THE ORBIT OF THE ORPHAN STREAM

HEIDI JO NEWBERG1, BENJAMIN A. WILLETTE1, BENJAMIN A. WILLETTE1, BRIAN YANNY2, AND YAN XU3

1 Department of Physics, Applied Physics and Astronomy, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY 12180, USA; newbeb@rpi.edu
2 Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, P.O. Box 500, Batavia, IL 60510, USA
3 National Astronomical Observatories of China, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 20 Datun Road, Beijing, China

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ABSTRACT

We use recent Sloan Extension for Galactic Understanding and Exploration (SEGUE) spectroscopy and the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) and SEGUE imaging data to measure the sky position, distance, and radial velocities of stars in the tidal debris stream that is commonly referred to as the “Orphan Stream.” We fit orbital parameters to the data and find a prograde orbit with an apogalacticon, perigalacticon, and eccentricity of 90 kpc, 16.4 kpc, and $e = 0.7$, respectively. Neither the dwarf galaxy UMa II nor the Complex A gas cloud has velocities consistent with a kinematic association with the Orphan Stream. It is possible that Segue-1 is associated with the Orphan Stream, but no other known Galactic clusters or dwarf galaxies in the Milky Way lie along its orbit. The detected portion of the stream ranges from 19 to 47 kpc from the Sun and is an indicator of the mass interior to these distances. There is a marked increase in the density of Orphan Stream stars near $(l, b) = (253^\circ, 49^\circ)$, which could indicate the presence of the progenitor at the edge of the SDSS data. If this is the progenitor, then the detected portion of the Orphan Stream is a leading tidal tail. We find blue horizontal branch (BHB) stars and F turnoff stars associated with the Orphan Stream. The turnoff color is $(g − r)_0 = 0.22$. The BHB stars have a low metallicity of $[\text{Fe/H}]_{\text{BHB}} = −2.1$. The orbit is best fit to a halo potential with a halo plus disk mass of about $2.6 \times 10^{11} M_\odot$, integrated to 60 kpc from the Galactic center. Our fits are done to orbits rather than full $N$-body simulations; we show that if $N$-body simulations are used, the inferred mass of the galaxy would be slightly smaller. Our best fit is found with a logarithmic halo speed of $v_{\text{halo}} = 73 \pm 24 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, a disk+bulge mass of $M(R < 60 \text{kpc}) = 1.3 \times 10^{11} M_\odot$, and a halo mass of $M(R < 60 \text{kpc}) = 1.4 \times 10^{11} M_\odot$. However, we can find similar fits to the data that use a Navarro–Frenk–White halo profile or that have smaller disk masses and correspondingly larger halo masses. Distinguishing between different classes of models requires data over a larger range of distances. The Orphan Stream is projected to extend to 90 kpc from the Galactic center, and measurements of these distant parts of the stream would be a powerful probe of the mass of the Milky Way.

Key words: Galaxy: halo – Galaxy: structure – stars: kinematics and dynamics

Online-only material: color figures

1. INTRODUCTION

The discovery that the Milky Way’s stellar halo is lumpy (Newberg et al. 2002) has sparked a flurry of activity in identifying the Milky Way’s stellar substructure. Dwarf galaxies and globular clusters undergo tidal disruption, creating streams of stars in the halo. New, low surface brightness dwarf galaxies and globular clusters have been identified (Willman et al. 2005; Koposov et al. 2007; Belokurov et al. 2007a), and several large structures have been discovered whose nature is unknown or controversial (Yanny et al. 2003; Majewski et al. 2004; Belokurov et al. 2007c; Jurić et al. 2008). Tidal debris in the Milky Way’s stellar halo teaches us about the accretion history of the Milky Way, and it has been suggested that tidal debris may be the key to measuring the distribution of dark matter in the Galaxy (Combes et al. 1999; Murali & Dubinski 1999; Helmi 2004; Johnston et al. 2005; Eyre & Binney 2009; Majewski et al. 2009; Odenkirchen et al. 2009).

One of the newly discovered substructures is the “Orphan Stream,” which was independently discovered by Grillmair (2006) and Belokurov et al. (2006). Grillmair (2006) was the first to publish a full discovery paper, showing that the stream was at least $60^\circ$ long and $2^\circ$ wide, and likely the remains of a small dwarf galaxy that has been completely disrupted. In Grillmair’s paper, the stream was characterized as about 21 kpc distant from the Sun along the whole length of the stream. Belokurov et al. (2007b) published an independent discovery paper naming the Orphan Stream; they found a similar length, width, and likely origin. However, Belokurov et al. (2007b) found a strong distance gradient, from 20 kpc at one end of the stream to 32 kpc from the Sun at the other end. They also published “suggestive” radial velocities from sparse samples of Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) data in two fields, ranging from $V_R = −40 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ at the close end of the stream to $\sim 100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ at the distant end of the stream. They noted that the dwarf galaxy Ursa Major II, the H i clouds of Complex A, and a number of anomalous globular clusters (including Ruprecht 106 and Palomar I) lie near the same great circle as the Orphan Stream stars.

Following the discovery papers, three further studies, Fellhauer et al. (2007), Jin & Lynden-Bell (2007), and Sales et al. (2008), attempted to fit an orbit the Orphan Stream and to determine whether it was connected to the assortment of objects on the same great circle. Fellhauer et al. (2007) fit two tidal disruption models to the available Orphan Stream data, with the assumption that the UMa II dwarf galaxy is the progenitor of the stream. They successfully fit the position and distance data and the velocity for the more distant part of the stream. They are only able to fit the near velocity, at $V_R = −40 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, by assigning part of the Orphan Stream to the leading tail and part of the Orphan Stream to the trailing tail. They conclude that UMa II is a likely progenitor of the Orphan Stream, that some of the young halo globular clusters may be associated with the Orphan Stream, that Complex A could be matched only if it was a whole orbit ahead of the Orphan Stream, and that the picture made the most sense if all of these objects
came from an original object that was a larger dwarf galaxy. Shortly after the Fellhauer et al. (2007) paper, Jin & Lynden-Bell (2007) explored the possibility that Complex A and the Orphan Stream were related to each other. They used the sky positions of the Orphan Stream and Complex A and the radial velocities of Complex A, assumed the two objects were along the same orbit, and fit the values for the distances to the two objects and the radial velocities along the Orphan Stream. In order to make the orbit fit, the distance to Complex A is 4 kpc, the distance to the Orphan Stream is assumed to be 9 kpc, and the heliocentric radial velocity of the Orphan Stream ranges from $-155$ km s$^{-1}$ to $-30$ km s$^{-1}$. These values are in conflict with the measurements of previous authors and this paper, so it seems unlikely that the Orphan Stream and Complex A are on the same orbit, and in the same revolution of orbital phase. More recently, Sales et al. (2008) successfully fit an orbit to the distances and velocities measured in the Belokurov et al. (2007b) paper. They concluded that the orbit of the Orphan Stream does not intersect UMa II or Complex A, and that the data are consistent with “a single wrap of the trailing arm of a fully disrupted satellite.” The fits to the Orphan Stream orbit depend on having reliable measurements of the star positions, distances, and (especially) velocities along the Orphan Stream. In this paper, we extract the best distances and velocities of Orphan Stream stars in the SDSS Data Release 7 (DR7; Abazajian et al. 2009), making extensive use of the newly released Sloan Extension for Galactic Understanding and Exploration (SEGUE) subsample of stellar velocities (Yanny et al. 2009a). We show that the suggestive Belokurov et al. (2007b) velocities, which were used in the orbit calculations of later authors, were not representative of true Orphan Stream members.

We fit a new orbit to the Orphan Stream data that is consistent with our new measurements and find a best-fit Milky Way mass of $M(R < 60$ kpc) $= 2.65 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$. If we extrapolate the integrated mass out to a radius 240 kpc (approximately the virial radius), assuming a log potential normalized to $v_{\text{halo}} = 73$ km s$^{-1}$, we find $M(R < 240$ kpc) $= 6.9 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$. A recent history of mass estimates for the Milky Way include Wilkinson & Evans (1999), who use the orbits of satellite galaxies and globular clusters and find $M(R < 50$ kpc) $= 5.4^{+0.6}_{-0.4} \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$, and $M_{\text{virial}} = 1.9^{+3.6}_{-1.4} \times 10^{12} M_{\odot}$. Klypin et al. (2002), on theoretical formation grounds, predict a virial mass for the Milky Way $M_{\text{virial}} \sim 1 \times 10^{12} M_{\odot}$, almost twice as high as our measurement. Other estimates are from Battaglia et al. (2005) with $M_{\text{virial}} = 0.8^{+1.2}_{-0.2} \times 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ from halo tracers and Li & White (2008) with $M_{\text{virial}} = 2.43 \times 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ from theory and relative motions of the Milky Way and Andromeda. Abadi et al. (2006) used a careful combination of predicted velocity dispersion theory and observations from Battaglia et al. (2005) to arrive at $M_{\text{virial}} \sim 6.4 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$, consistent with the value we propose here. Furthermore, Sales et al. (2007) propose a relation, based on analysis of large N-body simulations of satellites and their hosts, between the dispersions of the satellite velocities and the virial velocity of each host. Applied to the Milky Way, they derive a virial mass of $7 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$. Our mass estimate is on the low end, but within the range of recent measurements of the Milky Way’s mass.

2. ANGULAR POSITION OF THE ORPHAN STREAM

We begin with an analysis of the positions of stream stars in the sky, as the sky positions of the Orphan Stream are the least controversial measurements. We select stars from SDSS and SEGUE photometric data.

The SDSS Legacy survey imaged one quarter of the sky in ugriz filters uniformly (photometric color errors of <2% to $r \sim 21$) to faint depth ($g \sim 23$). Additional imaging was carried out as part of the SEGUE survey. Simple color cuts allow one to isolate large populations and construct density maps of certain selected spectral types. Magnitude–position space maps of blue horizontal branch (BHB), F turnoff and red giant branch (RGB) stars, being more or less accurate standard candles, are a tool for isolating substructure in stars in our Milky Way’s halo (Newberg et al. 2002). We deredden all halo star candidate photometry (indicated by a “0” subscript on magnitudes and colors), which are generally beyond the foreground dust screen, using the standard maps of Schlegel et al. (1998).

We selected from the DR7 database of STARS, all objects with $100^\circ < \alpha < 175^\circ$ and $-25^\circ < \delta < 70^\circ$. Later in the paper, we will show that the stars of the Orphan Stream are at distances between 15 and 50 kpc from the Sun and have a turnoff color near $(g-r)_0 = 0.22$. Therefore, to select from this data set all of the stars that could be Orphan Stream turnoff stars, we selected only those stars with $0.12 < (g-r)_0 < 0.26$, $(u-g)_0 > 0.4$, and $20.0 < g_0 < 22.5$. Redder stars were not selected because there is a larger background of field disk and halo stars on the red side of the turnoff than on the blue side. A grayscale plot of the sky densities of these stars, presented in Galactic coordinates, is shown in Figure 1. The most prominent excess of F turnoff stars is from the leading tidal tail of the Sagittarius dwarf spheroidal galaxy, and a fainter stream, almost parallel to the first that may be a bifurcation of the Sagittarius dwarf tidal stream (Belokurov et al. 2006). The narrower, more horizontal, tidal debris stream is the Orphan Stream. Note that the surface density of stars in the Orphan Stream increases just before the left edge of the SDSS data. Since this portion of the stream is closer to the Galactic center (see below), we do not expect the density to increase as it does at apogalacticon where the velocities are lower. The increase in density may indicate that the progenitor is at the edge, near $l = 253^\circ$, or just off the edge of the data on the left side, toward higher Galactic longitudes.

We trace the position of the Orphan Stream across the sky and tabulate the Galactic latitude every $10^\circ$ in Galactic longitude along the stream in Table 1. The center of the stream was determined to the nearest half-degree pixel, so the error in latitude is estimated at about 0.7$^\circ$. We then calculated the Euler angles required to transform from Galactic coordinates to a Sun-centered coordinate system where the portion of the Orphan Stream that we detected is on the equator. Using a notation similar to that used by Majewski et al. (2003) to describe the Sagittarius dwarf orbital plane, we define $B_{\text{Orphan}}$ and $\lambda_{\text{Orphan}}$ by the rotation

$$
\begin{pmatrix}
\cos B_{\text{Orphan}} \\
\cos B_{\text{Orphan}} \sin \lambda_{\text{Orphan}}
\end{pmatrix} =
M
\begin{pmatrix}
\cos b \\
\sin b
\end{pmatrix},
$$

where

$$
M = \begin{pmatrix}
\cos \phi \cos \lambda & -\cos \phi \sin \lambda \\
\sin \phi & \cos \phi
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
\cos \psi & -\sin \psi \\
\sin \psi & \cos \psi
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
\cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\
\sin \theta & \cos \theta
\end{pmatrix}.$$

The values of $(\phi, \theta, \psi) = (128:79, 54:39, 90:70)$ were determined by using gradient descent to find the fit that minimized the
sum of the squares of the angular distances between the equator at $B_{\text{Orphan}} = 0^\circ$ and the first nine stream positions in Table 1 (the last point was added after further study discussed in Section 4). The zero point of $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}$ was set at $l = 220^\circ$, near where the leading tidal tail of the Sagittarius dwarf crosses the Orphan Stream. In the lower panel of Figure 1, we show that the line $B_{\text{Orphan}} = 0^\circ$ passes through the center of the Orphan Stream in the region where we detect it. The $(\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}, B_{\text{Orphan}})$ values for points along the Orphan Stream are also tabulated in Table 1. Note that at low Galactic longitude, the stream departs slightly from $B_{\text{Orphan}} = 0^\circ$. It is not possible to fit an orbit over the whole sky with a simple rotation of coordinates, even if the Galactic potential is spherical, since we view the sky from a Sun-centered, rather than Galaxy-centered, viewpoint. In general, halo orbits do not follow great circles over their entire length.

![Figure 1](image.jpg)

**Figure 1.** Sky position of the Orphan Stream as traced by F turnoff stars with $0.12 < (g - r)_0 < 0.26$, $(u - g)_0 > 0.4$, and $20.0 < g_0 < 22.5$. Darker areas of the grayscale plot have higher stellar density. The most prominent overdensity, going from $(l, b) = (240^\circ, 65^\circ)$ to $(l, b) = (200^\circ, 15^\circ)$, is from the Sagittarius dwarf tidal stream. The density falls off at higher latitudes because its stars are too faint for our selection. Twenty degrees to the right, and running parallel to Sagittarius, is another stream that is generally referred to as a “bifurcation” of the Sagittarius dwarf tidal stream. The Orphan Stream is a nearly horizontal arc in this projection, at $b \sim 50^\circ$. There are very many stream stars at $l = 255^\circ$. The positions of the Sextans and Ursa Major II dwarf galaxies are labeled in the lower panel. The lower panel shows where $B_{\text{Orphan}} = 0^\circ$, which is our initial fit to the sky position of the Orphan Stream.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

| $l$  | $b$  | $\delta b$ | $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}$ | $B_{\text{Orphan}}$ | BHB $g_0$ (mag) | $\delta g_0$ (mag) |
|-----|-----|-----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 255 | 48.5| 0.7       | 22.34          | 0.08           | 17.1           | 0.1            |
| 245 | 52.0| 0.7       | 15.08          | 0.56           |                |                |
| 235 | 53.5| 0.7       | 8.86           | 0.21           |                |                |
| 225 | 54.0| 0.7       | 2.95           | -0.23          | 17.6           | 0.2            |
| 215 | 54.0| 0.7       | -2.93          | -0.33          | 17.9           | 0.1            |
| 205 | 55.3| 0.7       | -8.85          | -0.09          | 18.0           | 0.1            |
| 195 | 52.0| 0.7       | -15.08         | 0.05           |                |                |
| 185 | 50.5| 0.7       | -21.42         | 1.12           | 18.6           | 0.1            |
| 175 | 47.5| 0.7       | -28.59         | 1.88           |                |                |
| 171 | 45.8| 1.0       | -31.81         | 2.10           |                |                |
3. DISTANCE TO THE ORPHAN STREAM

Although the large number of F turnoff stars make them the best tracers of the position of the stream in the sky, their large range of absolute magnitudes at a given distance make them less useful as distance indicators. Instead, we start by photometrically selecting blue horizontal branch (BHB) stars along the stream. We color-select A stars from all of the STARs in SDSS DR7 that are within $1^\circ$ of the center of the stream ($-1^\circ < \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} < 1^\circ$), using the color range $-0.4 < (g - r)_0 < 0.0$, $0.8 < (u - g)_0 < 1.6$, and the magnitude range $15 < g_0 < 21.5$. In Yanny et al. (2000), we showed that low and high surface gravity A stars could be roughly separated from each other using their $ugr$ colors, as shown in Figure 10 of that paper; low surface gravity BHB stars are redder in $(u - g)_0$ at a given $(g - r)_0$. We perform this separation on the color-selected A stars.

In Figure 2, we show $g_0$ versus $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}$ for the 593 stars with colors of BHB stars and within $1^\circ$ of the path of the Orphan Stream in the $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}$ range showed. We argue below that an excess of BHBs exists along the line shown, and have added spectroscopic Orphan Stream candidates to the figure here as open circles. Above the locus of Orphan Stream BHBs stretching from $g_0 = 17$ at $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} = 20^\circ$ to $g_0 = 19$ at $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} = -25^\circ$, there is a set of what appears to be blue straggler stars that, due to imperfect $ugr$ color separation, leaked into our selection box 2 mag fainter (Yanny et al. 2000). Our distances to positions along the Orphan Stream agree well with those of Belokurov et al. (2007b) where the data directly overlap.

We now refine the distance to the stream using SDSS/SEGUE spectroscopy of BHB stars. Because we can rely on the spectroscopy to separate low from high surface gravity (measured by the tabulated DR7 parameter log g) A stars, we can detect horizontal branch stars that are redder than $(g - r)_0 = 0$, where the photometric separation becomes ineffective. We selected all spectra from SDSS DR7 that were within $1^\circ$ of the Orphan Stream ($-1^\circ < B_{\text{Orphan}} < 1^\circ$), in the range $30^\circ < \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} < 30^\circ$ where the stream is visible in F turnoff stars, in the color range $-0.4 < (g - r)_0 < 0.3$ and $0.8 < (u - g)_0 < 1.6$, and with $0.1 < \log g < 3.5$. We further required that the sppParams table (SEGUE Stellar Parameter Pipeline, hereafter SSPP; see Section 6) parameter, which shows the measured error in the radial velocity, “elodierverr,” be greater than zero, indicating that the pipeline successfully fit a stellar template to the spectrum. This removes QSOs and galaxies from the sample.

We now refine the distance to the stream using SDSS DR7 for Orphan Stream stars within $2^\circ$ of the center of the stream ($-2^\circ < B_{\text{Orphan}} < 2^\circ$) and in the portion of the stream where it is visible in Figure 1 and away from the Sagittarius stream ($-26^\circ < \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} < -7^\circ$ or $10^\circ < \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} < 40^\circ$). Background stars were selected from the same regions of $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}$, but with $2^\circ < |B_{\text{Orphan}}| < 4^\circ$.

In Figure 3, we show a background-subtracted Hess diagram of stars along the Orphan Stream. In order to better see the horizontal branch stars, we include an inset of the BHB section (CMD; without background subtraction) in the regions of the diagram in which the color sub-selection is valid. Here, the Orphan BHBs are clearly seen at $g_0 = 17.75$ as an overdensity. There is also a large overdensity of F turnoff stars at $(g_0, (g - r)_0) = (21.2, 0.22)$.

We are now in a position to "correct" the $g_0$ magnitudes of the Orphan Stream stars in Figure 1 so that turnoff stars along the entire length of the Orphan Stream will be at the same magnitude. This allows us to make a narrower magnitude cut and see the stream over a larger range of distances. In Figure 4, we show the $(l, b)$ distribution of the F turnoff stars with $0.12 < (g - r)_0 < 0.26$ and $20.7 < g_0 < 21.7$. This allows us to see the Orphan Stream all the way to $l = 170^\circ$. The position of the stream at $l = 171^\circ$ was added to Table 1 from analysis of Figure 4. The upper panel of Figure 4 shows that the Orphan Stream is several degrees above $B_{\text{Orphan}} = 0^\circ$ at low Galactic longitude.

This diagram suggests that for $l < 200^\circ$, we should search for Orphan Stream stars over a higher range of $B_{\text{Orphan}}$. In order
since there are very few color-selected BHB stars in the background region, an inset in which BHB stars have been color selected to exclude QSOs and blue Λ BHB stars at to follow the Orphan Stream at lower Galactic longitudes, it is not at Λ Orphan = 0° in this region. We fit a parabola to the three points at l = 175°, 185°, and 195° in Table 1, to find B Orphan = −0.00628 LA Orphan − 0.42 Λ Orphan − 5.00 for −35° < Λ Orphan < −15°. We define a new variable, Bcorr, for which the Orphan Stream is at Bcorr = 0° along our entire data set: Bcorr = B Orphan for Λ Orphan ≥ −15°, and Bcorr = B Orphan + 0.00628 LA Orphan + 0.42 Λ Orphan + 5.00 for Λ Orphan < −15°.

In order to search for the Orphan progenitor in the gap between 255° < l < 268° where there is no SDSS data available, we searched the online SuperCOSMOS data set (Hambly et al. 2001) for faint turnoff stars in the gap. We selected stars with 0.5 < B J − R J < 1.0, 20 < B J < 21 and added them to Figure 4 with approximately the same scaling and the same orientation as the SDSS/SEGUE imaging. A faint, narrow trail, likely the extension of the Orphan stream tidal tail, is visible at 255° < l < 268°, 38° < b < 48°. The SuperCOSMOS data suffer from poor photometric calibration across and between measured photographic plates, which makes it impossible to trace the Orphan Stream in the region in which we detect it in the SDSS data. This makes it difficult for us to calibrate the density of stars in the SuperCOSMOS detection with the density observed in the SDSS data. We are unable to either confirm or rule out the overdensity at (l, b) = (253°, 49°).

5. DENSITY OF F TURNOFF STARS ALONG THE ORPHAN STREAM

In Figure 5, we show the number of F star counts above background, as a function of position along the Orphan Stream. The stream stars were selected to be within −2° < Bcorr < 2°. The background stars were selected from the region of the sky that is between 2° and 4° in angular distance from the stream (including stars on both sides of the stream). The binning of Figure 5 was chosen so that “edge-of-bin” effects do not dominate the relative number counts in the “outrigger” SEGUE stripe at l = 270°, (Λ Orphan = +35°).

We note from this density plot that the stellar density is much higher near Λ Orphan = 22° than it is along the rest of the observed tidal tail. This is very interesting because this portion of the stream is also the closest to the Sun and the Galactic center. It is not expected that the stellar density will rise sharply along the tidal stream, especially closer to the Galactic center, except near the progenitor. Stream stars generally pile up at apogalacticon, where they are moving more slowly.

Therefore, we interpret this as evidence that the progenitor dwarf galaxy is at or near the edge of the SDSS footprint, at (l, b) = (255°, 48°). If this is correct, and the Orphan progenitor is located in the region 255° < l < 268°, then the Orphan Stream stars intersected on “outrigger” SEGUE stripe 1540 (Yanny et al. 2009a), near (l, b) = (270°, 39°), are part of the trailing (rather than leading) tail (see below for tail orientation).

The density falls sharply for Λ Orphan < −25°. This could be due to a combination of three factors: (1) the stream density may actually drop; (2) the distance to the stream could be extrapolated incorrectly in this angular range, causing us to miss stream stars in the data outside of our 20.7 < gcorr < 21.7 cut; or (3) the falling completeness of the F turnoff stars in the SDSS DR7 database at gcorr > 22.5 reduces the contrast of the stream against the background. Therefore, we can say little with certainty about the stream density for Λ Orphan < −25°.

6. VELOCITIES OF ORPHAN STREAM STARS

Now that we have a measure of the spatial position of the Orphan Stream, we can improve our selection of spectroscopically observed stars in the stream. While initial detection of halo substructure is usually best done with deep, wide-field, filled-sky multi-color imaging, determination of the orbit of a given structure depends on kinematics, either proper motions or radial velocities (or both), for identified structure members. Sufficiently accurate proper motions are currently difficult to obtain for halo objects more distant than about 15 kpc from the Sun (unless hundreds or thousands of individual proper motions can be averaged), and thus for outer halo structures, we rely primarily on radial velocities from spectroscopy to constrain structure orbits.

The SEGUE survey contributed velocities for 240,000 stars, including several thousand targeted spectra of halo stream candidates with velocity accuracies of 5–10 km s⁻¹, sufficient to isolate stream members from the broad background halo and constrain structure velocity dispersions. Spectra are also highly useful in determining structure membership for individual objects by providing estimates of stellar metallicity and luminosity class (surface gravity). Diffuse halo stream tidal tails are often overwhelmed in number by unrelated halo stars, but by using the SEGUE SSPP pipeline (Lee et al. 2008a, 2008b; Allende Prieto et al. 2008) estimates of stellar atmospheric parameters,
individual stream candidates may be separated from the background.

We select A stars from all stars with spectra in SDSS DR7 using the color selection $-0.4 < (g - r)_0 < 0.3$ and $0.8 < (u - g)_0 < 1.6$. Throughout this paper, all stellar spectra are selected from the database with elodierverr $> 0$ to remove galaxies and QSOs from the sample. We limit the spectra to BHB stars by selecting those with average surface gravity $\log g > 7.5$ from the SSPP in the range $0.1 < \log g < 3.5$. We then select spectra within $2^\circ$ of the Orphan stream. For $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} < -15^\circ$, we select stars with $-2^\circ < v_{\text{corr}} < 2^\circ$. And finally, we select BHB stars that have apparent magnitudes consistent with the distance to the Orphan Stream ($17.4 < g_0 - 0.00022 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}^2 + 0.034 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} < 18.0$).

The filled circles in Figure 6 show the line-of-sight, Galactic standard of rest velocities ($v_{\text{gsr}} = RV + 10.1 \cos b \cos l + 224 \cos b \sin l + 6.7 \sin b$ km s$^{-1}$) for the spectroscopically observed BHB stars with sky positions and distances consistent with membership in the Orphan Stream. Stars with $[\text{Fe/H}]_{\text{WBG}} < -1.6$ are circled. The Orphan Stream stars are clearly separated from the background, at velocities near $v_{\text{gsr}} \sim +110$ km s$^{-1}$. Almost all of the BHB stars that have Orphan Stream velocities also have $[\text{Fe/H}]_{\text{WBG}} < -1.6$. We have highlighted in green the low metallicity stars with $-0.0445 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}^2 - 0.935 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} + 95$ km s$^{-1} < v_{\text{gsr}} < -0.0445 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}^2 - 0.935 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} + 165$ km s$^{-1}$. These are the stars that we used to determine the velocity of the stream as a function of $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}$. For comparison, the preliminary velocities from Belokurov et al. (2007b) are marked with magenta squares.

The stars in Figure 6 are binned by $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}$ in $10^\circ$ bins starting at $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} = -35^\circ$. Seven bins contain Orphan Stream stars, as shown in Figure 6. In each bin we measure the mean $\Lambda_{\text{Orphan}}$, the mean $g_0$, error in the mean ($\delta g_0$), the mean $v_{\text{gsr}}$, error in the mean ($\delta v_{\text{gsr}}$), and standard deviation of the velocity distribution...
Figure 5. Number counts of F turnoff stars within ±2° of the stream plotted as an open black histogram. The number of background turnoff stars off-the-stream on either side (2° < |Bcorr| < 4°) are plotted in red. The difference is plotted as a hashed histogram. Note the significant excess of turnoff stars over background near \( \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} = +23° \), corresponding to \((l, b) = (255°, 49°)\). Is it possible that the stream progenitor lies in this region of sky. The bins at \( \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} = 21°, 33°, \) and 36° have been corrected for incompleteness in both the data and background counts.

Figure 6. Velocities of BHB stars within 2° of the Orphan Stream. The solid dots indicate all stars with the correct surface gravity, ugr colors, and \( g_0 \) magnitudes (based on Figure 2) to be BHBs and stream members. The red circles indicate stars with [Fe/H]_{WBG} that is lower than \(-1.6\). Points with green centers are our Orphan Stream candidate BHBs with spectra which meet our final velocity cut as well as the metallicity cut. The concentration of points at \( \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} = 0°, v_{\text{gsr}} \sim -100 \text{ km s}^{-1}\), is likely associated with the Sagittarius leading tidal stream (Yanny et al. 2009b). The 10° marks indicate the bins used in calculating the Orphan Stream properties at positions given by the lower black points with error bars. The magenta boxes indicate the earlier, preliminary velocity possibilities for the Orphan Stream from Belokurov et al. (2007b), converted from radial velocity to \( v_{\text{gsr}} \).

Figure 7. Same as Figure 2, except that (1) stars are selected to be within 2° of the stream instead of just 1° and (2) stars are chosen using the corrected \( B_{\text{corr}} \) for \( \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} < -15° \). Orphan Stream BHBs with spectra (green filled circles from Figure 6) are overlaid as open circles. We also overlay the adopted fit to the \( g_0 \) magnitude of the BHB stars as a function of \( \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} \).

For each value of \( \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} \) in Table 2, we use Figure 7 to determine a value of \( g_0 \) and estimate the error in this determination.

For each value of \( \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} \), we determine the Galactic longitude for \( B_{\text{corr}} = 0° \). Then we use the data in Figure 4 to determine the Galactic latitude at that longitude. These numbers are also tabulated in Table 2. Note that although the basic data are similar, the determinations of position and distance were made independently and may not be identical to those of Table 1, even for similar values of Galactic longitude.

Table 2 shows that the typical velocity dispersion in the stream is 10 km s\(^{-1}\). The velocity dispersion of the last point, with only three stars, at \( l = 271° \), is unphysically low, since it is smaller than the velocity errors, but it is the number that was measured using the technique described. The position of the stream here was quite difficult to pick out from the photometry, due to the gap in the data. The unexpected velocity dispersion, for stars that may not be at the same location as the photometric overdensity, leads to a large uncertainty in the validity of the detection here. Because the detection is uncertain, and it is not known if the stars at this position are in the same tail as the rest of the data, this data point was excluded from orbit fits for the Orphan Stream (see Section 10).

7. ORPHAN STREAM SPECTRA

Now that we know the velocity of the stream as a function of sky position, we can look for stars other than BHB stars that are part of the Orphan Stream. We start by selecting all stellar spectra that are now within 2° of the Orphan Stream, following the method outlined in the first paragraph of Section 6, and are within the portion of the stream that we have observed, \(-35° < \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} < 40°\). We eliminate sky fibers by choosing only spectra with \( g_0 < 22 \). We choose a somewhat narrower range of velocities than in our previous velocity cut, to reduce the number of background stars in the sample. We select stars with \(-0.0445 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} - 0.935 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} + 112.5 < v_{\text{gsr}} < -0.0445 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} - 0.935 \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} + 147.5\).

Brighter stars that are consistent with Orphan Stream membership are expected to be giant stars with low surface gravity, while fainter stars should be higher surface gravity main sequence stars. To determine which stars are stream star
candiates, we calculated \( g_{\text{corr}} \). This moves all of the stream stars to the distance modulus of the Orphan Stream at \( \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} = 0 \). Then, all of the stars with \( g_{\text{corr}} < 19 + 4(g - r)_{0} \) should be giants, so stars outside of the range \( 0.1 < \log g < 3.5 \) were discarded. We restricted the surface gravities of the fainter stars (\( g_{\text{corr}} > 19 + 4(g - r)_{0} \)) to high surface gravities (\( \log g > 3.0 \)). This was necessary to reduce the number of stars that in the blue straggler region of the diagram, but unfortunately also removed all of the candidate turnoff stars, which were faint enough that they did not have measured surface gravities.

Our final data selection was for low metallicity stars. Since these stars are not all BHB stars, we used the adopted metallicity \( [\text{Fe/H}]_{\text{adopted}} \) they did not have measured surface gravities.

We limited our sample to stars with \([\text{Fe/H}] < -1.6\). The final data set includes 87 stars, which are shown as magenta crosses in Figure 8. Figure 8 is a reproduction of Figure 3 with overlays described below.

In order to understand the background spectral distribution, we also select a set of stars with spectra that were near, but not on, the Orphan Stream. The on-stream stars were selected to be within 2\(^\circ\) of the sky position of the stream, with \(-36^\circ < \Lambda_{\text{Orphan}} < 40^\circ\). The off-stream stars were selected with a distance of 2\(^\circ\) - 5\(^\circ\) from the stream. The sky area of the off-stream stars is 50\% larger, but because the SEGUE spectral coverage is not uniform on the sky (there are several SEGUE pointings directly on the stream), it contains a similar number of SDSS/SEGUE spectra. Using these sky areas, we selected 8385 stars in the on-stream sample and 8726 stars in the off-stream sample. The off-stream sample was then culled using identical velocity, surface gravity, and metallicity criteria. The resulting "background" spectra are overlaid in Figure 8 as black circles.

Some of the spectroscopically selected candidate Orphan Stream members show a reasonable correspondence to the positions we would expect from CMDs of globular clusters. We see the BHB stars at \( g_{\text{corr}} \sim 17.75 \). There are candidate blue straggler stars extending from the turnoff at \( g_{\text{corr}} \sim 21 \) toward brighter magnitudes and bluer colors. There is a nearly vertical red giant branch at \( (g - r)_{0} = 0.5 \). There are many fewer comparison background spectra left after selecting for Orphan Stream candidate parameters; these show no horizontal branch, many fewer blue straggler candidates, and the stars near the giant branch do not show the expected trend of redder stars at brighter magnitudes.

There are two selection effects in this diagram that should be clearly understood. First, the surface gravity selection is different for stars below a line that runs from \([g_{0}, (g - r)_{0}] = (17, -0.5)\) to \([g_{0}, (g - r)_{0}] = (21, 0.5)\). This selection could visually enhance the appearance of the blue straggler separation.

The second selection effect is that neither SDSS nor SEGUE spectroscopic selection evenly samples stars in color or magnitude. In particular, a very large number of SEGUE spectra were obtained for G stars with \( 0.48 < (g - r)_{0} < 0.55 \). This could give the appearance of a giant branch at \( (g - r)_{0} \sim 0.5 \), even if there is not one there. However, we think that most of the "on-stream" stars on the giant branch in Figure 8 are stream stars, because they shift slightly with \( g_{\text{corr}} \), as is expected from a real giant branch, and they have a very different distribution from the stars that were selected with all of the same criteria except the removal of the velocity cut. Note that there are many more on-stream spectra (87 stars) than off-stream spectra (28 stars).

![Figure 8](image-url)
in the final samples, even though the original star samples were of the same size. If we exclude BHB stars from the on-stream sample, then there are still 51 non-BHB stars in the on-stream sample compared to 24 non-BHB stars in the off-stream sample. This suggests that about half of the spectra of giant stars, blue stragglers, and asymptotic giant branch stars are bona fide stream members.

In order to estimate the metallicity of Orphan Stream stars, we overlay fiducial sequences of globular clusters M92 ([Fe/H] = −2.3), M3 ([Fe/H] = −1.57), and M13 ([Fe/H] = −1.54) on the CMD in Figure 8. These three clusters have blue horizontal branch stars at $g_0 = 15.59$, 15.10, and 14.80, respectively (Clem et al. 2008; An et al. 2008). Using the distance modulus from Harris (1996), the inferred absolute magnitude of the BHB stars is $M_g$ = 0.50 for M3, $M_g$ = 0.52 for M92, and $M_g$ = 0.38 for M13. These three clusters have been shifted in apparent magnitude so that their horizontal branches align with $g_{corr} = 17.75$. The relatively metal rich cluster M71 ([Fe/H] = −0.73) has also been superimposed. Since it does not have a BHB, it has been shifted so that if it did have a BHB at the average absolute magnitude of $M_{g0} = 0.45$, at its cataloged $(m - M)_0 = 13.02$ (Harris 1996), then that horizontal branch would be at $g_{corr} = 17.75$.

Since the turnoff color and giant branch stars of our Orphan stream candidates are equally consistent with the M3, M92, and M13 fiducials at our level of accuracy, we have decided to use an intermediate horizontal branch absolute magnitude of $M_{g0} = 0.45$ to compute distances in this paper. This is the same as the value used in Newberg et al. (2009) to measure the distance to the Cetus Polar Stream in the Galactic halo. Since the horizontal branch of the Orphan Stream is at $g_0 = 17.75$ at $A_{Orphan} = 0^\circ$, the implied distance modulus there is $\mu = 17.30$; this is the distance modulus to which all stream stars in the CMDs are shifted. All of the distances in Table 2 have been computed assuming the BHBs have $M_{g0} = 0.45$. The systematic error in our absolute magnitude could be as large as 0.3 mag, which is 15% in distance. A systematic error in the absolute magnitudes of Orphan Stream BHB stars would shift all of the distances closer or farther away. However, since the random errors are the important factor for fitting the Galactic potential, and not the systematic errors, no systematic errors have been included in the distance errors in Table 2.

The turnoff, giant, and BHB stars in our spectroscopic sample could reasonably fit an isochrone between those of M92 and M3 (−2.3 < [Fe/H] < −1.6), which is consistent with the measured metallicities of the BHB stars. However, since we do not spectroscopically sample very many stars that are redder than $(g - r)_0 = 0.55$, in either the SDSS or in SEGUE-I, we are not sensitive to the giant branches of higher metallicity populations, even if we include stars with higher measured metallicities in the selection. Since we expect that the progenitor of the Orphan Stream was a dwarf galaxy, it is reasonable that there may be a range of metallicities in the turnoff and giant branch even if there is not a range of metallicities in the BHB stars (Majewski et al. 2003; Chou et al. 2007).

As a final test of our position, velocity, and distance selection, we show in Figure 9 the Galactic coordinates of spectroscopically selected BHBs. We select BHBs from all SDSS/SEGUE stellar spectra with the criteria $-0.4 < (g - r)_0 < 0.3$, $0.8 < (u - g)_0 < 1.6$, and $0.1 < \log g < 3.5$. We then selected all of the BHBs with apparent magnitudes consistent with BHBs at the distance of the stream, as a function of $A_{Orphan}$ $(17.4 < g_0 - 0.00022 A_{Orphan} + 0.034 A_{Orphan} < 18.0)$.

This selection really only applies within a few degrees of the position of the Orphan Stream, but using this selection criterion over our whole data set allows us to visualize the density of spheroid BHBs and determine whether there is an overdensity of BHBs with the properties of the Orphan Stream at the expected locations in the sky.

The last two criteria for selecting BHBs in the Orphan Stream are velocity and metallicity, which are not possible to use as photometric target selection criteria. The BHBs with the correct velocity to be in the Orphan Stream (−0.0445 $A_{Orphan} - 0.935 A_{Orphan} + 95 < v_{gsx} < -0.0445 A_{Orphan} - 0.935 A_{Orphan} + 165$) and with low metallicity ([Fe/H]$_{WBG} < -1.6$) are shown as filled circles in Figure 9. The larger triangles show the positions of the Orphan Stream, as determined from photometry of F turnoff stars in Figure 4 and presented in Table 2.

Our spectroscopic sample of BHBs is not uniformly sampled in magnitude, color, or position on the sky, so there could be many selection effects in those variables. The open circles in Figure 9 give us an impression of the density of BHB stars sampled in our color and magnitude range across the sky. The BHBs with the correct velocities and metallicities to be stream stars are more abundant along the path of the Orphan Stream, which supports strongly our selection criteria and our identification of stream members.

Note that in Figure 9 we have possible detections of the Orphan Stream at Galactic longitudes of $l = 160^\circ$ or less, suggesting that the stream does extend further than we have been able to trace it. Also, there is some confusion about the position of the stream at $l = 270^\circ$. The selection of that position from photometry of F turnoff stars was very ambiguous, and the selected point is more than $2^\circ$ from the nominal $B_{Orphan} = 0^\circ$ expected position. The highest density of BHB spectra at the expected magnitude, velocity, and metallicity for stream membership is much closer to $B_{Orphan} = 0^\circ$, but there are no spectra at lower Galactic latitudes so there is an ambiguity between the spectroscopic position at higher Galactic latitude and a broader stream that is centered at lower Galactic latitude. We have argued that the Orphan Stream progenitor, or its remnant, is likely to be near $l = 253^\circ$. That means there is a reasonable chance that the stream detection at $l = 270^\circ$ is part of the trailing tidal tail, while all of the other detections are part of the leading tidal tail. If this is the case, then it would be reasonable that the orbit fit would not pass exactly through the detections.
8. PROPER MOTIONS OF ORPHAN STREAM STARS

We use DR7 proper motions, which are derived from an astrometric match between the SDSS and UCAC (USNO CCD Astrograph Catalog) catalogs (Munn et al. 2004), as an additional check on consistency of the proposed fit to the stream. DR7 proper motions have typical errors of 3 mas yr$^{-1}$ per coordinate, restricting the usefulness to those pieces of the stream with $d < 25$ kpc, in the area of Figure 1 with $230^\circ < l < 275^\circ$. Figure 10 shows the SDSS–UCAC proper motions of two sets of stream candidates: (1) spectroscopic stream candidates, with metallicity, velocity, gravity, matching the stream (all the magenta crosses from Figure 8); and (2) spectroscopically more secure BHB stream candidates (all the black + signs from Figure 8), our most secure stream members. Later, we will fit an orbit to the Orphan Stream and show that the orbit plausibly fits this proper motion data.

9. METALLICITY OF THE ORPHAN STREAM

Throughout this paper we have been identifying Orphan Stream stars by selecting low metallicity ([Fe/H] < −1.6) stars. In this section we present the statistics of stream stars selected using all of the position, velocity, surface gravity, magnitude, and color information available to us, but not using metallicity selection.

There are 36 spectroscopically selected Orphan Stream BHB stars shown in green in Figure 6 and as ‘+’ asterisks in Figure 8. If we use exactly the same selection criteria except omitting the low metallicity cut, we find a sample of 39 stars. The metallicities of 37 of these stars that have measured metallicities are histogramed in Figure 11, showing a very low metallicity peak at about [Fe/H]$_{WBG}$ = −2.1. We compared these 37 stars with the 384 halo BHB stars in Figure 17 of Yanny et al. (2009b), which have a mean of [Fe/H]$_{WBG}$ = −1.6, using a Mann–Whitney test. The sum of the ranks of the 37 Orphan stream BHB stars is 4094, with a $z$-score of 5.25 and a $p$-value less than 0.0001. The metallicities of the Orphan stream stars do not match those of the spheroid at an extremely significant level.

In Figure 11, we also show the metallicity distribution of all of the on-stream spectroscopic stars in Figure 8, excluding BHB stars and bright stars with $g_{corr} < 16$, and all of the off-stream spectroscopic stars in Figure 8, also excluding BHB stars and bright stars. The on-stream stars are primarily giant branch stars, but include a few candidate blue stragglers and asymptotic giant branch stars. There are 87 on-stream stars with spectra in Figure 8. If we remove the low metallicity cut, there are 136 stars, of which 39 are BHBs and 3 are bright, leaving 96 stars whose metallicity (using the average SDSS feha metallicity measurement) is histogramed in the lower panel of Figure 11. In comparison, there are only 28 off-stream stars in Figure 8, and if the metallicity cut is removed the number of off-stream stars rises to 73. After removing bright stars with $g_{corr} < 16$, and stars that have magnitudes, surface gravities, and colors of BHB stars, there are 59 stars left whose metallicity is histogramed in Figure 11. Recall that the size of the off-stream region was adjusted so that there were a similar number of SDSS/SEGUE spectra in the on-stream region and the off-stream region. Because coverage and target selection criteria change as a function of sky position, it is possible that the normalization of the on-stream and off-stream data sets may not be identical or that there are slightly different selection functions for each.

There was no significant difference between the metallicity distribution of the on-stream and off-stream stars in the lower panel of Figure 11, using either a Mann–Whitney test or a KS test. Both samples have a mean metallicity of [Fe/H] $\sim$ −1.6. However, it appears to the eye that there are a few more very low metallicity stars in the off-stream sample and a few extra stars at about [Fe/H] = −1.9 in the on-stream sample. The difficulty here is that we are using very small samples, and 50% of the on-stream stars are likely contamination from background stars, so better and cleaner samples are required to study the metallicity

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**Figure 10.** $\mu_\alpha$ and $\mu_\delta$ vs. $l$ for two subsets of candidate Orphan Stream stars. Though proper motions of stream candidate stars are not used in fitting the Orphan Stream orbit in this paper, they can provide a consistency check. (1) Spectroscopic stream candidates (magenta crosses from Figure 8) are shown as crosses, and (2) spectroscopically more secure BHB stream candidates (green filled circles from Figure 6, black + signs from Figure 8) are shown as filled black circles superimposed on a cross. Errors on individual points are typically 3 mas yr$^{-1}$ in both $\alpha$ and $\delta$. Zero proper motion is indicated with a dashed line. A representative Orphan Stream orbit model (model 5) is overlaid as a heavy black line.

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**Figure 11.** Metallicity distribution of Orphan Stream stars. The metallicity distribution of on-stream stars (Figure 8) is shown in the top panel, the metallicity distribution of off-stream stars is shown in the bottom panel. The metallicity distribution of on-stream stars is shown with a solid line, and the metallicity distribution of off-stream stars is shown with a dashed line. The histograms show the distribution of metallicity stars in the off-stream sample and a few extra stars at about [Fe/H] = −1.9 in the on-stream sample. The difficulty here is that we are using very small samples, and 50% of the on-stream stars are likely contamination from background stars, so better and cleaner samples are required to study the metallicity.
distribution of the population as a whole. It is not unexpected for BHB stars, which only form from low metallicity populations, to be more metal-poor than giant branch stars.

10. ORBIT FITTING

10.1. Methodology and Model Choices

We now use the combined positions, distance estimates, and line-of-sight velocities to fit an orbit to the Orphan Stream. We use the same procedure as described by Willett et al. (2009) with two modifications. First, instead of fitting the distance to the stream, we fit the $g_0$ magnitude, as measured by the Wilhelm et al. (1999) method of estimating [Fe/H] based on Ca II K line strength and $(g-r)_0$ color. The Orphan Stream BHBs have a very low metallicity of [Fe/H] = $-2.1 \pm 0.1$. The lower panel shows the “adopted” SSPP [Fe/H], for the stars which meet the magnitude, color, surface gravity, and velocity cuts for stream membership (BHBs excluded). The distribution for stars with $|B_{\text{corr}}| < 2^\circ$ is shown in light outline, while that for stars with $2^\circ < |B_{\text{corr}}| < 4^\circ$ is shown in heavy outline.

The top panel of Figure 16 of Xue et al. (2008) shows the globular cluster fiducials overlaid in Figure 8. The distance parameter is fitted internally in the gradient descent search, but because the error bar as represented in distance space is not symmetric above and below the fitted value, the chi-squared computation is done in magnitude space.

Second, in addition to the logarithmic halo potential model, we also consider a Navarro–Frenk–White (NFW; Navarro et al. 1996) model. Although our data do not span a large enough range of Galactocentric distances to determine which model is preferred, it is useful to optimize both models for easy comparison with the literature.

Likewise, we will use two published disk potentials: a lower mass exponential disk from Xue et al. (2008) and a higher mass Miyamoto–Nagai disk with parameters from Law et al. (2005). While we do not have sufficient data to constrain the disk model, it is instructive to see the effect of using different, commonly used disk models on the inferred halo mass.

To obtain our initial guess for the kinematic parameters, we draw from Tables 1 and 2 a test particle at Point 1: $(l, b, R) = (218^\circ, 53:5, 30 \text{kpc})$ and construct a vector to Point 2: $(l, b, R) = (215^\circ, 54:0, 31 \text{kpc})$. By matching the radial velocity at Point 1, we obtain an initial parameter starting point of $(R, v_x, v_y, v_z) = (30 \text{kpc}, -125 \text{ km s}^{-1}, 75 \text{ km s}^{-1}, 95 \text{ km s}^{-1})$.

With this initial kinematic guess we will consider seven specific cases, which include three potential models published by previous authors, and four models in which the halo mass is varied to best match our data (logarithmic and NFW halos are compared, as well as a low-mass exponential disk versus a high-mass Miyamoto–Nagai (M–N) disk).

1. We fit the exact model of Xue et al. (2008), using an exponential disk and NFW halo. The parameters for bulge, disk, and halo were taken from their paper. The mass of the bulge, disk and halo, integrated out to 60 kpc, are tabulated in Table 3. The mass of the Milky Way using this model is $M(R < 60 \text{kpc}) = 4.0 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$, of which $3.3 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ is in the halo. The value for the scale radius, $r_s = 22.25 \text{kpc}$, used for all the NFW potentials in this work comes from the top panel of Figure 16 of Xue et al. (2008). For a Milky Way virial radius of $r_{\text{vir}} = 240 \text{kpc}$ (Sales et al. 2007), this corresponds to a concentration index of $c \sim 11$.

2. We fit the same model as the previous case, but allow the $v_{\text{c, max}}$ normalization of the NFW model (the halo mass) to vary in amplitude.

3. We fit the same bulge and exponential disk model as the previous two cases, but use a logarithmic halo model. We allow the normalization (mass) of the halo to vary as a free parameter to be fit.

4. We fit stream kinematics only, assuming a spherical logarithmic halo as given by Law et al. (2005). Disk and bulge parameters for this case are identical to the Law et al. (2005) paper. Their model, with a disk model from Miyamoto & Nagai (1975), yields $M(R < 60 \text{kpc}) = 4.7 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$.

5. We fit the same model as case 4, but allow the halo speed above to vary as a free parameter within the spherical
logarithmic halo potential model, while keeping \(d = 12 \text{kpc}\), where \(d\) is the halo core softening radius.

6. We fit the kinematics within the spherical NFW halo given in Navarro et al. (1996) and further described by Klypin et al. (1999), normalized to \(M(R < 60 \text{kpc}) = 3.3 \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}\). We fit the \(v_{c,\text{max}}\) of the NFW model to give a similar total potential to that for the logarithmic halo with \(v_{\text{halo}} = 114 \text{km s}^{-1}\) above. These give rise to \(v_{c,\text{max}} = 155 \text{km s}^{-1}\) and \(r_s = 22.25 \text{kpc}\).

7. We fit the same model as case 6, but allow the NFW maximum circular speed \(v_{c,\text{max}}\) to vary while keeping \(r_s = 22.25 \text{kpc}\).

We summarize these potential models in Table 3.

The models were fit to all of the available data in Tables 1 and 2, with the exception of the last point in Table 2. Attempting to fit the data set with the \(l = 271^\circ\) point included resulted in substantially worse \(\chi^2\) values were obtained (\(\chi^2 \sim 4\)). Additionally, fitting this point introduced deviations of the orbit from the observed stream distances, with the high \(l\) distances being underestimated, and the low \(l\) distances being overestimated. These systematic differences between the model and data led us to perform all of our best-fit models without the \(l = 271^\circ\) point, for all six of the orbit fits listed above.

The data point at \(l = 271^\circ\) is less certain because the measurements were problematic, and because the continuity of the Orphan orbit is broken by the missing SDSS data at \(255^\circ < l < 268^\circ\), and the location of a possible Orphan progenitor dwarf in this region, which is likely, is uncertain. If the progenitor is in this region, then the points with \(l < 255^\circ\) are in a tidal tail with the opposite sense (i.e., leading) to those with \(l > 268^\circ\) (i.e., trailing). If this is the case, then a simple orbit fit (rather than a full N-body simulation) will not accurately account for the deviations in distance and velocity that occur on opposite sites of a progenitor when that progenitor has an internal velocity dispersion that is a significant fraction (more than a few percent) of the total potential in question.

In addition to these cases, we also attempted several more which did not produce very interesting results, but which we will summarize here. We ran several orbits fits in an attempt to measure the halo flattening parameter, \(q\). The fits were very insensitive to \(q\); fitting this parameter in the logarithmic halo yielded results with a very large error in \(q\). Therefore, we fixed the flattening parameter at \(q = 1\).

We also attempted to simultaneously fit \(v_{\text{halo}}\) and \(d\), and \(v_{c,\text{max}}\) and \(r_s\), for the logarithmic and NFW halos, respectively. In general, fitting the scale lengths did not substantially change the halo speed results, and the scale lengths were fit only with very large errors, on the order of tens of kiloparsecs. Therefore, we did not attempt to fit the scale lengths in either model.

10.2. Results

For each halo model, we ran five random starts of the fitting algorithm in the same manner as described by Willett et al. (2009). Once the best-fit orbit was found for each model, we computed the Hessian errors by varying the parameter step sizes until the errors converged for different step-size choices. Using a starting point of \((l, b) = (218^\circ, 53.5^\circ)\), the best-fit parameters and their errors are enumerated in Table 3.

Figure 12 shows the three orbit fits for the models with the exponential disk. The position and velocities of the data points are well fit by all three exponential disk models. The lower panel of Figure 12 shows that for this stream, the distance fit is most sensitive to the potential. The weaker potential of the lower mass halo model gives the best fit to observed stream distances from Tables 1 and 2 (black points with error bars), as it allows the stream to escape to larger Galactocentric radii without significantly changing the observed radial velocity gradient. There is little difference between the best-fit NFW halo and the best-fit logarithmic halo.

Figure 13 shows the circular velocity curve for models \(N = 1–3\) from Table 3, which use the same exponential disk parameters as Xue et al. (2008) in all cases. The figure shows that the orbits that are well fit to the Orphan Stream do not fit the Xue et al. (2008) nor the Koposov et al. (2009) result; the rotation speed of the model is too low at all Galactic radii.

We therefore try using an M–N disk with parameters as adopted by Law et al. (2005). This disk is about twice massive than the exponential disk model. We note here that we have not fully explored all possible disk shapes and masses, and a more massive exponential disk may give similar results to the more massive M–N disk considered here. Figure 14 shows the four fits for the models with the M–N disk. As before, lower halo speeds are a better fit to the Orphan Stream than those used by previous authors, and there is little difference between the fits for the best-fit NFW and logarithmic halos. Evidently, the Orphan Stream is telling us that the mass of the Milky Way is smaller than previously thought, so that distant portions of the stream, which are therefore experiencing lower gravitational attraction to the Galaxy, are pushed further away from the Galaxy center at a given energy.

Figure 15 shows the same circular velocity as Figure 13 for models 4–7 with an M–N disk. This time we find that the low mass halo orbit fits are a good fit to the Xue et al. (2008) and Koposov et al. (2009) result. They actually fit the Xue et al. (2008) model better than the model fit in that paper. Using the higher velocity leads to a systematic deviation in the distances, so that the model is further away than all of the data points at high Galactic latitude and closer for low Galactic latitudes.
Figure 12. Orbit fits ($b, v_{peri}, d$ vs. Galactic longitude) to the Orphan Stream data for three different halo potentials (models 1–3), with a fixed bulge and exponential disk model with parameters copied from Xue et al. (2008). In red (dot-dashed, model 1), we show the best orbit using the NFW halo parameters from Xue et al. (2008). In orange (dotted, model 2), we show the best fit if we allow the $v_c$ parameter to vary in the NFW profile. In black (solid, model 3), we show the best fit if we instead use a logarithmic potential. Note that the best-fit NFW and logarithmic potentials give similar fits, but both have a lower velocity (and therefore halo mass) than found by Xue et al. (2008). To fit the Orphan Stream distance data, it is necessary to reduce the amplitude of the halo potential by about 40%. The distance–velocity space locations of Segue-1, Ursa Major II, and Complex A are indicated as labeled in the top panel. Note that only Segue-1 is possibly associated with this tidal stream.

Also, as we will see later, adding velocity segregation from an $N$-body simulation only makes the systematic errors in the distance larger; for example, stars in the leading tidal tail have lower total energy than the progenitor and have smaller Galactocentric distances. The energy difference increases as a function of distance from the progenitor, along the stream. However, we note that our formal error bar on $v_{halo} = 73 \pm 24 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ is quite large and marginally consistent (within 2 sigma) with the higher $v_{halo} = 114 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ value of Law et al. (2005) and others. Although the formal error bars are large, the orbit fits suggest that a lower halo speed is preferred.

Of the models that we tried, the three low-mass exponential disk models (1–3) fit either the Orphan Stream data or the Xue et al. (2008) rotation curve, but not both. The two low halo mass models (models 5 and 7) with a higher mass $M$–$N$ disk fit the best, with a logarithmic halo fitting about the same as an NFW profile. The two higher halo mass models (models 4 and 6) are poorer fits to both the Orphan Stream and the Xue et al. (2008) rotation curves.

Although we cannot formally rule out the halo models fit by Xue et al. (2008) and Law et al. (2005), in order to simultaneously fit the Xue et al. (2008) circular velocity data, we prefer a lower total mass of the Milky Way than measured in either of those two papers. Our total Milky Way mass is 60% of that found by Xue et al. (2008) and Law et al. (2005). As mentioned in the introduction, our masses are at the low end, but not out of range of recently published masses. To estimate the virial mass of the Milky Way given our best-fit model 5, we multiply the halo mass within 60 kpc by 4 (for a virial radius of 240 kpc), and add the disk plus bulge mass. The result is $M(R < 240 \text{ kpc}) = 6.9 \times 10^{11} M_\odot$. Of interest is the recent result of Odenkirchen et al. (2009), who suggested that a lower halo mass might make it easier to fit the kinematics of the Pal 5 globular cluster stream. The findings on Milky Way circular velocity with radius to distance of $R \sim 60 \text{ kpc}$ by Xue et al. (2008) are also consistent with our low value for the halo speed. When the $M$–$N$ disk model is used, they are also

Figure 13. We now compare the best-fit models from Figure 12 with the Milky Way rotation curve data from Xue et al. (2008) and Koposov et al. (2009). The red curve (dot-dashed, model 1) is the best fit found by Xue et al. (2008), from Figure 16(a) of that paper, so it is a good fit to the data points. The orange curve (dotted, model 2) and black curve (solid, model 3), for which we allowed the halo mass to vary, are significantly below all of the rotation curve data points. The rotation curves from individual components of the potential (exponential disk, bulge, and NFW halo) used in Xue et al. (2008) are also shown. We also show a Miyamoto–Nagai ($M$–$N$) disk, scaled to a total mass similar to that of the exponential disk, to show that the rotation curve in the region we probe is not dramatically different for different disk profiles and the halo rotation curves for the lower mass halos.
Figure 14. Orbit fits (b, vgsr, and d vs. Galactic longitude) to the Orphan Stream data for potential models 4–7, with a fixed bulge and Miyamoto & Nagai (1975) disk with parameters copied from Law et al. (2005). In green (dash, model 4) we show the best-fit orbit using the logarithmic halo parameters from Law et al. (2005). In red (dot dash, model 6), we show the best fit with NFW halo parameters fixed from Xue et al. (2008). Neither of these fixed halo potentials from previous papers gives a good fit to the relative distances along the Orphan Stream; the slope of the d vs. l plot is too shallow for these models. The black (solid, model 5) and orange curves (dotted, model 7) show the best-fit orbits if the disk is fixed and the halo masses are allowed to vary for the logarithmic and NFW profile halos, respectively. As in Figure 12, we see very little difference between the best logarithmic and NFW profile fits, and the preferred values of the halo mass are lower than those of previous authors. Again, it is necessary to reduce the amplitude of the halo potential by about 40% to fit the Orphan Stream distances. The locations of Segue-1, Ursa Major II, and Complex A are the same as labeled in Figure 12.

Figure 15. Comparison best-fit models from Figure 14 with the Milky Way rotation curve data from Xue et al. (2008) and Koposov et al. (2009). All of the models use a fixed M–N disk and bulge, with a mass about twice as large as the exponential disk in the models in Figures 12 and 13. The green (dash, model 4) and red (dot dash, model 6) curves use fixed parameters from the logarithmic halo potential of Law et al. (2005) and NFW halo potential of Xue et al. (2008), respectively. Neither of these fit the Orphan Stream distances, and they are not especially good fits to the rotation curve, predicting rotation velocities above most of the data points. The black (solid, model 5) and orange curves (dotted, model 7) are reasonably good fits to the Xue et al. (2008) data, even though they were not fit to these data. In these models, the halo mass was allowed to vary. Our best-fit model is model 5 (black, solid curve), though model 7 is nearly as good. The rotation curves from individual components of the potential (M–N disk, bulge, and NFW or logarithmic halo) are also shown.

We note that we did not explore scaling the mass of the disk (or bulge) beyond their default values of $M_{\text{disk}} = 10^{11} M_\odot$ for the M–N disk or $M_{\text{disk}} = 5 \times 10^{10}$ for the exponential disk. Thus, while we find that the heavier M–N disk (combined with a lower amplitude halo) fits the joint data sets of the Orphan Stream, and the Xue et al. (2008) BHBs circular velocity points, better than models with the lighter exponential disk, it is likely that similar fits could be obtained with a heavier exponential disk (though still with a lighter halo). If more data were available, the disk mass could be varied to find the best combination of disk and halo mass.

It is important to note from Figures 12 and 14 that if we could follow the Orphan Stream just a little farther out into the halo, we would have a much better power to determine the halo mass, since the distances to the stream for each case diverge.

Figure 16 shows the best fit $v_{\text{halo}} = 73 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ logarithmic halo model in $(X, Y, Z)$ Galactic coordinates with the direction of motion indicated by the arrows. From the apo- and peri-galactic distances of $\sim 90 \text{ kpc}$ and $\sim 16.4 \text{ kpc}$, respectively, we calculate an orbital eccentricity of $e = 0.7$. The inclination of the Orphan Stream is $i \sim 34^\circ$ with respect to the Galactic plane as seen from the Galactic center. It will be important to obtain data for the Orphan Stream at apogalacticon in order to distinguish between different models for the Galactic potential.

The proper motions along the model orbits of Figure 14 are calculated for the four potentials. The implied proper motions are essentially identical in the region of the stream where it is observed $170^\circ < l < 270^\circ$, and thus only the best-fit model (model 5) is overlaid as a solid curve in Figure 10. The fact that the stream is moving in prograde orbit (see below) makes the proper motions significantly smaller in magnitude than if the stream were retrograde (Willett et al. 2009), and thus, while the errors on the proper motions and stream membership uncertainties make it difficult to constrain the Galactic potential with proper motions of this accuracy, it is reassuring that the data and model are broadly consistent.

in rough agreement with Koposov et al. (2009) who measure $v_c(R = 8\text{ kpc}) = 224 \pm 13 \text{ km s}^{-1}$.
10.3. The Orphan Stream is Moving in a Prograde Direction

The velocities of the fit orbit definitively show that the stream stars are moving in a direction from higher \( l \) to lower \( l \). As a simple check, if we reverse the sign of all the velocities \((v_x, v_y, v_z)\) in the model orbit, the path on the sky that the stream traces out is the same, but the radial velocities do not match the observations by a wide amount \((|\delta v| > 100 \text{ km s}^{-1})\). Thus, the Orphan Stream is on a prograde orbit around the Milky Way. One may now ask if the visible piece of the Orphan tidal stream is a leading or trailing tidal tail. If we assume that the “progenitor” of the Orphan Stream lies in the range \(248^\circ < l < 268^\circ\) as the density plot of Figure 5 and the visual impression of Figure 4 suggests (with the density enhancement visible at \((l, b) = (253^\circ, 49^\circ)\)), then the portion of the tidal stream stretching from \(l = 250^\circ\) to \(l = 170^\circ\), combined with the space velocity of stars moving in that same direction, implies that we are seeing a leading tidal arm rather than a trailing tidal arm. The piece of stream intercepted at \(l = 270^\circ\) is then a trailing tidal arm.

10.4. N-body Realization

We now comment on the fact that our “simple orbit integration and fitting” technique is not an \(N\)-body simulation, and therefore effects of stars leaving the progenitor and drifting ahead or behind to greater and lower energies, which changes their distance from the central body, are not captured as they would be in a full \(N\)-body.

To conduct the \(N\)-body simulation, we first integrate the log halo (best-fit model 5) orbit back 4 Gyr and place a 10,000 particle Plummer sphere at the predicted location. We use a Plummer sphere scale radius of \(r_s = 0.2 \text{ kpc}\) and total mass of \(M_{\text{total}} \sim 2.5 \times 10^6 M_\odot\). Using the orbit kinematics from...
of Figures 12 and 14 indicate a lower mass Milky Way, and a full \( N \)-body simulation will only make the slope for higher mass estimates fit worse.

The lowest panel in Figure 17 shows the density of \( N \)-body simulated particles remaining at the current epoch along the stream versus \( l \). This density distribution may be compared with that of the data in Figure 5. The \( N \)-body simulation has a lower density of particles near \( l = 240^\circ \), \( (\Delta_{\text{Orphan}} = 15^\circ) \). This effect is apparent in the Orphan imaging data in Figure 5. This suggests that our method of fitting a simple orbit to the tidal debris is a reasonable first approximation, and fitting the density is a useful diagnostic tool.

11. CONNECTION OF THE ORPHAN STREAM TO OTHER GALACTIC HALO STRUCTURES

Given the Orphan Stream orbit of Section 10, we can revisit the question of the Orphan Stream’s connection to other halo structures, such as Segue-1, Complex A, and Ursa Major II. We add position, velocity, and distance using the data from the literature for these three objects as points onto Figures 12, 14, and 16 for reference.

11.1. Segue-1

The distance to Segue-1 is \( d = 23 \) kpc from the Sun (Belokurov et al. 2007a), consistent with both Sagittarius and Orphan Streams in this part of the sky. A case has recently been made that Segue-1 is associated with the Sagittarius stream (Niederste-Ostholt et al. 2009). It is, however, in the same general area of the sky as the Orphan Stream, and it has a positive velocity, \( v_{\text{gsr}} = +114 \) km s\(^{-1}\), as measured by Geha et al. (2009), very close to that of Orphan Stream stars in Table 2 here, and in contrast to the Sgr stars in this area, which have \( v_{\text{gsr}} \approx -120 \) km s\(^{-1}\), as shown in Yanny et al. (2009b). Thus, on the basis of kinematics, we believe that it is more likely that Segue-1 is a star cluster associated with the Orphan Stream than that it is associated with Sgr. More extensive proper motions of both objects will help resolve this issue definitively (Geha et al. 2009).

11.2. Ursa Major II

In Figure 1, Ursa Major II (Zucker et al. 2006) is visible at the right-hand side of the diagram near \((l, b) = (152^\circ, 37^\circ)\), not far from the extension of the projected Sgr orbit. Kinematics of UMa II (Martin et al. 2007) show it to have a \( v_{\text{radial}} = -115 \) km s\(^{-1}\) (following the body and figures of that paper rather than the abstract) which corresponds to \( v_{\text{gsr}} = -35 \) km s\(^{-1}\). This is in strong disagreement with the Orphan model predictions of \( v_{\text{gsr}} \approx +60 \) km s\(^{-1}\) at the approximate location of UMa II. The distance \( d_{\odot} \) to the object is also in disagreement with the models in Figures 12 and 13. Additionally, the density of Orphan Stream stars, were UMa II the Orphan progenitor, should increase as one gets closer to UMa II, not decrease. For these reasons, given the improved SEGUE data points and implied Orphan Stream kinematics, the current data do not support the hypothesis that UMa II is the progenitor of the Orphan Stream.

11.3. Complex A

As discussed above, and in Sales et al. (2008), Complex A is much too close to be associated with the Orphan Stream without extensive gas dissipation. It would take a strongly dissipative interaction and a significant amount of time for the \( H_1 \) gas to
become stripped from the Orphan Stream and migrate to lower Galactocentric distances.

### 11.4. Other Possible Associations

We check our best-fit orbits against known globular clusters and dwarf galaxies to see if there are any possible associations. Of the globular clusters given in Harris (1996), we find six that lie within 5° of the orbits: NGC 6752, NGC 6362, Rup 106, Pal 1, NGC 7078, and NGC 7089. Of these, only three have radial velocities consistent with the orbit: NGC 6362, NGC 7078, and NGC 7089. However, these are approximately 10 kpc from the Sun, while the orbit is consistently above 20 kpc. Therefore, we rule out these as being associated with this stream.

In addition to Ursa Major II, we find three additional dwarf galaxies that lie within 5° of the projected orbits: Leo II, Leo A, and Ursa Major Y. Of these, only Leo A has a radial velocity that could associate it with the orbit, but its distance of 800 kpc from the Sun precludes this possibility.

### 12. CONCLUSIONS

We present substantially better spatial and radial velocity measurements of Orphan Stream stars than previous papers, and are therefore able to fit a better orbit solution, which is substantially different from previous papers.

While the Orphan Stream was so named because of the absence of a progenitor, there is a suggestion from the data in this paper that the progenitor is located near \((l, b) = (253°, 49°)\), right at the edge of the SDSS survey footprint. Like previous papers, our data suggest a small dwarf galaxy to be the likely progenitor, since the velocity dispersion of the stream stars is \(\sim 10 \text{ km s}^{-1}\).

We summarize our findings as follows.

1. The Orphan Stream is visible on the sky in SDSS imaging and traces an arc from \((l, b) = (271°, 38°)\) to \((l, b) = (171°, 46°)\), with a \(v_{\text{gsr}} \sim +110 \pm 20 \text{ km s}^{-1}\) for most of this length at distances increasing from \(d_0 = 18 \text{ kpc}\) to over \(d_0 = 46 \text{ kpc}\), where it is no longer detectable in our data. The stream is on a prograde orbit with perigalacticon, apogalacticon, eccentricity, and inclination of \(16.4 \text{ kpc}, \sim 90 \text{ kpc}, 0.7, \text{ and } 34°\), respectively.

2. We identify F turnoff stars and BHBs in the Orphan Stream, along with candidate blue stragglers. All of these populations except F turnoff stars also have representatives with SEGUE spectra; there may also be F turnoff stars with spectra, but they are so faint that surface gravities could not be measured. The turnoff color is \((g - r)_0 = 0.22\).

3. The metallicity of the Orphan Stream BHBs is very low, \([\text{Fe/H}] = -2.1 \pm 0.1\).

4. The progenitor for the Orphan Stream may be located between \((l, b) = (250°, 50°)\) and \((270°, 40°)\). This assumption, combined with the observation that the Orphan Stream is on a prograde orbit around the Galaxy, implies that the tidal tail at \(l < 250°\) is a leading tidal tail.

5. The Orphan Stream data are best fit to a Milky Way potential with a halo plus disk plus bulge mass of \(2.6 \times 10^{11} M_\odot\), integrated to 60 kpc from the Galactic center. Our best fit is found with a logarithmic halo speed of \(v_{\text{halo}} = 73 \pm 24 \text{ km s}^{-1}\), a disk+bulge mass of \(M(R < 60 \text{ kpc}) = 1.3 \times 10^{10} M_\odot\), and a halo mass of \(M(R < 60 \text{ kpc}) = 1.4 \times 10^{11} M_\odot\). However, we can find similar fits to the data that use an NFW halo profile. Our halo speed of \(v_{\text{halo}} = 73 \pm 24 \text{ km s}^{-1}\) is smaller than that of previous literature. Although our fits with smaller disk masses and correspondingly larger halo masses are not good fits the Xue et al. (2008) rotation curves, we have not tried enough models to rule out this possibility. Distinguishing between different classes of models requires data over a larger range of distances.

6. The Orphan Stream is projected to extend to 90 kpc from the Galactic center, and measurements of these distant parts of the stream would be a powerful probe of the mass of the Milky Way.

7. An N-body simulation yields an excellent fit to the observed data, including matching the approximate shape of the stellar stream star density along the stream. The \(N\)-body mass used was about \(M_{\text{total, Orphan}} = 10^8 M_\odot\), about \(10^{-5}\) the total mass of the Sgr stream and dSph system. The total Orphan system mass is not highly constrained.

8. The list of possible halo objects associated with the Orphan Stream is reduced to one: the “dissolved star cluster” Segue-1. Other possible associated objects, namely UMa II, the Complex A H I cloud, and the halo’s globular clusters, are not close to the Orphan Stream orbit presented here in distance or velocity (or both).

Because the orbit fit is not able to significantly constrain the flattening \(q\) of the halo potential, we assume \(q = 1\) throughout. Nevertheless, the analysis of the Orphan Stream shows us that we are able to constrain another important halo potential parameter, namely the amplitude of the halo potential. A spherical logarithmic potential with \(60\%\) of the mass of the fit of Xue et al. (2008) provides a reasonable fit to the Orphan Stream data.

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