Fermionic Warm Dark Matter and the Thomas-Fermi galaxy structure theory

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Dark Matter in the Universe

81 % of the matter of the universe is DARK (DM).
DM is the dominant component of galaxies.

DM interacts through gravity.

Further DM interactions unobserved so far. Such couplings must be very weak: much weaker than weak interactions.

DM is outside the standard model of particle physics.

Proposed candidates:

- Cold Dark Matter: CDM, WIMPS, $m \sim 1 - 1000$ GeV. IN BIG TROUBLE.
- Warm Dark Matter: WDM, sterile neutrinos $m \sim$ keV. THE ANSWER !

DM particles decouple due to the universe expansion, their distribution function freezes out at decoupling.
Early decoupling: $T_d \sim 100$ GeV

Structure Formation in the Universe

Structures in the Universe as galaxies and cluster of galaxies form out of the small primordial quantum fluctuations originated by inflation just after the big-bang.

These small linear primordial fluctuations grow due to gravitational unstabilities (Jeans) and then classicalize.

Structures form through non-linear gravitational evolution.

Hierarchical formation starts from small scales first.

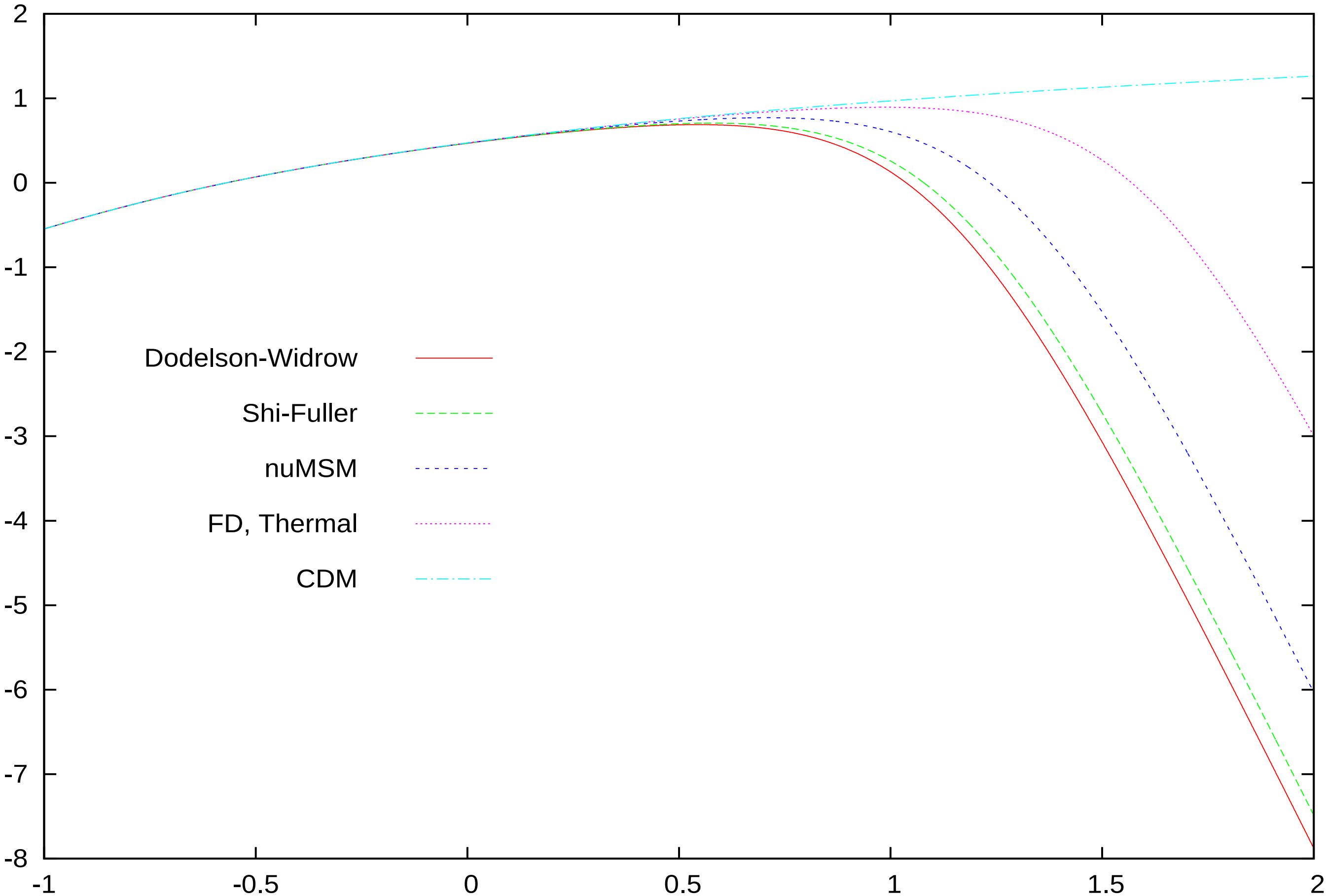
N-body CDM simulations fail to produce the observed structures for small scales less than some kpc.

Both N-body WDM and CDM simulations yield identical and correct structures for scales larger than some kpc.

WDM predicts correct structures for small scales (below kpc) when its quantum nature is taken into account.

Primordial power $\Delta^2(k)$: first ingredient in galaxy formation.

Linear primordial power spectrum $\Delta^2(k)$ vs. k Mpc $/h$



$\log_{10} \Delta^2(k)$ vs. $\log_{10}[k \text{ Mpc}/h]$ for a particle mass of 2.5 keV in four different WDM models and in CDM. WDM cuts $\Delta^2(k)$ on small scales. $r \lesssim 73 \, (\text{keV}/m)^{1.45}$ kpc/h.
CDM and WDM are identical for CMB.

WDM free streaming scale

The scale $l_{1/2}$ is where the WDM power spectrum is one-half of the CDM power spectrum:

$$l_{1/2} = 1/k_{1/2} = 207 \text{ kpc} \left(\frac{\text{keV}}{m_{FD}}\right)^{1.12}$$

This scale reproduces the sizes of the observed DM galaxy cores when the WDM mass is in the keV scale !!

$l_{1/2}$ is similar but more precise than the free streaming scale (or Jeans' scale):

$$r_{Jeans} = 210 \, \text{kpc} \, \frac{\text{keV}}{m_{FD}} \left(\frac{100}{g_d}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} ,$$

$g_d =$ number of UR degrees of freedom at decoupling.

Small structure formation in WDM

DM particles can freely propagate over distances of the order of the free streaming scale.

Therefore, structures at scales smaller or of the order of $l_{1/2}$ are erased which agrees with the observed structures in galaxies !!

WDM sterile neutrinos are out of equilibrium in different particle models and behave primordially just as if their masses were different (FD = thermal fermions):

$$\frac{m_{DW}}{\text{keV}} \simeq 2.85 \left(\frac{m_{FD}}{\text{keV}}\right)^{\frac{4}{3}}, \; m_{SF} \simeq 2.55 \, m_{FD}, \; m_{\nu\text{MSM}} \simeq 1.9 \, m_{FD}.$$

DW: Dodelson-Widrow model, SF: Shi-Fuller model

H J de Vega, N Sanchez, Warm Dark Matter cosmological fluctuations, Phys. Rev. D85, 043516 and 043517 (2012).

CDM free streaming scale

For CDM particles with $m \sim 100$ GeV $\Rightarrow\ r_{Jeans} \sim 0.1$ pc.
Hence CDM structures keep forming till scales as small as the solar system.
This is a robust result of N-body CDM simulations but never observed in the sky. Including baryons do not cure this serious problem. There is over abundance of small structures in CDM ('satellite problem') which are too dense.

CDM has many further serious conflicts with observations:

CDM needs ad-hoc merging and environment to grow gal.
Observations show that galaxy mergers are rare ($< 10\%$).
Pure-disk galaxies (bulgeless) are observed whose formation through CDM is unexplained.

CDM predicts cusped density profiles: $\rho(r) \sim 1/r$ for small r.
Observations show cored profiles: $\rho(r)$ bounded for small r.
Adding by hand strong enough feedback from baryons does not eliminate cusps (F. Marinacci et al., MNRAS 437, 1750 (2014)).

Summary Warm Dark Matter, WDM: $m \sim$ keV

- Large Scales, structures beyond ~ 100 kpc: WDM and CDM yield identical results which agree with observations
- Intermediate Scales: WDM simulations give the correct abundance of substructures.
- Inside galaxy cores, below ~ 100 pc: N-body classical physics simulations are incorrect for WDM because of important quantum effects.
- Quantum calculations (Thomas-Fermi) give galaxy cores, galaxy masses, velocity dispersions and densities in agreement with the observations.
- Direct Detection of the main WDM candidate: the sterile neutrino. Beta decay and electron capture. ^{3}H, Re, Ho.

So far, not a single valid objection arose against WDM.
Baryons (<16%DM) expected to give a correction to WDM

Sterile neutrino models

- DW: Dodelson-Widrow model (1994) sterile neutrinos produced by non-resonant mixing from active neutrinos.
- Shi-Fuller model (1998) sterile neutrinos produced by resonant mixing from active neutrinos.
- νMSM model (2005) sterile neutrinos produced by a Yukawa coupling from a real scalar χ.
- Models based on: Froggatt-Nielsen mechanism, flavor symmetries, see-saw mechanisms and several variations of it, left-right symmetries and others. Review by A Merle (2013).

WDM particles in the first 3 models behave primordially just as if their masses were different (FD = thermal fermions):

$$\frac{m_{DW}}{\text{keV}} \simeq 2.85 \left(\frac{m_{FD}}{\text{keV}}\right)^{\frac{4}{3}}, \; m_{SF} \simeq 2.55 \, m_{FD}, \; m_{\nu\text{MSM}} \simeq 1.9 \, m_{FD}.$$

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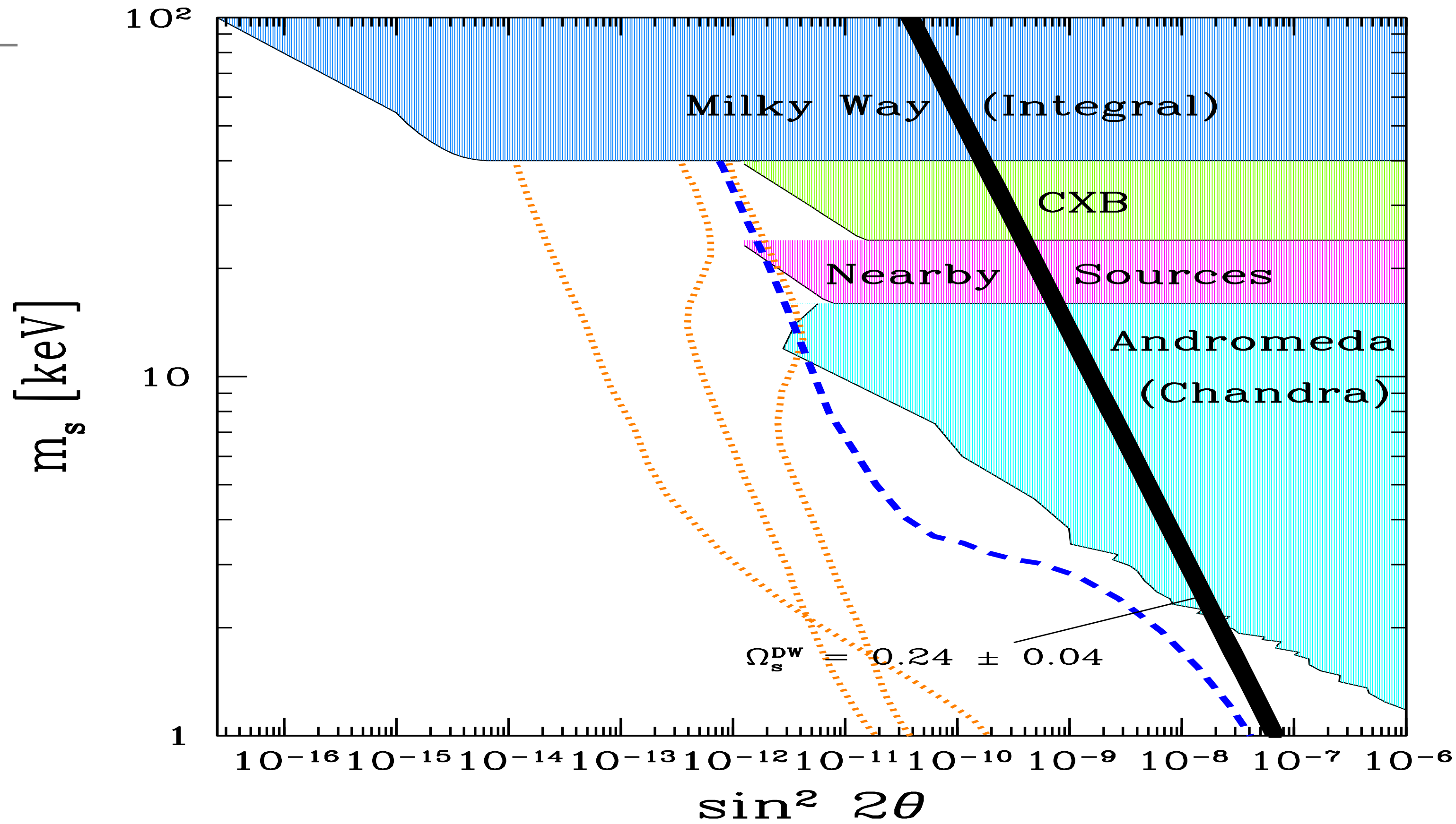
Constraints on the sterile neutrino mass and mixing angle



Dashed = Shi-Fuller model. Dotted = Dodelson-Widrow for fermion asymmetry $L = 0.1, \ 0.01$ and 0.003.

Allowed sterile neutrino region in the right lower corner.

Main difficulty: to distinguish the sterile neutrino decay X-ray from narrow X-ray lines emitted by hot ions as Fe.

Detection of a 3.56 keV X-ray line in galaxy clusters

E.Bulbul et al. ApJ 789, 23 (2014) reported the detection of a new X-ray line in galaxy clusters that may be originated by the decay of a 7.1 keV sterile neutrino.
Sterile neutrinos remain out of thermal equilibrium today.

From the conversion formulas, a 7.1 keV DW sterile neutrino behaves as a 1.99 keV thermal relic and a 7.1 keV SF sterile neutrino behaves as a 2.8 keV thermal relic.

Besides, a 7.1 keV SF sterile neutrino with lepton asymmetry yields similar results (K Abazajian, 2014).

WDM thermal relics with thermal mass near 2 keV provide correct small scale structure formation.

Therefore, a 7.1 keV sterile neutrino may be the dark matter particle.

Confirmation of the detection and identification of the 3.56 keV X-ray line from Astro-H is awaited for 2015 !

Quantum physics in Galaxies

de Broglie wavelength of DM particles $\lambda_{dB} = \frac{\hbar}{m\, v}$

$d =$ mean distance between particles, $v =$ mean velocity

$$d = \left(\frac{m}{\rho}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \quad , \quad Q = \rho/v^3 \quad , \quad Q = \text{phase space density.}$$

ratio: $$\mathcal{R} = \frac{\lambda_{dB}}{d} = \hbar \left(\frac{Q}{m^4}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

Observed values: $2 \times 10^{-3} \left(\frac{\text{keV}}{m}\right)^{\frac{4}{3}} < \mathcal{R} < 1.4 \left(\frac{\text{keV}}{m}\right)^{\frac{4}{3}}$

The larger $\mathcal{R}$ is for ultracompact dwarfs.
The smaller $\mathcal{R}$ is for big spirals.

$\mathcal{R}$ near unity (or above) means a QUANTUM OBJECT.

Observations alone show that compact dwarf galaxies are quantum objects (for WDM).
No quantum effects in CDM: $m \gtrsim$ GeV $\Rightarrow \mathcal{R} \lesssim 10^{-8}$

Quantum pressure vs. gravitational pressure

quantum pressure: $P_q =$ flux of momentum $= n\ v\ p$ repulsive

$v =$ mean velocity, momentum $= p \sim \hbar/\Delta x \sim \hbar\, n^{\frac{1}{3}}$,

particle number density $= n = \frac{M_q}{\frac{4}{3}\,\pi\, R_q^3\, m}$

galaxy mass $= M_q$, galaxy halo radius $= R_q$

gravitational pressure (attractive): $P_G = \frac{G\, M_q^2}{R_q^2} \times \frac{1}{4\,\pi\, R_q^2}$

Equilibrium: $P_q = P_G \Longrightarrow$

$$R_q = \frac{3^{\frac{5}{3}}}{(4\,\pi)^{\frac{2}{3}}} \frac{\hbar^2}{G\, m^{\frac{8}{3}}\, M_q^{\frac{1}{3}}} = 7.8\ \text{pc} \left(\frac{10^4\ M_\odot}{M_q}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \left(\frac{2\ \text{keV}}{m}\right)^{\frac{8}{3}}$$

$$v = \left(\frac{4\,\pi}{81}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \frac{G}{\hbar}\, m^{\frac{4}{3}}\, M_q^{\frac{2}{3}} = 4.64\ \frac{\text{km}}{\text{s}} \left(\frac{2\ \text{keV}}{m}\right)^{\frac{4}{3}} \left(\frac{M_q}{10^4\ M_\odot}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

for WDM the values of $M_q,\ R_q$ and v are consistent with the dwarf galaxy observations !! .

Dwarf galaxies can be supported by the fermionic quantum pressure of WDM. Analogous to neutron stars and white dwarfs.

Self-gravitating Fermions in the Thomas-Fermi approach

WDM is non-relativistic in the MD era. A single DM halo in late stages of formation relaxes to a time-independent form especially in the interior.

Chemical potential: $\mu(r) = \mu_0 - m\,\phi(r)\;,\;\phi(r) =$ grav. pot.

Poisson's equation: $\frac{d^2\mu}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r}\,\frac{d\mu}{dr} = -4\,\pi\,G\,m\,\rho(r)$

$\rho(0) =$ finite for fermions $\Longrightarrow \frac{d\mu}{dr}(0) = 0$.

Density $\rho(r)$ and pressure $P(r)$ in terms of the distribution function $f(E)$:

$$\rho(r) = \frac{m}{\pi^2\,\hbar^3}\int_0^\infty p^2\,dp\,f[\frac{p^2}{2\,m} - \mu(r)]$$

$$P(r) = \frac{1}{3\,\pi^2\,m\,\hbar^3}\int_0^\infty p^4\,dp\,f[\frac{p^2}{2\,m} - \mu(r)]$$

These are self-consistent non-linear Thomas-Fermi equations that determine $\mu(r)$.

Galaxy surface density

The surface density: $\Sigma_0 \equiv r_h \, \rho_0 \simeq 120 \; M_\odot/\text{pc}^2$,

takes nearly the same value for galactic systems (spirals, dwarf irregular and spheroidals, elliptics) spanning over 14 magnitudes in luminosity and over different Hubble types.

We take Σ_0 as physical scale to express the galaxy magnitudes in the Thomas-Fermi approach.

Dimensionless variables: $\xi, \quad \nu(\xi)$.

$$r = l_0 \, \xi \quad , \quad \mu(r) = T_0 \, \nu(\xi) \quad , \quad \rho_0 \equiv \rho(0).$$

$T_0 =$ effective galaxy temperature, l_0 characteristic length.

From the Thomas-Fermi equations:

$$l_0 \equiv \left(\frac{9\pi}{2^9}\right)^{\frac{1}{5}} \left(\frac{\hbar^6}{G^3 m^8}\right)^{\frac{1}{5}} \left[\frac{\xi_h \, I_2(\nu_0)}{\Sigma_0}\right]^{\frac{1}{5}} =$$

$$4.2557 \, [\xi_h \, I_2(\nu_0)]^{\frac{1}{5}} \left(\frac{2\,\text{keV}}{m}\right)^{\frac{8}{5}} \left(\frac{120 \, M_\odot}{\Sigma_0 \text{pc}^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{5}} \text{pc}$$

$$I_n(\nu) \equiv (n+1) \int_0^\infty y^n \, dy \; f(y^2 - \nu) \quad , \quad \nu_0 \equiv \nu(0)$$

WDM Thomas-Fermi equations

Self-consistent dimensionless Thomas-Fermi equation:

$$\frac{d^2\nu}{d\xi^2} + \frac{2}{\xi}\,\frac{d\nu}{d\xi} + I_2(\nu) = 0 \quad , \quad \nu'(0) = 0$$

Core size r_h of the halo defined as for Burkert profile:

$$\frac{\rho(r_h)}{\rho_0} = \frac{1}{4} \quad , \quad r_h = l_0\,\xi_h$$

Fermi-Dirac Phase-Space distribution function $f(E/T_0)$:

Contrasting the theoretical Thomas-Fermi solution with galaxy data, T_0 turns to be $10^{-3}\ ^o$K $< T_0 <$ 20 ^{o}K

colder = ultracompact, warmer = large spirals.

$T_0 \sim m\ < v^2 >_{\rm observed}$ for $m \sim 2$ keV.

All results are independent of any WDM particle physics model, they only follow from the gravitational interaction of the WDM particles and their fermionic nature.

Lower bound on the particle mass m

In the degenerate quantum limit $\nu_0 \to +\infty, \ T_0 \to 0$ the galaxy mass and halo radius take their minimum values

$$r_h^{min} = 11.3794 \ \left(\frac{2\,\mathrm{keV}}{m}\right)^{\frac{8}{5}} \ \left(\frac{120 \ M_\odot}{\Sigma_0 \ \mathrm{pc}^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{5}} \ \mathrm{pc}$$

$$M_h^{min} = 30998.7 \ \left(\frac{2\,\mathrm{keV}}{m}\right)^{\frac{16}{5}} \ \left(\frac{\Sigma_0 \ \mathrm{pc}^2}{120 \ M_\odot}\right)^{\frac{3}{5}} \ M_\odot$$

Observed halo masses must be larger or equal than M_h^{min}

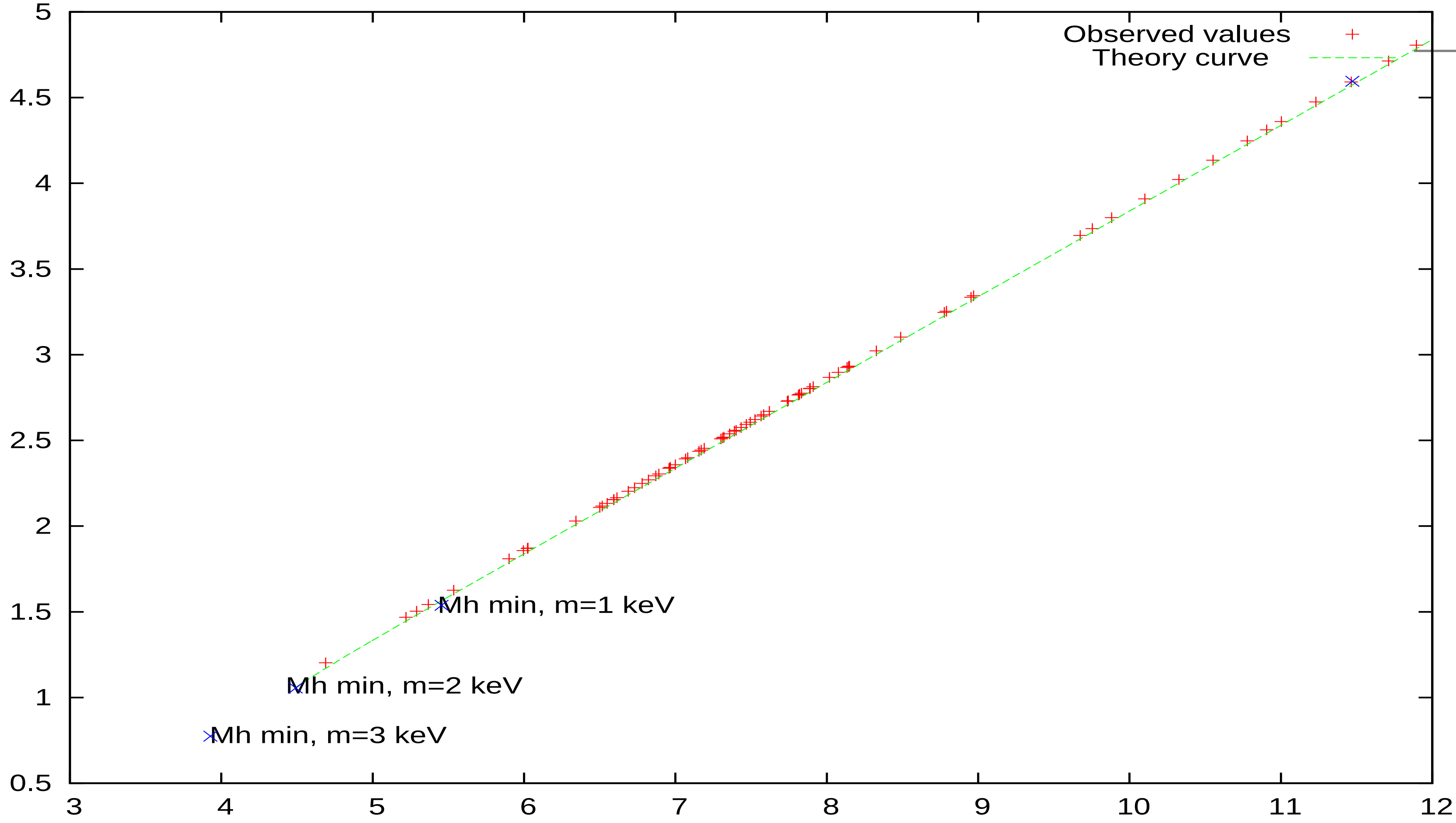
From the minimum observed value of the halo mass M_h^{min} a lower bound for the WDM particle mass m follows

$$m \geq m_{min} \equiv 1.387 \ \mathrm{keV} \ \left(\frac{10^5 \ M_\odot}{M_h^{min}}\right)^{\frac{5}{16}} \ \left(\frac{\Sigma_0 \ \mathrm{pc}^2}{120 \ M_\odot}\right)^{\frac{3}{16}}$$

The minimal known halo mass is for Willman I:

$M_{Willman\,I} = 3.9 \ 10^4 \ M_\odot$ which implies $m \geq 1.86 \ \mathrm{keV}$

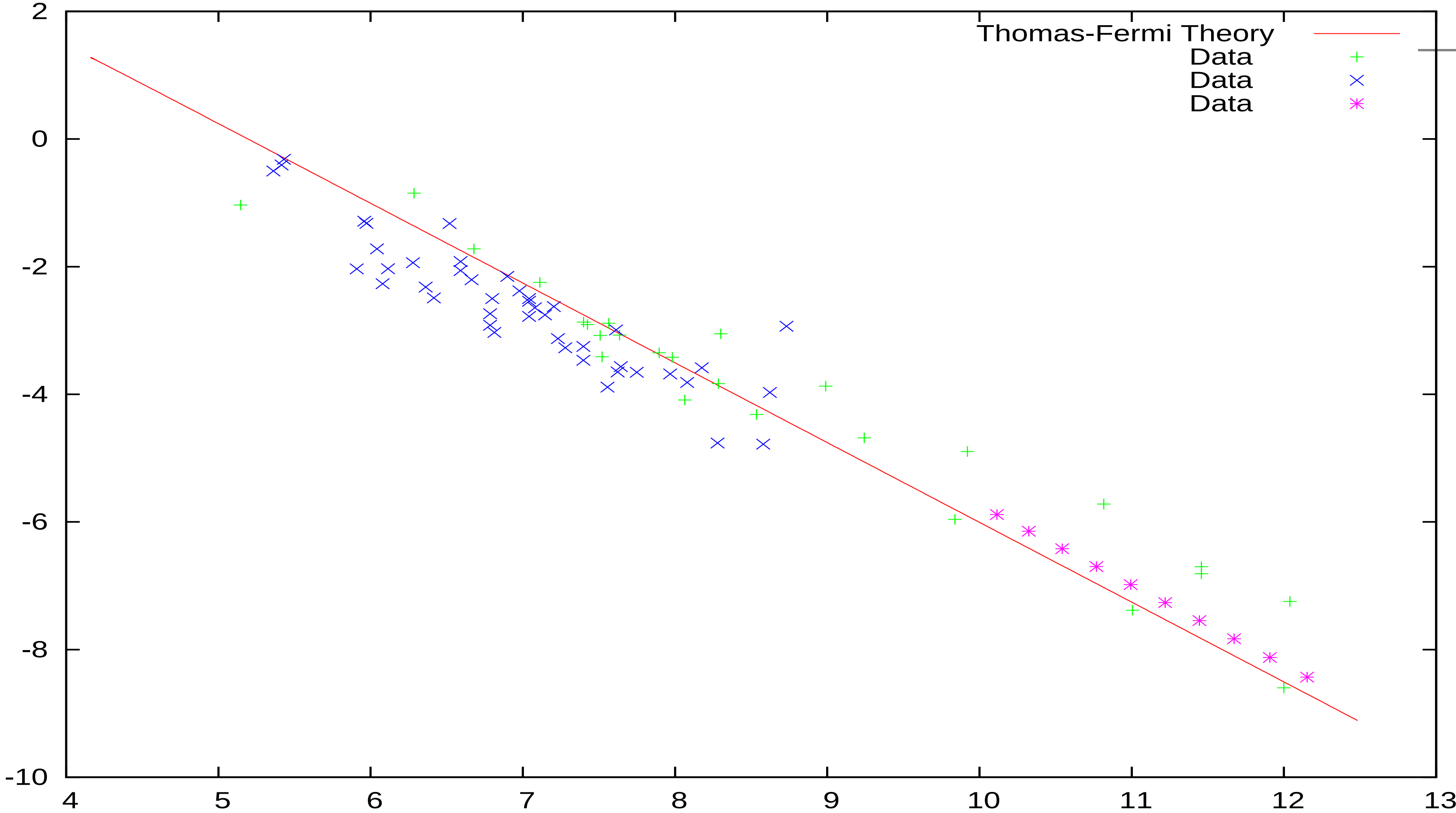
Galaxy halo radius vs. Galaxy halo Mass



$\hat{r}_h = r_h \left(\Sigma_0 \text{ pc}^2/[120 \; M_\odot]\right)^{\frac{1}{5}}$ vs. $\hat{M}_h = M_h \left(120 \; M_\odot/[\Sigma_0 \text{ pc}^2]\right)^{\frac{3}{5}}$.

r_h follows with precision the square-root of M_h and the amplitude factor as predicted theoretically.

Galaxy Phase-space density Q vs. Galaxy halo Mass



$\log_{10} Q$ vs. $\log_{10} \hat{M}_h$ theory and data.

$Q \equiv \rho(0)/\sigma^3(0)$. Theoretical curve Q obtained from the Thomas-Fermi expression.

Diluted regime of Galaxies

In the diluted regime of Galaxies

$M_h \gtrsim 10^6 \; M_\odot \; , \quad \nu_0 \lesssim -5 \; , \quad T_0 \gtrsim 0.017$ K = 17 mK.

$r_h, \; M_h$ and $Q(0)$ scale as functions of each other.

$$M_h = 1.75572 \; \Sigma_0 \; r_h^2 \quad , \quad r_h = 68.894 \; \sqrt{\frac{M_h}{10^6 \; M_\odot}} \; \sqrt{\frac{120 \; M_\odot}{\Sigma_0 \; \mathrm{pc}^2}} \; \text{pc}$$

$$Q(0) = 1.2319 \; \left(\frac{10^5 \; M_\odot}{M_h}\right)^{\frac{5}{4}} \; \left(\frac{\Sigma_0 \; \mathrm{pc}^2}{120 \; M_\odot}\right)^{\frac{3}{4}} \; \mathrm{keV}^4$$

These scaling behaviours are very accurate with small deviations due to quantum effects near the degenerate limit.

C. Destri, H. J. de Vega, N. G. Sanchez, New Astronomy **22**, 39 (2013) and Astroparticle Physics, **46**, 14 (2013).
H. J. de Vega, P. Salucci, N. G. Sanchez, arXiv:1309.2290, MNRAS, 442, 2717 (2014).
H. J. de Vega, N. G. Sanchez, arXiv:1310.6355.

Classical and Quantum regimes of WDM Galaxies

I. Diluted and classical regime:

$\hat{M}_h \gtrsim 10^6 \; M_\odot \; , \quad \nu_0 \lesssim -5 \; , \quad T_0 \gtrsim 0.017$ K.

The density and the velocity profiles are universal.

Exact scaling laws for $r_h, \; M_h$ and $Q(0)$.

II. Quantum compact regime:

$10^6 \; M_\odot \gtrsim \hat{M}_h \gtrsim \hat{M}_{h,min} = 3.1 \; 10^4 M_\odot \; ,$

$\nu_0 \gtrsim -5 \; , \quad 0 \leq T_0 \lesssim 0.017$ K.

The density and the velocity profiles are non-universal: the profiles depend on the galaxy mass M_h.

Small deviations from the scaling laws for $r_h, \; M_h$ and $Q(0)$ due to quantum effects.

III. Degenerate limit

$\hat{M}_h = \hat{M}_{h,min} = 3.1 \; 10^4 \; M_\odot \; , \quad \nu_0 = +\infty \; , \quad T_0 = 0$

Circular Velocities and Density Profiles

The circular velocity $v_c(r)$ follows from the virial theorem

$$v_c(r) = \sqrt{\frac{G\ M(r)}{r}} = \sqrt{-\frac{r}{m}\ \frac{d\mu}{dr}}$$

The circular velocity normalized at the core radius r_h

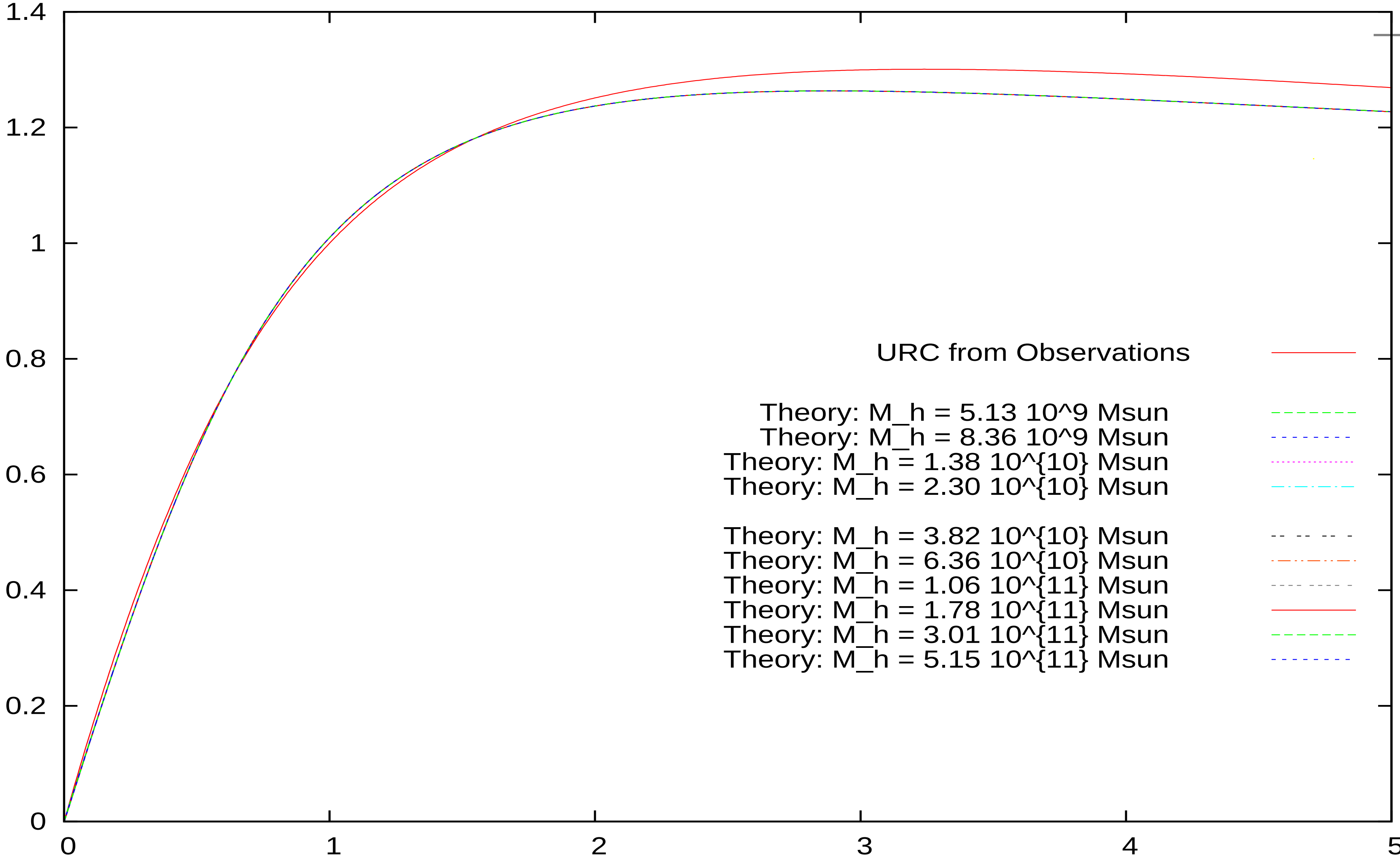
$$U(x) \equiv \frac{v_c(r)}{v_c(r_h)} \quad , \quad x = \frac{r}{r_h}$$

Solving the Thomas-Fermi equations we find:

- $U(x) = v_c(r)/v_c(r_h)$ is only function of $x = r/r_h$.
- $U(x)$ takes the same values for all galaxy halo masses in the range $5.1\ 10^9\ M_\odot$ till $5.1\ 10^{11}\ M_\odot$.
- $U(x)$ turns to be an universal function.
- The observational universal curves and the theoretical Thomas-Fermi curves coincide for $r \lesssim 2\ r_h,\ x \lesssim 2$.

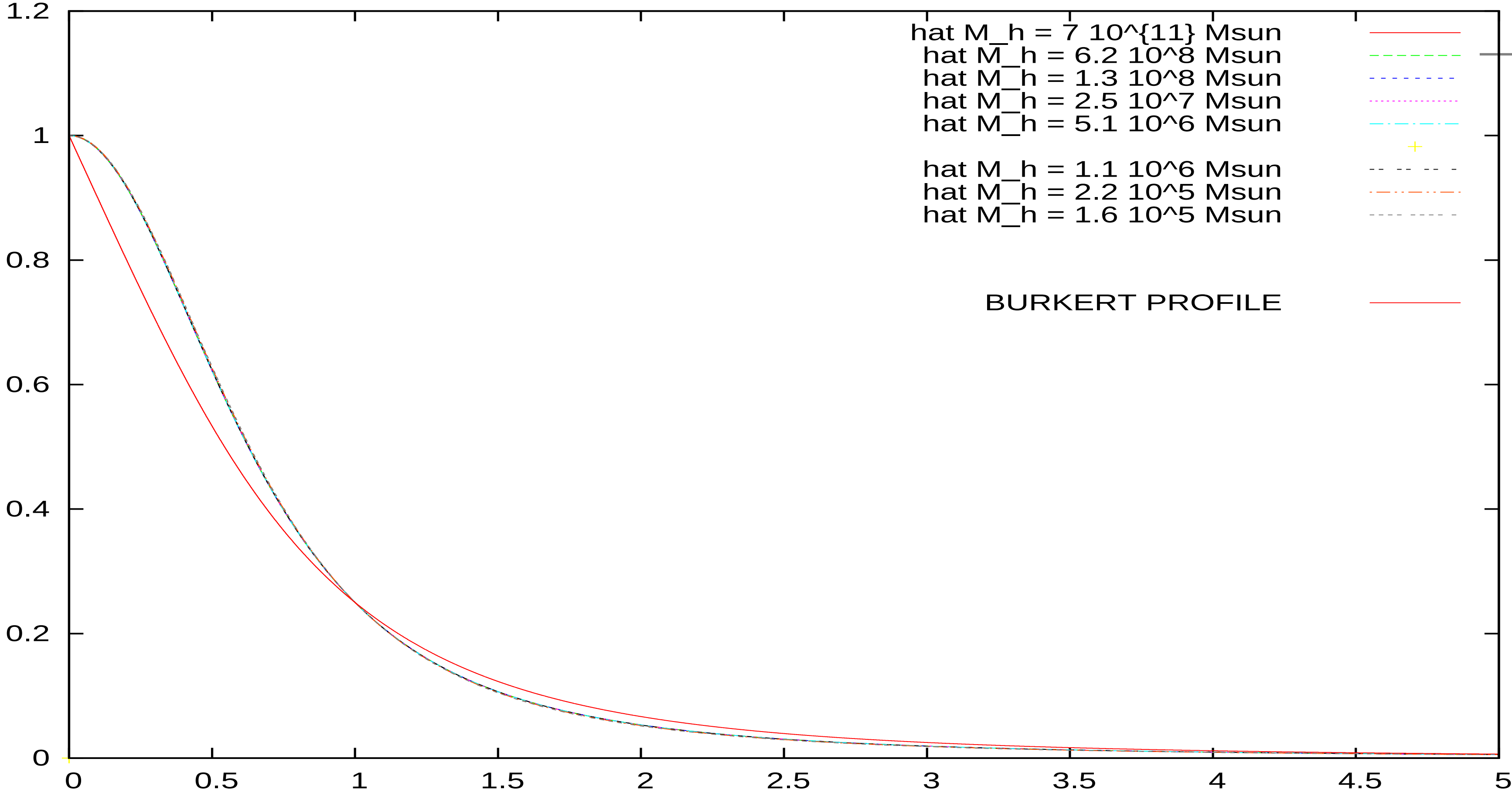
These are remarkable results !!

Normalized circular velocities



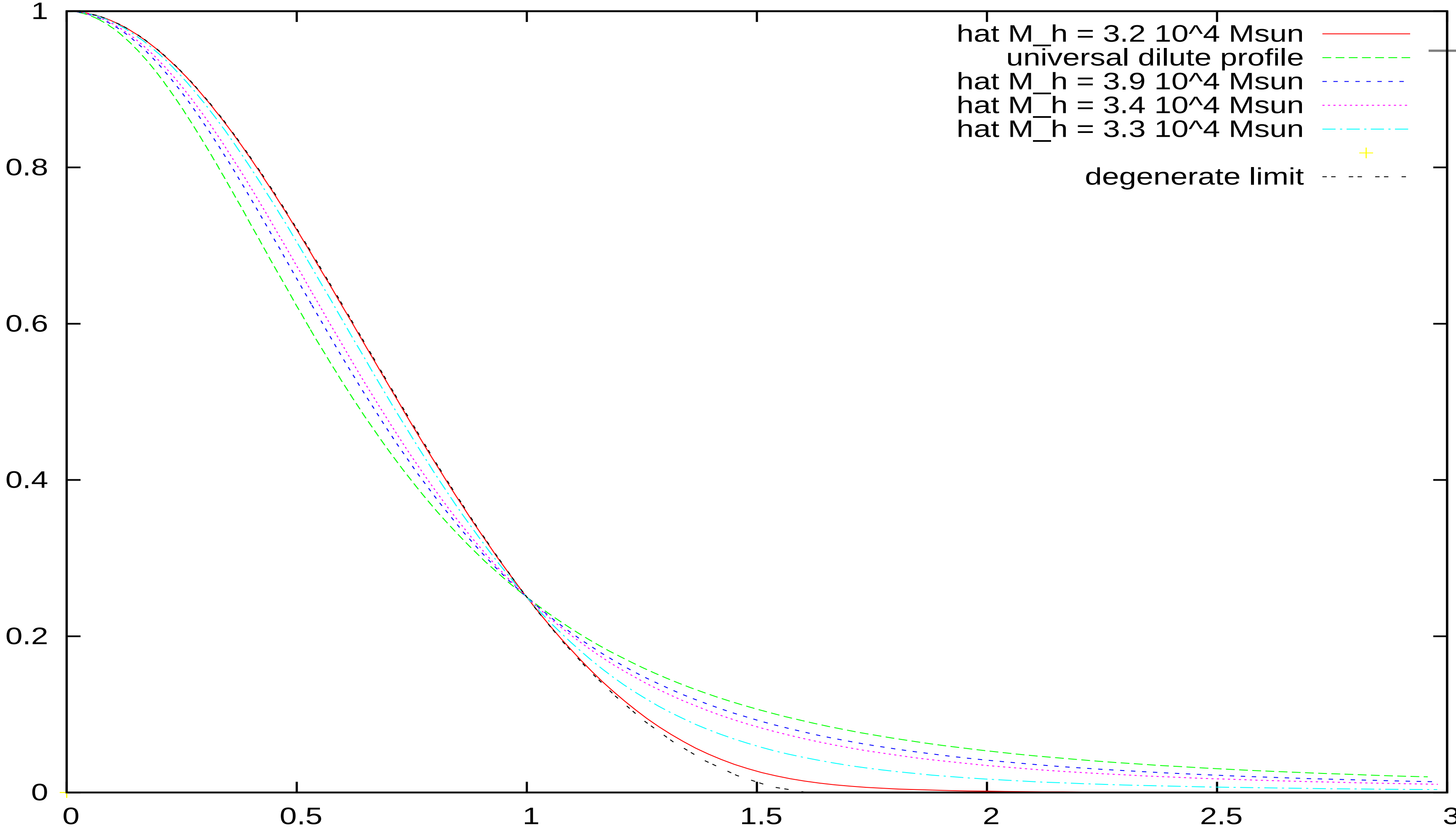
$U(x) = v_c(r)/v_c(r_h)$ vs. $x = r/r_h$.

Theoretical vs. observational density profiles



$\rho(r)/\rho(0)$ as functions of r/r_h. ALL the theoretical profiles in the diluted regime: $1.4 \; 10^5 \; M_\odot < \hat{M}_h < 7.5 \; 10^{11} \; M_\odot$ fall into the same and universal density profile in very good agreement with the empirical Burkert profile.

Density profiles in the Quantum regime



$\rho(r)/\rho(0)$ as functions of r/r_h: Non-Universal.

Galaxy halo masses $M_h^{min} = 3.1\ 10^4\ M_\odot \leq \hat{M}_h < 3.9\ 10^4\ M_\odot$ in the quantum regime exhibit shrinking density profiles for $r > r_h$.

The local equation of state of WDM Galaxies

The pressure $P(r)$ as a function of the density $\rho(r)$

$$\rho = \frac{m^{\frac{5}{2}}}{3\,\pi^2\,\hbar^3}\;(2\,T_0)^{\frac{3}{2}}\;I_2(\nu) \quad , \quad P = \frac{m^{\frac{3}{2}}}{15\,\pi^2\,\hbar^3}\;(2\,T_0)^{\frac{5}{2}}\;I_4(\nu).$$

through the potential ν from the Thomas-Fermi equation.

$P = \frac{T_0}{m}\,\rho \quad , \quad \nu \ll -1$, WDM diluted galaxies.

$P = \frac{\hbar^2}{5}\,\left(\frac{3\,\pi^2}{m^4}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}\;\rho^{\frac{5}{3}}\;,\;\nu \gg 1$, WDM degenerate quantum limit.

Simple formula accurately representing the exact equation of state obtained by solving the Thomas-Fermi equation:

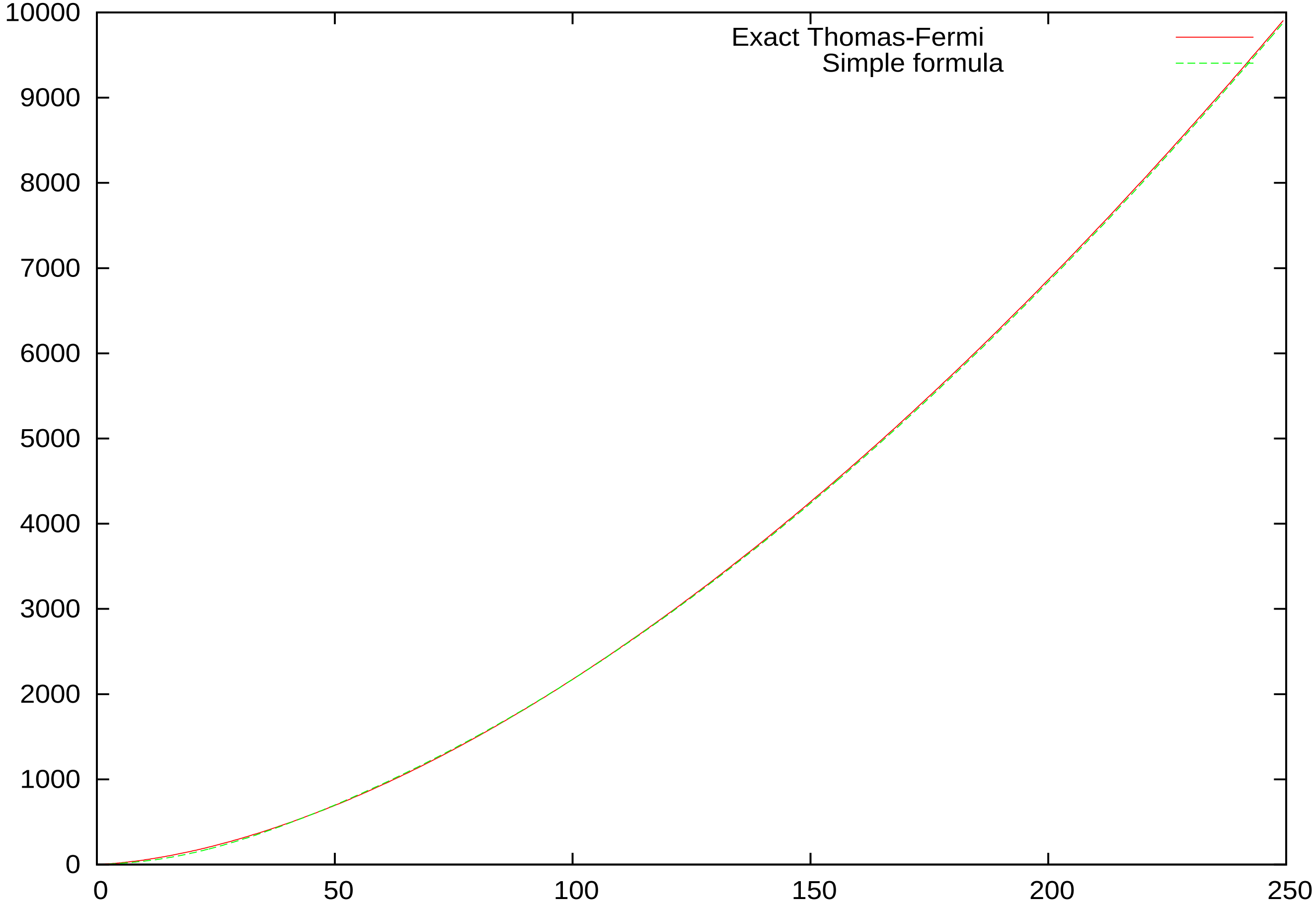
$$P = \frac{m^{\frac{3}{2}}\;(2\,T_0)^{\frac{5}{2}}}{15\,\pi^2\,\hbar^3}\;\left(1 + \frac{3}{2}\,e^{-\beta_1\,\tilde{\rho}}\right)\;\tilde{\rho}^{\,\frac{1}{3}\left(5 - 2\,e^{-\beta_2\,\tilde{\rho}}\right)},$$

$$\tilde{\rho} \equiv \frac{3\,\pi^2\,\hbar^3}{m^{\frac{5}{2}}\;(2\,T_0)^{\frac{3}{2}}}\;\rho = I_2(\nu),$$

best fit to the Thomas-Fermi equation of state for:

$$\beta_1 = 0.047098 \quad , \quad \beta_2 = 0.064492$$

he equation of state of Galaxies: exact T-F and simple formu



The equation of state $\tilde{P}$ vs. $\tilde{\rho}$ obtained by solving the Thomas-Fermi equation and the simple formula.

$$\tilde{P} = \frac{15\,\pi^2\;\hbar^3}{m^{\frac{3}{2}}\;(2\;T_0)^{\frac{5}{2}}} P = I_4(\nu)\;,\;\;\tilde{\rho} \equiv \frac{3\,\pi^2\;\hbar^3}{m^{\frac{5}{2}}\;(2\;T_0)^{\frac{3}{2}}}\;\rho = I_2(\nu)$$

Axions are ruled out as dark matter

Hot Dark Matter (eV particles or lighter) are ruled out because their free streaming length is too large $\gtrsim$ Mpc and hence galaxies are not formed.

A Bose-Einstein condensate of light scalar particles evades this argument because of the quantum nature of the BE condensate. $r_{Jeans} \sim 5$ kpc implies $m_{axion} \sim 10^{-22}$ eV.

The phase-space density $Q = \rho/\sigma^3$ decreases during structure formation: $Q_{today} < Q_{primordial} \propto m^4$.

Computing $Q_{primordial}$ for a DM BE condensate we derived lower bounds on the DM particle mass m using the data for Q_{today} in dwarf galaxies:

TE: $m \geq 0.155 \text{ MeV} \left(\frac{25}{g_d}\right)^{5/3}$. Out of TE: $m \geq 14 \text{ eV} \left(\frac{25}{g_d}\right)^{5/3}$

Axions with $m \sim 10^{-22}$ eV are ruled out as DM candidates.

D. Boyanovsky, H. J. de Vega, N. G. Sanchez, PRD 77, 043518 (08). H. de Vega, N. Sanchez, arXiv:1401.1214

Sterile Neutrinos $\nu_s \simeq \nu_R + \theta\, \nu_L$

Sterile neutrinos ν_s: named by Bruno Pontecorvo (1968).
Singlets under all SM symmetries.
Do not interact weak, neither EM, nor strongly.

WDM ν_s can be produced from active neutrinos by mixing.

Mixing angles: $\theta \sim 10^{-3} - 10^{-4}$ (depending on the model) are appropriate to produce enough ν_s accounting for the observed total DM.

Smallness of θ makes sterile neutrinos difficult to detect.

Sterile neutrinos can be detected in beta decay and in electron capture (EC) when a ν_s with mass in the keV scale is produced instead of an active ν_e.

Beta decay: the electron spectrum is slightly modified at energies around the mass ($\sim$ keV) of the ν_s.

$$^3H_1 \Longrightarrow {}^3He_2 + e^- + \bar\nu_e \quad , \quad {}^{187}Re \Longrightarrow {}^{187}Os + e^- + \bar\nu_e.$$

The electron energy spectrum is observed.

Electron Capture and Sterile Neutrinos in Laboratory

Electron capture: $^{163}Ho + e^- \Longrightarrow {}^{163}Dy^* + \nu_e$
The nonradiative de-excitation of the Dy^* is observed and is different for ν_s in the keV range than for active ν_e.

Available energies:
$Q(^{187}Re) = 2.47$ keV, $Q(^{3}H_1) = 18.6$ keV, $Q(^{163}Ho) \simeq 2.5$ keV.
Theoretical analysis of ν_s detection in Rhenium and Tritium beta decay: H J de V, O. Moreno, E. Moya, M. Ramón Medrano, N. Sánchez, Nucl. Phys. B866, 177 (2013).

Present experiments searching the small active neutrino mass also look for sterile neutrinos in the keV scale:

MARE (Milan, Italy), Rhenium beta decay and Holmiun EC.
KATRIN (Karlsruhe, Germany), Tritium beta decay.
ECHo (Heidelberg, Germany), Holmiun EC.
Project 8, (Seattle, USA) Tritium beta decay (still in project).

X-ray detection of DM sterile neutrinos

Sterile neutrinos ν_s decay into active neutrinos ν_e plus X-rays with a lifetime $\sim 10^{11} \times$ age of the universe.

These X-rays may be seen in the sky looking to galaxies ! recent review: C. R. Watson et al. JCAP, (2012).

Future observations:

- Satellite projects: Xenia (NASA), ASTRO-H (Japan).
- CMB: WDM decay distorts the blackbody CMB spectrum. The projected PIXIE satellite mission (A. Kogut et al.) can measure WDM sterile neutrino mass.
- PTOLEMY experiment: Princeton Tritium Observatory. Aims to detect the cosmic neutrino background and WDM (keV scale) sterile neutrinos through the electron spectrum of the Tritium beta decay induced by the capture of a cosmic neutrino or a WDM sterile neutrino.
- HOLMES electron capture in ^{163}Ho calorimeter G Sasso

Direct searches of CDM particles

All direct searches of wimps look for $m \gtrsim 1$ GeV.

Past, present and future reports of signals in such wimp experiments cannot be due to DM detection because the DM particle mass is in the keV scale.

The inconclusive signals in such experiments should be originated by other kinds of phenomena.

Contradictions between supposed detection signals in DAMA, CDMS-II, CoGeNT, CRESST, XENON100.

CONCLUSION: These signals are unrelated to DM.

e^+ and $\bar{p}$ excess in cosmic rays reported by Pamela and Fermi may be explained by astrophysics: P. L. Biermann et al. PRL (2009), P. Blasi, P. D. Serpico PRL (2009).

AMS02: precise measure of the positron fraction in Galactic cosmic rays (CR) (PRL 2013) that increases with energy.

Blum, Katz & Waxman (arXiv:1305.1324) show that this is consistent with positron production by the collision of high energy primary CR with the interstellar medium.

Summary: keV scale DM particles

- The phase-space density evolution since DM decoupling till today (observed in galaxies) implies keV scale DM particles (de Vega, Sanchez, MNRAS 2010).
- The Thomas-Fermi approach gives physical galaxy magnitudes: mass, halo radius, phase-space density and velocity dispersion fully compatible with observations from the largest spiral galaxies till the ultracompact dwarf galaxies for a WDM particle mass around 2 - 3 keV. Compact dwarf galaxies are close to a degenerate WDM Fermi gas while large galaxies are classical WDM Boltzmann gases.
- The galaxy surface density $\Sigma_0 \equiv \rho_0 \, r_0$ value $\Sigma_0 \simeq 120 \; M_\odot/pc^2 \simeq (18 \; \mathrm{MeV})^3$ is reproduced by WDM (de Vega, Salucci, Sanchez, New Astronomy, 2012). CDM simulations give 1000 times the observed value of μ_0 (Hoffman et al. ApJ 2007).

Summary: keV scale DM particles

- Alleviate the CDM satellite problem (Avila-Reese et al. 2000, Götz & Sommer-Larsen 2002, Markovic et al. JCAP 2011) and the CDM voids problem (Tikhonov et al. MNRAS 2009).
- Velocity widths in galaxies from 21cm HI surveys. ALFALFA survey clearly favours WDM over CDM. Papastergis et al. ApJ 2011, Zavala et al. ApJ 2009
- The (suppresed) primordial power in WDM reduce the small halo formation and reduce star formation (SF) in agreement with observations compared with CDM. SF in WDM starts 1 - 2 Gyr later than in CDM. Filaments of baryons are formed in agreement with observations (Herschel). [Gao & Theuns 2007, Lovell et al. 2012, 2014, Menci et al. 2012, 2014, Calura et al. 2014, Padaroui, Meudon Workshop 2014, Papastergis et al. 2011, 2014.]

Future Perspectives

WDM particle models must explain the baryon asymmetry of the universe. An appealing mass neutrino hierarchy appears:

- Active neutrino: $\sim$ mili eV
- Light sterile neutrino: $\sim$ eV
- Dark Matter: $\sim$ keV
- Unstable sterile neutrino: $\sim$ MeV....

Need WDM simulations showing substructures, galaxy formation and evolution including quantum dynamical evolution. Quantum pressure must be included !

WDM simulations should be performed matching semiclassical Hartree-Fock (Thomas-Fermi) dynamics in regions where $Q/m^4 > 0.1$ with classical evolution in regions where $Q/m^4 \ll 1$. Not easy but unavoidable!

Future Perspectives: Detection!

Sterile neutrino detection depends upon the particle physics model. There are sterile neutrino models where the keV sterile is stable and thus hard to detect.

Astronomical observation of steriles: X-ray data from galaxy clusters (Bulbul et al. 2014) and galaxy halos.

Direct detection of steriles in Lab:

Bounds on mixing angles from
Mare, Katrin, ECHo, Project 8 and PTOLEMY are expected.

For a particle detection a dedicated beta decay or electron capture experiment looks necessary to search sterile neutrinos with mass in the keV scale.

Calorimetric techniques seem well suited.

Best nuclei for study: Electron capture in ^{163}Ho, beta decay in ^{187}Re and Tritium.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!

Effective Theory of Inflation (ETI) confirmed by Planck

Quantity	ETI Prediction	Planck 2013
Spectral index $1 - n_s$	order $1/N = 0.02$	0.04
Running $dn_s/dlnk$	order $1/N^2 = 0.0004$	< 0.01
Non-Gaussianity f_{NL}	order $1/N = 0.02$	< 6
	ETI + WMAP+LSS	
tensor/scalar ratio r	r > 0.02	< 0.11see BICEP
inflaton potential curvature $V''(0)$	$V''(0) < 0$	$V''(0) < 0$

ETI + WMAP+LSS means the MCMC analysis combining the ETI with WMAP and LSS data. Such analysis calls for an inflaton potential with negative curvature at horizon exit. The double well potential is favoured (new inflation).
D. Boyanovsky, C. Destri, H. J. de Vega, N. G. Sanchez, arXiv:0901.0549, IJMPA 24, 3669-3864 (2009).