

# The shape of dark matter halos in the AURIGA simulations

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## ABSTRACT

We measure the shape of the dark matter halos of Milky Way type galaxies.

**Key words:** keyword1 – keyword2 – keyword3

## 1 INTRODUCTION

A robust prediction of the Cold Dark Matter (CDM) paradigm is that DM halos are ellipsoidal and can be characterized by the principal axes  $a > b > c$ . This ellipsoidal shape is mostly due to the anisotropical and clumpy accretion of matter influenced by environmental structures. Numerical studies show that the shape has a strong mass dependence (Allgood et al. 2006), halos are also rounder at the outskirts than at the inner part. Shape also evolves with cosmic time, halos get rounder as they evolve.

There is however a high degree of uncertainty on what is the degree of uncertainty on the degree of ellipticity of the Milky Way DM halo. This problem has been addressed both by observations and simulations. The difficulty in making an observational measurement lies in the indirect nature of the effect; i.e. the ellipticity can only be constrained by its effects on quantities such as stellar radial velocities. In simulations the uncertainty on predicting the MW DM ellipticity is driven by the different physical effects that should be modeled and its different possible numerical implementations.

Observationally some studies prefer oblate (i.e.  $a=b>c$ ) configurations at small distances around  $\leq 20$  kpc (see Law & Majewski 2010; Bovy et al. 2016; Loebman et al. 2012; Olling & Merrifield 2000; Banerjee & Jog 2011) and more triaxial and prolate configurations on the outer distances  $\geq 20$  kpc (see Vera-Ciro & Helmi 2013; Law et al. 2009; Deg & Widrow 2013; Banerjee & Jog 2011). However, some studies are inclined towards prolate configurations even at the inner parts of the halo (see Bowden et al. 2016), and although it previously seemed that a triaxial DM halo on the outskirts would be necessary to fully explain the characterization of the Sagittarius stream (Law et al. 2009), recent studies questioned this claim by reporting inconsistencies with narrow stellar streams Pearson et al. (2015) or finding

that the relaxation of other constraints may make this claim unnecessary Ibata et al. (2013).

In simulations there is strong evidence claiming that the presence of baryons produces axisymmetrical halos. For instance, some studies have shown that the DM halo shape must be axisymmetrical to ensure the stability of a hydrodynamical disk embedded in a static DM halo. Other have studied this rounding effect by simulating the disk as rigid potential inside an N-body triaxial DM halo Debattista et al. (2008); Debattista et al. (2013); Kazantzidis et al. (2010) finding that the halo responds to the disk by becoming less triaxial.

The caveat of the studies mentioned above is that they do not follow baryons in the whole cosmological context. Other studies overcome this limitation by using resimulations (Abadi et al. 2010; Bryan et al. 2013) finding that the feedback related to star formation in the disk drives the strength of the round effect. Recently Chua et al. (2018a) made a study in a cosmological simulation to compare the effect of including baryons. They do find, on average, rounder halo shapes once hydrodynamic effects are included, but it is uncertain the strength of this statistical effect on galaxies similar to the MW.

All these difficulties (enough numerical resolution, explicit cosmological context, appropriate feedback physics to produce realistic MW disks) have limited the studies that want to study the rounding effect of baryons in MW-like galaxies. In this work we overcome all these limitations by analyzing the results of state-of-the-art hydrodynamical simulations of isolated halos that resemble the Milky Way. We also perform a convergence study with simulation performed at different resolution levels and explicitly compare the role of DM only vs. DM+hydro on the MW DM halo shape.

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Halo	$N_P/10^6$		$M_P/10^5 M_\odot$		$R_{vir}/\text{kpc}$		$M_{vir}/10^{14} M_\odot$	
	DM	MHD	DM	MHD	DM	MHD	DM	MHD
halo 1	4.068	2.447	2.397	2.022	196.927	187.674	9.062	7.844
halo 2	5.625	5.457	2.481	2.093	235.094	233.934	15.418	15.191
halo 3	3.826	3.852	2.645	2.231	210.693	210.955	11.099	11.141
halo 4	4.585	4.530	2.590	2.185	219.378	215.438	12.529	11.866
halo 5	3.262	3.290	2.533	2.137	196.984	197.246	9.071	9.106
halo 6 (★)	3.184	3.110	2.337	1.972	191.840	189.342	8.378	8.054
halo 7	3.878	3.729	2.296	1.937	197.864	196.509	9.193	9.005
halo 8	2.772	2.796	2.451	2.068	190.716	191.764	8.231	8.368
halo 9	3.038	3.010	2.738	2.310	195.826	190.640	8.911	8.222
halo 10	2.700	2.751	2.541	2.144	187.139	188.147	7.777	7.904
halo 11	4.146	4.116	2.541	2.144	221.821	219.568	12.952	12.560
halo 12	2.865	2.908	2.645	2.231	192.280	192.038	8.436	8.404
halo 13	3.520	3.600	2.393	2.019	202.139	203.815	9.801	10.048
halo 14	4.200	4.475	2.499	2.108	215.535	218.927	11.882	12.453
halo 15	2.888	2.845	2.541	2.144	199.848	200.658	9.471	9.588
halo 16 (★)	3.821	3.871	2.499	2.108	212.590	212.632	11.401	11.408
halo 17	2.752	2.781	2.552	2.153	188.067	187.404	7.893	7.811
halo 18	3.770	3.624	2.738	2.310	201.124	207.293	9.655	10.571
halo 19	2.989	3.086	2.645	2.231	200.244	200.325	9.527	9.540
halo 20	3.903	3.822	2.481	2.093	210.097	211.423	11.005	11.214
halo 21 (★)	4.105	4.075	2.640	2.227	219.527	219.823	12.555	12.604
halo 22	2.794	2.766	2.625	2.215	188.363	184.801	7.931	7.489
halo 23 (★)	3.977	4.073	2.795	2.358	217.768	215.959	12.254	11.952
halo 24 (★)	4.466	4.426	2.522	2.127	217.440	215.147	12.199	11.817
halo 25	2.902	2.806	2.645	2.231	199.922	198.299	9.482	9.254
halo 26	4.610	4.716	2.506	2.115	219.984	218.939	12.633	12.454
halo 27 (★)	5.060	5.018	2.590	2.185	228.036	226.225	14.071	13.740
halo 28	4.184	4.276	2.645	2.231	216.979	217.997	12.121	12.294
halo 29	4.827	4.613	2.499	2.108	225.791	219.935	13.660	12.625
halo 30	3.268	3.112	2.579	2.176	195.043	194.741	8.805	8.763

**Table 1.** Specifications of each level 4 galaxy (halo). The DM and MHD versions of each parameters are presented together. The columns correspond to: (1) Halo name, (2,3) Millions of DM particles belonging to the halo, (4,5) DM particle mass in  $10^5 M_\odot$ , (6,7) Halo Virial radius in kpc and (8,9) halo virial mass in  $10^{14} M_\odot$ . Halos marked with a star (★) are correspond to halos resimulated at higher resolution (level 3).

Halo	$N_P/10^6$		$M_P/10^5 M_\odot$		$R_{vir}/\text{kpc}$		$M_{vir}/10^{14} M_\odot$	
	DM	MHD	DM	MHD	DM	MHD	DM	MHD
halo 6	24.902	24.185	0.292	0.246	191.741	188.367	8.365	7.932
halo 16	29.750	30.334	0.312	0.263	212.622	212.542	11.406	11.395
halo 21	31.993	31.503	0.330	0.278	219.731	220.250	12.588	12.679
halo 23	31.379	31.618	0.349	0.295	217.793	213.358	12.259	11.524
halo 24	34.987	35.153	0.315	0.266	217.313	213.963	12.179	11.624
halo 27	39.617	39.056	0.324	0.273	227.908	223.484	14.048	13.244

**Table 2.** Same layout Table 2 for Level 3 simulations (higher resolution than Level 4 simulations).

## 2 NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS

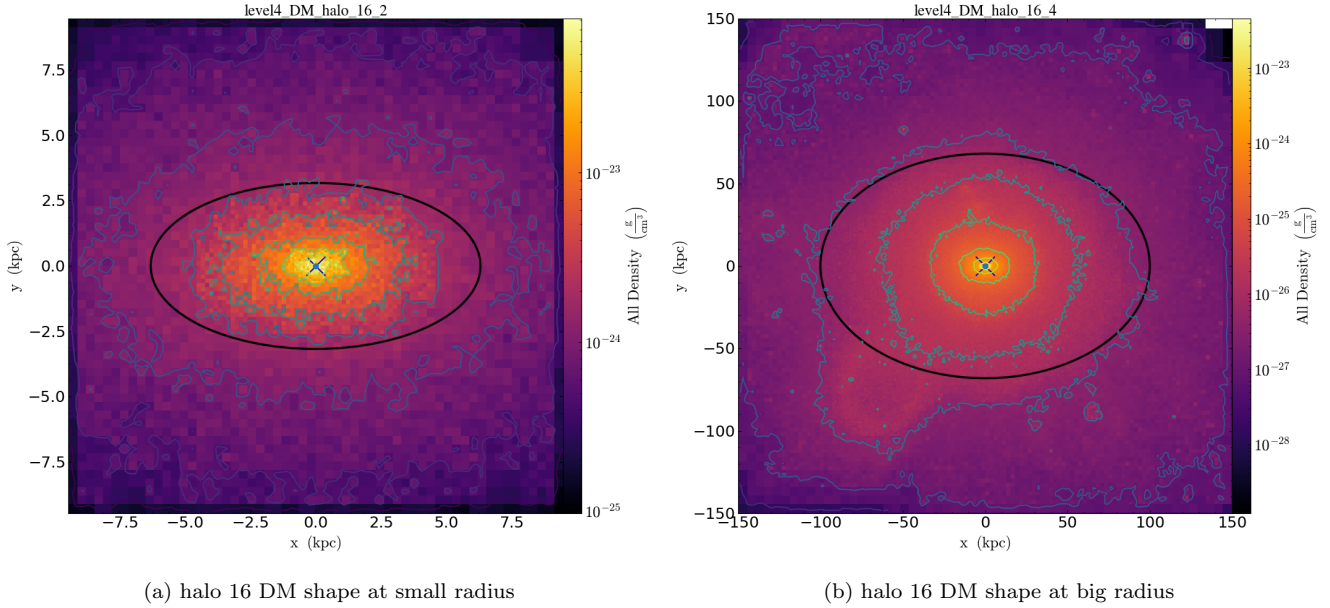
In this work we use the results of the state-of-the art Auriga simulations (Grand et al. 2017). The objects in those simulations were selected from a set of 30 isolated halos in the Evolution and Assembly of GaLaxies and their Environments (EAGLE) project (Schaye et al. 2015). These halos were randomly selected from a sample of the most isolated halos whose virial mass  $M_{200}$  varied between  $10^{12} M_\odot$  and  $2 \times 10^{12} M_\odot$ . These halos were re-simulated with higher resolution an varying physical realism using the AREPO code (Springel 2010).

All 30 halos were simulated within resolution defined for Aquarius simulations corresponding to  $\sim 3 \times 10^6$  high resolution DM particles of  $\sim 2.5 \times 10^5 M_\odot$ . This resolution

is labeled as Level 4, the main details for each halo are con- signed in Table 1. From these 30 halos, 6 of them where re-simulated at higher resolution (labeled as Level 3) taking into account a spatial factor of 2 in each dimension. De- tails of Level 3 halos are in Table 2. Furthermore, for each halo in each level of resolution there are two versions of the simulation: DM-only and DM plus baryons with magneto- hydrodynamical (MHD) physics.

## 3 DETERMINING THE HALO SHAPE

The DM halo shape at a fixed radius is an estimate of ei- ther the isopotential or isodensity surfaces. Observational inference models usually estimate the isopotential contours



**Figure 1.** DM density for inner/outer (left/right panel) DM halo regions. Slice 20 percent of the max-min range in the "z" position of particles belonging to the main structure, centered at halo defined position (calculated with most bounded particle)

which are probed by tracers (gas, stars), while simulations work with the isodensity contours which can be directly calculated from particle positions.

However, in numerical simulations the density contours are not smooth and are sensitive to the presence of small satellites. For this reason we choose to measure the shape by taking volume-enclosed particles, rather than shell-enclosed. We follow the shape measurement method presented by Allgood et al. (2006) that uses the reduced inertia tensor,

$$I_{ij} = \sum_k \frac{x_k^{(i)} x_k^{(j)}}{d_k^2}, \quad (1)$$

with the positions components weighted by the k-th particle distance  $d_k^2 = x_k^2 + y_k^2 + z_k^2$ , the particle positions are measured from the minimum of the gravitational potential in each halo. The diagonalization of this tensor yields the principal axes of the structure as well as the eigen-quantities which are proportional to the squared principal axes  $a > b > c$ .

We start the calculations taking into account particles within a sphere of radius  $R$  and then recharacterize the triaxial parameters by taking into account particles within an ellipsoid of semi-axes  $r, r/q, r/s$  and re-scaled distance  $d^2 = x^2 + (y/q)^2 + (z/s)^2$ , where  $q = b/a$  and  $s = c/a$  are the previously calculated axial ratios. We repeat this process until the average deviation of semi-axes is less than  $10^{-6}$ . This is the same method used to estimate the halo shape in the DM-only Aquarius simulations (Vera-Ciro et al. 2011).

We restrict the sampling of the ellipsoidal parameters to radii between  $1/16R_{vir}$  and  $2R_{vir}$ , where  $R_{vir}$  is taken as the radius enclosing a sphere with 500 times the average dark matter density of the Universe. All our results use of this reference radius unless strictly stated otherwise. We perform the shape measurements both as a function of radius and redshift for all halos in the sample.

## 4 RESULTS

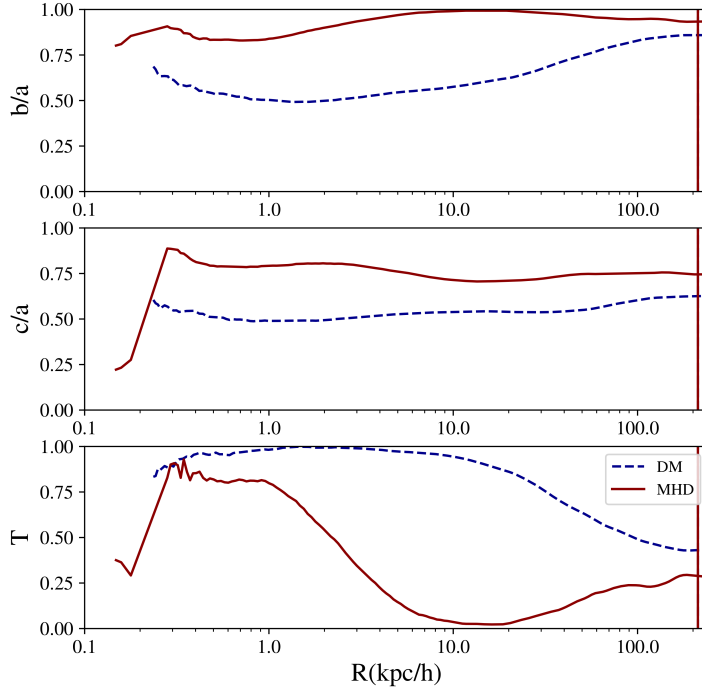
### 4.1 Radial trends at $z = 0$

We find that in DM-only simulations halos are monotonically rounder with increasing radius, confirming results already reported in the literature (Vera-Ciro et al. 2011). Figure 1 illustrates this effect. There we show the density a DM-only halo at redshift zero in a thin slice passing through the halo's centre, each panel shows the halo at different radii. The ellipse plotted over the contours indicates the outermost boundary of the estimated shape ellipsoid. Indeed, the ellipse panel on the right (outer halo) is rounder than the ellipse on the left (inner halo).

We quantify this effect by plotting the axial ratios  $q, s$ ,  $s/q$  and the triaxiality  $T \equiv \frac{1-q}{1-s}$  as a function of radius. As a representative sample of this relations we show on Figure 2 the radial trends for Halo 16 at the highest resolution both for DM and MHD simulations. The continuous lines correspond to the DM simulation and shows how the inner part of the halo  $r \approx 1 \text{ kpc } h^{-1}$  has values of  $q = 0.5$ ,  $s = 0.5$  while at the virial radius the same quantities increase to  $q = 0.85$ ,  $s = 0.6$ ; in turn the triaxiality decreases from  $T \approx 1.0$  to  $T \approx 0.4$ .

In the same Figure 2 we also find one of the main results of our study: halos in MHD simulations are systematically rounder, at every radius, than its DM-only counterparts. The dashed line in Figure 2 shows that at  $r \approx 1 \text{ kpc } h^{-1}$  in the MHD simulation we have  $q = 0.85$ ,  $s = 0.8$  ( $q = 0.5$ ,  $s = 0.5$  in DM) and at the virial radius  $q = 0.95$ ,  $s = 0.75$  ( $q = 0.85$ ,  $s = 0.6$  in DM). However, the triaxiality trend is not as monotonous for MHD halos as it is in DM halos. The triaxiality goes almost to zero at an intermediate radius,  $r \approx 10 \text{ kpc}$  in the case of Halo 16 in Figure 2, to increase again. **para lo mismo para todos los halos? es lo mismo para baja y alta resolucion de MHD?**

Figure 3 summarizes this comparizon for all 30 halos in



**Figure 2.** Radial profile for the axial ratios and the triaxiality parameter  $T = \frac{1-b/a}{1-c/a}$  at redshift  $z = 0$ . Radial profile was sampled at redshift 0 and there are two sets of lines showing MHD and DM-only versions of the axial ratios profile. **Aqui hay que quiar c/b, no es relevante**

the Level 3 simulations. Measurements at  $R_{\text{vir}}/16$  are represented by circles while squares are measurements at  $R_{\text{vir}}$ . All halos, except two, show that outer regions rounder than inner regions. The exceptions are cases where a merging substructures near the halo’s center gives rise to perturbed axial ratio measurements. The right panel on Figure 3 shows the same information, this time for the MHD simulations. In this case, the main radial trend continues to hold, albeit less pronounced. We also find that halos in MHD simulations are in general rounder than their DM counterparts

This global behaviour can be also illustrated by the individual case of Halo 16, shown in Figure 2. At the virial radius the halo is rounder than its DM counterpart as evidenced in the axis ratios  $b/a$ ,  $c/a$  and the triaxiality. In the MHD simulation, going from the virial radius to  $10 \text{ kpc } h^{-1}$  the  $b/a$  ratio is constant almost close to unity while in the DM-only simulation it decreases to 0.5. Between 2-10 kpc the triaxiality in the DM-only simulation is in the range  $0.9 - 1.0$ , while the MHD simulation has values between  $0 - 0.5$ .

In Table 3 and Table 4 we summarize these trends for the median values of the axis ratio in the DM and MHD simulations. The lower/upper bounds correspond to the first/third quartiles. Table 3 shows how halos are monotonically rounder with increasing radius; while the comparison against Table 4 shows how DM halos are consistently rounder in MHD simulations than DM-only runs at every radius.

	$R_{1/16}$	$R_{1/8}$	$R_{1/4}$	$R_{1/2}$	$R_1$
$b/a$	$0.55^{+0.07}_{-0.07}$	$0.57^{+0.09}_{-0.08}$	$0.61^{+0.15}_{-0.08}$	$0.65^{+0.18}_{-0.10}$	$0.70^{+0.13}_{-0.10}$
$c/a$	$0.42^{+0.12}_{-0.03}$	$0.45^{+0.11}_{-0.04}$	$0.49^{+0.09}_{-0.05}$	$0.52^{+0.10}_{-0.05}$	$0.56^{+0.10}_{-0.05}$
$T$	$0.89^{+0.03}_{-0.08}$	$0.88^{+0.04}_{-0.12}$	$0.84^{+0.08}_{-0.23}$	$0.81^{+0.08}_{-0.29}$	$0.75^{+0.14}_{-0.25}$

**Table 3.** Median values of axial ratios  $q, s$  and triaxiality parameter  $T$  for DM halos in DM-only simulations at different radii. The median is computed over the 30 halos in Level 3 simulations.

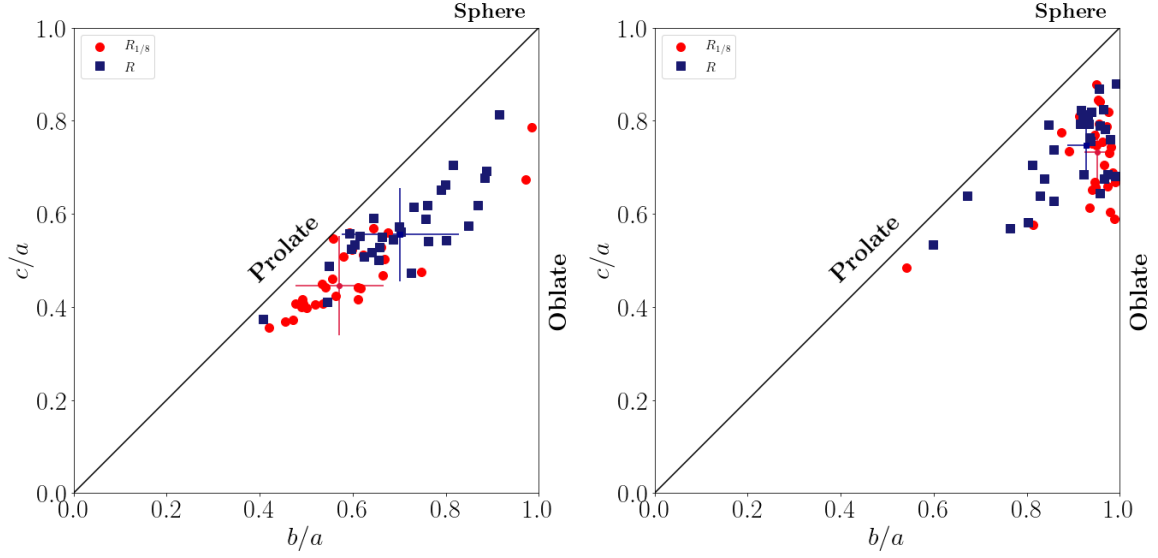
	$R_{1/16}$	$R_{1/8}$	$R_{1/4}$	$R_{1/2}$	$R_1$
$b/a$	$0.93^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	$0.95^{+0.03}_{-0.03}$	$0.95^{+0.02}_{-0.05}$	$0.93^{+0.04}_{-0.06}$	$0.93^{+0.04}_{-0.10}$
$c/a$	$0.73^{+0.05}_{-0.09}$	$0.73^{+0.07}_{-0.10}$	$0.73^{+0.08}_{-0.10}$	$0.73^{+0.09}_{-0.08}$	$0.75^{+0.07}_{-0.11}$
$T$	$0.31^{+0.15}_{-0.22}$	$0.20^{+0.24}_{-0.12}$	$0.24^{+0.20}_{-0.12}$	$0.30^{+0.26}_{-0.16}$	$0.36^{+0.23}_{-0.23}$

**Table 4.** Median values of axial ratios  $q, s$  and triaxiality parameter  $T$  for DM halos in MHD-only simulations at different radii. The median is computed over the 30 halos in Level 3 simulations.

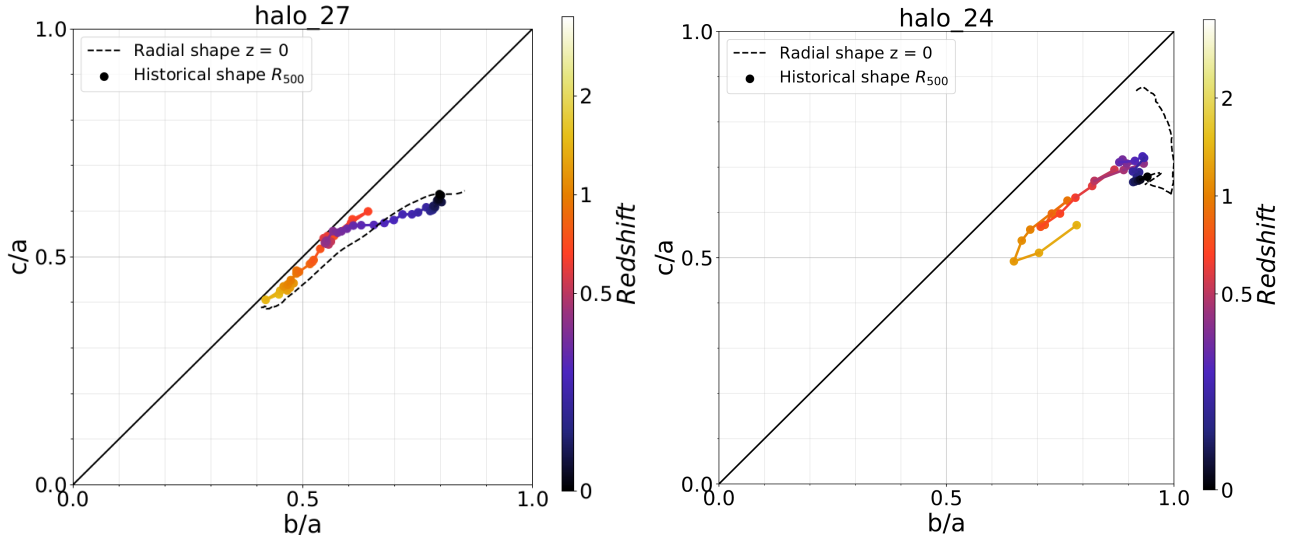
## 4.2 Shape evolution with cosmic time

We know that DM-only have a steady and monotonous trend towards larger sphericity with increasing radius. This radial trend is mimicked when the shape is measured at the virial radius as a function of cosmic time. The halo should become rounder with decreasing redshift, this is expected by the continuous influence of the gravitational potential on a collisionless fluid (Vera-Ciro et al. 2011).

We show in the left panel of Figure 4 an example with



**Figure 3.** Axial ratios for the 30 halos in the Level 3 DM simulations on the left and MHD simulations on the right. Each dot represents the shape characterization of each halo at the virial radius and a 1/8 fraction of the virial radius differentiated by color. Errorbar shows median and errors for each sampled radii. Conclusion: DM halos are rounder on the outskirts **Esto necesita correccion. Debe ser a R1/16 y R (no 2R!)** Corregido!



**Figure 4.** Radial profile at  $z = 0$  (dashed line) and the historical profile at the virial radius (colour line). Results for DM simulations on the left, for MHD on the right. **Aquí la idea es mostrar el mismo halo, no halos diferentes!**

this effect in Halo 27 of the DM simulations: the radial triaxiality at  $z = 0$  and the historical triaxiality at  $R_{\text{vir}}$  are correlated. The right panel on the same Figure 4 illustrates how this correlation is absent in MHD simulations.

This means that for DM-only halos one can approximate its shape at higher redshift by simply sampling its current shape at a smaller radius. This correlation seems to be prompted by the continous inside-out build-up of the dark matter halo; baryonic effects seem to jeopardize the apparent smoother growth in DM-only simulations.

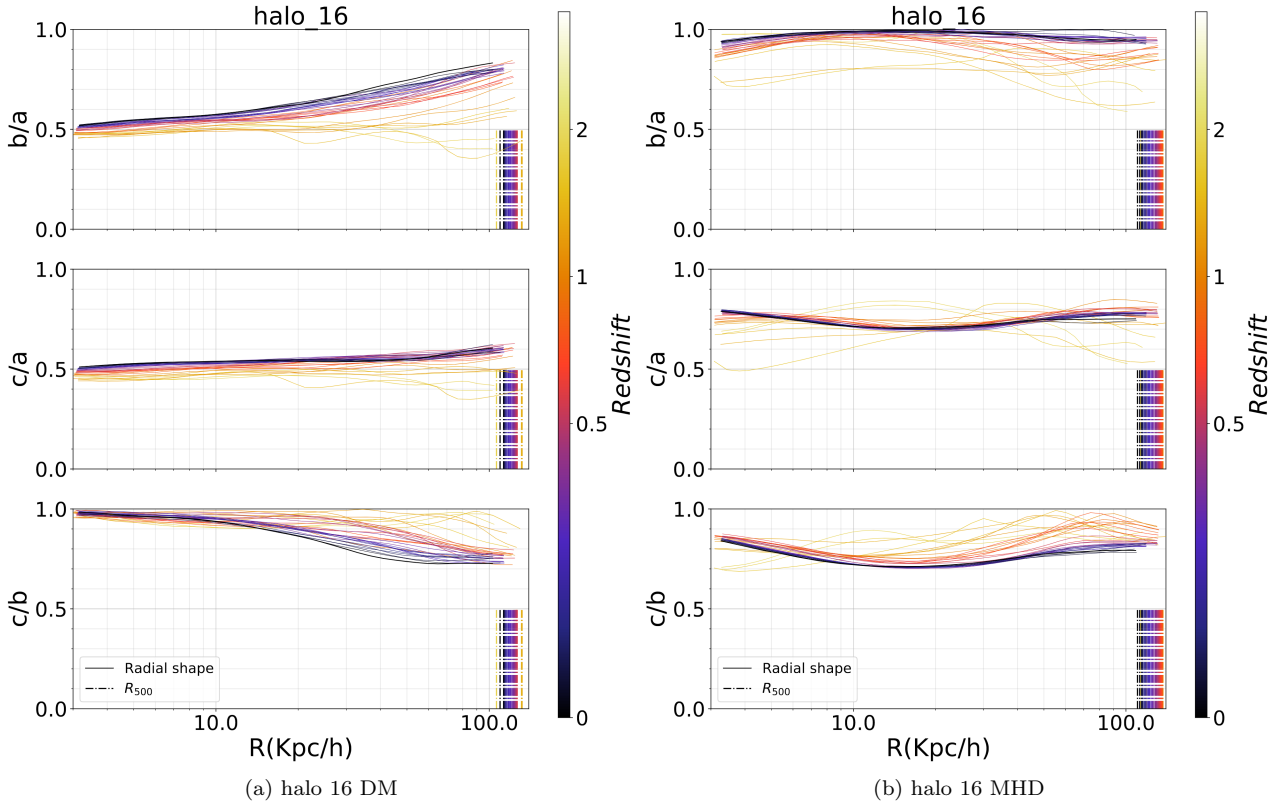
### 4.3 DM halo - Stellar Disk Alignment

A common assumption in observational models of the MW DM halo is that its minor axis is perfectly aligned with the disk axis. Although it is a reasonable assumption to guarantee the stability of the galactic disk in simplified models of isolated galaxies, this might not hold in an explicit cosmological context.

To examine the validity of this assumption we sampled the shape at 5 different radii and plotted directions in a cartesian coordinate system where the  $z$ -axis always corresponds to the minor axis measured at the virial radius.

**En este caso hace falta la figura con la distribución integrada de cos theta.** Figure ?? shows the cumu-





**Figure 5.** Radial profile (comoving) of axial ratios for halo 16 in terms of redshift (color). This halo maintains its shape until  $z \approx 1$  obviating the systematic rounding effect in time from asymmetric potentials. Each plot-line represents the radial profile at a determined redshift. Conclusion: Mainly for  $b/a$ , it increases for: (1) for bigger radii (fixed redshift)(2) for lower redshift (fixed radius) It explains the correlation between radial profile and history, but does not require that curves match in the triaxial plane. **En esta grafica el panel de abajo deberia ser la triaxialidad.**

lative distribution of  $\cos \theta$ , where  $\theta$  is the angle between the DM halo minor axis and the stellar disk angular momentum. Each line shows the results at different radii. We find that the majority of the disks are aligned with the minor axis of their DM halo within  $\approx 30^\circ$ . Furthermore, if there is a good alignment measured at the virial radius, this alignment is well conserved at smaller radii.

**En este caso hace falta la figura de la evolución de  $\cos \theta$  como función del redshift** However, there are some disks that show strong missalignments. To better understand the missalignments we plot the evolution of  $\cos \theta$  with time to find that the missalignment has been present for the last XXX Gyr. This trend is summarized in Figure ??.

**Discussion about the distribution of alignments and their evolution in time: Precession or temporary instabilities?**

## 5 DISCUSSION

### 5.1 What drives the rounding effect?

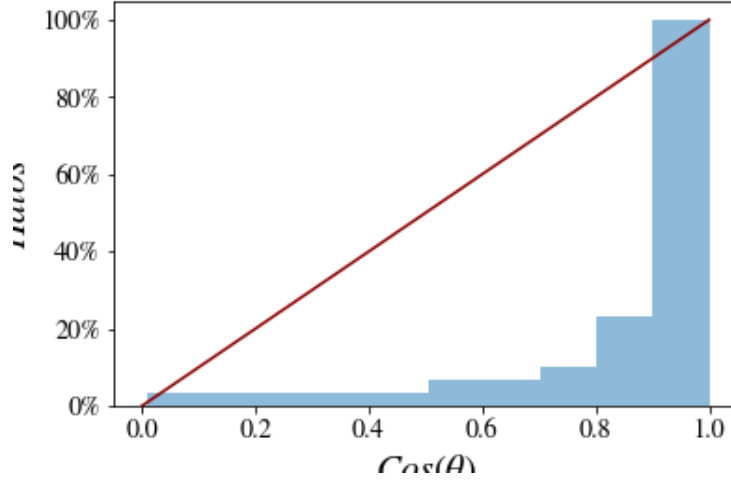
From our characterization of radial shapes it is clear that MHD halos are rounder than DM halos every sampled radii. It is also noticeable that the rounding effect of baryons is stronger at the disk regime, where the DM halo is al-

most perfectly oblate. Furthermore, MHD halos tend towards more oblate shapes ( $T < 0.5$ ) despite DM halos tendency towards more prolate shapes ( $T > 0.5$ ). This rounding effect can be explained by gravitational effect of the flattened axisymmetric galactic disk. It also explains the weakness of this affect around  $\approx 100\text{kpc}$ , where the disk potential is weaker compared to the DM halo potential.

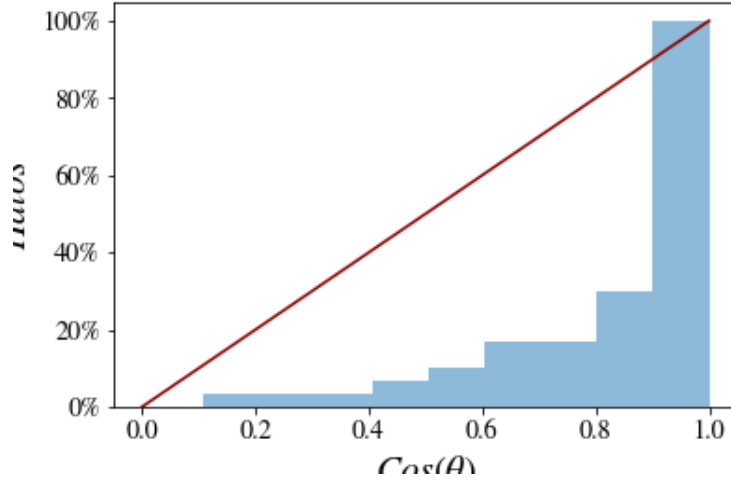
**Hace falta una grafica de la distribucion cumulativa de triaxialidad para ( $R_{\text{vir}}$  y  $R_{\text{vir}}/16$  por separado), en cada panel se com para MHD vs DM.**

Following that linea reasoning, one would also expect that the rounding effect of baryons is related to some galactic parameters such as its component masses and radii. We look for these kind of correlations and to find that the strongest can be found for the stellar density. However, the correlation is relatively low (**cuanto vale el coeficiente de correlacion**) most likely due to the different formation histories. In other words, the effect of the baryonic disk on the shape of the DM halo does not fully explain the deviation from oblateness of MHD halos at  $r < 10\text{kpc}$ .

**Finalmente cuales son las cantidades disponibles en el disco? cuales son las que muestran una mayor correlacion? Haria falta un plot con todas las correlaciones y la mencion de alguna prueba de machine learning del fit lineal para ver cuales son los parametros mas importantes.**



**Figure 6.** Cumulative distribution of alignment  $\cos\theta$  between the minor axis vector sampled as R virial and the star disk vector



**Figure 7.** Cumulative distribution of alignment  $\cos\theta$  between the minor axis vector sampled as 1/16 of R virial and the star disk vector

We measured the sphericity of a halo shape defined as the distance from the point that characterizes the shape in the triaxiality plane to the point ( $q = 1, s = 1$ ), which represents a perfect sphere. Taking this as our metric of interest, the sphericity question becomes a search for important variables and tendencies that affect this quantity. For this case, given the small sample of 30 halos, we chose to study this problem with different 3 methods to account for the lacking statistical consistency. We analyzed the effect of the Star disk Radius, Baryonic fraction, Gas density, BH density, Gas Radius and Star density.

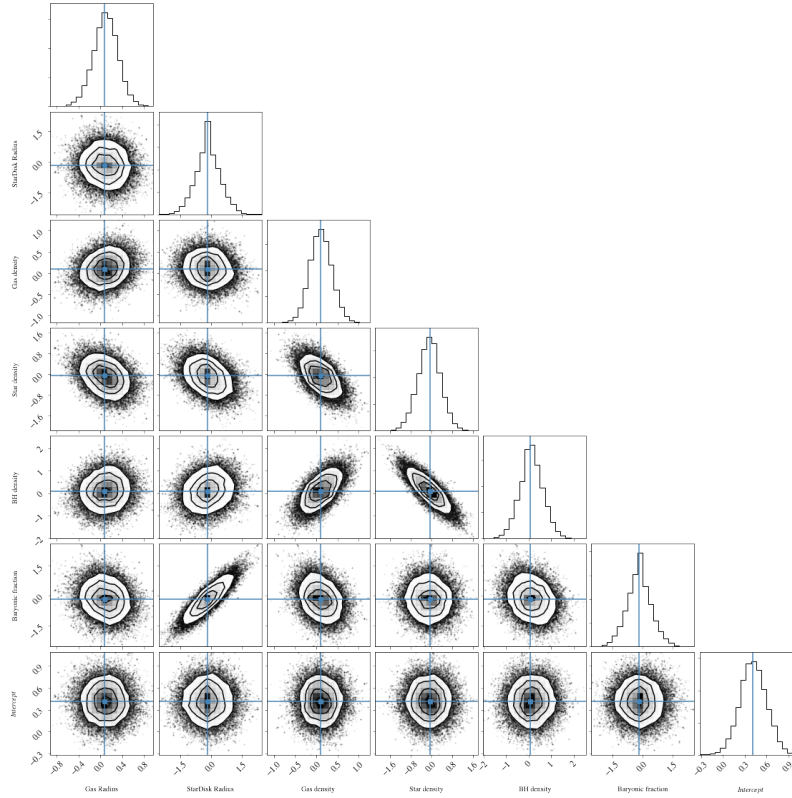
We started with a simple linear Lasso regression to force a classification of important variables. Then, we converted this problem in a binary classification problem by partitioning the samples in two balanced groups according to the studied metric which was then fitted using Random

forest. Finally, we concluded this analysis with an MCMC sampling of the likelihood of a linear model with varying slope and intercept parameters.

The results of each method are presented below:

**Actually we have not examined the relation of  $c/a$  in MHD halos with some measure of  $c/a$  from the disk, that is something like Zdisk/Rdisk. This actually would make more sense from a physical point of view: effect of the potential.**

*Talk about source of triaxiality at the inner parts of the halos (bar?). This source of triaxiality at the inner parts explains why the axial ratios are  $\approx 0.95$  and not exactly 1. We should also discuss that the decrease in the axial ratios for bigger radii may actually be bigger/steeper but it is dimmed by the contribution of inner parts.*



**Figure 8.** Distribution of likelihood for different values of the linear parameters. This gives us an idea of the consistency of the fit

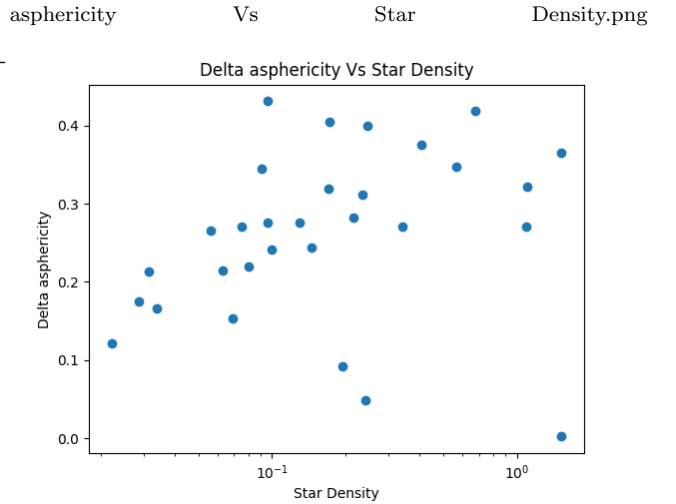
Variable/Method	Lasso (slope)	Random Forest (feature importance)	MCMC (signal-to noise)
Star disk Radius	−0.168(1)	23%(2)	−0.140 (3)
Gas Radius	0.081(5)	12.6%(5)	0.217(1)
Star Density	−0.064(6)	15.2%(4)	−0.102(6)
BH Density	0.084(4)	16.1%(3)	0.108(5)
Gas Density	0.097(3)	28.4%(1)	0.202(2)
Baryonic fraction	−0.167(2)	4%(6)	/0.146(4)

**Table 5.** Results of variable importance of the three methods used to analyse the effect of baryons on the rounding effect of halos. Each method has a different metric for the variable importance and are not comparable but in rankings

## 5.2 Comparison against observational constraints

Half of the observational constraints are computed in terms of isodensity contours, the other half in terms of isopotential contours. To compare our results against the second kind we must either translate the isodensity results or recompute in terms of isopotential regions. For this purpose, we run a simple iterative algorithm to find an approximation of the shape of the isopotential contour.

First, we calculate the mean and standard deviation of the potential over a spherical shell of width equals to 10% of the radius at which it is sampled. Then, we calculate the inertia tensor of particles with potential within  $1\sigma$  around the mean potential and calculate its triaxial characterization with the reduced inertia tensor. We repeat the process of



**Figure 9.** Difference in asphericities between MHD and DM shapes Vs Star Density of the simulation. Unsure about this graphic. Take delta asphericity as the strength of the rounding effect of baryons.

calculating the potential mean and standard deviation until convergence is achieved with tolerance of  $10^{-4}$ .

In Figure ?? we compare the two approaches to measure the axial ratios and plot the analytic expectation for  $q$ ,  $(1 - q_\phi) \approx \frac{1}{3}(1 - q_\rho)$  (Binney & Tremaine 2008), taking the volume-enclosed axial ratios as an approximation for the



Reference	$q_\rho$	$s_\rho$	$R$	$\theta$	Methodology
Olling & Merrifield (2000)	1.00	0.80	$\simeq 8\text{kpc}$	$0^\circ$	Stellar dynamics and HI density.
Banerjee & Jog (2011)	1	1	9kpc	$0^\circ$	Method: HI gas.
	0.5	0.5	24kpc	$0^\circ$	Monotonical change between radial regimes.
Loebman et al. (2012)	1.00	0.47	$\sim 20\text{kpc}$	$0^\circ$	Method: SDSS statistics
Johnston et al. (2005)	1	$0.83 - 0.92$	$\lesssim 60\text{kpc}$	$0^\circ$	Method: Sagittarius stream
Bovy et al. (2016)	0.95	0.95	$\lesssim 20\text{kpc}$	$90^\circ$	Stellar streams
Deg & Widrow (2013)	0.72	0.28	20kpc-60kpc	$90^\circ$	Mid-axis orientation. Sagittarius stream
Abadi et al. (2010)	0.98	0.85			Simulations. Almost independent of radius. No feedback: boundary case

Table 6. Cuales son las incertidumbres? Con respecto a que eje esta medido theta?

Reference	$q_\phi$	$s_\phi$	$R$	$\theta$	Methodology
Bowden et al. (2016)	0.5-0.66	0.5-0.66	5kpc - 10 kpc	$90^\circ$	Weak constraint on prolate halo. SDSS stars dynamics.
Vera-Ciro & Helmi (2013)	1.00	0.90	$\gtrsim 10\text{kpc}$	$0^\circ$	Sagittarius stream & LMC
	0.90	0.80	$\gtrsim 10\text{kpc}$	$90^\circ$	Mid-axis orientation on the outside.
Law et al. (2009)	0.83	0.67	$\lesssim 60\text{kpc}$	$90^\circ$	Mid-axis orientation. Sagittarius stream
Law & Majewski (2010)	0.99	0.72	20kpc-60kpc	$90^\circ$	Mid-axis orientation, Sagittarius stream
Deg & Widrow (2013)	0.82	0.40	20kpc 60kpc	$90^\circ$	Mid-axis orientation. Sagittarius stream
Chua et al. (2018b)	$0.88 \pm 0.10$	$0.70 \pm 0.11$	$0.15R_{200}$		Illustris
Bryan et al. (2013)	$0.84 - 0.86$	$0.66 - 0.70$	$R_{200}$		For different cosmologies and feedback recipes. Calculated from a fit at $M_\odot = 10^{12}$

Table 7. Cuales son las incertidumbres? Con respecto a que eje esta medido theta?

	$R_{1/8}$	$R_{1/4}$	$R_{1/2}$	$R_1$
$\bar{q}$	$0.98^{+0.01}_{-0.02}$	$0.97^{+0.01}_{-0.04}$	$0.96^{+0.03}_{-0.06}$	$0.94^{+0.03}_{-0.07}$
$\bar{s}$	$0.89^{+0.04}_{-0.06}$	$0.88^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	$0.87^{+0.05}_{-0.05}$	$0.85^{+0.05}_{-0.05}$
$\bar{T}$	$0.18^{+0.23}_{-0.10}$	$0.36^{+0.19}_{-0.21}$	$0.40^{+0.26}_{-0.20}$	$0.48^{+0.23}_{-0.21}$

Table 8. Median values of isopotential axial ratios  $q$ ,  $s$  and triaxiality parameter  $T$  for DM halos in MHD simulations at different radii (columns).

isodensity contour ratios  $q_\rho$ . This plot is computed at four different radii.

Although the analytic expression is meant to be used on the outer regions of logarithmic axisymmetric halos, it works well as a first approximation for nearly axisymmetric halos as those produced by our simulations. We find that the difference between the measured and the approximated isopotential axial ratios is not bigger than *quantitypercent*.

Aqui hace falta una grafica comparando explicitamente los valores para  $q$  y para  $s$ , esto para diferentes radios. Otro punto importante es que se tiene  $q$ , pero como se relaciona  $s$ ? Ademas hay que calcularlos para los radius aproximados que se presentan en las tablas observacionales y en las de simulaciones. 10-20kpc se acerca a  $1/8R_{\text{vir}}$ , 20-25  $1/4R_{\text{vir}}$ , 60kpc aproximadamente  $1/2R_{\text{vir}}$

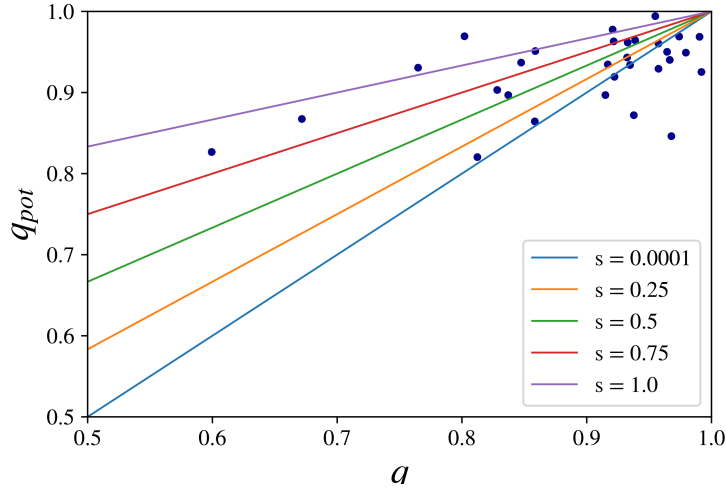
## 6 CONCLUSIONS

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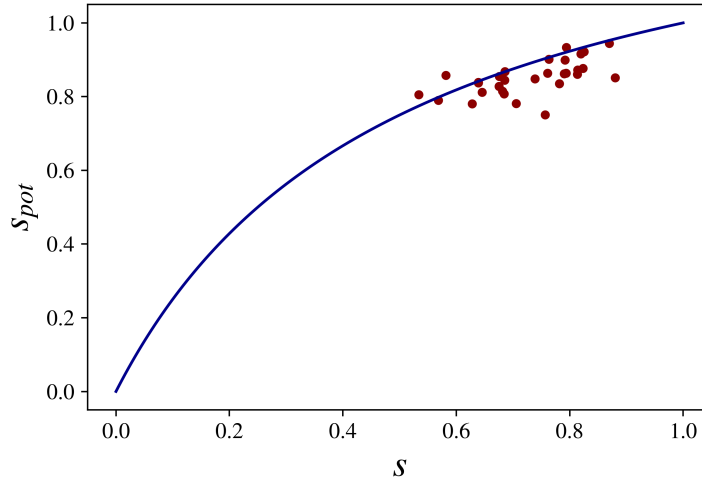
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**Figure 10.** Comparison of  $q$  calculated with isopotential and with density enclosed volumes. Continuous lines represent the Binney and Tremaine approximations for different ratios  $s$ . Scatter points represent the calculated shapes with an isopotential approximation and with the Allgood method



**Figure 11.** Comparison of  $s$  calculated with isopotential and with density enclosed volumes. Continuous lines represent the Binney & Tremaine approximation. In the case of the ratio  $s$ , it does not depend on  $q$ . Scatter points represent the calculated shapes with an isopotential approximation and with the Allgood method

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