

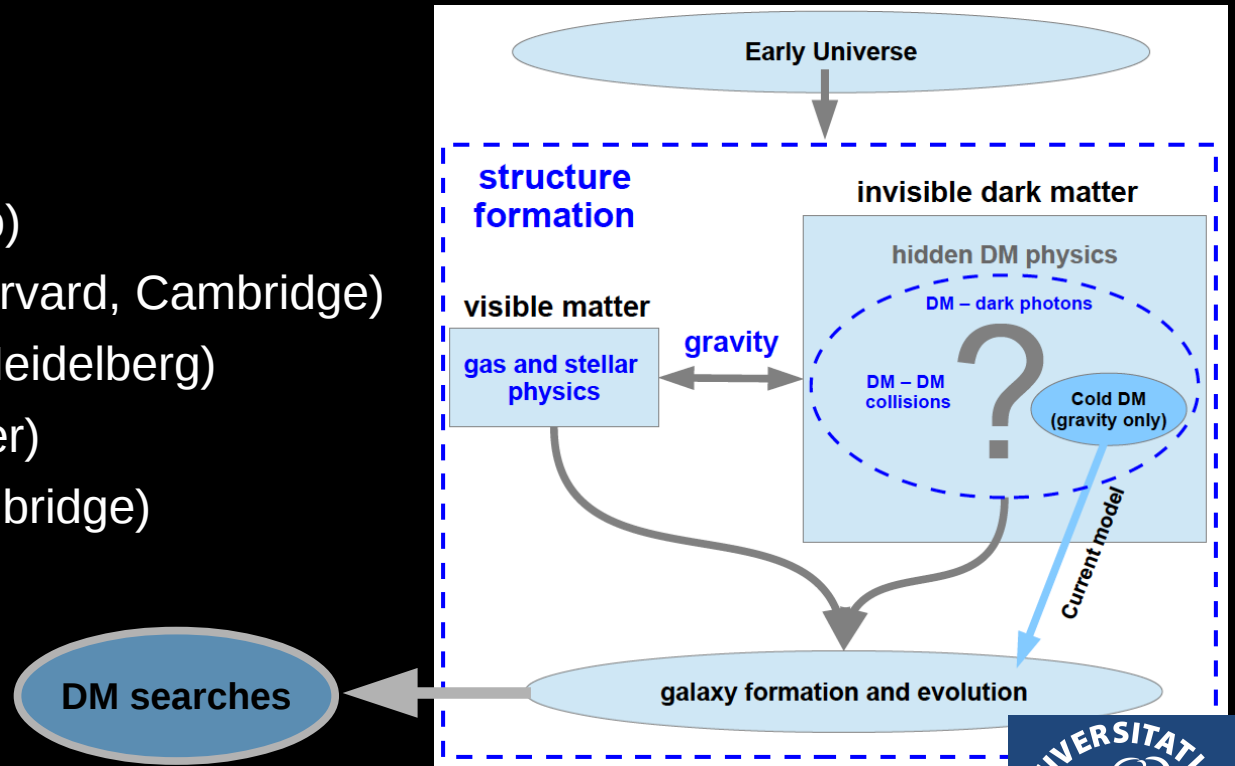
# Towards an Effective Theory Of Structure formation (ETHOS)

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In collaboration with:

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Mark Vogelsberger (MIT, Cambridge)



# OUTLINE

- **The dark matter hypothesis (CDM) and the standard structure formation theory**
- **Non-gravitational dark matter interactions and structure formation**
- **Beyond CDM: exploring new dark matter physics with astrophysics (ETHOS)**
- **Concluding remarks**

# The particle DM hypothesis:

DM is made of *new* particles that do not emit electromagnetic radiation at a significant level

Until now, DM is *evident only by its gravitational influence*

dark energy

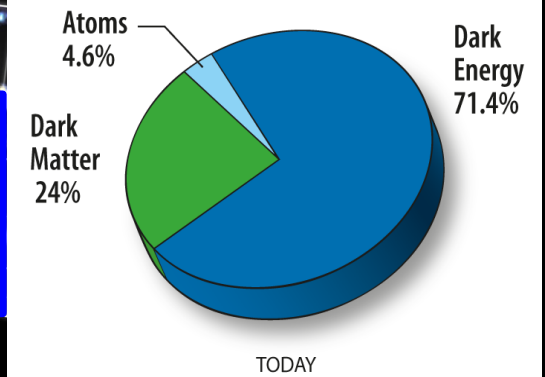
CMB

DM production?

Andromeda

Big Bang

Independent astronomical observations indicate that ~80% of the matter in the Universe is dark



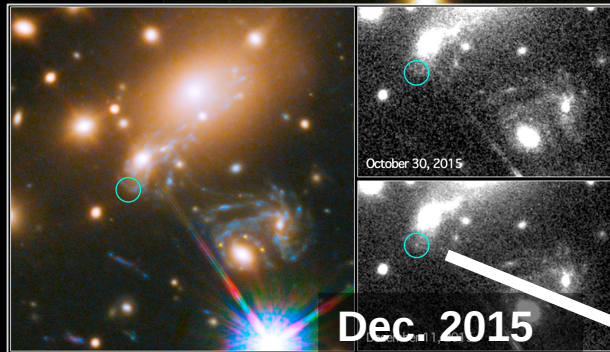
13.7 billion years



# A spectacular example of a GR effect and a strong indication of the existence of DM

Cluster MACS J1149.6+2223 - 5 billion lys

Credit: HST

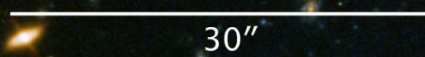
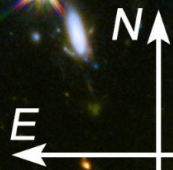
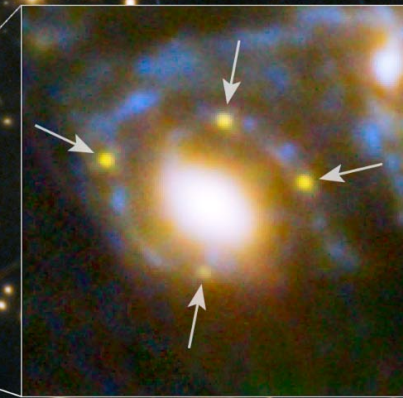


SN may have appeared here in 1995

Refsdal SN - 9.3 billion lys

SN may appear here in 2015-2024

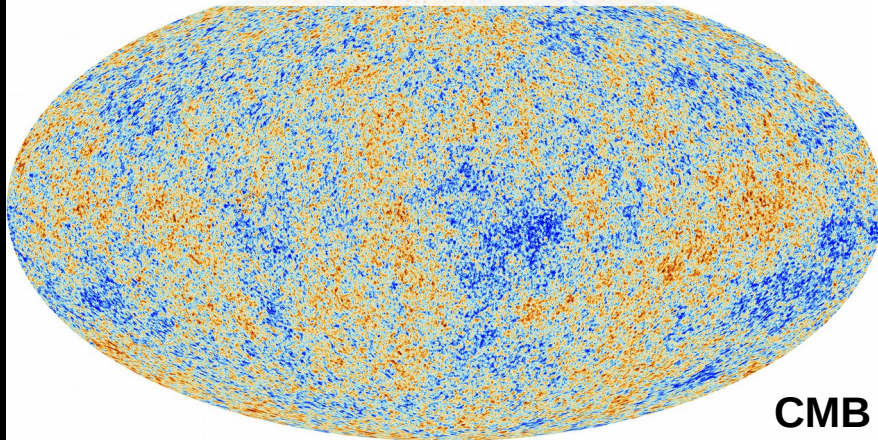
Observed in 2014





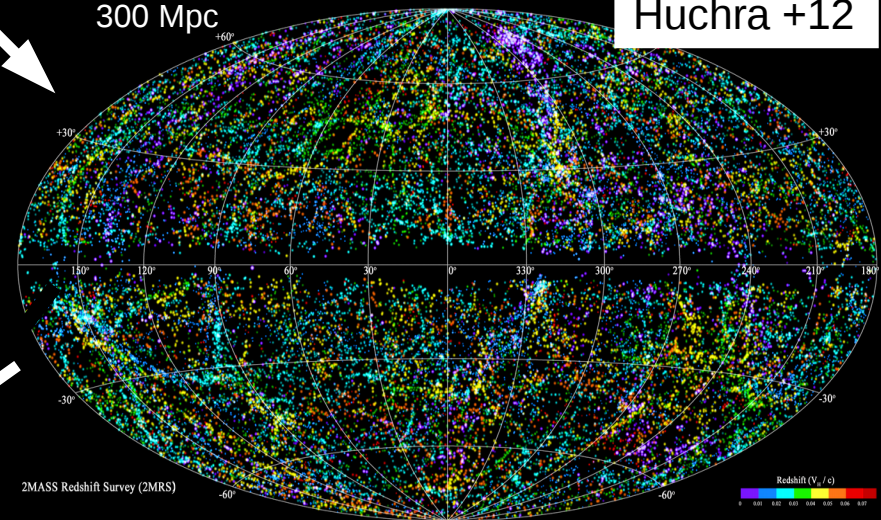
# The **particle DM hypothesis** is seemingly essential to explain the growth of perturbations into the highly non-linear regime

Early Universe ( $t \sim 0.4$  Myrs)



$$\frac{\delta\rho_m}{\rho_m} \sim 10^{-3}$$

Universe today ( $t \sim 13.8$  Gyrs)



2MRS galaxy "map", large-scale structure

Andromeda



galactic scales

$$\frac{\delta\rho_m}{\rho_m} \gg 1$$

$$\frac{\delta\rho_m}{\rho_m} \gtrsim 1$$

# Standard structure formation theory (main ingredients)

- linear regime (cosmological perturbation theory)

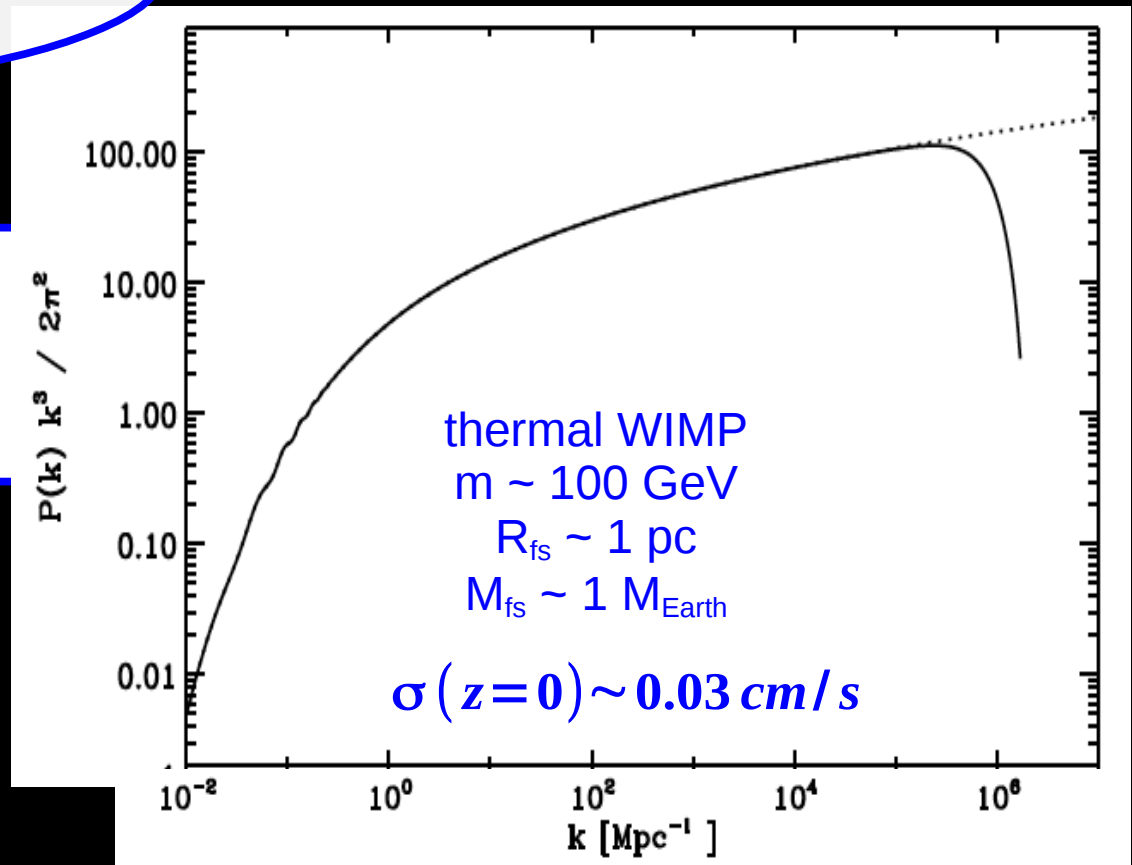
**Standard hypotheses:  
DM is cold and collisionless  
(Cold Dark Matter model)**

eqs. for DM perturbations

$$\dot{\delta}_\chi + \theta_\chi - 3\dot{\phi} = 0,$$

$$\dot{\theta}_\chi - c_\chi^2 k^2 \delta_\chi + \mathcal{H}\theta_\chi - k^2\psi = 0$$

Angulo & White, 2010





# Standard structure formation theory (main ingredients)

- non-linear regime (N-body simulations)

*Standard hypotheses:  
DM is cold and collisionless  
(Cold Dark Matter model)*

*the only DM interaction  
that matters is gravity!!*

In principle: solve Collisionless Boltzmann Equation (coupled with the Poisson equation) with the initial conditions given by linear perturbation theory

$$\frac{df}{dt} = 0 \quad \nabla^2 \psi = 4\pi G$$

i.e., find the local DM distribution in phase space at all points and at all times:

$$f(\vec{x}, \vec{v}, t) d^3\vec{x} d^3\vec{v}$$

In practice however, we can only compute, measure, the DM distribution averaged over a certain macroscopic scale (coarse-grained distribution)

# Standard structure formation theory (main ingredients)

- non-linear regime (N-body simulations)

*Standard hypotheses:  
DM is cold and collisionless  
(Cold Dark Matter model)*

*the only DM interaction  
that matters is gravity!!*

In N-body simulations the coarse-grained distribution is given by a discrete representation of N particles:

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) = \sum_i (M_i/m) W(|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i|; h_i) \delta^3(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i)$$

macro-to-micro-particle  
mass ratio

each particle is  
smoothed in space  
to give a smooth  
local density

each macro-particle  
travels at one speed

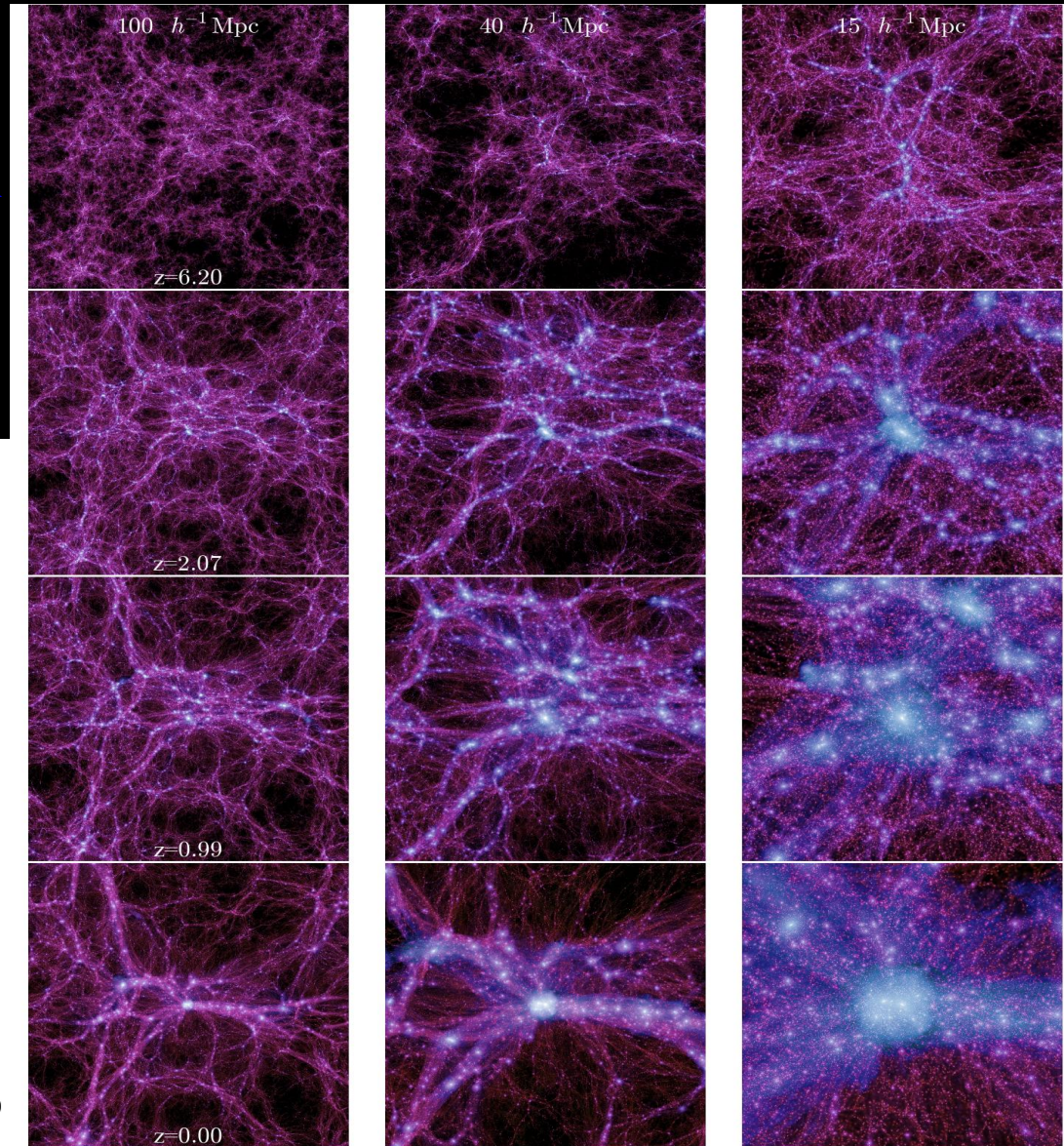
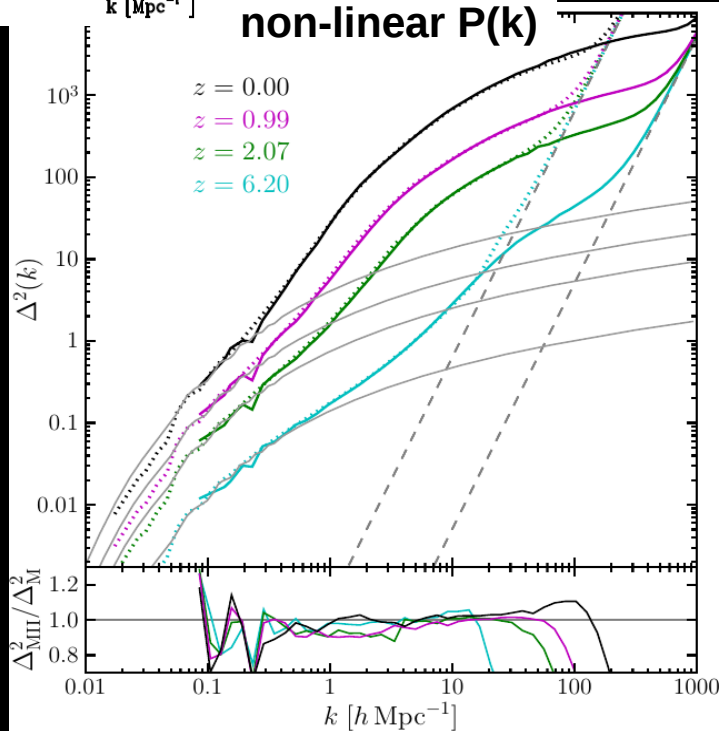
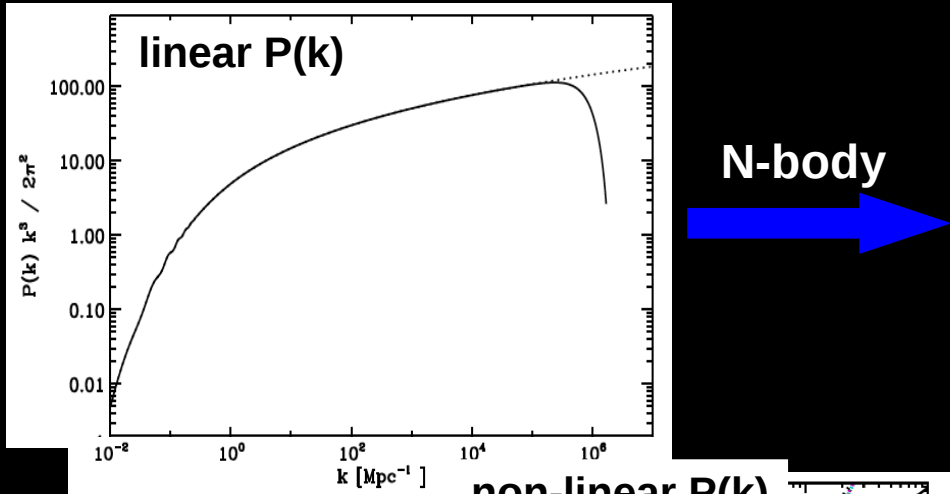
e.g. particle-mesh method: from the density assignment, the potential is found using a mesh, accelerations for each particle are calculated and the system is evolved in a timestep



# Standard structure formation theory (main ingredients)

- non-linear regime (N-body simulations)

Millennium II simulation



Boylan-Kolchin+09



# A sample of state-of-the-art simulations

## DM-only simulations

### COSMIC

Name	Code	$L_{\text{box}}$ [ $h^{-1}\text{Mpc}$ ]	$N_p$ [ $10^9$ ]	$m_p$ [ $h^{-1} M_{\odot}$ ]	$\epsilon_{\text{soft}}$ [ $h^{-1}\text{kpc}$ ]
DEUS FUR	RAMSES-DEUS	21000	550	$1.2 \times 10^{12}$	$40.0^{\dagger}$
Horizon Run 3	GOTPM	10815	370	$2.5 \times 10^{11}$	150.0
Millennium-XXL	GADGET-3	3000	300	$6.2 \times 10^9$	10.0
Horizon-4 $\Pi$	RAMSES	2000	69	$7.8 \times 10^9$	$7.6^{\dagger}$
Millennium-II	GADGET-3	100	10	$6.9 \times 10^6$	1.0
MultiDark Run1	ART	1000	8.6	$8.7 \times 10^9$	$7.6^{\dagger}$
Bolshoi	ART	250	8.6	$1.4 \times 10^8$	$1.0^{\dagger}$

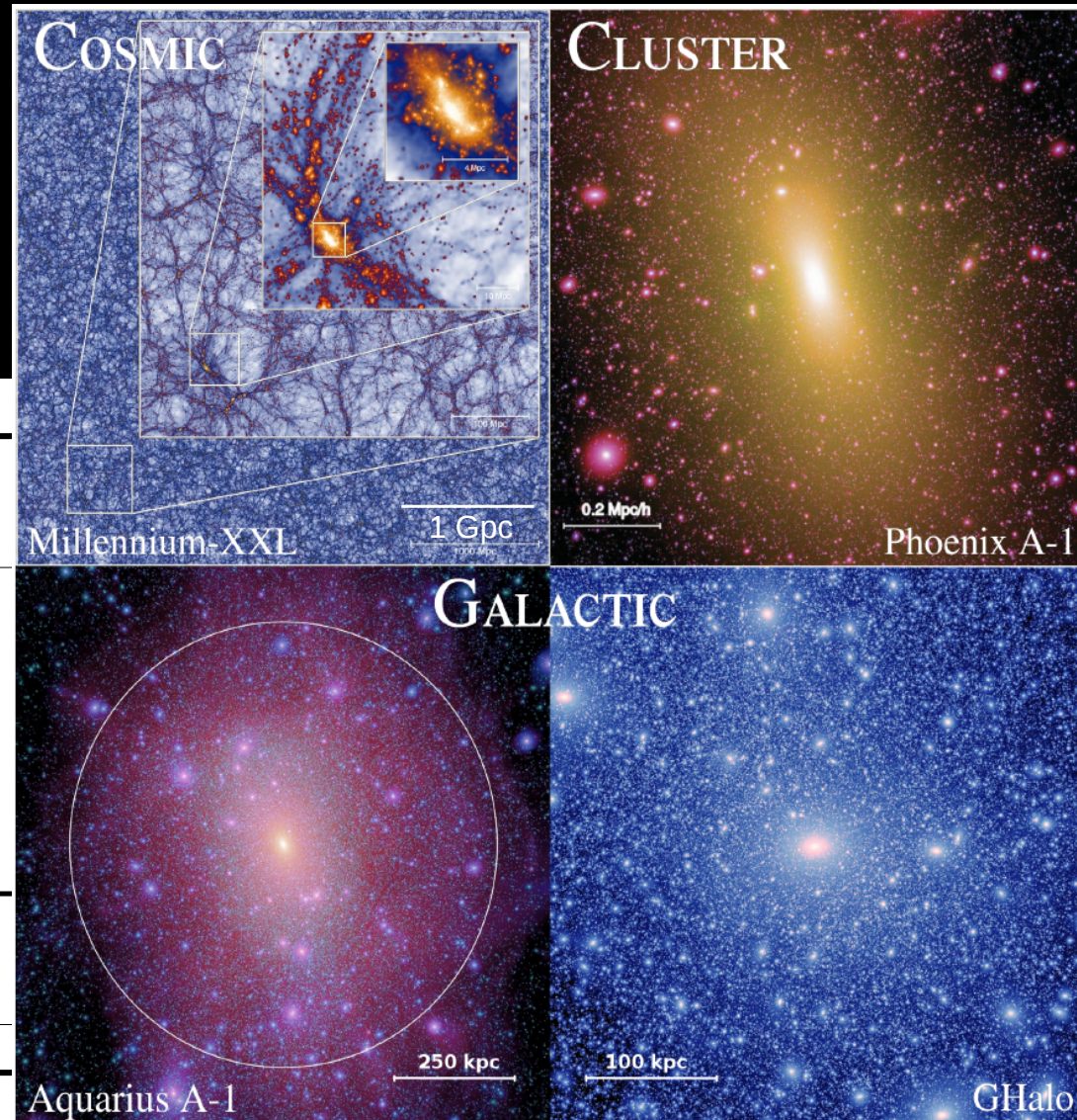
$^{\dagger}$ For AMR simulations (RAMSES, ART)  $\epsilon_{\text{soft}}$  refers to the highest resolution cell width.

### CLUSTER

Name	Code	$L_{\text{ hires}}$ [ $h^{-1}\text{Mpc}$ ]	$N_{p, \text{ hires}}$ [ $10^9$ ]	$m_{p, \text{ hires}}$ [ $h^{-1} M_{\odot}$ ]	$\epsilon_{\text{soft}}$ [ $h^{-1}\text{kpc}$ ]
Phoenix A-1	GADGET-3	41.2	4.1	$6.4 \times 10^5$	0.15

### GALACTIC

Name	Code	$L_{\text{ hires}}$ [Mpc]	$N_{p, \text{ hires}}$ [ $10^9$ ]	$m_{p, \text{ hires}}$ [ $M_{\odot}$ ]	$\epsilon_{\text{soft}}$ [pc]
Aquarius A-1	GADGET-3	5.9	$4.3 \times 10^9$	$1.7 \times 10^3$	20.5
GHalo	PKDGRAV2	3.89	$2.1 \times 10^9$	$1.0 \times 10^3$	61.0
Via Lactea II	PKDGRAV2	4.86	$1.0 \times 10^9$	$4.1 \times 10^3$	40.0

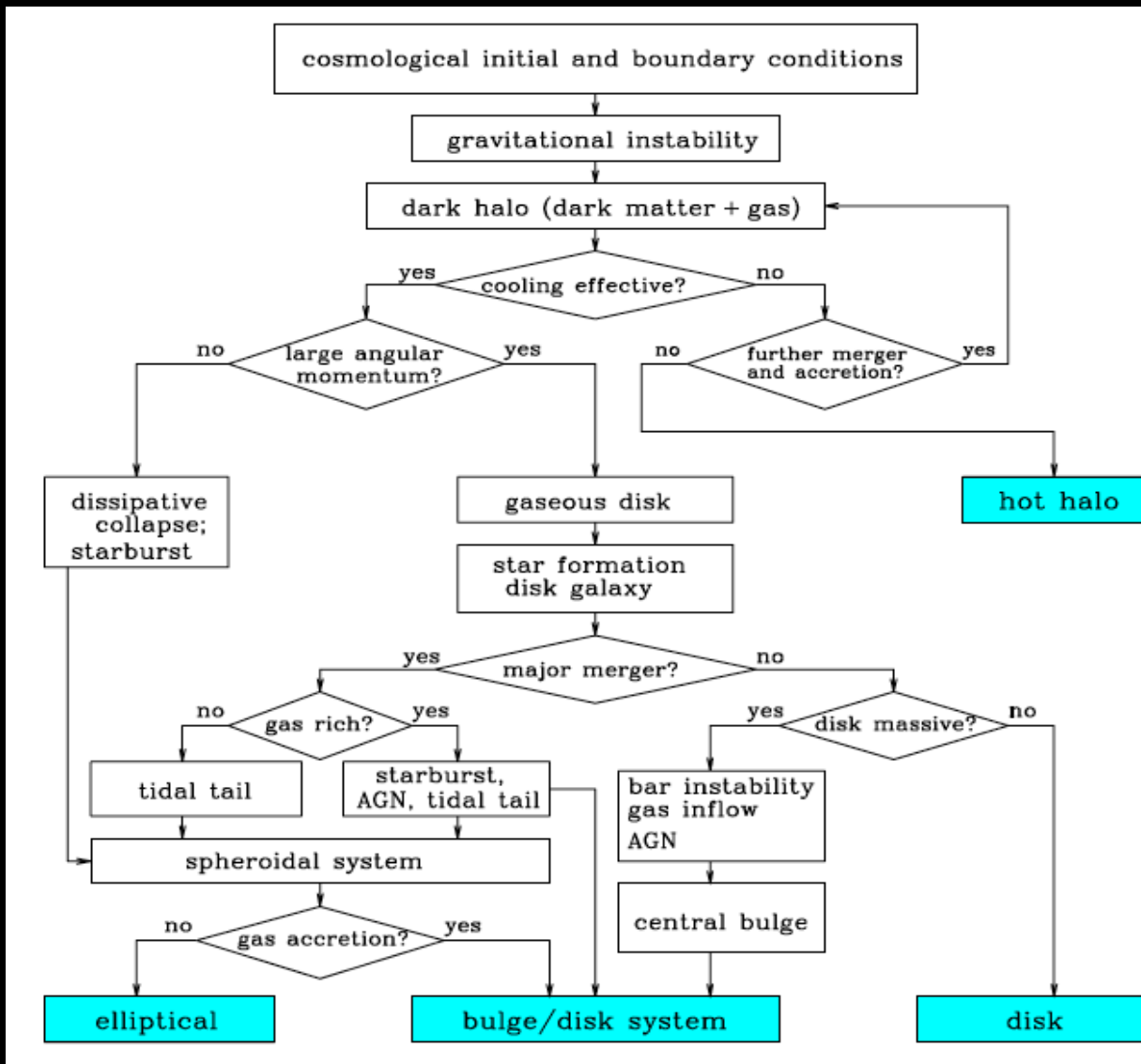


from Kuhlen+12



# Standard structure formation theory (main ingredients)

- non-linear regime (galaxy formation/evolution)



DM gravity only



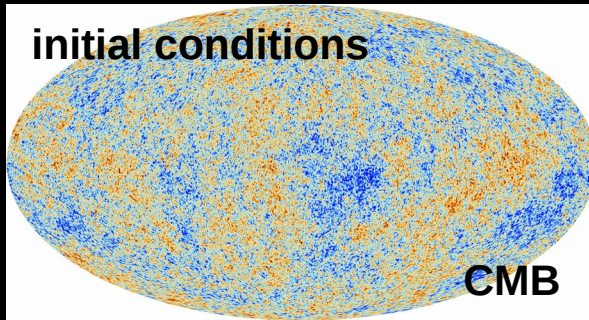
Aquarius project Springel+08



Fig. from Mo, Mao and White, 2010

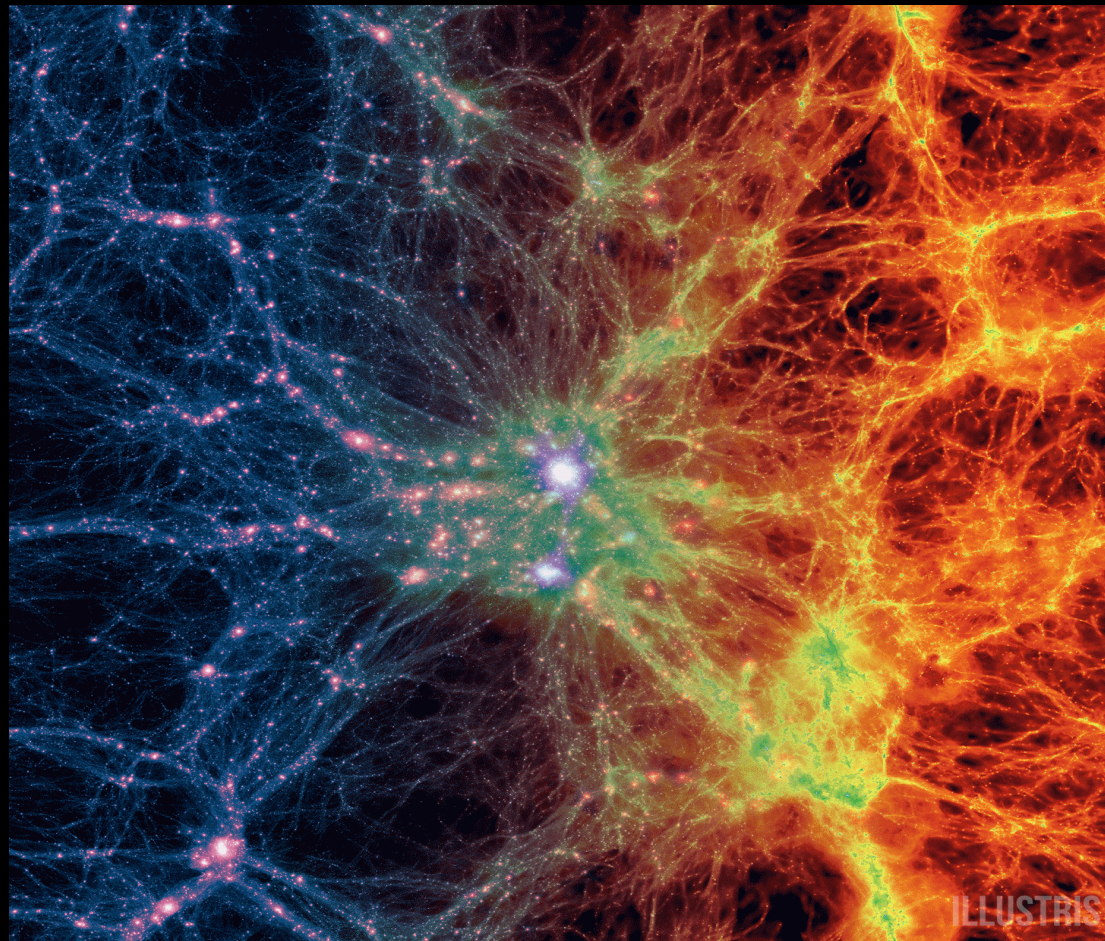


The **Cold Dark Matter (CDM) hypothesis** is the cornerstone of the current theory of the formation and evolution of galaxies



*CDM assumes that the only DM interaction that matters is gravity!!*

DM gravity + gas and stellar physics



Credit: Illustris project



**despite the spectacular progress in developing a galaxy formation/evolution theory, it remains incomplete since we still don't know:**

**what is the nature of dark matter?**

**What is the mass(es) of the DM particle(s) and through which forces does it interact?**

**In the physics of galaxies, is gravity the only dark matter interaction that matters?**

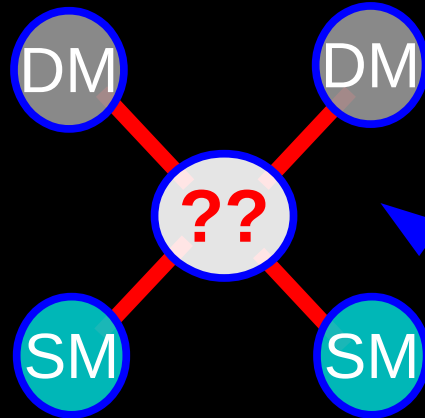
***Although there is no indisputable evidence that the CDM hypothesis is wrong, there are reasonable physical motivations to consider alternatives***

# **non-gravitational DM interactions and structure formation**



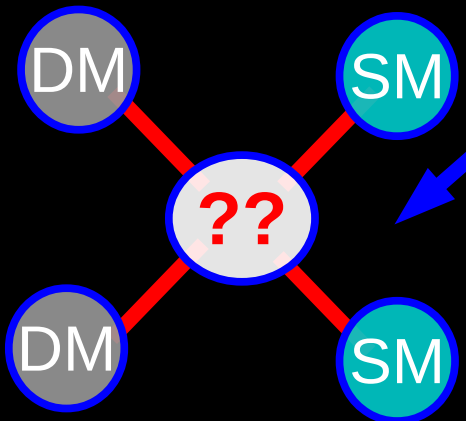
# What is the nature of dark matter?

Scattering with nuclei



**Does DM interact with visible particles?**

DM self-annihilation



*Interactions with visible particles are too weak to impact galaxy formation/evolution*

Cross section $\sigma/m_\chi$ [cm <sup>2</sup> /gr]	Characteristic velocity $\tilde{v}$ [km/s]
SI $\chi$ -nucleon $\lesssim 10^{-23}$	$\sim 200$
$m_\chi \in (0.1 - 5)$ TeV	(local halo)
LUX	
$\chi\chi \rightarrow b\bar{b} \lesssim 10^{-10}$	$\sim 10$
$m_\chi \in (0.1 - 1)$ TeV	(dSphs)
Fermi-LAT	

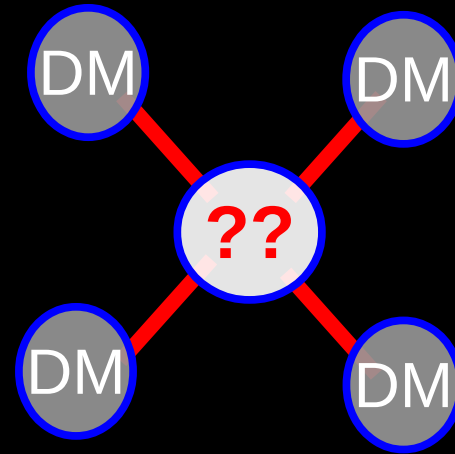
1 cm<sup>2</sup>/g ~ 2 barns/GeV

dark matter is quite "dark" (invisible)

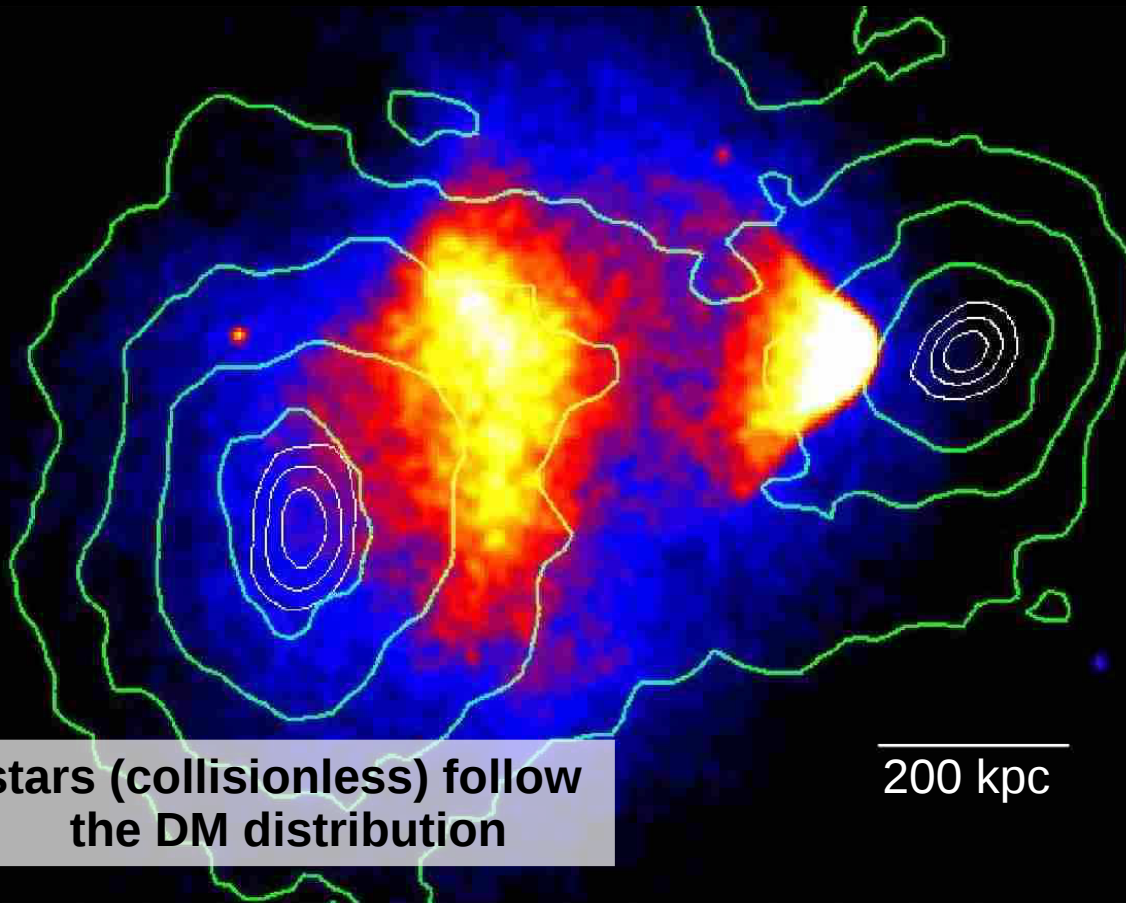
**nucleon-nucleon elastic scattering:  
~10 cm<sup>2</sup>/gr**

# What is the nature of dark matter?

Can DM particles collide with themselves?



Bullet Cluster (Clowe +06)



constraint on DM self-collisions

$$\sigma / m \lesssim 2 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{gr}$$

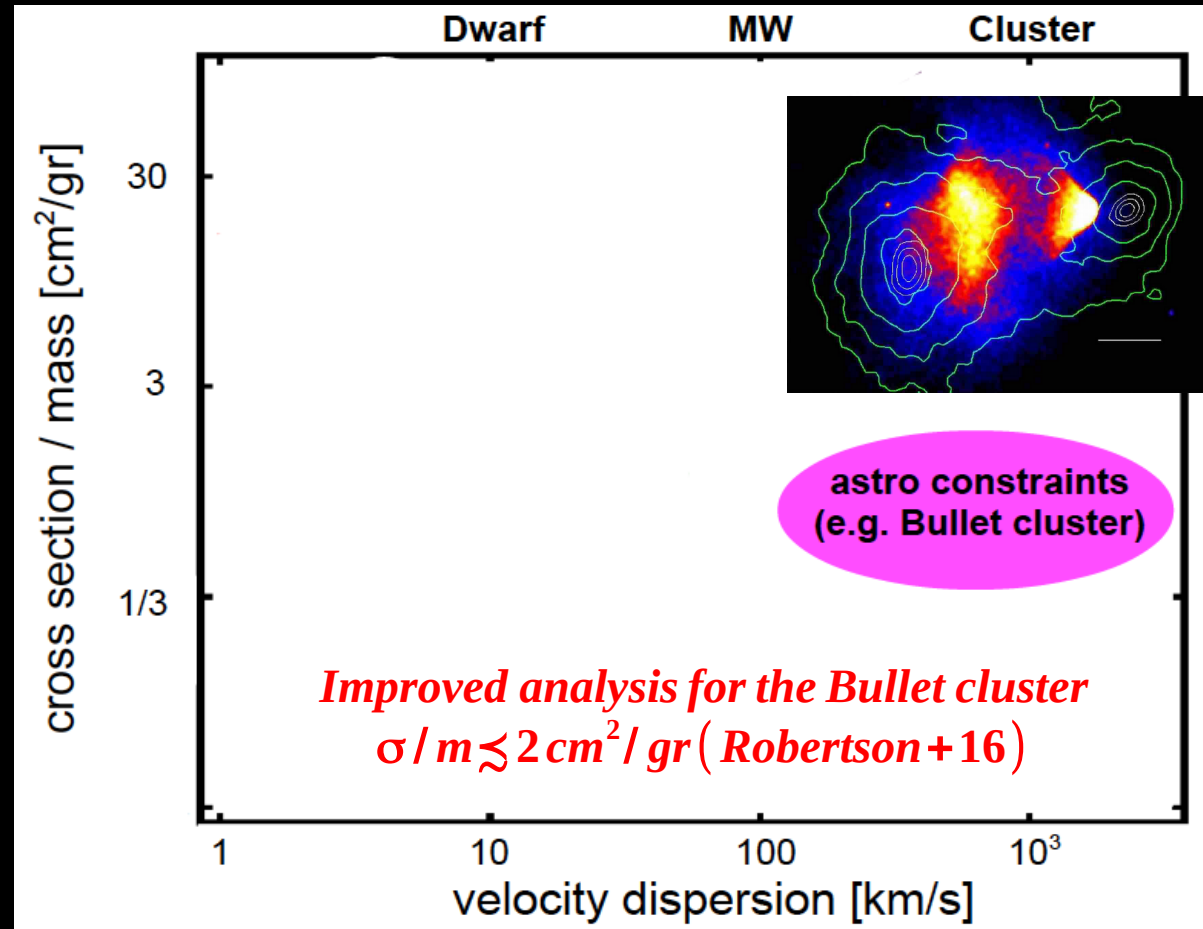
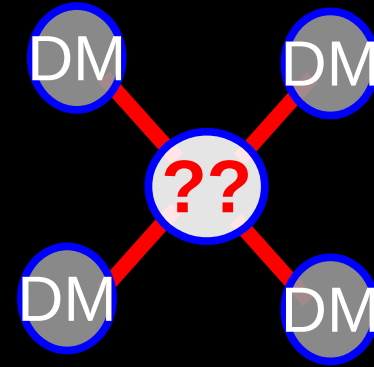
Robertson+2016

nucleon-nucleon  
elastic scattering:  
 $\sim 10 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{gr}$



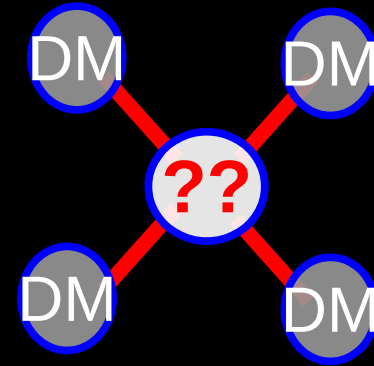
# What is the nature of dark matter?

Can DM particles collide with themselves?



# What is the nature of dark matter?

Can DM particles collide with themselves?



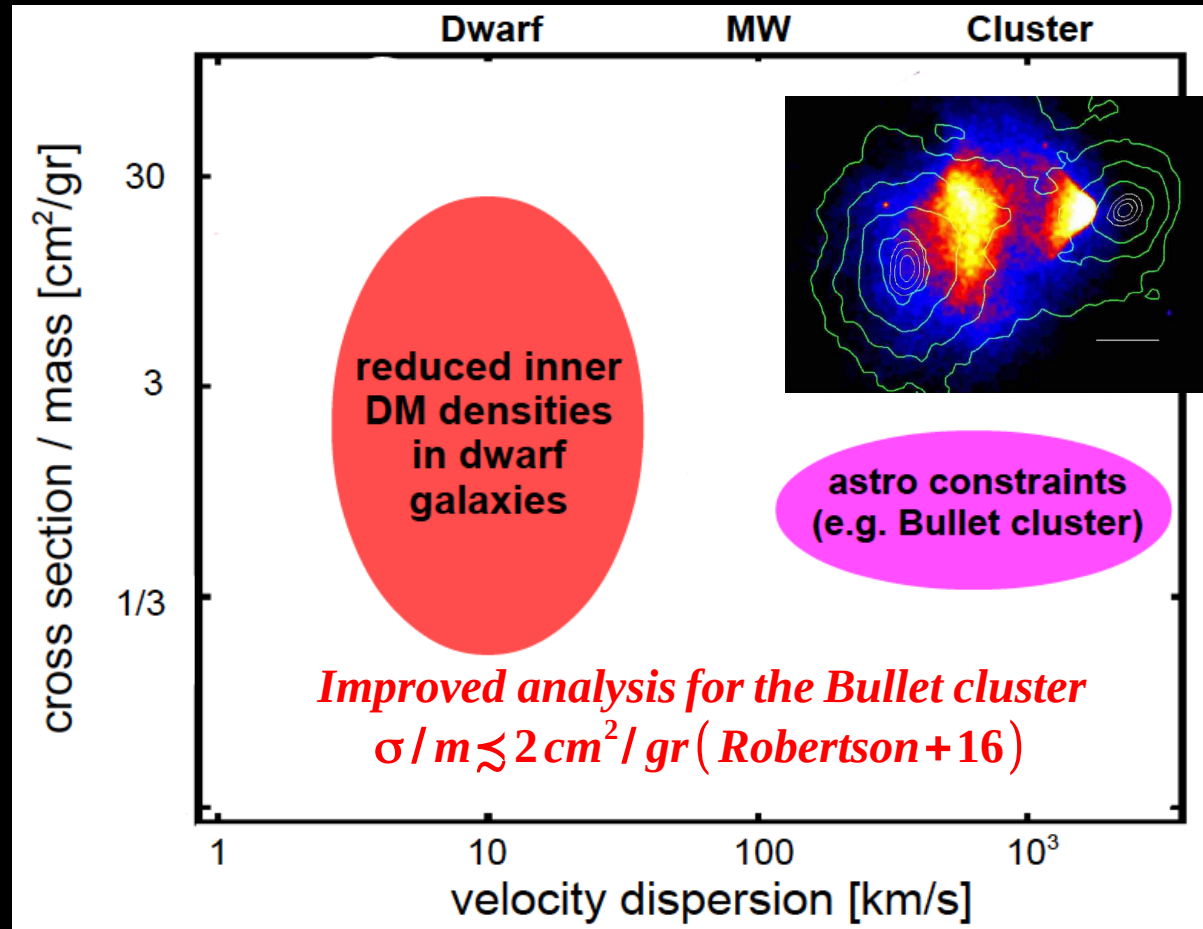
constraints allow collisional DM that is astrophysically significant in the center of galaxies:

average scattering rate per particle:

$$\frac{\overline{R}_{sc}}{\Delta t} = \left( \frac{\sigma_{sc}}{m_{\chi}} \right) \overline{\rho}_{dm} \overline{v}_{typ}$$

~ 1 scatter / particle / Hubble time

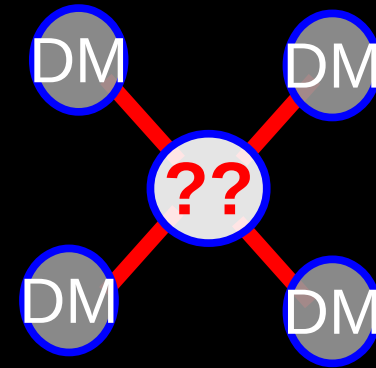
Neither a fluid nor a collisionless system:  
~ rarefied gas  
(Knudsen number =  $\lambda_{mean}/L > \sim 1$ )





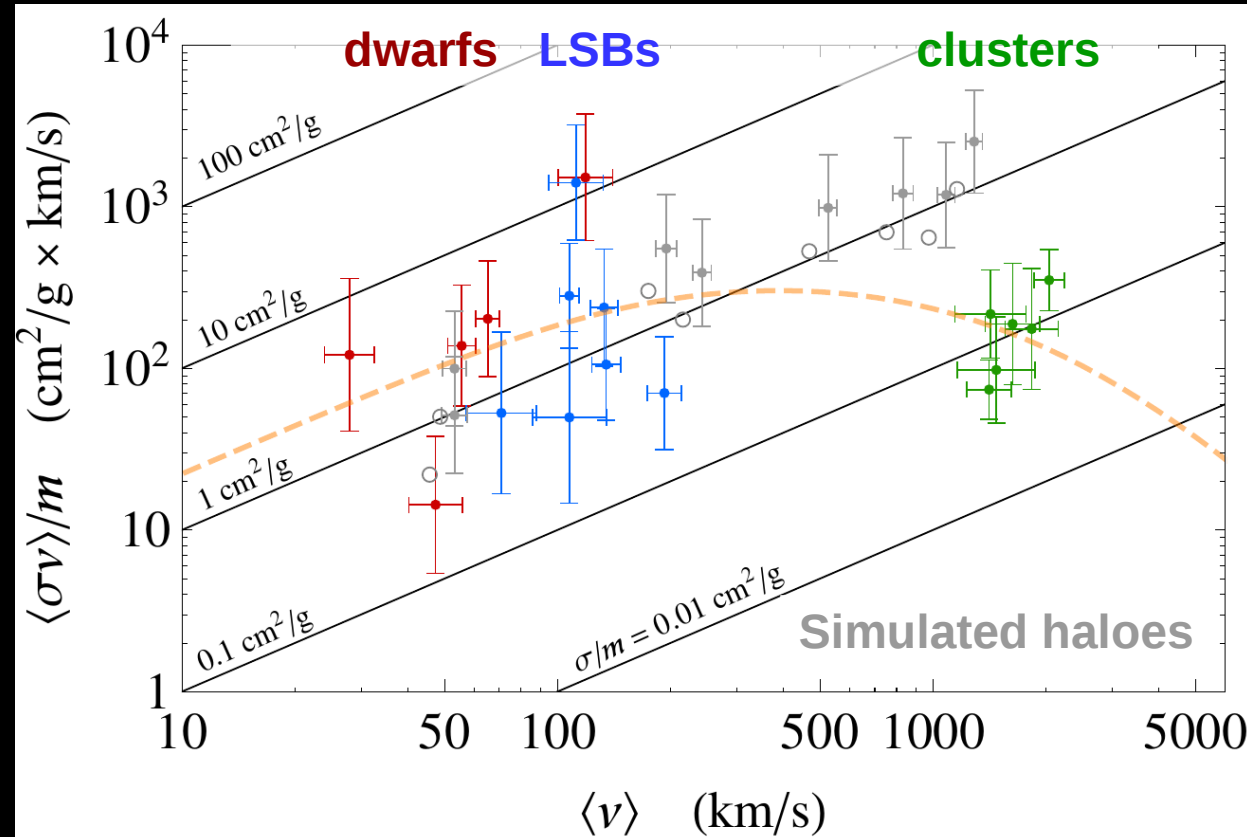
# What is the nature of dark matter?

Can DM particles collide with themselves?



constraints allow collisional DM that is astrophysically significant in the center of galaxies:

velocity-dependent models (motivated by a new force in the “dark sector”) can accommodate the constraints e.g. Yukawa-like, Feng+09, Loeb & Weiner 2011,...

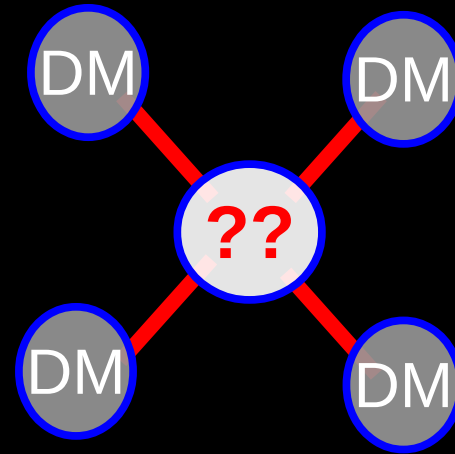


See talk by Hai-Bo Yu later today

Kaplinghat, Tulin & Yu 2016

# What is the nature of dark matter?

Can DM particles collide with themselves?



claimed detection of  $\sim 1.6$  kpc offset between the stars and DM centroids of elliptical galaxy N1

N1

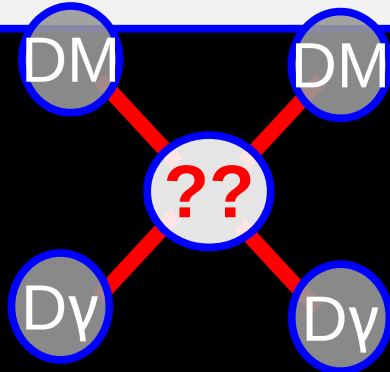
stars are (mostly) collisionless

$\sigma/m \sim 1.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{gr}$   
(Kahlhoefer+15)

nucleon-nucleon  
elastic scattering:  
 $\sim 10 \text{ cm}^2/\text{gr}$

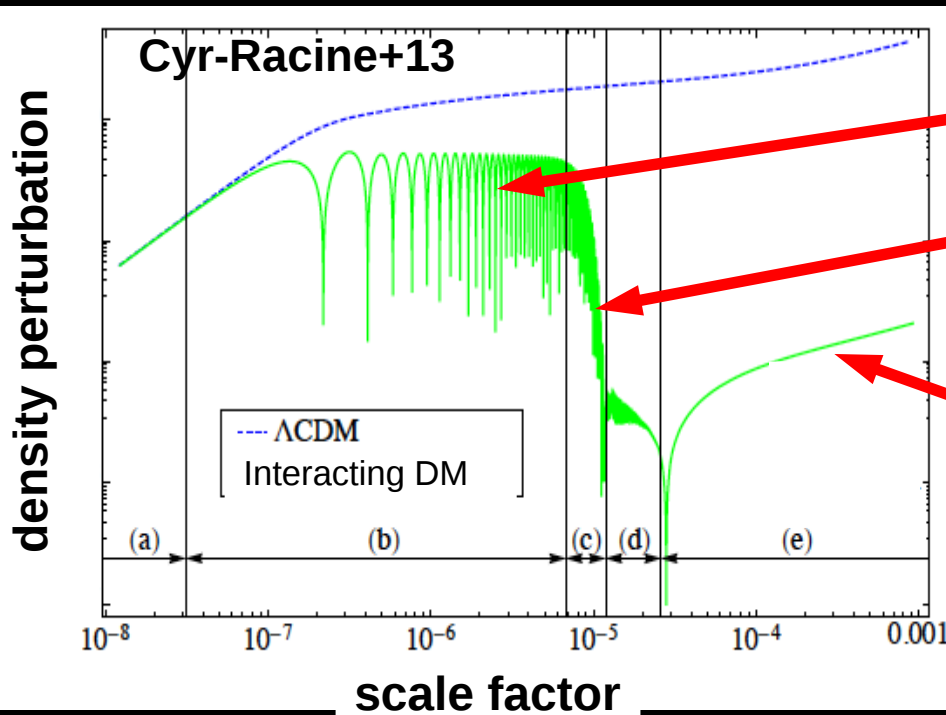
# What is the nature of dark matter?

Can DM particles interact with other “dark” particles?



“dark photons”

Allowed interactions between DM and relativistic particles (e.g. “dark radiation”) in the early Universe introduce pressure effects that impact the growth of DM structures (phenomena analogous to that of the photon-baryon plasma)



dark radiation pressure counteracts gravity creating “dark acoustic oscillations”

diffusion (Silk) damping can effectively diffuse-out DM perturbations

once kinetic decoupling (DM-DR) occurs DM behaviour is like CDM



# What is the nature of dark matter? (summary)

The search for visible byproducts of  
DM interactions continues

dark matter is quite dark (invisible)

From a purely phenomenological perspective,  
it is possible that non-gravitational DM  
interactions play a key role in the physics  
of galaxies

dark matter might not be as “inert”  
as is commonly assumed

# Beyond CDM: exploring new dark matter physics with astrophysics

From a purely phenomenological perspective, it is possible that non-gravitational DM interactions play a key role in the physics of galaxies

**Unsolved question:**  
is the minimum mass scale for galaxy formation set by the DM nature or by gas physics (or by both)?

**Unsolved question:**  
are non-gravitational DM interactions irrelevant for galaxy evolution?

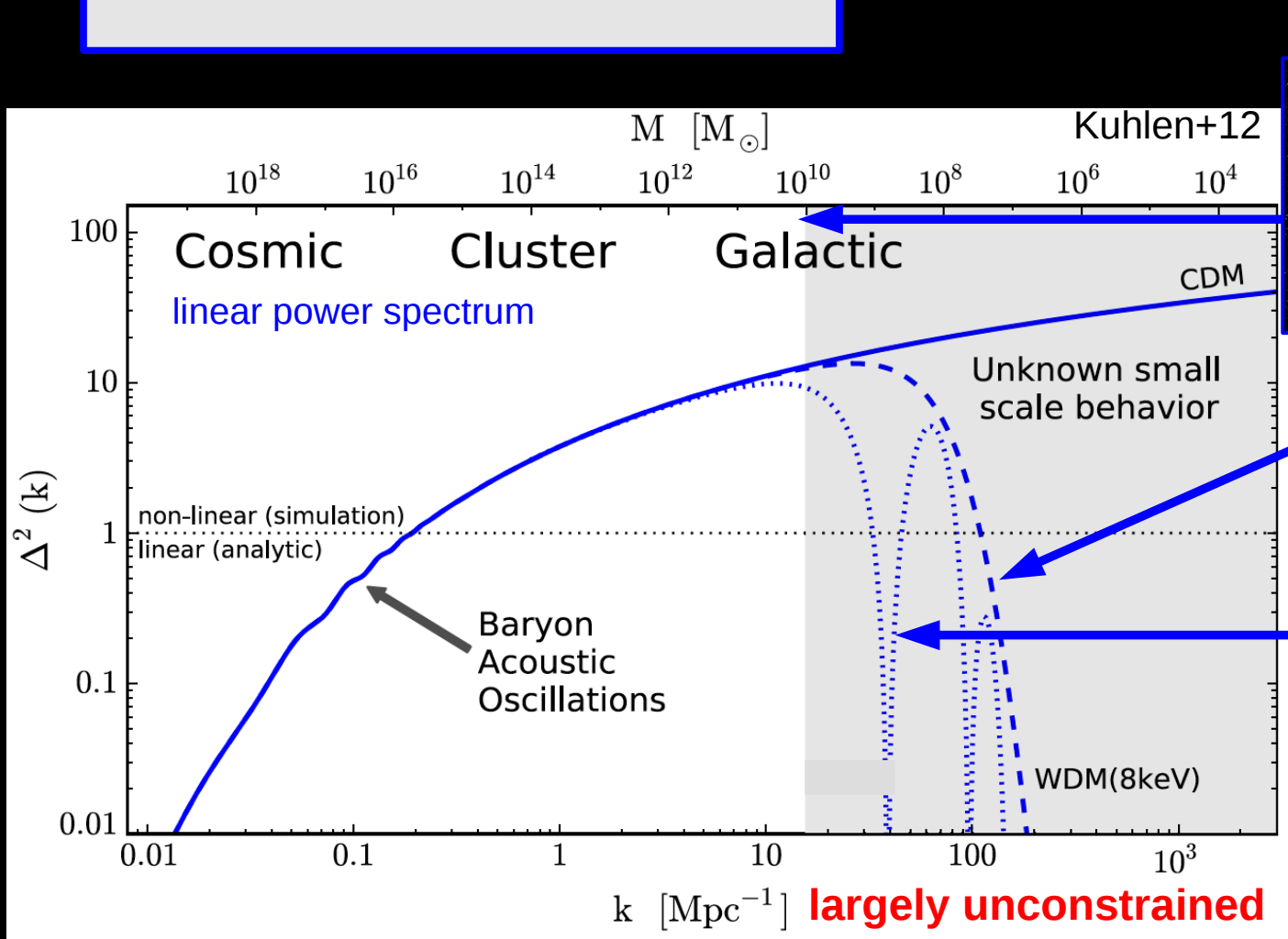
**These questions go beyond the “standard” DM model for the formation and evolution of galaxies**

**Pursuing them, will either confirm the standard model or unveil a fundamental DM property**

# The nature of dark matter and the first galaxies

**Unsolved question:**  
 is the minimum mass scale for galaxy formation set by the DM nature or by gas physics (or by both)?

Observations have yet to measure the clustering of dark matter at the scale of the smallest galaxies



Dwarf galaxies

DM is relativistic at earlier times  
 thermal cut-off (free-streaming)

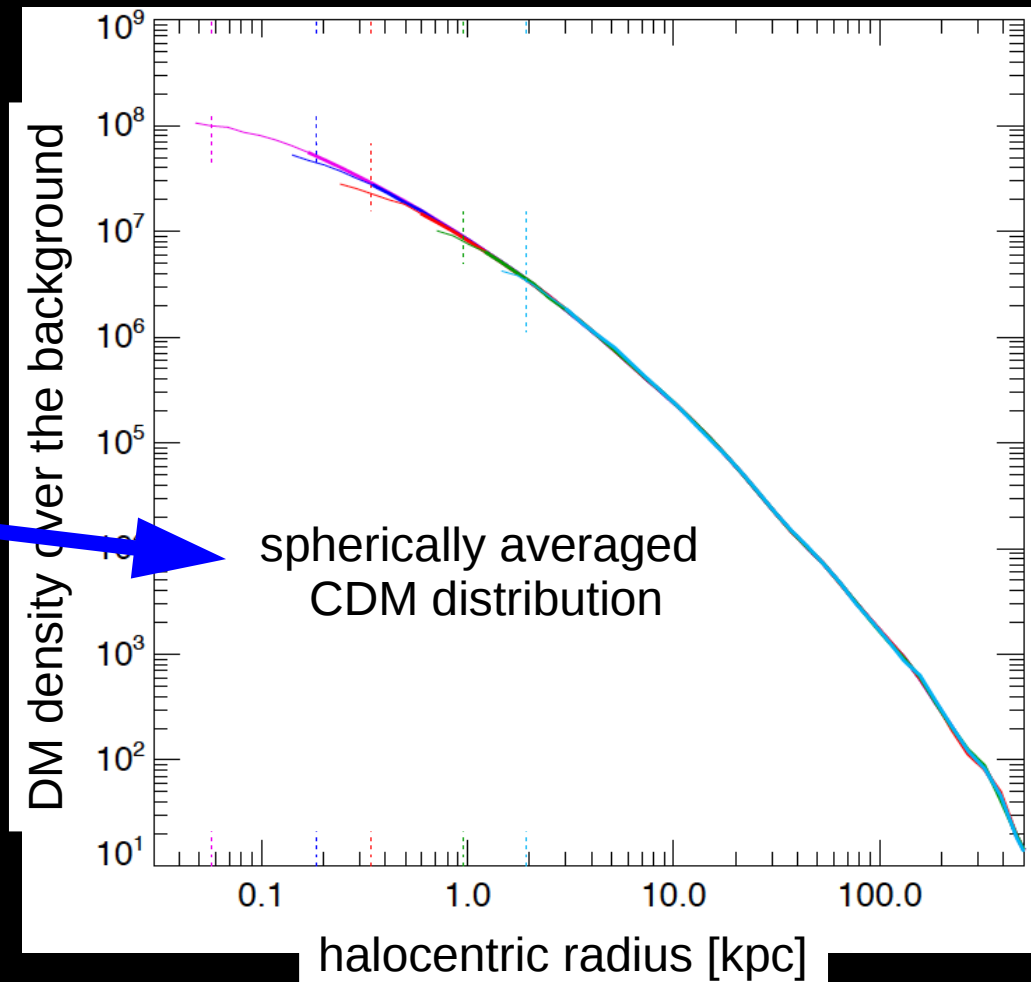
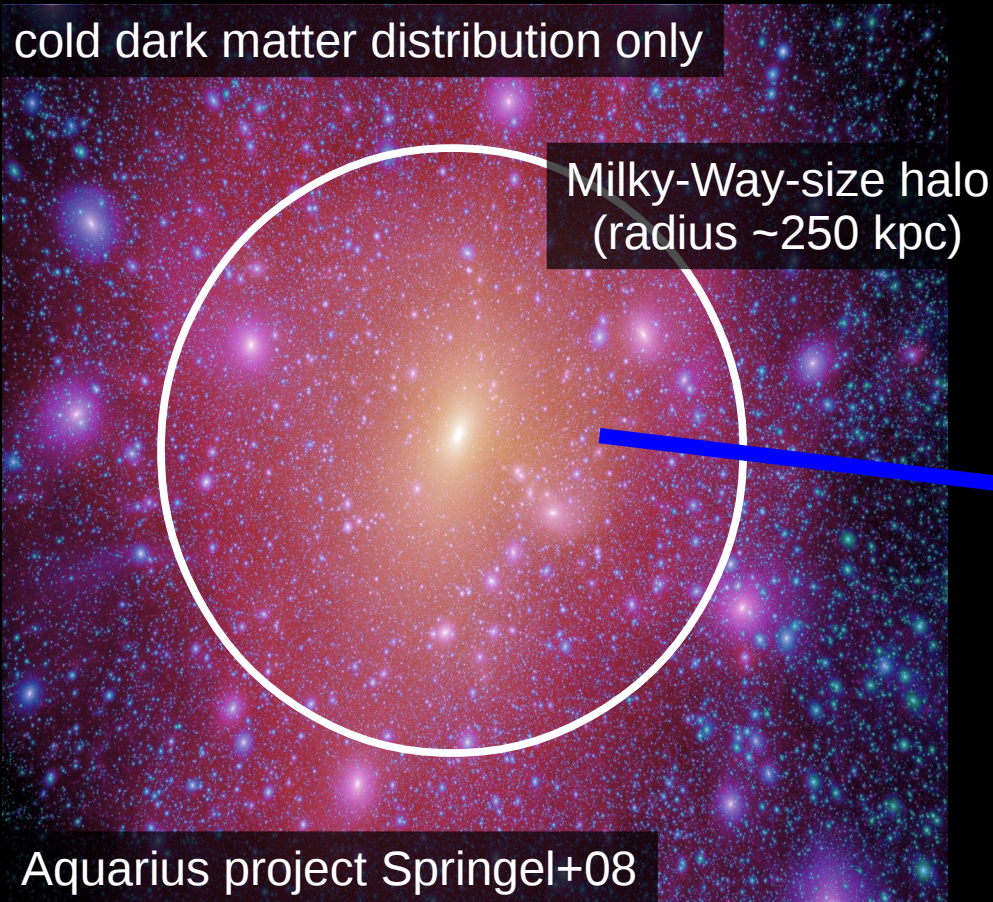
DM interacts with relativistic particles at earlier times:  
 DM-DR DAOs and Silk (collisional) damping



# The nature of dark matter (evolution of structures)

**Unsolved question:**  
are non-gravitational DM  
interactions irrelevant for  
galaxy evolution?

If gravity is the only relevant DM  
interaction, the central density of  
haloes is ever increasing

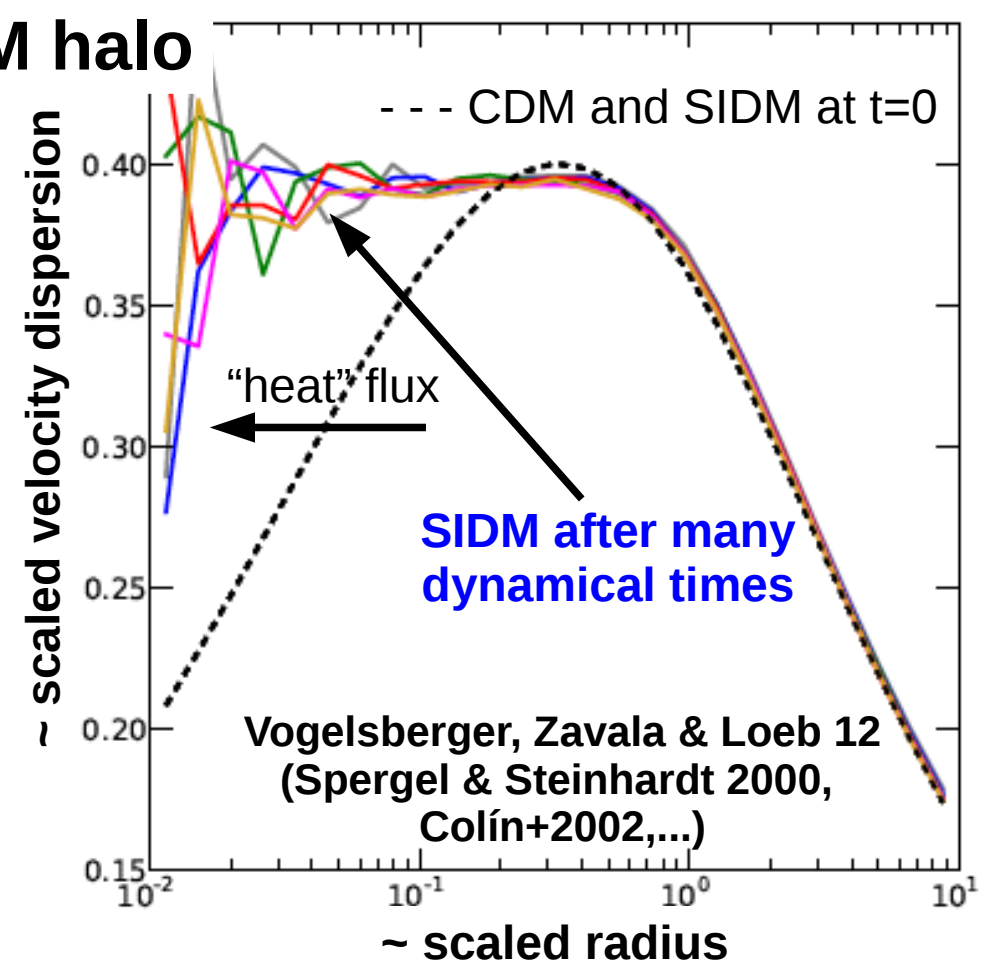
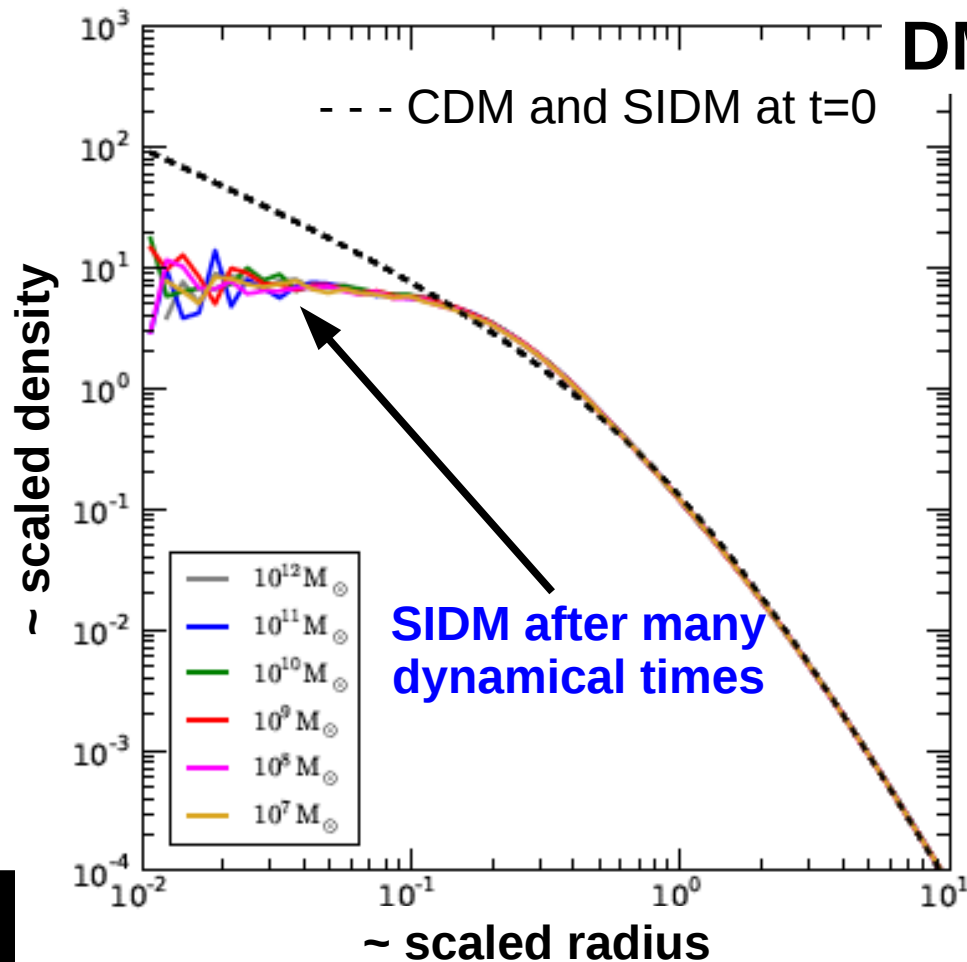


# The nature of dark matter (evolution of structures)

**Unsolved question:**  
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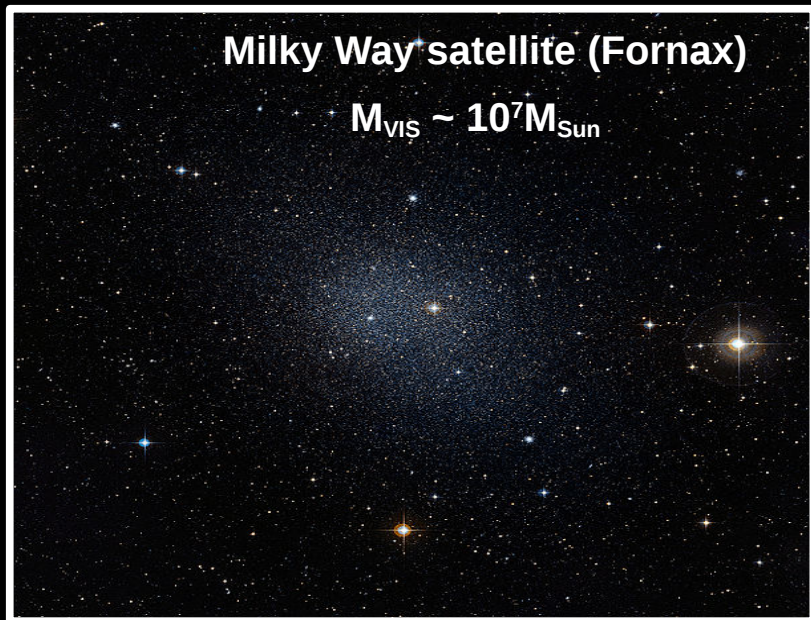
Observations are still inconclusive on the diversity of cores/cusps across haloes

With strong self-interactions ( $\sigma/m \gtrsim 0.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{gr}$ ) DM haloes develop “isothermal” cores



# Clues of new DM physics from dwarf galaxies?

Dwarf galaxies:  
most DM-dominated systems:  $M_{DM} > 10 M_{VIS}$   
(ordinary matter is less dynamically relevant)



The stellar dynamics is simplified  
and the underlying DM  
distribution can be more easily  
constrained

$$\frac{df}{dt} = 0$$

CBE + steady-state  
+ spherical symmetry

$$\frac{d(\rho_{st} \sigma_r^2)}{dr} + 2 \frac{\beta}{r} \rho_{st} \sigma_r^2 \simeq -\rho_{st} \frac{d\phi_{DM}}{dr}$$

$$\beta = 1 - (\sigma_t / \sigma_r)^2$$

radial Jeans equation



# Clues of new DM physics from dwarf galaxies?

Isolated dwarf (DDO 154)

$M_{\text{VIS}} \sim 10^8 M_{\text{Sun}}$

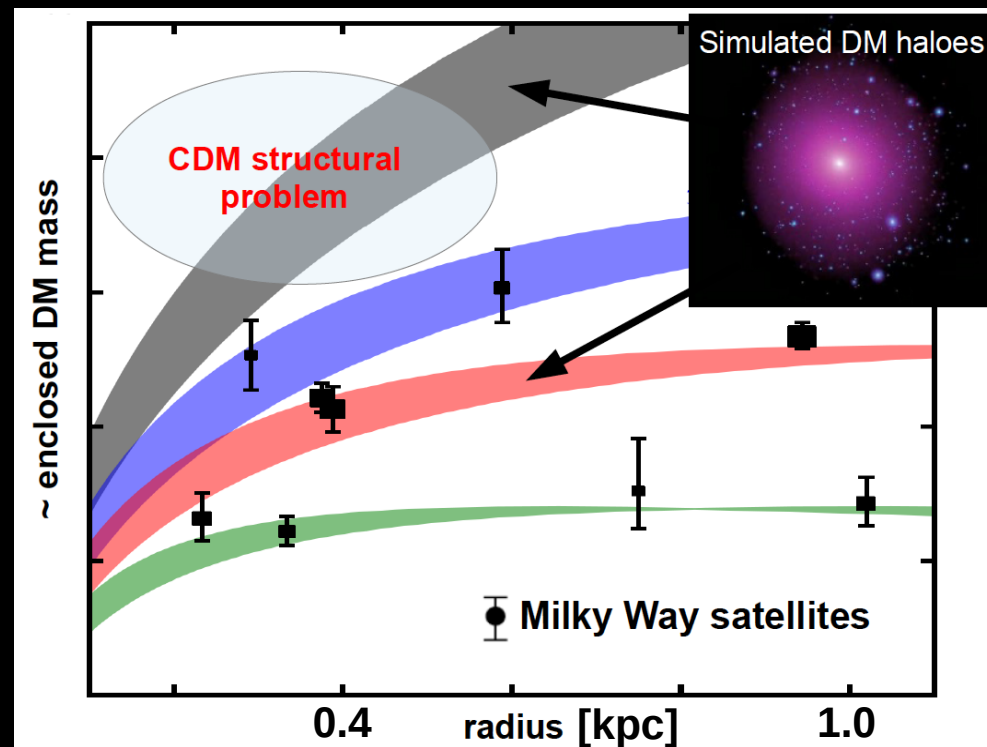
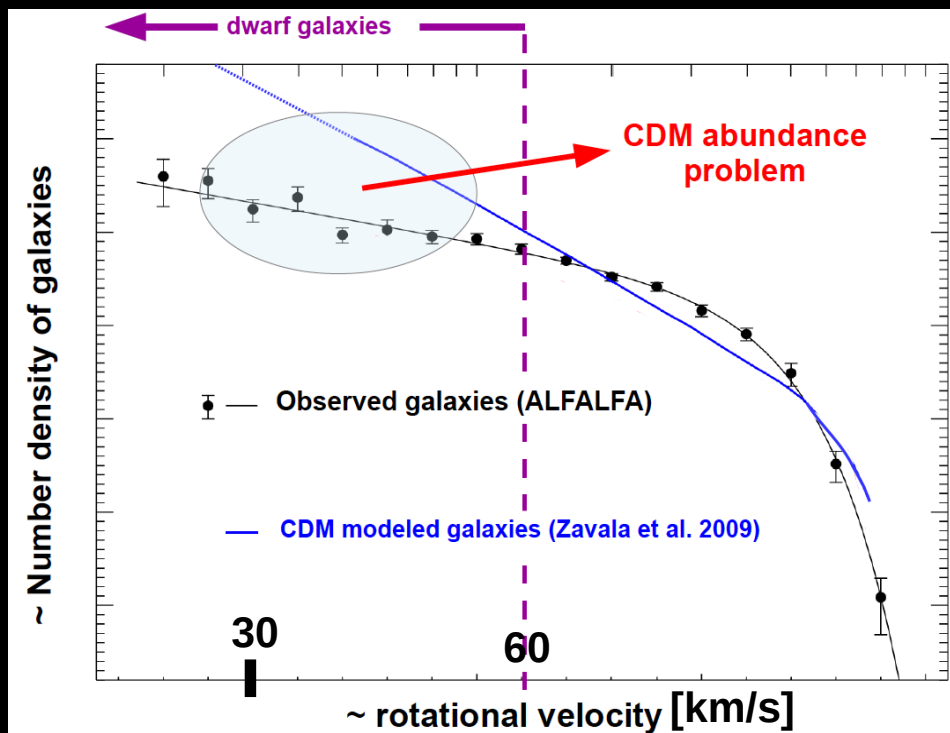
The properties of the smallest galaxies observed **today** are a challenge if gravity is the only DM interaction that matters

Milky Way satellite (Fornax)

$M_{\text{VIS}} \sim 10^7 M_{\text{Sun}}$

**Abundance problem**  
(Zavala+09, Klypin+15)

**Structural problem**  
(Boylan-Kolchin+11, Papastergis+14)



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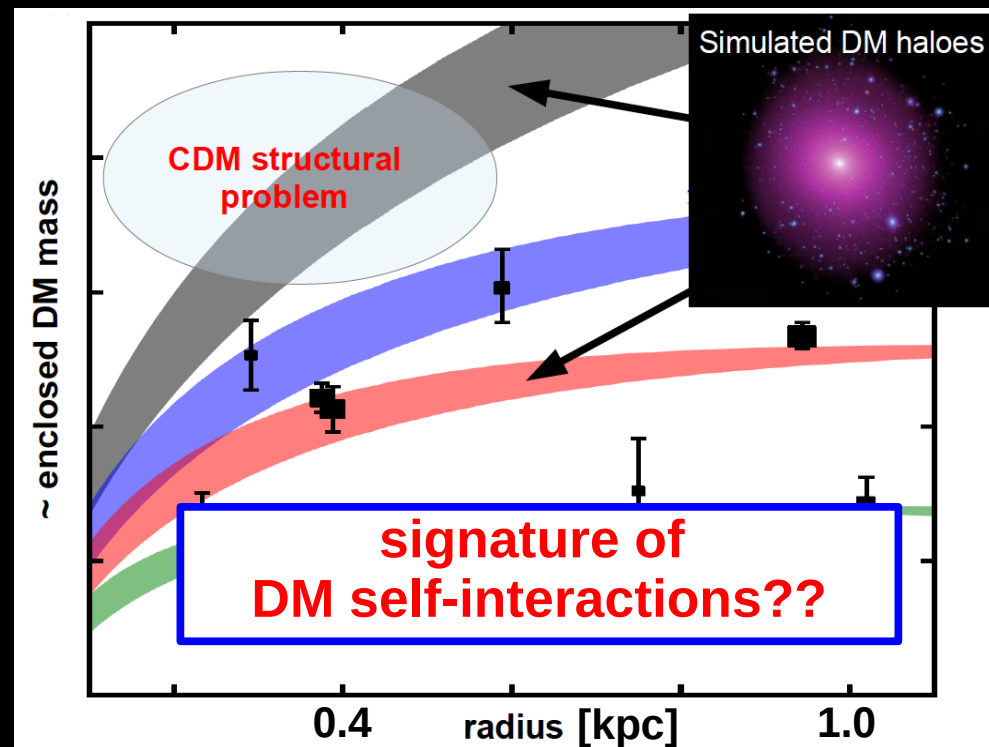
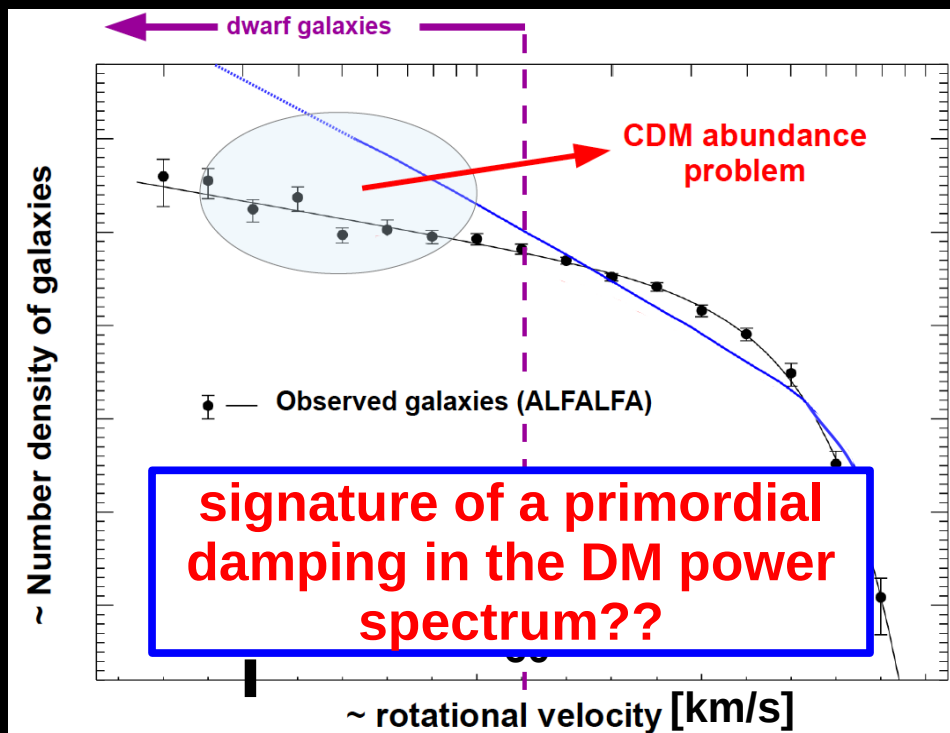
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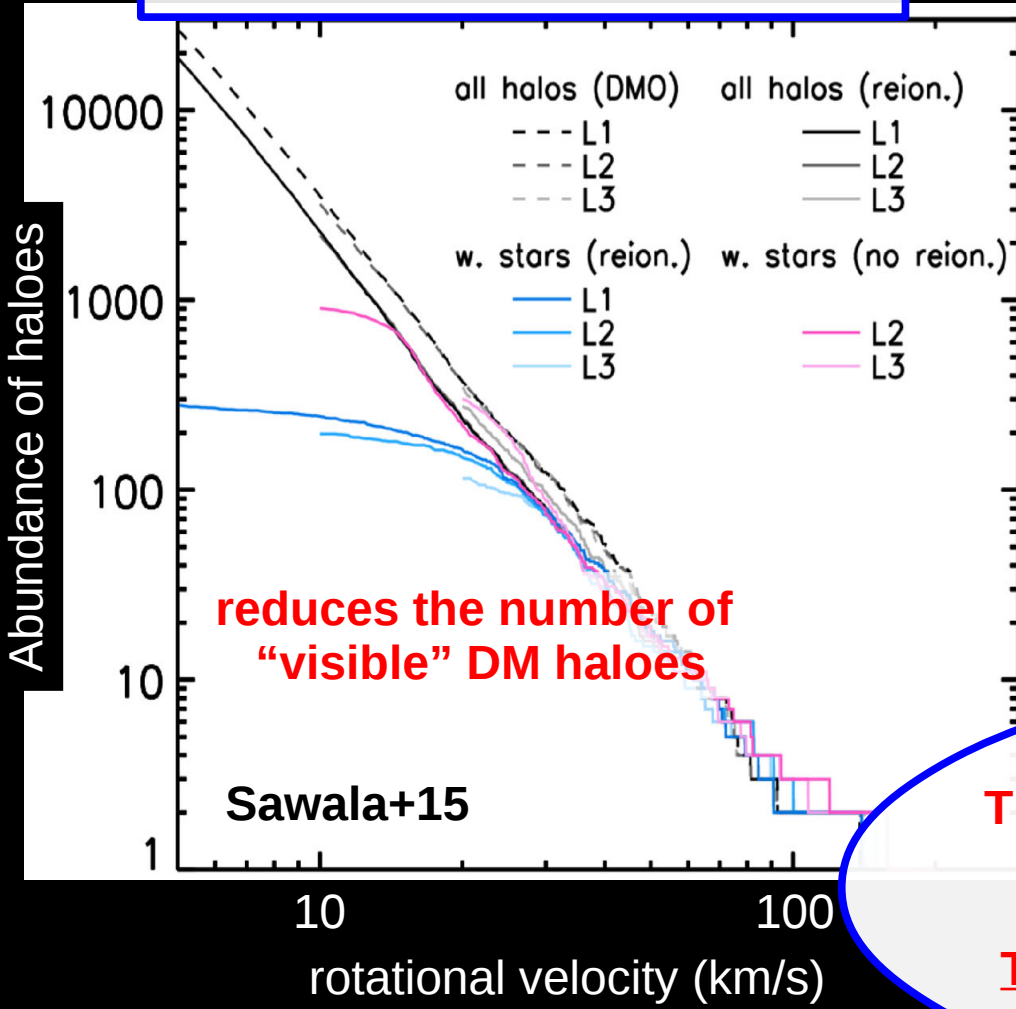
**Structural problem**  
(Boylan-Kolchin+11, Papastergis+14)



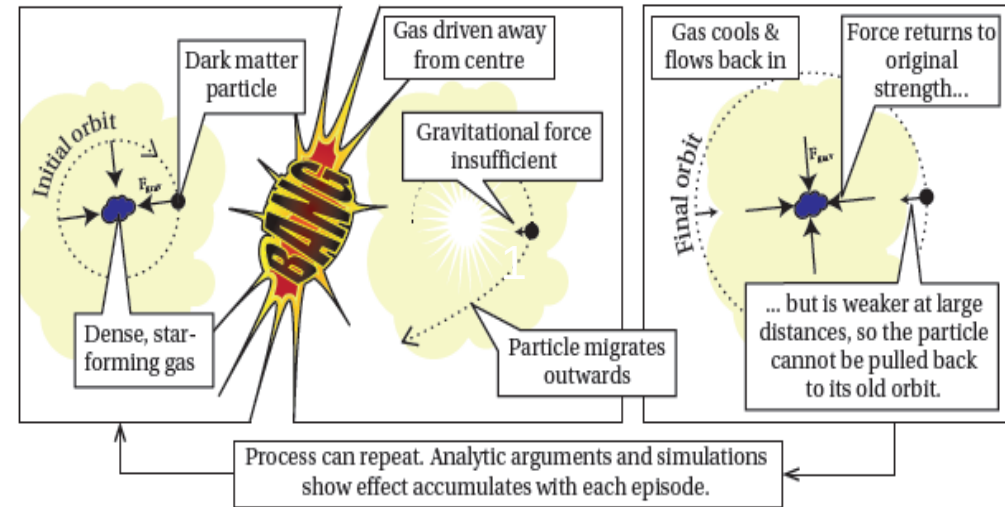
# Or... the complexity of gas and stellar physics

Gas heating (UV background from first generation of stars/galaxies)

Gas and DM heating through supernovae



reduces the number of "visible" DM haloes



Credit: Pontzen & Governato 2014

reduces the inner density of DM haloes

These mechanisms are certainly there, but how efficient they are remains unclear

To some extent, they are degenerate with new DM physics



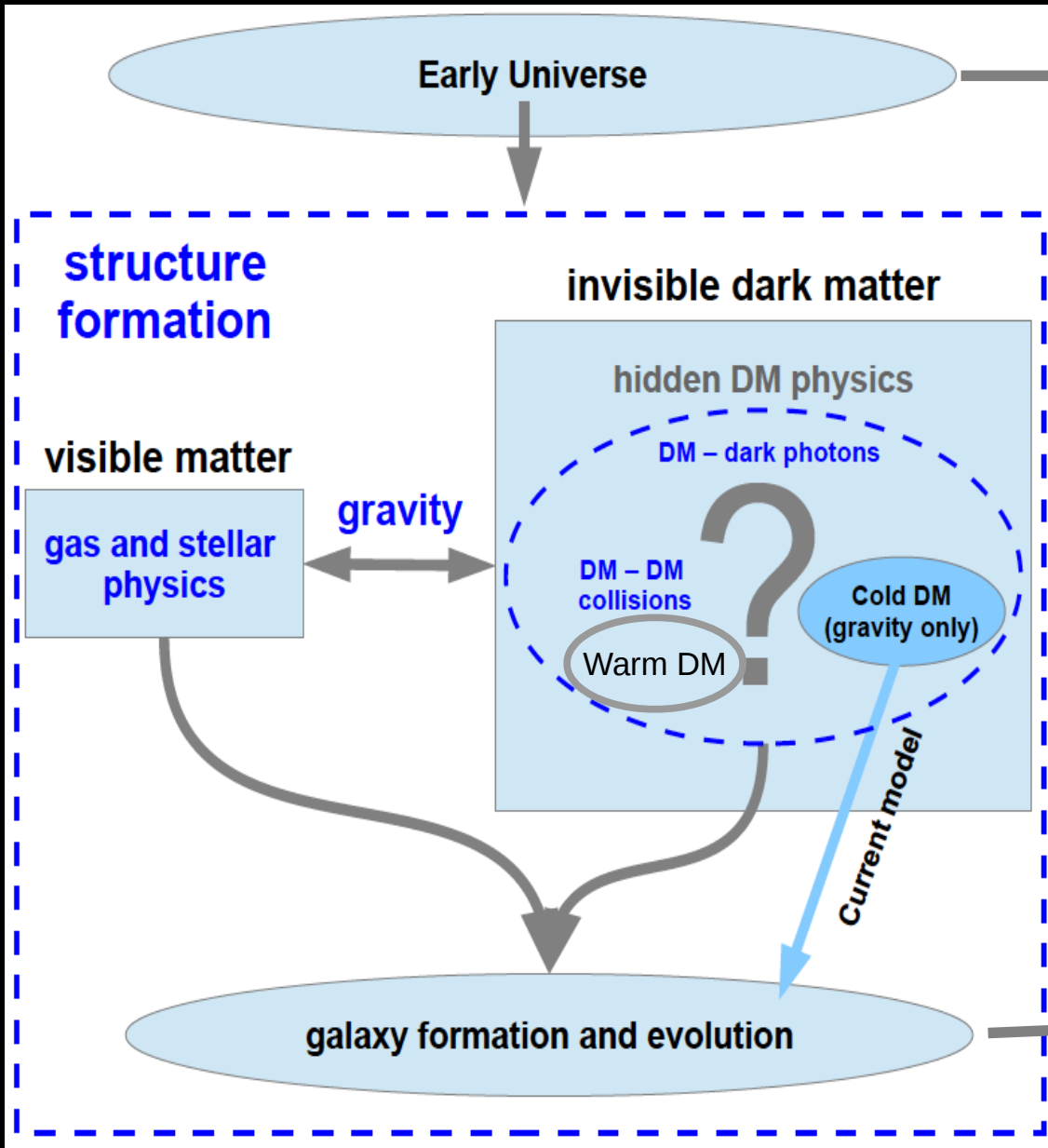
**CDM + current galaxy modelling are successful in reproducing several properties of the galaxy population but:**

**uncertain gas and stellar physics**

**outstanding challenges at the scale of the smallest (dwarf) galaxies**

**the current situation offers an opportunity to approach the dark matter problem from a broader perspective...**

# Towards an Effective Theory Of Structure formation (ETHOS)



DM production mechanism  
(verify consistency with global  
DM abundance)

Generalize the theory of  
structure formation  
(CDM) to include **a broader range  
of allowed DM phenomenology**  
coupled with our knowledge  
of galaxy formation/evolution

Signatures of non-gravitational  
DM interactions  
(dynamical, visible byproducts)

# Developing ETHOS

**DM interactions with relativistic particles  
in the early Universe**

**+**

**DM-DM self-scattering in the late Universe**

**In collaboration with:**

Torsten Bringmann (UiO, Oslo)

Francis-Yan Cyr-Racine (Harvard, Cambridge)

Christoph Pfrommer (HITS, Heidelberg)

Kris Sigurdson (UBC, Vancouver)

Mark Vogelsberger (MIT, Cambridge)

**ETHOS I:**

**Cyr-Racine, Sigurdson, Zavala +16  
(arXiv:1512.05349)**

**ETHOS II:**

**Vogelsberger, Zavala +16  
(arXiv:1512.05344)**



# ETHOS: classify DM models according to their effective parameters for structure formation

particle physics parameters  
(masses, couplings, ...)

$$\{m_\chi, \{g_i\}, \{h_i\}, \xi\}$$

select a particle physics model  
e.g. DM interacting with massless  
neutrino-like fermion via massive mediator  
(e.g. van der Aarsen, Bringmann+12)

DR to CMB  
temperature  
at  $z=0$

**growth of structures  
(linear regime) with additional physics:  
DM-DR-induced DAOs and Silk damping**

# ETHOS: classify DM models according to their effective parameters for structure formation

particle physics parameters  
(masses, couplings, ...)

$$\{m_\chi, \{g_i\}, \{h_i\}, \xi\}$$

select a particle physics model  
e.g. DM interacting with massless  
neutrino-like fermion via massive mediator  
(e.g. van der Aarsen, Bringmann+12)

growth of structures  
(linear regime) with additional physics:  
DM-DR-induced DAOs and Silk damping

eqs. for DM perturbations

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\delta}_\chi + \theta_\chi - 3\dot{\phi} &= 0, \\ \dot{\theta}_\chi - c_\chi^2 k^2 \delta_\chi + \mathcal{H}\theta_\chi - k^2\psi &= \dot{\kappa}_\chi [\theta_\chi - \theta_{\text{DR}}] \end{aligned}$$

related to DR opacity to DM scattering  
(parameterize the collisional term of the Boltzmann eq.)

$$C_{\chi\tilde{\gamma}\leftrightarrow\chi\tilde{\gamma}}[f_\chi, f_{\text{DR}}]$$

# ETHOS: classify DM models according to their effective parameters for structure formation

particle physics parameters  
(masses, couplings, ...)

$$\{m_\chi, \{g_i\}, \{h_i\}, \xi\}$$

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neutrino-like fermion via massive mediator  
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related to DR opacity to DM scattering  
(relative to early-time evolution)

effective parameters

$$\Xi_{\text{ETHOS}} = \left\{ \omega_{\text{DR}}, \{a_n, \alpha_l\}, \left\{ \frac{\langle \sigma_T \rangle v_{M_i}}{m_\chi} \right\} \right\}$$

$$\omega_{\text{DR}} \equiv \Omega_{\text{DR}} h^2$$

DM self-scattering  
(relevant for late-time evolution)



# ETHOS: classify DM models according to their effective parameters for structure formation

particle physics parameters  
(masses, couplings, ...)

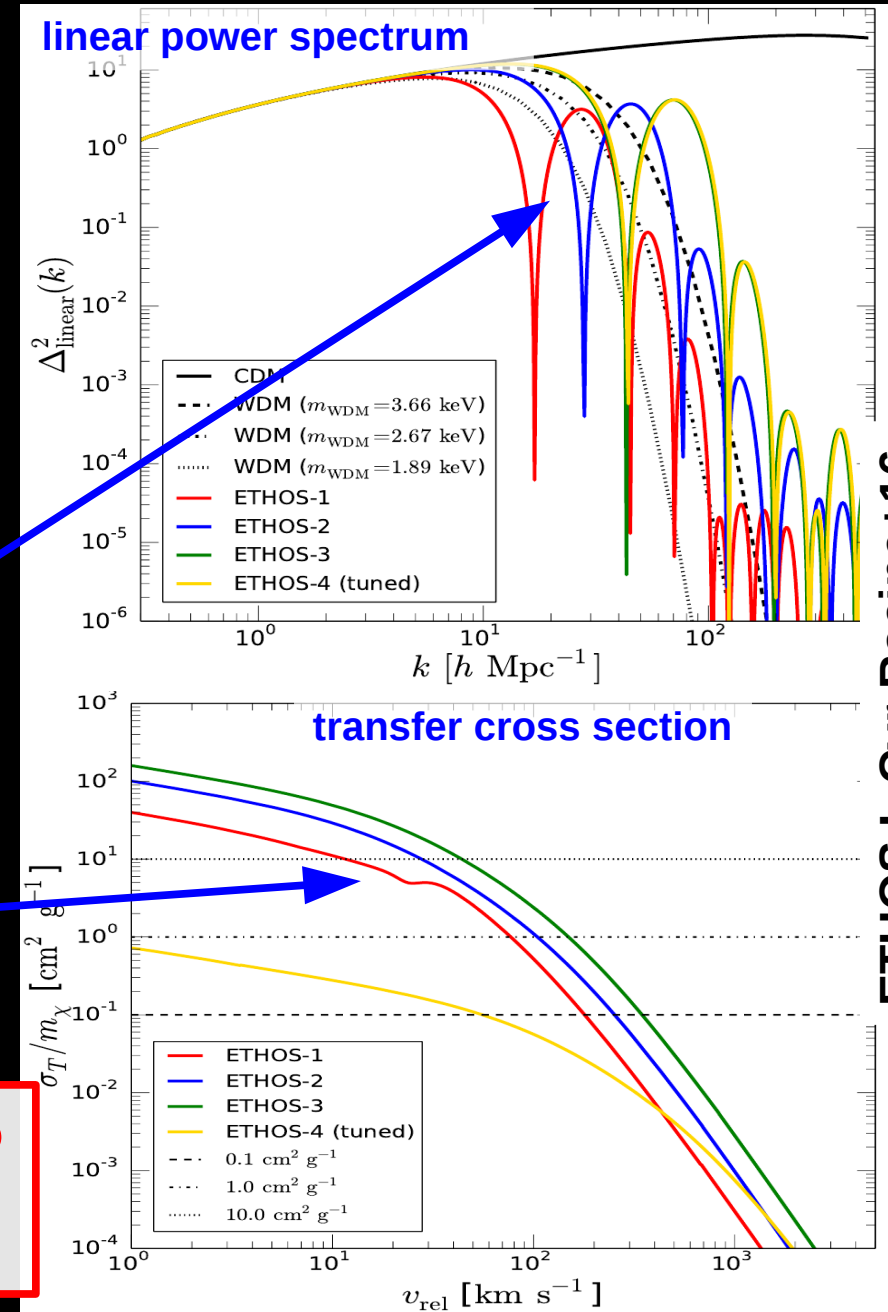
$$\{m_\chi, \{g_i\}, \{h_i\}, \xi\}$$

growth of structures  
(linear regime) with additional physics:  
DM-DR-induced DAOs and Silk damping

effective parameters

$$\Xi_{\text{ETHOS}} = \left\{ \omega_{\text{DR}}, \{a_n, \alpha_l\}, \left\{ \frac{\langle \sigma_T \rangle v_{M_i}}{m_\chi} \right\} \right\}$$

All DM particle physics models that map into the same ETHOS parameters can be studied (constrained) at the same time



# DM self-collisions in N-body simulations

Far from the fluid and collisionless regimes  
(Knudsen number =  $\lambda_{\text{mean}}/L \gtrsim 1$ )



Collisional Boltzmann equation (elastic)

$$\frac{Df(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t)}{Dt} = \Gamma[f, \sigma]$$

$$= \int d^3\mathbf{v}_1 \int d\Omega \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} |\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_1| [f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}', t)f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}'_1, t) - f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t)f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_1, t)]$$

Differential cross section

Rate of scattered particles into phase-space patch

Rate of scattered particles out of phase-space patch

$$|\vec{v}_{\text{rel}}| = |\vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}| = |\vec{v}'_1 - \vec{v}'|$$

Ansatz for N-body simulation: same solution for “coarse-grained” distribution function

$$\frac{D\hat{f}}{Dt} = \int d^3\mathbf{v}_1 \int d\Omega \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} |\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_1| [\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}', t)\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}'_1, t) - \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t)\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_1, t)]$$

# DM self-collisions in N-body simulations

The coarse-grained distribution is given by a discrete representation of N particles:

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) = \sum_i (M_i/m) W(|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i|; h_i) \delta^3(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i)$$

**Algorithm: Gravity + Probabilistic method for elastic scattering**

in pairs:

$$P_{ij} = \frac{m_i}{m_\chi} W(r_{ij}, h_i) \sigma_T(v_{ij}) v_{ij} \Delta t_i$$

total for a particle:

$$P_i = \sum_j P_{ij} / 2$$

**discrete version of the collisional operator**

A collision happens if:  $x \leq P_i$ , where x is a random number between 0 and 1

sort neighbours by distance and pick the one with:

$$x \leq \sum_i^l P_{ij}$$

**Elastic collision:**

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}_i &= \vec{v}_{cm} + (\vec{v}_{ij}/2) \hat{e} \\ \vec{v}_j &= \vec{v}_{cm} - (\vec{v}_{ij}/2) \hat{e} \end{aligned}$$

**randomly scattered**



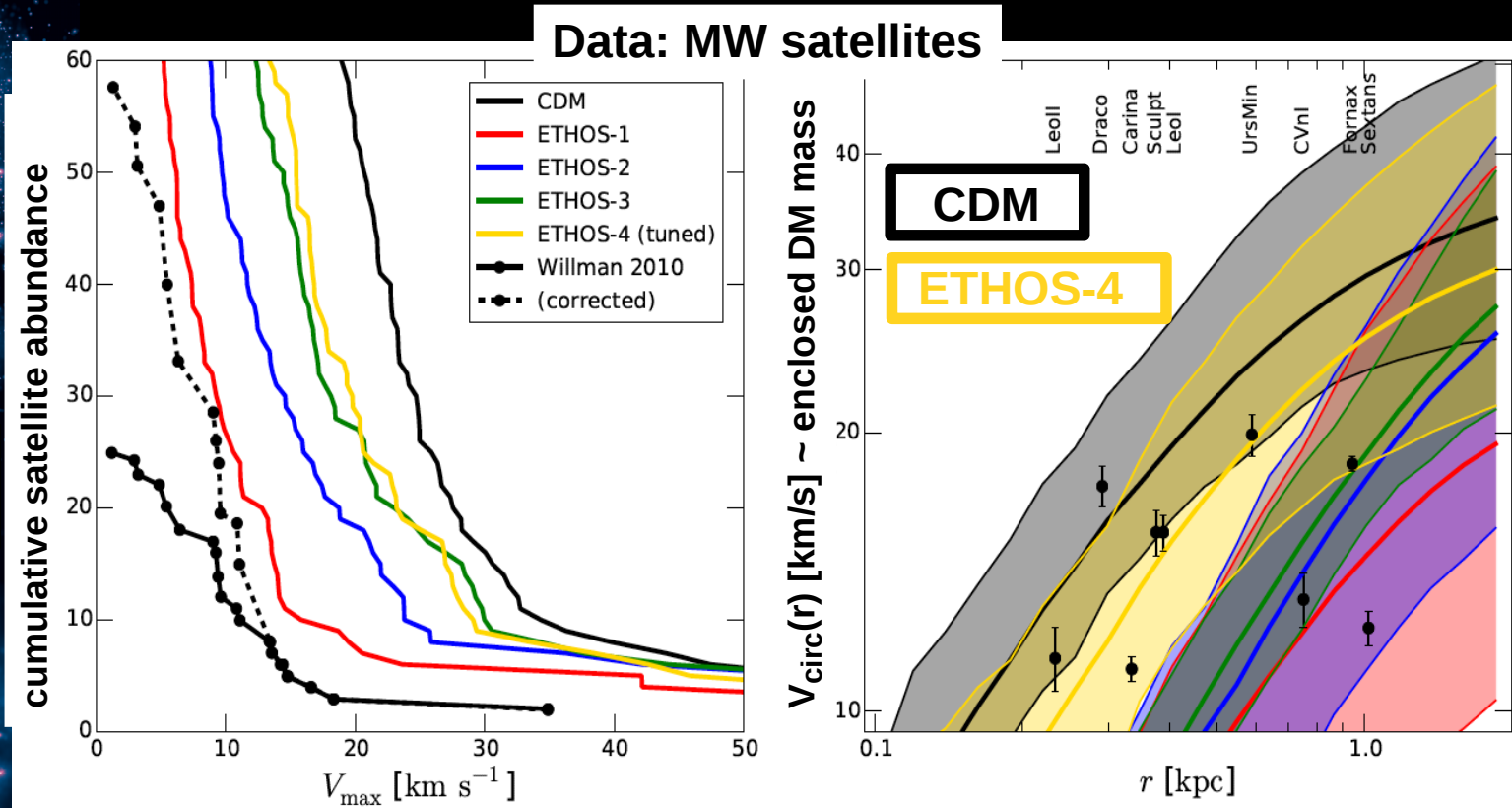
# ETHOS application: non-linear regime with N-body simulations and the CDM challenges

Both CDM abundance and structural “problems” can be alleviated *simultaneously*

CDM

MW-size halo DM-only simulation

ETHOS-4



DM-dark radiation interactions suppress/delay the formation of small haloes (galaxies)

DM self-interactions reduce the central DM densities of haloes

# Concluding remarks

An Effective (more generic) Theory Of Structure formation (ETHOS) **must consider a broader range of allowed DM phenomenology** coupled with our developing knowledge of galaxy formation/evolution

First highlights of the effective theory (ETHOS):

- Mapping between the particle physics parameters of a generic DM-DR interaction into effective parameters for structure formation ( $P(k)$  and  $\sigma_T/m$ )
- All DM particle physics models that map into the same ETHOS parameters can be studied (constrained) at the same time
- It preserves the large-scale successes of CDM and “naturally” alleviates most of its small-scale (dwarf galaxies) challenges
- the effect of DM collisions might be imprinted in the phase-space distribution of stars in dwarf galaxies at an observable level:  
**dwarf galaxies might hide a clue of a fundamental guiding principle for a complete DM theory**

Possible degeneracies in observational comparisons, albeit undesirable, reflect our current incomplete knowledge of the DM nature and galaxy formation/evolution