

# Dark Matter Self-Interactions and Small-Scale Structure

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Workshop on New Trends in Dark Matter  
ICTP-SAIFR, December 7, 2020



# WIMP Search Status



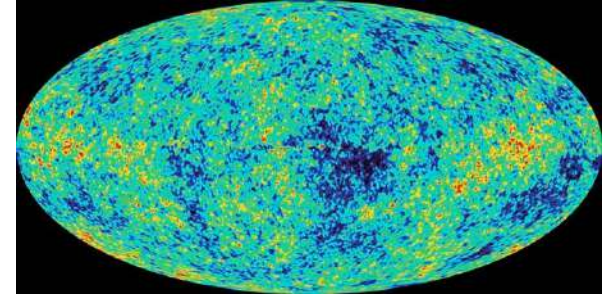
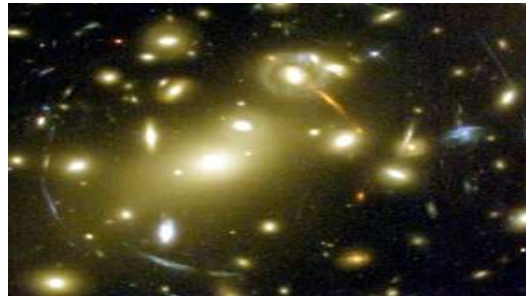
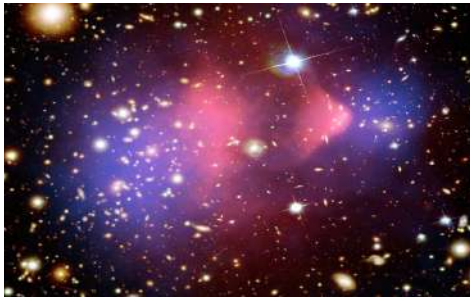
“上穷碧落下黄泉，两处茫茫皆不见。”白居易《长恨歌》

He exhausted all avenues in heaven and the nether world,  
... he could not bring her existence to light.

A Song of Immortal Regret, Bai Juyi (772-846)

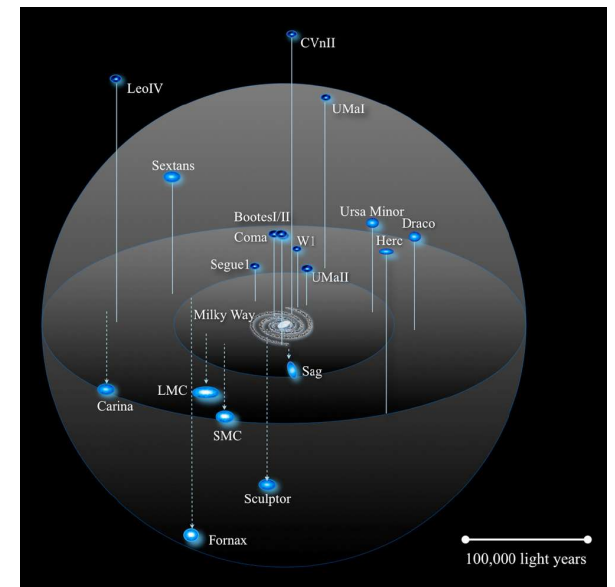
# A Critical Rethinking: Cold Dark Matter (CDM)

- Large scales: very well

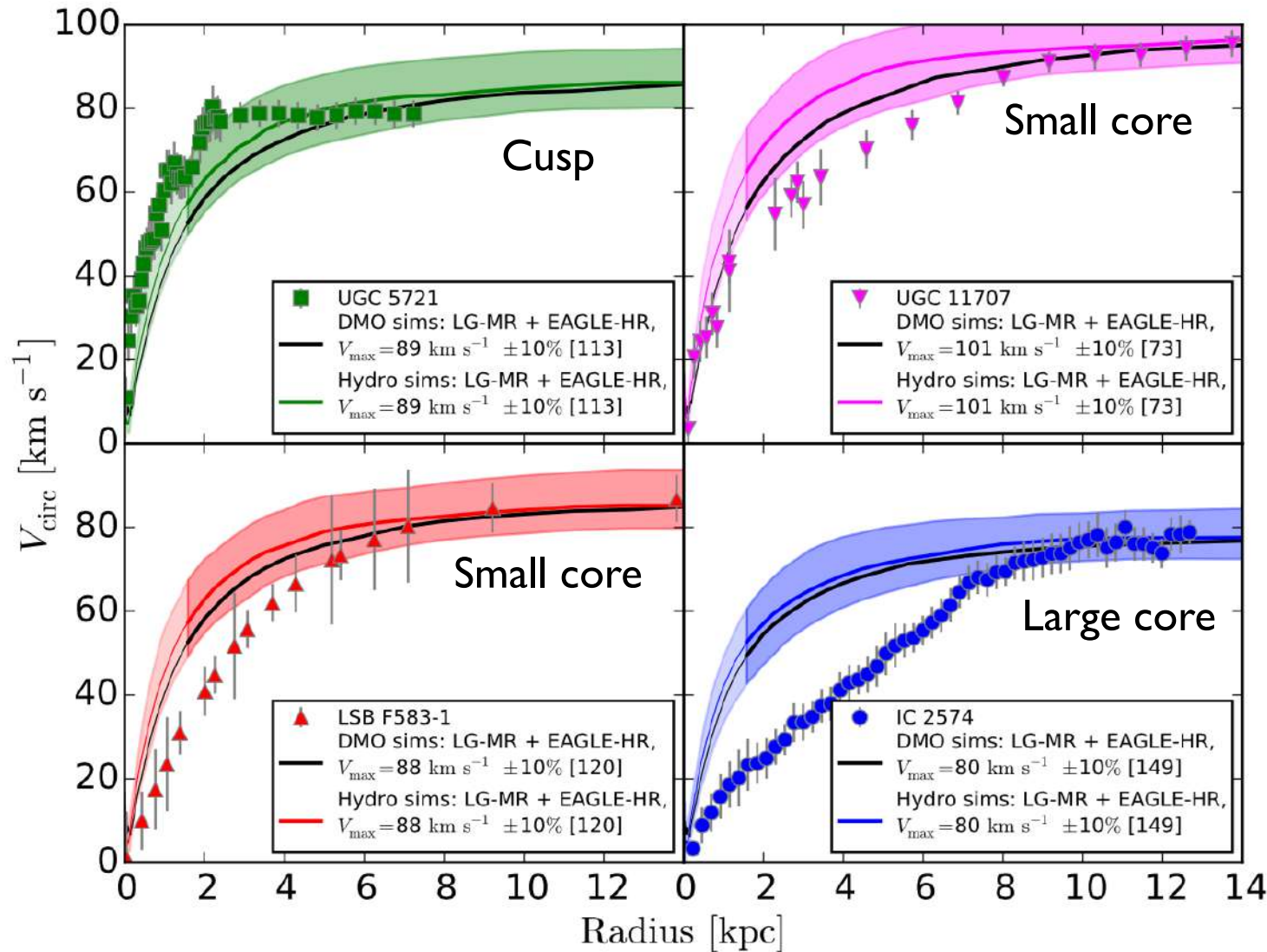


- Small scales (dwarf galaxies, sub-halos, galaxy clusters)

- Core vs Cusp
- Diversity
- Too Big To Fail
- Cores in clusters
- Ultra diffuse galaxies



# The Diversity Problem



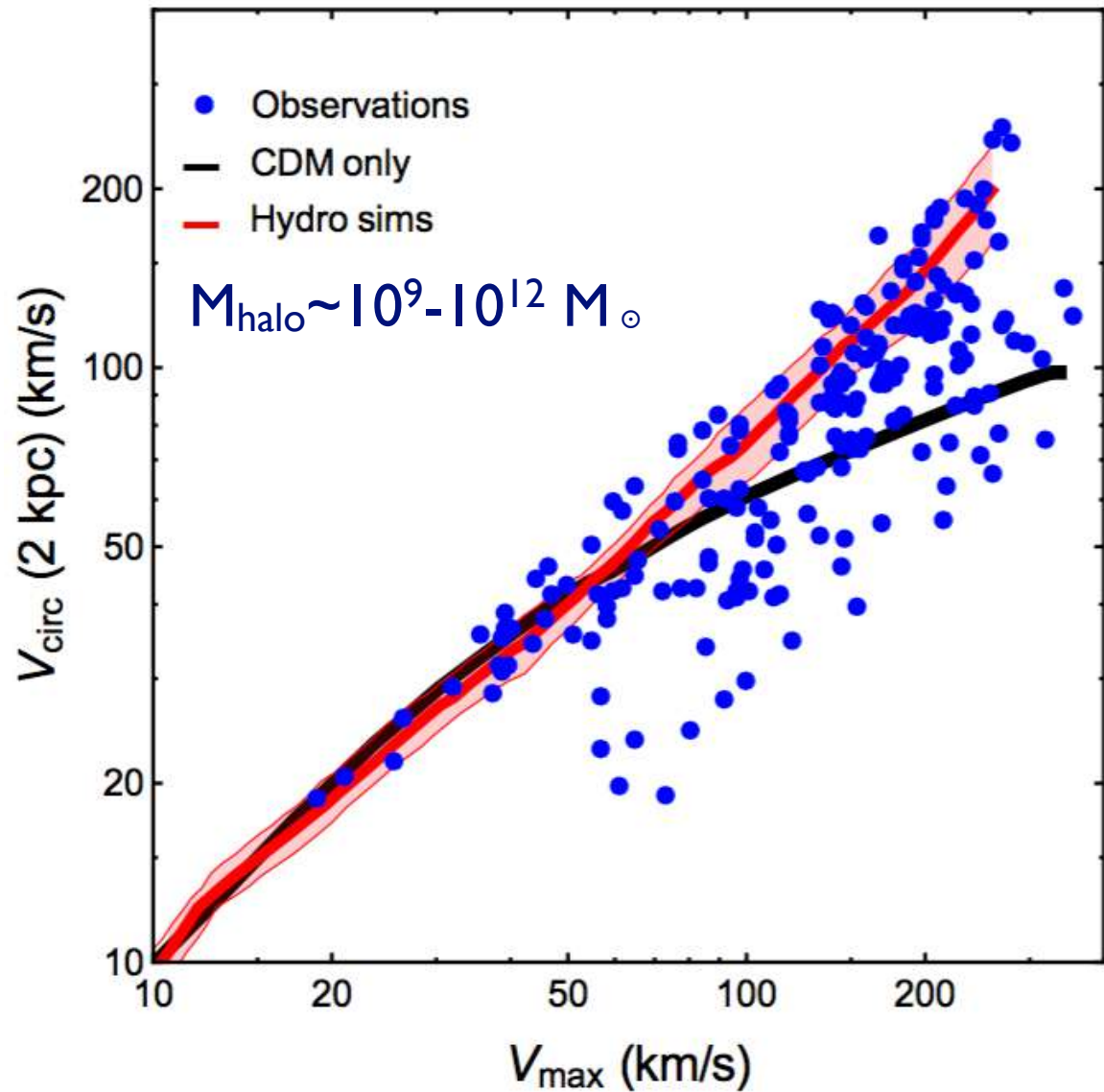
All galaxies have the **same observed  $V_{\text{max}}$** !

$$V \sim \sqrt{GM/r}$$

Colored bands: hydrodynamical simulations of CDM Oman+(2015)

Dark matter distributions are diverse in spiral galaxies

# A Big Challenge

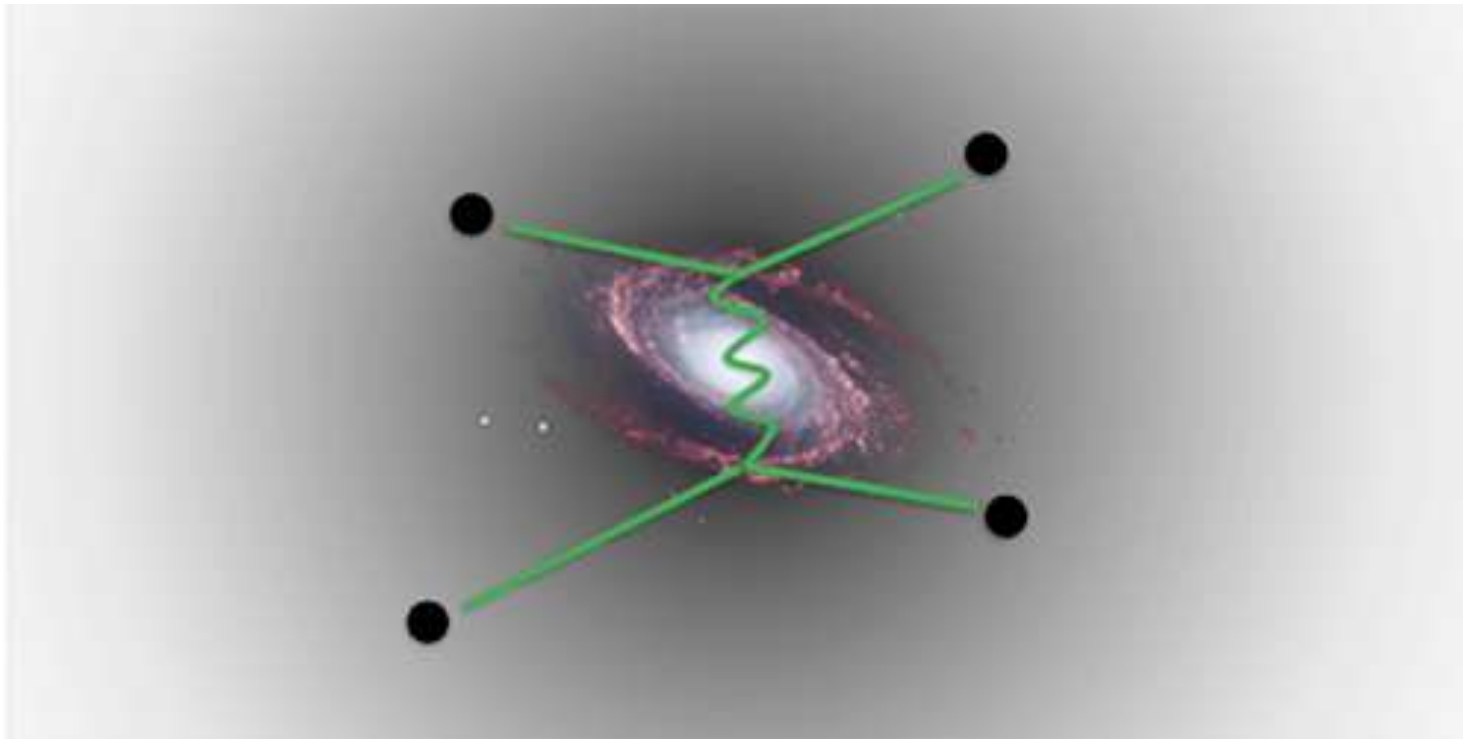


$V_{\text{circ}}(2\text{kpc})$  has a factor of  $\sim 4$  scatter for fixed  $V_{\text{max}}$

Reproduced from the data compiled in Oman+(2015)

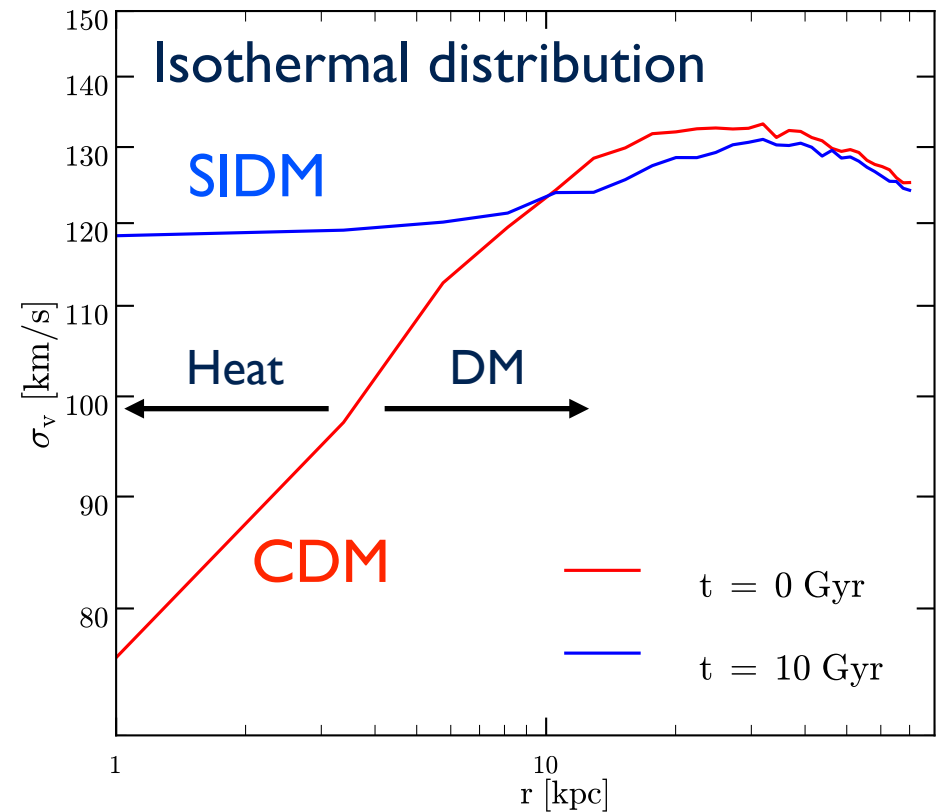
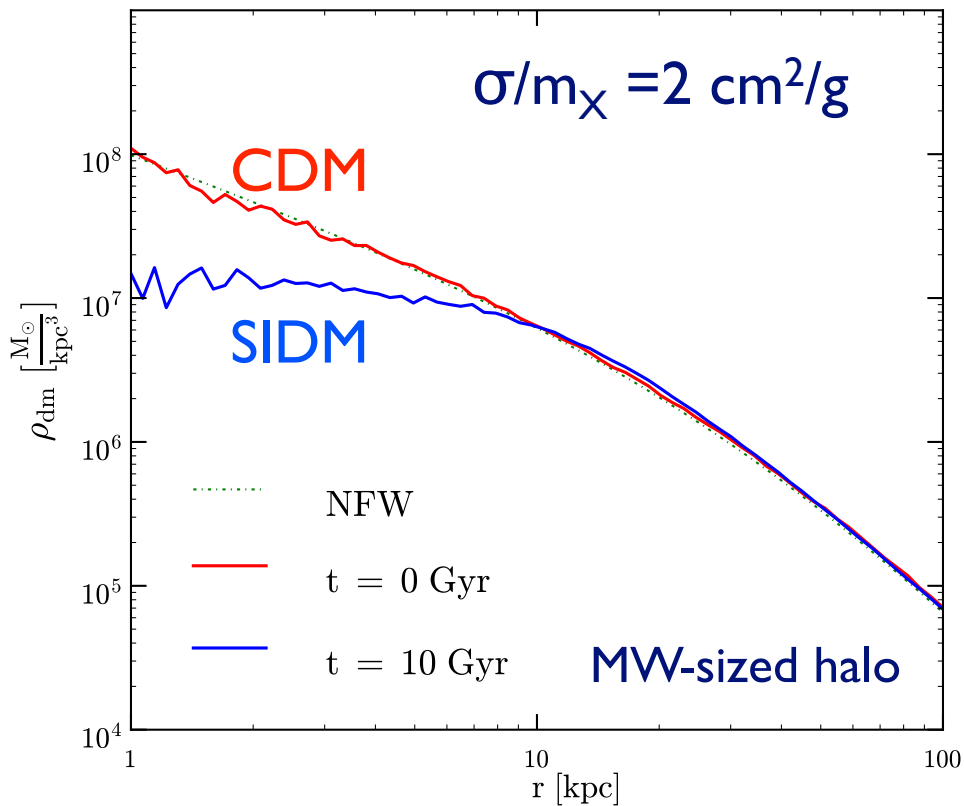


The diversity can be explained if dark matter has strong self-interactions



# Self-Interacting Dark Matter

- Self-interactions thermalize the inner halo



$\sigma/m_X \sim 1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$  (nuclear scale)

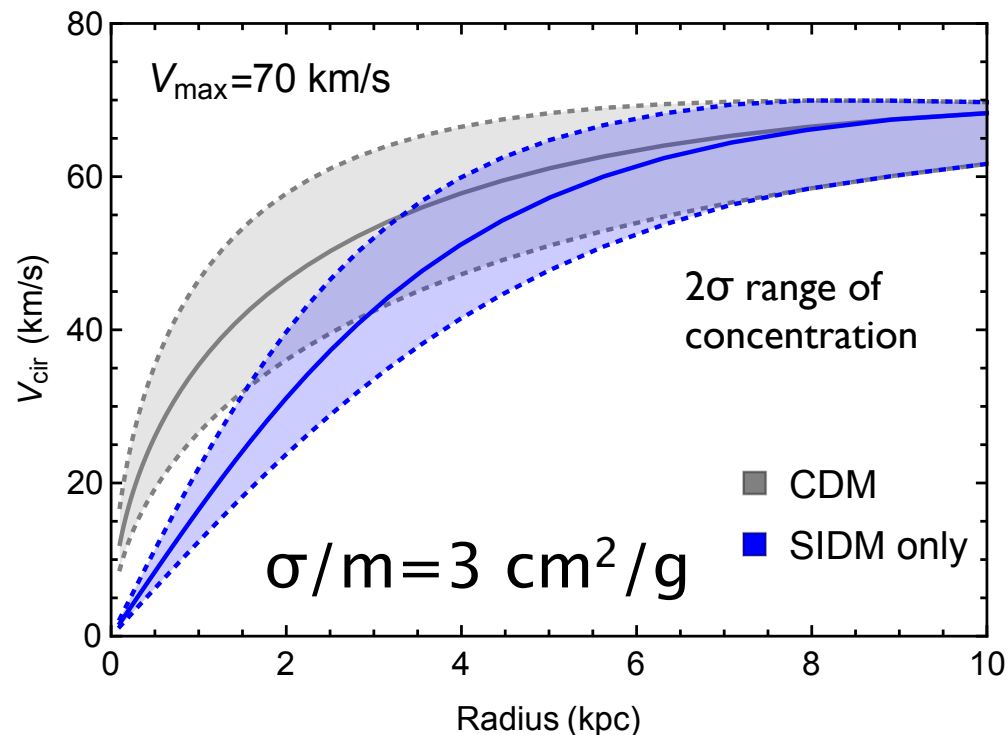
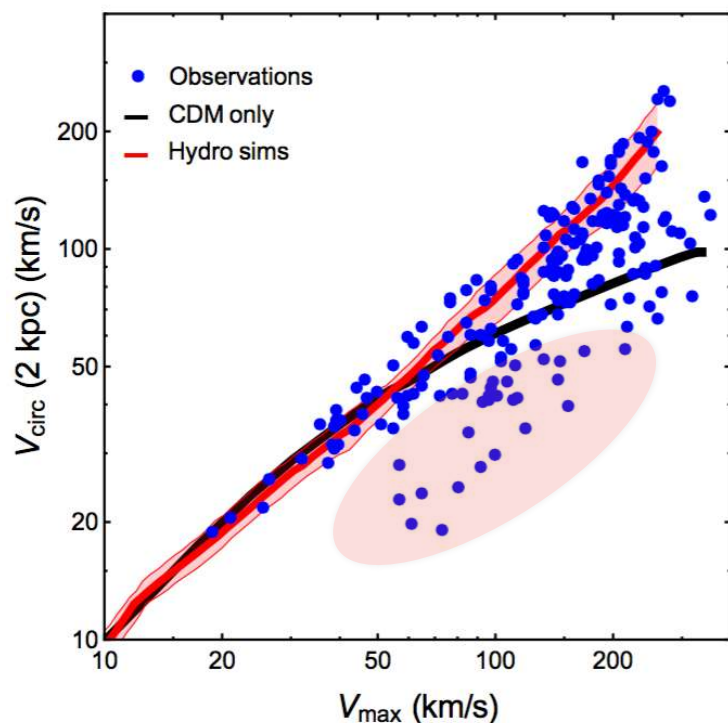
$$\Gamma \simeq n\sigma v = (\rho/m_X)\sigma v \sim H_0$$

From Ran Huo

Review: w/ Tulin (Physics Reports 2017)

# Low Surface Brightness Galaxies

- DM self-interactions thermalize the inner halo



w/ Kamada, Kaplinghat, Pace (PRL 2017)

DM-dominated galaxies: Lower the central density and the circular velocity

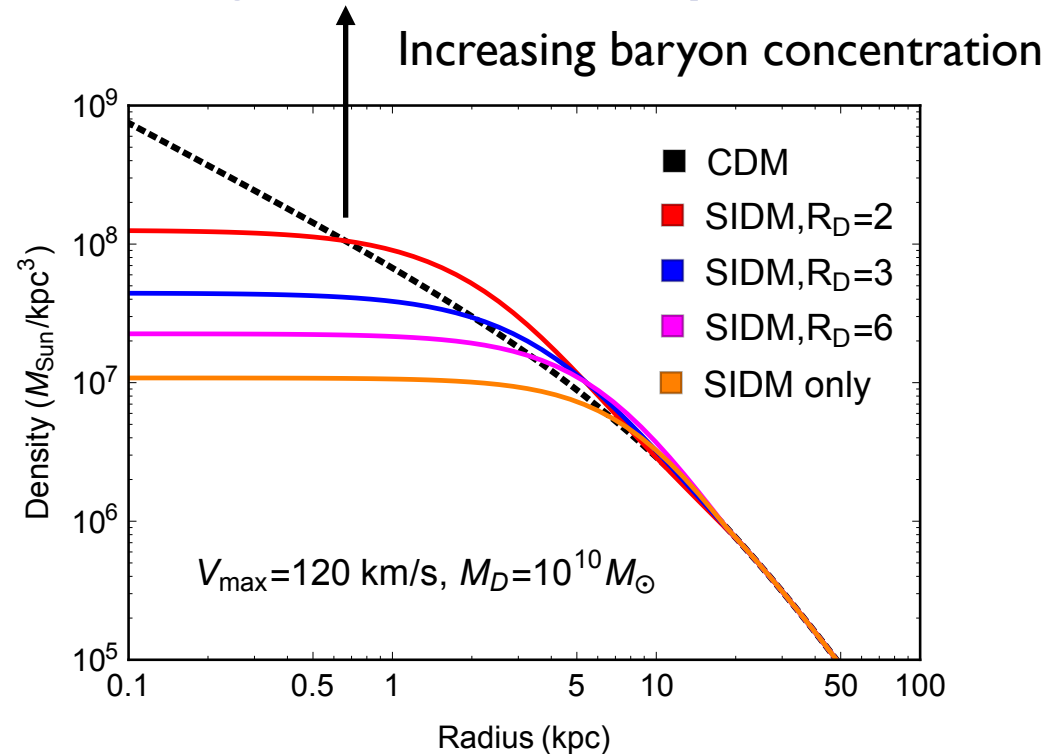
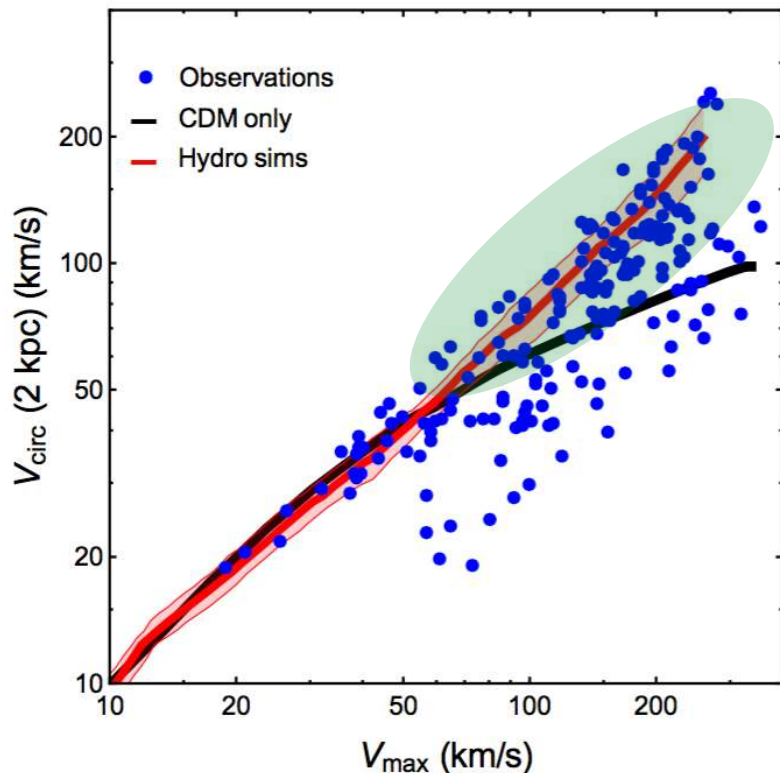
Isothermal  
distribution

$$\rho_X \sim e^{-\Phi_{\text{tot}}/\sigma_0^2} \sim e^{-\Phi_X/\sigma_0^2}$$

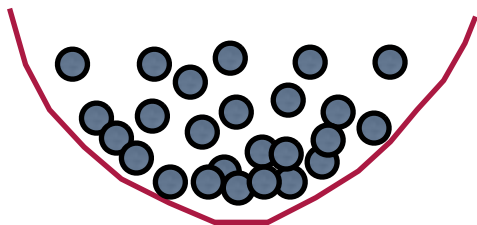


# High Surface Brightness Galaxies

- DM self-interactions tie DM together with baryons



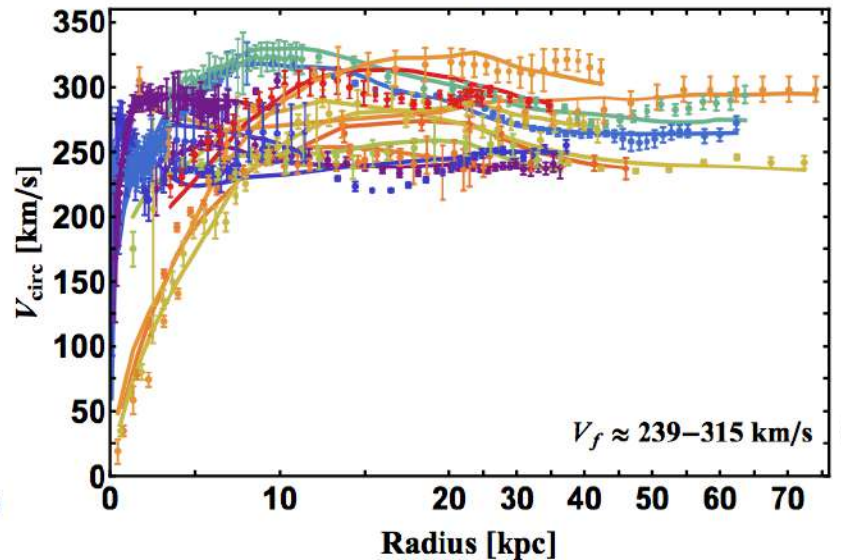
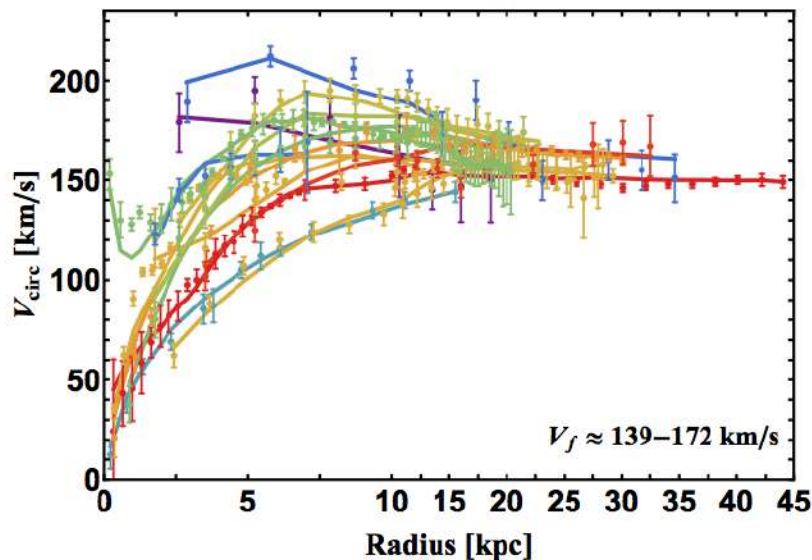
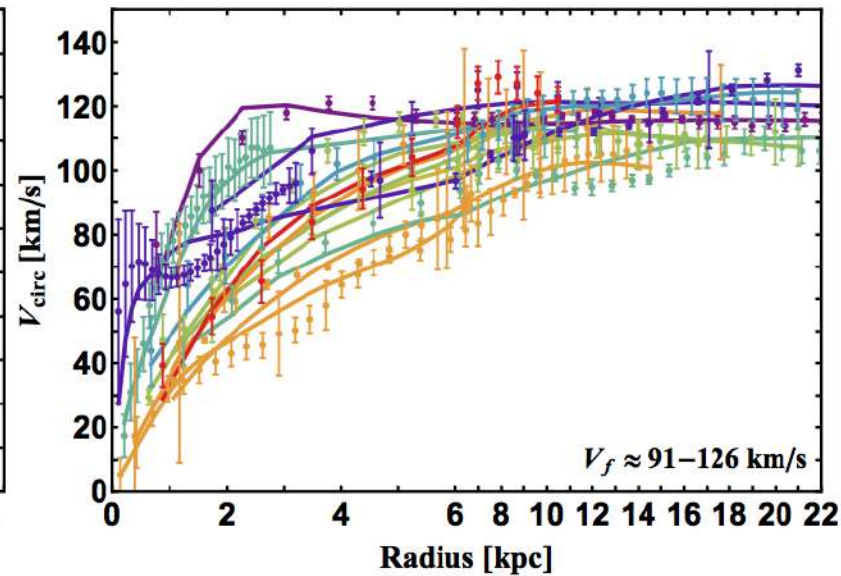
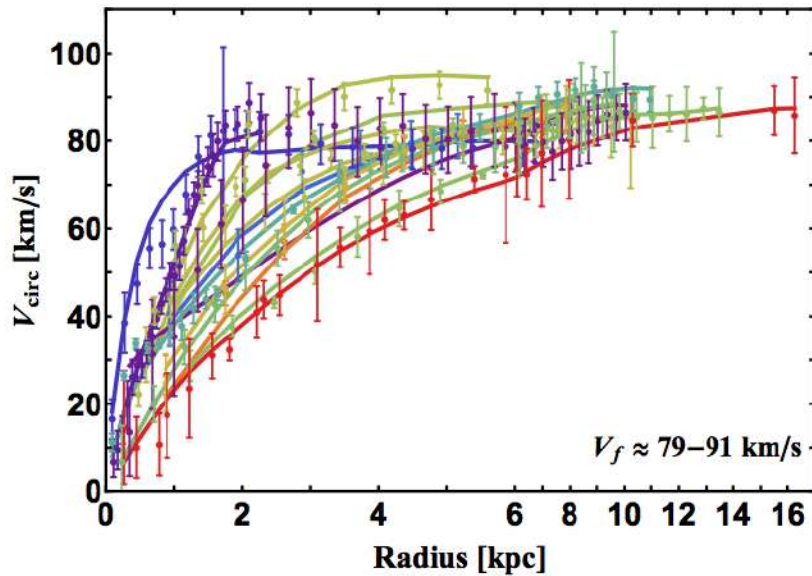
Thermalization leads to higher DM density due to the baryonic influence



$$\rho_X \sim e^{-\Phi_{\text{tot}}/\sigma_0^2} \sim e^{-\Phi_B/\sigma_0^2}$$

w/ Kaplinghat, Keeley, Linden (PRL 2014)  
w/ Kamada, Kaplinghat, Pace (PRL 2017)

# Addressing the Diversity Problem



$$\sigma/m = 3 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$$

We fitted 135 galaxies (3.6  $\mu\text{m}$  band)!  
SPARC dataset, Lelli, McGaugh, Schombert (2016)

w/ Ren, Kwa, Kaplinghat (PRX 2018)  
w/ Kamada, Kaplinghat, Pace (PRL 2017)  
w/ Creasey, Sameie, Sales+ (MNRAS 2017)



**SIDM**

Add one more parameter  $\sigma/m$

Explain the diverse rotation curves of spiral galaxies (puzzled us for ~25 years)



# Beyond Field Galaxies

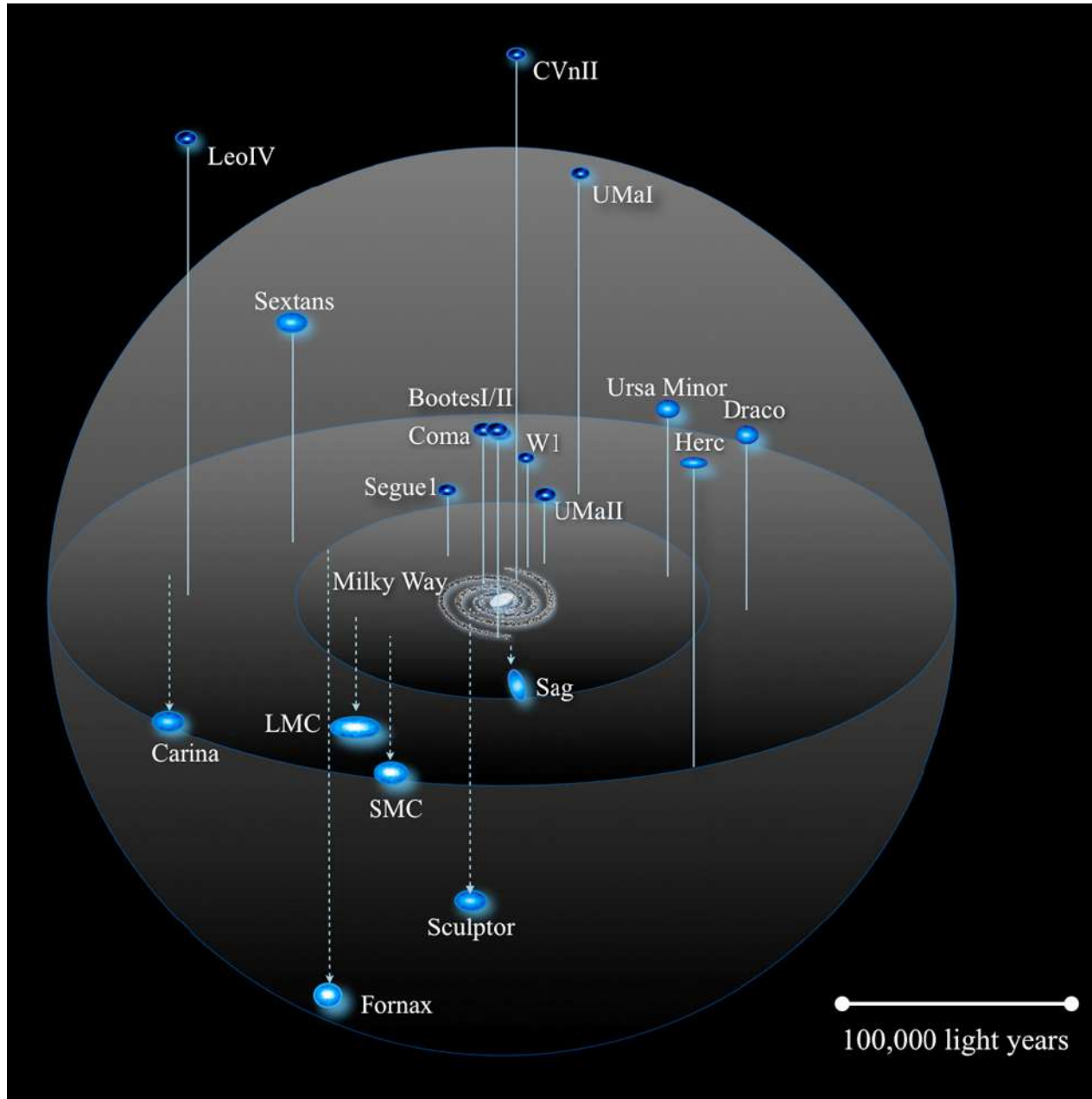
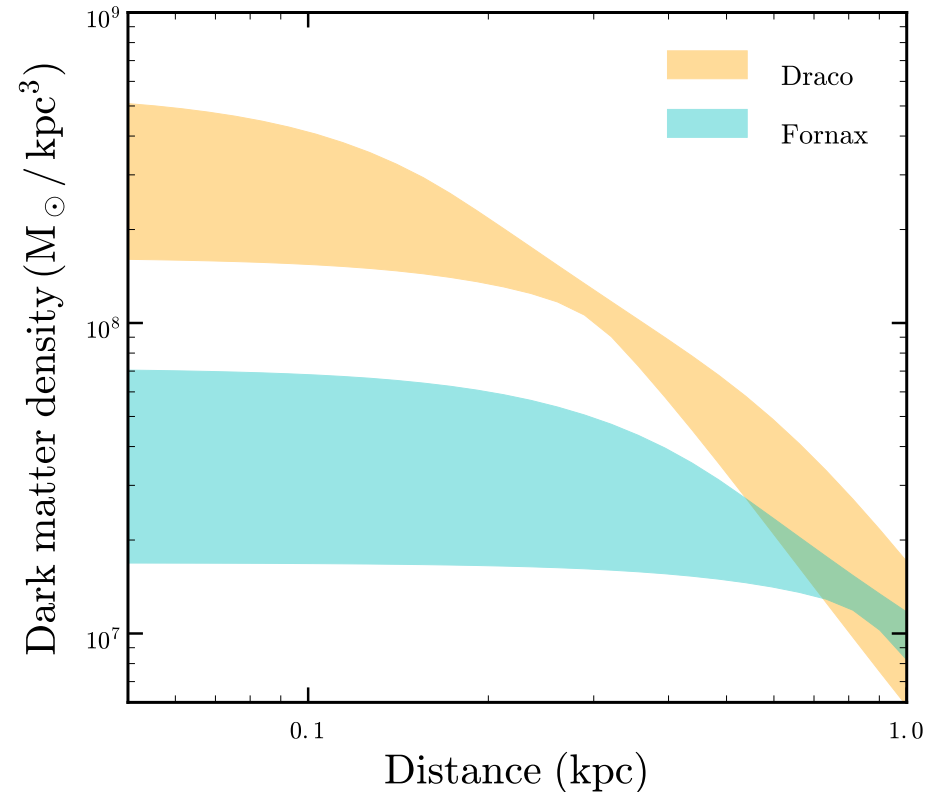
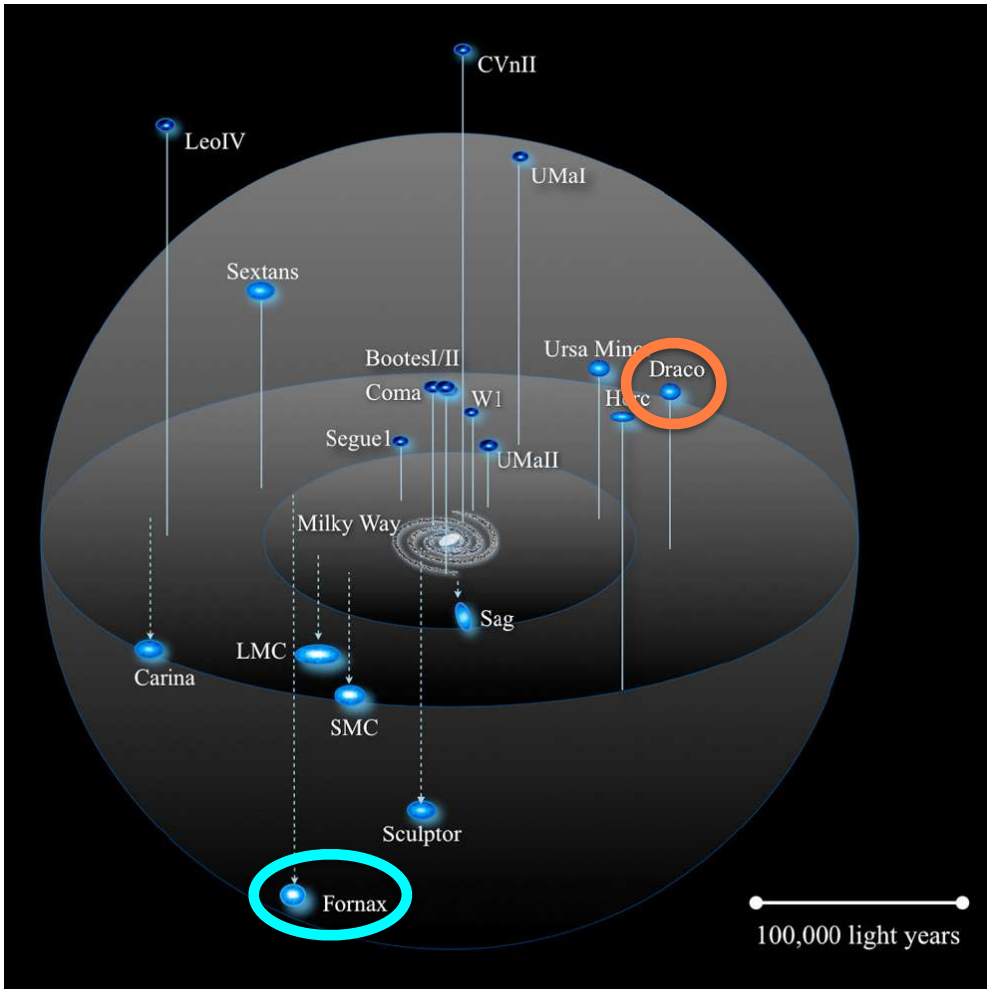


Image: Bullock+

# But...

## Observations

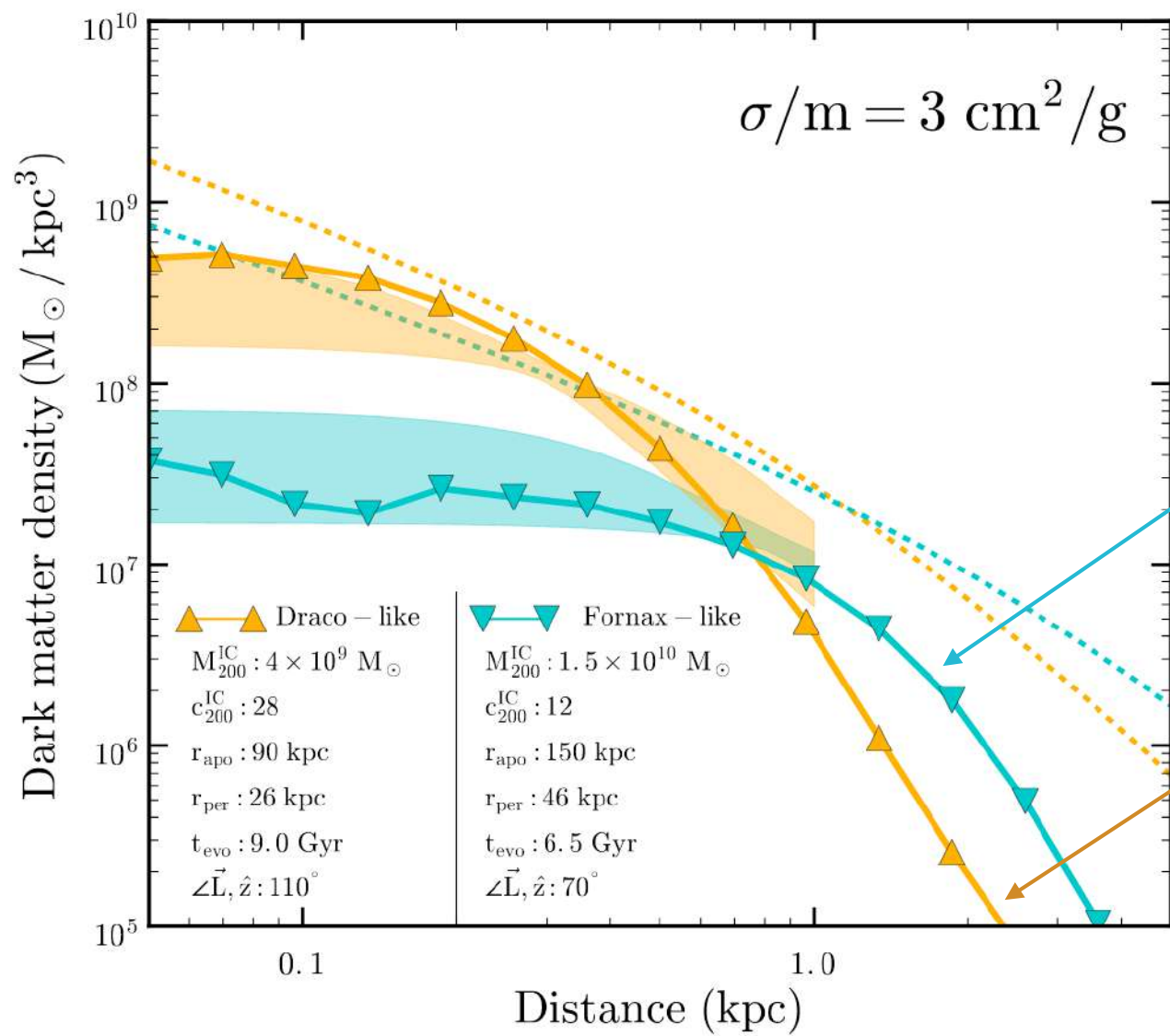


- Dark matter distributions are also diverse in satellite galaxies
- **Naively**, we would get  $\sigma/m_{\chi} \sim 10 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$  for Fornax, but  $\sigma/m_{\chi} \sim 0.3 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$  for Draco

w/ Valli (Nature Astronomy 2018)

w/ Kaplinghat, Valli (MNRAS, 2019)

# Reconciling Draco & Fornax in SIDM



SIDM predictions  
with tidal effects

core-expansion phase

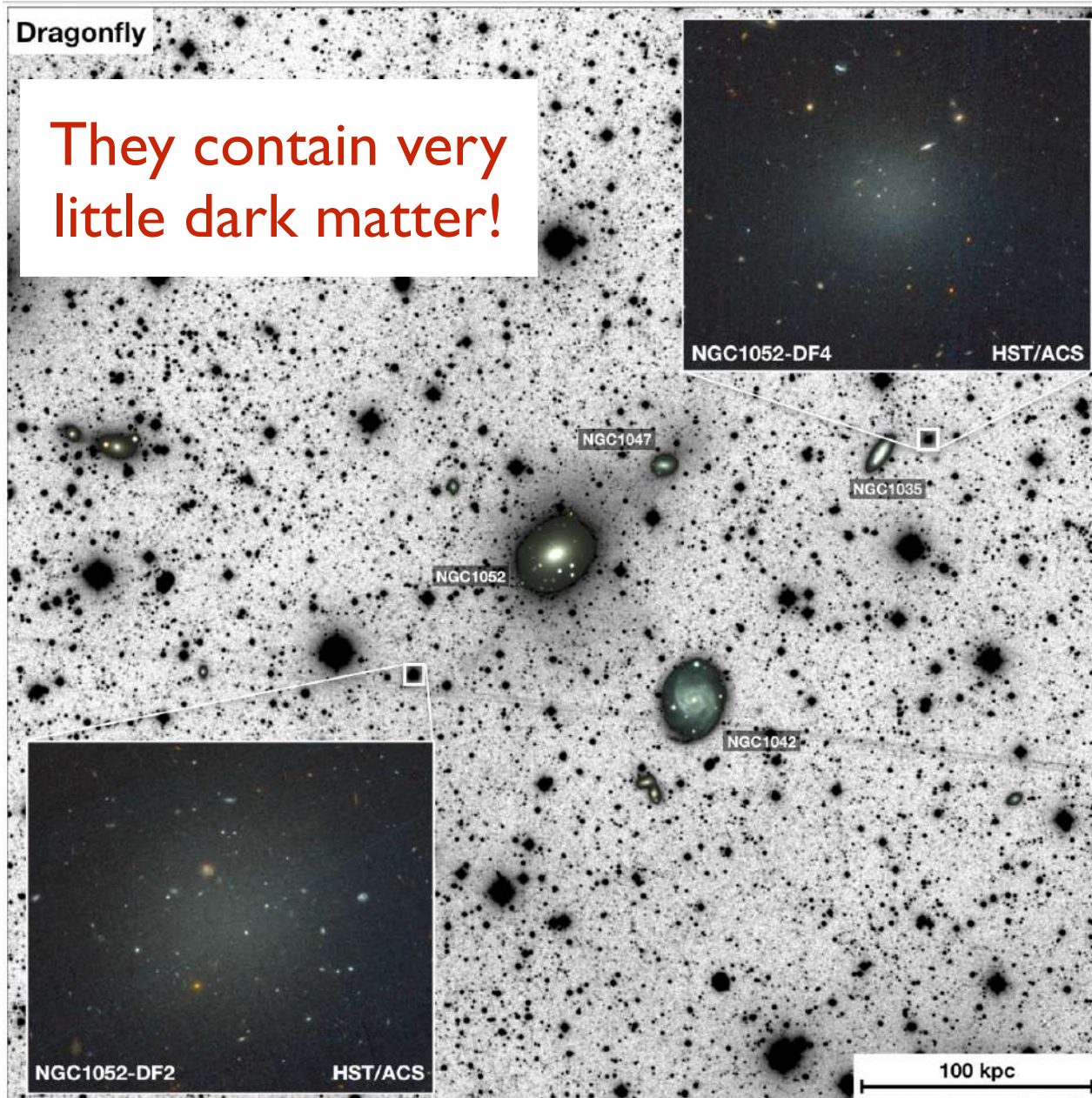
core-collapse phase

w/ Sameie, Sales+(PRL 2019)

SIDM can explain diverse DM distributions in **both** satellite and field galaxies



# Ultra-Diffuse Galaxies



Milky Way

$$M_{\text{DM}}/M_{\text{star}} \approx 30$$

DF2 and DF4

$$M_{\text{star}} \approx 10^8 M_{\odot}$$

Expected

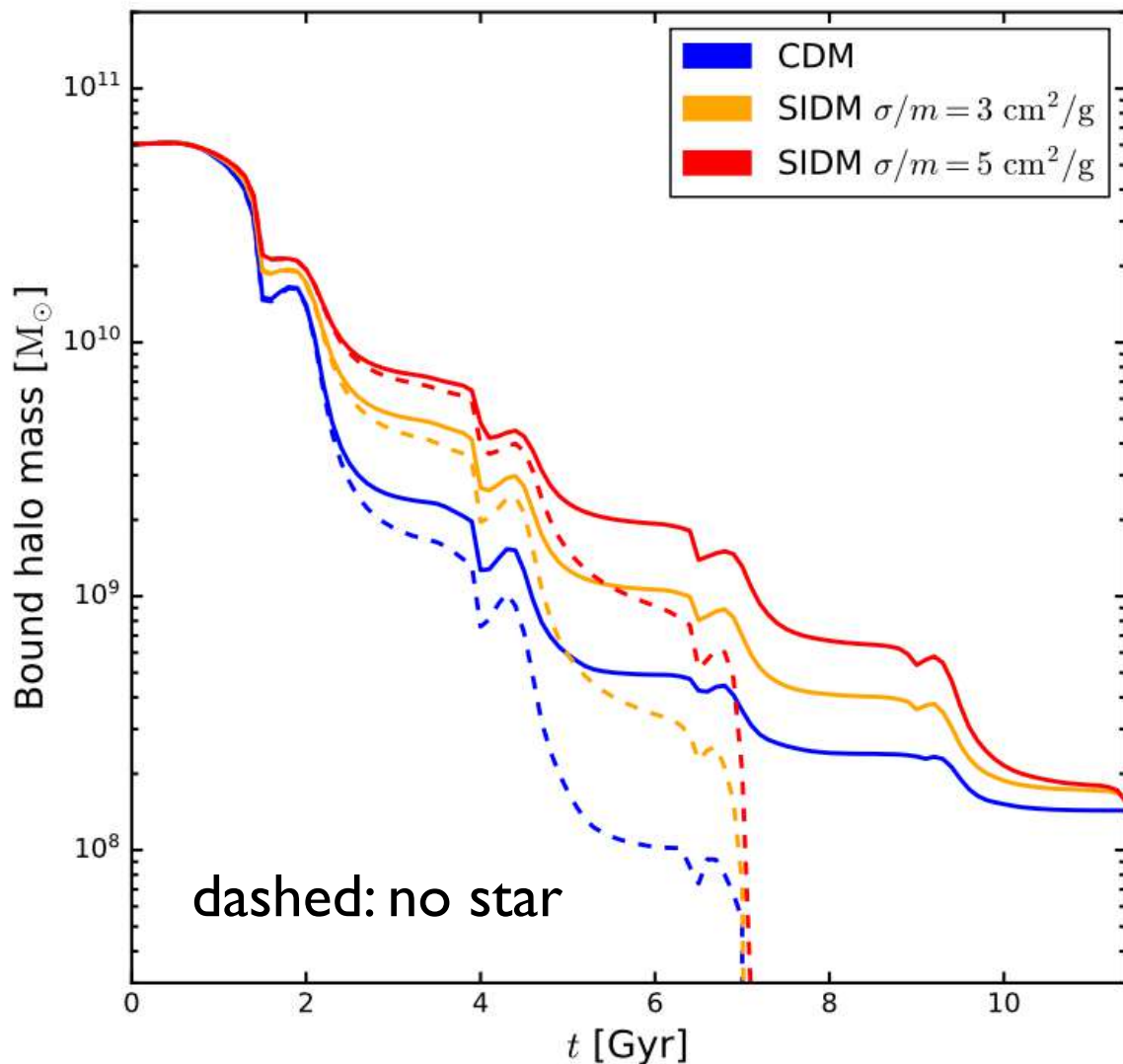
$$M_{\text{DM}}/M_{\text{star}} \sim 200$$

Observed

$$M_{\text{DM}}/M_{\text{star}} \lesssim 1$$



Dragonfly team, van Dokkum+ (Nature 2018, AJPL 2019)



Halo concentration  $c_{200}$

CDM: 4 ( $-4\sigma$ )

SIDM3: 7 ( $-1.8\sigma$ )

SIDM5: 10 ( $-0.4\sigma$ )

Initial,  $t=0$  Gyr

$$M_{200} = 6 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$$

$$M_{*} = 3.2 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$$

$$M_{200}/M_{*} \approx 188$$

Final,  $t=11$  Gyr

$$M_{\text{DM}} = 1.5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$$

$$M_{\text{star}} = 1.3 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$$

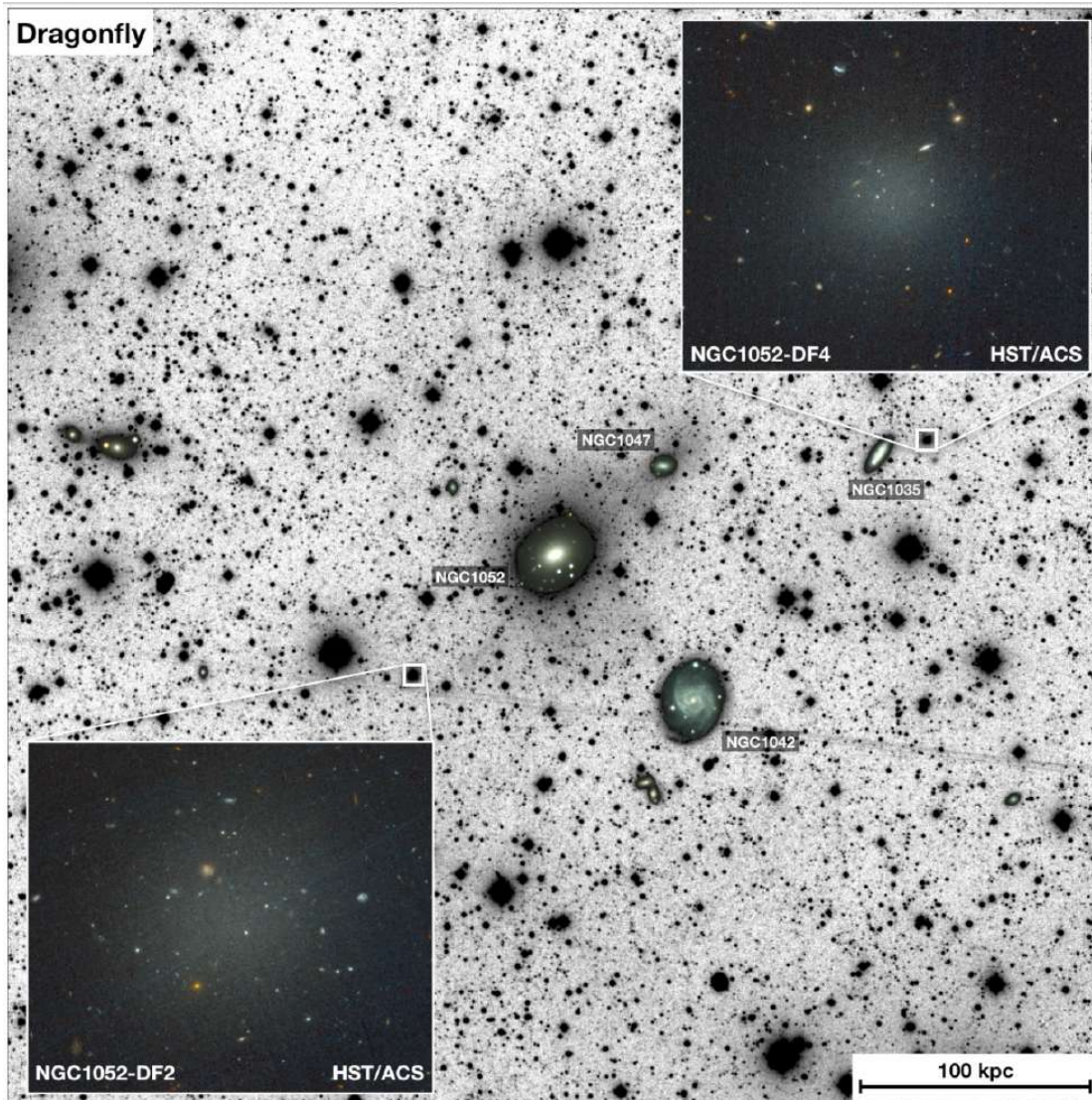
$$M_{\text{DM}}/M_{\text{star}} \approx 1$$

**SIDM leads to core formation, boosting tidal mass loss**

w/ Yang, An (PRL 2020)



# Galaxies with Little Dark Matter



DF2 and DF4 are most likely to be **satellite galaxies** of NGC 1052 (recently confirmed by observations)

They are much more naturally realized in SIDM than in CDM through **tidal stripping**

with/ Yang, An (PRL 2020)

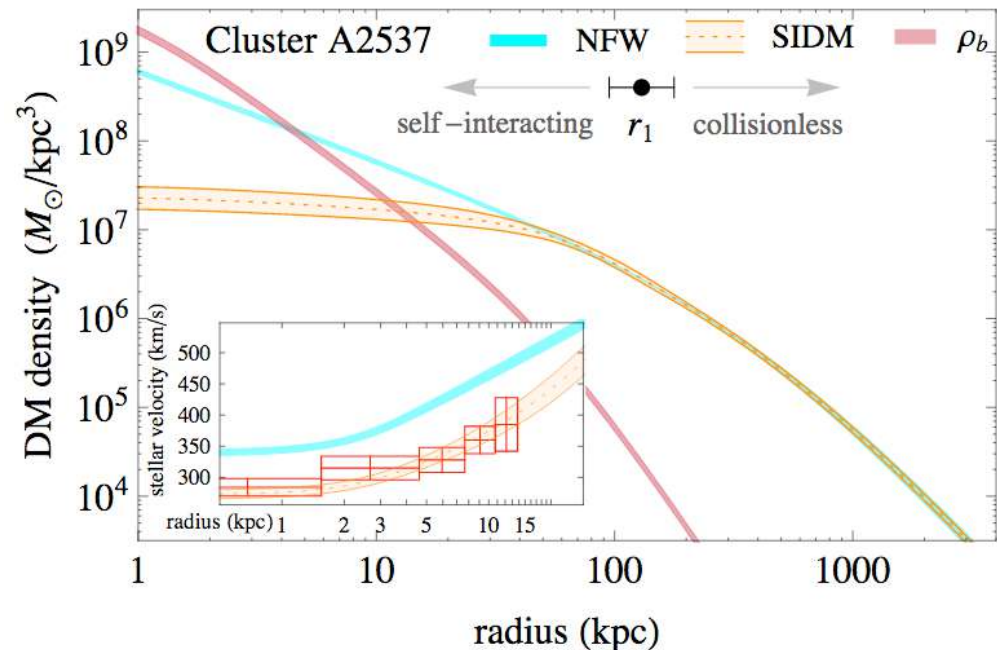
Dragonfly team, van Dokkum+ (Nature 2018, AJPL 2019)



# Galaxy Clusters

A2537

$$M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^{15} M_{\odot}$$



w/ Kaplinghat, Tulin (PRL 2015)

Shallow inner DM density profiles  
Core sizes  $\sim 10$  kpc and smaller

Clusters:  $\sigma/m \sim 0.1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$

Six well-relaxed galaxy clusters  
data from Newman+(2013)

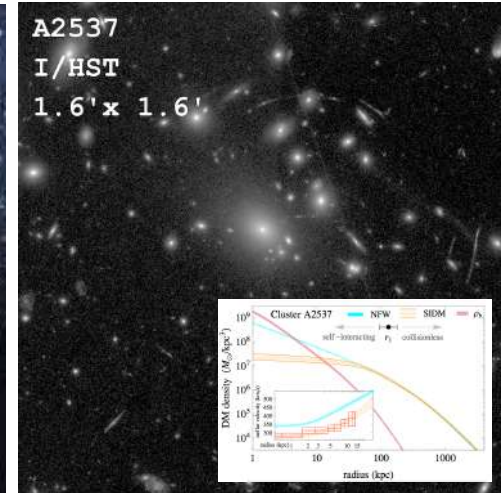
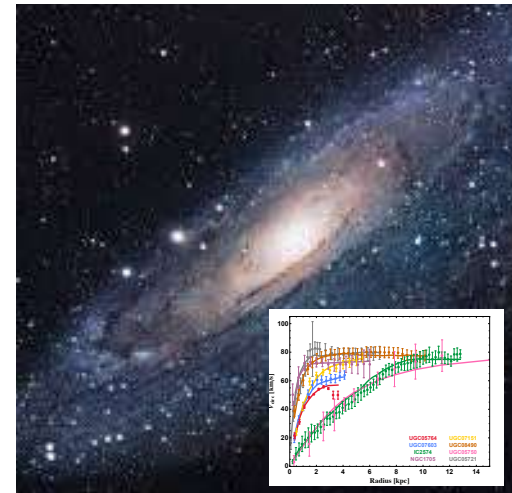
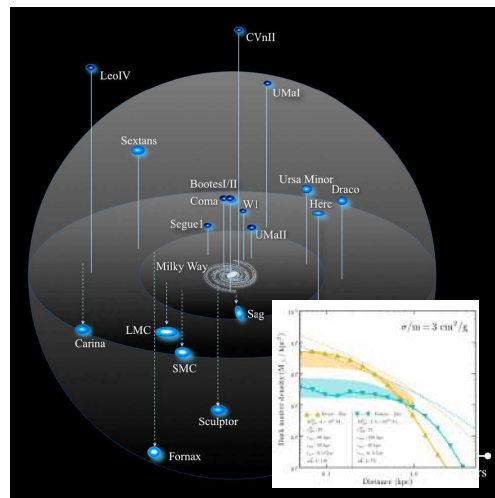
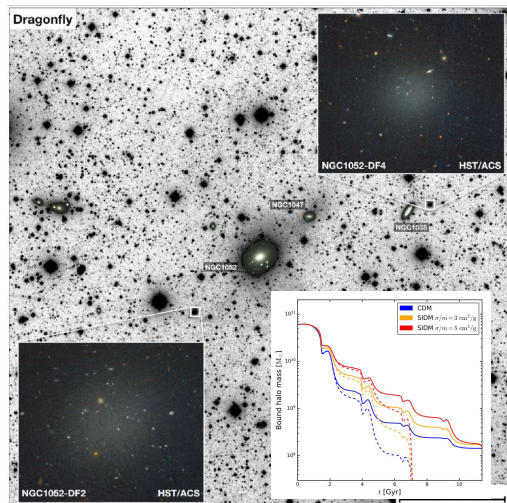
# SIDM from Dwarfs to Clusters

Ultra-diffuse galaxies  
(dark-matter-deficient)

Milky Way satellites

Spiral galaxies

Galaxy clusters



$$M_{\text{halo}} < \sim 10^8 M_{\odot}$$

$$M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^8 M_{\odot}$$

$$M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^9 - 10^{13} M_{\odot}$$

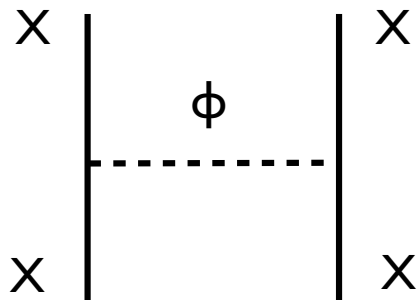
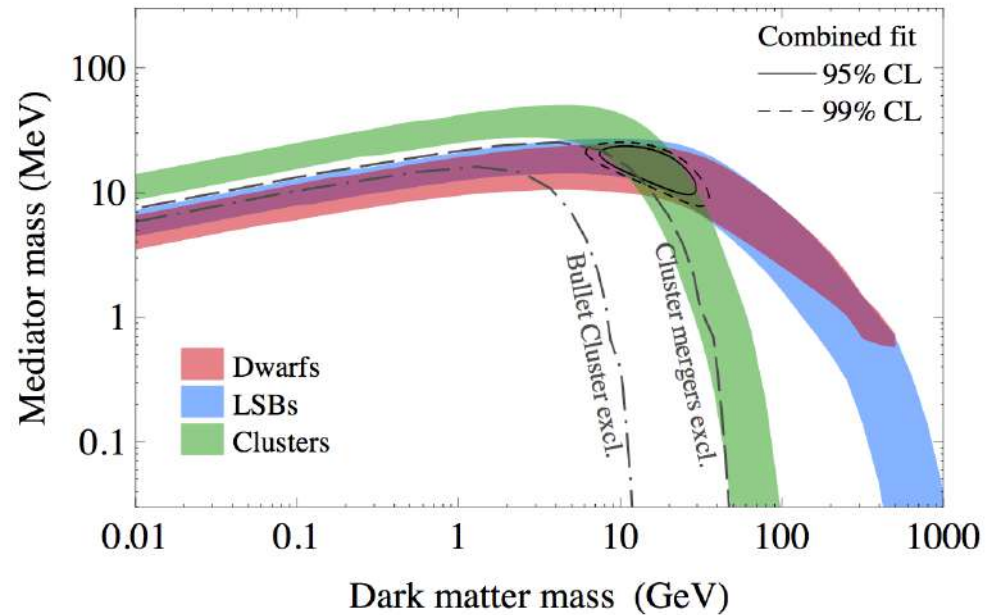
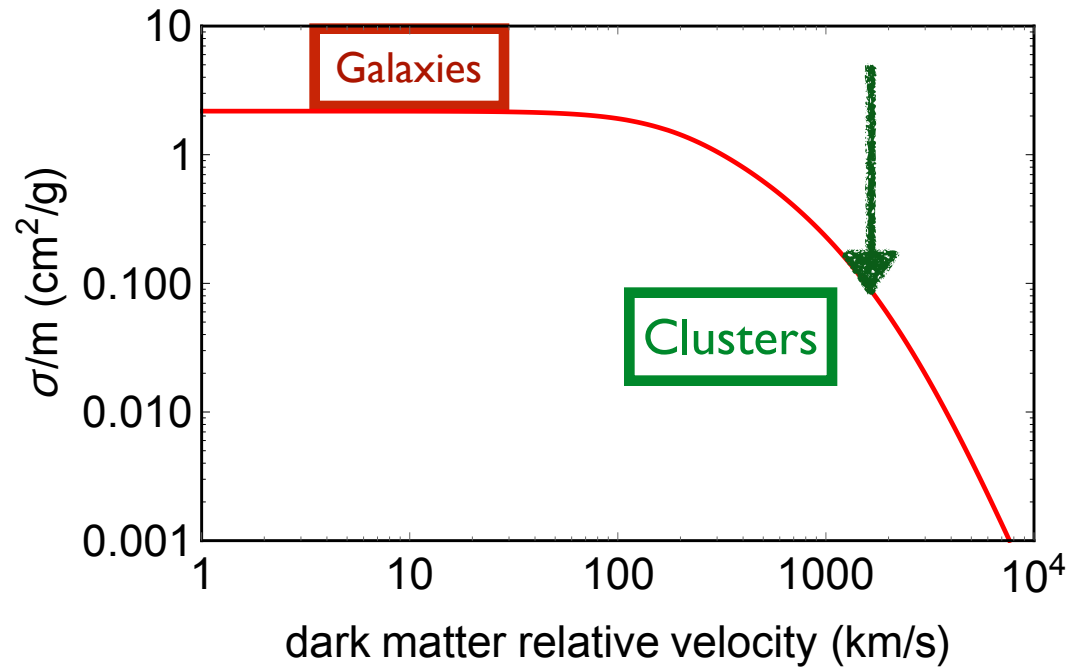
$$M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^{15} M_{\odot}$$

SIDM can explain diverse dark matter distributions over a wide range of galactic systems (halo masses  $\sim 10^8 - 10^{15} M_{\odot}$ )

# Particle Physics Models

Galaxies:  $M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^8 - 10^{13} M_{\odot}$

Galaxy clusters:  $M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^{14} - 10^{15} M_{\odot}$



w/ Kaplinghat, Tulin (PRL 2015)

Fix  $\alpha_X = 1/137$

Predict:  $m_X \sim 15 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $m_\phi \sim 17 \text{ MeV}$

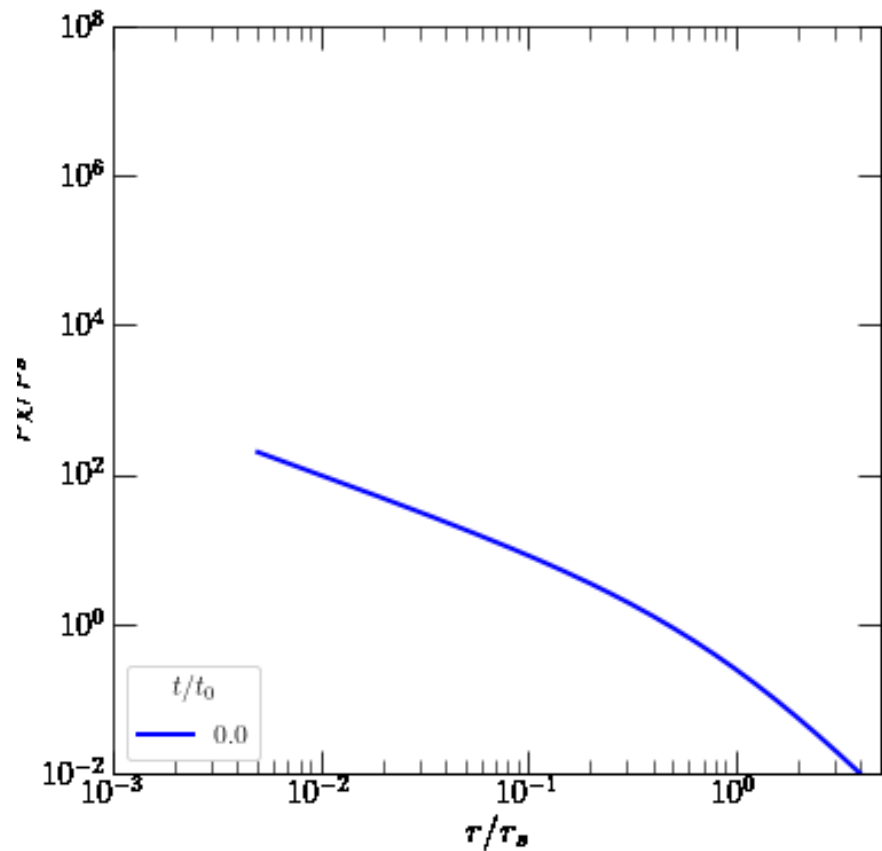
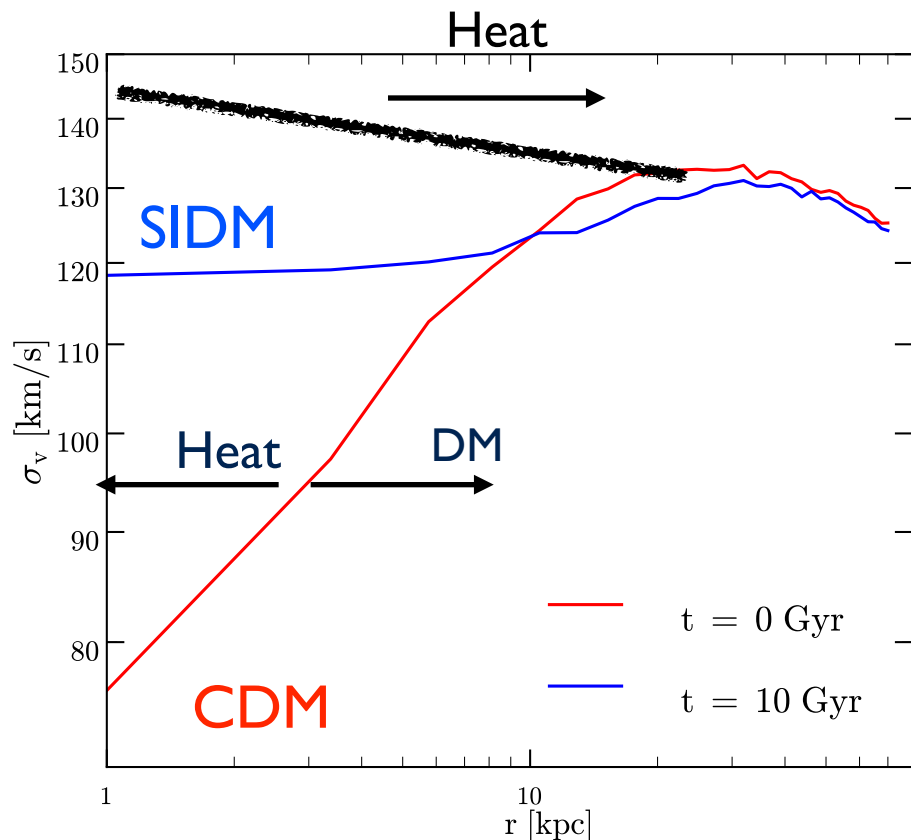
The nightmare scenario is not hopeless!

Dark halos as particle colliders

See also Lee's and Chu's talks



# Gravothermal Catastrophe

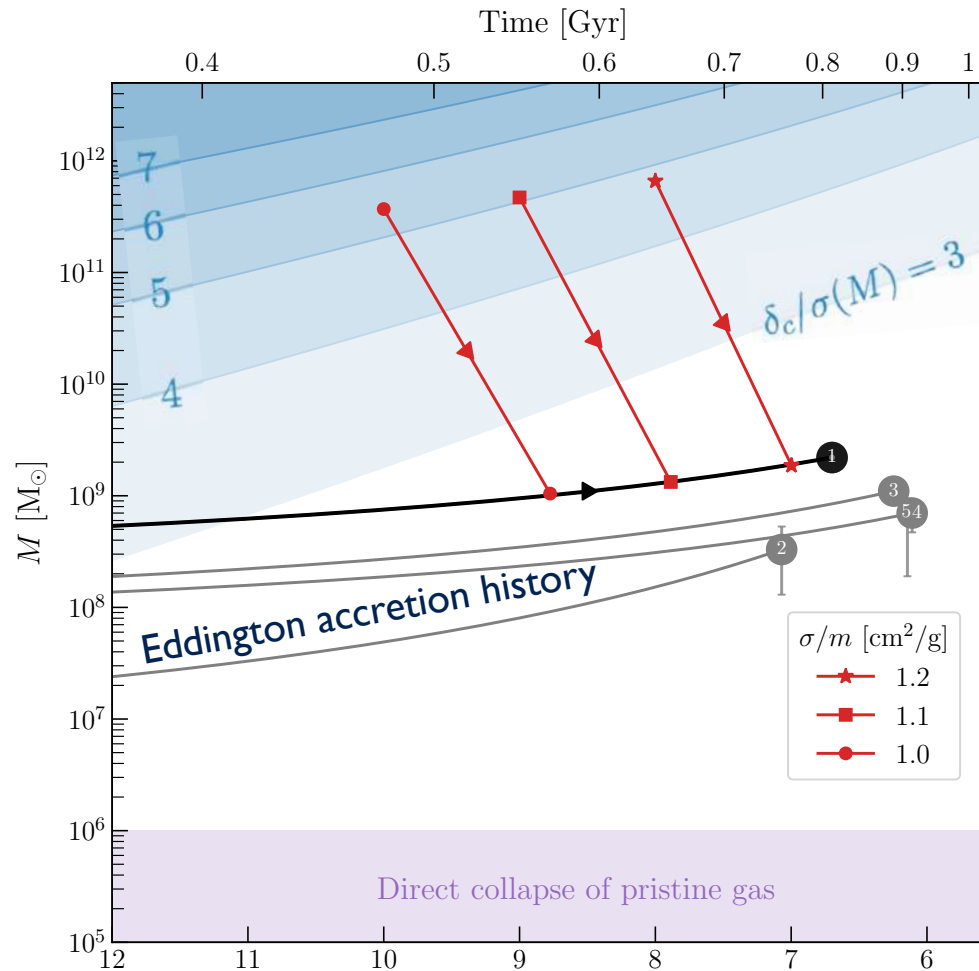
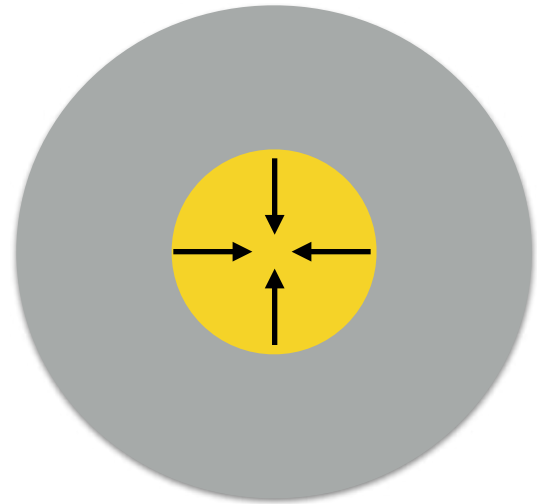


The first stage: heat comes in, DM goes out, core expansion  
 The second stage: heat goes out, DM comes in, core collapse

From Yi-Ming Zhong

Balberg, Shapiro, Inagaki (APJ 2002), Balberg, Shapiro (PRL 2002), w/ Essig, McDermott, Zhong (PRL 2019)

# Seeding Supermassive Black Holes



The most challenging one, J1205-0000

Mass  $2.2 \times 10^9 M_{\odot}$

$z=6.7$

$f_{\text{Edd}}=0.16$

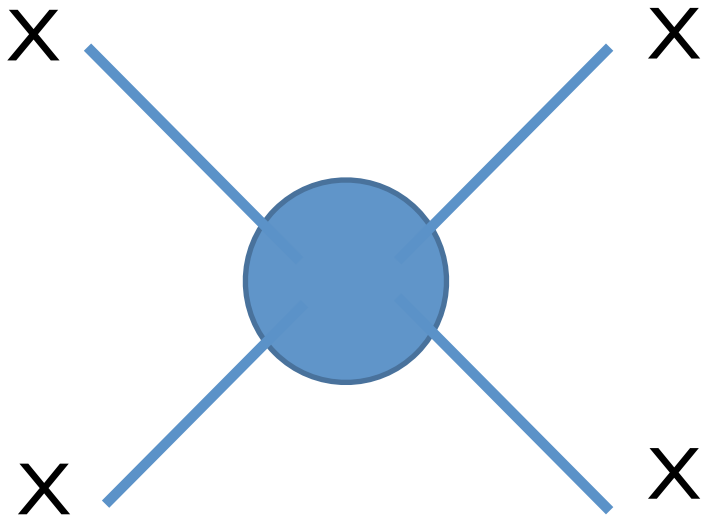
Onoue et al. (2019)

~800 Myr after the Big Bang

w/ Feng, Zhong (2020)

The predicted self-scattering cross section is broadly **consistent** with the one used to explain diverse dark matter distributions in galaxies

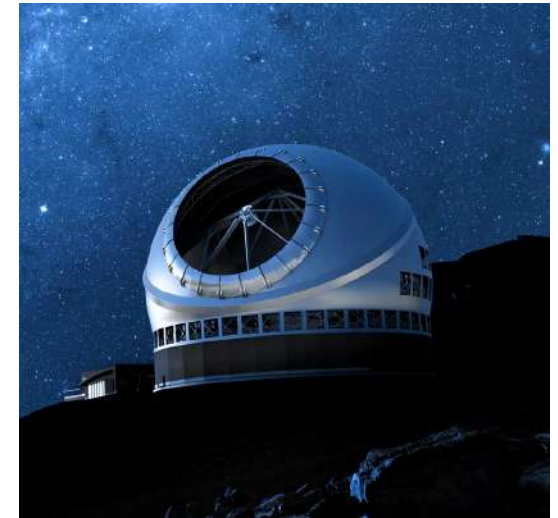
# Conclusions & Outlook



**Strong hints/evidence**

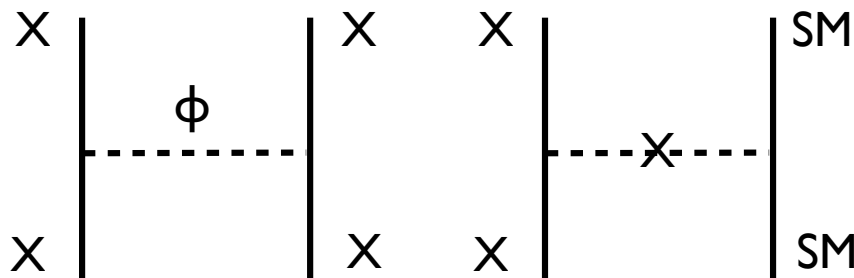


Vera C. Rubin Observatory



Thirty Meter Telescope

- SIDM predicts rich phenomenology



light dark sectors (MeV-GeV)  
resonant regimes

# Thank You!



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