

# Possible origins of phase-space structures among satellite galaxies in the Local Group

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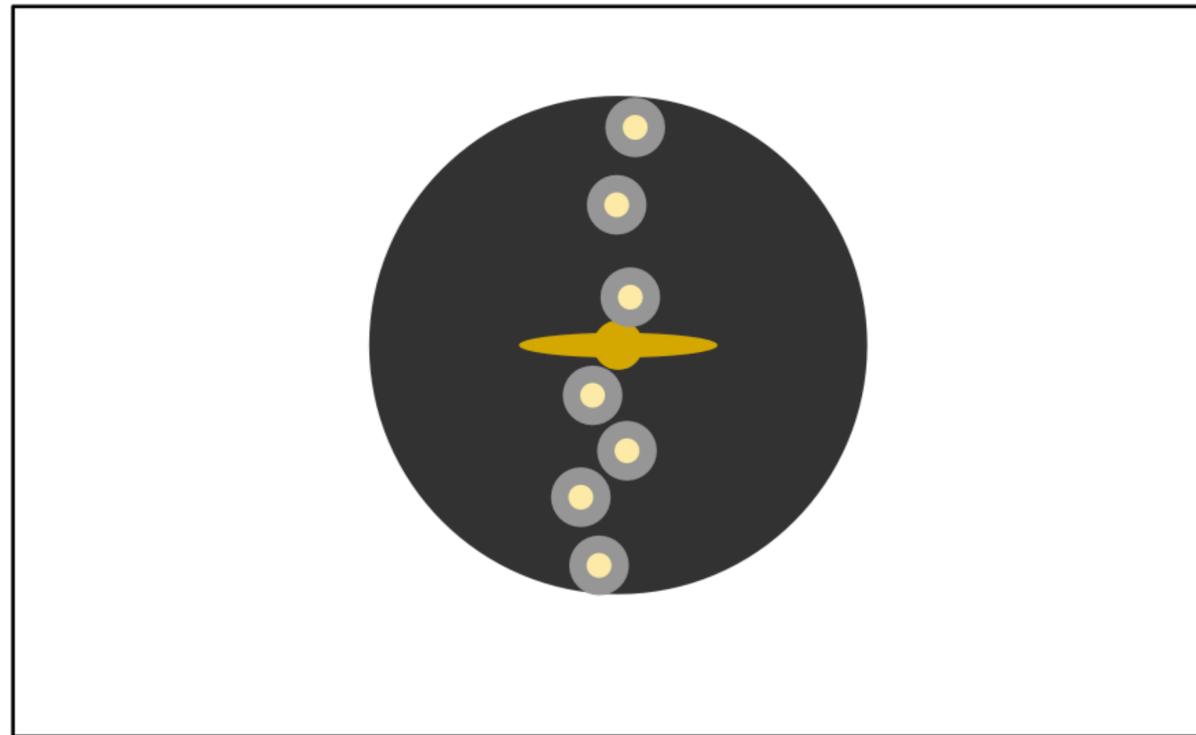
✉ [mpawlowski@aip.de](mailto:mpawlowski@aip.de)

🐦 [@8minutesold](https://twitter.com/8minutesold)

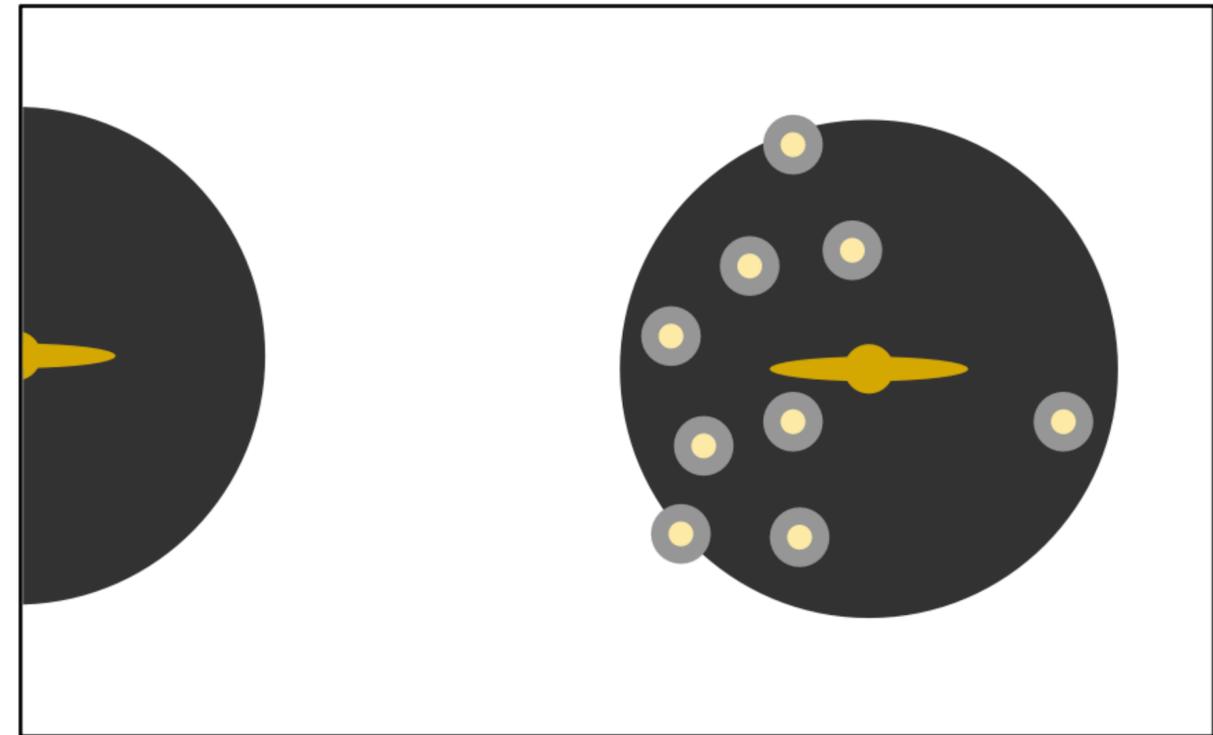


# Two types of satellite galaxy phase-space correlations that challenge expectations

Plane of Satellites

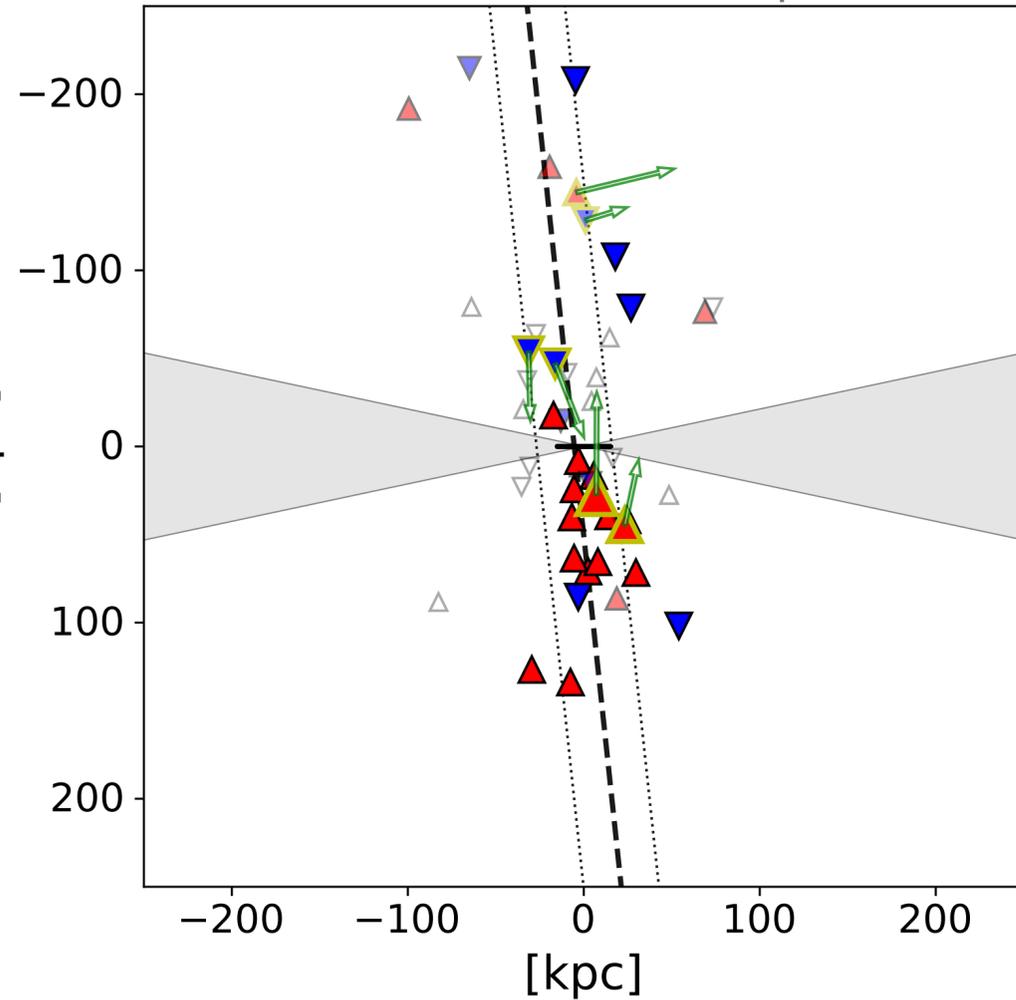


Lopsidedness



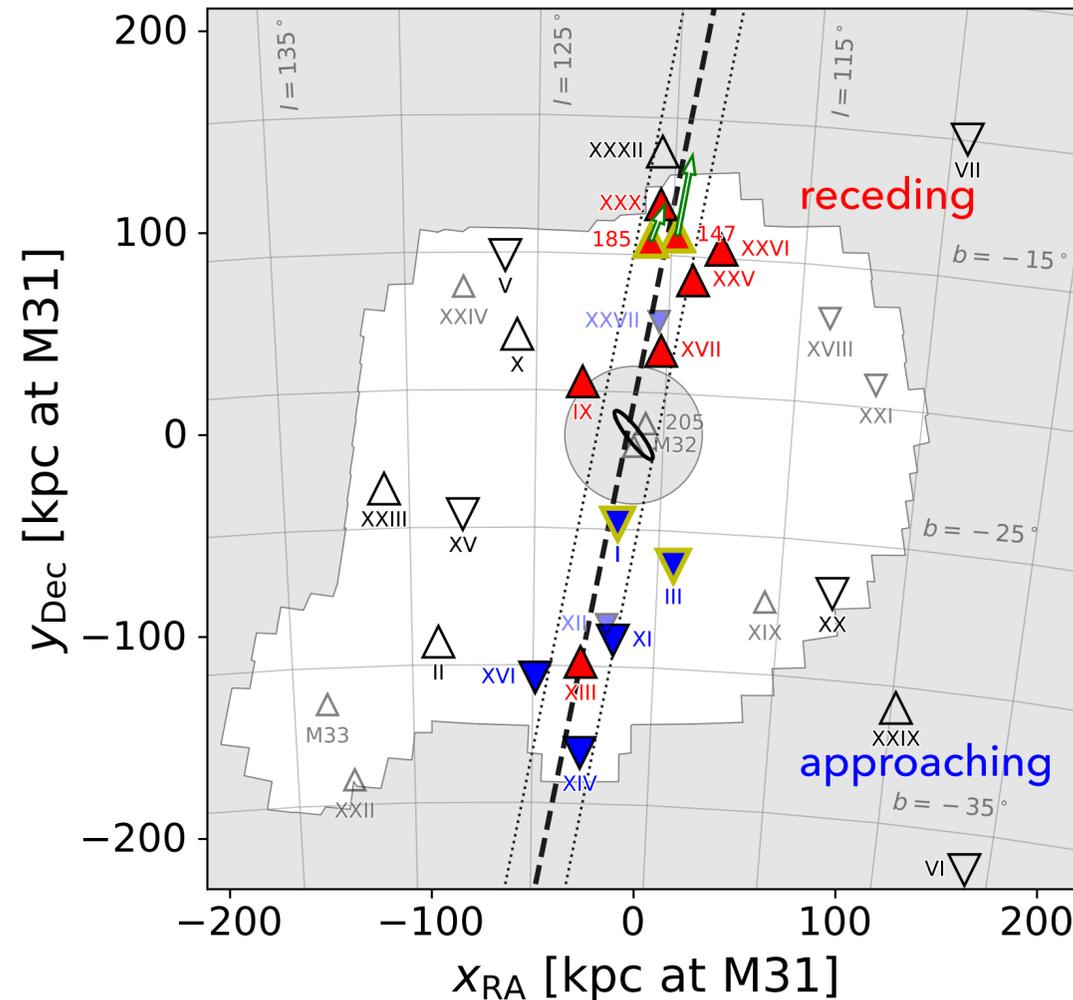
# Both the Milky Way and M31 host a “Plane of Satellite Galaxies”

**MW:** Pawlowski & Kroupa (2020)



Co-rotation along plane confirmed with proper motions, especially for most classical dwarfs  
(see Salvatore’s talk yesterday)

**M31:** Ibata et al. (2013)

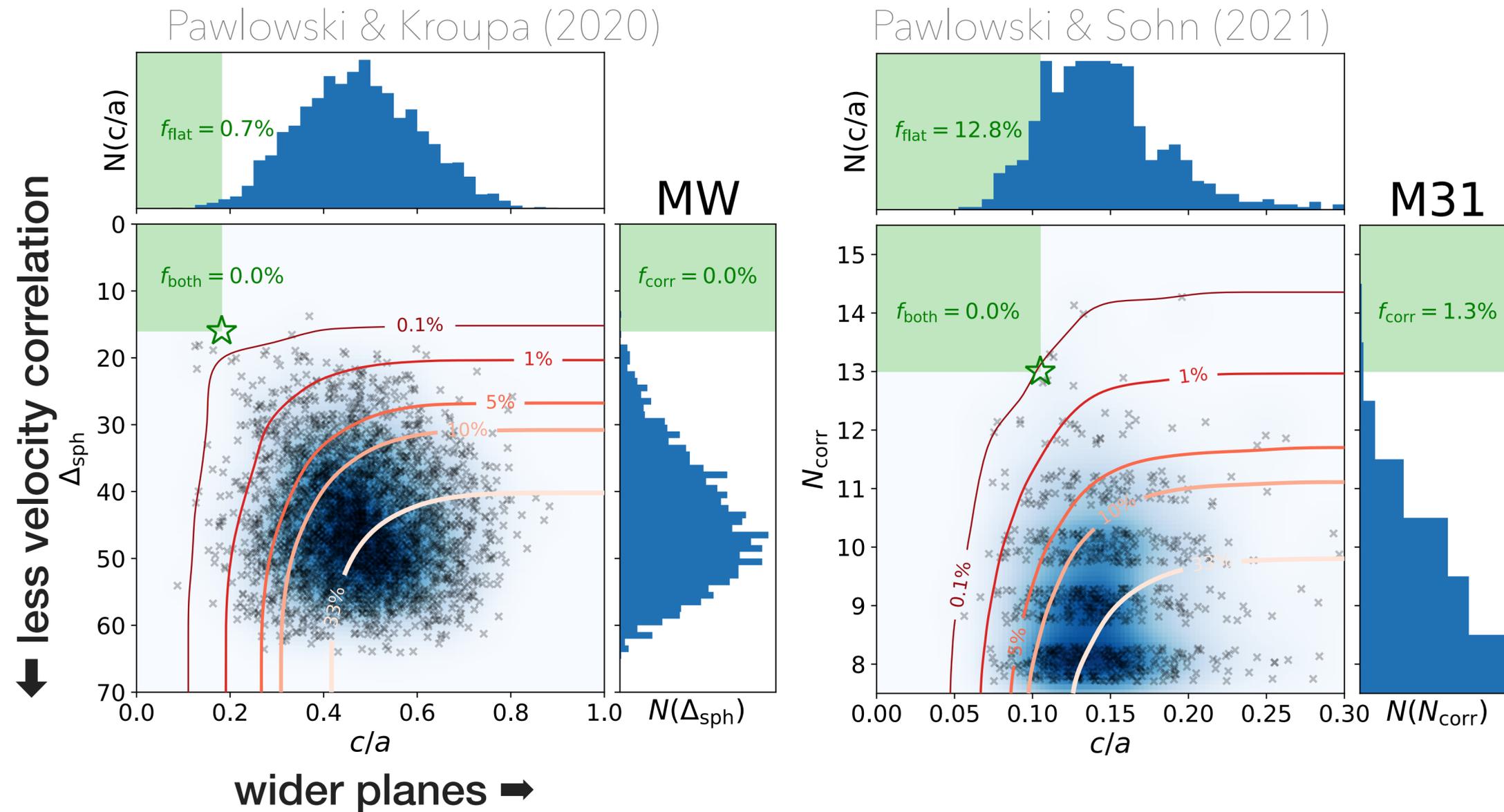


Two dwarfs with **proper motions** confirm co-rotation along plane  
(Sohn et al. 2020, Pawlowski & Sohn 2021)

Other cases outside the Local Group, e.g.:

- ▶ **Centaurus A**  
(Müller, Pawlowski, et al. 2018, 2021)
- ▶ **NGC 4490**  
(Pawlowski et al. 2024, on arXiv two weeks ago).
- ▶ **25% of host in MATLAS**  
(Heesters et al. 2021).

# Similarly extreme structures are very rare in cosmological simulations



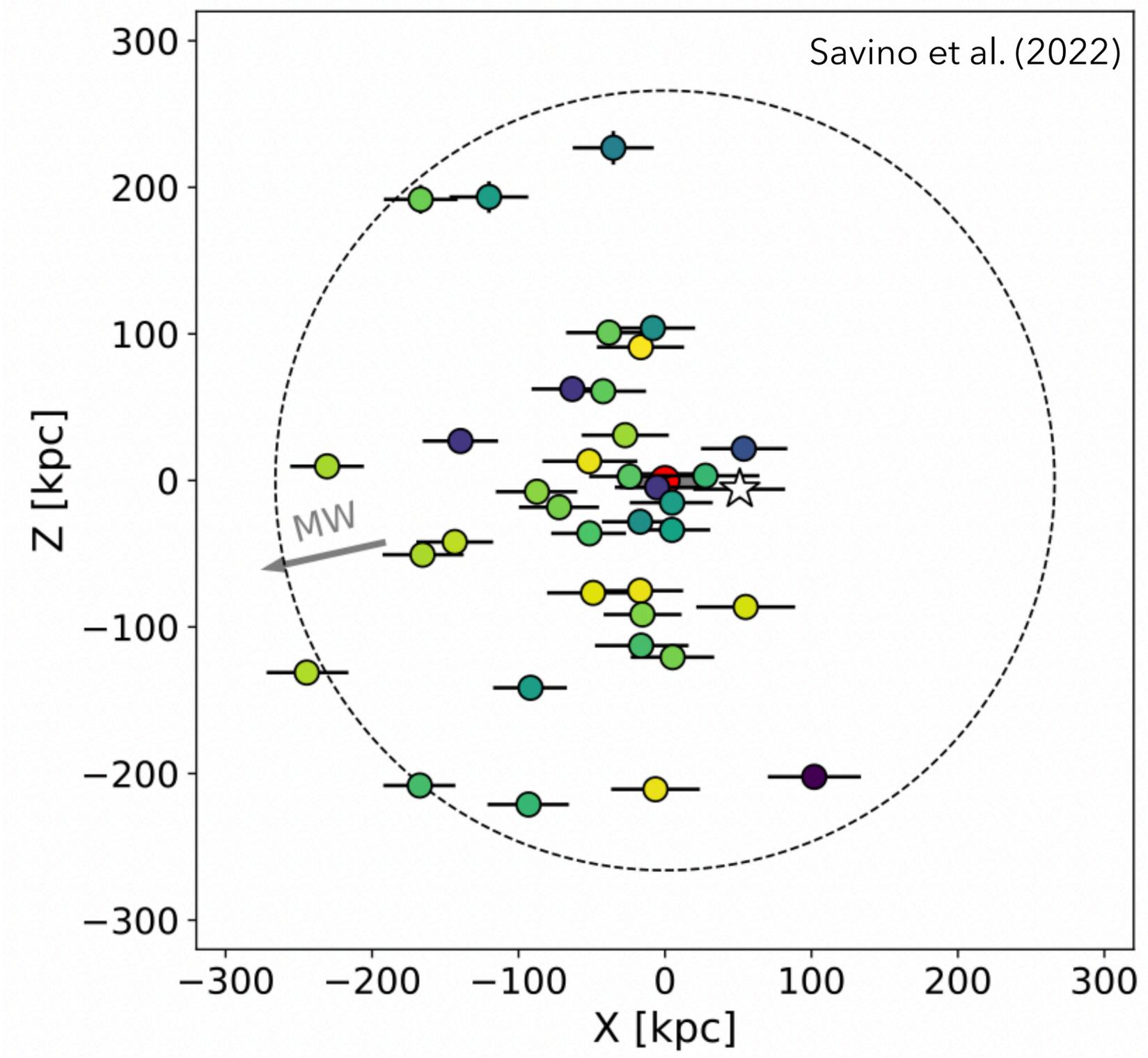
1:1000 outliers in simulated analogs.

- ➔ Planes of Satellite Galaxies Problem of  $\Lambda$ CDM (robust to baryonic effects)
- ➔ **We need specific formation scenario for observed systems.**

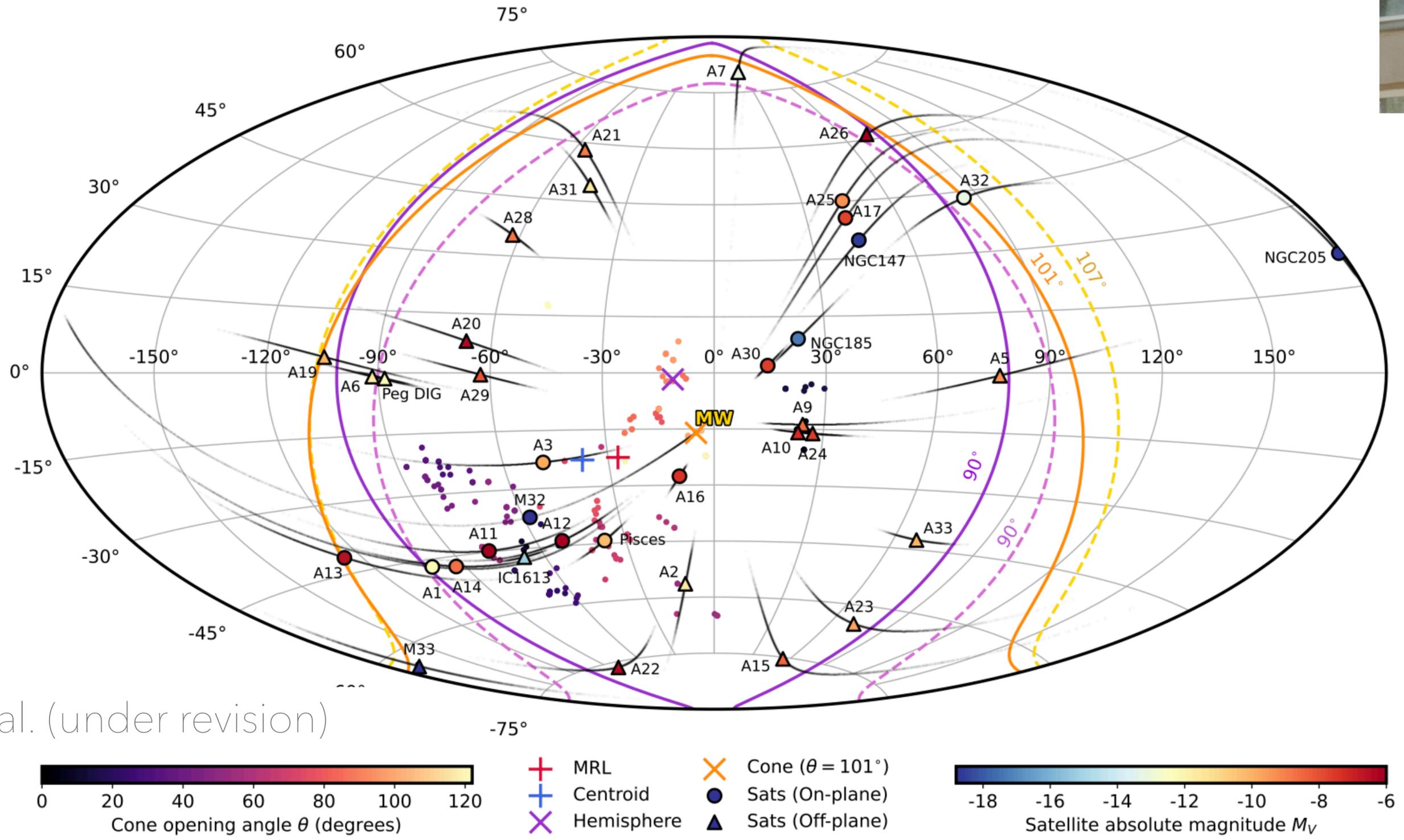
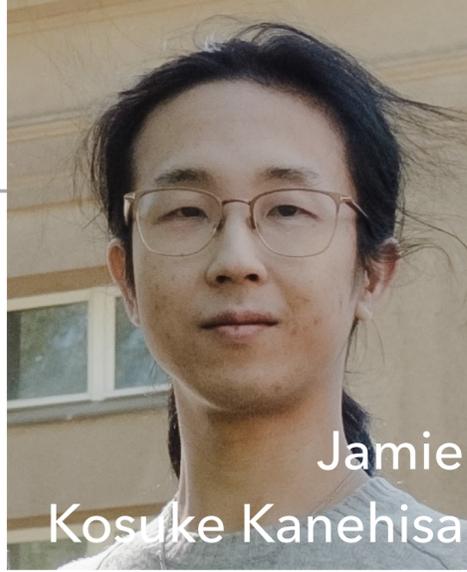
Similar low frequencies for:

- ▶ **Centaurus A** (Müller, Pawlowski, et al. 2018, 2021)
- ▶ **NGC 4490** (Pawlowski et al. 2024, on arXiv two weeks ago).

# Lopsidedness of M31 satellite system



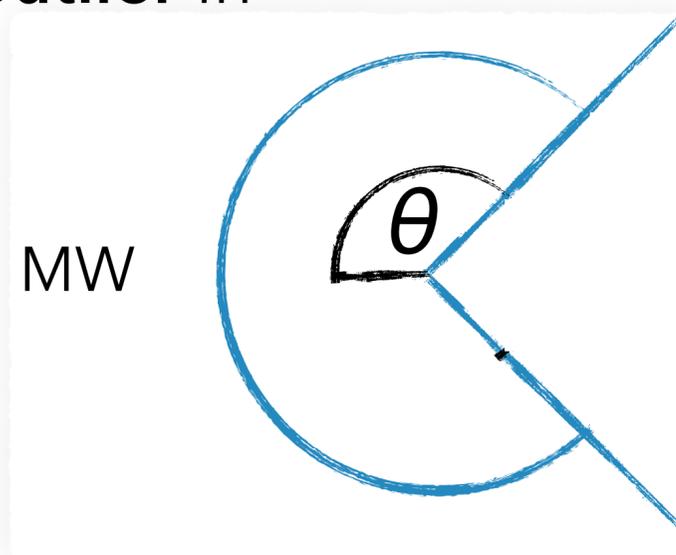
# Lopsidedness of M31 satellite system



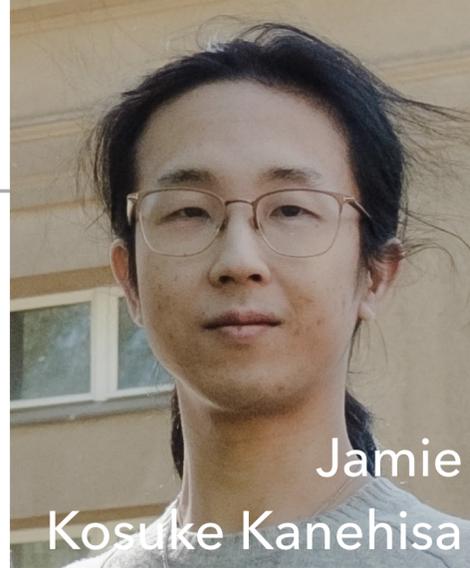
Kanehisa et al. (under revision)

# Lopsidedness of M31 satellite system

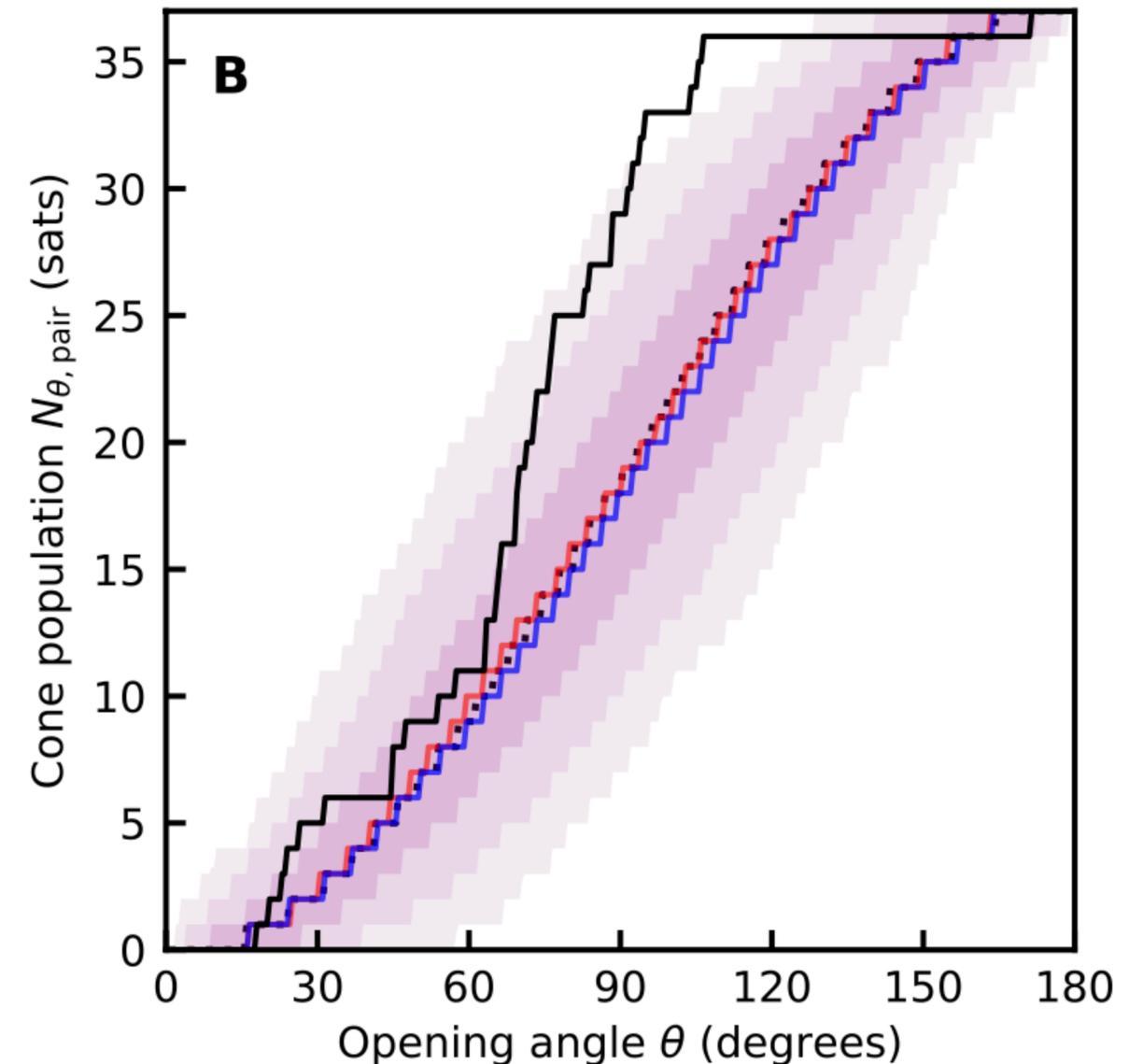
- ▶ Andromeda's satellites have long been known to preferentially lie on the hemisphere facing the MW.
- ▶ We show: **all but one of 37 satellites within cone of  $\theta = 107^\circ$  from Milky Way.**
- ▶ Comparison to  $\Lambda$ CDM simulations (**TNG**, **EAGLE**): **<0.4% of simulated analogs are as extreme!**
- ▶ **In conjunction with its satellite plane**, this paints the **Andromeda system as an extreme outlier** in the prevailing **cosmological paradigm.**



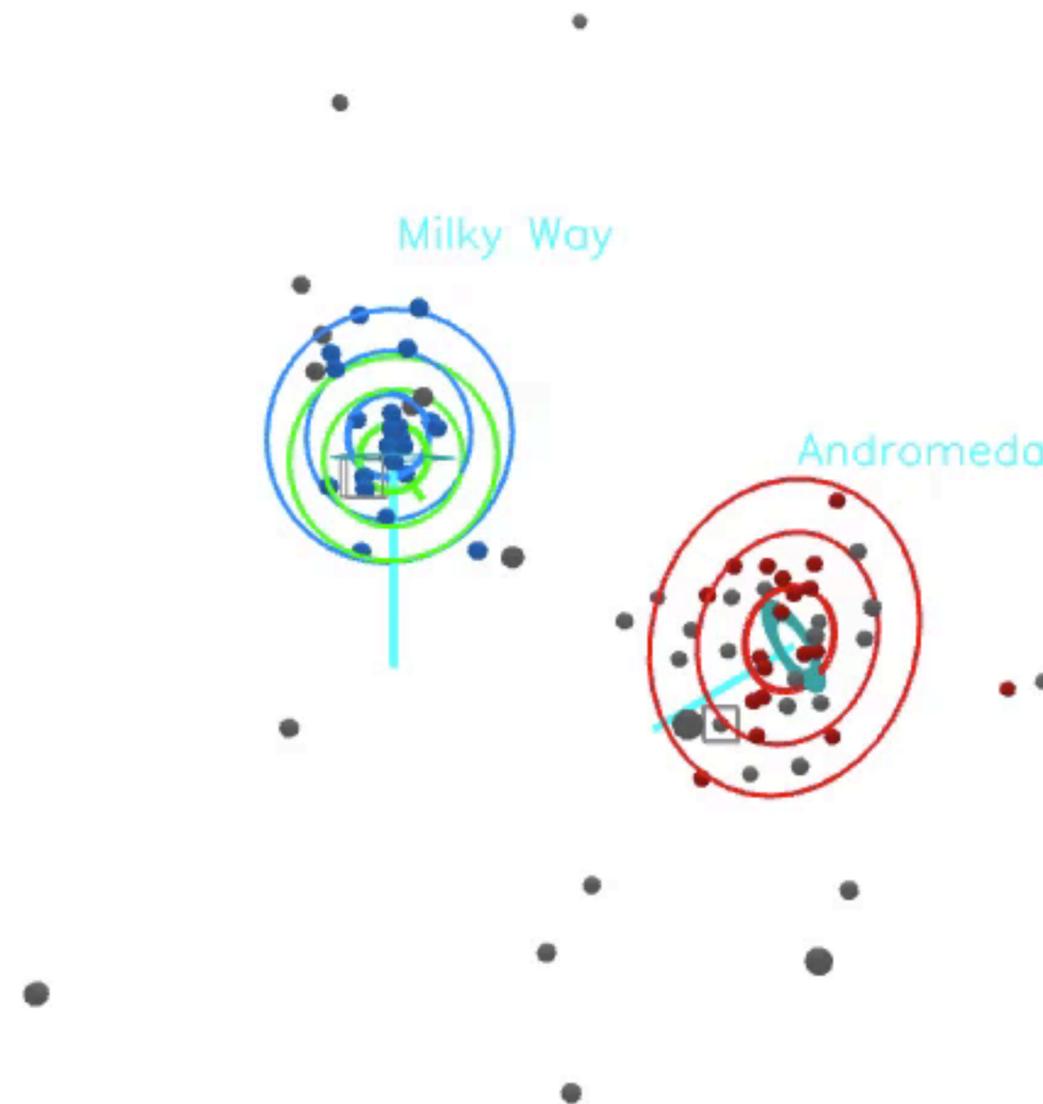
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Jamie  
Kosuke Kanehisa

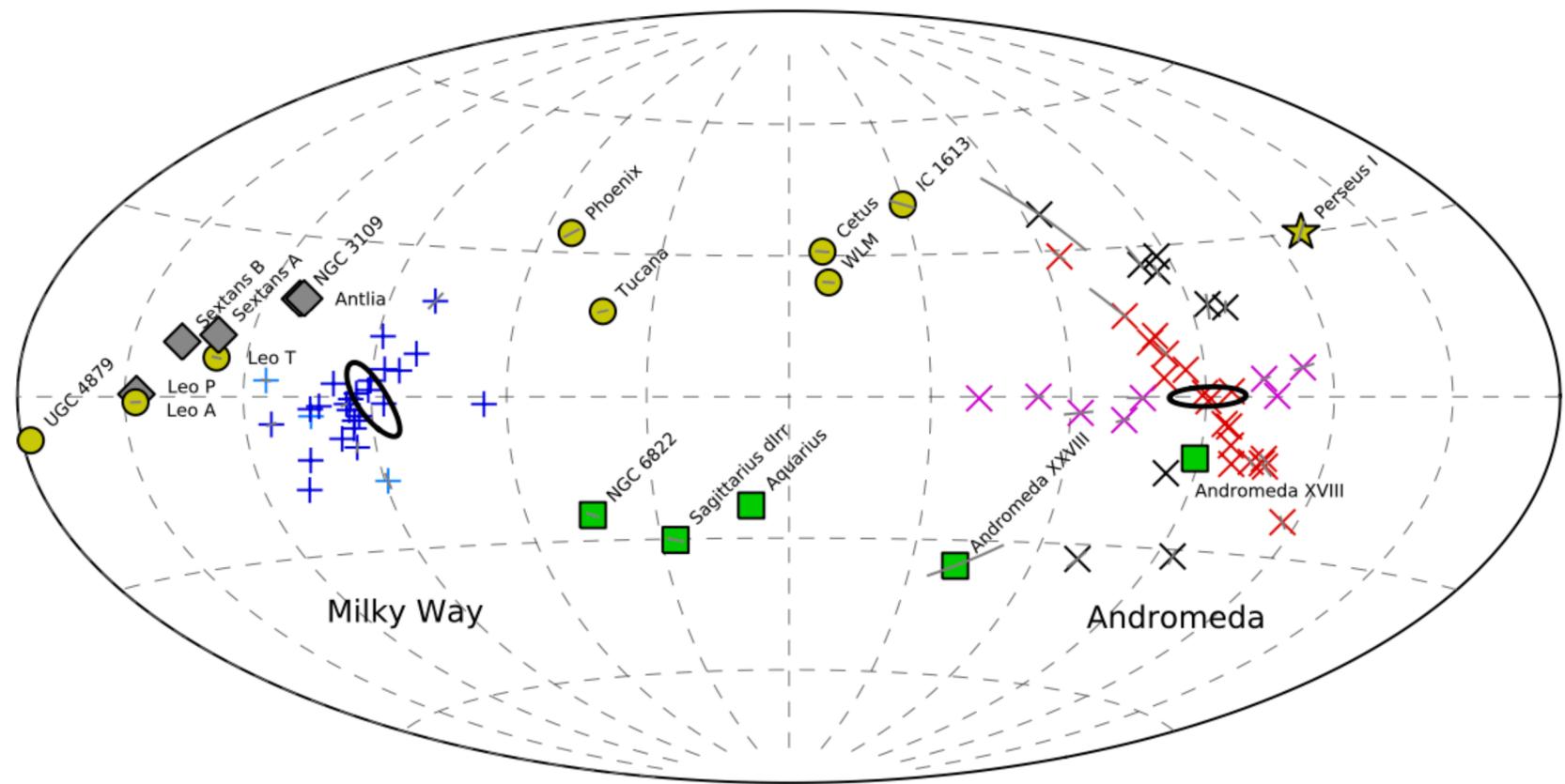


# Local Group: Satellite vs. more distant dwarf galaxy planes

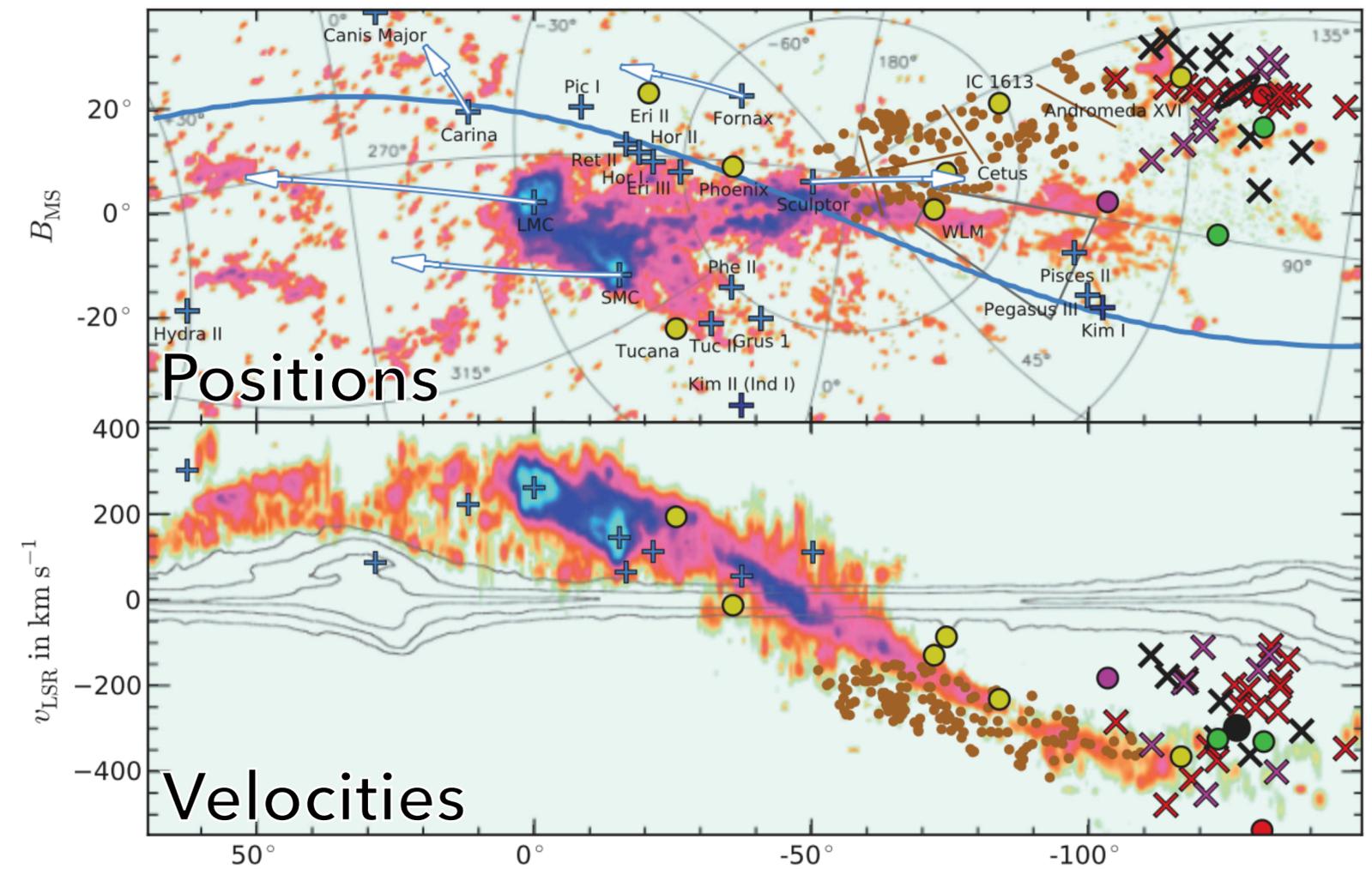


# Local Group: Non-satellite dwarf galaxy plane connecting MW and M31?

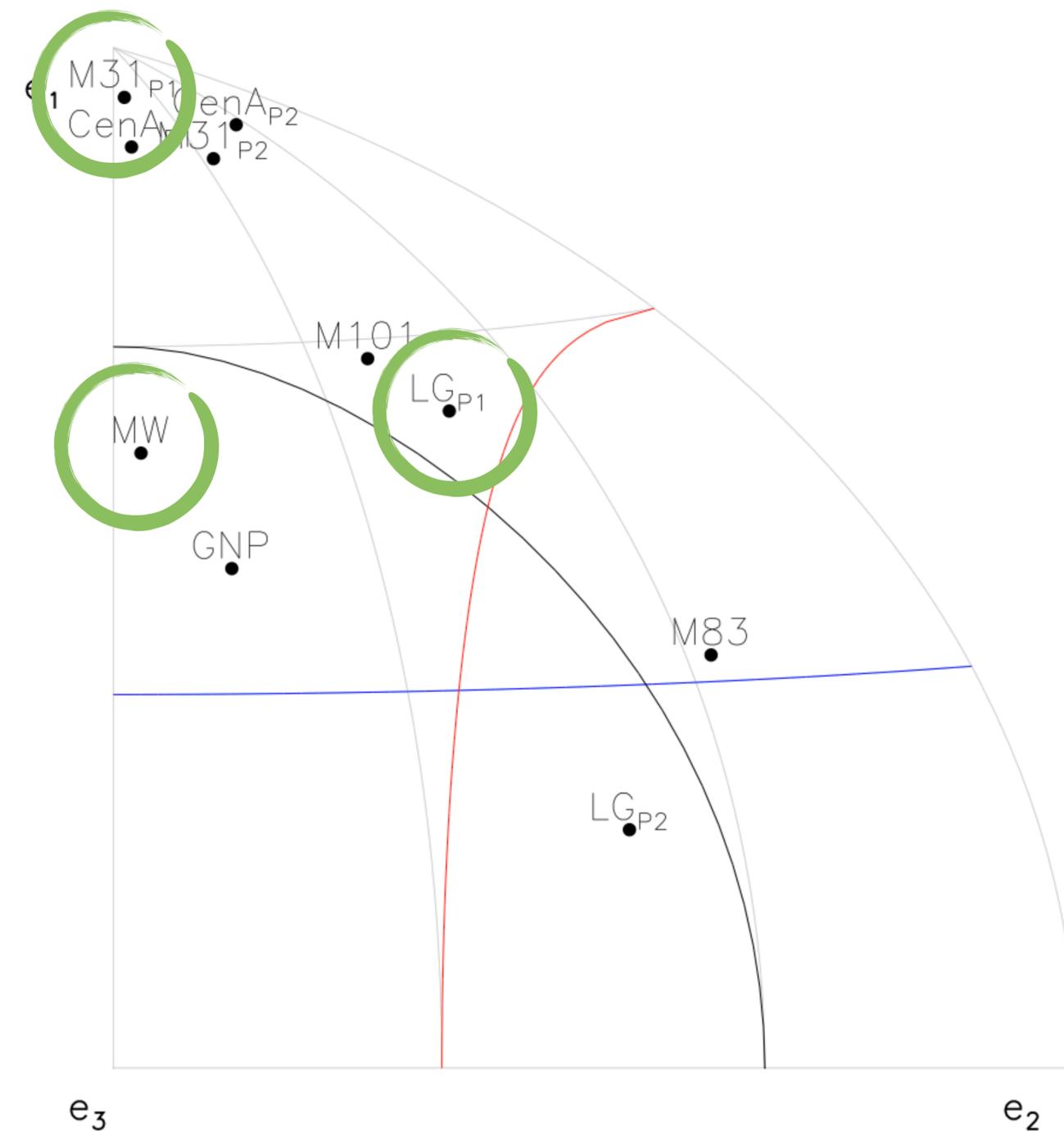
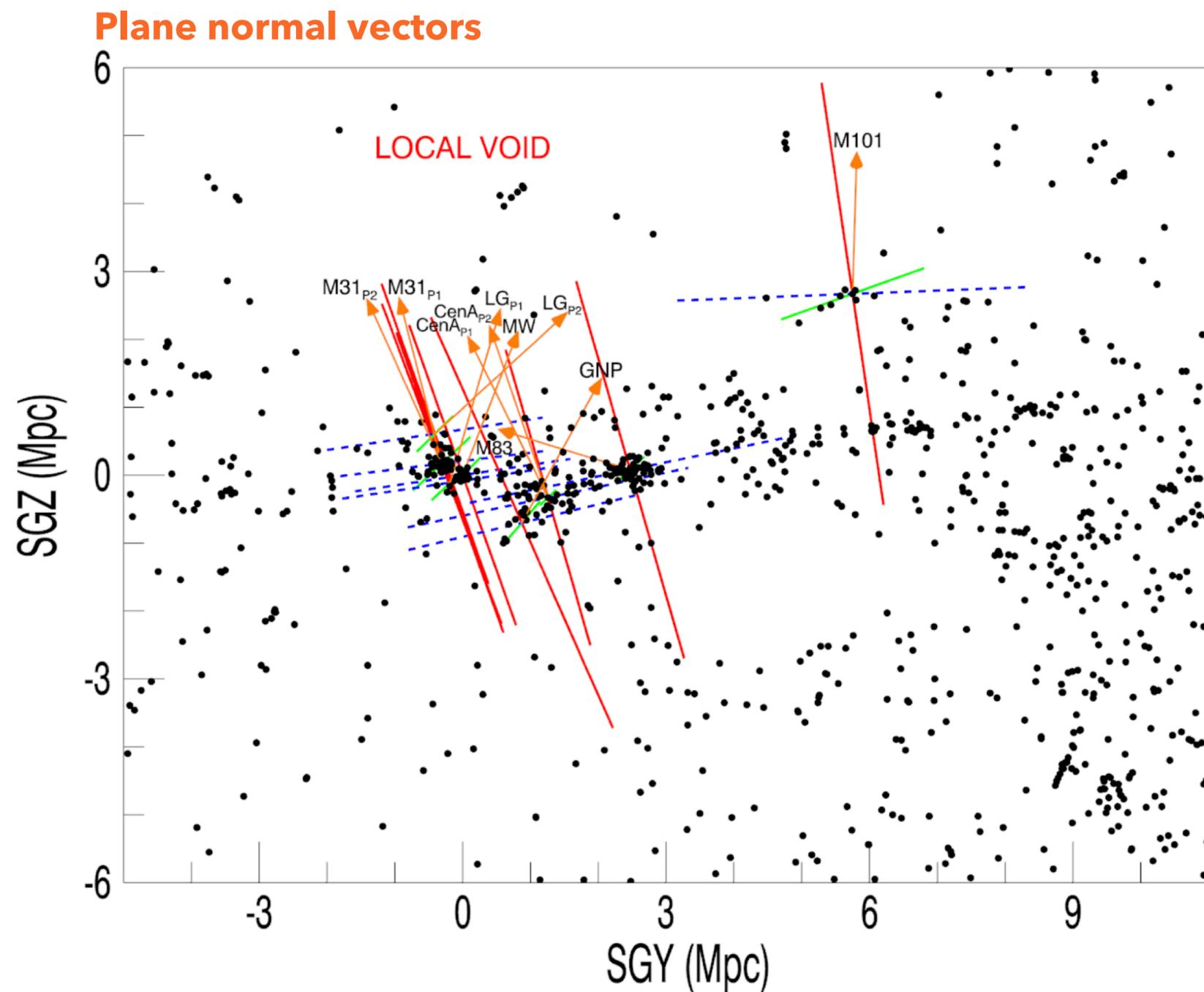
Distribution as seen from MW-M31 midpoint



Overlap with Magellanic Stream



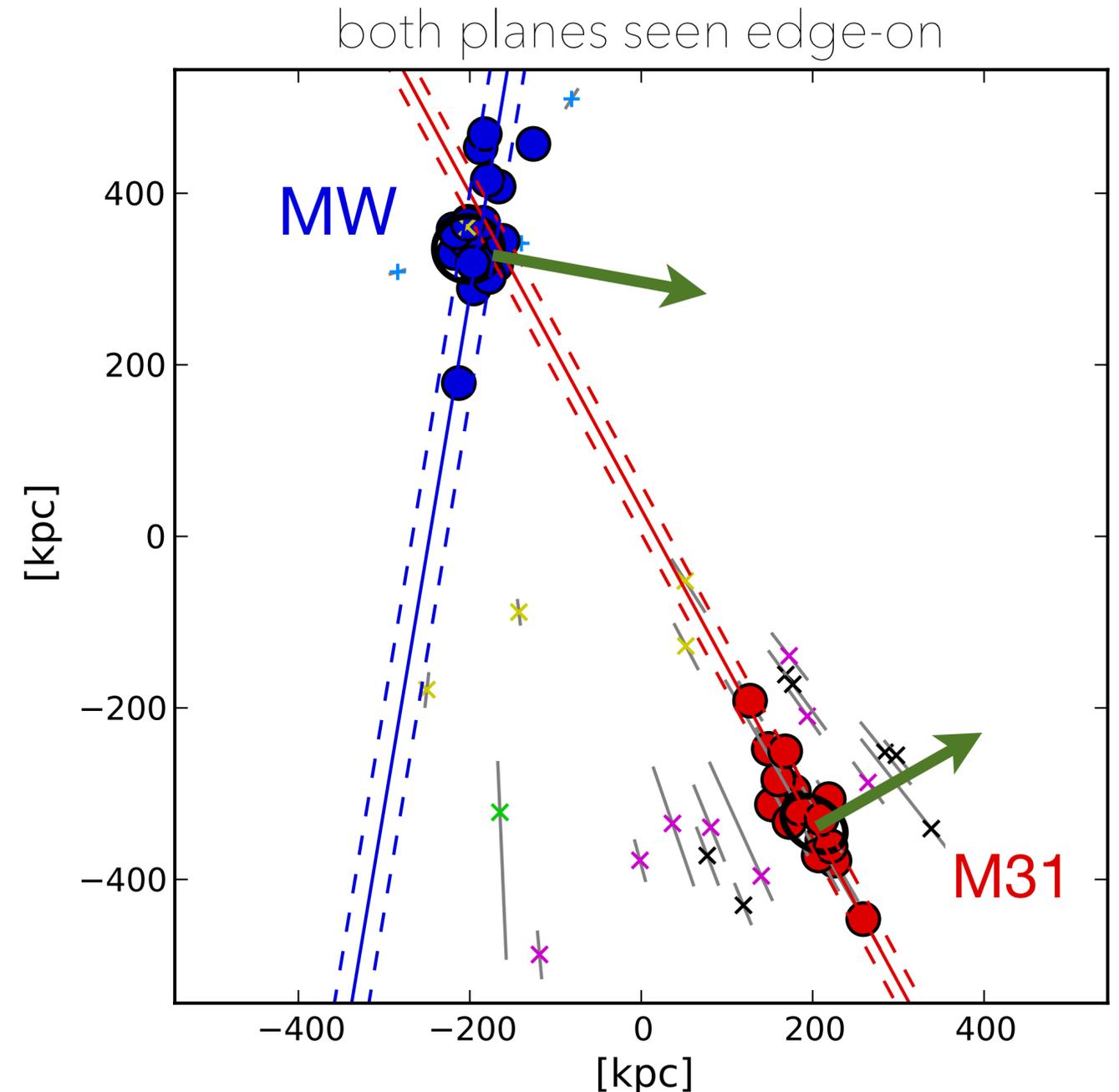
# Satellite planes preferentially align with flattening of large-scale structure



# What observed features might assembly scenarios want to explain?

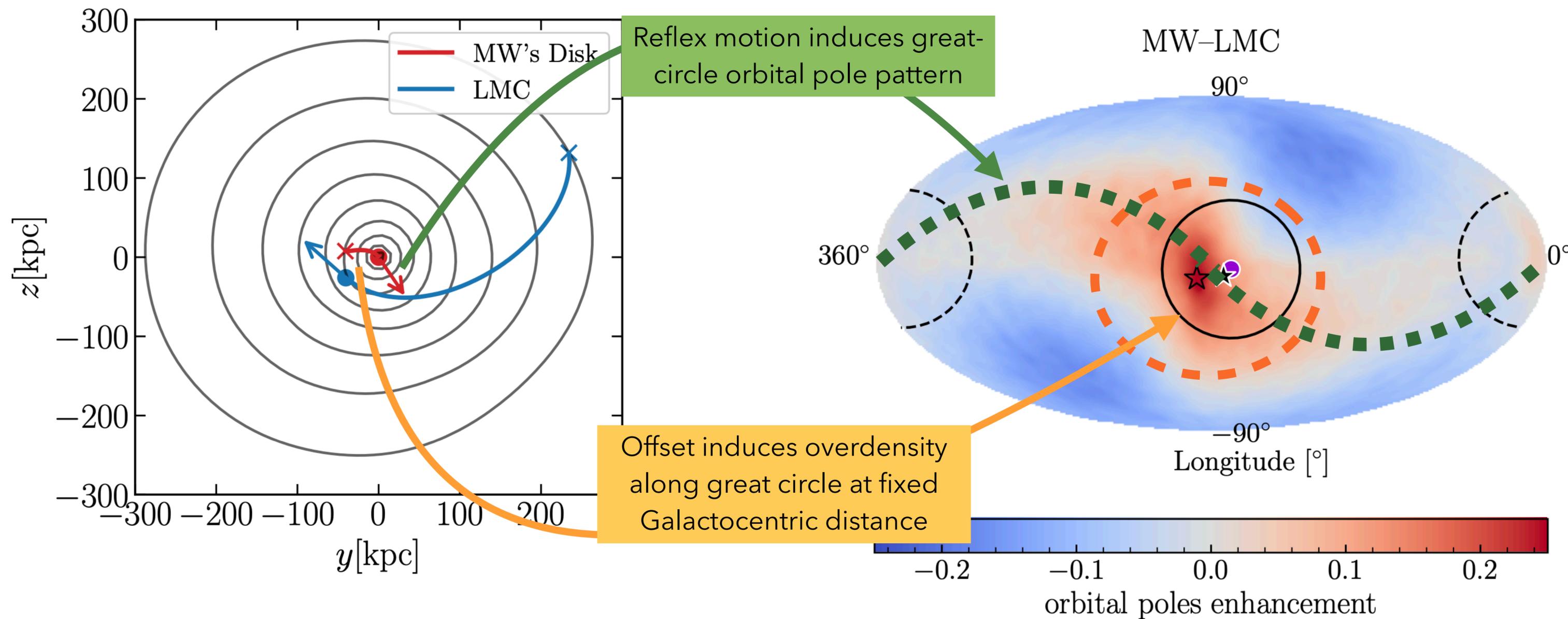
MW and M31 satellite planes have:

- ▶ Similar heights & diameters: 15-30 kpc / 400 kpc
- ▶ Similar *spin directions*; MW-M31 orbit consistent
- ▶ M31 satellite plane & lopsidedness point to MW
- ▶ Some prominent streams & YH GCs also aligned
- ▶ Co-orbiting MW sats. approach → recent infall → young feature? (see Salvatore's & Francois' talks)
- ▶ Non-satellite dwarf galaxy planes in LG, some overlap with Magellanic Stream?
- ▶ Satellite planes tend to align with cosmic web

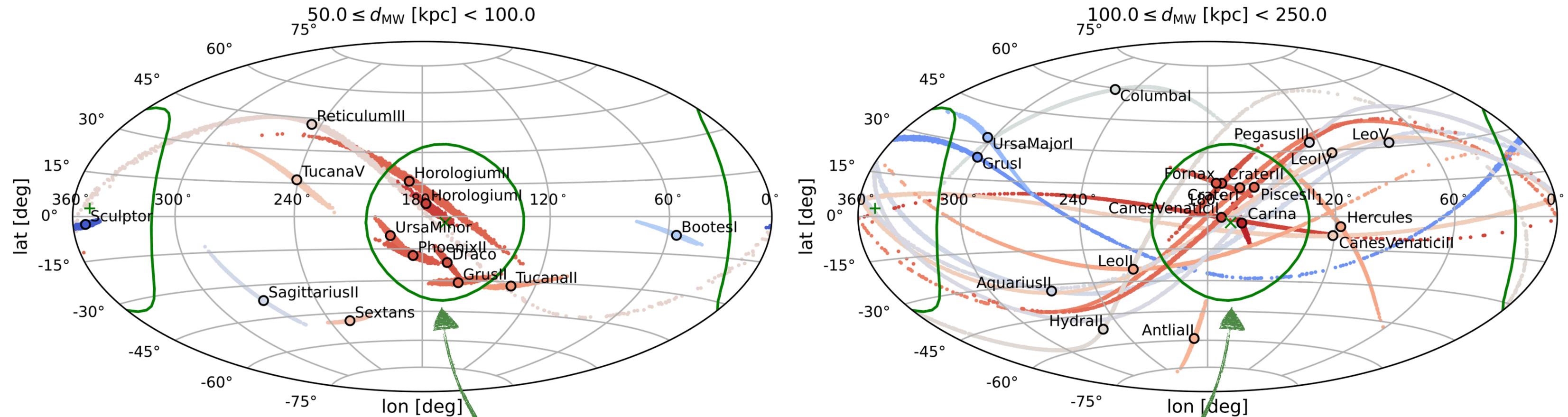


# Possible Origins

# Could the interaction of the MW with a massive LMC cause the observed orbital pole clustering?

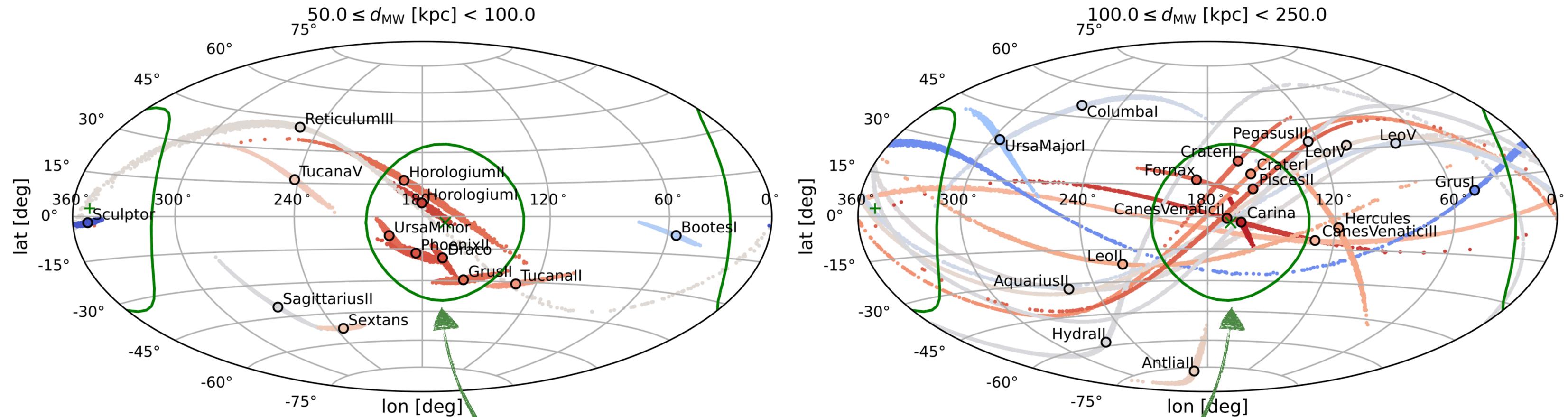


# Orbital poles remain clustered after correcting for LMC influence



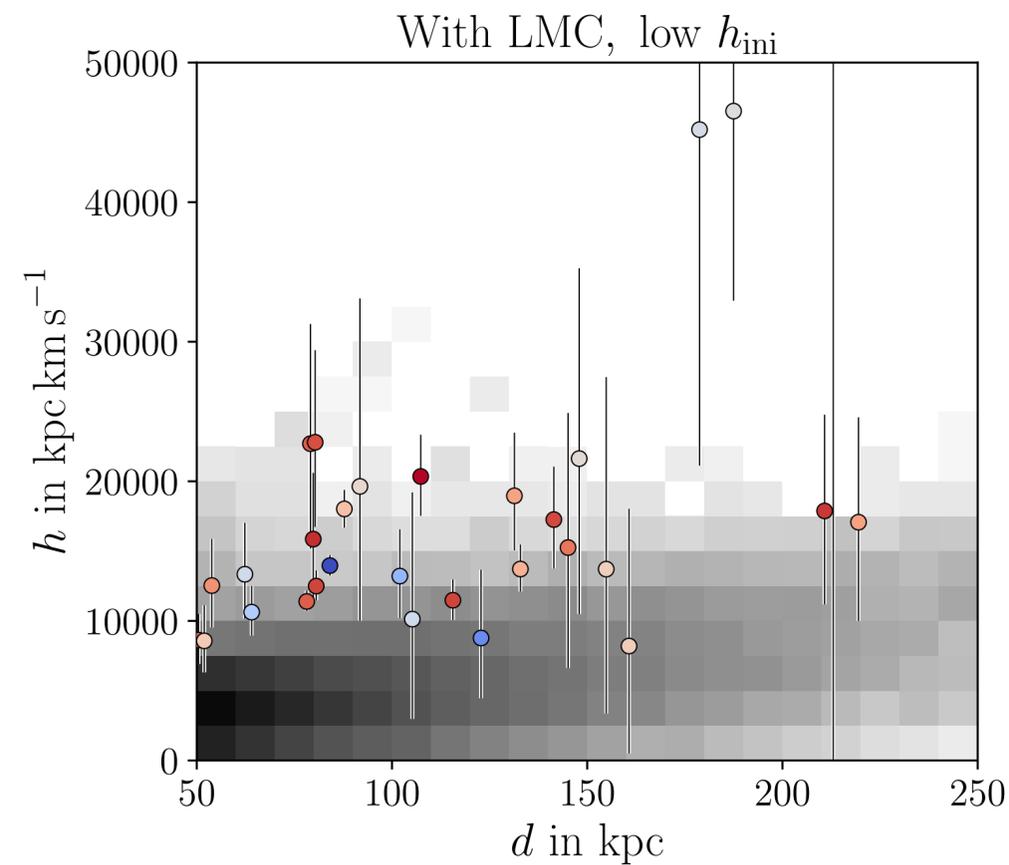
Orbital poles cluster close to normal vector to satellite plane

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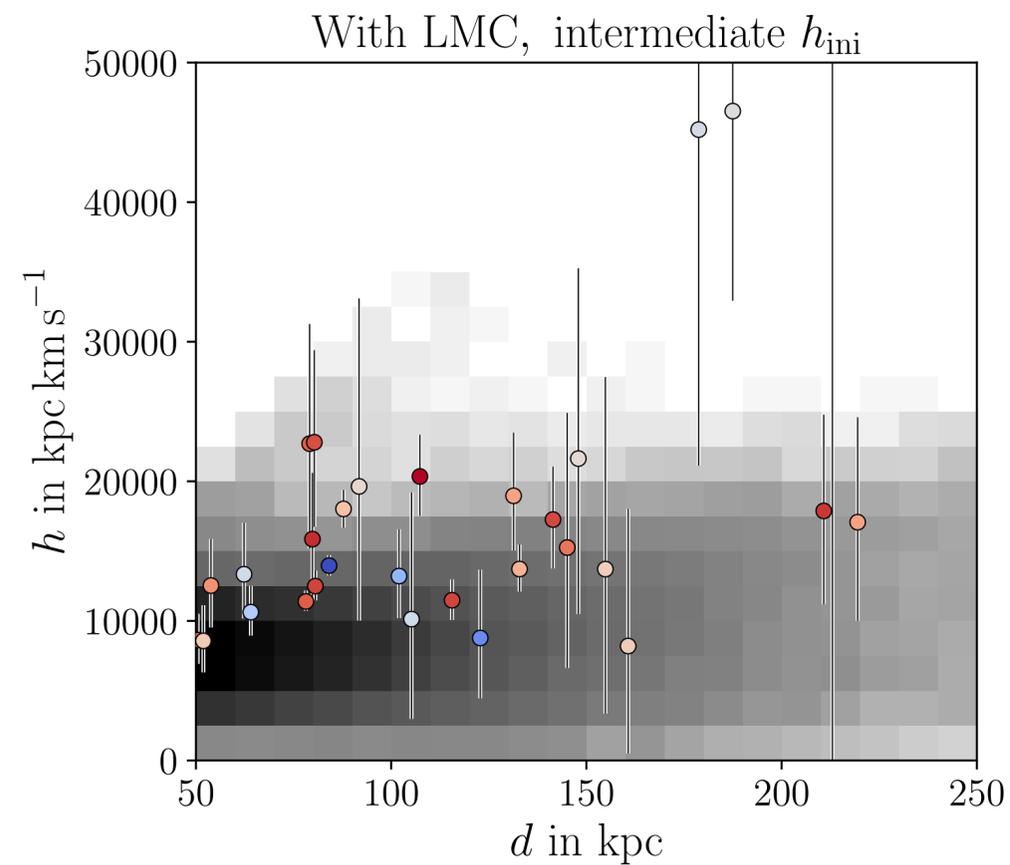


Orbital poles cluster close to normal vector to satellite plane

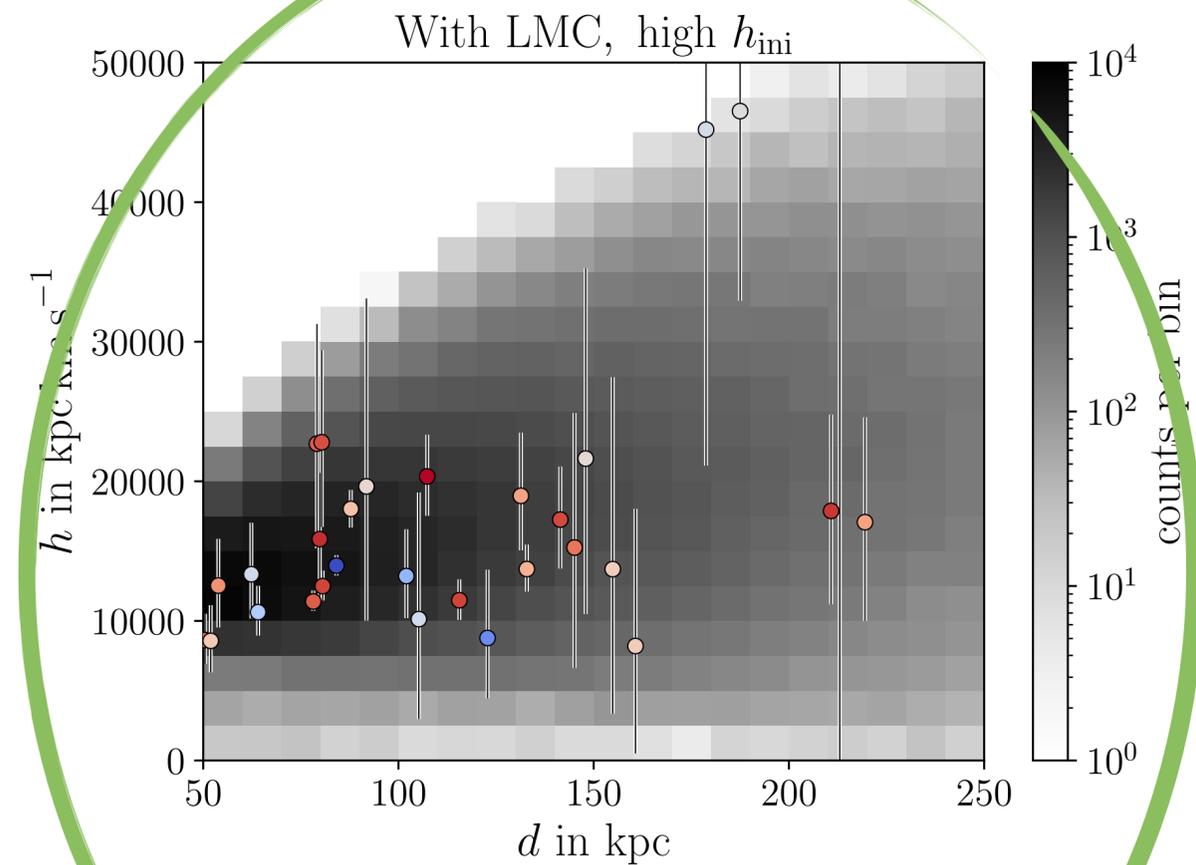
# Milky Way satellite galaxies have higher angular momentum than many dark matter halo particles



Low angular momentum particles



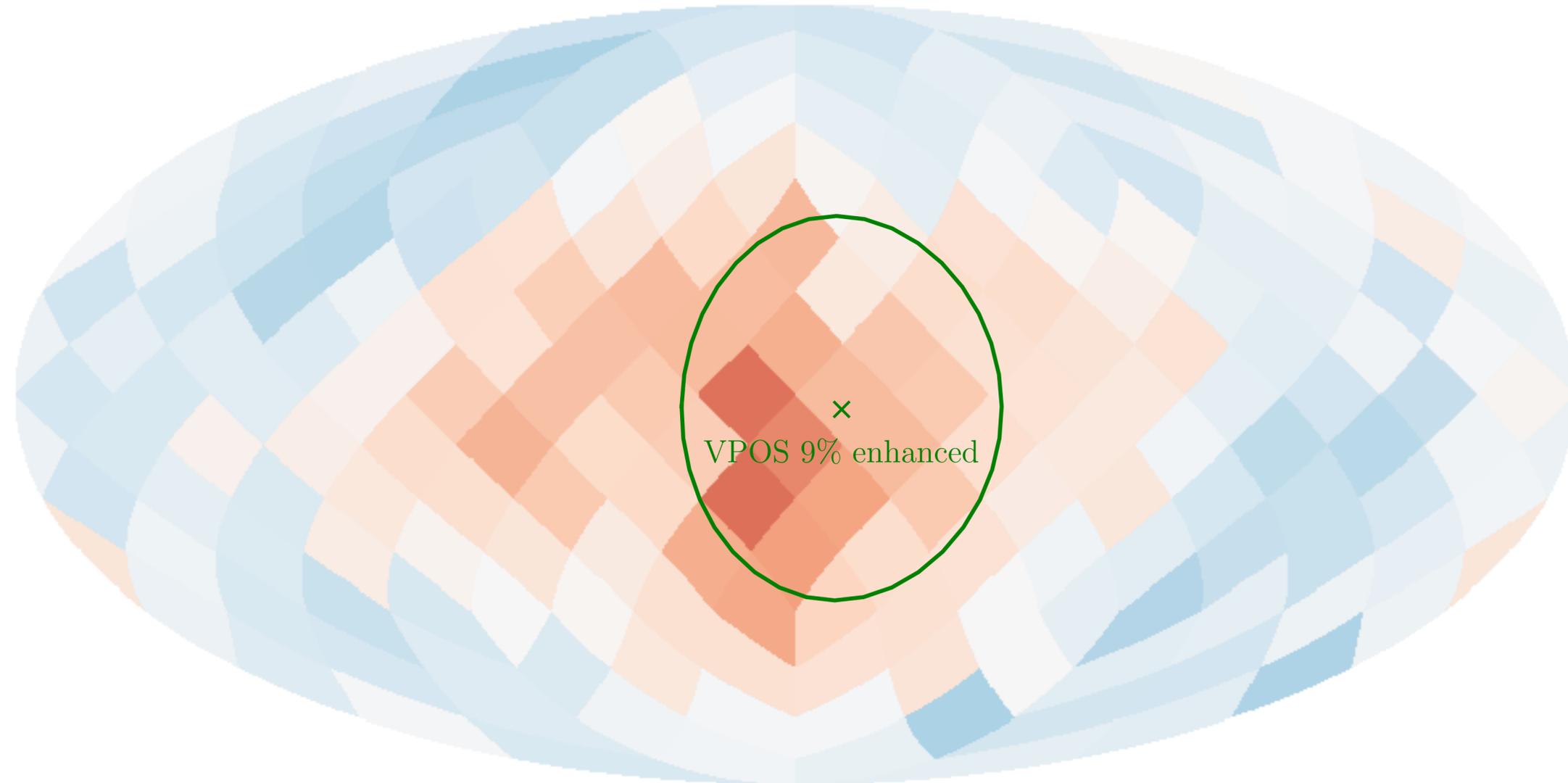
Intermediate angular momentum particles



High angular momentum particles

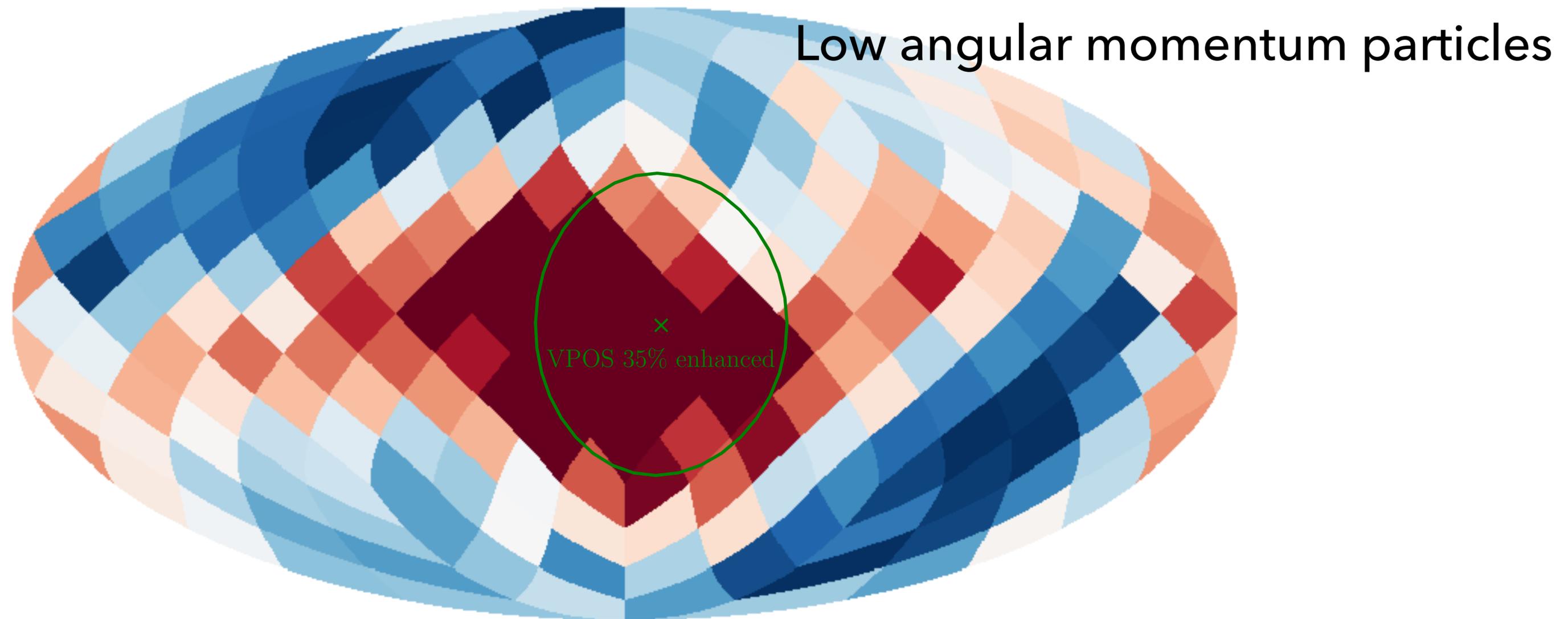
# Only low-angular momentum particles (= radial orbits) are affected by LMC, but no orbital pole over density for satellite-like orbits

$$50 \leq d \leq 250 \text{ kpc}, \quad 0 \leq h_{\text{ini}} \leq \infty \text{ kpc km s}^{-1}, \quad N = 392322$$



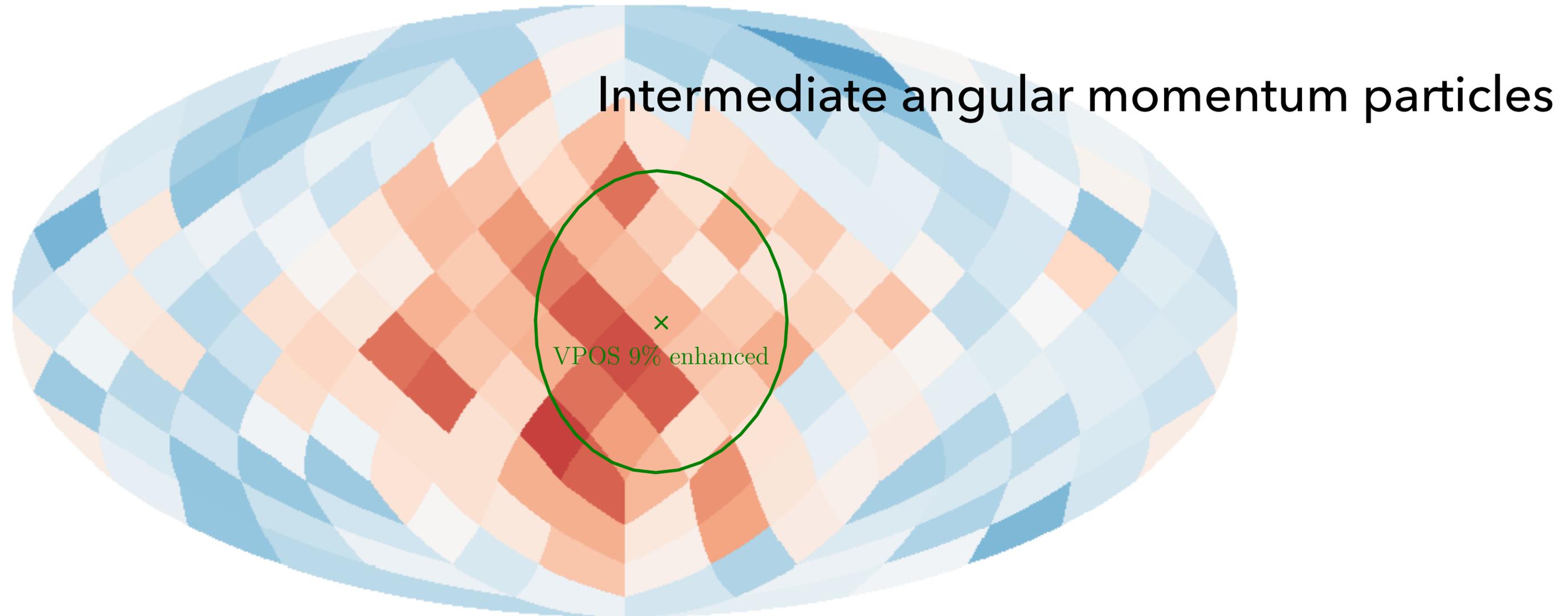
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$$50 \leq d \leq 250 \text{ kpc}, \quad 0 \leq h_{\text{ini}} \leq 5000 \text{ kpc km s}^{-1}, \quad N = 49884$$



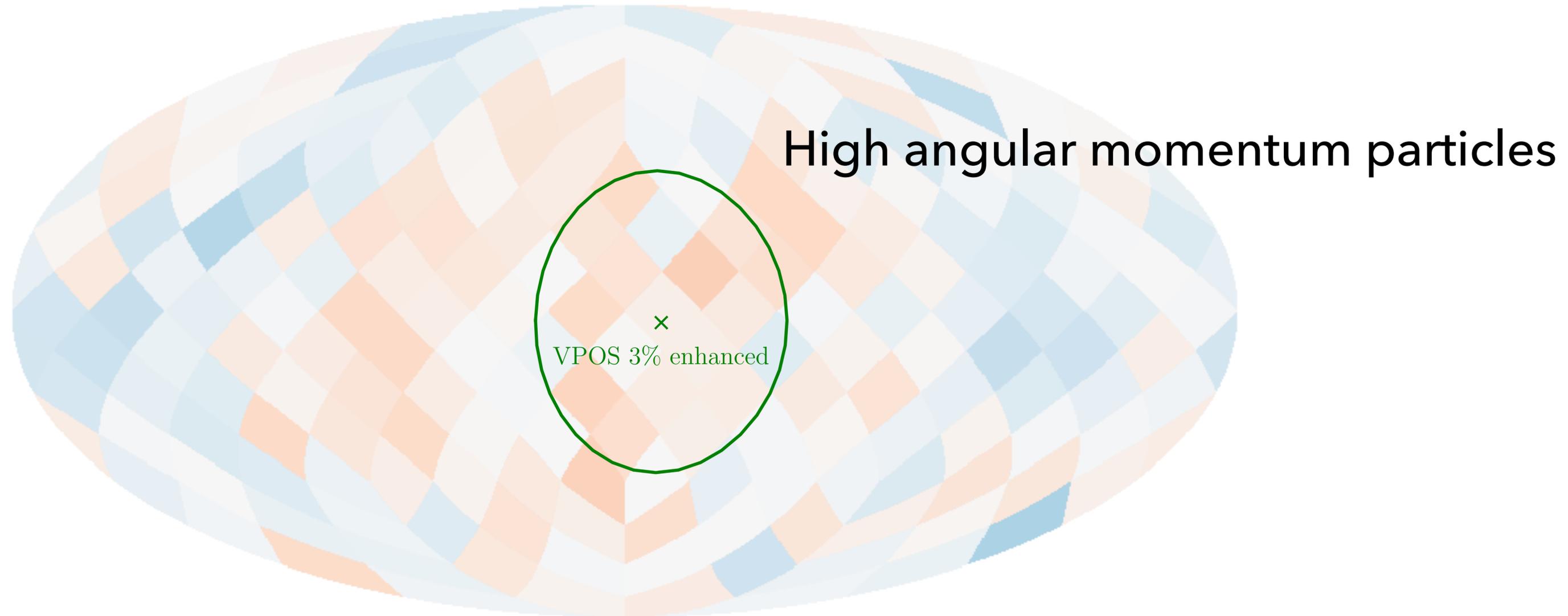
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$$50 \leq d \leq 250 \text{ kpc}, \quad 5000 \leq h_{\text{ini}} \leq 10000 \text{ kpc km s}^{-1}, \quad N = 109905$$

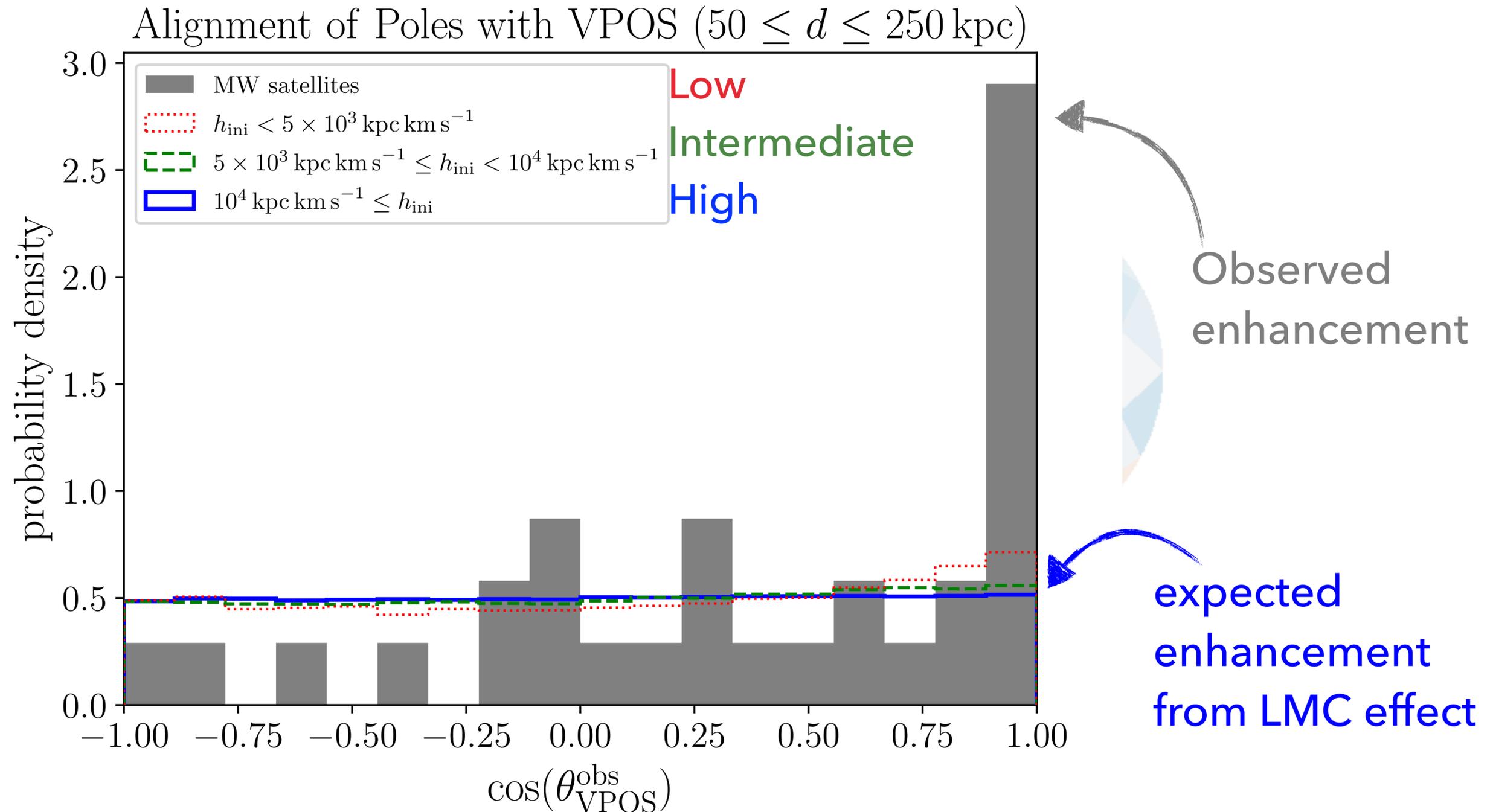


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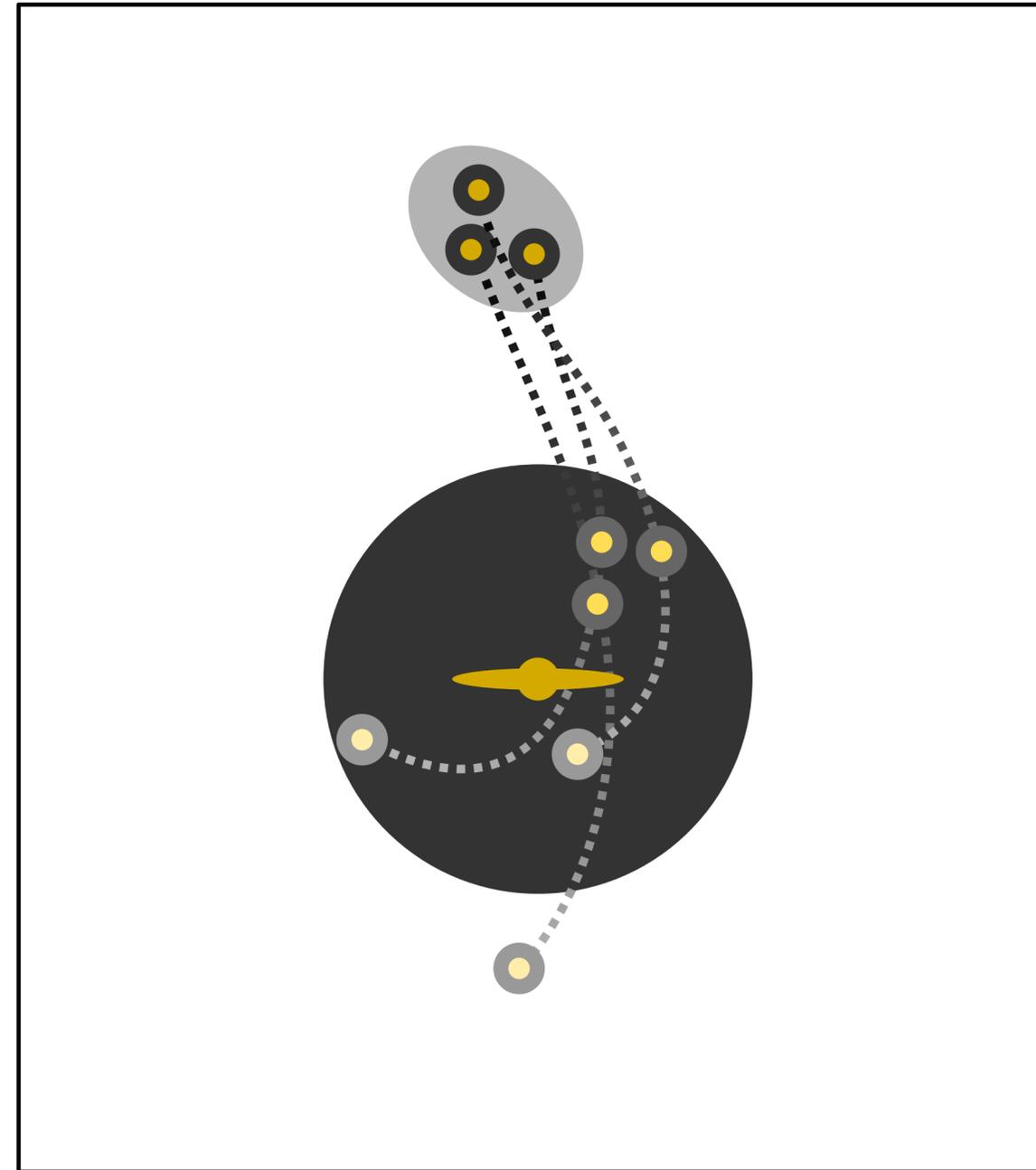
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## Group Infall

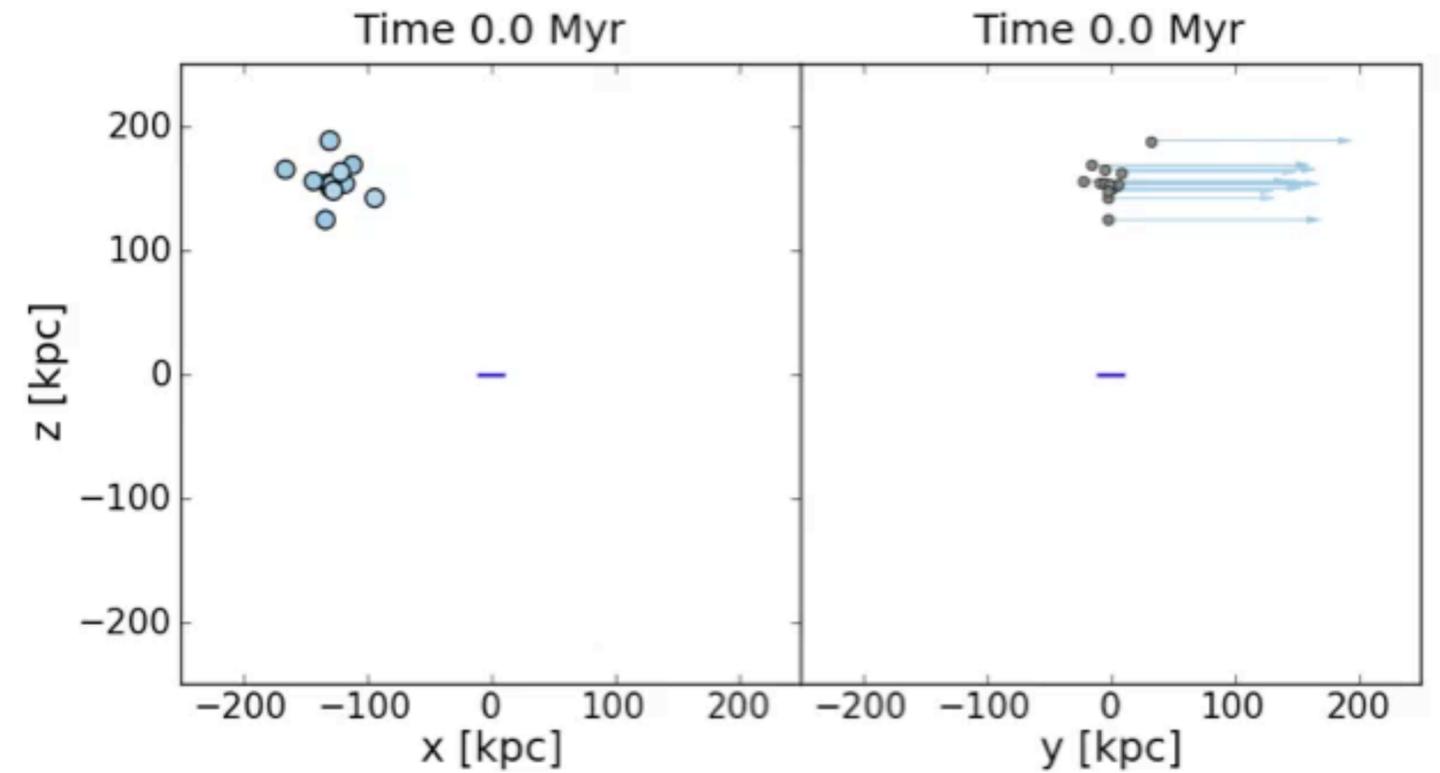
- ▶ Accretion of satellite galaxies in groups can result in orbital correlation (e.g. Li & Helmi, 2008): Group shares similar orbits, disperses along common plane.

### Group Infall



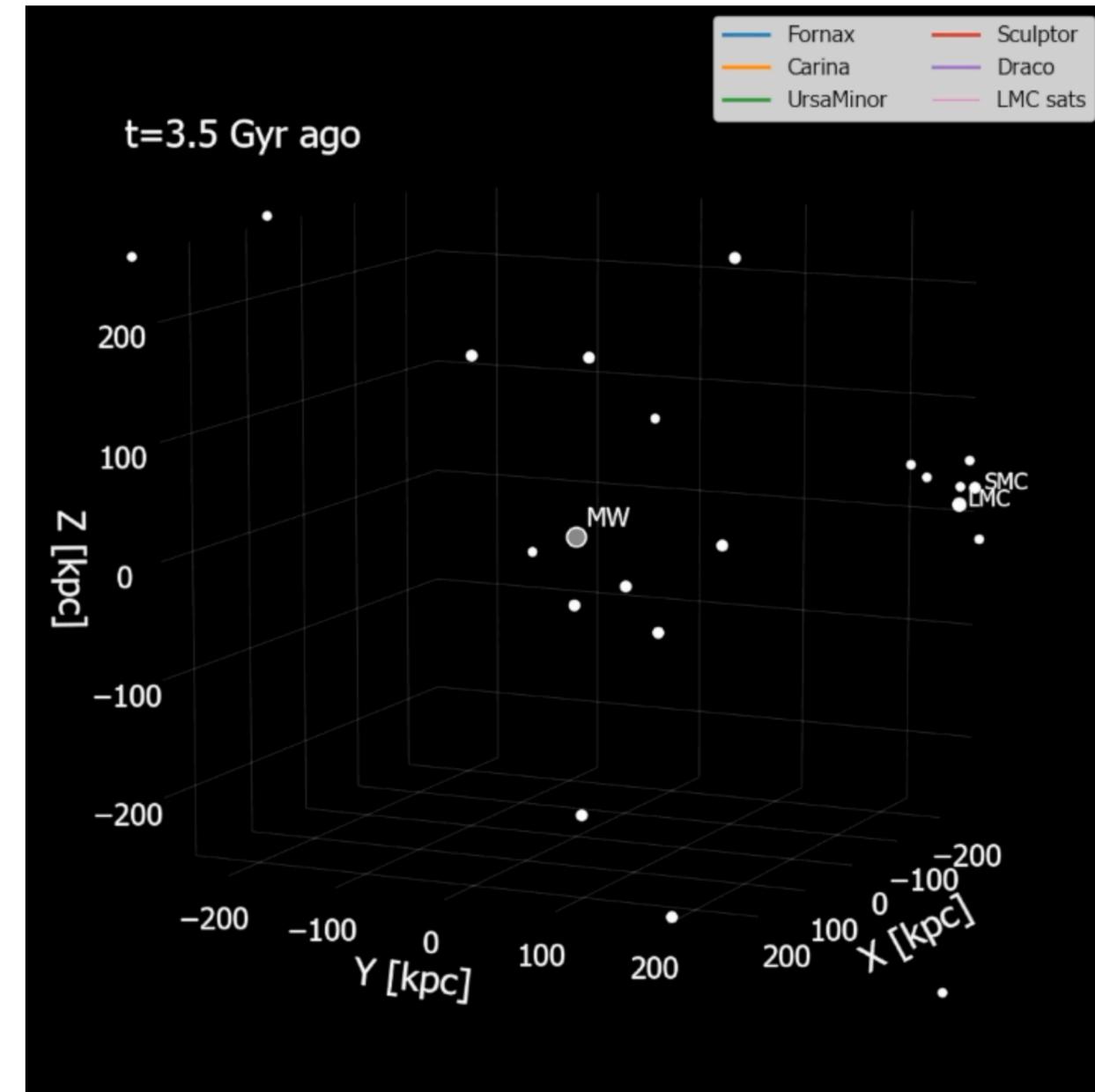
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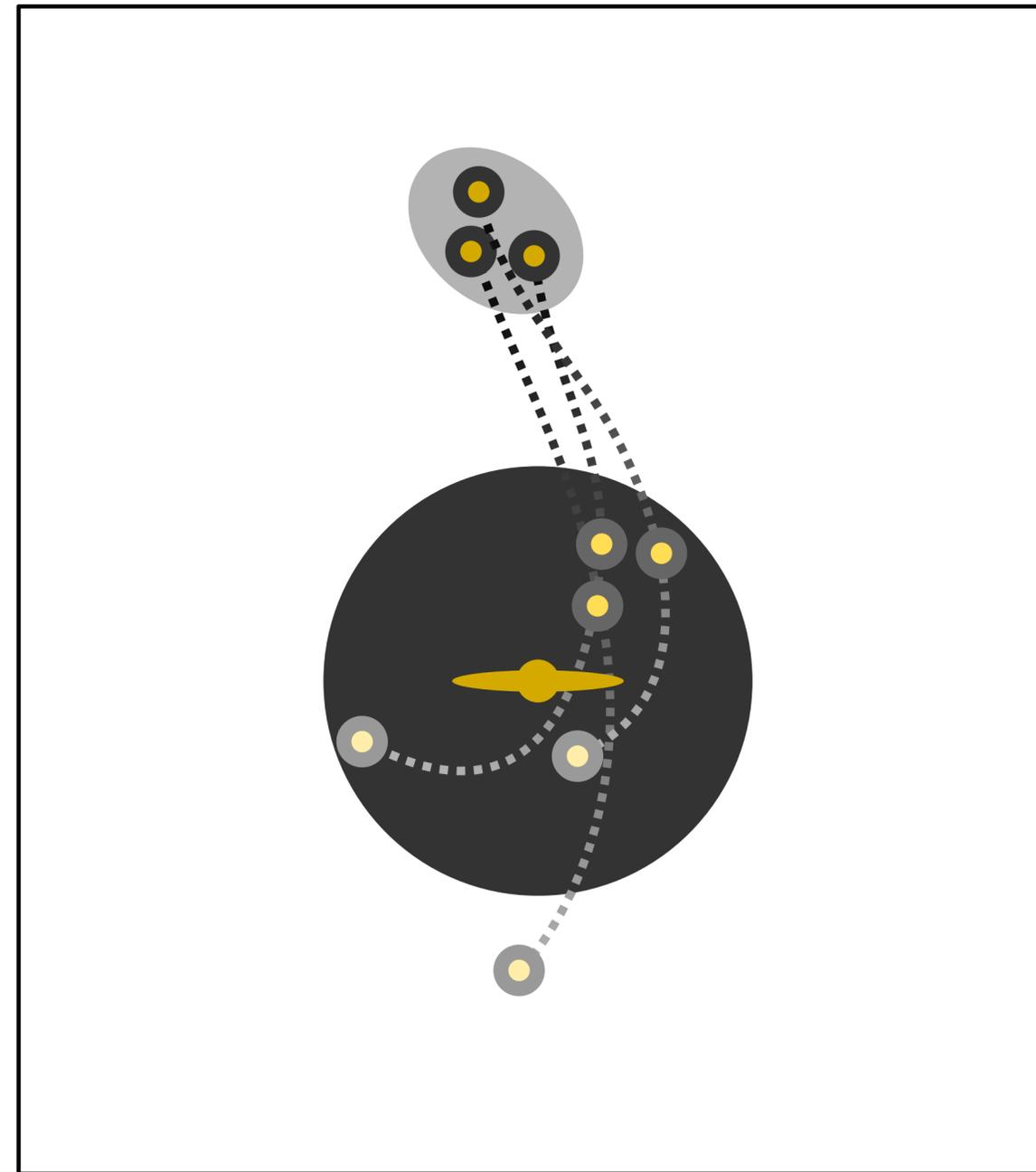
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- ▶ LMC brought its own satellites (e.g. Patel et al. 2020) but very hierarchical system. Second infall an intriguing possibility; some on-plane satellites stripped during 1st wide passage? (see Eugene's talk)



## Group Infall

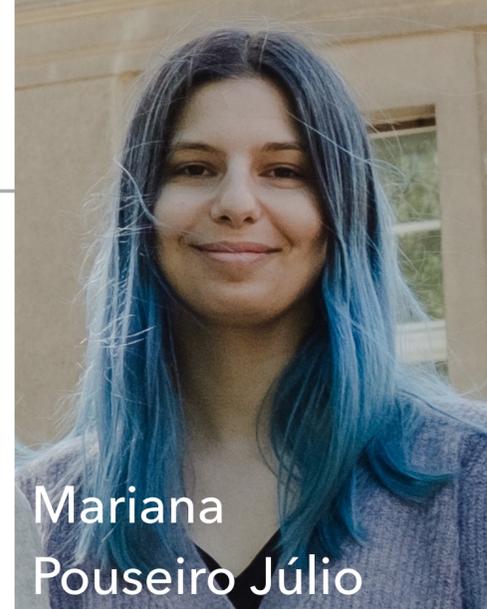
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- ▶ LMC brought its own satellites (e.g. Patel et al. 2020) but very hierarchical system. Second infall an intriguing possibility; some on-plane satellites stripped during 1st wide passage? (see Eugene's talk)
- ▶ Some 30-60% of subhalos in  $\Lambda$ CDM simulations are accreted in groups of 3-5.

## Group Infall



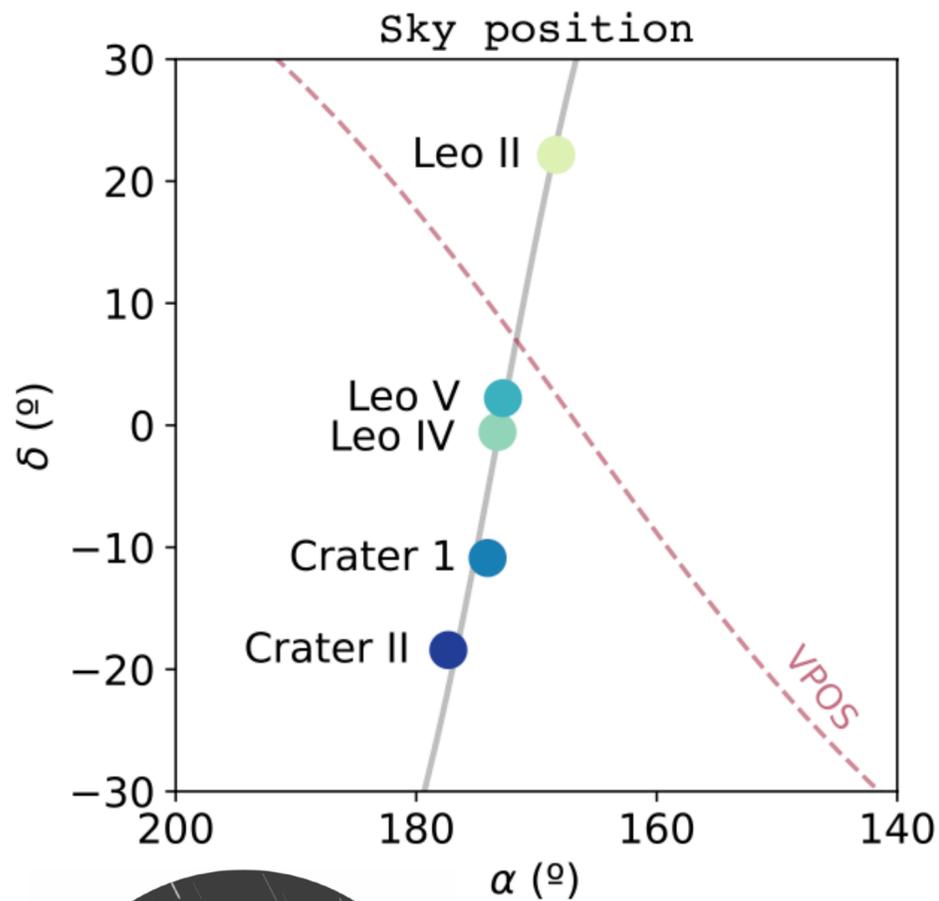
# Group Infall: the case of the Crater-Leo Objects

Pouseiro Júlio et al. (2024)

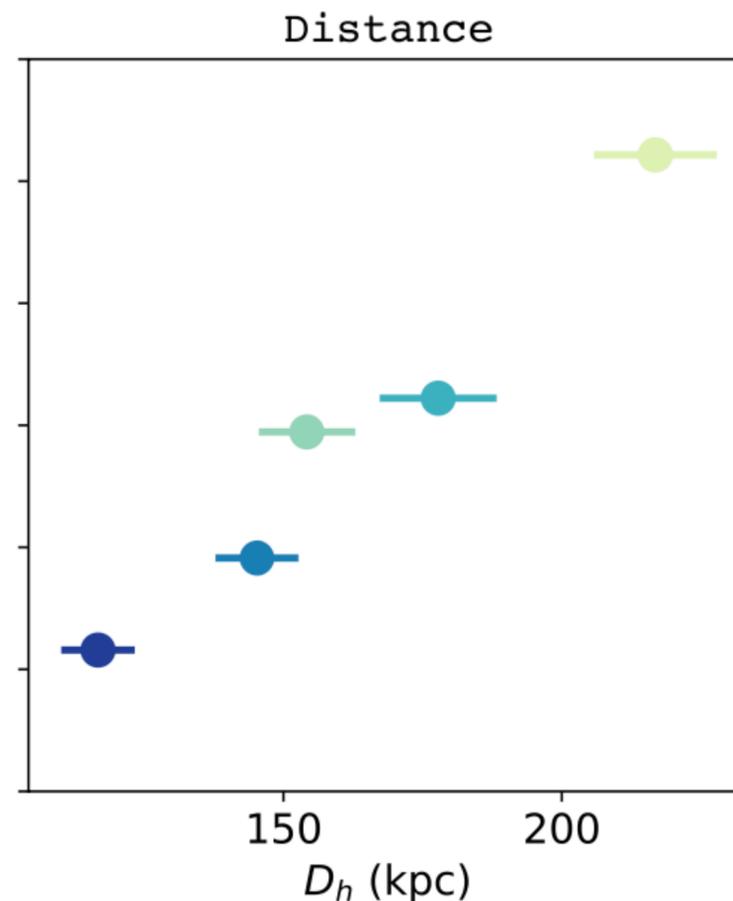


Mariana Pouseiro Júlio

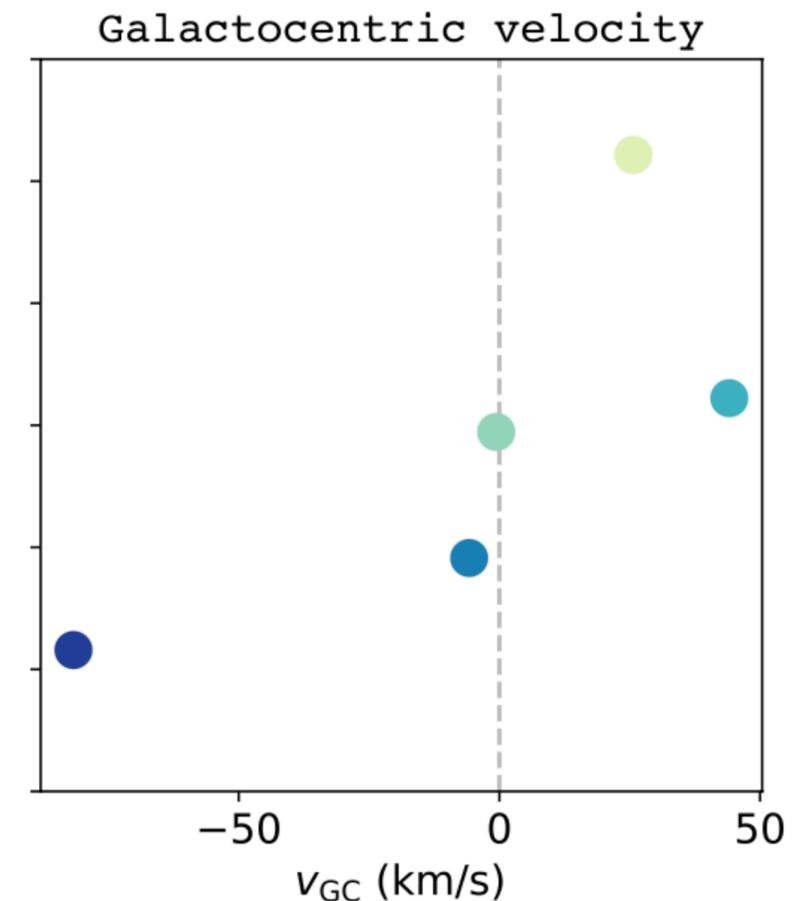
Align along great circle:



Clear distance gradient:



Similar radial velocities:



SFHs: Leo II & IV stopped 5-6 Gyr ago, Leo V possibly similar.

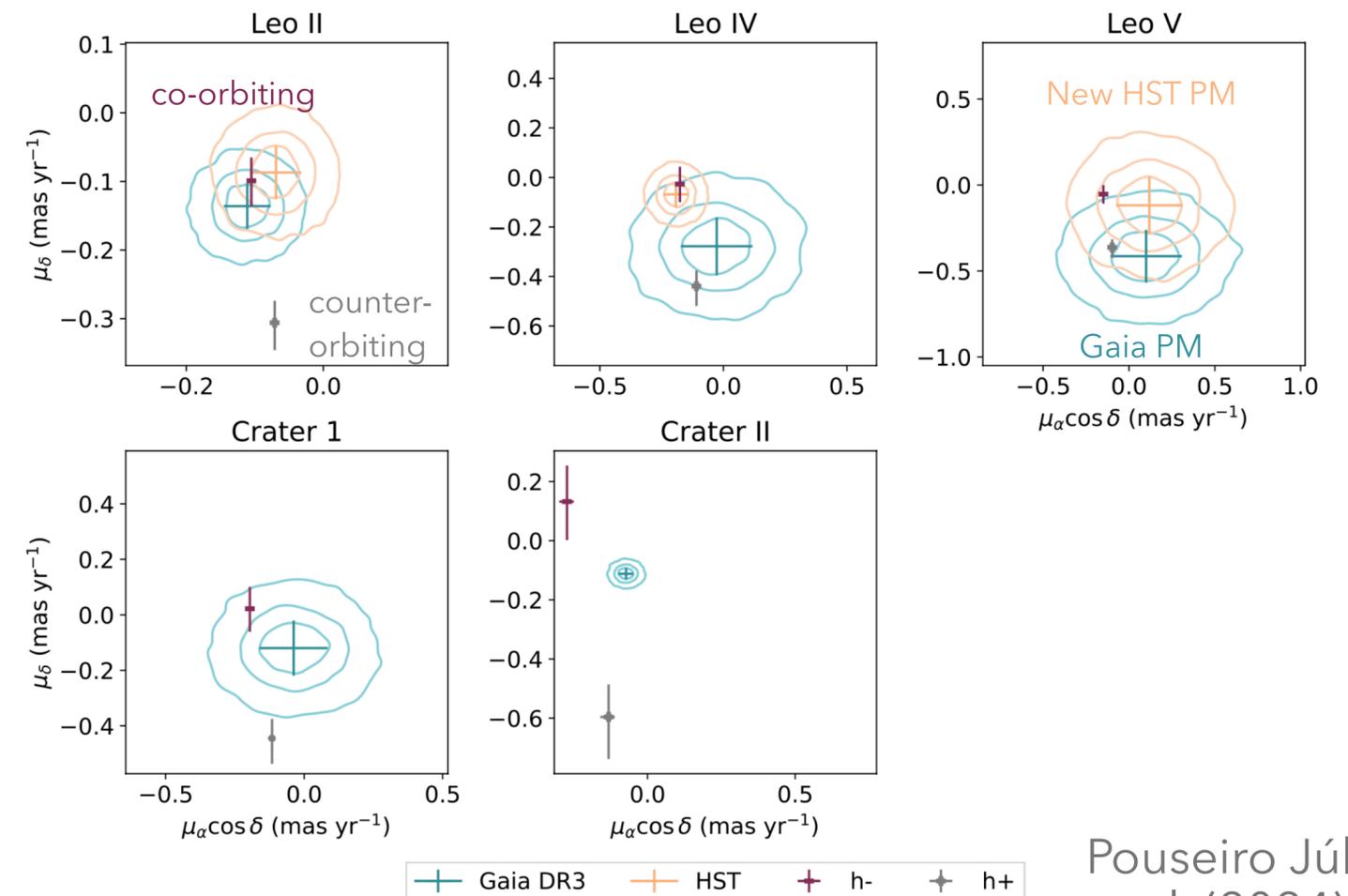
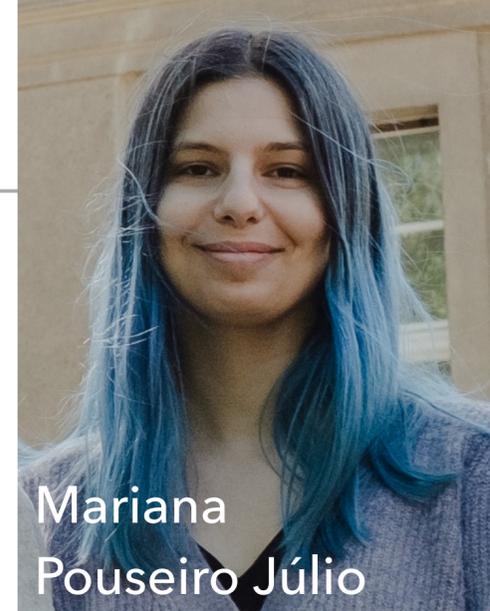
Crater 1 has same Fe/H as Leo II and consistent age.



- ▶ In collaboration with T. Sohn & R. van der Marel:  
**We measured new HST proper motions for Leo IV + V.**

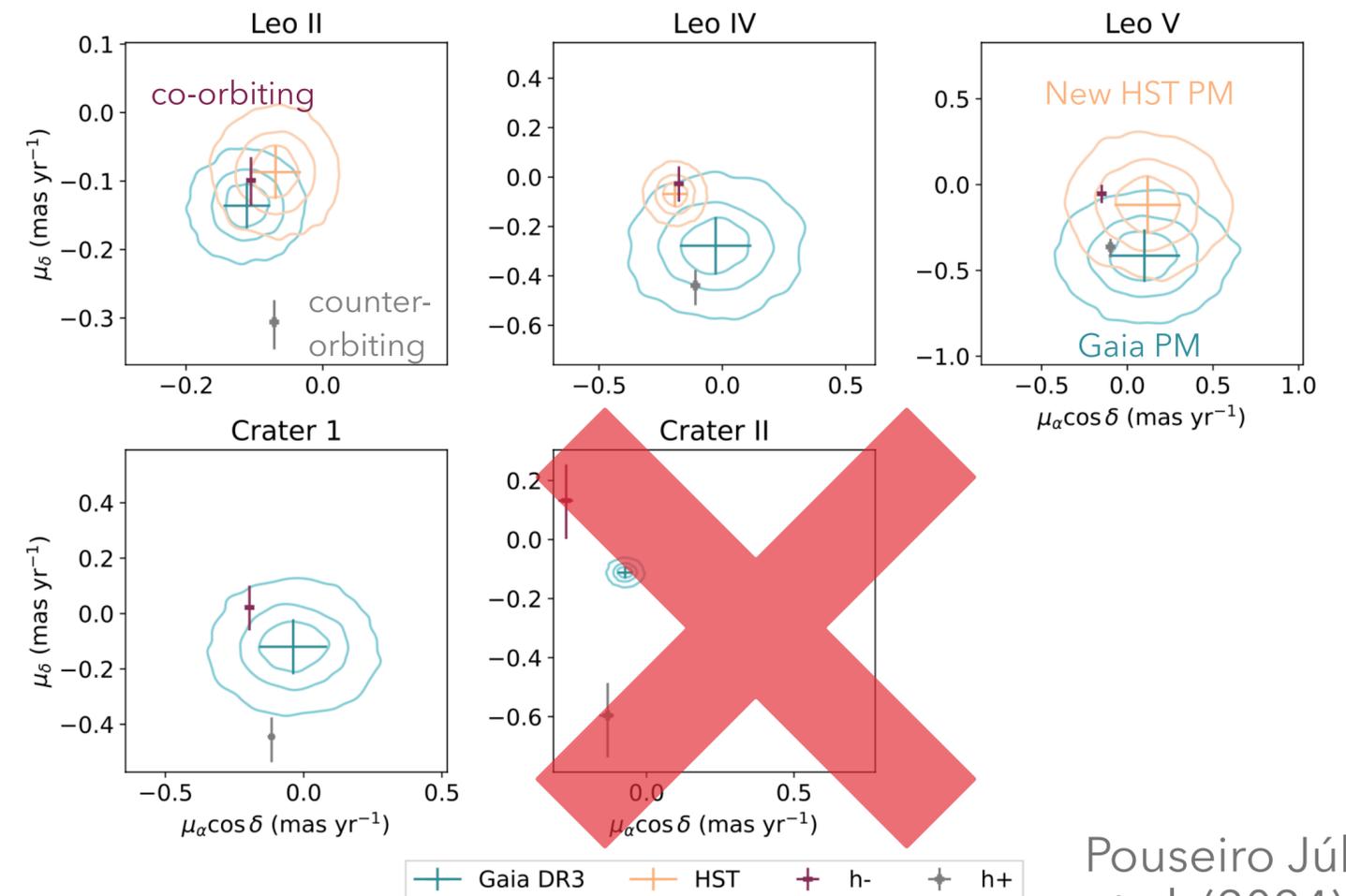
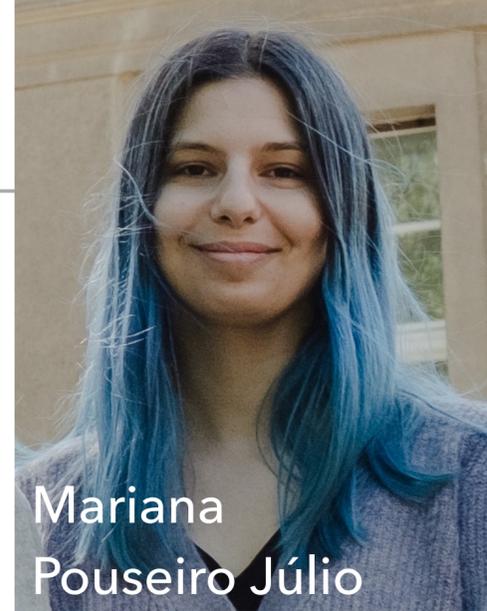
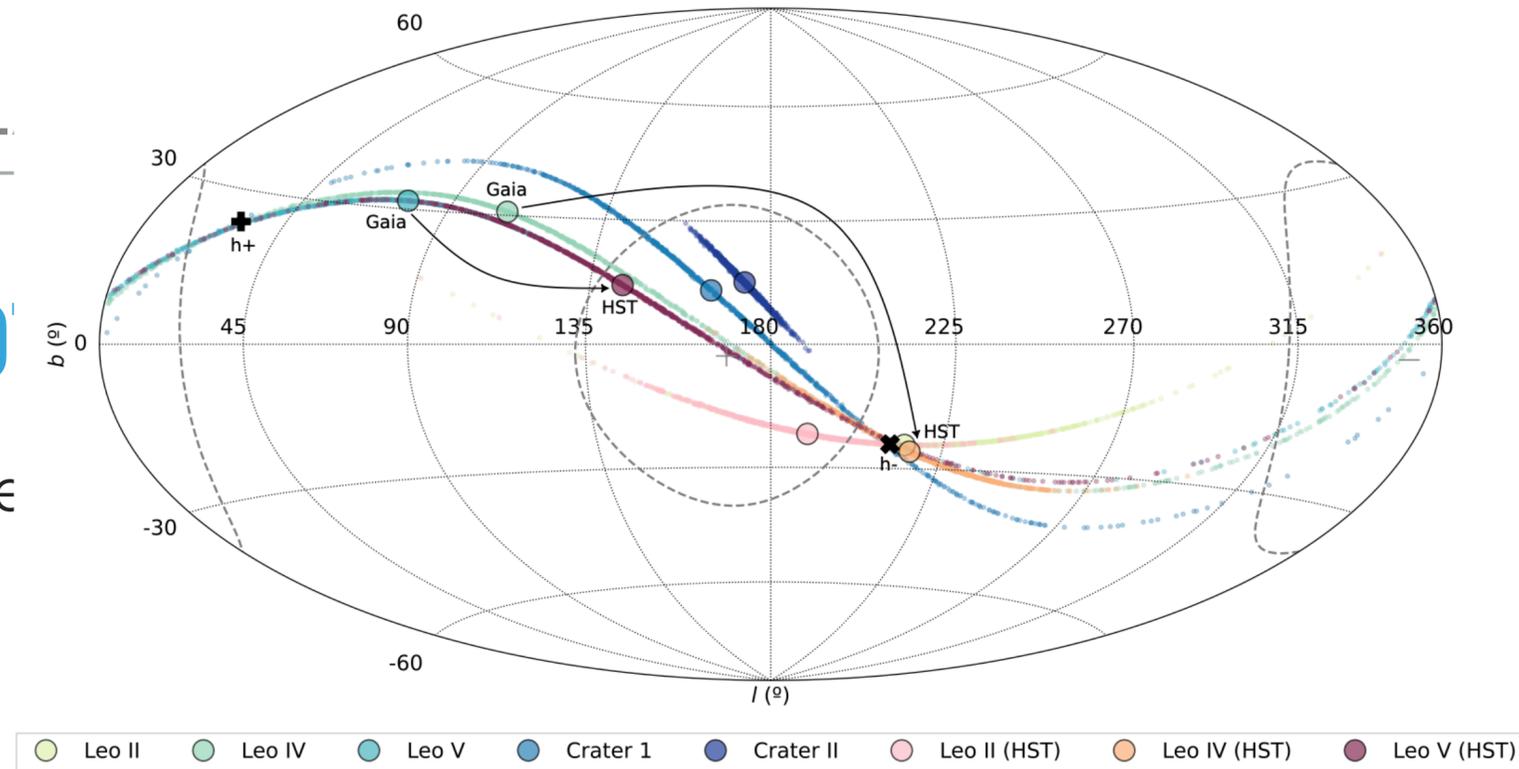
# Group Infall: the case of the Crater–Leo Objects

- ▶ Assume common group (similar energy and angular momentum)
  - predict expected PMs
  - test with measurements.



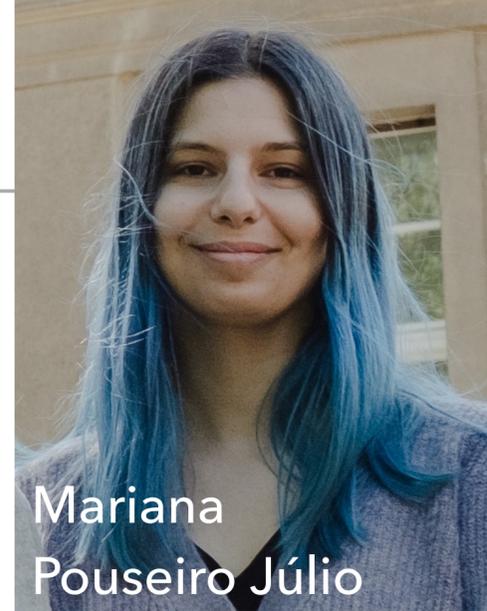
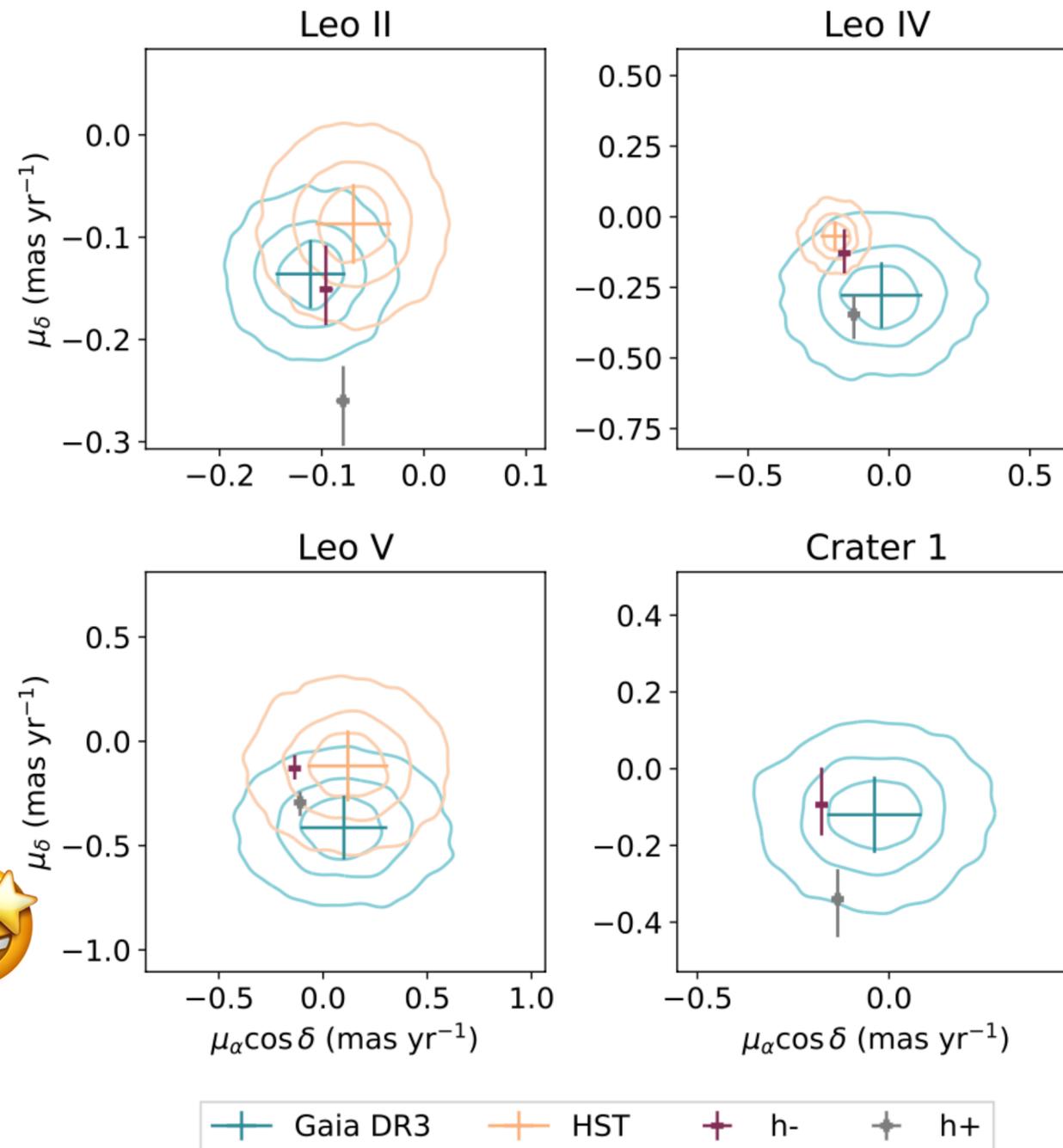
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- ▶ Can exclude Crater II as group member. Others are consistent within 1-2 $\sigma$  of (some) PM measurement.



# Group Infall: the case of the Crater–Leo Objects

- ▶ Assume common group (similar energy and angular momentum)
  - predict expected PMs
  - test with measurements.
- ▶ Can exclude Crater II as group member. Others are consistent within 1-2 $\sigma$  of (some) PM measurement.
- ▶ Repeating prediction without Crater II improves the match! HST PMs agree better than Gaia.
- ▶ *Possibly the first evidence of a more typical group infall event (in contrast to hierarchical LMC satellite system)!*

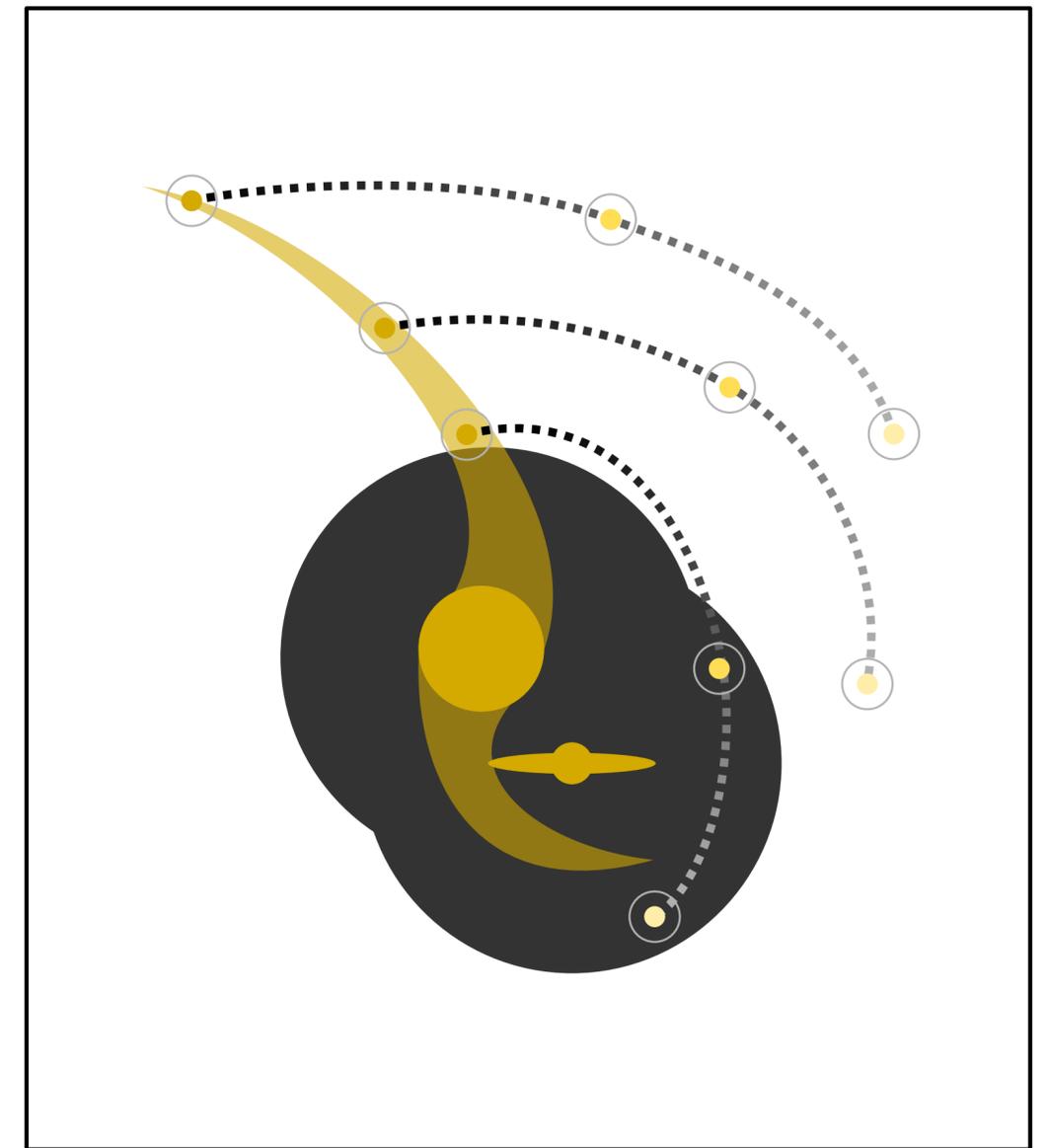


Mariana Pouseiro Júlio

# Tidal Dwarf Galaxies:

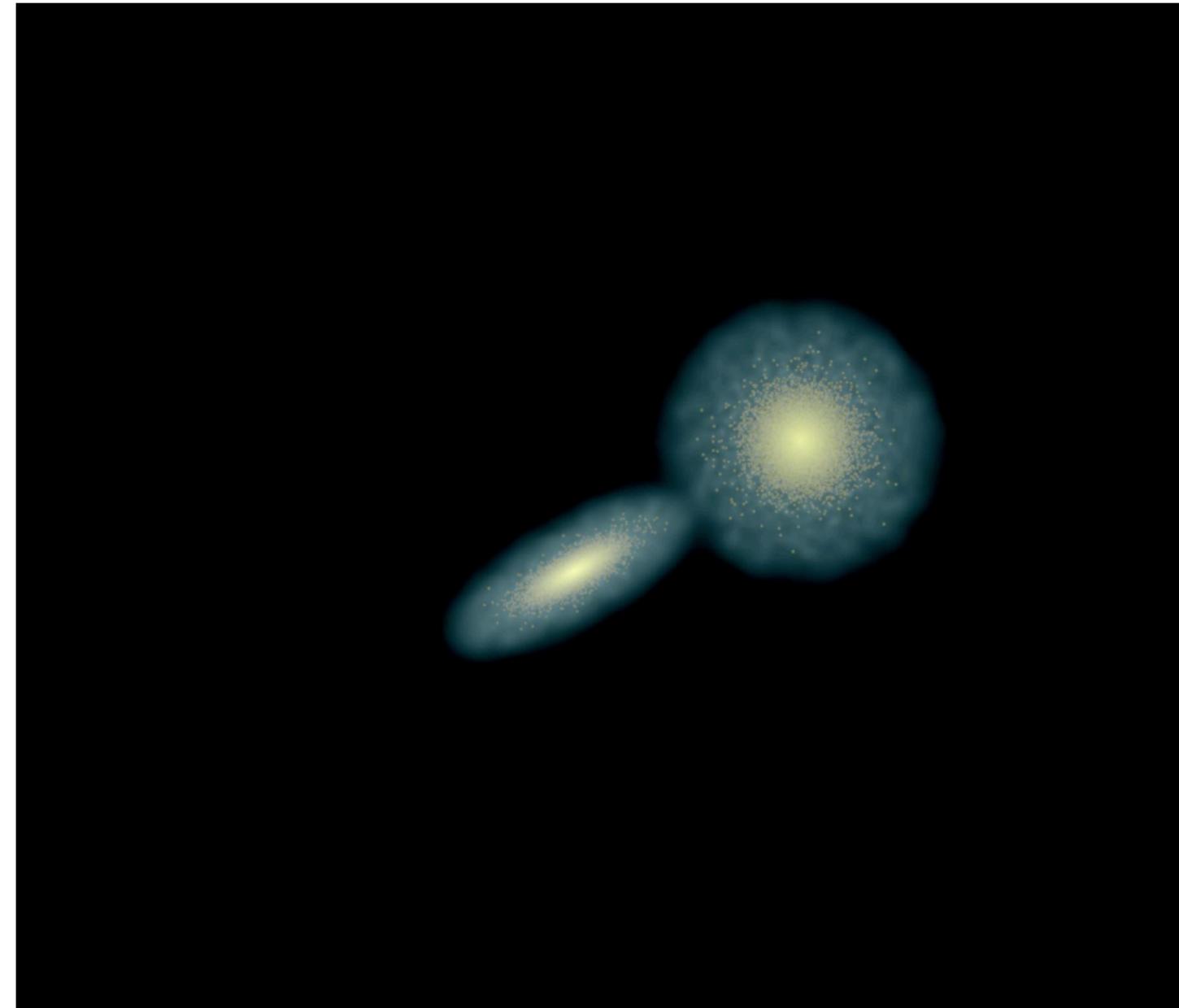
- ▶ 2nd generation galaxies formed from the debris of interacting galaxies.

Tidal Dwarf Galaxies



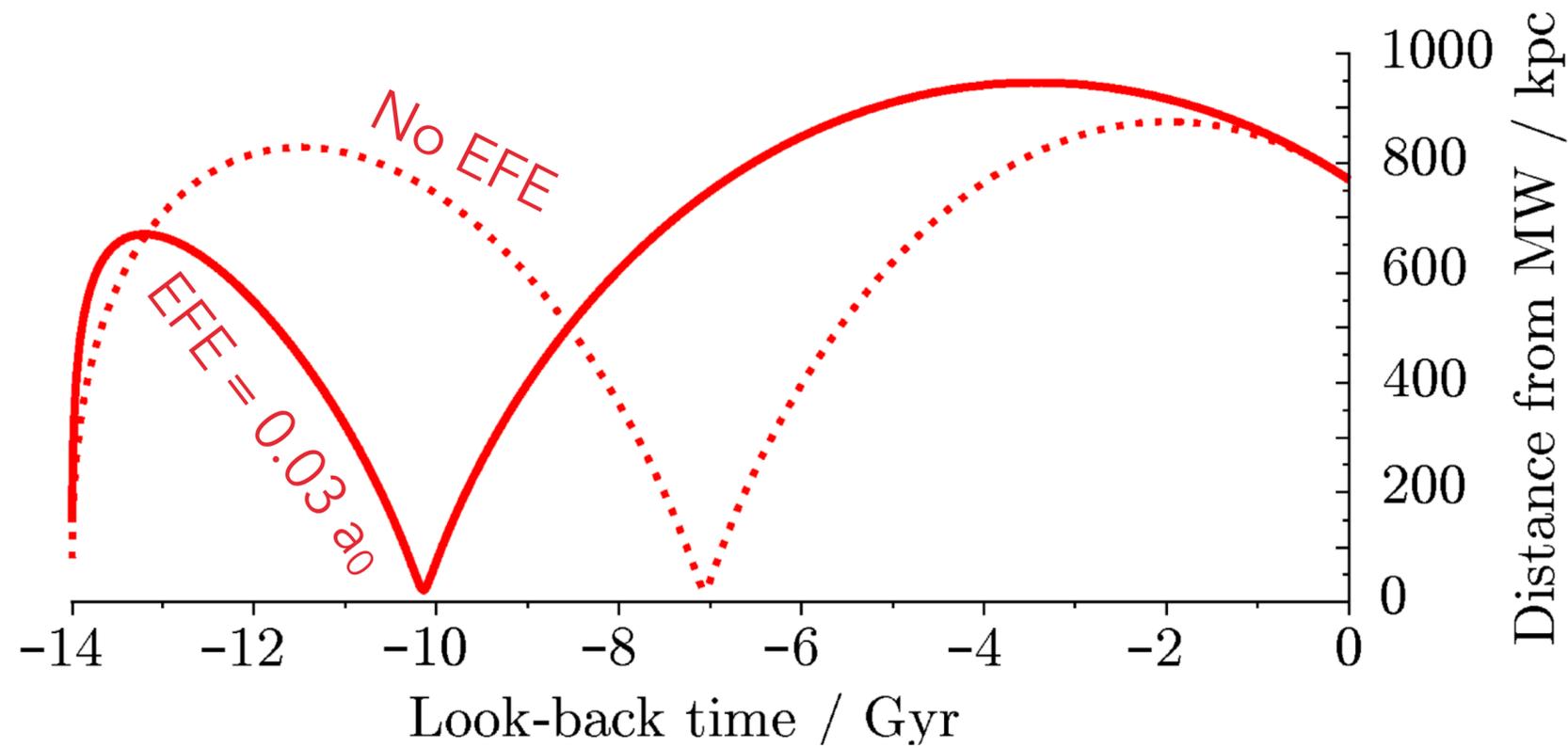
## Tidal Dwarf Galaxies:

- ▶ 2nd generation galaxies formed from the debris of interacting galaxies.
- ▶ Require past galaxy encounter/merger in LG  
→ possible merger in M31 (see Akib's poster)
- ▶ **Pro:** Explains flattened distribution & coherent motion of satellite systems. Can explain LG-wide consistencies and MW-M31 connection.
- ▶ **Con:** TDGs should be dark matter free (or non-equilibrium?). Should also show higher metallicity than primordial dwarfs. Yet on-plane satellites follow same scaling relations (see Salvatore's talk).

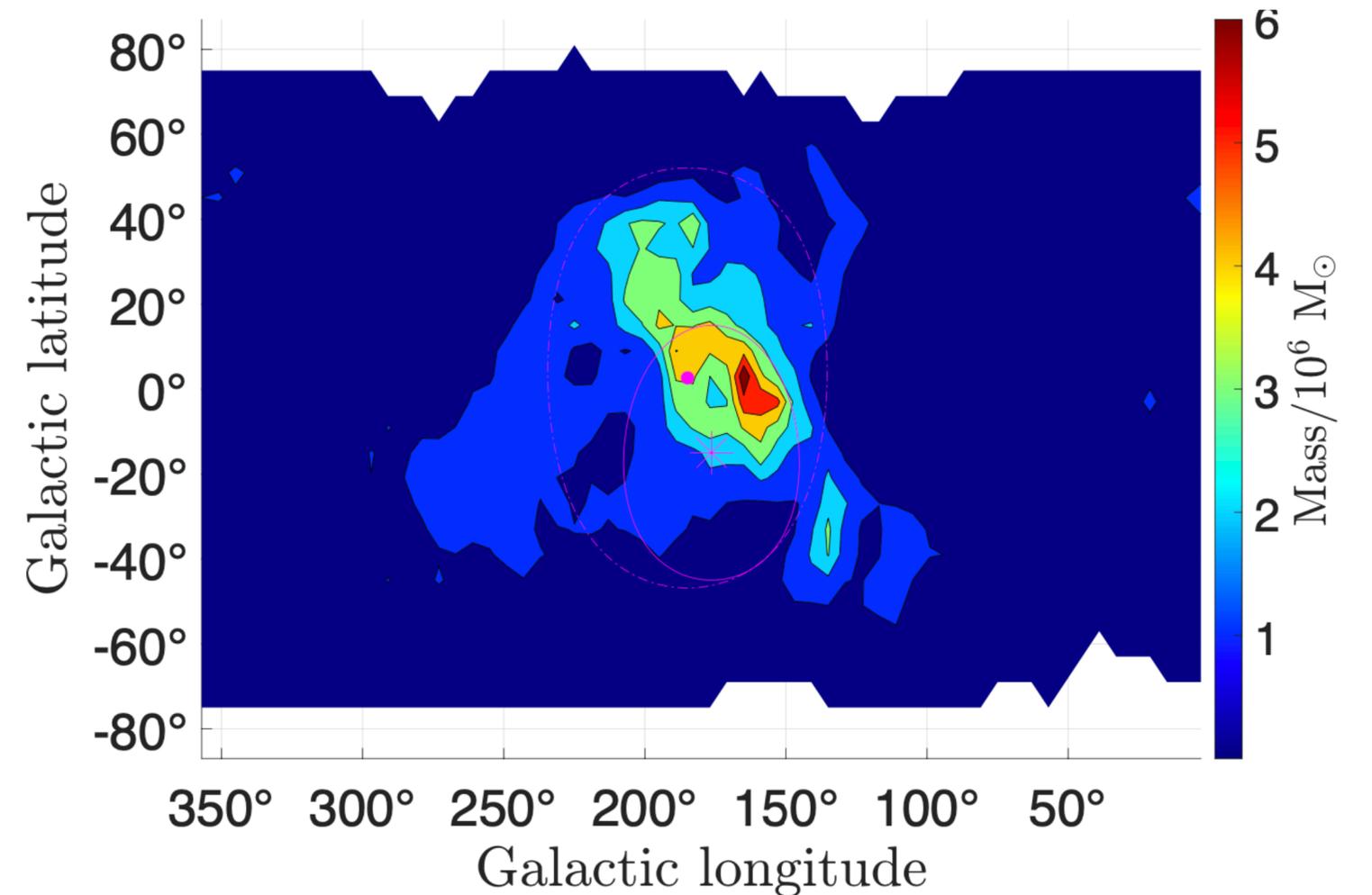


# Past MW-M31 encounter in MOND produces tidal debris consistent with VPOS and GPoA

MW-M31 orbit in MOND



Orbital poles of tidal debris



## Conclusions

- ▶ **Milky Way, M31 host satellite planes:** flattened distributions of satellite galaxies that appear to co-orbit in similar orientation.
- ▶ The **M31 satellite system is strongly lopsided** towards the MW.
- ▶ As extreme structures **exceedingly rare in  $\Lambda$ CDM simulations**  
→ *Planes of satellite galaxies & lopsidedness problems.*
- ▶ The observed features require an explanation. Possible origins:
  - ▶ **LMC: effect on MW alone does not explain** satellite plane, but has brought in at least some satellites.
  - ▶ **Accretion of satellites in groups:** might help, good evidence for **group origin of Crater-Leo objects** with our new HST PMs.
  - ▶ **MW-M31 interaction / M31 merger:** intriguing Local Group-wide consistencies!