

# Chemistry and Dark Matter

Sarah Shandera  
Institute for Gravitation and the Cosmos (Director)  
Penn State University

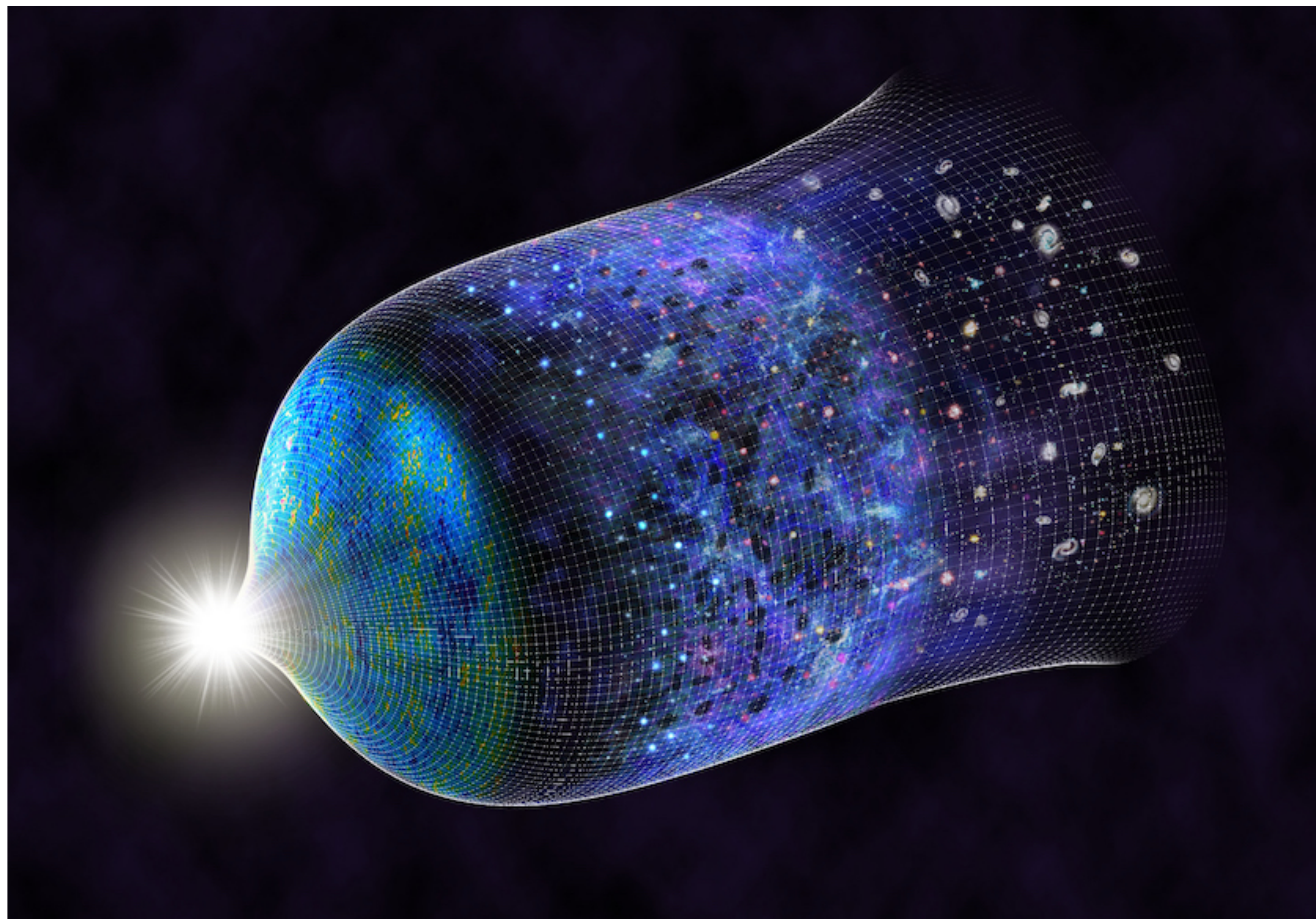


# Dark Black Holes

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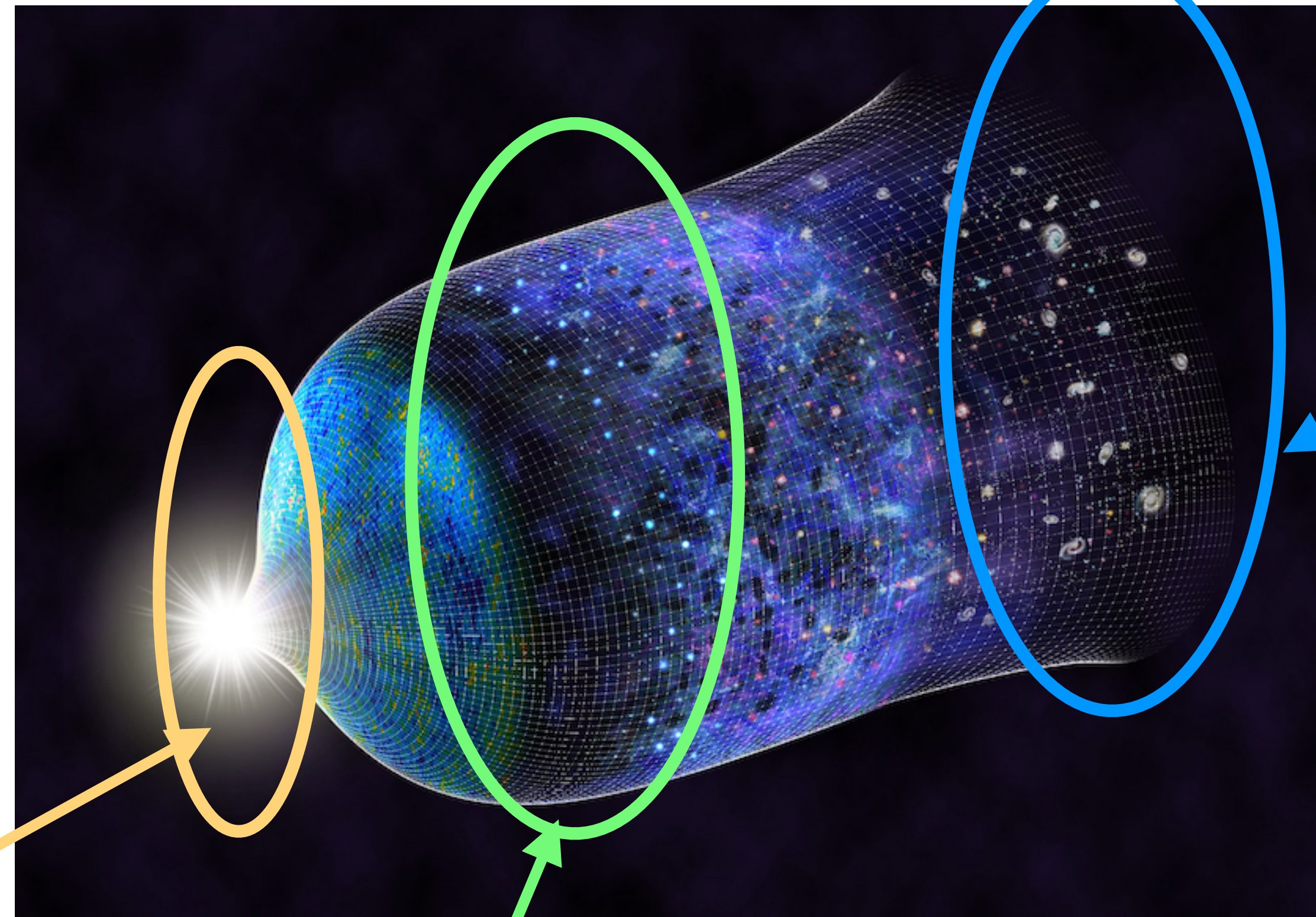
# Big Universe, Big Questions



*Nicole R. Fuller, NSF*

Shandera, TRISEP 2024

# Beyond the Standard Model with Cosmology



Nicole R. Fuller, NSF

Why quantum?  
Why gravity?

Inflation?

How does structure form? What is  
the dark matter?

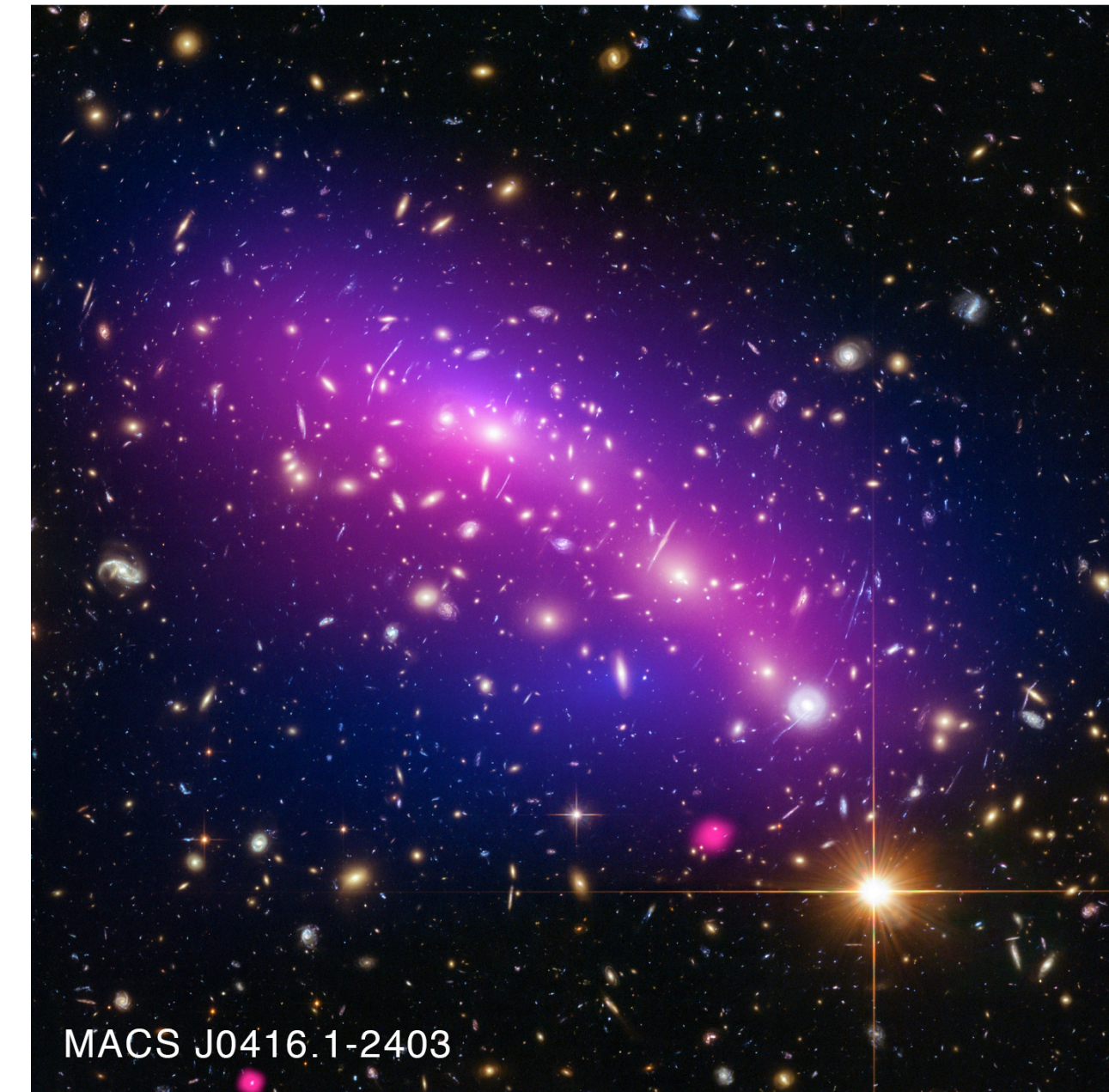
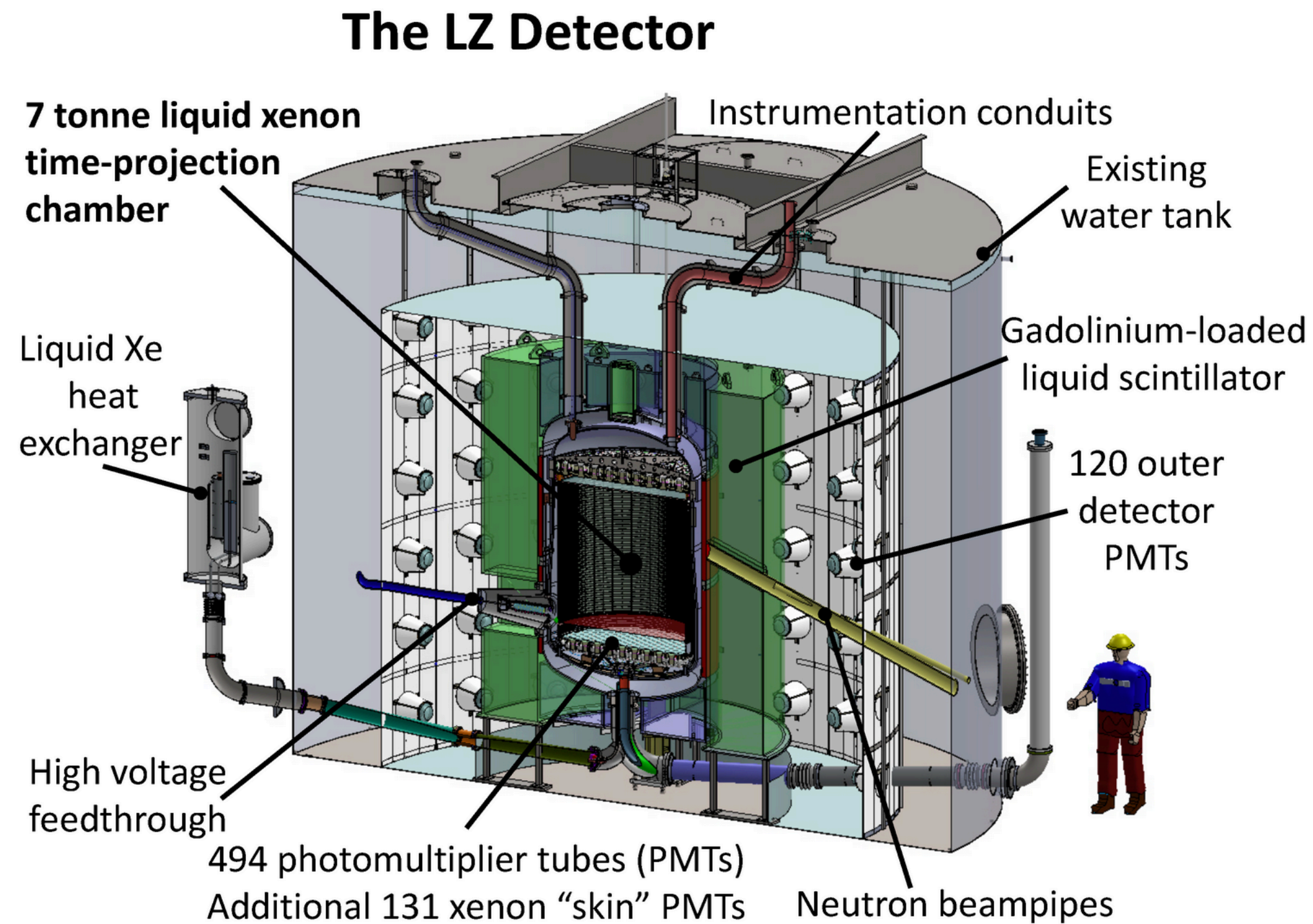
What is causing the  
expansion of the  
universe to  
accelerate?

What can the  
enormously energetic  
phenomena reveal  
about particle physics?

# Cosmology vs Laboratory

Instead of understanding

We need to understand  
(model) this stuff:



<https://lz.lbl.gov/detector/>

# Cosmology vs Laboratory

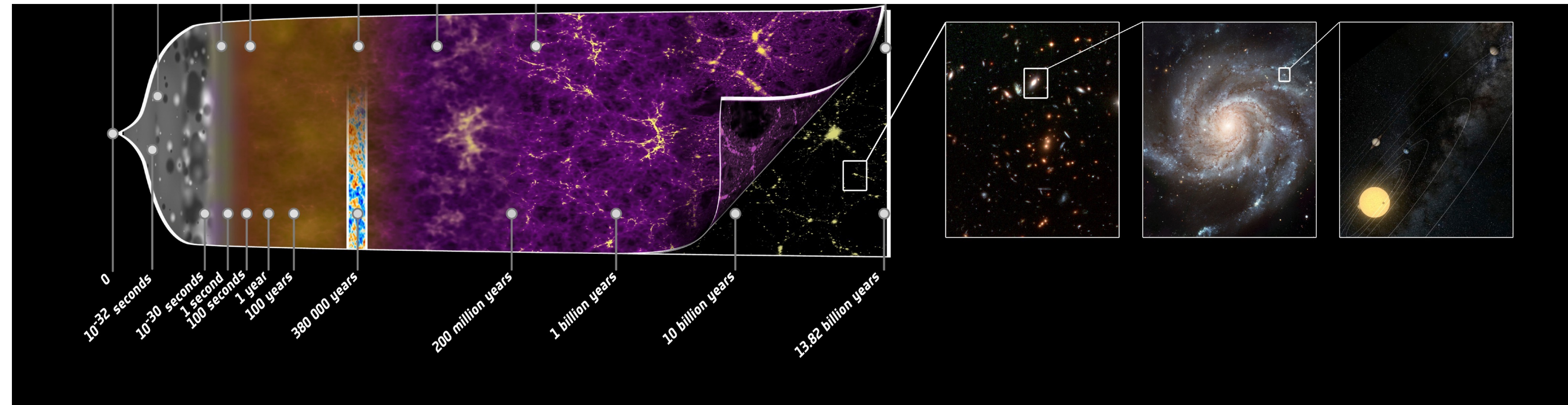


Image credit: ESA, Planck collaboration

# Cosmology vs Laboratory

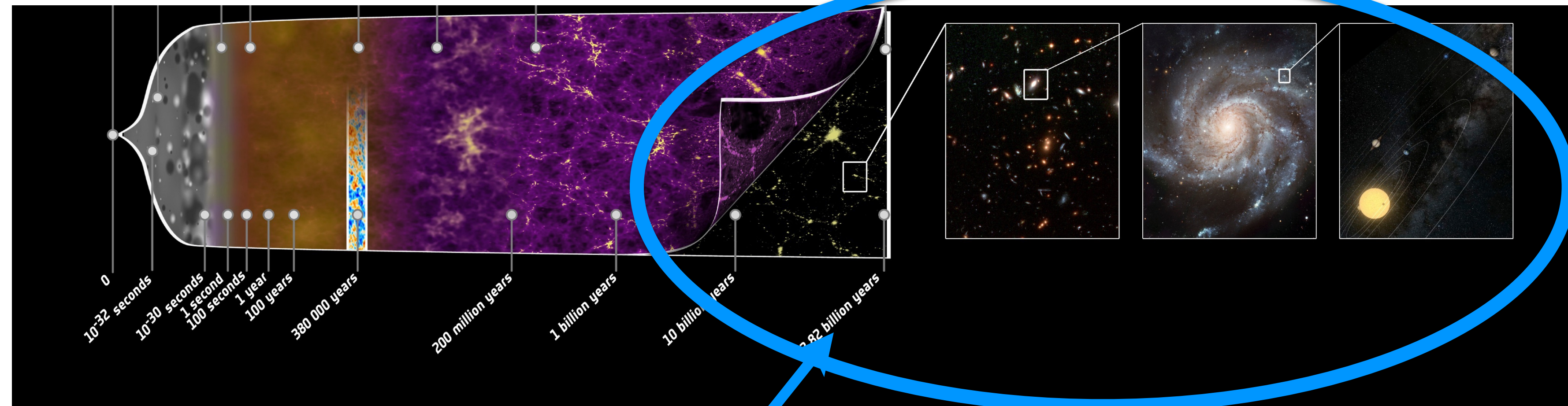


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**Cosmological Principle**

Our place is not special

# Cosmology vs Laboratory

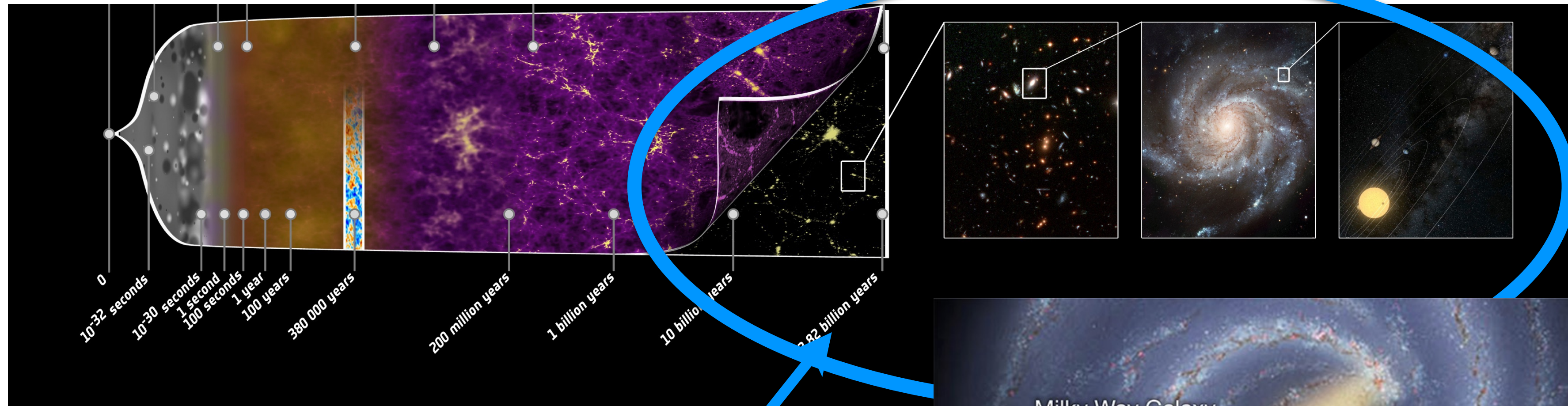


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**Cosmological Principle**  
Our place is not special

(Except, thermodynamically, maybe it is)

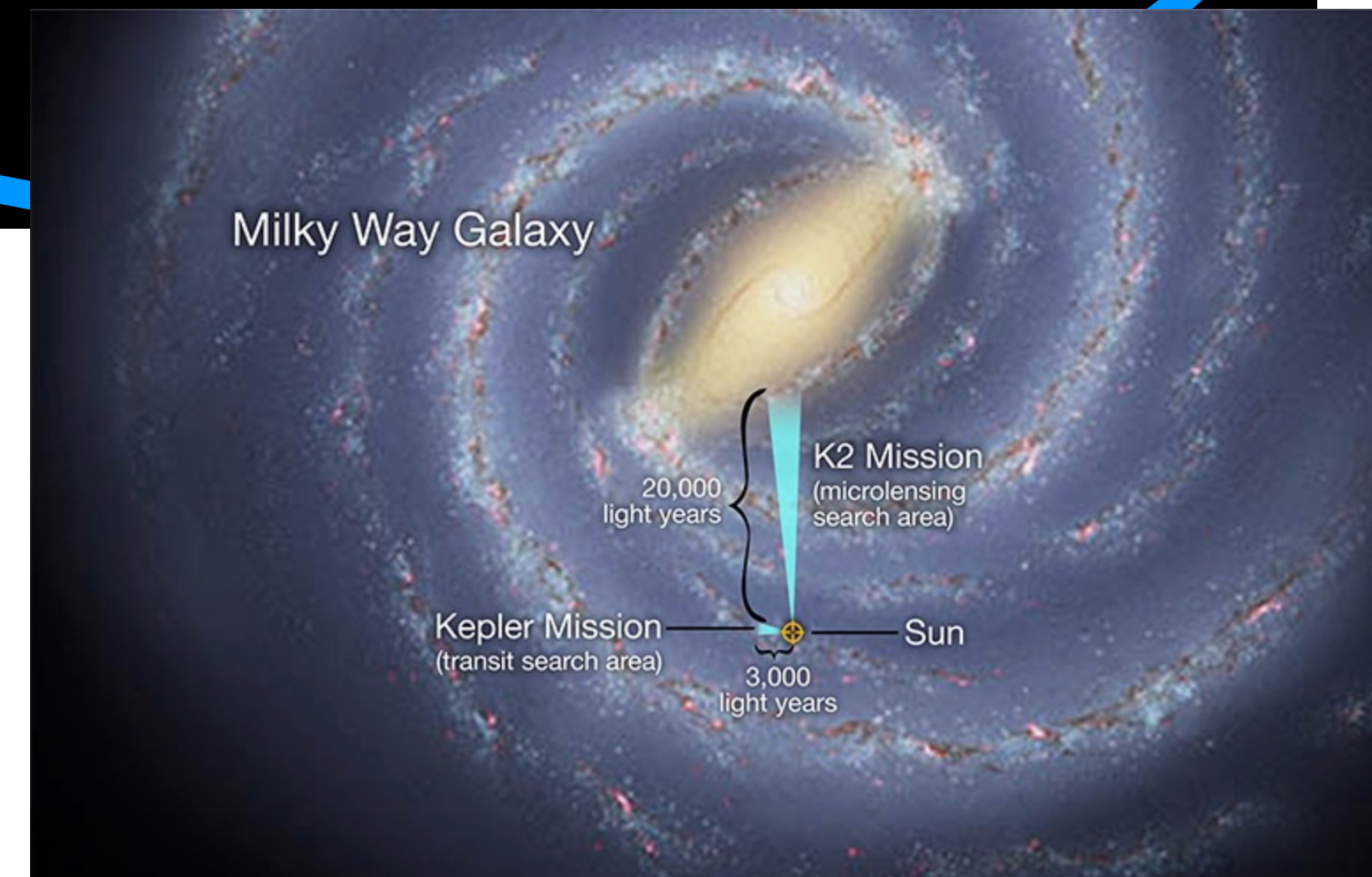
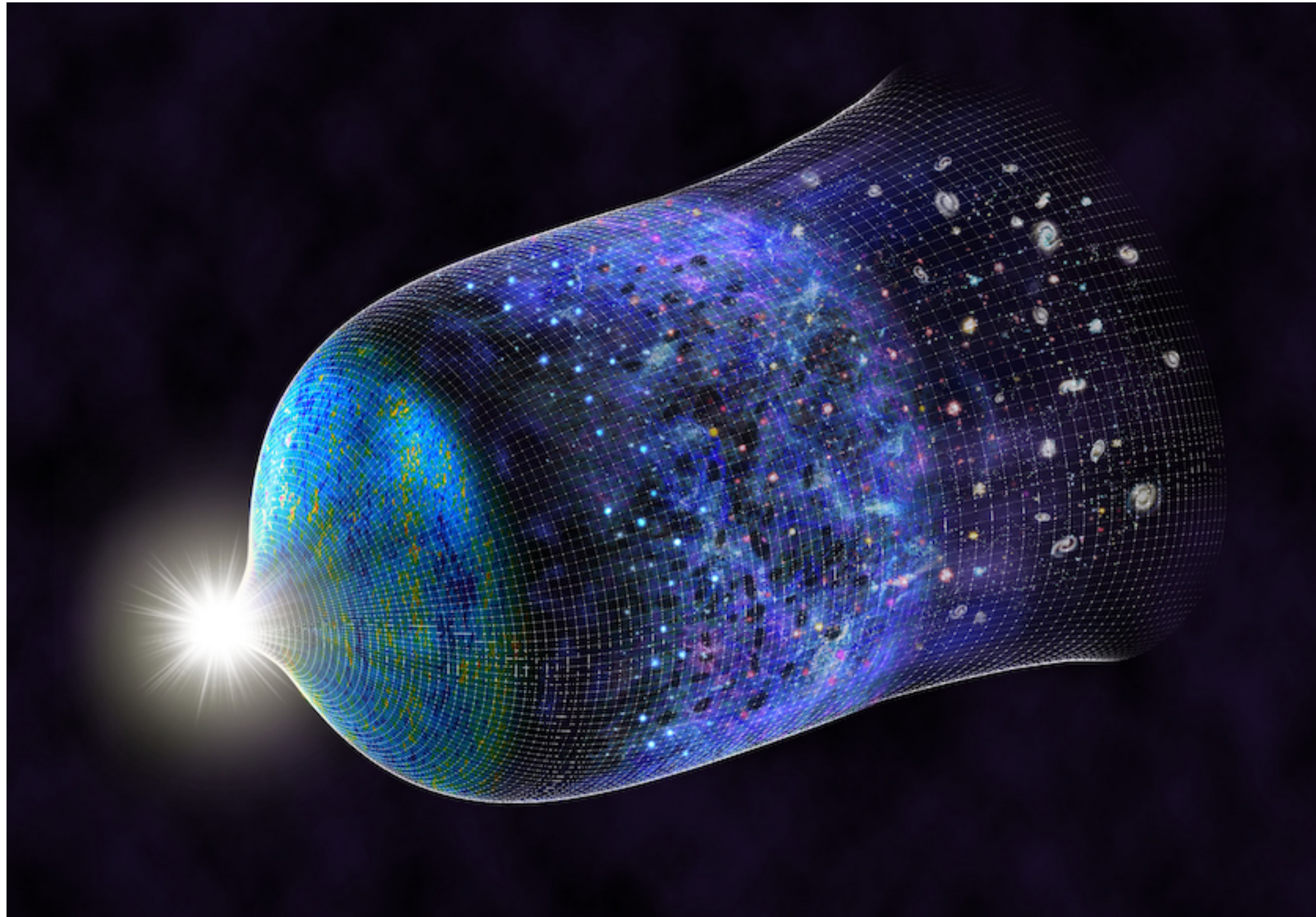


Image credit: NASA Ames/W. Stenzel and JPL-Caltech/R. Hurt



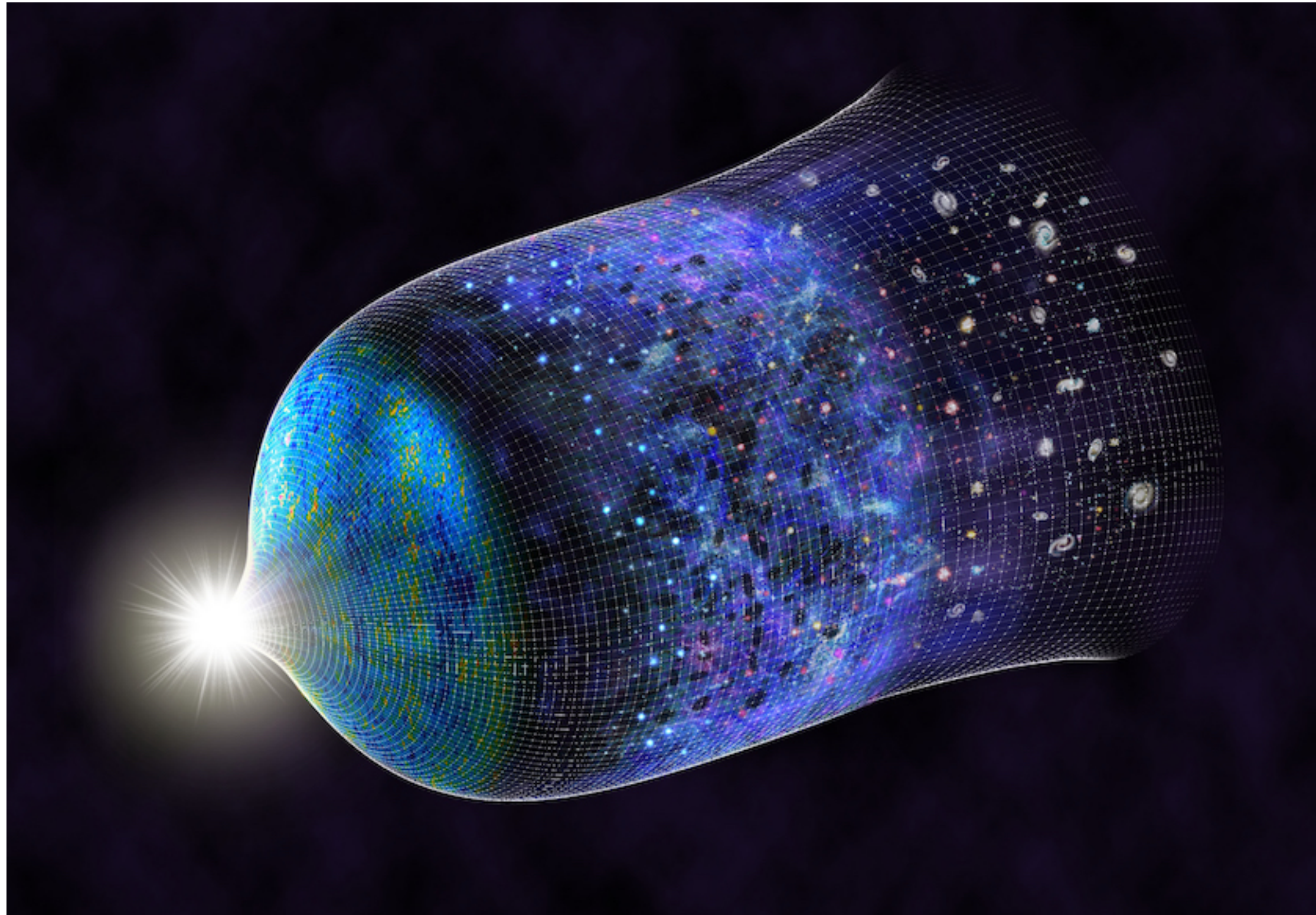
# One example of how it works to wander through this space...



*Nicole R. Fuller, NSF*

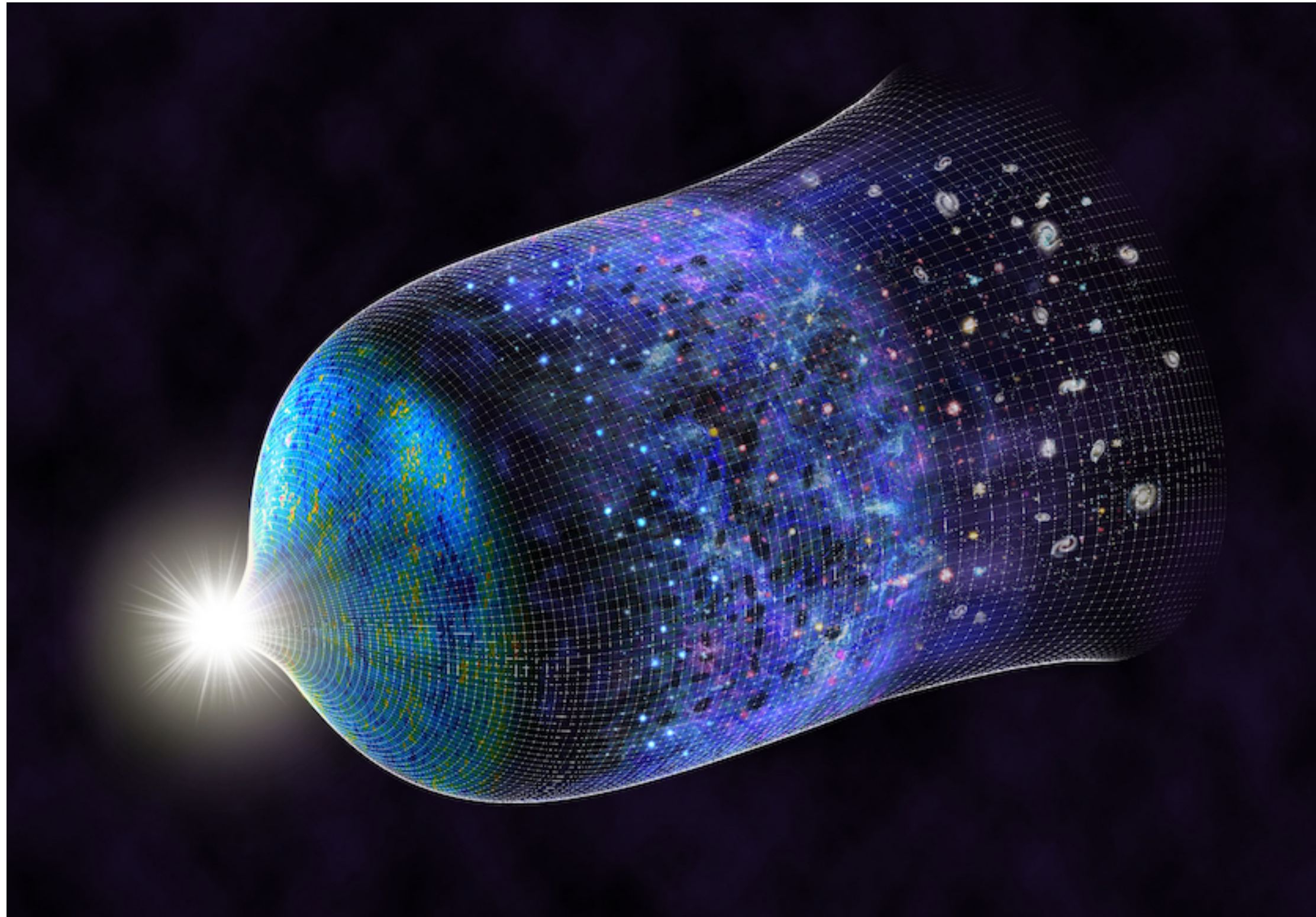
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**WMAP data ~2004: very detailed view of CMB**  
**Can we test BSM models of inflation? String theory?**



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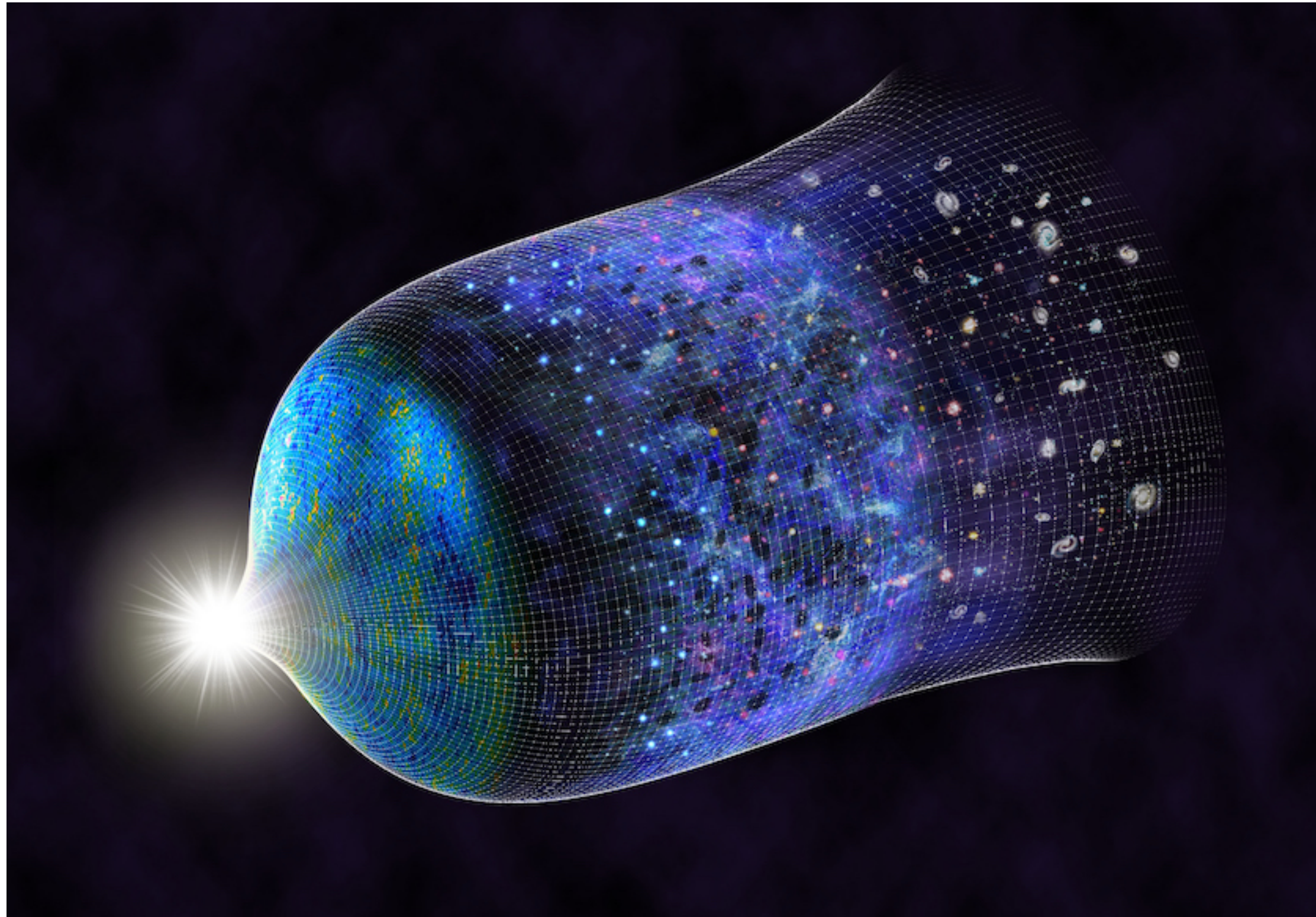
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**Lots of theory work**

**What about large-scale structure?  
(Stay tuned for SPHERE-X!)**

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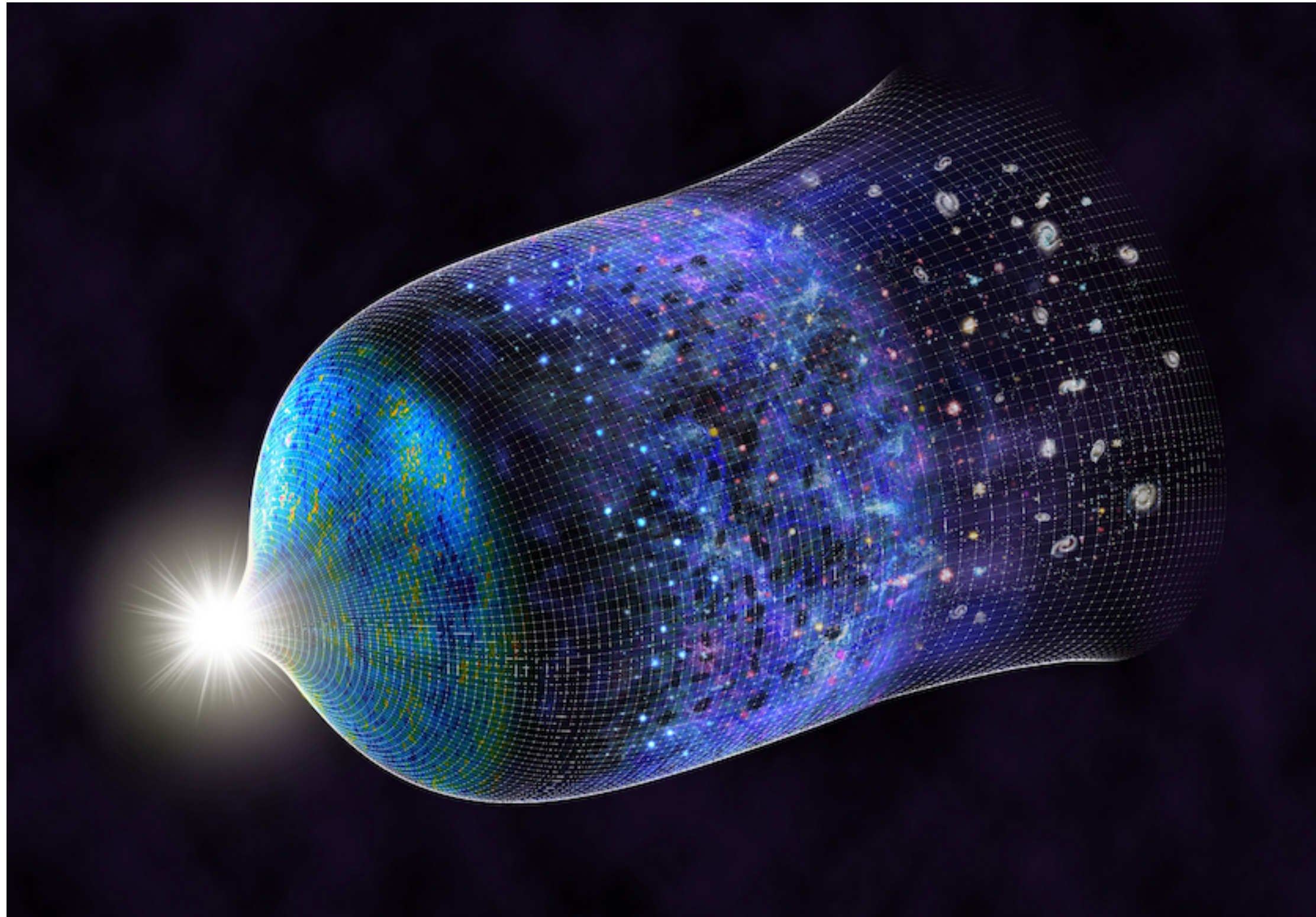
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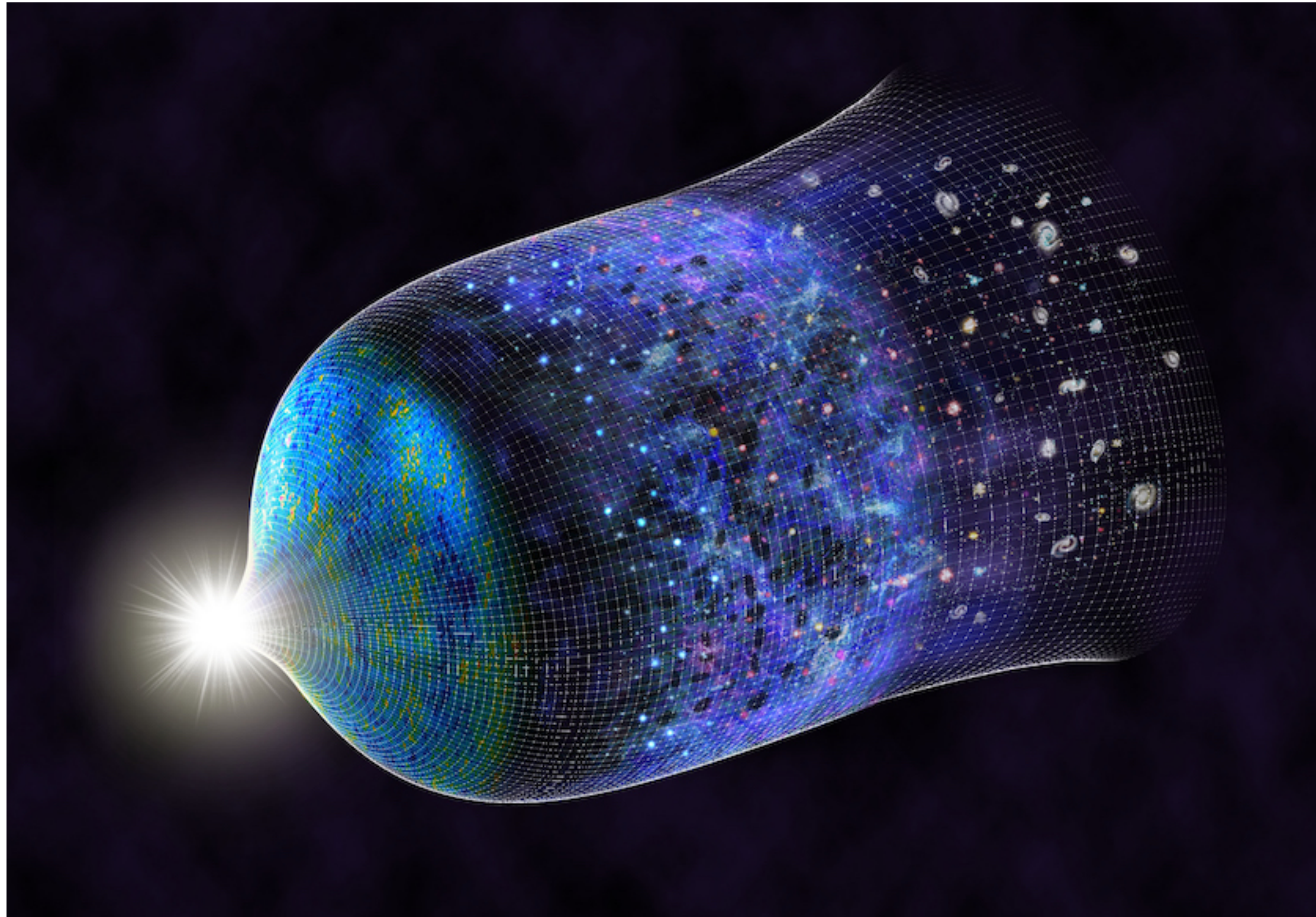
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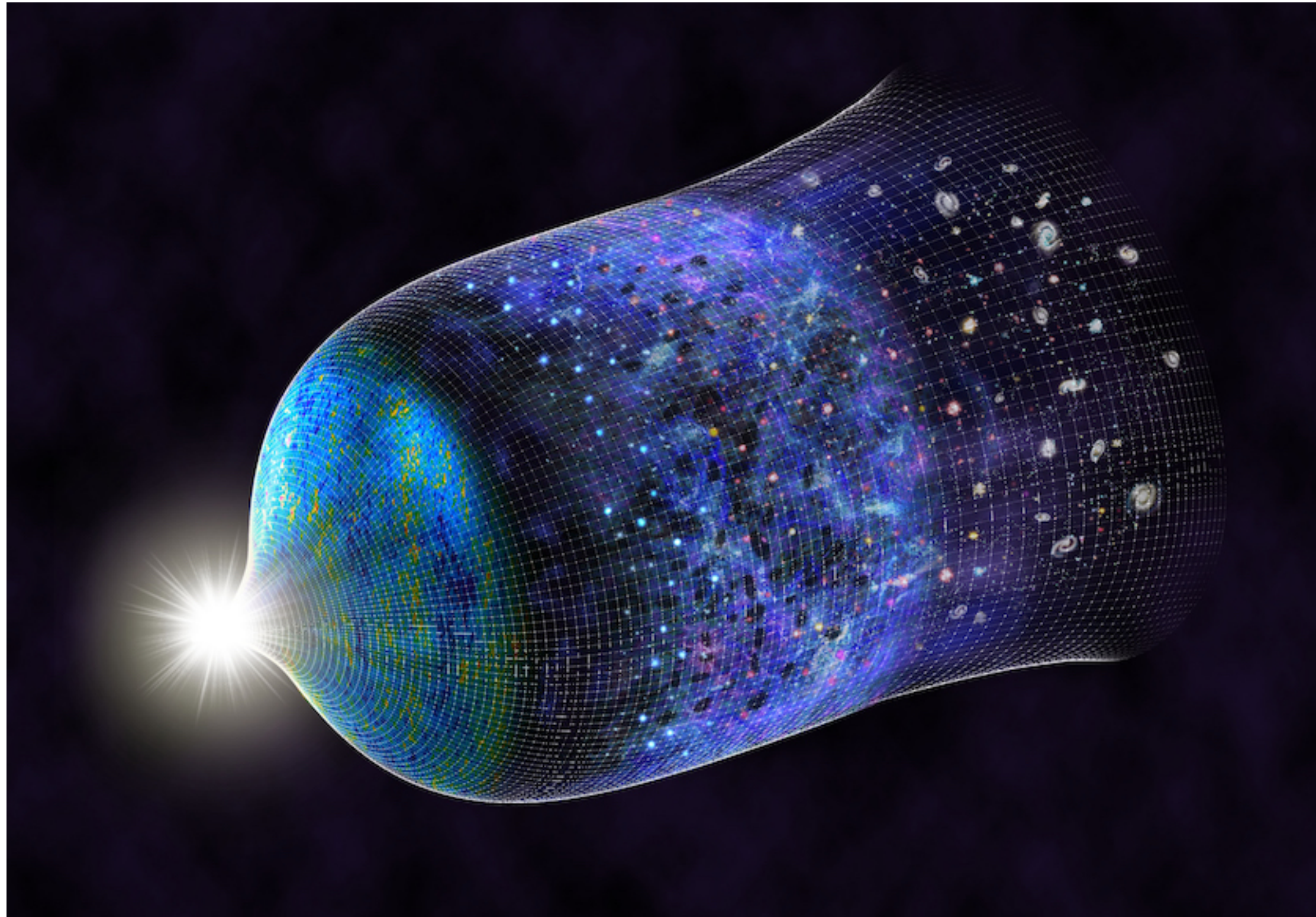
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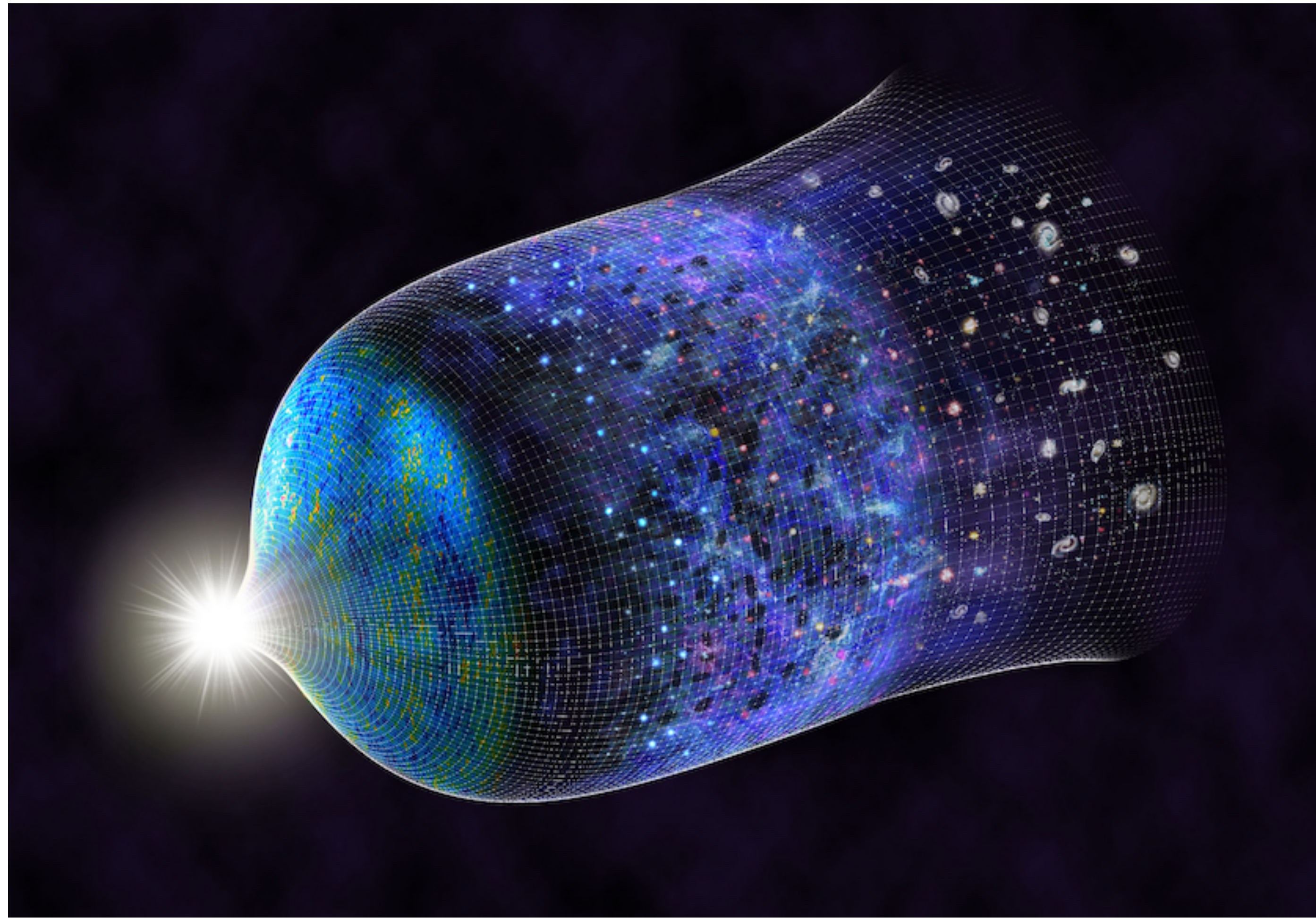
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**Collaborators are absolutely key. Be mindful of building good  
community -> better science**

# A (mostly) electromagnetic picture



Recently: + other messengers: cosmic rays, neutrinos, gravitational waves



# The dark matter puzzle

- Of the stuff that acts like matter, ~85% emits no light

$$G_{\mu\nu} \propto T_{\mu\nu}$$

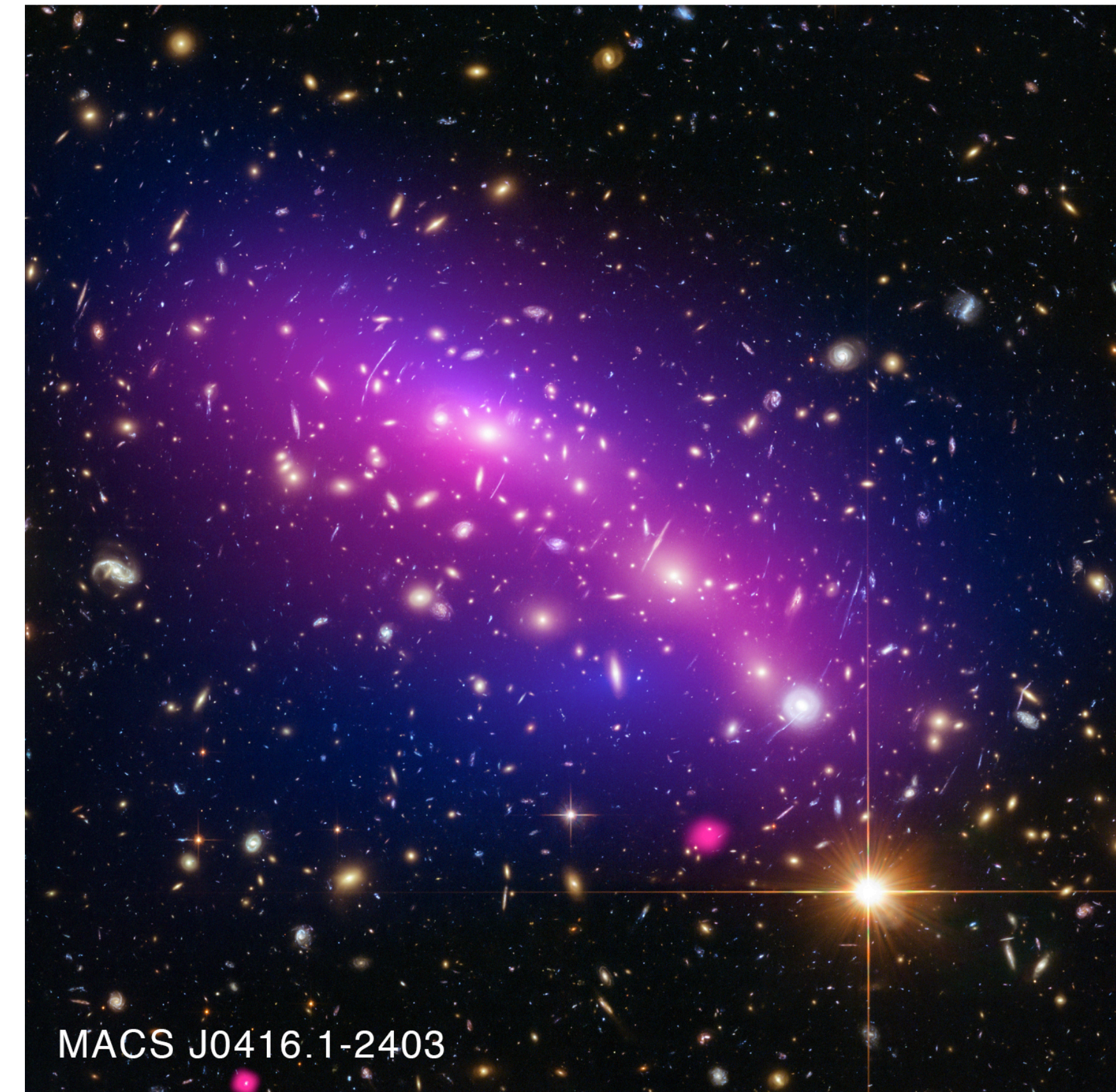
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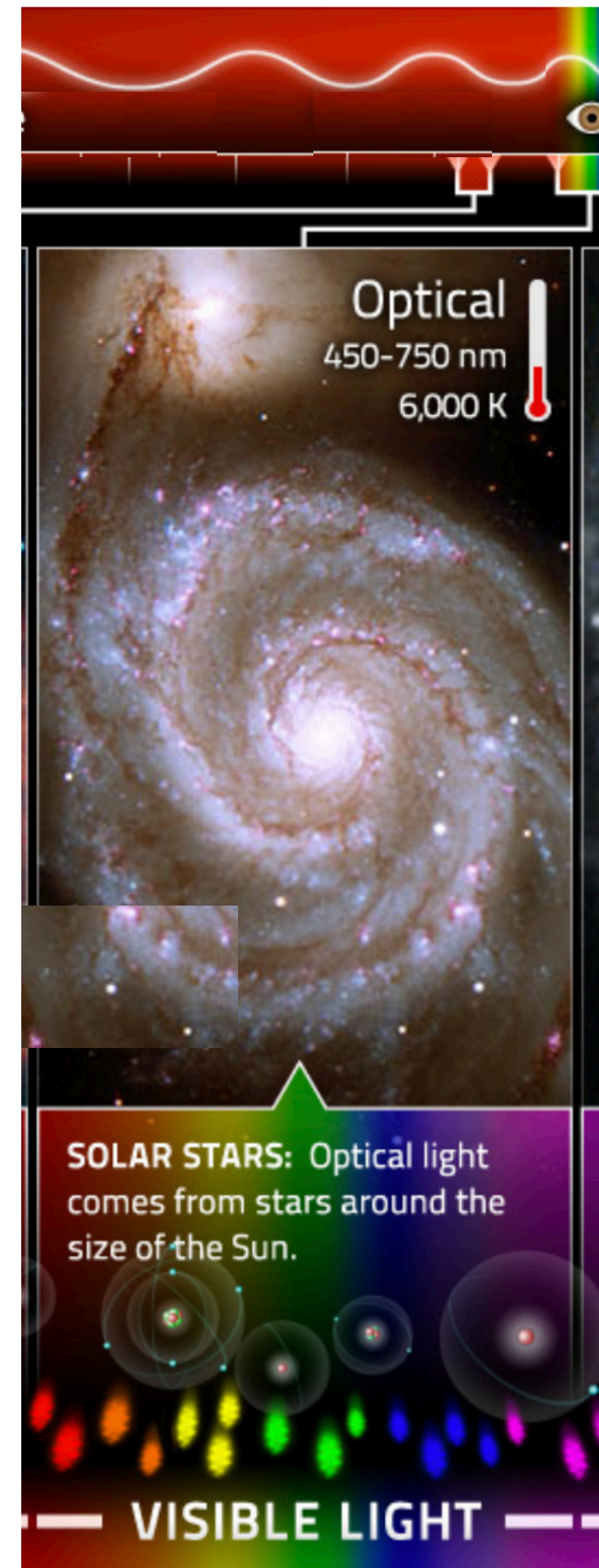
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Visible light + hot gas (pink) + all matter (blue)

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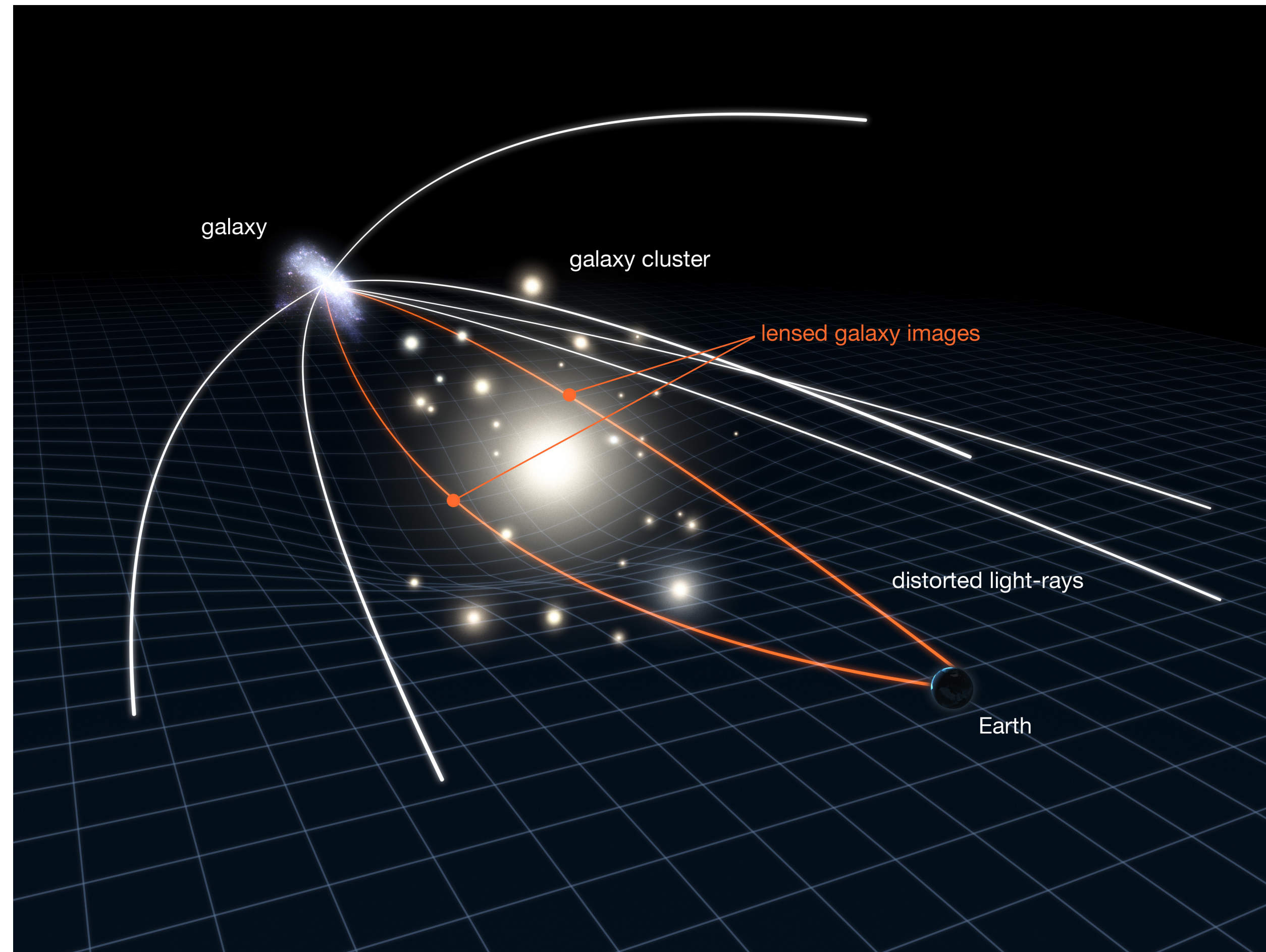
# How do we know?

Step 1: use the full electromagnetic spectrum

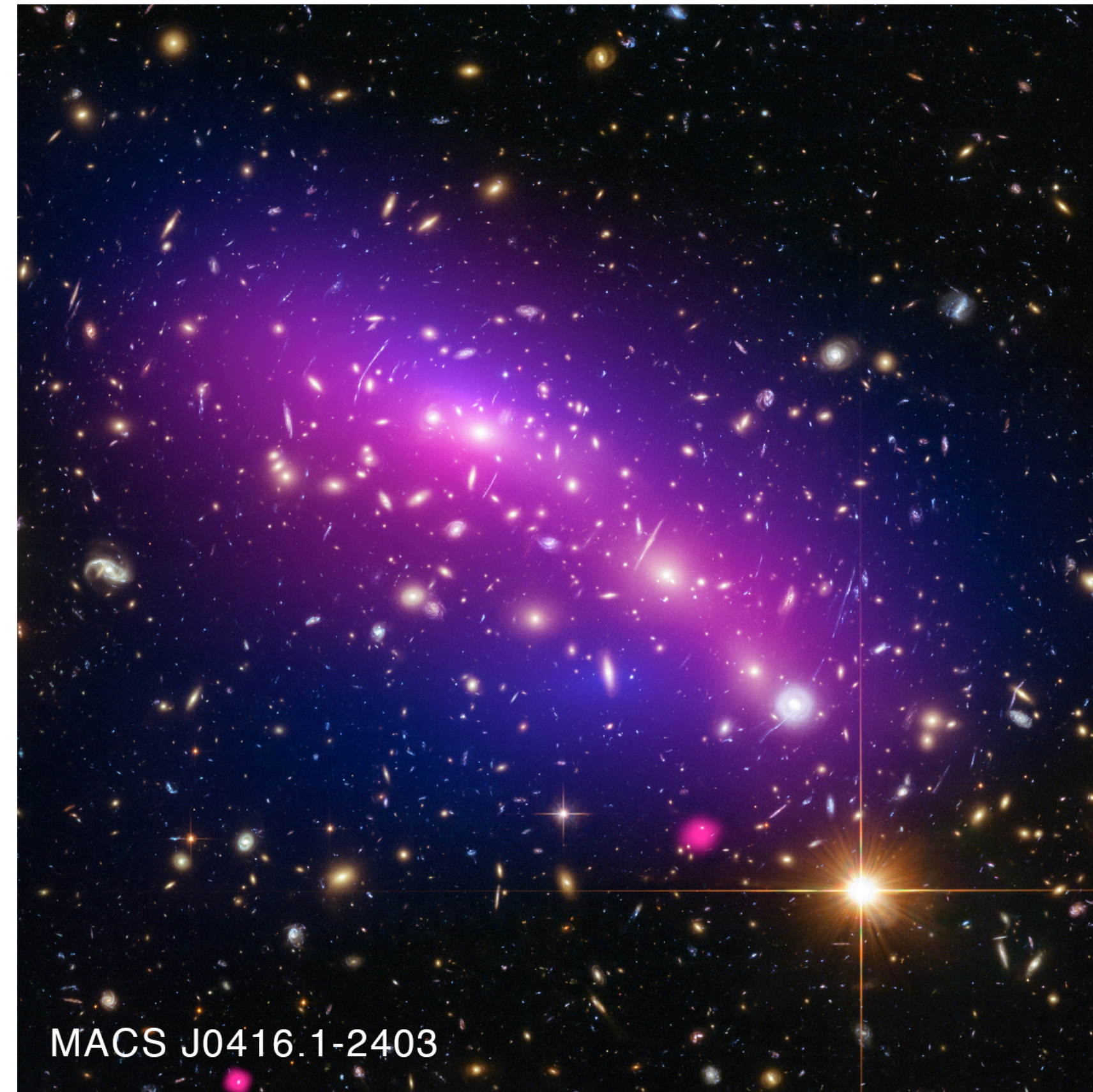


# How do we know?

Step 2: see how gravity bends light



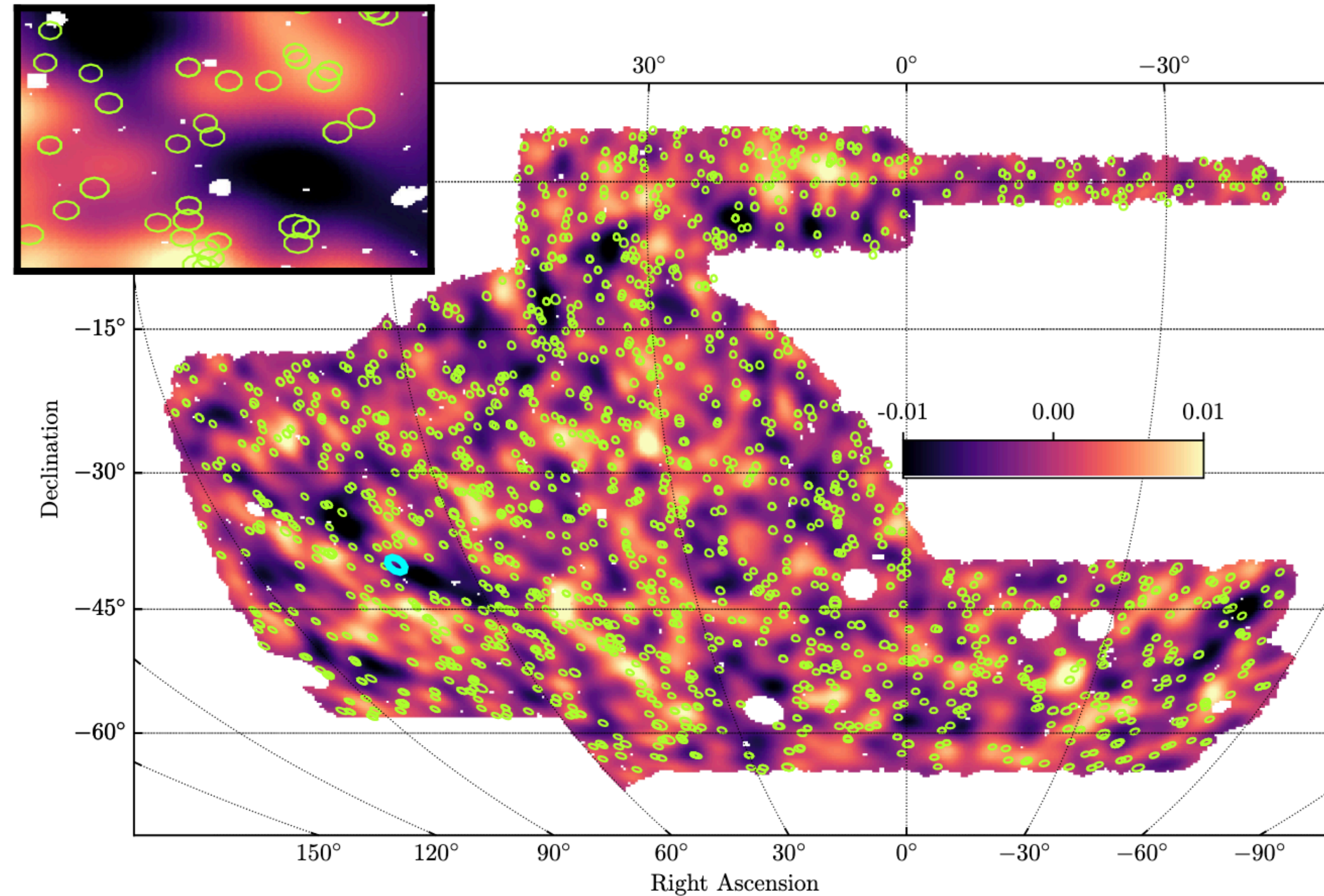
# The dark matter puzzle



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# And, on a bigger scale

Each green circle is a galaxy cluster  
Color shading is total mass



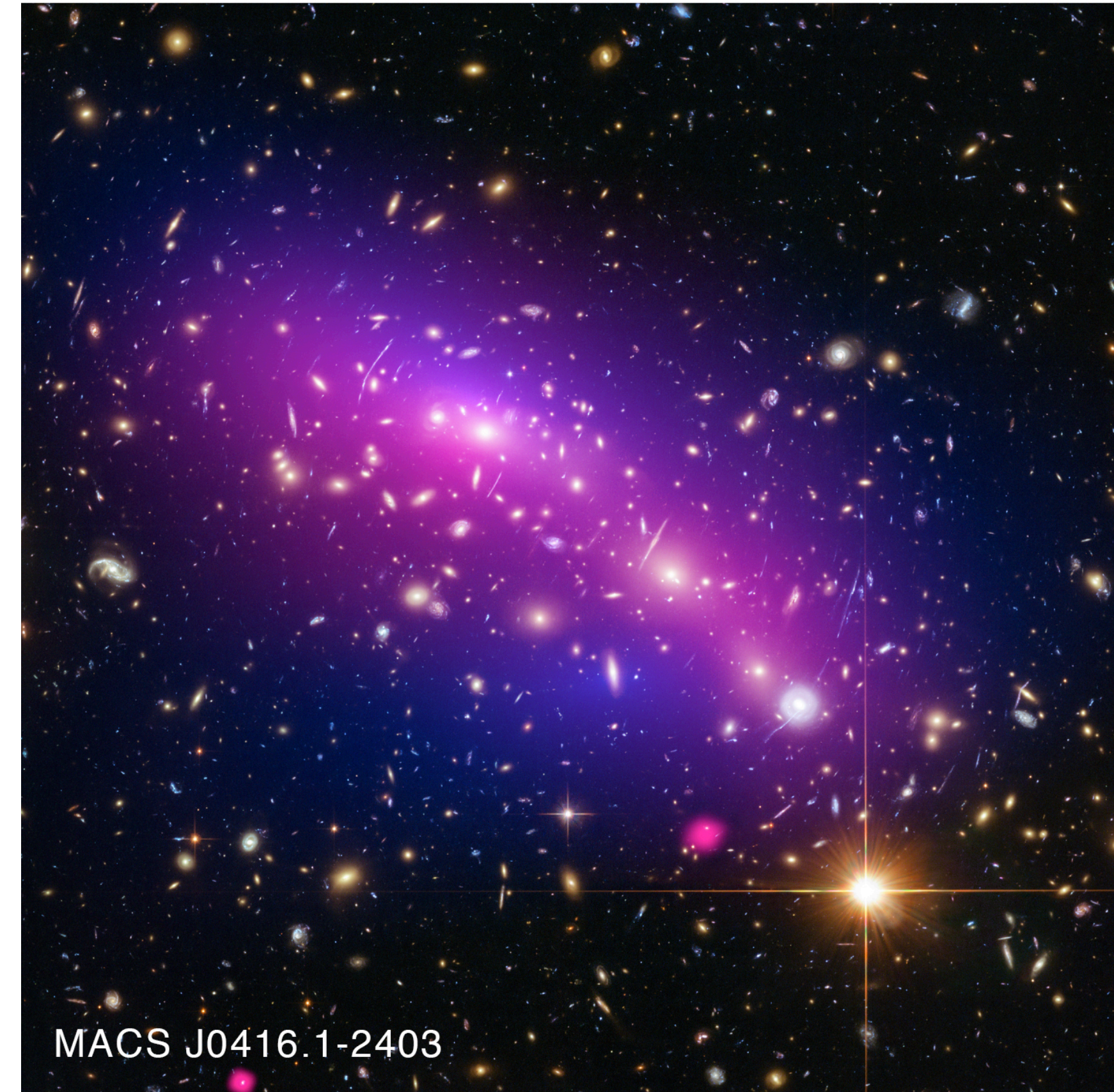
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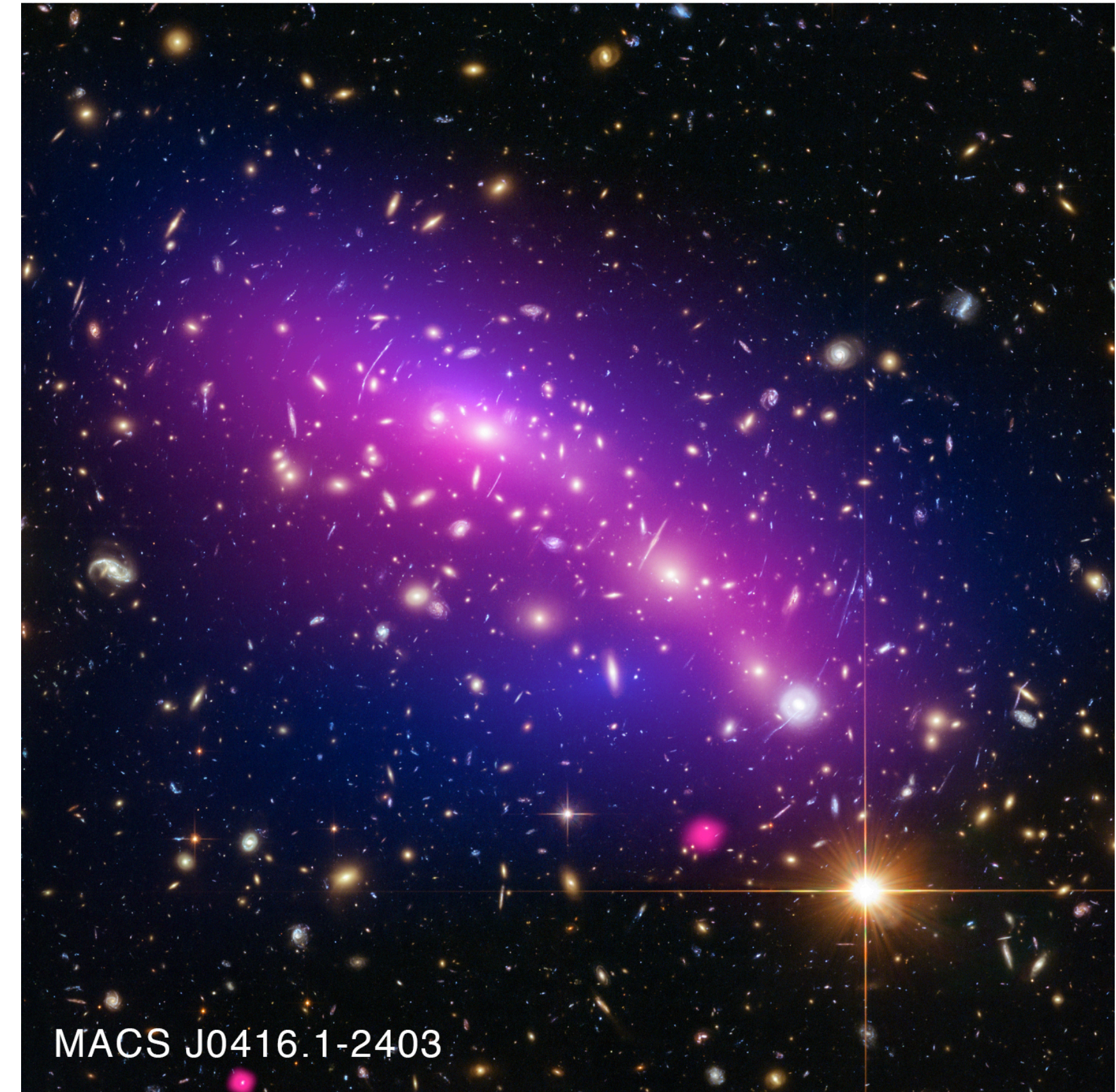
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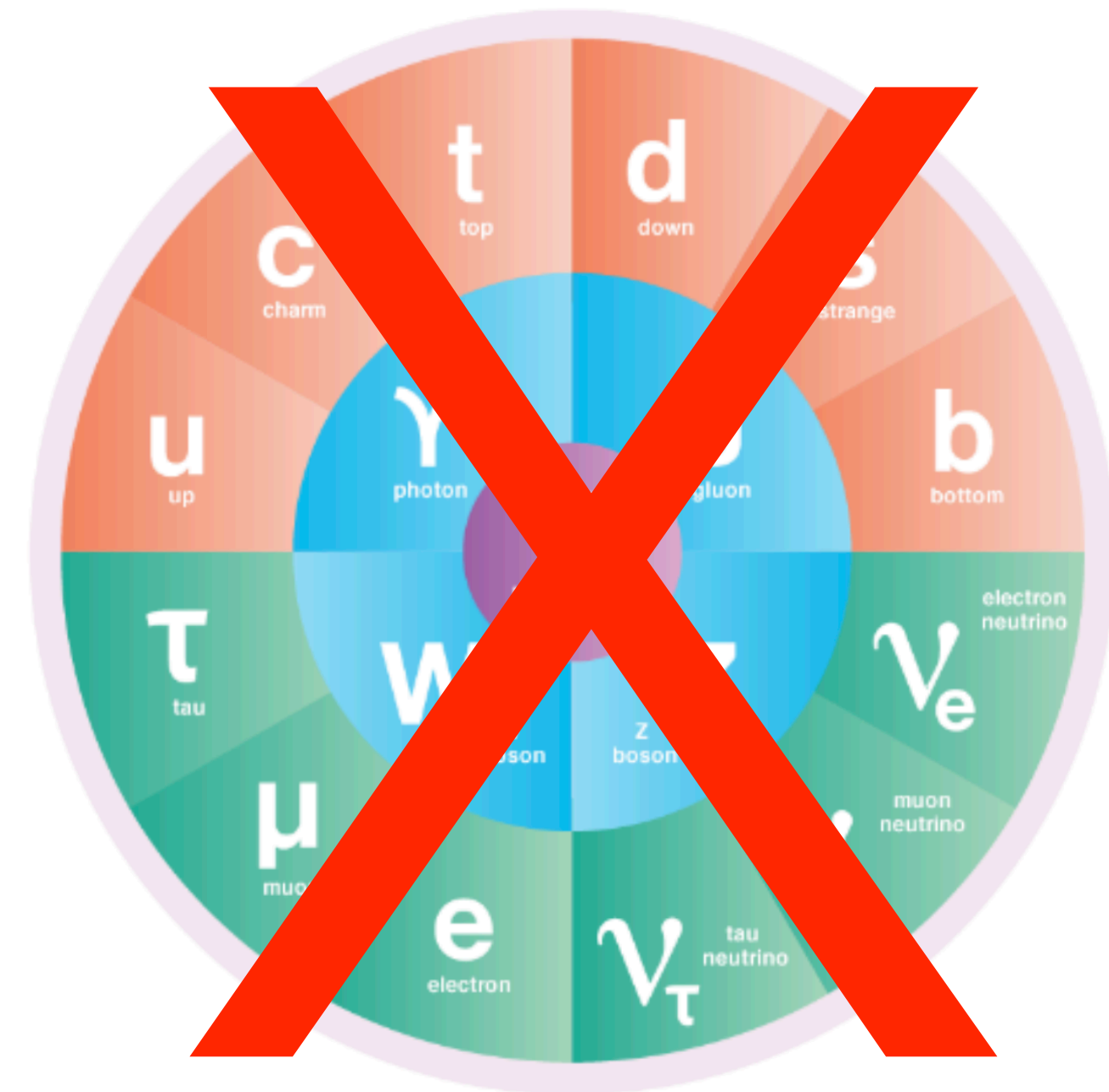
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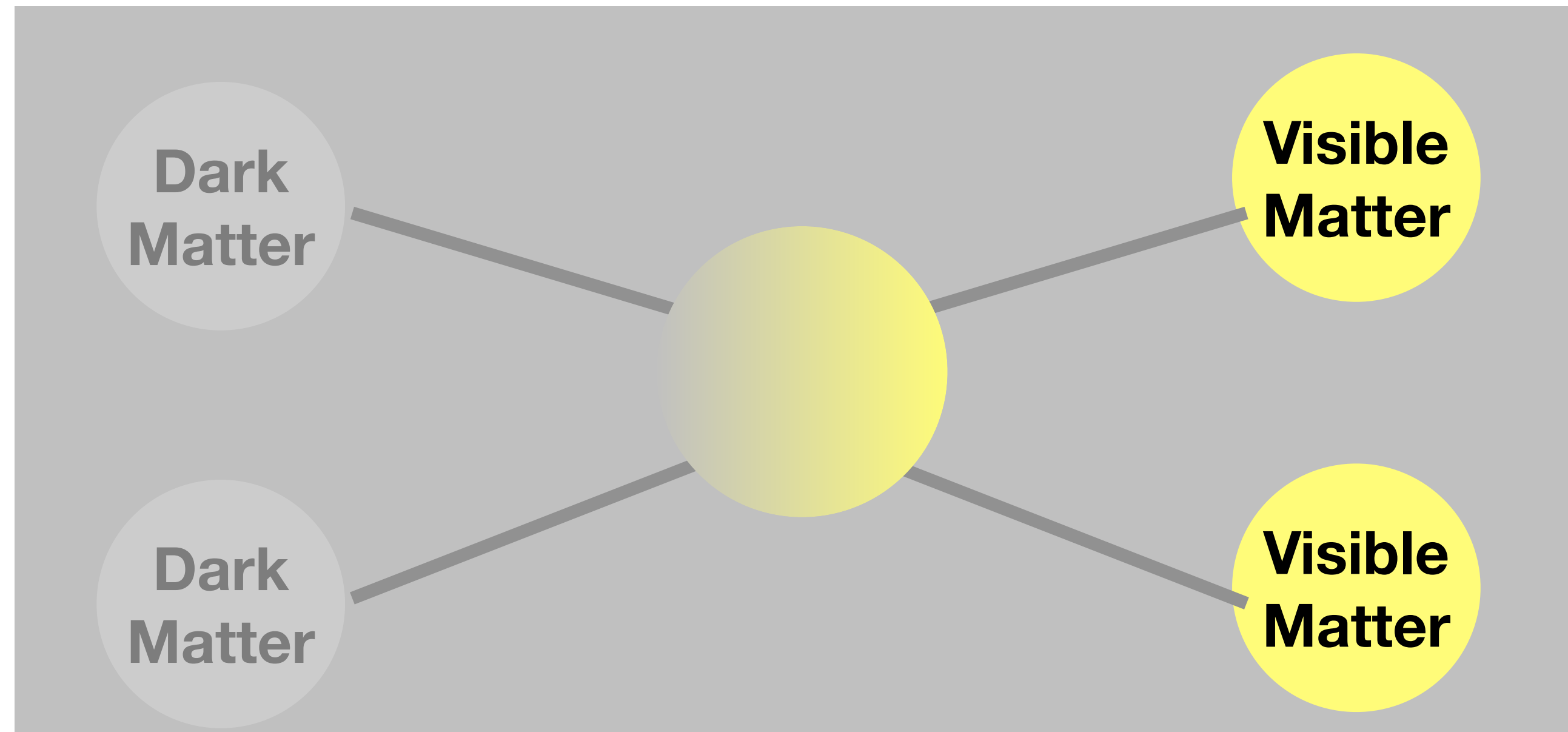
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Not this!

# What is the dark matter?

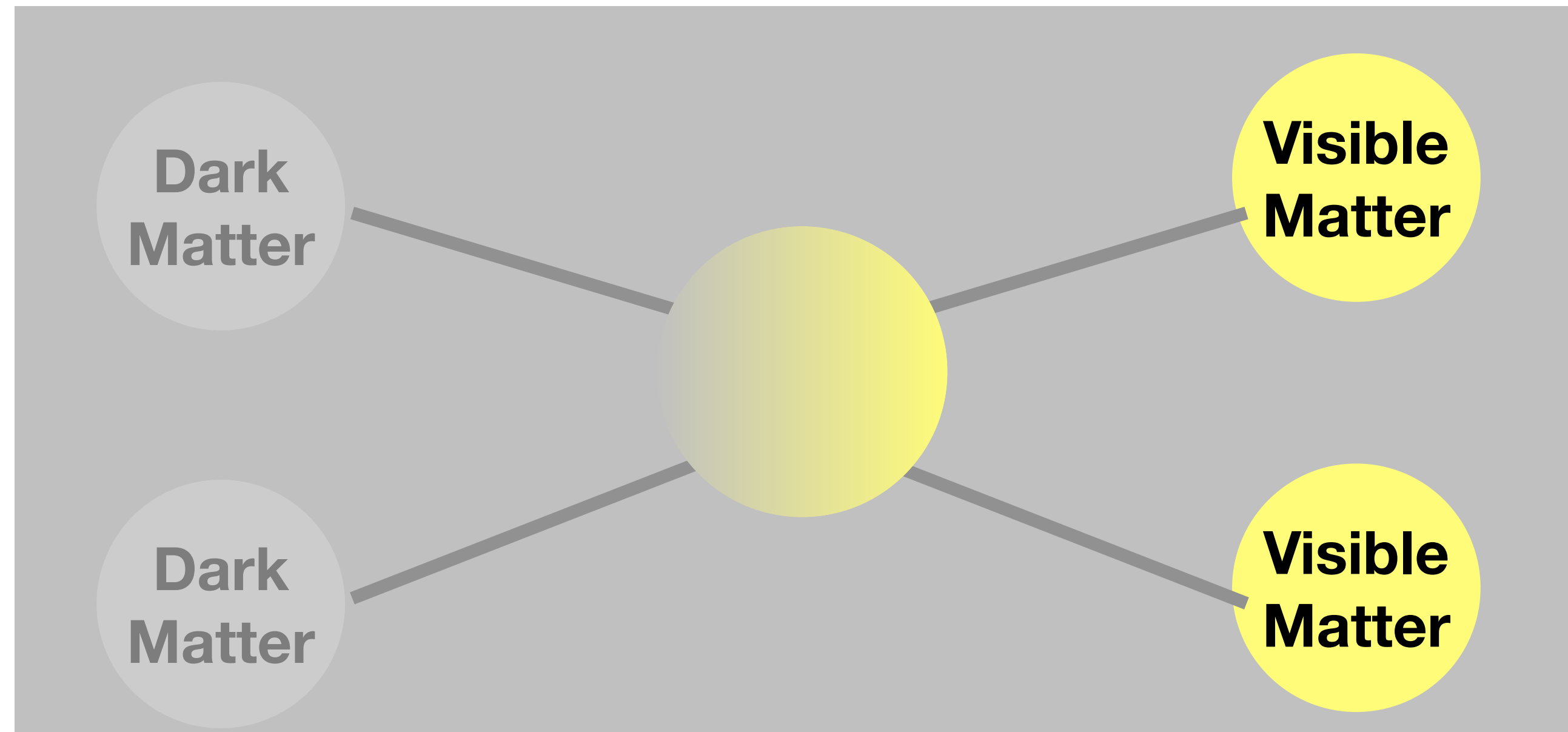
Assume it interacts with the standard model particles



# What is the dark matter?

Assume it interacts with the standard model particles

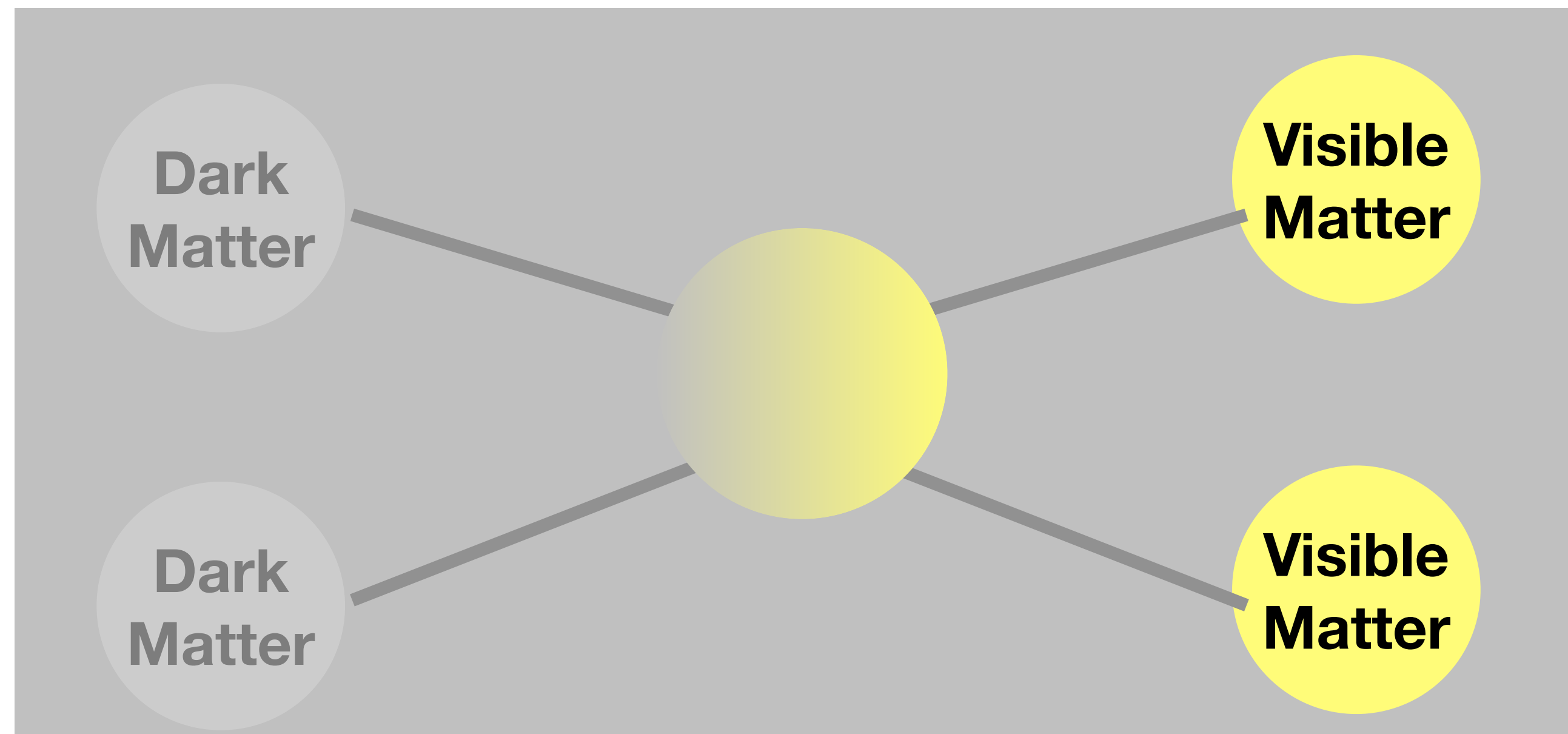
**Production (colliders)**



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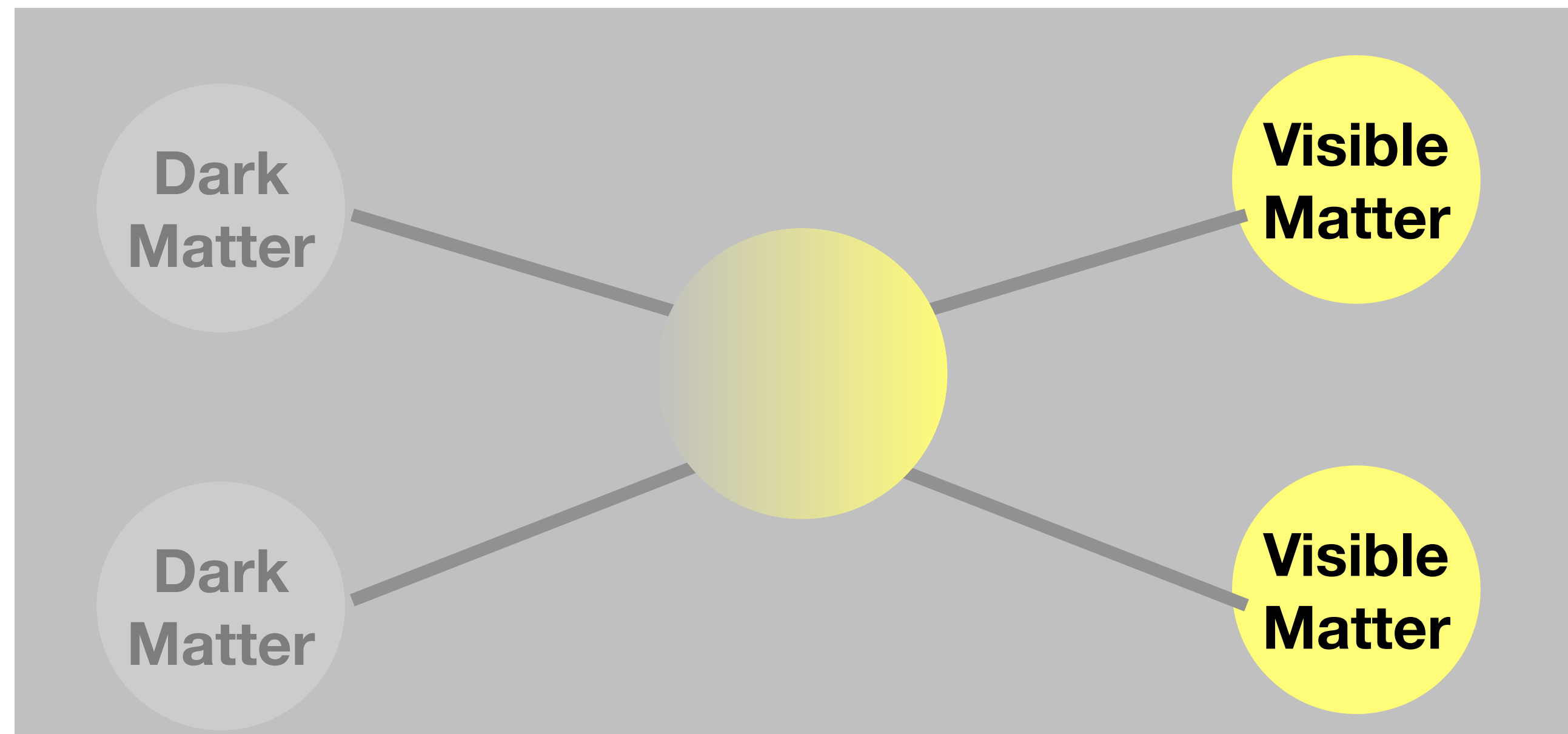


**“Indirect” Detection**  
**(look up at the sky for unexpected light)**

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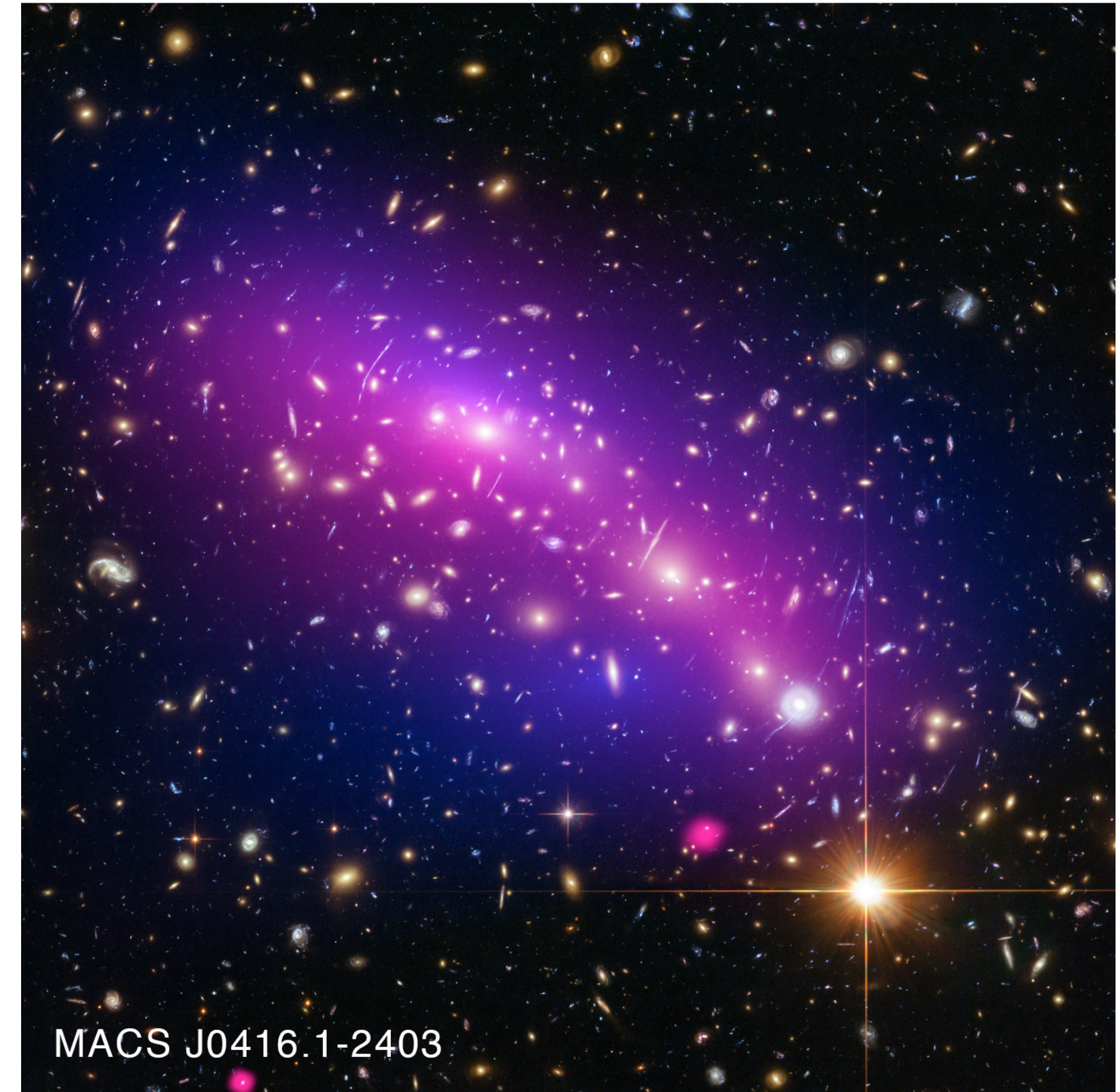


**“Direct”  
Detection (watch  
big vats of  
Xenon)**



**“Indirect” Detection  
(look up at the sky for unexpected light)**

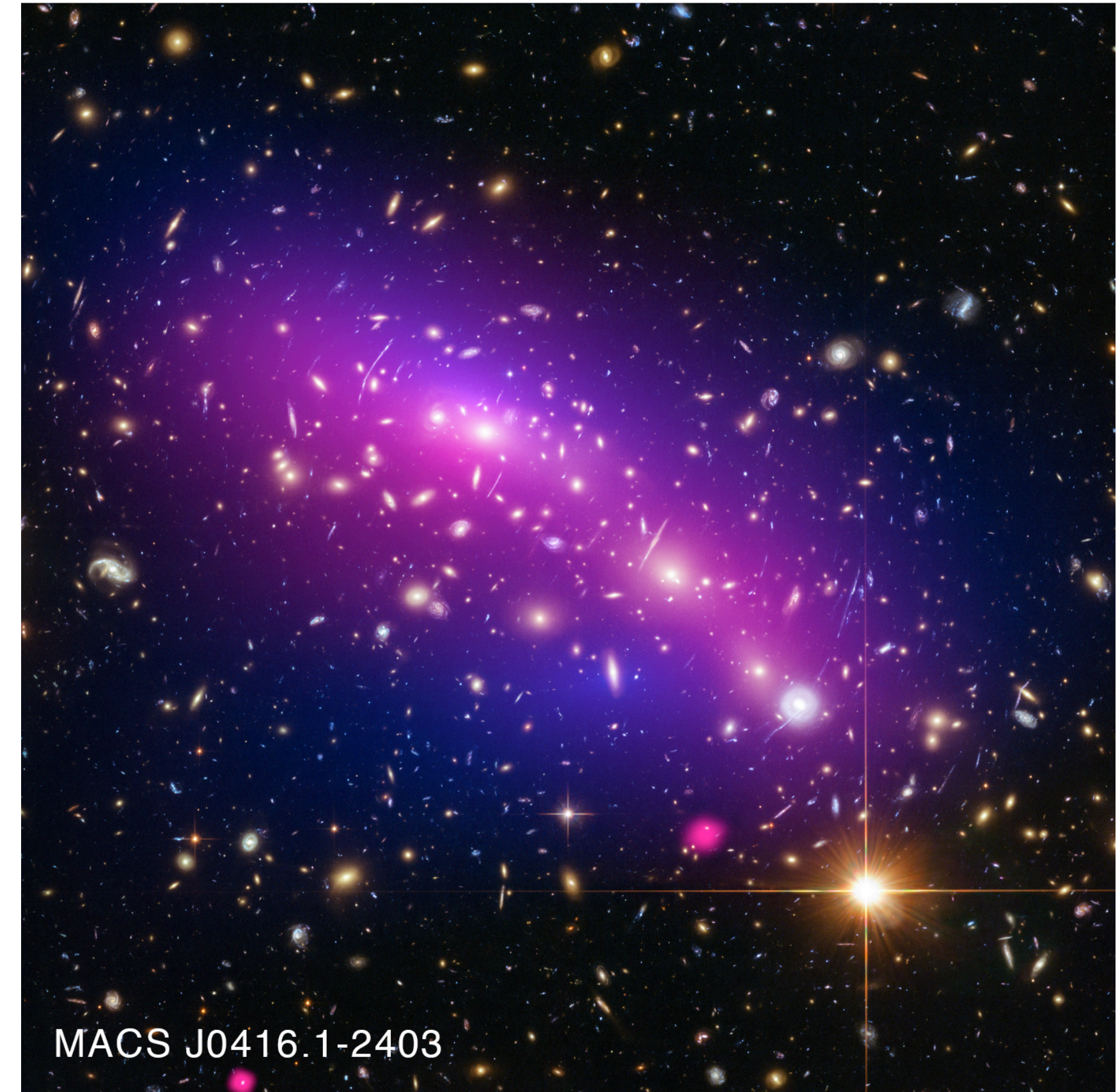
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# The Dark Matter Puzzle

We know very well how it gravitates



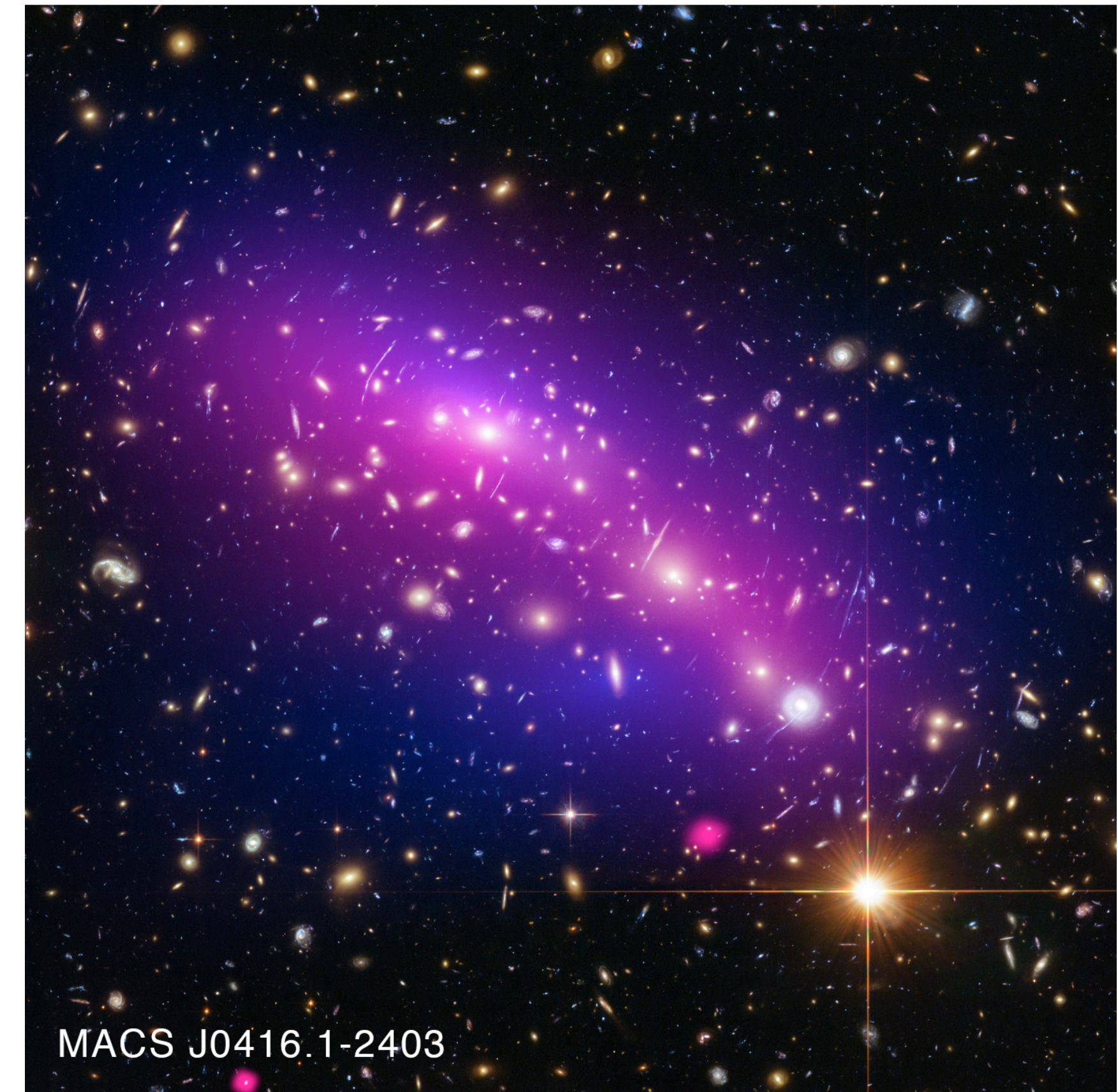
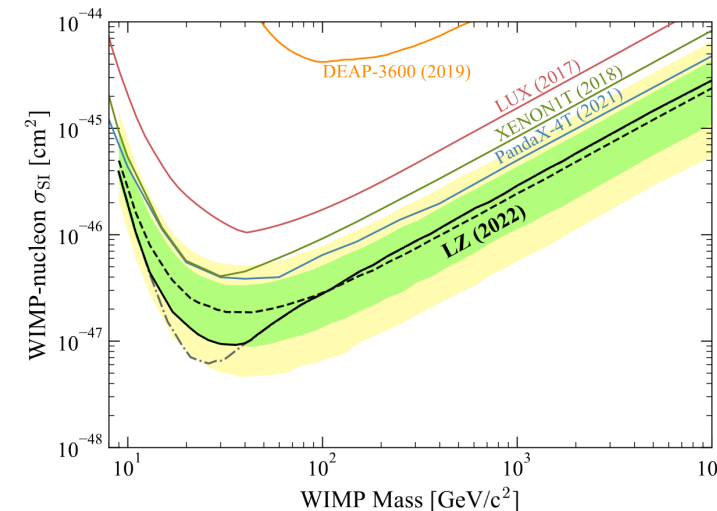
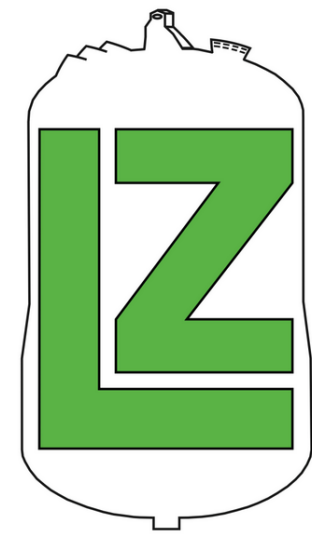
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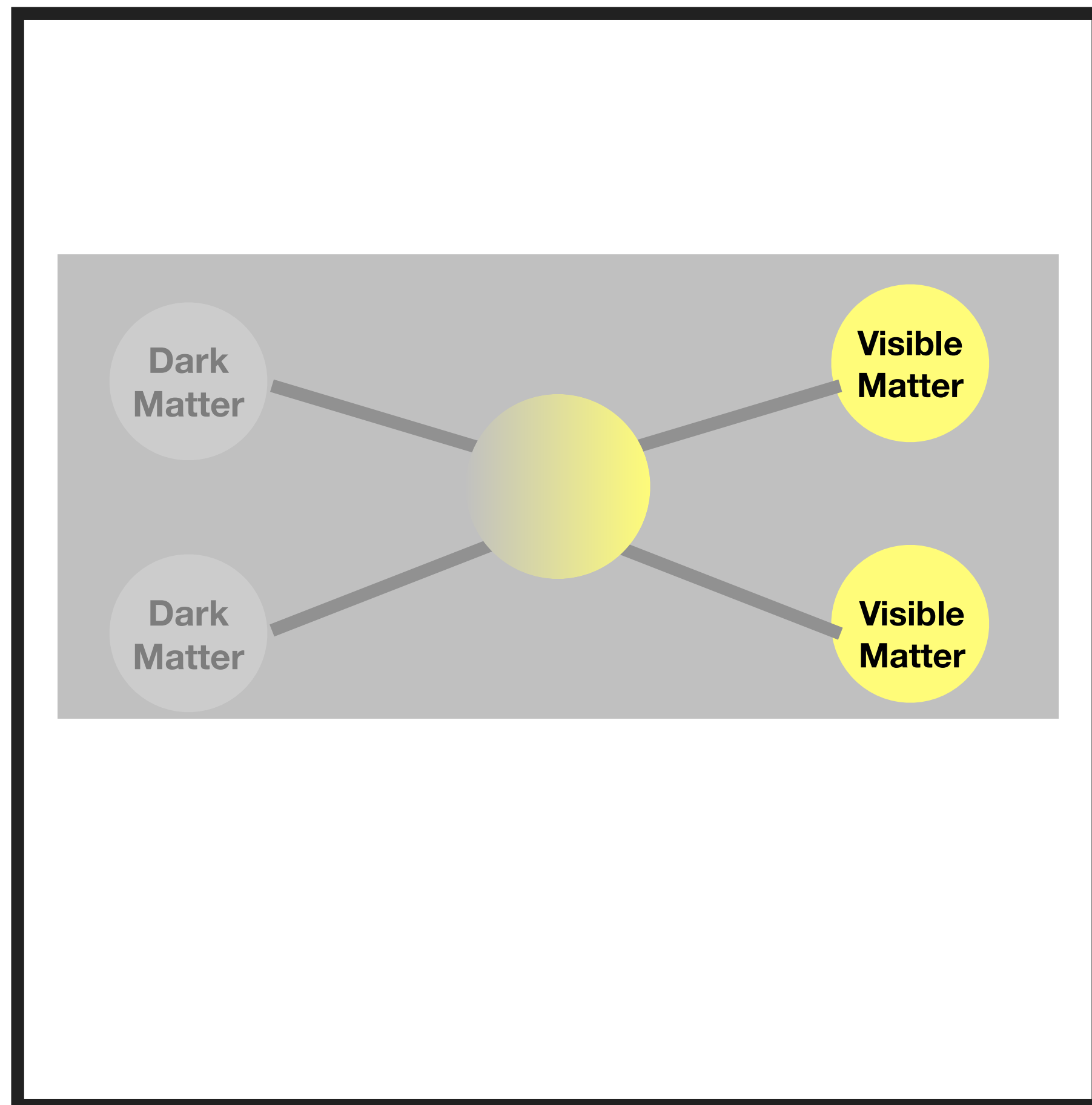
We know very well how it gravitates

- No evidence for dark matter-visible matter interaction beyond gravity (yet?)

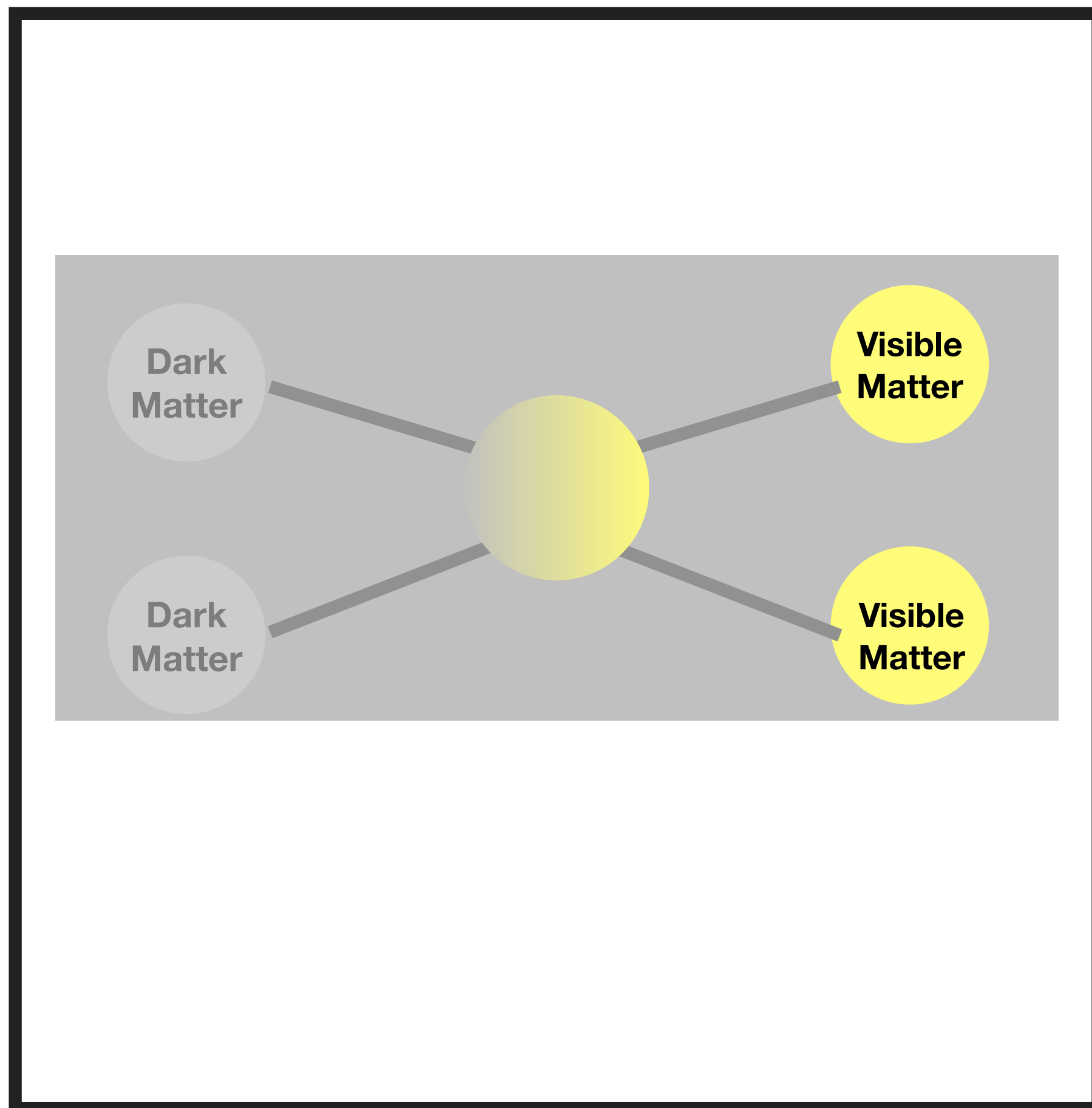


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# New perspectives on dark matter

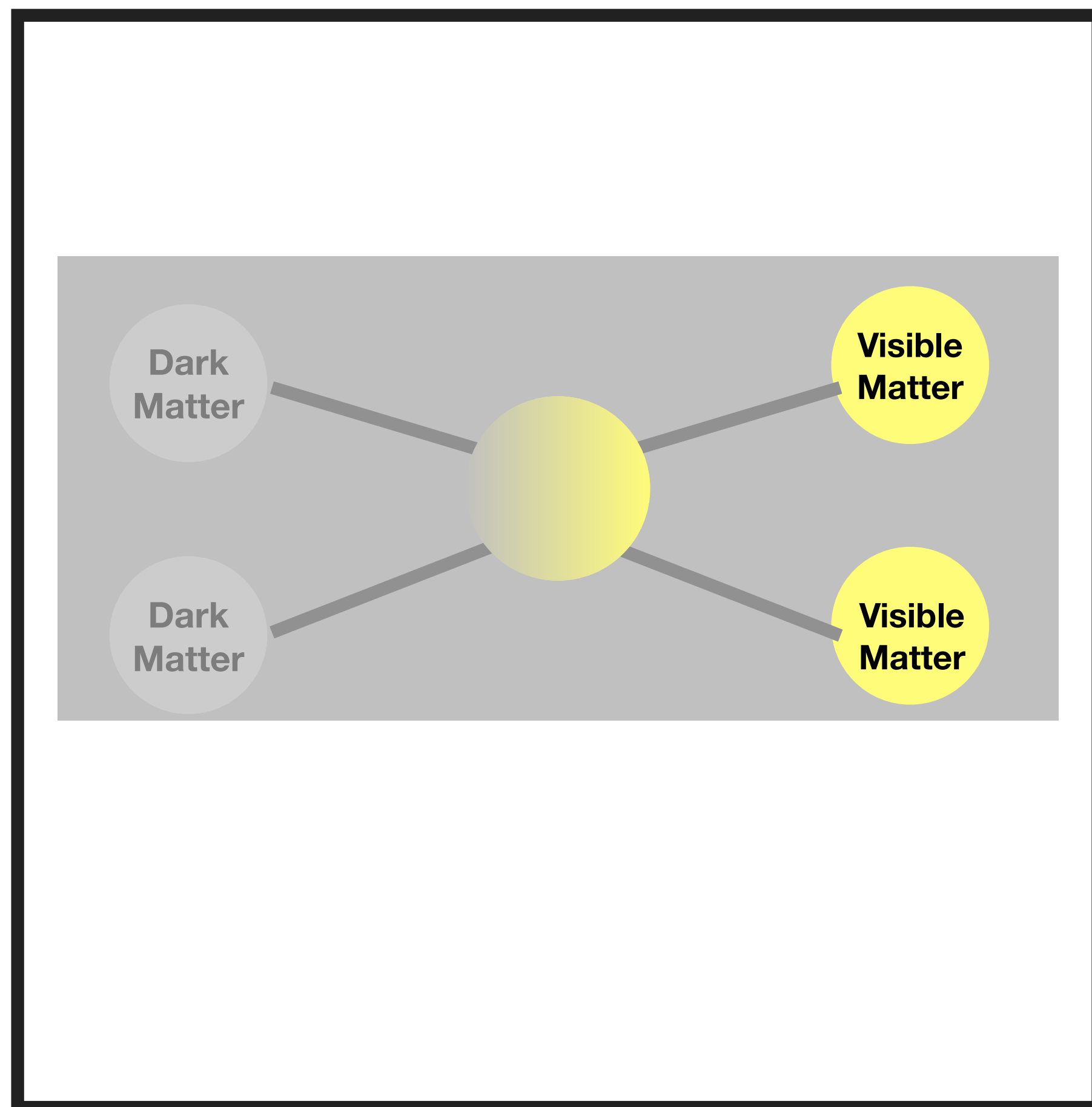


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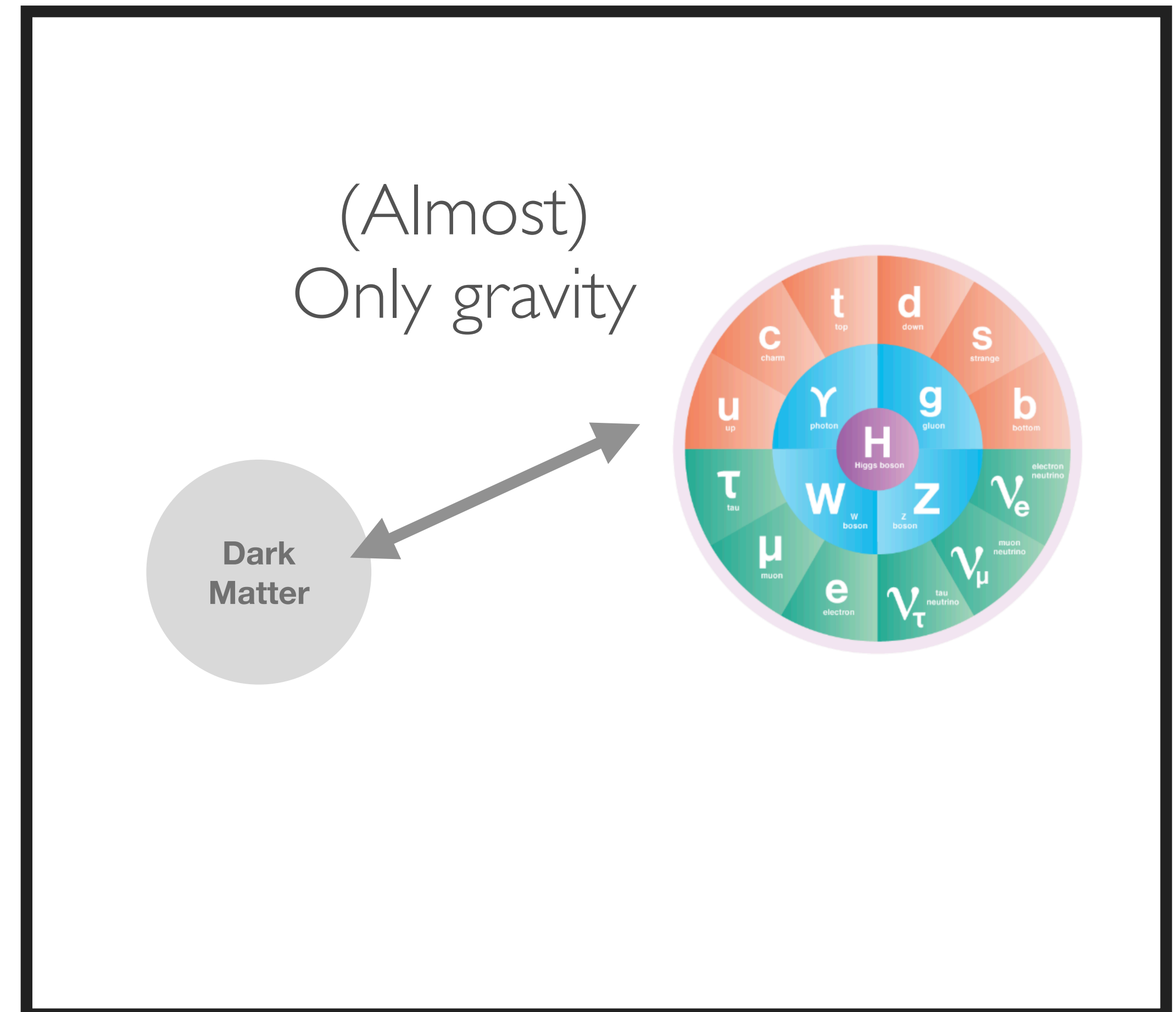


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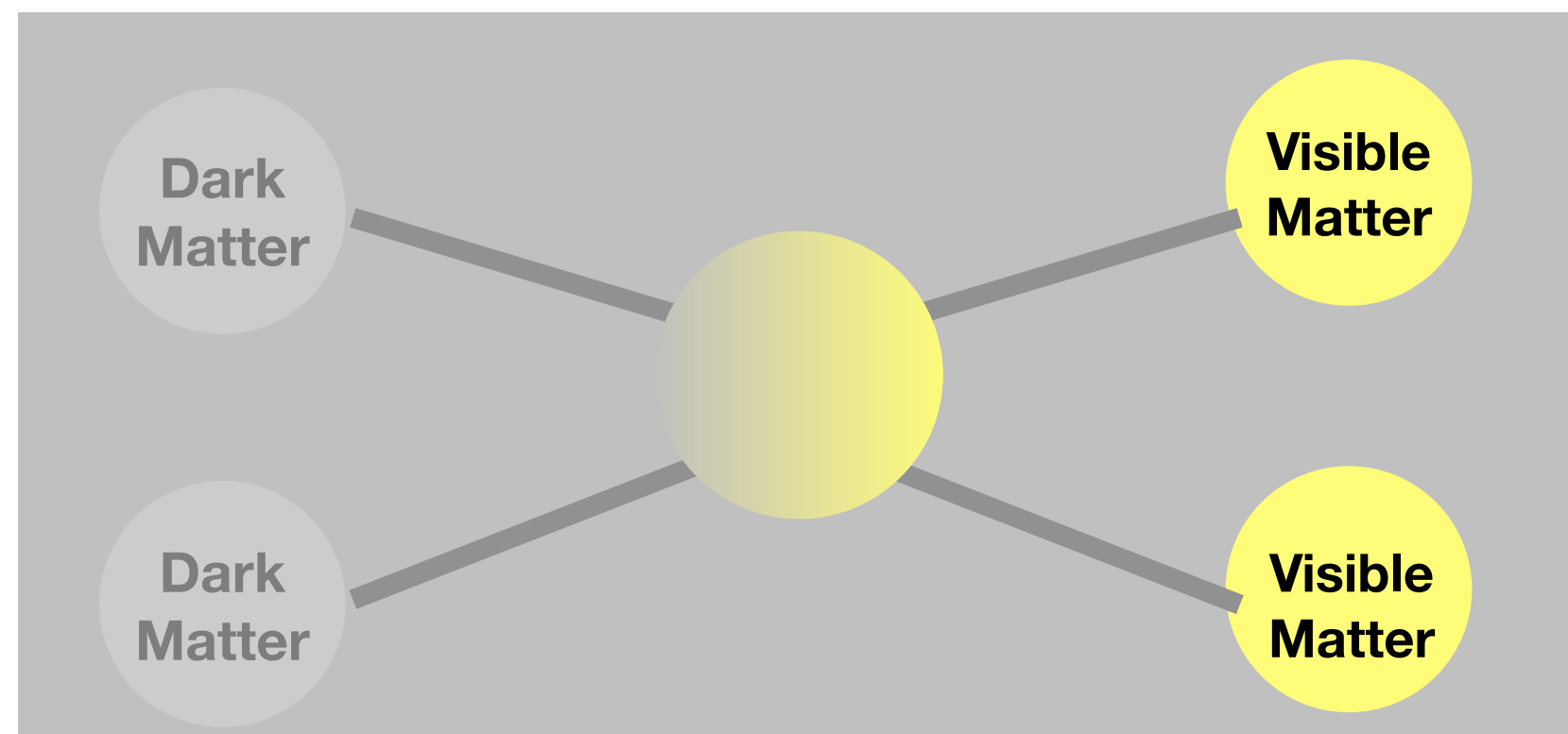


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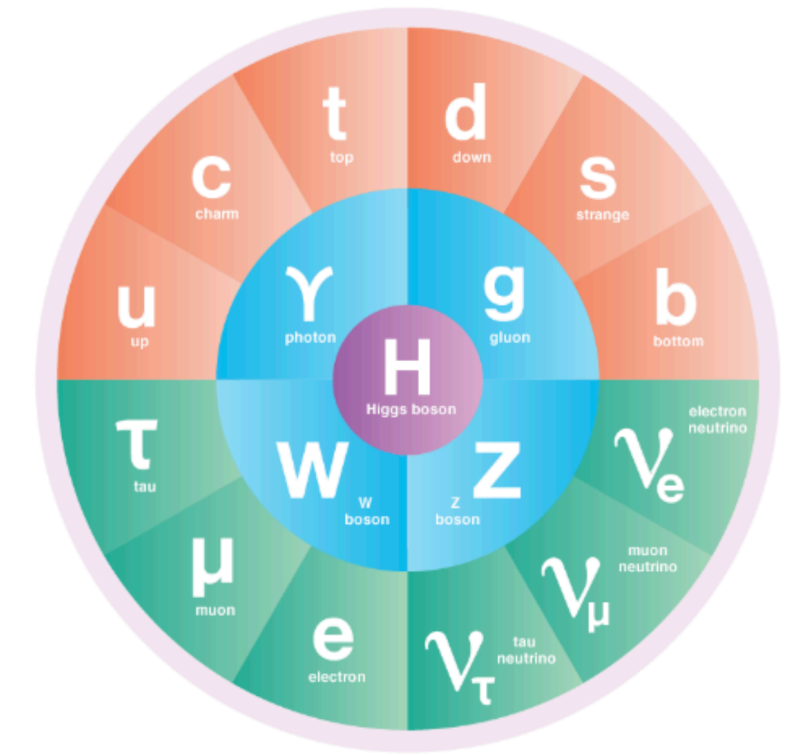
“Complex” or “hidden sector” dark matter



Most important interaction is with the Standard Model

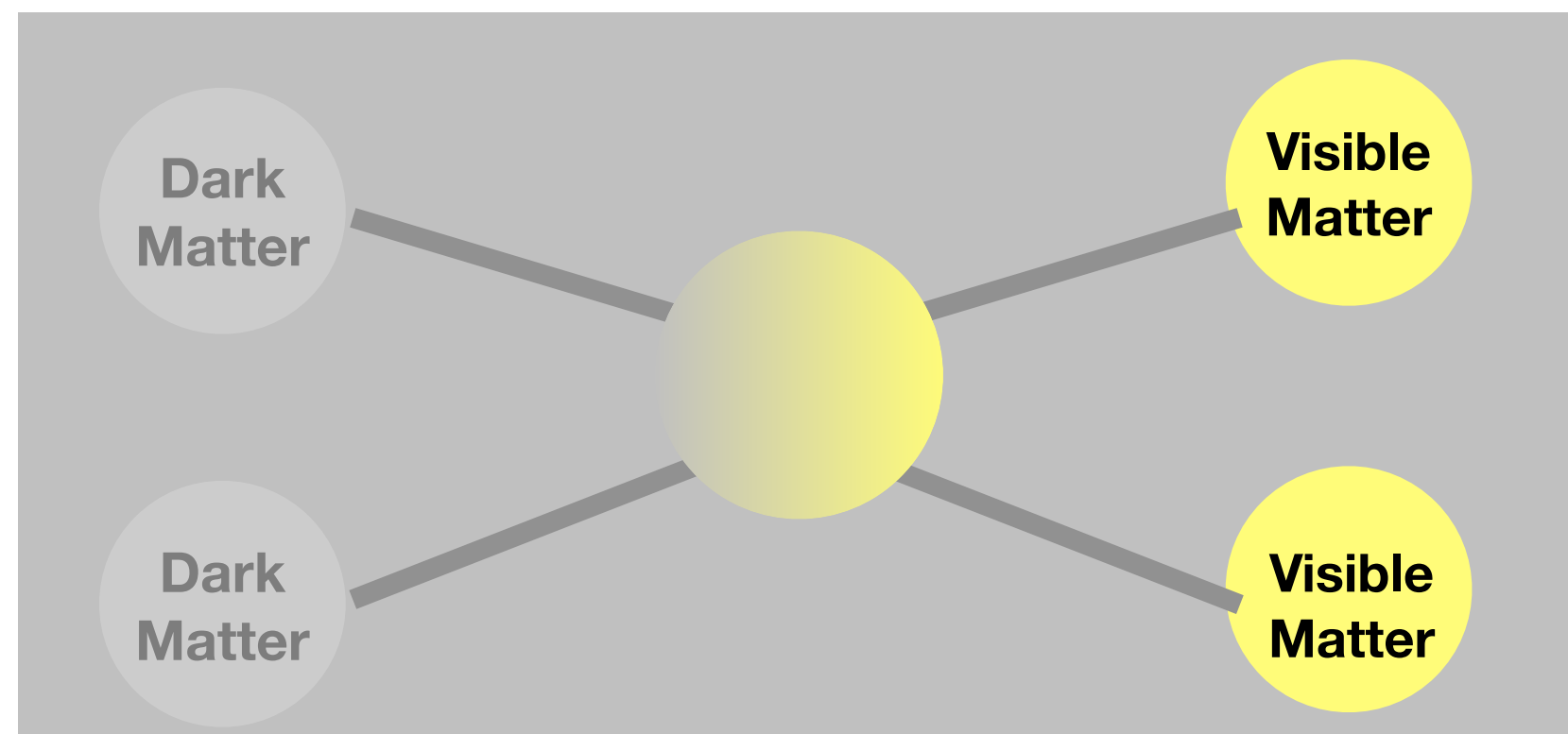
- Or -

(Almost)  
Only gravity



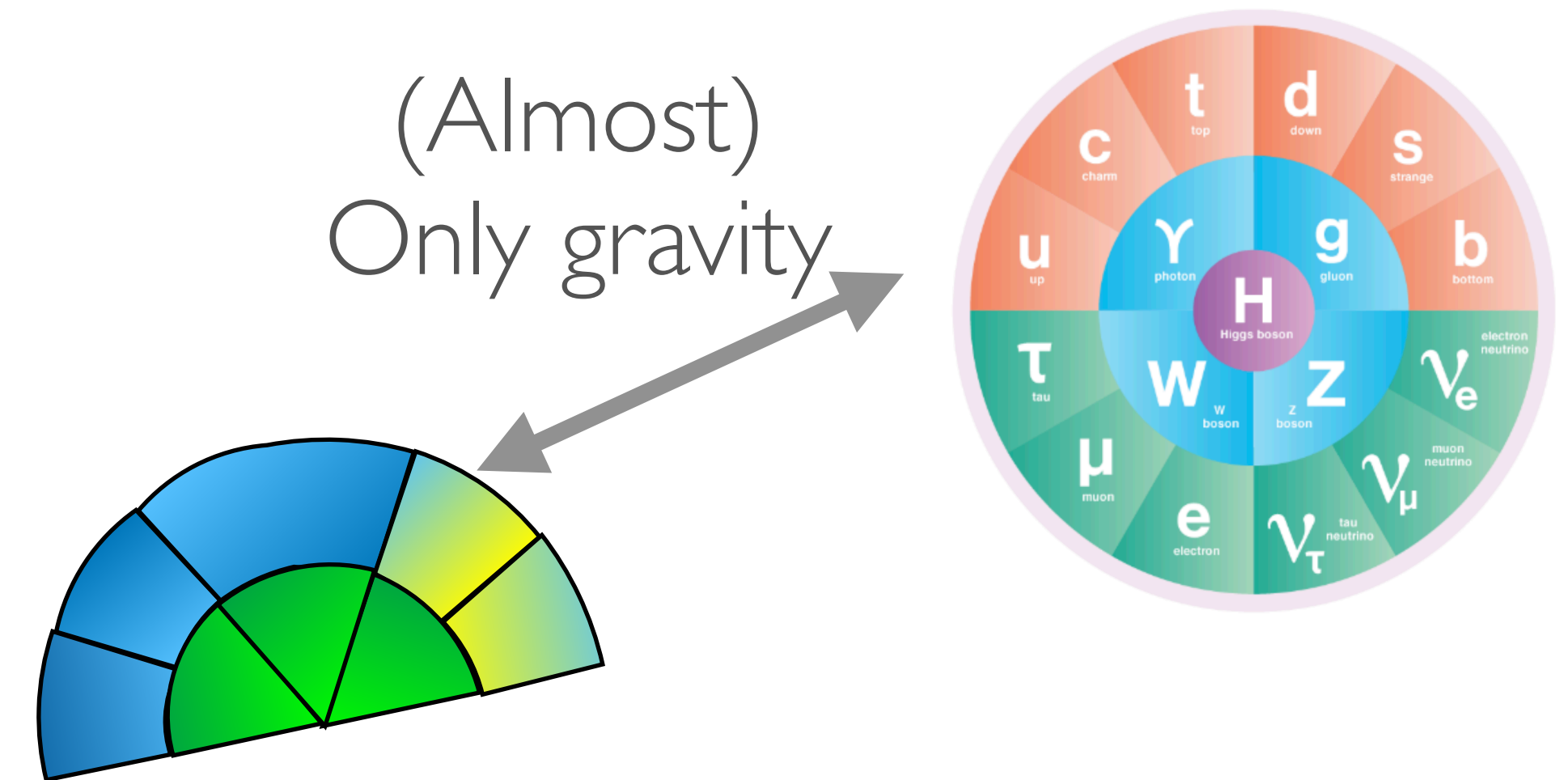
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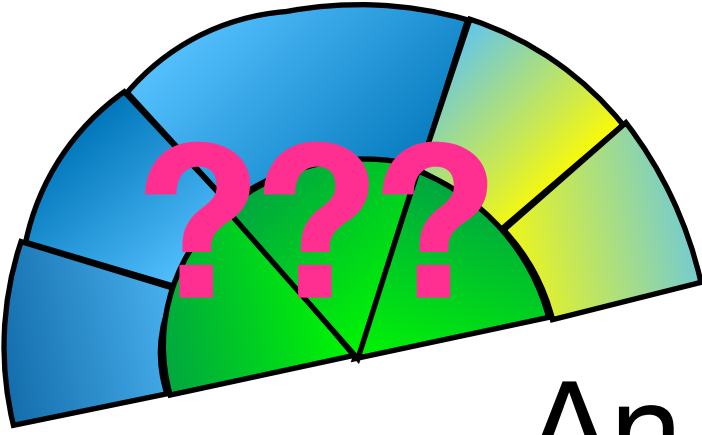


Most important interaction is with the Standard Model

- Or -



Most important interactions are between dark matter particles



# Complex dark matter?

An old idea:

1965: Nishijima, Saffouri “CP Invariance and the Shadow Universe”

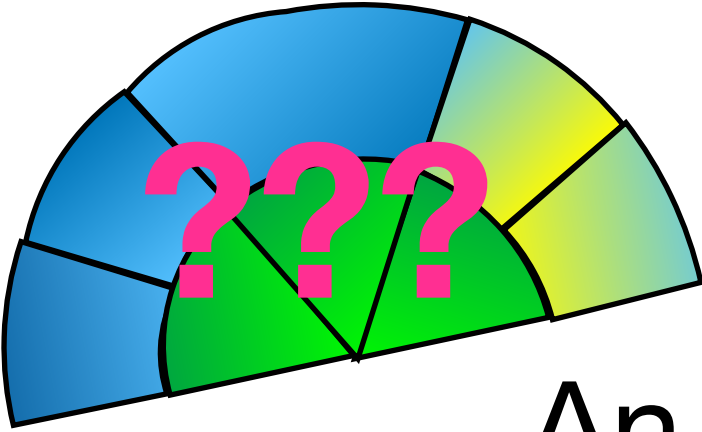
1966: Kobzarev, Okun, Ya, Pomeranchuk “On the possibility of experimental observation of mirror particles” (2014 review, Blinnikov, for Pomeranchuk’s 100th birthday)

1985: Gross, Harvey, Martinec, Rohm “Heterotic String” (“*shadow matter*”)

1986: Goldberg, Hall “A New Candidate for Dark Matter” (electromagnetic interactions with visible matter)

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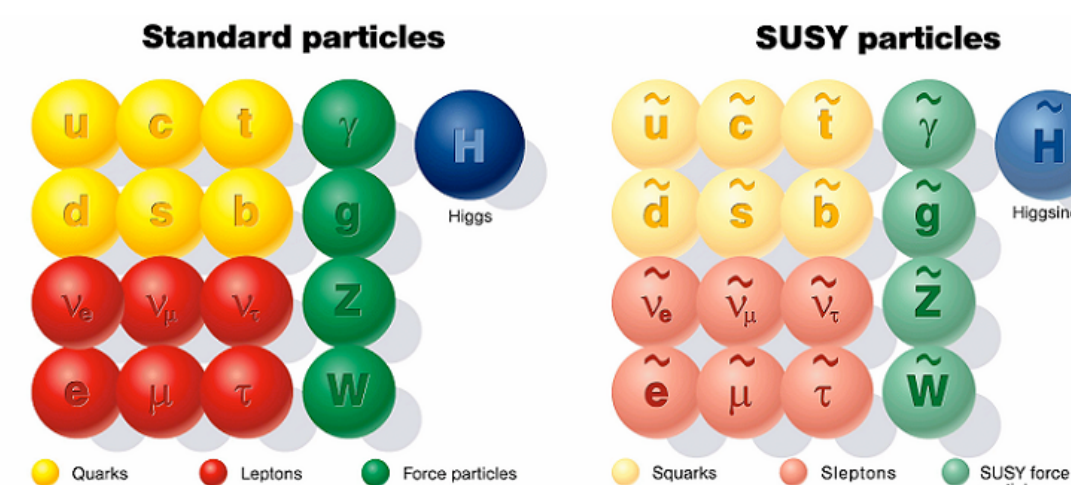
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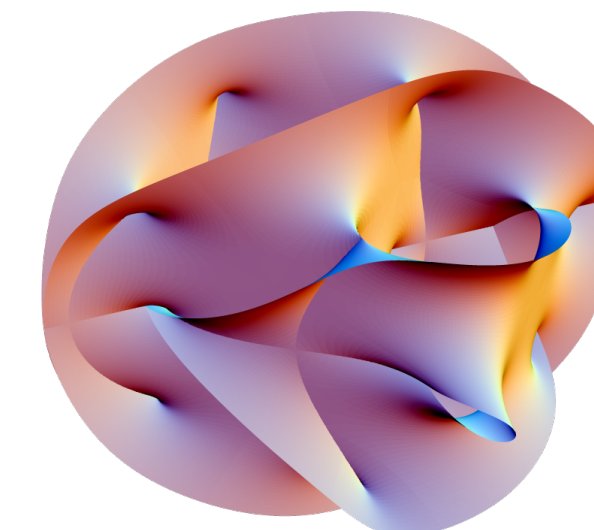
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Went under the radar while these ideas were ascendent:



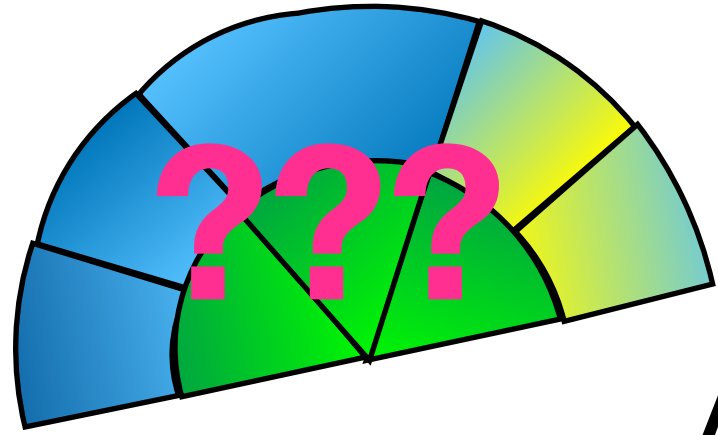
(WIMPs)



(Axions)



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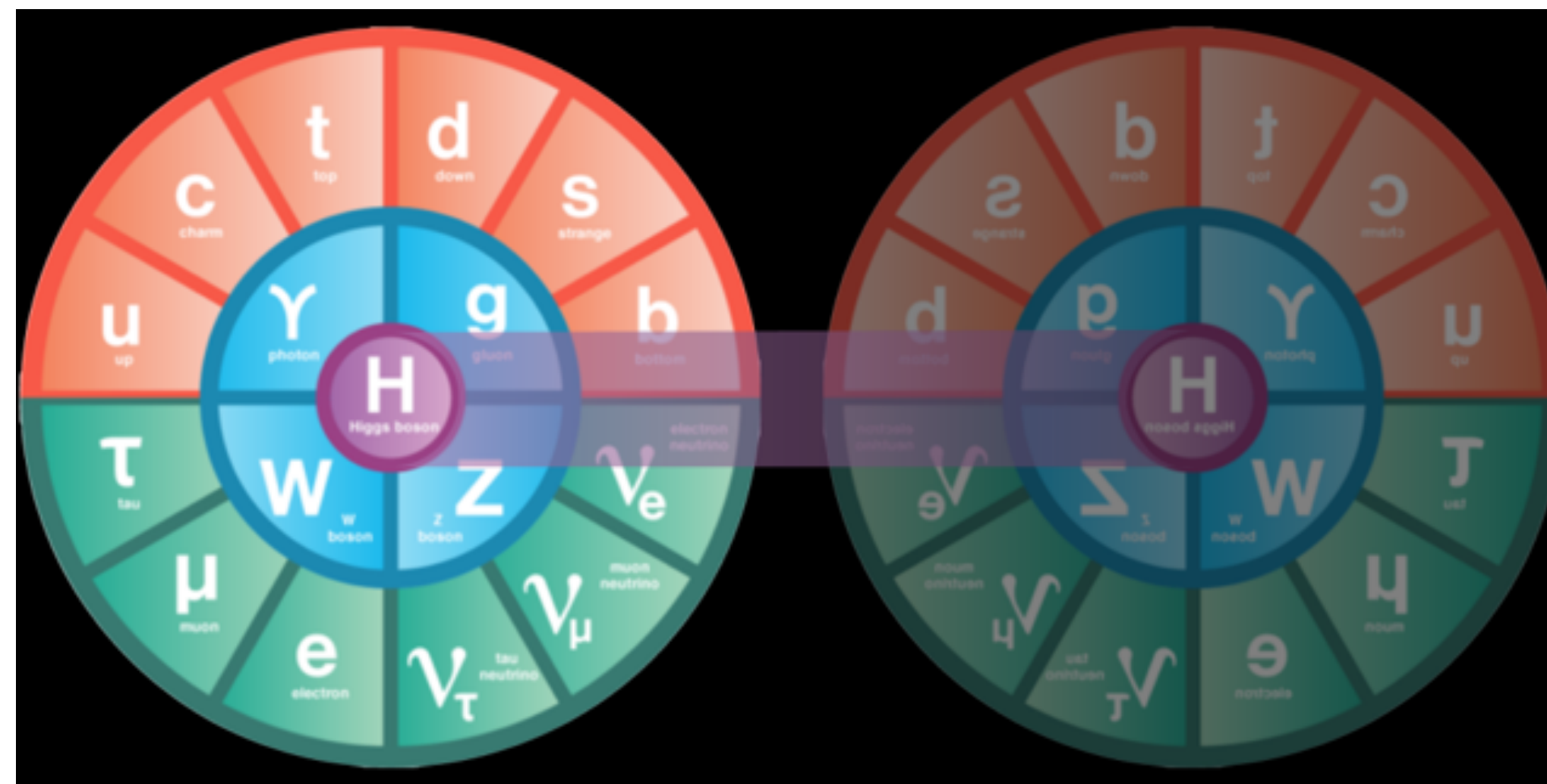


An old idea, with new theory support:

Chacko, Goh, Harnik, “The Twin Higgs: Natural electroweak breaking from mirror symmetry” (hep-ph/0506256, *PRL*)

(~740 citations, mostly after discovery of the Higgs boson)

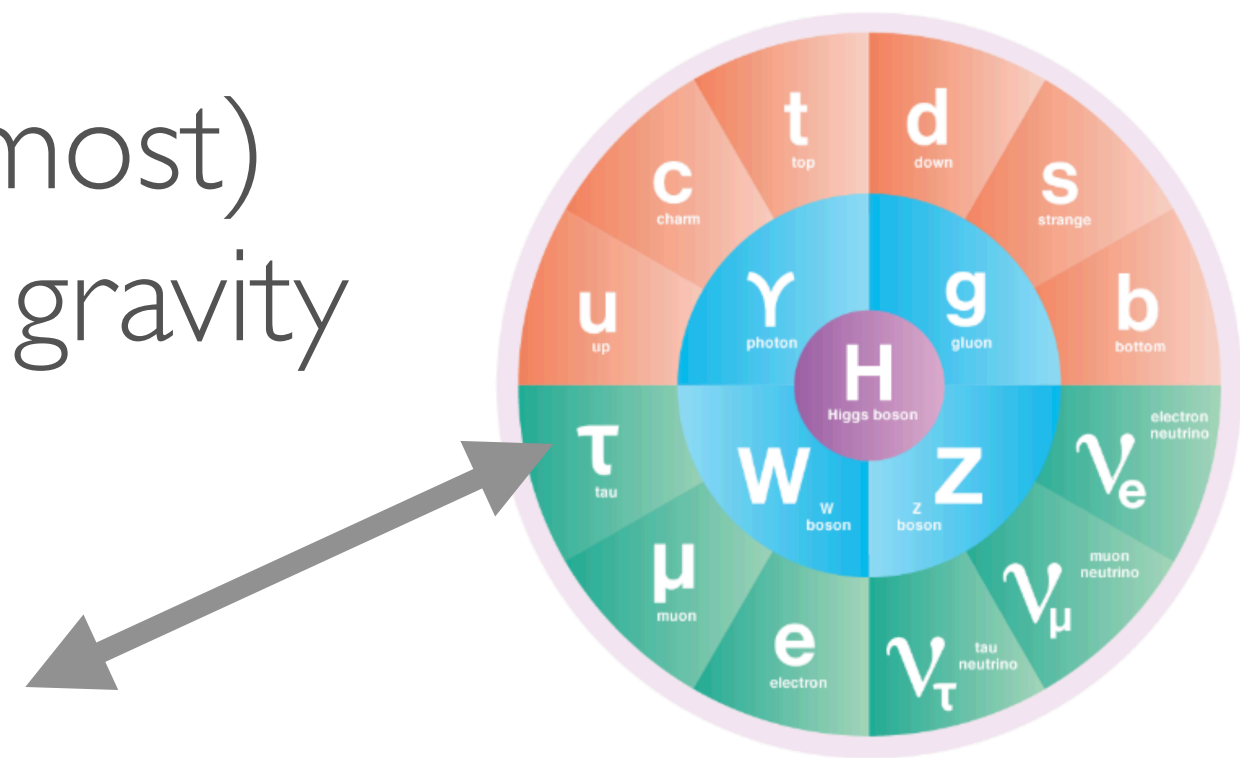
.....



N. Craig; adapted from [Symmetry Magazine](#)  
See discussion in 2205.05708

# Keywords for complex dark matter

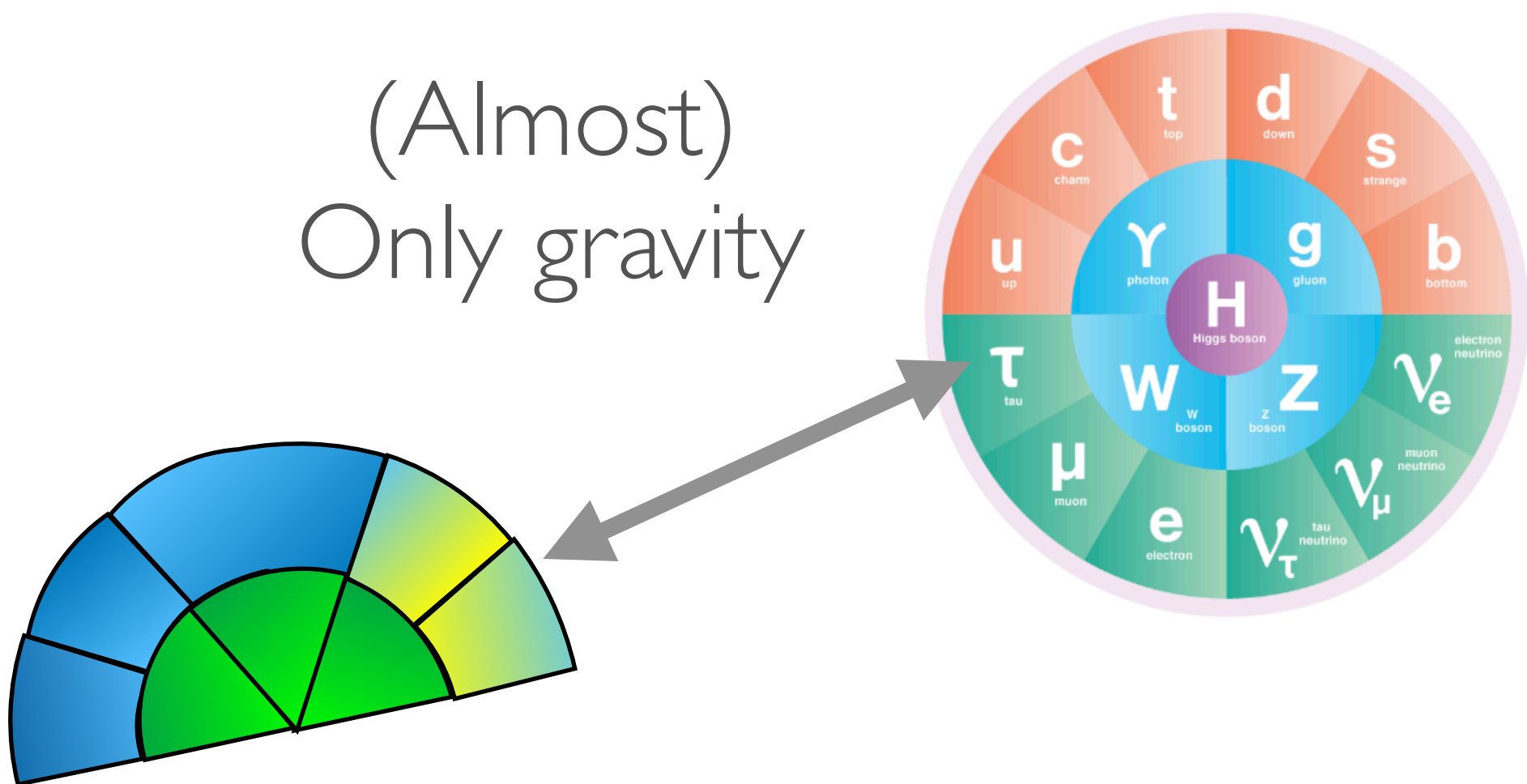
(Almost)  
Only gravity



- Self-interacting
- Dissipative
- Cooling
- Chemistry (bound states)

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Most important interactions  
are between dark matter  
particles

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# Complex dark matter?

Data will decide

Consistency with what we know? Consider a famous constraint:



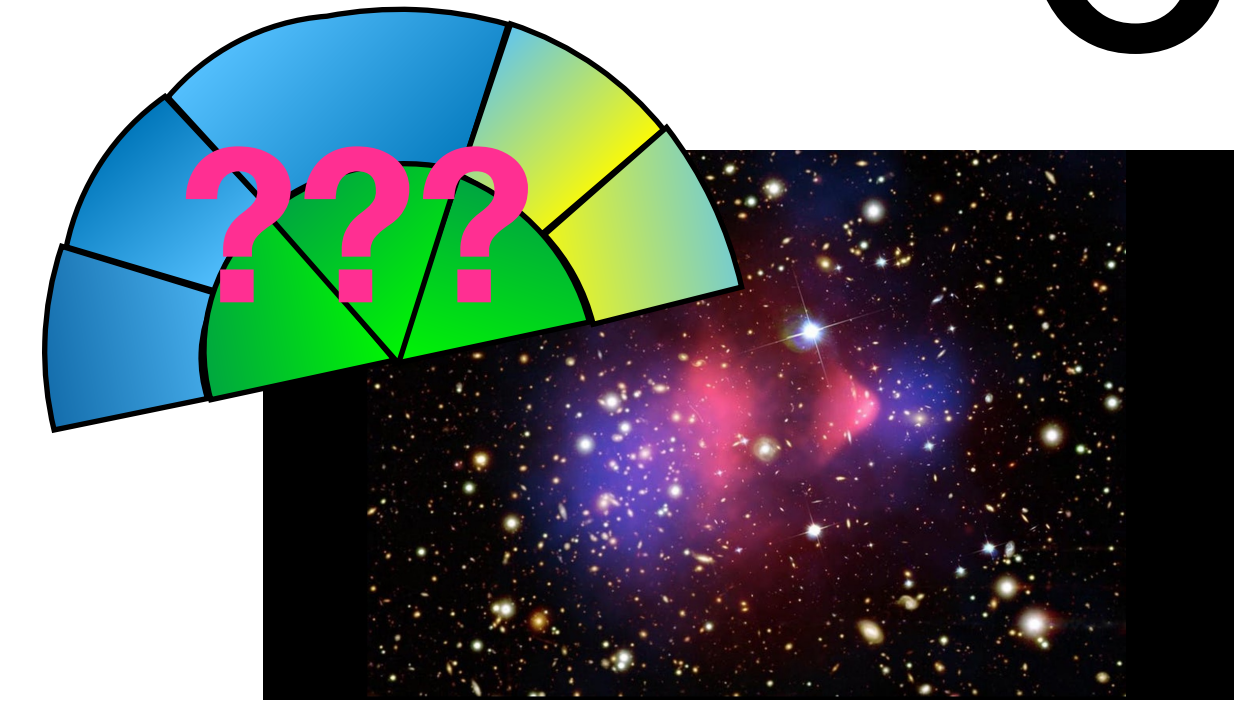
Dark matter  
experiences less drag  
than visible matter

Credit: NASA/CXC/CfA/M. Markevitch; Optical and lensing map: NASA/STScI,  
Magellan/U. of Arizona/D. Clowe; Lensing map: ESO WFI

# Complex dark matter?

Data will decide

Less drag? What interaction constraint?



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Assume **elastic** collisions:

(Cross-section for momentum transfer)

(Mass of the dark matter particle)

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$$\frac{\text{(Cross-section for momentum transfer)}}{\text{(Mass of the dark matter particle)}} = \frac{\sigma_T}{m} \lesssim [0.1 - 2] \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$$

$$1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g} \approx 2 \text{ barns}/\text{GeV}$$

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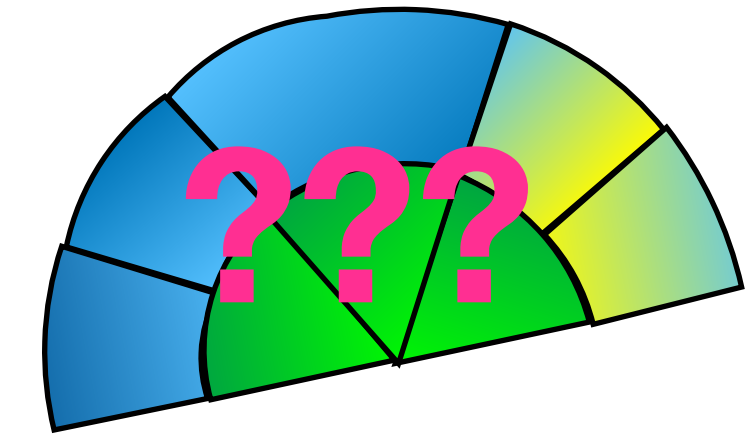
- Lots of different ways (data) to try to constrain this [Markevitch et al, astro-ph/0309303](#)
- Hard to get the bound right: simulations suggest factor of 10 changes over analytic estimates!

e.g. [Kim et al 1608.08630](#); [Adhikari et al 2207.10638](#) and [2401.05788](#)

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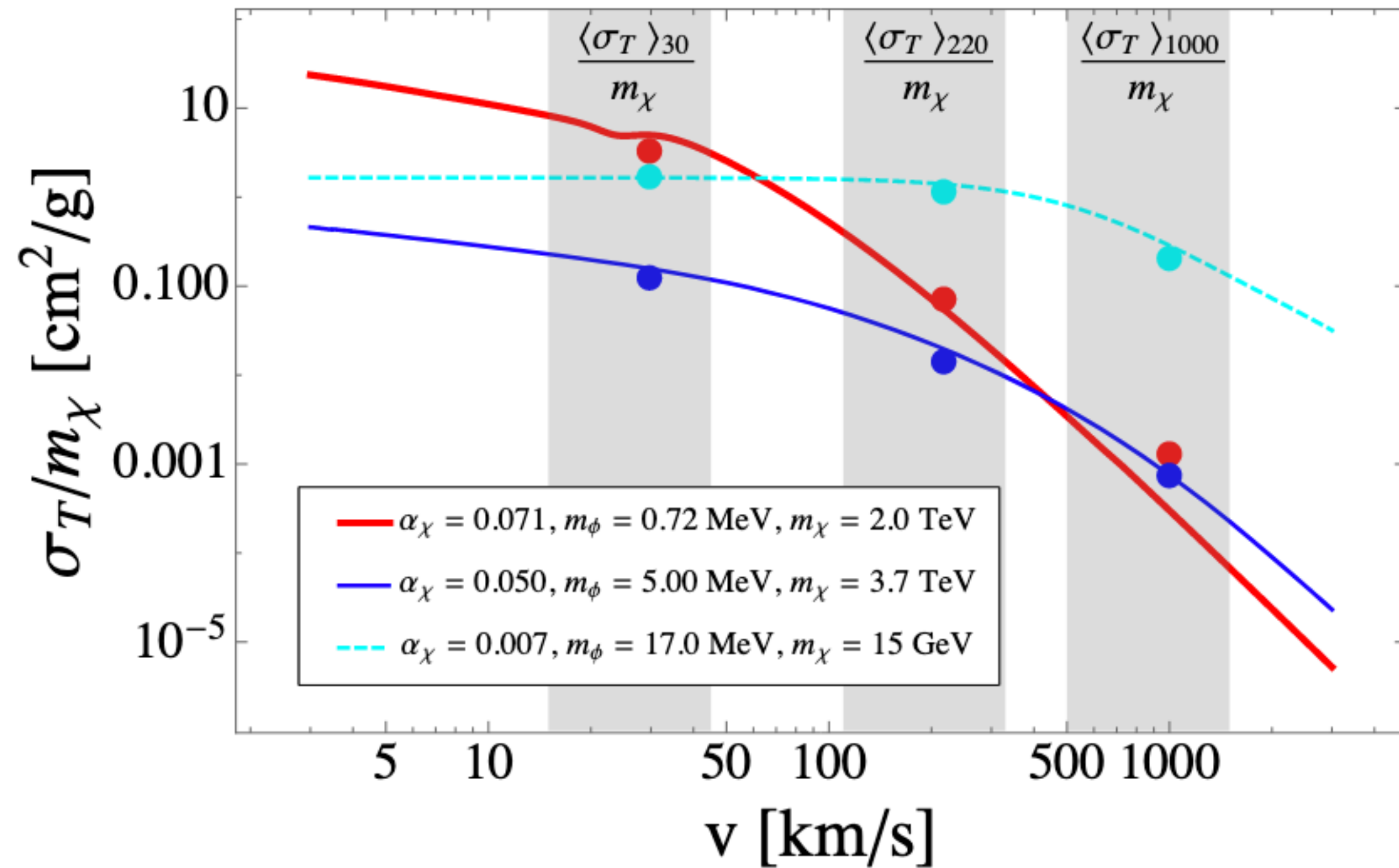


An old idea: Goldberg, Hall 1986

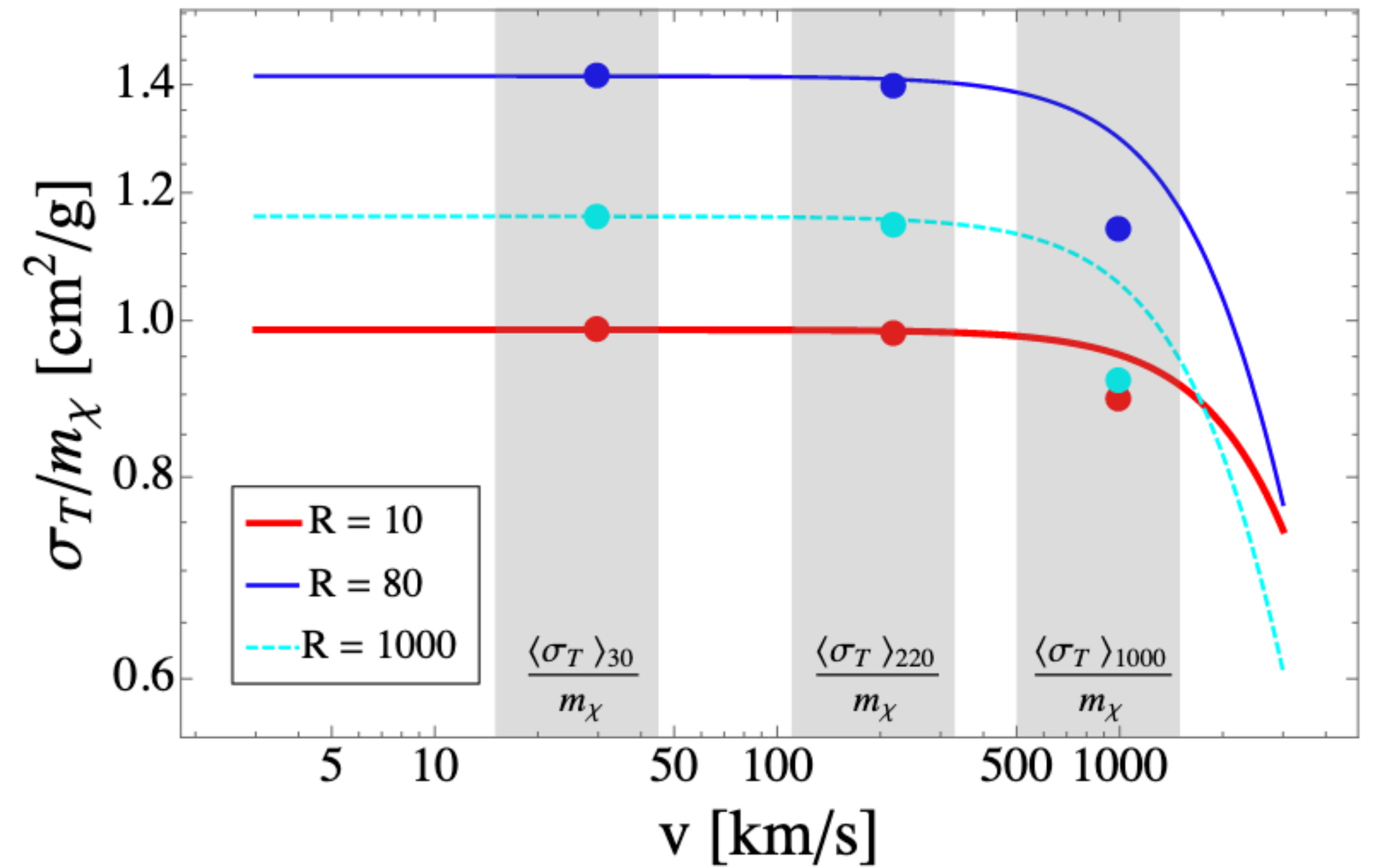
The presence of non-luminous matter in the halos of our own and other galaxies is strongly indicated by observation [1]. Thus far, the most prominent elementary particle candidates for this dark matter have been weakly interacting (e.g. neutrinos, photinos, axions) [2]. This automatically makes the dark matter dissipationless, and hence allows the halo configuration. Much effort has been spent on designing experiments to detect the flux of such weakly interacting particles at the earth. The low counting rates make such experiments difficult, although for the first time experimental limits have been placed [3].

It is interesting to note that the criterion for a dissipationless halo is rather mild. Suppose the dark matter particles have a mass  $m$ ,

# Typical elastic cross-sections depend on velocity



Scenarios with Yukawa interactions



Scenarios with dark atoms

# Summary of constraints ~2023

	$V$ (km/s)	$\frac{\sigma_T}{m_{\text{DM}}}$ (cm <sup>2</sup> /g)	Evidence for non-zero interactions?
<b>Cluster scales</b>	1000-1500	$< 0.35, < 0.13$	Some claims of weak evidence
<b>Galactic scales</b>	200	$> 3$	Maybe
<b>Dwarf/satellite galaxy scales</b>	5-20	$> 10$	Maybe

An older summary  
1508.03339

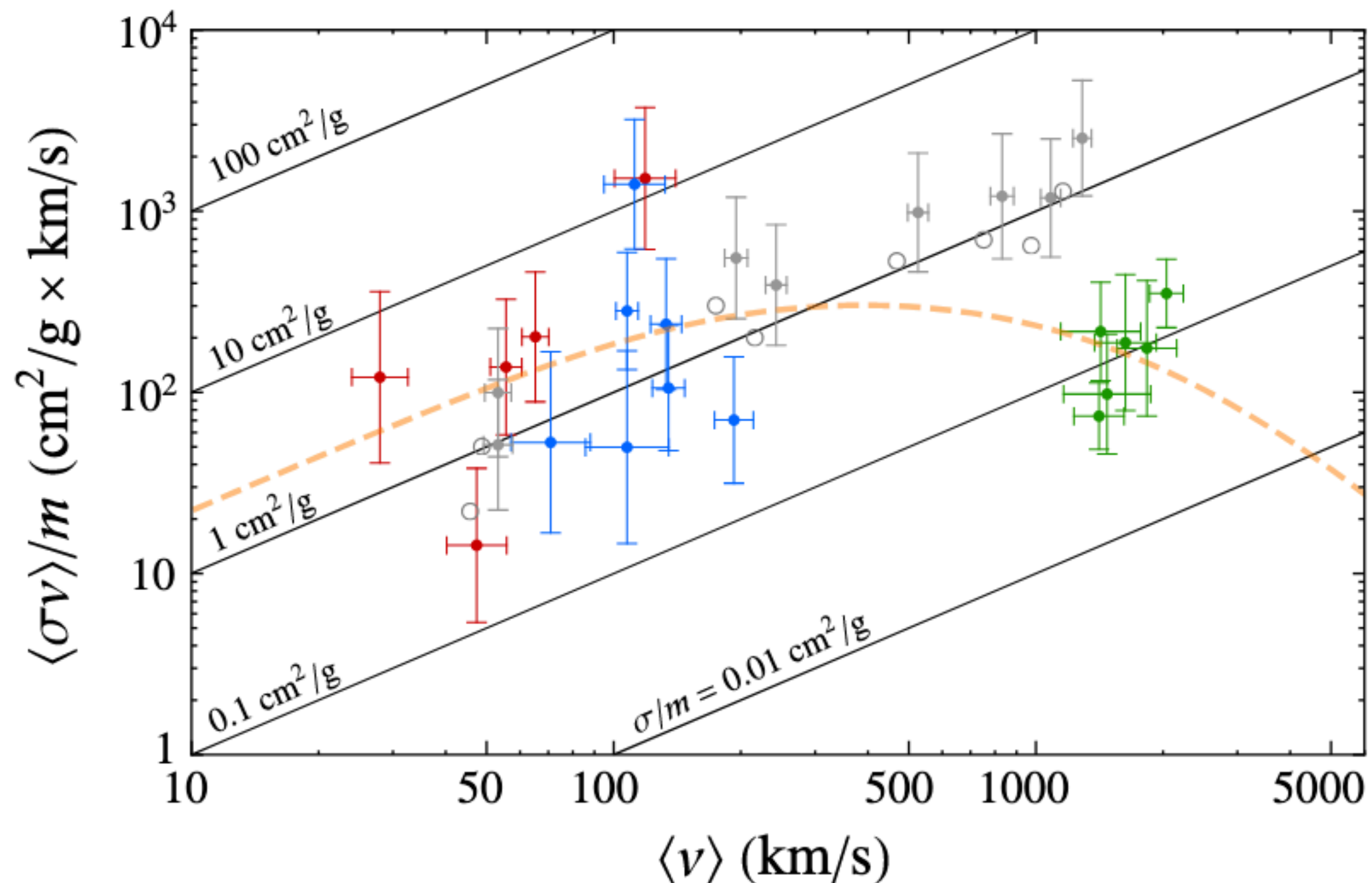


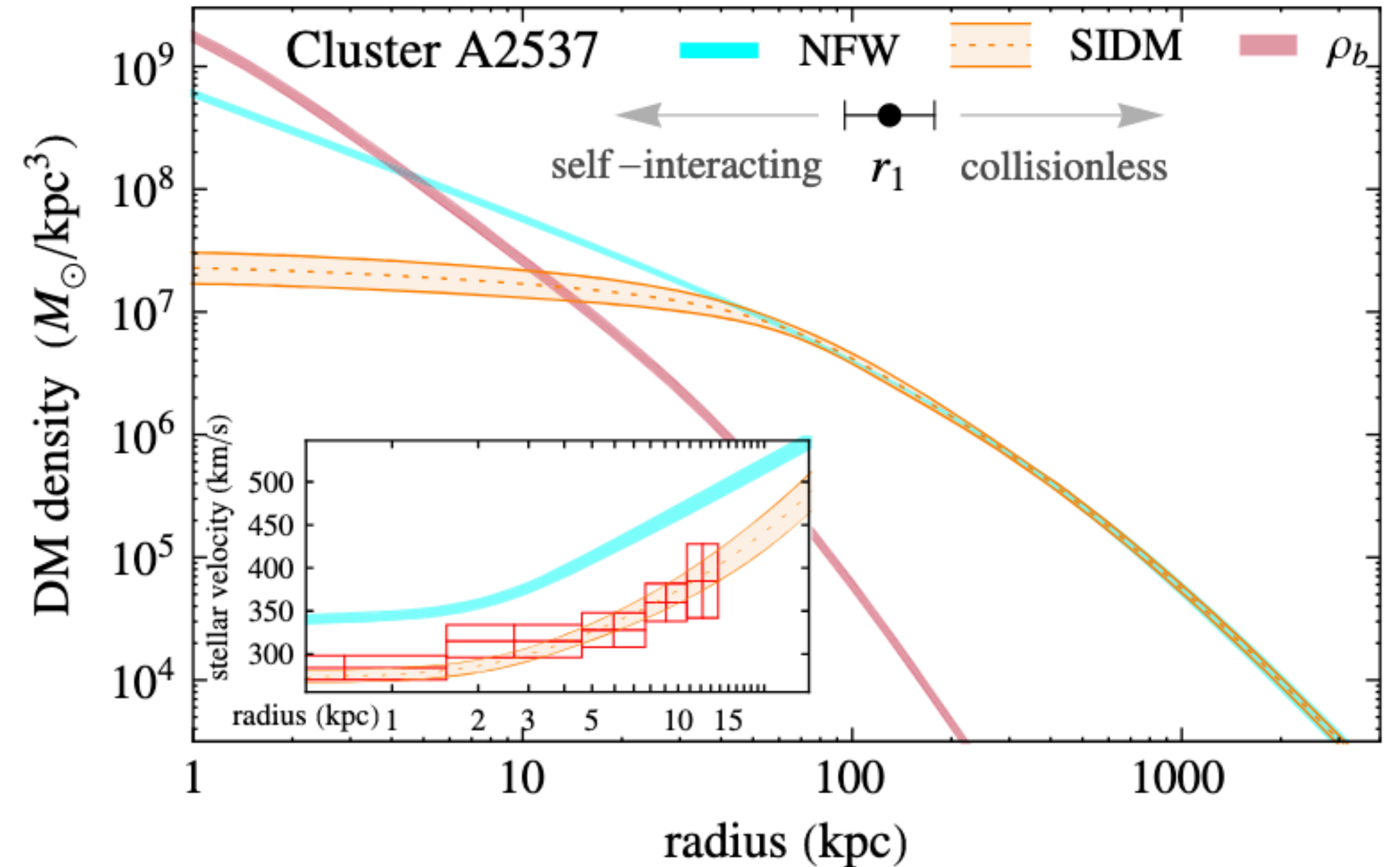
FIG. 1. Self-interaction cross section measured from astrophysical data, given as the velocity-weighted cross section per unit mass as a function of mean collision velocity. Data include dwarfs (red), LSB galaxies (blue), and clusters (green), as well as halos from SIDM  $N$ -body simulations with  $\sigma/m = 1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$  (gray). Diagonal lines are contours of constant  $\sigma/m$  and the dashed curve is the velocity-dependent cross section from our best-fit dark photon model (Sec. V).

# But claiming evidence is tricky....



Use strong lensing to obtain dark matter density profile

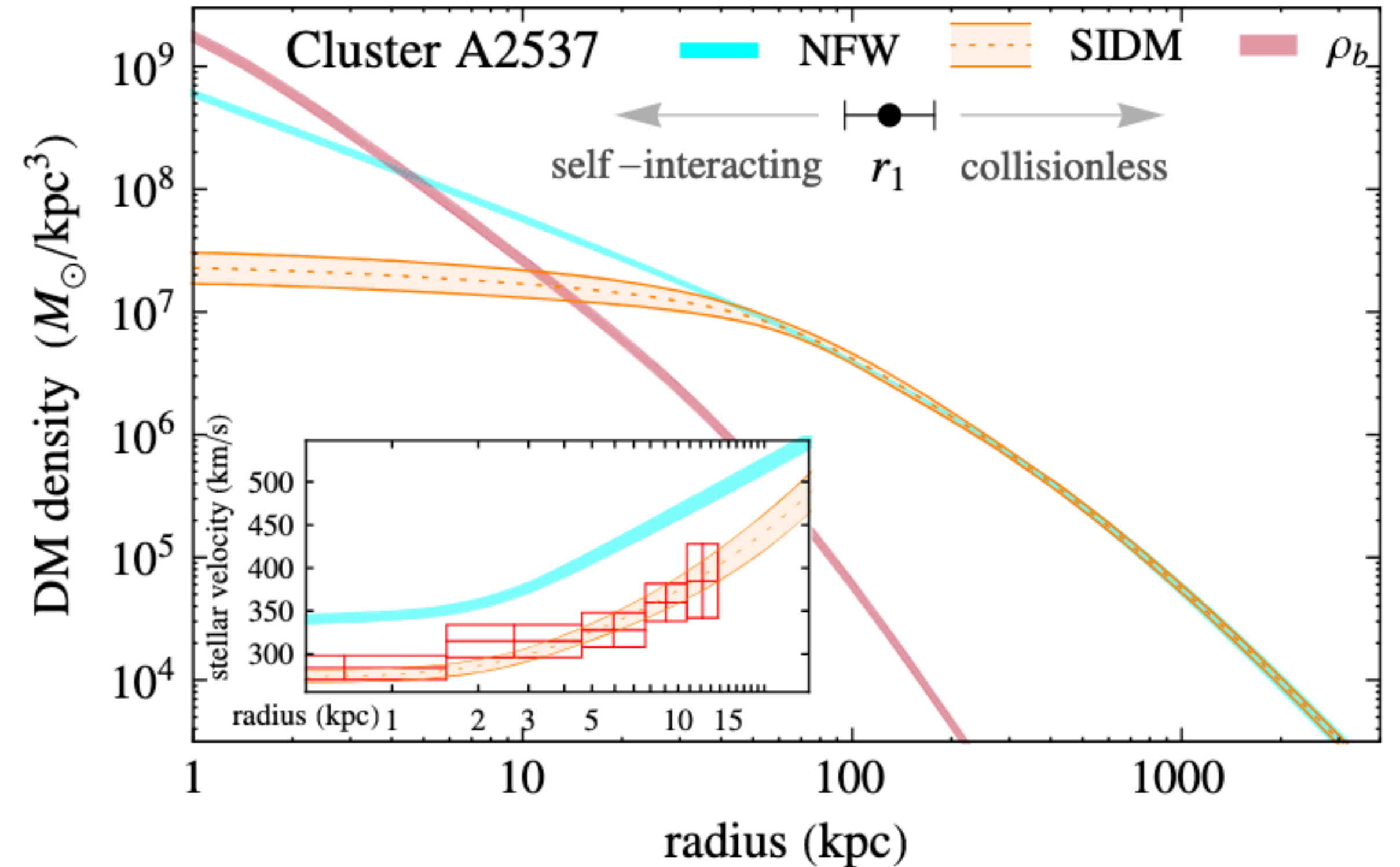
# But claiming evidence is tricky....



Use strong lensing to obtain dark matter density profile

Compare to simulations of different models  
Figure from Khaplinghat, Tulin, Yu, 1508.03339

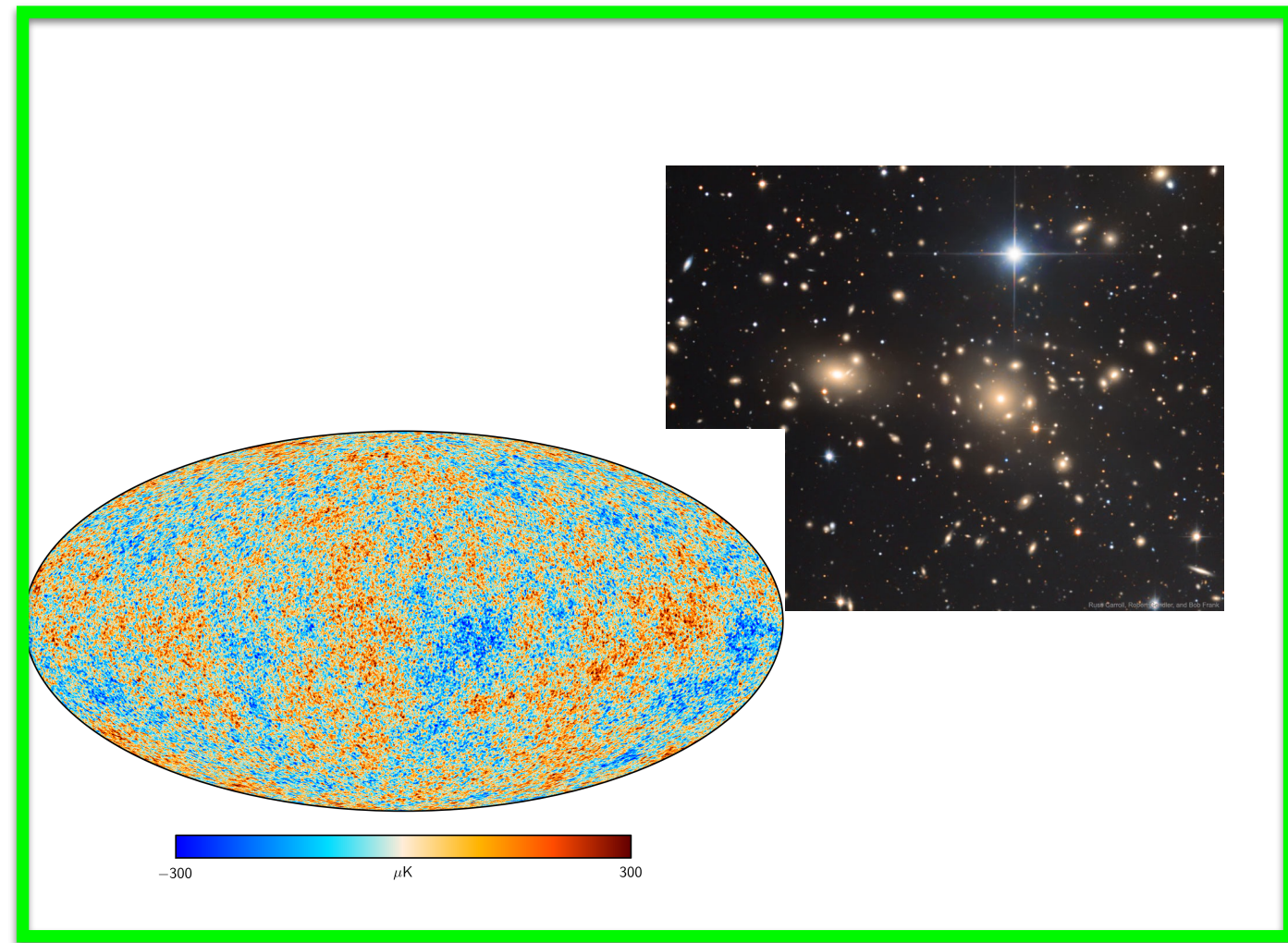
# But claiming evidence is tricky....



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Figure from Khaplinghat, Tulin, Yu, 1508.03339

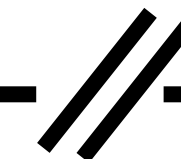
We rely on large simulations to understand structure formation



$10^4$  Mpc

1 Mpc

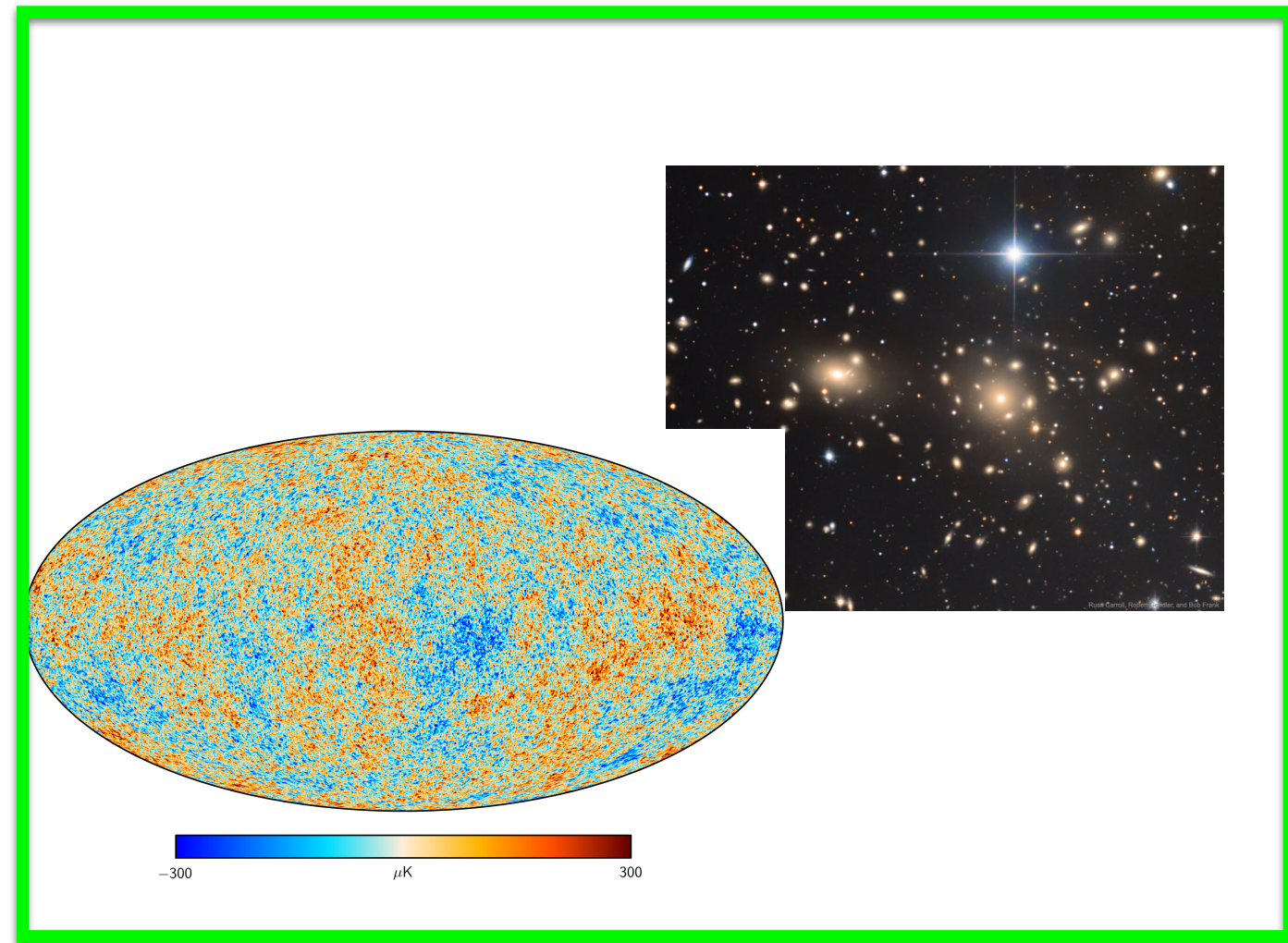
1 kpc



1 km

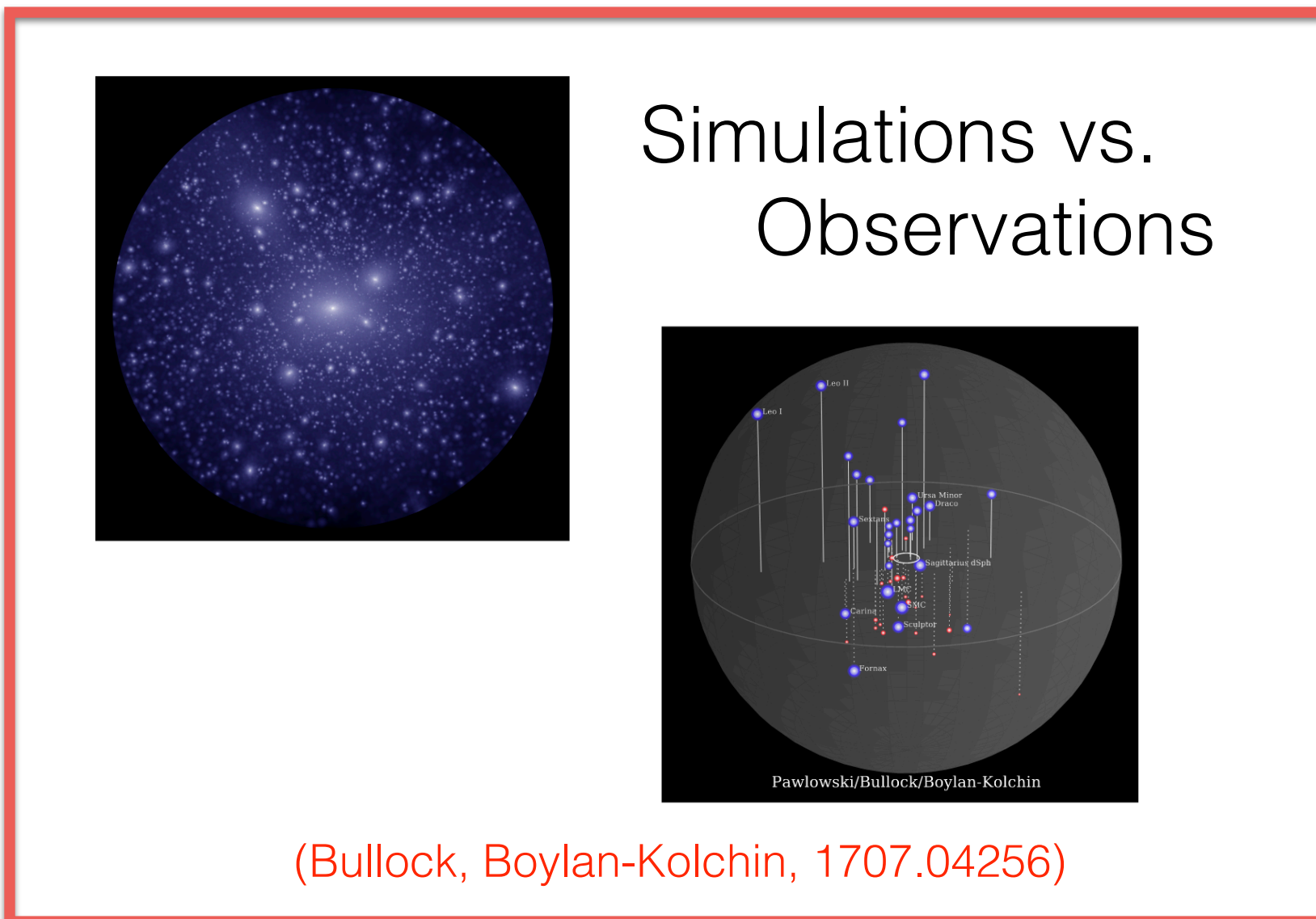
Large-Scale structure  
*Linear physics, clean probes*





$10^4$  Mpc

Large-Scale structure  
*Linear physics, clean probes*



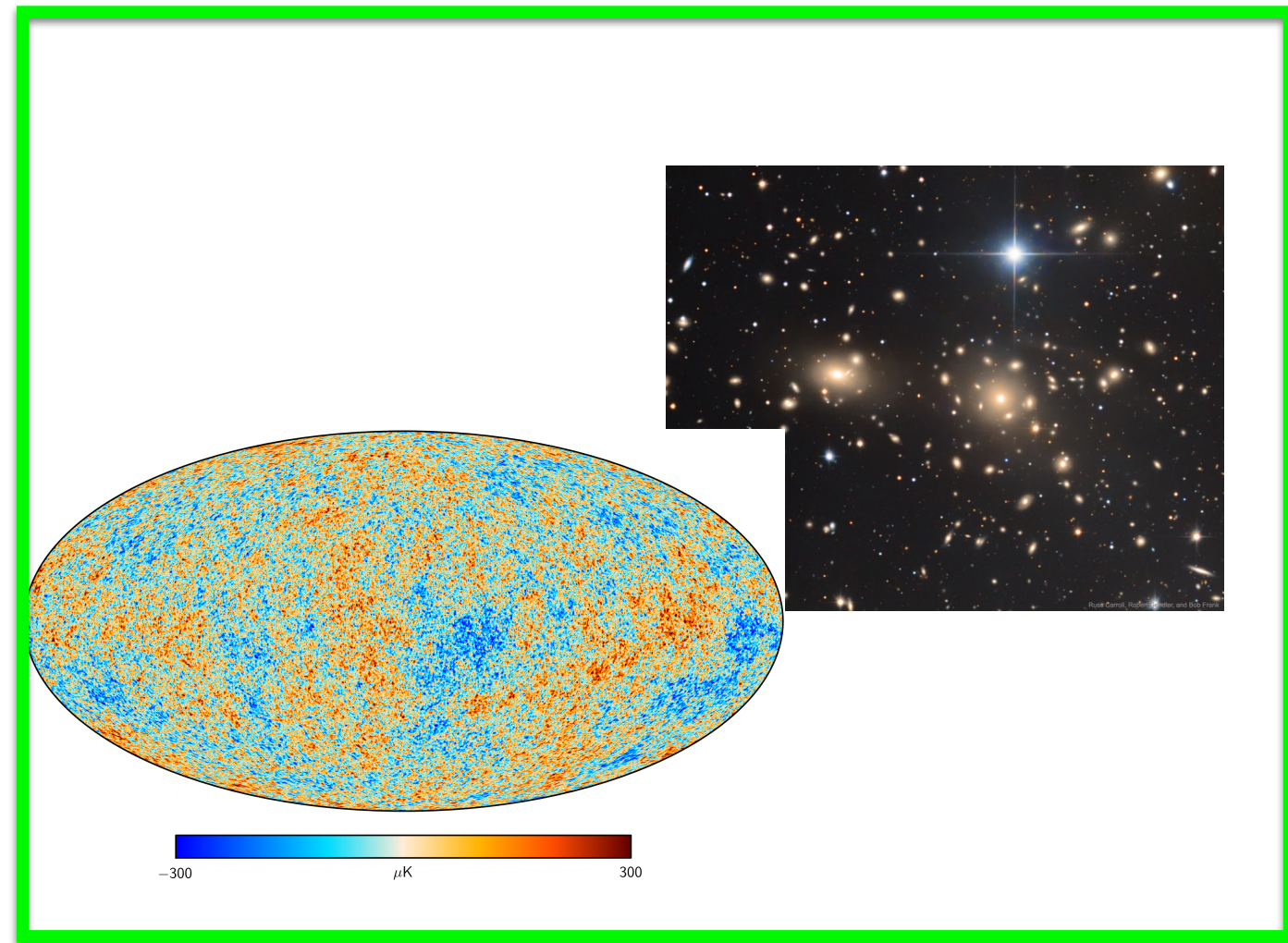
1 Mpc

1 kpc

Mid-Scale structure  
*Many complexities from visible matter.  
 Hints that more complex dark matter is better.*

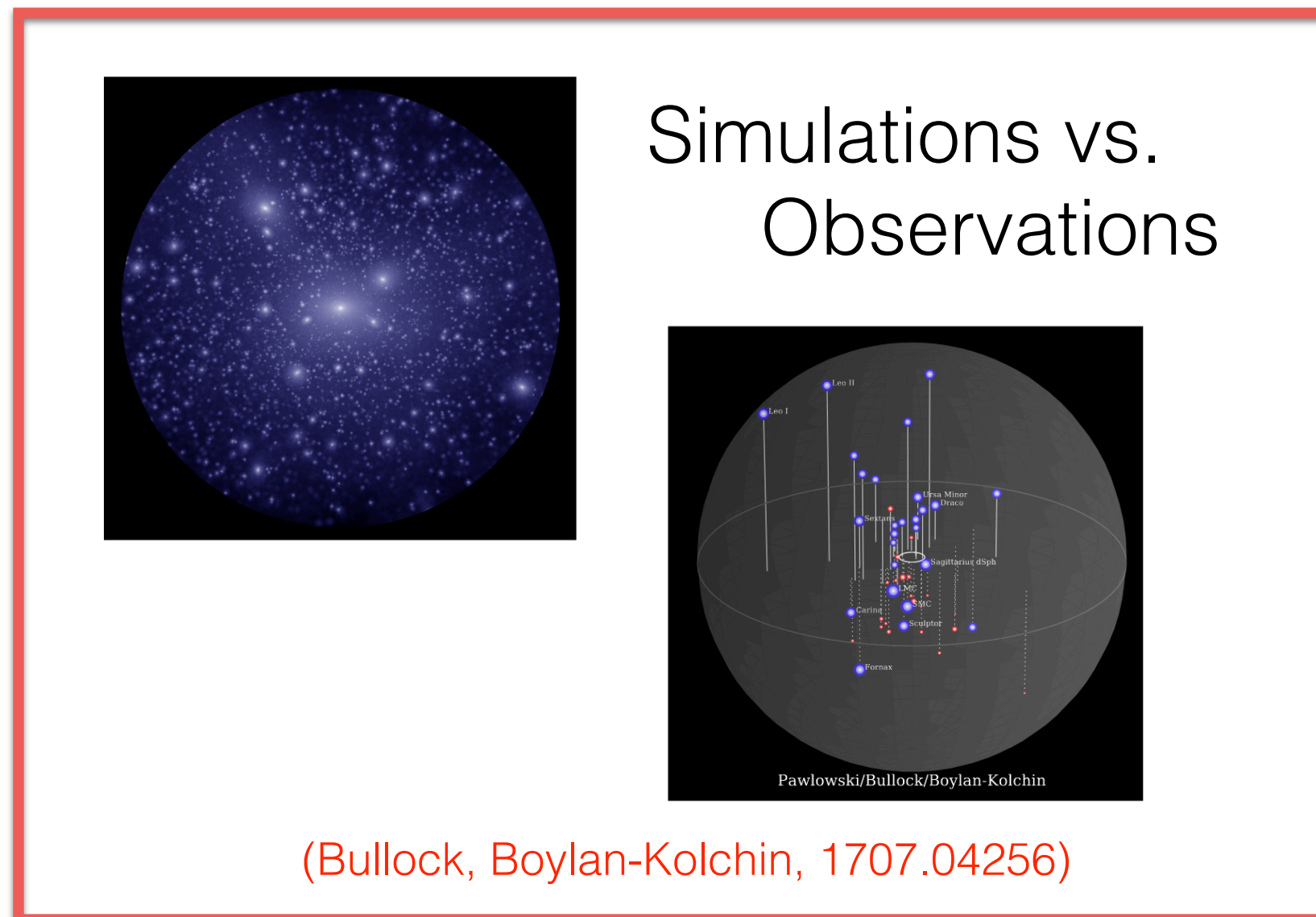


1 km



$10^4$  Mpc

Large-Scale structure  
*Linear physics, clean probes*



1 Mpc

1 kpc

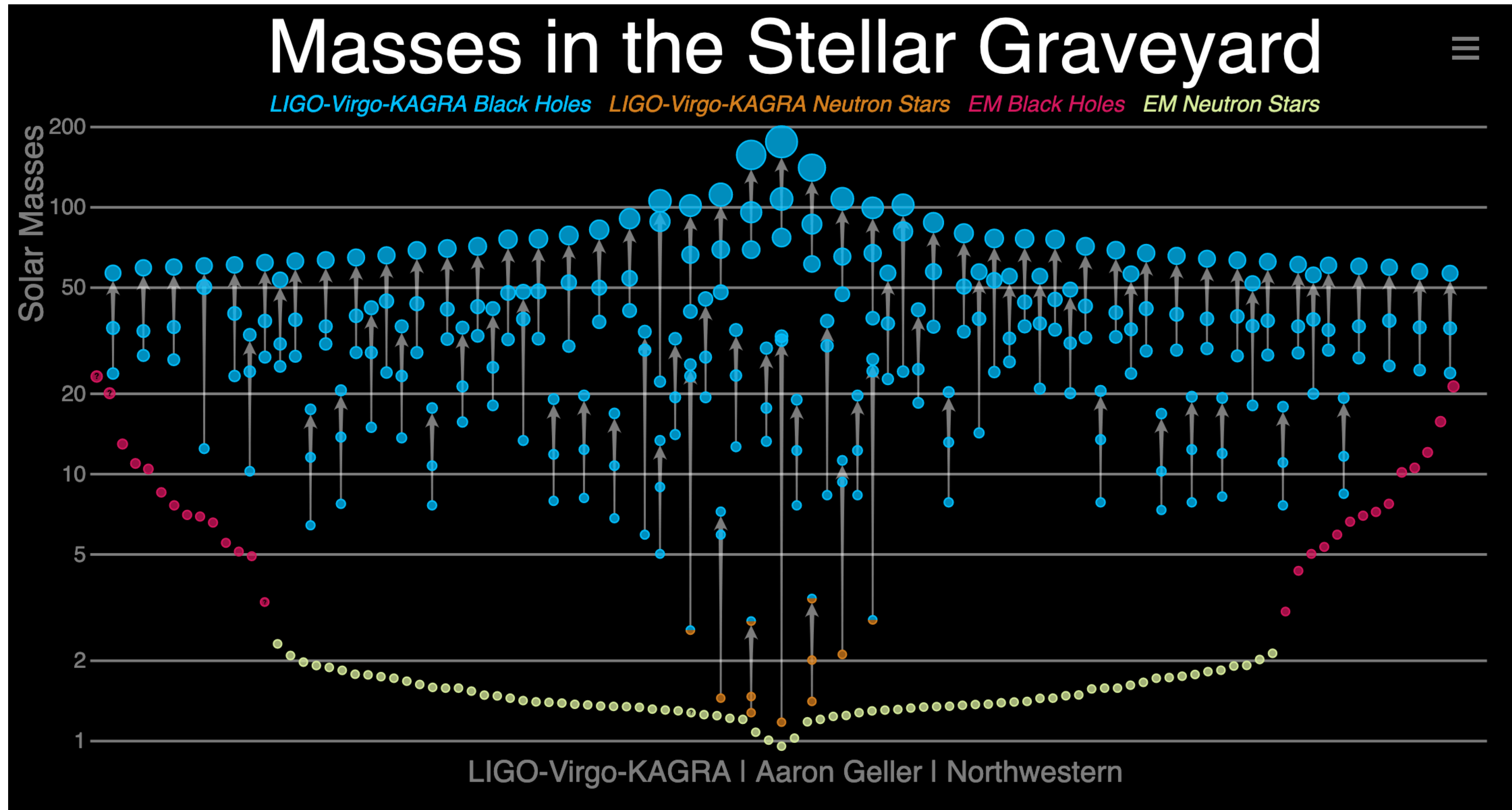
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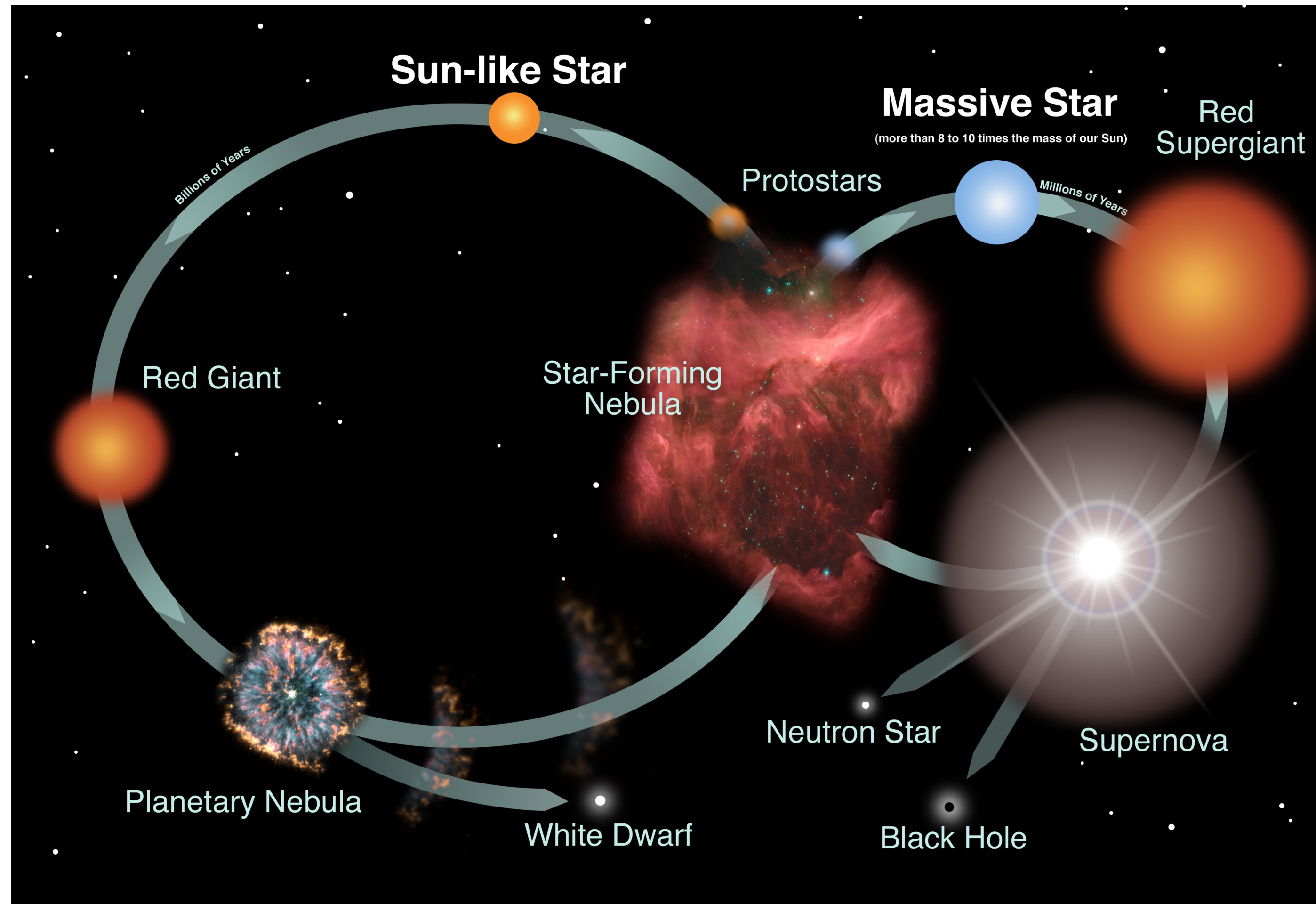
Novel Compact objects  
 Existence is a clean probe

# The context today



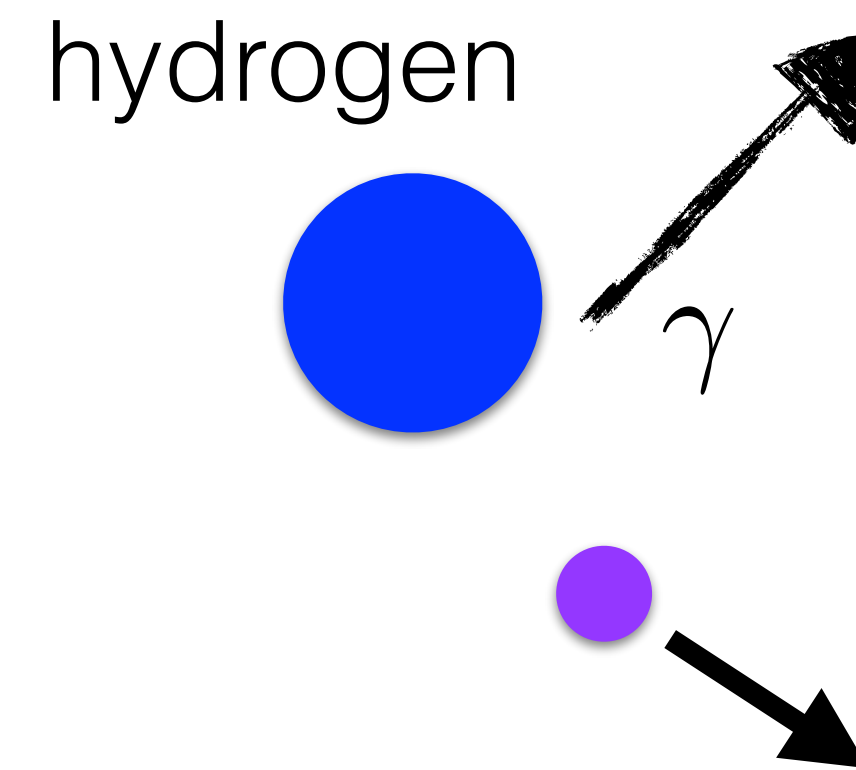
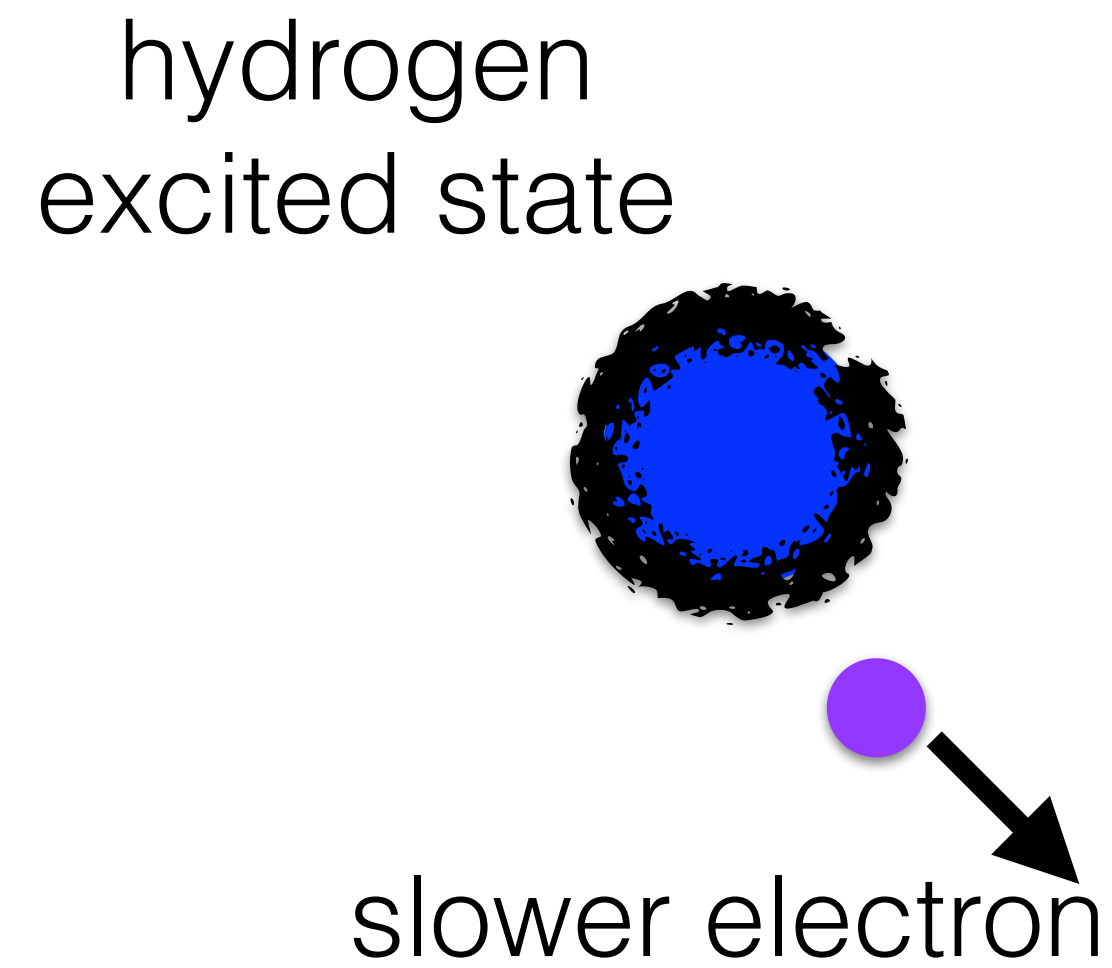
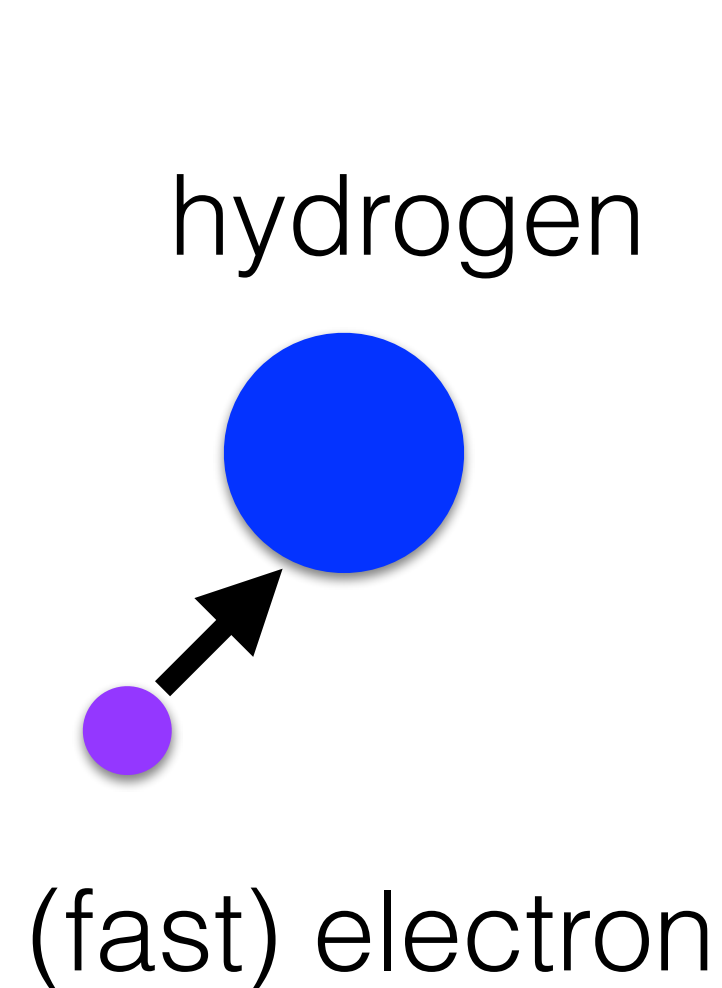
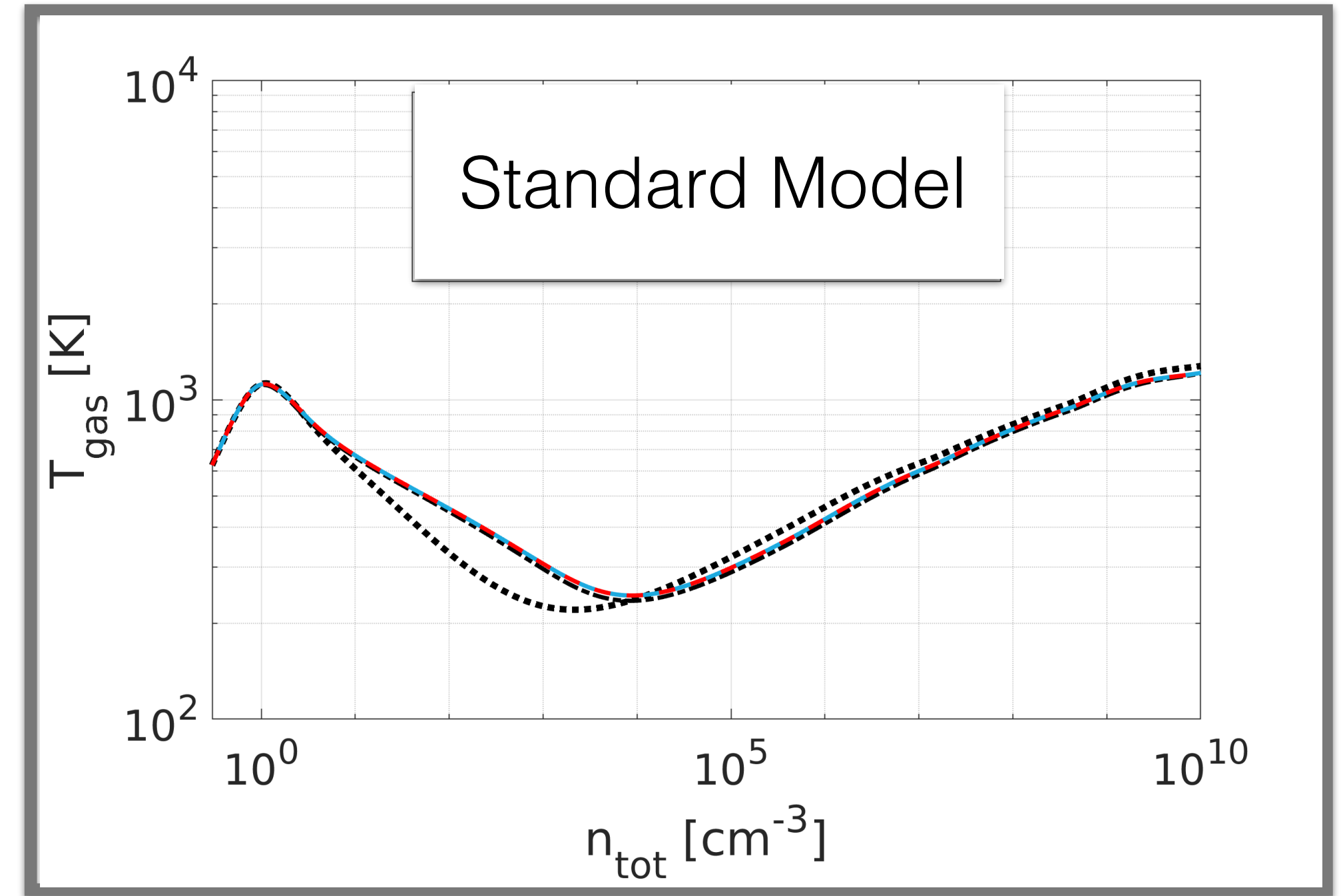
**+O4!**

# Ultra-compact objects in the standard model

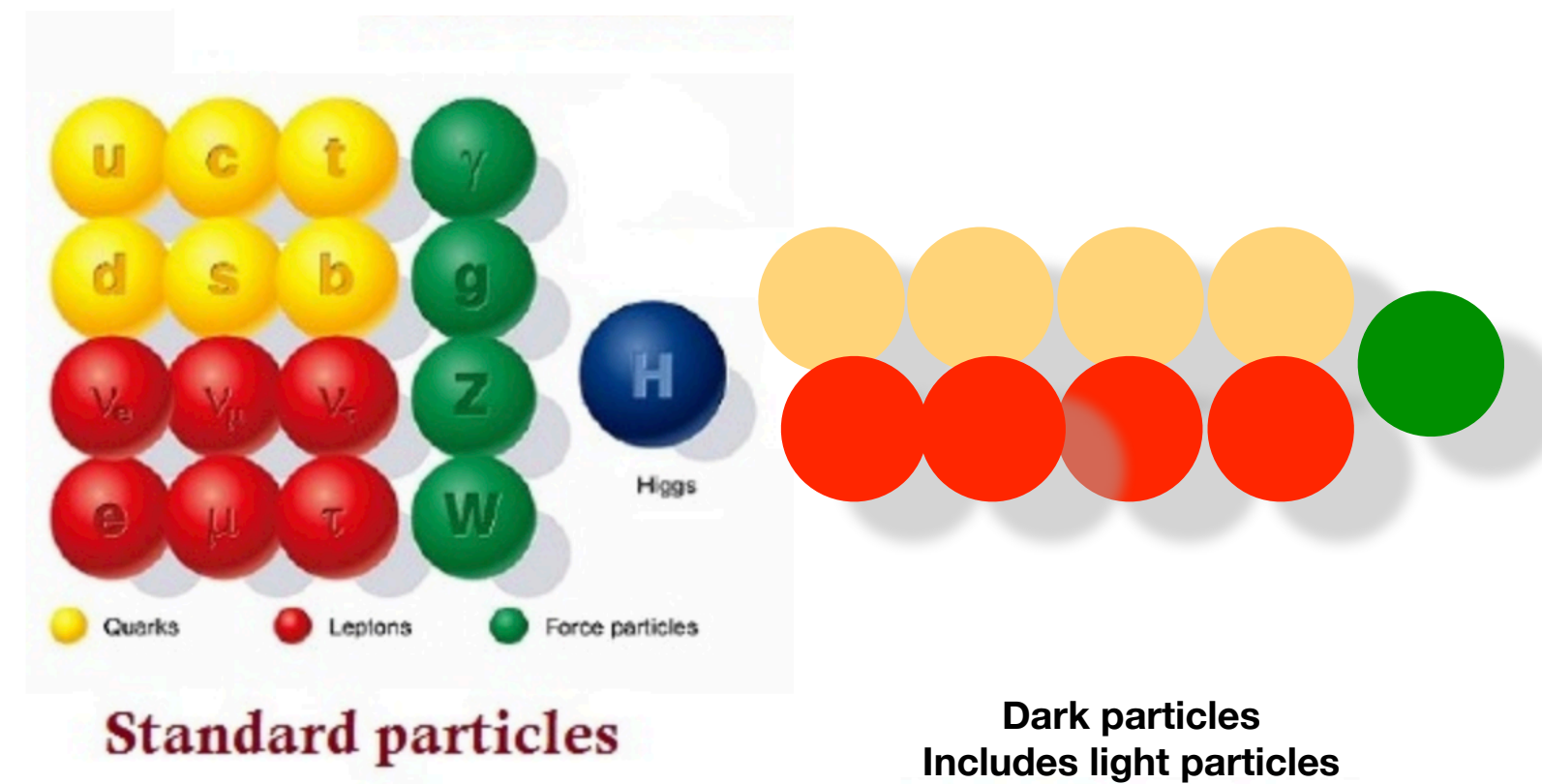


# Why?

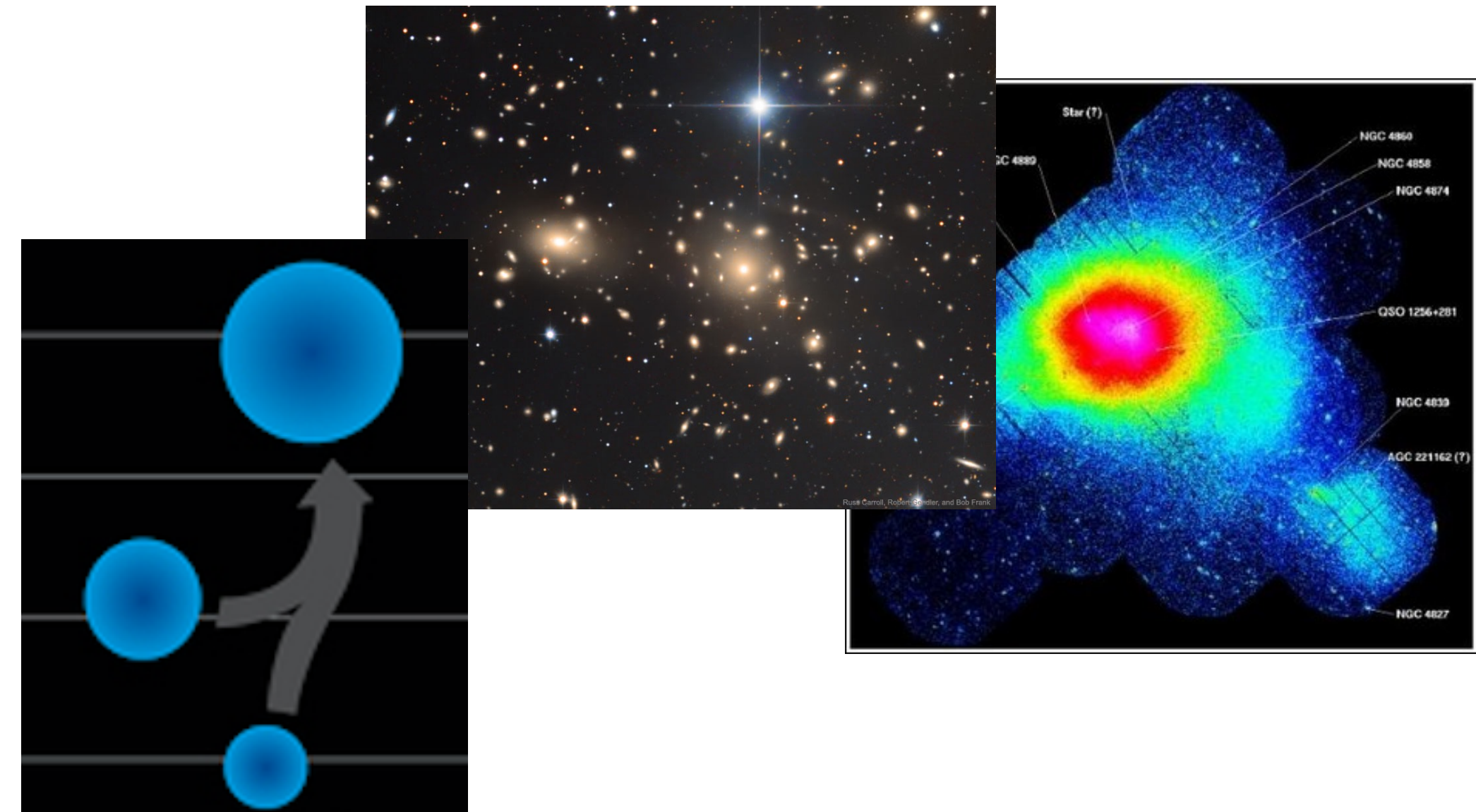
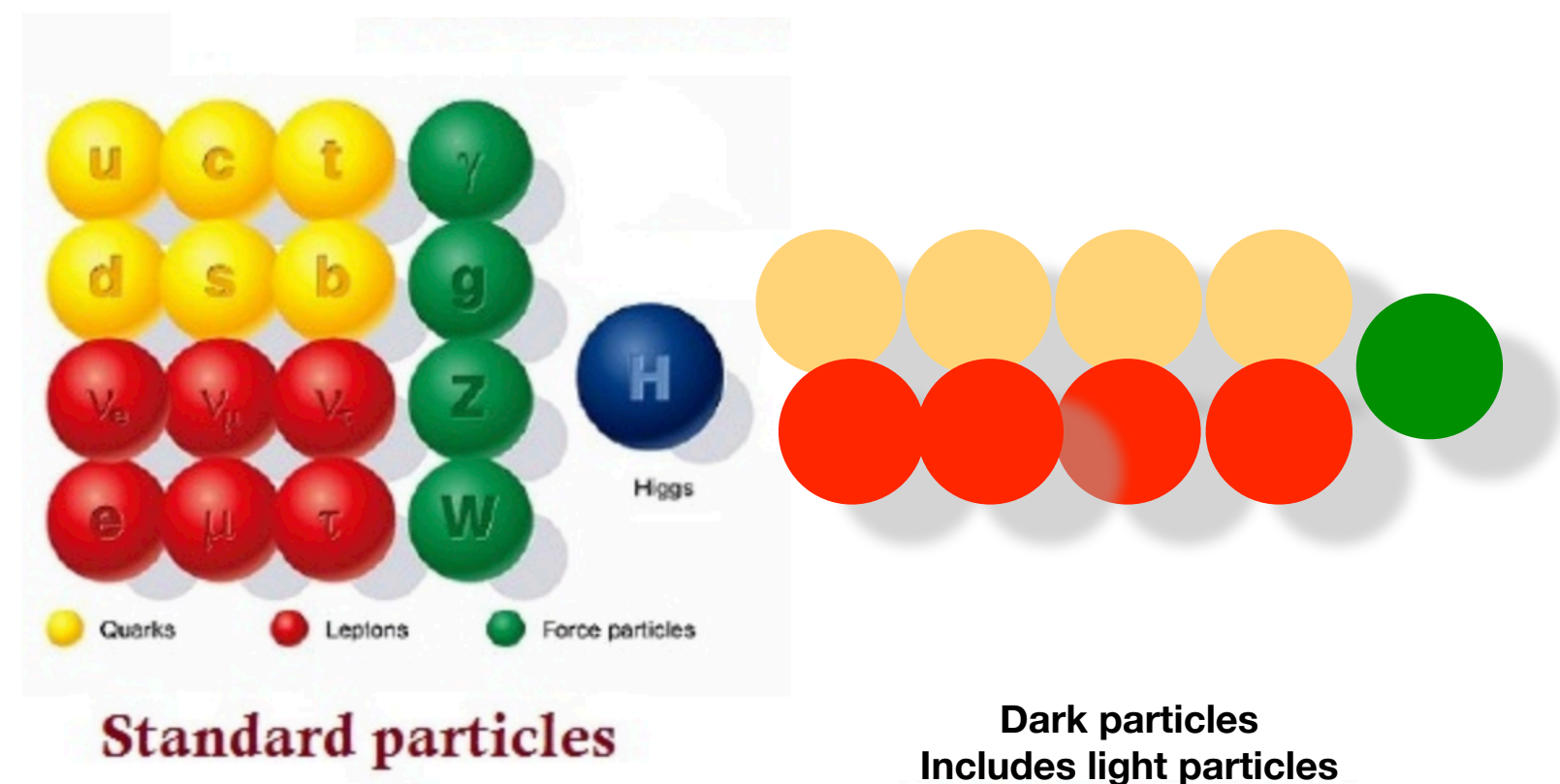
Chemistry  
Processes that cool  
the gas



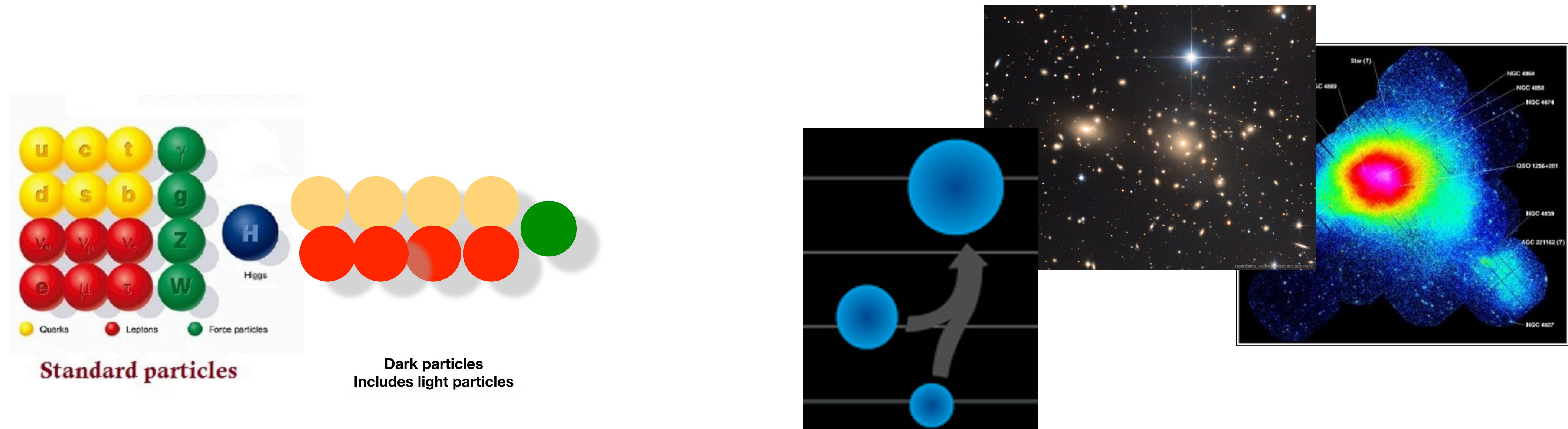
# If dark matter has a rich spectrum of particles...



# Then it likely has a rich spectrum of small scale structures...



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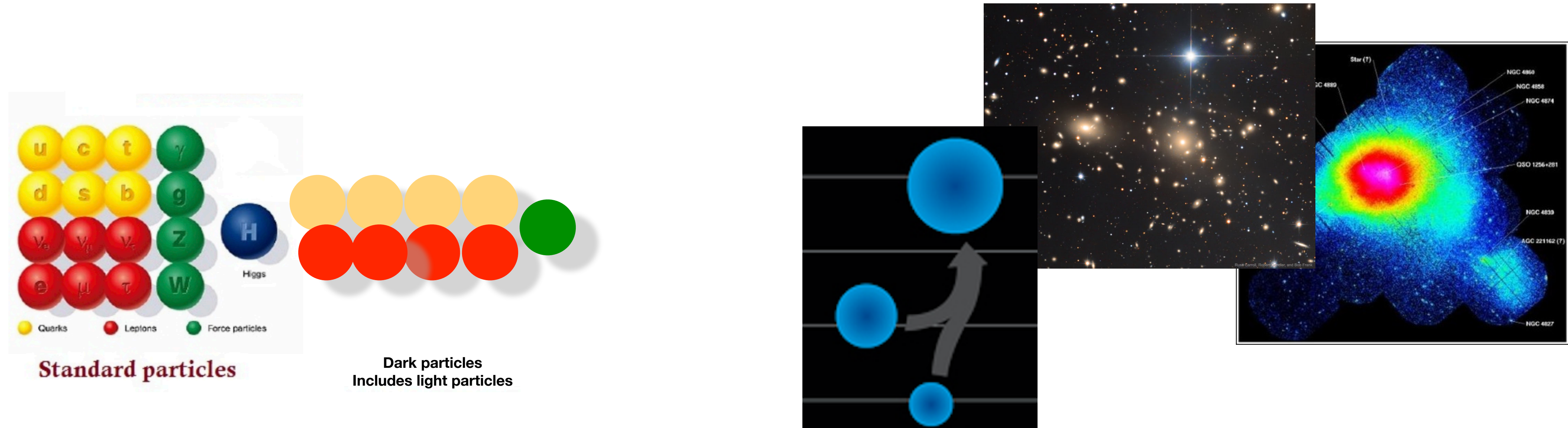


Details of this structure constrain the **particle spectrum** ...

(See M. Buckley, A. Peter 1712.06615 for a nice review)



# Then it likely has a rich spectrum of small scale structures...



Details of this structure constrain the **particle spectrum** ...

(See M. Buckley, A. Peter 1712.06615 for a nice review)

...even if there is no non-gravitational interaction between dark matter and the standard model

# (Simple) complex dark matter

NEWS | SHOP | GALLERY | ABOUT | HOME | LINKS | CONTACT Particle Zoo ♥ CERN

## The PARTICLE ZOO

Subatomic Particle Plush Toys FROM THE STANDARD MODEL OF PHYSICS

 <p><b>PHOTON</b> The mass-less wavicle we know and love.</p>	 <p><b>NEUTRINO</b> These teeny-tiny I'll "sly" guys are traveling through you right now.</p>	 <p><b>PROTON</b> We would not be here without her positivity.</p>	 <p><b>WEAK GAUGE BOSON</b> As the carrier particle of the weak nuclear force, he's downright obese.</p>
 <p><b>GLUON</b> The "glue" of the strong nuclear force.</p>	 <p><b>ELECTRON</b> A negatively charged diminutive, busy I'll guy. He likes to bond.</p>	 <p><b>NEUTRON</b> He insists on remaining neutral.</p>	 <p><b>HIGGS BOSON</b> A bit of a snob because he's sometimes referred to as "the God particle."</p>
 <p><b>DARK MATTER</b> The mysterious missing mass.</p>	 <p><b>UP QUARK</b> A tiny little point inside the proton and neutron, she is friends forever with the Down Quark.</p>	 <p><b>MUON</b> A "heavy electron" who lives fast and dies young.</p>	 <p><b>NEW!</b> <b>TOP QUARK</b> This heavy-weight champion doesn't live long enough to make friends with anyone.</p>
 <p><b>GRAVITON</b> Still unobserved, yet theoretically everywhere.</p>	 <p><b>DOWN QUARK</b> A tiny little point inside the proton and neutron, he is friends forever with the Up Quark.</p>	 <p><b>TAU</b> A "heavy muon" who could stand to lose a little weight.</p>	 <p><b>NEW!</b> <b>TACHYON</b> Can this devious and clever particle really travel faster than light?</p>
 <p><b>coming soon!</b> <b>ANTIPARTICLES</b> Due to explode on the scene sometime soon.</p>	 <p><b>coming soon!</b> <b>MESONS</b> A slew of family cousins with names like pion, kaon, rho, and eta.</p>	 <p><b>coming soon!</b> <b>CHARM, STRANGE, BOTTOM</b> The zoo needs more quarks.</p>	



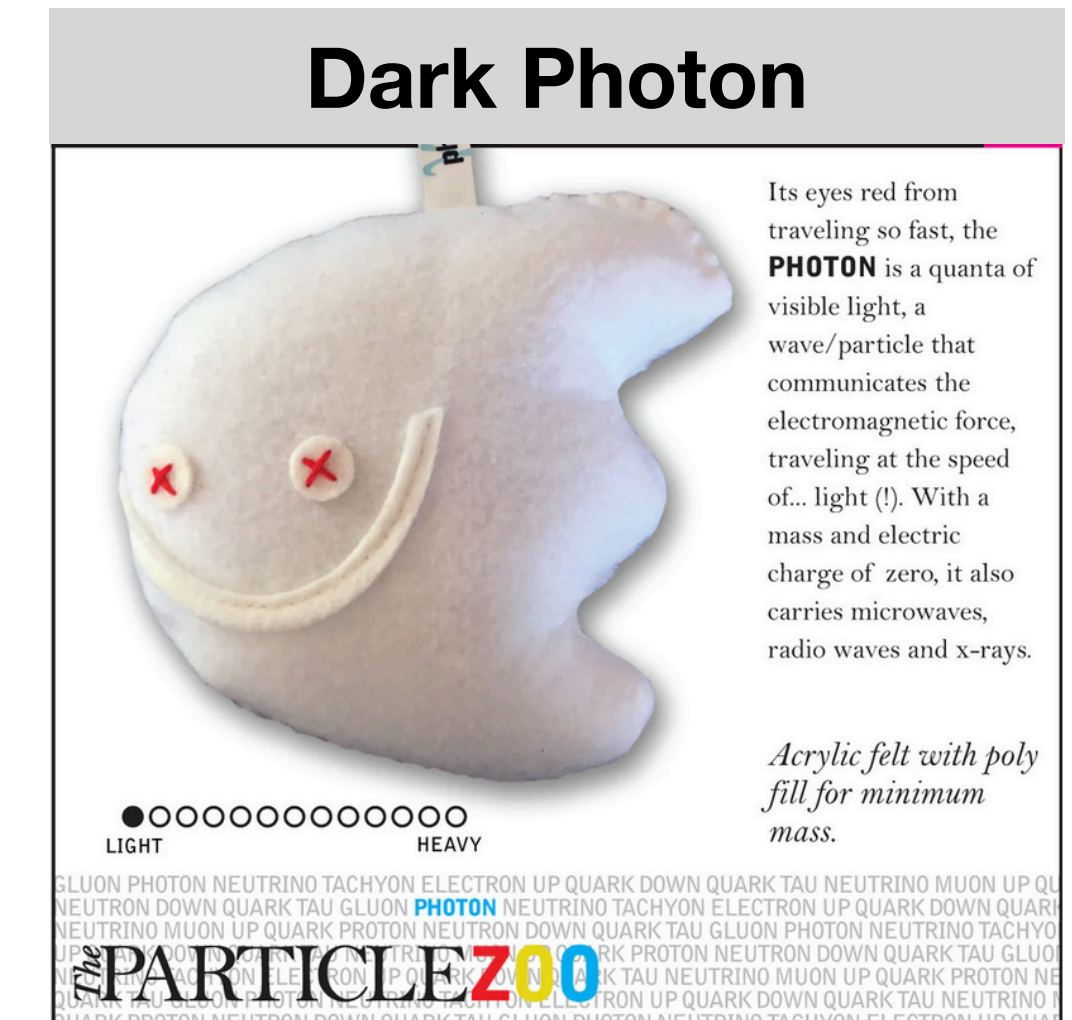


# (Simple) complex dark matter



Too complicated!

Let this be a “fundamental” particle instead

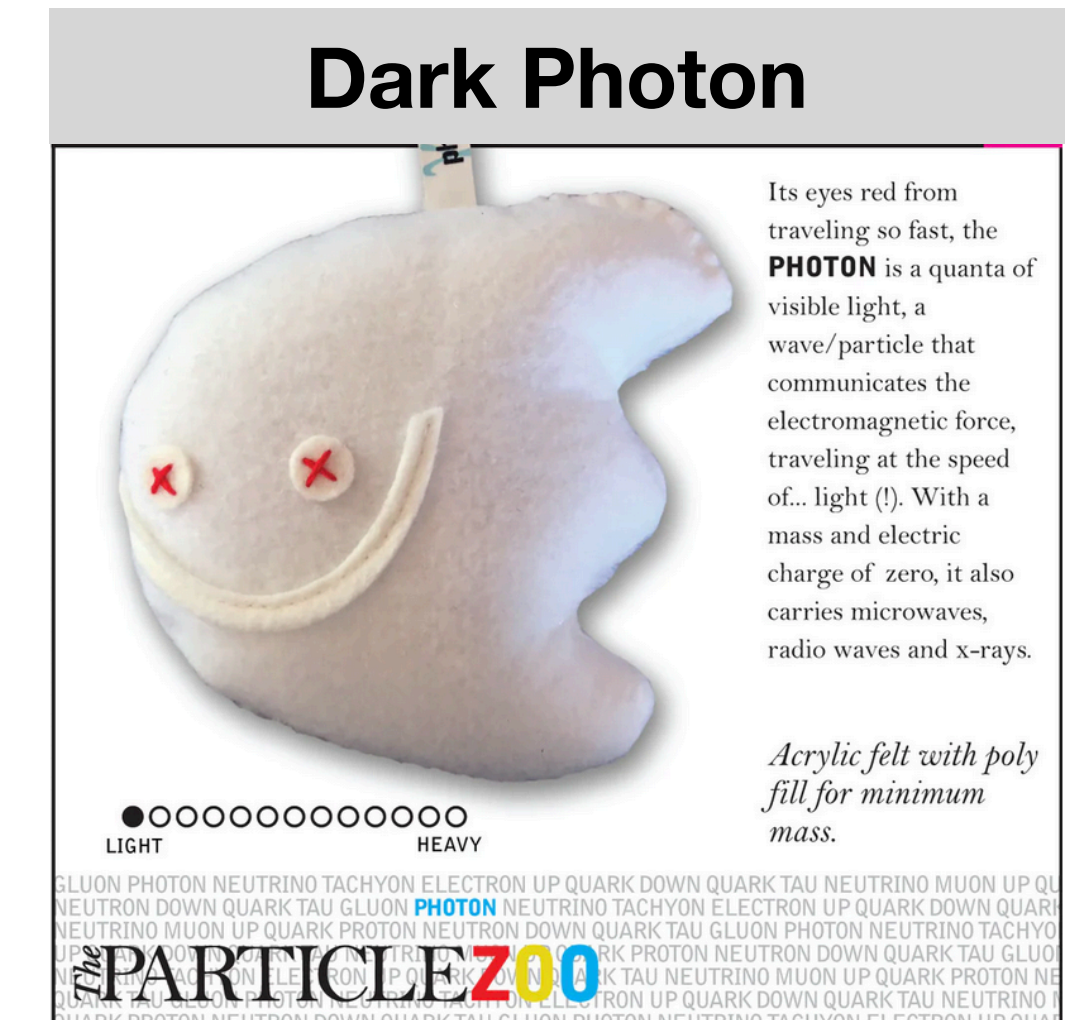


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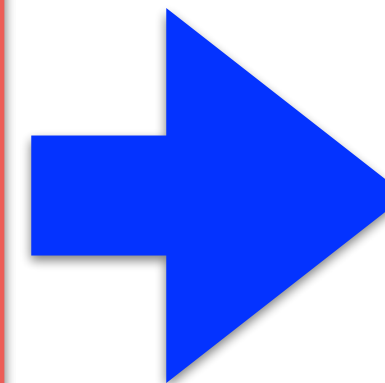
# A simple dark sector with distinctive black holes

Dark “electron”  $0.01 \lesssim \frac{m}{m_{\text{electron}}} \lesssim 100$

Dark “proton”  $1 \lesssim \frac{M}{m_{\text{proton}}} \lesssim 1000$

Dark “photon” massless

Dark fine structure constant  $0.1 \lesssim \frac{\alpha}{\alpha_{\text{EM}}} \lesssim 2$



Interesting BH masses

$$M_{\text{Chand.}}^{\text{Dark}} \approx 1.4M_{\odot} \left( \frac{m_{\text{prot.}}}{M} \right)^2$$

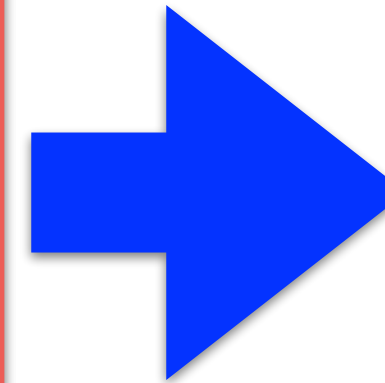
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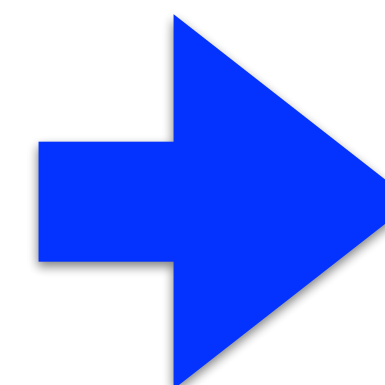
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Interesting BH masses

$$M_{\text{Chand.}}^{\text{Dark}} \approx 1.4M_{\odot} \left( \frac{m_{\text{prot.}}}{M} \right)^2$$

Dark “hydrogen”  
→ Cooling channels

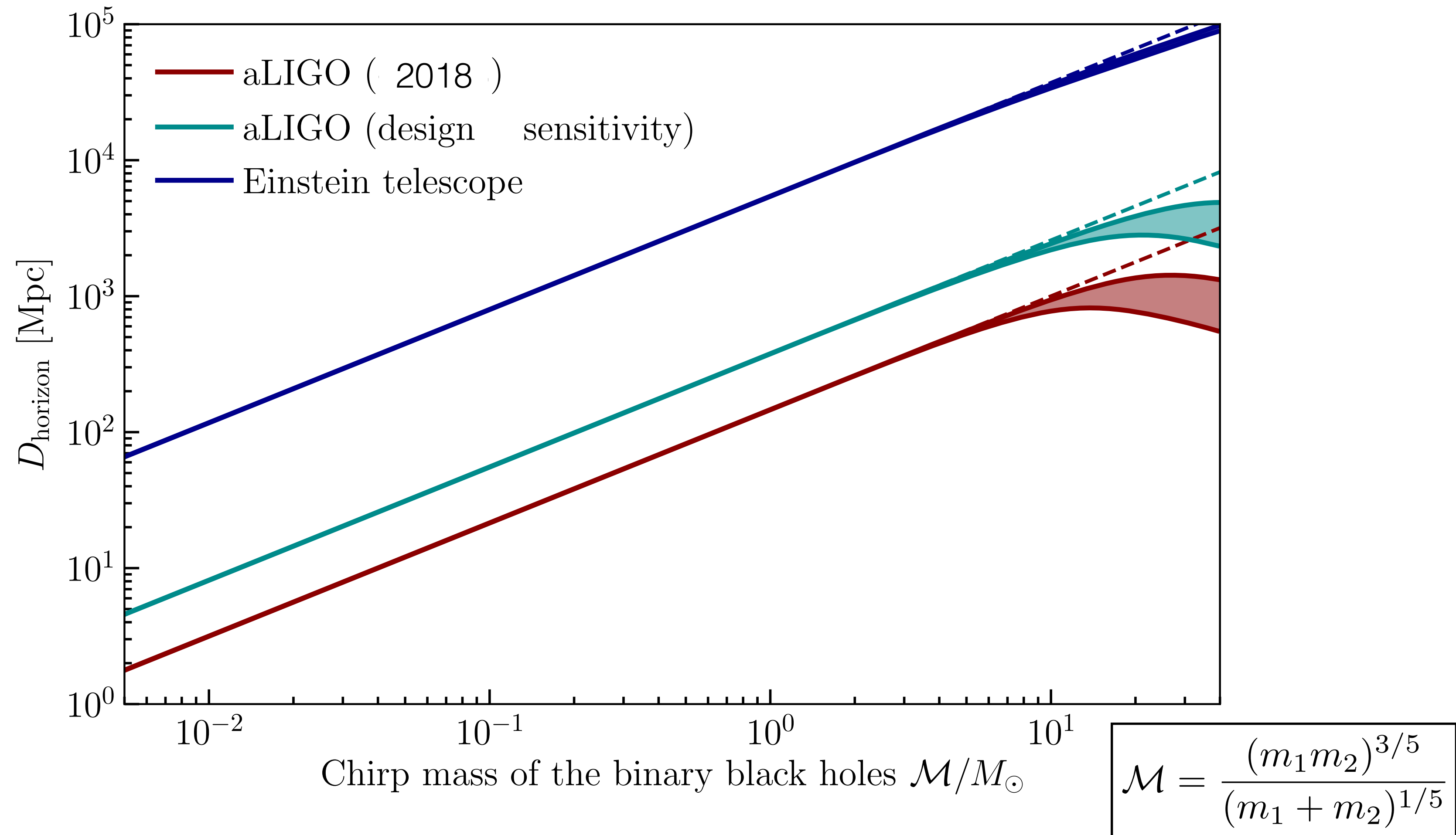


Allows BHs to form dynamically from dark matter

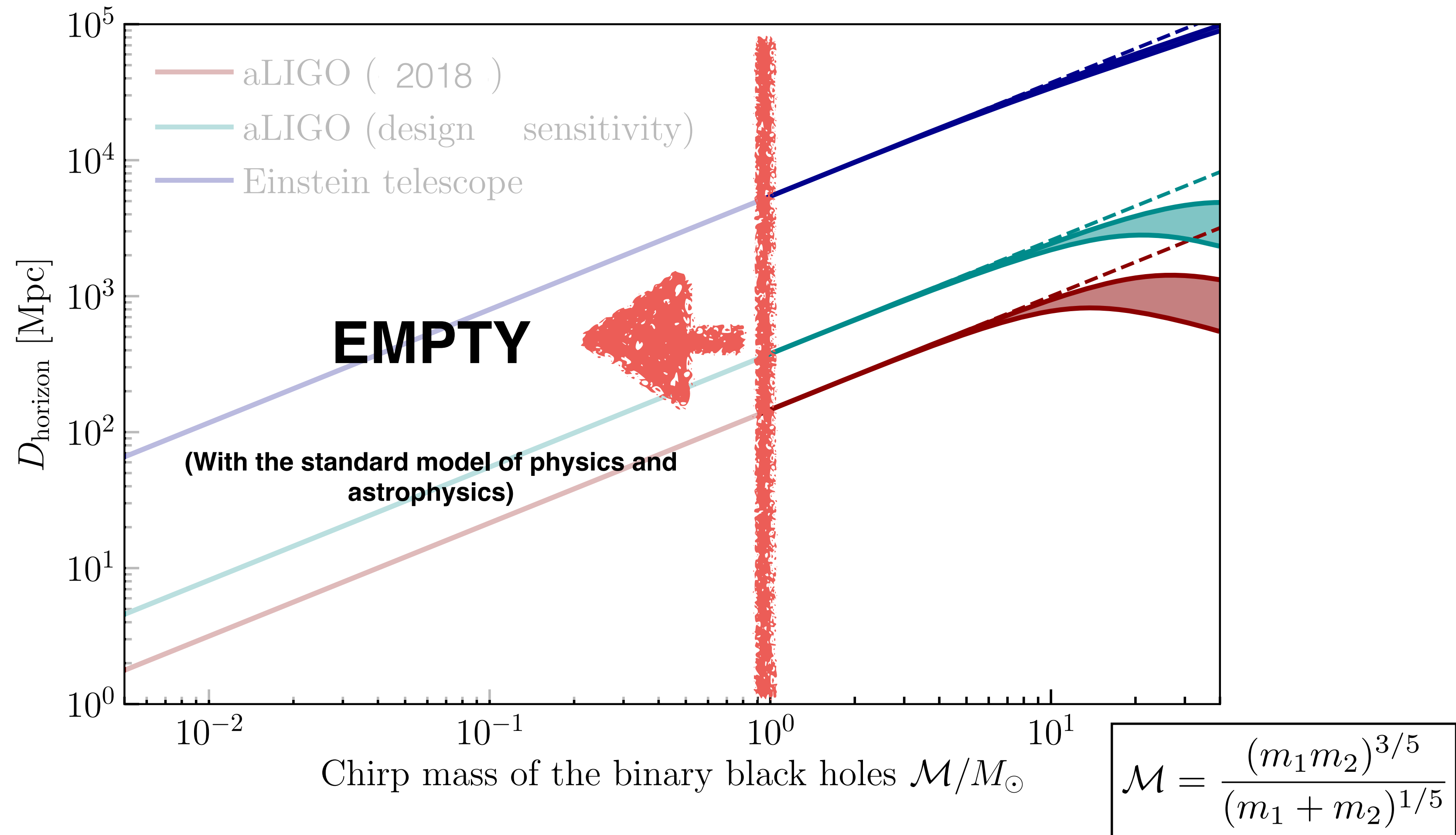
No nuclear physics; No coupling to the standard model



# Clean new physics discovery space below $\sim 1$ solar mass



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We need to estimate:

- Can dark matter cool sufficiently to collapse into black holes?

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Total DM mass available  
How much is in BHs

Depends on  
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Rosenberg and Fan, 1705.10341;  
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Now + molecular cooling

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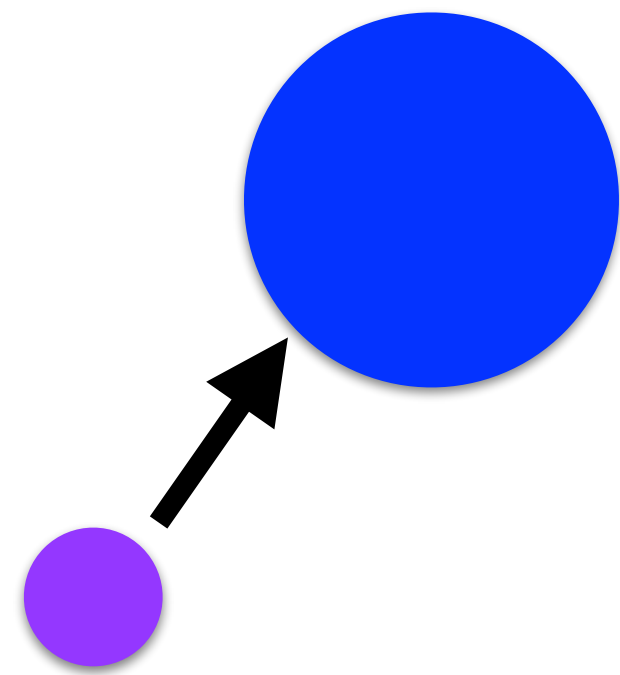
opacity limit arguments  
from 1970's  
+  
Pop III star literature;  
Now + simulations

# How much dark matter can cool?

Why is it cooling?

Example: collisional excitation

dark hydrogen



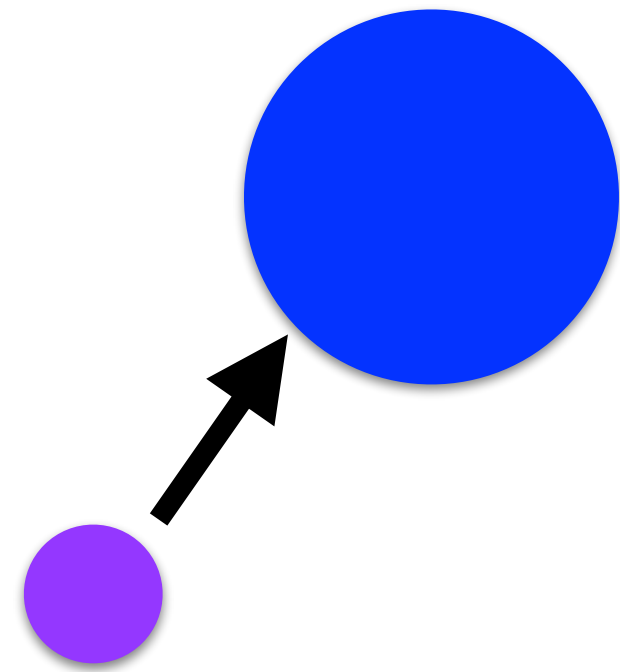
(fast) dark electron

Detailed rates calculated by Rosenberg and Fan, 1705.10341;

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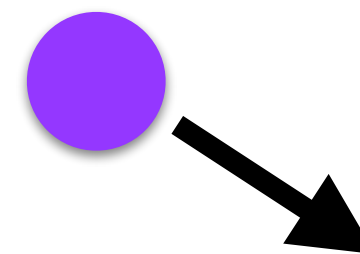
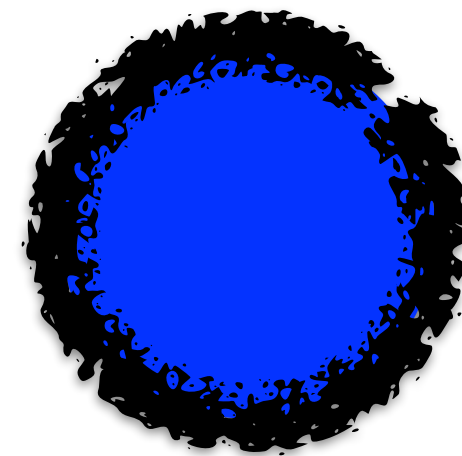
dark hydrogen



(fast) dark electron

Example: collisional excitation

dark hydrogen  
excited state

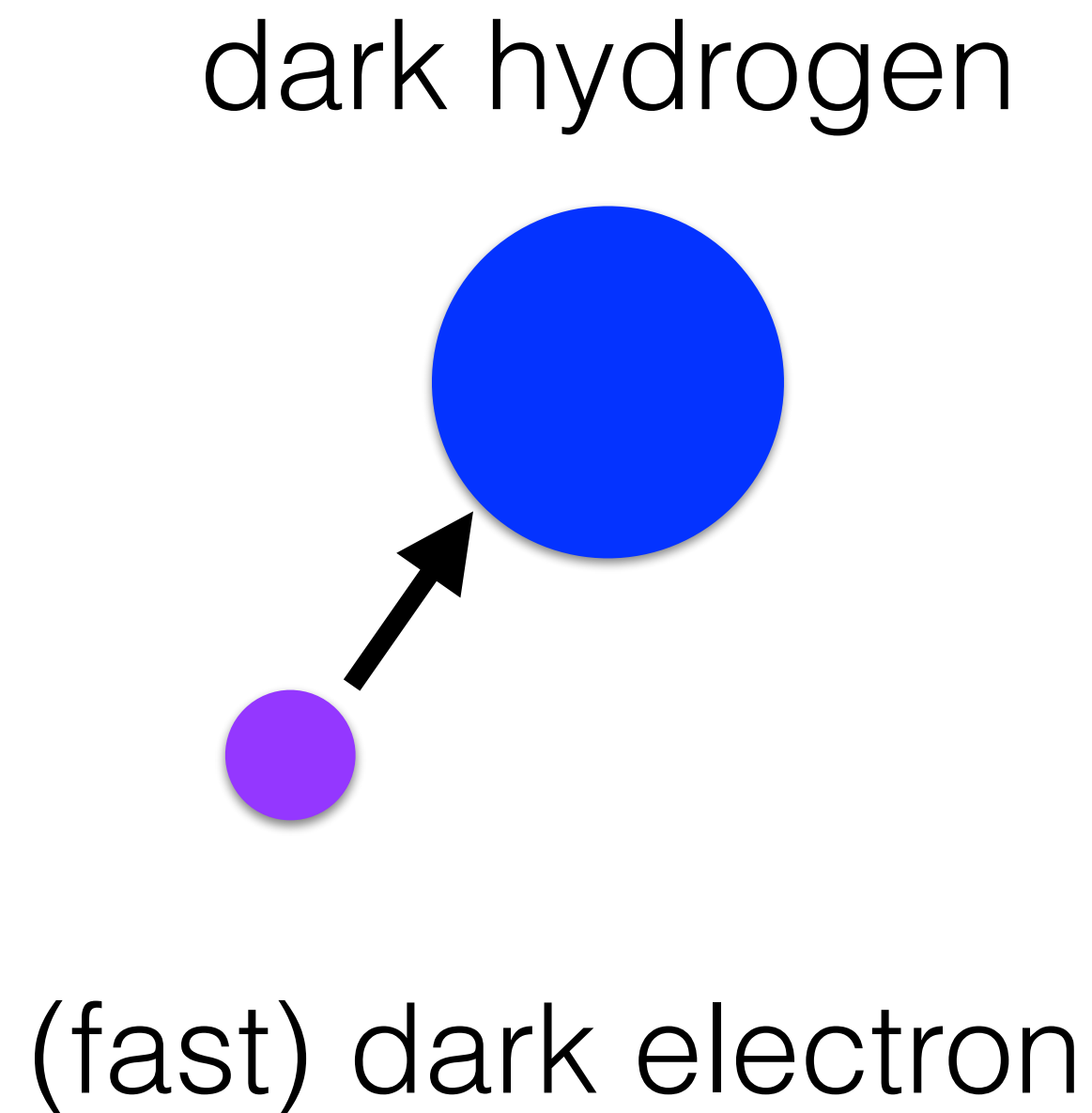


slower dark electron

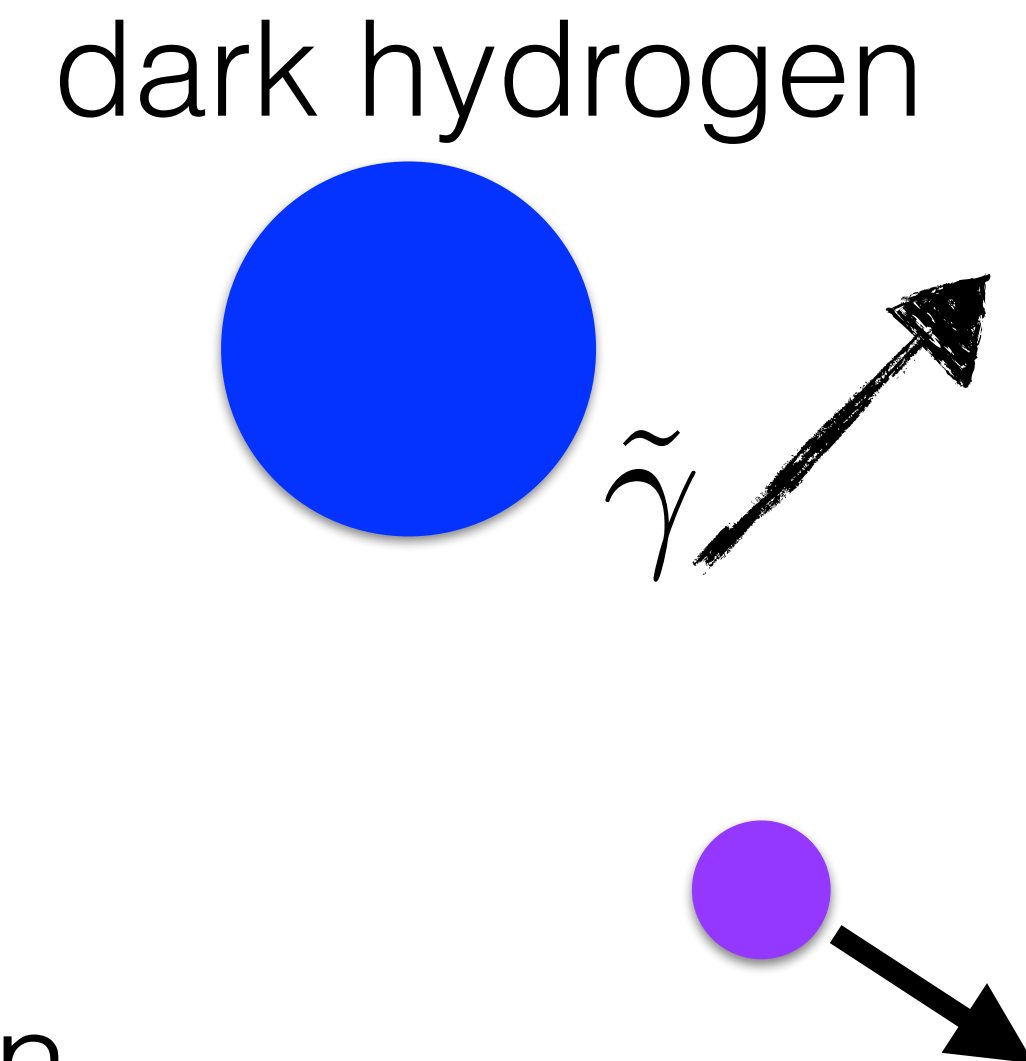
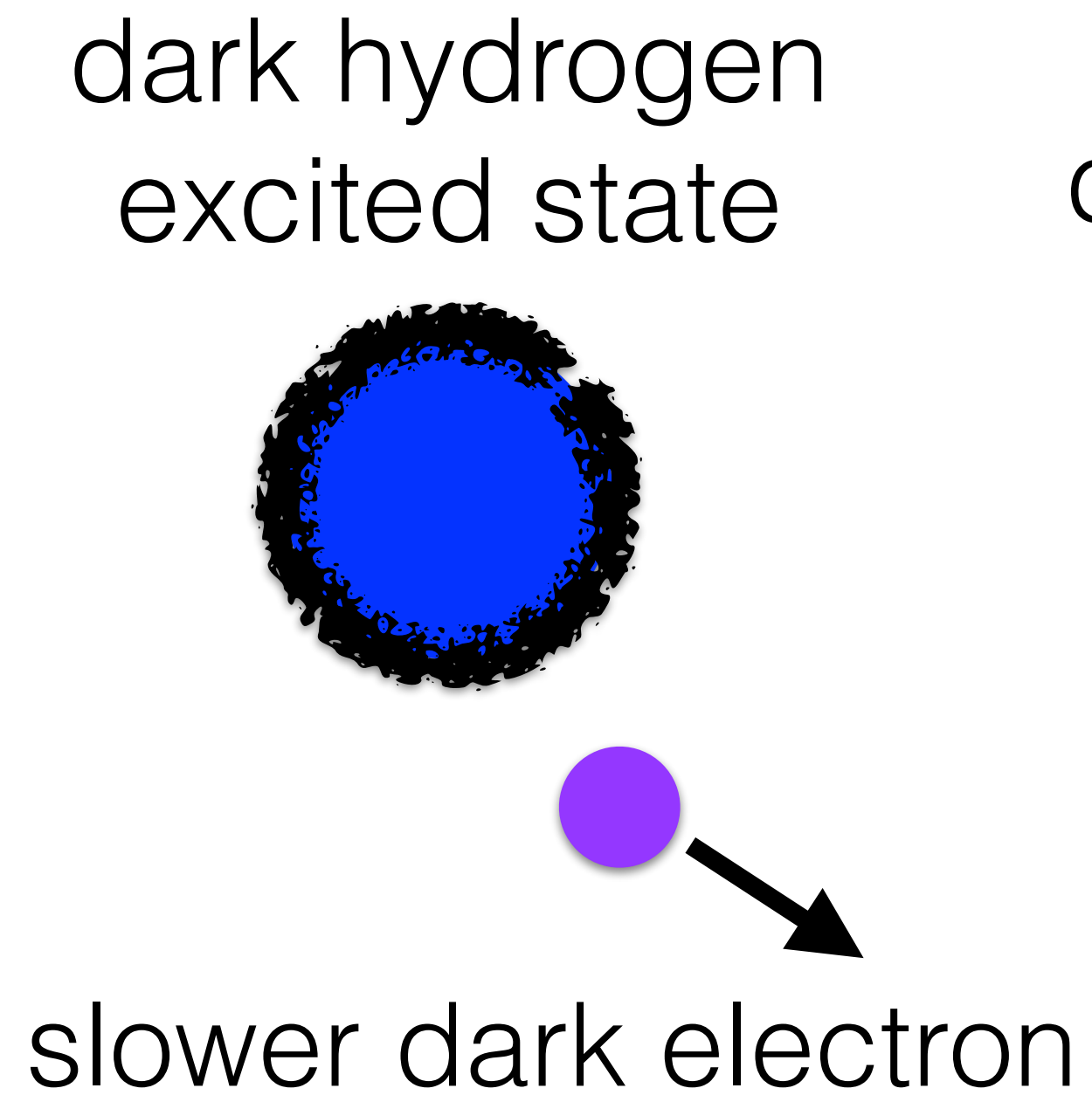
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Detailed rates calculated by Rosenberg and Fan, 1705.10341;

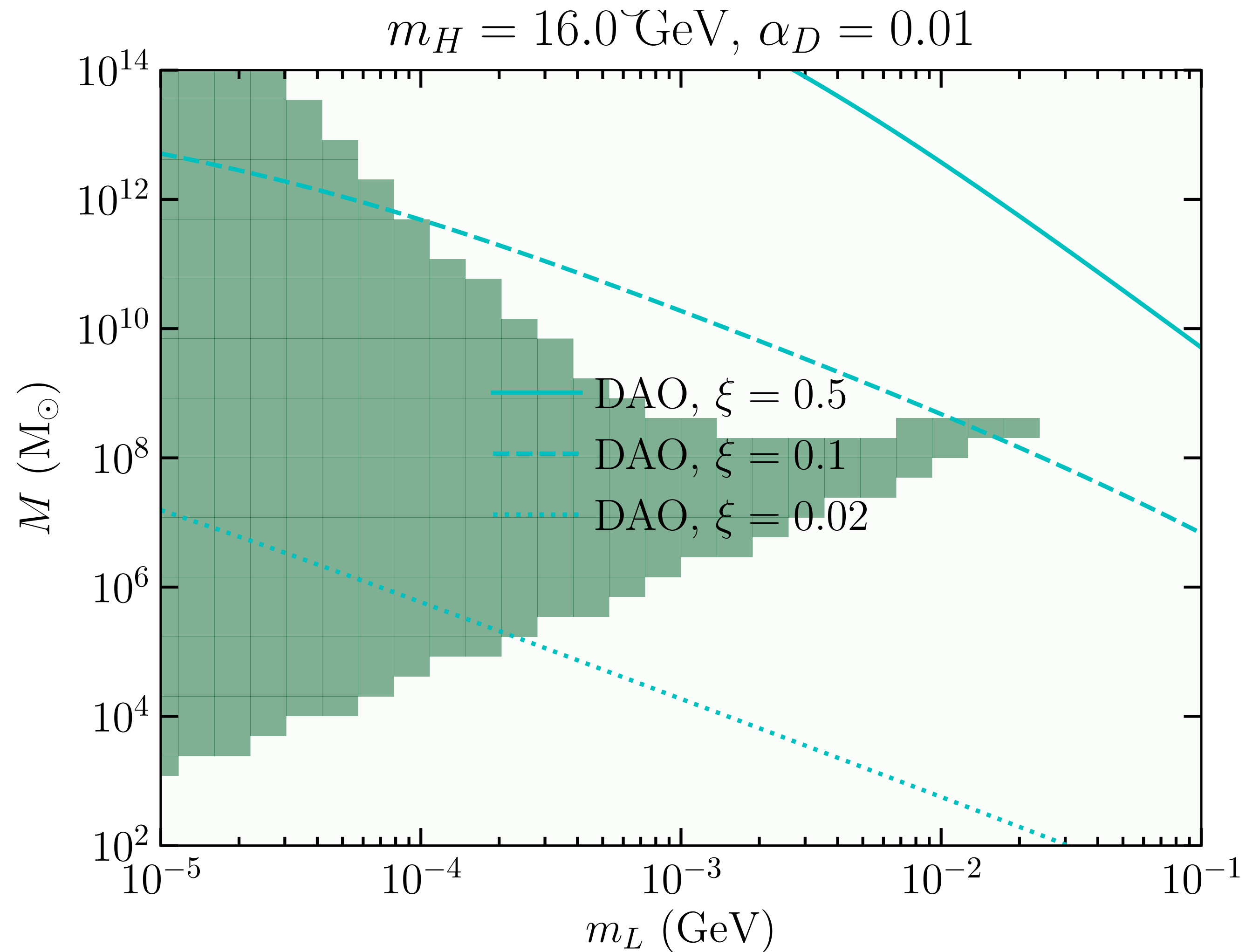
# How much dark matter can cool?

$$\frac{dT}{dt} \text{ (cooling processes)} > \frac{dT}{dt} \text{ (kinematics in gravitational well)}$$

Cooling is more efficient for smaller dark matter halos:  
can maintain “cold dark matter” success on large scales

# How much dark matter can cool?

Consider all the processes that involve dark atoms (not yet dark molecules)



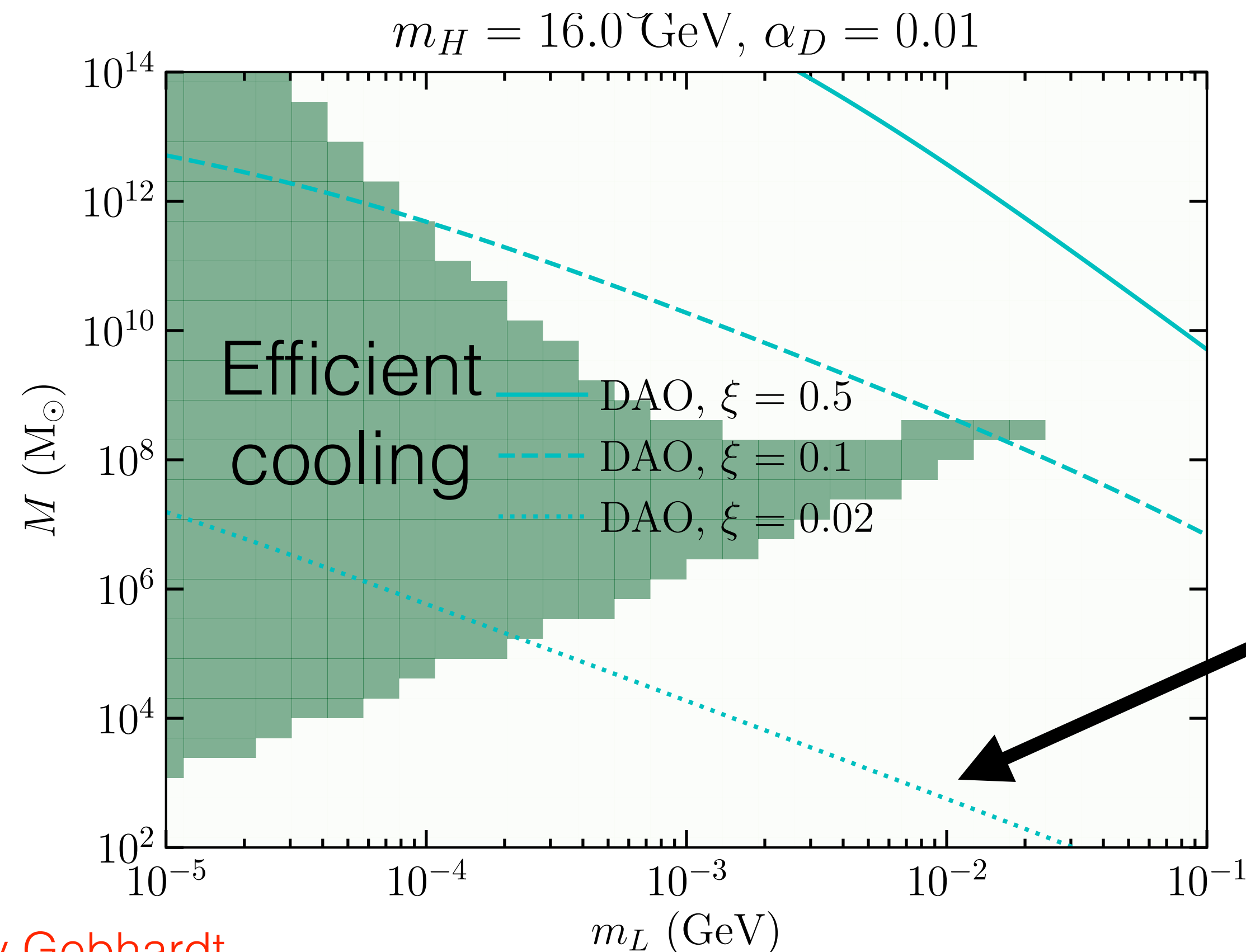
Plot: Henry Gebhardt

Rosenberg and Fan, 1705.10341; Buckley and DiFranzo, 1707.03829

Shandera, TRISEP 2024

# Cooling dark matter

\*\* But, must also maintain structure formation



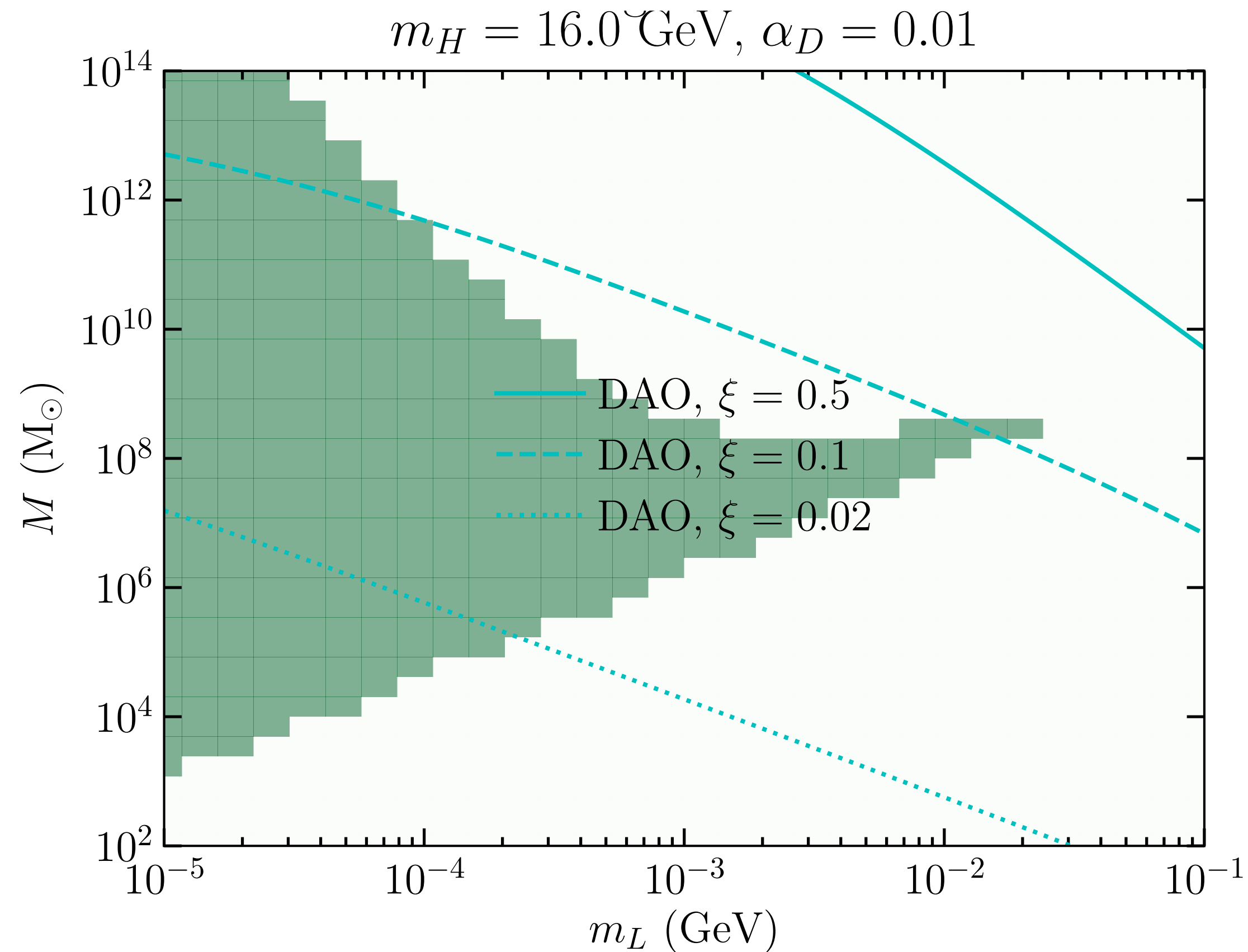
$$\xi = \frac{T_{\tilde{\gamma}}}{T_{\gamma, CMB}}$$

Require a rather cold dark sector

Plot: Henry Gebhardt

Cyr-Racine, de Putter, Raccanelli, Sigurdson 1310.3278

# Cooling dark matter



This plot  
+  
sub-halo mass  
function:

$$f_{\text{cool}} \sim 0.01$$

Plot: Henry Gebhardt

Rosenberg and Fan, 1705.10341; Buckley and DiFranzo, 1707.03829



**How much of the dark matter that can cool ends  
up in black holes?**

# How much of the dark matter that can cool ends up in black holes?

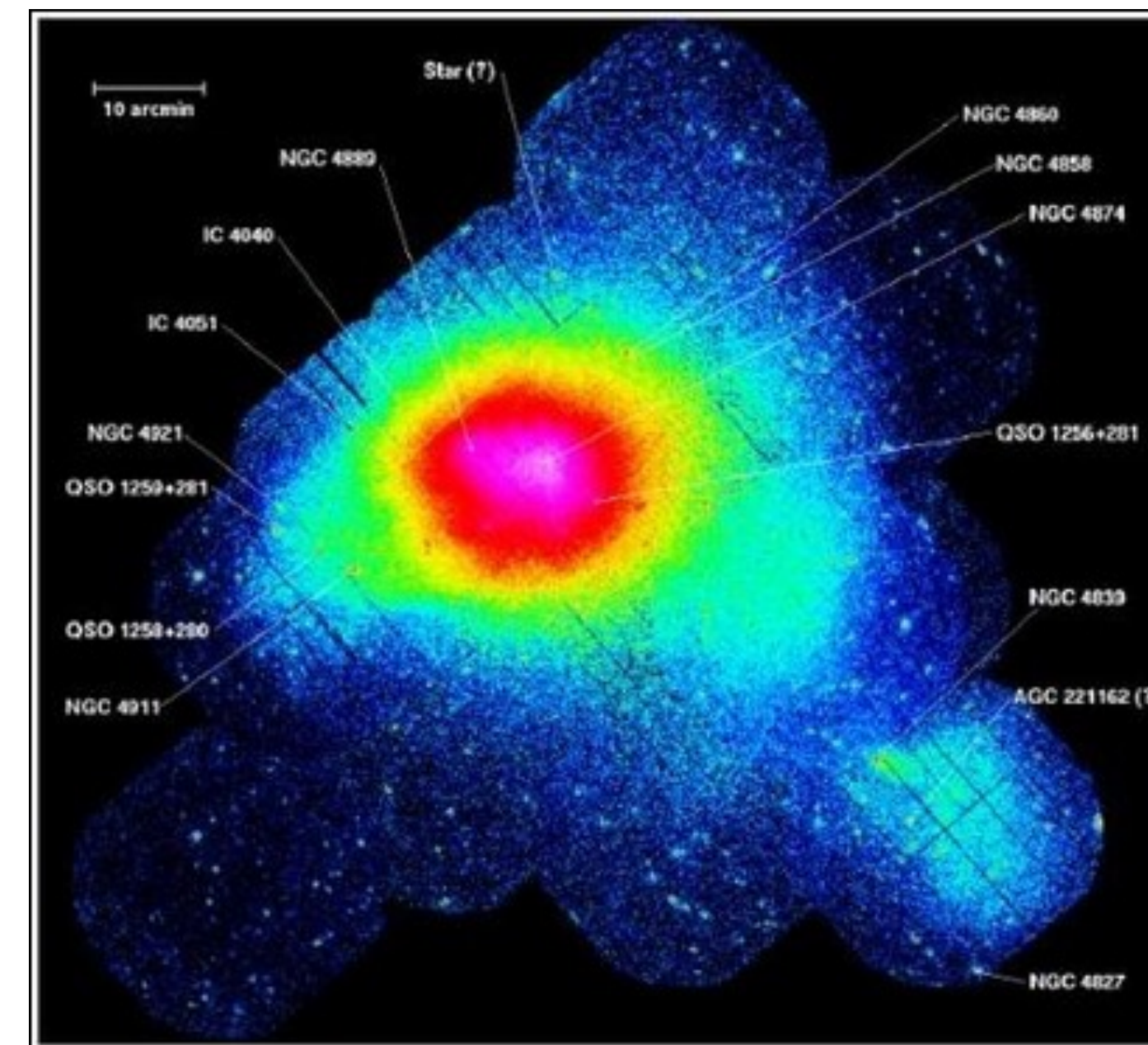
Consider the star-to-gas ratio for Coma:

# How much of the dark matter that can cool ends up in black holes?

Consider the star-to-gas ratio for Coma:



~2% of mass in stars



~10% of mass in gas

# How much of the dark matter that can cool ends up in black holes?

Or, from literature on formation of first stars (in hydrogen gas, with a bit of helium):

$$f_{\text{form. eff.}} \sim 10^{-3}$$

$$f_{\text{cool}} \times f_{\text{form. eff.}} \sim 10^{-5}$$

Optimistic:

$$f_{\text{cool}} \times f_{\text{form. eff.}} \sim 10^{-3}$$

What is the mass of black holes formed by collapse of “atomic” dark matter?

“opacity limit” argument (Rees; Lynden-Bell, 1976)

$$M_{J,min} \propto \left( \frac{m_p}{m_X} \right)^{9/4} \left( \frac{T}{10^3 K} \right)^{1/4} M_{\odot}$$

Coefficient? Pop III star literature for proto-star masses:

$$M_{DBH,min} \sim \left( \frac{m_p}{m_X} \right)^{9/4} \left( \frac{T}{10^3 K} \right)^{1/4} 10^3 M_{\odot}$$

# What is the minimum temperature the gas can cool to?

What process allows cooling to lowest temperature?

Molecular hydrogen cooling

First excited state to ground state:

$$\Delta E = \left( \frac{m_p}{m_X} \right) \left( \frac{m_c}{511 \text{ keV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\alpha_D}{0.0073} \right)^2 \times 512 \text{ K}$$

This gives us minimum temperature.

# The estimate was promising:

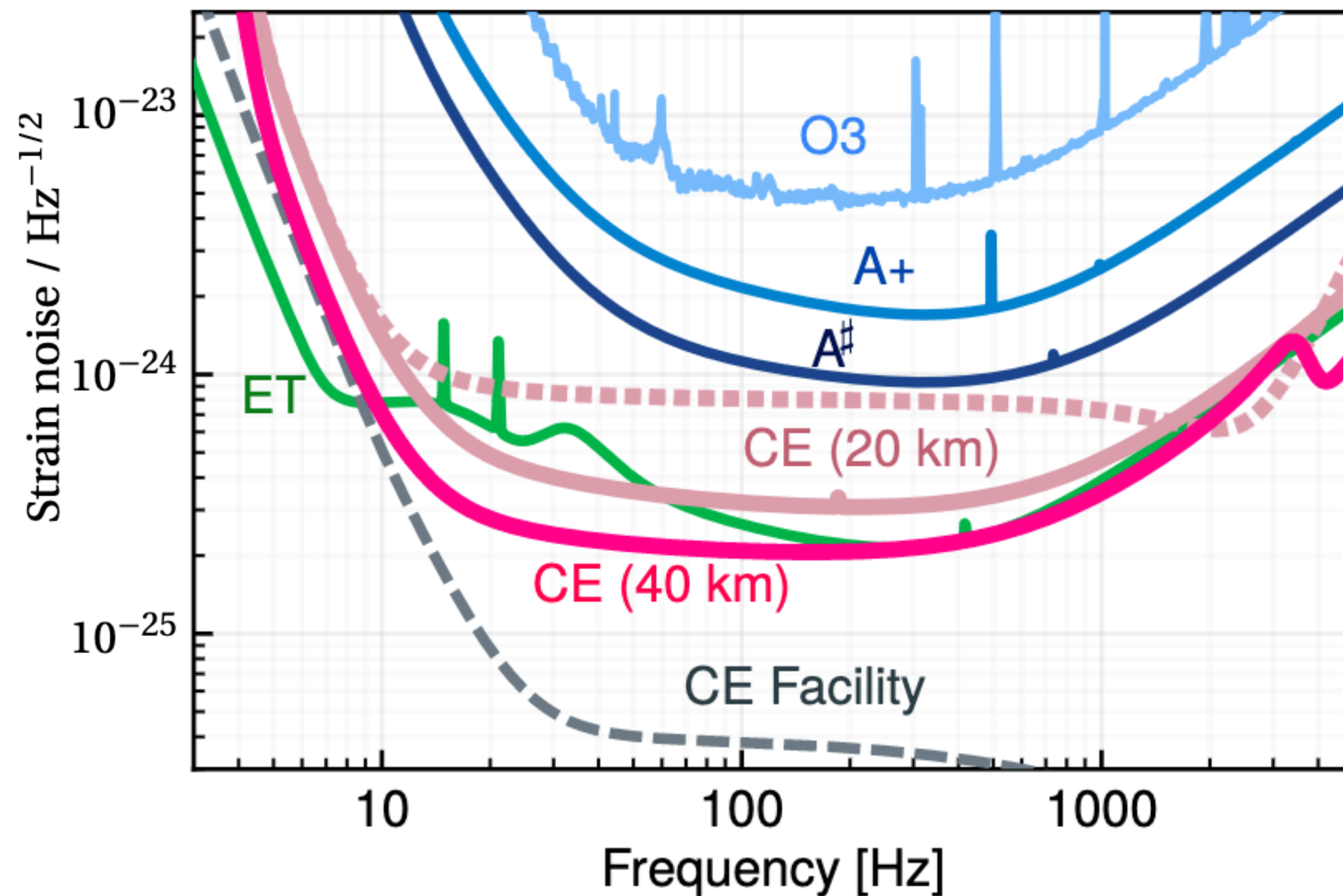
$m_X$ [GeV]	$m_c$ [keV]	$M_{\text{Chand.}}^{\text{dark}}$ [ $10^{-5} M_{\odot}$ ]	$M_{\text{DBH}}$ [ $M_{\odot}$ ]	Rates per year		$m_1 < 1.4$ [%]	$m_1, m_2 < 1.4$ [%]
				aLIGO (full)	Einstein T.		
62	31	33	0.0068 – 0.68	0.020 (2.0)	60 (6000)	100%	100%
48	47	56	0.016 – 1.6	0.11 (11)	330 (33k)	99%	79%
32	70	125	0.054 – 5.4	1.1 (110)	3500 (350k)	53%	9.3%
16	140	500	0.43 – 43	22 (2200)	92k (9200k)	9.8%	0.14%

Fraction of dark matter in Dark Black Holes:  $f_{\text{cool}} \times f_{\text{form. eff.}} = 10^{-5} (10^{-3})$

S. Shandera, D. Jeong, H.Grasshorn Gebhardt (1802.08206, *PRL* **120**, 2018)

Similar results from others (Chang et al, Bramante et al, Fernandez et al)

# Outlook for sub-solar mass searches



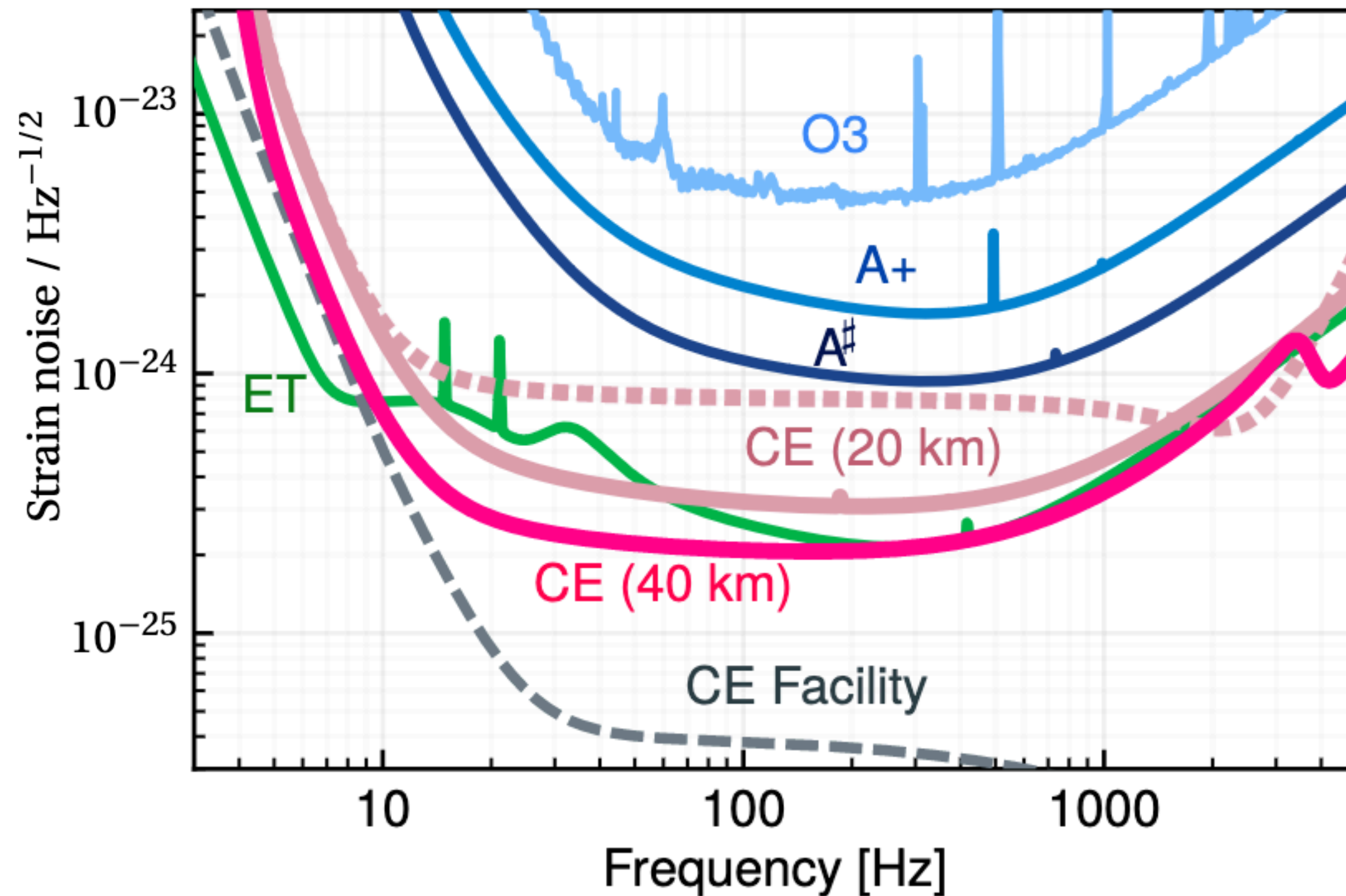
Figures + Projections from 2307.10421

LIGO Observing run 4: O4a May 24, 2023 - Jan 16 2024

LIGO Observing run 4: O4b March 27, 2024 - Nov 2024



# Outlook for sub-solar mass searches



Novel compact  
more generally:

- Ryan and Radice, 2201.05626, dark white dwarfs
- Hippert et al, 2103.01965, dark neutron stars

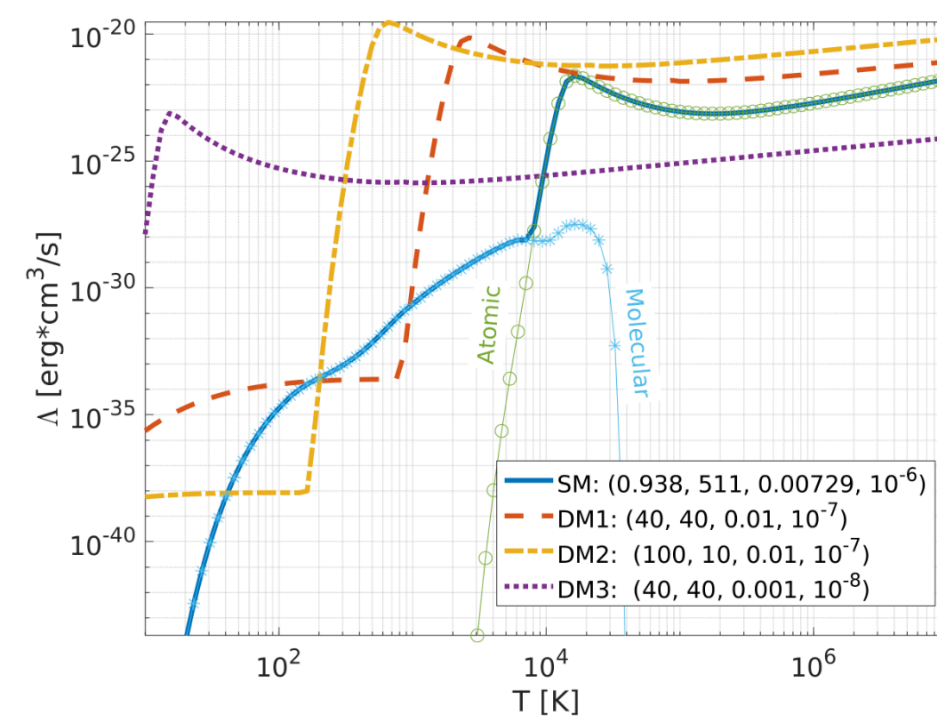
Figures + Projections from 2307.10421

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LIGO Observing run 4: O4b March 27, 2024 - Nov 2024

# What next?

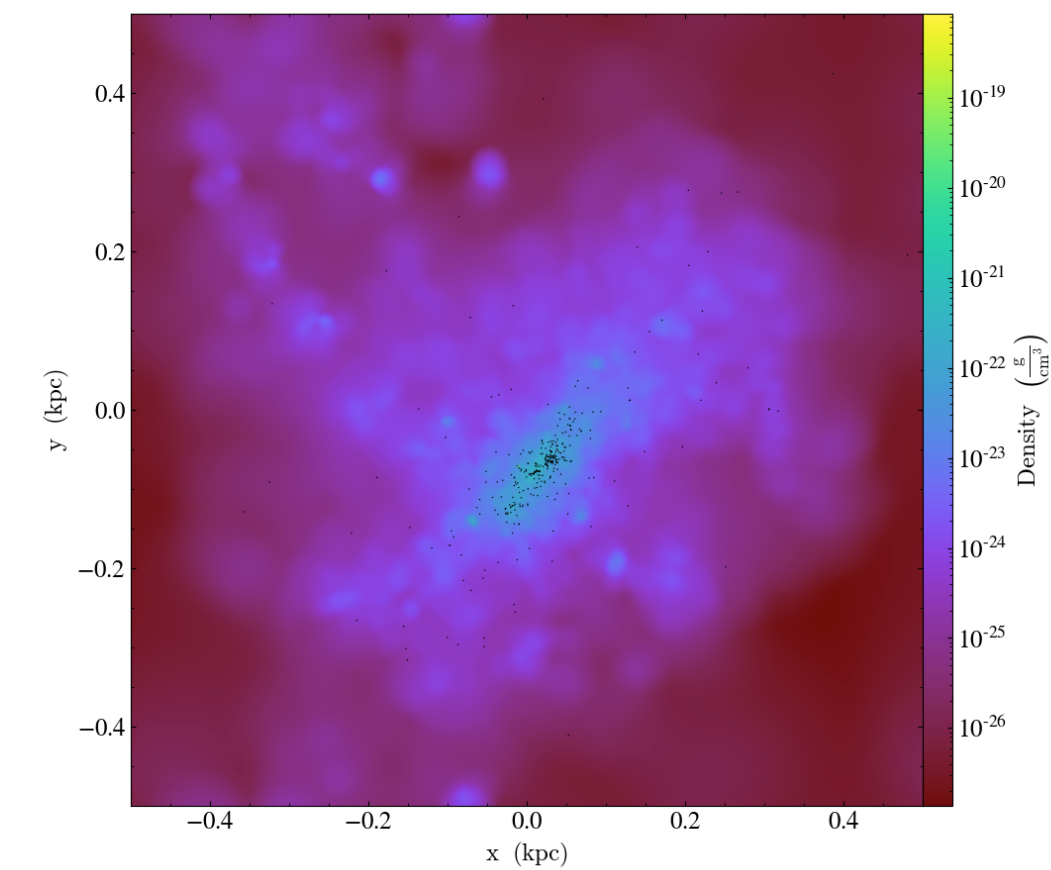
## Particle Physics and Chemistry



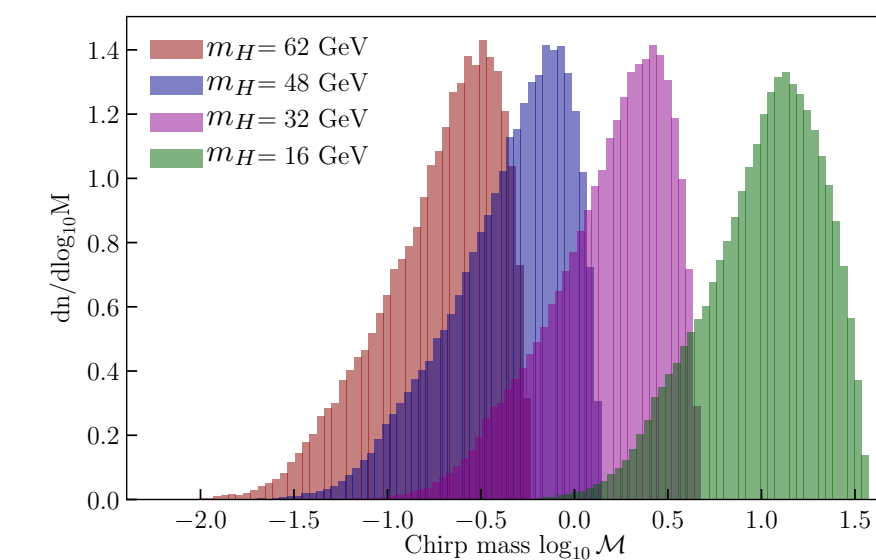
More precisely?



## Structure formation



## Population model for ultracompact objects



# Prior work on atomic dark matter

Goldberg, Hall 1986  
Ackerman et al 0810.5126  
Feng et al 0905.3039  
Kaplan et al 0909.0753, 1105.2073  
Fan et al 1303.1521, 1303.3271  
Cyr-Racine et al 1209.5752, 1310.3278  
Cline, Liu, Moore, Xue, 1311.6468  
Foot, Vagnozzi 1409.7174, etc  
Boddy et al, 1609.03592  
Agrawal et al, 1610.04611  
Ghalsasi and McQuinn, 1712.04779

## Simulation work:

Vogelsberger et al 1805.03203  
Huo et al 1912.06757  
Todoroki et al 1711.11078  
Shen et al, 2102.09580

## Mirror dark matter:

Kobzarev et al, 1966,....more.....,  
Mohapatra, Teplitz 1996 (“Structures in the Mirror Universe”)  
Mohapatra, Teplitz 1999 (“Mirror Matter MACHOs”)  
D’Amico et al, 1707.03419  
Roux and Cline 2001.11504

Atomic physics of this model was known

Detailed rates for atomic processes calculated by Rosenberg and Fan, 1705.10341

Basic argument about cooling: Buckley and DiFranzo, 1707.03829

But molecular physics is crucial for early universe abundances and for understanding cooling

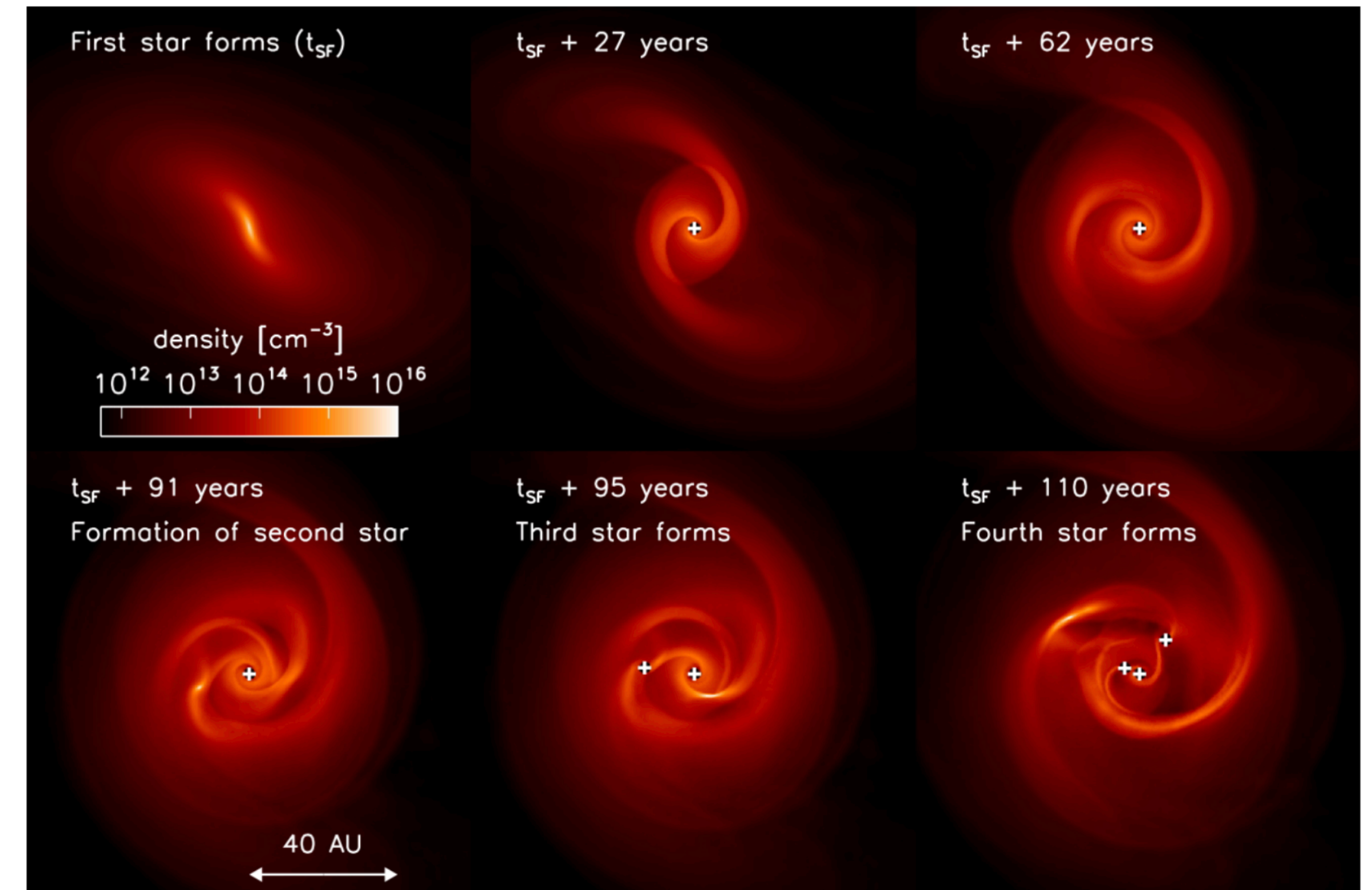
# Why molecular physics?

First stars:

Fragmentation depends on coldest temperature the gas can reach

Standard Model:

- Atomic cooling  $\sim 10^4$  K
- Molecular cooling  $\sim 10^2$  K

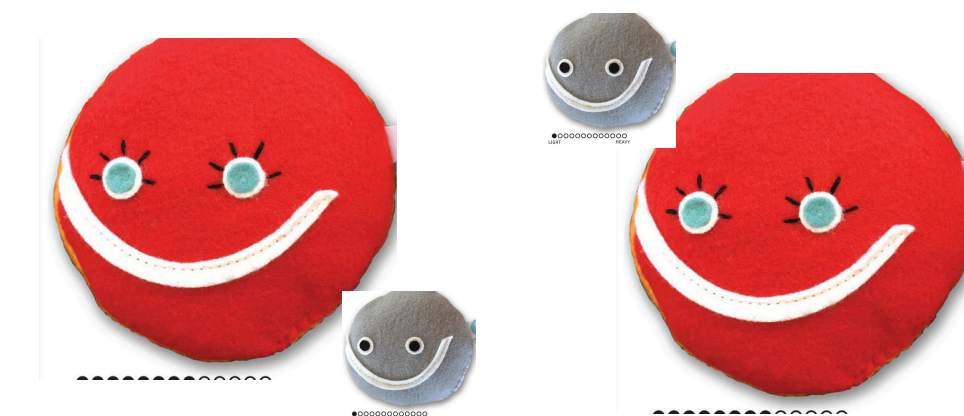


Haemmerlé et al, 2003.10533

# Molecular physics

What do we need to compute gas cooling?

- Molecular energy levels
- Scattering processes



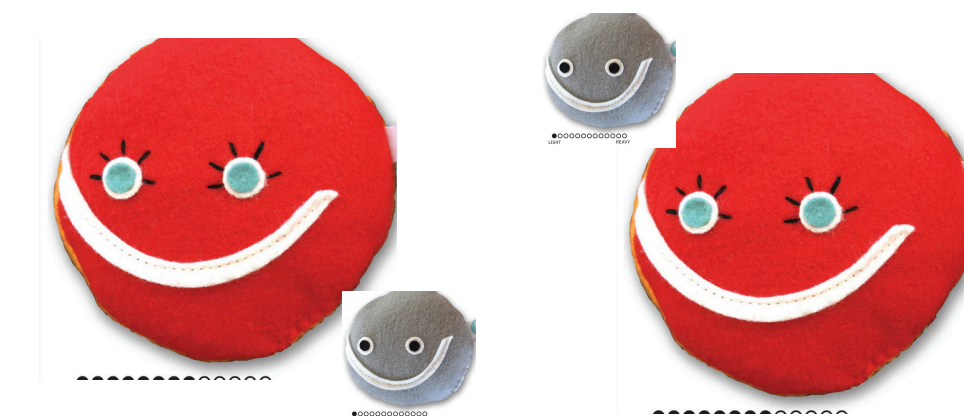
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From first principles: solve the 4-body Schrödinger equation?

$$H\Psi(\mathbf{X}_A, \mathbf{X}_B; \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = E\Psi(\mathbf{X}_A, \mathbf{X}_B; \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)$$



# Molecular physics

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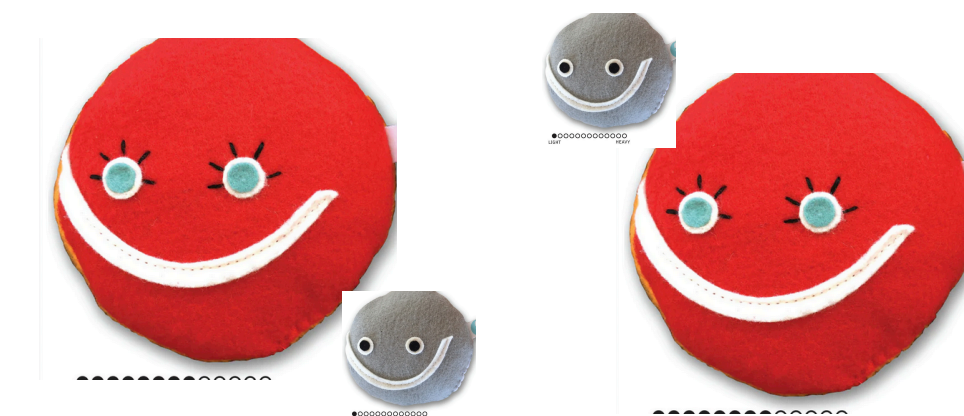
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Easy to write down, hard to solve

$$H = -\frac{1}{2M}(\nabla_A^2 + \nabla_B^2) - \frac{1}{2m}(\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) + \alpha \left( \frac{1}{X_{AB}} + \frac{1}{x_{12}} - \frac{1}{x_{1A}} - \frac{1}{x_{2A}} - \frac{1}{x_{1B}} - \frac{1}{x_{2B}} \right)$$



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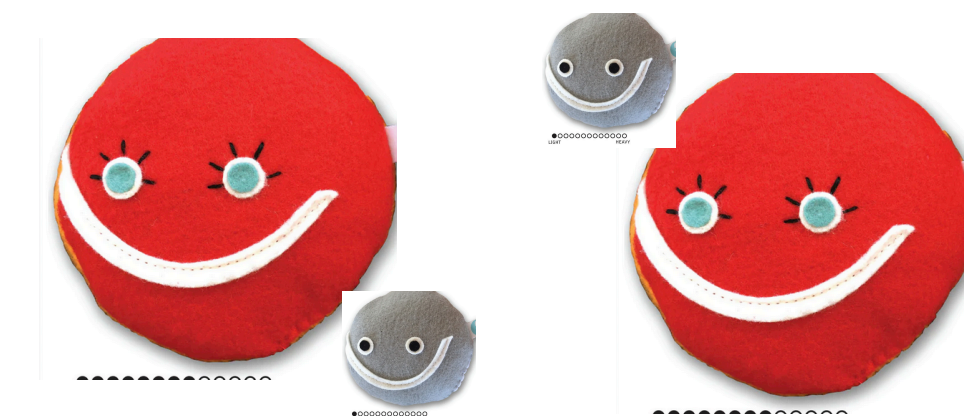
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Relative coords

$$H = -\frac{1}{2M}(\nabla_A^2 + \nabla_B^2) - \frac{1}{2m}(\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) + \alpha \left( \frac{1}{X_{AB}} + \frac{1}{x_{12}} - \frac{1}{x_{1A}} - \frac{1}{x_{2A}} - \frac{1}{x_{1B}} - \frac{1}{x_{2B}} \right)$$





# Molecular physics

Dimensional analysis!

Re-scale known standard model results using

$$r_m = \frac{m}{511 \text{ keV}}, \quad r_M = \frac{M}{0.938 \text{ GeV}}, \quad r_\alpha = \frac{\alpha}{137^{-1}}$$



**James Gurian**



**Michael Ryan**

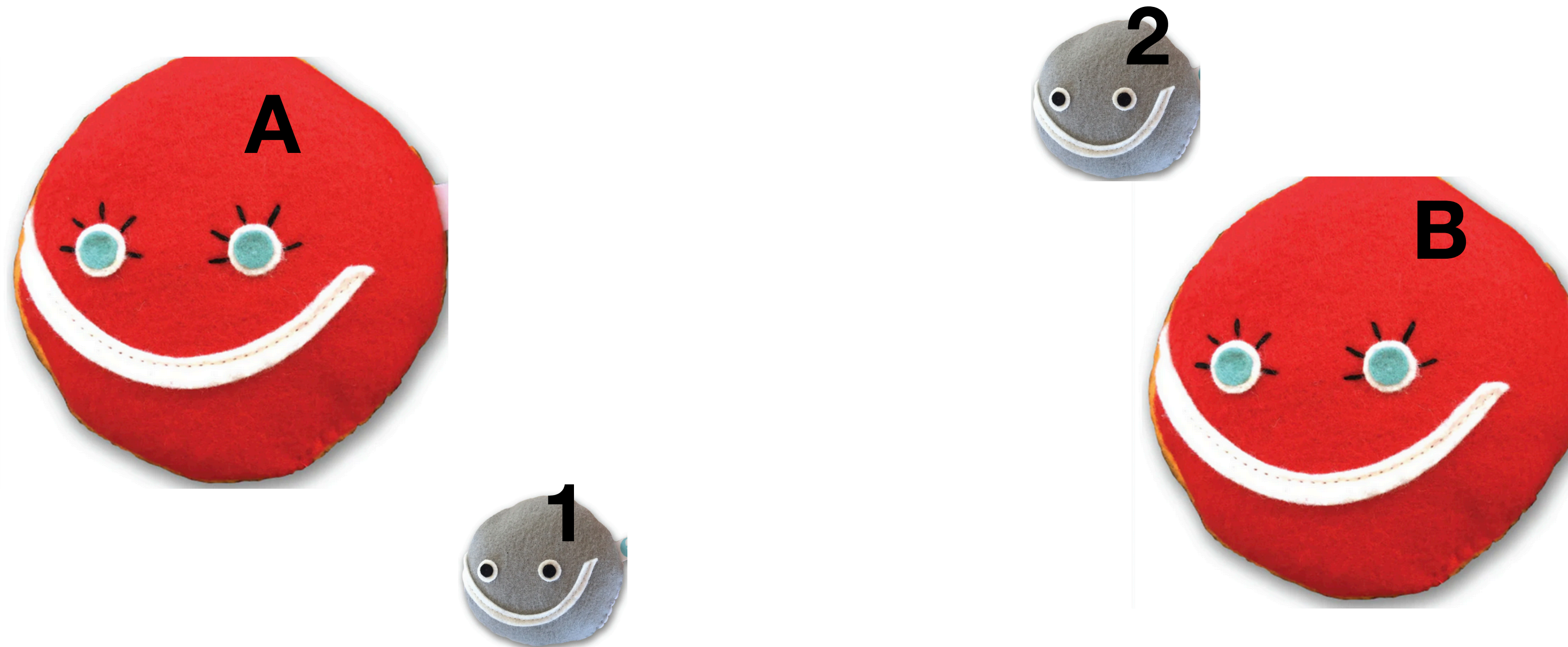
# Solving the dark hydrogen molecule

Steps: look at the analytic steps that worked for usual hydrogen, write everything in terms of key parameters

1. Spell out assumptions
2. Carry out an approximate solution exactly to see relationship between visible and dark cases (re-scaling)
3. Understand how the re-scaling can be applied to more exact (numerical) solutions, with what limitations

# Dark Hydrogen Molecule

$$H = -\frac{1}{2M}(\nabla_A^2 + \nabla_B^2) - \frac{1}{2m}(\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) + \alpha \left( \frac{1}{X_{AB}} + \frac{1}{x_{12}} - \frac{1}{x_{1A}} - \frac{1}{x_{2A}} - \frac{1}{x_{1B}} - \frac{1}{x_{2B}} \right)$$

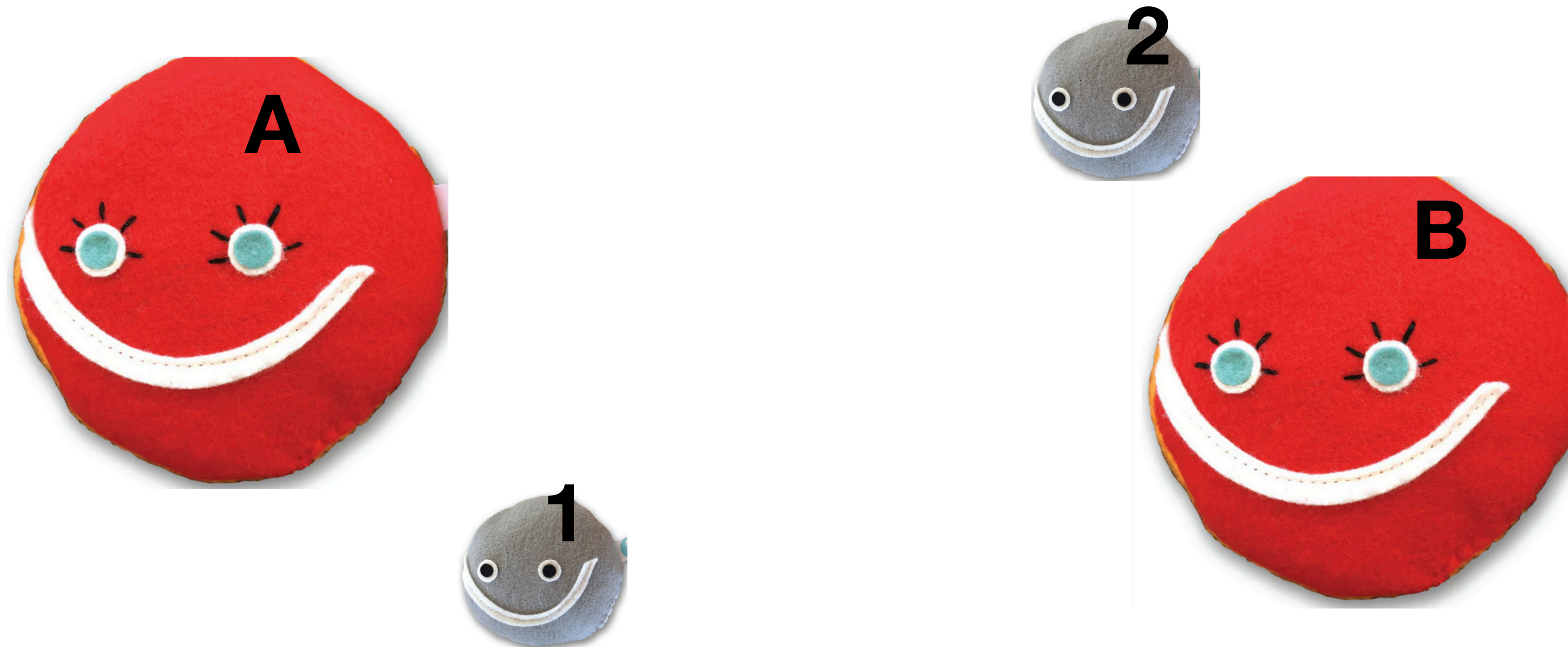


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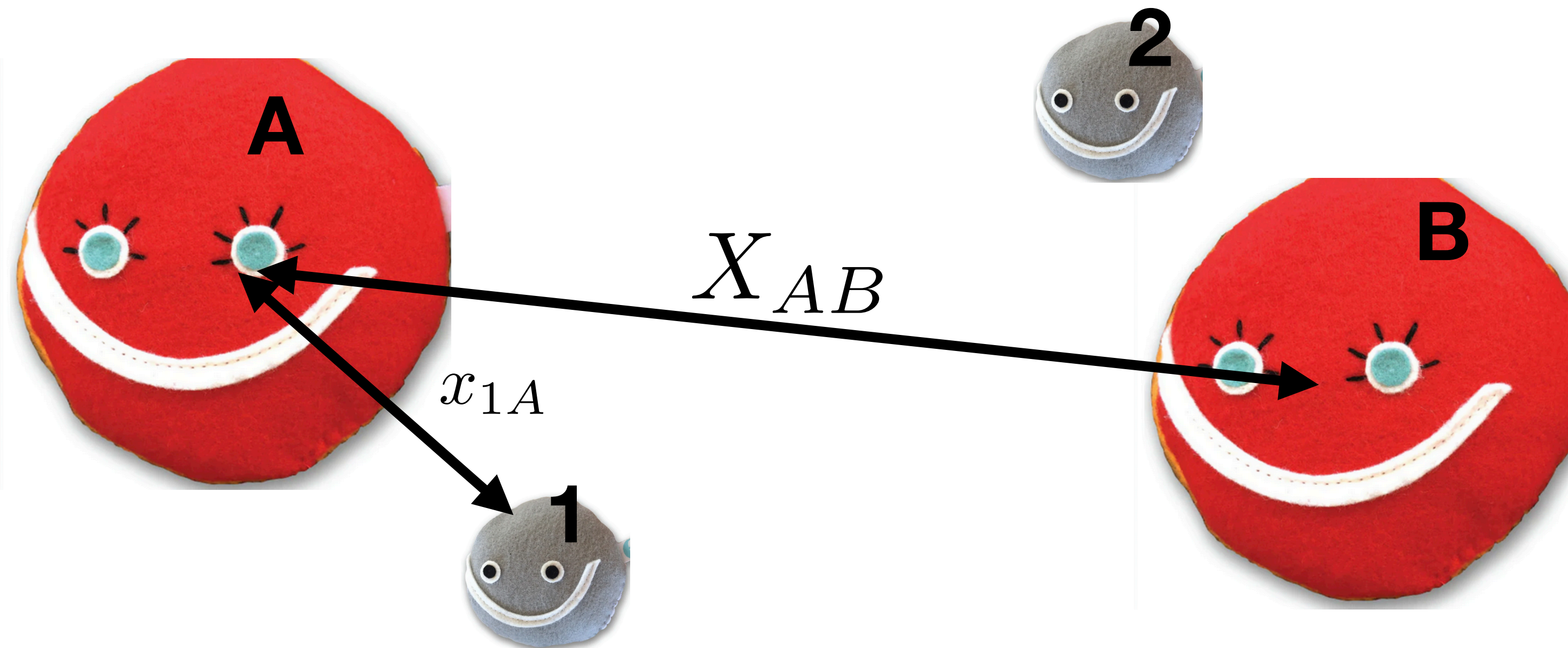


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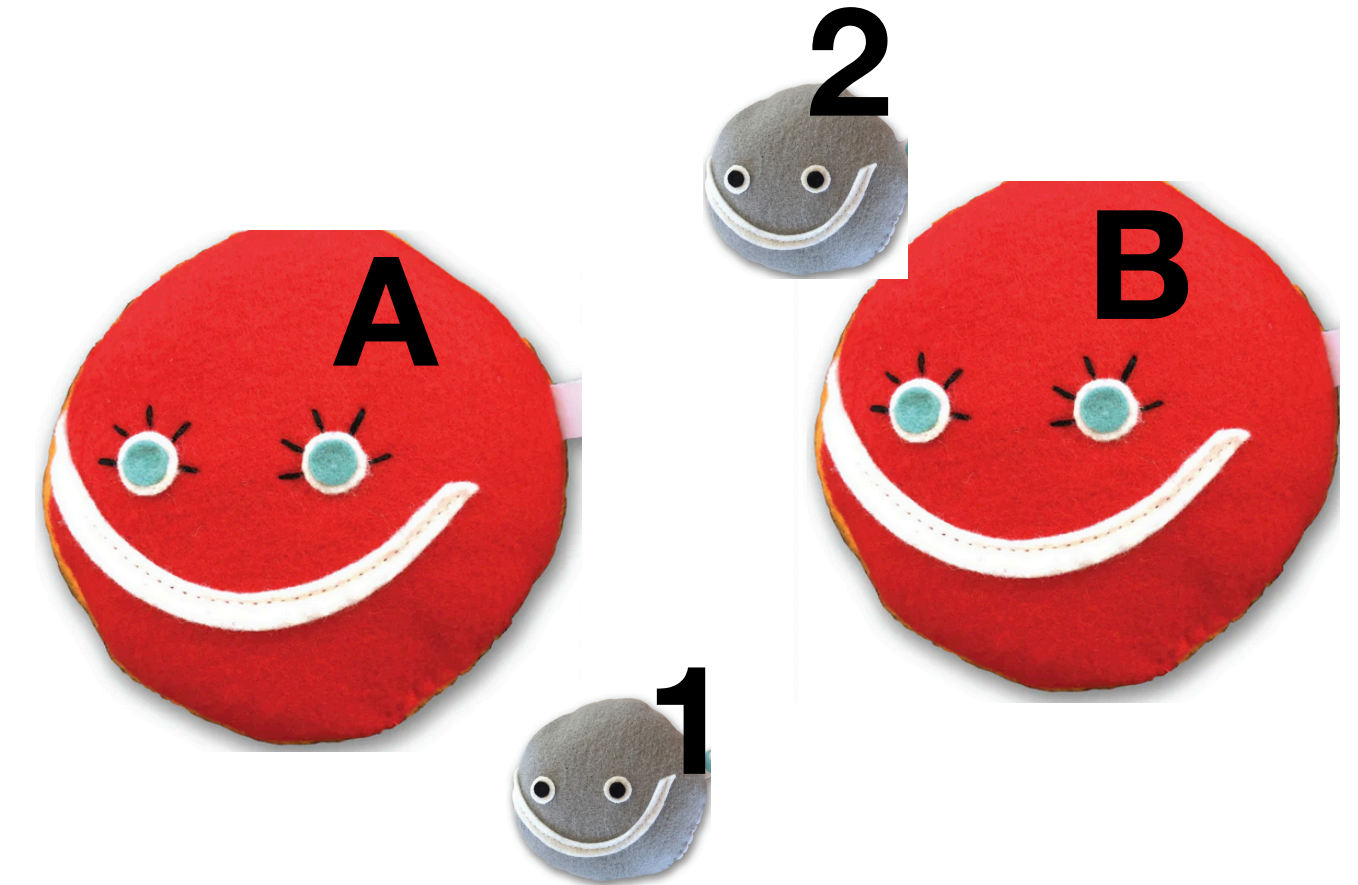
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# Solving the hydrogen molecule

1. For  $M \gg m$ , solve for (dark) electron wave functions, assuming (dark) protons remain stationary (Born-Oppenheimer approximation)



2. An ansatz for the electronic part, consider “Heitler-London”

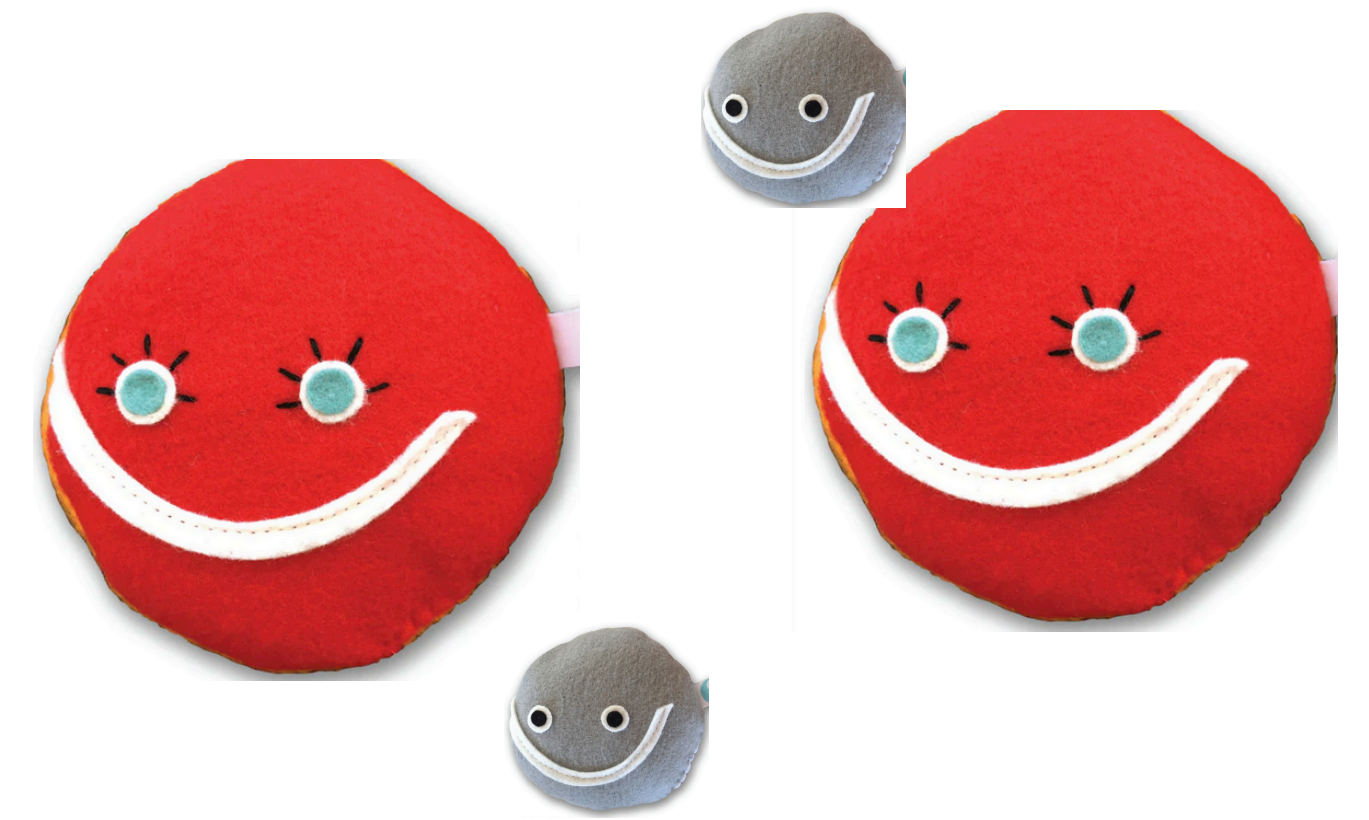
$$\psi_{\text{electronic}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [u_0(x_{1A})u_0(x_{2B}) + u_0(x_{2A})u_0(x_{1B})]$$

Usual hydrogen atom ground state wave function

Only parameter = Bohr radius:  $a_0 = \frac{1}{\alpha m}$

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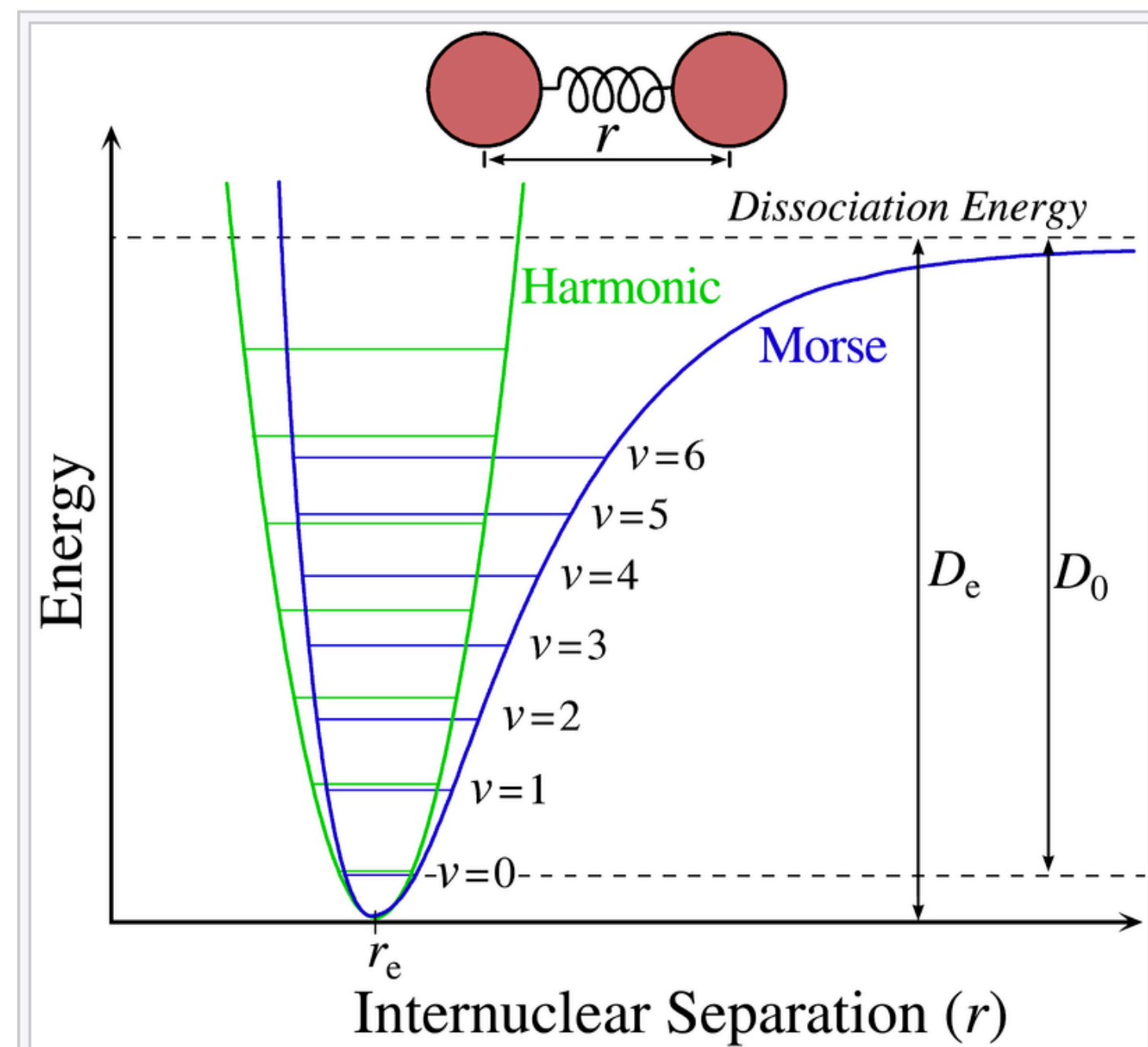


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$$\psi_{\text{electronic}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [u_0(x_{1A})u_0(x_{2B}) + u_0(x_{2A})u_0(x_{1B})]$$

# Solving the hydrogen molecule

With that ansatz, we have an effective potential for the dark “proton” pair: (nearly) the Morse potential



$$V_{\text{Morse}}(X_{AB}) = V_0 \left[ e^{-2(X_{AB} - X_0)/b} - 2e^{-(X_{AB} - X_0)/b} \right]$$

$$V_0 \propto \frac{\alpha}{a_0} \propto m\alpha^2$$

$$X_0 \propto a_0$$

**Separation at min of potential**

$$b \propto a_0$$

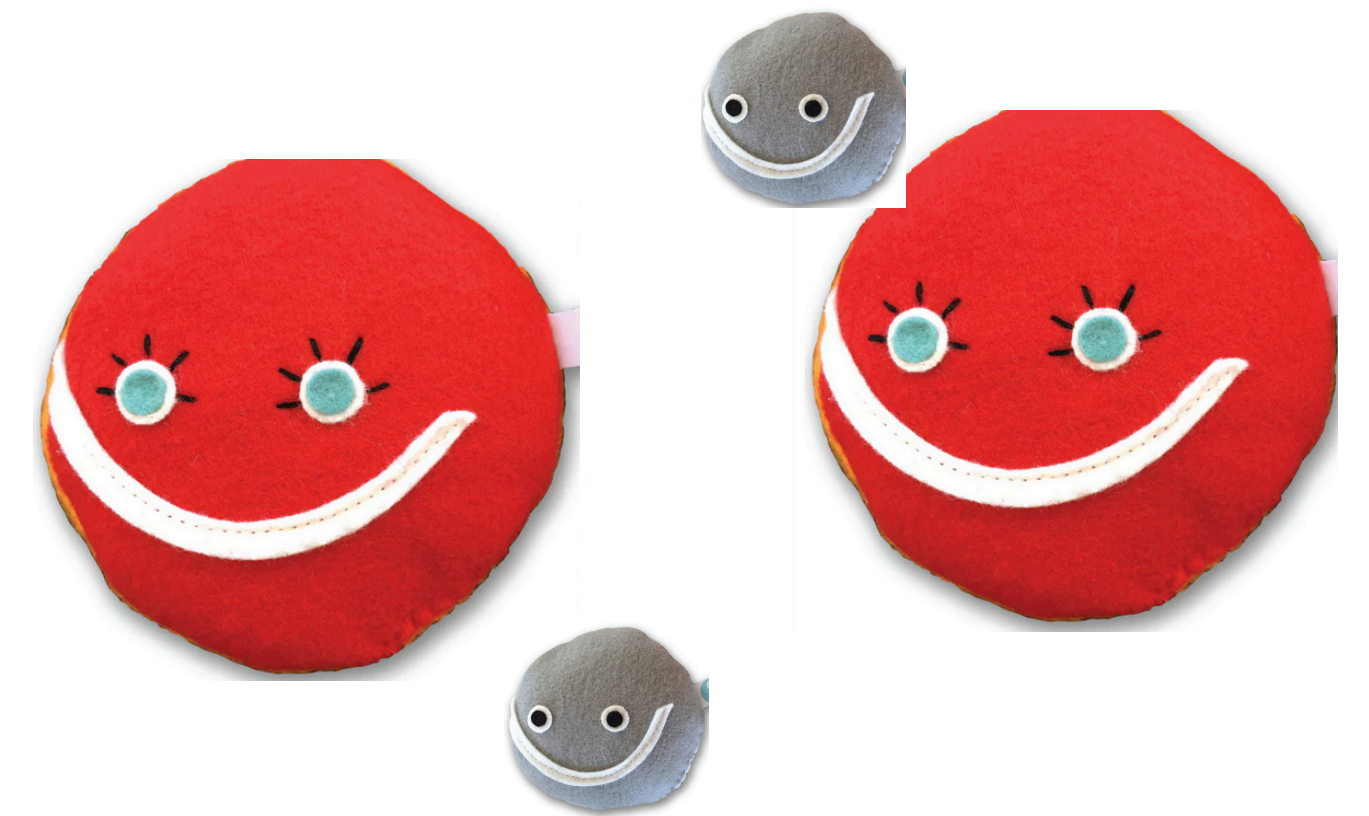


# Solving the hydrogen molecule

The energy levels of the Morse potential can be calculated exactly

$$E_{\text{rot},J} = \frac{J(J+1)}{MX_0^2}$$

$$E_{\text{vib},\nu} = -V_0 \left( 1 - \frac{\nu + \frac{1}{2}}{b\sqrt{2MV_0}} \right)^2$$

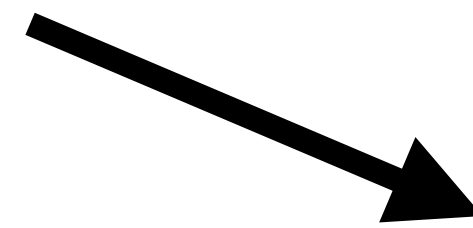


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We don't have to re-solve this whole thing if the parameters change

$$E_{\text{mol. vib}} = \left[ \frac{r_\alpha^2 r_m^{3/2}}{r_M^{1/2}} \right] E_{\text{mol. vib, SM}}$$

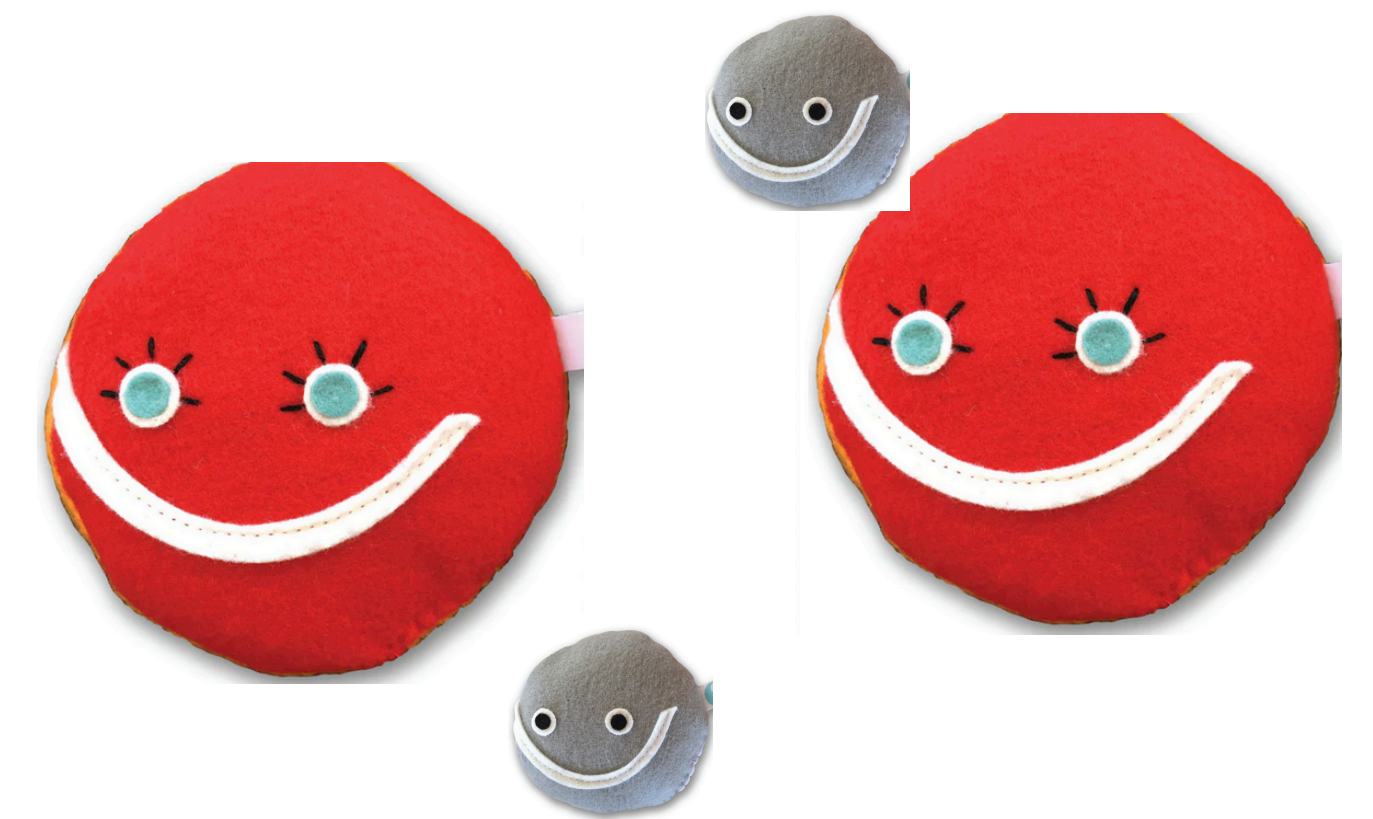
$$E_{\text{mol. rot}} = \left[ \frac{r_\alpha^2 r_m^2}{r_M} \right] E_{\text{mol. rot, SM}}$$



# Solving the hydrogen molecule

How to do better?

Get a better ansatz for the electronic wave-function. Work harder to solve for the energy levels (James-Coolidge, eg).

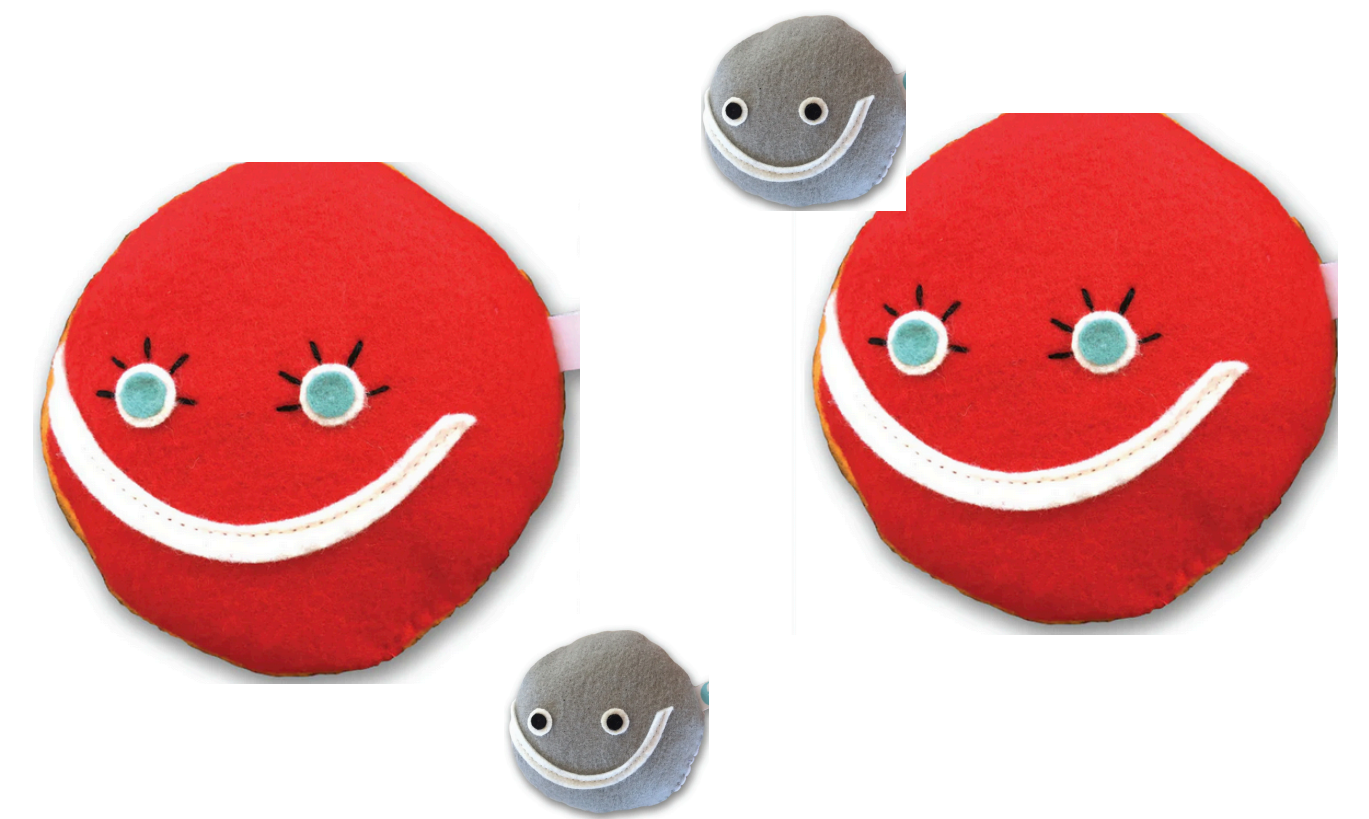


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The more sophisticated versions of this do not introduce any additional physical scales, so....



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$$E_{\text{mol. rot}} = \left[ \frac{r_{\alpha}^2 r_m^2}{r_M} \right] E_{\text{mol. rot, SM}}$$

# What else do we need?

To understand cooling, we need:

- Energy states available and their populations
- Transition probabilities
- Abundances of all species: reaction rates

$$C = \sum_u n_u \sum_{l < u} A_{ul} \Delta E_{ul},$$

# Molecular properties

For  $m \ll M$ , leading order re-scaling can be calculated:

Quantity	Dependence	Re-scaling
$a_0$ (Bohr radius)	$\frac{1}{\alpha m}$	$r_\alpha^{-1} r_m^{-1}$
$E_H$ (atomic energy level spacing)	$m \alpha^2$	$r_\alpha^2 r_m$
$E_{\text{rot}}$ (Molecular rotational energy)	$\frac{\alpha^2 m^2}{M}$	$r_\alpha^2 r_m^2 r_M^{-1}$
$E_{\text{vib}}$ (Molecular vibrational energy)	$\frac{\alpha^2 m^{3/2}}{M^{1/2}}$	$r_\alpha^2 r_m^{3/2} r_M^{-1/2}$
$\mathbf{d}$ (dipole moment)	0	0
$A_{\text{rot}}$ (quadrupolar rotational Einstein coefficient)	$\frac{\alpha^7 m^6}{M^5}$	$r_\alpha^7 r_m^6 r_M^{-5}$
$A_{\text{vib}}$ (quadrupolar vibrational Einstein coefficient)	$\frac{\alpha^7 m^{7/2}}{M^{5/2}}$	$r_\alpha^7 r_m^{7/2} r_M^{-5/2}$
$p_{ij}$ (polarizability)	$a_0^3 = \frac{1}{m^3 \alpha^3}$	$r_\alpha^{-3} r_m^{-3}$

The same re-scaling can be applied to more exact numerical results for standard model hydrogen.



# Re-scaling a rate

$$\gamma_{J,J+2} = \langle \sigma v \rangle_{J \rightarrow J+2}$$

$$\gamma_{J,J-2,\text{DM}}^{\text{H}(\text{H}_2)}(T) = [r_\alpha^{-1} r_m^{-1} r_M^{-1}] \gamma_{J,J-2,\text{SM}}^{\text{H}(\text{H}_2)}(\tilde{T}_r),$$

$$\tilde{T}_r \equiv \left( \frac{r_M}{r_m^2 r_\alpha^2} \right) T,$$

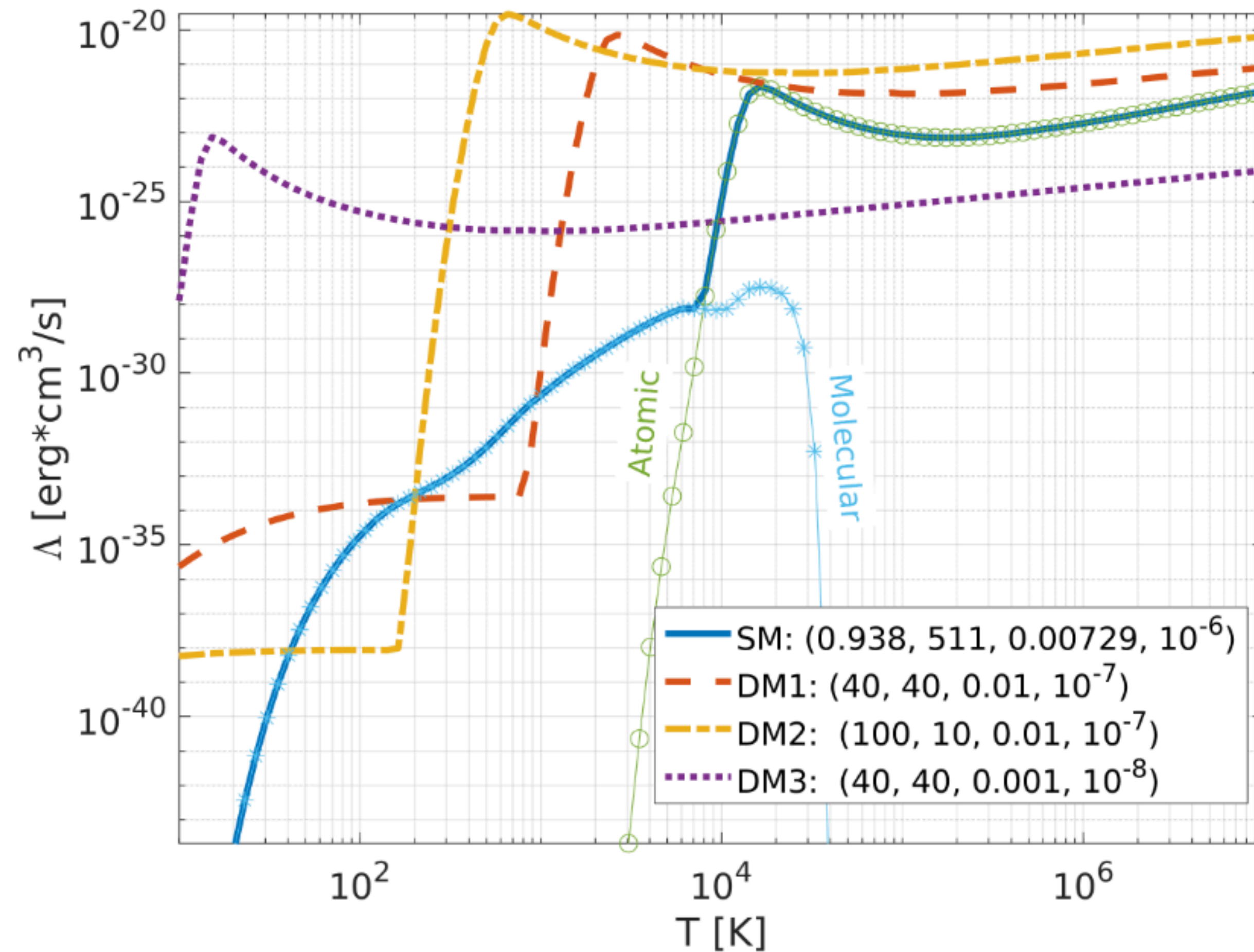
# Important reaction rates

#	Reaction	Cross section source	$\sigma$	Re-scaling pre-factor $g(r_\alpha, r_m, r_M)$	b	Additional notes
1	$p + e \rightarrow H + \gamma$ (4.2)	Mo et al. (2010)	$\frac{\alpha^5}{K.E. (K.E. + \Delta E)}$	$r_\alpha^2 r_m^{-2}$	-0.62, -1.15	a, b
2	$H + \gamma \rightarrow p + e$ (4.2)	Mo et al. (2010)	$\mu \alpha^5 \frac{1}{(K.E. + \Delta E)^3}$	$r_\alpha^5 r_m$	0.88, 0.35	c
3	$H + e \rightarrow H^- + \gamma$ (4.3)	de Jong (1972)	$\frac{\alpha}{\mu^2} \frac{\Delta E^{1/2} K.E.^{1/2}}{(K.E. + \Delta E)}$	$r_\alpha^2 r_m^{-2}$	0.928	a, d
4	$H^- + \gamma \rightarrow H + e$	Armstrong (1963)	$\frac{\alpha}{\mu} \frac{\Delta E^{1/2} K^{3/2}}{(K.E. + \Delta E)^3}$	$r_\alpha^5 r_m$	2.13	c, d
5	$H^- + H \rightarrow H_2 + e$	Browne & Dalgarno (1969)	$\sqrt{\frac{\alpha a_0^3}{K.E.}}$	$r_\alpha^{-1} r_m^{-3/2} r_M^{-1/2}$	0	e, f, g
7	$H^- + p \rightarrow 2H$ (4.4)	Bates & Lewis (1955)	$\alpha a_0^2 \sqrt{\mu} \frac{\sqrt{K.E. + \Delta E}}{K.E. \Delta E}$	$r_\alpha^{-3} r_m^{-3}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	e, h
8	$H + p \rightarrow H_2^+ + \gamma$	Stancil et al. (1993)	$\frac{(K.E. + \Delta E)^3 \alpha^4}{E_H^3 K.E.^{3/2} M^{1/2}}$	$r_\alpha^2 r_m^{-1} r_M^{-1}$	1.8	i
9	$H_2^+ + \gamma \rightarrow H + p$	Stancil et al. (1993)	$\left(\frac{\mu v}{h \nu}\right)^2 \frac{(K.E. + \Delta E)^3 \alpha^4}{E_H^3 K.E.^{3/2} M^{1/2}}$	$r_\alpha^5 r_m^{1/2} r_M^{1/2}$	1.59	c, j
10	$H_2^+ + H \rightarrow H_2 + p$ (4.5)	Galli & Palla (1998)	$\sqrt{\frac{\alpha a_0^3}{K.E.}}$	$r_\alpha^{-1} r_m^{-3/2} r_M^{-1/2}$	0	g
13	$H_2^+ + H_2 \rightarrow H_3^+ + H$	—"	—"	—"	0	g
15	$H_2 + p \rightarrow H_2^+ + H$ (4.5)	—"	—"	—"	0	g, j
20	$H_3^+ + e \rightarrow H + H_2$	Draine (2011)	$\frac{\alpha a_0}{K.E.}$	$r_\alpha^{-1} r_m^{-2} r_M$	-0.65	k
*	$H_2 + H \rightarrow 3H$ (4.6)	Hard Sphere	$a_0^2$	$r_\alpha^{-1} r_m^{-3/2} r_M^{-1/2}$	0	l
3B1	$3H \rightarrow H_2 + H$ (4.7)	Hard Sphere/Detailed Balance	$a_0^2 \left[ \frac{n_{H_2}}{n_H^2} \right]_{LTE}$	$r_\alpha^{-4} r_m^{-4} r_M^{-1}$	-1	j, m
3B2	$H_2 + 2H \rightarrow 2H_2$ (4.7)	—"	—"	—"	-1	j, m
3B3	$2H + H^+ \rightarrow H_2 + H^+$ (4.7)	—"	—"	—"	-1	j, m
3B4	$2H + H^+ \rightarrow H_2^+ + H$ (4.7)	—"	—"	—"	-1	j, m

$$\gamma = \langle \sigma v \rangle \propto g(r_\alpha, r_m, r_M) \left( \frac{T}{r_{\Delta E}} \right)^b$$

(But choose your favorite modern reaction rate for a more precise rate)

# Atomic + molecular cooling rates



Legend: ( $M$ [GeV],  $m$ [keV],  $\alpha$ ,  $x_{H_2}$ )

**Now we can revisit how atomic dark matter cools, how structure forms**

# DarkKROME

Solve the chemical network for atomic dark matter

One-zone collapse  
(free-fall)

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \frac{\rho}{t_{ff}}$$

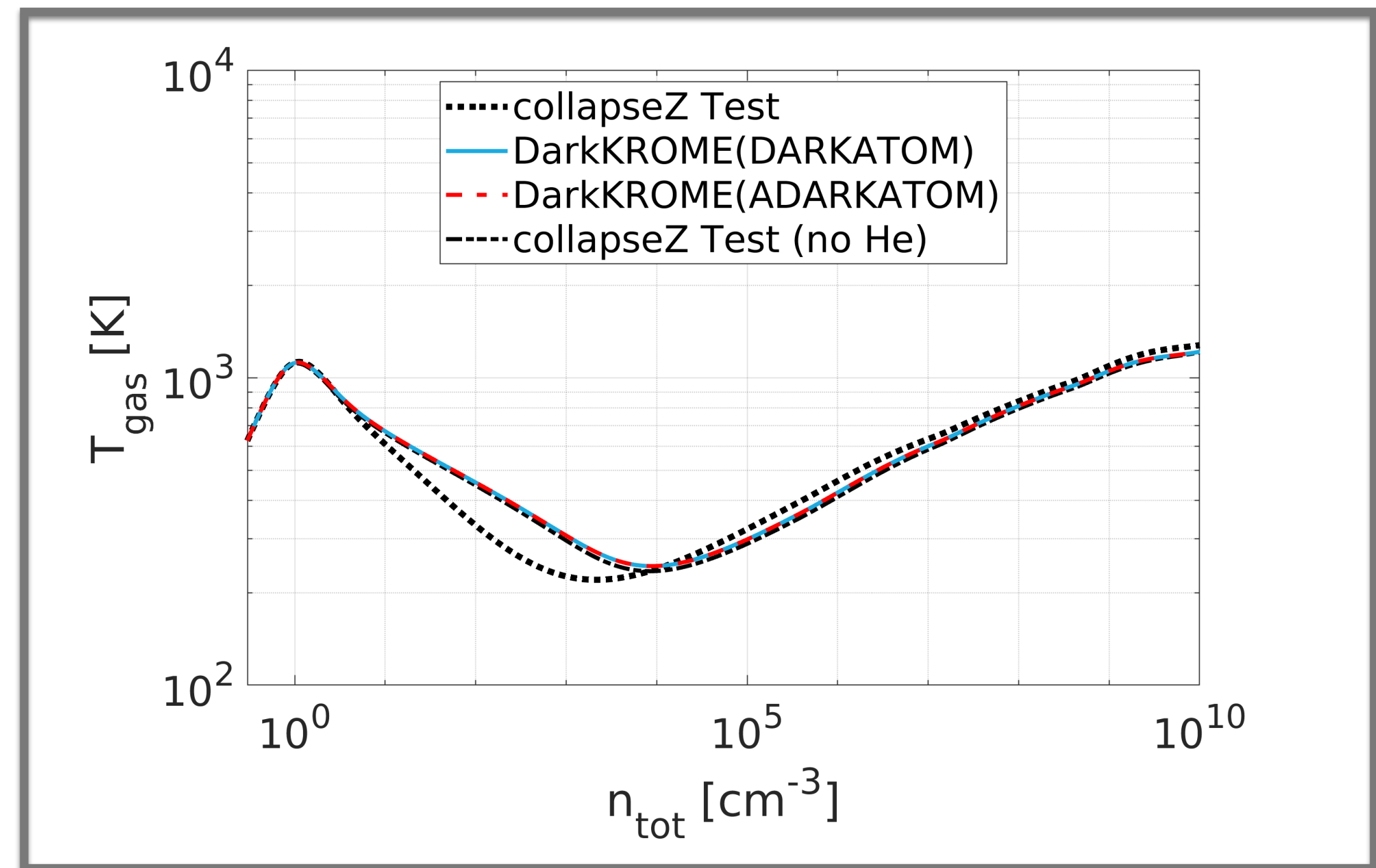
$$\frac{dT}{dt} = (\gamma - 1) \frac{\Gamma(T, \bar{n}) - \Lambda(T, \bar{n})}{k_B \sum_i n_i}$$

KROME: Grassi et al, 1311.1070 ([kromepackage.org](http://kromepackage.org))

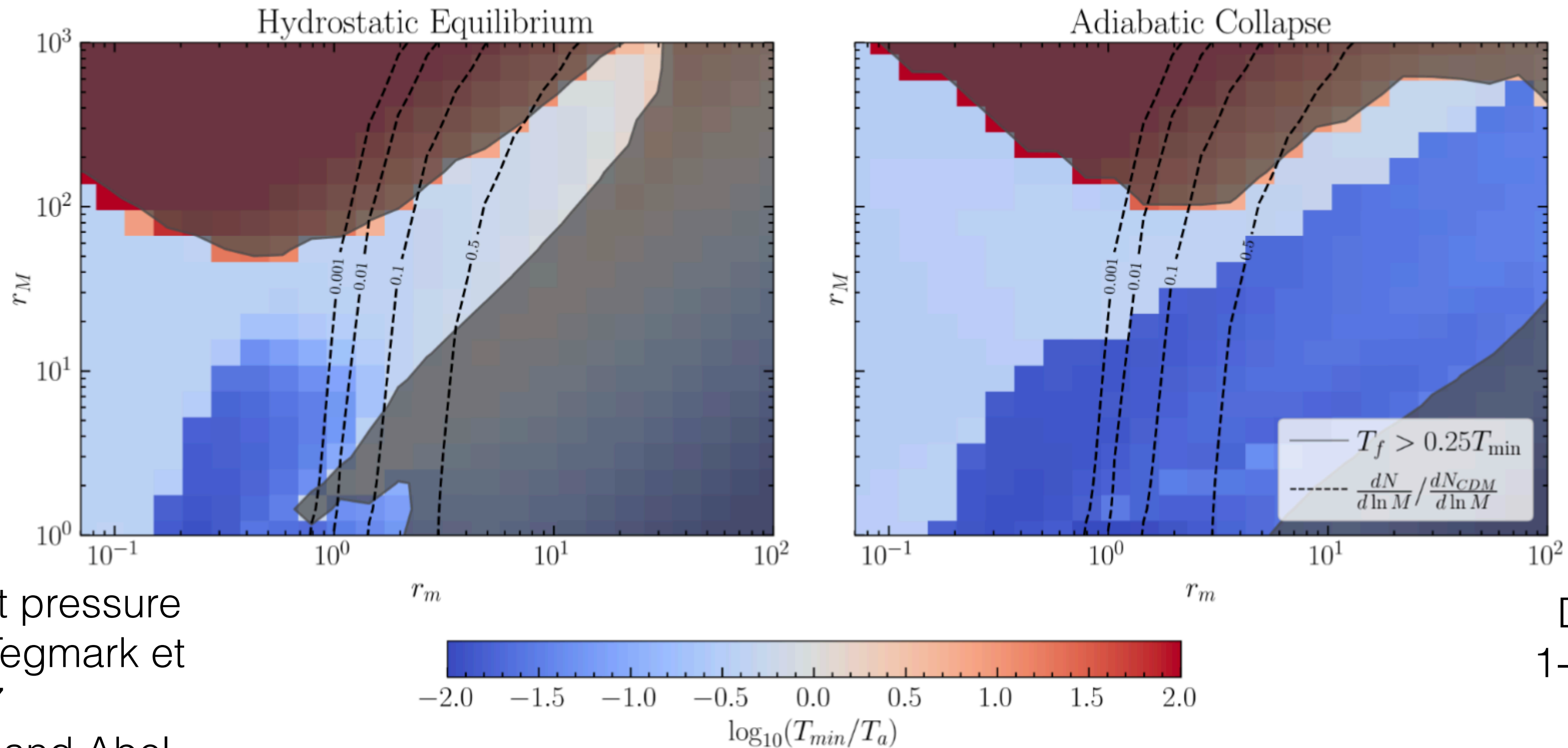
Molecular, atomic abundances: J. Gurian, M. Ryan, D. Jeong, S. Shandera, 2110.11964

Homogeneous cosmology of the early universe (Recfast ++)  
(<https://github.com/jamesgurian/RecfastJulia>)

DarkKROME: <https://bitbucket.org/mtryan83/darkkrome>  
2110.11971 (M. Ryan, S. Shandera, J. Gurian, D. Jeong)



# Minimum temperature dark matter can reach?



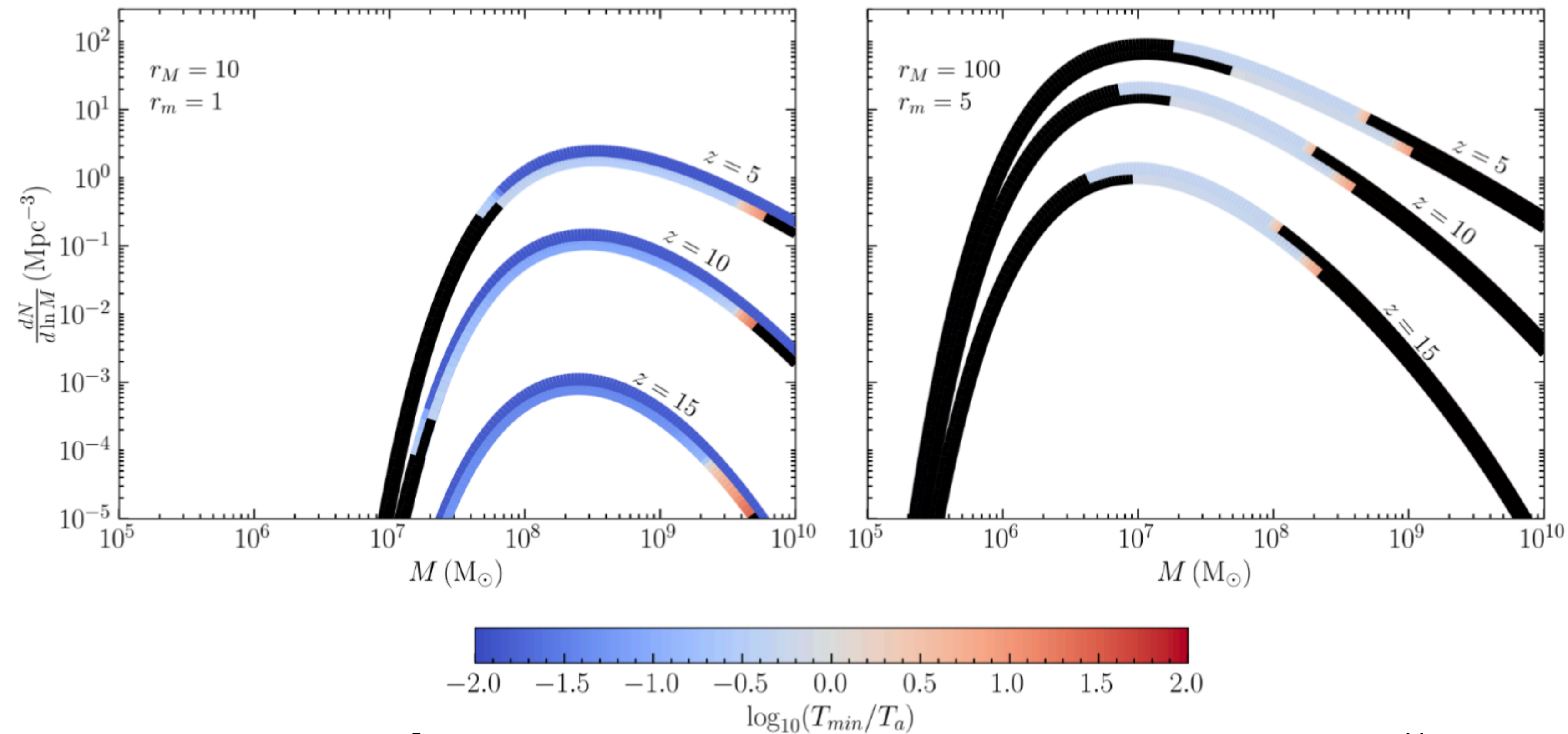
Maintain constant pressure  
(technique from Tegmark et  
al, 1997

ApJ 474; Glover and Abel  
2008)

Dark KROME  
1-zone collapse

$$10^8 M_{\odot}, z = 10, r_{\alpha} = 1, \xi = 3 \times 10^{-5}$$

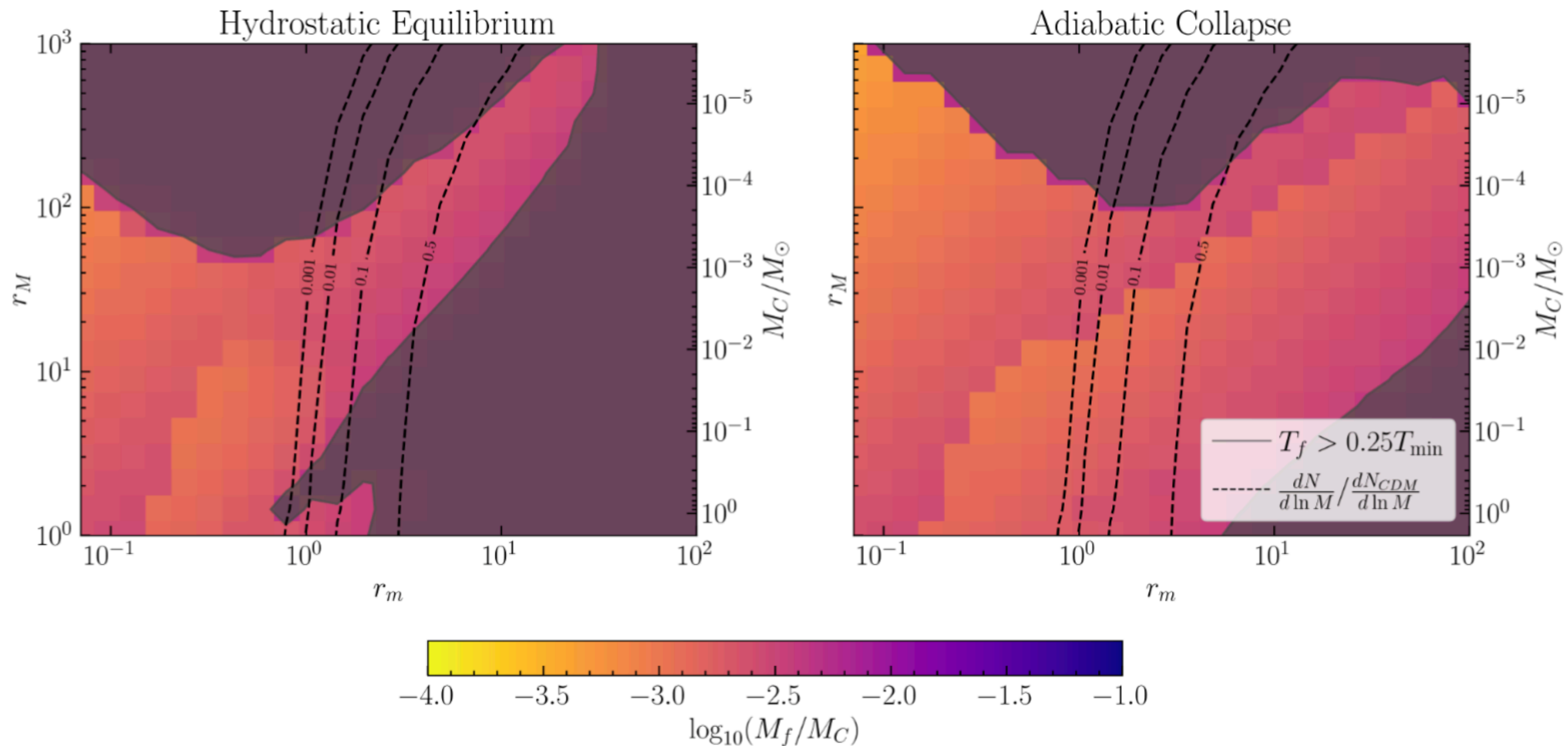
# How much dark matter can cool?



$$10^8 M_\odot, z = 10, r_\alpha = 1, \xi = 3 \times 10^{-5}$$

**Figure 2.** The halo mass function for two representative choices of parameters (see Fig. 1). The bottom color band of each curve indicates the minimum temperature of those halos which collapse under hydrostatic evolution, while the top band illustrates the adiabatic density case. The black region fails to cool.

# Fragmentation



$$10^8 M_\odot, z = 10, r_\alpha = 1, \xi = 3 \times 10^{-5}$$

Opacity limit fragment mass  
 Accretion significantly adds to protostar mass

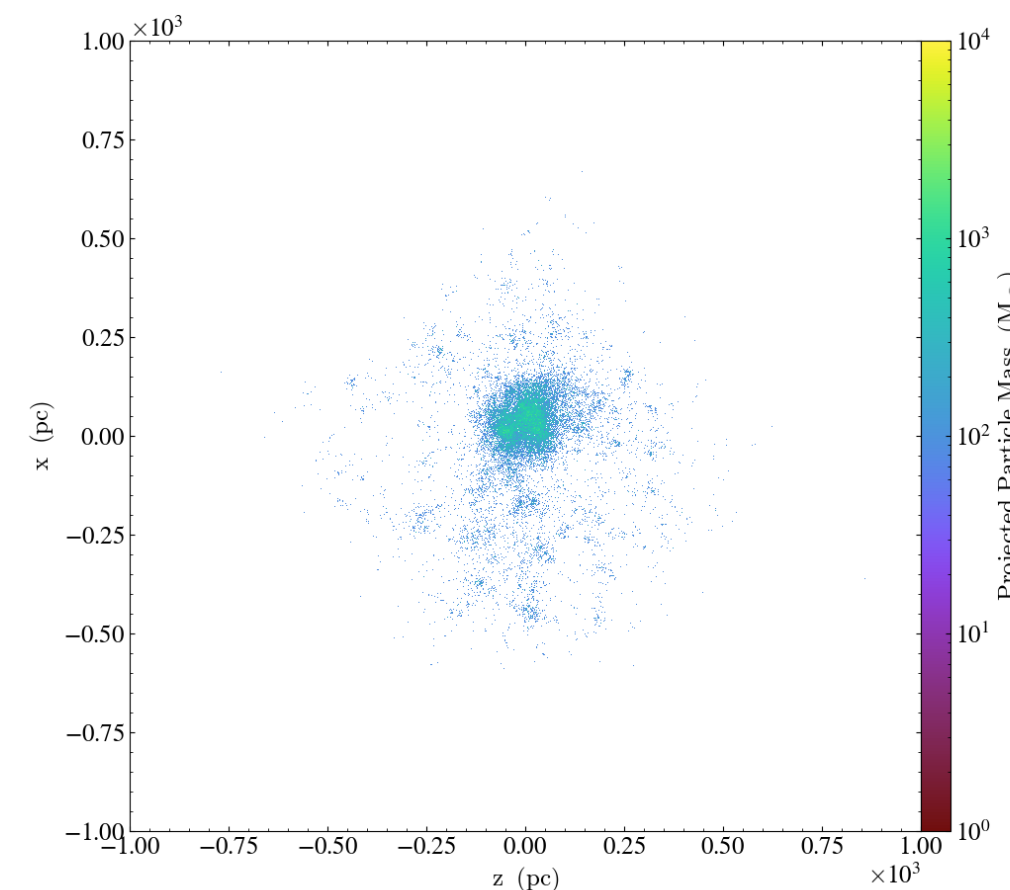


# Next steps: full simulations

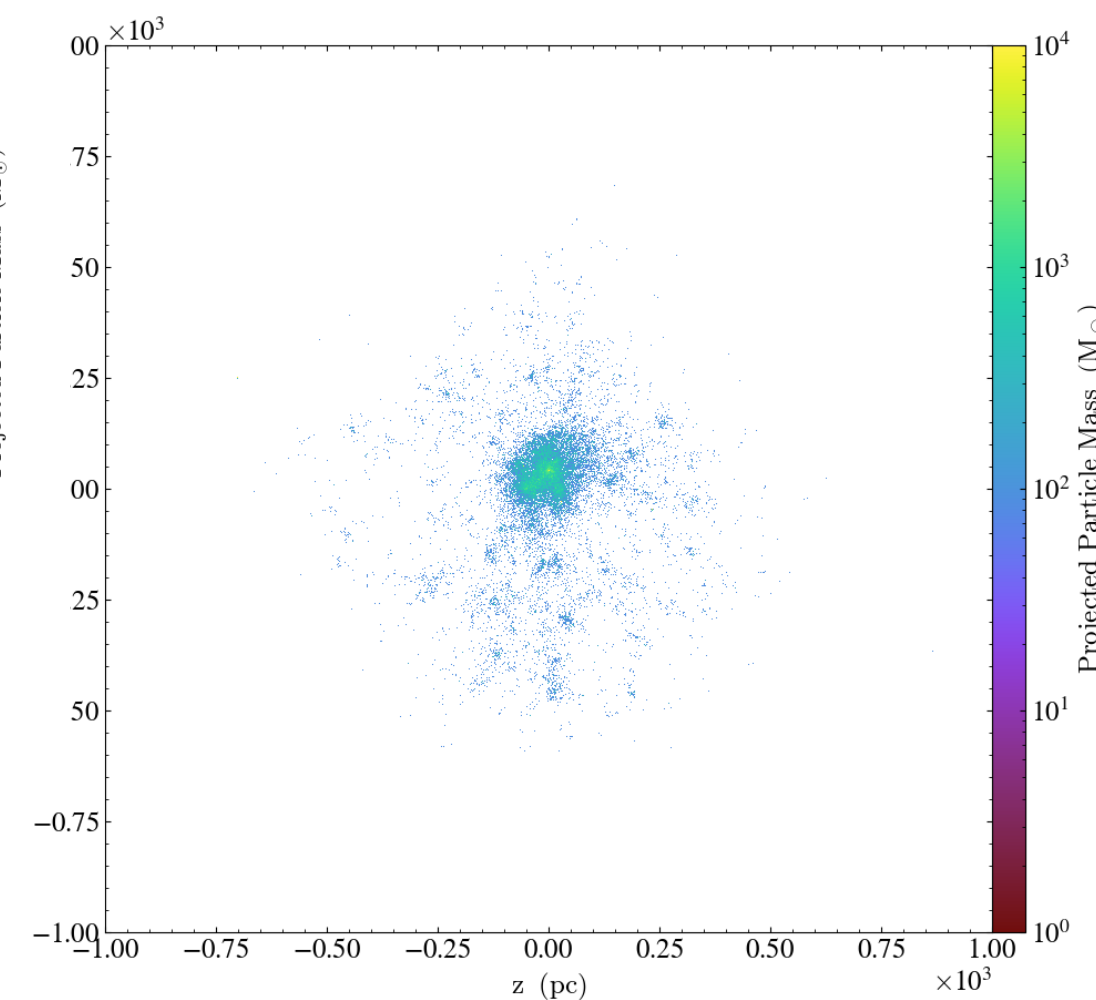
We have added DarkKROME to (modified) Gizmo: *hydrodynamical* atomic dark matter halo



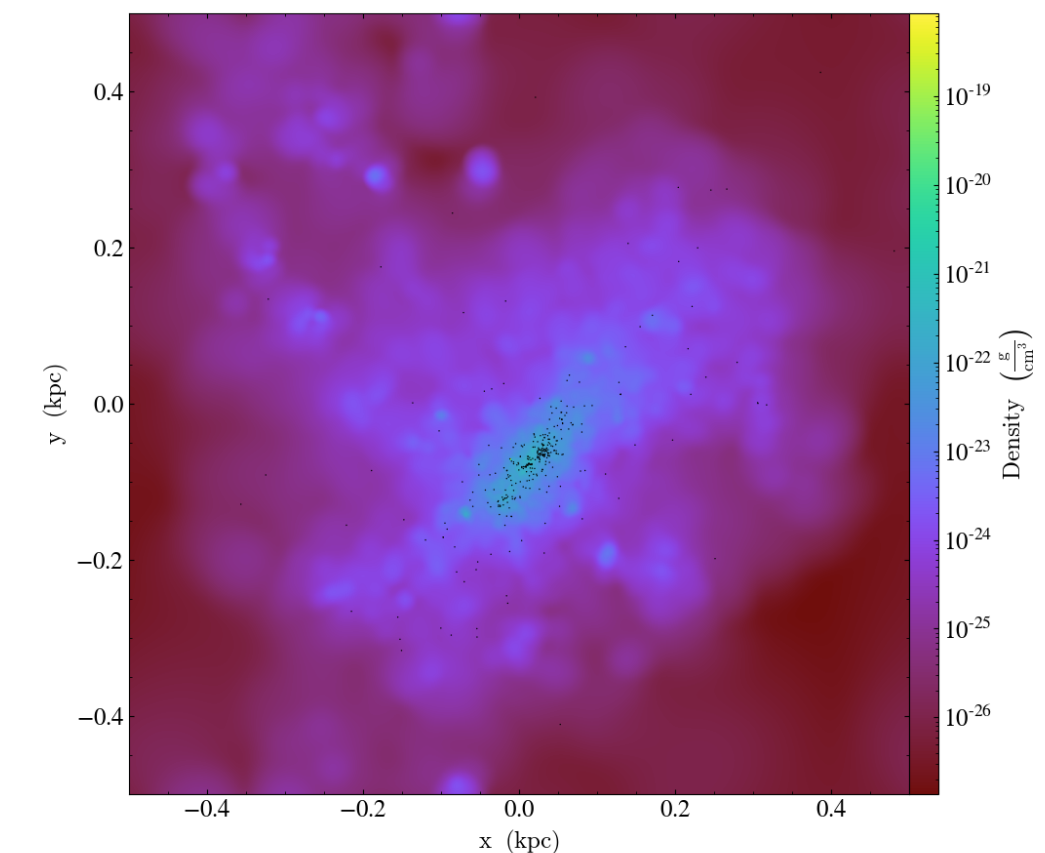
Simulations:  
Sarah Schon



Cold dark matter



~ atomic dark matter



~ aDM proto-objects

Gizmo: P. Hopkins

Also: Roy, Shen, Lisanti, Curtin, Murray, Hopkins, 2304.09878, 2311.02148; 6% aDM

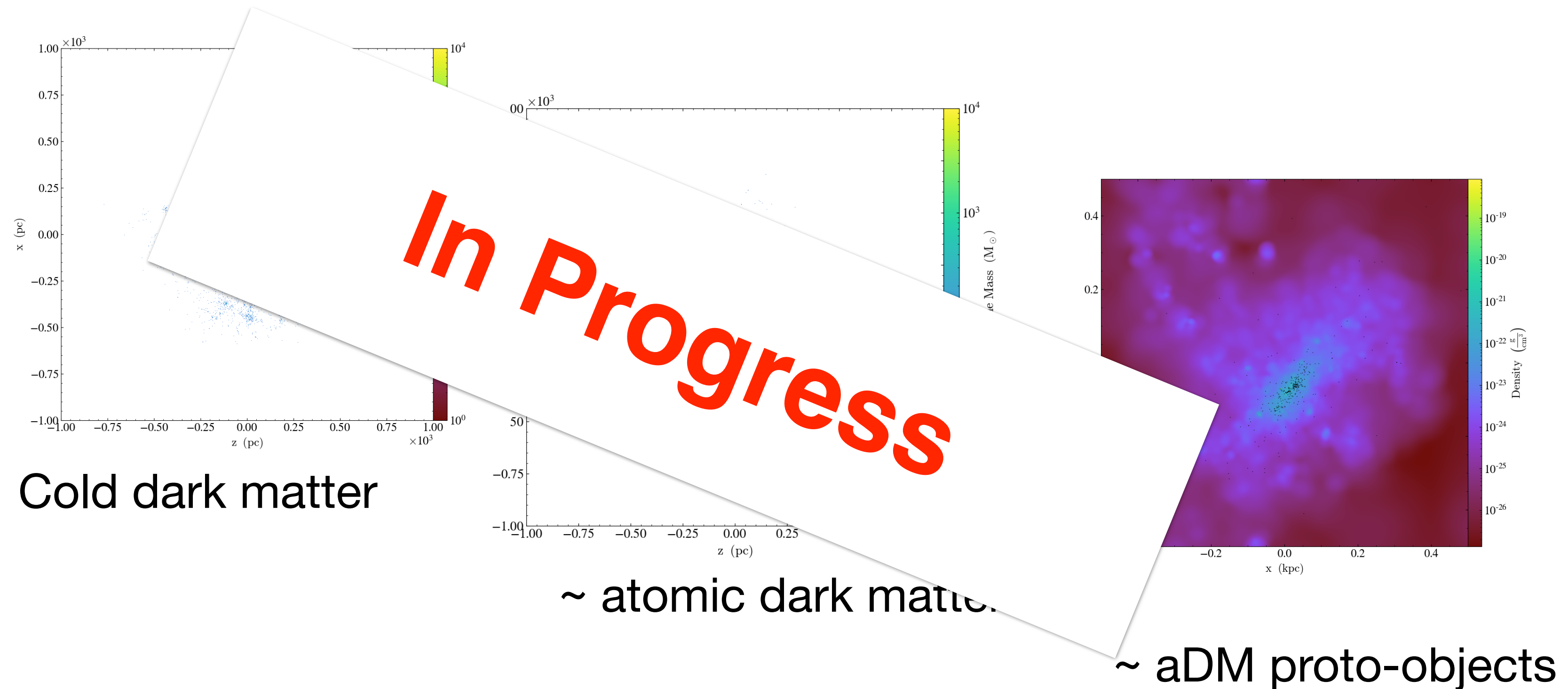
Shandera, TRISEP 2024

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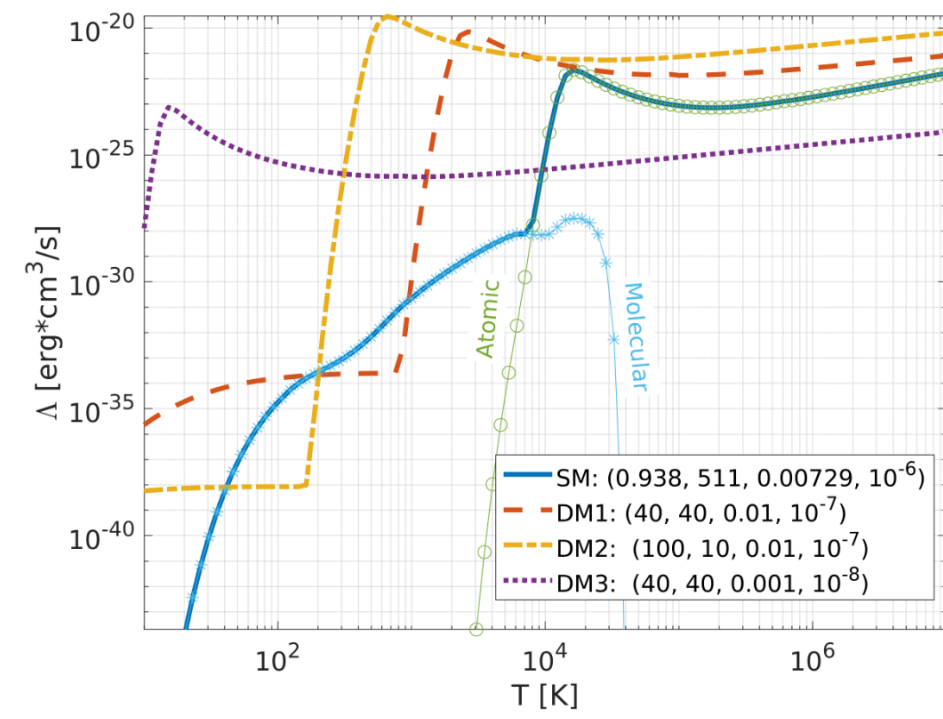
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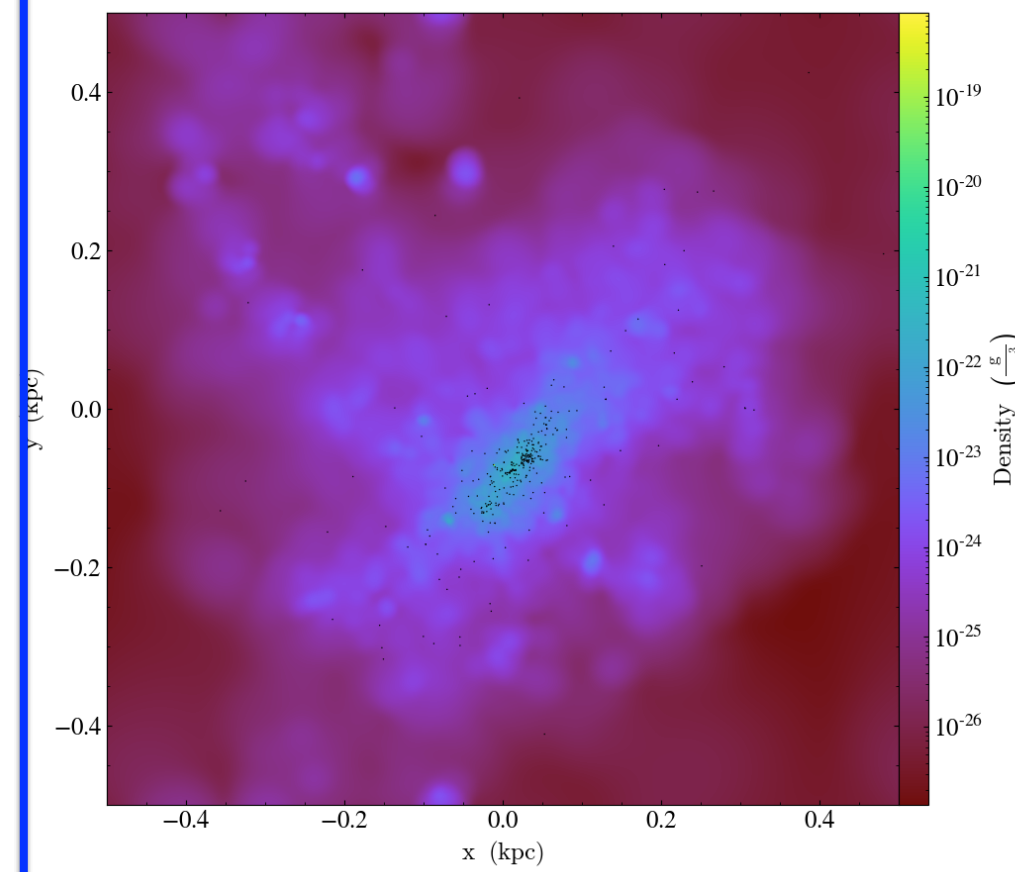
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# Particle Physics and Chemistry

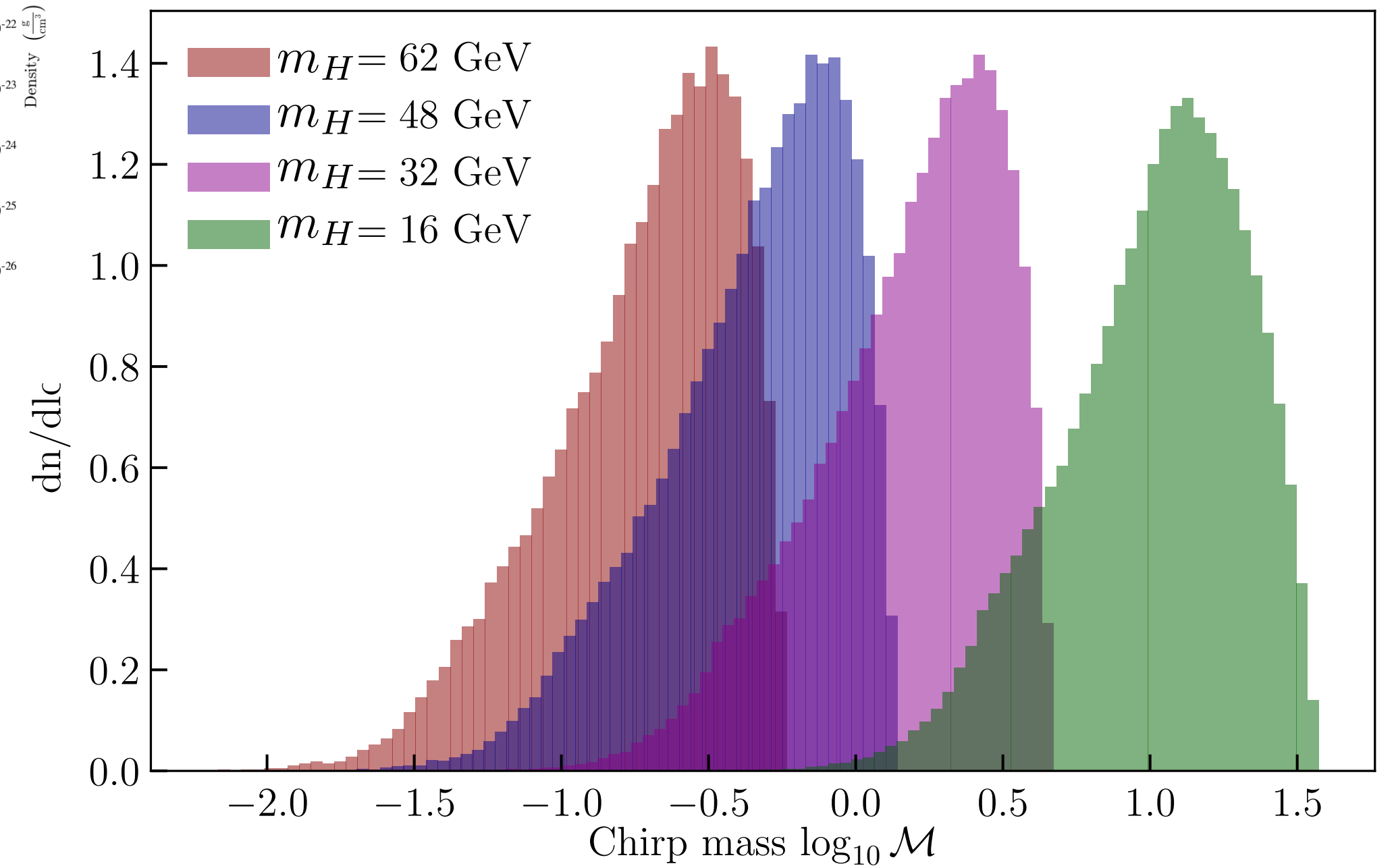


Hard!

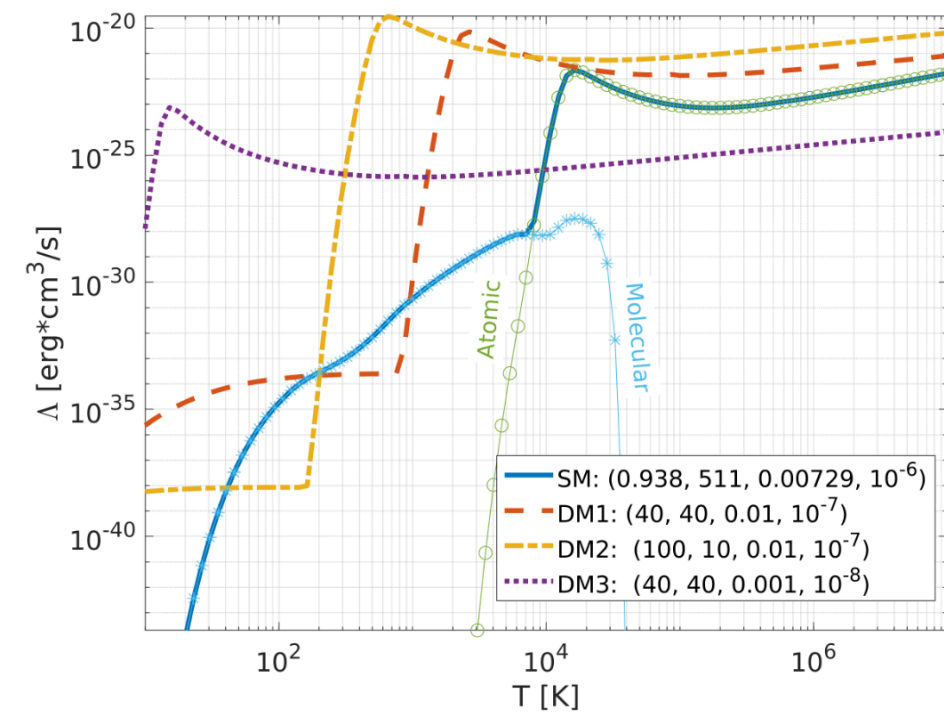
# Structure formation



# Population model for ultracompact objects

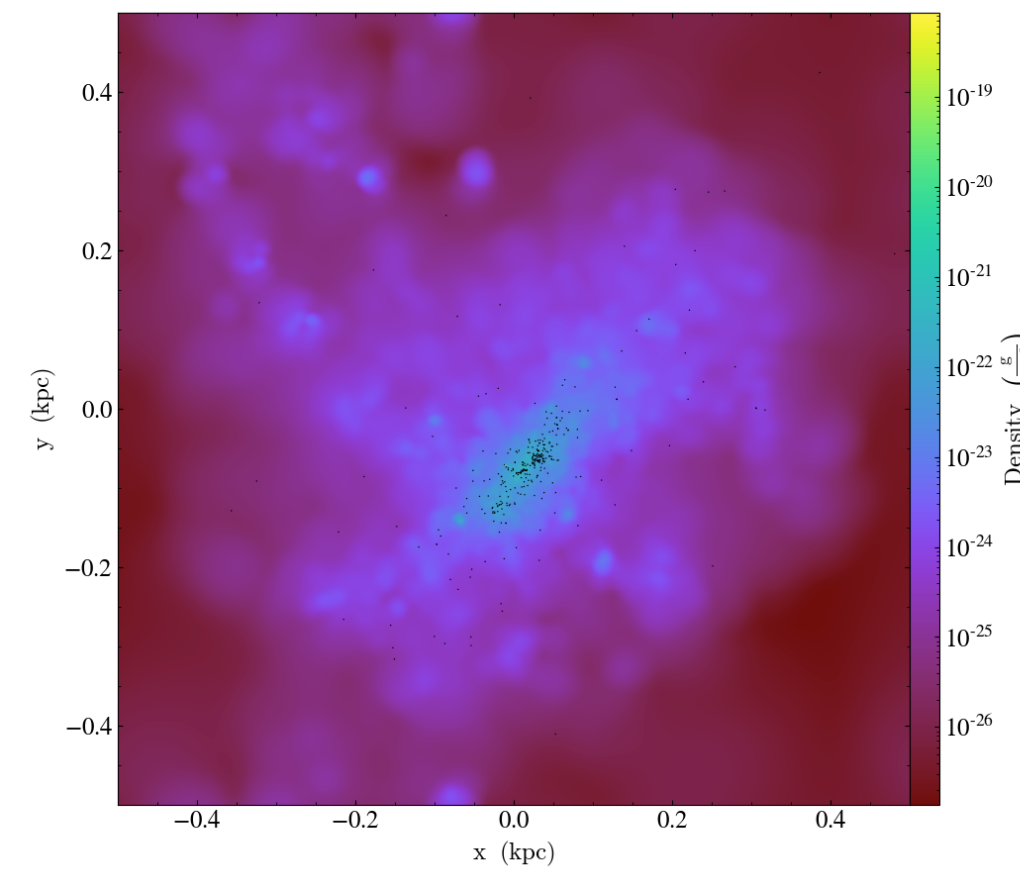


# Particle Physics and Chemistry

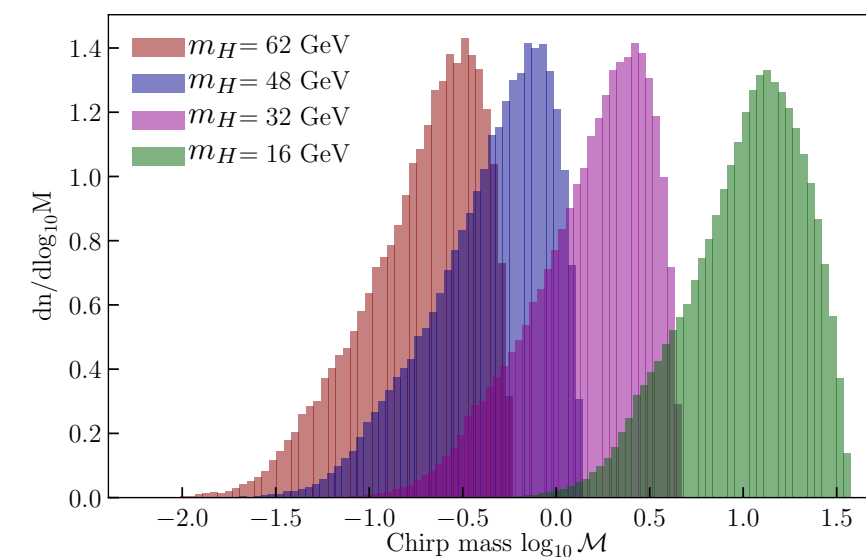


**Hard!**

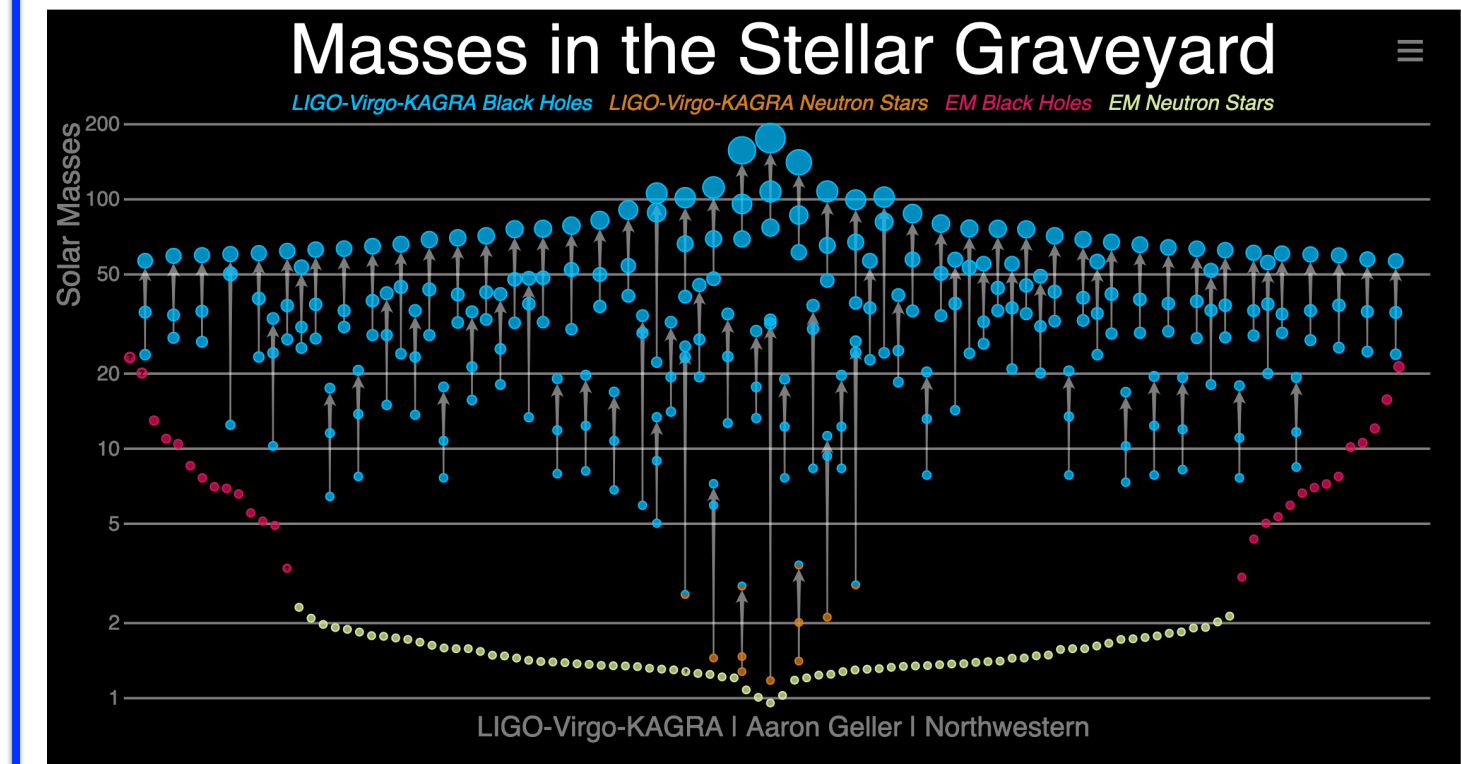
# Structure formation



# Population model for ultracompact objects



# Gravitational wave data



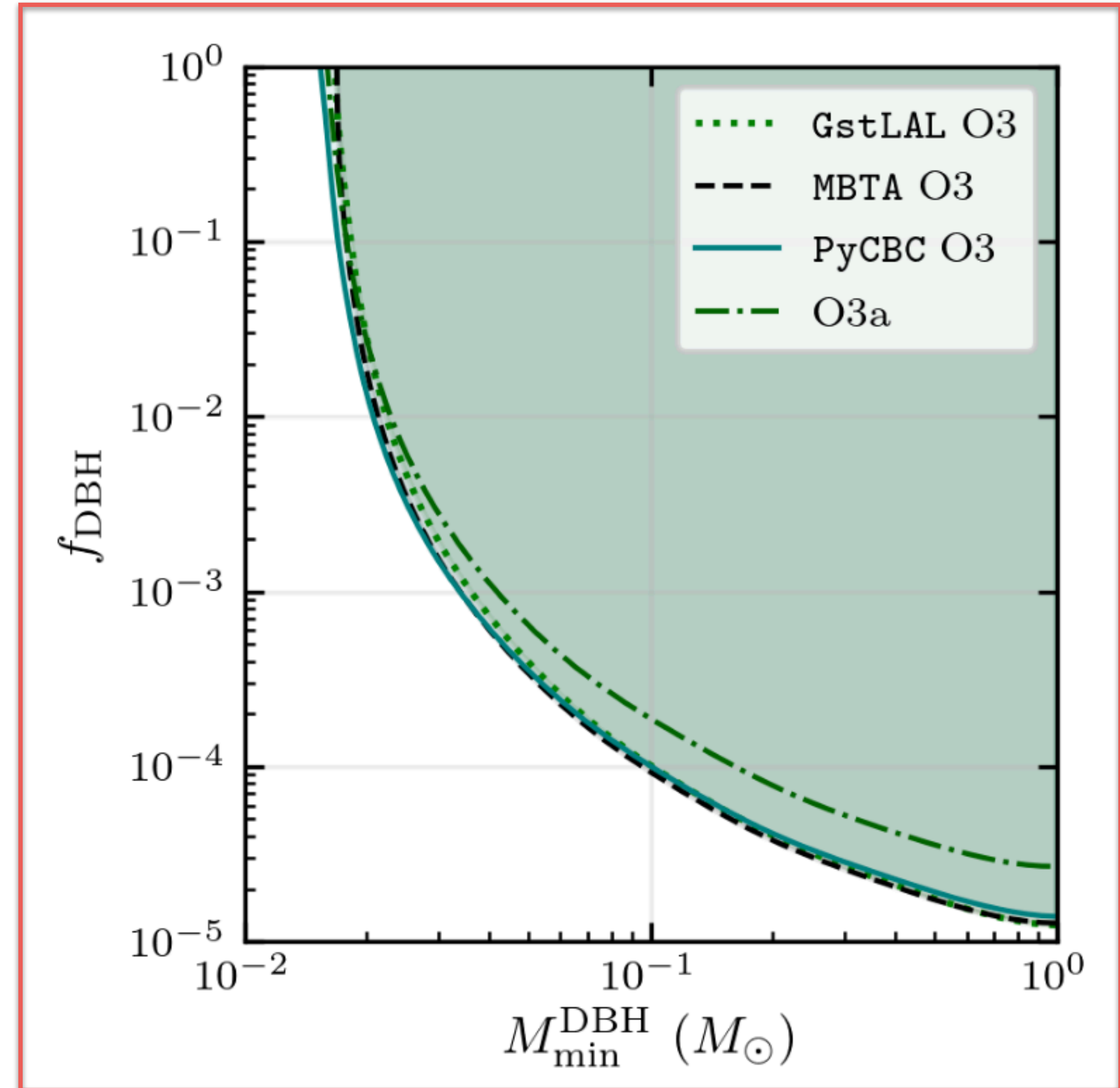
**Not too hard**

# Search for sub-solar mass black holes

- Search for sub-solar mass black holes: so far, no detect

Fourth observing run is in progress

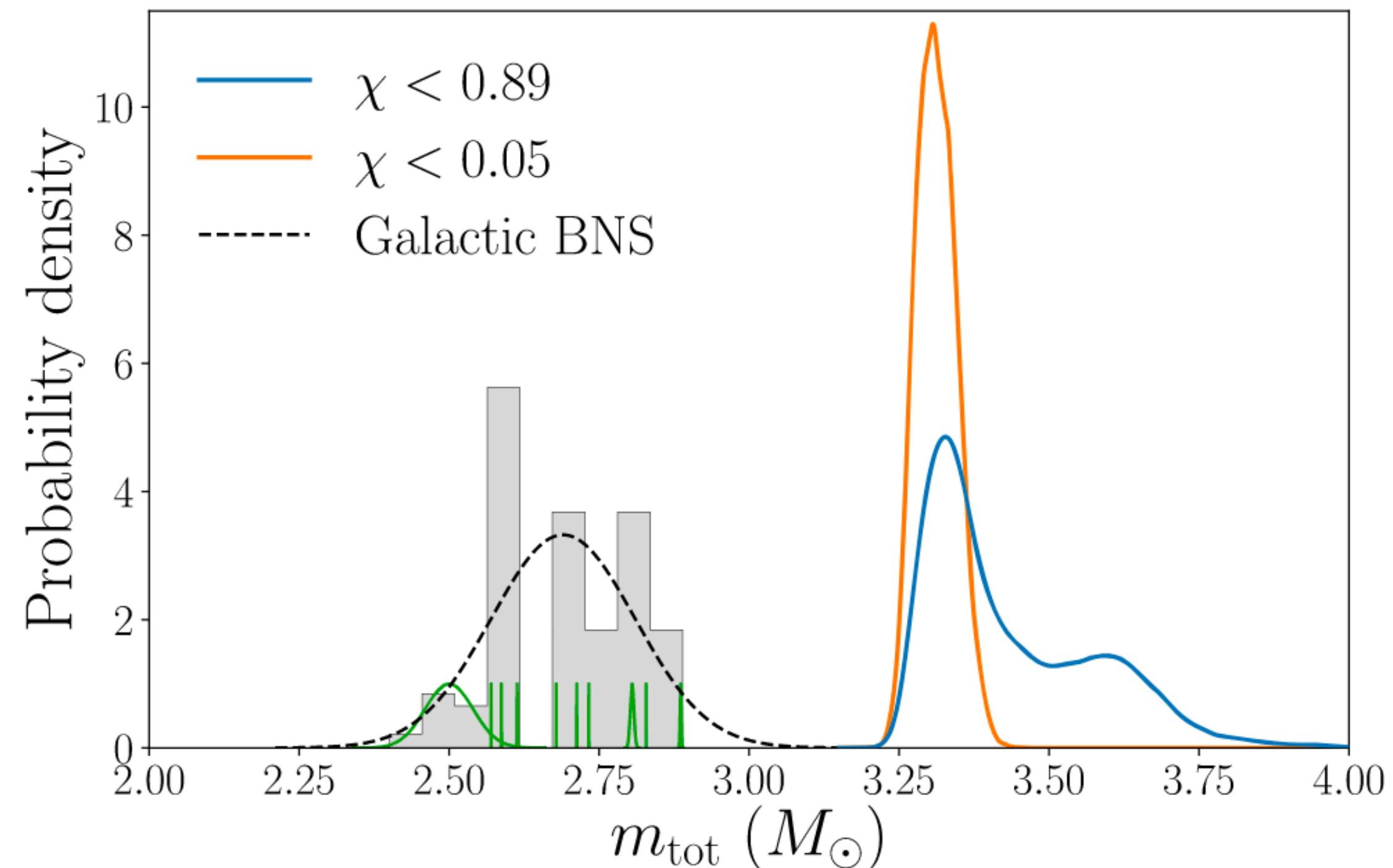
LIGO, Virgo, KAGRA, D. Jeong, S. Shandera;  
(2212.01477, MNRAS; 2109.12197, PRL;  
1904.08976 PRL; 1808.04771 PRL); **R. Magee** et al  
1808.04772, PRD;



**Lots of interesting ways to look for compact  
objects**

**What would we learn if we  
found something?**

# GW190425: an intriguing event



**Figure 5.** Total system masses for GW190425 under different spin priors, and those for the 10 Galactic BNSs from Farrow et al. (2019) that are expected to merge within a Hubble time. The distribution of the total masses of the latter is shown and fit using a normal distribution shown by the dashed black curve. The green curves are for individual Galactic BNS total mass distributions rescaled to the same ordinate axis height of 1.

$\gtrsim 5\sigma$  Outlier from known BNS systems

Component masses:

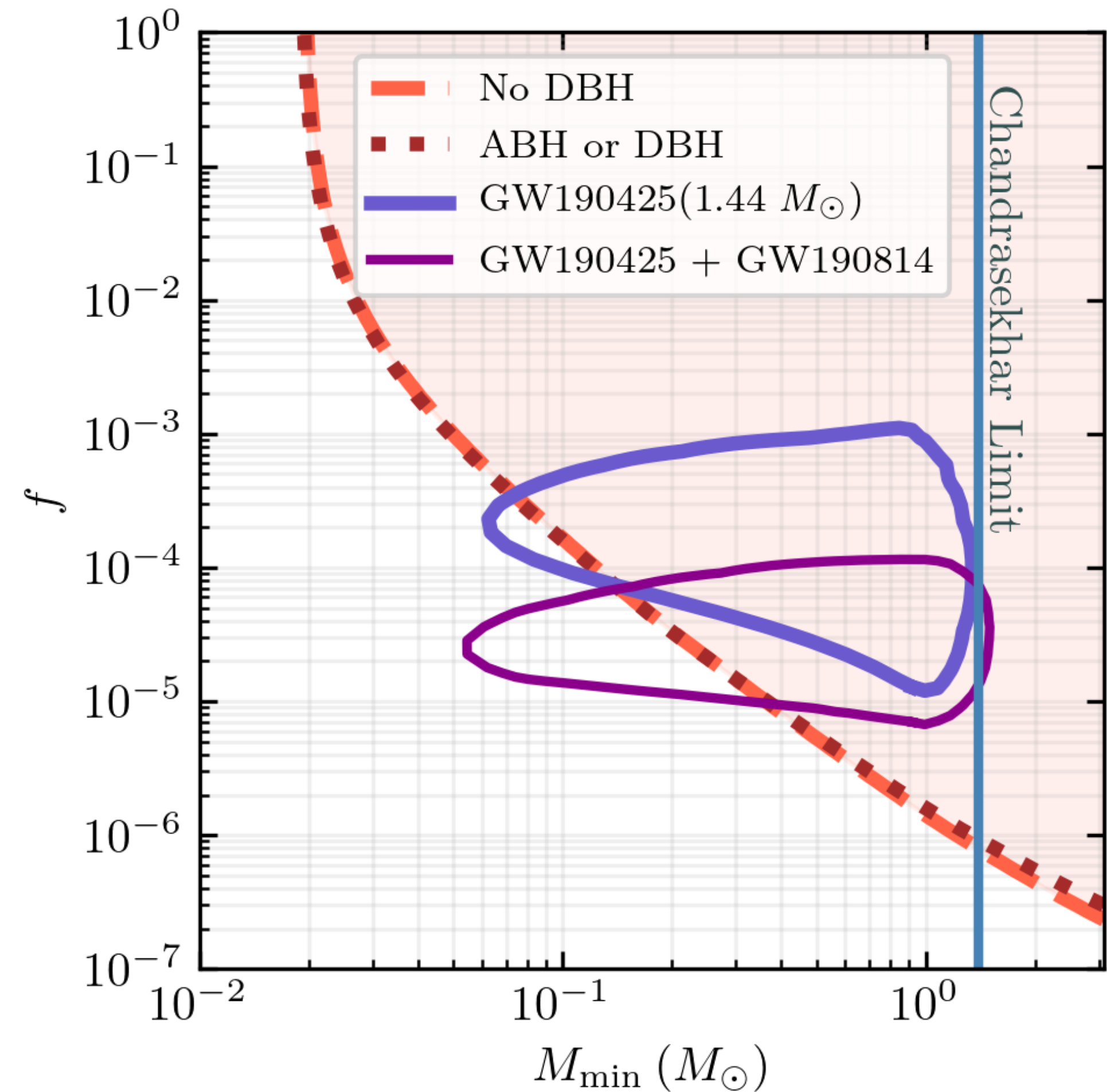
$$1.12 - 2.52 M_{\odot}$$

“Neutron star” label currently applied based on mass alone, in absence of EM counterpart



# If GW190425 is a dark black hole event:

Rates  $\rightarrow$  Limits on source population

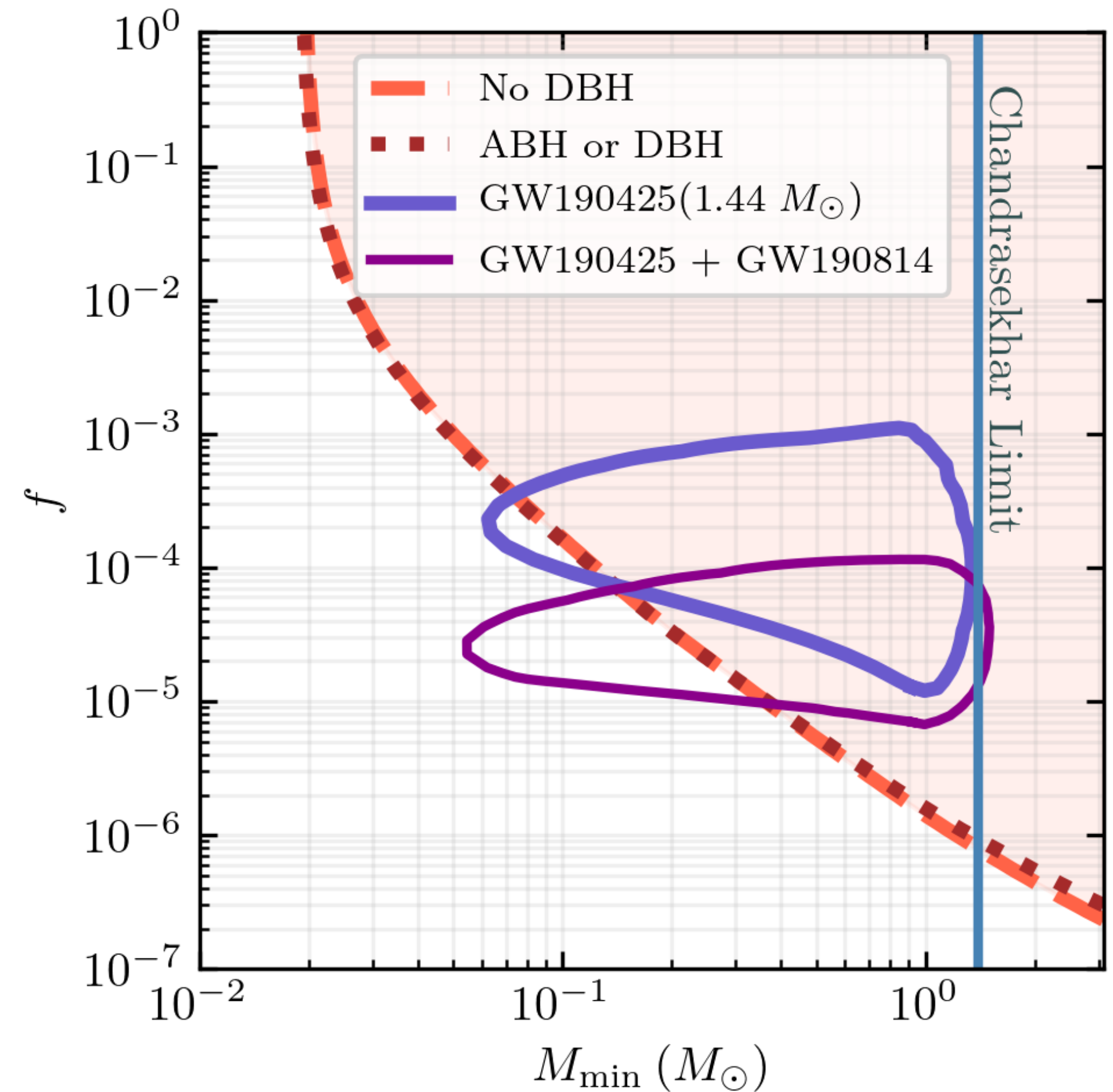


# If GW190425 is a dark black hole event:

Rates  $\rightarrow$  Limits on source population

(A1)  $M_{\min} \rightarrow M_{\text{D.Chand.}} \rightarrow M_{\text{heavy fermion}}$

$$M_{\text{Chand.}}^{DM} < 1.4M_{\odot}, \quad 99.9\% \text{C.L.}$$



# If GW190425 is a dark black hole event:

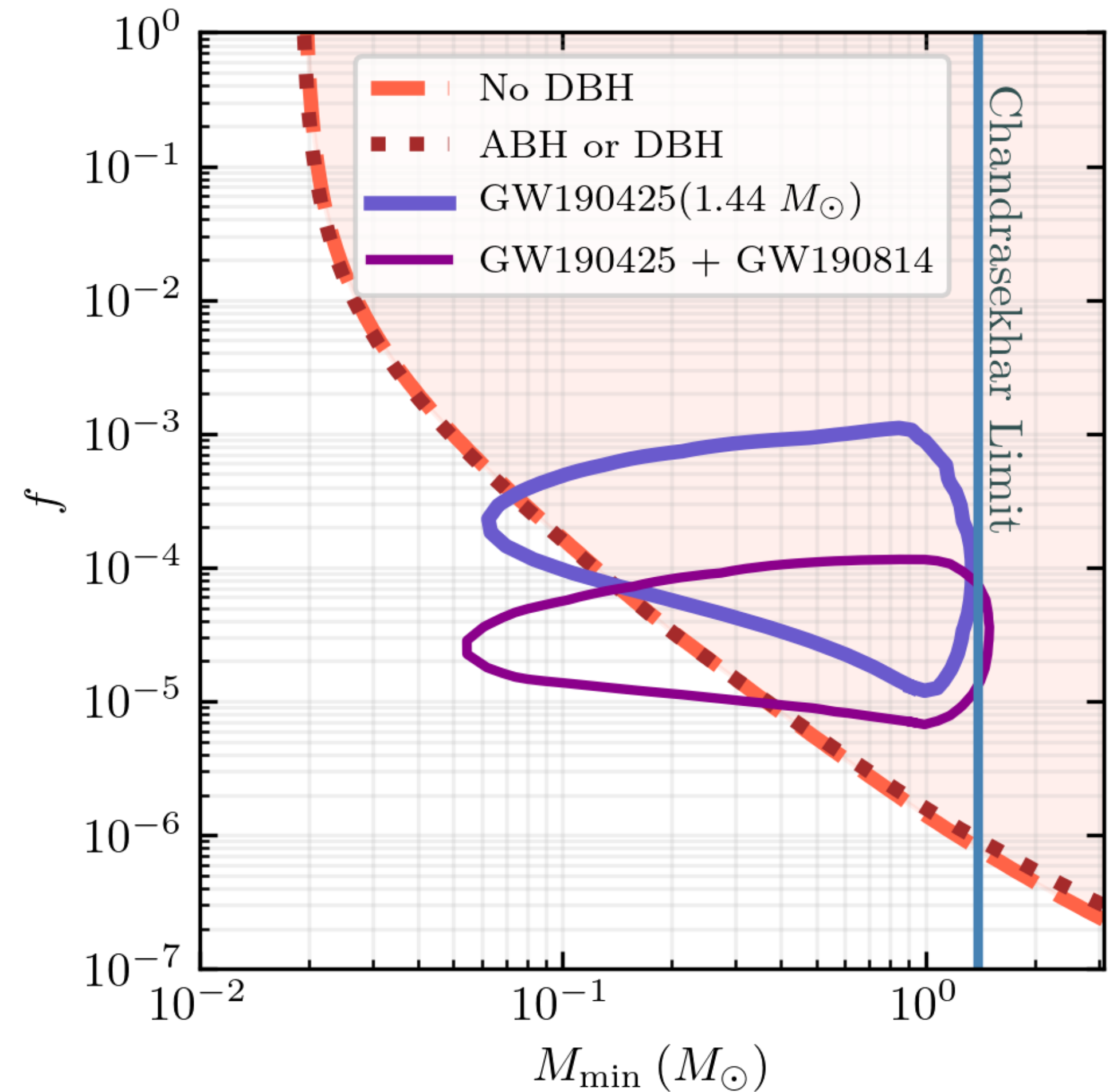
Rates  $\rightarrow$  Limits on source population

(A1)  $M_{\min} \rightarrow M_{\text{D.Chand.}} \rightarrow M_{\text{heavy fermion}}$

$$M_{\text{Chand.}}^{DM} < 1.4M_{\odot}, \quad 99.9\% \text{C.L.}$$

(A2)  $M_{\min} \rightarrow M_{\min \text{ gas fragment}} \rightarrow \Delta E_{\text{molecular}}$

$$\Delta E_{\text{mol.}} \sim 10^{-3} \text{ eV} \propto \frac{\alpha^2 m^2}{M}$$

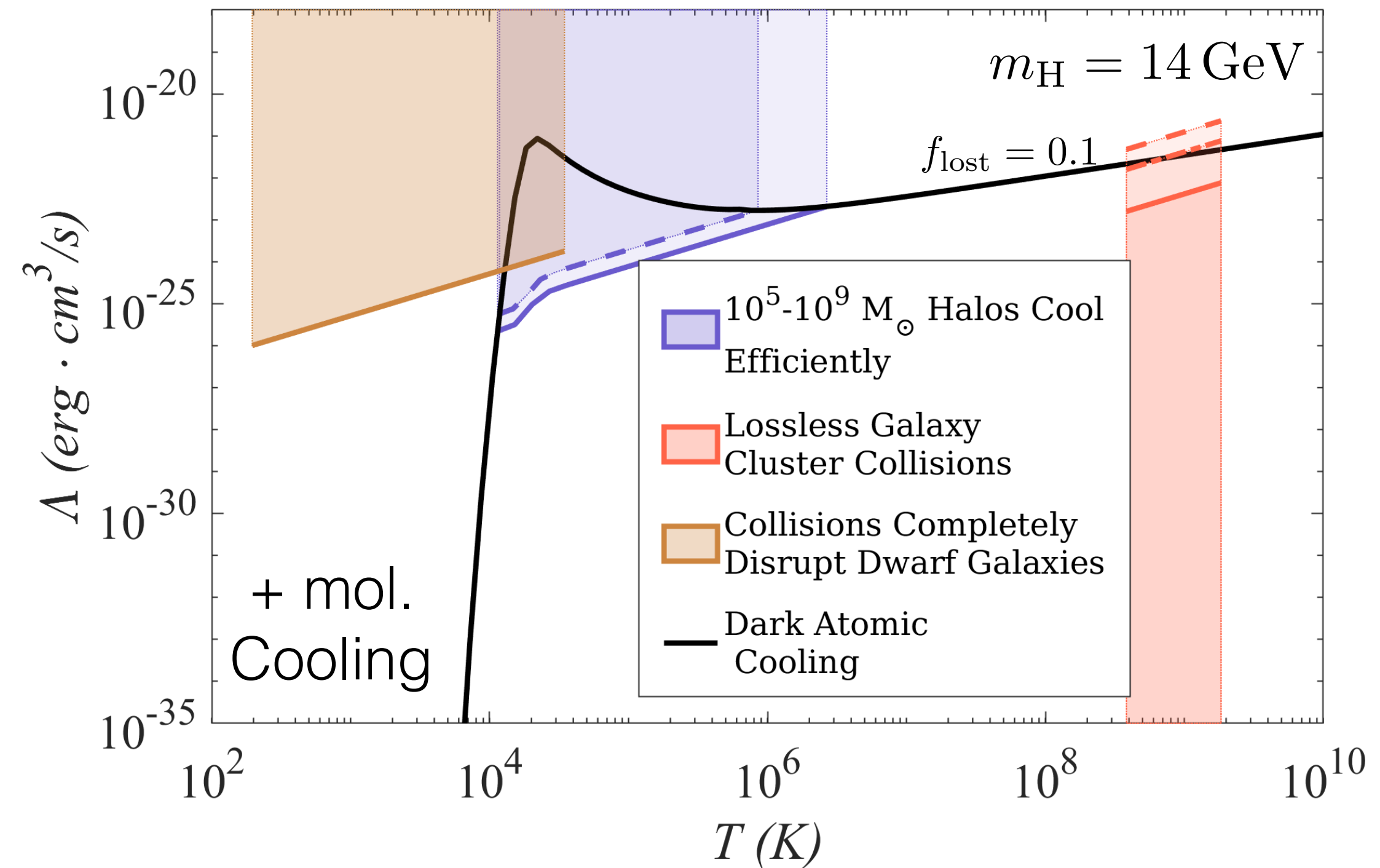


# If GW190425 is a Dark Black Hole Event:

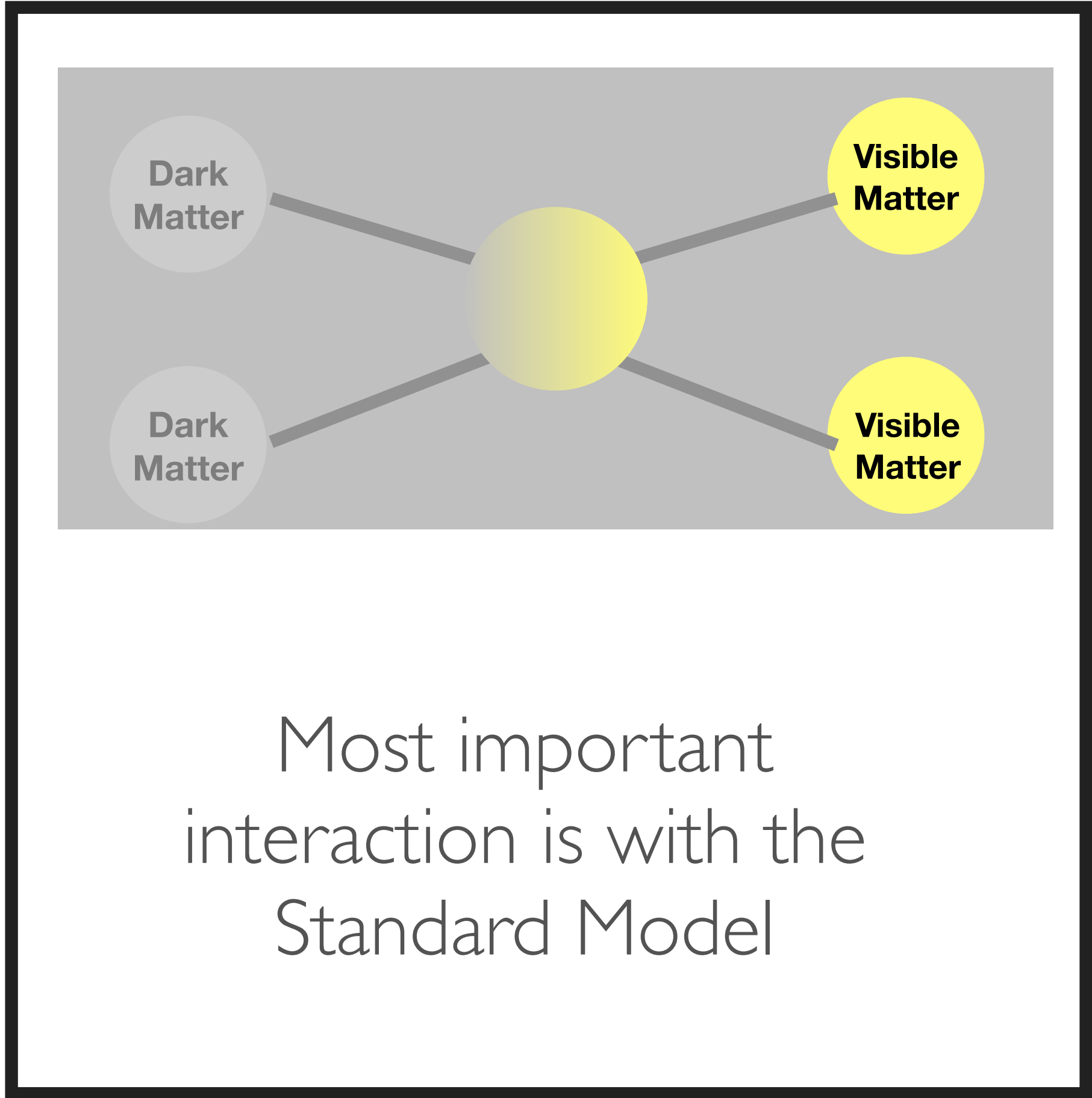
(B) Cooling rate (over number density) of dark matter

To form DBHs, need a minimum amount of cooling

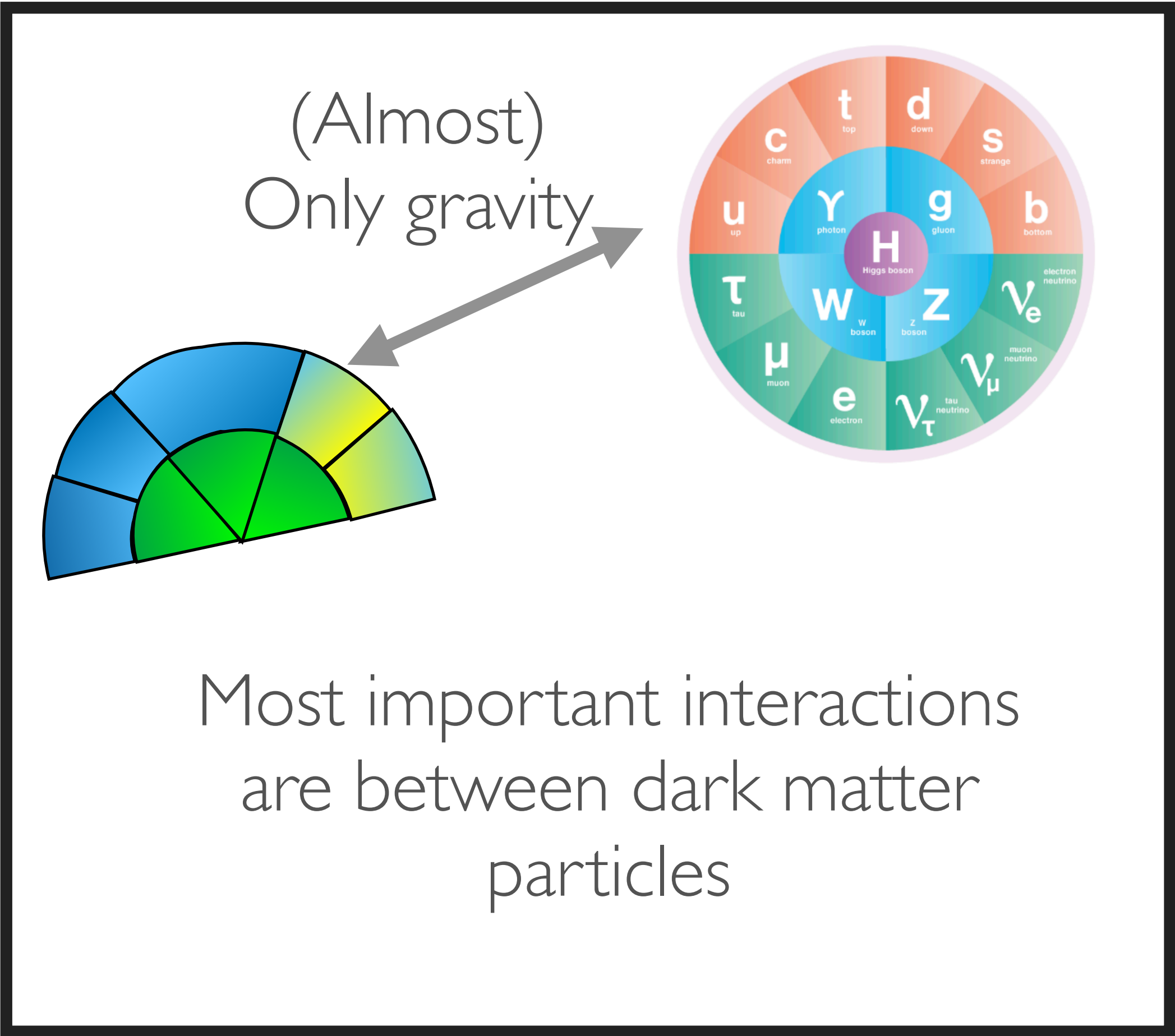
Collisions in Bullet cluster give an upper bound on cooling (energy loss)



# Summary: Perspective



- Or -

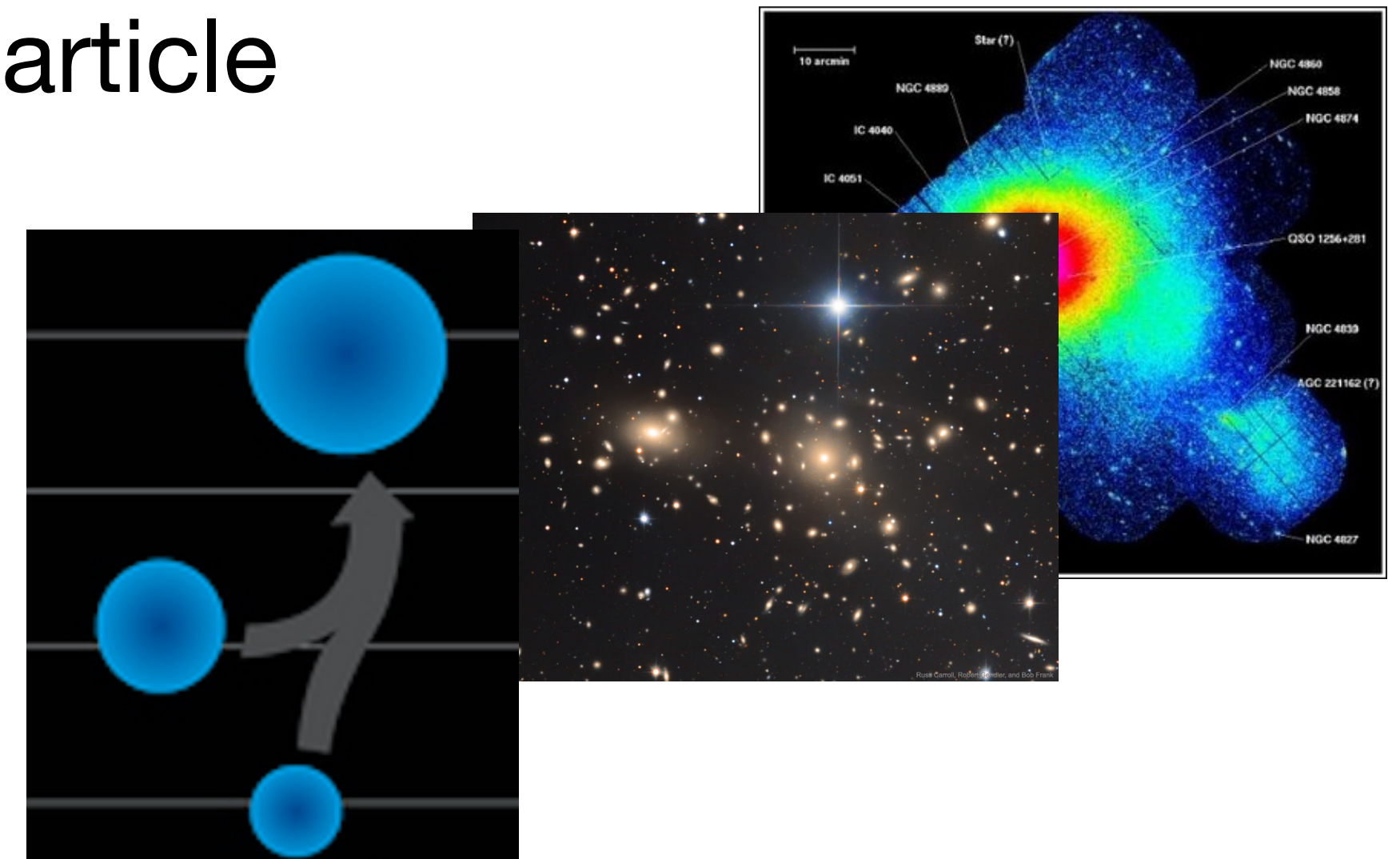


# Summary: Details

Black Holes: Sensitive to/constraining for dark matter physics (far beyond primordial black holes)

Compact objects: a gravitational probe with particle physics power for **dissipative dark matter** (chemistry!)

- Fermion mass (Chandrasekhar limit)
- Cooling rate
- Molecular energy gap



We have the tools now to do end-to-end simulations with a simple dissipative dark matter model