Satellite galaxies in groups in the CIELO Project I. Gas removal from galaxies and its re-distribution in the intragroup medium

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ABSTRACT

We study the impact of the environment on galaxies as they fall in and orbit in the potential well of a Local Group (LG) analogue, following them with high cadence. The analysis is performed on eight disc satellite galaxies from the CIELO suite of hydrodynamical simulations. All galaxies have stellar masses within the range $[10^{8.1} - 10^{9.56}]M_{\odot}h^{-1}$. We measure tidal torques, ram pressure and specific star formation rates (sSFR) as a function of time, and correlate them with the amount of gas lost by satellites along their orbits. Stronger removal episodes occur when the disc plane is oriented perpendicular to the direction of motion. More than one peripassage is required to significantly modify the orientations of the discs with respect to the orbital plane. The gas removed during the interaction with the central galaxies may be also found opposite to the direction of motion, depending on the orbital configuration. Satellites are not totally quenched when the galaxies reach their first peripassage, and continue forming about 10% of the final stellar mass after this event. The fraction of removed gas is found to be the product of the joint action of tidal torque and ram pressure, which can also trigger new star formation activity and subsequent supernova feedback.

Key words: software: simulations – galaxies: evolution – galaxies: interactions – galaxies: star formation – intergalactic medium

1 INTRODUCTION

As galaxies form and evolve, they can fall into larger structures, such as groups and clusters (Gunn & Gott 1972). This brings a series of changes in their properties such as the removal of different types of material (stars, gas, dark matter, dust) due to external, environmental processes (Boselli & Gavazzi 2006). This, in turn, can lead to variations in the stellar formation and metallicity of both the infalling galaxies (Kennicutt 1983; Skillman et al. 1996) and their immediate intragroup gas (De Grandi & Molendi 2001).

The external processes responsible for the removal of material are either hydrodynamical or gravitational. Among the hydrodynamical effects ram pressure stripping (Gunn & Gott 1972) is one of the most efficient mechanisms at quenching galaxies (Steinhauser et al. 2016). Due to this process part of the gas component is removed from galaxies by the pressure exerted by the hot gas in clusters and groups. Observational evidence of the action of ram pressure includes traces of ionized gas in the removed gas, which could be an indication of star formation activity (Kenney & Koopmann 1999; Yoshida et al. 2008; Kenney et al. 2014; Jaffé et al. 2014), detection of removed neutral gas (Haynes et al. 1984; Rasmussen et al. 2006; Yoon et al. 2017), or indirect measures of the removed dust (Rodríguez et al. 2020).

Among the gravitational mechanisms, the most important are tidal effects due to close encounters with other galaxies, especially with the central galaxy of the group or cluster (see for instance, Merritt 1983). The effects of tidal interactions are expected to be stronger during, and after, the first pericentre with respect to the central galaxy when the star formation activity might be boosted as suggested by numerical simulations (Rupke et al. 2010; Perez et al. 2011; Sillero et al. 2017). Upadhyay et al. (2021) studied 11 galaxies in the COMA cluster and reported that galaxies are quenched efficiently within ≤ 1 Gyr, after the first pericentre. They suggest that ram pressure or tidal stripping are required to produce this effect. This result is in contradiction with other works that claim quenching to occur closer to the apocentre

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(Rhee et al. 2020). Hence, there is still much to be learnt on the evolution and quenching of galaxies in relation to environmental effects (Dutta et al. 2021).

There are also mechanisms that could lead to removal of material from the galaxies due to internal causes rather than interactions with the environment. One example is the feedback by galactic winds triggered by supernova (SN) explosions as indicated by several observational works (see, for instance De Young 1978; Heckman et al. 1990; Weiner et al. 2009; Martin et al. 2013; Rubin et al. 2014). SN feedback is higher when star formation increases. However, SF has been reported to be modulated by ram pressure which at first produces an increase of the star formation activity, followed by a subsequent decrease (Kapferer et al. 2009; Steinhauser et al. 2012; Safarzadeh & Loeb 2019; Troncoso-Iribarren et al. 2020). Additionally, as tidal interactions could also enhance the star formation activity (Condon et al. 1982; Keel et al. 1985; Kennicutt et al. 1987; Hummel et al. 1990; Lambas et al. 2003; Di Cintio et al. 2021), the impact of SN will be more significant during these events.

Several works have been advocated to study the coupled effects of these mechanisms in high density environments using numerical simulations (Mayer et al. 2006, 2007; Tonnesen et al. 2007; Bahé & McCarthy 2015; Martin et al. 2019; Jackson et al. 2021). Some of these works studied the impact of the environment over a galaxy focused on the changes in the composition of the galaxy, with only a few observational works focused on the detection of the removed material and its evolution (Bravo-Alfaro et al. 2009; Bellhouse et al. 2017; Jaffé et al. 2018).

In this work, we study the remotion by the intra-group medium of gaseous material from disc-like satellite galaxies from a Local Group analogue (hereafter, LG), following them with high cadence. This allows us to study the history of gas removal during and after the infall stage by ram pressure, tydal stripping, galaxy-galaxy interactions and SN feedback. We study the spatial distribution of the gas stripped from the satellite galaxies and its relation to removal time and the physical properties of the satellites. Additionally, we analyse the impact on the star formation activity along their orbits.

To achieve this goal, we use data from a hydrodynamical re-simulation of a Local Group analogue of the ChemodynamIcal propertiEs of gaLaxies and the cOsmic web (CIELO) Project. This simulation was performed using a version of GADGET-3, which includes SN feedback (Scannapieco et al. 2006a) and chemical evolution (Jiménez et al. 2015; Pedrosa & Tissera 2015). From this simulation, we select a sample of eight satellite galaxies with a significant disc component since we are also interested on the role played by the orientation of the galactic disc along the orbit and its relation with the SFR (Kennicutt 1998). These satellites orbit the two most massive virialized haloes of the simulated LG analogue, and are taken here as representative of satellite systems of galaxies of similar virial masses, in general.

This work is organised as follows. In Section 2 we describe the main characteristics of the simulation and the selected sample of galaxies. In Section 3 we describe the processes responsible of the gas removal and its dependence on orientation. Finally, in Section 4 we present a brief summary and guidelines for future analysis of observational data. In this paper we use a simulation of a LG analogue of the the CIELO project, which is a long-term project which aims to study the formation of galaxies in different environments hosted by haloes with virial masses in the range $M_{200} = 10^{10} - 10^{12} M_{\odot} h^{-1}$ (Tissera et al., in preparation).

Briefly, the initial conditions of LG zoom-in simulations are based on a dark matter only run of a cosmological periodic cubic box of side length L = 100 Mpc h⁻¹ consistent with a Lambda (Λ) Cold Dark Matter universe model with $\Omega_0 =$ 0.317, $\Omega_{\Lambda} = 0.6825$, $\Omega_B = 0.049$, h= 0.6711.

The MUSIC code (Hahn & Abel 2011), which computes multi-scale cosmological initial conditions under different approximations and transfer functions, was applied to extract the objects of interest and increase the numerical resolution. A first set of 20 LG analogues were extracted. Two of them were selected by imposing constraints on the relative velocity, physical separation and the mass of the dark matter haloes. In this work we perform a detailed analysis of one of these two LG analogues. The other LG analogue hosts slightly smaller haloes, whose central galaxies have stellar masses lower than the Milky Way at z = 0.

The two main haloes of the analysed LG analogue have a relative velocity of 165 km s⁻¹ and a physical separation of 0.461 Mpc h⁻¹ at $z = 0^1$. The LG was re-run with a dark matter particle resolution of $1.2 \times 10^6 M_{\odot} h^{-1}$. Baryons were added with an initial gas mass of $10^{5.3} M_{\odot} h^{-1}$.

The LG was run from z = 100 to z = 0. There are 128 snapshots available to study the evolution of the properties of the structure and galaxies with time. This simulation provides us with a suitable cadence to follow the impact of different physical processes as satellite galaxies fall into their main haloes.

2.1 Subgrid physics

We used a version of GADGET-3 based on GADGET-2 (Springel & Hernquist 2003; Springel 2005) to run these simulations, which includes a multiphase model for the gas component, metal-dependent cooling, star formation, and SN feedback, as described in Scannapieco et al. (2005) and Scannapieco et al. (2006b). These multiphase and SN-feedback models have been used to successfully reproduce the star-formation activity of galaxies during quiescent and starburst phases, and are able to drive violent mass-loaded galactic winds with a strength reflecting the depth of the potential well (Scannapieco et al. 2005, 2006b). This physically-motivated thermal SN-feedback scheme is particularly well-suited for the study of galaxy formation in a cosmological context.

We assumed an Initial Mass Function of Chabrier (2003), with lower and upper mass cut-offs of 0.1 M_{\odot} and 40 M_{\odot} , respectively. The chemical evolution model included in LG follows the enrichment by Type II and Type Ia Supernovae (SNII and SNIa, respectively), keeping track of 12 different chemical elements (Mosconi et al. 2001).

 $^{^1}$ This is consistent with the estimates for the Local Group in van der Marel et al. (2012), where the MW and M31 are separated by a distance of $\sim 0.51~\rm Mpc\,h^{-1}$ and have relative velocity of 110 km s^{-1}.

SNII are assumed to originate from stars more massive than 8 M_{\odot}. Their nucleosynthesis products are derived from the metal-dependent yields of Woosley & Weaver (1995). The lifetimes of SNII are estimated according to the metaland-mass-dependent lifetime-fitting formulae of Raiteri et al. (1996). For SNIa, the model adopts the W7 model of Iwamoto et al. (1999). More detailed explanations are given in Scannapieco et al. (2006b) and Jiménez et al. (2015). This version of GADGET-3 has been previously used by Pedrosa & Tissera (2015) to study the mass-size relation and the specific angular momentum content of galaxies, and by Tissera et al. (2016a,b) to investigate the origin of the metallicity gradients of the gas-phase components and stellar populations of galaxies in the the so-called FENIX simulation.

2.2 The simulated satellite galaxies and their host galaxies

We extract the galaxies and their merger trees from the CIELO database. The virial haloes were identified using a Friends-of-Friends algorithm (FoF, Davis et al. 1985). The SUBFIND algorithm (Springel et al. 2001; Dolag et al. 2009) was then applied to identify substructures within each of the virial haloes at all available redshift. The merger trees were built by using the AMIGA algorithm (Knollmann & Knebe 2009).

At z = 0 the central galaxies of the LG analogue, g4337 and g4469, belong to the main virialised haloes², h4671 and h4672. The central galaxies have stellar masses of $10^{10.52} M_{\odot} h^{-1}$ and $10^{9.71} M_{\odot} h^{-1}$, respectively. Both of them are surrounded by surviving satellites at z = 0. Throughout this paper, we adopt the most bound particle (star or dark matter) in each subhalo as the centre of each galaxy (central or satellite).

Each central galaxy and their satellites are followed back in time along their merger trees, identifying all of their main progenitors. At each analysed redshift, the following parameters were calculated for all of the sample. The size of a galaxy, $r_{\rm opt}$, which is defined as the radius that encloses 83% of stellar and star-forming gas mass (Tissera et al. 2012). All quantities, such as the stellar mass (M_{\star}) , gas mass $(M_{\rm gas})$, galaxy mass (M, the sum of stellar, dark matter and gas masses), and the star formation rate (SFR), are calculated within $r_{\rm opt}$.

After a careful analysis of the stability of the angular momentum calculations, we found that 500 particles is the minimum number that allows a robust estimation of the angular momentum direction. Hence, only satellites with more than 500 stellar particles are considered, this condition is met for the selected galaxies at all analysed redshifts. The kinetic factor defined as the ratio of rotational kinetic energy to total kinetic energy, $K_{\rm rot}/K$, is used to select satellites dominated by rotation (Navarro & White 1993).

Our final sample comprises eight satellite galaxies within the virial radius of the haloes at z = 0. These galaxies are also required to have a well-defined disc component so that $K_{\rm rot}/K > 0.4$. Table 1 summarises the main characteristics of our satellite sample, including the identification names of both the virialized haloes and their central galaxy.

3 ANALYSIS OF THE REMOVED GAS AND CAUSE FOR REMOVAL

In order to analyse the properties of the gas removed from the simulated galaxies, we followed the merger trees for the central galaxies and their selected satellites as discussed in Section 2. Then, we tracked the gas particles that are part of the main progenitors of our satellite galaxies at a given z, but that no longer belong to them at z = 0. We also kept record of the last snapshot where those gas particles were still associated with a progenitor. In Fig. 1 we show the orbits described by the satellites in our sample, together with the distribution at z = 0 of the removed gas, coloured by the latest redshift at which the gas was part of a satellite. The grey shades show the density of dark matter within $2 \times r_{200}$ from the central galaxy of the halo (we use py-SPHviewer to estimate and plot the dark matter density, see Benitez-Llambay 2015). We use comoving units for distances unless otherwise stated.

As can be seen from Fig. 1, a significant fraction of the removed gas roughly follows the orbital path of the satellite galaxies. However, part of the removed gas from a given satellite can be found around other halo members, and especially around the central galaxy. Additionally, an important fraction of the removed gas is neither in the trail of the galaxy orbits nor residing in other galaxies, but preferentially found near the apocentre of the orbit, at a further distance from the central galaxy ³.

It is important to note that some satellites, in particular those in h4672, lost large amounts of gas at high redshift. For example, for g4470, this occurred before the most important recent merger at z = 0.38. As analysed in the following sections, many satellites fall onto groups with a large number of companions. Gas remotion prior to entering the virial radius of a group could be a sign of pre-processing due to galaxy-galaxy interactions.

In the next section, we will explore the evolution of different processes that can be responsible for the removal of gas from satellite galaxies, namely, ram pressure $(P_{\rm ram})$, tidal torques (τ) and SN feedback.

Firstly, we estimate the effect of ram pressure stripping on each satellite galaxy along its orbit following Gunn & Gott (1972, eq. 61), so that $P_{\rm ram} = \rho_{\rm IGM} v^2$, where $\rho_{\rm IGM}$ is the intra-group/cluster gas density, and v is the velocity of the galaxy with respect to the gas. In order to estimate the average density of the gaseous medium we adopt a comoving sphere of 100 kpc h⁻¹ centred on the satellite galaxy, and select the gas particles within that sphere that a) do not belong to any galaxy and b) that have temperatures $T > 10^6 K$. Those gas particles are then used to compute $\rho_{\rm IGM}$. The velocity term in this equation corresponds to the satellite galaxy

² The virial radius, r_{200} , is defined as the radius of a sphere located at the centre of a given halo at which the mass density is 200 times the critical density of the universe. Hereafter, every mention to r_{200} refers to the virial radius of the halo to which a satellite galaxy belongs to at z = 0.

³ The evolution of these systems can be visualised in the videos that are part of the additional material, available at https://www.patriciatissera.com/post/ cielo-simulations-satellites-orbiting-central-galaxies



Figure 1. Orbits of the selected satellite galaxies projected onto the orbital plane together with the position at z = 0 of the gas that once belonged to each satellite galaxy, coloured by the redshift of removal from the galaxy (the colour ranges are separated in quintiles of the z distribution of the particles). The grey shades show the z = 0 dark matter density within a sphere of $2 \times r_{200}$ centred at the central galaxy. The dashed circles correspond to one (inner) and two (outer) times r_{200} from the central galaxy. The red dot in the orbit of g4770 indicates the position of the progenitor when it experienced the last significant merger, this is the only galaxy that had a recent important merger before entering r_{200}

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Table 1. The selected satellite galaxies at z = 0. Columns from left to right correspond to halo and central galaxy names, the halo virial mass, the stellar mass of the central galaxy, satellite name, stellar mass, rotational kinetic fraction and sSFR at z = 0 of the galaxies.

Halo ID	Central ID	$\substack{\mathbf{M}_{200}\\\log(M_{\odot}\mathbf{h}^{-1})}$	$M_{\star Central}$ $\log(M_{\odot}h^{-1})$	Satellite ID	$\substack{\mathbf{M}_{\star}\\\log(M_{\odot}\mathbf{h}^{-1})}$	$K_{\rm rot}/K$	$\frac{\mathrm{sSFR}_{z=0}}{\mathrm{yr}^{-1}}$
h4671	g4337	11.98	10.52	g4338 g4339 g4341 g4343	8.74 8.31 8.16 8.02	$0.55 \\ 0.59 \\ 0.52 \\ 0.42$	$\begin{array}{c} 1.5\times10^{-11}\\ 1.47\times10^{-11}\\ 0.0\\ 0.0\end{array}$
h4672	g4469	11.78	9.71	g4470 g4471 g4473 g4474	9.48 9.48 8.50 8.63	$0.62 \\ 0.71 \\ 0.72 \\ 0.72$	$\begin{array}{c} 6.2\times10^{-12}\\ 1.46\times10^{-10}\\ 6.65\times10^{-11}\\ 2.87\times10^{-11} \end{array}$

Table 2. Observed characteristics of the satellite galaxies: merger ratio (μ), stellar ratio ($f_{\star}^{\rm e}$), gas ratio ($f_{\rm gas}^{\rm e}$), number of companions, if the galaxy was the BHG, mass halo ratio ($f_{\rm Halo}^{\rm e}$), average ram pressure ($\langle P_{\rm ram} \rangle$) and average tidal torque over total mass ($\langle \tau/M \rangle$). The latter two parameters are estimated at twice r200 as explained in the text.

Galaxy ID	μ	$f^{ m e}_{\star}$	$f_{\rm gas}^{\rm e}$	$\langle P_{\rm ram} \rangle$ $10^{-17} { m Pa}$	$\begin{array}{c} \langle \tau/M\rangle \\ \mathrm{km^2~s^{-2}} \end{array}$	companions	BHG	$f_{\rm Halo}^{\rm e}$
g4338	0.0	1.83	0.30	2.66	204.59	7	Yes	0.58
g4339	0.0	1.40	0.37	14.44	124.01	1	Yes	0.81
g4341	0.0	1.60	0.26	2.74	108.85	7	g4338	0.09
g4343	0.0	0.47	0.00	8.07	64.78	0	Yes	1
g4470	0.55	3.12	0.65	1.97	106.62	16	Yes	0.83
g4471	1.6×10^{-4}	1.90	4.99	3.72	115.97	11	Yes	0.77
g4473	1.5×10^{-3}	1.10	0.98	4.60	32.41	16	g4470	0.11
g4474	0.0	1.64	2.07	3.94	36.24	11	g4471	0.10

velocity with respect to the average velocity weighted by the host gas mass.

We also derive the tidal torques exerted on satellite galaxies during their evolution (τ). This is accomplished by estimating the gravitational force that the central galaxy exerts on the satellites as well as the gravitational force from other satellites located within a 100 h⁻¹ kpc. To calculate the tidal torque we use,

$$\vec{\tau} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{l} G \frac{m_i M_j \vec{r_i} \times \vec{r_j}}{|\vec{r_j} - \vec{r_i}|^3},\tag{1}$$

where the sub-index *i* indicates gas, star or dark matter particle of a satellite galaxy (with a *l* number of particles), m_i is the mass of the *i*-th particle, $\vec{r_i}$ is the distance vector that goes from a given *i*-th particle to the centre of the satellite galaxy. The sub-index *j* indicates a perturbing galaxy (this is either a central galaxy or any other galaxy within 100 kpc h^{-1} , with *n* perturbing objects), where M_j is the total mass of the perturbing galaxy (i.e. gas, stars and dark matter) and $\vec{r_j}$ is the vector that goes from the perturbing galaxy to the satellite galaxy. To simplify this calculation, we treat other galaxies as point masses. In this analysis we only use particles that comply with $|\vec{r_i}| < |\vec{r_j} - \vec{r_i}|$.

Finally, it is expected that gas removal from a satellite galaxy is not only due to external mechanisms, but that could also be affected by internal processes such as SN feedback. This process could expel gas efficiently during starburst episodes. Since the number of SNII is related to the number of newborn massive stars, which have life-times of $\sim 10^6 - 10^7$ yrs (Raiteri et al. 1996, shorter than the time between snapshots), we use the sSFR as a proxy of SN feedback strength.

Galaxies may have been involved in a recent merger event, or may have interacted with close companions before entering into the current halo. As a consequence, gas removal or/and gas consumption could have been induced previously. This process is generally referred to as pre-processing (Zabludoff & Mulchaey 1998; Berrier et al. 2009; Hou et al. 2014; Pallero et al. 2019). Some of the satellite galaxies hosted by our two main haloes at z = 0 were in fact part of separate haloes before infall. Even more, these systems also hosted their own satellite systems as discussed below.

To evaluate the impact of pre and post processing, we have estimated the following parameters for each satellite galaxy which are shown in Table 2:

• μ : the merger ratio between the stellar mass of a satellite galaxy and of the satellite with which it merged after entering the region demarked by $2 \times r_{200}$ from the central galaxy for the first time (i.e. $\mu = 0$ for no mergers).

• f_{\star}^{e} : the stellar ratio between the stellar mass of a satellite galaxy at z = 0 and its stellar mass when it was at a distance of $2 \times r_{200}$ from the central galaxy.

• f_{gas}^{e} : the same definition of f_{\star}^{e} but for the gas mass.

• $\langle P_{\text{ram}} \rangle_{2r200}$: the average value of the ram pressure during the time interval between the moment when the galaxy crosses $2 \times r_{200}$ for the first time and z = 0.

• $\langle \tau/M \rangle_{2r200}$: the mean value of the total tidal torque exerted on each satellite galaxy in the time interval between the time a galaxy crosses $2 \times r_{200}$ for the first time and z = 0.

We have also calculated different parameters related to the haloes hosting satellite galaxies before $t_{\rm e}$, which is the time when the satellite is associated with its current halo by the FOF algorithm for the first time.

• The number of companions resolved with at least 100 dark matter particles of a satellite galaxy.

• Brightest Halo Galaxy (BHG), which indicates that a satellite galaxy was the central galaxy of its own halo before $t_{\rm e}$. Otherwise, it refers to the object that was the central galaxy at this time (given by the galaxy ID).

• The mass halo ratio, $f_{\text{Halo}}^{\text{e}}$, corresponding to the ratio between M of a satellite galaxy and M_{200} of its host halo before t_e (recall that M is the total mass of a galaxy).

In Table 1 we can see that our galaxies belong to haloes with different characteristics. On the one hand, the satellites of the most massive halo, h4671, are less massive than those of h4672. This means that, overall, h4671 has a very dominant central galaxy and its satellites do not contribute significantly to the total mass. On the contrary, the satellites in halo h4672 contain a more significant fraction of the total halo matter. In fact, according to the SUBFIND algorithm, 96% of the dark matter in halo h4671 belongs to the central galaxy, whereas in halo h4672 only 61% of the dark matter belongs to the central galaxy.

From Table 2 we can see that satellite g4470 is the only one that had a recent important merger before entering r_{200} (in Fig. 1 the merger is marked with a red dot on the orbit), g4343 is the only satellite that lost stellar mass ($f_{\star}^{\rm e} < 1$) since entering the virial halo, that has been depleted of its gas reservoir, and that does not come with companions. Finally, g4338, g4339, g4470 and g4471 were the BHGs of their own halo before $t_{\rm e}$, and their total masses represent more than the 50% of their former halo mass (given by $f_{\rm Halo}^{\rm e}$). Interestingly, in some cases the BHG and one of its satellite galaxies are part of the surviving satellite system as can be seen from Table 2 for example g4338 and g4341 in h4671. Nevertheless, it is beyond the scope of this paper to further investigate the evolution of these systems.

3.1 Orientations

The orientation of the galactic disc with respect to the direction of motion or the position of nearby galaxies can play a critical role in modulating the impact of ram pressure or tidal torque on the galaxy.

In the case of ram pressure, if the galaxy motion proceeds with the disc oriented face-on to the direction of the bulk velocity, a larger amount of gas is likely to be affected by this mechanism in comparison to a configuration where the disc lies in the plane of motion since ram pressure can act over a larger area. We expect that the effect of tidal torque exerted by another galaxy reaches a maximum when the orientation of the disc and the direction to the perturbing galaxy are near to 45 degrees, reaching a minimum when the disc is oriented parallel or perpendicular to the direction of the perturbing galaxy.

We adopt the direction of the angular momentum of stellar component of satellite galaxies as a measure of their disc orientation considering that they are all disc-dominated. Since all galaxies in our sample have at least 500 star particles in every snapshot analysed, we can reliably measure the total angular momentum.

Figures 2 and $A1^4$ show the disc orientation with respect to the orbital plane (i.e. the plane perpendicular to the orbital angular momentum) for our sample of galaxies along their orbital motion. Satellite galaxies are represented by ellipses corresponding to projected circular discs with zero height oriented in the same direction as the galaxy rotational planes. The major semi-axes are proportional to the removed gas mass (M_{Rgas}) while the ellipticities illustrate the orientation of the discs with respect to the projected orbital plane. In general, a large fraction of the gas is removed when the disc is oriented perpendicular to the direction of the galaxy motion. For most of the galaxies, the gas is removed when the angular momentum of the galaxy is aligned with the velocity vector (when the cosine of the angle between the two vectors is > 0.5). For these galaxies, the average removed gas mass when the angular momentum is aligned is between ~ 1.0 to ~ 6.5 times that of when it is anti-aligned. Exceptions are g4341 and g4471, where this factor is 0.86 and 0.68, respectively.

In order to further investigate the effect of galaxy orientations, we consider the relation between disc orientation and the different processes that induce gas removal. Figures 3 and A2 show the relative angle (ϕ_i) between the disc angular momentum and the direction of the angular momentum when the satellite was at a distance of $2 \times r_{200}$ for the first time, as a function of the distance to the central galaxy (r). This is a suitable measure of the changes in the disc orientation with respect to its original angular momentum. These figures also show the values of sSFR, τ and $P_{\rm ram}$ as well as $M_{\rm Rgas}$ along the orbits.

As can be seen in Fig.3 and Fig.A2, only three of the satellite galaxies change significantly their disc orientations $(>45^{\circ})$. One of them (g4343) shows a rapid variation while the other two satellites (g4339 and g4471) show a series of cumulative changes. In the analysed cases, we find that all significant changes of satellite orientations take place near their pericentre to the central galaxy. This is likely caused by the tidal torque exerted by the central galaxy. In Fig. 1 we can see that those three galaxies have various passages near the central galaxy, while the other galaxies only have 1 or 0 close passages. Furthermore, g4471 is the only satellite in h4472 that reaches the closest position to the central galaxy. This trend suggests that the gravitational effect of the central galaxy over the orientation of satellites may be cumulative, requiring several close encounters to make a significant impact, even for g4343, where the variation occurs in one of the later passages.

3.2 Gas distribution

One possible way to study the removed gas from satellite galaxies in observations is to search for it in their vicinities. In

⁴ For illustration purposes, we select galaxies g4338 and g4471 as examples throughout the paper. These galaxies are chosen because they are the more massive of their respective haloes that have not experienced an important, recent merger. In Section A, the rest of the galaxies are displayed. We note that all satellite galaxies are taken into account in the analysis and interpretation of the results.



Figure 2. Variation of the orientation of galaxies g4338 in h4671 (left panel) and g4471 in h4672 (right panel) along their orbits. At each time, the ratio between the semi-minor and semi-major axis of the ellipsoid that represents them in the figure corresponds to $1 - \cos(\theta_p)$, where θ_p is the angle defined by the angular momentum and the instantaneous orbital plane, the angle of the semi-major axis indicates the angle perpendicular to the angular momentum projected on this plane. The colour indicates look back time (T = 0 indicates z = 0) and the size of the semi-major axis is proportional to the gas mass removed from the satellite galaxy in each snapshot. In Fig. A1, the corresponding plots for the rest of the satellites galaxies are displayed.



Figure 3. Variation of the angle between the angular momentum of a satellite galaxy at a given time and the angular momentum when the satellite galaxy was at a distance of $2 \times r_{200}$ from the central galaxy for the first time (ϕ_i) as a function of the distance to the central galaxy (r, normalised by r_{200}) for g4338 (right panel) and g4771 (left panel). The blue shades (top colour bar, top set of dots) indicate the variation of sSFR along the orbit. Green shades (right colour bar, middle set of dots) indicate the variation of $P_{\rm ram}$. Red shades (bottom colour bar and bottom set of dots) indicate the variation of τ/M along the orbit of the satellite galaxy. The size of the circles indicates $M_{\rm Rgas}$ in each snapshot, the dotted lines indicate the movement of the galaxies in this diagram. For ram pressure and sSFR a shift of +2 and +4, respectively, in the y-axis was added. The plots for the rest of the galaxies are shown in Fig. A2.



Figure 4. Schematic diagram that shows the angles ϕ_c (the purple dashed arc) and ϕ_v (the black dotted arc) determined by

the location of a gas particle, a satellite galaxy, a central galaxy and the velocity vector of the satellite galaxy (\vec{V}) in a simplified 2D representation.

Rodríguez et al. (2020) they use background sources around galaxy group satellites to make maps of foreground dust that they interpret as a signature of the gas removed from satellite galaxies. To do this they select directions that are related to the geometry of the groups to make stacked dust maps and find tentative evidence of this removed gas. Following their work we define two angles of reference adapted to the three-dimensional geometry of our simulation. The first one is determined between the vectors connecting the satellite and the removed gas particle position, and the satellite and the central galaxy (θ_c). The second angle is defined between the vectors connecting the removed gas position and the satellite, and the velocity vector and the central galaxy (θ_v). Figure 4 presents a simple diagram illustrating both angles.

Figure 5 shows the fraction of removed gas mass that is not part of any galaxy at z = 0 normalised by the stellar mass of the galaxy of origin. As can be seen, our satellite sample shows two different behaviours. For some of them, such as g4341 and g4474, the removed gas is located opposite to the direction of motion and/or to the central galaxy $(\cos \theta_c \text{ and/or } \cos \theta_v < 0)$, while others, eg. g4339 and g4471, show no strong dependence on θ_v and θ_c . The latter have experienced two or more close encounters with the central galaxy (g4339, g4343, g4471; see also Fig. 1). It is important to note that in observations, which in general lack precise orbital information, it is difficult to disentangle these effects (Rodríguez et al. 2020). We can conclude that it is very difficult to associate the removed material to a galaxy by analysing only its z = 0 distribution if the galaxy has experienced more than one passage by the pericentre of the orbit around the central galaxy (hereafter, peripassage), which can also be difficult to determine observationally. Additionally, for galaxies with one peripassage, the distribution of material can be easily confused with that expected for galaxies on their first infall. In the first case the material is expected to be removed by a joint effect of the torque and ram pressure, and in the second one, it might be mainly caused by ram pressure.

3.3 Signatures from the gas removal mechanisms

In this section, we analyse in more detail the effects of three main processes responsible for the remotion and redistribution of the gas components: ram pressure, tidal torques and star formation activity. In order to explore the impact of those effects, Fig. 6 and Fig. A3 shows

for each galaxy, the distance to the galactic centre r versus the lookback time (T) as a function of the sSFR (shades of blue), the ram pressure (shade of green) and the tidal torque (shades of red). The size of the circles indicates the amount of gas removed at each redshift.

In Fig. 7 and Fig. A4 the rate of change of the ram pressure, the tidal torque, the sSFR and the amount of gas removed for each of the satellite galaxies are shown as a function of T. For g4470, the time at which the last important merger occurred is also depicted (see μ in Table 2).

We also explore the densities of the intragroup gas. Figure 8 shows the density profile of the hot gas $(> 10^6 \text{ K})$ for both haloes. The horizontal dotted line indicates the threshold in density at which rapid ram pressure driven quenching is expected to take place ($\sim 10^{-25.3} \text{ kg m}^{-1}$, Pallero et al. 2020). We also display the nearest distance to the central galaxy reached by each satellites in our sample.

3.3.1 Ram Pressure

In this subsection, we explore the impact of ram pressure on the remotion of gas in satellite galaxies.

If we explore the mean values of $\langle P_{\rm ram} \rangle_{2r200}$ (Table 2), we can see that, in halo h4671, galaxy g4339 is the one that endured a higher $P_{\rm ram}$, and has lost 63% of its gas mass from the time the satellite was at $2 \times r_{200}$ from the central galaxy to z = 0, according to $f_{\rm gas}^{\rm e}$. The satellite that has lost more gas is g4343 (100%) it has endured the second higher $P_{\rm ram}$ in the group. The other two galaxies have experienced similar $P_{\rm ram}$ and have accordingly lost similar percentages of gas mass. In h4672, there are galaxies that have gained a large amount of gas mass along their orbits⁵. Due to this there is no clear relation between the mean ram pressure and the fraction of removed gas mass. However, more information is stored in the evolution of these quantities along the orbits.

In Fig 6 and Fig A3 we see that $P_{\rm ram}$ increases for decreasing r for the satellites. For the satellites of halo h4671 the increase of ram pressure is associated with an increase of the gas mass remotion. However, in halo h4672, this increase is not necessarily associated with a larger gas remotion. Some of the satellites experience very mild gas removal.

In Fig. 7 and Fig. A4 we can see that for galaxies in halo h4671 there is a clear relation between the time at which the rate of variation of the ram pressure reaches a maximum and the time at which the gas remotion is maximal. In our sample, the satellites that reach the regions within $\sim 0.2 \times r_{200}$ experience $P_{\rm ram}$ values that are, in median, 2.7 times the average values within $0.2 - 1 \times r_{200}$, which are extremely low. In all galaxies in this halo, the peak values of ram pressure are also reached during the close encounter with the central galaxy. During this period, the satellite galaxies are more actively forming stars. In the case of g4343, the first increase of ram pressure matches that of star formation and gas removal. However, as shown in Fig. A4, after the first peripassage, the star formation activity is very low. This indicates that there is no more gas in a condition to form stars. So even if this

⁵ This extra gas mass comes from the intragroup medium, which includes gas that was removed from other galaxies.



Figure 5. Removed gas mass fraction, $M_{\text{Rgas}}/M_{\star}$, estimated within a comoving sphere of 200 kpc h⁻¹ from each satellite galaxy at z = 0 as a function of the angles determined by the direction to the central galaxy (ϕ_c ; left panels) and velocity vectors (ϕ_v ; right panels) from the point of view of each satellite galaxy. In all cases the masses are normalised by M_{\star} of the satellite galaxy at z = 0. Top panels: Satellite galaxies of halo h4671. Bottom panels: Satellite galaxies of halo h4672.

galaxy has two more close encounters, the subsequent ram pressure peaks cause no impact on the star formation but it continues to retrieve the left over gas. By z = 0, this satellite is depleted of gas reservoir. Galaxies in halo h4672 do not show the same behaviour since they do not reach the inner regions of the halo where the density is high enough to produce significant ram pressure effects as shown in Fig. 8. Those that get close such as g4474 show the expected trend.

In Fig. 8 we can see that the hot gas density profiles are different between the two main haloes. In halo h4671 it surpasses the density threshold at a distance $\sim 0.4 \times r_{200}$, while for h4672 it surpasses the density threshold at $\sim 0.2 \times r_{200}$. Also, for halo h4672, the central density is higher and their density profile is steeper than the those of h4671. All analysed galaxies in halo h4671 reach a shorter distance to the central galaxy than the radius at which the hot gas reaches the density threshold. These galaxies experienced strong ram pressure such that it caused a significant effect on the galaxies, at least when they are located in the inner part of their orbits. In halo h4672, only g4471 and g4343 reach distances closer the central region where the gas density is above the threshold.

The other two satellites never get to a galactocentric position where the ram pressure is expected to have an important role in the evolution of the galaxy.

The main differences between the impact of ram pressure on the galaxies in haloes h4671 and h4672 can be explained by two factors:

• The density profile of the hot gas in h4671 is steeper than in h4672 and hence, it reaches higher densities at larger galactocentric distances. This could be due to the fact that the central galaxy of h4671 is more massive, even if the total virial masses of the haloes are similar.

• All satellites galaxies in h6471 get very close to their central galaxies approaching regions of hot, high density gas.

3.3.2 Tidal Torque effects

Figures 6 and A3 show that the episodes of strong gas remotion generally occur close to those of high tidal torque, ram pressure and star formation rate. The times of maximum tidal torque are related to those of high ram pressure since the former are stronger when satellites are close to the



Figure 6. Variation of sSFR (top colour bar and top set of circles in blue shades), $P_{\rm ram}$ (right colour bar and middle set of circles in green shades) and τ/M (bottom colour bar and bottom set of circles in red shades) along the orbits depicted by the r/r_{200} as a function of lookback time (T). The symbols coloured by sSFR and $P_{\rm ram}$ have been shifted in the y-axis of +1.0 r_{200} and +0.5 r_{200} , respectively. The size of the symbols indicates $M_{\rm Rgas}$. Left: Galaxy g4338. Right: Galaxy g4471. The same plots for the other galaxies studied can be found in Fig. A3



Figure 7. Rate of variation of P_{ram} , τ/M , sSFR and M_{Rgas} as a function of T for the galaxies analysed. The vertical lines show the times at which a local minimum in the distance to the central galaxy is reached (including T = 0 if the distance at z = 0 is shorter than any other local minimum). The first and second columns from the left (blue solid lines) show the values for the galaxy g4338. The third and fourth columns (brown dashed lines) show the values for galaxy g4471. The same plots for the rest of galaxies are presented in A4.



Figure 8. Hot gas density profiles $\rho_{\rm IGM}$ as a function of r/r_{200} for h4671 (top panel) and h4672 (bottom panel). The vertical lines indicate the closest distance to the central galaxy reached by each satellite galaxy analysed as indicated in the labels. The horizontal dotted line depicts the threshold density of $10^{-25.3}$ kg m⁻¹.

central galaxies. This agrees with the stages of higher density of the intragroup gas and larger relative velocity with respect to the central galaxies as discussed in the previous sections. In fact, close galaxy interactions can lead to the removal of material after the first pericentre as the spiral arms react to tidal forces, opening and reducing binding energy (Rupke et al. 2010; Perez et al. 2011; Torrey et al. 2012). This fact may become critical during the trajectory after the first passage, when there is significant mass loss⁶.

These trends can be clearly seen in the analysed galaxies of halo h4671, which show almost simultaneous occurrence of maximal tidal torque, sSFR and gas remotion. In halo h4672, g4673 and g4674 display similar behaviour as can seen in Fig. A3. In the case of g4470, the peaks of tidal torque, sSFR and $M_{\rm Rgas}$ can be associated with a merger event that took place before $t_{\rm e}$. We note that this satellite does not get closer than $0.6r_{200}$ of the corresponding central galaxy. Hence the gas remotion is likely effect of pre-processing due to previous galaxy interactions.

We also quantify the variations of ram pressure, tidal torques, sSFR and gas mass remotion as a function of time by estimating the rate of change between the available snapshots as shown in Fig. 7 and Fig. A4. In agreement with the trends shown in Fig. 6 and Fig. A3, the impact of ram pressure and tidal torques are clearly associated with close encounters with the central galaxies. It can be seen that the rate of variations are stronger around these episodes. A similar behaviour is detected for the rate of variation of both sSFR and gas mass removal, which is to be expected since both physical mechanisms are able to compress the gas, inducing star formation activity as well as removing part of the gas, quenching the galaxies. SN feedback produced by newborn stars would also contribute to eject material, reinforcing the quenching (see Section 3.3.3). By exploring the rates of variation of the sSFR and the gas mass removal, we estimate that the impact of these processes persist for around ~ 0.7 Gyr, on average. The relative efficiencies of these mechanisms are expected to change with the properties of the satellites galaxies, including the gas fraction and the disc orientation along the orbits, on top of the characteristics of the intragroup medium and dark matter halo onto which they fall in.

Table 2 shows that there is no clear relation between the time averaged values of tidal torque, τ/M , and the ratio between the gas mass of the galaxy when it entered the halo and its gas mass at z = 0, $f_{\text{gas}}^{\text{e}}$. This is valid for all galaxies of both h4671 and h4672.

3.3.3 Star formation and its effect on the intra-group medium

The trends in Figs. 6, A3, 7 and A4 respond to two possible scenarios. In the first one, ram pressure and torques show positive large rate of variations. In the second one, the effects of these mechanisms are unimportant.

In the first scenario, ram pressure can efficiently trigger higher star formation activity through gas compaction into the central galaxy region, similarly to the effects of interactions with the central galaxy (Di Cintio et al. 2021). The increase of the sSFR will be accompanied by the generation of SN feedback, which can trigger galactic outflows, contributing to gas removal. Examples of this scenario can be seen in the satellites of h4671. They reach the central regions and hence, are subject to dense environmental effects as discussed in the previous section (see also Fig. 8 profile).

In the second scenario, the gas removal can be mainly associated to an enhancement of sSFR and to the action of SN feedback. Satellites galaxies g4470 and g4473 in halo h4672 are consistent with this scenario since they do not reach the central regions. Interesting, g4471, which has gained gas along its orbit, has two peripassages by the central galaxy that induce strong star formation activity. In fact this satellite is actively forming stars at z = 0.

We note that, in halo h4672, g4470 exhibits a peak in sSFR and gas removal corresponding to a merger with another galaxy before t_e . Additionally, this satellite never reaches the inner regions and hence both ram pressure and tidal torque are not strong enough to produce an impact on the galaxies (see Fig. A4).

In order to assess the impact of the environment mechanisms on galaxy quenching, we analyse the stellar mass growth since the analysed galaxies first reach $2 \times r_{200}$ from the central galaxy, until the time they reach the pericentre of their orbits. To accomplish this, we followed Upadhyay et al. (2021), who use N-body simulations to infer the most probable orbits of satellites galaxies in the Coma Cluster. Based on inferred star formation histories, in their figure 4, they showed the most probable percentage of stellar mass already formed at the time of entering the cluster and at the peripassage, in order to estimate when the quenching processes took place.

We calculated the cumulative stellar mass formed between the time when the satellite galaxies were at $2 \times r_{200}$ from the central galaxy, and at their first pericentre (Fig. 9). The percentage of the stellar mass already formed in our simulated

 $^{^{6}\,}$ This can be visualised in the videos that form part of the additional material.



Figure 9. Stellar mass fraction already formed at the time of the first pericentre (stars) and when the galaxy was at $2 \times r_{200}$ (circles) for the first time, with respect to their M_{\star} at z = 0. Satellite galaxies in h4671 (upper panel) and h4672 (lower panel) are shown.

satellite galaxies at this time is similar to those reported by Upadhyay et al.. However, for our simulated local environment, the stellar mass formed until the first passage are considerably smaller. As it can be seen in Fig. 9, the stellar mass fractions formed before the peripassages vary from ~ 60% to ~ 94% of the total stellar mass at z = 0, indicating that our satellite galaxies are not totally quenched when they get to their first pericentre. In fact six out of eight satellites have less than 80% of their final stellar mass formed at this stage.

The estimation of the gas fraction at the pericentre shows that satellite galaxies in h6472 reach the pericentre with a larger gas fraction than those in h6471. This is expected because the latter are more affected by ram pressure due to the higher hot gas density and the fact that they get closer to the central galaxy (as discussed in previous sections). Nevertheless, all galaxies formed stars between t_e and the pericentre and three of them formed ~ 90% of the final stellar mass by that time.

These differences with Upadhyay et al. could be, in part,

due to the fact that our galaxies have endured less denser environments compared with galaxies in the Coma Cluster, which has an estimated $M_{200} = 5.1^{+4.3}_{-2.1} \times 10^{14} M_{\odot} h^{-1}$ (Gavazzi et al. 2009), around 500 times more massive than our haloes.

4 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In this work, we have analysed the process of gas removal from simulated satellite galaxies as they enter their z = 0haloes. We pay special attention to the relation between astrophysical and dynamical conditions along their orbits, focusing on ram pressure stripping, the impact of star formation feedback, tidal torque effects and galaxy interactions. For this purpose, we have selected a sample of eight spiral satellite galaxies from a hydrodynamical simulation from the CIELO Project with initial conditions that resemble the Local Group.

We follow the redistribution of all gas particles that were once part of our selected satellites, but are no longer bound to them at z = 0. We find that most of the removed gas roughly follows the same orbital path of the mother satellites within the potential well of the main haloes. However, we obtain that a significant fraction of the removed gas has been also acquired by other galaxies of the same halo at z = 0 (Fig. 1). We also find that a fraction of the removed gas is striped from the satellite galaxies during their first apocentre after the interaction with the central galaxy (see the videos linked). We argue that this is induced as the result of the opening of the arms due to the strong tidal torques exerted by the central galaxy (Rupke et al. 2010; Perez et al. 2011; Torrey et al. 2012). As a result of this mechanism, removed dust associated to the striped gas could be wrongly interpreted in observations as signatures of gas removed by ram pressure effects of infalling satellites along the halocentric direction to the satellite (see also Fig. 5).

The most important episodes of mass removal occur when the satellite galaxy discs are oriented perpendicular to their direction of motion (Fig. 2 and Fig A1). Under this condition, ram pressure effects tend to be stronger. We also find larger star formation rates associated to this configuration so that, at least partially, some gas removal could be also induced by SN feedback mechanisms. Our results indicate that significant (more than 45°) changes in the orientation of the discs are not common. Interesting, every time that a satellite galaxy disc changes its orientation, it is located near the central galaxy of the halo (Fig. 3 and Fig. A2).

The spatial distribution of the removed gas is very different for satellite galaxies with several peripassages by the central galaxy compared to those with a single peripassage. In the later case, a larger fraction of the removed gas is located in the opposite direction to the central galaxy or to the velocity vector, while in the case of satellites with several pericentre passages we find no relation between the location of the removed gas and the direction to neither the central galaxy nor the direction of motion (Fig. 5).

From our analysis of the evolution of ram pressure (Section 3.3.1), tidal torque (Section 3.3.2) and star formation activity (Section 3.3.3) in disc galaxies as they enter and move in the potential well of a halo, we notice that these three physical mechanisms reach peak values at similar times. This could be

due to the fact that the maximum ram pressure is reached when the surrounding gas is dense and/or has a maximum relative velocity with respect to the central galaxy (Fig. 6 and Fig. A3). Both conditions coincide when the satellite orbits near the central galaxy. Tidal torques reach a peak when the satellite galaxy is close to massive galaxies, either the central galaxy or massive satellites, and the ram pressure could trigger burst of star formation close the central regions (Rupke et al. 2010; Perez et al. 2011). We also observed cases for which a large remotion of material is accompanied by an increase in sSFR (eg. g4470) which could be an indication of preprocessing mechanisms due to galaxy–galaxy interactions (Fig. 7 and Fig. A4).

Our results suggest that the simultaneous action of ram pressure, tidal torques and SN feedback boost the impact they would produce individually. This could be the case for halo h4671, where the galaxies reach closer distances to the central galaxy ($< 0.2 \times r_{200}$, see figure 8). Interestingly, we see that when this occurs, the intragroup gas density is higher than $10^{-25.3}$ kg m⁻¹. This density threshold has been associated with the quenching of the infalling galaxies onto high density environments such as clusters by previous works (Pallero et al. 2020). Our findings show that this may also be valid for LG environments where a systematic decrease of star formation activity after pericentre passages is detected in most of the analysed satellites. However, star formation could be re-boosted in subsequent encounters with the central galaxies.

Our studies suggest possible pathways for future analysis of observational data paying particular attention to disc orientations along the orbit, interaction events such as mergers which can be estimated using projected positions and line-of-sight dynamics, distribution of stripped material via analysis of background objects (as in Rodríguez et al. 2020), and galaxy quenching time-scale of satellite galaxies via their spectral analysis.

In a forthcoming paper we will focus on the impact of these processes on the regulation of the star formation activity and the metallicity distribution within the satellite galaxies.

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DATA AVAILABILITY

The data underlying this article will be shared on reasonable request.

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Figure A1. Variation of the orientation of satellite galaxies along their orbits (as in figure 2). Top Left: Galaxy g4339. Top Middle: Galaxy g4341. Top Right: Galaxy g4343. Bottom Left: Galaxy g4470. Bottom Middle: Galaxy g4473. Bottom Right: Galaxy g4474.

APPENDIX A: PROPERTIES OF GALAXIES IN THE SAMPLE

In this section, we display the properties of the satellite galaxies not shown in the main body of the paper. Figure A1, Fig.A2, Fig.A3 and Fig.A4 illustrate both the global similarities in the trends and the particularities associated to their specific properties and orbital parameters as discussed above.



Figure A2. The angle of the orientation of satellite galaxies alog their orbits (as in figure 3). Top Left: Galaxy g4339. Top Middle: Galaxy g4341. Top Right: Galaxy g4343. Bottom Left: Galaxy g4470. Bottom Middle: Galaxy g4473. Bottom Right: Galaxy g4474.



Figure A3. Variation of tidal torques, ram pressure values and sSFR with time and distance for the rest of the galaxies in the sample (as in figure 6). Satellite galaxies in h6471 (top panels): g4339 (left), g4341 (middle) and g4343 (right) and in h6742 (bottom panels): g4470 (left), g4473 (middle) and g4474 (right).



Figure A4. Rate of variation of ram pressure, tidal torque, sSFR and amount of removed gas (as in figure 7). The top left set of plots (dashed orange lines) are for g4339. The top middle set of plots (green dot-dashed lines) are for g4341. The top right set of plots (red dotted lines) are for g4343. The bottom left set of plots (purple solid lines) are for g4470. The middle bottom set of plots (pink dot-dashed lines) are for g4473. The bottom right set of plots (olive dotted lines) are for g4474.