

# A deep view on the Virgo cluster core<sup>★</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

Studies of dwarf spheroidal (dSph) galaxies with statistically significant sample sizes are still rare beyond the Local Group, since these low surface brightness objects can only be identified with deep imaging data. In galaxy clusters, where they constitute the dominant population in terms of number, they represent the faint end slope of the galaxy luminosity function and provide important insight on the interplay between galaxy mass and environment. In this study we investigate the optical photometric properties of early-type galaxies (dwarf ellipticals (dEs) and dSphs) in the Virgo cluster core region, by analysing their location on the colour magnitude relation (CMR) and the structural scaling relations down to faint magnitudes, and by constructing the luminosity function to compare it with theoretical expectations. Our work is based on deep CFHT *V*- and *I*-band data covering several square degrees of the Virgo cluster core that were obtained in 1999 using the CFH12K instrument.

We visually select potential cluster members based on morphology and angular size, excluding spiral galaxies. A photometric analysis has been carried out for 295 galaxies, using surface brightness profile shape and colour as further criteria to identify probable background contaminants. 216 galaxies are considered to be certain or probable Virgo cluster members. Our study reveals 77 galaxies not catalogued in the VCC (with 13 of them already found in previous studies) that are very likely Virgo cluster members because they follow the Virgo CMR and exhibit low Sérsic indices. Those galaxies reach  $M_V = -8.7$  mag.

The CMR shows a clear change in slope from dEs to dSphs, while the scatter of the CMR in the dSph regime does not increase significantly. Our sample might, however, be somewhat biased towards redder colours. The scaling relations given by the dEs appear to be continued by the dSphs indicating a similar origin. The observed change in the CMR slope may mark the point at which gas loss prevented significant metal enrichment. The almost constant scatter around the CMR possibly indicates a short formation period, resulting in similar stellar populations.

The luminosity function shows a Schechter function's faint end slope of  $\alpha = -1.50 \pm 0.17$ , implying a lack of galaxies related to the expected number of low-mass dark matter haloes from theoretical models. Our findings could be explained by suppressed star formation in low-mass dark matter halos or by tidal disruption of dwarfs in the dense core region of the cluster.

**Key words.** galaxies: photometry – galaxies: clusters: general – galaxies: evolution – galaxies: dwarf – galaxies: formation – galaxies: clusters: individual: Virgo

## 1. Introduction

The galaxy population of the Virgo cluster is well studied down to a *B* magnitude of 19 mag by the photographic survey of Binggeli et al. (1985) which resulted in the Virgo cluster catalog (VCC). In addition, Impey et al. (1988), Trentham & Tully (2002), Trentham & Hodgkin (2002) and Sabatini et al. (2003) provided catalogs of (very) low surface brightness objects in this region down to a *B* magnitude of 21.5 mag. All these studies revealed a faint end slope of the LF in the range  $-1.1 \lesssim \alpha \lesssim -1.6$ . This also holds for different nearby galaxy clusters (Fornax: Ferguson 1988; Mieske et al. 2007, Centaurus: Misgeld et al. 2009, Hydra I: Misgeld et al. 2008, Perseus: Penny & Conselice 2008, Coma: Beijersbergen et al. 2002, Abell 2199: Rines & Geller 2008). However, simulations of Milky Way-sized halos (Klypin et al. 1999; Moore et al. 1999) based on the currently favoured cosmological cold dark matter ( $\Lambda$ CDM) model,

in which galaxies form hierarchically (White 1991), show a  $\Lambda$ CDM mass function's faint end slope of  $\alpha \approx -1.8$ . As deduced by Trentham & Tully (2002), the LF faint end slope has to be steeper than that of the mass function, i.e.  $\alpha < -1.8$ . Hence, a large number of DM halos are not observed. On the other hand, Moore et al. (1999) derive a Virgo cluster subhalo mass function by inverting the LF data of Binggeli et al. (1985) using the Tully-Fisher relation (Tully & Fisher 1977). That mass function agrees both in shape and amplitude with the subhalo mass function of their CDM simulations of a Virgo-sized halo. Clearly, reproducing the observed LF is a fundamental test for any viable theory of galaxy formation.

To investigate, from the observational side, the formation history of dEs and dSphs and the impact of mass and environment on their evolution, scaling relations of structure (surface brightness, luminosity, and size) and colour are fundamental tools. For a sample of dEs and Es taken from various environments, Kormendy (1985) reports almost perpendicular sequences of dEs and Es in the diagram of central surface

\* Tables 3 and 4 are available in electronic form at <http://www.aanda.org>

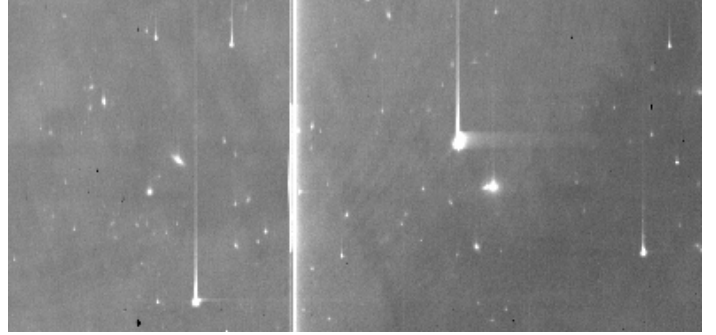
brightness versus luminosity. This behaviour was often interpreted as evidence for different formation processes of dEs and Es. On the other hand, [Ferguson \(1988\)](#) find in their Fornax cluster data that even the brightest galaxies follow the same continuous linear relation as the dwarf galaxies. [Graham & Guzmán \(2003\)](#) show in their analysis that there is no dichotomy between Es and dEs. The different  $\mu_0 - M$  scaling relation of brightest galaxies is due to core evolution and therefore not related to formation mechanism. This is supported by the study of [Ferrarese et al. \(2006\)](#) who see the perpendicular relation for only the cored galaxies in the Virgo cluster but challenged by the galaxy sample presented by [Kormendy et al. \(2009\)](#).

The colour–magnitude relation (CMR) of galaxies is commonly used to interpret the overall stellar population characteristics of galaxies and deduce their formation. Many authors report linear CMRs of early-type galaxies in clusters (e.g. [Mieske et al. 2007](#); [Lisker et al. 2008](#); [Misgeld et al. 2008](#); [Smith Castelli et al. 2011](#); [Misgeld et al. 2009](#)), with gradually redder colours at increasing luminosity. This is commonly interpreted as a relation between mass and metallicity, in the sense that more massive galaxies can self-enrich their gas, while dwarf galaxies lose it more easily. This by itself would not imply a different formation process of early-type giant and dwarf galaxies. Recently, however, [Ferrarese et al. \(2006\)](#) reported a curved CMR of 100 Virgo early-type galaxies investigated with the HST ACS Virgo cluster survey (ACS VCS, [Côté et al. 2004](#)). From an even larger sample based on homogeneous SDSS photometry, [Janz & Lisker \(2009\)](#) reported an S-shaped Virgo CMR, in which dEs and Es seem offset from each other and connected through a transition region. Yet by comparing the observations to model predictions, Janz and Lisker showed that distinct formation processes between dEs and Es are not necessarily required to explain the nonlinear CMR shape. It is thus still a matter of debate whether dwarf galaxies are merely the faint extension of giant galaxies or whether their origin is different.

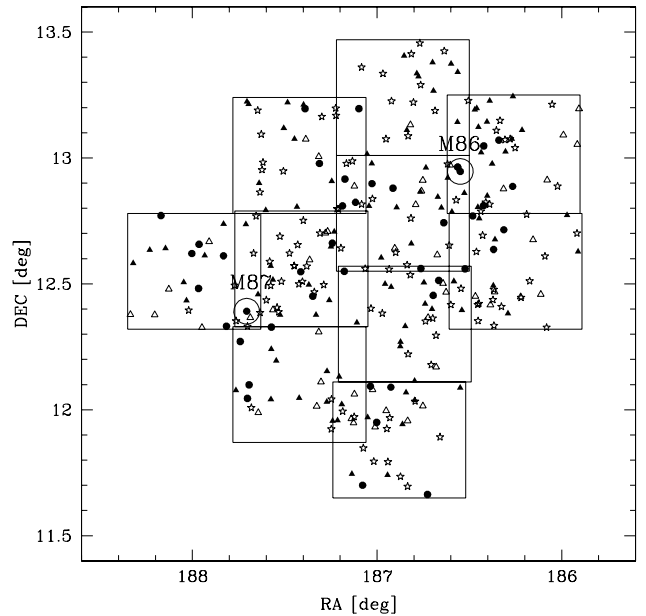
Our main goal is to identify and analyse dwarf galaxies in the vicinity of the three giant ellipticals M 87 and M 86/M 84 in the Virgo cluster core, in a similar manner as it was done by our group for the Fornax cluster ([Hilker et al. 1999, 2003](#); [Mieske et al. 2007](#)) and the Hydra I ([Misgeld et al. 2008](#)) and Centaurus clusters ([Misgeld et al. 2009](#)). We aim to investigate the Virgo cluster luminosity function (LF) down to a  $V$  band magnitude of 22, which is approximately two magnitudes lower than the mentioned Virgo cluster studies. [Grebel \(2001\)](#) defines the luminosity  $M_V \approx -17$  mag as dividing parameter between giant and dwarf early-type galaxies. The early-type dwarf galaxies are commonly subdivided into two classes, the dwarf ellipticals (dEs) and the fainter dwarf spheroidals (dSphs). The latter are distinguished from the former by a dividing luminosity of  $M_V \approx -14$  mag (see [Grebel 2001](#)). The diameter of the Virgo cluster is approximately 3 Mpc and its crossing time is  $\sim 0.1 H_0^{-1}$  ([Tully et al. 1996](#)), so that its galaxies have had time to interact with each other. But the Virgo cluster is considered as dynamically young cluster, whereas the dynamically old central region is surrounded by a not virialized but infalling region ([Binggeli et al. 1993](#)). This is underlined by the irregular structure of at least three subclusters (centered on M 87, M 86 and M 49), suggesting the Virgo cluster might be a complex unrelaxed system ([Sabatini et al. 2003](#)).

## 2. Data and visual inspection

From May 1st to May 5th 1999,  $V$ - and  $I$ -band CFHT wide field imaging data of the central region of the Virgo cluster



**Fig. 1.** Excerpt of the defective chip to illustrate read-out defects.



**Fig. 2.** Coordinate map of the 296 photometrically investigated objects. Filled circles: redshift confirmed cluster members, open triangles: redshift confirmed background galaxies, filled triangles: remaining galaxies catalogued in VCC, stars: no information. The well known giant ellipticals M 86/M 87 are highlighted, rectangles: fields covered by CFH12K instrument.

around M 86 and M 87 were acquired using the CFH12K camera at the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT). The CFH12K camera was a mosaic of 12 CCDs, with a pixel scale of  $0.206$  arcsec  $\text{pix}^{-1}$  and a total areal coverage of  $28' \times 42'$  per field. However, only 11 of the 12 CCDs were functioning properly – the CCD on the bottom right corner of the layout showed an extended hot region (mostly along the  $y$ -axis) and significant read-out defects in the sense that all source detections exhibit a long additional trail in  $y$ -direction (see Fig. 1). Thus, data of this chip was excluded from the analysis.

A total of 10 fields were obtained, covering a region of  $\approx 1.5 \times 2.5$  square degrees, as shown in Fig. 2. A small overlap of the fields ensured a complete coverage of the observed Virgo core region. Every field was exposed at least three times with an exposure time of 600 s each. The field, containing M 84/M 86 was exposed four times, the one containing M 87 even five times, resulting in an overall exposure time of 50 min. In case of saturated galaxies in the long exposures additional 60 s exposures were taken. During the four observing nights the median seeing was  $0.8$  arcsec  $FWHM$ .

## 2.1. Data reduction

The THELI image reduction pipeline (Erben et al. 2005) was used for the preprocessing of the data. All of the CFH12K data were corrected for the bias levels and the dark current, and were flat-fielded using both twilight flats and superflats made from all 33 science images. For the superflat creation we excluded images of CCDs which covered giant galaxies because of the small applied dithering of our data. By defringing the superflats, the brickwall pattern (Martin & Veillet 1999) present in the data was almost completely removed. The astrometric calibration from the THELI reductions is based on cross-correlation with the SDSS catalog of point sources, which also corrected for geometric distortions in the outer most parts of CFH12K fields. After the THELI photometry step, which is based on SExtractor (Bertin & Arnouts 1996), background subtraction was carried out using THELI, except in those cases where extended bright objects were present. In those cases, background subtraction was carried out manually. After the THELI processing, instrumental magnitudes were computed from observations of standard stars taken in all four nights of the observing run, and the photometry calibrated on the Cousins  $V$  and  $I$  magnitude system of Landolt (1992).

The average noise per pixel for the 30 min exposed fields corresponds to surface brightnesses of  $\mu_V = 26.5$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup>,  $\mu_I = 25.2$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup> respectively. Hence, the  $V$ -band is in general deeper than our  $I$ -band observations.

## 2.2. Visual inspection

All images were carefully inspected visually to detect possible Virgo cluster members. The images in both bands were inspected independently from each other. A first pre-selection was based on the following selection criteria.

1. The depth of the observed data revealed many background objects. While their physical size and luminosity would typically be larger than that of low-mass Virgo galaxies, their apparent size and magnitude can be similar, so that background objects can be mistaken for a Virgo cluster galaxy. Thus, we limited the visual size (at a surface brightness of  $\mu_V \approx 26$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup>) of objects that are taken into account to a radius  $\approx 10$  arcsec (see Fig. 4b). This is comparable to the size of the smallest galaxies listed in Binggeli et al.'s (1985) VCC – denoted by  $D_{25}$  – the diameter at a surface brightness of  $\mu \approx 25$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup> in B.
2. Spiral galaxies were not considered in this work. In the literature very few dwarf spirals are reported (e.g. Schombert et al. 1995; Graham & Guzmán 2003). Therefore we excluded all faint small galaxies with obvious spiral structure, because they are regarded as background galaxies (see Fig. 4c). Since we are using the IRAF ellipse task for photometry, also giant spirals are excluded because of the bad modelling by ellipses. The photometric errors would be too large.
3. Irregular galaxies were considered as long as their shape has been tolerably elliptical to be modelled with ellipse (see Fig. 4d). Four dIrrs were considered.

Particularly because of the second criterion, we mainly obtain early-type galaxies. In particular, at faint magnitudes ( $M_V > -13$  mag) we deal only with early-type galaxies. The criteria lead to a sample of 371 selected objects.

## 3. Photometry

### 3.1. Photometric analysis

All objects were photometrically analysed using the ellipse task (Jedrzejewski 1987) which is included in the STSDAS package of IRAF. All ellipse fits were performed with fixed parameters for center coordinates, position angle and ellipticity. In some cases like M 86 and M 87 better fitting results were obtained when variable ellipticity was applied. Obvious foreground and background objects were masked using the interactive mode of ellipse.

The ellipse output tables have been used to determine all astronomical quantities which are presented in this study. The extent of a galaxy has been defined to be the isophote at which the intensity falls below 10% of the rms variation of intensity along the isophote<sup>1</sup>. The flux enclosed by that ellipse is used as total flux  $f$ . Using that flux the apparent magnitude of an object is calculated. Finally, the apparent magnitude of an object was corrected for galactic extinction, applying the results of Schlegel et al. (1998).

In Table 1 quantities determined for the photometric calibration are listed. At high luminosities the photometry is limited by the uncertainty of the zeropoint and the atmospheric extinction coefficient  $\kappa$ . The photometrical uncertainties of the dSphs are additionally affected by the sky noise which is then of the same order of magnitude or higher as compared to zeropoint and  $\kappa$ .

### 3.2. Surface brightness profiles

The half-light radius  $r_{50}$  is determined as the radius enclosing 50% of the total flux. The effective surface brightness  $\mu_e$  is defined as the average surface brightness within  $r_{50}$ . We note that, due to our above definition of the total flux,  $r_{50}$  differs slightly from the true effective radius, which would enclose 50% of the total flux obtained by integrating the light profile to infinity.

Spectroscopic data are not available for many of the (largely) faint objects in our sample. As a result, we will need to use the surface brightness profiles of these objects in order to distinguish true Virgo cluster members from background galaxies (see Sect. 4). We performed single profile Sérsic fits (Sérsic 1968) to all objects, that is

$$I(r) = I_e \exp \left\{ -b_n \left[ \left( \frac{r}{R_e} \right)^{1/n} - 1 \right] \right\}. \quad (1)$$

$I_e$  the intensity of the isophote at the effective  $R_e$ . The constant  $b_n$  is defined in terms of the parameter  $n$  which describes the shape of the light profile. As shown by Caon et al. (1993), a convenient approximation relating  $b_n$  to the shape parameter  $n$  is  $b_n = 1.9992n - 0.3271$  for  $1 \lesssim n \lesssim 10$ , which we applied in our calculations. For the Sérsic fit the inner 3 arcsec were excluded from the fit which is twice the worst seeing with a FWHM of 1.5 arcsec. For nucleated galaxies only the main body of the galaxy was fitted. The results of this analysis, displayed in Fig. 3, show that at intermediate magnitudes ( $15 \lesssim m_V \lesssim 18$  mag) the confirmed background galaxies (red open triangles) significantly differ in their Sérsic index from confirmed Virgo cluster members (black filled circles) in the same magnitude range. High Sérsic indices are typical for Virgo members with  $m_V \lesssim 15$  mag.

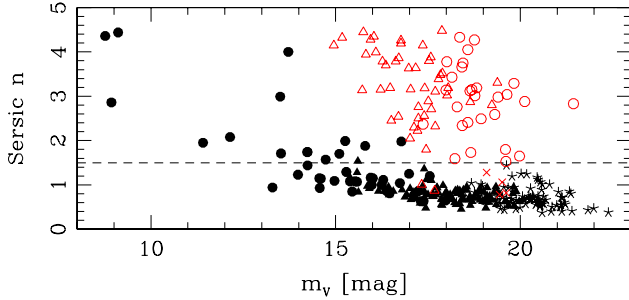
<sup>1</sup> The rms value is determined by ellipse, subdividing the isophote into sectors where appropriate (Jedrzejewski 1987). The so determined radii are of the order of 2 to 3 effective radii  $R_e$  for dSphs and 3 to 4  $R_e$  for the dEs.



**Table 1.** Photometric calibration quantities.

Filter	ZP [mag]	$\kappa$ [mag]	$X$	$A$ [mag]
<i>V</i>	$26.245 \pm 0.064$	$-0.086 \pm 0.048$	$(1.019 \dots 1.147) \pm (0.00 \dots 0.06)$	$0.064 \dots 0.198$
<i>I</i>	$26.136 \pm 0.038$	$-0.039 \pm 0.029$	$(1.030 \dots 1.203) \pm (0.00 \dots 0.09)$	$0.038 \dots 0.114$

**Notes.** ZP: Zeropoint,  $\kappa$ : atmospheric extinction coefficient;  $X$ : mean airmass of exposures contributing to a coadded image;  $A$ : galactic extinction by [Schlegel et al. \(1998\)](#).



**Fig. 3.** Sérsic indices of all investigated objects versus apparent *V*-Band magnitude. Black circles: spectroscopically confirmed Virgo members, black triangles: VCC members without redshift information, red triangles: spectroscopically confirmed background objects, red circles: as background considered objects due to their large Sérsic index, black asterisks: as Virgo member considered objects due to their small Sérsic index, red crosses: objects with small Sérsic index but extreme red colour (see Sect. 5.1), dashed line: Virgo cluster membership dividing Sérsic index of 1.5 (for magnitudes fainter than  $m_V \approx 18$  mag).

The red open circles in this plot show a Sérsic index distribution similar to that of the confirmed background galaxies, but exhibiting lower apparent magnitudes. Since those objects have large values of  $n$  (typical for giant ellipticals) we therefore conclude, that these objects are distant background elliptical galaxies. In the plot the VCC members without redshift information (black filled triangles) continue the trend given by confirmed members, resulting in low  $n$  (typical for dwarf galaxies). There is a further group of galaxies with low  $n$  (black asterisks) continuing the trend of the VCC galaxies at lowest luminosities ( $m_V \gtrsim 19$ ). We conclude, that these diffuse objects (characterized by their small  $n$ ) also belong to the Virgo cluster. Furthermore there is a noteworthy clean separation between the two groups of unknown objects (red open circles and black asterisks). Thus, we adopted a membership criterion of  $n < 1.5$  (for  $m_V \gtrsim 15$  mag), denoted by the dashed line in Fig. 3.

#### 4. Sample selection and subdivision

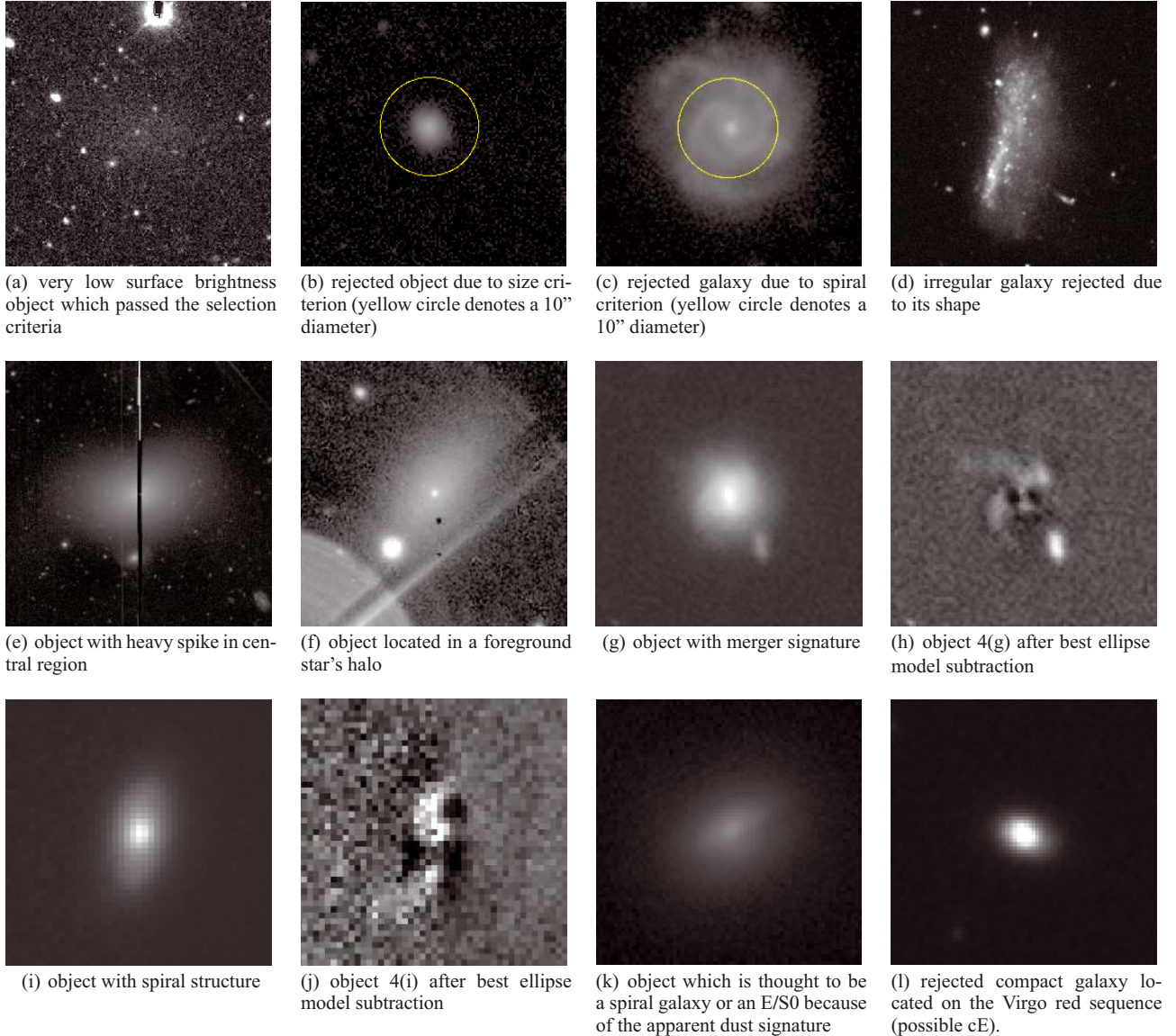
During the photometric analysis using `ellipse` 75 objects (from the initial list of 371 objects) were rejected for any of a number of reasons described below (some of which are illustrated in Fig. 4):

1. The photometry was affected by the presence of either a diffraction spike or bled columns from bright or saturated stars (see Fig. 4e, 2 objects rejected). Masking the spike led to inappropriate ellipse fits.
2. The object was located within the “halo” of a foreground star. An appropriate ellipse fitting was impossible due to the partial overlap of the galaxy with the star’s halo (see Fig. 4f, 5 objects excluded)
3. The subtraction of the best ellipse model from the original image revealed a merger signature. In this case, the light

- origins from two objects and an ellipse fit is not appropriate for the analysis. (see Figs. 4g and h, 5 objects excluded)
4. The subtraction of the best ellipse model from the original image of small galaxies revealed a slight spiral structure. Since spirals are considered to be giants (see Sect. 2.2), these objects are treated as background galaxies. (see Figs. 4i and j, 27 objects excluded, 12 of which are spectroscopically confirmed background galaxies)
5. Some small galaxies show dust signatures (typical for giant E or S0) but the residual image of the best ellipse model subtraction does not show significant structures. In this case we trust our eyes and classify the galaxies as background. (see Fig. 4k, 11 objects excluded)
6. An object was only taken into account if it was visible in both bands, *V* and *I*. (5 objects excluded)
7. Very faint, diffuse galaxies lead to unrobust fits (3 objects excluded)
8. There were too many bad pixels within the object or the object was only partly covered. (3 objects excluded)
9. An appropriate local background subtraction was impossible because of small scale spatial brightness variations. A residual fringe pattern remained on one chip, and some objects were also close to a spiral galaxy or a tail of a merging galaxy, which both could not appropriately be subtracted. (5 objects excluded)
10. Some initially visually selected objects were rejected because closer inspection revealed a too small size (diameter  $< 5$  arcsecs; 9 objects excluded)

A coordinate map of the entire remaining sample of the 295 investigated objects is displayed in Fig. 2. The NASA extragalactic database (NED) was searched in order to extract spectroscopic redshifts. The subsamples of different redshift information are denoted by different symbols in the figure. For Virgo cluster membership we adopted a heliocentric velocity range of  $-900 \text{ km s}^{-1} \leq v_r \leq 2700 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , supported by Fig. 2 of [Mei et al. \(2007\)](#). The matching yielded 41 spectroscopically confirmed Virgo cluster members and 47 confirmed background galaxies. Four of the confirmed Virgo cluster members have not been catalogued by Binggeli’s VCC. On the contrary, three of the background galaxies do have a VCC number<sup>2</sup>. The remaining 207 objects did not have any spectroscopic information. We have assumed that the 98 objects that are listed in the VCC are bona fide Virgo members. After these criteria, there remains a total of 109 objects not catalogued in the VCC, some of which are likely contaminating background galaxies. From the previous section, we consider 28 of these objects with Sérsic index  $n > 1.5$  as background galaxies. Finally we use the integrated *V* – *I* colours (see Sect. 5.1) to remove four objects which have extremely red colours. This leads to a sample of 77 faint diffuse galaxies without redshift information which follow the CMR of the Virgo cluster. The properties of these probable Virgo dwarf

<sup>2</sup> [Binggeli et al. \(1985\)](#) also included background galaxies and classified them. Our three excluded galaxies were classified as member (2) and possible member (1).



**Fig. 4.** Figures for clarification of selection criteria.

galaxies are listed in Table 3. 13 of them have previously been found in other studies (Trentham & Hodgkin 2002; Trentham & Tully 2002; Durrell et al. 2007; Impey et al. 1988; Durrell 1997).

In the following, we combine the sample of the 41 spectroscopically confirmed Virgo members, the 98 VCC members without redshift information and the 77 probable member galaxies. This combined Virgo cluster sample contains 216 galaxies.

## 5. Results

Because the data is of higher quality in  $V$ -band we present all results related to the according  $V$ -band quantity, resulting in smaller errors. Furthermore it is mentioned here, that potential systematic errors due to local background subtraction are not included in our estimates. To convert apparent to absolute magnitudes, we adopt the Virgo cluster distance determined by the ACS VCS ( $m - M = 31.09$  mag,  $d = 16.5$  Mpc, Mei et al. 2007) and use this value for all our galaxies throughout the paper.

### 5.1. Colour magnitude diagram

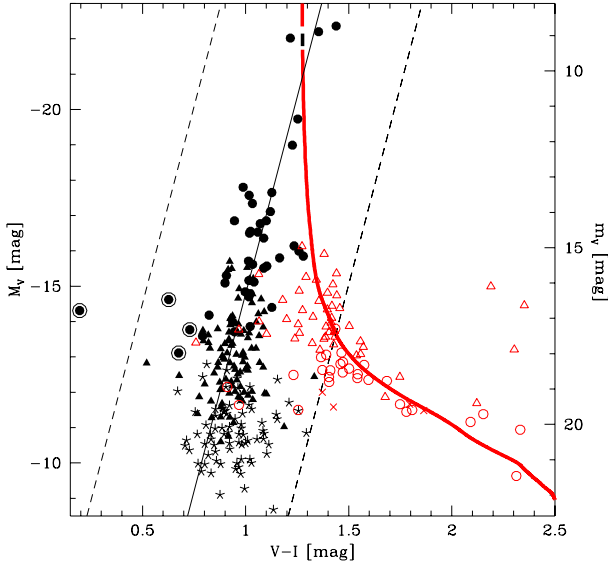
Since spectroscopic data were not available for most of the faint objects, we also investigated obvious background objects

with a comparable apparent magnitude as the Virgo member galaxies to determine their location in the colour magnitude diagram (CMD). The resulting CMD for all investigated objects is shown in Fig. 5. The diagram shows a clear distinction between background (red open triangles and circles) and Virgo objects (black filled circles and triangles). We use that distinct occupation in the CMD to reject possible background objects from the sample of faint diffuse objects (asterisks). For the determination of the early-type galaxies' CMR we exclude the four irregular galaxies. The CMR of the confirmed Virgo members (black filled circles) is denoted by the black solid line. Confirmed members, observed in our field of view, cover a magnitude range of  $-22.3 \lesssim M_V \lesssim -13.1$  mag. The integrated colour  $V - I$  was determined at the half-light aperture of each galaxy. This early-type CMR (red sequence) is given by the linear fit

$$(V - I)_{50} = (-0.045 \pm 0.007) \cdot M_V + (0.337 \pm 0.121) \quad (2)$$

with a rms of 0.098. The obtained CMR is comparable to other studies of the Virgo cluster (see e.g. Lisker et al. 2008) and other nearby clusters (see e.g. Misgeld et al. 2008, 2009).

The dashed lines represent the  $5\sigma$  confidence interval. Four faint diffuse objects (flagged by crosses, see also Fig. 3) are



**Fig. 5.** CMD of all investigated objects. Filled circles: spectroscopically confirmed Virgo cluster members, filled circles with surrounding open circle: irregular Virgo galaxies (confirmed), open triangles: spectroscopically confirmed background objects, filled triangles: remaining objects with VCC index, open circles: remaining objects with Sérsic index  $n > 1.5$ , asterisks: assumed Virgo cluster members, crosses: excluded from Virgo cluster sample by position in CMD. Thin black line: fit to confirmed cluster members; dashed lines:  $5\sigma$  confidence interval; thick line: redshift evolution of an E-type galaxy modelled by GALEV (dark grey intercept: Virgo redshift, red: redshifted up to  $z = 0.65$ ).

extreme outliers ( $>5\sigma$ ) with respect to the CMR of the Virgo cluster galaxies and follow the trend given by the objects with large Sérsic index (red open circles), which are considered to be background objects. Hence, we define them to be background objects.

The CMD of our Virgo cluster sample obviously shows a change in the slope of the CMR at  $M_V \approx -14$  mag, as can be seen in Fig. 6. The red solid line indicates the average trend as found in successive magnitude bins with a width of 1 mag and steps of 0.5 mag, clipped one time at  $3\sigma$  as performed in Janz & Lisker (2009). We performed linear fits to both parts of the sample with  $M_V = -14$  mag as dividing luminosity according to Grebel’s dSph/dE distinction. The fit of the high luminosity part yields a CMR of

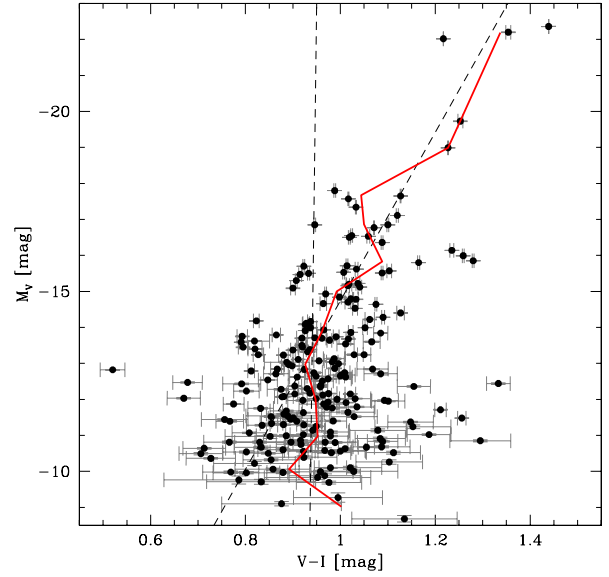
$$(V - I)_{50} = (-0.043 \pm 0.007)M_V + (0.370 \pm 0.105) \quad (3)$$

and a rms of 0.090. The lower luminosity branch yields a CMR of

$$(V - I)_{50} = (-0.001 \pm 0.008)M_V + (0.927 \pm 0.089) \quad (4)$$

with a rms of 0.117. The slope of the CMR at lower luminosities changes significantly and the scatter around the relation at lower luminosities increases only slightly. Within the given uncertainty of the slope, the luminosity does not show a dependency on the  $V - I$  colour in this range. This is illustrated by the almost vertical red line in Fig. 6 for the dSph regime. The two solid lines indicate the different slopes of the relation.

Our sample of background galaxies shows a trend towards redder colours at fainter magnitudes. For the understanding of this behaviour we use the GALEV stellar population models (Kotulla et al. 2009) for illustration purposes. GALEV provides the redshift evolution of the integrated light properties of an E-type galaxy (i.e. an exponentially declining star formation history with decay time of 1 Gyr) of  $5 \times 10^{11} M_\odot$ . The thick line



**Fig. 6.** CMD of only the early-type Virgo sample is shown. The solid red line is constructed by the average measured in successive magnitude bins (1 mag per bin), the dashed black lines denote the CMR for the  $M_V > -14$  mag subsample,  $M_V < -14$  mag respectively. The errorbars shown here do not include the systematic uncertainty of the photometric zeropoint, as this would only cause an equal shift of all data points.

in Fig. 5 shows the evolution of the position of this galaxy in the CMD with increasing redshift. The dark grey section of the line indicates the Virgo cluster redshift range, the red section of the line represents the evolution of the galaxy’s position in the CMD with increasing redshift up to  $z \approx 0.65$ . The progressively redder colours of background elliptical galaxies at fainter magnitudes is also shown by the GALEV model.

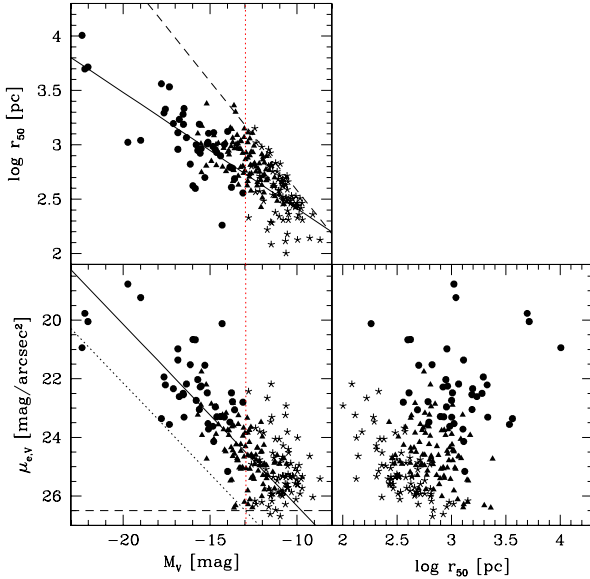
## 5.2. Scaling relations

The parameters which are used to distinguish dwarf galaxies from giant galaxies are luminosity and size. Hence, how both parameters scale to each other, or to other physical properties, is of particular interest. A change can be a hint for a different origin of the different types of galaxies – in this case giants, dEs and dSphs – or at least a hint for different evolution. In Fig. 7 we present the common three scaling relations, the luminosity-surface brightness diagram (bottom left panel), the luminosity-size diagram (top left panel) and the size-surface brightness diagram (bottom right panel). Shown are all 213 early-type galaxies which are considered to belong to the Virgo cluster.

The dashed line in the two left panels indicates the surface brightness detection limit of  $\mu_{e,V} \approx 26.5$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup>. The solid line in the  $r - M$  diagram represents the fit to all objects which are brighter than  $M_V = -14$  mag. At that magnitude the slope of the CMR changed significantly. In the  $\mu_e - M$  diagram the data is fitted to  $M_V \leq -13$  for reasons which are discussed in Sect. 5.3. Furthermore, fitting the data down to that magnitude we are sure not to run into the completeness limit of our data.

Regarding the luminosity-surface brightness diagram, the trend given by the Es and dEs ( $M_V < -14$  mag) is obviously continued by the faint galaxies. The scatter around the trend does not seem to change significantly at fainter magnitudes. But the detection limit affects the completeness at fainter magnitudes. We see the same results in the luminosity-size diagram. The faint galaxies seem to continue the trend given by the bright galaxies and the scatter does not seem to increase. Also seen in this plot, the detection limit (dashed line) becomes important at





**Fig. 7.** Scaling relations of all Virgo cluster objects (see text). Dashed lines: detection limit of  $\mu_{e,V} = 26.5 \text{ mag/arcsec}^2$ , solid lines: linear fit to all datapoints with  $M_V < -14 \text{ mag}$  in the  $r - M$  diagram (in  $\mu - M$  diagram:  $-18 < M_V < -13 \text{ mag}$ ), dotted black line:  $2\sigma$  confidence interval, dotted red line: completeness limit of  $M_V = -13.0 \text{ mag}$ , filled circles: spectroscopically confirmed Virgo cluster members, filled triangles: remaining objects with VCC index, asterisks: probable Virgo cluster members.

lower luminosities. At faint magnitudes, we expect more galaxies, exhibiting surface brightnesses beyond the detection limit of  $\mu_e \approx 26.5 \text{ mag}$ . The size-surface brightness diagram does not reveal a trend. But it shows that the uncatalogued galaxies (asterisks) tend to have half-light radii  $\leq 10 \text{ arcsec}$ , their mean  $r_{50} \approx 4 \text{ arcsec}$  corresponds to 320 parsecs while they tend to have on average a lower surface brightness than the previously known member galaxies.

### 5.3. Completeness

The crucial point in estimating a luminosity down to which the data is complete, is the scatter of the galaxies' parameters. We do not know whether the scatter remains constant at magnitudes fainter than our completeness limit. Hence, we do not know the full parameter distribution of galaxies, which is why we refrain from creating a sample of artificial galaxies based on that same parameter distribution.

We use the  $\mu_e - M$  relation to determine the completeness of our data. [Graham & Guzmán \(2003\)](#) used a correlation between the Sérsic index  $n$  and luminosity to transform the linear  $\mu_0 - M$  relation into a curved  $\mu_e - M$  relation. As a result, we cannot assume a linear trend over the entire luminosity range. We are not able to give a reliable curved trend since there are too few datapoints at high luminosities. We therefore investigate the trend given by all galaxies with luminosities  $-18 < M_V < -13 \text{ mag}$ . The lower luminosity is chosen to increase the confidence of the trend but not to run into incompleteness. Regarding [Graham & Guzmán's](#) Fig. 12 we consider it reliable to linearize the curve in our fitting interval. This trend is given in the  $\mu_e - M$  plot of Fig. 7 and is not valid for higher luminosities, because there will be a turning point in the curved relation. At lower luminosities we do not expect large errors because of the asymptotic convergence to the linear  $\mu_0 - M$  relation. Our linear fit leads to

$$\mu_{e,V} = (0.62 \pm 0.09)M_V + (32.54 \pm 1.27). \quad (5)$$

with a rms of  $=1.00$ . Since we do not observe a change in the scaling relations we assume that the scatter around the relation also remains constant. We use the scatter around the relation to determine the completeness of our data sample. In particular, we use the  $2\sigma$  confidence interval of the luminosity-surface brightness relation to determine the intersect with the detection limit of  $26.5 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ . For all selected objects the scatter of that scaling relation is given by rms, leading to the intersect at  $M_V = -13.0 \text{ mag}$ . The  $2\sigma$  interval defines a confidence range of 96%. We expect to miss 2% of the Virgo objects on the diffuse side at a luminosity of  $M_V \approx -13.0 \text{ mag}$ . Thus, the data is rather complete down to that luminosity, given a constant scatter around the  $\mu_e - M$  relation.

### 5.4. Luminosity function

The LF of a cluster is defined as number of galaxies which are found within certain magnitude bins. To determine our  $V$ -band LF we choose a bin width of 0.5 mag and created sampling steps every 0.25 mag. Hence, the values are not independent from each other.

[Schechter \(1976\)](#) proposed an analytic approximation for the LF:

$$N(x)dx = \Phi^* x^\alpha e^{-x} dx \quad (6)$$

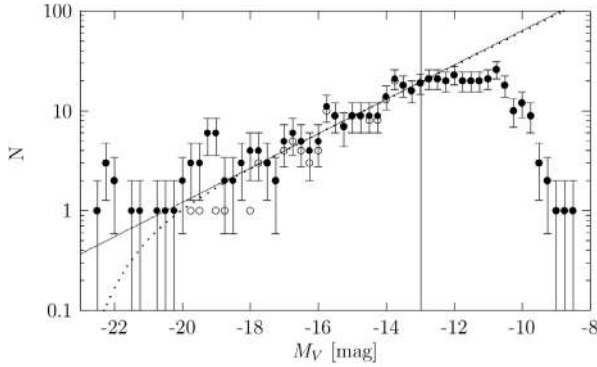
with

$$x = 10^{-0.4(M-M^*)}. \quad (7)$$

Derivation of the faint end slope  $\alpha$  of the Schechter function is critically dependent on the completeness of the dataset.

In order to get a reliable LF, we took also into account VCC galaxies which were not investigated in this study. This concerns mainly late-type galaxies, as well as early-type galaxies that were either located close to a star or have been only partly covered. To get information about the early-types, we used SDSS  $g$ - and  $r$ -band magnitudes. For the late-type galaxies we took  $g$ - and  $r$ -band photometry of Meyer et al. (in prep., following a similar procedure as in [Lisker et al. 2007](#)) based on SDSS data. The  $g$ - and  $r$ -band magnitudes of the additional 21 VCC galaxies, which are located within our fields, were converted to  $V$ -band magnitudes using the transformations from [Jester et al. \(2005\)](#). In Fig. 8 we present the LF of the  $V$ -band data. Solid symbols denote our data, open symbols represent datapoints which were corrected by the additionally inserted galaxies.

Due to the specifically selected target area of the Virgo core, encompassing all of the large ellipticals M 84, M 86 and M 87, we refrain from attempting a fit of the characteristic magnitude (also see the discussion in Sect. 6.4). Instead of using a Schechter function, we perform a linear fit in the interval  $-18.8 \leq M_V \leq -13.0 \text{ mag}$ . The bright end limit is chosen because of the jump in galaxy counts at  $M_V = -19 \text{ mag}$ . It also corresponds to the typical division between “dwarf” and “normal” galaxies, and it is still safely away from typical values of  $M^*$  in a Schechter luminosity function. The faint end limit is our completeness limit. We use `gnuplot's` implementation of the nonlinear least-squares Marquardt-Levenberg algorithm to perform an error weighted linear fit to the data. That has been done for three different fields and the whole data sample as displayed in Table 2. It turns out that faint galaxies seem more concentrated around M 86/M 84. For comparison, in the same fitting interval we also performed the Schechter function fit with fixed  $M_V^* = -21.8 \text{ mag}$ , corresponding roughly to [Sandage et al.'s](#)  $M_B^* = -20.8 \text{ mag}$ . The results are also shown in Table 2. We find



**Fig. 8.**  $V$ -band luminosity function of the Virgo cluster sample (bin width: 0.5 mag, sampling step: 0.25 mag). Open symbols denote only early type galaxies, solid symbols denote datapoints which were corrected by SDSS data. The solid line indicates a linear fit performed in  $-18.8 \leq M_V \leq -13.0$  mag. The Schechter function fitted in the same interval with fixed  $M_V^* = -21.8$  mag is represented by the dotted curve. The vertical line at  $M_V = -13.0$  mag represents the assumed completeness limit. The errors come from Poissonian statistics.

**Table 2.** Faint end slopes.

Field	Area	$n$	$\alpha_{\text{lin}}$	$\alpha_{\text{Sch}}$
M 87	RA > 187.3 deg Dec < 13.0 deg	59	$1.31 \pm 0.08$	$1.29 \pm 0.06$
M 86	RA < 186.9 deg Dec > 12.5 deg	79	$1.54 \pm 0.11$	$1.47 \pm 0.08$
between	else	100	$1.46 \pm 0.10$	$1.41 \pm 0.07$
complete	all	238	$1.50 \pm 0.05$	$1.43 \pm 0.04$

**Notes.**  $n$ : number of galaxies located in an area,  $\alpha_{\text{lin}}$ : faint end slope of a linear fit,  $\alpha_{\text{Sch}}$ : faint end slope of a Schechter function. The errors are the fit's statistical errors. For comparison of the selected area see also Fig. 2.

that the faint end slopes derived with a Schechter fit are slightly shallower in each case, but always lie within the errors. Figure 8 illustrates that they are almost indistinguishable from each other.

Given the areal variation of the faint end slope, we give the overall faint end slope as

$$\alpha = -1.50 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.12. \quad (8)$$

This faint end slope fits into the range of slopes determined by other Virgo studies (Sandage et al. 1985; Trentham & Hodgkin 2002; Rines & Geller 2008; Sabatini et al. 2003) and is also comparable to slopes determined for other nearby clusters (Hilker et al. 2003; Misgeld et al. 2008, 2009; Ferguson 1988; Beijersbergen et al. 2002; Penny & Conselice 2008; Rines & Geller 2008).

## 6. Discussion

### 6.1. Sample selection

The quality of the sample selection is best visible in the colour magnitude diagram in Fig. 5.

The identification of background galaxies by adopting the Sérsic index larger than 1.5 as background criterion at apparent magnitudes fainter than  $m_V \approx 18$  mag excludes all objects with a compact appearance. Doing this, we would remove compact ellipticals<sup>3</sup> from the Virgo cluster sample, if they were present. The probability of observing a faint background galaxy with a deVaucouleurs profile at faint magnitudes is much higher than

<sup>3</sup> Fainter than the known cEs but brighter than UCDs.

observing a compact dwarf elliptical. This argumentation becomes stronger when regarding the CMD. The sample of objects excluded by their Sérsic index (open circles) continues the trend given by the redshift confirmed background objects (open triangles).

Another hint for dealing with background galaxies is the trend to extreme red colours of these galaxies at apparent magnitudes around  $m_V = 20$  mag. This trend can be explained by the colour change of ellipticals with increasing redshift, as shown by GALEV models (red line in the CMD)<sup>4</sup>.

Also excluded from our Virgo sample are ultra-compact dwarf galaxies (UCDs) since they are very small and did not pass our applied size criterion. When regarding the known UCDs in Virgo (Haşegan et al. 2005; Evstigneeva et al. 2007), we see that there are many other objects which appear similar to UCDs but are obviously unresolved background objects.

Due to the very red colours expected for background elliptical galaxies, we adopted an interval around the CMR inside which objects were considered Virgo cluster members. Of course, this criterion holds only when there is no change in the slope of the CMR at lower luminosities and the scatter remains Gaussian. While both of these conditions are not met (see Sect. 5.1), we have accounted for this ( $5\sigma$  interval) and only four objects were subsequently regarded as background objects.

As seen in Fig. 5, however, there are velocity-confirmed background galaxies that have colours consistent with that of Virgo cluster galaxies. As a result, it is still possible that some of the objects in our sample of 77 probable galaxies are indeed background objects. That there are two objects with a large Sérsic index located in the Virgo member CMD region could be a hint for background objects. On the other hand, these two objects could also be compact Virgo ellipticals. One of them is shown in Fig. 41. If they are the result of stripped spirals, they should have kept their bulge properties (Chilingarian et al. 2009), including their red colour (Balcells & Peletier 1994). Their colours ( $V - I \approx 1$ ) are a bit bluer than M 32 ( $V - I \approx 1.2$ , Lauer et al. 1998). A final statement of this issue can only be made when spectroscopic data of these galaxies are available.

### 6.2. Colour magnitude relation

There is a change in the slope of the Virgo CMR at  $M_V \approx -14$  mag: at fainter magnitudes, we observe no correlation between colour and magnitude anymore. However, our sample might be biased at faint magnitudes, since the completeness limit is  $M_V = -13.0$  mag. In order to assess whether the shallower depth of our I-band images could have preferentially excluded galaxies with blue colours from our sample just below the completeness limit (as we required detection in both bands), we consider the scatter of our galaxies in colour and in surface brightness just above the completeness limit. Due to the relatively large spread in surface brightness and the fact that its faint end governs the completeness limit (Fig. 7), the majority of galaxies around the limit actually has sufficiently high S/N that no colour bias should occur among them. Assuming the colour and surface brightness scatter is similar below the limit, we estimate that down to  $M_V = -11.7$  mag we should not have lost more than 6 galaxies that could potentially be bluer than average and thus affect the CMR slope. This number is consistent with the 4 objects that were detected in the  $V$ -band only. Thus, while the detection of the faintest targets may be biased towards red colours, no significant bias should be present down

<sup>4</sup> The “turning point” to extreme red colours itself depends on the galaxy's mass.



to  $M_V = -11.7$  mag, giving confidence that the change of the CMR slope at  $M_V \approx -14$  is real.

In the E and dE luminosity range ( $M_V \lesssim -14$  mag) we observe the commonly known negative slope of the CMR. This is usually explained by the larger potential wells of the more massive galaxies, which made it easier for them to recycle their metal-enriched gas, leading to a higher metallicity and thus redder colour. For the dSphs ( $M_V > -14$  mag) no such dependency is seen anymore. However, the intrinsic colour spread of the dSphs is not significantly larger than for the dEs<sup>5</sup>. This seems to be at odds with an extrapolation of the results of [Gavazzi et al. \(2002\)](#) for Virgo early-type galaxies: fainter galaxies show a more extended star formation history, which should result in a broader colour distribution. However, our data only contains galaxies of Virgo's core region. It is likely that dwarf galaxies in this region lost all their gas already at an early epoch of the cluster evolution, due to tidal forces from the cluster potential and from massive member galaxies, as well as ram pressure stripping from the intracluster medium. It thus seems plausible that the faint, diffuse dSphs in the Virgo core region have had a similar short period of star formation, leading to similar red colours with small scatter. We speculate that significant enrichment was only possible at magnitudes brightward of the change in slope, which lead to the usual mass-metallicity relation.

### 6.3. Scaling relations

Regarding the scaling relations of Fig. 7, there are two results to report. First, dSphs seem to continue the trends given by their more luminous counterparts. And second, the detection limit of  $\mu_{e,V} = 26.5$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup> in connection with the scatter around the luminosity-surface brightness relation limits the completeness to  $M_V \lesssim -13.0$  mag.

We excluded high surface brightness objects at lower luminosities from our sample, i.e. excluded all possible cEs and UCDs from our sample. This affects on the one hand the scatter of the found relations, on the other hand it could also affect the relations's shape itself. Only a dozen of Virgo UCDs are known, not affecting the overall numbers of member galaxies.

A change in the slope of the CMR is observed at  $M_V \approx -14$  mag. The data begins to become incomplete one magnitude fainter, but reaches  $M_V \approx -9$  mag. Hence, the dSphs which differ in their behaviour from the more luminous galaxies (dEs and Es) in the CMR are incomplete, almost over their whole luminosity range. This makes it impossible to prove whether the scaling trends given by the Es and dEs are indeed continued by the dSphs. We can only say: in the face of the scaling relations, the dSphs seem to be the extension of the dE population. In the light of the change in the CMR at  $M_V \approx -14$  mag, this would lead to the argumentation that dSphs and dEs share the same origin (given by the physical parameters) but differ in their evolution (given by the chemical parameter colour).

### 6.4. Luminosity function and completeness

Due to observation of the Virgo core region, we are unable to independently determine the characteristic magnitude  $M^*$  of the Virgo cluster. Schechter found that his function is a good fit to the LF of a whole cluster. We fit the Schechter function to a sample which is not representative for the Virgo cluster since

our field were chosen such that the three giant ellipticals (M 87 and M 86/M 84) are included. If we shift our field of view in any direction we would have only two or even one of them included, resulting in a more certain estimation of the turning point  $M^*$ . Because of that uncertain behaviour at the bright end of the LF we performed only a linear fit using a fitting interval which takes into account both the uncertainty at the bright end and at the faint end.

Our estimation of the completeness is rather conservative by using a  $2\sigma$  confidence interval. Hence, within the fitting interval the data should be complete and therefore the faint end slope reliable. The obtained faint end slope is  $\alpha = -1.50 \pm 0.17$  for linear fit and  $\alpha = -1.43 \pm 0.09$  for the Schechter function fit respectively. This is in good agreement with the investigation of [Sabatini et al. \(2003\)](#) who found a faint end slope of  $\alpha = -1.4 \pm 0.2$  for the central 0.8 deg around M 87, hence for the core region. Following [Moore et al. \(1999\)](#) who use the Tully-Fisher relation to calculate the LF of the Virgo cluster from the mass function of their simulations, there is consistency between theory and observations. On the other hand, simulations based on the favoured  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmological model expect a faint end slope of the LF steeper than  $-1.8$  as deduced from the CDM mass function ([Trentham & Tully 2002](#)). This observational discrepancy to the theory is often observed. The favoured explanation for the missed observed galaxies is suppressed star formation in lowest DM halos. Since we observe the core region of the cluster, disruption should also play a role. Due to the gravitational potential of the most massive galaxies – located in the center of the cluster – we can expect that the less massive galaxies are tidally distorted, some of them might have even been disrupted. This idea was already suggested by [Sabatini et al. \(2003\)](#) supported by their findings of  $\alpha = -1.8$  in the outer regions of the Virgo cluster (distance to M 87  $\geq 1.6$  deg). The disruption scenario is also supported by [Mihos et al. \(2005\)](#) who find a “complex substructure of Virgo's diffuse intracluster light”. They discuss in particular four streamers which they relate to ongoing tidal stripping of dwarf galaxies. The tidally distorted galaxies will eventually get stripped by the gravitational potential of their massive counterparts. In this process, the compact nuclei of nucleated dwarf ellipticals might end up as UCDs. Since the fraction of remnant nuclei among the UCD population is unknown – many of them might be just giant globular clusters – we did not consider them in our study. In any case, the progenitor galaxies of remnant nuclei-UCDs in general are in the luminosity range  $-19 < M_V < -15$ , thus missing some of them does not affect the very faint end of the luminosity function. Also stripped spiral galaxies – ending up as compact ellipticals – are not considered due to their high Sérsic index. Even if there might be undiscovered cEs, their number should be small, since they may originate from giant spiral galaxies. And simulations show, that initially large dark matter halos – containing a giant spiral galaxy which is stripped during its evolution – are rare. Hence, cEs should not contribute tremendously to the faint end of the LF neither. Finally, totally disrupted galaxies can not be observed. The question arises what fraction of partially disrupted/transformed galaxies has been missed by applying our selection criteria.

Due to selection criteria 1, 2, 8, and 9 of Sect. 4 we reject mostly spectroscopically known galaxies. We corrected the LF for the rejected VCC members, but we also reject two uncatalogued galaxies. They might have magnitudes brighter than  $M_V = -13$ , and therefore, would have had a weak impact on the LF faint end slope. All galaxies rejected by criteria 6 and 7 are candidates for Virgo cluster members, but due to their faintness

<sup>5</sup> When not considering the uncertainty in the calibration zeropoint, which would apply equally to all galaxies, the rms of our errors is 0.045 mag at these magnitudes, while the observed scatter is 0.117 mag, leading to an intrinsic scatter of 0.108 mag. The same number calculated for the dEs would be 0.090 mag.

lie beyond the completeness limit considered for the determination of the faint end slope of the LF.

Furthermore we also miss very low surface brightness objects which are too diffuse to be detected. Due to the applied confidence interval of the completeness determination we assume that we miss only one of these objects (1%). Also the assumption of a constant scatter around the  $\mu_e - M$  relation to determine the completeness can be called into question. On the other hand, the faint end slope does not change significantly ( $\alpha = -1.42$ ) when setting the detection limit to  $M_V = -13.6$  mag.

Besides observational biases, also theoretical reasons may explain the lack of dwarf galaxies. Local feedback effects (Dekel & Silk 1986) or the reionization of the Universe (Klypin et al. 1999) could inhibit the collapse of gas into small haloes, leading to DM halos with no visible counterpart. Additionally, Klypin et al. offer a plausible expansion of the missing satellites for a Milky Way-like halo. They argue that high velocity clouds (HVCs) are numerous enough when extrapolating their local (Milky Way) abundance to a larger volume. Whether a dark matter halo hosts a dwarf galaxy or an HVC depends primarily on the circular velocity of the halo. But it is at least questionable if one can simply extend this argumentation to a galaxy cluster with its different evolution.

## 7. Summary

CFHT *V*- and *I*-band data of Virgo cluster's core region, taken in 1999 with the CFH12K instrument, have been analysed. Applying morphological criteria, 295 galaxies were chosen for photometric investigation. Knowing the redshift of the luminous galaxies, applying a surface brightness criterion at lower luminosities and regarding the location of these galaxies in the CMD, 216 of these galaxies are considered to belong to the Virgo galaxy cluster. 64 of these objects have previously been unknown. The detection limit of the image data is determined at  $\mu_{e,V} = 26.5$  mag/arcsec<sup>2</sup> for the faintest objects at  $M_V = -8.7$  mag. In the dSph magnitude regime the detection limit may bias the sample towards redder galaxies.

The CMD of the Virgo cluster sample reveals a change in the slope of the early-type CMR at  $M_V \approx -14$  mag – the distinguishing luminosity for dEs and dSphs. Provided that the change is real, we conclude that this luminosity corresponds to a specific galaxy mass which is needed to retain its gas. At higher masses, this leads to an extended star formation period and to self-enrichment of the gas, resulting in higher metallicities, and thus in redder colours. We do not observe a significantly increasing scatter around the CMR of dSphs, which we interpret as a comparably short star formation for both types of galaxies, the dEs and the dSphs. The fact that all dSphs have the same *V - I* colour can be interpreted as a similar metallicity for this galaxy type. Since the cluster's core region is observed, we conclude that the SFH of these faint galaxies was truncated at a very early epoch of the cluster evolution, resulting in similar *V - I* colours.

The investigation of the scaling relations (luminosity-size-surface brightness) shows no difference between dEs and dSphs. In the face of this continuing trend, while a definitive conclusion is hampered by the completeness limit of  $M_V = -13.0$  mag, dEs and dSphs seem consistent with having the same origin.

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**Table 3.** Properties of Virgo cluster objects found in this study but not included in the VCC.

ID	$\alpha$ (J2000) [deg]	$\delta$ (J2000) [deg]	$M_V$ [mag]	$M_I$ [mag]	$(V - I)_{50}$ [mag]	$\epsilon$	$r_{50}$ [pc]	$\mu_{e,V}$ [mag/arcsec <sup>2</sup> ]	Reference
1	186.08182	12.32702	-11.64 ± 0.04	-12.77 ± 0.04	1.016 ± 0.055	0.20	641	25.75	
2	186.09055	12.60981	-10.58 ± 0.07	-11.85 ± 0.07	0.967 ± 0.085	0.60	518	25.59	
3	186.17314	12.51108	-11.52 ± 0.02	-12.37 ± 0.02	0.854 ± 0.020	0.05	195	23.46	
4	186.18954	12.77586	-9.27 ± 0.13	-11.08 ± 0.13	0.995 ± 0.094	0.30	138	24.64	<i>a</i>
5	186.25246	13.04010	-11.33 ± 0.01	-12.02 ± 0.01	0.855 ± 0.024	0.45	414	24.70	<i>a</i>
6	186.30690	13.07214	-10.56 ± 0.04	-11.82 ± 0.04	1.000 ± 0.053	0.20	387	25.73	<i>a</i>
7	186.32645	12.40963	-10.22 ± 0.06	-10.93 ± 0.06	0.819 ± 0.086	0.20	276	25.34	
8	186.33395	13.14852	-11.63 ± 0.01	-12.61 ± 0.01	0.922 ± 0.044	0.30	904	26.36	<i>a</i>
9	186.35361	13.10954	-10.06 ± 0.03	-10.85 ± 0.03	0.858 ± 0.080	0.05	335	26.11	<i>a</i>
10	186.36690	12.33431	-11.14 ± 0.04	-12.23 ± 0.04	1.079 ± 0.060	0.50	566	25.47	
11	186.41136	12.82371	-11.25 ± 0.01	-11.96 ± 0.01	0.949 ± 0.019	0.15	239	24.06	
12	186.43758	12.78776	-10.67 ± 0.01	-11.74 ± 0.01	1.055 ± 0.017	0.20	130	23.24	
13	186.44778	12.42193	-12.39 ± 0.02	-13.24 ± 0.02	0.959 ± 0.014	0.27	367	23.68	
14	186.50537	13.22742	-11.07 ± 0.02	-11.46 ± 0.02	0.808 ± 0.036	0.05	379	25.36	
15	186.54506	12.48158	-12.12 ± 0.01	-13.27 ± 0.01	0.963 ± 0.018	0.05	490	24.86	
16	186.57158	12.83289	-10.52 ± 0.02	-11.64 ± 0.02	0.981 ± 0.041	0.25	314	25.25	<i>a</i>
17	186.60013	12.41685	-8.68 ± 0.09	-10.61 ± 0.09	1.135 ± 0.111	0.10	133	25.41	
18	186.60918	12.65277	-10.26 ± 0.06	-11.74 ± 0.06	1.103 ± 0.070	0.40	321	25.31	
19	186.61797	12.97582	-10.63 ± 0.02	-11.58 ± 0.02	1.010 ± 0.014	0.05	100	22.92	
20	186.65869	11.89181	-11.39 ± 0.02	-12.01 ± 0.02	0.908 ± 0.053	0.05	568	25.92	
21	186.68047	12.29557	-12.62 ± 0.01	-13.45 ± 0.01	0.909 ± 0.016	0.05	633	24.92	
22	186.68597	13.18775	-9.71 ± 0.07	-10.03 ± 0.07	0.833 ± 0.115	0.35	291	25.73	<i>a</i>
23	186.70673	12.17863	-10.86 ± 0.02	-11.81 ± 0.02	0.916 ± 0.033	0.35	314	24.75	
24	186.76381	13.28985	-10.49 ± 0.03	-11.17 ± 0.03	0.706 ± 0.046	0.30	229	24.52	
25	186.76797	13.45586	-9.88 ± 0.05	-10.77 ± 0.05	0.967 ± 0.075	0.40	228	24.95	
26	186.80318	13.22085	-10.39 ± 0.04	-11.35 ± 0.04	0.923 ± 0.070	0.20	303	25.36	
27	186.81429	13.41314	-11.24 ± 0.05	-12.23 ± 0.05	1.153 ± 0.080	0.05	681	26.47	
28	186.81993	12.53548	-9.98 ± 0.03	-10.77 ± 0.03	0.769 ± 0.059	0.10	214	25.15	
29	186.83177	12.22115	-11.44 ± 0.02	-11.84 ± 0.02	0.756 ± 0.049	0.05	653	26.17	
30	186.83179	13.08700	-10.81 ± 0.04	-12.02 ± 0.04	0.896 ± 0.058	0.05	332	25.32	<i>a</i>
31	186.83453	11.69554	-10.99 ± 0.03	-11.75 ± 0.03	0.886 ± 0.063	0.20	520	25.93	
32	186.83725	12.57477	-11.71 ± 0.01	-12.82 ± 0.01	1.211 ± 0.012	0.25	165	22.66	
33	186.87318	11.73457	-10.36 ± 0.02	-10.99 ± 0.02	0.727 ± 0.052	0.45	288	24.88	
34	186.89905	12.62434	-12.43 ± 0.02	-12.87 ± 0.02	0.792 ± 0.040	0.50	1416	26.16	<i>c</i>
35	186.93100	11.96804	-11.52 ± 0.02	-12.58 ± 0.02	1.029 ± 0.049	0.10	643	26.00	
36	186.93483	12.55751	-10.67 ± 0.03	-11.59 ± 0.03	0.833 ± 0.057	0.10	495	26.28	
37	186.95143	13.07543	-12.79 ± 0.01	-13.57 ± 0.01	0.812 ± 0.007	0.02	214	22.43	
38	186.97136	12.38317	-10.81 ± 0.03	-11.57 ± 0.03	0.830 ± 0.053	0.05	417	25.82	
39	187.02469	12.83764	-11.02 ± 0.02	-11.89 ± 0.02	0.922 ± 0.028	0.18	219	24.06	
40	187.03290	12.40231	-9.96 ± 0.03	-10.69 ± 0.03	0.802 ± 0.070	0.15	271	25.61	
41	187.06409	12.56028	-10.10 ± 0.01	-11.27 ± 0.01	0.979 ± 0.034	0.45	275	25.05	<i>d</i>
42	187.07405	11.84793	-10.85 ± 0.03	-12.36 ± 0.03	1.295 ± 0.064	0.05	457	25.99	
43	187.08340	12.81626	-10.56 ± 0.02	-11.40 ± 0.02	0.922 ± 0.031	0.10	150	23.81	
44	187.08376	13.36015	-10.97 ± 0.06	-11.54 ± 0.06	0.852 ± 0.095	0.05	669	26.69	
45	187.12372	11.97202	-10.54 ± 0.03	-11.54 ± 0.03	0.802 ± 0.050	0.05	248	24.97	
46	187.13344	12.98780	-9.83 ± 0.05	-10.74 ± 0.05	0.952 ± 0.112	0.30	321	25.92	
47	187.16617	12.97799	-11.48 ± 0.03	-12.08 ± 0.03	0.901 ± 0.053	0.20	650	25.93	
48	187.18599	11.99365	-10.50 ± 0.02	-11.34 ± 0.02	0.848 ± 0.030	0.20	204	24.40	
49	187.19551	12.64202	-11.09 ± 0.03	-12.28 ± 0.03	0.979 ± 0.038	0.05	480	25.85	
50	187.20824	12.79630	-11.92 ± 0.01	-12.80 ± 0.01	0.974 ± 0.012	0.20	303	23.84	
51	187.21622	12.79762	-11.45 ± 0.01	-12.22 ± 0.01	0.895 ± 0.014	0.20	191	23.31	
52	187.22379	13.19753	-10.00 ± 0.04	-10.98 ± 0.04	1.028 ± 0.093	0.30	279	25.43	
53	187.24644	12.04175	-10.81 ± 0.03	-12.12 ± 0.03	0.968 ± 0.068	0.25	481	25.88	
54	187.24792	11.92320	-11.54 ± 0.03	-12.35 ± 0.03	0.889 ± 0.088	0.05	841	26.62	
55	187.28853	12.49628	-10.52 ± 0.04	-12.16 ± 0.04	1.112 ± 0.057	0.45	456	25.71	
56	187.33977	12.46774	-10.10 ± 0.04	-11.19 ± 0.04	1.021 ± 0.066	0.06	268	25.57	<i>e</i>
57	187.38072	12.57001	-12.15 ± 0.01	-13.15 ± 0.01	1.021 ± 0.011	0.37	373	23.80	
58	187.39923	12.75197	-9.97 ± 0.03	-10.94 ± 0.03	0.879 ± 0.034	0.20	134	24.01	
59	187.42303	12.49928	-9.99 ± 0.04	-10.95 ± 0.04	0.958 ± 0.069	0.26	291	25.59	
60	187.42992	12.65521	-9.69 ± 0.04	-10.76 ± 0.04	0.976 ± 0.069	0.10	204	25.33	
61	187.44878	12.57161	-9.10 ± 0.06	-9.62 ± 0.06	0.876 ± 0.126	0.20	229	26.04	
62	187.47418	12.62167	-12.03 ± 0.02	-12.33 ± 0.02	0.670 ± 0.035	0.20	952	26.21	<i>c</i>
63	187.50749	12.94782	-10.81 ± 0.03	-11.42 ± 0.03	0.766 ± 0.054	0.45	432	25.31	
64	187.51823	12.50990	-9.76 ± 0.11	-10.44 ± 0.11	0.786 ± 0.158	0.37	260	25.41	
65	187.52582	12.68849	-12.15 ± 0.01	-12.90 ± 0.01	0.904 ± 0.017	0.20	516	24.76	



Table 3. continued.

ID	$\alpha$ (J2000) [deg]	$\delta$ (J2000) [deg]	$M_V$ [mag]	$M_I$ [mag]	$(V - I)_{50}$ [mag]	$\epsilon$	$r_{50}$ [pc]	$\mu_{e,V}$ [mag/arcsec <sup>2</sup> ]	Reference
66	187.53278	12.38887	-10.80 ± 0.02	-12.15 ± 0.02	0.989 ± 0.027	0.05	203	24.28	
67	187.59959	12.43587	-10.91 ± 0.04	-12.40 ± 0.04	1.084 ± 0.053	0.05	463	25.95	<sup>b</sup>
68	187.61784	12.98260	-11.37 ± 0.02	-12.58 ± 0.02	1.148 ± 0.048	0.05	432	25.35	
69	187.62703	13.09423	-11.40 ± 0.02	-12.52 ± 0.02	0.985 ± 0.028	0.28	346	24.53	
70	187.63330	12.38538	-11.48 ± 0.01	-12.67 ± 0.01	1.256 ± 0.009	0.27	121	22.18	
71	187.63419	12.86409	-10.68 ± 0.03	-11.63 ± 0.03	1.087 ± 0.060	0.35	424	25.58	
72	187.64633	13.18908	-10.98 ± 0.02	-11.97 ± 0.02	0.979 ± 0.041	0.45	382	24.87	
73	187.66840	12.62156	-10.32 ± 0.03	-10.90 ± 0.03	0.854 ± 0.059	0.05	340	25.87	
74	187.70131	12.33112	-12.36 ± 0.02	-13.49 ± 0.02	1.155 ± 0.035	0.05	1046	26.27	
75	187.76324	12.35285	-11.78 ± 0.01	-12.48 ± 0.01	0.971 ± 0.022	0.15	490	25.09	
76	187.77147	12.49412	-10.64 ± 0.02	-11.18 ± 0.02	0.713 ± 0.045	0.15	326	25.35	
77	188.01996	12.39497	-10.83 ± 0.02	-11.88 ± 0.02	1.089 ± 0.032	0.30	288	24.67	

**Notes.** ID: galaxy identification number in our catalogue sorted by  $\alpha$ ;  $\alpha$  (J2000): right ascension;  $\delta$  (J2000): declination;  $M_V$ : absolute V-band magnitude in Virgo cluster distance (adopted  $m - M = 31.09$  mag);  $M_I$ : absolute I-band magnitude in Virgo cluster distance (adopted  $m - M = 31.09$  mag);  $(V - I)_{50}$ : colour  $V - I$  computed by the flux enclosed by an ellipse with half-light radius  $r_{50}$ ;  $\epsilon$ : ellipticity at half-light aperture;  $r_{50}$ : half-light radius determined by the half-light semi-major axis  $a_{50}$  and ellipticity  $\epsilon$  of an ellipse by  $r_{50} = a_{50} \sqrt{1 - \epsilon}$ ;  $\mu_{e,V}$ : effective surface brightness in V-Band determined by the ellipse enclosing half of the total flux.

**References.** literature reference catalogue if object was previously found <sup>(a)</sup> previously discovered by [Trentham & Tully \(2002\)](#); <sup>(b)</sup> previously discovered by [Trentham & Hodgkin \(2002\)](#); <sup>(c)</sup> previously discovered by [Impey et al. \(1988\)](#); <sup>(d)</sup> previously discovered by [Durrell et al. \(2007\)](#); <sup>(e)</sup> previously discovered by [Durrell \(1997\)](#).

**Table 4.** Properties of VCC catalogued galaxies and spectroscopically confirmed cluster members investigated in this study.

VCC index	$z$	$\alpha$ (J2000) [deg]	$\delta$ (J2000) [deg]	$M_V$ [mag]	$M_I$ [mag]	$(V - I)_{50}$ [mag]	$\epsilon$	$r_{50}$ [pc]	$\mu_{e,V}$ [mag/arcsec <sup>2</sup> ]
659	–	185.91063	12.62773	$-12.84 \pm 0.01$	$-13.81 \pm 0.01$	$0.867 \pm 0.014$	0.20	463	23.84
678	–	185.97064	12.77302	$-13.13 \pm 0.02$	$-14.58 \pm 0.02$	$0.987 \pm 0.023$	0.05	838	25.02
753	–	186.21513	13.11117	$-15.47 \pm 0.00$	$-16.20 \pm 0.00$	$0.915 \pm 0.003$	0.05	1485	23.92
765	–	186.26450	13.24465	$-15.50 \pm 0.00$	$-16.23 \pm 0.00$	$0.933 \pm 0.002$	0.05	557	21.76
736	0.0035	186.26556	12.88692	$-22.02 \pm 0.00$	$-23.19 \pm 0.00$	$1.217 \pm 0.000$	0.08	5188	20.05
767	–	186.27000	13.07546	$-11.29 \pm 0.02$	$-12.73 \pm 0.02$	$0.923 \pm 0.038$	0.05	499	25.74
775	–	186.29047	12.38251	$-13.24 \pm 0.02$	$-14.74 \pm 0.02$	$1.029 \pm 0.019$	0.35	1093	25.08
779	–	186.30466	13.02545	$-14.16 \pm 0.00$	$-15.22 \pm 0.00$	$0.937 \pm 0.006$	0.05	1027	24.43
781	-0.0006	186.31334	12.71468	$-16.85 \pm 0.00$	$-17.80 \pm 0.00$	$0.946 \pm 0.002$	0.40	908	20.98
793	0.0063	186.34026	13.07070	$-14.62 \pm 0.00$	$-15.23 \pm 0.00$	$0.627 \pm 0.003$	0.25	850	23.30
800	–	186.36095	12.67696	$-13.40 \pm 0.01$	$-14.03 \pm 0.01$	$0.820 \pm 0.015$	0.35	1029	24.78
–	0.0081	186.36891	12.63667	$-15.09 \pm 0.01$	$-15.82 \pm 0.01$	$0.900 \pm 0.005$	0.25	1276	23.72
803	–	186.37001	12.49356	$-12.47 \pm 0.02$	$-12.96 \pm 0.02$	$0.678 \pm 0.031$	0.45	979	25.42
804	–	186.37692	12.97707	$-12.02 \pm 0.01$	$-12.98 \pm 0.01$	$1.031 \pm 0.033$	0.10	815	26.01
810	–	186.38969	13.22728	$-14.93 \pm 0.00$	$-15.95 \pm 0.00$	$0.969 \pm 0.002$	0.05	707	22.86
814	–	186.40282	12.84969	$-13.75 \pm 0.01$	$-14.35 \pm 0.01$	$0.793 \pm 0.011$	0.10	1392	25.45
815	–	186.40504	13.14373	$-15.70 \pm 0.00$	$-16.80 \pm 0.00$	$0.923 \pm 0.002$	0.15	1271	23.23
–	0.0019	186.42220	13.04777	$-13.59 \pm 0.00$	$-14.18 \pm 0.00$	$0.791 \pm 0.004$	0.30	487	23.06
828	0.0016	186.42368	12.81051	$-18.99 \pm 0.00$	$-20.22 \pm 0.00$	$1.227 \pm 0.000$	0.41	1099	19.23
833	–	186.43604	13.02213	$-14.28 \pm 0.00$	$-15.61 \pm 0.00$	$1.090 \pm 0.003$	0.05	626	23.23
838	–	186.44617	12.76034	$-14.08 \pm 0.01$	$-14.94 \pm 0.01$	$0.926 \pm 0.006$	0.10	569	23.17
844	–	186.45151	13.12248	$-12.37 \pm 0.01$	$-13.29 \pm 0.01$	$0.904 \pm 0.014$	0.30	567	24.60
843	–	186.45448	12.80439	$-12.74 \pm 0.01$	$-13.86 \pm 0.01$	$1.009 \pm 0.011$	0.18	509	24.16
846	–	186.46049	13.19765	$-15.53 \pm 0.00$	$-16.58 \pm 0.00$	$1.007 \pm 0.002$	0.19	1023	22.89
850	–	186.46996	13.19232	$-12.83 \pm 0.01$	$-13.91 \pm 0.01$	$0.924 \pm 0.011$	0.40	761	24.61
854	0.0023	186.48209	12.76975	$-14.18 \pm 0.01$	$-15.04 \pm 0.01$	$0.823 \pm 0.006$	0.64	1005	23.31
871	0.0048	186.52353	12.55965	$-16.50 \pm 0.00$	$-17.48 \pm 0.00$	$1.019 \pm 0.002$	0.34	2159	23.31
872	–	186.52789	12.86098	$-14.64 \pm 0.00$	$-15.64 \pm 0.00$	$1.075 \pm 0.002$	0.05	649	22.95
876	–	186.54010	12.39512	$-12.97 \pm 0.01$	$-13.76 \pm 0.01$	$0.891 \pm 0.009$	0.45	734	24.30
881	-0.0008	186.54901	12.94619	$-22.36 \pm 0.00$	$-23.59 \pm 0.00$	$1.439 \pm 0.000$	0.26	10149	20.94
880	–	186.54947	12.08699	$-11.02 \pm 0.02$	$-12.66 \pm 0.02$	$1.187 \pm 0.046$	0.30	350	24.91
882	0.0037	186.56332	12.96382	$-16.77 \pm 0.00$	$-18.39 \pm 0.00$	$1.071 \pm 0.001$	0.29	1711	22.61
886	–	186.56369	13.34086	$-10.75 \pm 0.03$	$-11.48 \pm 0.03$	$0.917 \pm 0.052$	0.30	283	24.71
884	–	186.56528	13.14302	$-13.54 \pm 0.01$	$-14.39 \pm 0.01$	$1.011 \pm 0.018$	0.20	2005	26.32
892	–	186.58354	12.51032	$-13.37 \pm 0.01$	$-14.30 \pm 0.01$	$0.900 \pm 0.005$	0.12	429	23.25
896	–	186.59430	12.78657	$-13.91 \pm 0.00$	$-14.69 \pm 0.00$	$0.926 \pm 0.005$	0.35	812	23.76
898	–	186.59850	13.37354	$-13.07 \pm 0.01$	$-13.78 \pm 0.01$	$0.955 \pm 0.011$	0.40	550	23.67
903	–	186.61694	12.92060	$-12.07 \pm 0.01$	$-13.07 \pm 0.01$	$0.877 \pm 0.009$	0.15	267	23.48
916	0.0043	186.63835	12.74302	$-15.99 \pm 0.00$	$-17.29 \pm 0.00$	$1.259 \pm 0.002$	0.05	420	20.66
923	–	186.65141	12.80280	$-13.32 \pm 0.01$	$-14.08 \pm 0.01$	$0.931 \pm 0.019$	0.05	915	25.03
928	-0.0008	186.66585	12.51358	$-15.71 \pm 0.00$	$-16.70 \pm 0.00$	$1.014 \pm 0.002$	0.42	888	22.03
930	–	186.67143	12.84534	$-13.24 \pm 0.01$	$-14.40 \pm 0.01$	$1.050 \pm 0.014$	0.47	910	24.46
937	–	186.69421	13.26675	$-12.71 \pm 0.03$	$-13.61 \pm 0.03$	$1.085 \pm 0.035$	0.05	1139	26.11
940	0.0047	186.69611	12.45402	$-17.11 \pm 0.00$	$-18.14 \pm 0.00$	$1.120 \pm 0.002$	0.10	1566	22.34
941	–	186.69948	13.37916	$-12.86 \pm 0.01$	$-13.79 \pm 0.01$	$0.988 \pm 0.009$	0.38	421	23.34
942	–	186.70206	12.39992	$-12.08 \pm 0.01$	$-12.88 \pm 0.01$	$0.881 \pm 0.020$	0.30	472	24.50
951	0.0069	186.72653	11.66373	$-17.57 \pm 0.00$	$-18.79 \pm 0.00$	$1.017 \pm 0.001$	0.34	2129	22.21
956	–	186.73503	12.96155	$-12.44 \pm 0.02$	$-14.60 \pm 0.02$	$1.333 \pm 0.025$	0.30	678	24.92
959	–	186.74010	12.42105	$-11.95 \pm 0.02$	$-13.32 \pm 0.02$	$1.101 \pm 0.035$	0.35	770	25.60
962	–	186.74625	12.50578	$-15.20 \pm 0.00$	$-16.22 \pm 0.00$	$1.018 \pm 0.006$	0.40	2388	24.73
965	0.0028	186.76282	12.56079	$-16.55 \pm 0.00$	$-17.64 \pm 0.00$	$1.024 \pm 0.002$	0.58	1910	22.50
967	–	186.76572	12.86657	$-12.99 \pm 0.01$	$-13.98 \pm 0.01$	$0.996 \pm 0.012$	0.40	575	23.85
968	–	186.77528	13.32370	$-13.11 \pm 0.01$	$-13.98 \pm 0.01$	$0.911 \pm 0.011$	0.40	638	23.95
972	–	186.78506	13.33580	$-14.78 \pm 0.01$	$-15.89 \pm 0.01$	$1.033 \pm 0.005$	0.15	1218	24.06
977	–	186.79684	12.03815	$-13.68 \pm 0.01$	$-14.64 \pm 0.01$	$1.017 \pm 0.005$	0.31	462	22.83
978	–	186.79701	12.11454	$-13.45 \pm 0.01$	$-14.11 \pm 0.01$	$0.795 \pm 0.010$	0.55	1225	24.71
987	–	186.81487	12.66054	$-13.62 \pm 0.01$	$-14.04 \pm 0.01$	$0.819 \pm 0.032$	0.30	2303	26.40
996	–	186.83794	13.11119	$-13.70 \pm 0.01$	$-14.40 \pm 0.01$	$0.919 \pm 0.011$	0.40	1154	24.64
997	–	186.84235	12.06869	$-13.74 \pm 0.01$	$-14.70 \pm 0.01$	$0.991 \pm 0.006$	0.15	620	23.63
998	–	186.84776	12.33168	$-13.79 \pm 0.01$	$-14.23 \pm 0.01$	$0.865 \pm 0.009$	0.30	966	24.34
1004	–	186.85379	13.40630	$-12.84 \pm 0.02$	$-14.09 \pm 0.02$	$1.068 \pm 0.033$	0.05	1054	25.81
1008	–	186.86234	11.94263	$-11.28 \pm 0.02$	$-12.09 \pm 0.02$	$0.835 \pm 0.033$	0.10	336	24.82
1015	–	186.87306	12.26924	$-11.30 \pm 0.02$	$-12.18 \pm 0.02$	$0.880 \pm 0.028$	0.38	417	24.87
1014	–	186.87408	12.25202	$-12.54 \pm 0.01$	$-13.37 \pm 0.01$	$0.847 \pm 0.020$	0.30	853	25.32
1023	–	186.89363	12.80369	$-12.57 \pm 0.02$	$-13.50 \pm 0.02$	$0.974 \pm 0.049$	0.15	1283	26.39

Table 4. continued.

VCC index	$z$	$\alpha$ (J2000) [deg]	$\delta$ (J2000) [deg]	$M_V$ [mag]	$M_I$ [mag]	$(V - I)_{50}$ [mag]	$\epsilon$	$r_{50}$ [pc]	$\mu_{e,V}$ [mag/arcsec <sup>2</sup> ]
1027	0.0003	186.91357	12.87996	-13.99 ± 0.01	-14.80 ± 0.01	0.937 ± 0.013	0.05	1327	25.16
1037	–	186.92352	12.48785	-11.87 ± 0.01	-12.39 ± 0.01	0.775 ± 0.022	0.34	532	24.90
1035	-0.0017	186.92545	12.08967	-15.30 ± 0.00	-16.24 ± 0.00	0.907 ± 0.002	0.20	500	21.54
1041	–	186.94353	11.74127	-11.68 ± 0.02	-12.32 ± 0.02	0.886 ± 0.034	0.05	486	25.29
1046	–	186.95621	12.49964	-11.59 ± 0.02	-12.64 ± 0.02	0.881 ± 0.037	0.05	582	25.77
1051	–	186.97731	12.60450	-12.17 ± 0.01	-13.07 ± 0.01	0.936 ± 0.026	0.50	674	24.81
1059	0.0075	187.00186	11.94979	-13.71 ± 0.00	-14.61 ± 0.00	0.946 ± 0.004	0.61	608	22.78
1069	0.0077	187.02718	12.89818	-15.16 ± 0.00	-16.14 ± 0.00	1.016 ± 0.003	0.60	1021	22.48
1070	–	187.02823	12.97863	-12.23 ± 0.02	-12.99 ± 0.02	0.802 ± 0.027	0.10	601	25.14
1073	0.0063	187.03587	12.09328	-17.65 ± 0.00	-18.70 ± 0.00	1.127 ± 0.001	0.35	1963	21.94
1077	–	187.04286	12.80894	-12.30 ± 0.01	-13.21 ± 0.01	0.930 ± 0.018	0.05	421	24.36
1083	–	187.05096	11.97039	-12.02 ± 0.01	-13.07 ± 0.01	0.949 ± 0.019	0.20	426	24.48
1081	–	187.05338	13.01494	-12.35 ± 0.01	-13.23 ± 0.01	0.958 ± 0.015	0.35	629	24.77
1093	0.0049	187.07803	11.70027	-14.84 ± 0.00	-15.93 ± 0.00	0.998 ± 0.004	0.05	965	23.62
1101	0.0059	187.09848	13.19574	-15.62 ± 0.00	-16.82 ± 0.00	1.034 ± 0.003	0.55	1547	23.05
1103	–	187.10948	12.34587	-12.82 ± 0.01	-12.74 ± 0.01	0.520 ± 0.026	0.05	1295	26.28
1104	0.0057	187.11690	12.82368	-16.36 ± 0.00	-17.36 ± 0.00	1.088 ± 0.002	0.30	1164	22.18
1115	–	187.13548	11.74473	-14.11 ± 0.00	-14.94 ± 0.00	0.928 ± 0.007	0.10	1052	24.48
1122	0.0015	187.17380	12.91592	-16.85 ± 0.00	-17.90 ± 0.00	1.100 ± 0.002	0.58	1292	21.36
1123	0.0063	187.17764	12.54976	-14.79 ± 0.00	-15.79 ± 0.00	1.022 ± 0.004	0.19	1296	24.14
1129	0.0000	187.18709	12.80956	-13.86 ± 0.00	-14.85 ± 0.00	1.022 ± 0.005	0.18	620	23.48
1131	–	187.19077	12.02186	-13.45 ± 0.01	-14.31 ± 0.01	0.920 ± 0.009	0.20	950	24.78
1136	–	187.20448	12.13161	-13.23 ± 0.01	-14.02 ± 0.01	0.880 ± 0.010	0.36	1073	25.03
1139	–	187.21362	11.95757	-11.39 ± 0.02	-12.11 ± 0.02	0.767 ± 0.029	0.10	417	25.18
1143	–	187.23154	12.70682	-12.62 ± 0.01	-13.55 ± 0.01	1.011 ± 0.014	0.05	544	24.59
1147	–	187.24036	11.95570	-11.14 ± 0.01	-12.07 ± 0.01	0.942 ± 0.025	0.21	304	24.61
1148	0.0047	187.24223	12.66174	-15.85 ± 0.00	-17.16 ± 0.00	1.280 ± 0.002	0.05	396	20.67
1149	–	187.24571	12.90790	-13.84 ± 0.01	-15.09 ± 0.01	1.085 ± 0.015	0.05	1432	25.48
1153	–	187.24922	12.64835	-13.99 ± 0.00	-14.97 ± 0.00	1.052 ± 0.005	0.38	858	23.75
1157	–	187.25827	12.43486	-12.64 ± 0.01	-13.54 ± 0.01	0.949 ± 0.019	0.20	863	25.39
1162	–	187.27148	12.15374	-11.87 ± 0.02	-12.73 ± 0.02	0.965 ± 0.052	0.10	684	25.78
1161	–	187.27260	12.03124	-12.51 ± 0.01	-13.50 ± 0.01	0.962 ± 0.023	0.35	655	24.69
1173	0.0080	187.31190	12.97797	-15.51 ± 0.00	-16.57 ± 0.00	1.088 ± 0.002	0.45	921	22.25
1177	–	187.33018	12.37704	-13.04 ± 0.01	-14.19 ± 0.01	0.983 ± 0.012	0.68	1173	24.66
1185	0.0017	187.34798	12.45080	-15.80 ± 0.00	-16.93 ± 0.00	1.165 ± 0.002	0.05	1002	22.74
1191	–	187.36948	12.49619	-13.93 ± 0.01	-14.89 ± 0.01	0.965 ± 0.006	0.35	882	23.92
–	0.0041	187.39005	13.19570	-13.11 ± 0.00	-13.90 ± 0.00	0.675 ± 0.007	0.35	360	22.80
1202	–	187.39815	13.21121	-10.60 ± 0.03	-11.37 ± 0.03	0.879 ± 0.053	0.35	298	24.90
1213	0.0037	187.41348	12.54826	-15.12 ± 0.00	-16.14 ± 0.00	1.041 ± 0.004	0.05	1056	23.53
1216	–	187.42232	12.04649	-12.71 ± 0.01	-13.54 ± 0.01	0.864 ± 0.026	0.25	797	25.08
1219	–	187.43367	12.80547	-13.38 ± 0.01	-14.25 ± 0.01	0.936 ± 0.008	0.19	516	23.55
1229	–	187.44662	13.07623	-12.00 ± 0.01	-13.07 ± 0.01	0.993 ± 0.017	0.15	325	23.98
1244	–	187.48473	13.22007	-13.24 ± 0.01	-13.77 ± 0.01	0.827 ± 0.011	0.08	621	24.23
1251	–	187.50479	13.11810	-11.76 ± 0.02	-12.77 ± 0.02	0.983 ± 0.030	0.20	471	24.95
1259	–	187.52544	12.37726	-13.50 ± 0.01	-14.51 ± 0.01	0.919 ± 0.008	0.55	1011	24.24
1264	–	187.54538	12.19552	-14.66 ± 0.00	-15.80 ± 0.00	0.964 ± 0.007	0.05	1004	23.89
1271	–	187.56360	12.51589	-12.16 ± 0.01	-13.16 ± 0.01	0.975 ± 0.018	0.20	565	24.95
1279	0.0045	187.57256	12.32848	-19.73 ± 0.01	-20.92 ± 0.01	1.253 ± 0.005	0.17	1054	18.77
1278	–	187.57257	12.24105	-12.93 ± 0.01	-13.91 ± 0.01	0.898 ± 0.022	0.20	846	25.06
1277	–	187.57497	12.04175	-11.79 ± 0.02	-12.86 ± 0.02	1.035 ± 0.038	0.30	593	25.28
1282	–	187.57590	12.57139	-11.75 ± 0.02	-12.55 ± 0.02	0.832 ± 0.027	0.57	785	25.40
1286	–	187.60255	12.79299	-11.97 ± 0.02	-13.33 ± 0.02	1.093 ± 0.029	0.45	729	25.29
1298	–	187.63908	12.90059	-13.70 ± 0.01	-14.53 ± 0.01	0.961 ± 0.009	0.40	1051	24.45
1300	–	187.64432	12.45821	-12.65 ± 0.01	-13.71 ± 0.01	1.000 ± 0.009	0.15	378	23.65
–	0.0043	187.69296	12.09916	-13.77 ± 0.00	-14.62 ± 0.00	0.729 ± 0.006	0.30	406	22.48
1310	–	187.69531	13.21397	-11.91 ± 0.01	-12.88 ± 0.01	1.012 ± 0.020	0.18	363	24.26
1313	0.0042	187.70210	12.04514	-14.31 ± 0.00	-14.65 ± 0.00	0.195 ± 0.004	0.35	182	20.12
1314	–	187.70425	13.22386	-14.53 ± 0.00	-15.53 ± 0.00	1.031 ± 0.005	0.41	1036	23.56
1316	0.0044	187.70596	12.39114	-22.20 ± 0.01	-23.60 ± 0.01	1.354 ± 0.005	0.09	4976	19.77
1317	–	187.71080	12.73658	-13.64 ± 0.01	-14.56 ± 0.01	0.977 ± 0.005	0.15	584	23.60
1335	–	187.76375	12.07797	-11.97 ± 0.02	-12.88 ± 0.02	0.921 ± 0.032	0.20	520	24.96
1348	0.0065	187.81554	12.33178	-16.14 ± 0.00	-17.35 ± 0.00	1.235 ± 0.004	0.04	663	21.52
1353	–	187.83095	12.73802	-15.22 ± 0.00	-16.27 ± 0.00	1.037 ± 0.004	0.17	639	22.20
1352	0.0062	187.83150	12.61151	-14.40 ± 0.01	-15.50 ± 0.01	1.127 ± 0.008	0.30	791	23.29
1381	–	187.93323	12.61242	-12.68 ± 0.02	-13.70 ± 0.02	1.003 ± 0.028	0.27	651	24.63
1386	0.0043	187.96394	12.65699	-16.53 ± 0.00	-17.51 ± 0.00	1.059 ± 0.003	0.34	1542	22.54



Table 4. continued.

VCC index	$z$	$\alpha$ (J2000) [deg]	$\delta$ (J2000) [deg]	$M_V$ [mag]	$M_I$ [mag]	$(V - I)_{50}$ [mag]	$\epsilon$	$r_{50}$ [pc]	$\mu_{e,V}$ [mag/arcsec <sup>2</sup> ]
1389	0.0029	187.96672	12.48177	$-15.57 \pm 0.00$	$-16.65 \pm 0.00$	$1.103 \pm 0.005$	0.28	836	22.28
1399	0.0016	188.00314	12.62034	$-14.70 \pm 0.00$	$-15.89 \pm 0.00$	$1.016 \pm 0.006$	0.48	900	22.96
1413	–	188.03178	12.43426	$-13.60 \pm 0.02$	$-14.66 \pm 0.02$	$1.066 \pm 0.018$	0.22	928	24.56
1418	–	188.04730	12.50683	$-14.22 \pm 0.01$	$-15.33 \pm 0.01$	$1.062 \pm 0.010$	0.36	930	23.73
1438	–	188.14555	12.64104	$-13.03 \pm 0.03$	$-13.73 \pm 0.03$	$0.887 \pm 0.047$	0.10	1411	26.20
1448	0.0086	188.17004	12.77097	$-17.80 \pm 0.00$	$-18.72 \pm 0.00$	$0.988 \pm 0.002$	0.20	3639	23.36
1466	–	188.23056	12.63519	$-12.28 \pm 0.02$	$-12.86 \pm 0.02$	$0.875 \pm 0.029$	0.20	453	24.35
1493	–	188.32085	12.58180	$-12.74 \pm 0.02$	$-13.60 \pm 0.02$	$0.944 \pm 0.018$	0.50	537	23.75

**Notes.** VCC index: index in the Virgo cluster catalogue (Binggeli et al. 1985);  $z$ : redshift taken from NED; remaining labels: see Table 3. Objects without VCC index are spectroscopically confirmed Virgo cluster members.