



Galactic scale alignments

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Shao et al., in prep.

MW's plane of satellites



Pawlowski+ 2012; Pawlowski & Kroupa 2013

- The Galactic satellites are distributed on a thin planar structure.
- A plane too thin plane for LCDM? (Pawlowski & Kroupa 2013)
- No, at least ~10% of LCDM systems have a plane as prominent at the one observed for the MW (Cautun+ 2015).

Filamentary accretion



Pawlowski+ 2012; Pawlowski & Kroupa 2013

- The plane of satellites is a manifestation of anisotropic accretion (e.g. Libeskind+ 2007, 2014, Buck+ 2015).
- But the planar structure is nearly perpendicular on disk of the MW.

Filamentary accretion



Pawlowski+ 2012; Pawlowski & Kroupa 2013

- The plane of satellites is a manifestation of anisotropic accretion (e.g. Libeskind+ 2007, 2014, Buck+ 2015).
- But the planar structure is nearly perpendicular on disk of the MW.
- Can such configurations arise in LCDM? How often is this the case?

EAGLE

- Evolution and Assembly of GaLaxies and their Environments
- A hydrodynamical cosmological simulation
- Box length of 100 Mpc
- Used 2 x1504³ particles (DM & gas)







EAGLE sample selection

- 1. All centrals residing within MW-mass haloes.
- 2. Systems with at least 10 luminous satellites within 300 kpc.



- 3. Find the principal axes of the inertia tensor for:
 - the distribution of satellite galaxies
 - central galaxy
 - the dark matter halo

4. Compute the misalignment angle between the minor axes of the various components.

The central - plane of satellites alignment



The LG systems



MW-like EAGLE galaxy



one of many more similar systems

Overview





The central - satellite plane alignment



The central - satellite plane alignment



Summary

- Weak alignment between the central & satellite plane that arises from the strong alignment of both with the halo.
- Satellite distributions perpendicular to the central are common (20% are as perpendicular as the MW systems)
- The halo is very strongly aligned with the central and satellite plane for systems where the central & satellite plane are parallel



The question

What information is encoded in the planes of satellite galaxies?

Alignment with LSS

