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No evidence for Keplerian taper of far-out galactic rotation

by Adriana Bariego Quintana, Felipe J. Llanes-Estrada

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Plaza de las Ciencias, 1 28040 Madrid, Spain

www.ucm.es/iparcos/



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Abstract

We present a statistical analysis of the 175 SPARC galactic rotation curves to test the hypothesis of whether the Keplerian velocity tapering at large radii ($v(r) \sim 1/\sqrt{r}$) of the Navarro-Frenk-White (NFW) halo model holds.

The null hypothesis is Rubin's flat-rotation curve, $v(r)=\text{constant}$ -such as can be obtained from a spherical, isothermal-like density profile, or alternatively with a very prolate halo.

To decide whether we adopt the null (Rubin behaviour) or alternative (NFW behaviour) hypothesis, we evaluate the derivative in each galaxy of $v(r)$ with its last data points. We conclude that the data is presently compatible with the null hypothesis -no taper off, no decline of $v(r)$ is seen.

