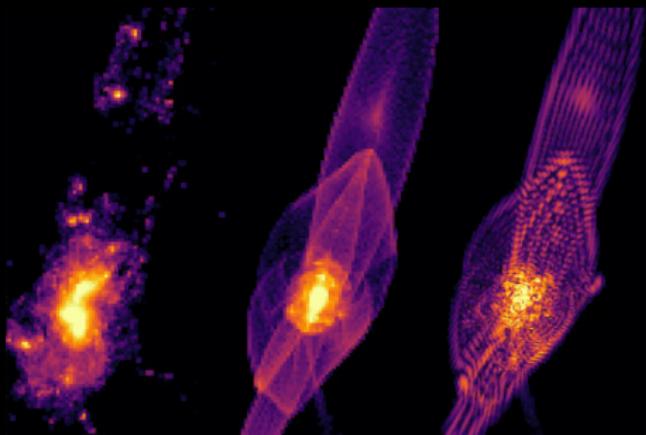


# First Structures in Fuzzy Dark Matter

Philip Mocz

Princeton University  
Einstein Fellow

Jul 9, 2020



Göttingen  
FDM-workshop

# Outline

- ▶ Fuzzy Dark Matter (FDM) motivations and tensions
- ▶ New probes for FDM:
- ▶ Full-physics cosmological simulations (**Mocz** et al., 2019; Mocz et al., 2020)
  - ▶ First galaxies uniquely probe physical nature of dark matter
  - ▶ Test with James Webb Space Telescope (JWST)
- ▶ Large axion mass limit (**Mocz** et al., 2018)
  - ▶ connection between FDM & CDM
- ▶ Adding in the strong-CP scale to FDM
- ▶ Further probes: small-scale astrophysical features of FDM [student works]
  - ▶ dynamical friction (Lancaster, Giovanetti, **Mocz**,..., 2020)
  - ▶ dynamical heating (Church, **Mocz** & Ostriker, 2019)
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# People

highlight

student



Mustafa Amin  
Rice



Fernando Becerra  
Harvard



Mike Boylan-Kolchin  
UT Austin



Sownak Bose  
Harvard



Pierre-Henri Chavanis  
Toulouse



Ben Church  
Columbia



Elliot Davies  
Princeton



Anastasia Fialkov  
Cambridge



Cara Giovanetti  
Princeton



Lars Hernquist  
Harvard



Yoni Kahn  
Illinois



Lachlan Lancaster  
Princeton



Mariangela Lisanti  
Princeton



Federico Marinacci  
Bologna



Jerry Ostriker  
Columbia



Victor Robles  
Yale



David Spergel  
Flatiron



Sauro Succi  
CNR Rome

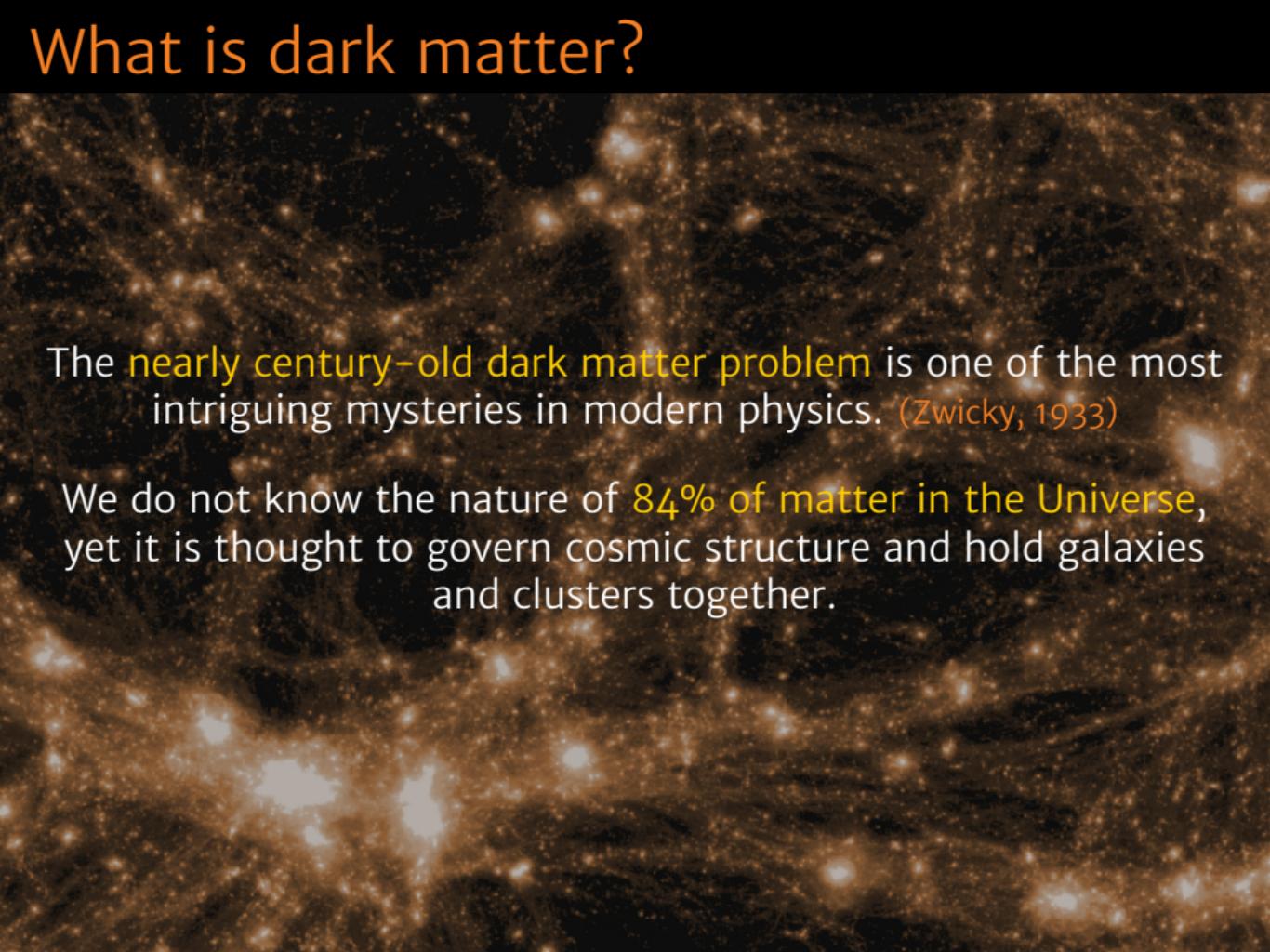


Mark Vogelsberger  
MIT



Jesús Zavala  
Iceland

# What is dark matter?

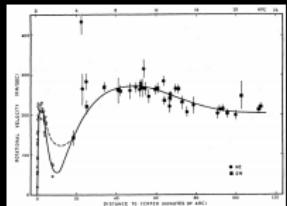


The nearly century-old dark matter problem is one of the most intriguing mysteries in modern physics. (Zwicky, 1933)

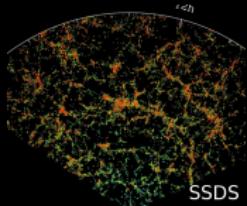
We do not know the nature of 84% of matter in the Universe, yet it is thought to govern cosmic structure and hold galaxies and clusters together.

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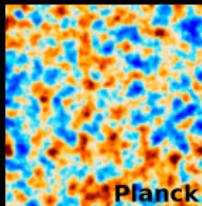
rotation curve



LSS



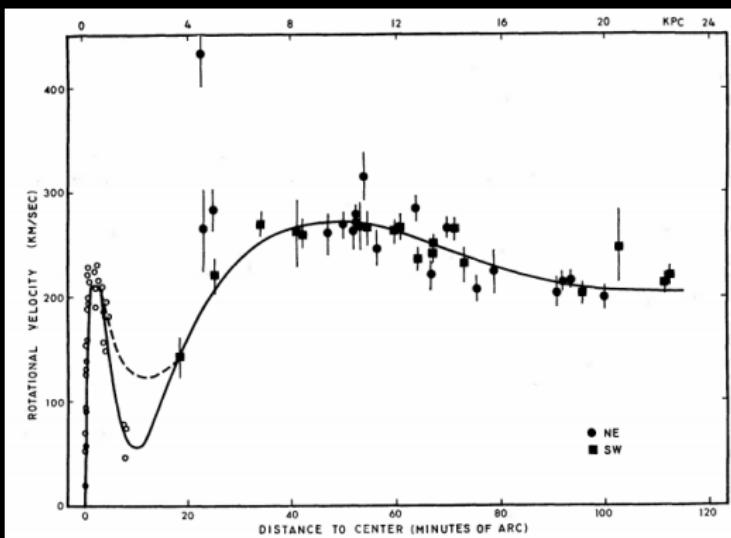
CMB



lensing

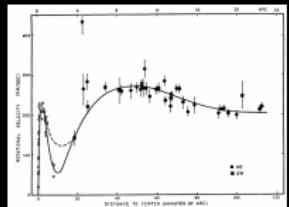


no-DM

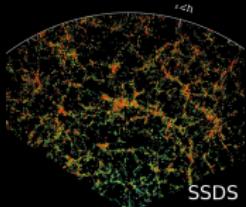


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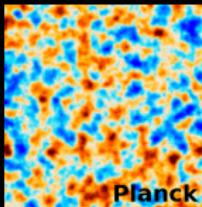
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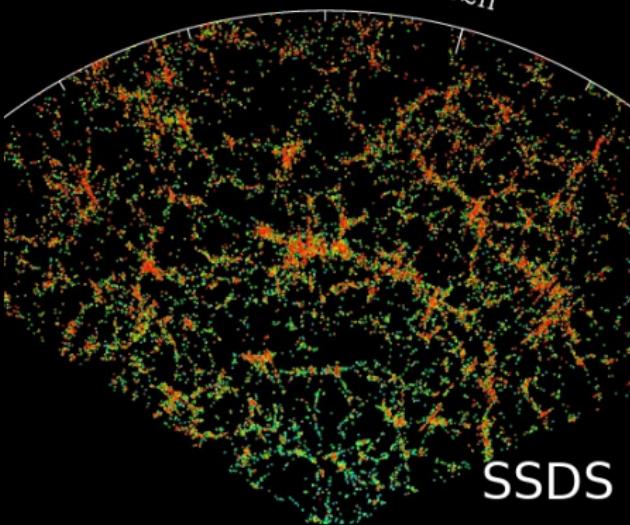
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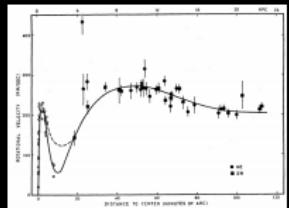


$z \lesssim h$

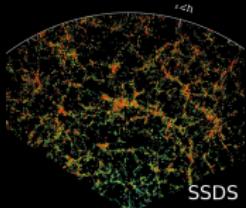


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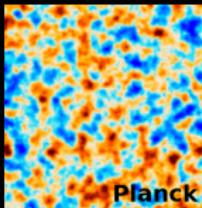
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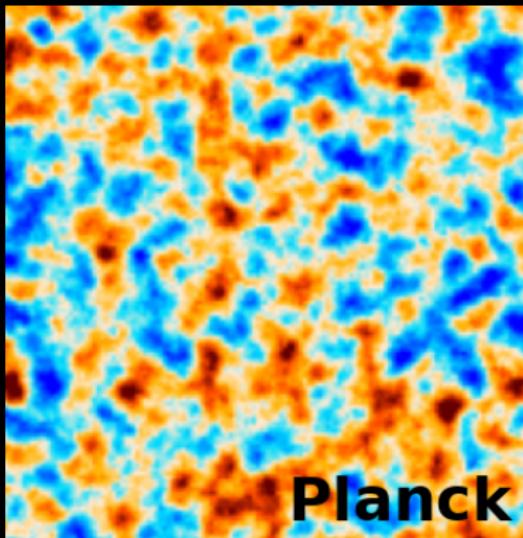
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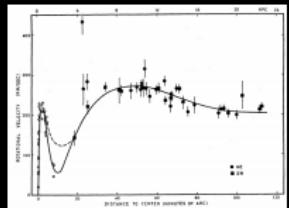


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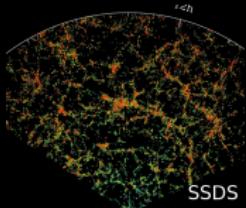


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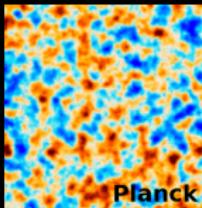
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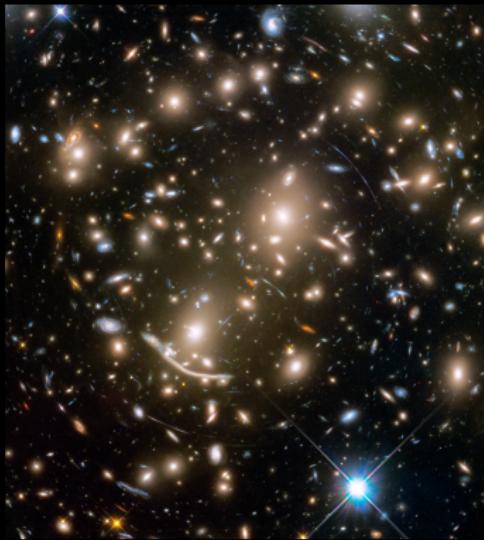
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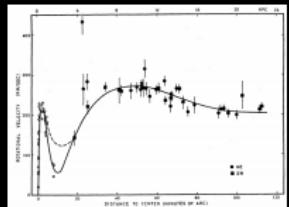


van Dokkum, ... (2019)

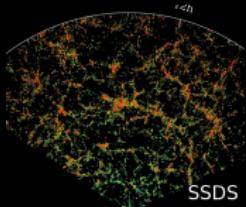


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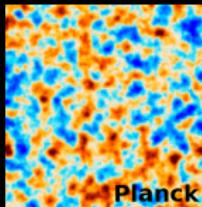
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# What is dark matter?

???



# What is fuzzy dark matter?

- ▶ Assume DM is a cold, ultralight scalar field (Peebles, 2000; Hu, Barkana & Gruzinov, 2000; Hui et al., 2017)
  - ▶  $T = 0$  in early universe, forms a BEC  $\Rightarrow$  macroscopic quantum properties
  - ▶ ‘Quantum Pressure’ suppresses gravitational collapse below de Broglie wavelength
    - ▶ Require  $m \sim 10^{-22}$  eV to have  $\lambda_{\text{dB}} \sim 1$  kpc for  $v \sim 100$  km s $^{-1}$
  - ▶ Governed by Schrödinger–Poisson
- $$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi + mV\psi, \quad \nabla^2 V = 4\pi G(\rho - \bar{\rho}), \quad \rho = |\psi|^2 \quad (1)$$
- ▶ Two Key features: suppressed small-scale power + large soliton cores (there are also other features!)

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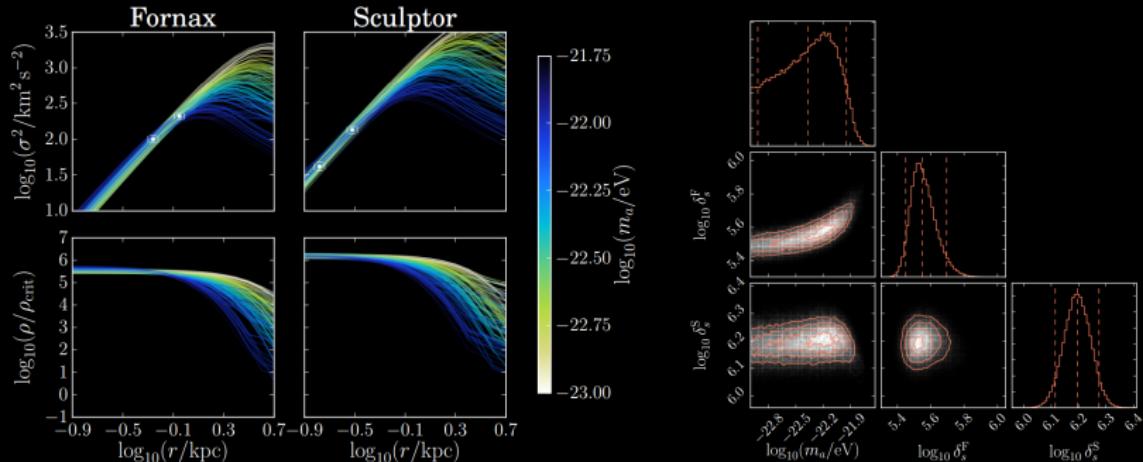
# Motivation for FDM

- ▶ Astrophysics
  - ▶ CDM small scale challenges (Primack, 2009)
    - ▶ deficit of dwarf galaxies / missing satellites problem (Klypin et al., 1999; Moore et al., 1999)
    - ▶ problem with the abundance of isolated dwarfs (Zavala et al., 2009; Papastergis et al., 2011; Klypin et al., 2015)
    - ▶ too-big-to-fail problem (Boylan-Kolchin, Bullock & Kaplinghat, 2011, 2012)
    - ▶ cusp-core problem (Moore, 1994; Flores & Primack, 1994; Gentile et al., 2004; Donato et al., 2009; de Blok, 2010)
  - ▶ Theoretical Physics
    - ▶ Axions solve the strong CP problem in QCD (Peccei–Quinn theory;  $m \sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-3}$  eV)
    - ▶ String-theory compactifications provide class of ultralight axions ( $m \sim 10^{-22}$  eV) (Arvanitaki et al., 2010; Bachlechner et al., 2019)

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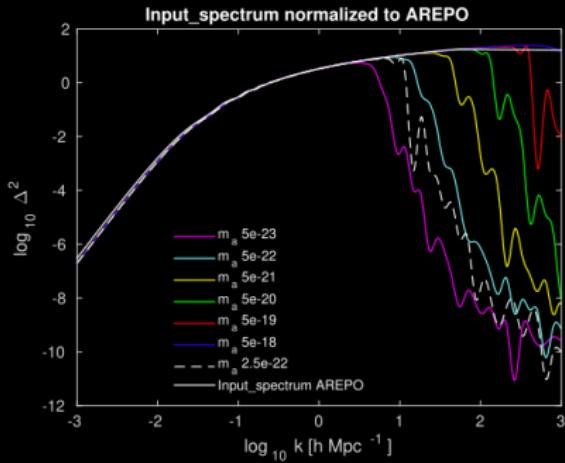
# FDM particle mass constraints from dwarf spheroidals



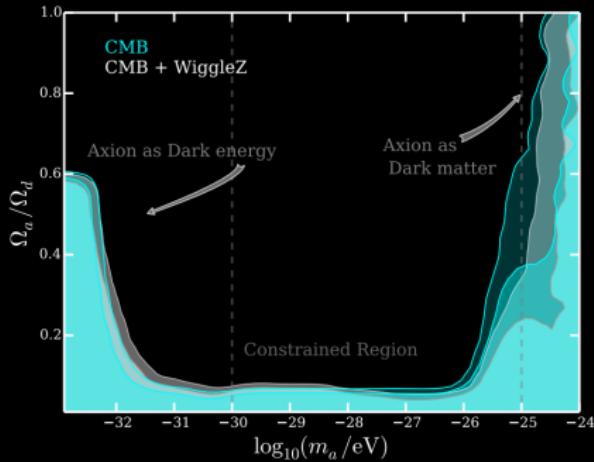
- Particle needs to be light ( $m \sim 10^{-22} \text{ eV}$ ) to explain DM-dominated dwarf spheroidals (Fornax, Sculptor) as a pure fuzzy dark matter soliton core (Marsh & Pop, 2015)

# FDM particle mass constraints from CMB

initial power spectrum



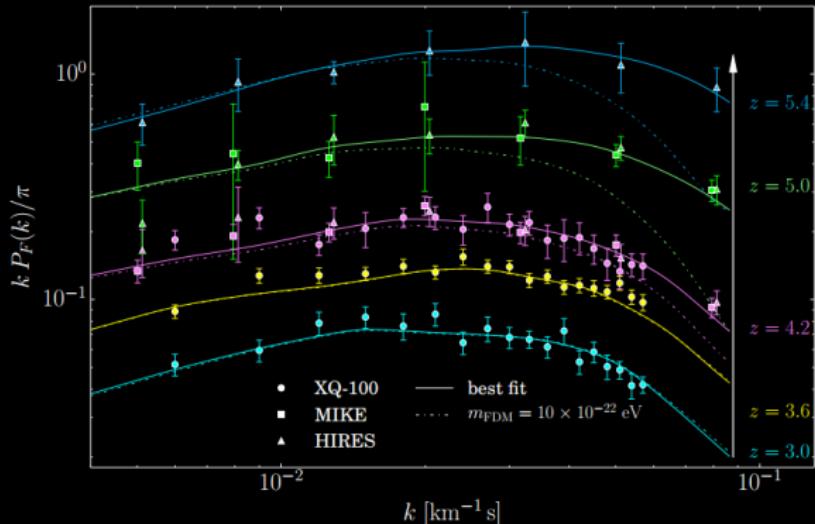
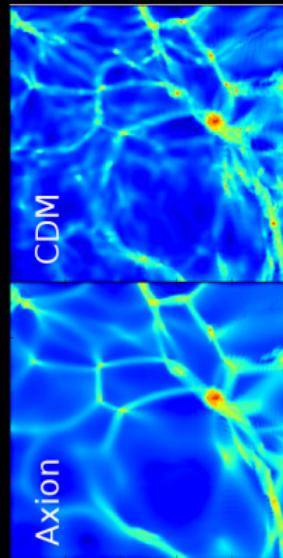
excluded mass range



- ▶ A small boson mass suppresses large  $k$  initial DM power spectrum
- ▶ need  $m \geq 10^{-24}$  eV, otherwise inconsistent with CMB fluctuations

(Hlozek et al., 2015; Hlozek, Marsh & Grin, 2017)

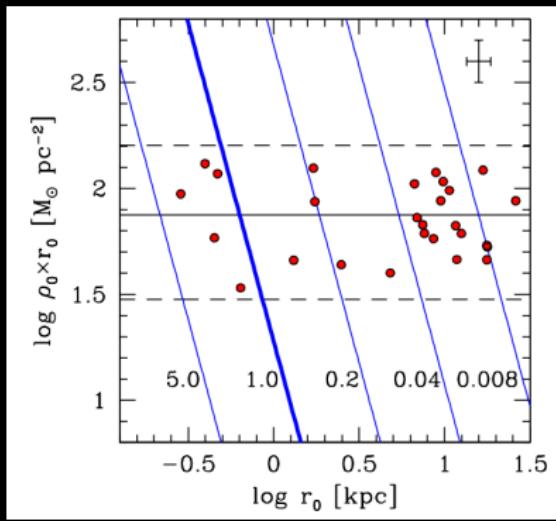
# FDM particle mass constraints from Ly- $\alpha$ forest



- $m \gtrsim 10^{-21} \text{ eV}$ , otherwise not enough Mpc-scale power in the Ly- $\alpha$  forest (Armengaud et al., 2017; Iršič et al., 2017)

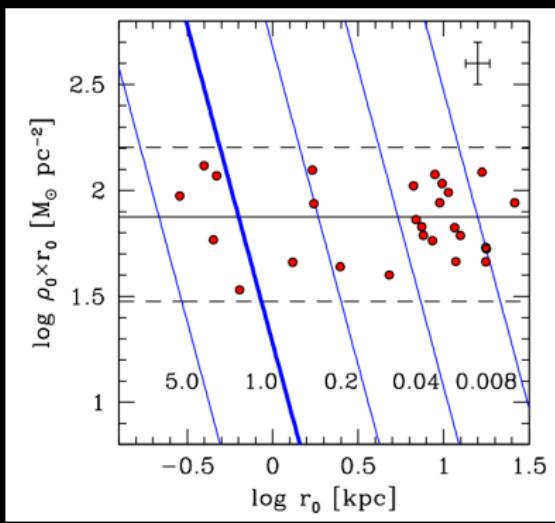
# Catch-22

- ▶ **Catch-22 Problem:** moderate tension in setting the particle mass to simultaneously capture large cores and right amount of substructure
- ▶ Also, simple soliton core model cannot simultaneously explain constant DM surface density ( $\sim 75 M_\odot/\text{pc}^2$ ) inferred from observations of satellite galaxies (Burkert, 2020) (see also Safarzadeh & Spergel (2020)):



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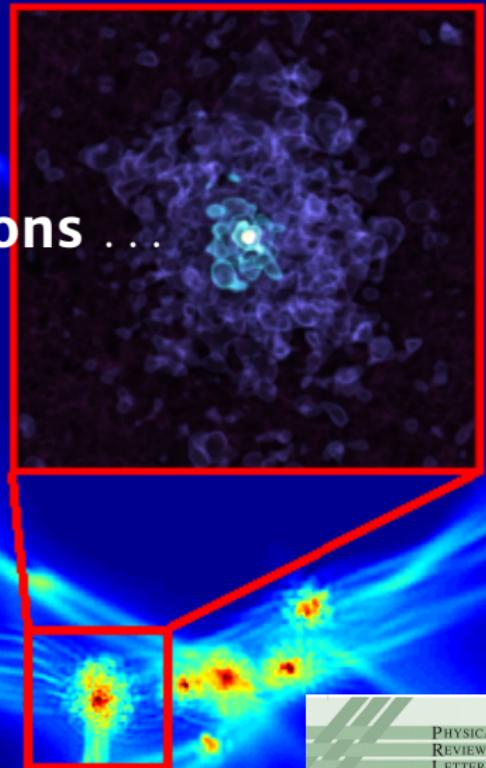


# Catch-22

We need simulations to investigate:

- ▶ possibility additional nonlinear structure formation?
- ▶ modifications to soliton profile in context of cosmology, baryons

# Fuzzy Cosmological Simulations ...



\* (Mocz & Succi, 2015), (Mocz et al., 2017), (Mocz et al., 2020), Mocz+ (2019) Phys. Rev. Lett.

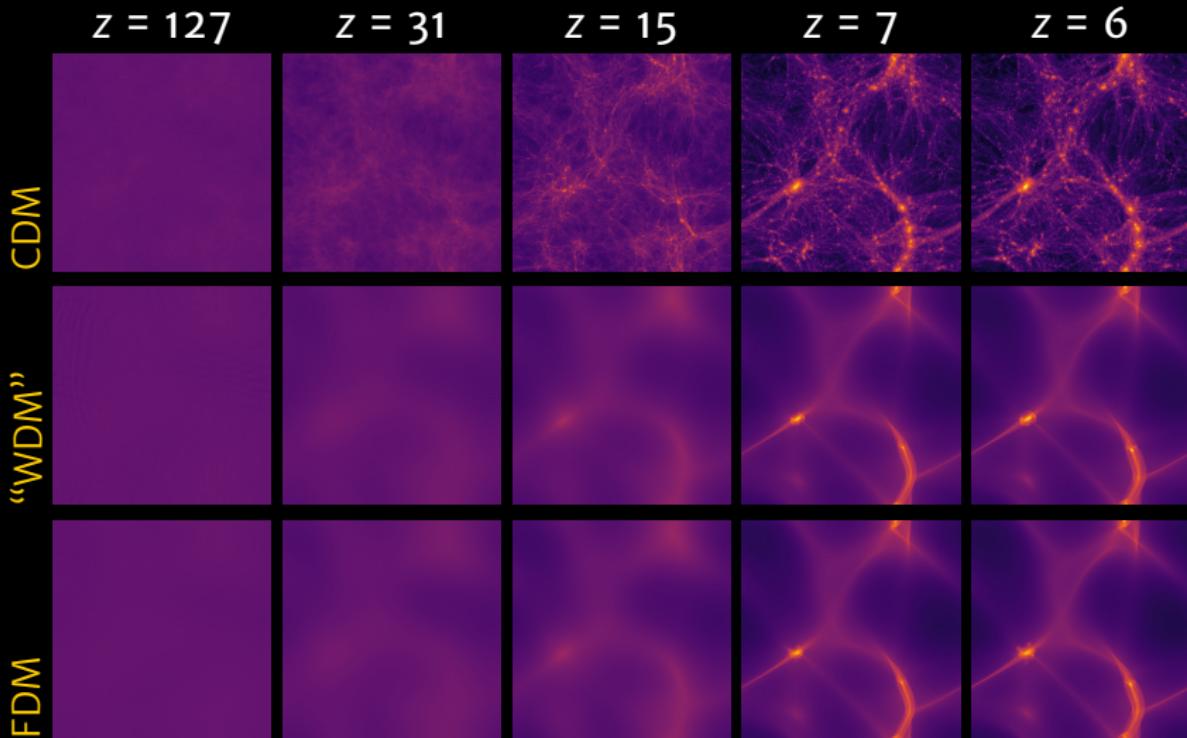
# Cosmological simulations

- ▶ Full-physics (baryons, star formation, feedback) quantum mechanical simulations with quantum wave effects
- ▶ Proper initial conditions at  $z = 127$  from AxionCAMB
- ▶ 5 million core hours on *Stampede2* and *Odyssey*

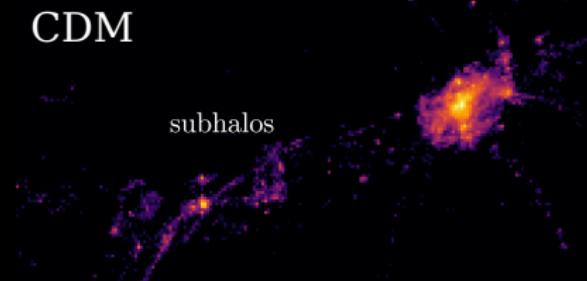


- ▶ Limitation: method is memory-expensive (need to resolve kpc interference)
- ▶ Restricted to study of first galaxies/structures at  $z \sim 6$ , small box size ( $\sim 2$  Mpc)

# Cosmological simulations - dark matter

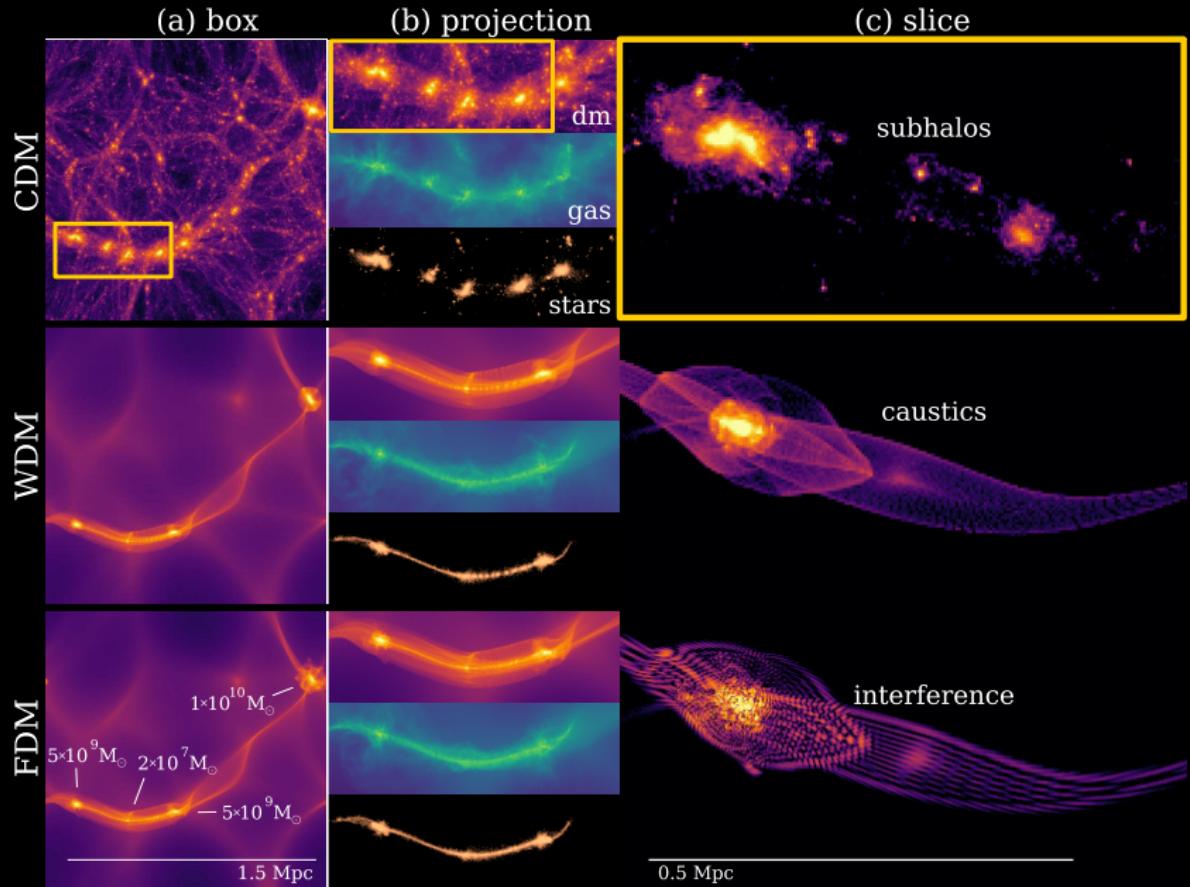


# Small scales: anatomy of a filament



0.5 Mpc

# Summary



# JWST Mock Images

FDM

BECDM  $z = 5.5$



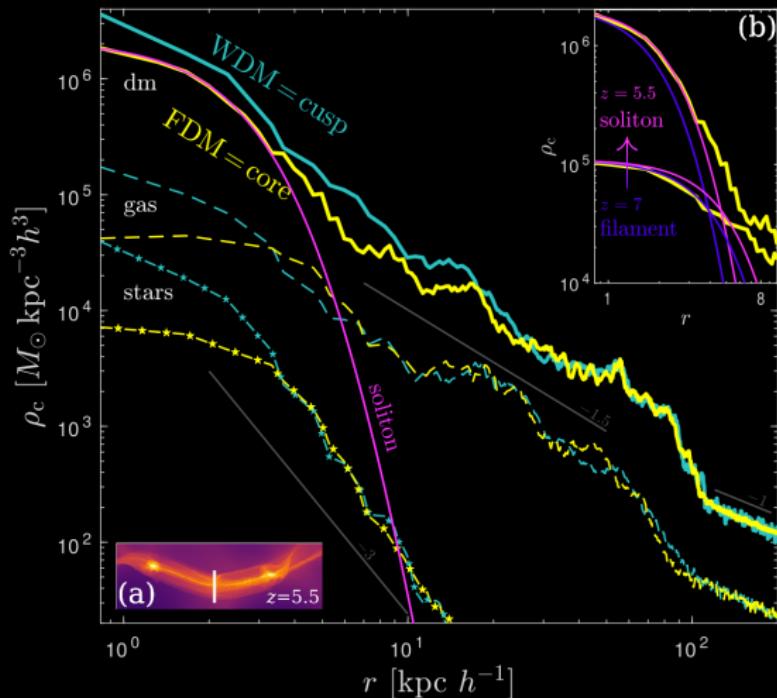
4.93''  
30 pkpc

CDM

CDM  $z = 5.5$

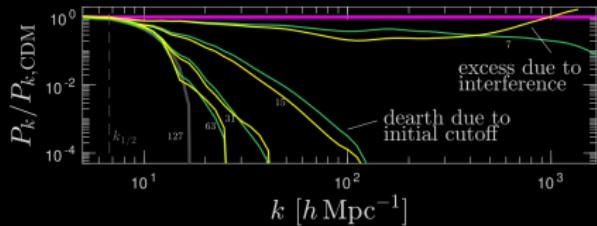
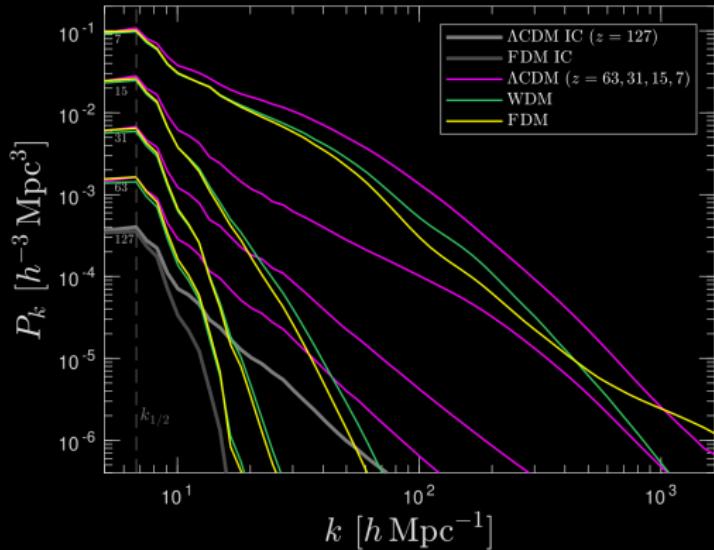


# Collapse of cylindrical filament



- we identified a nonlinear structure formation channel:
- in cosmological context, filaments form first
- cylindrical ‘soliton’ core unstable to spherical collapse

# DM power spectrum



- ▶ quantum pressure tensor adds extra suppression of small-scale power
- ▶ but we found extra power from interference at 10s kpc by  $z = 7$
- ▶ agreement with CDM above 1 Mpc

# Conclusions

## cosmological first objects summary

- ▶ First galaxies uniquely probe the physical nature of dark matter
- ▶ Future missions (e.g. JWST) will open an observational window into this emergent world
- ▶ Nonlinear structure formation eases *Catch-22* problem
- ▶ In FDM:
  - ▶ Primordial stars form along dense dark matter filaments
  - ▶ Dark matter filaments show coherent interference patterns
  - ▶ Dark matter filaments develop cylindrical soliton-like cores which are unstable under gravity and collapse into spherical solitons
  - ▶ Gas & stars trace cored dark matter profile

# Numerical Method: (Mocz et al., 2017)

2nd-order unitary spectral leap-frog scheme. ‘Kick-drift-kick’

- ▶ Calculate potential:

$$V = \text{ifft} \left[ -\text{fft} [4\pi G(\rho - \bar{\rho})] / k^2 \right] \quad (2)$$

- ▶ Potential half-step ‘kick’:

$$\psi \leftarrow \exp [-i(\Delta t/2)(m/\hbar)V] \psi \quad (3)$$

- ▶ Full ‘drift’ (kinetic) step in Fourier-space:

$$\hat{\psi} = \text{fft} [\psi] \quad (4)$$

$$\hat{\psi} \leftarrow \exp \left[ -i\Delta t(\hbar/m)k^2/2 \right] \hat{\psi} \quad (5)$$

$$\psi \leftarrow \text{ifft} [\hat{\psi}] \quad (6)$$

- ▶ Another ‘kick’

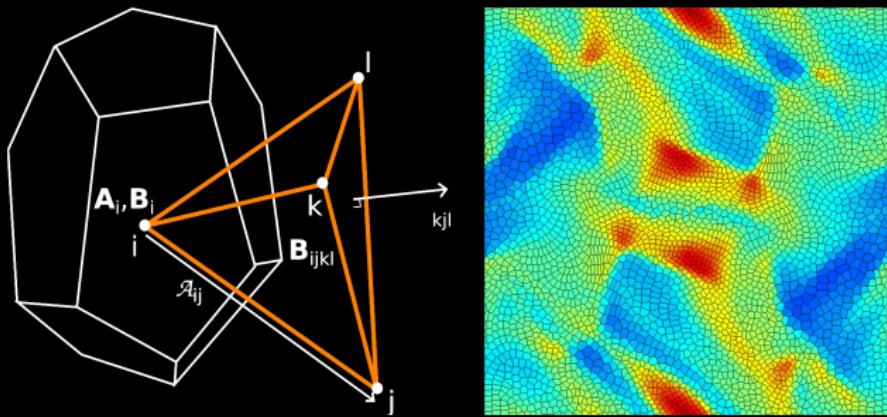


(\*unitary algorithm adaptable to quantum computers)

# Numerical Method: Gas

(Mocz et al., 2014; Mocz, Vogelsberger & Hernquist, 2014; Mocz et al., 2015, 2016; Mocz, 2017)

Moving Mesh Magnetohydrodynamics



# Schrödinger/Vlasov–Poisson correspondence

- Do the 3D Schrödinger equations encode collisionless dynamics (6D)?

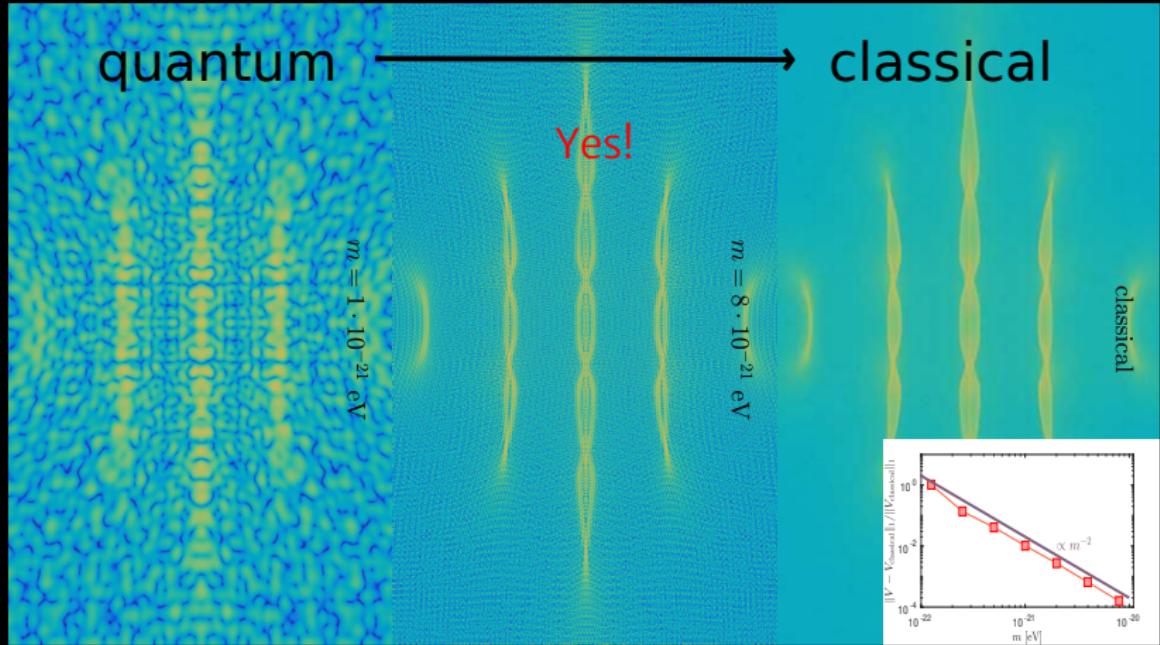
$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi + mV\psi \quad (7)$$

$\iff (?)$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} - \nabla V \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{v}} = 0 \quad (8)$$

In **Mocz et al. (2018)** we explore the limiting behavior of large boson mass (e.g., QCD axion)

# Schrödinger/Vlasov-Poisson correspondence



3D wave function can encode 6D distribution function:

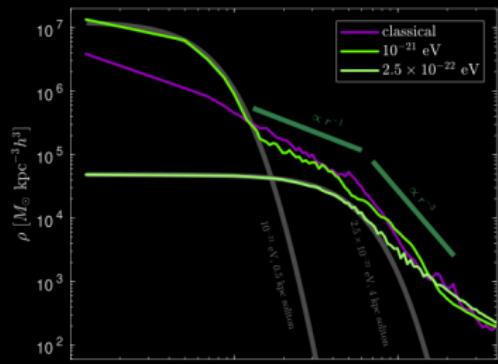
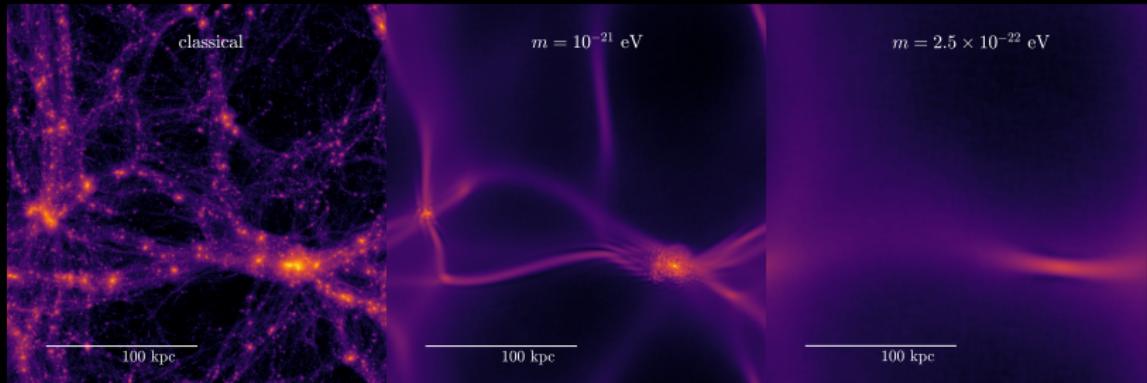
$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) \propto \sum_{\mathbf{v}} \sqrt{f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v})} e^{im\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v}/\hbar + 2\pi i \phi_{\text{rand}, \mathbf{v}}} d^3v$$

# Schrödinger/Vlasov–Poisson correspondence

CDM

$m = 10^{-21}$  eV

$2.5 \cdot 10^{-22}$  eV



# Conclusions

## SP–VP correspondence summary

- ▶ classical limit for the gravitational potential  $V$  recovered as  $\mathcal{O}(m^{-2})$  ( $\Rightarrow$  forces as  $\mathcal{O}(m^{-1})$ ), while density has  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  interference patterns on scale of  $\lambda_{dB}$
- ▶ soliton cores regularize caustic singularities
- ▶ fuzzy halos are NFW-like with a soliton core

# Future Work

- ▶ Larger statistical simulations samples
  - ▶ need approximate particle-based simulation methods
- ▶ Fuzzy Dark Matter
- ▶ Simultaneously constrain particle mass & strong-CP symmetry-breaking scale using a variety of techniques
  - ▶ Lyman- $\alpha$
  - ▶ nonlinear halo mass function
  - ▶ dynamics in a soliton core
  - ▶ soliton – black hole interaction
  - ▶ stellar streams
  - ▶ dynamical heating/timing problems
  - ▶ gravitational lensing
  - ▶ ...

# Return to Catch-22

- ▶ **Catch-22 Problem:** moderate tension in setting the particle mass to simultaneously capture large cores and right amount of substructure
- ▶ Resolutions:
  - ▶ Dark matter is not fuzzy
  - ▶ FDM wave interference
  - ▶ Substructure forms below exponential cutoff (nonlinear effects)
  - ▶ Baryonic physics/feedback (connection between galaxies and their dark matter halos (Wechsler & Tinker, 2018))
  - ▶ **Attractive self-interaction** that arises from strong-CP symmetry-breaking scale (Desjacques, Kehagias & Riotto, 2018)

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# Strong-CP symmetry-breaking scale

Starting point

$$S[\phi] = \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - \left( m^2 f^2 \right) \left( 1 - \cos \frac{\phi}{f} \right) \right] \quad (9)$$

$f \simeq 10^{17}$  GeV is the decay constant,  $m^2/f^2 = 10^{-96} \leftarrow \text{tiny!}$

⇒ Gross–Pitaevskii–Poisson equations in expanding universe

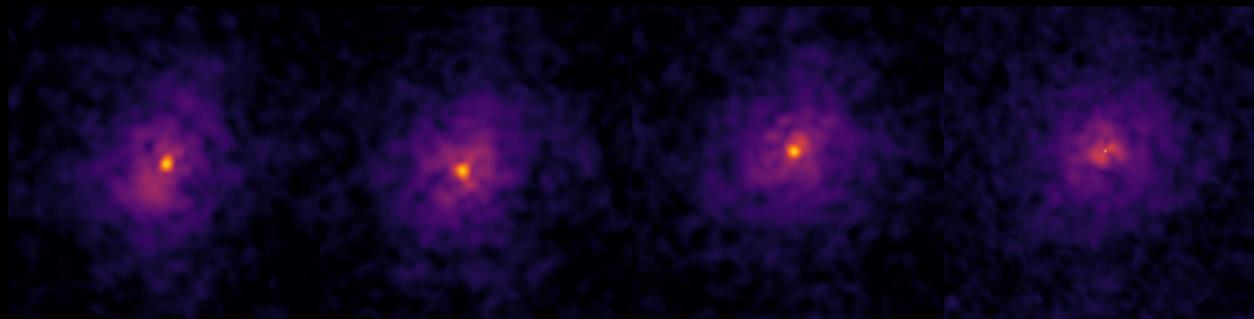
$$i\hbar \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{3}{2}H \right) \psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi + mV\psi - \frac{4\pi\hbar^2 a_s}{m^2} |\psi|^2 \psi \quad (10)$$

$$\nabla^2 V = 4\pi G(\rho - \bar{\rho}) \quad (11)$$

$a_s$  is effective  $s$ -scattering cross section

# Strong-CP symmetry-breaking scale

- Phase-transition: dilute to dense solitons above a critical mass

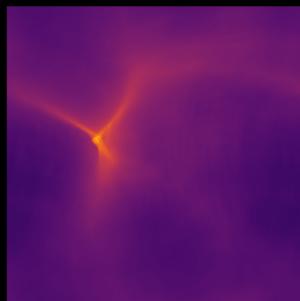


increasing self-interaction →

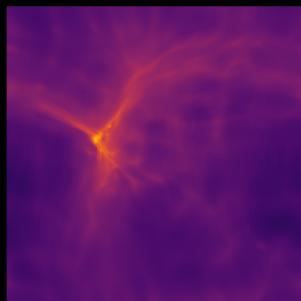
- Work in progress with undergrad Noah Notis



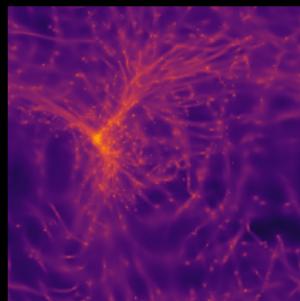
# Strong-CP symmetry-breaking scale



FDM:  $a_s = 0$

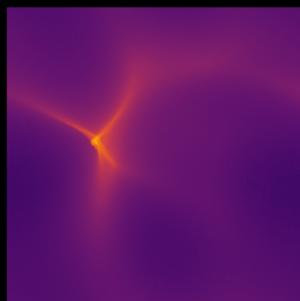


$a_s = 1 \cdot 10^{-75} \text{ cm}$

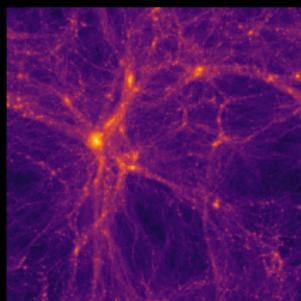


$a_s = 2 \cdot 10^{-75} \text{ cm}$

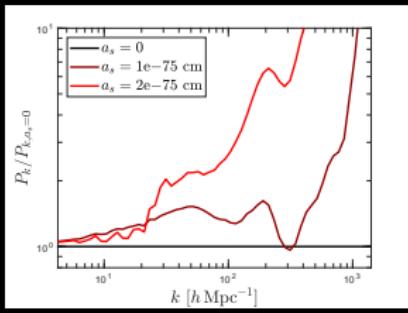
(not fully-converged @prelim res.)



WDM



CDM



relative power-spectrum

# Small-scale features of FDM

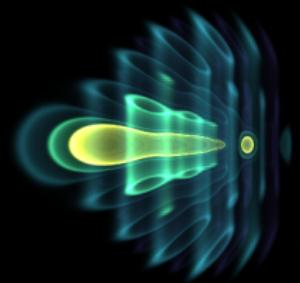
## Student work highlights

FDM dynamical friction

Lachlan Lancaster,

Cara Giovanetti,

Mocz+ 2019



- ▶ Applications:
  - ▶ satellite infall / timing problem
  - ▶ final parsec problem

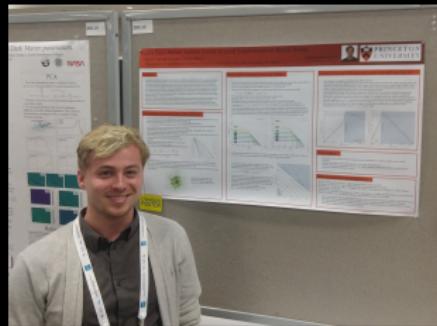
- ▶ Different regimes:
  - ▶ gravity vs quantum pressure
  - ▶ gravity vs velocity dispersion
    - ▶ random walk
  - ▶ gravity vs mixed

# Small-scale features of FDM

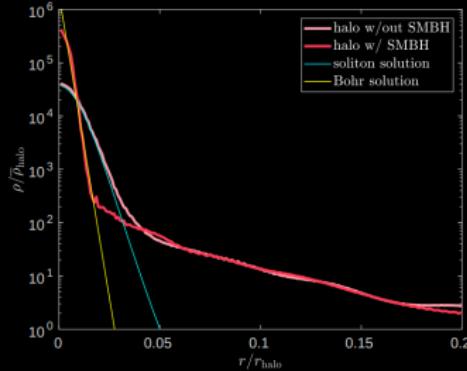
## Student work highlights

Soliton + SMBH

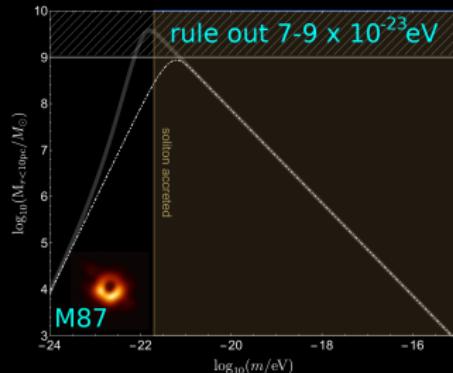
Elliot Davies & Mocz  
(2020)



#AAS235  
Honolulu, HI



- BH makes soliton more compact,  
⇒ hydrogen Bohr solution

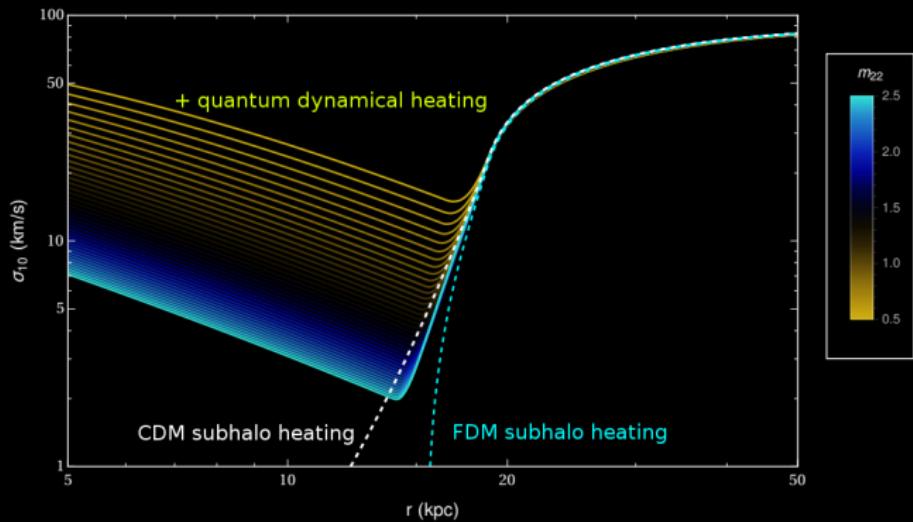


# Small-scale features of FDM

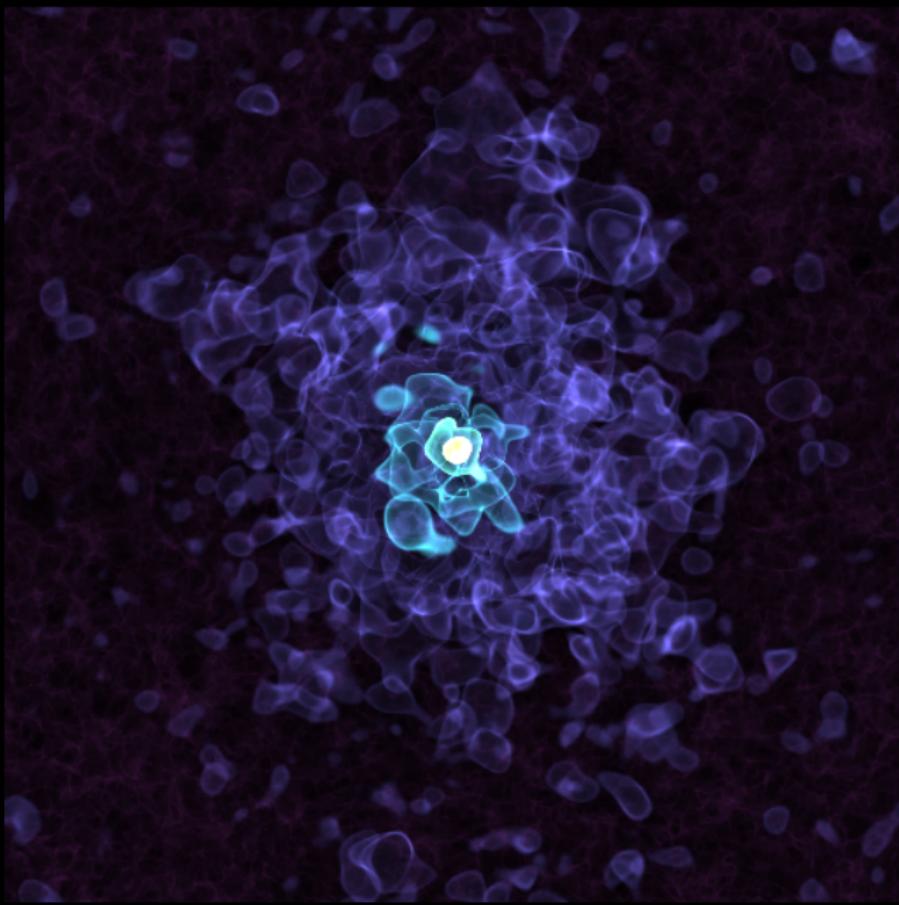
Student work highlights

FDM dynamical heating

Ben Church,  
Mocz+ 2019



- FDM interference fluctuations heat Milky Way old stellar disk



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