

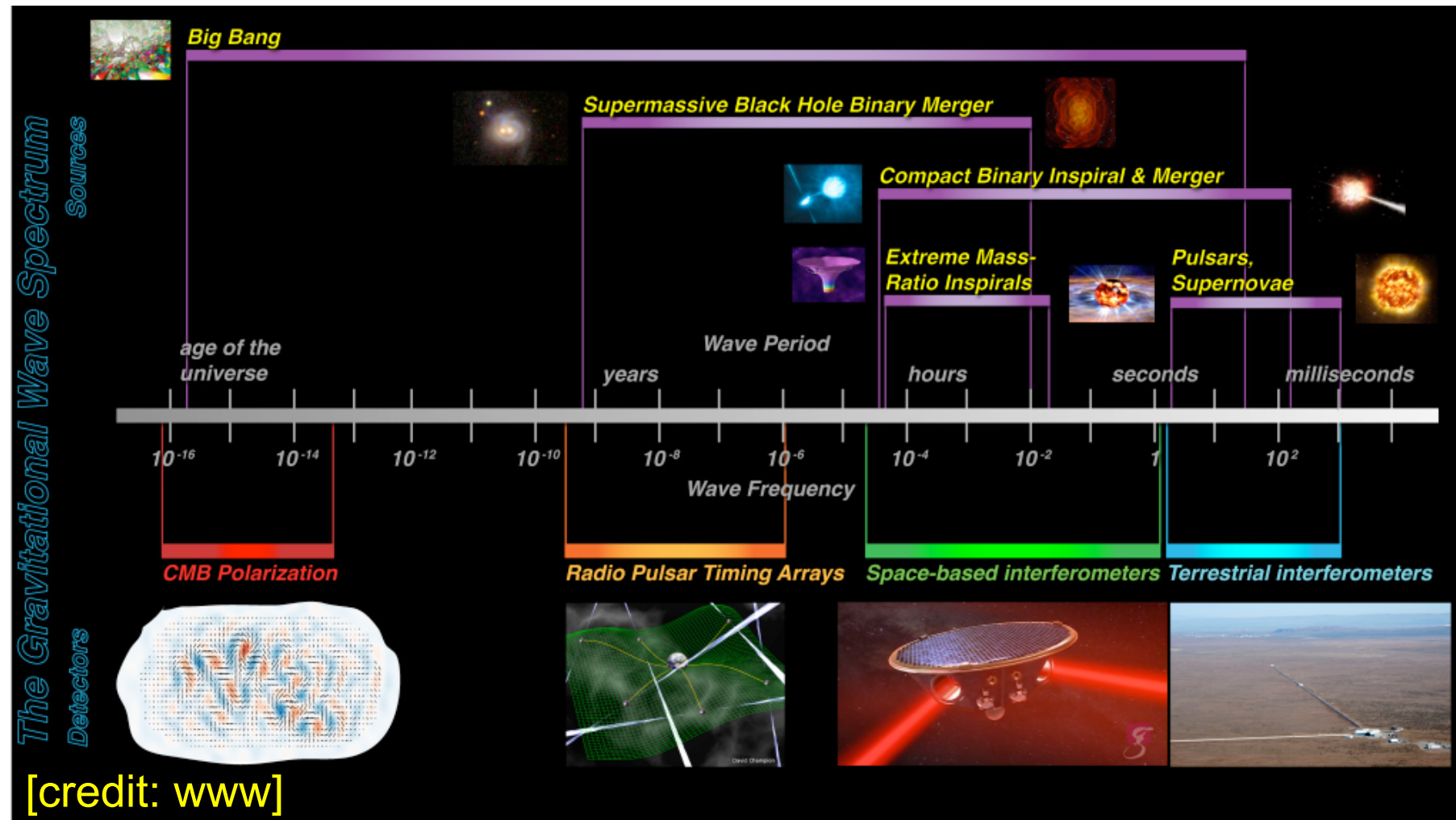
PULSAR POLARIZATION ARRAYS

Tao LIU

Hong Kong Univ. of Science and Technology



Pulsar Timing Arrays (PTAs)



- A network of widely distributed and well-timed millisecond pulsars (MSPs)
- A galactic timing interferometer to detect \sim nanohz gravitational waves (GWs) [S. L. Detweiler, Astrophys. J. 234 (1979)]



Cross-correlation of Pulsars

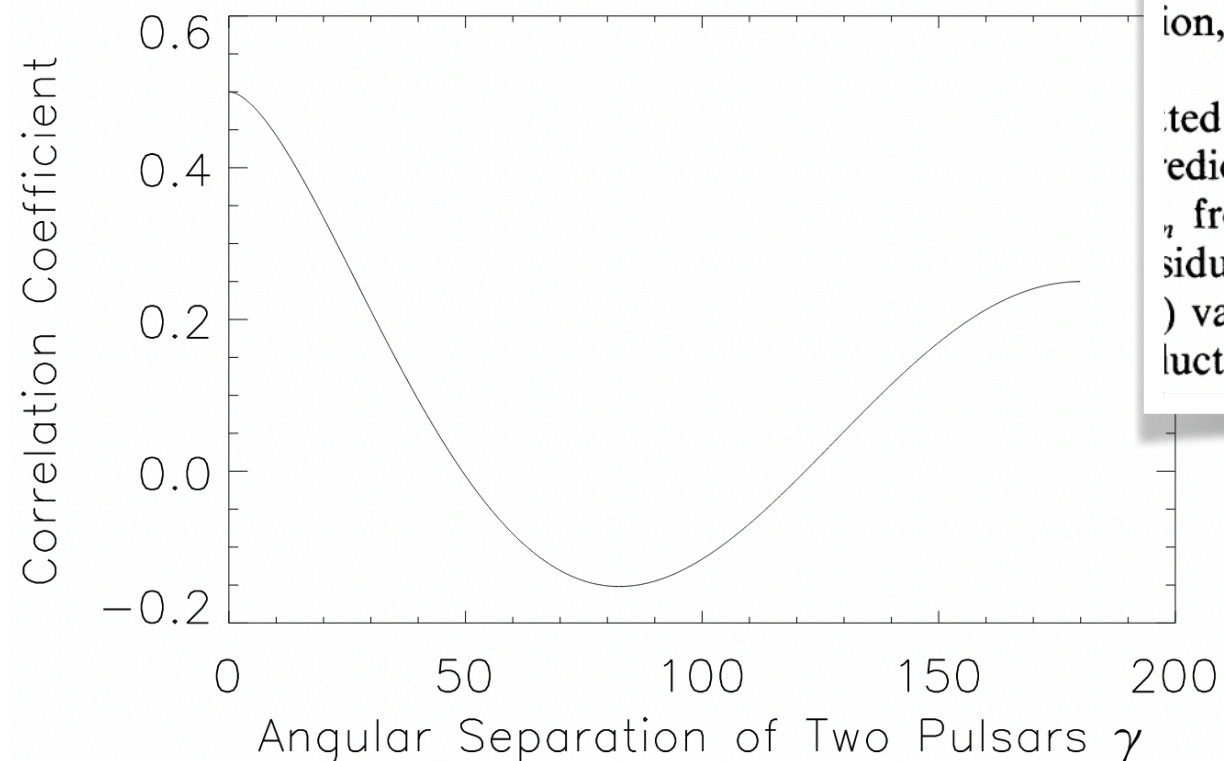
THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, **265**:L39–L42, 1983 February 15
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UPPER LIMITS ON THE ISOTROPIC GRAVITATIONAL RADIATION BACKGROUND FROM PULSAR TIMING ANALYSIS¹

R. W. HELTINGS AND G. S. DOWNS

Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

Received 1982 October 1; accepted 1982 October 20



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signals are
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luctuations

per limit of about 10^{-8} s for the periods to which
a are sensitive. It should also be noted from
n (1) that data from any pulsar contain informa-
out $h(t)$ at the time and place of reception (i.e.,
n) and about the value $h(t)$ had at the pulsar at
e of emission of the signal. Thus, data from any
will have a gravitational wave signal in common
other pulsars (though with an amplitude scaled
 $\cos \theta$) as well as a component of the signal
which will be independent of the others due to the long
light times between pulsars compared with the 12 yr
data span. When data from several pulsars are cross-cor-
related, this common signal will allow one to dig into
the pulsar noise to detect a possible common gravita-
tional wave signal.

b) Cross-Correlation

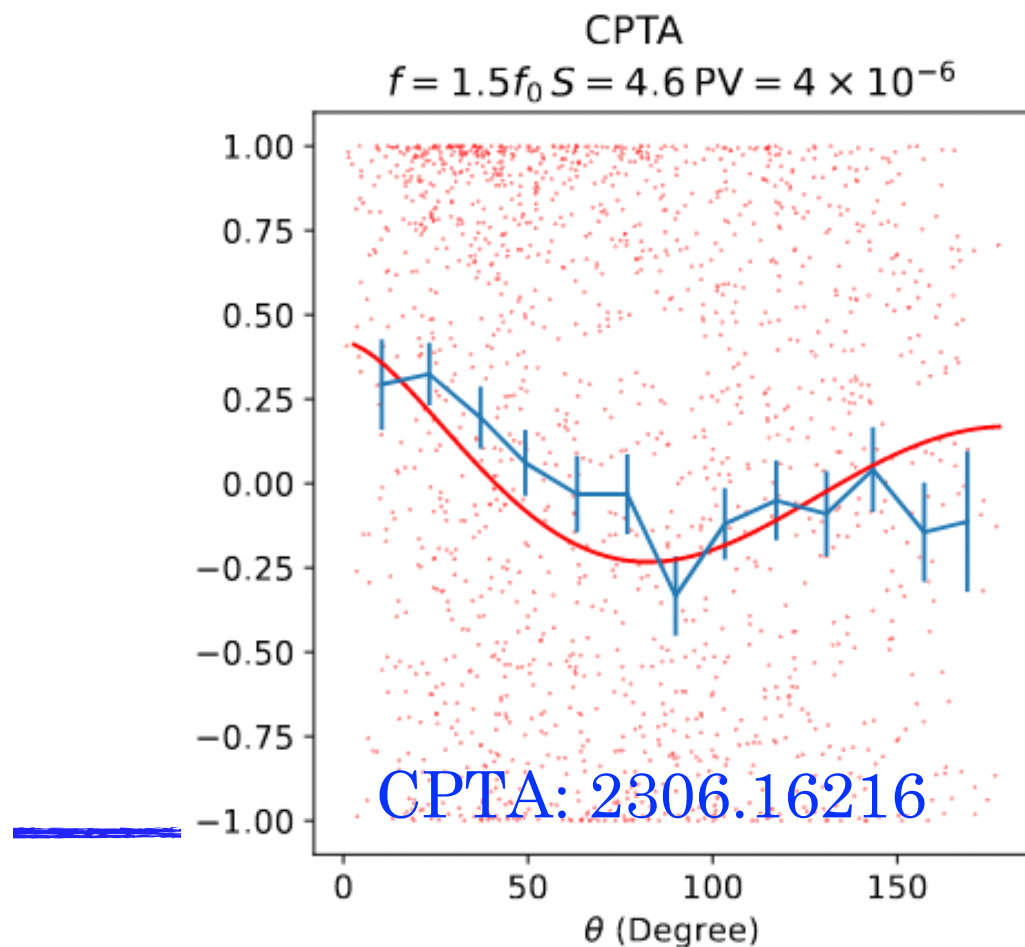
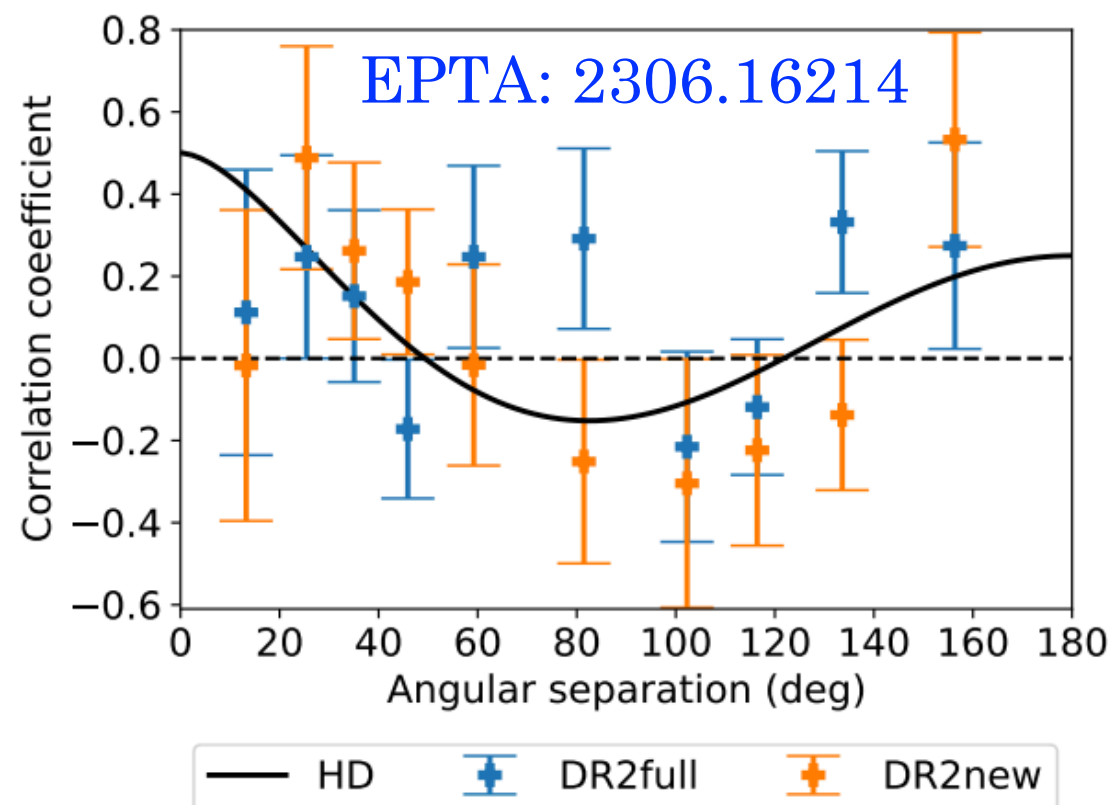
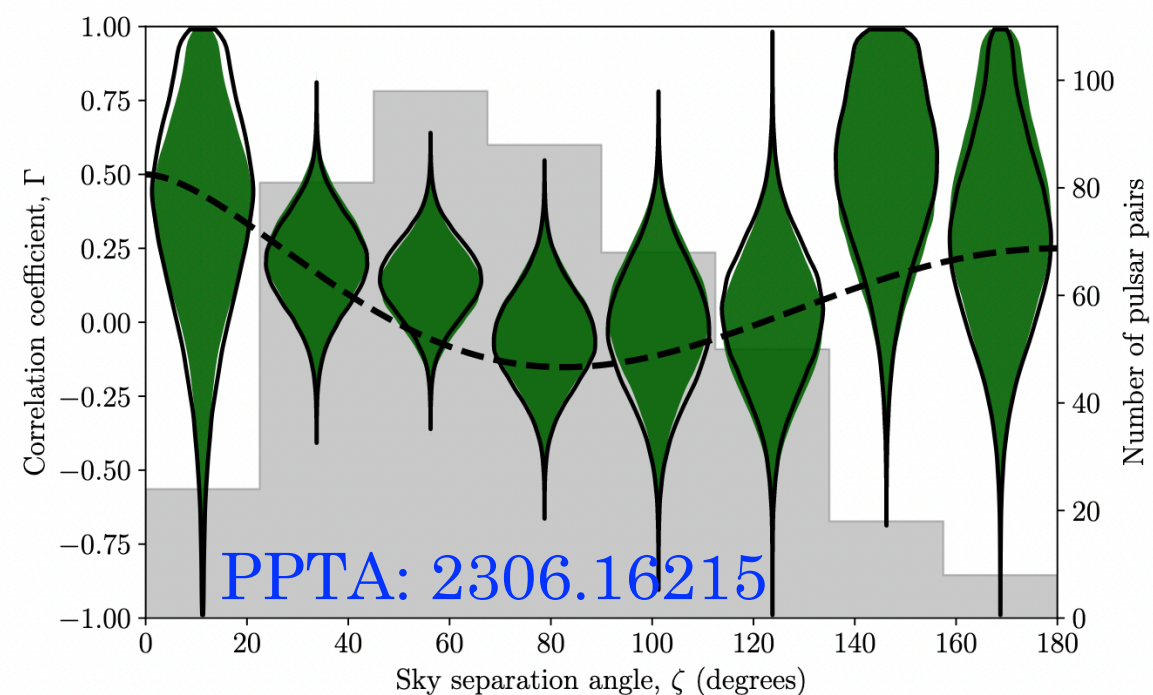
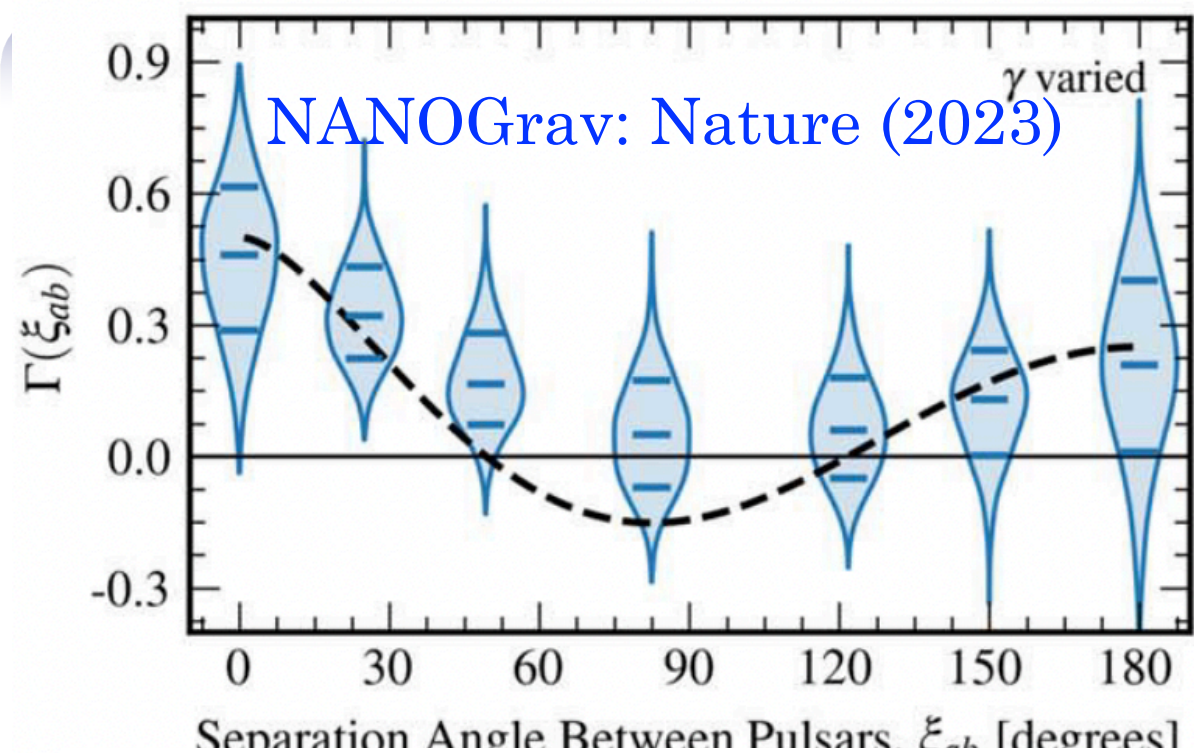
The fractional frequency shift observed in the data on
pulsar number i may be written

Hellings-Downs Curve

Encodes exactly the cross-correlation of pulsar timing
data that would indicate a common GW signal.



A Milestone





Pulsars as A Precision Astronomical Laboratory

ATNF Pulsar Catalogue



[Catalogue Tutorial](#) | [Documentation](#) | [Expert](#) | [ATNF Pulsar Home](#) | [Pulsar Tutorial](#) | [Glitch table](#) | [Feedback](#) | [Download](#) | [History](#)

Catalogue version: 1.67

#	PSRJ		F0 (Hz)	DM (cm ⁻³ pc)	RM (rad m ⁻²)	DIST (kpc)
1	J0002+6216	cwp+17	8.6682478274	1 cwp+17	218.6	6 wcp+18
2	J0006+1834	cnt96	1.4414462816	3 cn95	11.41	55 bkk+16
3	J0007+7303	aaa+09c	3.165827392	3 awd+12	*	0 *
4	J0011+08	dsm+16	0.391716	0 dsm+16	24.9	0 dsm+16
5	J0014+4746	dth78	0.805997239145	7 hlk+04	30.405	13 bkk+16
111	J0211-8159	lml+98	0.9282183663	7 dsb+98	24.36	3 dsb+98
112	J0212+5222	bck+13	2.65684439046	1 lsk+18	38.21	3 lsk+18
113	J0214+5222	slr+14	40.6912718043	4 slr+14	22.0354	34 slr+14
114	J0215+6218	llc98	1.821892452777	9 hlk+04	84.00	5 hlk+04
115	J0218+4232	nbf+95	430.461054545748	15 dcl+16	61.252	5 hlk+04
1906	J1810+1744	hrm+11	602.409639	0 hrm+11	39.7	0 hrm+11
1907	J1810-1820	mhl+02	6.5054918751	3 mhl+02	452.2	25 mhl+02
1908	J1810-2005	clm+01	30.467142155106	7 jsb+10	241.0	3 jsb+10
1909	J1810-5338	mlt+78	3.8306868647	4 lbs+20	45	2 nmc+11
1910	J1811-0154	ebvb01	1.08114557226	5 ebvb01	148.1	2 mss+20
3276	J2257+5909	dls72	2.71557265035	5 hlk+04	151.082	6 hlk+04
3277	J2301+5852	fg81	0.14328554678	3 dk14	*	0 *
3278	J2302+4442	cgj+11	192.5919636477142	8 aab+21a	13.788120	0 aab+21a
3279	J2302+6028	snt97	0.828909520456	14 snt97	156.7	1 snt97
3280	J2305+3100	lan69	0.634563531429	3 hlk+04	49.5845	12 bkk+16

$$\text{RM} = \frac{\text{PA}}{\lambda^2}$$

rotation measure

polarization angle

wavelength

- Timing
- Polarization (linearly-polarized; measured for calibrating pulsar observation)

Can we cross-correlate pulsar polarization data, as done for the timing data, to give full play to its capability in exploring astrophysics and fundamental physics?



Pulsar Polarization Arrays (PPAs)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **130**, 121401 (2023)

[arXiv:2111.10615]

Pulsar Polarization Arrays

Tao Liu,^{1,*} Xuzixiang Lou^{1,†} and Jing Ren^{2,‡}

¹*Department of Physics, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong S.A.R., People's Republic of China*

²*Institute of High Energy Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, People's Republic of China*

 (Received 21 February 2022; revised 31 December 2022; accepted 27 February 2023; published 23 March 2023)

Pulsar timing arrays (PTAs) consisting of widely distributed and well-timed millisecond pulsars can serve as a galactic interferometer to measure gravitational waves. With the same data acquired for PTAs, we propose to develop pulsar polarization arrays (PPAs), to explore astrophysics and fundamental physics. As in the case of PTAs, PPAs are best suited to reveal temporal and spatial correlations at large scales that are hard to mimic by local noise. To demonstrate the physical potential of PPAs, we consider detection of ultralight axionlike dark matter (ALDM), through cosmic birefringence induced by its Chern-Simons coupling. Because of its tiny mass, the ultralight ALDM can be generated as a Bose-Einstein condensate, characterized by a strong wave nature. Incorporating both temporal and spatial correlations of the signal, we show that PPAs have a potential to probe the Chern-Simons coupling up to $\sim 10^{-14} - 10^{-17} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$, with a mass range $\sim 10^{-27} - 10^{-21} \text{ eV}$.

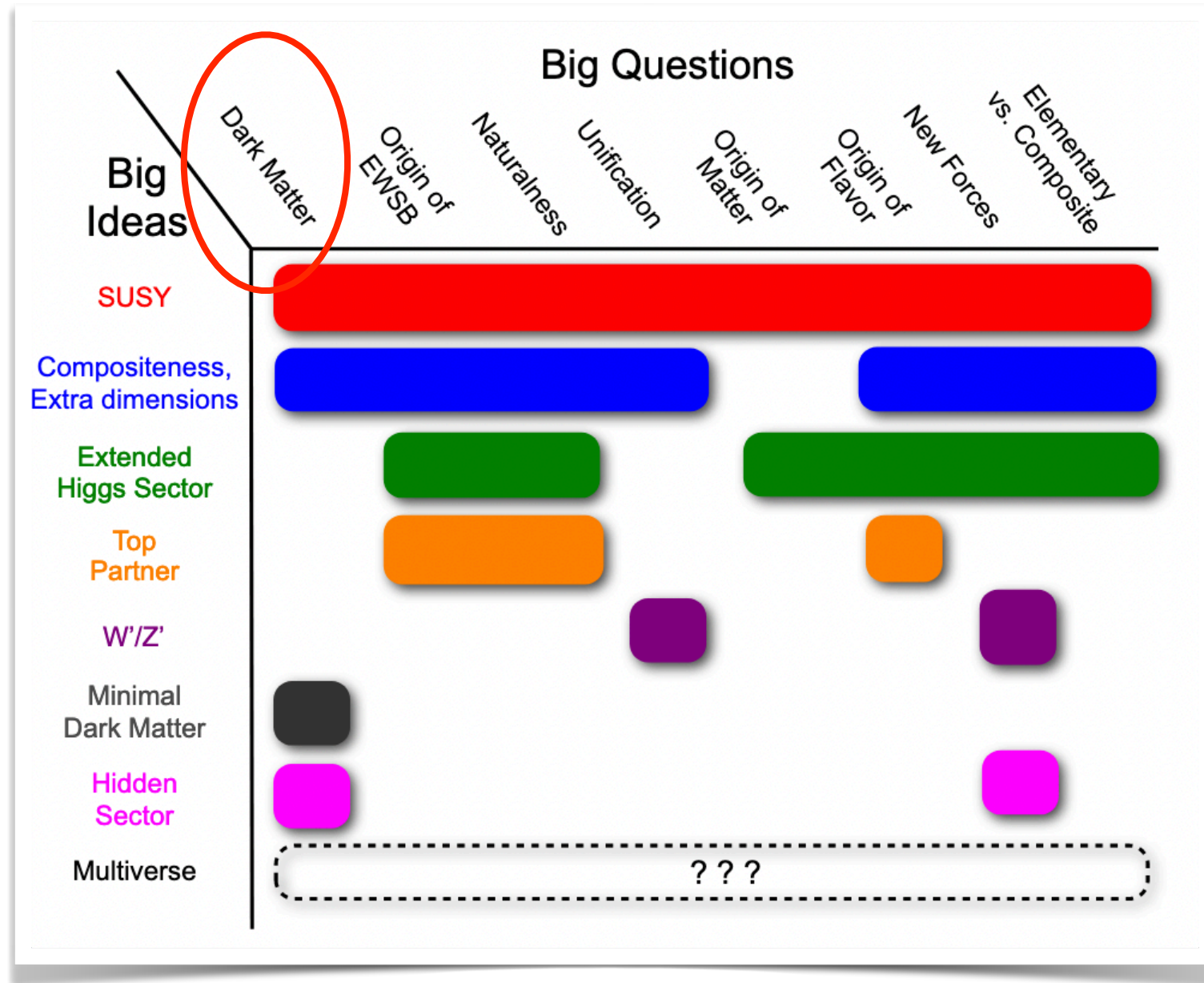
DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevLett.130.121401](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.130.121401)

PTAs: suited for revealing physics with a common correlated **timing** signal
PPAs: suited for revealing physics with a common correlated **polarization** signal



Big Questions for Particle Physicists

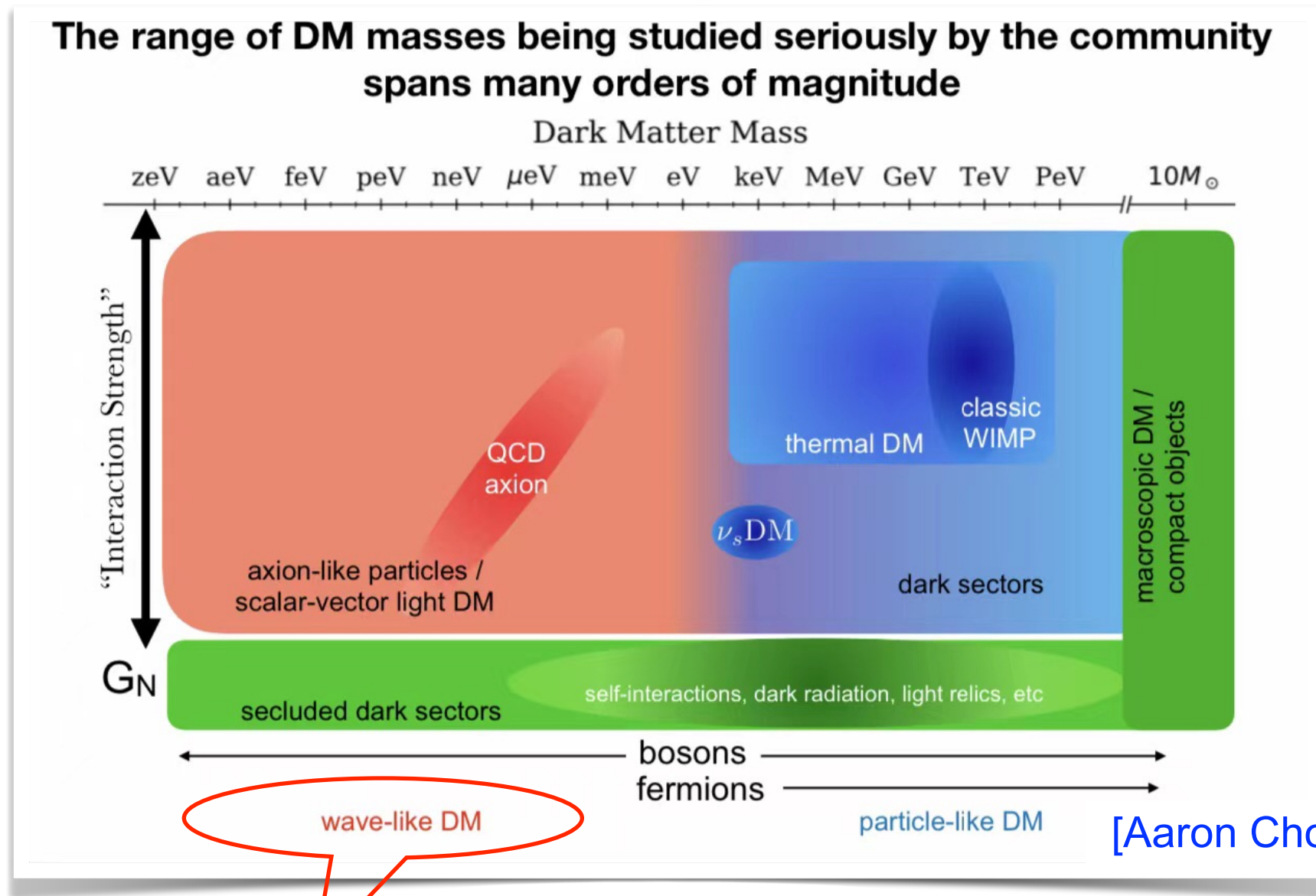
[Working group report (particle physics) for Snowmass 2013]



As one scientific case, we consider
the detection of axion-like wave Dark Matter



Wave Dark Matter (WDM)



$$N_{\text{dB}} = \rho_{\text{DM}} \lambda_{\text{dB}}^3 \sim \left(\frac{34\text{eV}}{m_a} \right)^4 \left(\frac{250\text{km/s}}{v} \right)^3$$

Wave Dark Matter: Bosonic and $m_a \ll 30 \text{ eV} \Rightarrow$ Large occupation number per de Broglie volume ($N_{\text{dB}} \gg 1$) in a Milky-Way-like environment \Rightarrow Formation of a coherent state with strong **wave** nature



Axion-like WDM

[Also see Geraldine Servant's talk]

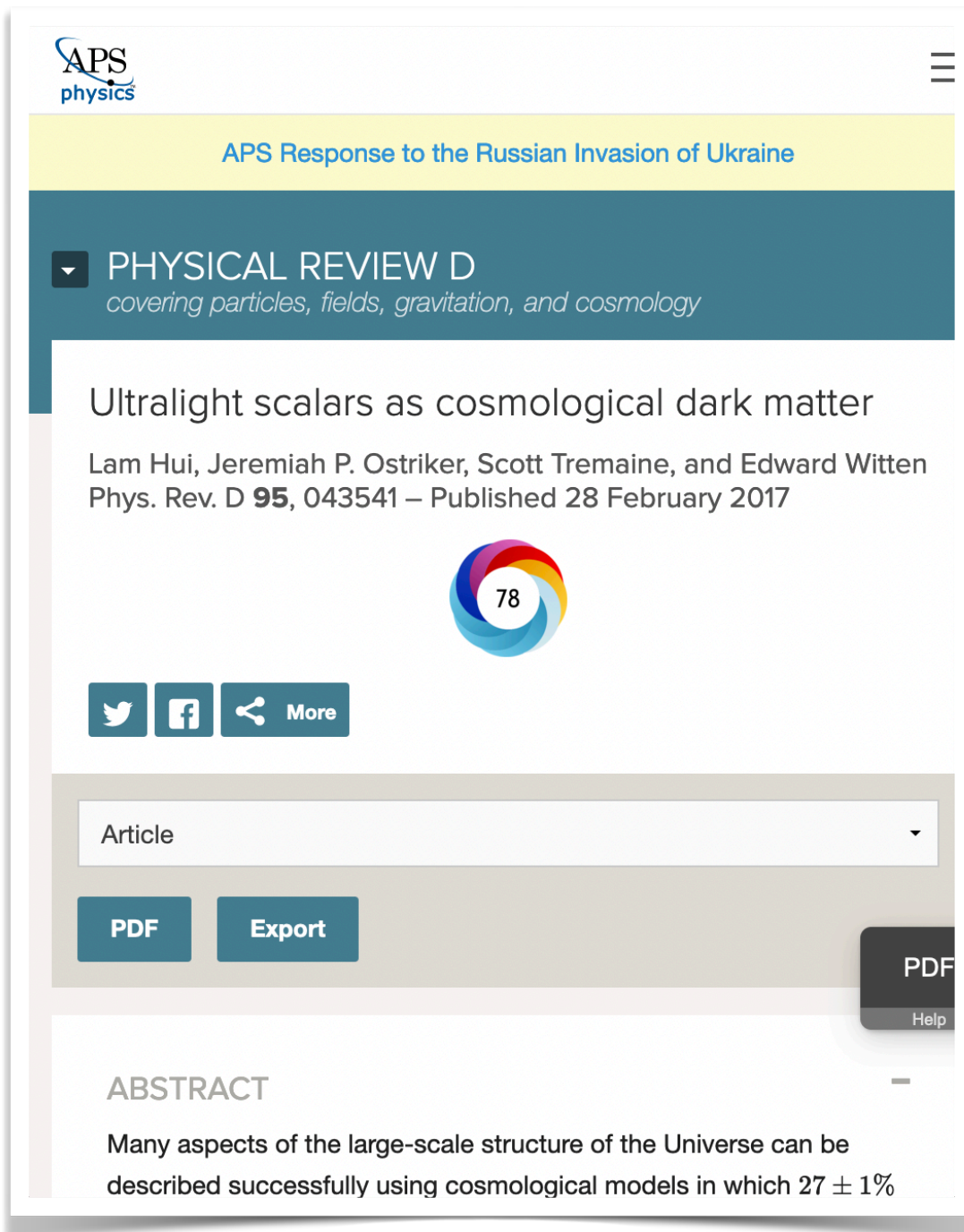
Axion-like particles are probably the most important WDM candidate. Their coherent state usually oscillates as

$$a(\mathbf{x}, t) = a_0(\mathbf{x}, t) \cos(m_a t + m_a \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \phi)$$

- Period is determined by the axion mass in temporal direction and its momentum in spatial direction;
- Amplitude is determined by energy density of DM halo

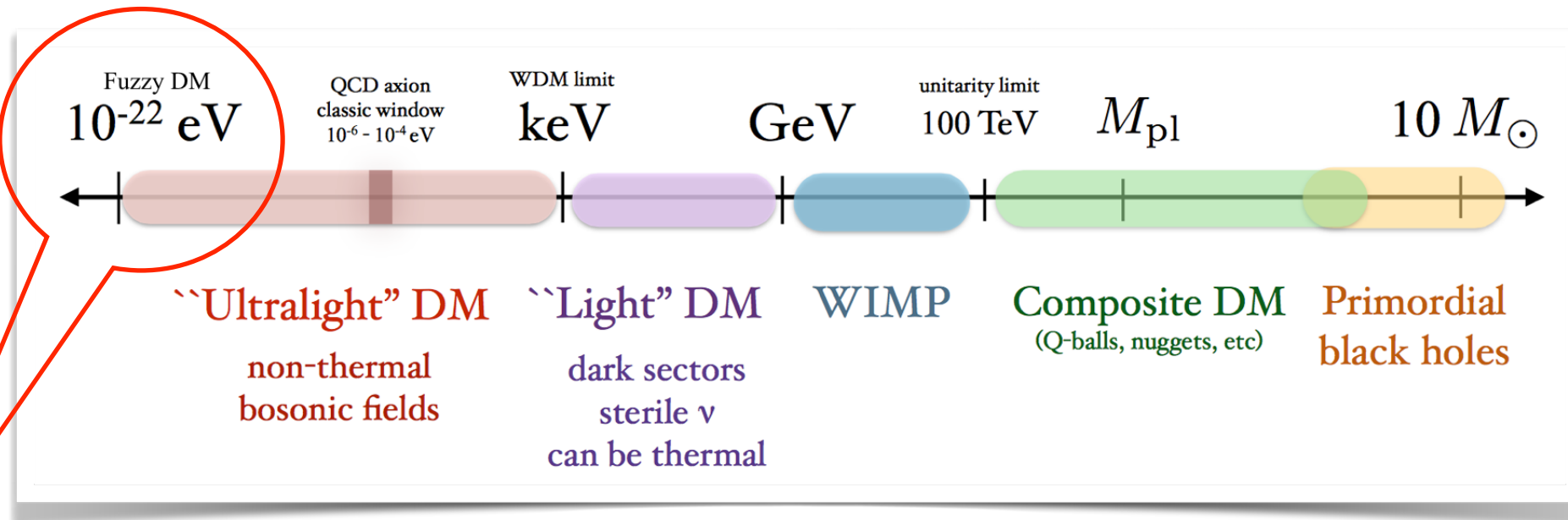
$$\rho_{\text{DM}}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{1}{2} m_a^2 a_0^2(\mathbf{x}, t) + \mathcal{O}(v^2)$$

[Hui, Ostriker, Tremaine, Witten
Phys. Rev. D 95 (2017)]

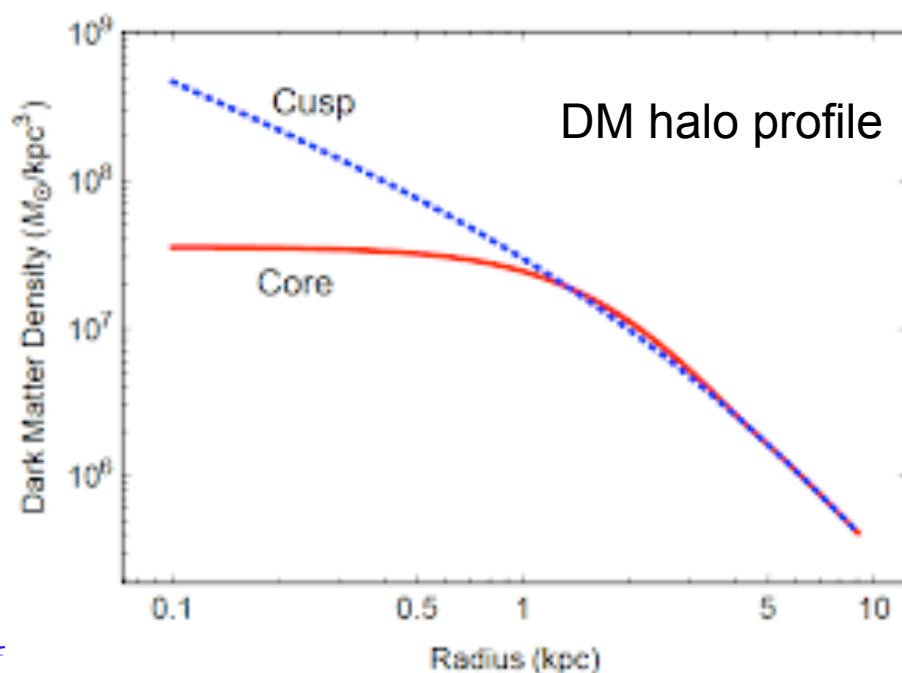




Fuzzy Dark Matter

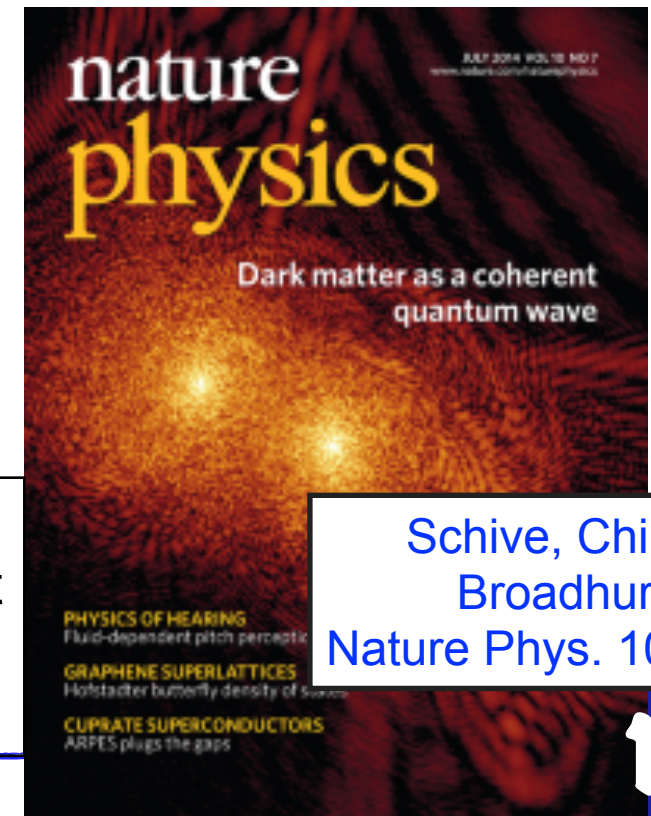


- Fuzzy DM [Hu, et. al., Phys.Rev.Lett. 85 (2000)]: $m_a \sim 10^{-21} - 10^{-22}$ eV (oscillation period $2\pi/\omega_a \sim 1$ yr, with a dB wavelength $\sim O(100)$ pc), where small-scale problems on astronomical structure could be addressed.



Core-cusp problem: Inconsistency between prediction of standard WIMP and observation

Because of quantum uncertainty, a dense soliton-like core forms at galactic center, with a radius \sim de-Broglie wavelength.



Schive, Chiueh, Broadhurst
Nature Phys. 10 (2014)



symmetry
dimensions of particle physics

topics

follow +



A joint Fermilab/SLAC publication



Is dark matter the most powerful wave in the universe?

04/04/23 | By Kimberly Hickok

Dark matter could consist of particles so ultralight, they behave more like waves.

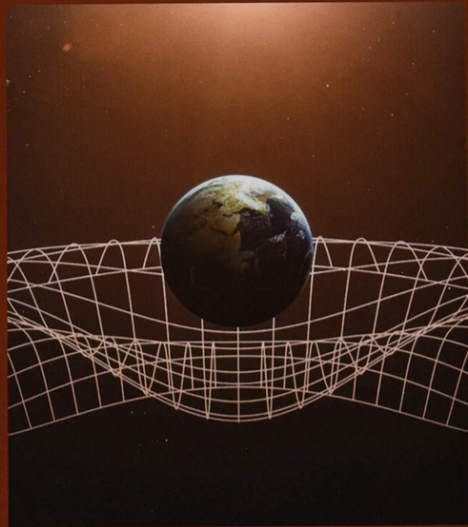


Cosmological Birefringence (CB)

Axion-like WDM can affect pulsar polarization via an effect known as ``**cosmological birefringence**''

An Introduction to General Relativity

SPACETIME and GEOMETRY



Sean M. Carroll

VOLUME 43, NUMBER 12

15 JUNE 1991

ARTICLES

Einstein equivalence principle and the polarization of radio galaxies

Sean M. Carroll and George B. Field

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

(Received 26 December 1990)

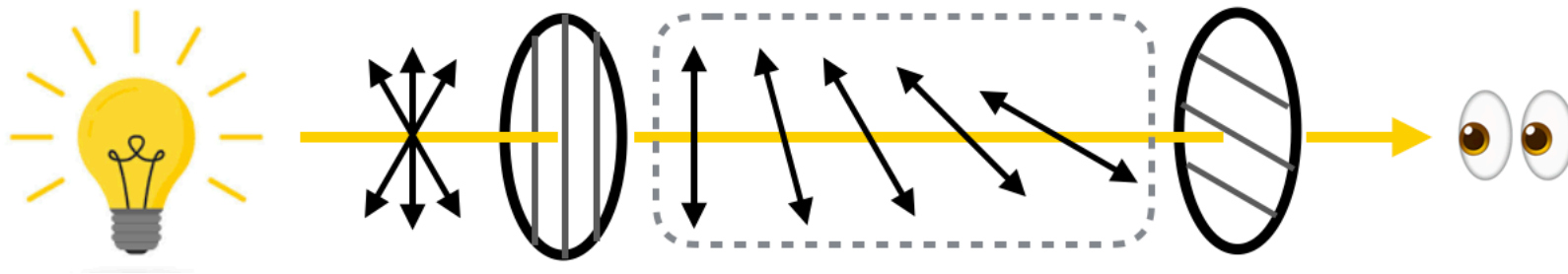


Cosmological Birefringence (CB)

$$L \sim -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\partial^\mu a\partial_\mu a - \frac{1}{2}m_a^2 a^2 + \frac{g}{2}aF_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

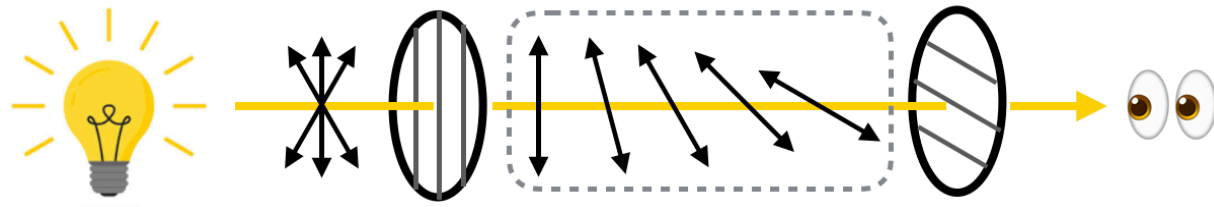
$$\omega_\pm \simeq k \pm g \left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + \nabla a \cdot \frac{\mathbf{k}}{k} \right) \xrightarrow[\text{relativistic}]{\text{non-}} k \pm g \frac{\partial a}{\partial t}$$

Parity-violating Chern-Simons term => Different dispersion relations for left- and right-circular polarized light => **Position angle rotated for the linearly polarized light traveling across an axion field (including axion-like WDM halo)**

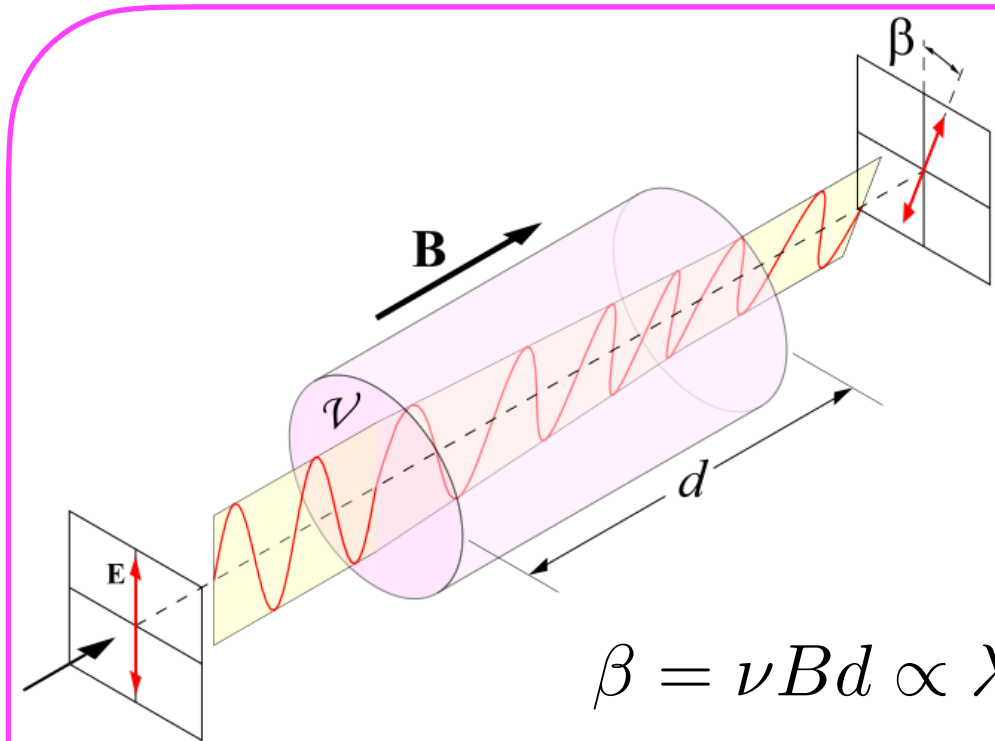




Comparison with Faraday Rotation (FR)



$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\theta &= -g \int_{t_i}^{t_f} \partial_t a(\mathbf{x}, t) dt \\ &= \frac{g}{m_a} [\sqrt{\rho_i} \cos(m_a t_i + m_a \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i + \phi) \\ &\quad - \sqrt{\rho_f} \cos(m_a t_f + m_a \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_f + \phi)]\end{aligned}$$



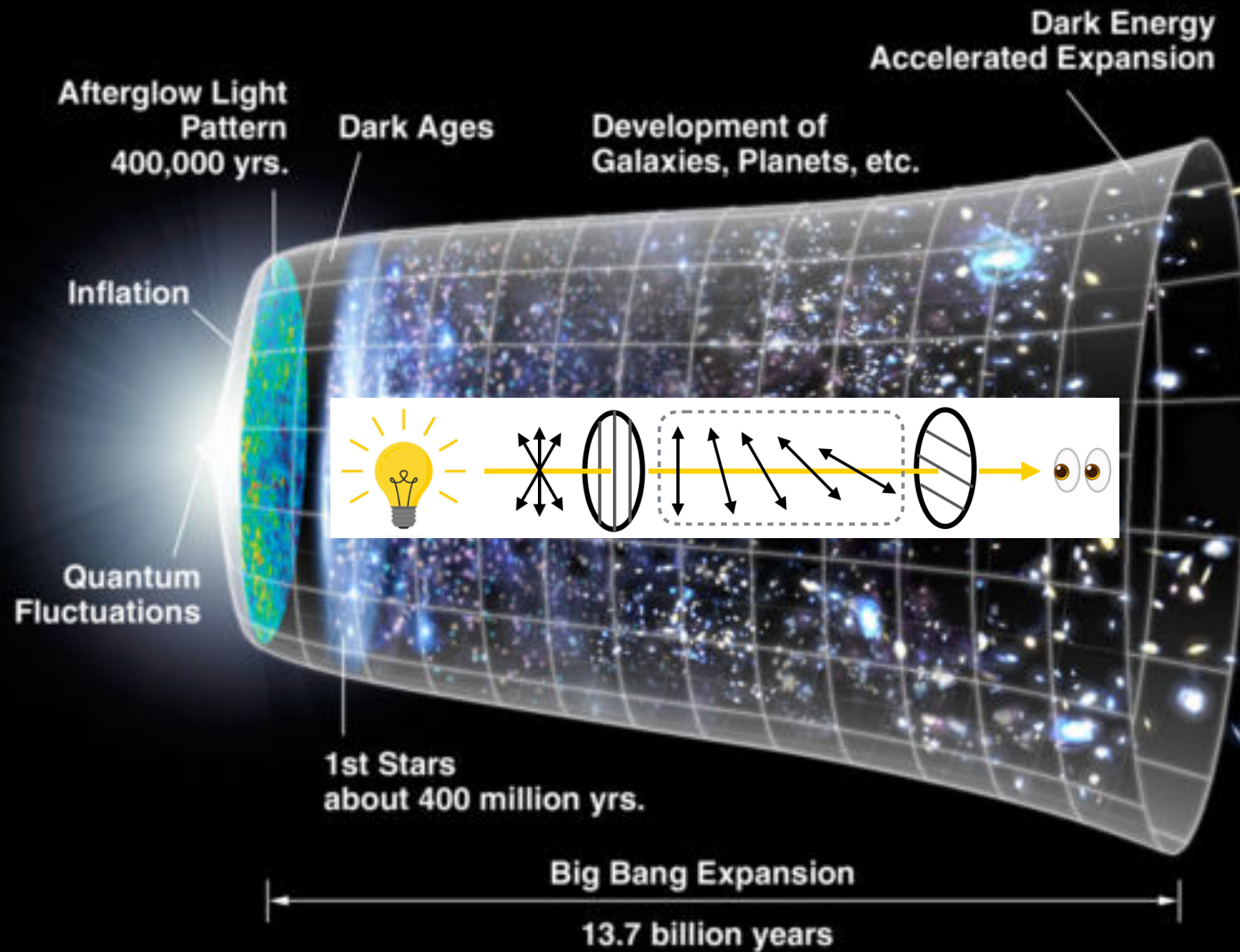
$$\beta = \nu B d \propto \lambda^2$$

- B : magnetic flux density
- d : length of light path
- ν : Verdet constant

- CB: determined by the difference of axion field profile between two endpoints of the light path due to the topological nature of Chern-Simons coupling. **VS** FR: relies on path length directly.
- CB: no frequency dependence. **VS** FR: increases with wavelength square.
- CB: features oscillation with a period of $2\pi/m_a$. **VS** FR: no characteristic time dependence is expected.

[Lue, Wang, Kamionkowski, PRL(1999)]

CMB-Based Detection



PA rotation - Determined by the difference of axion field between at recombination and for the Universe today



CMB-Based Detection

A&A 596, A110 (2016)
DOI: [10.1051/0004-6361/201629018](https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201629018)
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**Astronomy
&
Astrophysics**

Planck intermediate results

XLIX. Parity-violation constraints from polarization data

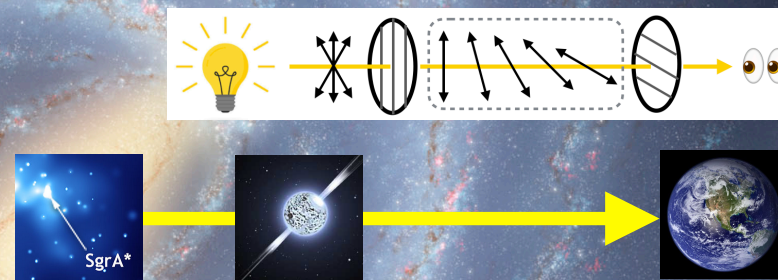
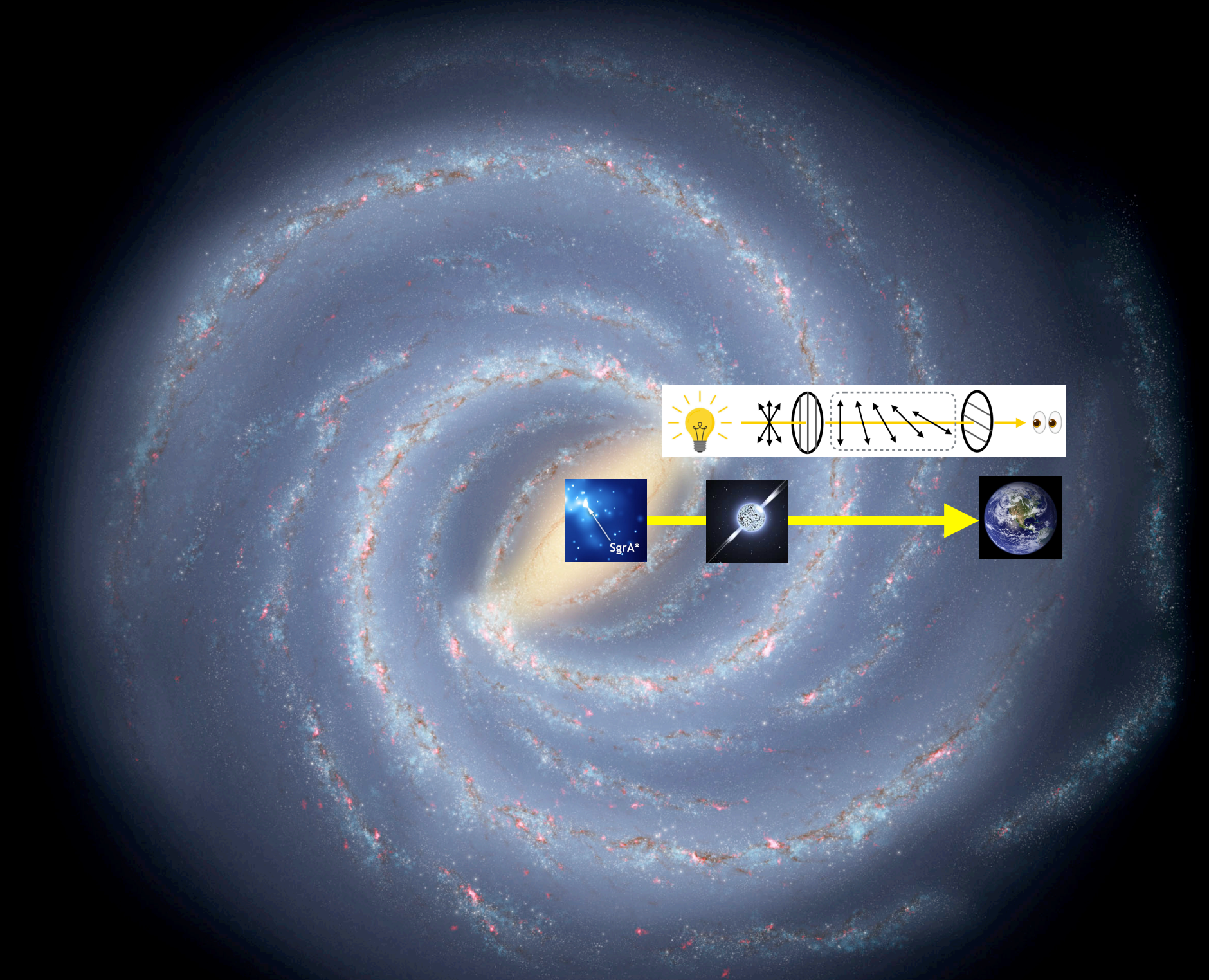
Planck Collaboration: N. Aghanim⁴⁷, M. Ashdown^{57,4}, J. Aumont⁴⁷, C. Baccigalupi⁶⁷, M. Ballardini^{23,38,41}, A. J. Banday^{77,7}, R. B. Barreiro⁵², N. Bartolo^{22,53}, S. Basak⁶⁷, K. Benabed^{48,76}, J.-P. Bernard^{77,7}, M. Bersanelli^{26,39}, P. Bielewicz^{65,7,67}, L. Bonavera¹², J. R. Bond⁶, J. Borrill^{9,73}, F. R. Bouchet^{48,72}, C. Burigana^{38,24,41}, E. Calabrese⁷⁴, J.-F. Cardoso^{60,1,48}, J. Carron¹⁷, H. C. Chiang^{19,5}, L. P. L. Colombo^{15,54}, B. Comis⁶¹, D. Contreras¹⁴, F. Couchot⁵⁸, A. Coulais⁵⁹, B. P. Crill^{54,8}, A. Curto^{52,4,57}, F. Cuttaia³⁸, P. de Bernardis²⁵, A. de Rosa³⁸, G. de Zotti^{35,67}, J. Delabrouille¹, F.-X. Désert⁴⁵, E. Di Valentino^{48,72}, C. Dickinson⁵⁵, J. M. Diego⁵², O. Doré^{54,8}, A. Ducout^{48,46}, X. Dupac³⁰, S. Dusini⁵³, F. Elsner^{16,48,76}, T. A. Enßlin⁶³, H. K. Eriksen⁵⁰, Y. Fantaye²⁹, F. Finelli^{38,41}, F. Forastieri^{24,42}, M. Frailis³⁷, E. Franceschi³⁸, A. Frolov⁷¹, S. Galeotta³⁷, S. Galli⁵⁶, K. Ganga¹, R. T. Génova-Santos^{51,11}, M. Gerbino^{75,66,25}, Y. Giraud-Héraud¹, J. González-Nuevo^{12,52}, K. M. Górski^{54,79}, A. Gruppuso^{38,41,*}, J. E. Gudmundsson^{75,66,19}, F. K. Hansen⁵⁰, S. Henrot-Versillé⁵⁸, D. Herranz⁵², E. Hivon^{48,76}, Z. Huang⁶, A. H. Jaffe⁴⁶, W. C. Jones¹⁹, E. Keihänen¹⁸, R. Keskitalo⁹, K. Kiiveri^{18,34}, N. Krachmalnicoff²⁶, M. Kunz^{10,47,2}, H. Kurki-Suonio^{18,34}, J.-M. Lamarre⁵⁹, M. Langer⁴⁷, A. Lasenby^{4,57}, M. Lattanzi^{24,42}, C. R. Lawrence⁵⁴, M. Le Jeune¹, J. P. Leahy⁵⁵, F. Levrier⁵⁹, M. Liguori^{22,53}, P. B. Lilje⁵⁰, V. Lindholm^{18,34}, M. López-Caniego³⁰, Y.-Z. Ma^{55,68}, J. F. Macías-Pérez⁶¹, G. Maggio³⁷, D. Maino^{26,39}, N. Mandolesi^{38,24}, M. Maris³⁷, P. G. Martin⁶, E. Martínez-González⁵², S. Matarrese^{22,53,32}, N. Mauri⁴¹, J. D. McEwen⁶⁴, P. R. Meinhold²⁰, A. Melchiorri^{25,43}, A. Mennella^{26,39}, M. Migliaccio^{49,57}, M.-A. Miville-Deschênes^{47,6}, D. Molinari^{24,38,42}, A. Moneti⁴⁸, G. Morgante³⁸, A. Moss⁷⁰, P. Natoli^{24,3,42}, L. Pagano^{25,43}, D. Paoletti^{38,41}, G. Patanchon¹, L. Patrizii⁴¹, L. Perotto⁶¹, V. Pettorino³³, F. Piacentini²⁵, L. Polastri^{24,42}, G. Polenta^{3,36}, J. P. Rachen^{13,63}, B. Racine¹, M. Reinecke⁶³, M. Remazeilles^{55,47,1}, A. Renzi^{29,44}, G. Rocha^{54,8}, C. Rosset¹, M. Rossetti^{26,39}, G. Roudier^{1,59,54}, J. A. Rubiño-Martín^{51,11}, B. Ruiz-Granados⁷⁸, M. Sandri³⁸, M. Savelainen^{18,34}, D. Scott¹⁴, C. Sirignano^{22,53}, G. Sirri⁴¹, L. D. Spencer⁶⁹, A.-S. Suur-Uski^{18,34}, J. A. Tauber³¹, D. Tavagnacco^{37,27}, M. Tenti⁴⁰, L. Toffolatti^{12,52,38}, M. Tomasi^{26,39}, M. Tristram⁵⁸, T. Trombetti^{38,24}, J. Valiviita^{18,34}, F. Van Tent⁶², P. Vielva⁵², F. Villa³⁸, N. Vittorio²⁸, B. D. Wandelt^{48,76,21}, I. K. Wehus^{54,50}, A. Zacchei³⁷, and A. Zonca²⁰

Becomes a standard task for the CMB missions today



[TL, G. Smoot, Y. Zhao, arXiv:1901.10981]

Pulsar Light-Based Detection

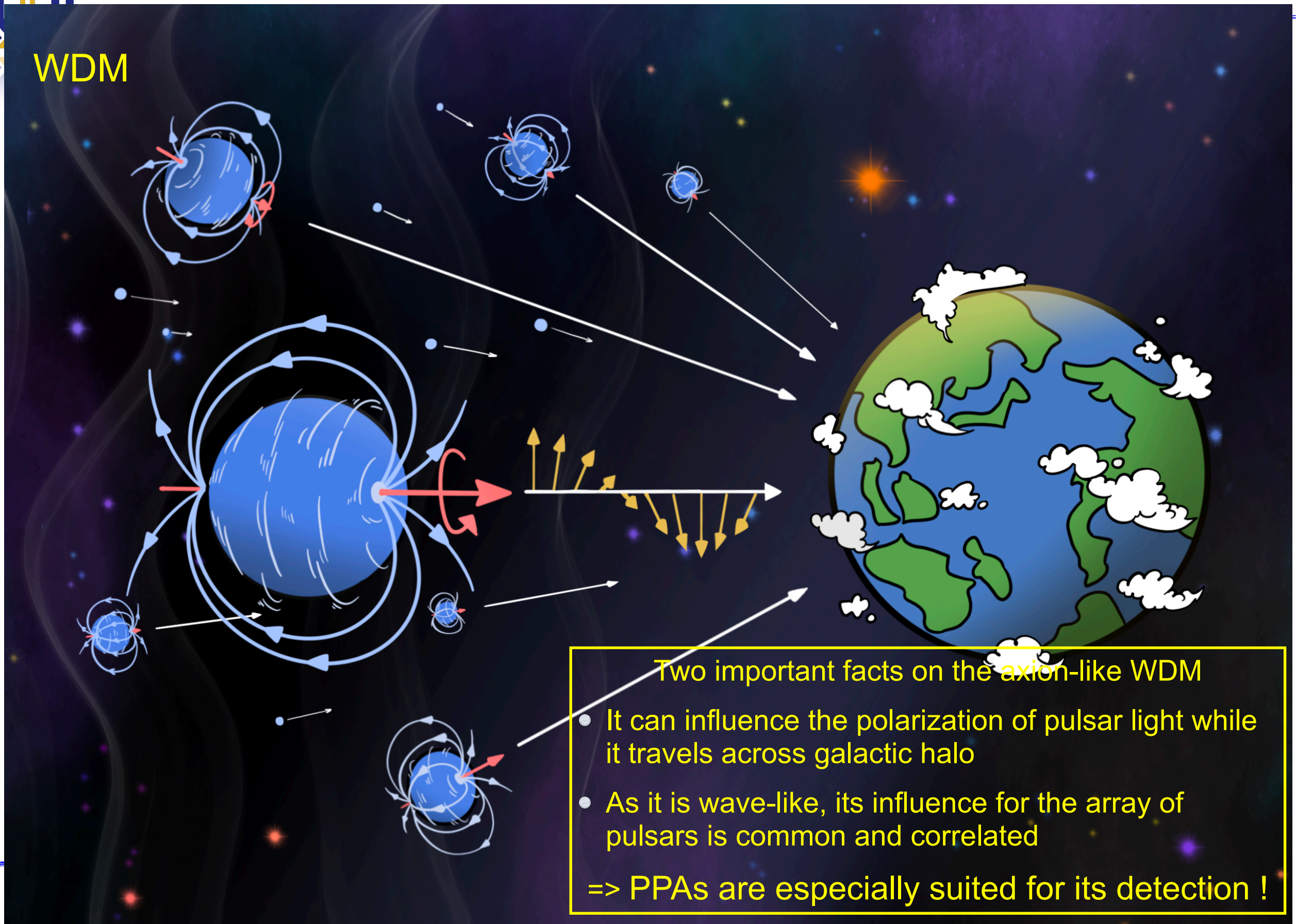


PA rotation - Determined by the difference of axion field between near the PSR at the time of photon emission and around the Earth at the moment of photon receiving.



Detecting Axion-like WDM with PPAs

WDM



Two important facts on the axion-like WDM

- It can influence the polarization of pulsar light while it travels across galactic halo
- As it is wave-like, its influence for the array of pulsars is common and correlated

=> PPAs are especially suited for its detection !



Cross-correlation: GWs **VS** WDM

○ Earth term

○ Pulsar term

Timing residue caused by stochastic GWs

$$\Delta T(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} df \frac{1}{2} u^a u^b h_{ab}(f, \hat{n}) \frac{1}{i2\pi f} \frac{1}{1 + \hat{n} \cdot \hat{u}} \left[e^{i2\pi f(t_2 + \hat{n} \cdot \vec{r}_2/c)} - e^{i2\pi f(t_1 + \hat{n} \cdot \vec{r}_1/c)} \right]$$

PA rotation caused by axion-like WDM

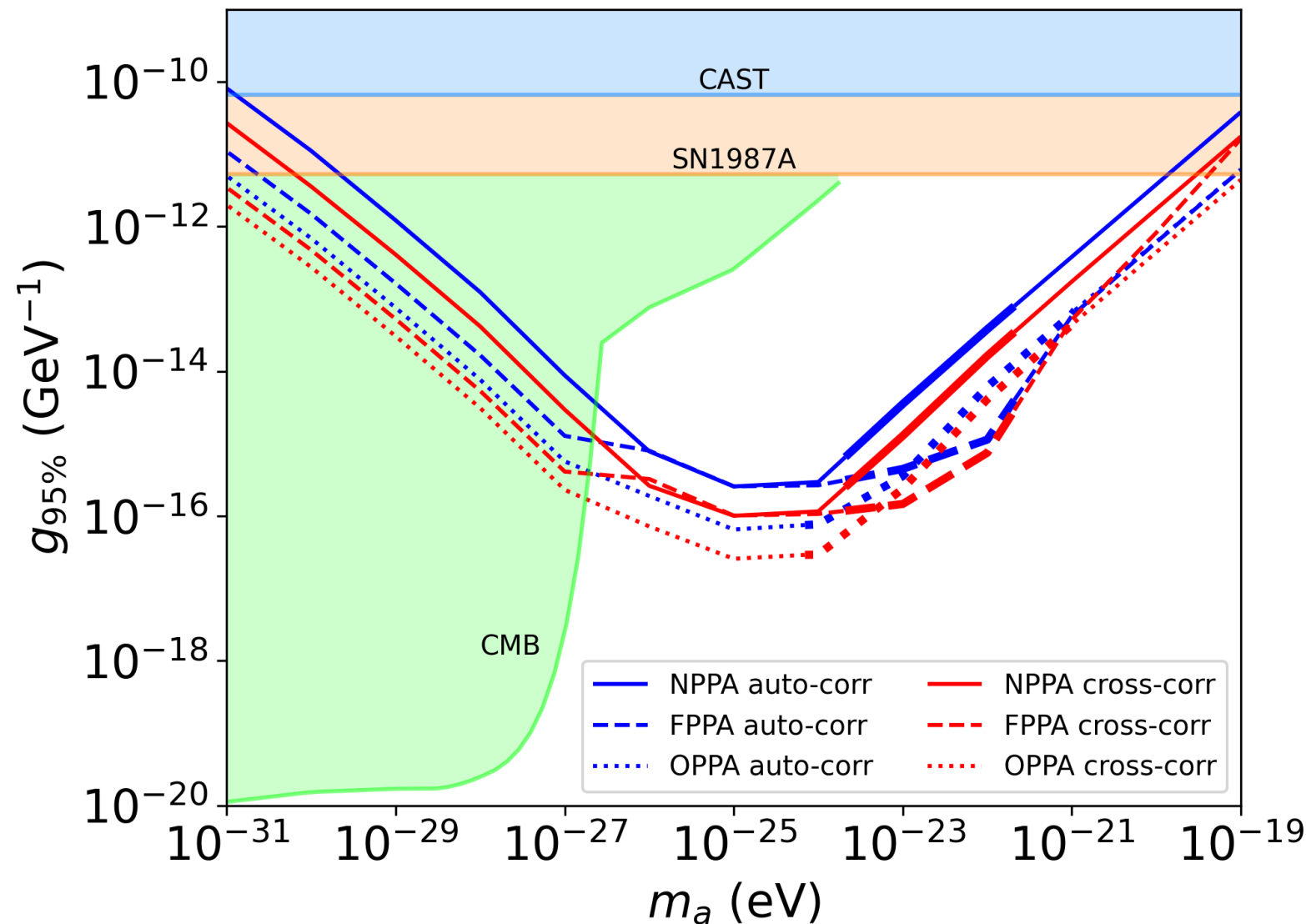
$$\Delta \theta_p(t) = \frac{g}{m_a} \int \alpha_{\mathbf{v}} \left\{ \sqrt{\rho_p f_p(\mathbf{v})} \cos[m_a(t - L_p - \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_p) + \phi_{\mathbf{v}}] - \sqrt{\rho_e f_e(\mathbf{v})} \cos(m_a t + \phi_{\mathbf{v}}) \right\} d^3 \mathbf{v}$$

	SGWB (PTAs)	Axion-like WDM (PPAs)
Earth-Earth Term	quadrupolar correlation (Hellings-Downs curve)	monopolar correlation
Pulsar-Pulsar Term	spatial correlation degrades quickly ($L \gg l_{dB} \sim 1/w$)	spatial correlation degrades much slower ($L \gg l_{dB} \gg 1/m_a$), enhanced at galactic center



Sensitivity Projection for Benchmark PPAs

[TL, X. Lou, J. Ren, PRL (2023)]



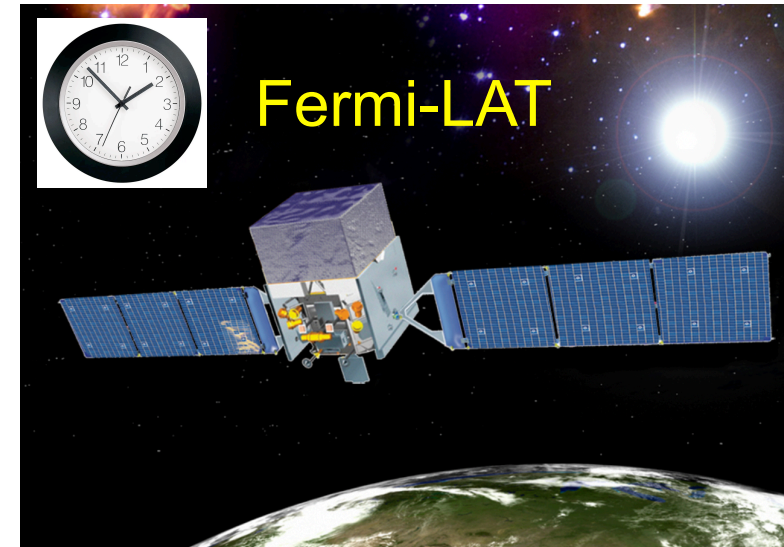
- NPPA: 100 MSPs around the Earth; 10 years' observation with a cadence 10/yr; noise variance - 1deg^2
- FPPA: 100 MSPs near the galactic center; 10 years' observation with a cadence 10/yr; noise variance - 1deg^2
- OPPA: 100 MSPs following the ATNF pulsar distribution; 30 years' observation with a cadence 1/week; noise variance - 1deg^2

- The projected PPA limits form a complementarity with the existing CMB bounds
- With noise variance $\sim (0.1 \text{ deg})^2$, the limits can be improved by one more order of magnitude
- The analyses with real data (from some PTA programs) are being carried out or planned

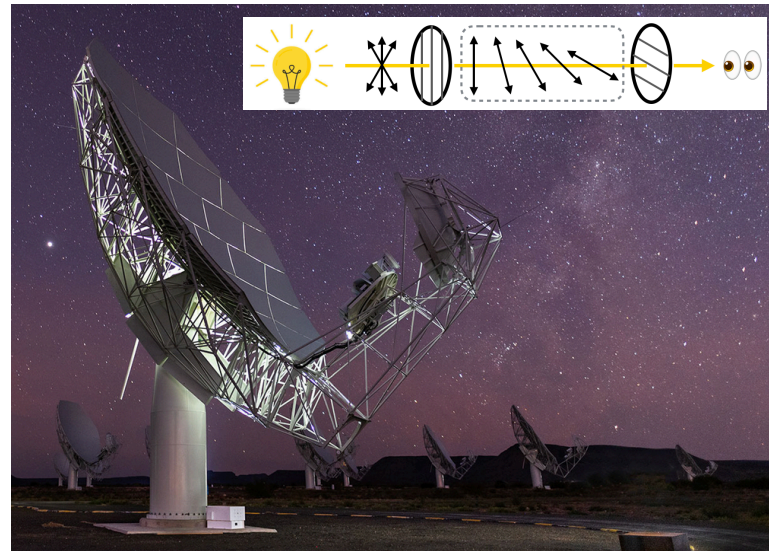


A Wider Landscape

High-F band
detection



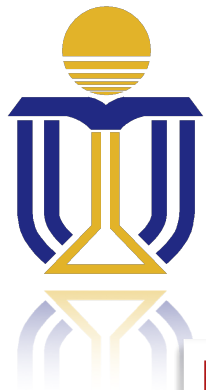
Radio band
detection



PPA detection
(non-gravitational)

PTA detection
(gravitational)

[Also see Nataliya Porayko's talk]



PTA Detection

arXiv > astro-ph > arXiv:1309.5888

Search...

Help | Advance

Astrophysics > Cosmology and Nongalactic Astrophysics

[Submitted on 23 Sep 2013]

Pulsar timing signal from ultralight scalar dark matter

Andrei Khmelnitsky, Valery Rubakov

An ultralight free scalar field with mass around $10^{-23} - 10^{-22}$ eV is a viable dark matter candidate, which can help to resolve some of the issues of the cold dark matter on sub-galactic scales. We consider the gravitational field of the galactic halo composed out of such dark matter. The scalar field has oscillating in time pressure, which induces oscillations of gravitational potential with amplitude of the order of 10^{-15} and frequency in the nanohertz range. This frequency is in the range of pulsar timing array observations. We estimate the magnitude of the pulse arrival time residuals induced by the oscillating gravitational potential. We find that for a range of dark matter masses, the scalar field dark matter signal is comparable to the stochastic gravitational wave signal and can be detected by the planned SKA pulsar timing array experiment.



PTA Detection

[A. Khmelnitsky, V. Rubakov;
arXiv:1309.5888]

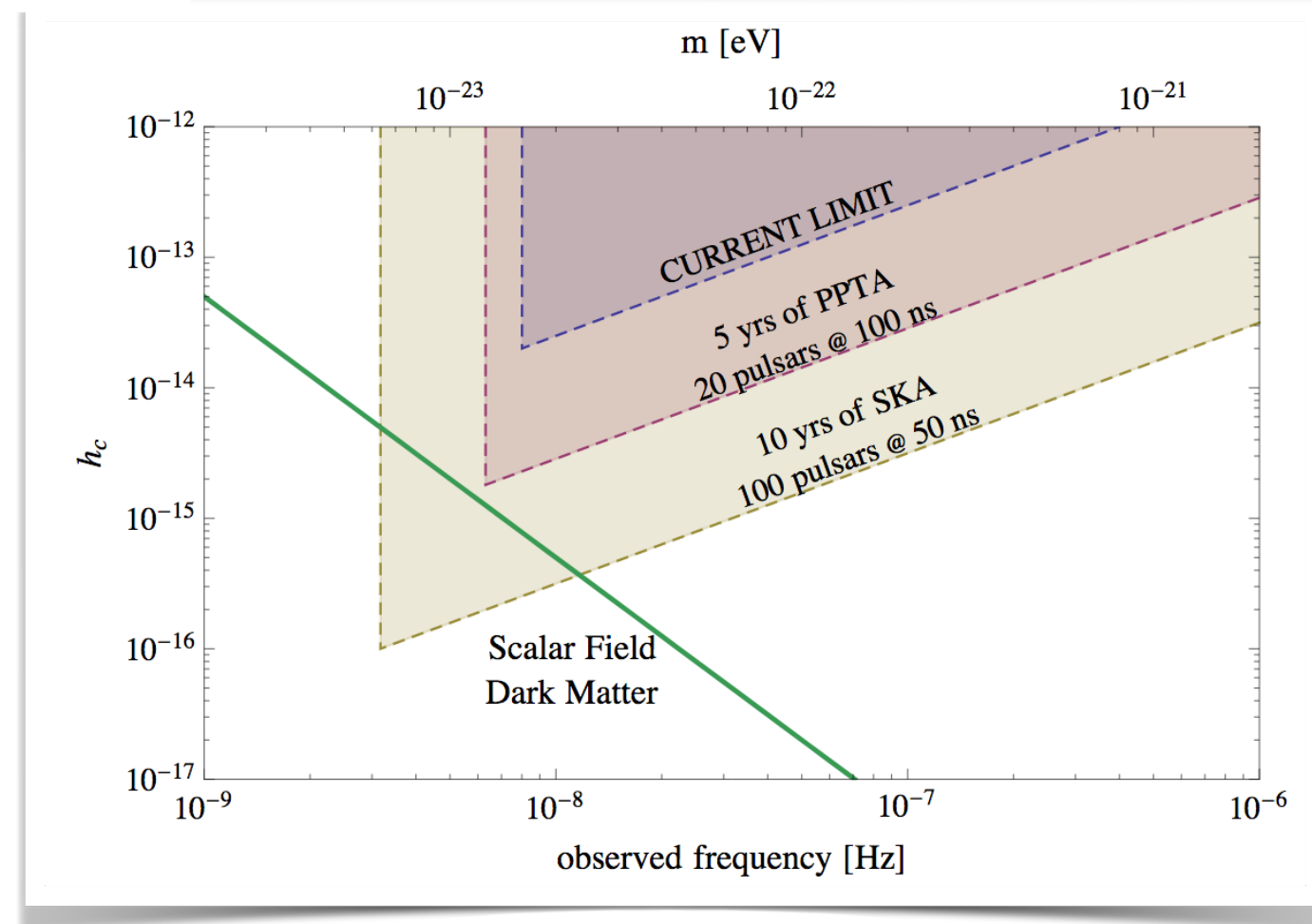
$$ds^2 = (1 + 2\Phi(\mathbf{x}, t))dt^2 - (1 - 2\Psi(\mathbf{x}, t))\delta_{ij}dx^i dx^j$$

$$\rho_{\text{DM}}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{1}{2}m_a^2 a_0^2(\mathbf{x}, t) + \mathcal{O}(v^2)$$

$$\Psi(\mathbf{x}, t) \simeq \Psi_0(\mathbf{x}) + \Psi_c(\mathbf{x}) \cos(\omega t + 2\alpha(\mathbf{x}))$$

=>

Oscillating timing residual



$$\Delta t(t) = \frac{2\Psi_c}{\omega} \sin\left(\frac{\omega D}{2} + \alpha(\mathbf{x}) - \alpha(\mathbf{x}_p)\right) \cos\left(\omega t + \alpha(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha(\mathbf{x}_p) - \frac{\omega D}{2}\right)$$



First Parkes PTA Measurement

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

covering particles, fields, gravitation, and cosmology

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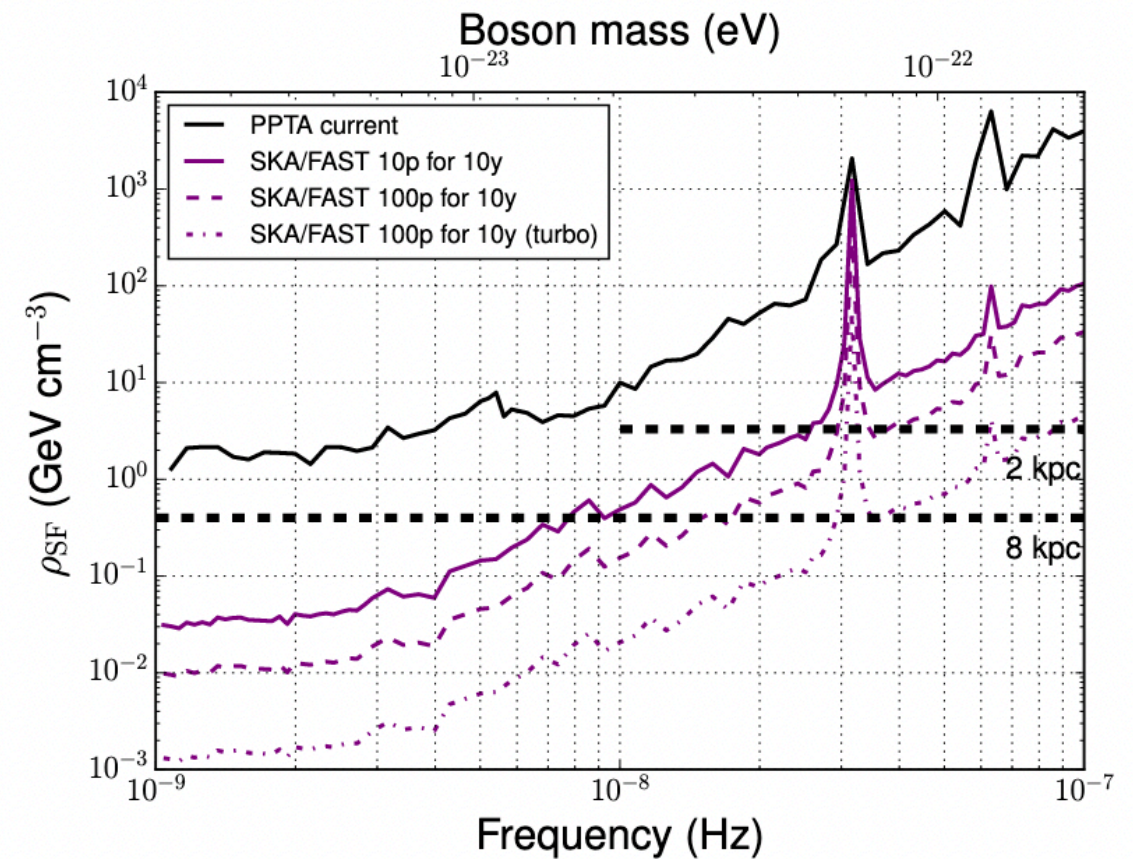


Editors' Suggestion

Parkes Pulsar Timing Array constraints on ultralight scalar-field dark matter

Nataliya K. Porayko *et al.* (PPTA Collaboration)

Phys. Rev. D **98**, 102002 – Published 5 November 2018





Gamma-Ray PTA

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REPORT | GRAVITATIONAL WAVES



A gamma-ray pulsar timing array constrains the nanohertz gravitational wave background

THE FERMI-LAT COLLABORATION [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

SCIENCE • 7 Apr 2022 • Vol 376, Issue 6592 • pp. 521-523 • DOI: 10.1126/science.abm3231

While being limited by statistics, such a high-frequency PTA can benefit from a suppression of intrinsic red noise of dispersion measure variance

arXiv:2304.04735

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High Energy Astrophysical Phenomena

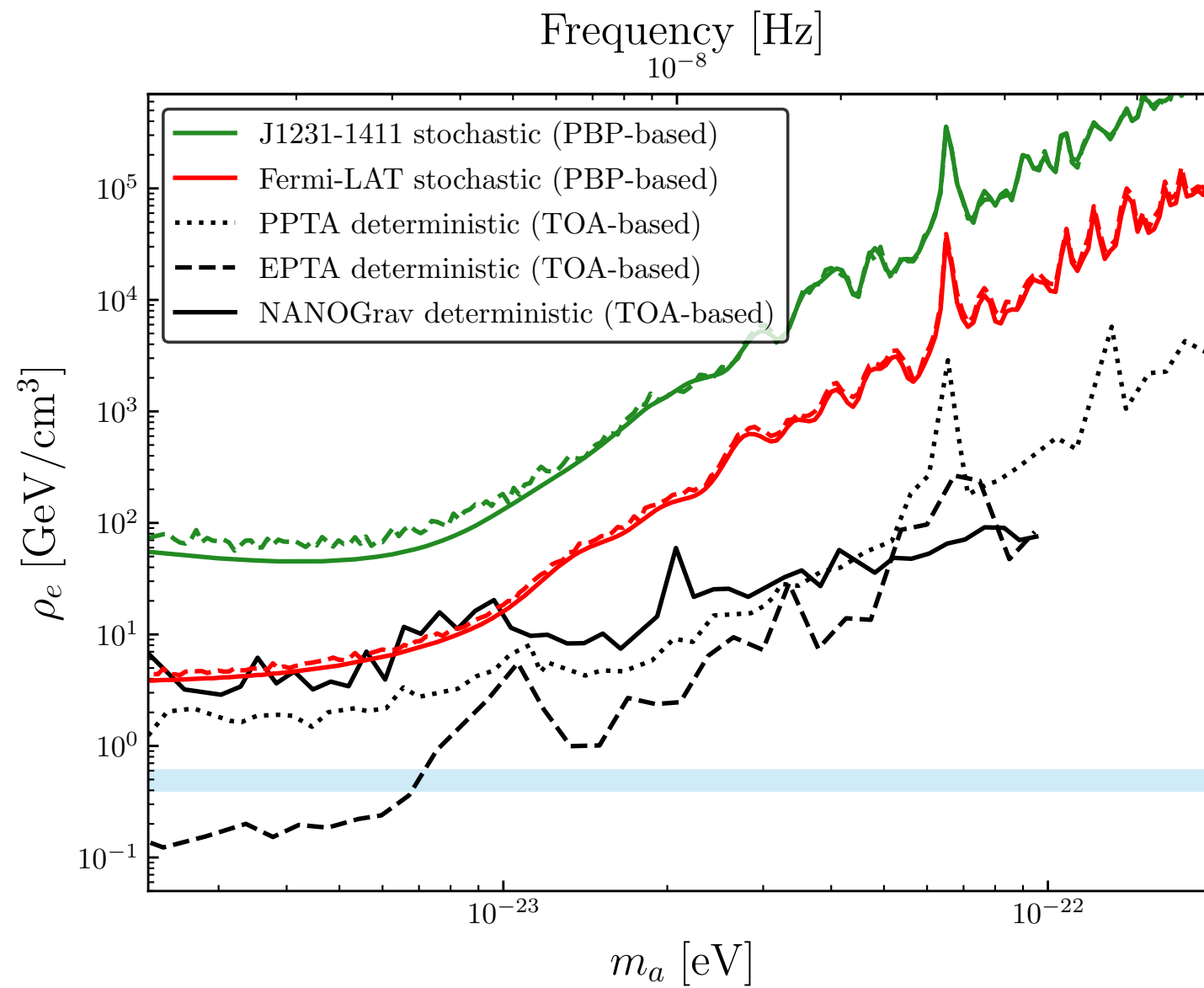
Detecting Stochastic Wave Dark Matter with Fermi-LAT γ -ray Pulsar Timing Array

Hoang Nhan Luu, Tao Liu, Jing Ren, Tom Broadhurst, Ruizhi Yang, Jie-Shuang Wang, Zhen Xie

Wave dark matter (DM) represents a class of the most representative DM candidates. Due to its periodic perturbation to spacetime, the wave DM can be detected with a galactic interferometer – pulsar timing array (PTA). We perform in this Letter a first analysis of applying the γ -ray PTA to detect the wave DM, with the data of Fermi Large Area Telescope (Fermi-LAT). Despite the limitation in statistics, the γ -PTA demonstrates a promising sensitivity potential for a mass $\sim 10^{-23} - 10^{-22}$ eV. We show that the upper limits not far from those of the dedicated radio-PTA projects can be achieved. Particularly, we have fulfilled an analysis to cross-correlate the pulsar data, which has been essentially missing so far in real data analysis but is known to be crucial for identifying the nature of potential signals, with the Fermi-LAT data of two pulsars.



Gamma-Ray PTA



Based on the current statistics, a sensitivity gap can be clearly seen



Correlating the PPA and PTA Detections

The PPA and PTA detections can be further correlated to strengthen their capability in identifying the nature of signals.

- PTA detection is essentially **gravitational** (measuring energy density of DM halo), while the PPA detection is **non-gravitational** (measuring axion Chern-Simons coupling)
- Non-gravitational detection is highly important for exploring the DM properties. Our ignorance on the DM properties to a great extent is due to the limitation of our main knowledge source to gravitational detections
- A combination of PPA and PTA can certainly strengthen our understanding on the nature of DM



Take-home Messages

- To fully extend the physical reach of pulsars as a precision astronomical tool, we have developed the concept of **pulsar polarization arrays**
- As one scientific case, we demonstrated that the PPAs can be applied to detect the axion-like WDM as a common correlated signal. This approach forms a complementarity with the CMB measurement
- In view of its non-gravitational nature, a combination of the PPA with the PTA detections will further benefit our understanding on the nature of DM



大學教育資助委員會
University Grants Committee

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Thank you!