

New probes for new physics

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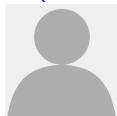
RAMSIA-2022, GLA University, Mathura
23 June 2022



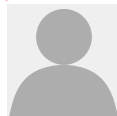
Outline

- Dark energy
- Inflation
- Black holes
- Dark matter and new (ultra)light particles
- Cosmic tensions (?)

Note: blue → (Master's/PhD) students, red → postdocs

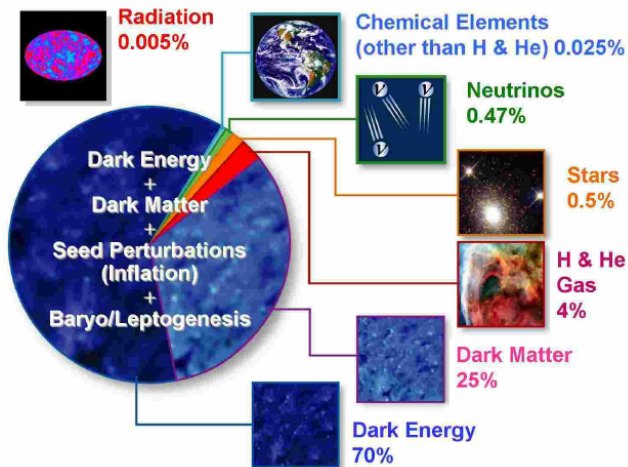


Student's name (student's institution)



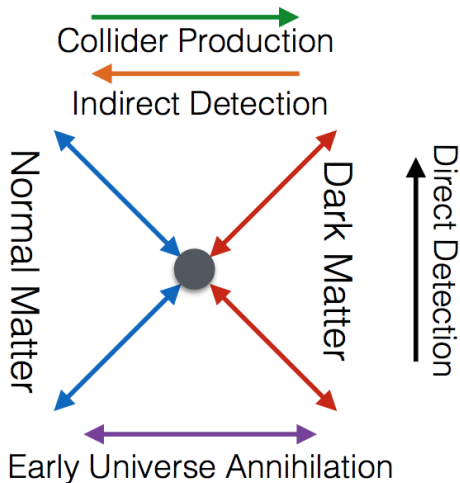
Postdoc's name (postdoc's institution)

Our dark Universe



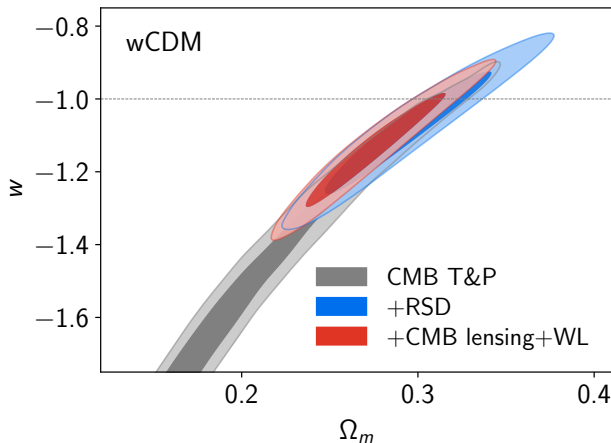
Searching for dark matter

3-pronged approach towards detecting DM's *non-gravitational* signatures

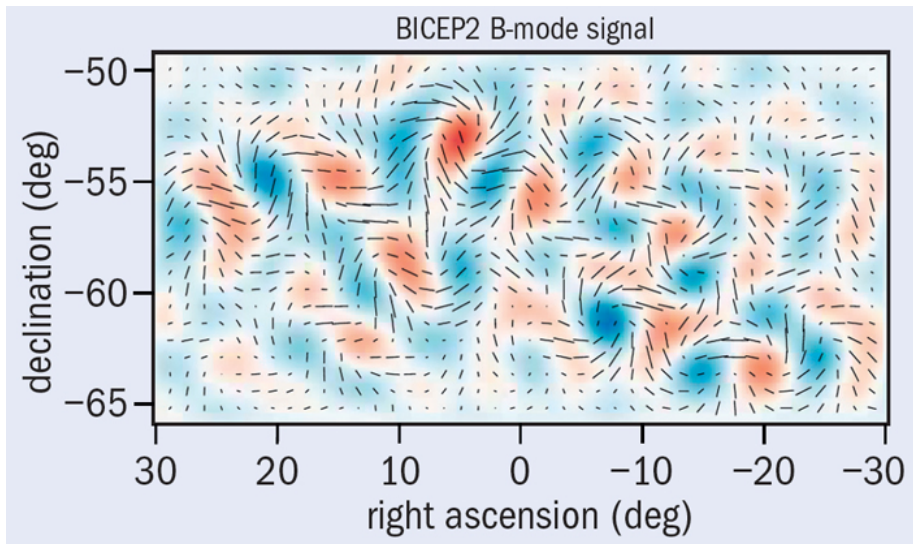


Searching for dark energy's gravitational signatures

Lots of focus on understanding *gravitational* signatures of dark energy, and in particular constraining its equation of state w

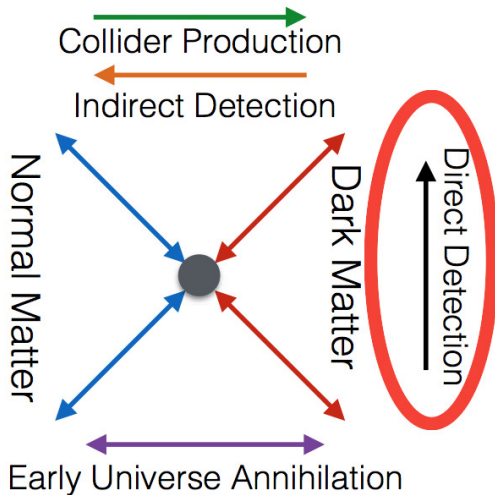


Searching for B-modes from inflation



Part 1: Dark energy

Are gravitational signatures all there is?



What about dark energy?



Can dark energy and visible matter talk to each other?

Quintessence and the Rest of the World: Suppressing Long-Range Interactions

Sean M. Carroll
Phys. Rev. Lett. **81**, 3067 – Published 12 October 1998

If DE due to a new particle, this typically will:

- be very light [$m \sim H_0 \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-33})$ eV]
- have gravitational-strength coupling to matter

$$F_5 = -\frac{1}{M_5^2} \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2} e^{-r/\lambda_5}, \quad M_5 \sim M_{\text{Pl}}, \quad \lambda_5 \sim m^{-1} \sim H_0^{-1}$$

- Tune the coupling to be extremely weak [$M \gg M_{\text{Pl}}$]
- Tune the range to be extremely short [$\lambda \ll \mathcal{O}(\text{mm})$]
- Tune the dynamics so the force weakens based on its environment
→ **screening!**

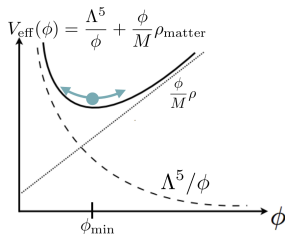
Chameleon screening

$$F_5 = -\frac{1}{M_5^2(x)} \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^{2-n(x)}} e^{-r/\lambda_5(x)}$$

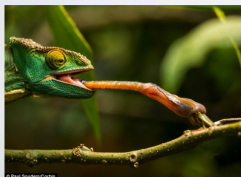
- $\lambda_5(x)$ → **chameleon** screening
- $M_5(x)$ → symmetron screening
- $n(x)$ → Vainshtein screening

$$V_{\text{eff}} = V(\phi) + \phi \rho_m / M$$

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = \frac{d^2 V_{\text{eff}}}{d\phi^2} \Big|_{\phi=\phi_{\text{min}}} \propto \rho_m^n, n > 0$$



On Earth:



In space:



Direct detection of dark energy

Can we detect (screened) DE in DM direct detection experiments?

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

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

Sunny Vagnozzi^{1,2,*}, Luca Visinelli^{3,4,5,*}, Philippe Brax^{6,†}, Anne-Christine Davis^{7,1,§} and Jeremy Sakstein^{8,¶}

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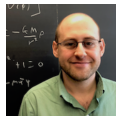
Luca Visinelli (Shanghai)



Phil Brax (IPhT, Saclay)



Anne Davis (Cambridge)



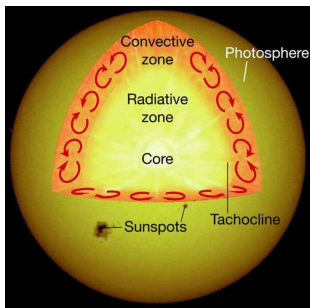
Jeremy Sakstein (Hawaii)

Direct detection of dark energy

Production

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

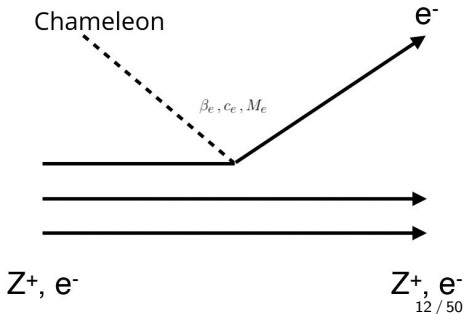
Production in strong magnetic fields of the tachocline



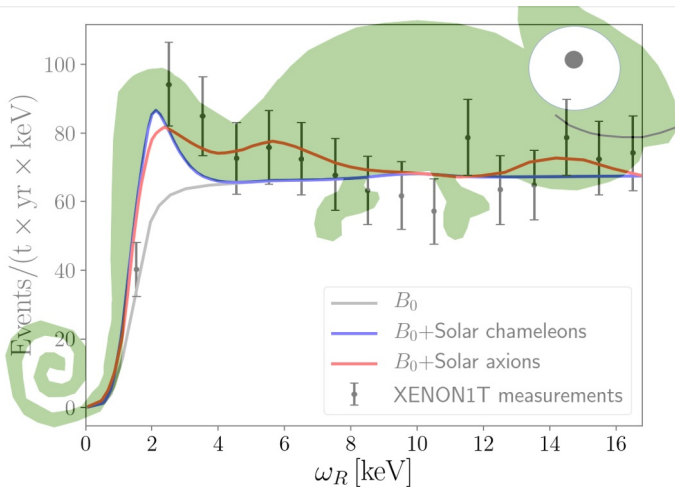
Detection

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

Analogous to photoelectric and axioelectric effects



Direct detection of (chameleon-screened) dark energy



Cosmological direct detection of dark energy

Wouldn't scattering between DE and baryons mess up cosmology?

Monthly Notices

of the
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

MNRAS **493**, 1139–1152 (2020)

Advance Access publication 2020 February 3



doi:10.1093/mnras/staa311

Do we have any hope of detecting scattering between dark energy and baryons through cosmology?

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Surprisingly not!



Luca Visinelli (Shanghai)



Olga Mena (Valencia)



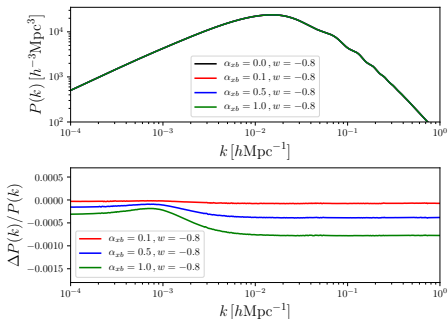
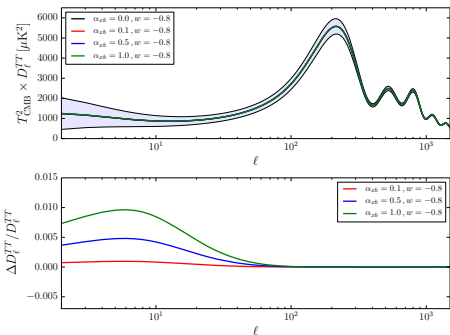
David Mota (Oslo)

Cosmological direct detection of dark energy?

$$\dot{\theta}_b = -\mathcal{H}\theta_b + c_s^2 k^2 \delta_b + \frac{4\rho_\gamma}{3\rho_b} an_e \sigma_T (\theta_\gamma - \theta_b) + (1 + w_x) \frac{\rho_x}{\rho_b} an_e \sigma_{xb} (\theta_x - \theta_b)$$

$$\dot{\theta}_x = -\mathcal{H}(1 - 3c_s^2)\theta_x + \frac{c_s^2 k^2}{1 + w_x} \delta_x + an_e \sigma_{xb} (\theta_b - \theta_x)$$

Impact on CMB and *linear* matter power spectrum ($\alpha = \sigma_{xb}/\sigma_T$)



N-body simulations of DE-baryon scattering

What about the non-linear regime?

Cosmological direct detection of dark energy: Non-linear structure formation signatures of dark energy scattering with visible matter

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¹Max-Planck-Institut für Astrophysik, Karl-Schwarzschild-Straße 1, D-85740 Garching bei München, Germany

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⁵INAF – Osservatorio di Astrofisica e Scienza dello Spazio di Bologna, Via Piero Gobetti 93/3, I-40129 Bologna, Italy

⁶INFN – Sezione di Bologna, viale Berti Pichat 6/2, I-40127 Bologna, Italy

Only one way to find out: run N-body simulations!



Fulvio Ferlito (MPA Garching)



David Mota (Oslo)



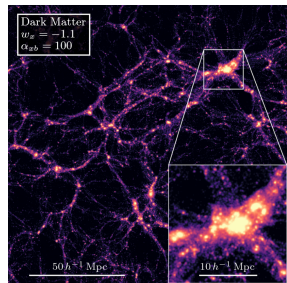
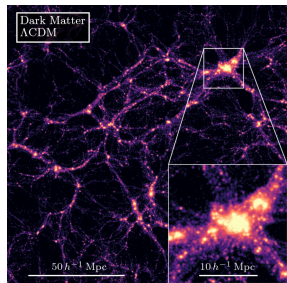
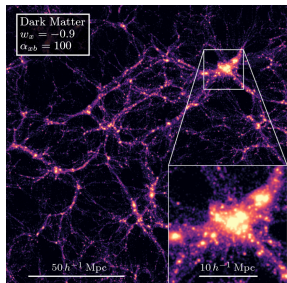
Marco Baldi (Bologna)

N-body simulations of DE-baryon scattering

Simulation snapshots:

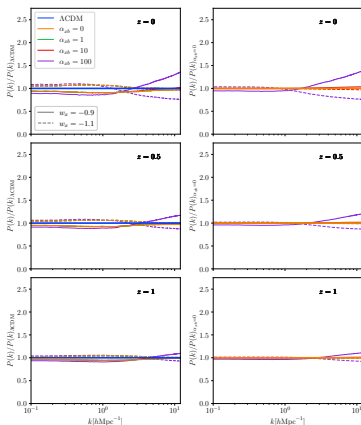
- $\sigma = 100\sigma_T$
- $w = -0.9, -1, -1.1$

Ferlito, SV, Mota, Baldi, MNRAS 512 (2022) 1885

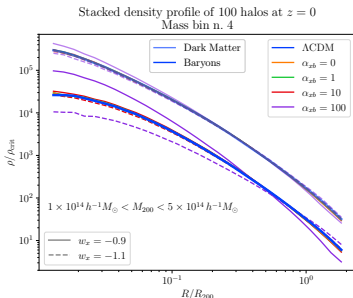


N-body simulations of DE-baryon scattering

Matter power spectrum relative to Λ CDM (left) and no-scattering w CDM (right)



Baryon fraction profiles (combine lensing, kSZ, and tSZ)

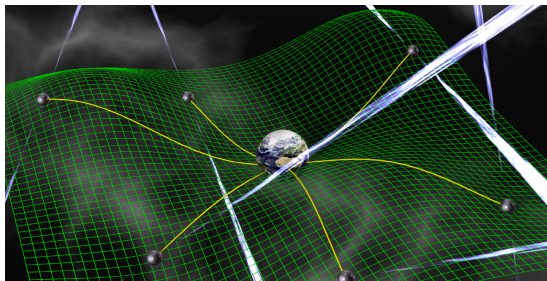


Other observables:

- (Cumulative) halo mass function
- (Stacked) halo density profiles
- Future work: Bullet-like systems

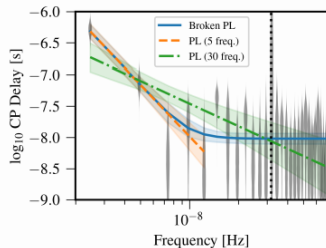
Part 2: Inflation

Pulsar timing arrays



Hints of stochastic GW background detection by NANOGrav (possibly confirmed by PPTA)?

NANOGrav collaboration, *ApJ Lett.* 905 (2020) L34; PPTA collaboration, *ApJ Lett.* 917 (2021) L19



NANOGrav collaboration, *ApJ Lett.* 905 (2020) L34

Did NANOGrav see inflationary GWs?

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MNRAS **502**, L11–L15 (2021)
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doi:10.1093/mnras/slaa203

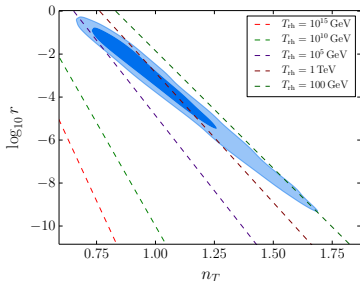
Implications of the NANOGrav results for inflation

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Accepted 2020 December 11. Received 2020 December 8; in original form 2020 October 7

Did NANOGrav detect an inflationary SGWB? $P_T \propto r A_S k^{n_T}$



- Very blue spectrum, $n_T \sim 1 \rightarrow$, violates consistency relation $r = -8n_T$, cannot come from single-field slow-roll inflation
- Very low reheating temperature, $T_{\text{rh}} \lesssim \mathcal{O}(\text{TeV})$

Did NANOGrav see inflationary GWs?

Primordial gravitational waves from NANOGrav: A broken power-law approach

Micol Benetti^{1,2,*}, Leila L. Graef^{3,†} and Sunny Vagnozzi^{4,‡}

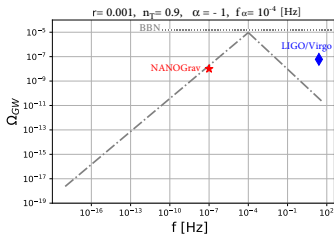
¹*Scuola Superiore Meridionale (SSM), Università di Napoli "Federico II,"
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Ⓞ (Received 12 November 2021; accepted 5 January 2022; published 11 February 2022)



Benetti, Graef, SV, PRD 105 (2022) 043520



Micol Benetti (Naples)



Leila Graef (Fluminense)

Broken power-law spectrum can mimic:

- Non-standard pre-BBN era ($w \neq 1/3$: early matter domination, kination,...)
- Late-time entropy production
- Change in n_T associated to blue GW generation mechanism (e.g. gauge field production from $\phi F\tilde{F}$)
- ...

The swampland

Are inflation, string theory, and cosmological data mutually incompatible?

The zoo plot meets the swampland: mutual (in)consistency of single-field inflation, string conjectures, and cosmological data

William H Kinney^{1,2}, Sunny Vagnozzi^{1,3,5} 
and Luca Visinelli^{1,3,4} 

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Published 13 May 2019



Quite possibly, at least for the simplest inflationary models!



Will Kinney (SUNY Buffalo)

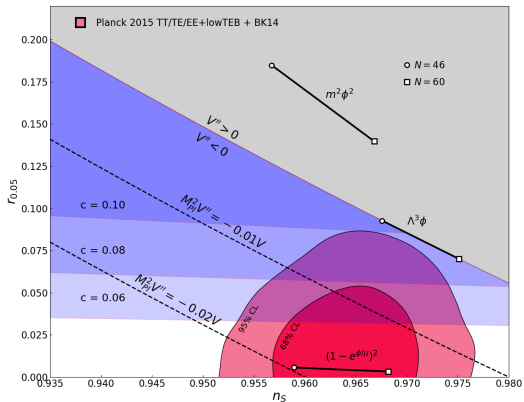


Luca Visinelli (Shanghai)

Are inflation and string theory incompatible?

Swampland conjectures: [Obied et al., arXiv:1806.08362](#)

$$\frac{|\Delta\phi|}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \lesssim \Delta \sim \mathcal{O}(1) \quad M_{\text{Pl}} \frac{|V_\phi|}{V} \gtrsim c \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$$



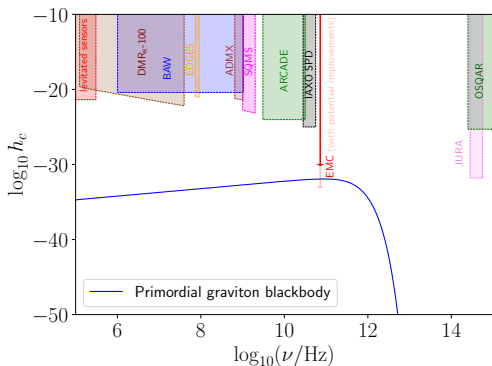
Ruling out inflation via the cosmic graviton background?

The challenge of ruling out inflation via the primordial graviton background

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² Department of Astronomy, Harvard University, 60 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA



- Produced at $t \sim t_{\text{Pl}}$
- Gives correction $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \simeq 0.054$ (detectable in near future)
- Stochastic GW background at ~ 100 GHz also potentially detectable



Avi Loeb (Harvard)

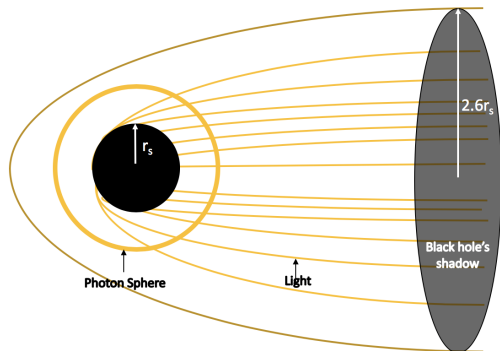
Part 3: Black holes

Black hole shadows

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



Credits: Event Horizon Telescope collaboration



For advection-dominated hot (geometrically thick optically thin) accretion flow, edge of BH shadow robust to accretion flow details, only influenced by space-time geometry [Narayan et al., ApJ Lett. 885 \(2019\) L33](#); [Bronzwaer & Falcke, ApJ 920 \(2021\) 155](#)

⇒ we can use BH shadows to test fundamental physics!

Testing fundamental physics from M87*'s shadow?

Known information for M87*:

- Diameter of shadow δ , distance to mass ratio D/M
 $\rightarrow d = D\delta/M \sim 11.0 \pm 1.5$
- Deviation from circularity $\Delta C \lesssim 10\%$
- Axis ratio $\Delta y/\Delta x \lesssim 4/3$
- $\epsilon \equiv \Delta Q/Q_{\text{Kerr}} \lesssim 4$,
 $Q_{\text{Kerr}} = Ma^2$

Recipe: compute d and ΔC 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 Allahyari¹, Mohsen Khodadi¹, Sunny Vagnozzi² and David F. Mota³

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^{4,1}, Cosimo Bambi² and Luca Visinelli³

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 Khodadi¹, Alireza Allahyari¹, Sunny Vagnozzi² and David F. Mota³

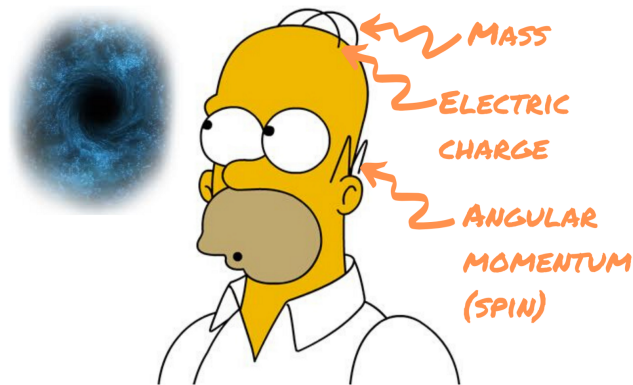
Published 14 September 2020 • © 2020 IOP Publishing Ltd and Sissa Medialab

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

Citation Mohsen Khodadi et al JCAP09(2020)026

The no-hair theorem

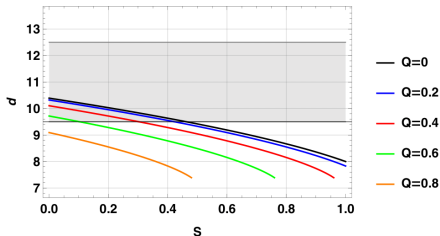
Black holes have at most three hairs ($3 \approx 0$)



An example of no-hair theorem violation

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

*J*ournal of **Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics**
An IOP and SISSA journal



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

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Mohsen Khodadi (IPM Tehran)



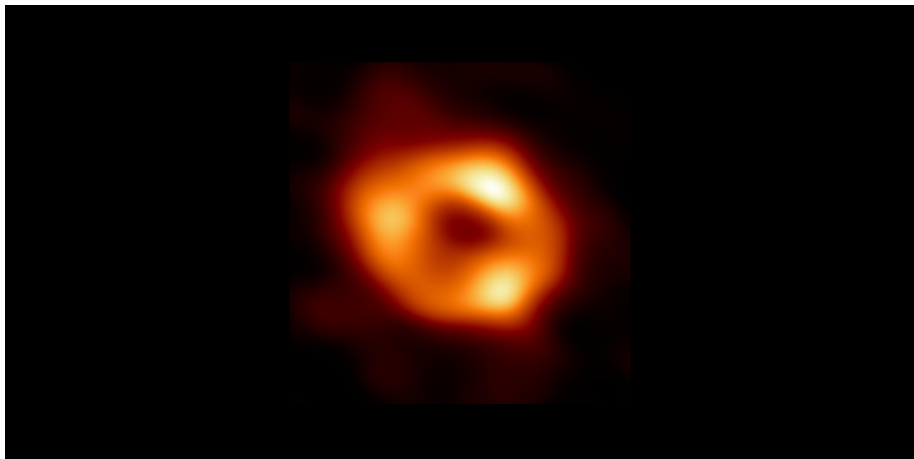
Alireza Allahyari (Kharazmi)



David Mota (Oslo)

Sagittarius A*

Supermassive BH at the center of the Milky Way



Credits: Event Horizon Telescope collaboration

Fundamental physics tests from Sagittarius A*'s shadow

Horizon-scale tests of gravity theories and fundamental physics from the Event Horizon Telescope image of Sagittarius A*

Sunny Vagnozzi,^{1,*} Rittick Roy,^{2,†} Yu-Dai Tsai,^{3,‡} and Luca Visinelli^{4,5,§}

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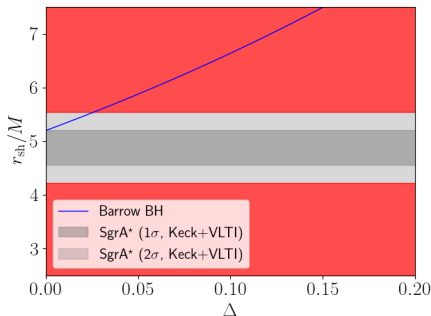
³Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697-4575, USA

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(Dated: May 17, 2022)

Example: Barrow entropy $S = (A/4)^{1+\Delta/2}$



Studied 20+ fundamental physics scenarios (hairy BHs, gravity theories, wormholes, naked singularities, modified entropies,...)



Rittick Roy

(Fudan)



Yu-Dai Tsai (UC

Irvine)



Luca Visinelli

(Shanghai)

*Part 4: Dark matter and new
(ultra)light particles*

Superradiance-induced black hole shadow evolution

Superradiance evolution of black hole shadows revisited

Rittick Roy^{1,*}, Sunny Vagnozzi^{2,†} and Luca Visinelli^{3,4,‡}

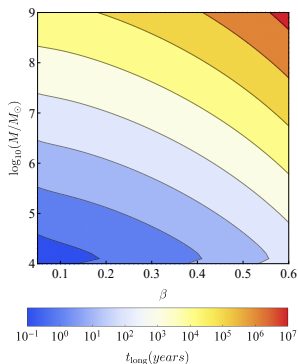
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Evolution in shadow size $\Delta\theta \sim \mathcal{O}(1)\mu\text{as}$ due to superradiance potentially observable on human timescales [$\mathcal{O}(10)\text{yr}$]



Rittick Roy

(Fudan)



Luca Visinelli

(Shanghai)

Superradiance-induced black hole shadow evolution

Superradiant evolution of the shadow and photon ring of Sgr A*

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¹ CAS Key Laboratory of Theoretical Physics, Institute of Theoretical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 100190 Beijing, P. R. China

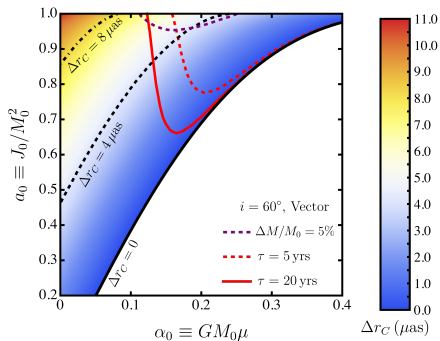
² Center for Field Theory and Particle Physics and Department of Physics, Fudan University, 200438 Shanghai, P. R. China

³ Kavli Institute for Cosmology (KICC) and Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HA, United Kingdom

⁴ Tsung-Dao Lee Institute (TDLI), 520 Shengrong Road, 201210 Shanghai, P. R. China

⁵ School of Physics and Astronomy, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 800 Dongchuan Road, 200240 Shanghai, P. R. China

(Dated: May 13, 2022)



- Vector and tensor superradiance more easily observable!
- Potentially cleaner signatures in the photon ring auto-correlation



Yifan Chen

(Beijing)



Rittick Roy

(Fudan)



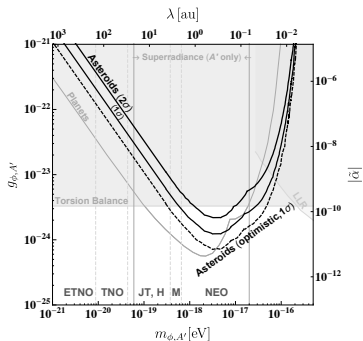
Luca Visinelli

(Shanghai)

Chen, Roy, SV, Visinelli, arXiv:2205.06238 (under review in PRL)

Precession of planetary objects and new light particles

Precession from new light (gauged) mediators-induced fifth force



Asteroid astrometry as a fifth-force and ultralight dark sector probe

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⁵INFN, Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, C.P. 13, I-100044 Frascati, Italy

⁶Tsung-Dao Lee Institute (TDLI), Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 200240 Shanghai, China

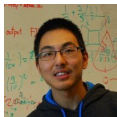
- Planetary objects: asteroids, (exo)planets, TNOs
- Competitive with torsion balance tests

Tsai, Wu, SV, Visinelli, arXiv:2107.04038 (under review in Nat.

Astron.)



Yu-Dai Tsai (UC Irvine)



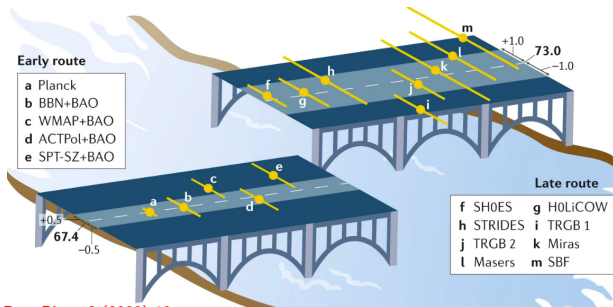
Youjia Wu (Michigan)



Luca Visinelli (Shanghai)

Part 5: Cosmic tensions (?)

Viewing the Hubble tension ocean with different eyeglasses



Credits: Riess, Nat. Rev. Phys. 2 (2020) 10

Why does Λ CDM fit data so well? Do we really need new physics? If so, at what time(s), and with what ingredients?

*Early times:
early ISW
effect*



*Consistency
tests of
 Λ CDM*



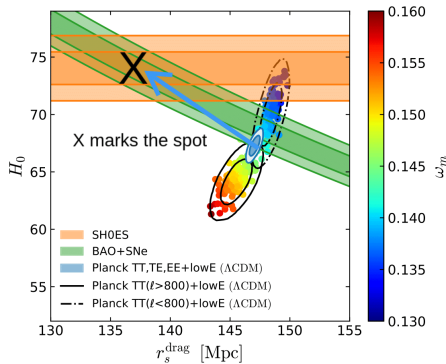
*Late times:
ages of old
objects*

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 (some debate as to how much it works)



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_{eq} ↓↓

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

The early ISW (eISW) effect

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

Consistency tests of Λ 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)

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

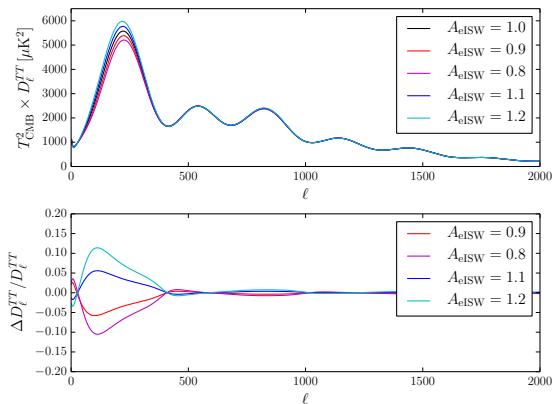
$$\Theta_\ell^{\text{ISW}}(k) = \underbrace{\int_0^{\eta_m} d\eta e^{-\tau} (\dot{\Psi} - \dot{\Phi}) j_\ell(k\Delta\eta)}_{\text{early ISW}} + \underbrace{\int_{\eta_m}^{\eta_0} d\eta e^{-\tau} (\dot{\Psi} - \dot{\Phi}) j_\ell(k\Delta\eta)}_{\text{late ISW}}$$

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

eISW consistency test

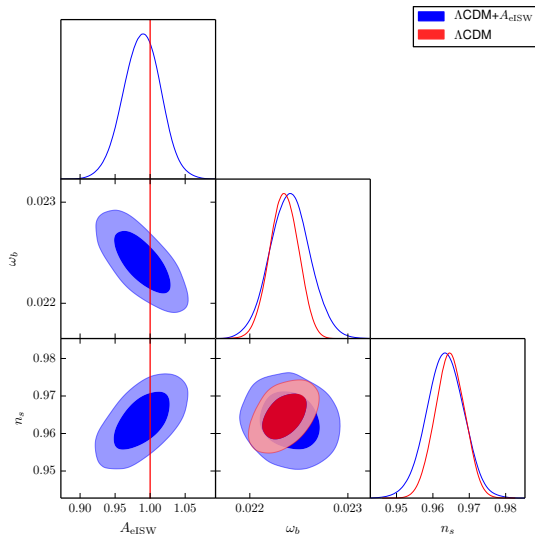
Introduce scaling amplitude/fudge factor A_{eISW} :

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



eISW consistency test

Is *Planck* data consistent with the expectation $A_{eISW} = 1$?



Yes!

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

SV, PRD 104 (2021) 063524

Implications for early-time new physics: EDE case study

High H_0 EDE fit to CMB at the cost of increase in $\omega_c \rightarrow$ worsens tension with WL/LSS data? Hill *et al.*, PRD 102 (2020) 043507; Ivanov *et al.*, PRD 102 (2020) 103502; D'Amico *et al.*,

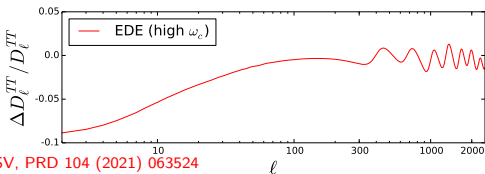
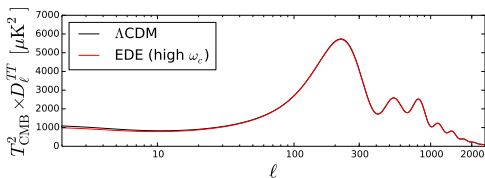
JCAP 2105 (2021) 072; see also Gómez-Valent *et al.*, PRD 104 (2021) 083536; see partial rebuttals in: Murgia *et al.*, PRD 103 (2021) 063502; Smith *et al.*, PRD 103 (2021) 123542; Herold *et al.*, ApJ Lett. 929 (2022) L16

Editor's 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

Parameter	Λ CDM	EDE (high ω_c)	EDE (low ω_c)
$100\omega_b$	2.253	2.253	2.253
ω_c	0.1177	0.1322	0.1177
H_0 [km/s/Mpc]	68.21	72.19	72.19
τ	0.085	0.072	0.072
$\ln(10^{10} A_s)$	3.0983	3.0978	3.0978
n_s	0.9686	0.9889	0.9889
f_{EDE}	–	0.122	0.122
$\log_{10} z_c$	–	3.562	3.562
θ_i	–	2.83	2.83
n	–	3	3

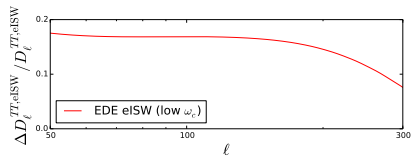
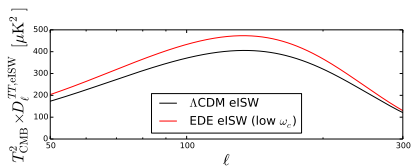


SV, PRD 104 (2021) 063524

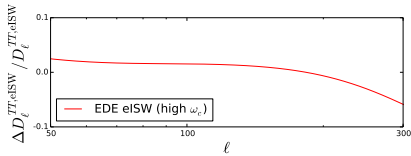
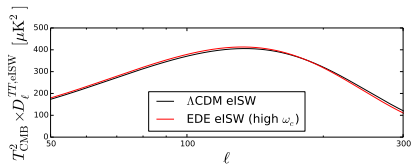
Implications for early-time new physics: EDE case study

Let's extract only the eISW contribution to temperature anisotropies...

Low ω_c



High ω_c



Almost 20% eISW excess!

No more than $\lesssim 3\text{-}5\%$ eISW excess

Generic to models increasing pre-recombination $H(z)$, not just EDE

Rescuing early dark energy with massive neutrinos?

Restoring cosmological concordance with early dark energy and massive neutrinos?

Alexander Reeves,^{1*} Laura Herold,² Sunny Vagnozzi,³ Blake D. Sherwin,^{3,4}
and Elisa G. M. Ferreira^{5,6}

¹Institute for Particle Physics and Astrophysics, ETH Zürich, Wolfgang-Pauli-Strasse 27, CH-8093 Zürich, Switzerland

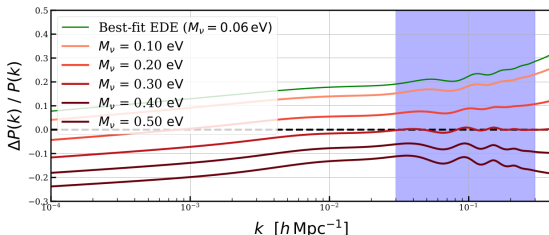
²Max-Planck-Institut für Astrophysik, Karl-Schwarzschild-Strasse 1, D-85740 Garching bei München, Germany

³Kavli Institute for Cosmology, University of Cambridge, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HA, UK

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⁵Kavli IPMU (WPI), UTIAS, The University of Tokyo, 5-1-5 Kashiwanoha, Kashiwa, Chiba 277-8583, Japan

⁶Instituto de Física, Universidade de São Paulo, Rua do Matão 1371, Butantã, 05508-090, São Paulo, Brazil



Reeves, Herold, SV, Sherwin, Ferreira, in preparation. Plot credits: Alex Reeves



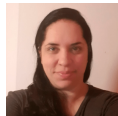
Alex Reeves (ETH Zürich)



Laura Herold (MPA Garching)



Blake Sherwin (Cambridge)



Elisa Ferreira (Tokyo)

Old astrophysical objects at high redshift

Historically (1960s-1998) high- z OAO provided the first hints for the existence of dark energy ($\Omega \neq 1$, $\Omega_\Lambda > 0$)

A 3.5-Gyr-old galaxy at redshift 1.55

James Dunlop, John Peacock, Hyron Spinrad, Arjun Dey, Raul Jimenez, Daniel Stern & Rogier Windhorst

Nature **381**, 581–584 (1996) | [Cite this article](#)

Conflict over the age of the Universe

M. Bolte & C. J. Hogan

Nature **376**, 399–402 (1995) | [Cite this article](#)

The observational case for a low-density Universe with a non-zero cosmological constant

J. P. Ostriker & Paul J. Steinhardt

Nature **377**, 600–602 (1995) | [Cite this article](#)

What can OAO do for cosmology in the 2020s?

Cosmology with old astrophysical objects

Implications for the Hubble tension from the ages of the oldest astrophysical objects

Sunny Vagnozzi,^{1,*} Fabio Pacucci,^{2,3,†} and Abraham Loeb^{2,3,‡}


¹*Kavli Institute for Cosmology (KICC) and Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HA, United Kingdom*

²*Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA*

³*Black Hole Initiative, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA*

$$t_U(z) = \int_z^\infty \frac{dz'}{(1+z')H(z')} \propto \frac{1}{H_0}$$

Pros and cons:

- OAO cannot be older than the Universe \rightarrow **upper limit on H_0**
- $t_U(z)$ integral insensitive to early-time cosmology
- \implies **early-time-independent Λ CDM consistency test!**
- **Ages of astrophysical objects at $z > 0$ hard to estimate robustly** 



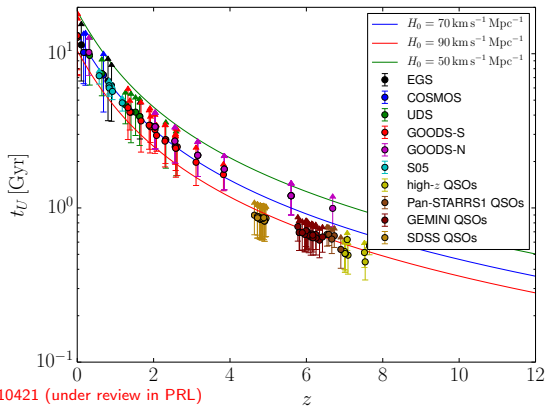
Fabio Pacucci (Harvard)



Avi Loeb (Harvard)

OA0 age-redshift diagram

Age-redshift diagram up to $z \sim 8$ (galaxy ages estimated mostly by CANDELS team via SED fitting)

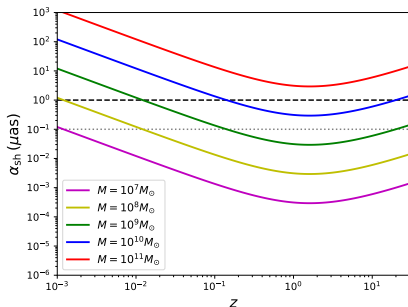


SV *et al.*, arXiv:2105.10421 (under review in PRL)

$H_0 < 73.2 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$ (95% C.L.) \rightarrow hints for some amount of late-time new physics (in relation to the H_0 tension)?

Black hole shadows as standard rulers?

$$\alpha_{\text{sh}}(z) \simeq \frac{3\sqrt{3}M}{D_A(z)}$$



SV et al., CQG 37 (2020) 087001



Cosimo Bambi (Fudan)



Luca Visinelli (Shanghai)

IOP Publishing

Class. Quantum Grav. 37 (2020) 087001 (16pp)

Classical and Quantum Gravity

<https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6382/ab7965>

Concerns regarding the use of black hole shadows as standard rulers

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² Center for Field Theory and Particle Physics and Department of Physics, Fudan University, 200438 Shanghai, People's Republic of China

³ Gravitation Astroparticle Physics Amsterdam (GRAPPA), University of Amsterdam, Science Park 904, 1098 XH Amsterdam, The Netherlands

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Accepted for publication 24 February 2020

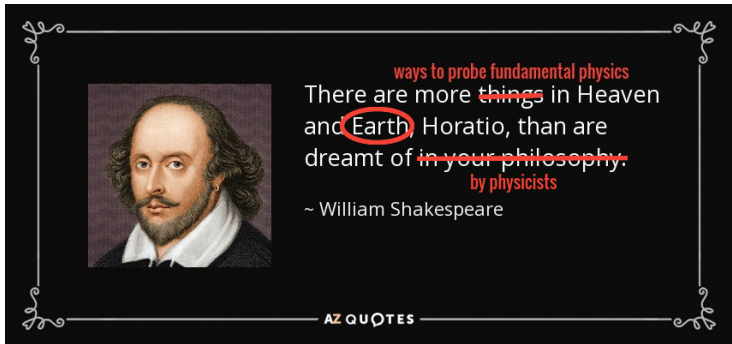
Published 25 March 2020



Problems:

- Reliably determining M
- Model-dependence (beyond GR)
- Understand high- z SMBHs well?

Conclusions



Thank you for your attention!