

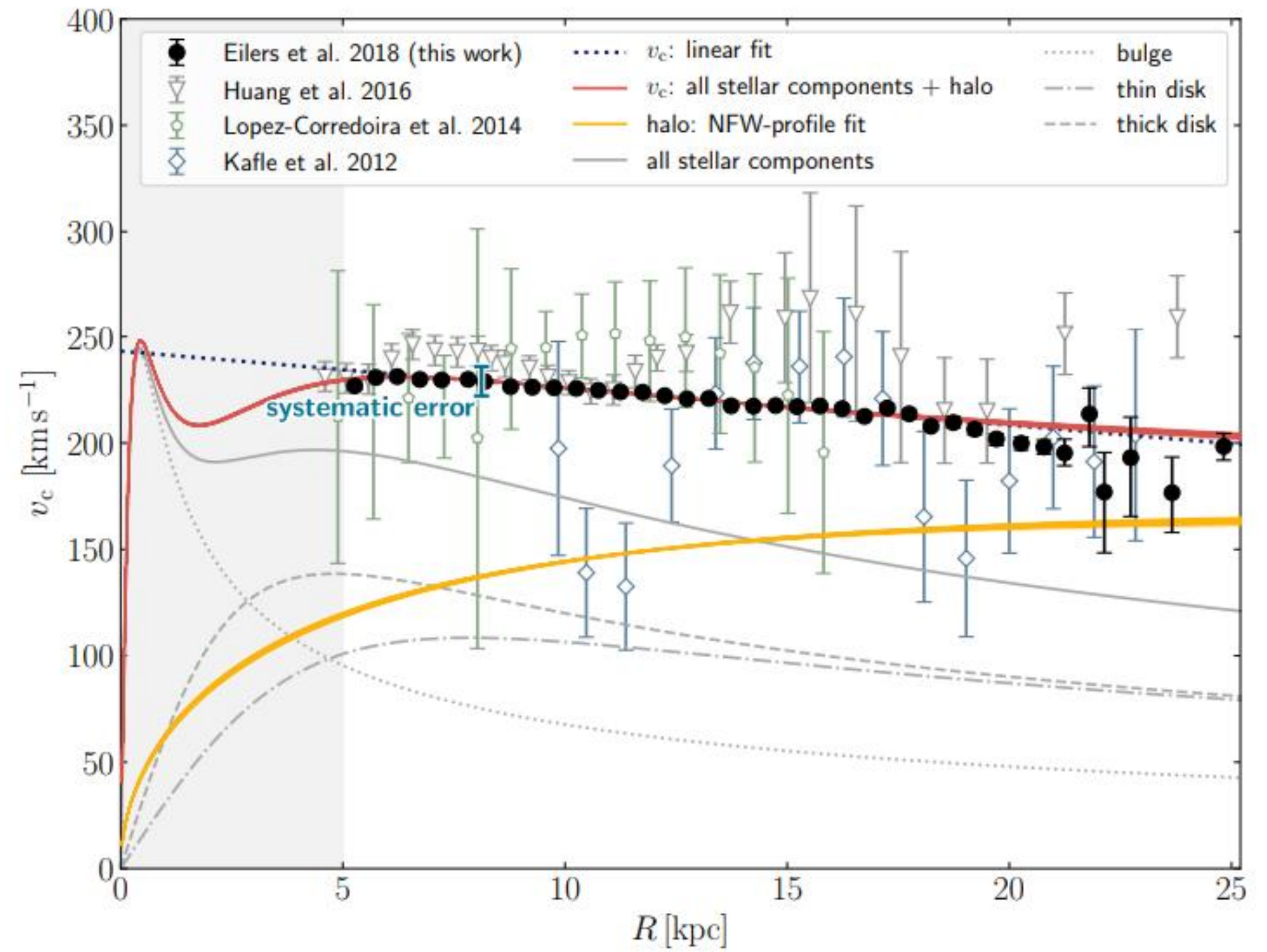
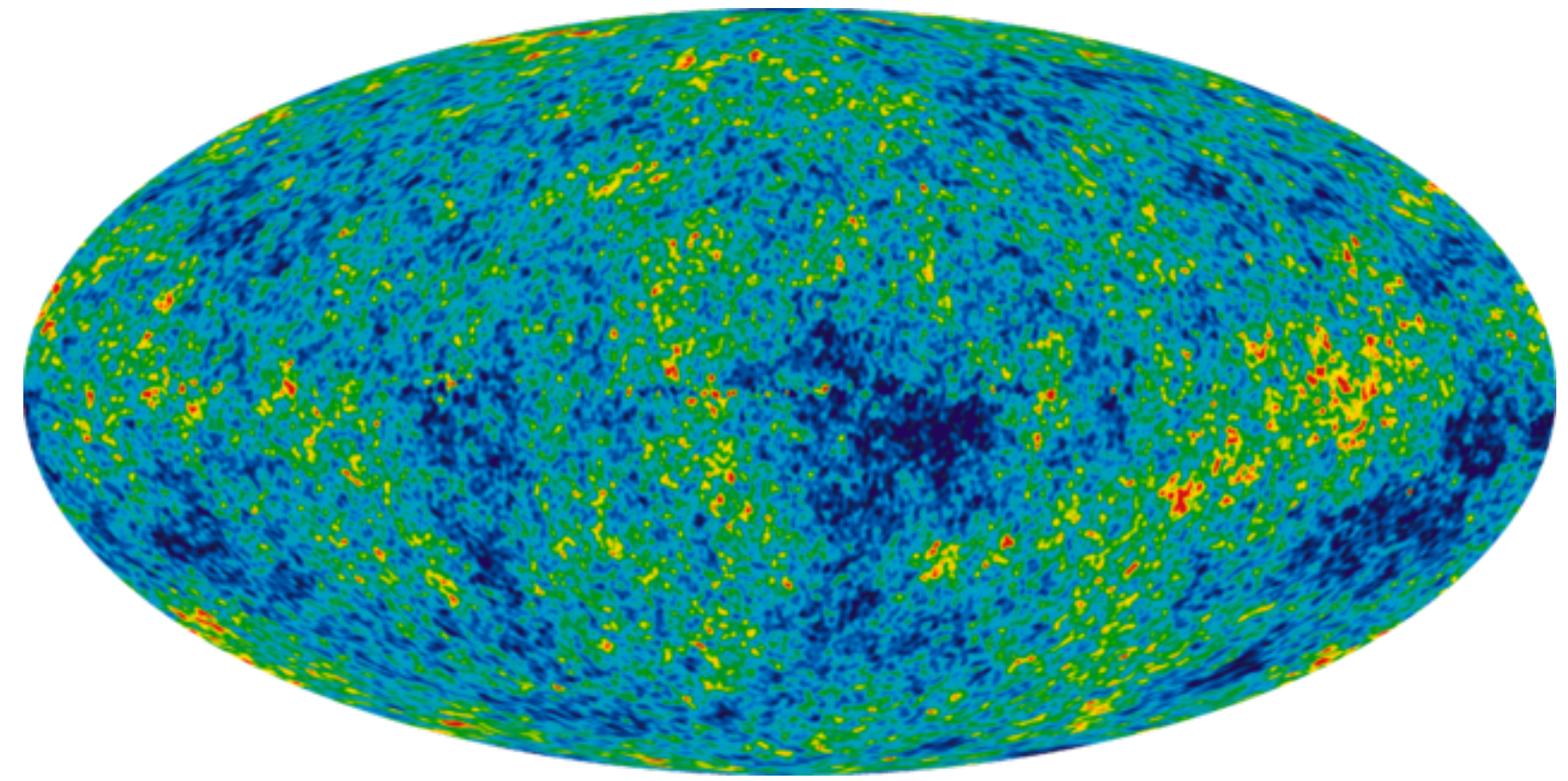
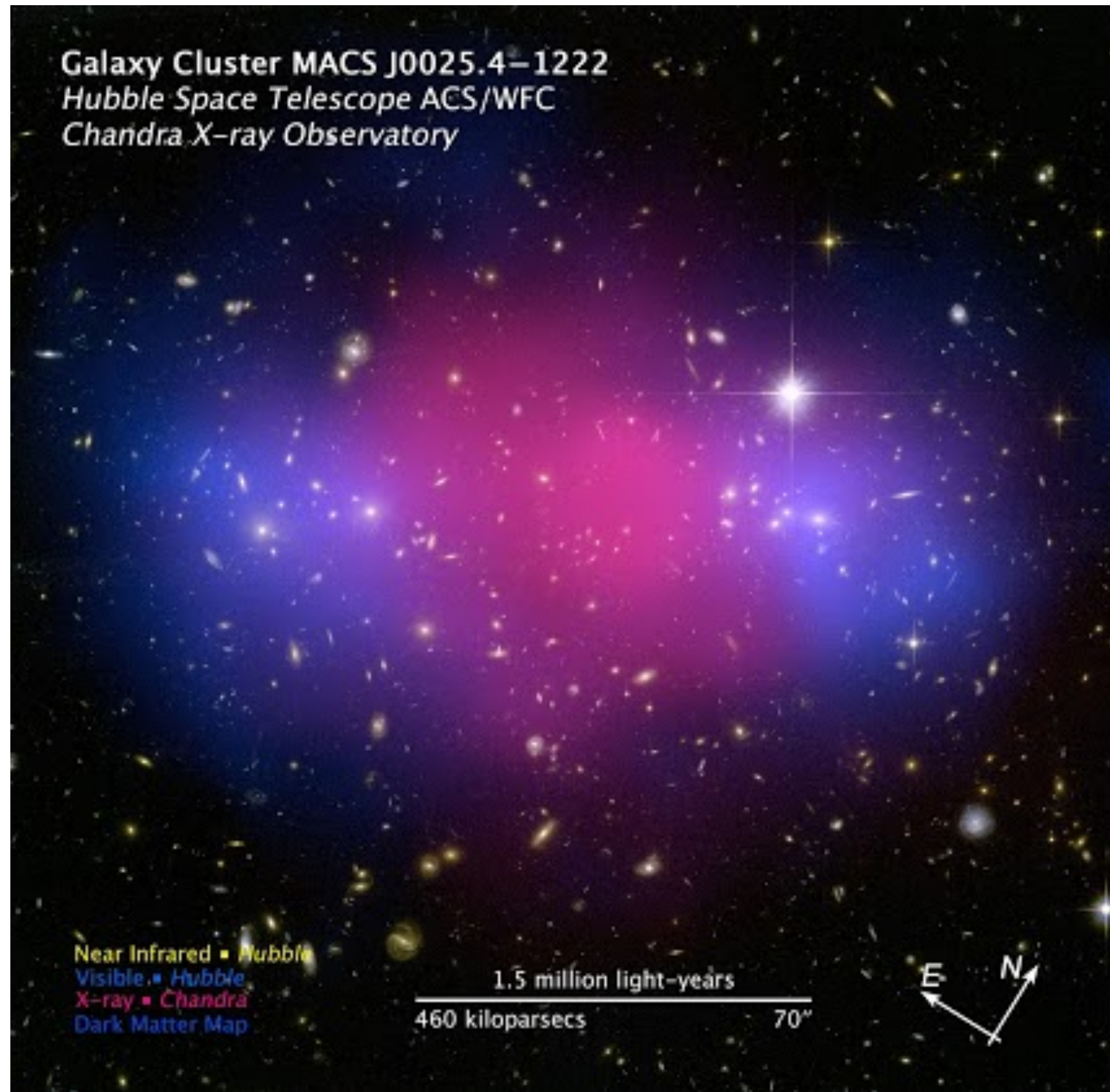
Dark Photon in Astrophysical Laboratories

Ningqiang Song

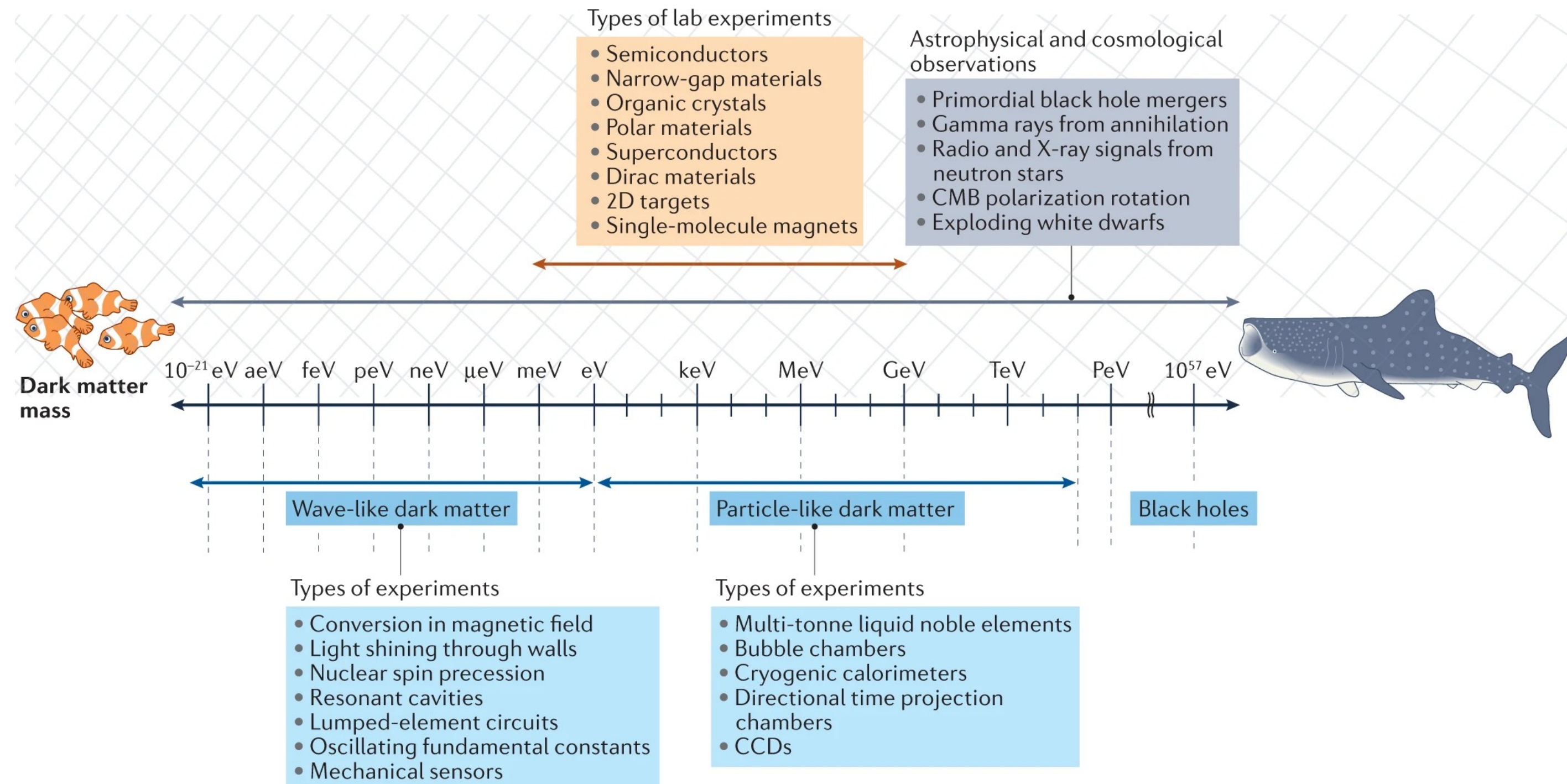
Institute of Theoretical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences

October 20, 2023

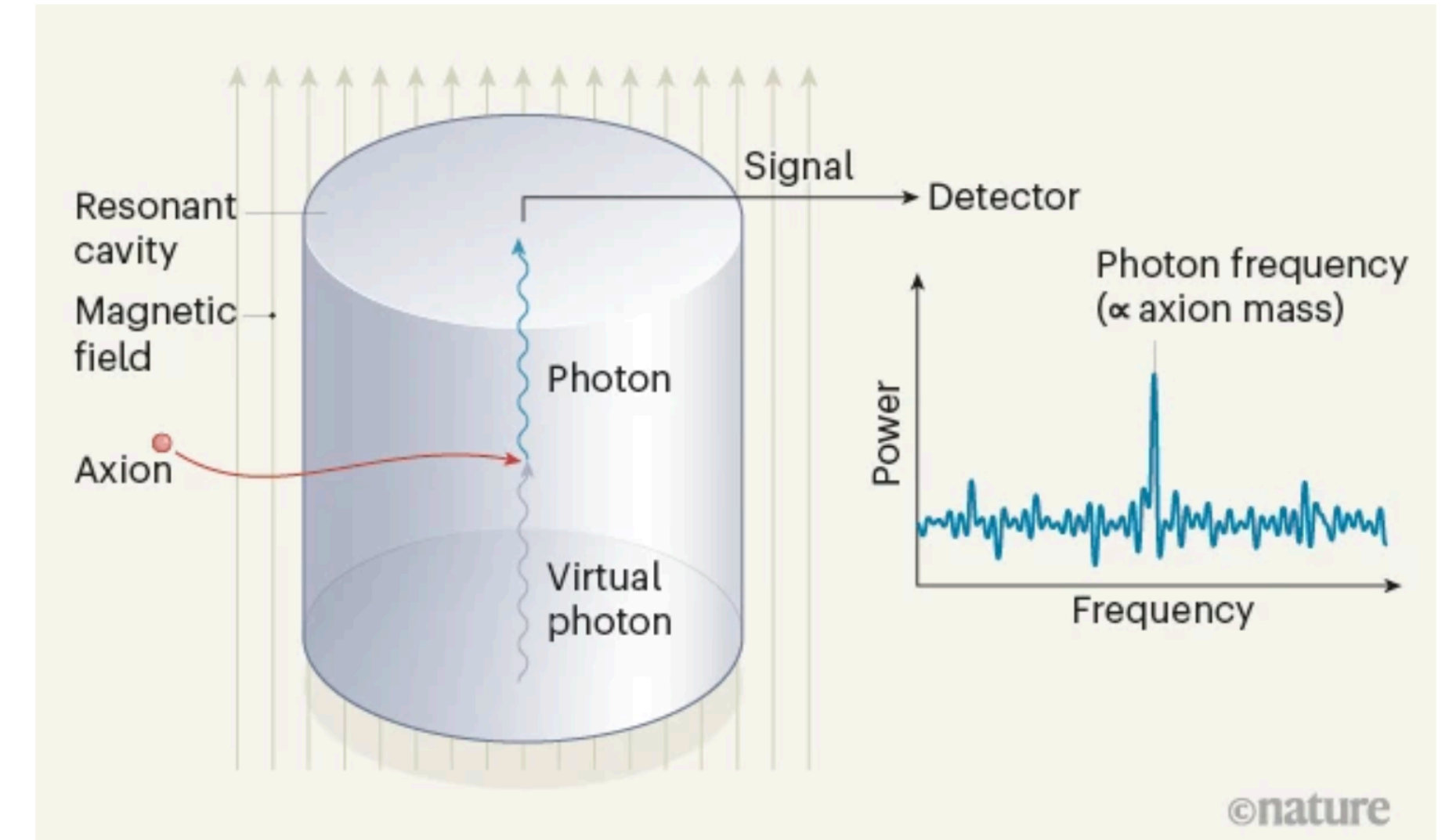




Wave-like Dark Matter



Nature Rev.Phys. 4 (2022) 10, 637-641



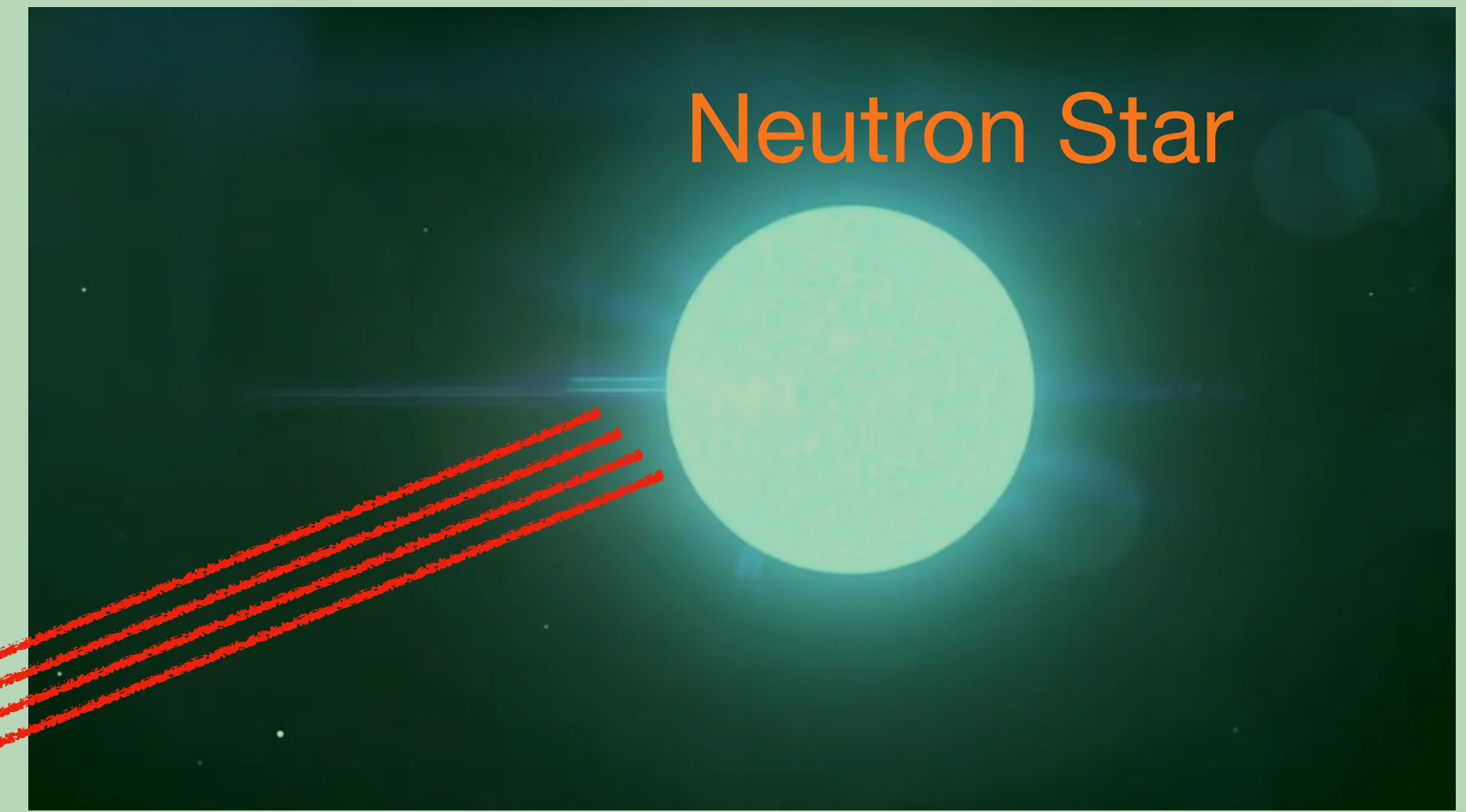
Irastorza, Nature 2021

Astrophysical laboratories?

Radios From Stars

DM Halo

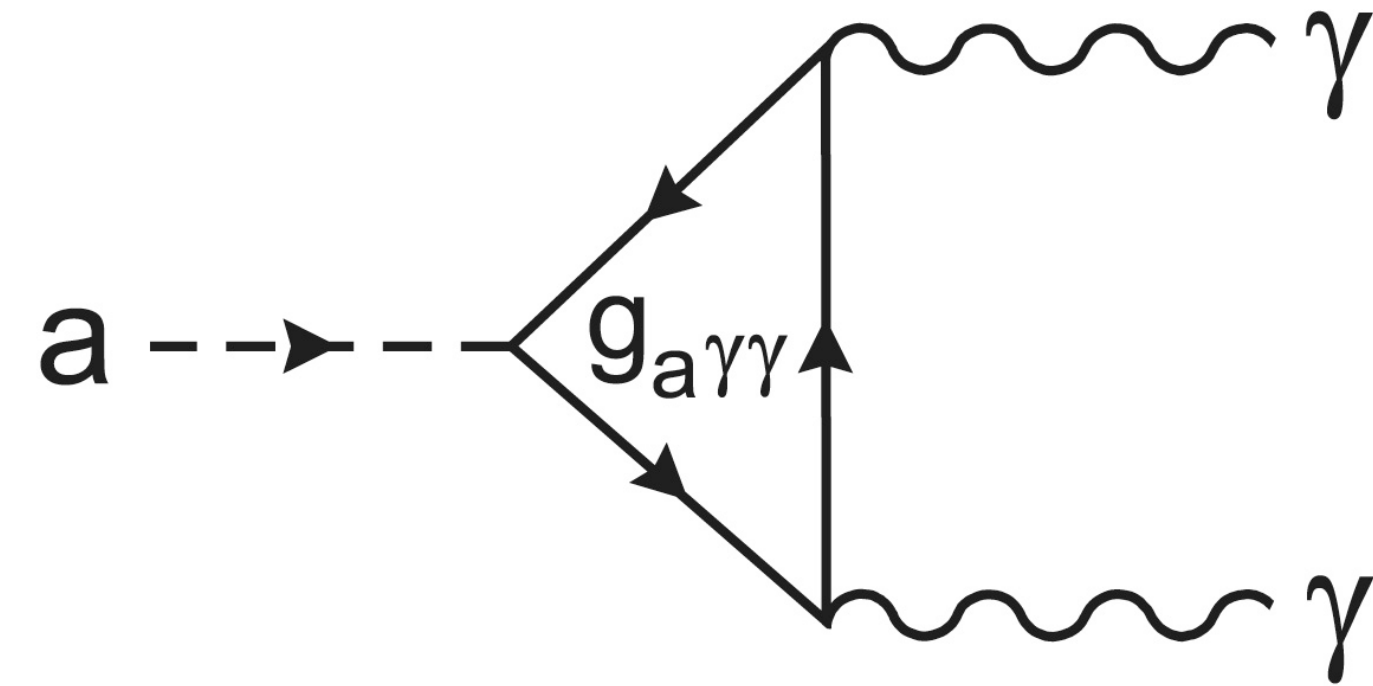
Radio Signals



Shuailiang Ge's talk

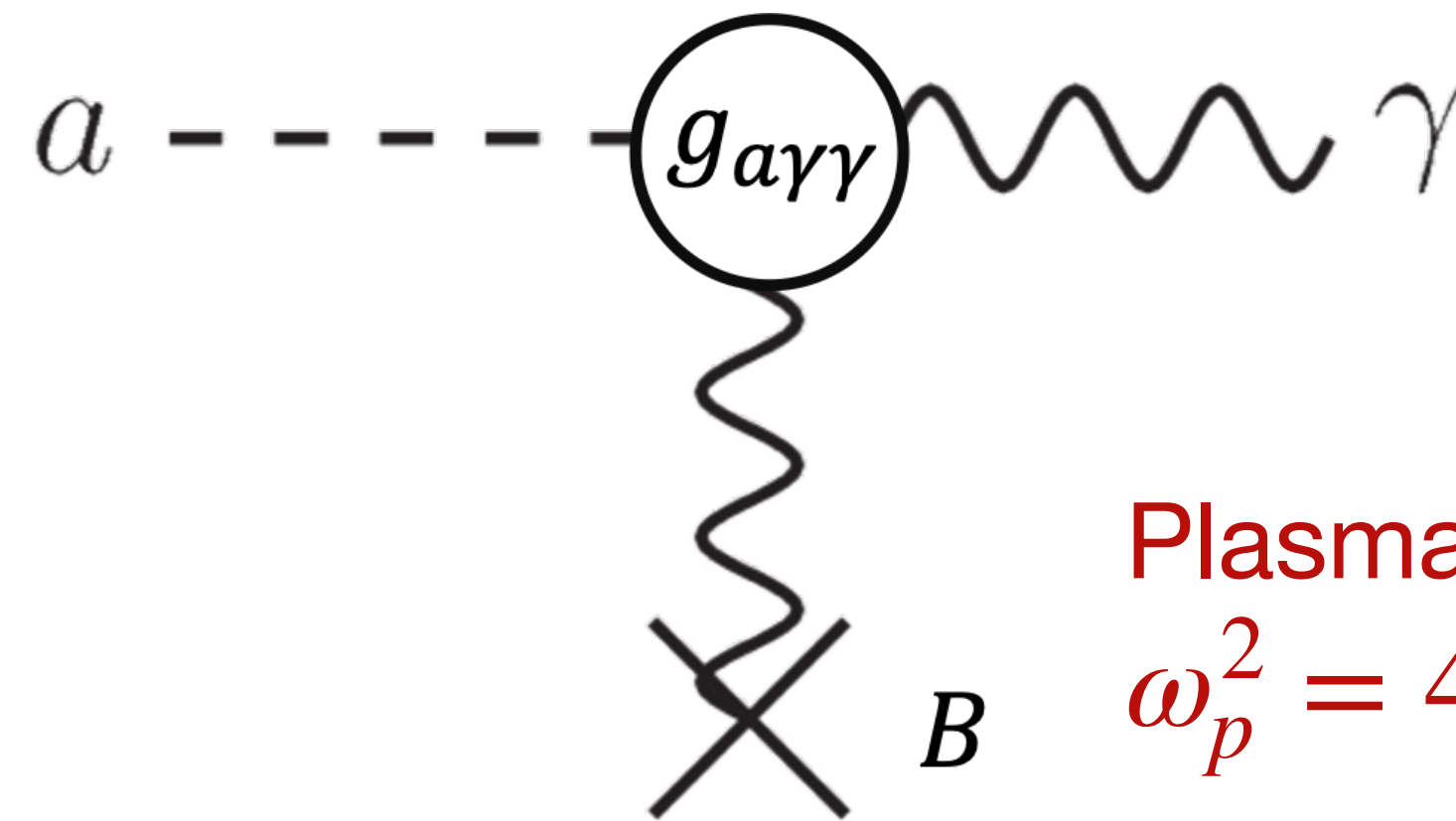
Axion-Photon Conversion

- CP conserved in QCD \Rightarrow axion
- $\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma\gamma} = \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$
- Resonant conversion from **axion** to photon in plasma when $m_a \sim \omega_p$



$$\omega^2 = k^2 + m_a^2$$

$$\omega^2 \sim k^2 + \omega_p^2$$



Plasma frequency
 $\omega_p^2 = 4\pi\alpha n_e/m_e$

Axion Conversion in Neutron Star

- Magnetized neutron star atmosphere—magnetosphere

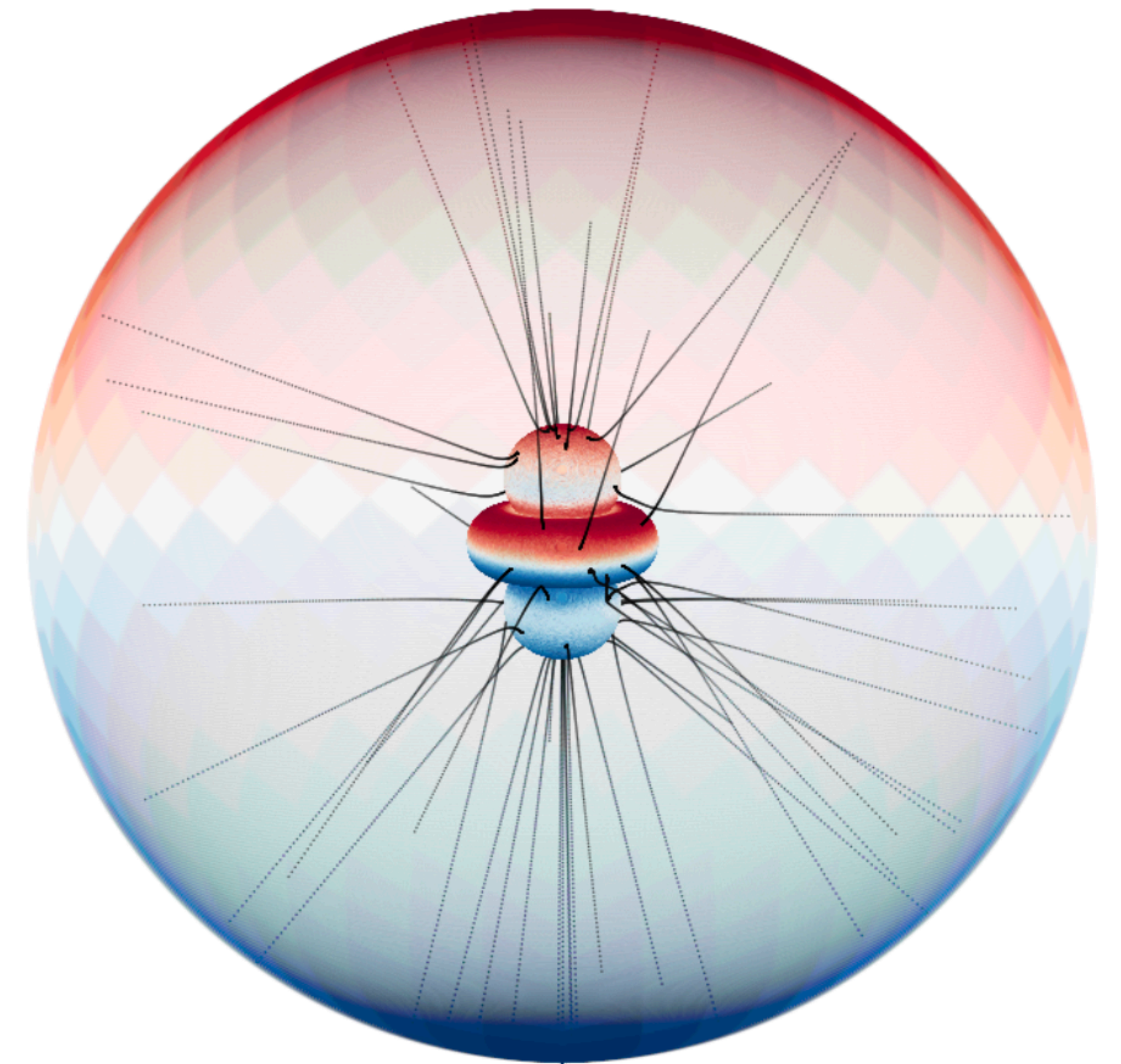
$$n_{\text{GJ}}(\mathbf{r}_{\text{NS}}) = \frac{2\boldsymbol{\Omega} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{NS}}}{e} \frac{1}{1 - \Omega^2 r^2 \sin^2 \theta_{\text{NS}}}$$

- Conversion probability

$$p = \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 B^2}{2k |\omega'_p|} \frac{\pi m_a^5}{(k^2 + m_a^2 \sin^2 \theta)^2} \sin^2 \theta$$

Hook et al 1804.03145

Millar et al 2107.07399

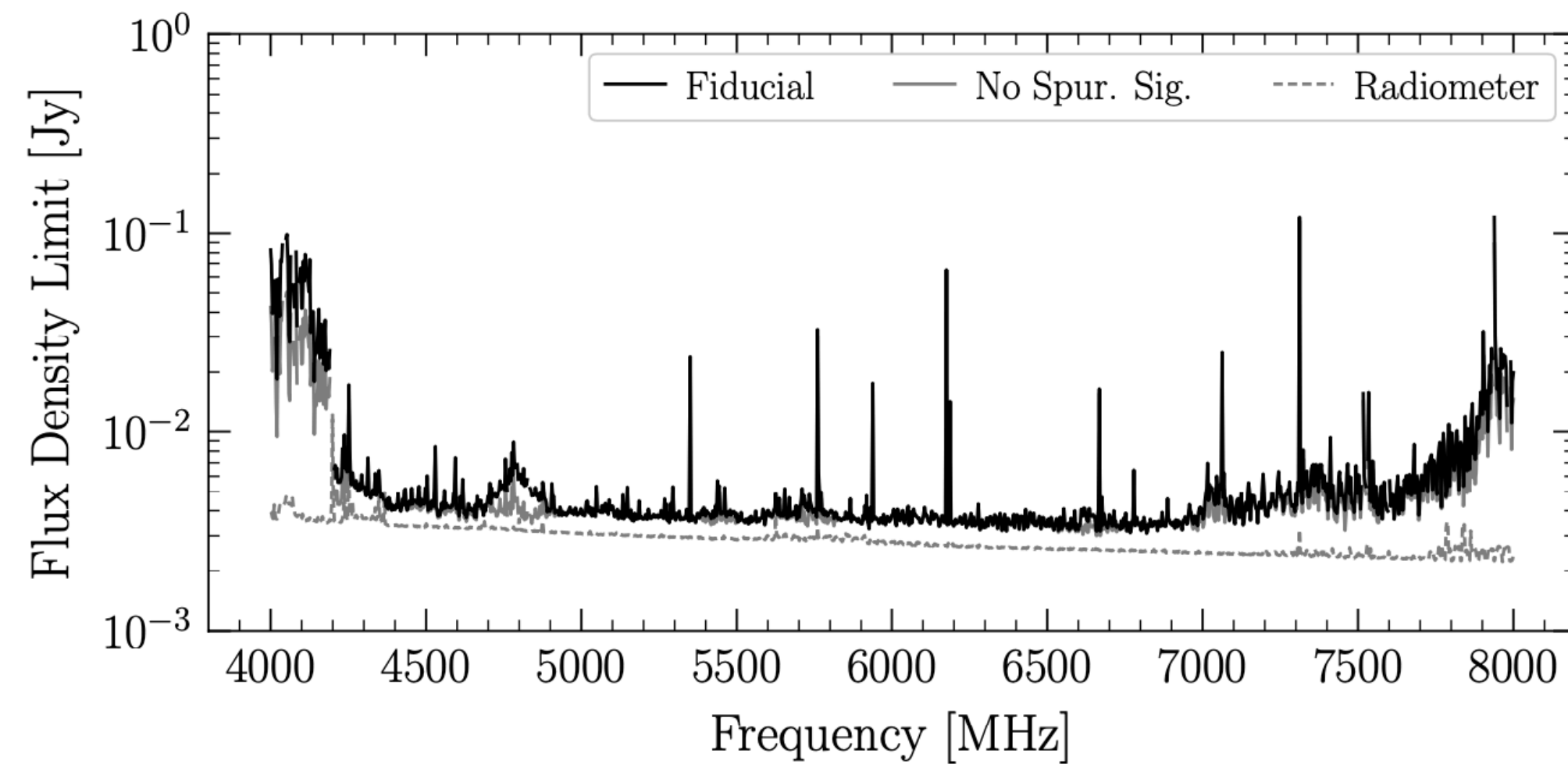


Witte et al 2104.07670

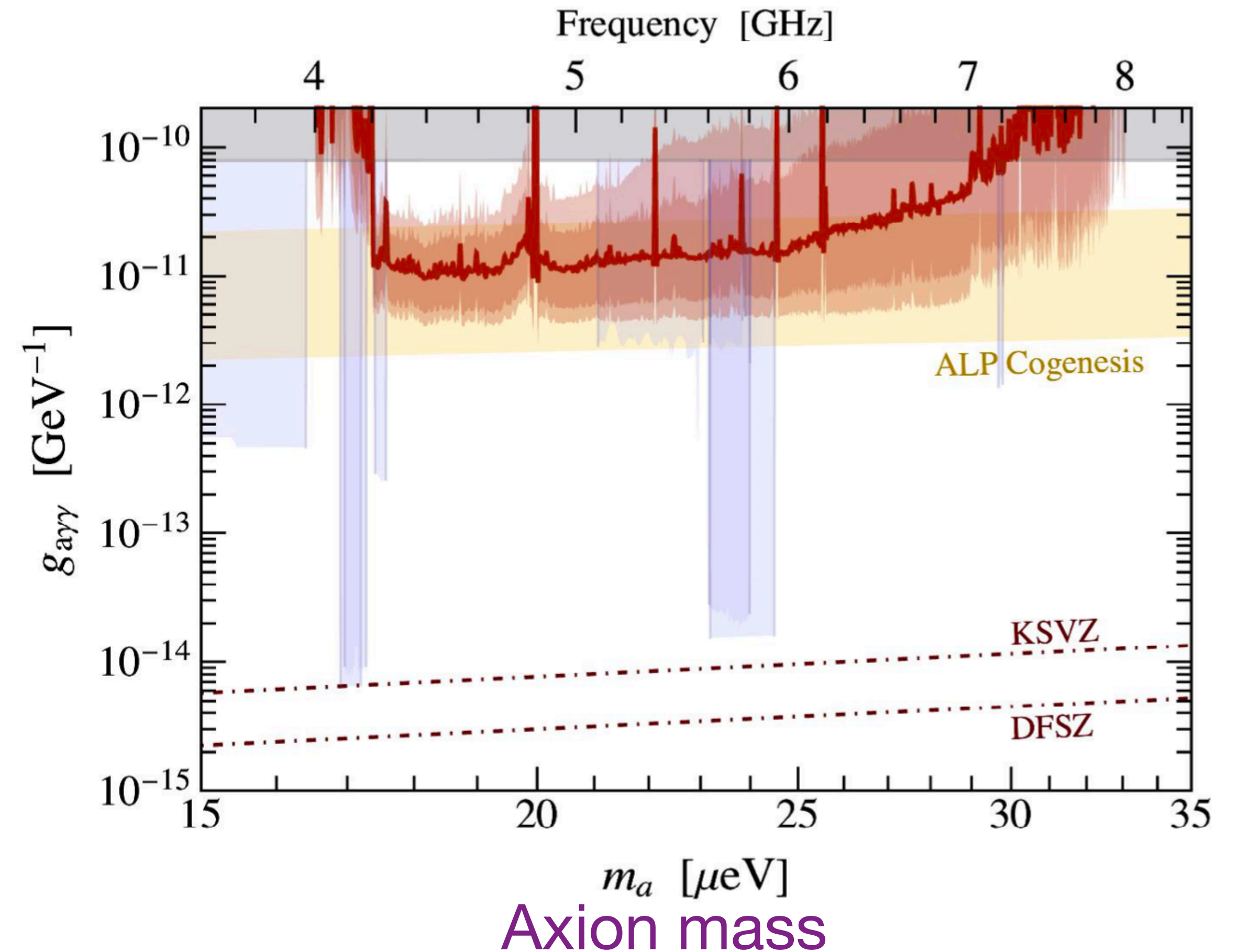
Radio Observation Constraint



Radio flux limit from the galactic center



Foster et al 2202.08274



Dark Photon

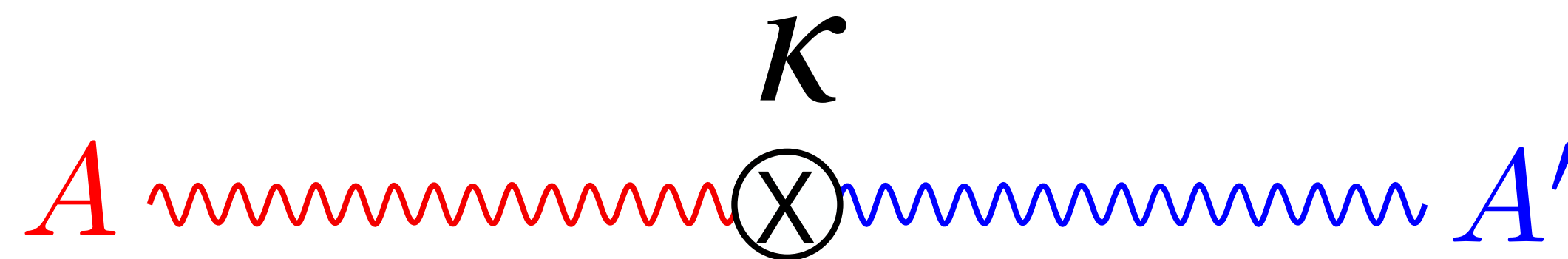
Extra $U(1)$? $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \times U(1)'$

Pospelov' 2008

Ackerman, Buckley, Carrol, Kamionkowski' 2008

Arkani-Hame, Finkbeine, Slatyer, Weiner' 2008

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}(F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - 2\kappa F_{\mu\nu}F'^{\mu\nu} + F'_{\mu\nu}F'^{\mu\nu}) + \frac{m_{A'}^2}{2}A'_\mu A'^\mu - J^\mu A_\mu$$



$$\omega^2 \sim k^2 + \omega_p^2$$

$$\omega^2 = k^2 + m_{A'}^2$$

Resonant Dark Photon Conversion

- Resonant conversion from dark photon to photon in the magnetosphere of a neutron star when $m_{A'} \sim \omega_p$

No magnetic field need!

- Redefine $A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \kappa A'_\mu$ to remove the mixing,

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}(F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + F'_{\mu\nu}F'^{\mu\nu}) + \frac{1}{2}m_{A'}^2 A'_\mu A'^\mu - (A_\mu + \kappa A'_\mu)J^\mu$$

- Equation of motion

$$\begin{aligned} (\omega^2 + \nabla^2)\mathbf{A} - \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) + \omega^2(\chi^p + \chi^{\text{vac}}) \cdot (\mathbf{A} + \kappa\mathbf{A}') &= 0 \\ (\omega^2 + \nabla^2)\mathbf{A}' - m_{A'}^2\mathbf{A}' + \kappa\omega^2(\chi^p + \chi^{\text{vac}}) \cdot \mathbf{A} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \left[\begin{array}{cc} \omega^2 + \partial_z^2 + \omega^2(\chi^p + \chi^{\text{vac}} - \mathcal{D}^2) & \kappa(\chi^p + \chi^{\text{vac}}) \\ \kappa(\chi^p + \chi^{\text{vac}}) & -m_{A'}^2/\omega^2 \end{array} \right] \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{A}' \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\epsilon = 1 + \chi^p = R_\theta^{yz} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon & ig & 0 \\ -ig & \epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \eta \end{pmatrix} \cdot R_{-\theta}^{yz}$$

Resonant Dark Photon Conversion

$$(\omega^2 + \partial_z^2)A_x - \partial_x \partial_z A_z + \omega^2 a \bar{A}_x = 0,$$

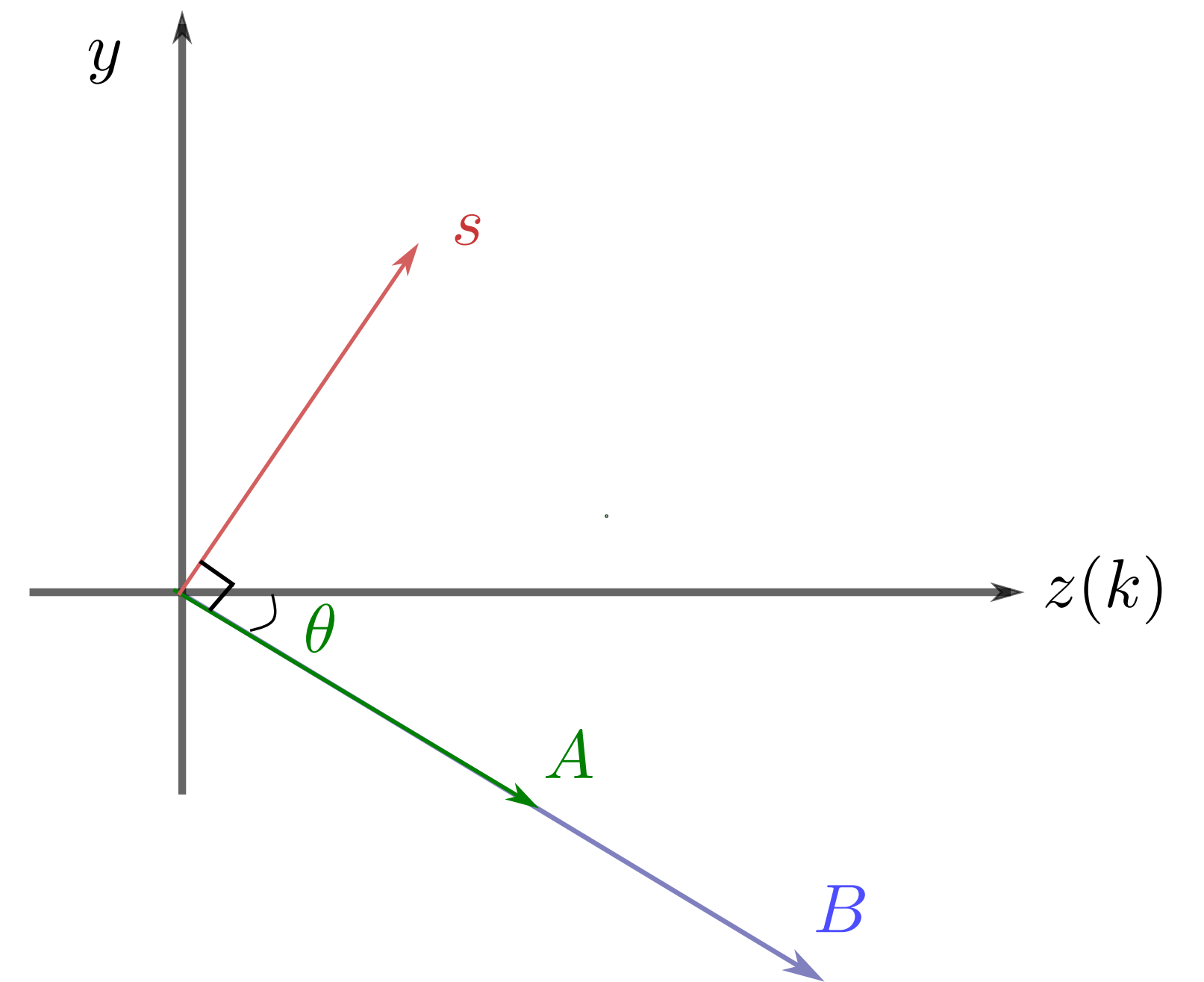
$$(\omega^2 + \partial_z^2)A_y - \partial_y \partial_z A_z + \omega^2 [(\eta' \sin^2 \theta + a + q \sin^2 \theta) \bar{A}_y - (\eta' + q) \cos \theta \sin \theta \bar{A}_z] = 0,$$

$$\omega^2 A_z - \partial_x \partial_z A_x - \partial_y \partial_z A_y + \omega^2 [-(\eta' + q) \cos \theta \sin \theta \bar{A}_y + (\eta' \cos^2 \theta + a + q \cos^2 \theta) \bar{A}_z] = 0.$$

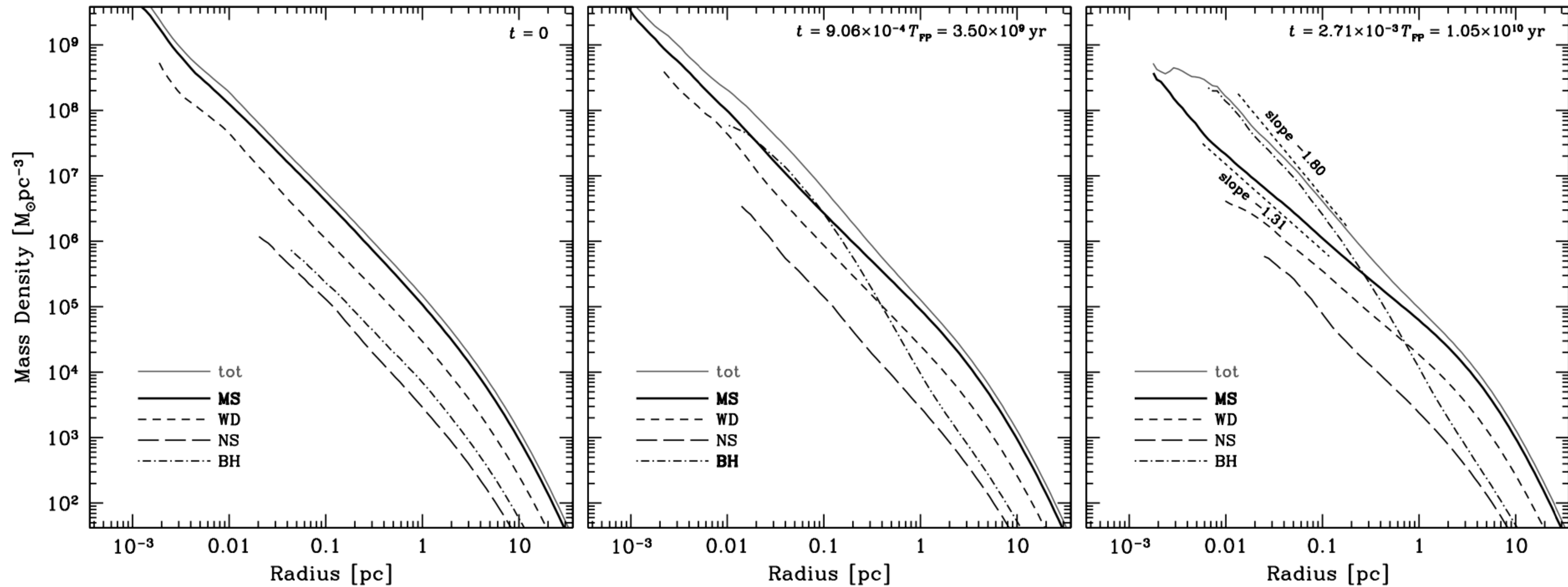
- Conversion probability

$$p \simeq \frac{|\tilde{A}_y|^2 + |\tilde{A}_z|^2}{|\tilde{A}'_x|^2 + |\tilde{A}'_y|^2 + |\tilde{A}'_z|^2} \simeq \frac{\pi \kappa^2 \omega_p^3 (m_A^2 \cos \theta - \omega_p^2 \sin^3 \theta)^2}{6 k m_A^4 \omega_p' \sin^2 \theta}$$

- The converted photon has both **transverse** and **longitudinal** polarizations, and evolves in the direction that is **perpendicular** to the magnetic field



Compact Stars in the Galactic Centre



Freitag et al 2006

Signals from the Galactic Centre

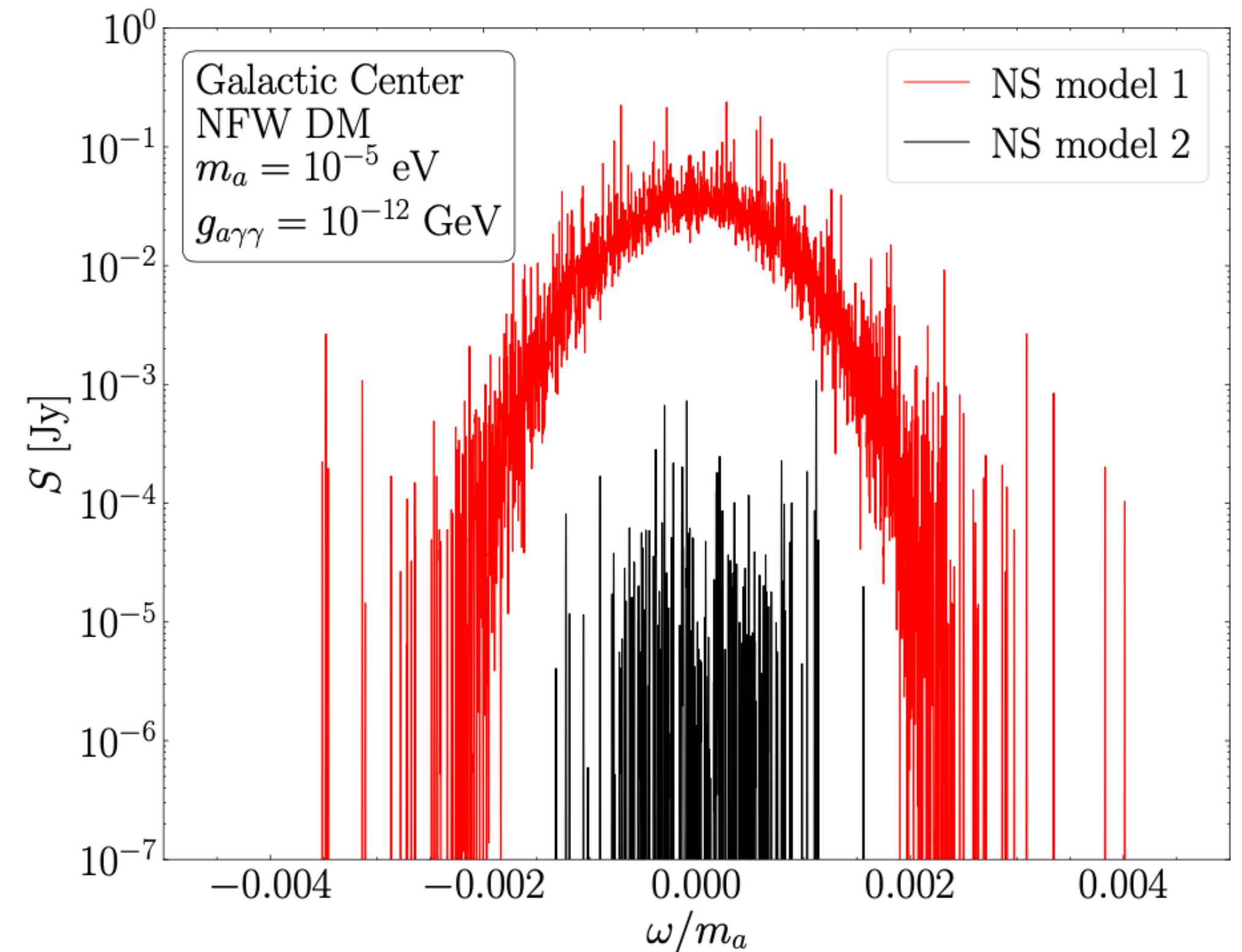
$$S_{\text{sig}} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{B}d^2} \frac{dP}{d\Omega} > S_{\text{min}}$$

Signals from a **single** star $\delta f/f \sim v^2 \sim 10^{-6}$

Signals from **stellar population** $\delta f/f \sim v \sim 10^{-3}$

$$\omega_{\text{obs}} = \omega \sqrt{\frac{1 - v_{\text{l.o.s}}}{1 + v_{\text{l.o.s}}}}$$

Doppler shift can be important!



Safdi et al 1811.01020

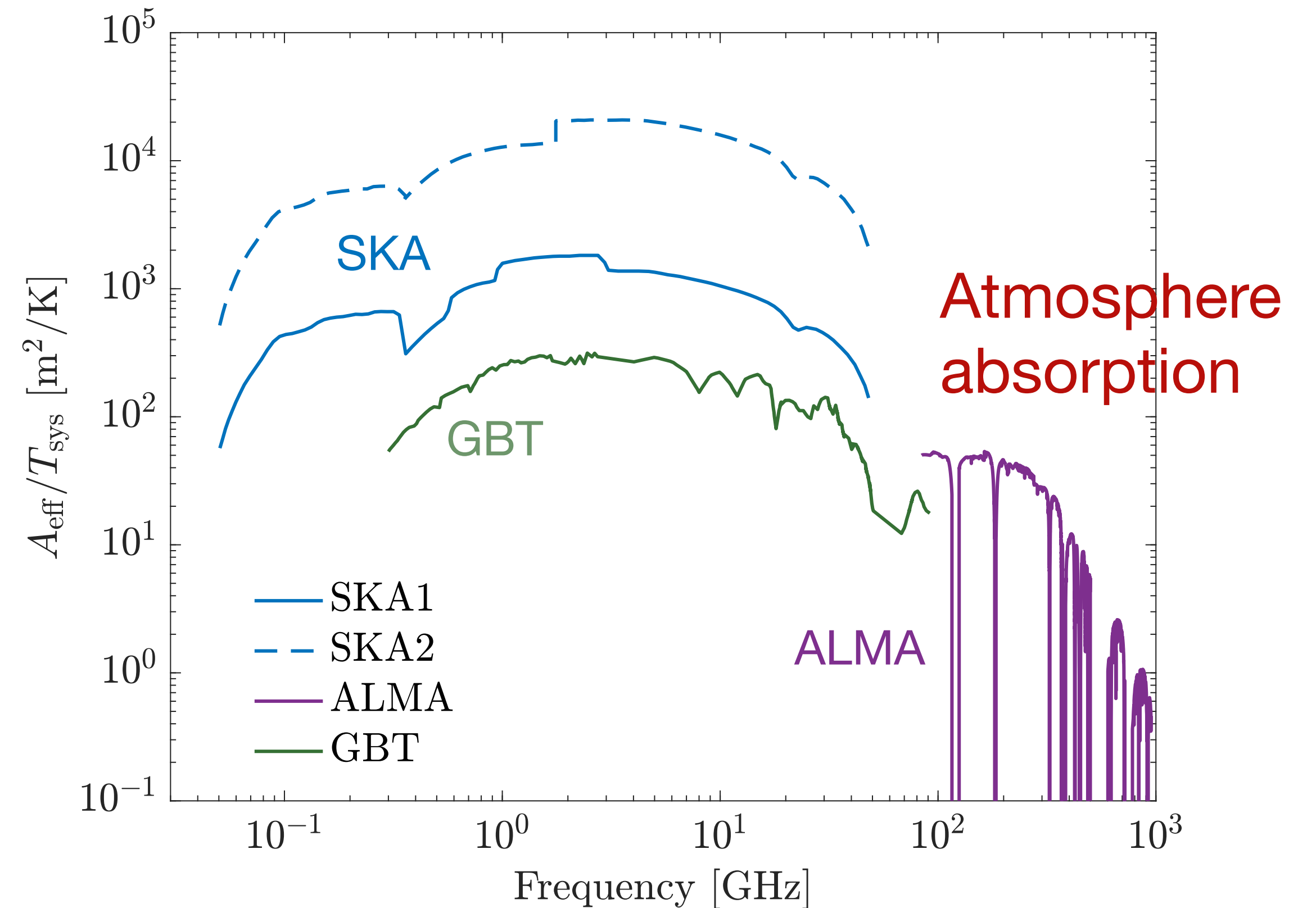
Radio Telescopes

Minimum detectable signal flux density

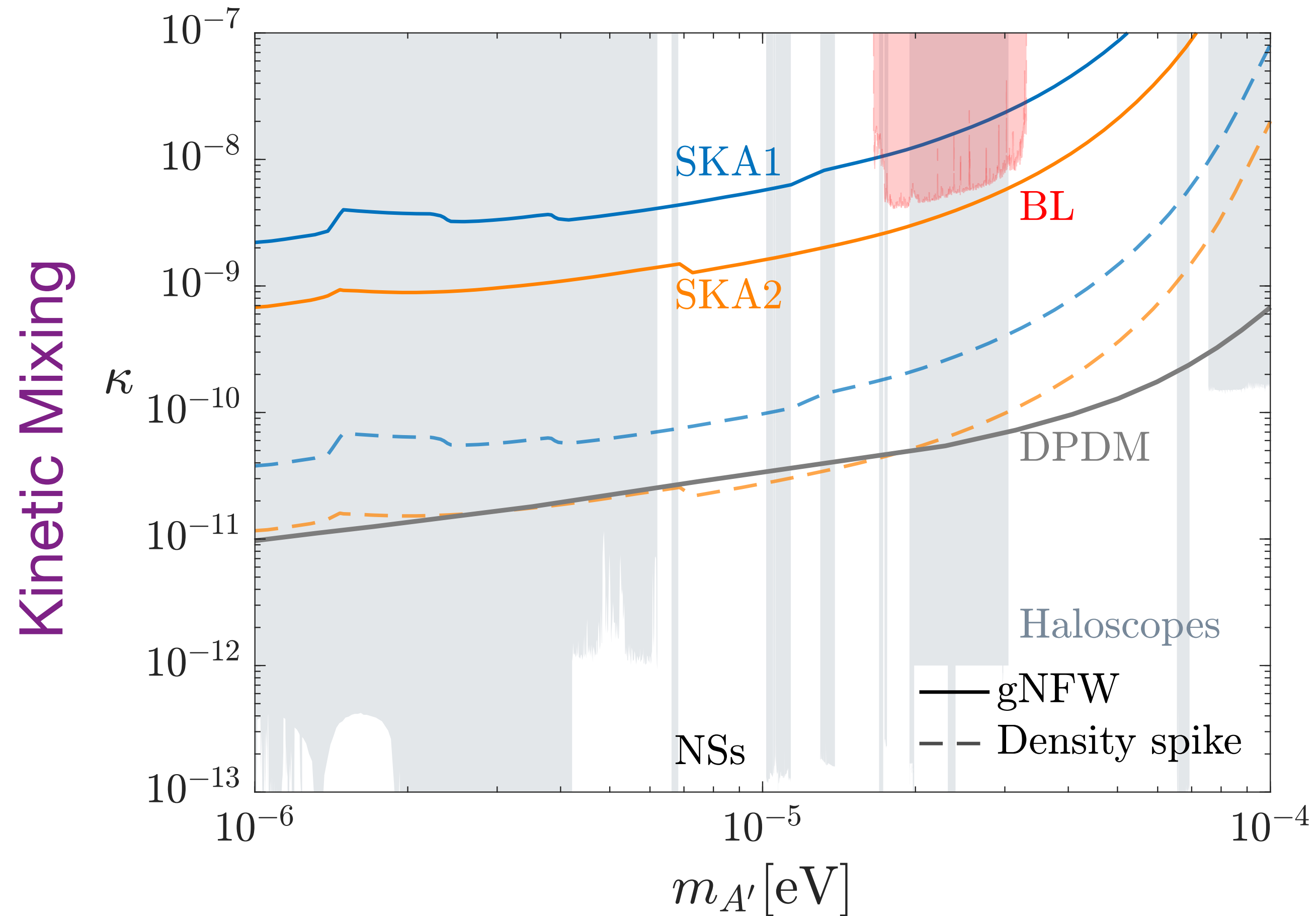
$$S_{\min} = \frac{\text{SEFD}}{\eta \sqrt{n_{\text{pol}} \mathcal{B} t_{\text{obs}}}}$$

$$\text{SEFD} = 2k_B \frac{T_{\text{sys}}}{A_{\text{eff}}} = 2.75 \text{ Jy} \frac{1000 \text{ m}^2/\text{K}}{A_{\text{eff}}/T_{\text{sys}}}$$

$$S_{\text{sig}} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{B} d^2} \frac{dP}{d\Omega} > S_{\min}$$



Sensitivities for Galactic Center Signals



Collection of neutron stars

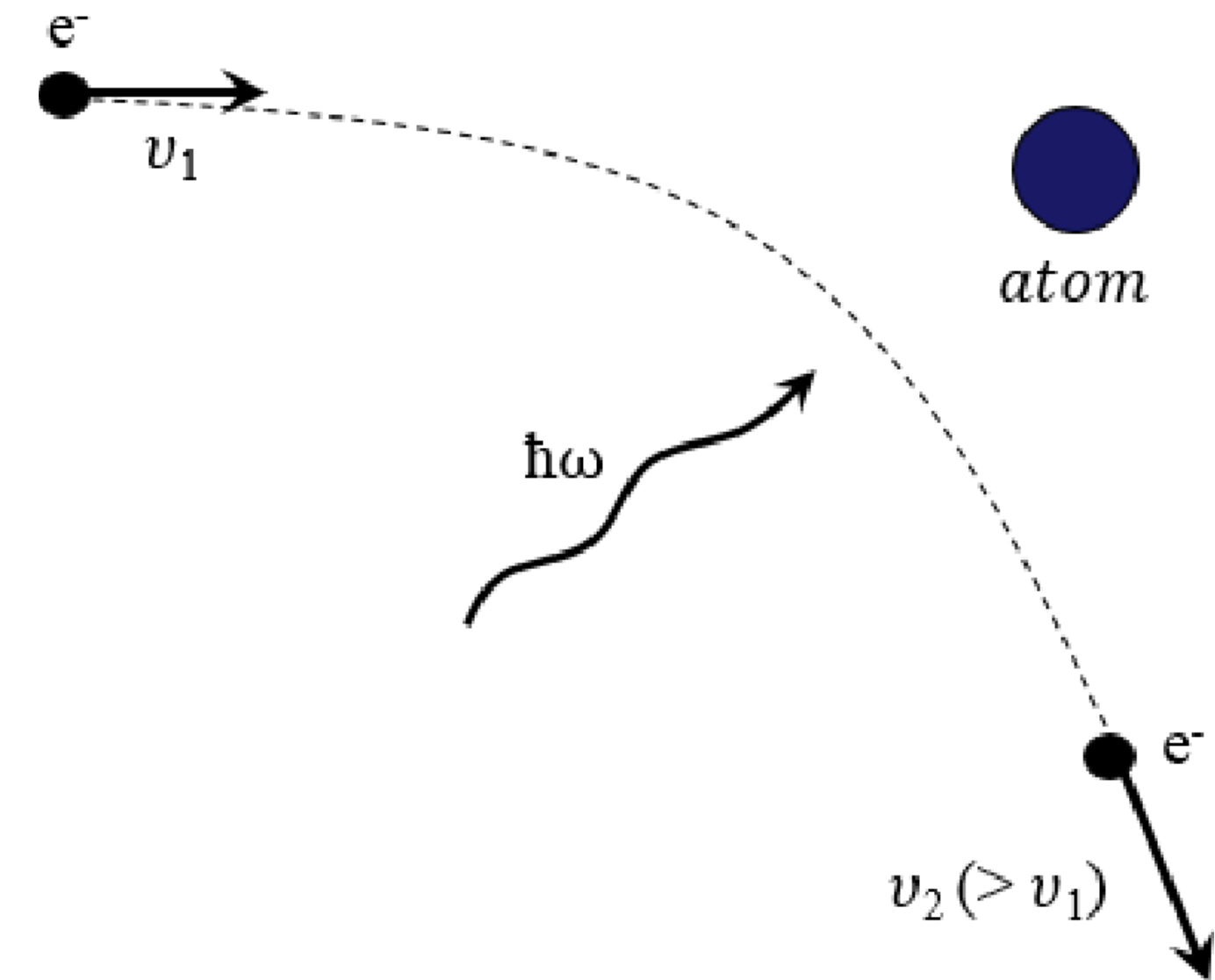
Dark Photon Mass

Edward Hardy, **NS**, PRD/2212.09756

Criteria for Strong Conversion

- Strong magnetic field is **NOT** required
- **Dense plasma** \Rightarrow Larger dark photon mass
- **High temperature** \Rightarrow Less Inverse Bremsstrahlung absorption

$$\Gamma_{\text{IB}} = \frac{8\pi\alpha^3 n_e n_{\text{ion}}}{3\omega^3 m_e^2} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi m_e}{T}} \ln\left(\frac{2T^2}{\omega_p^2}\right) (1 - e^{-\omega/T})$$



White Dwarf Atmosphere

Isotropic plasma \Rightarrow photon longitudinal polarization does not propagate, only transverse modes convert

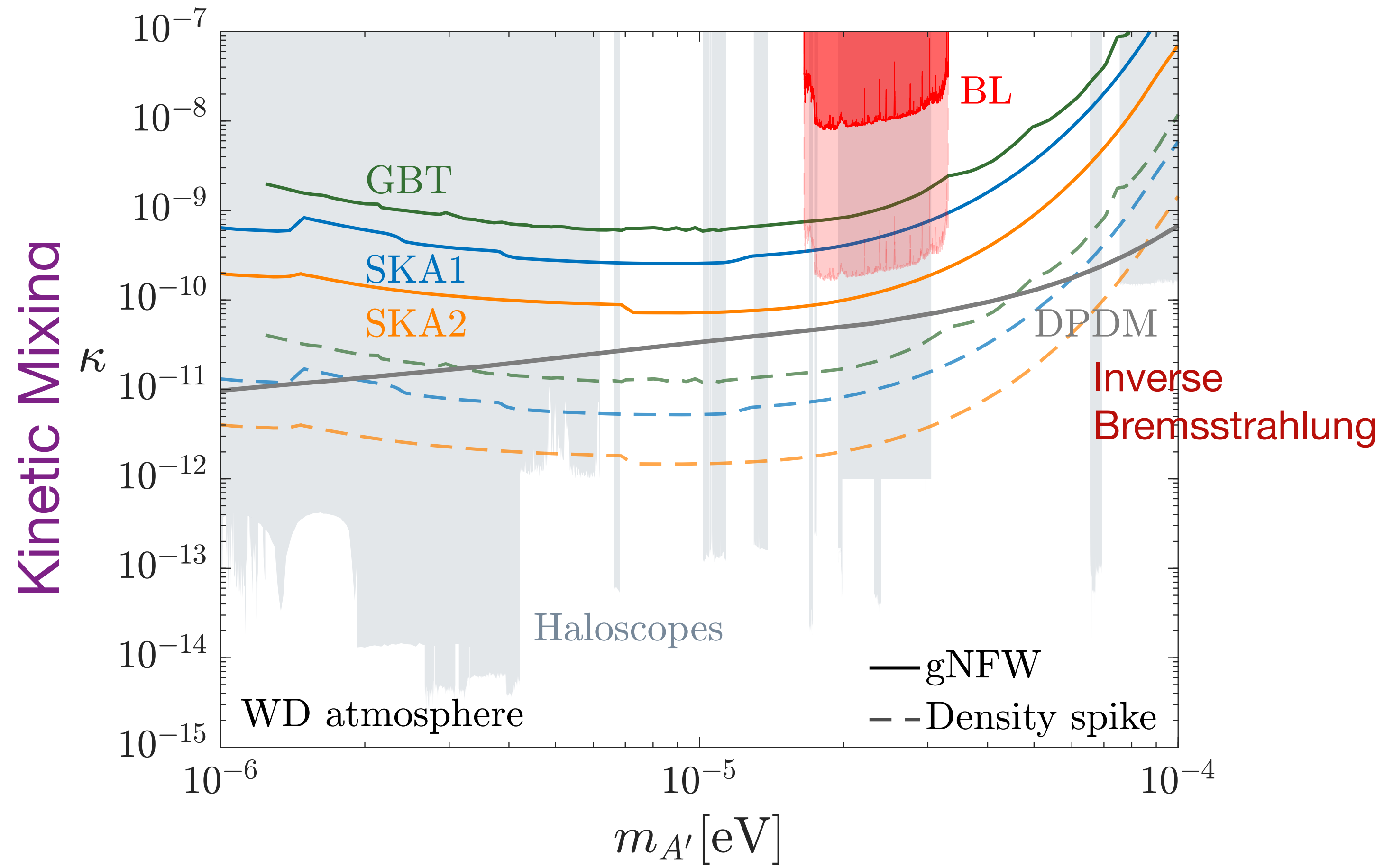
$$\left[-i \frac{d}{dr} + \frac{1}{2k} \begin{pmatrix} m_{A'}^2 - \omega_p^2 & -\kappa \omega_p^2 \\ -\kappa \omega_p^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{A} \\ \tilde{A}' \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

White Dwarf Atmosphere

- Pressure gradient balances gravity $l_a \simeq \frac{kT_a r_0^2}{GM_{\text{WD}} \mu m_p} = 0.06 \text{ km} \left(\frac{T_a}{10^4 \text{ K}} \right) \left(\frac{M_{\text{WD}}}{M_\odot} \right) \left(\frac{r_0}{0.01 R_\odot} \right)^2$
- **Exponential** density profile $n_e(r) = n_0 e^{-\frac{r-r_0}{l_a}}$
- Conversion probability $p = \frac{2\pi}{3} \frac{\kappa^2 m_{A'}^2}{k} l_a$
- Radio emission power $\frac{d\mathcal{P}}{d\Omega} \simeq 2pr_c^2 \rho_{A'}(r_c) v_c$

$$T_a \sim 10^4 - 10^5 \text{ K}, n_0 \sim 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

Sensitivities from White Dwarf Atmosphere



Collection of white dwarfs

Dark Photon Mass

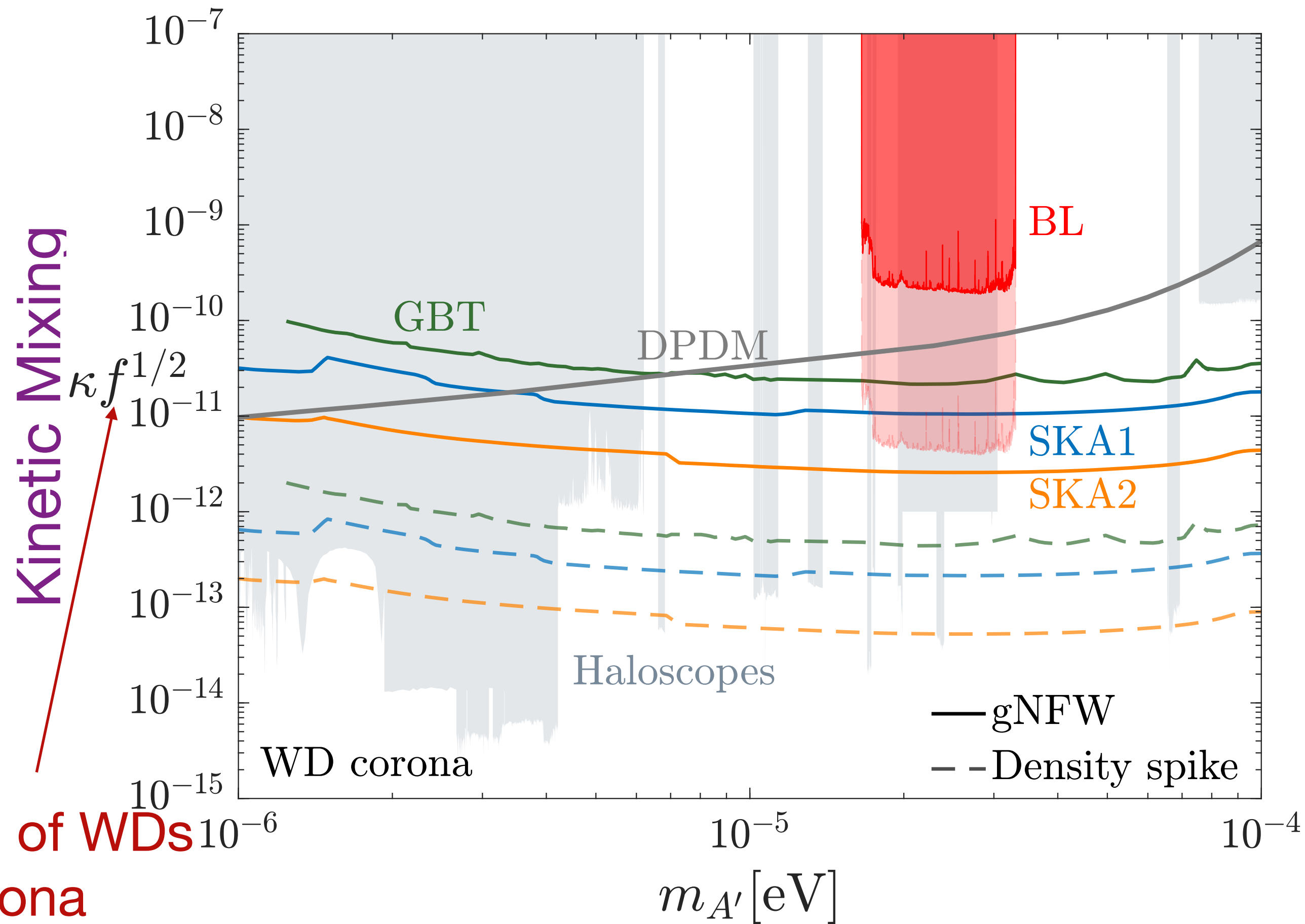
Edward Hardy, **NS**, PRD/2212.09756

White Dwarf Corona?

- Higher temperature $10^6 - 10^7$ Kelvins \Rightarrow less absorption
- Exponential density profile $n_e(r) = n_0 e^{-\frac{r-r_0}{l_a}}$
- **No observational evidence** for hot corona in **isolated** white dwarfs

$$T_a \sim 10^6 - 10^7 \text{ K}, n_0 \sim ?$$

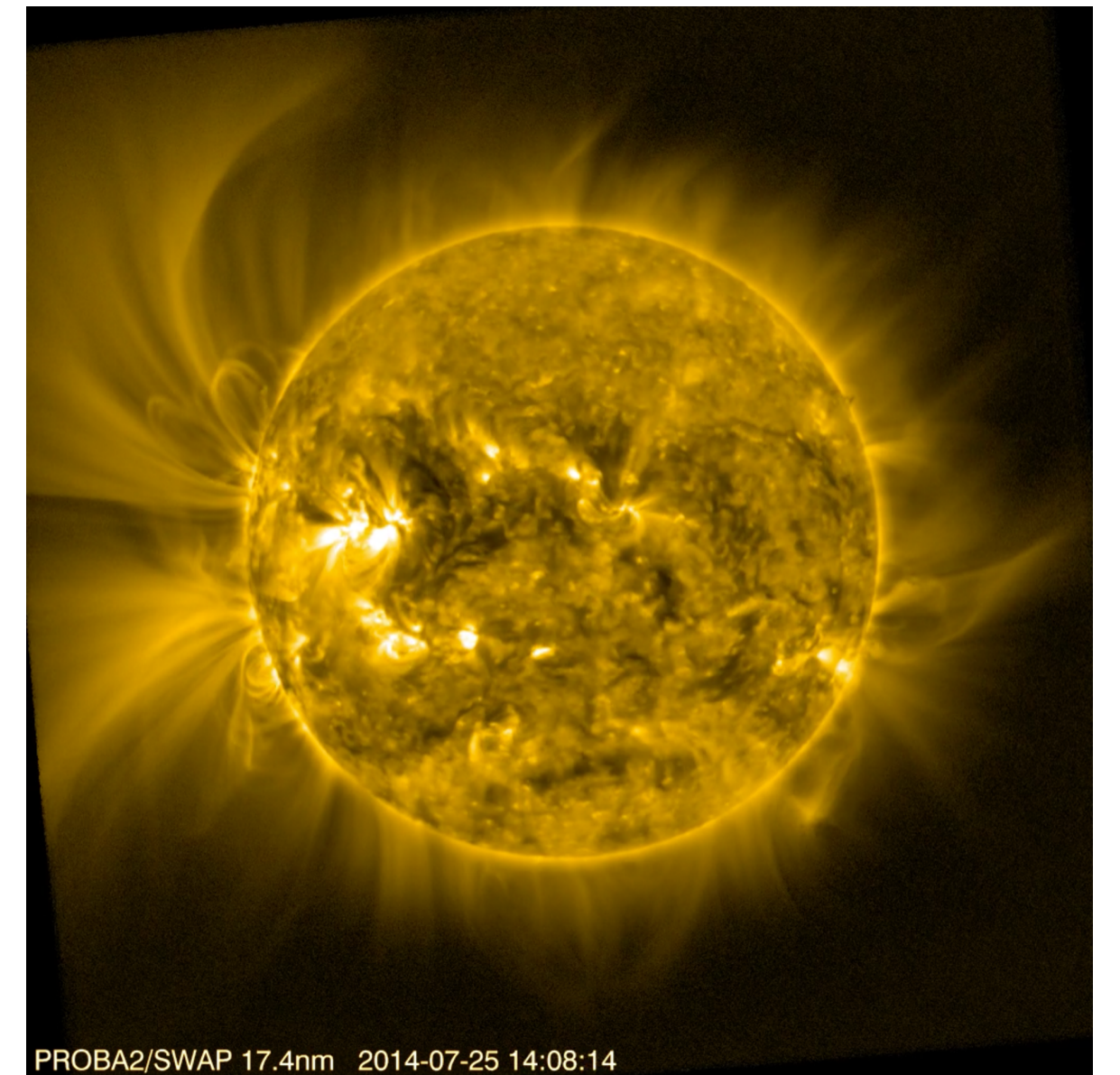
Sensitivities from White Dwarf Corona



Fraction of WDs with corona

Collection of white dwarfs

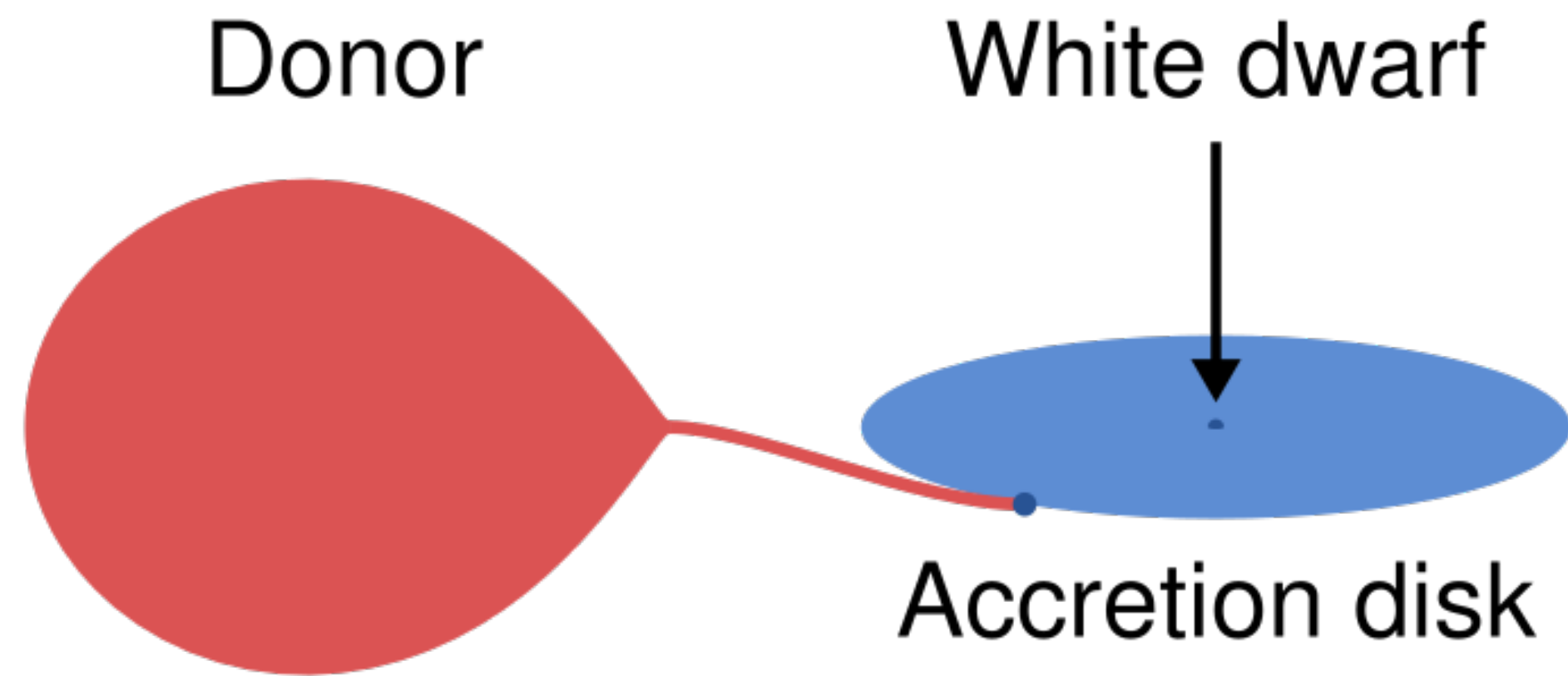
Dark Photon Mass



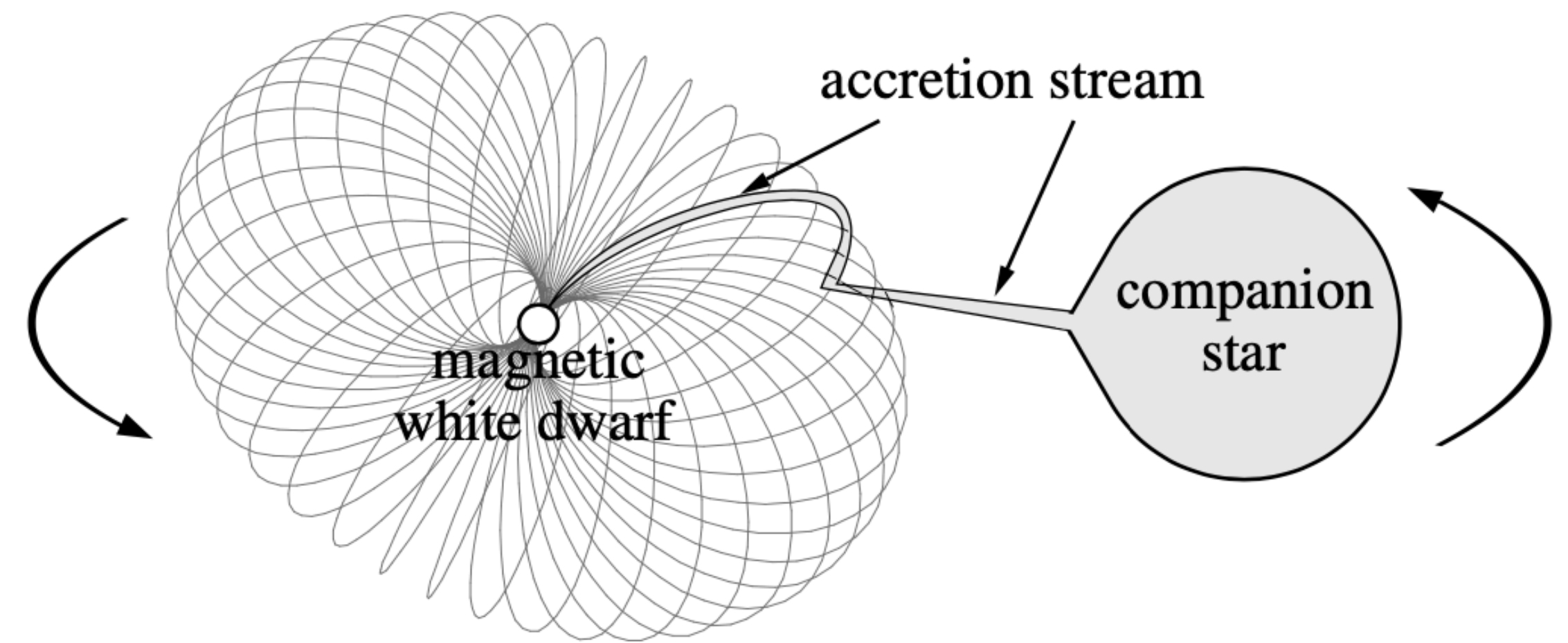
Credit: ESA

Edward Hardy, **NS**, PRD/2212.09756

Accreting White Dwarf



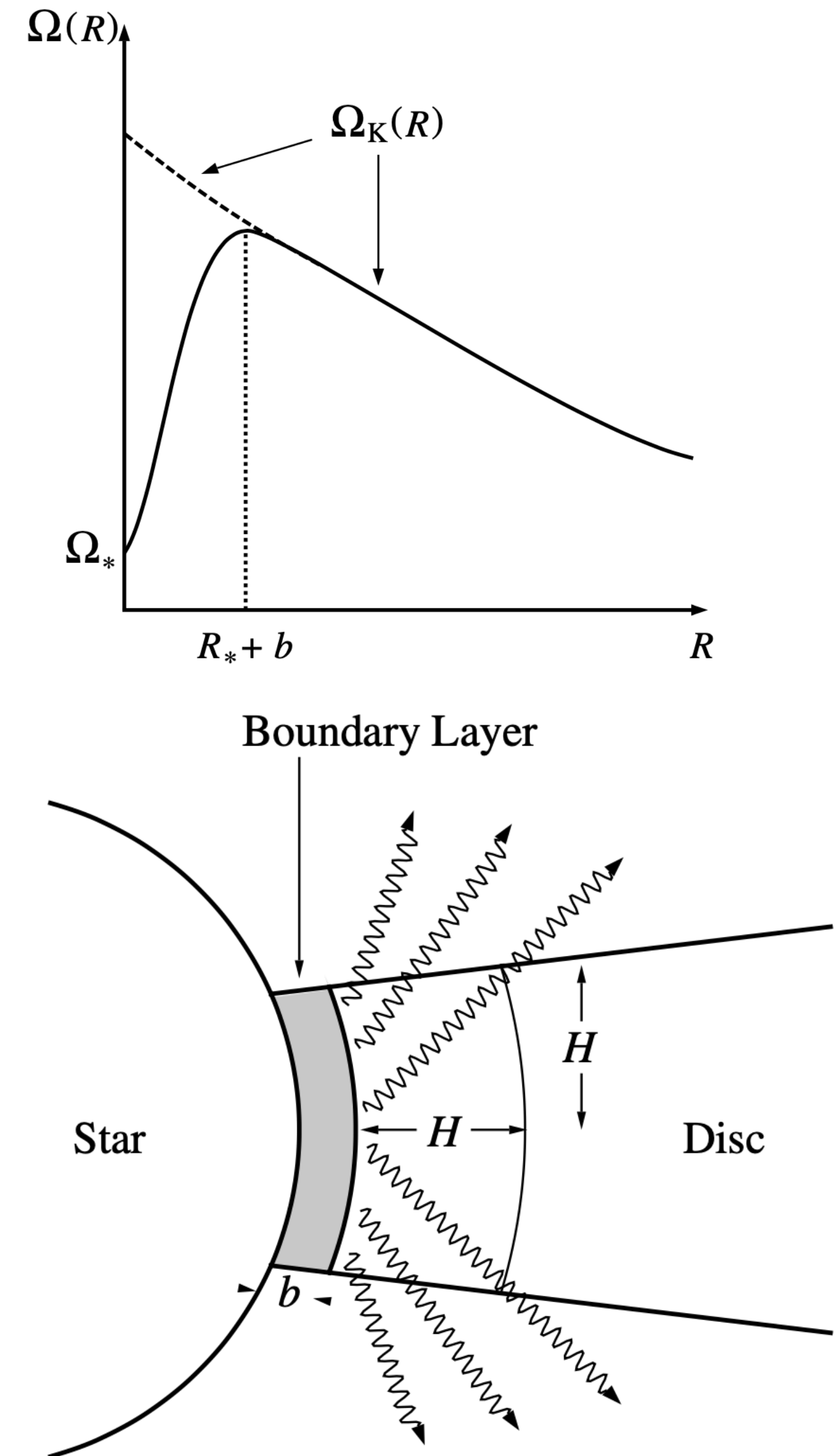
Non-magnetic cataclysmic variable



Magnetic cataclysmic variable

Non-magnetic Cataclysmic Variables

- The inner part of the disk **decelerates** and forms a **hot boundary layer** near the white dwarf surface
- High accretion rate \Rightarrow **Black body** emission from the **optically-thick** boundary layer
- Low accretion rate \Rightarrow **Bremsstrahlung** emission from the **optically-thin** boundary layer



Optically Thin Boundary Layer

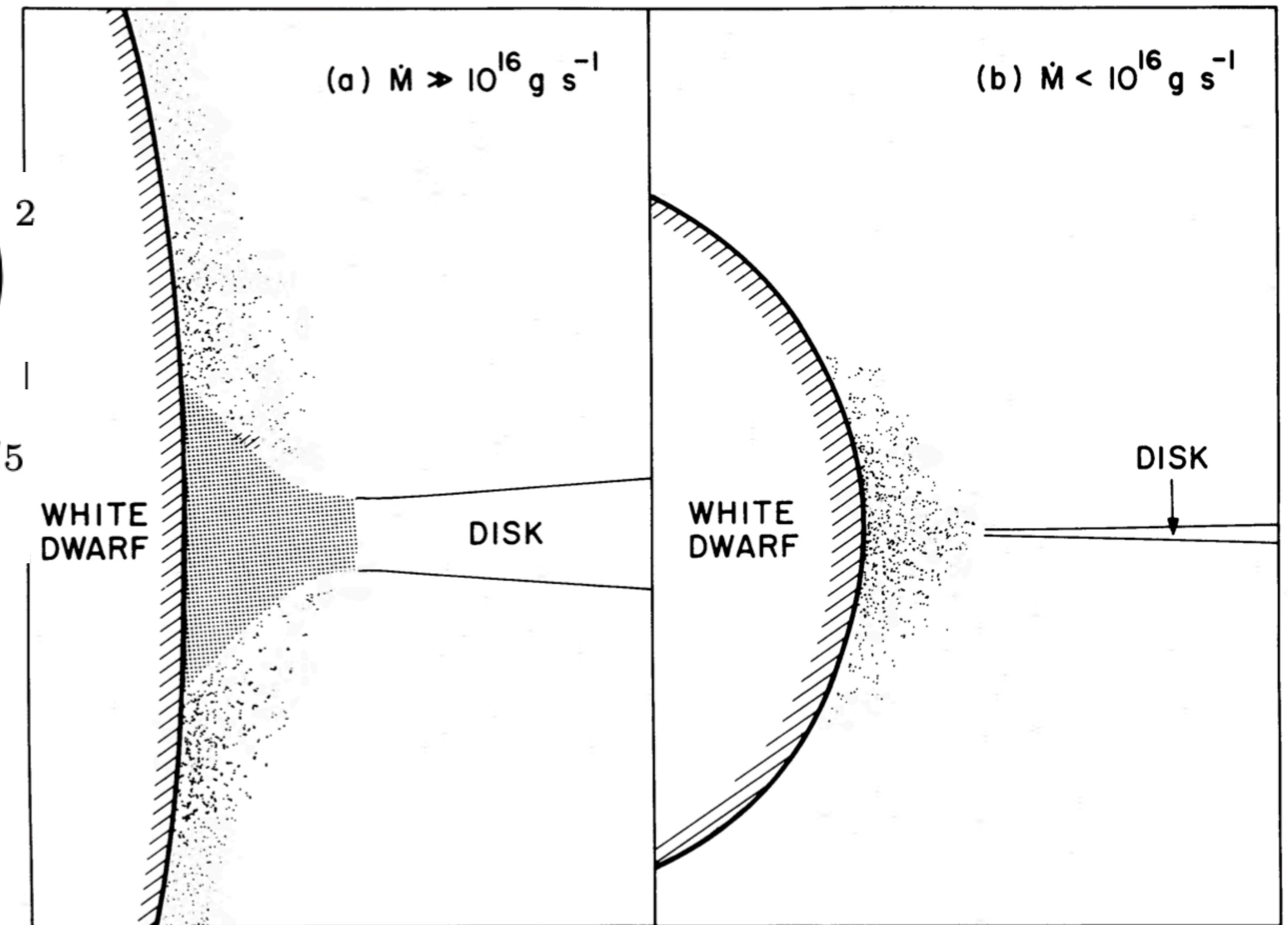
- Temperature $T \simeq \frac{3}{16} \frac{GM\mu m_p}{kR} \sim 10^8 \text{ K}$

- Thickness $b \simeq 600 \text{ km} \left(\frac{T_s}{10^8 \text{ K}} \right) \left(\frac{M_{\text{WD}}}{M_\odot} \right) \left(\frac{r_0}{0.01 R_\odot} \right)^2$

- Height $H = 2 \times 10^3 \text{ km} \alpha_d^{-1/10} \dot{M}_{16}^{3/20} \left(\frac{r_0 + b}{10^5 \text{ km}} \right)^{9/8} f_r^{3/5}$

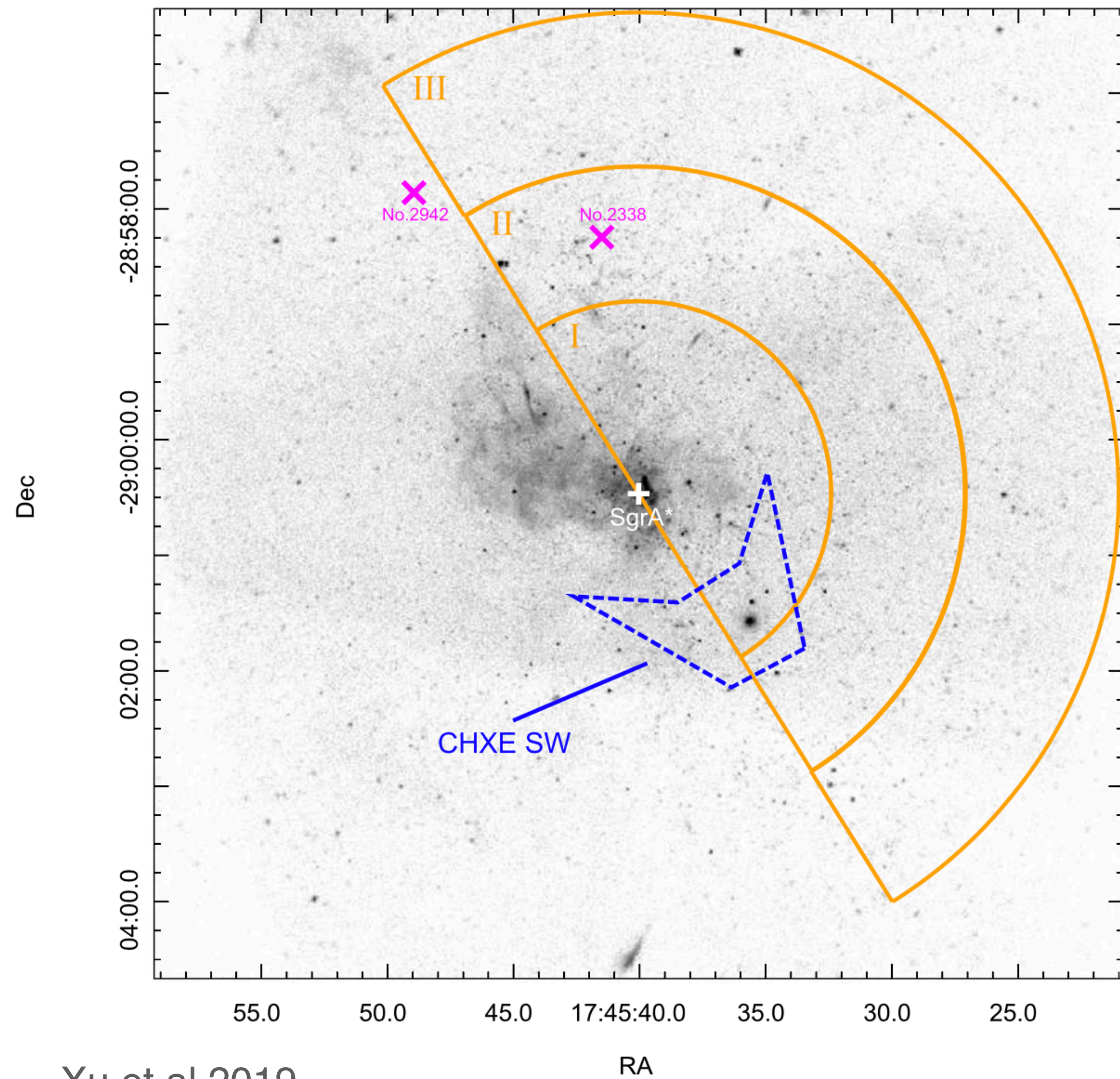
- Density profile

$$n_e = n_d \exp \left(1 - \frac{r - r_0}{b} - \frac{h^2}{H^2} \right)$$

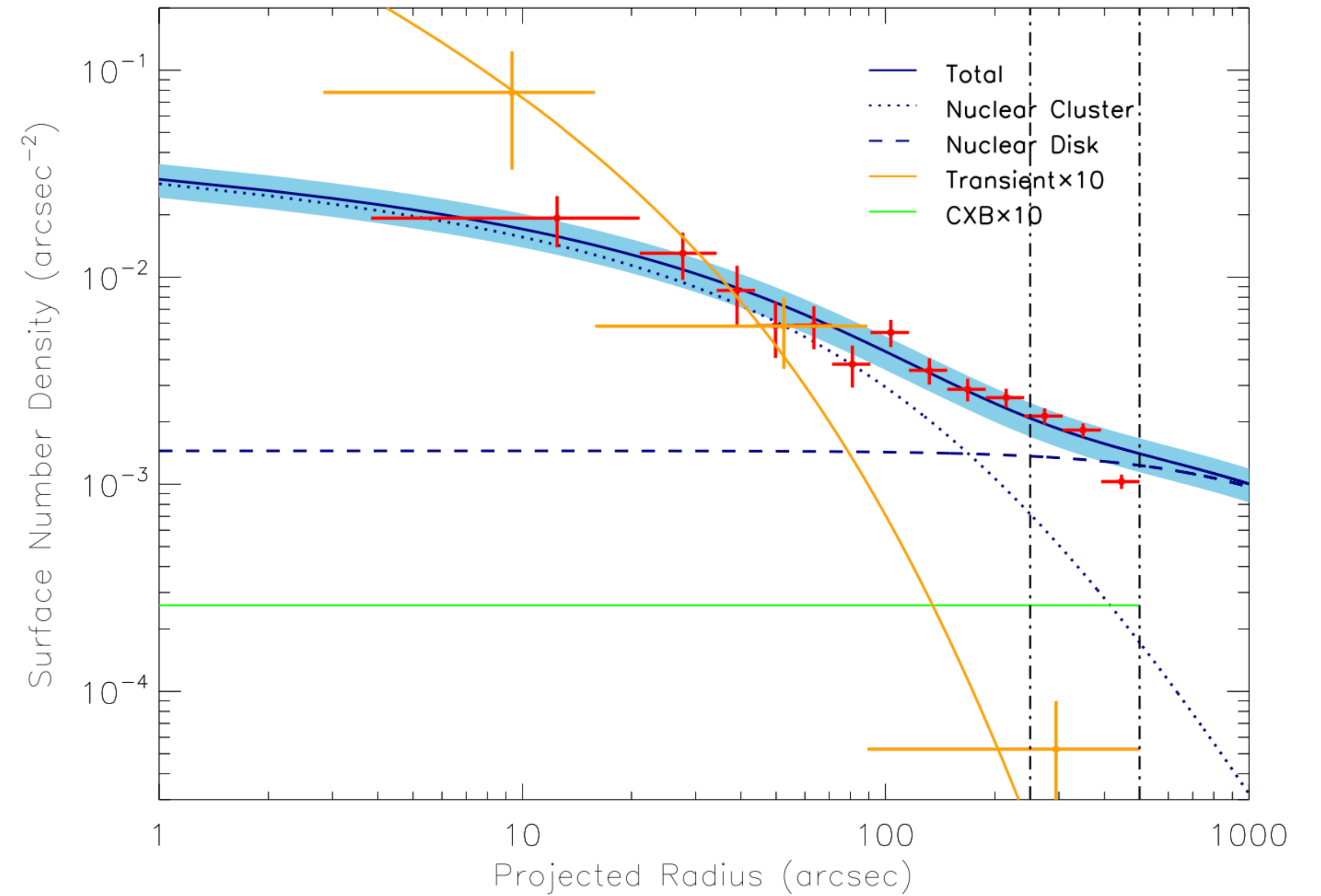


Patterson et al 1985

X-ray Map in the Galactic Center

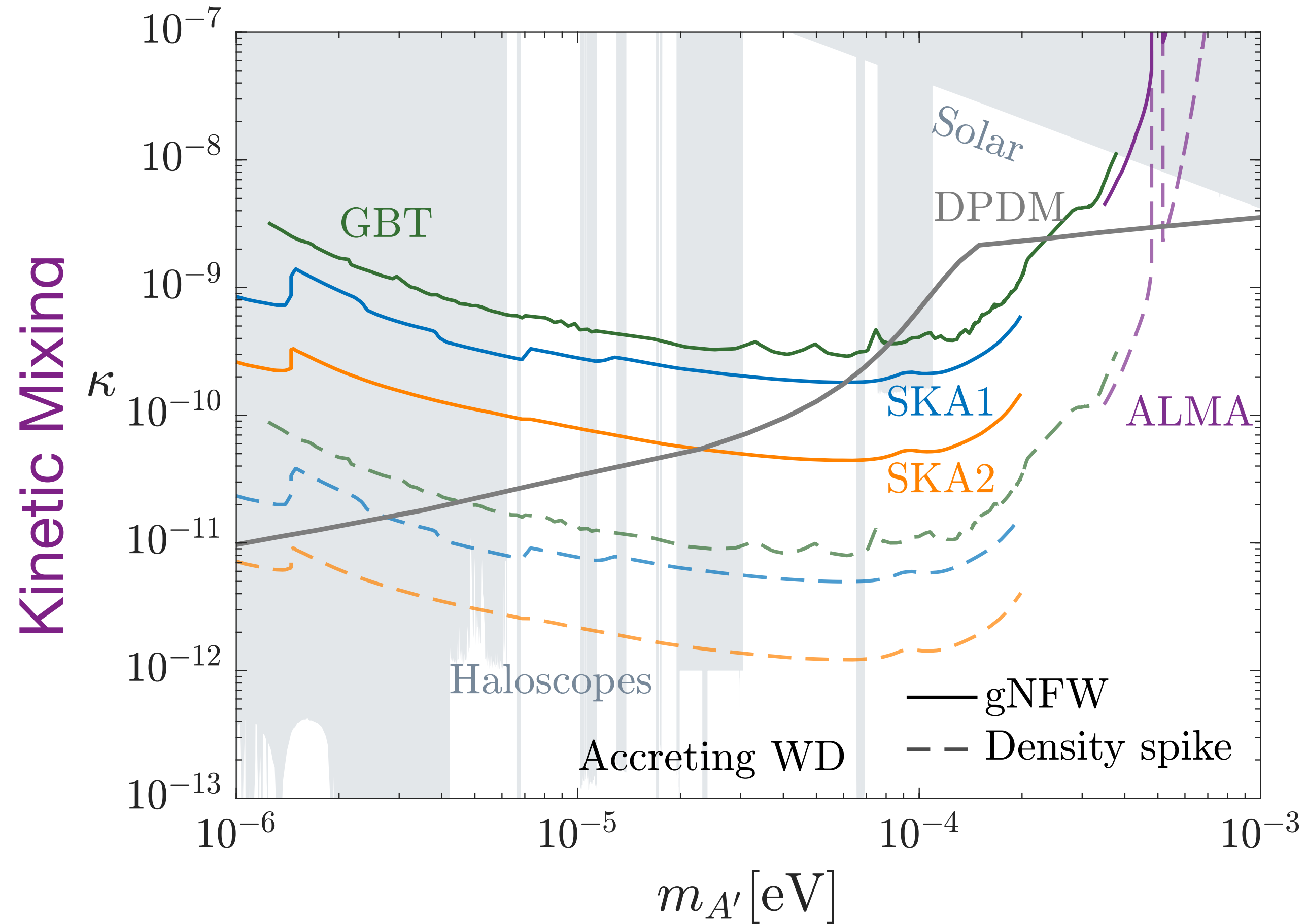


Xu et al 2019



Zhu et al 1802.05073

Sensitivities from Non-magnetic Cataclysmic Variable



Single accreting white dwarf

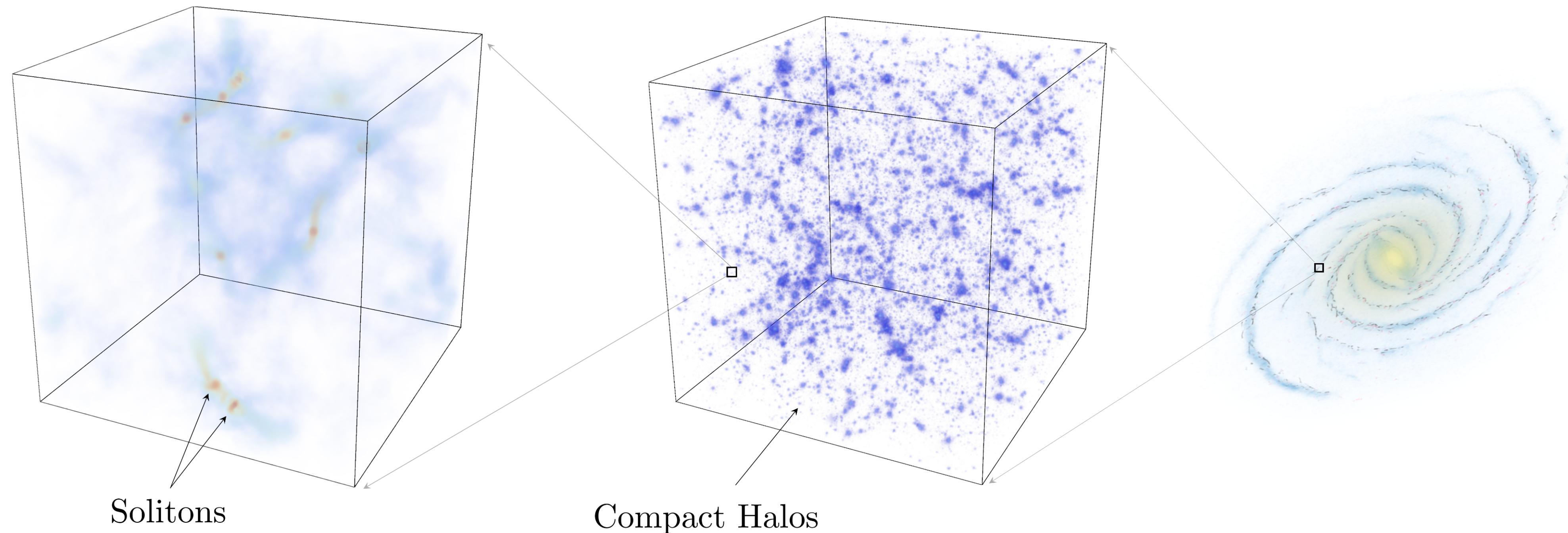
Dark Photon Mass

Edward Hardy, **NS**, PRD/2212.09756

Dark Photon Stars

At subgalactic scales $\sim pc$, dark matter is bound in compact halos that arise from the collapse of small-scale primordial inhomogeneities

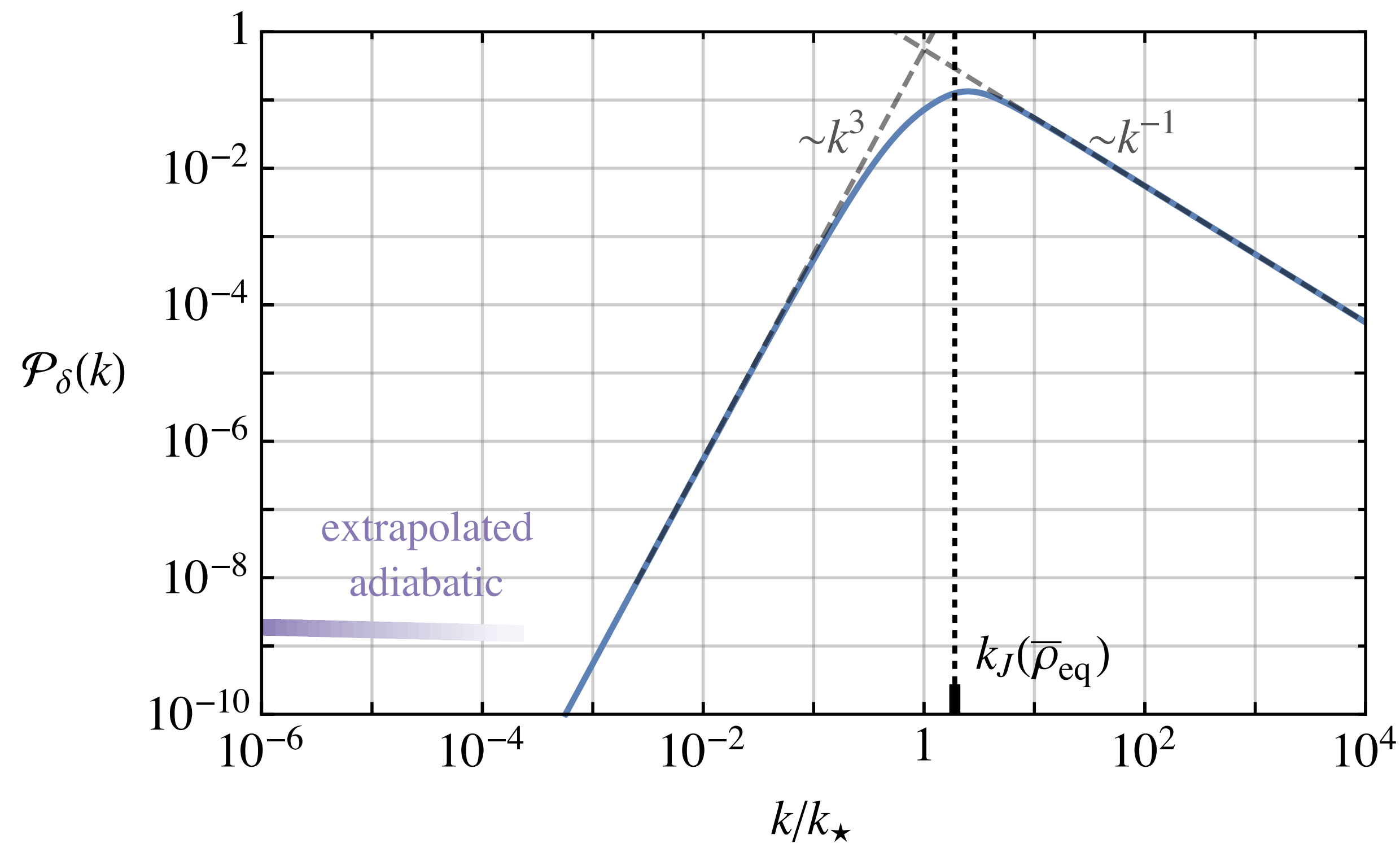
At even smaller scales: solitons, i.e. dark photon stars are surrounded by fuzzy halos, and dark matter filaments connecting them



Gorghetto, Hardy, March-Russel, **NS**, West, JCAP/2203.10100

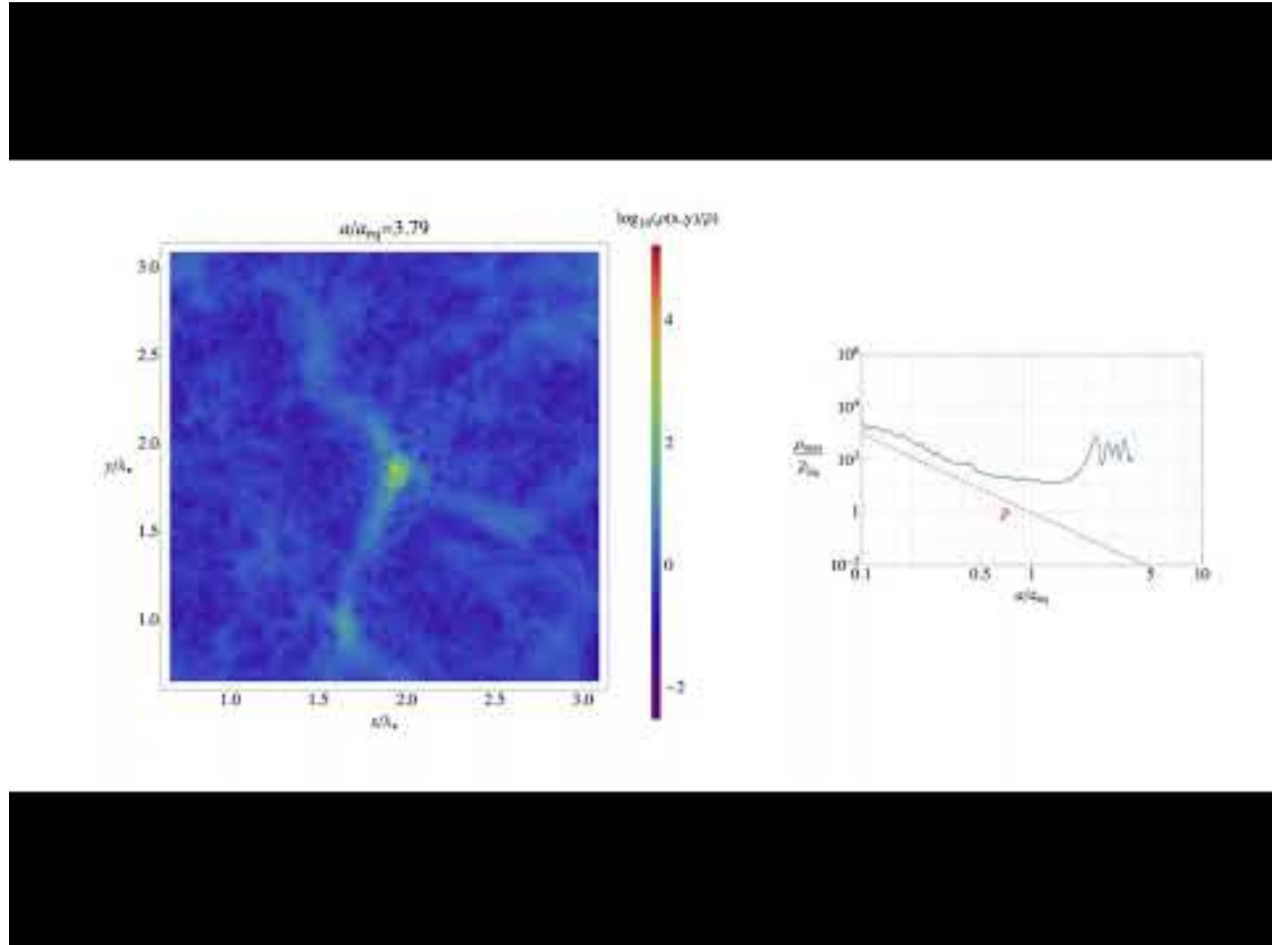
Dark Photon Substructure from Primordial Perturbations

After around matter radiation equality, modes larger than the Jeans scale begins to collapse due to gravity and form solitons, where the quantum pressure is still important



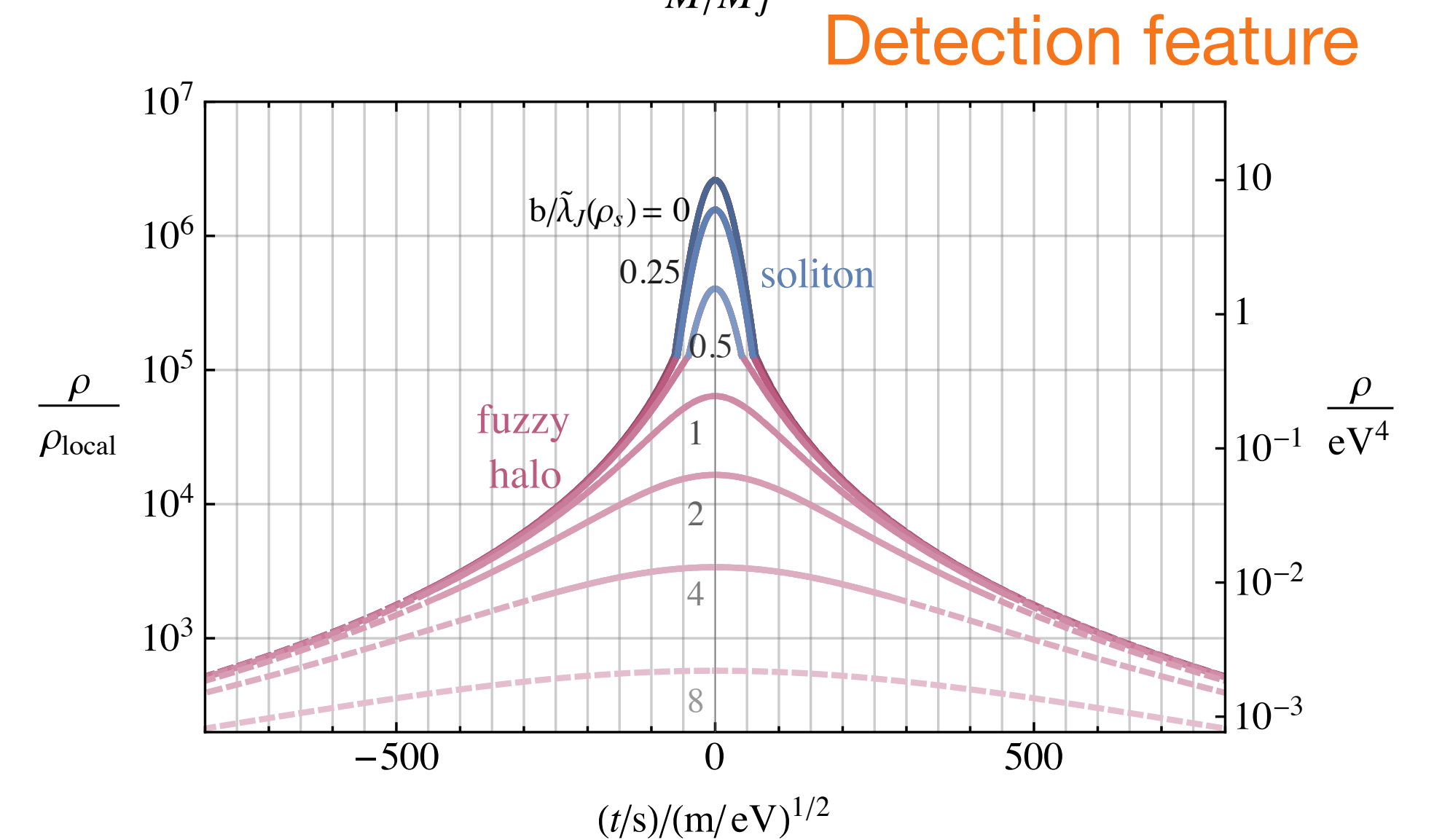
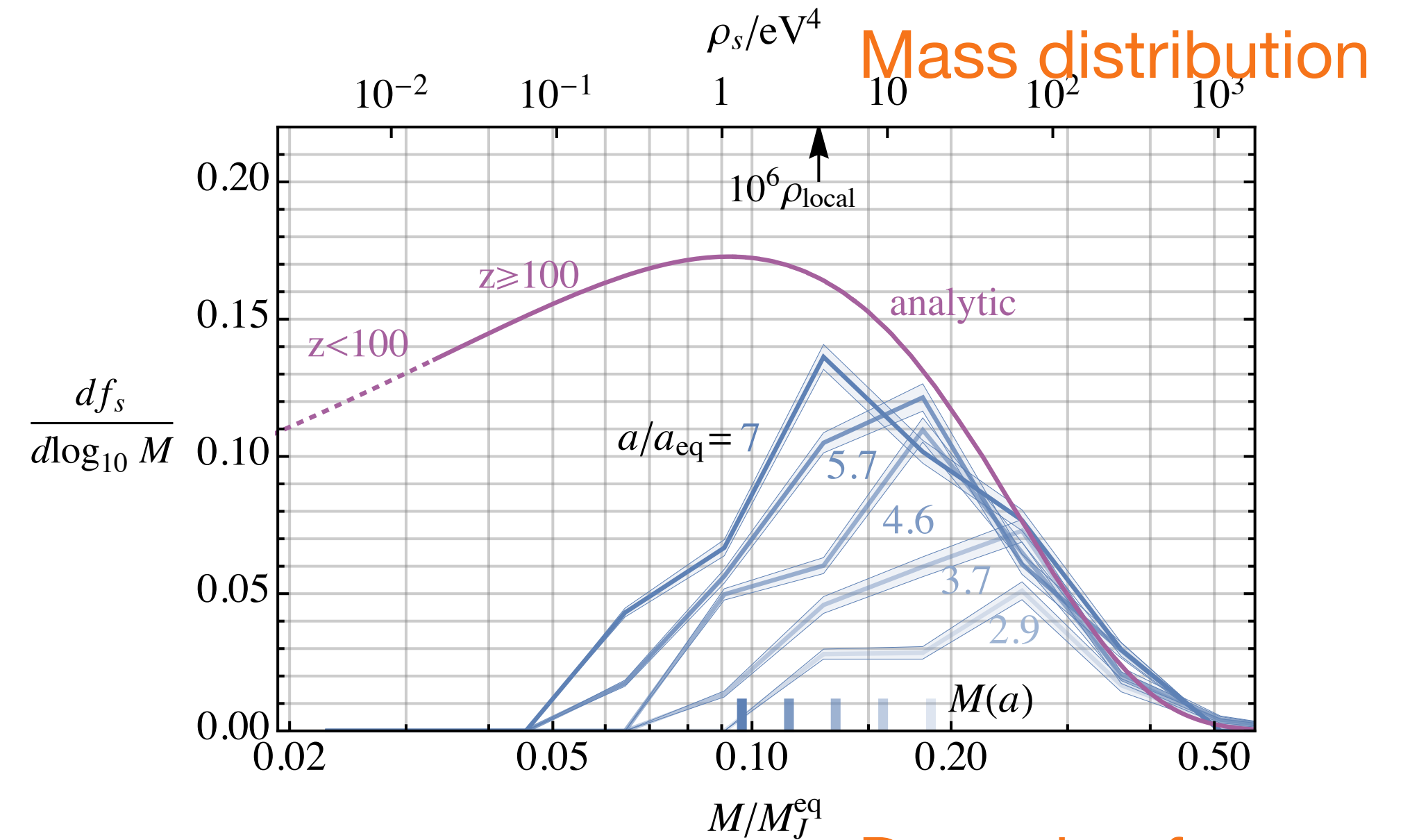
Graham et al, 1504.02102

Other production mechanisms may also apply, e.g. production from topological strings or axions, each predicting a different power spectrum



Properties of Dark Photon Stars

- Size: $\lambda_J(\rho_s) = 4.6 \times 10^3 \text{ km} \left(\frac{\text{eV}}{m}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{M_J^{\text{eq}}}{M}\right)$
- Mass: $M_J^{\text{eq}} = 5.2 \times 10^{-23} M_\odot \left(\frac{\text{eV}}{m}\right)^{3/2}$
- Encounters: $N \sim 4.25 \left(\frac{f}{0.05}\right) \left(\frac{m}{\text{eV}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\Delta t}{\text{yr}}\right)$
- Regions of the clumps within which the mean density larger than 0.05 eV^4 is likely to survive from tidal disruption



Future Directions

- Signals from compact star and dark photon star **encounters**
- Magnetic cataclysmic variable, accreting neutron star and black holes
- **Axion** signal from such systems

Thank you!

Back up

Dark Photon

Extra $U(1)$? $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \times U(1)'$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}(F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - 2\kappa F_{\mu\nu}F'^{\mu\nu} + F'_{\mu\nu}F'^{\mu\nu}) + \frac{m_{A'}^2}{2}A'_\mu A'^\mu - J^\mu A_\mu$$

- Heavy states charged both SM and $U(1)'$

Pospelov' 2008

Ackerman, Buckley, Carrol, Kamionkowski' 2008

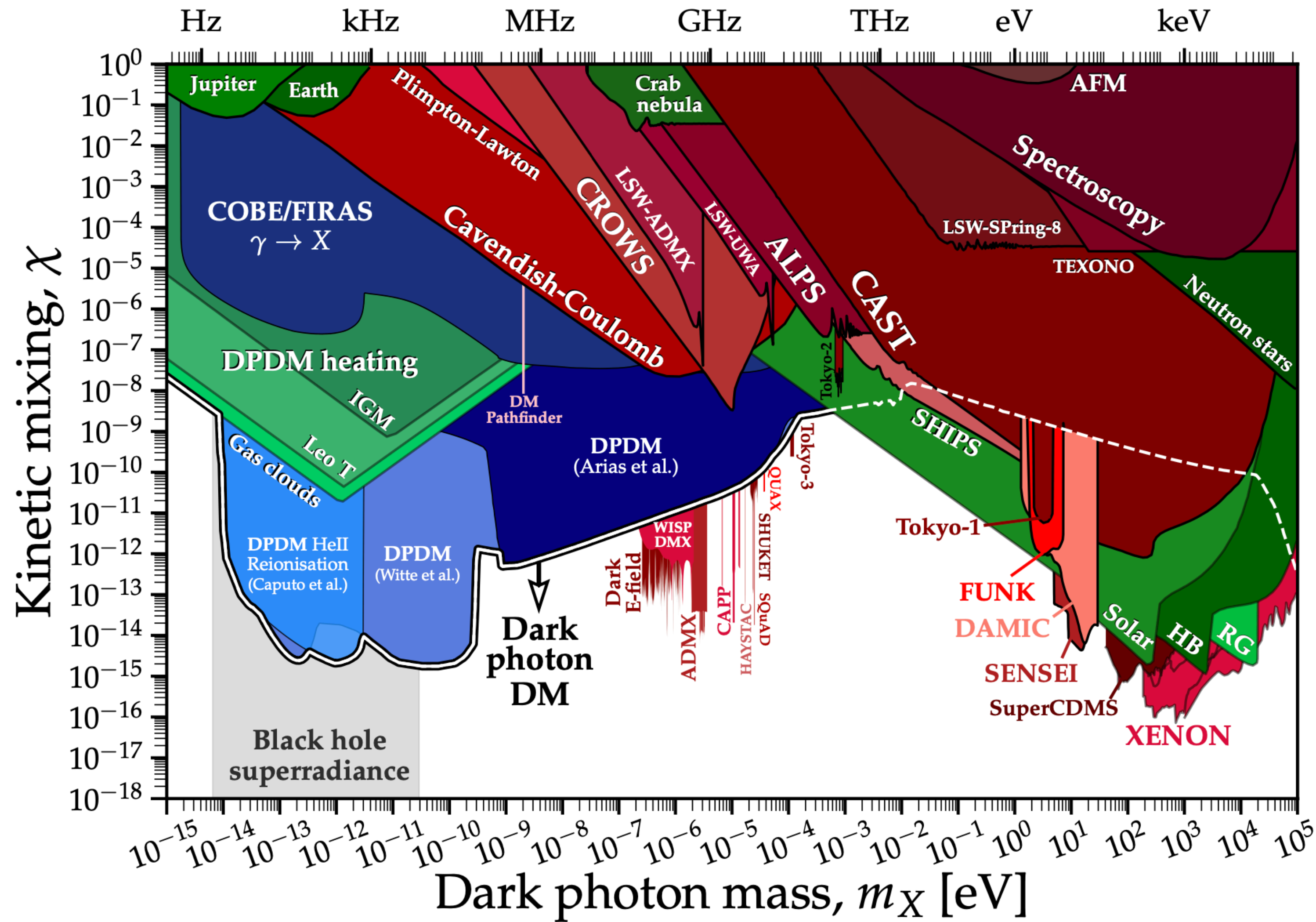
Arkani-Hame, Finkbeine, Slatyer, Weiner' 2008

- String compactifications

- Production through misalignment, inflationary perturbation, etc

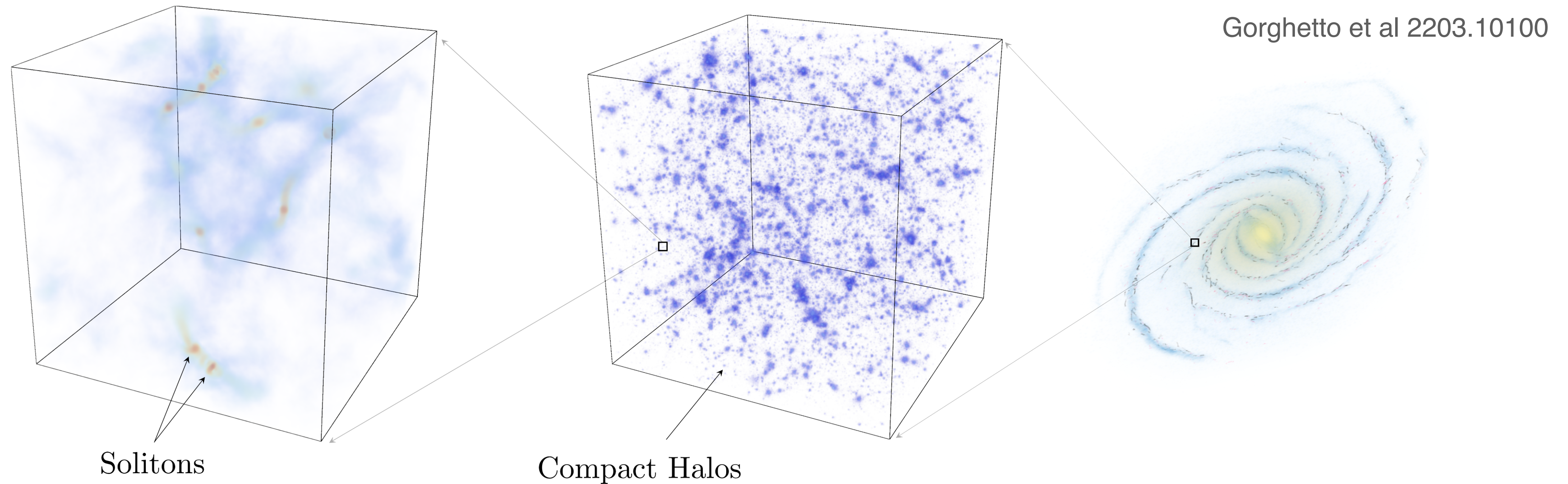
Graham et al 1504.02102

Dark Photon Constraints



Caputo et al 2105.04565

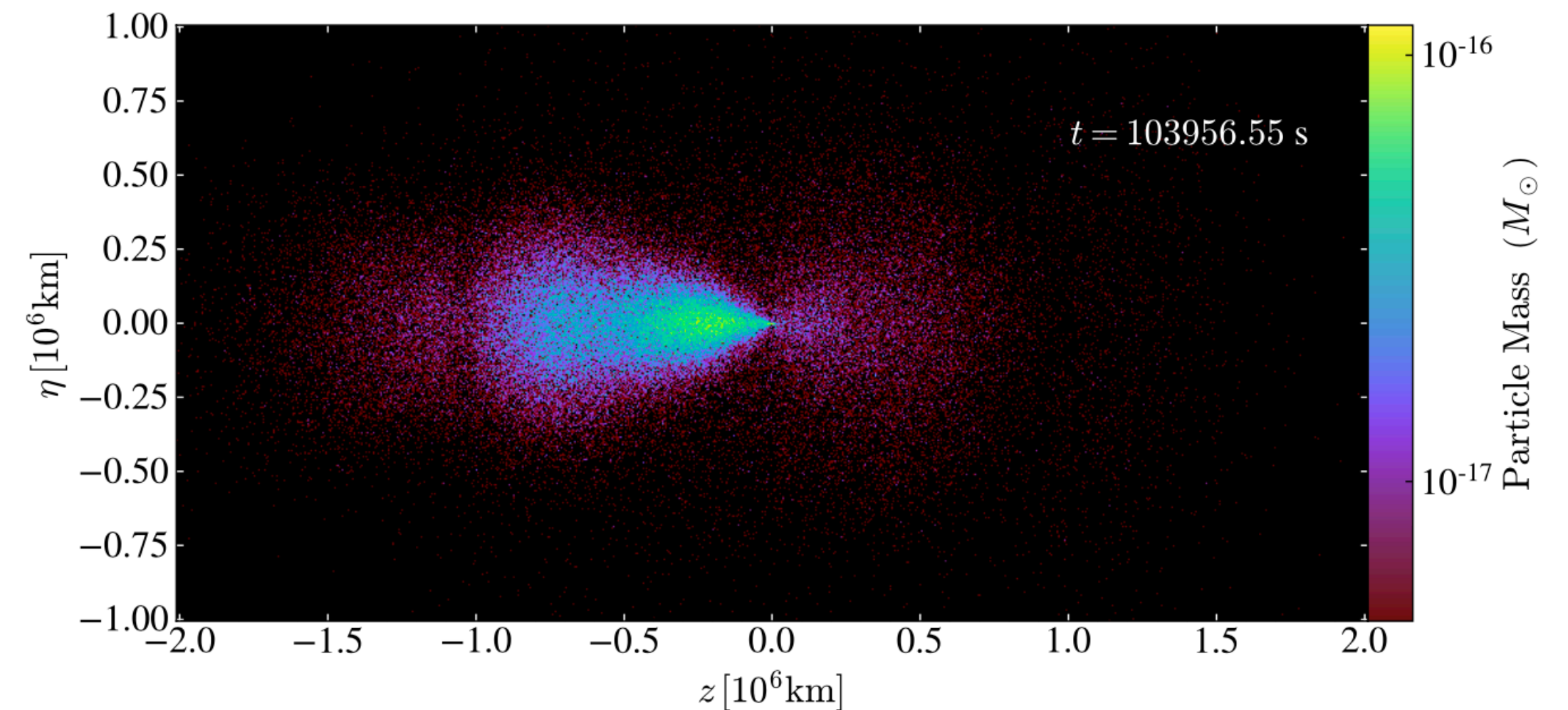
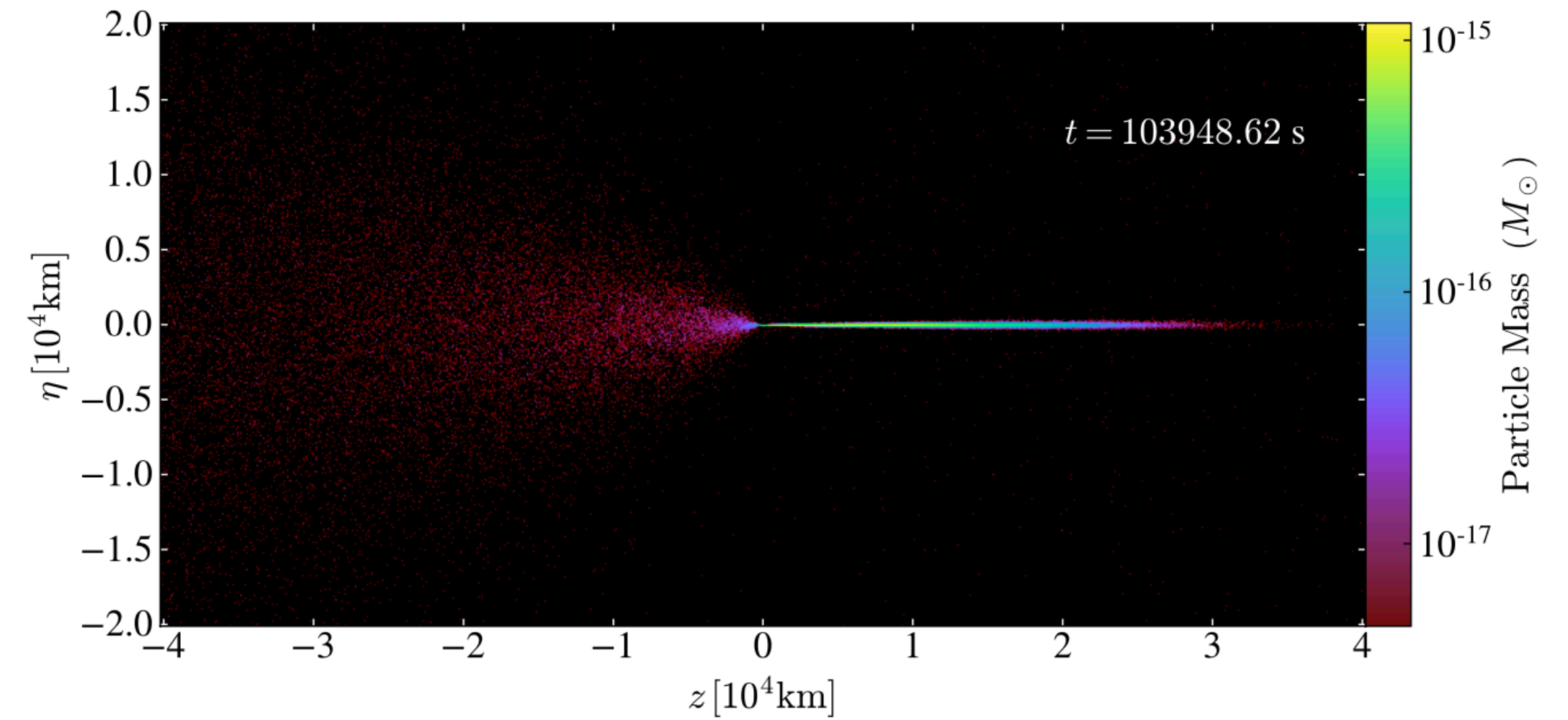
Dark Photon Stars



$$\lambda_J = 4.6 \times 10^3 \text{ km} \left(\frac{\text{eV}}{m_{A'}} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{M_J^{\text{eq}}}{M} \right) \quad M_J^{\text{eq}} = 5.2 \times 10^{-23} M_{\odot} \left(\frac{\text{eV}}{m_{A'}} \right)^{3/2}$$

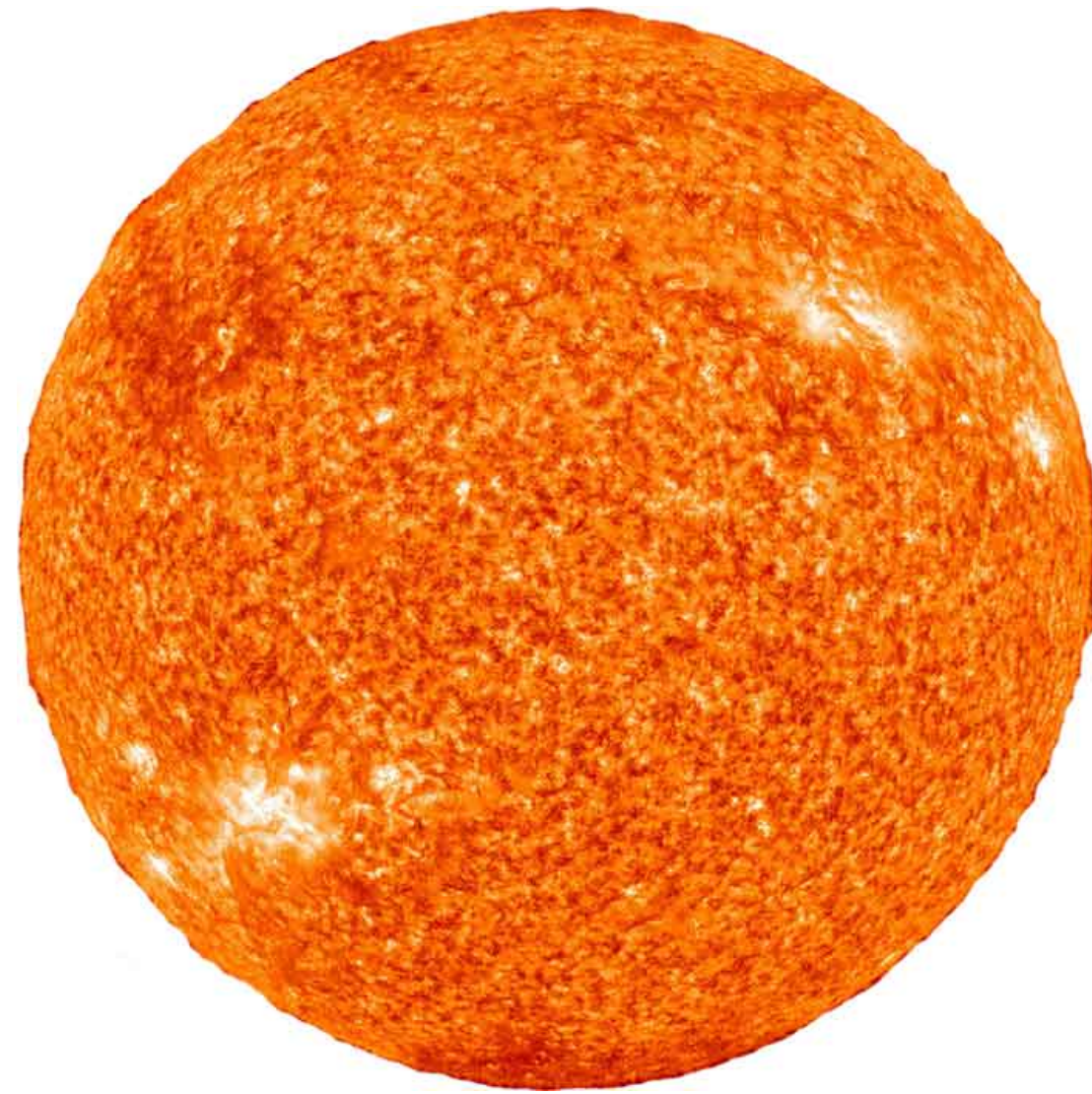
Signal from Dark Photon Star Encounters

- Dark photon stars are **tidally disrupted** when colliding with neutron star or white dwarf
- Collision yields a transient signal which lasts a few days
- Density enhancement of around 10^6
- Small velocity dispersion
- More frequent encounter than Earth



Bai et al 2109.01222

Plasma frequencies



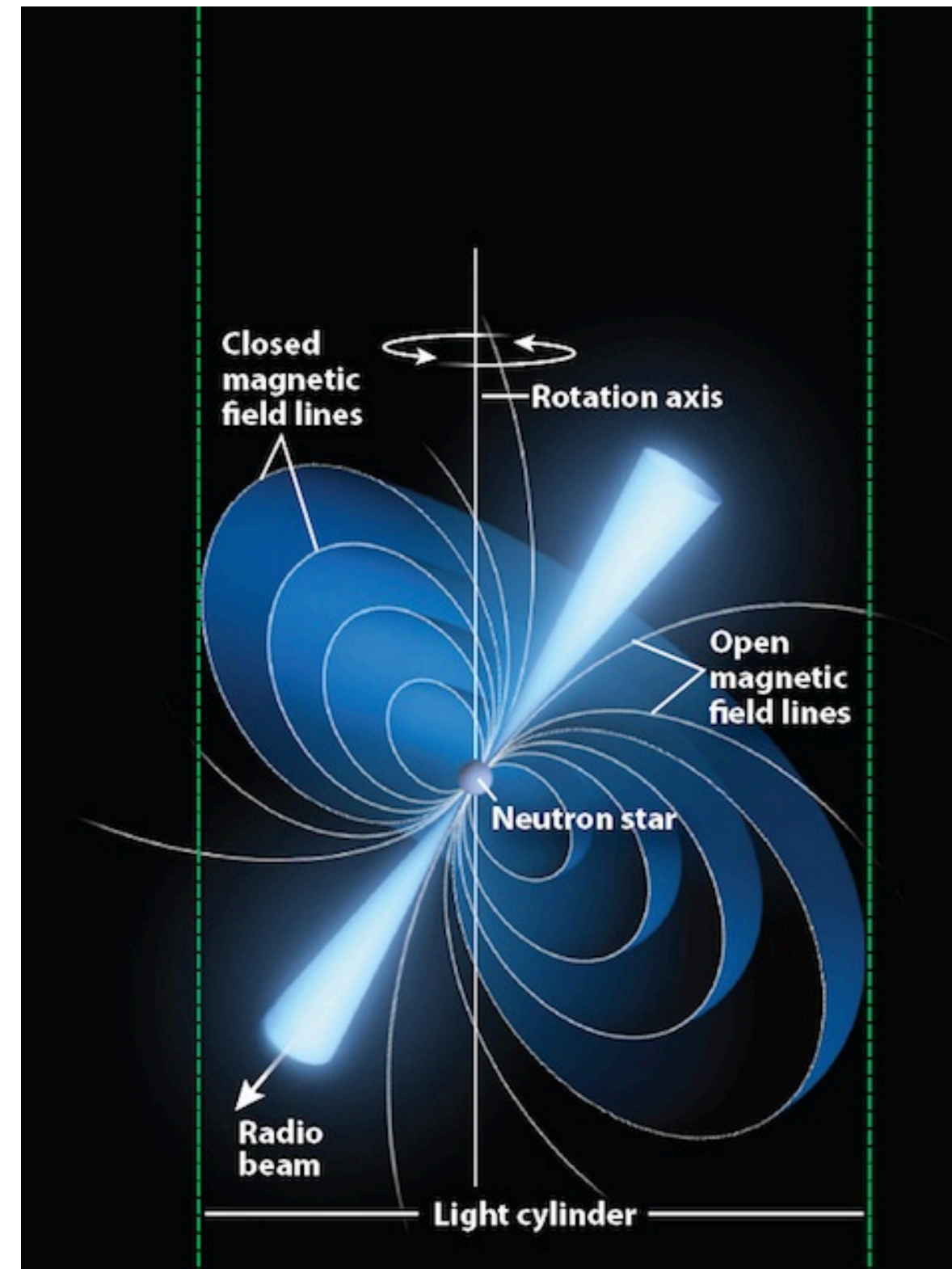
Solar Corona

$$n_e \lesssim 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$\omega_p \lesssim 4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ eV}$$

$$f \lesssim \text{GHz}$$

An et al 2010.15836



Neutron Star Magnetosphere

$$n_e \lesssim 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$\omega_p \lesssim 10^{-4} \text{ eV}$$

$$f \lesssim 24 \text{ GHz}$$



White Dwarf Corona

$$n_e \lesssim 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$\omega_p \lesssim 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$$

$$f \lesssim 2400 \text{ GHz}$$