

NEB21 2/9/2025



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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
YOUTH AND SPORTS

# Extensions of GR and cosmological dark matter



Constantinos Skordis (CEICO-FZU & U. Oxford\*)





GR + SM incompatible with observations

GR + SM incompatible with observations  New particle (dark matter)

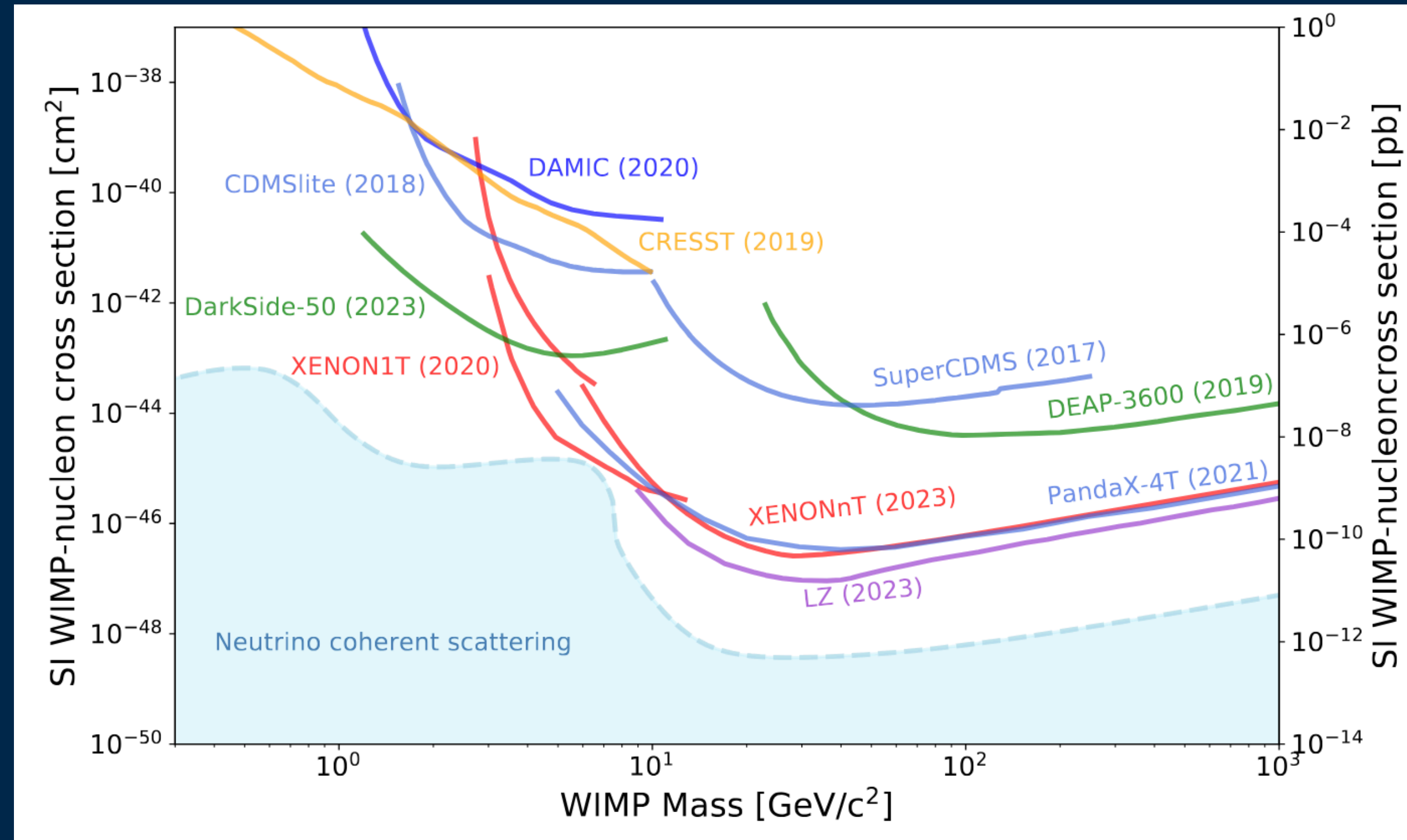




# Earth & the Solar System

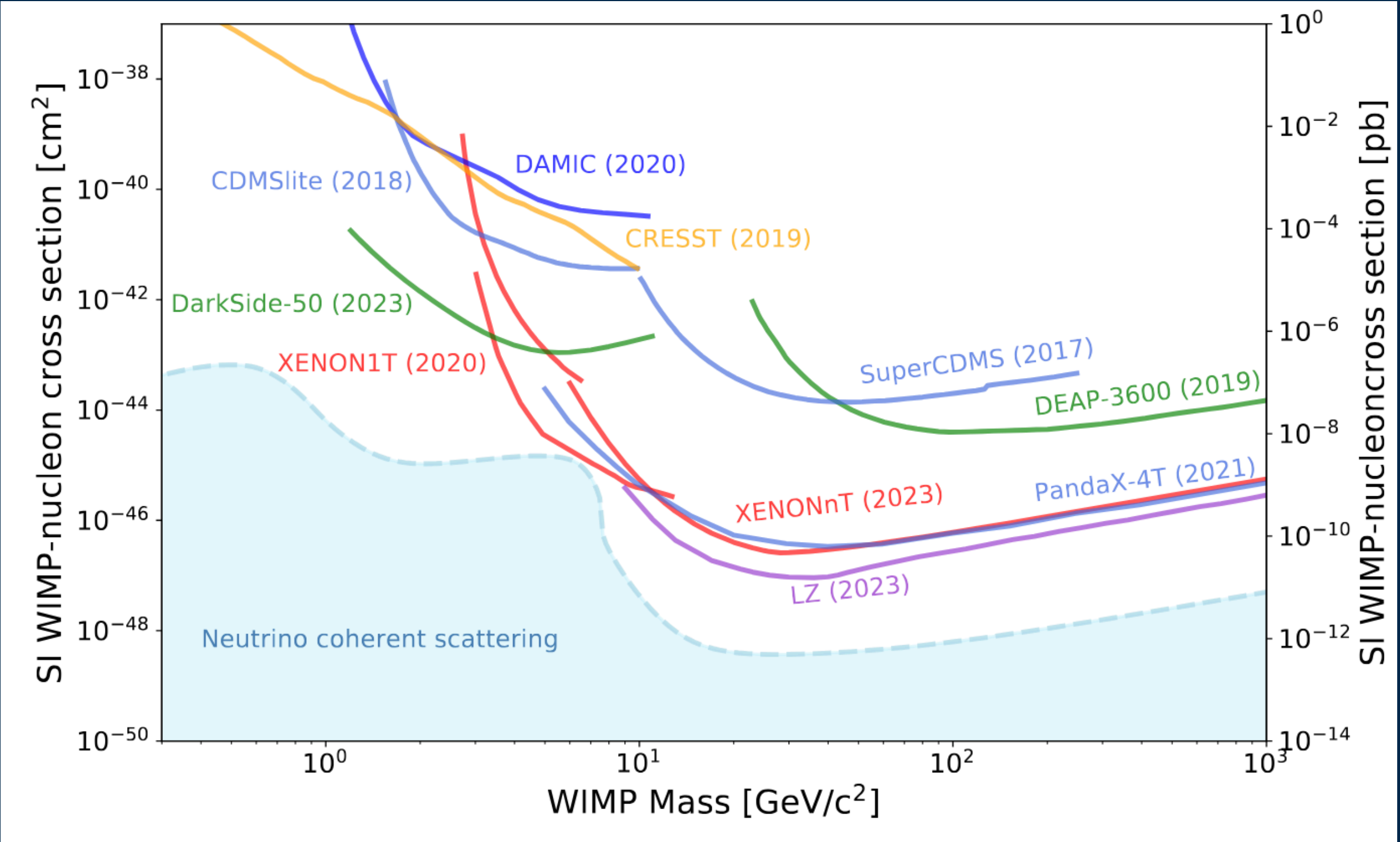
# Earth & the Solar System

Baudis & Profumo, PDG 2024





| Parameter    | Remarks                                     | Limit                |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| $\gamma - 1$ | Cassini tracking                            | $2.3 \times 10^{-5}$ |
|              | VLBI                                        | $2 \times 10^{-4}$   |
| $\beta - 1$  | $J_{2\odot} = (2.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-7}$ | $8 \times 10^{-5}$   |
|              | $\eta_N = 4\beta - \gamma - 3$ assumed      | $2.3 \times 10^{-4}$ |
| $\xi$        | millisecond pulsars                         | $4 \times 10^{-9}$   |
| $\alpha_1$   | Lunar laser ranging                         | $10^{-4}$            |
|              | PSR J1738+0333                              | $4 \times 10^{-5}$   |
| $\alpha_2$   | millisecond pulsars                         | $2 \times 10^{-9}$   |
| $\alpha_3$   | pulsar $\dot{P}$ statistics                 | $4 \times 10^{-20}$  |
| $\zeta_1$    | combined PPN bounds                         | $2 \times 10^{-2}$   |
| $\zeta_2$    | $\ddot{P}_p$ for PSR 1913+16                | $4 \times 10^{-5}$   |
| $\zeta_3$    | lunar acceleration                          | $10^{-8}$            |
| $\zeta_4$    | not independent                             | —                    |

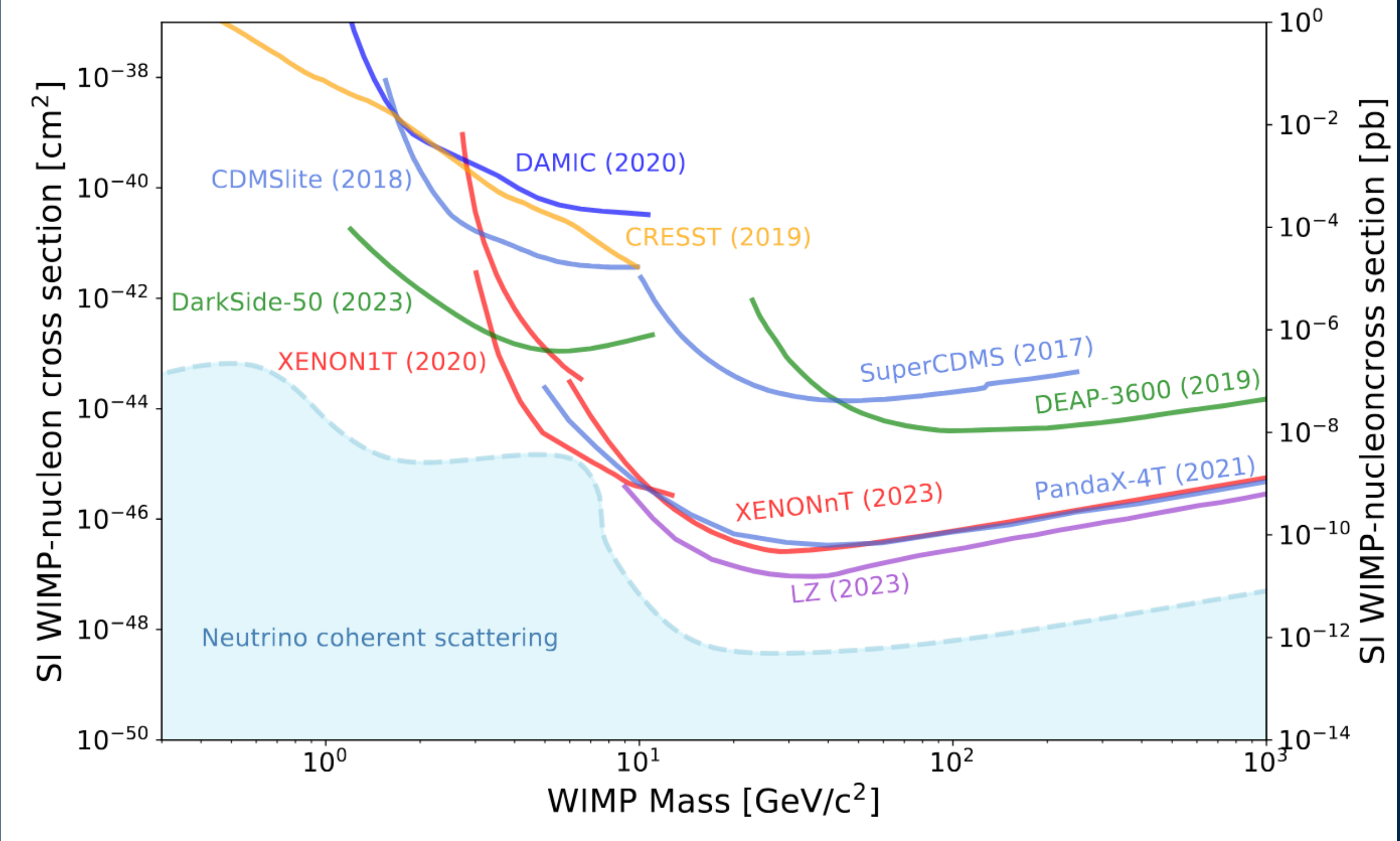


Earth & the Solar System

C. Will, Liv. Reviews. Rel.

Baudis & Profumo, PDG 2024

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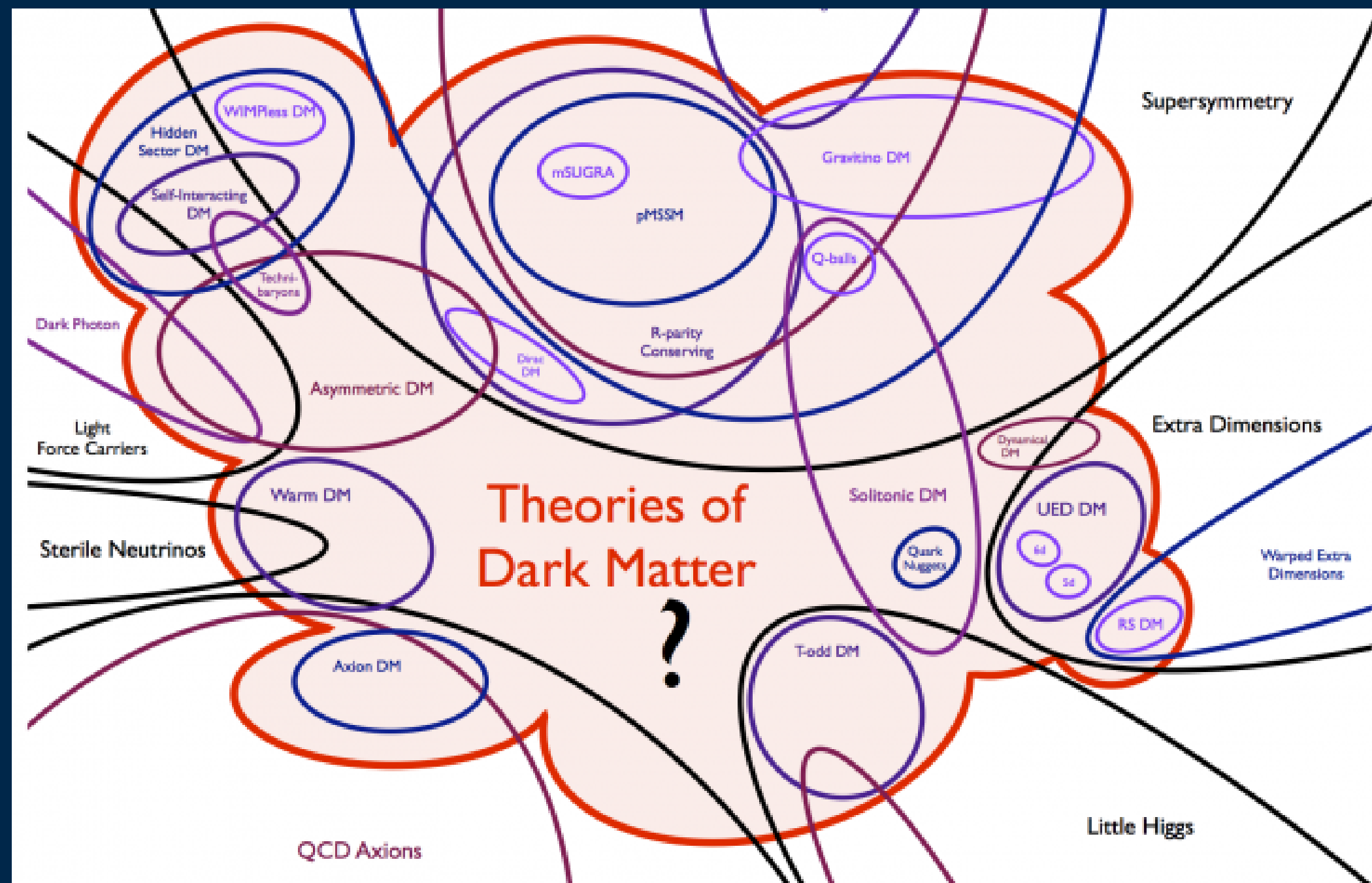
No deviation from GR yet

So far: NULL RESULT

No DM particle yet

# Dark Matter

## Plethora of particle DM models

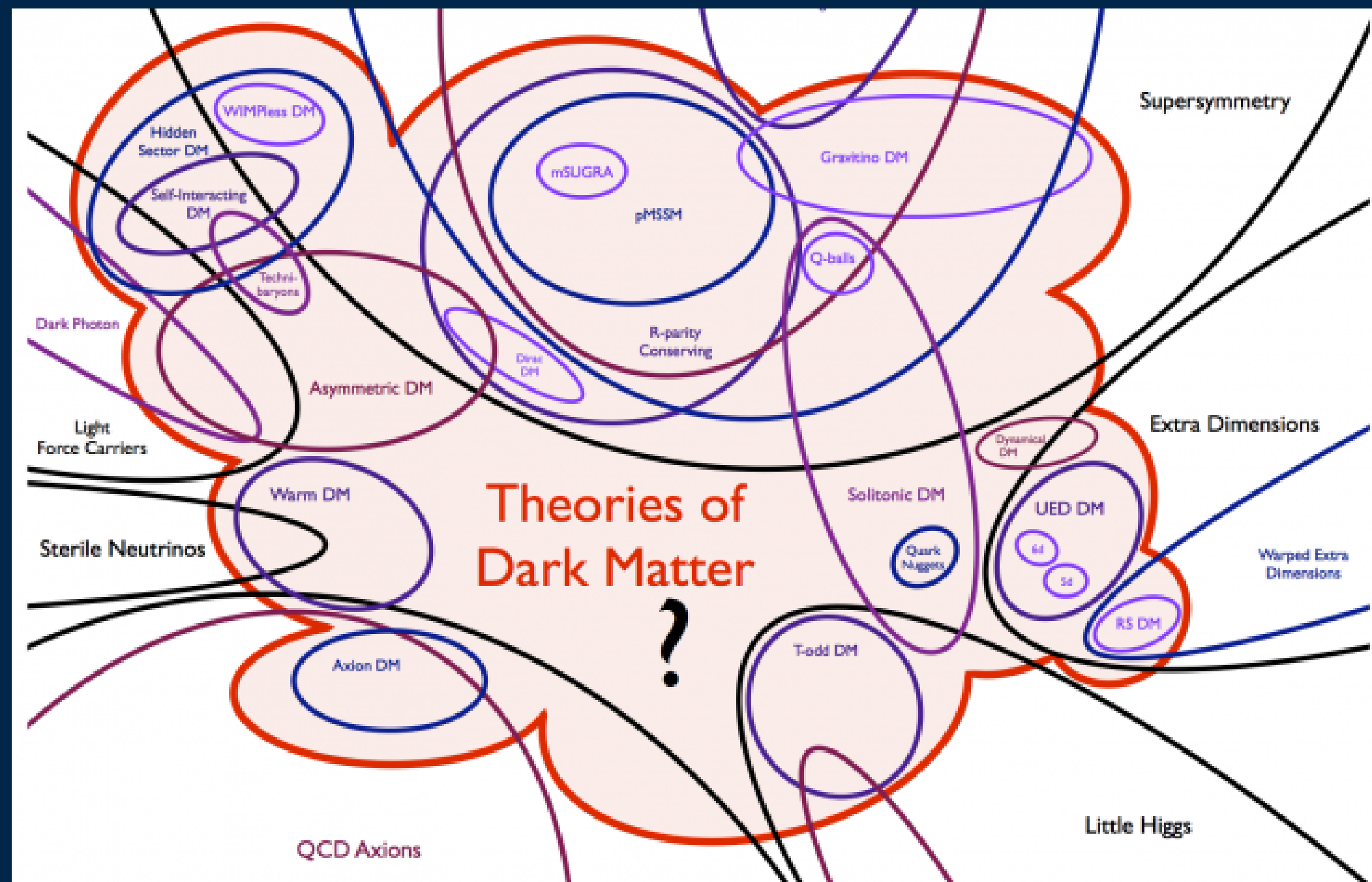


Tim Tait's Venn diagram



# Dark Matter

## Plethora of particle DM models



Tim Tait's Venn diagram

Particle-based

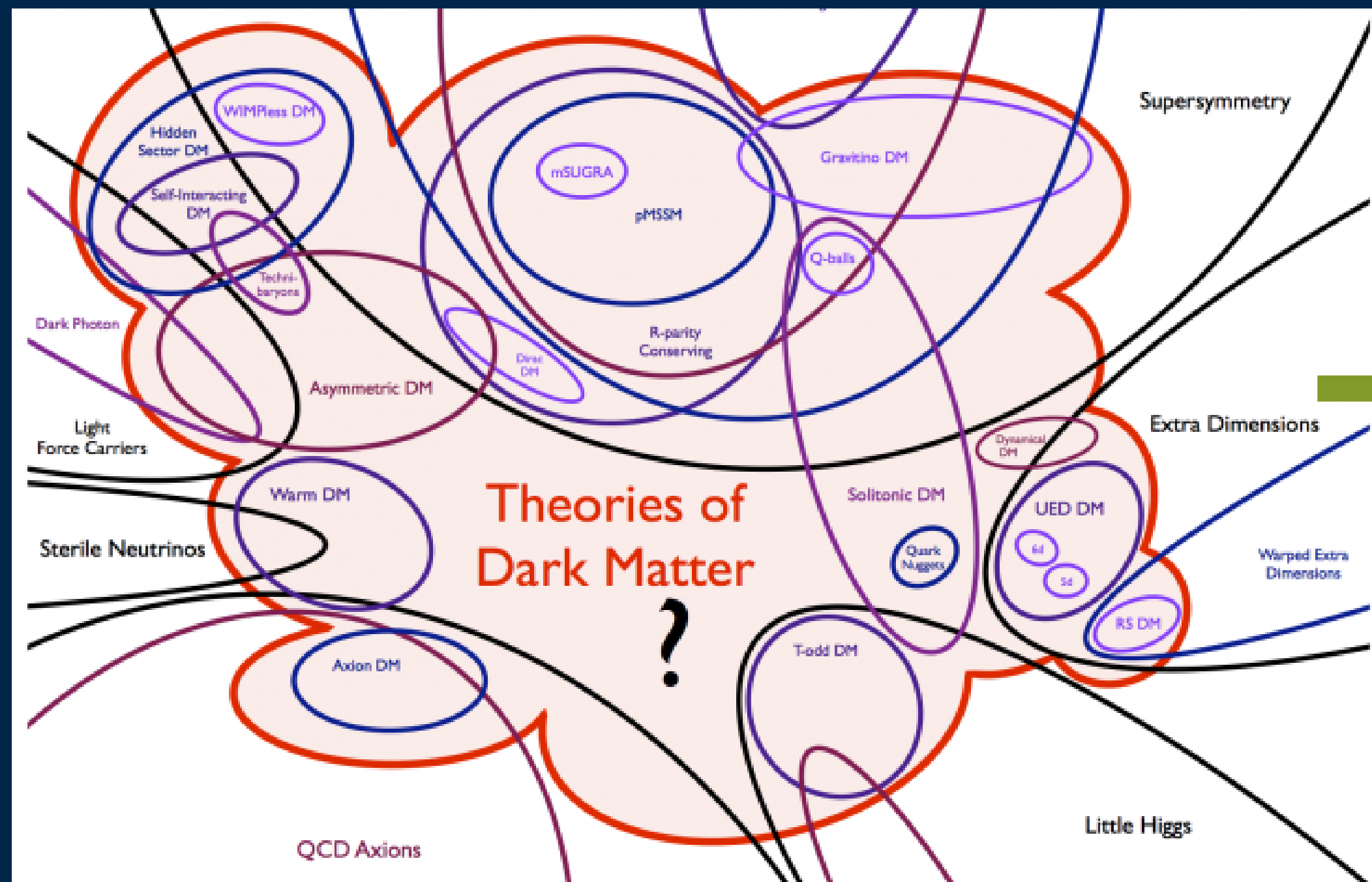
e.g. SUSY

Wave-based

e.g. ultralight axions

# Dark Matter

## Plethora of particle DM models



Particle-based

e.g. SUSY

Wave-based

e.g. ultralight axions

On galactic scales (  $\sim Mpc$  ) and above

Distribution function (d.f.)  $f(t, \vec{x}, \vec{u})$

- Evolves in phase-space
- Boltzmann equation

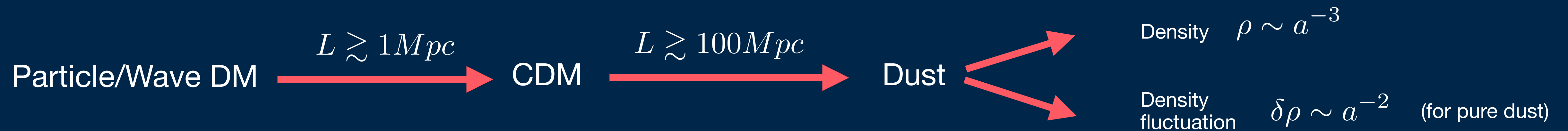
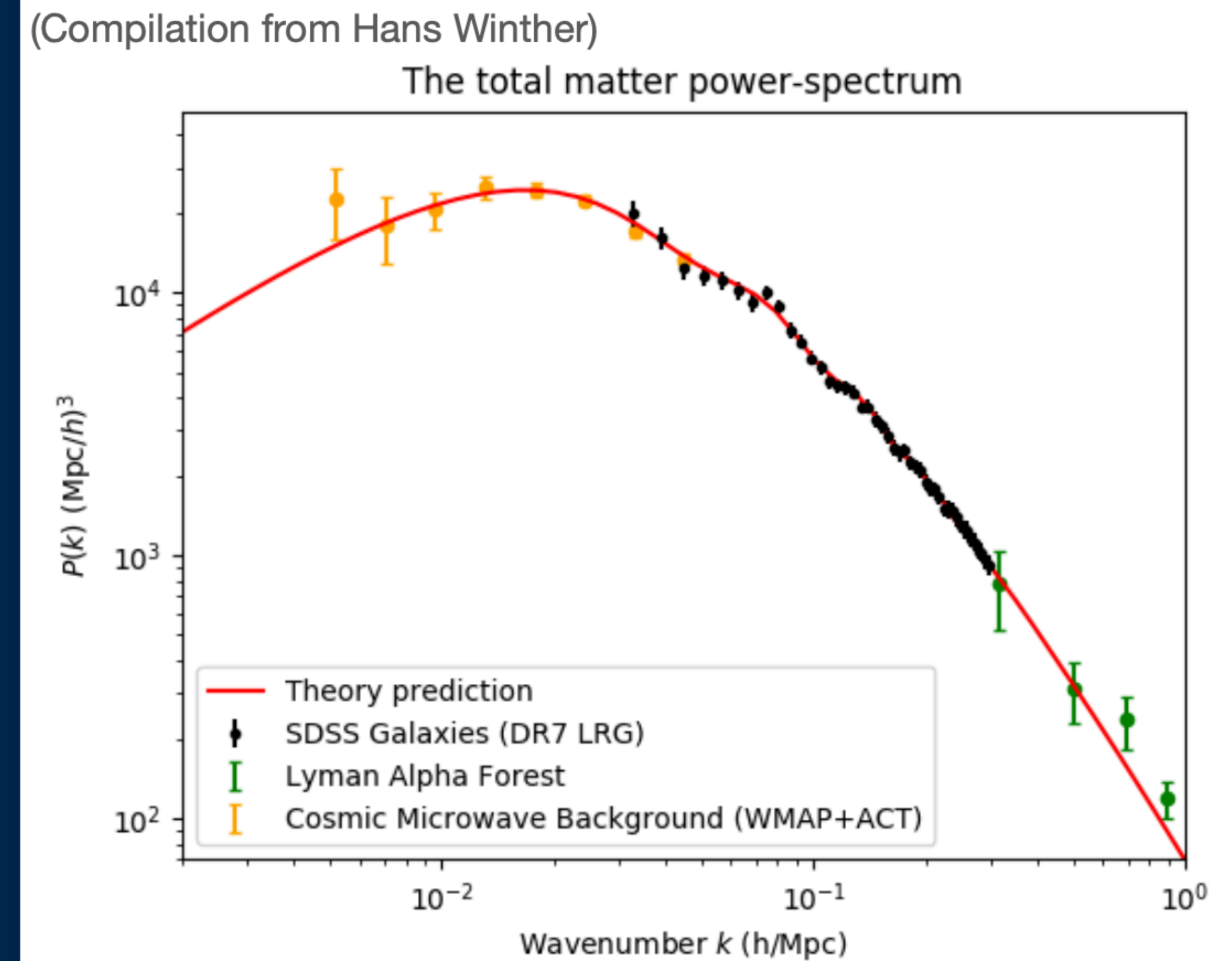
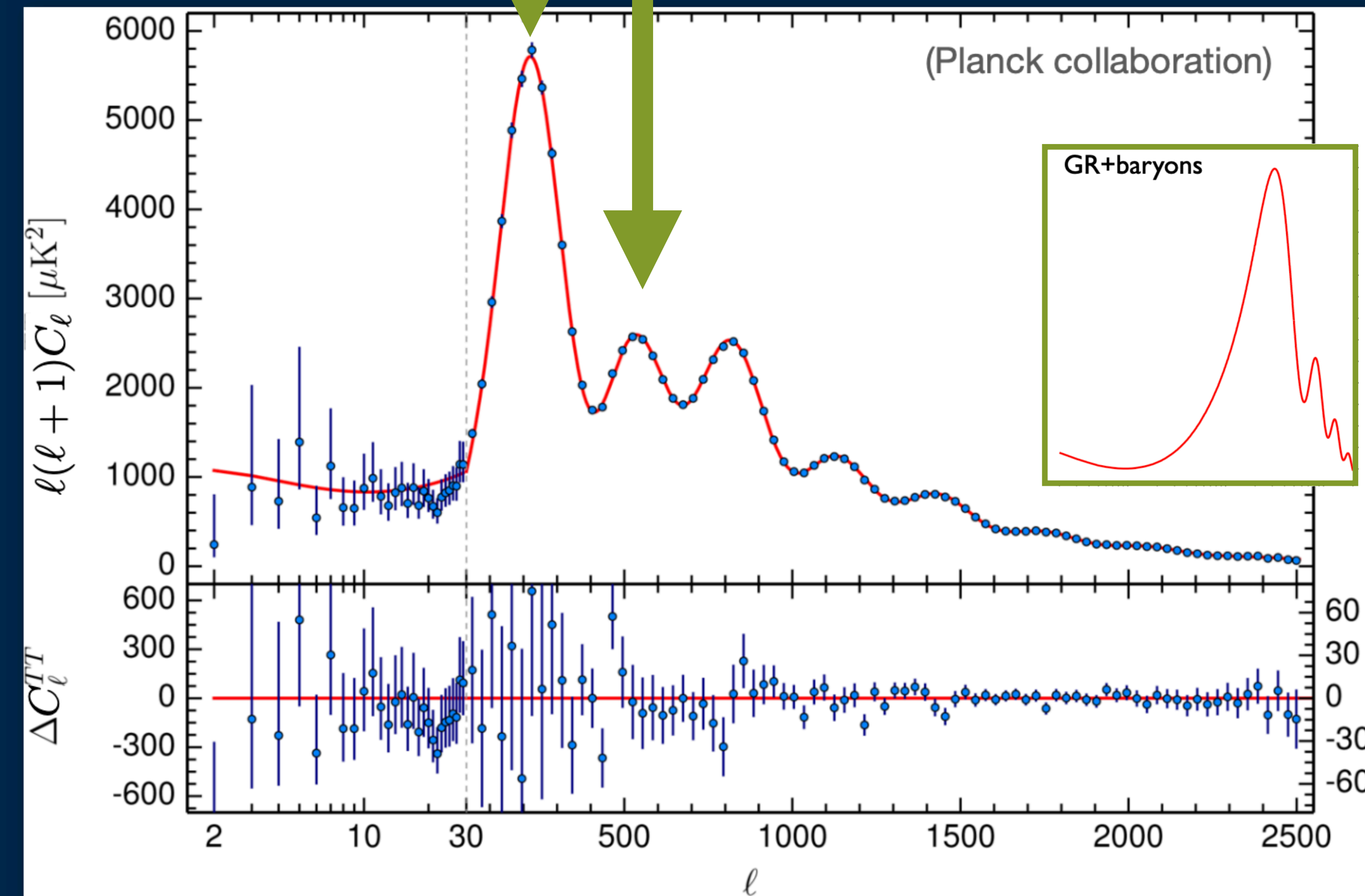
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_x f + \vec{\nabla}_x \Phi \cdot \vec{\nabla}_u f = 0$$

A simpler (cosmological) model emerges

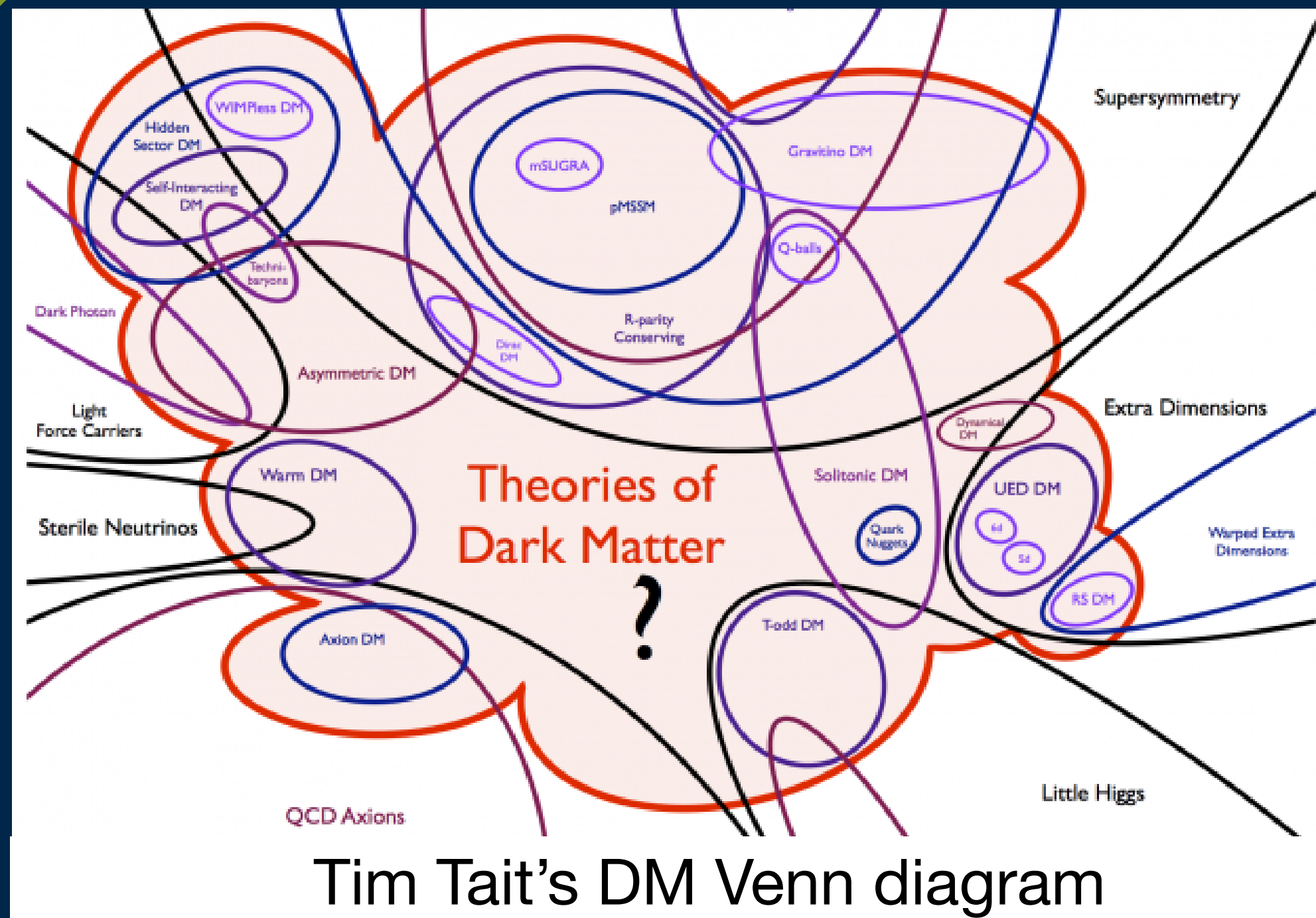
Cold Dark Matter: CDM

Tim Tait's Venn diagram

# $\Lambda$ CDM: Superb fit on linear scales

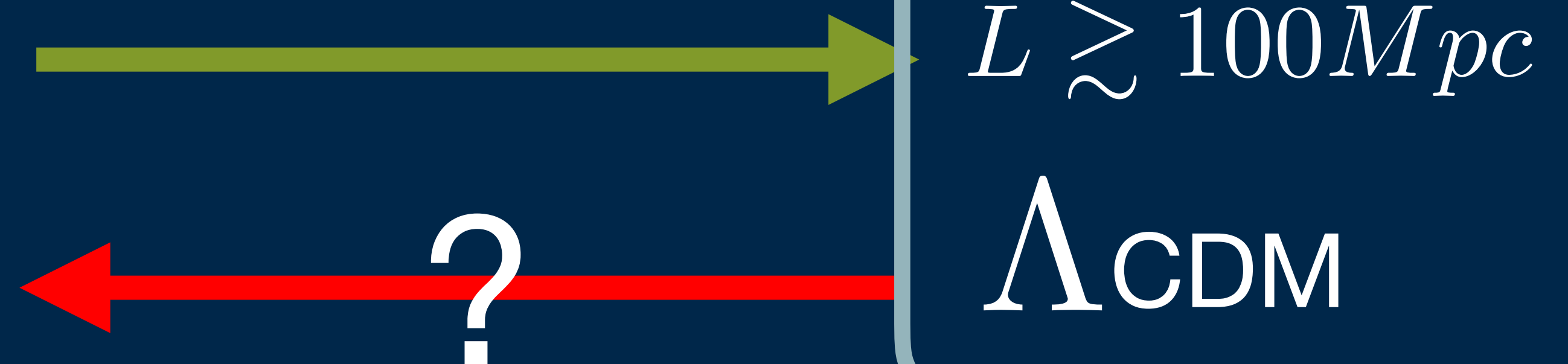
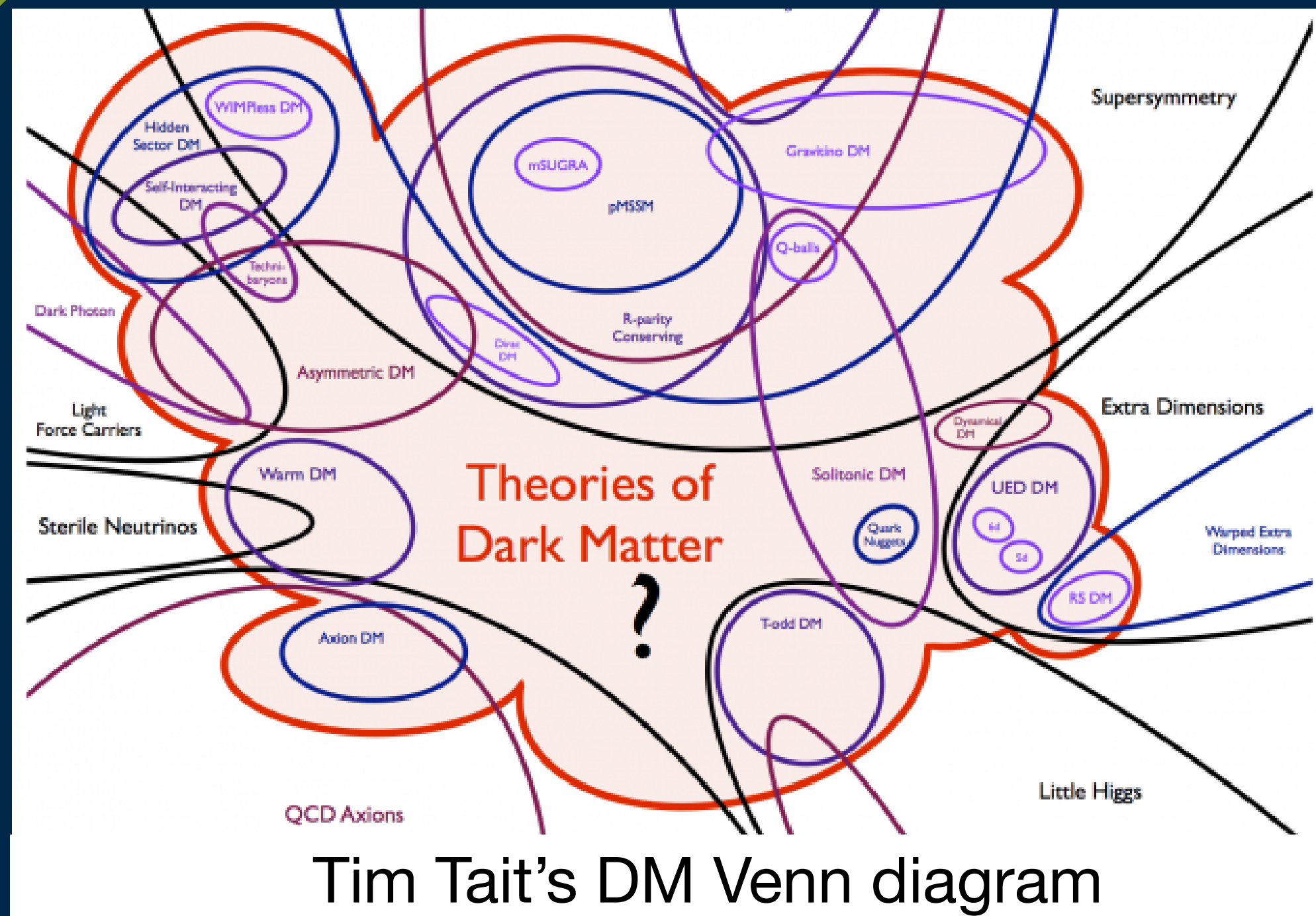


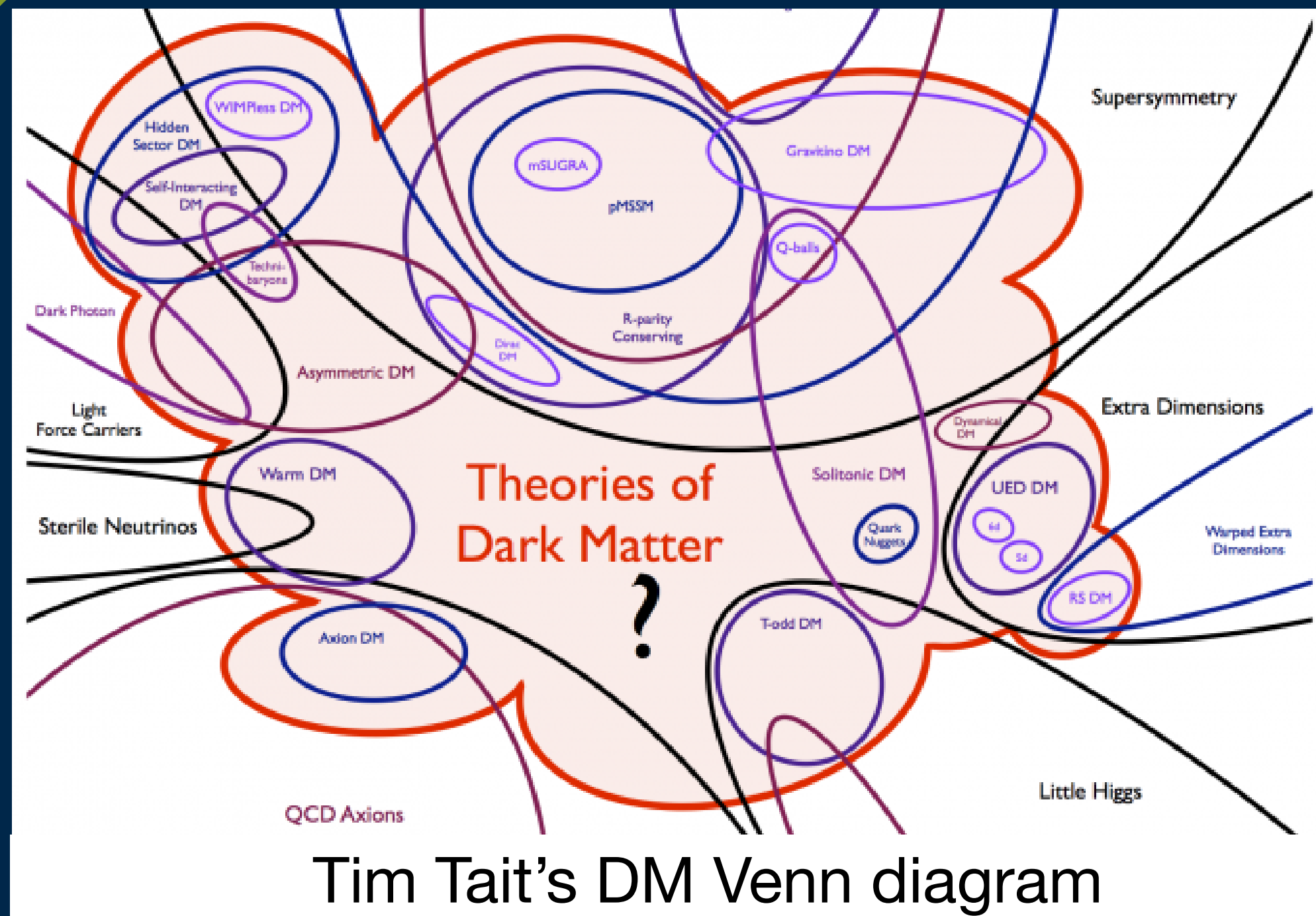




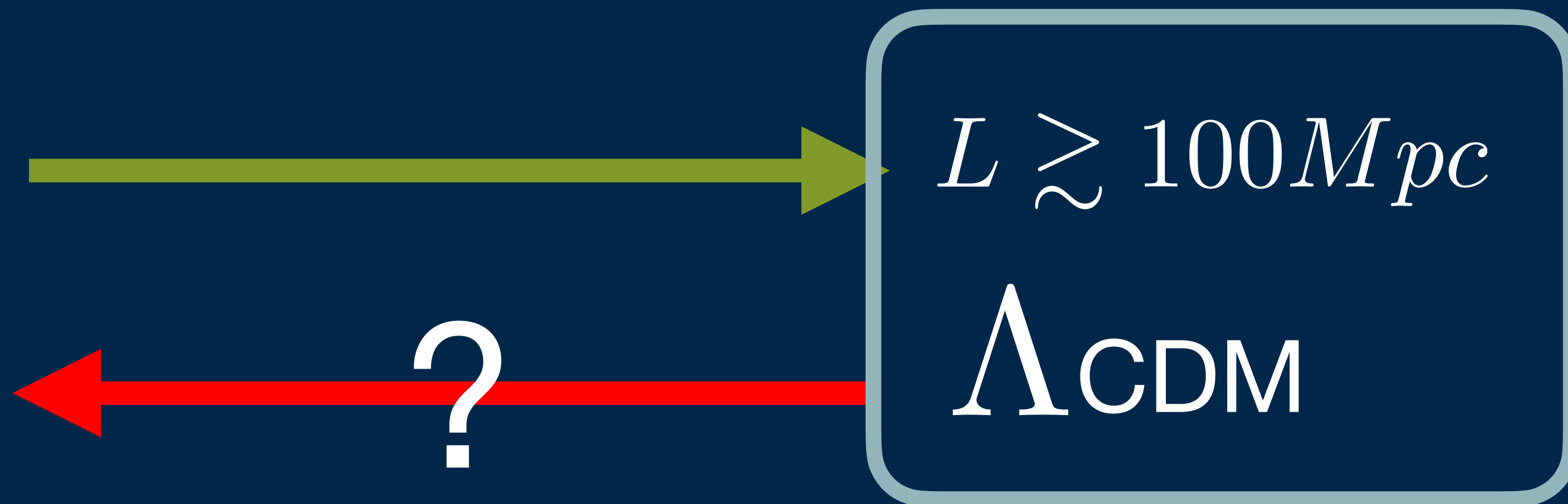
$$L \gtrsim 100 Mpc$$

$$\Lambda_{CDM}$$





Tim Tait's DM Venn diagram



GR extension



# GR extensions

## Lovelock's theorem

The only

- local,
- diffeomorphism invariant action,
- which leads to 2nd order field equations
- and which depends only on a metric

is a linear combination of the Einstein-Hilbert action with a cosmological constant up to a total derivative.

GR:

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x [R - 2\Lambda] + S_m[g, \psi^A]$$

# GR extensions

## Lovelock's theorem

The only

- local,
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New degrees of freedom: New fields

is a linear combination of the Einstein-Hilbert action with a cosmological constant up to a total derivative.

GR:

$$S = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x [R - 2\Lambda] + S_m[g, \psi^A]$$

## corrections to GR

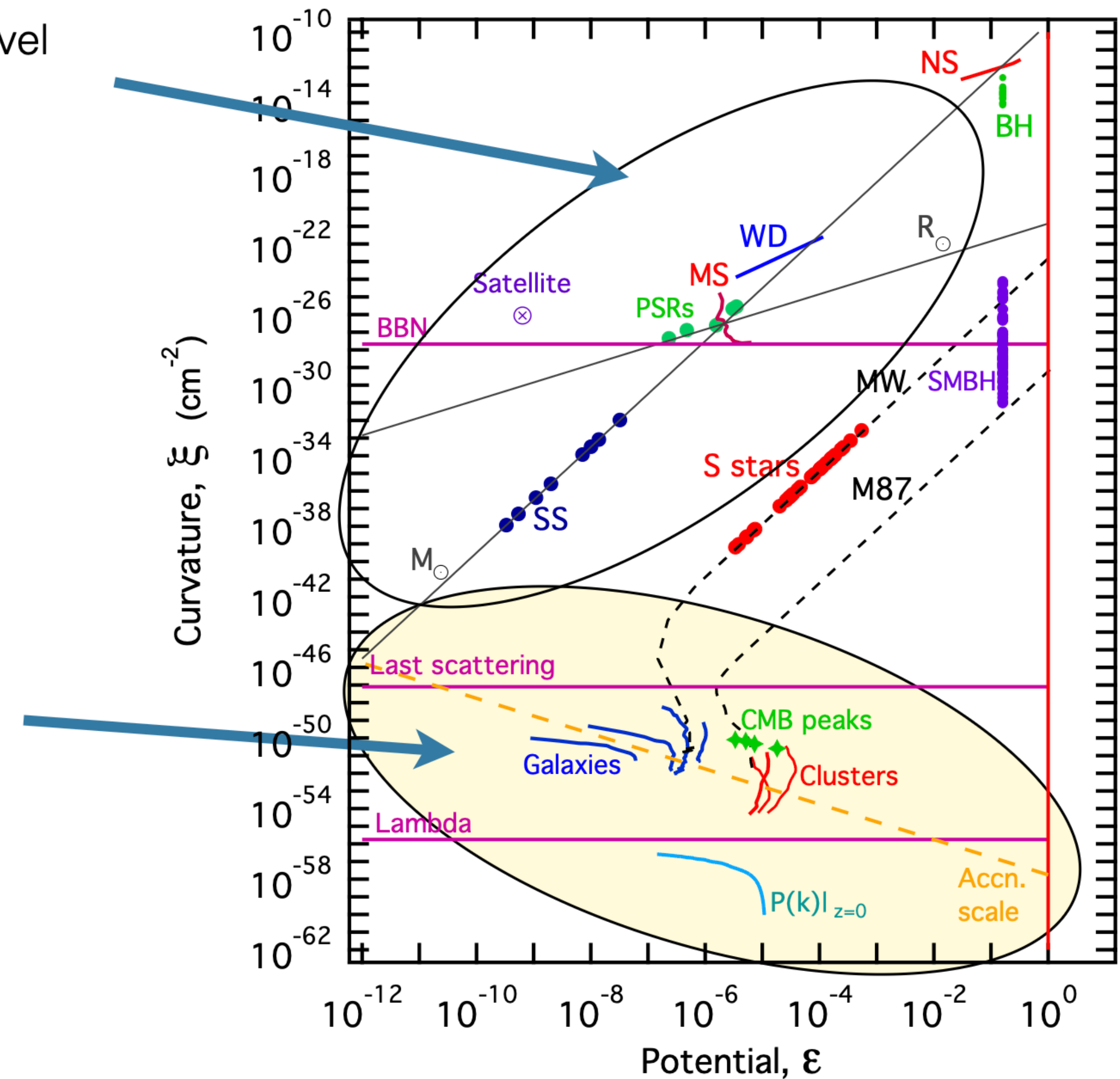
- GR experimentally tested
- Deviations at  $10^{-4} - 10^{-8}$  level
- New dof suppressed

Lovelock's theorem:  
new (long-range) fields.

- Galileons
- Horndeski
- Gen. Proca
- dRGT massive gravity
- bi-gravity
- Einstein-Aether
- Ghost Condensates

- Need DM
- GR not tested
- New dof active

T. Baker, D. Psaltis and C.S., Astrophys. J. 802, 63 (2015)





New dof from extension of GR: FRLW background

RW metric  $ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2 d\vec{x}^2$

Additional dof  $\chi_I(t)$

Generalized Friedman equation:  $f_{\text{very complicated}}(a, H, \chi_I, \dot{\chi}_I, \rho_b, \dots) = 0$

$$3H^2 = 8\pi G \sum_I \rho_I + 8\pi G \rho_{new}$$

consequence of Bianchi identity  $\dot{\rho}_{new} + 3H(1 + w_{new})\rho_{new} = 0$

Fluctuations:  $\delta G_{\mu\nu} = 8\pi G \delta T_{\mu\nu}^{(known)} + 8\pi G \delta T_{\mu\nu}^{(new)}$

$$\delta \left( \nabla_\mu T^\mu{}_\nu^{(new)} \right) = 0$$

Fluid with generic density, velocity, pressure, shear

# GDM - generalized dark matter

$$w(a), \quad c_s^2(k, a), \quad c_{\text{vis}}^2(k, a),$$

W. Hu, ApJ 506, 485 (1998)

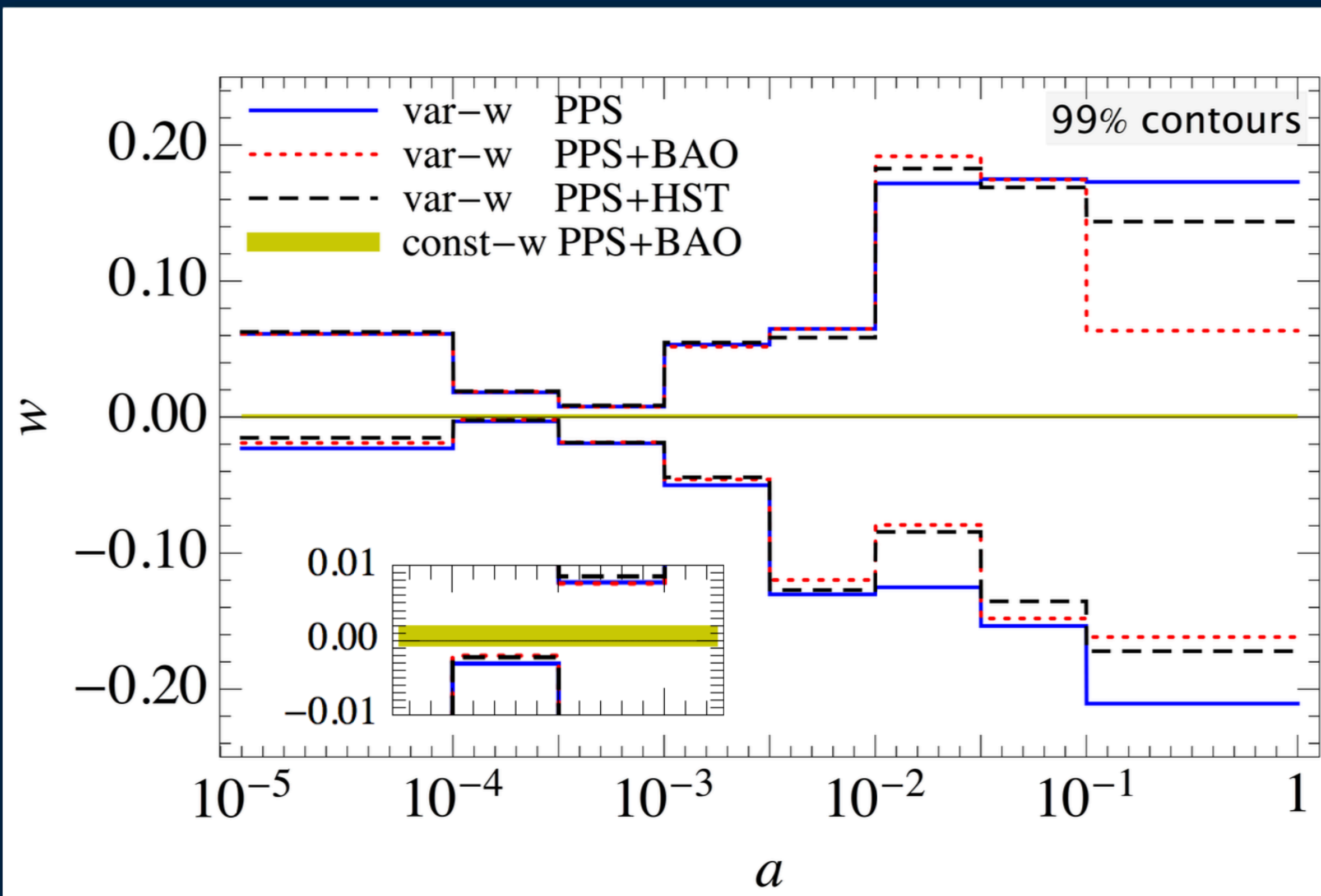
Fairly general (but not unique)

FLRW: ALL MODELS including Extensions of GR

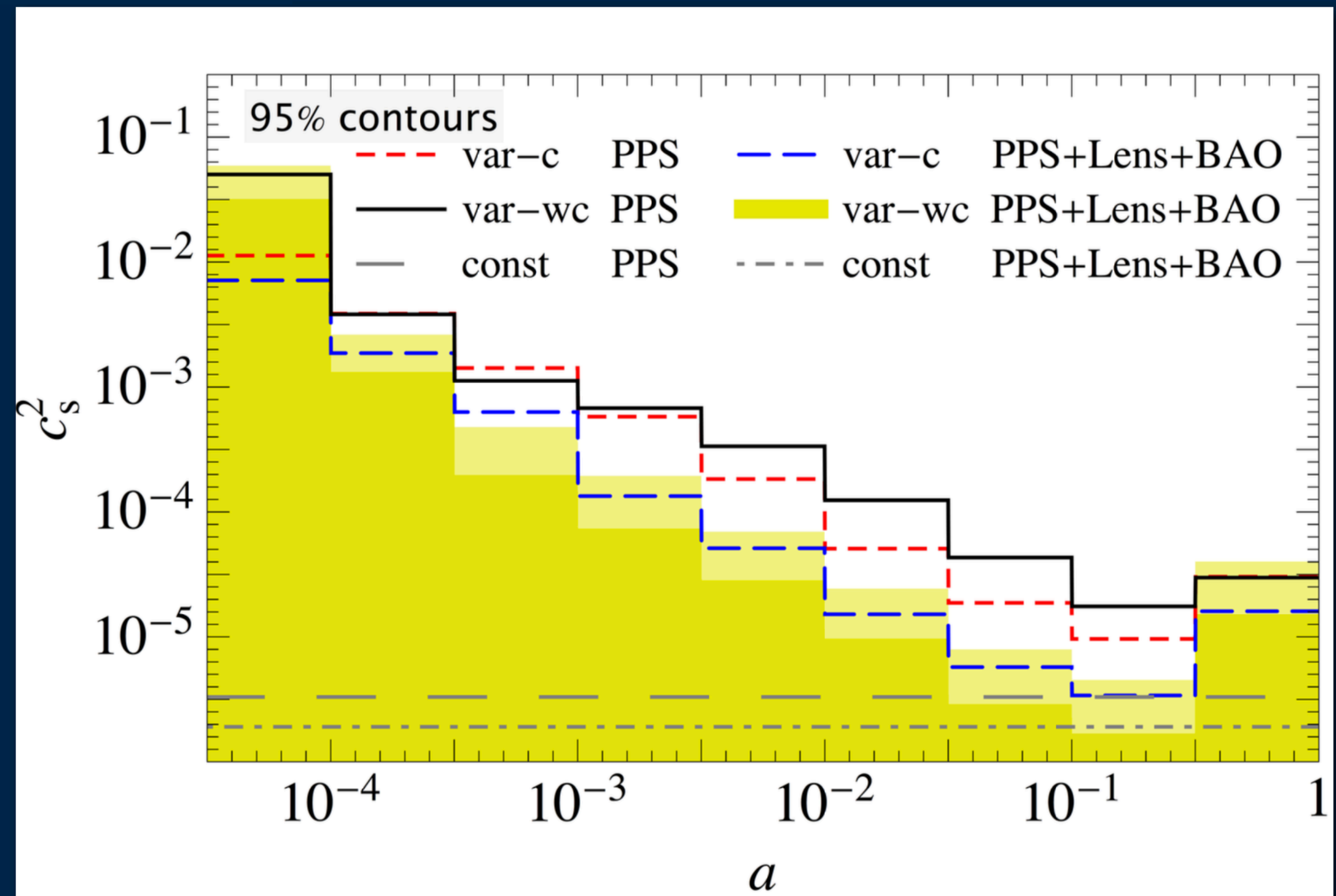
Linear Fluctuations: Most MODELS including many Extensions of GR

CDM:  $w = 0 \Leftrightarrow \rho \propto a^{-3}$

$$c_s = c_{\text{vis}} = 0$$



D. Thomas, M. Kopp, C.S., S. Ilic, PRL 120, 221102 (2018)



S. Ilic, M. Kopp, C.S., D. Thomas, PRD 104, 043520 (2021)

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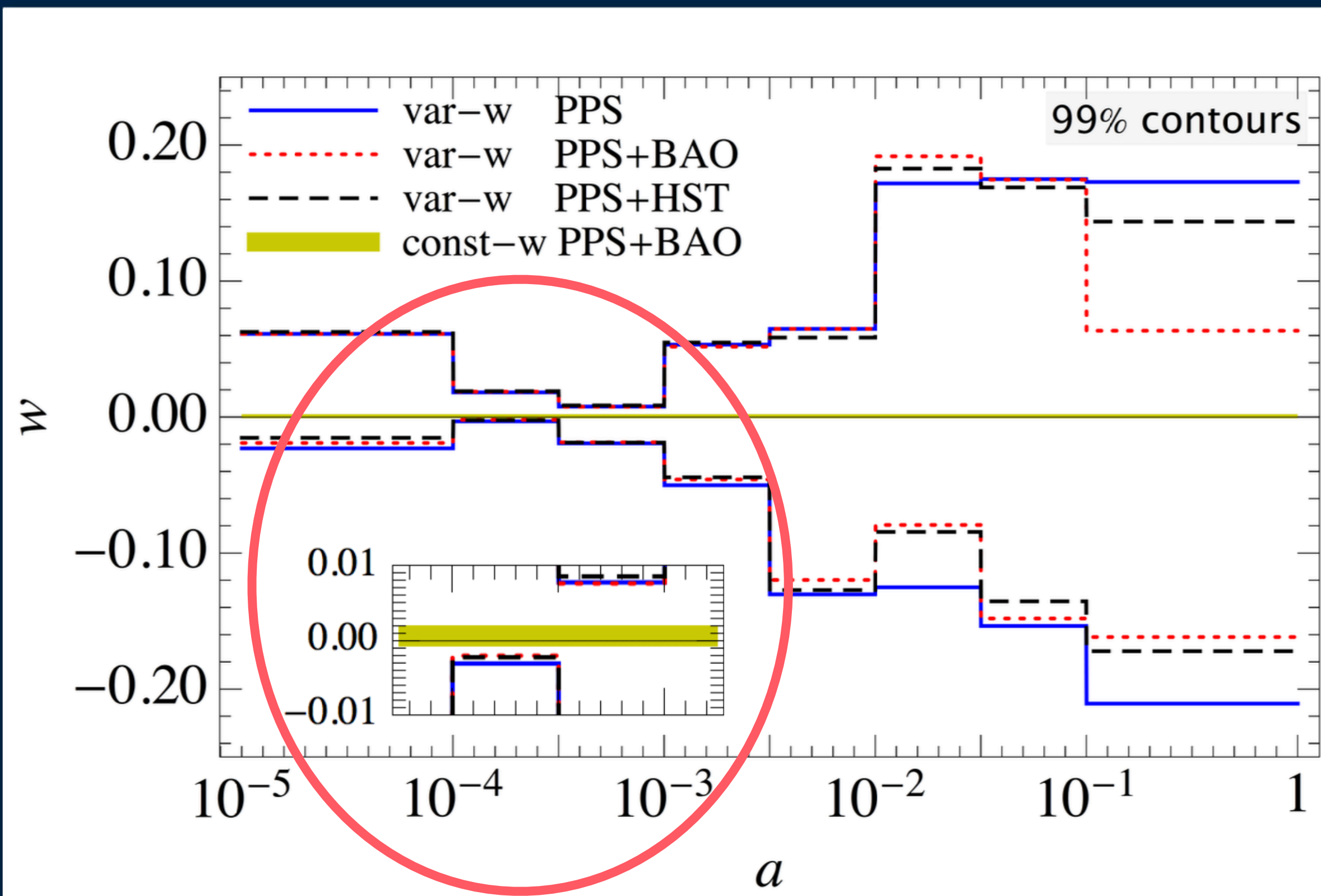
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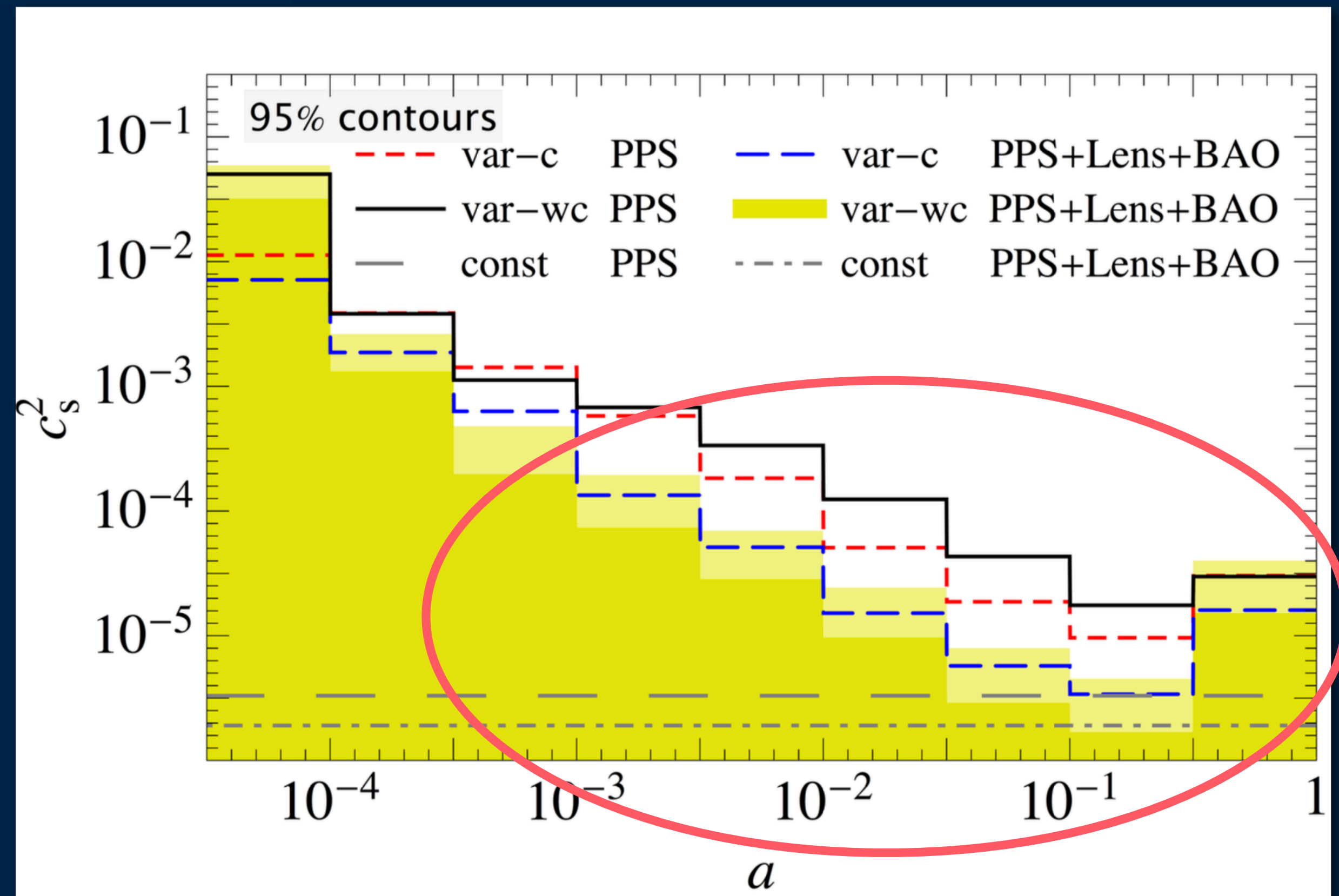
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Can (approximately)  $\Lambda$ CDM

emerge on linear scales from new gravitational dof?



Can (approximately)  $\Lambda$ CDM  
emerge on linear scales from new gravitational dof?

YES

# Eddington-Born-Infeld theory

(Banados 2009)

## CASE STUDY

Modelled after Eddington action  $S[\Gamma_{ab}^c] = \frac{1}{8\pi G\Lambda} \int d^4x \sqrt{-\det[R_{ab}]}$  (Eddington 1924)

$$I[g_{\mu\nu}, C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha] = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \left[ \sqrt{-g} R + \frac{2}{\alpha \ell^2} \sqrt{|g_{\mu\nu} - \ell^2 K_{\mu\nu}|} \right]$$

2nd connection curvature of  $C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha$

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2nd connection curvature of  $C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha$

Introduce 2nd metric  $q_{\mu\nu}$ , related to  $C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \longrightarrow$  bigravity (Isham, Salam, Strathdee 1971)



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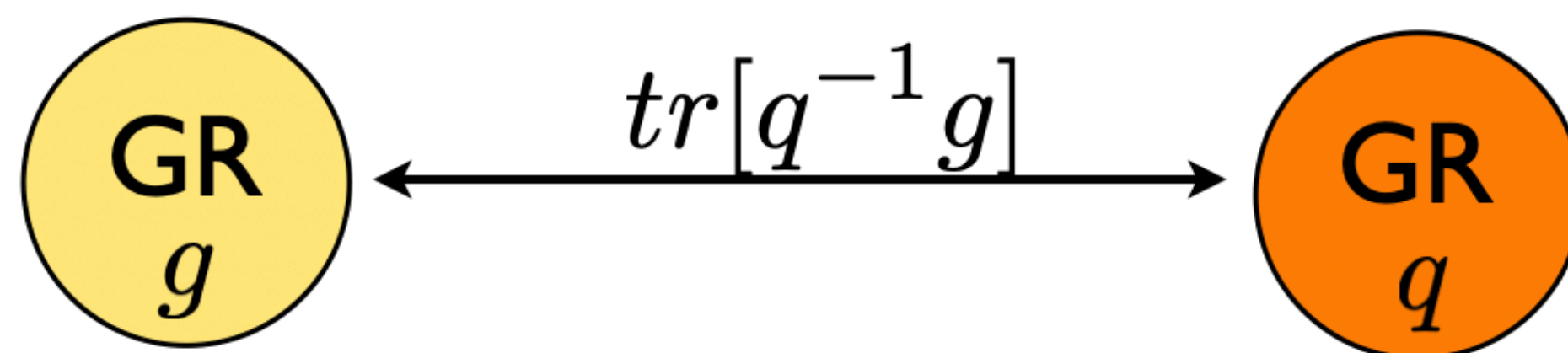
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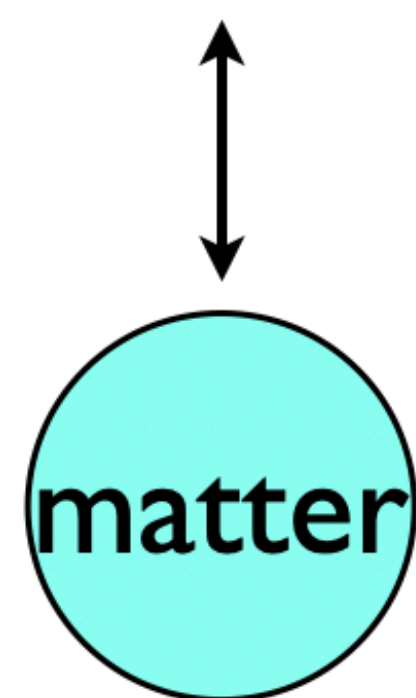
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2nd connection
curvature of  $C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha$

Introduce 2nd metric  $q_{\mu\nu}$ , related to  $C_{\mu\nu}^\alpha \longrightarrow$  bigravity (Isham, Salam, Strathdee 1971)



two metrics  
two sectors of GR



Describes a massless and a massive graviton

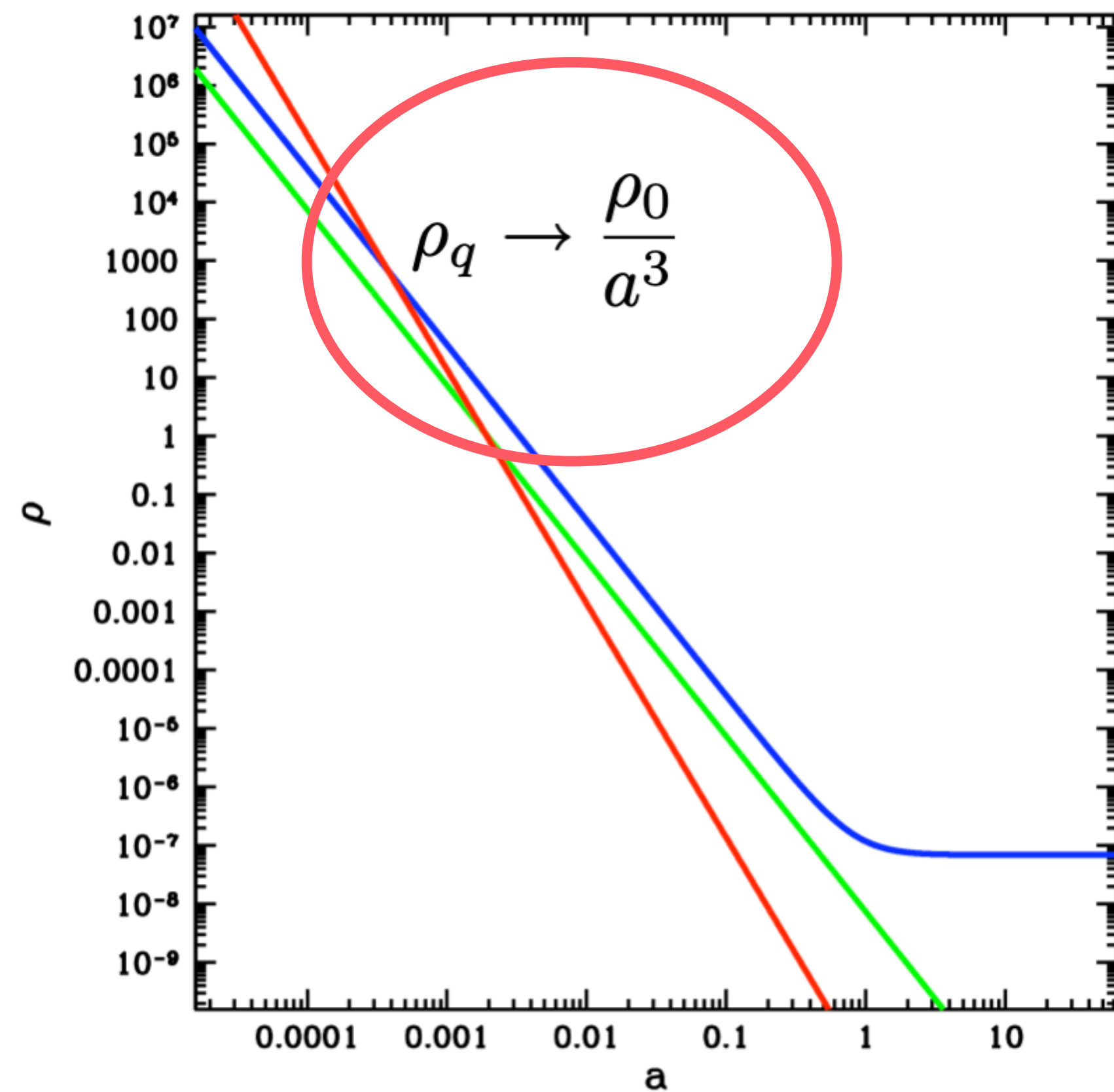
$$m \sim H_0 \sim 10^{-33} eV$$



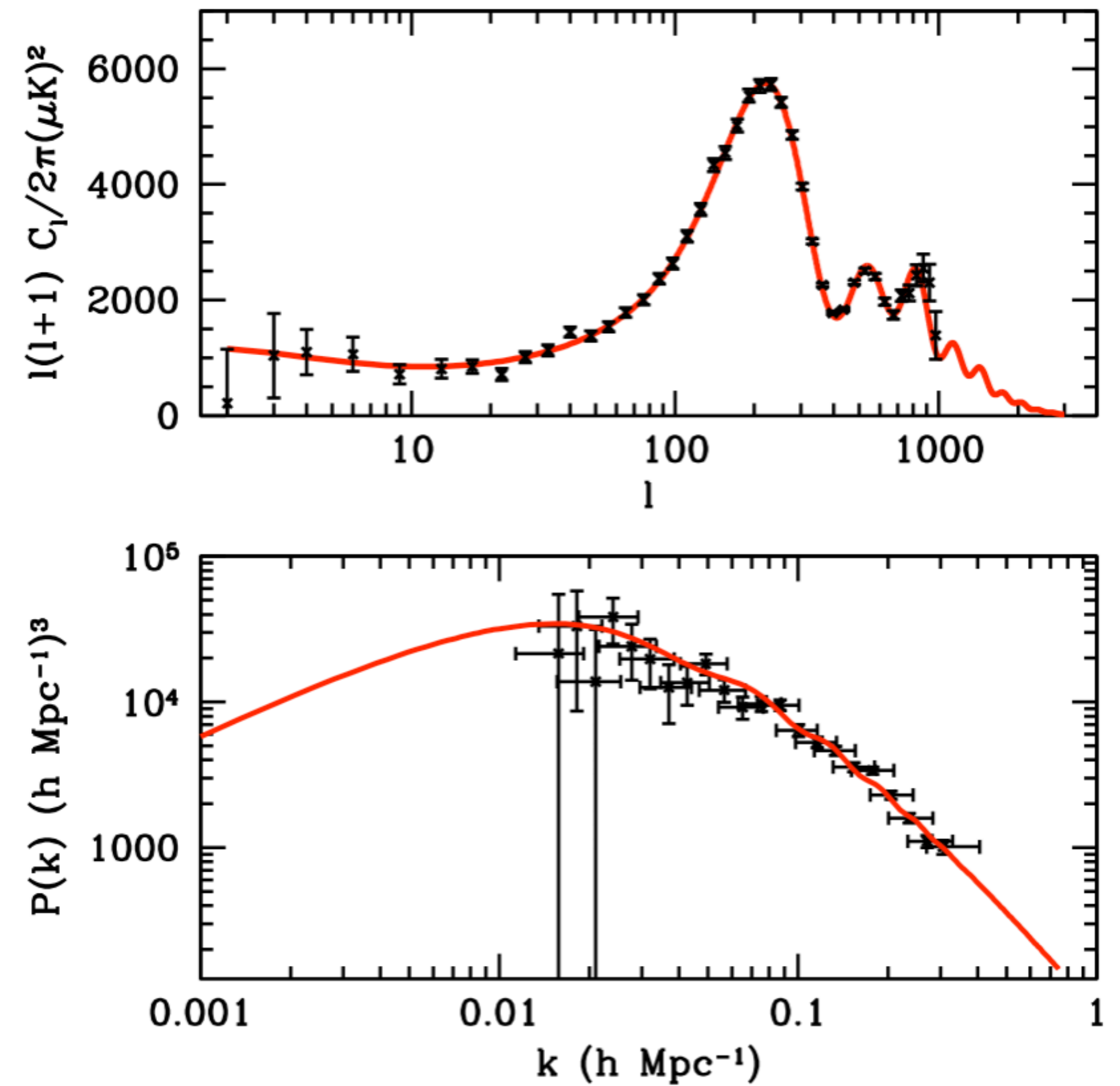
$$ds_g^2 = a^2 [-d\tau^2 + d\vec{x} \cdot d\vec{x}] \quad (\text{M. Banados, P. Ferreira, C.S. 2009})$$

$$ds_q^2 = a^2 [-X^2 d\tau^2 + Y^2 d\vec{x} \cdot d\vec{x}]$$

$$\text{map } X, Y \rightarrow \rho_q, P_q$$



$$\rho_q \rightarrow \text{const}$$

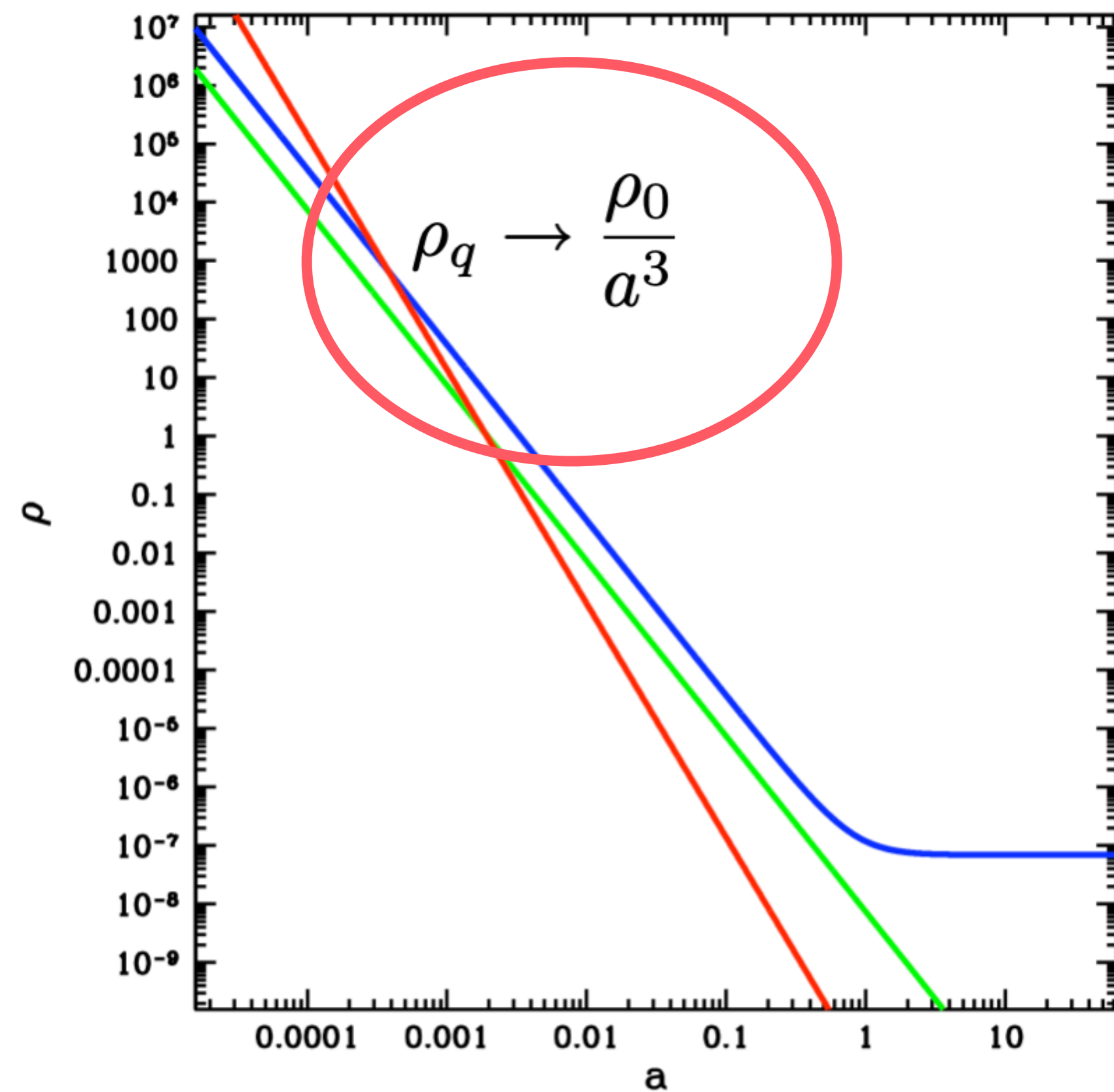


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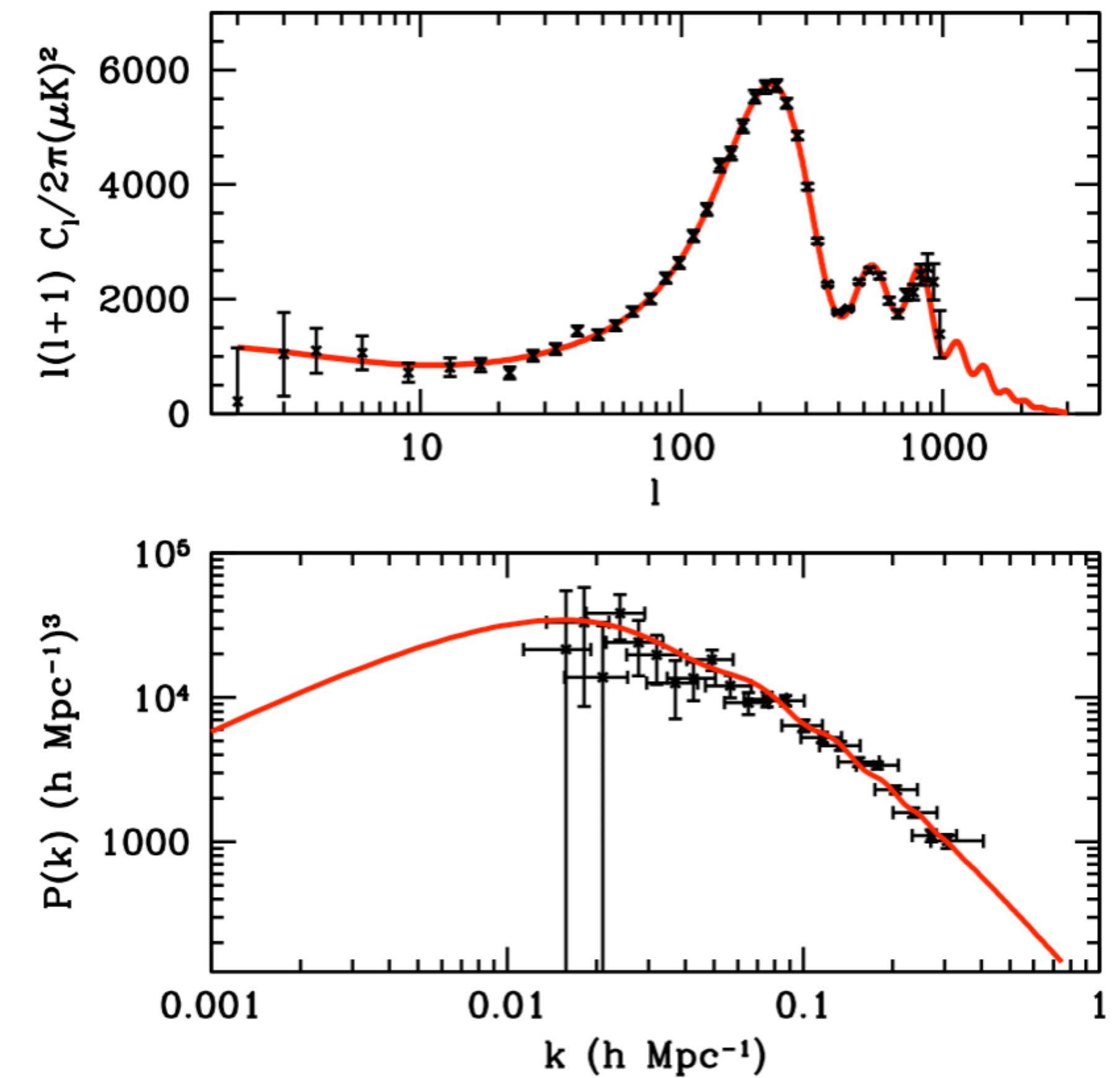
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Non-linear dynamics has not been studied



$$\rho_q \rightarrow \text{const}$$



EBI not the only example

might have ghosts

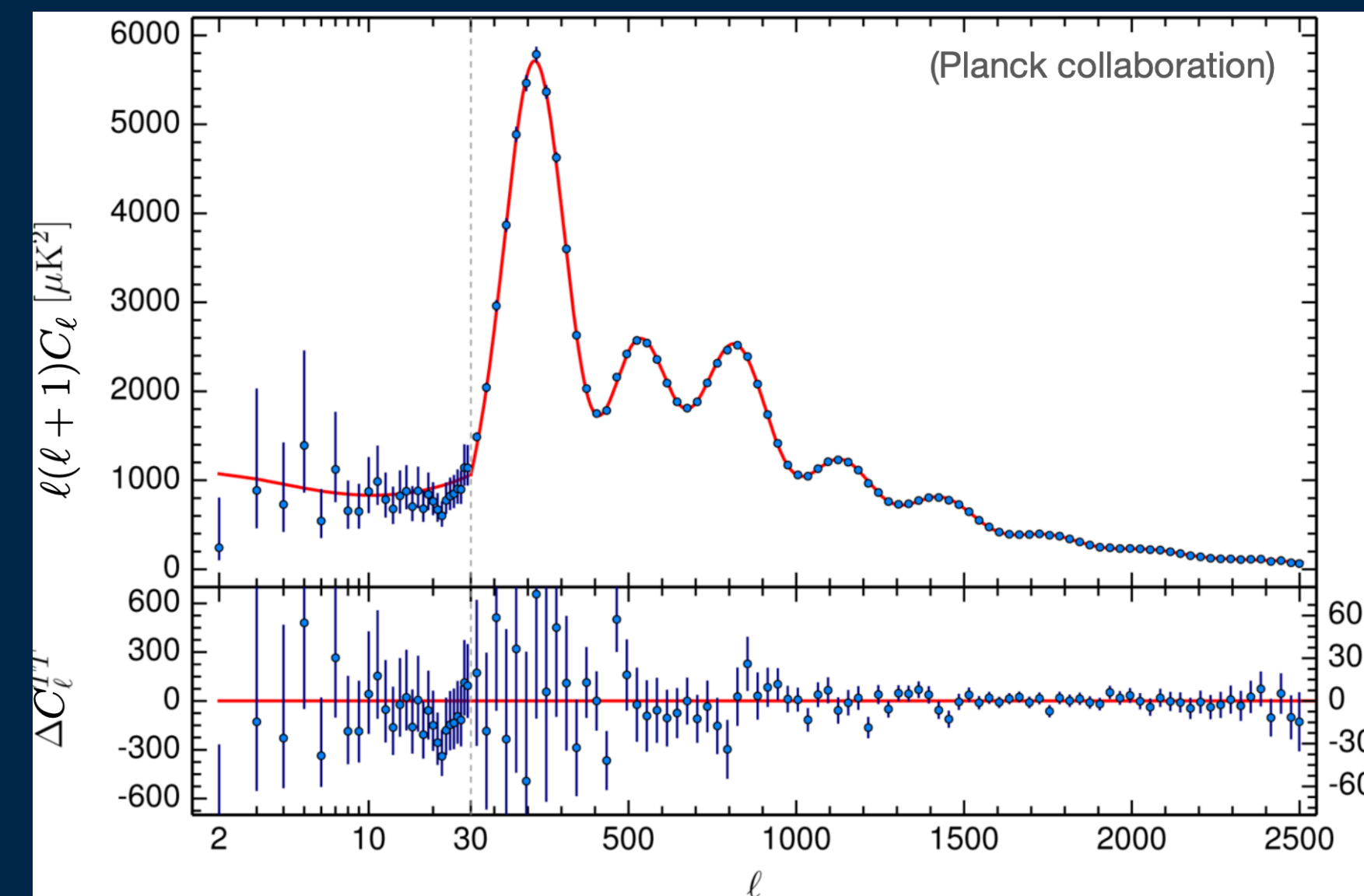
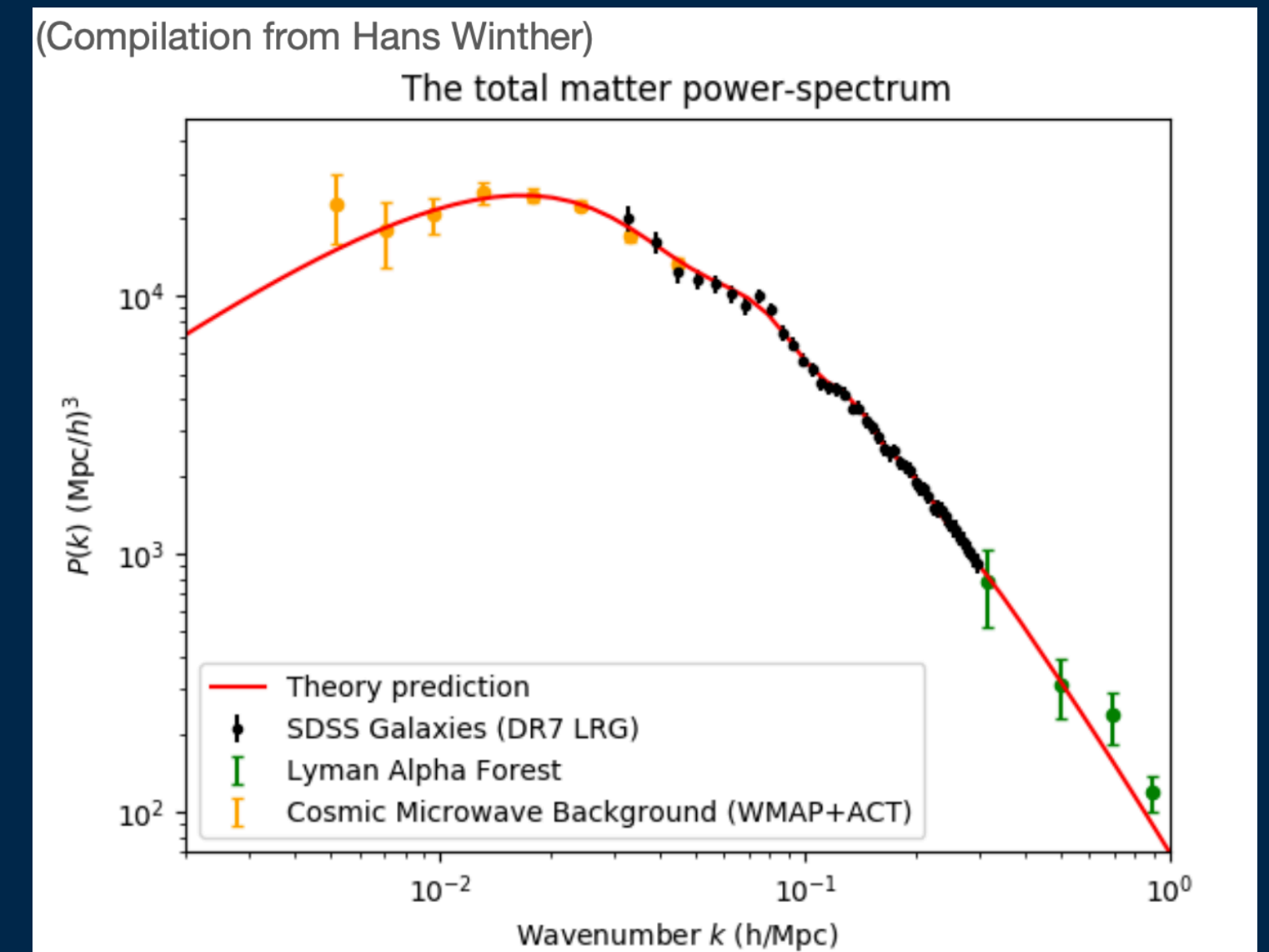
(probably) will not fit smaller scales

**Are there other models?**



Cold dark matter + cosmological constant:  $\Lambda$ CDM model

Superb fit on scales  $\gtrsim M_{pc}$



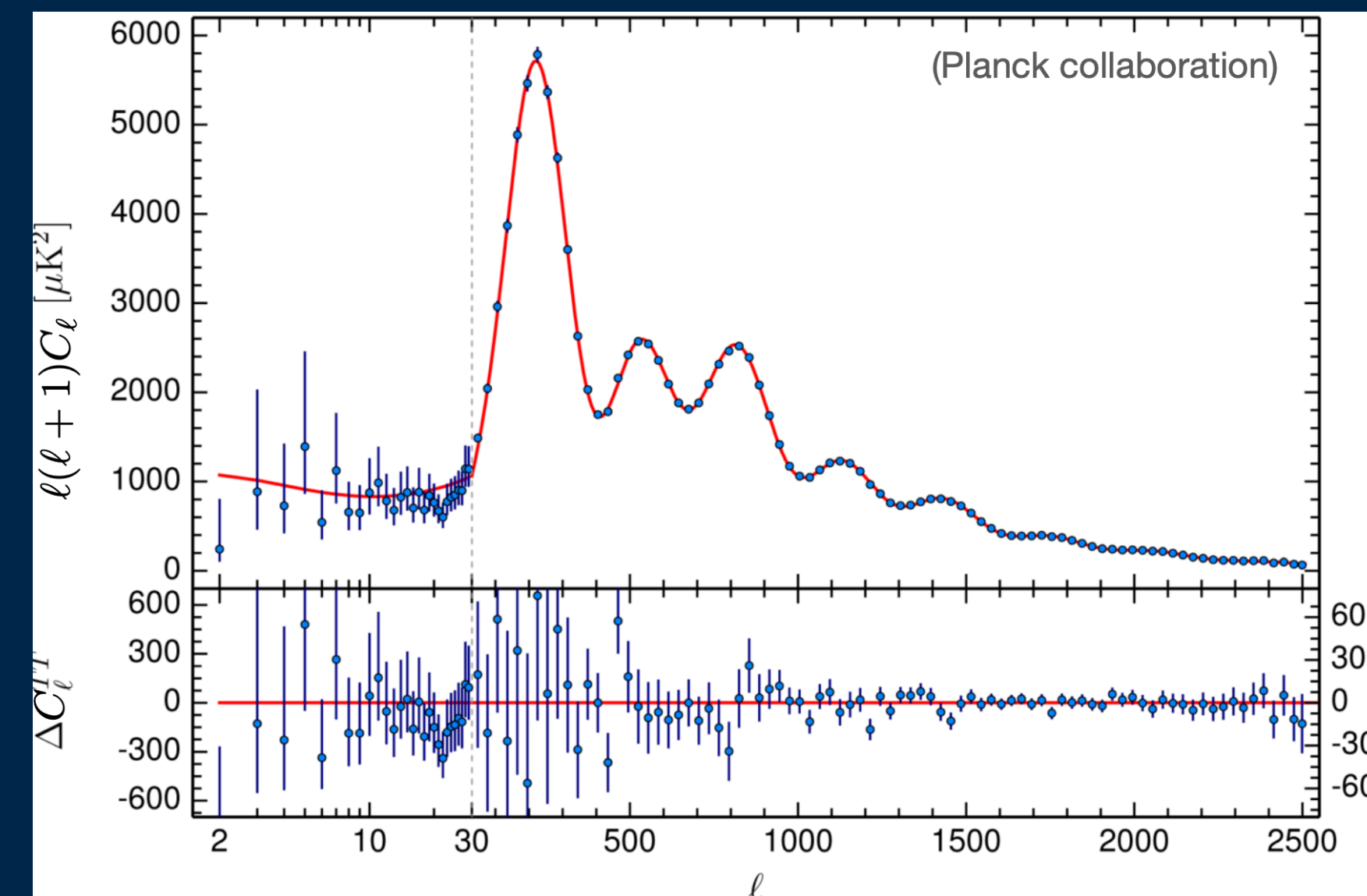
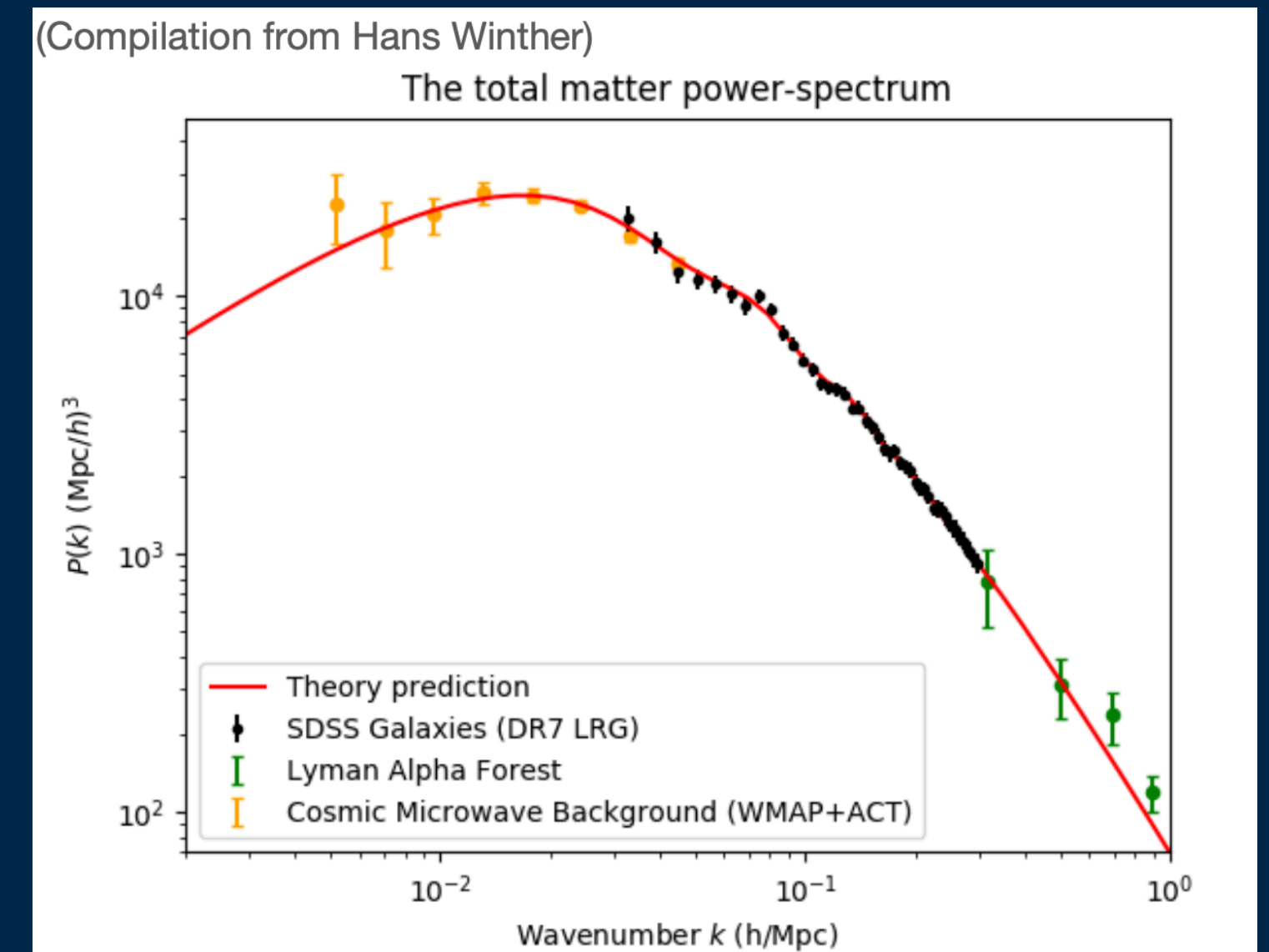
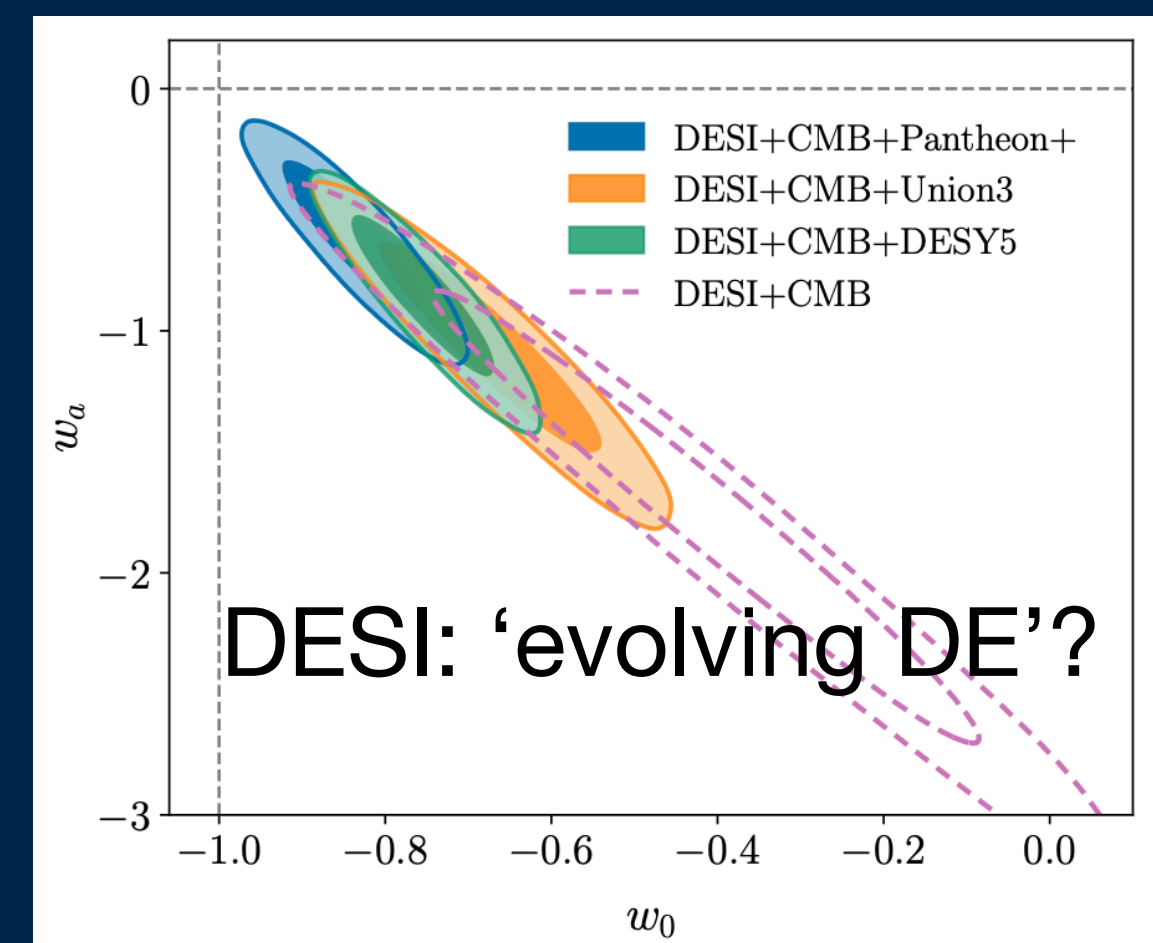
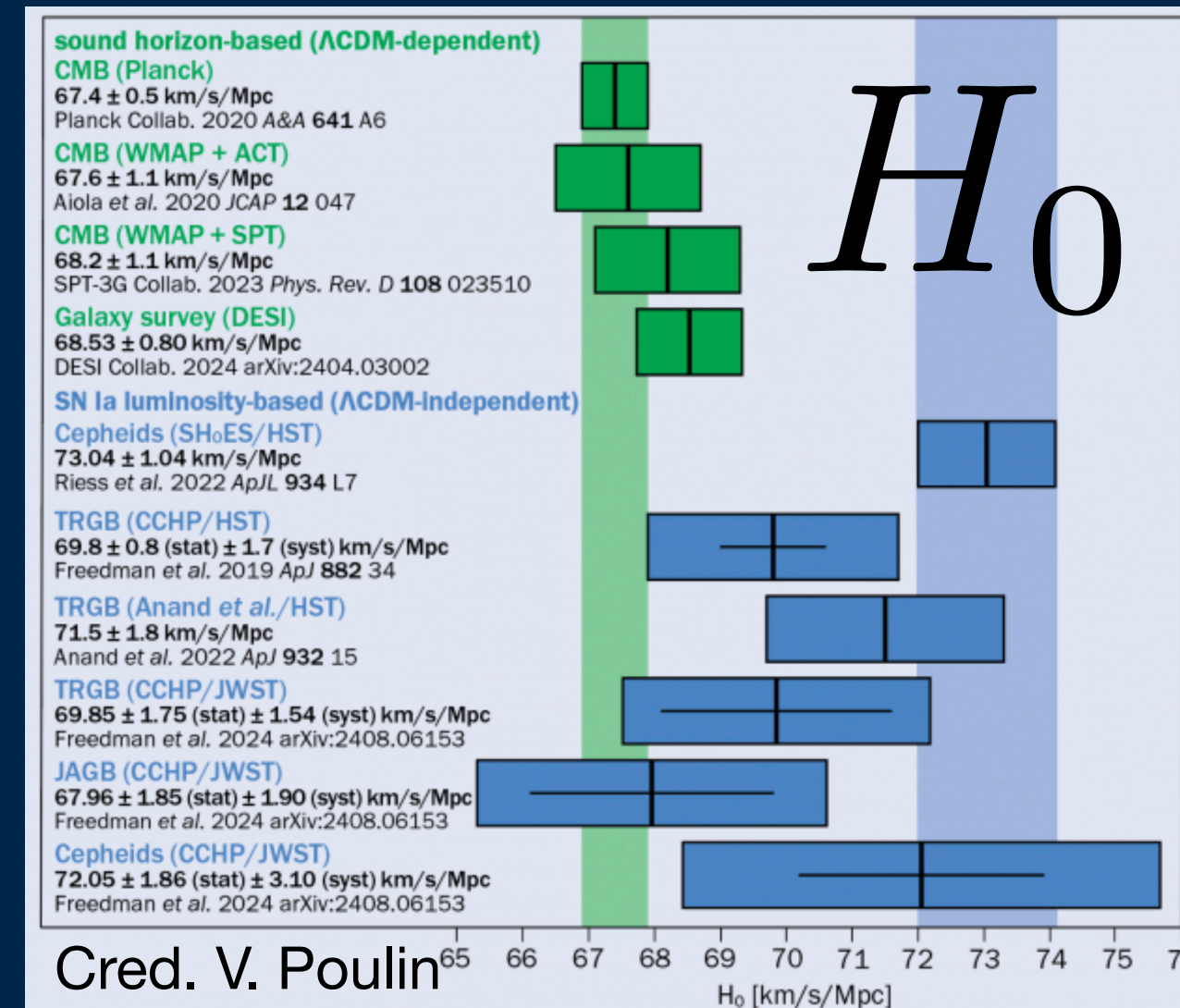


# Cold dark matter + cosmological constant: $\Lambda$ CDM model

Superb fit on scales  $\gtrsim Mpc$

But

## Large-scale tensions





# Cold dark matter + cosmological constant: $\Lambda$ CDM model

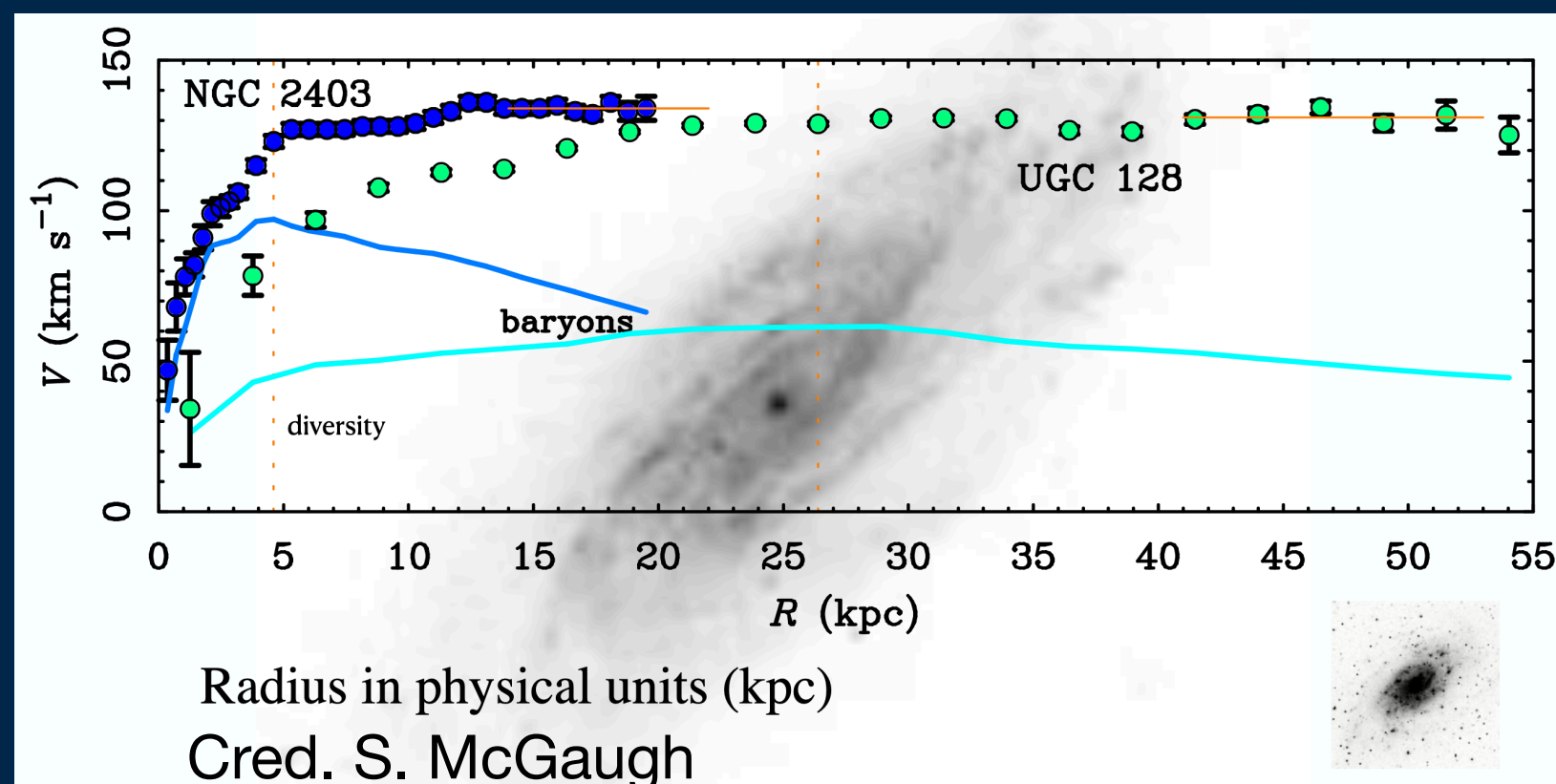
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But

## Small-scale 'crisis'

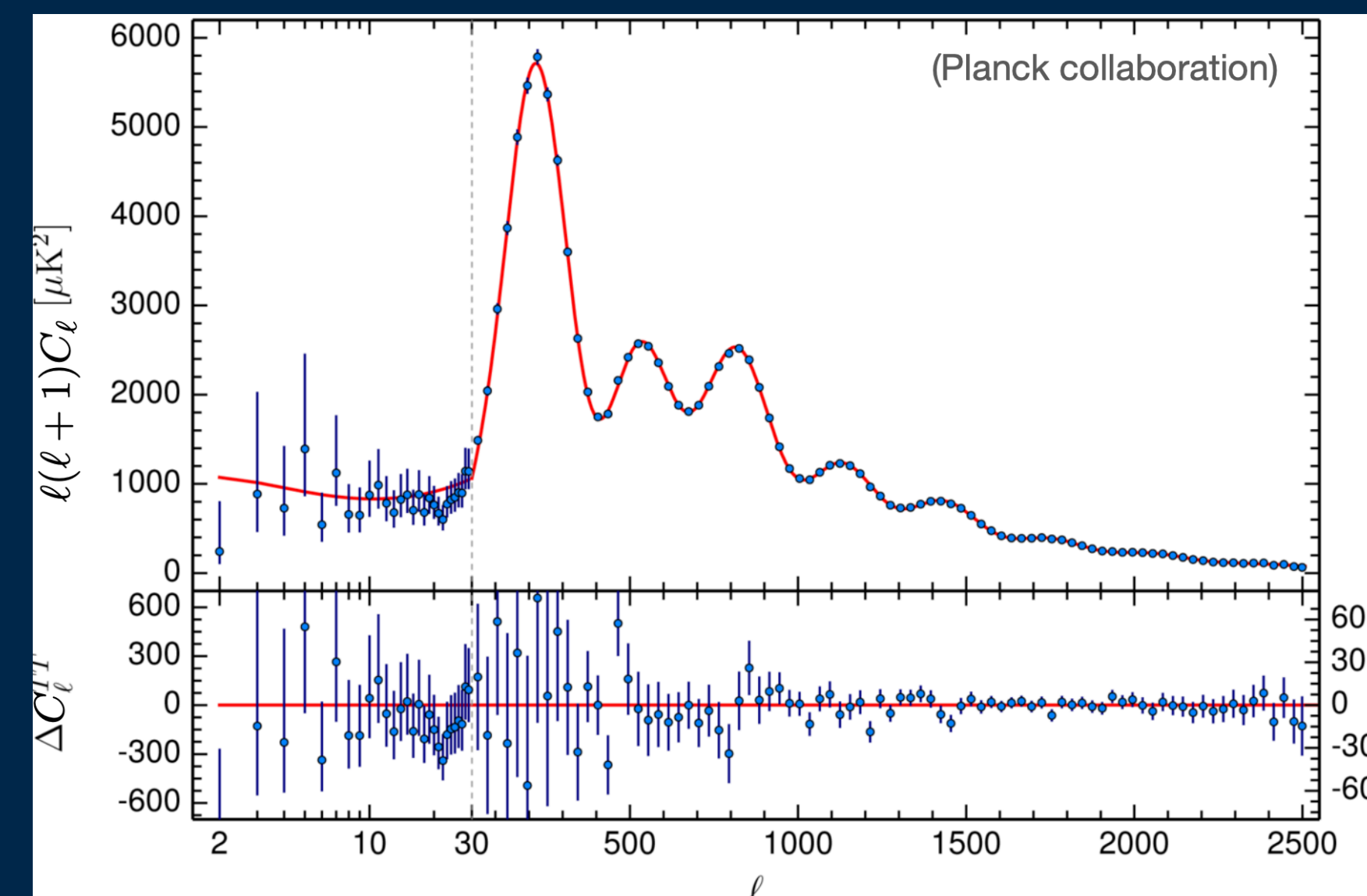
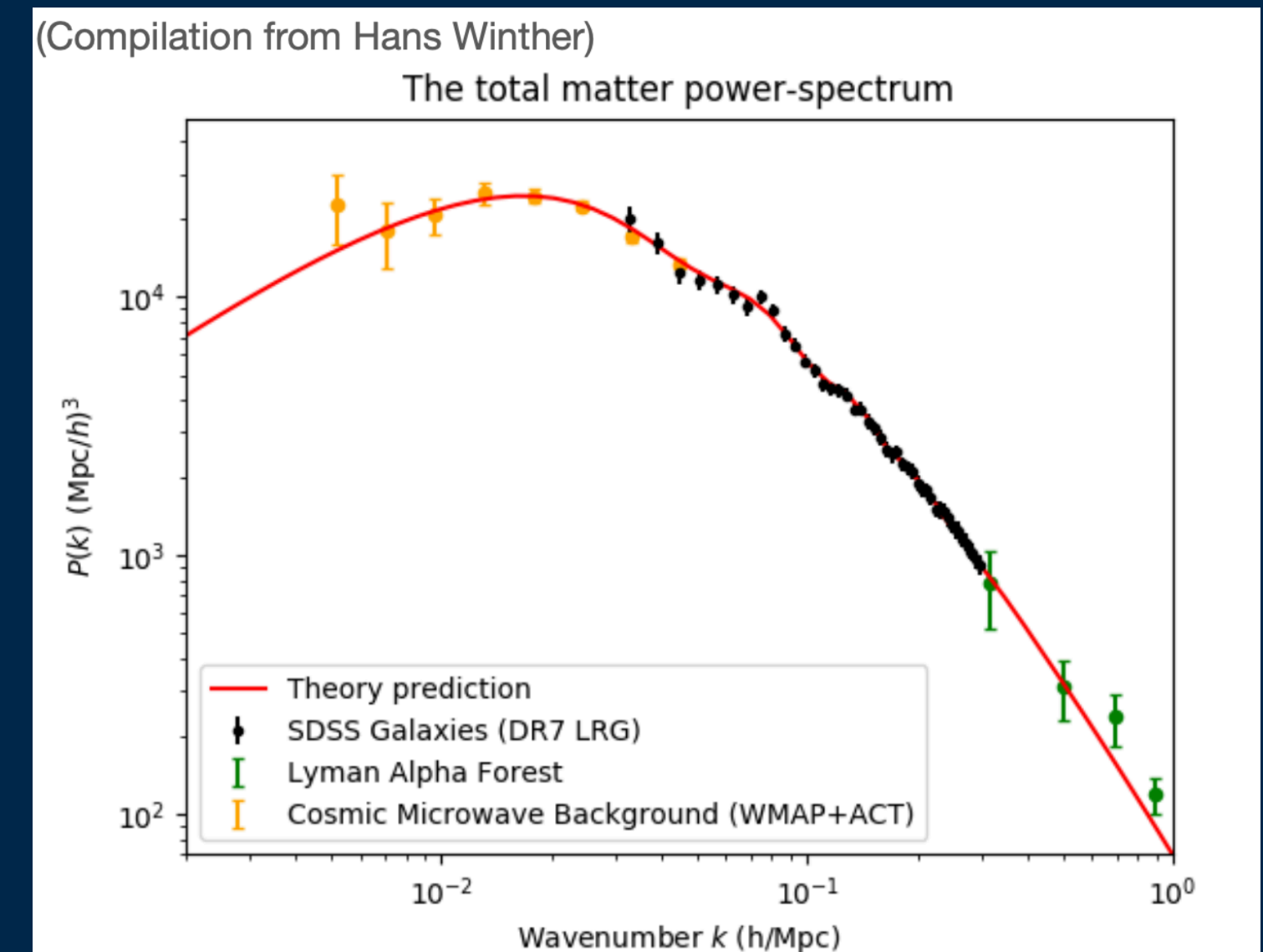
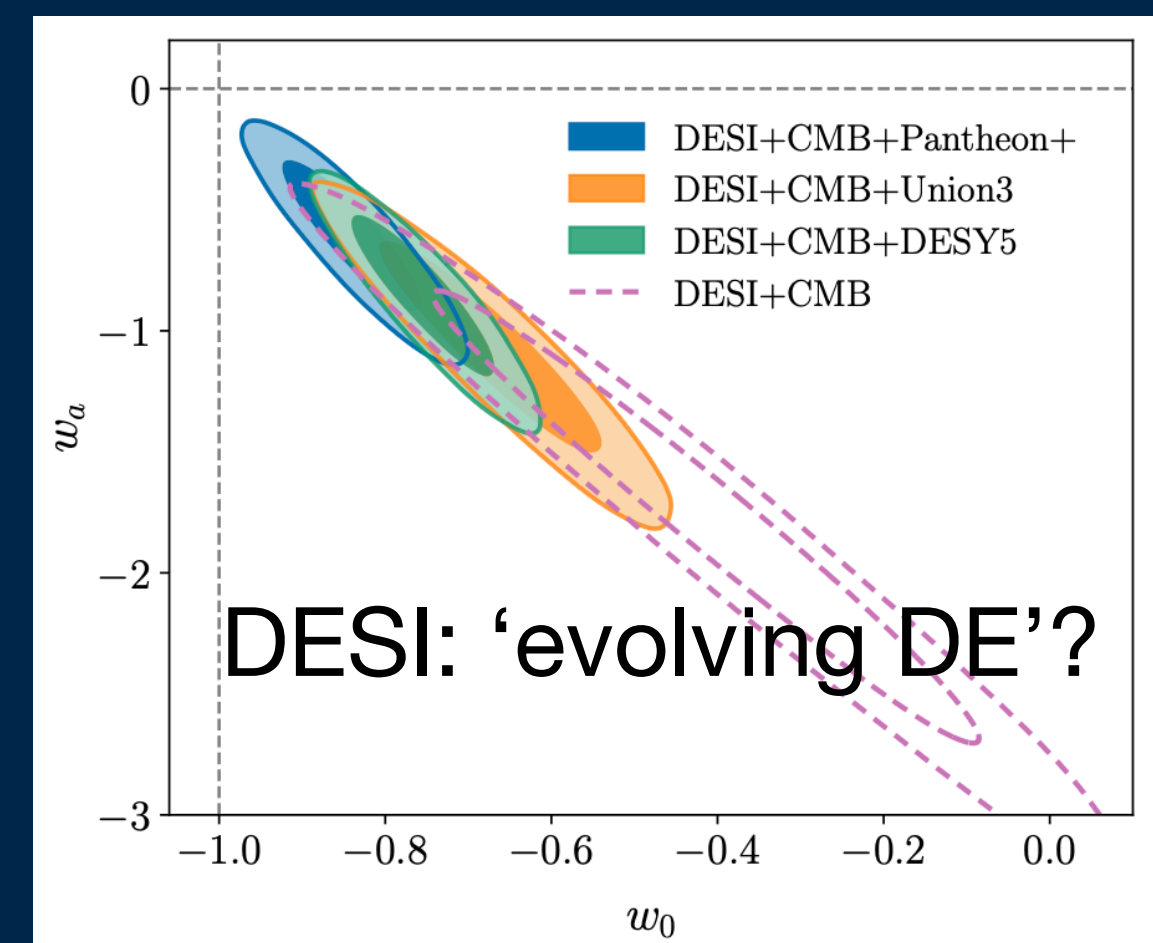
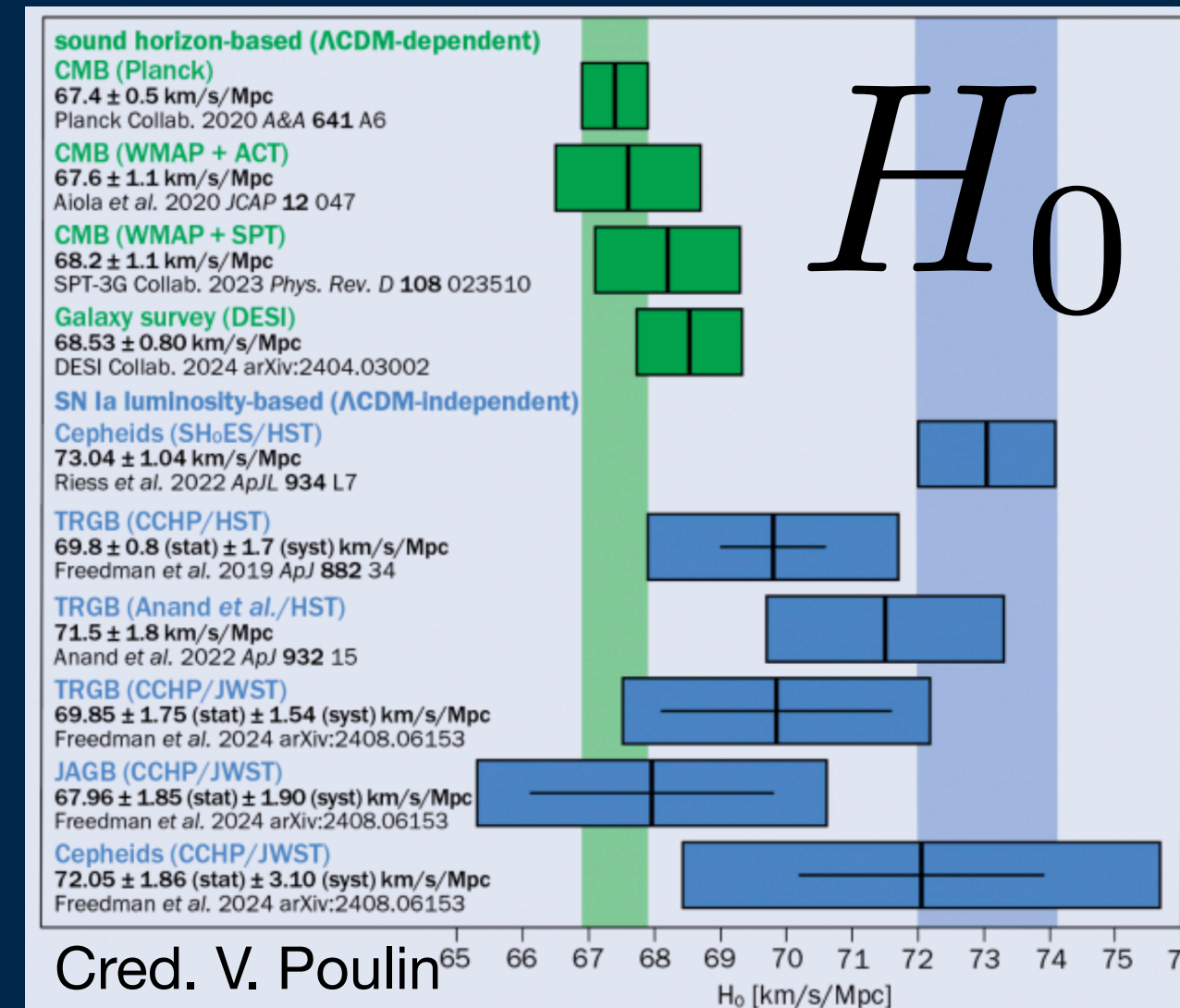
See e.g. Bullock & Boylan-Kolchin (2017)

- Missing satellites
- Too big to fail
- Diversity of spiral rotation curves

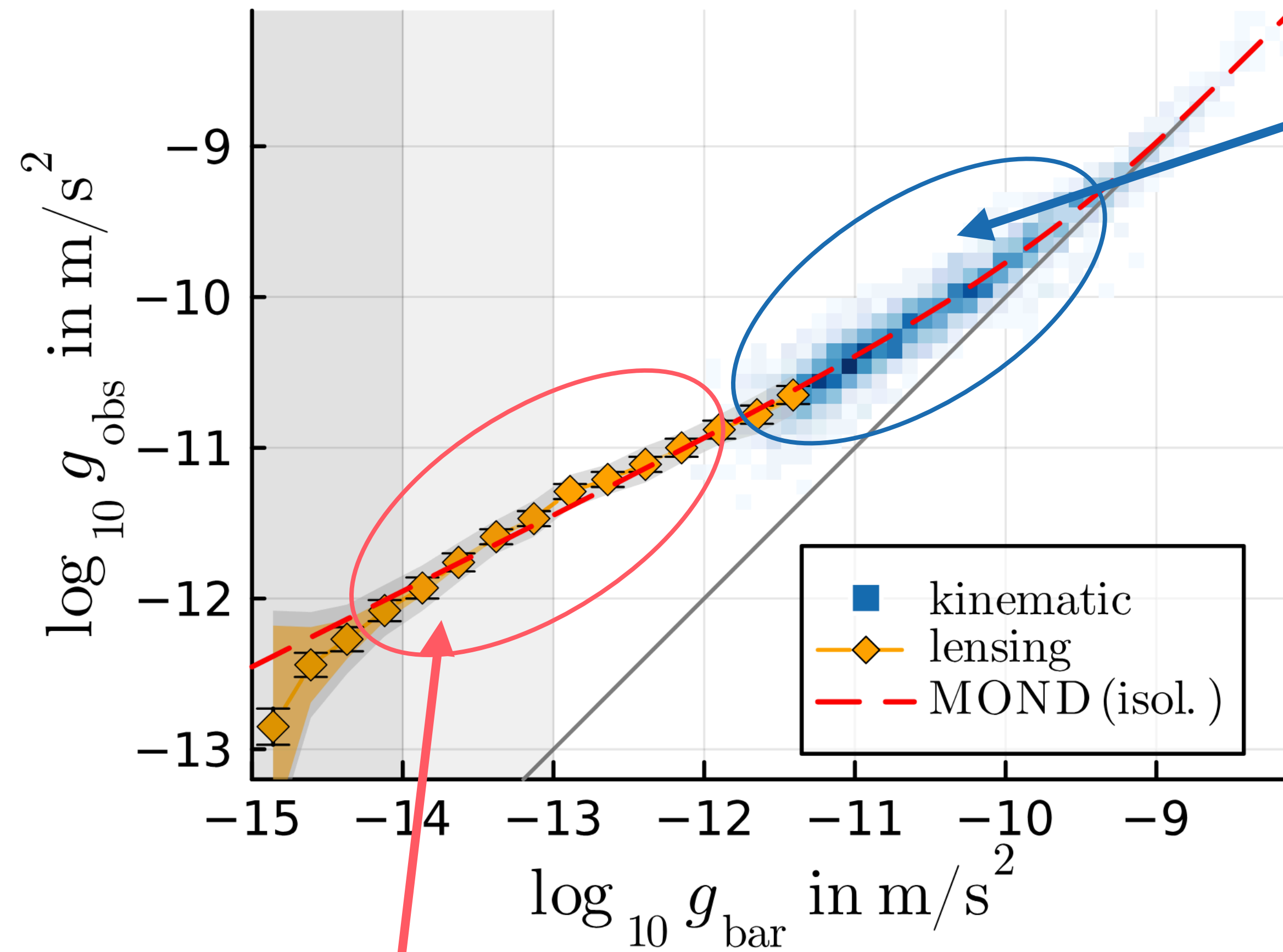


Very different mass distributions  
Order of mag. Difference in surface brightness  
Same flat rotation speed  
Same mass

## Large-scale tensions



B Famaey & A. Durakovic, ArXiv: 2501.17006

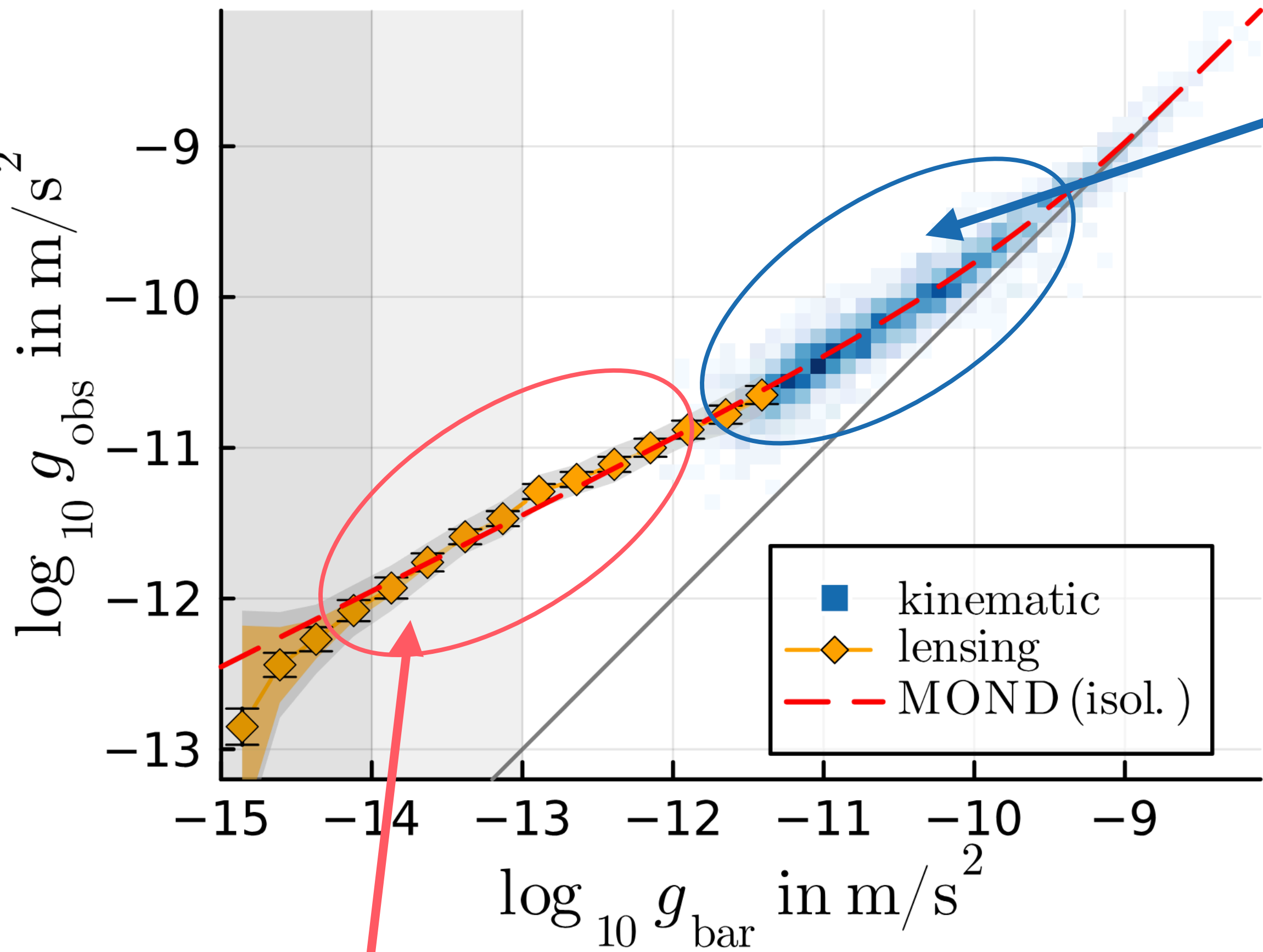


## RAR: Radial acceleration relation

S. McGaugh, F. Lelli & J. Schombert, PRL 117, 201101 (2016)

T. Mistele et al., JCAP 04, 020 (2024)

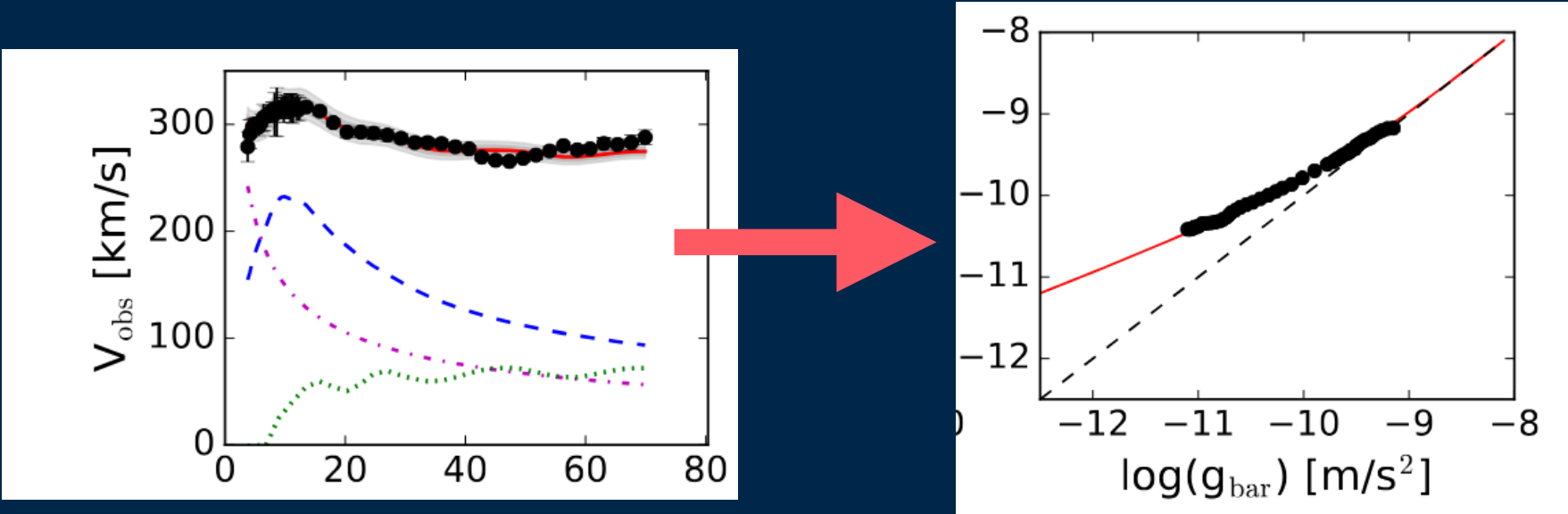
B Famaey & A. Durakovic, ArXiv: 2501.17006



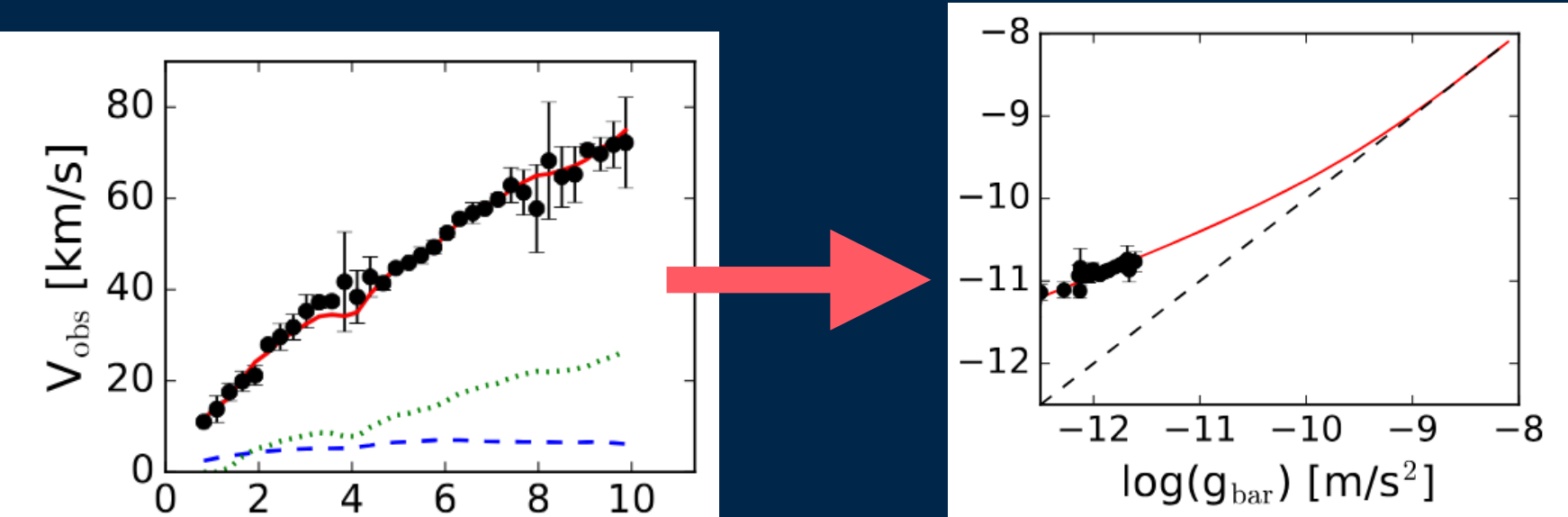
T. Mistele et al., JCAP 04, 020 (2024)

# RAR: Radial acceleration relation

S. McGaugh, F. Lelli & J. Schombert, PRL 117, 201101 (2016)



Li et al., A&A 615, A3 (2018)





## The RAR is a fundamental relation

- Residuals do not correlate significantly with any other quantity
- Strongest dynamical-to-baryonic relation
- Sufficient to explain all other correlations involving radial dynamics
- No other relation possesses these properties

R. Stiskalek & H. Desmond, MNRAS 525, 6130 (2023)

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R. Stiskalek & H. Desmond, MNRAS 525, 6130 (2023)

### Can we understand this in terms of:

- Baryonic physics (e.g. feedback)

Navarro *et al.*, MNRAS 471, 1841 (2017)

Ludlow *et al.*, PRL 118, 161103 (2017)

Paranjape & Sheth, MNRAS 507, 632 (2021)

Challenging view: Desmond, MNRAS 464, 4160 (2017)

- DM physics (e.g. self-interaction, condensate)

### • Self-interacting DM

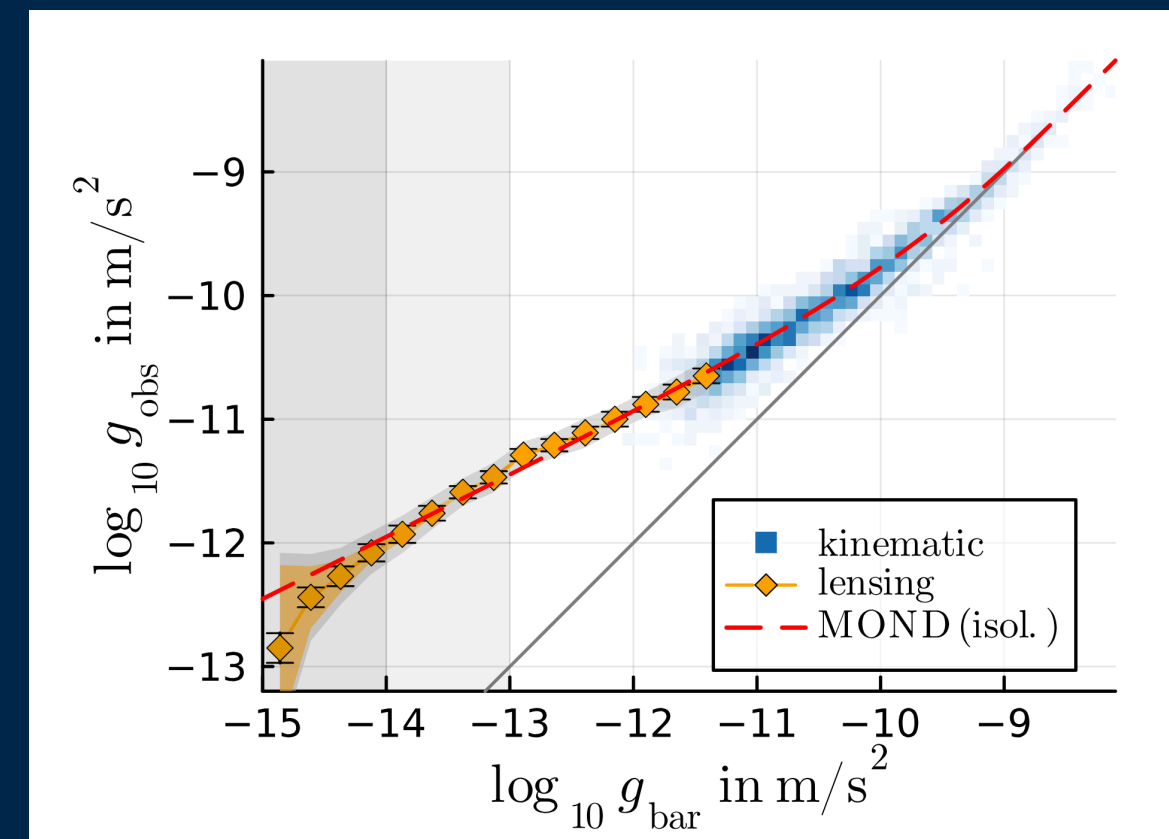
Spergel & Steinhardt, PRL 84, 3760 (2000)

Ren *et al.*, PRX 9, 031020 (2019)

- Deviations from GR

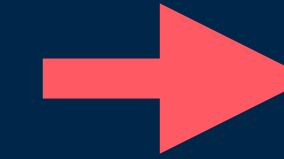
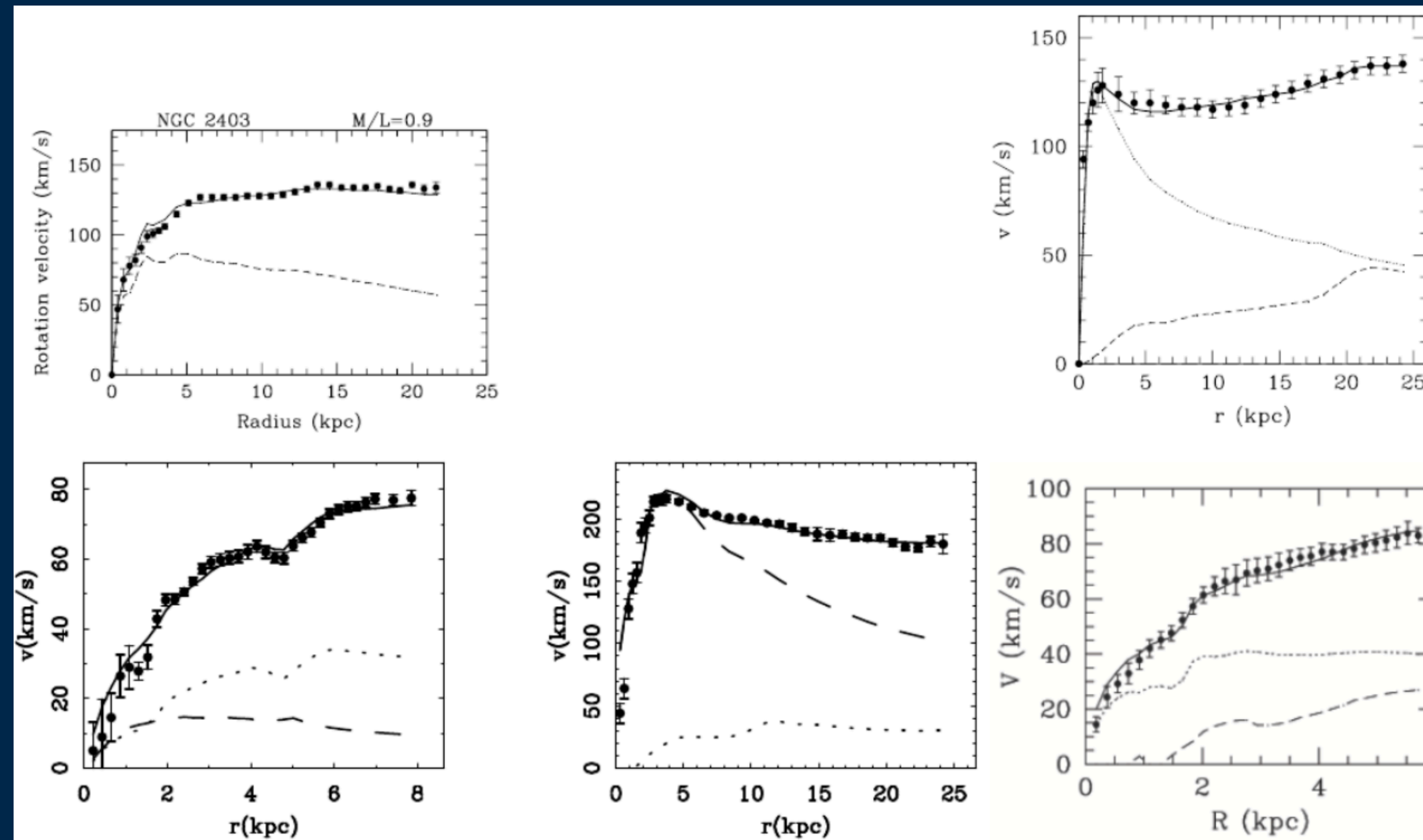
Superfluid dark matter (Khoury & Berezhiani, 2015)

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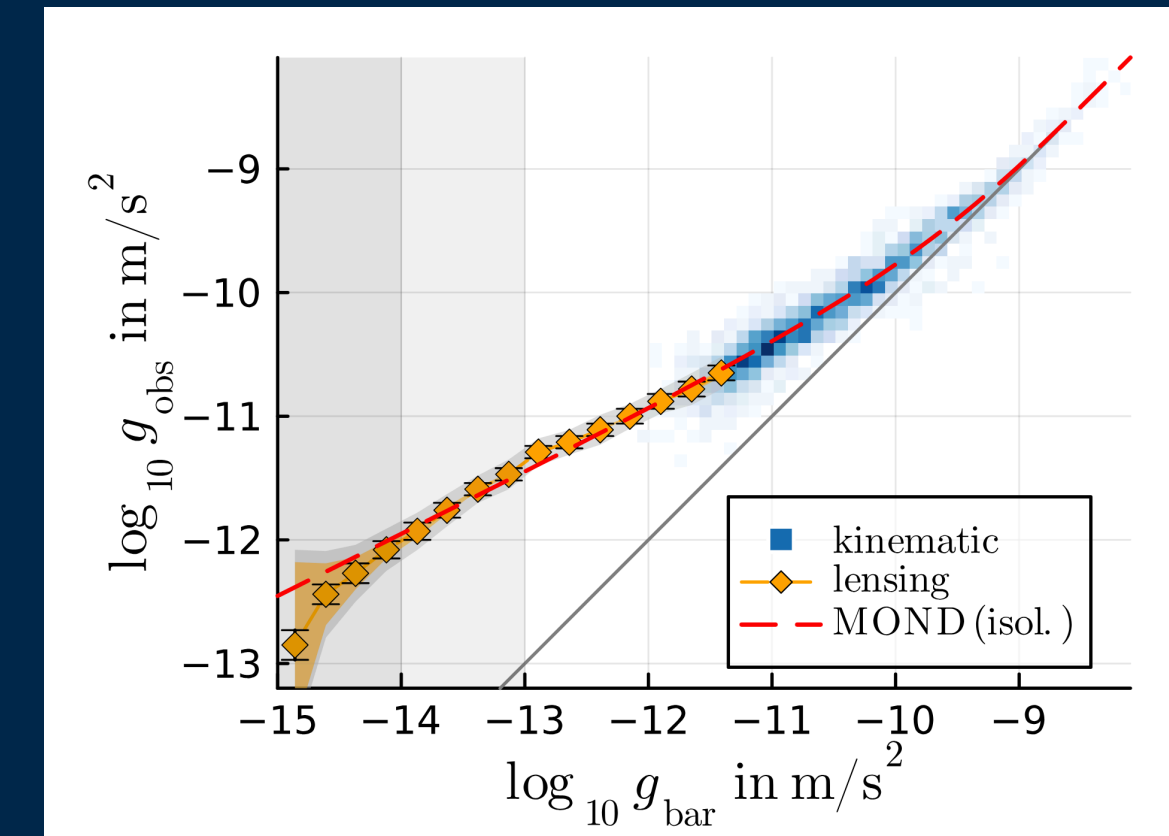




Dynamics  
follows  
baryons



RAR: Radial  
acceleration relation



## Modified Newtonian Dynamics

Milgrom (1983), Bekenstein & Milgrom (1984)

Deviation from Newton when

$$a < a_0 \sim 1.2 \times 10^{-10} m/s^2$$



Universal constant



$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{|\vec{\nabla} \Phi|}{a_0} \vec{\nabla} \Phi \right) = 4\pi G_N \rho$$

Gravitational Lensing

Not valid for

CMB

LSS



GR extension



MOND term  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\Phi|}{a_0} \vec{\nabla}\Phi \right) = 4\pi G_N \rho$

Derivable from an action  $\int d^3x \left( \frac{1}{4\pi G_N} \frac{2}{3a_0} |\vec{\nabla}\Phi|^3 + \Phi \rho \right)$

With  $|\vec{\nabla}\Phi|^3 = \left( |\vec{\nabla}\Phi|^2 \right)^{3/2}$

All models for which a MOND limit exists have this term built-in  
(either for the grav. potential or, more usually, for some other field)

## Restoring Newton: 'interpolation function'

MOND

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\Phi|}{a_0} \vec{\nabla}\Phi \right) = 4\pi G_N \rho$$



$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( f(x) \vec{\nabla}\Phi \right) = 4\pi G_N \rho$$

$x \equiv \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\Phi|}{a_0}$   


$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} x \ll 1 & f \rightarrow 1 \\ x \gg 1 & f \rightarrow x \end{array} \right.$$

Newton (Poisson)  $\vec{\nabla}^2 \Phi = 4\pi G_N \rho$

e.g.  $f = \frac{x}{1+x}$

## Restoring Newton: 'interpolation function'

MOND  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\Phi|}{a_0} \vec{\nabla}\Phi \right) = 4\pi G_N \rho$

Newton (Poisson)  $\vec{\nabla}^2 \Phi = 4\pi G_N \rho$

$x \equiv \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\Phi|}{a_0}$

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{MOND} \\ \text{Newton (Poisson)} \end{array} \right\} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( f(x) \vec{\nabla}\Phi \right) = 4\pi G_N \rho$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} x \ll 1 & f \rightarrow 1 \\ x \gg 1 & f \rightarrow x \end{array} \right.$

e.g.  $f = \frac{x}{1+x}$

**This can only be an effective description at best**

We expect new dof to be there  $\longrightarrow \Phi$  not enough

$f(x)$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Where is it coming from} \\ \text{Non-Fourier expandable} \\ \text{Non-analytic} \end{array} \right.$

$|\vec{\nabla}\Phi| \equiv \sqrt{|\vec{\nabla}\Phi|^2}$



New scalar  $\varphi$  [Bekenstein & Milgrom 1984] -- generalized Brans-Dicke theory (subset of Horndeski)

Suppose that

Always Poisson  $\vec{\nabla}^2 \tilde{\Phi} = 4\pi G_N \frac{\lambda_s}{1 + \lambda_s} \rho$

Always MOND  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{|\vec{\nabla} \varphi|}{a_0} \vec{\nabla} \varphi \right) = 4\pi G_N \rho$

Matter follows  $\vec{\nabla} \Phi = \vec{\nabla} \tilde{\Phi} + \vec{\nabla} \varphi$



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Spherical source:

$$|\vec{\nabla} \tilde{\Phi}| = \frac{\lambda_s}{1 + \lambda_s} \frac{G_N M}{r^2}$$

$$|\vec{\nabla} \varphi| = \frac{\sqrt{a_0 G_N M}}{r}$$

$$|\vec{\nabla} \Phi| \sim \frac{G_N M}{r^2} + \frac{\sqrt{a_0 G_N M}}{r}$$
$$\lambda_s \rightarrow \infty$$

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MOND returns to Newton trivially

Transition at the MOND radius:  $r_M = \sqrt{\frac{G_N M}{a_0}}$

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MOND returns to Newton trivially

But this doesn't work: GR

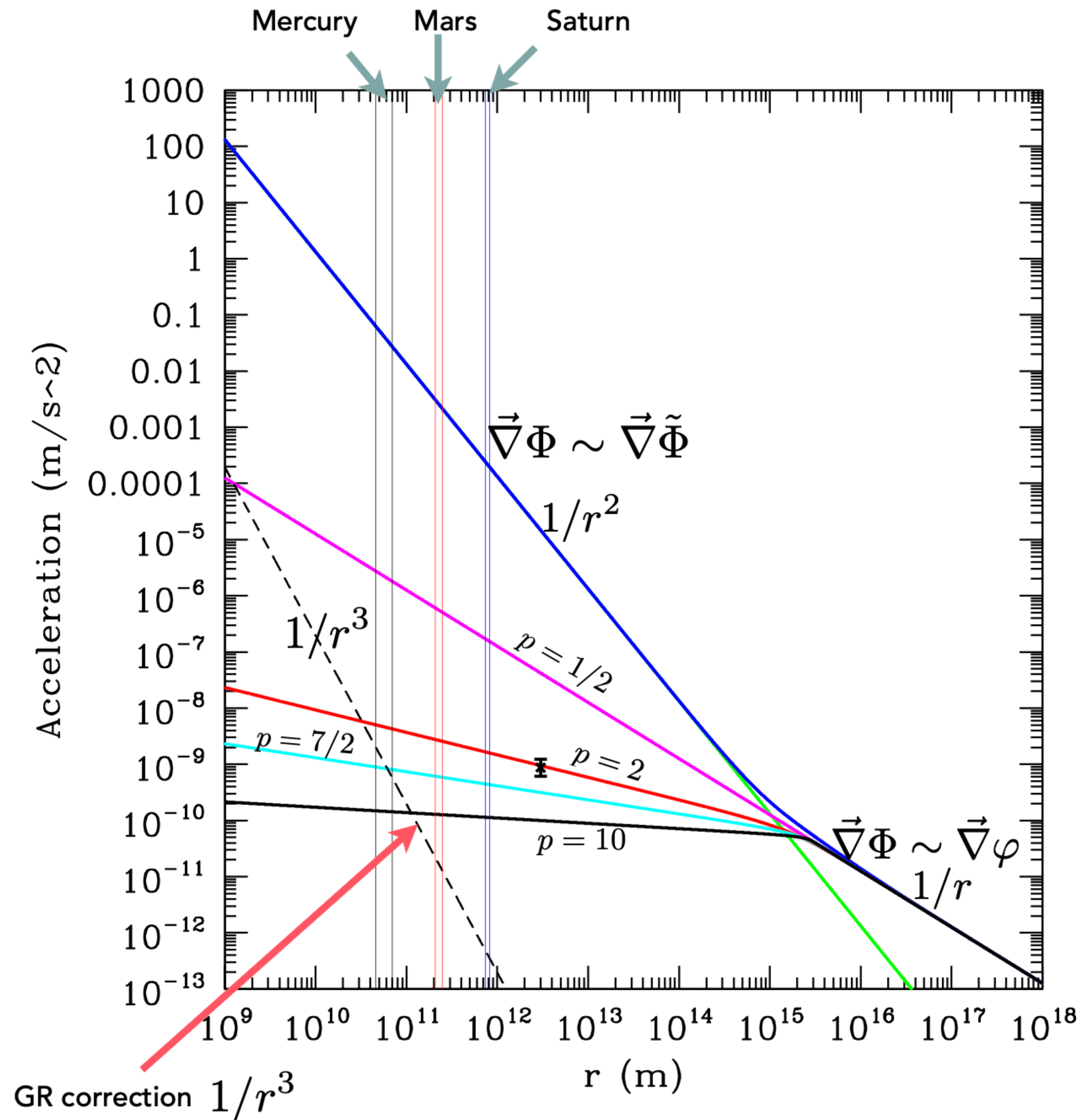
Transition at the MOND radius:  $r_M = \sqrt{\frac{G_N M}{a_0}}$



$$\Phi = \tilde{\Phi} + \varphi$$

Screening

$$\mathcal{L} \sim \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Y}) \sim \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\varphi|^3}{a_0} + \beta_p \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\varphi|^{2(p+1)}}{a_0^{2p}}$$



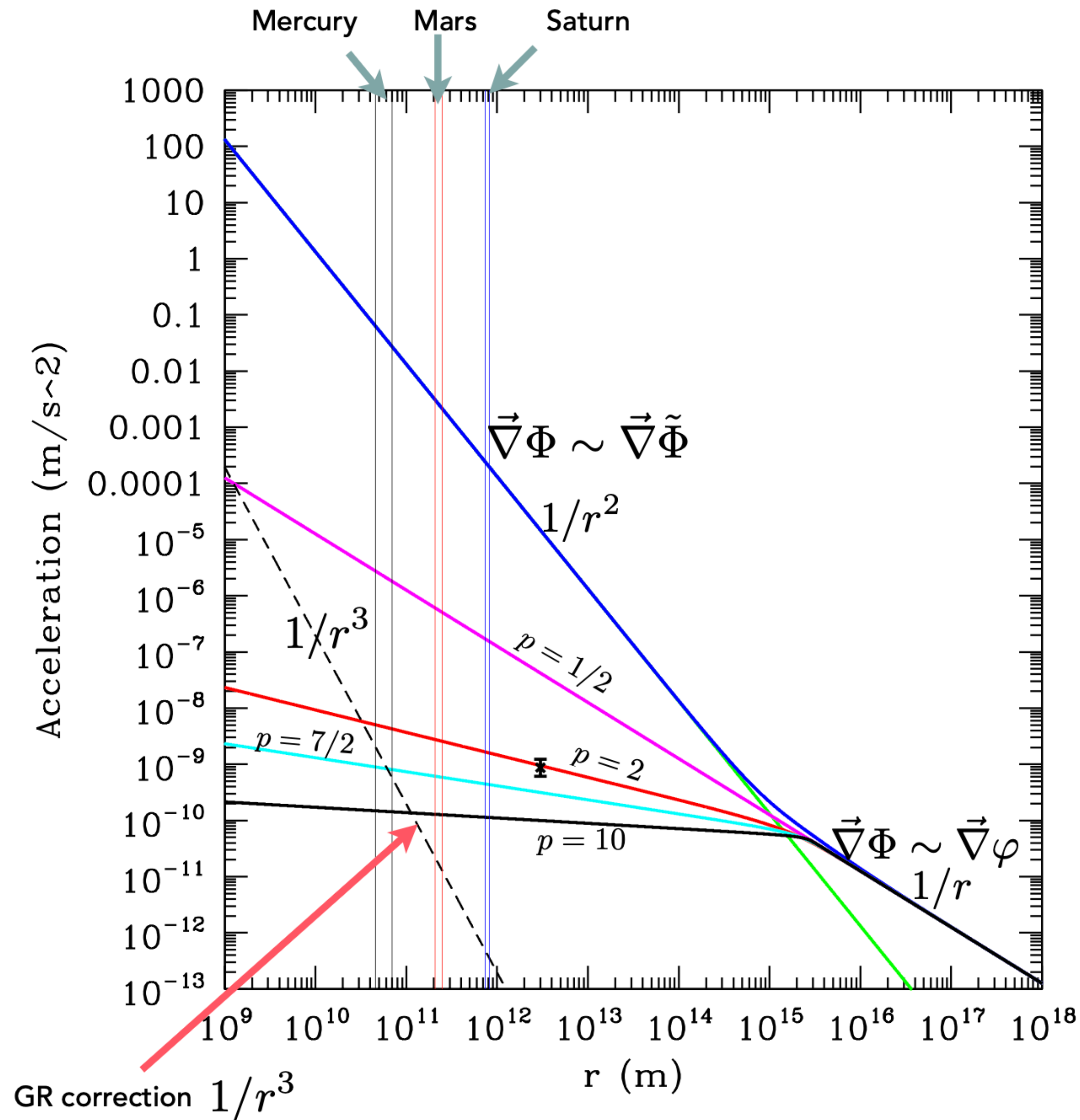


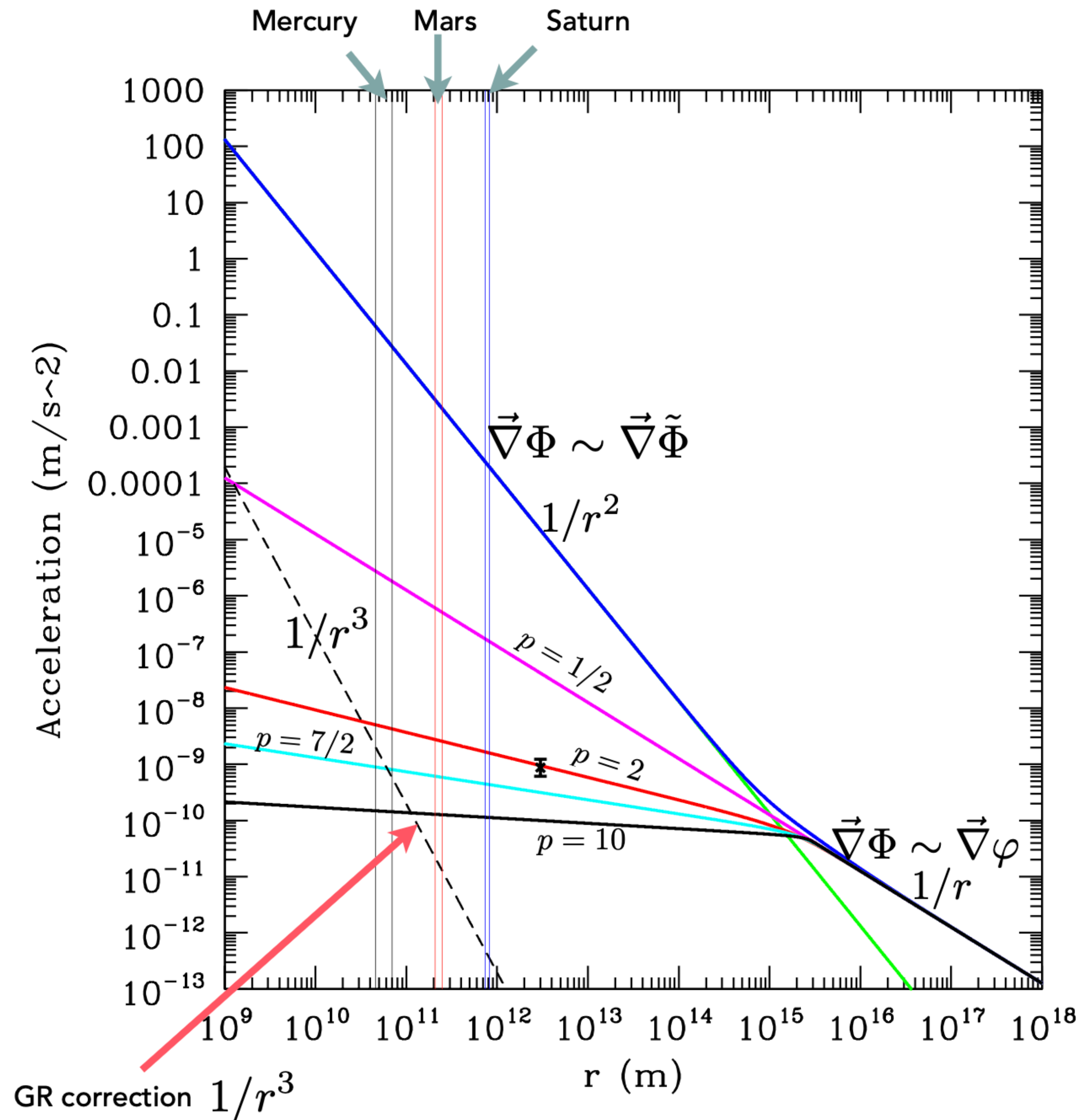
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$$p \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla}\phi \rightarrow \text{const}$$





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$$p \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla}\phi \rightarrow \text{const}$$



$$f \equiv \frac{d\mathcal{J}}{d\mathcal{Y}}$$

Tracking

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left[ f \left( \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\varphi|}{a_0} \right) \vec{\nabla}\varphi \right] = 4\pi G\rho$$

Interpolation function:

$$f \left( \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\varphi|}{a_0} \right)$$

$$\frac{|\vec{\nabla}\varphi|}{a_0} \gg 1$$

Const.

$$\frac{|\vec{\nabla}\varphi|}{a_0} \ll 1$$

$$\frac{|\vec{\nabla}\varphi|}{a_0}$$

?

# Lensing : GR extension

$$ds^2 = a^2 \left[ -(1 + 2\Psi)d\tau^2 + (1 - 2\Phi)d\vec{x} \cdot d\vec{x} \right]$$

NR gravity  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left[ f \left( \frac{|\vec{\nabla}\Psi|}{a_0} \right) \vec{\nabla}\Psi \right] = 4\pi G_N \rho \longrightarrow$  If consistent with dynamics

Then

Assumption:  $\Phi = \Psi \longrightarrow$  this would give the right lensing as if DM is present

Bekenstein-Milgrom 1984

$$\Phi = -\Psi$$

doesn't work



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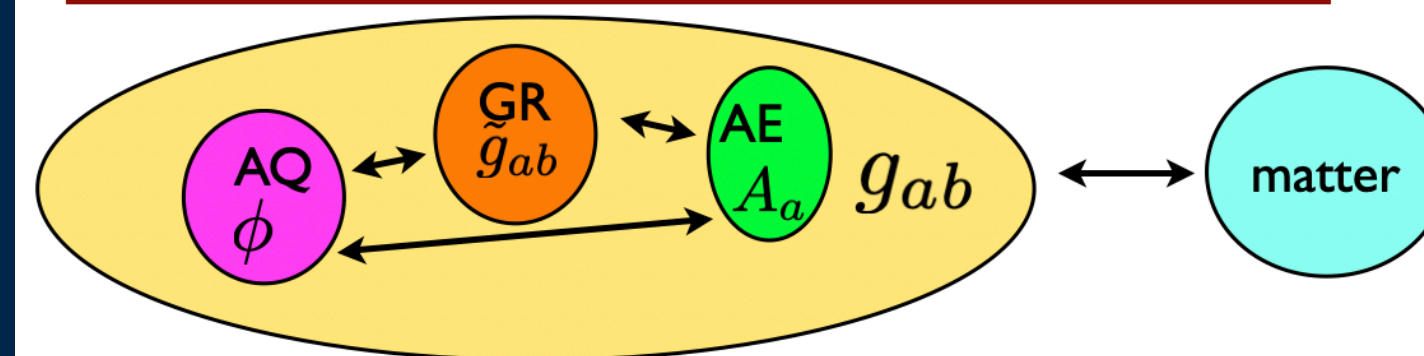
Bekenstein-Milgrom 1984

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doesn't work

few years & theories later

## Tensor-Vector-Scalar (TeVeS) theory



Bekenstein (2004)



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→ If consistent with dynamics

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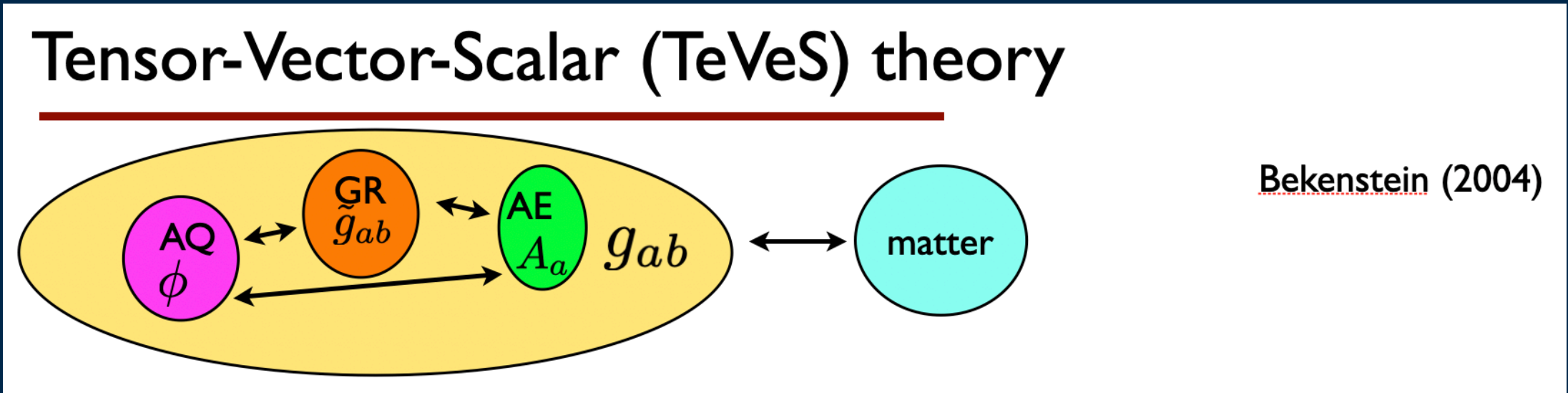
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doesn't work

few years & theories later



Ruled out by CMB

(WMAP 7) CS et al, PRL 96, 011301 (2006)

Ruled out by GW

LIGO + EM counterparts CS & Zlonsik, PRD 96, 011301 (2006)



One metric:

$$g_{\mu\nu}$$

TeVeS theory  
(Sanders (1997), Bekenstein (2004) : two metrics)

Tensor mode speed  $\neq 1$   
Disagreement with CMB

New scalar dof.

$$\phi$$

$\Lambda$ CDM Scherrer (2004)  
Arkani-Hamed et al (2004)

MOND Bekenstein & Milgrom (1984)

Sanders (1997), Bekenstein (2004)  
TeVeS theory

Aether:  
New time-like vector dof.

$$A_{\mu}$$

Gauge ghost condensate  
Cheng et al (2006)

Dirac's new theory of electrons (1963)

Lorentz violation

Einstein-Aether theory  
Jacobson. & Mattingly (2002)

Bumblebee field  
Kostelecky & Samuel,  
PRD 40, 1886 (1989)



C.S. & Zlosnik, PRL 127, 161302 (2021)

# •Aether Scalar Tensor (AeST)

**MOND**

On galactic scales

**$\Lambda$ CDM**

On cosmological scales

One metric:

$$g_{\mu\nu}$$

TeVeS theory  
(Sanders (1997), Bekenstein (2004) : two metrics)

Tensor mode speed  $\neq 1$   
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New scalar dof.

$$\phi$$

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Scherrer (2004)  
Arkani-Hamed et al (2004)

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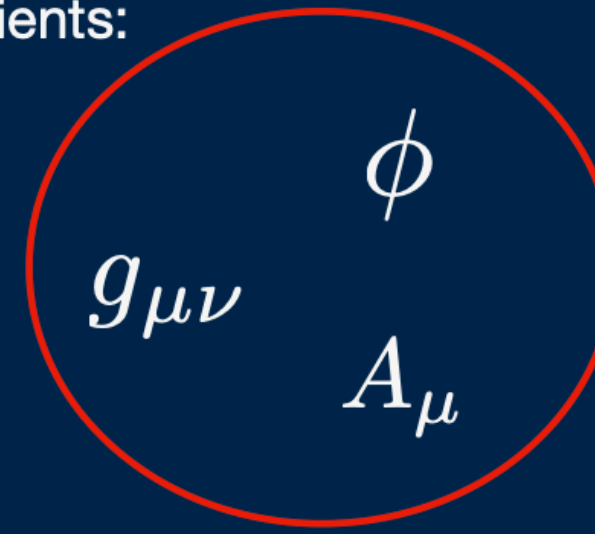
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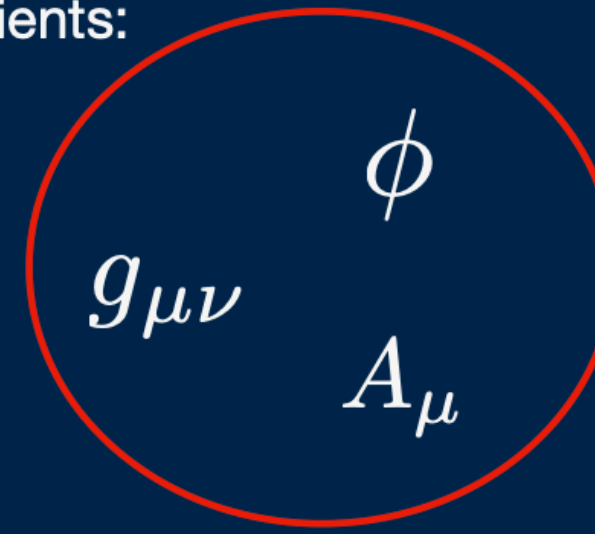
Ingredients:

Shift symmetry:  $\phi \rightarrow \phi + \text{const}$ 

$$S = \int d^4x \frac{\sqrt{-g}}{16\pi\tilde{G}} \left\{ R - 2\Lambda - \frac{K_B}{2} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} + (2 - K_B) (2J^\mu \nabla_\mu \phi - \mathcal{Y}) - \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}) - \lambda(A^\mu A_\mu + 1) \right\} + S_m[g]$$



Ingredients:

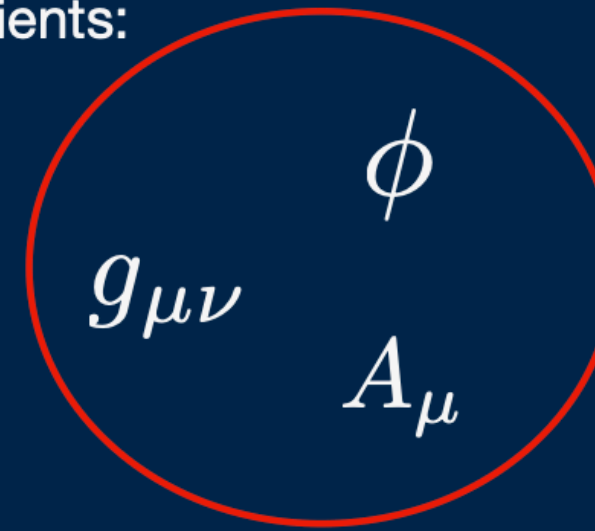


Tensor mode speed = 1

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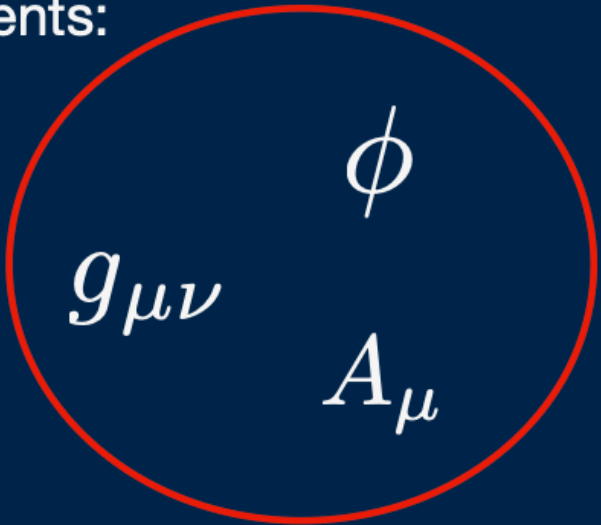
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$$F_{\mu\nu} \equiv \nabla_\mu A_\nu - \nabla_\nu A_\mu$$

$$J_\mu \equiv A^\nu \nabla_\nu A_\mu$$

Ingredients:



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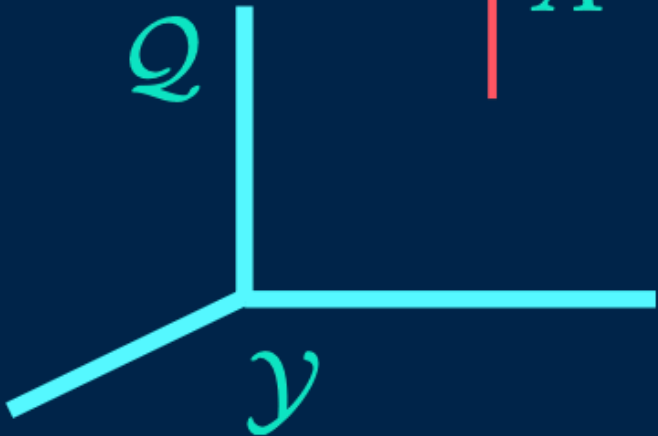
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Matter couples only to  $g_{\mu\nu}$  (EEP but not SEP obeyed)

$F_{\mu\nu} \equiv \nabla_\mu A_\nu - \nabla_\nu A_\mu$

$J_\mu \equiv A^\nu \nabla_\nu A_\mu$

$\nabla_\mu \phi$



Preferred frame

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \mathcal{Y} &\equiv (g^{\mu\nu} + A^\mu A^\nu) \nabla_\mu \phi \nabla_\nu \phi \\ \mathcal{Q} &\equiv A^\mu \nabla_\mu \phi \end{aligned} \right.$$



## AeST: FLRW cosmology

$$\phi = \bar{\phi}(t)$$

$$A^0 \rightarrow 1$$

$$ds^2 = -dt^2 + a^2 d\vec{x}^2$$



$$\mathcal{Y} = 0$$

$$\mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{Q}(t)$$

FLRW: no spatial gradients



$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}) \rightarrow -2\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{Q})$$

Shift-symmetric K-essence

Energy density

$$8\pi\tilde{G}\rho_\phi = \mathcal{Q}\frac{d\mathcal{K}}{d\mathcal{Q}} - \mathcal{K}$$

Design  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{Q})$  To give  $\Lambda_{\text{CDM}}$  evolution for FLRW

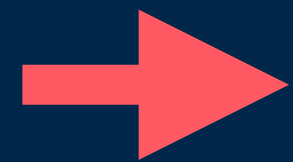


## The Scherrer model

### Shift-symmetric k-essence:

Scherrer, Phys.Rev.Lett. 93, 011301 (2004)

$$\mathcal{L} \sim K_2 (X + X_0)^2 \quad \text{with} \quad X \equiv g^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \phi \nabla_\nu \phi \rightarrow -\dot{\phi}^2$$



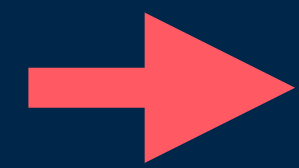
**Dust solutions on FLRW**

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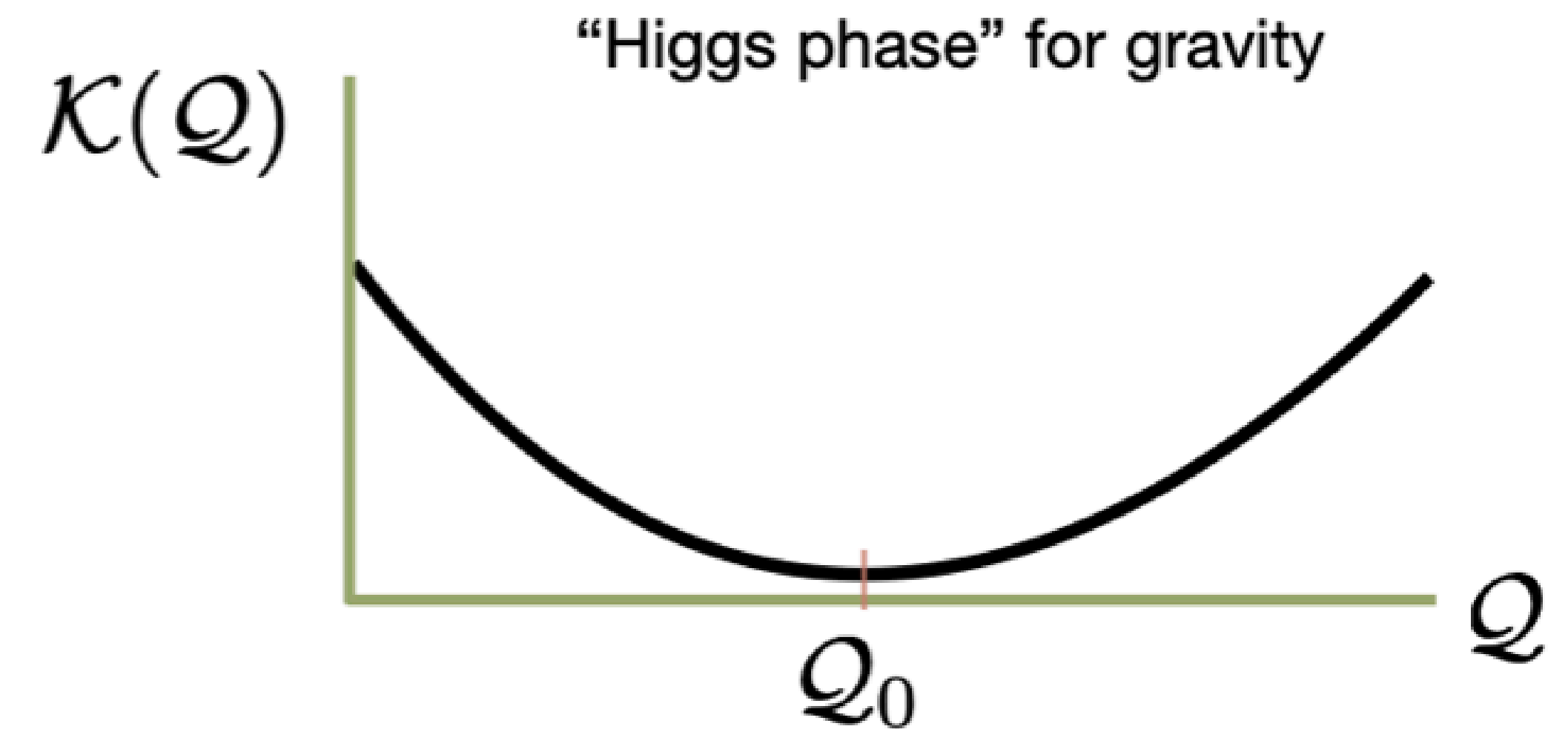
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Dust solutions on FLRW

### FLRW Limit of Ghost condensate

Arkani-Hamed et al., JHEP 05, 074 (2004)

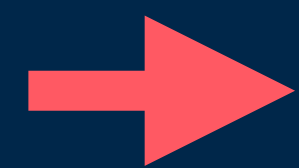


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**Dust solutions on FLRW**

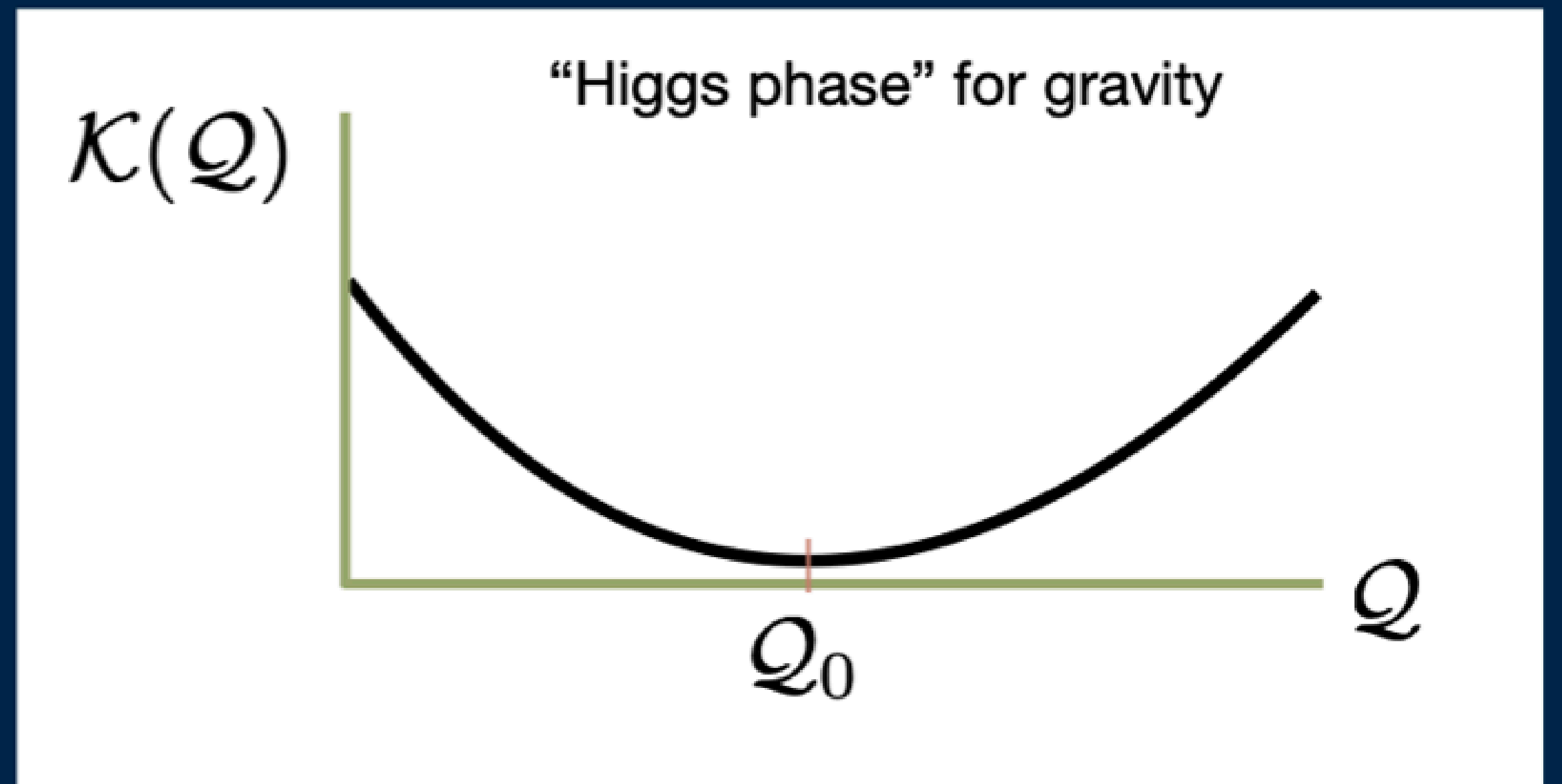
Adapt to AeST setting:

$$X \rightarrow \mathcal{Q} = \dot{\phi}$$

$$\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{Q}) = \mathcal{K}_2 (\mathcal{Q} - \mathcal{Q}_0)^2 + \dots$$

### FLRW Limit of Ghost condensate

Arkani-Hamed et al., JHEP 05, 074 (2004)





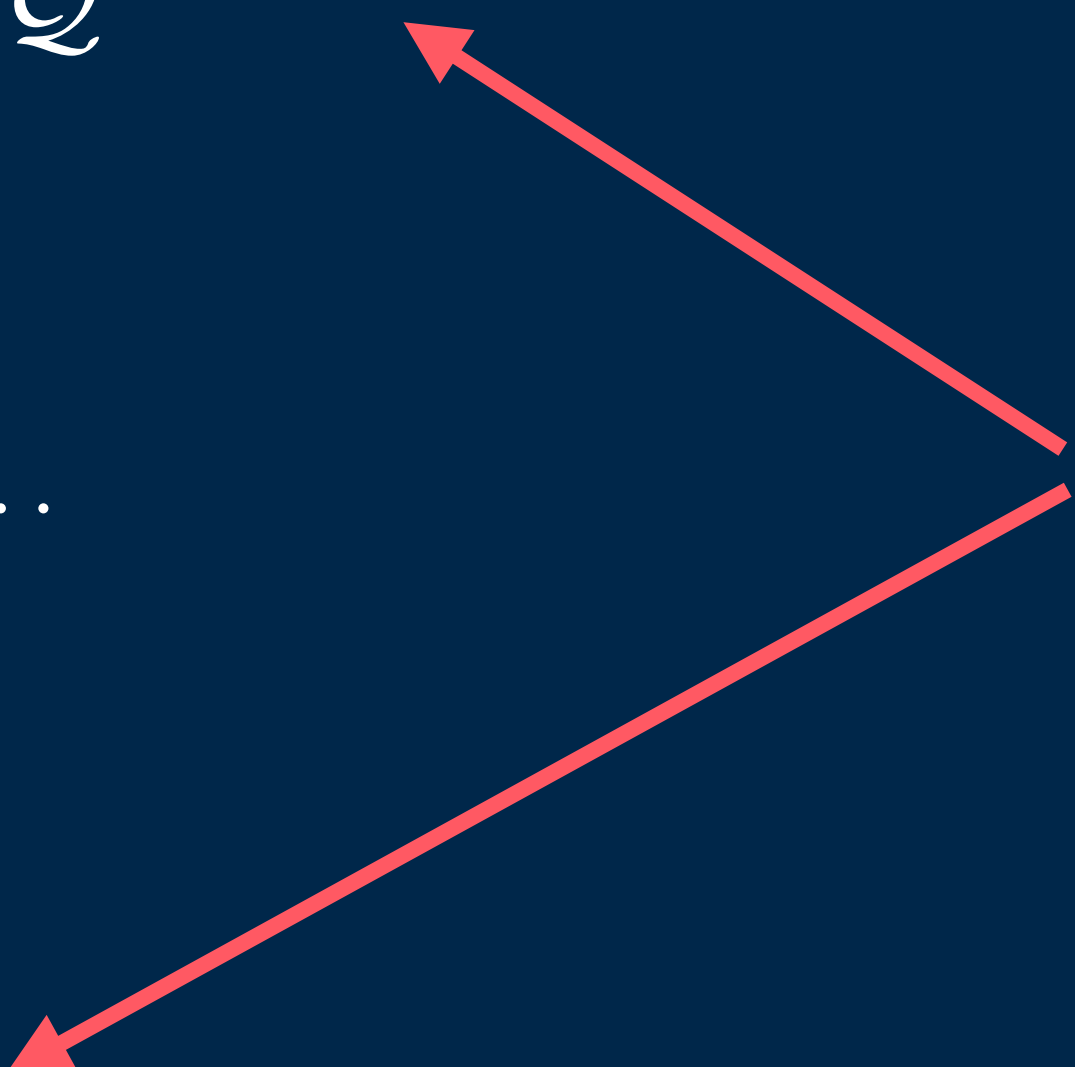
## FLRW in the Scherrer model

$$\text{FLRW EOM: } \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{d\mathcal{K}}{d\mathcal{Q}} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{d\mathcal{K}}{d\mathcal{Q}} = I_0$$

Now Taylor expand:  $\frac{d\mathcal{K}}{d\mathcal{Q}} = 2\mathcal{K}_2 (\mathcal{Q} - \mathcal{Q}_0) + \dots$

Initial condition



$$\mathcal{Q} = \dot{\phi} = \mathcal{Q}_0 + \frac{I_0 / (2\mathcal{K}_2)}{a^3} + \dots$$

At least two parameters:  $\mathcal{Q}_0$   $\mathcal{K}_2$   
One initial condition:  $I_0$



## FLRW in the Scherrer model

$$Q = \dot{\phi} = Q_0 + \frac{I_0/(2\mathcal{K}_2)}{a^3} + \dots$$

Now Taylor expand the stress-energy tensor:

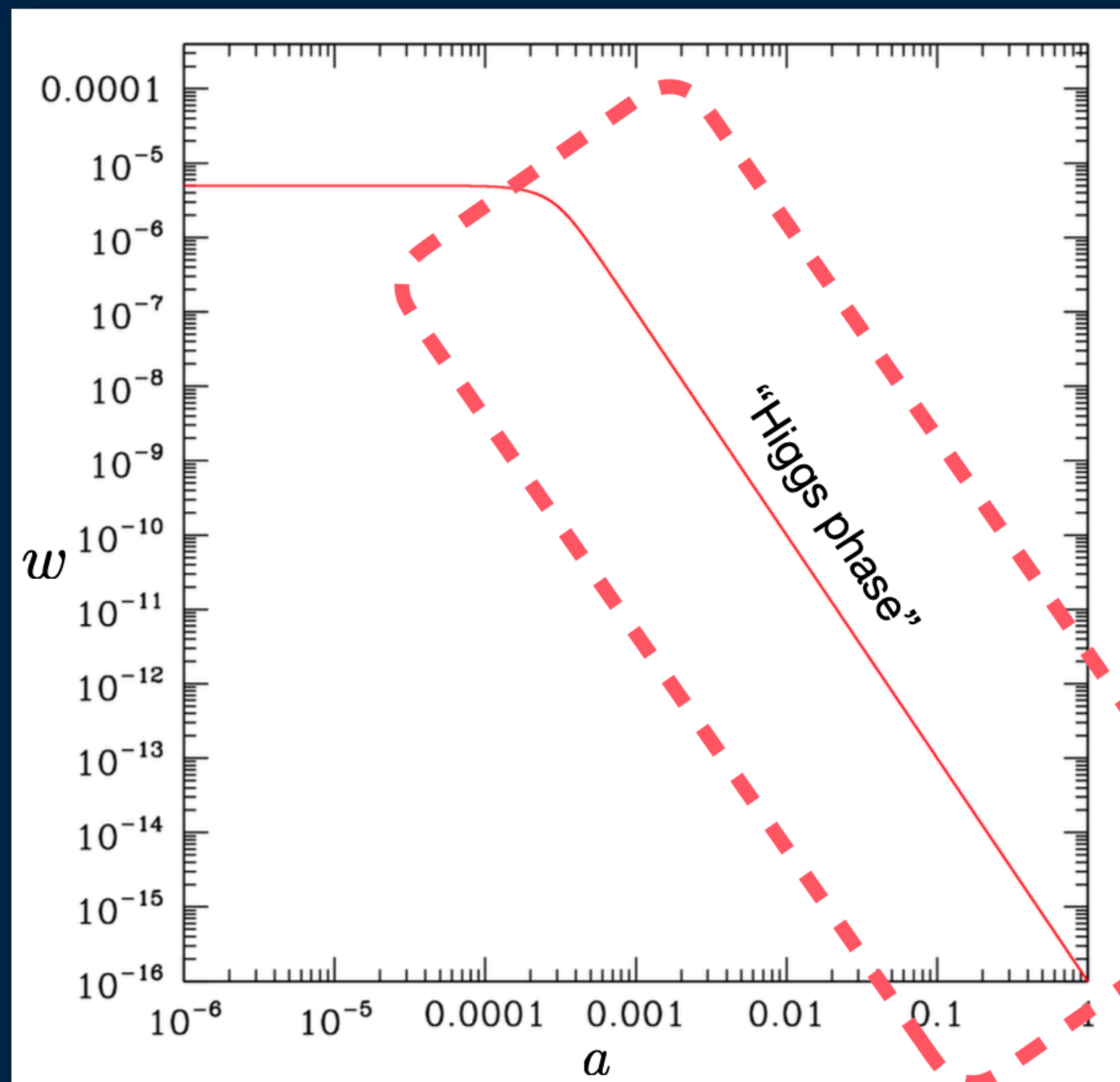
Higgs phase: effective dust

$$\rho = \frac{Q_0 I_0}{a^3} + \dots \quad \text{Density}$$

$$w = \frac{w_0}{a^3} + \dots \quad \text{Equation of state}$$

$$c_{\text{ad}}^2 = \frac{w_0}{a^3} + \dots \quad \text{Adiabatic sound speed}$$

Equation of state  $w(t)$



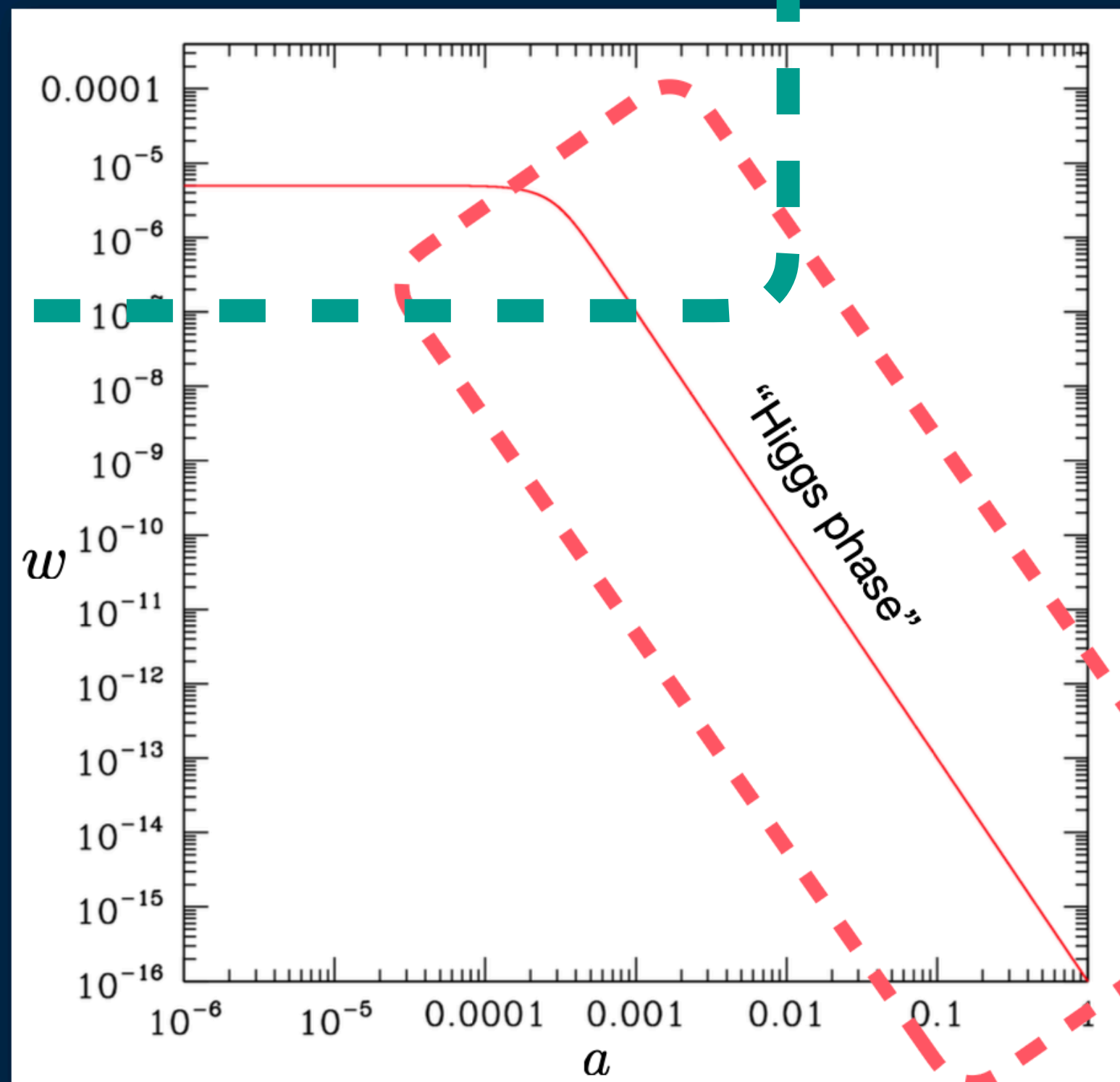
Late region: universal

# FLRW in the Scherrer model

$$Q = \dot{\phi} = Q_0 + \frac{I_0/(2\mathcal{K}_2)}{a^3} + \dots$$

Now Taylor expand the stress-energy tensor:

Early region: depends on form of  $\mathcal{K}(Q)$



Higgs phase: effective dust

$$\rho = \frac{Q_0 I_0}{a^3} + \dots \quad \text{Density}$$

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Late region: universal

# Quasistatic weak-field limit

$$ds^2 = -(1 + 2\Psi) dt^2 + (1 - 2\Phi) d\vec{x}^2$$

$$\phi = \mathcal{Q}_0 t + \varphi(\vec{x})$$

$$A^0 = 1 - \Psi$$

$$A_i = \vec{\nabla}_i \alpha + (\vec{\nabla} \times \beta)_i$$

 suppressed

Symmetry:

$$A_i \rightarrow A_i - \vec{\nabla}_i \xi_T$$
$$\dot{\xi}_T = 0 \quad \varphi \rightarrow \varphi + \mathcal{Q}_0 \xi_T$$

Ignoring curl, set

$$A_i = 0$$



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$$\vec{\nabla} \phi = \vec{\nabla} \varphi$$

$$\mathcal{Y} \rightarrow |\vec{\nabla} \varphi|^2$$
$$\mathcal{Q} \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}_0$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}) \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Y})$$

## Quasistatic weak-field limit

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$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}) \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Y})$$

$$\text{Field equations} \longrightarrow \Psi = \Phi \quad (\text{lensing works})$$



## Quasistatic Field equations (not MOND)

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 \tilde{\Phi} + \mu^2 \Phi = \frac{8\pi \tilde{G}}{2 - K_B} \rho$$

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 \tilde{\Phi} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{d\mathcal{J}}{d\mathcal{Y}} \vec{\nabla} \varphi \right)$$

Baryon density

Acceleration

$$\vec{\nabla} \Phi = \vec{\nabla} \tilde{\Phi} + \vec{\nabla} \varphi$$

$$\mu^2 = \frac{2\mathcal{K}_2 Q_0^2}{2 - K_B}$$

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Acceleration

$$\vec{\nabla} \Phi = \vec{\nabla} \tilde{\Phi} + \vec{\nabla} \varphi$$

$$\mu \rightarrow 0$$

$$\tilde{\Phi} \approx \frac{G_N M}{r}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{d\mathcal{J}}{d\mathcal{Y}} \vec{\nabla} \varphi \right) \approx \frac{8\pi \tilde{G}}{2 - K_B} \rho$$

MOND

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MOND

Parameter

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Y}) \rightarrow \lambda_s \mathcal{Y} = \lambda_s |\vec{\nabla} \phi|^2 \quad |\vec{\nabla} \phi| \gg a_0$$

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Y}) \rightarrow \frac{\lambda_s}{1 + \lambda_s} \frac{\mathcal{Y}^{3/2}}{a_0} = \frac{\lambda_s}{1 + \lambda_s} \frac{|\vec{\nabla} \varphi|^3}{a_0} \quad |\vec{\nabla} \phi| \ll a_0$$

Parameter

Example: 
$$\mathcal{J} = \lambda_s \left\{ \mathcal{Y} - 2a_0(1 + \lambda_s)\sqrt{\mathcal{Y}} + 2(1 + \lambda_s)^2 a_0^2 \ln \left[ 1 + \frac{\sqrt{\mathcal{Y}}}{(1 + \lambda_s)a_0} \right] \right\}$$



# Quasistatic Field equations (not MOND)

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 \tilde{\Phi} + \mu^2 \Phi = \frac{8\pi \tilde{G}}{2 - K_B} \rho$$

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 \tilde{\Phi} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{d\mathcal{J}}{d\mathcal{Y}} \vec{\nabla} \varphi \right)$$

Baryon density

$$\mu^2 = \frac{2\mathcal{K}_2 Q_0^2}{2 - K_B}$$

Acceleration

$$\vec{\nabla} \Phi = \vec{\nabla} \tilde{\Phi} + \vec{\nabla} \varphi$$

Observed Newton's constant

$$G_N = \frac{1 + \frac{1}{\lambda_s}}{1 - \frac{K_B}{2}} \tilde{G}$$

$$\mu \rightarrow 0$$

$$\tilde{\Phi} \approx \frac{G_N M}{r}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left( \frac{d\mathcal{J}}{d\mathcal{Y}} \vec{\nabla} \varphi \right) \approx \frac{8\pi \tilde{G}}{2 - K_B} \rho$$

MOND

Parameter

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Y}) \rightarrow \lambda_s \mathcal{Y} = \lambda_s |\vec{\nabla} \phi|^2$$

$$|\vec{\nabla} \phi| \gg a_0$$

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Y}) \rightarrow \frac{\lambda_s}{1 + \lambda_s} \frac{\mathcal{Y}^{3/2}}{a_0} = \frac{\lambda_s}{1 + \lambda_s} \frac{|\vec{\nabla} \varphi|^3}{a_0}$$

$$|\vec{\nabla} \phi| \ll a_0$$

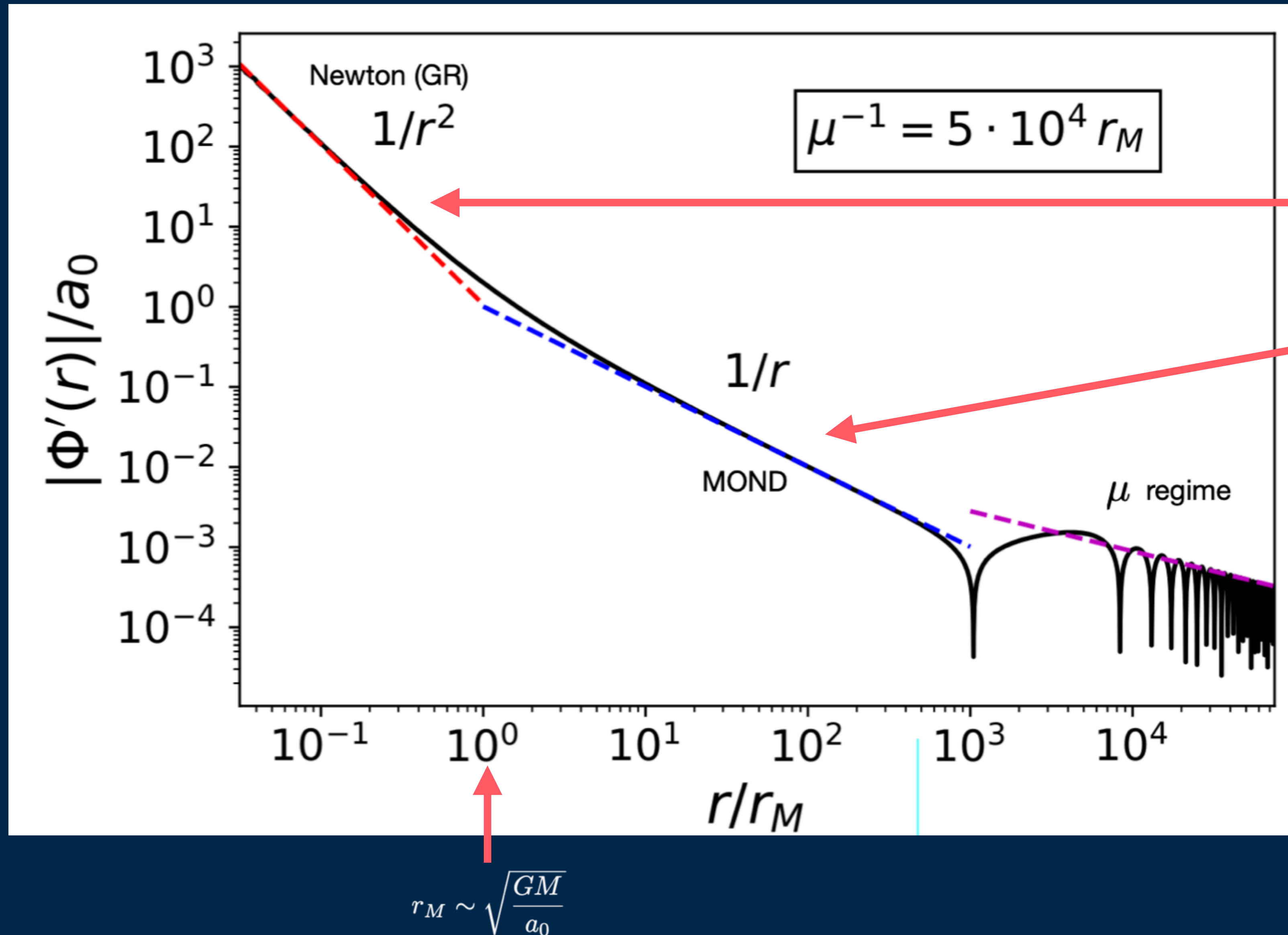
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# AeST: Quasistatic limit

Verwayen, Boehm, C.S., MNRAS 531, 272 (2024)

Durakovic & C.S., JCAP 04 (2024) 040



$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}_0) \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$$

Inherited from TeVeS

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Q}_0) \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}^{3/2}/a_0$$

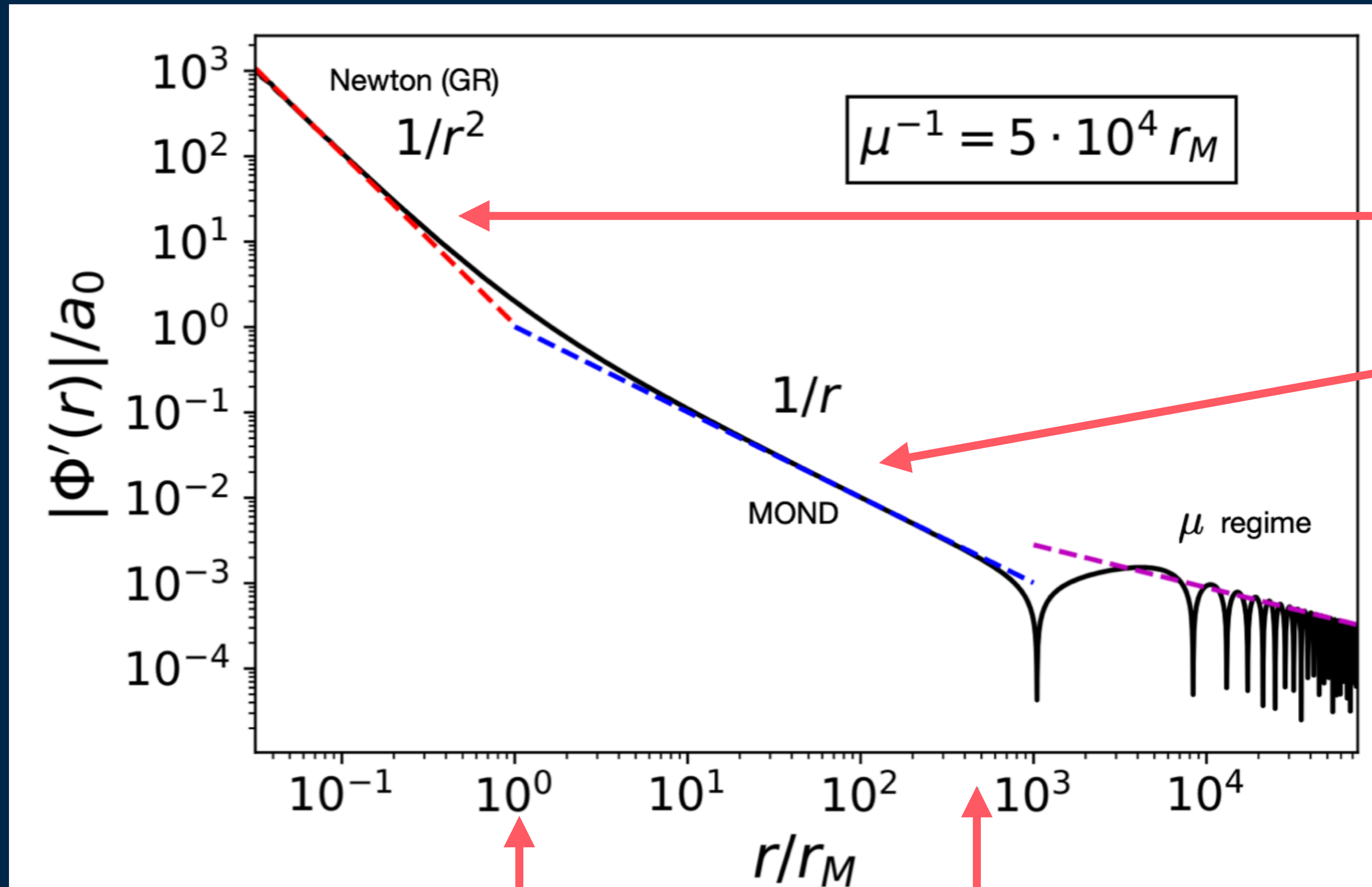
$$\Phi = \Psi \quad \text{Lensing}$$



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$$\Phi = \Psi \quad \text{Lensing}$$

$$r_M \sim \sqrt{\frac{GM}{a_0}}$$

$$r_C \sim \left(\frac{r_M}{\mu^2}\right)^{1/3}$$

New scale

$$\mu^{-1} \gtrsim Mpc$$

(Observationally)

$$(\mu \lesssim 6 \times 10^{-30} eV)$$

# Back to cosmology

MOND compatibility

$$\mu^2 = \frac{2\mathcal{K}_2}{2 - K_B} Q_0^2$$

$$\mu^{-1} \gtrsim Mpc$$

Higgs phase:

$$w \approx \frac{w_0}{a^3} + \dots$$

$$w_0 = \frac{3H_0^2 \Omega_Q}{4Q_0^2 \mathcal{K}_2} = \frac{3H_0^2 \Omega_Q}{2(2 - K_B) \mu^2}$$

$$w_0 \gtrsim 10^{-8}$$

$$w_{rec} \sim O(1)$$

Data:  $w_{rec} \lesssim 10^{-4}$

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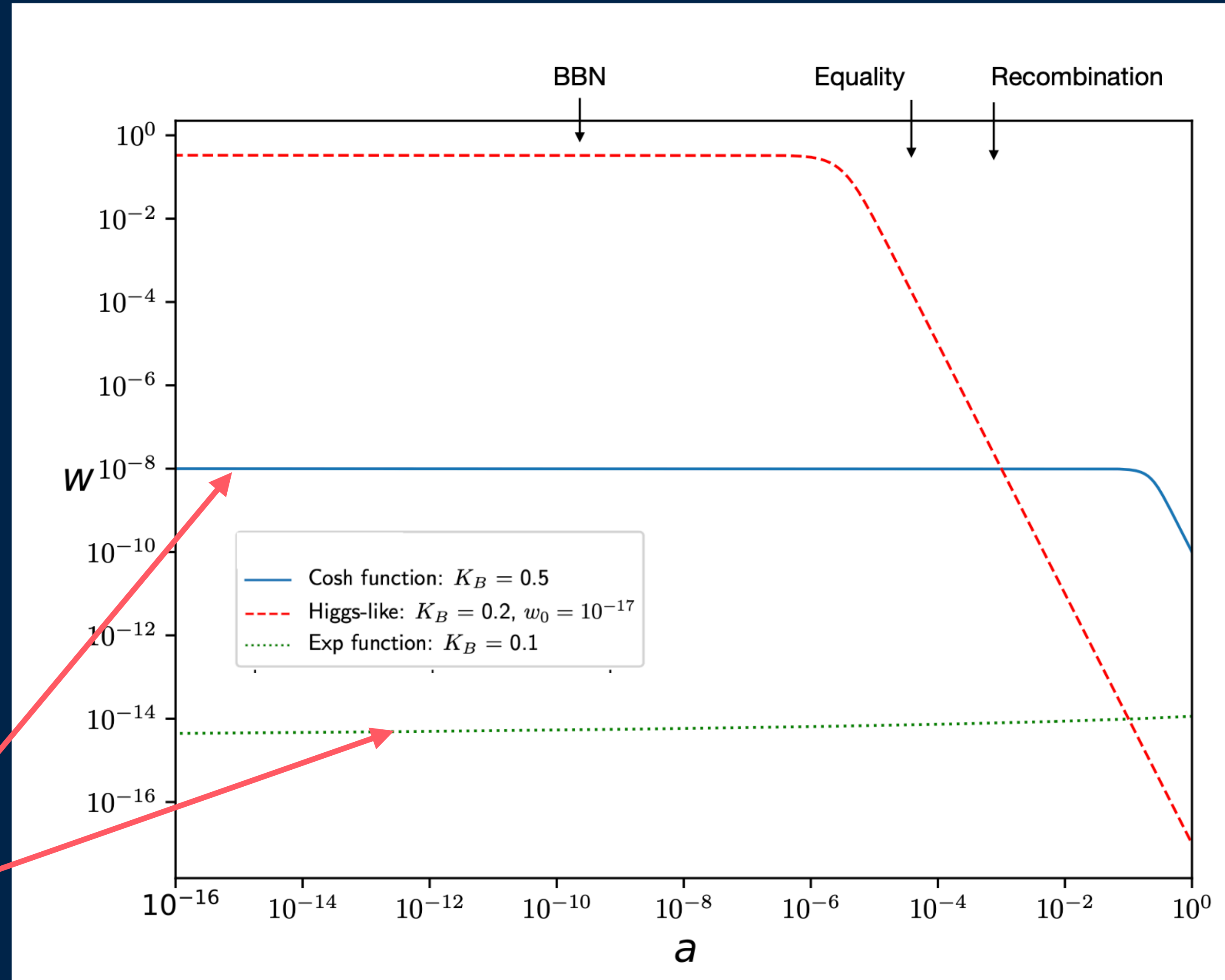
$$w_{rec} \sim O(1)$$

Data:  $w_{rec} \lesssim 10^{-4}$

$$w \ll 1$$

$$c_{ad}^2 \equiv w - \frac{1}{3(1+w)} \frac{dw}{d \ln a} \ll 1$$

FLRW "Equation of state"  $w = \text{Pressure} / \text{density}$





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Higgs-like  $\mathcal{K} \sim (Q^2 - Q_0^2)^2$



Cosh  $\mathcal{K} \sim \cosh\left(\frac{Q - Q_0}{Z_0}\right)$

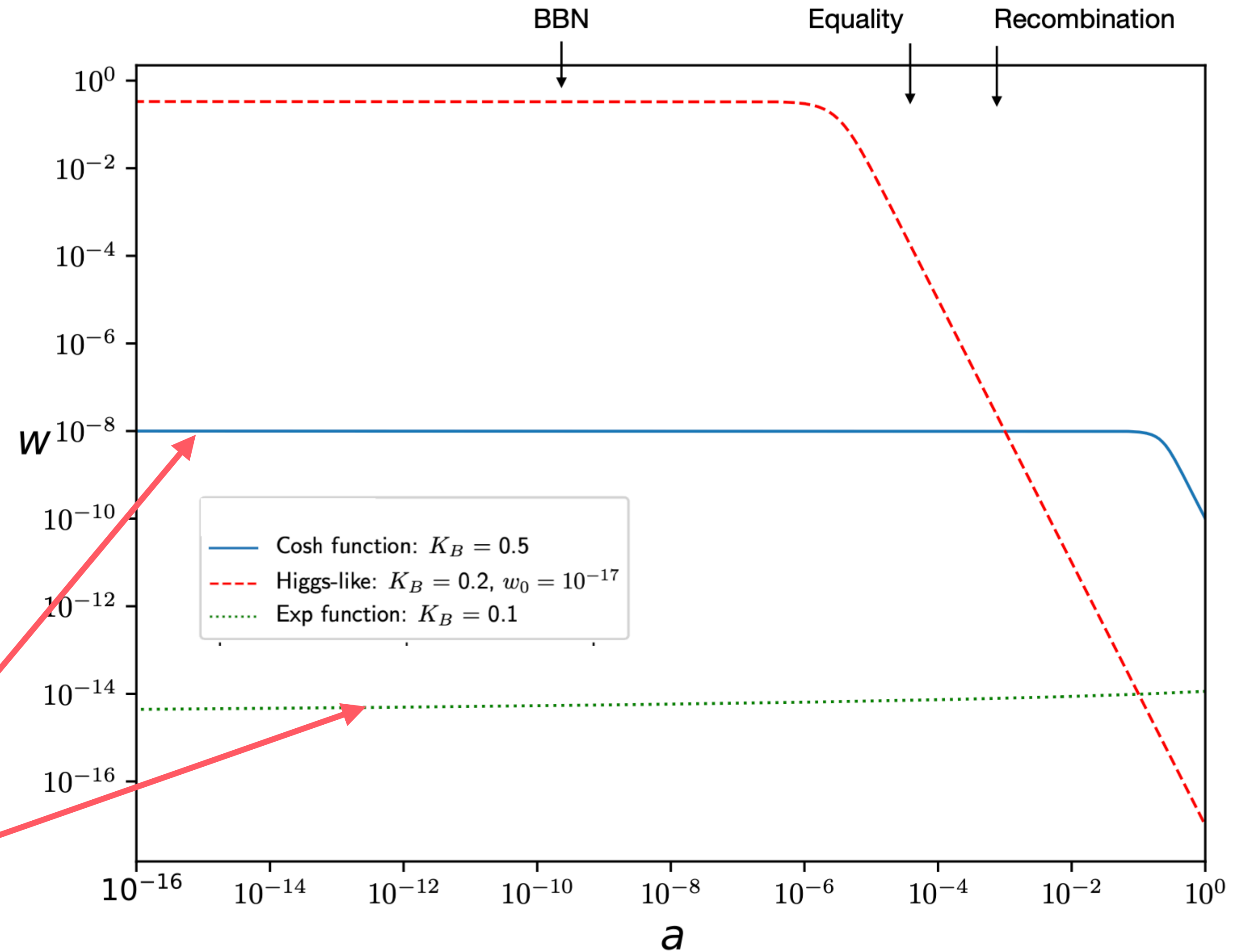


Exp  $\mathcal{K} \sim e^{\left(\frac{Q - Q_0}{Z_0}\right)^2}$

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FLRW "Equation of state"  $w = \text{Pressure} / \text{density}$





# linear fluctuations around FLRW

$$ds^2 = -(1 + 2\Psi) dt^2 + a^2 (1 - 2\Phi) d\vec{x}^2$$

$$\phi = \bar{\phi} + \varphi$$

$$A_i = \vec{\nabla}_i \alpha$$

$$E = \dot{\alpha} + \Psi$$

$$\chi = \varphi + \dot{\bar{\phi}} \alpha$$

$$\gamma = \dot{\varphi} - \dot{\bar{\phi}} \Psi$$

Density contrast  $\delta = \frac{1+w}{\dot{\bar{\phi}} c_{\text{ad}}^2} \gamma + \frac{1}{8\pi G a^2 \bar{\rho}} \vec{\nabla}^2 [K_B E + (2 - K_B) \chi]$

Velocity divergence  $\theta = \frac{\varphi}{\dot{\bar{\phi}}}$

Pressure contrast  $\Pi = c_{\text{ad}}^2 \delta - \frac{c_{\text{ad}}^2}{8\pi G a^2 \bar{\rho}} \vec{\nabla}^2 [K_B E + (2 - K_B) \chi]$

Fluid-like

$$\dot{\delta} = 3H (w\delta - \Pi) + (1+w) \left( 3\dot{\Phi} - \frac{k^2}{a^2} \theta \right)$$

$$\dot{\theta} = 3c_{\text{ad}}^2 H \theta + \frac{\Pi}{1+w} + \Psi$$

Field

$$K_B (\dot{E} + H E) = \frac{d\mathcal{K}}{d\mathcal{Q}} \chi - (2 - K_B) \left[ \frac{\dot{\bar{\phi}}}{1+w} \Pi + (H + \dot{\bar{\phi}}) \chi - 3c_{\text{ad}}^2 H \dot{\bar{\phi}} \alpha \right]$$

$$\dot{\alpha} = E - \Psi$$

$$w \rightarrow 0$$

$$c_{\text{ad}} \rightarrow 0$$

CDM-like

$$\dot{\delta} \approx 3\dot{\Phi} - \frac{k^2}{a^2} \theta$$

$$\dot{\theta} \approx \Psi$$

Field (decoupled)

$$K_B (\dot{E} + H E) \approx \left[ \frac{3H_0^2 \Omega_0 \mathcal{Q}}{a^3} - (2 - K_B) H \mathcal{Q}_0 \right] (\theta + \alpha)$$



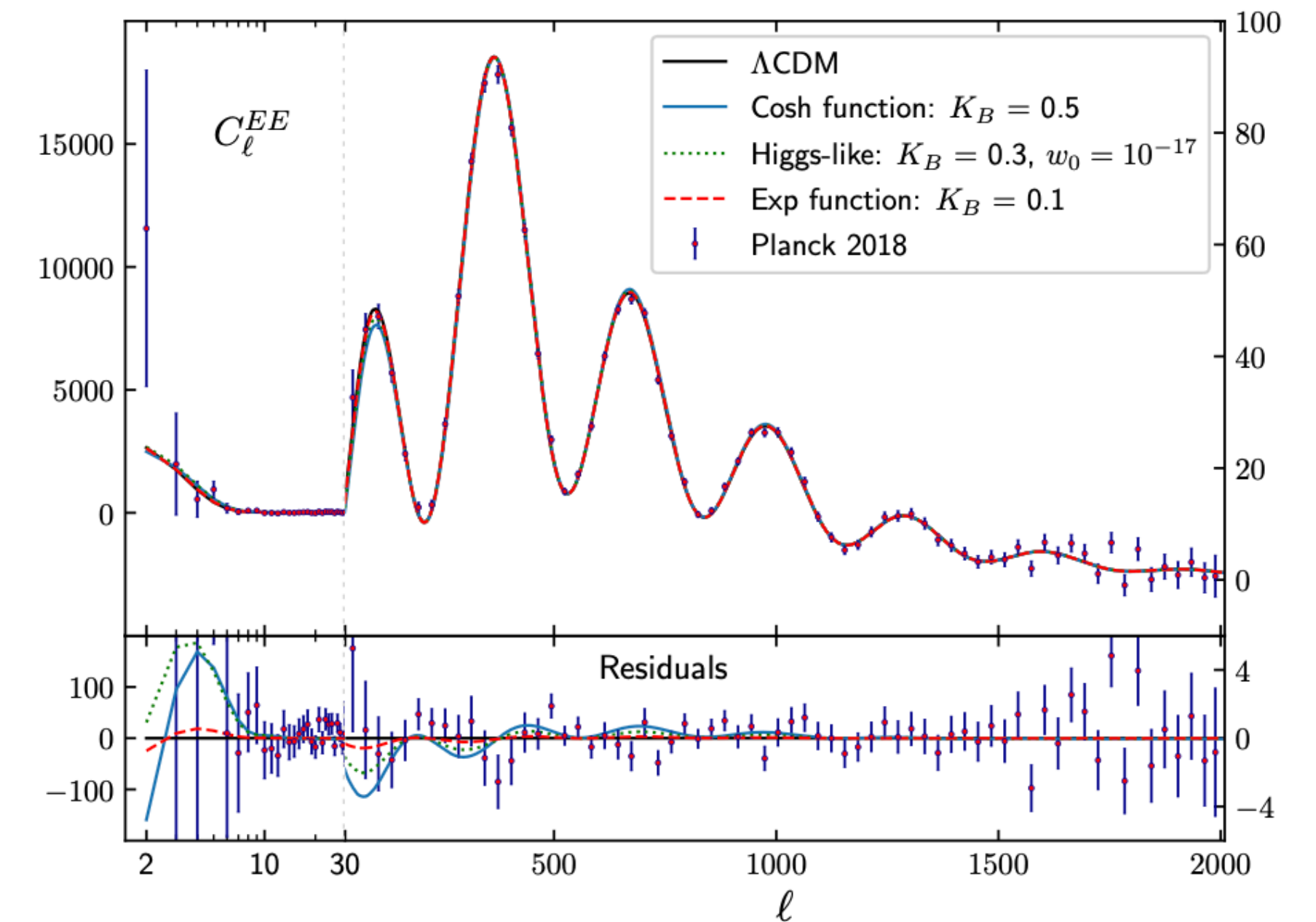
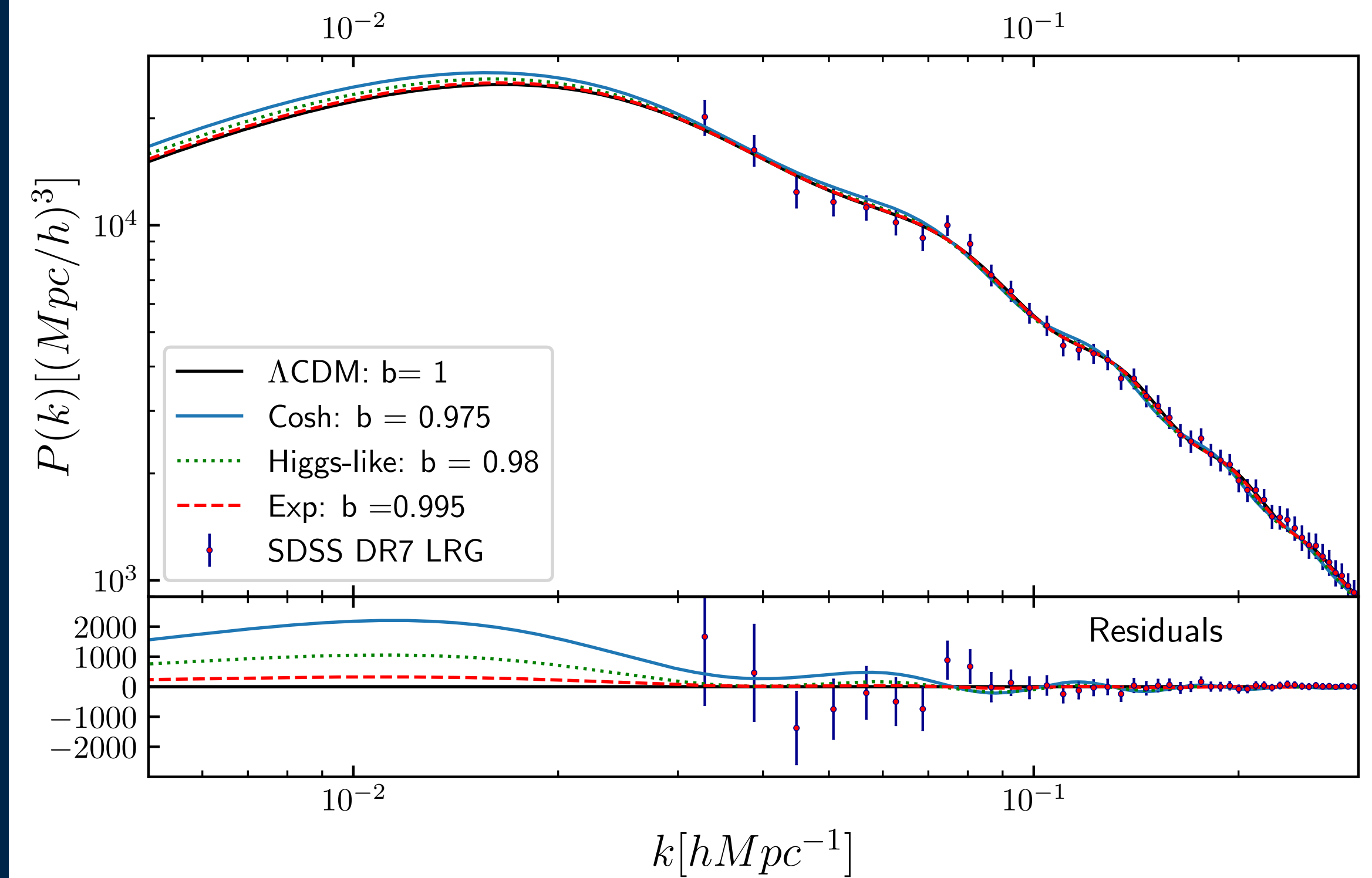
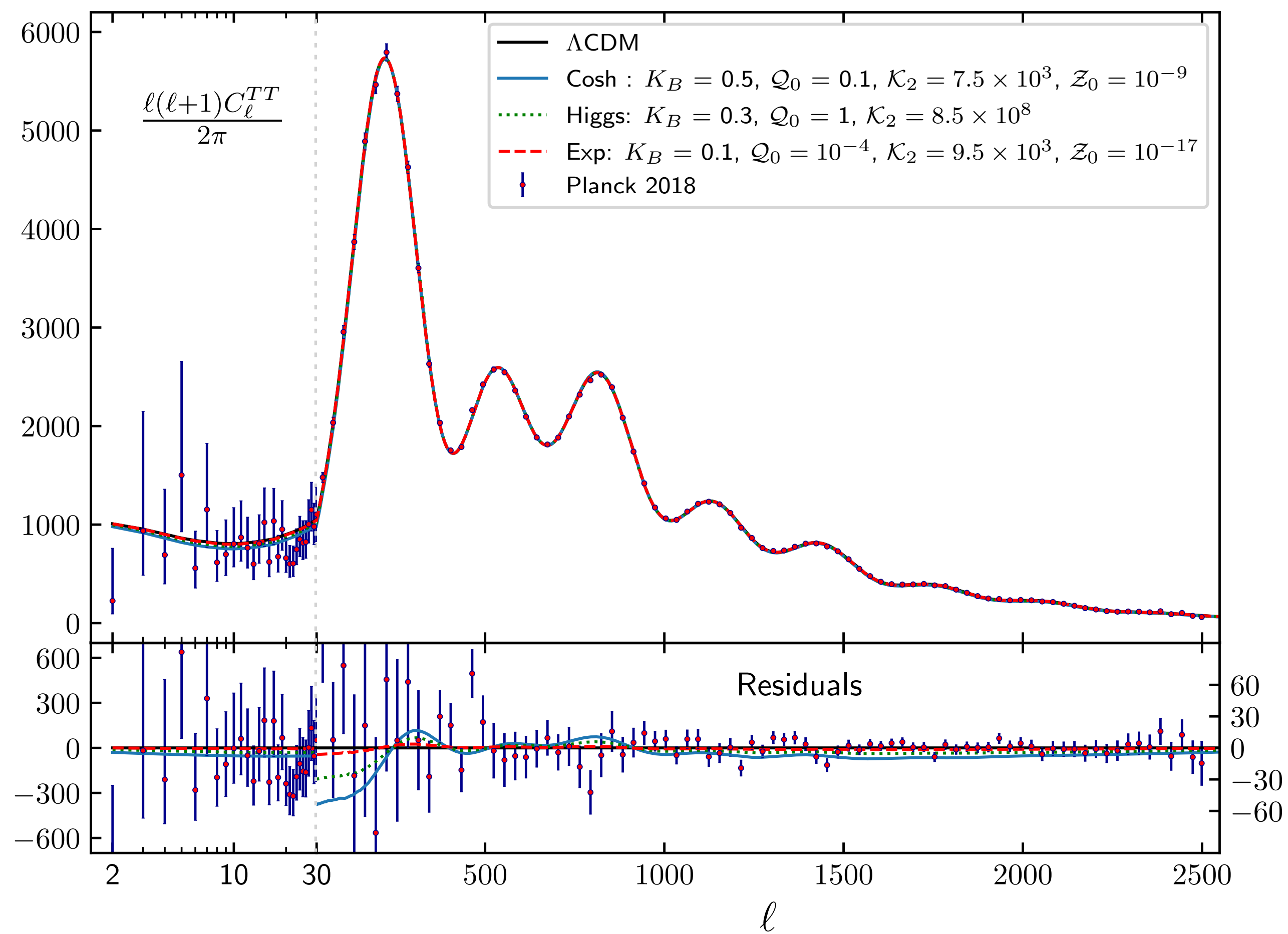
# Outcome

AeST parameters:

$K_B$   $\mathcal{Q}_0$   $\mathcal{K}_2$

Initial condition:  $I_0 \rightarrow \rho_{0c}$

(MCMC pending)



# Khronon model

Ingredients

$$g_{\mu\nu} \quad \tau$$

Blanchet & Marsat (2012)

C.S. & Blanchet, JCAP 11 (2024) 040

$$S = \frac{c^3}{16\pi G} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left[ R - 2\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Y}) + 2\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{Q}) \right] + S_m[\Psi, g]$$

Derived unit-timelike vector

$$n_\mu = -\frac{c}{\mathcal{Q}} \nabla_\mu \tau$$

$$\mathcal{Q} \equiv c \sqrt{-g^{\mu\nu} \nabla_\mu \tau \nabla_\nu \tau}$$

Acceleration

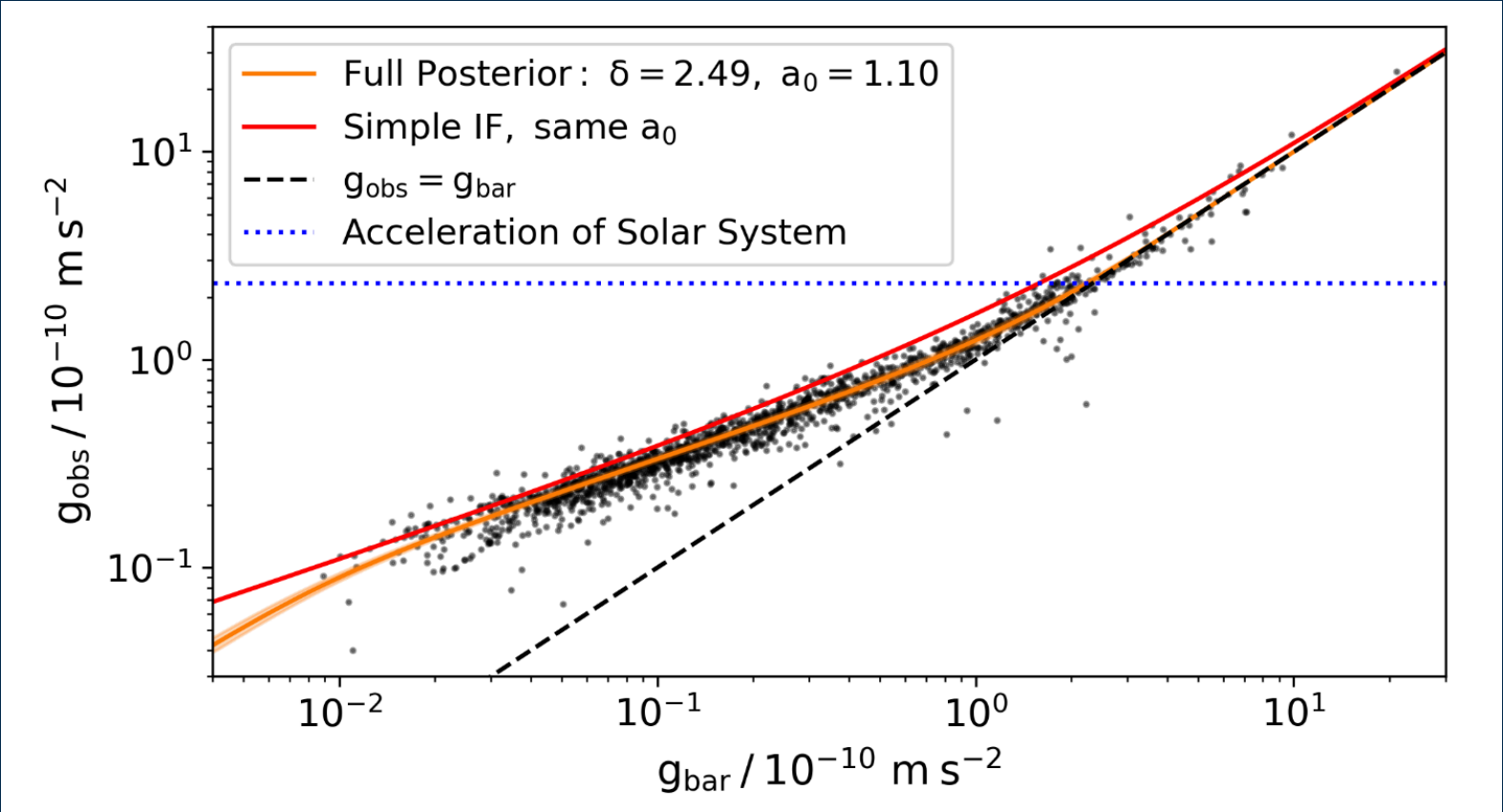
$$A_\mu = c^2 n^\nu \nabla_\nu n_\mu$$

$$\mathcal{Y} \equiv \frac{A_\mu A^\mu}{c^4}$$

Essentially a Scalar-Tensor theory

Low energy limit of Khronometric Horava-Lifshitz theory (with two functions inserted...)

Quasistatic & Cosmological behaviour similarly to AeST



H. Desmond, A. Hees & B. Famaey (2024)

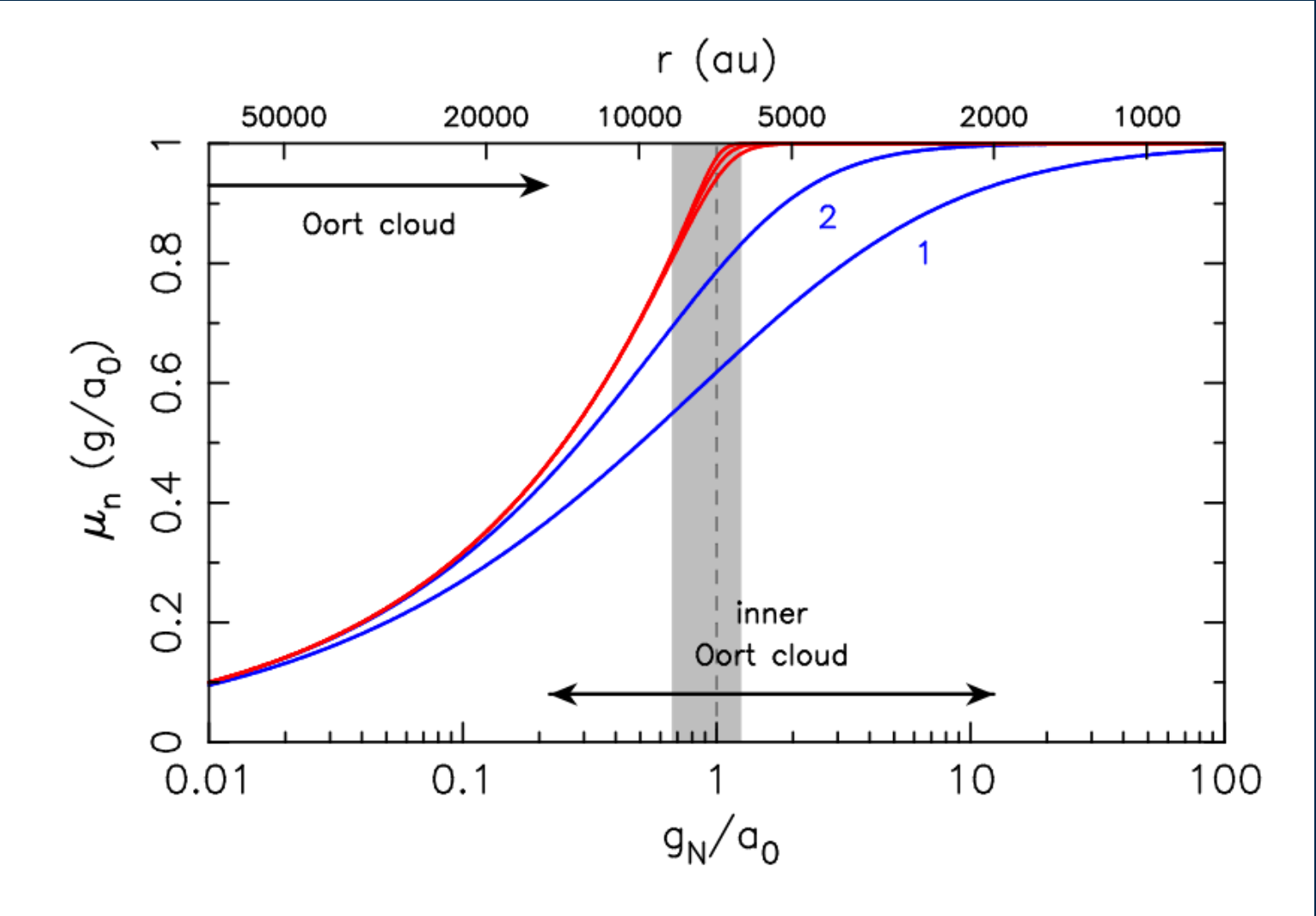
Solar system quadrupole moment

$$\delta\Phi = -\frac{Q_2}{2}x^ix^j\left(\hat{e}_i\hat{e}_j - \frac{1}{3}\delta_{ij}\right)$$

$$Q_2 = (3 \pm 3) \times 10^{-27} s^{-2}$$

Measured by Cassini (Saturn's orbit)

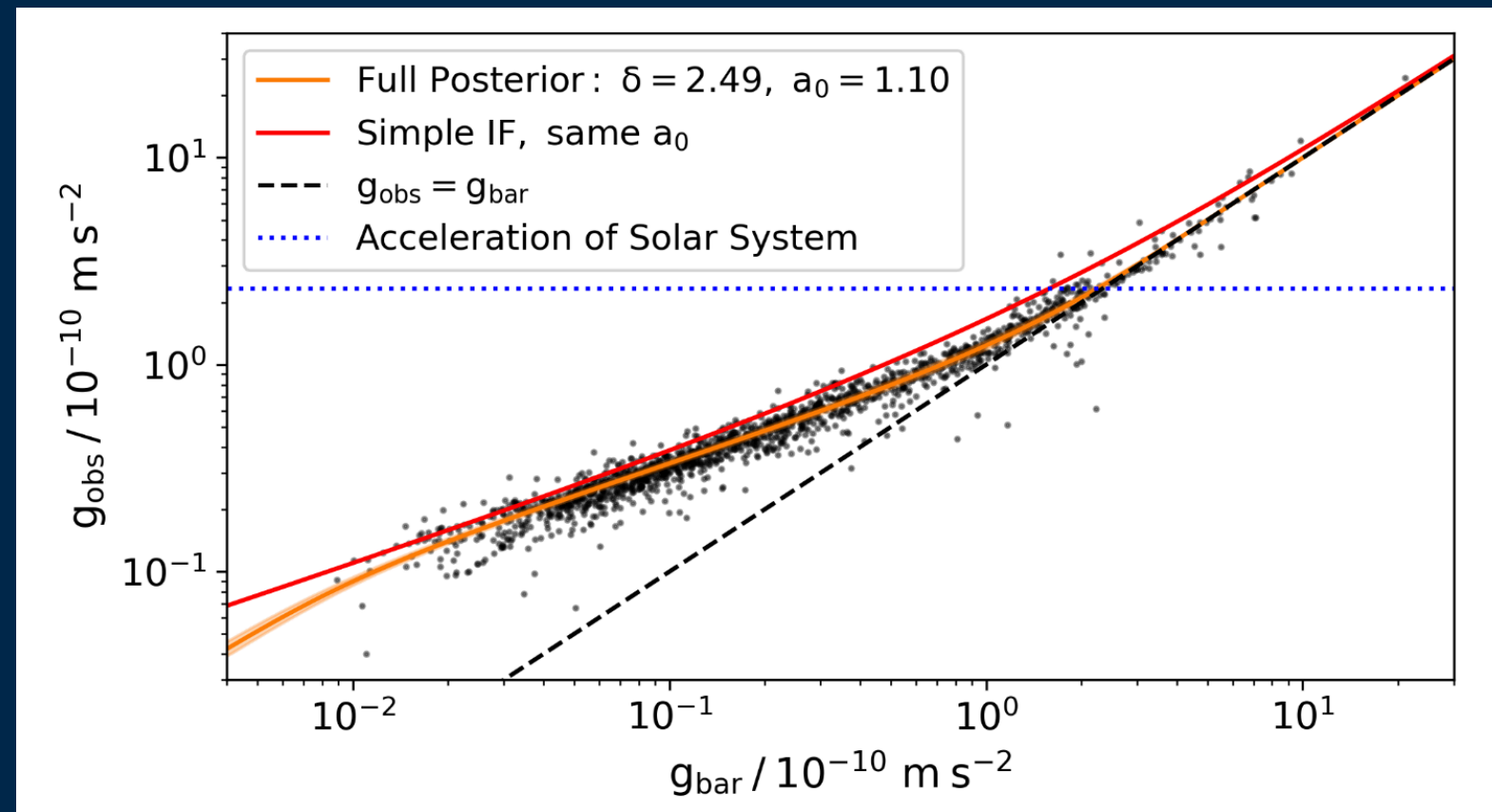
Solar system very GR like:  
inconsistent with MOND





# MOND and solar system

D. Vokrouhlicky, D. Nesvorny & S.Tremaine (2024)



H. Desmond, A. Hees & B. Famaey (2024)

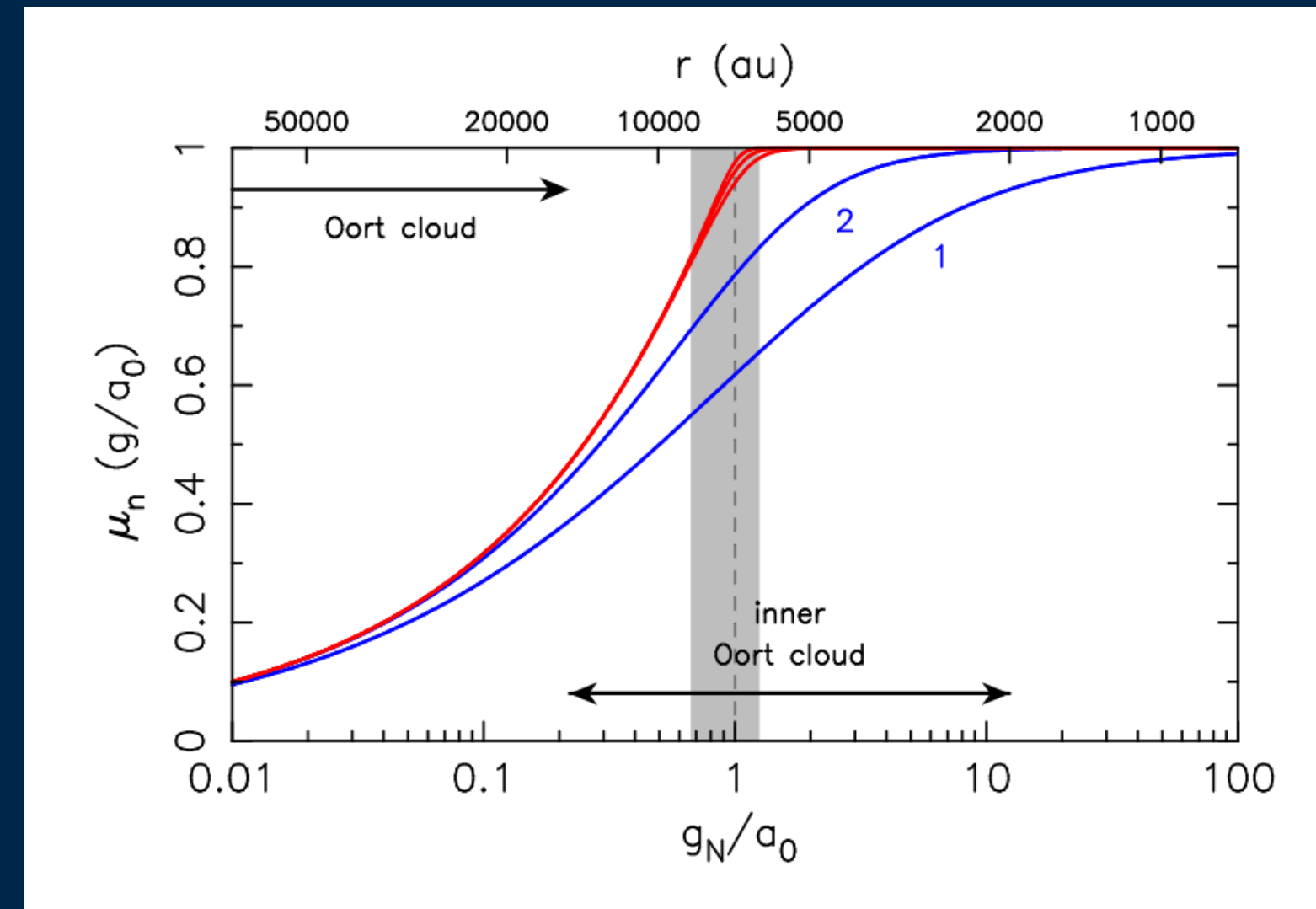
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## Wide-binary constraints from GAIA data

Banik et al., MNRAS 527, 4573 (2024)

Rule out MOND at  $16\sigma$

Chae, ApJ 960, 114 (2024)

Confirms MOND at  $5\sigma$

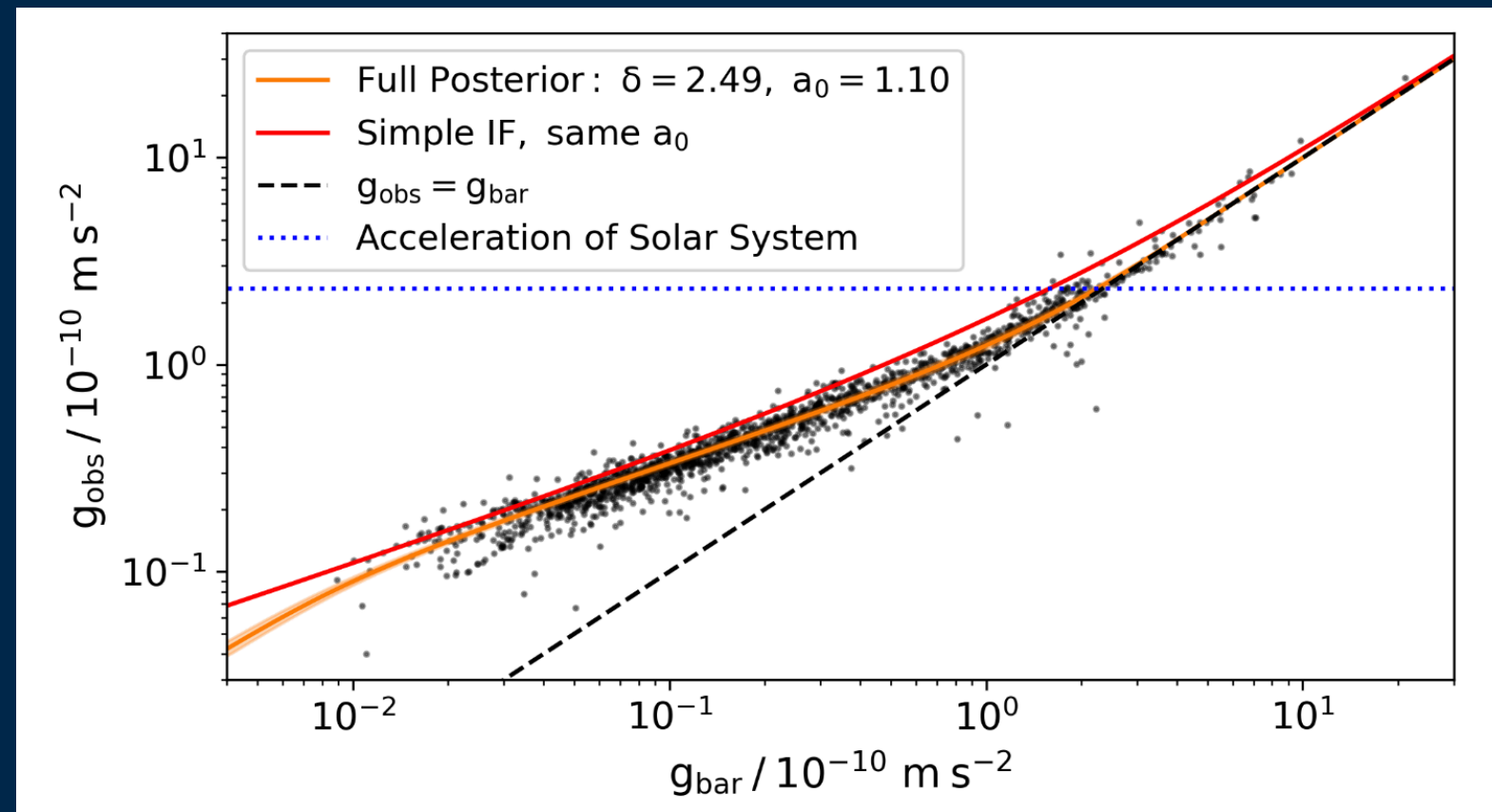
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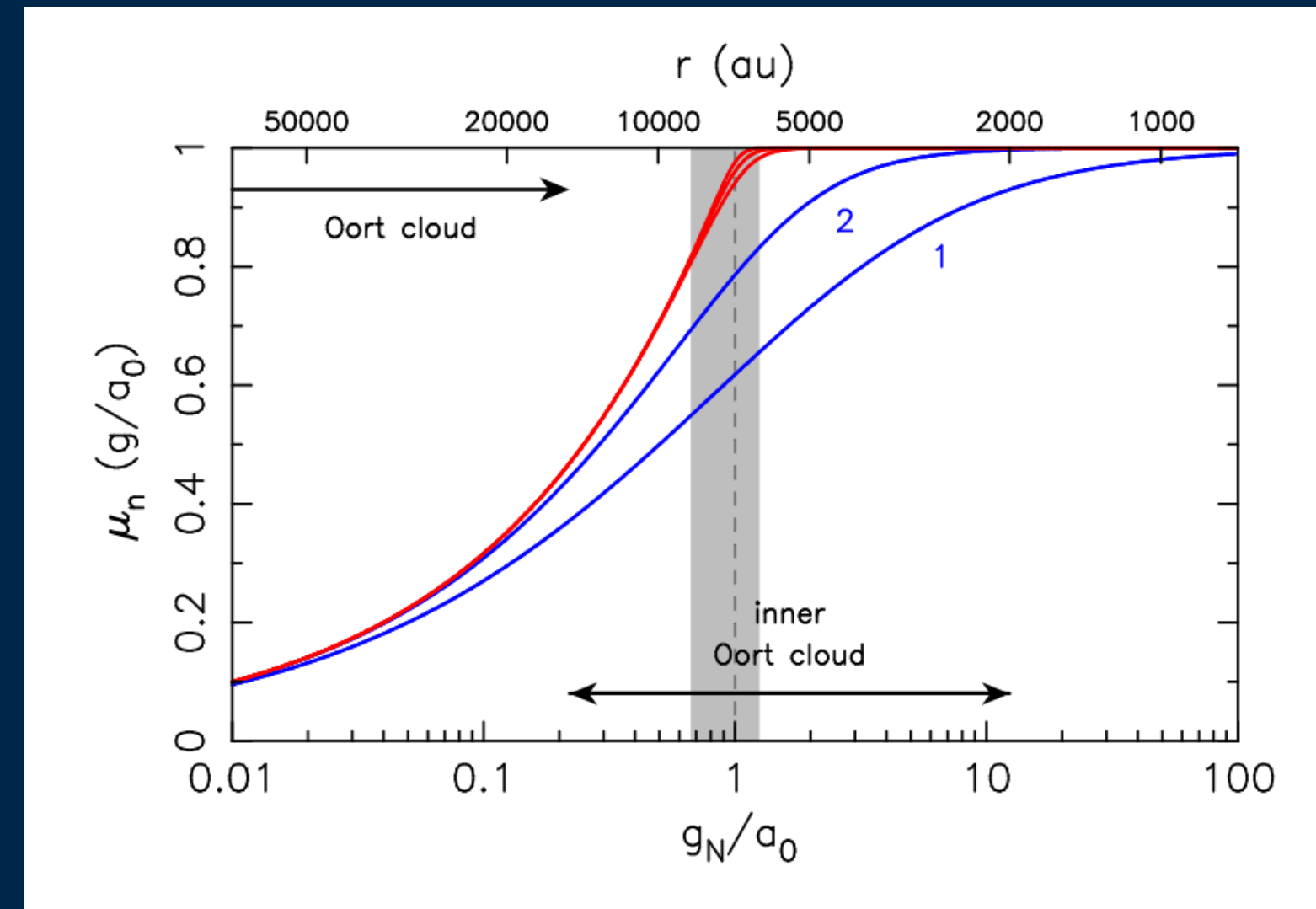
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## Note of caution

New RAR in preparation with Varasteanu, Jarvis, et al. (Yasin, Desmond, private comm. )

Several bands in photometry, almost no scatter, consistent with SS & Wide binaries

see also

Vărășteanu et al,  
Mon.Not.Roy.Astron.Soc. 541, 2366  
(2025)



## Hamiltonian formulation

M. Bataki, C.S. & T. Zlosnik, PRD 110, 044015 (2024)

4 First class constraints

4 Second class constraints (Momenta of auxiliary fields + functional freedom)

6 dof (fully non-linear)

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C.S. & T. Zlosnik, PRD 106, 104041 (2022)

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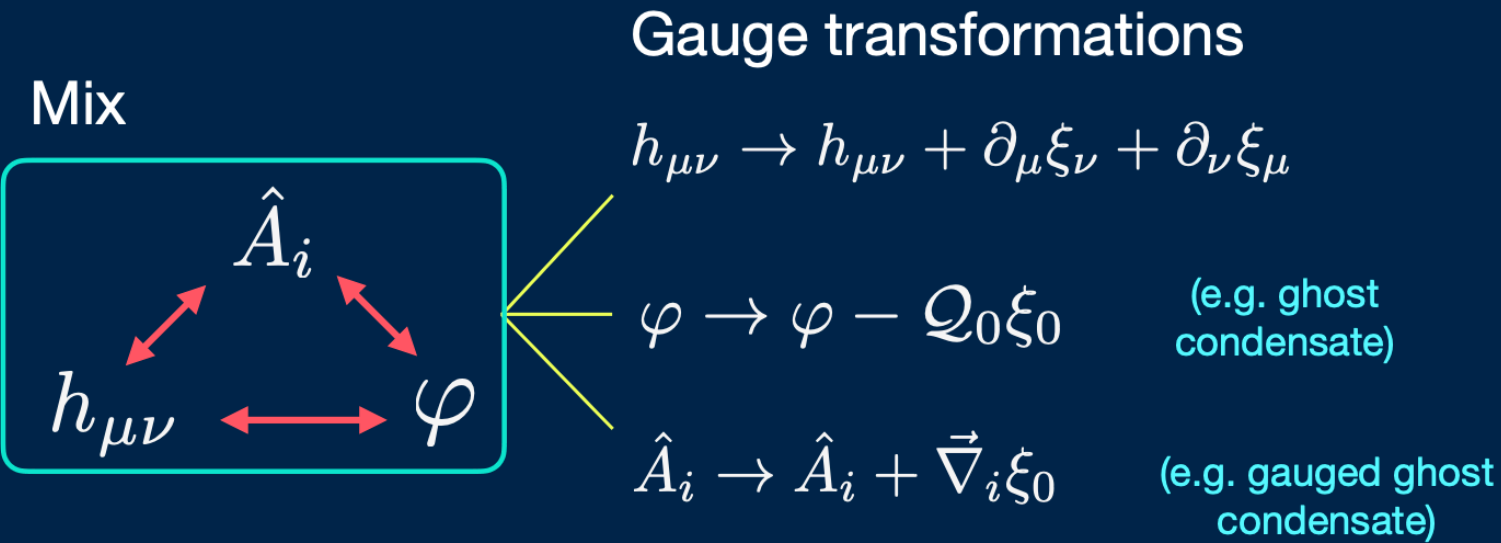
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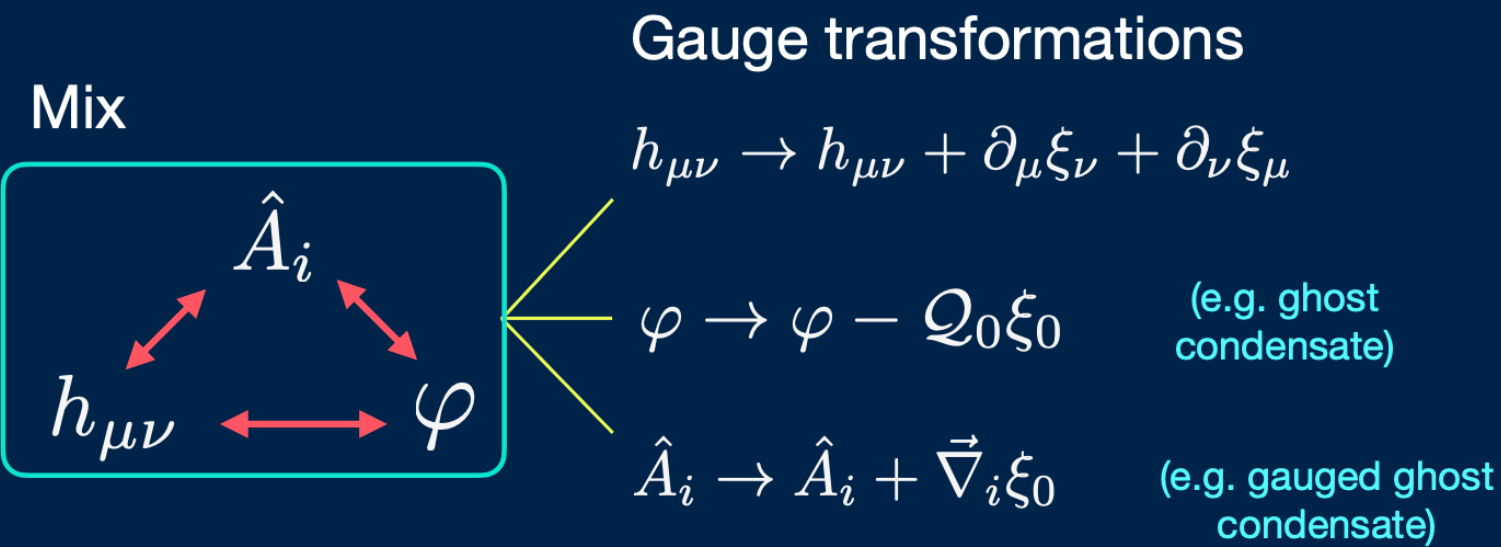
Linear Stability

Tensor modes (as in GR)  $\omega^2 = k^2$

GW modes

Vector modes:  $\omega^2 = k^2 + \mathcal{M}^2$

Scalar modes:  $\omega^2 = c_s^2 k^2 + \mathcal{M}^2$





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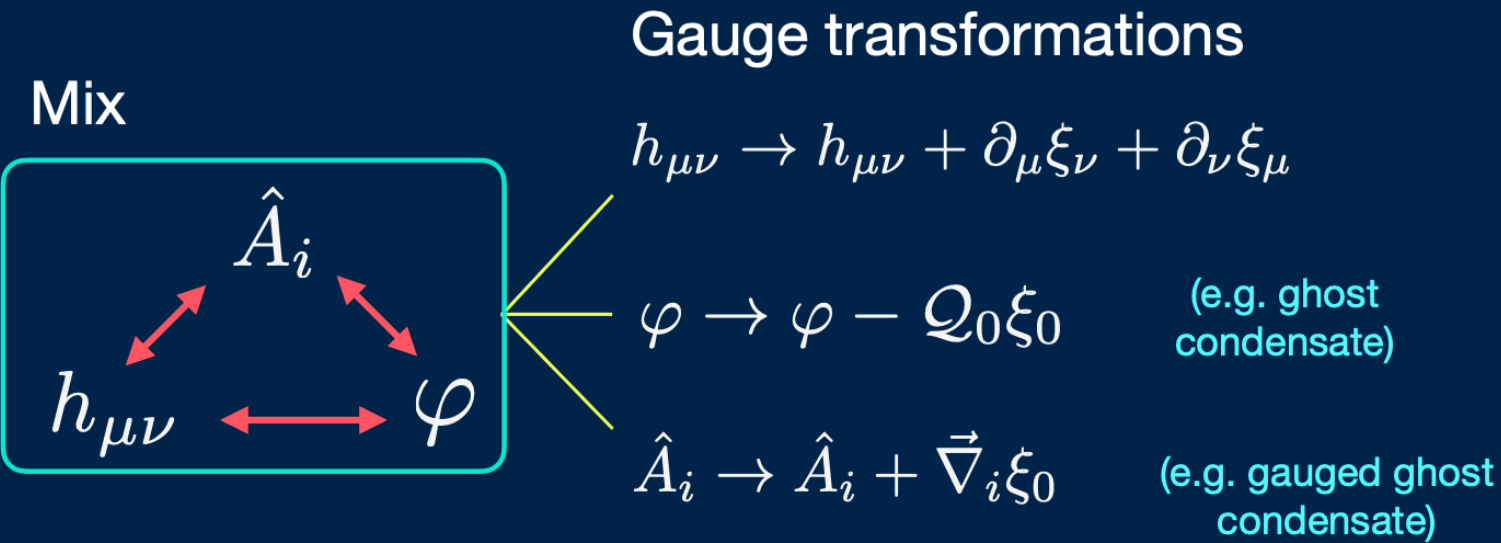
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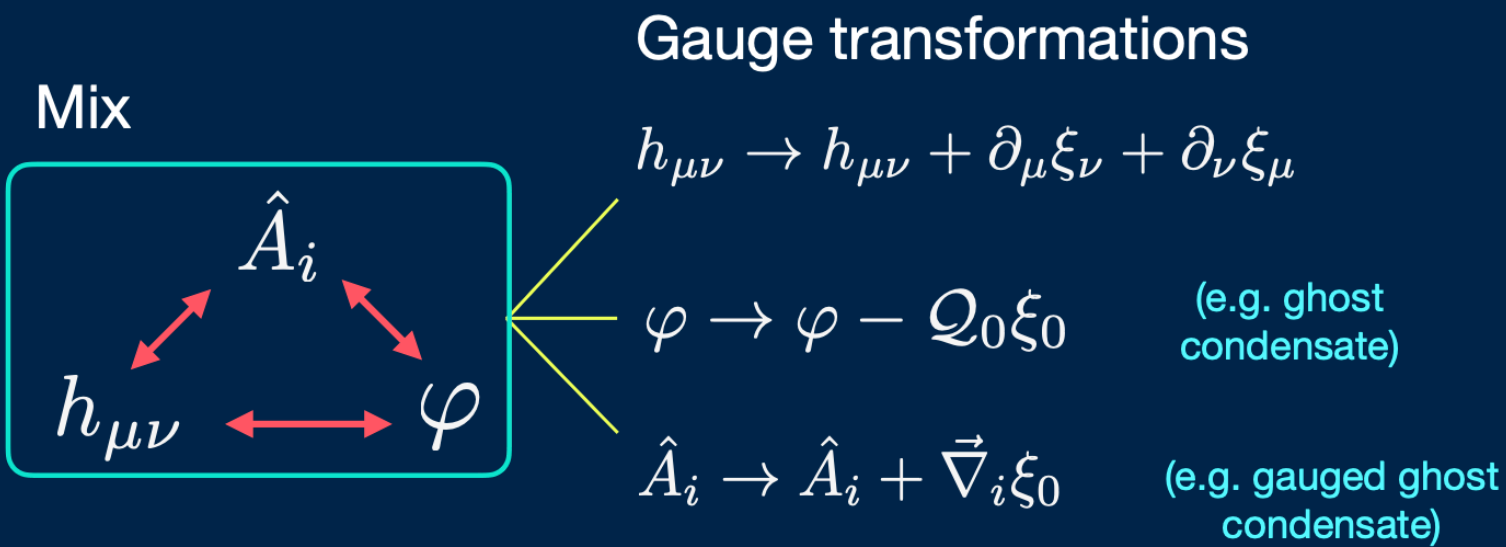
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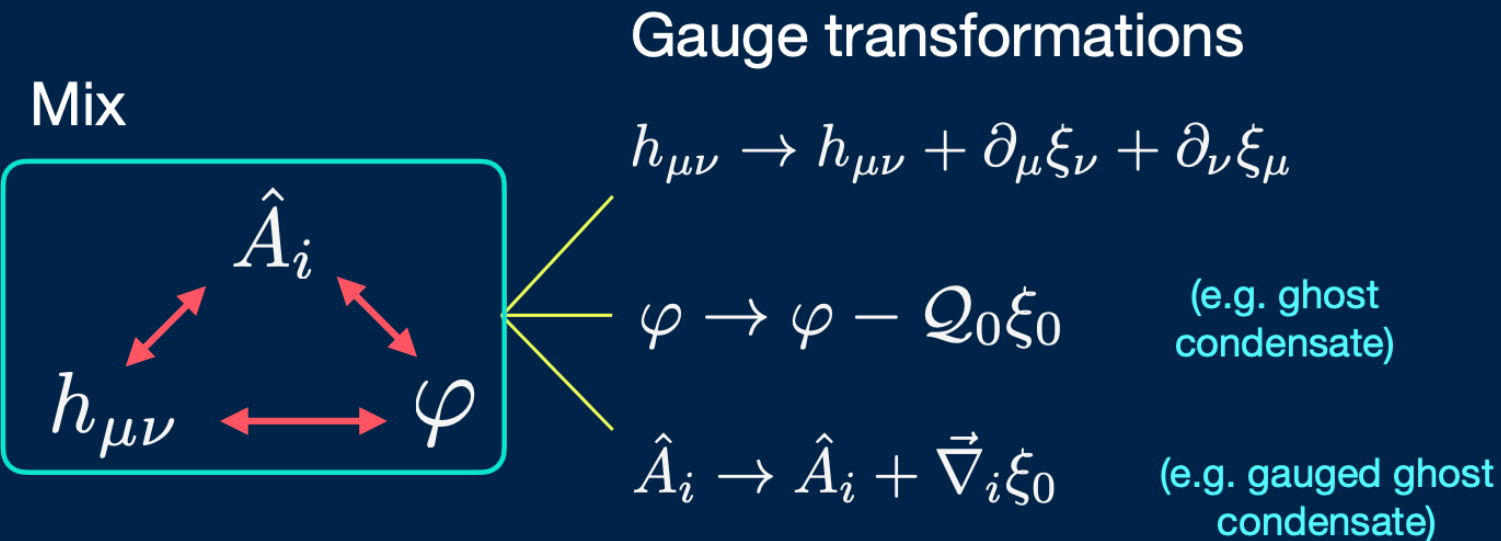
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$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}_2 &> 0 \\ 0 &< K_B < 2 \\ \lambda_s &> 0 \end{aligned}$$



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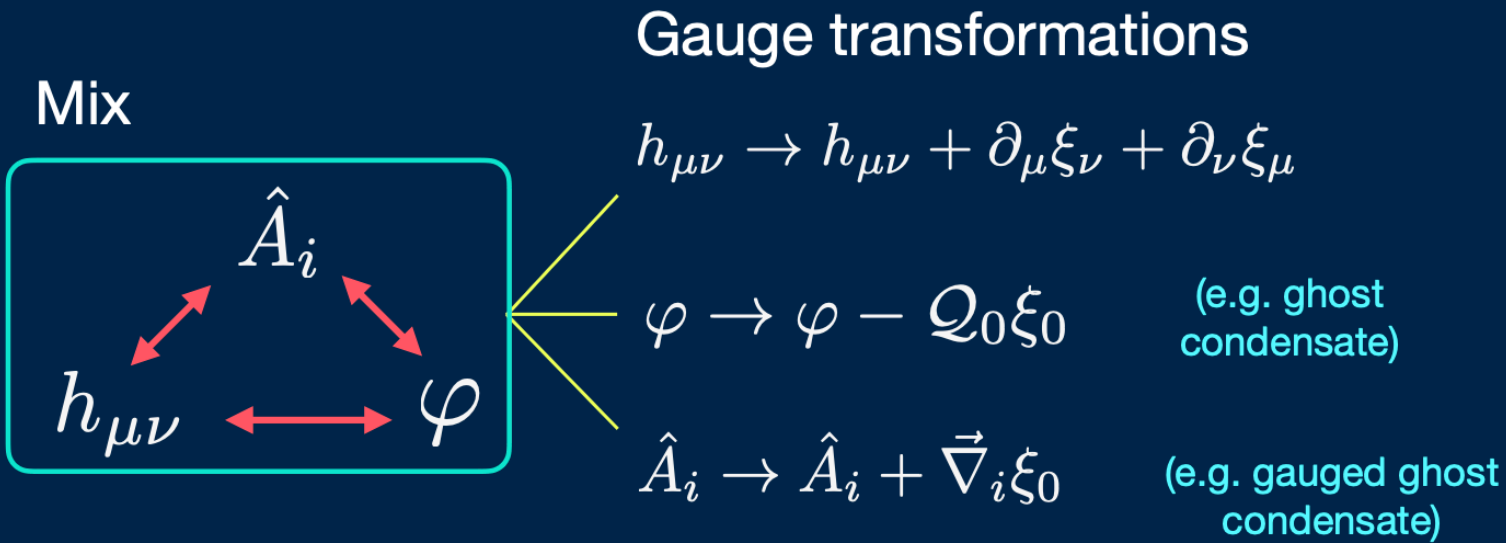
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$\omega^2 = 0$    
 Positive Hamiltonian  $k > \mu$    
 Negative Hamiltonian  $k < \mu$

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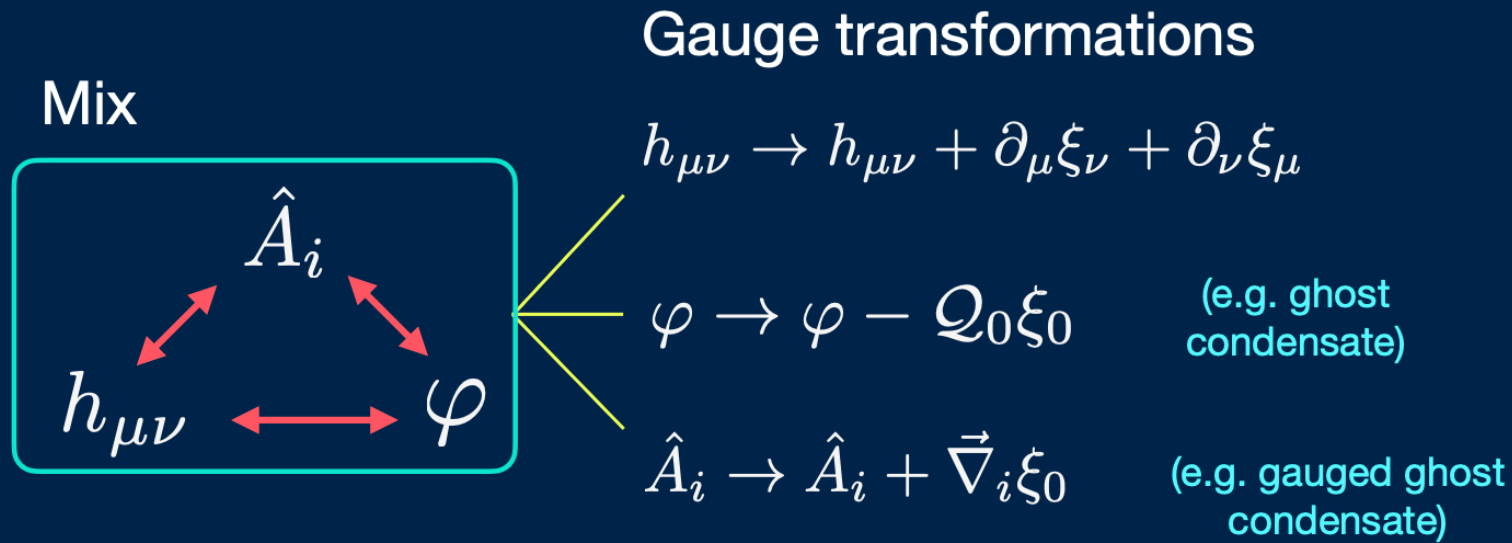
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$\omega^2 = 0$   $\begin{cases} \text{Positive Hamiltonian} & k > \mu \\ \text{Negative Hamiltonian} & k < \mu \end{cases}$

$$\mathcal{M}^2 = \frac{2 - K_B}{K_B} (1 + \lambda_s) Q_0^2$$

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De Sitter: M. Bataki & C.S., in preparation : Cures Minkowski (linear) instability



# Static, spherically symmetric vacuum solutions in AeST

C.S. & **David Vokrouhlický**, JCAP 03, 035 (2025)

— PhD student —

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Strong-field regime

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$$\phi = \mathcal{Q}_0 (qt + R)$$



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$$q \rightarrow \begin{cases} 1 & \text{Joins to cosmology} & \text{(Physical)} \\ 0 & \text{Joins to cosmology} & \text{(Unphysical)} \end{cases}$$

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Reflection:

Lorentz transformations @  $r \rightarrow \infty$

$$A_\mu \rightarrow -A_\mu$$

$$A_\mu \rightarrow (-1, 0, 0, 0) \quad \phi \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}_0 qt$$



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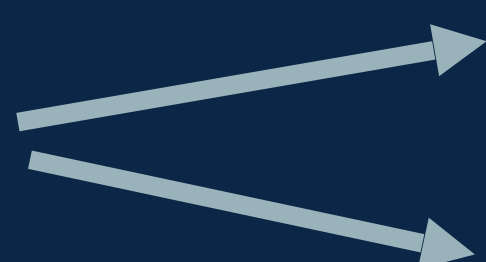
Reflection:

$$A_\mu \rightarrow -A_\mu$$

Lorentz transformations @  $r \rightarrow \infty$

$$A_\mu \rightarrow (-1, 0, 0, 0) \quad \phi \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}_0 qt$$

Two separate cases:


$$A(r) \neq 0$$
$$A = 0$$

$$A(r) \neq 0$$

$$q = 1$$

C.S. & D. Vokrouhlický, JCAP 03, 035 (2025)

$$A(r) \neq 0$$

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$$\Rightarrow \Psi = \Phi + \mathcal{O}(\mu^{-2})$$



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C.S. & D. Vokrouhlický, JCAP 03, 035 (2025)

$$\Rightarrow \Psi = \Phi + \mathcal{O}(\mu^{-2})$$

$$q = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{2\Phi} = 1 - \frac{2G_{\text{N}}M}{r} + \frac{q_{\text{BH}}^2}{r^2}$$

Reissner-Nordstrom soln (unique)

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Reissner-Nordstrom soln (unique)

Charge  $q_A \equiv \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} F^{tr} r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi = \mp \frac{q_{BH}}{\sqrt{\tilde{n}}},$

Conserved current is  $J^\mu$

Yang et al., arXiv: 2504.20144

$$\tilde{n} \equiv \frac{2 + K_B \lambda_s}{2(1 + \lambda_s)}$$

$$0 < \tilde{n} < 1$$



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Vector

$$A = \pm e^{-2\Phi} \sqrt{\frac{2(|q_A| + G_N M)}{r} + \frac{(1 - \tilde{n})q_A^2}{r^2}}$$

Scalar

$$\phi = -\mathcal{Q}_0 \int^r dr' \frac{1}{1 + \frac{|q_A|}{r'}} \left[ \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda_s) \mathcal{Q}_0} \frac{|q_A|}{r'^2} \mp A(r') \right]$$

$$\tilde{n} \equiv \frac{2 + K_B \lambda_s}{2(1 + \lambda_s)}$$

$$0 < \tilde{n} < 1$$

All scalar combinations are regular at both horizons; soln can be extended through

$A(r) \neq 0$

$q = 1$

$\Rightarrow \Psi = \Phi + \mathcal{O}(\mu^{-2})$

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All scalar combinations are regular at both horizons; soln can be extended through

$q = 0$       RN still unique soln,  $A(r)$  same,       $\phi(r)$  Simpler

Scalar charge:  $\varphi_0 = \pm \mathcal{Q}_0 \sqrt{\frac{2 + K_B \lambda_s}{2 - K_B}} \sqrt{q_A^2 - \frac{q_{BH}^2}{\tilde{n}}}$

$$A = 0$$

$$q = 1$$



$$A = 0$$

$$q = 1$$

New coordinate

$$r(u) = \frac{r_0}{|u|} \frac{|u - u_1|^{\frac{1+n}{2n}}}{|u - u_2|^{\frac{1-n}{2n}}}$$

$$n \equiv \sqrt{1 - \tilde{n}}$$

$$0 < n < 1$$

$$\text{C.S. \& D. Vokrouhlický, JCAP 03, 035 (2025)}$$

$$\text{L. Yang et al., arXiv: 2504.20144 (2025)}$$

$$u_2 = -\frac{1}{1-n} \quad < \quad u_1 = -\frac{1}{1+n} \quad < 0$$

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C.S. & D. Vokrouhlický, JCAP 03, 035 (2025)  
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⇒

$$ds^2 = -\frac{|u - u_2|^{\frac{1}{n}}}{|u - u_1|^{\frac{1}{n}}} dt^2 + \frac{r_0^2}{u^2} \frac{|u - u_1|^{\frac{1+n}{n}}}{|u - u_2|^{\frac{1-n}{n}}} \left[ \frac{du^2}{\tilde{n}(u - u_1)(u - u_2)u^2} + d\Omega^2 \right]$$

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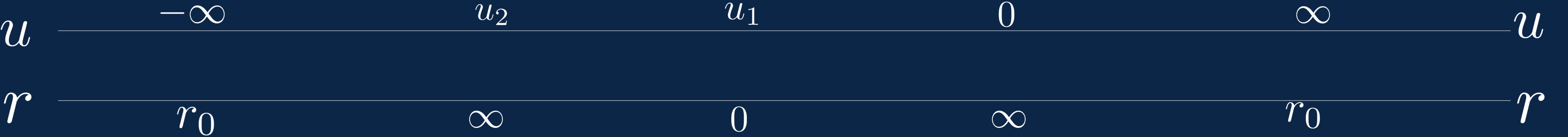
C.S. & D. Vokrouhlický, JCAP 03, 035 (2025)  
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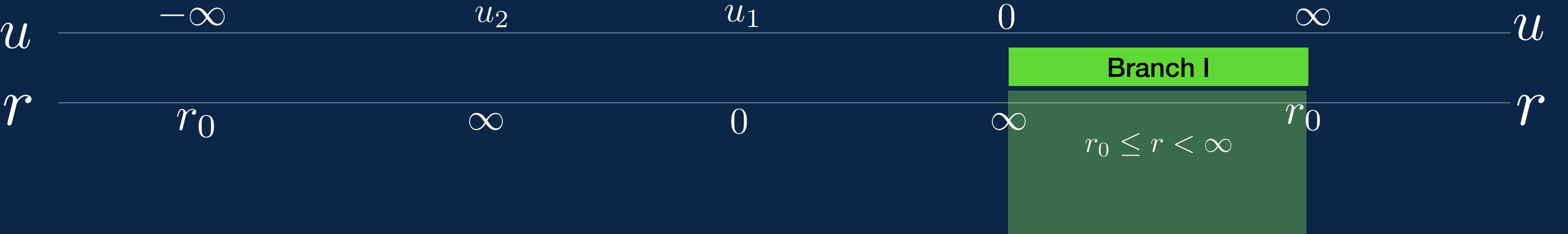
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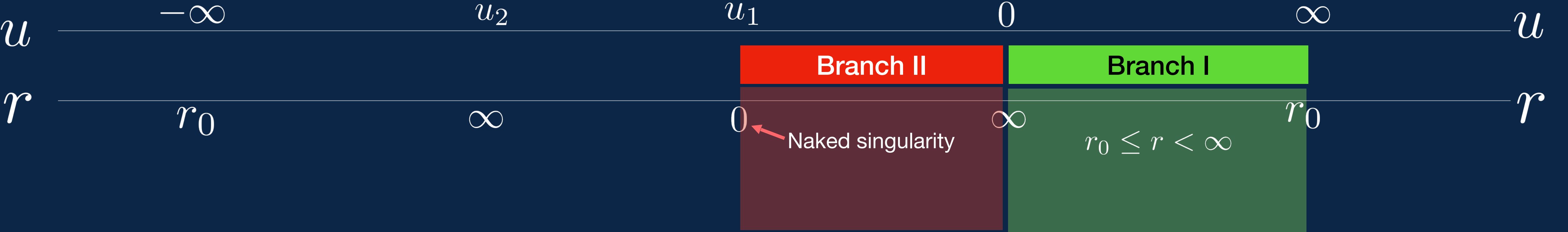
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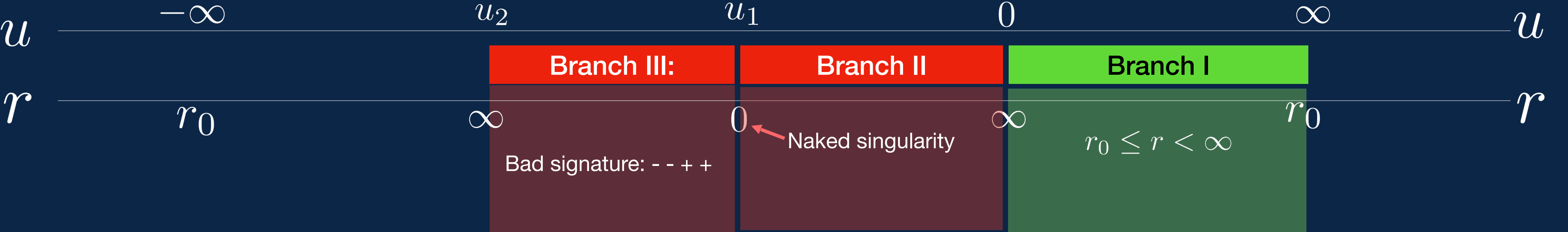
C.S. & D. Vokrouhlický, JCAP 03, 035 (2025)  
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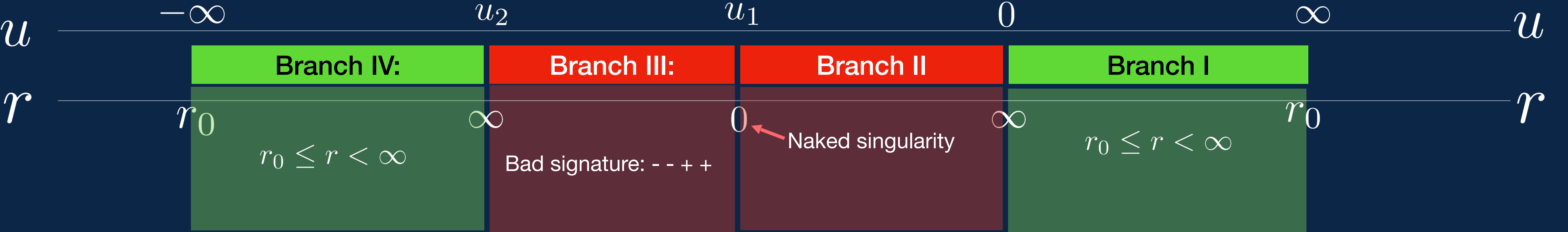
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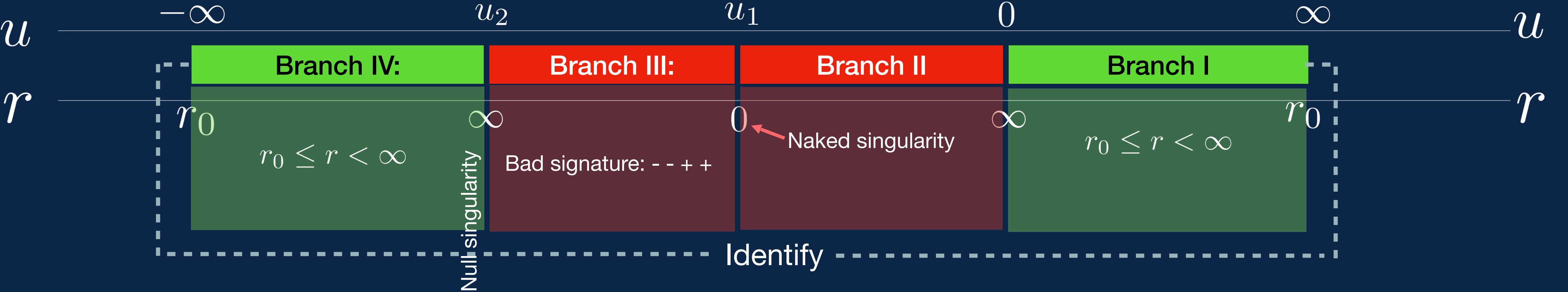
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Eling-Jacobson wormhole

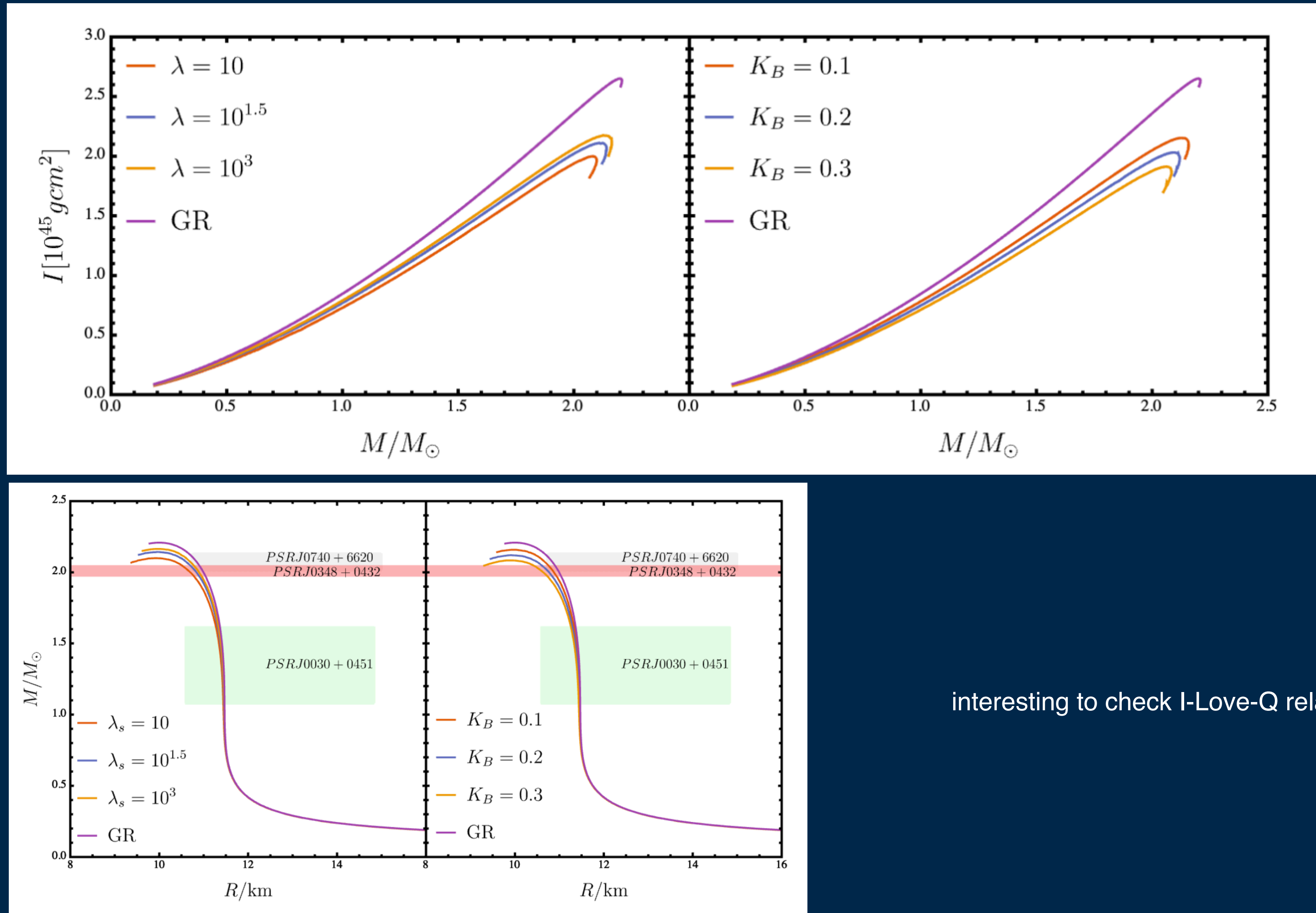
C. Eling & T. Jacobson, Class.Quant.Grav. 23, 5625 (2006)

## Neutron stars

Spherically symmetric  
Slowly rotating

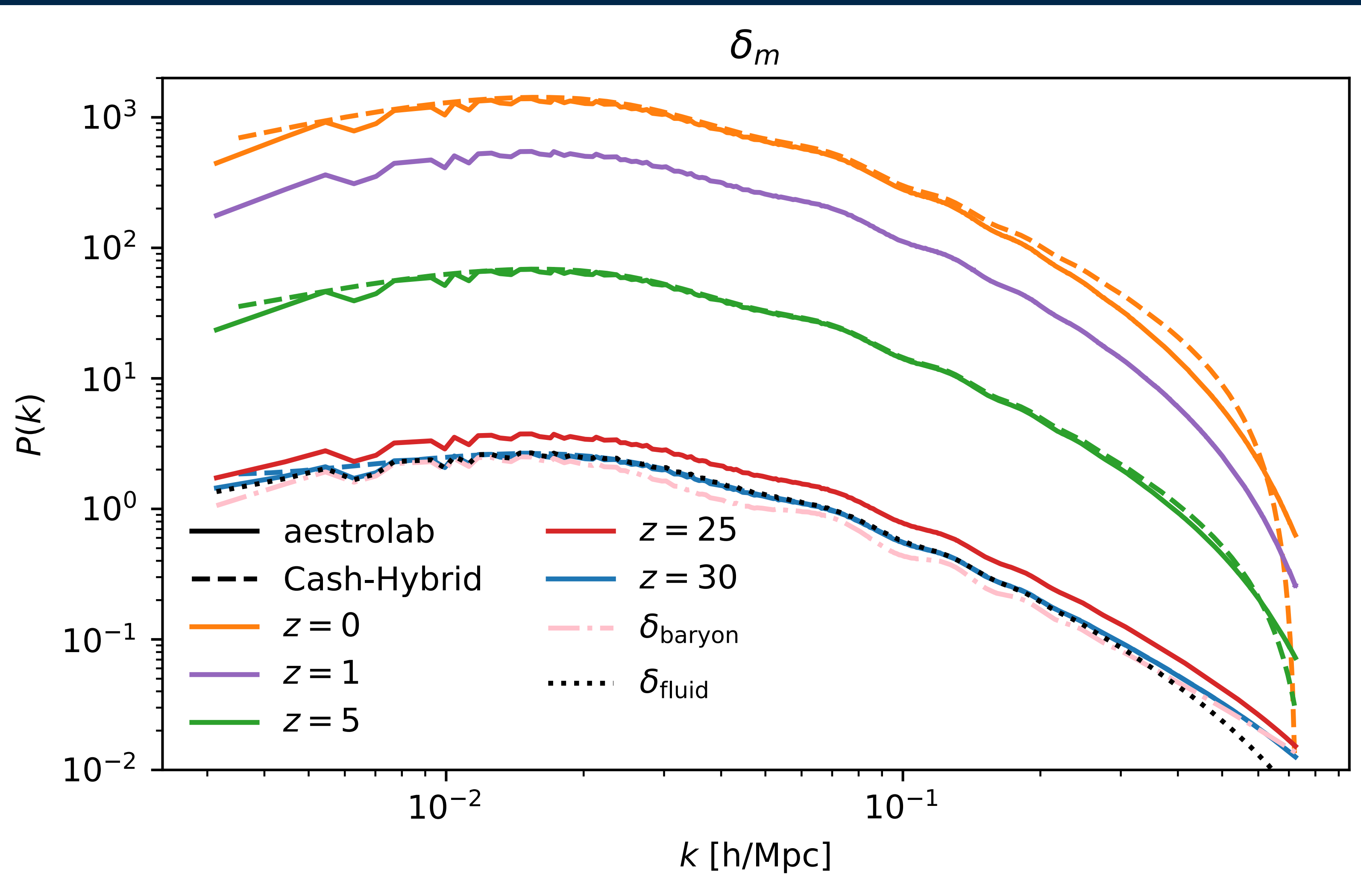
Reyes & Sakstein, PRD110, 084019 (2024)

Reyes & Sakstein, arXiv: 2505.03527



interesting to check I-Love-Q relations





In progress

Linear theory Milestone:

matched lattice-based with Fourier-mode transfer functions from Boltzman code

Next stage:

Include the 'MOND' non-linear terms

## Theory

Dependence on  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{Q}, \mathcal{Y})$  has issues

quasistatic:

Function  $\longrightarrow$  Non-analytic

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{Y}) = \begin{cases} \sim \mathcal{Y} & \mathcal{Y} \gg 1 \\ \sim \mathcal{Y}^{3/2} & \mathcal{Y} \ll 1 \end{cases}$$

MOND term  $\mathcal{Y}^{3/2} = |\vec{\nabla} \varphi|^3 \longrightarrow$  Non-Fourier expandable

All models for which a MOND limit exists have this term built-in  
(either for the potential or, more usually, for some other field)

## Cosmology

Higgs phase incompatible with MOND  $\longrightarrow \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{Q})$

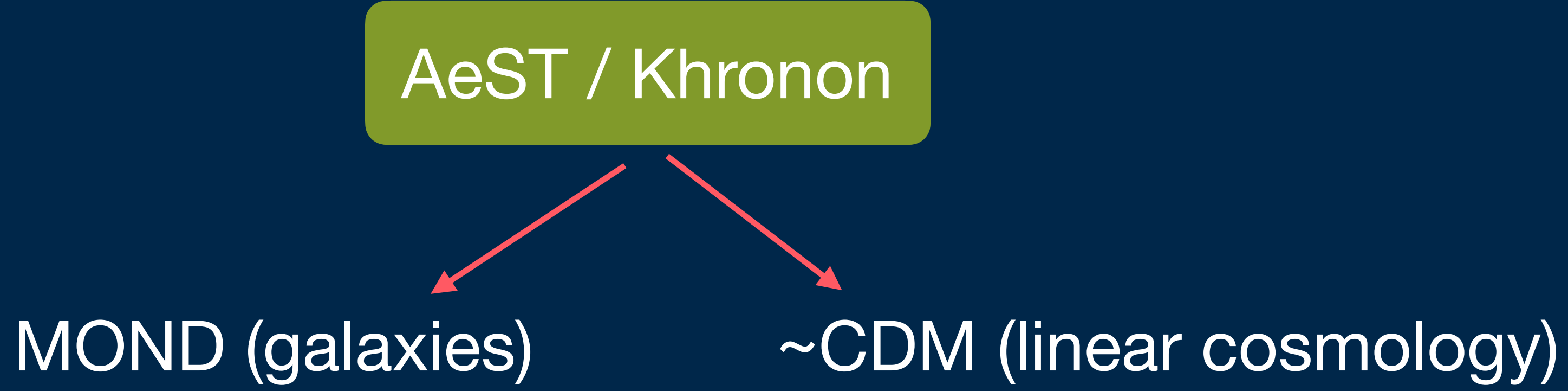
Different field content but keep essential features



Is there an EFT?



AeST / Khronon



```
graph TD; A[AeST / Khronon] --> B[MOND (galaxies)]; A --> C[~CDM (linear cosmology)];
```

MOND (galaxies)

~CDM (linear cosmology)

In progress

De Sitter stability (to be submitted with M. Bataki)

Cosmological simulations (with Christiansen, Boehm & Mota)

Should be done

PPN parameters

Gravitational waves (additional polarisations)

Outlook

Consistent phenomenological models for testing this paradigm further

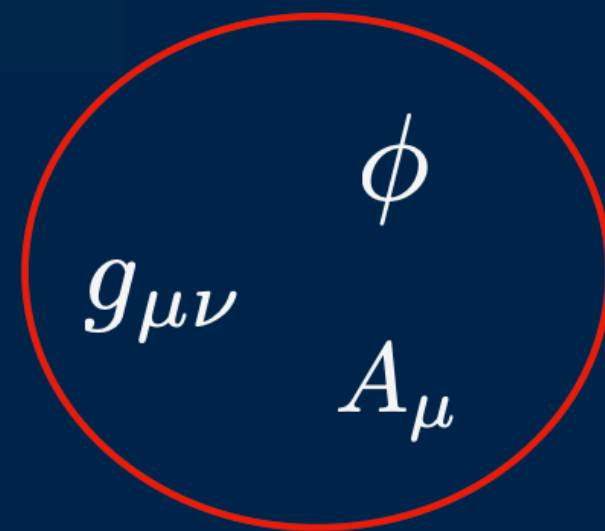
Better model is necessary (and possible)



EXTRA



AeST

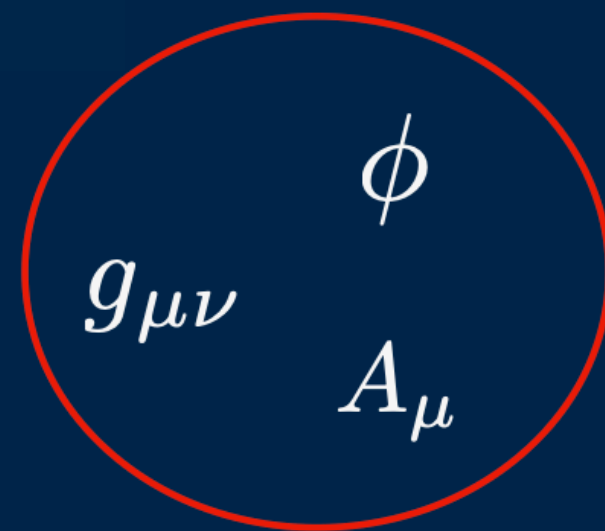


NEW DOF

Khronon



AeST



NEW DOF

Dark matter??

Khronon





# New dof

$$\varphi^{(I)} \quad \alpha_{\mu}^{(I)}$$



$$g_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\mu\nu} + h_{\mu\nu}$$

Minkowski

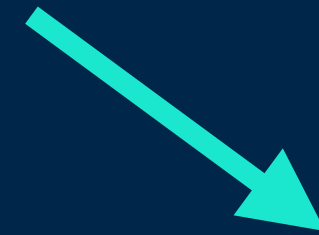


$$\varphi^{(I)}$$

$$\alpha_{\mu}^{(I)}$$

## Matter

e.g.  $\mathcal{L} \sim (\partial h)^2 + (\partial \varphi)^2$



Transformations

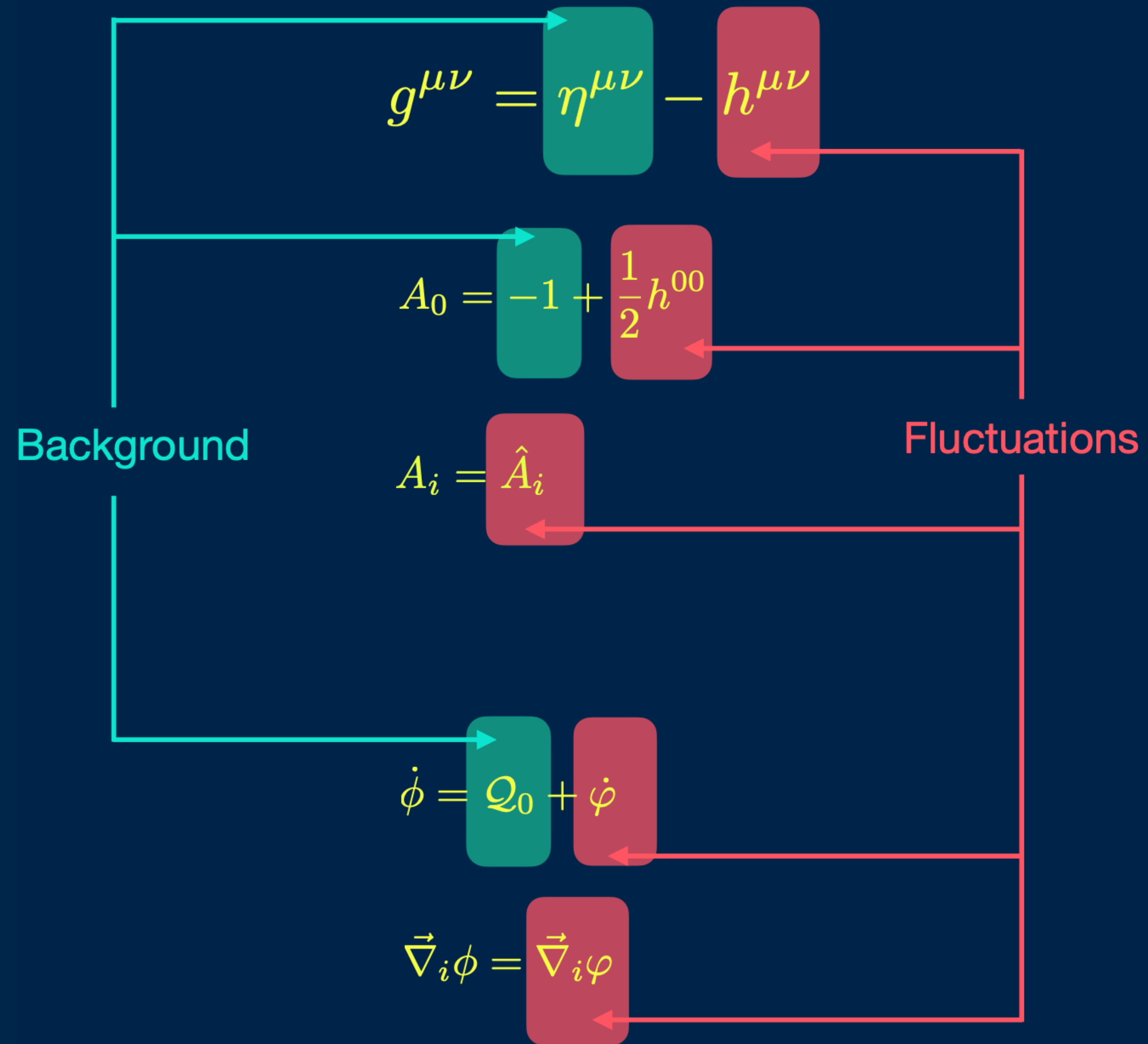
$$h_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\alpha_{\mu}^{(I)}$$

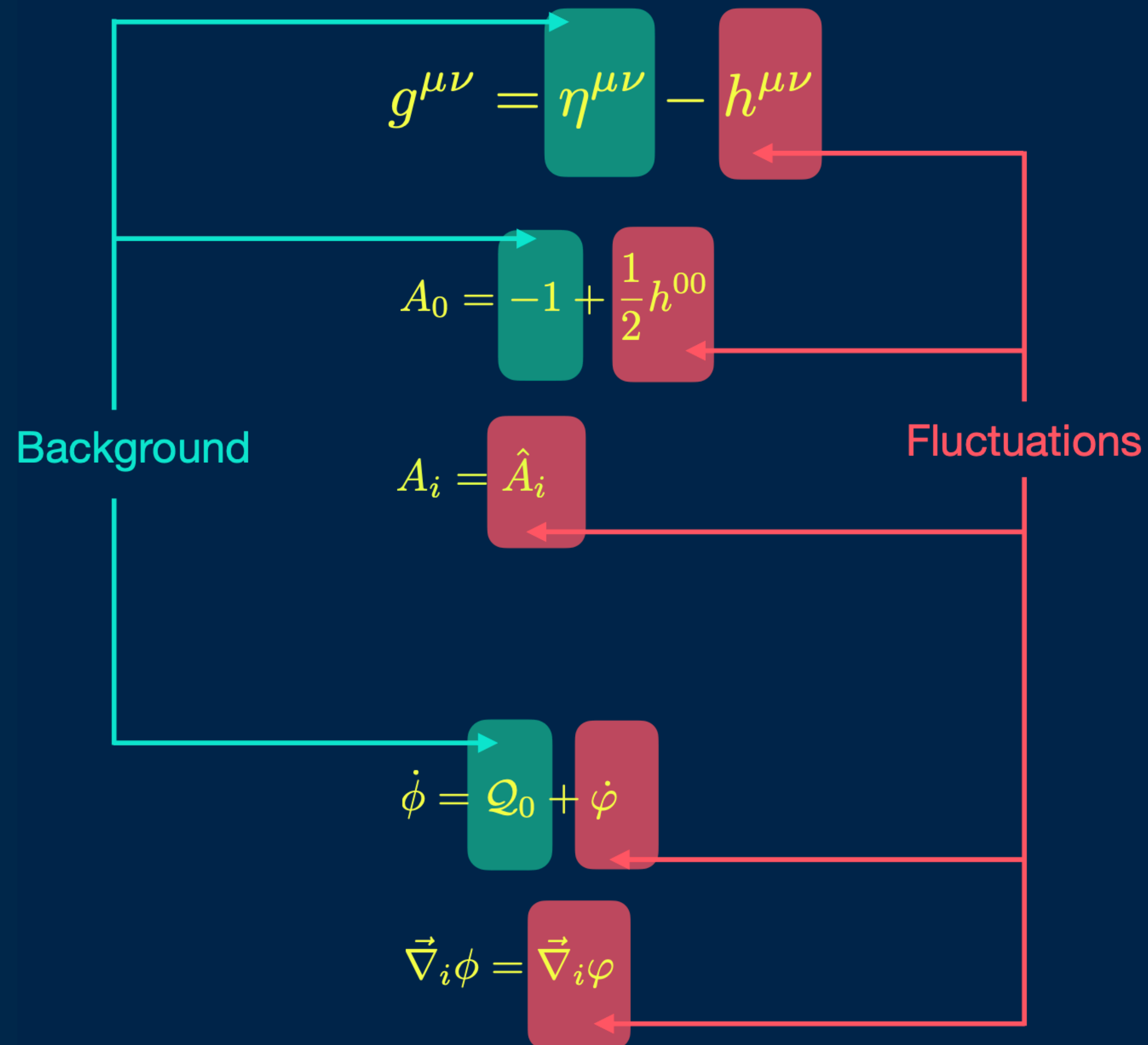
$$\varphi^{(I)}$$

## Gravity

e.g.  $\mathcal{L} \sim (\partial h)^2 + (\partial \varphi)^2 + (\partial h)(\partial \varphi)$

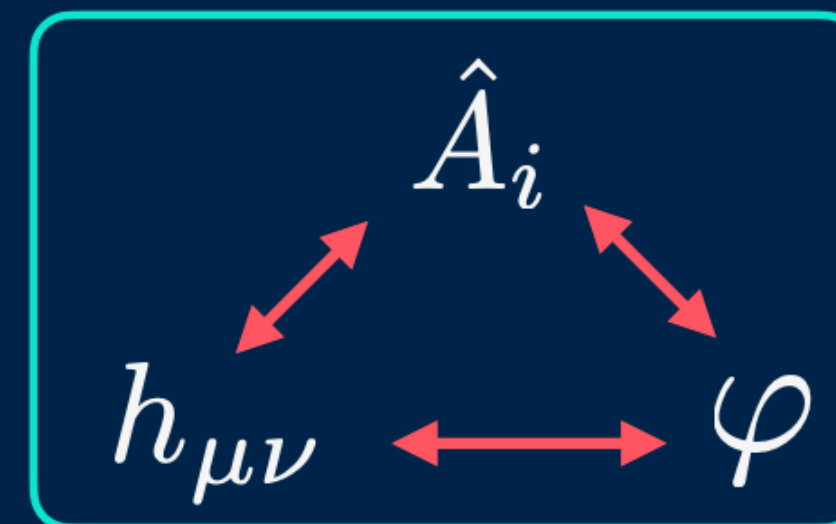


Similar (but not identical to) for Khronon model.  
(C.S. & Blanchet )



## Gauge transformations

Mix



$$h_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow h_{\mu\nu} + \partial_\mu \xi_\nu + \partial_\nu \xi_\mu$$

$$\varphi \rightarrow \varphi - \mathcal{Q}_0 \xi_0 \quad (\text{e.g. ghost condensate})$$

$$\hat{A}_i \rightarrow \hat{A}_i + \vec{\nabla}_i \xi_0 \quad (\text{e.g. gauged ghost condensate})$$

Mix metric perturbation with new fields

N.B.

Dark fields (e.g. DM)

$$\chi \rightarrow \chi$$

No mixing with  $h_{\mu\nu}$

Similar (but not identical to) for Khronon model.  
(C.S. & Blanchet)