

New probes for new physics

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OKC Colloquium, 28 September 2021



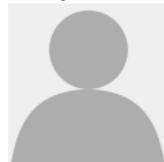
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CAMBRIDGE



Outline

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

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

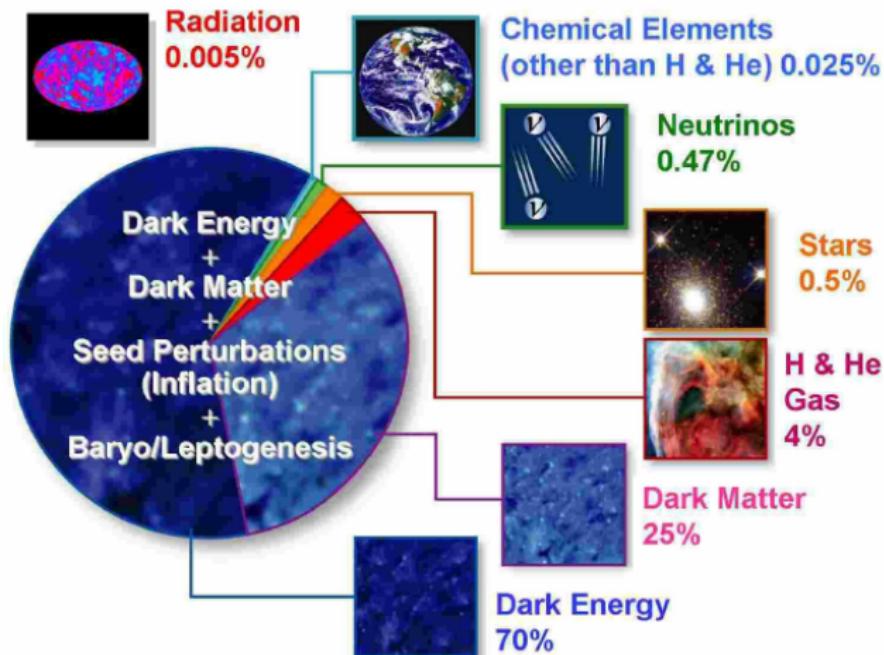


Student's name (student's institution)



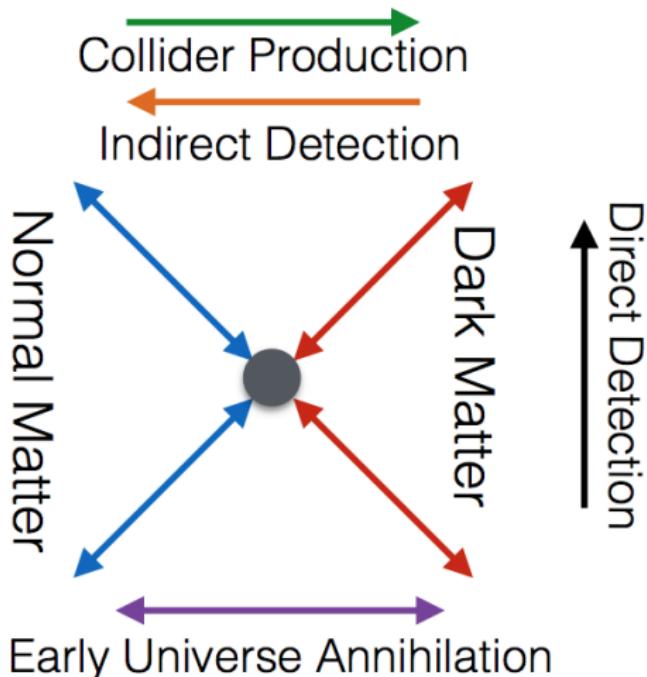
Postdoc's name (postdoc's institution)

Our dark Universe



Searching for dark matter

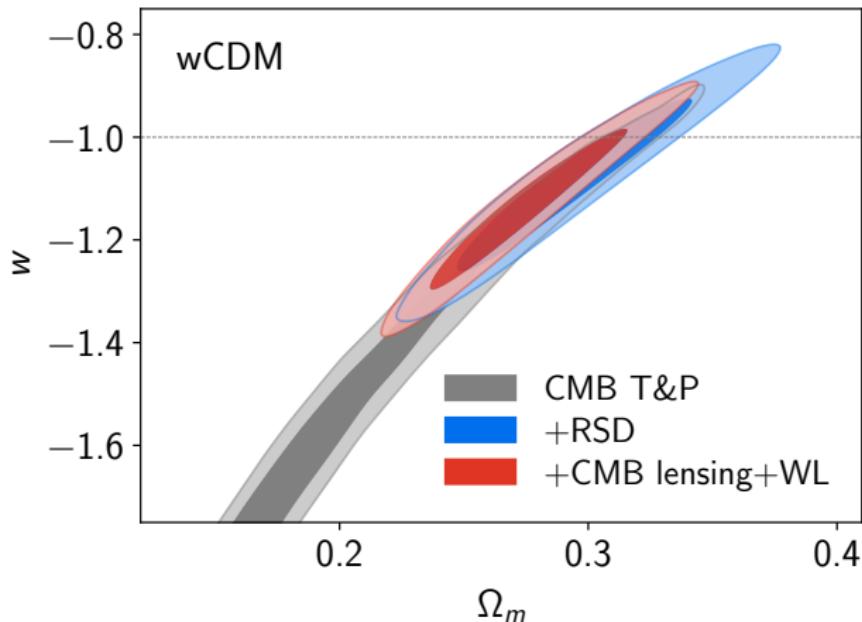
3-pronged approach towards detecting DM's *non-gravitational* signatures



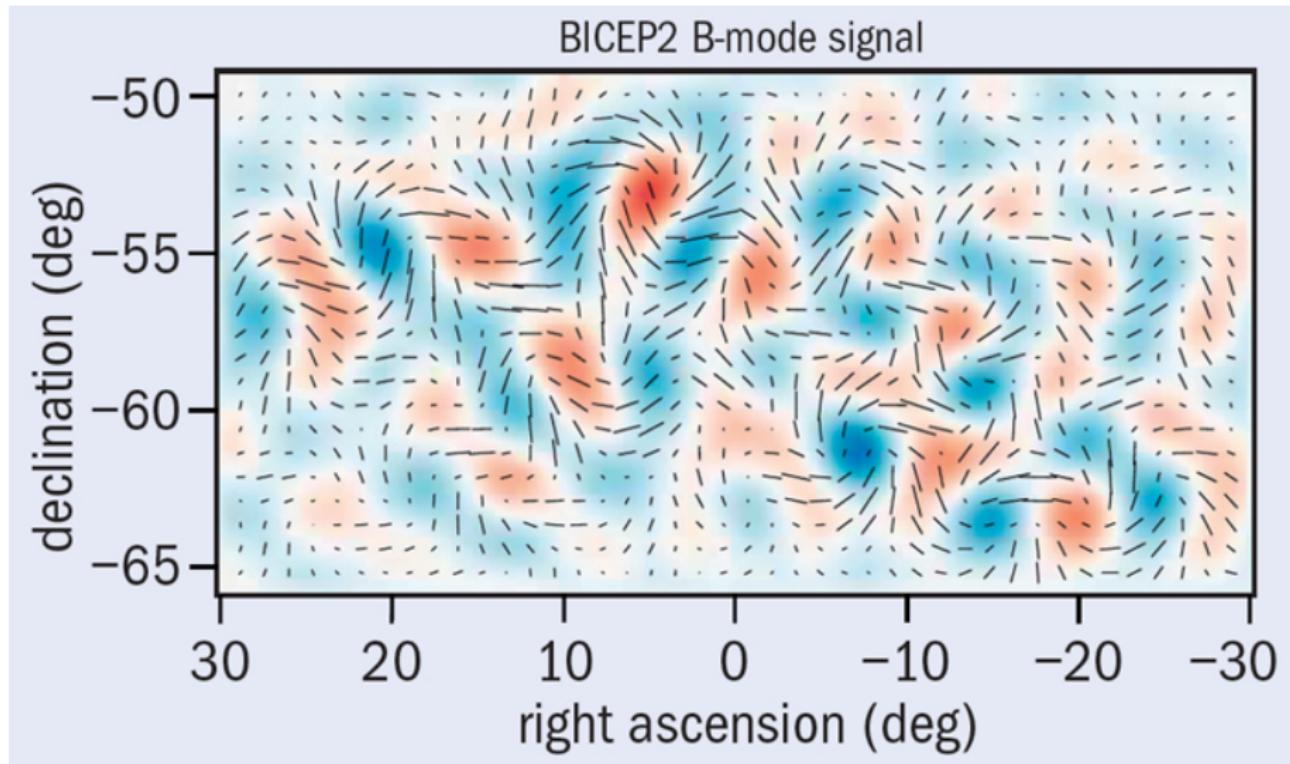
Credits: Matt Buckley

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

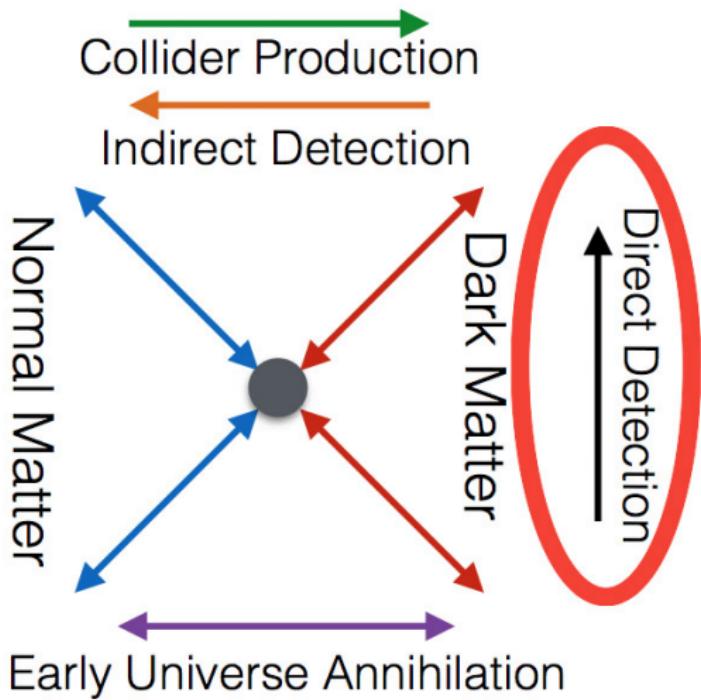


Searching for B-modes from inflation



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!**

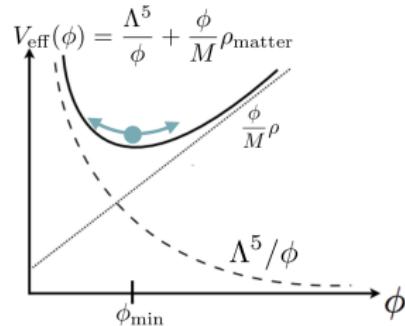
Chameleon screening

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

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

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

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



On Earth:



Credits: Ben Elder

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 XENON1T excess and future prospects

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(Received 7 April 2021; accepted 20 August 2021; published 15 September 2021)



Luca Visinelli (INFN Frascati)



Phil Brax (IPhT, Saclay)



Anne Davis (Cambridge)



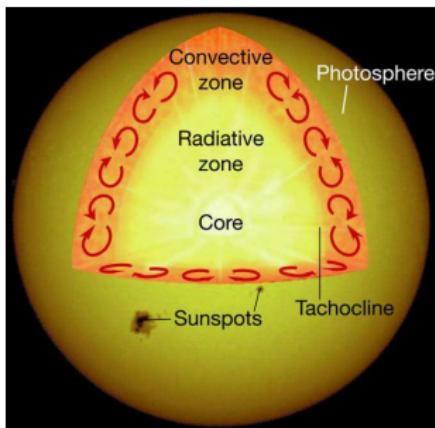
Jeremy Sakstein (Hawaii)

Direct detection of dark energy

Production

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

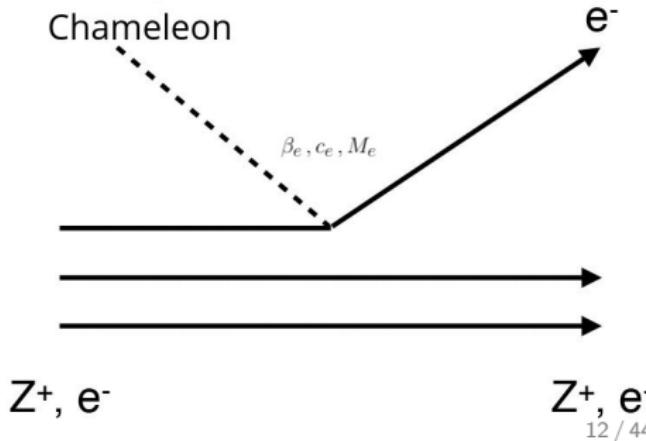
Production in strong magnetic fields
of the tachocline



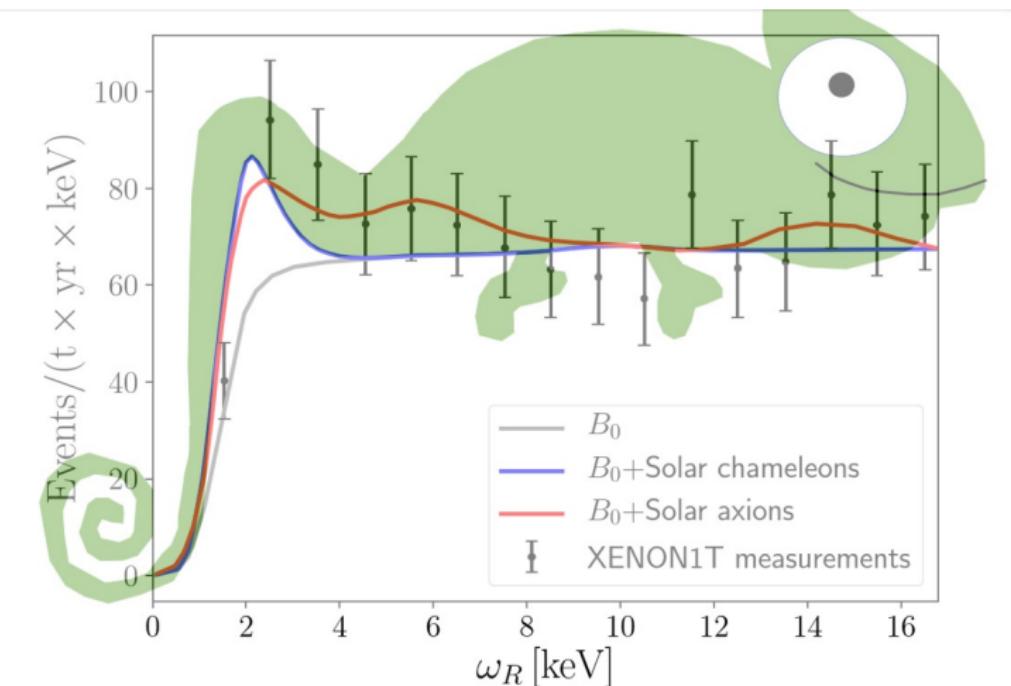
Detection

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

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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Accepted 2020 January 27. Received 2020 January 23; in original form 2019 December 3

Surprisingly not!



Luca Visinelli (INFN Frascati)



Olga Mena (Valencia)

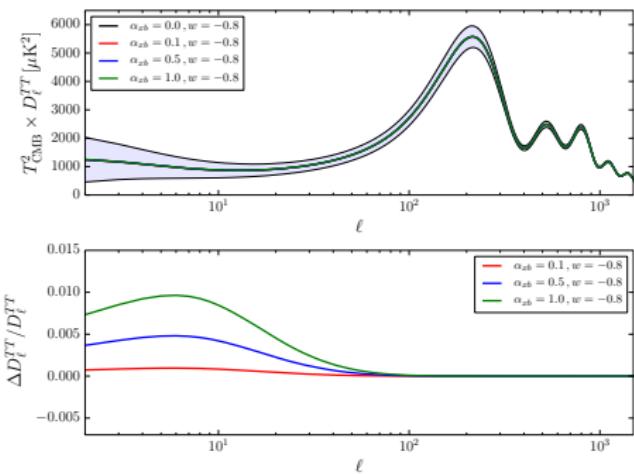


David Mota (Oslo)

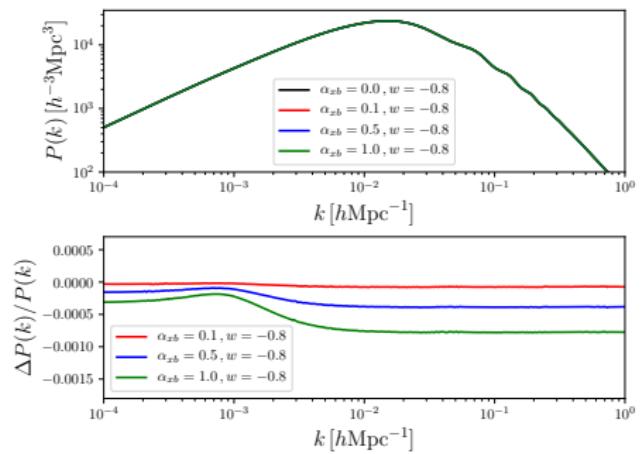
Cosmological direct detection of dark energy?

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\theta}_b &= -\mathcal{H}\theta_b + c_s^2 k^2 \delta_b + \frac{4\rho_\gamma}{3\rho_b} a n_e \sigma_T (\theta_\gamma - \theta_b) + (1 + w_x) \frac{\rho_x}{\rho_b} a n_e \sigma_{xb} (\theta_x - \theta_b) \\ \dot{\theta}_x &= -\mathcal{H}(1 - 3c_s^2)\theta_x + \frac{c_s^2 k^2}{1 + w_x} \delta_x + a n_e \sigma_{xb} (\theta_b - \theta_x)\end{aligned}$$

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



SV *et al.*, MNRAS 493 (2020) 1139



N-body simulations of DE-baryon interactions

Structure formation with scattering between dark energy
and baryons

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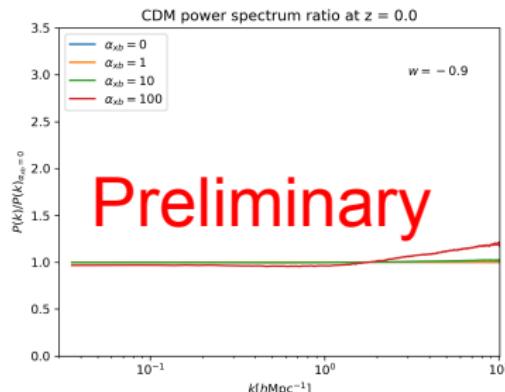
²Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia, Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna, via Piero Gobetti 93/2, I-40139 Bologna, Italy

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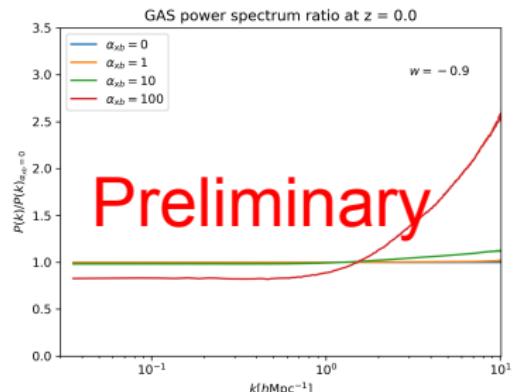
⁴INAF - Osservatorio di Astrofisica e Scienze dello Spazio di Bologna, Via Piero Gobetti 93/3, I-40139 Bologna, Italy

⁵INFN - Sezione di Bologna, viale Berti Pichat 6/2, I-40127 Bologna, Italy

⁶Institute of Theoretical Astrophysics, University of Oslo, P.O. Box 1029 Blindern, N-0315 Oslo, Norway



Ferlito, SV, Baldi, Mota, in preparation



Ferlito, SV, Baldi, Mota, in preparation



Fulvio Ferlito (Garching)



Marco Baldi (Bologna)



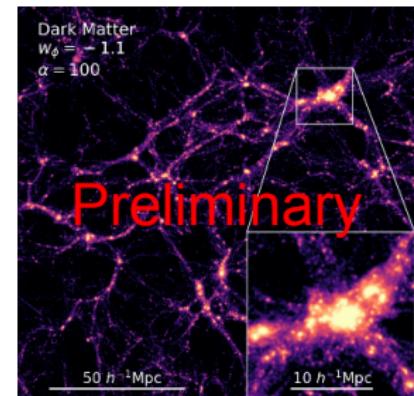
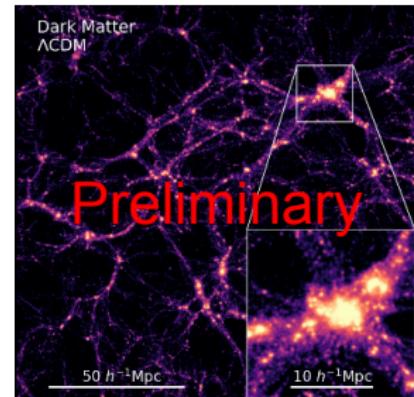
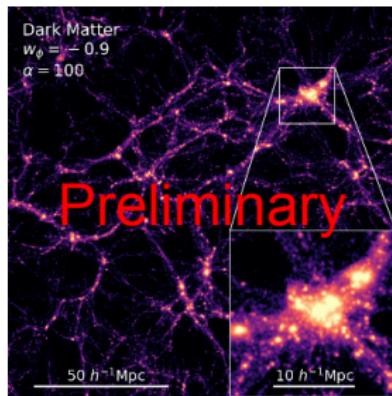
David Mota (Oslo)

N-body simulations of DE-baryon interactions

Simulation snapshots:

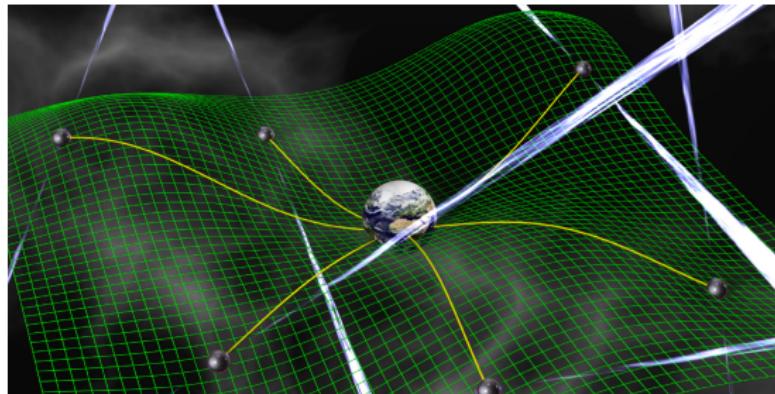
- $\sigma = 100\sigma_T$
- $w = -0.9, -1, -1.1$

Ferlito, SV, Baldi, Mota, in preparation



Part 2: Inflation

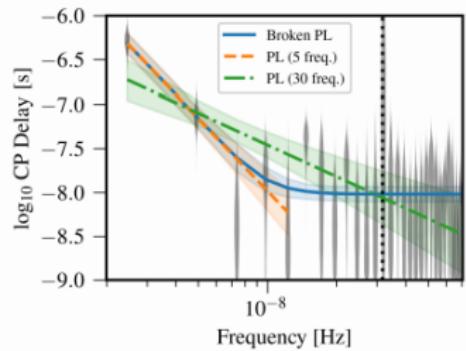
Pulsar timing arrays



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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ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

MNRAS **502**, L11–L15 (2021)
Advance Access publication 2020 December 21



doi:10.1093/mnrasl/slaa203

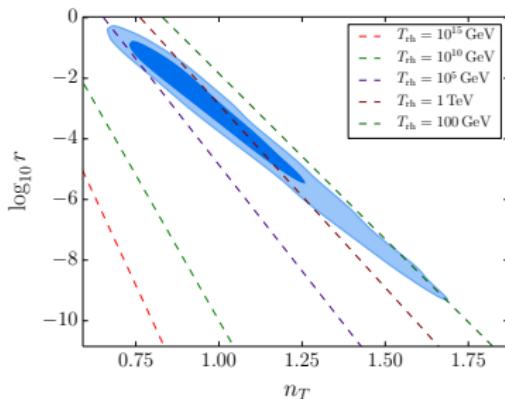
Implications of the NANOGrav results for inflation

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

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



SV, MNRAS Lett. 502 (2021) L11

- 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?

Inflationary gravitational waves from NANOGrav revisited

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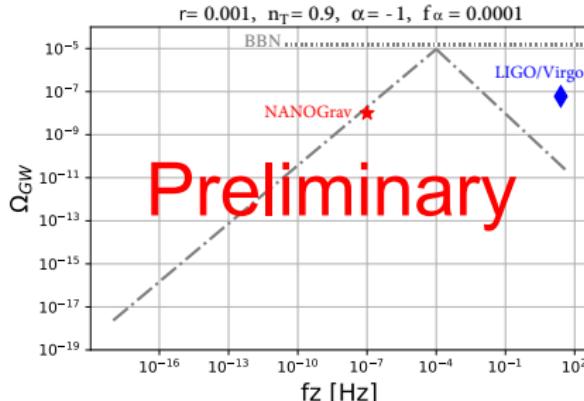
⁴ Instituto de Física, Universidade Federal Fluminense,

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University of Cambridge, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HA, United Kingdom

(Dated: September 23, 2021)



Benetti, Graef, SV, in preparation



Micol Benetti (Naples)

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 $\phi F\tilde{F}$)
- ...

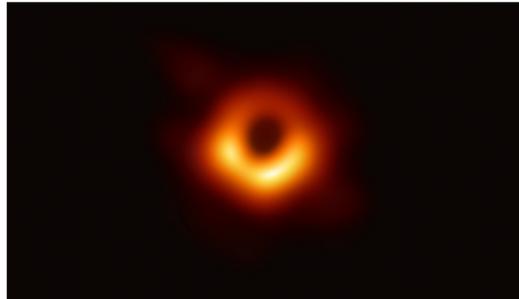


Leila Graef (Fluminense)

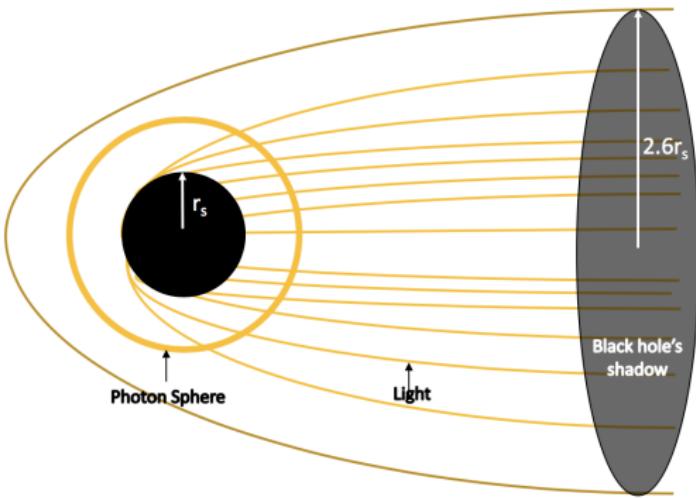
Part 3: Black holes

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, arXiv:2108.03966](#)
⇒ we can use BH shadows to test fundamental physics!

Testing fundamental physics from black hole shadows?

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

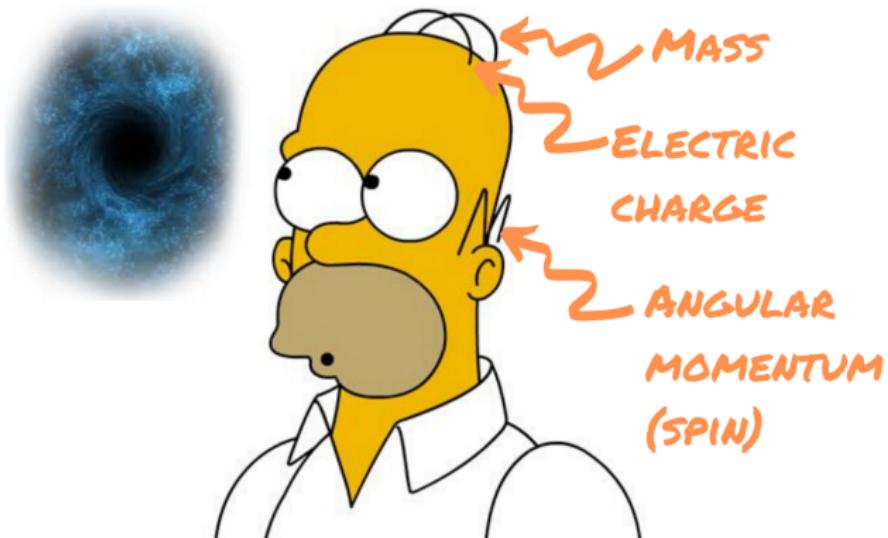
Sunny Vagnozzi^{4,1} , Cosimo Bambi²  and Luca Visinelli³
Published 25 March 2020 • © 2020 IOP Publishing Ltd
[Classical and Quantum Gravity, Volume 37, Number 8](#)
Citation Sunny Vagnozzi et al [2020 Class. Quantum Grav. 37 087001](#)

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 ($3 \approx 0$)

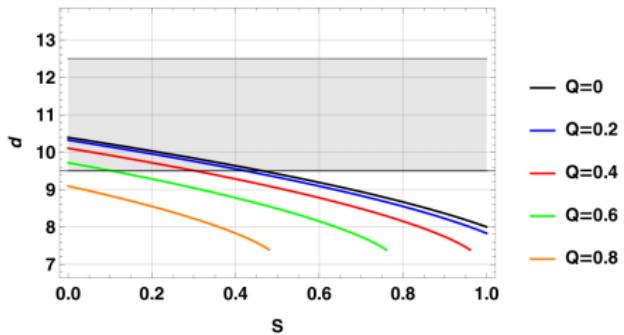


Credits: Medium.com

An example of no-hair theorem violation

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

Journal 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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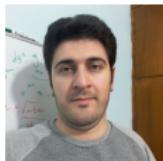
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Received May 18, 2020

Accepted August 8, 2020

Published September 14, 2020



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Alireza Allahyari (KIAA Beijing)



David Mota (Oslo)

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^{3,4,5,‡}

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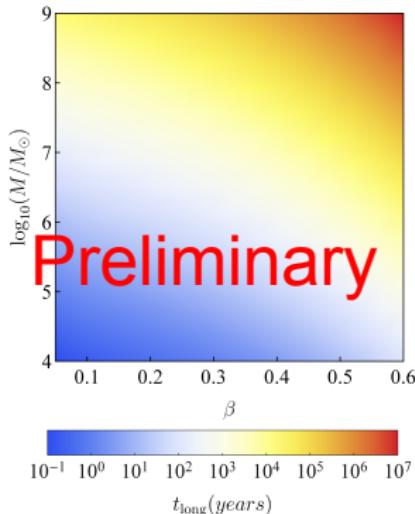
³*Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN), Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, C.P. 13, I-100044 Frascati, Italy*

⁴*Gravitation Astroparticle Physics Amsterdam (GRAPPA),*

University of Amsterdam, Science Park 904, 1098 XH Amsterdam, The Netherlands

⁵*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 [$\mathcal{O}(10)\text{ yr}$]



Rittick Roy

(Fudan)

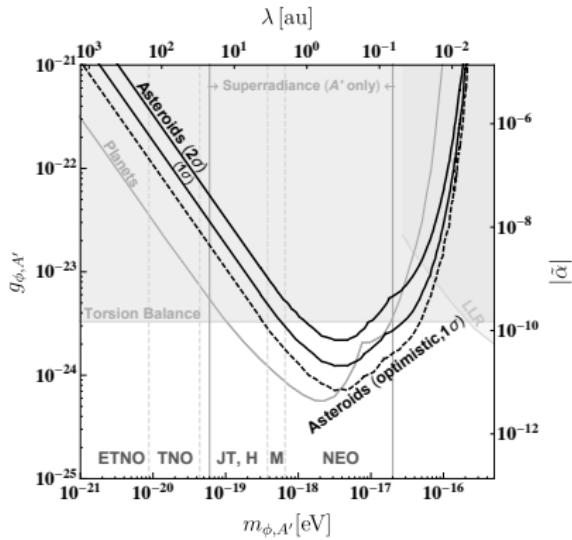


Luca Visinelli

(INFN Frascati)

Precession of planetary objects and new light particles

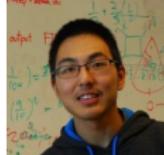
Precession from new light (gauged) mediators-induced fifth force



Tsai, Wu, SV, Visinelli, arXiv:2107.04038



Yu-Dai Tsai (Fermilab/KICP, Chicago)



Youjia Wu (Michigan)



Luca Visinelli (INFN Frascati)

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

Yu-Dai Tsai^{1,2,*}, Youjia Wu,^{3,†} Sunny Vagnozzi,^{4,‡} and Luca Visinelli^{5,6,§}

¹Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab), Batavia, IL 60510, USA

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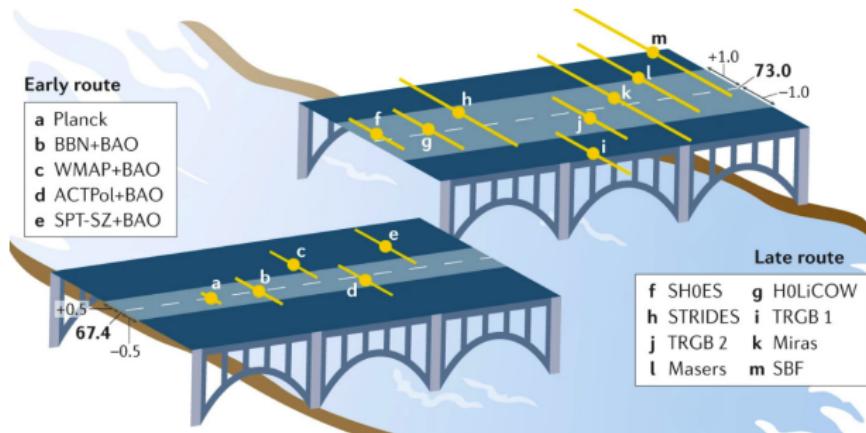
⁵INFN, Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, C.P. 13, I-100044 Frascati, Italy

⁶Tsing-Duo Lee Institute (TDLI), Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 200240 Shanghai, China

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

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*

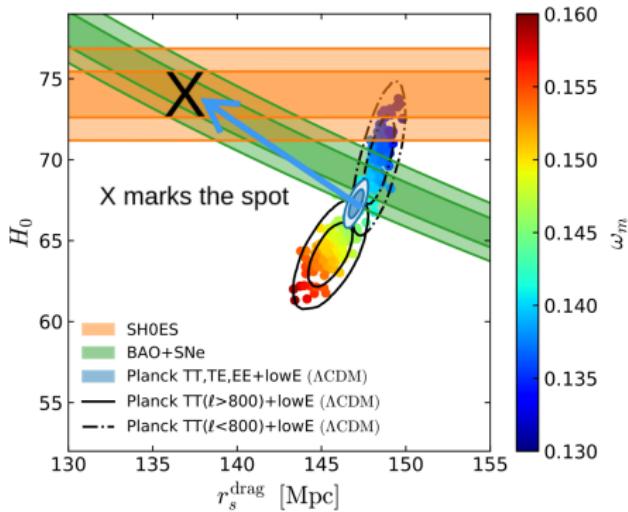


*Late times:
ages of old
objects*

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

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

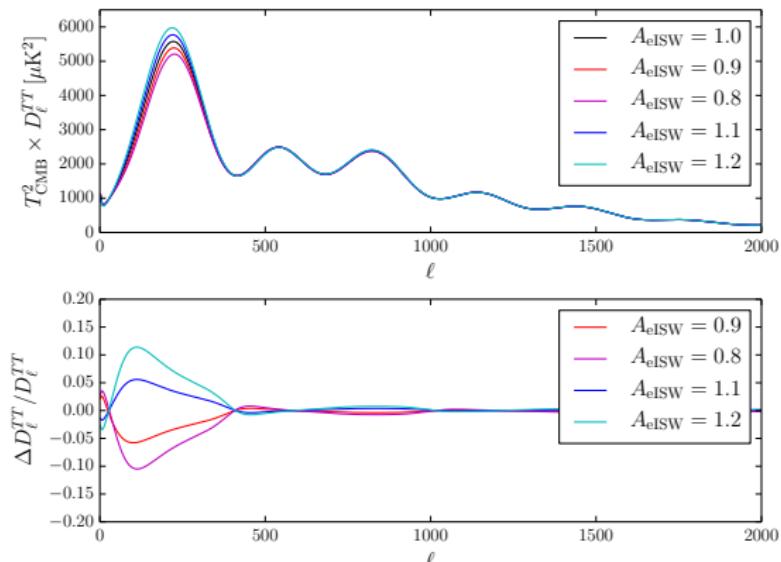
$$\Theta_\ell^{\text{ISW}}(k) = \underbrace{\int_0^{\eta_m} d\eta e^{-\tau} (\dot{\Psi} - \dot{\Phi}) j_\ell(k\Delta\eta)}_{\text{early ISW}} + \underbrace{\int_{\eta_m}^{\eta_0} d\eta e^{-\tau} (\dot{\Psi} - \dot{\Phi}) j_\ell(k\Delta\eta)}_{\text{late ISW}}$$

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

eISW consistency test

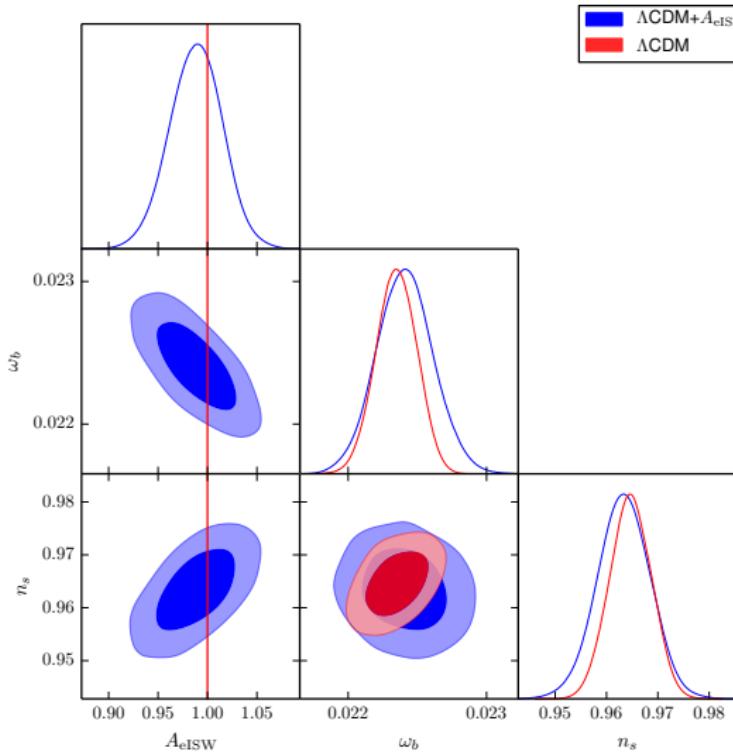
Introduce scaling amplitude/fudge factor A_{eISW} :

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



eISW consistency test

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



Yes!

Parameter	<i>Planck</i>	
	ΛCDM	$\Lambda \text{CDM} + A_{\text{eISW}}$
$100\omega_b$	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

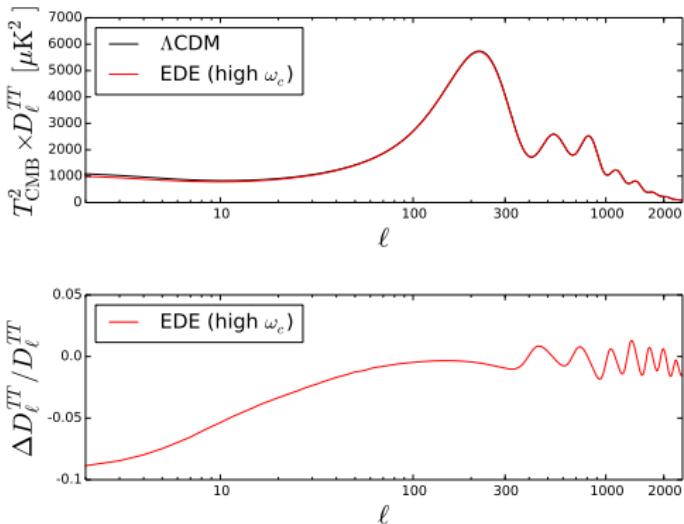
High H_0 EDE fit to CMB at cost of ω_c increase \rightarrow worsens S_8 tension with WL/LSS data? [Hill et al., PRD 102 \(2020\) 043507](#); [Ivanov et al., PRD 102 \(2020\) 103502](#); [D'Amico et al., JCAP 2105 \(2021\) 072](#); partial rebuttals in: [Murgia et al., PRD 103 \(2021\) 063502](#); [Smith et al., PRD 103 \(2021\) 123542](#)

Editor's Suggestion

Early dark energy does not restore cosmological concordance

J. Colin Hill, Evan McDonough, Michael W. Toomey, and Stephen 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

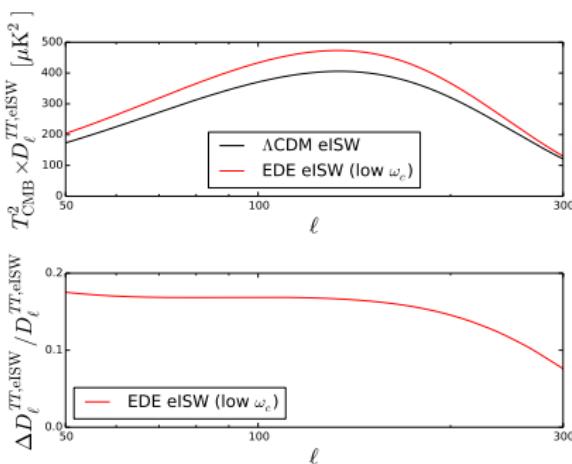


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Implications for early-time new physics: EDE case study

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

Low ω_c

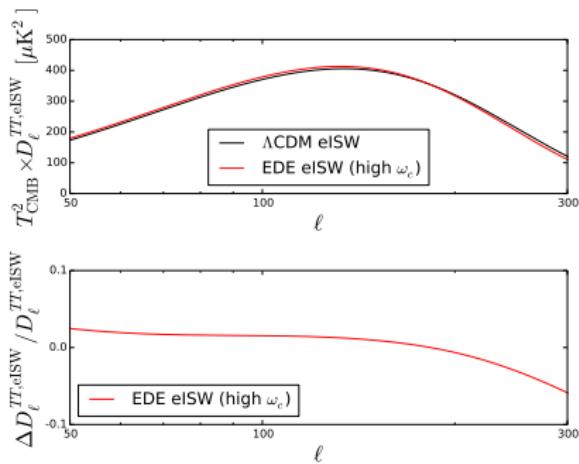


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Almost 20% eISW excess!

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

High ω_c

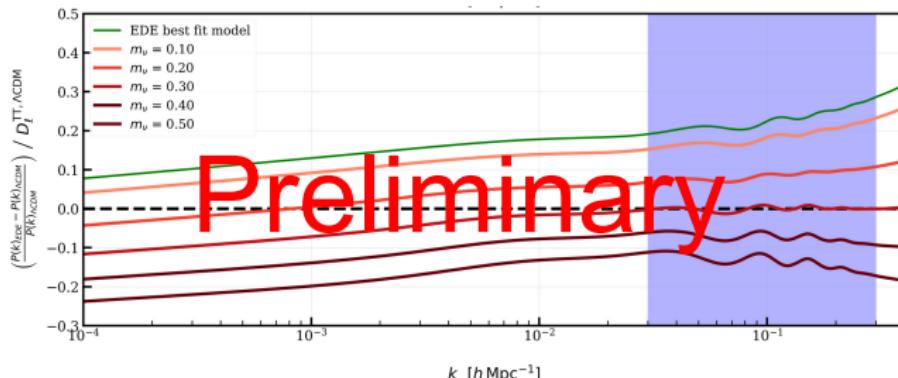


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No more than $\lesssim 3\text{-}5\%$ eISW excess

Solving early dark energy's problems beyond Λ CDM?

Example: neutrino mass (nominally need $M_\nu \sim 0.3\text{ eV}$ to rescue EDE!)



Reeves, SV, Sherwin, Efstathiou, in preparation. Plot credits: Alex Reeves

Neutrinos actually turn out not to work – other possible ingredients:
decaying DM, DM-dark radiation interactions (work in progress)



Alex Reeves (Cambridge → ETH)



Blake Sherwin (Cambridge)



George Efstathiou (Cambridge)

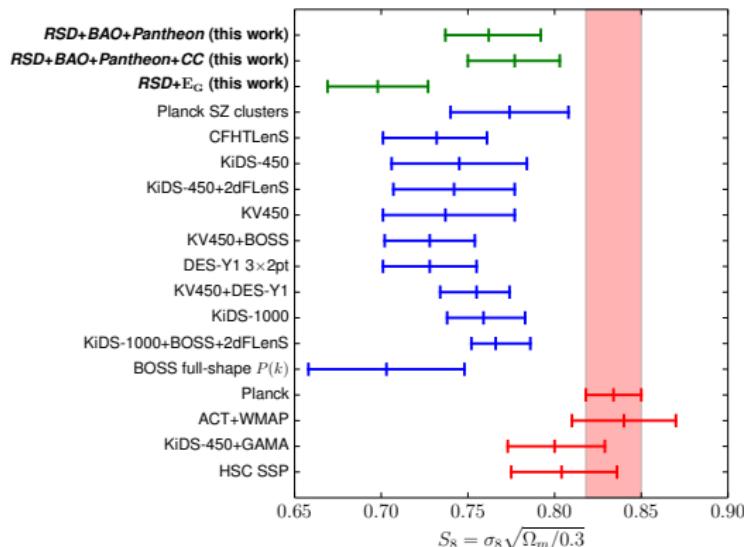
S_8 discrepancy – something to get excited about?

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

Rafael C. Nunes^{1*} and Sunny Vagnozzi^{②†}

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²Kavli 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!



Rafael Nunes (INPE, Brazil)

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

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³Black 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 → **upper limit on H_0**
- $t_U(z)$ integral insensitive to early-time cosmology
- ⇒ **early-time-independent Λ CDM consistency test!**
- **Ages of astrophysical objects at $z > 0$ hard to estimate robustly** 



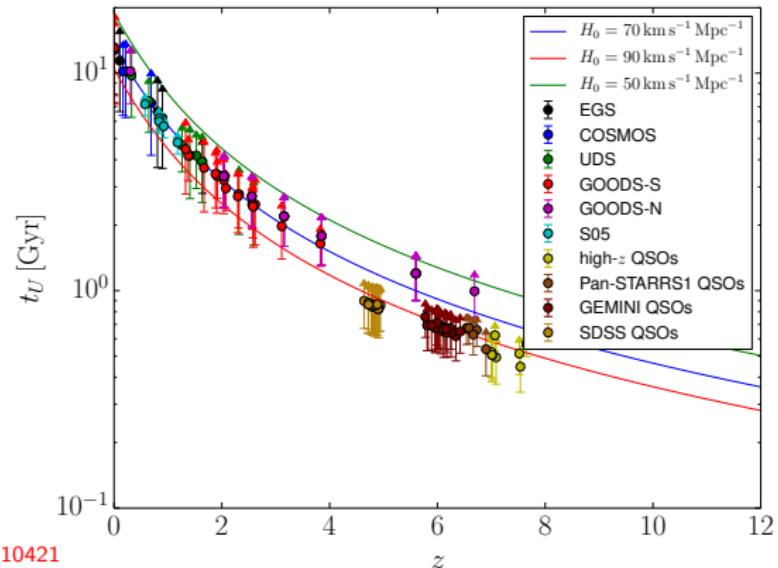
Fabio Pacucci (Harvard)



Avi Loeb (Harvard)

OAO 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

$H_0 < 73.2 \text{ km/s/Mpc}$ (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?

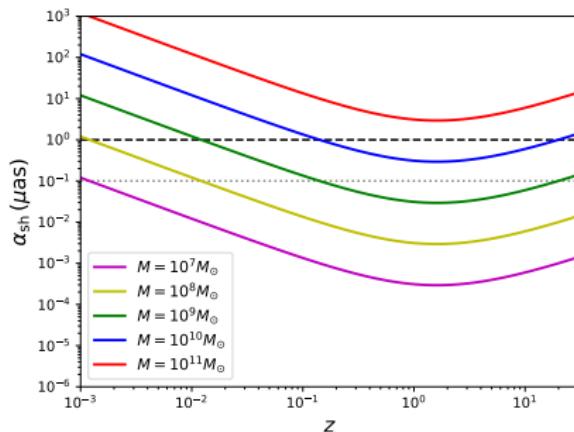
$$\alpha_{\text{sh}}(z) \simeq \frac{3\sqrt{3}M}{D_A(z)}$$

IOP Publishing

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

Classical and Quantum Gravity

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



SV et al., CQG 37 (2020) 087001



Cosimo Bambi (Fudan)



Luca Visinelli (INFN Frascati)

Concerns regarding the use of black hole shadows as standard rulers

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

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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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Received 9 January 2020, revised 12 February 2020

Accepted for publication 24 February 2020

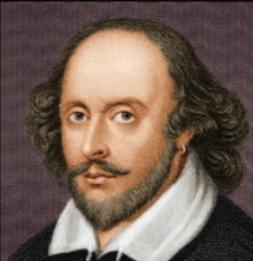
Published 25 March 2020



Problems:

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

Conclusions



ways to probe fundamental physics
There are more things in Heaven
and Earth, Horatio, than are
dreamt of in your philosophy.
by physicists
~ William Shakespeare

AZ QUOTES

Tack för uppmärksamheten!