

# Cosmological Tensions Lecture 4

## Other tensions and challenges for $\Lambda$ CDM

Sunny Vagnozzi

Department of Physics, University of Trento  
Trento Institute for Fundamental Physics (TIFPA)-INFN

✉ [sunny.vagnozzi@unitn.it](mailto:sunny.vagnozzi@unitn.it)

🏠 [www.sunnyvagnozzi.com](http://www.sunnyvagnozzi.com)

16th Tonale Winter School on Cosmology 2023  
Passo del Tonale (TN), 3-9 December 2023



UNIVERSITÀ  
DI TRENTO

Dipartimento di  
Fisica



**TIFPA**



# Beyond the Hubble tension

The Hubble tension is not the only “issue” ( $\geq 2\sigma$ ) with  $\Lambda$ CDM



New Astronomy Reviews  
Volume 95, December 2022, 101659

## Challenges for $\Lambda$ CDM: An update

[L. Perivolaropoulos](#) [F. Skara](#)

Show more

Add to Mendeley Share Cite

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.newar.2022.101659>

[Get rights and content](#)



Journal of High Energy Astrophysics  
Volume 14, June 2022, Pages 49-211



Review

Cosmology intertwined: A review of the particle physics, astrophysics, and cosmology associated with the cosmological tensions and anomalies

Elcio Abdalla<sup>a</sup>, Guillermo Franco Abellán<sup>b</sup>, Amin Aboubrahim<sup>c</sup>, Adriano Agostello<sup>d</sup>, Özgür Akarsu<sup>e</sup>, Yashar Akrami<sup>f</sup> , George Alestos<sup>g</sup>, Daniel Aloni<sup>h</sup>, Luca Amendola<sup>i</sup>, Luis A. Anchordoqui<sup>j</sup> , Richard L. Anderson<sup>k</sup>, Nikki Arzoumanian<sup>l</sup>, Meriko Asgari<sup>m</sup>, Mario Ballardini<sup>n</sup> , Vernar Borner<sup>o</sup>, Spyros Basilakos<sup>p</sup>, Ronaldo C. Batista<sup>qq</sup>, Elia S. Bertalmio<sup>rr</sup> , Richard Battye<sup>ss</sup>, Micol Benetti<sup>tt</sup> , Miquel Zumalacárregui<sup>uu</sup>

Show more

Add to Mendeley Share Cite

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jheap.2022.04.002>

Under a Creative Commons license

[Get rights and content](#)

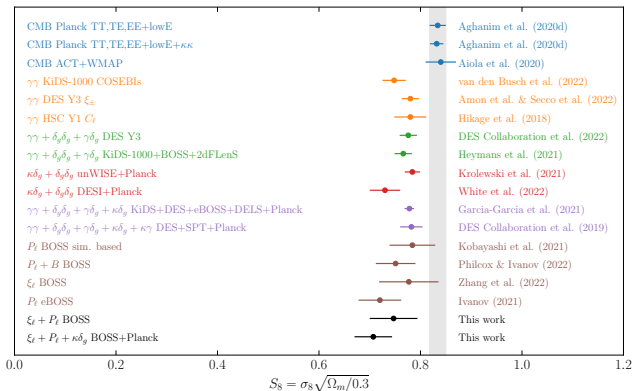
open access

Perivolaropoulos & Skara, New Astron. Rev. 95 (2022) 101659; Abdalla *et al.*, JHEAp 34 (2022) 49

- $0\sigma$  = too good to be true, go check your error bars
- $1\sigma$  = agreement
- $2\sigma$  = curiosity
- $3\sigma$  = tension
- $4\sigma$  = discrepancy
- $\geq 5\sigma$  = crisis (disaster, calamity, catastrophe, cataclysm,...?)

# $S_8$ tension (and more generally “growth tension”)

Curiosity – Tension:  $S_8$  from *Planck* and ACT higher than value inferred from cosmic shear, RSD, galaxy-galaxy lensing,...

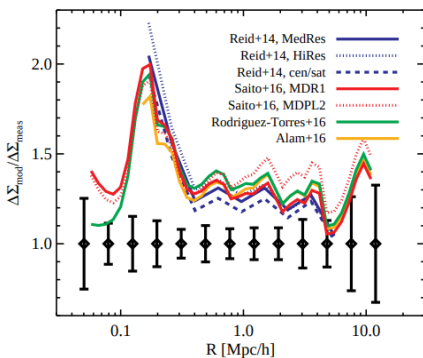
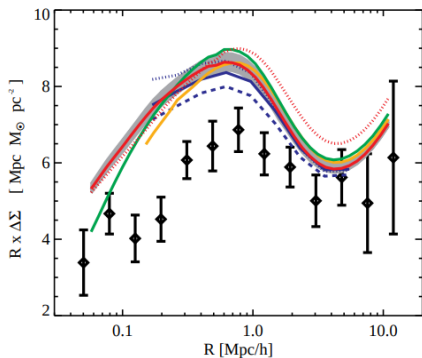


Chen et al., JCAP 2207 (2022) 041

Solutions: massive neutrinos, dark scattering, NL  $P(k)$  suppression, stronger galactic feedback/baryonic physics...?

# “Lensing is low” problem

**Curiosity:** predicted galaxy-lensing ( $g \times \kappa$ ) low given measured clustering ( $g \times g$ ) – another manifestation of the  $S_8$  tension?

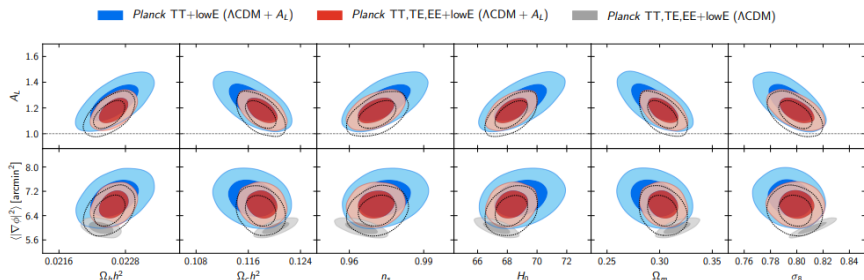


Leauthaud *et al.*, MNRAS 467 (2017) 3024

Solutions: HOD, baryonic physics, massive neutrinos, modified gravity...?

# Planck lensing anomaly (“ $A_{\text{lens}}$ tension”)

Curiosity – Tension:  $A_{\text{lens}} = 1.180 \pm 0.065$  (*Planck* TTTEEE+lowE)

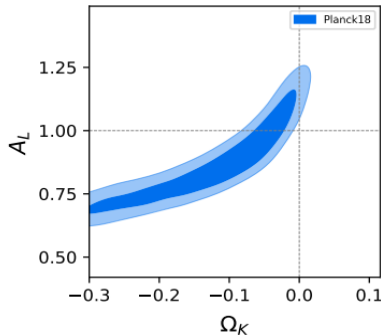
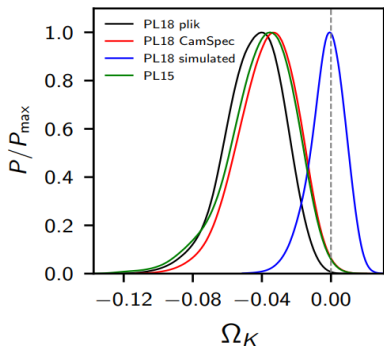


*Planck* collaboration, *A&A* 641 (2020) A6

Solutions: modified gravity, isocurvature perturbations, curvature...?

# Planck closed Universe preference (“curvature tension”)

Curiosity – Tension:  $\Omega_K = -0.044^{+0.018}_{-0.015}$  (Planck TTTEEE+lowE)  
partially but not entirely connected to the  $A_{\text{lens}}$  tension



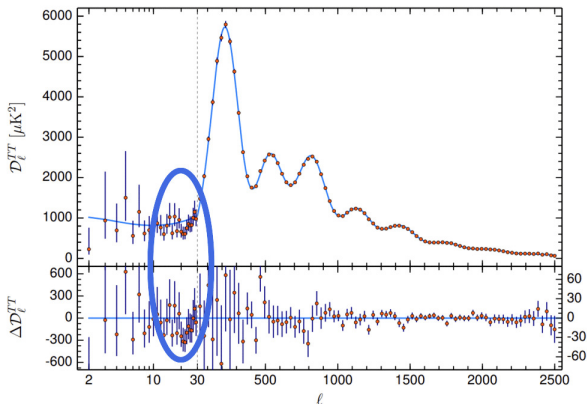
Di Valentino, Melchiorri & Silk, Nat. Astron. 4 (2019) 196

Solutions: not totally clear what to make of it due to tension with BAO,  
but non-flat Universe most likely cannot be the end of the story...



## Low- $\ell$ dips

Curiosity: seen consistently by *Planck* and WMAP – **this is real!**



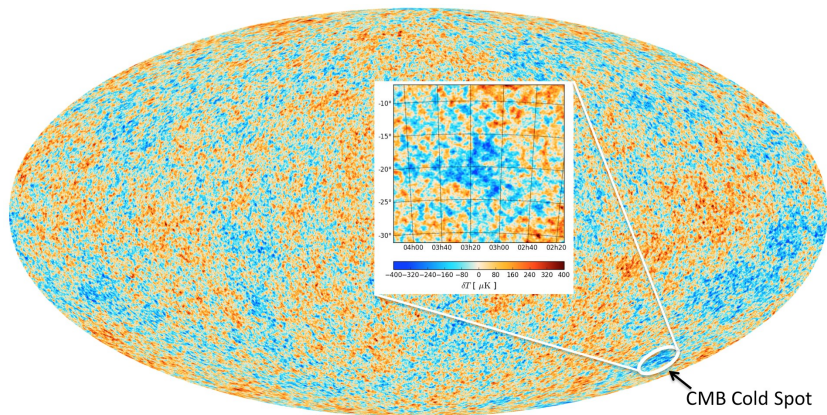
*Planck* collaboration, *A&A* 641 (2020) A6

Solutions: inflation with a step in the potential, short inflation, xresonant particle production, non-standard topology...?



## CMB cold spot

Curiosity: unusually large region of low temperature ( $\Delta T \approx -100 \mu\text{K}$ )

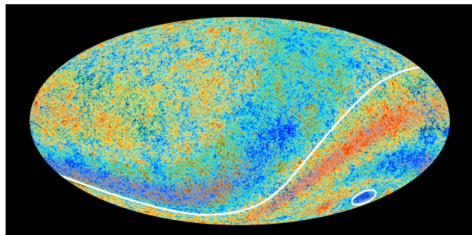
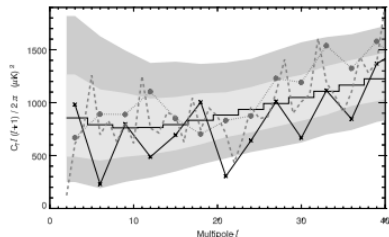


Credits: ESA and *Planck* collaboration

Solutions: Eridanus supervoid, non-Gaussian feature, foreground contamination, cosmic textures, entangled parallel Universe, ...?

# Cosmic hemispherical power asymmetry

**Curiosity:** Northern CMB hemisphere appears to have less power than Southern CMB hemisphere (North and South defined with respect to the ecliptic), observed also in higher correlators

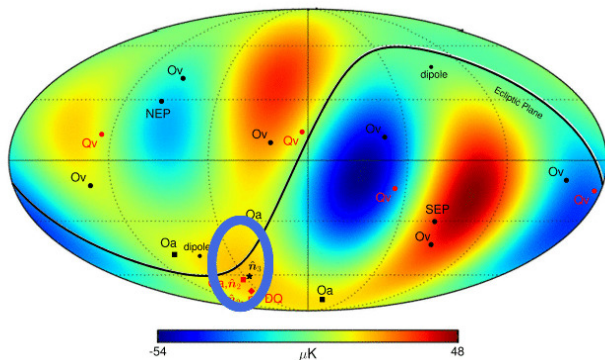


Eriksen *et al.*, *ApJ* 605 (2004) 14 (left) ; Credits: ESA and *Planck* collaboration (right)

Solutions: anisotropic dipolar-modulated primordial  $P(k)$ , mask effects, non-standard topology, ...?

## Quadrupole–octupole alignment

**Curiosity:** anomalous  $a_{2m}$ - $a_{3m}$  correlations ( $\langle a_{\ell m}^* a_{\ell' m'} \rangle \propto \delta_{\ell\ell'} \delta_{mm'}$ ?),  
quadrupole and octupole almost aligned ( $\hat{n}_2 \cdot \hat{n}_3 \simeq 0.98$ )

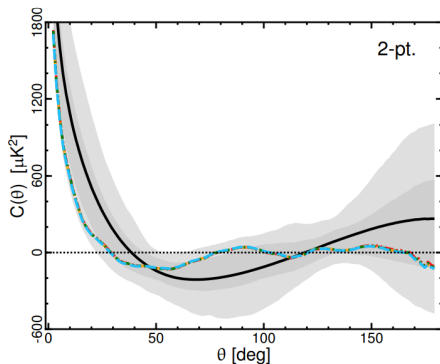


Schwarz *et al.*, *ApJ* 33 (2016) 184001

Solutions: residual contamination due to foregrounds, non-standard topology, ISW from local structure, anisotropic primordial  $P(k)$ , ...?

## Lack of large-angle CMB temperature correlations

**Curiosity – Tension:** unusually low two-point angular correlation function  $C(\theta) \equiv \overline{T(\hat{e}_1)T(\hat{e}_2)} = \sum_{\ell} C_{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$  for  $\theta \gtrsim 60^\circ$

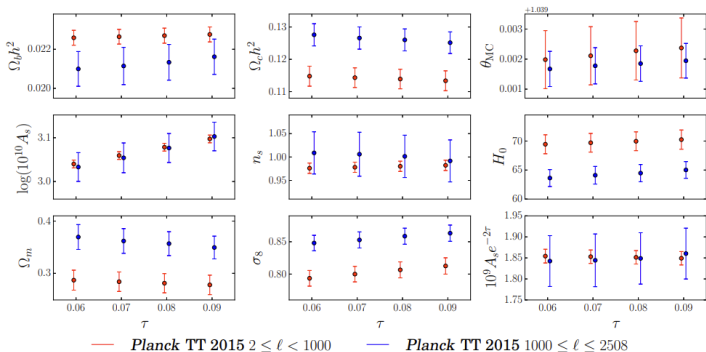


Schwarz *et al.*, *ApJ* 33 (2016) 184001

Solutions: residual contamination due to foregrounds, non-standard topology, ...?

# Planck high- vs low- $\ell$ consistency

**Curiosity – Tension:** inconsistency between parameters inferred from  $\ell \geq 1000$  and  $\ell < 1000$  in *Planck* data

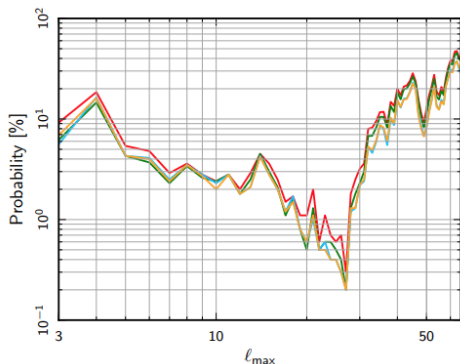


Addison *et al.*, *ApJ* 818 (2016) 132

Solutions: probably closely related to  $A_{\text{lens}}$ , but new physics which alters the shape of the radiation-driving envelope may improve the situation...

# Point-parity anomaly

Curiosity – Tension: more power in odd multipoles compared to even ones

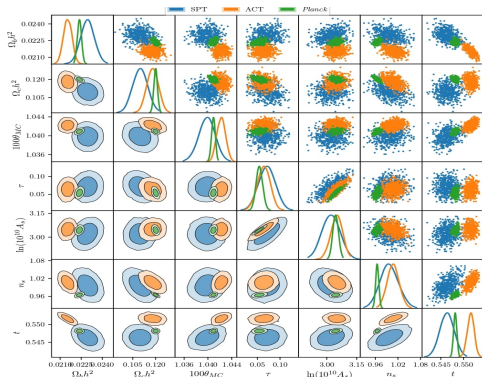


Schwarz *et al.*, ApJ 33 (2016) 184001

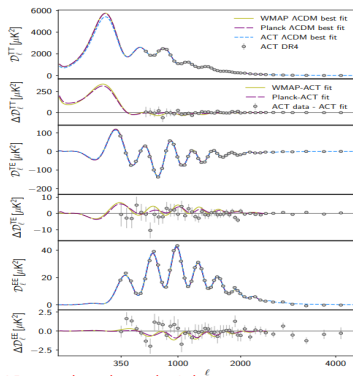
Solutions: residual contamination due to foregrounds, signature of parity violation, non-standard topology, ...?

# ACT vs Planck tension

**Curiosity – Tension:** ACT prefers (at face value) lower  $\omega_b$ , (much) lower  $N_{\text{eff}}$  and  $Y_P$ ,  $n_s \sim 1$ , non-zero  $dn_s/d \ln k$  and  $f_{\text{EDE}}, \dots$



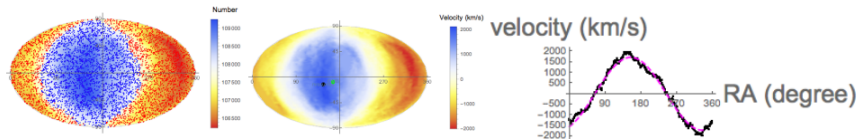
Handley & Lemos, PRD 103 (2021) 063529 (left); ACT collaboration, JCAP 2012 (2020) 047 (right)



Solutions: systematics in either or both, not clear whether extended models can work (they really just hide the problem)...

## Velocity radio dipole

**Discrepancy:** dipole in radio galaxy number counts, implied velocity and direction does not match CMB dipole



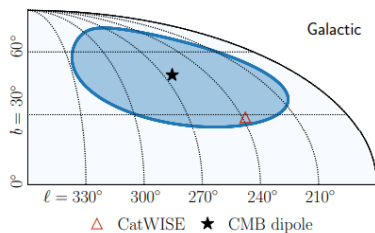
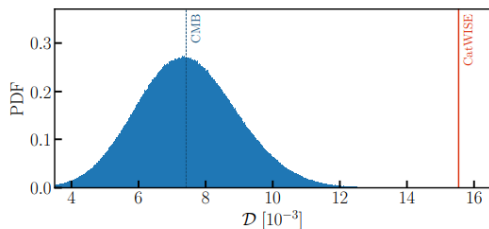
Colin *et al.*, MNRAS 471 (2017) 1045

Solutions: incomplete sky coverage, intrinsic LSS dipole, local structure bias, pre-inflationary remnants, superhorizon perturbations...



# Quasar dipole

**Discrepancy:** dipole in radio galaxy number counts, implied velocity and direction does not match CMB dipole

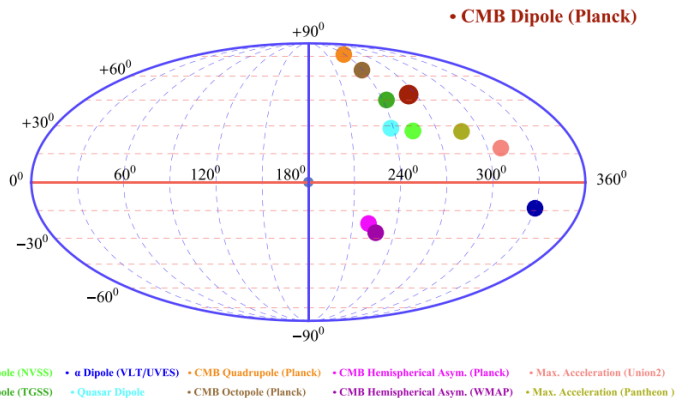


Secrest *et al.*, *ApJ Lett.* 908 (2021) L51

Solutions: incomplete sky coverage, intrinsic LSS dipole, local structure bias, pre-inflationary remnants, superhorizon perturbations...

# Other dipoles

**Curiosities – Discrepancies:** other dipoles in  $H_0/M_B$  from various observations (SNela, cluster scaling relations),  $\alpha$  from VLT/UVES, etc.

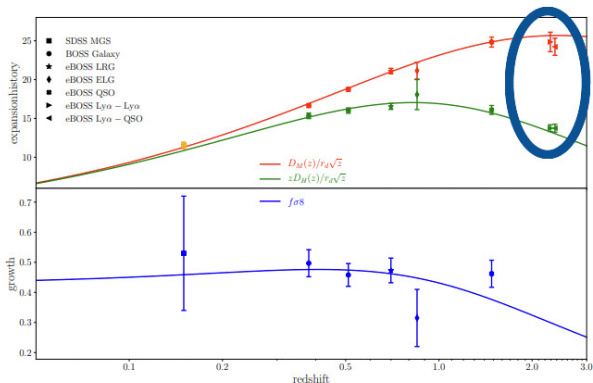


Perivolaropoulos & Skara, *New Astron. Rev.* 95 (2022) 101659

Solutions: really unclear as they point somewhat in different directions...

# Lyman- $\alpha$ BAO tension (and other BAO curiosities)

**Curiosity:** Ly $\alpha$ -Ly $\alpha$  and Ly $\alpha$  $\times$ QSO BAO measurements of  $D_H/r_s = cr_s/H$  ( $z_{\text{eff}} \sim 2.40$ ) high compared to  $\Lambda$ CDM expectations from *Planck* bestfits

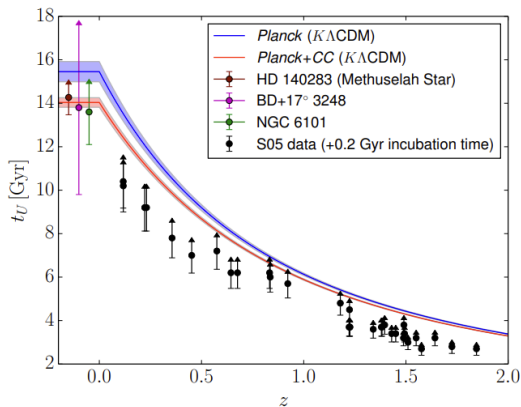


eBOSS collaboration, PRD 103 (2021) 083533

Solutions: something which lowers  $H(z)$  at  $z \gtrsim 2$ , e.g. transition to negative values of  $\rho_{\text{DE}}$  (concrete example:  $\Lambda_5$ CDM model)

## Age problem

**Curiosity:** a few objects appear older than the best-fit  $\Lambda$ CDM Universe, e.g. Methuselah star  $t_{\star} \sim 14.46 \pm 0.31$  Gyr vs  $t_U = 13.800 \pm 0.024$  Gyr

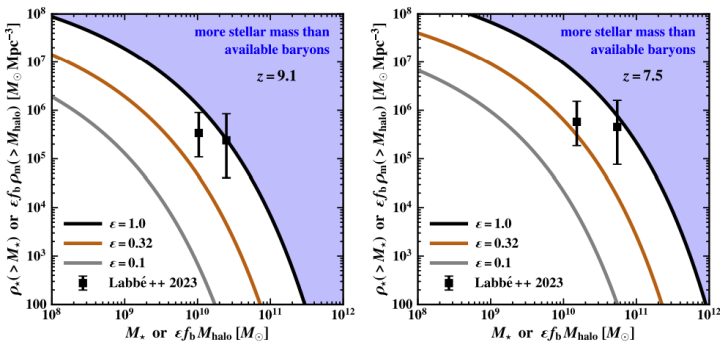


Vagnozzi, Loeb & Moresco, ApJ 908 (2021) 84

Solutions: systematics, new late-time physics ( $\Omega_K < 0$ ,  $w < -1$ )...?

# JWST tension

Curiosity – Tension: too many galaxies, too massive, at too high redshift

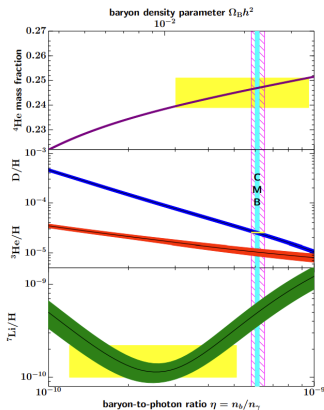


Boylan-Kolchin, Nat. Astron. 7 (2023) 731

Solutions: wrong redshifts, unusually efficient galaxy formation, primordial non-Gaussianity, enhanced small-scale power spectrum, PBHs...?

# Lithium problem

Discrepancy (Crisis?):  ${}^7\text{Li}$  abundance too low given  $\omega_b$  from CMB

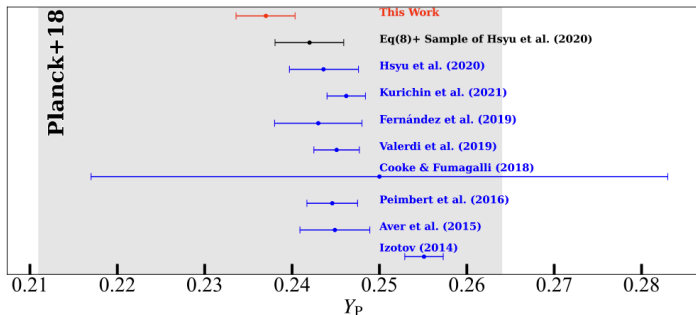


PDG collaboration, 2018 PDG, PRD 98 (2018) 030001

Solutions: stellar depletion, non-Maxwellian statistics, revised values of cross-sections, decaying DM, sterile  $\nu$ s, varying fundamental constants...?

# “BBN tension”

Curiosity: Low value of  $Y_P$  from extremely metal-poor galaxies

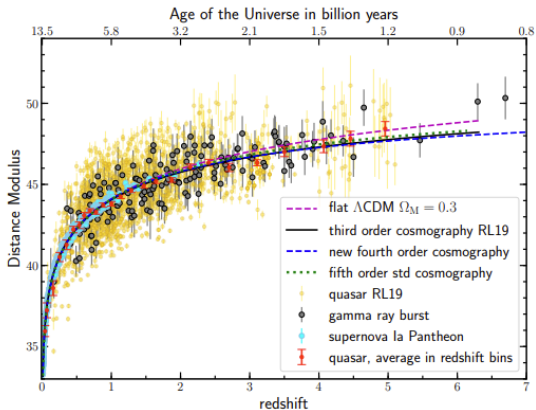


EMPRESS collaboration, ApJ 941 (2022) 167

Solutions: assuming other  $Y_P$  measurements are wrong (unlikely), could be due to lepton asymmetry  $\xi_e$ , higher  $N_{\text{eff}}$ , (very) early dark energy, ...?

# Quasars Hubble diagram

**Discrepancy:** 1598 QSOs at  $0.5 \lesssim z \lesssim 5.5$  show evidence for  $w < -1$  and larger  $\Omega_m$ , especially at high redshift (consistent with GRBs)



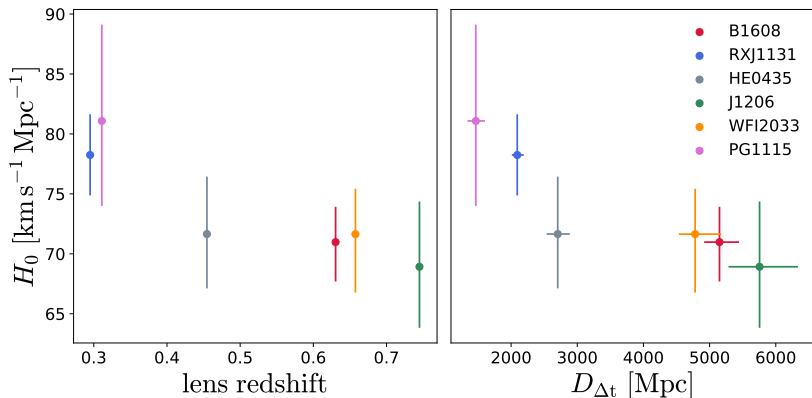
Lusso *et al.*, A&A 628 (2019) L4

Solutions: phantom DE, negative DE density, spatially closed Universe, ...?



## Evolving parameter trends

**Curiosity – Tension:** trends of parameters ( $H_0$ ,  $\Omega_m$ ,  $S_8$ ) inferred within  $\Lambda$ CDM evolving as a function of redshift seen in various late-time datasets

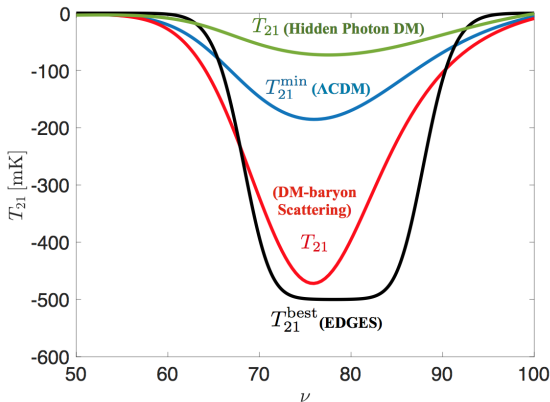


*HOLiCOW* collaboration, MNRAS 498 (2019) 1420

Solutions: beyond- $\Lambda$ CDM late-time new physics going in the opposite direction so as to “absorb” the trend, e.g.  $w < -1, \dots$ ?

## EDGES tension

**Curiosity – Tension:**  $T_{21} = -0.5^{+0.2}_{-0.5}$  K (expectation is  $\simeq -0.2$  K), appears excluded by latest SARAS results

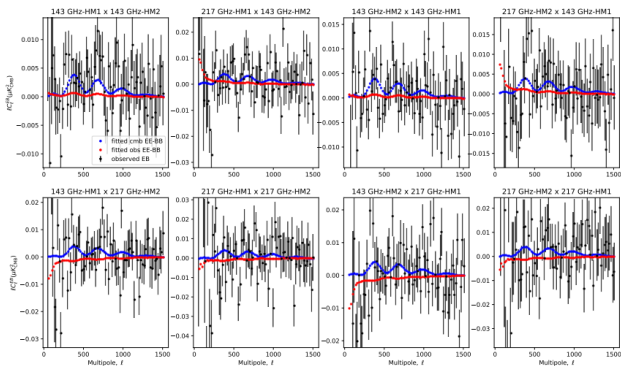


Credits: Ely Kovetz

Solutions: cooler gas (e.g. due to baryon-millicharged DM scattering), hotter CMB photons (unlikely), lower Hubble rate at  $z \sim 18, \dots?$

# Hints of parity violation

**Curiosity – Tension:** detection of non-zero EB correlations in CMB ( $2.4\sigma$ ), corresponding to  $\beta = (0.35 \pm 0.14)$  deg; detection of non-zero parity-odd 4PCF in galaxy surveys (up to  $7\sigma$ )

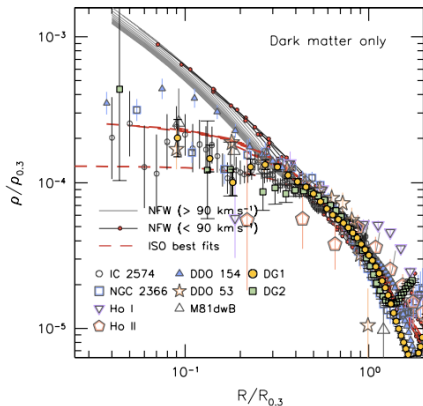


Minami & Komatsu, PRL 125 (2020) 221301

Solutions: new pseudoscalar field (for birefringence – is this DE or EDE?), parity-violating inflaton couplings (for non-zero parity-odd 4PCF),...?

# Core-cusp problem

**Curiosity:** density profiles of low surface brightness and dwarf galaxies appear cored, collisionless CDM simulations predict cuspy NFW profile

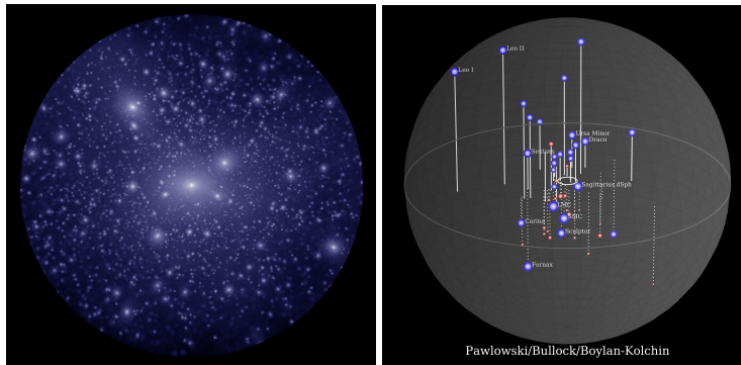


Oh et al., AJ 142 (2011) 24

Solutions: baryonic feedback, central BH dynamics, DM self-interactions, fuzzy/warm/scalar field DM, baryons-DM dynamical friction, ...?

## Missing satellites problem

Unclear significance: number of observed dwarf (satellite) galaxies an order of magnitude lower compared to expectations from simulations

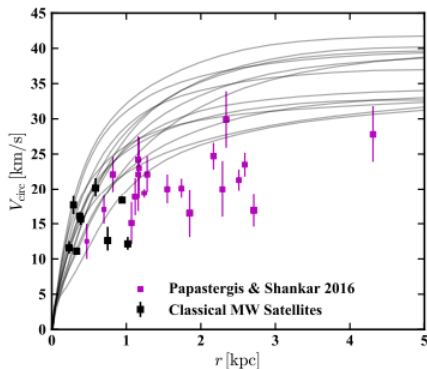
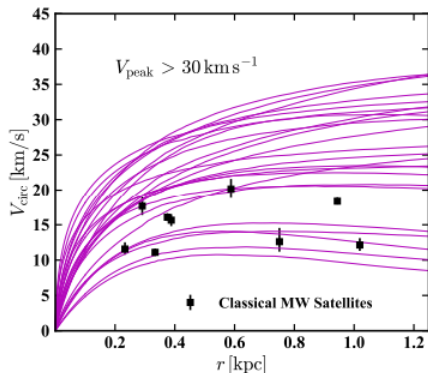


Bullock & Boylan-Kolchin, ARAA 55 (2017) 343

Solutions: baryonic feedback, dwarf galaxies are there but too faint (account for detection efficiency of surveys), tidal stripping, warm DM,...?

## Too-big-to-fail problem

Unclear significance: masses of MW satellites do not match masses of most massive subhalos in  $\Lambda$ CDM simulations of MW-mass haloes

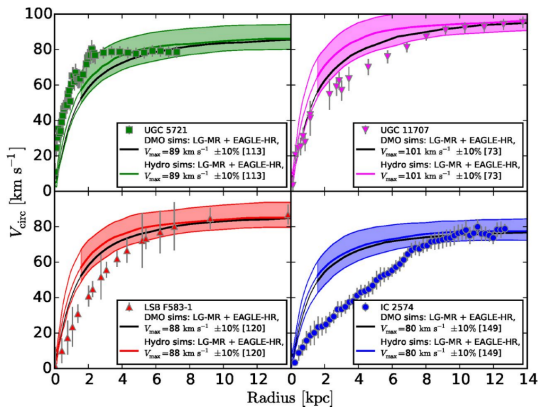


Bullock & Boylan-Kolchin, ARAA 55 (2017) 343

Solutions: baryonic feedback, non-trivial DM physics, MW-satellite interactions (tidal stripping, disk shocking, ram pressure stripping),...?

# Diversity problem

Unclear significance: if halo formation is self-similar, why do galaxy rotation curves at fixed  $v_{\text{max}}$  show huge scatter in inner slopes?

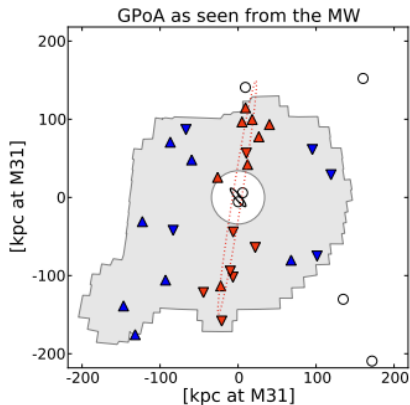
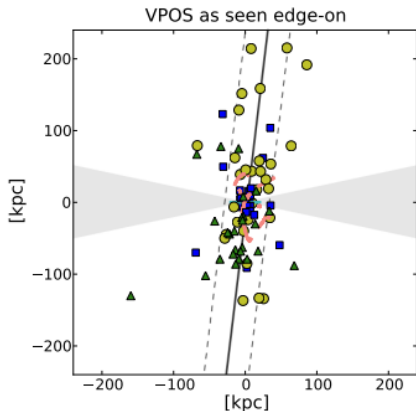


Oman *et al.*, MNRAS 452 (2015) 3650

Solutions: baryonic feedback, non-trivial DM physics, ...?

## Satellite planes problem

Unclear significance: several satellites of MW, M31, and CenA are part of a very thin plane almost perpendicular to the Galactic disk



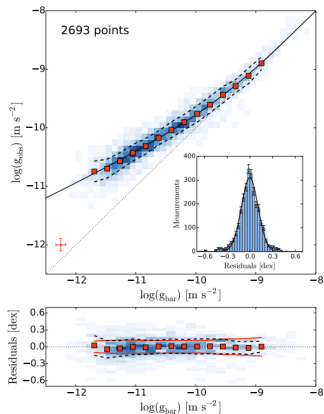
Bullock & Boylan-Kolchin, ARAA 55 (2017) 343

Solutions: filamentary accretion, non-trivial (dissipative) DM physics,...?



# Radial acceleration relation

Unclear significance: observed very tight correlation between total radial acceleration  $g_{\text{obs}}$  and acceleration due to baryons  $g_{\text{bar}}$

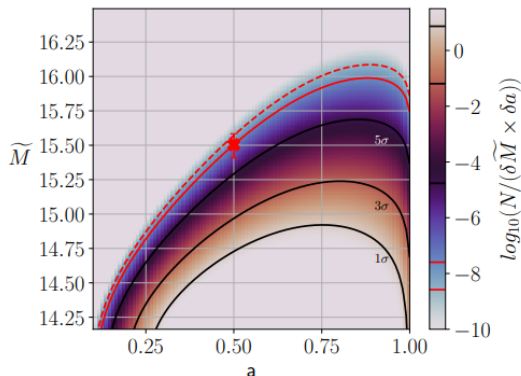


McGaugh, Lelli & Schombert, PRL 117 (2016) 201101

Solutions: baryonic feedback, non-trivial dark sector physics, new dynamical laws (e.g. MOND)...?

## High-velocity colliding clusters

**Crisis:** clusters such as the Bullet Cluster and El Gordo colliding with very high relative velocity, suggesting they formed too early



Asencio *et al.*, MNRAS 500 (2020) 5249

Solutions: accelerated structure formation, new dynamical laws (e.g. MOND with light sterile neutrinos)...?

## Conclusions

