: MUSE observations

GC	$\sigma_0$ (km s $^{-1}$ )	$M^{\text{dyn}}(< 1.8r_h)$ ( $10^5 M_\odot$ )	$\Upsilon$ ( $M_\odot L_\odot^{-1}$ )
Gran 1	$3.96 \pm 0.29$	$0.45 \pm 0.08$	$3.61 \pm 3.12$
Gran 2	$4.93 \pm 0.47$	$1.84 \pm 0.40$	$9.50 \pm 8.51$
Gran 3	$4.79 \pm 0.41$	$1.24 \pm 0.25$	$5.84 \pm 3.45$
Gran 4	$6.18 \pm 0.33$	$4.16 \pm 0.61$	$13.15 \pm 7.14$
Gran 5	$3.68 \pm 0.32$	$0.37 \pm 0.08$	$1.85 \pm 1.77$

GC	RV (km s $^{-1}$ )	[Fe/H] (dex)	$V_{\text{HB}}$ (mag)	$e$	$z_{\text{max}}$ (kpc)	$r_{\text{peri}}$ (kpc)	$r_{\text{apo}}$ (kpc)	$L_z$ (kpc $^2$ Myr $^{-1}$ )	$E_{\text{tot}}$ (kpc $^2$ Myr $^{-2}$ )
Gran 1	$32.30 \pm 1.87$	$-1.19 \pm 0.19$	19.08	0.76	0.38	0.31	2.22	0.03	-0.21
Gran 2	$53.22 \pm 1.67$	$-2.07 \pm 0.17$	18.59	0.34	5.44	4.59	9.24	0.79	-0.16
Gran 3	$74.32 \pm 2.70$	$-2.37 \pm 0.18$	18.65	0.08	3.88	4.66	5.47	0.69	-0.17
Gran 5	$-90.40 \pm 1.93$	$-1.56 \pm 0.17$	18.04	0.90	0.13	0.20	3.75	-0.04	-0.19

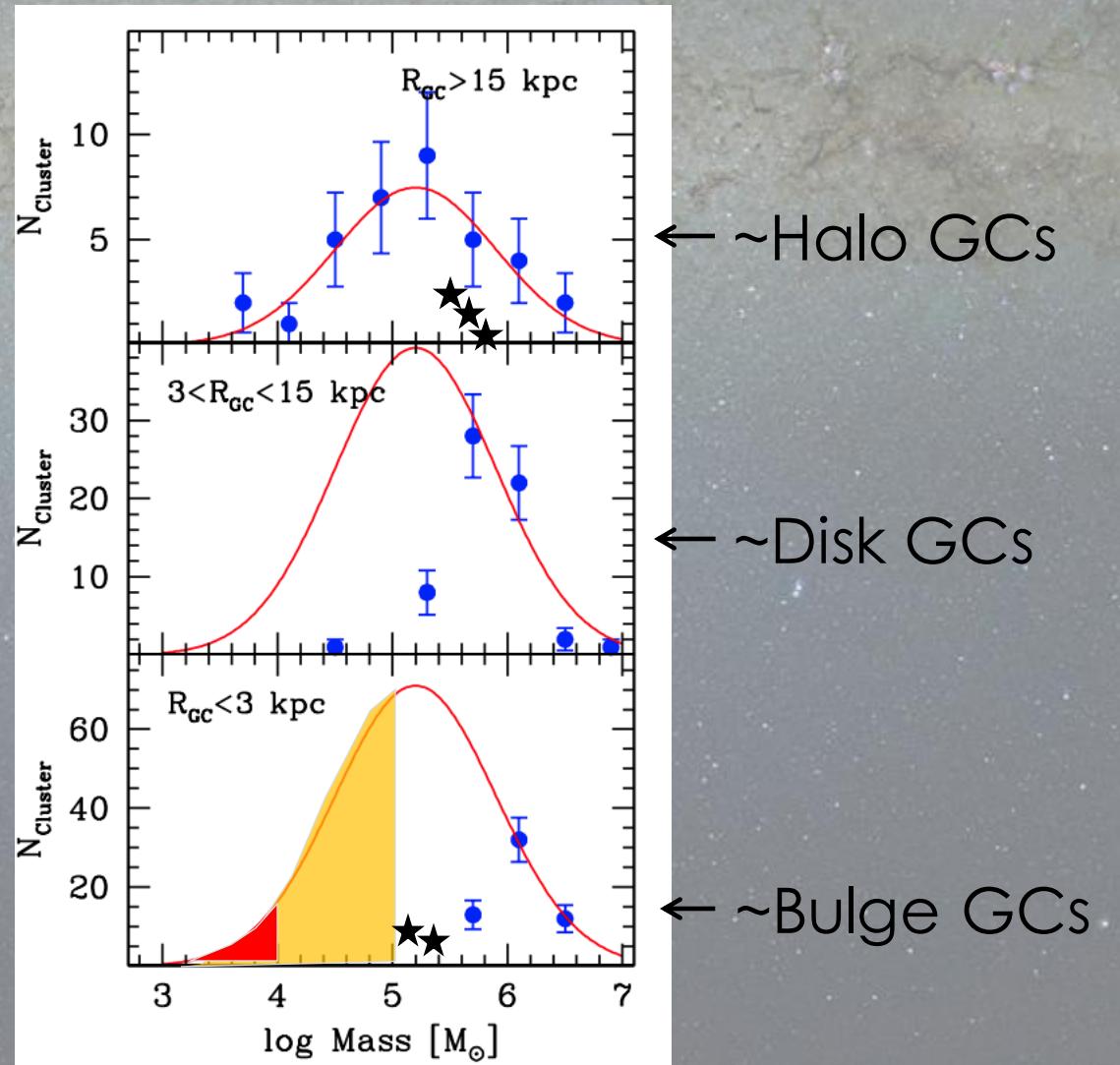
# New GCs: Galactic context

## Initial mass distribution



Baumgardt et al. 2018

Gran 2 + 3 + 4  
Gran 1 + 5

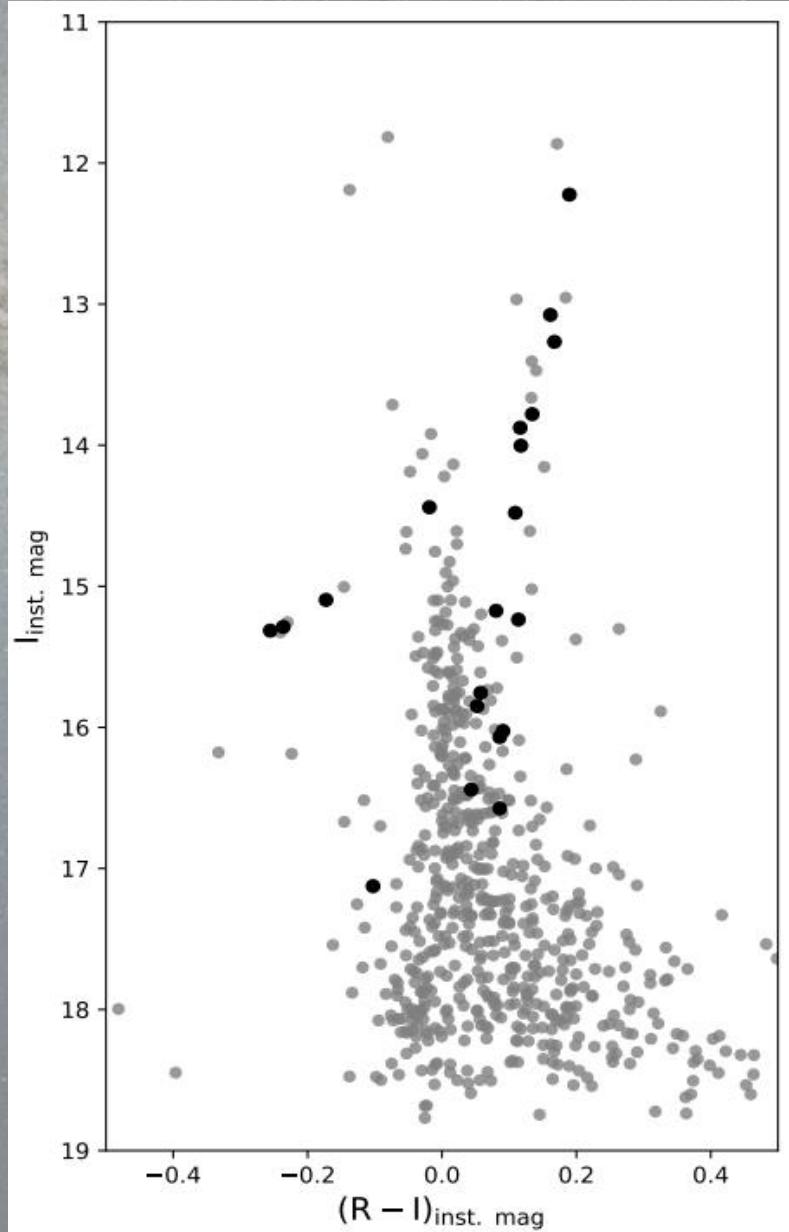
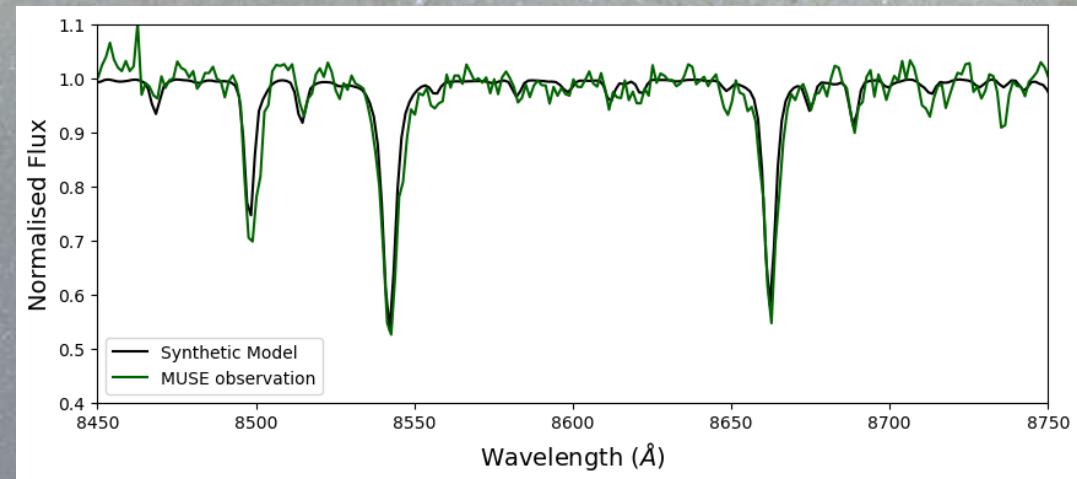


# Summary

- ★ Bulge GCs are tracers of the **MW formation and evolution**: *in situ* component (Myeong et al. 2018).
- ★ No consensus has been reached on the total number of **bulge GCs**.
- ★ Using a clustering algorithm, we were able to discover **5 new** clusters with old stellar sequences.
- ★ Orbital parameters and metallicities from the analysis of **5 MUSE** cubes.
- ★ Key observable: **proper motions!**

# Future work

- ★ Derive clusters metallicity via synthetic models

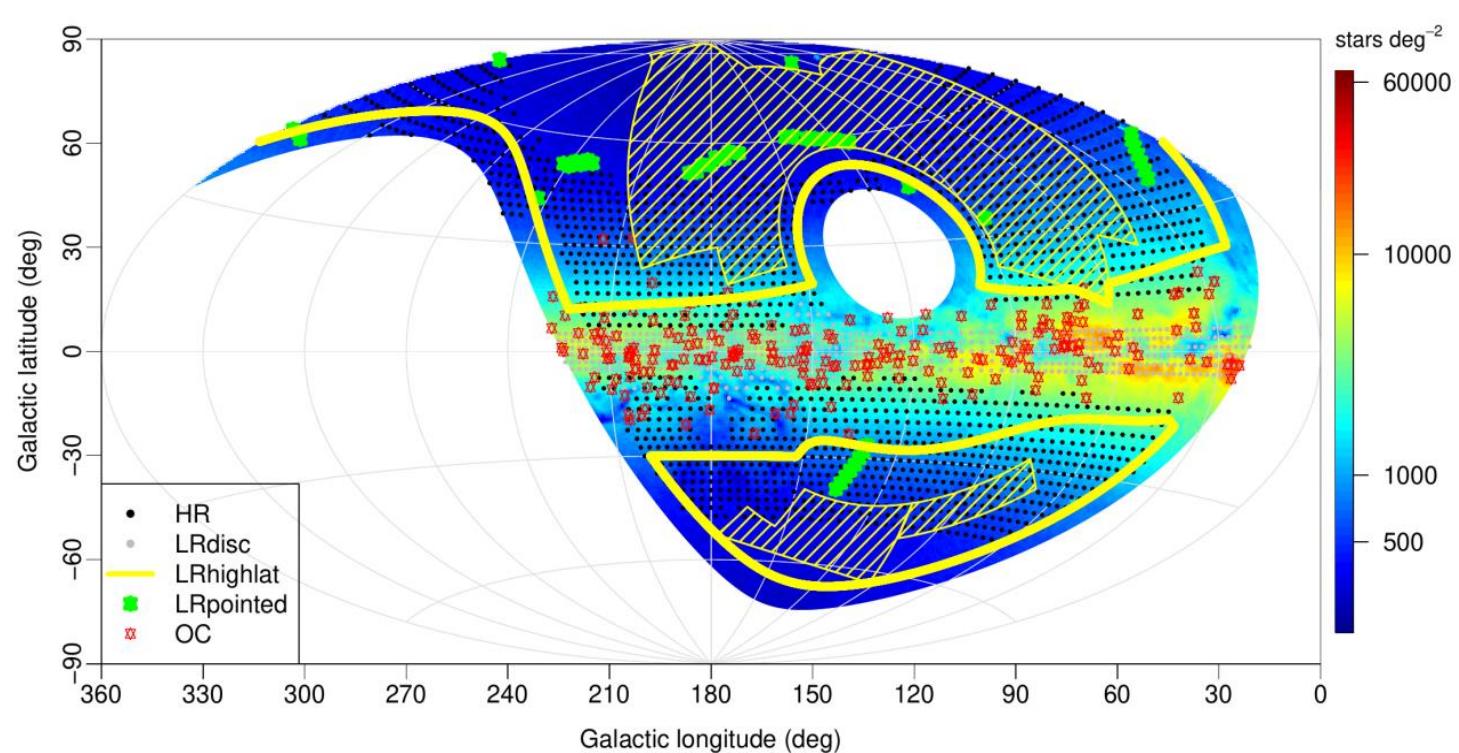


# Future work

- ★ WEAVE survey: homogenisation of contributed catalogues for scientific exploration of the GA survey

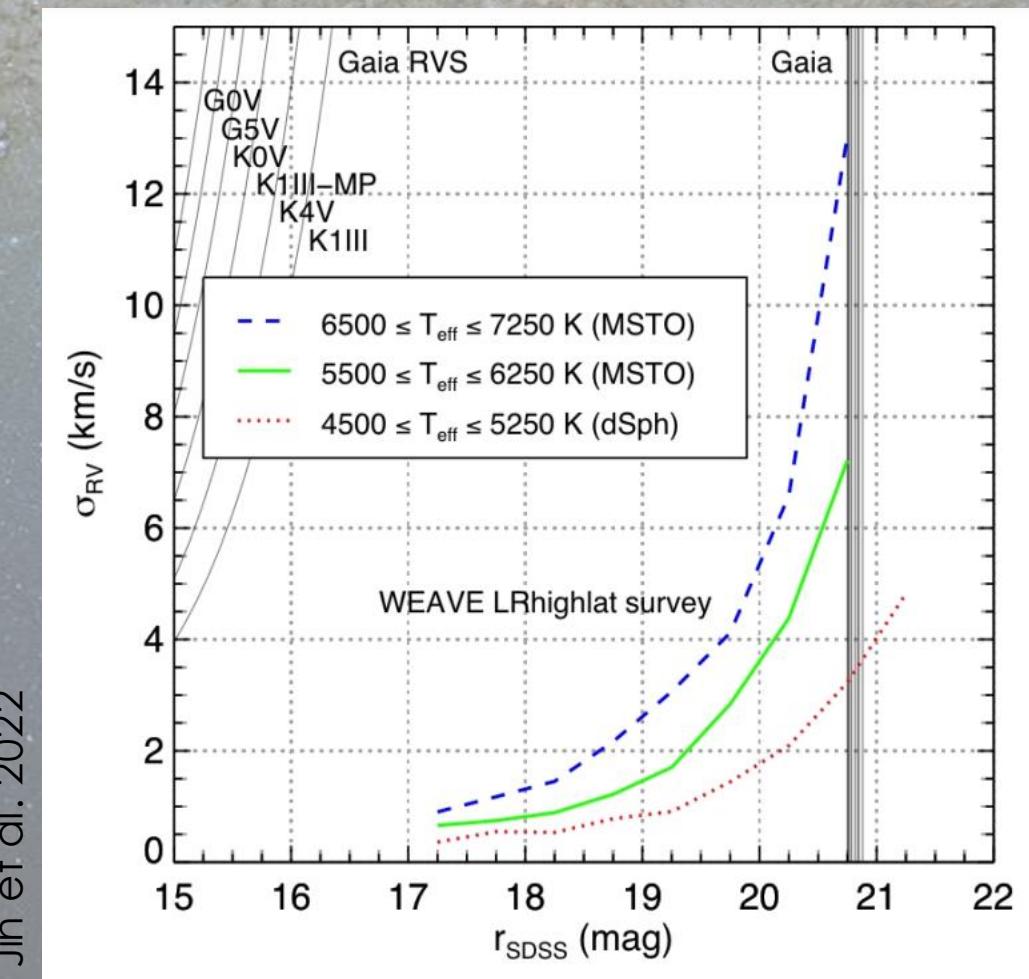
[Submitted on 7 Dec 2022]

## The wide-field, multiplexed, spectroscopic facility WEAVE: Survey design, overview, and simulated implementation



# Future work

- ★ WEAVE survey: homogenisation of contributed catalogues for scientific exploration of the GA survey



Jin et al. 2022

# Thanks for your attention!

fgran@oca.eu  
fegran.github.io  
CION-1 C1-20