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Talk Title: The tidal streams of dwarf spheroidal galaxies

Talk Abstract: Dwarf spheroidal galaxies (dSphs) are among the most dark matter-dominated objects in the Universe. For reasons that remain poorly known, dSphs tend to be found in the vicinity of more massive galaxies, which make them prone to tidal mass loss. Being kinematically cold, tidal streams associated to dSphs remain as coherent substructures in the stellar haloes of the host galaxies for several Gyr, making them powerful tracers of the underlying potential.

In this contribution I will show that the evolution of dSphs acted on by tides is very sensitive to the distribution of dark matter (DM) in these objects. Furthermore, I will present recent results which show that the stellar tidal streams associated to dSphs retain information on the DM halo density profile in which these galaxies are embedded.