USING DECAM AND GAIA TO IDENTIFY GLOBULAR CLUSTERS IN THE LOCAL UNIVERSE: SUBSTRUCTURE AND MASS OF CENTAURUS A



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See: Hughes+21, 22. Also Voggel+20, Dumont+22

- A new globular cluster identification technique that combines high-res ground-based data + DECam multi-band data + Gaia astrometric information.
- Apply to Centaurus A (D=3.8 Mpc), the nearest accessible elliptical galaxy.
- Spectroscopic follow-up has identified 122 new CenA GCs.
- Correlate GCs with stellar substructures, look for kinematic signals.
- Future!! Looking to the nearby universe to build maps of structure formation, GC kinematics, mass measurements, etc.

OBSERVING GALAXY SUBSTRUCTURE — DWARFS, STREAMS, ETC — TO PROBE STRUCTURE FORMATION (SEE TALKS YESTERDAY)







THE PANORAMIC IMAGING SURVEY OF CENTAURUS AND SCULPTOR (PISCES)

- Deep imaging (r~26) in g,r out to 150 kpc in two of our next nearest neighbors (NGC253 and CenA).
 ~1.5-2 mag below TRGB
- •Directly comparable to PAndAS, MW and simulations.

THE FIELD OF STREAMS OF CENA



Crnojevic et al. 2016

A clearly disrupting dwarf galaxy -- detected not by low surface brightness measurements but in individual resolved stars!

There are clearly other streams emerging.

All in resolved RGB stars

ELEVEN NEW CENA DWARFS DOWN TO $M_V \sim -7.5$ mag



Crnojevic et al. 2019

CENA GC STATUS (AS OF LAST YEAR)



WHY STUDY EXTRAGALACTIC GLOBULAR CLUSTERS?

- Complementary probe of stellar halo

-Bright, compact $< M_V > = -7$

-Kinematic tracer: mass, assembly history, dark matter distribution, previous accretion events.

-GCs are 1-20 pc in size, corresponds to ~0.1-1.1" at CenA.









Globular Cluster Candidate Catalog

1. FIND EXTENDED SOURCES IN PISCES

Difference in magnitude between two apertures selects extended sources.





Extended Sources

Point source foreground stars

2A. REMOVE CANDIDATES (AND 'CONFIRMED' GCS) WITH GAIA PM'S AND PARALLAXES



2B. USE GAIA TO SELECT OBJECTS THAT ARE SLIGHTLY EXTENDED



Astrometric Excess Noise: Excess noise in the model of parallax + proper motion. BP/RP Excess: Sum of BP+RP flux greater than G-band flux. This is a difference in aperture effect.

3. NOIRLAB SOURCE CATALOG (DECAM)

Appreciate uniform photometry and color information (not available from individual studies).

Proved to be a critical extra piece of information in our GC selection process.





"Priority Sample"

Candidate Rank	PISCeS	Gaia DR2	NSC	Minimum C_{3-6}	Number of Candidates	
					Total	$\mathcal{L}_{total} > 0.85$
gold	1	~	1	1.0	5763	181
silver	~	~	×	1.0	13793	1750
	1	×	1	1.0		
bronze	~	×	×	2.0	11860	11860
copper	1	×	×	1.0	9086	8541

Globular cluster candidate spatial distributions





SPECTROSCOPIC FOLLOW-UP



UPDATED GC SAMPLE

122+27 newly confirmed GCs (Dumont+22; Hughes+22)

645 kinematic members in total

Priority sample: 35% are true GCs

68% within 30'

(7% for the not-priority sample)

28 GCs outside of 50 arcmin (55 kpc)

Most distance object at 130 kpc.



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Velocity histogram including new objects (hatched), and blue and red samples

RADIAL VELOCITY DISTRIBUTION



IDENTIFYING GCS IN SUBSTRUCTURES



IDENTIFYING GCS IN SUBSTRUCTURES



In some cases, correlation with stellar substructure is very clear (Dw1, Cloud S).

In others, there is clear halo GC contamination.



IDENTIFYING GCS IN SUBSTRUCTURES



STREAM MODELING WITH STARS + GC KINEMATICS (PEARSON+22)



Can reproduce Dw3 stellar stream morphology, including the nuclear star cluster morphology with reasonable CenA mass, Dw3 mass, etc.

To break degeneracies, we need velocities along the stream.

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LAST THING: TOTAL MASS PROFILE TRACER MASS ESTIMATOR TECHNIQUE

(EVANS+03)



-Include both dispersion and rotational component.

-Total mass consistent with previous measurements.

-Some discrepancy at large radii.

-We removed GCs associated with stellar substructures.

-Detailed mass DM+light profile in progress, including inner and outer DM slope. (Dumont+ in prep)



rotation amplitude



Similar results can be had throughout the D<5 Mpc Universe.



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Can push out to ~20 Mpc for the very brightest GC and ultra-compact dwarfs.

Pilot survey around major galaxies out to D~10 Mpc is underway. Large push on NGC253 as well.

Questions?

M2FS VELOCITY DISPERSIONS OF 50 BRIGHT STAR CLUSTERS AROUND CENA



1.6

1.4

1.2

relative flux

0.4

0.2

0.0

5150

M2FS VELOCITY DISPERSIONS OF 50 BRIGHT STAR CLUSTERS AROUND CENA



Elevated M/L may point to central supermassive black hole — allows us to distinguish between massive globular clusters and true remnant nuclear star clusters. Stay tuned.

Dumont et al. 2022

Summary

- The least massive dwarf galaxies are an excellent laboratory for testing dark matter/galaxy formation right at the intersection where astrophysics matter.
- The faintest dwarf galaxies will always be those around the Milky Way. We must understand these systems in detail as the ultimate proving ground for DM+astrophysics.
- Moving so-called 'Near Field Cosmology' beyond the Local Group is key to understanding the drivers of satellite galaxy formation and evolution. Field dwarfs are an important population to study as well.
- The next decade will be bright, with VRO, HSC and Roman all coming into their own.

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A CLOSE PAIR OF SATELLITES AROUND CENTAURUS A

Crnojevic et al. 2014

Pair is projected ~90 kpc from center of CenA.3 kpc projected separation. Both are at D~3.6 Mpc.A 'satellite of a satellite'? -- also a prediction of CDM.

A CLOSE PAIR OF SATELLITES

Crnojevic et al. 2014

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HST FOLLOWUP IS REVEALING A RICH VARIETY OF STAR CLUSTERS

At an average M_V=-7, we can use star clusters to probe kinematics of halo substructures and DM profile of CenA, and other nearby galaxies.

CROSS-CHECK WITH LITERATURE VELOCITIES

