The Planes of Satellite Galaxies Problem:

What does Gaia DR2 say about the plane of classical MW satellites?
 Do baryonic effects or special host halo properties help?

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A major problem nobody talked about yet



Satellite Galaxies around the Milky Way



SMC

Movie available at <u>http://marcelpawlowski.com</u>

Year 1920

My Question: Is the phase-space distribution of satellite galaxies consistent with ΛCDM expectations?

- Comparing satellite dwarf galaxies with ACDM simulations resulted in numerous small-scale problems (Missing Satellites, Core-Cusp, Too-Big-To-Fail) but affected by baryonic physics.
 - Possibly failure of the simulations, not the cosmological model.
- Positions and velocities of satellite subhalos on ≥100 kpc scales robust against internal baryonic physics and feedback processes.
 - ➡ Better test of the underlying model.



Planes of Satellite Galaxies

- Observed satellite galaxy systems (Milky Way, Andromeda, Centaurus A) are flattened and show signs of kinematic correlation indicative of co-rotation
- Frequency of as strongly flattened and kinematically coherent satellite systems in ACDM simulations is very low (on order 0.1%).



Satellite Positions: a Thin Plane of Satellite Galaxies

- Milky Way satellite galaxies arrange in a narrow Vast Polar Structure (VPOS)
- Fainter satellites, young halo GCs, and several streams align, too.
- Unlikely, but could be a chance alignment (i.e. transient).
- Do the satellites co-orbit? Need velocities!



Milky Way Satellite Galaxies Orbit Along the VPOS

Pawlowski, McGaugh & Jerjen (2015)



Considering 11 brightest ('classical') satellite galaxies

Pawlowski & Kroupa subm.

Orbital Poles (= directions of angular momentum)





Orbital Poles (= directions of angular momentum)



Pawlowski & Kroupa subm. Evolution of Proper Motion Uncertainties and Concentration of Orbital Poles





Better data -> more pronounced correlation

$$\Delta_{\rm sph}(k) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{k} \left[\arccos\left(\langle \boldsymbol{n} \rangle \cdot \boldsymbol{n}_{i}\right)\right]^{2}}{k}}$$

Pawlowski & Kroupa subm.

Orbital Pole Concentration vs. Random Velocities



Pawlowski & Kroupa subm.

Orbital Pole Concentration vs. Illustris TNG 100 simulation (hydro & DMO)



BUT: Must consider orbital pole distribution and spatial flattening \Rightarrow frequencies drop to $\leq 0.1\%$ for all k.

Pawlowski & Kroupa subm. Orbital Pole Concentration vs. Spatial Flattening in Illustris TNG 100 simulation (hydro & DMO)



None of the 2341 (hydro) or 2352 (DMO) simulated satellite systems are simultaneously as flattened and as kinematically coherent as the observed 11 classical satellites.



Figure 1. The axis ratio, c/a, distribution for the 11 most massive satellites of EAGLE MW-mass host haloes at z = 0. The dashed line corresponds to all haloes, while the solid line shows the hosts with an abundance of corotating satellites (see Sec. 3.2), that is hosts for which at least 8 of the 11 satellites have orbital planes within a 35° opening angle. The vertical arrow shows the Galactic value, c/a = 0.183. The red shaded region indicates systems with c/a < 0.3, which represent our EAGLE sample of *MW-likethin* systems. The grey dotted line shows the c/a distribution of the mass for MW-mass dark matter haloes (to better fit the plot, the halo c/a PDF is normalized to 0.5 and not to unity).



Figure 4. The distribution of opening angles, α_8 , corresponding to 8 out of the top 11 satellites with the most co-planar orbits. The dashed and solid lines correspond to all and c/a < 0.3 MW-mass systems in EAGLE. The vertical line indicates the Galactic value, $\alpha_8 = 22^\circ$. The red shaded region corresponds to the selection of *MW-like-orbit* systems, that is those with $\alpha_8 < 35^\circ$.

Best-Possible Alignment of Orbital Poles

For a given plane, each satellite has a closest-possible orbital pole given by its position.

If the plane contains the satellite, the pole can be perfectly aligned.

If the satellite is 20° away from the plane, its orbit can't be closer than 20° from the plane (it can be further away though).

Force Sculptor to be counterorbiting.



When mock-observing best-aligned velocities with realistic PM errors.

Pawlowski & Kroupa subm. Orbital Pole Concentration vs. Best-Possible Alignment (given satellite positions)



Pawlowski & Kroupa subm. Orbital Pole Concentration vs. Best-Possible Alignment (given satellite positions)



Pawlowski & Kroupa subm.

Specific Angular Momenta

Lynden-Bell & Lynden-Bell (1995) suggested six members of a "Magellanic Stream of Satellites": LMC, SMC, Draco, Carina, Sculptor, Ursa Minor

All of them from orbit to within 20° of a common plane aligned with Mag. Stream.

All have specific angular momenta *h* within 30% of the predicted value!



VPOS Kinematics Including Fainter Satellites:

Well constrained orbital poles preferentially align with VPOS



LMC/SMC not included

Pawlowski et al. in prep.

VPOS Kinematics Including Fainter Satellites:

Well constrained orbital poles preferentially align with VPOS



Pawlowski et al. in prep. Poles of 6

Poles of 6 satellites that can not align excluded (no predictions)

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Pawlowski et al. in prep.

Poles of 6 satellites that can not align excluded (no predictions)

Do halos that form early, have high concentration, are part of a pair, or contain a central galaxy potential host more pronounced Planes of Satellite Galaxies?

Pawlowski, Bullock, Kelley & Famaey; 2019, ApJ, 875, 105



Can we solve the Planes of Satellites problem by saying MW/M31 are special?

Buck et. al (2015), based on 21 hosts:

- High host halo concentration (proxy for early formation) gives more narrow satellite planes.
- Solves (?!) problem if MW & M31 formed early and/ or have high concentration halos.

We test these findings with a number of improvements:

- 60 (Phat)ELVIS hosts, similar parameter space.
- Compare to randomized satellite systems, too.
- Consider PAndAS survey footprint.
- Employ *quantitative* tests of correlations.



We employ many different tests to look for correlations ... I'll spare you the details, check out the paper if interested.



Note. Consistion coefficients and logarithms of the corresponding p-values for Pearson (p) and Spearman (r_0) tests of correlations between the minimum plane heights min Δ_{cos} for different numbers of satellites in a plane $N_{b,Plane}$ vs. various halo parameters: halo concentration c_{-2} , formation redshift $z_{2,2n}$ virial radius r_{obs} and runs radius of the solubalo distribution Δ_c^{cobs} .

Correlation with halo mass / viral radius?

Correlation seen if 30 satellites selected from virial volume.

- Absolute plane width sensitive to overall extent of satellite distribution.
- Same present in distributions drawn from isotropy.
- → Not a feature of \land CDM.



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Then no correlation with viral mass/radius.





Correlation with halo concentration / formation time?

No correlation of satellite plane width or kinematic coherence with c_{-2} or $z_{0.5}$.



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No correlation of satellite plane width or kinematic coherence with c_{-2} or $z_{0.5}$. Not even if satellites selected from virial volume.



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Pawlowski, Kroupa & Jerjen (2013, MNRAS, 435, 1928)

Correlation with being in a paired configuration of hosts?

The Vast Polar Structure /
Great Plane of Andromeda have:• Similar heights:400VPOS: 20-30 kpc200GPoA: 14 kpc200• Similar diameters: 400 kpc200• Similar spin directions9

Additional alignments:
 VPOS: YH GCs, 50% streams
 GPoA: Giant Stream, NW-S1

Correlation with being in a paired configuration of hosts?

No difference whether in a pair of hosts or isolated.

Confirms similar result for VPOS-like selection (Pawlowski & McGaugh 2014).

Correlation with existence of a central disk galaxy potential?

PhatELVIS: 12 MW analogs once with and without analytically grown central disk.

Figure 1. Visualization of the dark matter for Kentucky (left) and Kentucky Disk (right). The top panels span 500 kpc, approximately the virial volume of this halo. The bottom panels span 100 kpc. The absence of substructure at small radii in the Disk runs is striking. An enhancement in central dark matter density is also seen in the Disk runs, which is a result of baryonic contraction. The disk potentials are oriented face-on in these images.

Correlation with existence of a central disk galaxy potential?

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PhatELVIS: 12 MW analogs once with and without analytically grown central disk.

No differences in flattening of satellite system whether central disk present or not.

Also no difference for Centaurus A plane in hydrodynamical Illustris simulation or dark-matter-only analog (Müller, Pawlowski, Lelli & Jerjen, 2018).

The orientation of planes of dwarf galaxies in the quasi-linear Universe

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Suggested origins of planes of satellite galaxies

(Any way to boost these?)

The Bigger Picture: Clues from the Local Group Dwarf Galaxy Distribution

Review of Satellite Plane Problem → Pawlowski (2018, MPLA, 33, 1830004).

Gaia DR2 <u>confirms</u> previous work with independent data: 8/11 classical satellites orbit close to common plane. Improved PMs result in tighter clustering of orbital poles (expected if strong underlying correlation). Combining best PMs increases tension with Λ CDM: \leq 0.1% of simulated systems as extreme.

The Planes of Satellite Galaxies problem is <u>not</u> solved by claiming an early formation time or high concentration of MW/M31 halo, their paired configuration, or baryonic effects acting on the satellite distribution/orbits.
→ Pawlowski, Bullock, Kelley & Famaey (2019, ApJ, 875, 105)