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Modelling our Galaxy

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Chemodynamical models will be central to efforts to interpret data from the massive stellar surveys now in hand. Cosmological simulations are not rigorous and are much too expensive to be fitted to data. I'll show that models that have analytic (extended) distribution functions provide excellent fits to the data. The models already provide the strongest constraints on the Galaxy's dark-matter distribution and they are becoming steadily more sophisticated and constraining.

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