

# Galactic outflow rates in the EAGLE simulations

Peter D. Mitchell<sup>\*1,2</sup>, Joop Schaye<sup>1</sup>, Richard G. Bower<sup>3</sup>, and Robert A. Crain<sup>4</sup>,

<sup>1</sup>*Leiden Observatory, Leiden University, P.O. Box 9513, 2300 RA Leiden, the Netherlands*

<sup>2</sup>*Univ Lyon, Univ Lyon1, Ens de Lyon, CNRS, Centre de Recherche Astrophysique de Lyon UMR5574, F-69230, Saint-Genis-Laval, France*

<sup>3</sup>*Institute for Computational Cosmology, Department of Physics, Durham University, South Road, Durham, DH1 3LE, UK*

<sup>4</sup>*Astrophysics Research Institute, Liverpool John Moores University, 146 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool L3 5RF, UK*

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## ABSTRACT

We present measurements of galactic outflow rates from the EAGLE suite of cosmological simulations. We find that gas is removed from the interstellar medium (ISM) of central galaxies with a dimensionless mass loading factor that scales approximately with circular velocity as  $V_c^{-3/2}$  in the low-mass regime where stellar feedback dominates. Feedback from active galactic nuclei (AGN) causes an upturn in the mass loading for halo masses  $> 10^{12} M_\odot$ . We find that more gas outflows through the halo virial radius than is removed from the ISM of galaxies, particularly at low redshift, implying substantial mass loading within the circumgalactic medium. Outflow velocities span a wide range at a given halo mass/redshift, and on average increase positively with redshift and halo mass up to  $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_\odot$ . We present a number of like-for-like comparisons to outflow rates from other recent cosmological hydrodynamical simulations, and show that comparing the propagation of galactic winds as a function of radius reveals substantial discrepancies between different models. Relative to some other simulations, EAGLE favours a scenario for stellar feedback where agreement with the galaxy stellar mass function is achieved by removing smaller amounts of gas from the ISM, but with galactic winds that then propagate and entrain ambient gas out to larger radii.

**Key words:** galaxies: formation – galaxies: evolution – galaxies: haloes – galaxies: stellar content

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In the modern cosmological paradigm, galaxies grow within dark matter haloes, which represent collapsed density fluctuations that in turn grow via gravitational instability from a near-homogeneous initial density field. In this picture, galaxies do not form in monolithic formation events, and instead grow gradually via sustained periods of gaseous inflow from the larger-scale environment, tracing the hierarchical buildup of dark matter haloes (e.g. Blumenthal et al. 1984). Star formation within the ISM is efficient over a Hubble timescale, and as such, galaxy evolution is to zeroth order set by the fluxes of gas into and out of the ISM.

Observationally, direct measurements of inflowing gas fluxes have remained elusive, with only a handful of reported detections (e.g. Rubin et al. 2012; Fox et al. 2014; Roberts-Borsani & Sain tonge 2019). Detections and evidence for outflowing gas is comparatively plentiful (e.g. Heckman et al. 2000; Strickland & Heckman 2009; Feruglio et al. 2010; Steidel et al. 2010; Rubin et al. 2014; Schroetter et al. 2016), although determinations of the associated

mass flux are likely beset by a number of systematic uncertainties (e.g. Chisholm et al. 2016), and a given outflow tracer probes gas over only a subset of the relevant spatial scales and gas phases.

The need for substantial outflowing fluxes has long been recognised, for example in order to explain the form of the observed galaxy luminosity function (e.g. White & Frenk 1991; Benson et al. 2003), the correlation between galaxy mass and metallicity (e.g. Larson 1974), and the presence of metals in the diffuse intergalactic medium (e.g. Aguirre et al. 2001). Feedback in the form of mass, momentum, and energy input from massive stars and supermassive black holes is thought to be responsible for driving outflows from galaxies (e.g. Larson 1974; Silk & Rees 1998). These feedback mechanisms are a core element of modern phenomenological models and simulations that reproduce the observed properties of the overall galaxy population (e.g. Somerville et al. 2008; Vogelsberger et al. 2014; Schaye et al. 2015).

Determining the efficiency with which galactic winds are driven as a function of the rates at which mass, momentum and energy are injected into the ISM represents one of the major outstanding challenges of modern astrophysics, both from the observational and theoretical perspectives. Relevant radiative losses occur in principle over an enormous dynamic range in scale, and depend

\* E-mail: mitchell@strw.leidenuniv.nl

on the properties of the ambient medium over this range. Numerical simulations are routinely used to explore this problem, again over scales ranging from the small-scale ISM (e.g. Chevalier 1974; Walch & Naab 2015), to the entire galaxy population (Nelson et al. 2019), and scales in between (e.g. Hopkins et al. 2012; Creasey et al. 2013; Kim & Ostriker 2018).

On the large-scale end of this distribution of numerical studies, the EAGLE simulation project simulates the formation and evolution of galaxies within the full  $\Lambda$  Cold Dark Matter context, integrating periodic cubic boxes (up to  $100^3 \text{ Mpc}^3$  in volume) down to  $z = 0$  (Schaye et al. 2015; Crain et al. 2015). At the reference resolution of the project, these simulations employ a fiducial baryonic particle mass of  $1.81 \times 10^6 M_\odot$ , and reach a maximum spatial resolution of about 1 kpc at  $z = 0$ , and so do not resolve the physics of the ISM. As with other simulations of this type (e.g. Schaye et al. 2010; Vogelsberger et al. 2014; Dubois et al. 2014; Davé et al. 2017), this means that the EAGLE simulations cannot make accurate predictions for the radiative losses that occur on ISM scales, and a strategy must be adopted to avoid the spurious losses that would occur should the energy injected by feedback be smoothly distributed.

In the case of EAGLE, spurious losses are mitigated by heating relatively few ISM particles to a high temperature ( $10^{7.5} \text{ K}$  for stellar feedback, Dalla Vecchia & Schaye 2012), with the unresolved radiative losses then set by hand with model parameters that are calibrated by comparing to various observational constraints. As discussed by Crain et al. (2015), it is possible to produce an acceptable fit to the galaxy stellar mass function inferred from observations by assuming that 100% of the energy available from Type-II supernovae (SNe) is able to heat gas to high temperatures (in addition to the energy injection provided by AGN). To also reproduce the observed distributions of galaxy sizes as a function of mass, it was found that the energy injected per unit stellar mass had to vary by factors of a few, scaling negatively with gas metallicity and positively with density.

EAGLE is therefore differentiated from a number of similar projects (e.g. Vogelsberger et al. 2014; Davé et al. 2017) that instead mitigate spurious losses by temporarily decoupling the particles that are kicked by feedback from the hydrodynamical scheme, and also disabling radiative cooling for these particles. In such alternative schemes, particles are explicitly kicked with a velocity that scales linearly with the circular velocity of the system, and the rate of mass of particles kicked per unit rate of mass of stars formed (defining the dimensionless mass loading factor) is assumed to scale negatively with circular velocity. As no such explicit scaling with galaxy properties is utilised in EAGLE<sup>1</sup>, the mass loading and velocities of galactic winds are instead emergent phenomena, presumably determined (for example) by the escape velocity of system, and the column density of gas that winds must push through to break out of the ISM.

We set out in this study to measure the outflow rates of galactic winds from central galaxies in the EAGLE simulations. At a basic level, this allows us to better understand how and why different aspects of galaxy evolution proceed in a given manner within the simulation, adding valuable information that can be used to interpret the myriad of other results already published based on analyses of EAGLE. This work also serves as an introduction to a more complete upcoming study of the network of inflows, outflows, and

recycling of gas flows from EAGLE, and we take care to explain our methodology within this context. For a more observations-focused analysis of outflows in the EAGLE simulations, we refer readers to Tesfari et al. (2018), who analyse the simulations within the context of recent integral field unit observations.

On a broader level, we use our measurements of outflow rates to provide a viable quantitative scenario for how galaxy evolution might proceed across most of the relevant redshift range and galaxy mass scales. We make the effort to show like-for-like comparisons with other simulation projects (both large-volume simulations and zoom-in simulations) to check whether there is yet any consensus emerging from cosmological simulations (the short answer is that there is little quantitative agreement at present, but there is rough qualitative agreement). All of the simulations we compare to achieve (to a greater or lesser extent) at least somewhat reasonable agreement with the observed stellar properties of galaxies, and so the range of outflow rates shown in the comparisons might guide observers as well as smaller-scale simulators as to what is likely required from galactic winds in order to explain the observed galaxy stellar mass function.

The layout of this paper as follows: we introduce our methodology for measuring outflow rates in Section 2, we present measurements of outflow rates and velocities from EAGLE in Section 3. We finish by placing our work into the wider context of theoretical models, simulations and observations in Section 4, and we summarise our results in Section 5.

## 2 METHODS

### 2.1 Rationale

Our objective is to measure the amount of gas that is ejected from galaxies and their associated dark matter haloes in the EAGLE simulations. This is essential in order to understand the emergent relationship between stellar mass, gas mass (in the ISM and also the circum-galactic medium out to the virial radius), and total halo mass. Outflow rates can be measured from simulations using either Eulerian or Lagrangian methods. The former involves measuring the instantaneous flux of outflowing gas through a surface (or within a shell) at a given distance from the center of the galaxy or halo (e.g. Dalla Vecchia & Schaye 2008; Mitchell et al. 2018a; Nelson et al. 2019). The latter method involves measuring the flux of mass that crosses a surface over a discrete time interval (e.g. Neistein et al. 2012; Christensen et al. 2016; Anglés-Alcázar et al. 2017).

We opt to use a Lagrangian method to measure outflow rates. Our primary motivation for this choice is that the method enables accurate measurements of the correct time-integrated outflow rate of a given galaxy. This is particularly pertinent for the EAGLE simulations, where the high heating temperature used in the subgrid model leads to highly time-variable instantaneous outflow rates. The primary drawback of the Lagrangian method is that correct time-integrated fluxes are only obtained if fluid elements cross the surface only once over the finite time interval adopted (fluid elements that cross multiple times cause an underestimate of the true time-integrated flux). In practice, this means that a substantial number of simulation outputs (roughly 200 in our case) are required to achieve converged outflow rates of gas being ejected from the ISM (see Appendix A1), as the timescale between gas entering and exiting the ISM can be short compared to the halo dynamical time. As an aside, when we show average radial velocities, or energy and

<sup>1</sup> Beyond the residual dependence of the fraction of energy injected on local gas density and metallicity.

momentum fluxes, we will switch to Eulerian measurements based on discrete shells; this is because (unlike mass) these quantities are not necessarily conserved after leaving the ISM, and so are more clearly defined at a fixed radius.

Another aspect of measuring gas fluxes from simulations is the choice of surface or shell, and the choice of which subset of the fluid elements flowing through the surface should be selected for the measurement. On the one hand, simple choices for both yield measurements that are easy to reproduce and compare with other simulations, and the same also applies for comparison with observational studies to some extent. On the other hand, adopting an arbitrary choice of surface runs the risk of not capturing the desired quantity, which we take to be the flux of gas being removed from the ISM. In simulations like EAGLE that model the galaxy population across a wide range in mass and redshift, the star-forming gaseous content of a galaxy can vary hugely in structure and spatial scale (both in an absolute sense and relative to the halo), as is ably demonstrated by the two examples shown in appendix C of Mitchell et al. (2018b). Furthermore, non-negligible amounts of the outflowing flux on scales close to the ISM can be associated with gas that is moving past pericenter on orbits that are driven primarily by gravity (rather than by feedback).

For these reasons, we have adopted (and laboriously checked) criteria that select gas that was within the ISM (at the previous simulation output) and has now (at the current simulation output) exited the ISM, and is in the process of moving out over a significant distance into the circum-galactic medium. A direct comparison of simple Eulerian measurements with our full Lagrangian criteria is shown in Appendix A4, for readers who may be interested to see the impact of our selection criteria on our conclusions. Our methodology is similar to that of Christensen et al. (2016), who measure gas particles that leave an ISM defined in a similar way using phase cuts, and that outflow with kinetic energy exceeding that of the gravitational potential, as well as that of Anglés-Alcázar et al. (2017), who perform similar measurements but instead define the ISM with a Friends-of-Friends algorithm, along with a cut in gas density.

## 2.2 Simulations and subgrid physics

The EAGLE project is a suite of hydrodynamical simulations that simulate the formation and evolution of galaxies within the context of the  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmological model (Schaye et al. 2015), and that have been publically released (McAlpine et al. 2016). The suite was created using a modified version of the GADGET-3 code (last presented in Springel et al. 2005), and features a number of cosmological periodic boxes containing both gas and dark matter, integrated down to  $z = 0$ . Cosmological parameters are set following Planck Collaboration et al. (2014), with  $\Omega_m = 0.307$ ,  $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.693$ ,  $\Omega_b = 0.04825$ ,  $h = 0.6777$  and  $\sigma_8 = 0.8288$ . The suite employs a state-of-the-art implementation of smoothed particle hydrodynamics (SPH, see Schaye et al. 2015; Schaller et al. 2015), and a range of subgrid models which account for important physical processes that are not resolved by the simulation (radiative cooling, star formation, stellar mass loss and metal enrichment, supermassive black hole (SMBH) growth, energy injection from stellar and AGN feedback).

Unless otherwise stated, all results presented here are produced using the reference  $100^3 \text{ cMpc}^3$  simulation, which includes  $1504^3$  particles for both gas and dark matter, with particles masses of  $1.81 \times 10^6 M_\odot$  and  $9.70 \times 10^7 M_\odot$  for gas and dark matter respectively. This simulation, (referred to as *L0100N1504* in Schaye

et al. 2015) uses the subgrid models and parameters of the EAGLE reference model described by Schaye et al. (2015) (and also discussed in detail by Crain et al. 2015). Hereafter, we refer to this simulation as the 100 Mpc reference run. In some parts we also utilise smaller  $25^3$  and  $50^3 \text{ cMpc}^3$  versions of the reference simulation (with the same physics and resolution), as well as a  $50^3 \text{ cMpc}^3$  simulation that was simulated without AGN feedback.

An overview of the salient aspects of the EAGLE reference model within the context of this study is as follows. Firstly, stars are allowed to form above the metallicity-dependent threshold for which the gas is expected to become cold and molecular (Schaye 2004),

$$n_{\text{H}}^* = \min \left( 0.1 \left( \frac{Z}{0.002} \right)^{-0.64}, 10 \right) \text{ cm}^{-3}, \quad (1)$$

where  $Z$  is the gas metallicity. Gas particles are artificially pressurized up to a minimum pressure floor set proportional to gas density as  $P \propto \rho_{\text{g}}^{4/3}$ , normalized to a temperature of  $T = 8 \times 10^3 \text{ K}$  at a hydrogen density of  $n_{\text{H}} = 0.1 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  (Schaye & Dalla Vecchia 2008). This acts to ensure that the thermal Jeans mass is always at least marginally resolved, but prevents the formation of a cold ISM phase. In addition to Eqn 1, gas particles are eligible to form stars only if they are within 0.5 dex in temperature from the temperature floor.

Star formation is implemented stochastically as described in Schaye & Dalla Vecchia (2008), with individual gas particles being converted into collisionless star particles by sampling from a probability distribution such that the star formation rate is given by

$$\psi = m_{\text{gas}} A (1 \text{ Mpc}^{-2})^{-n} \left( \frac{\gamma}{G} f_{\text{g}} P \right)^{(n-1)/2}, \quad (2)$$

where  $m_{\text{gas}}$  is the gas particle mass,  $P$  is the local gas pressure,  $\gamma = 5/3$  is the ratio of specific heats,  $G$  is the gravitational constant,  $f_{\text{g}}$  is the gas mass fraction (set to unity).  $A$  and  $n$  are taken from the observed Kennicutt-Schmidt star formation law,  $\dot{\Sigma}_* = A (\Sigma_{\text{g}}/1 \text{ Mpc}^{-2})^n$ , and are set to  $A = 1.515 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$  and  $n = 1.4$  (Kennicutt 1998), with  $n$  changed to  $n = 2$  for hydrogen densities greater than  $n_{\text{H}} = 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .

Stellar feedback is represented by stochastic thermal energy injection, following the methodology introduced by Dalla Vecchia & Schaye (2012). In this scheme, gas particles are heated by neighbouring star particles by a fixed temperature jump,  $\Delta T = 10^{7.5} \text{ K}$ , with a probability set such that the average thermal energy injected is  $f_{\text{th}} \times 8.73 \times 10^{15} \text{ erg g}^{-1}$  of stellar mass formed, where  $f_{\text{th}}$  is a model parameter. For  $f_{\text{th}} = 1$ , the injected energy per unit stellar mass corresponds to that of a simple stellar population with a Chabrier initial mass function (IMF), assuming that  $6 - 100 M_\odot$  stars explode as supernovae, and that each supernova injects  $10^{51} \text{ erg}$  of energy. Neighbouring gas particles are heated by stellar feedback 30 Myr after the formation of a star particle.

In order to empirically recover an adequate match to both the galaxy stellar mass function and the galaxy size versus stellar mass distribution inferred from observations (Crain et al. 2015),  $f_{\text{th}}$  is varied as a function of local gas metallicity,  $Z$ , and the gas density,  $n_{\text{H, birth}}$ , inherited by the star particle from the gas from which it formed, with the parametrisation given by

$$f_{\text{th}} = f_{\text{th,min}} + \frac{f_{\text{th,max}} - f_{\text{th,min}}}{1 + \left(\frac{Z}{0.1Z_{\odot}}\right)^{n_Z} \left(\frac{n_{\text{H,birth}}}{n_{\text{H,0}}}\right)^{-n_n}}, \quad (3)$$

where  $f_{\text{th,min}}$  and  $f_{\text{th,max}}$  are model parameters that are the asymptotic values of a sigmoid function in metallicity, with a transition scale at a characteristic metallicity,  $0.1Z_{\odot}$  (above which radiative losses are expected to increase due to metal cooling Wiersma et al. 2009), and with a width controlled by  $n_Z$ . An additional dependence on local gas density is controlled by model parameters,  $n_{\text{H,0}}$ , and  $n_n$ . The two asymptotes,  $f_{\text{th,min}}$  and  $f_{\text{th,max}}$ , are set to 0.3 and 3 respectively, such that between 0.3 and 3 times the canonical supernova energy is injected.  $n_Z$  and  $n_n$  are both set to  $2/\ln(10)$ , and  $n_{\text{H,0}}$  is set to  $0.67 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .

Supermassive black hole (SMBH) growth is modelled first by seeding SMBH particles at the position of the highest density gas particle within dark matter haloes with mass,  $M_{\text{FOF}} > 10^{10} M_{\odot}/h$ , where  $M_{\text{FOF}}$  is the mass of the friends-of-friends group. Black hole particles then accrete mass with an Eddington limited, Bondi accretion rate that is modified if the accreted gas is rotating at a velocity which is significant relative to the sound speed (Rosas-Guevara et al. 2015; Schaye et al. 2015). Black holes that are sufficiently close to each other in position and velocity are allowed to merge, forming a second channel of black hole growth.

Analogous to the implementation of stellar feedback, accreting SMBH particles stochastically inject thermal energy into neighbouring gas particles (Booth & Schaye 2009), with an energy injection rate

$$\dot{E}_{\text{AGN}} = \epsilon_f \epsilon_r \dot{m}_{\text{acc}} c^2, \quad (4)$$

where  $\dot{m}_{\text{acc}}$  is the gas mass accretion rate onto the SMBH,  $c$  is the speed of light,  $\epsilon_r$  is the fraction of the accreted rest mass energy which is radiated (set to 0.1), and  $\epsilon_f$  is a model parameter which sets the fraction of the radiated energy that couples to the ISM (set to 0.15). The injected thermal energy is stored in the SMBH particle until it is sufficiently large to, on average, heat a single neighbouring gas particle by  $\Delta T = 10^{8.5} \text{ K}$ , a temperature jump which is an order of magnitude larger than the value used for stellar feedback ( $\Delta T = 10^{7.5} \text{ K}$ ).

### 2.3 Subhalo identification & merger trees

Haloes are first identified from a given simulation output as groups, using a friends-of-friends (FoF) algorithm, with a dimensionless linking length of  $b = 0.2$  (Davis et al. 1985). FoF groups are then split into subhaloes using the SUBFIND algorithm (Springel et al. 2001; Dolag et al. 2009). Each subhalo consists of a set of bound particles (including gas, stars, black holes and dark matter). For each FoF group, the subhalo containing the particle with the lowest value of the gravitational potential is defined as the central subhalo (and galaxy). Other subhaloes within the FoF group are defined as satellites. The subhalo (and associated galaxy) centre is defined as the position of the particle with the lowest value of the gravitational potential. Finally, for central subhaloes we take an additional step and add/remove particles that are within/outside  $R_{200}^2$ , provided the particles are not associated with another subhalo or FoF group.

<sup>2</sup> In practice this acts to add gas particles within the virial radius that have been raised by feedback to sufficiently high internal plus kinetic energy that they are no longer considered bound to the subhalo by SUBFIND. We need

Here,  $R_{200}$  is the radius enclosing a mean spherical overdensity which is 200 times the critical density of the Universe at a given epoch. Halo masses and virial radii quoted throughout this paper are defined as  $M_{200}$  and  $R_{200}$  respectively, where  $M_{200}$  is the mass enclosed within  $R_{200}$ .

We construct merger trees using the algorithm described in appendix A of Jiang et al. (2014). In brief, for each subhalo in a given simulation output (the progenitor in question), the algorithm attempts to identify a single descendant subhalo in the next simulation output. The descendant is selected as the subhalo containing the largest fraction of a set of the progenitor's most-bound particles. Furthermore, if the largest fraction of a set of the most-bound particles of the descendant come from the progenitor in question, the progenitor is identified as the main progenitor of the descendant. In cases where the progenitor in question is not identified as a main progenitor, a number of later simulation outputs are also searched in an attempt to find a descendant for which the progenitor in question is the main progenitor. This procedure accounts for cases where subhaloes temporarily cannot be identified by SUBFIND against the backdrop of a larger subhalo. In post-processing we identify rare cases where the identified main progenitor of a descendant is a clump identified as a subhalo by SUBFIND, but is dominated by star and black hole particles, rather than dark matter particles. In these cases, we find the most massive progenitor of the descendant and set that subhalo as the main progenitor. Put together, this is then the definition of the main progenitor which we use throughout our analysis (in the sense that we measure particles that were present in the ISM/halo of the main progenitor that have since been ejected from the descendant).

We use a number of sets of merger trees constructed with differing numbers of simulation outputs. Most of our results use trees constructed with 200 simulation *snipshots*, where snipshots are simulation outputs that contain a subset of the information available for each particle from the more sparsely sampled simulation *snapshots*. The temporal spacing between these 200 snipshots is shown in Appendix A1. In some cases, we use merger trees constructed with different numbers of snipshots or snapshots, either to test the temporal convergence of our method, because processed SUBFIND outputs were not available for a given simulation, or because we required particle information that is only present within the snapshots.

### 2.4 Particle partitioning

Within a given subhalo, we partition the baryonic particles into a discrete number of groups. Firstly, star and black hole particles form two distinct groups. For gas particles, we select particles belonging to the ISM, with the remainder forming a circum-galactic halo component.

Our ISM selection criteria are closely related to the star formation criteria used in the simulation. We define the ISM as the sum of:

- Star-forming gas (i.e. particles with  $n_{\text{H}} > n_{\text{H}}^*$  and are within 0.5 dex of the temperature floor), irrespective of radius.
- Gas within 0.5 dex of the temperature floor ( $\log_{10}(T) < \log_{10}(T_{\text{EOS}}(\rho_{\text{g}})) + 0.5$ ), with density,  $n_{\text{H}} > 0.01 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , and radius,  $r/R_{\text{vir}} < 0.2$ .

to keep these particles associated to the subhalo in order to ensure that our measurements of halo outflow rates are correct.

The choice to include non-star-forming gas down to  $n_{\text{H}} = 0.01 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  is made primarily to account for dense gas in low-mass haloes with low metallicity, and in effect approximately selects neutral hydrogen out to the imposed radius cut (Rahmati et al. 2013). The effect of this inclusion for our results is to significantly enhance the outflow rates of low-mass galaxies (see Appendix A3), where little star formation and chemical enrichment has occurred. The inclusion also increases the specific angular momentum of the ISM (by effectively selecting more diffuse neutral material in the outskirts of galaxy disks), which we plan to study in the context of inflows/outflows in future work (see also Mitchell et al. 2018b).

We impose a radial cut for the non-star-forming ISM component to exclude dense and low-metallicity infalling and filamentary circum-galactic material (found mostly at high redshift). We do not impose any radial cut for star-forming gas in order to account for stellar feedback that occurs outside of this radius, which is relevant for removing gas from the star-forming gas reservoir of galaxies at high redshift in the simulation ( $z \gtrsim 2$ ).

## 2.5 Measuring outflow rates

We use a Lagrangian particle tracking method to measure gas outflow rates from galaxies and haloes. We define galaxy-scale outflow rates as the summed mass of particles leaving the ISM per unit time, measured over some finite time interval between two simulation outputs. Halo-scale outflow rates are then defined accordingly for particles leaving the halo virial radius per unit time. In both cases, we apply the additional selection criteria described below to check that the particles are genuinely outflowing. Further details of the rationale, exploration and testing that was used to arrive at these criteria are described in Appendix A, along with a comparison to simple shell-based outflow rate measurements.

For both galaxy-scale and halo-scale outflows, we require that outflowing particles satisfy

$$\frac{\Delta r_{21}}{\Delta t_{21}} > 0.25 V_{\text{max}}, \quad (5)$$

and for galaxy-scale outflows, we also require that

$$v_{\text{rad},1} > 0.125 V_{\text{max}}, \quad (6)$$

where  $V_{\text{max}}$  is the maximum of circular velocity profile of the halo,  $v_{\text{rad},1}$  is the instantaneous radial velocity of the particle at the first simulation output after the particle has left the ISM (output 1).  $\frac{\Delta r_{21}}{\Delta t_{21}}$  is the time-averaged radial velocity, measured by comparing the particle radius at this output with its radius at a later simulation output (output 2). We choose the time spacing between outputs 1 and 2 to correspond as closely as possible to one quarter of a halo dynamical time<sup>3</sup>. This ensures that our selection criteria are capable of achieving converged answers with respect to the chosen temporal spacing of simulation outputs (see Appendix A1). Further to Eqns 5 and 6, we also select outflowing particles that have an instantaneous radial velocity greater than  $V_{\text{max}}$  (at output 1). This catches (rare) cases where particles are feedback-accelerated briefly to very high radial velocities but stall<sup>4</sup> before moving a significant distance out into the halo.

<sup>3</sup> For simplicity we approximate the halo dynamical time as 10% of the age of the Universe.

<sup>4</sup> Such particles rapidly decelerate due to encountering a dense structure.

Eqn 5 is our main criterion for selecting galaxy-scale outflows. It effectively demands that the particles will move outwards by at least one sixteenth of the virial radius within one quarter of a halo dynamical time. Eqn 6 is a less stringent secondary criterion that helps to ensure that the particle has already joined the outflow by output 1 (from inspection of particle trajectories we find that this is only relevant for galaxy-scale outflows).

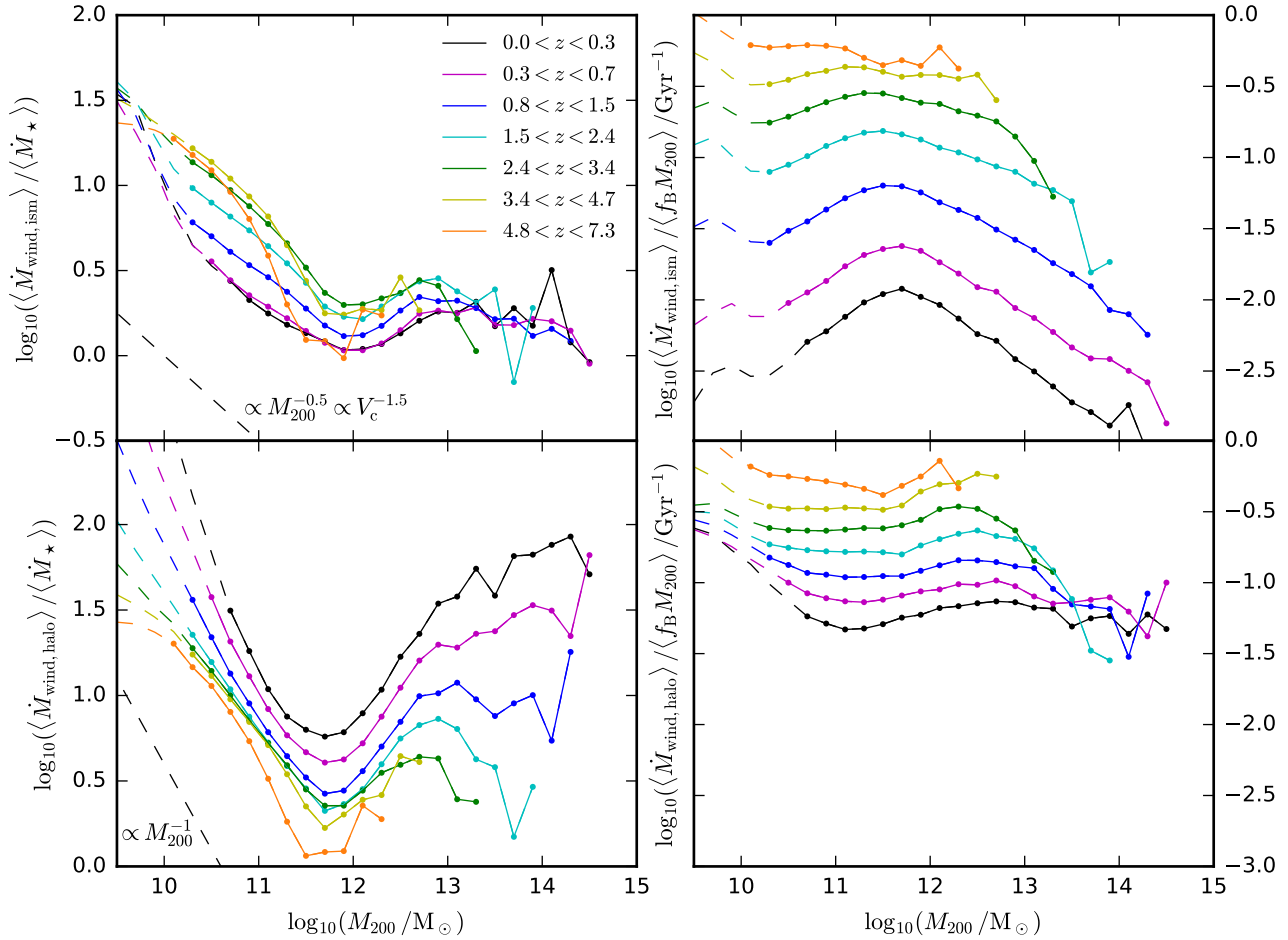
Particles that leave the ISM/halo that are not selected as outflowing by the aforementioned criteria are added to a list of candidate wind particles that are then propagated down the halo merger tree on subsequent simulation outputs. These particles are re-tested against the same selection criteria at each subsequent simulation output until they either satisfy the criteria or three halo dynamical times have expired (at which point they are removed from the candidate wind list). This procedure ensures that particles that fluctuate over the ISM or virial radius boundary are accounted for in the outflow rate measurements should they be significantly accelerated while just outside the boundary. Including these particles has a negligible effect on outflow rates for lower mass galaxies ( $M_{200} < 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ ), but does increase the outflow rates of high-mass galaxies appreciably, and becomes the main contribution to galaxy-scale outflows for halo masses of  $M_{200} > 10^{13} M_{\odot}$ .

Our results are not highly sensitive to the exact values adopted for these selection criteria (as demonstrated in Appendix A3), although it is important to include some cut on time-averaged radial velocity.

## 3 RESULTS

Fig. 1 presents the main results of this study, showing outflow rates for gas leaving the ISM (top panels) and the halo (bottom panels) of central galaxies. Data are taken from the 100 Mpc reference run, using trees with 200 snapshots. Unless otherwise stated, all subsequent results in this paper are shown for this simulation using these trees. Results are shown here as a function of halo mass; we refer readers interested in the dependence on more readily observable quantities to Section 3.2, where we show outflow rates as functions of stellar mass, star formation rate, and circular velocity. We focus on central galaxies to simplify the interpretation of outflows (which for satellites can also be caused by stripping by gravitational tides or gaseous ram pressure).

Following Neistein et al. (2012), the average measurements shown in Fig. 1 (and later figures) are taken by computing the mean of the numerator over the mean of the denominator, including all central galaxies recorded within the quoted redshift range. As demonstrated by Neistein et al. (2012), this approach yields the correct average mass exchange rate, in the sense that taking the time integral over the averaged inflow and outflow rates predicts the correct stellar masses of individual galaxies to within 0.1 dex (because the mean of the time derivative of the mass is equal to the time derivative of the mean of the mass). Taking the mean in this way also helps to average out the discreteness noise that would affect outflow rate measurements of individual galaxies if the numbers of outflowing particles and new stars formed between two simulation outputs is small. Note that at low halo masses a non-negligible fraction of galaxies do not form any star particles over the redshift intervals shown, due to the finite resolution of the simulation. We indicate mass bins where more than 20% of the galaxies have zero star formation with dashed lines, as we expect this to indicate the range where the simulation results are definitely not (weakly) converged (see Furlong et al. 2015, who show that the fraction of



**Figure 1.** Mean mass outflow rates from the ISM (top panels) and haloes (bottom panels) for central galaxies, plotted as a function of halo mass. Outflow rates are quantified as a dimensionless mass loading factor (mean outflow rate over mean star formation rate, left panels), and as a mean outflow rate per unit halo mass, scaled by the cosmic baryon fraction,  $f_B \equiv \Omega_b/\Omega_m$  (right panels). Different line colours correspond to different redshift intervals, as labelled, and mean fluxes and star formation rates are computed across all galaxies in each redshift/mass bin. Solid (dashed) lines indicate the halo mass range where more (fewer) than 80% of the galaxies have formed at least one star particle over the redshift bins indicated. Indicative-power law scalings for the mass loading factor are shown by the diagonal dashed black lines.

star forming versus passive galaxies is not converged for low-mass galaxies in EAGLE).

The left panels of Fig. 1 show average outflow rates normalised by the average star formation rates computed over the same time interval (computed as the total mass of stars formed over the interval, ignoring mass loss from stellar evolution). This quantity represents a time-averaged dimensionless mass loading factor,  $\eta$  which can be considered as the efficiency with which outflows are launched from galaxies (top-left) and haloes (bottom-left). Parametric fits to the mass loading factors are provided in Appendix B.

Strong trends with halo mass are visible at both spatial scales, with a local minimum efficiency for outflows found at a halo mass around  $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_\odot$ , approximately independent of redshift. Below this characteristic halo mass, the galaxy-scale wind mass loading scales approximately as  $M_{200}^{-0.5}$  (the parametric best-fit value of the exponent is  $-0.39 - 0.06z$ ), putting the EAGLE simulations somewhere in between the often considered momentum-conserving ( $\eta \propto V_c^{-1} \propto M_{200}^{-1/3}$ , where  $V_c \equiv \sqrt{GM_{200}/R_{\text{vir}}}$  is the halo circular velocity) and energy-conserving scalings ( $\eta \propto V_c^{-2} \propto M_{200}^{-2/3}$ ). Note that these scalings only are only strictly

kinetic energy and momentum conserving if the outflow velocity scales linearly with the circular velocity of the system, which we show later is generally not the case for EAGLE. The corresponding mass loading scaling is typically steeper for the halo-scale outflows in the same mass range, with a best-fit exponent of  $-1.19 + 0.18z$ , matching the energy-conserving scaling ( $\propto M_{200}^{-2/3}$ ) by  $z \approx 3$ . Note that the scaling steepens noticeably for the galaxy-scale mass loading in the mass range where more than 20% of the galaxies are not forming stars (indicated by dashed lines). This change in scaling towards very low mass may be therefore be related to resolution (and we typically exclude these mass bins from our analysis).

For  $M_{200} > 10^{12} M_\odot$ , the mass loading factors start to rise again due to the effects of AGN feedback (we show the explicit comparison with the no-AGN case in Section 3.6). The mass loading factor then declines slightly again for  $M_{200} > 10^{13} M_\odot$  for the galaxy-scale outflows, while the mass loading continues to rise monotonically with mass in high-mass haloes for halo-scale outflows for  $z < 1$ . Put together, it is clear qualitatively that the scaling of the mass loading factors with halo mass is at least partly responsible for the level of agreement between EAGLE and the ob-

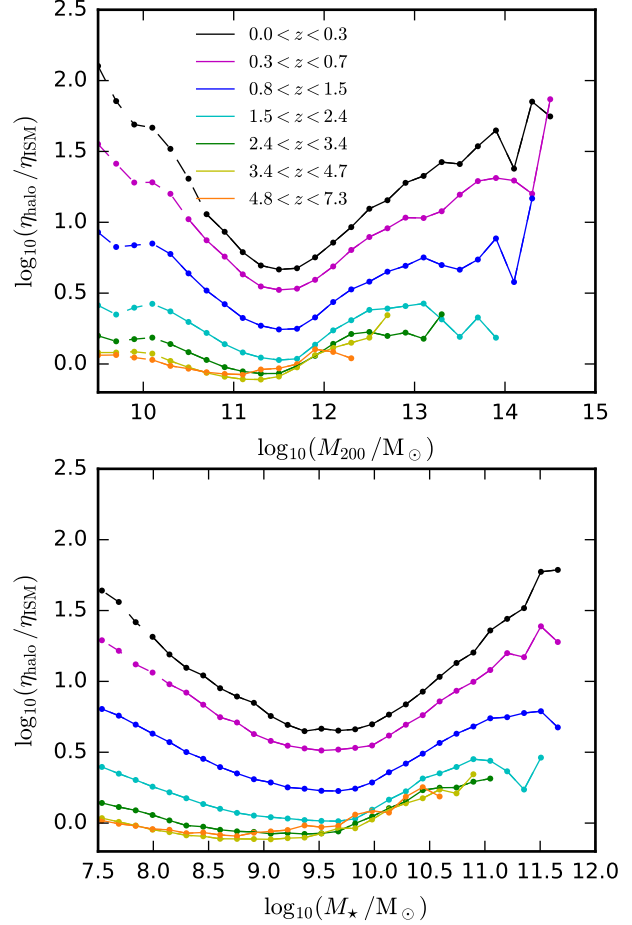
served galaxy stellar mass function. The scaling mimics the form of the empirically inferred relationship between  $M_*/M_{200}$  and  $M_{200}$  (e.g. Moster et al. 2018; Behroozi et al. 2019), in the sense that the maximum value of  $M_*/M_{200}$  is achieved at approximately the same halo mass where galactic outflows are least efficient (per unit star formation). We stress that this behaviour is not simply inserted by hand into the subgrid modelling.

In the simplistic scenario where outflows alone set the scaling between stellar mass and halo mass, the basic expectation is that  $M_* \propto \eta^{-1} M_{200}$ , where  $\eta$  is the mass loading factor (Mitchell et al. 2016). Taking the example of the low-mass regime (where stellar feedback is typically assumed to dominate), empirical constraints indicate the scaling between stellar mass and halo mass is approximately  $M_* \propto M_{200}^2$  (e.g. Behroozi et al. 2019), implying  $\eta \propto M_{200}^{-1}$ . This is a stronger dependence compared to what we find in EAGLE for galaxy-scale outflows, but is consistent (particularly at lower redshifts) with the scaling we find for halo-scale outflows. This implies first that at the spatial scale of galaxies, additional sources of mass scaling must be at play in order to match the observed galaxy stellar mass function. The scaling of the halo-scale outflows could in principle be a sufficient explanation (in that they reduce the available reservoir of baryons within the virial radius that can accrete onto the ISM). We defer a more quantitative analysis to a future study where we will present the corresponding picture for gaseous inflows, which is required to fully understand the predicted relationship between stellar mass and halo mass.

The right panels of Figure 1 show outflow rates without normalizing by the star formation rates, instead normalizing by halo mass to remove the zeroth order mass scaling to compress the dynamic range. Starting with galaxy-scale outflows (top-right panel), it is interesting to note that the mass scale ( $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_\odot$ ) where outflows are least efficient in terms of the mass loading factor is where outflows are most efficient in terms of the mass ejected per unit halo mass. This inversion serves to underline the aforementioned point that the scaling between stellar mass and halo mass is stronger than that between galaxy-scale outflow rate and halo mass, implying there must be other reasons for the stellar-halo mass scaling. The picture changes markedly when considering instead the halo-scale outflow rates shown in the lower-right panel of Figure 1. The halo-scale outflow rates per unit halo mass are almost independent of halo mass for  $M_{200} \sim 10^{10.5} - 10^{12.5} M_\odot$ , and for  $z < 1$  even up to  $10^{14.5} M_\odot$ .

Differing degrees of redshift evolution at fixed halo mass can be seen in each panel of Figure 1. The galaxy-scale mass loading factor (top-left) decreases by about 0.5 dex between  $z = 3$  and  $z = 0$  for haloes of mass,  $M_{200} = 10^{11} M_\odot$ . We note that the respective positive and negative scalings of energy injected by stellar feedback with gas density and metallicity (Eqn 3, see also figure 1 of Crain et al. 2015) could contribute to this redshift evolution, as ISM densities/metallicities increase/decrease respectively with redshift at fixed mass. Interestingly, the redshift dependence is reversed for the halo-scale mass loading factor (bottom-left panel), with the efficiency of halo-scale outflows per unit star formation growing towards low redshift. This presumably reflects an evolution of the properties of circum-galactic gas out to the virial radius. Another possibility is that halo-scale outflows are being driven by energy injected in the past, when star formation rates were higher.

Considering instead the outflow rates normalized by halo mass (right panels) instead of by star formation rate, a trend of outflow rates increasing with increasing redshift is apparent for both galaxy and halo-scale outflows. This primarily reflects the evolution of galaxy star formation rates at fixed halo mass, which in turn is re-



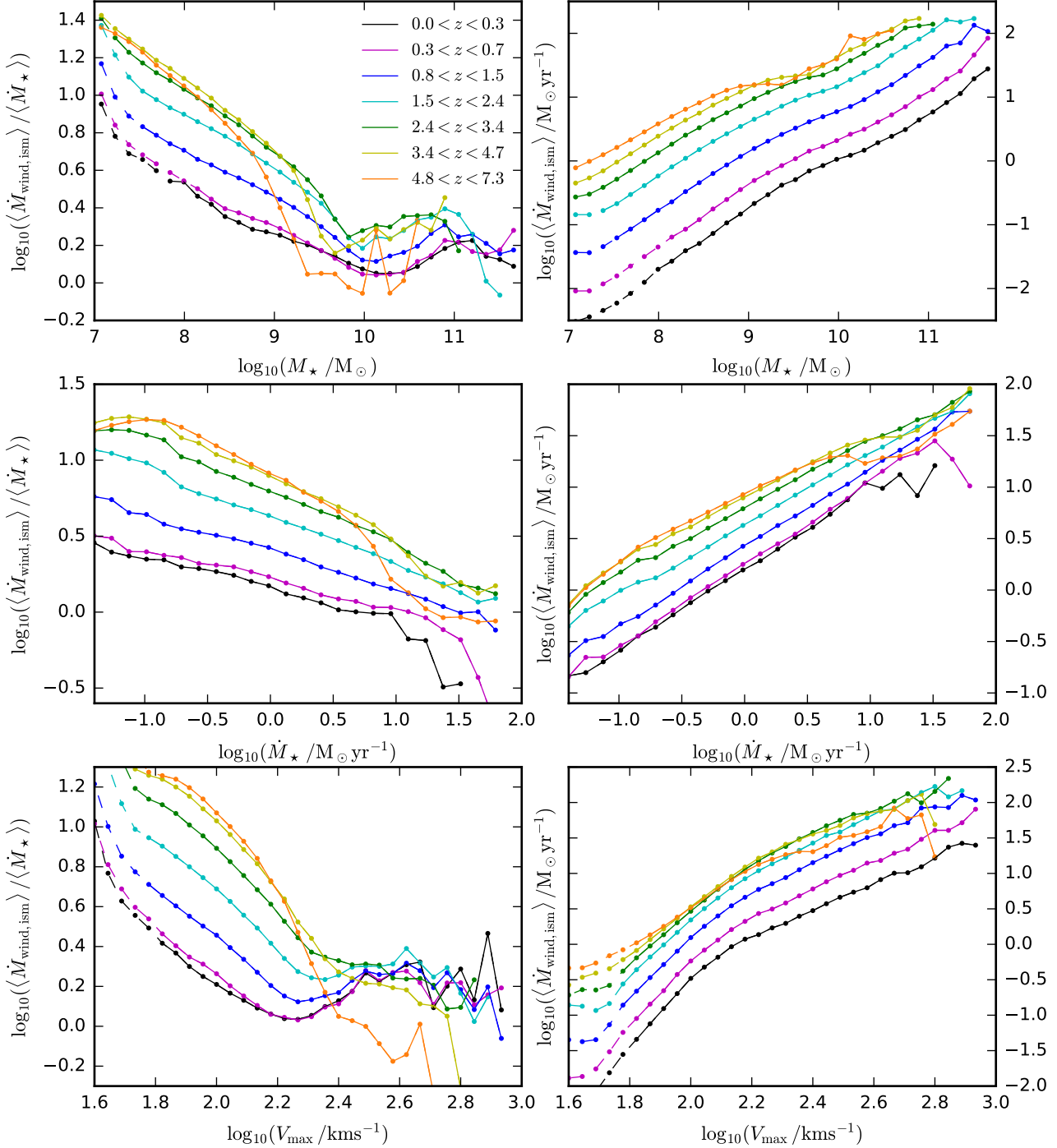
**Figure 2.** The ratio of halo-scale mass loading factor to galaxy-scale mass loading factor, plotted as a function of halo mass (top panel), and stellar mass within a 30 pkpc spherical aperture (bottom panel). Solid (dashed) lines indicate mass bins where more (fewer) than 80% of the galaxies have formed at least one star particle over the redshift bins indicated. In general, substantially more outflowing mass is being removed from the halo than is being removed from the ISM.

lated to the slowing of structure formation towards low redshift that occurs in the  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmological model. Indeed, if the outflow rates shown in the right panels are multiplied by the age of the Universe for each redshift bin (in effect removing the redshift scaling of dark matter halo accretion rate), most of the redshift evolution disappears for the galaxy-scale outflows, and almost all of the redshift evolution disappears for the halo-scale outflows.

### 3.1 Comparing outflow rates at galaxy and halo scales

An important feature of the rates shown in Figure 1 is that in general, substantially more mass is flowing out of the halo virial radius compared to that leaving the ISM. We show this explicitly in Fig. 2. At high redshift ( $z > 3$ ), the halo and galaxy-scale outflow rates are roughly equal for halo masses  $M_{200} < 10^{12} M_\odot$  (or for  $M_* < 10^{10} M_\odot$ ). For  $z < 2$ , the halo-scale outflow rates evolve to become increasingly elevated over the galaxy-scale rates at lower redshift. The mass dependence becomes stronger at lower redshifts, with halo-scale outflows becoming increasingly elevated over galaxy-scale outflows in both low-mass and high-mass haloes,





**Figure 3.** Galaxy-scale outflow rates as functions of stellar mass,  $M_*$  (top), star formation rate,  $\dot{M}_*$  (middle), and halo maximum circular velocity,  $V_{\max}$  (bottom). Left panels show the average mass loading factor plotted as a function of different variables, and right panels show the average outflow rate. Solid (dashed) lines indicate mass bins where more (fewer) than 80% of the galaxies have formed at least one star particle over the redshift bins labelled.

transitioning around a minimum elevation at  $M_{200} \sim 10^{11.5} M_{\odot}$ . The origin of the time evolution in the halo-scale enhancement is not immediately obvious, but could be related to the decline in average CGM densities and halo accretion rates with cosmic time (owing to the background expansion of the Universe), or to the associated evolution in the gravitational potential at fixed halo mass (halo circular velocity at fixed mass scales positively with redshift).

The question of time evolution aside, there are a number of ways to interpret the enhancement of the outflow rate at the virial radius. One explanation could be that circum-galactic gas is entrained into the wind on scales out to the virial radius. If the galactic wind contains sufficient energy, the outward radial momentum of the wind can increase as a function of radius, analogous for example to the Sedov-Taylor phase of galaxy-scale supernova ex-



plosions. We show in Section 3.5 that this does indeed appear to be at least a significant part of the explanation for the halo-scale enhancement seen in Fig. 2. Along similar lines, buoyancy may serve to help this process by accelerating low entropy material outwards from the inner CGM, and could also entrain some higher entropy ambient material in the process (see discussion in Bower et al. 2017; Keller et al. 2019).

A second possibility is that outflows through the virial radius are powered by the energy injected by feedback sufficiently far back in the past that galaxy star formation and SMBH growth rates were significantly higher in the progenitor galaxies (star formation rate histories that rise with lookback time are typically found in EAGLE, see for example figure 9 in Mitchell et al. 2018b). Assuming a constant velocity, the minimum time for outflows to move from the halo centre to the virial radius is approximately four times the halo dynamical time, due to the cut at one quarter the maximum halo circular velocity given by Eqn 5. This is coincidentally about equal to the time duration of the redshift intervals used in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. In practice, we find that outflows in haloes with  $M_{200} < 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  move with (average flux-weighted) velocities that are higher by factors of a few than one quarter of the maximum circular velocity, but this is not true for more massive haloes (see Fig. 4). As such, time delay effects could plausibly contribute to the greater than unity ratio of halo-scale to galaxy-scale mass loading factors shown in Fig. 2, particularly for haloes more massive than  $10^{12} M_{\odot}$ .

Other possibilities are that the outflows we measure at the virial radius are partially powered by feedback energy contributed by satellite galaxies, or that the halo-scale outflows are at least partially powered by physical processes that are not connected to feedback. For dark matter, significantly outflowing flux at  $R_{200}$  can occur as a “splashback” effect, arising if the apocentric distance of particle orbits is beyond  $R_{200}$  (e.g. More et al. 2015; Diemer et al. 2017). We do not expect there to be a substantial “splashback” effect for gas due to the damping effect of thermal pressure from the ambient background gas. There will nonetheless be various sources of heating of the circum-galactic gas halo as the hosting dark matter halo grows through both smooth accretion of matter and halo merger events, which could lead to expansion of circum-galactic gas out beyond the virial radius (even in the no-feedback case). Disentangling the impact of the various heating sources that push gas out of the virial radius is not a trivial exercise, and is beyond the scope of this study.

### 3.2 Outflow rates as functions of $M_{\star}$ , $\dot{M}_{\star}$ , and $V_c$

Fig. 3 shows galaxy-scale outflow rates as functions of stellar mass,  $M_{\star}$ , star formation rate,  $\dot{M}_{\star}$ , and halo maximum circular velocity,  $V_{\max}$ , quantities that are more readily observable than halo mass. For outflow rates plotted as a function of  $M_{\star}$ , galaxies are binned according to the mass of stars formed within the last 100 Myr, comparable with the characteristic time-scale of SFR measurements derived from UV luminosities, but to be self-consistent the star formation rate folded into the mass loading factor is always taken from the mass of stars that formed within the same time interval used to measure the outflow rate. The stellar masses and star formation rates plotted along the x-axis are both measured using only star particles within a 30 pkpc spherical aperture. Parametric fits for the mass loading factor as a function of  $M_{\star}$  and  $V_{\max}$  are given in Appendix B.

While trends are similar to those seen in Fig. 1, several notable features do stand out in Fig. 3. While the scaling of galaxy-scale outflow rates plotted as a function of halo mass (upper-right

in Fig. 1) or maximum circular velocity (bottom-right in Fig. 3) show a characteristic change in slope around  $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  or  $V_{\max} \sim 125 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , such a change is much less evident in the scaling of outflow rate with stellar mass (top-right Fig. 3). This difference reflects in combination the mass scaling of the mass loading factor, the dependence of star formation rate per unit stellar mass on stellar mass (see figure 5 in Furlong et al. 2015), and the underlying scaling of galaxy stellar mass on halo mass (see figure 8 in Schaye et al. 2015).

Another feature visible in Fig. 3 is that the negative scaling of the mass loading factor with star formation rate (middle-left) does not flatten or turn over for high star formation rates, unlike for all of the other variables considered. This reflects the strong decrease of galaxy star formation rates per unit stellar mass in massive galaxies (where AGN power most of the outflow and so change the mass scaling of the mass loading factor, see section 3.6), such that massive galaxies do not dominate the highest star formation rate bins.

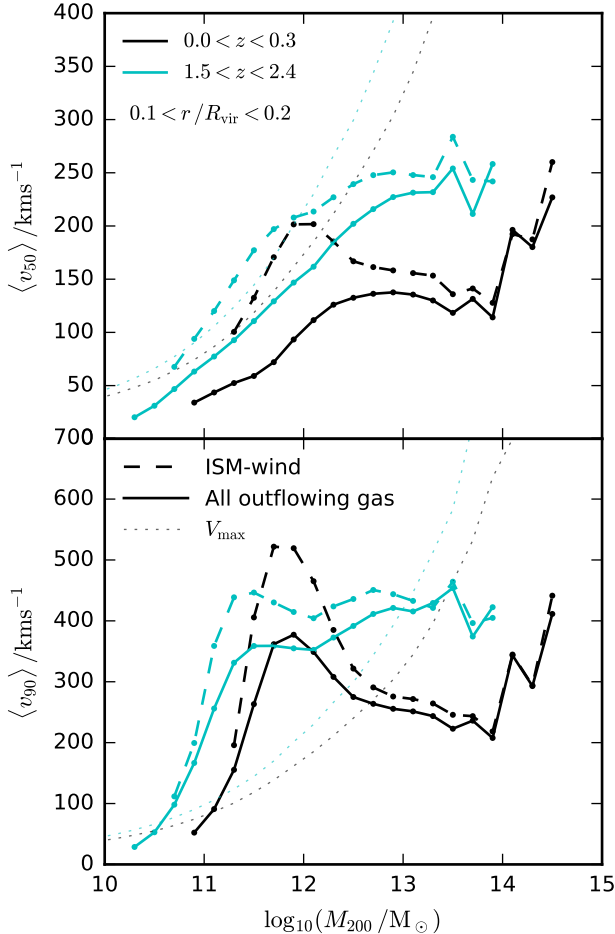
### 3.3 Outflow velocities

While the main focus of this study is on outflow rates, it is also interesting to explore the decomposition of these gas flows as a function of velocity, or gas phase. We defer a detailed analysis to future work, but we do show here the average flux-weighted velocity of outflowing gas in Fig. 4. The median velocities (top panel) exhibit roughly logarithmic scaling with halo mass. Outflowing gas that was ejected from the ISM moves at higher velocities relative to all outflowing gas at a given radius, and exhibits a peak velocity at a characteristic halo mass of  $10^{12} M_{\odot}$  at  $z = 0$ . This effect is more pronounced for the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the flux-weighted outflow velocity (bottom panel). Except for the scaling of median velocity with halo mass in low-mass haloes ( $M_{200} < 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ ), the scaling of outflow velocity is qualitatively different to the scaling of maximum halo circular velocity with halo mass (shown by the dotted lines). The spread in velocities at a given mass/redshift is large (as can be appreciated by comparing the two percentiles). Outflow velocities at a given halo mass are higher at higher redshifts, with the exception of  $v_{90}$  around the peak at  $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ .

### 3.4 Energy and momentum fluxes

While the mass loading factor of galactic winds is one measure of their efficiency, it is also interesting to assess the wind efficiency in terms of energy and radial momentum. Fig. 5 shows measurements of the fluxes of energy (kinetic plus thermal) and momentum, contrasted with the rate of thermal energy injection by feedback processes ( $\dot{E}_{\text{inject}}$ ). While zero momentum is injected by hand in the simulation, we can define an effective momentum injection rate as  $\dot{p} = \sqrt{2\dot{E}_{\text{inject}}\dot{M}_{\text{heated}}}$ , where  $\dot{M}_{\text{heated}}$  is the mass of gas per unit time that is directly heated by feedback. This represents the momentum that the wind would achieve if all thermal energy is converted to kinetic form, and no energy is transferred to the ambient gas. Note that this is not a converged quantity; in reality supernova remnants carry much less mass per unit energy than the mass that is directly heated in the simulation, and so the true input momentum would accordingly be lower at fixed energy.

The top-left panel of Fig. 5 shows the energy flux of outflowing gas close to the galaxy (solid lines), normalised by the kinetic energy that would be required to move the entire baryonic content of the halo at the halo circular velocity,  $V_c$ , assuming the baryon to dark matter content of the halo matches the universal fraction,  $f_B$ . At high redshift, more than sufficient energy is being



**Figure 4.** The median (mass) flux-weighted radial velocity of all outflowing gas (solid lines), and outflowing gas that has been ejected from the ISM (dashed lines), plotted as a function of halo mass. Flux-weighted velocities for each galaxy are computed as either the median weighted velocity ( $v_{50}$ , top panel), or the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile ( $v_{90}$ , bottom panel). Velocities are measured in spherical shells at radius  $0.1 < r/R_{\text{vir}} < 0.2$ . The median relationship between maximum halo circular velocity,  $V_{\text{max}}$ , and halo mass is also shown (dotted lines). Outflow velocities are only shown for halo mass bins where more than 80% of the galaxies have non-zero flux within the shell. Median outflow velocities are in general comparable to  $V_{\text{max}}$  for  $M_{200} < 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ , but saturate (or even decline in some cases) for high-mass haloes.

injected to achieve this within a Gyr, but this is no longer the case at low redshift once the rates of star formation and SMBH accretion have slowed at fixed halo mass. The upper-right panel shows the ratio of the energy flux to the feedback energy injection rate, both close to the galaxy (solid lines) and at the virial radius of the halo (dashed lines). While these measurements are noisier than for the mass loading factor<sup>5</sup>, the trend of energy loading with mass qualitatively matches that of the mass loading, with a minimum value at  $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ . Outflows contain about 30% of the injected energy at  $M_{200} = 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ , which drops to about 10% at  $M_{200} = 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ .

<sup>5</sup> Energy fluxes are noisier because we have to perform measurements in discrete shells, and because a relatively small number of particles can carry a high fraction of the outflowing energy.

At low ( $M_{200} < 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ ) and high ( $M_{200} > 10^{13.5} M_{\odot}$ ) halo masses, the outflows can carry more energy than is being injected. This serves first to underline that the energy loading factors plotted are upper limits to the efficiency with which the injected energy from feedback is able to power galactic winds. Other sources of energy in outflowing gas include the ultraviolet background (UVB, which could plausibly be responsible for the greater than unity energy loading measured for outflows at the virial radius in low-mass haloes), and gravitational heating (which could plausibly have a larger relative effect in massive haloes, where pressurised hot coronae have developed). As with the discussion of mass fluxes, it is also possible that the energy/momentum fluxes at the halo virial radius are partly associated with feedback events that predate the redshift intervals shown, reflecting instead the higher star formation and SMBH growth rates of progenitor galaxies at higher redshifts.

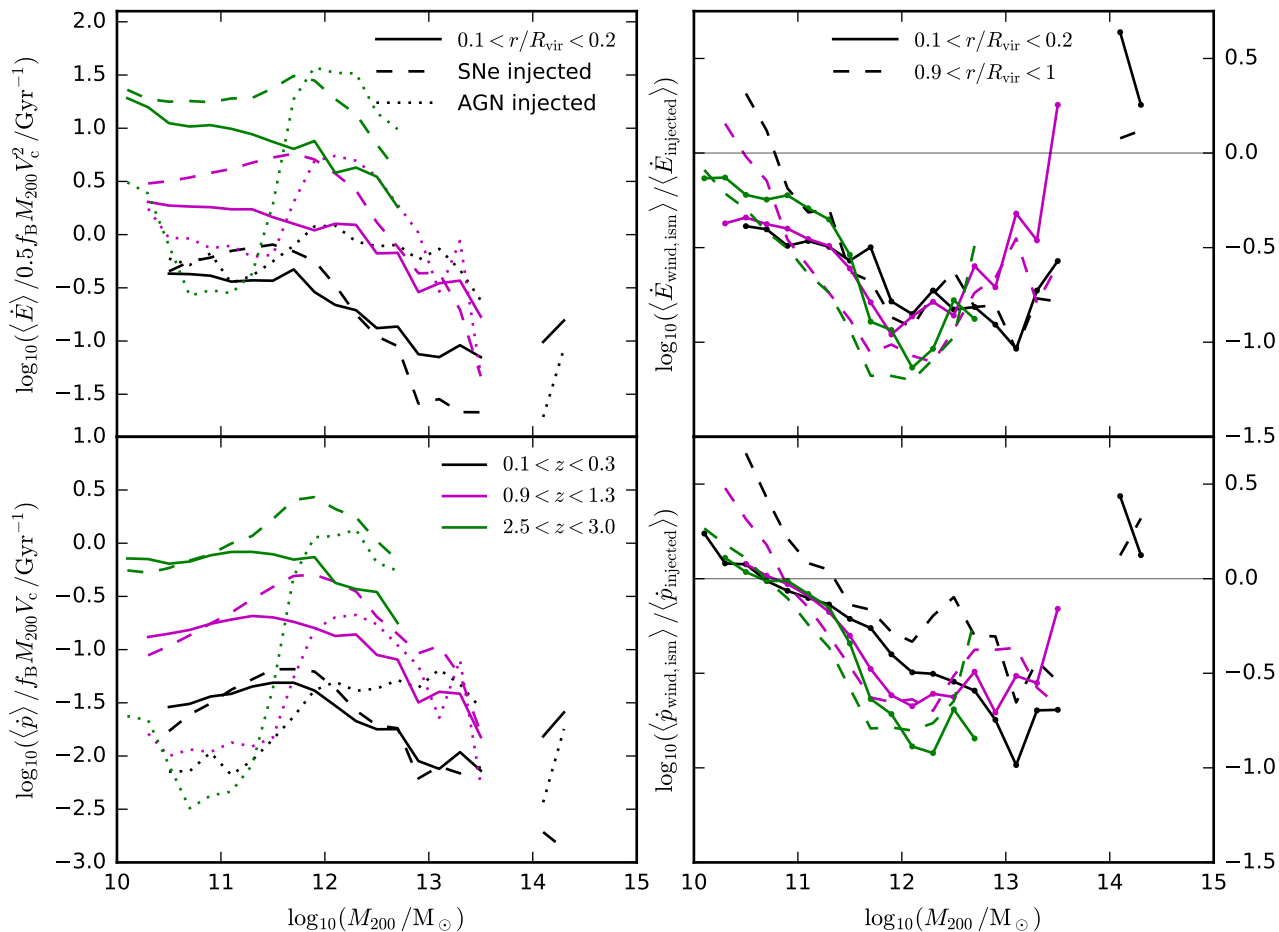
For intermediate-mass haloes, the energy in outflows close to the galaxy is typically higher than for outflows close to the virial radius, likely indicating dissipation over the intervening scales. This is less apparent when comparing the momentum flux at the two scales, and by  $z = 0$  the momentum flux is higher at the virial radius than near the galaxy over the entire halo mass range probed (other than the handful of haloes in the highest mass bins). This indicates some level of entrainment of mass at fixed energy, which is consistent with the enhanced mass loading at the virial radius seen in Fig. 2.

### 3.5 Outflows as a function of radius

Entrainment of outflowing mass is shown more directly in Fig. 6, which shows the mass, momentum and energy fluxes as a function of radius for haloes of mass  $12 < \log_{10}(M_{200}/M_{\odot}) < 12.2$  for redshifts  $0 < z < 0.3$ . In this instance, we separate the contribution from gas that has been removed from the ISM (dashed lines), versus gas that has never been in the ISM (dotted lines). Mass flux (top-left panel) is conserved as a function of radius for the former ISM material, but by  $0.2 R_{\text{vir}}$  there is a similar mass flux of material that was never in the ISM, and the contribution of this component rises until it dominates the mass flux at the virial radius. A similar picture is seen for the momentum flux (top-right panel).

The total energy flux (solid black line in the bottom-left panel) is approximately constant with radius, with energy seemingly being exchanged from the former ISM component (dashed black line) to gas entrained from the circum-galactic medium (dotted black line) as outflows propagate outwards. Despite the feedback scheme employed in EAGLE being thermal, the majority of the outflowing energy flux is in kinetic form close the galaxy, but the majority of the energy flux is in thermal form at larger radii. Correspondingly, the mass flux-weighted velocities (bottom-right panel) decline as a function of radius.

Overall, the trends are consistent with a picture whereby gas is entrained on circum-galactic scales, explaining much of the difference between the halo and galaxy-scale outflow rates shown in Fig. 2. A similar picture is seen at lower halo masses at low redshift (not shown), although in that instance the total energy flux actually rises with radius, indicating another source of energy is involved (possibly the UVB). The picture is again similar at higher halo masses, but in this case the entrainment phenomenon ceases once the outflow reaches half the halo virial radius, thermal energy is more dominant over kinetic energy, and the fractional contribution to the energy flux from outflowing material that has never been in the ISM is higher at the centre. At higher redshifts, the trends are



**Figure 5.** Energy (thermal plus kinetic, top) and radial momentum (bottom) fluxes of outflowing gas, plotted as a function of halo mass. **Left panels:** solid lines show fluxes of outflowing gas ( $v_{\text{rad}} > 0 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ) within a spherical shell ( $0.1 < r/R_{\text{vir}} < 0.2$ ). These can be compared to the input thermal energy injection rate or (pseudo-)input momentum from stellar (dashed lines) and AGN feedback (dotted lines). Because feedback in EAGLE is purely thermal, the input momentum rate is defined relative to the thermal energy injection rate as  $\dot{p}_{\text{injected}} = \sqrt{2\dot{E}_{\text{inject}}\dot{M}_{\text{heated}}}$ , where  $\dot{M}_{\text{heated}}$  is the mass per unit time of gas that is directly heated by feedback. Fluxes and injection rates are normalised by the characteristic energy/momenta of the associated haloes. **Right panels:** fluxes of outflowing gas divided by the corresponding energy/(pseudo-)momentum injection rates, defining effective energy or momentum loading factors. Loading factors are shown for outflowing gas in shells at  $0.1 < r/R_{\text{vir}} < 0.2$  (solid lines), and at  $0.9 < r/R_{\text{vir}} < 1.0$  (dashed lines). In all panels, data are only shown for mass bins where more than 80% of the galaxies have formed at least one star particle over the redshift bins indicated. Gas within the ISM is excluded from the flux measurements. Data are taken from the 50 Mpc reference run. Roughly 20% of the energy being injected by feedback is retained in outflows in EAGLE for  $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ , with this fraction increasing for both higher and lower halo masses.

similar but there is systematically less evidence for entrainment, as the mass flux increases much less strongly with radius (as seen also in Fig. 2).

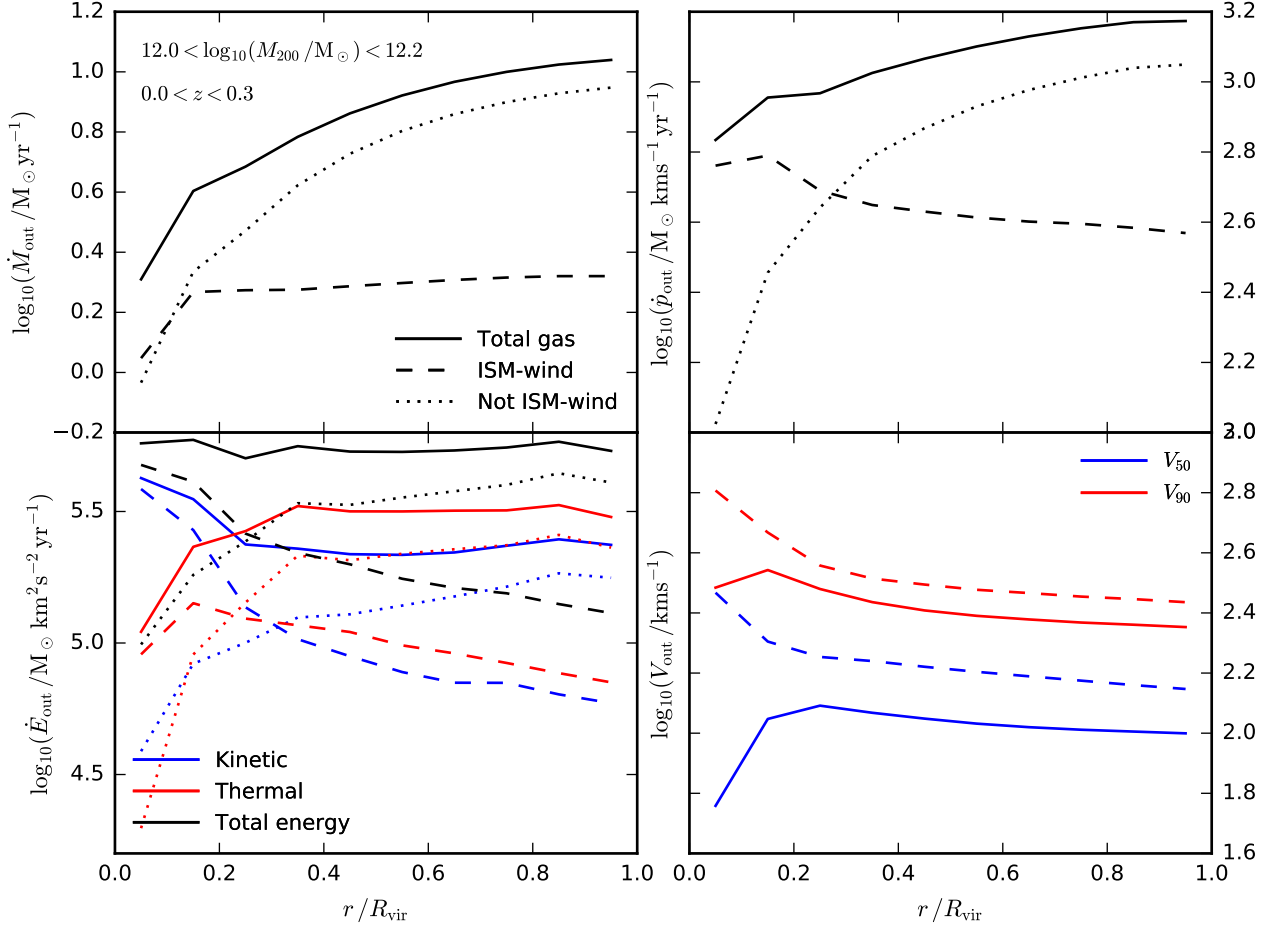
### 3.6 Impact of AGN feedback

Fig. 7 shows the average fraction of feedback energy injected by stellar feedback, with the remainder contributed by AGN feedback. Generally speaking, stellar feedback is more important in lower mass haloes and at higher redshifts. For haloes of mass,  $M_{200} = 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ , the fraction of energy contributed by AGN grows from close to zero at  $z > 2$  up to about 40% by  $z = 0$ . AGN provide the majority of energy injection for haloes more massive than  $10^{12} M_{\odot}$  at all redshifts recorded.

Below  $z = 5$ , a strong feature appears at a characteristic halo mass of  $10^{10} M_{\odot}$ . This feature arises because of the implementa-

tion of supermassive black hole seeding in EAGLE; black hole seeds are placed in friends-of-friends groups of that mass. The sudden increase in AGN energy at this specific mass scale is clearly artificial, with the newly formed black hole strongly out of equilibrium with the surrounding ISM. We have checked and verified that this feature has a negligible effect on the median stellar mass as a function of halo mass, by comparing simulations with and without AGN feedback.

Fig. 8 compares the outflow rates in simulations with and without AGN feedback. We perform this comparison in terms of mass loading factors to account for the difference in star formation activity between the two simulations at fixed halo mass. For the galaxy-scale outflows (top panel), AGN feedback is clearly responsible for the upturn in the mass loading factor for haloes with  $M_{200} > 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ . A similar picture emerges for the halo-scale outflows (bottom panel). It is notable that there is still a flattening



**Figure 6.** Mean mass (top-left), radial momentum (top-right), and energy (bottom-left) fluxes plotted as a function of radius for haloes with mass  $12 < \log_{10}(M_{200}/M_{\odot}) < 12.2$  for redshift  $0 < z < 0.3$ . Solid lines show these quantities for all outflowing gas ( $v_{\text{rad}} > 0$ ), dashed lines show outflowing gas identified as part of the wind that left the ISM, and dotted lines show the remaining outflowing gas (note that the latter selection is not computed for the outflow velocity, bottom-right panel). Gas within the ISM is excluded from the flux measurements. The bottom-right panel shows the mass flux-weighted 50<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles of the distributions of radial velocity (for the same selections of gas). Outflowing mass and momentum fluxes rise as winds propagate outwards for this halo mass and redshift range, while the energy flux remains approximately constant, with energy seemingly being transferred from the material ejected from the ISM to the ambient halo gas.

of the mass loading (and a possible upturn for halo-scale outflows) for the no-AGN simulation at high halo masses; we interpret this as contamination of our outflow rate measurements from dynamical gas motions associated with gravitational infall, and from expansion related to gravitational heating, rather than as evidence for an increase in the efficiency of stellar feedback in massive galaxies. We return to this point in Section 3.4 when considering the energy fluxes associated with the outflows.

#### 4 LITERATURE COMPARISON

Here, we conclude our analysis of outflows by comparing to a range of models, simulations and observations from the literature, and explore the conclusions that can be drawn from this wider context.

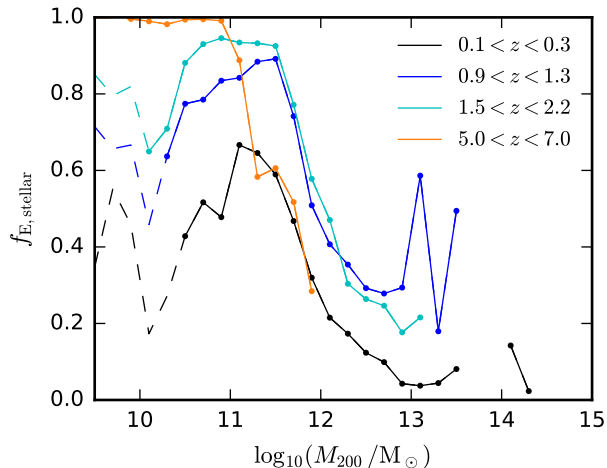
##### 4.1 Comparison to semi-analytic models

Semi-analytic models are an established method to study the evolution of galaxies within the full cosmological context (see Baugh

2006; Somerville & Davé 2014, for an overview). Most semi-analytic models assume that stellar feedback drives galactic outflows from the ISM of galaxies, with a mass loading factor that scales negatively with galaxy circular velocity (e.g. Kauffmann et al. 1993; Cole et al. 2000). This in turn allows the models to achieve a match with the faint end of the galaxy luminosity function (e.g. Benson et al. 2003)<sup>6</sup>. Our measurements of outflow rates from EAGLE are (deliberately) suitable for direct comparison to the prescriptions assumed in semi-analytic models, and we show a direct comparison to a subset of recent models from the literature in Fig. 9.

It is immediately apparent from Fig. 9 that there is an enormous dispersion in what is assumed for the mass loading factor from one model to another (up to nearly four orders of magnitude at a given halo mass), despite the fact that all the models shown are calibrated to reproduce the observed distribution of stel-

<sup>6</sup> There are alternative pictures that have been considered, such as the pre-heating scenario explored for example in (Lu et al. 2015).

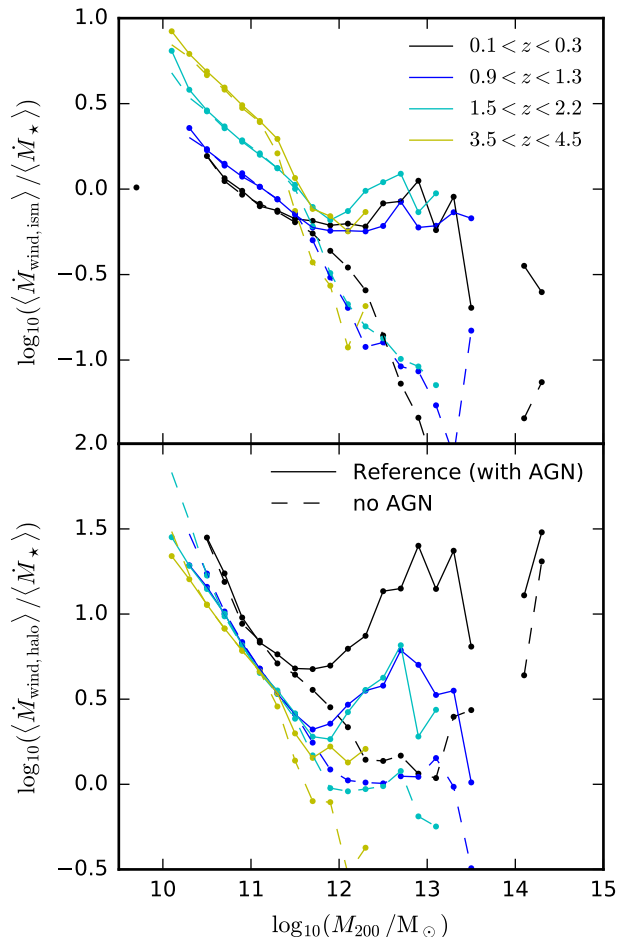


**Figure 7.** The average fraction of energy injected by stellar feedback (as opposed to AGN feedback), plotted as a function of halo mass. Solid (dashed) lines indicate mass bins where more (fewer) than 80% of the galaxies have formed at least one star particle over the labelled redshift bins. Data are taken from the 50 Mpc reference run, using trees with 28 snapshots. Stellar feedback provides most of the injected energy for haloes with  $M_{200} \sim 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ , whereas AGN feedback dominates for haloes with  $M_{200} \gtrsim 10^{13} M_{\odot}$ . The dip in the stellar feedback fraction seen at  $M_{200} \sim 10^{10} M_{\odot}$  is related to the halo mass at which SMBHs are seeded.

lar mass. Focussing only on the normalisation, the large differences in mass loading factor are driven by two factors. First, each model makes different assumptions regarding the level of dichotomy between outflow rates of gas leaving the ISM (solid lines) versus the halo virial radius (dashed lines). The Henriques et al. (2015) and Hirschmann et al. (2016) models (both adapted from the L-galaxies model of Guo et al. 2011) prescribe the excess energy remaining in galactic winds after they have escaped the ISM, and assume this energy can drive even greater amounts of gas out of the halo. Conversely, the GALFORM and Santa Cruz models assume that the amount of gas ejected from the halo is equivalent (or less than for the Santa Cruz model) to the amount of gas ejected from the ISM (e.g. Somerville et al. 2008; Mitchell et al. 2018b). Both scenarios are degenerate in terms of stellar mass assembly, in the sense that they both reduce the fraction of baryons that form stars.

The second explanation for the differences in mass loading normalisation stems from the assumed efficiency of recycling of ejected wind material. For example, the GALFORM model assumes a very efficient recycling timescale that is of order the halo dynamical time (such that ejected gas returns in only 10% of a Hubble time), whereas the Santa Cruz model assumes that gas returns over a Hubble time. This forces the former model to invoke mass loading factors that are much larger than the latter. Again, these scenarios are degenerate in terms of stellar mass assembly (e.g. Mitchell et al. 2014), at least up until the point that the recycling timescale becomes so long that galaxy clusters no longer retain the universal baryon fraction (Somerville et al. 2008).

Given this (long-standing) impasse, it is then interesting to consider the picture emerging from modern hydrodynamical simulations. The full simulation picture is shown in Section 4.2, but we choose to show the direct comparison between semi-analytic models and EAGLE here. The outflow rates from EAGLE (blue lines) are qualitatively closer to the scenarios presented by the GAEA (red lines, Hirschmann et al. 2016) and L-galaxies (black lines, Henriques et al. 2015) models, in that significantly more gas is ejected

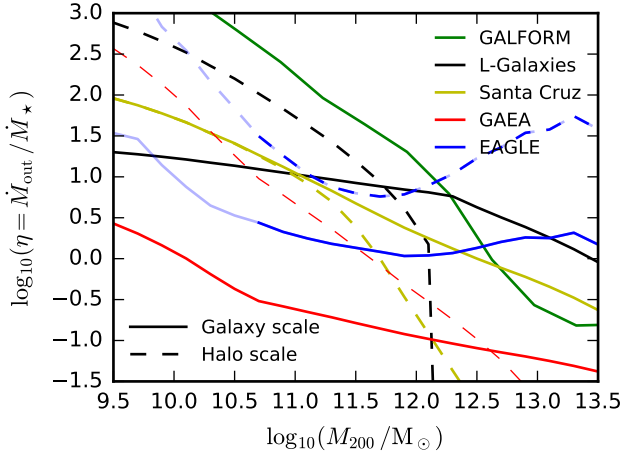


**Figure 8.** Impact of AGN feedback on mass loading factors associated with galaxy-scale (top) and halo-scale (bottom) outflows. Solid lines indicate outflow rates for the reference simulation (which includes AGN feedback). Dashed lines indicate the corresponding rates for the no-AGN variant of the reference simulation. Data are taken from the 50 Mpc reference and no-AGN runs, both using trees with 28 snapshots. Data are shown for mass bins where more than 80% of the galaxies have formed at least one star particle over the redshift bins indicated. AGN feedback starts to appreciably affect outflow rates in haloes with masses  $M_{200} > 10^{11.5} M_{\odot}$ , causing a flattening (or upturn) of the scaling of the mass loading factor with increasing halo mass.

from halo virial radii than from the ISM. Quantitatively however, EAGLE differs significantly in both normalisation and slope with the L-galaxies model shown. Hirschmann et al. (2016) adopt a mass loading prescription for gas leaving the ISM inspired by the FIRE simulations (Hopkins et al. 2014), as measured by Muratov et al. (2015). Qualitatively, the picture from this model is close to that seen in EAGLE at  $z = 0$ , with a relatively low normalisation and fairly shallow scaling of the galaxy-scale mass loading factor, combined with a significantly higher normalisation for the outflow rates at the halo virial radius. We present a direct comparison with FIRE and other hydrodynamical simulations in the following section.

Finally, we note that the mass loading factors shown for the semi-analytic models are for stellar feedback only. The upturn in mass loading factors for high-mass galaxies in EAGLE is caused by AGN feedback. Most semi-analytic models assume that AGN feedback acts only to suppress inflows rather than drive AGN outflows





**Figure 9.** A comparison of mass loading factors between EAGLE and a set of semi-analytic models from the literature, plotted as a function of halo mass at  $z = 0$ . Semi-analytic models shown include specific implementations of the GALFORM (Mitchell et al. 2018b), L-Galaxies (Henriques et al. 2015), Santa Cruz (Somerville et al. 2015) and GAEA (Hirschmann et al. 2016) models. Outflow rates are plotted for gas being ejected from the ISM (solid lines), and for gas being ejected from the halo virial radius (dashed lines). Each line colour corresponds to a given model, as labelled. For EAGLE, dark (light) lines indicate bins where more (fewer) than 80% of the galaxies have formed at least one star particle over the range  $0 < z < 0.3$ . All of the semi-analytic models shown (and EAGLE) are tuned to match the local galaxy luminosity function and/or the galaxy stellar mass function. This agreement can apparently be achieved with wildly different scenarios for how much gas outflows from the ISM, and from the halo, emphasising the deeply degenerate nature of galaxy evolution if only stellar mass constraints are considered.

directly<sup>7</sup>, which is qualitatively different from the scenario presented in EAGLE. We note that semi-analytic models where AGN do eject baryons from haloes have been considered as an explanation for the observed X-ray luminosity of galaxy groups (Bower et al. 2008, 2012).

## 4.2 Comparison to other cosmological simulations

Fig. 10 presents an overview of the mass loading factors from recent cosmological hydrodynamical simulations. Each study shown uses a different method to measure outflow rates, and we have taken care to (as far as is reasonably possible) compare EAGLE to other simulations using equivalent measurements.

The upper panels of Fig. 10 compare EAGLE to the  $50^3$  Mpc<sup>3</sup> Illustris-TNG (TNG-50) simulation at  $z = 2$ , taking measurements from Nelson et al. (2019). Nelson et al. (2019) measure outflow rates in shells at a given physical distance from the halo centre, for gas radially outflowing faster than some minimum radial velocity cut (different line styles in the upper-left panel show different cuts). These simple criteria are straightforward to implement, and so we can perform a like-for-like comparison of the simulations at  $z = 2$  (the redshift focussed on by Nelson et al. 2019). Taking all outflowing gas with  $v_r > 0$  km s<sup>-1</sup> at a distance of 10 kpc (solid lines in

the top-left panel), EAGLE and TNG-50 display qualitatively similar behaviour for stellar masses,  $M_* < 10^{10.5} M_\odot$ , but are offset in normalisation by up to 0.5 dex, with higher mass loading factors in TNG-50 than in EAGLE.

Mass loading for stellar feedback is set by hand at injection for TNG-50 (shown as the dotted red line), with outflows seeded by wind particles that are decoupled from the hydrodynamical scheme until they reach a density below  $n_H \sim 0.005$  cm<sup>-3</sup> (Pillepich et al. 2018). The injection mass loading (minus a residual metallicity dependence) is set to scale negatively with circular velocity as  $V_c^{-2}$ . Although the measured outflow rate is slightly higher than the injected one, they track each other closely at low mass, where stellar feedback dominates over AGN feedback (Nelson et al. 2019). No mass loading factor is imposed by hand in EAGLE, with the emergent mass scaling a result (minus some residual metallicity and density dependence) of the manner in which the locally injected thermal energy per unit star formation is converted into galactic winds within the simulation.

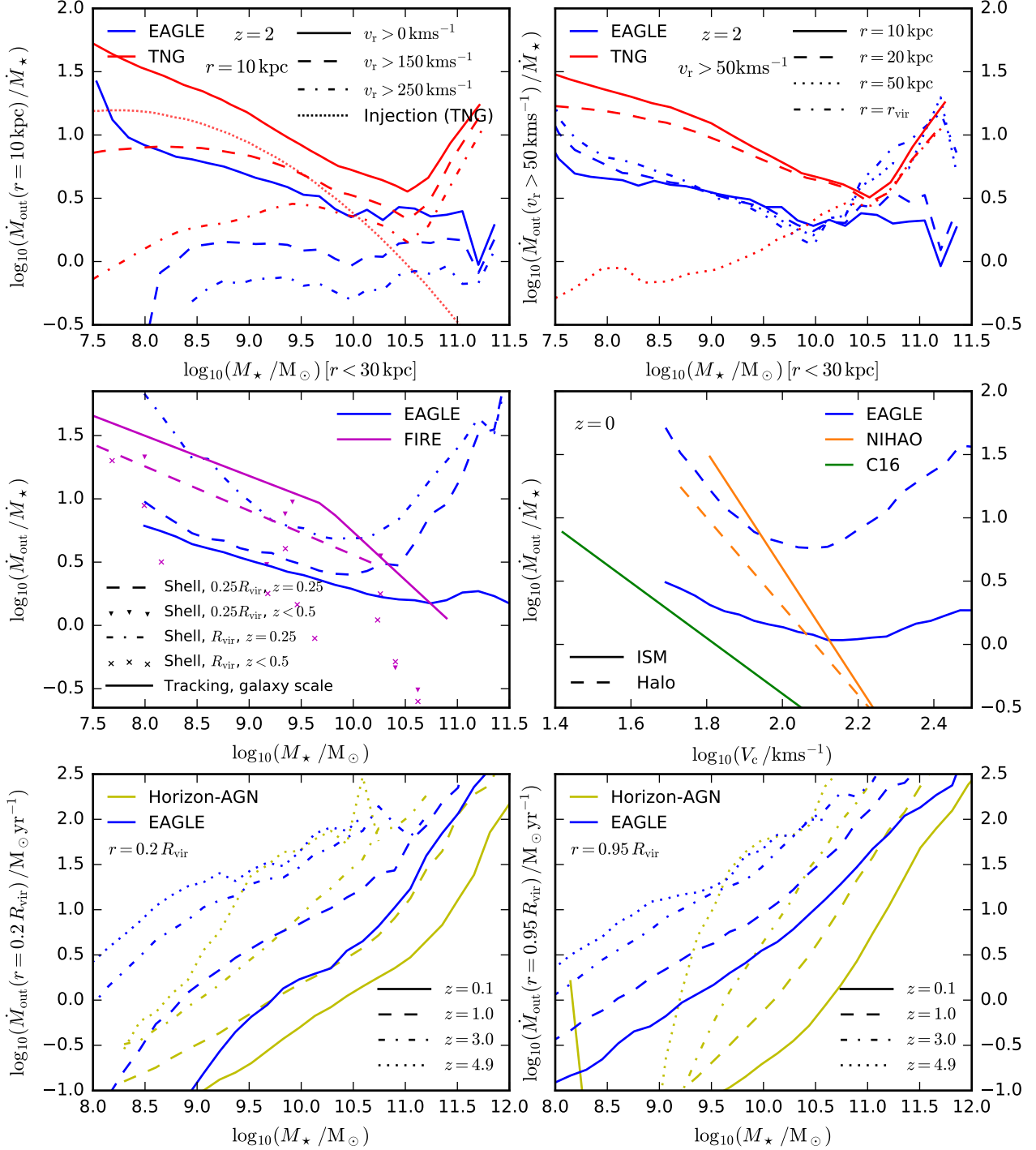
At higher stellar masses, Nelson et al. (2019) report a strong upturn in the mass loading factor that is attributed to AGN feedback. A weaker upturn for galaxy-scale outflows at  $10^{13} M_\odot$  haloes is seen in EAGLE in Fig. 1, but is not visible using the shell-based measurements at 10 kpc, where the mass loading instead flattens at high stellar masses. The upper-right panel of Fig. 10 compares shell-based outflows at different radii, and here a clear upturn in the mass loading is visible in EAGLE at a distance of 50 kpc from the halo center (dotted blue line), similar to that seen in TNG-50 at all radii. This indicates a significant difference in the smaller-scale wind launching for AGN feedback between the simulations, with TNG-50 ejecting large amounts of gas from the centre of massive galaxies, while EAGLE launches relatively little gas but with the wind seemingly continuing to load mass as a function of radius, such that the mass loading increases out to the virial radius (dash-dotted blue line).

Comparing the mass loading in the stellar feedback regime in the upper-right panel of Fig. 10 reveals further stark differences between the two simulations. While TNG-50 ejects significantly more gas per unit star formation than EAGLE at 10 kpc in low-mass galaxies, the outflows seem to decline strongly as a function of radius in TNG-50. Outflows behave differently in EAGLE, with mass loading that either stays roughly constant with, or grows with, radius. As such, the mass loading factor at 50 kpc is about 0.5 dex higher in EAGLE for galaxies of stellar mass  $M_* \sim 10^9 M_\odot$ <sup>8</sup>. This difference implies that there is likely a large difference in the efficiency of recycling of ejected wind material between EAGLE and TNG-50 (with recycling being a more important source of inflows in TNG-50 than in EAGLE), which presumably affects the observable properties of the circum-galactic medium as a function of impact parameter from galaxies. Davies et al. (2019) find a very consistent picture by comparing the total baryon content of haloes between EAGLE and Illustris-TNG, which they show is much higher in TNG than in EAGLE at low mass.

The middle-left panel of Fig. 10 compares outflow rates in EAGLE with the FIRE zoom-in simulations (introduced in Hopkins et al. 2014). Relative to EAGLE, the FIRE simulations employ

<sup>7</sup> The exception for the models shown here is Somerville et al. (2008), which does include AGN-driven outflows from the ISM. We cannot however easily infer outflow rates at a given halo mass from their prescription for AGN feedback, so we show their prescription for stellar feedback only.

<sup>8</sup> Note that for convenience we do not show mass loading factors at a distance of 50 kpc for galaxies with stellar masses below  $10^9 M_\odot$  in EAGLE. This typically selects gas outside the halo virial radius, where we cannot make measurements without incurring significant additional computational cost to associate particles with haloes.



**Figure 10.** Comparison of wind mass loading factors and outflow rates between EAGLE and other recent hydrodynamical simulations from the literature. **Top-left:** compares EAGLE (blue) and Illustris-TNG (Nelson et al. 2019, red) at  $z = 2$ , showing the median mass loading factor for gas at  $r = 10$  kpc, plotted as a function of stellar mass. Different line styles indicate different minimum radial velocity cuts, as labelled. For Illustris-TNG, we also show the mean mass loading factor applied at injection (dotted red line). **Top-Right:** mass loading for gas at different distances from the halo center, as labelled. In this case gas is selected with radial velocity  $v_r > 50 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . For EAGLE, we only show measurements at 50 kpc for galaxies with  $M_\star > 10^9 M_\odot$ , below which gas at 50 kpc is outside the halo virial radius (we instead show measurements for a shell at the virial radius with the blue dash-dotted line). **Middle-left:** compares EAGLE and the FIRE zoom-in simulations (magenta). Note that the FIRE simulations do not include AGN feedback. Dashed blue and magenta lines compare shell-based measurements of the mass loading at  $r = 0.25 R_{\text{vir}}$ , at redshift  $z = 0.25$  (Muratov et al. 2015). For EAGLE, the dashed-dotted blue line shows the same but for a shell at the virial radius. For FIRE, individual galaxies are shown by the magenta points for shells at different radii, as labelled (Muratov et al. 2015, 2017). Solid lines show (tracking-based) mass loading factors for gas being ejected from the ISM, time-integrated over the entire history of each galaxy (Anglés-Alcázar et al. 2017). **Middle-right:** compares EAGLE, NIHAO (orange), and the simulations presented in Christensen et al. (2016) (green) at  $z = 0$ , showing (tracking-based) mass loading factors for gas being ejected from the ISM of galaxies (solid lines), plotted as a function of halo circular velocity at the virial radius. For EAGLE and NIHAO, we also show mass loading factors for gas being ejected through the halo virial radius (dashed lines). Note that only EAGLE includes AGN feedback. **Bottom:** compares EAGLE and the Horizon-AGN simulation (Beckmann et al. 2017, yellow), showing outflow rate as a function of stellar mass. Outflow rates are computed with a shell-based method at  $r = 0.2 R_{\text{vir}}$  (bottom-left), and at  $r = 0.95 R_{\text{vir}}$  (bottom-right).  
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significantly higher mass and spatial resolution (with the improvement scaling negatively with the mass of the targeted haloes), allow a cold ISM phase to form without imposing a temperature floor, and implement a more explicit representation of stellar feedback (separating contributions from radiation, stellar winds, and type II supernova explosions). The FIRE simulations do not include AGN feedback. We show the best-fit relation to the FIRE simulations at  $z = 0.25$  from Muratov et al. (2015), measured using shells at one quarter of the halo virial radius (dashed magenta line). Mimicking this type of measurement in EAGLE (dashed blue line), the two simulation sets are similar but are offset by a factor of two up until the halo mass scale ( $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ ) where AGN feedback causes an upturn at high masses in EAGLE. We note that if the comparison is instead performed as a function of halo mass (shown in Appendix C), the two mass loading factors agree almost perfectly between the two simulations over the common mass range between the simulations, which can be explained if the median stellar mass at fixed halo mass is higher in FIRE than in EAGLE. Anglés-Alcázar et al. (2017) present a complementary measurement to Muratov et al. (2015) using Lagrangian particle tracking to measure particles ejected from the ISM (solid magenta line, taken from the fit presented in Davé et al. 2019), similar to our preferred methodology in this study. These measurements are presented as a cumulative integration over all outflow and star formation events over the entire history of each galaxy shown. We perform an equivalent integration for our particle tracking-based outflow rates in EAGLE, presented as the solid blue line in the middle-left panel of Fig. 10. We note that both the galaxy and halo-scale outflow selection criteria differ between the two studies, although they are both designed to in principle measure the same thing (the outflow rates of gas being ejected from the ISM/halo by feedback).

As with the comparison to TNG-50, larger differences become apparent when considering the change in the mass loading as a function of radius. Muratov et al. (2017) present measurements of the mass loading in FIRE at the virial radius (magenta crosses), which can be compared to measurements at a quarter of the virial radius (magenta triangles, or the dashed line) from Muratov et al. (2015). In most cases the mass loading is smaller at larger radii in FIRE, whereas the opposite is true in EAGLE at low redshift. As with the comparison to TNG-50, this implies that recycling of gas ejected from galaxies is likely much more efficient in FIRE than in EAGLE.

The middle-right panel of Fig. 10 presents a comparison with two additional sets of zoom-in simulations, including the simulations of Christensen et al. (2016, green line), and measurements of the NIHAO simulations presented by Tollet et al. (2019, orange lines), both as a function of stellar mass. Neither of these simulations include AGN feedback. Both these studies utilise particle tracking-based measurements of outflows, which we compare to our particle tracking measurements at  $z = 0$ . Tollet et al. (2019) find substantially higher mass loading factors for gas ejected from the ISM (solid orange line) than in EAGLE (solid blue line), with a very steep dependence on mass. They also find that less mass is (on average) ejected from the virial radius (dashed orange line), which is in strong disagreement with the  $z = 0$  measurements from EAGLE (dashed blue line). Christensen et al. (2016) find somewhat lower mass loading factors for gas being ejected from the ISM, and with a slightly steeper mass dependence than in EAGLE. They find that a substantial fraction of this gas is then ejected from the virial radius, but do not present measurements of gas being ejected from haloes that was not previously in the ISM, making it unclear how their simulations compare in terms of outflows at the virial radius.

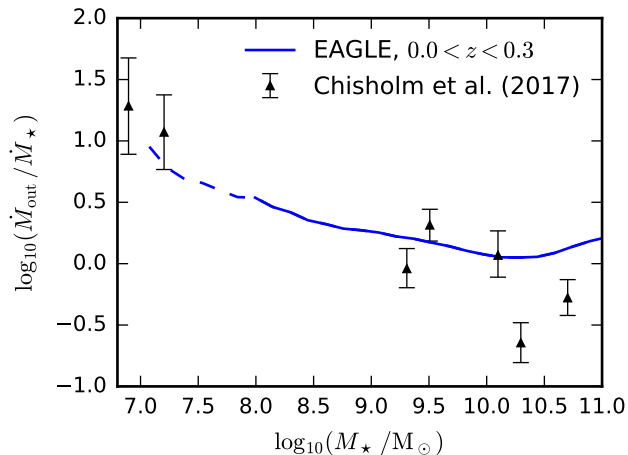
Finally, the bottom panels of Fig. 10 present a comparison with the Horizon-AGN simulation (Dubois et al. 2014), showing measurements presented in Beckmann et al. (2017)<sup>9</sup>. Beckmann et al. (2017) measure outflow rates for two 2 kpc thick shells at 20 % (bottom-left) and 95 % of the halo virial radius, and we plot their measurements as a function of stellar mass (without any aperture correction). Reproducing these measurements in EAGLE, the comparison shows that outflow rates at a given stellar mass are (in most situations) significantly higher than in Horizon-AGN (for example by about 0.5 dex at  $0.2R_{\text{vir}}$  at  $z = 0$ ). We note that there are substantial differences between the low redshift galaxy stellar mass function in Horizon-AGN and EAGLE, with Horizon-AGN significantly overpredicting the stellar masses of low-mass galaxies, and EAGLE underpredicting the abundance of galaxies at the knee of the mass function (Schaye et al. 2015; Kaviraj et al. 2017). As such the comparison performed here will be comparing galaxies hosted by dark matter haloes of differing mass.

Also of interest is the comparison between outflow rates at 0.2 versus  $0.95R_{\text{vir}}$ . For massive galaxies, both simulations eject similar or greater amounts of gas from haloes than through the inner surface at  $0.2R_{\text{vir}}$ . For lower-mass galaxies, EAGLE continues to eject similar or greater amounts through the outer surface, whereas Horizon-AGN ejects very little gas through the virial radius compared to the inner surface. This underlines the importance of considering outflowing flux as a function of scale out into the halo.

Taken at face value, the comparisons shown in Fig. 10 indicate that hydrodynamical simulations are seemingly able to reproduce observed stellar masses with different scenarios for gaseous outflows, similar to the situation seen for semi-analytic models in Fig. 9. That said, while we have emphasised the differences it is also important to emphasise that there is qualitative agreement between simulations, in the sense that all predict declining mass loading factors as a function of galaxy mass up to  $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ , and are in a similar level of qualitative agreement at higher masses if AGN feedback is included. We caution furthermore that some of the differences between the relations shown in this figure will arise from differences in the selection of outflowing particles (this only applies to the Lagrangian measurements), and so the discrepancies could be exaggerated in some cases. In addition, the level of agreement with the observed galaxy stellar mass function is unknown for zoom-in simulations (that must instead rely on comparison to the inferred median relationship between stellar mass and halo mass for central galaxies), and large differences in the stellar mass function could exist between some of the different simulations shown (this is definitely the case for Horizon-AGN).

As for the question of why galactic winds in the EAGLE simulations appear to entrain more circum-galactic gas at larger radii compared to other simulations (at least for those where such a comparison is currently possible), we speculate that is related to the high heating temperatures adopted in the EAGLE feedback model. In reality, energy from feedback is initially injected into a far smaller mass of material compared to the mass that is heated or kicked for the implementations of subgrid feedback models used in all cosmological simulations, such that gas around stars and black holes will (at least locally) achieve much larger velocities and temperatures. The choice made in EAGLE to heat relative few particles to a high temperature was motivated by this realisation, and could plausibly lead to outflows escaping the ISM with higher specific en-

<sup>9</sup> We only present measurements here for their fiducial simulation that includes AGN feedback.



**Figure 11.** Comparison of mass loading factors between the EAGLE simulations and estimates from “down-the-barrel” measurements of local galaxies from Chisholm et al. (2017), plotted as a function of galaxy stellar mass. Mass loading factors from EAGLE are measured for gas being ejected from the interstellar medium over a redshift range,  $0 < z < 0.3$ . The solid (dashed) line indicates stellar mass bins where more (fewer) than 80% of the galaxies have formed at least one star particle over the redshift range. EAGLE is consistent with these observations, although the level of agreement might be fortuitous, given that we are not comparing like-for-like quantities.

ergy than in other simulations, allowing the winds to have a greater impact on the ambient circum-galactic medium. Explicit comparison of the energetics of outflows at different spatial scales between different simulations would show whether or not this is indeed the case.

### 4.3 Comparison to observations

As discussed in the introduction to this work, our priority in this study is to measure the flows of gas leaving galaxies and haloes using the information available from our simulations, independent of observational considerations. Our Lagrangian methodology for selecting outflowing gas does not naturally map onto the way outflowing gas is detected in observations, and in addition we do not explore any phase decomposition of outflowing gas. With these caveats in mind, it is nonetheless interesting to perform a rudimentary comparison between the outflow rates in EAGLE and a best-guess for the outflow rates of real galaxies from observations.

We choose to compare to *down the barrel* observations of 7 local galaxies from Chisholm et al. (2017), which use the HST-COS spectrograph to detect multiple ultraviolet (UV) metal ions in absorption against the continuum of the associated galaxy, enabling (via photo-ionization modelling as a function of velocity) a robust determination of the ionization structure of the outflowing gas, in turn permitting a determination of the outflow rate. These observations are estimated to probe outflowing gas at small scales with respect to the galaxy; Chisholm et al. (2016) estimate the detected outflowing gas is within 300 pc from the galaxy along the line of sight.

The EAGLE simulations do not include all of the relevant physics (for example photo-ionization from local radiation sources) and do not reach the resolution required to robustly mimic such a selection of gas. We do nonetheless present a comparison to the outflow rates of gas being ejected from the ISM in EAGLE, shown

in Fig. 11. The observations of Chisholm et al. (2017) probe star forming galaxies in the stellar mass range where stellar feedback is expected to dominate. They find evidence for an anti-correlation between mass loading factor and stellar mass, with a power law slope of  $-1.6$  when plotted as a function of circular velocity. Their relation is consistent with our measurements from the EAGLE simulations; we find a best-fit slope of  $-1.5$  as a function of halo circular velocity,  $V_c \equiv \sqrt{GM_{200}/R_{\text{vir}}}$ , for low-mass haloes ( $M_{200} < 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ ) at  $z = 0$ . This agreement is encouraging, and demonstrates that the outflow rates in EAGLE are not implausible given current constraints. At the same time, the level of the quantitative agreement is likely fortuitous to some extent, as we are not comparing like-for-like quantities.

## 5 SUMMARY

We have presented measurements of outflow rates of gas from galaxies and from their associated dark matter haloes, taken from the reference EAGLE hydrodynamical simulation. We find that galactic winds are driven from the ISM in EAGLE with a mass loading factor ( $\eta \equiv \dot{M}_{\text{out}}/\dot{M}_{\star}$ ) that scales approximately as  $\eta \propto M_{200}^{-0.5} \propto V_c^{-3/2}$  for low-mass galaxies ( $M_{200} < 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ , Fig. 1). For reference,  $\eta \propto M_{200}^{-1}$  would be required to explain the empirically inferred scaling of stellar mass with halo mass for  $M_{200} < 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  using galaxy-scale outflows alone (see discussion in Section 3), implying that additional sources of mass scaling are required to explain the agreement between EAGLE and the observed galaxy stellar mass function. We find a scaling close to  $\eta \propto M_{200}^{-1}$  when measuring outflow rates at the virial radius, but a discussion of the complete picture is deferred to a future study where we will present measurements of gaseous inflow rates at different spatial scales. Parametric fits to the mass loading factor as a function of redshift and halo mass (as well as stellar mass and halo maximum circular velocity) are provided in Appendix B.

Similar to the result found in the recent analysis of the TNG-50 simulation of Nelson et al. (2019), we find that AGN feedback causes the scaling of the wind mass loading factor with mass to flatten and then increase for galaxies above a characteristic halo mass of  $10^{12} M_{\odot}$  (Fig. 8). We estimate that winds in EAGLE typically retain  $\approx 20\%$  of the energy injected by feedback, modulated by trends with both halo mass and redshift (Fig. 5).

We find that the mass loading factor has a steeper dependence on halo mass when measured at the halo virial radius, and with a much clearer upturn due to AGN feedback at high masses (Fig. 1). We also find typically that significantly more baryons are ejected through the virial radius than out of the ISM, particularly at low and high halo masses, and at low redshift (Fig. 2). Outflow velocities cover a wide range at a given halo mass/redshift, and increase positively with redshift and halo mass up to  $M_{200} \sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  (Fig. 4). Below this mass the median outflow velocity scales with mass similarly to the halo circular velocity.

Comparing to other cosmological hydrodynamical simulations (Fig. 10), we demonstrate that while substantial quantitative differences are found for gas being driven from the ISM (up to 0.5 dex), most simulations show qualitatively similar trends, although for  $M_{200} > 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  this is only the case if AGN feedback is included. The largest uncertainty in the current picture for outflows comes from the dichotomy between outflow rates measured at different spatial scales. For example, we show that the EAGLE and Illustris-TNG simulations present completely different scenarios for gas outflows at 50 kpc from galaxies versus out-

flows at 10 kpc. At  $z = 2$  and at a galaxy stellar mass of  $10^9 M_{\odot}$ , outflow rates are an order of magnitude higher at 10 kpc than at 50 kpc in Illustris-TNG, whereas there is little difference in flux between these spatial scales in the EAGLE simulation. At high mass ( $M_{\star} \sim 10^{11} M_{\odot}$ ), outflows in TNG stay approximately constant with radius from 10 kpc to 50 kpc, whereas outflow rates increase with radius in EAGLE by nearly an order of magnitude over the same range. EAGLE therefore presents an ejective (but not ballistic) scenario for galactic winds driven by stellar feedback, where comparatively few baryons are removed from the ISM but are driven out to relatively large distances while sweeping up circum-galactic gas. Illustris-TNG instead presents a comparatively more fountain-like scenario, where more baryons are removed from the ISM by supernovae but are not driven as far, and so (presumably) can be recycled more efficiently. Davies et al. (2019) have shown that this is reflected in the total baryon content of low-mass ( $M_{200} < 10^{12} M_{\odot}$ ) haloes between the two simulations, with much higher baryon fractions for TNG than for EAGLE. The FIRE zoom-in simulations are similar to TNG in the sense that they report lower outflow rates at the virial radius than at one quarter of the virial radius (although FIRE agrees well with EAGLE at  $r = 0.25 R_{\text{vir}}$  if the comparison is performed at fixed halo mass).

The differences between simulations closely echo the picture encapsulated by semi-analytic galaxy formation models (Fig. 9), where acceptable matches to the observed galaxy luminosity function can be achieved using a very wide range in mass loading factor, with high outflow rates from the ISM (but not from the halo) being degenerate with high outflow rates through the halo virial radius (but not from the ISM), and both scenarios also being degenerate with the timescale for ejected gas to return. Measurements of the distribution of metals both within and outside galaxies presumably represent a means to move beyond this impasse, as well as observational estimates of outflow rates that span a range of spatial scales. With some of the clearest differences between simulations seen for low-mass galaxies ( $M_{\star} \sim 10^9 M_{\odot}$ ), the regime where AGN feedback is not predicted to play an important role, observations that probe metals in the vicinity of dwarf galaxies may represent a particularly promising avenue to distinguish between ejective and fountain-like scenarios (e.g. Burchett et al. 2016; Johnson et al. 2017).

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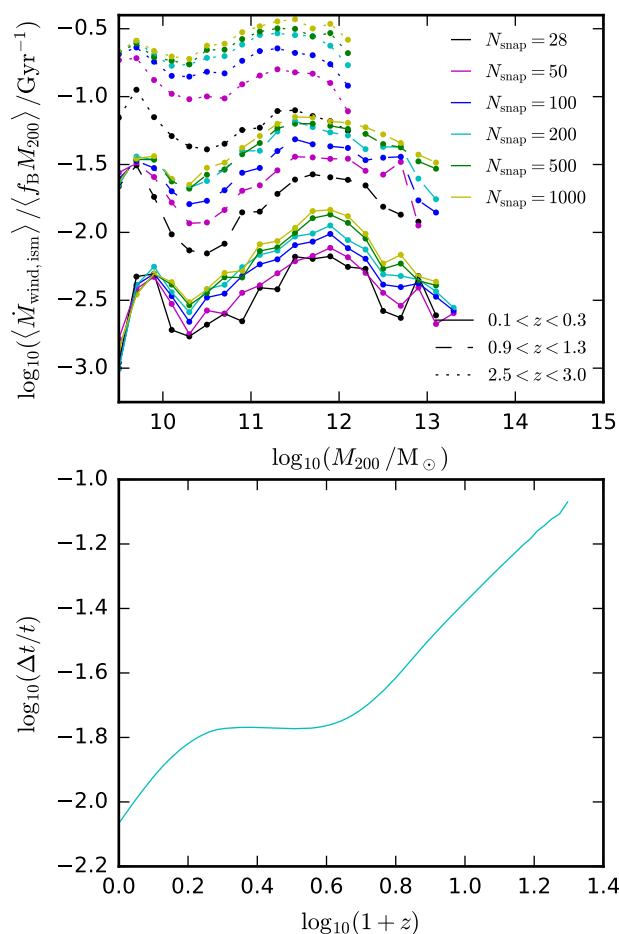
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**Figure A1.** Temporal convergence for outflow rates of gas ejected from the ISM. *Top:* Outflow rate (scaled by halo mass) as a function of halo mass. Each line colour corresponds to a different number of simulation snapshots used to perform the measurement, as labelled. Line styles indicate different redshifts. *Bottom:* the temporal spacing of the 200 simulation outputs used for our fiducial analysis, expressed as the ratio of the output spacing,  $\Delta t$ , to the age of the Universe at a given epoch,  $t$ . Data are taken from a 25 Mpc reference simulation, for which a larger number of processed simulation snapshots were available.

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## APPENDIX A: METHODOLOGY DETAILS

### A1 Temporal convergence

An important caveat of Lagrangian flux measurements is that any mass element that crosses the chosen surface more than once (over the finite time interval adopted) will lead to an underestimate of the

flux. This is particularly pertinent for measuring fluxes at the interface to the ISM, where the timescales for gas to be accreted and then ejected by feedback can be short. The top panel of Fig. A1 shows the temporal convergence properties for measurements of gas ejected from the ISM, using a  $25^3 \text{ Mpc}^3$  simulation with a higher frequency of simulation outputs (1000 in total, compared to 200 for our fiducial simulation). We find that the measurements start to be reasonably well converged once 200 simulation outputs are used (cyan lines), apart from at low redshift, where outflow rates are underestimated by  $\approx 0.2$  dex with respect to the measurements made using 1000 snapshots (solid yellow line). There are only 200 processed simulation outputs available for the larger 100 Mpc reference simulation, and so we use this set of outputs (and associated merger trees) for our fiducial analysis in this study. The temporal spacing of these 200 outputs is shown by the bottom panel of Fig. A1.

Fig. A1 shows that temporal convergence issues tend to affect outflow rates with a fairly constant fractional offset as a function of halo mass at a given redshift. The main effect on our results is that the offset between our measurements of galaxy and halo-scale outflow rates (which are much better converged due to the longer associated timescales) will increase spuriously at low redshift, partly explaining the trends seen in Fig. 2.

## A2 Lagrangian outflow rates

We present here a more detailed explanation of how we arrived at the selection criteria described in Section 2.5. These criteria were chosen to find a reasonable balance between completeness and purity, with temporal convergence (as described above) another consideration. Given that the aim of this study is to measure the flux of gas being evacuated from the ISM or from the halo, we take genuine outflowing particles to be those that leave a given component, and then proceed to move a significant distance outwards in radius.

For a number of example galaxies (spanning a wide range in mass and redshift), we compute the maximum change of radius,  $\Delta r_{\text{max}}$ , for particles that leave the ISM (or halo virial radius), up until the time that the particle ceases to be outflowing, or otherwise rejoins the ISM (or halo). The distribution of  $\Delta r_{\text{max}}$  is typically characterised by a peak of particles that do not move significantly outwards, and then a long extended tail of particles that move over a wide range of radii. For at least a subset of the total mass and redshift range, the fraction of particles leaving the ISM (or halo) that do not move a significant distance is substantial. From detailed inspection of individual particle trajectories, these are often particles that have recently been accreted onto the ISM but are still in the process of settling into the disk, and so fluctuate across the ISM boundary a number of times.

We find that adopting cuts in instantaneous velocity or energy (as with the criteria adopted by for example Hopkins et al. 2012; Christensen et al. 2016) yields relatively poor completeness/purity in terms of the radial distance then traveled by outflowing particles. At the same time, computing  $\Delta r_{\text{max}}$  from the full future radial trajectory of all particles from a large simulation would be prohibitively expensive. We compromise in this by computing the radial displacement reached by particles after one quarter of a halo dynamical time has passed since they left the ISM, which we find to be an excellent proxy for the  $\Delta r_{\text{max}}$  computed using many simulation outputs. This thus motivates our choice of Eqn 5 in Section 2.5.

## A3 Impact of radial velocity cuts and ISM definition

Our results are not highly sensitive to the choice of (time-averaged) radial velocity cut in Eqn 5. This is demonstrated in Fig. A2, which shows that galaxy-scale outflow rates change by small amounts when varying the cut (although there is a more significant impact on outflow rates in high-mass haloes). Note that removing the cut completely would have a much larger impact (gas leaving the ISM can often move inwards over quarter of a halo dynamical time).

The bottom panel of Fig. A2 demonstrates the impact of including/excluding non-star-forming gas from our ISM criteria. Including this material slightly enhances the galaxy-scale outflow rates at all mass scales, but the main effect is to substantially enhance the outflow rates at low halo mass. Given that this is the regime where galaxies often have not formed a single star particle over the entire redshift interval (meaning results are likely not well converged at low mass), the impact on our results is modest.

## A4 Comparison of Lagrangian and Eulerian fluxes

Fig. A3 presents a comparison of our Lagrangian measurement of wind mass loading factors with a simple Eulerian measurement performed by summing the radial momentum of outflowing particles within spherical shells. For shells placed at the halo virial radius, it is evident that our Lagrangian criteria are equivalent to selecting all outflowing gas with  $v_{\text{rad}} > 0 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , reflecting the looseness of our Lagrangian selection criteria for halo-scale outflows.

Comparing our Lagrangian galaxy-scale outflows to shell-based measurements at one quarter of the halo virial radius, it is clear that the Lagrangian measurements are always lower. At  $z = 2$  (top-left), there is some evidence for entrainment seen in the shell measurements at different radii, with outflow rate increasing with radius by about 0.3 dex in both low and high-mass haloes.

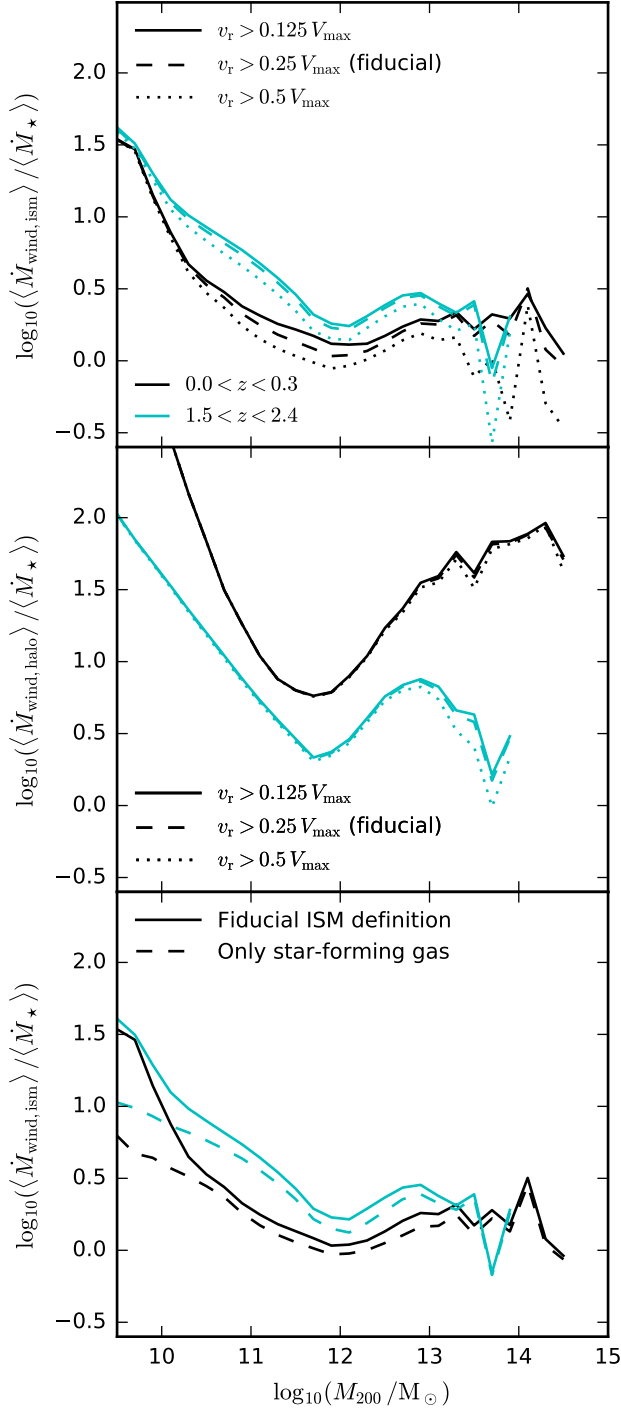
At  $z = 0$  there is an increased entrainment effect seen in the shell measurements, with outflow rates higher by about 0.5 dex at the virial radius when compared to one quarter of the virial radius. Our Lagrangian measurements for gas leaving the ISM are again lower. A lack of temporal convergence at  $z = 0$  has a small systematic contribution to this effect (see Fig. A1).

## APPENDIX B: PARAMETRIC FITS TO GALAXY-SCALE AND HALO-SCALE MASS LOADING FACTORS

To facilitate comparisons with other studies, we provide parametric fits to the mass loading factors for both galaxy and halo-scale outflows (as shown in Fig. 1). We only fit to data from bins where more than 80% of the galaxies have formed at least one star particle, integrated over the redshift bins indicated in Fig. 1. We find that a reasonable fit to the mass loading factors as a function of halo mass is given by the five parameter function,

$$\log_{10} \left( \frac{\dot{M}_{\text{out}}}{\dot{M}_{\star}} \right) = \log_{10} \left( N \left[ \left( \frac{M_{200}}{M_1} \right)^{\alpha} + \left( \frac{M_{200}}{M_1} \right)^{\beta} \right] \right) + \delta \log_{10} \left( \frac{M_{200}}{M_1} \right) \exp(-M_{200}/M_{\text{cut}}), \quad (\text{B1})$$

where for galaxy-scale outflows:



**Figure A2.** The impact of changing the time-averaged radial velocity cut used to select outflowing galaxy-scale wind particles (top/middle), and of changing the ISM definition (bottom). Adjusting the radial velocity cut has negligible effects on the halo-scale outflows (middle panel). A factor of two change relative to our fiducial velocity cut of  $0.25 V_{\max}$  changes the galaxy-scale outflow rates by about 0.1 dex, although larger differences are seen in high-mass haloes. The lower panel shows the impact of changing our fiducial ISM definition to a selection of star-forming gas only. The main effect of including non-star-forming gas in our ISM definition is to enhance the outflow rates in low-mass galaxies (where metallicities are low and less gas can pass the metallicity-dependent star formation threshold).

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log_{10}(N) &= -0.25 + 0.11 z \\
 \log_{10}(M_1 / M_{\odot}) &= 12.31 \\
 \alpha &= -0.39 - 0.06 z \\
 \beta &= 1.20 \\
 \log_{10}(M_{\text{cut}} / M_{\odot}) &= 12.84 \\
 \delta &= -1.04,
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{B2}$$

where two of the parameters are fit as a linear function of redshift,  $z$ . For halo-scale outflows, we find a reasonable fit is given by the same function, but with

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log_{10}(N) &= -0.15 + 0.67 a \\
 \log_{10}(M_1 / M_{\odot}) &= 11.55 + 0.17 z \\
 \alpha &= -1.19 + 0.18 z \\
 \beta &= 0.74 + 0.26 z \\
 \log_{10}(M_{\text{cut}} / M_{\odot}) &= 13.46 - 0.32 z \\
 \delta &= -0.27 - 0.45 z,
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{B3}$$

where in this case  $\log_{10}(N)$  is fit as a function of expansion factor,  $a$ .

The parameter  $\alpha$  sets the low-mass power law slope of the mass loading factor as a function of halo mass (primarily related to stellar feedback), and  $\beta$  sets the power law slope of the upturn at higher masses (primarily related to AGN feedback).  $M_1$  sets the transition halo mass scale between these regimes<sup>10</sup>, and  $N$  sets the overall normalisation.  $\delta$  and  $M_{\text{cut}}$  are responsible for the third (flatter or negative) power law slope that becomes evident in group-/cluster mass haloes. Both of these fits (galaxy and halo scale) provide a reasonable description of the data shown in Fig. 1 (within at least  $\approx 0.1$  dex) up until  $z = 4$ .

We also provide parametric fits to the galaxy-scale mass loading factor as a function of galaxy stellar mass and halo maximum circular velocity. We again adopt the five parameter functional form given by Eqn B1, switching the dependent variable from halo mass to maximum circular velocity or stellar mass.

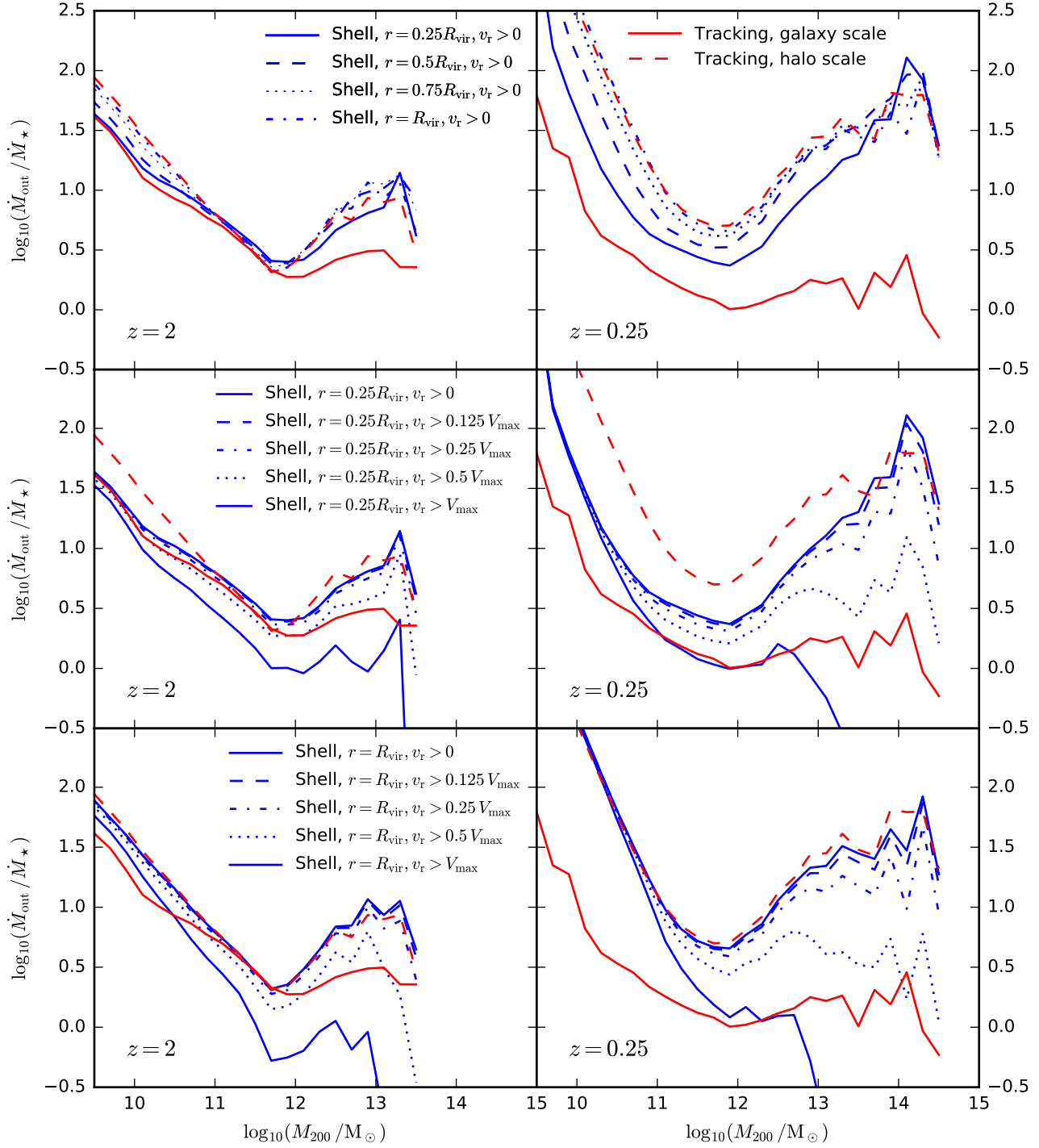
As a function of halo maximum circular velocity,  $V_{\max}$ , we find

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log_{10}(N) &= -0.31 + 0.14 z \\
 \log_{10}(M_1 / \text{kms}^{-1}) &= 2.22 + 0.04 z \\
 \alpha &= -1.43 - 0.17 z \\
 \beta &= 4.02 \\
 M_{\text{cut}} &= 161 \text{ kms}^{-1} \\
 \delta &= -4.18.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{B4}$$

As a function of galaxy stellar mass (measured within a 30 pkpc spherical aperture), we find

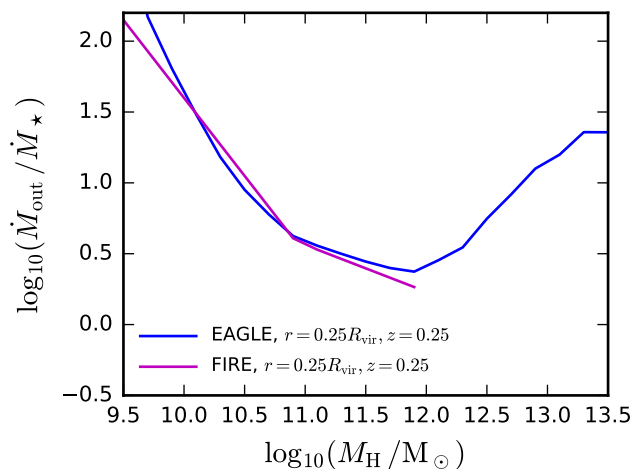
<sup>10</sup>  $M_1$  is close but not exactly equal to the halo mass where the mass loading factor reaches a local minimum value.





**Figure A3.** A comparison of our fiducial Lagrangian measurement of wind mass loading factors with simple shell-based measurements, performed at  $z = 2$  (left) and at  $z = 0.25$  (right). Lagrangian outflow rates (red) are shown for gas leaving the ISM (solid), and the halo virial radius (dashed). Eulerian measurements (blue) are computed from the instantaneous radial momentum, summed over particles within shells of width  $0.1R_{\text{vir}}$ , including only particles outflowing faster than some minimum (instantaneous) radial velocity. *Top-row:* a comparison with shells at different radii, selecting all outflowing gas. *Middle-row:* a comparison with shells at one quarter of the halo virial radius, selecting gas with different radial velocity cuts. *Bottom-row:* a comparison with shells at the halo virial radius, selecting gas with different radial velocity cuts.





EAGLE, causing the upturn of the mass loading factor at higher halo masses.

**Figure C1.** A comparison of mass loading factors between EAGLE and the FIRE simulations, in this case plotted as a function of halo mass. Mass loading factors are measured in shells with  $0.2 < r/R_{\text{vir}} < 0.3$ , selecting all outflowing gas. The magenta line shows the best-fit relation from Muratov et al. (2015) plotted at  $z = 0.25$ . The blue line shows the average mass loading factor from EAGLE, also plotted at  $z = 0.25$ . Plotted as a function of halo mass, EAGLE and FIRE are in excellent agreement over the common mass range at  $r = 0.25 R_{\text{vir}}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log_{10}(N) &= -0.15 + 0.08 z \\
 \log_{10}(M_1 / M_{\odot}) &= 10.82 - 0.07 z \\
 \alpha &= -0.22 - 0.06 z \\
 \beta &= 2.10 \\
 \log_{10}(M_{\text{cut}} / M_{\odot}) &= 10.83 \\
 \delta &= -2.27.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{B5}$$

In both cases, the fits provide a reasonable description of the data up to  $z = 3$ .

### APPENDIX C: COMPARISON TO THE FIRE SIMULATIONS AS A FUNCTION OF HALO MASS

Further to the comparison between simulations shown in Fig. 10 of Section 4.2, Fig. C1 shows a comparison between the mass loading factors in FIRE and EAGLE at low redshift, measured at  $r = 0.25 R_{\text{vir}}$ , and plotted in this case as a function of halo mass, rather than as a function of stellar mass. Compared at a given halo mass, EAGLE and the best-fit relation from FIRE are in remarkably good agreement over the common mass range. The level of agreement is significantly better than when the simulations are compared as a function of galaxy stellar mass (as shown in Fig. 10), where the best-fit mass loading factor relation in FIRE is about 0.3 dex higher than the average from EAGLE at  $M_{\star} \sim 10^9 M_{\odot}$ . This implies there is a systematic difference in the median stellar mass versus halo mass relation between the two sets of simulations.

Individual galaxies in FIRE at  $M_{\text{H}} \sim 10^{12} M_{\odot}$  fall below the plotted best-fit relation at low redshift, and are observed to be relatively quiescent in terms of outflow activity, with residual outflowing flux attributed to non-feedback sources (Muratov et al. 2015). This is the mass scale where AGN feedback (which is not implemented in the FIRE simulations) starts to play a significant role in