

# Ultra-Light Axion Dark Matter & Its Astronomical Implications

Tzihong Chiueh  
National Taiwan University

in collaboration with  
H.Y. Schive, T. Broadhurst, U.H. Zhang, H.H. Chang, T.P. Woo, S.R. Chen, K.H. Leong

Woo & Chiueh, ApJ, (2009), Schive et al., Nature Phys.  
(2014), Schive, et al, PRL (2014), Schive et al. ApJ (2016),  
Chen et al. MNRAS (2017), De Martino, et al, PRL (2017),  
Zhang & Chiueh, PRD (2017 a, b), Schive & Chiueh  
MNRAS (2017), Leong et al., MNRAS (2019)

# Outline:

---

- Axion DM as Bose-Einstein Condensate

$$m_a \sim 10^{-22} \text{ eV} \Rightarrow n_0 \sim 10^{25} / \text{cc}, T_{crit} / (1+z) \sim 10 \text{ keV}$$

Axion DM ( $a < a_{eq}$ )  $\Rightarrow$  Free-particle wave DM ( $a > a_{eq}$ )

Schroedinger Eq. for DM dynamics ( $\psi$ DM)

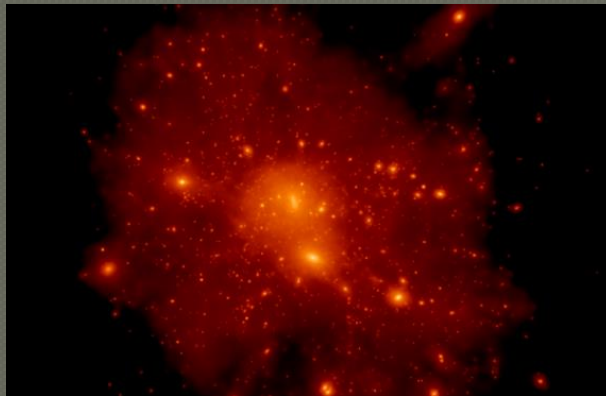
- Small-scale astronomical problems
- $\psi$ DM halo: dynamical simulation
- Ly $\alpha$  forest Problem ( $z \sim 2.5-4.5$ )---Extreme Axion
- Additional observation tests, e.g., pulsar timing, 21cm tomography

# Trouble with CDM

---

- Small-scale ( $\sim$  kpc) problems:

(a) Missing satellite dwarf galaxies around Milky Way



> 100 satellites for CDM

(b) Flat-cores in dwarf spheroidal galaxies as opposed to

CDM bound halo:  $\rho(r) = \rho_0 / r(1 + cr^2)$

Using Jeans Eq. :  $d(\rho\sigma^2)/dr = -\rho GM(r)/r^2$

# Wave Dark Matter ( $\psi$ DM) (back of the envelope estimates)

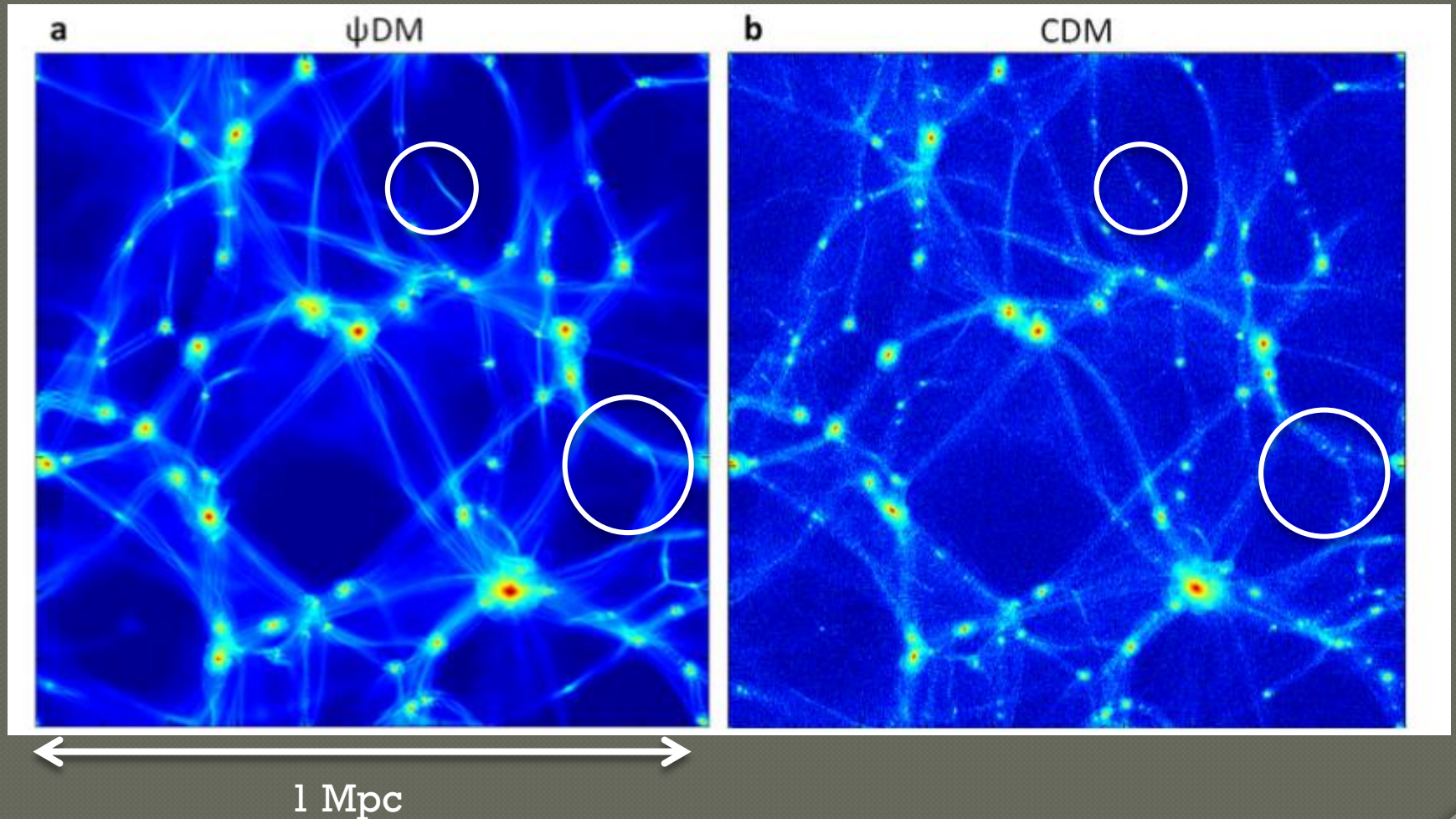
- Dark matter described by a single wave function  $\psi$

$$\left[ i \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \frac{\nabla^2}{2} - aV \right] \psi = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 V = 4\pi(|\psi|^2 - 1)$$

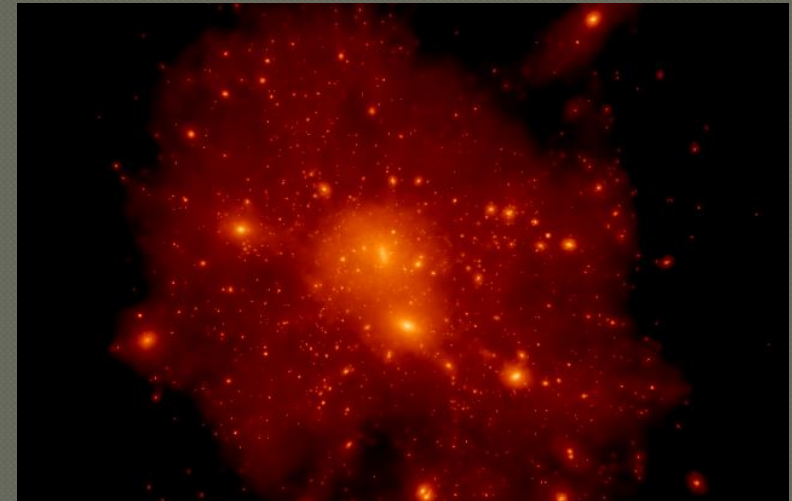
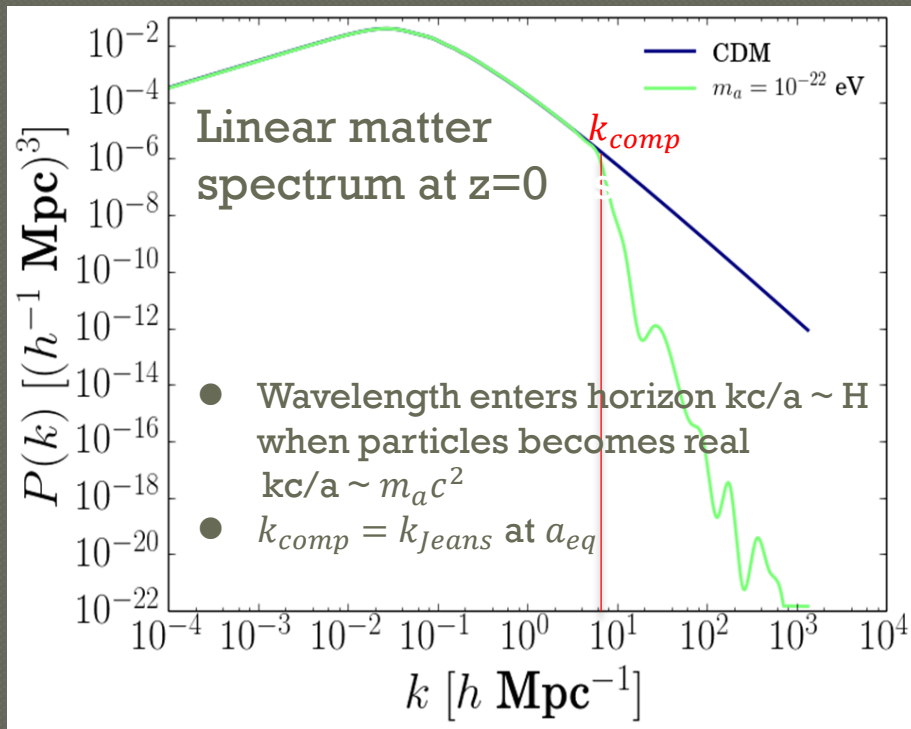
- $\Delta x \Delta v = \hbar/m_a \sim (10 \text{ km/s}) \text{ kpc}$  : astronomical scale
- Expect that the uncertainty principle respected in Milky Way:  $\Delta v \sim 200 \text{ km/s} \longrightarrow \Delta x \sim 0.1 \text{ kpc}$ , small scale!
- However,  $G$  &  $\Delta v$  demands large scale  $\sim 100 \text{ kpc}$ !  
 $\longrightarrow$  Solution has coexisting small & large scales!
- What if  $G$  and  $\hbar/m_a$  balance and share the same scale?  
 $\Delta x = (\hbar/m_a)^2 / G M_s$  for a particular mass  $M_s$   
 Black hole analogy,  $G$  balances  $c$ :  $R_{BH} = G M_{BH} / c^2$

Dynamical simulations:  
Reproduce CDM galaxy distribution  $> 30\text{kpc}$  scale  
But small scales ....



# Explain Missing Satellite Galaxies

Small-scale linear power suppressed at  
Compton (Jeans) length



CDM simulation of a major halo  
several 100s of dwarf galaxies,  
but only several 10s are detected

Hu et al., PRL, (2000)

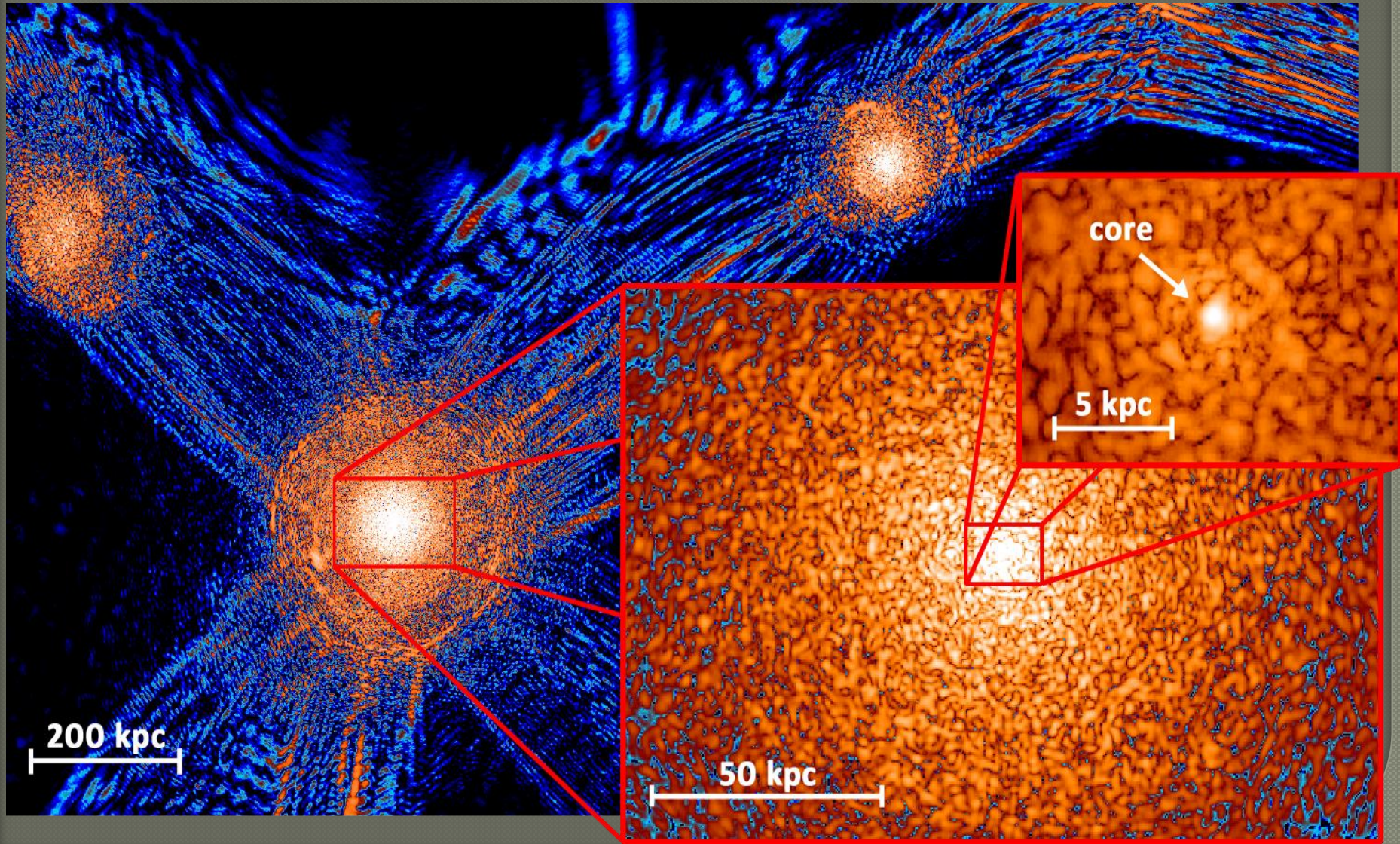
Woo & Chiueh, ApJ (2009)

Zhang & Chiueh, PRD (2017a)

Jeans wavenumber  $k_J^2 \sim aG/c_s^2 \sim a^{1/2}$   
with  $c_s^2$  replaced by  $v^2 \sim (\hbar k_J/m_a)^2$

# Dynamical Simulations:

A single soliton core and granular halo in every galaxy

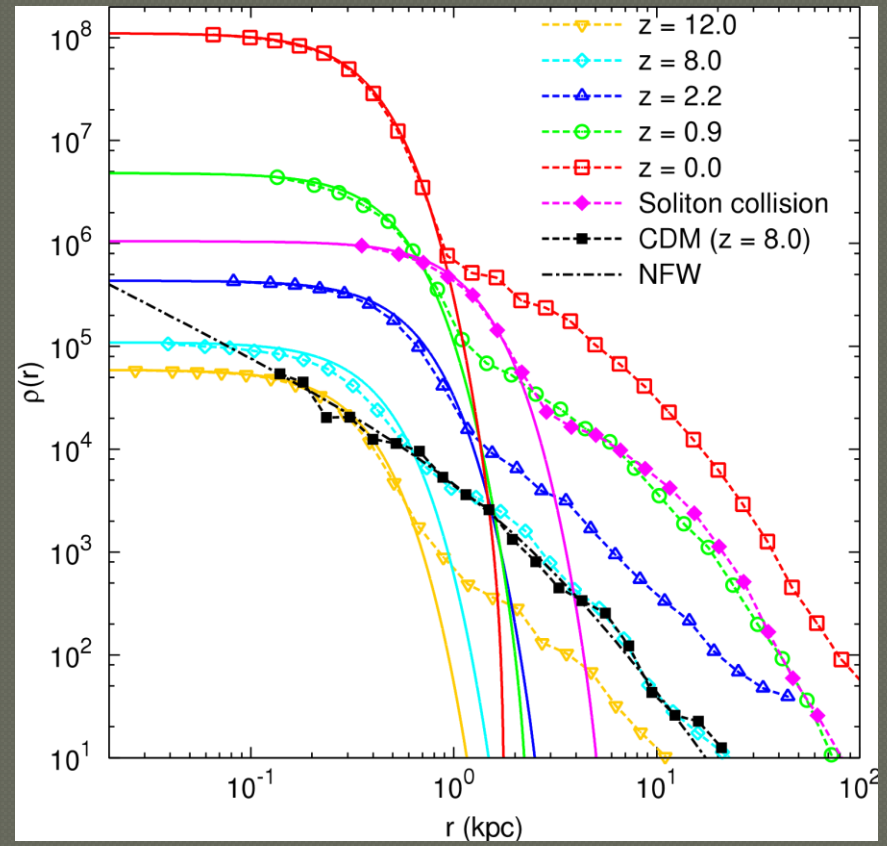
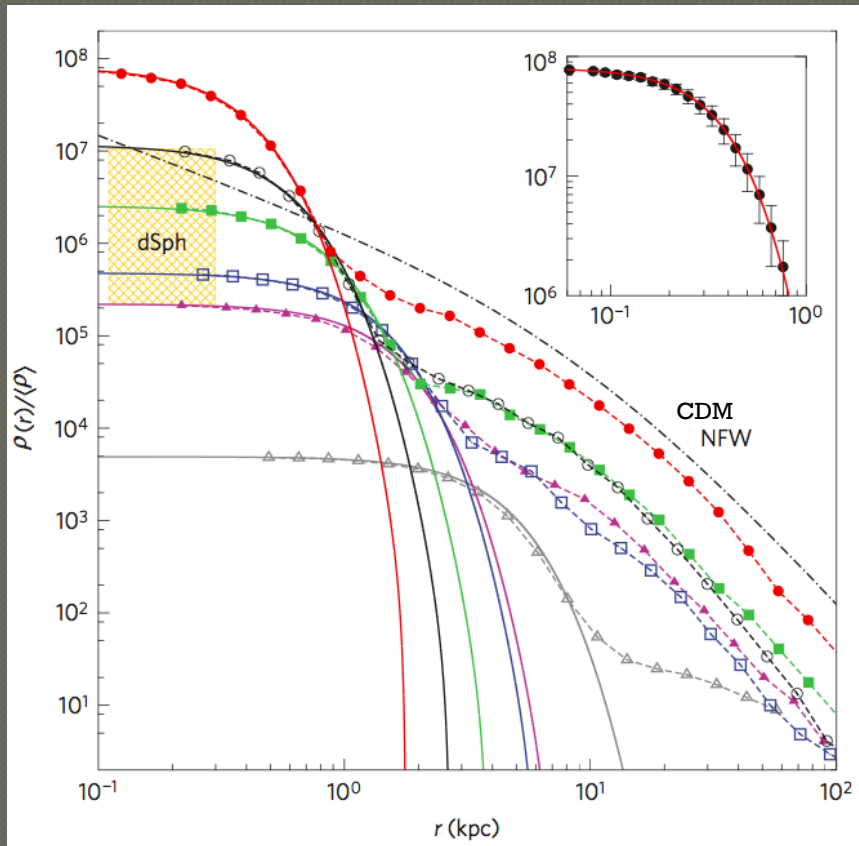


# A soliton in a galaxy halo

Schive et al.  
2014, PRL

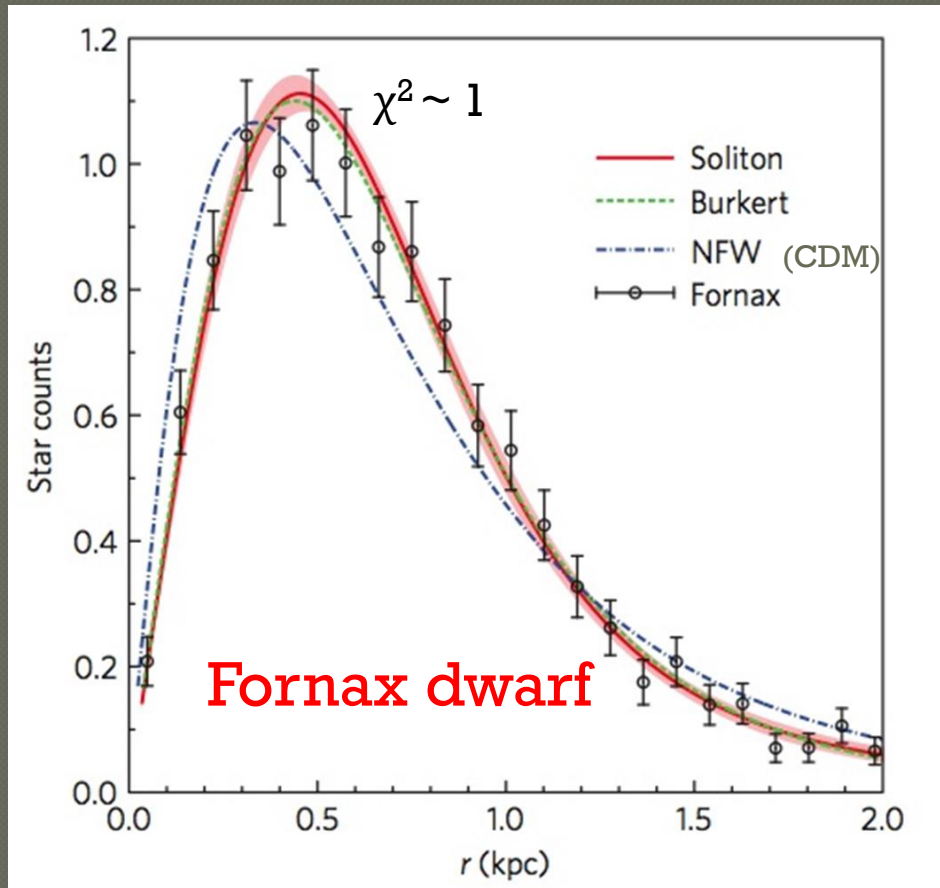
$z = 0$  dwarf galaxies

Redshift evolution





# Solution to the flat-core problem: Stars reside in the soliton core

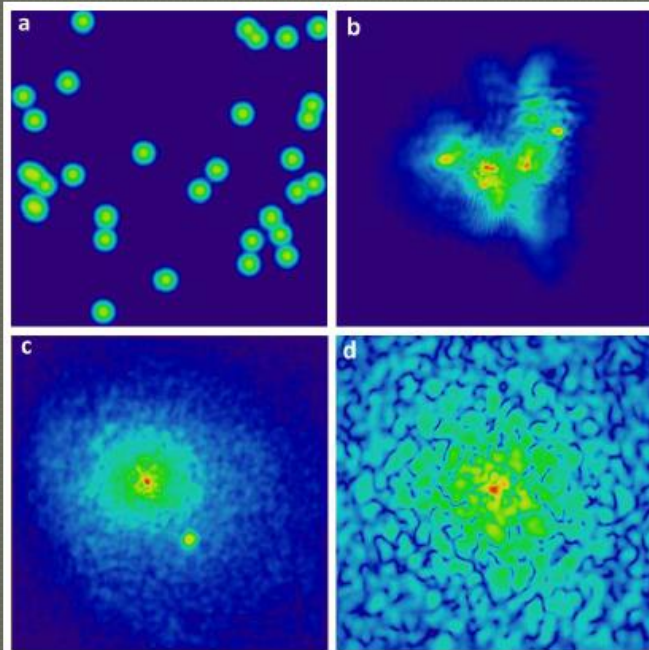


- Given observed stars density and velocity profiles, determine  $m_a \sim 10^{-22} \text{ eV}$  using  $M_s r_s \sim \hbar/m_a$
- Confirm  $m_a$  with 4 more dSphs, Chen et al. (2016)



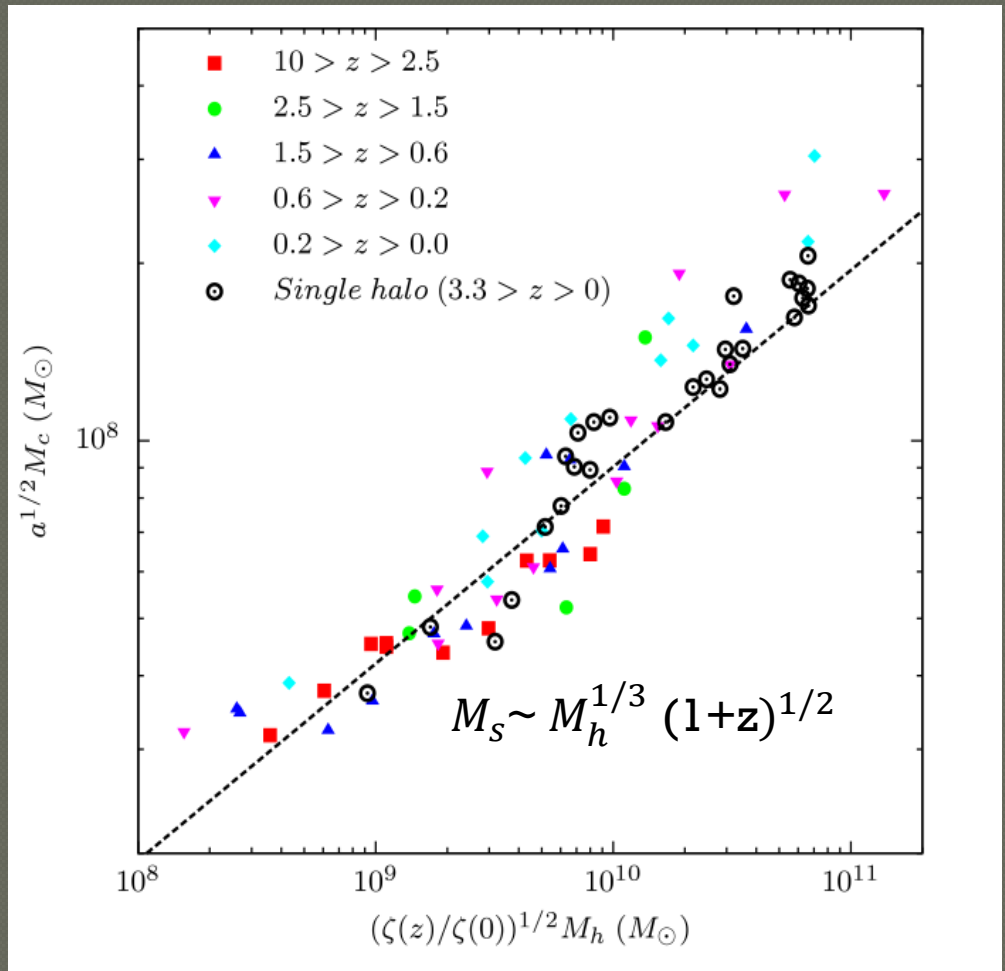
Schive et al. Nature Phys (2014)

# DM Core-Halo relation:

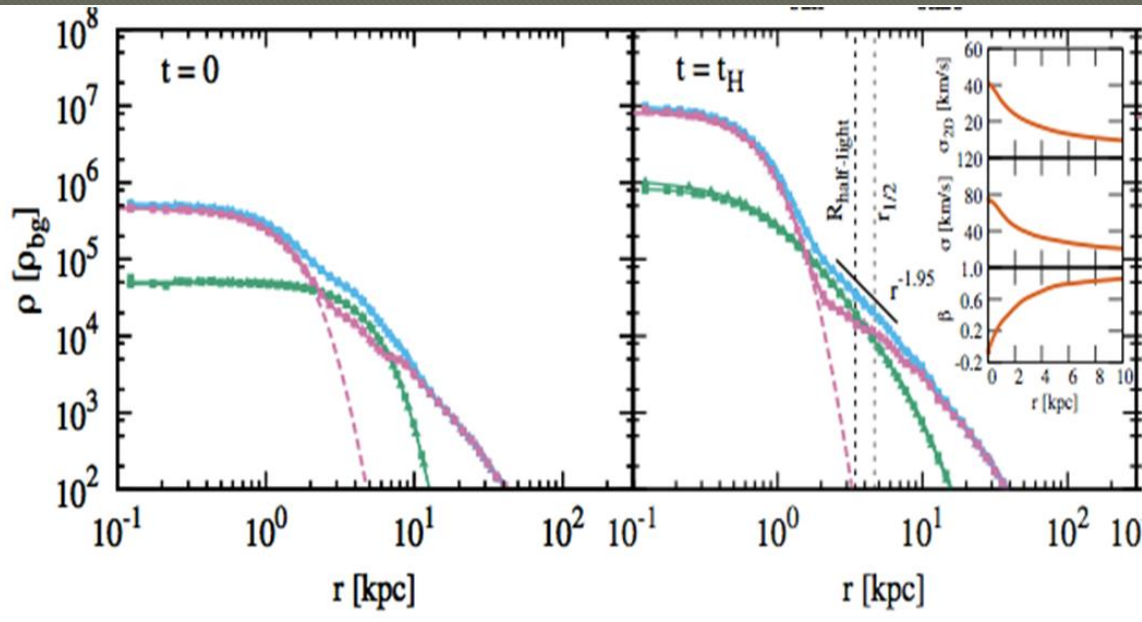


can be explained by  
equilibration of  
soliton "temperature"  
& halo "temperature"

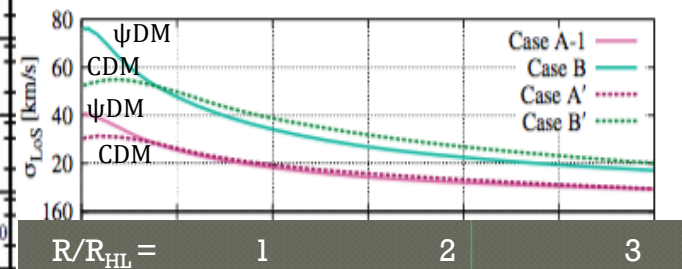
$$\Delta v_{\text{sol}} = (\hbar/m_a)/r_{\text{sol}} \sim (E_h/M_h)^{1/2} = \Delta v_h$$



# DM halo+Stars



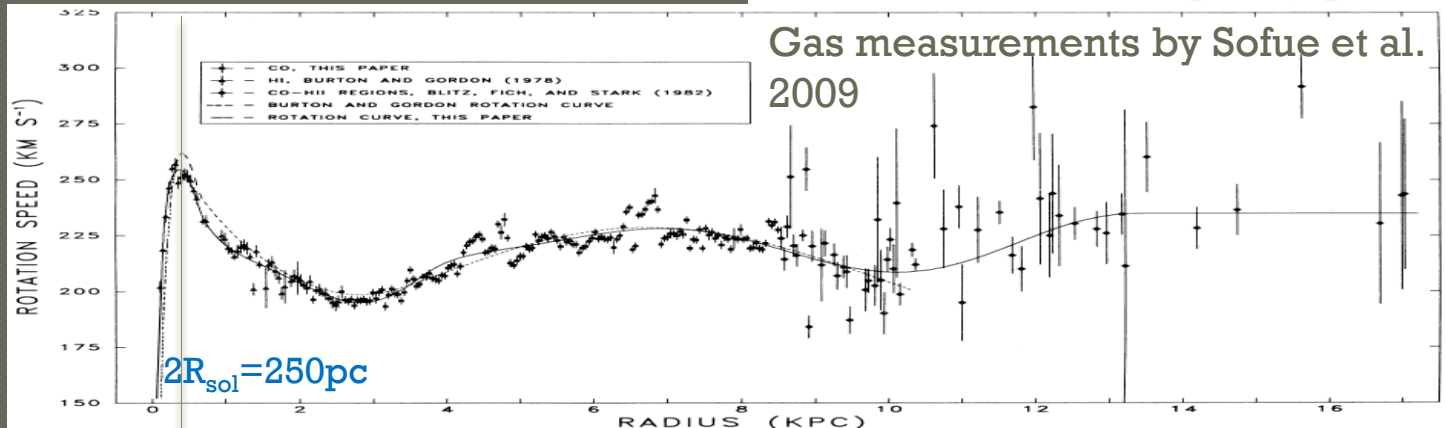
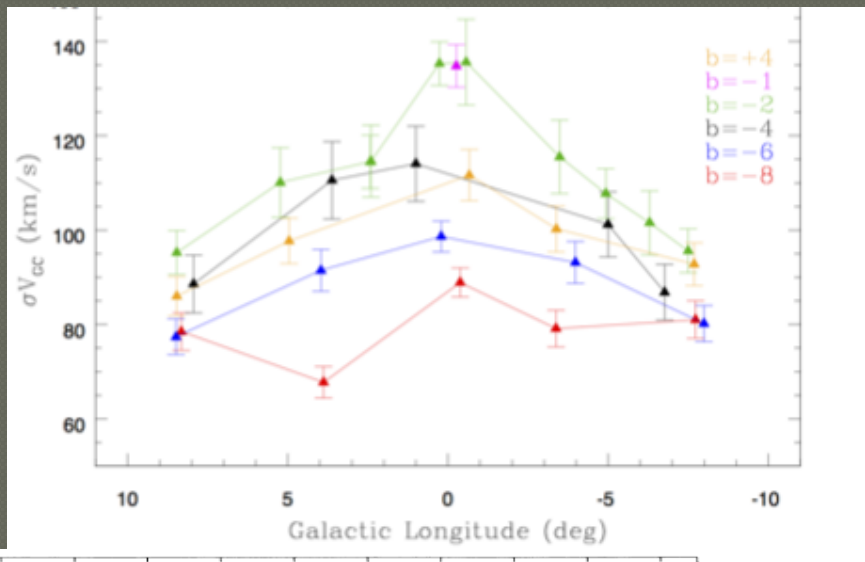
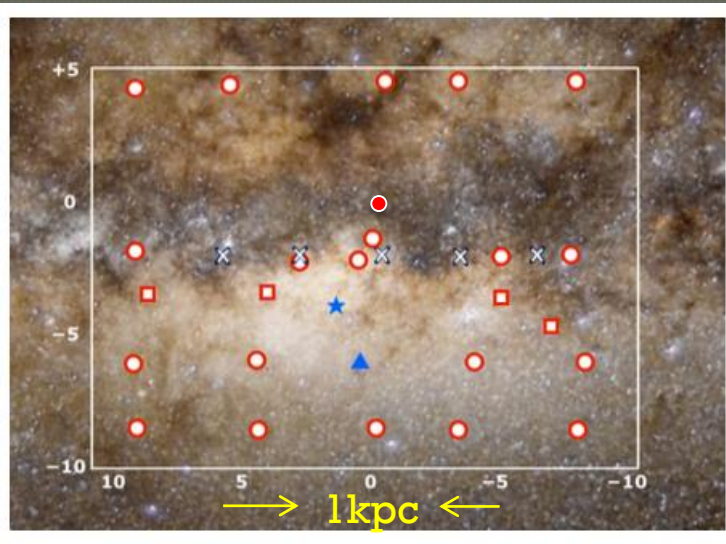
Compare  $\psi$ DM and CDM halos



- a stronger soliton with the addition of stars
- velocity dispersion increases by 2 inward from  $R=R_{\text{HL}}$

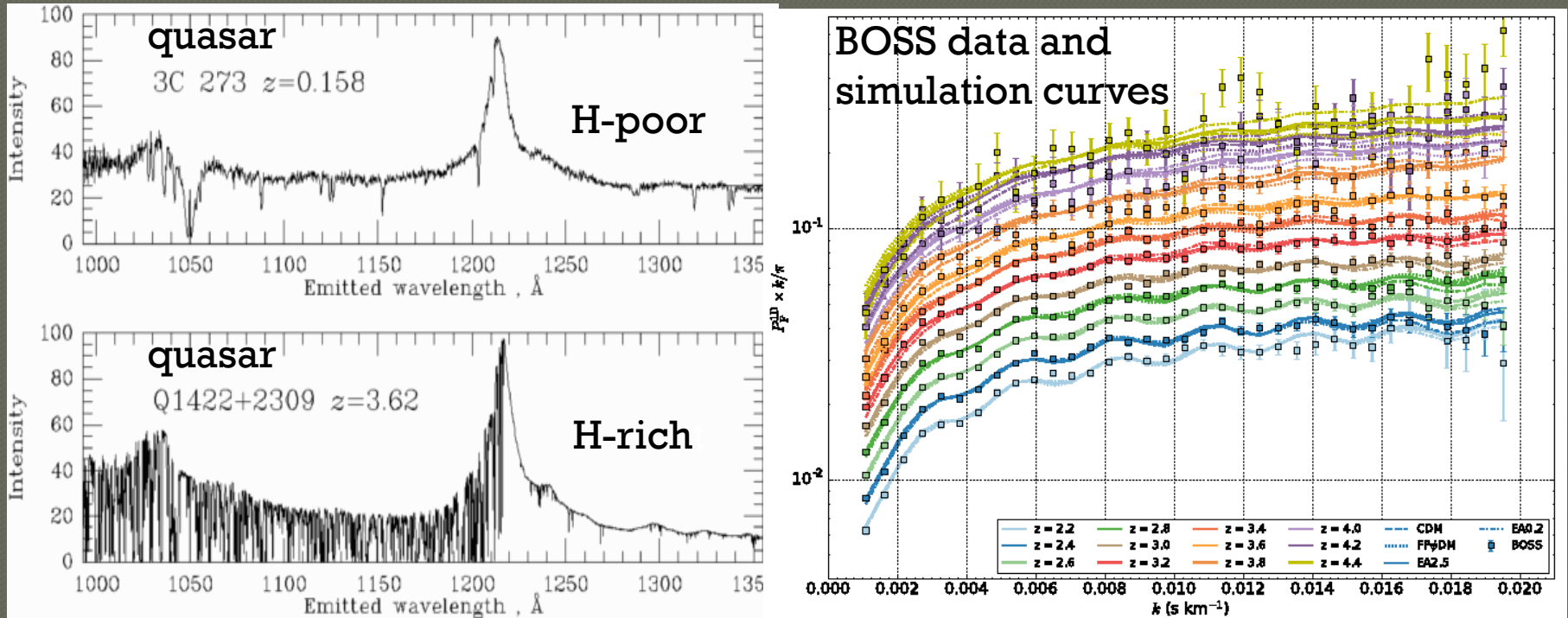
# Milky Way bulge stars velocity dispersion & rotation curve

Vanlenti et al. A&A (2018), Portail, et al. MNRAS (2017)



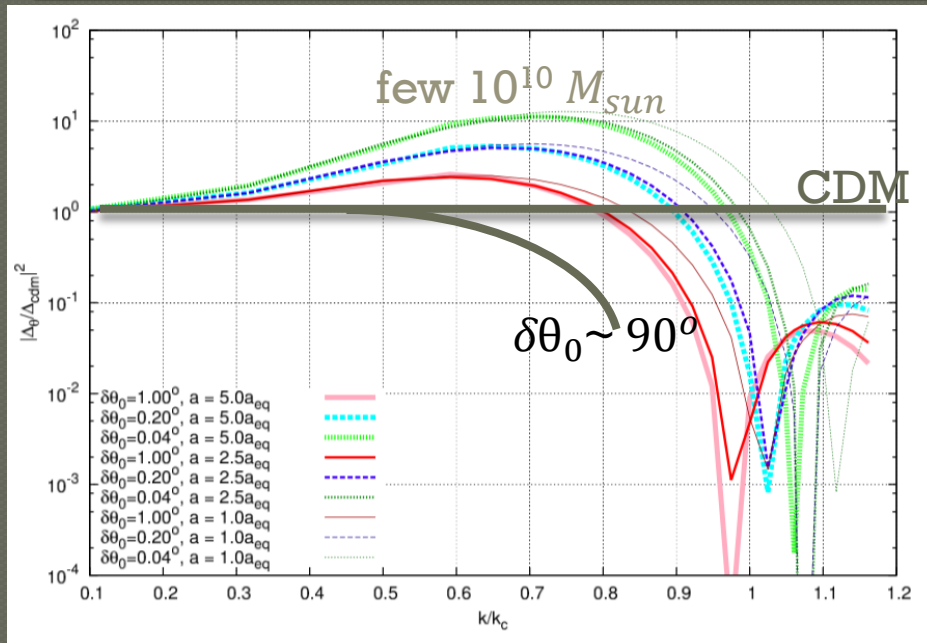
# Ly $\alpha$ Forest Problem

## H absorption (Ly $\alpha$ forest) power spectra

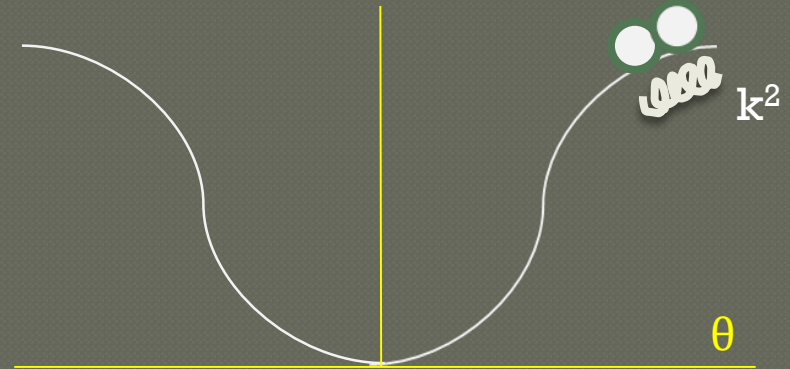


- Free  $\psi$ DM of  $m_a = 10^{-22}$  eV has too little small-scale power! (Armengaud et al. 2017; Irsic et al. 2017)
- Extreme axion DM gives better agreement with the data than CDM

# Extreme Axion power spectrum coming out of radiation era



$$\delta\theta_0 = 90^\circ - \theta_0$$



Zhang & Chiueh(b), PRD (2017); Schive & Chiueh, MNRAS (2017)

- Parametric instability,  $\delta x \nearrow$  with time
- Delayed oscillation avoids Hubble friction
- Growth factor  $\sim k^2$  since long waves enter horizon late
- First galaxies  $\sim 10^{10} M_{sun}$
- Best-fit  $\delta\theta_0 \sim 2.5^\circ$  from Lyman- $\alpha$  forest data (Leong et al. MNRAS 2019)

# Pulsar timing observation of $\psi$ DM

- $P^{(0)}(t) = \rho^{(0)} \cos(2mt + 2S)$
- Poisson gauge,  $ds^2 = -(1+2\Phi) dt^2 + (1-2\Psi) dx^2$

$$\nabla^2 \Psi^{(0)} = 4\pi G \rho^{(0)}$$

$$\partial_t^2 \Psi^{(1)} = -4\pi G P^{(0)} = -4\pi G \rho^{(0)} \cos(2mt + 2S(x, t))$$

$$\Psi^{(1)} = \frac{\pi G \rho^{(0)}(x, t)}{m^2} \cos(2mt + 2S(x, t))$$

$$\sim O(v^4/c^4)$$

Khmelnitsky & Rubako  
JCAP (2014)

(1) mass oscillation, (2) proportional to local mass density

# Photon propagation in $G$ field (Integral Sachs-Wolfe)

$$\frac{d \ln E}{dt} = -\mathbf{u} \cdot (\nabla \Phi(x, t) + u^2 \nabla \Psi(x, t)) + u^2 \frac{d\Psi(x, t)}{dt}$$

$$\ln(E - u^2 \Psi)|_{t_0}^{t_1} = - \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla (\Phi(x, t) + u^2 \Psi(x, t))|_{x=ct}$$

←  $O(v/c)$  smaller

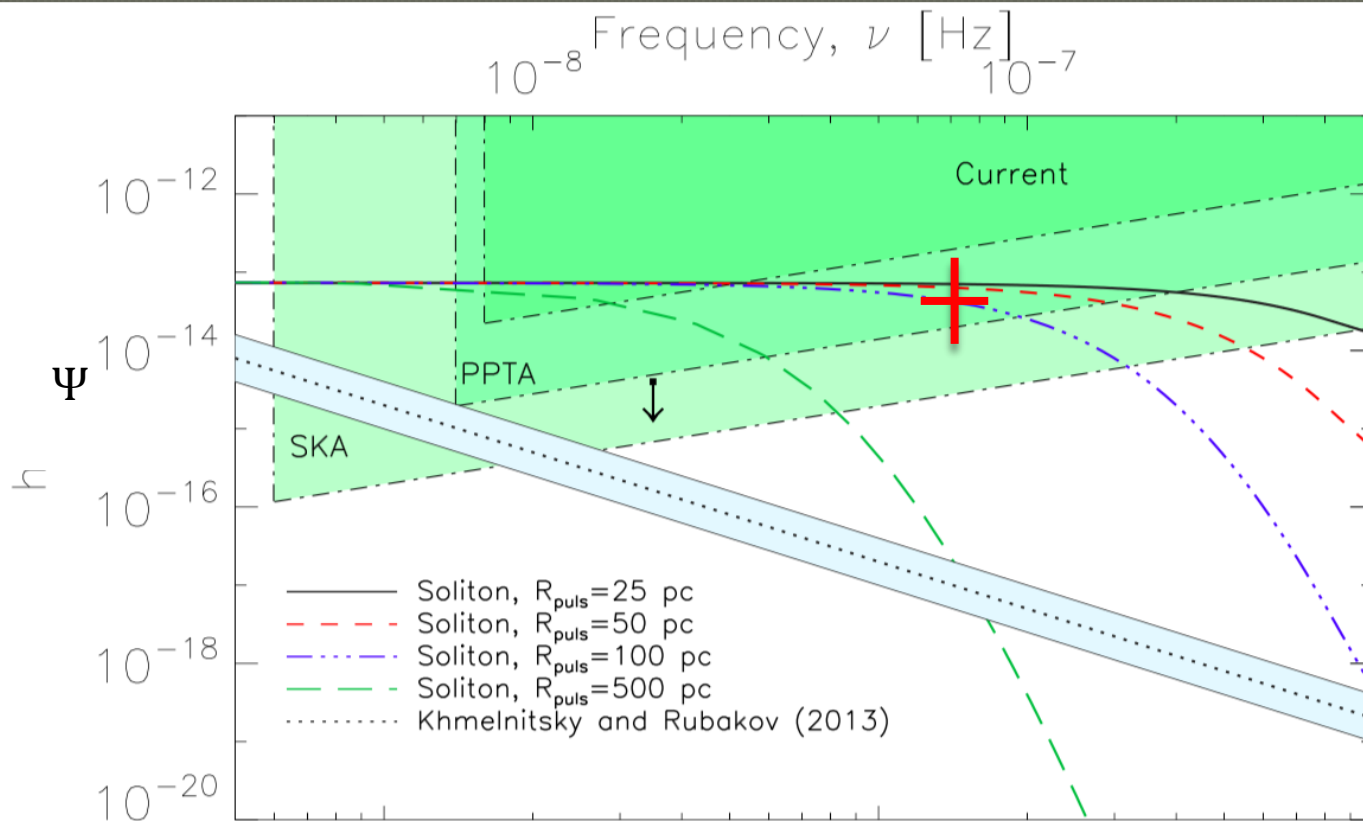
$$\frac{\delta E(t_1)}{E} = -[u^2 (\Psi_t^{(1)}(x_0, t_0) - \Psi_t^{(1)}(x_1, t_1))] = \delta v/v$$

$$\sim \rho^{(0)} \cos(2mt + 2S), \quad \nu \sim 1 \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ for } m \sim 10^{-22} \text{ eV}$$



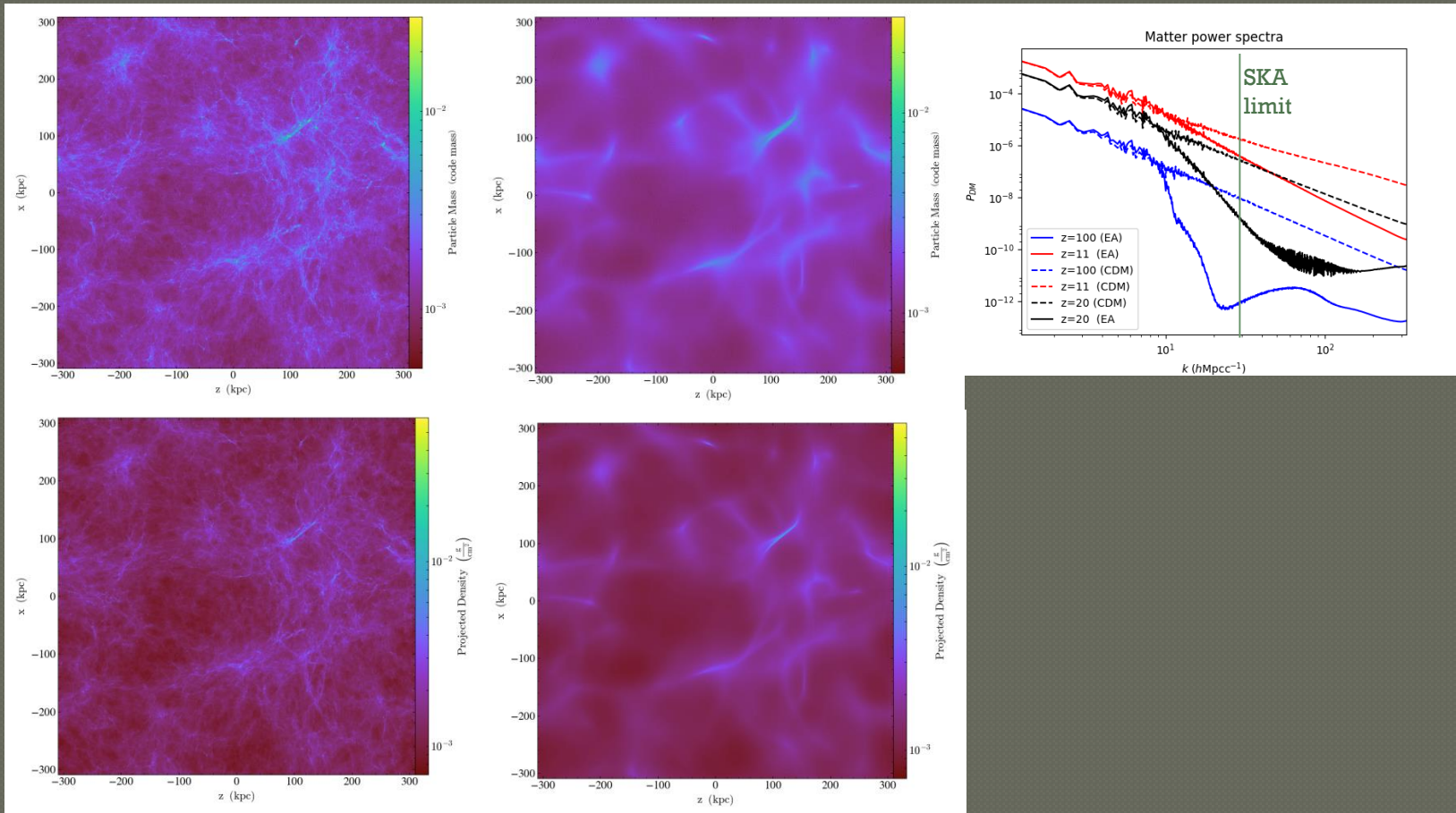
# Milky Way Pulsar Timing Exp.

$\Psi^{(1)} \sim 10^{-13}$  at the soliton ( $\rho \sim 1\text{-}2 \text{ TeV/cc}$ )  
 $\sim 10^{-16}$  at 1 kpc inner halo ( $\rho \sim 1 \text{ GeV/cc}$ )



De Martino, et al, PRL, 2017

# 21cm tomography



# Conclusion

---

- Review on basic wave dark matter ( $\psi$ DM) which solves small-scale problems with matter spectrum and soliton
- Central soliton + granules in any halo: soliton mass & halo mass relation
- Adding stars enhances soliton; cusp in star velocity dispersion due to the central mass lump
- Extreme axion  $\psi$ DM has enhanced small scale power about  $10^{10} M_{sun}$ , modifying the universe landscape in  $z > 4$
- Pulsar timing is within reach to test  $\psi$ DM
- 21cm tomography probed by SKA

**Thank you**

---