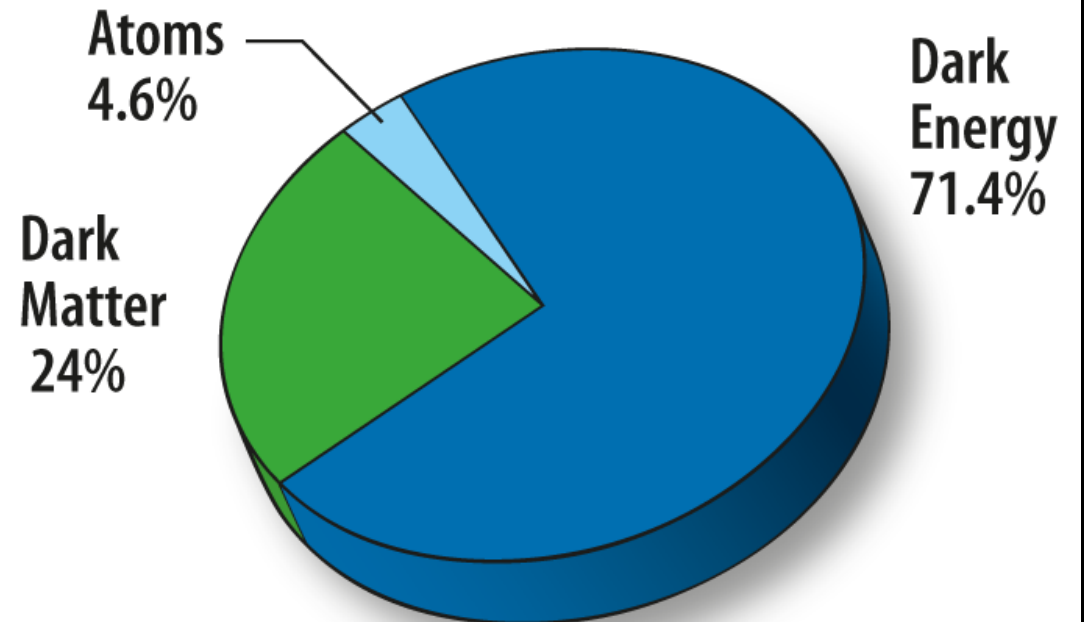


Dark Matter in Radio Astronomy

Yin-Zhe Ma

Professor and Head of Astrophysics Division
Department of Physics, Stellenbosch University

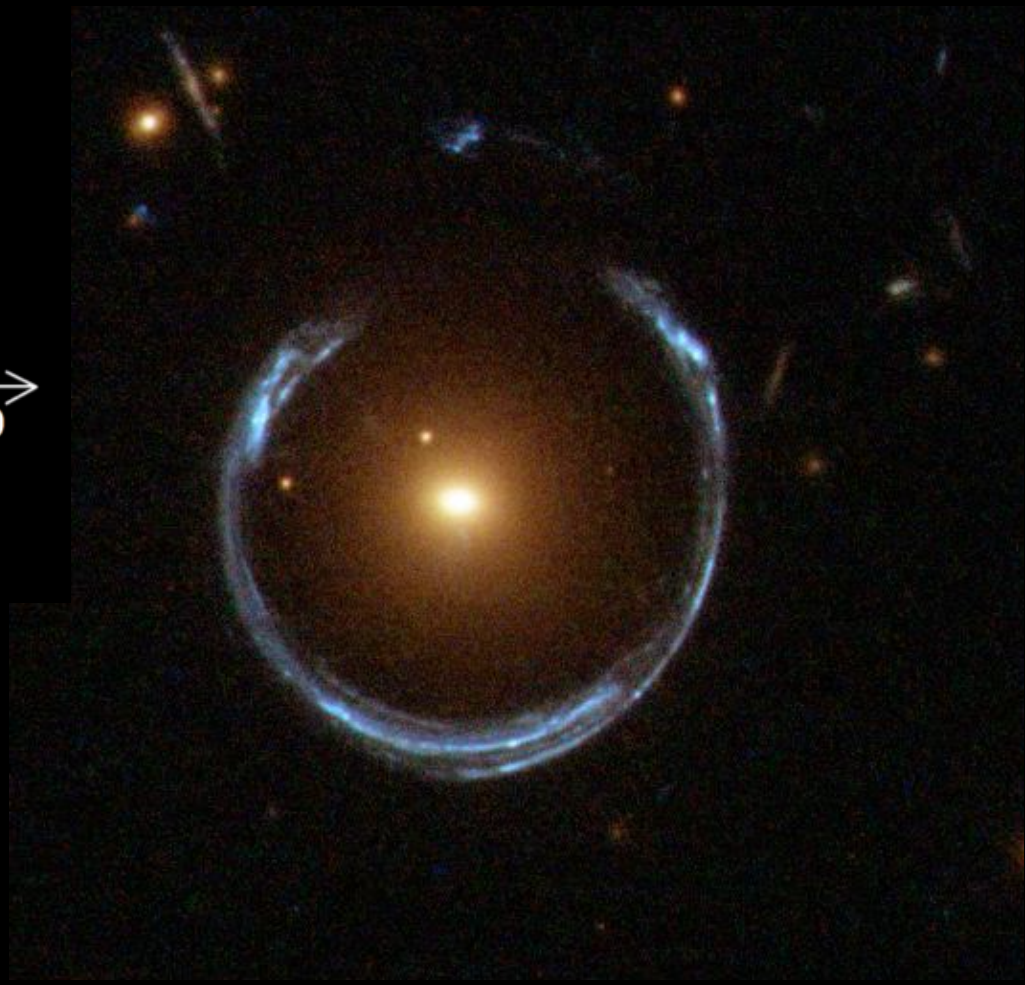
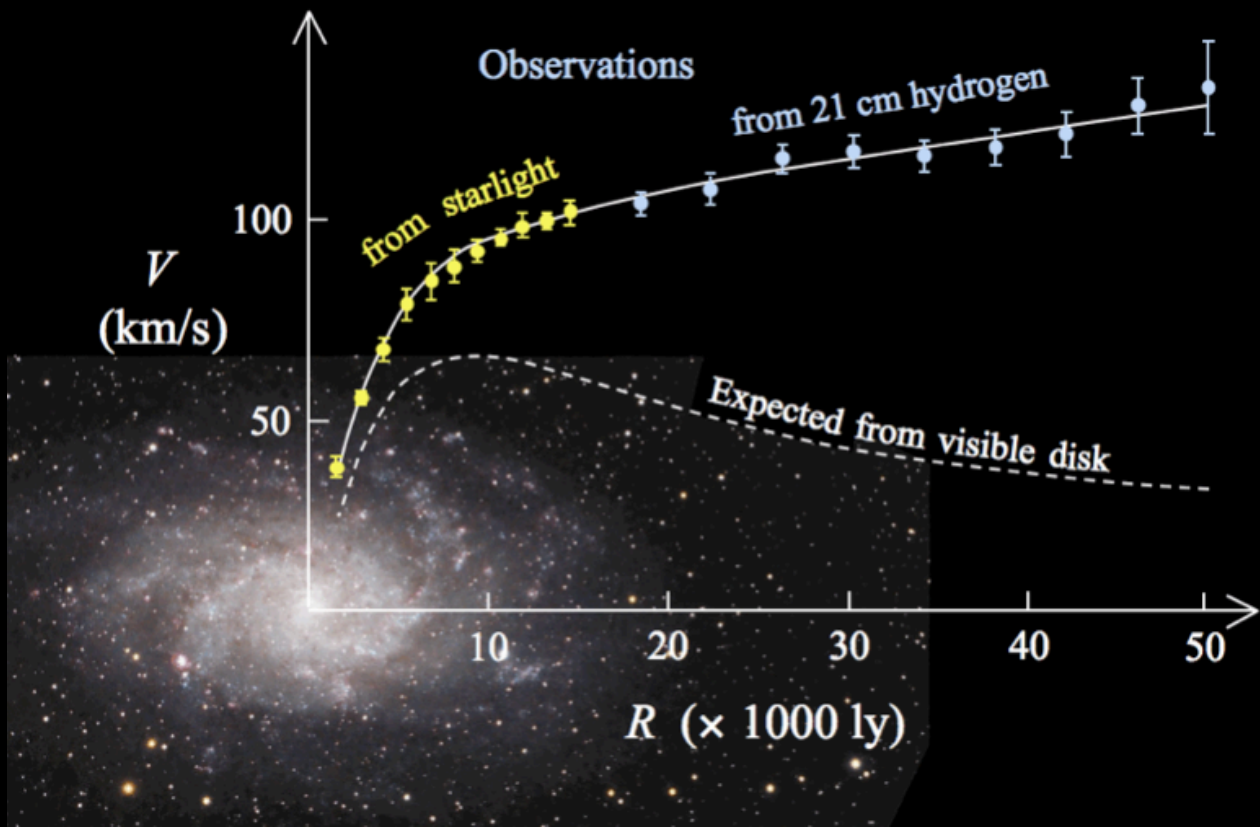


Zhou, Houston, Jozsa, Chen, YZM, Yuan et al., 2022, Phys. Rev. D

Guo, Li, Huang, YZM, Beck et al., 2023, Phys. Rev. D

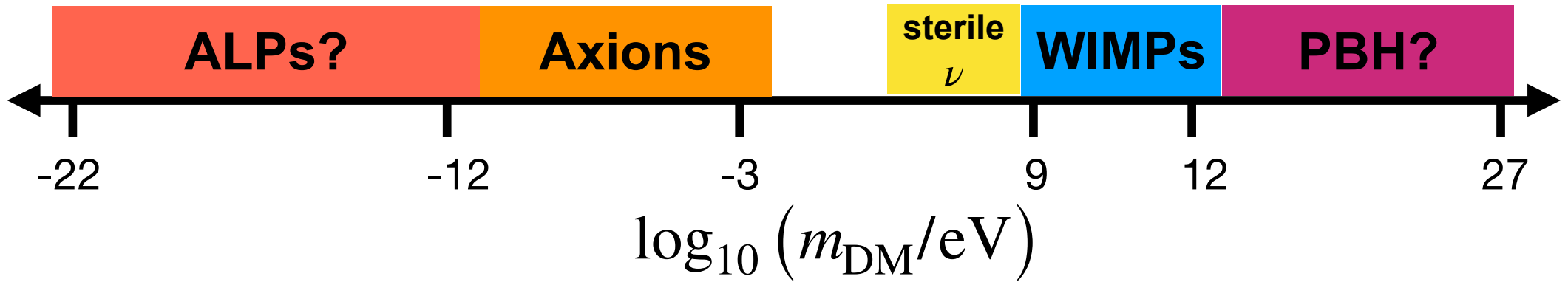
Cang, YZM, Gao, 2023, Astrophys. J.

Planck Collaboration (including YZM), 2020, Astron. Astrophys.

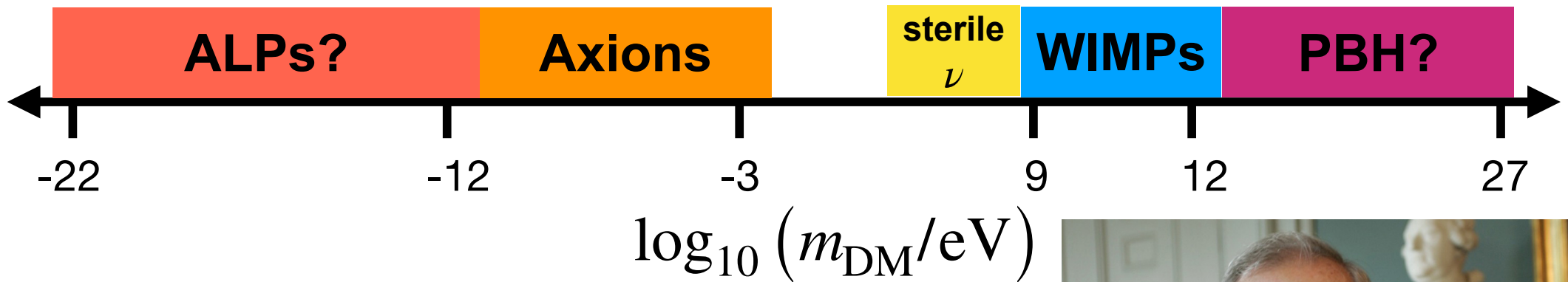




It is a huge scale to search!



It is a huge scale to search!

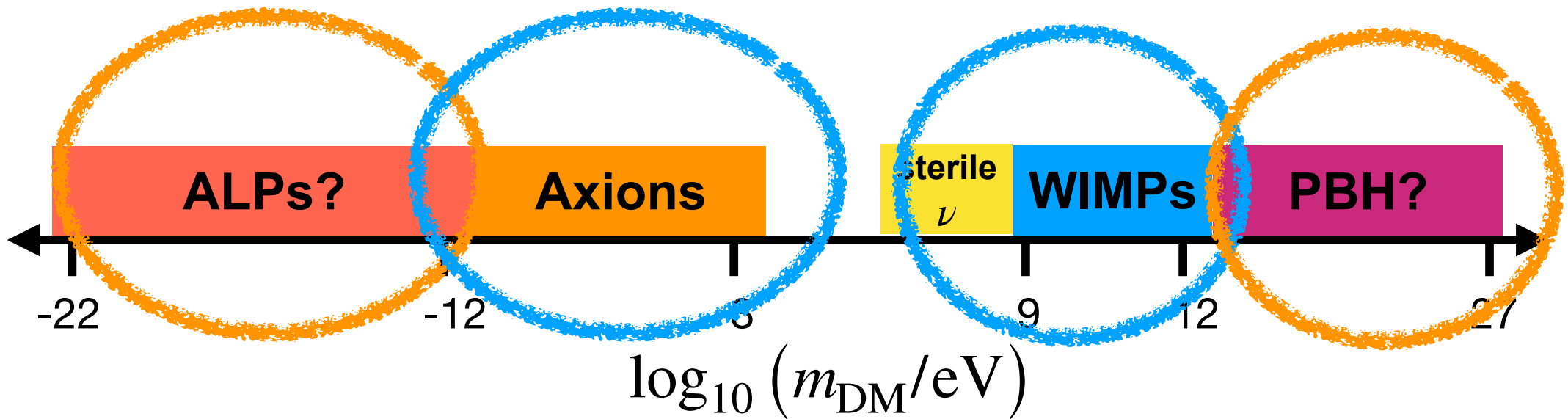


You don't know where to look, so you have to work hard and look everywhere.

—Nobel Telephone Interview of James Peebles
(October 2019)

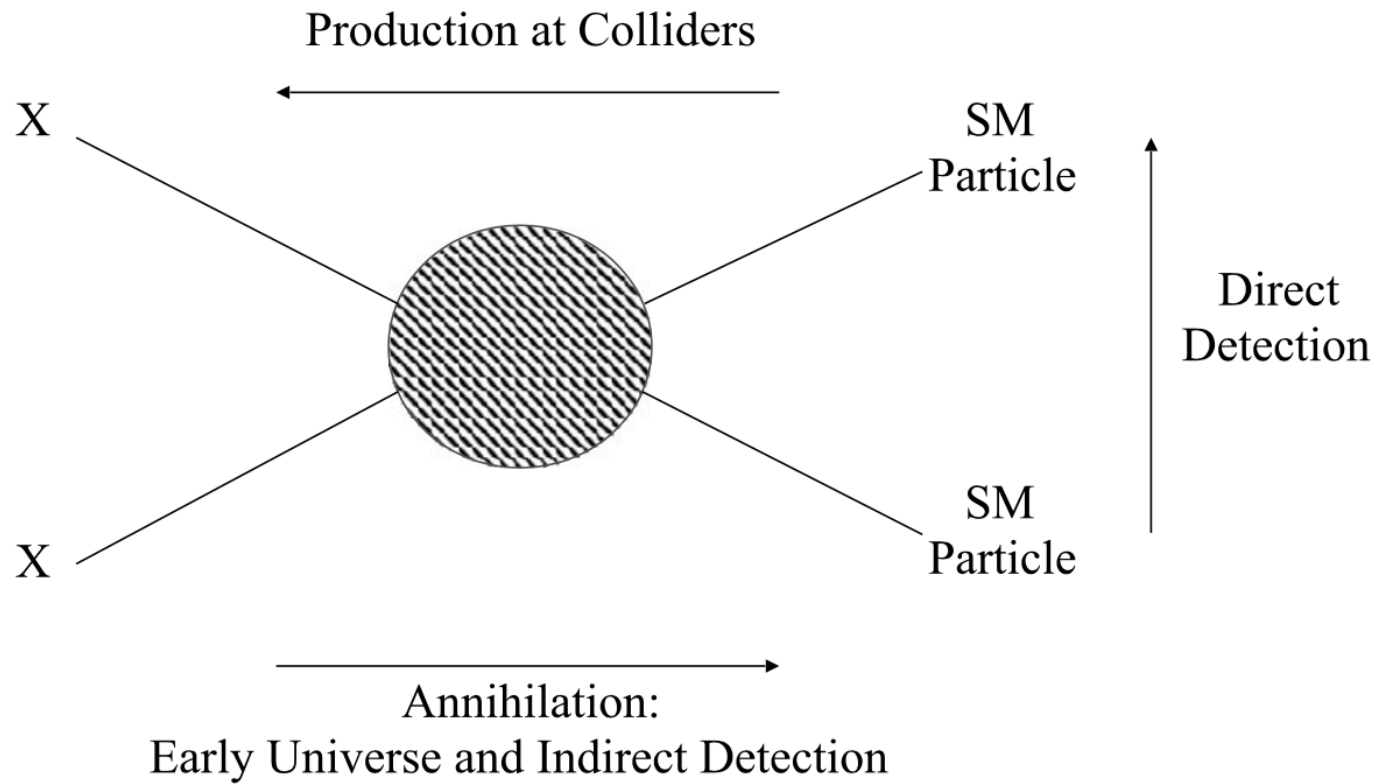


It is a huge scale to search!



Effects (DM in radio astronomy):

- Produce radio waves that are measurable by radio telescopes
- Produce enough perturbations to change the CMB power spectrum
- Change the timing and polarisation signal of pulsars which are measurable with radio telescopes (wavy dark matter)



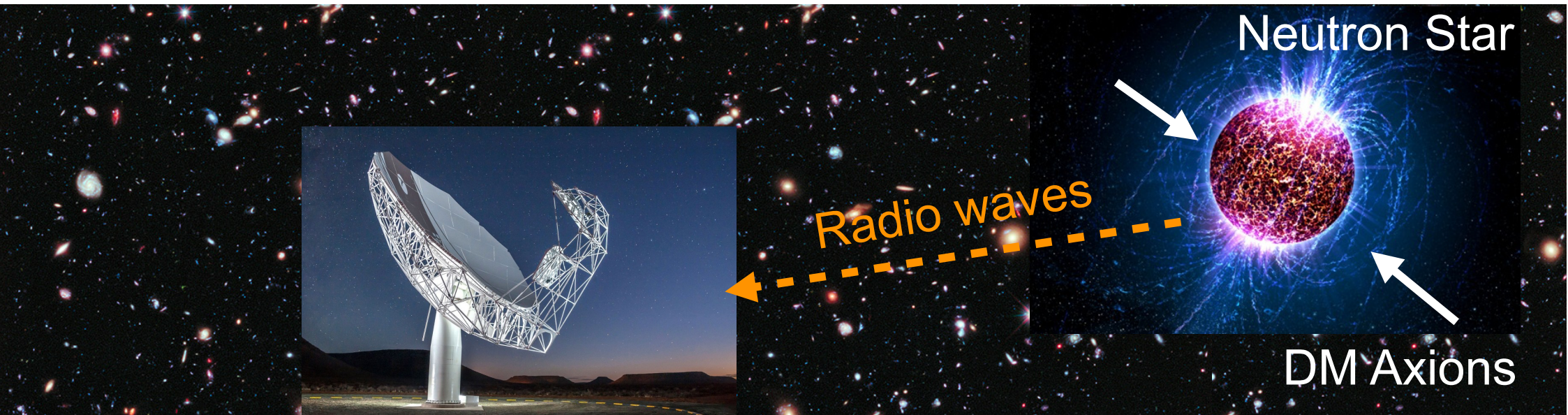
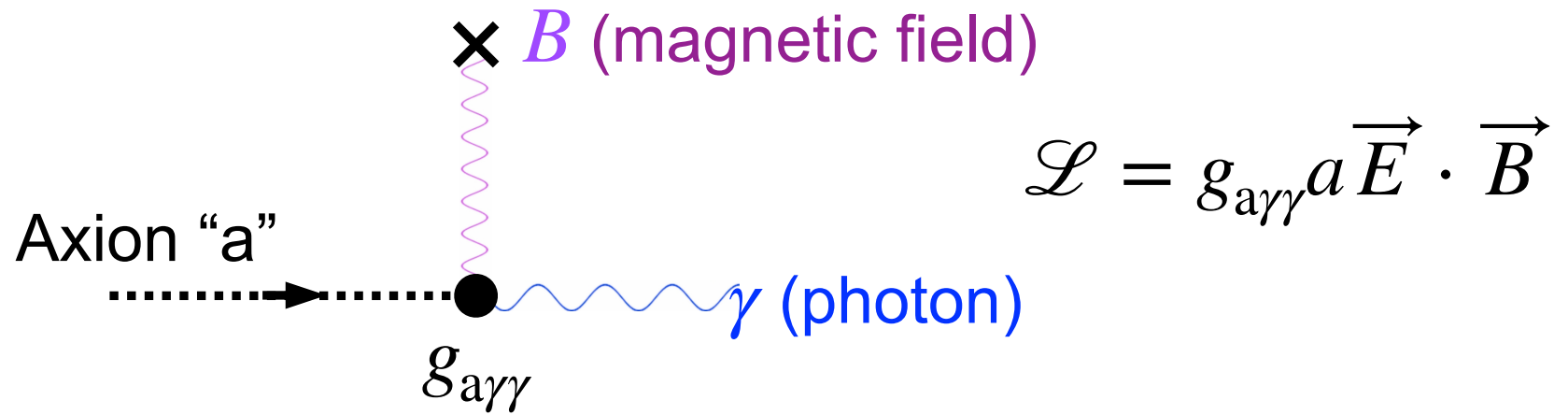
Tools:

- Neutron Stars Observations
- Radio Observations of dwarf galaxies
- Pulsar Timing Array
- Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation

- Axions ($m_a \sim \mu\text{eV}$)
 - Direct Observations of Radio Quiet Neutron Star
[Zhou, Houston, Jozsa, Chen, YZM, Yuan et al., 2022, Phys. Rev. D](#)
- WIMP ($m_X \sim 10 \text{ GeV}$)
 - Radio Observations of dwarf galaxies
[Guo, Li, Huang, YZM, Beck et al., 2023, Phys. Rev. D](#)
- Axion-Like Particles ($m_a \sim 10^{-22} \text{ eV} \ll \mu\text{eV}$):
 - Pulsar Timing Array and Pulsar Polarisation Array
- Primordial Black Holes ($m_X \sim 10^{15} \text{ eV}$)
 - CMB constraints on relativistic degrees of freedom
[Cang, YZM, Gao, 2023, ApJ](#)

Peccei & Quinn 1977
Weinberg 1978
Wilcezk 1978
Svrcek & Witten 2006

Converting Axions into photons

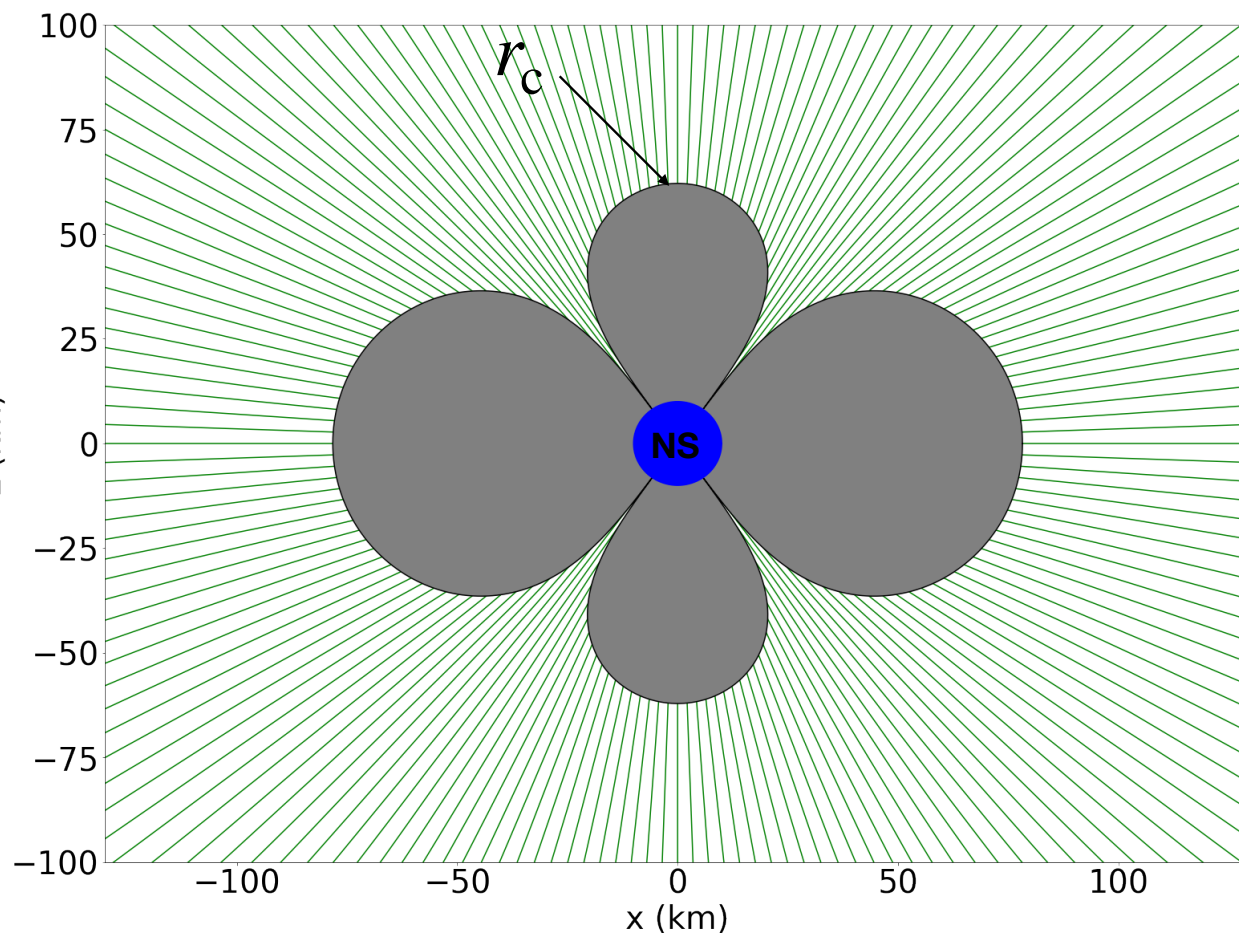


How to calculate this flux?

- **Input:** Standard dark matter density, velocity distribution. From Liouville's theorem:

$$\rho_{\text{DM}}^{r_c} = \rho_{\text{DM}}^{\infty} \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{1}{v_0} \sqrt{\frac{2GM_{\text{NS}}}{r_c}} + \dots$$

- **Conversion:** Use a GJ model for the NS magnetosphere, with $B_0 \sim 2 \times 10^{13}$ Gauss dipole magnetic field.
- Solve EOMs to find axion/photon oscillation probability, maximised at the critical radius r_c when photon plasma frequency \simeq axion mass
- **Output:** Use geodesic equations to propagate photons from critical surface to Earth, ideally accounting for NS rotation, gravitational and plasma effects
- First explored in Pshirkov et al, *J.Exp.Theor.Phys.* 108 (2009), arxiv: 0711.1264. However this was mostly ignored until Hook et al, *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 121 (2018), arxiv: 1804.03145. Since then $\mathcal{O}(20)$ theory/ observational papers



Putting everything together. **Final Step**

Radiated power:

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} \simeq 5.7 \times 10^9 \text{ W} \left(\frac{g_{\gamma\gamma}}{10^{-12} \text{ GeV}^{-1}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{r_{\text{NS}}}{10 \text{ km}} \right)^{5/2} \left(\frac{m_a}{\text{GHz}} \right)^{4/3} \left(\frac{B_0}{10^{14} \text{ G}} \right)^{5/6}$$

$$\left(\frac{P}{\text{sec}} \right)^{7/6} \left(\frac{\rho_{\text{DM}}^\infty}{0.45 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}} \right) \left(\frac{M_{\text{NS}}}{M_\odot} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{200 \text{ km s}^{-1}}{v_0} \right) \frac{3 (\hat{\mathbf{m}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}})^2 + 1}{|3 \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{m}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}} - \cos \theta_m|^{7/6}},$$

Average flux density in channel i :

$$\bar{S}_{\nu_i} = \frac{F}{\Delta\nu} = 3.8 \times 10^{-6} \text{ Jy} \left(\frac{100 \text{ pc}}{d} \right)^2 \left(\frac{16 \text{ kHz}}{\Delta\nu} \right) \left(\frac{dP/d\Omega}{5.7 \times 10^9 \text{ W}} \right) \int_{\nu_{i,\min}}^{\nu_{i,\max}} \frac{d\nu}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_0} e^{-\frac{(\nu - m_a)^2}{2\sigma_0^2}}$$

(assuming a Gaussian spectrum with width $\sigma_0 = 5 \times 10^{-6} m_a$)

MeerKAT 2020 Open Time call for proposal

Qiang Yuan (PMO), Yin-Zhe Ma (UKZN)

Yunfan Zhou, Nick Houston (BUT), Chandreyee Sengupta, Xiaoyuan Huang, Fujun Du, Yogesh Chandola (PMO), Ran Ding (AnHui), Gyula Jozsa (SARAO), Hao Chen (UCT)



UHF Band MeerKAT

Target: neutron star RX J0806.4-4123

frequency range: 544-1,088 MHz

Axion mass range: $2.5-5 \mu\text{eV}$

Frequency resolution: 16 kHz

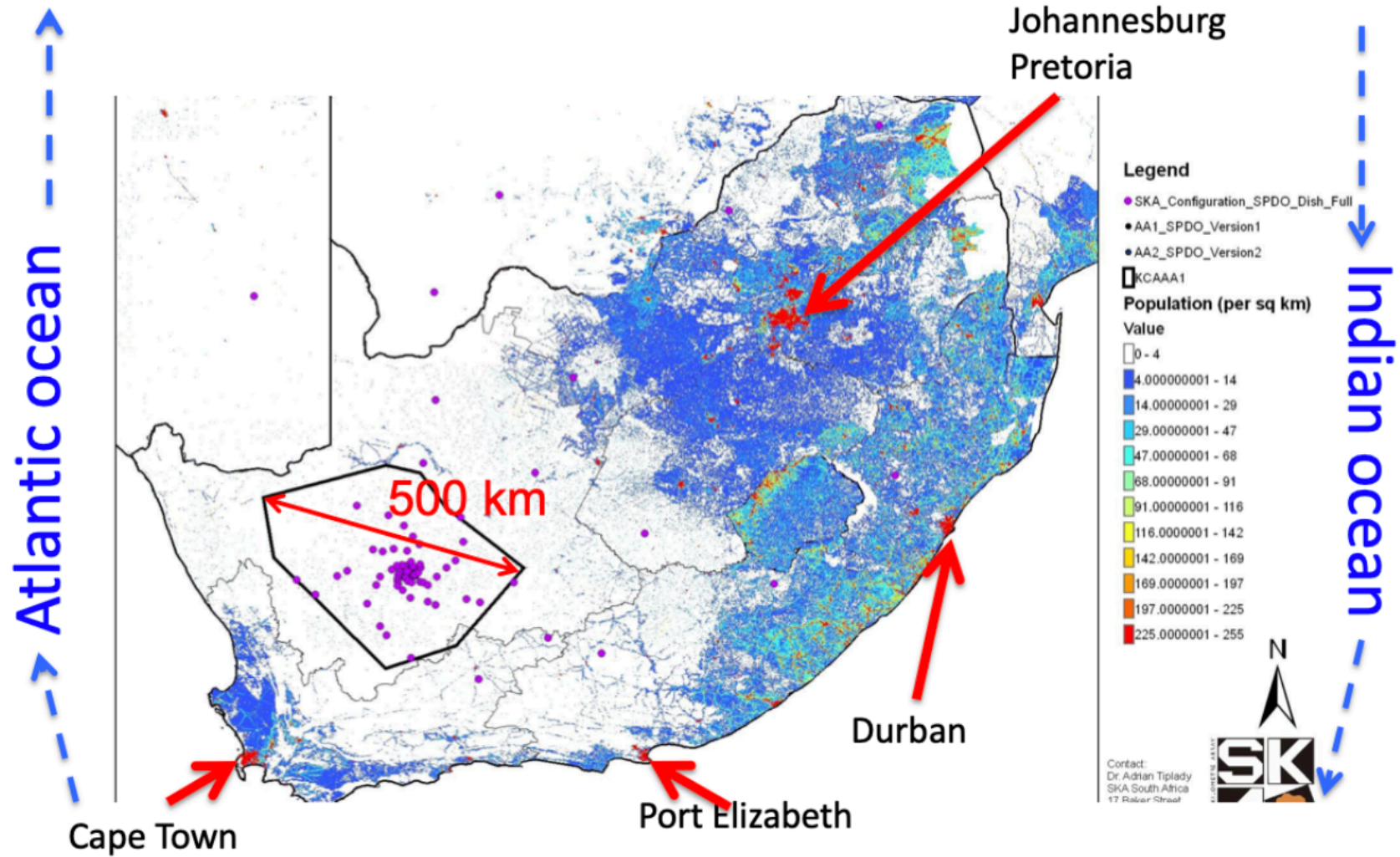
Area observed: $19 \text{ arcmin} \times 14.9 \text{ arcmin}$

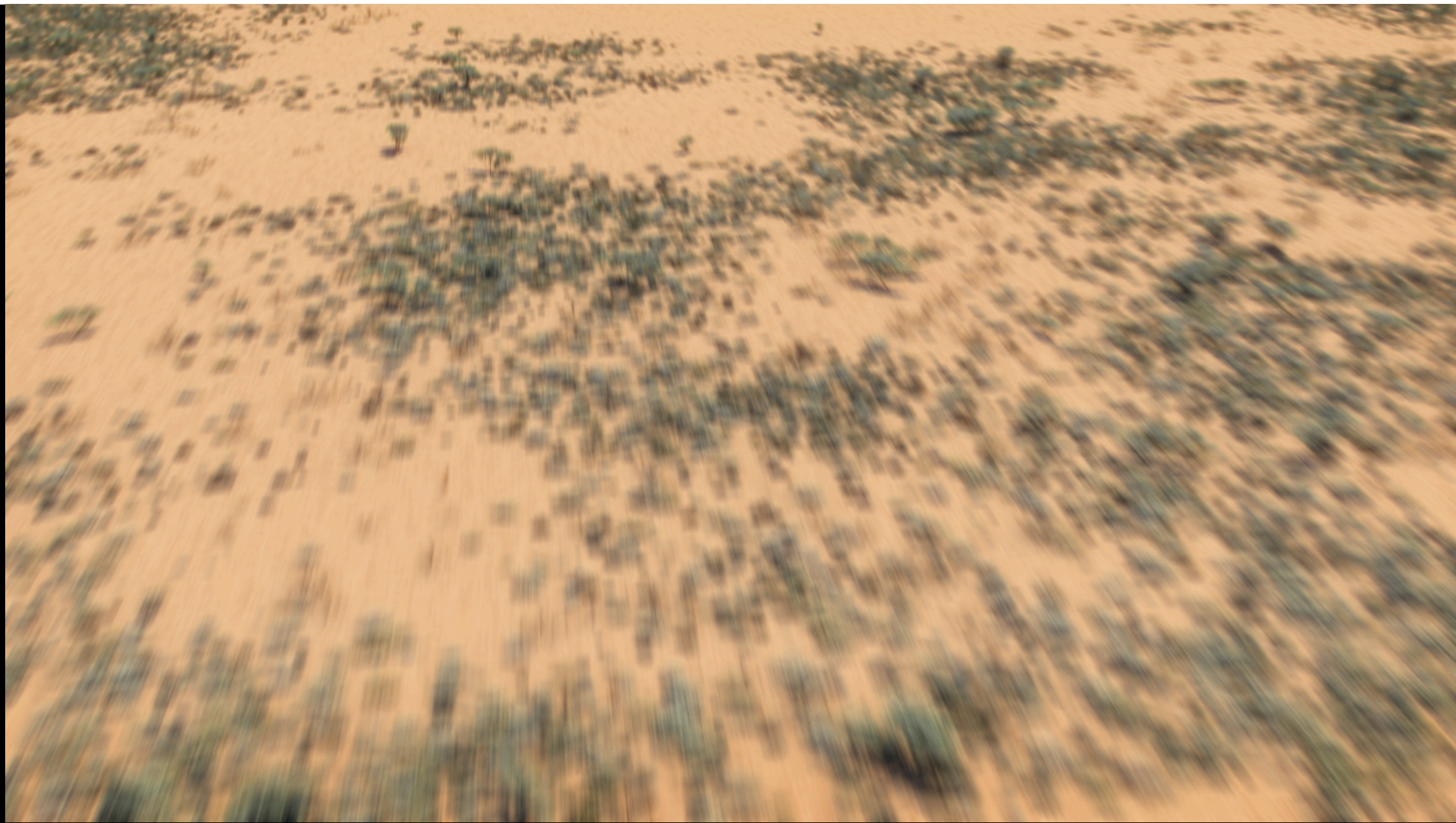
Time resolution: 8 seconds



Allocated time: 10 hours (Priority A)

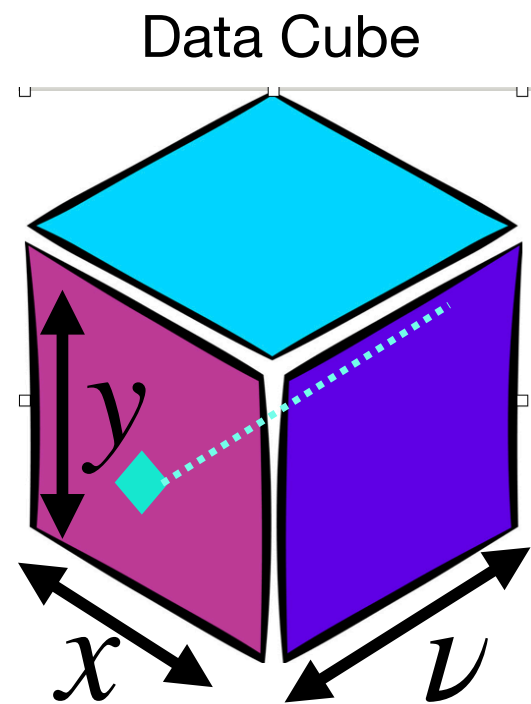
The Square Kilometre Array (SKA) in South Africa



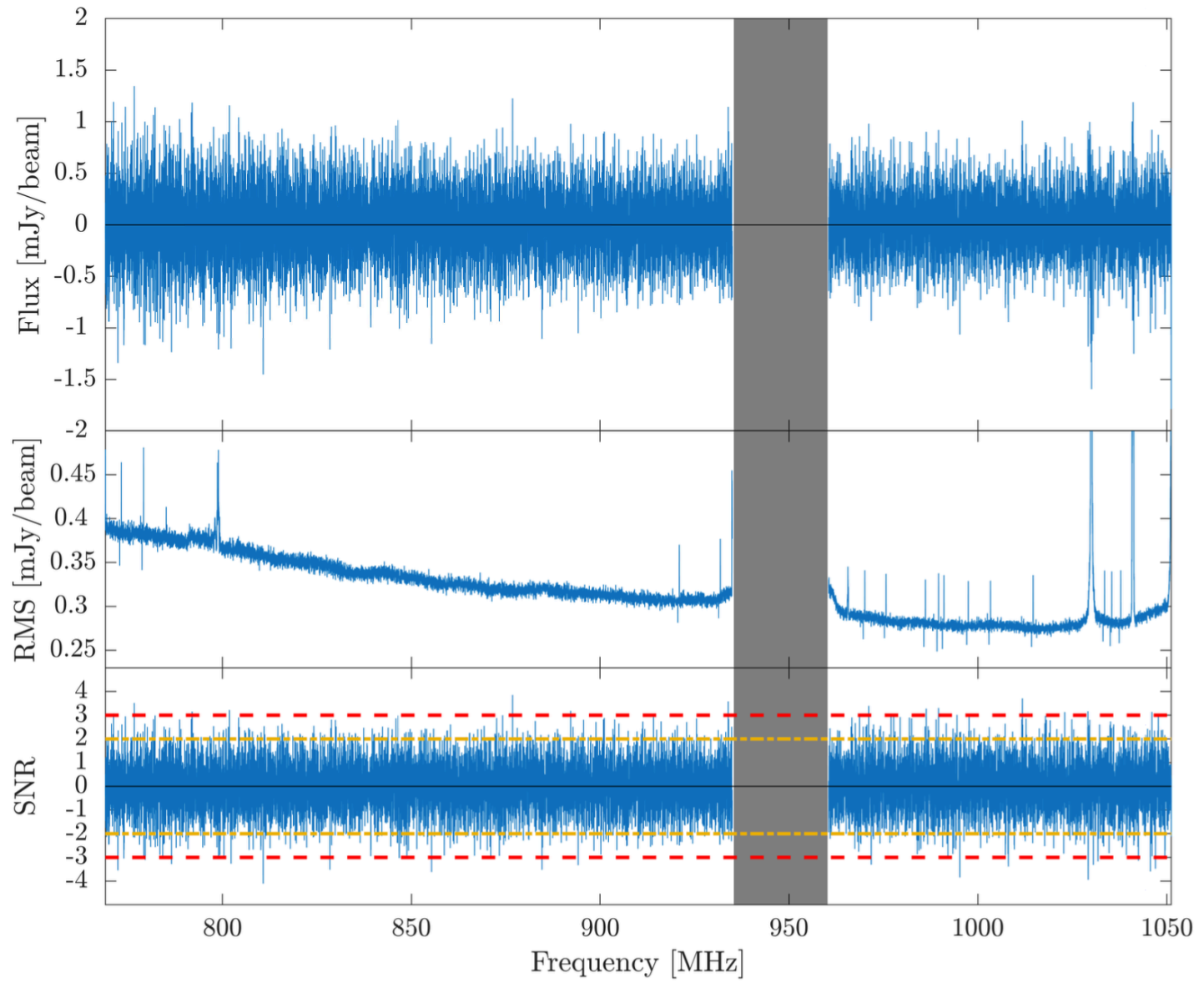


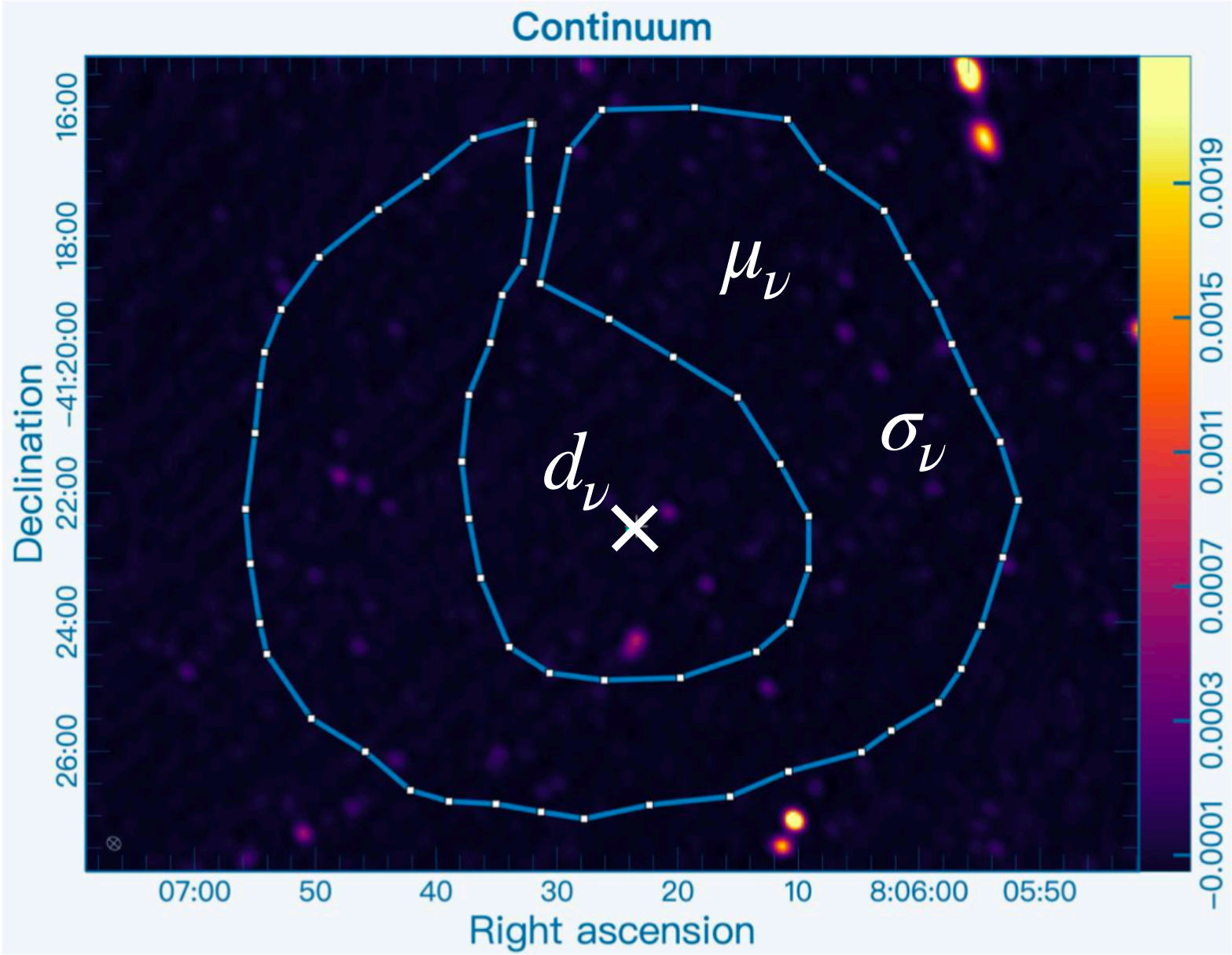


SARAO SDP Pipeline



Zhou, Houston, Jozsa,
Chen, YZM, Yuan et al.
2022, Phys. Rev. D



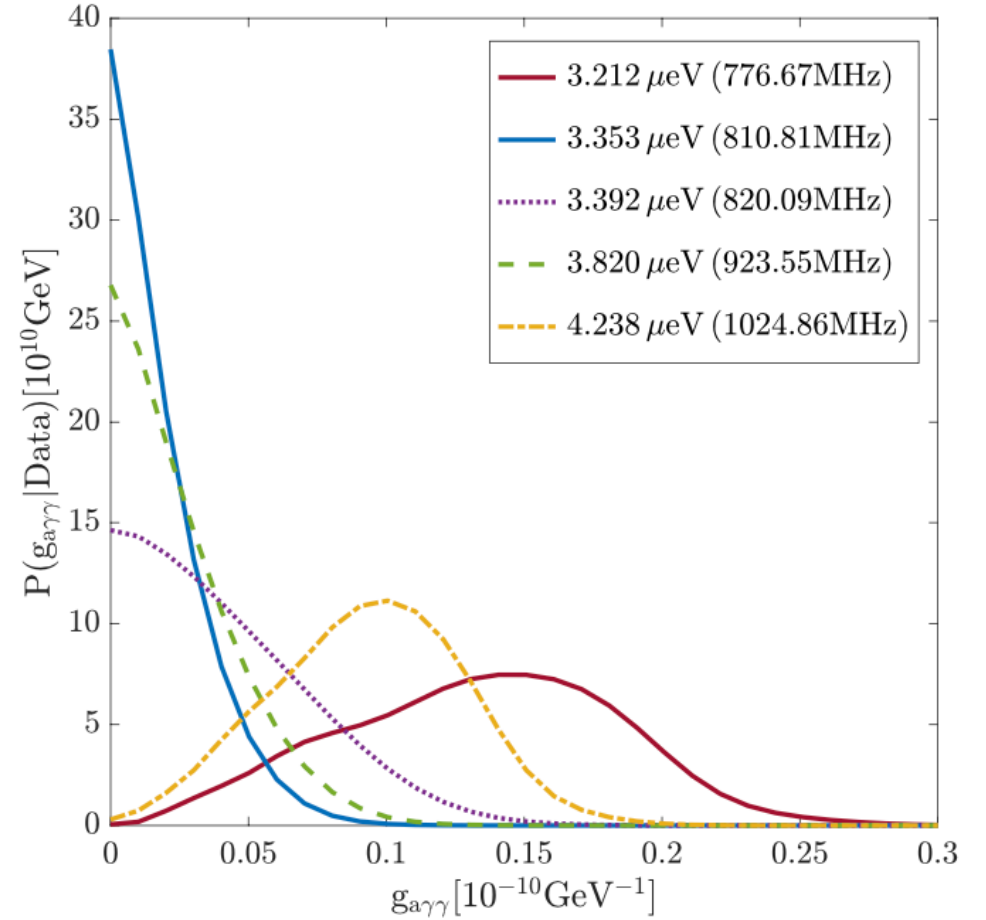


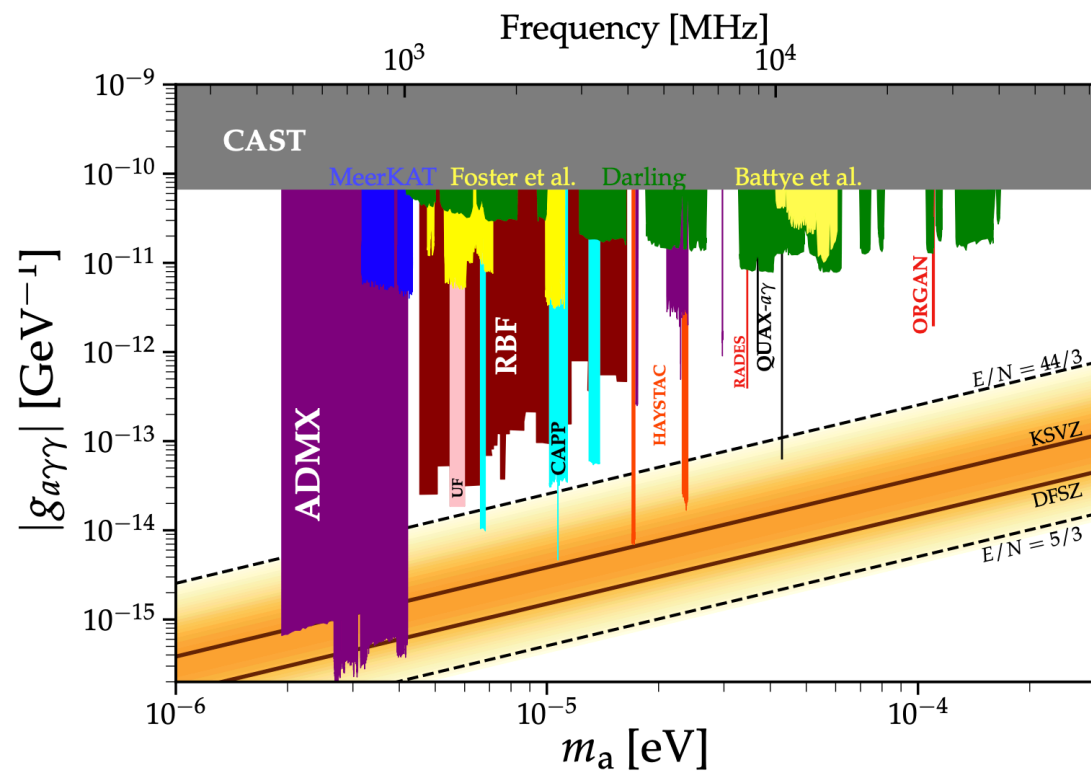
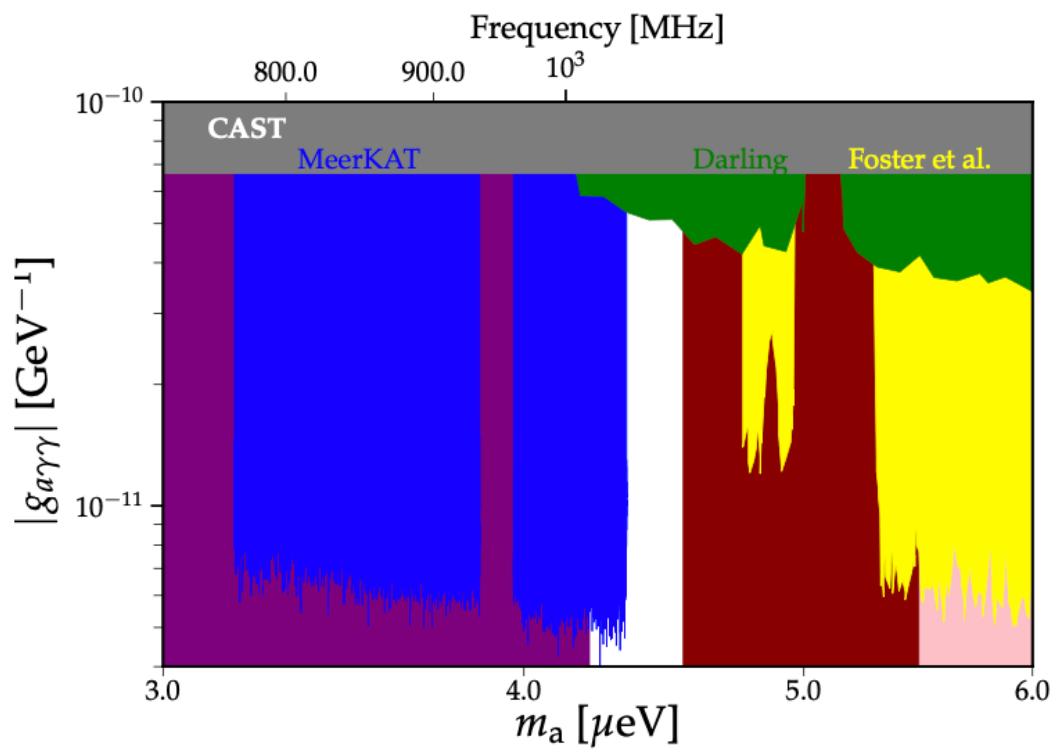
Mapping Data to Theory

$$F \equiv \int_{\Delta\Omega} d\Omega I(\Omega) p_{a \rightarrow \gamma}, \quad I(\Omega) = \frac{n_a v_a}{4\pi}$$

$$S_\nu = F / \Delta\nu \sim g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 m_a^{5/3} B_0^{5/3} P^{4/3} \rho_\infty M_{\text{NS}} v_0^{-1}$$

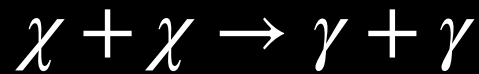
$$\mathcal{L}(m_a, g_{a\gamma\gamma}) = \prod_{i=1}^{N_{\text{ch}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_{\nu_i}} \exp\left[-\frac{(d_{\nu_i} - \mu_{\nu_i} - \bar{S}_{\nu_i}(m_a, g_{a\gamma\gamma}))^2}{2\sigma_{\nu_i}^2}\right]$$





Zhou, Houston, Jozsa,
 Chen, YZM, Yuan et al.
 2022, Phys. Rev. D

Dwarf spheroidal galaxy (e.g. Coma Berenices)



DM

Synchrotron
Radiation



$$\rho_\chi(r) = \rho_0 \exp \left[-\frac{2}{\alpha} \left(\left(\frac{r}{r_s} \right)^\alpha - 1 \right) \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{\partial n_e}{\partial E} = \nabla \cdot \left[D(E, r) \nabla \left(\frac{\partial n_e}{\partial E} \right) \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial E} \left[b(E, r) \frac{\partial n_e}{\partial E} \right] + Q(E, r)$$

$$S_\nu = 2 \int_{\hat{\Omega}} d\Omega \int_{\text{LoS}} \frac{dl}{4\pi} \int_{m_e}^{M_\chi} dE \mathcal{P}_{\text{syn}}(E) \frac{\partial n_e}{\partial E}$$

Guo, Li, Huang, YZM, Beck et al., 2023, Phys. Rev. D

L-Band FAST

Target: dwarf galaxy Coma Berenices

Frequency: 1000-1500 MHz

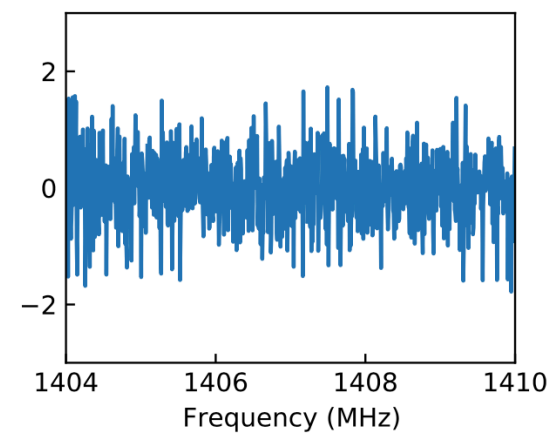
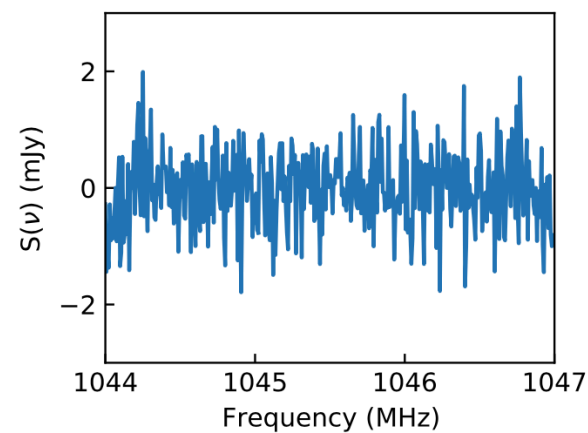
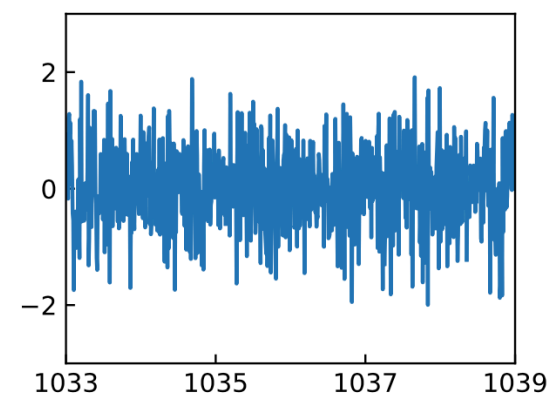
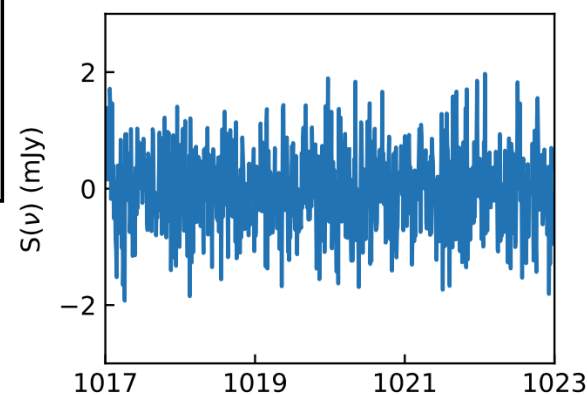
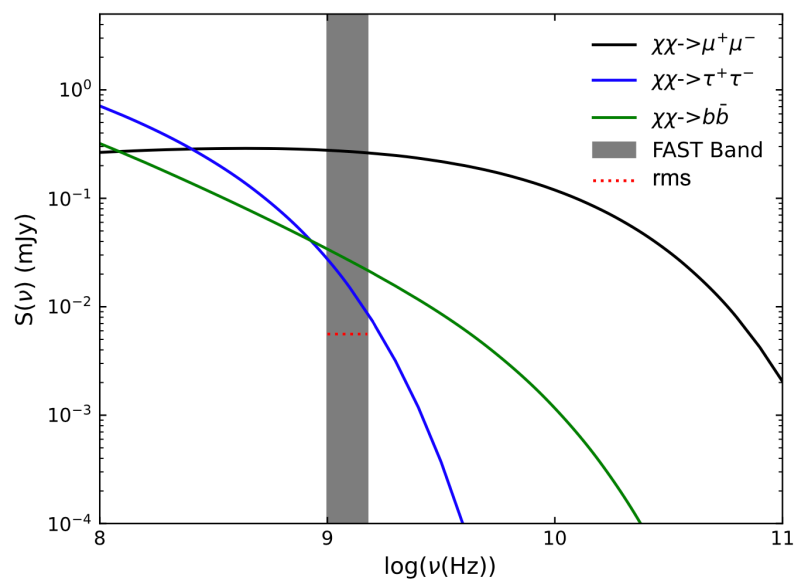
Observational Time: 2020-12-14 7am-8:50am

WIMP mass range: $10 \text{ GeV} - 10^3 \text{ GeV}$


Frequency resolution: 7.6 kHz

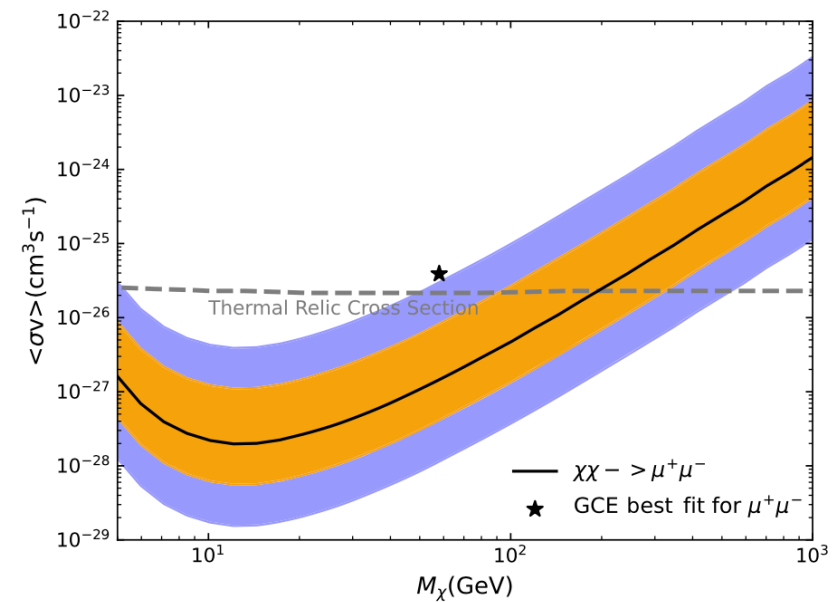
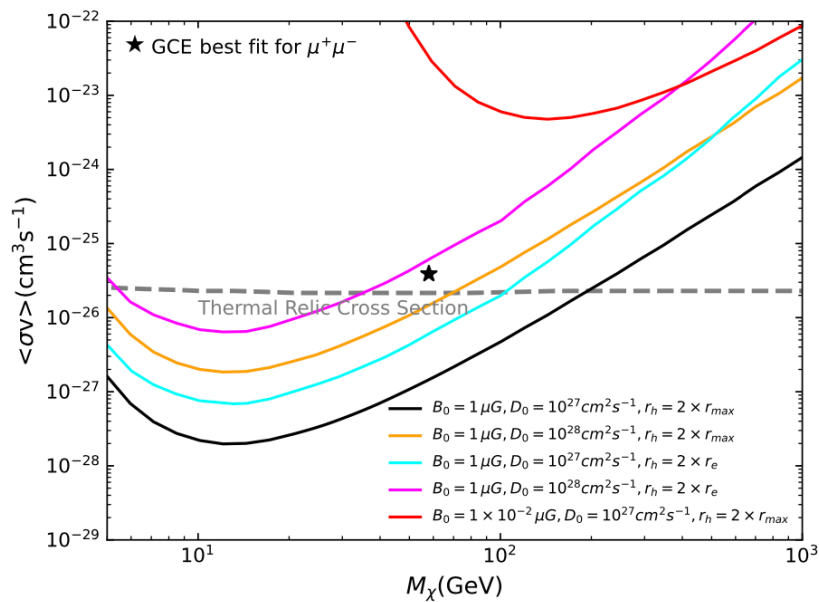
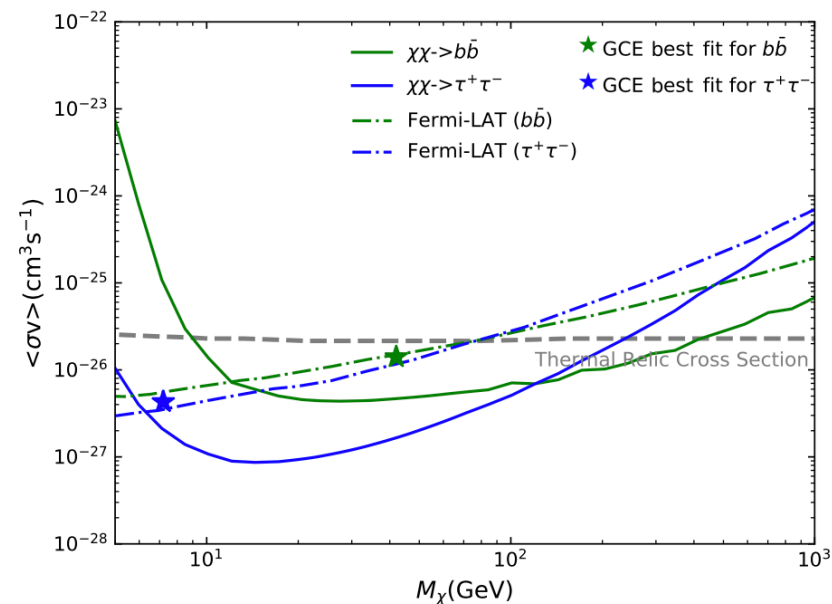
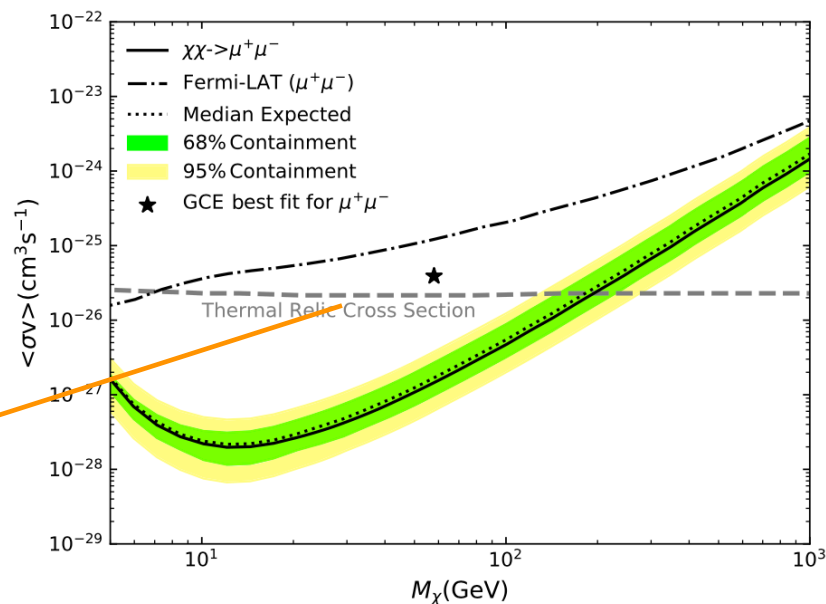
Beam: 19

Observed both ON & OFF mode



$$\chi^2(M_\chi, \langle\sigma v\rangle) = \sum_i^N \frac{(S_{\text{data},i} - S_{\text{model},i})^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

Excluded 99% C.L. 



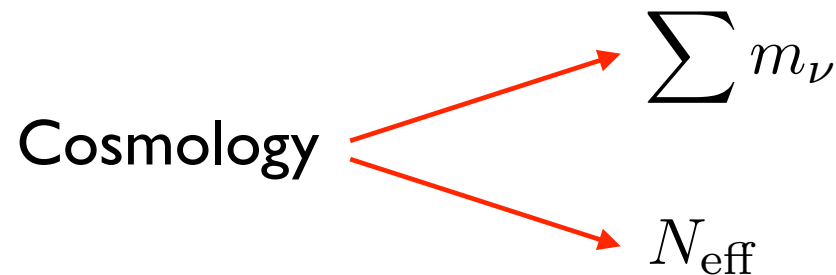
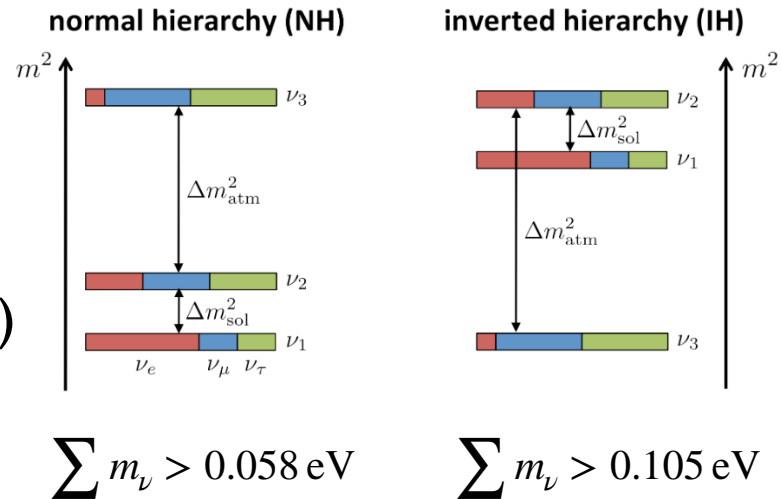
Guo, Li, Huang, YZM,
Beck et al., 2023, Phys.
Rev. D

Neutrino(-like) sector



Outstanding issues:

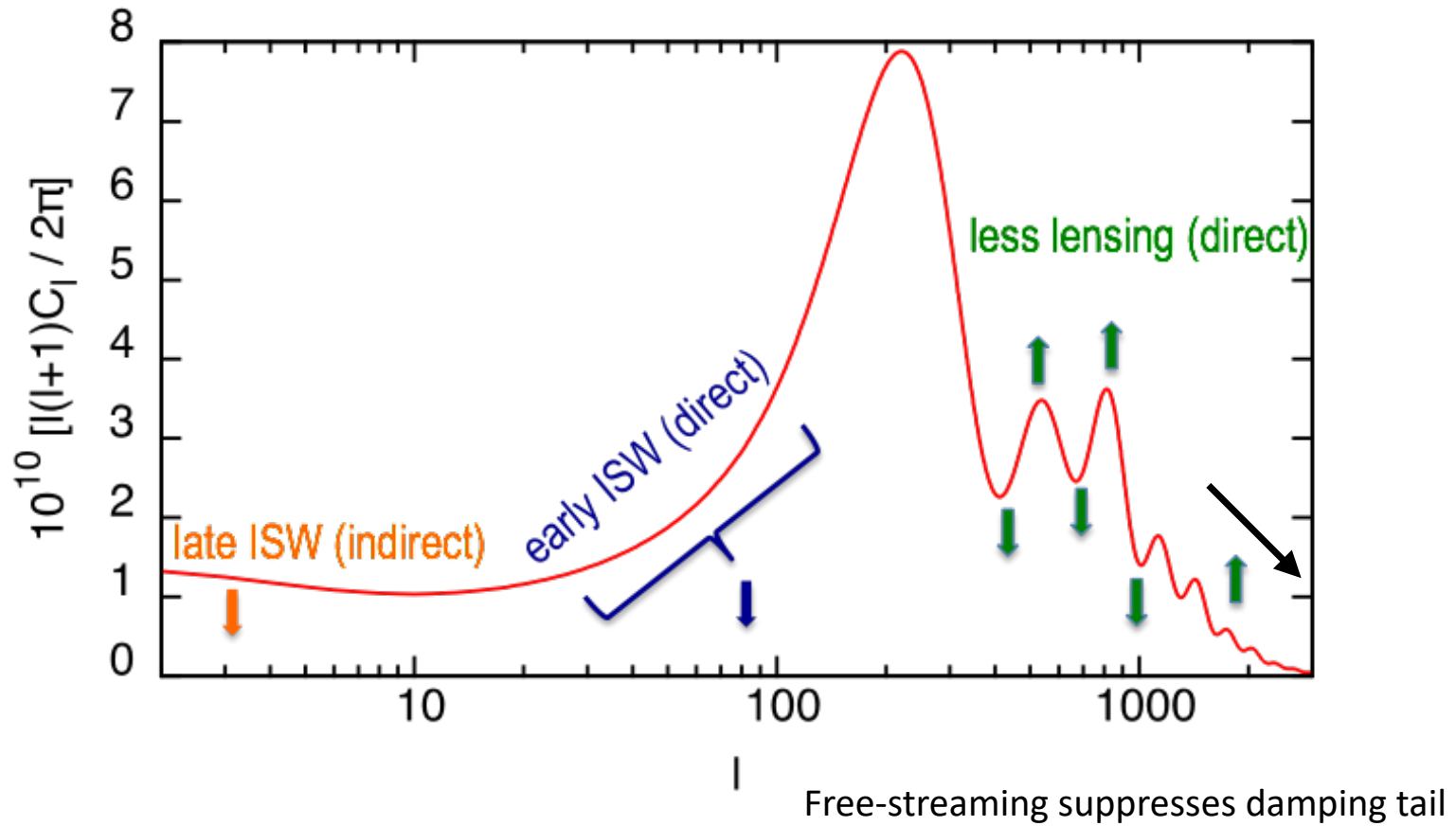
- Absolute mass scale
- Mass ordering
- (Dirac/Majorana and CP violation)
- Additional (sterile) neutrinos or relativistic particles

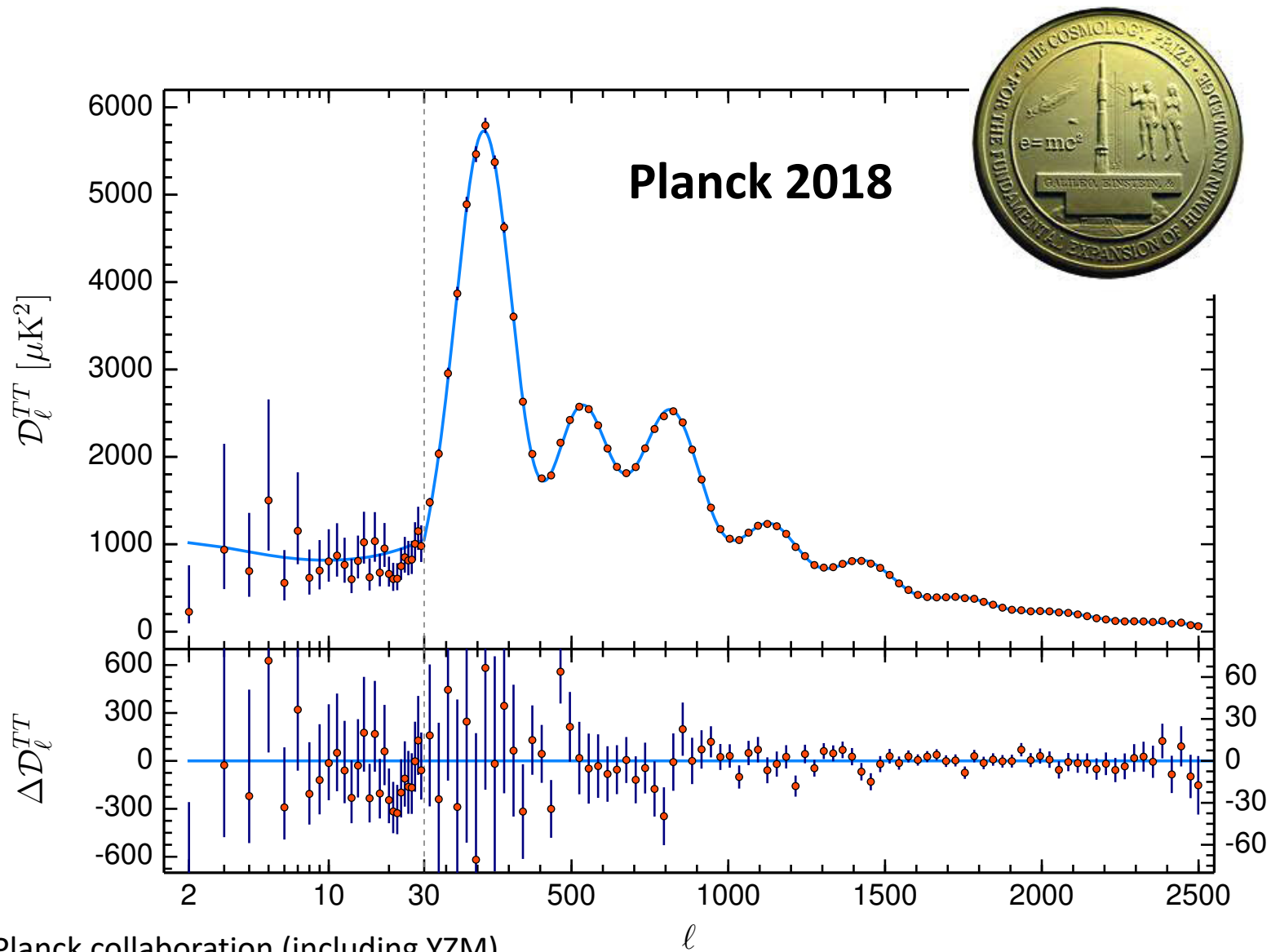


(see also Aich, YZM, Dai, Xia 2020, PRD)

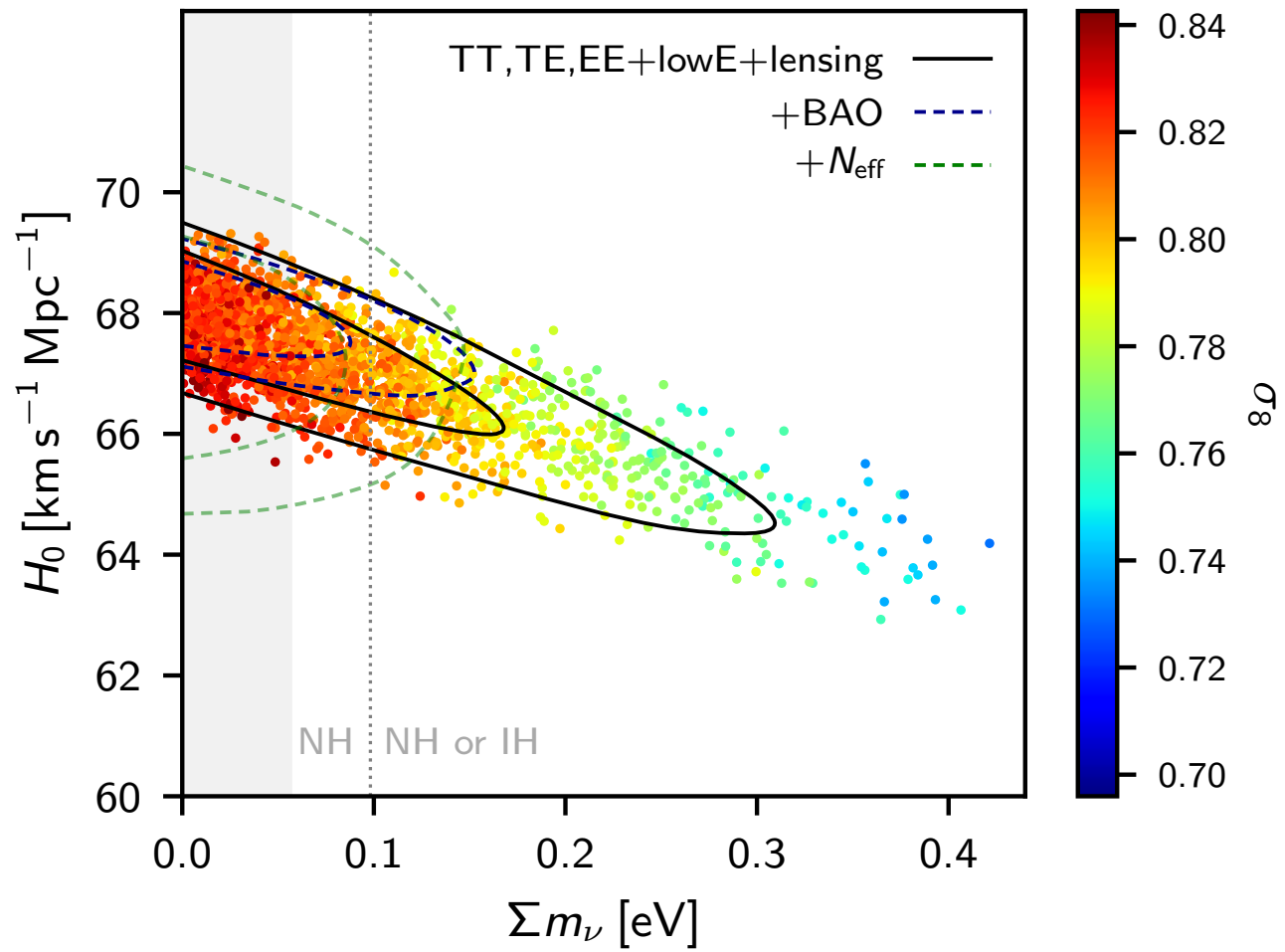
$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.046 \text{ in standard model}$$

Neutrino constraints



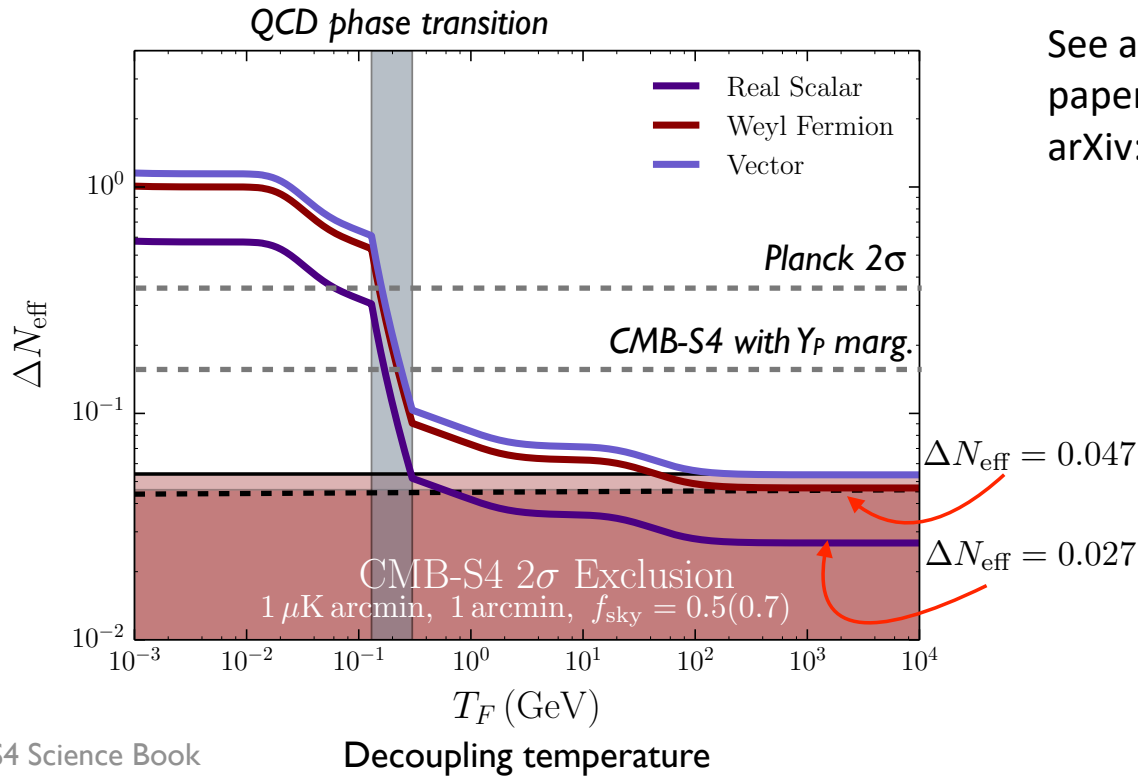


Planck collaboration (including YZM)
 arXiv: 1807.06209, 1807.06205



$\Sigma m_\nu < 0.12 \text{ eV}$ (95 %, *Planck* TT, TE, EE + lowE + lensing + BAO).

Natural targets and CMB limits



See also Snowmass white paper (including Y.-Z. Ma)
arXiv: 2203.08024

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.046 \quad \text{in standard model}$$

Standard Model of Elementary Particles

	three generations of matter (fermions)			interactions / force carriers (bosons)	
	I	II	III		
mass	≈2.2 MeV/c ²	≈1.28 GeV/c ²	≈173.1 GeV/c ²	0	≈124.97 GeV/c ²
charge	2/3	2/3	2/3	0	0
spin	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0
	u up	c charm	t top	g gluon	H higgs
	d down	s strange	b bottom	γ photon	
	e electron	μ muon	τ tau	Z Z boson	
	ν_e electron neutrino	ν_μ muon neutrino	ν_τ tau neutrino	W W boson	

SCALAR BOSONS
GAUGE BOSONS
VECTOR BOSONS

Summary:

- Axion decay constant $g_{a\gamma\gamma} < 6 \times 10^{-11} [\text{GeV}^{-1}]$ for $m_a = 3.1\text{-}4.5 \mu\text{eV}$ from 10-hour MeerKAT time, of observing a radio-quiet pulsar.
- WIMP decaying into leptons can cascade to synchrotron radiation, which can be probed by radio telescope. Using FAST, we placed stringent constraint on DM decaying into $\mu^+\mu^-$, $\tau^+\tau^-$, $b\bar{b}$, which excludes GCE best-fitting values at 99% C.L.
- CMB is placing interesting upper limits on neutrino masses, which can lead to the final determination of neutrino mass hierarchy in the next few years.

Summary:

- Axion decay constant $g_{a\gamma\gamma} < 6 \times 10^{-11} [\text{GeV}^{-1}]$ for $m_a = 3.1\text{-}4.5 \mu\text{eV}$ from 10-hour MeerKAT time, of observing a radio-quiet pulsar.
- WIMP decaying into leptons can cascade to synchrotron radiation, which can be probed by radio telescope. Using FAST, we placed stringent constraint on DM decaying into $\mu^+\mu^-$, $\tau^+\tau^-$, $b\bar{b}$, which excludes GCE best-fitting values at 99% C.L.
- The Pulsar Timing Array (PTA) and Polarisation Array (PPA) can be used to detect the axion-like WDM as a common correlated signal. This approach forms a great complementarity with the CMB measurement.
- Primordial black holes induced by small-scale scalar perturbation may not constitute a significant fraction of DM due to the relativistic constraints (N_{eff}).

Back up

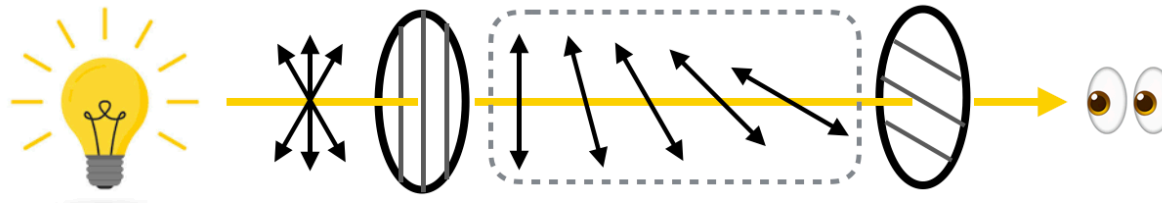
Axion-Like-Particles: Cosmic Birefringence (CB) effect with PTA & PPA

Carroll & Field, 1991, PRD

$$L \sim -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\partial^\mu a\partial_\mu a - \frac{1}{2}m_a^2 a^2 + \boxed{\frac{g}{2}aF_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}}$$

Cherns-Simons coupling

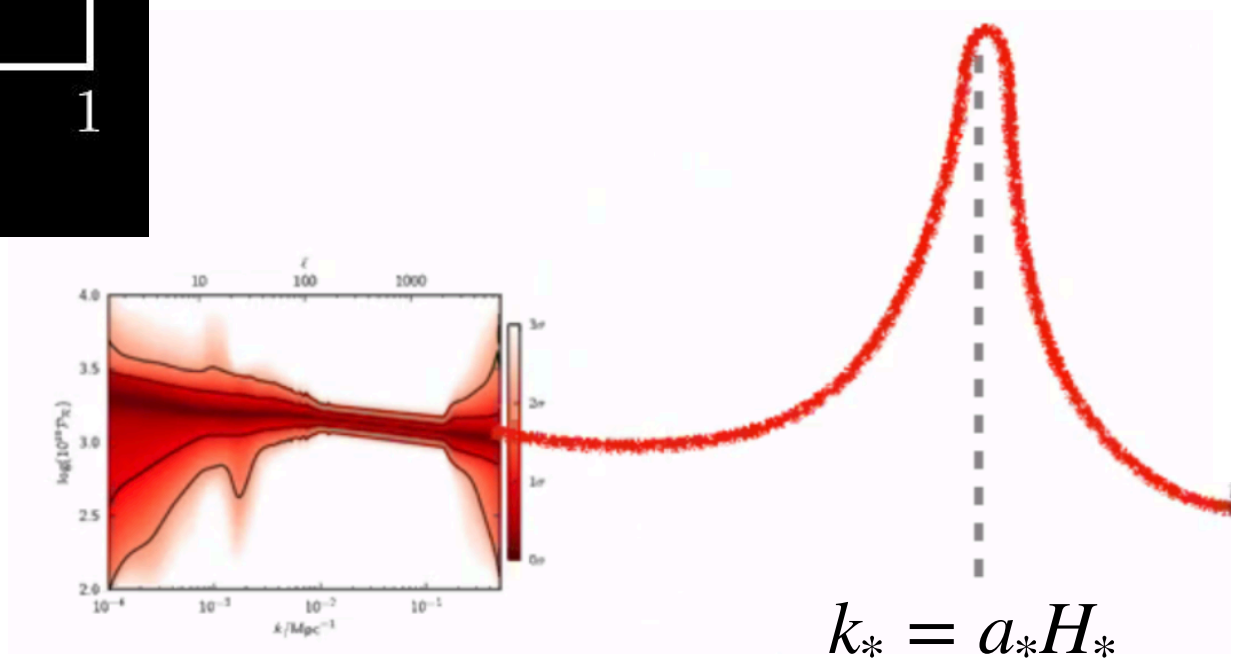
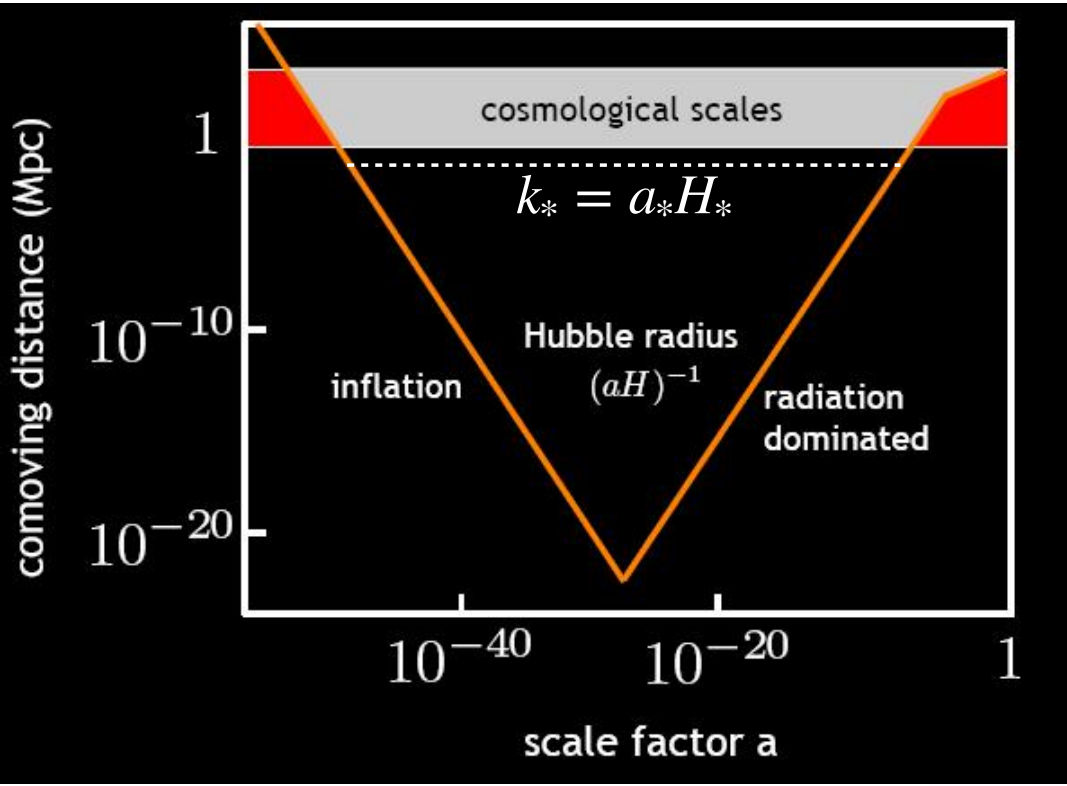
$$\omega_{\pm} \simeq k \pm g \left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + \nabla a \cdot \frac{\mathbf{k}}{k} \right) \xrightarrow[\text{relativistic}]{\text{non-}} k \pm g \frac{\partial a}{\partial t}$$

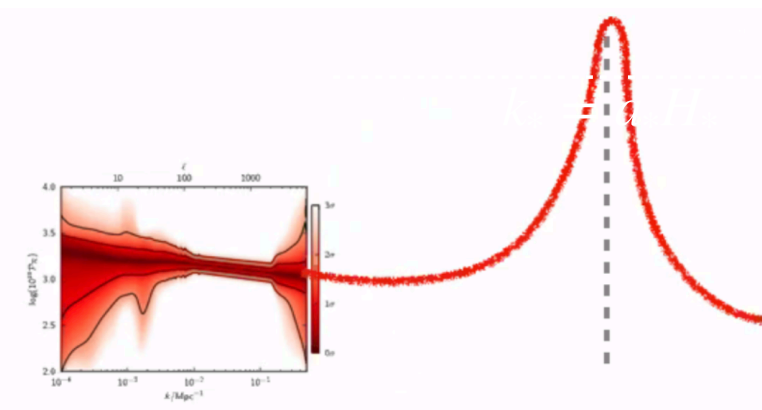


$$\Delta\theta = -g \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \partial_t a(\mathbf{x}, t) dt$$

Observational signature:
Polarisation angle rotation

$$= \frac{g}{m_a} \left[\sqrt{\rho_i} \cos(m_a t_i + m_a \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + \phi) - \sqrt{\rho_f} \cos(m_a t_f + m_a \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_f + \phi) \right]$$

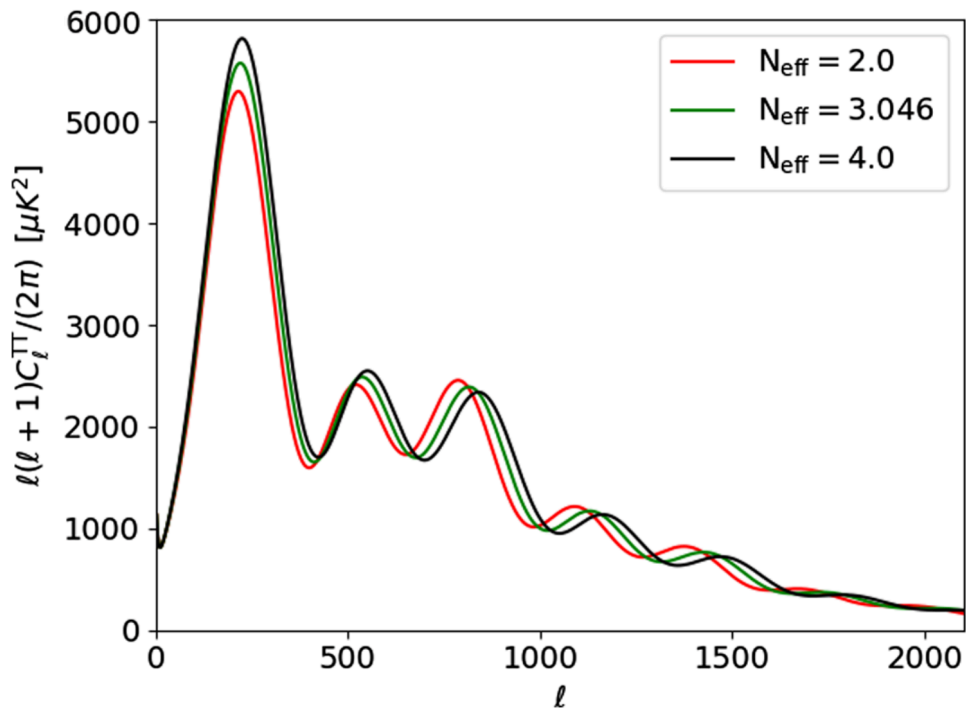




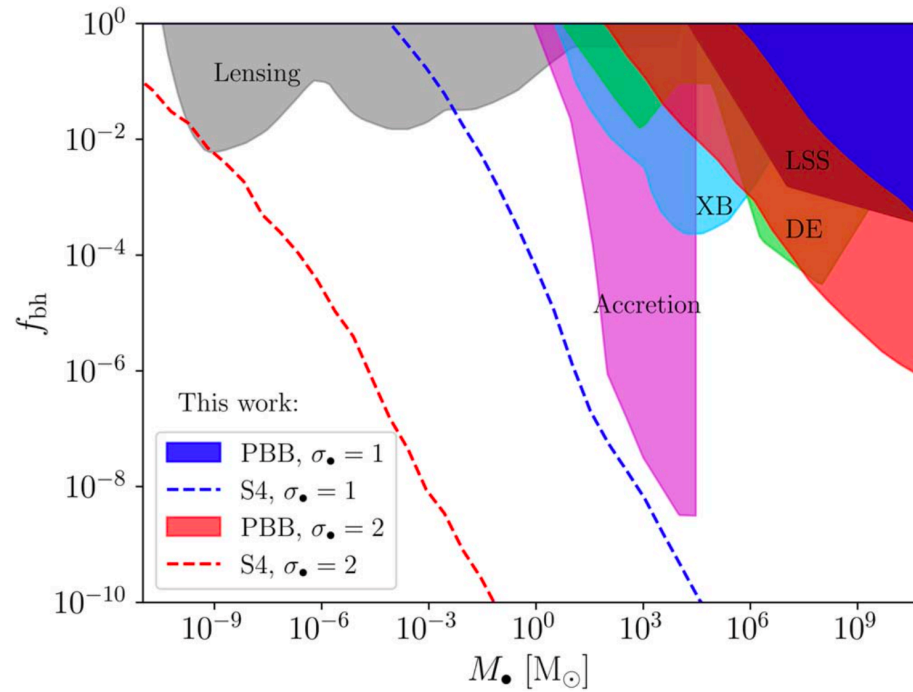
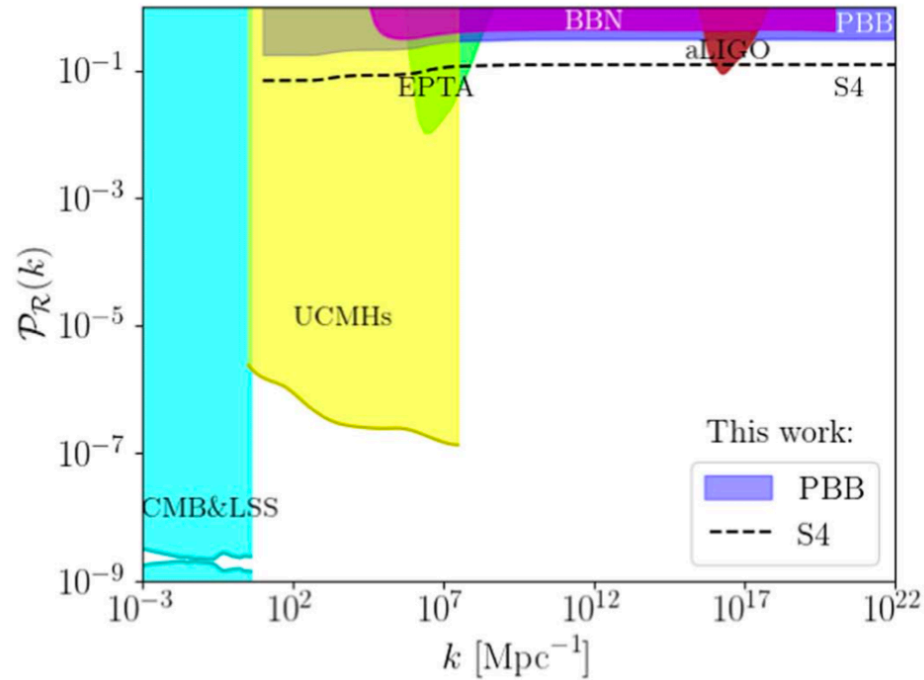
$$P_{\mathcal{R}} \xrightarrow{\text{Scalar-Induced Gravitational Waves}} \Psi = \frac{d\Omega_{\text{GW}}}{d \ln k} \sim P_{\mathcal{R}}^2$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$C_{\ell} \xleftarrow{\text{Constrained}} \Delta N_{\text{eff}} = 8.3 \times 10^4 \Omega_{\text{GW}}$$



- Delaying matter-radiation equality
- Adding anisotropic stress
- Changing sound horizon



- Exclude PBH with peak mass $M_{\bullet} = [5 \times 10^5, 5 \times 10^{10}] M_{\odot}$ as the major DM candidates
- Limits on $P_{\mathcal{R}}(k)$ for $k = [10, 10^{22}] \text{Mpc}^{-1}$
- Future CMB-S4 can expand the mass range to $[10^{-5}, 5 \times 10^{10}] M_{\odot}$