

*BSM@50*

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# Dark Forest from the Dark Matter

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With Anoma Ganguly and Rishi Khatri (2301.03624)

With Anoma Ganguly and Rishi Khatri (in preparation)

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# Outline

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Let me try to put the talk in context

The most optimistic picture of dark matter physics:  
we detect it via the same interaction that also determines its abundance

The most pessimistic scenario : the dark world has its own set of healthy interactions  
However, it only talks to us gravitationally.

Somewhere between these worlds lies the vast possibility that the dark world with its own interactions is only slightly connected to us

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# Outline

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Somewhere between these worlds lies the vast possibility that the dark world with its own interactions is only slightly connected to us

This talk contains a proposal for the search of dark matter via absorption of light

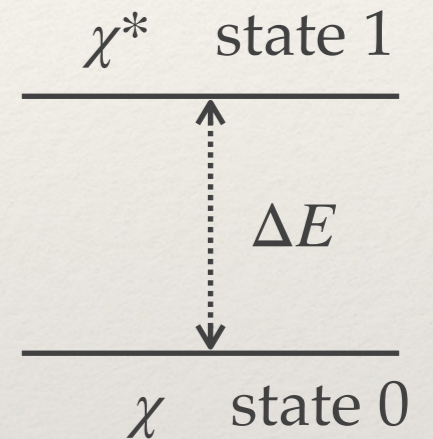
Absorption lines in the spectrum of a background source

Ex, Quirky Composite Dark Matter  
Kribs, Roy, Terning, Zurek, 2009

Gives rise to anomalous features (and / or spectral distortions) in the CMB

# Dark Matter as a 2-level system

It is easy to model an effective dark sector as a two level system of states between which electromagnetic-transitions take place.



$$\epsilon \frac{e}{m_\chi} \text{Tr} \left( \bar{\chi}_\nu \sigma^{\mu\nu} \chi_\nu F_{\mu\nu} \right)$$

Mass scale of dark matter

Strength of the coupling

Use a compact notation

$$\chi_\nu \equiv \frac{1}{2} (1 + \nu) \left( \chi_\mu^* \gamma^\mu - \chi \gamma^5 \right)$$

We are interested in the territory  $\Delta E \ll m_\chi$

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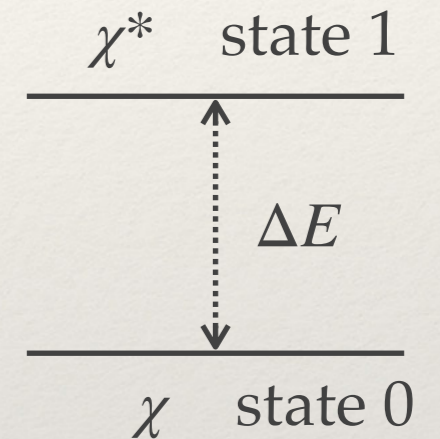
# Dark Matter as a 2-level system

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Its a story of transition between two states - relevant parameters are:

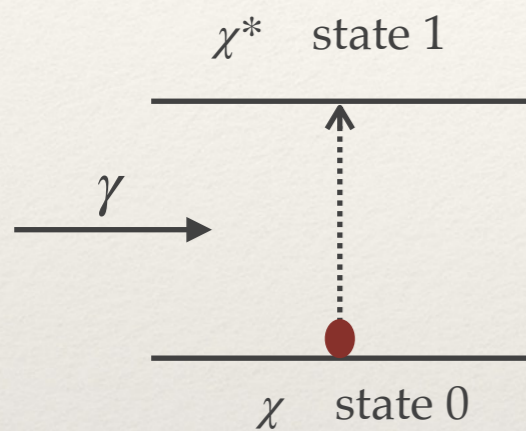
- ❖ Energy splitting  $\Delta E = h\nu_0 \equiv k_B T_*$
- ❖ The relative dark matter population: which can be parametrized by the excitation temperature

$$T_{ex} \equiv T_* \log \left( \frac{n_0/g_0}{n_1/g_1} \right)$$

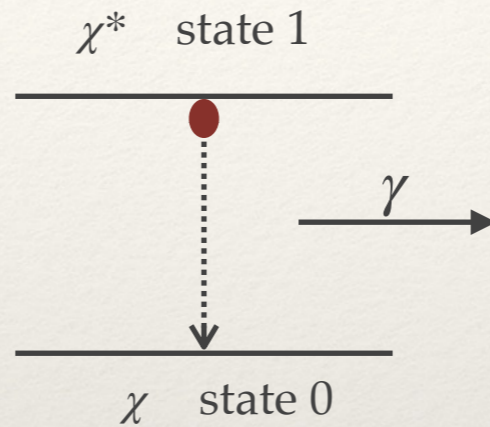


# Dark Matter as a 2-level system

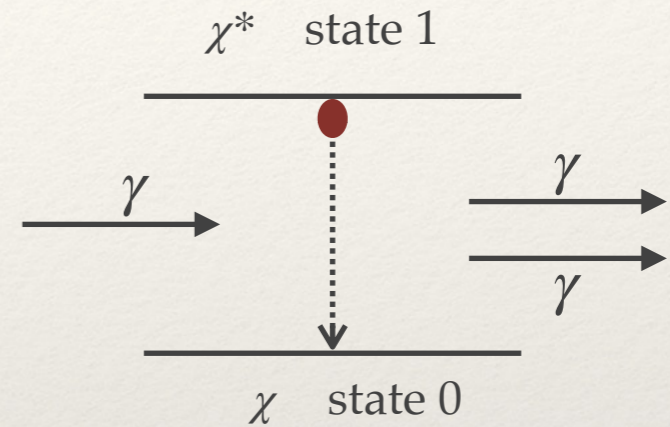
## Electromagnetic Transitions:



Absorption  
 $n_0 B_{01} J$

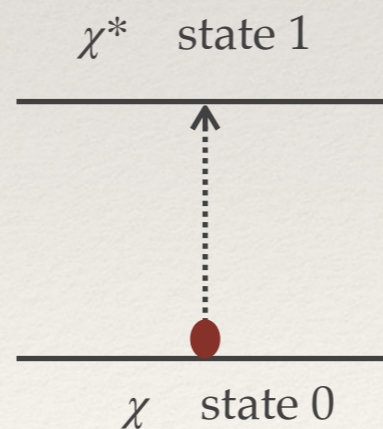


Spontaneous Emission  
 $n_1 A_{10}$

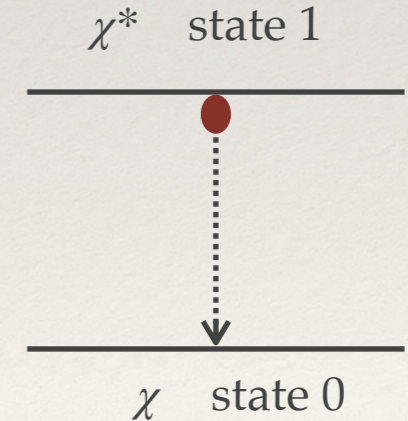


Stimulated Emission  
 $n_1 B_{10} J$

## (Inelastic) collisional Transitions:

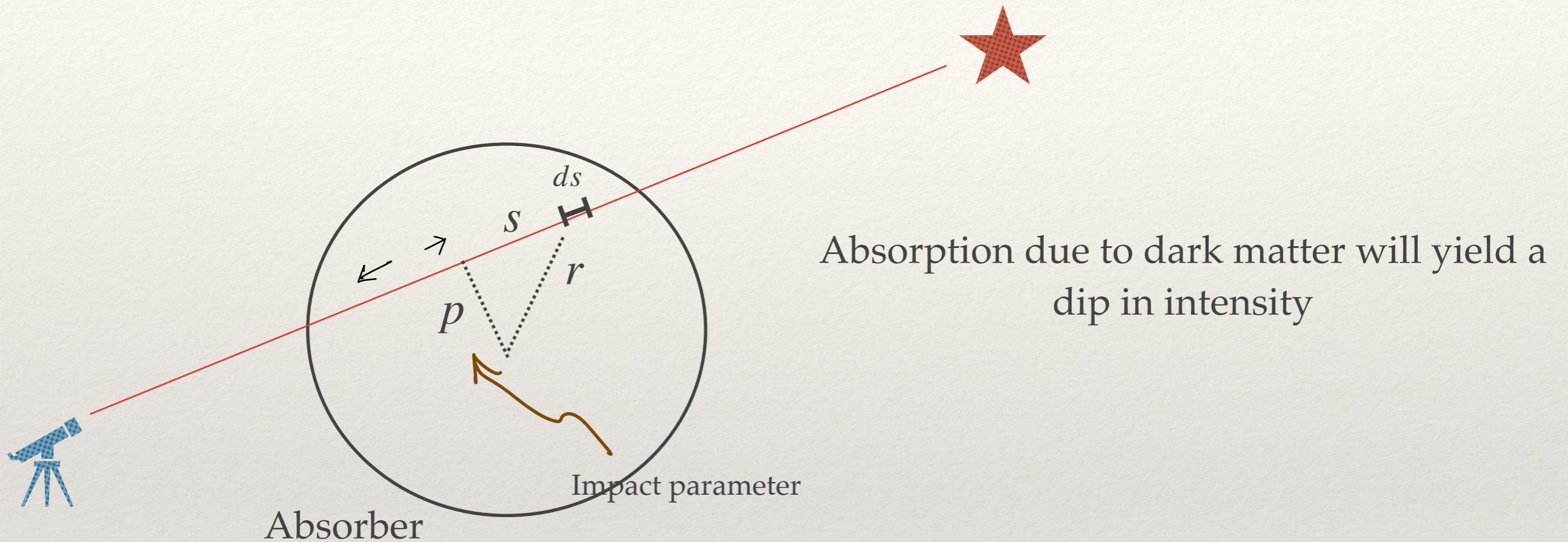


Excitation  
 $n_0 C_{01}$



De-excitation  
 $n_1 C_{10}$

# Dark lines from dark matter



A convenient way to represent the dip is via optical depth

$$\tau_\nu \equiv \log \frac{F_\nu^0}{F_\nu}$$

Flux in the absence of the absorber

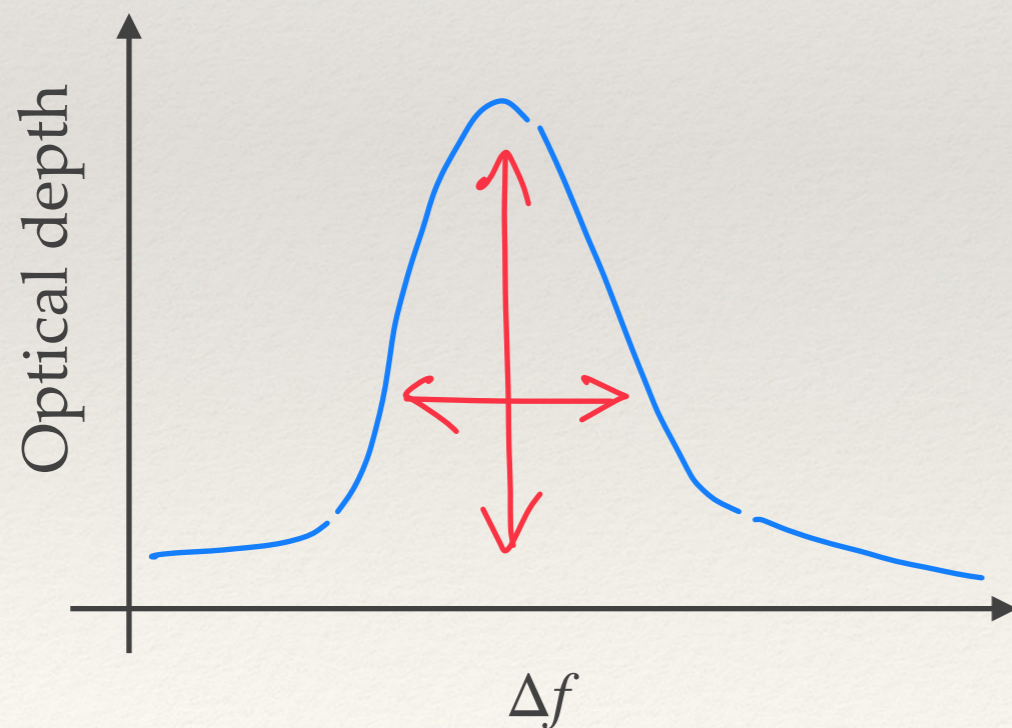
Flux observed

# Dark lines from dark matter

Absorption – stimulated emission

$$\tau(\nu, p) \propto \int ds \frac{A_{10}}{\nu_0^2} \frac{\rho_{DM}}{m_\chi} \left( \frac{1 - e^{-T^*/T_{ex}}}{1 + (g_1/g_0)e^{-T^*/T_{ex}}} \right) \cdot \phi$$

Doppler line broadening of the absorption line



Width & height have non-trivial dependence on  $Z$ , Mass of halo, impact parameter  $s$ , etc.

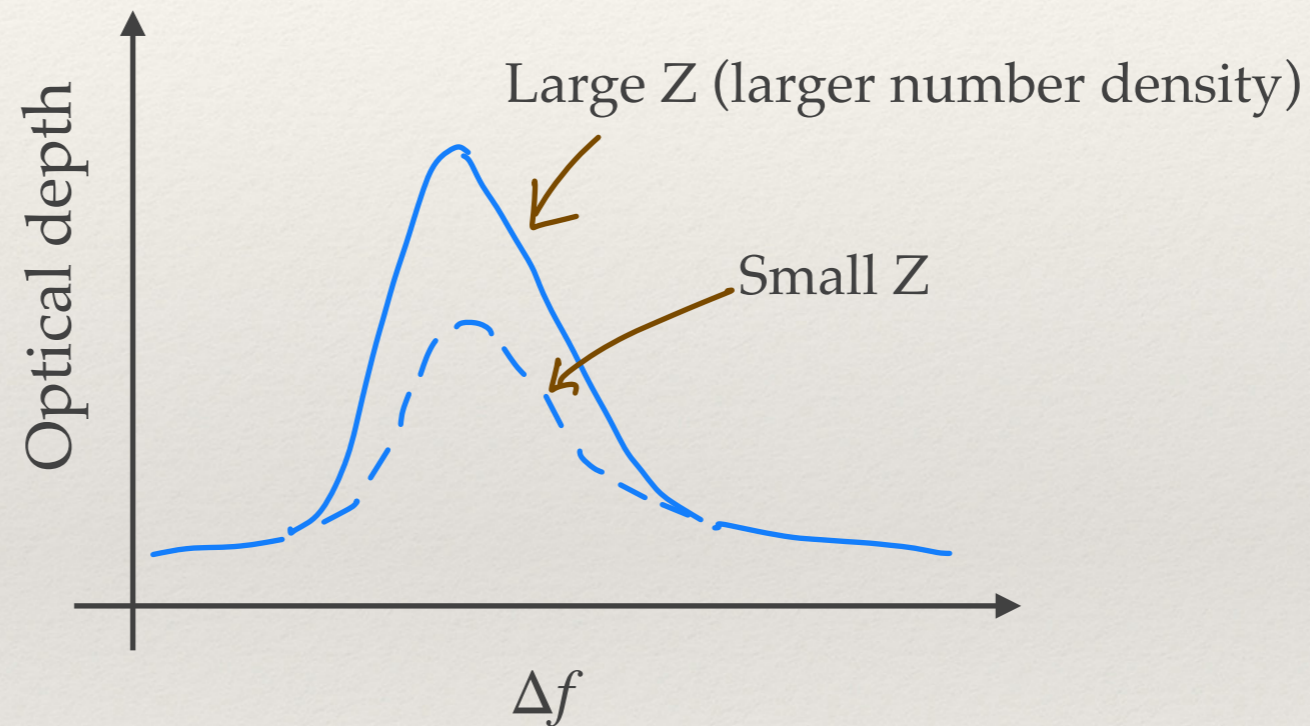
Area gives the total amount of absorption



# Dark lines from dark matter

Turn off C

$$T_{ex} \rightarrow T_{CMB}$$



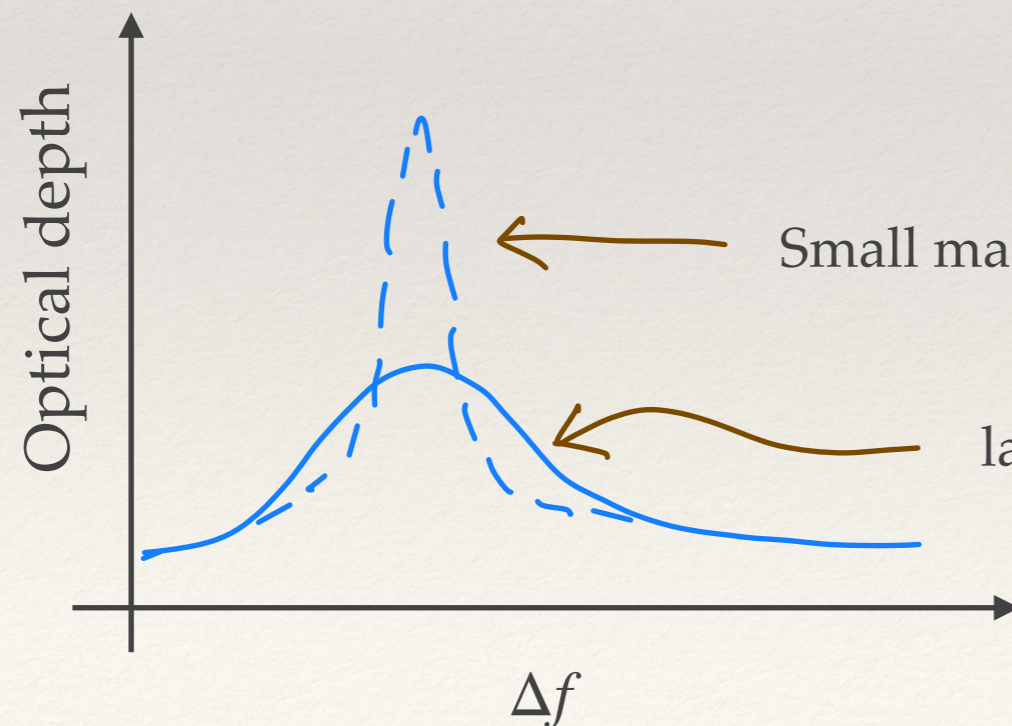
Similar behavior for large  
mass halos

# Dark lines from dark matter

Turn on C

$$T_{ex} \rightarrow T_{halo} < T_{CMB}$$

$n_0/n_1$  increases :  
Stronger absorption than  
collision-less case



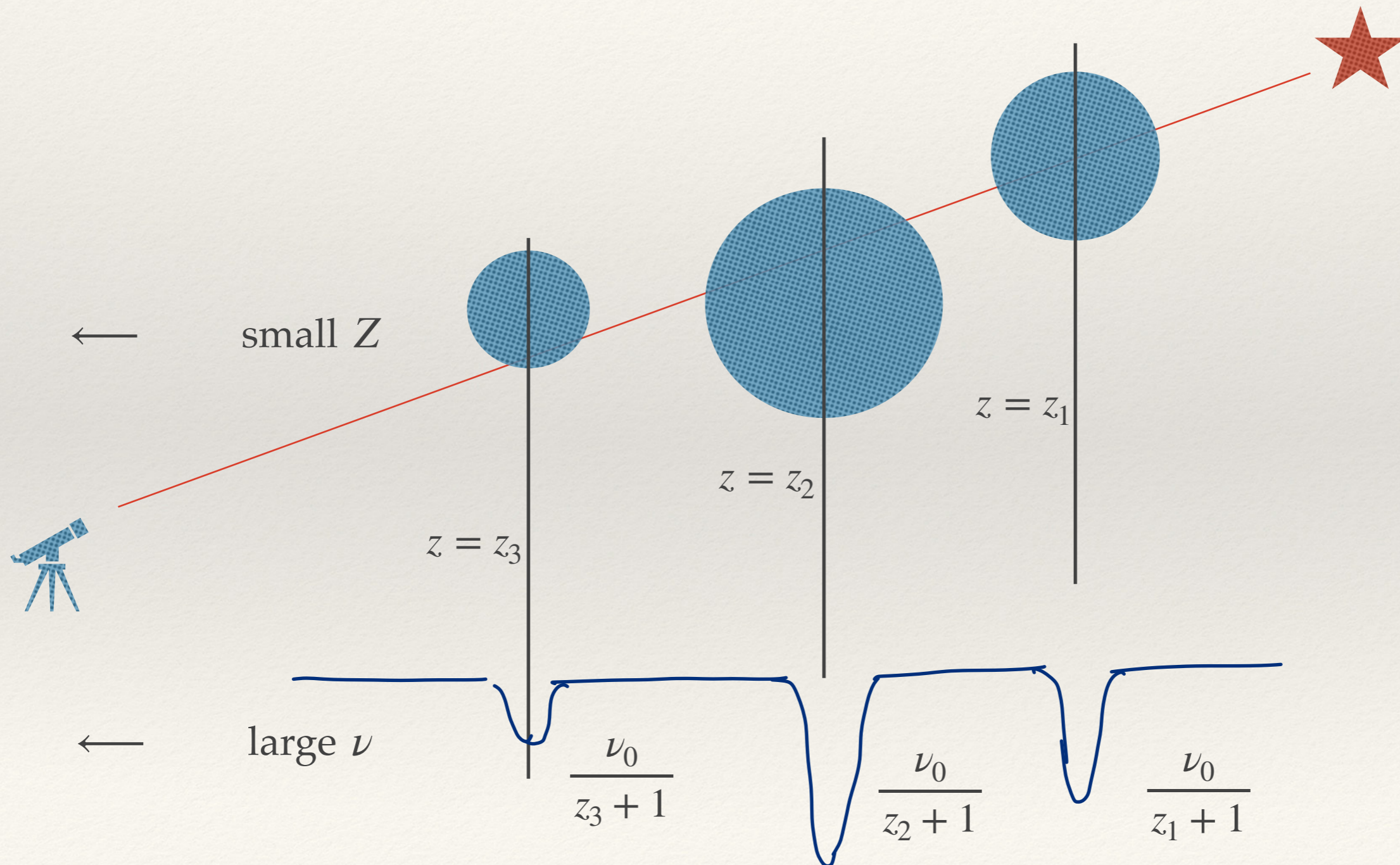
However, mass dependence  
is non-trivial

Small mass  $\rightarrow$  small  $T_{halo} \rightarrow$  larger  $n_0/n_1$

large mass  $\rightarrow$  larger  $T_{halo} \rightarrow$  larger width

# Dark forest from dark matter

Absorption from different halos at different redshifts give rise to the forest of dark-lines



# Dark forest from dark matter

Absorption from different halos at different redshifts give rise to the forest of dark-lines

To simulate

- ❖ Probability of intersecting a halo = fraction of the total area occupied by the halo.
- ❖ Randomly sample halo masses.
- ❖ Randomly sample impact parameter with uniform probability over the cross-sectional area.



The diagram illustrates a simulation of a dark forest. It features three light blue circles of varying sizes, representing dark matter halos, arranged along a diagonal line that slopes upwards from left to right. Each halo is connected to a vertical line extending downwards to a horizontal baseline. The vertical lines are labeled with their respective redshifts: the leftmost is  $\nu = \nu_0/z_2$ , the middle is  $\nu = \nu_0/z_2$ , and the rightmost is  $\nu = \nu_0/z_1$ . The circles are shaded with a fine grid pattern.

$$\nu = \nu_0/z_2$$

$$\nu = \nu_0/z_1$$

# Dark forest from dark matter

Absorption from different halos at different redshifts give rise to the forest of dark-lines

- We begin by selecting the frequency range of simulation. For an instrument sensitive in  $\nu_{\min}$  to  $\nu_{\max}$  range, the absorption lines correspond to halos in  $z_{\max} = \nu_0/\nu_{\min} - 1$  to  $z_{\min} = \nu_0/\nu_{\max} - 1$  redshift range.
- We find the equiprobable bin width  $\Delta\nu$  at a given  $\nu$  by relating it to the probability of finding a halo in redshift bin  $\Delta z$  centered at  $z = \nu_0/\nu - 1$ . This probability is equal to the fraction of the area on the sky covered by halos of all masses in  $\Delta z$  redshift bin. Thus the probability of intersecting a halo in a frequency range  $\nu$  to  $\nu + \Delta\nu$  is given by,

$$\Delta N_h = \Delta\nu \frac{dN_h}{d\nu} = \Delta z \frac{dN_h}{dz} = \Delta z \frac{c(1+z)^2}{H(z)} \int_{M_{\min}}^{M_{\max}} dM_h \frac{dn}{dM_h}(z) A(M_h, z),$$

where  $A(M_h, z) = \pi r_{\max}(M_h, z)^2$ . (18)

The halo mass function  $dn/dM_h$  in co-moving units is taken from [87],  $M_{\min}$  and  $M_{\max}$  denote the minimum and maximum halo mass at a given redshift respectively, and  $r_{\max}$  is the physical radius of the halo at which the dark matter number density is equal to the mean dark matter number density in the Universe. We choose the bin width  $\Delta\nu$  at each  $\nu$  such that the probability of absorption  $\Delta N_h = 0.1$ .

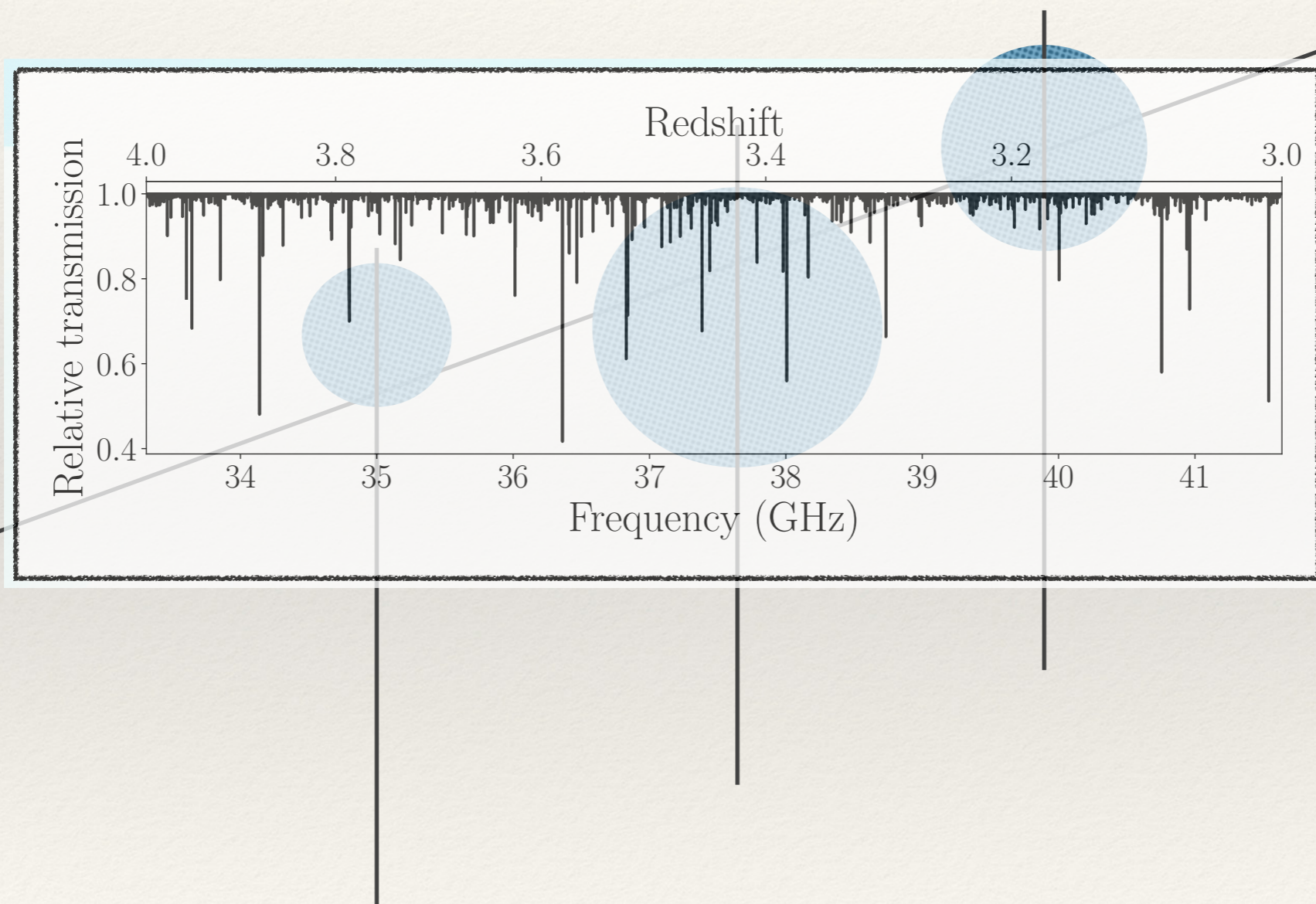
- We generate a random number from a uniform distribution in  $[0, 1]$  in each frequency bin. The bin is selected for absorption if the random number is  $\leq 0.1$ .
- The absorption profile is characterized by the halo's redshift  $z_0$ , mass  $M_h$ , and impact parameter  $p$ . For the selected bin, we choose  $M_h$  from the probability distribution function of the area fraction occupied by halos of mass  $M_h$  at redshift  $z_0$ ,

$$p(M_h, z_0) \propto \frac{dn}{dM_h} A(M_h, z_0). \quad (19)$$

We choose the impact parameter from a uniform distribution over the cross-sectional area of the halo  $A(M_h, z)$ .

- We then generate the absorption profile in the halo's rest frame using eq.(17) and map it to the observer's frame by transforming  $\nu_h \rightarrow \nu_h/(1+z_0)$ .

# Dark forest from dark matter



# Dark forest from dark matter

## Information from a dark forest

Take for an example:

probability of finding a line in between  $\nu \rightarrow \nu + d\nu$

$\propto$  probability of the LOS intersecting a halo at some  $z \rightarrow z + dz$

$$\propto \int_{M_{\min}}^{M_{\max}} dM_{\text{halo}} \frac{dn(z)}{dM_{\text{halo}}}$$

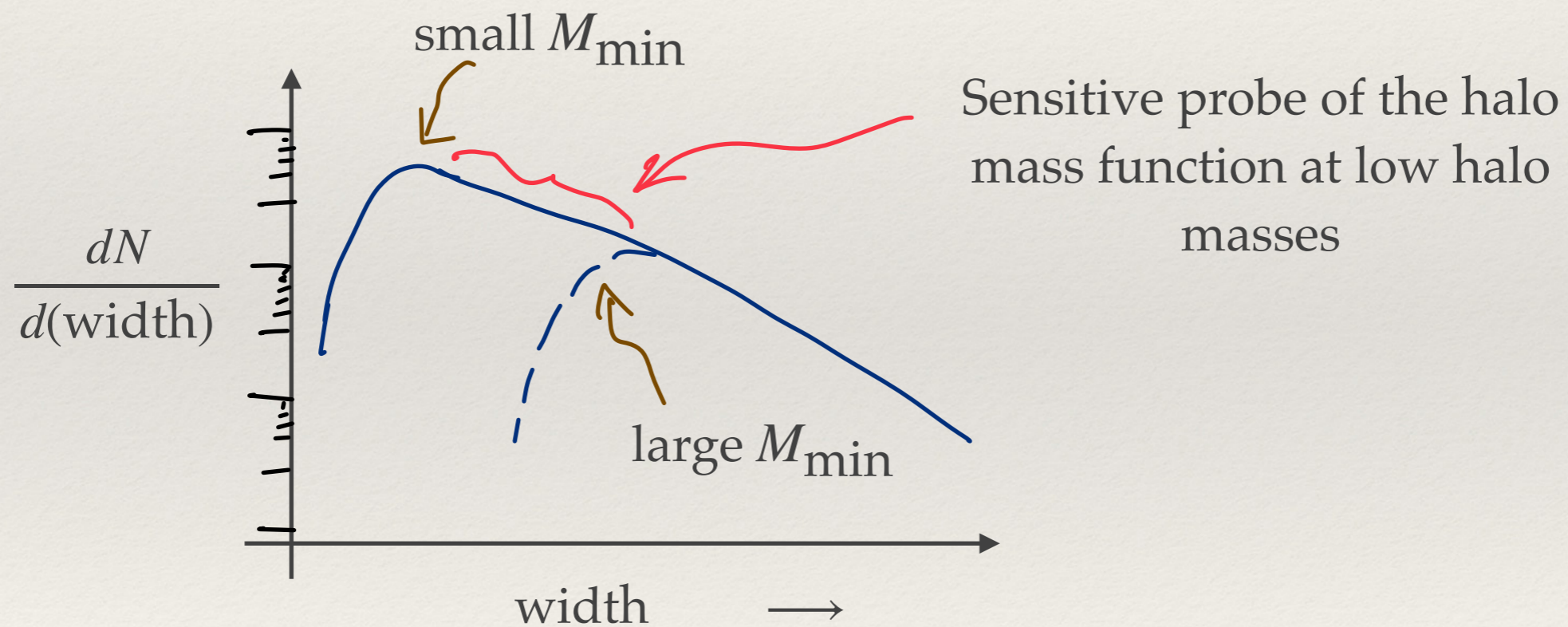
Minimum halo mass at a given  $Z$

Halo mass function

Corresponds to a minimum in width of a dip (since width  $\propto \sqrt{T_{\text{halo}}}$ )

# Dark forest from dark matter

Information from a dark forest



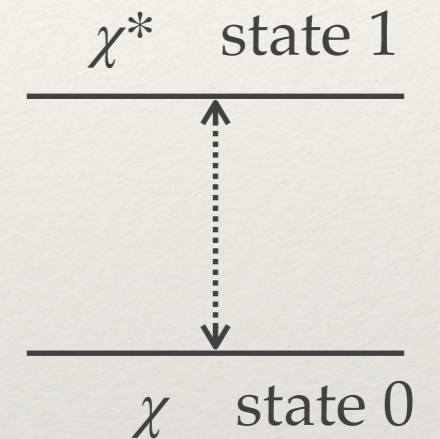


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# Dark Matter as a 2-level system

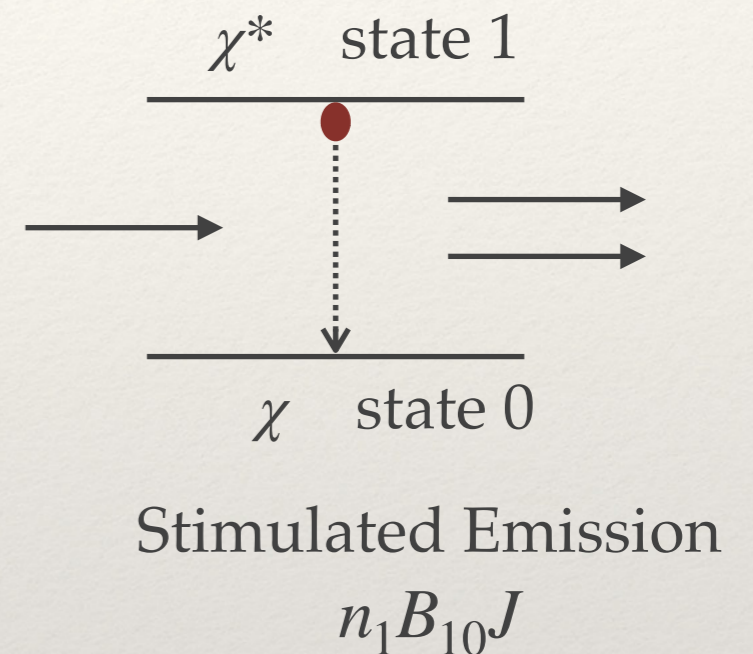
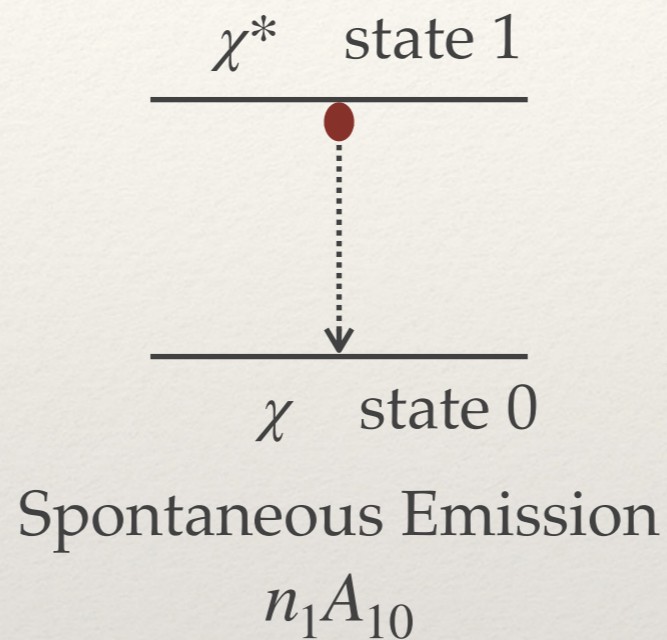
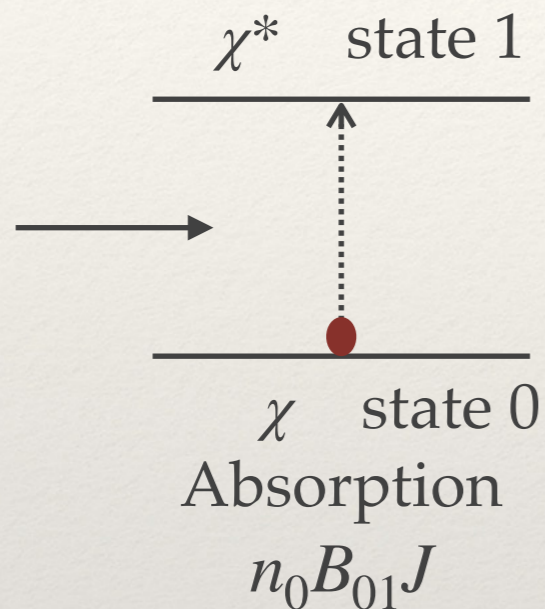
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Transitioning dark matter also leaves  
complementary imprints on CMB as  
well

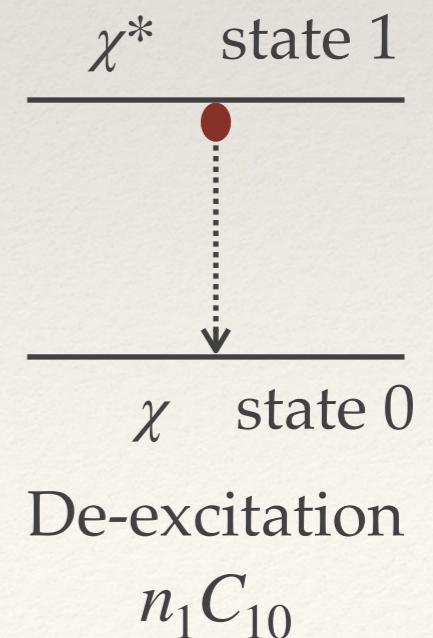
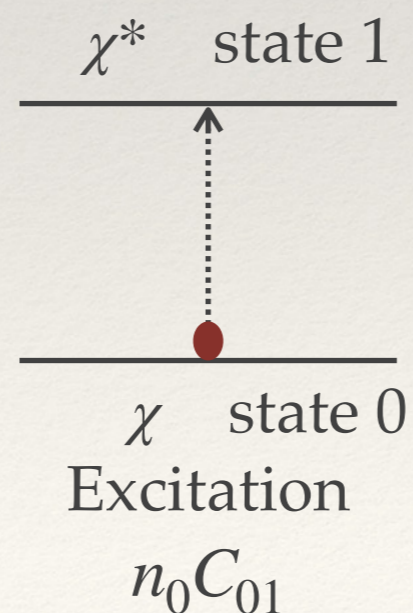


# Dark Matter as a 2-level system

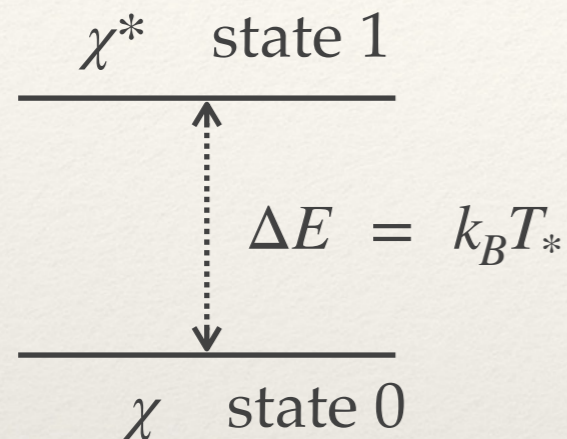
Electromagnetic Transitions:



(Inelastic) collisional Transitions:



# Global absorption from Dark Matter



$$\frac{n_1}{n_0} = \frac{g_1}{g_0} \exp\left(-\frac{T_*}{T_{ex}}\right)$$

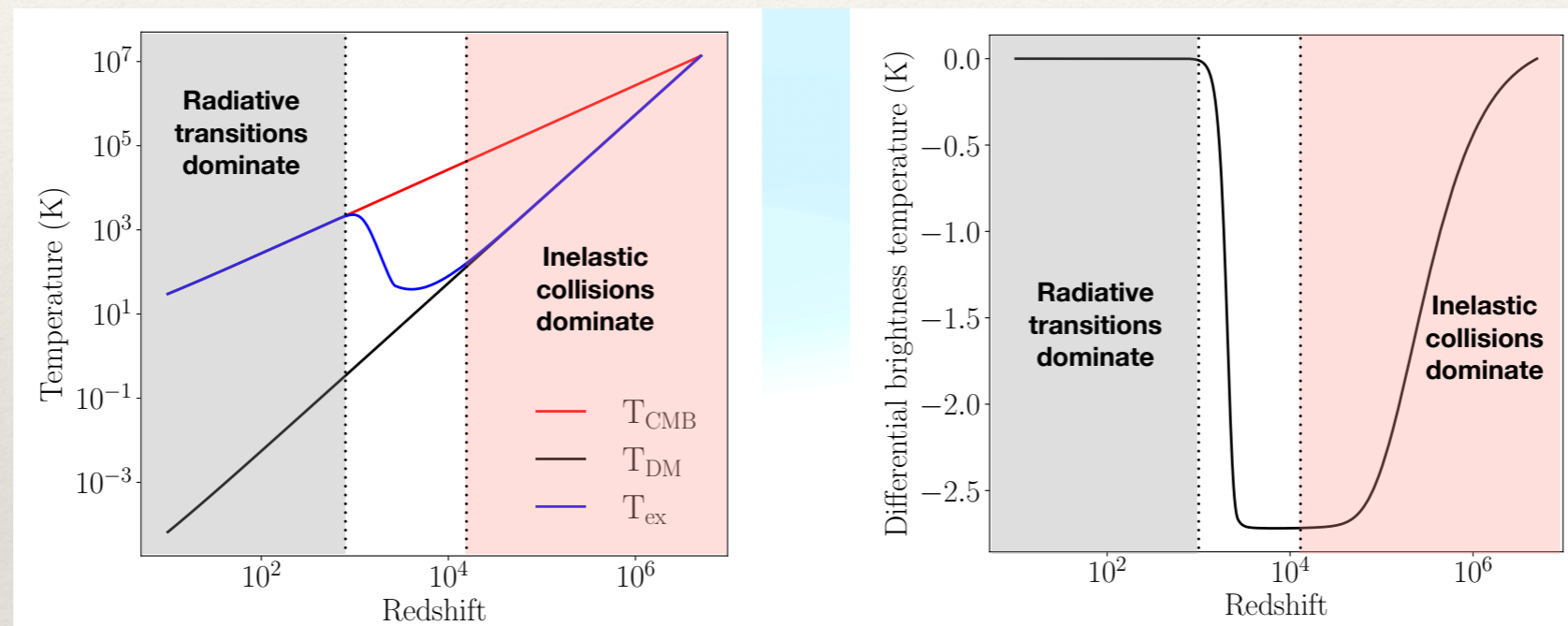
$T_{ex}$  determines the relative population of two states

$$\frac{dT_{ex}}{dz} \propto C_{10} \left(1 - e^{-T_* \left(\frac{1}{T_{DM}} - \frac{1}{T_{ex}}\right)}\right) + A_{10} \left(\frac{1 - e^{-T_* \left(\frac{1}{T_{CMB}} - \frac{1}{T_{ex}}\right)}}{1 - e^{-T_*/T_{CMB}}}\right)$$

$T_{ex} \rightarrow T_{DM}$  if collision dominates

$T_{ex} \rightarrow T_{CMB}$  if radiative transition dominates

# Global absorption from Dark Matter



At high redshift collision dominates:  $T_{ex} \rightarrow T_{DM} \ll T_{CMB}$  : absorption begins  
As DM number falls, radiative transitions take over: absorption disappears

# Mod. Kompaneets Eqn for CMB

Electromagnetic interaction of DM brings it into contact with baryonic-photon plasma

$$\frac{\partial n(x_e, t)}{\partial t} = K_C \frac{1}{x_e^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_e} x_e^4 \left( n + n^2 + \frac{\partial n}{\partial x_e} \right) + (K_{\text{br}} + K_{\text{dC}}) \frac{e^{-x_e}}{x_e^3} [1 - n(e^{x_e} - 1)]$$

$$+ x_e \frac{\partial n}{\partial x_e} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[ \ln \frac{T_e}{T_{\text{CMB}}} \right] + \frac{1}{x_e^2} \frac{\mathcal{I}_2}{b_R T_e^3} \dot{N}_{\chi\gamma} \delta(x_e - x_0(t)),$$

Compton scattering

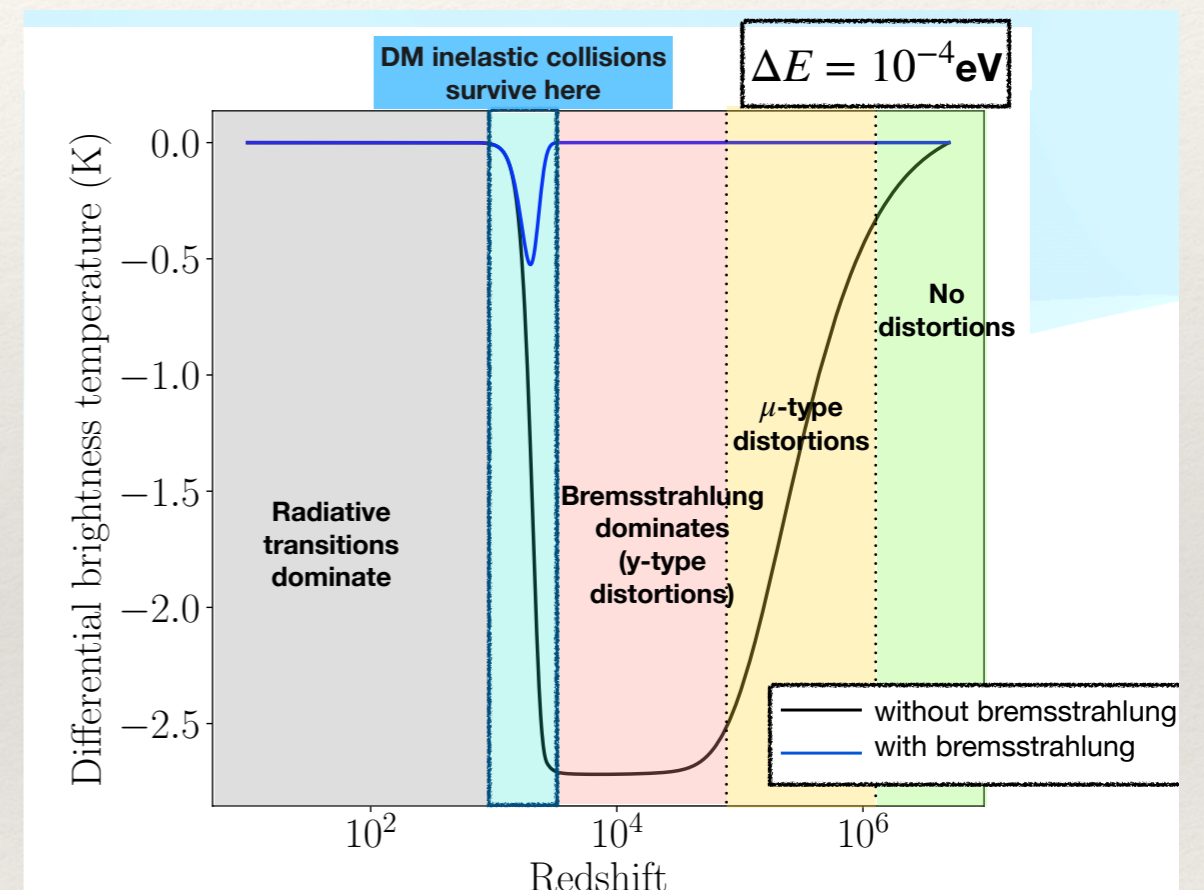
injected spectra by dm

Double-Compton + Bremsstrahlung

$x_e \equiv h\nu / (k_B T_e)$ .

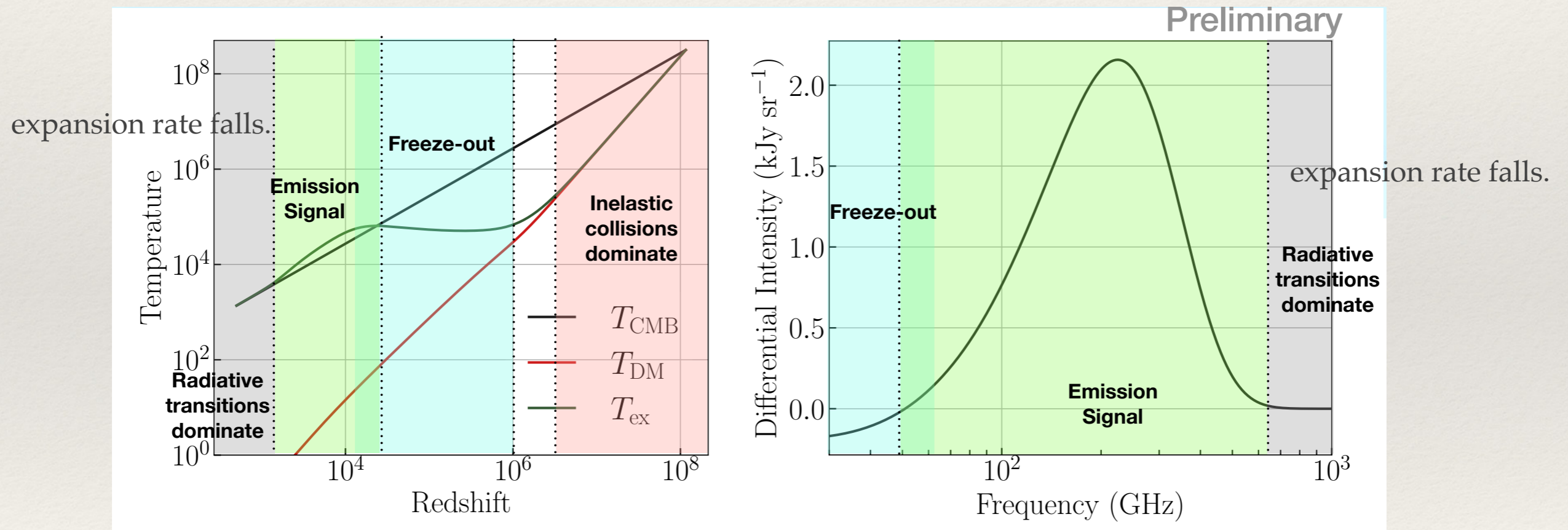
# CMB distortions from dark matter

- ❖ Prior to recombination, bremsstrahlung is important in establishing a black body spectrum at low frequencies.



# CMB distortions from dark matter

Low collision rate / H, low transition energy  
->  $T_{ex}$  freezes out -> no absorption



$T_{ex} > T_{CMB} \rightarrow$  you get emission signal

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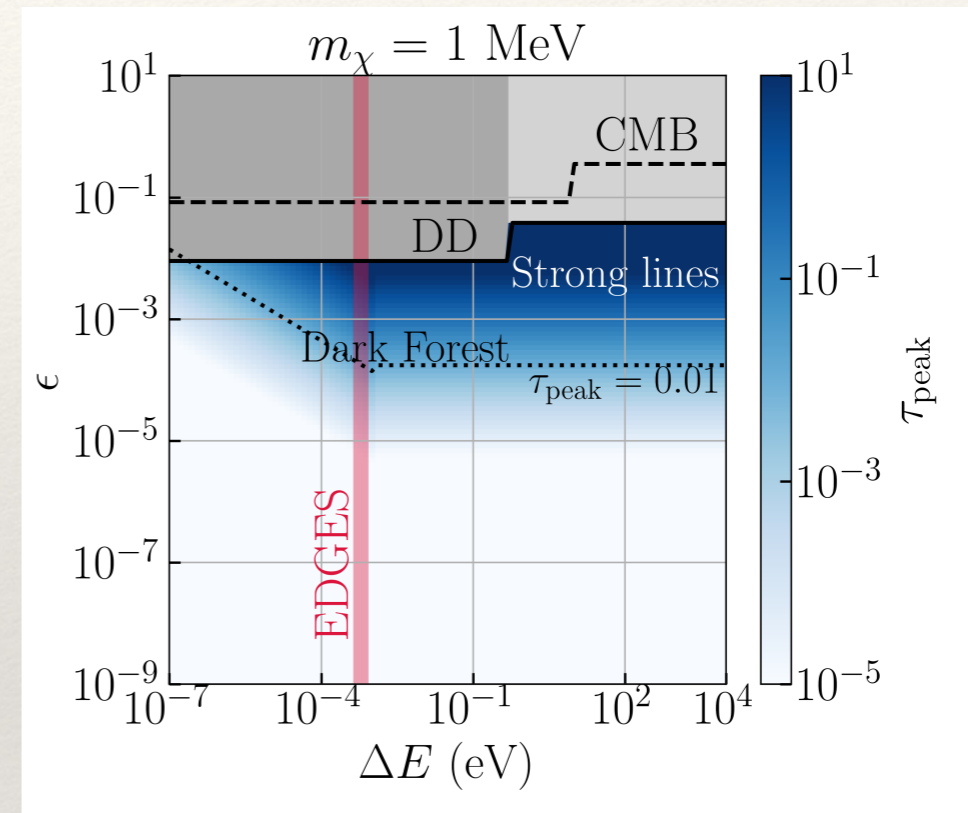
# Constraintology



# Constraintology: Direct-detection

- ❖ Inelastic scattering: magnetic moment of dark matter interacts with the magnetic field of electron causing  $\chi$ - $\chi^*$  transition.
- ❖ elastic scattering: Charge radius of dark matter interacts with the electric field of electron.

- Included XENON10, XENON100, Dark-Side, SENSEI, CDMS-HVeV etc..



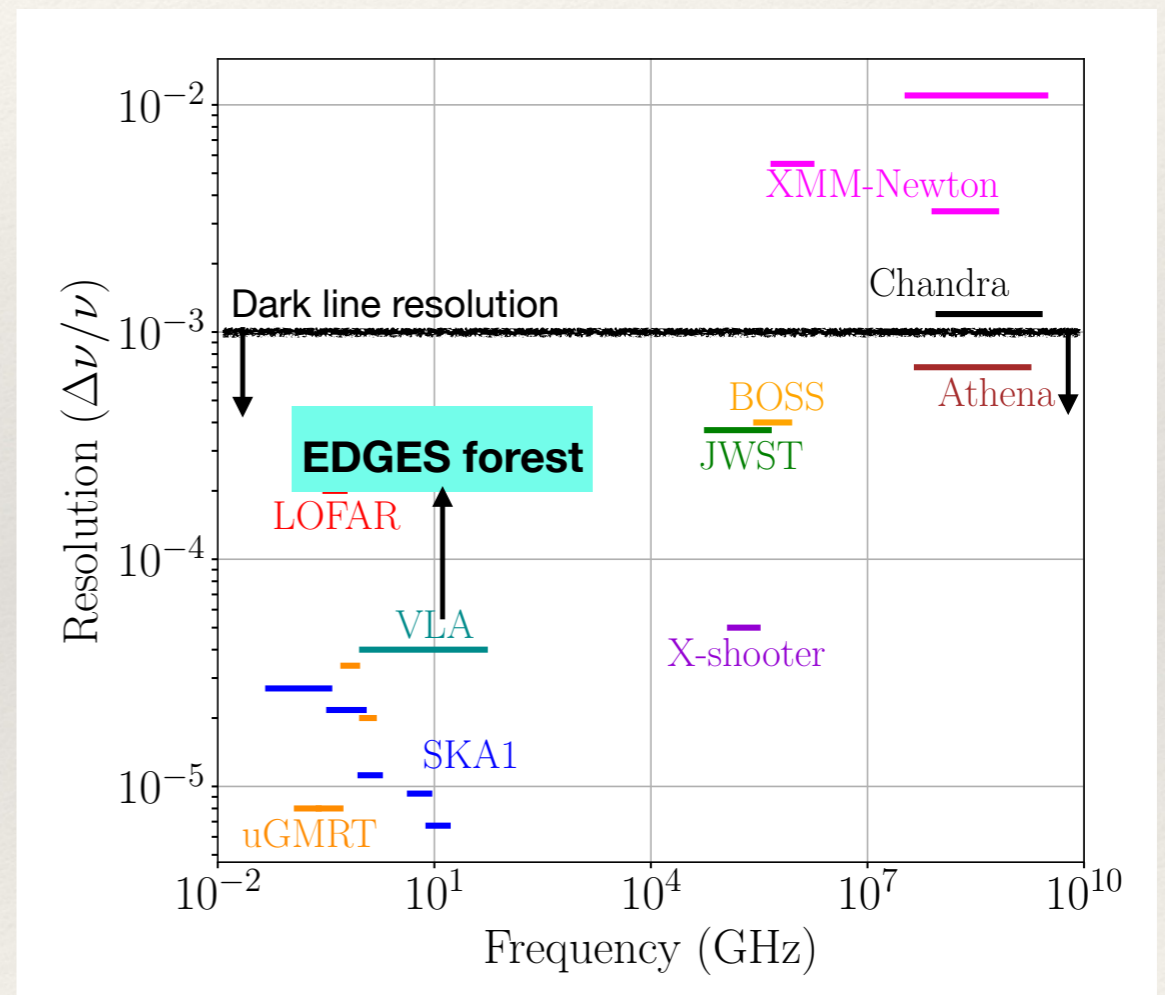
- ❖ We considered many many more constraints — from early universe to late universe — a lot of them are model-dependent

➔ I am pretty sure there exists many more!

# Dark forest from dark matter

## Detectability of dark forest

- ❖ Spectroscopic experiments in optical and radio wave bands can detect dark forest!
- ❖ Line width is independent of dark matter self interactions.



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# Conclusion

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- ❖ The proposal is to look for dark matter via forest in the spectrum of strong sources — carries non trivial information of LSS, dark matter interactions etc.
- ❖ It often accompanies distortion in the CMB spectrums - sometime competing and sometime complementary
- ❖ Hunting for dark lines / forest and distinguish from the ones due to visible transitions is challenging — though there are 'deserts' - where it is relatively easy.

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Extra

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# Proof of principle model

	$SU(N)$	$SU(2)_L^D$	$SU(2)_R^D$	$U(1)_D$	$U(1)_{em}$
$q_D$	$N$	2	1	0	$+\epsilon$
$q_D^c$	$\bar{N}$	1	$\bar{2}$	0	$-\epsilon$
$Q_D$	$N$	1	1	+1	$+\epsilon$
$Q_D^c$	$\bar{N}$	1	1	-1	$-\epsilon$

# Modeling dark transitions

## Scaling the hydrogen atom parameters

**Radiative coupling:**  $A_{10}^{\text{DM}} \approx \epsilon^2 \left( \frac{\Delta E_{\text{hf}}^{\text{DM}}}{\Delta E_{\text{hf}}^{\text{HI}}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{m_e}{m_q} \right)^2 A_{10}^{\text{HI}}$

**Bohr radius:**  $r_{\text{HI}} = \frac{\alpha}{E_{\text{binding}}^{\text{HI}}}$

**Geometric cross-section:**  $\sigma_{\text{DM}} \approx r_{\text{DM}}^2 \approx \left( \frac{\alpha_s(m_\chi)}{\alpha} \right)^2 \left( \frac{E_{\text{binding}}^{\text{HI}}}{E_{\text{binding}}^{\text{DM}}} \right)^2 r_{\text{HI}}^2$

# Global absorption from Dark Matter

## Global absorption feature gets contribution from dark matter + bremsstrahlung

- Specific intensity into brightness temperature

$$T_b = \frac{c^2}{2\nu^2 k_B} I_\nu$$

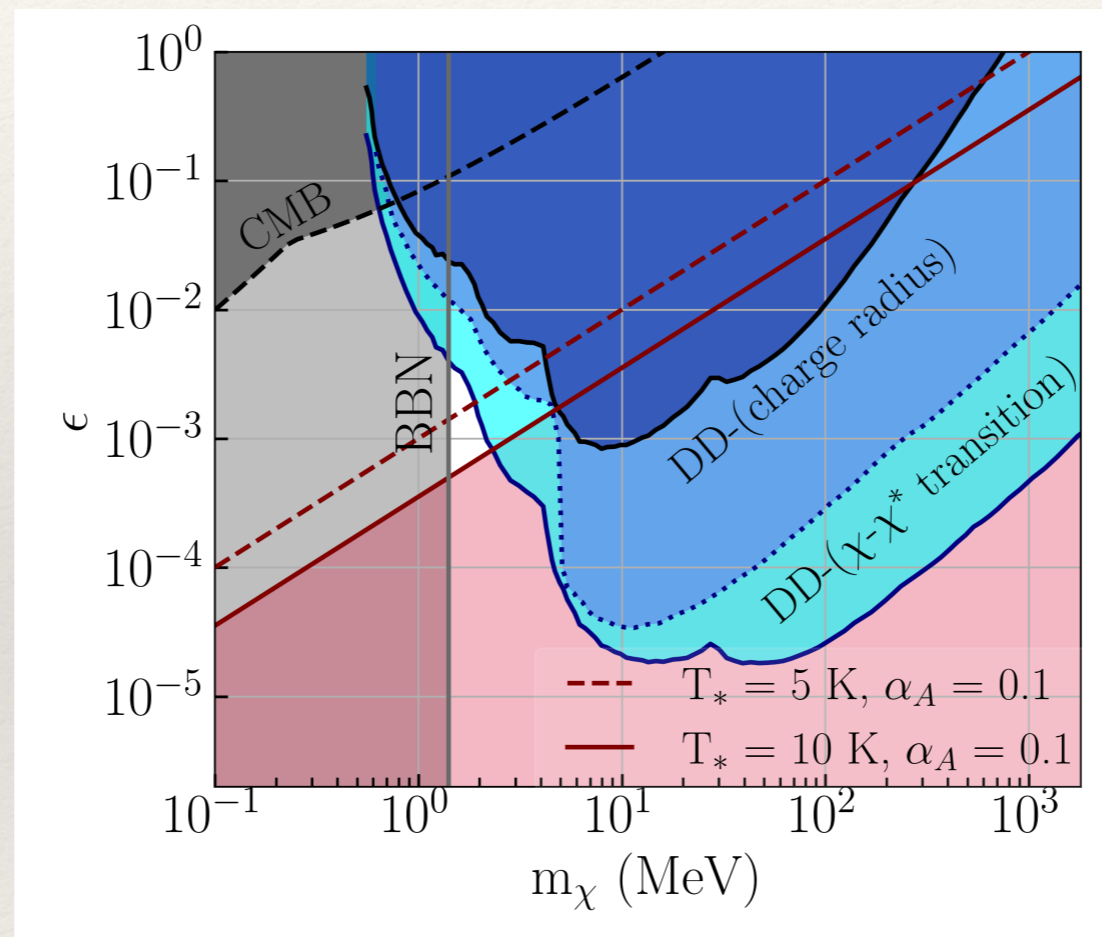
$$\frac{dT_b(\nu)}{dz} - \frac{T_b(\nu)}{1+z} = \frac{d\tau_\chi}{dz} \left( -T_b(\nu) + \frac{h\nu}{k_B} \frac{1}{(e^{h\nu/k_B T_{ex}(z)} - 1)} \right) + \frac{d\tau_{br}(x)}{dz} \left( -T_b(\nu) + T_g \right)$$

**Redshifting**                      **DM transitions**                      **Bremsstrahlung**

No approximation made between  $T_\star$ ,  $T_{ex}$  and  $T_{CMB}$

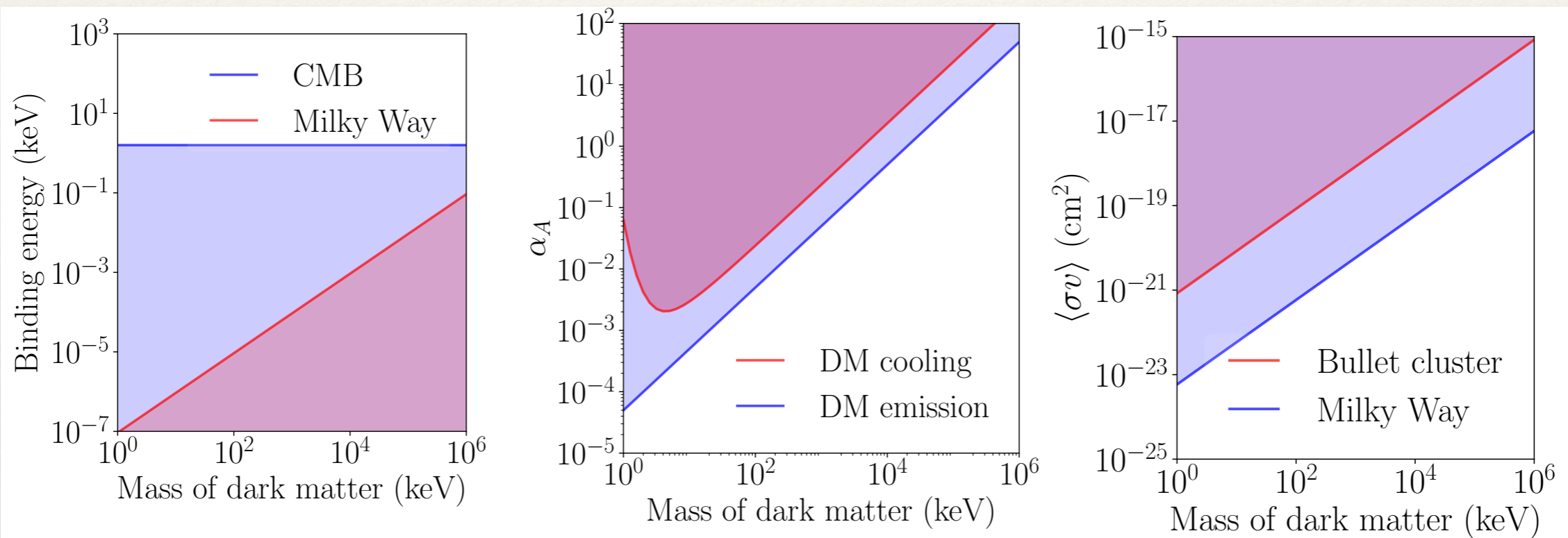
New term not present in the standard 21 cm cosmology

# Constraintology





# Constraintology: Milky Way



# EDGES

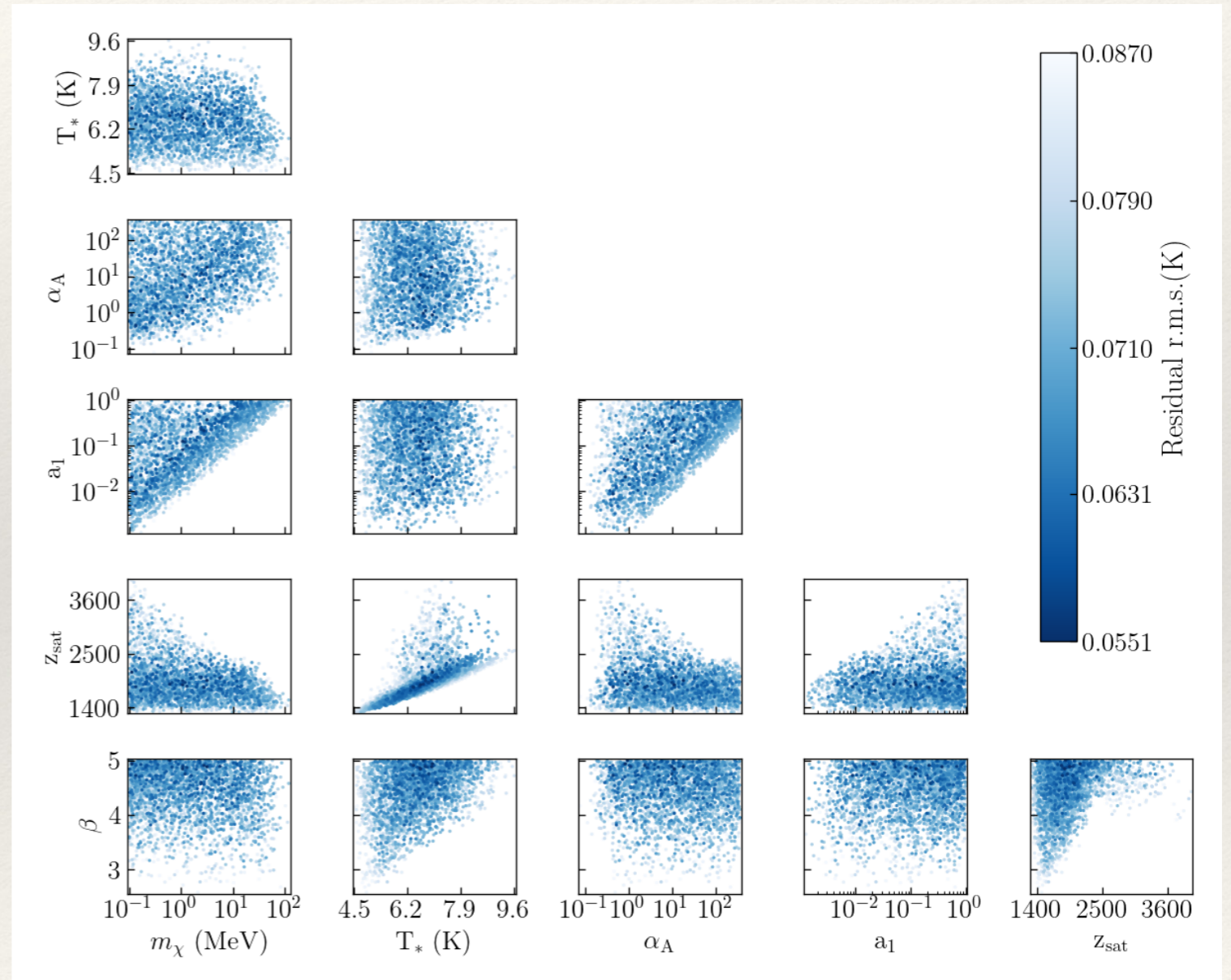
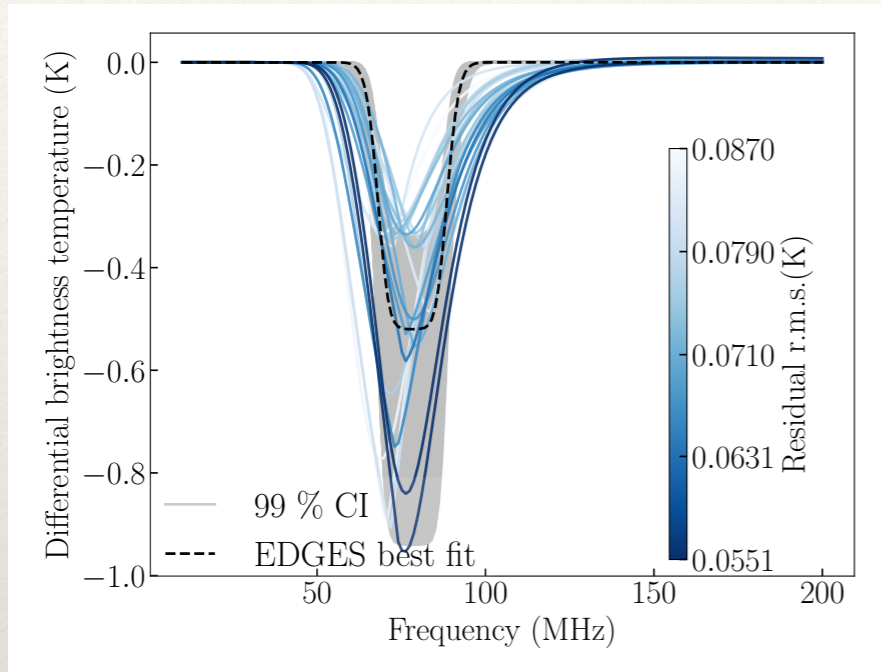


FIG. 11: The viable parameter space of the dark matter model shown as points in the 2-D plots for fifteen combinations of different model parameters. The color shade of each sample point is represented by the r.m.s. value of the residual when the EDGES data is fitted with the the EDGES foreground model + dark matter signal of the sample.