


SPRING 2 NOTES (April)

ASTERISM: Usually an apparent relationship
Part of a constellation, maybe related to cultural significance, more visible, part of an older or more traditional "relationship":
EX: The Sickle of Leo, Big Dipper of Ursa Major/ Little Dipper of Ursa Minor
Combination of stars, constellations or parts of constellations
EX: Lakota "Race Track" (Winter Hexagon), Summer Triangle

CLUSTERS: Gravitationally associated upon formation; true visual, observable group
Cancer:

Open Star: Lower density of Thousands to Tens of Thousands of younger stars
Similar, distinct compositions; formed in same molecular cloud; see slide diagram
Stars migrate from a region of space as they age; cluster has no organized shape
Found in regions of active star formation in Spiral and Irregular galaxies
EX: M44 = *Præsepe* Manger or BeeHive to Galileo in Cancer
EX: M45 (Pleiades) in Taurus

Globular: Higher density of Millions of older stars; stronger gravitational attraction
Stars seldom migrate from region; cluster has an elliptical appearance
Low number of younger stars, usually a result of collisions
Very similar composition; abundance of heavy (greater than H, He) metal elements; see slide diagram
Usually found above and below the center of rotation of galaxies
Seldom found in "open" space
Also found in the outer **Halo Region** along the disc of galaxies
EX: around 200 around the Milky Way central bulge and halo***
****Capricorn  Scorpio****
EX: M13 Hercules Cluster
EX: M3, M53 near Boötes
EX: over 12,000 around Elliptical Galaxy M87 (Virgo) central bulge and halo