



# Constrained simulations of the Local Group: on the radial distribution of substructures

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## ABSTRACT

We examine the properties of satellites found in high-resolution simulations of the Local Group (LG). We use constrained simulations designed to reproduce the main dynamical features that characterize the local neighbourhood, i.e. within tens of Mpc around the LG. Specifically, an LG-like object is found located within the ‘correct’ dynamical environment and consisting of three main objects which are associated with the Milky Way, M31 and M33. By running two simulations of this LG from identical initial conditions – one with and one without baryons modelled hydrodynamically – we can quantify the effect of gas physics on the  $z = 0$  population of subhaloes in an environment similar to our own. We find that above a certain mass cut,  $M_{\text{sub}} > 2 \times 10^8 h^{-1} M_\odot$  subhaloes in hydrodynamic simulations are more radially concentrated than those in simulations without gas. This is caused by the collapse of baryons into stars that typically sit in the central regions of subhaloes, making them denser. The increased central density of such a subhalo results in less mass loss due to tidal stripping than the same subhalo simulated with only dark matter. The increased mass in hydrodynamic subhaloes with respect to dark matter ones causes dynamical friction to be more effective, dragging the subhalo towards the centre of the host. This results in these subhaloes being effectively more radially concentrated than their dark matter counterparts.

**Key words:** galaxies: formation – galaxies: haloes – galaxies: structure – cosmology: theory – dark matter.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In the current paradigm of structure formation, large objects, such as galaxies or clusters, are believed to form hierarchically, or through a ‘bottom-up’ (White & Rees 1978) process of merging. Overdense peaks in the primordial density field collapse at high redshift due to gravitational instability and then merge with each other to form successively larger objects.  $N$ -body simulations of this process originally produced fairly smooth cold dark matter (CDM) haloes (Davis et al. 1985; Frenk et al. 1985) homogenized by poor resolution. More recently, studies exploiting high-resolution simulations have managed to resolve a wealth of subgalaxy-sized substructures (subhaloes) that can survive the violent processes associated with merging (Ghigna et al. 1998; Klypin et al. 1999; Moore et al. 1999; Bullock, Kravtsov & Weinberg 2000; Springel et al. 2001; Stoehr et al. 2002; Gao et al. 2004; Gill et al. 2004).

High-resolution numerical simulations that resolve substructures can be computationally expensive, and many authors choose to simulate just the gravitational forces, modelling the baryons semi-analytically (e.g. Cole et al. 2000; Bower et al. 2006). Alternatively, baryons may be modelled hydrodynamically (Katz & Gunn 1991; Navarro & Benz 1991; Katz 1992; Navarro & White 1994; Kravtsov, Klypin & Khokhlov 1997), with the advantage that the thermal state of the intergalactic medium may be directly calculated. The inclusion of baryons affects the background dark matter (DM): Blumenthal et al. (1986) showed that dissipative baryons will lead directly to the adiabatic contraction of the halo (see also Gnedin et al. 2004) and are thus a critical ingredient in determining halo and subhalo properties.

More recently, a number of authors have examined these effects – gas dissipation and star formation – on galaxy- and cluster-sized haloes (Bailin et al. 2005; Romano-Díaz et al. 2009; Sommer-Larsen & Limousin 2009). A number of studies have also looked at the effect on substructure. Nagai & Kravtsov (2005) noted that the radial distribution of substructures in Adaptive Mesh Refinement simulations was less concentrated than both the radial distribution of

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subhaloes in DM-only runs (see also Diemand, Moore & Stadel 2004; Gao et al. 2004) and the DM itself. Nagai & Kravtsov (2005) ruled out numerical resolution as the cause showing that this bias was caused by the tidal stripping (of DM) from a subhalo's outer regions: the bias disappears if subhaloes are chosen according to their mass at accretion. Furthermore, Macciò et al. (2006) simulated a Galactic mass halo twice – once with baryons using smoothed particle hydrodynamics (SPH) and once with just DM in order to study the effect of baryons on lensing. They found that owing to adiabatic contraction in the dense cores of subhaloes, their SPH run produced an overabundance of subhaloes in the inner regions of the halo as well as an increase by a factor of 2 in the absolute number of subhaloes with respect to the DM run. Finally, Weinberg et al. (2008) examined the effect of baryons on substructures of group- and cluster-sized ( $10^{12}$ – $10^{14} M_{\odot}$ ) haloes with a more statistical approach. By running the same simulation with and without gas dynamics, they found an overall good agreement between the positions and mass function of subhaloes across a large dynamical range with the two different techniques. Like previous studies, they also found that the baryons steepen the potential well of both the host and subhaloes, making the core of the substructure more resistant to tidal stripping, resulting in the relative depletion of DM subhaloes towards the centre.

Baryonic substructure may affect the central DM distribution in a different way. Satellites crossing the central part of their host halo lose energy due to dynamical friction. This energy is being deposited in the DM component, leading to ‘heating’ of the DM, and consequently this may lead to the softening of the central DM cusp (El-Zant, Shlosman & Hoffman 2001; El-Zant et al. 2004). This has been supported by the full galaxy formation simulations of Romano-Díaz et al. (2008, 2009) and Johansson, Naab & Ostriker (2009).

One of the main new features of the present study is that it is based on constrained simulations of the local Universe, where ‘local’ means a few tens of Mpc around the LG. We designed our simulation’s initial conditions by imposing constraints derived from observational data of the LG’s environment; specifically we use surveys of galaxy-peculiar velocities and the distribution of nearby X-ray selected clusters of galaxies. The result is a simulation of an ‘LG’ that sits within the proper dynamical environment. This includes the correct motion and position of the Local Supercluster, the Virgo and Coma clusters and the Great Attractor. The main virtue in using constrained simulations is that it provides a numerical laboratory for testing the formation of the local universe, and in particular the Local Group (LG), in a numerical environment that closely matches our actual neighbourhood. Thus, much of the cosmic scatter involved in comparing unconstrained simulations with specific cosmological objects is removed.

Other studies typically examine the effect of baryons in either cluster-sized haloes (Nagai & Kravtsov 2005; Weinberg et al. 2008) or in a random Milky Way (MW)-sized halo (Macciò et al. 2006). We have extended previous work (Nagai & Kravtsov 2005; Macciò et al. 2006; Weinberg et al. 2008) by examining with improved mass and force resolution the effect of baryons on substructures in three galactic haloes that resemble the LG.

We study how the effect of dynamical friction is affected by the relative difference in the tidal mass loss of a substructure with and without gas dynamics. By using two simulations – one with and one without gas dynamics – we are able to determine where and how the trajectories and properties of the same subhalo in the two different runs diverge. Our simulations also have unprecedented mass and force resolution, an improvement on previous work of between one

and two orders of magnitude. We have tuned our simulations to make it very easy to identify matching subhaloes in both simulations. We thus follow in detail how the stripping of an individual subhalo is affected by the presence of baryons and how the stripped subhalo is then affected by dynamical friction.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we describe our methods, specifically our simulations (Section 2.2), our halo and subhalo finding technique (Section 2.3) and how we match DM subhaloes to SPH ones (Section 2.4). We present our results in Section 3 and conclude in Section 4.

## 2 METHODS

In this section, we describe how the simulations were constrained and run, the method we have employed to identify substructures in each run and how we match SPH subhaloes to DM ones.

### 2.1 Initial Conditions

In this section, we describe how we generated our constrained initial conditions. The simulations used in this paper are part of the Constrained Local Universe Simulations (CLUES) project<sup>1</sup> whose main goal is to run simulations that mimic as accurately as permitted by current observations, the formation of the Local Universe from cosmological initial conditions.

The following procedure is employed in generating constrained simulations of the LG. We use as observational constraints peculiar velocities drawn from the MARK III (Willick et al. 1997), surface brightness fluctuation (Tonry et al. 2001) and the local volume (Karachentsev et al. 2004) galaxy catalogues and the position and virial properties of nearby X-ray selected clusters of galaxies (Reiprich & Böhringer 2002). The Hoffman–Ribak algorithm (Hoffman & Ribak 1991) is used to generate the initial conditions as constrained realizations of Gaussian random fields on a  $256^3$  mesh. These are used to perform a few low-resolution DM-only  $N$ -body simulations. It should be noted that the environmental restrictions do not constrain the properties (e.g. position relative to each other, mass, etc.) of LG members explicitly. Hence, the low-resolution simulations are searched and the one with the most suitable LG-like object is chosen for follow up, high-resolution re-simulation. High-resolution extension of the low-resolution constrained realizations is obtained by creating an unconstrained realization at the desired resolution, fast Fourier transform-transforming it to  $k$ -space and substituting the unconstrained low  $k$  modes with the constrained ones. The resulting realization is made of unconstrained high  $k$  modes and constrained low  $k$  ones.

### 2.2 The simulations

In this section, we explain details of the simulation run and, for the gas dynamical simulation, the rules we employed for star formation and feedback. We choose to run our simulations using standard  $\Lambda$ CDM initial conditions, that assume a *Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe 3* cosmology (Spergel et al. 2007), i.e.  $\Omega_m = 0.24$ ,  $\Omega_b = 0.042$ ,  $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.76$ . We use a normalization of  $\sigma_8 = 0.73$  and an  $n = 0.95$  slope of the power spectrum. We used the PMTree-SPH MPI code **GADGET2** (Springel 2005) to simulate the evolution of a cosmological box with side length of  $L_{\text{box}} = 64 h^{-1} \text{ Mpc}$ .

<sup>1</sup> <http://clues-project.org>

**Table 1.** Simulation parameters. From left to right, the initial mass per gas particle (in units of  $\text{h}^{-1} \text{M}_\odot$ ); mass of high-resolution DM particles (in units of  $\text{h}^{-1} \text{M}_\odot$ ); softening length (in units of  $\text{h}^{-1} \text{kpc}$ ); Number of high-resolution DM particles.

	$m_{\text{gas},i}$	$m_{\text{dm}}$	$\epsilon$	$N_{\text{dm}}$
DM:	—	$2.54 \times 10^5$	0.15	$5.29 \times 10^7$
SPH :	$4.42 \times 10^4$	$2.1 \times 10^5$	0.15	$5.29 \times 10^7$

We resimulate the region of interest in our simulation according to the following recipe. At  $z = 100$ , we represent the linear power spectrum by  $N_{\text{max}} = 4096^3$  particles of mass  $m_{\text{DM}} = 2.5 \times 10^5 \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ M}_\odot$ . We use a Fourier transform of the constrained density field to substitute the overlapping Fourier modes into the otherwise random realization. Following Klypin et al. (2001), we reduce the total number of particles. Thus, within a lower resolution simulation of  $N = 256^3$  particles, we identify the position of the model LG, which closely resembles that of the real LG. We then resimulate the evolution of this region of interest, using the full resolution (equivalent to  $4096^3$  effective particles) within a sphere of just  $2 \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}$ . Outside this region, the simulation box is populated with lower resolution (i.e. higher mass) particles. We are thus able to achieve high resolution in the region of interest, while maintaining the correct external environment. The initial conditions were set up by applying the Zeldovich approximation at  $z = 100$  to avoid spurious effects due to cell crossing in the high-resolution area.

We use the same set of initial conditions to run two simulations, one with DM only and another one with DM, gas dynamics, cooling, star formation and supernovae feedback. We shall call these two simulations DM and SPH, respectively. In our SPH simulation, each high-resolution DM particle was replaced by an equal mass, gas–DM particle pair with a mass ratio of roughly 1:5. In so doing, we chose to identify the DM particles in both runs with the same ID in order to simplify the analysis. Numerical parameters of our simulations are summarized in Table 1.

For the gas dynamical SPH simulation, we follow the feedback and star formation rules of Springel & Hernquist (2003) which we briefly describe here. The interstellar medium (ISM) is modelled as a two-phase medium composed of hot ambient gas and cold gas clouds in pressure equilibrium. The thermodynamic properties of the gas are computed in the presence of a uniform but evolving ultraviolet cosmic background generated from quasi-stellar objects (QSOs) and active galactic nuclei and switched on at  $z = 6$  (Haardt & Madau 1996). Cooling rates are calculated from a mixture of a primordial plasma composition. No metal-dependent cooling is assumed, although the gas is metal enriched due to supernovae explosions. Molecular cooling below  $10^4 \text{ K}$  is also ignored. Cold gas cloud formation by thermal instability, star formation, the evaporation of gas clouds and the heating of ambient gas by supernova-driven winds is assumed to all occur simultaneously.

For each star formation event, energy and metals are re-injected into the ISM instantaneously. Star formation is treated in a stochastic way and the parameters of the model are selected to reproduce the Kennicutt law for spiral galaxies (Kennicutt 1983, 1998). In order to prevent excessive star formation events emanating from the same SPH particle, we allow each gas particle to spawn at most just two generations of stars. Thus, when a star particle is formed, the mass per star is half of that of the progenitor gas particle, whose own mass is reduced accordingly.

In order to reproduce spiral disc galaxies, we assume kinetic feedback in the form of strong winds driven by stellar explosions.

We use the stochastic approach developed by Springel & Hernquist (2003). SPH particles close to the star-forming regions will participate in the wind in a probabilistic way that is proportional to the star formation rate and the amount of supernova energy released by massive stars. We assume that a fraction of  $\beta = 0.12$  of stars will explode as supernovae. A fraction of this energy is used to energize (kick) particles in the high-density regions surrounding sites of star formation. This removes low angular momentum gas from the centre of dark haloes, and, by inhibiting the overcooling problem, contributes to the formation of extended gaseous disc.

We have tested this mechanism and found it to be vital in the production of stable discs containing both gas and stars in our simulated haloes. Simulations with the same initial conditions run with only thermal feedback and without winds are not able to create discs at all – rather the baryons end up as a featureless spheroid of gas and stars (e.g. see Okamoto et al. 2005, and references therein). We note that the size (extent) of the simulated discs are related to the resolution of our simulations. We have run a second simulation from the same initial conditions and with identical star formation and feedback rules but with lower mass resolution ( $2048^3$  instead of  $4096^3$  effective particles: that is, with particles that are eight times more massive). In this low-resolution run, we find that the stellar discs that were produced were thicker and smaller. A detailed analysis of the results from these simulations will be reported in Yepes et al. (in preparation).

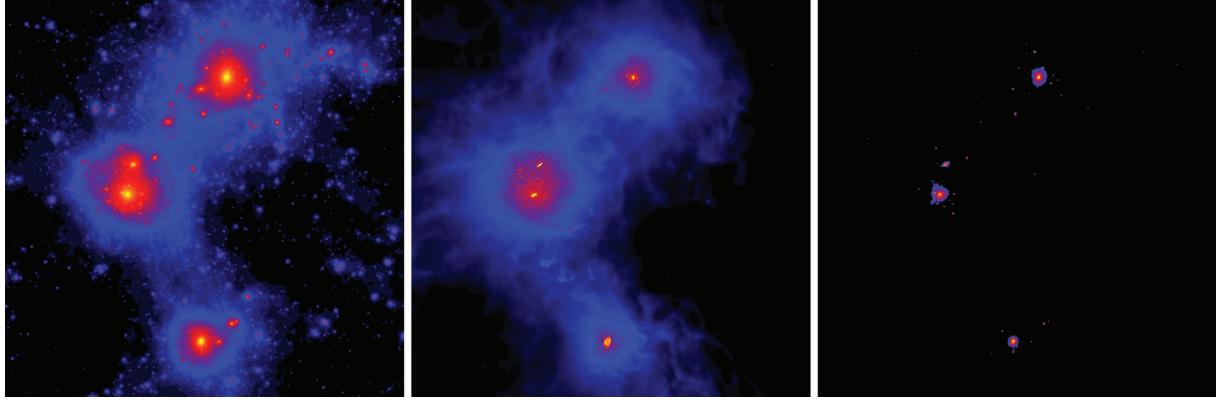
The constrained simulations studied here are zoomed on an LG-like object whose three main galaxies – the MW, M31 and M33 – were reproduced with masses in good agreement with the latest mass estimates of these objects as reported in the literature (see Klypin, Zhao & Somerville 2002; Seigar, Barth & Bullock 2008; Xue et al. 2008, and references therein). In Table 2, we give the characteristic properties of each LG halo for both our DM and SPH run. Note that the haloes’ virial radii (and therefore their virial masses) are not identical in the two runs. This is due to the adiabatic contraction of the baryons in the SPH run which results in a denser core and therefore a smaller virial radius. Moreover, the total mass is reduced due to the lower baryon fraction compared with the cosmic mean. If we choose to calculate the mass within some fixed radius in both simulations (e.g. the average virial radius) and correct for the reduced baryon fraction, we obtain halo masses in the two simulations consistent with each other to within a few per cent.

In Fig. 1, we plot the matter distribution of the three main components of our LG SPH simulation. We plot the smoothed density of the DM, the gas and the stars. It is interesting to note that the DM distribution in the DM run is the same as the DM distribution

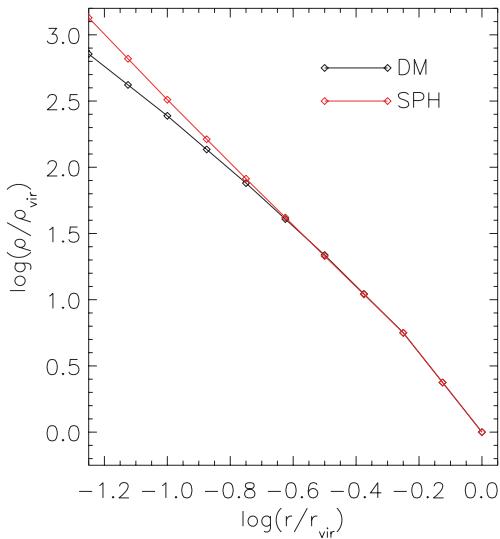
**Table 2.** The properties of the three LG objects, in the DM (top) and SPH (bottom) simulations.

	$M_{\text{tot}}$	$r_{\text{vir}}$	$N_p$	$\frac{M_b}{M_{\text{tot}}}$	$N_{\text{sat}}$
DM: MW :	6.57	230.84	1808918	—	13
M31 :	8.17	248.26	2249954	—	29
M33 :	3.21	181.96	885833	—	7
SPH: MW :	5.71	220.40	1745996	0.08	20
M31 :	7.81	244.58	2288039	0.12	26
M33 :	2.90	175.71	856820	0.11	8

*Note.* The columns show, from left to right, (1)  $M_{\text{tot}}$ , the total virial mass in units of  $10^{11} \text{ M}_\odot$ , (2)  $r_{\text{vir}}$ , the virial radius in units of kpc, (3)  $N_p$ , the total number of DM particles within the virial radius, (4)  $\frac{M_b}{M_{\text{tot}}}$ , the baryon fraction within the virial radius, and (5)  $N_{\text{sat}}$ , the number of satellites at  $z = 0$  above our  $2 \times 10^8 \text{ M}_\odot$  mass cut.



**Figure 1.** The  $z = 0$ , DM (left), gas (centre) and stellar (right) distributions in our simulation of the LG. We smooth the density field at each point and plot the LG in a box with side length  $1.3 \text{ h}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}$ . We identify as our ‘MW’ the galaxy at the top of the box, ‘M31’ as the galaxy towards the centre and ‘M33’ as the galaxy at bottom of the box. This box sits at roughly the correct distance from both Virgo and Coma mass clusters, as well as an object similar to the Great Attractor.



**Figure 2.** The average total matter density profile of our three haloes in our DM (black) and SPH (red) simulations, normalized to the virial radius and virial overdensity. Note that these are the same across much of the halo, differing only for the innermost regions.

in the SPH run for the entire halo except for the innermost regions. Only within around  $0.01r_{\text{vir}}$  does the condensation of baryons in the halo’s centre significantly alter the underlying distribution of DM particles. The total matter distribution in the two runs, however, differs on a slightly larger scale. In Fig. 2, we show the mean interior density profile averaged over our three haloes in our two simulations. Across most of the halo’s radius, the density profiles are the same: only within  $\sim 0.1r_{\text{vir}}$  does the total density profile in the SPH simulation rise significantly above the DM one.<sup>2</sup>

### 2.3 Identification of haloes and subhaloes

In this section, we explain how our halo and subhalo finding algorithm works. In order to identify haloes and subhaloes in our

<sup>2</sup> We note, however, that in the analysis that follows few of our subhaloes penetrate the region,  $< \sim 0.1r_{\text{vir}}$ , where the potential is significantly different in the SPH run.

simulation, we have run the MPI+OpenMP hybrid halo finder AHF (AMIGA halo finder—to be downloaded freely from <http://popia.ft.uam.es/AMIGA>) described in detail in Knollmann & Knebe (2009). AHF is an improvement of the MHF halo finder (Gill, Knebe & Gibson 2004), which locates local overdensities in an adaptively smoothed density field as prospective halo centres. The local potential minima are computed for each of these density peaks and the gravitationally bound particles are determined. Only peaks with at least 20 bound particles are considered as haloes and retained for further analysis. We would like to stress that our halo finding algorithm automatically identifies haloes, subhaloes, subsubhaloes, etc. For more details on the mode of operation and actual functionality, we refer the reader to the code description paper (Knollmann & Knebe 2009).

For each halo, we compute the virial radius  $r_{\text{vir}}$ , that is the radius  $r$  at which the density  $M( $r$ )/( $4\pi r^3/3$ ) drops below  $\Delta_{\text{vir}}\rho_{\text{back}}$ . Here,  $\rho_{\text{back}}$  is the cosmological background matter density. The threshold  $\Delta_{\text{vir}}$  is computed using the spherical top-hat collapse model and is a function of both cosmological model and time. For the cosmology that we are using,  $\Delta_{\text{vir}} = 355$  at  $z = 0$ .$

Subhaloes are defined as haloes which lie within the virial radius of a more massive halo, the so-called host halo. As subhaloes are embedded within the density of their respective host halo, their own density profile usually shows a characteristic upturn at a radius  $r_t \lesssim r_{\text{vir}}$ , where  $r_{\text{vir}}$  would be their actual (virial) radius if they were found in isolation.<sup>3</sup> We use this ‘truncation radius’  $r_t$  as the outer edge of the subhalo and hence subhalo properties (i.e. mass, density profile, velocity dispersion, rotation curve) are calculated using the gravitationally bound particles inside the truncation radius  $r_t$ . For a host halo, we calculate properties using the virial radius  $r_{\text{vir}}$ .

We build merger trees by cross-correlating haloes in consecutive simulation outputs. For this purpose, we use a tool that comes with the AHF package and is called MERGERTREE. As the name suggests, it serves the purpose of identifying corresponding objects in the same simulation at different redshifts. We follow each halo (either host or subhalo) identified at redshift  $z = 0$  backwards in time, identifying as the main progenitor (at the previous redshift) the halo

<sup>3</sup> Please note that the actual density profile of subhaloes after the removal of the host’s background drops faster than for isolated haloes (e.g. Kazantzidis et al. 2004); only when measured within the background still present will we find the characteristic upturn used here to define the truncation radius  $r_t$ .

that both shares the most particles with the present halo *and* is closest in mass (see equation 1). The latter criterion is important for subhaloes given that all their particles are also typically bound to the host halo, which is typically orders of magnitude more massive. Given the capabilities of our halo finder AHF and the appropriate construction of a merger tree, subhaloes will be followed correctly along their orbits within the environment of their respective host until the point where they are either tidally destroyed or directly merge with the host.

#### 2.4 Matching Haloes in the two simulations

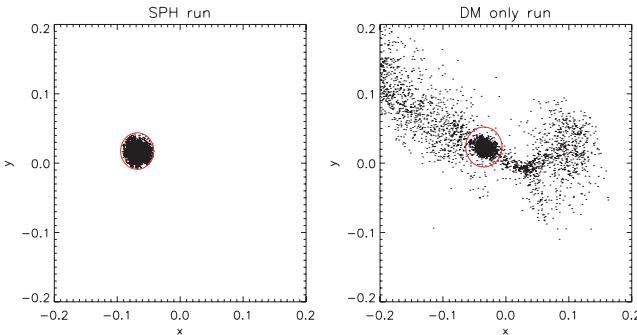
In this section, we describe how we match subhaloes in our SPH simulation to DM ‘sister’ subhaloes. Our simulations are set up such that the identifiers (ids) of DM particles are the same in both simulation. This allows us to locate which SPH subhalo corresponds to a specific DM subhalo. For a given SPH subhalo, we locate the DM subhalo which both contains the greatest fraction of its DM particles and is closest to it in mass. We call this DM halo, the SPH subhalo’s ‘sister’. Specifically, for each DM halo candidate  $i$  we calculate a merit  $M_i$ , defined as

$$M_i = \frac{n_{\text{shared}}^2}{n_{\text{dm},i} n_{\text{sph},i}}, \quad (1)$$

where  $n_{\text{shared}}$  is the number of particles found in both subhaloes,  $n_{\text{dm},i}$  is the number of particles in the DM sister candidate and  $n_{\text{sph},i}$  is the number of particles in the SPH subhalo. We then identify the sister as that halo with the largest value of  $M_i$ . Typically, successful matches result in  $M_i \approx 0.5$  and we assume to have failed to find a DM sister if  $M_i < 0.2$  for a given SPH subhalo.

We demonstrate how our sister finding algorithm works in Fig. 3 for one specific subhalo. The DM particles in the DM run with the same ids as the DM particles belonging to an SPH subhalo are found extended in the DM run. However, despite being extended, often enough of these particles clump together in one single subhalo, albeit with other DM particles *not* found in the SPH subhalo. We take as the DM ‘sister’ the *entire* subhalo that shares the most particles with the SPH subhalo.

If we wanted to, we could have tried to find sisters by doing the reverse: locating particles that belong to a substructure in the DM



**Figure 3.** How subhaloes in the two different simulations are matched. On the left-hand side we show all the DM particles belonging to a specific subhalo in the SPH simulation, in the frame of the host halo. The background DM, within which the subhalo is embedded, has been omitted for clarity. The red circle indicates the subhaloes radial extent. On the right, we show the same set of particles in the DM run. Note that they define an extended object. In red, we indicate the DM subhalo to which the SPH subhalo was matched. Again, the background DM is omitted. Note that the DM (sister) subhalo contains additional DM particles – not found in the SPH subhalo and thus not plotted here – that are none the less bound to the DM substructure.

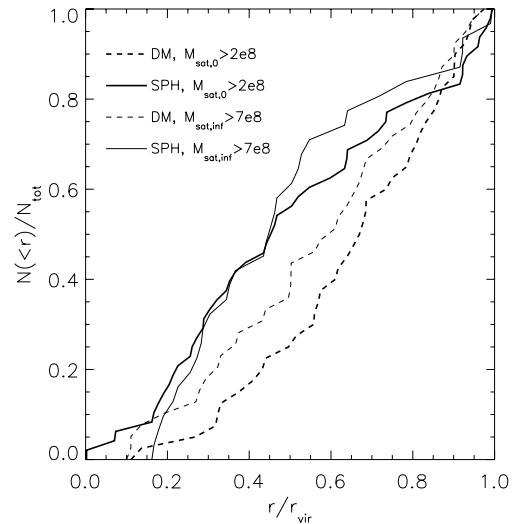
simulation, in the SPH simulation, and finding which SPH subhalo hosts most of them. The resulting matches are equivalent.

It is interesting to note that our failure to match an SPH subhalo to a DM one is not a strong function of radius. Although more such failures to match occur at smaller radii of  $\sim r < 0.1r_{\text{vir}}$  (owing to the complete destruction of the DM subhalo; Nagai & Kravtsov 2005), beyond  $\sim 0.1r_{\text{vir}}$  the distribution of merit values (i.e. equation 1) is uniform. This implies that although the complete destruction of a DM subhalo may be responsible for the steepening of the density profile of substructure in the innermost parts (i.e. within  $r < 0.1r_{\text{vir}}$ ), it cannot explain the fact that SPH subhaloes are more radially concentrated across the halo’s full virial radius.

### 3 RESULTS

In this section, we explain how baryons affect the properties of substructures in our two simulations. Since, as mentioned in Section 2.3, we catalogue all bound objects composed of more than 20 particles, the vast majority of substructures in each of the three LG objects have very low mass. Since particle mass is not constant in SPH runs (due to star formation and feedback processes), it is incorrect to compare the full subhalo population found in our DM simulation with that found in the SPH run. In order to compare like with like, we make a mass cut, comparing only the most massive of the  $z = 0$  subhaloes. We select subhaloes whose mass is  $M_{\text{sub}} > 2 \times 10^8 h^{-1} M_{\odot}$ , which roughly corresponds to subhaloes with more than 1000 particles. A total of around  $\sim 50$  subhaloes of our three main objects meet this cut in both simulations. This mass cut was chosen to obtain roughly the same number of satellites as seen orbiting about the MW.

In Fig. 4, we show the cumulative radial profile of substructures in our two simulations at  $z = 0$ . We make two different mass cuts, one considering the  $z = 0$  mass of a substructure, and a second (following Nagai & Kravtsov 2005) which considers the subhalo’s mass at infall. In order to compare the same number of satellites, we



**Figure 4.** The cumulative radial density profile of substructures at  $z = 0$ . The thick solid and dashed line, shows this quantity for SPH and DM subhaloes (respectively) when considering a  $z = 0$  mass cut of  $M_{\text{sat},0} > 2 \times 10^8 h^{-1} M_{\odot}$ . The thin solid and dashed line show this quantity for SPH and DM subhaloes when considering only subhaloes that were more massive than  $M_{\text{sat,infall}} > 7 \times 10^8 h^{-1} M_{\odot}$  at infall. The infall mass cut was chosen in order to have the same number of objects as the  $z = 0$  cut.

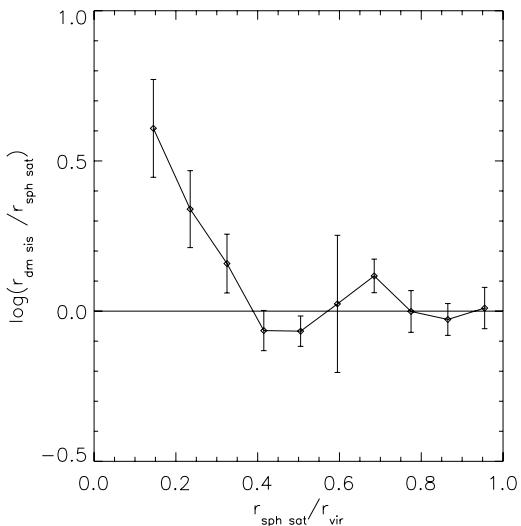
consider the  $z = 0$  position of only those satellites which at infall were more massive than  $M_{\text{sub}} > 7 \times 10^8 h^{-1} M_\odot$ .

What is strikingly apparent from Fig. 4 is that the SPH substructures are significantly more radially concentrated than the DM ones. This feature is irrespective of which mass cut we look at, although the trend is stronger when considering the  $z = 0$  mass cut. For example, within  $0.5r_{\text{vir}}$  we find  $\sim 55$  per cent of SPH substructures compared with just  $\sim 35$  per cent DM ones. This result is consistent with that of Weinberg et al. (2008), who compared the radial distribution of much more massive substructures ( $M_{\text{sub}} \sim 10^{10} M_\odot$ ) in more massive systems ( $M_{\text{host}} \sim 10^{12-14} M_\odot$ ) in DM-only and SPH simulations of galaxy groups.

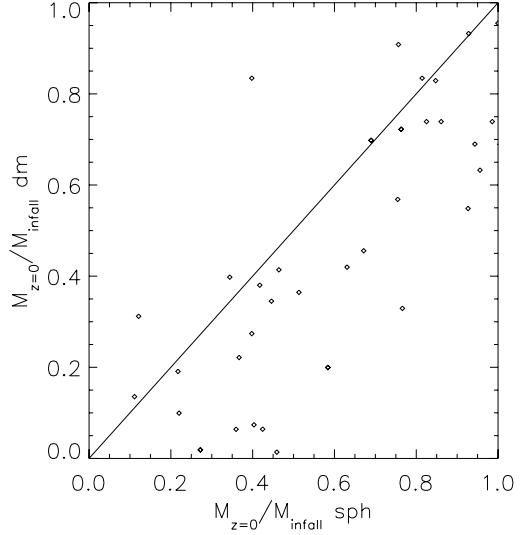
The tendency for SPH subhaloes to be more radially concentrated at  $z = 0$  weakens with increasing redshift. Beyond  $z = 0.75$ , the presence of baryons has little discernible effect on the radial concentration of subhaloes and the DM and SPH simulations return subhaloes with nearly identical radial distributions. Indeed, as we go to higher redshifts we find that all SPH and DM subhaloes are less radially concentrated.

Fig. 4 indicates that SPH subhaloes are more centrally concentrated than DM ones. Since we are able to match subhaloes in both simulations, we can examine the difference in radial position of an individual DM–SPH subhalo pair. In Fig. 5, we show the difference in the radial position of two sister haloes as a function of the SPH subhalo's radial position. By examining how the difference in position changes with radius, Fig. 5 indicates that the higher radial concentration of SPH subhaloes seen in Fig. 4 is due to a relative depletion of DM sisters in the inner parts of the halo. Beyond  $0.4r_{\text{vir}}$ , DM sisters and SPH subhaloes are located at roughly the same radial distances. Within this radius, however, DM sisters have not disappeared (by falling below the mass cut). Rather, they are simply located up to three times further out for SPH subhaloes located at  $\sim 0.15r_{\text{vir}}$ , and up to 1.5 times further out for those located at  $\sim 0.3r_{\text{vir}}$ .

The scarcity of DM subhaloes in the inner parts of the host halo is due to the subtle changes to the substructures potential well caused by the presence of baryons. In particular, the deepening of the potential well due to a cold baryonic component will directly impact the two main physical processes affecting a substructure's



**Figure 5.** The  $z = 0$  difference in the radial position of SPH satellites and their DM sisters plotted versus the radial position of the SPH satellite.



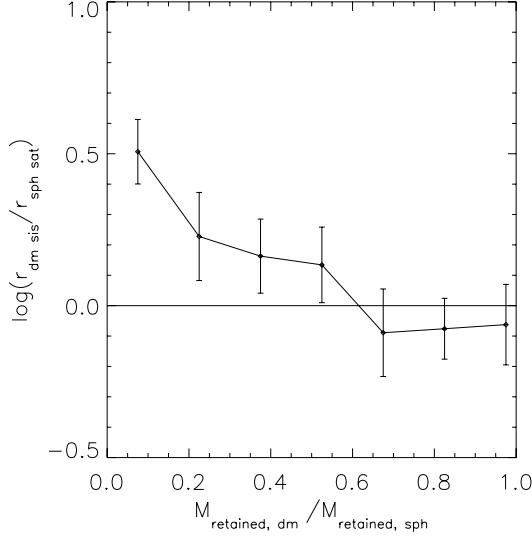
**Figure 6.** The fraction of infall mass retained at  $z = 0$  for subhaloes identified in SPH versus their matched DM sisters. Objects that sit on the diagonal line have lost the exact same amount of mass in both runs. Those objects in the lower triangle represent subhaloes which have lost more mass in the DM run while those objects in the upper triangular half have lost more mass in the SPH run.

dynamics: dynamical friction and tidal stripping of substructure material.

The dynamical friction time-scale goes as  $\tau_{\text{dyn}} \sim \frac{1}{M_{\text{sat}}}$  (e.g. Ostriker & Tremaine 1975; Binney, Tremaine & Freeman 2009), implying that the most massive subhaloes are those whose orbits should lose the most energy and are therefore most likely to be in spiral and be found in the inner parts of the host. Yet tidal stripping causes  $M_{\text{sat}}$  to decrease, making the satellite less susceptible to the dynamical friction.

The amount of material stripped can be quantified by looking at the ratio of the mass retained at  $z = 0$  to the mass a satellite had when it was accreted. In Fig. 6, we plot this ratio for SPH satellites versus the matched DM sisters. Rather than sitting directly on the diagonal line indicating equal amounts of tidal stripping, nearly all DM–SPH subhalo pairs sit in the triangular lower half of Fig. 6 indicating that the DM sister lost more mass than the SPH subhalo since accretion. In some cases the difference is extreme, with subhaloes in SPH losing half their mass and their DM sister losing 99 per cent of their infall mass by  $z = 0$ . Although a handful of SPH subhaloes have retained less than their DM sisters, the fraction of all subhaloes for which this is true is small ( $\sim 5$  per cent) and the relative mass loss is not as extreme.

We have seen from Fig. 6 that DM subhaloes are more likely to retain less of their infall mass by  $z = 0$ . Yet if our hypothesis is correct – that those DM subhaloes that have suffered the most tidal stripping have consequently suffered less dynamical friction – we should expect to see a correlation between the amount of mass retained and the position in the halo at  $z = 0$ . Indeed, those SPH haloes that manage to fall into the centre of the halo – leaving their DM sisters behind in the outer regions of the halo – are also those whose DM sisters have lost the most mass. In other words, when a subhalo falls into a host halo, if it falls in early enough and if its orbit is such that it will lose mass due to tidal stripping, the stripping of the DM will decrease the dynamical friction on the DM subhalo, allowing the SPH subhalo to penetrate to the centre while leaving the DM subhalo behind. This notion can be tested by looking at the



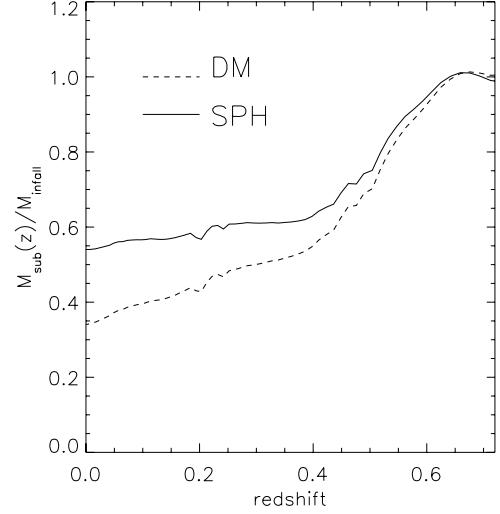
**Figure 7.** The ratio of mass retained at  $z = 0$  in a DM subhalo to that retained in an SPH halo plotted versus the  $z = 0$  difference in radial position of the pair.

satellite's energy as a function of time. When comparing the energy loss of a SPH–DM satellite pair, we find that the DM subhalo has indeed lost more orbital energy, although the relative difference in energy loss is moderate ( $\sim 10$  per cent).

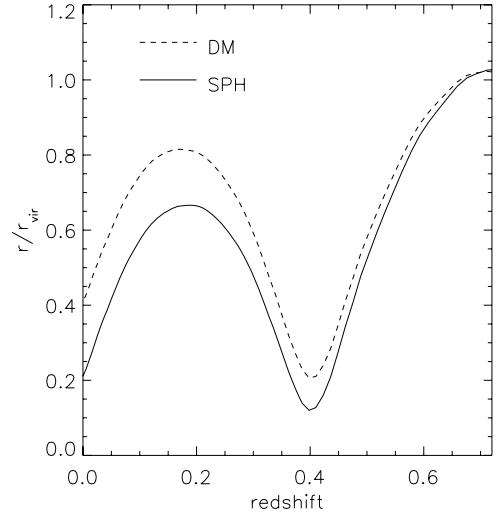
We can see this behaviour explicitly in Fig. 7 where we plot the difference in the  $z = 0$  radial position between SPH and DM subhaloes as a function of the ratio of the infall mass that is retained by each subhalo  $z = 0$ . It is interesting to note that the  $x$ -axis of Fig. 7 extends to  $\sim 1$  implying that very few SPH subhaloes lose more mass than their DM sisters. The amount of mass lost by a DM subhalo is well correlated with the difference in  $z = 0$  radial position, with pairs that are close together having lost similar amounts of mass, while for those spread far apart (i.e. where  $r_{\text{dm}} \gtrsim 1.5r_{\text{sph}}$ ) indicate that the DM subhalo has retained only  $\lesssim 30$  per cent of the mass retained by the SPH subhalo.

We now follow in detail one specific SPH–DM sister subhalo pair, in order to highlight the salient aspects that are affected by tidal stripping and dynamical friction. We have specifically chosen a subhalo which can be used as an exemplary illustration for this purpose. The mass of this subhalo,  $M_{\text{sub}} \approx 10^9 h^{-1} M_{\odot}$ , is typical of satellites in our sample, and was accreted at  $z = 0.7$ , an unexceptional redshift. In Fig. 8, we show the mass of this subhalo as a function of redshift (since accretion) on to the main halo. The DM sister (dashed line) closely follows the SPH subhalo's mass for a short period directly after accretion. However, by  $z = 0.4$  the DM halo has already lost a good  $\sim 10$  per cent more than its SPH counterpart. Although the subhalo in both runs loses mass due to tidal stripping, by  $z = 0$  the DM sister has lost  $\sim 65$  per cent of its infall mass, while the SPH subhalo has only lost  $\sim 45$  per cent of its infall mass.

We may compare the mass loss presented in Fig. 8 with the radial distance from the centre of the main halo. In Fig. 9, we show the orbit of this subhalo as a function of redshift. Although the orbits at infall are identical, they start to diverge shortly thereafter. By the first pericentric passage, the SPH subhalo manages to penetrate further in (by about a factor of 2) than the DM sister. Similarly, at apocentre the DM halo is  $\sim 0.15r_{\text{vir}}$  further away than the SPH subhalo. The DM sister is consistently further behind the SPH subhalo at all



**Figure 8.** The mass of an SPH subhalo (solid line) and its DM sister (dashed line) as a function of redshift, normalized to the mass each subhalo had at infall, around  $z = 0.72$ . Note how the masses really start to deviate after infall, with the DM subhalo retaining only  $\sim 35$  per cent of its infall mass, while the SPH satellite retains  $\sim 55$  per cent, a factor of 1.5 more.



**Figure 9.** The distance from the main halo of an SPH subhalo (solid line) and its DM sister (dashed line) as a function of redshift. Note how the trajectories start to diverge shortly after infall. The DM subhalo is consistently further away from the centre of the main halo than the SPH subhalo.

stages of the orbit, resulting in the SPH subhalo being nearly a factor of 2 closer than the DM subhalo at  $z = 0$ .

Tidal stripping is most likely to dislodge loosely bound material on a subhaloes periphery where any change in the host's potential can have the greatest effect. Peñarrubia, Navarro & McConnachie (2008) showed that tidal debris fields that precede and succeed a subhalo on its orbit are composed mostly of particles depleted from this peripheral region. Since the cold baryons in our subhaloes have all collapsed to the centre of the clump's potential before accretion, we accept that the stripped material will be composed of a mixture of DM and hot gas particles, loosely bound to the subhalo. Indeed, the baryon fraction of this subhalo increases as material is stripped from it. By  $z = 0$ , the baryon fraction has risen by a factor of more than 3 compared with its baryon fraction at infall (not explicitly shown here). Since the total mass of the subhalo has decreased yet

the baryon fraction has increased, we are led to the conclusion that the stripped material was mostly DM.

#### 4 CONCLUSIONS AND DISCUSSION

In this paper, we have examined the effect of dissipative baryons – treated hydrodynamically with sophisticated rules for star formation and feedback – on halo substructure. We have extended the work of previous authors (Nagai & Kravtsov 2005; Macciò et al. 2006; Weinberg et al. 2008) to include not just a statistical description of the entire subhalo population, but a detailed study of how a single SPH subhalo behaves differently than its DM counterpart. Our simulations bring a new approach to the study of the LG and the nearby universe. The simulations are constrained to reproduce the local environment, thereby enabling the testing of the processes of galaxy formation in a controlled environment that closely resembles the observed nearby universe. The present simulations also surpass previous studies in mass and force resolution.

We use our simulations to examine the radial distribution of subhaloes. We find that subhaloes located in the inner parts of their hosts and above a certain mass cut are more concentrated at  $z = 0$  in the SPH simulation than in the DM one. The difference in radial distribution between DM and SPH subhaloes above a certain mass at a given epoch decreases with higher redshift, such that by  $z = 0.75$  the two populations have similar distributions. The difference in radial distribution weakens if subhaloes are selected according to infall mass (rather than  $z = 0$  mass) but it does not – as suggested by Nagai & Kravtsov (2005) who looked at clusters three orders of magnitude more massive – completely disappear.

The relative suppression of DM subhaloes located in the central regions of a host is in part due to their susceptibility to tidal forces. As suggested by Nagai & Kravtsov (2005), the disintegration of DM subhaloes in the inner parts of the host halo is in part responsible for their reduced numbers there. SPH subhaloes, with cold dense baryons in their centres, are able to inhibit the amount of material tidally stripped and thus hold on to more material. Any material that is stripped off an SPH subhalo, tends to originate in the outer regions of the subhalo and is therefore mostly composed of DM – little baryonic material is stripped.

Since DM subhaloes lose more mass, they are also less likely to lose orbital energy due to dynamical friction. Our results suggest that although the DM subhaloes lose more mass due to tidal stripping, the (relatively) more massive SPH subhaloes spiral into the central region of the host. For a DM–SPH subhalo pair, this results in widely separated subhaloes.

However, if tidal stripping is not particularly effective, DM subhaloes trace their SPH sisters. This principally occurs when subhaloes are orbiting in the outer parts of the halo. In the inner parts, the SPH subhaloes are typically closer to the centre of the host than their DM sisters. The final  $z = 0$  masses of two sisters can differ wildly due to the vastly different histories each subhalo has had since accretion. DM subhaloes almost always lose more mass than an SPH one, reflecting their more feeble nature.

Our results are important for any study of substructures in DM-only simulations that focus on the inner parts of the host haloes. For example, Xu et al. (2009) performed an indepth study on the anomalous flux ratios observed with strong lensing of background QSOs. Using the Aquarius simulation they found that too few subhaloes exist in the central regions to account for the observed anomalies. Yet they qualify their study by explicitly stating that the increased survivability of subhaloes due to the presence of baryons will have an unknown effect on their results. Our work indicates that the effect

of baryons may be important for massive subhaloes that have small pericentric distances.

Our results are important for semi-analytical models of galaxy formation which use merger trees extracted from pure DM simulations to calculate the properties of satellite galaxies (e.g. Libeskind et al. 2005). In these cases, DM subhaloes are often destroyed by tides earlier than they would be if hydrodynamics were also included. Thus, it is important to bear in mind that the mass of a DM subhalo located towards the centre will be routinely underestimated. Any semi-analytical model that uses the mass of a subhalo extracted from a DM simulation to make predictions on the properties of the satellite galaxy it hosts will suffer from this systematic effect.

The results of Nagai & Kravtsov (2005) indicate that the bias towards more radially concentrated subhalo distributions disappears when subhaloes are selected according to any property that is unaffected by the processes associated with accretion, such as their maximum circular velocity. We test this hypothesis by looking at the radial distributions of subhaloes chosen according to infall mass (a proxy for circular velocity) and find that although minimized (particularly in the inner parts of the halo where the difference in radial concentration is largest), the bias still exists.

The disruption and tidal stripping of satellites has recently been addressed by a number of studies. Using controlled DM-only simulations and modelling the baryons in an idealized manner, D’Onghia et al. (2009) argue that the dominant mechanism in destroying substructures in the inner regions of a galactic halo is tidal shocking. However, their results fail to incorporate the full adiabatic effect of baryons on the potential well of substructures. Being purely DM, their substructures are more fragile and thus less able to hold on to their material. Our results are in agreement with Romano-Díaz et al. (2008), who found that the number of substructures within  $\sim 0.1r_{\text{vir}}$  in the SPH case exceeds the number in the pure DM case by almost a factor of 2.

Again, in the context of pure DM simulations, Wetzel & White (2009) looked at the disruption of satellites. They found that the most disrupted satellites reside towards the centre of the halo, in agreement with this work (see, Fig. 7).

Although our study is focused on the constrained simulations of the LG, it is difficult to compare our work with measurements of the radial concentration of the MW’s satellite population, because of the limiting biases in the observations. The Sloan Digital Sky Survey, which increased the number of satellites in the MW’s halo by a factor of 2 (see Koposov et al. 2008, and references therein) covers just a single patch of sky. Additionally, this area may be biased as it points towards Virgo: a direction that may have an over abundance of substructures. However, as future sky surveys such as LSST and Pan-Starrs reveal to us a more complete satellite populations, we will obtain a better understanding of the nature of the spatial distribution of the companions of the MW.

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