

FORMATION OF BRIGHTEST CLUSTER MEMBERS

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ABSTRACT. We discuss N-body simulations of groups of galaxies evolving from a wide variety of initial conditions. Both simulations with and without a common halo encompassing the whole group are considered. In most cases a central dominant galaxy is formed, at a rate depending on the initial conditions. We compare its properties with those of brightest cluster members and find good agreement. In particular we find back the three types of projected radial density profiles observed by Schombert 18 for brightest cluster members.

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