Globular Clusters Intriguing Subgalaxian Stellar Systems

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Abstract

The basic facts concerning the globular star clusters are reviewed. It is underlined that they have been found in many galaxies including some dwarf, as well. This is the reason why the word galaxian is used (they are not only characteristic for our own Galaxy). The set of globulars within the Milky Way has been relatively well studied. A total of about 150 has been found. They are usually thought to be tracers of the halo population though some of them might be referred to the disc. In the recent times is noticeable the increased interest in deriving their proper motions. The internal structure of globulars is characterised by the proximity to the spherical symmetry, steady state with evolved velocity distribution. It is not quite clear if the well known King's formula offers a sufficiently satisfactory description of the mass distribution.