

Content

The material was very well delivered. I was greatly informed during the entirety of the poster presentation, especially about dwarf galaxy populations. During the presentation, I was taught about the distribution of dwarf populations, and I had a question that arose. "How many do Milky Way-sized galaxies usually host?" It turns out that while a dozen has been discovered, there is no telling just how many ultra-faint dwarfs there are. This was followed by the bulk of the motivations and purpose of the paper, which is to investigate NGC 55 for its dwarf populations. In particular, the intern was tasked with injecting artificial dwarfs into the NGC 55 surrounding environment. Though not real, these artificial dwarfs serve as great test subjects to see if their routines can detect dwarfs around not-so-massive galaxies like NGC 55. Towards the end, they talk about how their detection should get stronger with brighter magnitudes. A question came to mind, what about distance? Of course, they were only working with one galaxy so there was nothing regarding distance they had to consider, but it did beg the question about how these methods will fare when faced with further/closer targets.

Organization/Clarity

The poster was very well organized and clear. Though bulky in wording, the information that is there flows elegantly, where each section leads perfectly into the other. The introduction was slightly long and wordy, but it's hard to have read it and not learn anything. I am particularly impressed with the conclusions. Though they were not where they wanted to be regarding the results (which they promptly told me that they did indeed, finish their results for the paper), I liked how they went out of their way to explain why things did not work at first and how they managed to move through this barrier in their work. Research often is not linear, and there are plenty of times where a researcher will face challenges. It is always nice hearing about these and how they were overcome.

Visual Aids

The figures in this presentation were well portrayed and properly ordered. They also provided great insight into an otherwise non-trivial methodology. I also appreciate the effort they went through to make sure the figures were clearly legible and large enough to read. Despite the printing process lowering the quality of images and figures, these were very easy to digest and read. Though not an oral presentation, they did well in explaining the figures when questioned, even going above and beyond to go in detail. The plots were well made, visualizing the work, results, and background of the paper. The result plot was the meat of the paper, showing the successful detections of injected dwarfs in the NGC 55 system. In addition to that, he continued to explain not only the results but why they were the way they were and how they perceive and react to the results.

Overall

The poster and presentation both demonstrated incredible intellectual prowess, both for research and for presenting skills. I learned a great deal about dwarf galaxy populations and the current progress being made in that field. I look forward to potentially hearing more about how this research will progress from this point, including the specific work done by Jonah and his research group. My only real criticisms are the bulky wording and the essay-like writing, but even given that, the information was very well received by me and many others who had the pleasure to be present during his poster session.