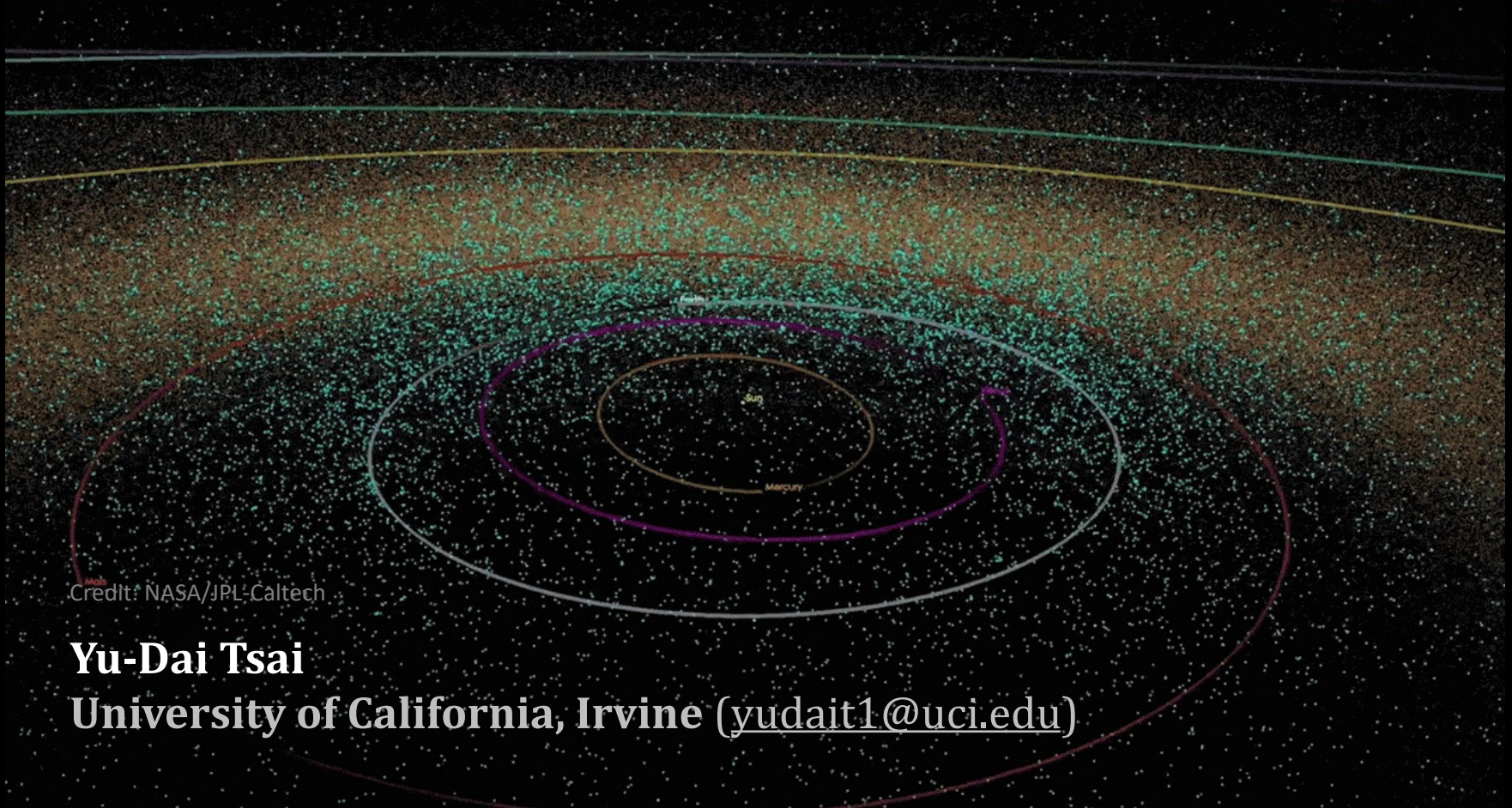


# The Elusive Universe at the **Precision** Frontiers

2020-Jan-05 22:07:02 UTC  
500,000x time



Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

**Yu-Dai Tsai**

University of California, Irvine ([yudait1@uci.edu](mailto:yudait1@uci.edu))

# The Elusive Universe

Underlying  
Theory

**Dark Matter**

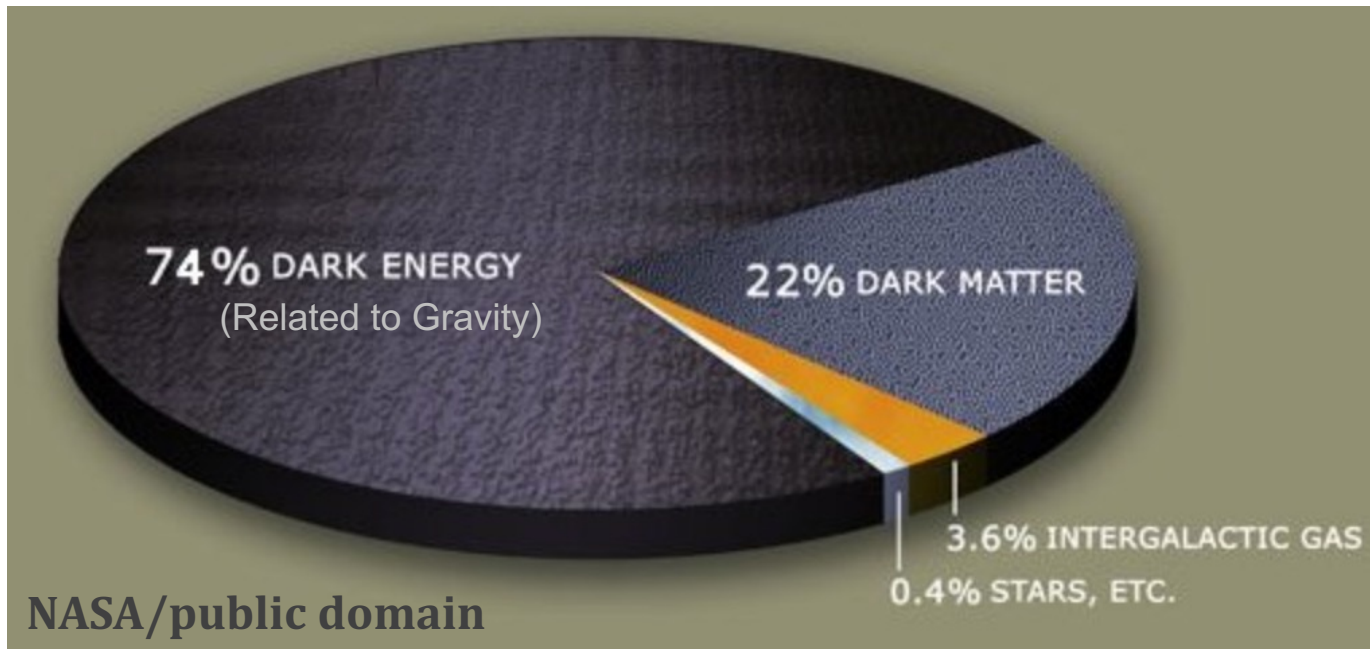
**Gravity**

**Neutrino**

**The rest of the  
Standard Model  
Particles**

*feeble interactions*

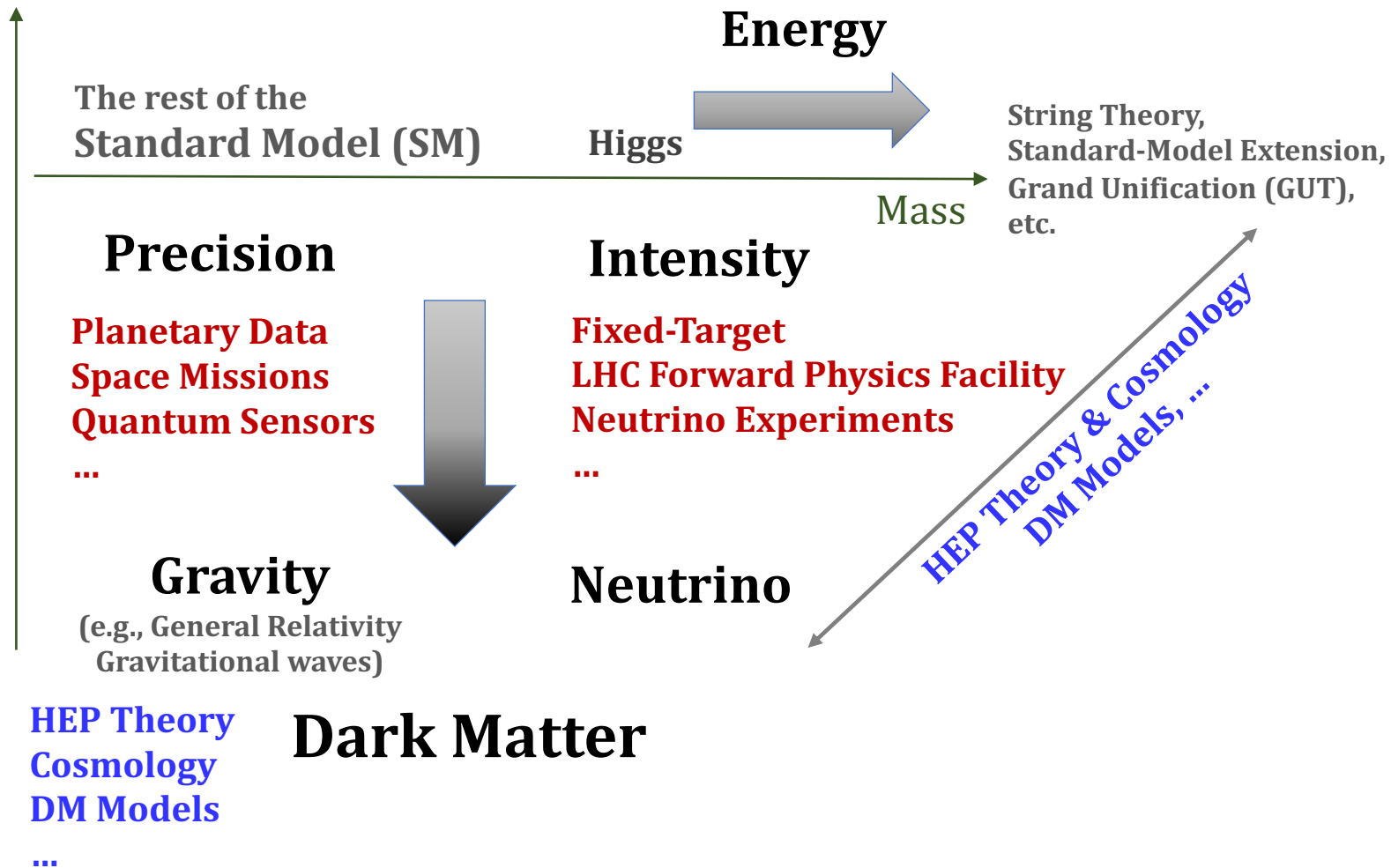
# Explore the Elusive Universe



**Most of the universe is not fully understood  
We won't stop until we understand all of it**

# Strong Probes of the Elusive Universe

Coupling strength



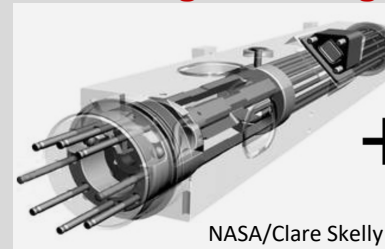


# Novel Directions at the Precision Frontier

New technologies with many **practical** applications. **Keep us safe & punctual!**

1. The precise tracking of asteroids with space missions,  
e.g., OSIRIS-REx tracking the dangerous asteroid Bennu  
~ 1 meter precision for objects in 1 AU ( $\sim 10^{11}$  meter-distant) distance
  - **Tsai *et al*, arXiv:2210.03749** for dark matter (DM) & cosmic neutrinos
2. The precise time keeping (e.g., NASA Deep Space Atomic Clock)
  - lose 1 second every 10 million years  
**Tsai, Eby, Safronova, Nature Astronomy (2022)**  
for ultralight dark matter (ULDM) searches

**Searching for ultralight DM bound to Sun**



NASA/Clare Skelly

+



Parker Solar Probe

## Theme of this talk:

Bridging **High Energy Theory, Precision Astronomy, & Space Quantum Technology!**

# Outline

## 1. Precision Astrometry:

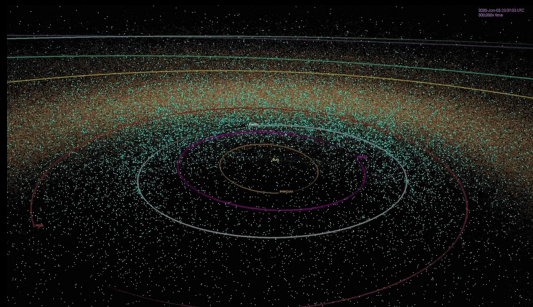
### Dark Matter & Cosmic Neutrinos

## 2. Quantum Probe for Ultralight Dark Matter

(Backup Slides)



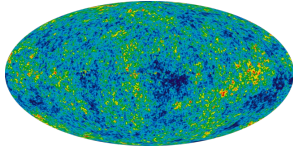
Vera Rubin  
Carnegie Institution for Science



Albert Einstein  
Mount Wilson Observatory, California

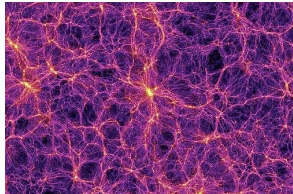
# How do we know dark matter exist?

Size



Credit: NASA / WMAP

**Cosmic Microwave Background**



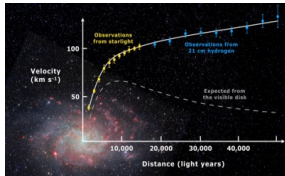
Credit: Springel et al. 2015 (10-100 Gpc)

**Large Scale Structure**



Credit: NASA/CXC/M. Weiss (Gpc)

**Bullet Cluster Merger**



Credit: De Leo-Winkler (10 kpc)

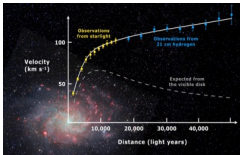
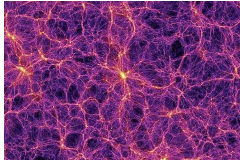
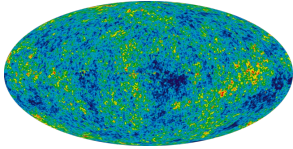
**Galactic Rotation Curves**

DM  
Gravitational  
Interactions

Modified from a slide from Tien-Tien Yu (U of Oregon)

# DM Gravity in Smaller Scale?

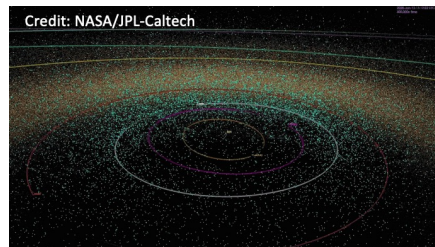
Size



DM Gravitational Interactions

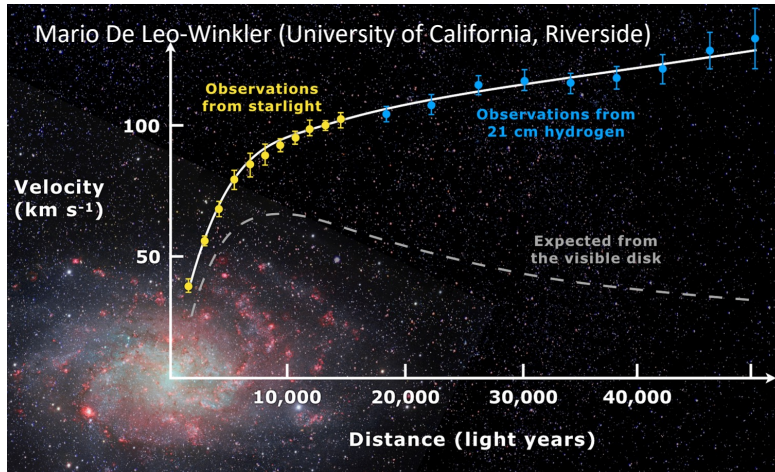
Precision Astrometry

**Tsai et al.**, arXiv:2210.03749  
(under review by Nature Astronomy)





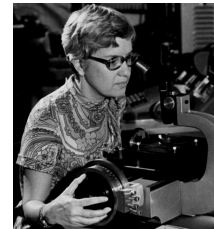
# A question we asked



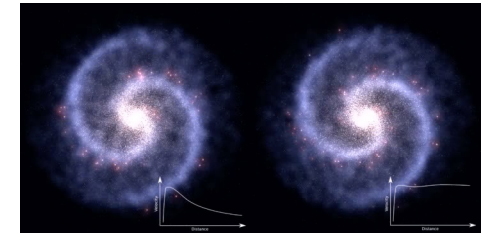
Stars



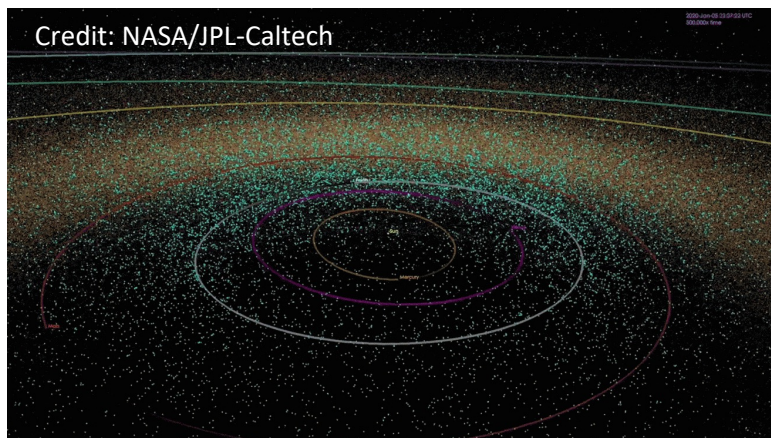
$\rho_{\text{DM}}$  for galaxies



Vera Rubin



From:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Galaxy\\_rotation\\_under\\_the\\_influence\\_of\\_dark\\_matter.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Galaxy_rotation_under_the_influence_of_dark_matter.svg)  
 under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](#) license.



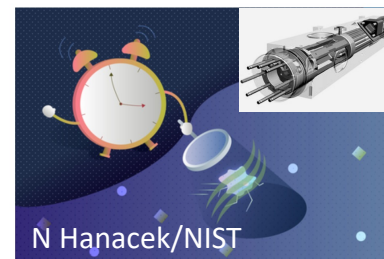
Solar System Objects



$\rho_{\text{DM}}(r)$  for solar system

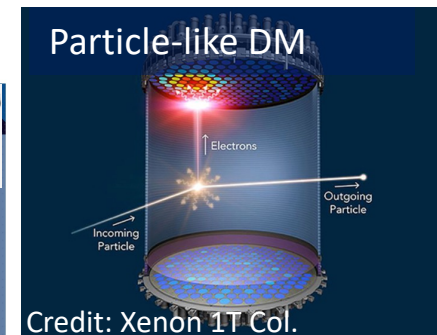
## Crucial for Direct Detection of DM

Wave-like DM



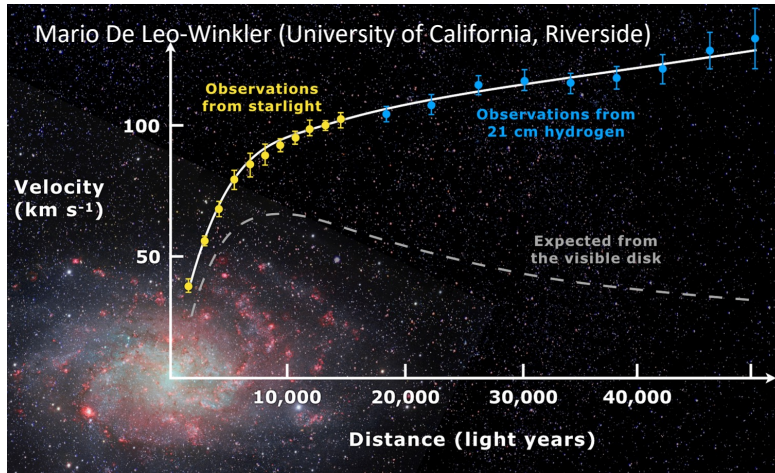
Credit: N. Hanacek/NIST

Particle-like DM



Yu-Dai Tsai (UC Irvine)

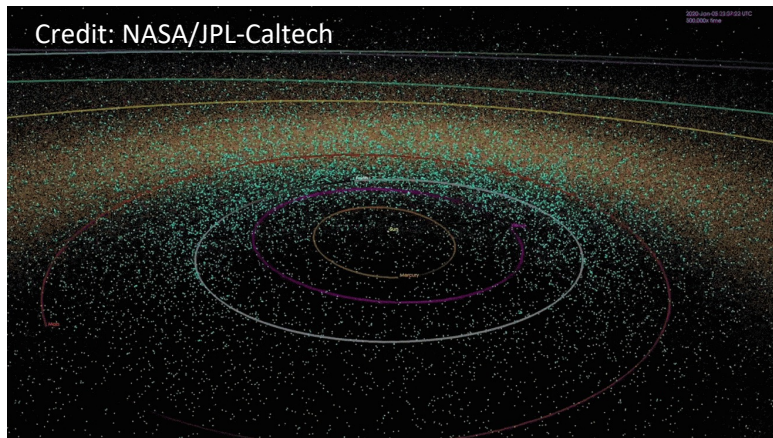
# A question we asked



Stars



$\rho_{\text{DM}}$  for galaxies



Solar System Objects



$\rho_{\text{DM}}(r)$  for solar system

$$\rho_{\text{DM}} \ll \frac{m_{\odot}}{(\text{AU})^3}$$

$$\bar{\rho}_{\text{DM}} = 0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3, \quad \bar{\rho}_{\text{DM}} \sim 10^{-18} \frac{m_{\odot}}{(\text{AU})^3}$$

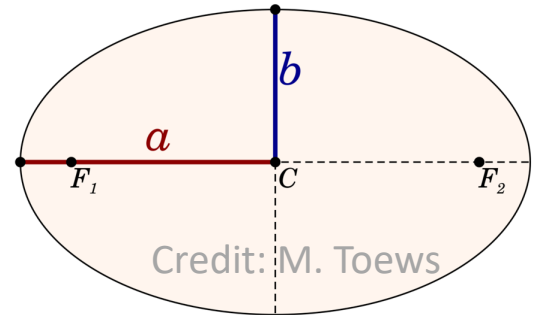
Velocity measurements  
ineffective

**We need to go beyond it!**

# Beyond Velocity: Perihelion Precession

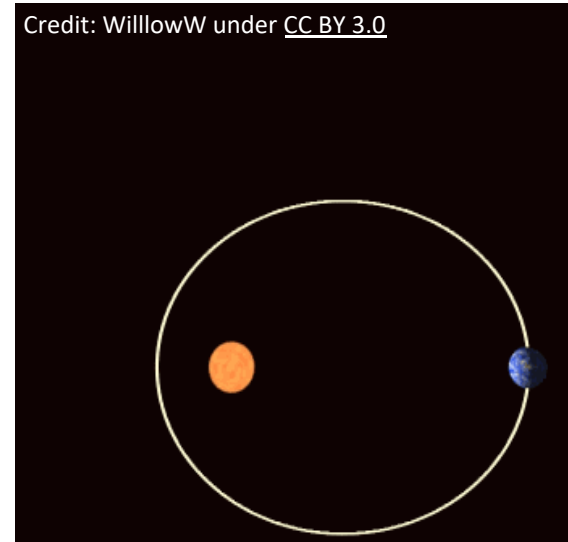
Newton :  $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) = -G \frac{m_{\odot} m_{*}}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$ , no precession.

- $a$  is the semi-major axis
- $e$  is the eccentricity, quantify how non-spherical the orbit is.



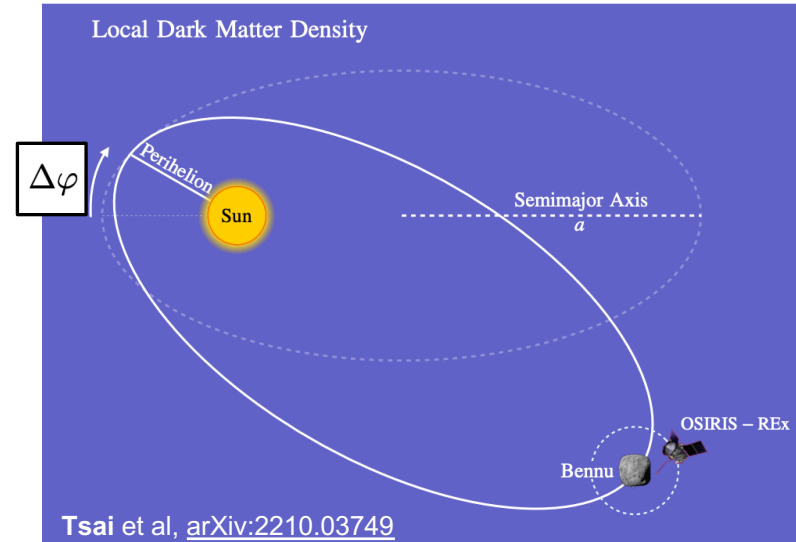
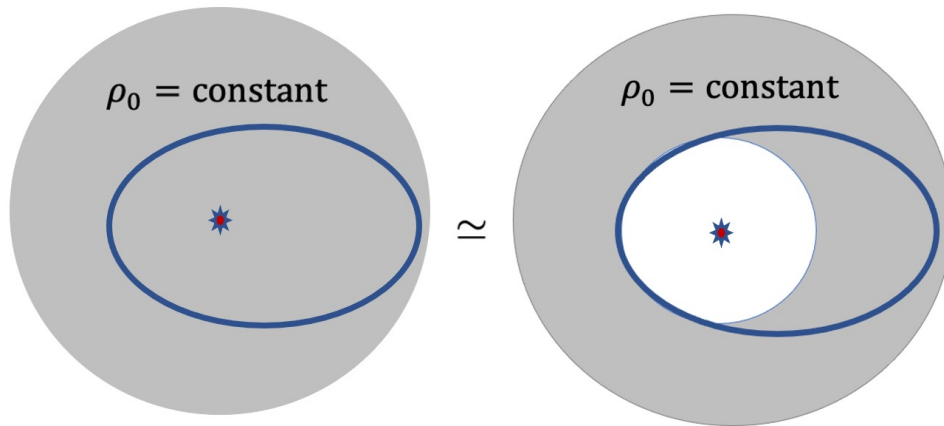
- “Anomalous” precession of Mercury's perihelion
- One of the first ways to confirm **General Relativity**

Credit: WillowW under [CC BY 3.0](#)



# Our Project:

## Local DM or Cosmic Neutrinos Induce Precessions



Dark Matter Gravity: 
$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{2\pi}{3} Gm\rho_0 \left( \frac{2r_0^3}{r^2} - 2r \right) \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

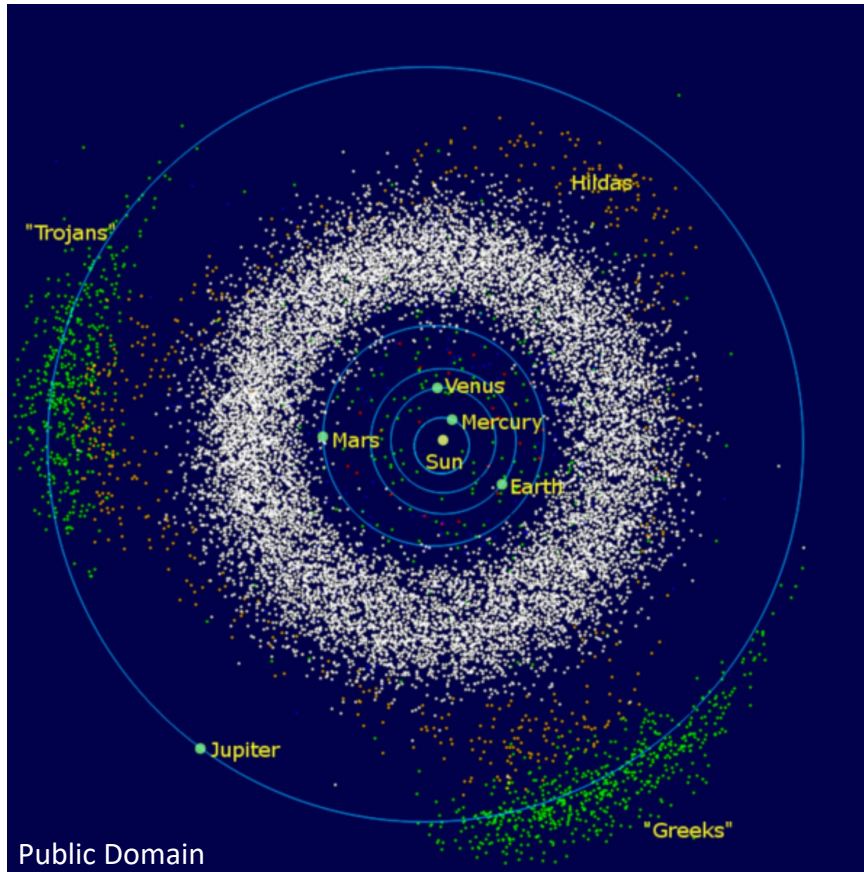
$$\simeq -\frac{4\pi}{3} Gm\rho_0 r \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{4\pi}{3} Gm\rho_0 \frac{r_0^3}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}.$$

$m$  is the mass of the object

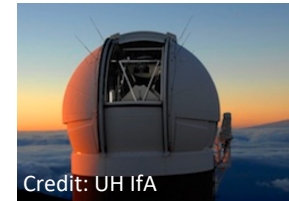
Induced Precession: 
$$\Delta\varphi \simeq -4\pi^2 \rho_0 a^3 (1 - e^2)^{1/2} / M_\odot$$



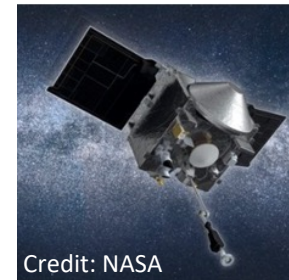
# Asteroids & Other Solar System Objects



Radar (Goldstone)



Optical (Pan-STARRS, LSST)

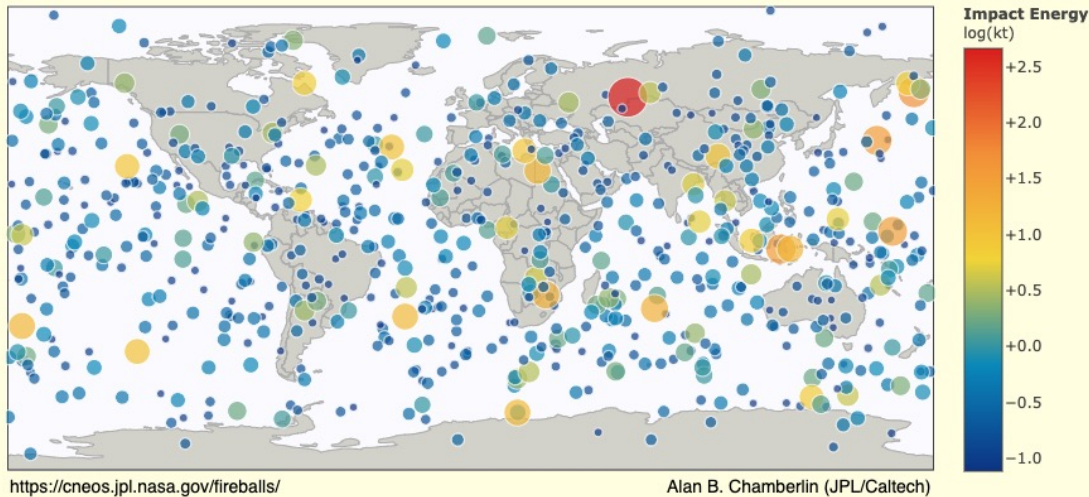


Space Missions

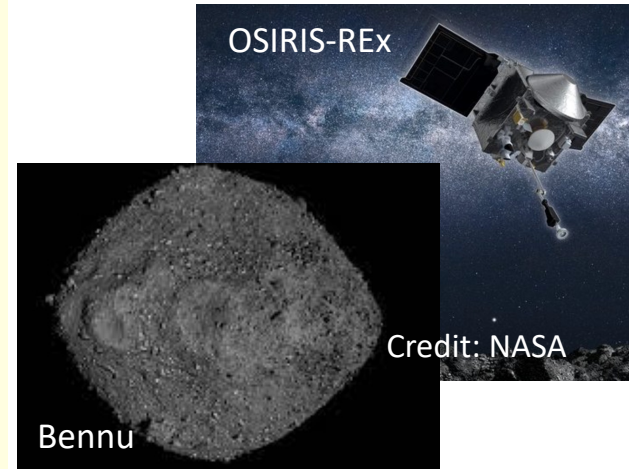
Use **millions of solar-system objects** to study many **fundamental physics topics**.  
Need **theory** & **data** expertise to realize the full potential of the dataset.

# Asteroids & Planetary Defense

Fireballs Reported by US Government Sensors  
(1988-Apr-15 to 2021-Jul-30)

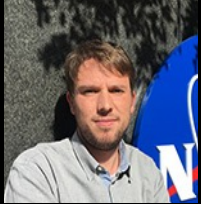


OSIRIS-REx



- Tracking asteroids is important to our safety
- We have space missions, like OSIRIS-REx, to track dangerous asteroids like Bennu, return sample.
- **NASA Plan:** OSIRIS-REx will track Apophis and become OSIRIS-APEX

# Robust Analysis: High-Fidelity Force Model

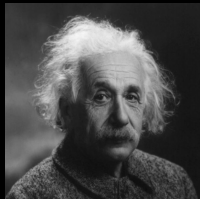
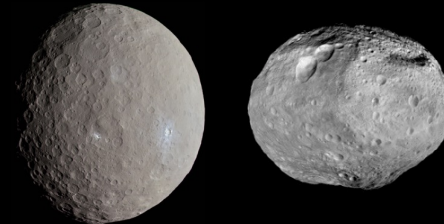


**NASA JPL & OSIRIS-REx Expert**  
Davide Farnocchia

## JPL Planetary Ephemerides DE441



343 Small-body  
Perturbers



Relativistic  
Effects



Oblateness



The Yarkovsky effect based on in-situ characterization,  
solar radiation pressure, Poynting-Robertson drag, etc.

# Adding Dark Matter to the Force Model

Force terms considered by  
Davide Farnocchia

$$\ddot{\mathbf{r}}_i = \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\mu_j (\mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{r}_i)}{r_{ij}^3} \left\{ 1 - \frac{2(\beta + \gamma)}{c^2} \sum_{l \neq i} \frac{\mu_l}{r_{il}} - \frac{2\beta - 1}{c^2} \sum_{k \neq j} \frac{\mu_k}{r_{jk}} \right. \\ + \gamma \left( \frac{\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i}{c} \right)^2 + (1 + \gamma) \left( \frac{\dot{\mathbf{r}}_j}{c} \right)^2 - \frac{2(1 + \gamma)}{c^2} \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}}_j \\ \left. - \frac{3}{2c^2} \left[ \frac{(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}}_j}{r_{ij}} \right]^2 + \frac{1}{2c^2} (\mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{r}_i) \cdot \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_j \right\} \\ + \frac{1}{c^2} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\mu_j}{r_{ij}^3} \left\{ [\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j] \cdot [(2 + 2\gamma) \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i - (1 + 2\gamma) \dot{\mathbf{r}}_j] \right\} (\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i - \dot{\mathbf{r}}_j) \\ + \frac{3 + 4\gamma}{2c^2} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\mu_j \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_j}{r_{ij}}$$



The **dark matter**  
contribution

$$F(r) = \frac{2\pi}{3} G m \rho_0 \left( \frac{2r_0^3}{r^2} - 2r \right) \hat{\mathbf{r}} \\ \simeq -\frac{4\pi}{3} G m \rho_0 r \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

## List of uncertainties considered:

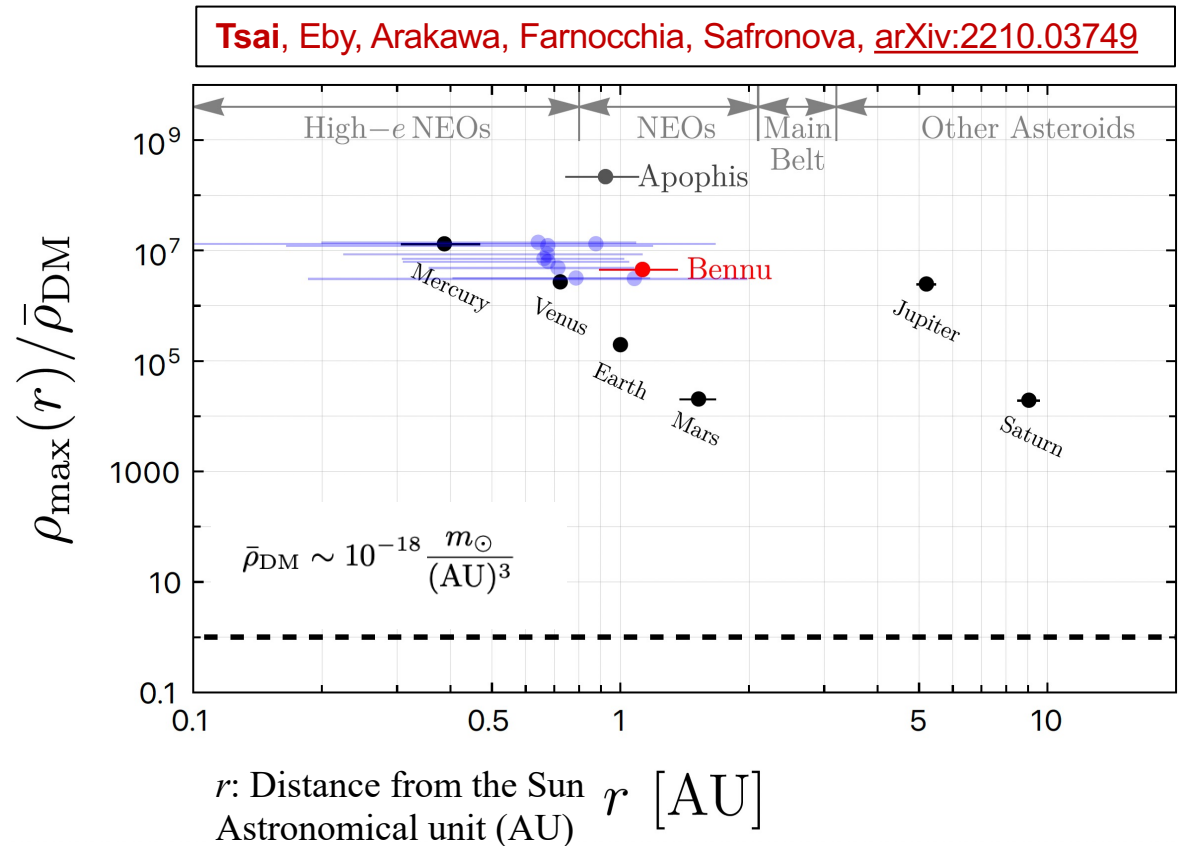
1) Errors in planetary trajectories and masses; 2) Errors in perturber masses & trajectories; 3) Higher order relativistic terms; 4) Higher order gravity terms; 5) Simplified assumptions in nongravitational force model (non-spherical effects, Yarkovsky, solar torque, physical parameter evolution, etc.); 7) Solar mass loss and solar wind; 8) Meteoroid impacts, Spacecraft interaction

Planetary constraints, see Pitjeu, Pitjeva, Astronomy Letters (2013)



# New Model-Independent Constraints on DM Profile

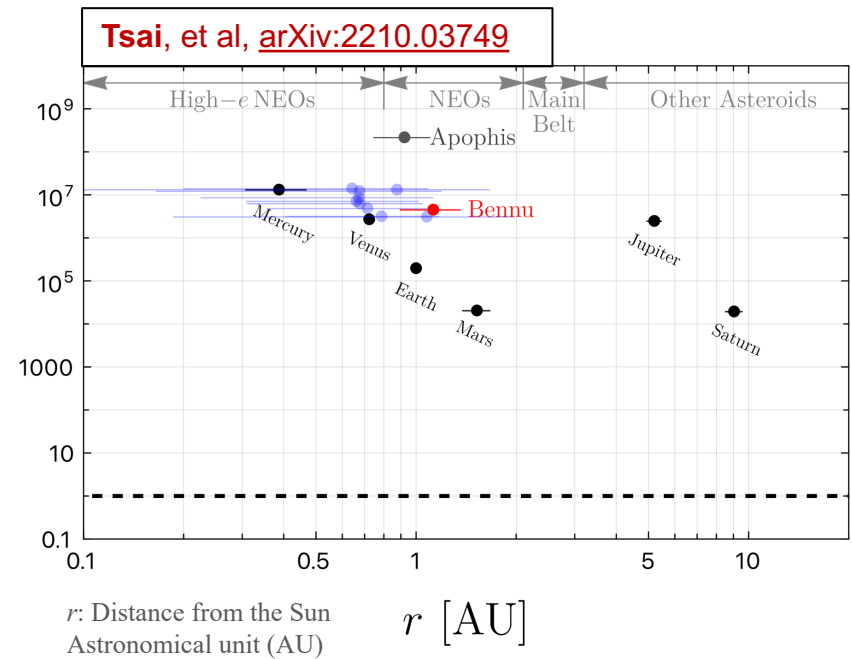
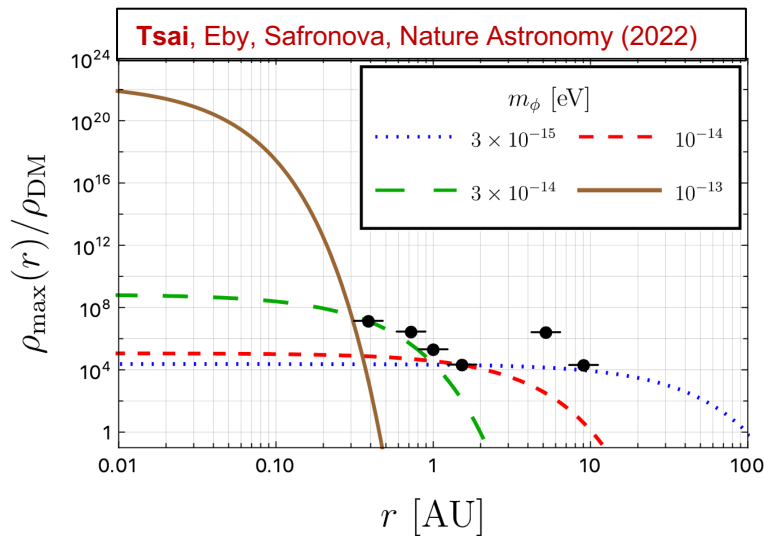
- $\rho_{\max}(r)$  is the derived upper bound on DM though only gravitational interaction
- $\bar{\rho}_{\text{DM}} = 0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$
- NEO: Near-Earth Objects



- The **horizontal lines** are NOT error bars, but the **coverage of the constraints**.

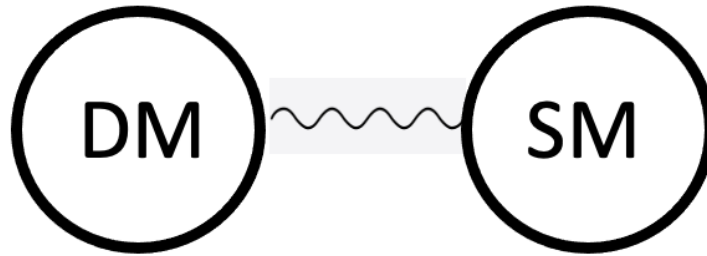
# The Implications of Our Constraints

1. Strong constraints on DM models predict local over-densities in solar system, including **solar halo**, **axion mini-cluster**, **solar basin**, etc.



# Implications of the Constraints: DM-SM Interaction

2. Strong constraints on **DM-SM long-range interaction**,  
only  **$\sim 4$ -6 order stronger than gravity: very strong bound**



$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{DM-SM}}(\mathbf{r}) \simeq -\tilde{\alpha}_D \frac{4\pi}{3} G m \rho'_0 r \hat{\mathbf{r}}.$$

$$\rho_{\text{DM}} \lesssim \bar{\rho}_{\text{DM}} (6 \times 10^6 / \tilde{\alpha}_D), \text{ Bennu.}$$

$$\rho_{\text{DM}} \lesssim \bar{\rho}_{\text{DM}} (3 \times 10^4 / \tilde{\alpha}_D), \text{ Saturn.}$$

Constraints on particle physics and cosmology motivated models,  
**Tsai *et al*, in progress**

# Implications of the Constraints: CvB

## 3. Close-to-leading constraints on **cosmic neutrino background (CvB)** over-density profile.

$$\eta \equiv n_\nu/\bar{n}_\nu \lesssim 3.4 \times 10^{11} (0.1 \text{ eV}/m_\nu), 95\% \text{ CL [Planets]}$$

$\eta \leq 1.1 \times 10^{11}$  (95% CL), from  $\nu_e + {}^3\text{H} \rightarrow {}^3\text{H}_e^+ + e^-$   
KATRIN Col., *PRL* (2022), the leading lab constraint.

Dedicated search for CvB see, e.g., the PTOLEMY proposal,  
PTOLEMY collaboration, [arXiv:1808.01892](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.01892) (2022)

Other CvB phenomenology, see, e.g., Brdar et al, *PLB* (2022)



# Summary of High-Energy Theory Targets

- GR Test: 
$$\Delta\varphi = \frac{6\pi GM_\odot}{a(1-e^2)c^2} \left[ \frac{4-\beta}{3} \right] \propto a^{-1}$$
- Fifth Forces: 
$$|\Delta\varphi_{\phi,A'}| \simeq a(1-e) \left[ \left( \frac{mc}{\hbar} \right)^2 \frac{g^2}{4\pi G m_p^2} \frac{2\pi}{1 + \frac{g^2}{4\pi G m_p^2}} \right] \propto a$$

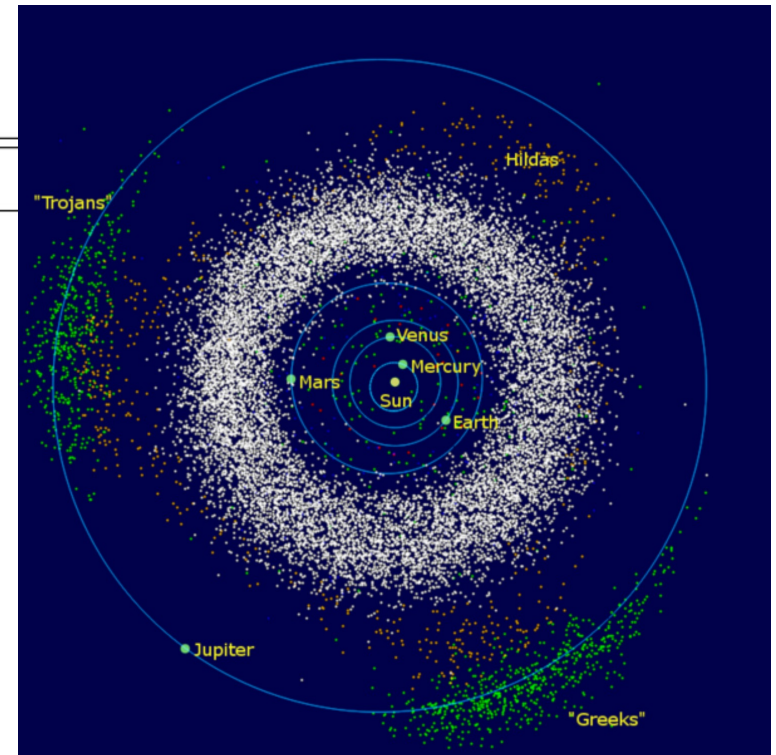
(light mediator limit  $m \ll \hbar/ac$ ), see **Tsai et al** [arXiv:2107.04038](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.04038)
- Dark Matter: 
$$\Delta\varphi \simeq -4\pi^2 \rho_0 a^3 (1-e^2)^{1/2} / M_\odot \propto a^3$$
- **HEP theory inputs** are crucial
- Calling for **modern data-analysis approaches**

# Millions of Objects of Interest

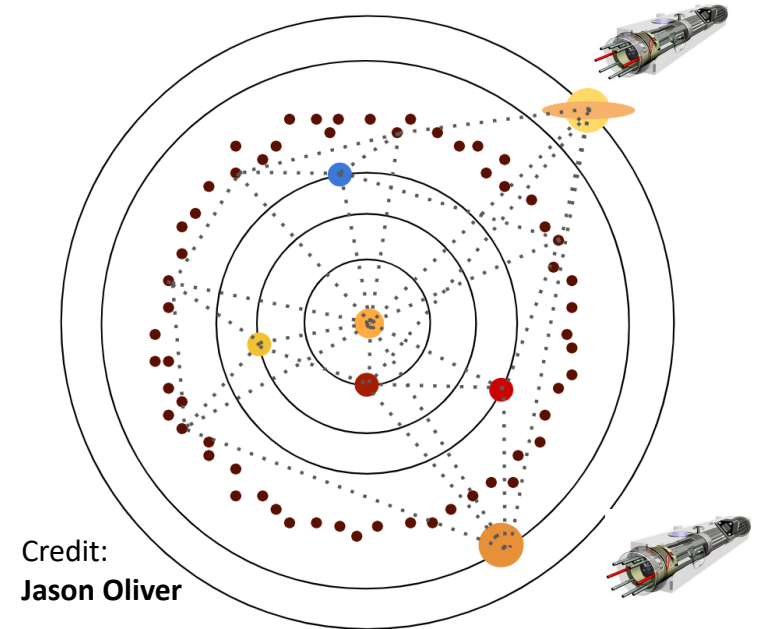
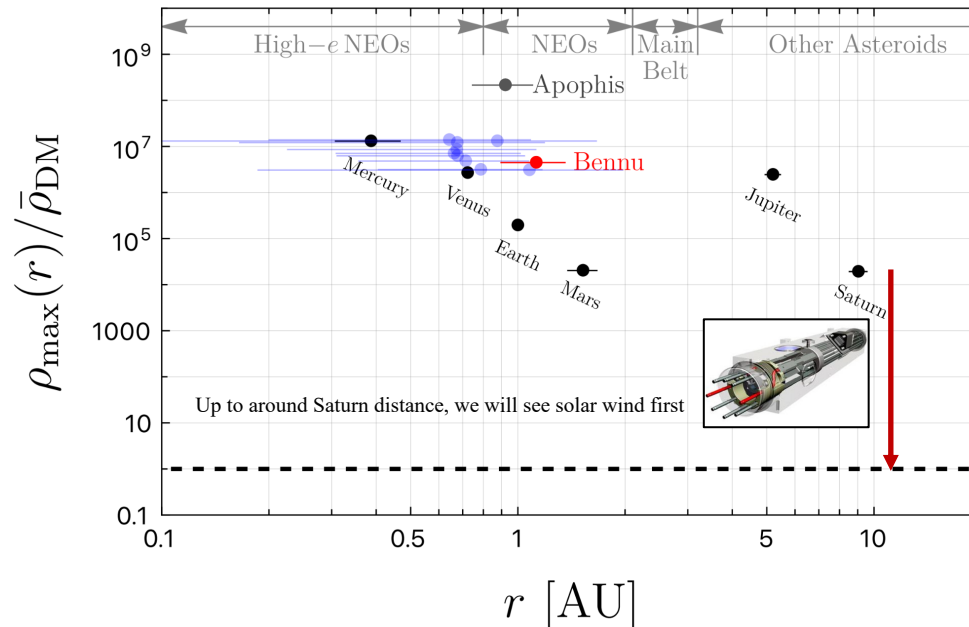
**Tsai, Wu, Vagnozzi, Visinelli, [2107.04038](#)**

Minor Planets	$a$ [au]	$\sim$ Numbers
Near-Earth Object (NEO)	$< 1.3^*$	$> 25000$
Main-Belt Asteroid (M)	$\sim 2 - 3$	$\sim 1$ million
Hilda (H)	$3.7 - 4.2$	$> 4000$
Jupiter Trojan (JT)	$5.2$	$> 9800$
Trans-Neptunian Object (TNO)	$> 30$	$2700$
Extreme TNO (ETNO)	$> 150$	$12$

\*NEOs are defined as having perihelia  $a(1 - e) < 1.3$  au.



# Roadmap to Observe Local Dark Matter through Gravity



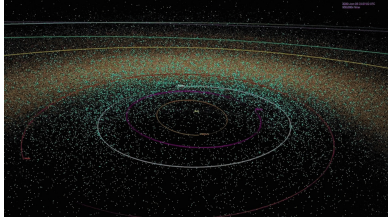
Tsai, Aishik, Arakawa *et al.*

The “**Asteroid Network**” project for fundamental physics,

1. Increase **precision** (e.g., with quantum clocks onboard of space missions)
2. Consider **more asteroids & minor planets** (near Sun & far from Sun)

# Summary & Results & Plans

## Precision Astrometry



## Space Missions



OSIRIS-REx → **OSIRIS-APEX**

## Quantum Sensors



NASA DSAC I → **DSAC II**



## Precision Frontier: HEP Theories & New Precision Probes

### Plan:

Study more **HEP Theory & cosmology** topics

Collaborate with particle theorists & cosmologists, space scientists, astronomers, machine-Learners, and quantum experts

## Improved understanding of

1. Dark Matter Local Distribution  
**Tsai et al., [arXiv:2210.03749](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.03749)**
2. Cosmic Neutrino Local Distribution  
**Tsai et al., [arXiv:2210.03749](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.03749)**
3. Ultralight Dark Matter  
**Tsai+, Nature Astronomy (2022)**
4. Fifth Force  
**Tsai et al., [arXiv:2107.04038](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.04038)**
5. Gravity Theories;  
**Many Other Topics**

# Future Observations

## Rubin Observatory/LSST

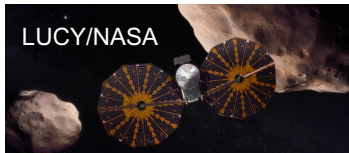


Credit: LSST/NSF/AURA

LSST: Large Synoptic Survey Telescope

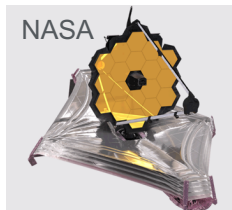
**5 times more asteroids**

## Space Missions



Explore **Jupiter's Trojan asteroids**

## James Webb Space Telescope (JWST)



## Cosmic Frontier: HEP Theories & New Data

### Plan:

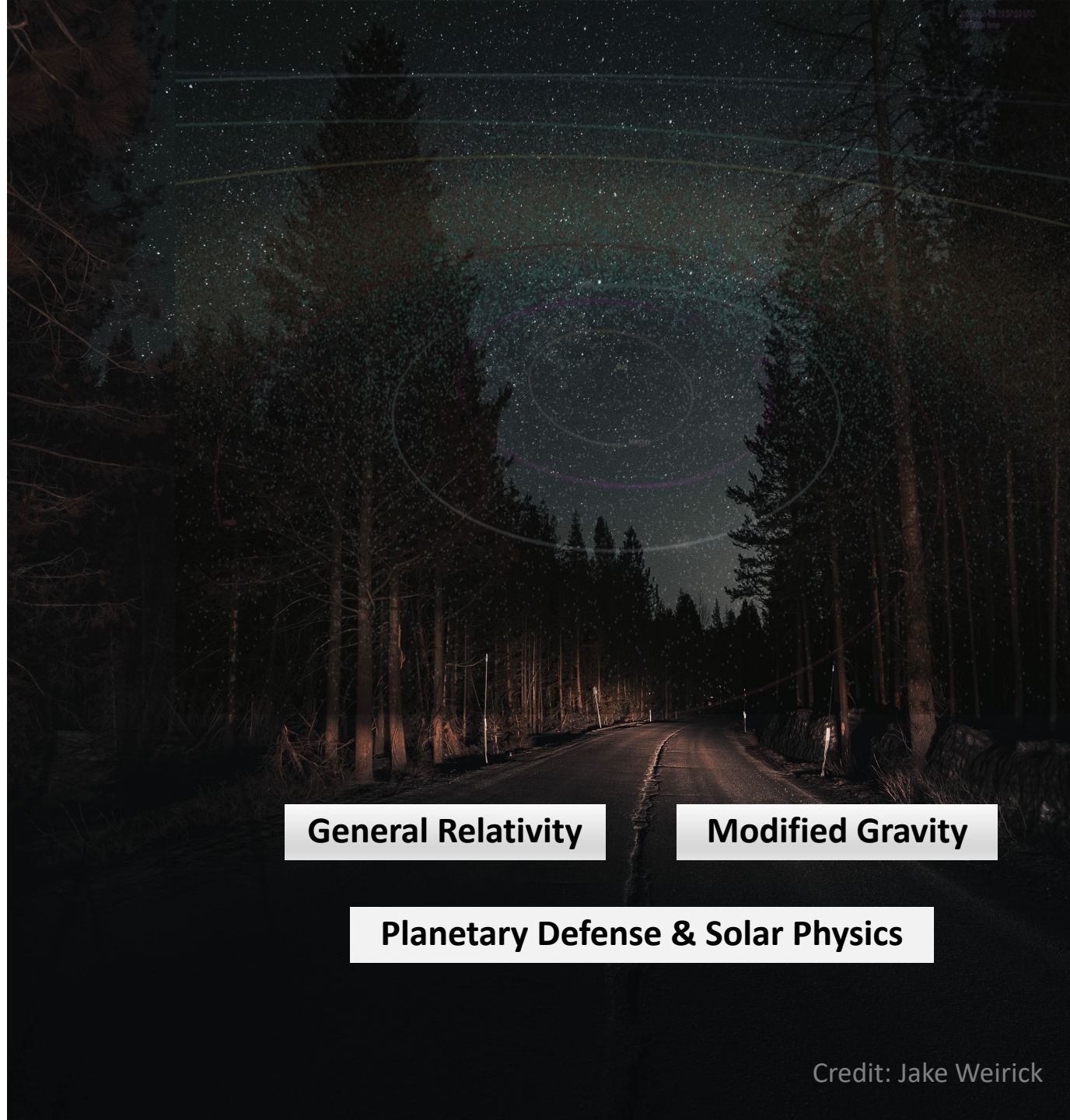
- Study more **HEP Theory & cosmology** topics
- Conduct robust analysis; with data-intense techniques

Improved understanding of

1. Dark Matter Local Distribution  
*Tsai et al.*, [arXiv:2210.03749](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.03749)
2. Cosmic Neutrino Local Distribution  
*Tsai et al.*, [arXiv:2210.03749](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.03749)
3. Ultralight Dark Matter  
*Tsai+*, *Nature Astronomy* (2022)
4. Fifth Force  
*Tsai et al.*, [arXiv:2107.04038](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.04038)
5. Gravity Theories;  
**Many Other Topics**



# My Understanding Before Our Projects



**General Relativity**

**Modified Gravity**

**Planetary Defense & Solar Physics**

Credit: Jake Weirick



# **New Precision Lab for HEP Theories Cosmology and Astrophysics**

**Dark Matter & Cosmic Neutrinos**

**Many Other Topics**

**Leading GR & Fifth-Forces Constraints**

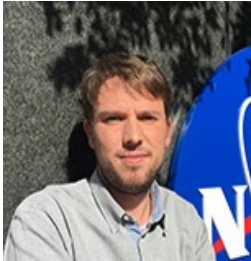
**Interstellar Object  
(‘Oumuamua)**

**Planetary Defense & Solar Physics**

# The Team: **SpaceQ** & Asteroid Network

## Defenders of the Earth

Davide Farnocchia (NASA JPL)  
Marco Micheli (ESA)



## AMO & Quantum Expert

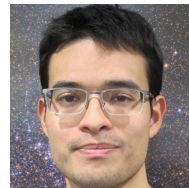
Marianna Safronova  
(UDeI & NIST)



\*postdocs  
\*\*student

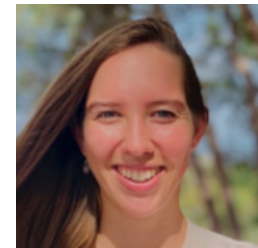
## Cosmologists

Sunny Vagnozzi (Cambridge/Trento)  
Luca Visinelli (TDLI)  
Jason Arakawa\* (UDeI)  
Josh Eby\* (IPMU)



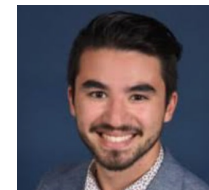
## Astronomers

Johanna Paine\*\* (UCI)  
Paul Robertson (UCI)



## AI & Machine Learners (ATLAS@LHC)

Aishik Ghosh\*, Daniel Whiteson (UCI)



“Neuro Network for Asteroid Network”

**Big thanks to the team!**

- **SpaceQ** was featured by DOE Office of Science Newsletter, NIST Cal Presidential Office, U Chicago News, VICE Magazine, etc.
- Also, you can find my **outreach interview** about **fifth-forces** [\[here\]](#)



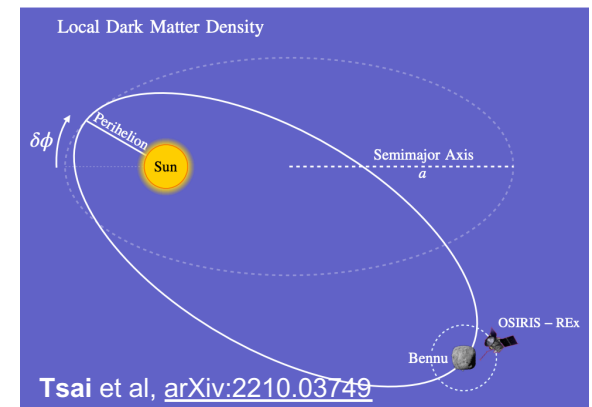
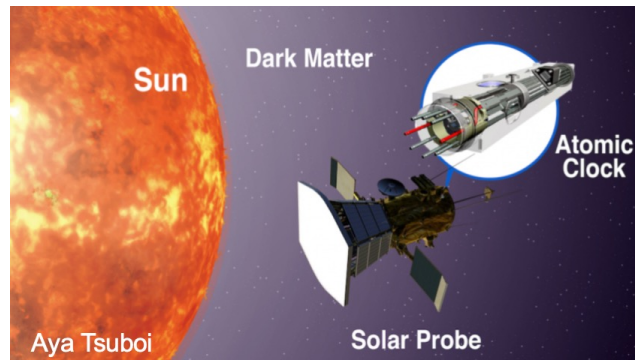
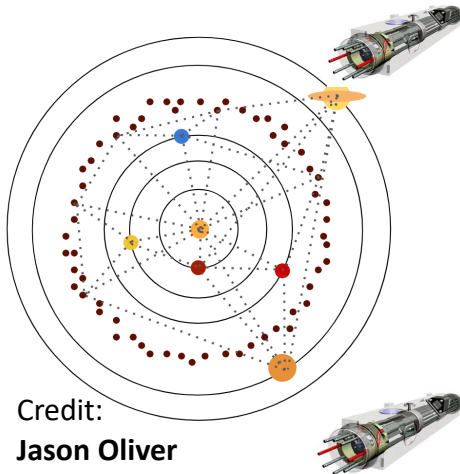


Frederick Reines

Nobel Prize Laureate. Professor at UC Irvine

Utilized a **nuclear reactor** to study **free neutrinos**

**The Elusive Universe is at the horizon**  
**I presented a **practical** roadmap to explore it**  
****wide & deep****  
**Thank you for listening!**



The relevant literatures are growing fast, please  
let us know if we forgot to include your  
important works.

Contact: [yudait1@uci.edu](mailto:yudait1@uci.edu)

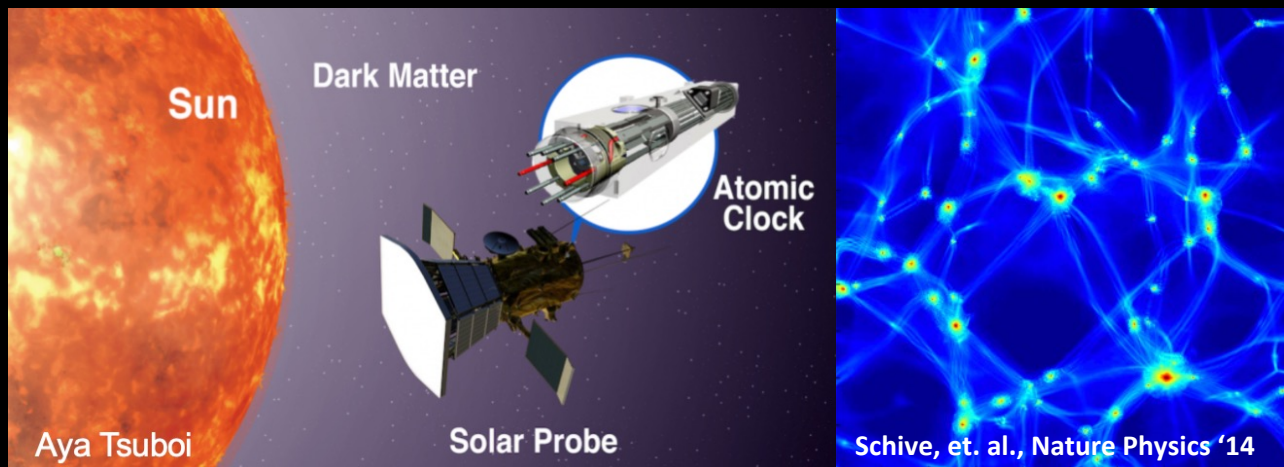


# Outline

## 1. Precision Astrometry:

Dark Matter, Cosmic Neutrinos, Fifth Forces & GR

## 2. Quantum Probe for Ultralight Dark Matter



# NASA DSAC & Parker Solar Probe



- **NASA Deep Space Atomic Clock (DSAC)**  
loses one second every 10 million years
- The clock has operated for more than **12 months in space**;  
**long-term fractional frequency stability of  $3 \times 10^{-15}$** ,  
Burt et al., Nature (2021)
- Exceeds previous space clock performance by up to an order of magnitude
- [Clock-Comparison for CPT & Lorentz Violation, Kostelecký, Vargas, PRD '18](#)



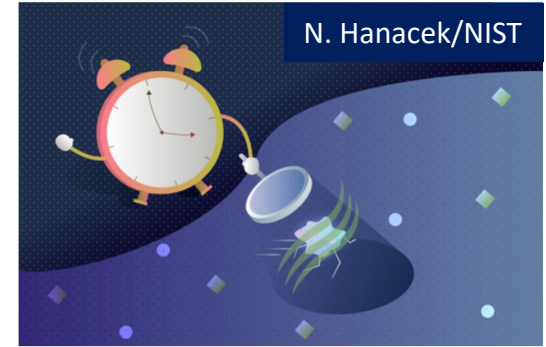
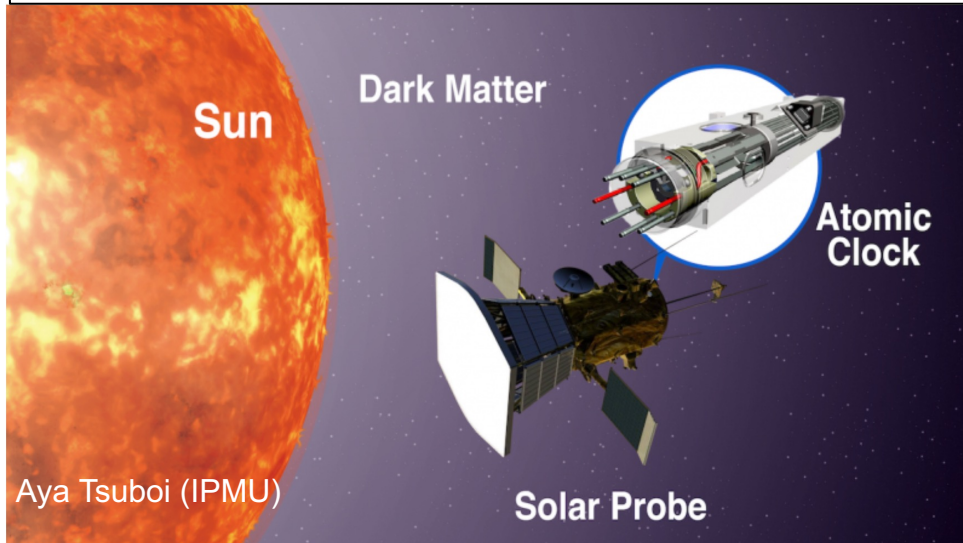
Size of PSP ~ 1.0 × 3.0 × 2.3 m  
(685 kg → 555 kg)

- **Parker Solar Probe (PSP)**
- see, e.g., “Probing the energetic particle environment near the Sun,”  
McComas et al, Nature (2019)

**My Question: Why don't we put a quantum clocks on a solar probe?**  
**What fundamental physics can we study?**

# SpaceQ Mission Concept

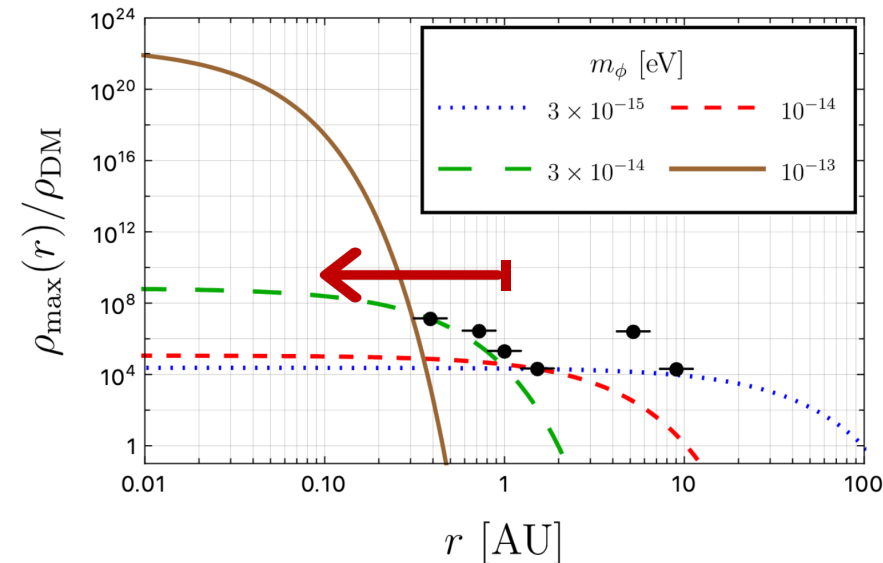
Tsai, Eby, Safronova, Nature Astronomy (2022)



$$\phi(t, \vec{x}) = \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t - \vec{k}_\phi \cdot \vec{x} + \dots).$$

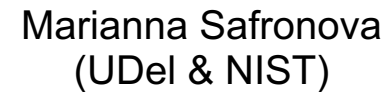
(Non-relativistic solution)

$$\omega \simeq m_\phi.$$



- **Oscillation frequency  $\sim$  dark matter mass**
- **Propose a two-clock comparison experiment onboard a future Solar Probe**

**Tsai, Eby, Safronova, Nature Astronomy (2022)**



↑  
Motivate  
Novel Clocks!

$m_e = 0.511$  MeV is just a normalization.

$$\frac{g_e^2 \Lambda^2}{(4\pi)^2} \lesssim m_\phi^2, \quad \Lambda = 4\pi v_{EW} \simeq 3 \text{ TeV}.$$

# Spatial Variation of Fundamental Constants

Tsai, Eby, Safronova, Nature Astronomy (2022)

$$k_X \equiv c^2 \frac{\delta X}{X \delta U}. \quad X = \alpha, \mu, \text{ or } m_q / \Lambda_{QCD}.$$

fine-structure constant (pointing to  $\alpha$ )  
quark and QCD parameters (pointing to  $m_q / \Lambda_{QCD}$ )  
electron to proton mass ratio (pointing to  $\mu$ )

$\delta U$ : change in gravitational potential .

$$\delta U / c^2 \simeq 3.3 \times 10^{-10}, \quad \text{Earth variation, Lange et al, PRL (2021)}$$

$$\delta U / c^2 \sim 9 \times 10^{-8}, \quad \text{from Earth to Solar probe at 0.1 AU.}$$

- Achieve constraints on  $k_X$  that are a factor of  $\sim 300$  stronger