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Clusters in the Clouds: an 8D+ view by VISCACHA

Star clusters are powerful tools for studying stellar evolution when analyzed individually. Certain combinations of global parameters of star clusters in the Milky Way have led to a bimodal classification: old, massive globular clusters and young, low-mass open clusters. The star clusters found in the Magellanic Clouds exhibit a range of global parameters and internal structures that complement those observed in the Milky Way, making them particularly valuable laboratories for astrophysical research. The proximity of the Clouds enables detailed photometric and spectroscopic observations of their star clusters, as demonstrated by numerous recent surveys. Furthermore, the star cluster system serves as a tracer of the three-dimensional structure and kinematics of the Small Magellanic Cloud (SMC), Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC), and the Magellanic Bridge, providing a map of chemical abundances and other cluster parameters as a function of age. In this talk, I will provide a brief overview of the star clusters in the Magellanic Clouds, highlight several recent significant studies—particularly those from the VISCACHA survey—and present some ideas for future research directions.

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