

Painting on the Perturbations

Differentiable Models for Stellar Streams in the Evolving Milky Way

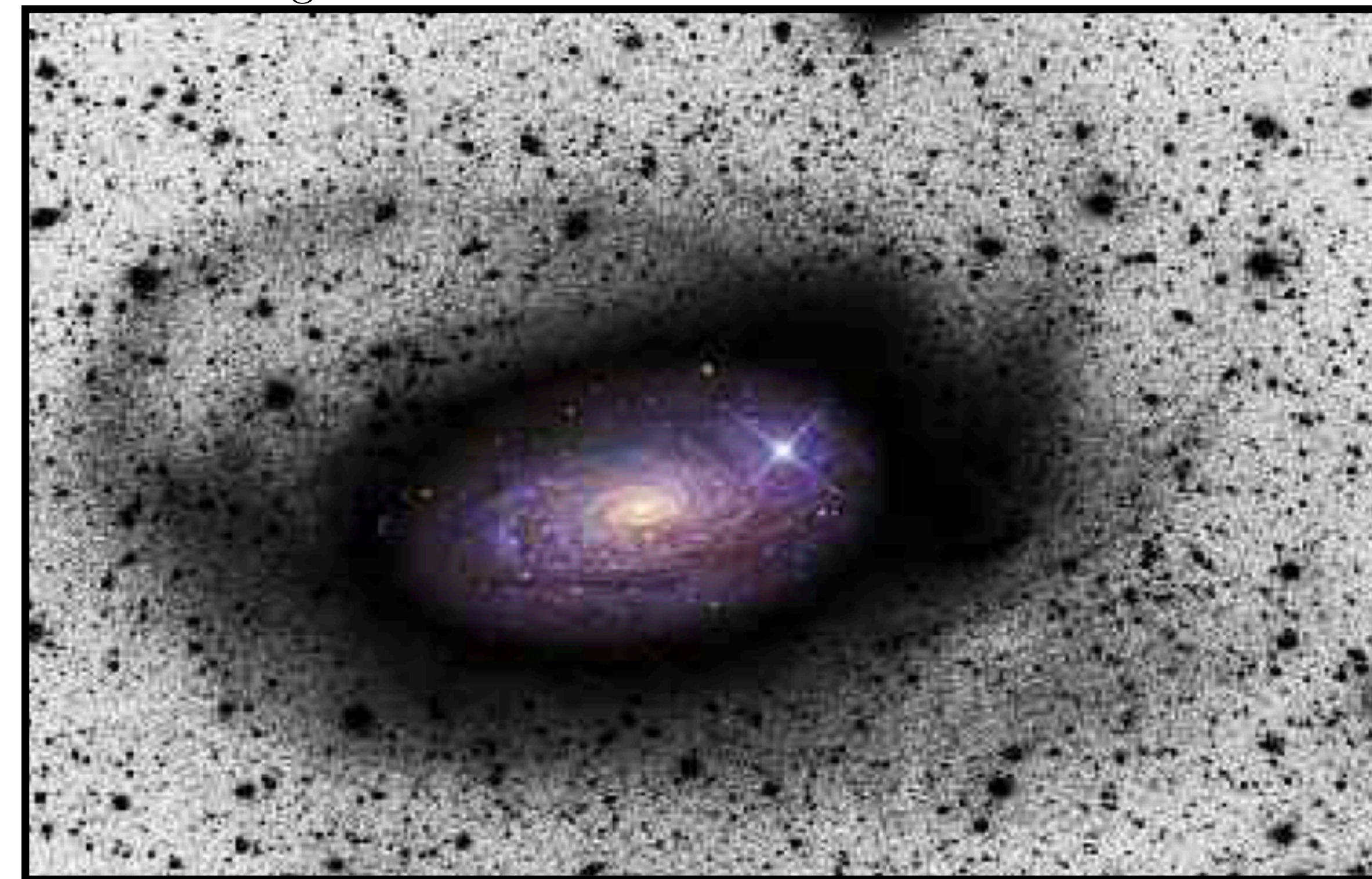
Jake Nibauer (PhD Student, Princeton)

In collaboration with Ana Bonaca, Adrian Price–Whelan, Jenny Greene,
Kathryn Johnston, David Spergel

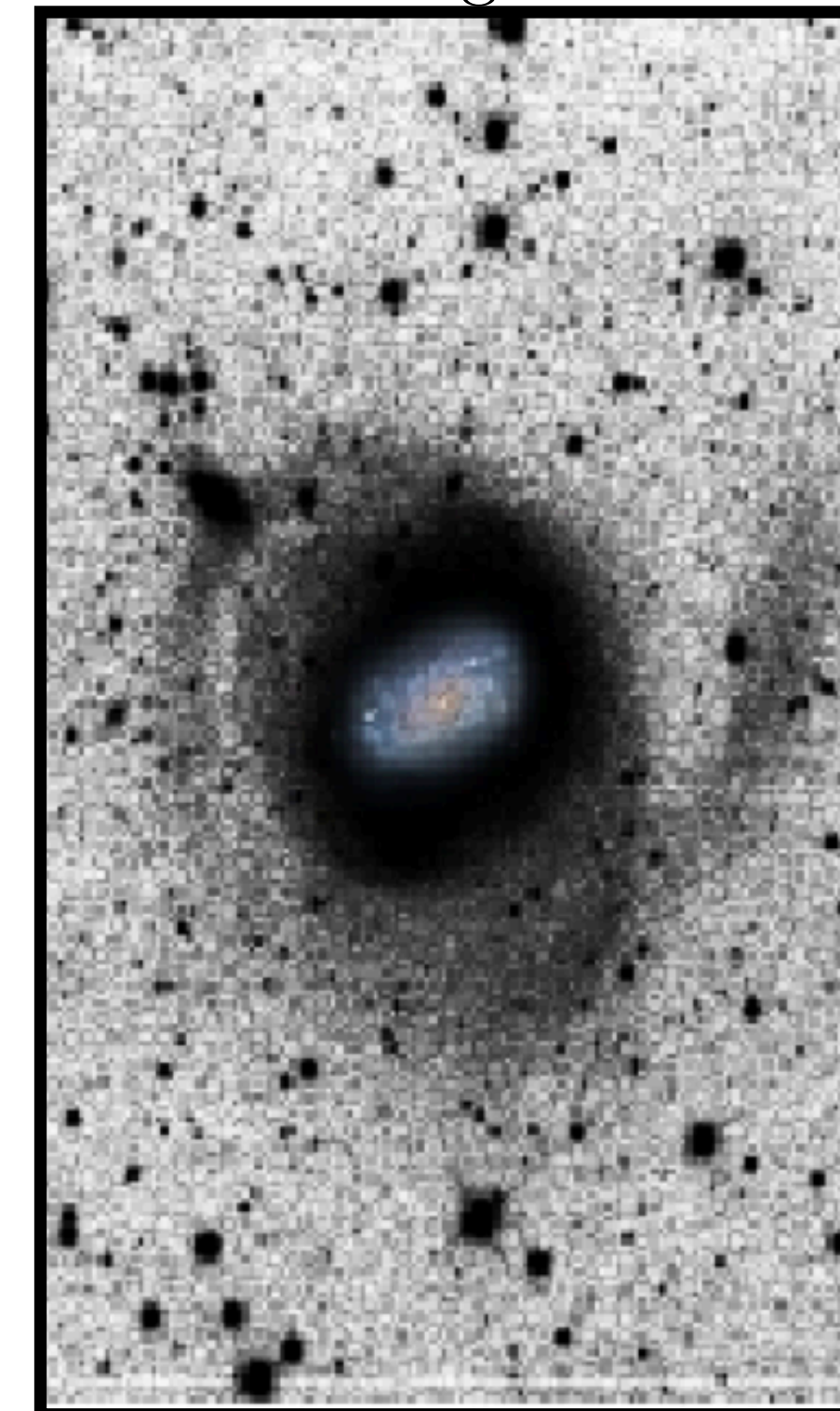


DGSCS
Chicago 2024

Martínez-Delgado+2010



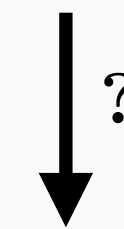
Martínez-Delgado+2009



Stellar Streams around external galaxies

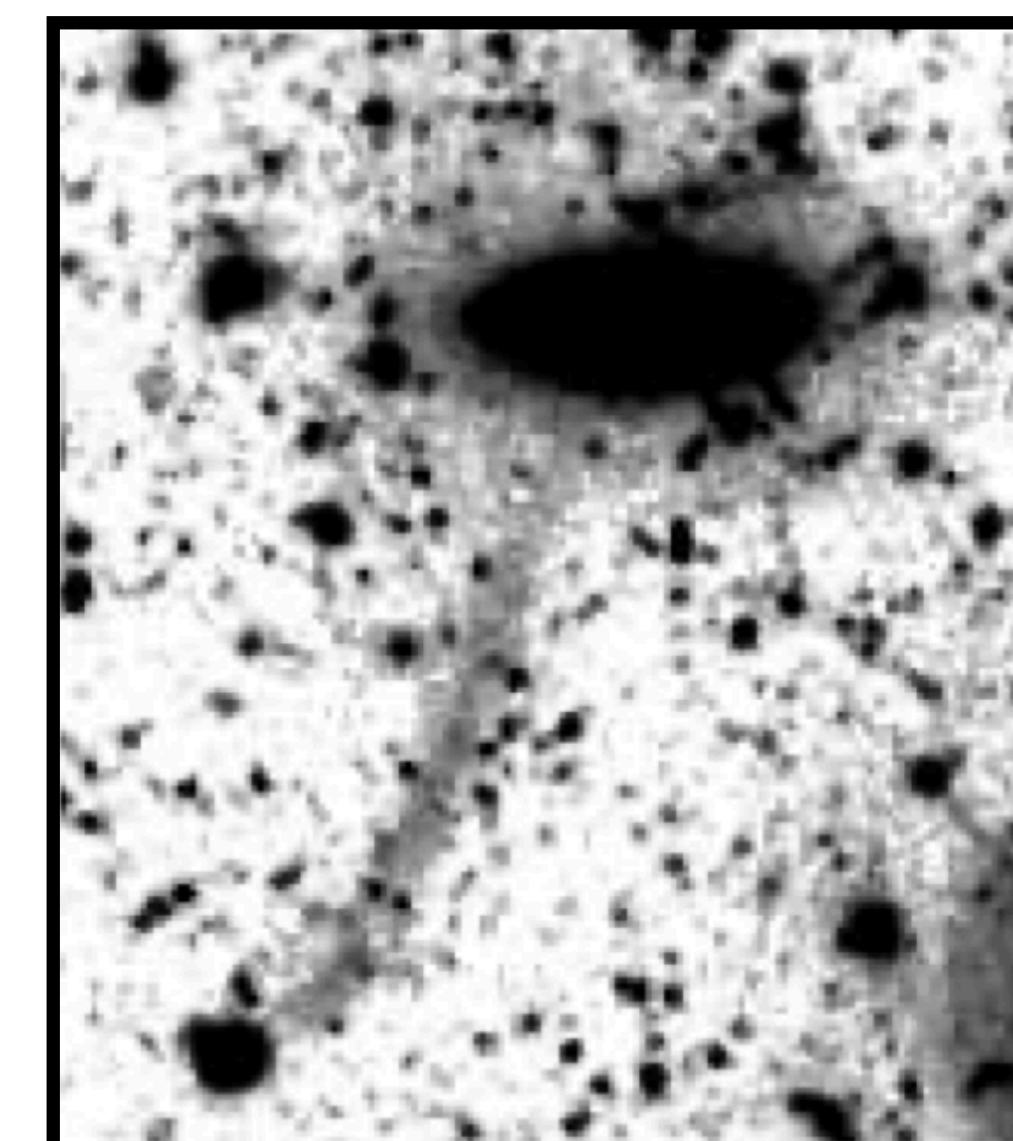
- Many 10000s+ of tidal features with Rubin, Roman
- $d_{\text{obs}} = \text{Photometry [2d Image, surface brightness]}$

Q: How to convert stream morphology



Physical Constraints on DM Distribution

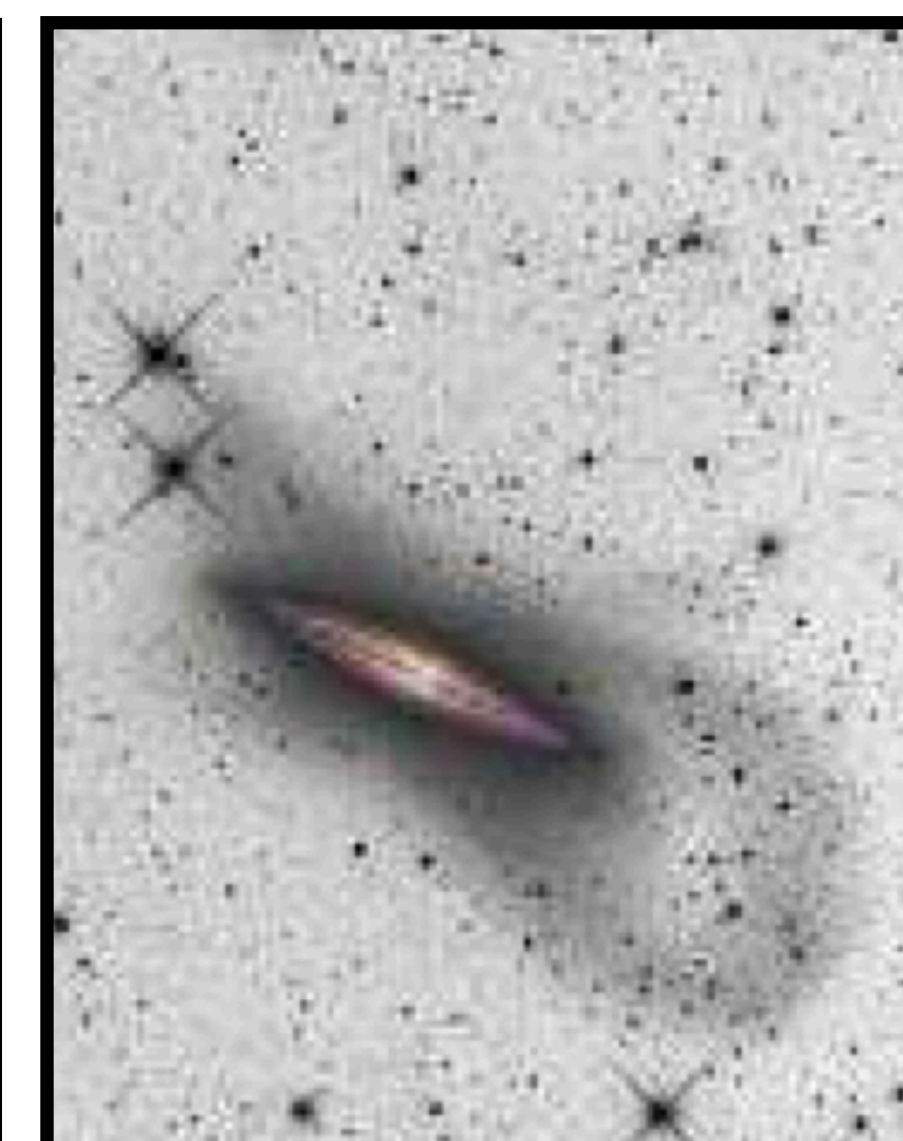
What can projected stream morphology tell us?



Pohlen+2004



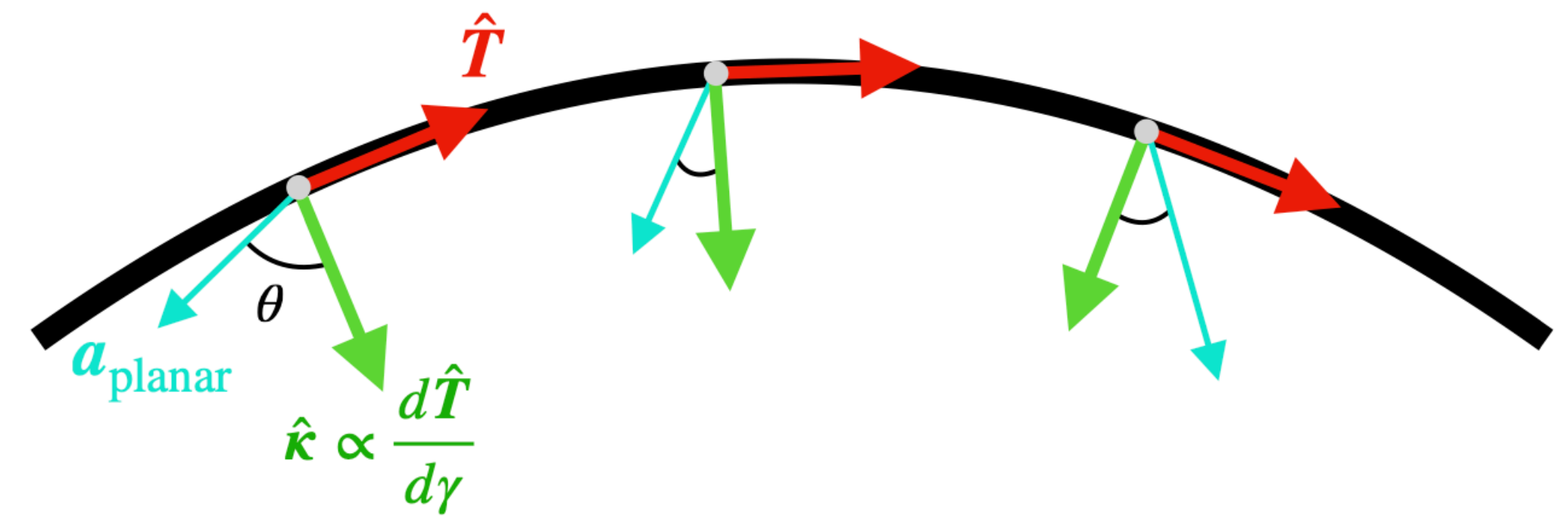
Van Dokkum+2019



Martínez-Delgado+2010

1. Decompose the acceleration (along stream + perpendicular to stream)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a}_{\text{planar}} &\equiv \frac{d\mathbf{v}_{\text{planar}}}{dt} \\ &= \underbrace{\left[\dot{v}_T \hat{\mathbf{T}} + v_\kappa \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{\kappa}}}{dt} \right]}_{\mathbf{a}_T = (\mathbf{a}_{\text{planar}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{T}}) \hat{\mathbf{T}}} + \underbrace{\left[\dot{v}_\kappa \hat{\mathbf{\kappa}} + v_T \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{T}}}{dt} \right]}_{\mathbf{a}_\perp = (\mathbf{a}_{\text{planar}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{\kappa}}) \hat{\mathbf{\kappa}}}, \end{aligned}$$



2. Perpendicular acceleration depends on curvature

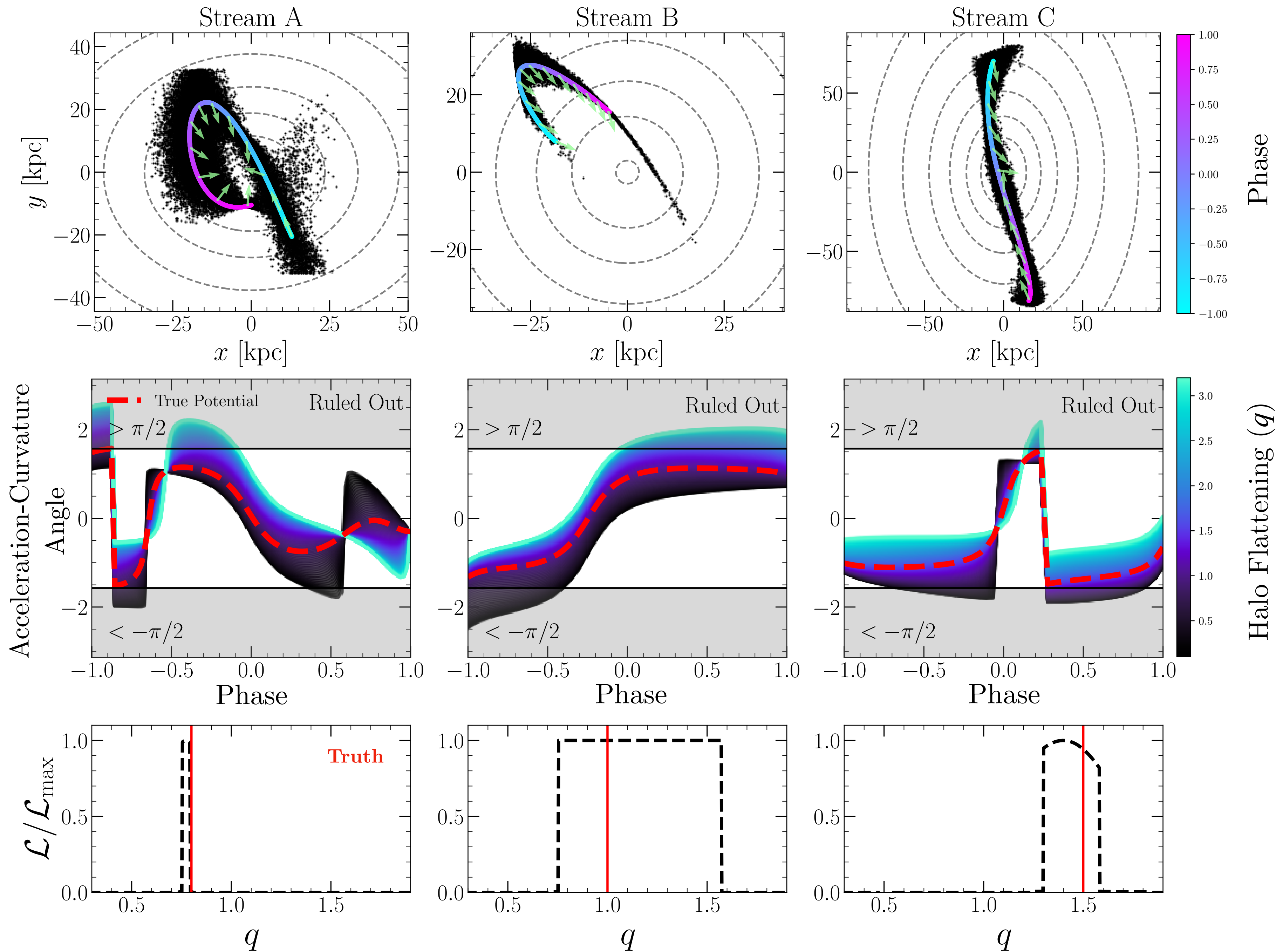
Halo Model Observable

$$\boxed{\mathbf{a}_\perp} = \left(\dot{v}_\kappa + v_T \left\| \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{T}}}{dt} \right\| \right) \boxed{\hat{\mathbf{\kappa}}}$$

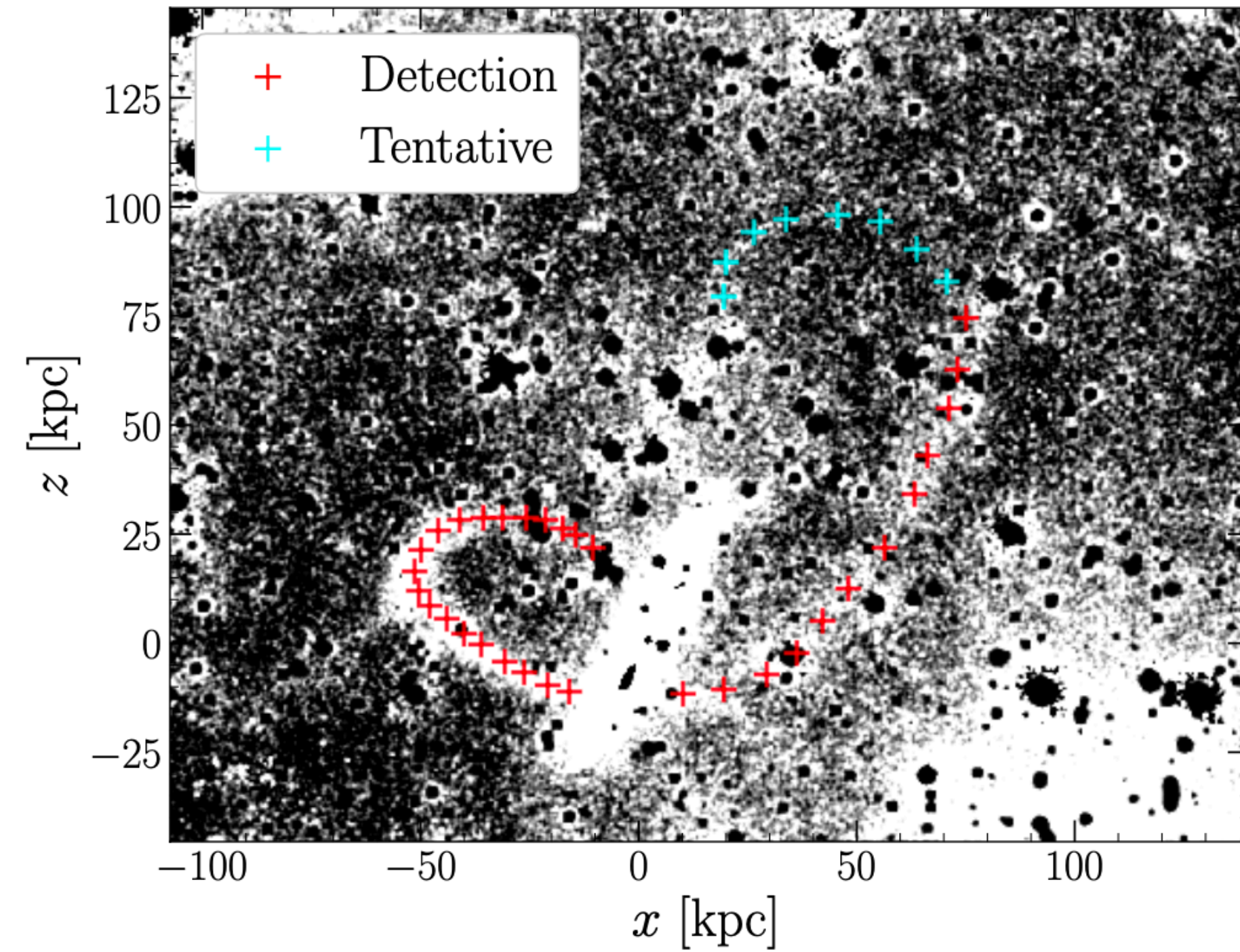
What this means: the angle between the stream and acceleration vector should be $< 90^\circ$

Halo models that are inconsistent with this principle can be ruled out

Green arrows =
True accelerations

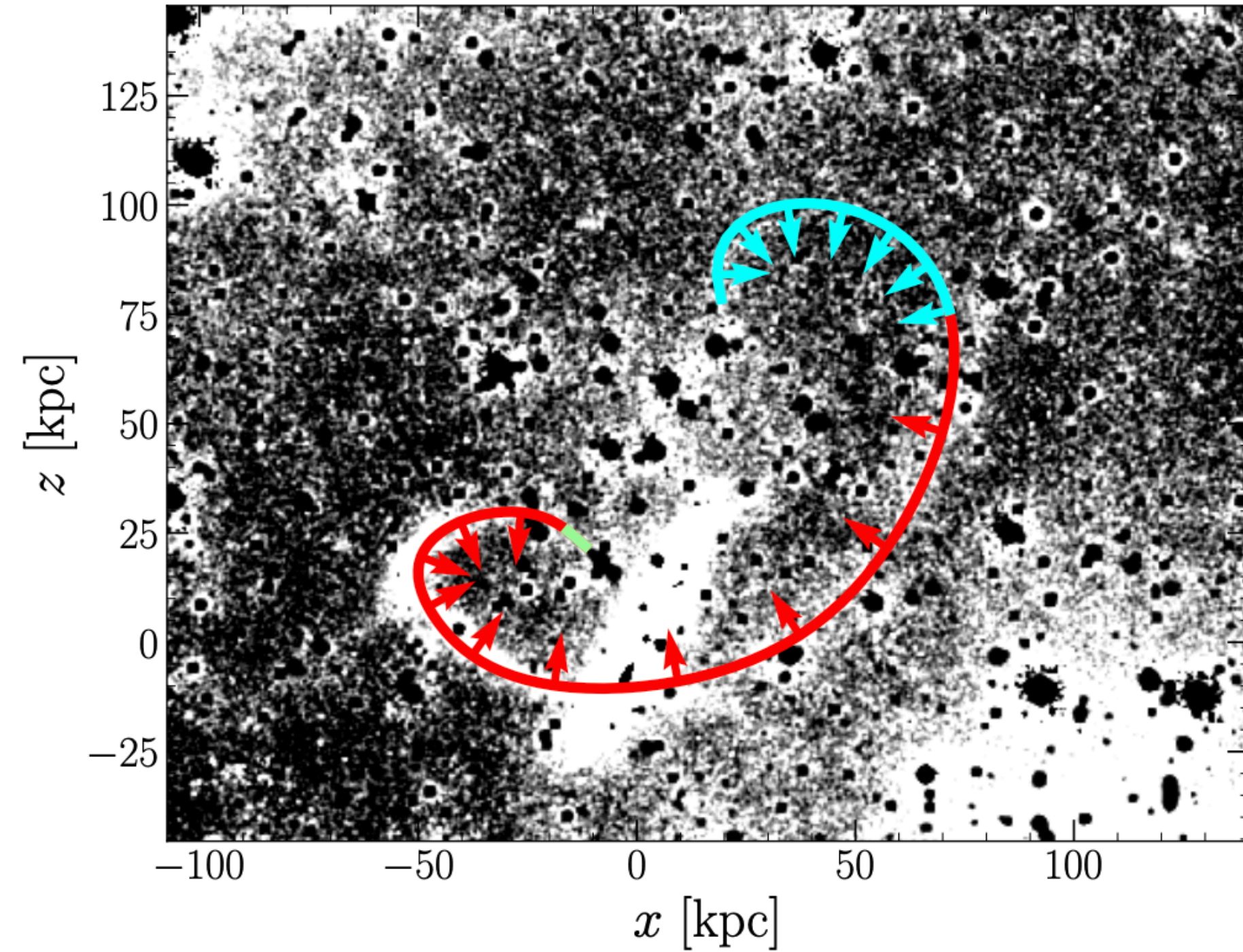
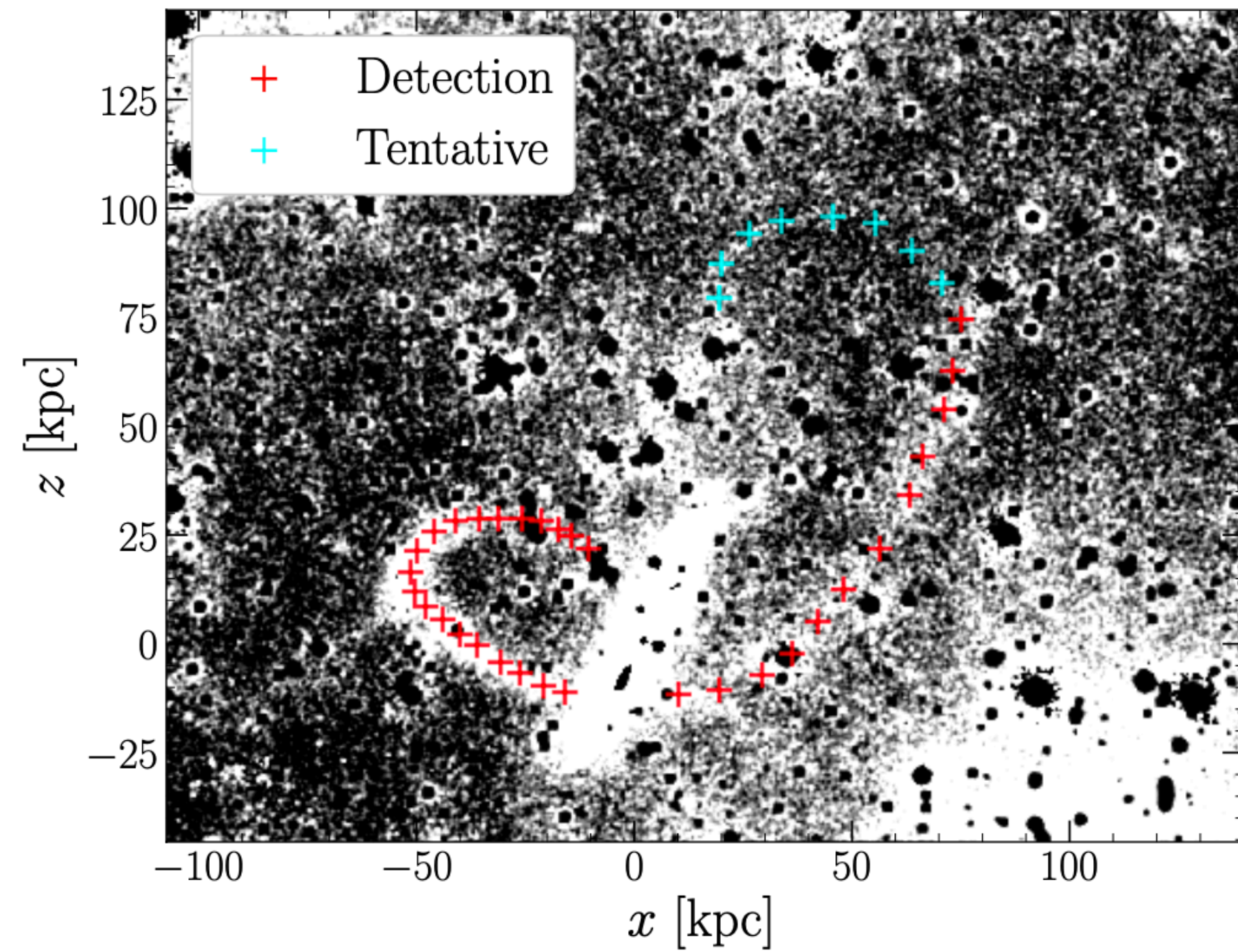


Application: NGC 5907 [Dragonfly Imaging]



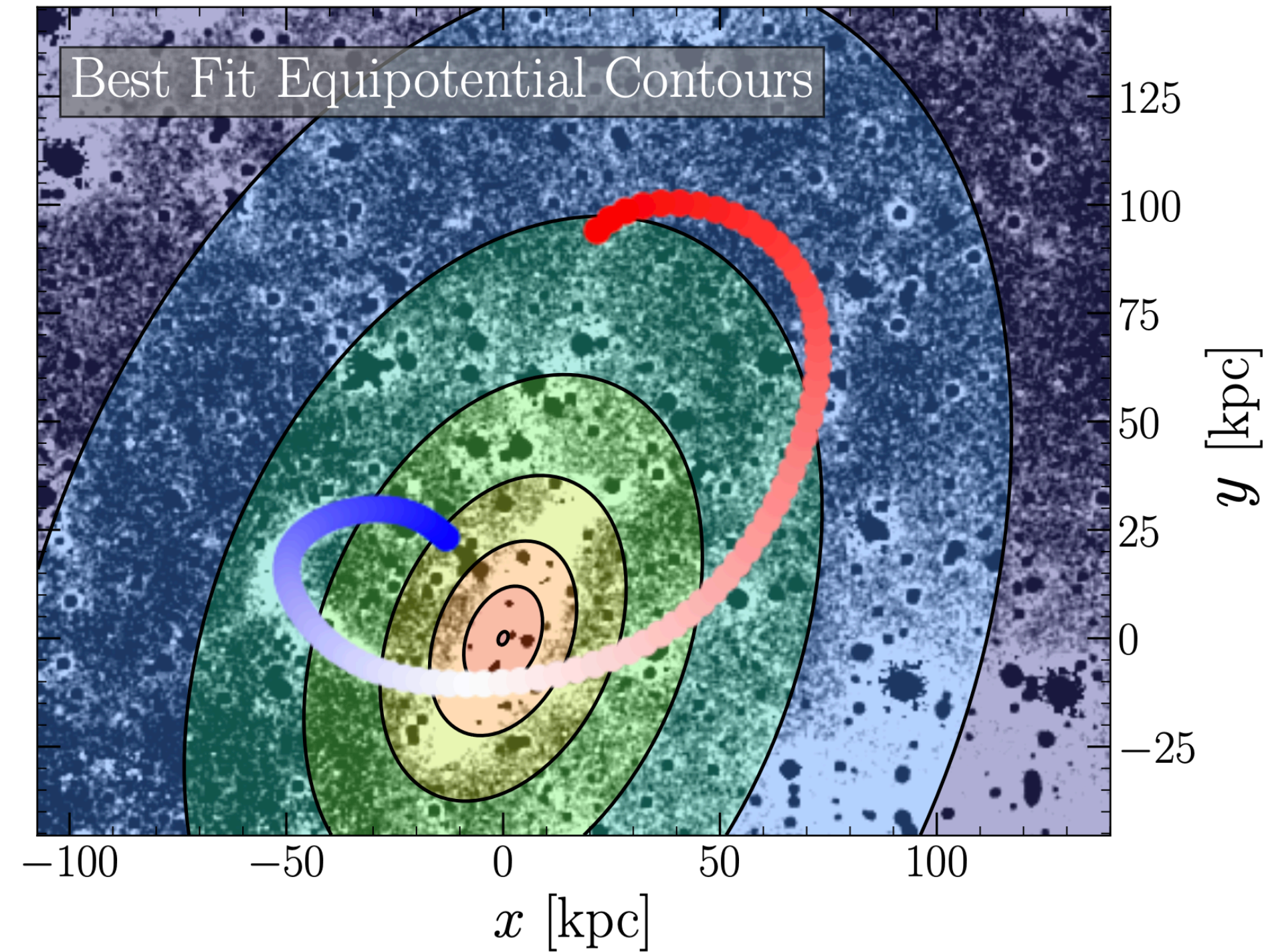
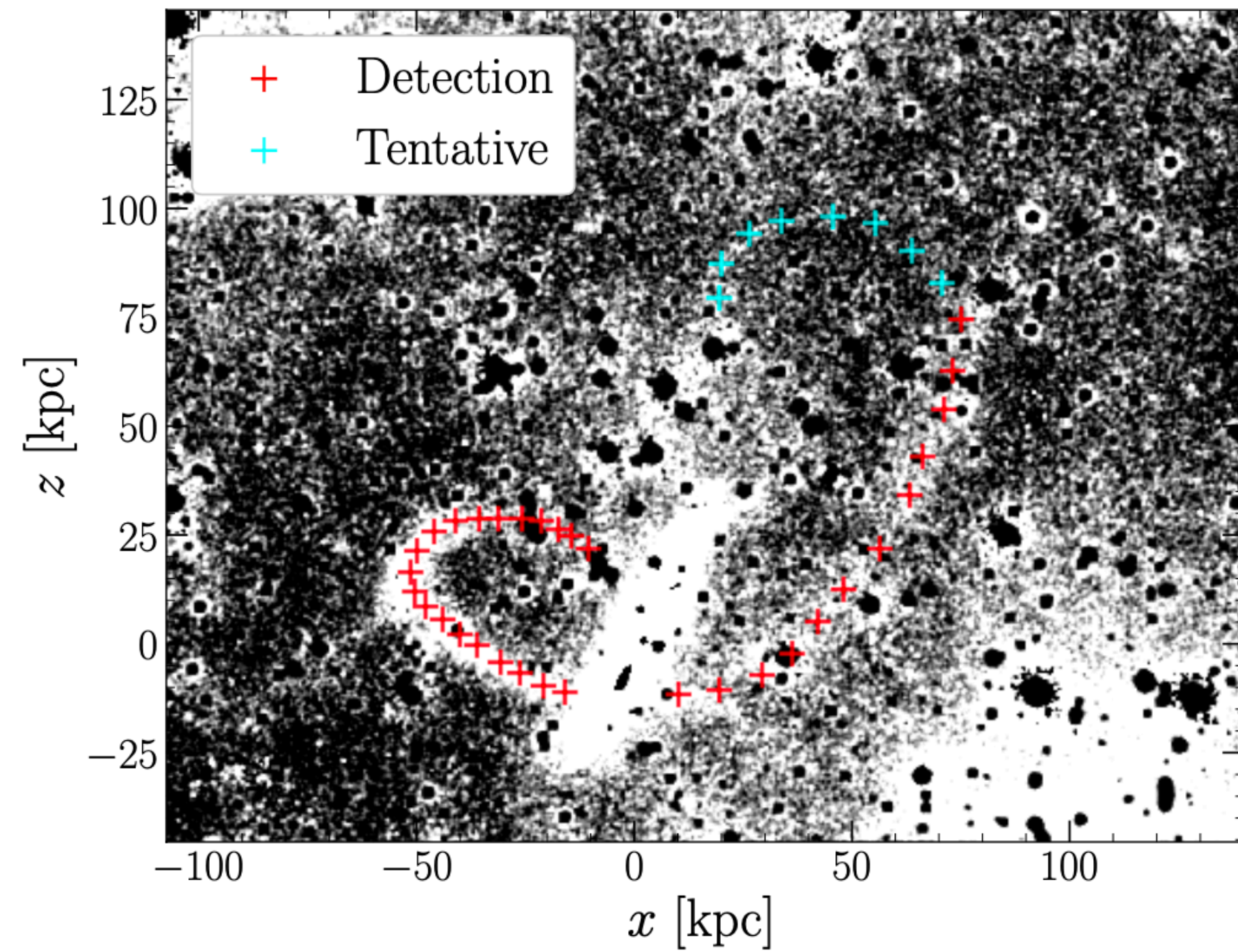
Constrain: **Flattening** (q), **Rotation** (Disk-Halo Angle)

Application: NGC 5907 [Dragonfly Imaging]



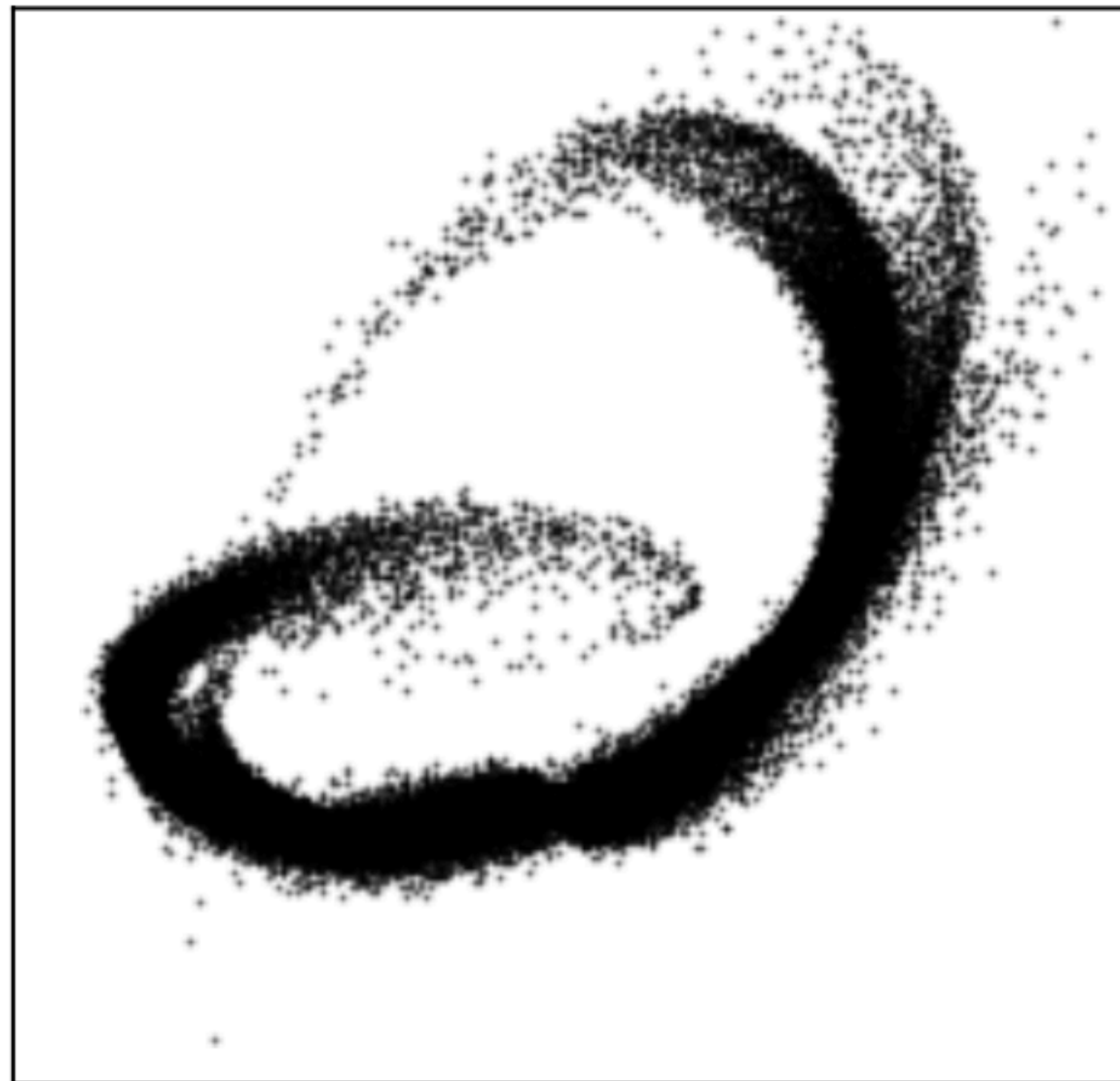
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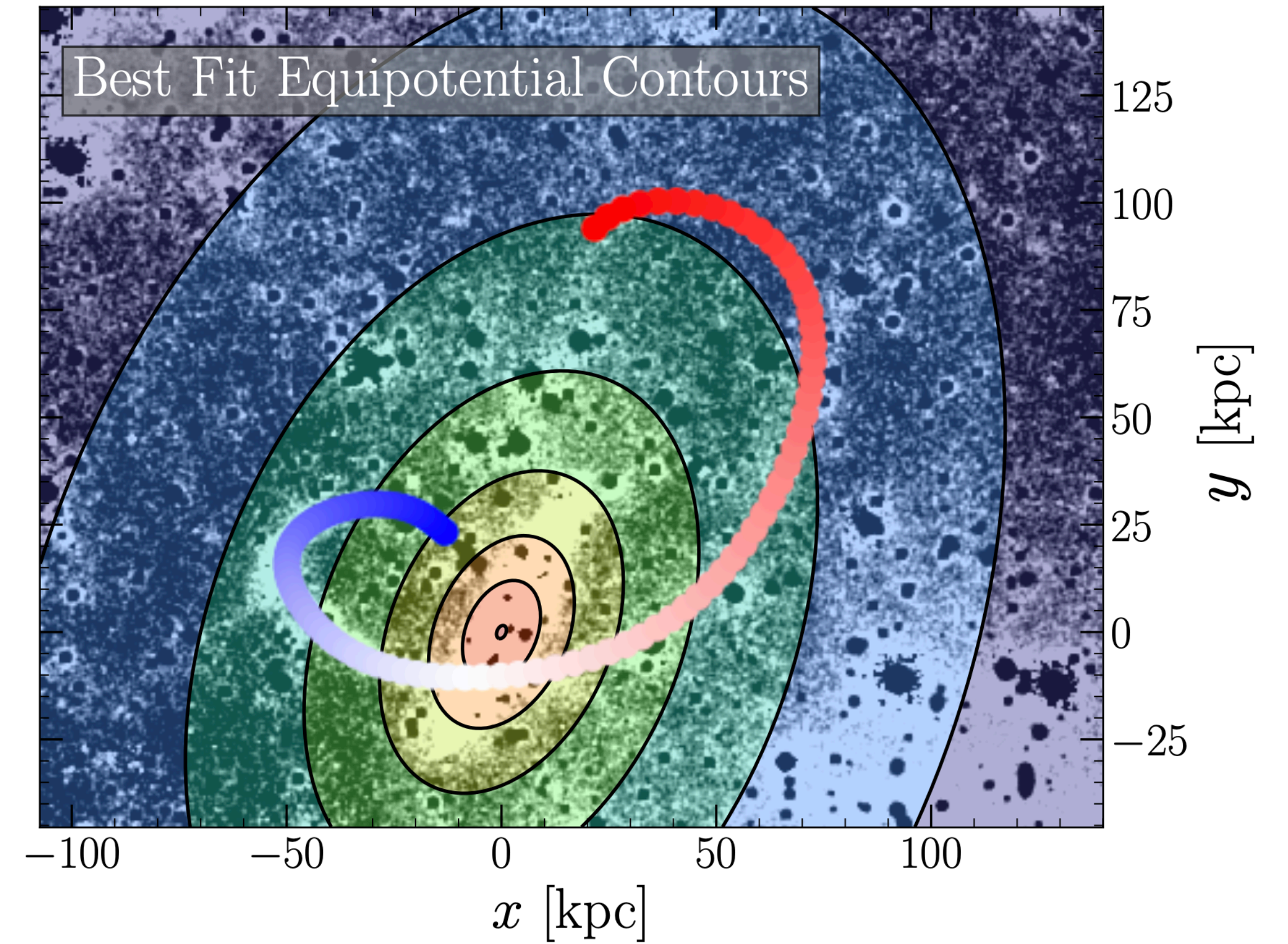


Constrain: **Flattening** (q), **Rotation** (Disk-Halo Angle)

Forward model at best fit potential



NGC 5907



Detection

10000s+ tidal
features

Automated track
characterization

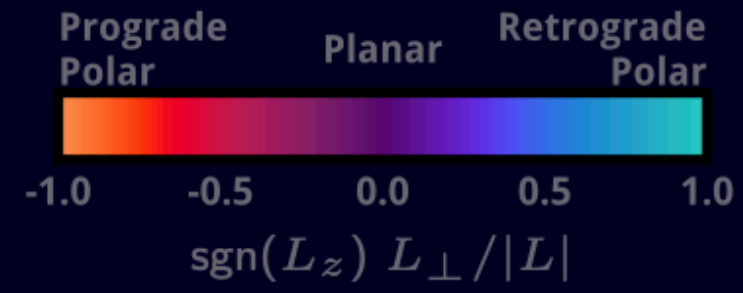
Halo shapes

Cosmological
simulations

THE MILKY WAY STREAM ATLAS

May 2024

Legend

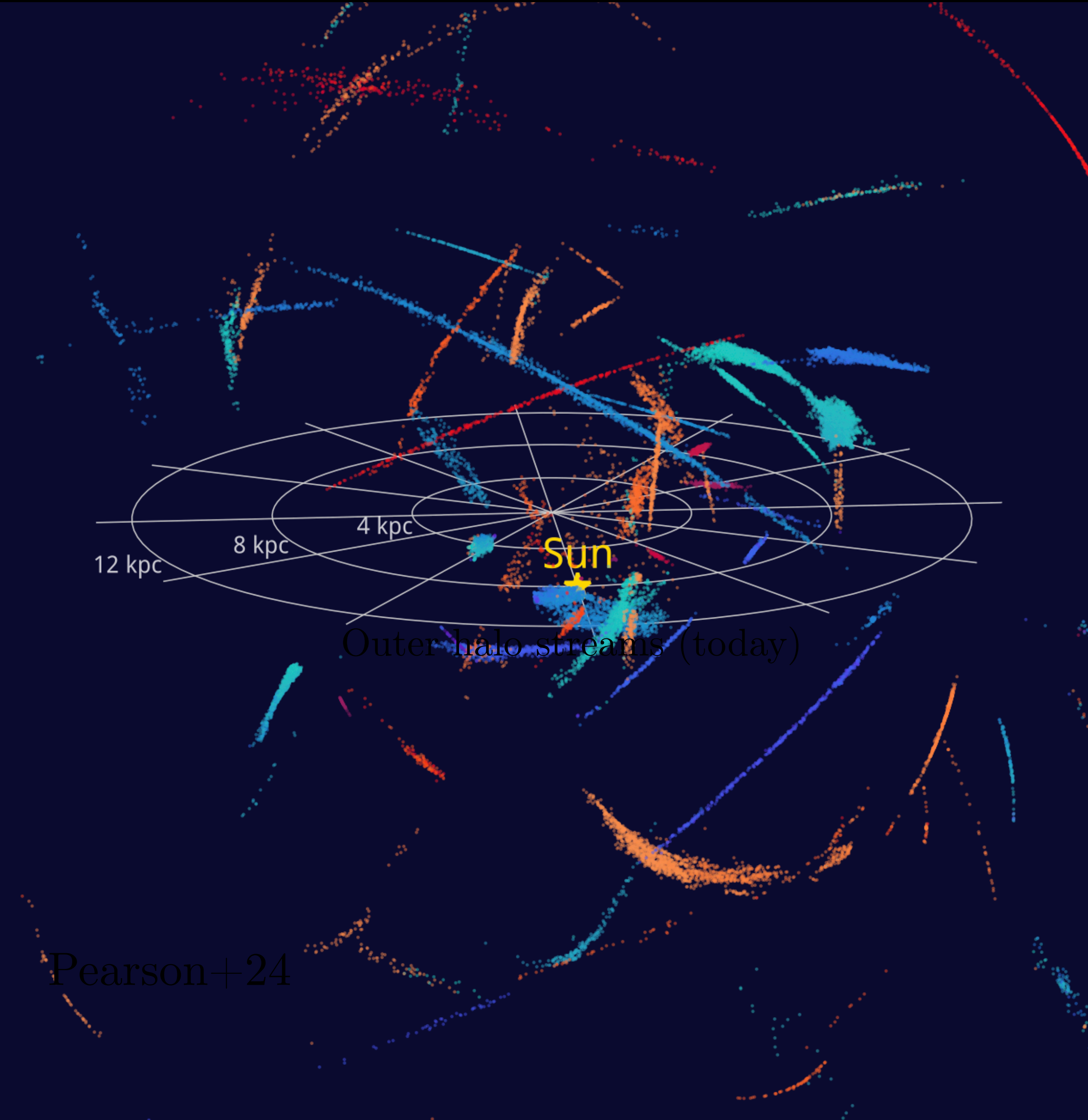
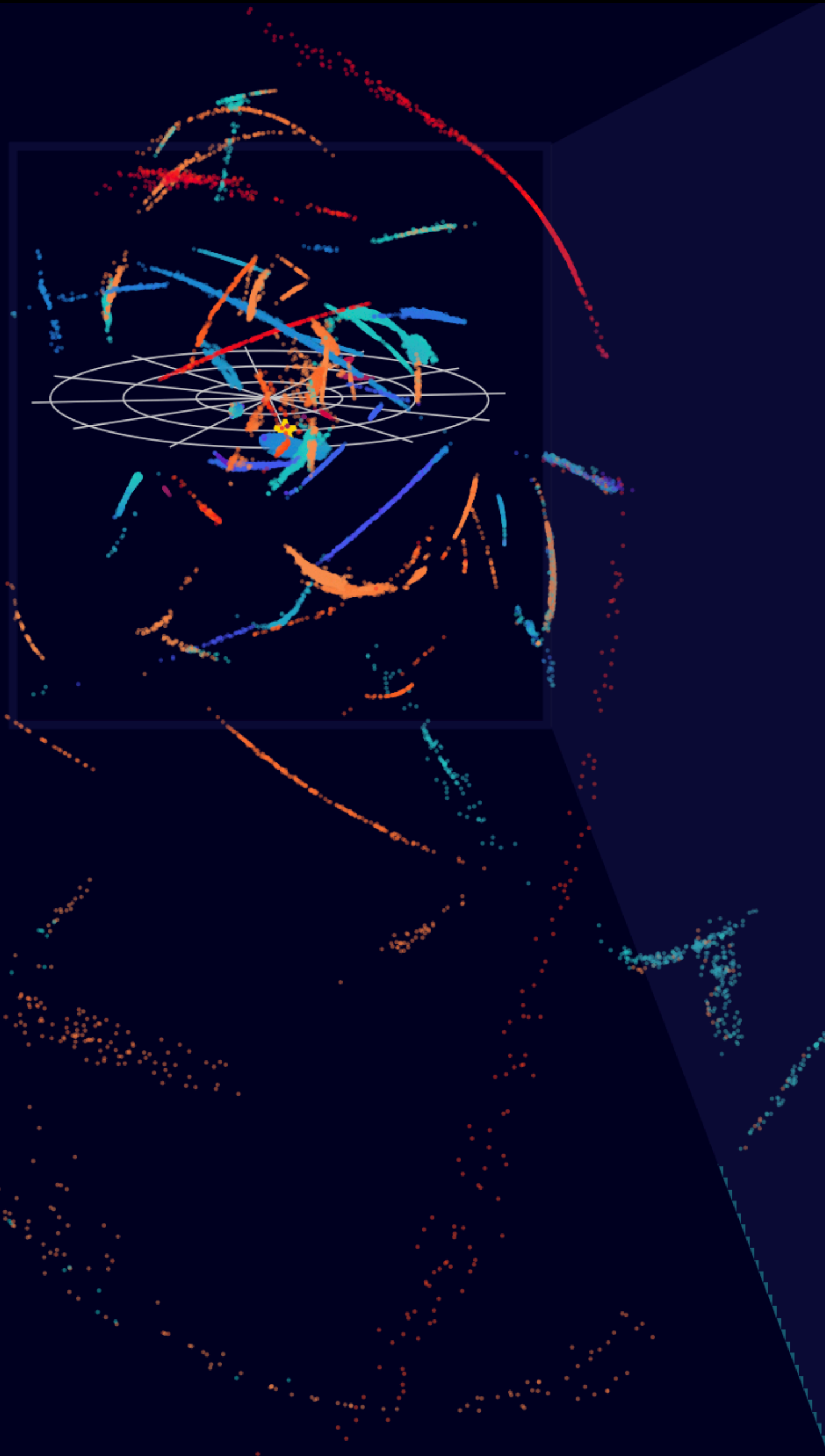


Streams

Total number: 87
Typical mass: $9 \times 10^3 M_{\odot}$
Longest stream:
Orphan-Chenab [210 deg]
Narrowest stream:
C-20 [0.072 deg]
Most member stars:
Fimbulthul [3724]
Largest Galactocentric distance:
Kwando [53 kpc]
Closest to the Earth:
New-3 [1.0 kpc]

Credit

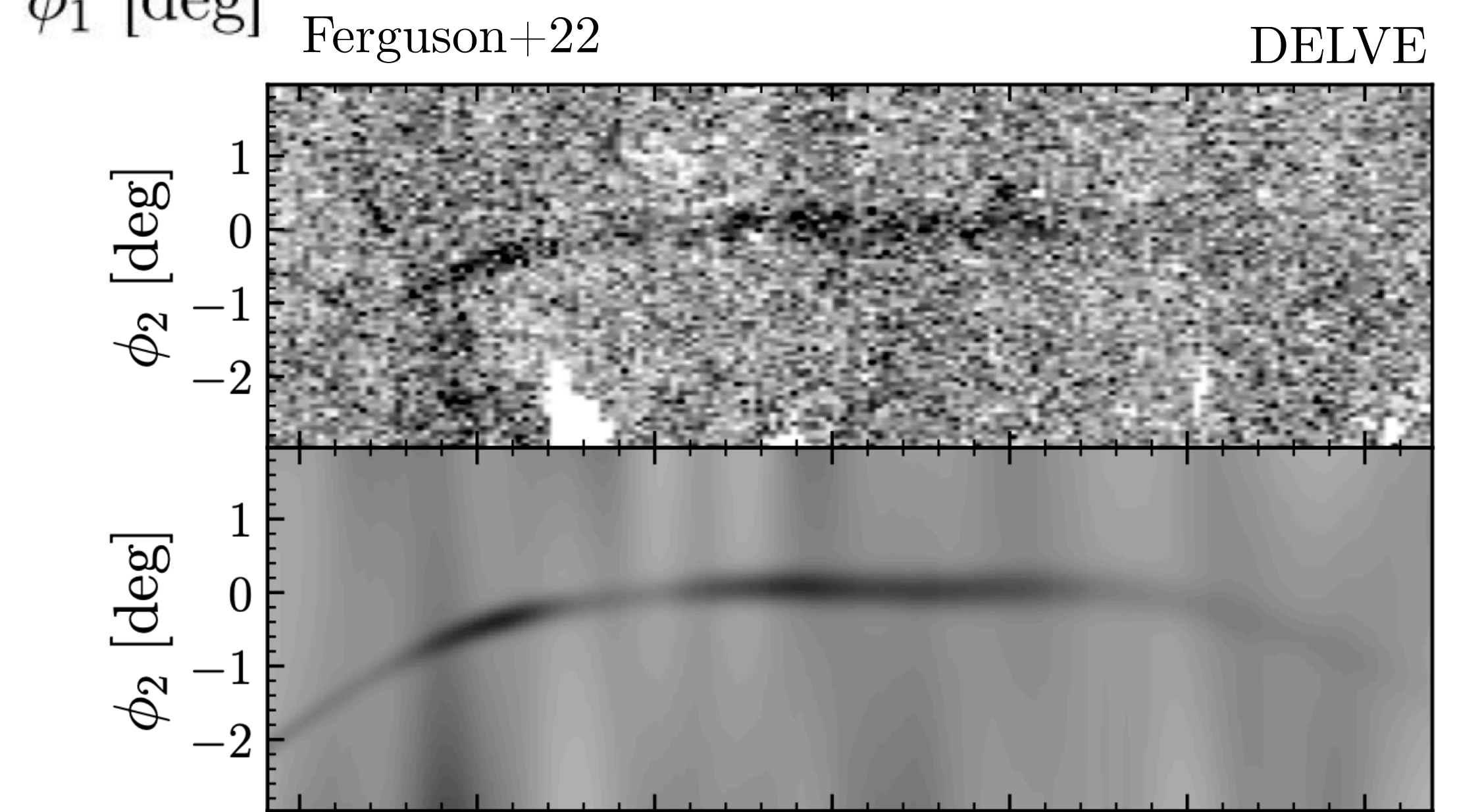
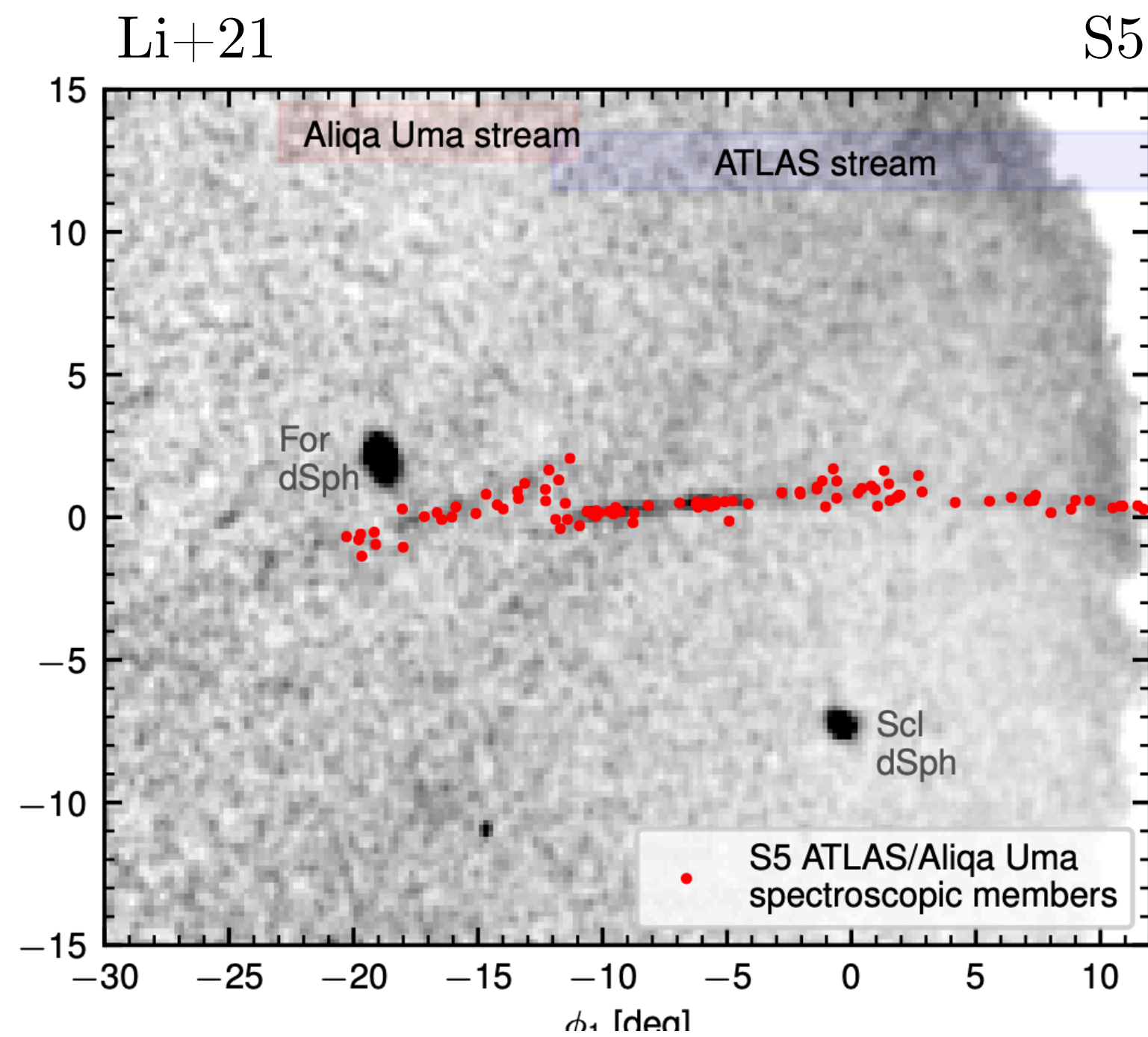
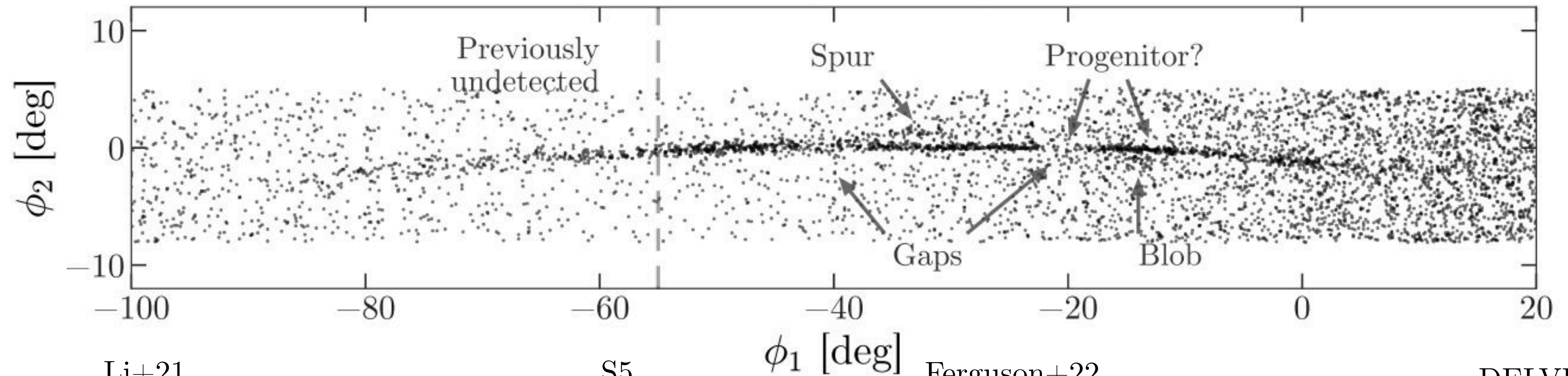
Ana Bonaca & Adrian Price-Whelan
Data: Ibata et al., arXiv:2311.17202



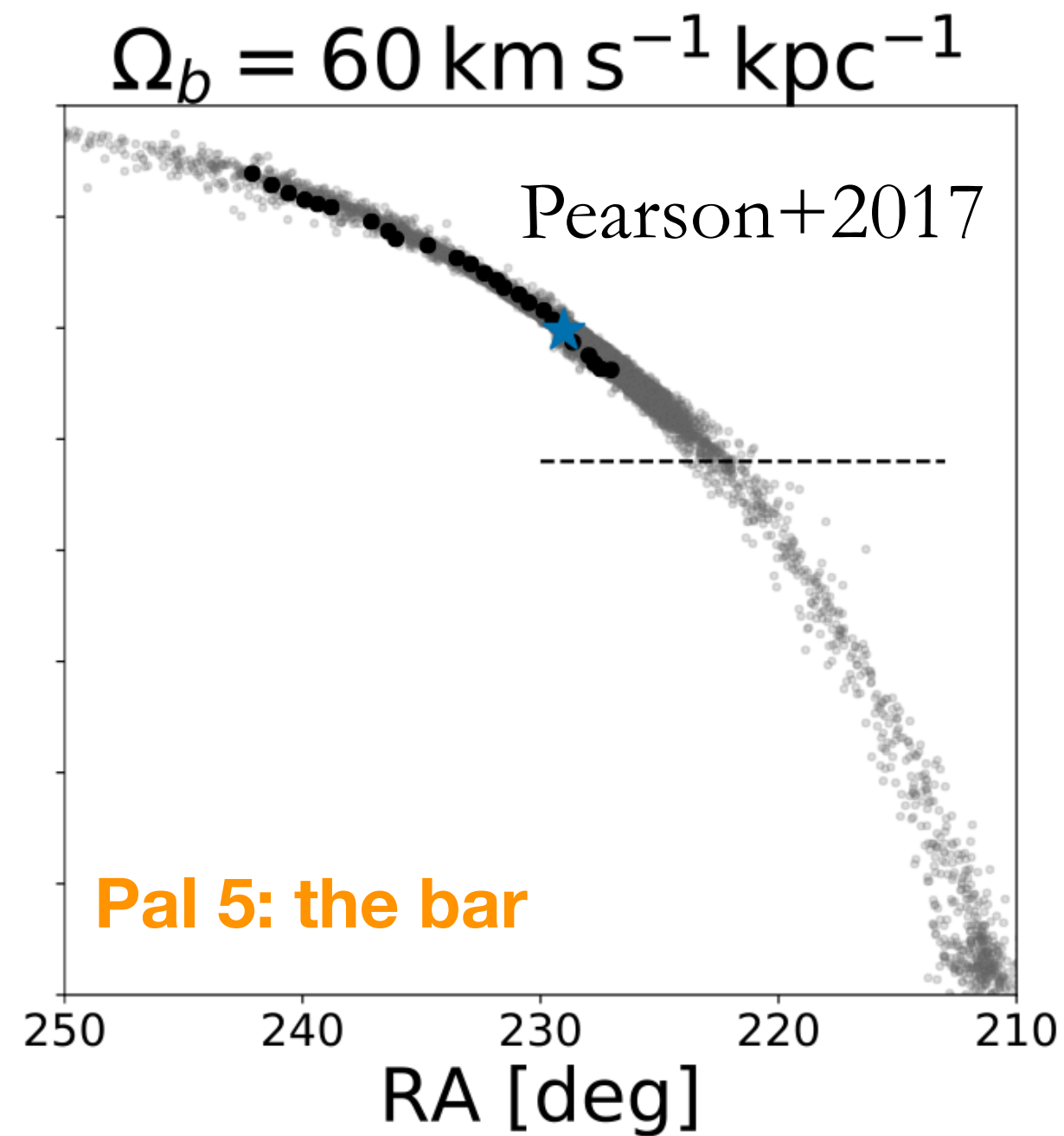
The known Milky Way streams show rich density structure

Price-Whelan, Bonaca 2018

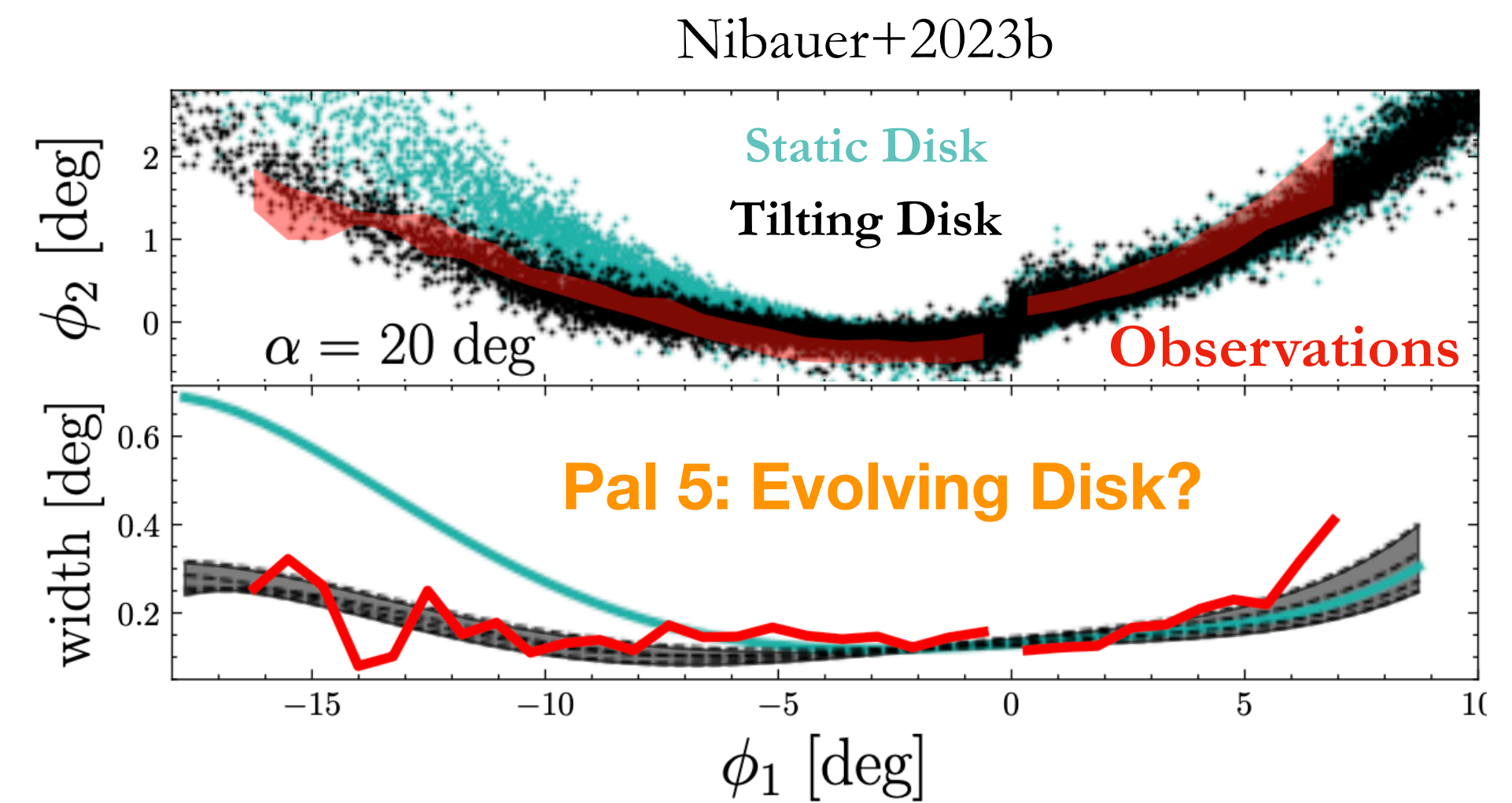
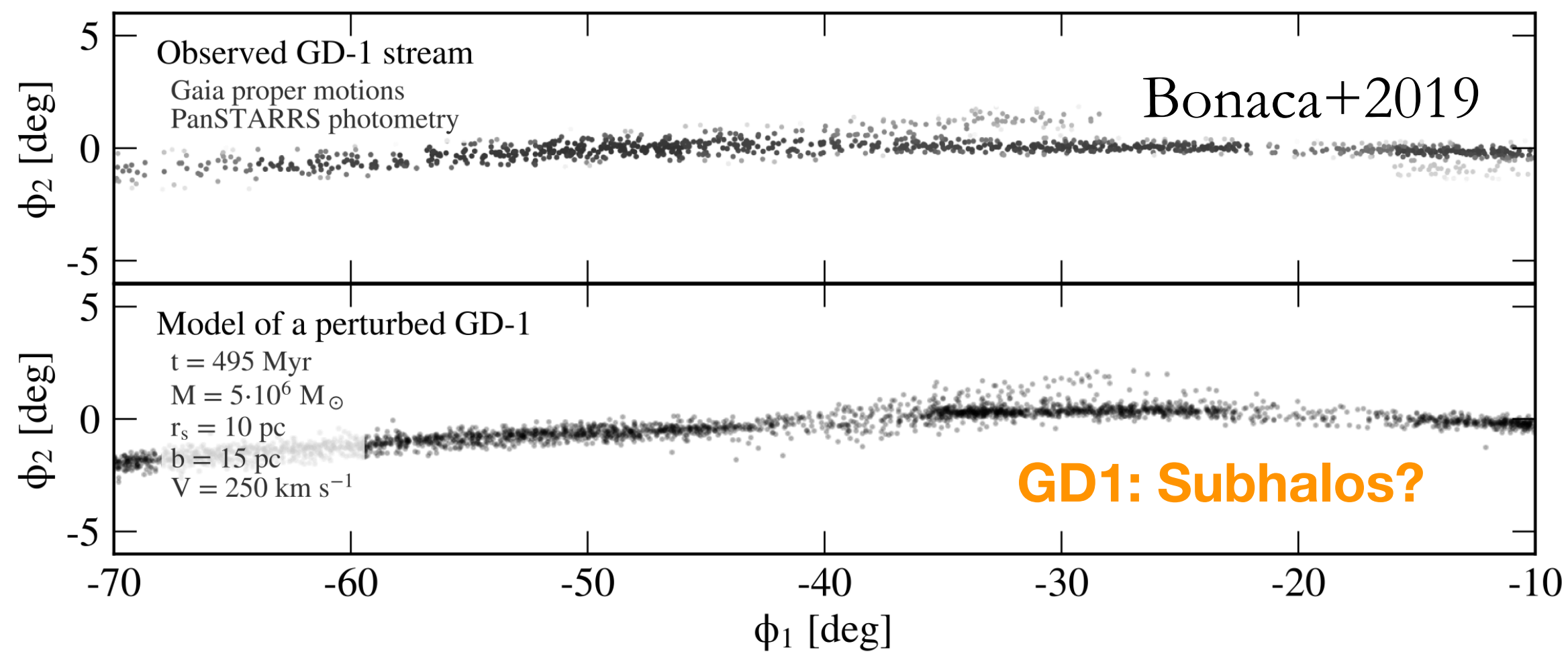
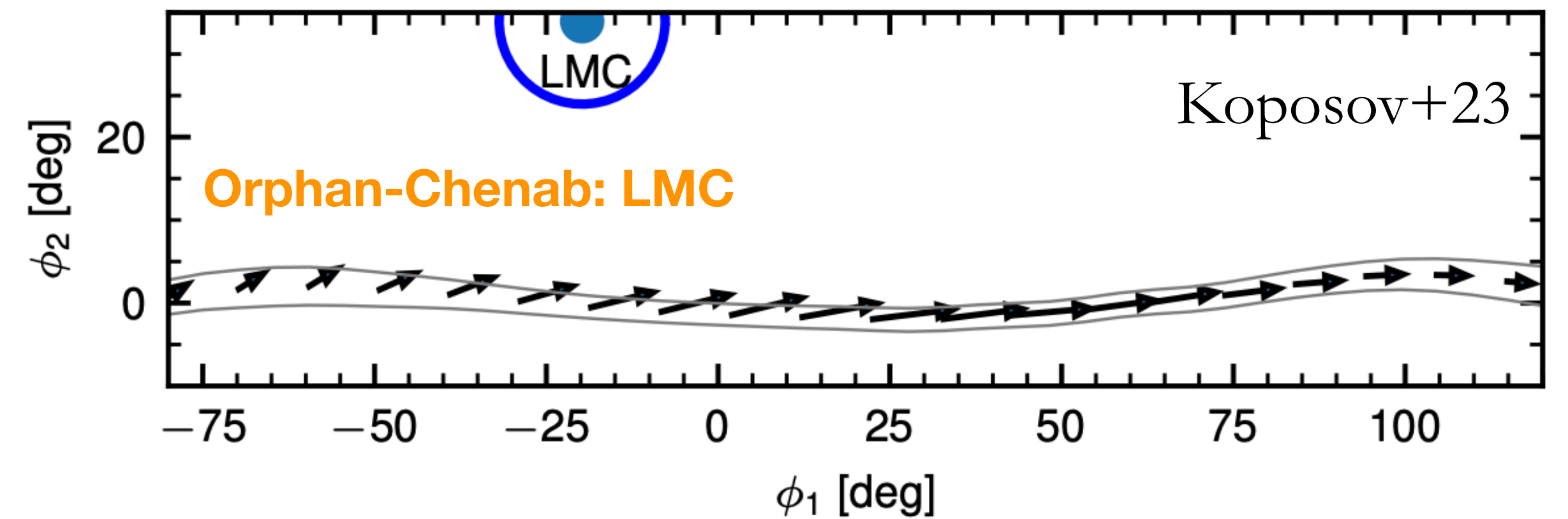
Gaia + Pan-STARRS



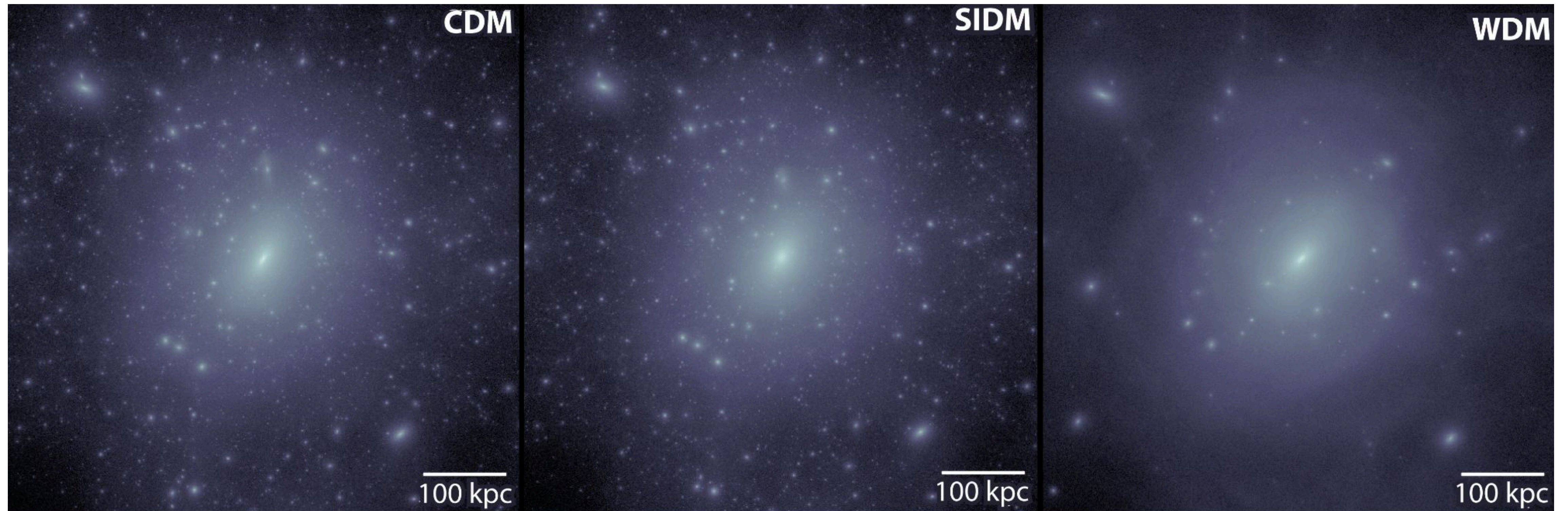
Where do the density variations come from?



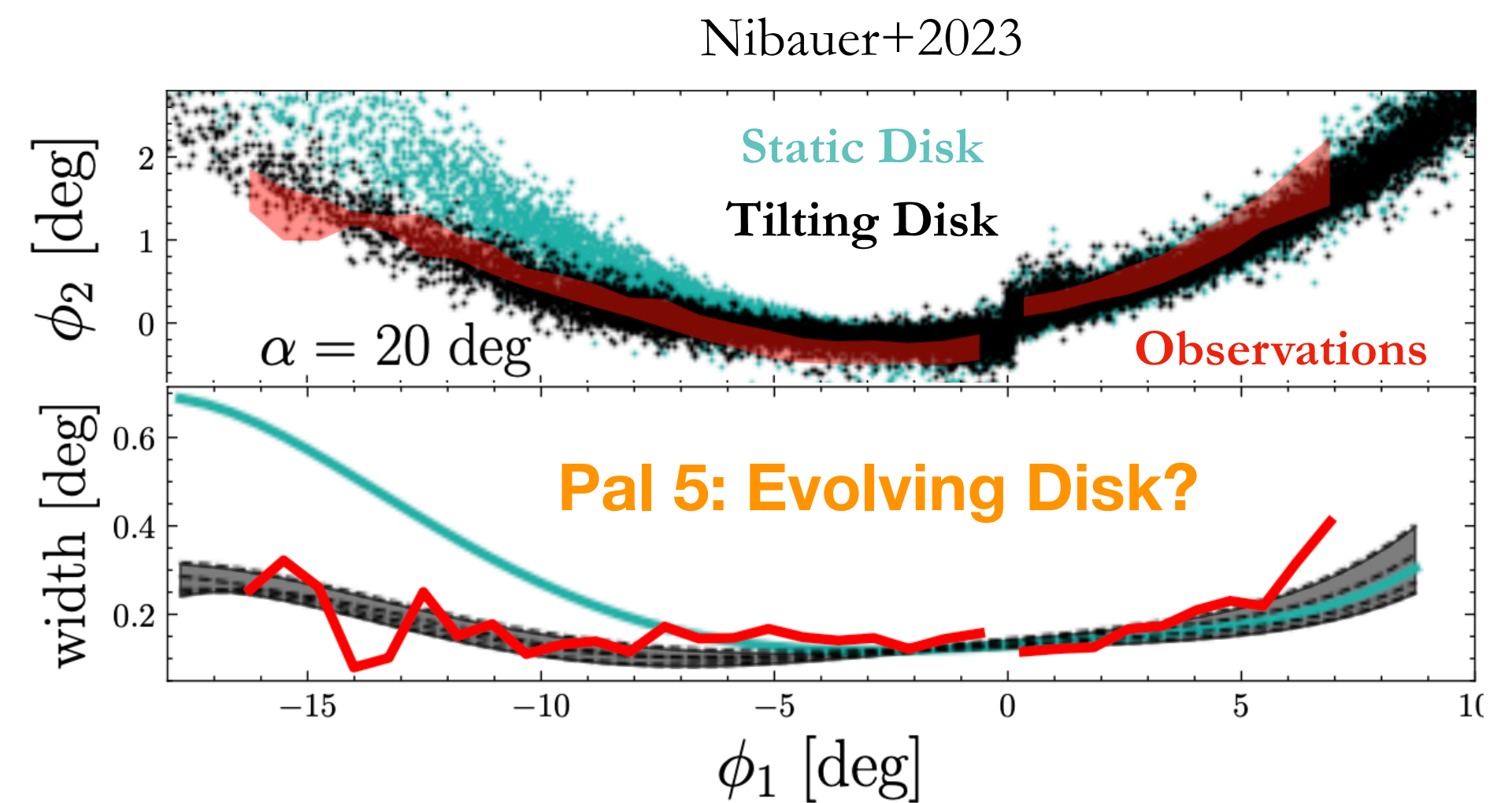
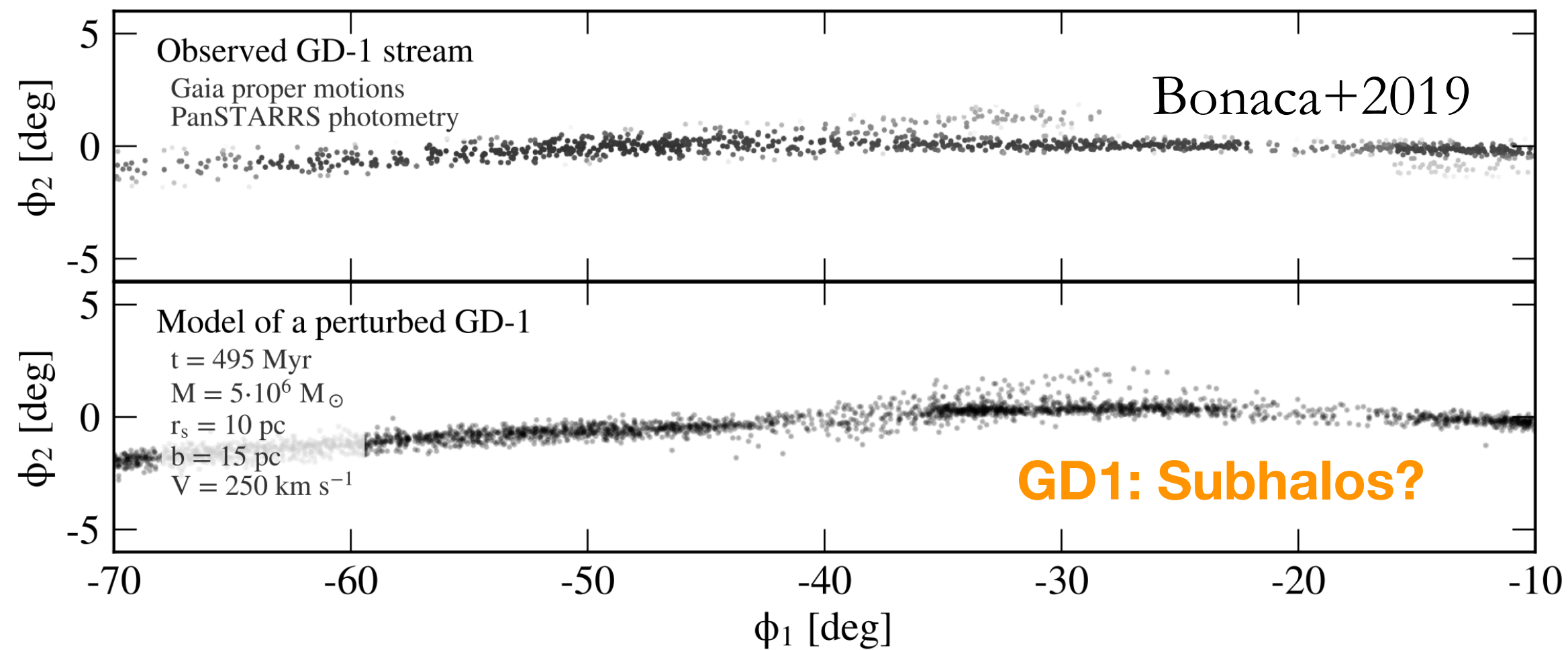
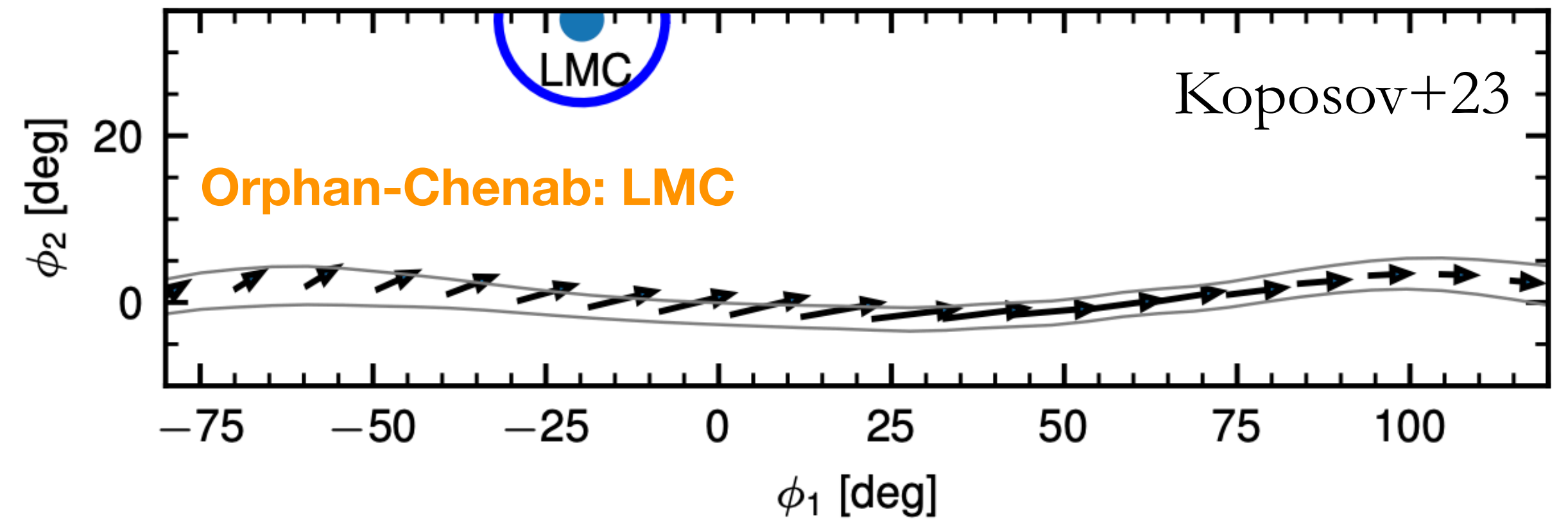
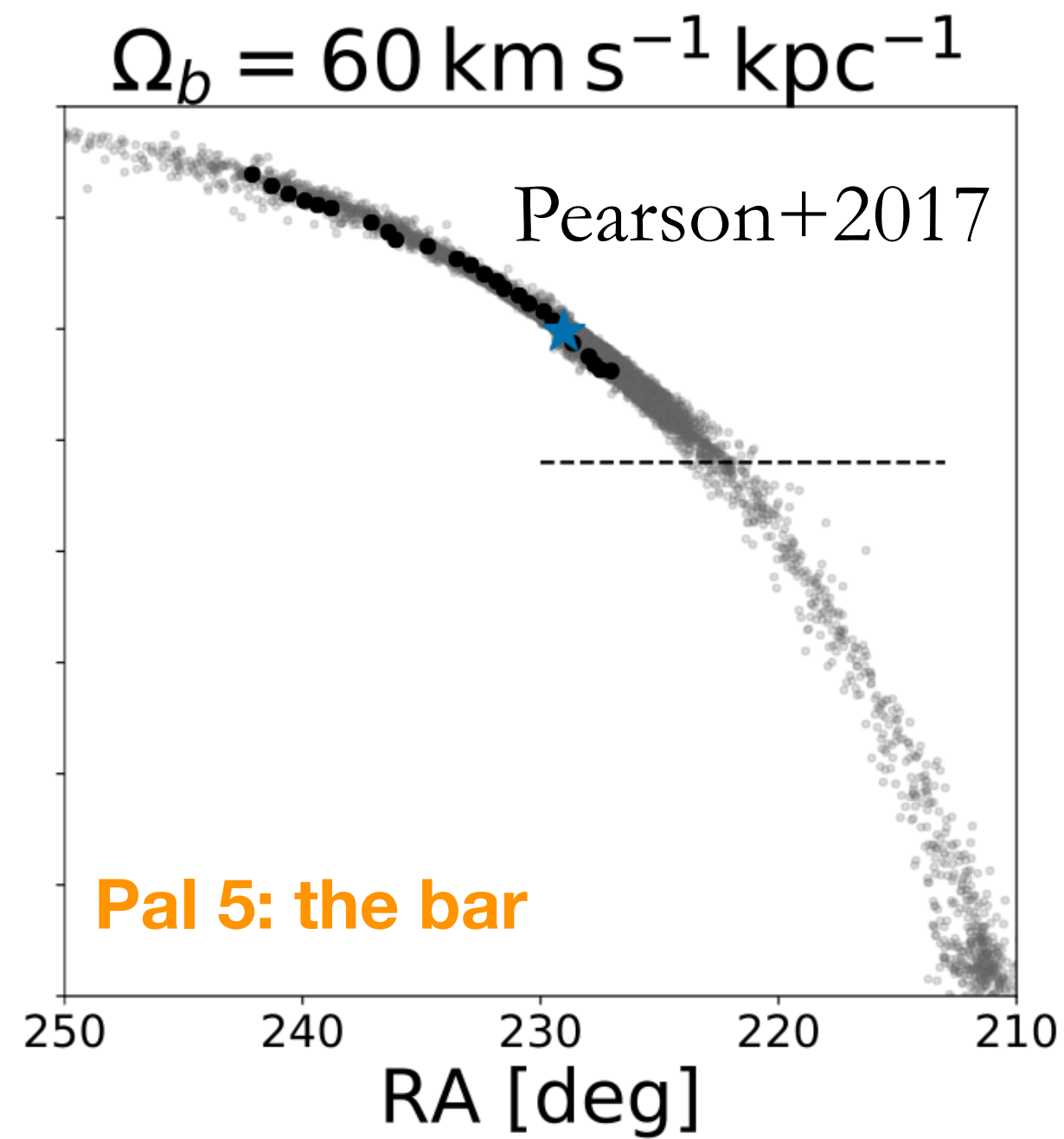
Large range of scales influence stream properties
Small scales: important for competing dark matter models



Substructure imprints streams with density/kinematic variations



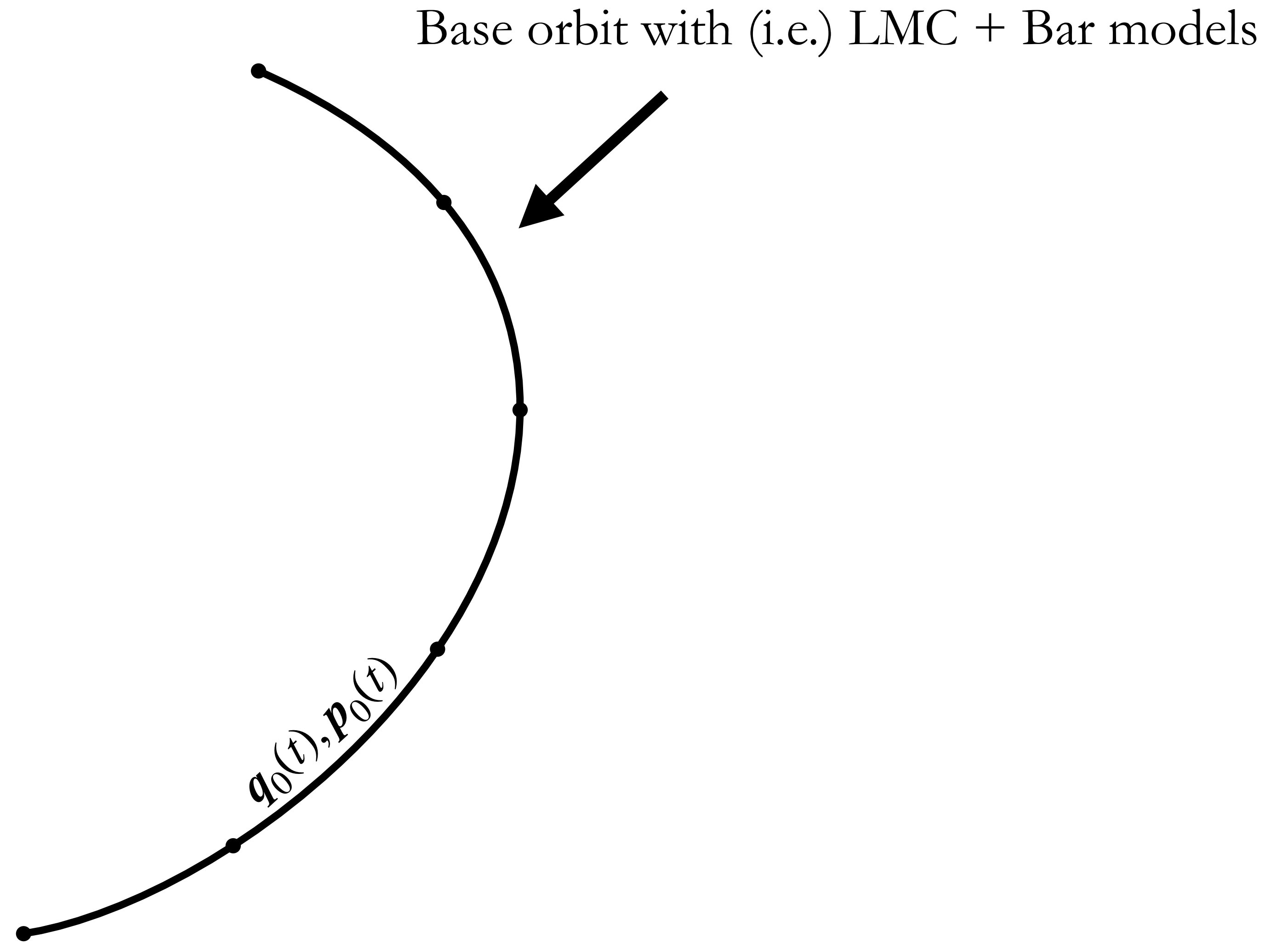
Streams are promising probes of dark substructure, but this is difficult...



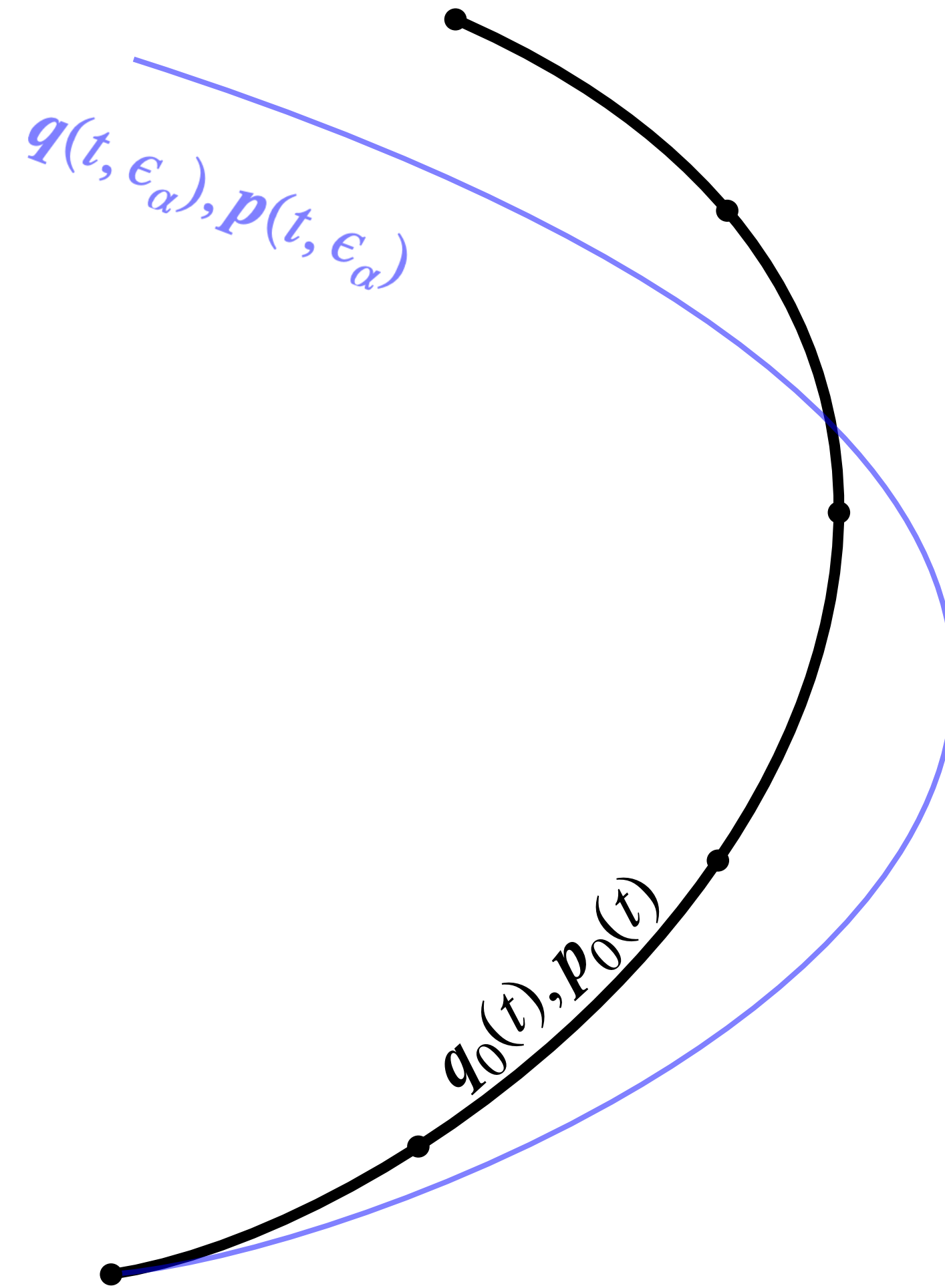
Toward a fast, flexible, stream model

- Observations already show rich density structure
- Many sources of perturbation (known baryonic structures and potentially substructures dark)
- Goal: fast, flexible (time-dependent) method for generating many impacts, incorporating known perturbers as a baseline

Method: treat the subhalos at linear order, simulate everything else at non-linear order

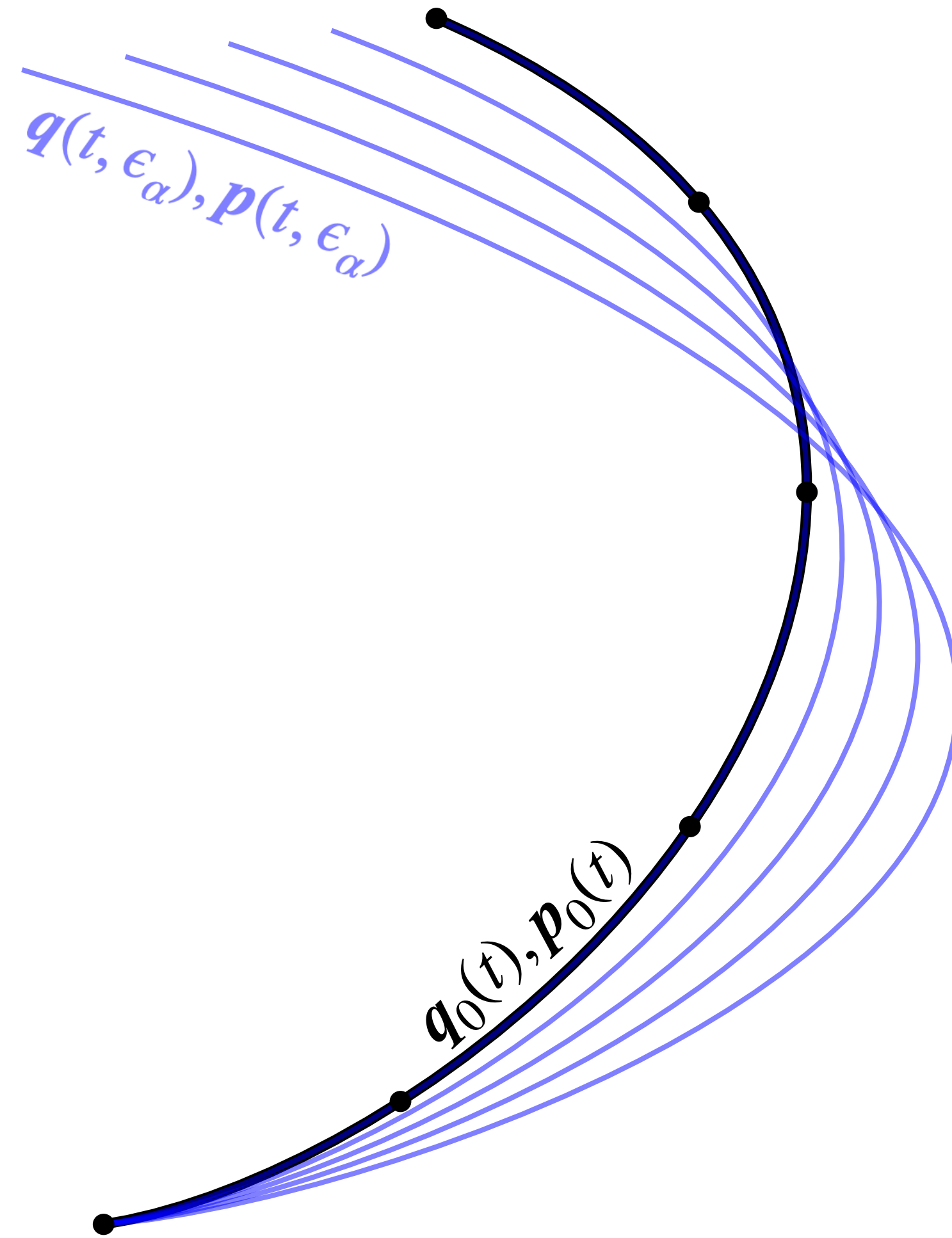


Method: treat the subhalos at linear order, simulate everything else at non-linear order



ϵ : controls perturbation strength (i.e., mass)

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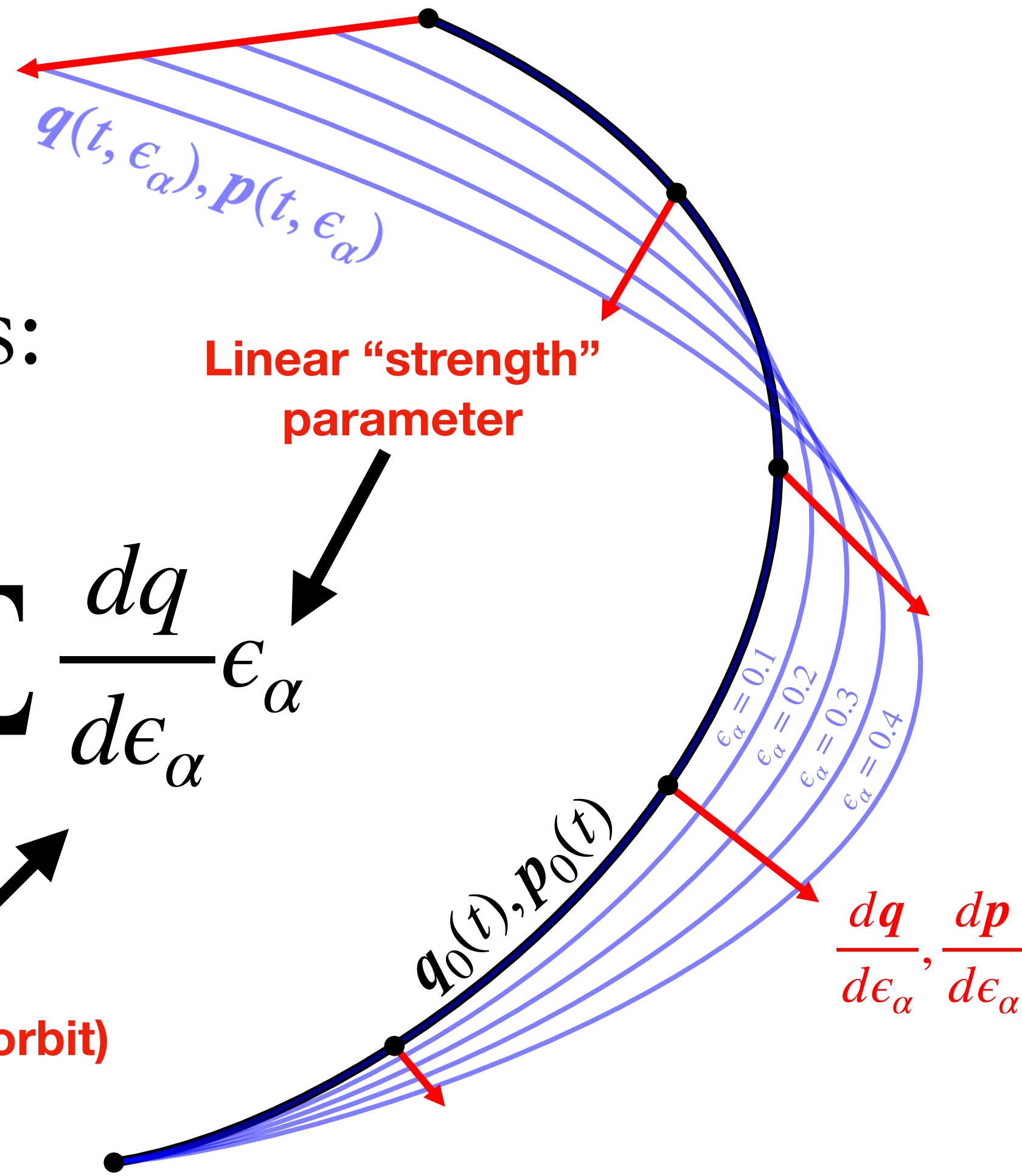
Method: treat the subhalos at linear order, simulate everything else at non-linear order

Once you have derivatives:

perturbed stream \approx
unperturbed stream +

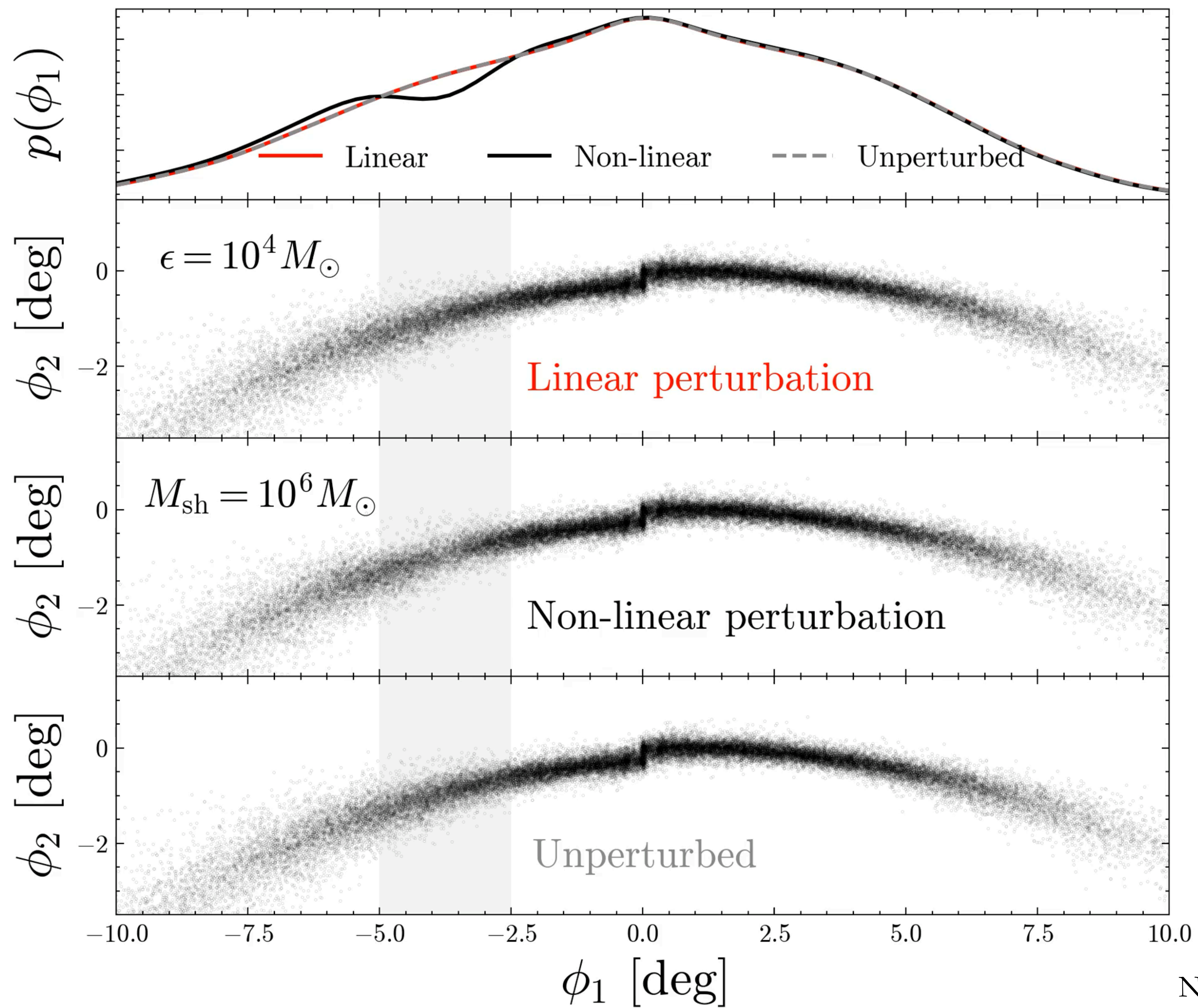
$$\sum_{\alpha} \frac{dq}{d\epsilon_{\alpha}} \epsilon_{\alpha}$$

Pre-compute 1000s (1 per subhalo orbit)

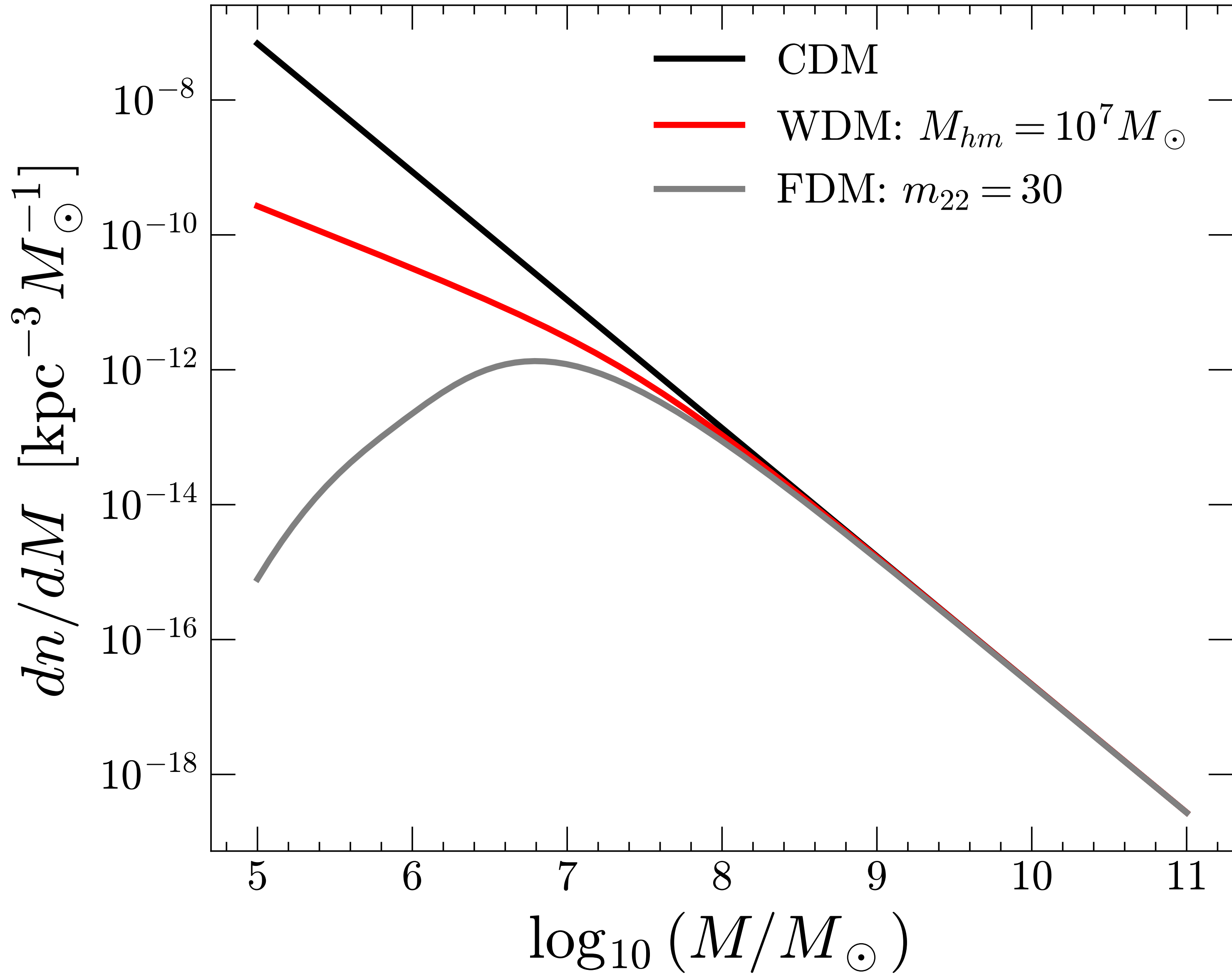


Taylor expanding
a simulation!

ϵ : controls perturbation strength (i.e., mass)



(Video)

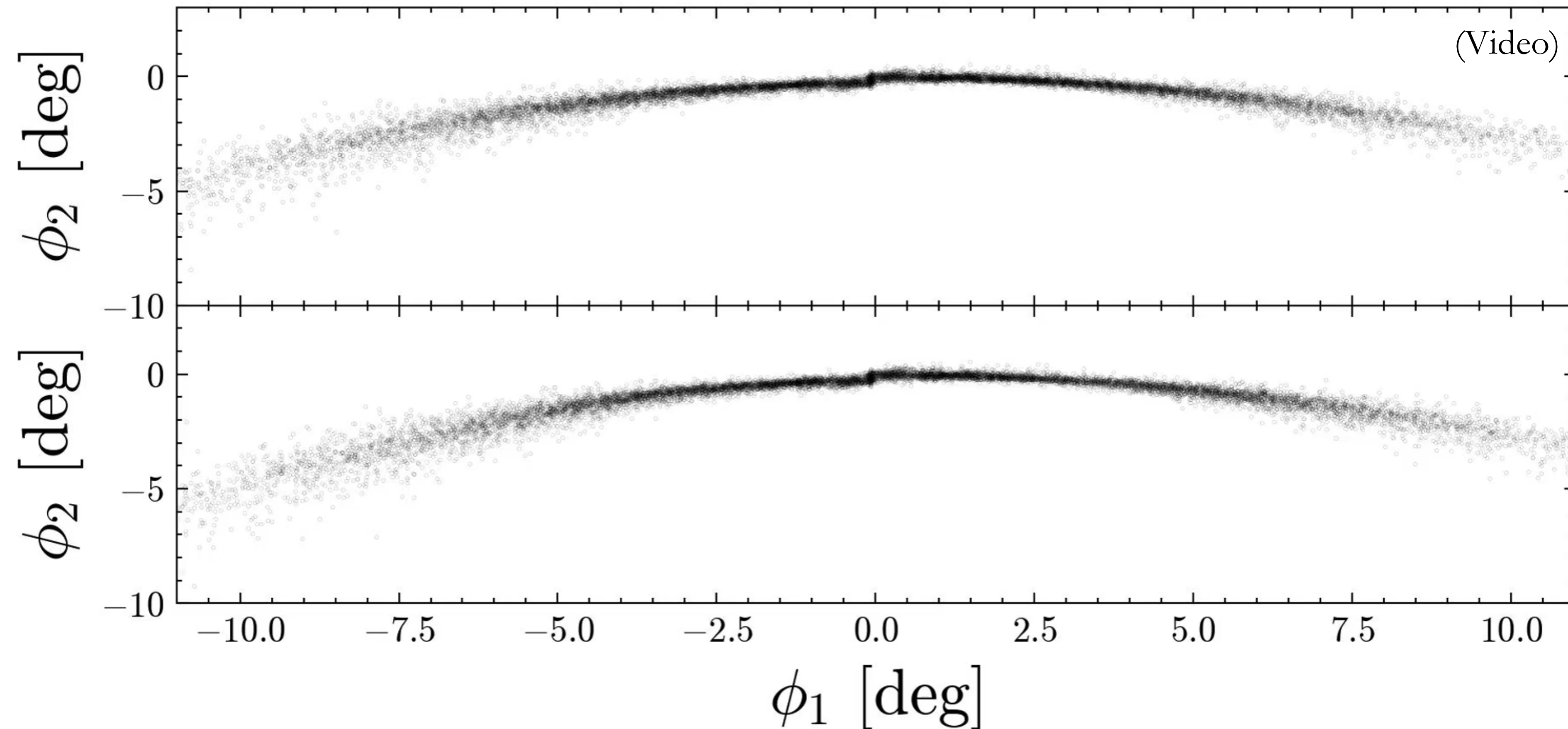


CDM Expectation for GD-1:

$\mathcal{O}(100)$ total impacts

$\mathcal{O}(1)$ major ($> 10^6 M_{\odot}$) impacts

Continuously deforming a stream due to $\mathcal{O}(100)$ subhalos (CDM impact rate)



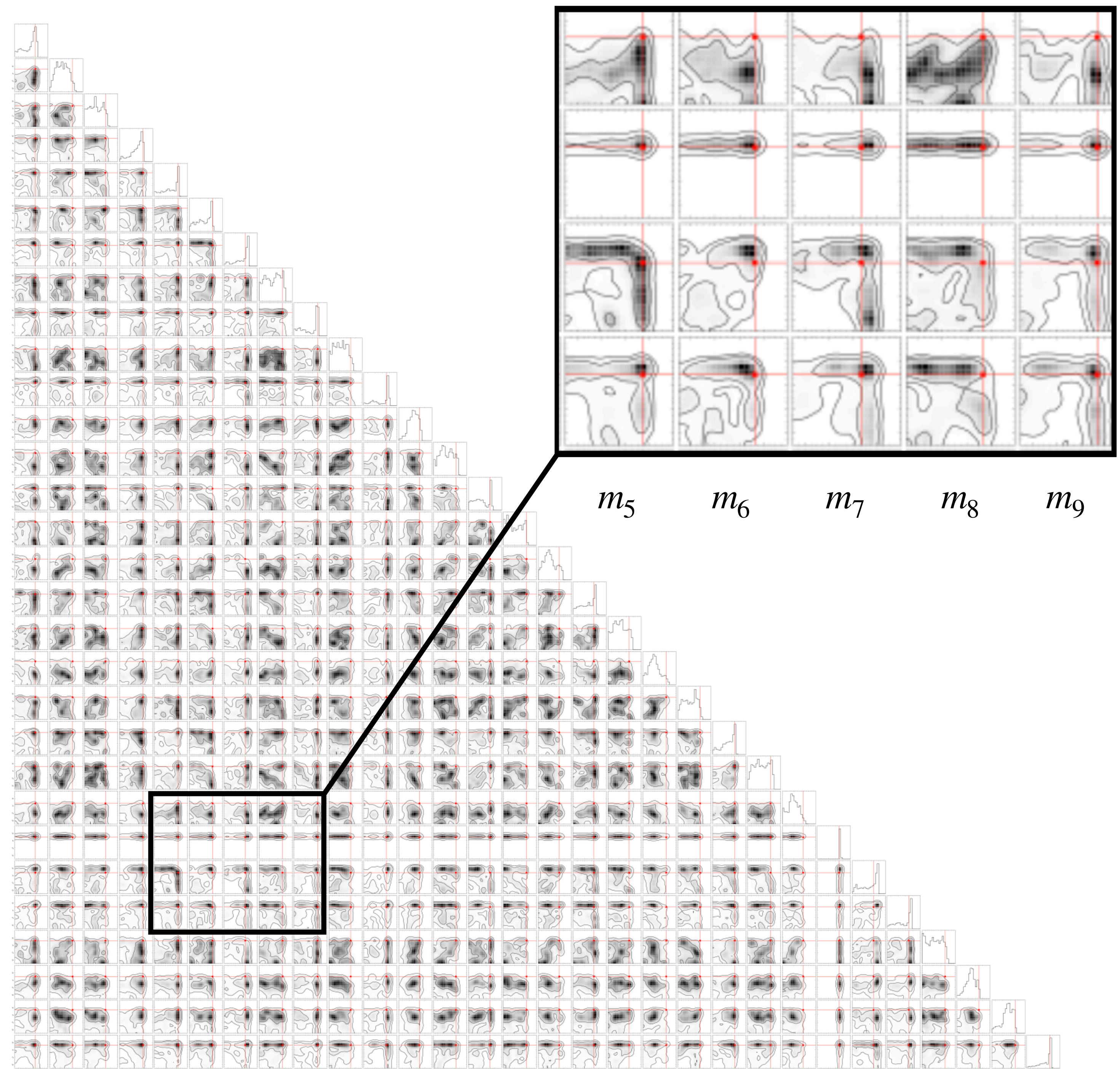
$[10^5, 10^6] M_\odot$ subhalos heat the stream (velocity dispersion and width, 10% density fluctuations)

More massive subhalos \rightarrow gaps + bifurcations

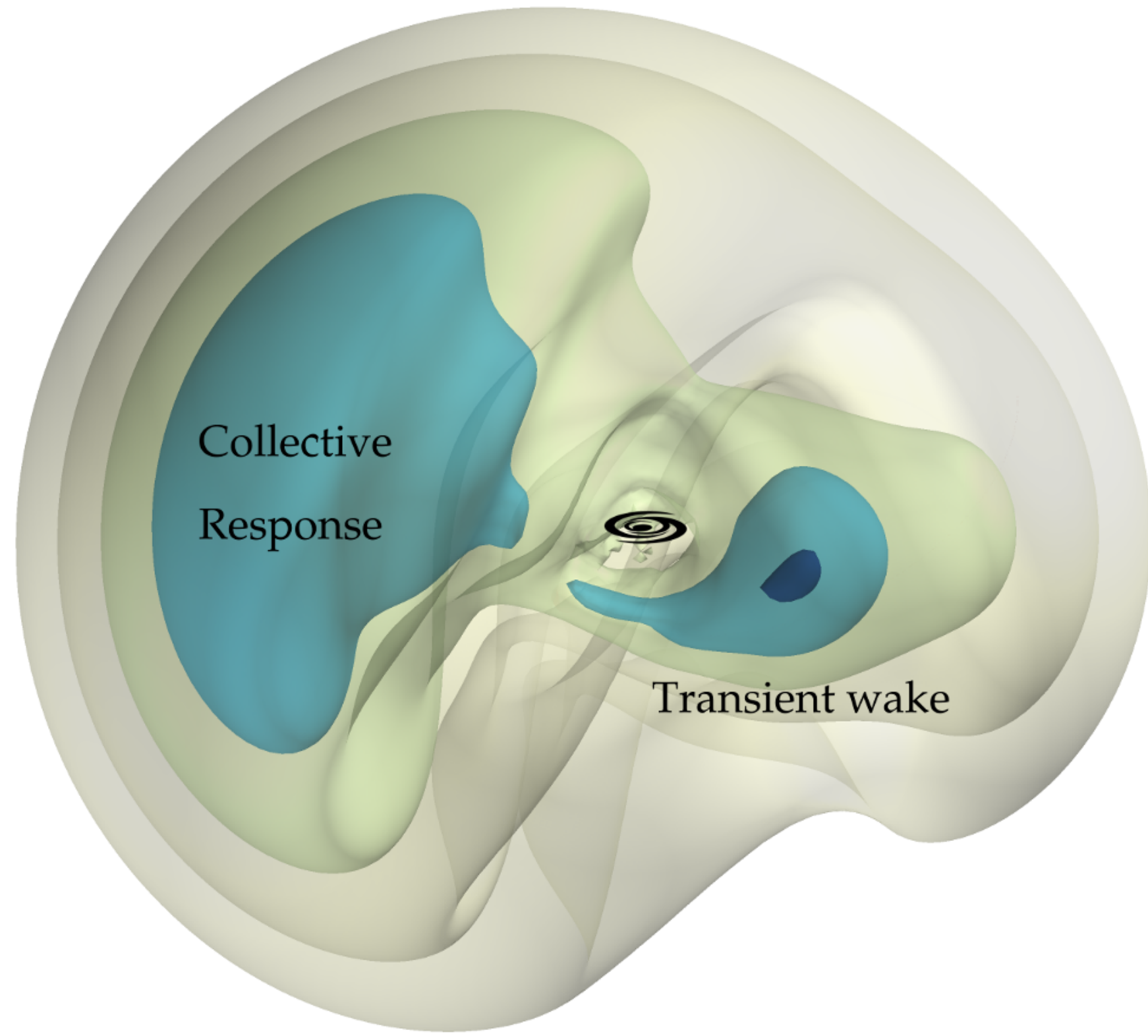
(Ridiculous plot warning)

Sampling the *linear* mass posterior for 30 subhalos on fixed orbits, in ~ 1 minute

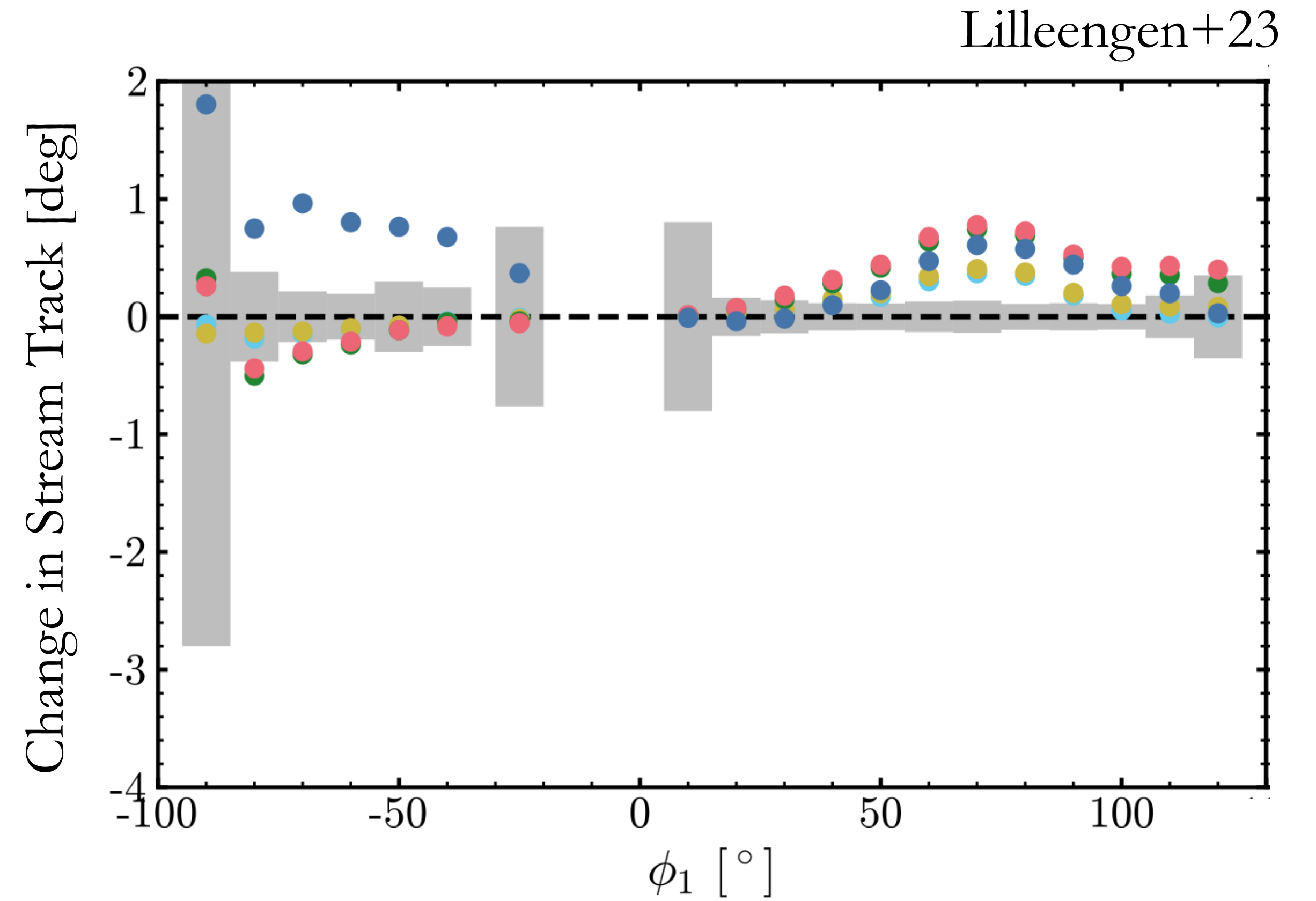
Input mock-data:
stream density structure



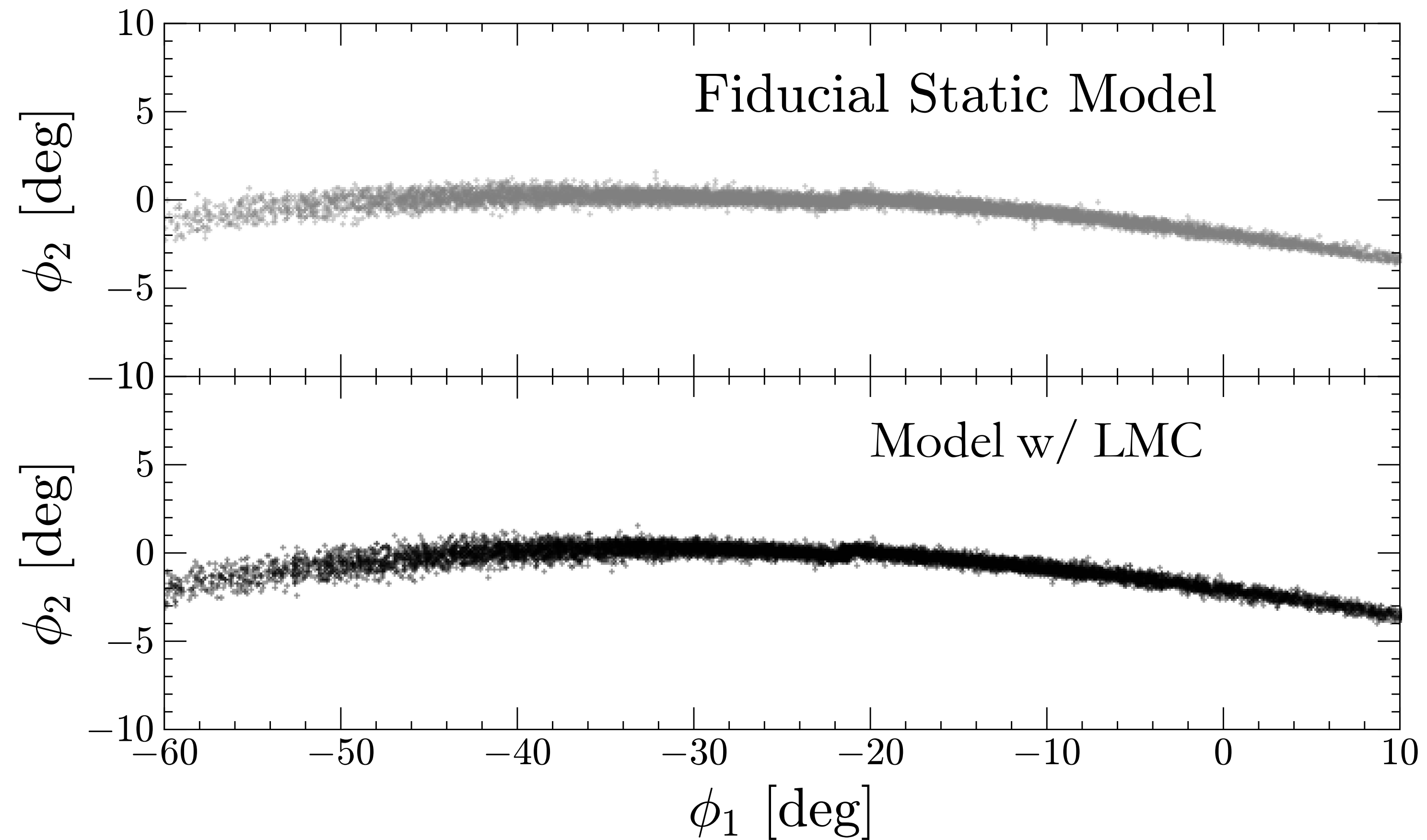
LMC shifts the tracks of some streams (e.g., the OC Stream)



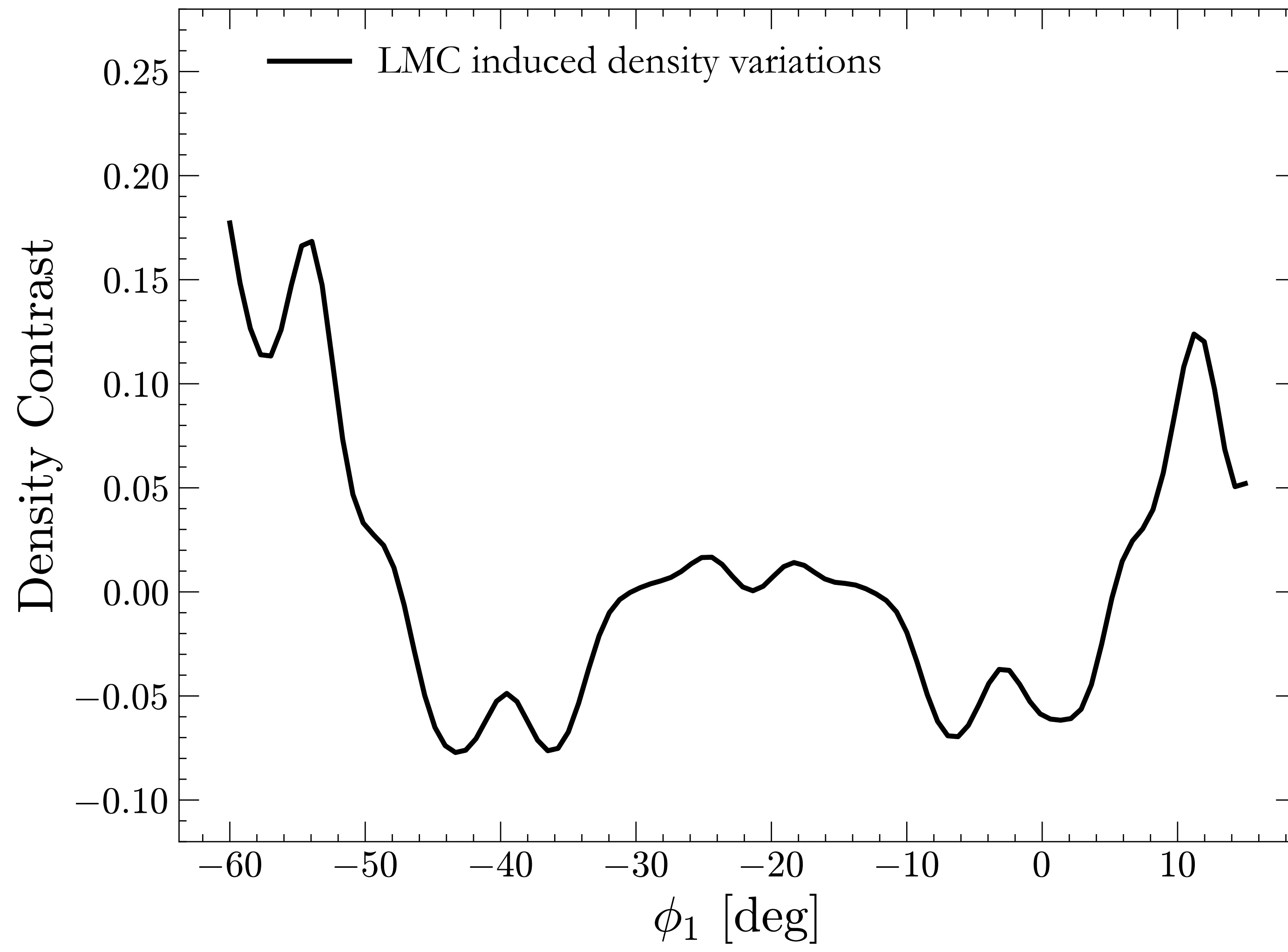
Garavito-Camargo+21



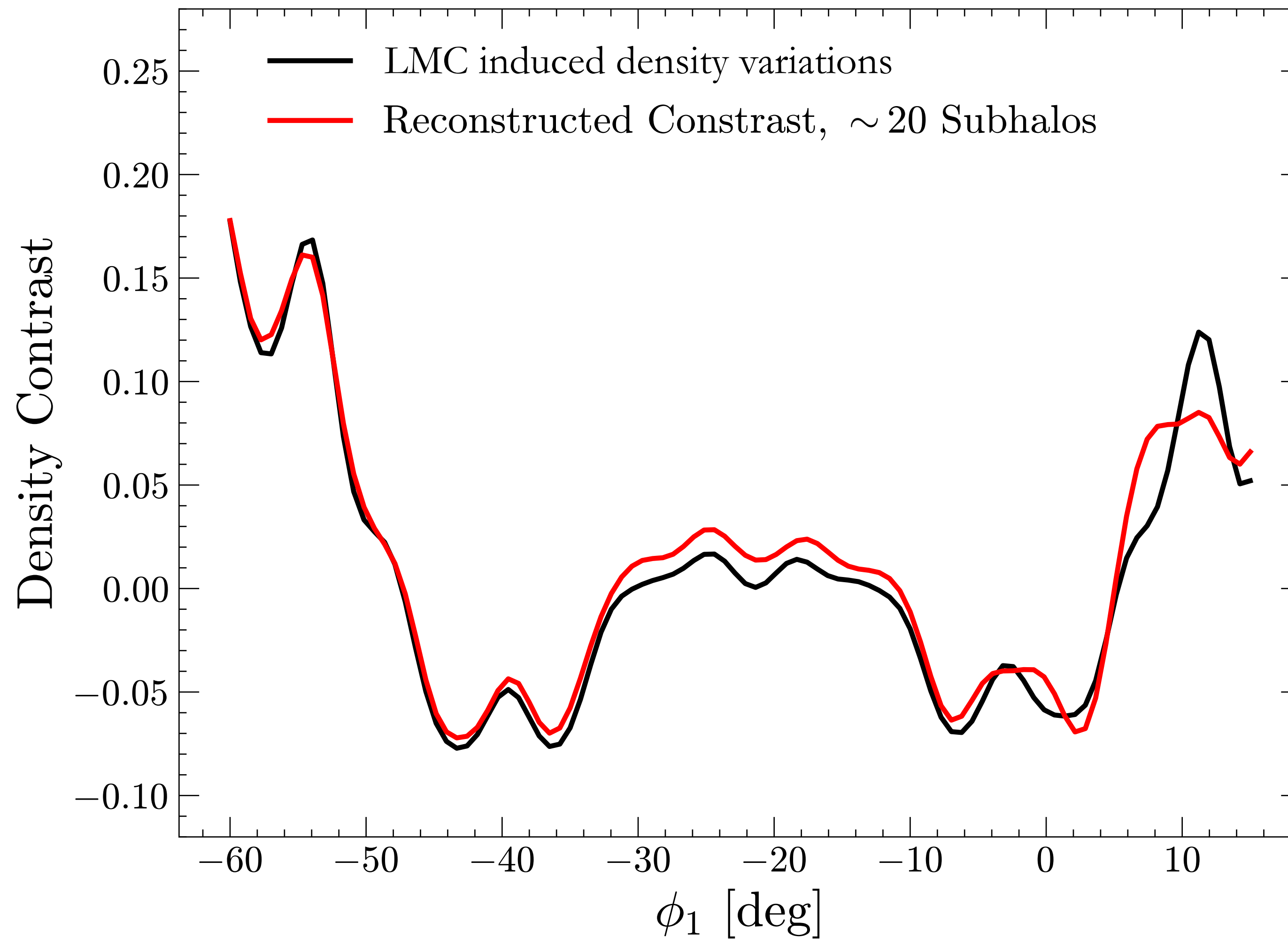
The track of GD-1 is not expected to shift due to the LMC
by a detectable amount



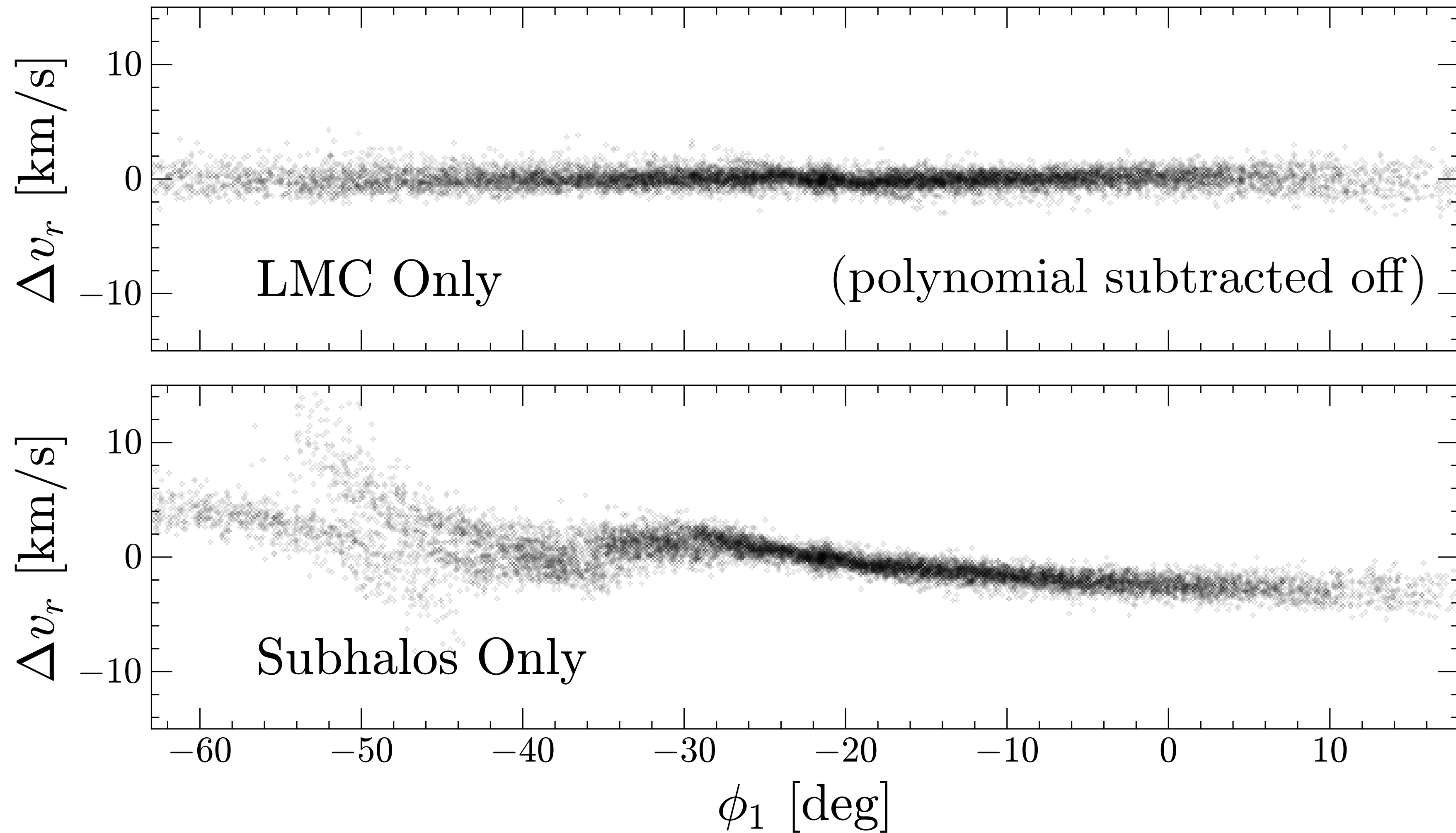
Density Structure?



Failure to account for LMC can bias constraints from linear density

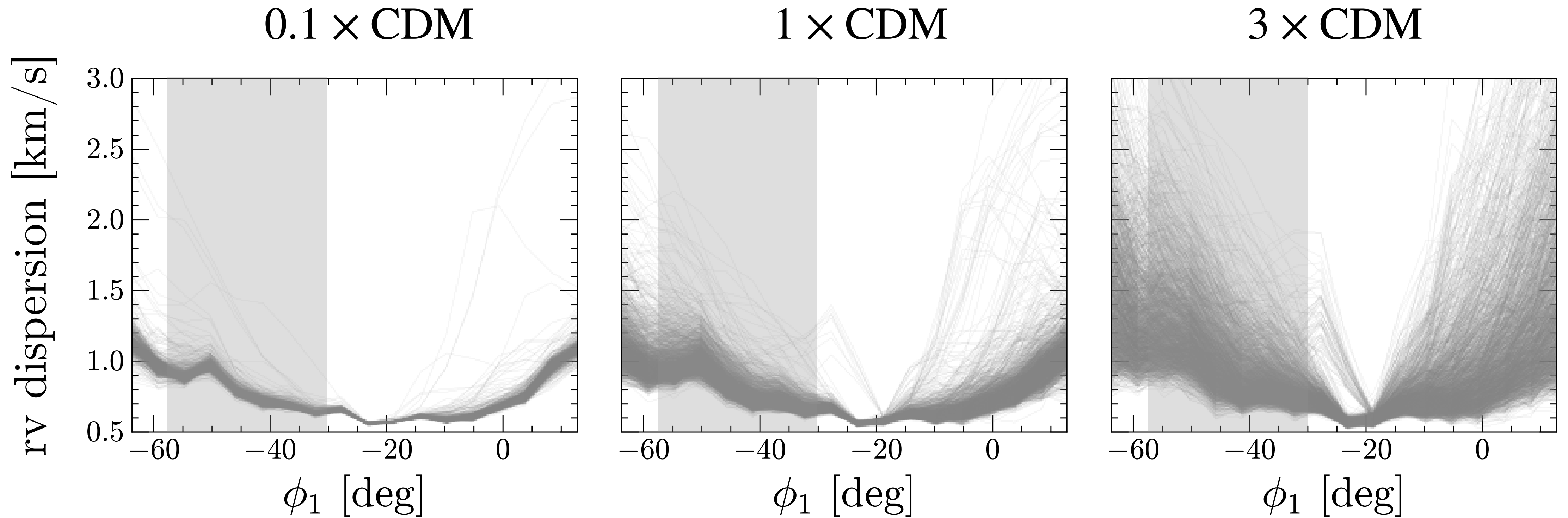


But we can now incorporate known perturbations in the base model

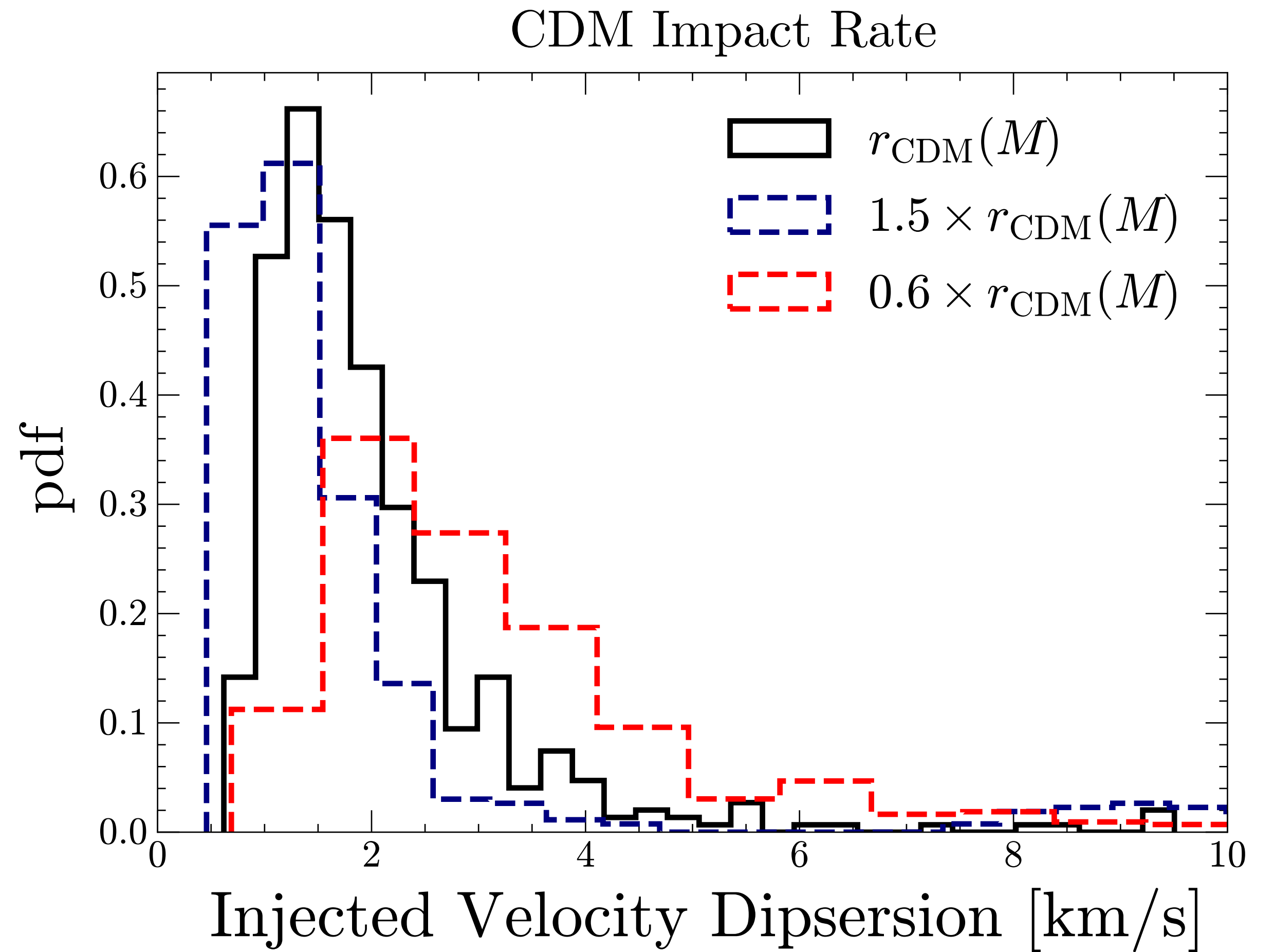
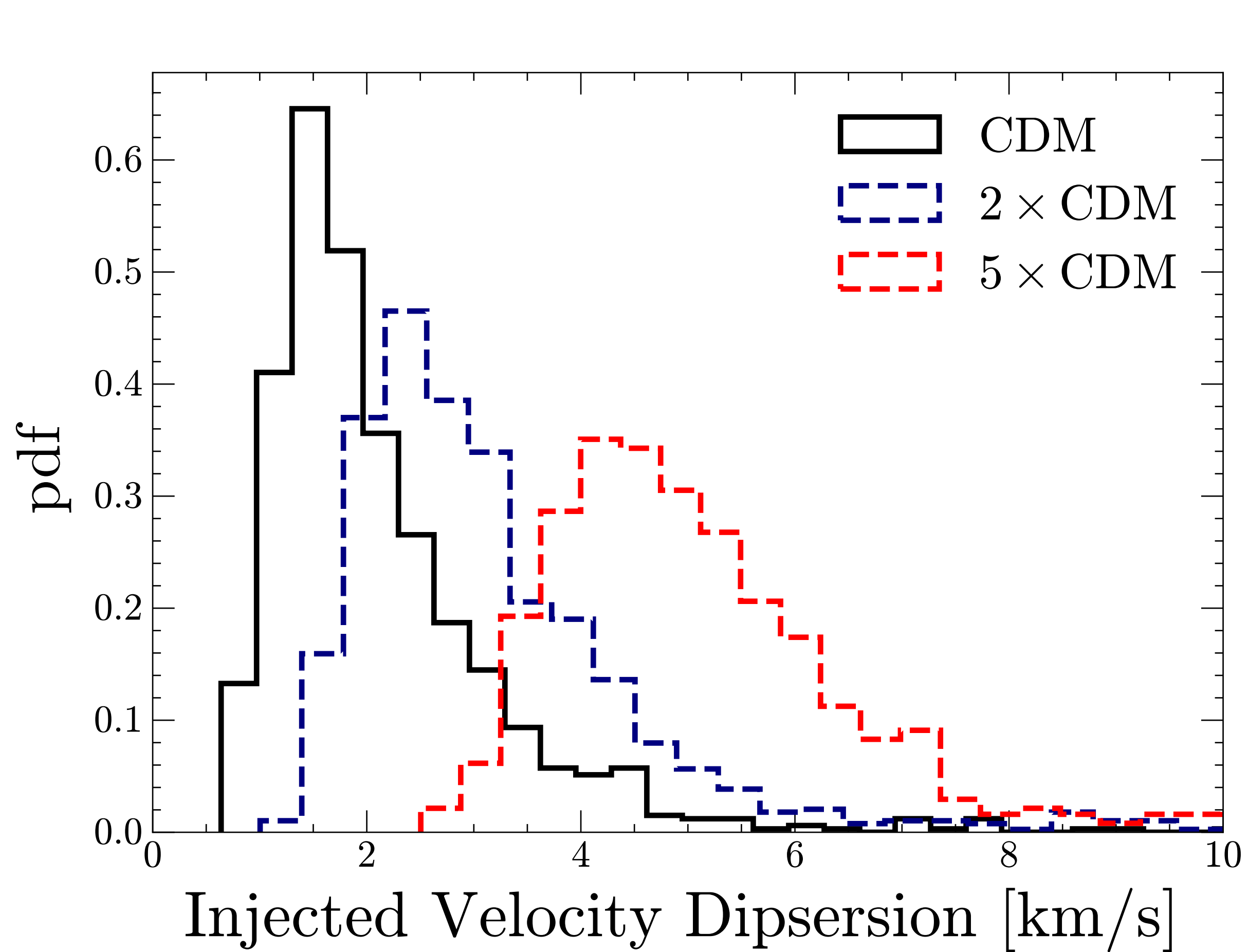


Density structure derived from deep photometry alone will provide constraints,
precise ($\lesssim 1$ km/s) radial velocity follow-up provides a crucial cross-check

The effect of ~ 100 subhalos with $M \in [10^5, 10^6] M_{\odot}$ is
to increase the stream's velocity dispersion

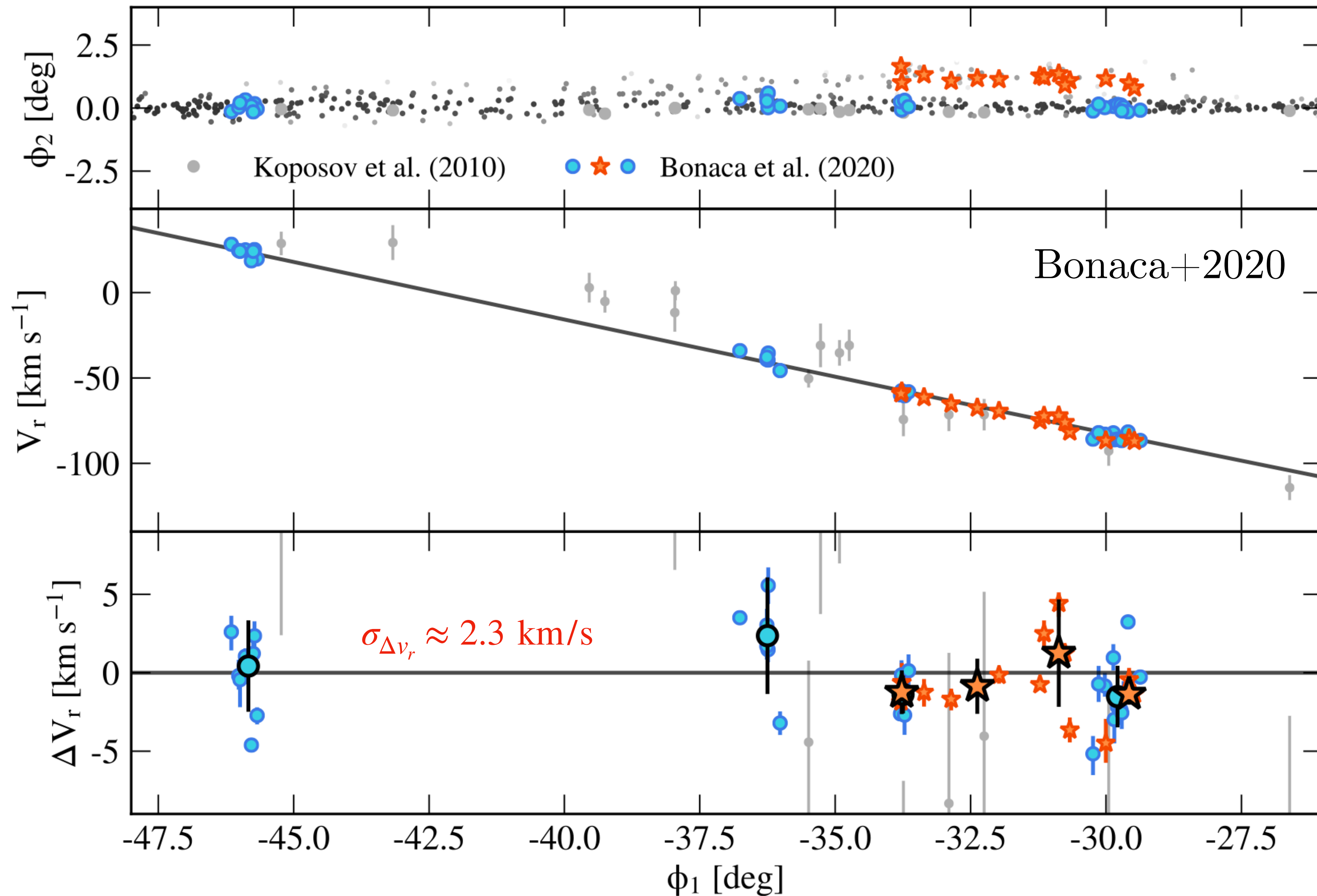


(e.g. if 1 x CDM = 100 impacts, 0.1 x CDM = 10 impacts)



Distributions are taken over ~ 20 deg of the stream

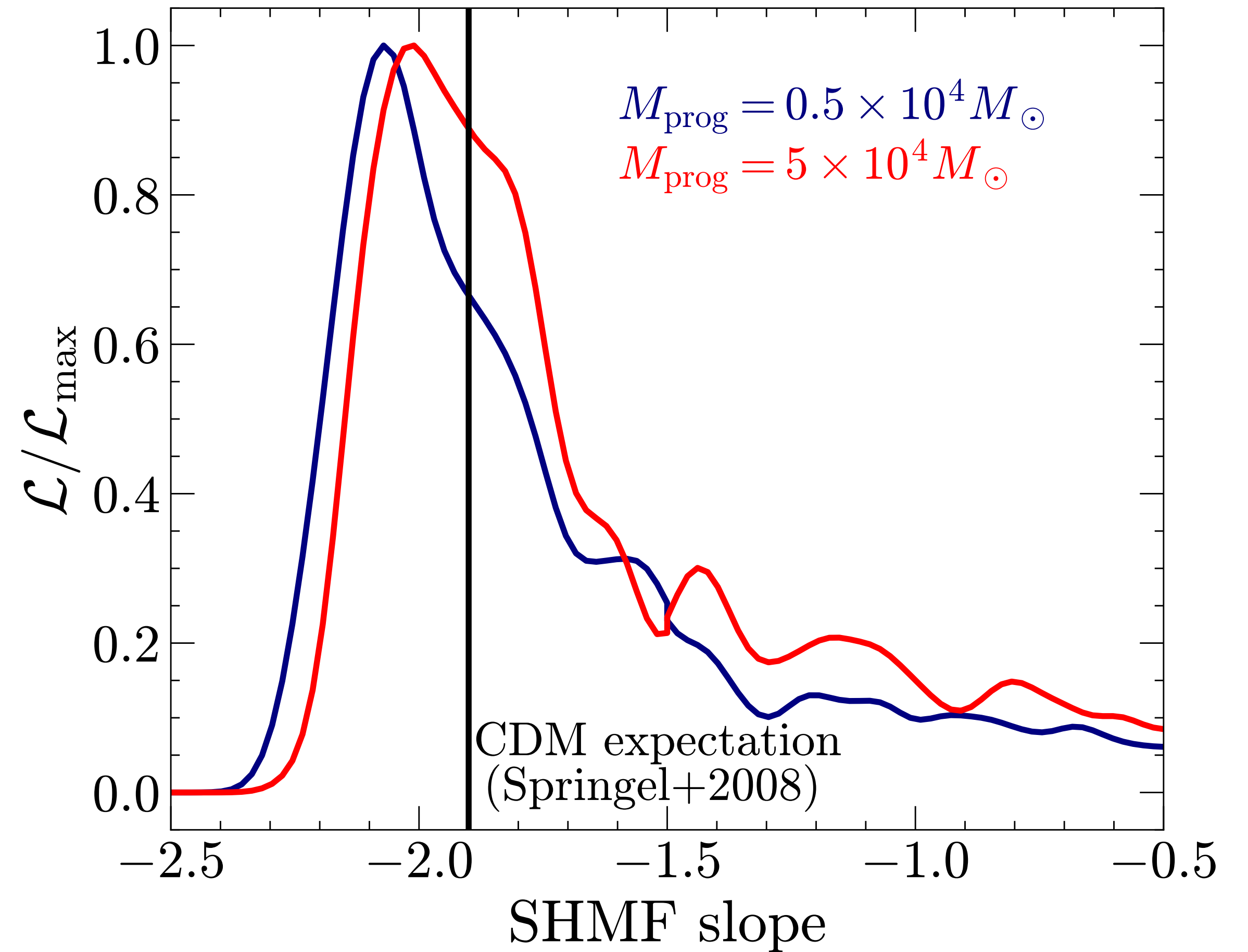
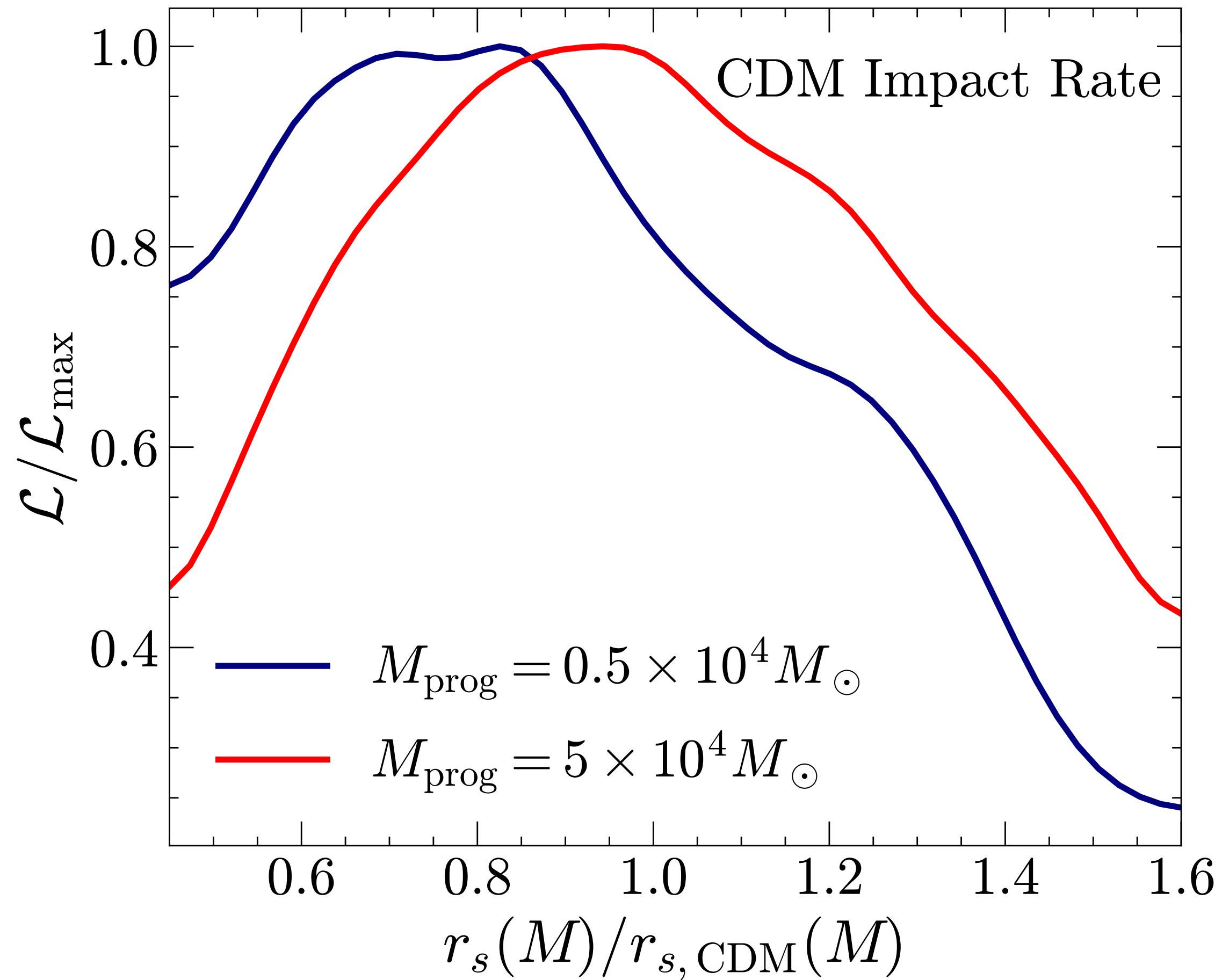
High-resolution spectroscopy of GD-1 reveals a dynamically heated stream



Unperturbed models: $\sigma_{\Delta v_r} \sim 0.6-0.8$ km/s

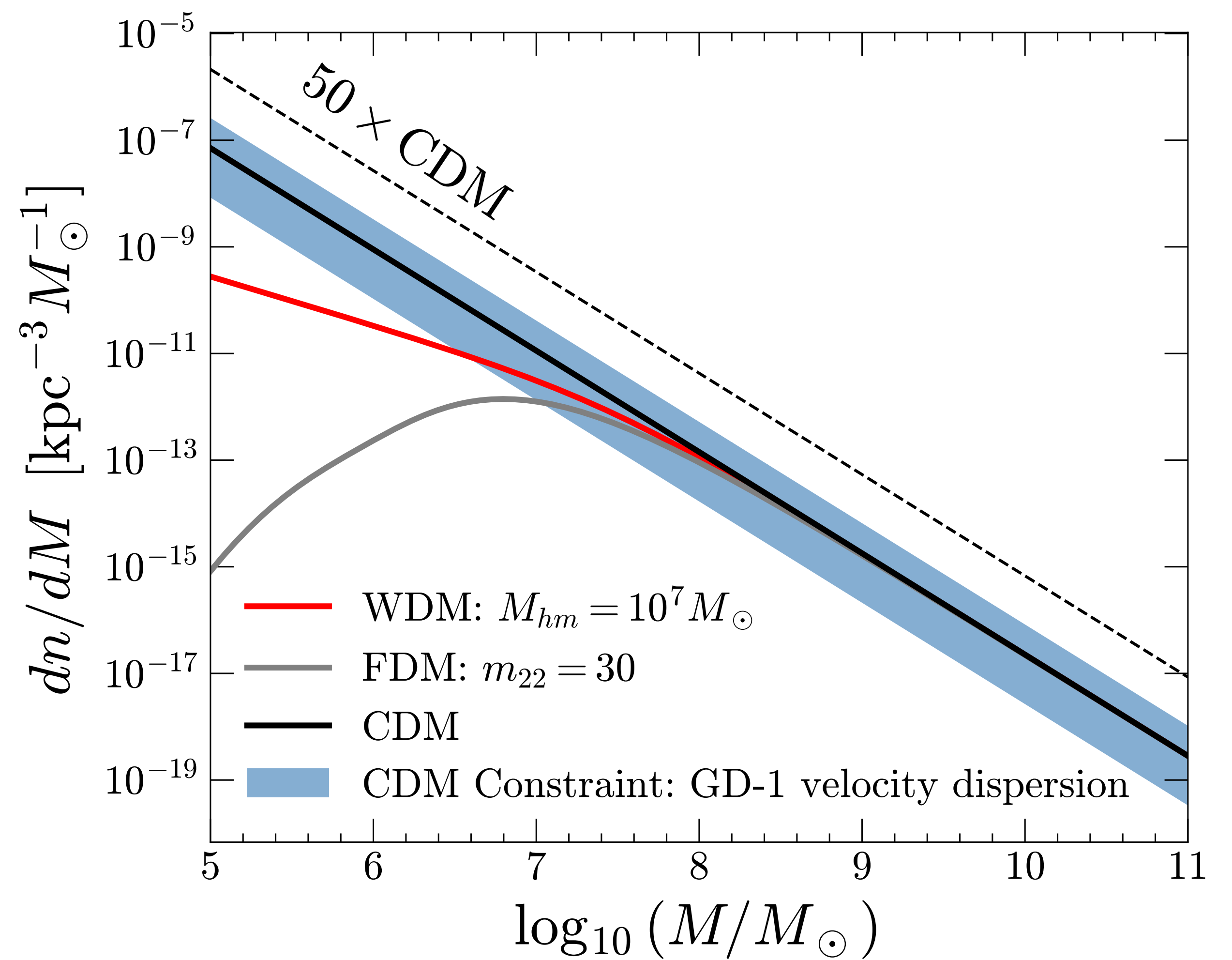
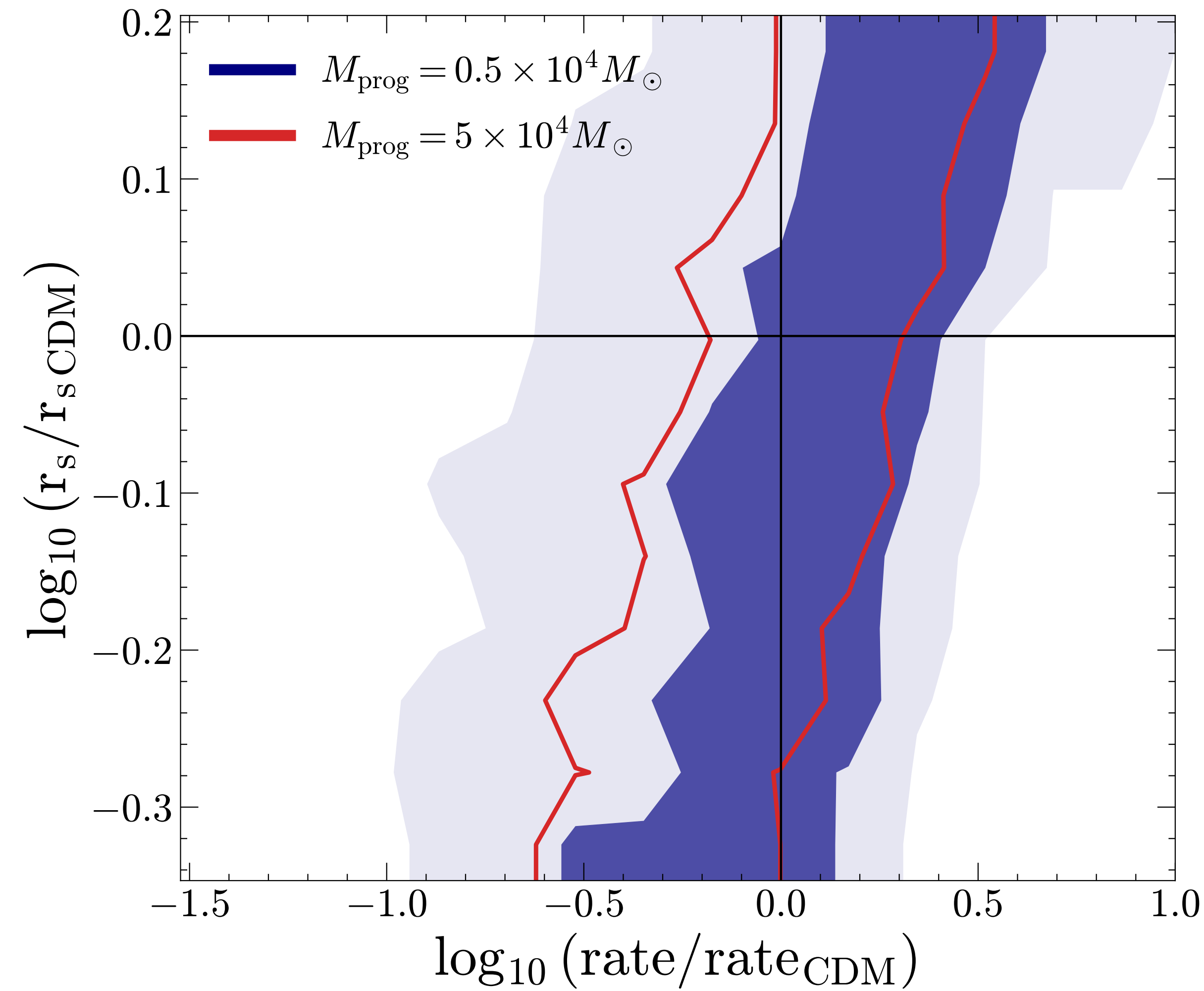
Also see Gialluca+2020

Data: radial velocities of 43 spectroscopically confirmed GD-1 stars



Preliminary

Data: radial velocities of 43 spectroscopically confirmed GD-1 stars



Preliminary

Take-homes

- Stream curvature probes stellar halo shapes (Nibauer+23), an under-explored prediction of Λ CDM. More work needed to characterize stream-tracks with LSST
- Effects of the bar, the LMC, halo shapes, etc. are important when modeling the density structure of streams. Perturbation theory provides a path forward
- Radial velocity followup will be crucial for the rich density structures we are bound to find along streams w/ LSST
 - If density and radial velocities tell a consistent story, this will be compelling
- More work needed: semi-analytic cluster models — beyond particle spray (Thurs?)