

A Virgo Environmental Survey Tracing Ionised Gas Emission (VESTIGE)

XIII. The role of ram-pressure stripping in transforming the diffuse and ultra-diffuse galaxies in the Virgo cluster?

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ABSTRACT

Context. Low-surface-brightness galaxies (LSBs) contribute to a significant fraction of all the galaxies in the Universe. Ultra-diffuse galaxies (UDGs) form a subclass of LSBs that has attracted a lot of attention in recent years (although its definition may vary between studies). Although UDGs are found in large numbers in galaxy clusters, groups, and in the field, their formation and evolution are still very much debated.

Aims. Using a comprehensive set of multiwavelength data from the NGVS (optical), VESTIGE (H α narrowband), and GUViCS (UV) surveys, we studied a sample of 64 diffuse galaxies and UDGs in the Virgo cluster to investigate their formation history.

Methods. We analyzed the photometric colors and surface-brightness profiles of these galaxies and then compared them to models of galaxy evolution, including ram-pressure stripping (RPS) events to infer any possible strong interactions with the hot cluster gas in the past.

Results. While our sample consists mainly of red LSBs, which is typical in cluster environments, we found evidence of a color variation with the cluster-centric distance. Blue, H i-bearing, star-forming diffuse galaxies are found at larger distances from the cluster center than the rest of the sample. The comparison of our models with multifrequency observations suggests that most of the galaxies of the sample might have undergone a strong RPS event in their lifetime, on average 1.6 Gyr ago (with a large dispersion, and RPS still ongoing for some of them). This process resulted in the transformation of initially gas-rich diffuse blue galaxies into gas-poor and red ones that form the dominant population now, the more extreme UDGs having undergone the process in a more distant past on average.

Conclusions. The RPS in dense environments could be one of the major mechanisms for the formation of the large number of quiescent UDGs we observe in galaxy clusters.

Key words. galaxies: clusters: general – galaxies: clusters: individual: Virgo – galaxies: evolution – galaxies: interactions – galaxies: star formation

[?] The multi-wavelength images and surface brightness profiles are only available at the CDS via anonymous ftp to

cdsarc.cds.unistra.fr ([130.79.128.5](ftp://130.79.128.5)) or via <https://cdsarc.cds.unistra.fr/viz-bin/cat/J/A+A/667/A76>

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1. Introduction

Most extragalactic surveys are focused toward high-surfacebrightness galaxies (HSBs) that are not affected by the brightness of our night sky, and are likely to be detected by standard techniques. This leads to a partial understanding of the nature of the galactic population as a whole. Low-surface-brightness galaxies (LSBs), of which we know little, may be an important population.

Low-surface-brightness galaxies are diffuse galaxies that are fainter than the typical night sky surface-brightness level of \sim 23 mag arcsec⁻² in the *B* band [\(Bothun et al.](#page-15-0) [1997\)](#page-15-0). Astronomers have only known about the existence of the LSB population for about four decades [\(Sandage & Binggeli](#page-15-1) [1984\)](#page-15-1), and, until the beginning of the 21st century, only a handful of them had been identified [\(Bothun et al.](#page-15-2) [1987,](#page-15-2) [1990;](#page-15-3) [Impey et al.](#page-15-4) [1988;](#page-15-4) [Dalcanton et al.](#page-15-5) [1997\)](#page-15-5). The extreme faintness of LSBs hindered in-depth observations for a long time. Now it is estimated that LSBs may represent about 50% (or more) of all the galaxies in the Universe $(O'Neil \& Bothun)$ [2000;](#page-15-6) [Galaz et al.](#page-15-7) [2011;](#page-15-7) [Martin et al.](#page-15-8) [2019\)](#page-15-8). In recent years, with advancements in technology, it has become possible to obtain deeper observations, allowing astronomers to study this very significant population with a new perspective (e.g., owing to instruments such as CFHT Megacam, Subaru Suprime-Cam, the Dragonfly Telescope Array, and VLT-MUSE). Ultra-diffuse galaxies (UDGs), a subclass of LSBs, have attracted a lot of attention in the past few years [\(van Dokkum et al.](#page-15-9) [2015;](#page-15-9) [Koda et al.](#page-15-10) [2015;](#page-15-10) [Leisman et al.](#page-15-11) [2017;](#page-15-11) [Grishin et al.](#page-15-12) [2021\)](#page-15-12). While UDGs are usually broadly defined as galaxies with a lower surface brightness and a larger extent than other galaxies or dwarfs, various working definitions have been used (depending especially on available data).

For instance, in the Coma cluster, [van Dokkum et al.](#page-15-9) [\(2015\)](#page-15-9) and [Koda et al.](#page-15-10) [\(2015\)](#page-15-10) selected galaxies with a central surface brightness $(\mu_{0,g}) > 24$ mag arcsec⁻² and an effective radius $(R_{\infty}) > 1.5$ kpc, this size limit being dictated by the limited angu- $(R_{e,g}) > 1.5$ kpc, this size limit being dictated by the limited angular resolution of the Dragonfly Telescope Array. In the Virgo cluster, where a complete set of high-quality deep imaging data is available thanks to the Next Generation Virgo Cluster Survey (NGVS; [Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012\)](#page-15-13), [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [\(2020\)](#page-15-14) defined UDGs as galaxies at least 2.5σ away from the Virgo scaling relationships (see Sect. [3\)](#page-2-0).

Ultra-diffuse galaxies are found in abundance in a variety of environments, including galaxy clusters, groups, and the field [\(Koda et al.](#page-15-10) [2015;](#page-15-10) [Prole et al.](#page-15-15) [2019;](#page-15-15) [Tanoglidis et al.](#page-15-16) [2021;](#page-15-16) [Zaritsky et al.](#page-15-17) [2022\)](#page-15-17). Cluster UDGs tend to be quiescent [\(Koda et al.](#page-15-10) [2015;](#page-15-10) [van der Burg et al.](#page-15-18) [2016\)](#page-15-18), whereas UDGs in low density environments are gas-rich and blue [\(Leisman et al.](#page-15-11) [2017;](#page-15-11) [Prole et al.](#page-15-15) [2019\)](#page-15-15). Despite their abundance, the extreme nature of UDGs poses serious questions as to their formation and evolution, which are still debated.

Several UDG formation scenarios have been proposed. For instance, [van Dokkum et al.](#page-15-9) [\(2015\)](#page-15-9) suggested that UDGs could be failed Milky Way-like galaxies residing in large halos that have experienced a truncation of their star formation history in the past. Another scenario considered UDGs as "puffed-up dwarf" galaxies that are an extension of the dwarf galaxy population whose stellar and gas components were puffed up by internal processes, such as supernova feedback [\(Chan et al.](#page-15-19) [2018;](#page-15-19) [Di Cintio et al.](#page-15-20) [2019\)](#page-15-20), or external processes, such as tidal interaction, mergers, or ram-pressure stripping (RPS; [Yozin & Bekki](#page-15-21) [2015;](#page-15-21) [Zaritsky](#page-15-22) [2017;](#page-15-22) [Conselice](#page-15-23) [2018;](#page-15-23) [Bennet et al.](#page-14-0) [2018;](#page-14-0) [Baushev](#page-14-1) [2018;](#page-14-1) [Carleton et al.](#page-15-24) [2019;](#page-15-24) [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [2020\)](#page-15-14). Recent work by [Grishin et al.](#page-15-12) [\(2021\)](#page-15-12) suggests that UDGs might be the outcome of an early RPS event followed by a passive expansion in size over a long time, which removed any signatures of the RPS from their morphology. Amorisco $&$ Loeb [\(2016\)](#page-14-2) put forward yet another scenario where UDGs could be formed in dwarf-sized halos with an intrinsically large initial angular momentum, irrespective of their environment. Considering all the above UDG formation mechanisms, it is likely that UDGs are a mix of galaxies with multiple evolutionary paths, as also suggested by the various amounts of dark matter (low or high dark matter content) determined for a few of them in the literature [\(van Dokkum et al.](#page-15-9) [2015,](#page-15-9) [2018;](#page-15-25) [Toloba et al.](#page-15-26) [2018\)](#page-15-26).

Most of the discovered and identified UDGs are in several nearby galaxy clusters and groups [\(Koda et al.](#page-15-10) [2015;](#page-15-10) [van der Burg et al.](#page-15-18) [2016;](#page-15-18) [Yagi et al.](#page-15-27) [2016;](#page-15-27) [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [2020\)](#page-15-14). The Virgo cluster, being one of the richest clusters of galaxies in the nearby Universe and with abundant deep multiwavelength data [\(Boselli et al.](#page-15-28) [2011;](#page-15-28) [Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012;](#page-15-13) [Boselli et al.](#page-15-29) [2018;](#page-15-29) [Haynes et al.](#page-15-30) [2018\)](#page-15-30), is therefore a perfect laboratory for studying UDGs and other LSBs in general. The purpose of this work is to study a sample of LSBs in the Virgo cluster using a multiwavelength set of photometric data in the optical, UV, and $H\alpha$ narrowband (NB) with the aim of understanding the role of the cluster environment in shaping their evolution.

In Sect. [2](#page-1-0) we present the data used in this work, and we describe our sample selection in Sect. [3.](#page-2-0) Section [4](#page-4-0) discusses the preparation of the data and the photometric measurements performed on the sample. In Sect. [5](#page-7-0) we analyze the observed photometric properties of the sample. Sections [5.4](#page-8-0) and [5.5](#page-9-0) present a subsample of sources with H_I and H α detections. Section [6](#page-9-1) is dedicated to an extensive comparison of the observed properties of the sample with a suite of chemo-spectrophotometric galaxy evolutionary models. After a discussion in Sect. [7,](#page-13-0) conclusions are given in Sect. [8.](#page-14-3) We note that results obtained from the analysis of other galaxies selected to have high angular momentum (but which do not form a complete sample) are given in Appendix [B.](#page-48-0)

Throughout this paper we assume that the Virgo cluster is centered on M 87, has a virial radius (R_{vir}) of 1.55 Mpc [\(Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012\)](#page-15-13), and is located at a distance of 16.5 Mpc [\(Gavazzi et al.](#page-15-31) [1999;](#page-15-31) [Mei et al.](#page-15-32) [2007\)](#page-15-32). At this distance, 1 arcsec corresponds to 80 pc.

2. Data

This work makes use of multiwavelength photometric data from various surveys of the Virgo cluster as discussed below.

2.1. NGVS

The NGVS [\(Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012\)](#page-15-13) is a deep broadband imaging survey of the Virgo cluster in the *^u*, g, *ⁱ*, and *^z* bands, carried out with the MegaCam instrument on the 3.6 m Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT). The survey spans an area of 104 deg² , covering the whole Virgo cluster region from its core to one virial radius ($R_{\text{vir}} = 1.55 \text{ Mpc}$; [Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012\)](#page-15-13). The NGVS images were processed with the Elixir-LSB pipeline optimized for the recovery of low-surface-brightness features, reaching a surface-brightness limit of $\mu_g \sim 29$ AB mag arcsec⁻² (2*o*
above the mean sky level: Ferrarese et al. 2012). The survey has above the mean sky level; [Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012\)](#page-15-13). The survey has a typical full-width-half-maximum (FWHM) resolution of 0.54" in the *i* band and ~ 0.8 " in the other bands (see Table [1\)](#page-2-1). Full details on the survey, including observations and data processing, are discussed in [Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [\(2012\)](#page-15-13).

Table 1. Filters and resolution of the data used in this work.

Survey	Filter	Central wavelength (Å)	FWHM
GUVICS	FUV	1524	\sim 5''
GUVICS	NUV	2309	\sim 5"
NGVS	u	3811	0.88''
NGVS	g	4862	0.80''
VESTIGE	r	6258	0.76''
VESTIGE	$H\alpha$	6591	0.76''
NGVS		7552	0.54''
NGVS	Z.	8871	0.75''

References. NGVS [\(Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012\)](#page-15-13); GUViCS [\(Boselli et al.](#page-15-28) [2011\)](#page-15-28); VESTIGE [\(Boselli et al.](#page-15-29) [2018\)](#page-15-29).

Using the deep data covering the entire cluster, the NGVS catalog is the most up-to-date catalog of the Virgo cluster [\(Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-33) [2020\)](#page-15-33). For every source in the NGVS catalog, the cluster membership probabilities are designated into three categories as a certain, likely or possible member. This was done using a rigorous algorithm involving multiple distance indicators to compute the probability that a given galaxy is a member of the cluster. This process utilizes several scaling relationships (of magnitudes, colors, and structural parameters), photometric redshift estimates, and visual inspections to confidently identify potential Virgo cluster members. The final NGVS catalog consists of a total of 3689 galaxies, out of which only 1483 are in the Virgo Cluster Catalogue (VCC) of [Binggeli et al.](#page-15-34) [\(1985\)](#page-15-34).

The NGVS catalog is used as the basis for the LSB sample selection and analysis discussed in this work. Sources with only the certain and likely cluster membership flag from NGVS were used, to avoid possible contaminations (see Sect. [3](#page-2-0) for details on the sample selection). For reference, the mean membership probabilities for the class of certain and likely members are $84 \pm 23\%$ and $77 \pm 21\%$, respectively [\(Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [2020\)](#page-15-14). Among the 3689 NGVS galaxies, 1651 galaxies are certain members (1280 of them in the VCC) and 842 galaxies are likely members (166 of them in the VCC). We adopt the cluster memberships of the NGVS catalog and assume that all the cluster members are at the same distance (16.5 Mpc).

For all the NGVS galaxies, stellar masses were computed (Roediger et al., in prep.), using spectral energy distribution modeling based on the PROSPECTOR code [\(Conroy et al.](#page-15-35) [2009;](#page-15-35) [Johnson et al.](#page-15-36) [2021\)](#page-15-36), comparing the *^u*g*riz* integrated photometric fluxes from the NGVS catalog, with stellar population spectra based on the MIST isochrones [\(Choi et al.](#page-15-37) [2016\)](#page-15-37), MILES stellar library [\(Sánchez-Blázquez et al.](#page-15-38) [2006\)](#page-15-38) and a Chabrier initial mass function (IMF; [Chabrier](#page-15-39) [2003\)](#page-15-39). The median stellar mass values obtained via this procedure are used in our sample selection discussed in Sect. [3.](#page-2-0)

2.2. GUViCS

The GALEX Ultraviolet Virgo Cluster Survey (GUViCS; [Boselli et al.](#page-15-28) [2011\)](#page-15-28) is a blind survey of the Virgo cluster carried out with GALEX in the far-UV (FUV) and near-UV (NUV) bands. GUViCS combines data from the GALEX All-Sky Imaging Survey, typically with an exposure of 100 s, Medium Imaging Survey with deeper exposure times of at least 1500 s [\(Morrissey et al.](#page-15-40) [2005\)](#page-15-40), which corresponds to an NUV surfacebrightness limit of ∼28.5 AB mag arcsec[−]² , and dedicated obser-

vations of the Virgo cluster [\(Boselli et al.](#page-15-28) [2011\)](#page-15-28). With the GALEX field of view of ~1.2° and a resolution of ~5", GUViCS covers almost the entire Virgo cluster region with multiple overlapping exposures in the NUV band, while only ∼40% in the FUV band (see Fig. 1 of [Boselli et al.](#page-15-41) [2014\)](#page-15-41).

2.3. VESTIGE

The Virgo Environmental Survey Tracing Ionised Gas Emis-sion (VESTIGE; [Boselli et al.](#page-15-29) [2018\)](#page-15-29) is a blind H α NB, and broadband *r* imaging survey of the Virgo cluster carried out with MegaCam at the CFHT. It is designed to cover an area of 104 deg² in the Virgo cluster (the same area as that of NGVS). The H α NB filter^{[1](#page-2-2)} of VESTIGE covers a wavelength range of 6538 $\langle \lambda \rangle$ < 6644 Å, with a central wavelength of 6591 Å and filter width of 106 Å. Currently, the survey covers ∼75% of the designed area at full depth (exposure of $7200 s$ in H α) with observations of high imaging quality (resolution of ~0.76"; see Table [1\)](#page-2-1). The depth and extremely high image quality of the survey make it perfectly suitable for studying the effects of the environment on the star formation process in galaxies down to scales of ∼100 pc, since H α is a perfect tracer of star formation on a short timescale of ∼10 Myr [\(Kennicutt](#page-15-42) [1998;](#page-15-42) [Boissier et al.](#page-15-43) [2013\)](#page-15-43). Moreover, the VESTIGE H α filter is optimal to detect the line emission of galaxies at the distance of the Virgo cluster with a typical recessional velocity of −500 ≤ *cz* ≤ 3000 km s[−]¹ . Therefore, in the case of detection, VESTIGE also provides further confirmation of the Virgo membership of NGVS galaxies.

The line sensitivity limit of VESTIGE is $f(\text{H}\alpha) \sim 4 \times$ 10^{-17} erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² (5 σ detection limit) for point sources and
 $\Sigma(H\alpha) \sim 2 \times 10^{-18}$ erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² arcsec⁻² (1 σ detection limit at 3" $\Sigma(H\alpha) \sim 2 \times 10^{-18}$ erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² arcsec⁻² (1*σ* detection limit at 3^{*o*} resolution) for extended sources (Boselli et al. 2018). The conresolution) for extended sources [\(Boselli et al.](#page-15-29) [2018\)](#page-15-29). The contribution of the stellar continuum emission in the NB $H\alpha$ filter is determined and removed using a combination of the VES-TIGE *^r*-band and NGVS g-band images [\(Fossati et al.](#page-15-44) [2018;](#page-15-44) [Boselli et al.](#page-15-45) [2019\)](#page-15-45).

3. Sample selection

The target of this work are large and diffuse galaxies. [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [\(2020\)](#page-15-14) identified 26 UDGs in the Virgo cluster as the most extreme extended and diffuse objects outliers by $>2.5\sigma$ from multiple galaxy scaling relationships (see Fig. 1 of [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [2020\)](#page-15-14). In this work, we aim to study the effects of the cluster environment on the evolution of LSBs, and possibly understand the evolutionary path that gave birth to the UDG population. We are inspired by the fact that several models and simulations of galaxy evolution in a cluster environment suggest that gravitational or hydrodynamic interactions might strongly affect the baryonic matter distribution on relatively short timescales (∼1 Gyr) and thus significantly modifying the stellar surface brightness of the perturbed galaxies (e.g., [Mastropietro et al.](#page-15-46) [2005;](#page-15-46) [Boselli et al.](#page-15-47) [2008a\)](#page-15-47).

We thus decided to relax the [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [\(2020\)](#page-15-14) selection criteria to include a larger number of LSB objects, still avoiding any possible progenitor bias. We selected all objects located simultaneously at $>2\sigma$ from the same three scaling relations (con-sistent with the "primary" sample selection of [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [2020\)](#page-15-14). We also introduced a further criterion on the galaxy stellar mass

VESTIGE H α NB filter contains the H α line and the two nearby [N II] emission lines at λ 6548 and 6583 Å. Hereafter we refer to the $H\alpha$ + [N II] contribution simply as $H\alpha$, unless otherwise stated.

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Fig. 1. Scaling relations for the Virgo cluster galaxies (in the g band). In the three panels from left to right, the luminosity (L_g) is plotted with respect to the surface brightness at the effective radius (Σ_e) , th (R_e) , respectively. The black dots are all the galaxies in the NGVS catalog. The filled red and open blue circles show the selected samples of UDGs and diffuse galaxies, respectively. The dotted and dashed black curves show the mean scaling relations and their 2σ confidence limits, respectively, based on [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [\(2020\)](#page-15-14). The solid gray line marks the UDG selection cut of [van Dokkum et al.](#page-15-9) [\(2015\)](#page-15-9) with $\mu_{0,g} > 24$ mag arcsec⁻² and $R_{e,q} > 1.5$ kpc for comparison.

 M_{\star} < 10⁹ M_{\odot} (similar to the luminosity cut used by [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [2020\)](#page-15-14) to avoid any possible contamination by massive HSBs (mostly spirals).

Figure [1](#page-3-0) shows the scaling relations we used, where the q band luminosity of all the 3689 galaxies in the NGVS catalog [\(Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-33) [2020\)](#page-15-33) is plotted as a function of the following three quanties in the q band: (1) surface brightness measured at the effective radius (Σ_e); (2) mean surface brightness measured within the effective radius ($\langle \Sigma \rangle_e$); (3) effective radius (R_e).

The mean distribution of each scaling relation (dotted lines in Fig. [1\)](#page-3-0) is a fourth-order polynomial, as given in Côté et al. (in prep.), which was obtained by a maximum likelihood fitting of the observed scaling relations.

Our selected sample consists of 64 galaxies, including the 26 primary UDGs from [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [\(2020\)](#page-15-14) and 38 additional galaxies. From now on, we address these subsamples as the UDGs and the diffuse galaxies, respectively. For simplicity when we consider all of them together in this work, we refer to them as

LSBs. Table [D.1](#page-51-0) provides the basic parameters for the selected 4.4. Extraction of surface-brightness profiles sample.

4. Measurements

We present the preparation of the available data and the measurements performed on the sample defined in Sect. [3.](#page-2-0) We followed the same general steps as in [Junais et al.](#page-15-48) [\(2021\)](#page-15-48). For completeness, we provide a brief description of the main steps and a few specific details that are different.

4.1. Creation of stamps

We collected the photometric data from the GUViCS, NGVS, and VESTIGE surveys (FUV, NUV, u , q , r , i , z , and $H\alpha$ NB) to create separate cut-out stamps for all the sources in each band. This procedure was done using the Montage tool in Python [\(Jacob et al.](#page-15-49) [2010\)](#page-15-49), which co-adds the multiple exposures of the same source to a single stamp. For comparison purposes, all the stamps, including the UV images (with GALEX pixels of 1.5 "), were projected onto a pixel scale of the optical images (NGVS and VESTIGE) with pixels of 0.187". From here onward we call the optical stamps (excluding the GALEX ones) the "high resolution" (HR) stamps, keeping their original resolution. We also convolved them with Gaussian kernels to match the GALEX spatial resolution (see Table [1](#page-2-1) for the resolution of the data sets) to obtain a set of "low resolution" (LR) stamps all matching the GALEX resolution. Figure [2](#page-5-0) shows the *^u*, g, *ⁱ* color composite images of the HR stamps of all the galaxies in the sample.

4.2. Preparation of masks and further processing of the stamps

We used the masks provided by the NGVS team [\(Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-33) [2020\)](#page-15-33) to clean the stamps from foreground or background sources. NGVS masked artifacts, foreground stars, stellar halos, background galaxies, as well as globular clusters in the field. Whenever necessary, we modified the NGVS masks after inspection of the images to remove any residual artifacts and faint stars. For the UV images, we first created a separate mask after smoothing the NGVS masks to the GALEX point source resolution of 5". The UV masks were also manually edited to remove any background source not masked in the NGVS masks, and unmask areas that were not affected by artifacts in UV. The stamps were then cleaned using these two sets of masks (optical and UV) by the IRAF fixpix procedure that linearly interpolates over the masked regions.

4.3. Background sky measurements

We measured the local and global sky variation around each source following the procedure from [Gil de Paz & Madore](#page-15-50) [\(2005\)](#page-15-50). This was done by placing 24 equidistant and equalsized "skyboxes" vertically and horizontally around each source. The boxes were arbitrarily placed at a distance of $3 R_e$ from the source to be far away from any of its light (for a sanity check, we repeated the exercise by placing them at $4 R_e$ without significant changes in our results). We visually inspected all these boxes and moved or removed them if any problem or artifact could affect the measurements. Following Eq. (4) of [Gil de Paz & Madore](#page-15-50) [\(2005\)](#page-15-50), we combined the mean and standard deviation of each of the skyboxes to get an estimate of the global sky level and uncertainty at any point within the field of a galaxy.

The surface-brightness profile measurements were separately performed for the HR and LR stamps using the Ellipse task in the Photutils python package [\(Bradley et al.](#page-15-51) [2019\)](#page-15-51). This procedure measures the average flux along concentric elliptical isophotes on the stamp of each galaxy. We fixed the geometrical parameters of the galaxy (central coordinates, position angle, and axis ratio) as given in Table [D.1](#page-51-0) based on the NGVS catalog. The choice of concentric elliptical isophotes (rather than trying to fit the geometrical parameters in each band) was made to be consistent with previous studies [\(Muñoz-Mateos et al.](#page-15-52) [2011;](#page-15-52) [Boissier et al.](#page-15-53) [2016\)](#page-15-53), which allowed us to compare various band measurements made in the same physical area, which is important for color analysis and comparison to model predictions (Sect. [6.4\)](#page-11-0). We applied a foreground Galactic extinction correction to the measured profiles using the $E(B - V)$ values from [Schlegel et al.](#page-15-54) [\(1998\)](#page-15-54) given in Table [D.1,](#page-51-0) and adopting a [Cardelli et al.](#page-15-55) [\(1989\)](#page-15-55) extinction curve. We assumed that there is no internal extinction in these objects, as it is generally found in LSBs [\(Hinz et al.](#page-15-56) [2007;](#page-15-56) [Rahman et al.](#page-15-57) [2007\)](#page-15-57). The profiles were also corrected for the galaxy inclination using their corresponding axis ratios from Table [D.1.](#page-51-0) The measured LR profiles of all the sources are given in Appendix [A.](#page-16-0) We verified that our surface-brightness profiles in the q band are consistent with the profiles obtained with the NGVS parameters given in Table [D.1.](#page-51-0)

4.5. Surface-brightness profile decomposition

We performed a simple two-component decomposition of all the profiles into a de Vaucouleurs central component (Sérsic with index $n = 4$) and an exponential disk, using the Profit python routine developed by [Barbosa et al.](#page-14-4) [\(2015\)](#page-14-4). The fitting algorithm performs a weighted χ^2 minimization procedure, with a Gaussian point spread function (corresponding to the FWHM of Gaussian point spread function (corresponding to the FWHM of the data given in Table [1\)](#page-2-1) convolved with the model light profiles (both HR and LR). The initial guesses for the Sérsic and disk components in the fitting were provided based on the values from the NGVS catalog.

For the majority of the sources in the sample, this procedure provided a good decomposition (about 93% of the sample has a reduced χ^2 < [3](#page-7-1) in the g band). Figure 3 shows two examples of decomposition one for a galaxy with a bright central ples of decomposition, one for a galaxy with a bright central core, and another one for a galaxy more typical of our sample with a low central-to-total-light ratio. Our sample predominantly consists galaxies with a central-to-total-light ratio lower than 0.1 (for ∼92% of the sample), similar to what is generally observed for other LSBs and UDGs in the literature [\(Rong et al.](#page-15-58) [2017;](#page-15-58) [Pahwa & Saha](#page-15-59) [2018\)](#page-15-59). For simplicity, we call them "disks" (since fitted by a disk component) although intrinsic shapes of dwarf galaxies may not exactly be thin disks, but rather oblate spheroids as shown by [Sánchez-Janssen et al.](#page-15-60) [\(2016\)](#page-15-60), and seldom have perfectly exponential surface-brightness profiles [\(Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-33) [2020\)](#page-15-33). The rotation measured in a few UDGs from the literature also indicate that at least some of them may not be rotating disks even if rotation velocities up to 60 km s^{-1} can be found in some cases [\(Ruiz-Lara et al.](#page-15-61) [2018;](#page-15-61) [Toloba et al.](#page-15-26) [2018;](#page-15-26) [van Dokkum et al.](#page-15-62) [2019;](#page-15-62) [Mancera Piña et al.](#page-15-63) [2020\)](#page-15-63).

The mean disk component central surface brightness (μ_0) and scale length (r_s) of the sample in the q band are of order 26 mag arcsec⁻² and 1.9 kpc, respectively. The *g*-band decom-
position results of the HR profiles obtained here were used for position results of the HR profiles obtained here were used for identifying the radial range dominated by the disk component (in the cases where a few sources have a central component brighter

Fig. 2. NGVS u, g, i color composite images of the selected sample. The images are smoothed with a Gaussian kernel with $\sigma = 3$ pixels (0.56") to enhance the low-surface-brightness features. The yellow ellipse in each ima the NGVS catalog. The ID and the type of each galaxy are marked at the bottom of the images. The size of the stamps is $6R_e$ of each galaxy.

Fig. 2. continued.

than the disk, as shown in Fig. [3,](#page-7-1) it could be a core or, in some case, a background object). For all the remaining analyses in this paper, such as the magnitude measurements (Sect. [4.6\)](#page-6-0) and the model fitting (Sect. [6.4\)](#page-11-0), we only use the LR profiles to have a matching resolution from UV to optical.

4.6. Integrated magnitudes

In each photometric band, we integrated the surface-brightness profiles until the last measured radius in the q band above 3σ of the sky level, to have a uniform aperture for all bands (similar to the approach by [Roediger et al.](#page-15-64) [2017\)](#page-15-64). This allowed us to compare colors in the same aperture, and to include all the light detectable in each band (the g band being the deepest one). We call this magnitude the "integrated" magnitude. Our integrated magnitudes agree with those reported in the NGVS catalog, except for the few faintest sources $(g > 19 \text{ mag})$ where our integrated magnitudes are systematically fainter than the NGVS ones. This can be attributed to the difference in the measurement procedures (e.g., integrated light profiles within a fixed aperture in our case and extrapolated Sérsic fits in the case of NGVS).

Fig. 3. Example of the q-band surface-brightness profile decomposition of two sources from the sample, one with a pure exponential disk, more typical of our sample (*top panel*), and the other with a significant central component (*bottom panel*). The blue circles and the shaded areas are the observed data points and the 3σ upper limits, respectively. The dashed yellow, dashed blue, and solid red lines are, respectively, the Sérsic central component, the exponential disk, and the total best fit from the decomposition. The vertical dotted red line marks the effective radius of the galaxies.

Table [D.2](#page-52-0) gives our measured integrated magnitudes in the optical and UV bands^{[2](#page-7-2)}. Most of the sources are well detected in the optical bands (u, g, r, i, z) , whereas in H α and UV bands, there are primarily upper limits, which are still quite important in constraining the nature of the objects studied in this work.

5. Analysis of the properties of the sample

5.1. Spatial distribution

The distribution of galaxies within a cluster could indicate their nature and evolutionary stage (e.g., [Raichoor & Andreon](#page-15-65) [2012;](#page-15-65) [Beyoro-Amado et al.](#page-15-66) [2021\)](#page-15-66). Figure [4](#page-8-1) shows the distribution of our selected sample of galaxies within the cluster. The left panel of Fig. [4](#page-8-1) shows the on-sky distribution where we can see that both the UDGs and the diffuse galaxies are found at all cluster-centric distances. However, an inspection of the cumulative distribution of the sample with respect to the cluster-centric distance^{[3](#page-7-3)} (right panel of Fig. [4\)](#page-8-1) reveals that UDGs are more centrally located in the cluster than the diffuse galaxies, which favor instead the cluster outskirts. This could be a first clue that the UDGs have fallen into the cluster at an earlier epoch, whereas the diffuse galaxies have entered the cluster only recently. However, one should be cautious that some galaxies that appear close to the cluster center could be due to projection effects, although it is unlikely to be the case for all the galaxies in our sample.

5.2. Optical color distribution

The optical colors of galaxies can be used to infer the nature of their underlying stellar population. Galaxies are generally sep-

arated into a red and blue sequence based on their optical colors (e.g., [Strateva et al.](#page-15-67) [2001\)](#page-15-67) or UV color (e.g., [Boselli et al.](#page-15-41) [2014\)](#page-15-41). Such a bimodal distribution is also observed in LSBs [\(Greco et al.](#page-15-68) [2018;](#page-15-68) [Tanoglidis et al.](#page-15-16) [2021\)](#page-15-16). In a recent study, [Tanoglidis et al.](#page-15-16) [\(2021\)](#page-15-16) classified red and blue LSBs based on their $g - i$ color ($g - i > 0.6$ and $g - i < 0.6$ mag for red and blue LSBs, respectively) from the Dark Energy Survey, covering a large area of the sky and thus sampling a wide range of environments (dense and less dense regions). They observed that the red LSBs are mainly located within denser regions whereas the blue ones are distributed uniformly across all environments.

Figure [5](#page-8-2) shows the distribution of the observed g [−] *ⁱ* color of our sample of LSBs after redistributing them within their uncertainties using 1000 Monte Carlo chains. Such a redistribution was done to take into account the difference in the uncertainties of the measured color for each galaxy^{[4](#page-7-4)}. The UDGs and the diffuse galaxies have a median $q - i$ value of 0.74 and 0.64 mag, respectively. This indicates a predominantly red LSB population consistent with what is generally found for cluster UDGs [\(Koda et al.](#page-15-10) [2015;](#page-15-10) [van der Burg et al.](#page-15-18) [2016;](#page-15-18) [Román & Trujillo](#page-15-69) [2017a\)](#page-15-69). Moreover, the UDGs seems to be slightly redder than the diffuse galaxy population, although they agree within the color uncertainty. This again could indicate a difference (like for their spatial distribution discussed in Sect. [5.1\)](#page-7-5) between UDGs, being already red and central, while diffuse galaxies are bluer and less centrally concentrated in the cluster.

5.3. Color variation with the cluster-centric distance

Exploring the properties of cluster galaxies as a function of their distance from the cluster center is another useful tool in studying the role of the cluster environment in their evolution. Figure [6](#page-8-3) shows the variation of the $u - i$ color of the sample with respect to the projected cluster-centric distance. There is an indication of a color variation, with redder sources found more frequently toward the cluster center, whereas bluer sources more in the cluster outskirts (outside half the virial radius). This visual impression was further verified by a linear regression fitting of the entire sample using the linmix Python package [\(Kelly](#page-15-70) [2007\)](#page-15-70), as shown in Fig. [6.](#page-8-3)

The linear fit has a slope of -0.21 ± 0.18 and an intercept 1.73 ± 0.18 (see Table [4\)](#page-13-1). This indicates a negative color-distance correlation (although there is a large uncertainty in the slope). If we perform the same procedure on all the galaxies in the NGVS catalog within the same stellar mass range as our sample $(M_{\star}$ < 10⁹ M_{\odot}), we obtain an almost flat linear fit with a slope of -0.03 ± 0.01 , indicating that there is no color-distance correlation among regular dwarfs in the NGVS catalog, but the trend we observe is more specific to our sample. To be more confident of our results, we computed the Spearman coefficient of our sample to obtain a value of $\rho_{\text{sample}} = -0.41$, with a correlation probability of 97.7%, reflecting a similar trend as obtained from the linear fit.

Similar color variations were reported in the literature both from observations and simulations of group environments [\(Román & Trujillo](#page-15-71) [2017b;](#page-15-71) [Jiang et al.](#page-15-72) [2019\)](#page-15-72), where LSBs with bluer colors tend to reside at farther distance from the group center. This radial trend is discussed again in Sect. [6.4](#page-11-0) in the context of models including an RPS effect.

² The H α flux measurements for our sources will be published in Boselli et al. (in prep), as part of a unified catalog of the VESTIGE survey.

³ In this work, for simplicity, we assume that the Virgo cluster is centered on the galaxy M 87.

All the histograms shown in this work are redistributed within the uncertainties of the quantities in a similar way.

Fig. 4. Distribution of the sample within the Virgo cluster. *Left*: on-sky distribution of the selected sample of LSBs. The green contours mark the X-ray emission of the hot cluster gas obtained by ROSAT [\(Böhringer et al.](#page-15-73) [1994\)](#page-15-73). *Right*: cumulative distribution of the projected cluster-centric distance of the galaxies in units of the cluster virial radius ($R_{\text{vir}} = 1.55 \text{ Mpc}$; [Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012\)](#page-15-13). The dashed red, dotted blue, and solid black lines are the UDGs, diffuse galaxies, and all the NGVS galaxies, respectively.

Fig. 5. Observed g−*ⁱ* color distribution of the sample after redistributing the galaxies within their uncertainties. The solid red and blue lines show the UDGs and diffuse galaxies, respectively, along with their median values (given at the top-right corner), marked as the dotted vertical lines. Sources with only upper limits on the color are removed from this distribution. The vertical dashed black line marks the separation of red and blue LSBs from [Tanoglidis et al.](#page-15-16) [\(2021\)](#page-15-16).

5.4. H_I gas content

The Arecibo Legacy Fast ALFA (ALFALFA; [Giovanelli et al.](#page-15-74) [2005;](#page-15-74) [Haynes et al.](#page-15-30) [2018\)](#page-15-30) survey is a blind extragalactic H i survey covering a wide area of the sky up to ~7000 deg², including the Virgo cluster. At the Virgo distance, ALFALFA can detect galaxies with H_I masses as low as $M_{\text{HI}} \sim 10^{7} M_{\odot}$ [\(Giovanelli et al.](#page-15-74) [2005\)](#page-15-74). Therefore, to investigate the presence of H i gas in our LSBs, we cross-matched all the H i detections in the catalog of [Haynes et al.](#page-15-30) (2018) with an HI recessional velocity $c_{\mathcal{Z}_{\odot}} < 3000 \,\mathrm{km \,s^{-1}}$ (Virgo members) with our catalog

Spearman coefficient = -0.41; Correlation probability= 97.7% UDGs Diffuse galaxies \circ H α detected ☆ 2.5 Linear regression best fit 2.0 i u1.5 1.0 0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2 Projected cluster-centric distance (r/R_{vir})

Fig. 6. $u - i$ color of the sample as a function of the projected distance from the Virgo cluster center (distance from M 87) in units of the cluster virial radius ($R_{\text{vir}} = 1.55 \text{ Mpc}$; [Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012\)](#page-15-13). The UDGs and the diffuse galaxy subsamples are marked with the filled red and open blue circles, respectively. The black star symbols are the sources detected in H α (see Sect. [5.5\)](#page-9-0). The solid black line and the red-shaded region give the linear regression best fit and the 3σ scatter, respectively, obtained using the linmix Python package [\(Kelly](#page-15-70) [2007\)](#page-15-70). Sources with only an upper or lower limit in the color are excluded from the plot.

and found that only about 8% of our sample (5 galaxies) have an H I counterpart within the beam of Arecibo (∼3.5' diameter). This means that the majority of the galaxies in our sample have a H I mass $\langle 10^7 M_{\odot}$ $\langle 10^7 M_{\odot}$ $\langle 10^7 M_{\odot}$. Table [2](#page-9-2) and Fig. 7 shows the 5 galaxies with ALFALFA H I detection.

All of the H_I detected galaxies belong to the diffuse galaxy subsample (none of the UDGs in our sample have an H_I

Table 2. Subsample of LSBs at the distance of Virgo detected in H i by ALFALFA [\(Haynes et al.](#page-15-30) [2018\)](#page-15-30).

ID	AGC ID	cz_{\odot}	W_{50}	$\log M_{\rm HI}$	Offset
		$(km s^{-1})$	$(km s^{-1})$	(M_{\odot})	(arcmin)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
186	220258	2219	24 ± 3	8.8 ± 0.1	0.4
261	7307	1183	52 ± 3	8.6 ± 0.1	0.2
1405	7547	1100		71 ± 3 9.1 ± 0.1	0.1
1424	220.597	1860		48 ± 2 7.7 ± 0.1	$1.3^{(a)}$
1968	227874	473		30 ± 10 7.9 ± 0.2	$2.8^{(b)}$

Notes. (1) Name of the source; (2) Arecibo General Catalogue (AGC) ID; (3) Heliocentric velocity of the H i line profile midpoint; (4) Velocity width of the H_I line profile at 50% of the peak (W_{50}) ; (5) H_I mass; (6) Offset of the ALFALFA beam centroid with respect to the NGVS coordinate of the source. (*a*)The ALFALFA beam includes also the bright galaxy VCC 963 to which the H_I detection is probably associated. ^{(*b*})H_I detection is between our diffuse galaxy and the elliptical galaxy M 49 [\(Sancisi et al.](#page-15-75) [1987;](#page-15-75) [Patterson & Thuan](#page-15-76) [1992;](#page-15-76) [Henning et al.](#page-15-77) [1993;](#page-15-77) [Arrigoni Battaia et al.](#page-14-5) [2012\)](#page-14-5).

counterpart) and have H_I masses in the range $7.7 < \log M_{\text{HI}} <$ 9.1 M_{\odot} . For two galaxies among them (ID 1424 and 1968), we found the presence of a large nearby companion. The HI centroid close to the ID 1424 coincides with another Virgo galaxy VCC 963 (see Fig. [7\)](#page-10-0), and therefore the H_I is probably not associated with the diffuse galaxy. In the case of the ID 1968 (VCC 1249), the H i detection was found to be located midway between the diffuse galaxy and the large elliptical galaxy M 49 (see Sect. [7.2\)](#page-13-2).

5.5. Narrowband H α imaging

 $H\alpha$ NB imaging data are critical for the following analysis since constraining the recent star formation activity on timescales of .10 Myr [\(Kennicutt](#page-15-42) [1998;](#page-15-42) [Boselli et al.](#page-15-78) [2009;](#page-15-78) [Boissier et al.](#page-15-43) [2013\)](#page-15-43). These timescales are much shorter than those inferred by any other star formation indicator and are thus crucial to accurately reconstruct the star formation history of our target galaxies.

We cross-matched our sample with the $H\alpha$ VESTIGE catalog (Boselli et al., in prep.). Only four galaxies in our sample are confidently detected in H α (see Fig. [7\)](#page-10-0) and all of them are also detected in H_I. For a few other sources (ID 1352, 1529, 2343, and 3265) we see the presence of a tentative H α detection in their central region (see Fig. $A(1)$). However, they are likely an artifact due to the continuum subtraction^{[5](#page-9-3)} from the VESTIGE NB filter, since these galaxies have a strong central component in their optical images (see Fig. [2\)](#page-5-0). Therefore, we consider all the galaxies in our sample, except for four, as $H\alpha$ non-detections. The lack of any $H\alpha$ emission for most of the galaxies indicates that they have either not undergone any recent star formation or have a very low activity (SFR $< 2 \times 10^{-5} M_{\odot}$ yr⁻¹, the detection
limit of VESTIGE). This result is consistent with the dominant limit of VESTIGE). This result is consistent with the dominant red colors, suggesting they did not undergo any star formation event in the last few hundred megayears. For all of these galaxies, the H α non-detection still provides confident upper limits (3σ) useful for our analysis.

6. Modeling the evolution of LSBs in clusters

6.1. Models without environmental effects

We compared the photometric properties of the 64 galaxies of our sample to the multi-zone chemo-spectrophotometric models of galaxy evolution by Boissier $&$ Prantzos [\(2000\)](#page-15-79). In the next section we consider the same models, but modified to include the effects of an RPS event as previously done in [Boselli et al.](#page-15-80) [\(2006,](#page-15-80) [2008a,](#page-15-47)[b,](#page-15-81) [2014\)](#page-15-41) and [Junais et al.](#page-15-48) [\(2021\)](#page-15-48). The main assumptions of these models are briefly reminded here.

Each model consists of independently evolving rings, accreting primordial infalling gas. These models are based on the model of the Milky Way [\(Boissier & Prantzos](#page-15-82) [1999\)](#page-15-82), extended to nearby spiral galaxies [\(Boissier & Prantzos](#page-15-79) [2000;](#page-15-79) [Muñoz-Mateos et al.](#page-15-52) [2011\)](#page-15-52), by considering galaxies with various circular velocities (V_C) and spin parameters (λ) , and using scaling relationships such that the mass of the galaxies varies proportional to V_C^3 , while the spin parameter controls the distribution of this mass within the disk. [Boissier & Prantzos](#page-15-79) [\(2000\)](#page-15-79) found that the *B*-band central surface brightness is tightly connected to the spin parameter. Models with large spins (larger than typically 0.1) were found to be well tuned to study the star formation history of LSBs [\(Boissier et al.](#page-15-83) [2003a,](#page-15-83) [2016\)](#page-15-53), while usual HSBs have spins around the peak value of 0.05, expected in simple galaxy halo formation models [\(Mo et al.](#page-15-84) [1998\)](#page-15-84). The spin distribution in these models is log-normal with dispersion 0.05, leading to a significant fraction of large spin galaxies (estimated to 25% in [Boissier et al.](#page-15-85) [2003b\)](#page-15-85), although some phenomena like late gas accretion could also lead to large angular momentum [\(Stewart et al.](#page-15-86) [2017\)](#page-15-86).

The models follow only the evolution of the baryon content: the dark matter halo of the galaxy is assumed to scale with the baryons, and only affects the rotation curve adopted in the model. We used the same basic assumptions as in [Muñoz-Mateos et al.](#page-15-52) (2011) : a universal [Kroupa](#page-15-87) (2001) IMF and a universal star formation law, the star formation rate (SFR) being dependent on the gas density and the angular frequency. The rate of gas accretion as a function of surface density and circular velocity of the galaxy is variable, having been tuned to fit the properties of nearby galaxies.

In Fig. [8](#page-10-1) we compare the color-magnitude diagram for these models with the integrated colors of our sample. The full grid of models without any environmental interactions can reproduce the colors only for a few galaxies, while most of our sample is much redder than these models at the same magnitude. This already shows that these models not including any environmental effects are not realistic for most of our sample. In Sect. [6.2](#page-9-4) we introduce one of these effects.

6.2. Models including the effect of ram-pressure stripping

[Boselli et al.](#page-15-80) [\(2006\)](#page-15-80) modified the reference models discussed in Sect. [6.1](#page-9-5) to implement the effect of RPS due to the dense intracluster medium (ICM). With this addition, [Boselli et al.](#page-15-80) [\(2006,](#page-15-80) [2008a,](#page-15-47)[b\)](#page-15-81) successfully reproduced the properties of anemic and dwarf galaxies in the Virgo Cluster, while [Cortese et al.](#page-15-88) [\(2011\)](#page-15-88) and [Boselli et al.](#page-15-41) [\(2014\)](#page-15-41) those of larger samples including also massive objects in different environments. The RPS scenario was inspired by the dynamical models of [Vollmer et al.](#page-15-89) [\(2001\)](#page-15-89) following the ram-pressure exerted by the ICM during the crossing of the cluster in an elliptical orbit. Our models assume that the gas in the galaxy is removed at a rate of $\epsilon \Sigma_{\rm gas}/\Sigma_{\rm potential}$, which is proportional to the galaxy gas column density but is modulated by the gravitational potential well of the galaxy, measured

⁵ VESTIGE continuum subtraction procedure uses optical images, and therefore any defaults in alignments or not perfectly identical PSF in images with strong gradients in the center might induce artifacts in the H α image (see [Boselli et al.](#page-15-45) [2019](#page-15-45) for more details).

Fig. 7. Diffuse galaxies with detection in ALFALFA H ⁱ (*top row*) and VESTIGE Hα (*bottom row*). The color composite images are from the NGVS *u*, *q*, and *i* bands. The dashed yellow circles show the ALFALFA beam (3.5^o diameter). The Hα images (*bottom row*) were smoothed with a Gaussian kernel of $\sigma = 3$ pixels, and the image color contrast range is from an H α surface-brightness level of 10^{-18} to 10^{-14} erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² arcsec⁻².

by the total (baryonic) local density. To mimic the results of [Vollmer et al.](#page-15-89) [\(2001\)](#page-15-89), the efficiency of gas removal (ϵ) follows a Gaussian with an FWHM of 150 Myr, and a maximum value ϵ_0 , at the peak time, *t*rps (*t*rps is the time at which the RPS peaks, and this occurs at the pericenter of its orbit). Consistent with other works, we adopted the efficiency $\epsilon_0 = 1.2 M_{\odot} \text{ kpc}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ derived by [Boselli et al.](#page-15-80) [\(2006\)](#page-15-80) in the study of NGC 4569. Under these assumption, this RPS model has only three free parameters, *VC*, λ and t_{rps} .

The fact that ϵ_0 and the Gaussian FWHM are fixed is an over-simplification of the problem since these parameters should depend on the orbit of the galaxy within the cluster. However, it was chosen to explore a large grid of models for the other parameters, within reasonable computational time, and we do not have enough constraints for each galaxy to determine its precise trajectory in the cluster. Moreover, [Junais et al.](#page-15-48) [\(2021\)](#page-15-48) investigated the possible effect of a variation of ϵ_0 and of the FWHM and found that it changed very little the results on the other parameters ($t_{\rm rps}$, V_C and λ were modified by less than 0.1 Gyr, 2 km s⁻¹ and 0.01, respectively for a typical UDG galaxy fitting).

In Fig. [8,](#page-10-1) the effect of introducing an RPS event of various age on the color-magnitude diagram is shown for the $u - i$ color. We obtain much redder colors for the same magnitude than in the non-RPS case, sweeping over the observed colors of our sample when modifying the age of the event. From this crude comparison using just a single color, we can have a clue that our galaxies need a relatively old ram-pressure event to be fitted with our models, which will be tested in detail in Sect. [6.4.](#page-11-0)

6.3. Grid of parameters used in this work

In [Junais et al.](#page-15-48) [\(2021\)](#page-15-48), we used two grids of models, a coarse grid and a fine grid. The coarse grid covers a very large range of spin and velocity to include both LSB, extreme LSBs such as Malin 1 [\(Boissier et al.](#page-15-53) [2016;](#page-15-53) [Junais et al.](#page-15-90) [2020\)](#page-15-90), and regular galaxies from dwarf to massive spirals, but with a 20 km s⁻¹ resolution in velocity. Since we found that most galaxies in the current work fall within a smaller range of spin and velocities, we then constructed a "fine" grid with velocity steps of 2 km s^{-1} . In

Fig. 8. $u - i$ color versus the *i*-band absolute magnitude of the sample in comparison with the grid of colors from the models discussed in Sects. [6.1](#page-9-5) and [6.2.](#page-9-4) The UDGs and the diffuse galaxy subsamples are marked with the filled red and open blue circles, respectively. The black star symbols are the sources detected in $H\alpha$. Sources with only an upper or lower limit in the color are excluded from the plot. The blue grid corresponds to galaxies without any environmental interaction (non-RPS models; see Sect. [6.1\)](#page-9-5). The green, red, and black grids correspond to models with an RPS event at different epochs (ongoing, 1 Gyr ago, and 2 Gyr ago, respectively). The black labels marked along the blue are the different λ (0.01 to 0.80) and V_C (20 km s⁻¹ to 600 km s⁻¹) values of the models as given in Table 3. The dotted and solid lines in the grids give models, as given in Table [3.](#page-11-1) The dotted and solid lines in the grids give the variation for a fixed λ and V_C , respectively.

these two grids, the *t*rps values were chosen such that the models include the peaks of RPS events peaking at various epochs from very distant past ($t_{\text{rps}} = 8$ Gyr) to the future onset ($t_{\text{rps}} = 13.6$ Gyr, with the current time being assumed to be 13.5 Gyr), in steps of 0.1 Gyr. For the current work, we also computed a "hyperfine" grid for the most recent or ongoing RPS events, with steps of 0.01 Gyr for the peak epoch. This is mostly needed for the

Grid type	V_C (km s ⁻¹)				$t_{\rm rps}$ (Gyr)	
	Range	ΔV_C	Range	$\Delta \lambda$	Range	$\Delta t_{\rm rps}$
Coarse	$20 - 600$	20	$0.01 - 0.80$	0.1	$8.0 - 13.5$	0.5
Fine	$20 - 220$	2	$0.01 - 0.40$	0.01	$8.0 - 13.6$	0.1
Hyper-fine	$20 - 220$		$0.01 - 0.40$	0.01	$13.40 - 13.60$	0.01

Table 3. Grids of V_C , λ , and t_{rms} values used for the modeling in this work.

Notes. For the three different types of grids, the range and corresponding spacing of each parameter are provided as separate columns. Apart from the models with RPS, all the grids also include models without RPS.

four galaxies with H α detection (see Fig. [7\)](#page-10-0) since the typical timescale for the emission of ionizing radiation is about 10 Myr. The range and steps of each parameter in the three grids are given in Table [3.](#page-11-1) A total of 310 550 different models were created from these grids, including models with and without RPS.

6.4. Fitting of models

As in [Junais et al.](#page-15-48) [\(2021\)](#page-15-48), we made a χ^2 fitting of the observed surface-brightness profiles with the surface-brightness profiles surface-brightness profiles with the surface-brightness profiles in the eight photometric bands from the models. Since the models were developed for disk profiles, we performed the fitting procedure only within the radial range where the disk is dominant and until the last observed radius ($>3\sigma$). This also excludes the $H\alpha$ central detections in a few sources that are artifacts, as discussed in Sect. [5.5.](#page-9-0) For the H α surface-brightness profiles, we also applied an additional correction for the [NII] line flux contamination using the standard [NII]/H α -stellar mass relation from [Boselli et al.](#page-15-78) [\(2009\)](#page-15-78). We did not apply any dust attenuation correction in any of the eight bands because these LSB dwarf galaxies are known to be mainly dust free [\(Rahman et al.](#page-15-57) [2007;](#page-15-57) [Hinz et al.](#page-15-56) [2007\)](#page-15-56).

We adopted a minimum error of 0.05 mag in the surfacebrightness profiles to take into account systematic uncertainties associated with the models (e.g., IMF, stellar tracks, stellar libraries). Any model violating the 3σ upper limits of the photometry was rejected (this is particularly useful in the case of the H α data, which are mostly upper limits), but also allowing a tolerance of 0.1 mag above this level to avoid rejecting a good model that only marginally violates one upper limit. Modifying this tolerance within a range of a few tenths of dex changes the best-fit parameters within their error bars. The 3σ uncertainty associated with the best-fit model parameters are computed from this distribution following [Avni](#page-14-6) [\(1976\)](#page-14-6).

All the profiles and their fit are provided in Fig. [A.1.](#page-16-1) As can be seen in this figure, most of the profiles are well fitted. The majority of the sample (∼75%) have a reduced χ^2 < 3 with a median χ^2 of 1.04 indicating a good fit (see Table D.3). Howmedian χ^2 , of 1.04, indicating a good fit (see Table [D.3\)](#page-54-0). How-
ever for a few sources with profiles close to the sky level with ever, for a few sources with profiles close to the sky level with very few data points, the fit is poor. We verified that all the results presented in this work remain unchanged even if we exclude the poor fits.

We also made a comparison of our best-fit RPS models with that of the best-fit models without any RPS. The $\chi^2_{\rm y}$ values of the non-RPS best fits are always larger than the best fits from the non-RPS best fits are always larger than the best fits from the RPS models, except for one galaxy. For 92% of the sample, the fits models by a factor of at least 3. However, in a few cases, such ² values of the non-RPS best fits are larger than the RPS best $\frac{1}{2}$ reduces the nodels by a factor of at least 3. However in a few cases, such as ID 186 and ID 261, the H α and the FUV appear more consistent with a non-RPS model, whereas the NUV and the *u* band are consistent with an RPS model (see Fig. [A.1\)](#page-16-1). Such an inconsistency where the models do not fit very well simultaneously the H α , FUV, NUV, and the u band may indicate that the short timescale (<10 Myr) star formation history may be more complex in these two cases, which is hard to model. Since we perform a simultaneous multiwavelength fitting based on the least total χ^2 , in the case of these two galaxies, a model with RPS
is favored. Therefore, in general, we can say that the non-RPS is favored. Therefore, in general, we can say that the non-RPS models fail to reproduce all the observed properties of the galaxies in our sample, similar to what we saw from Fig. [8.](#page-10-1) Table [D.3](#page-54-0) gives the results of our model fitting.

6.5. Distribution of V_C , λ , and t_{rps}

Figure [9](#page-12-0) shows the distribution of the model parameters V_C , λ and *t*rps that we obtained. The uncertainties associated with these parameters (shown in Table [D.3\)](#page-54-0) were also taken into account for this distribution. This was done using a Monte Carlo simulation of 1000 chains where we created pseudo sources corresponding to each source, with random parameter values generated based on its value and uncertainty.

The *V^C* distribution from Fig. [9](#page-12-0) peaks along the range of low mass galaxies^{[6](#page-11-2)} (see Fig. [11\)](#page-14-7) with a median velocity value of $V_C = 78 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ and $V_C = 54 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, for the UDGs and the diffuse galaxies, respectively. However, the UDGs present double peaked distributions, a few galaxies being relatively fast rotators (around 100 km s[−]¹ , the order of magnitude of the Large Magellanic Cloud, [Olsen et al.](#page-15-91) [2011;](#page-15-91) [van der Marel & Sahlmann](#page-15-92) [2016\)](#page-15-92) while the rest of the UDGs have similar velocities as the diffuse galaxies.

Regarding the spin distribution, we can see that the majority of the sources have large extended spins with a median λ of 0.18 and 0.16 for the UDGs and diffuse galaxies, respectively. This is consistent with the typical spins observed in LSBs [\(Boissier et al.](#page-15-83) [2003a;](#page-15-83) [Amorisco & Loeb](#page-14-2) [2016\)](#page-14-2), compared to a typical spin of 0.05 for a regular HSB. The very large spin tail $(\lambda > 0.4)$ seen in this distribution results from the sources with poor fits and large uncertainties and should thus be considered with caution. The UDGs have a slightly higher spin than diffuse galaxies, which could contribute to their more extreme nature.

Almost all of the sources in the sample have undergone an RPS event in their lifetime (except for one source – ID 3365 from Table [D.3,](#page-54-0) having the least reduced χ^2 for a model with-
out RPS, and only 2 free parameters, velocity and spin). The t out RPS, and only 2 free parameters, velocity and spin). The *t*rps distribution of the sample peaks at a median value of 11.6 Gyr^7 11.6 Gyr^7 for the UDGs and 12.2 Gyr for the diffuse galaxies, with a large

Based on our models, an unperturbed galaxy with a V_C value of 60 km s[−]¹ approximately corresponds to a total baryonic mass of about 10^9 M_{\odot} and a stellar mass of 10^8 M_{\odot} .

A *t*_{rps} of 11.6 Gyr corresponds to 1.9 Gyr in the past (since our models assume the current age of the galaxy as 13.5 Gyr).

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Fig. 9. Distribution of the V_C , λ , and t_{rms} parameters from the best-fit models. The red and blue lines correspond to the UDG and diffuse galaxy subsamples, respectively. The median values corresponding to each parameter are shown within each panel.

Fig. 10. Comparision of the *^t*rps values with the observed color and the cluster-centric distance. *Left*: observed ^g [−] *ⁱ* color as a function of the best-fit *^t*rps value from the models. The dashed red and dotted blue curves show the model integrated ^g [−] *ⁱ* color for the median values of the UDGs and diffuse galaxies, respectively, as discussed in Sect. [6.5.](#page-11-4) The solid and dot-dashed black curves indicate the models for a representative dwarf and Milky Way-like galaxy, respectively [\(Boselli et al.](#page-15-41) [2014\)](#page-15-41). The solid green line is the quenching time model for a red UDG from [Chan et al.](#page-15-19) [\(2018\)](#page-15-19) based on the FIRE simulation (see their Fig. 4, model *m11b*). Sources with only upper limits in the color or with *^t*rps uncertainty >0.5 Gyr are excluded from this plot. This plot also does not include one galaxy (ID 2365), which has $t_{\text{rps}} \approx 8 \text{ Gyr}$, a large error bar in the color, and a very crowded field upon visual inspection. *Right*: *t*rps values with respect to the projected distance from the cluster center, in units of the cluster virial radius ($R_{\text{vir}} = 1.55$ Mpc; [Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-13) [2012\)](#page-15-13). The blue-shaded area marks the region of ongoing RPS (t_{rps} between 13.3 and 13.7 Gyr). The solid black line and the red-shaded region give the linear regression best fit and the 3σ scatter, respectively, as given in Table [4.](#page-13-1) Sources with $t_{\rm ms}$ uncertainty >2.5 Gyr are excluded from this plot.

dispersion of several Gyr. This means that on average the galaxies in our sample have experienced a peak RPS ∼1.6 Gyr ago, with some of them having ongoing RPS too. However, we should note that the uncertainty on t_{rms} depends a lot on the RPS event age. It is very small (on the order of 0.1 Gyr) for very recent events. For events peaking at 12 and 11 Gyr, the uncertainty can reach up to 1 and 2 Gyr, respectively.

6.6. t_{rps} gradient

The aging of the stellar population after a quenching episode results in the reddening of the colors, as indeed observed in Fig. [10](#page-12-1) (left panel). In this figure, we also included the models corresponding to the median V_C and λ values of our subsamples, showing such a trend. Comparing them with a representative

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Relation (1)	Linear fit		Spearman correlation	
	Slope	Intercept	(4)	Probability S
$u - i$ vs. D_{M87}	-0.21 ± 0.18 mag Mpc ⁻¹	$1.7 \pm 0.18 \,\text{mag}$	-0.41	97.7%
$t_{\rm rps}$ vs. $D_{\rm M\,87}$	0.87 ± 0.37 Gyr Mpc ⁻¹	11.8 ± 0.4 Gyr	0.32	94.7%

Table 4. Correlation properties of the $u - i$ color and the t_{rms} with the cluster-centric distance (in units of Mpc).

Notes. (1) Correlating quantities; (2) Slope of the linear regression fit using linmix; (3) Intercept of the linear regression fit; (4) Spearman correlation coefficient for the sample; (5) Probability that the two variables are correlated.

dwarf galaxy (small λ and V_C) and a Milky Way-like galaxy (small λ and large V_C) from [Boselli et al.](#page-15-41) [\(2014\)](#page-15-41), it is clear that the observed colors of our LSBs can be traced only with a model with an extended spin and low velocity. This trend is actually similar to the one found by [Chan et al.](#page-15-19) [\(2018\)](#page-15-19) using the Feedback In Realistic Environments (FIRE) simulations for their galaxies with the largest spin ($\lambda \approx 0.08$), with values comparable to those observed in our red UDGs. However, in our models we obtain a stronger variation of the g [−] *ⁱ* color for the younger RPS events. Although our median models go through the observed points, a single color cannot be used to pinpoint precisely the RPS time in individual galaxies, consistently with [Chan et al.](#page-15-19) [\(2018\)](#page-15-19). We also found that the NUV-*r* color correlates better with t_{rms} , but it is available only for a minority of galaxies, as NUV is not detected for many of them.

In Fig. [10](#page-12-1) (right panel), as expected, the t_{rps} increases with decreasing cluster-centric distance, suggesting that LSBs located within the innermost regions have experienced an RPS event well before those now entering the cluster and located at its periphery. A linear fit and its corresponding correlation coefficients are given in Table [4.](#page-13-1)

7. Discussion

7.1. An evolutionary scenario for the formation of quiescent LSBs in clusters

We have shown that models not including any effect of the environment poorly reproduce the properties of UDGs and diffuse galaxies. Under the assumption that an RPS event took place in the rich environment of Virgo, our multi-zone models are in good agreement with the observed profiles in H α , UV, and optical. This naturally explains the trends observed in this paper if the LSB population inhabiting Virgo is dominated by objects that fell into the cluster as LSB gas-rich systems that lost their gas content after an RPS event (see Fig. [11\)](#page-14-7). Due to their shallow gravitational potential well, the stripping process has been rapid, transforming rotating gas rich systems into quiescent, smooth objects on very short timescales. This picture is consistent with the evolution of other dwarf systems in Virgo (e.g., [Boselli et al.](#page-15-47) [2008a](#page-15-47)[,b\)](#page-15-81), but also with that of more massive objects where the stripping process is however longer (e.g., [Boselli et al.](#page-15-80) [2006,](#page-15-80) [2014,](#page-15-41) [2016;](#page-15-93) [Fossati et al.](#page-15-44) [2018\)](#page-15-44). As indicated in Fig. [11,](#page-14-7) the RPS removed around three orders of magnitude of the gas (from gas mass of nearly $10^9 M_{\odot}$ to $10^6 M_{\odot}$). This lack of gas drastically reduced the activity of star formation (the SFR decreased by around four orders of magnitude from $10^{-1} M_{\odot}$ yr⁻¹ to $10^{-5} M_{\odot}$ yr⁻¹), explaining the red colors of the UDGs (and diffuse galaxies) observed in Virgo. As extensively discussed in [Boselli et al.](#page-15-94) [\(2022\)](#page-15-94), the RPS process starts to be efficient at ∼ one virial radius, in particular in dwarf systems such as those analyzed in this work. The time necessary for galaxies to become red (≤ 1 Gyr), is short compared to the typical crossing time of the cluster (∼1.7 Gyr, [Boselli & Gavazzi](#page-15-95) [2006\)](#page-15-95), thus explaining the predominance of red objects within the cluster (see [Boselli et al.](#page-15-41) [2014\)](#page-15-41) and the outskirts preference for blue or HI bearing ones.

Although this agreement between RPS models and observations is striking, it is known that some UDGs are almost certainly formed through other processes, such as tidal forces and mergers, including a few objects in our sample (see, e.g., Sect. 4.3 of [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [2020\)](#page-15-14).

7.2. Evidence from the analysis of individual objects

This evolutionary picture is also consistent with the morphological properties of several representative objects. A clear example is the galaxy ID 1968 (VCC 1249; the most massive galaxy in our sample with $\log M_{\star} = 8.6$) located in projection in the outer halo of the massive elliptical M 49, the dominant galaxy of the Virgo cluster B substructure. Multifrequency observations consistently indicate that this LSB object has interacted with the massive elliptical [\(Sancisi et al.](#page-15-75) [1987;](#page-15-75) [Patterson & Thuan](#page-15-76) [1992;](#page-15-76) [Henning et al.](#page-15-77) [1993;](#page-15-77) [Arrigoni Battaia et al.](#page-14-5) [2012\)](#page-14-5). Although the interaction was probably dominated by a tidal perturbation, the dwarf galaxy lost its gas while crossing the hot X-ray emitting gas trapped within the halo of M 49, suffering thus also an RPS event. [Arrigoni Battaia et al.](#page-14-5) [\(2012\)](#page-14-5) estimated that the dwarf galaxy VCC 1249 abruptly reduced its star formation activity ∼200 Myr ago. This is consistent with our models, which suggest that VCC 1249 started to reduce its activity ∼240 Myr ago with a peak of quenching about 50 Myr ago (see Table $D.3$), with stripping still ongoing. The H i observations also, indeed, show that the H_I gas is located in between the two objects, and forming stars as indicated by the presence of several compact H II regions [\(Arrigoni Battaia et al.](#page-14-5) [2012\)](#page-14-5).

Other interesting objects are the galaxies ID 186, 261 and 1405 (see Fig. [7\)](#page-10-0). For ID 186, the color image of this galaxy combined with the distribution of HII regions revealed by the deep VESTIGE NB H α image, clearly indicates a perturbed morphology, with a banana-shaped structure in the eastern direction and a low-surface-brightness tail of very blue knots in the opposite direction. The relative position of this high density structure and of the low-surface-brightness tail, typical of galaxies suffering an RPS event [\(Boselli et al.](#page-15-96) [2021,](#page-15-96) [2022\)](#page-15-94), suggests that the galaxy is suffering RPS while moving toward the cluster center, located at 1.32 Mpc to the east (projected distance). The presence of atomic gas and of ionized gas in star forming regions indicate that the galaxy is at an early phase of its transformation already occurring at the periphery of the cluster. A similar perturbed morphology is also visible in the case of ID 261 and 1405, which are at a projected distance of 1.19 Mpc and 0.37 Mpc

Fig. 11. Distribution of the gas mass, stellar mass, and SFR of the sample obtained from the models, as given in Table [D.3.](#page-54-0) The dashed and solid lines show the values before and after the RPS event, respectively.

from the cluster center, respectively. These galaxies with a clear H_I and H α detection without any obvious nearby companions could also be similar to the H_I bearing diffuse galaxies that have been observed in several recent works [\(Leisman et al.](#page-15-11) [2017;](#page-15-11) [Prole et al.](#page-15-15) [2019;](#page-15-15) [Janowiecki et al.](#page-15-97) [2019\)](#page-15-97).

8. Conclusions

We extracted a sample of 64 LSBs from the NGVS catalog of the Virgo cluster [\(Ferrarese et al.](#page-15-33) [2020\)](#page-15-33). This sample of LSBs was selected following the procedure adopted in [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [\(2020\)](#page-15-14), that is, selecting galaxies away from the cluster scaling relationships. The sample includes 26 UDGs already identified in [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [\(2020\)](#page-15-14) and 38 additional diffuse galaxies. We compared profiles obtained from the NGVS survey (in the optical), GUViCS (in the UV), and VESTIGE (in the r band and $H\alpha$ NB) to multiwavelength galaxy evolution models.

Our main results are summarized as follows.

- The spatial distribution of the sample within the cluster shows that UDGs are more concentrated in the cluster center compared to the diffuse galaxies, which are located more in the outskirts.
- The optical colors of the sample indicates a predominantly red population, consistent with what is generally found in clusters. However, there is an indication of a color variation with the cluster-centric distance, where LSBs toward the edge of the cluster are bluer than the rest of the population.
- About 8% of our sample (five galaxies) have H i counterparts in the ALFALFA survey (four of them with $H\alpha$ detection as well). Almost all of these sources are located toward the edge of the cluster.
- The comparison with models successfully reproduces multiband color profiles and suggests that the LSBs in our sample are predominantly dwarf galaxies (low velocities) that are extended (large spins) and experienced an RPS event on average 1.6 Gyr ago. A few sources are undergoing RPS events now as well.

– The RPS time also shows a variation with the cluster-centric distance, where galaxies closer to the center have older RPS events, while those in the cluster outskirts underwent RPS during much more recent epochs.

Previous studies have concluded that no single mechanism is responsible for the entire UDG class, with multiple processes likely having played a role. This work demonstrates the potential role played by ram pressure in producing red quiescent UDGs and other diffuse galaxies from progenitors that were gas-rich and blue (but already diffuse). Our observations and empirical models can be tested in the future by considering data from future surveys that may reveal new LSBs in large optical surveys (e.g., LSST), but also with gas surveys (e.g., with the Square Kilometer Arrays), which could put limits on the gas mass in LSBs within clusters and outside.

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Appendix A: All the profiles and the model fits for the UDG and the diffuse galaxy samples

This section includes a set of figures (Fig. [A.1\)](#page-16-1) of all the observed profiles and their best-fit models derived as described in Sect. [6.4.](#page-11-0)

Fig. A.1. Radial surface-brightness profiles of all sources (blue filled dots) with their best-fit models (dotted black lines). The surface-brightness units are in mag arcsec⁻² for all the bands except for H α (erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² arcsec⁻²). The light-blue-shaded area marks the 1 σ error (for data points) and upper limits (3 σ). The dotted black line indicates th and upper limits (3σ). The dotted black line indicates the best-fit model derived as described in Sect. [6.4,](#page-11-0) with its 3σ confidence level (red-shaded area). The dot-dashed green line shows the same model for an unperturbed system (without RPS). The vertical dotted red line gives the *g*-band effective radius of the galaxy. The vertical gray-shaded regions shown for some galaxies are the regions excluded from the model fitting, where the disk is not dominant based on the decomposition discussed in Sect. [4.5.](#page-4-1) The profiles shown here are corrected for foreground Galactic extinction and inclination.

Fig. A.1. continued.

Fig. A.1. continued.

Appendix B: A subsample of Virgo cluster galaxies with high spin

Cosmological simulations indicate that galaxies are formed in halos having a wide range of spin parameters [\(Mo et al.](#page-15-84) [1998\)](#page-15-84), usually represented by a log-normal distribution peaking at 0.05 with a dispersion of 0.05. The peak around 0.05 correspond well to usual HSBs, while LSBs naturally correspond to the queue of large values ($\lambda \geq 0.1$). The methodology described in this work allows us to derive in a consistent way a spin parameter for each galaxy by fitting its surface-brightness profile in different bands. This technique could be in principle applied to all the Virgo cluster members cataloged in the NGVS to select a complete sample of galaxies with a high spin parameter. The large number of objects (3689), however, makes this approach prohibitive given the heavy data reduction procedure and the computational time necessary for the fits. Past works clearly link galaxies selected to be LSB to large spin parameters [\(Boissier et al.](#page-15-83) [2003a,](#page-15-83) [2016\)](#page-15-53). For dwarf galaxies, however, the surface brightness itself does not necessarily indicates high spin parameters. To distinguish especially extended galaxies from regular dwarfs, different selection criteria have been proposed in the literature (such as the [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [2020](#page-15-14) criteria adopted in the main body of the paper). [van Dokkum et al.](#page-15-9) [\(2015\)](#page-15-9) first proposed a criterion on size and surface brightness, optimized to distinguish LSBs from regular dwarf galaxies in the Dragonfly Telescope images, characterized by a limited angular resolution. Such a selection has also been used in several other studies, and

especially by [Koda et al.](#page-15-10) [\(2015\)](#page-15-10). [Boissier et al.](#page-15-98) [\(2019\)](#page-15-98) showed that the same models as the one presented here provided a good fit to size, surface brightness, and integrated colors of the sample of [Koda et al.](#page-15-10) [\(2015\)](#page-15-10), if large spins were indeed adopted.

To check the robustness of our results, we thus applied this selection method to identify other objects with potential large spin parameters and we tried to see whether the trends observed in the UDG and diffuse galaxy samples are also shared by other objects characterized by a large λ . For this purpose, galaxies are selected from the NGVS catalog with a *g*-band central surface brightness $\mu_0 > 24$ mag arcsec⁻² and effective radius $R_{\text{max}} > 1.5$ kpc. leading to 114 objects⁸, out of which 45 are in $R_{e,g} > 1.5$ kpc, leading to 114 objects^{[8](#page-48-1)}, out of which 45 are in common with the UDG and diffuse valaxy selection. We stress common with the UDG and diffuse galaxy selection. We stress, however, that contrary to the UDG and diffuse galaxies selections adopted in Sect. [3,](#page-2-0) which are based on scaling relations drawn by a complete sample, this selection is not complete.

We applied the same analysis on this sample of 114 galaxies. As expected, this analysis confirms that the sample is composed of objects with large spin parameters (median $\lambda = 0.13$) and shares the same trends observed for the UDGs and diffuse galaxy sample, with median parameters $V_C = 56 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ and $t_{rms} = 11.9$ Gyr (see Fig. [B.1\)](#page-48-2). This sample also shows a similar color and *trps* variation with cluster-centric distance as the one described in Sect. [5.3](#page-7-6) and Sect. [6.6](#page-12-2) with redder galaxies and longer t_{rms} in the center. The best-fit values (linear regression) and the Spearman correlation coefficients are given in Table [B.1.](#page-49-0) Eight galaxies are detected in HI by ALFALFA (one in common with the UDG and diffuse galaxy sample).

Fig. B.1. Distribution of the V_C , λ , and t_{rps} parameters for the sample selected using a surface-brightness and size cut similar to that of [Koda et al.](#page-15-10) [\(2015\)](#page-15-10). The median values corresponding to each parameter are shown within each panel.

We removed from this analysis the galaxy NGVSJ12:46:41.73+10:23:10.4, aka NGVS 3543 as studied in [Junais et al.](#page-15-48) [\(2021\)](#page-15-48), since it was recently identified as a foreground object by [Jones et al.](#page-15-99) [\(2022\)](#page-15-99) (see Appendix [C\)](#page-49-1).

	Linear fit	Spearman correlation		
Relation	Slope	Intercept		Probability
			(4)	
$u - i$ vs D_{M87}	-0.19 ± 0.07 mag Mpc ⁻¹	1.82 ± 0.07 mag	-0.28	98.2%
t_{rps} vs D_{M87}	0.52 ± 0.23 Gyr Mpc ⁻¹	11.82 ± 0.23 Gyr	0.29	99.0%

Table B.1. Correlation properties of the *u* − *i* color and the *t*_{*rps*} with the cluster-centric distance for the sample of high-spin galaxies.

Notes. (1) Correlating quantities; (2) Slope of the linear regression fit using linmix; (3) Intercept of the linear regression fit; (4) Spearman correlation coefficient for the sample; (5) Probability that the two variables are correlated.

Appendix C: The system of NGVS 3543, AGC 226178, and VCC 2034

The system of NGVS 3543 and AGC 226178 was studied in [Junais et al.](#page-15-48) [\(2021\)](#page-15-48), who interpreted the peculiar distribution of the H_I gas detected by ALFALFA and the star forming regions outside the stellar disk of NGVS 3543 as formed after an RPS event. This scenario was later questioned by [Jones et al.](#page-15-99) [\(2022\)](#page-15-99) who showed, using recent *Hubble* Space Telescope data, that the galaxy NGVS 3543 is located at only 10 Mpc and is thus not a member of the Virgo cluster. After a reanalysis of the ALFALFA and VLA data, these authors suggested that the star forming regions and the H i gas of AGC 226178 are rather associated with a gas stripping event from the dwarf irregular galaxy VCC 2034, which is about 70 kpc away (see Fig. $C.1$). Similarly, the MUSE data indicate that AGC 226178 is characterized by a very young stellar population (\simeq 10−100 Myr) and hosts gas with a relatively high metallicity $(0.53 \pm 0.12 Z_{\odot})$, indicating a pre-enrichment from a galaxy with a stellar mass of ~10⁸ M_{\odot} .

We applied the RPS model to the dwarf galaxy VCC 2034 to see whether the scenario proposed by [Jones et al.](#page-15-99) [\(2022\)](#page-15-99) for the origin of AGC 226178 is realistic. For this purpose we derived the surface-brightness profiles in the NGVS, GUViCS, and VESTIGE bands and fitted them as described in Sect. [6.4.](#page-11-0) Table [C.1](#page-49-2) gives the resulting parameters of the modeling. The best-fit model (see Fig. $C.1$) suggests that VCC 2034 is a low mass galaxy (but not an LSB because of its low spin) experiencing an ongoing RPS event that started ∼150 Myr ago. During this process, the galaxy lost about $3 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$ of gas, which could have seeded the formation of AGC 226178, which has a gas mass of ~ 5 × 10⁷ *M*_☉ (16% of the gas lost by VCC 2034). Moreover, the metallicity of VCC 2034 before the RPS $(0.71 \pm 0.14 Z_{\odot})$ is also close to the one obtained for AGC 226178 by [Jones et al.](#page-15-99) [\(2022\)](#page-15-99). To conclude results from our modeling are consistent with the scenario proposed by [Jones et al.](#page-15-99) [\(2022\)](#page-15-99) for the system of VCC 2034 and AGC 226178.

Table C.1. Properties of the best RPS models, and the model with the same spin and velocity but without the RPS for the galaxy VCC 2034.

Notes. (1) Name of the galaxy; (2-4) Model parameters *^trps*, λ and *^VC*; (5-8) Stellar-mass, gas mass, SFR, and gas-phase metallicity predicted by the models. The uncertainties given in the best-fit models are from the confidence limits in *^trps*, ^λ and *^V^C* parameters. For the non-RPS models, the uncertainties are from the error in λ and V_C alone.

Fig. C.1. Optical image and surface brightness profiles of VCC 2034. *Left:* NGVS *u*, *g*, *i* color composite image of the system of VCC 2034 and AGC 226178 (marked inside the white boxes). The galaxy NGVS 3543, which is in projection to the Virgo cluster, is shown in the green box. The H_I radial velocity measurements for a few sources from [Jones et al.](#page-15-99) [\(2022\)](#page-15-99) are also marked, along with their names. *Right:* Radial surface-brightness profiles of VCC 2034 with the best-fit models. The surface-brightness units are in mag arcsec⁻² for all the bands except for Hα (erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² arcsec⁻²). The blue-shaded area marks the 1σ error (for data points) and upper limits (3σ). The dotted black line indicates the hest-fit model described in Sect 6.4 for a ram-pressure-stripped gala best-fit model described in Sect. [6.4](#page-11-0) for a ram-pressure-stripped galaxy, with the red-shaded area the 3σ confidence level of the best-fit model. The dot-dashed green line shows the same model for an unperturbed system (without RPS). The vertical dotted red line gives the *g*-band effective radius of the galaxy.

Appendix D: Additional tables

Table D.1. Properties of the selected sample of galaxies.

Notes. (1) Source ID based on the position in the NGVS catalog. (2) Name of the source in NGVS. (3) VCC name. (4-5) Coordinates of the source in J2000. (6) Projected distance of the galaxy from M87. (7) *g*-band magnitude. (8) Stellar mass of the galaxies (see Sect. [2.1\)](#page-1-1). (9) Effective radius of the source. (10) *g*-band central surface brightness. (11) Axis ratio. (12) Position angle. (13) Foreground galactic extinction from [Schlegel et al.](#page-15-54) [\(1998\)](#page-15-54). (14) Flag for the galaxy type, where the flags 1 and 2 corresponds to UDGs from [Lim et al.](#page-15-14) [\(2020\)](#page-15-14) and Diffuse galaxies, respectively. All the geometrical parameters given in this table are taken from the NGVS catalog.

Table D.2. Photometric measurements of the sample.

ID	R_{last}	\boldsymbol{u}	\boldsymbol{g}	\boldsymbol{r}	\dot{i}	$\ensuremath{\mathnormal{Z}}$	NUV	FUV
	(kpc)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
67	2.0	19.58 ± 0.3	18.61 ± 0.21	18.03 ± 0.29	17.98 ± 0.18	18.02 ± 0.34	21.48 ± 0.36	> 21.09
186	3.2	17.79 ± 0.19	17.14 ± 0.12	16.82 ± 0.08	16.91 ± 0.14	>16.52	18.55 ± 0.07	18.68 ± 0.13
227	4.0	> 18.98	18.24 ± 0.14	17.68 ± 0.13	17.47 ± 0.27	17.43 ± 0.27	> 21.87	> 21.96
261	7.2	16.39 ± 0.08	15.74 ± 0.05	15.36 ± 0.05	15.37 ± 0.07	15.37 ± 0.14	17.22 ± 0.05	17.27 ± 0.14
321	1.6	20.53 ± 0.34	19.76 ± 0.23	19.16 ± 0.2	19.2 ± 0.26	> 19.12	> 21.22	> 21.89
421	5.2	17.6 ± 0.18	16.73 ± 0.14	16.25 ± 0.15	16.28 ± 0.15	16.32 ± 0.16	> 19.42	> 19.94
466	2.8	20.92 ± 0.38	20.3 ± 0.21	19.82 ± 0.37	> 19.08	> 18.31	> 20.93	> 21.19
590	2.0	19.26 ± 0.3	18.27 ± 0.16	17.7 ± 0.08	17.54 ± 0.08	17.44 ± 0.06	> 21.72	> 22.33
604	2.0	20.1 ± 0.18	19.22 ± 0.12	18.7 ± 0.17	18.58 ± 0.22	> 18.06	> 21.54	> 20.17
646	2.0	20.24 ± 0.28	19.02 ± 0.18	18.58 ± 0.22	> 18.1	>17.92	> 21.8	> 21.84
796	2.4	> 18.89	17.74 ± 0.12	17.14 ± 0.1	17.0 ± 0.1	16.92 ± 0.11	> 20.72	> 21.06
892	2.4	> 19.93	18.93 ± 0.13	18.41 ± 0.19	18.06 ± 0.24	17.99 ± 0.16	$\overline{}$	$\overline{}$
935	1.6	> 20.61	20.0 ± 0.28	19.52 ± 0.3	>19.32	> 19.01	\equiv	\equiv
964	3.2	18.9 ± 0.3	17.69 ± 0.08	17.08 ± 0.1	16.58 ± 0.29	16.87 ± 0.3	> 20.73	> 20.98
1008	2.0	> 20.89	20.13 ± 0.14	19.46 ± 0.18	19.0 ± 0.3	>19.27	> 21.82	> 21.64
1017	0.8	21.08 ± 0.29	19.94 ± 0.11	19.51 ± 0.12	19.22 ± 0.09	19.1 ± 0.16	> 23.34	> 23.3
1160	4.4	18.15 ± 0.2	16.98 ± 0.11	16.52 ± 0.12	16.28 ± 0.15	16.38 ± 0.3	>19.72	> 19.65
1164	3.6	17.01 ± 0.24	16.19 ± 0.1	15.7 ± 0.08	15.56 ± 0.08	15.48 ± 0.11	> 19.33	
1346	0.4	23.46 ± 0.28	22.8 ± 0.18	22.14 ± 0.18	21.85 ± 0.26	> 21.51	> 24.15	> 24.15
1352	1.6	20.23 ± 0.16	19.2 ± 0.12	18.58 ± 0.14	18.43 ± 0.15	18.22 ± 0.18	> 21.84	> 21.94
1397	1.2	> 21.21	20.78 ± 0.24	20.33 ± 0.22	> 19.41	>17.31	> 22.74	> 23.33
1405	7.2	15.86 ± 0.05	15.29 ± 0.05	15.07 ± 0.05	15.05 ± 0.05	14.98 ± 0.05	16.82 ± 0.05	17.08 ± 0.05
1424	2.8	> 20.66	19.41 ± 0.13	18.84 ± 0.2	18.92 ± 0.25	> 18.73	> 21.51	> 21.8
1476	2.4	19.67 ± 0.37	18.52 ± 0.24	17.94 ± 0.22	17.76 ± 0.3	17.45 ± 0.35	> 21.7	> 22.03
1479	1.2	21.23 ± 0.16	20.18 ± 0.16	19.58 ± 0.2	19.52 ± 0.34	19.43 ± 0.33	> 22.68	> 22.53
1529	14.8	15.2 ± 0.18	14.44 ± 0.12	14.05 ± 0.14	13.85 ± 0.22	> 13.38	>17.47	> 18.2
1593	3.6	>17.94	17.0 ± 0.2	16.43 ± 0.09	16.39 ± 0.2	16.32 ± 0.33	20.66 ± 0.3	> 20.82
1633	2.8	20.11 ± 0.3	19.1 ± 0.18	18.52 ± 0.2	> 18.37	> 17.23	> 21.32	> 21.84
1687	0.8	> 21.89	21.6 ± 0.26	20.89 ± 0.21	> 20.29	> 20.73	> 23.27	> 23.79
1719	2.8	> 20.38	19.6 ± 0.24	19.1 ± 0.36	> 18.92	> 18.59	> 21.6	> 22.47
1846	2.0	> 18.88	18.68 ± 0.16	18.2 ± 0.11	17.96 ± 0.08	17.67 ± 0.12	> 21.55	> 22.49
1968	3.6	15.82 ± 0.06	15.03 ± 0.12	14.66 ± 0.17	14.6 ± 0.2	14.47 ± 0.26	17.6 ± 0.15	> 18.73
1993	1.6	> 19.2	19.26 ± 0.28	> 19.36	18.9 ± 0.15	17.4 ± 0.2	> 22.29	> 21.96
2001	4.8	>16.57	>17.23	>16.7	> 16.43	> 15.11	> 19.43	> 18.32
2046	6.8	16.9 ± 0.2	15.74 ± 0.08	15.2 ± 0.14	14.96 ± 0.11	14.8 ± 0.14	> 18.73	>19.72
2079	3.6	> 18.94	18.12 ± 0.26	17.52 ± 0.13	17.29 ± 0.29	>17.08	> 20.42	19.91 ± 0.26
2269	2.8	> 21.67	20.58 ± 0.2	19.86 ± 0.21	> 19.69	> 19.41	> 22.54	> 22.82
2343	2.0	>18.87	18.02 ± 0.16	17.57 ± 0.14	17.44 ± 0.11	>17.41	> 21.7	> 22.16
2351	1.6	20.88 ± 0.2	19.82 ± 0.11	19.3 ± 0.08	19.19 ± 0.12	19.23 ± 0.24	> 23.09	> 22.64
2365	0.4	> 24.15	23.17 ± 0.15	21.9 ± 0.06	21.66 ± 0.14	21.3 ± 0.2	> 25.85	26.11 ± 0.25

Table D.2. continued.

ID	R_{last}	\boldsymbol{u}	$\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{S}}$	\mathbf{r}	\dot{i}	Z.	NUV	FUV
	(kpc)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)	(mag)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
2458	2.0	> 22.07	21.16 ± 0.22	20.58 ± 0.37	> 20.21	> 18.76	> 22.46	> 22.52
2531	4.0	18.61 ± 0.18	17.58 ± 0.08	16.97 ± 0.07	16.78 ± 0.12	16.65 ± 0.14	>19.87	> 18.68
2572	0.8	> 22.15	21.63 ± 0.3	> 21.24	20.94 ± 0.2	> 20.28	> 23.41	> 24.13
2621	3.2	>18.74	18.19 ± 0.08	17.41 ± 0.1	17.36 ± 0.17	17.39 ± 0.29	> 20.54	>19.95
2690	3.2	20.84 ± 0.3	19.58 ± 0.11	19.1 ± 0.22	> 18.82	> 18.64	> 20.97	> 20.39
2731	4.4	> 19.14	18.5 ± 0.18	>17.97	>17.62	>17.48	> 20.23	> 20.3
2887	3.6	17.93 ± 0.15	16.76 ± 0.08	16.12 ± 0.06	16.03 ± 0.1	15.94 ± 0.1	20.48 ± 0.34	> 20.59
2999	1.2	21.36 ± 0.29	20.42 ± 0.24	19.94 ± 0.08	19.85 ± 0.16	>19.55	> 22.02	> 22.01
3032	0.4	> 23.51	23.46 ± 0.33	23.08 ± 0.34	> 23.0	> 21.97	> 24.56	> 25.16
3088	4.0	> 18.17	17.2 ± 0.08	16.82 ± 0.12	16.57 ± 0.12	16.34 ± 0.18	> 19.9	> 20.33
3112	2.0	21.34 ± 0.34	20.44 ± 0.14	19.81 ± 0.26	19.86 ± 0.28	>19.53	> 21.64	> 21.88
3116	0.4	24.24 ± 0.34	23.74 ± 0.27	> 23.18	> 22.15	> 21.46	25.54 ± 0.29	> 25.01
3128	2.8	19.26 ± 0.08	18.19 ± 0.12	17.71 ± 0.08	17.59 ± 0.14	17.56 ± 0.16	> 20.93	> 20.74
3146	4.0	18.82 ± 0.38	18.18 ± 0.15	17.42 ± 0.18	17.43 ± 0.21	> 17.03	> 20.29	>19.85
3190	2.4	>19.61	19.04 ± 0.22	18.48 ± 0.28	18.41 ± 0.26	>17.16	> 21.8	> 20.84
3225	1.2	> 21.09	20.99 ± 0.22	> 20.64	> 20.12	>19.71	> 23.08	> 22.64
3233	1.2	21.52 ± 0.34	20.78 ± 0.22	> 20.21	> 19.9	>19.74	> 22.95	> 22.17
3265	3.2	19.77 ± 0.09	18.83 ± 0.05	18.21 ± 0.08	18.2 ± 0.14	18.1 ± 0.28	> 21.64	> 21.59
3272	5.6	17.37 ± 0.31	16.37 ± 0.1	15.73 ± 0.08	15.47 ± 0.13	15.48 ± 0.16	> 19.06	> 18.69
3356	2.8	19.64 ± 0.36	18.68 ± 0.12	18.21 ± 0.12	18.18 ± 0.18	17.86 ± 0.28	> 20.85	>19.49
3365	2.0	> 20.15	20.11 ± 0.26	>19.68	>19.51	> 18.11	> 21.31	> 22.16
3379	2.8	19.9 ± 0.2	18.94 ± 0.14	18.24 ± 0.24	18.32 ± 0.37	>17.45	> 21.27	> 20.78
3548	4.8	16.73 ± 0.05	15.57 ± 0.05	14.93 ± 0.05	14.77 ± 0.05	14.64 ± 0.05	19.63 ± 0.22	> 20.63
3633	1.6	> 20.69	19.92 ± 0.18	19.46 ± 0.21	19.21 ± 0.16	> 19.2	> 21.94	> 21.58

Notes. (1) ID of the source. (2) Last detected radius in the *^g* band above 3σ sky level. (3-7) *^u*, *^g*, *^r*, *ⁱ*, and *^z* band magnitudes. (8-9) GALEX *NUV* and *FUV* magnitudes. The upper limits (3σ) in the broadband magnitudes are denoted with > symbol. The sources with no GALEX UV data are measured with the "-" symbol. All the magnitudes were measured within an aperture marked with the "-" symbol. All the magnitudes were measured within an aperture of the last *g*-band observed radius (column 2) and corrected for Galactic extinction.

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confused with the independent non-RPS fits that we discarded as poor fits in Sect. [6.4\)](#page-11-0). The uncertainties given in the RPS models are from the confidence limits in *trps*, λ and *VC* parameters. For

the non-RPS models, the uncertainties are from the error in λ and *VC* alone. For ID 3365, the best-fit model is a model without RPS and is indicated by the – symbol.

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Table D.3. continued.

Table D.3. continued.