The Mass of the Milky Way from its Satellites

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Akira Fujii/David Malin Images

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- Some "tension" in kinematics arguing for a higher-mass MW.
 - ▶ What does this actually imply about the mass of the Milky Way?



Michael Busha, Santa Cruz Galaxy Workshop, 8/18/10

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- Earlier today (Gerke, Tollerud), we heard about the likelihood for a Milky Way-like galaxy (magnitude) to host two Magellanic Cloud-mass satellites.
 - Work mostly in observational space with SDSS, has also been done with simulations (i.e., Boylan-Kolchin).
- Ask the reverse question: Assuming the appropriate substructure population, what is the likelihood distribution for the host population?
 - Work in simulation space using Bolshoi which provides a very detailed model of the dark matter distribution in a 250 kpc/h box.

Can we use information about the Magellanic Clouds to constrain the mass of the Milky Way?

- Observational Constraints on the Milky Way (some 500 years old!):
 - Not a "satellite" of a larger structure
 - Has exactly two satellites clouds with $v_{max} > 55$ km/s
 - No other substructures within 300 kpc with v_{max} > 25km/s (Fornax is next brightest with v_{max} ~ 20 km/s)

	LMC	SMC
Vmax	~70 km/s	~60 km/s
r ₀	49.53 kpc	60 kpc
Vrad	$89 \pm 4 \text{ km/s}$	23 ± 7 km/s
Speed	293 ± 39 km/s	$301 \pm 52 \text{ km/s}$

Watkins, Evans, & An 2010; Kallivayalil, van der Marel, & Alcock 06; Krachentsev et al 04; van der Marel et al 02

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- Our model for interpreting the data:
 - Look for analogs in Bolshoi: a full model of the dark matter distribution in the universe.
 - Complete down to 50 km/s, able to resolve all MC-mass subhalos
 - Make increasingly strict cuts by weighting simulation halos on a range of Magellanic Cloud properties

The Mass of the MW: Current Constraints

- Battaglia 05: Radial velocity dispersion profile from globular clusters and satellites
- Smith 07: Escape velocity assuming NFW profile
- Xue 08: Radial velocity dispersion from BHB stars in SDSS
- Li 08: Timing Argument



The Effect of the Magellanic Clouds

- Results from demanding that a host halo has exactly two smaller satellites within 300 kpc.
- Find 35,000 objects
- Peak value: $2 \times 10^{12} M_{\odot}$
- Very wide spread, but in the ballpark considering this is such a rough measurement.
- Part of the spread is driven by the mass function.



The Effect of More Satellites

 Mass PDF for selecting hosts with increasingly more subhalos within 300 kpc



- We can refine our constraints by imposing additional criteria on the properties of the satellites, $w = e^{-\frac{(\mathcal{O} - \mathcal{M})^2}{2\sigma}}$
 - w = c
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$$log(Mvir) = 12.26 \pm 0.34$$

(n_{subs} + v_{max} + r₀ + v_r)



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 Can be compared directly with other measurements -- not competitive, but perfectly brackets the range of recent measurements



The Resulting Hosts

- Get ~ 20 "close" matches, hundreds of decent ones.
- Can do two things with the resulting catalog:
 - Apply more priors to better constrain the mass (at the expense of statistics).
 - Look at the posterior distribution of other properties and compare with observations, learn more about the MW.



Accretion Time of the Subhalos

- Recent work indicates that the LMC and SMC may be on their first passage through the Milky Way.
- In our selection of Bolshoi objects, over 90% of the objects were accreted in the past Gyr (roughly a crossing time of the MW).



Accretion Time of the Subhalos

- Also speculation that the Magellanic Clouds may have accreted as bound objects.
- The Bolshoi hosts that have similar r₀ and r_v distributions strongly agree with this, halos with just v_{max} selected LMC and SMC analogs don't.



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measurements of the radial velocity dispersion profile to observations of BHB stars, globular clusters and satellites directly to the Bolshoi dark matter measurements.



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Circular Velocity Profile

- We can play the same game with the circular velocity profile.
- While we still see consistency, the profile for the Milky Way is significantly higher than the mean profile from the Bolshoi halos.
- Ignored effect: Baryons or adiabatic contraction at the halo center.



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Conclusions

• Given that we have exactly two Magellanic Clouds, the Bolshoi simulation puts reasonable constraints on the Milky Way in excellent agreement with more "thorough" observations.

► $M_{MW} = 1.8 \times 10^{12} \pm 0.8 M_{\odot}$

- Properties of MW analogs in the simulation in good agreement with other observational constraints.
 - Predict recent, simultaneous accretion of the LMC and SMC.
 - Good agreement with regards to the radial velocity dispersion.
 - Circular velocity profiles in Bolshoi may be somewhat lower than, but consistent with, measurements from the Milky Way.
- Agree with Erik and Brian: No "found satellites" problem, no violation of the Copernican principle -- if you look at simulated halos with two massive substructures, the Milky Way looks fairly typical!