

# Probing fundamental physics with data from every corner of the (dark) Universe

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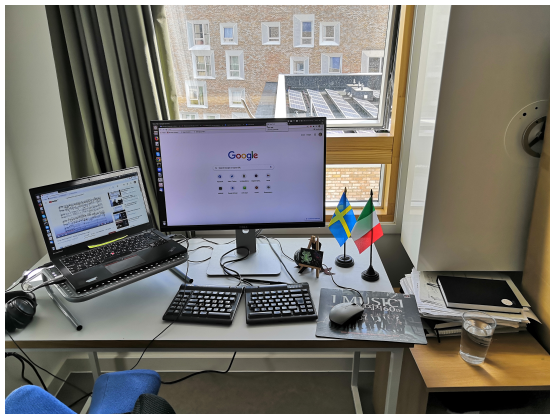
Kavli Fellows' Science Day, 30 September 2021



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE




# My past 18 months



## 3 research highlights today:

- Cosmic tensions (?), model-agnostic tests
- Direct detection of dark energy
- Black holes as probes of fundamental physics

## 2 non-research highlights:

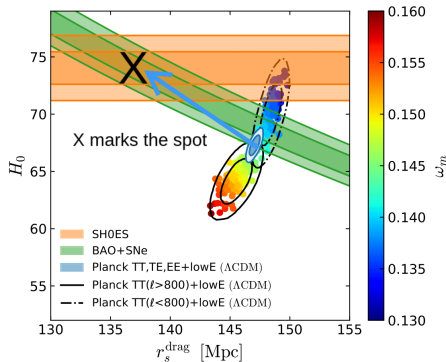
- New family member since May 22, 2021
- Euro 2021 

*Part 1: Cosmic tensions and  
model-agnostic cosmological tests*

# The Hubble tension and new physics

Hubble tension *appears* to call for (substantial) early-time new physics...

Increasing  $H(z)$  just prior to  $z_*$ :  
“least unlikely” proposal?



Example: early dark energy

Featured in Physics

Editors' Suggestion

Early Dark Energy can Resolve the Hubble Tension

Vivian Poulin, Tristan L. Smith, Tanvi Karwal, and Marc Kamionkowski  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 221301 – Published 4 June 2019

Editors' Suggestion

Early dark energy does not restore cosmological concordance

J. Colin Hill, Evan McDonough, Michael W. Toomey, and Stephon Alexander  
Phys. Rev. D **102**, 043507 – Published 5 August 2020

Need  $\approx 12\%$  (!!!) EDE around  $z_{\text{eq}}$  ↓↓

*Why is there no clear sign of new physics in CMB data alone?*

Caveat: true prior to ACT DR4?


# The early ISW (eISW) effect

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **104**, 063524 (2021)

## Consistency tests of $\Lambda$ CDM from the early integrated Sachs-Wolfe effect: Implications for early-time new physics and the Hubble tension

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Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HA, United Kingdom

 (Received 15 June 2021; accepted 22 July 2021; published 15 September 2021)

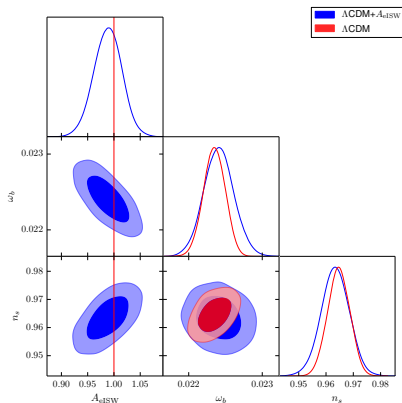
$$\Theta = \int_0^{\eta_0} d\eta \left[ \underbrace{\propto g(\Theta_0 + \Psi)}_{\text{Sachs-Wolfe}} + \underbrace{\propto gv_b \frac{d}{d\eta}}_{\text{Doppler}} + \underbrace{\propto e^{-\tau}(\dot{\Psi} - \dot{\Phi})}_{\text{ISW}} + \underbrace{\propto (g\Pi + [g\ddot{\Pi}])}_{\text{Polarization}} \right] j_\ell(k\Delta\eta)$$
$$\Theta_\ell^{\text{ISW}}(k) = \underbrace{\int_0^{\eta_m} d\eta e^{-\tau} (\dot{\Psi} - \dot{\Phi}) j_\ell(k\Delta\eta)}_{\text{early ISW}} + \underbrace{\int_{\eta_m}^{\eta_0} d\eta e^{-\tau} (\dot{\Psi} - \dot{\Phi}) j_\ell(k\Delta\eta)}_{\text{late ISW}}$$

(A substantial amount of) New physics increasing  $H(z)$  around  $z_{\text{eq}}/z_*$  should leave an imprint on the eISW effect!

# eISW consistency test

Introduce scaling amplitude/fudge factor  $A_{\text{eISW}}$ :

$$\Theta_{\ell}^{\text{eISW}}(k) = A_{\text{eISW}} \int_0^{\eta_m} d\eta e^{-\tau} (\dot{\Psi} - \dot{\Phi}) j_{\ell}(k\Delta\eta)$$

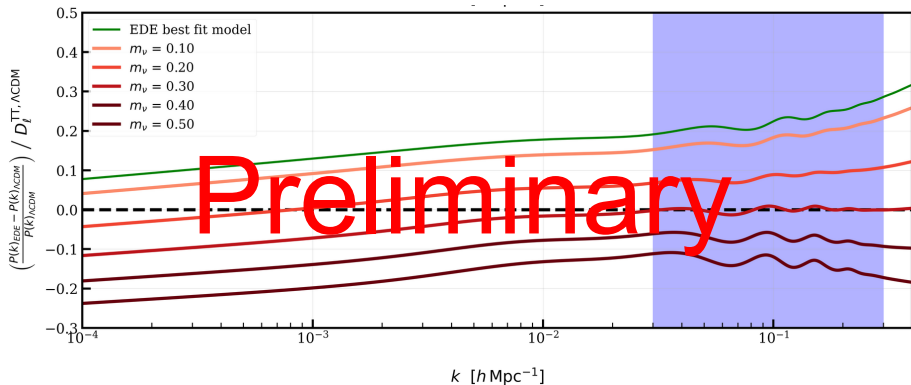


Parameter	<i>Planck</i>	
	$\Lambda\text{CDM}$	$\Lambda\text{CDM}+A_{\text{eISW}}$
$100\omega_b$	$2.235 \pm 0.015$	$2.241 \pm 0.020$
$\omega_c$	$0.1202 \pm 0.0013$	$0.1203 \pm 0.0014$
$\theta_s$	$1.0409 \pm 0.0003$	$1.0409 \pm 0.0003$
$\tau$	$0.0544 \pm 0.0078$	$0.0541 \pm 0.0078$
$\ln(10^{10}A_s)$	$3.045 \pm 0.016$	$3.046 \pm 0.016$
$n_s$	$0.965 \pm 0.004$	$0.963 \pm 0.005$
$A_{\text{eISW}}$	1.0	$0.988 \pm 0.027$
$H_0$ [km/s/Mpc]	$67.26 \pm 0.57$	$67.28 \pm 0.62$
$\Omega_m$	$0.317 \pm 0.008$	$0.317 \pm 0.009$

SV, PRD 104 (2021) 063524

## More new physics to solve EDE's problems?

Massive neutrinos? Looks like  $M_\nu \sim 0.3 \text{ eV}$  needed to rescue EDE!



Plot credits: Alex Reeves (Part III project)

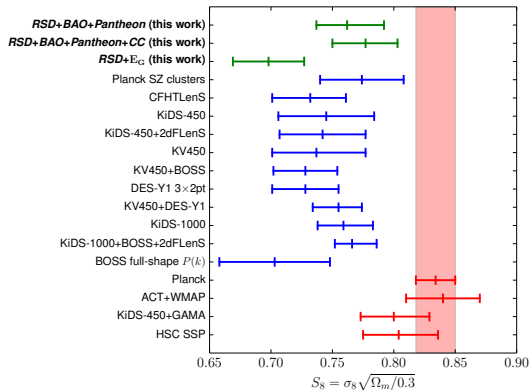
Massive neutrinos actually turn out not to work (still trying to fully understand why...)

# $S_8$ discrepancy – something to get excited about?

## Arbitrating the $S_8$ discrepancy with growth rate measurements from redshift-space distortions

Rafael C. Nunes<sup>1\*</sup> and Sunny Vagnozzi<sup>2†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Divisão de Astronomia, Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais, Avenida dos Astronautas 1758, 12227-010 São José dos Campos, Brazil*  
<sup>2</sup>*Kavli Institute for Cosmology (KICC), University of Cambridge, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HA, UK*



From the growth rate ( $f\sigma_8$ ) point of view,  $S_8$  discrepancy perfectly compatible with a statistical fluctuation!



# Non-parametric test of spatial curvature

Monthly Notices  
of the  
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

MNRAS **506**, L1–L5 (2021)

Advance Access publication 2021 June 04

<https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/506/1/l1>



## Non-parametric spatial curvature inference using late-Universe cosmological probes

Suhail Dhawan<sup>1\*</sup>, Justin Alsing<sup>2,3\*</sup> and Sunny Vagnozzi<sup>1\*</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>The Oskar Klein Centre for Cosmoparticle Physics, Department of Physics, Stockholm University, SE-10691 Stockholm, Sweden

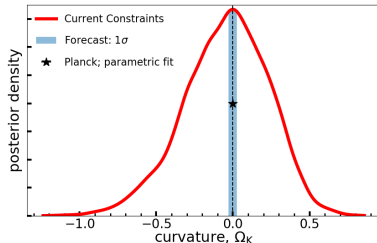
<sup>3</sup>Imperial Centre for Inference and Cosmology, Astrophysics Group, Imperial College London, Blackett Laboratory, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2AZ, UK

Accepted 2021 May 24. Received 2021 May 13; in original form 2021 April 16

$$H_0 d_L = \frac{c(1+z)}{\sqrt{|\Omega_K|}} \text{sinn} \left( \sqrt{|\Omega_K|} \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{E(z')} \right)$$

$H_0 d_L$ : uncalibrated SNeIa

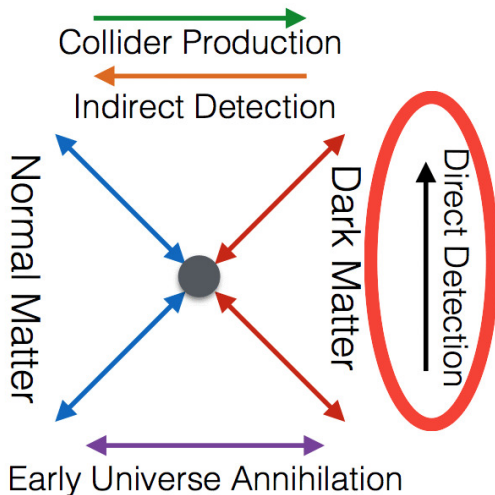
$E(z)$ : cosmic chronometers



Dhawan, Alsing, SV, MNRAS Lett. 506 (2021) L1

## *Part 2: Direct detection of Dark Energy*

# Are gravitational signatures of dark energy all there is?



What about dark energy?



# Direct detection of (screened) dark energy

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **104**, 063023 (2021)

## Direct detection of dark energy: The XENONIT excess and future prospects

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<sup>2</sup>*Institute of Astronomy (IoA), University of Cambridge, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HA, United Kingdom*

<sup>3</sup>*Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN), Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, C.P. 13, I-100044 Frascati, Italy*

<sup>4</sup>*Tsung-Dao Lee Institute (TDLI), Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 200240 Shanghai, China*

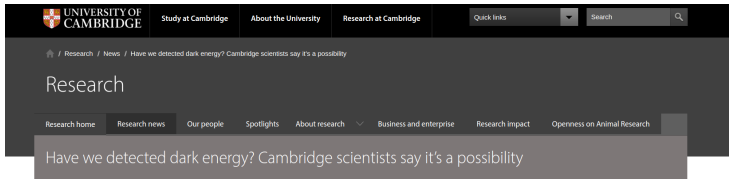
<sup>5</sup>*Gravitation Astroparticle Physics Amsterdam (GRAPPA), University of Amsterdam, Science Park 904, 1098 XH Amsterdam, Netherlands*

<sup>6</sup>*Institute de Physique Théorique (IPhT), Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS, CEA, F-91191, Gif-sur-Yvette Cedex, France*

<sup>7</sup>*Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics (DAMTP), Center for Mathematical Sciences, University of Cambridge, CB3 0WA, United Kingdom*

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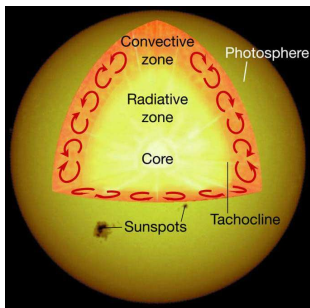
The screenshot shows the University of Cambridge website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Study at Cambridge', 'About the University', and 'Research at Cambridge', along with a 'Quick links' dropdown and a search bar. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Home / Research / News / Have we detected dark energy? Cambridge scientists say it's a possibility'. The main heading is 'Research'. A secondary navigation bar includes links for 'Research home', 'Research news', 'Our people', 'Spotlights', 'About research', 'Business and enterprise', 'Research impact', and 'Openness on Animal Research'. A large grey banner at the bottom of the screenshot contains the text 'Have we detected dark energy? Cambridge scientists say it's a possibility'.

# Direct detection of (chameleon-screened) dark energy

## Production

$$\mathcal{L}_{\phi\gamma} \supset -\beta_\gamma \frac{\phi}{M_{\text{Pl}}} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \underbrace{\frac{T_\gamma^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi}{M_\gamma^4}}_{\text{disformal}}$$

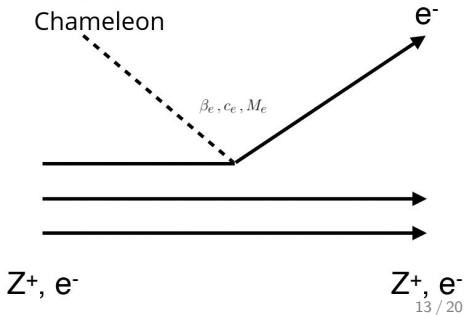
Production in strong magnetic fields of the tachocline



## Detection

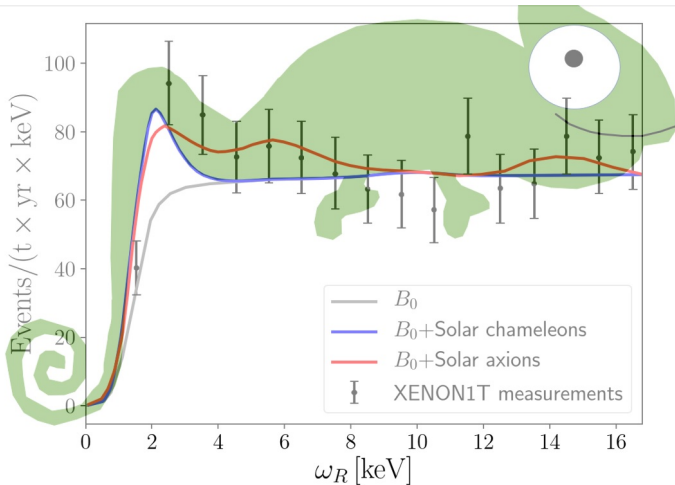
$$\mathcal{L}_{\phi i} \supset \underbrace{\beta_i \frac{\phi T_i}{M_{\text{Pl}}}}_{\text{conformal}} - \underbrace{c_i \frac{\partial^\mu \phi \partial_\mu \phi}{M^4} T_i}_{\text{kinetic-conformal}} + \underbrace{\frac{T_i^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi}{M_i^4}}_{\text{disformal}}$$

Analogous to photoelectric and axioelectric effects



# Direct detection of (chameleon-screened) dark energy

## Intriguing hints in XENON1T?



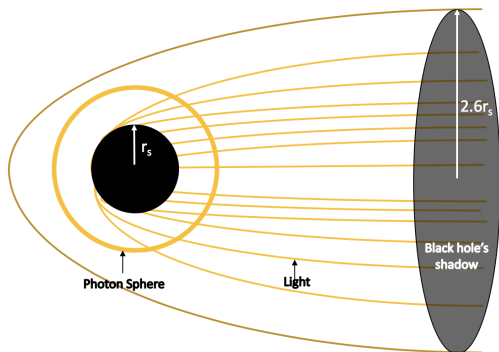
## *Part 3: Black holes*

# Black hole shadows

For Schwarzschild BH shadow radius  $3\sqrt{3}M$



Credits: Event Horizon Telescope collaboration



Can we use BH shadows to test fundamental physics?



# Testing fundamental physics from black hole shadows?

## Known information for M87\*:

- Diameter of shadow  $\delta$ , distance to mass ratio  $D/M$   
 $\rightarrow d = D\delta/M \sim 11.0 \pm 1.5$
- Deviation from circularity  
 $\Delta C \lesssim 10\%$

Recipe: compute  $d$  and  $\Delta C$  for BHs in your favourite theory, then impose these constraints

Testing the rotational nature of the supermassive object M87\* from the circularity and size of its first image

Cosimo Bambi, Katherine Freese, Sunny Vagnozzi, and Luca Visinelli  
Phys. Rev. D **100**, 044057 – Published 29 August 2019

Hunting for extra dimensions in the shadow of M87\*

Sunny Vagnozzi and Luca Visinelli  
Phys. Rev. D **100**, 024020 – Published 12 July 2019

Magnetically charged black holes from non-linear electrodynamics and the Event Horizon Telescope

Alireza Allahyari<sup>1</sup>, Mohsen Khodadi<sup>1</sup>, Sunny Vagnozzi<sup>2</sup> and David F. Mota<sup>3</sup>

Published 4 February 2020 • © 2020 IOP Publishing Ltd and Sissa Medialab

[Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics, Volume 2020, February 2020](#)

**Citation** Alireza Allahyari et al JCAP02(2020)003

Concerns regarding the use of black hole shadows as standard rulers

Sunny Vagnozzi<sup>4,1</sup>, Cosimo Bambi<sup>2</sup> and Luca Visinelli<sup>3</sup>

Published 25 March 2020 • © 2020 IOP Publishing Ltd

[Classical and Quantum Gravity, Volume 37, Number 8](#)

**Citation** Sunny Vagnozzi et al 2020 *Class. Quantum Grav.* **37** 087001

Black holes with scalar hair in light of the Event Horizon Telescope

Mohsen Khodadi<sup>1</sup>, Alireza Allahyari<sup>1</sup>, Sunny Vagnozzi<sup>2</sup> and David F. Mota<sup>3</sup>

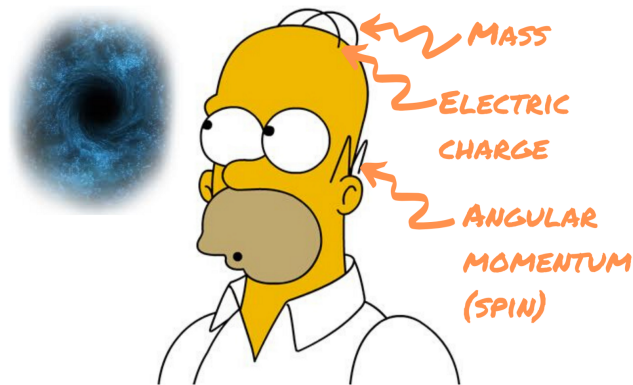
Published 14 September 2020 • © 2020 IOP Publishing Ltd and Sissa Medialab

[Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics, Volume 2020, September 2020](#)

**Citation** Mohsen Khodadi et al JCAP09(2020)026

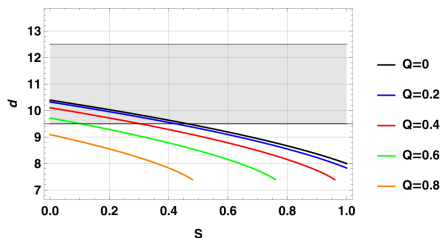
# The no-hair theorem

Black holes have at most three hairs ( $3 \approx 0$ )



# An example of no-hair theorem violation

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{EH}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Maxwell}} - \left( \frac{1}{6} \phi^2 R + \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi \right)$$



## Black holes with scalar hair in light of the Event Horizon Telescope

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<sup>c</sup>Institute of Theoretical Astrophysics, University of Oslo, P.O. Box 1029 Blindern, N-0315 Oslo, Norway

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# Superradiance-induced black hole shadow evolution

## Superradiance evolution of black hole shadows revisited

Ritick Roy,<sup>1,\*</sup> Sunay Vagnozzi,<sup>2,†</sup> and Luca Visinelli<sup>3,4,5,‡</sup>

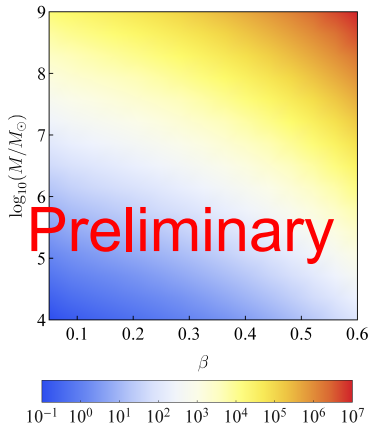
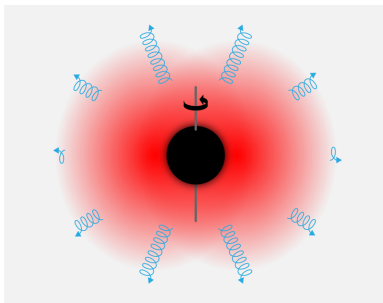
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<sup>5</sup>Tsung-Dao Lee Institute (TDLI) and School of Physics and Astronomy, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 200240 Shanghai, China



Evolution in shadow size  $\Delta\theta \sim \mathcal{O}(1)\mu\text{as}$  due to superradiance potentially observable on human timescales [ $\mathcal{O}(10)\text{yr}$ ]