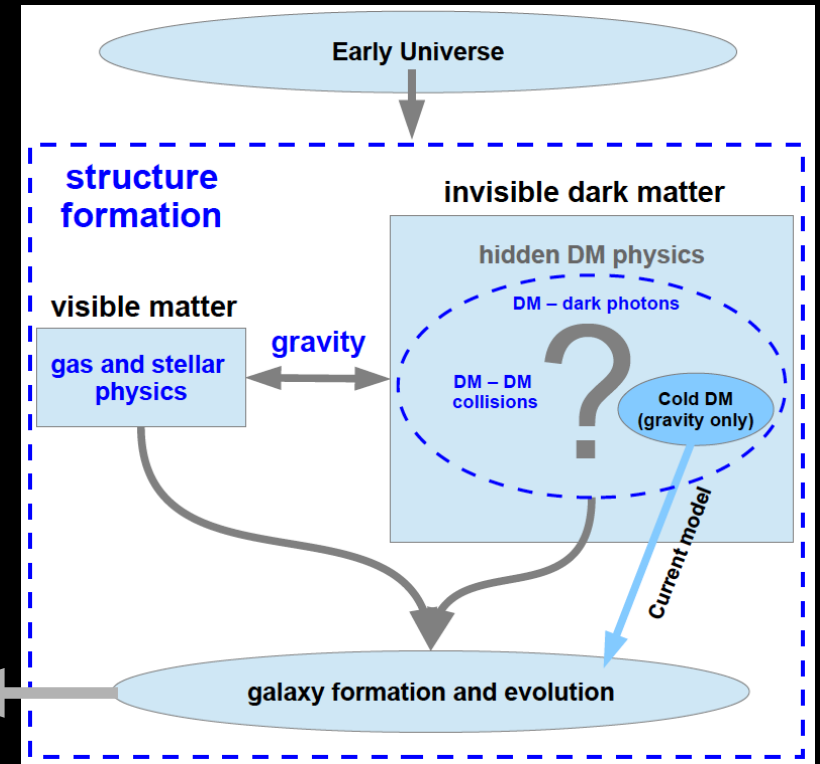
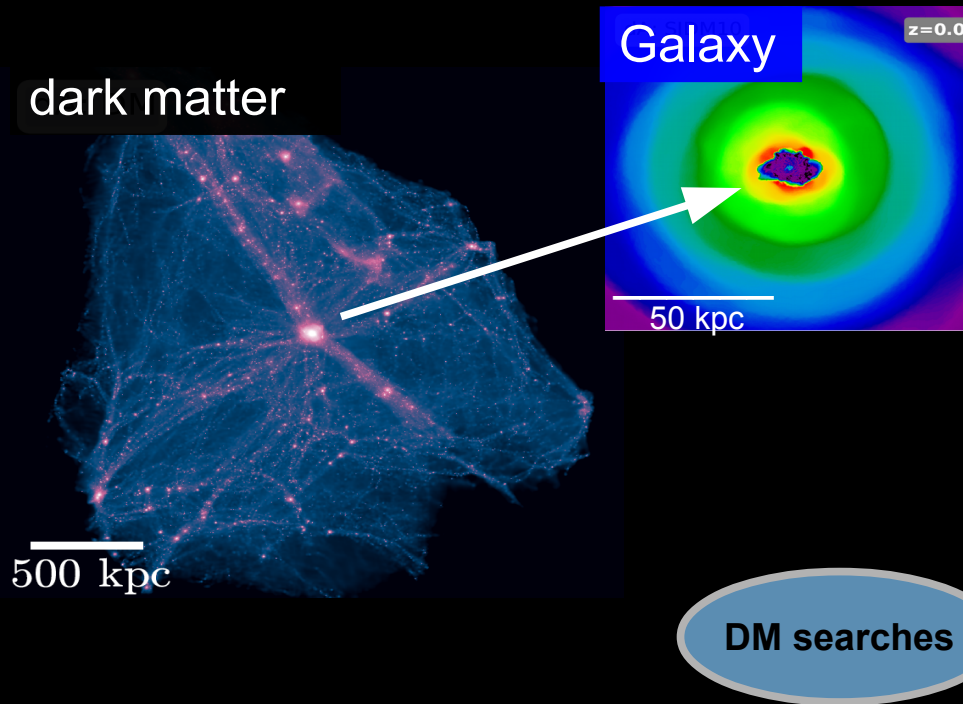


# Perspectives on the Astrophysics of Dark Matter

Jesús Zavala Franco  
Faculty of Physical Sciences, University of Iceland



# Concluding Remarks (Lecture 1)

Structure formation theory has become powerful enough to predict the phase-space distribution of dark matter across time down to galactic scales.

- The Cold Dark Matter (CDM) hypothesis has been the standard for over two decades and implies that DM gravity is the only relevant interaction (for galactic scales and above). It implies that structure formation within CDM has no free DM parameters
- The CMB puts stringent constraints on the initial conditions at large scales
- The linear regime of the evolution ( $\delta \ll 1$ ) is very well understood
- N-body simulations are the most powerful approach to follow the non-linear regime of the evolution
- The CDM model makes predictions on the abundance and inner DM structure, which can be probed with astrophysical observations, but:  
the physics of gas and stars has a still uncertain impact on the DM distribution

# Lecture 2

**non-gravitational DM interactions  
and structure formation**

**despite the spectacular progress in developing a galaxy formation/evolution theory, it remains incomplete since we still don't know:**

**what is the nature of dark matter?**

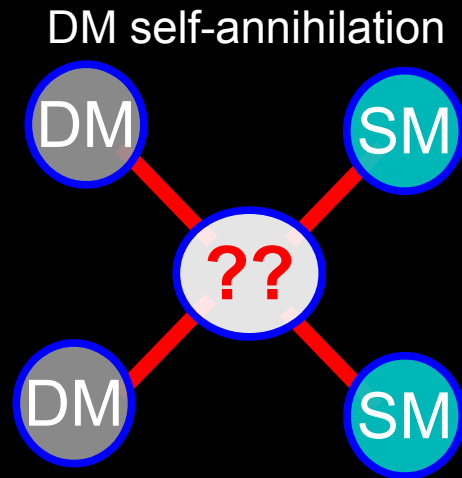
**What is the mass(es) of the DM particle(s) and through which forces does it interact?**

**In the physics of galaxies, is gravity the only dark matter interaction that matters?**

***Although there is no indisputable evidence that the CDM hypothesis is wrong, there are reasonable physical motivations to consider alternatives***

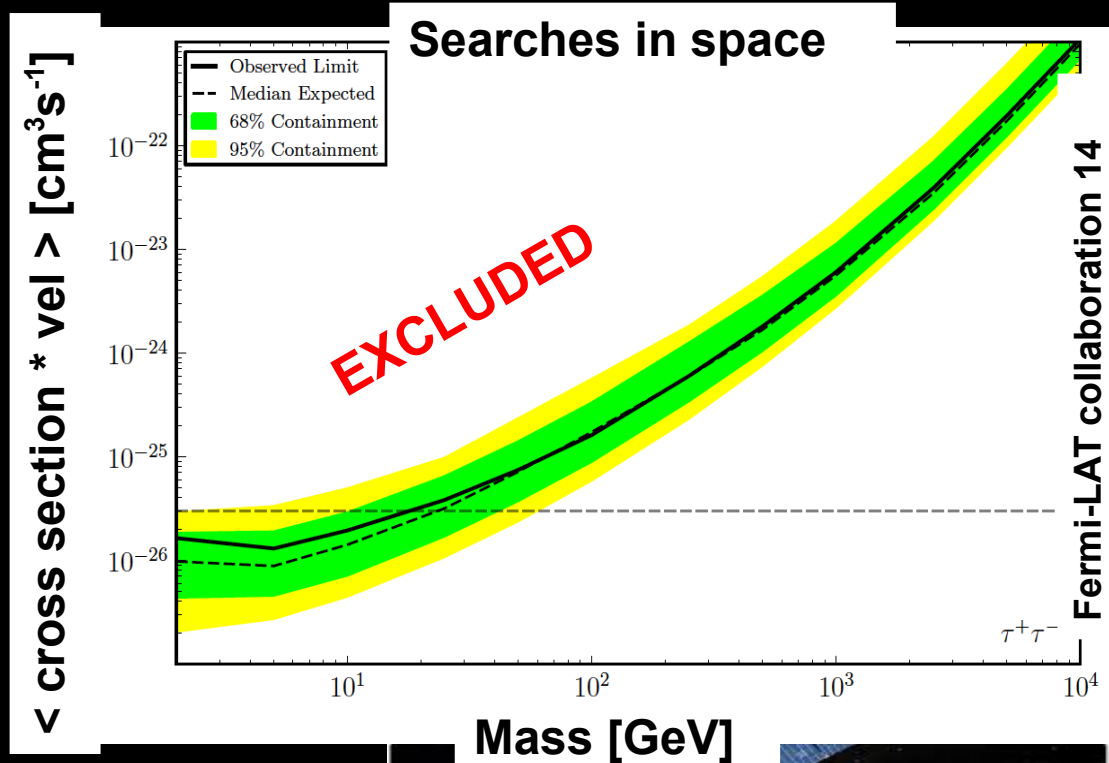


# What is the nature of dark matter?



Does DM  
interacts with  
visible particles?

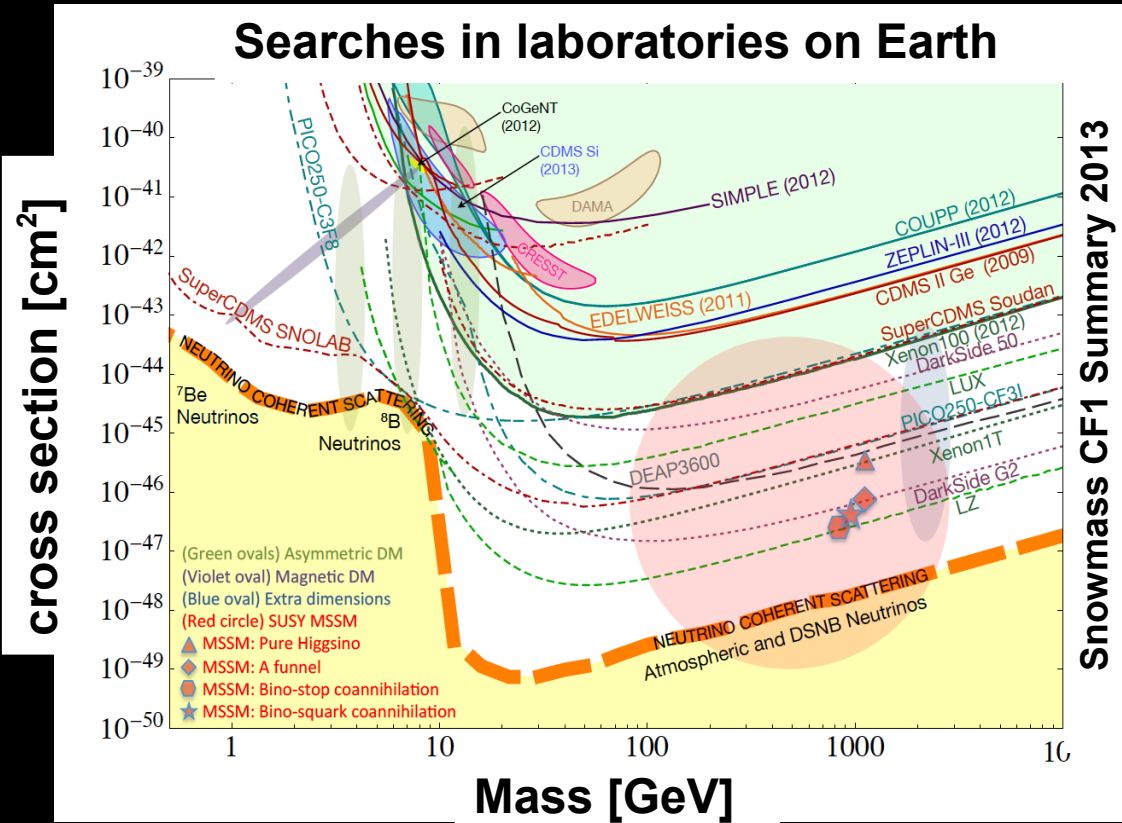
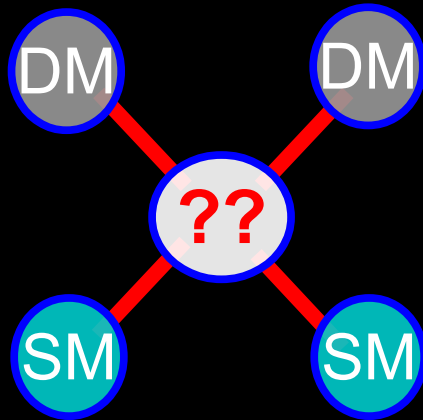
analogous to  
 $e^+e^-$  annihilation



# What is the nature of dark matter?

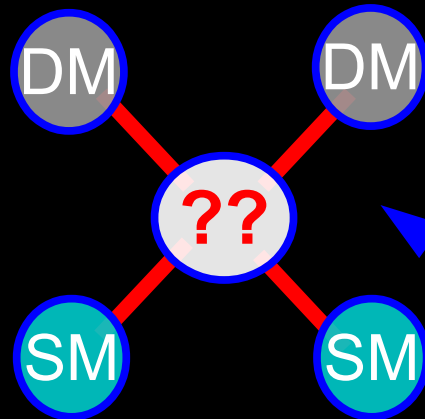
Does DM  
interacts with  
visible particles?

Scattering with nuclei



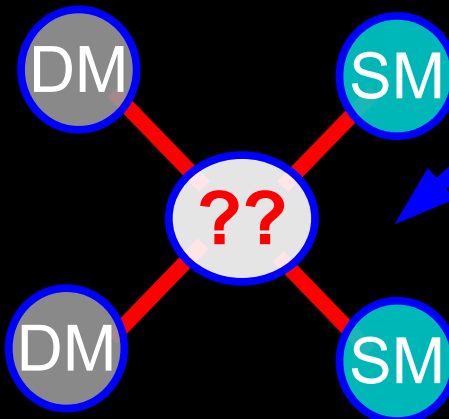
# What is the nature of dark matter?

Scattering with nuclei



Does DM  
interacts with  
visible particles?

DM self-annihilation



*Interactions with visible particles  
are too weak to impact  
galaxy formation/evolution*

Cross section $\sigma/m_\chi$ [cm <sup>2</sup> /gr]	Characteristic velocity $\tilde{v}$ [km/s]
SI $\chi$ -nucleon $\lesssim 10^{-23}$ $m_\chi \in (0.1 - 5)$ TeV LUX	$\sim 200$ (local halo)
$\chi\chi \rightarrow b\bar{b} \lesssim 10^{-10}$ $m_\chi \in (0.1 - 1)$ TeV Fermi-LAT	$\sim 10$ (dSphs)

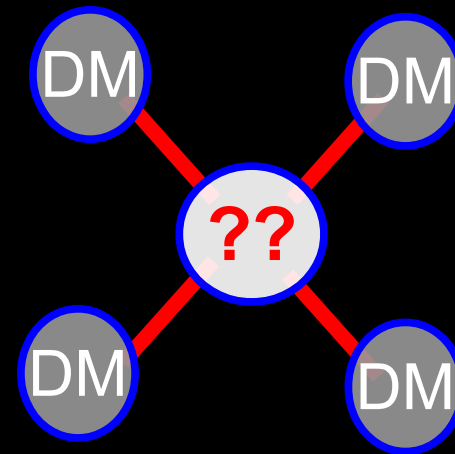
1 cm<sup>2</sup>/g  $\sim$  2 barns/GeV

dark matter is quite “dark” (invisible)

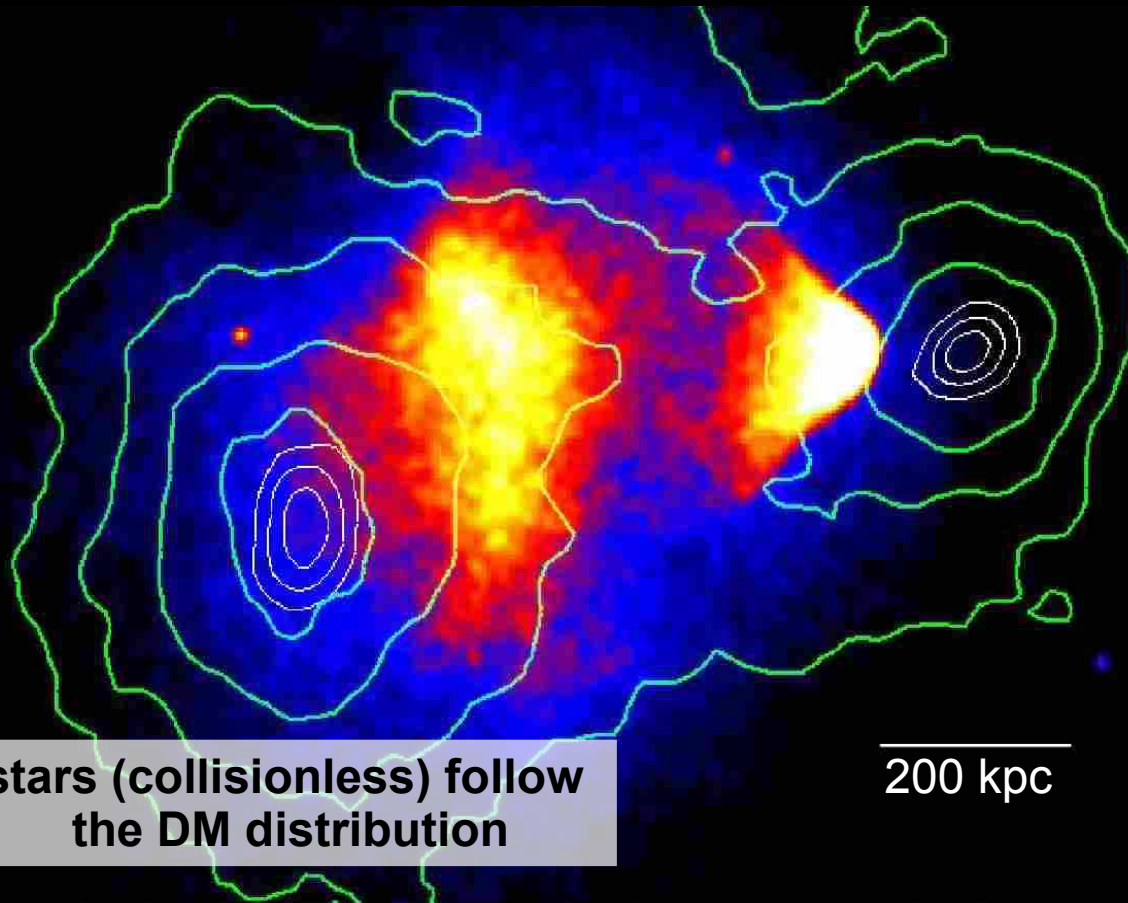
nucleon-nucleon  
elastic scattering:  
 $\sim 10$  cm<sup>2</sup>/gr

# What is the nature of dark matter?

Can DM particles collide with themselves?



Bullet Cluster (Clowe +06)



stars (collisionless) follow the DM distribution

constraint on DM self-collisions

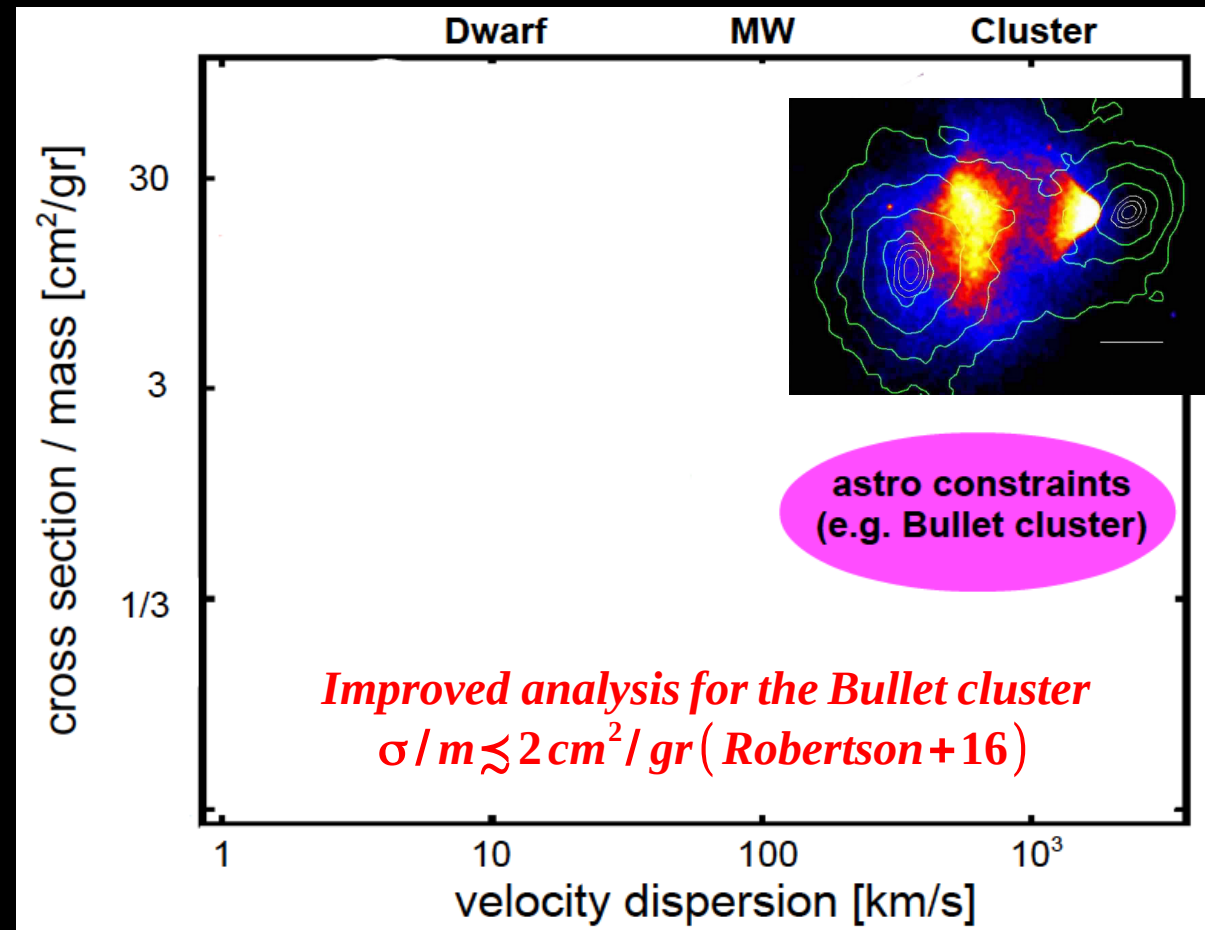
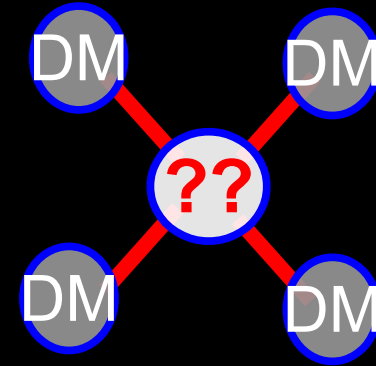
$$\sigma / m \lesssim 2 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{gr}$$

Robertson+2016

nucleon-nucleon  
elastic scattering:  
 $\sim 10 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{gr}$

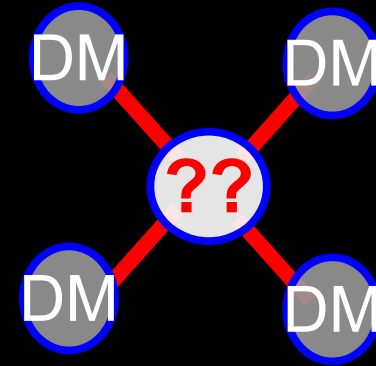
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Can DM particles collide with themselves?



# What is the nature of dark matter?

Can DM particles collide with themselves?



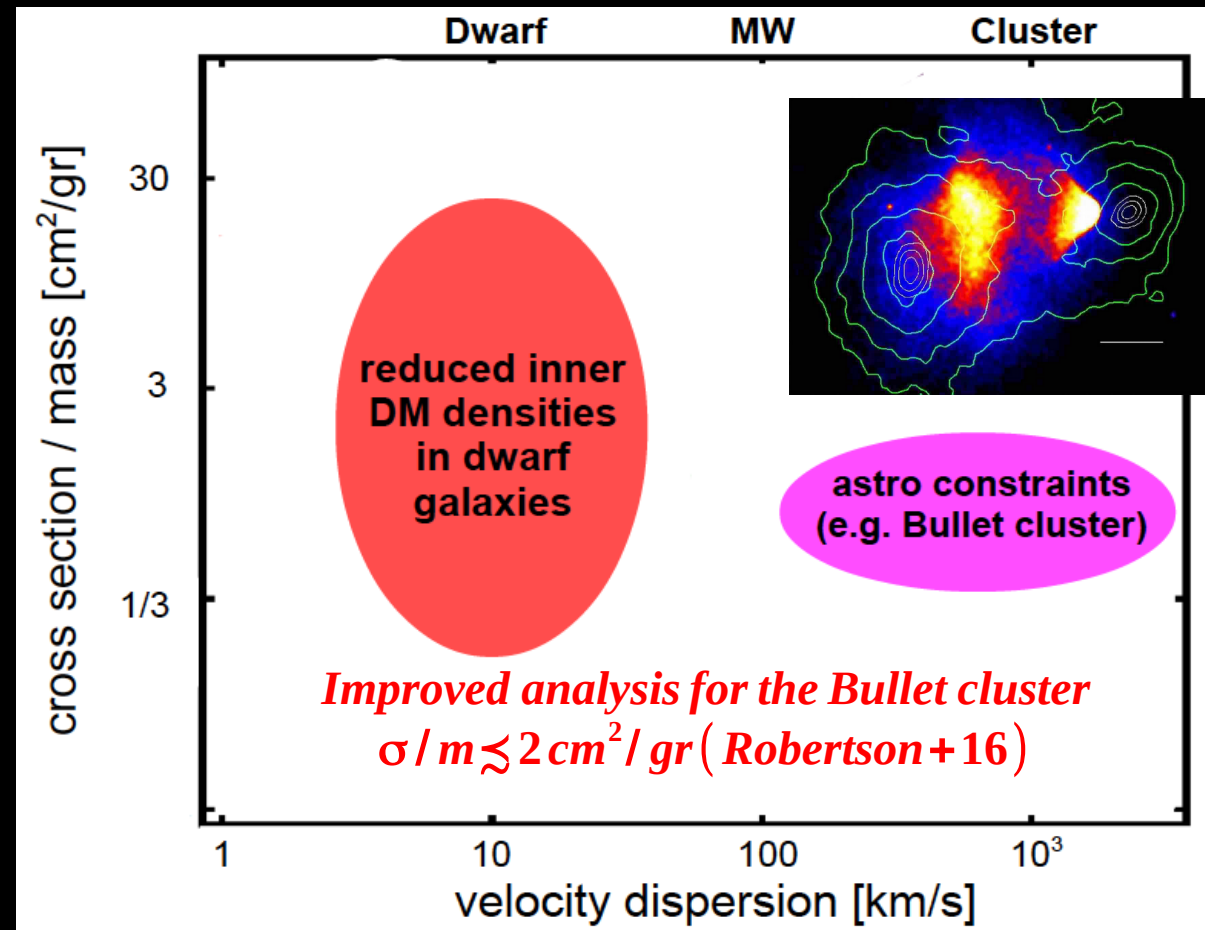
constraints allow collisional DM that is astrophysically significant in the center of galaxies:

average scattering rate per particle:

$$\frac{\overline{R}_{sc}}{\Delta t} = \left( \frac{\sigma_{sc}}{m_{\chi}} \right) \bar{\rho}_{dm} \bar{v}_{typ}$$

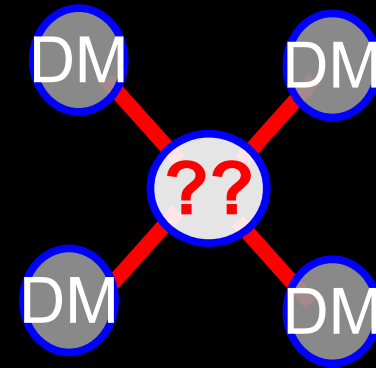
~ 1 scatter / particle / Hubble time

Neither a fluid nor a collisionless system:  
~ rarefied gas  
(Knudsen number =  $\lambda_{mean}/L > \sim 1$ )



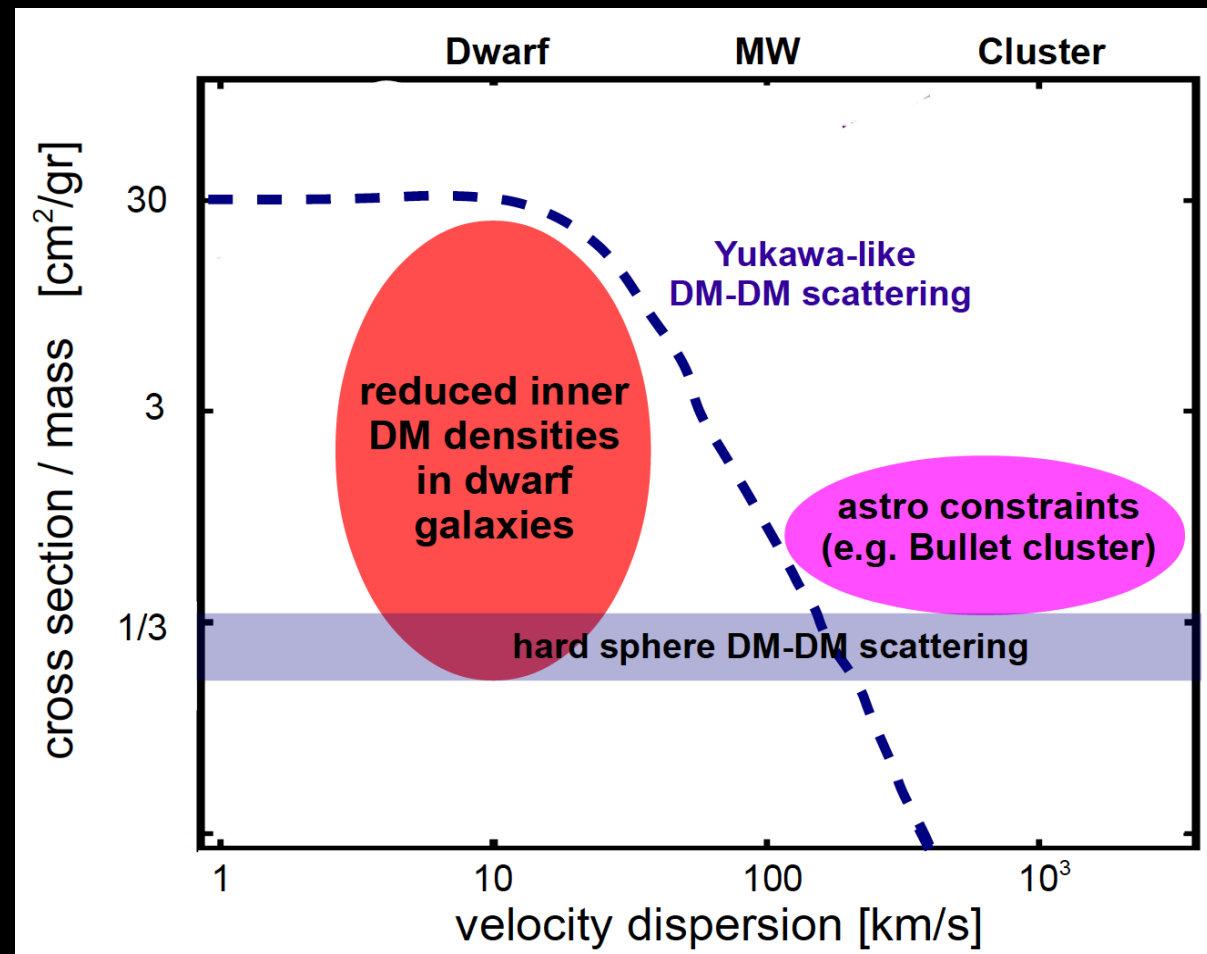
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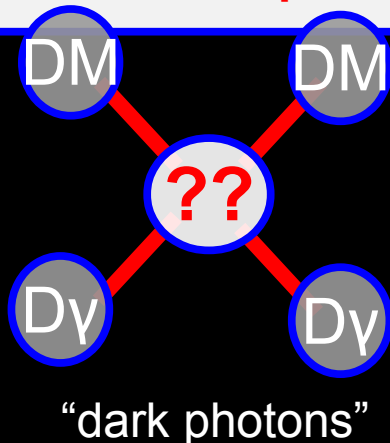
velocity-dependent models (motivated by a new force in the “dark sector”) can accommodate the constraints  
e.g. Yukawa-like, Feng+09, Loeb & Weiner 2011,...





# What is the nature of dark matter?

Can DM particles interact with other “dark” particles?

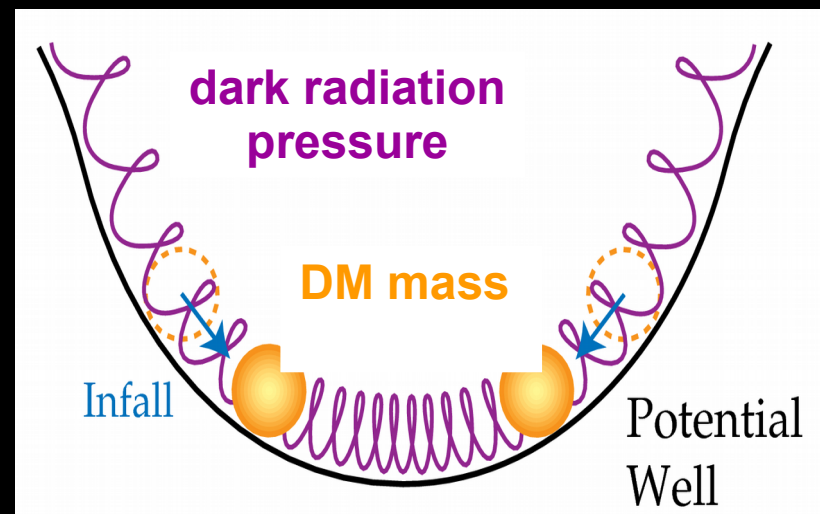
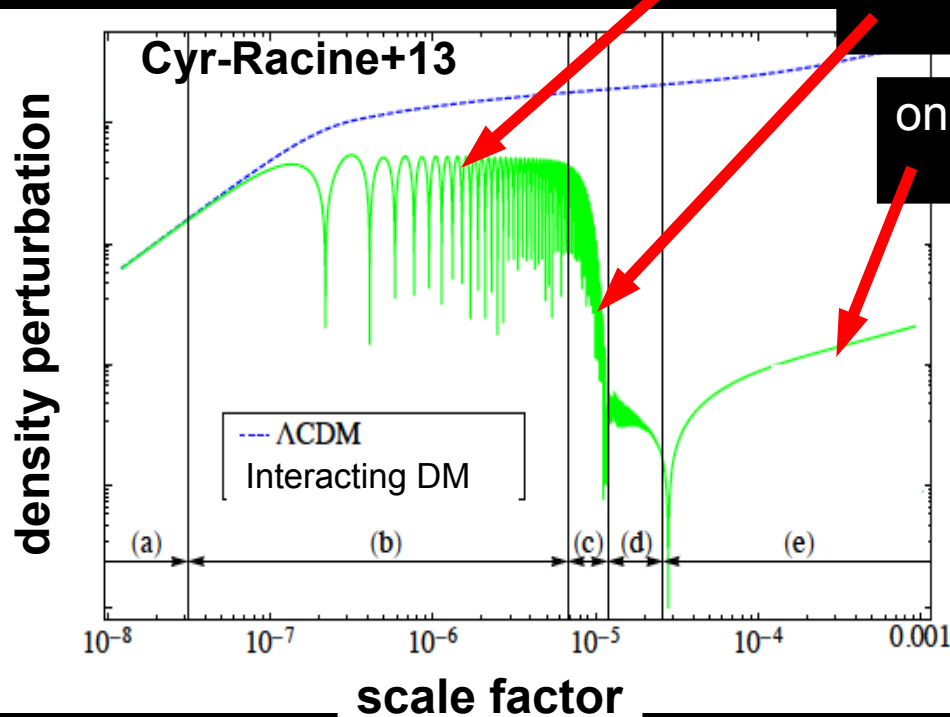


Allowed interactions between DM and relativistic particles (e.g. “dark radiation”) in the early Universe introduce pressure effects that impact the growth of DM structures (phenomena analogous to that of the photon-baryon plasma)

dark radiation pressure counteracts gravity creating “dark acoustic oscillations”

diffusion (Silk) damping can effectively diffuse-out DM perturbations

once kinetic decoupling (DM-DR) occurs DM behaviour is like CDM





# What is the nature of dark matter? (summary)

**The search for visible byproducts of  
DM interactions continues**

dark matter is quite dark (invisible)

**From a purely phenomenological perspective,  
it is possible that non-gravitational DM  
interactions play a key role in the physics  
of galaxies**

dark matter might not be as “inert”  
as is commonly assumed

# Beyond CDM: exploring new dark matter physics with astrophysics

From a purely phenomenological perspective, it is possible that non-gravitational DM interactions play a key role in the physics of galaxies

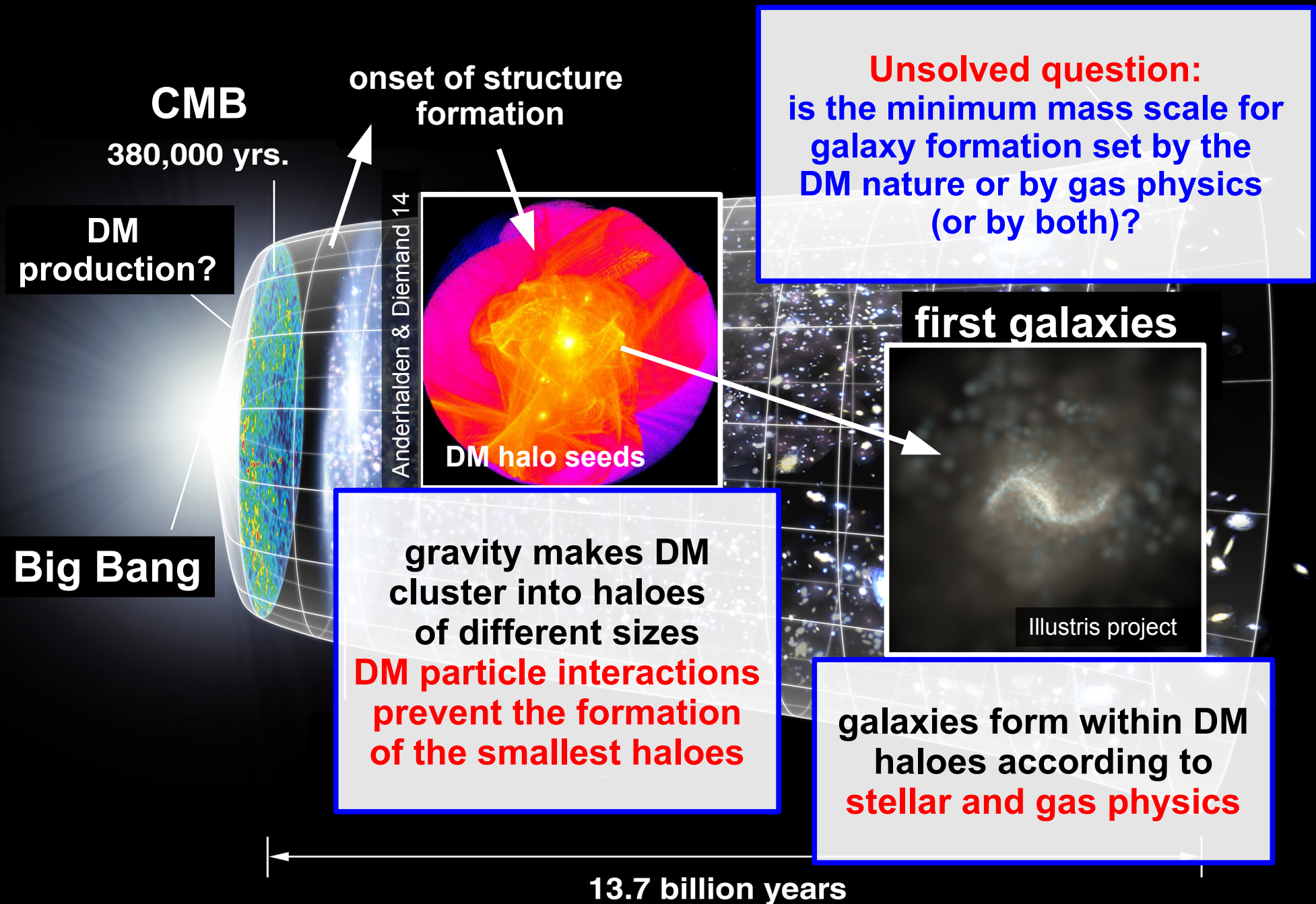
**Unsolved question:**  
is the minimum mass scale for galaxy formation set by the DM nature or by gas physics (or by both)?

**Unsolved question:**  
are non-gravitational DM interactions irrelevant for galaxy evolution?

**These questions go beyond the “standard” DM model for the formation and evolution of galaxies**

**Pursuing them, will either confirm the standard model or unveil a fundamental DM property**

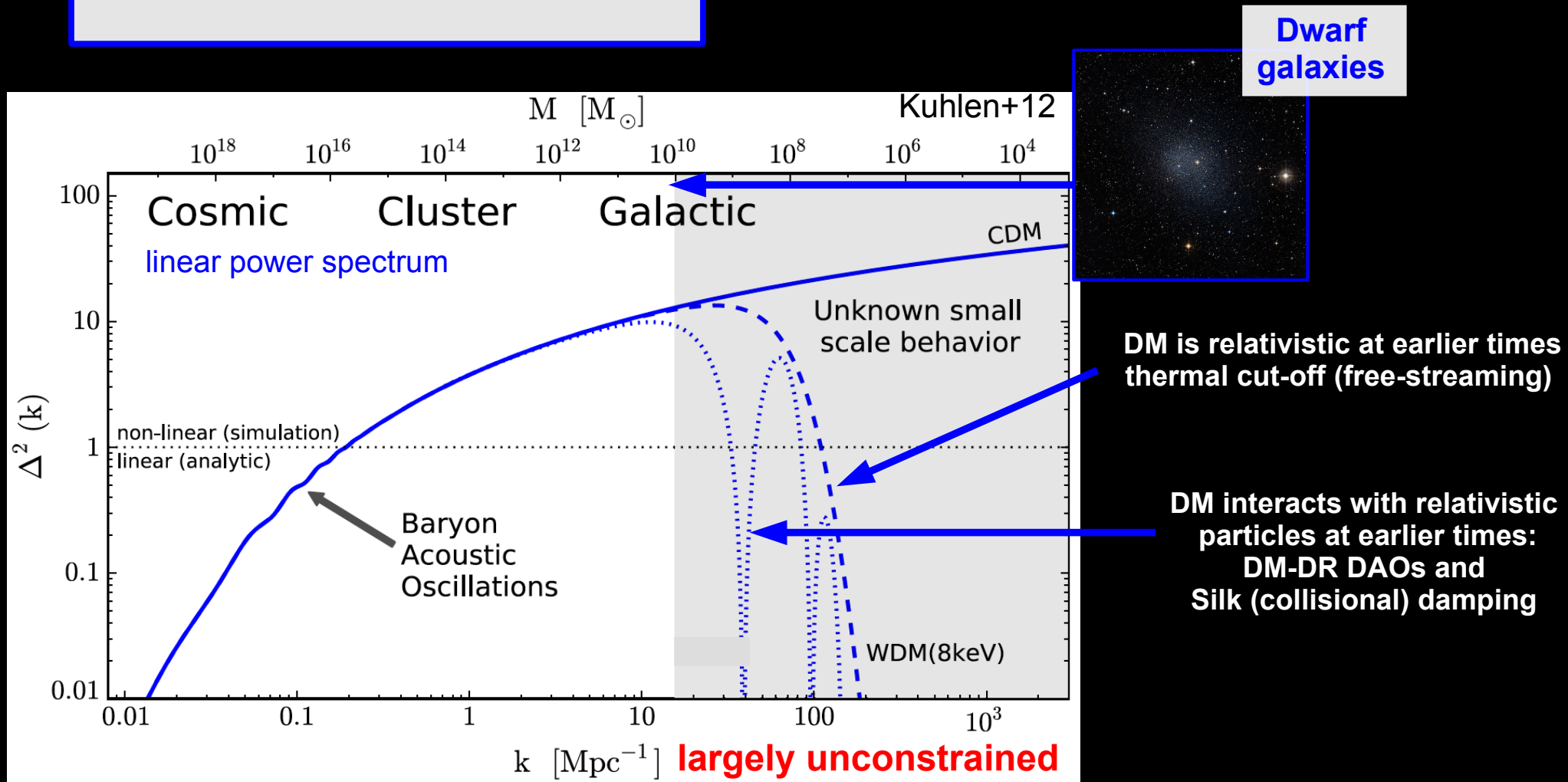
# The nature of dark matter and the first galaxies



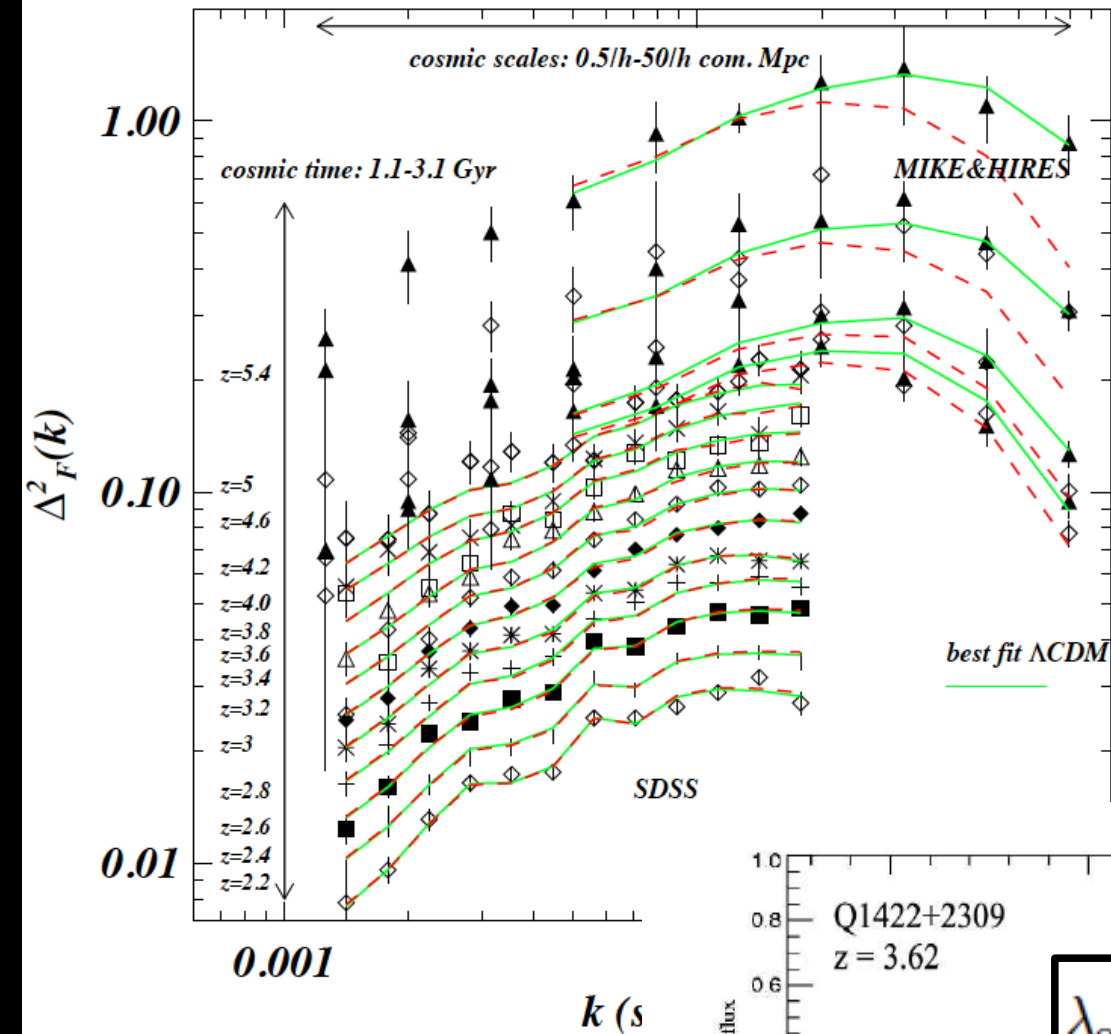
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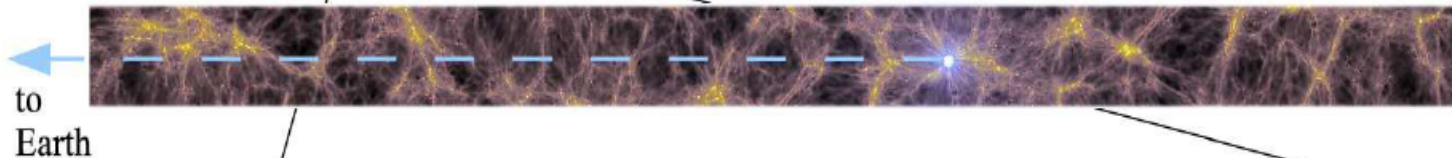
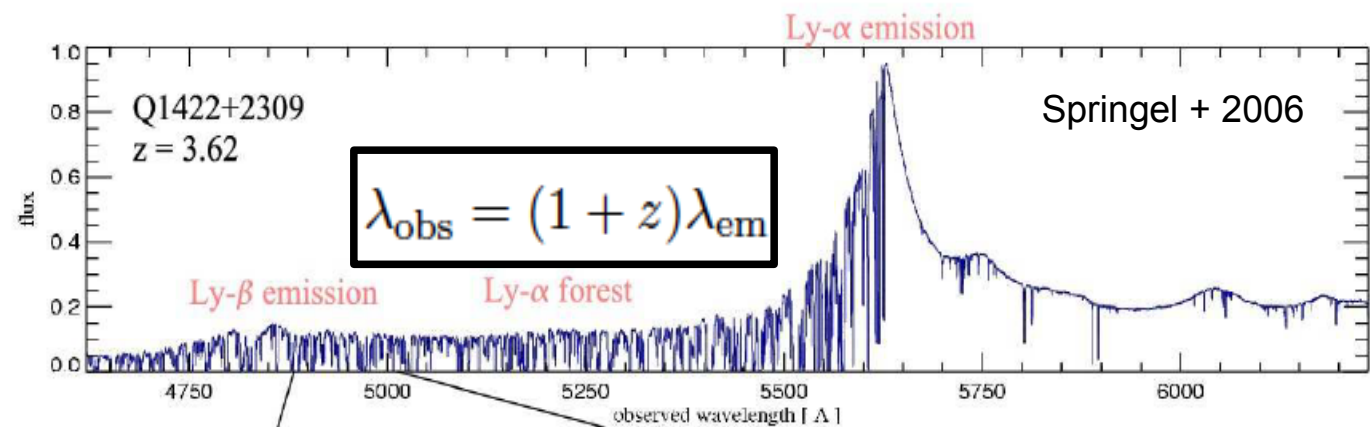
Observations have yet to measure  
the clustering of dark matter at the  
scale of the smallest galaxies



**(e.g. Ly- $\alpha$  forest constraints)**



## DM power spectrum – IGM connection



(

# DM self-collisions in N-body simulations

Far from the fluid and  
collisionless regimes  
(Knudsen number =  $\lambda_{\text{mean}}/L \gtrsim 1$ )



Collisional  
Boltzmann equation  
(elastic)

$$\frac{Df(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t)}{Dt} = \Gamma[f, \sigma]$$

$$= \int d^3\mathbf{v}_1 \int d\Omega \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} |\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_1| \left[ f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}', t) f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}'_1, t) - f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_1, t) \right]$$

Differential  
cross section

Rate of scattered particles  
out of phase-space patch

Rate of scattered particles  
into phase-space patch

$$|\vec{v}_{\text{rel}}| = |\vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}| = |\vec{v}'_1 - \vec{v}'|$$

Ansatz for N-body simulation: same solution for “coarse-grained” distribution function

$$\frac{D\hat{f}}{Dt} = \int d^3\mathbf{v}_1 \int d\Omega \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} |\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_1| \left[ \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}', t) \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}'_1, t) - \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_1, t) \right]$$



# DM self-collisions in N-body simulations

The coarse-grained distribution is given by a discrete representation of N particles:

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) = \sum_i (M_i/m) W(|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i|; h_i) \delta^3(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i)$$

**Algorithm: Gravity + Probabilistic method for elastic scattering**

in pairs:

$$P_{ij} = \frac{m_i}{m_\chi} W(r_{ij}, h_i) \sigma_T(v_{ij}) v_{ij} \Delta t_i$$

total for a particle:

$$P_i = \sum_j P_{ij} / 2$$

**discrete version of the collisional operator**

A collision happens if:  $x \leq P_i$ , where x is a random number between 0 and 1

sort neighbours by distance and pick the one with:  $x \leq \sum_i^l P_{ij}$

**Elastic collision:**

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}_i &= \vec{v}_{cm} + (\vec{v}_{ij}/2) \hat{e} \\ \vec{v}_j &= \vec{v}_{cm} - (\vec{v}_{ij}/2) \hat{e} \end{aligned}$$

**randomly scattered**

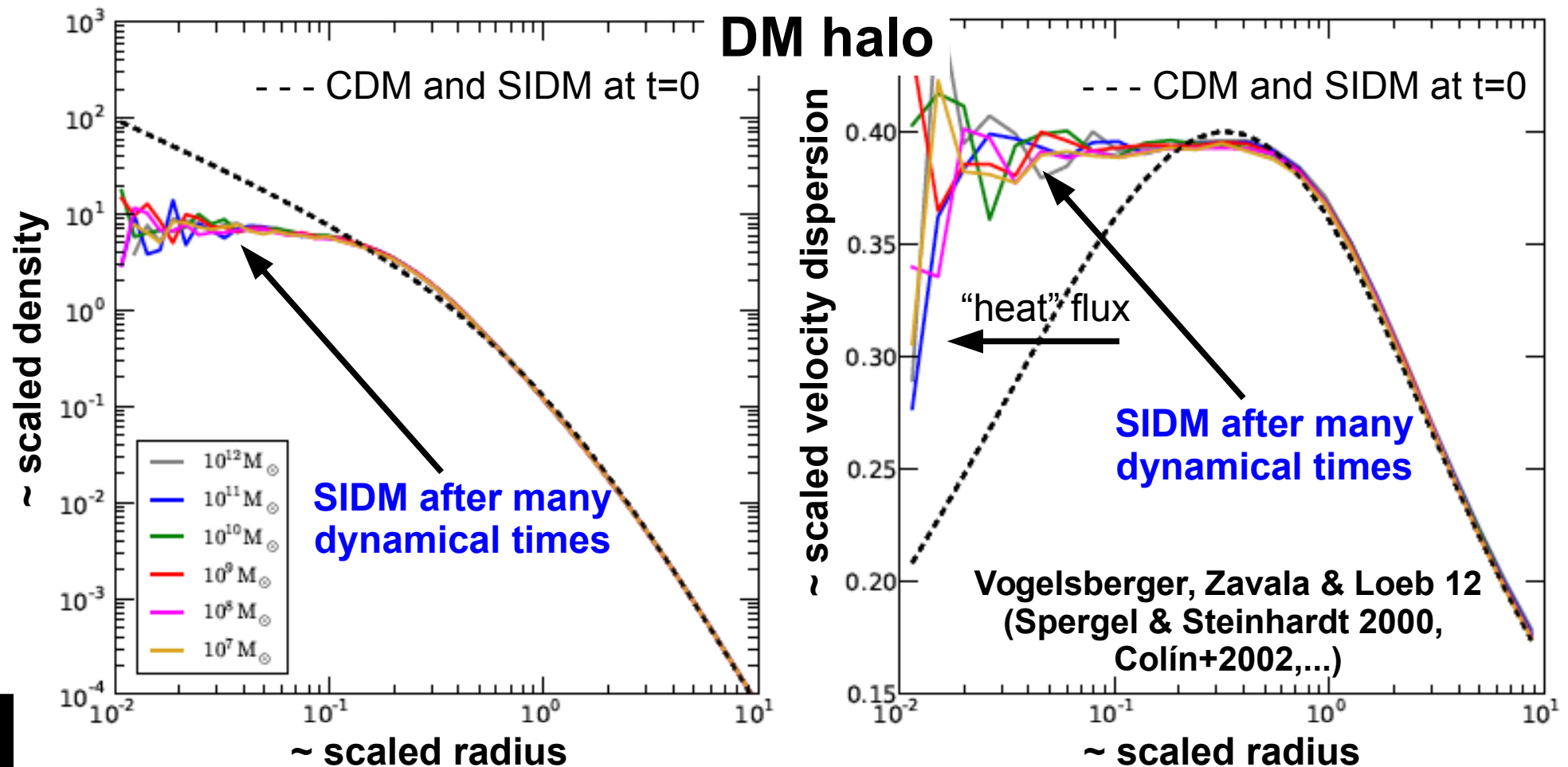


)

# The nature of dark matter (evolution of structures)

**Unsolved question:**  
are non-gravitational DM  
interactions irrelevant for  
galaxy evolution?

With strong self-interactions ( $\sigma/m \gtrsim 0.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{gr}$ )  
DM haloes develop “isothermal” cores



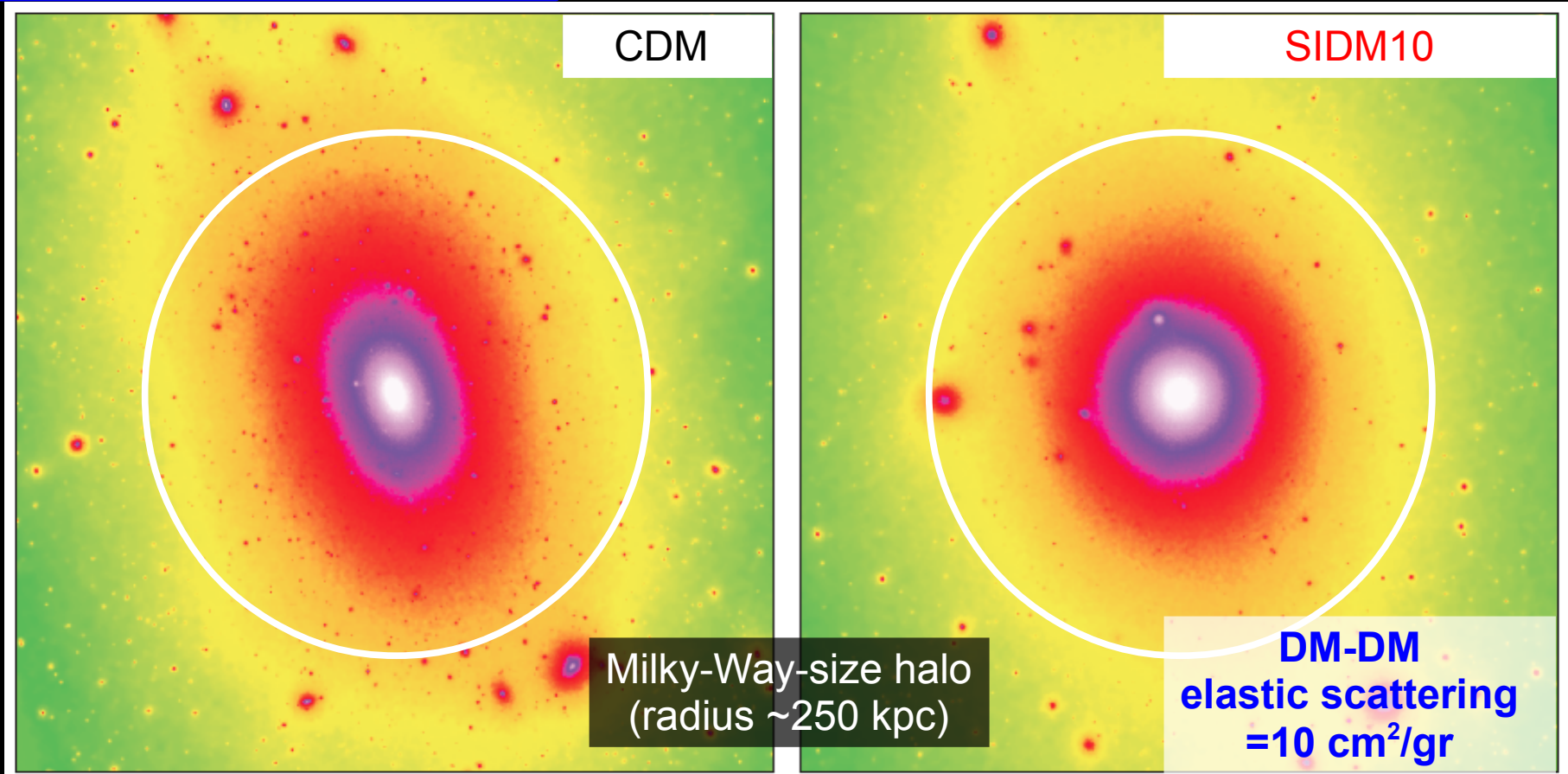
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DM haloes develop “isothermal” cores

Vogelsberger, Zavala & Loeb 2012



DM-only simulations

(Carlson+92, Spergel & Steinhardt 00, Yoshida+00, Davé+01, Colín+02, Rocha+13, Peter+13....)

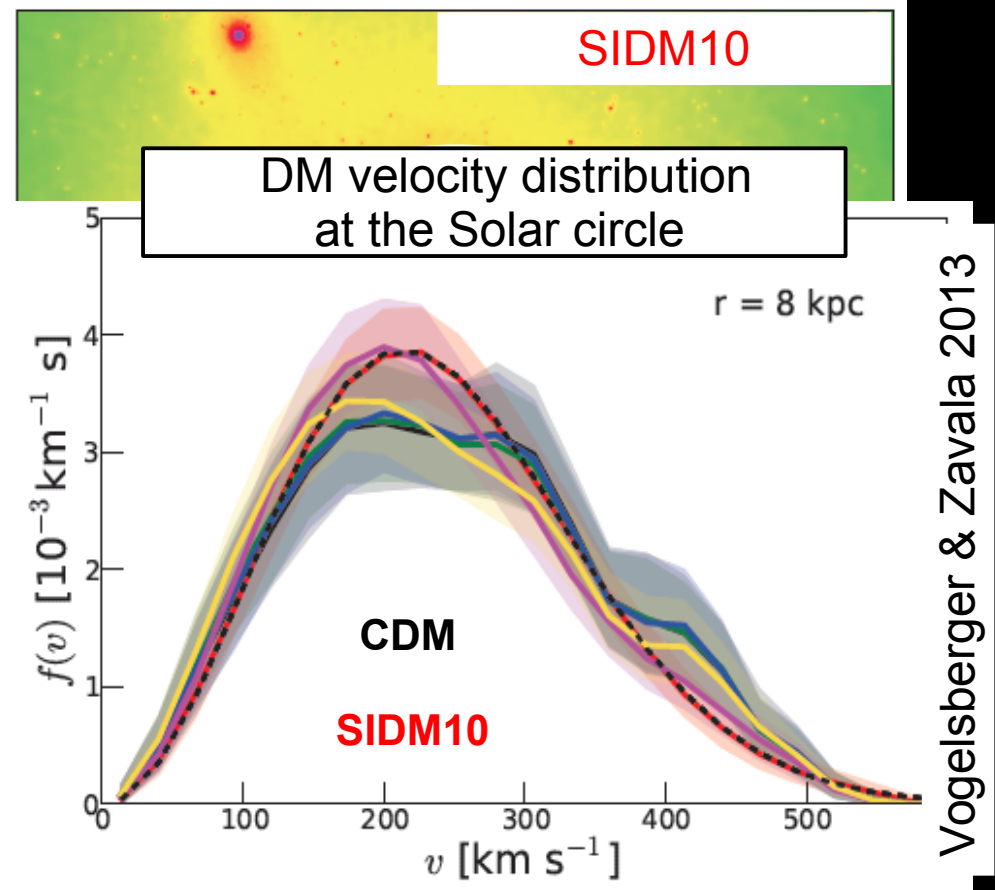
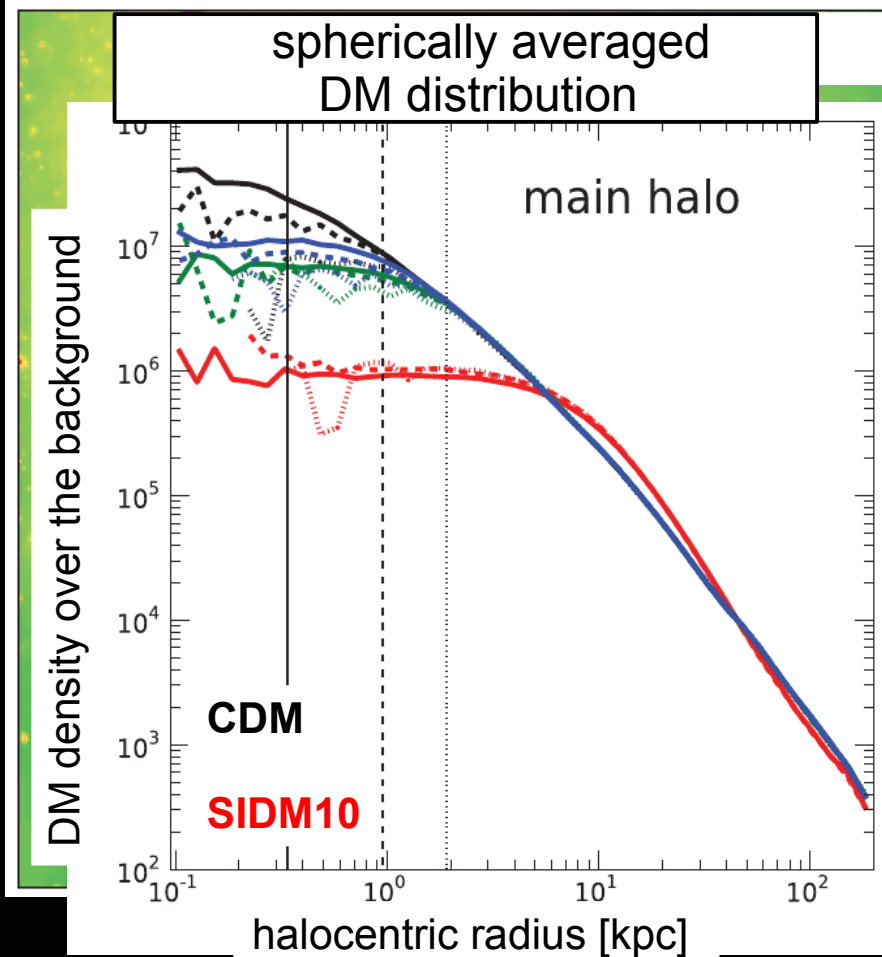
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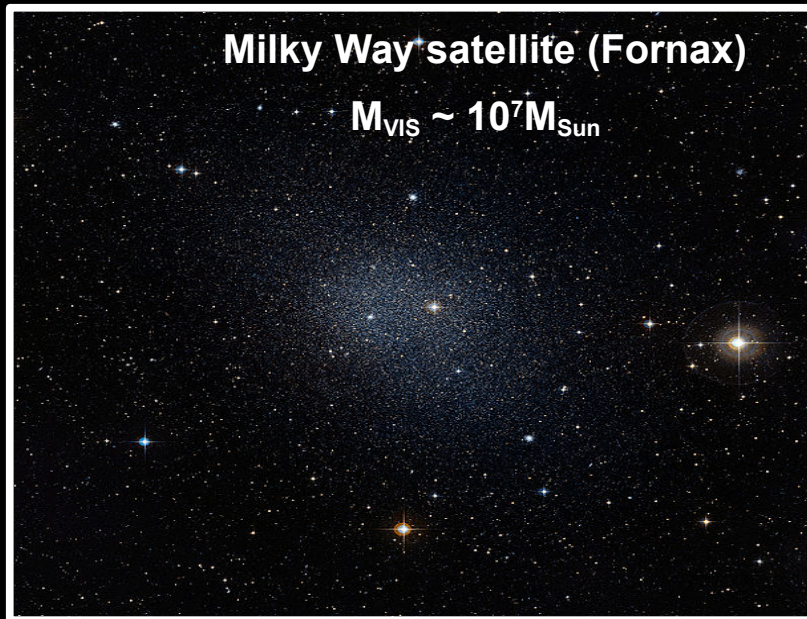


Vogelsberger & Zavala 2013

relevant to particle DM searches

# Clues of new DM physics from dwarf galaxies?

Dwarf galaxies:  
most DM-dominated systems:  $M_{\text{DM}} > 10 M_{\text{VIS}}$   
(ordinary matter is less dynamically relevant)



The stellar dynamics is simplified  
and the underlying DM  
distribution can be more easily  
constrained

$$\frac{df}{dt} = 0$$

CBE + steady-state  
+ spherical symmetry

radial Jeans equation

$$\frac{d(\rho_{st} \sigma_r^2)}{dr} + 2 \frac{\beta}{r} \rho_{st} \sigma_r^2 \simeq -\rho_{st} \frac{d\phi_{DM}}{dr}$$

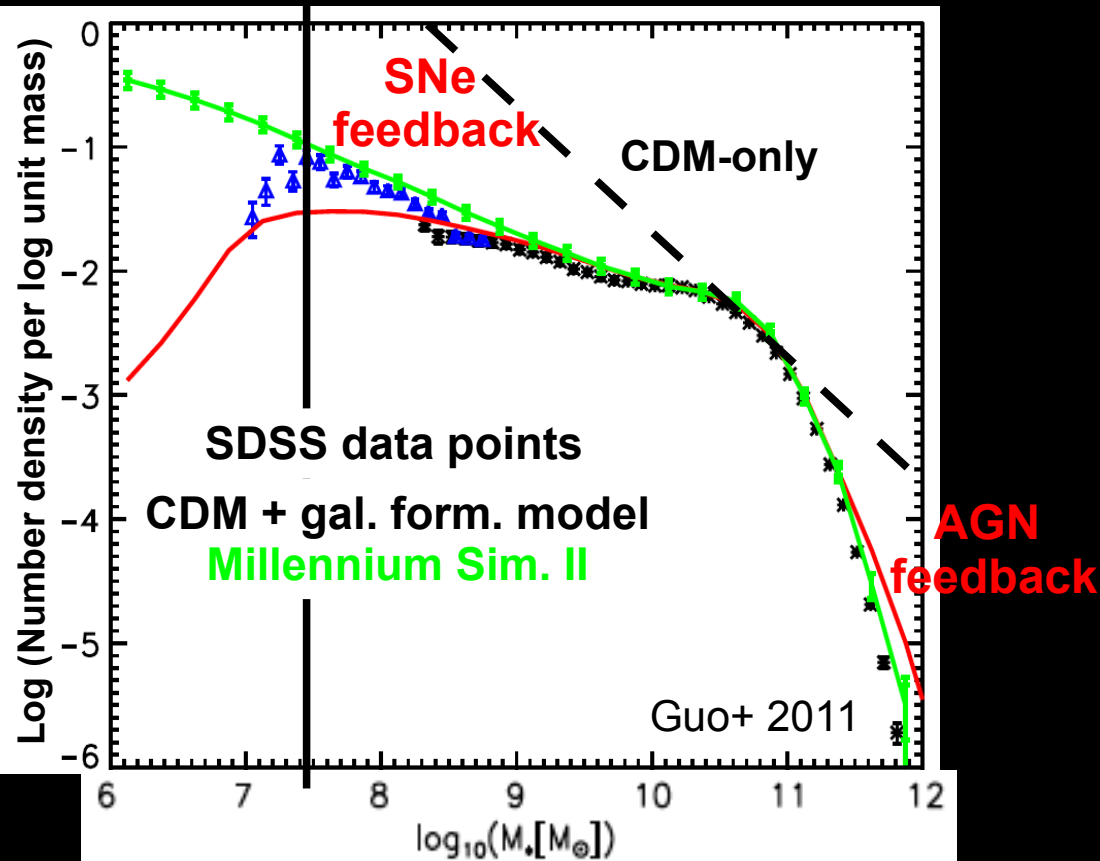
$$\beta = 1 - (\sigma_t / \sigma_r)^2$$

“Optimal” dynamical DM detectors

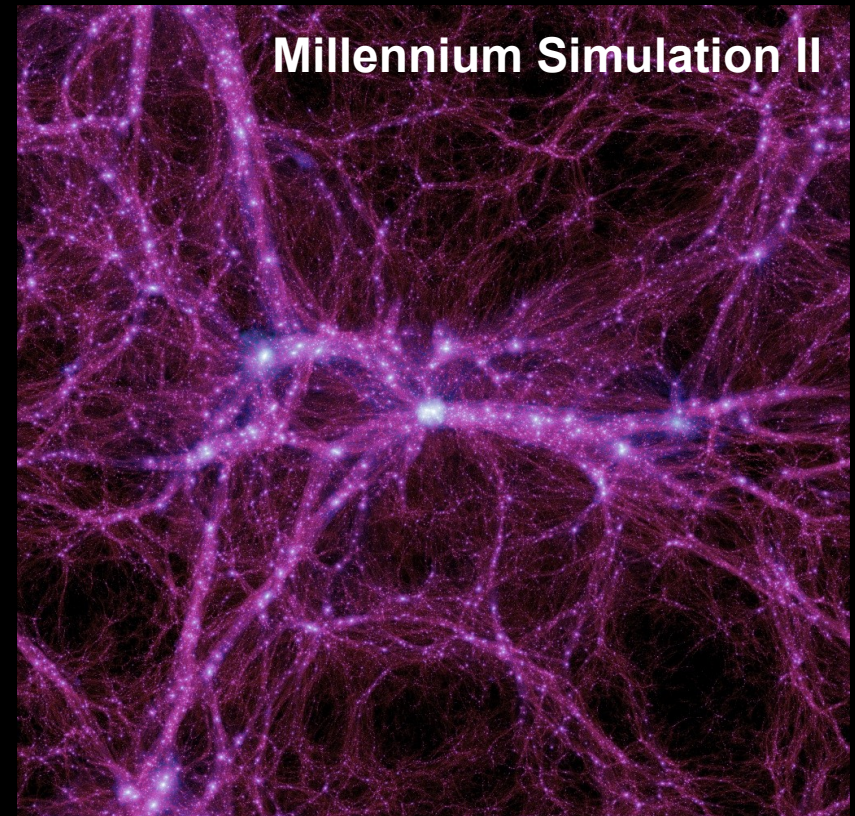


# Observed abundance of dwarf galaxies in the field

$M_h \sim 4 \times 10^{10} M_{\text{Sun}}$  ( $\sim$ dwarf scale)



Abundance according to stellar mass



Millennium Simulation II

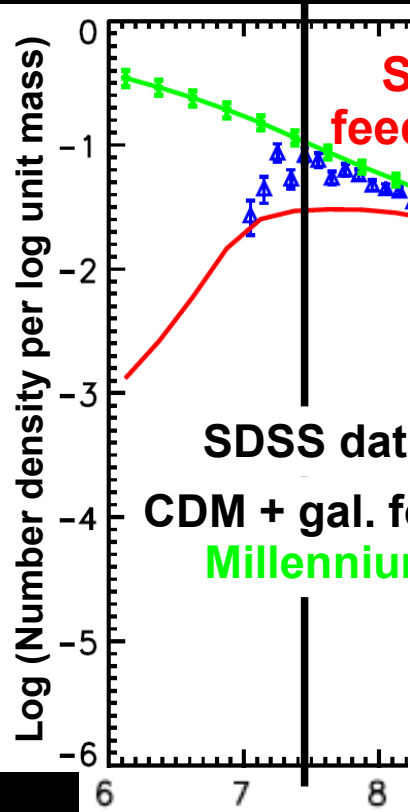
100 Mpc/h

Boylan-Kolchin+ 2009

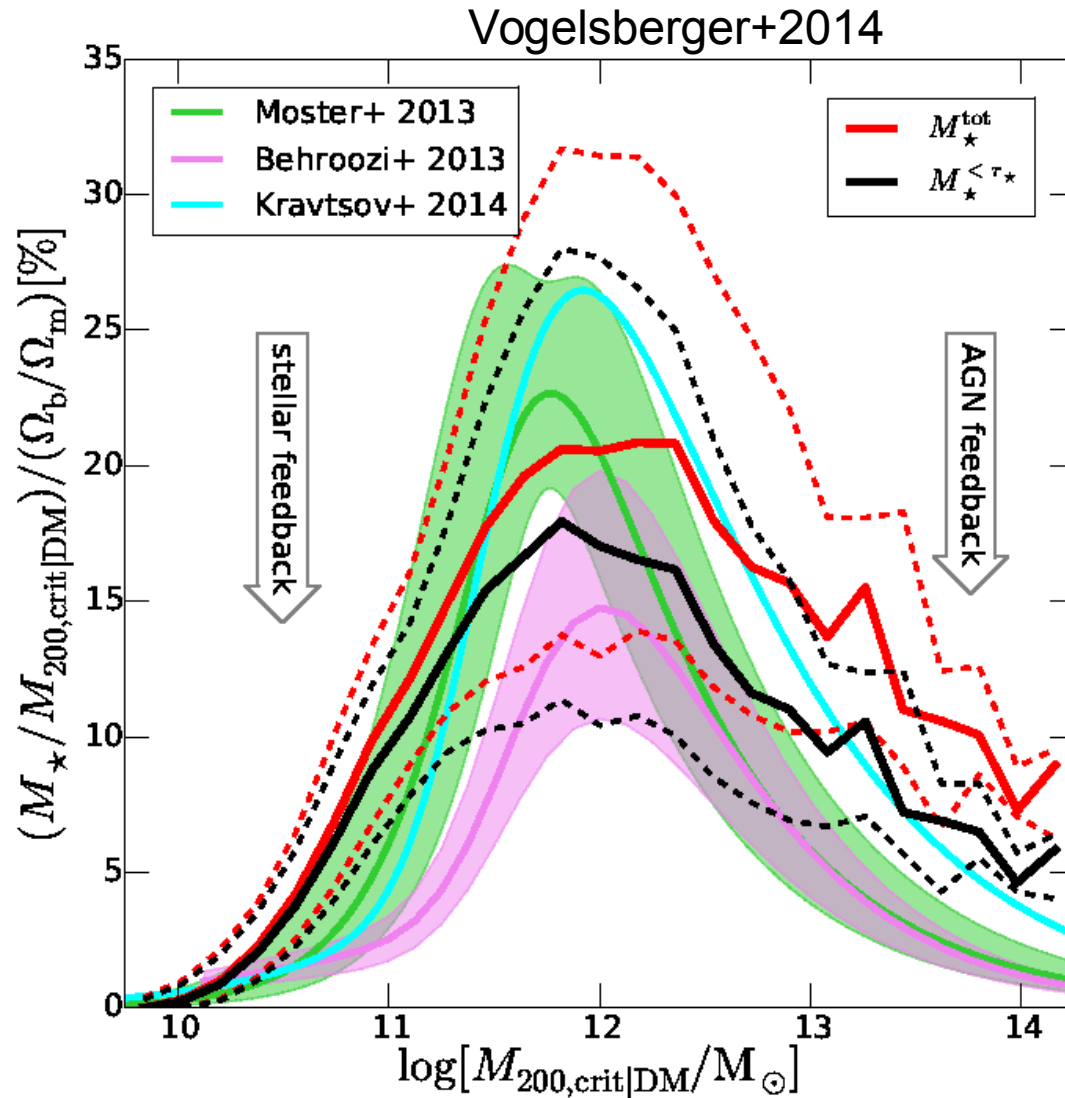
Galaxy formation and evolution modifies the DM-only prediction

# Observed abundance of dwarf galaxies in the field

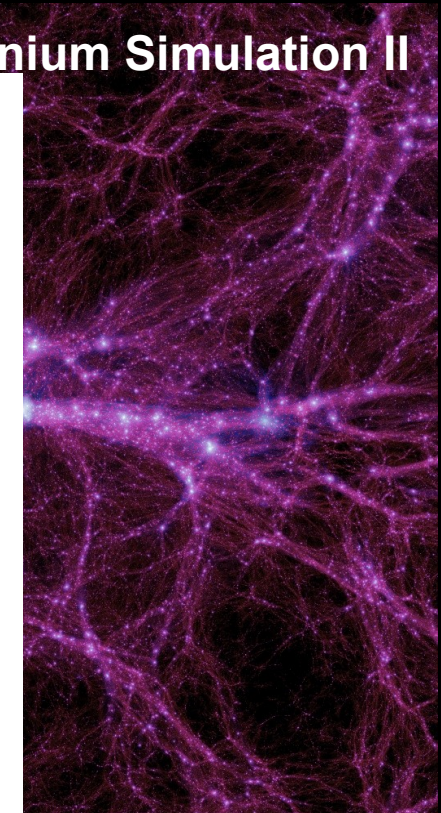
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Abundance at



Millennium Simulation II



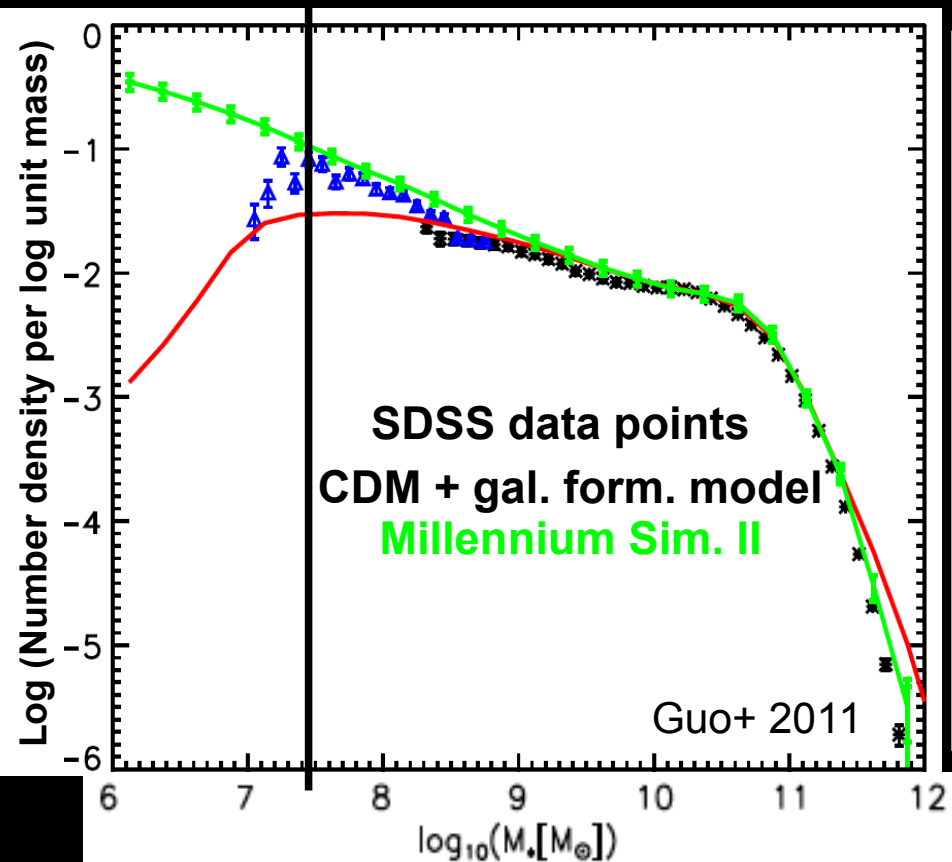
Boylan-Kolchin+ 2009

100 Mpc/h

Galaxy formation is quite inefficient!!

# Observed abundance of dwarf galaxies in the field

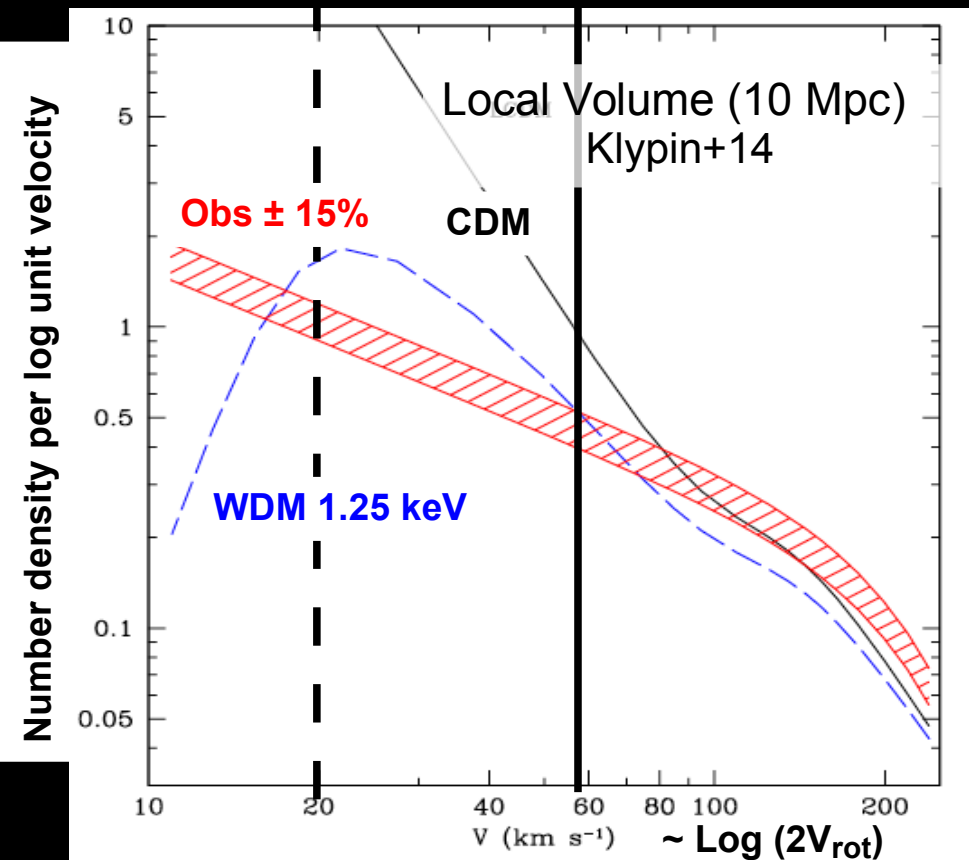
$M_h \sim 4 \times 10^{10} M_{\text{Sun}}$  ( $\sim$ dwarf scale)



Abundance according to **stellar mass**

90% complete

$M_h \sim 4 \times 10^{10} M_{\text{Sun}}$  ( $\sim$ dwarf scale)



Abundance according to **global rotation**

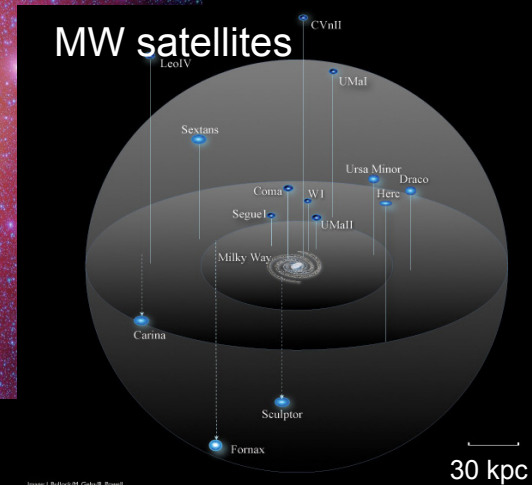
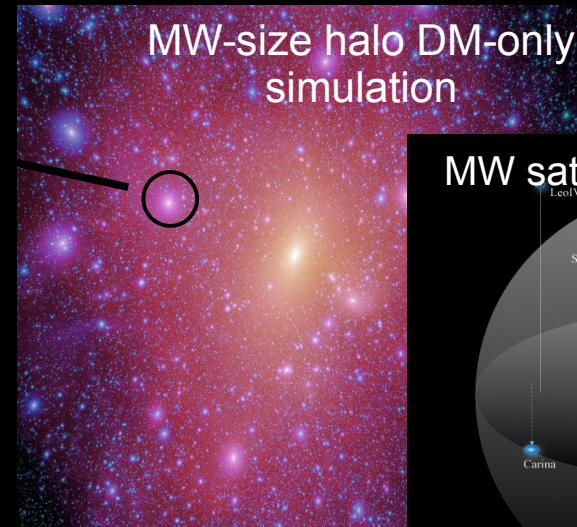
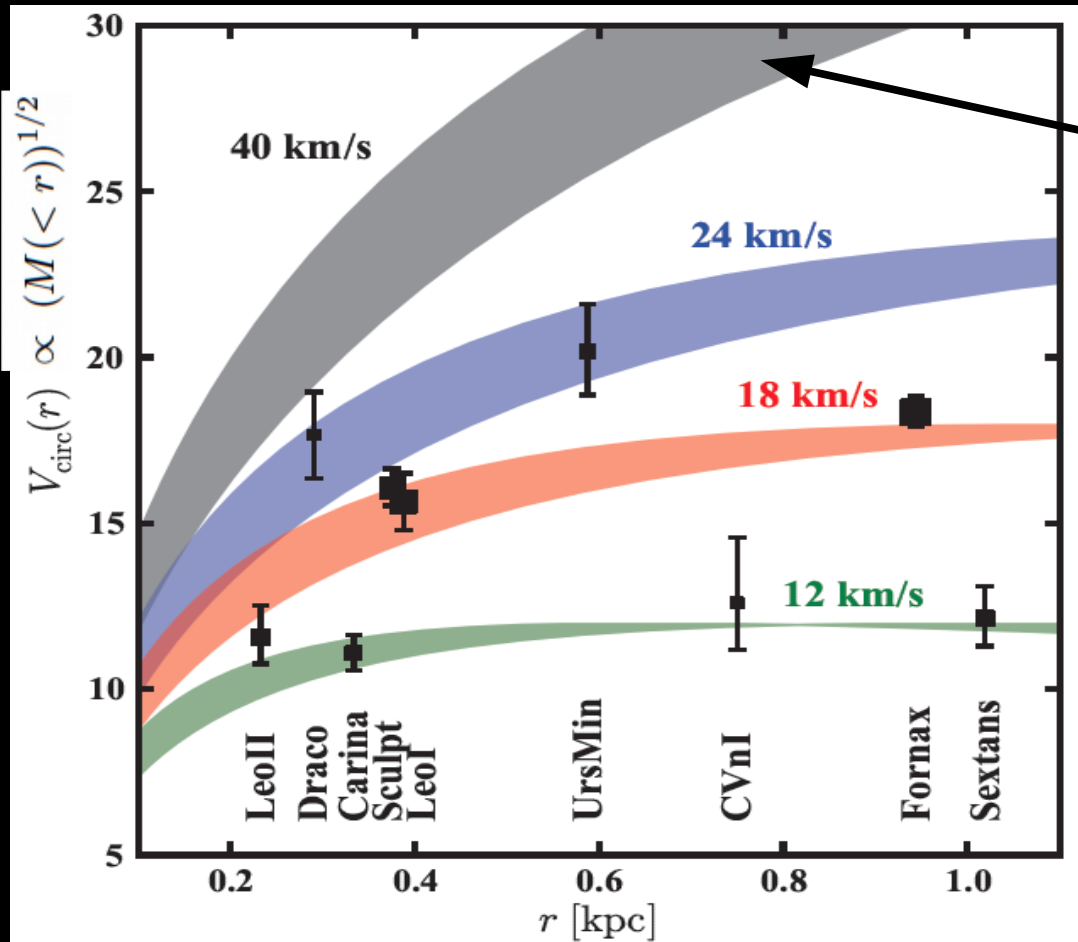
CDM + current gal. form. models  
overpredict the abundance of field dwarfs  
(Zavala+09, Papastergis+11, Klypin+14)

Missing satellite problem (is not really a problem in CDM)  
**Missing isolated dwarfs (is an unsolved problem in CDM)**

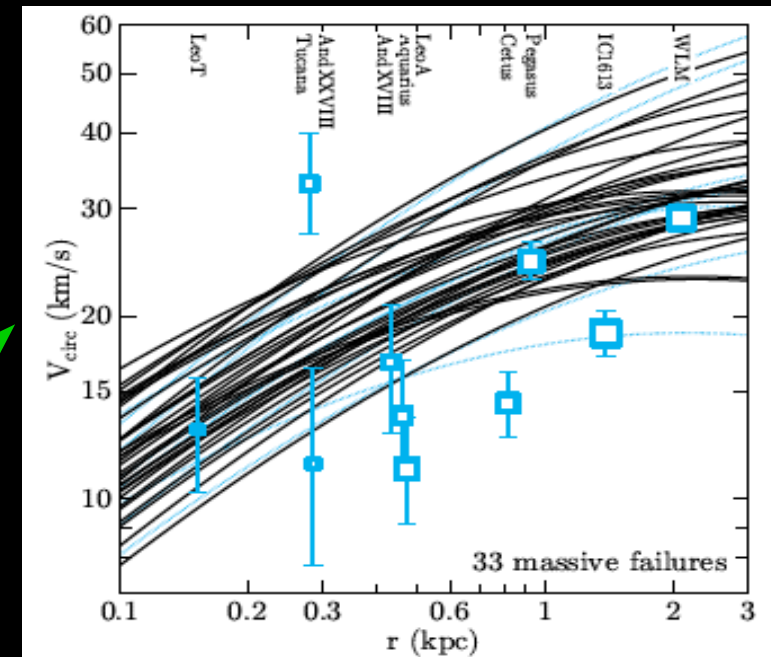


# DM distribution in the MW satellites: The “Too Big to Fail” problem

Boylan-Kolchin+12



Garrison-Kimmel+14

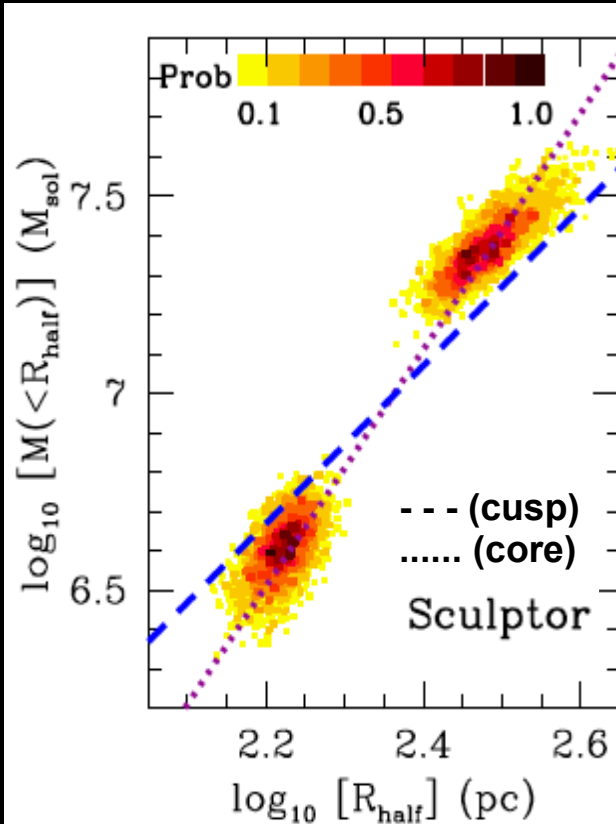


The most massive CDM-MW-subhaloes  
seem to be too centrally dense  
to host the MW dSphs (problem extends to LG)

Unsolved problem in CDM!!

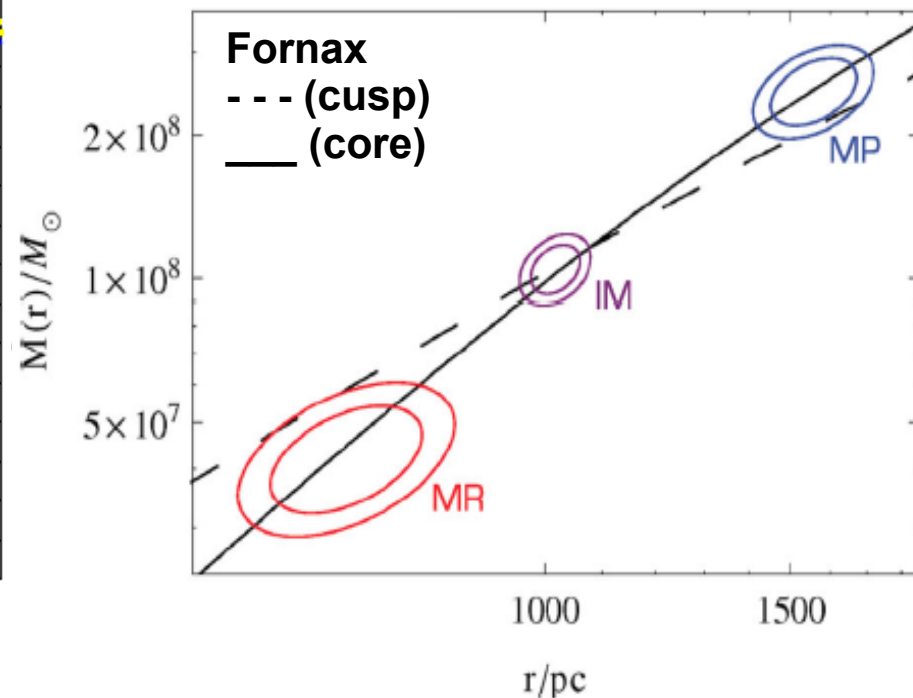
# DM distribution in the MW satellites: the core-cusp problem

Walker & Peñarrubia 2011



Different stellar subcomponents provide an estimate of the slope of the mass profile:

**cores seem favoured over cusps**



Amorisco, Agnello and Evans 2013

Other analysis suggest that **both cores and cusps can fit the data** (e.g. Breddels & Helmi 13, Richardson & Fairbairn 14, Strigari, Frenk & White 14)

**Controversial issue in CDM!!**

# Clues of new DM physics from dwarf galaxies?

Isolated dwarf (DDO 154)

$$M_{\text{VIS}} \sim 10^8 M_{\text{Sun}}$$

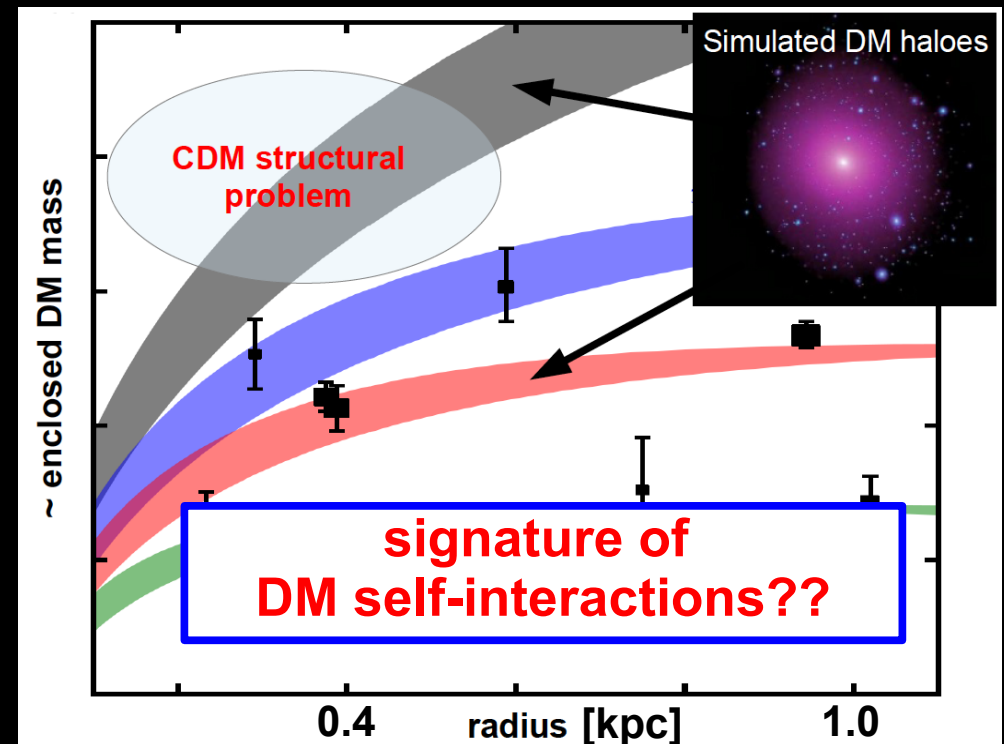
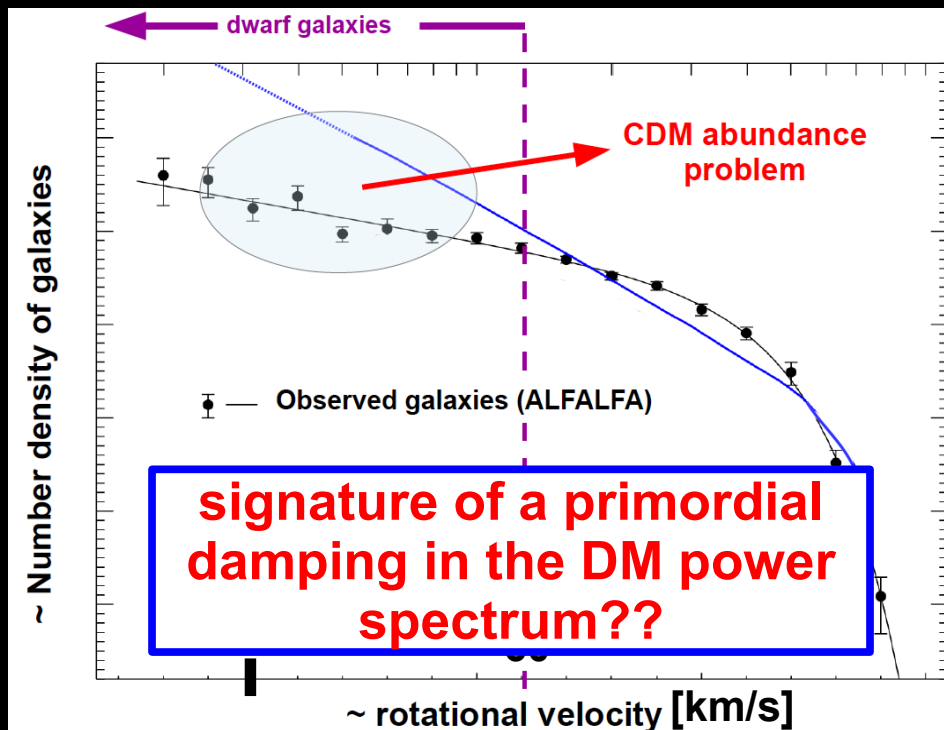
The properties of the smallest galaxies observed **today** are a challenge if gravity is the only DM interaction that matters

Milky Way satellite (Fornax)

$$M_{\text{VIS}} \sim 10^7 M_{\text{Sun}}$$

**Abundance problem**  
(Zavala+09, Klypin+15)

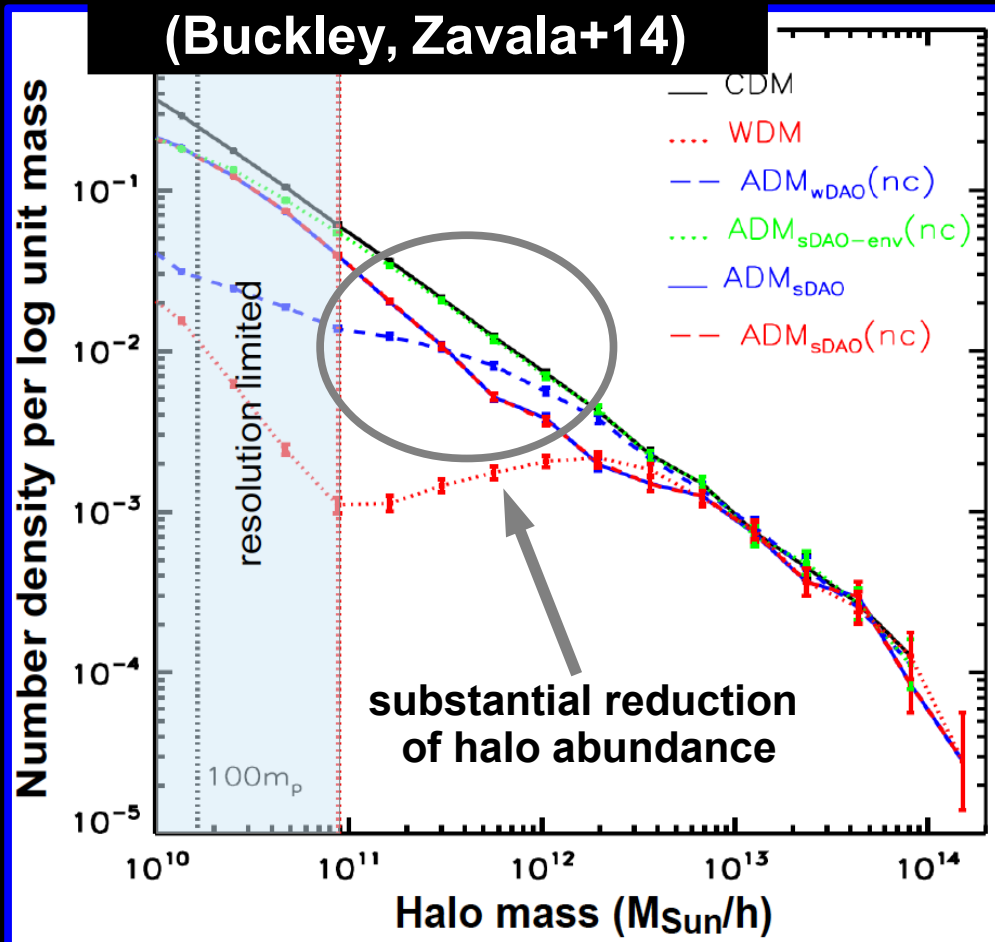
**Structural problem**  
(Boylan-Kolchin+11, Papastergis+14)



# Structure formation in a universe with new dark matter interactions

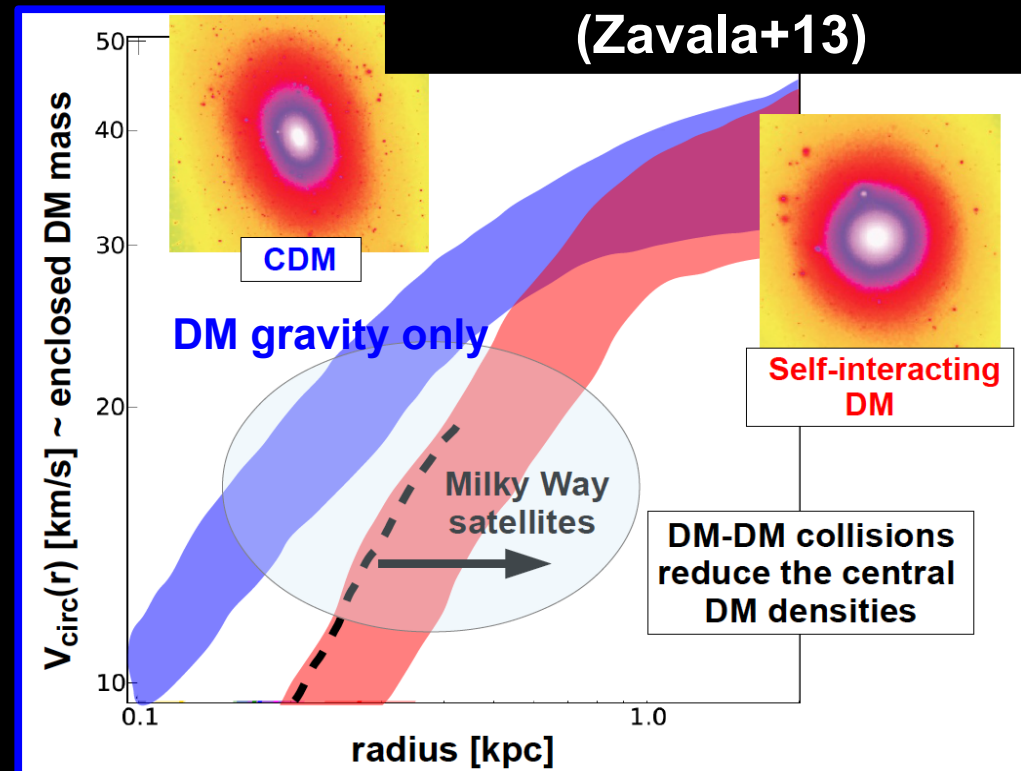
The abundance and structural problems of the smallest galaxies might be solved with **new DM interactions**

Abundance of DM haloes  
(Buckley, Zavala+14)



interactions between DM and dark radiation

DM content in DM haloes  
(Zavala+13)



DM self-interactions

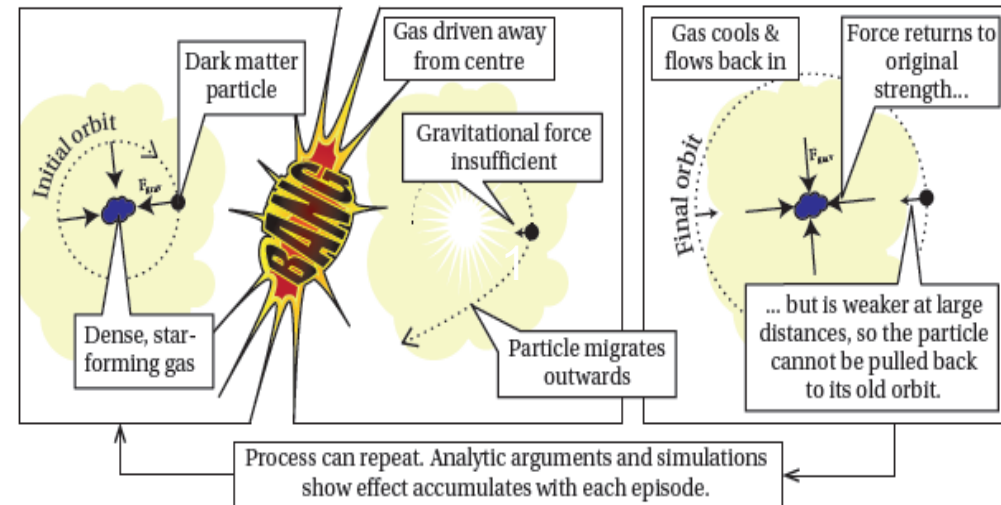
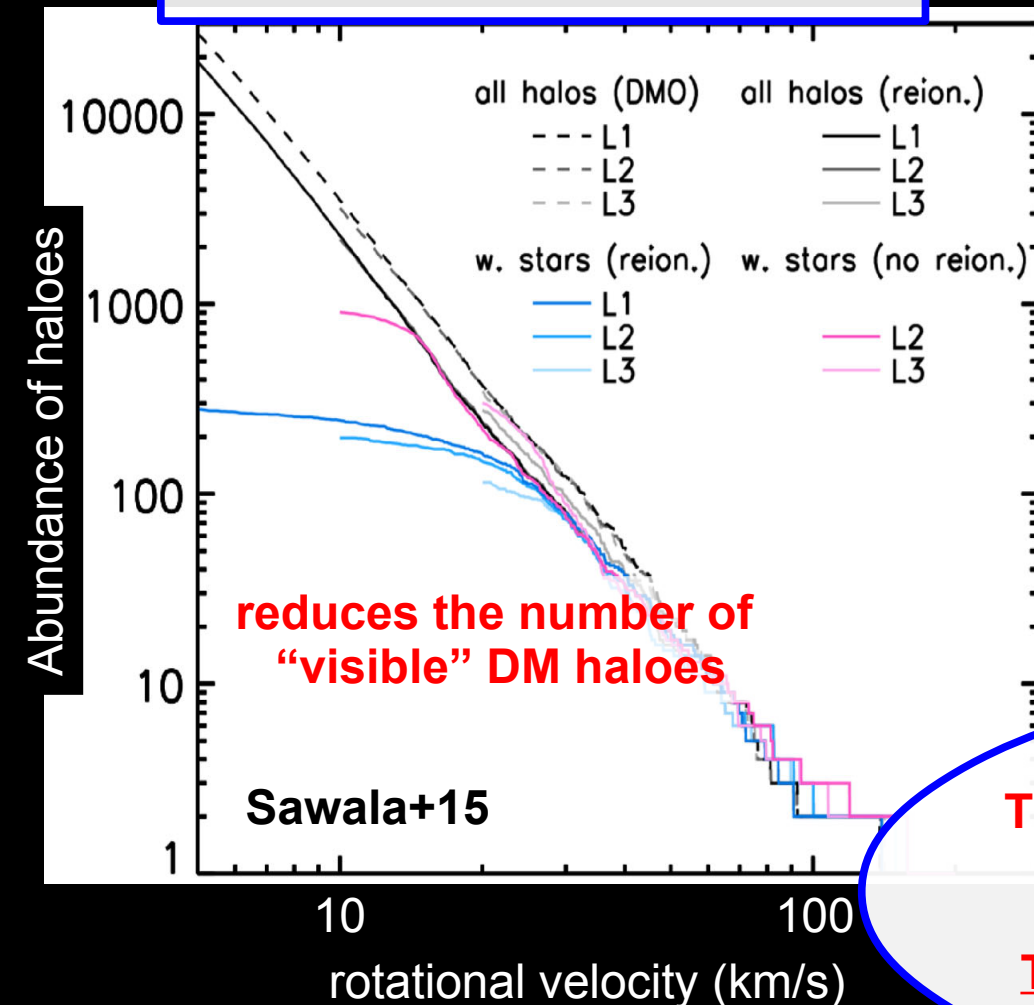
$$\sigma/m \sim 1.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{gr}$$



# Or... the complexity of gas and stellar physics

Gas heating (UV background from first generation of stars/galaxies)

Gas and DM heating through supernovae



Credit: Pontzen & Governato 2014

reduces the inner density of DM haloes

These mechanisms are certainly there, but how efficient they are remains unclear

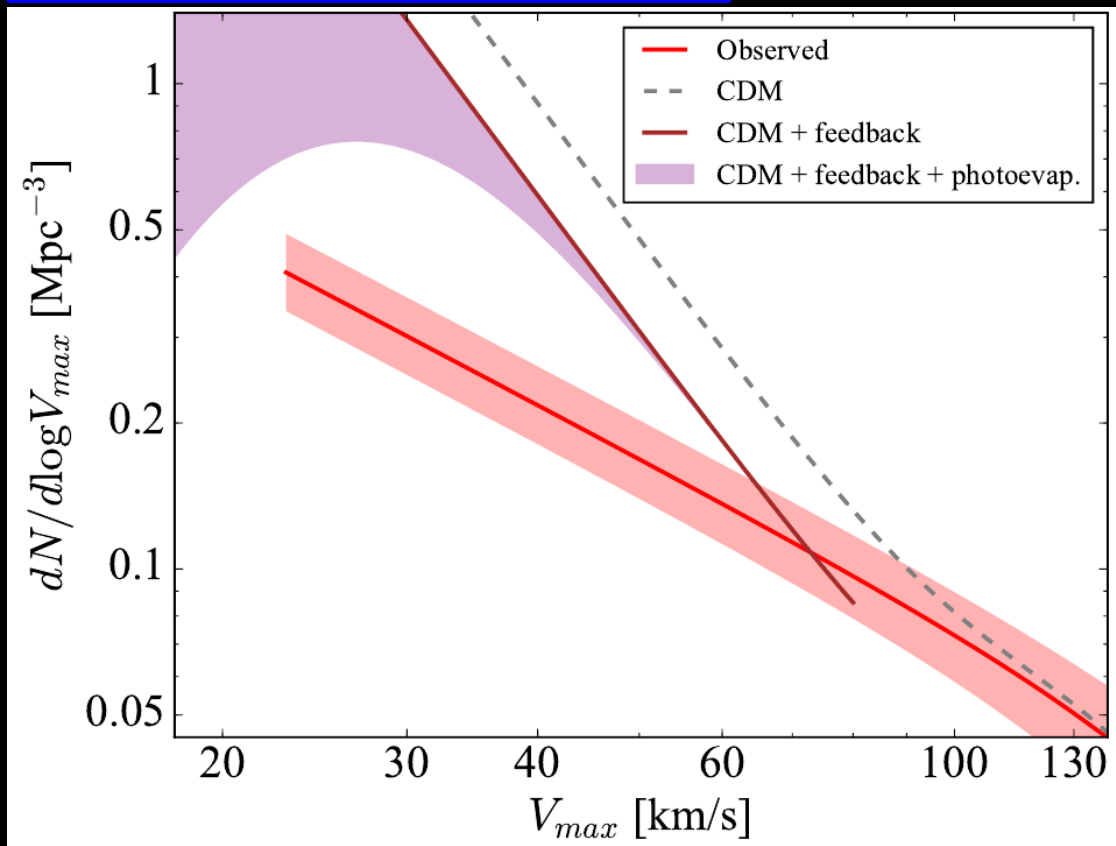
To some extent, they are degenerate with new DM physics

# Or... the complexity of gas and stellar physics

Gas heating (UV background from first generation of stars/galaxies)

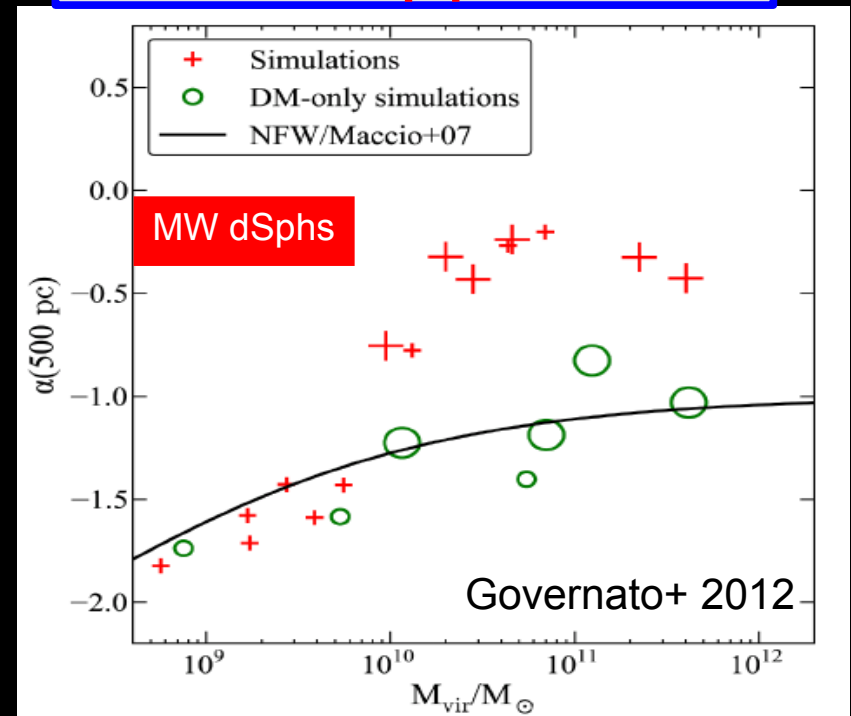
Gas and DM heating through supernovae

## Abundance problem



Trujillo-Gomez+06

## Core-cusp problem



SN feedback in MW dSphs:  
likely insufficient for dSphs  
e.g. Peñarrubia+ 2012, Garrison-Kimmel+13

# Clues on new DM physics at other scales?

claimed detection of  $\sim 1.6$  kpc offset  
between the stars and DM centroids  
of elliptical galaxy N1

stars are (mostly) collisionless

N1

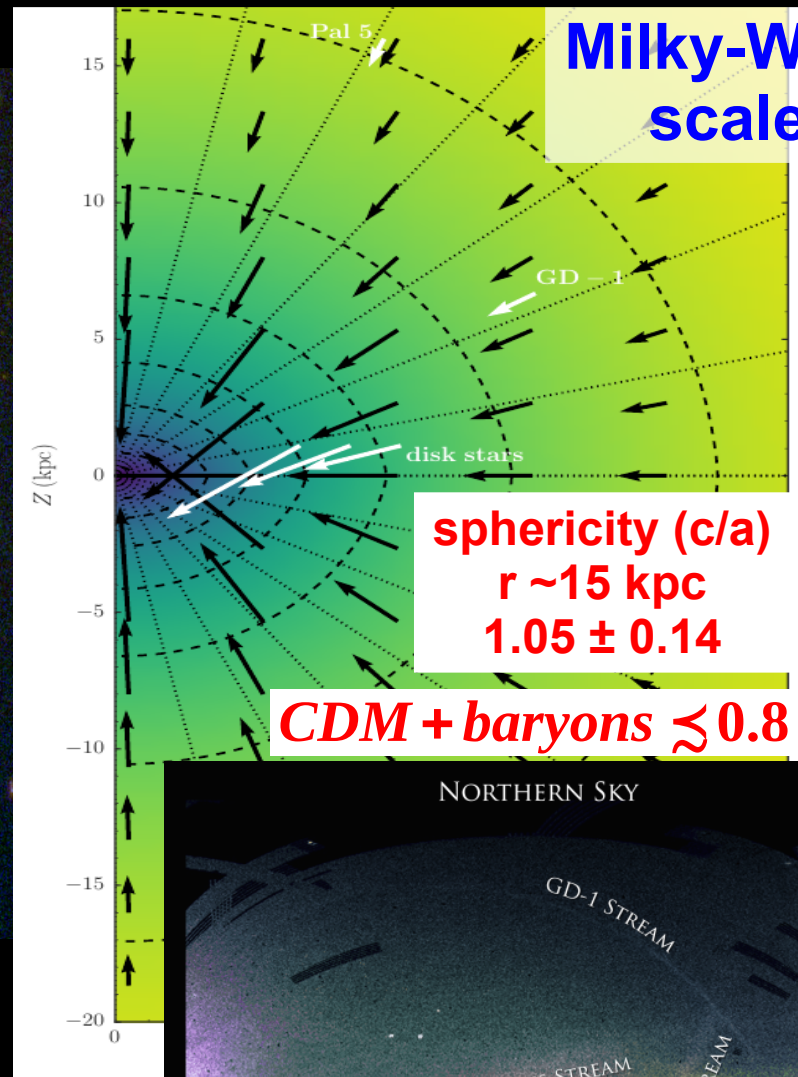
$\sigma/m \sim 1.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{gr}$   
(Kahlhoefer+15)

nucleon-nucleon  
elastic scattering:  
 $\sim 10 \text{ cm}^2/\text{gr}$

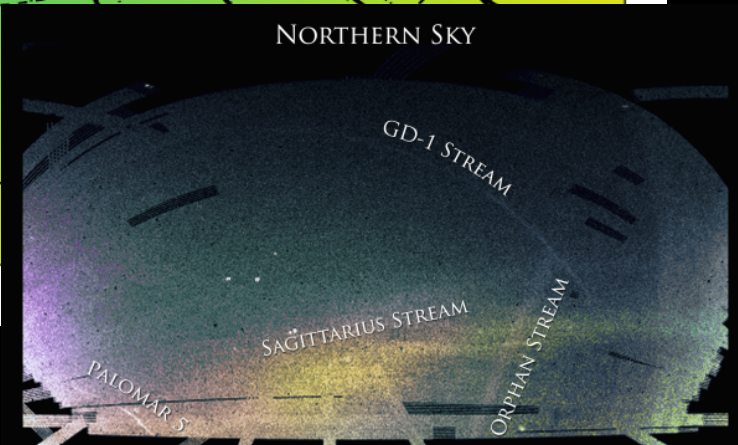
Cluster scales

reconstruction of the gravitational field  
in the MW using phase-space data from  
stellar tidal streams

Milky-Way  
scale



Bovy et al. 2016



# Lecture 3

**Towards an Effective Theory Of  
Structure formation (ETHOS)**



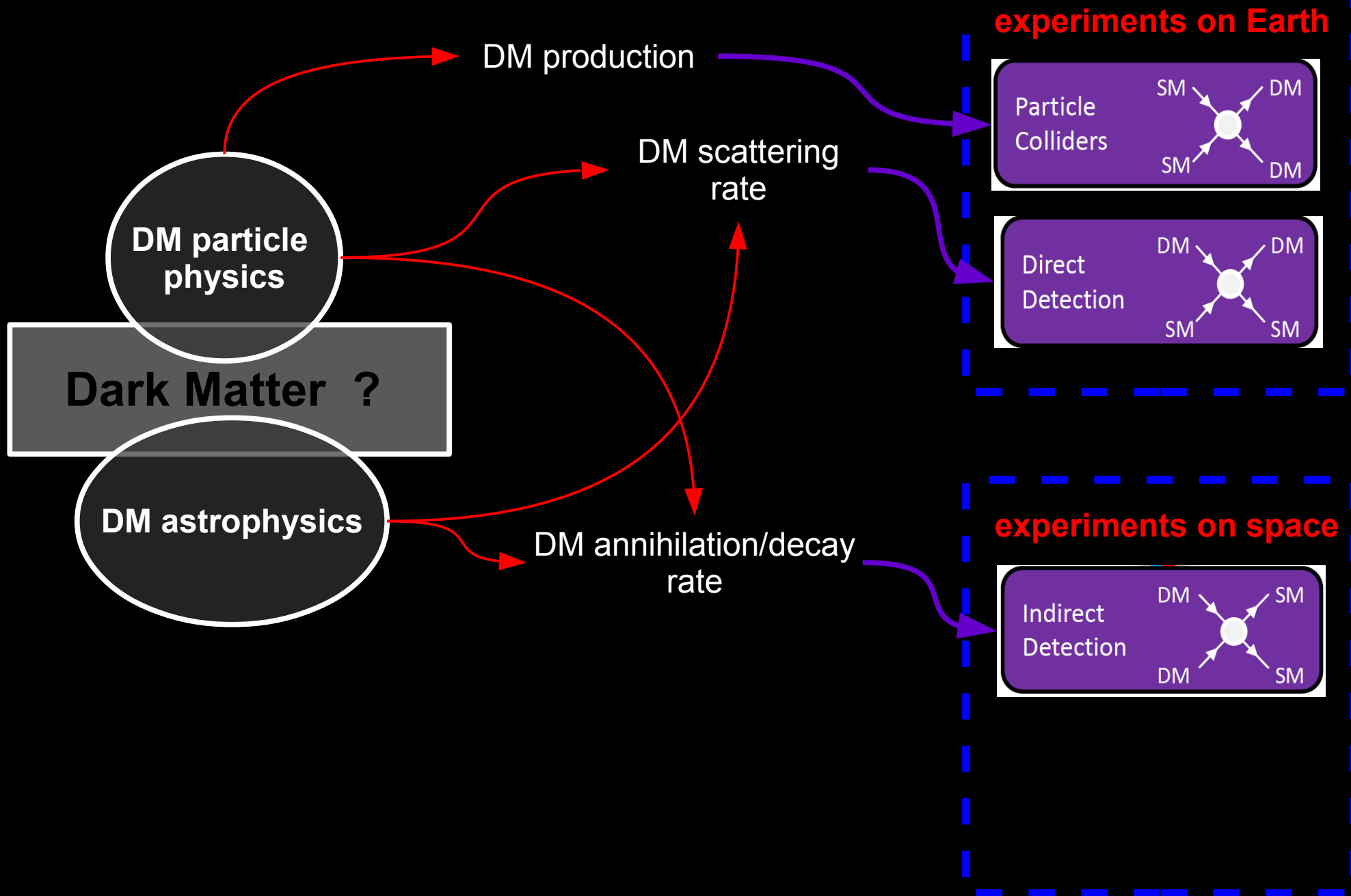
**CDM + current galaxy modelling are  
successful in reproducing several  
properties of the galaxy population but:**

**uncertain gas and stellar physics**

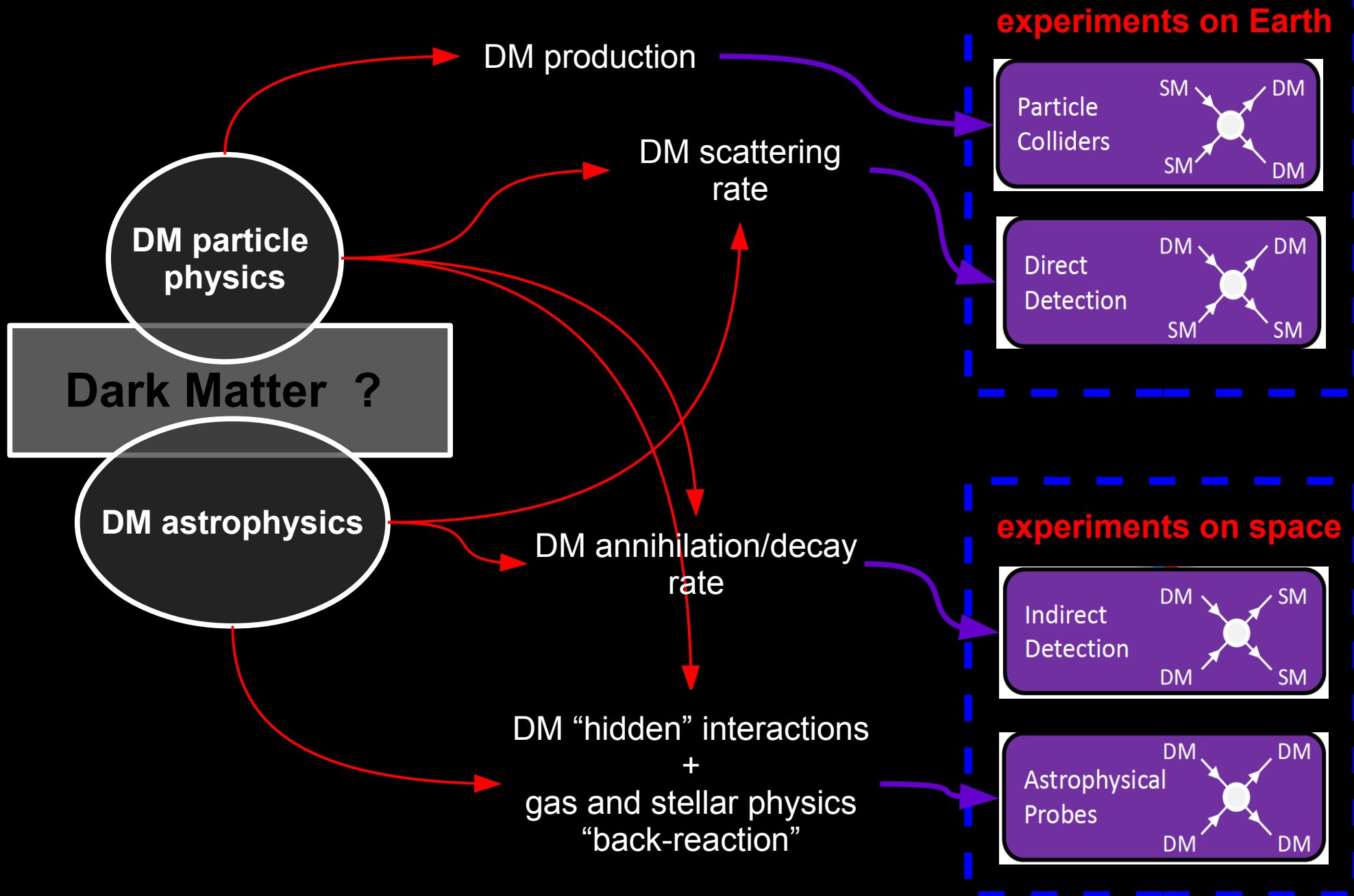
**outstanding challenges at the scale of the  
smallest (dwarf) galaxies**

**the current situation offers an opportunity  
to approach the dark matter problem  
from a broader perspective...**

# The particle nature of dark matter is one of the biggest enigmas of particle astrophysics



# The particle nature of dark matter is one of the biggest enigmas of particle astrophysics



The window for the DM particle nature to be relevant for structure formation is narrow and within reach of upcoming observations

$$0.1 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{gr} \lesssim \sigma / m \lesssim 2 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{gr}$$



below this value, the  
behaviour is  
the same as CDM



above this value  
constraints are strong  
(at cluster scales)

$$10^{9.5} M_{\text{Sun}} \lesssim M_{\text{cut}} \lesssim 10^{10.5} M_{\text{Sun}}$$

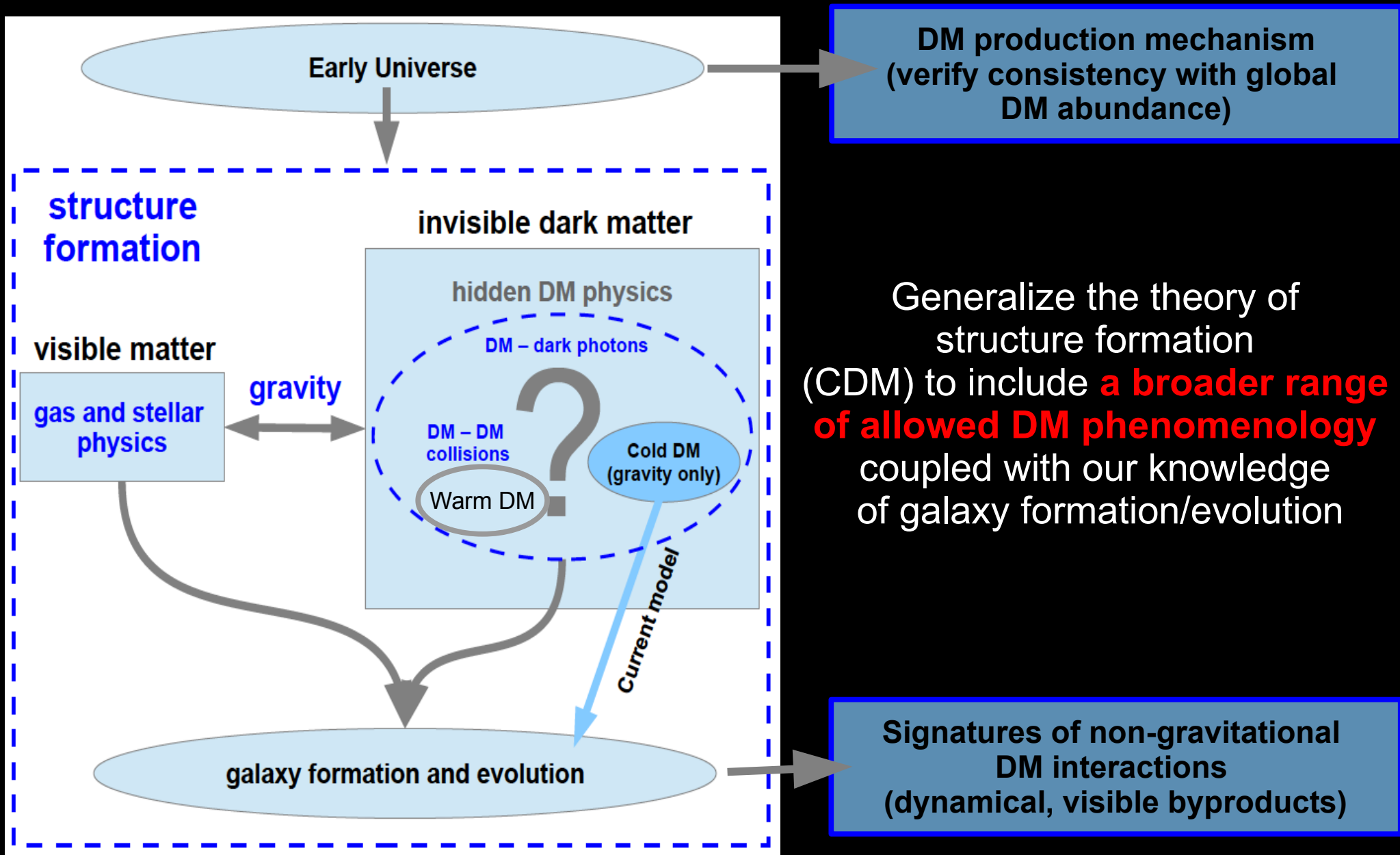


below this value  
galaxy formation  
is highly suppressed



above this value  
DM clustering  
must be as in CDM

# Towards an Effective Theory Of Structure formation (ETHOS)



# Developing ETHOS

**DM interactions with relativistic particles  
in the early Universe**

**+**

**DM-DM self-scattering in the late Universe**

**In collaboration with:**

Torsten Bringmann (UiO, Oslo)

Francis-Yan Cyr-Racine (Harvard, Cambridge)

Christoph Pfrommer (HITS, Heidelberg)

Kris Sigurdson (UBC, Vancouver)

Mark Vogelsberger (MIT, Cambridge)

**ETHOS I:**

**Cyr-Racine, Sigurdson, Zavala +16  
(arXiv:1512.05349)**

**ETHOS II:**

**Vogelsberger, Zavala +16  
(arXiv:1512.05344)**



# ETHOS: classify DM models according to their effective parameters for structure formation

particle physics parameters  
(masses, couplings, ...)

$$\{m_\chi, \{g_i\}, \{h_i\}, \xi\}$$

select a particle physics model  
e.g. DM interacting with massless  
neutrino-like fermion via massive mediator  
(e.g. van der Aarssen, Bringmann+12)

DR to CMB  
temperature  
at  $z=0$

**growth of structures**  
(linear regime) with additional physics:  
DM-DR-induced DAOs and Silk damping

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**growth of structures**  
(linear regime) with additional physics:  
**DM-DR-induced DAOs and Silk damping**

eqs. for DM perturbations

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\delta}_\chi + \theta_\chi - 3\dot{\phi} &= 0, \\ \dot{\theta}_\chi - c_\chi^2 k^2 \delta_\chi + \mathcal{H}\theta_\chi - k^2 \psi &= \dot{\kappa}_\chi [\theta_\chi - \theta_{\text{DR}}]\end{aligned}$$

related to DR opacity to DM scattering  
(parameterize the collisional term of the Boltzmann eq.)

$$C_{\chi\tilde{\gamma}\leftrightarrow\chi\tilde{\gamma}}[f_\chi, f_{\text{DR}}]$$

# ETHOS: classify DM models according to their effective parameters for structure formation

particle physics parameters  
(masses, couplings, ...)

$$\{m_\chi, \{g_i\}, \{h_i\}, \xi\}$$

select a particle physics model  
e.g. DM interacting with massless  
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**growth of structures**  
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related to DR opacity to DM scattering  
(relative to early-time evolution)

effective parameters

$$\Xi_{\text{ETHOS}} = \left\{ \omega_{\text{DR}}, \{a_n, \alpha_l\}, \left\{ \frac{\langle \sigma_T \rangle v_{M_i}}{m_\chi} \right\} \right\}$$

$$\omega_{\text{DR}} \equiv \Omega_{\text{DR}} h^2$$

DM self-scattering  
(relevant for late-time evolution)

# ETHOS: classify DM models according to their effective parameters for structure formation

particle physics parameters  
(masses, couplings, ...)

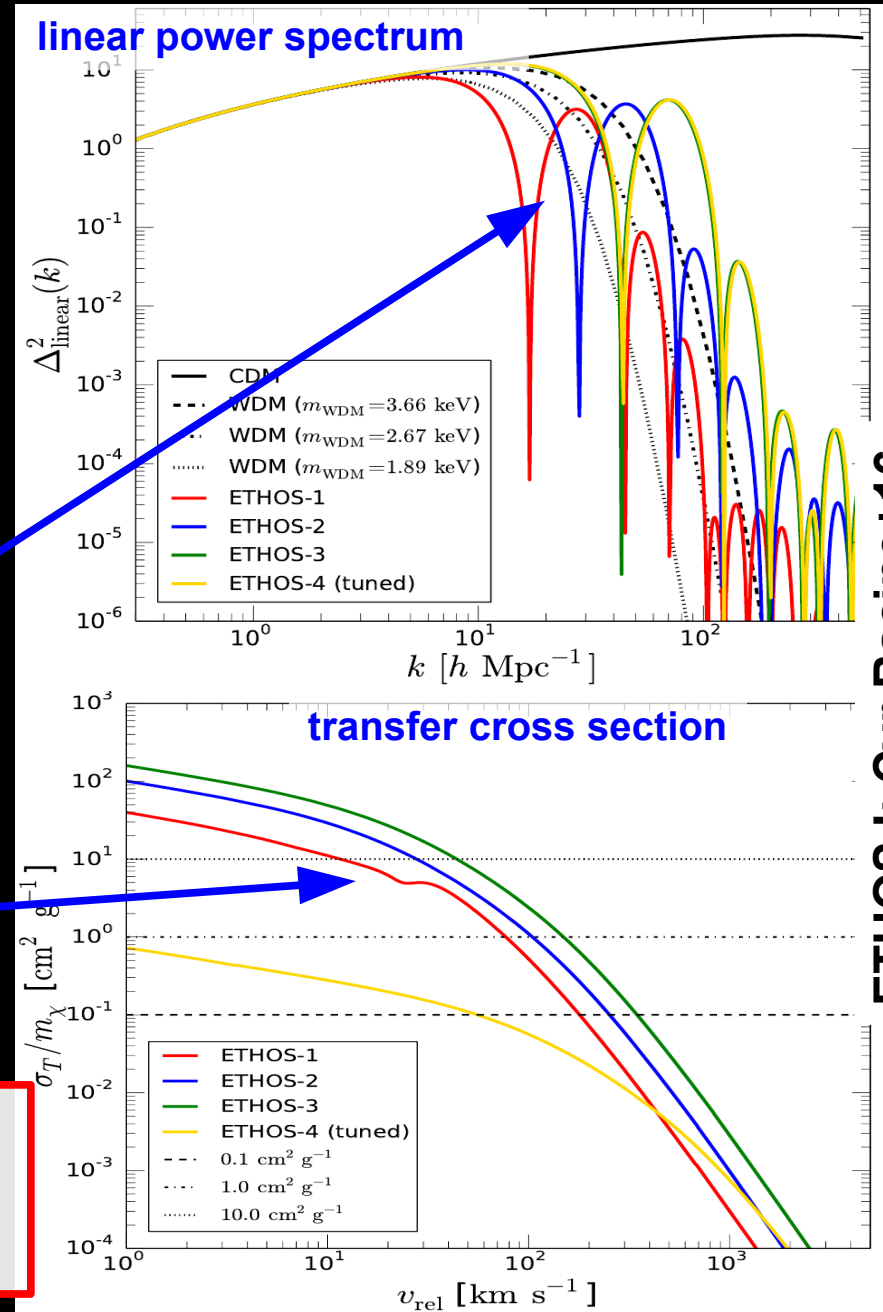
$$\{m_\chi, \{g_i\}, \{h_i\}, \xi\}$$

growth of structures  
(linear regime) with additional physics:  
DM-DR-induced DAOs and Silk damping

effective parameters

$$\Xi_{\text{ETHOS}} = \left\{ \omega_{\text{DR}}, \{a_n, \alpha_l\}, \left\{ \frac{\langle \sigma_T \rangle v_{M_i}}{m_\chi} \right\} \right\}$$

All DM particle physics models that map into the same ETHOS parameters can be studied (constrained) at the same time

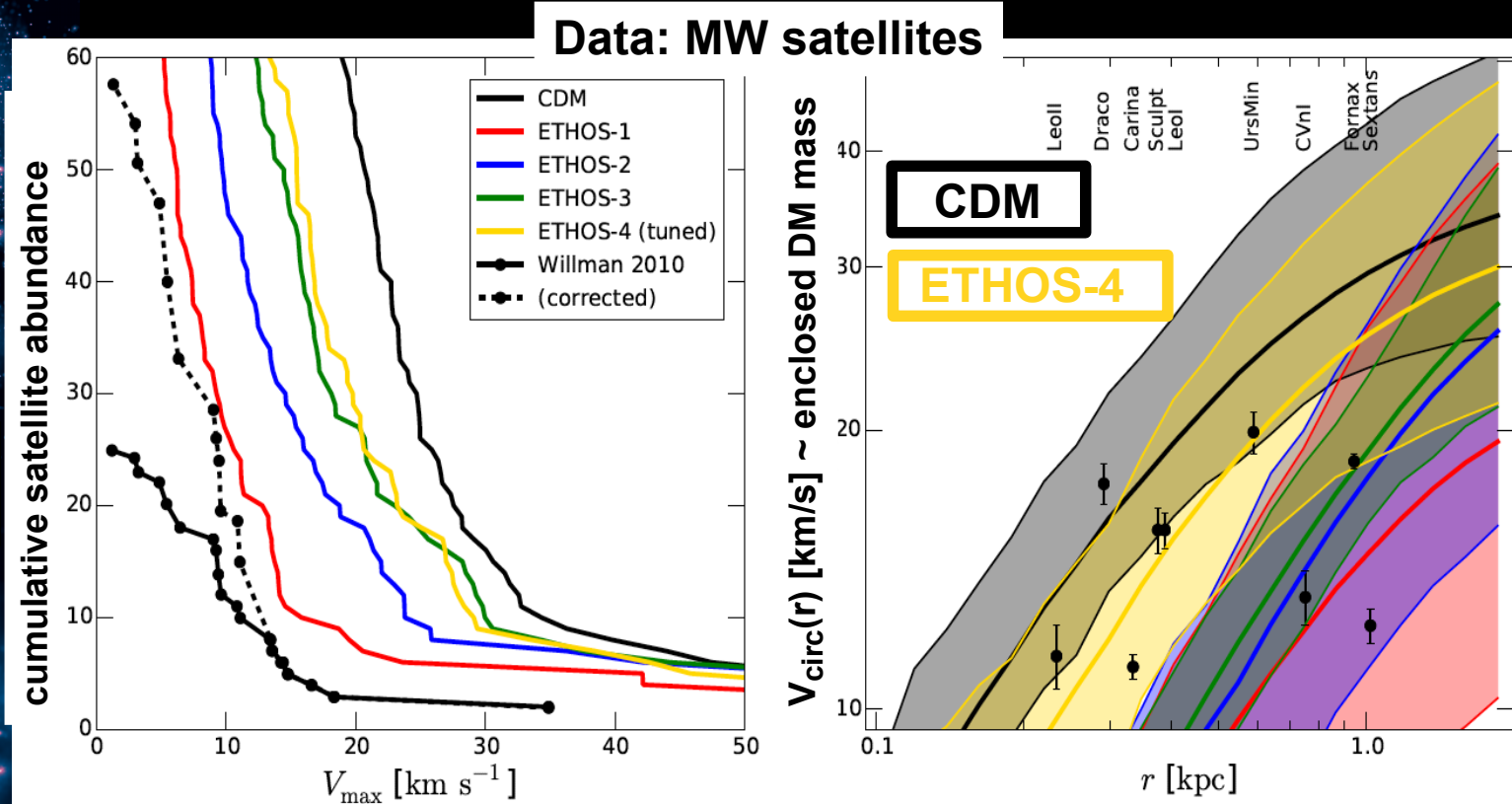


# ETHOS application: non-linear regime with N-body simulations and the CDM challenges

CDM

Both CDM abundance and structural “problems” can be alleviated *simultaneously*

MW-size halo  
DM-only simulation



DM-dark radiation interactions  
suppress/delay the formation of  
small haloes (galaxies)

DM self-interactions reduce  
the central DM densities  
of haloes

ETHOS-4

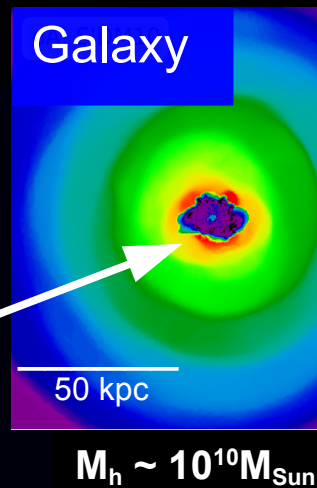
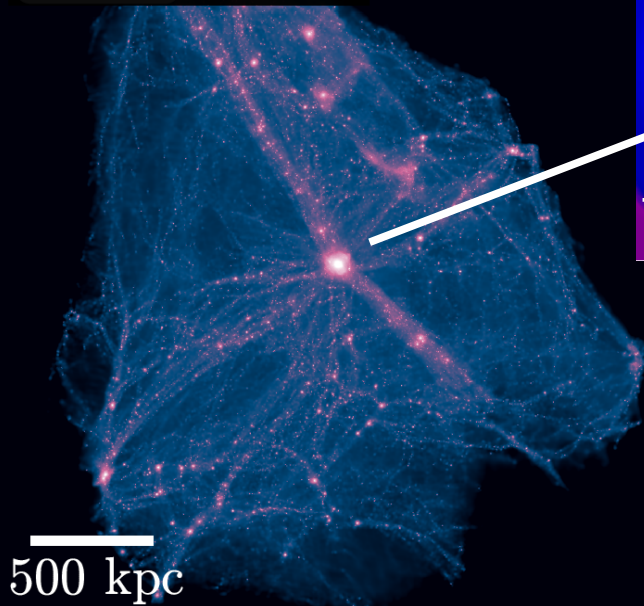
ETHOS II: Vogelsberger+16

# Developing ETHOS (self-scattering DM + baryonic physics)

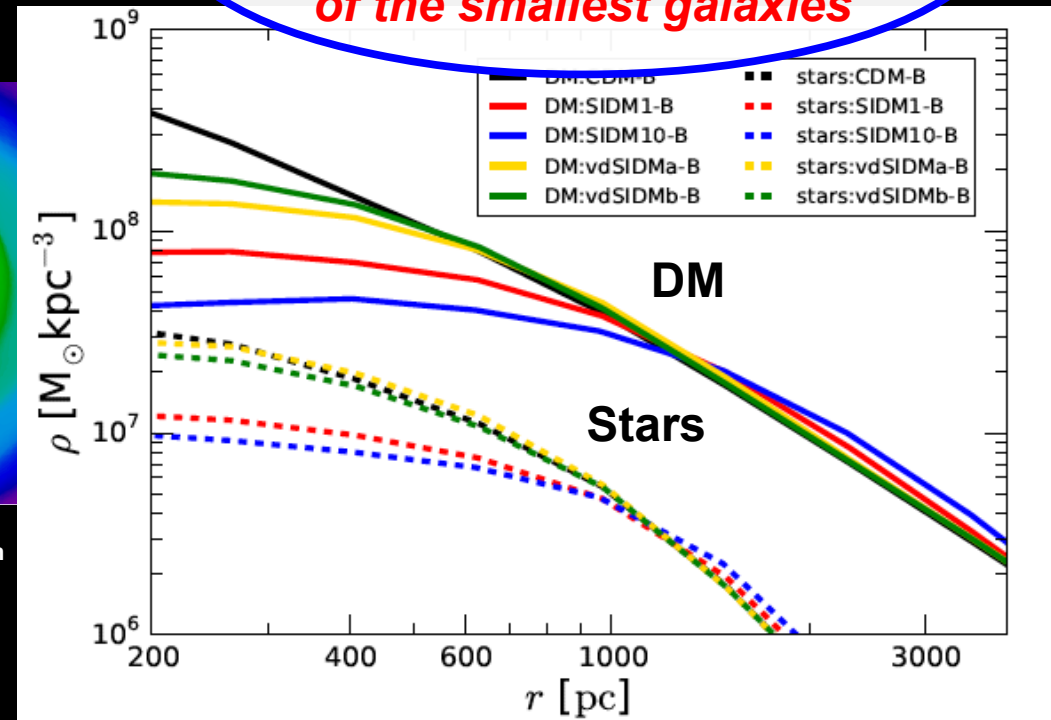
“baryonic physics”: hydrodynamics, radiative cooling of gas, stellar population modelling, SNe feedback

simulation of a galaxy in  
Self-Interacting DM  
(Vogelsberger, Zavala +14)

dark matter



*The signature of DM collisions could be imprinted in the stellar distribution of the smallest galaxies*



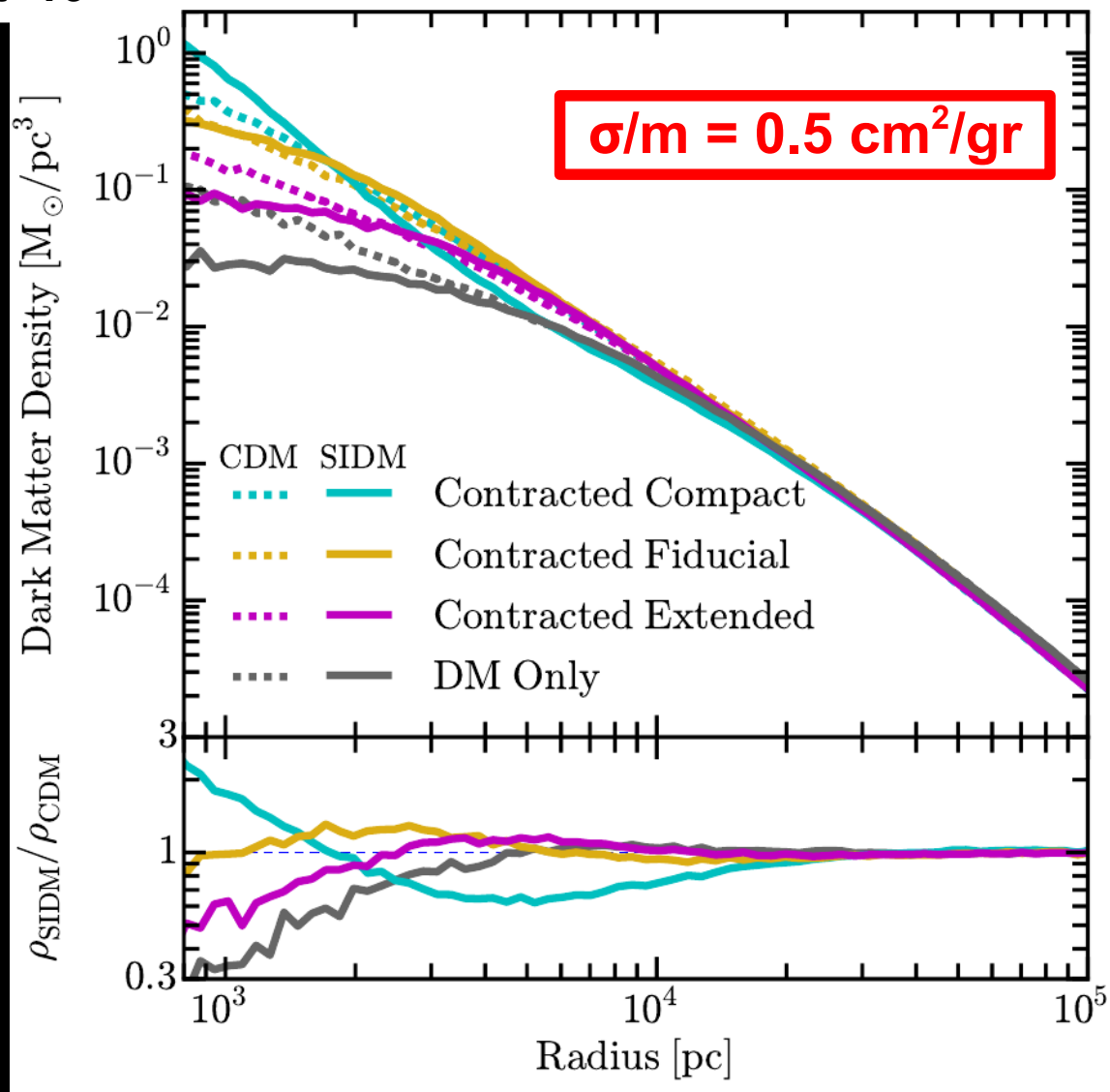
$$\sigma/m = 1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{gr}$$

$$\sigma/m = 10 \text{ cm}^2/\text{gr}$$



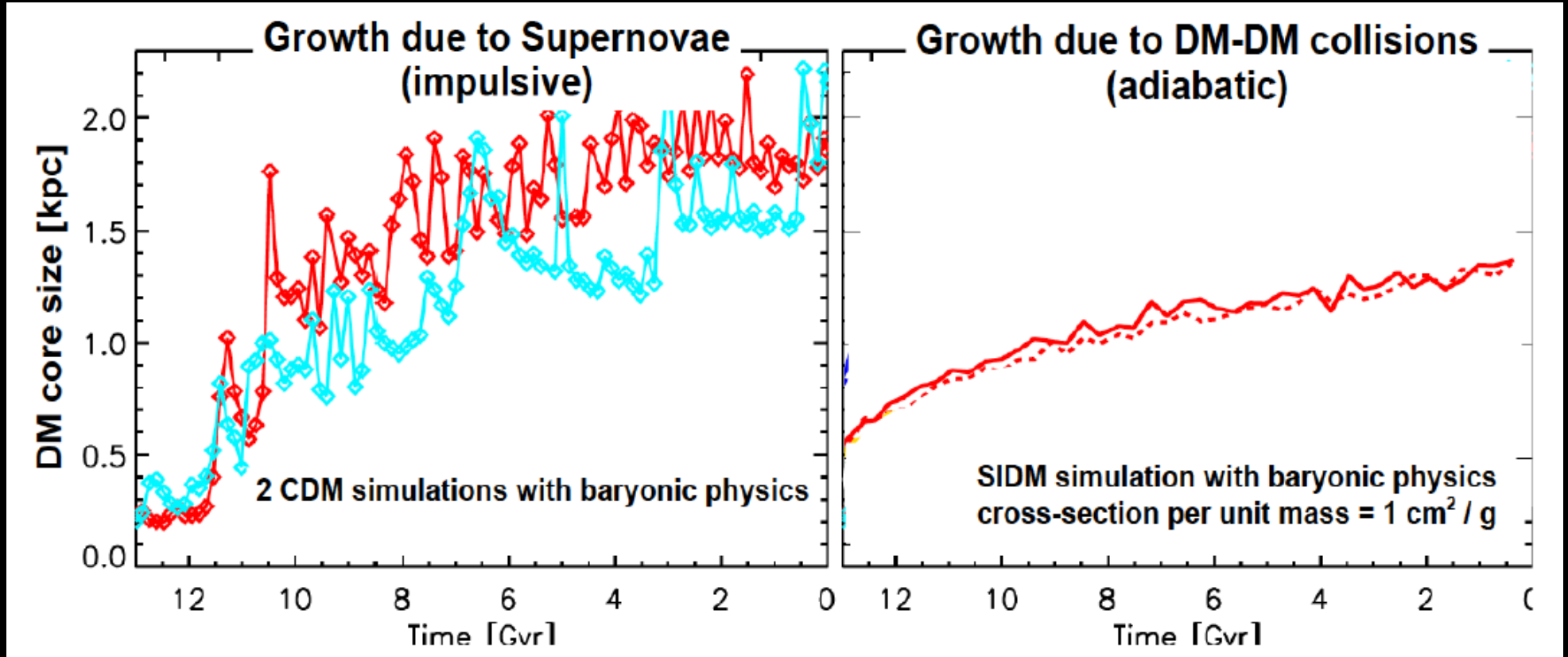
# The challenging interplay between DM/baryonic physics

Elbert+16



Milky-Way-size simulation: DM and stars (by hand)

# The challenging interplay between DM/baryonic physics



How to distinguish a DM core formed by Supernovae from one formed by DM collisions?

# Concluding remarks

An Effective (more generic) THeory Of Structure formation (ETHOS) **must consider a broader range of allowed DM phenomenology** coupled with our developing knowledge of galaxy formation/evolution

First highlights of the effective theory (ETHOS):

- Mapping between the particle physics parameters of a generic DM-DR interaction into effective parameters for structure formation ( $P(k)$  and  $\sigma_T/m$ )
- All DM particle physics models that map into the same ETHOS parameters can be studied (constrained) at the same time
- The window for the DM particle nature to be relevant for structure formation is narrow and within reach of upcoming observations

$$0.1 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{gr} \lesssim \sigma / m \lesssim 2 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{gr}$$

$$10^{9.5} M_{\text{Sun}} \lesssim M_{\text{cut}} \lesssim 10^{10.5} M_{\text{Sun}}$$

- **dwarf galaxies might hide a clue of a fundamental guiding principle for a complete DM theory**

Possible degeneracies in observational comparisons, albeit undesirable, reflect our current incomplete knowledge of the DM nature and galaxy formation/evolution