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# **Insights into galaxy formation from dwarf galaxies**

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### **Planck CMB map: the IC's for structure formation**



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#### The six parameters of the minimal ΛCDM model

#### Planck+WP

Parameter	Best fit	68% limits
$\Omega_{\rm b} h^2$	0.022032	$0.02205 \pm 0.00028$
$\Omega_{\rm c}h^2$	0.12038	$0.1199 \pm 0.0027$
$100\theta_{MC}$	1.04119	$1.04131 \pm 0.00063$
au	0.0925	$0.089^{+0.012}_{-0.014}$
$n_{\rm s}$	0.9619	$0.9603 \pm 0.0073$
$\ln(10^{10}A_{\rm s})$	3.0980	$3.089^{+0.024}_{-0.027}$

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Given the known cosmology and initial conditions, N-body codes can simulate the evolution of the abundance, internal structure and clustering of dark halos at high precision



#### **Small-scale structure and dwarf galazies**

Lovell et al 2012.



A "Milky Way" halo in CDM and WDM (a 2keV sterile v)

### Lyman $\alpha$ forest power spectra support $\Lambda$ CDM ICs



# Viel, Becker, Bolton & Haehnelt 2013

High-resolution Keck and Magellan spectra match  $\Lambda$ CDM up to z = 5.4

This places a  $2\sigma$  lower limit on the mass of a thermal relic  $m_{WDM} > 3.3 \text{ keV}$ 

This shows the DM to to be effectively cold for the formation of all but the faintest dwarfs

#### The six parameters of the minimal $\Lambda CDM$ model

Planck+WP

A 80 $\sigma$  measurement of the cosmic baryon density in g/cc!

 $\Omega_{\rm b}h^2$  . . . . . . . . . . . . 0.022032 0.02205 ± 0.00028  $\Omega_{\rm c}h^2$  . . . . . . . . . . 0.12038 0.1199 ± 0.0027

100 $\theta_{MC}$  A 40 $\sigma$  detection of nonbaryonic DM using <u>only</u> z ~1000 data!

 $n_{\rm s}$  . . . . . . . . . . . . 0.9619 0.9603 ± 0.0073 ln(10<sup>10</sup> $A_{\rm s}$ ) . . . . . . . . 3.0980 3.089<sup>+0.024</sup>

# The six parameters of the minimal ACDM model

Planck+WP



From abundance matching in  $\Lambda$ CDM (assuming no scatter)...



The <u>maximum</u> fraction of halo mass in central galaxy stars is 3.5%, and is attained for halos similar in mass to the Milky Way's halo This fraction drops very rapidly to higher and to lower masses

Star-formation efficiency is <u>very</u> low in dwarfs

• A large scatter in  $M_*/M_{halo}$  should be expected

#### Simulating the galaxy population in the Planck cosmology



Plausible models for the efficiency of cooling/condensation, star formation, stellar and AGN feedback reproduce abundances down to  $\rm M_{*}$  < 0.001  $\rm M_{MW}$ 

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Plausible models for the efficiency of cooling/condensation, star formation, stellar and AGN feedback reproduce abundances down to  $M_* < 0.001 M_{MW}$  for both passive and actively star-forming galaxies

#### Simulating the galaxy population in the Planck cosmology





Current simulations reproduce quite well the counts of satellites around isolated bright galaxies with log  $M_{*,cen} > 10.2$  down to log  $M_{*,sat} \sim 8.0$ 

#### Are dwarfs the "building blocks" of the Milky Way?



~7%, 1.3% and 0.3% of Milky Way stars are added by accretion of satellites with log ( $M_* / M_{\odot}$ ) < 9.0, 8.0 and 7.0, respectively

#### Are dwarfs the "building blocks" of the Milky Way?



~5%, 1% and 0.2% of Milky Way stars are added by accretion of satellites with log ( $M_* / M_{\odot}$ ) < 9.0, 8.0 and 7.0, respectively

- The abundances, spatial distributions and star-forming/passive fractions of dwarfs are plausibly reproduced by  $\Lambda$ CDM simulations
- The "missing satellite" problem may be solved by any of a number of astrophysical effects, given our current ability to calculate them
- Details of formation history are likely to introduce a large scatter into the stellar mass halo mass relation of dwarfs
- Dwarfs have contributed a very small fraction of the Milky Way's current complement of stars -- they are <u>not</u> its building blocks!

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- Satellite colours are **not** well reproduced in most current models

Is dwarf structure consistent with  $\Lambda CDM$ ?

#### Too big to fail? -- a central density problem



The estimated mass densities within  $r_{1/2}$  for the 9 brightest MW dSph's (excluding Sag.) are lower than those predicted for the most massive subhalos in a DM-only simulation of a  $\Lambda$ CDM halo with  $M_{vir} = 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ 

#### A core or a cusp in Sculptor?

#### Strigari et al 2014



The counts and dispersion profiles of the MR and MP populations in Sculptor *can* be well fit as equilibria within a single NFW potential. For such models,  $C_{MP} < C_{MR}$  [in M(  $r_{1/2}$ ) = C  $r_{1/2} \sigma_{1.0.s.}^2 / G$  ]. The required NFW parameters are as expected for  $\Lambda$ CDM subhalos Models *still* not general (spherical, static, no rotation, f(E,J) = g(E)h(J)..)





**M 33** 







![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### 1 Kpc

#### Adams et al 2012

![](_page_25_Figure_2.jpeg)

# NGC 2976

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

Could this be due to overly simple modelling of the dynamics? (i.e. lack of symmetry, non-circular motion, dispersion structure.)

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

..or could it be due to the dynamical effects of the star formation process?

Repeated, strong and dense starbursts can turn cusps into cores

![](_page_29_Picture_1.jpeg)

.. or could it reflect more complex DM physics changing the abundance and/or inner structure of low-mass halos?

### **Evidence from star-formation histories**

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Quantifying "burstiness" statistically in $z \sim 0$ dwarfs

#### Kauffmann 2014

![](_page_31_Figure_2.jpeg)

Only 30% of objects are consistent with continuous SFH's ~85% of current star formation is in bursts and ~7% in continuous SFH's The peak-to-trough variation in SFR is typically about a factor of 20

- Many Local Group dwarfs, dSph's, dIrr's and dE's, show evidence for multiple stellar populations.
- Their formation appears bursty, has large scatter among a given type, and appears qualitatively similar between types
- Many **but not all** dwarfs have a substantial population formed at high redshift (e.g. age > 10 Gyr)
- There is no obvious imprint of the reionisation epoch on the population as a whole
- Current star formation in the low-redshift population of "field" dwarfs is strongly bursting, with amplitudes similar to those thought to be needed to drive cusp → core conversion

Ghostly streams from the Galaxy's halo D. Lynden-Bell and R. M. Lynden-Bell 1995

![](_page_33_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_1.jpeg)

s from the Galaxy's halo and R. M. Lynden-Bell 1995

![](_page_34_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_2.jpeg)

- 15/27 M31 satellites in the PanDAS area lie in a thin disk like structure.
- 13/15 of these "rotate" around M31 in the same sense

![](_page_36_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Find isolated bright SDSS galaxies that have diametrically opposed satellite pairs
- Compare numbers in which the two values  $\Delta v = v_{host} v_{sat}$  have the same/opposite sign
- Opposite signs appear to be preferred
- Pair axis aligns with larger scale structure

![](_page_36_Figure_6.jpeg)

- Some correlated structure in satellite systems is expected in the ACDM paradigm because of correlated infall from the environment
- The degree of correlation seen around the MW, M31 and now apparently around nearby SDSS galaxies seems surprisingly large

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Dwarf galaxy studies in the Local Group and beyond provide interesting insights into galaxy formation physics in the  $\Lambda$ CDM paradigm, and may eventually test/extend the paradigm itself.