

Astrophysical probes of dark matter

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Background | Probing dark matter through gravity







Doug Potter 2006

Potter 2006; Springel 2008; Stadel 2009; Bode et al. 2001

Z=0.18

Dark matter only (DMO) simulations



Potter 2006; Springel 2008; Stadel 2009; Bode et al. 2001

Doug Potter 2006

Z=0.18

Dark matter only (DMO) simulations

Doug Potter 2006

Potter 2006; Springel 2008; Stadel 2009





Bode et al. 2001



GHALO; Stadel et al. 2009 | Aquarius; Springel et al. 2008



GHALO; Stadel et al. 2009 | Aquarius; Springel et al. 2008



GADGET | Maccio et al. 2012

Dark matter only (DMO) simulations | Warm Dark Matter



GADGET | Wang & White 2007



Hobbs, Read et al. in prep. 2013 and see Hahn et al. 2013

 $\epsilon = 2\Delta x$

RAMSES | Hobbs, Read et al. in prep. 2013

$\epsilon = 2 \max[\Delta x]$

RAMSES | Hobbs, Read et al. in prep. 2013



Hobbs, Read et al. in prep. 2013

DMO simulations | The "Small Scale Crisis"

LCDM [DMO]
Excellent match to large scale structure



DMO simulations | The "Small Scale Crisis" a) The 'cusp-core' problem



DMO simulations | The "Small Scale Crisis"

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b) The 'missing satellites' problem





Including baryons (stars and gas)



Read & Gilmore 2005; Navarro et al. 1996

Including baryons (stars and gas)



Teyssier, Pontzen, Dubois & Read, MNRAS 2013

TI3 > 2 key observational predictions:

- TI3 > 2 key observational predictions:
 - i) Star formation should be bursty



TI3 = 2 key observational predictions: ii) Stars should be heated too



3







Zolotov et al. 2012; and see Read et al. 2006; Penarrubia et al. 2010

Including baryons | Other changes

Shape change

Katz & Gunn 1991; Dubinski 1994; Debattista et al. 2008; Read et al. 2009



Including baryons | Other changes



Ab Initio

[Towards predictive simulations with baryons]



The Milky Way disc





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Conclusions

- Cold Dark Matter "DM-only" simulations are well converged across different codes - excellent match to large scale structure
- WDM simulations are more problematic, but solutions are on the way ... watch this space!
- Including models for baryons in the Universe can significantly alter the results from structure formation simulations:
 - Triaxial "halos" → Oblate/round halos.
 - Cuspy dark matter profiles Cored dark matter profiles.

 - An existing stellar disc An accreted "dark disc".
- Simulations are rapidly improving and have passed a critical resolution threshold — expect more predictive simulations including baryons soon!