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**A panoramic VISTA of the stellar halo of NGC 253**

Outskirts of large galaxies contain important information about galaxy formation and assembly, and resolved star count studies efficiently probe the extremely low surface brightness of the outer halos. NGC 253 is a nearly edge-on disk galaxy in the Sculptor group where we resolved the halo stars on the very wide field VISTA images in Z and J bands. The very deep photometry and the wide area covered allows us to trace the red giant branch (RGB) and asymptotic giant branch (AGB) stars that belong to the halo of NGC 253 out to 50 kpc along the galaxy minor axis. In this talk I will illustrate the results of this study, which, among others, include (i) the existence of an inner flattened halo, embedded in a more circular structure; (ii) the detection of a substructure in the north-west part of the halo ~28 kpc distant from the plane and extending over 20 kpc parallel with the disk of the galaxy; (iii) the presence of a widespread, virtually homogeneous, population of intermediate age AGB stars, extending up to about 30 Kpc from the galactic plane.