



Contribution ID: 43

Type: **live talk**

MAVIS and globular clusters

Tuesday, 6 July 2021 11:20 (20 minutes)

Stars in Galactic globular clusters exhibit anti-correlations in the light-element abundances, the most notorious being the Na-O abundance anti-correlation, in several peculiar cases, star-to-star metallicity and neutron-capture element variations. The currently held view is that globular clusters host multiple stellar populations, but how such systems formed and evolved remains a mystery. However studies to date are based on stellar samples from the outer regions of the clusters. The cores remain largely unexplored or limited to the tip of the red giant branch that suffer statistical limitations. Therefore the radial distribution of globular cluster stars has not been explored. With high spatial and spectral resolution, MAVIS presents the first novel opportunity to explore globular cluster cores, possibly the missing link to resolve this decades long mystery.

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Session Classification: Star clusters over cosmic time