

**THE HARLOW-SHAPLEY SYMPOSIUM ON
GLOBULAR CLUSTER SYSTEMS IN GALAXIES**

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IAU Symposium 126 reviews recent progress and future prospects in the study of globular clusters in our own and external galaxies. The meeting focused on the properties of the system of globular clusters as a whole, based on the remarkable progress in cluster observation with CCD detectors on 4-m class telescopes, as well as the availability of VAX-class desk top computers for both data analysis and theoretical modelling. A further objective of the work is to highlight the prospects and problems for the new study of globular clusters to be carried out by the Hubble Space Telescope. Specific topics covered are: the discovery of the apparent correlation between cluster metallicity and the slope of the luminosity function of its stars; comprehensive studies of the globular clusters in the Magellanic Clouds, as well as M 31 and Local Group Galaxies; the evolution of globular clusters past their core collapse stage and the possible re-expansion and tidal disruption of clusters; the disruption of globular clusters by tidal shocks in the disk of the galaxy and by encounters with giant molecular clouds. All such processes were confirmed by numerous contributions given at the meeting.

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