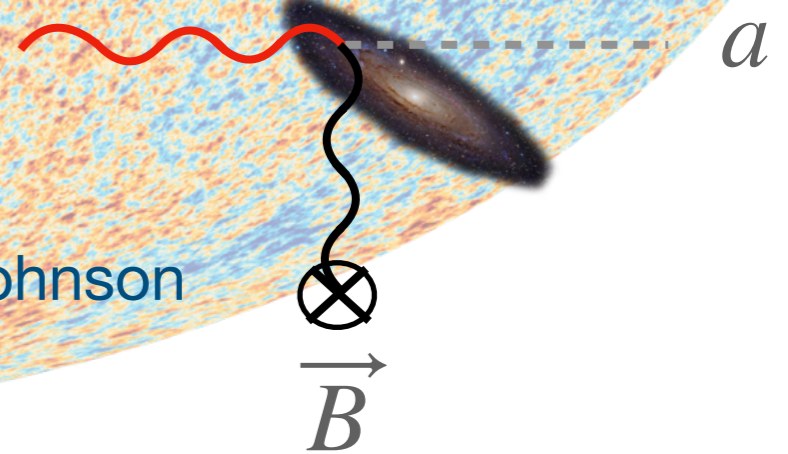


# Axion screening of the CMB

Cristina Mondino



$\gamma_{\text{CMB}}$



Based on arXiv:2405.xxxx,  
with Dalila Pîrvu , Junwu Huang, and Matt Johnson

CATCH22+2 2024 — DIAS — May 3rd 2024

# Axion (Like) Particles

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu a \partial^\mu a - \frac{1}{2} m_a^2 a^2$$

New pseudo-scalar particle:

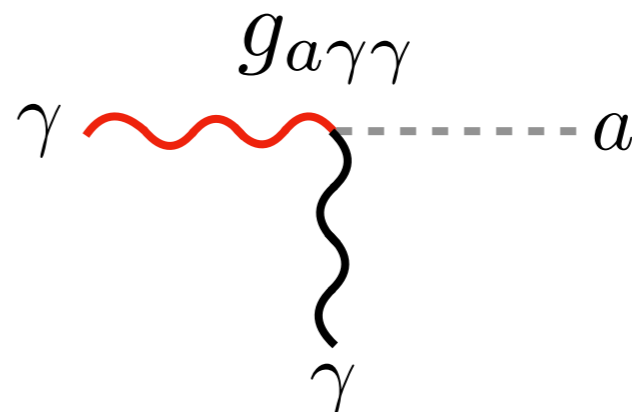
- Arises in several extensions of the SM
- Can solve the strong CP problem (QCD axion)
- Can be the DM or part of a dark sector
- Its mass could be small

# Axion (Like) Particles

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu a \partial^\mu a - \frac{1}{2} m_a^2 a^2$$

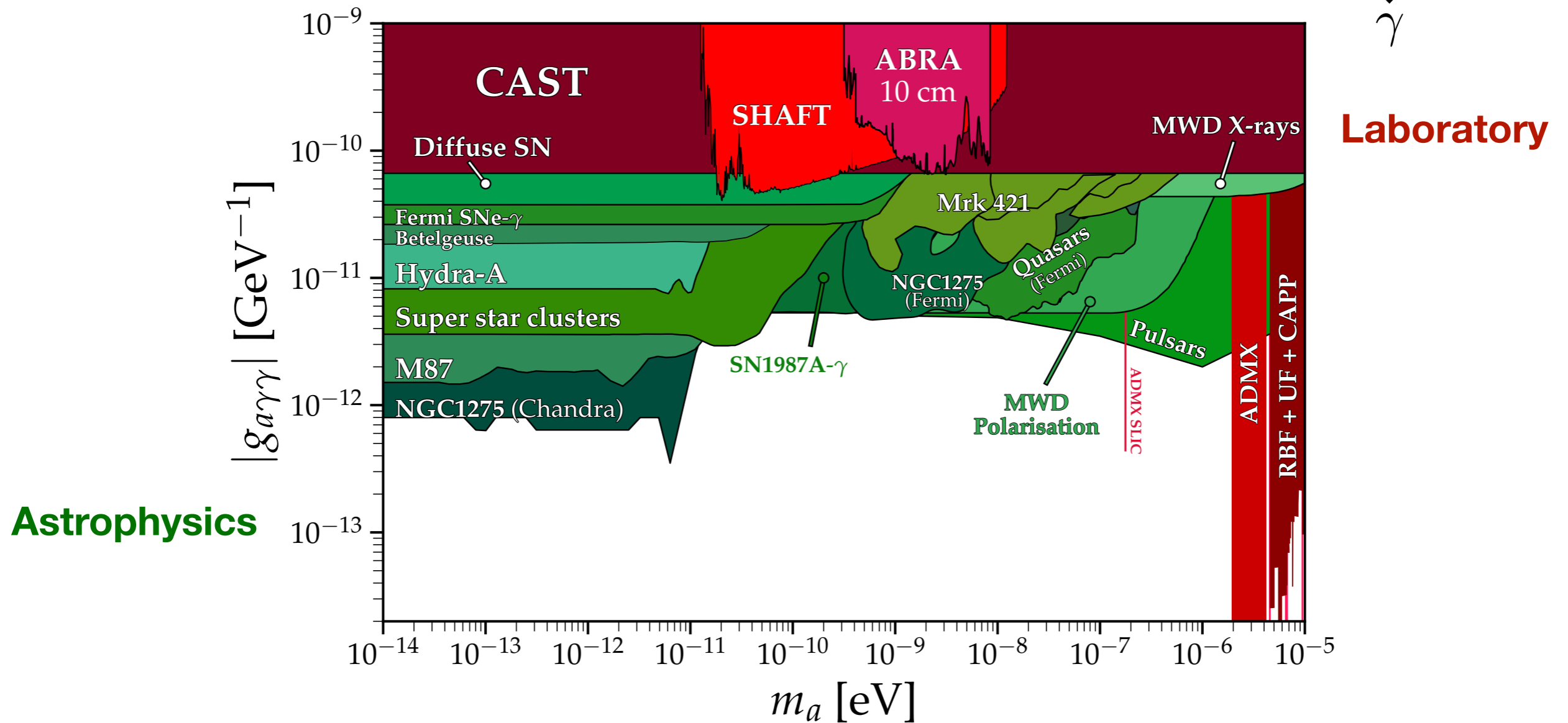
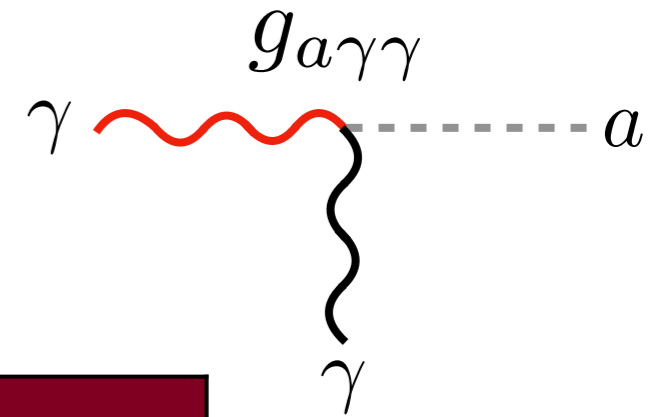
New pseudo-scalar particle:

- Arises in several extensions of the SM
- Can solve the strong CP problem (QCD axion)
- Can be the DM or part of a dark sector
- Its mass could be small
  
- Can couple to SM particles (gauge bosons, fermions, etc.)

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$


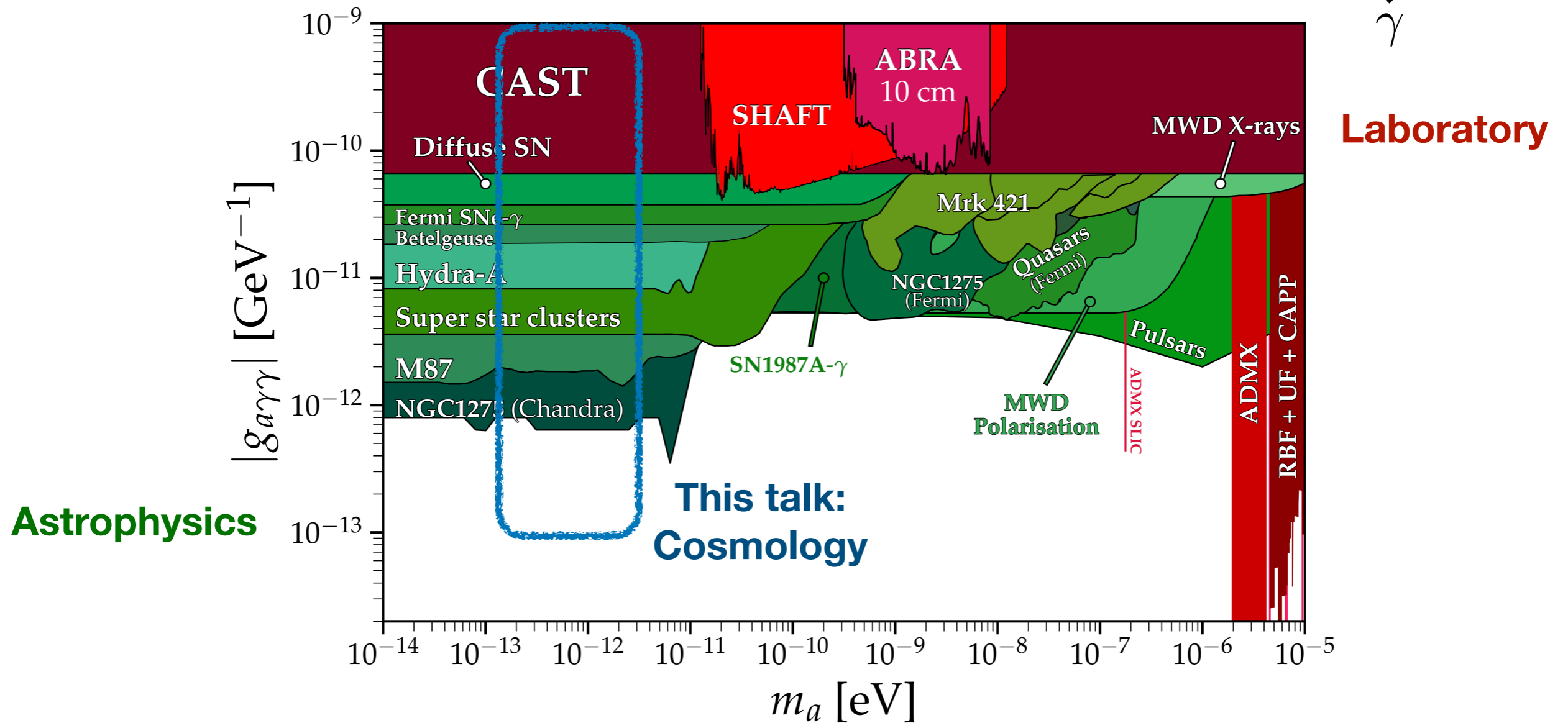
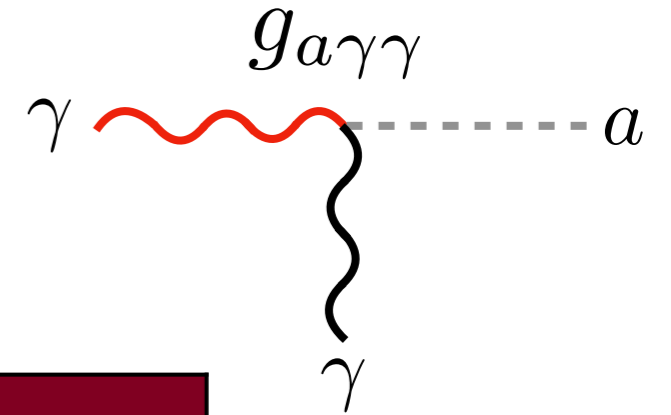
# Axion (Like) Particles

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$



# Axion (Like) Particles

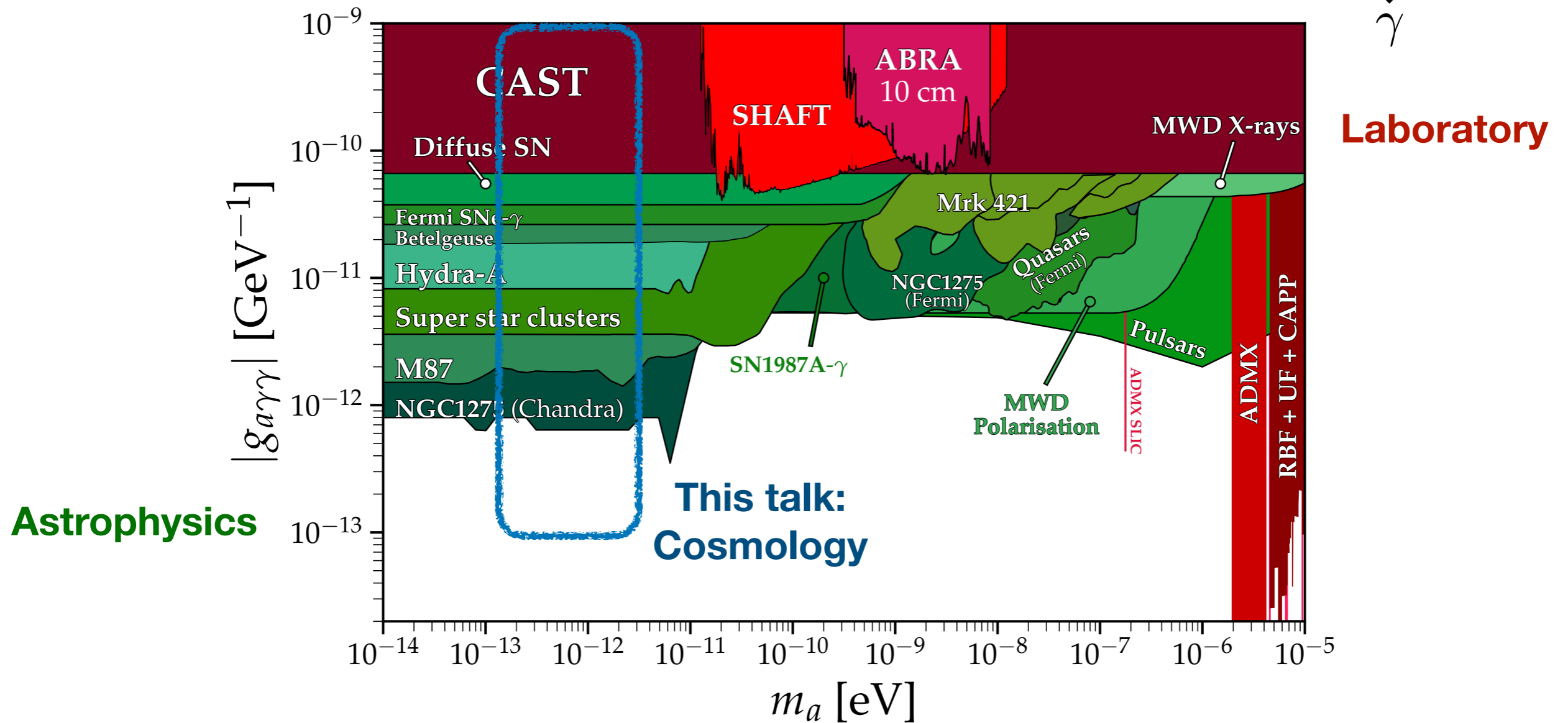
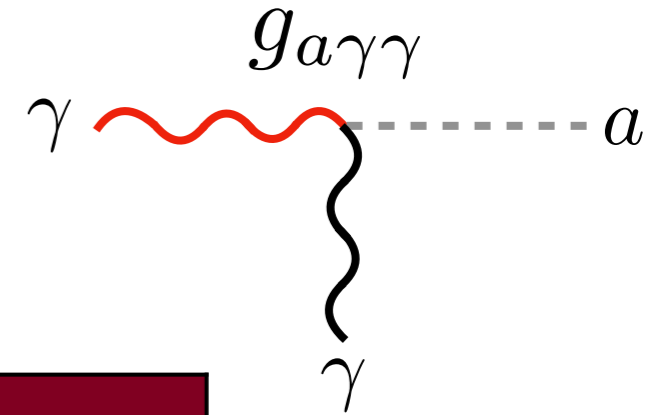
$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$



From Ciaran O'Hare ([cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits/](https://cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits/))

# Axion (Like) Particles

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$

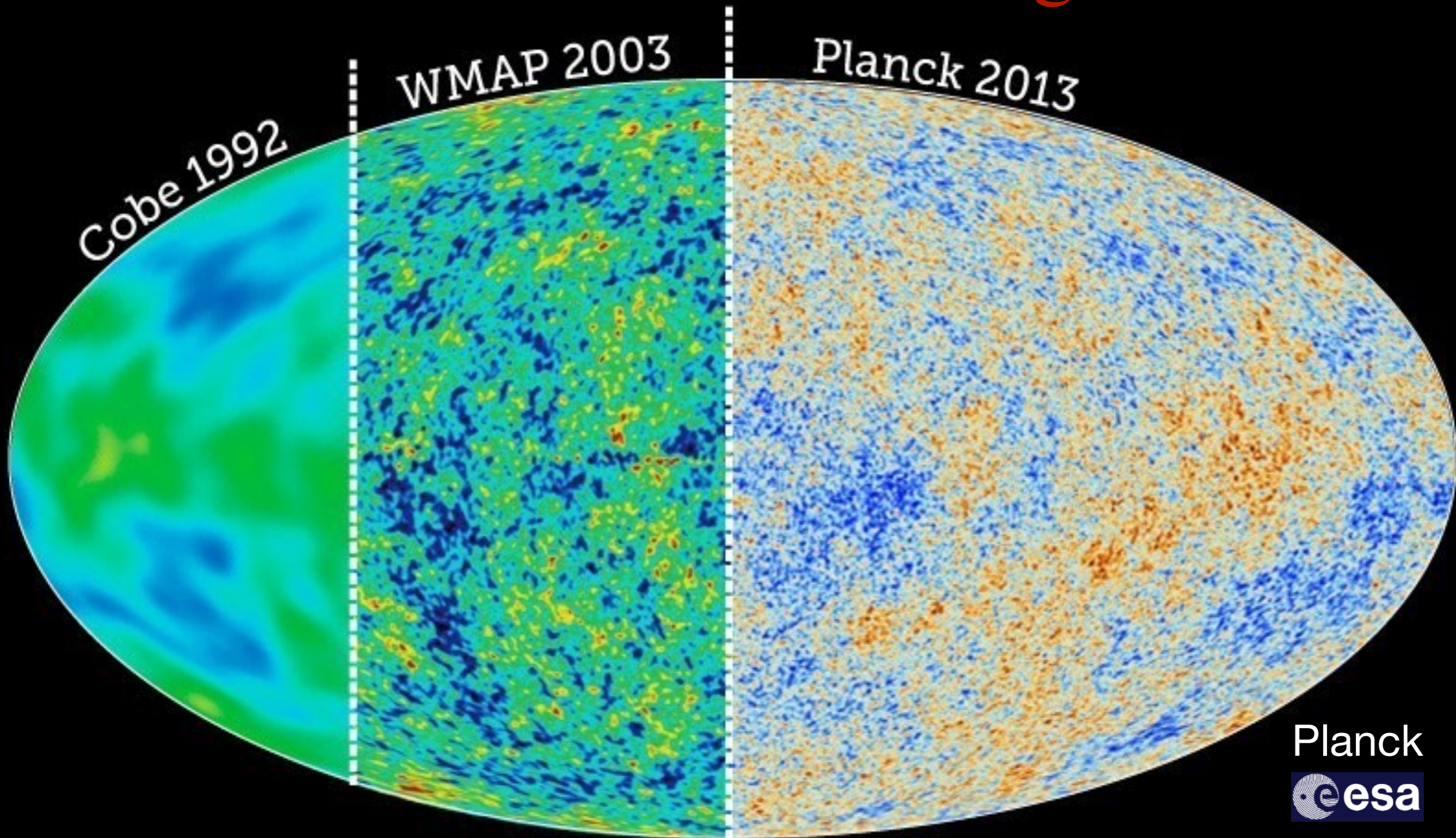


From Ciaran O'Hare ([cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits/](https://cajohare.github.io/AxionLimits/))

# Outline

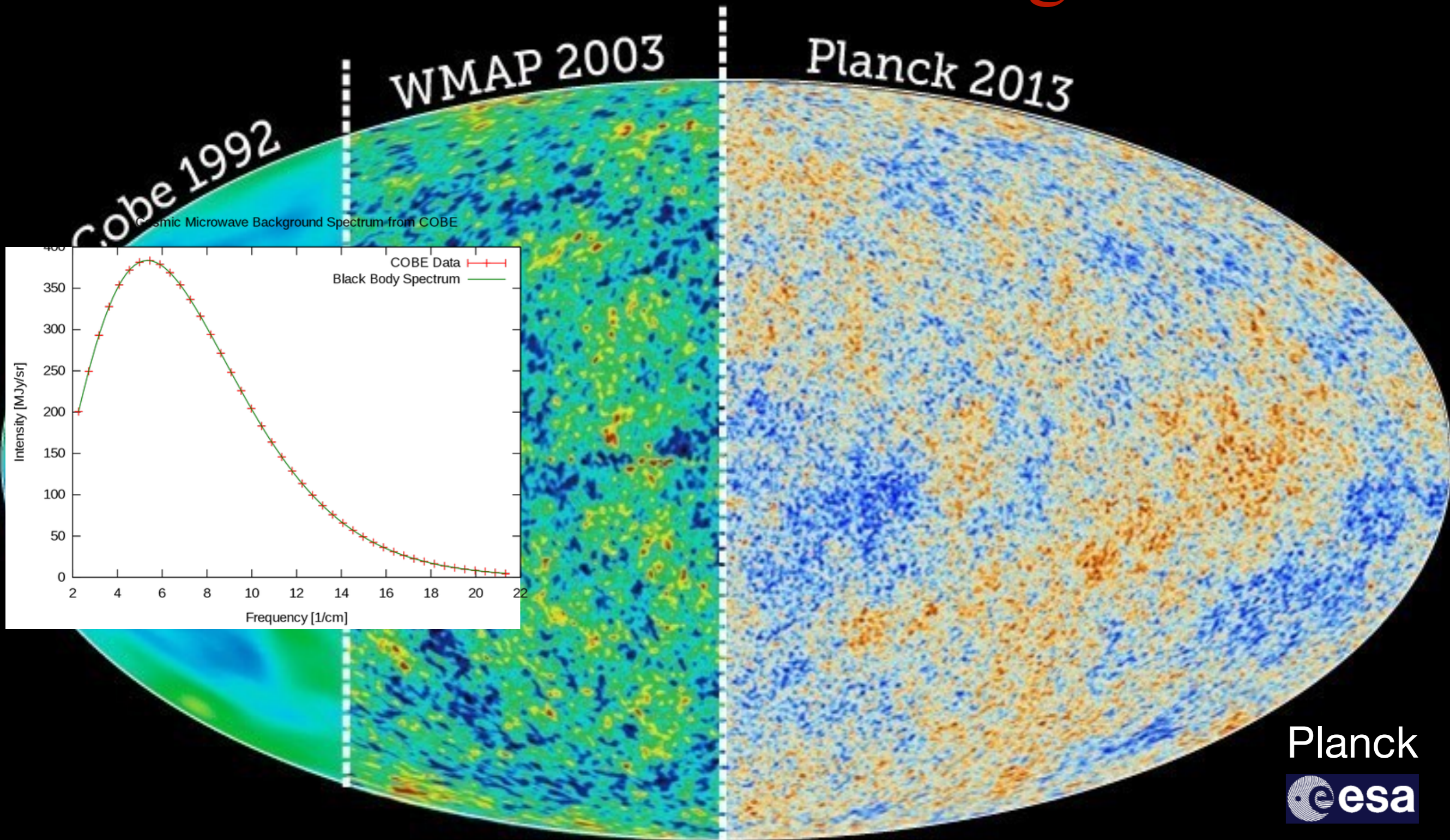
- CMB secondary anisotropies
- Photon-axion conversion inside halos
- Axion signal (temperature, polarization)
- Sensitivity projections

# Cosmic Microwave Background

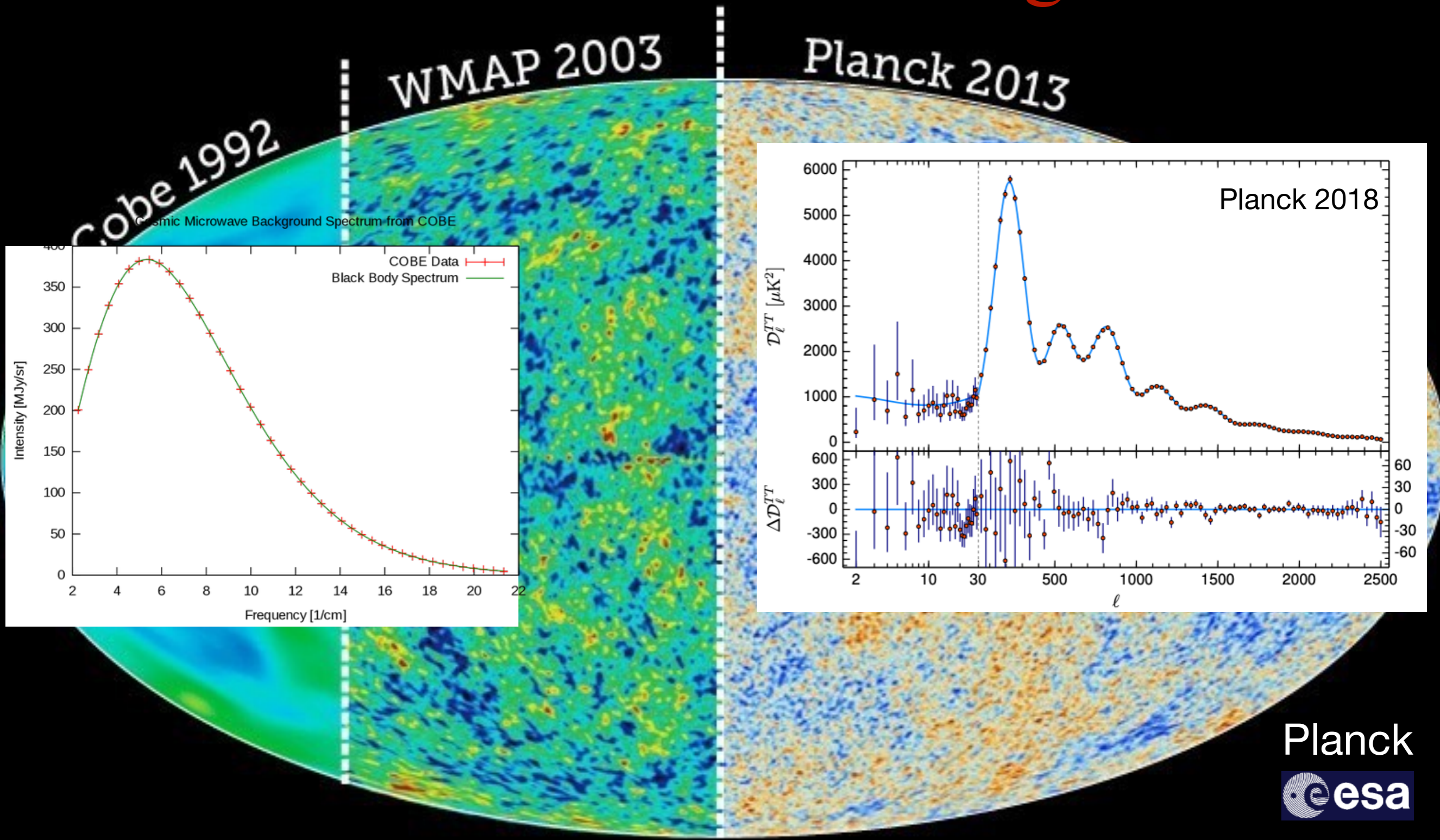




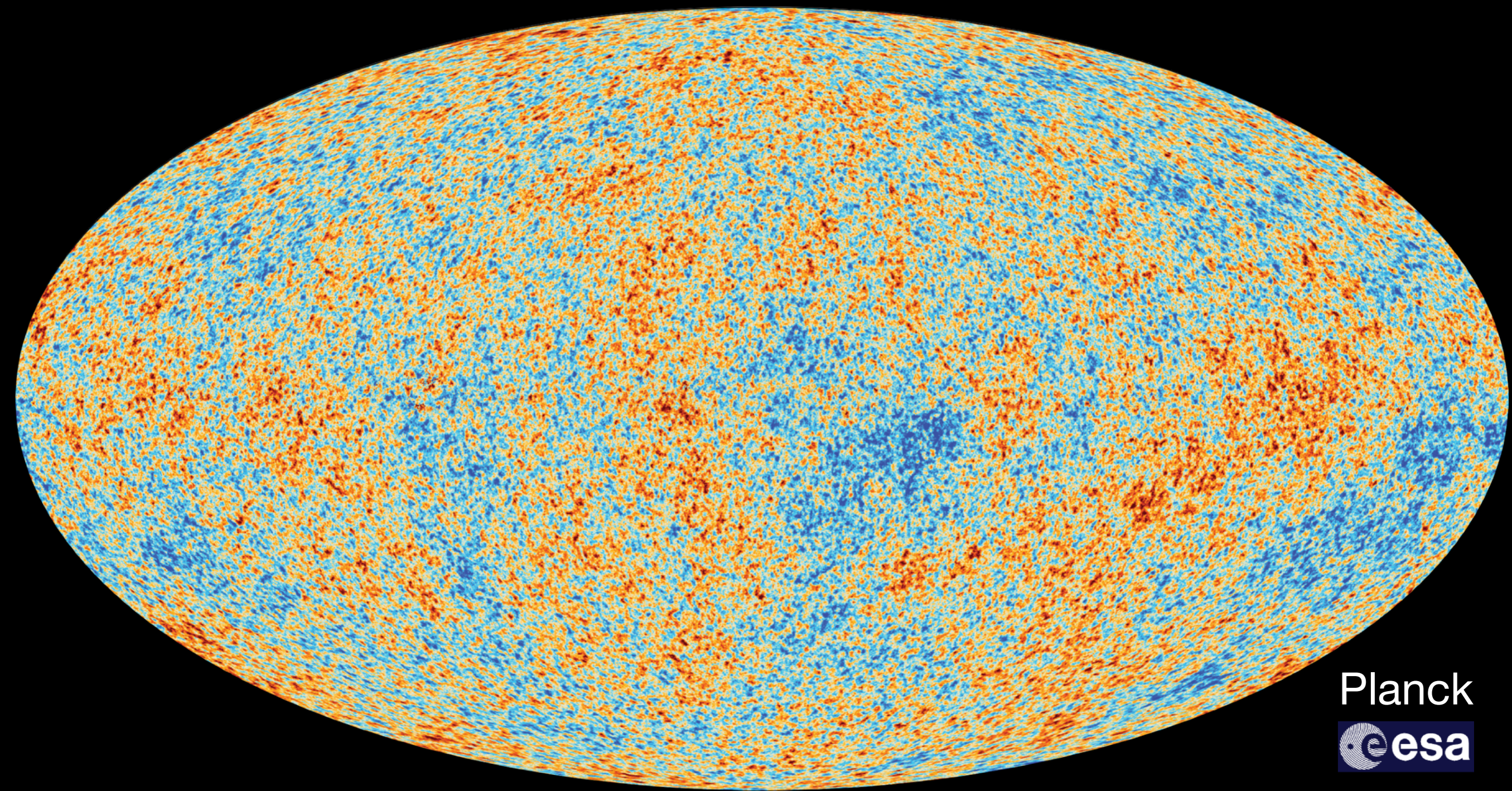
# Cosmic Microwave Background



# Cosmic Microwave Background



# Primary CMB anisotropies



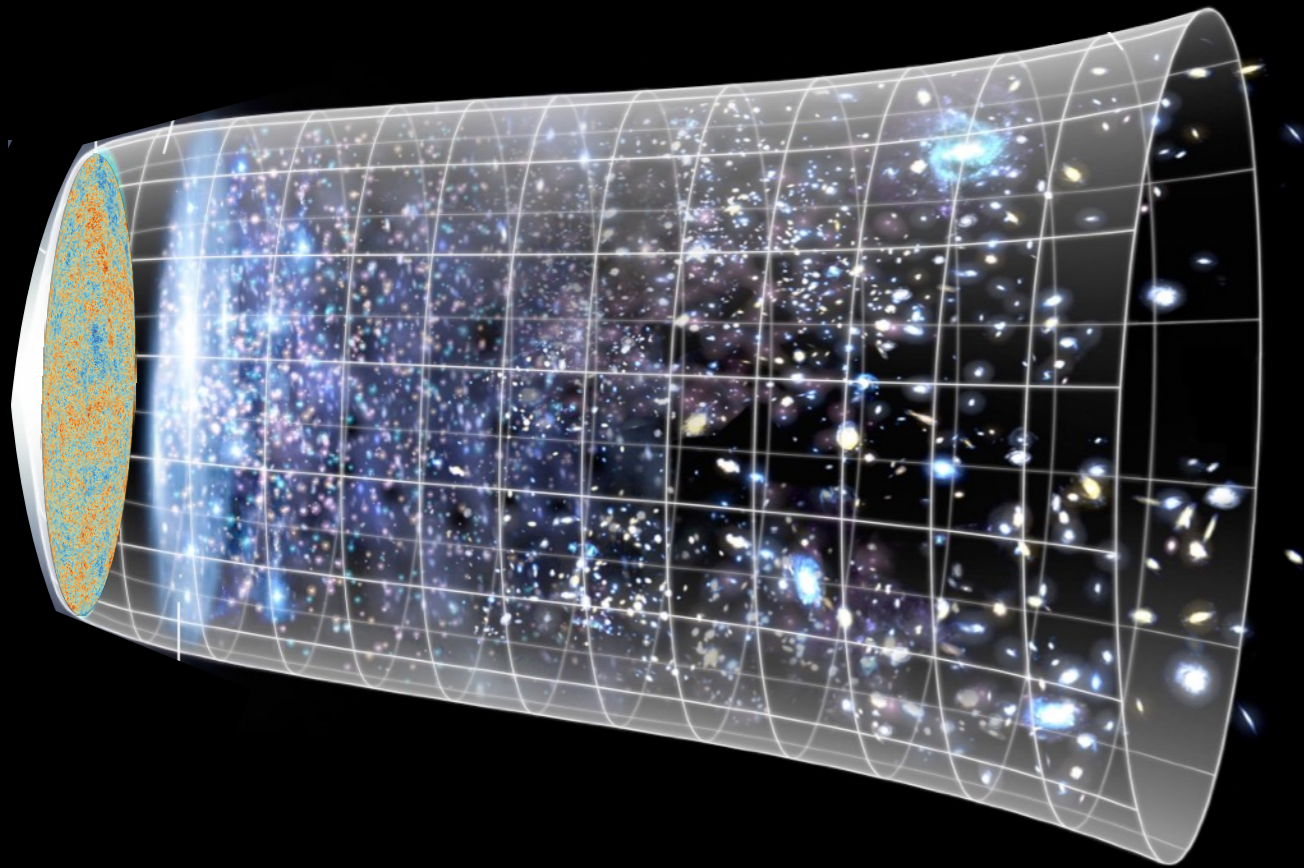
Planck  
esa

# Secondary CMB anisotropies

Interactions with intervening structure



New anisotropies

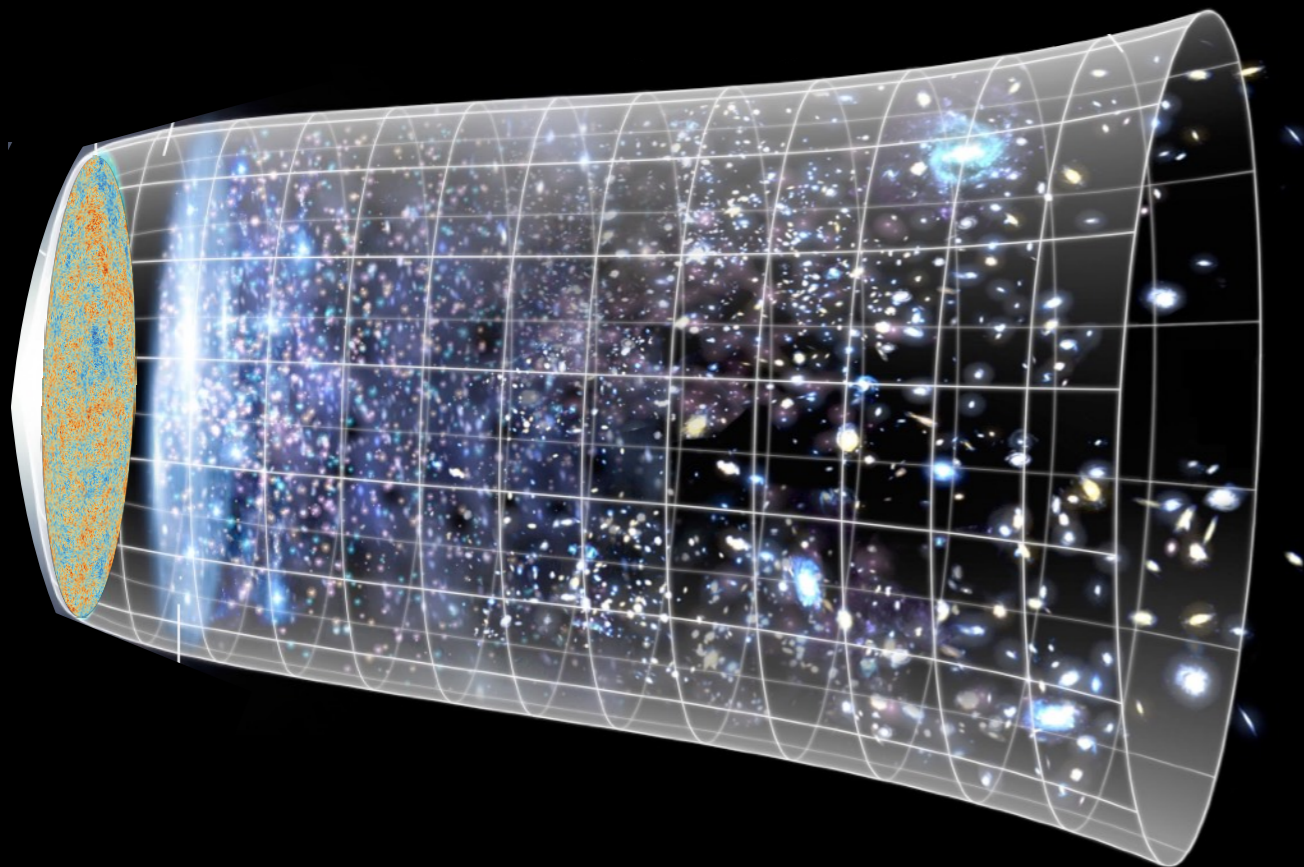


# Secondary CMB anisotropies

Interactions with intervening structure

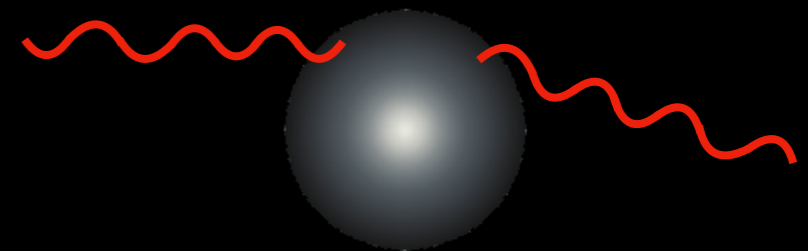


New anisotropies



Standard Model effects:

- Lensing

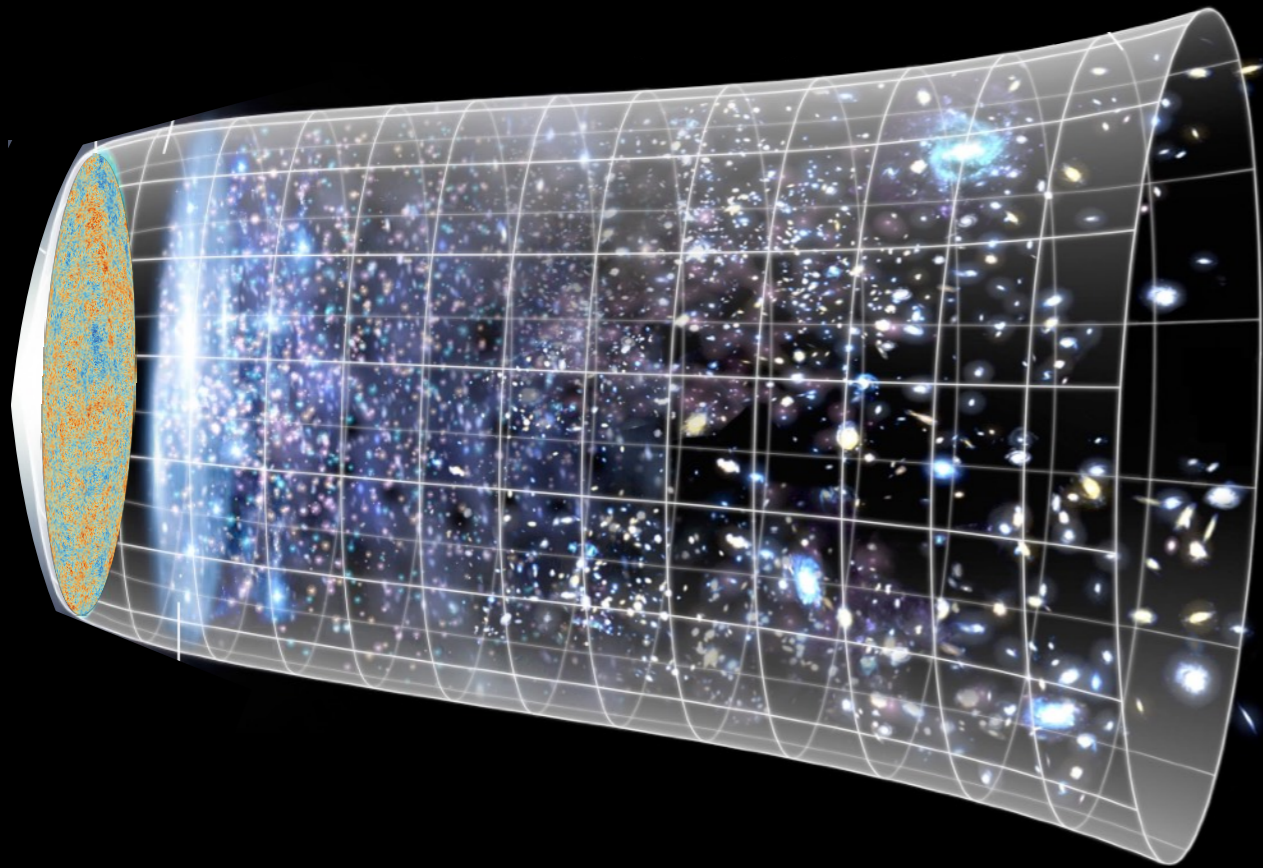


# Secondary CMB anisotropies

Interactions with intervening structure

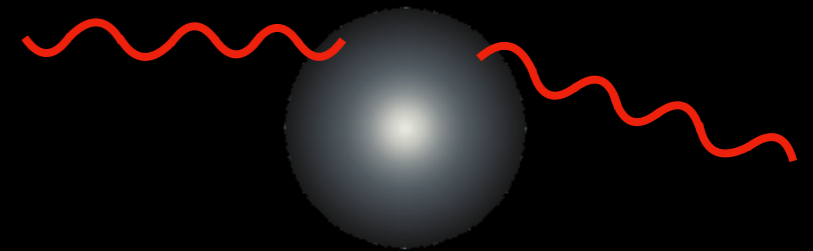


New anisotropies

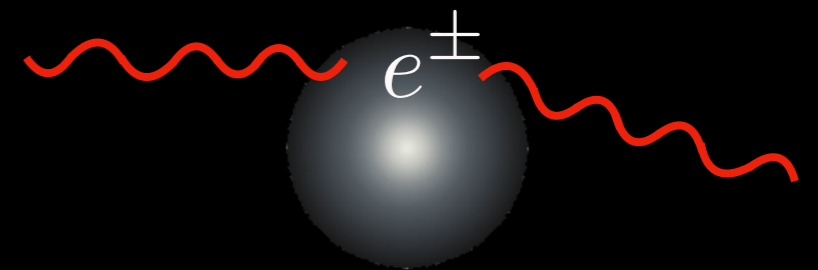


Standard Model effects:

- Lensing



- Screening

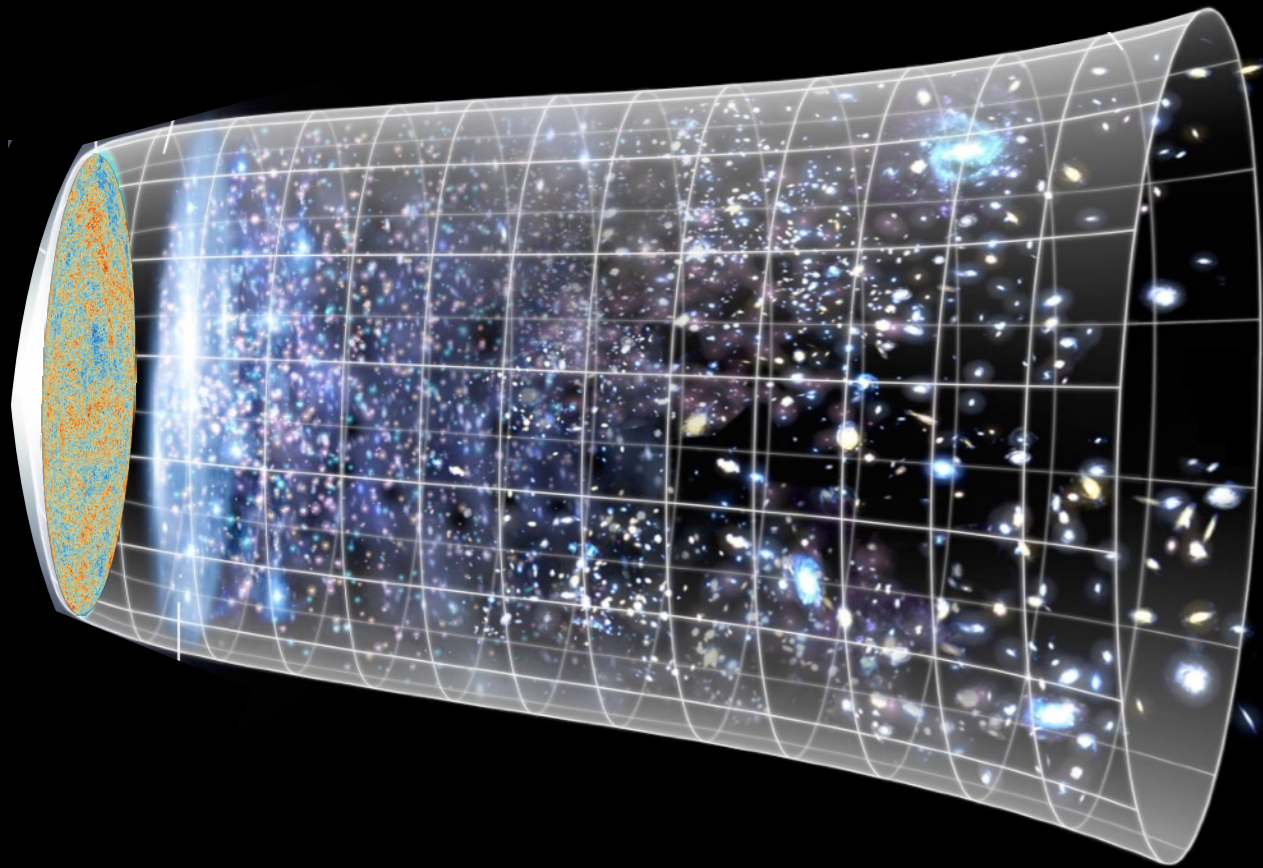


# Secondary CMB anisotropies

Interactions with intervening structure

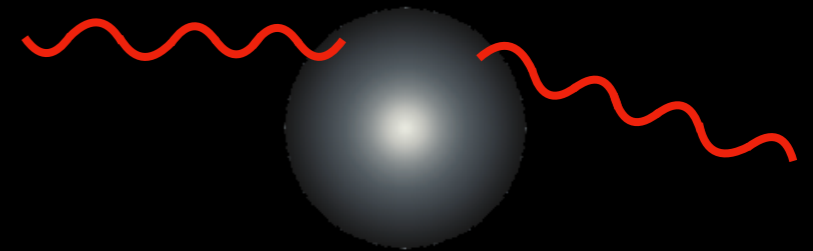


New anisotropies

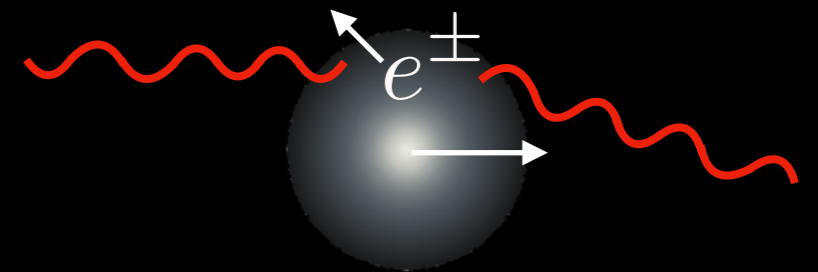


Standard Model effects:

- Lensing



- Screening
- Sunyaev Zel'dovich effects

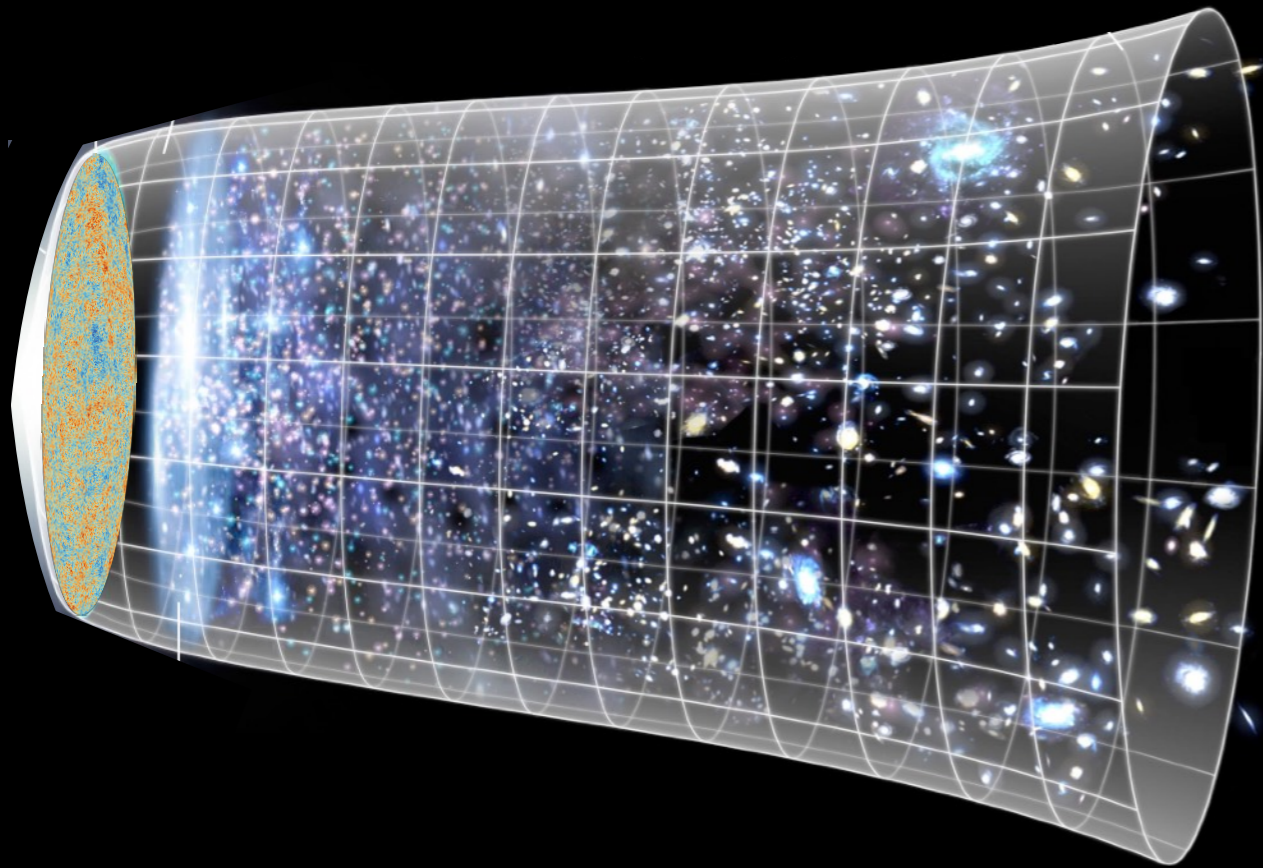


# Secondary CMB anisotropies

Interactions with intervening structure

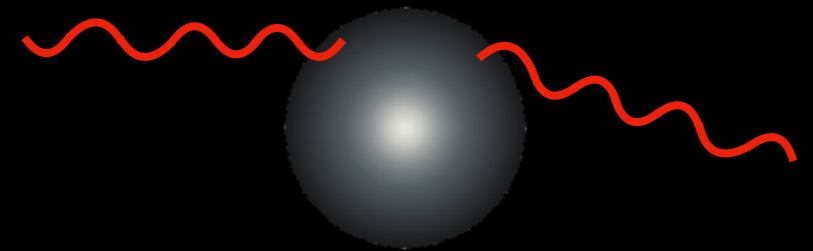


New anisotropies

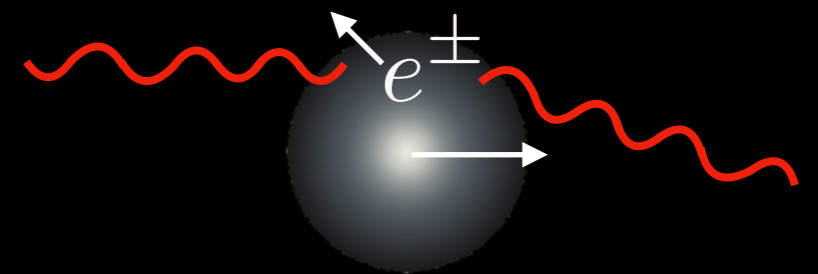


Standard Model effects:

- Lensing



- Screening
- Sunyaev Zel'dovich effects



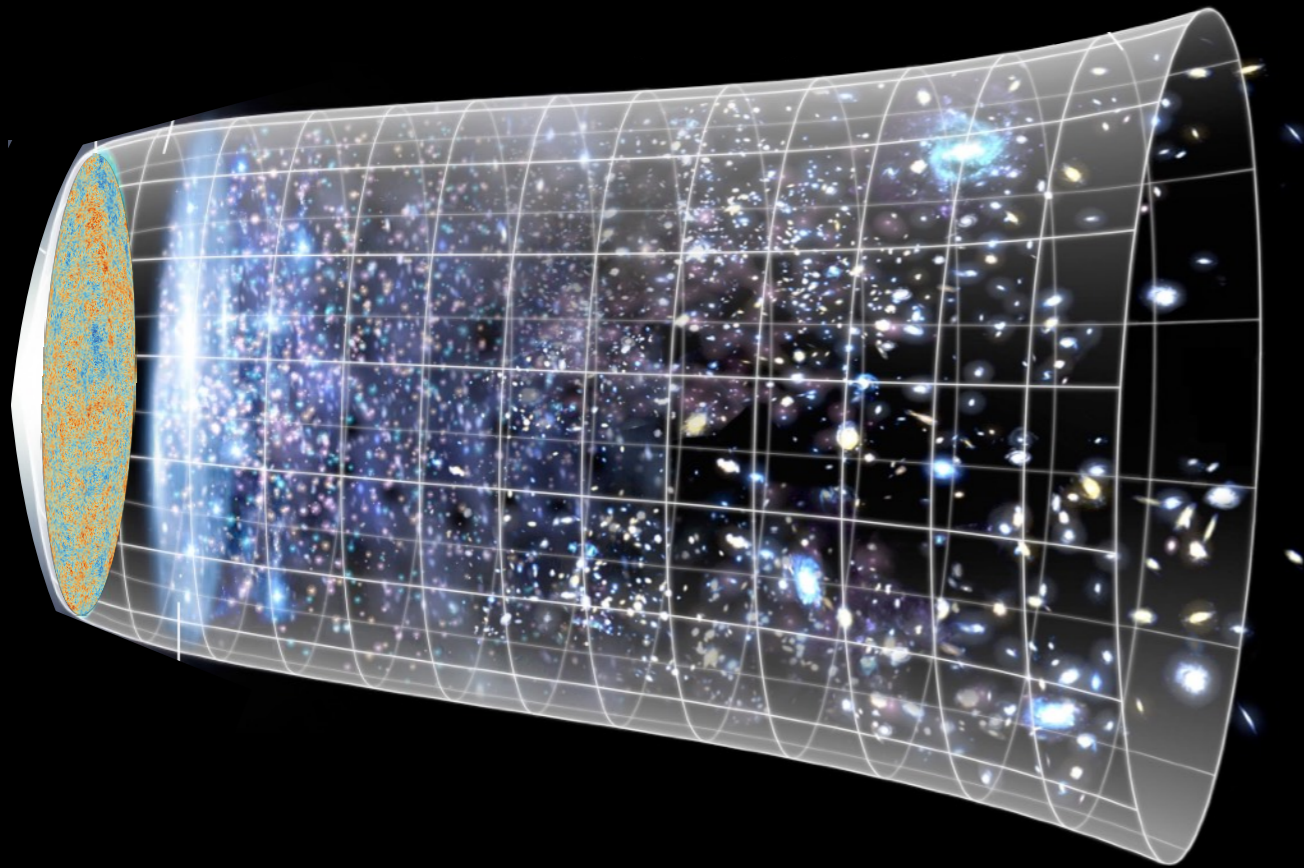


# Secondary CMB anisotropies

Interactions with intervening structure



New anisotropies



What about New Physics?

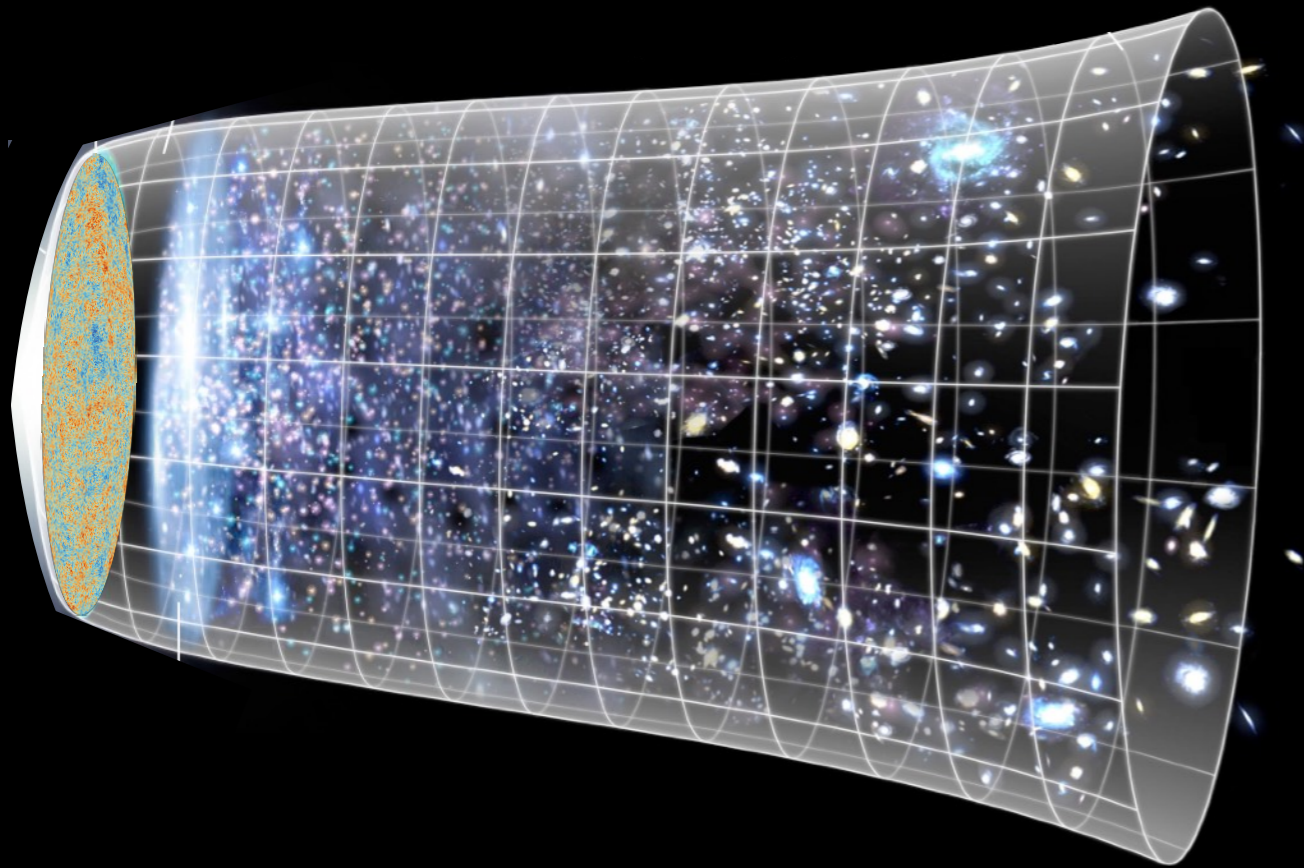


# Secondary CMB anisotropies

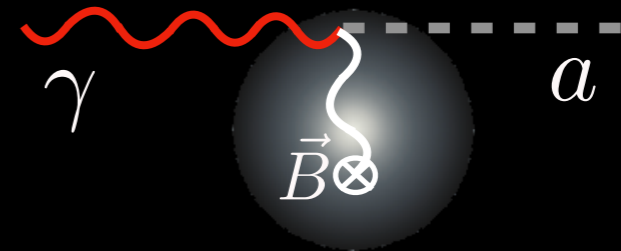
Interactions with intervening structure



New anisotropies



What about New Physics?

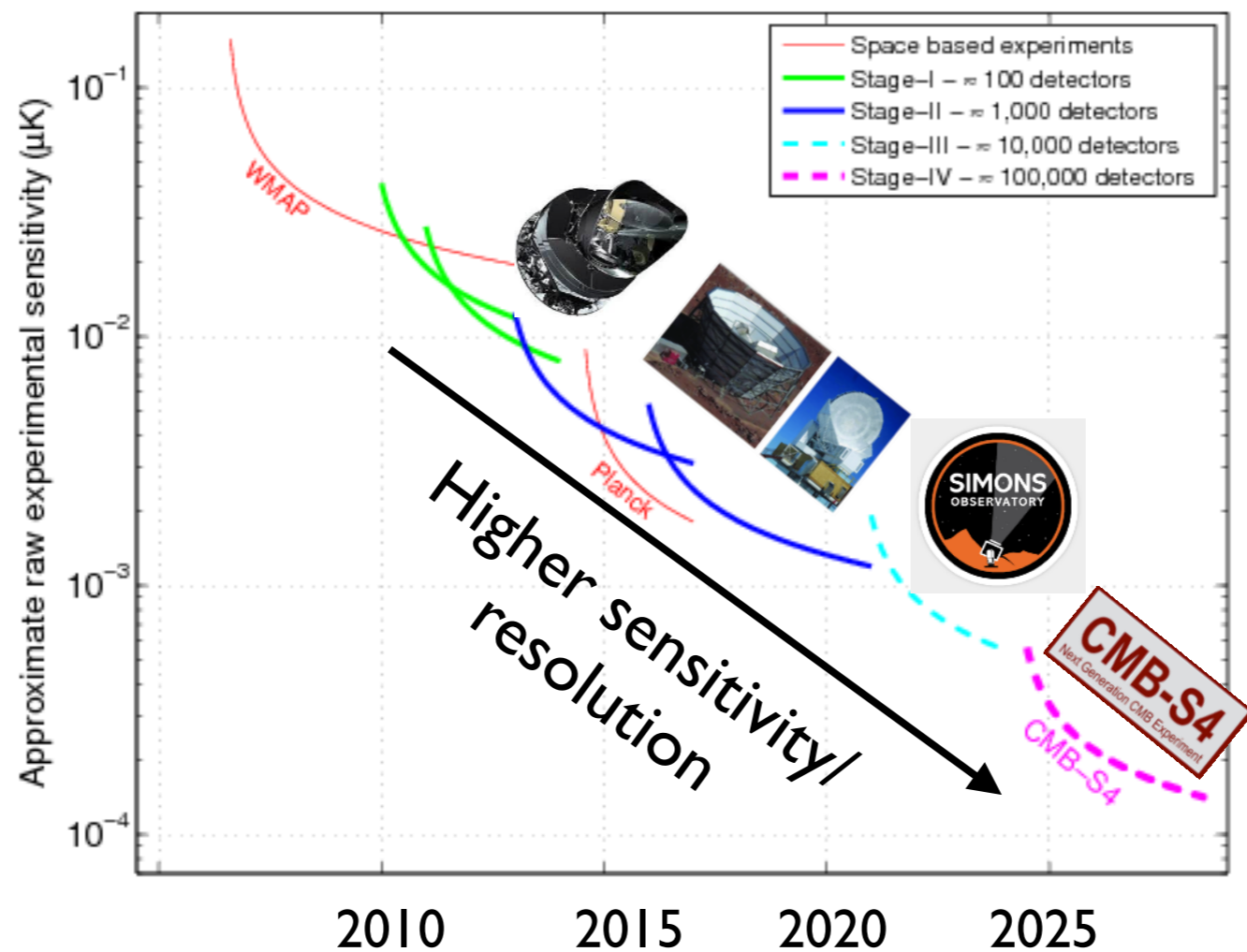


*This talk:* photon to axion  
conversion inside halos

...

# Why CMB secondaries?

Future CMB experiments will have **better sensitivity at high resolution**



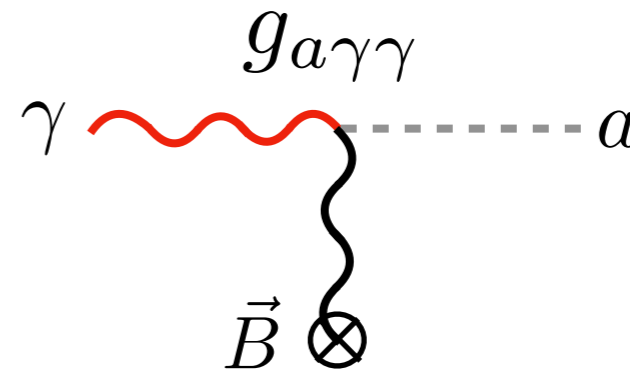
Credit: Matt Johnson

# Outline

- CMB secondary anisotropies
- Photon-axion conversion inside halos
- Axion signal (temperature, polarization)
- Sensitivity projections

# Photon-axion conversion

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F^{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu}$$



In an external  $B$  field, we can have photon-axion oscillations  
(like neutrino oscillations)

G. Raffelt and L. Stodolsky, 1988

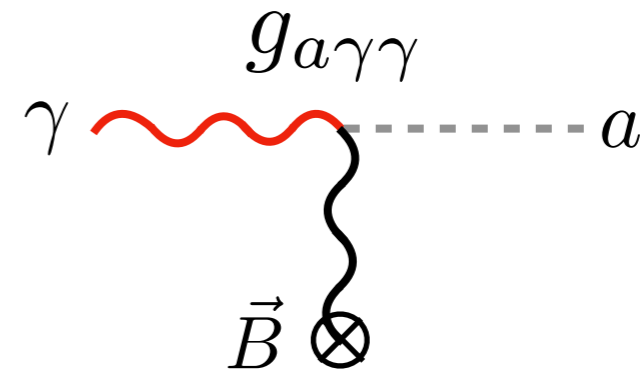
C. Deffayet, D. Harari, J.P. Uzan, and M. Zaldarriaga, 2002

A. Mirizzi, G. Raffelt, and P. D. Serpico, 2005

# Photon-axion resonant conversion

Like for neutrinos,  
medium effects can be important!

Photon plasma mass:  $\omega_{\text{pl}}^2 = \frac{e^2 n_e}{m_e}$



S. J. Parke, 1986

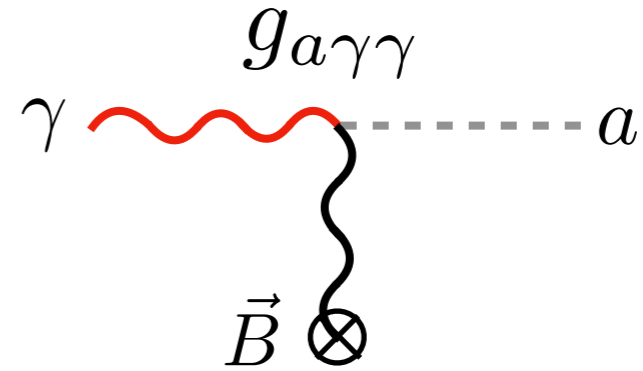
A. Mirizzi, J. Redondo, and G. Sigl, 2009

H. Tashiro, J. Silk, and D. J. E. Marsh, 2013

Cristina Mondino

# Photon-axion resonant conversion

Like for neutrinos,  
medium effects can be important!



Photon plasma mass:  $\omega_{\text{pl}}^2 = \frac{e^2 n_e}{m_e}$

$$\omega_{\text{pl}} = m_a$$

resonance

$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a}^{\text{res}} = g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2 \frac{\pi\omega}{m_a^2} \left| \frac{d \ln \omega_{\text{pl}}^2}{dt} \right|_{t_{\text{res}}}^{-1}$$

↑  
Slope of the  
number density  
profile

S. J. Parke, 1986

A. Mirizzi, J. Redondo, and G. Sigl, 2009

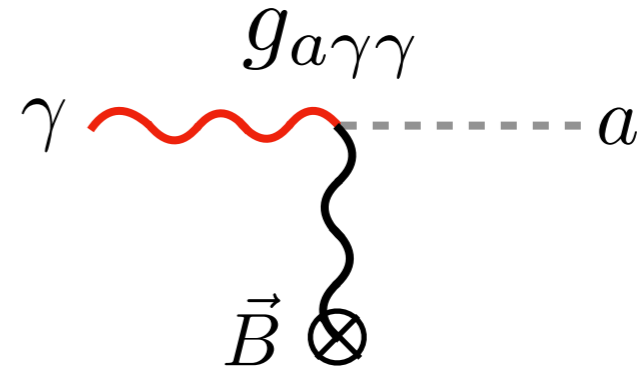
H. Tashiro, J. Silk, and D. J. E. Marsh, 2013

Cristina Mondino

# Photon-axion resonant conversion

This talk:

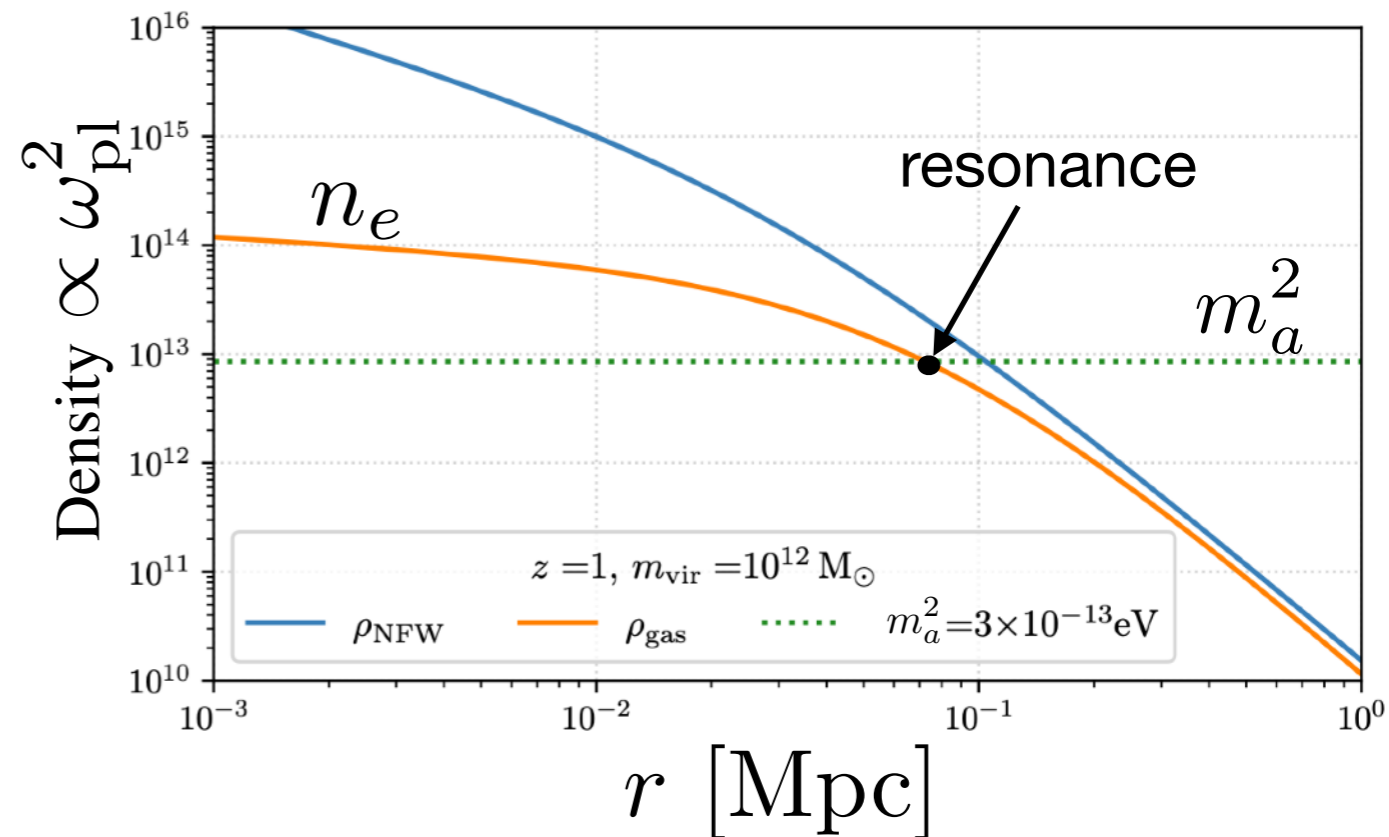
Inside DM halos



Photon plasma mass:  $m_{\text{pl}}^2 = \frac{e^2 n_e}{m_e}$

$\omega_{\text{pl}} = m_a$   
resonance

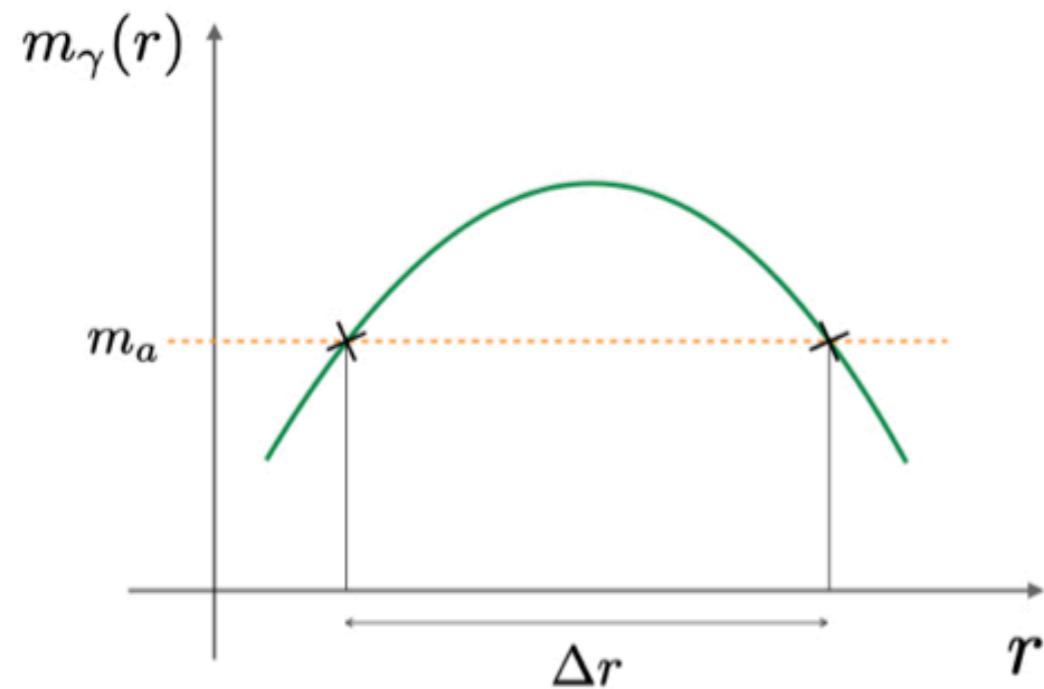
$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a}^{\text{res}} = g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2 \frac{\pi\omega}{m_a^2} \left| \frac{d \ln \omega_{\text{pl}}^2}{dt} \right|_{t_{\text{res}}}^{-1}$$



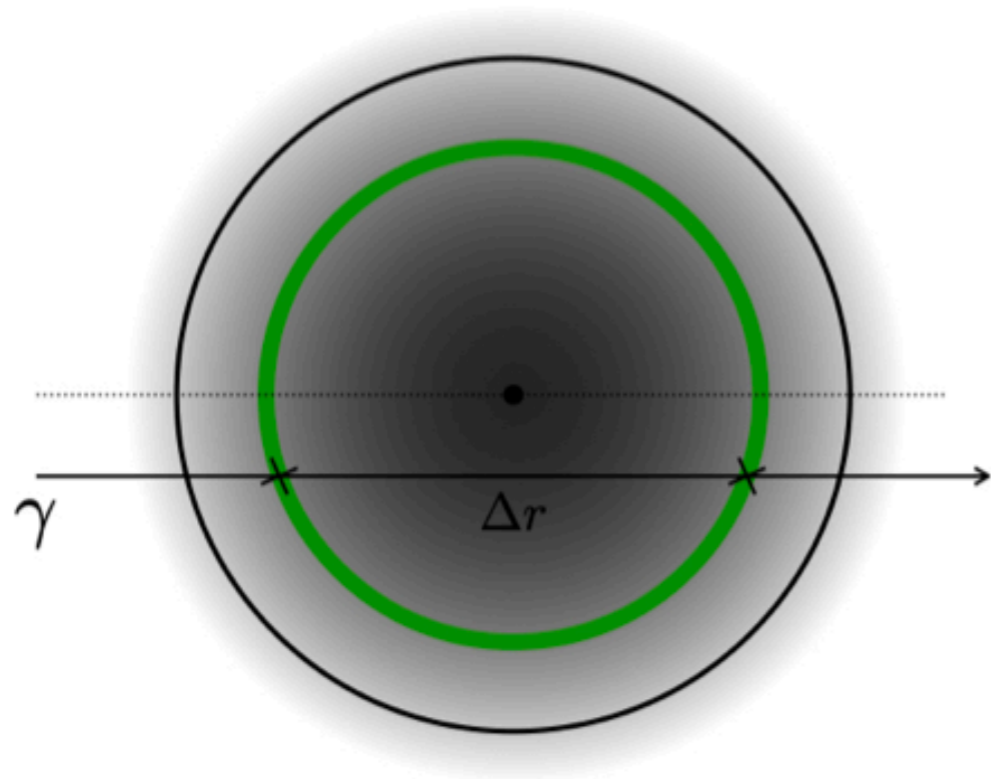
Navarro, Frenk, and White, 1996  
N. Battaglia, 2016



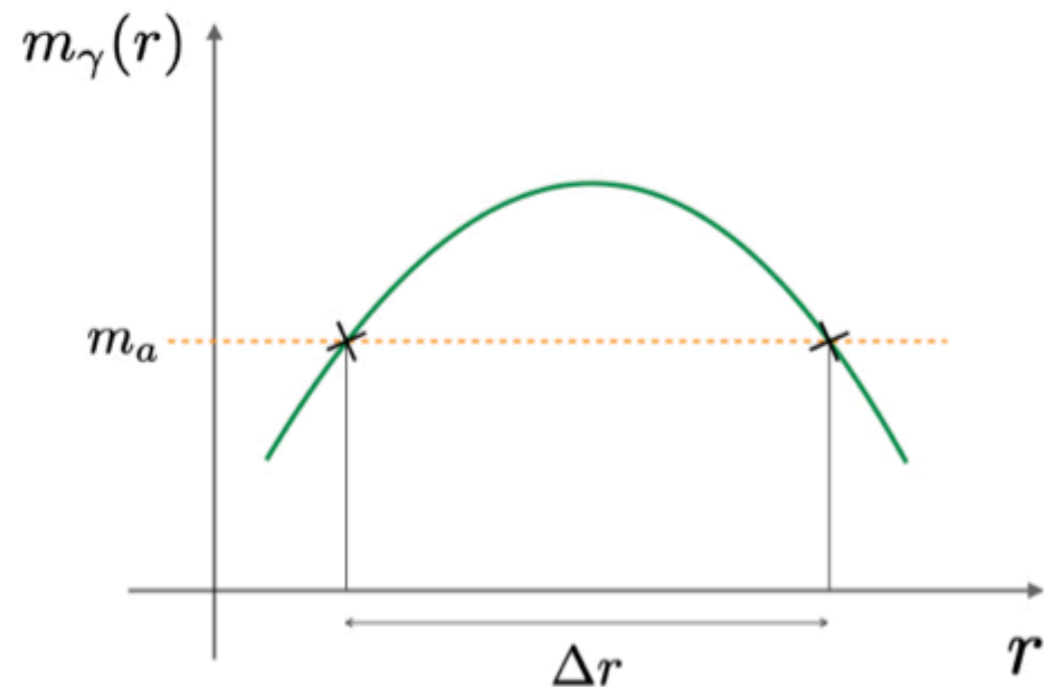
# Resonant conversion in halos



$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a}^{\text{res}} = g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2 \frac{\pi\omega}{m_a^2} \left| \frac{d \ln \omega_{\text{pl}}^2}{dt} \right|_{t_{\text{res}}}^{-1}$$



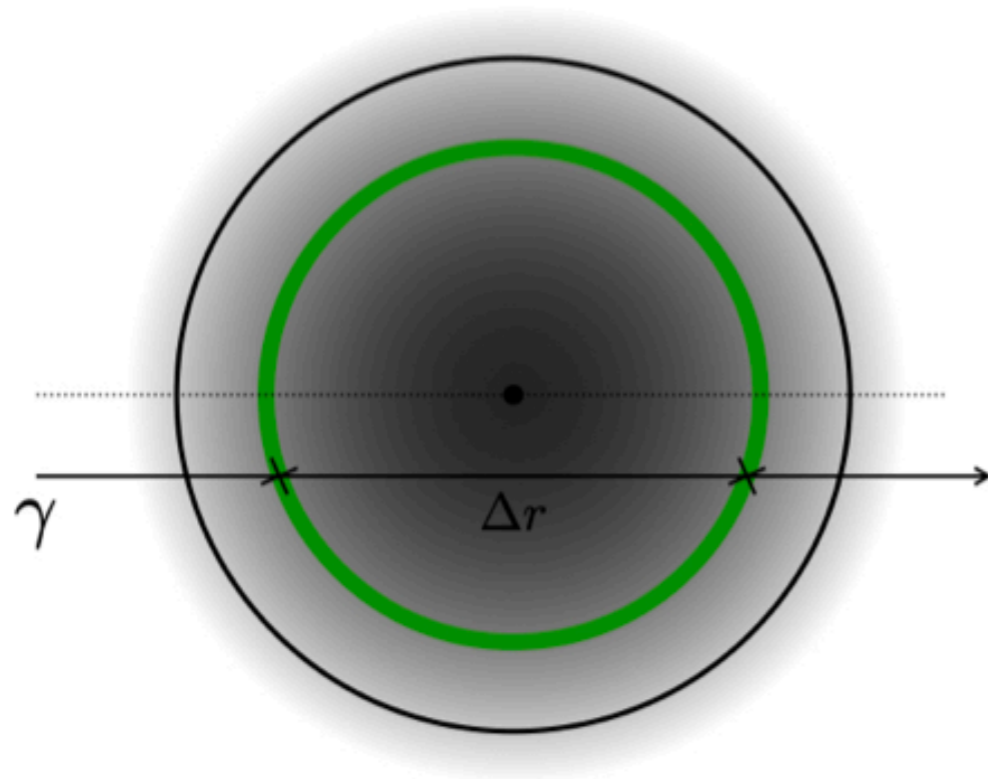
# Resonant conversion in halos



$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a}^{\text{res}} = g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2 \frac{\pi \omega}{m_a^2} \left| \frac{d \ln \omega_{\text{pl}}^2}{dt} \right|_{t_{\text{res}}}^{-1}$$

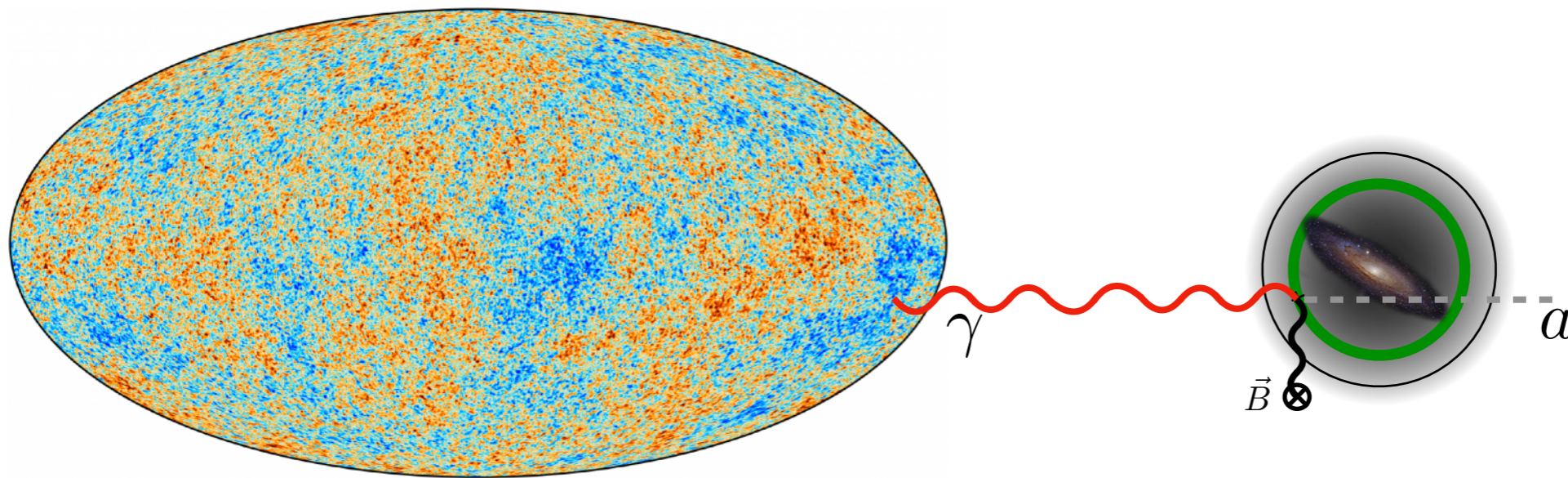
Depends on:

- halo density profile
- frequency of the photon



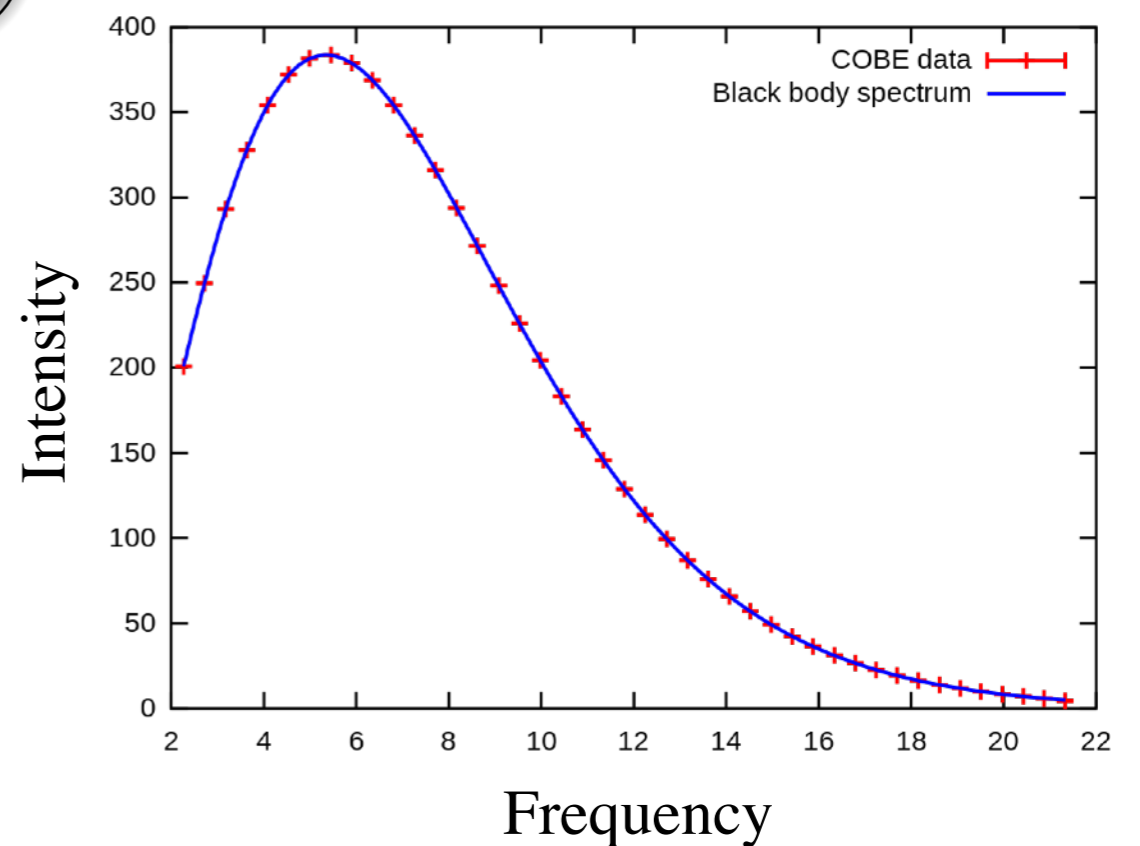
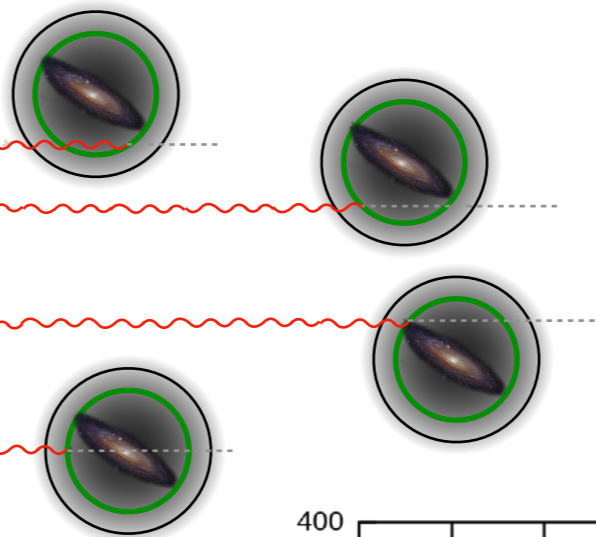
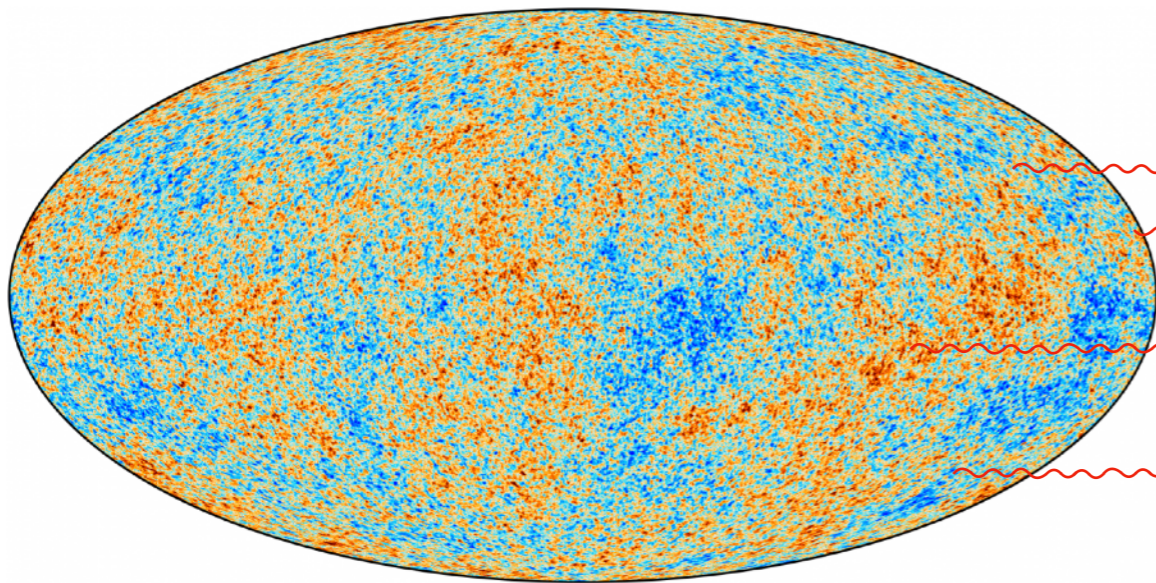
# CMB photon disappearance

$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a}^{\text{res}} = g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2 \frac{\pi\omega}{m_a^2} \left| \frac{d \ln \omega_{\text{pl}}^2}{dt} \right|_{t_{\text{res}}}^{-1}$$



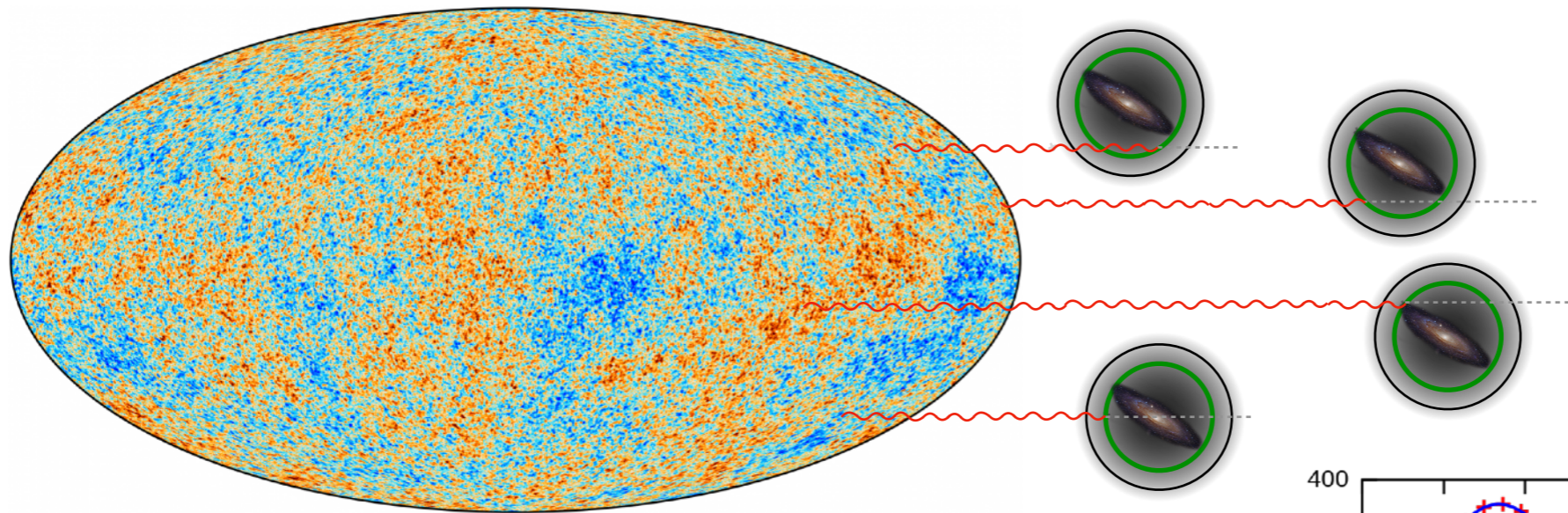
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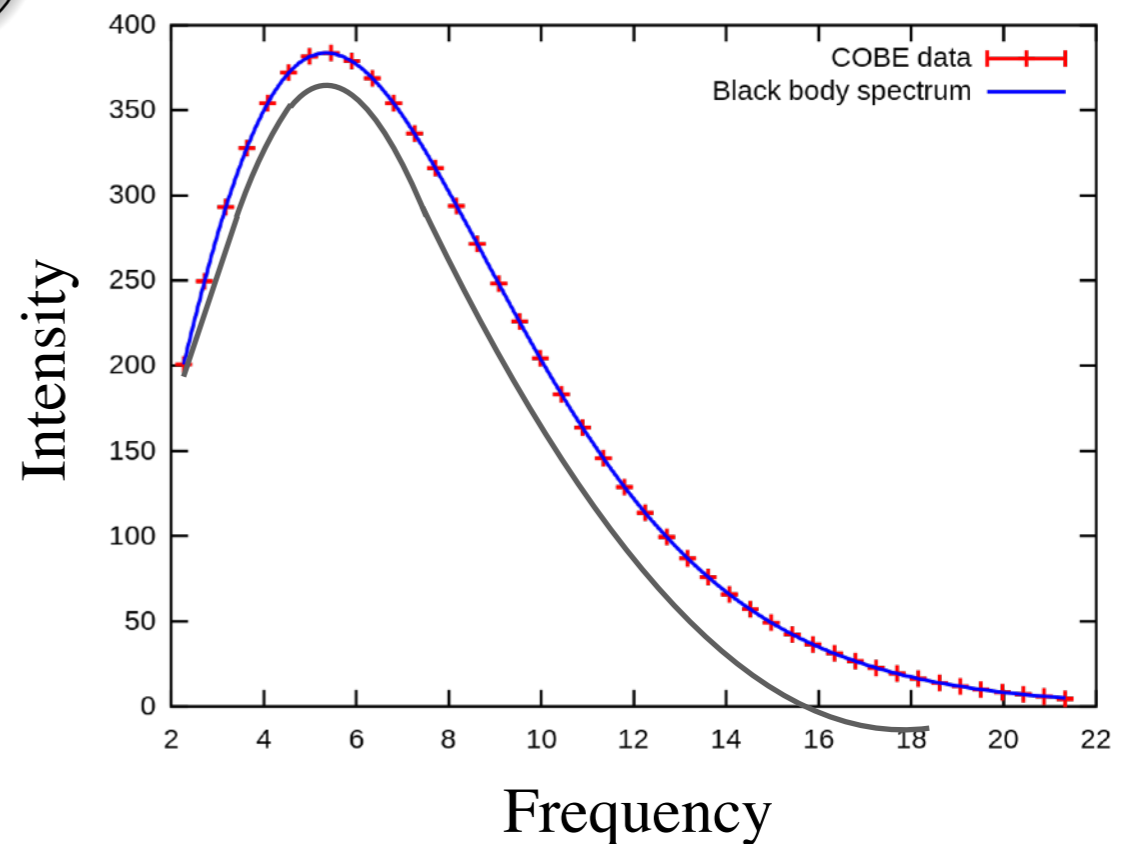


# CMB photon disappearance

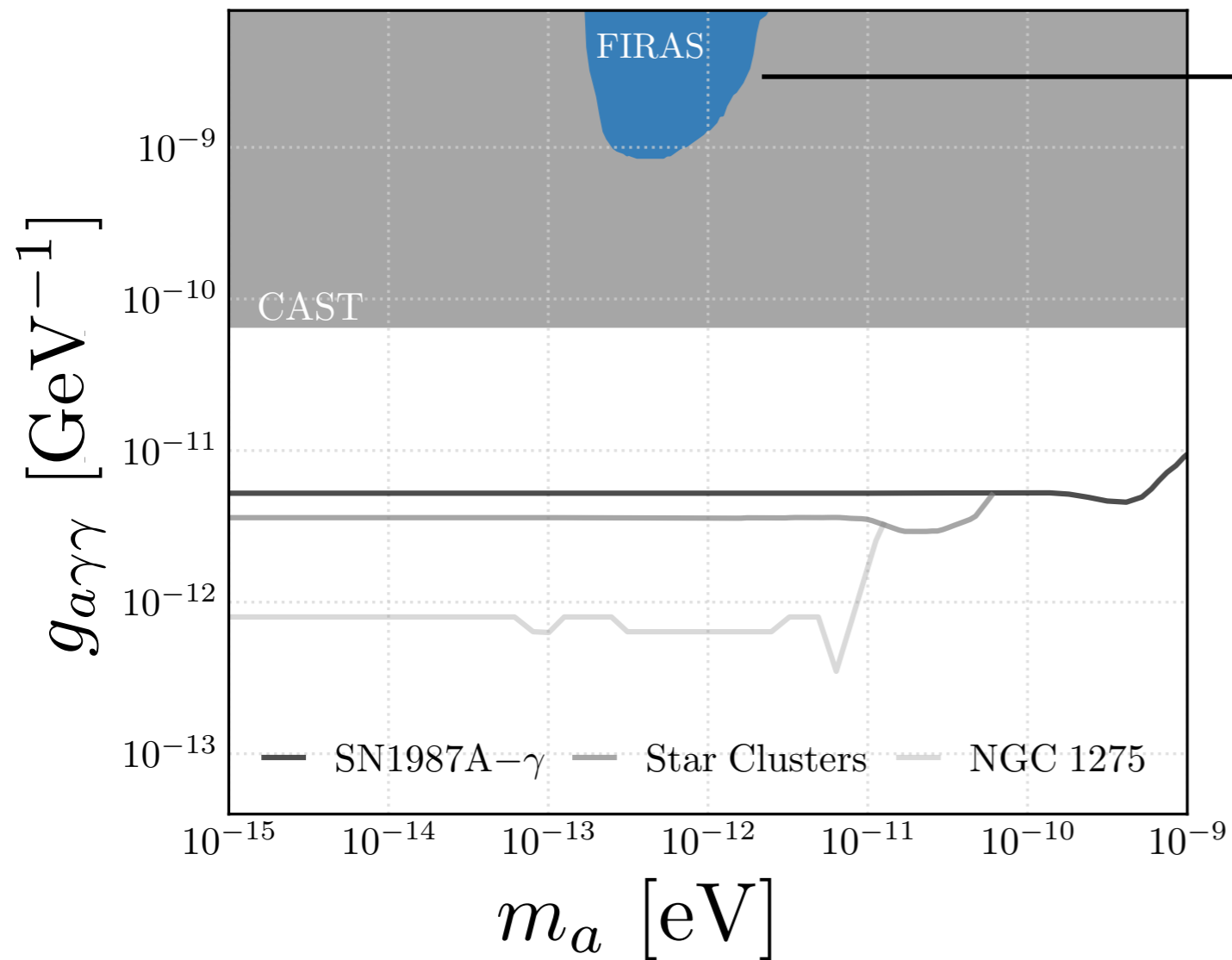
$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a}^{\text{res}} = g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2 \frac{\pi\omega}{m_a^2} \left| \frac{d \ln \omega_{\text{pl}}^2}{dt} \right|_{t_{\text{res}}}^{-1}$$



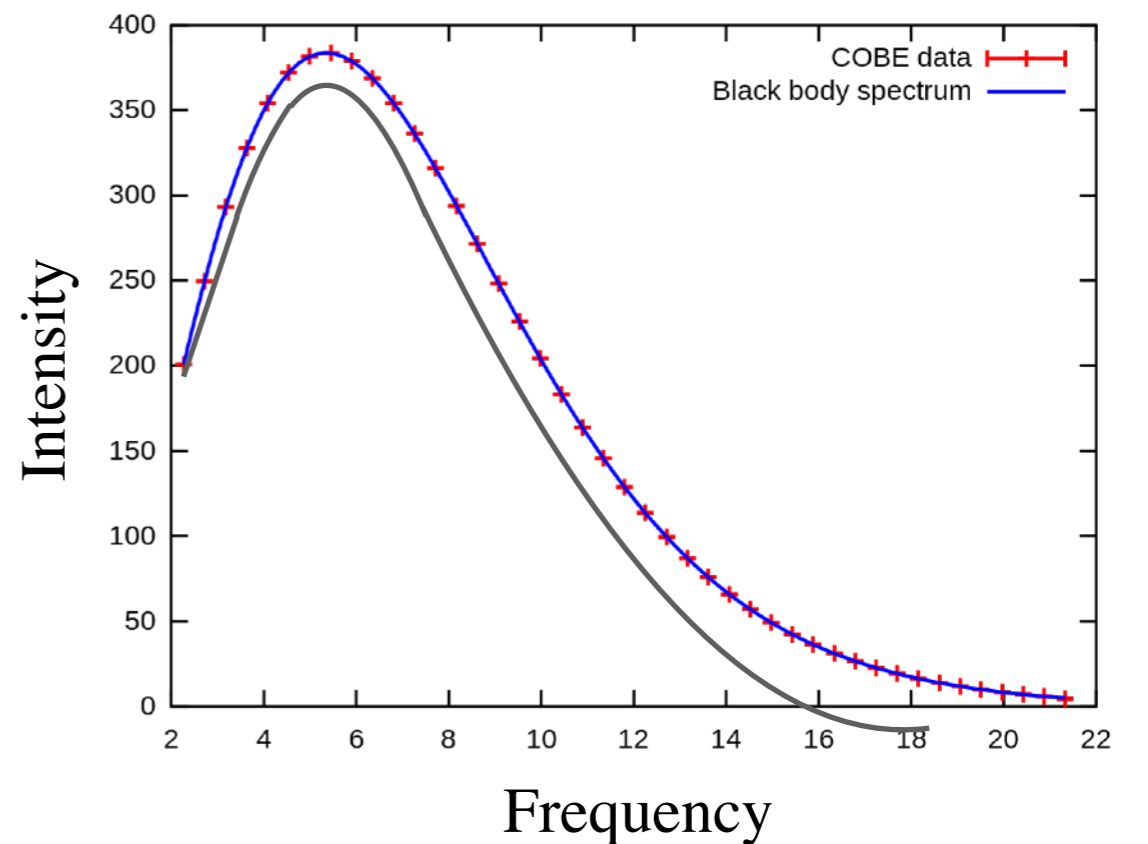
Distortion of the black body spectrum



# CMB photon disappearance

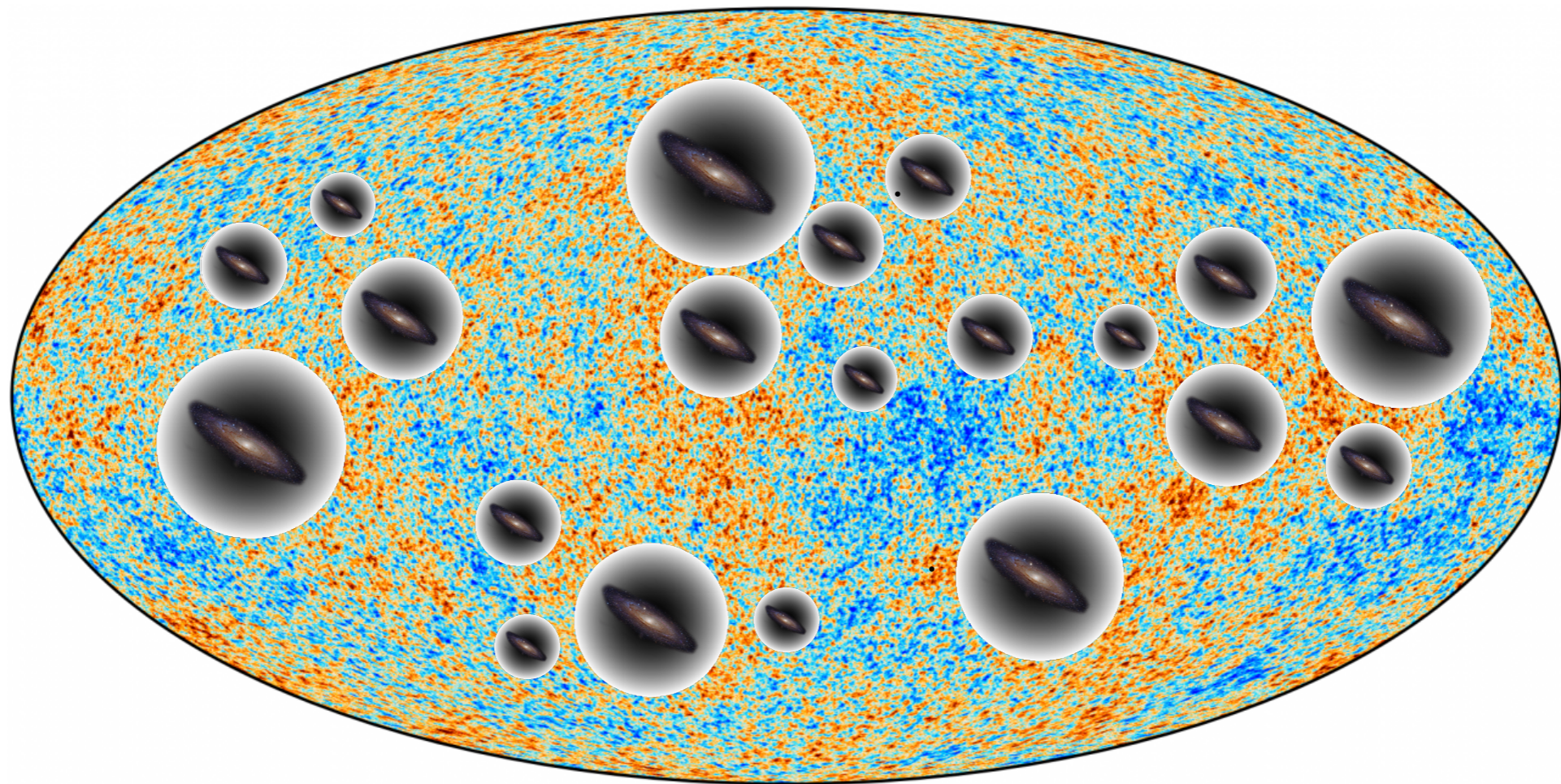


COBE/Firas  
constraint from  
spectral distortion



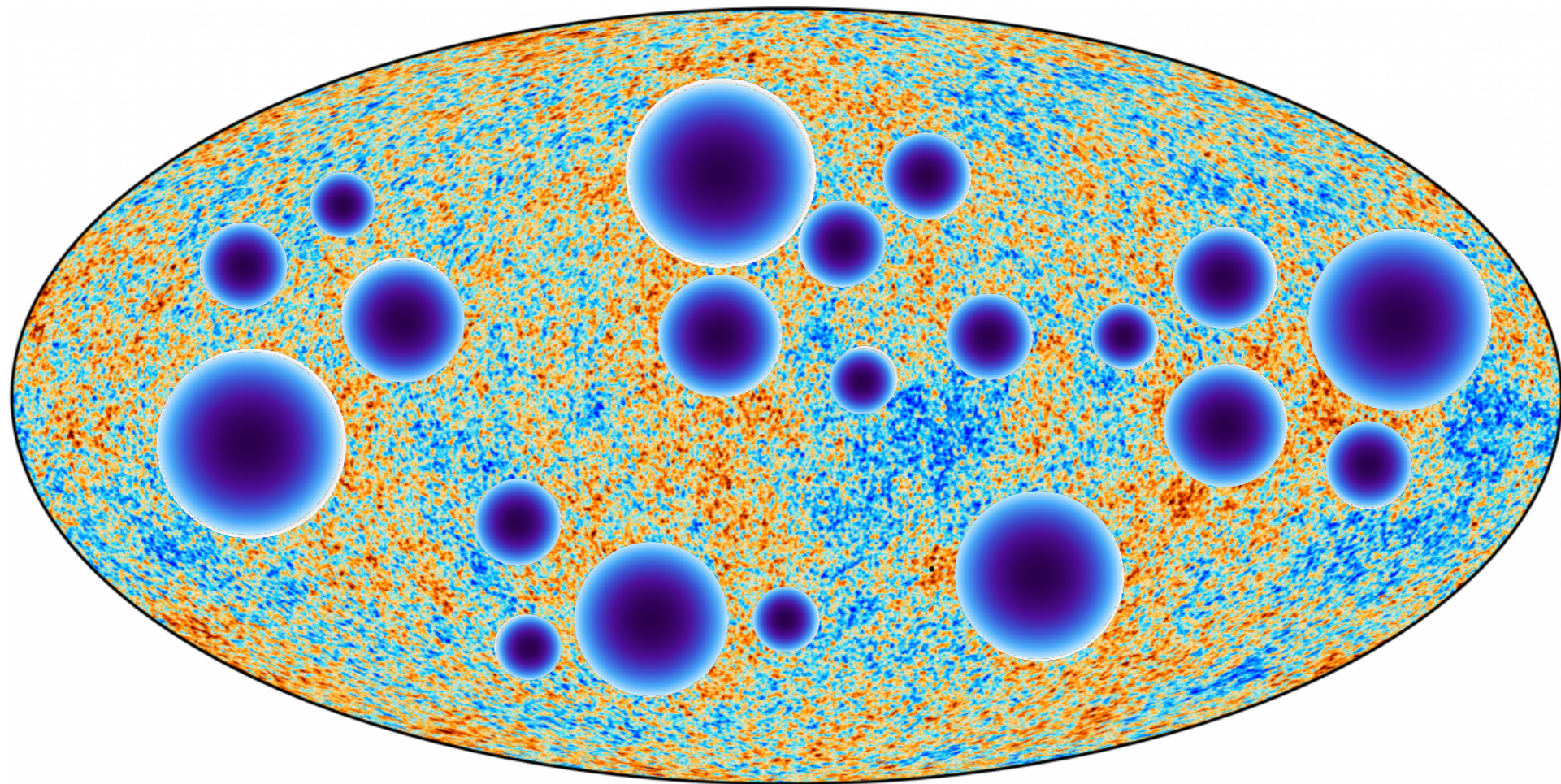
# Anisotropic screening

The signal is not isotropic!



# Anisotropic screening

The signal is not isotropic!

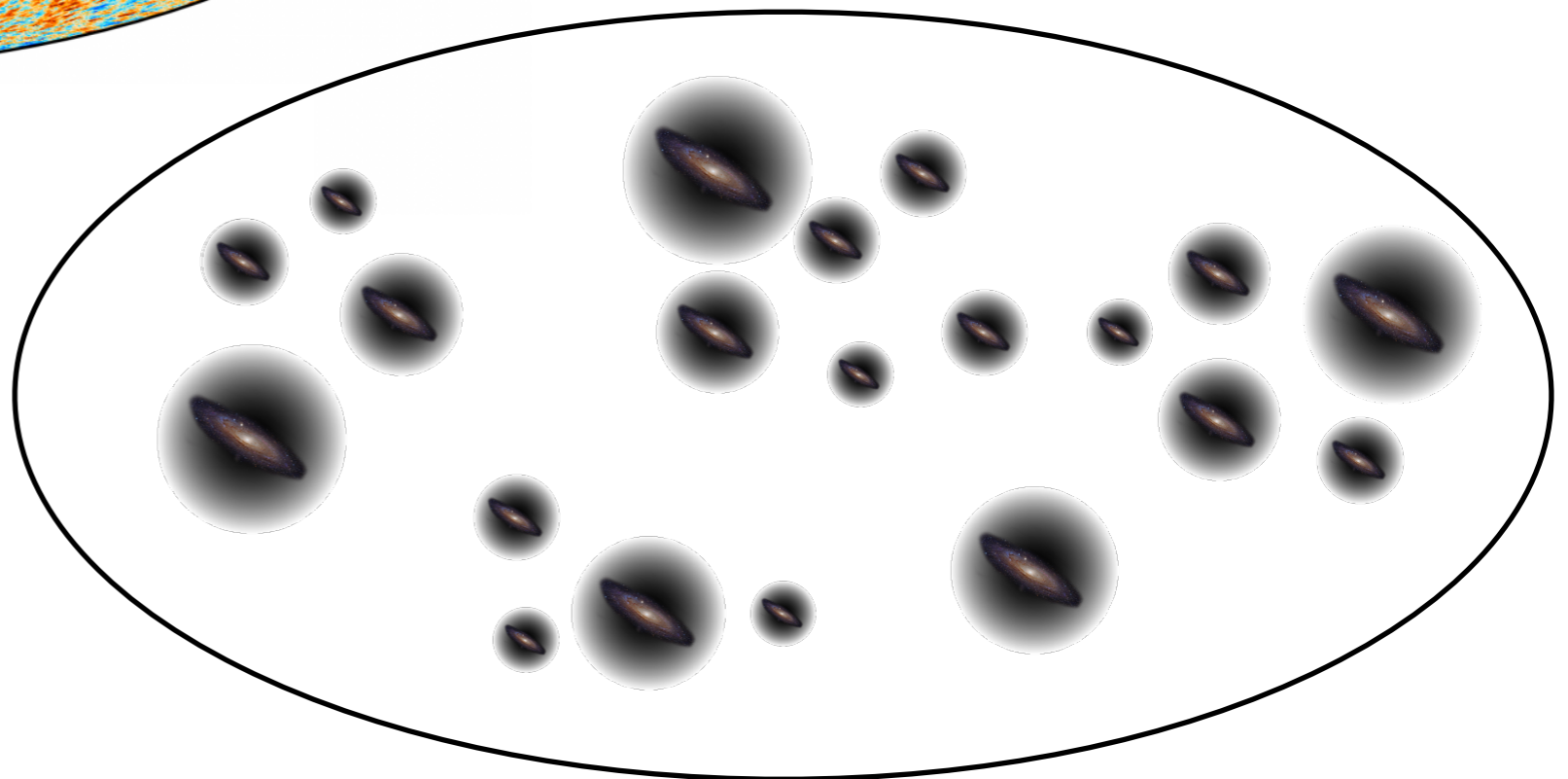
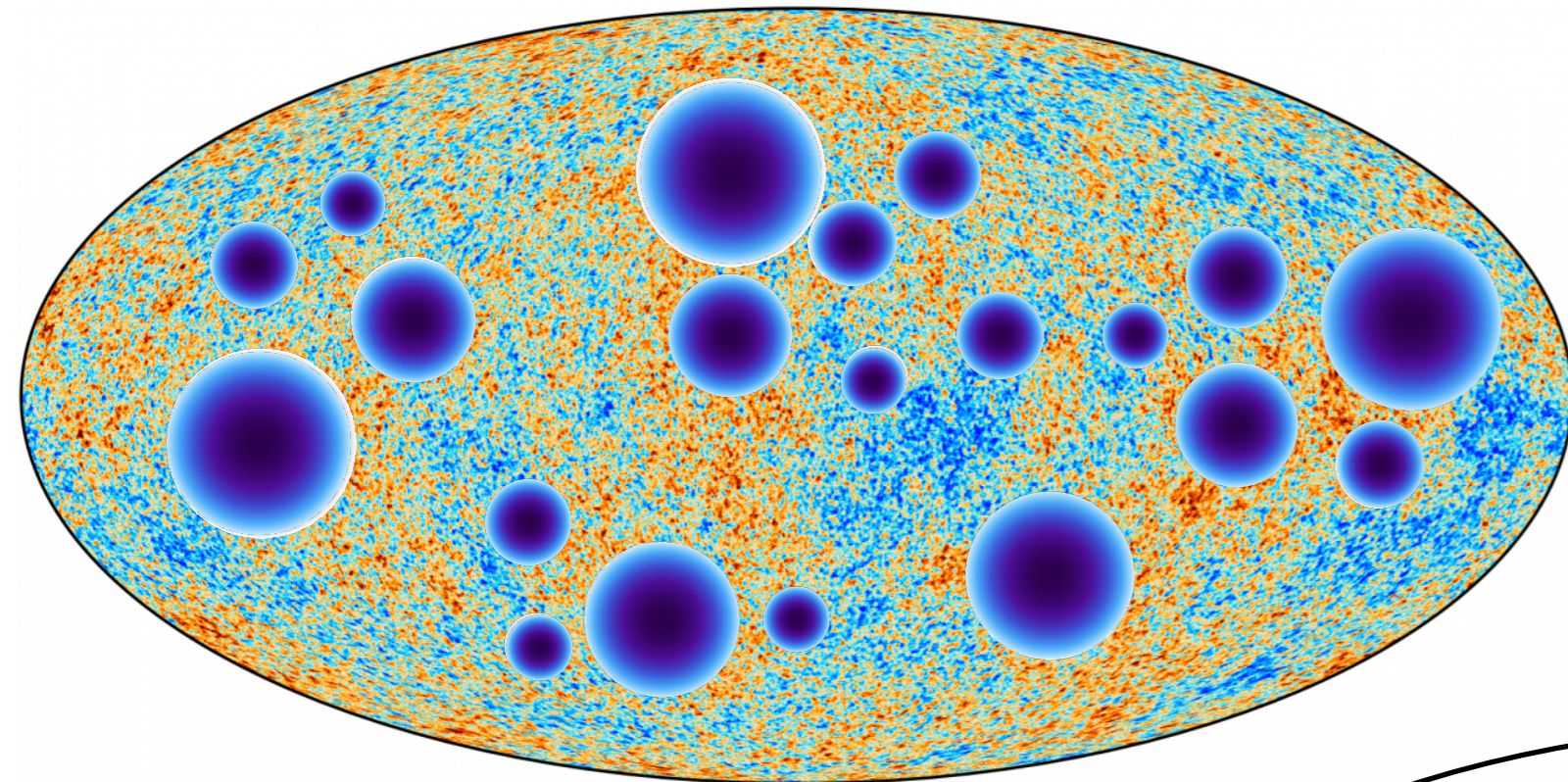




# Anisotropic screening

The signal is not isotropic!

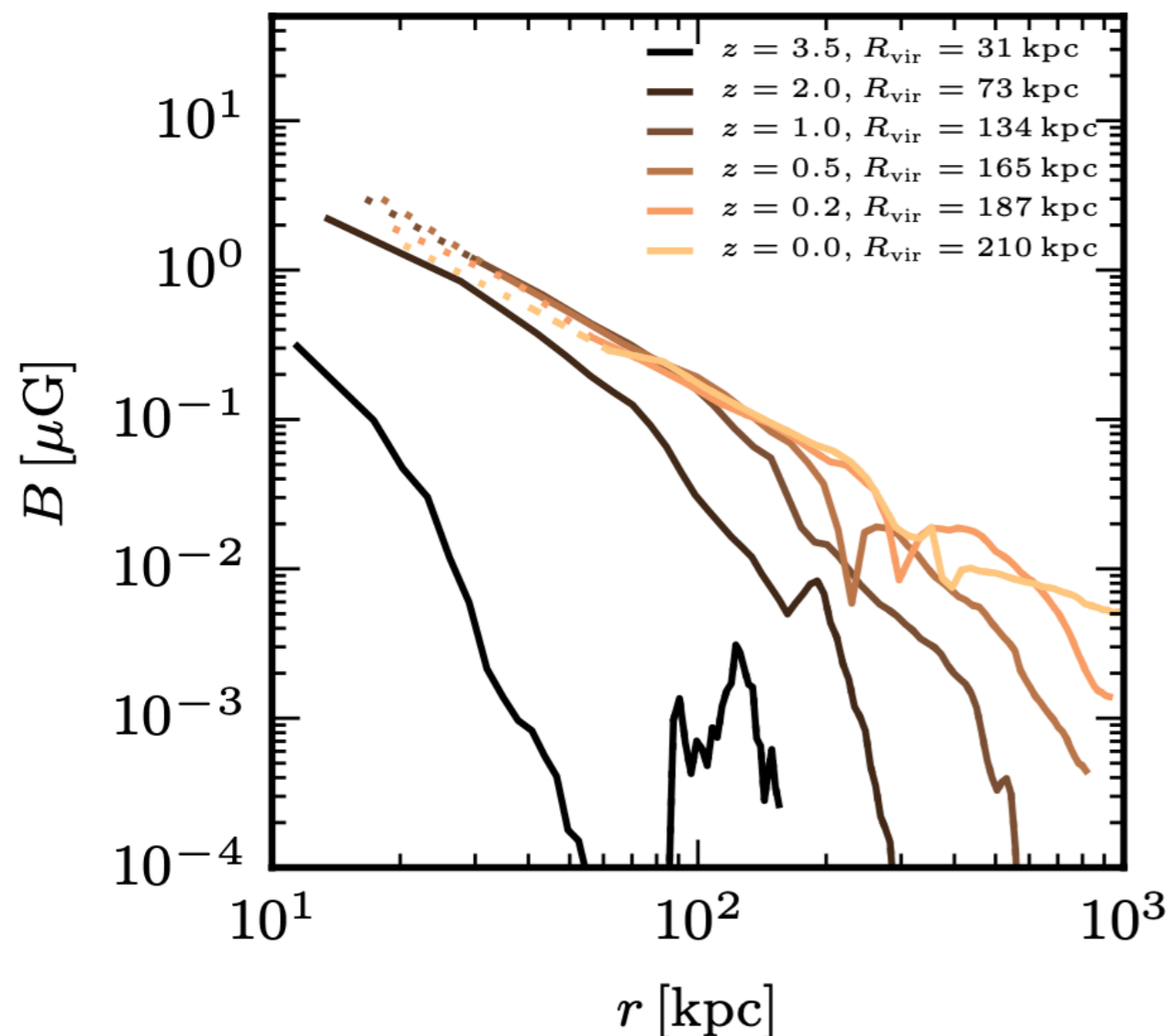
cross-correlation



# Halo B field

**Auriga:** high resolution cosmological magnetohydrodynamical simulations

**B field profile**



R. Pakmor et al.,

*Magnetising the circumgalactic medium of disk galaxies*

MNRAS, 498, 3, 3125 (2020), arXiv:1911.11163

$$M_{\text{halo}} = 10^{12} M_{\odot}$$

R. Pakmor et al.,

*Magnetic field amplification in cosmological zoom simulations from dwarf galaxies to galaxy groups*

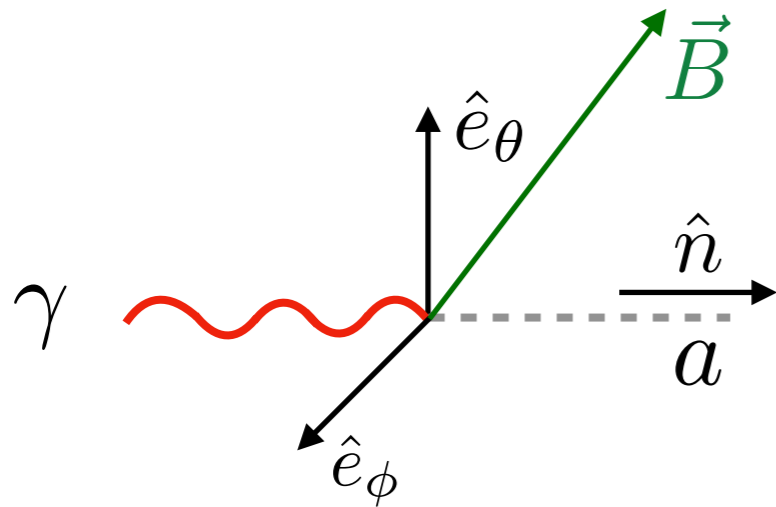
arXiv:2309.13104

$$10^{10} M_{\odot} < M_{\text{halo}} < 10^{13} M_{\odot}$$

# Outline

- CMB secondary anisotropies
- Photon-axion conversion inside halos
- Axion signal (temperature, polarization)
- Sensitivity projections

# Axion screening



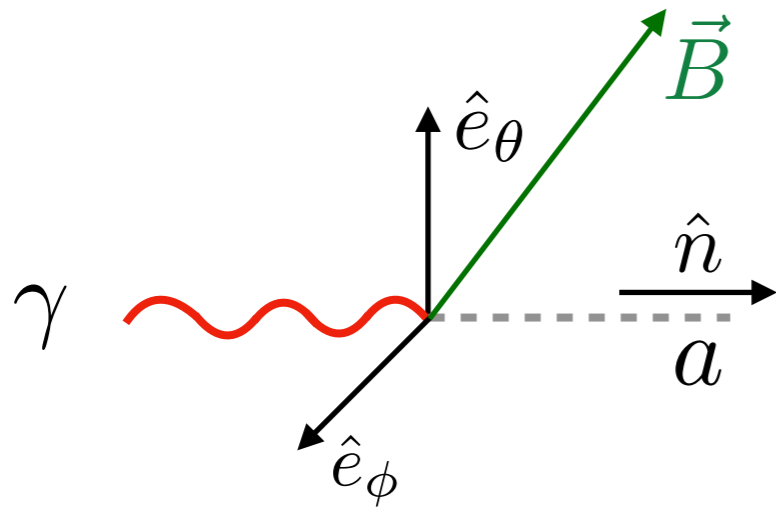
Only  $B \perp$  to the line of sight  
(angular momentum conservation)

Only  $B \parallel$  to the polarization direction  
(CP conservation)

$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a} \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2$$

Intensity  $I_{\text{axion}} = -I_{\text{CMB}} P_{\gamma \rightarrow a}$

# Axion screening



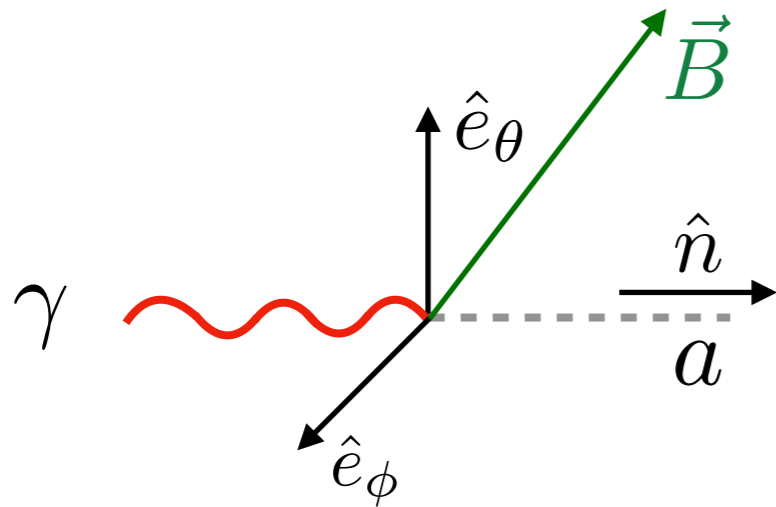
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$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a} \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2$$

$$\text{Intensity} \quad I_{\text{axion}} \propto -I_{\text{CMB}} \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 (B_{\theta}^2 + B_{\phi}^2)}{2}$$

# Axion screening



Only  $B \perp$  to the line of sight  
(angular momentum conservation)

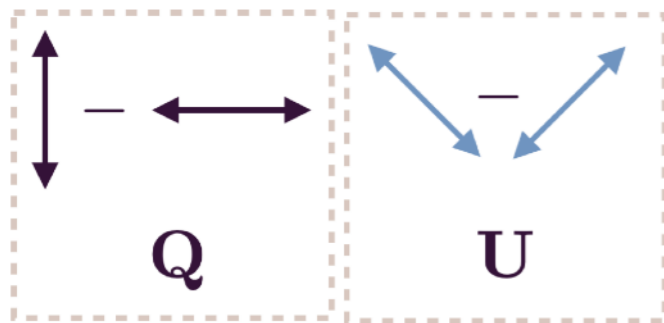
Only  $B \parallel$  to the polarization direction  
(CP conservation)

$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a} \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2$$

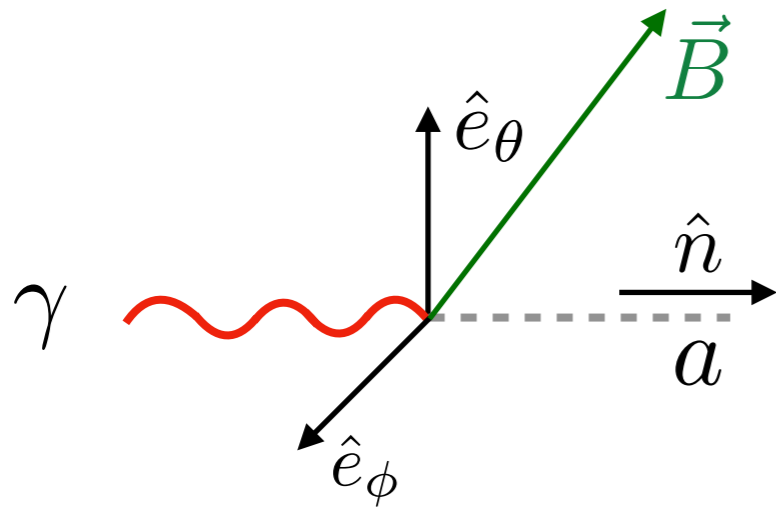
Intensity  $I_{\text{axion}} \propto -I_{\text{CMB}} \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 (B_\theta^2 + B_\phi^2)}{2}$

Polarization  $Q_{\text{axion}} \propto -I_{\text{CMB}} \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 (B_\theta^2 - B_\phi^2)}{2}$

$U_{\text{axion}} \propto -I_{\text{CMB}} g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 (B_\theta B_\phi)$



# Axion screening



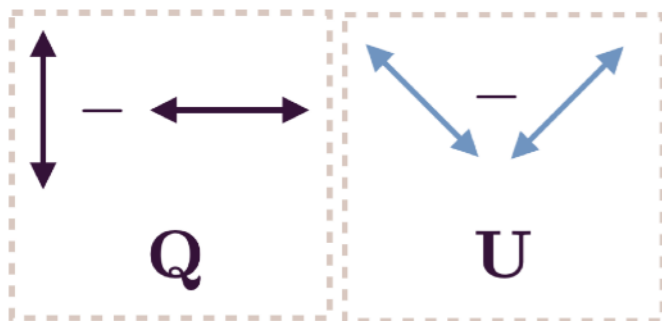
Only  $B \perp$  to the line of sight  
(angular momentum conservation)

Only  $B \parallel$  to the polarization direction  
(CP conservation)

$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow a} \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2$$

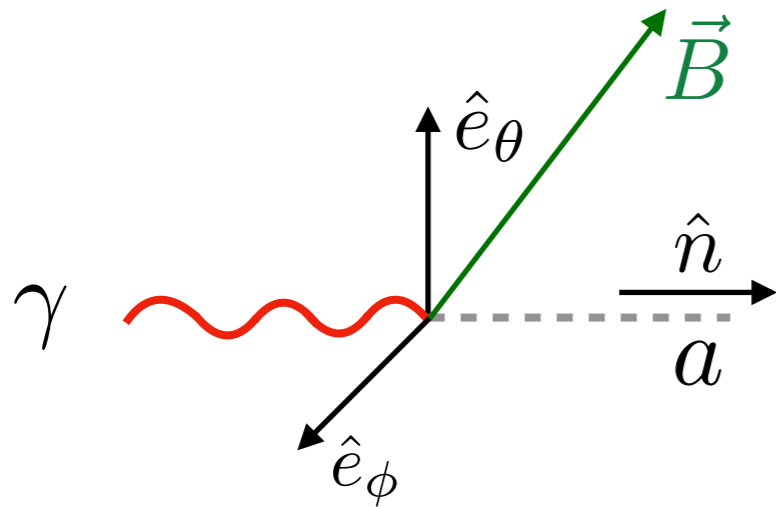
Temperature  $T_{\text{axion}} \propto -\bar{T} \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 (B_\theta^2 + B_\phi^2)}{2}$

Polarization  $Q_{\text{axion}} \propto -\bar{T} \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 (B_\theta^2 - B_\phi^2)}{2}$



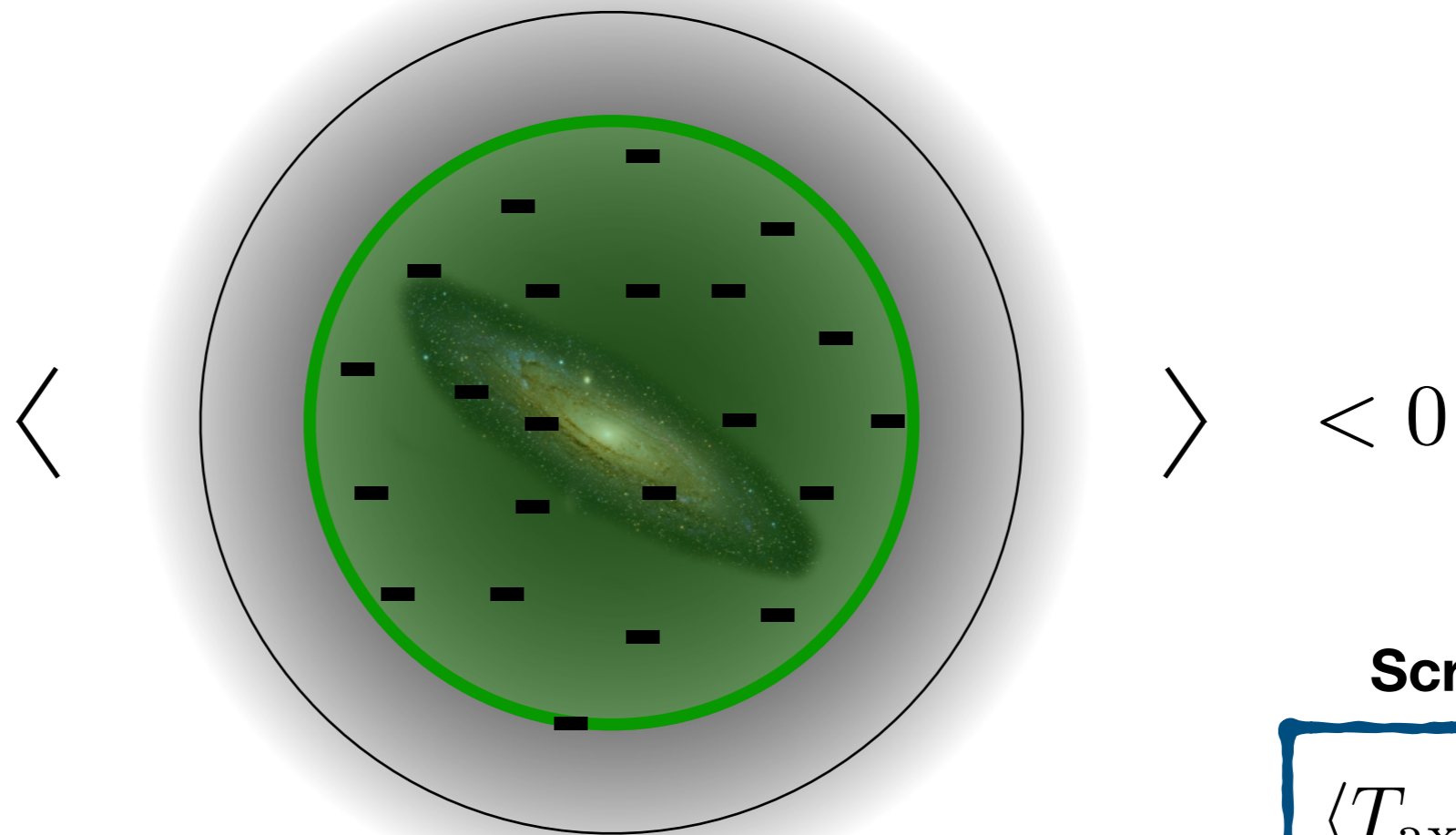
$$U_{\text{axion}} \propto -\bar{T} g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 (B_\theta B_\phi)$$

# One-point function: temperature



Only  $B \perp$  to the line of sight  
(angular momentum conservation)

Only  $B \parallel$  to the polarization direction  
(CP conservation)

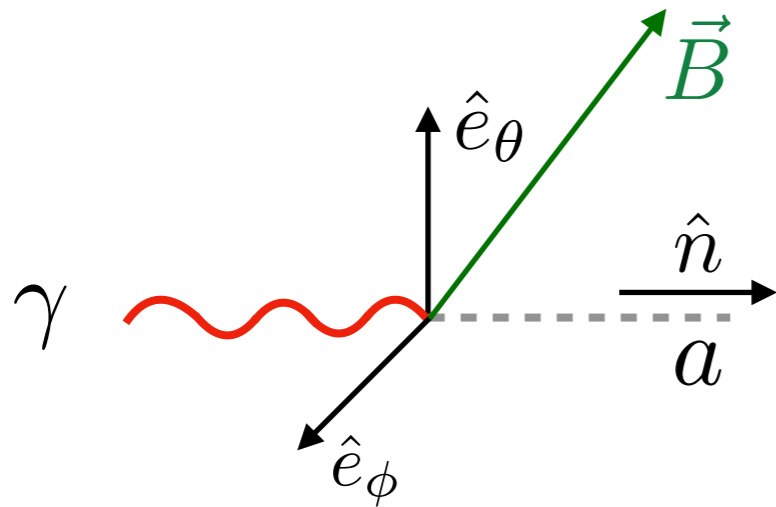


**Screening**

$$\langle T_{\text{axion}} \rangle < 0$$

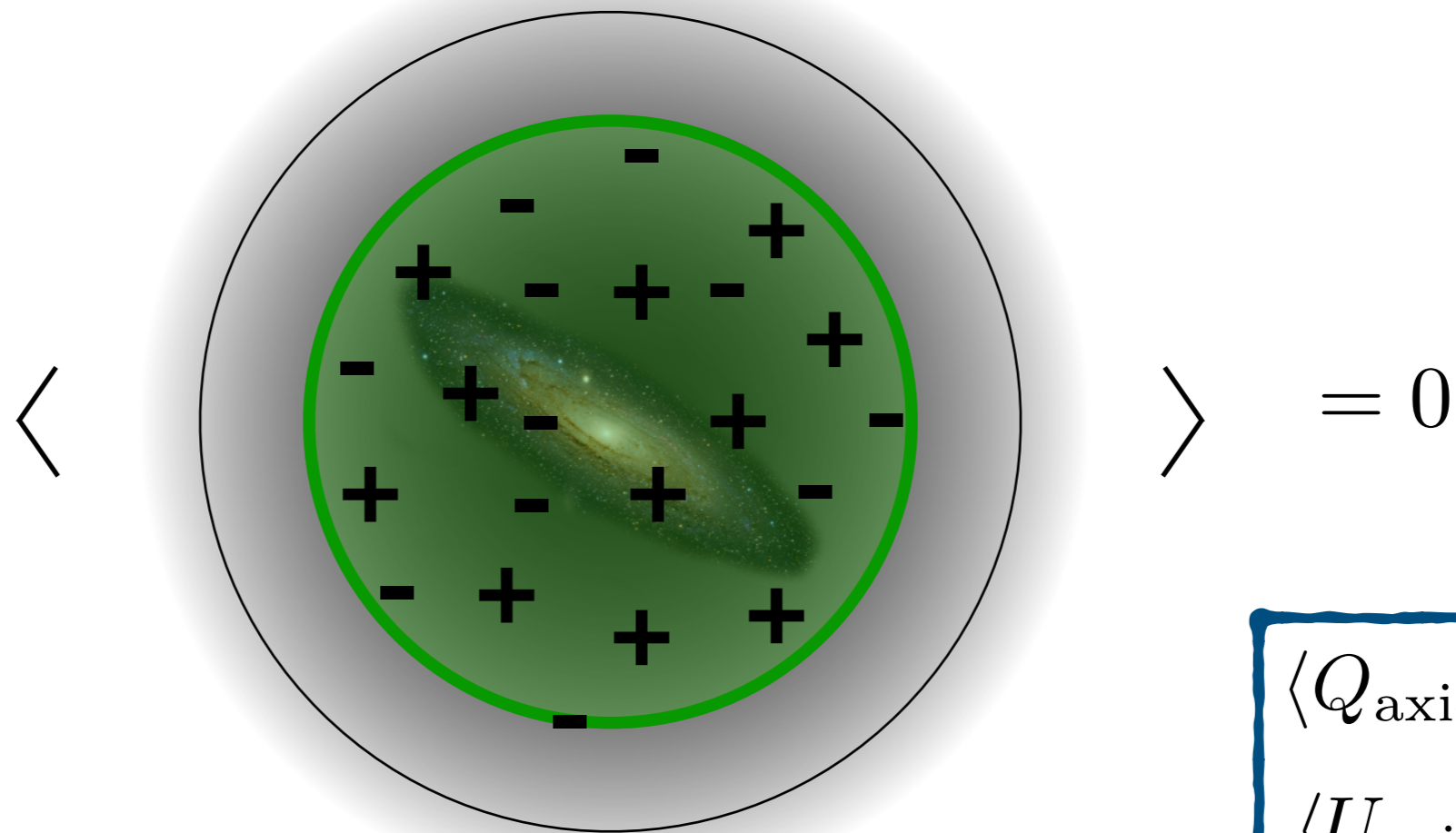


# One-point function: polarization



Only  $B \perp$  to the line of sight  
(angular momentum conservation)

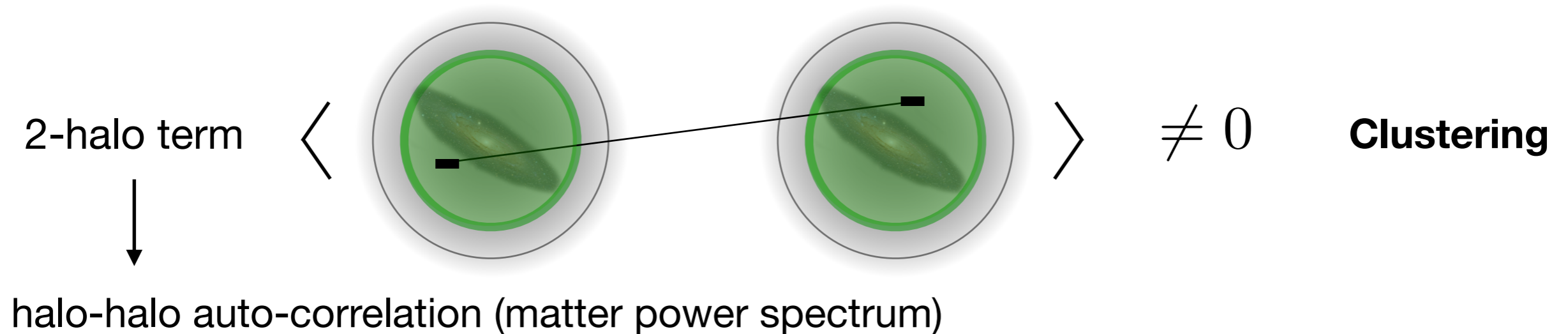
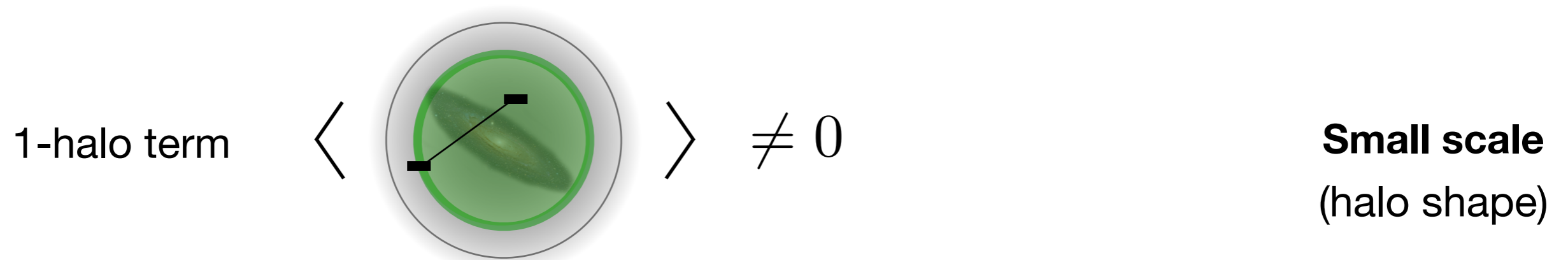
Only  $B \parallel$  to the polarization direction  
(CP conservation)



$$\langle Q_{\text{axion}} \rangle = 0$$
$$\langle U_{\text{axion}} \rangle = 0$$

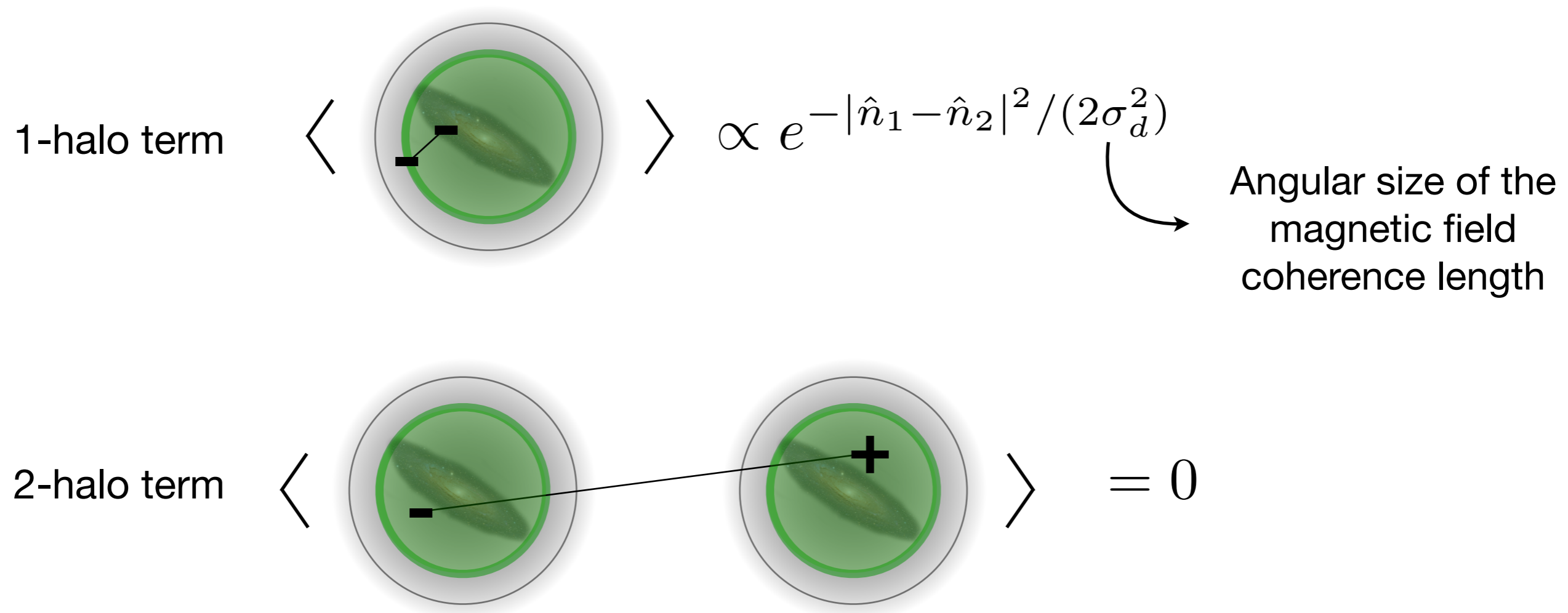
# Two-point function: temperature

$$\langle T_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_1) T_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_2) \rangle \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 \bar{T}^2$$



# Two-point function: polarization

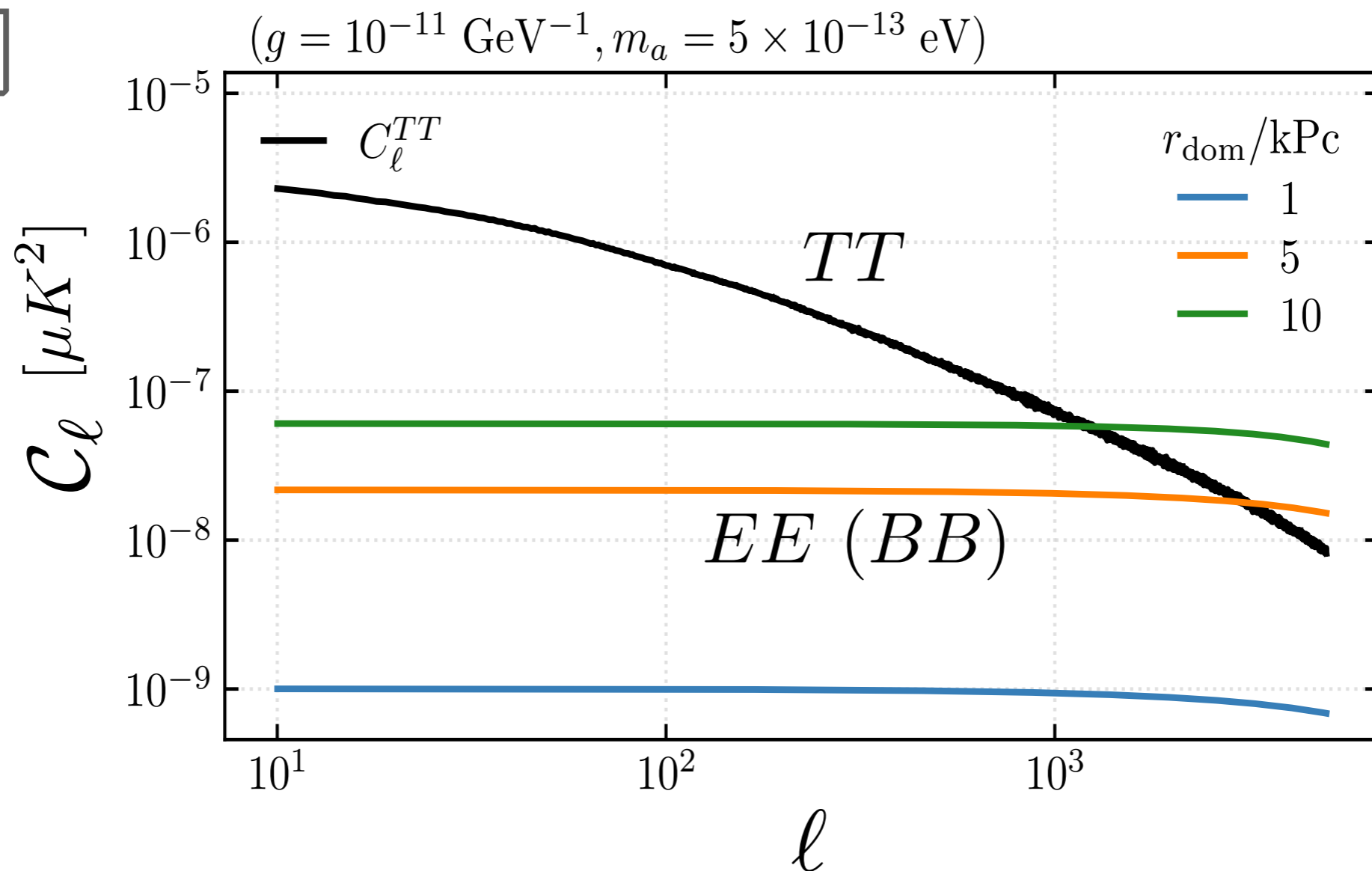
$$\langle Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_1) Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_2) \rangle \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 \bar{T}^2$$



# Two-point function: polarization

$$\langle Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_1) Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_2) \rangle \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 \bar{T}^2$$

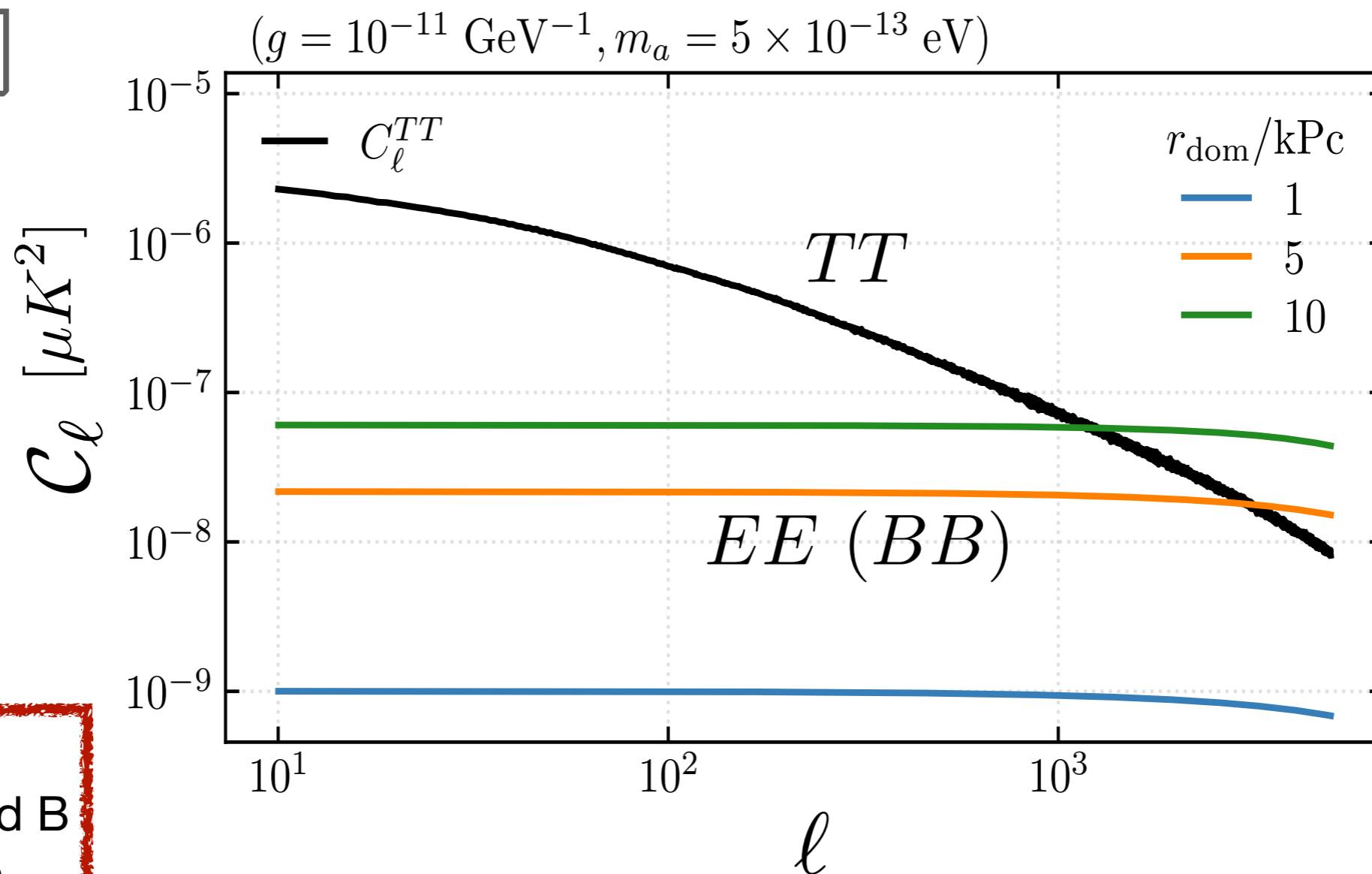
Preliminary



# Two-point function: polarization

$$\langle Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_1) Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_2) \rangle \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 \bar{T}^2$$

Preliminary

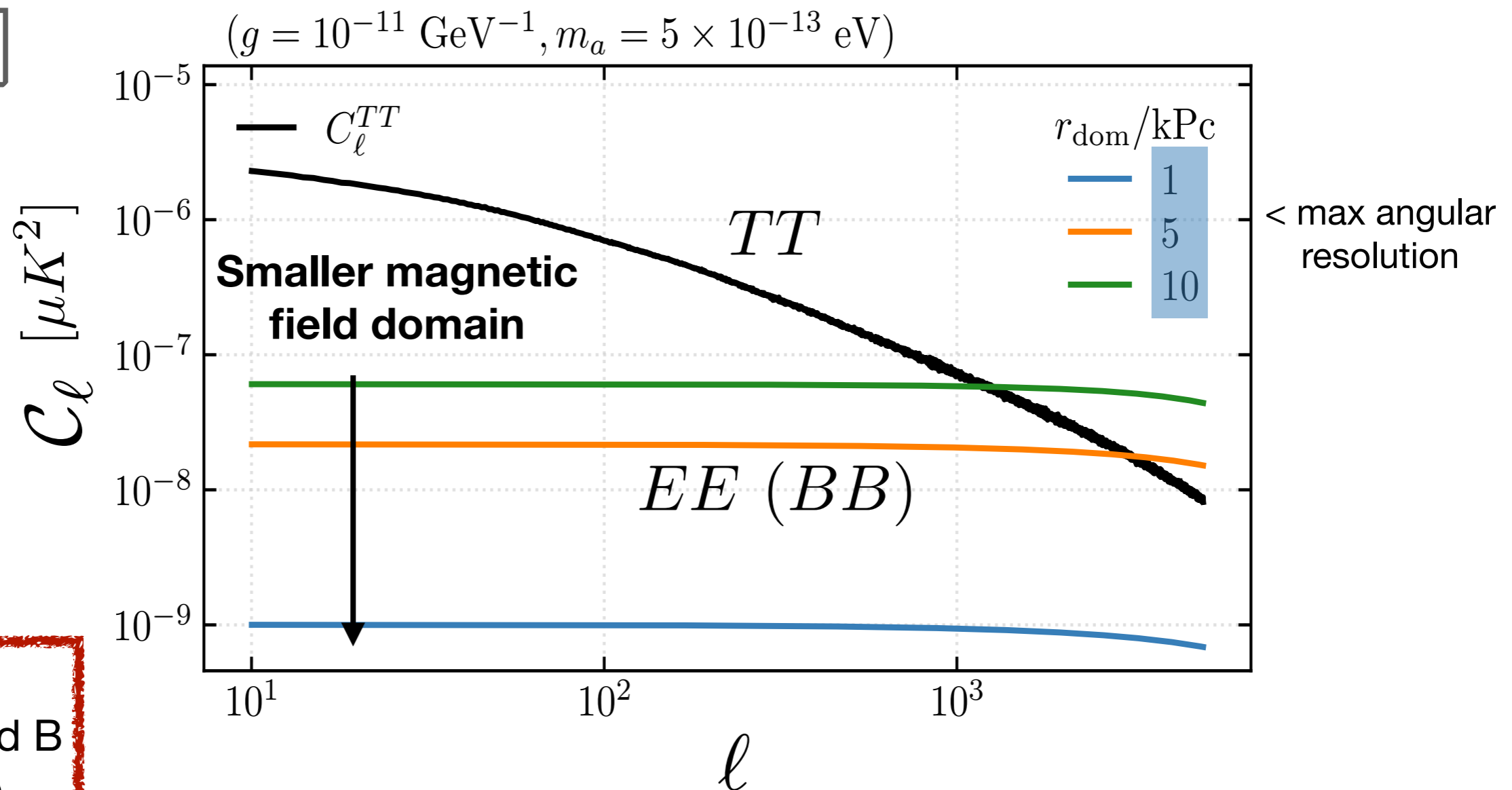


The axion signal for E and B is the same

# Two-point function: polarization

$$\langle Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_1) Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_2) \rangle \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 \bar{T}^2$$

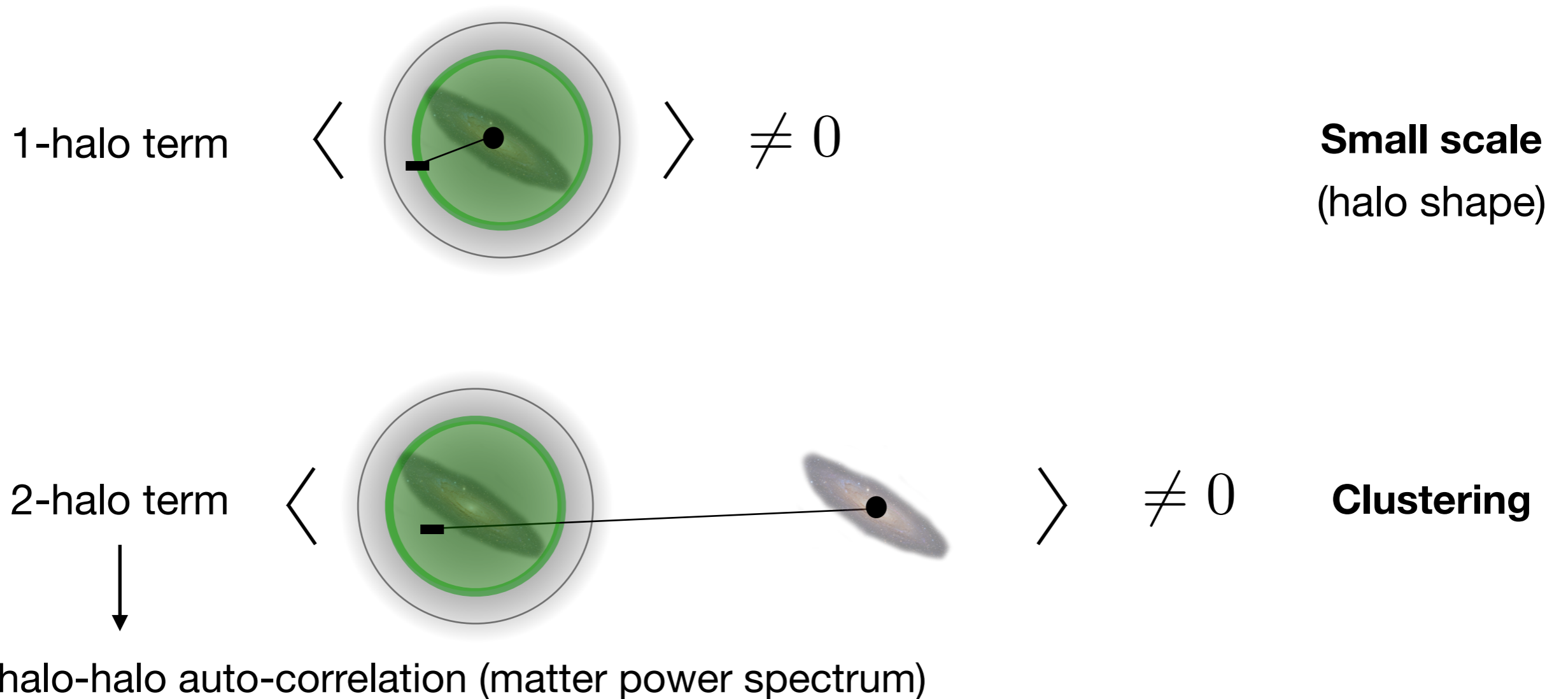
Preliminary



The axion signal for E and B is the same

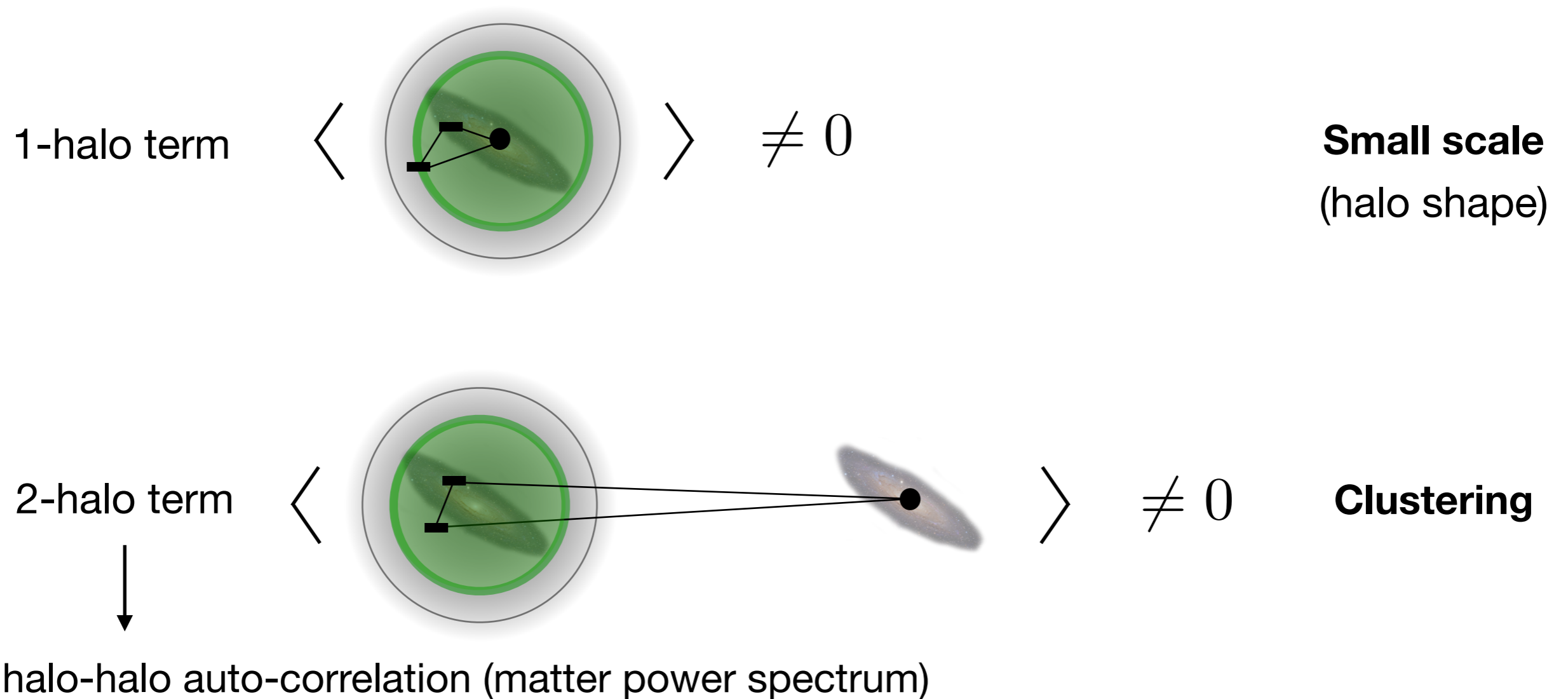
# Cross-correlation: temperature

$$\langle T_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_1)g(\hat{n}_2) \rangle \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2 \bar{T}$$



# Polarization-LSS bispectrum

$$\langle Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_1) Q_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}_2) g(\hat{n}_3) \rangle \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4 B^4 \bar{T}^2$$



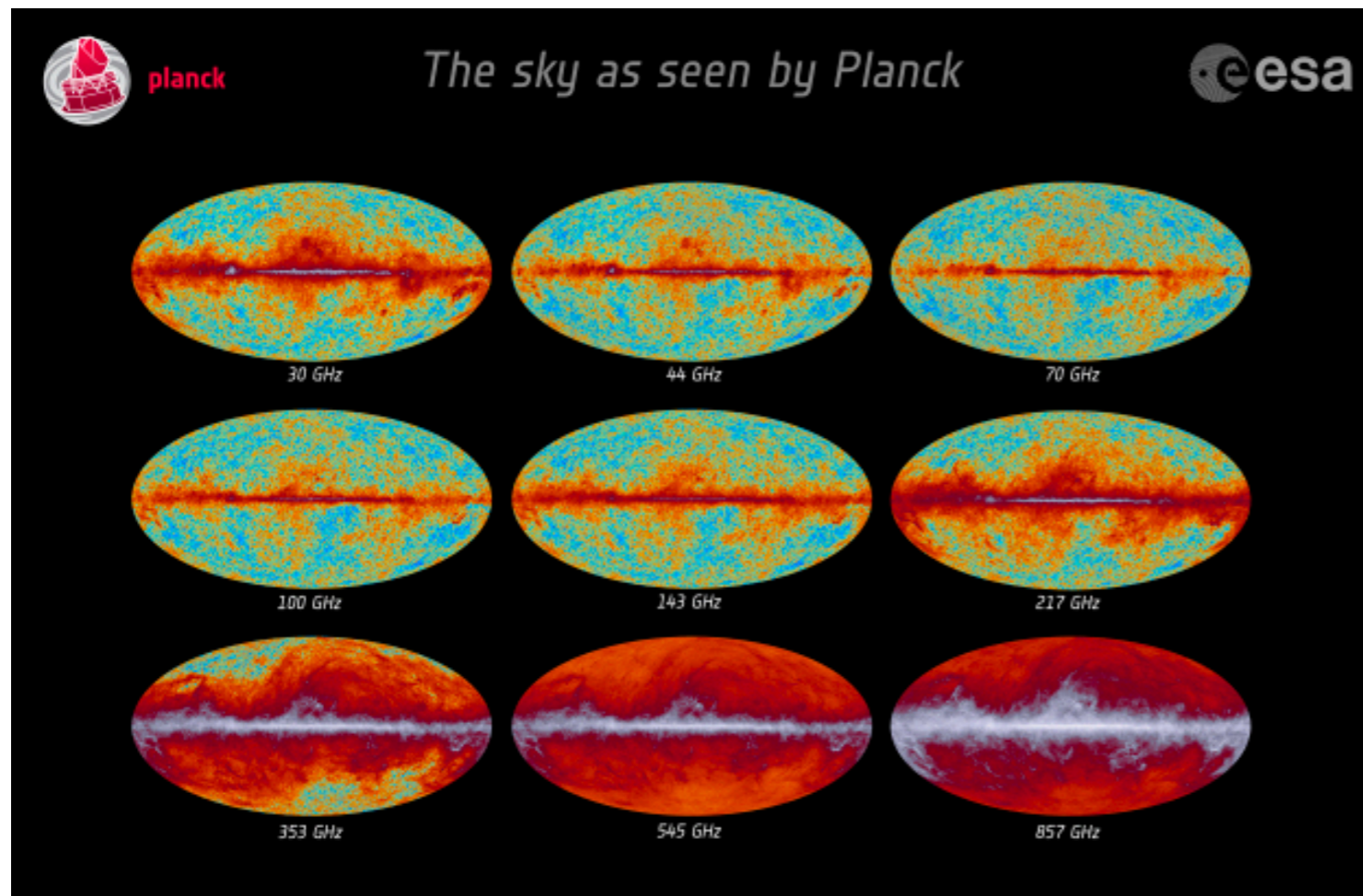


# Outline

- CMB secondary anisotropies
- Photon-axion conversion inside halos
- Axion signal (temperature, polarization)
- Sensitivity projections

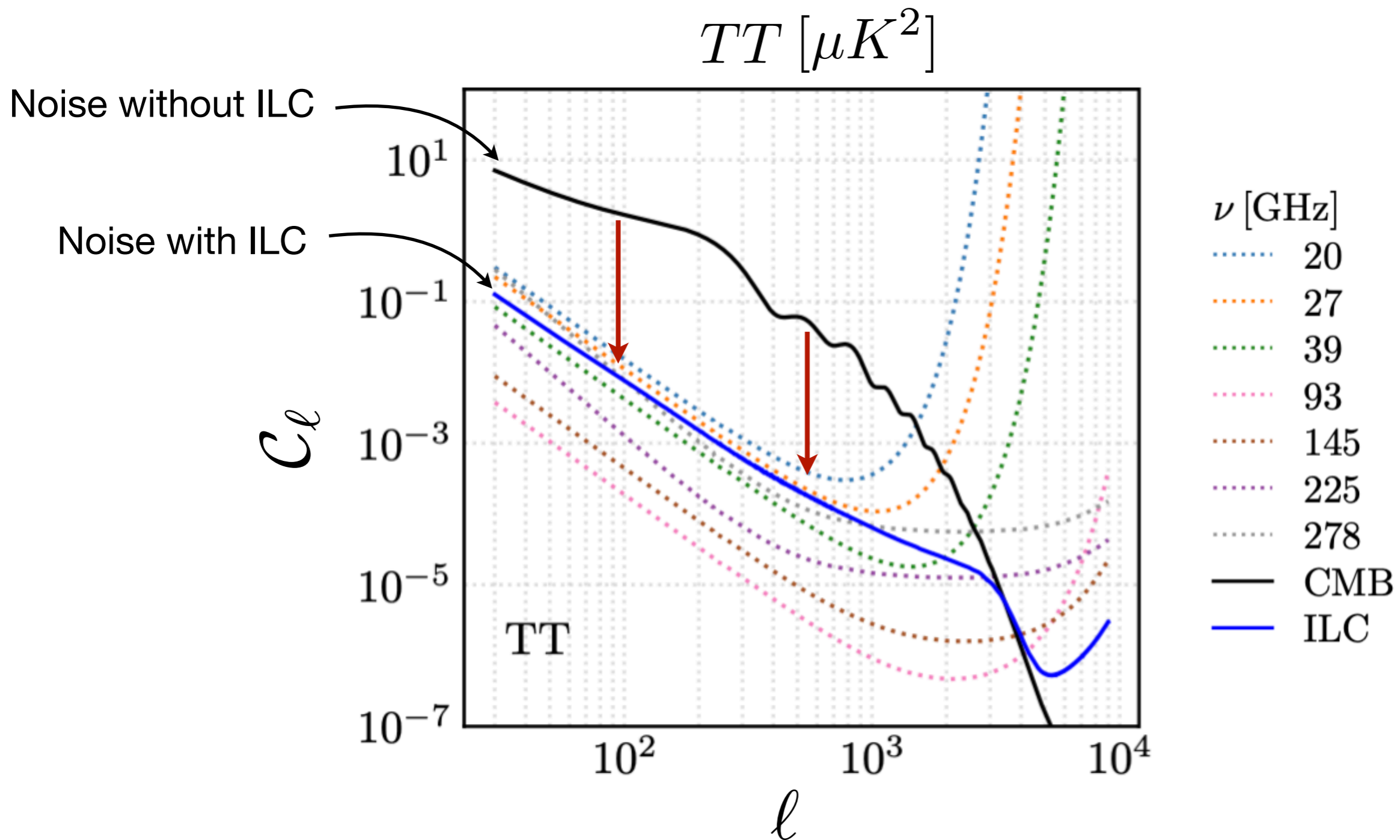
# Internal Linear Combination (ILC)

$$T_{\text{axion}}(\hat{n}) = -\frac{1 - e^{-\omega/\bar{T}}}{\omega/\bar{T}} \bar{T} P_{\gamma \rightarrow \omega}(\hat{n}, \omega) \propto \frac{1 - e^{-\omega/\bar{T}}}{\omega/\bar{T}} \omega$$

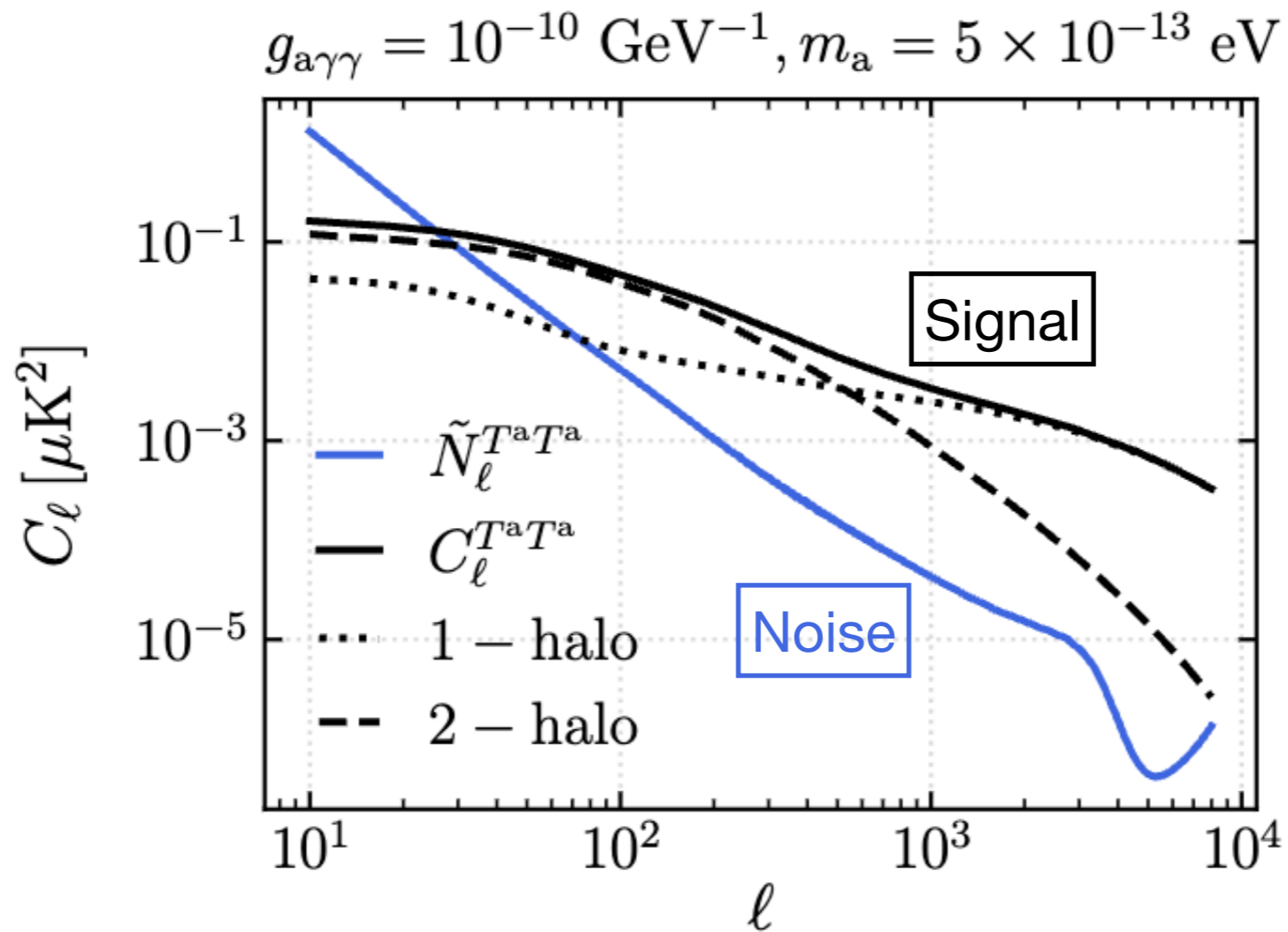


**Weight** different maps appropriately to minimize the noise with respect to the **frequency scaling of the signal**

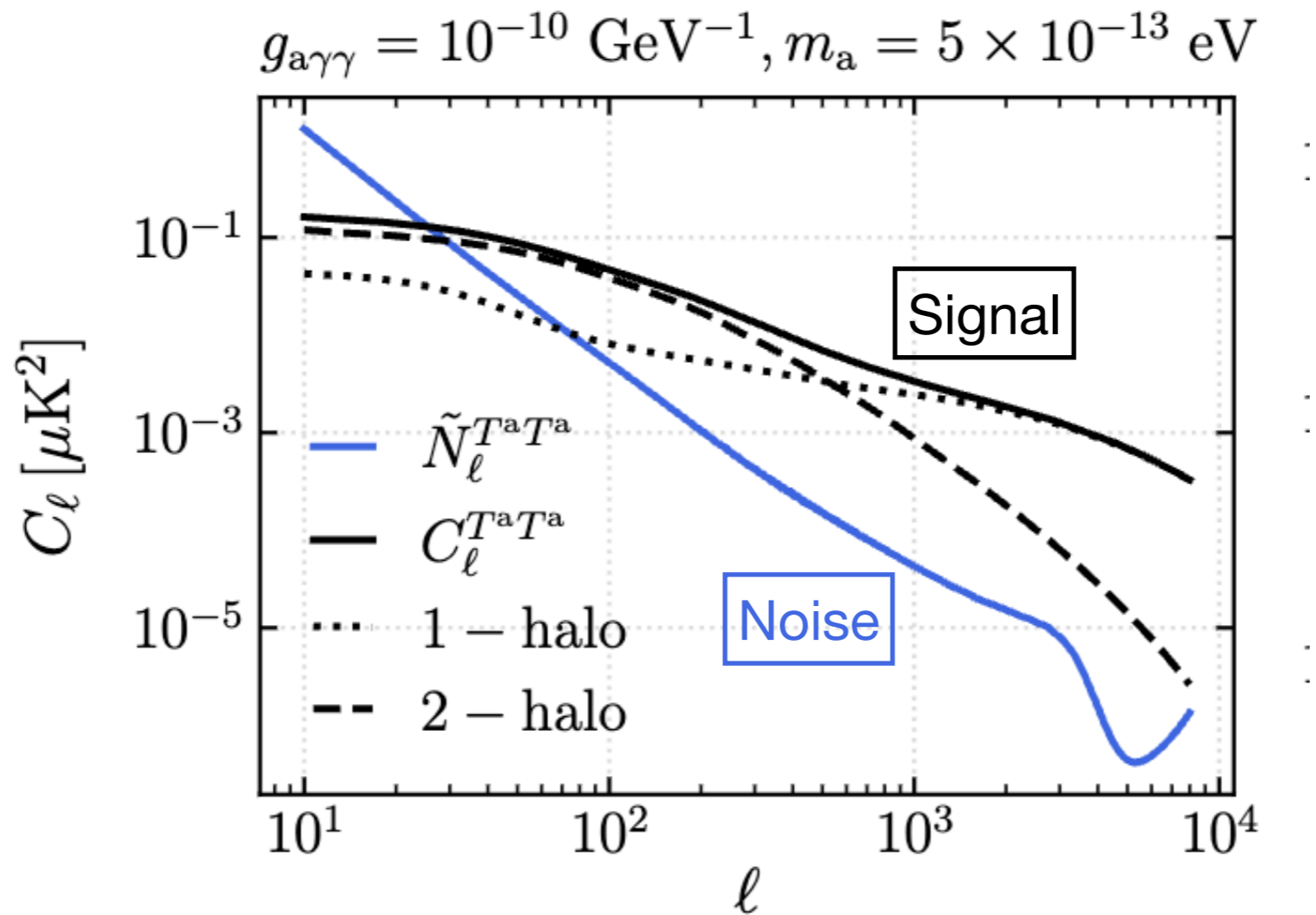
# ILC cleaning



# Signal-to-Noise Ratio

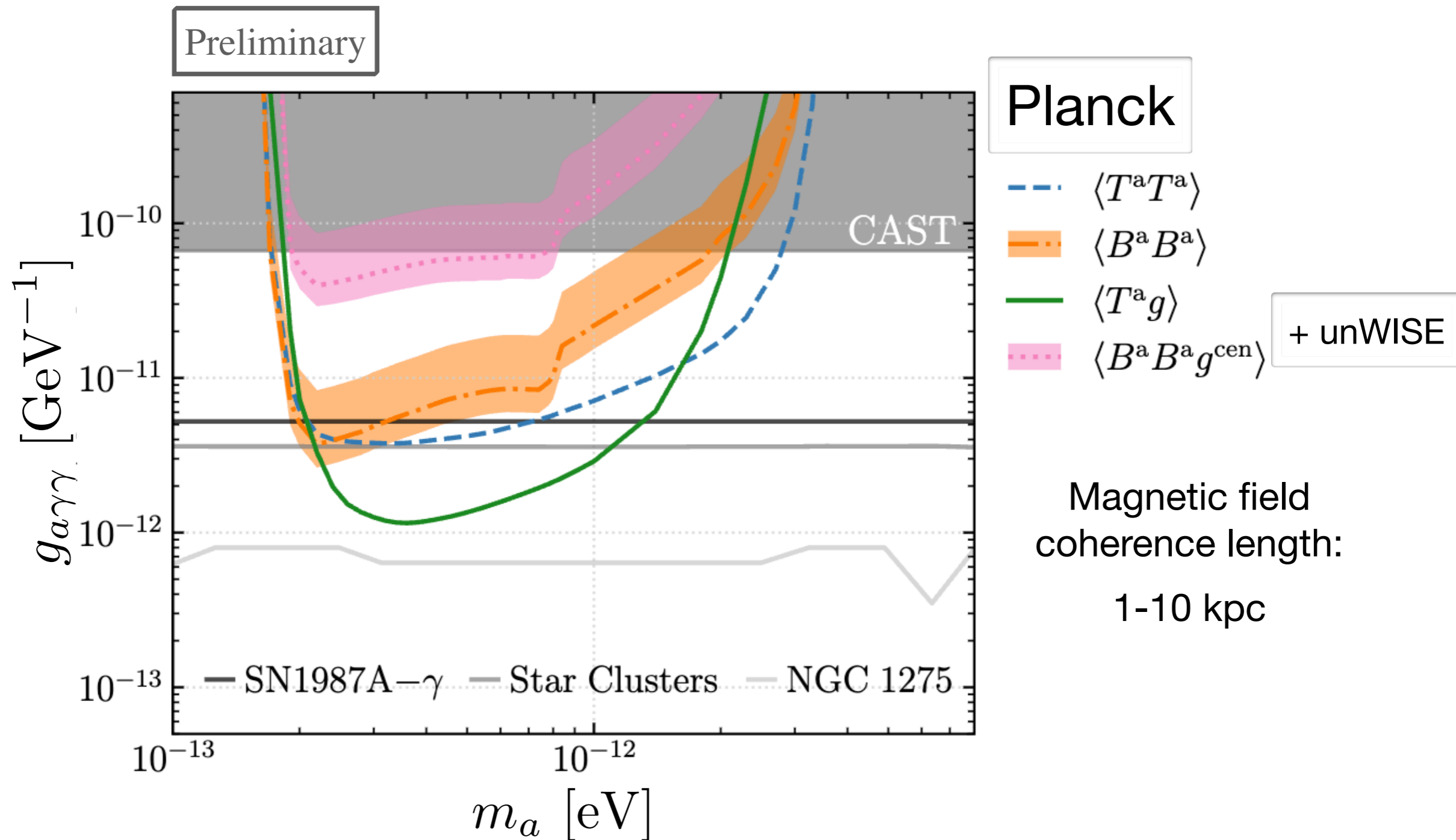


# Signal-to-Noise Ratio

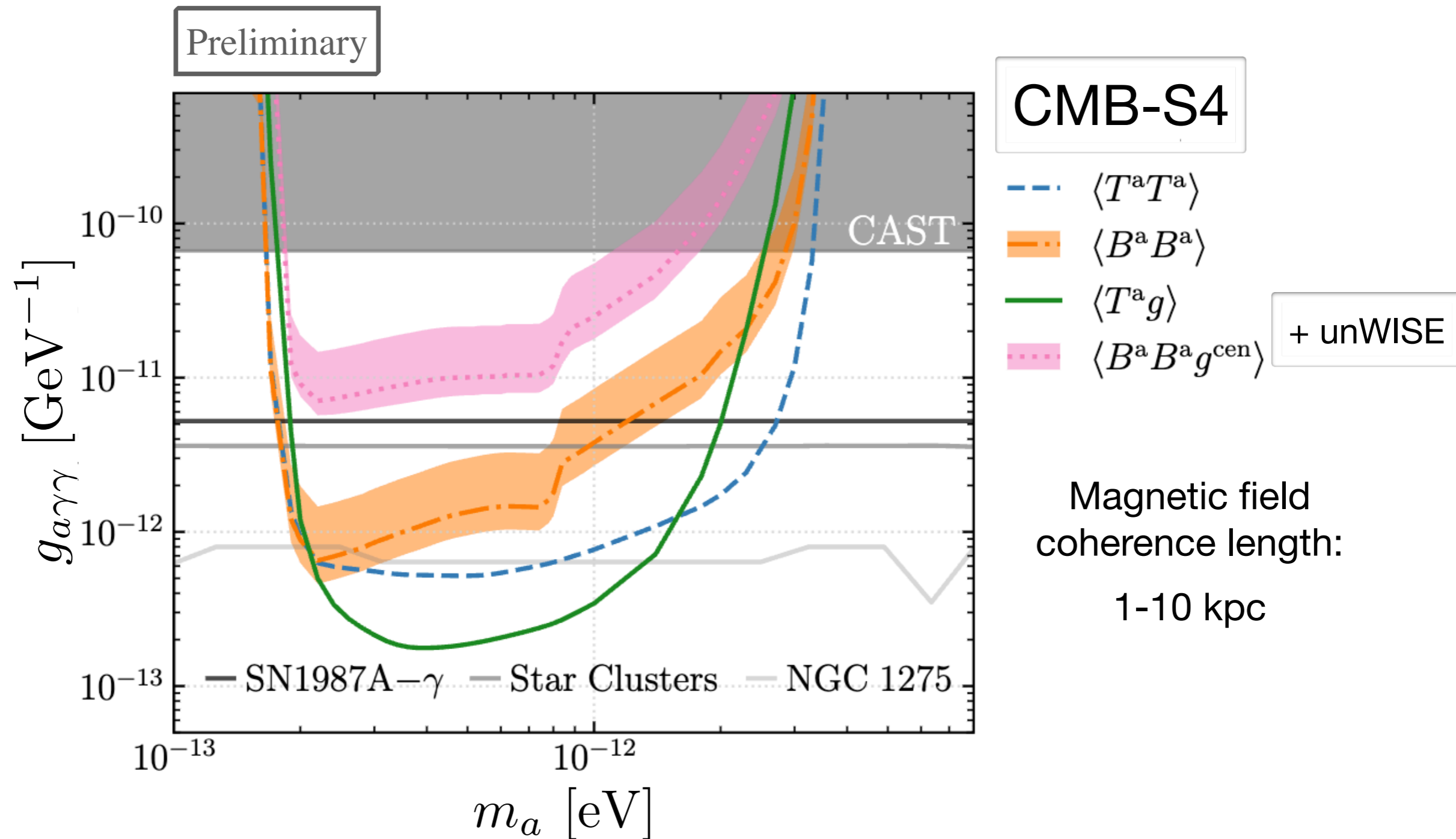


$$\text{SNR}^2 = \sum_{\ell} \frac{2\ell + 1}{2} \left[ \frac{C_\ell^{T^a T^a}}{\tilde{N}_\ell^{T^a T^a}} \right]^2 \quad C_\ell^{T^a T^a} \propto g_{a\gamma\gamma}^4$$

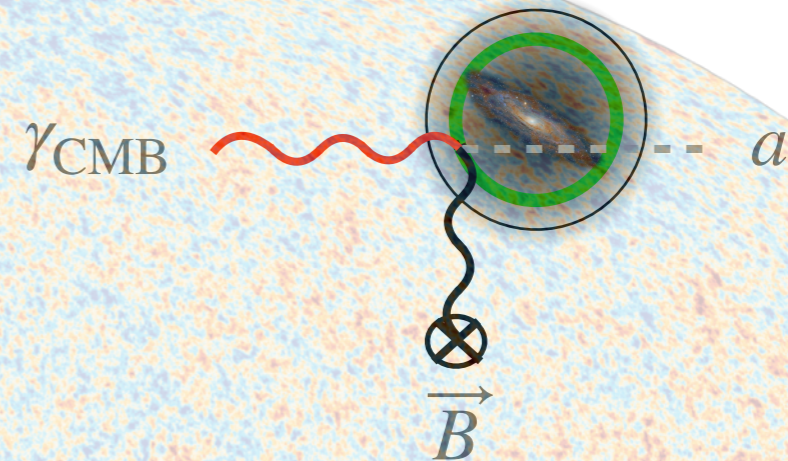
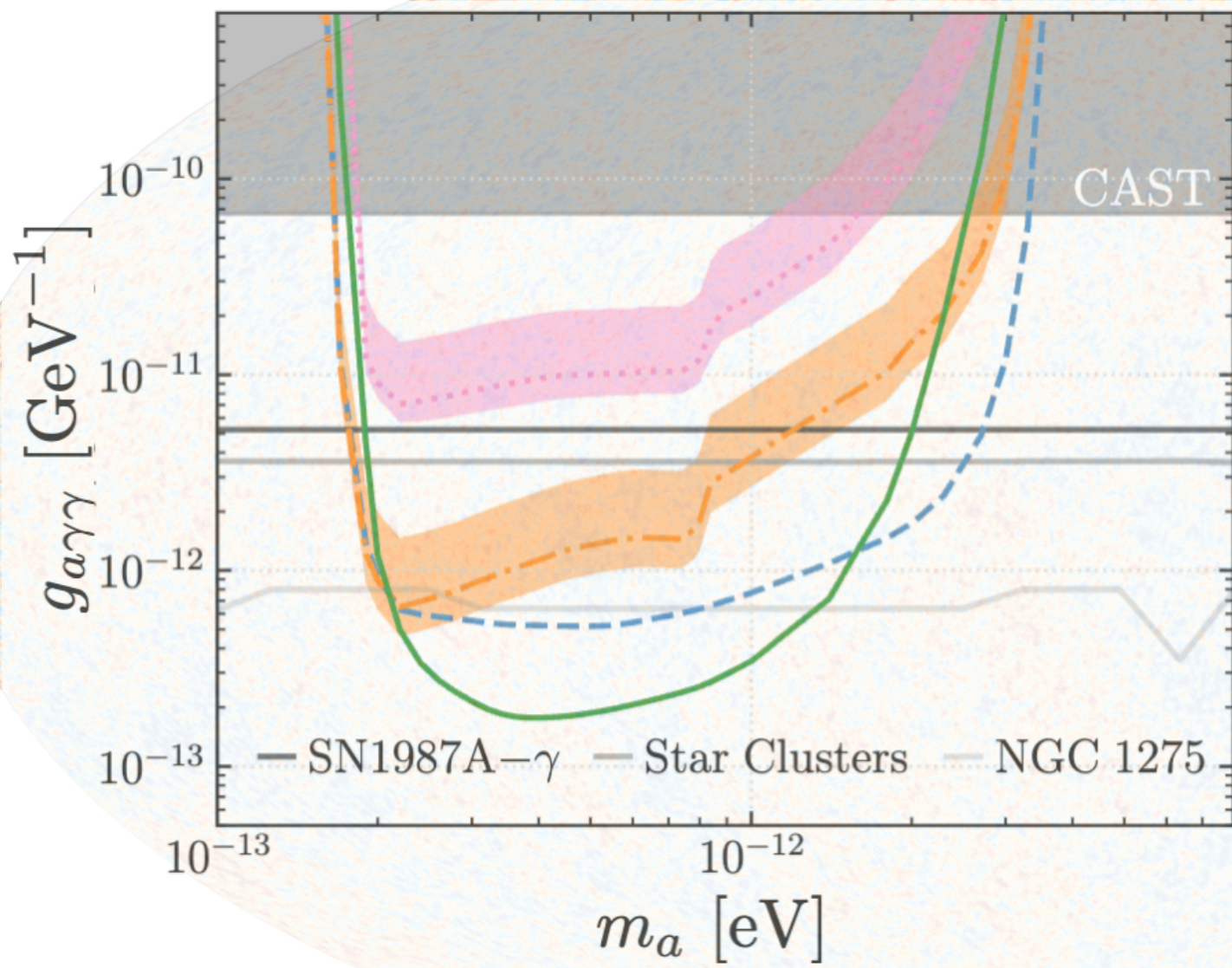
# Projections: Planck + unWISE



# Projections: Planck + unWISE



# Summary



New Physics can induce secondary anisotropies

*example from this talk:*  
axions on the CMB

**Next:** analysis with  
Planck+unWISE, (soon) ACT DR6

With Sam Goldstein, Fiona McCarthy, Colin Hill

With Dalila Pîrvu , Junwu Huang, and Matt Johnson