

@theNbodyShop
nbody.shop

MARVEL-ous Dark Matter Constraints using Simulated Dwarf Galaxies

Ferah Munshi

George Mason University (GMU)

Collaborators: **Anna Engelhardt** (GMU), Ethan Nadler (UCSD), Annika Peters (OSU), Akaxia Cruz (Princeton), Alyson Brooks (Rutgers), Blake Vogel (GMU), Benjamin Keller (Memphis), Zhichao Zeng (TAMU), Tom Quinn (UW)



fmunshi@gmu.edu

**CDM predictions
at large scales**



**CDM predictions
at small scales**



(At least without considering baryons)

There is No Small Scale “Crisis” for CDM

CDM= cold dark matter, WDM= warm dark matter, SIDM= self-interacting dark matter

“challenge”	CDM+ baryons	WDM	SIDM	
Bulge-less disk galaxies	✓			Governato+ 2010; Brook+ 2011
The Cusp/Core Problem	✓		✓	Pontzen & Governato+ 2012; Chan+ 2015
Too Big to Fail	✓	✓	✓	Zolotov+ 2012; Garrison- Kimmel+ 2015
Missing Satellites	✓	✓		Brooks+ 2013; Buck+ 2019
Missing Dwarfs	✓	✓	✓	Maccio+ 2016; Brooks+ 2017
Diversity	✓?		✓	Santos-Santos+ 2018; Munshi+ 2021
Planes of Satellites	Still to be explored/contentious			Buck+ 2016; Ahmed+ 2017

**Scorecard adapted from A. Brooks

There is No Small Scale “Crisis” for CDM

CDM= cold dark matter, WDM= warm dark matter, SIDM= self-interacting dark matter

“challenge”	CDM+Baryons	WDM+Baryons	SIDM+Baryons
Bulge-less disk galaxies	✓	✓	✓
The Cusp/Core Problem	✓	✓	✓
Too Big to Fail	✓	✓	✓
Missing Satellites	✓	✓	✓
Missing Dwarfs	✓	✓	✓
Diversity	✓?	?	✓?
Planes of Satellites	Still to be explored		

**Scorecard adapted from A. Brooks

The Diversity of Rotations Curves “Problem”

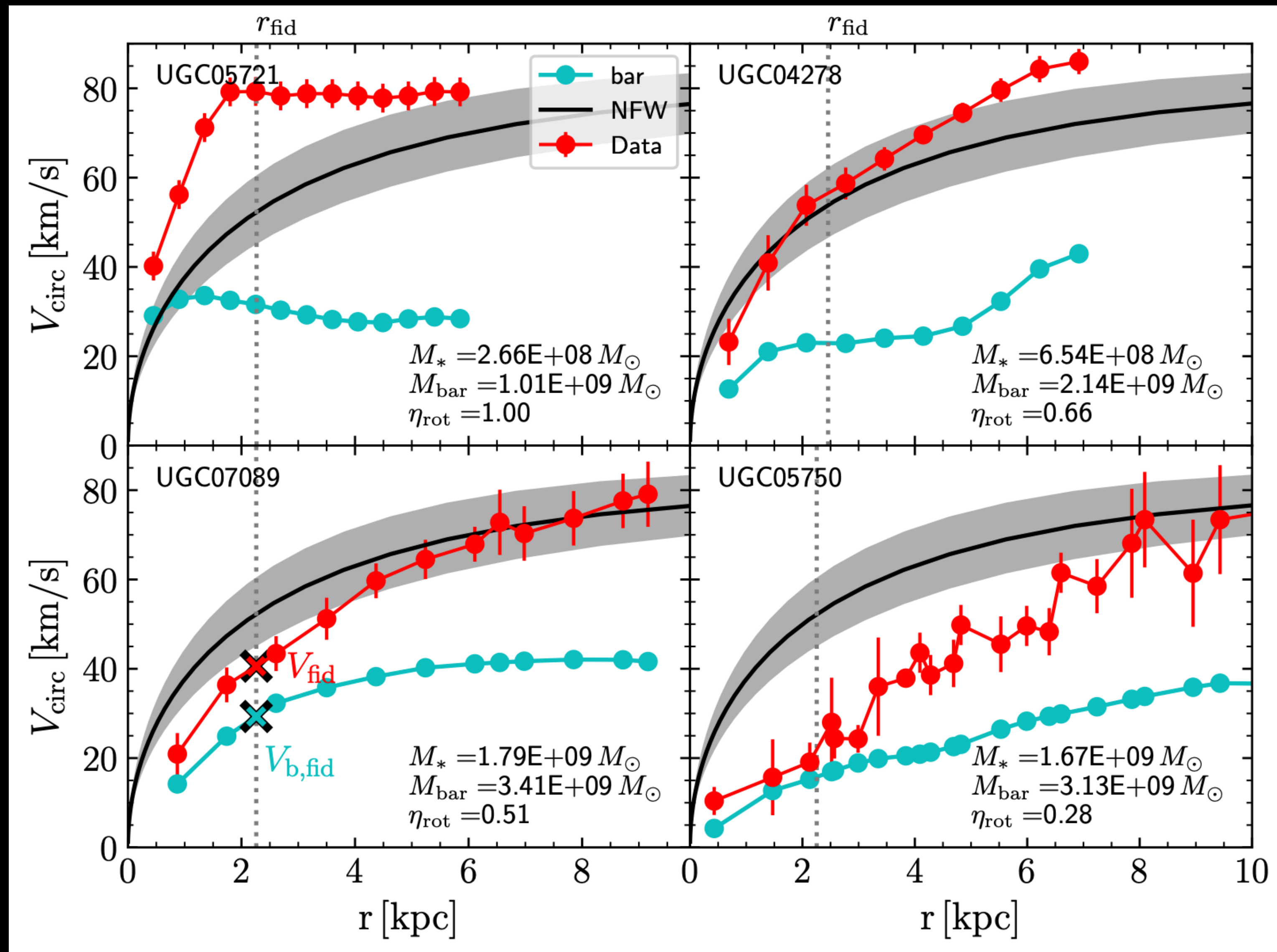
Λ CDM Prediction:

For systems with the same V_{max} rotation curve shapes in Λ CDM are expected to be nearly identical

Observations:

For halos with a given V_{max} halos can have a wide range of central densities/rotation curve shapes

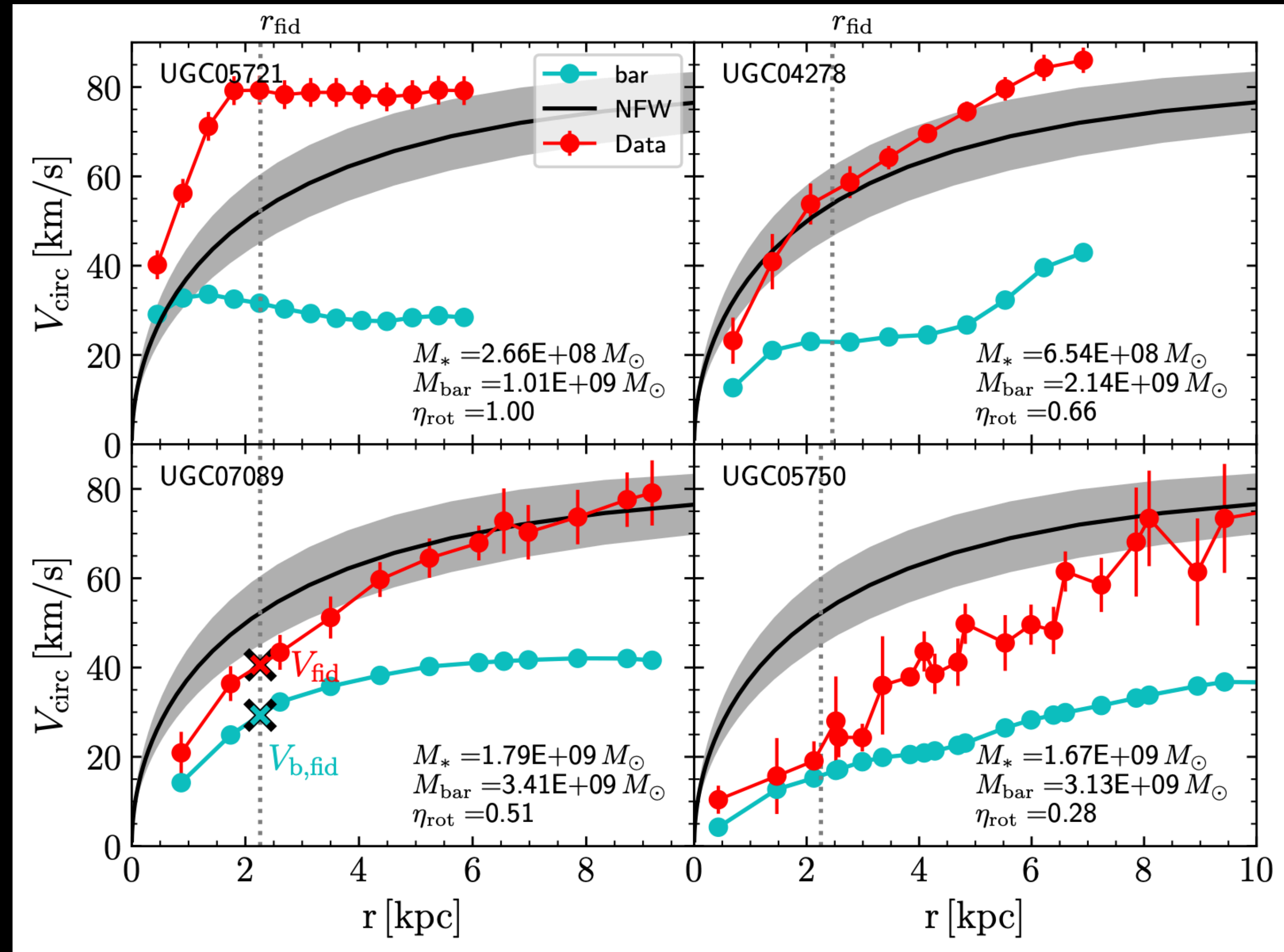
Santos-Santos+ (2020)



Motivation for a Velocity Dependent cross section

Core collapsed SIDM halos could potentially help explain the “diversity problem” of dwarf galaxies

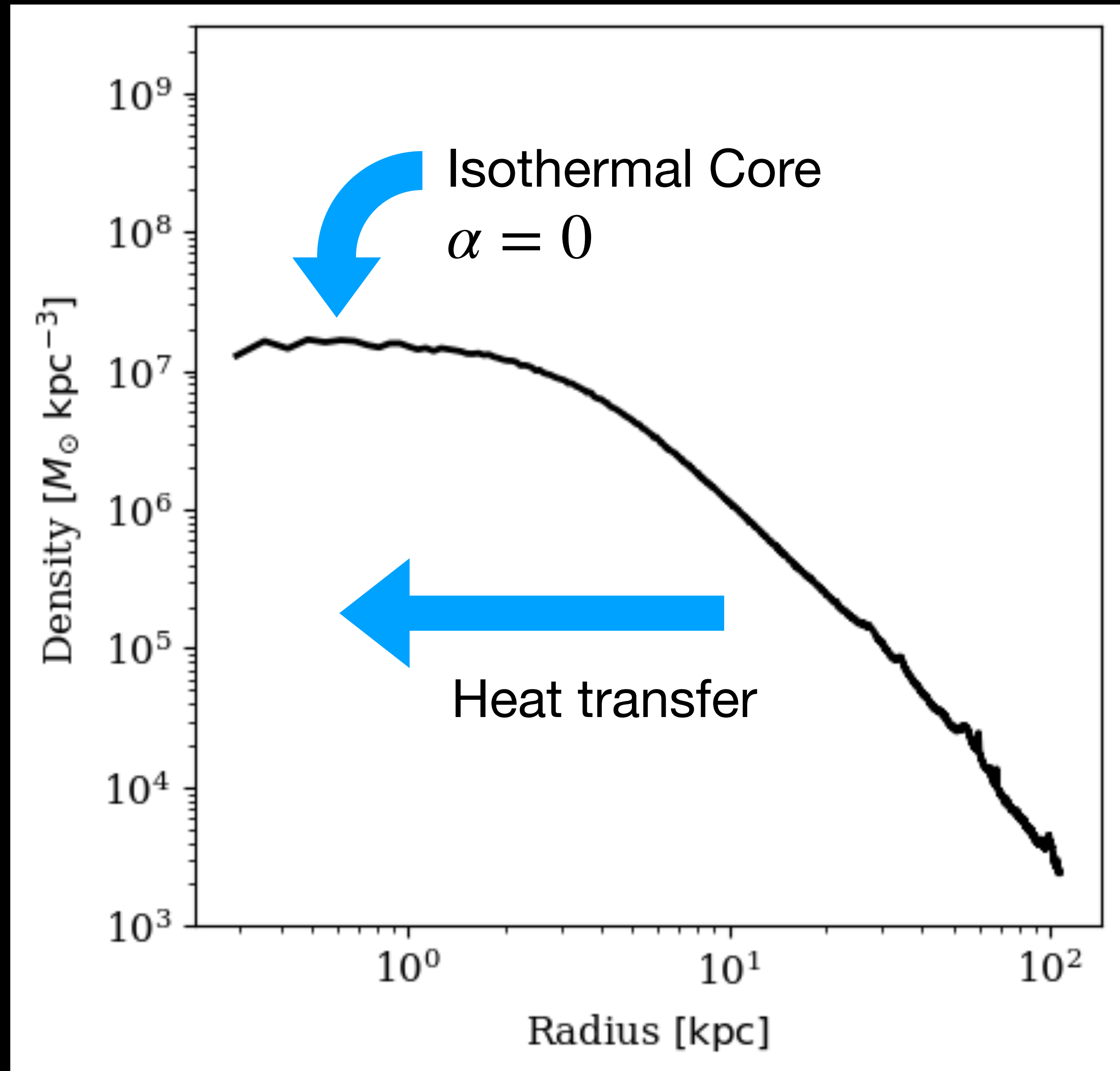
But CDM+ baryons works also (see work by A. Cruz!)



Santos-Santos+ (2020)

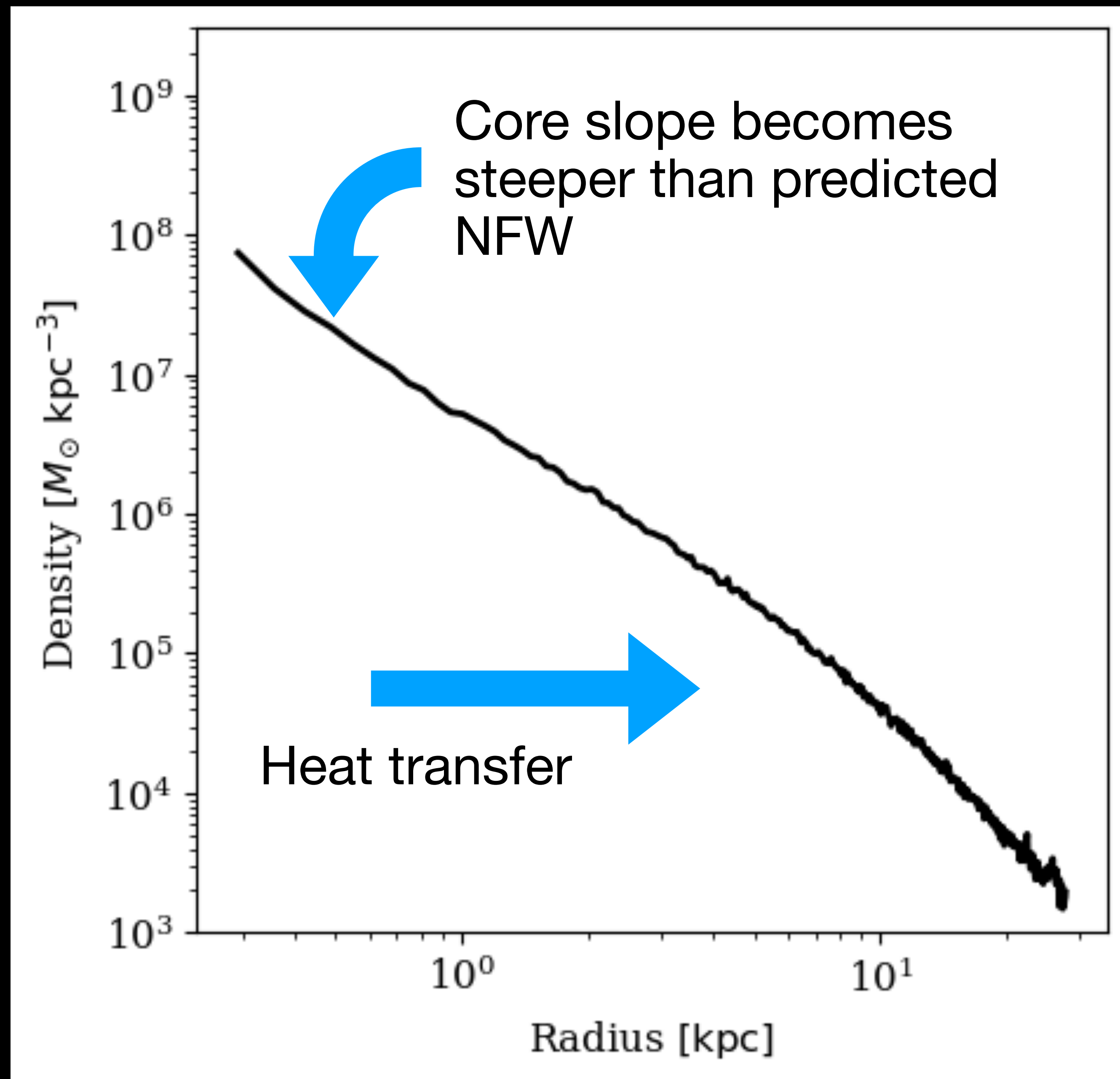
SIDM Core Formation

- Inner region of DM halo is initially colder than its outskirts
- Self interactions allows energy transfers throughout the halo
- Heat gets transferred inwards
- Halo forms an isothermal core
- Increasing central temperature pushes central particles out



Gravothermal Core Collapse

- Heat gets transferred outwards
- DM halos are gravitationally bound systems that obey
$$E_{tot} = KE + PE = -KE$$
$$(PE = -2KE)$$
- SIDM core has a negative heat capacity (negative total energy) so as heat flows out, KE increases and PE decreases



Storm (CDM)



One of the 4 MARVEL-ous simulation volumes (Munshi+ 2021)

Dark Matter Only (DMO) run

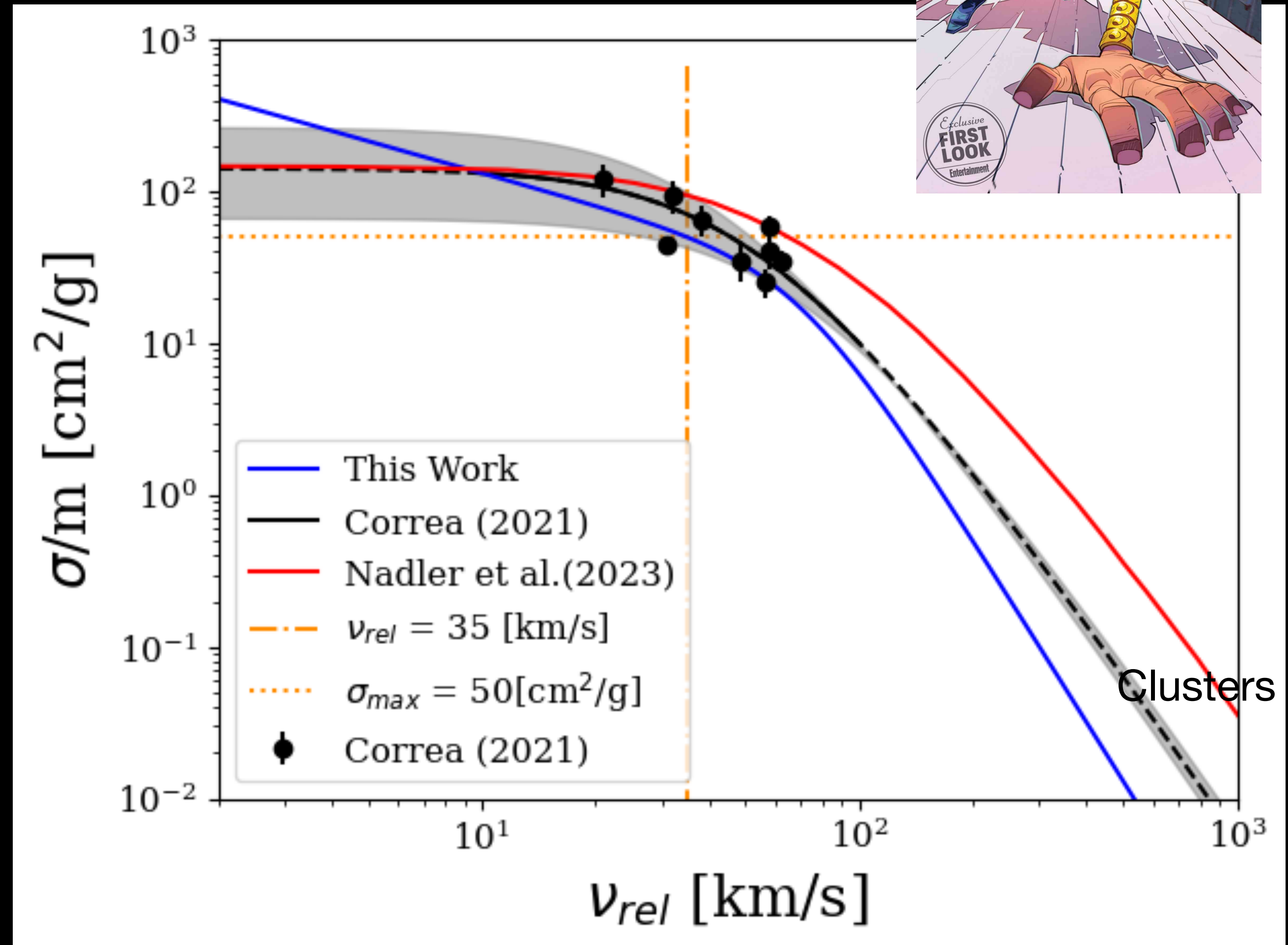
- Gravitational Softening Length = 65 pc
- DM particle mass = $8070M_{\odot}$

Hydrodynamic run

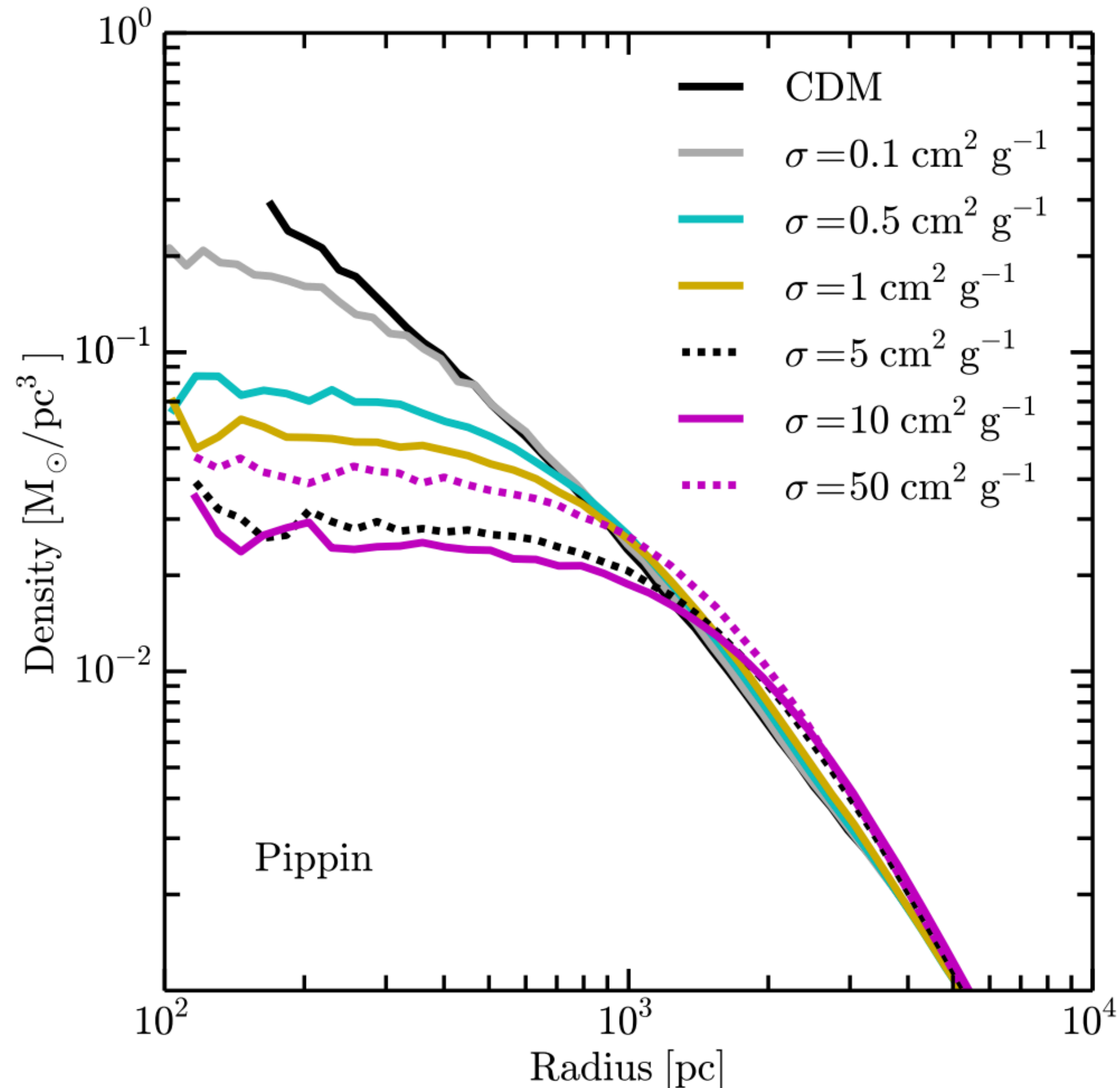
- Gravitational Softening Length = 60 pc
- DM, Initial Star, and Gas particle mass = $6650M_{\odot}, 420M_{\odot}, 1410M_{\odot}$
- Superbubble feedback (Keller et al. 2014)

(Magnificent) Ms. Marvel (SIDM)

- Velocity Dependent cross section of interaction
 - $V_{max} = 35 \text{ km/s}$
 - $\sigma/m_{max} = 50 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$
- Gravitational Softening Length = 65 pc
- DM particle mass = $8070 M_{\odot}$



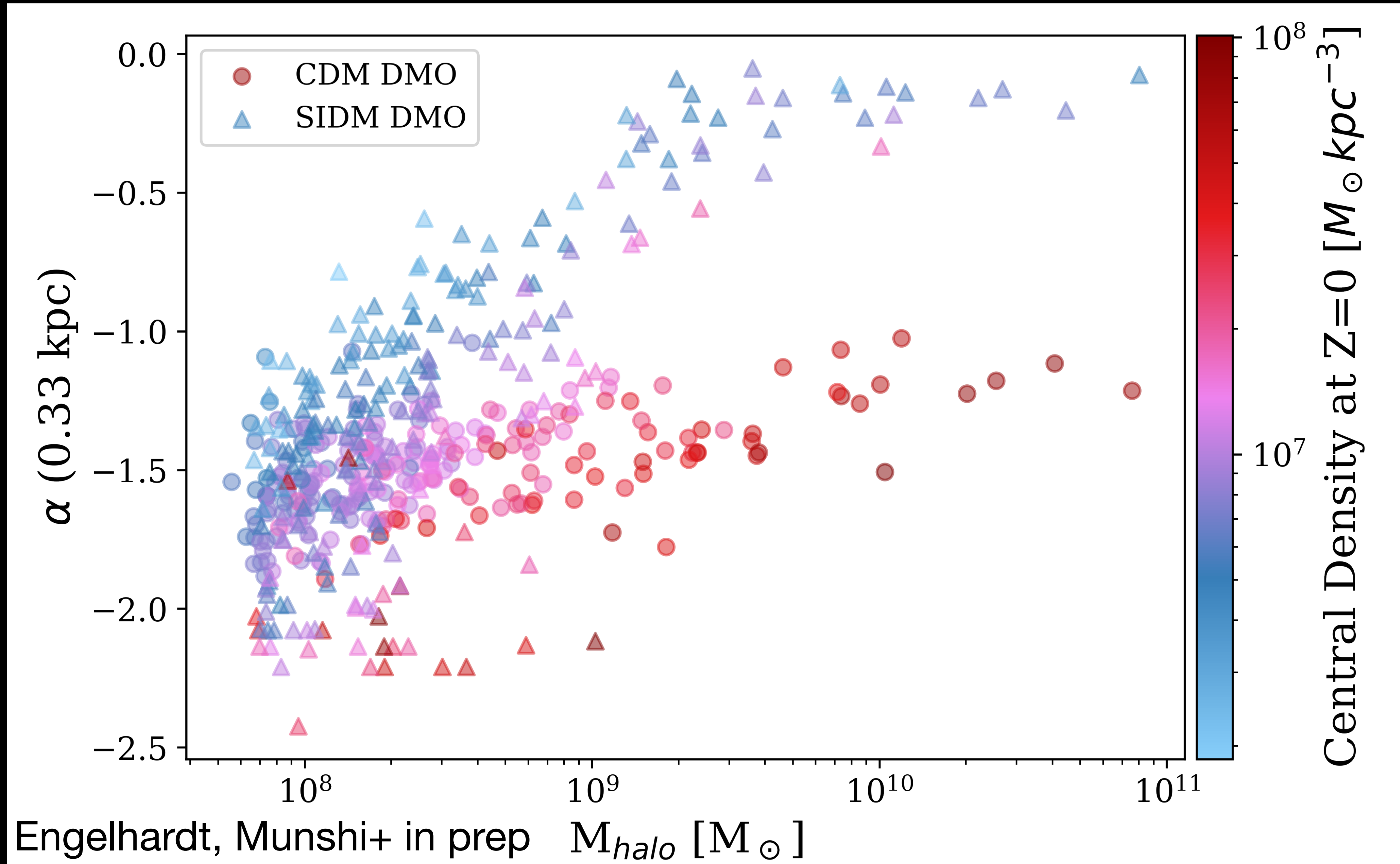
Creating Cores with SIDM



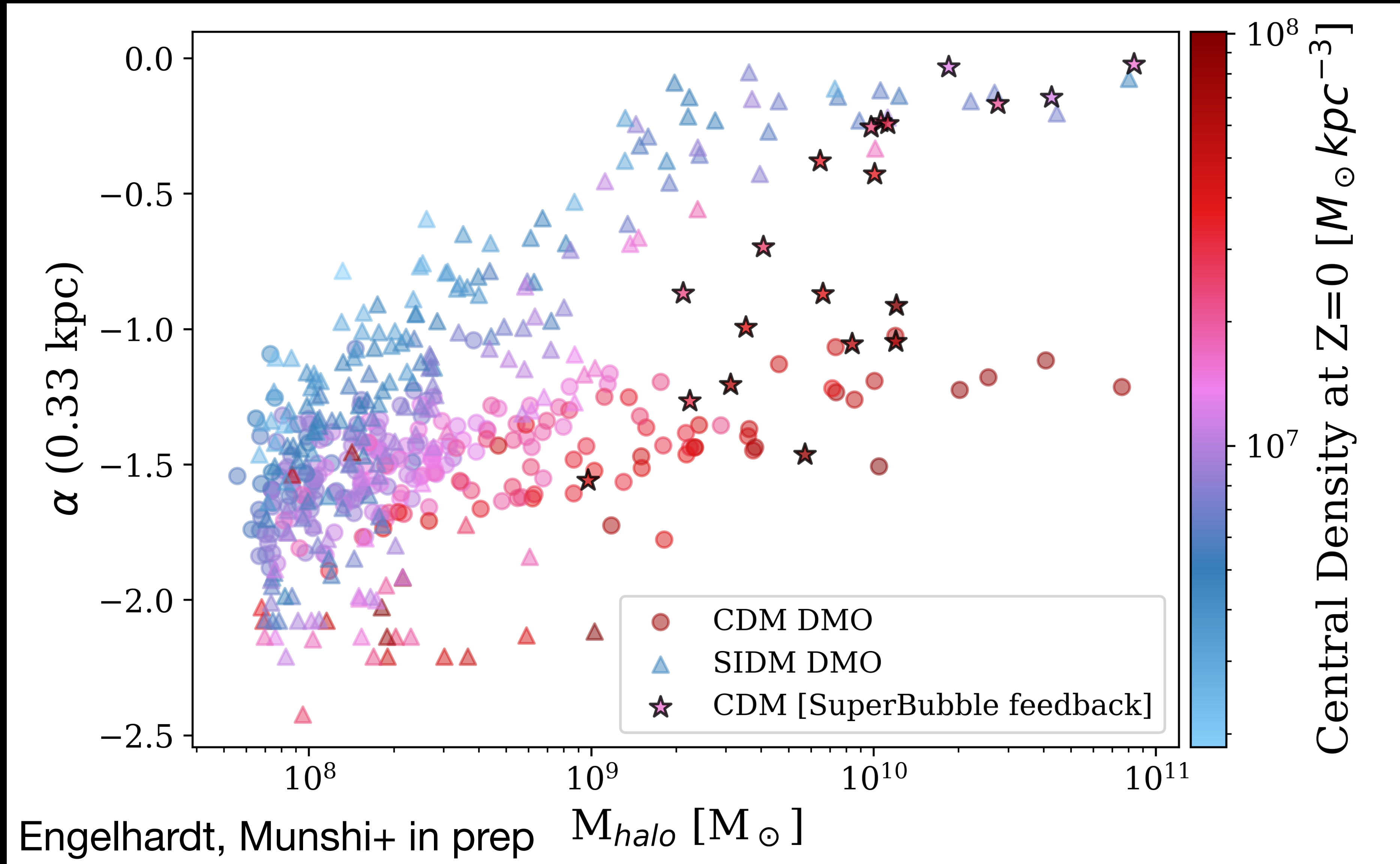
Isolated SIDM dwarfs with a large cross section of interaction ($1 - 50 cm^2 g^{-1}$) can form cores (Elbert+ 2015)

$$M_{vir} = 9 \times 10^9 M_{\odot}$$

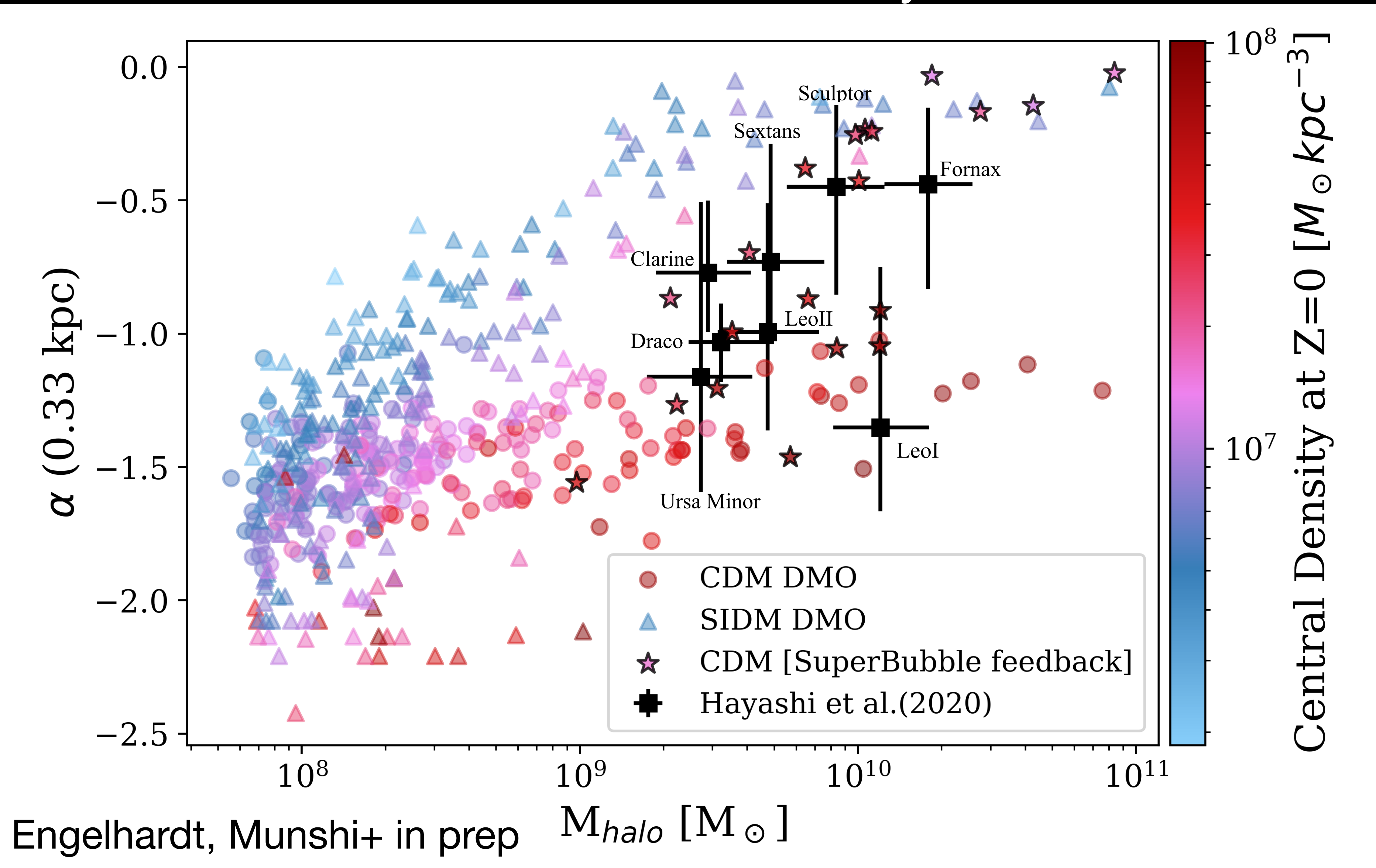
Core slopes of “classical” dwarf galaxy mass halos could be used to discriminate between SIDM and CDM + Baryonic feedback



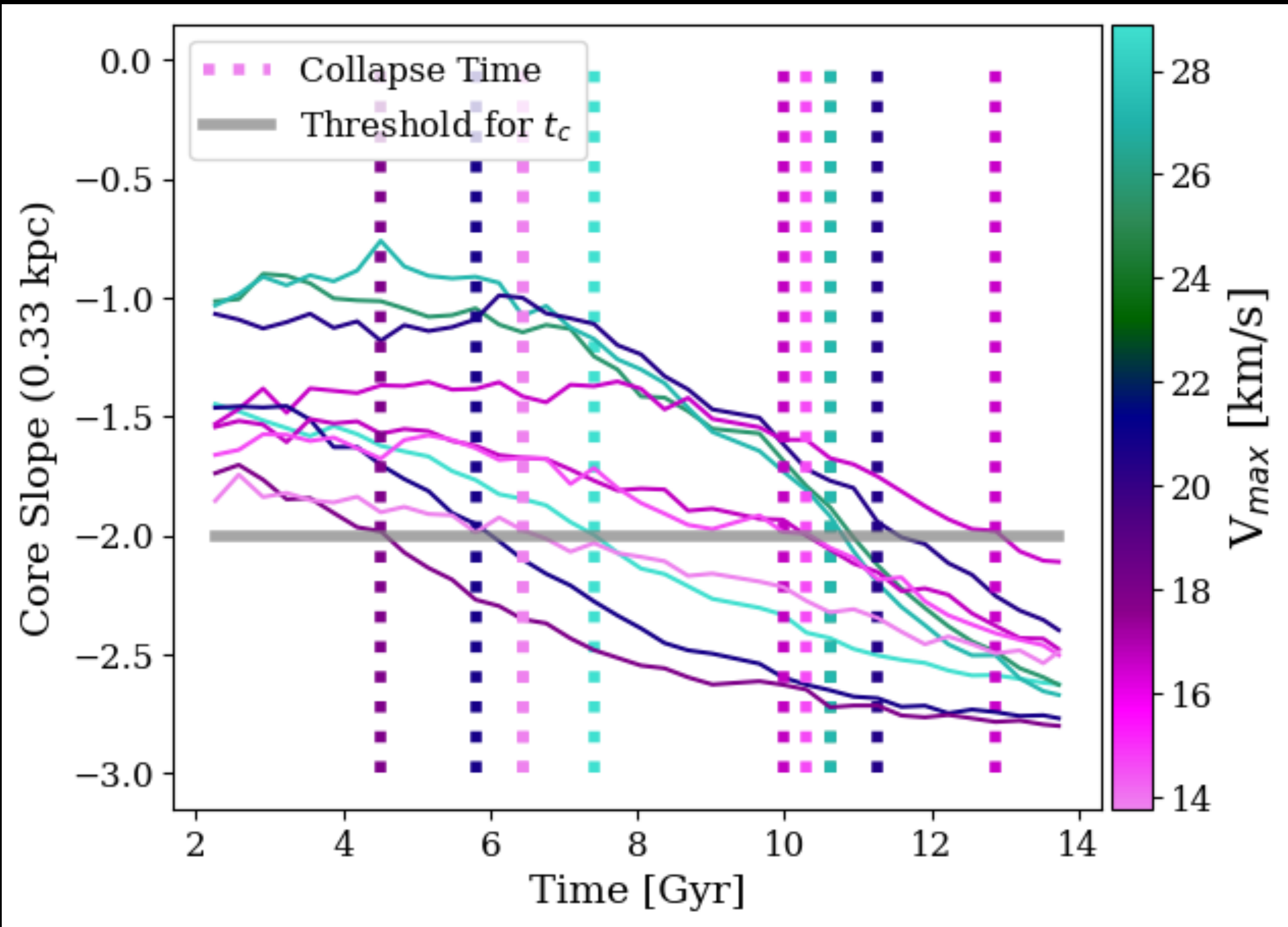
Core slopes of “classical” dwarf galaxy mass halos could be used to discriminate between SIDM and CDM + Baryonic feedback



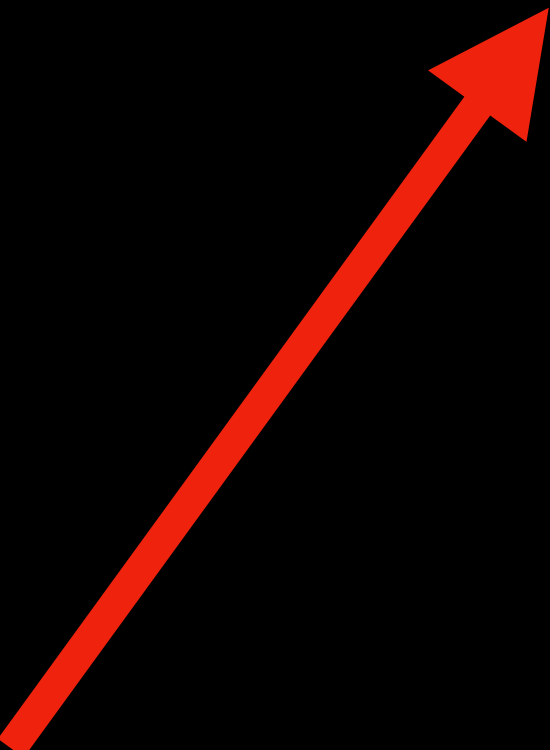
Core slopes of “classical” dwarf galaxy mass halos could be used to discriminate between SIDM and CDM + Baryonic feedback



We define a collapse time (t_c) as the time when the halo first enters the core collapse phase, characterized by a core slope more negative than -2.0




Analytic Calculation of Collapse Time

$$t_c = \frac{150}{\beta} \frac{1}{(\sigma_{eff}/m)r_{eff}\rho_{eff}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi G\rho_{eff}}}$$


Constant Scalar tuned to simulations
Yang et al.(2024) set $\beta = 0.75$

Yang+ 2024

Analytic Calculation of Collapse Time

$$t_c = \frac{150}{\beta} \frac{1}{(\sigma_{eff}/m)r_{eff}\rho_{eff}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi G\rho_{eff}}}$$


Effective Cross Section of Interaction

Analytic Calculation of Collapse Time

$$t_c = \frac{150}{\beta} \frac{1}{(\sigma_{eff}/m)r_{eff}\rho_{eff}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi G\rho_{eff}}}$$

Effective Radius

$$r_{eff} = \frac{R_{max}}{2.1626}$$

$$V_{max} = V_{circ}(R_{max})$$

Analytic Calculation of Collapse Time

$$t_c = \frac{150}{\beta} \frac{1}{(\sigma_{eff}/m)r_{eff}\rho_{eff}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi G\rho_{eff}}}$$

Effective Density

$$\rho_{eff} = \left(\frac{V_{max}}{1.648r_{eff}} \right)^2 \times G^{-1}$$

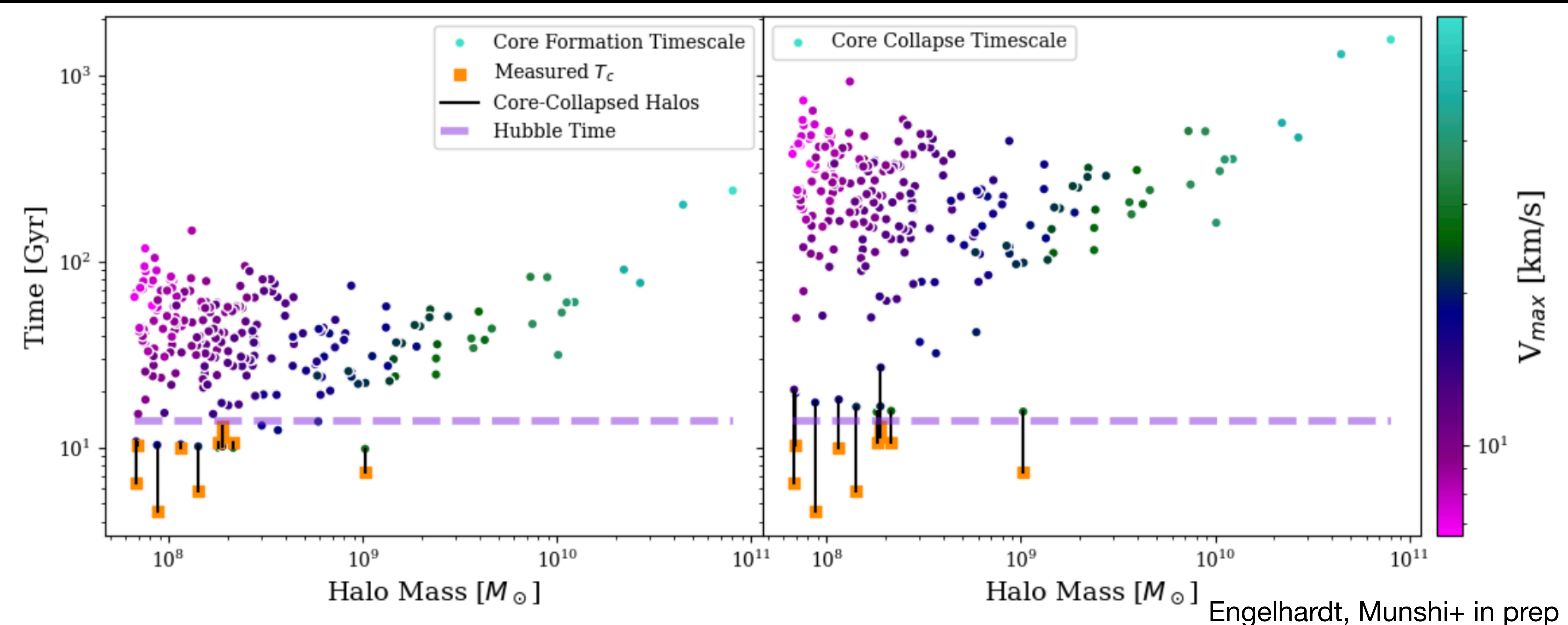
$$r_{eff} = \frac{R_{max}}{2.1626}$$

$$V_{max} = V_{circ}(R_{max})$$

Yang+ 2024

Using core slope to determine when halos enter core-formation & core-collapse agrees with the analytic calculations

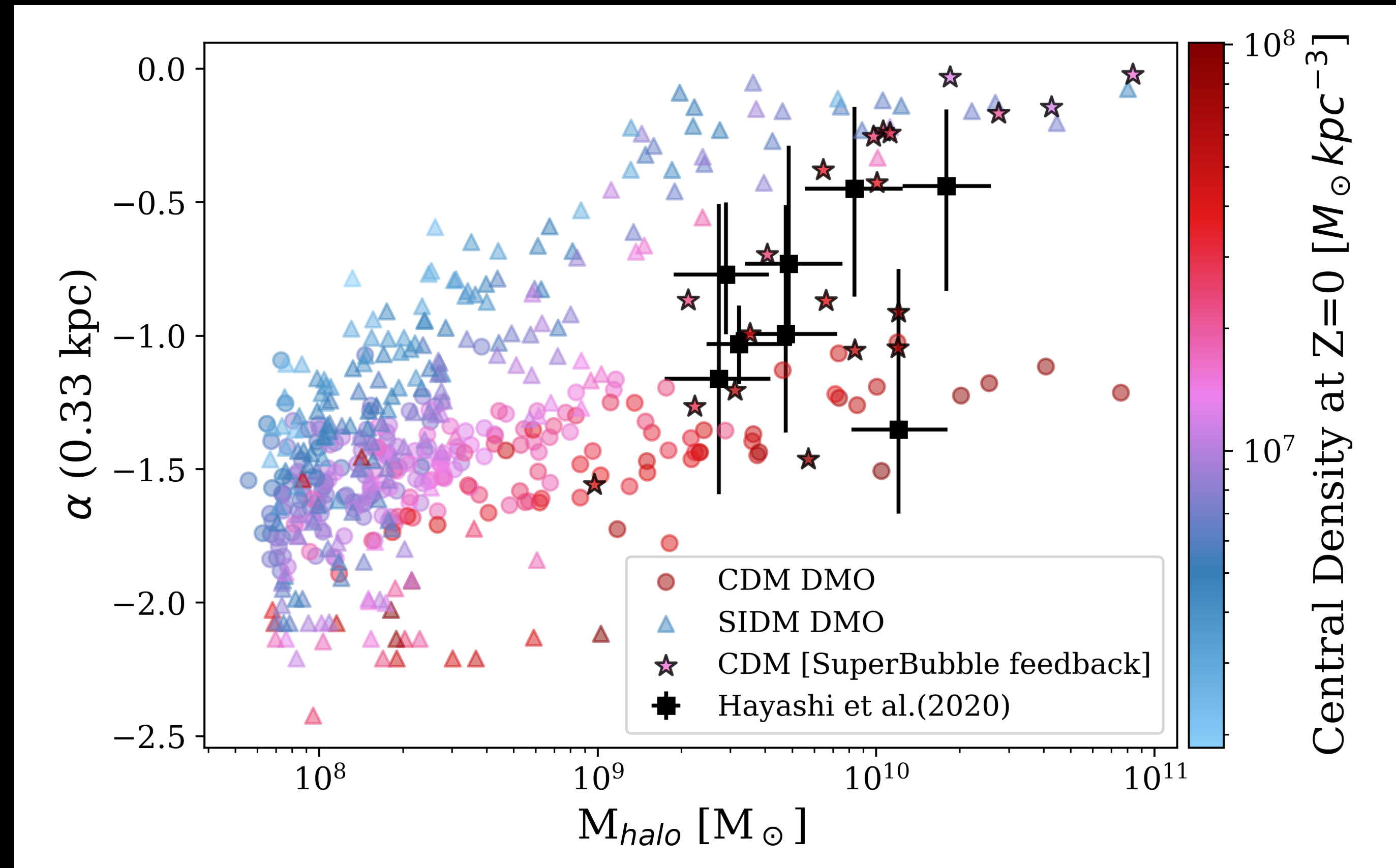
Nadler+2024, Yang+2024



Engelhardt, Munshi+ in prep

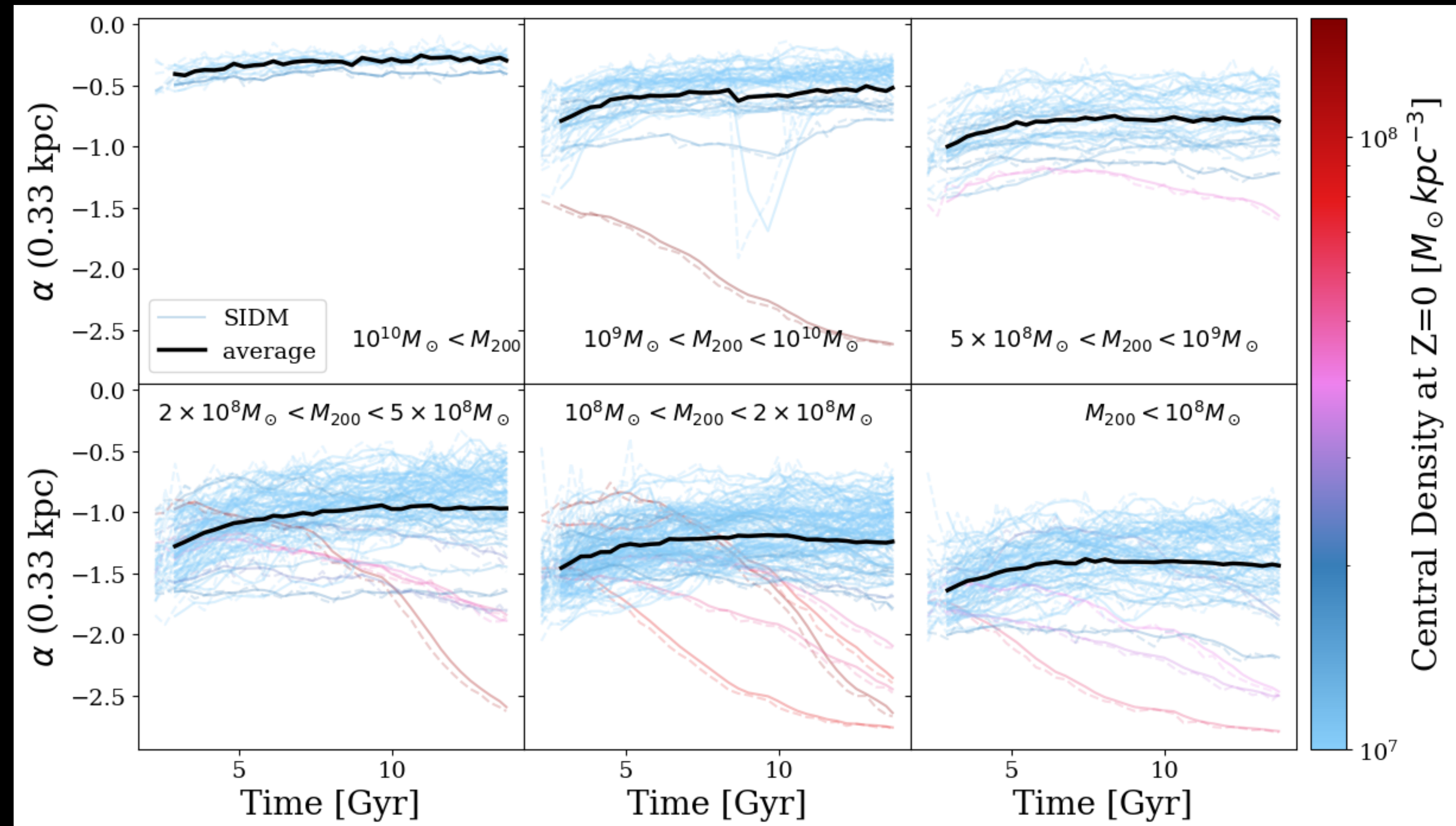
Conclusions

- Predictions for the measured core slopes of DM halos from SIDM (DMO) and CDM +baryons simulations diverge in the “classical dwarf” mass range, indicating that it may be possible to observationally distinguish between DM models at this mass scale



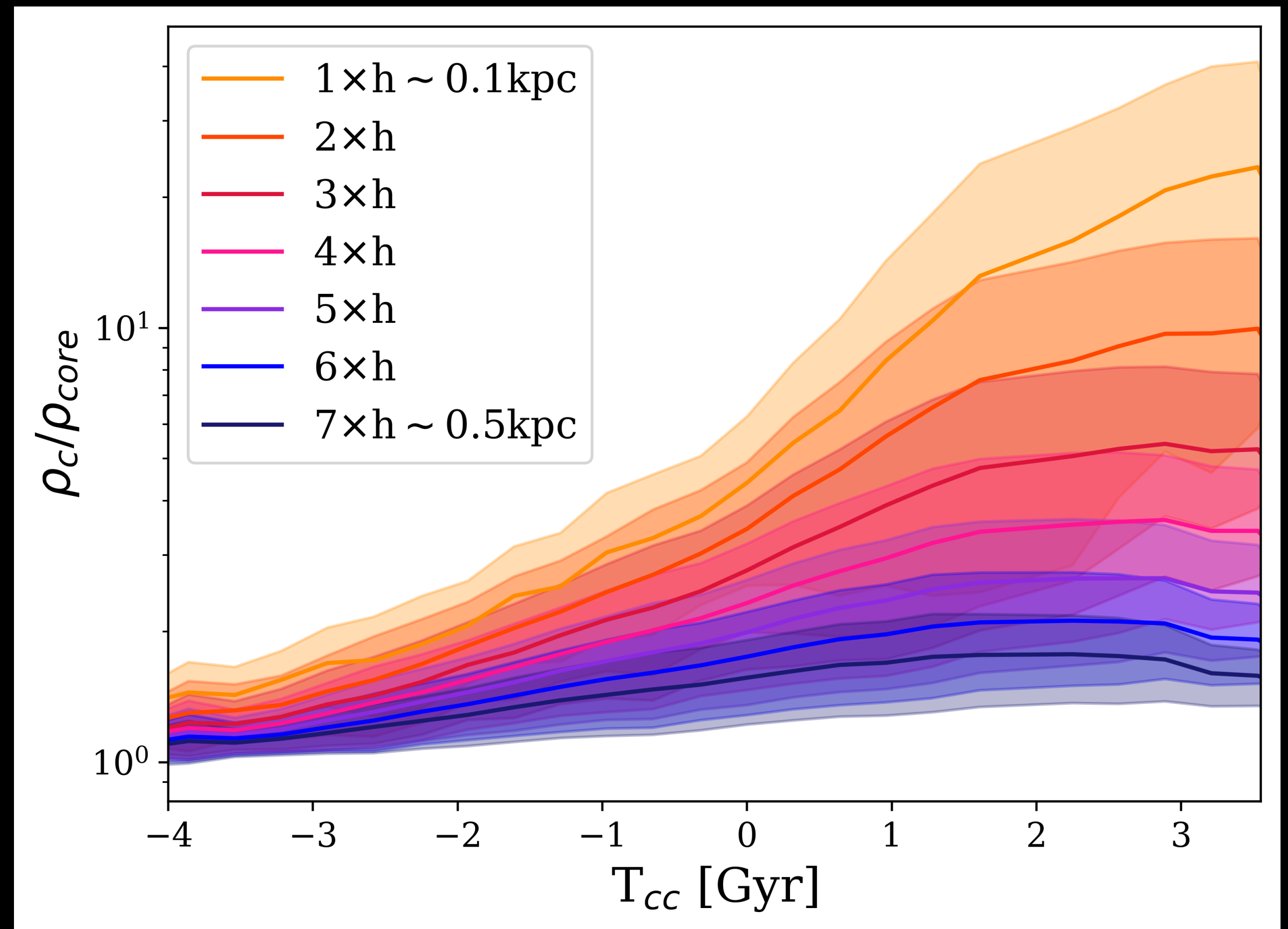
Conclusions

- Core slopes of SIDM halos exhibit strong dependence on mass and the effective cross section of interaction



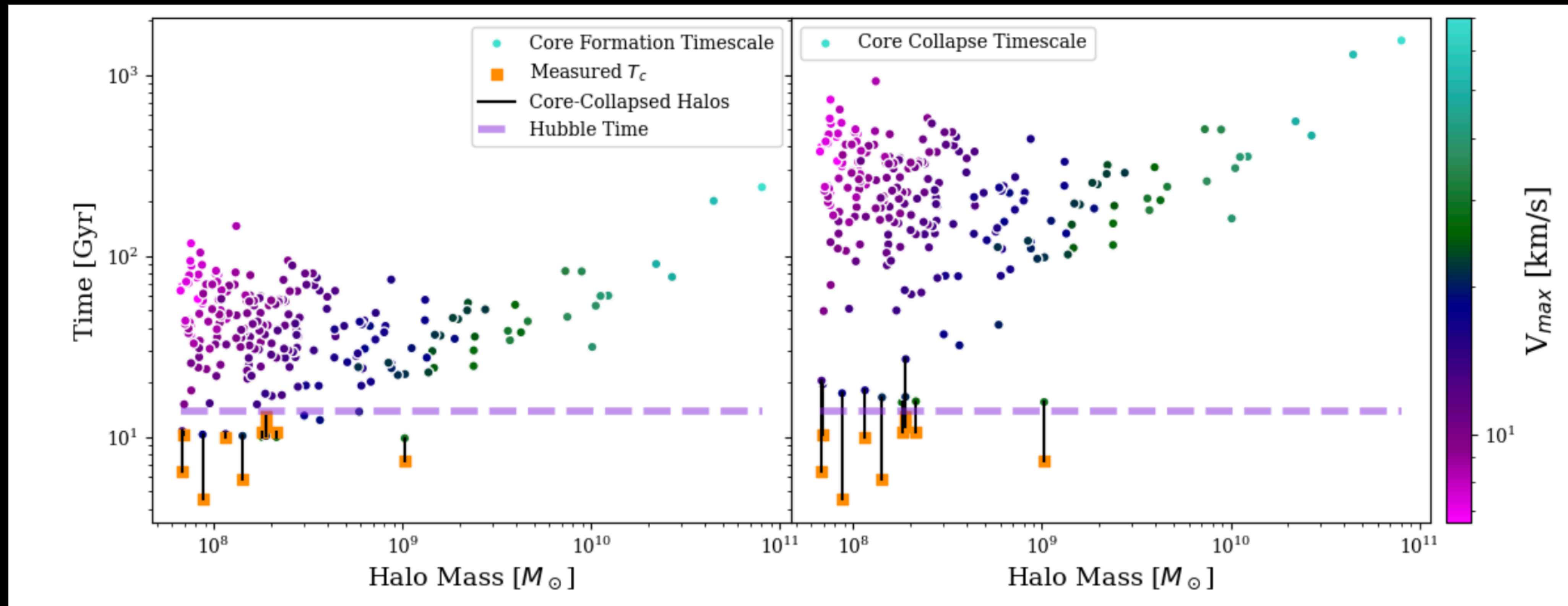
Conclusions

- Central density also traces core-collapse, however this property depends on the aperture of the measurement as well as the halo's merger history



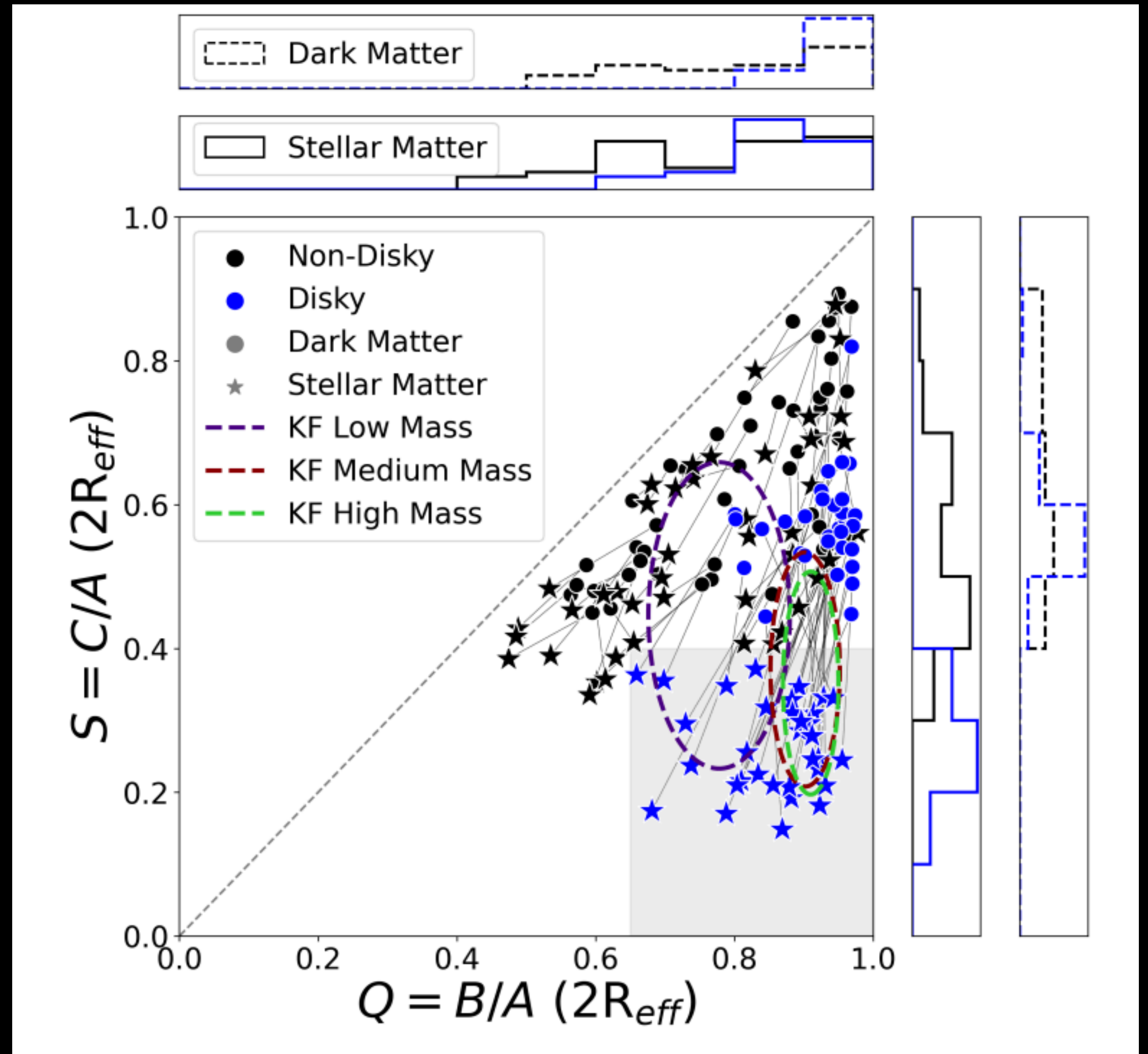
Conclusions

- We find that core slope is the best determinant of when halos first enter the core collapse phase



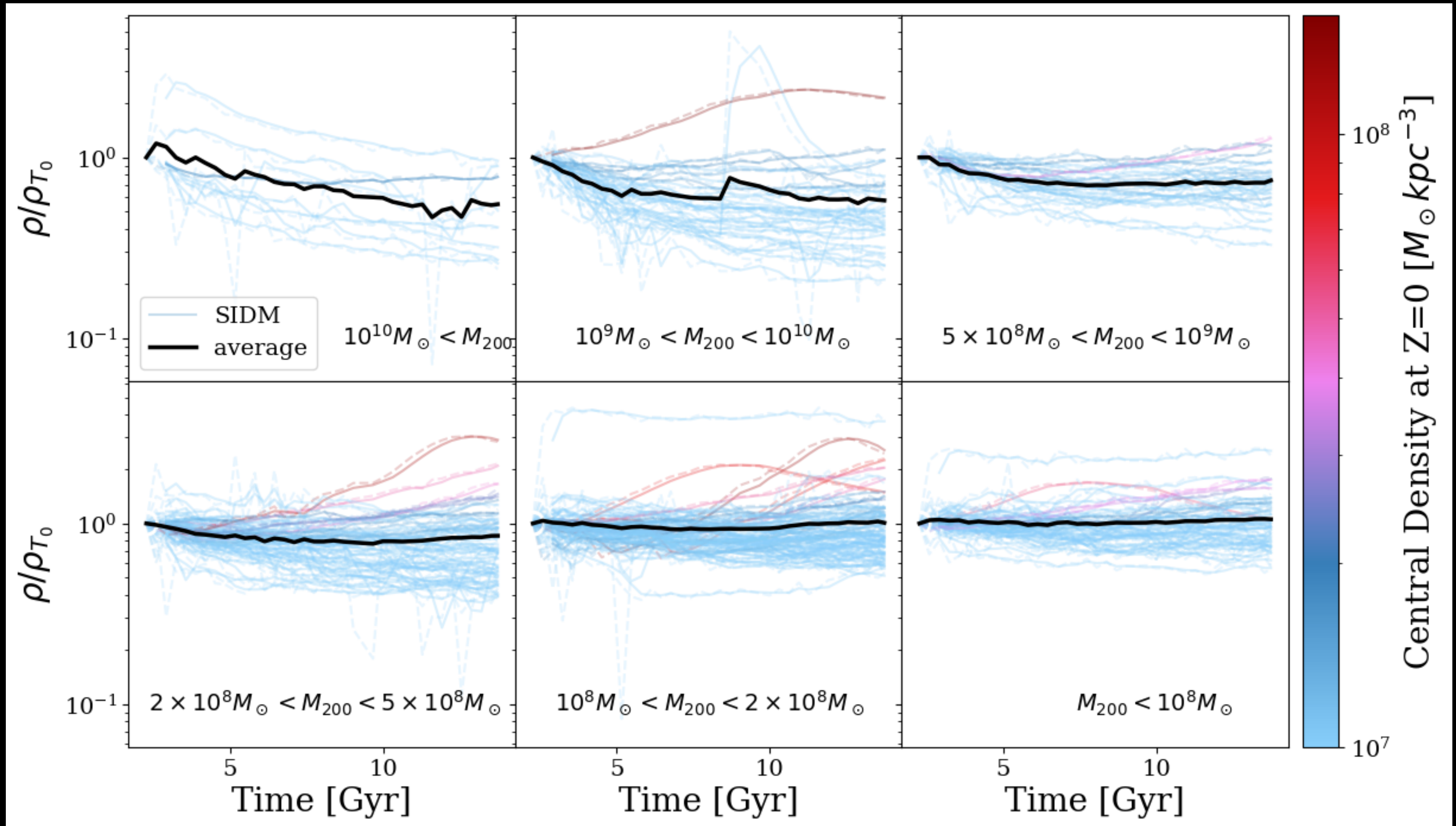
Advertisement: galaxy shapes

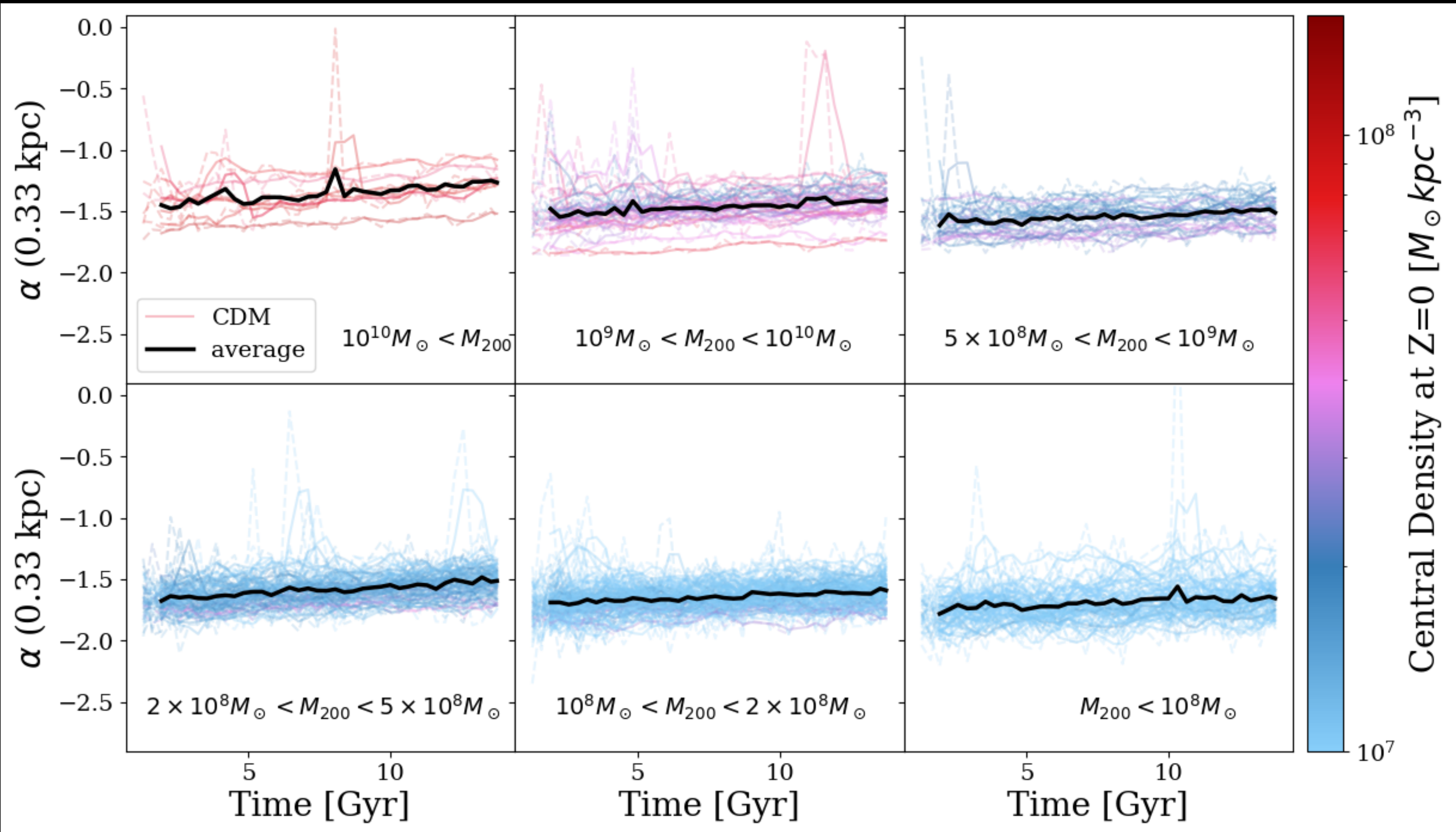
- How well is DM shape represented by stellar shape? (Keith, Munshi+ 2025)
- SIDM version is in prep!

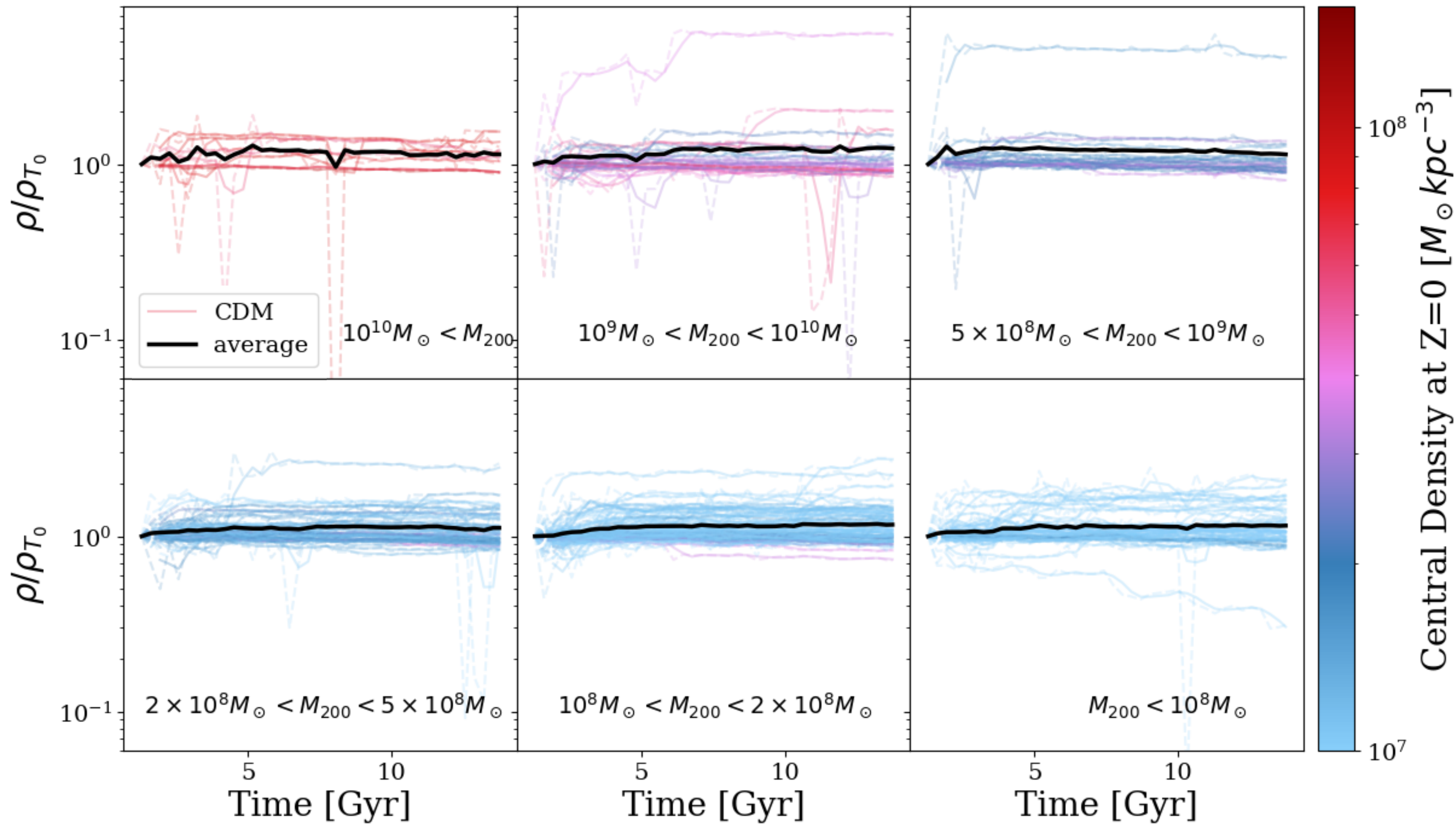


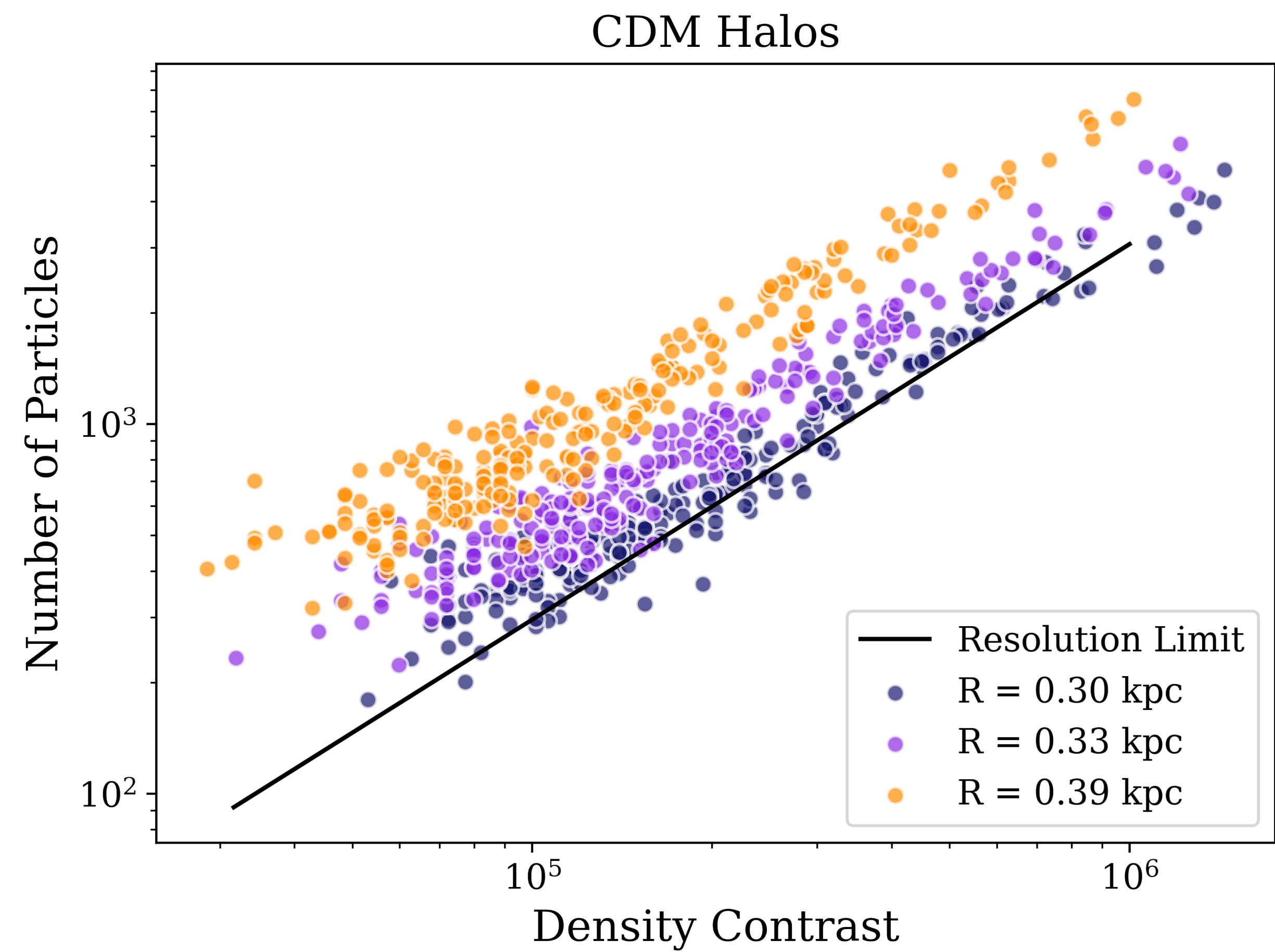
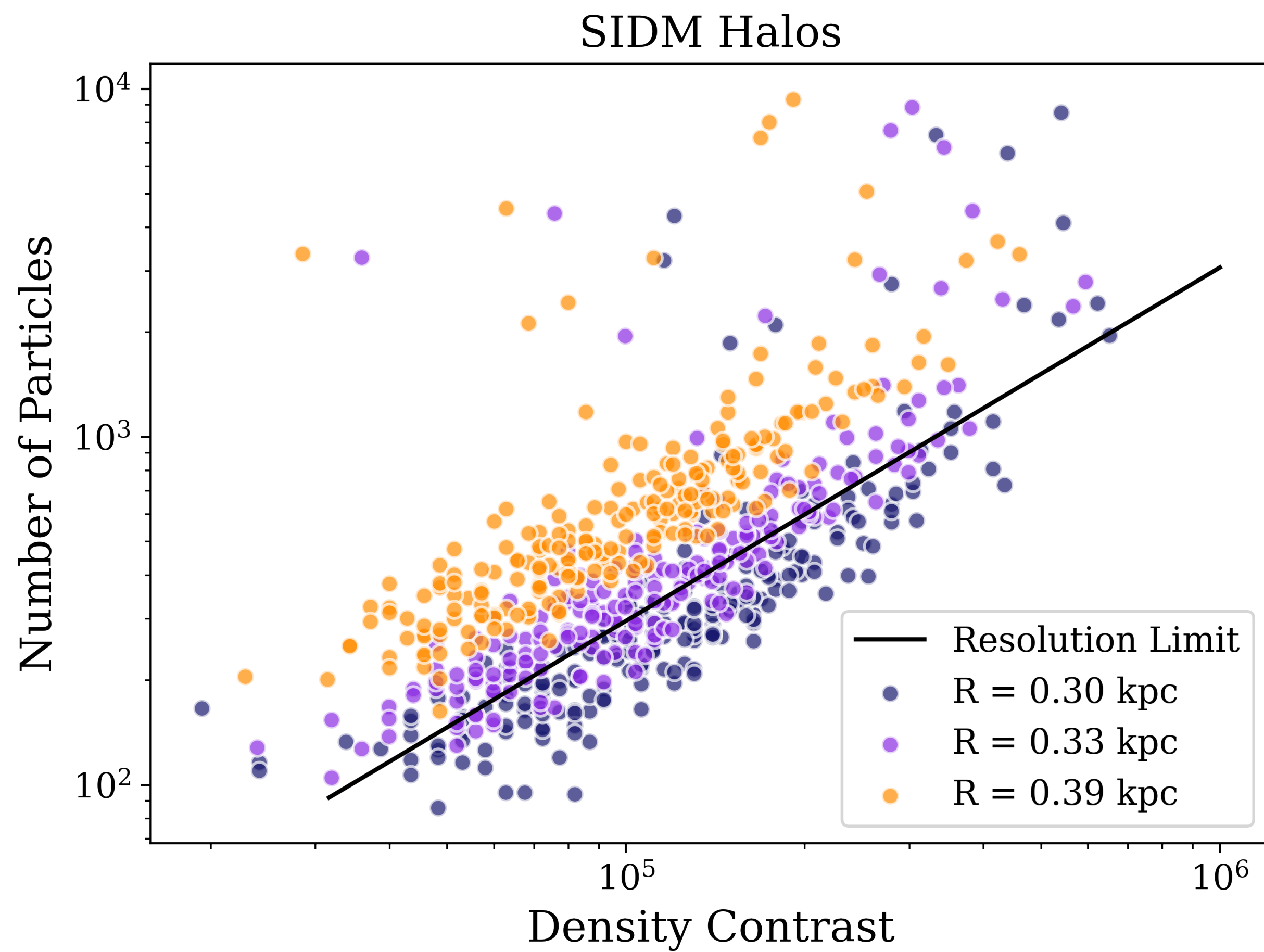
Back-Up slides

Tracing Central density through time reveals same trends as core slope, but is less subject to temporary fluctuations

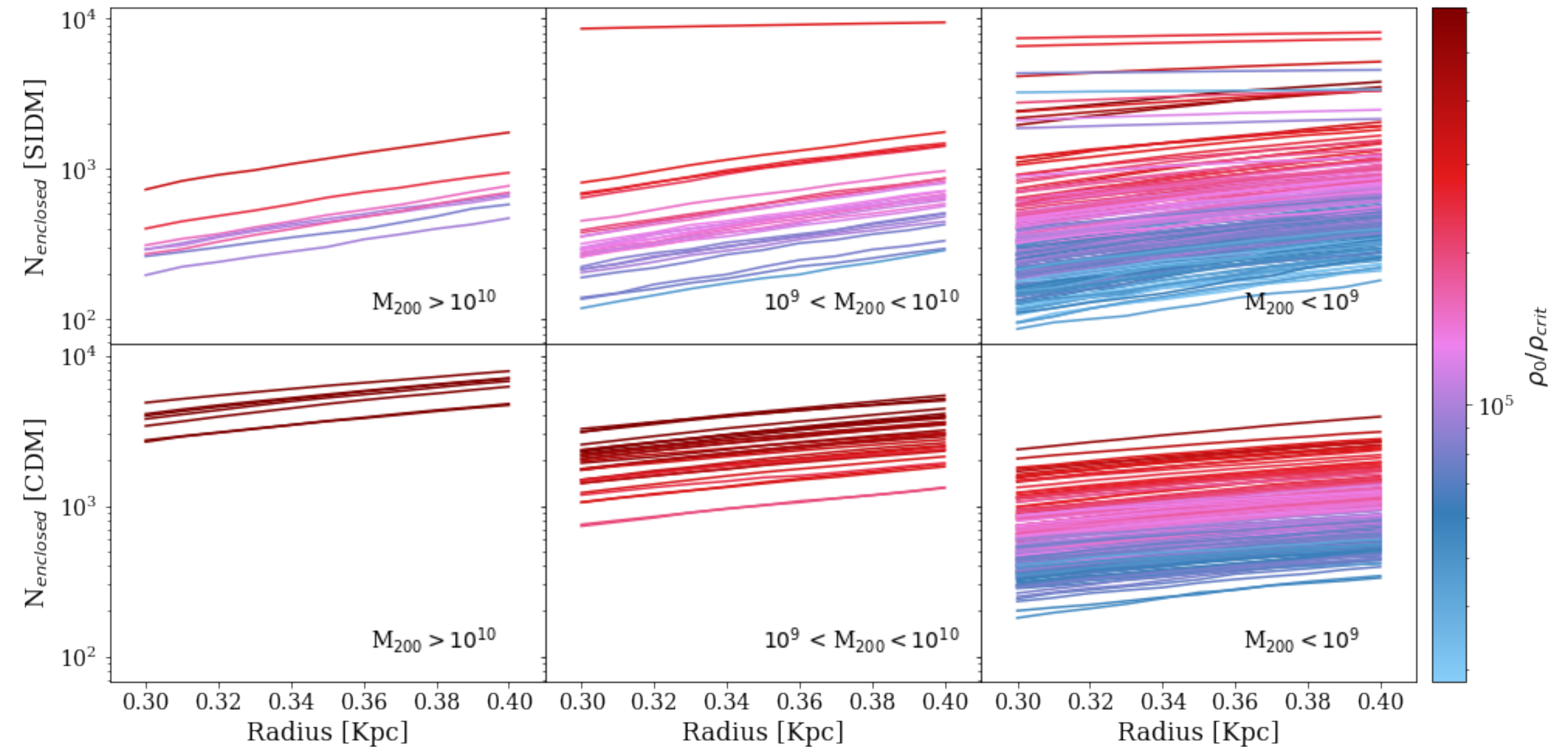








Resolution limit adopted from Power et al.(2003)



$\frac{\rho_0}{\rho_{\text{crit}}} = \text{central density/critical density of the universe}$