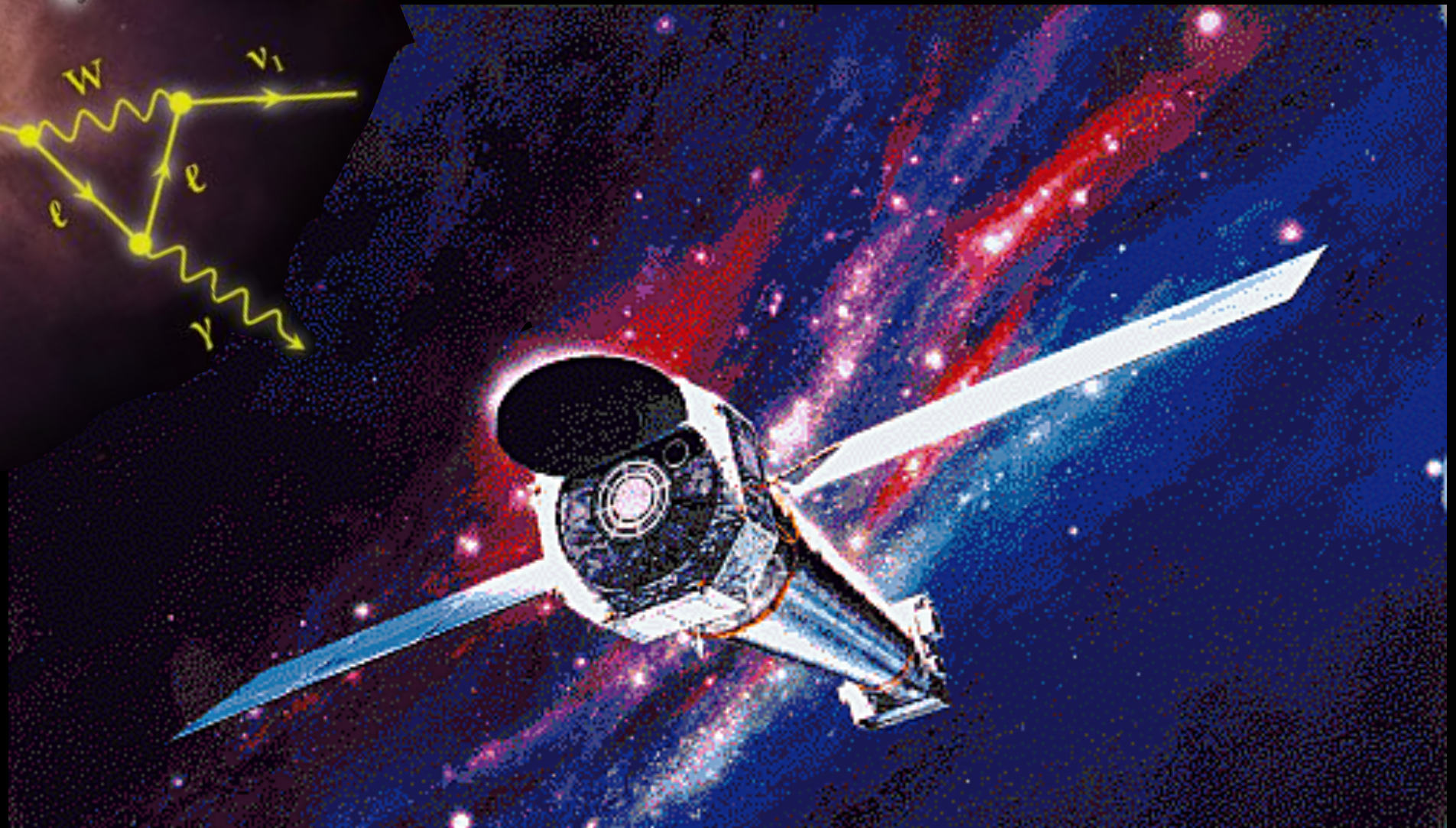
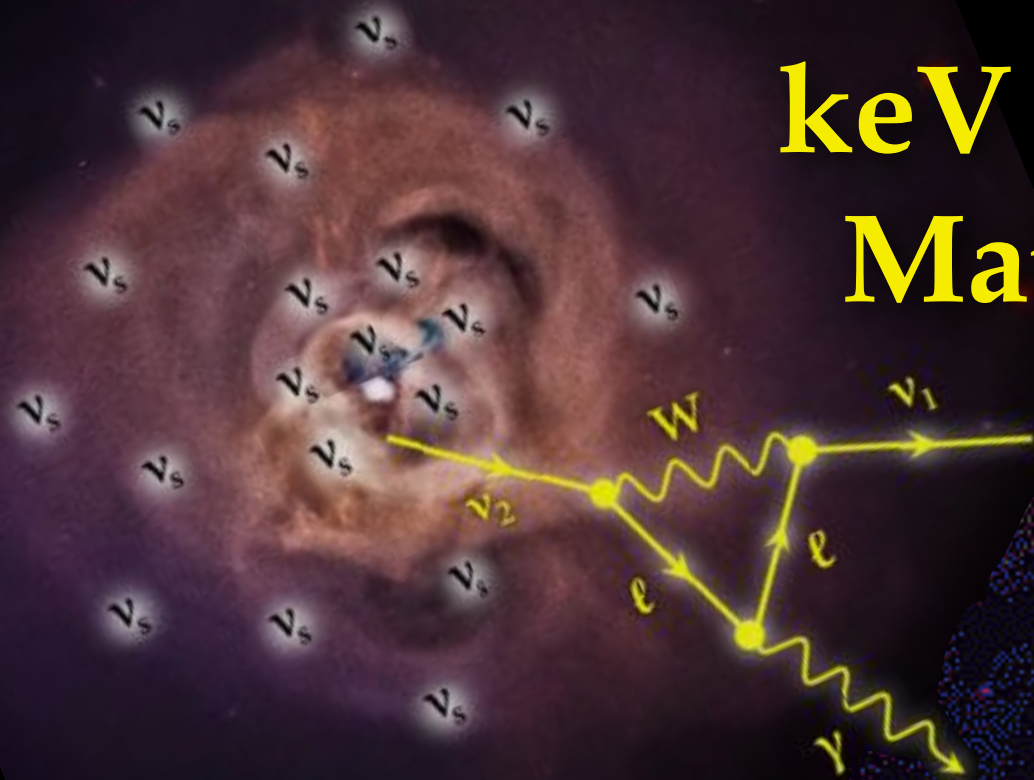


# keV Sterile Neutrinos as Dark Matter and the 3.5 keV Line



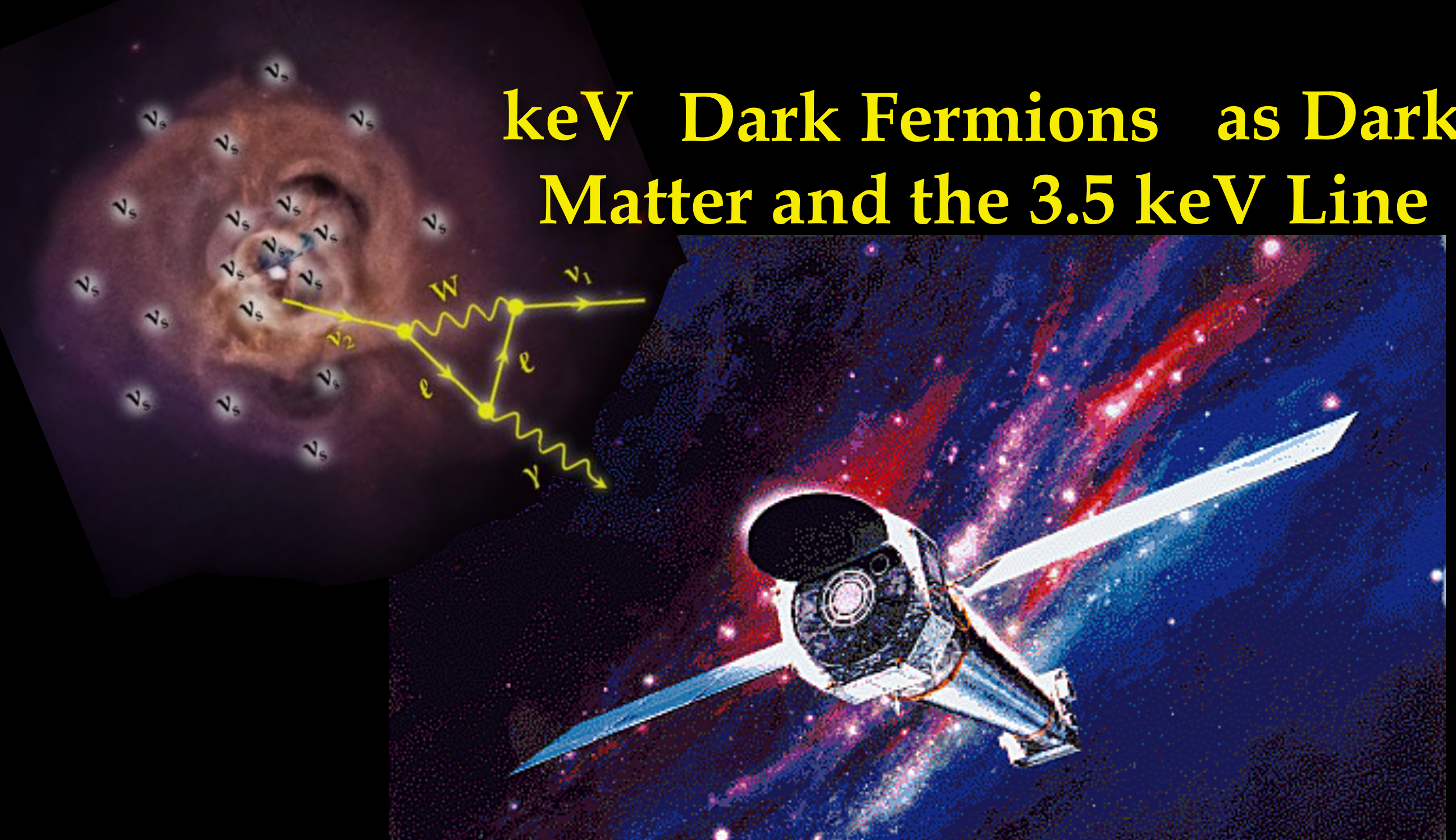
Kev Abazajian - [@kevaba](https://www.instagram.com/kevaba) - [f /kevork.abazajian](https://www.facebook.com/kevork.abazajian)  
University of California, Irvine

June 9, 2018

XXVIII International Conference on Neutrino Physics and Astrophysics - Heidelberg



# keV Dark Fermions as Dark Matter and the 3.5 keV Line



Kev Abazajian - [@kevaba](https://twitter.com/kevaba) - [f /kevork.abazajian](https://www.facebook.com/kevork.abazajian)  
University of California, Irvine

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# Neutrino Mass Generation: An Original Hidden Sector Theory

- Simplest models of neutrino mass introduce **sterile neutrinos** that generate small active neutrino mass scales from very massive **sterile neutrinos** (Seesaw models)

- Phenomenological Insertion of Majorana & Dirac Mass Terms:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -y_{\alpha i} L_{\alpha} N_i H - \frac{1}{2} M_{ij} N_i N_j + H.c.$$

(e.g.  $\nu$ SM de Gouvêa 2005;  $\nu$ MSM Asaka et al 2005)

- Two massive ( $\gtrsim 100$  GeV) **sterile neutrinos** are required by atmospheric and solar neutrino mass scales. *Only hidden sector model with evidence for its existence!*
- 3rd **sterile neutrinos** has complete freedom. In simplest formulations, since lowest mass light  $\nu$  is unbounded from below, so is the mixing of the **lightest sterile neutrinos** with the active  $\nu$ .

$$\theta \sim \sqrt{\frac{m_{\alpha}}{M}}$$

# Neutrino Mass Generation: An Original Hidden Sector Theory

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$$\theta \sim \sqrt{\frac{m_{\alpha}}{M}}$$



# Sterile Neutrinos as Dark Matter: History

- “Super-weak” neutrinos ( $G < G_F$ ) [Olive & Turner, 1982]: Earlier Decoupling, abundance set by standard dark matter production mechanism of decoupling temperature and degrees of freedom disappearance
- “Sterile” neutrinos [Dodelson & Widrow, 1993]: No SM interactions beyond mass terms, inclusion of finite-temperature modifications to self-energy, lack of thermalization. WDM.
- “Resonant” sterile neutrinos [Shi & Fuller, 1999]: Finite temperature production with non-zero lepton number resonant enhanced production. WDM to CDM. “Cool” Dark Matter.
- “Precision” Sterile Neutrino Dark Matter & [Proposal for X-ray Detection](#) [Abazajian, Fuller & Patel 2001; KA 2005]: Full momentum-space production description with QCD transition corrections, resonant to non-resonant solutions as a continuum in lepton number.



# Dark Fermion Neutrino Mixing Dark Matter Production

$$\Gamma_\alpha(p) \sim G_F^2 p T^4 \sim T^5$$

$$\Gamma(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_s) \sim \frac{\Gamma_\alpha(p) \Delta^2(p) \sin^2 2\theta}{\Delta^2(p) \sin^2 2\theta + D^2(p) + [\Delta(p) \cos 2\theta - V^L(p) - V^T(p)]^2}$$

$$D(p)^2 \sim T^{10}$$

$$[V^T]^2 \sim T^{10}$$

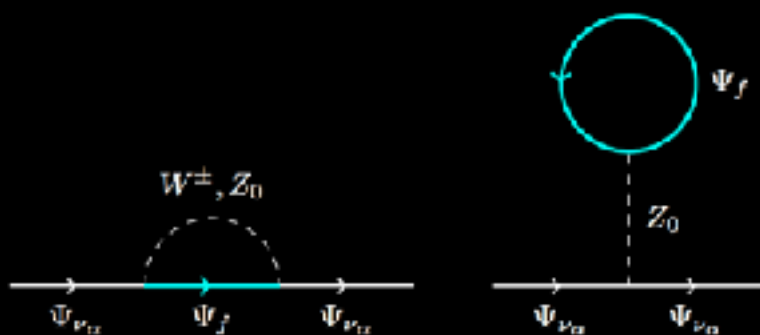
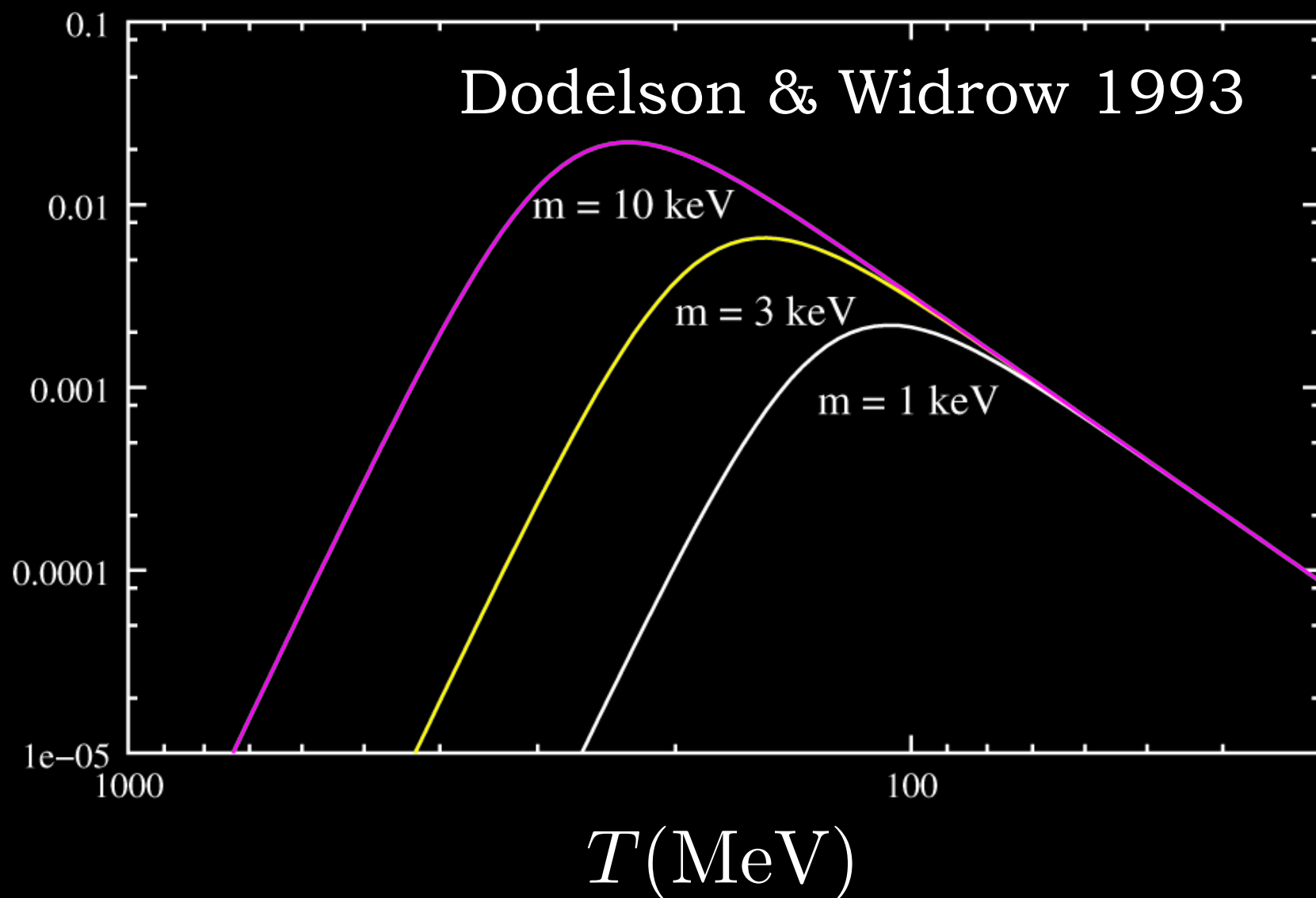
$$H^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3} G \rho \sim T^4$$

Resonance: Shi & Fuller 1998

$$\frac{\Gamma}{H} \sim \begin{cases} T^{-9} & \text{High } T \\ T^3 & \text{Low } T \end{cases}$$

Never in  
Equilibrium!!

$\Gamma/H$





# *Other Production Mechanisms*

- **Singlet Higgs Decay Production:**  
Kusenko 2006; Petraki & Kusenko 2007
- **Split See-Saw Out of Equilibrium Production:**  
Kusenko, Takahashi, & Yanagida 2010
- **Production by Generic Scalar Decay** (Adhikari+ 2017 ) **or Vector Decay** (Schuve+ 2014)



# Observing **Dark Fermions** in the X-ray: *Chandra* & *XMM-Newton* X-ray Space Telescopes

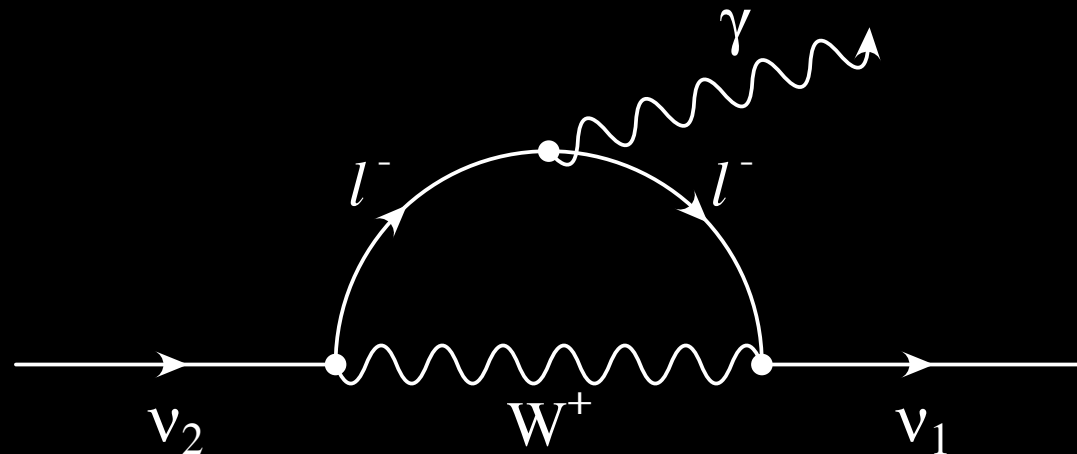




# Dark Fermion WDM Radiative Decay in the X-ray

**Decay:** Shrock 1974; Pal & Wolfenstein 1981;  
Barger, Philips & Sarkar 1995

**X-ray:** Abazajian, Fuller & Tucker 2001



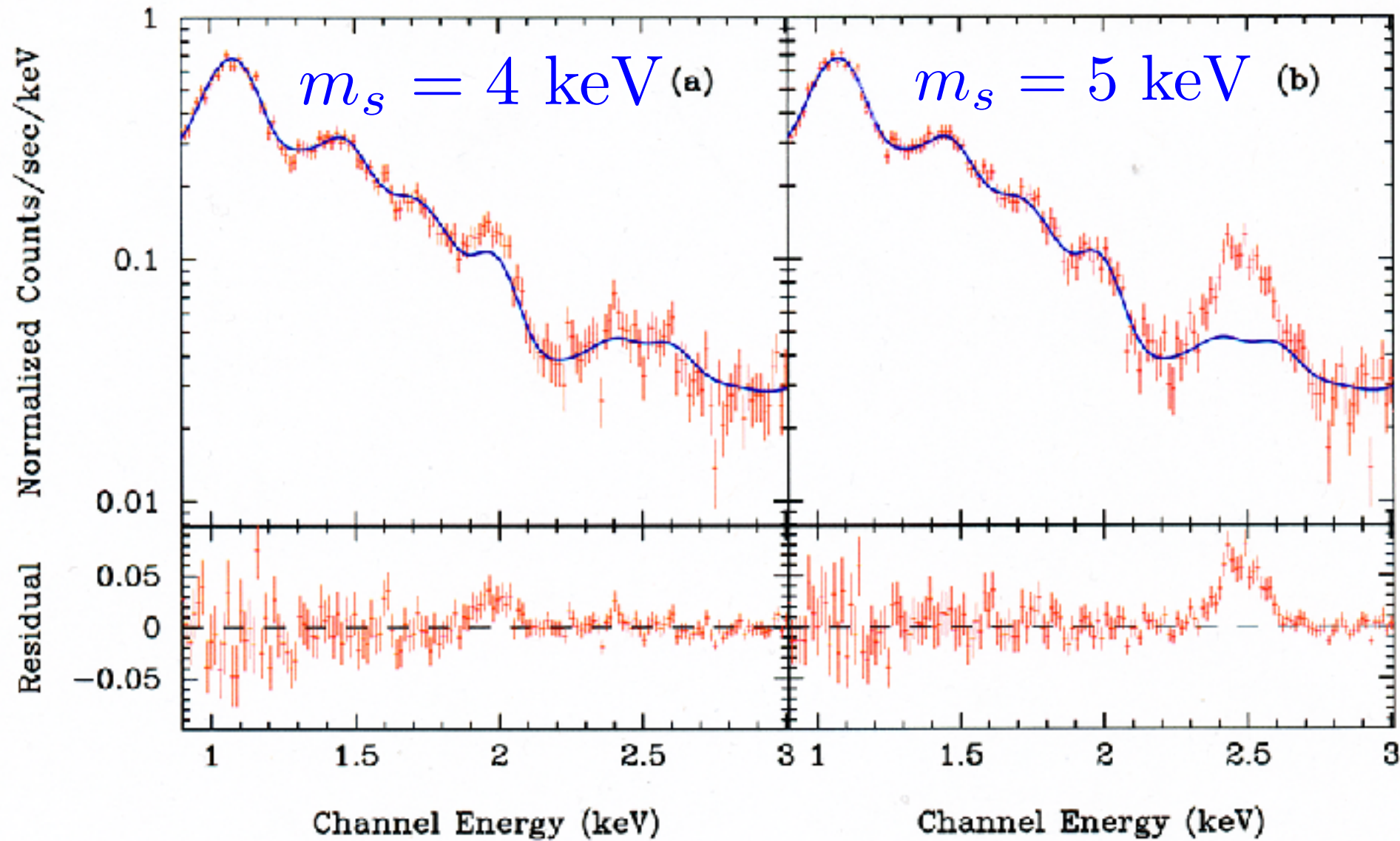
$$“\nu_s” \rightarrow “\nu_\alpha” + \gamma$$

$$E_\gamma = \frac{m_s}{2} \sim 1 \text{ keV}$$

$$\Gamma_\gamma = 1.62 \times 10^{-28} \text{ s}^{-1} \left( \frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{7 \times 10^{-11}} \right) \left( \frac{m_s}{7 \text{ keV}} \right)^5$$

Virgo Cluster:  $10^{78}$  DM particles

Slide from 2001



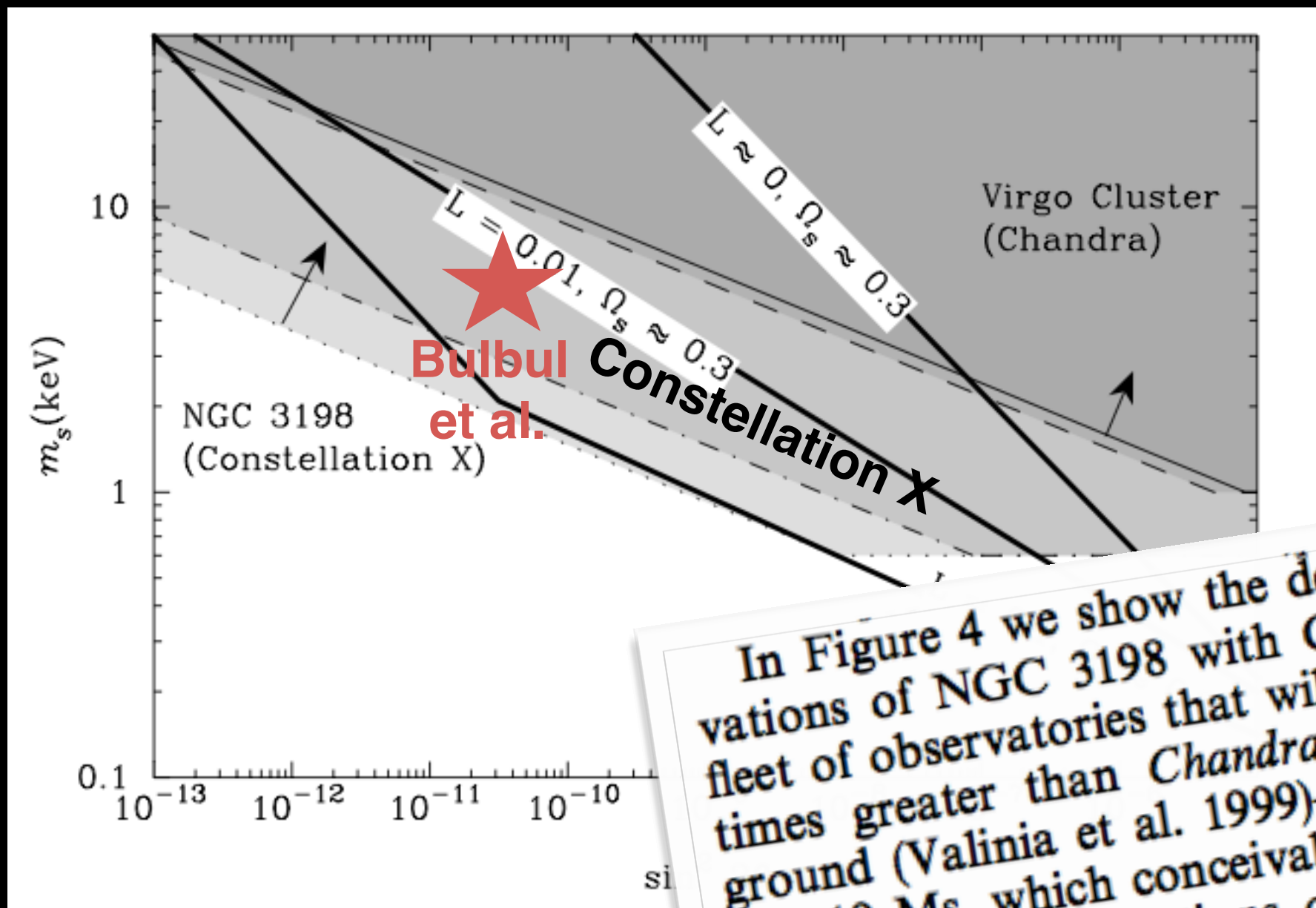
Current Limits

+  
Future Detection?



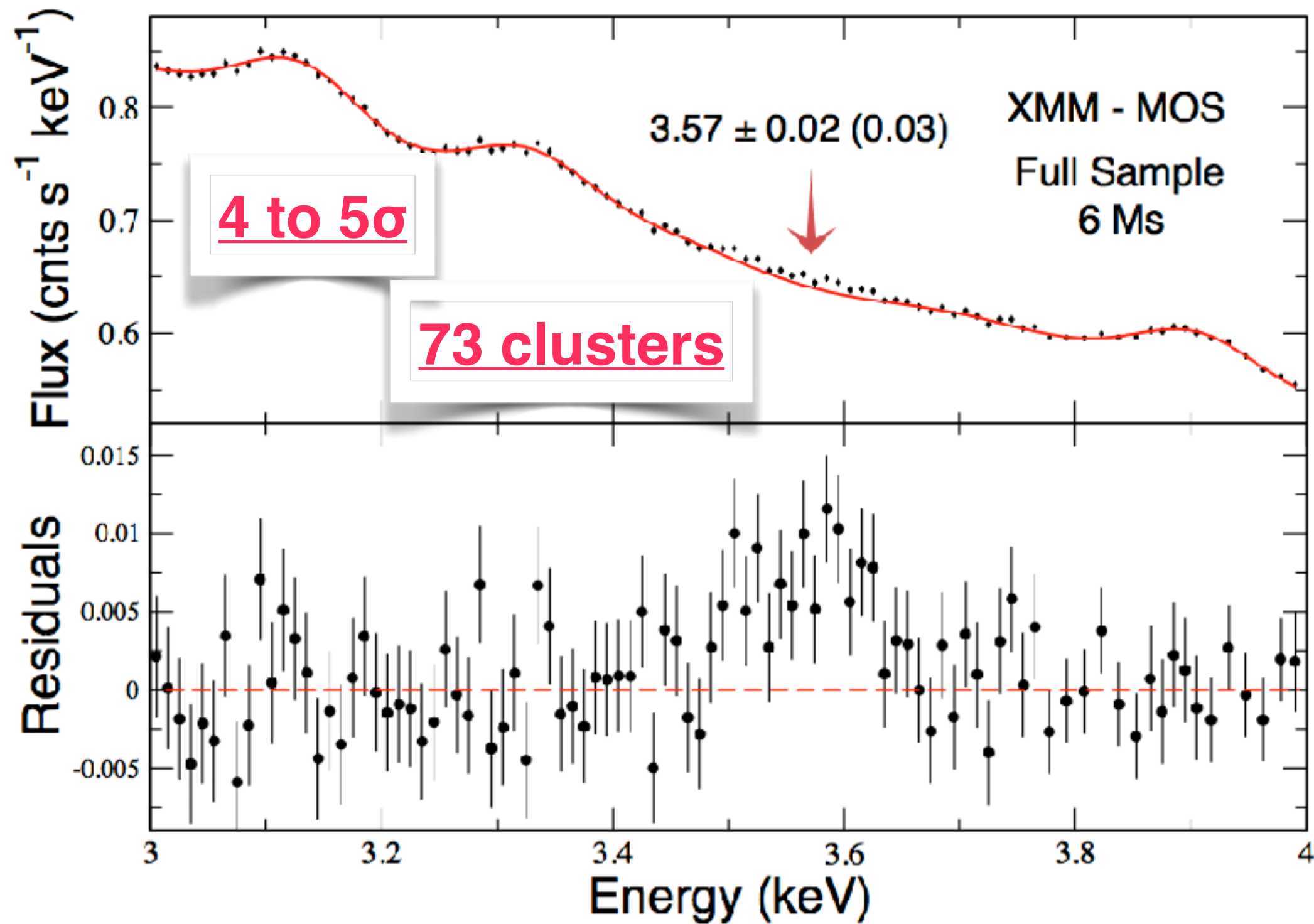
# Forecast X-ray Observation Sensitivity for *Constellation-X*

Abazajian, Fuller & Tucker 2001



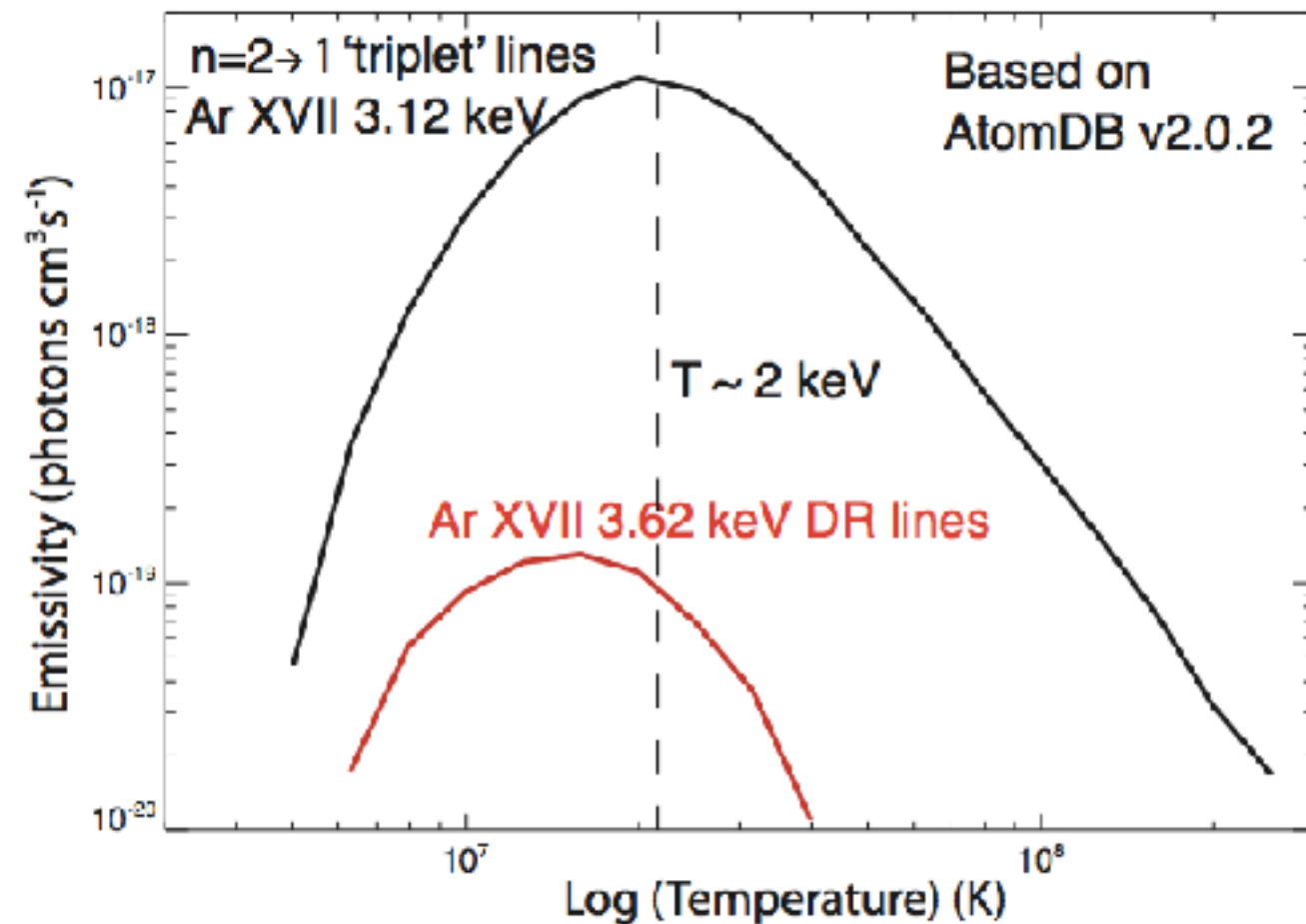
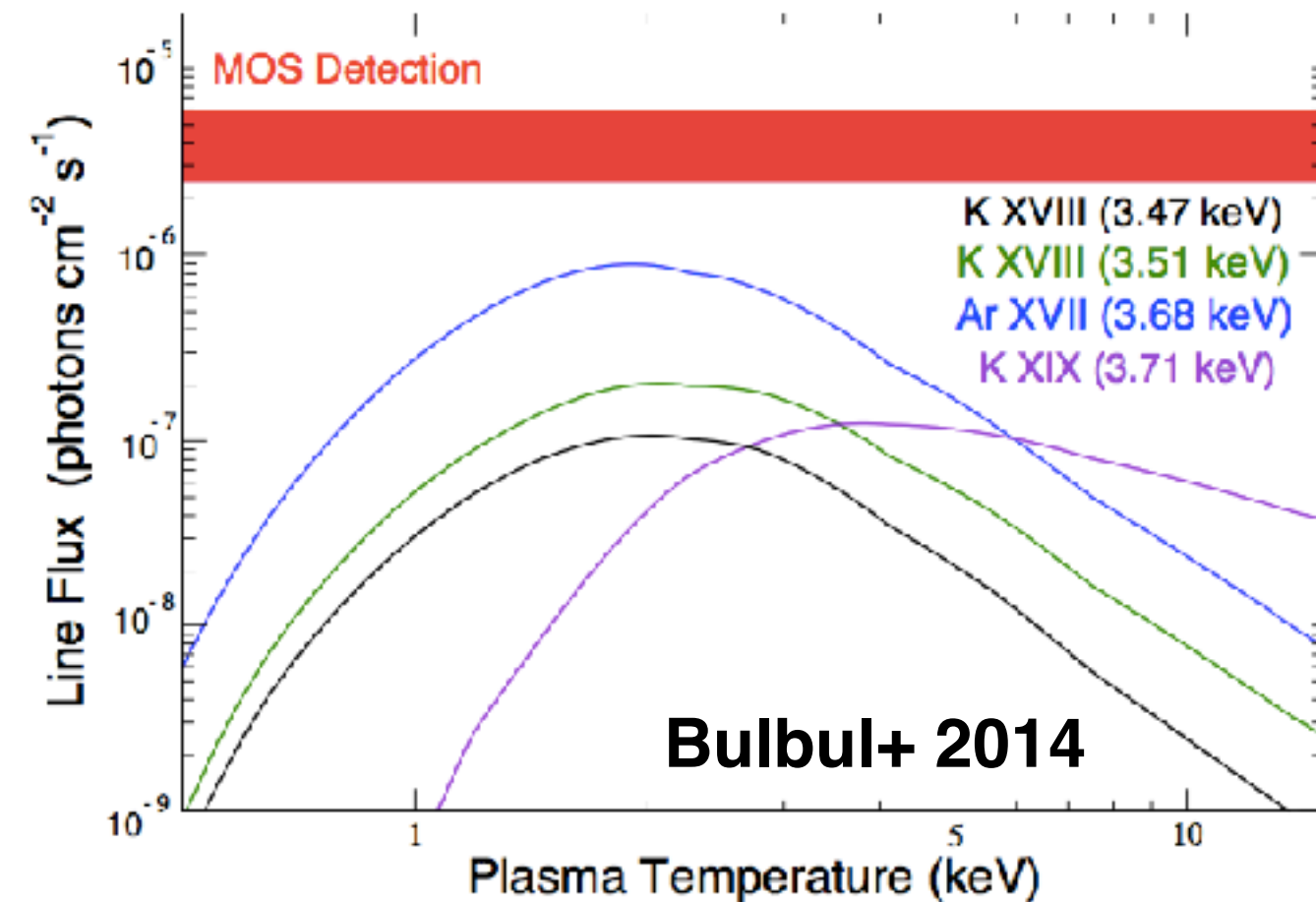
In Figure 4 we show the detectability region for observations of NGC 3198 with Constellation X—a proposed fleet of observatories that will have an effective area  $\sim 10$  times greater than *Chandra* and no instrumental background (Valinia et al. 1999)—for two integration times, 1 and 10 Ms, which conceivably could be achieved through several long observations over a few years. An exposure equivalent to this could be obtained by a stacking analysis of the spectra of a number of similar clusters (see, e.g., Brandt et al. 2001; Tozzi et al. 2001). Constellation X, with very long integration times, holds out the prospect of covering nearly the entire WDM parameter space of interest for

# The Detection of an Unidentified Line



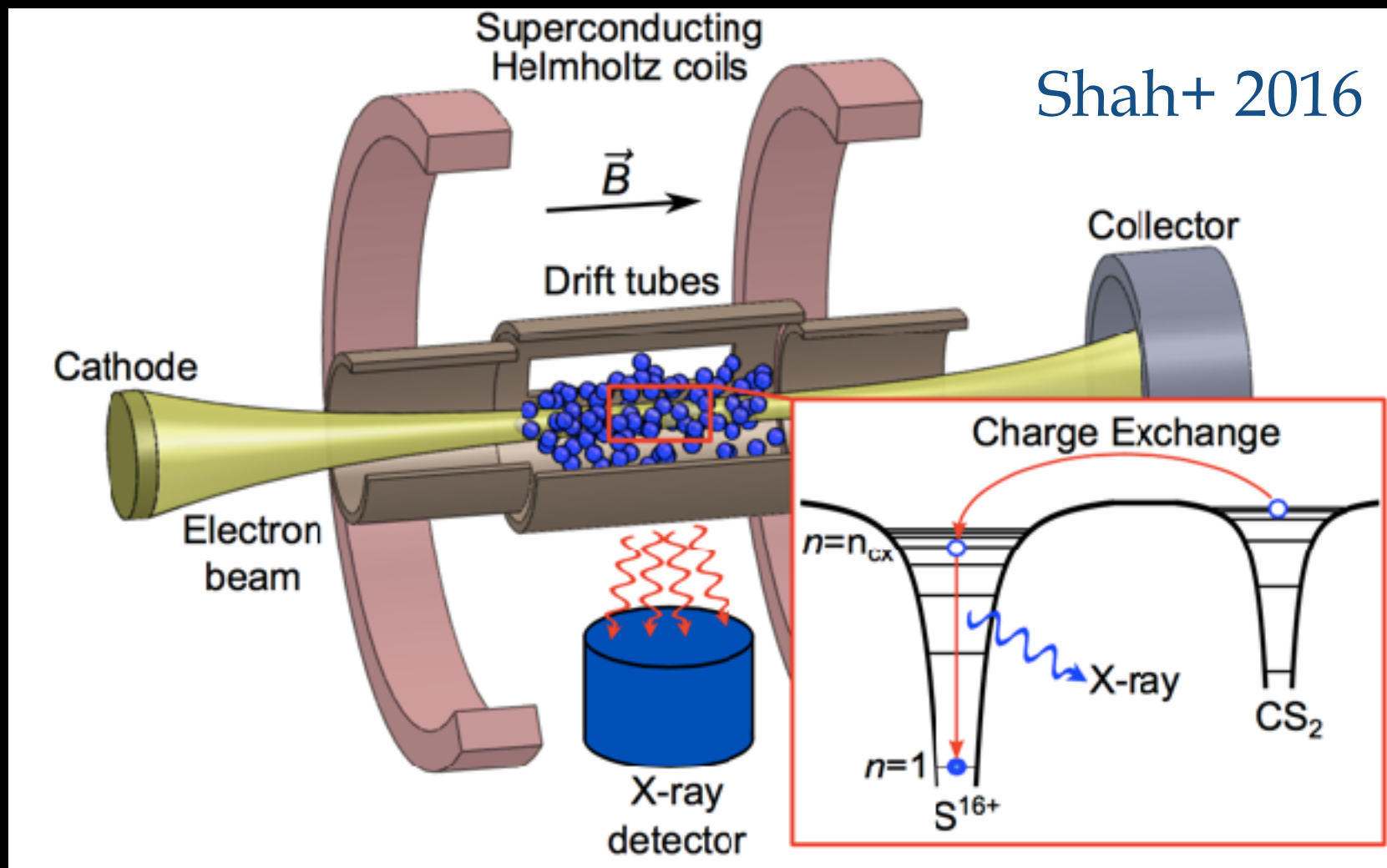


# Metal Lines in Clusters at 3.5 keV? *unlikely*



- Most lines at this energy are too low in flux for the typical plasma temperatures
- Those that could be close, Ar XVII DR, would have accompanying lines that make its flux a factor of 30 too low

# CX lines at $\sim 3.5$ keV?



Betancourt-Martinez+ 2014; Gu+ 2015; Shah+ 2016

CX line(s) at 3.44 - 3.47 keV while unidentified line at  
3.57 $\pm$ 0.025 keV (Perseus)  
3.57 $\pm$ 0.02 keV (MOS stack)  
3.51 $\pm$ 0.03 keV (PN stack)



## 3.55 keV line consistent with DM in field of view seen

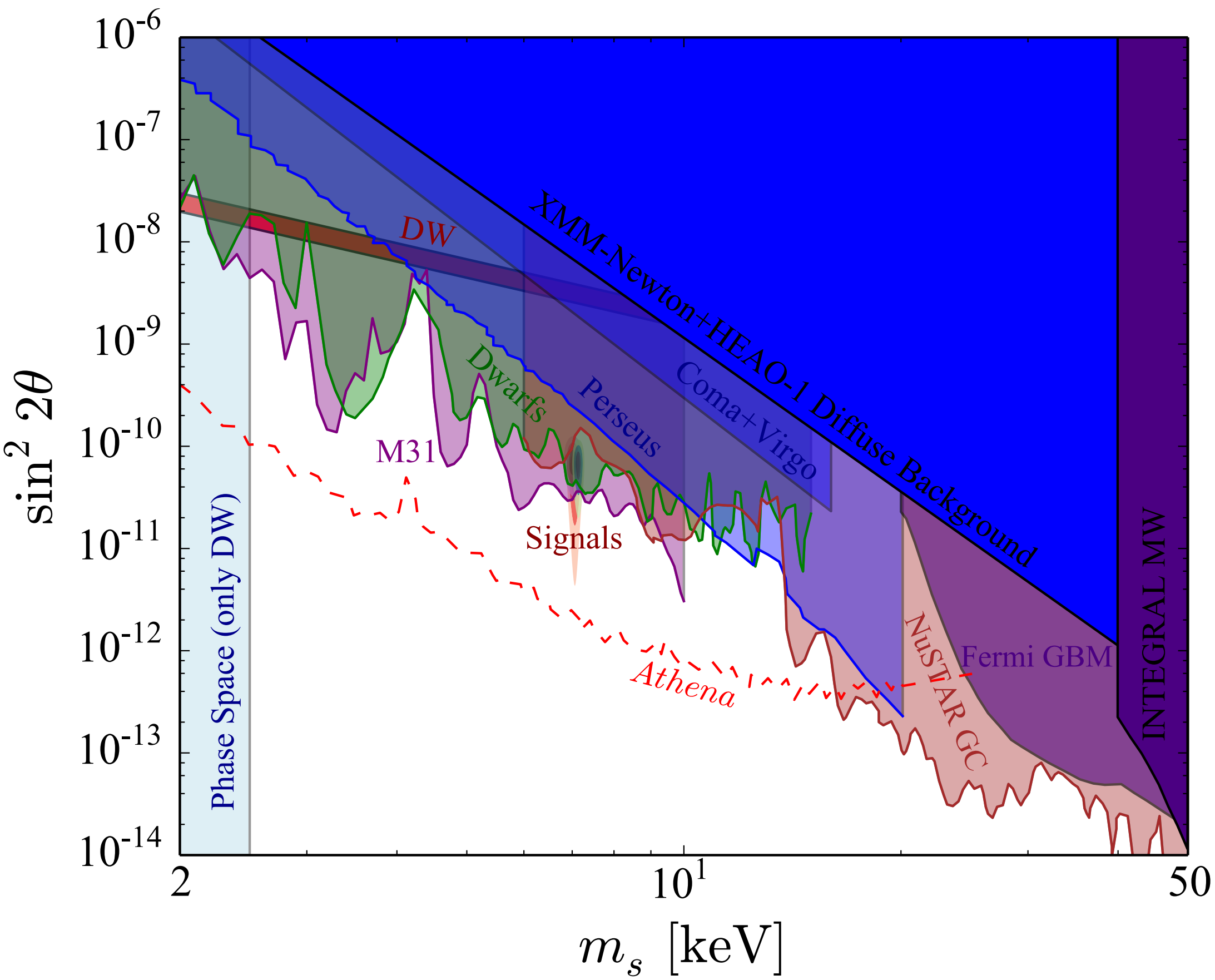
- in Andromeda (M31) with *XMM-Newton* (Boyarsky+ 2014)
- Perseus with *XMM-Newton*, *Chandra* and *Suzaku*  $\approx 3\sigma$  (Bulbul+ 2014, Boyarsky+ 2014, Urban+ 2014)
- in our Milky Way Galactic Center (*XMM-Newton*) (Boyarsky+ 2014)
- in 8 more clusters at  $> 2\sigma$  significance (*XMM-Newton*) (Iakubovskiy+ 2015)
- *NuSTAR* observations of Deep Fields at **11.1 $\sigma$**  and Galactic Center (Neronov+ 2016, Perez+ 2016)
- *Chandra* Deep Fields at  $3\sigma$  (Cappelluti+ 2017): rule out CX, Ar or instrumental

# *Two places it may have been expected*

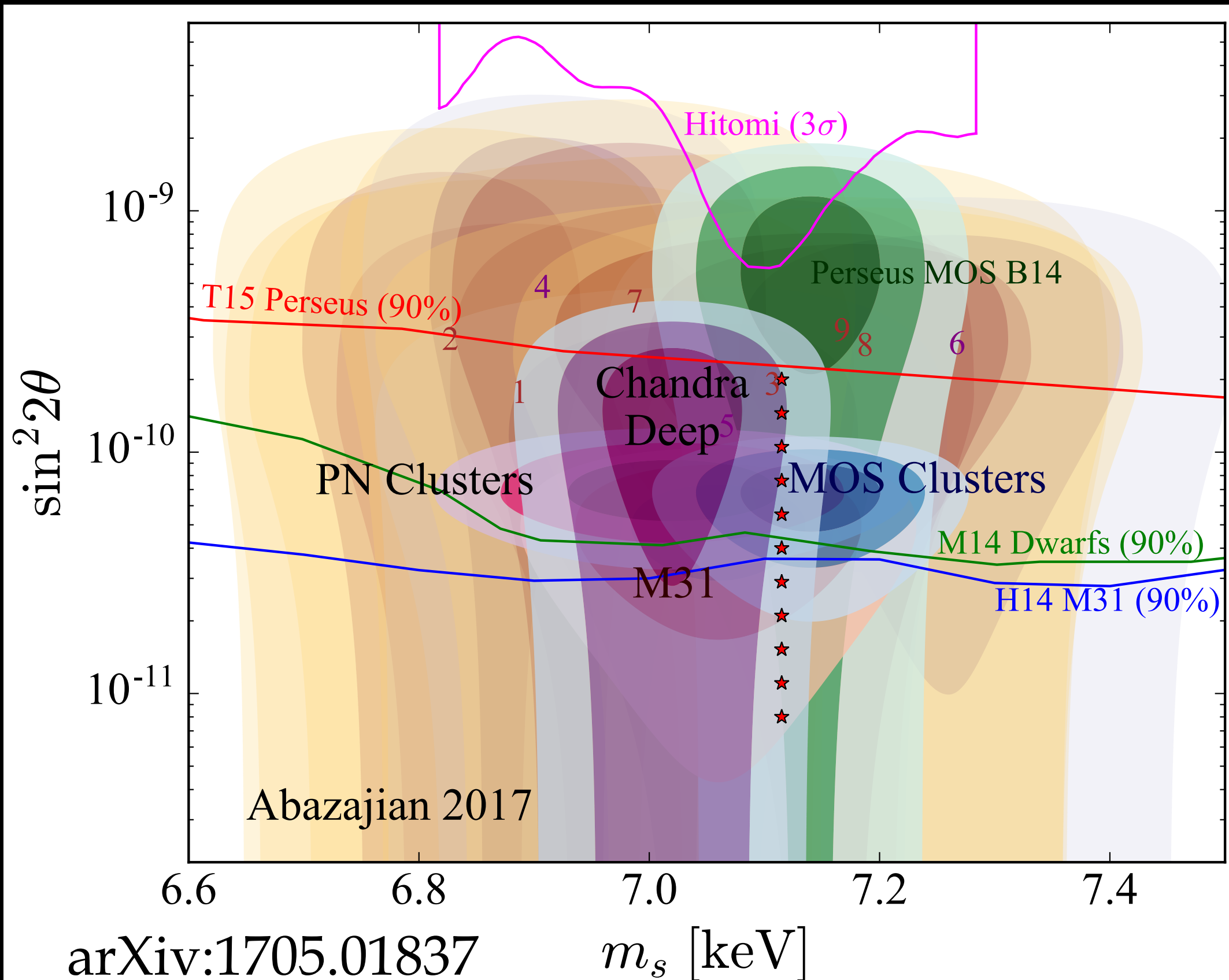
- **Draco 1 Ms exposure:** not seen in MOS detectors, at lower than expected flux in PN. But, *“We conclude that this Draco observation does not exclude the dark matter interpretation of the 3.5 keV line in those objects.”*  
Boyarsky+ arXiv:1512.07217
- **Stacked galaxies:** 81 with Chandra and 89 with XMM-Newton, using outskirts of the galaxies:  
Anderson, Churazov & Bregman arXiv:1408.4115.  
➡ *Systematic continuum errors are of order the uncertainties on detected  $\sin^2 2\theta$*



# Sterile Neutrino Dark Matter: Parameter Space Summary



# The 7 keV Region Today





# Visibility of *Dark Fermions*

The observed flux is proportional to the amount of dark matter in the form of a **dark fermion** and the mixing angle

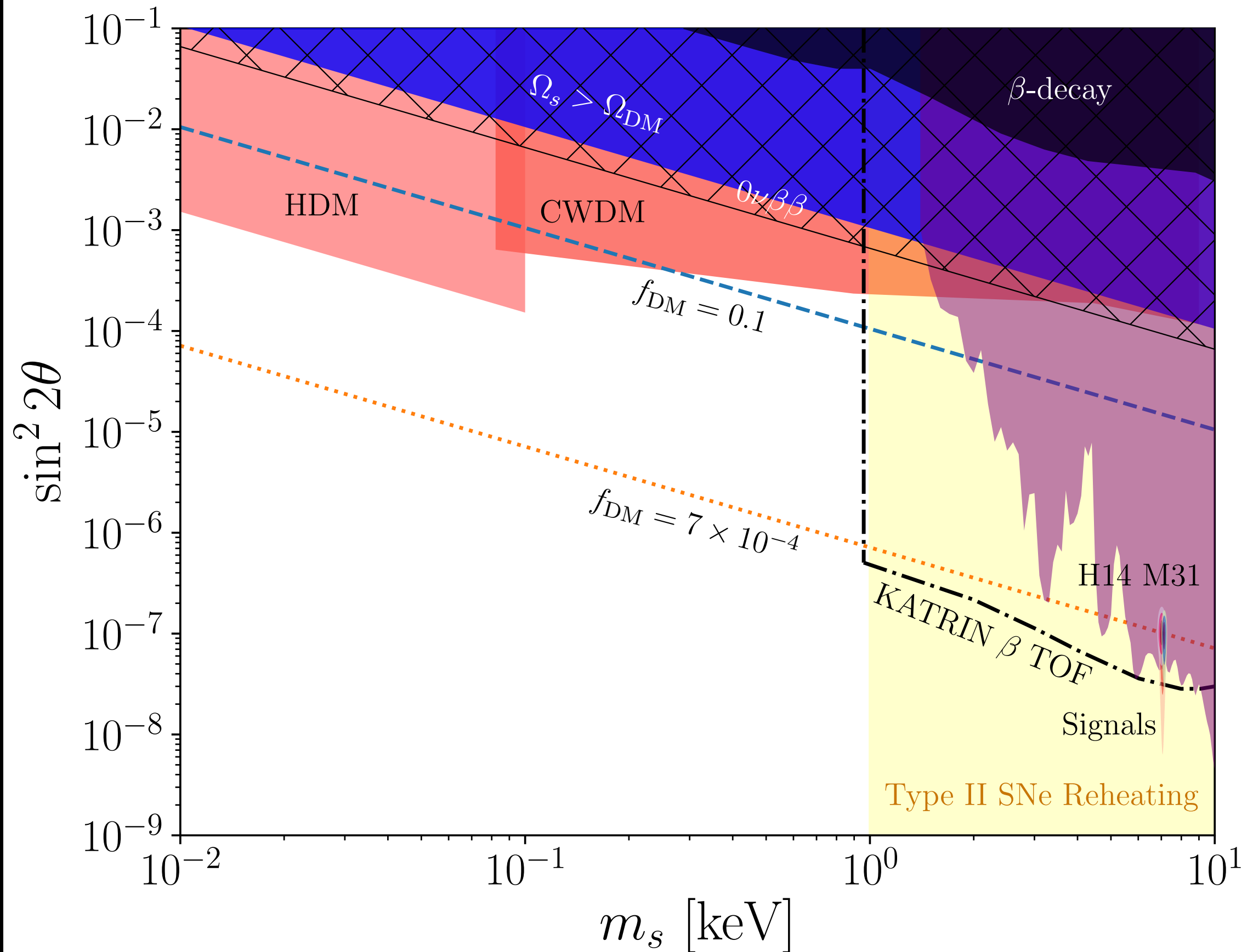
$$\text{Flux} \propto f_{\text{DM}} \sin^2 2\theta \quad \text{but: } f_{\text{DM}} \propto (\sin^2 2\theta)^{1.23} \quad (\text{Abazajian 2005})$$

Nonresonant production (DW) can provide signal with ~13% of dark matter as 7.1 keV **dark fermions**, evades all constraints including structure formation, with ~7 times stronger mixing angle

⇒ Can achieve even larger mixing angles in low-reheating temperature universes (Gelmini, Palomares-Ruis & Pascoli 2004)

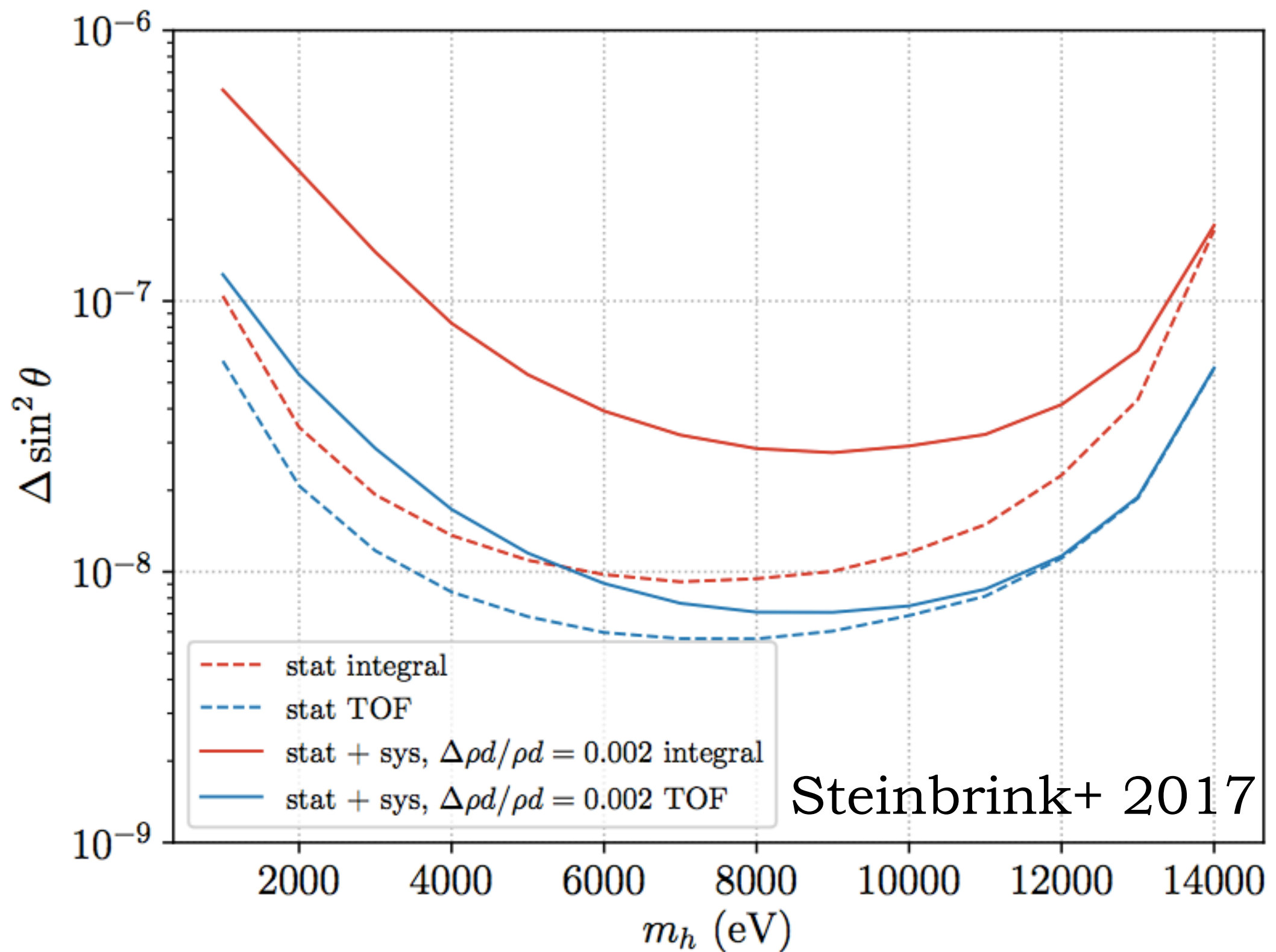
⇒ Low-reheating temperature universe can produce 3.5 signal with  **$7 \times 10^{-4}$  of DM** as **dark fermions**

# Visible Sterile $\nu$ in the Low-Reheat Universe

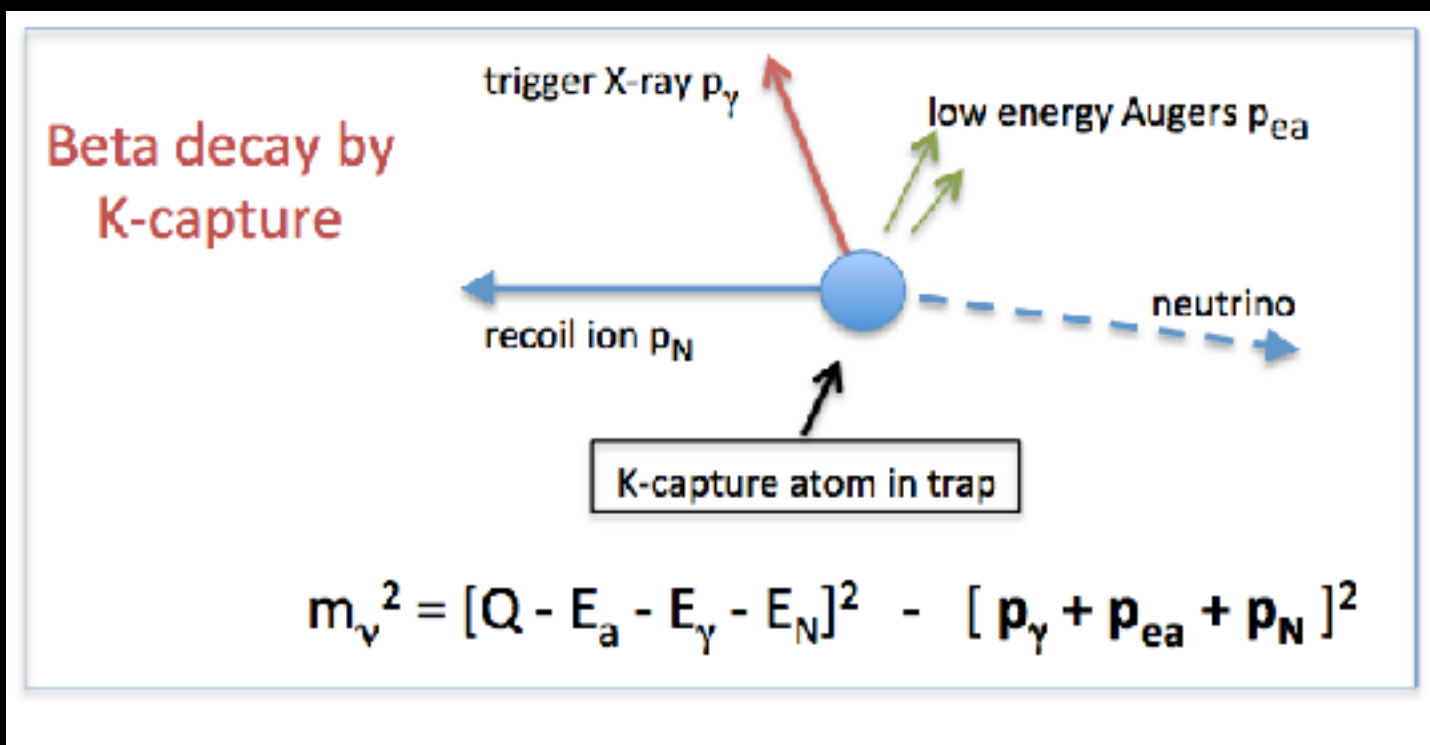




# Confirmation? kinematic searches in nuclear $\beta$ -decay



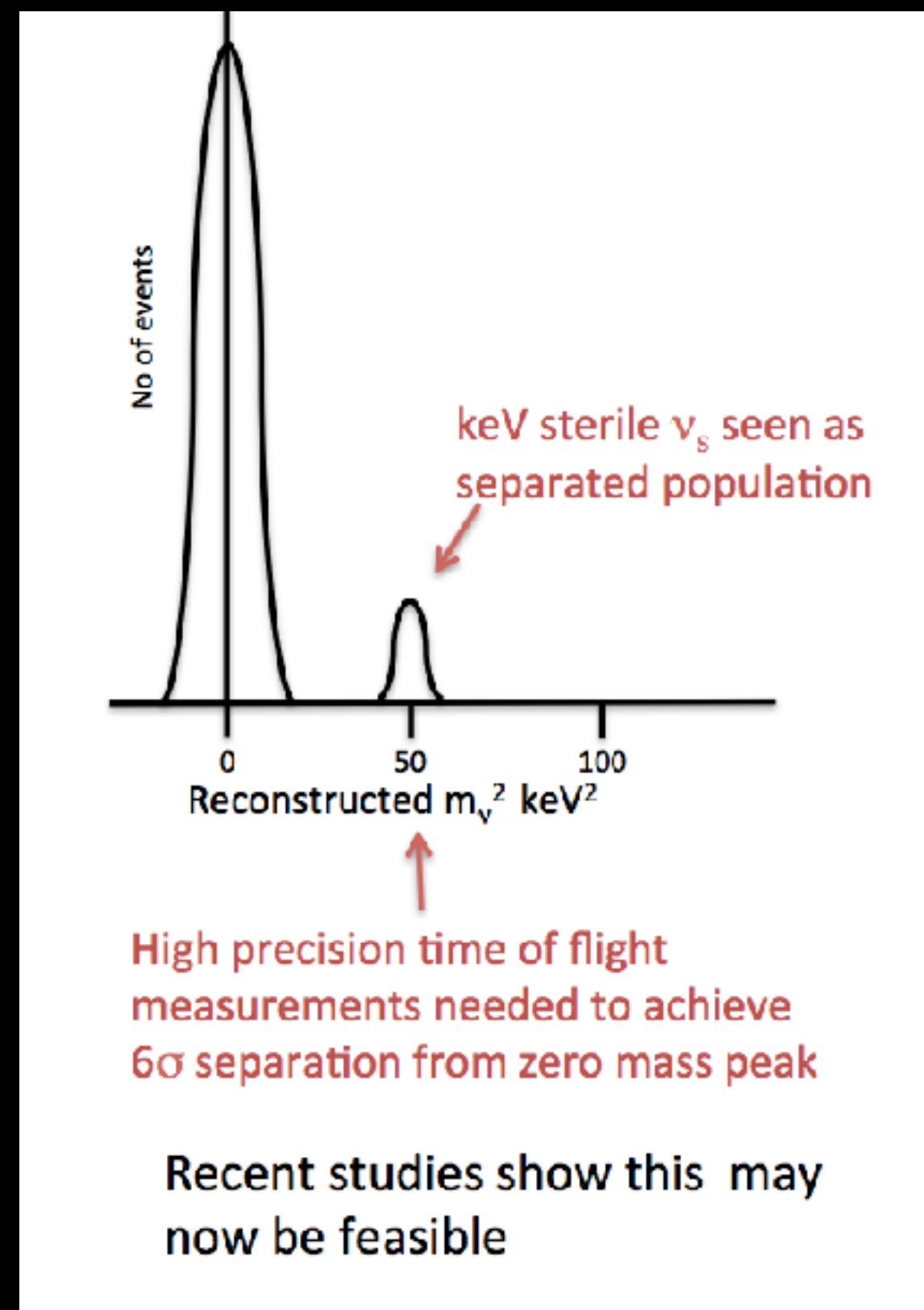
# Laboratory Method: full kinematic reconstruction of K-capture nuclear decay



Original studies: Finocchiaro & Shrock 1992

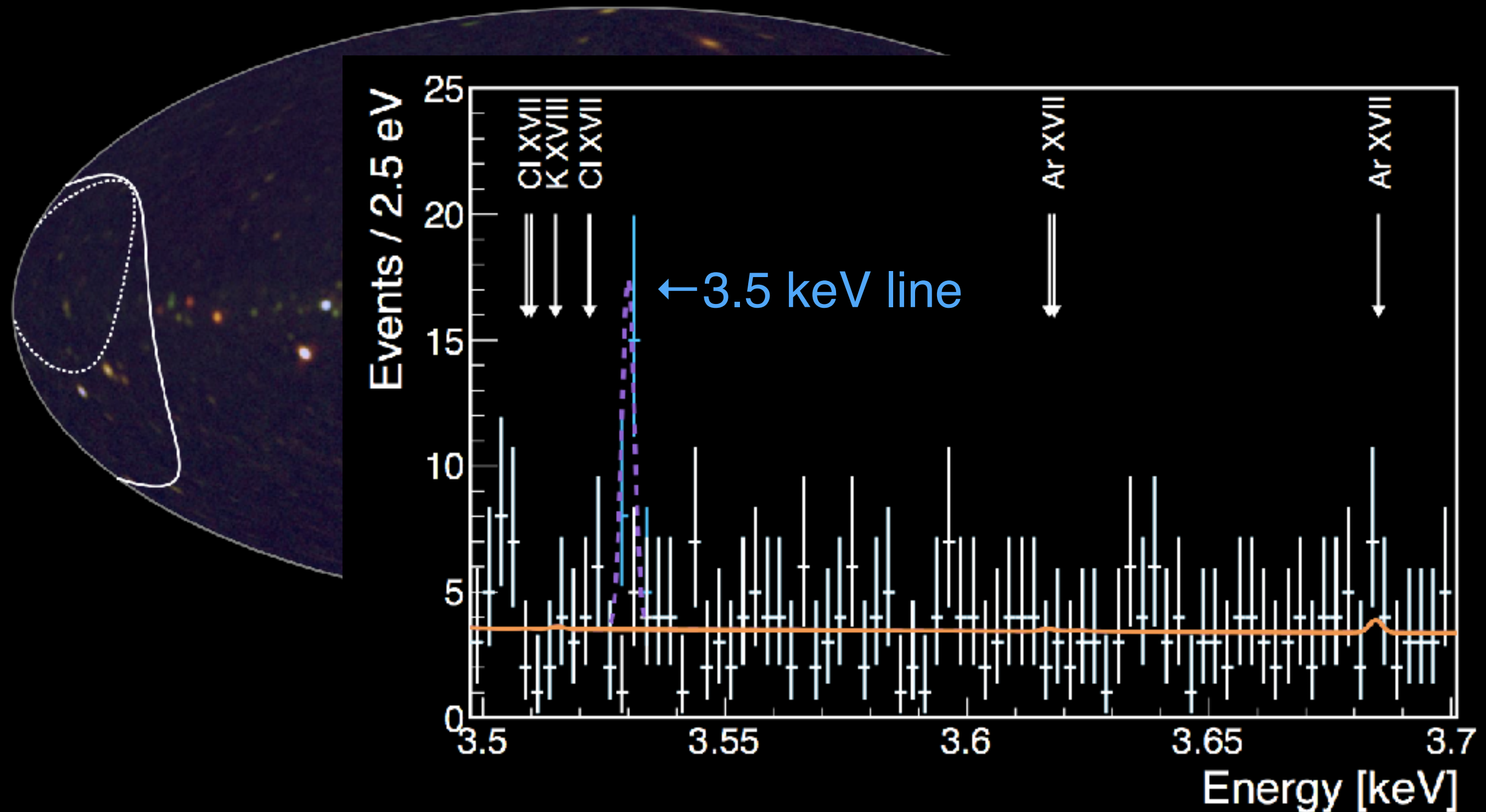
HUNTER experiment (Heavy Unseen Neutrinos by Total Energy-momentum Reconstruction)

$^{131}\text{Cs}$  Ion trap proposal:  
Peter Smith+ [arXiv:1607.06876](https://arxiv.org/abs/1607.06876)



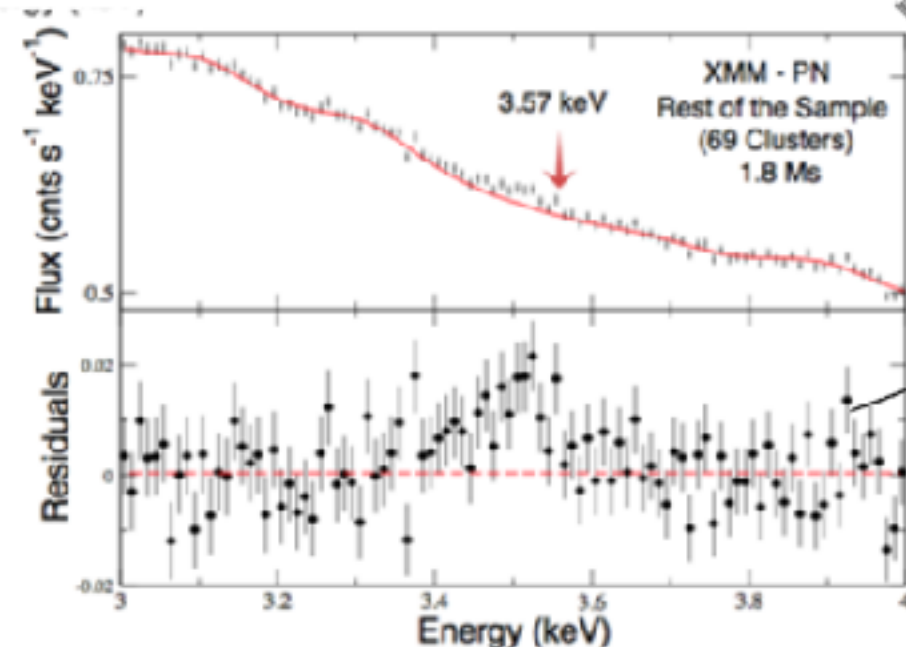


# Confirmation? Sounding Rocket X-ray Observations: Micro-X & XQC

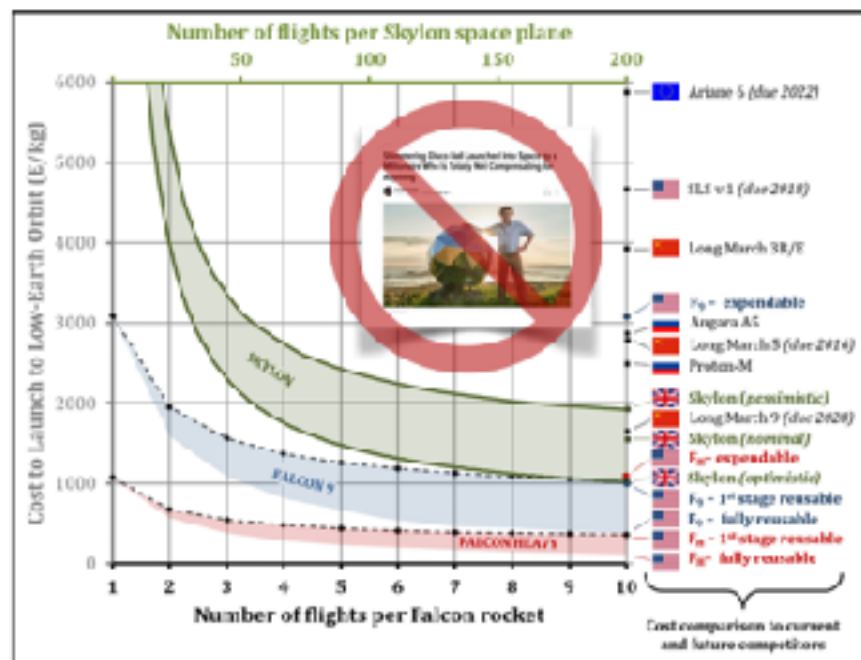
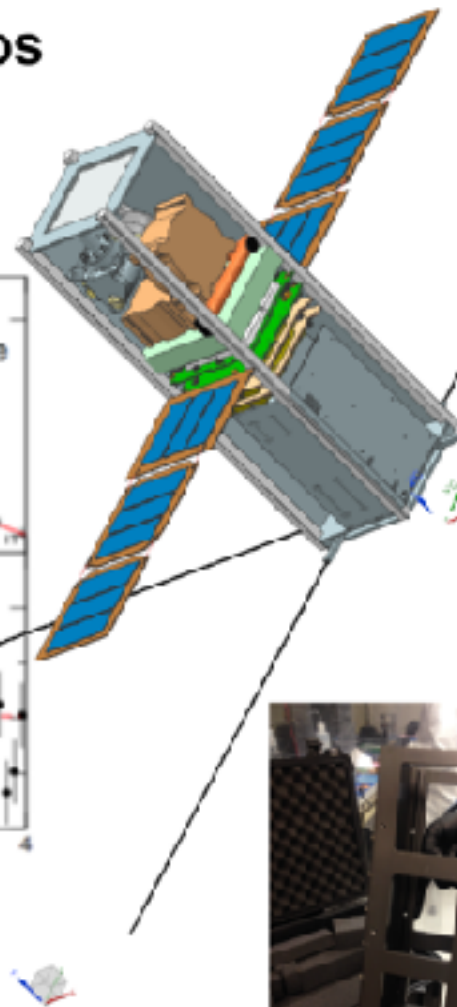


# New Technology: New CCDs plus CubeSats

observed 3.5 keV X-ray line could be produced by keV sterile neutrinos annihilation.



A cubeSat with a large CCD detector (DESI size) with good energy resolution (maybe skipper) in low earth orbit could go after this signal in our own galaxy. Others (Tali et al) are planning to do this with a "CDMS" detector in a rocket. A couple of summer students work on a conceptual design.



partnership with UIUC (aerospace)

LDRD proposal by S. Timpone



opportunity:

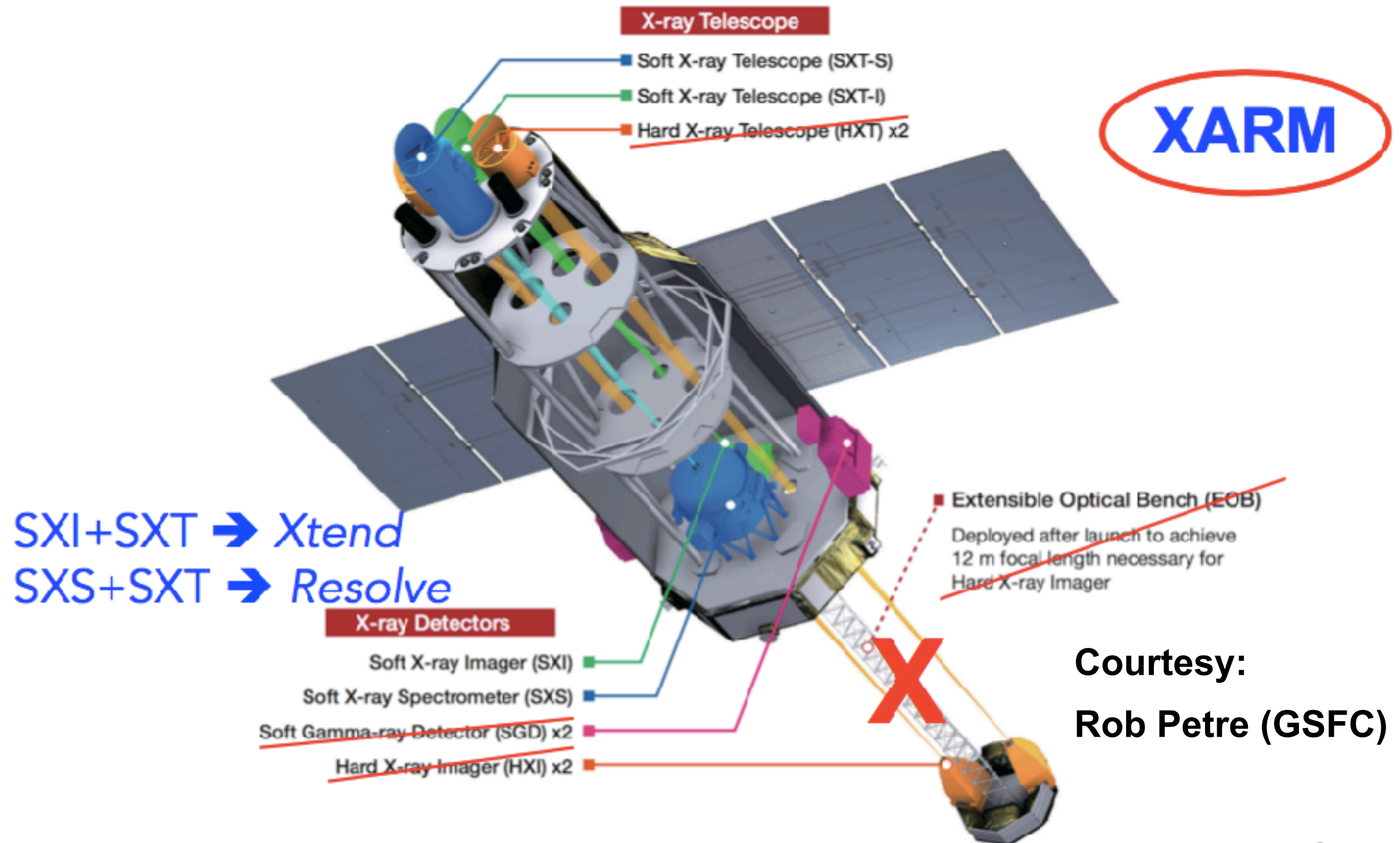
- look for 3.5 signal
- train our engineers in space applications
- new partnerships
- get in better shape to take advantage of "cheap space"



# Next Space Mission in X-ray Astronomy

## X-Ray Astronomy Recovery Mission

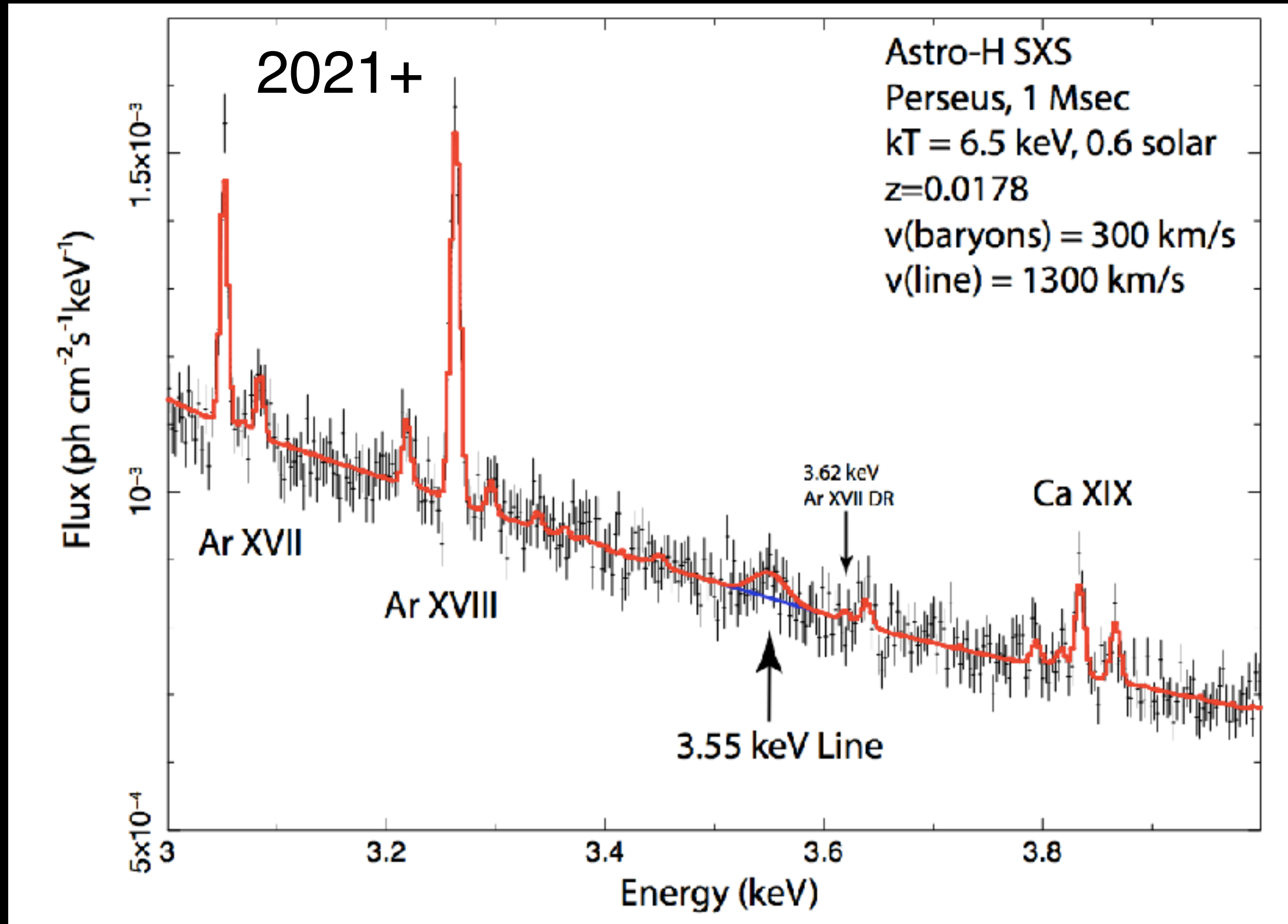
**XARM**  
X-ray Astronomy Recovery Mission  
*Resolve*



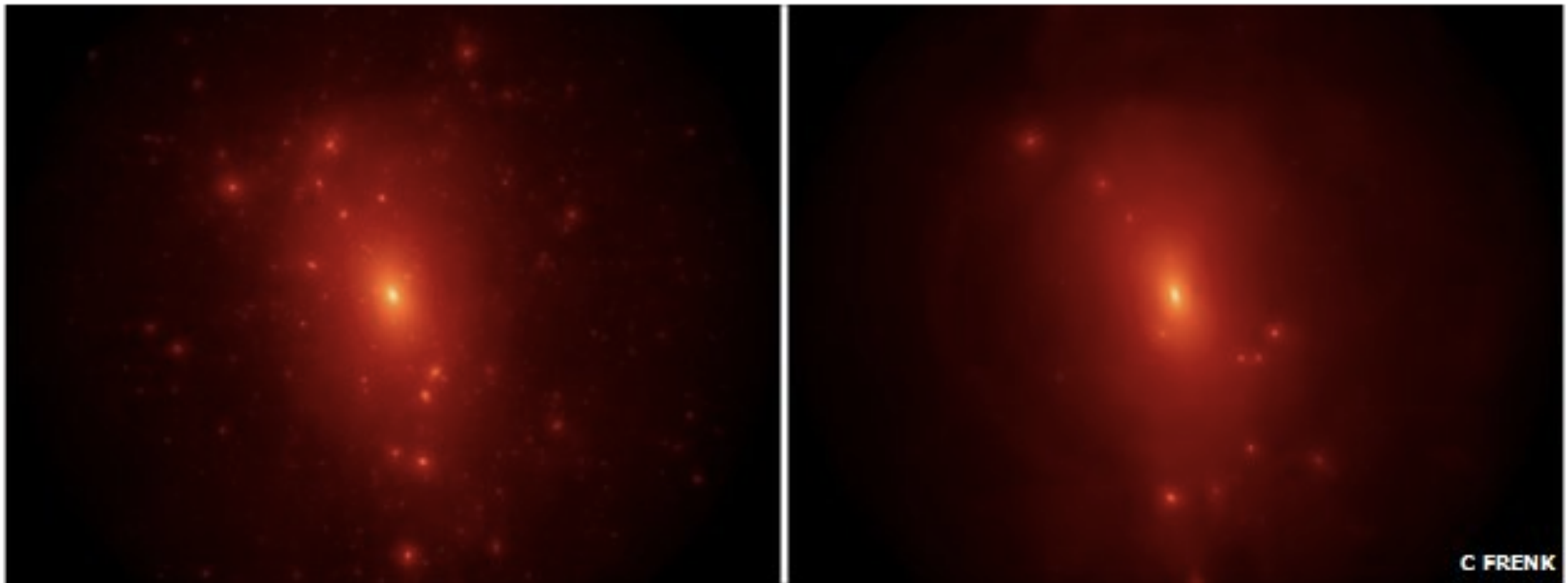
Courtesy:  
Rob Petre (GSFC)



# Confirmation: *XARM Space Telescope*

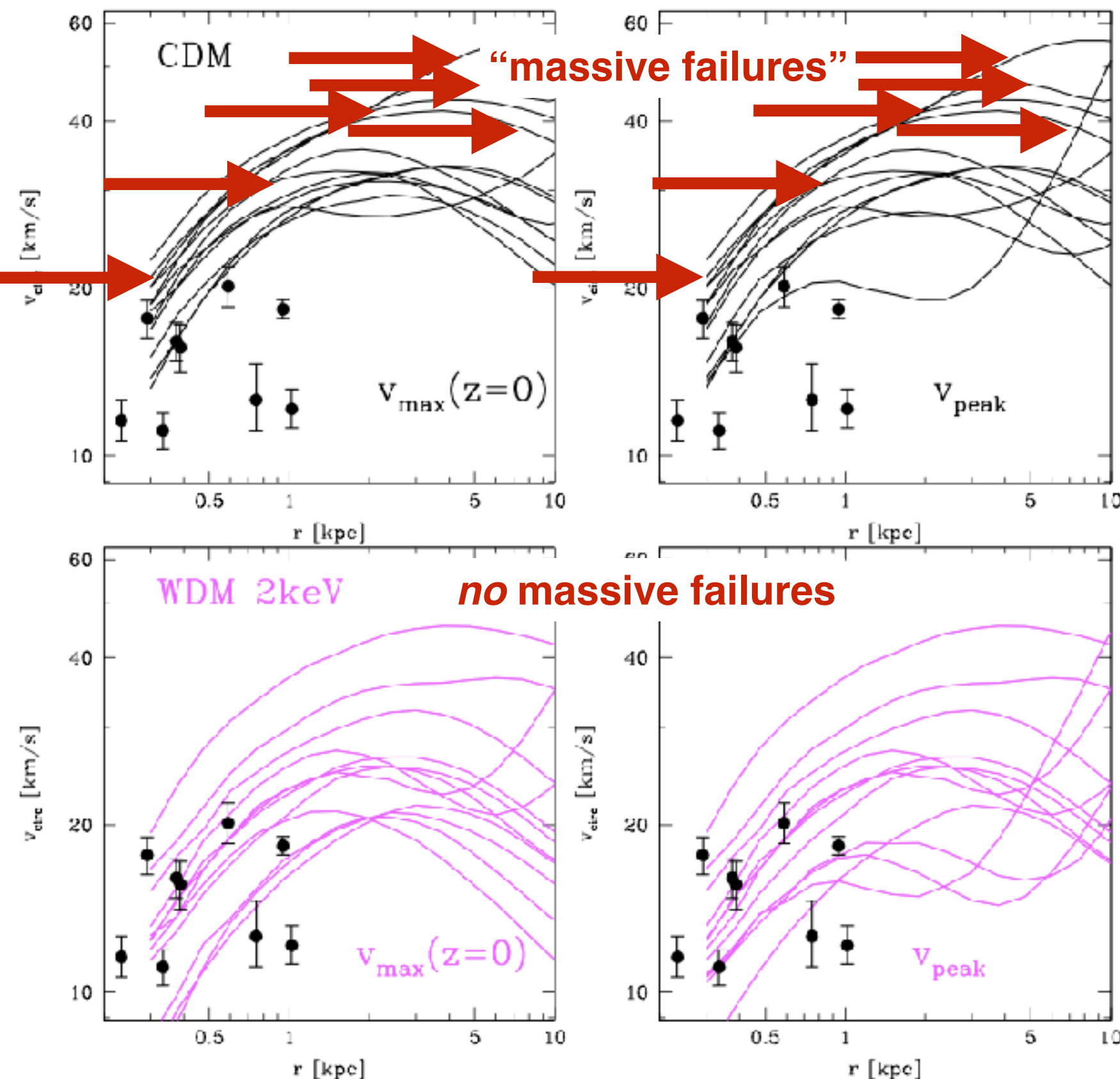


# Issues in Cosmological Small-scale Structure?



Dwarf galaxies around the Milky Way are less dense than they should be if they held cold dark matter

# WDM Solution to Local Group Galaxy Properties?



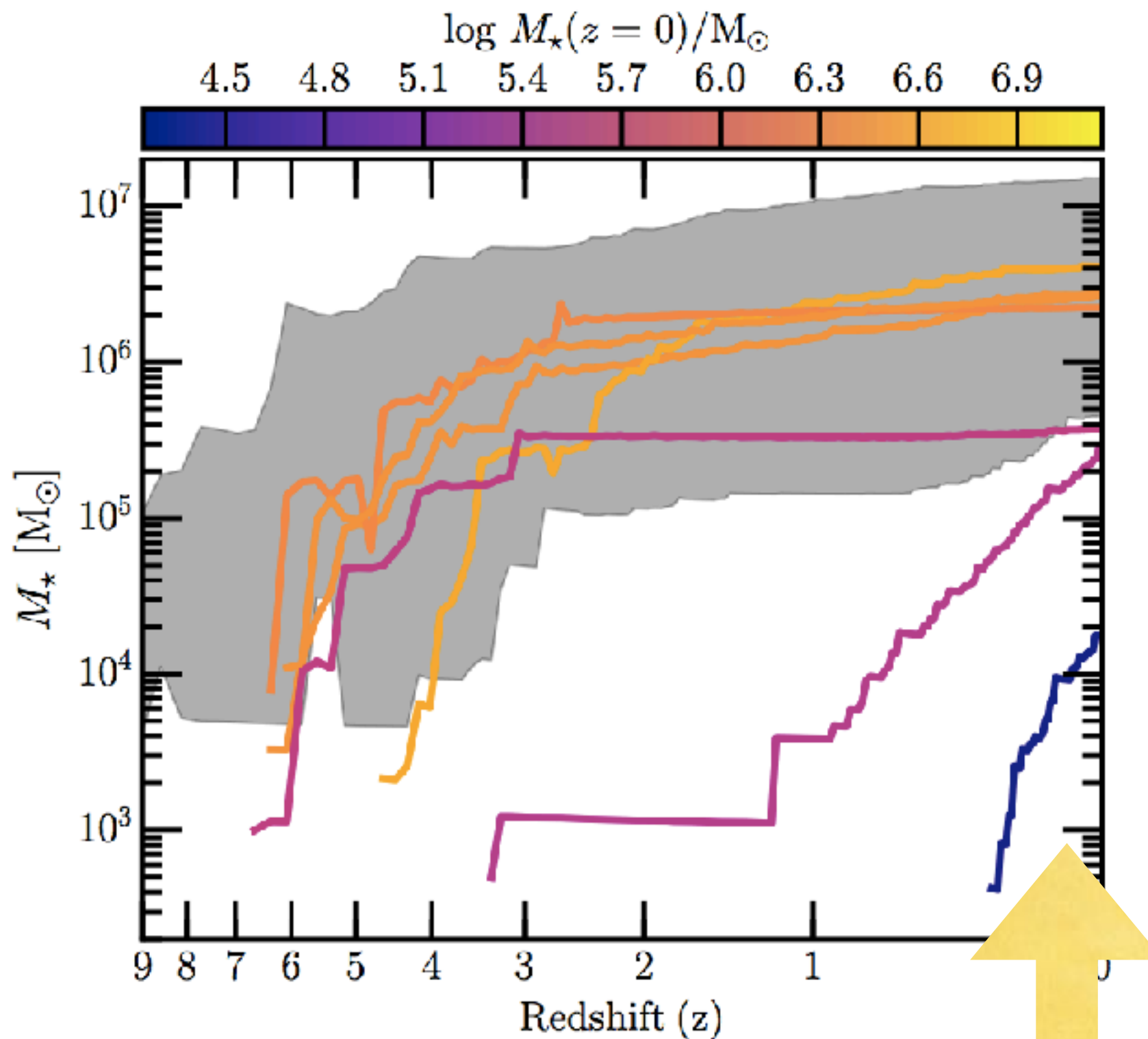
Lovell+  
arXiv:1104.2929.  
Anderhalden+  
arXiv:1212.2967:  
*"It seems that only the pure WDM model with a 2 keV [thermal] particle is able to match the all observations" of the Milky Way Satellites: "the total satellite abundance, their radial distribution and their mass profile" (or TBTF)*

## Sterile Neutrino DM:

Horiuchi+  
arXiv:1512.04548  
Bozek+  
arXiv:1512.04544



# Signature of WDM in dwarf galaxy formation histories?



Bozek+

arXiv:1803.05424

*“The WDM galaxies studied here have a wider diversity of star formation histories (SFHs) than the same systems simulated in CDM... The discovery of young ultra-faint dwarf galaxies with no ancient star formation – which do not exist in our CDM simulations – would therefore provide evidence in support of WDM.”*

# Summary

- *Dark fermion*  
~~Sterile Neutrino~~ Dark Matter has been investigated for 24+ years; indirect detection via cluster & field galaxy searches proposed by yours truly in 2001.
- An unidentified line has been detected at  $4\sigma$  to  $5\sigma$  in two independent samples of stacked X-ray clusters with *XMM-Newton*. It has been seen in several followup observations.
- **No consistent astrophysical interpretation exists.**

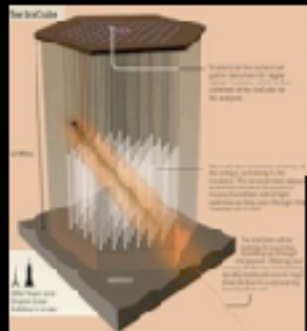
# Summary

- Among the simplest models for the signal are:
  - resonant ~~sterile neutrino~~ *dark fermion* production with a cosmological  $L$
  - *a fraction of dark matter as dark fermions*
  - *low-reheating temperature models*
  - *singlet Higgs decay models*
- At least two nuclear physics laboratory experiments are following up sterile neutrino dark matter interpretations.
- The signal crosses a transition region from “cold” dark matter to “warm” dark matter, at a cutoff scale of great interest in galaxy formation of the local group of galaxies,
- Future Follow up observations:
  - 2019: X-ray CubeSAT, Micro-X, XQC
  - 2021-2022: XARM
  - 2028+: ATHENA
  - 2030+: X-Ray Surveyor



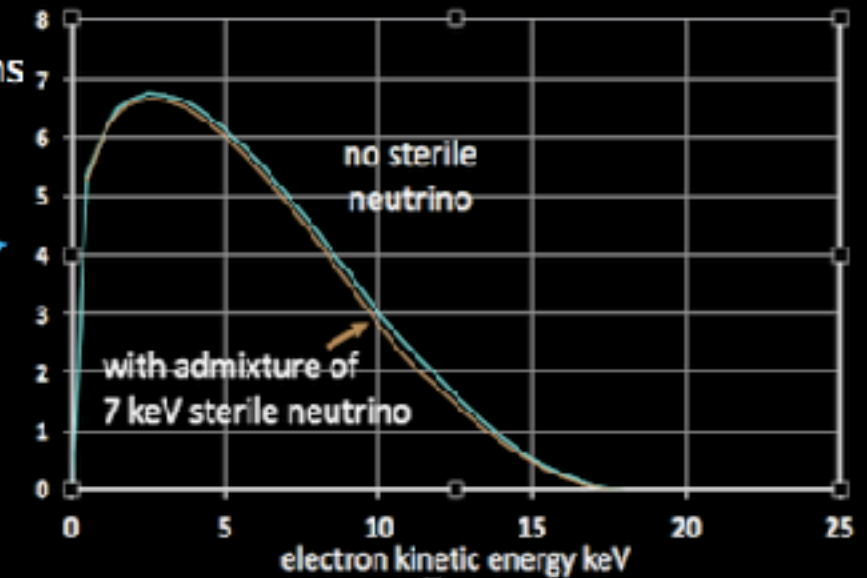
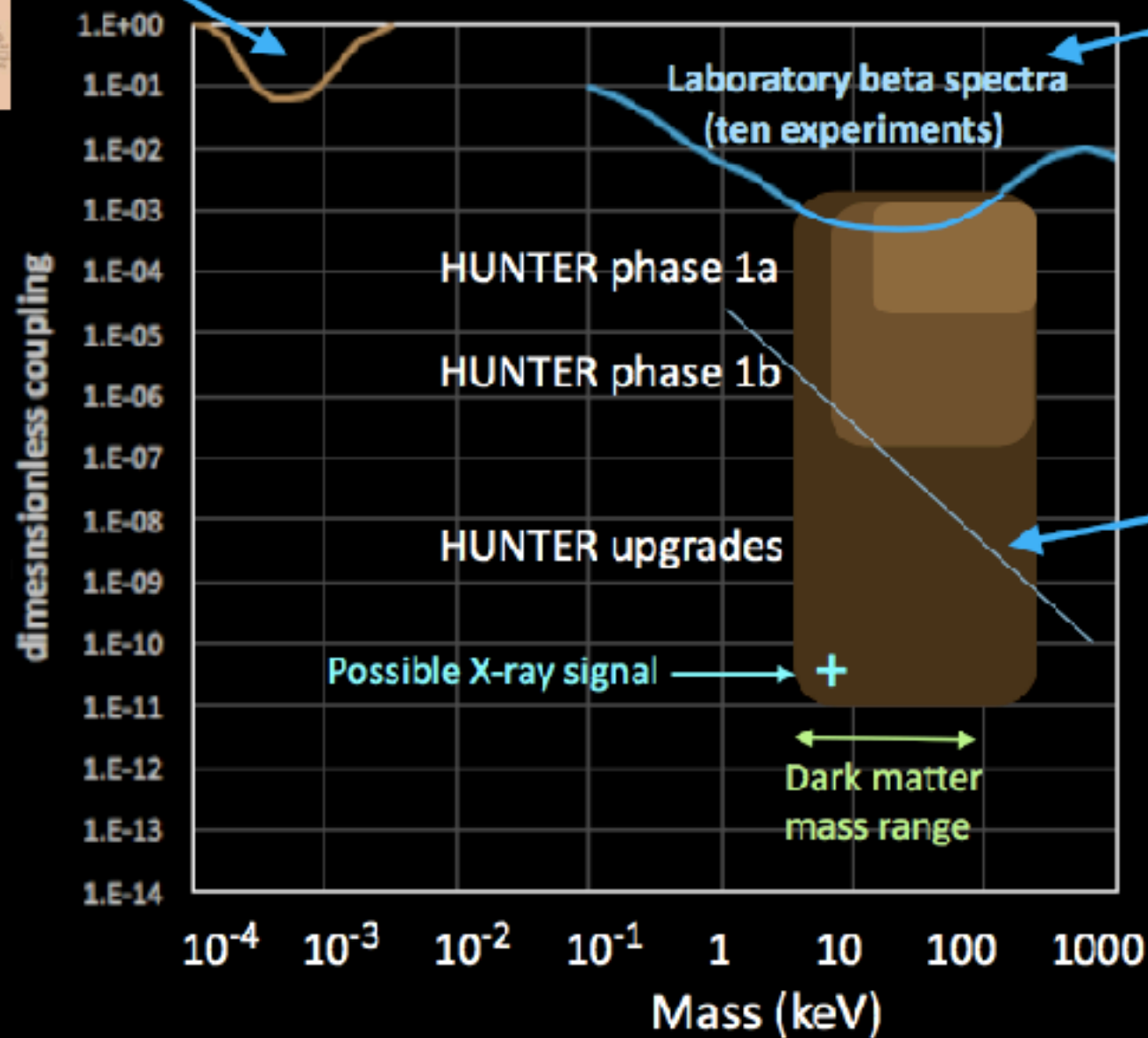
# Backup Slides

# Existing limits and future coverage of HUNTER experiment



Antarctic 'ICE CUBE'  
Detector + CR muons

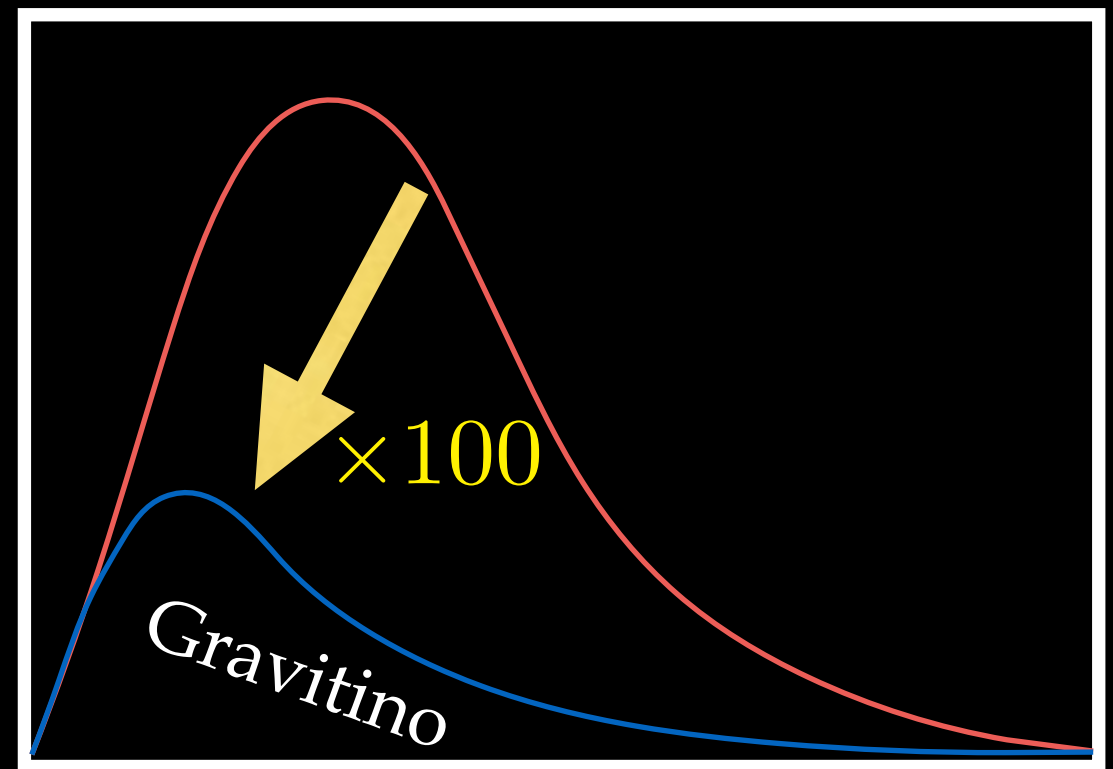
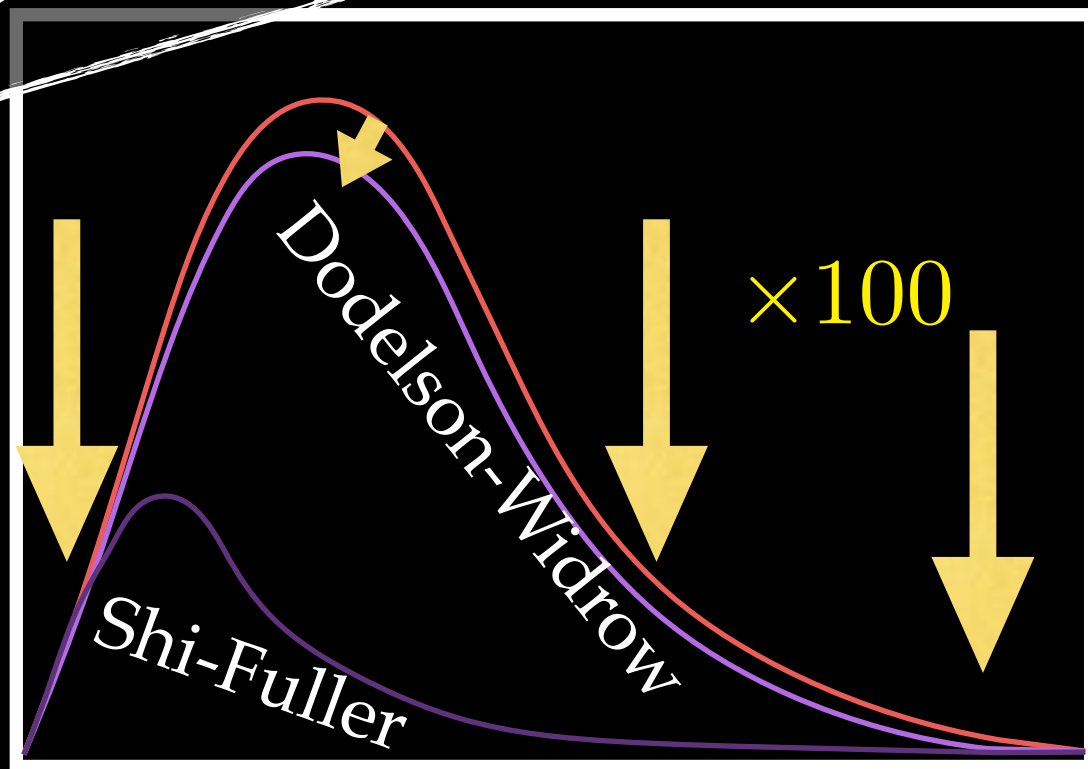
Sterile neutrinos would  
produce minute distortions  
in beta decay spectra



X-ray astronomy limits  
If significant sterile  $\nu$   
component of DM

# Sterile WDM vs. Dark Fermion

## Thermal WDM



$$m_s|_{\text{Dodelson-Widrow, ideal}} \approx 4.46 \text{ keV} \left( \frac{m_{\text{thermal}}}{1 \text{ keV}} \right)^{4/3}$$

$$m_s|_{\text{Shi-Fuller}} < m_s|_{\text{Dodelson-Widrow}}$$

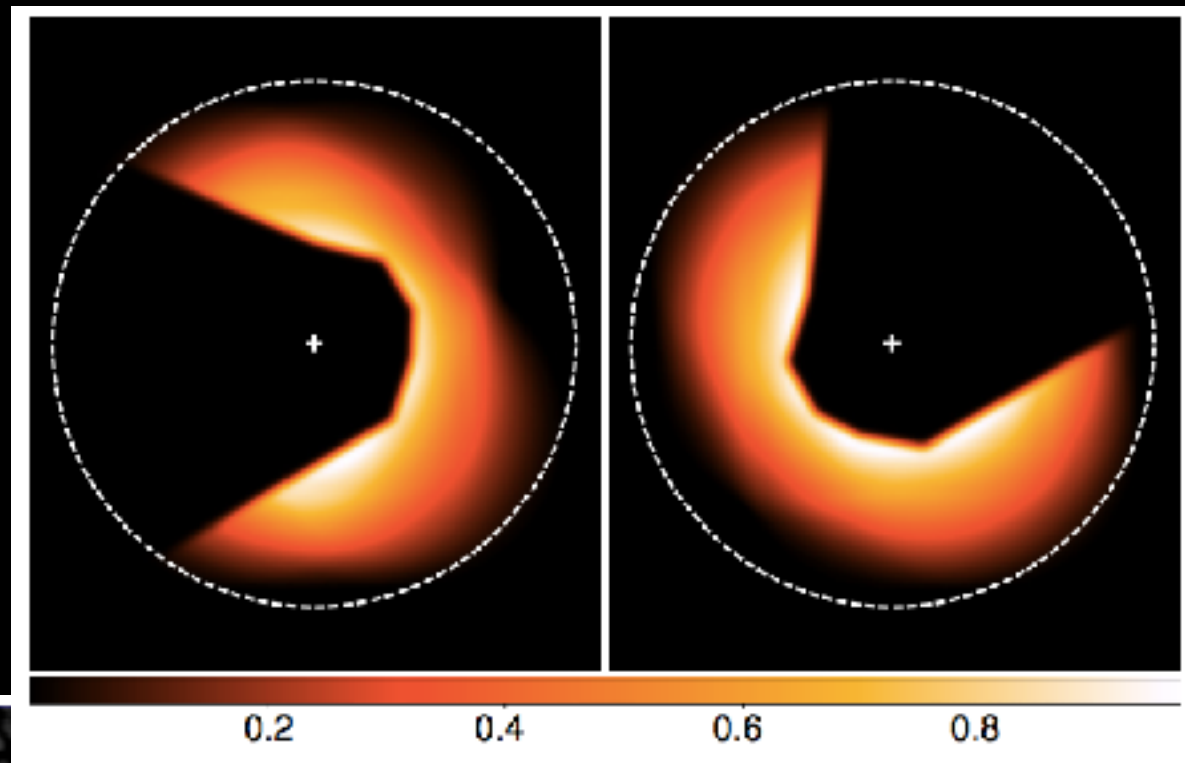
$$m_{\text{thermal}} = 2 \text{ keV} \Rightarrow m_s|_{\text{DW, ideal}} \approx 11 \text{ keV} \Rightarrow m_s|_{\text{Shi-Fuller}} \approx 7 \text{ keV}$$

Colombi, Dodelson & Widrow astro-ph/9505029;

Abazajian 2005; arXiv:1705.01837; Venumadhav+ 2016



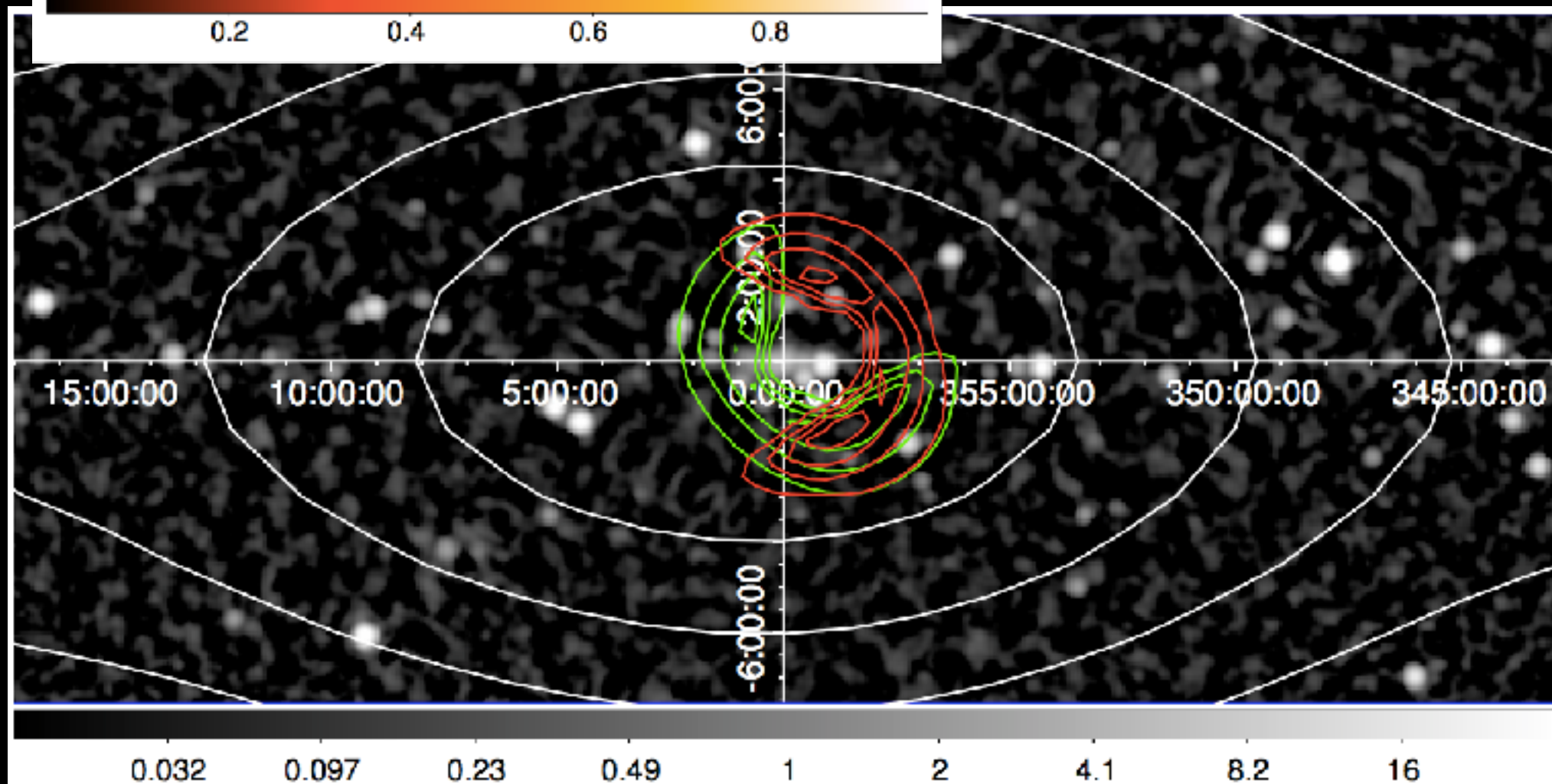
# *NuSTAR: the best current telescope?*



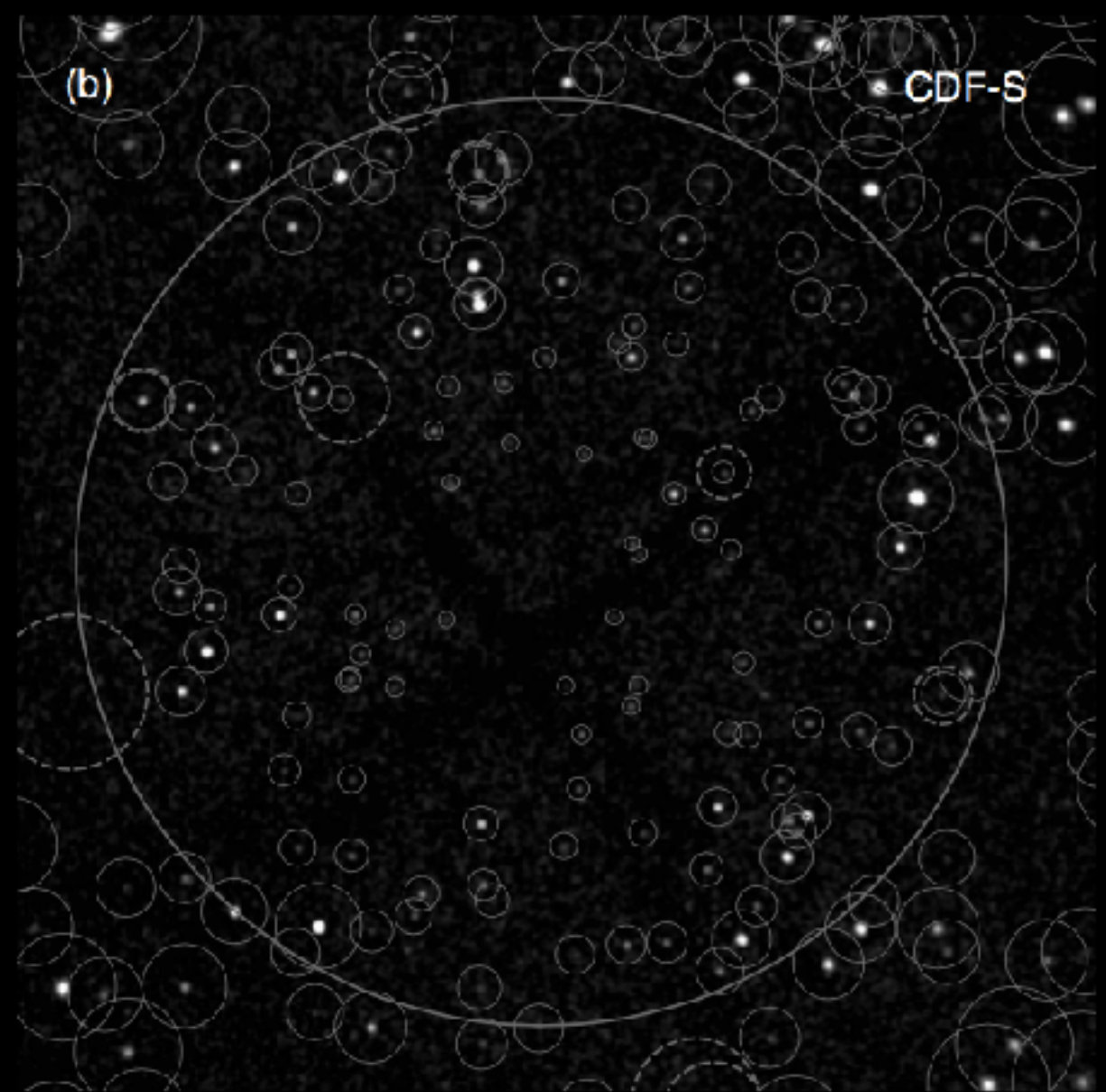
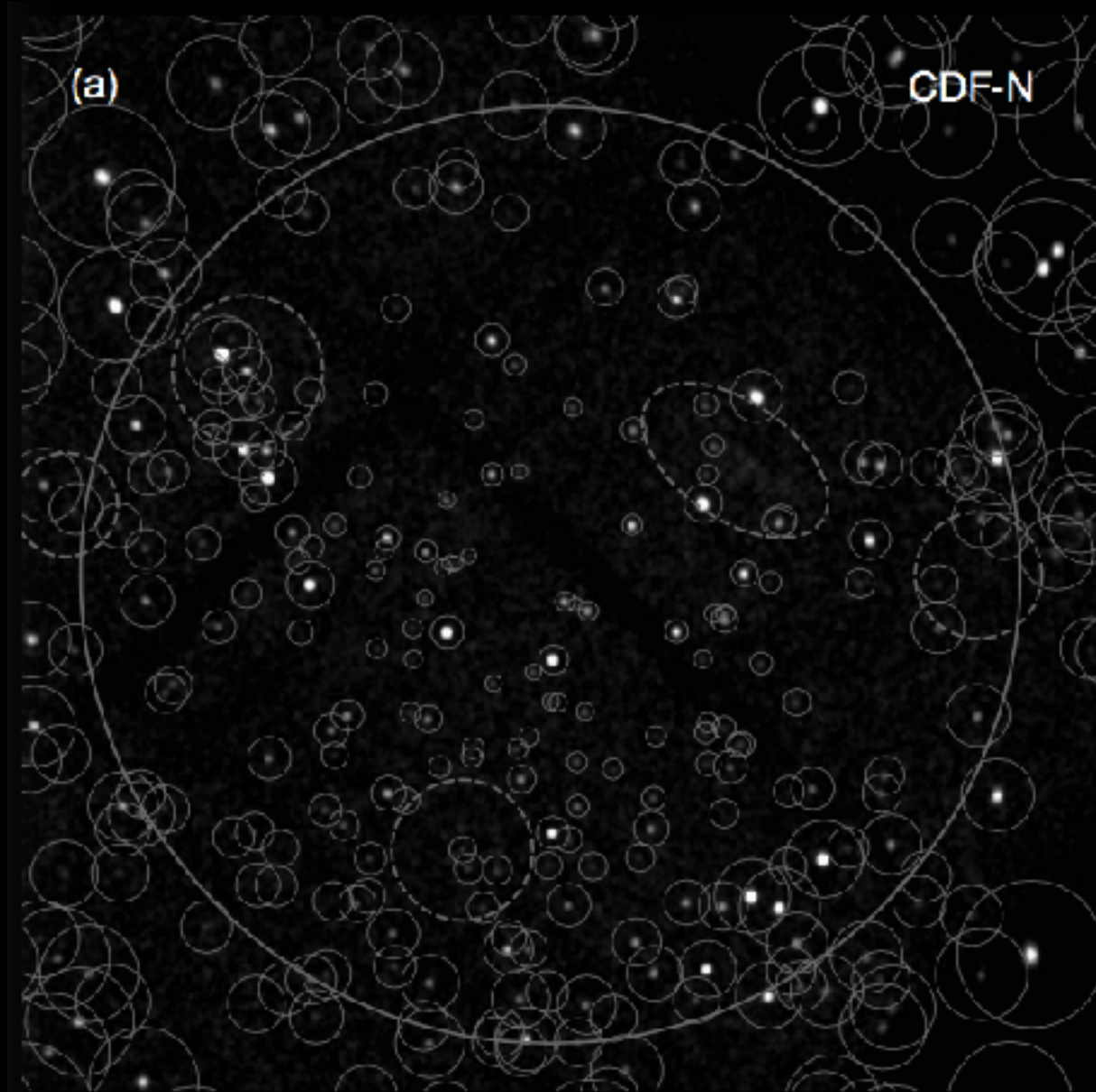
Shielding gap in telescope lets in 0 bounce photons. 37 deg<sup>2</sup> aperture!

Perez+: GC no signal, limits  
(1609.00667)

Neronov+: Deep field sees 11.1 $\sigma$  3.5 keV line consistent with DM decay  
(1607.07328)



# *Chandra Deep Fields: 10 Ms of data*



**Cappelluti+ 2017:** see the line at  $3\sigma$  in  $\sim 10$  Ms of COSMOS Legacy and Chandra Deep Field South observations,  
Rule out instrumental feature based on detailed characterization of response,  
*Rule out CX & Ar lines due to lack of partner lines*  
(K shown to be incompatible in 2014)

arXiv:1701.07932



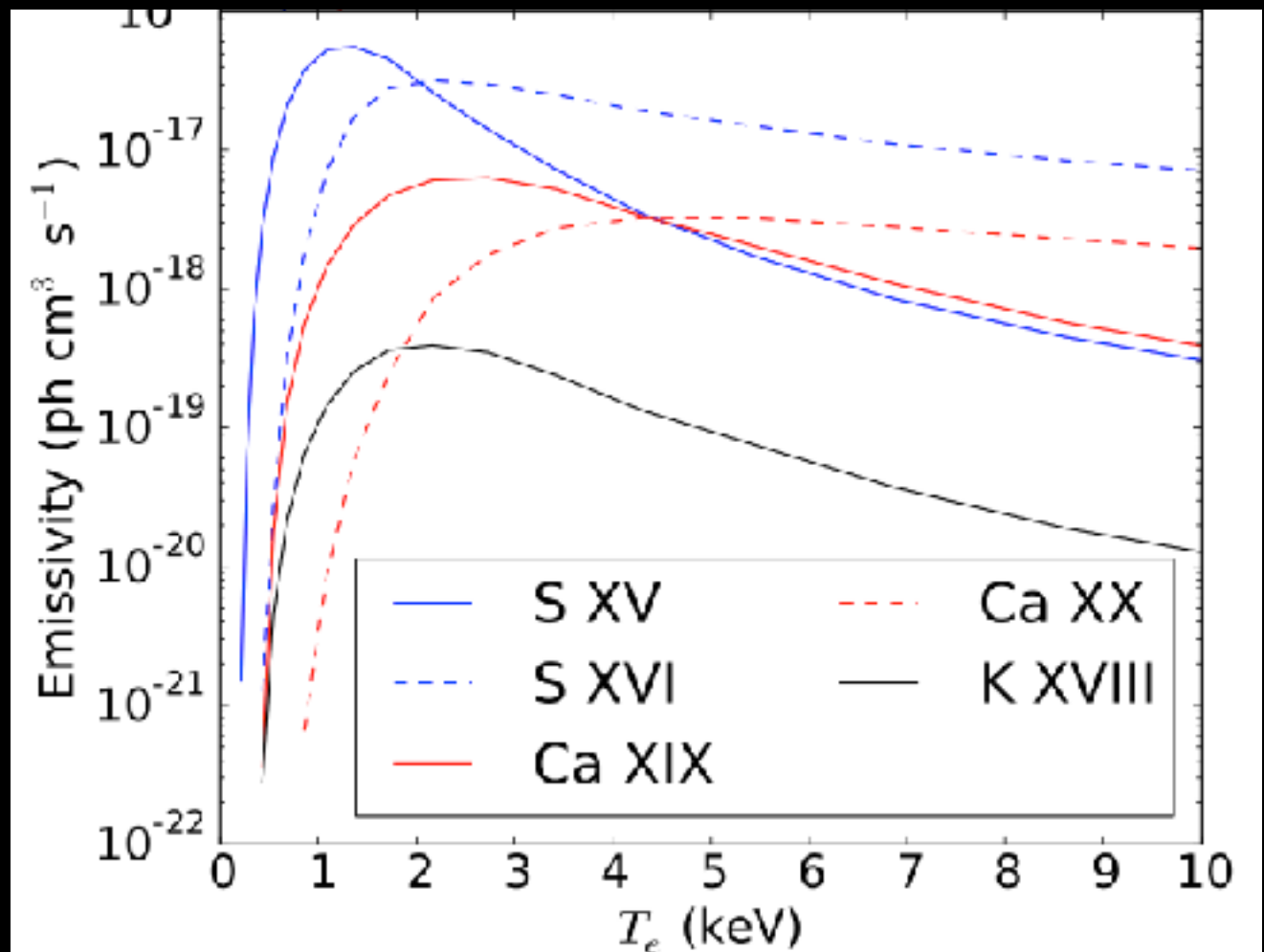
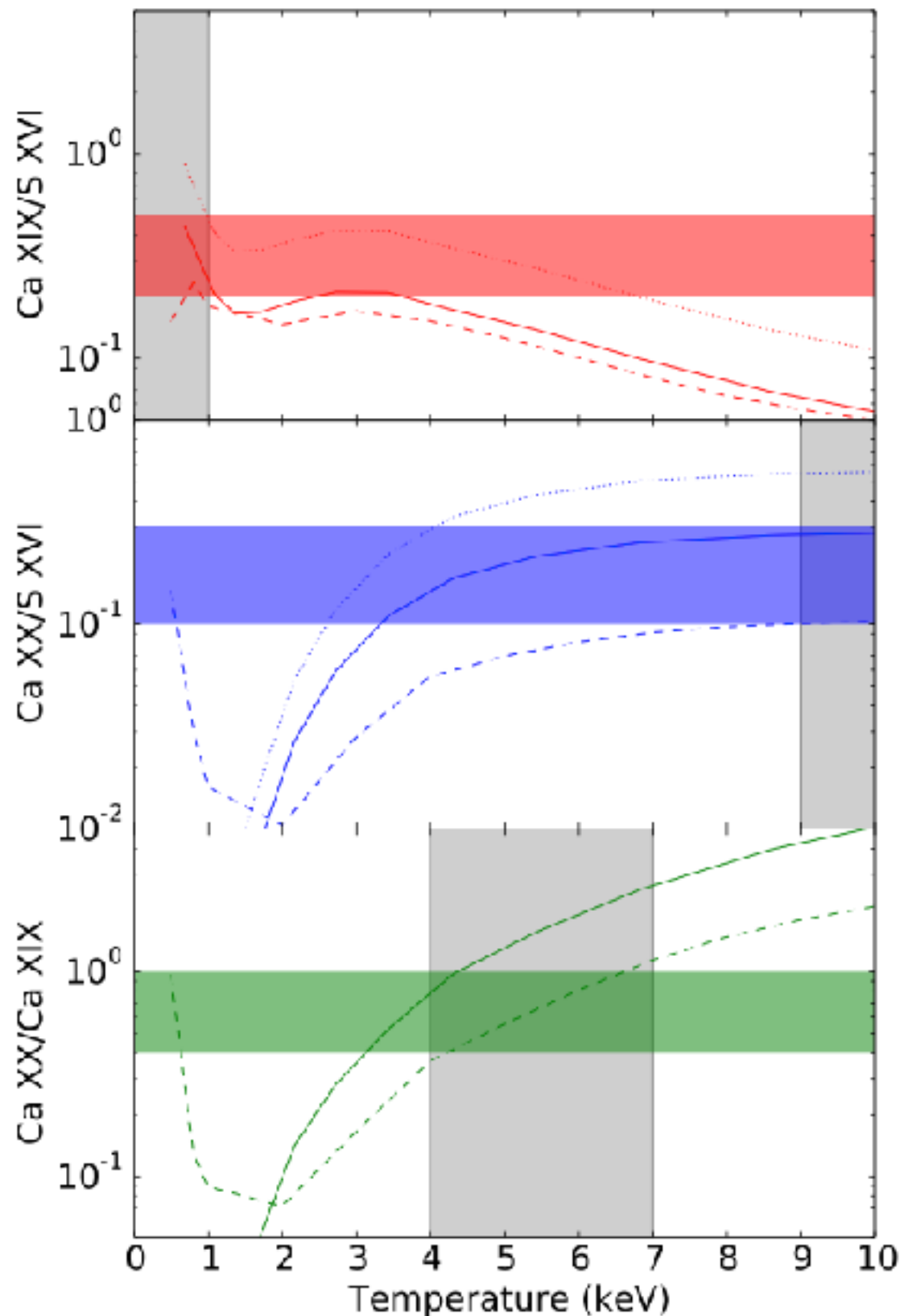
# Galactic Center X-ray Constraints? Potassium Lines? M31?

“Dark Matter Searches Gone Bananas” Potassium paper by Jeltema & Profumo arXiv:1408.1699 (JP) called into question Bulbul+ and Boyarsky+ results:

- $\nu_s$  JP claim that the Galactic Center excludes a dark matter interpretation
  - » JP makes the assumption of all of the 3.5 keV flux coming from K XVIII, and then placing constraints on dark matter decay from the Galactic Center after this assumption. The flux from the Galactic Center is in fact consistent with the dark matter mass within the region [Boyarsky+ arXiv:1408.2503].
- $\nu_s$  JP claim that there is less than  $2\sigma$  evidence for the line in XMM-Newton data of M31
  - » The Boyarsky team showed how the JP M31 analysis is flawed in using much too narrow of an energy window in their line search modeling, which allows the continuum to float excessively [arXiv:1408.4388].
- $\nu_s$  JP claim line ratios in the cluster data do not allow for a consistent model for the temperature of Perseus
  - » The Bulbul+ team showed that JP use over-simplified single-temperature model arguments with incorrect line ratios in their X-ray cluster modeling [arXiv:1409.0920].



# Inconsistent T? Potassium Line? (JP)

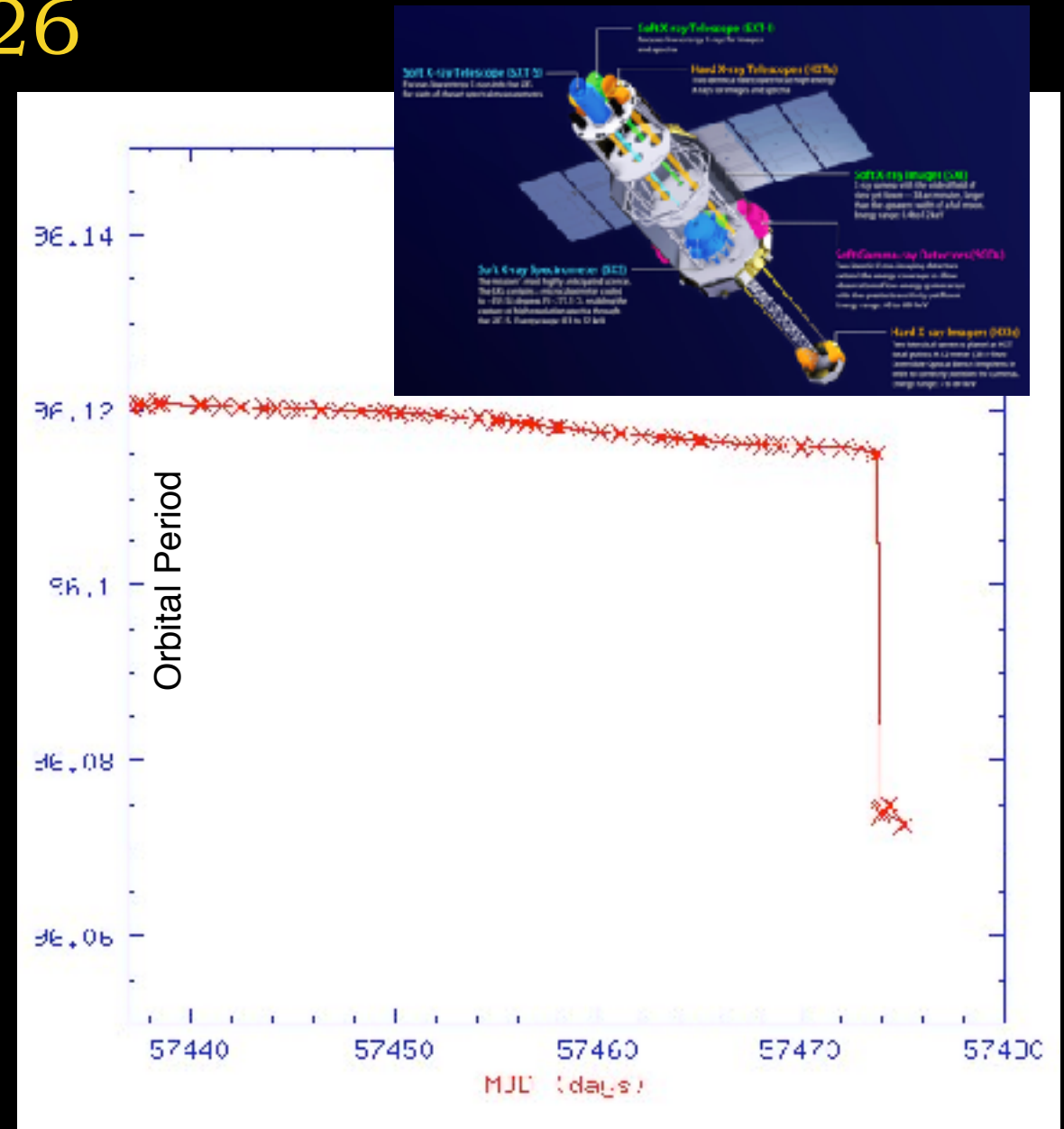


Bulbul+: “An independent consideration is the observed absolute line fluxes. Because the Ca XX, Ca XIX and S XVI emissivities drop steeply at low temperatures (lower panel in Fig. 3), any cool component would have to have a very high abundance of those elements to contribute significantly to the observed line fluxes. For example, to produce all of the observed Ca XX line in the Perseus MOS spectrum with a  $T = 1$  keV plasma, the Ca abundance would have to be over 100 times solar (which is unlikely given the observed values of 0.3 – 2 solar in clusters, including their cool cores).”

# Communication anomaly of X-ray Astronomy Satellite “Hitomi” (ASTRO-H) - March 26

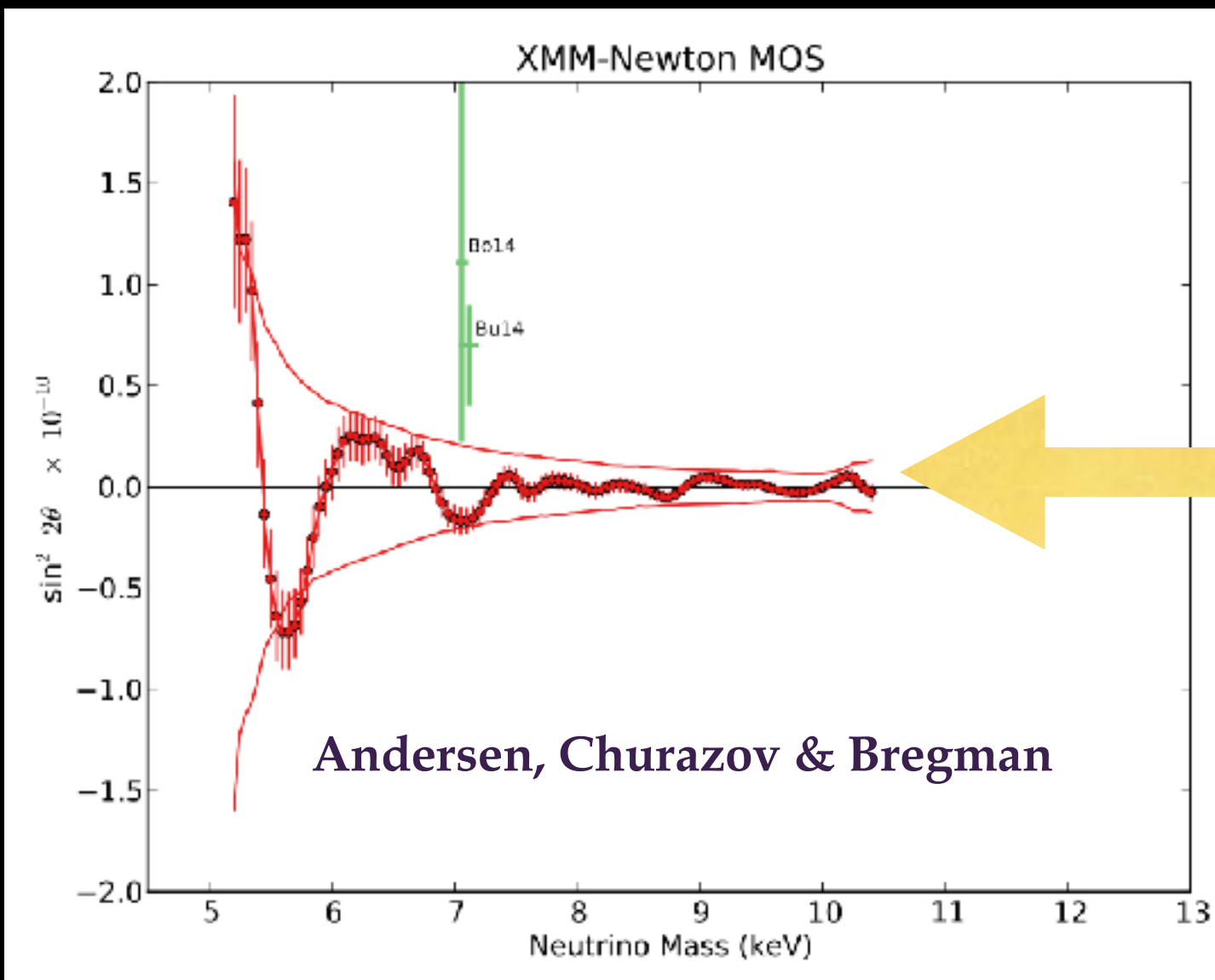
## JAXA Press Releases:

- loss of orbit altitude
  - loss of communication
  - debris reported by JSpOC (Joint Space Operations Center)
  - estimated rotation period calculated from the light curve is about 5.2 seconds
- JAXA: “cause for this fast rotations is anomaly in attitude control system. Based on information from several overseas organizations indicating the separation of the two SAPs from ASTRO-H, JAXA concluded that the functions of ASTRO-H could not be restored. Accordingly, JAXA ceased efforts to recover the satellite and turned to investigating the cause of the anomaly.”



# Stacked Observations: Galaxies

Sample of 81 galaxies observed with Chandra and a sample of 89 galaxies observed with XMM-Newton, using outskirts of the galaxies (Andersen, Churazov & Bregman 2014)



Quoted exclusion of the 3.5 keV line at fixed  $\sin^2 2\theta$  by  $11.8\sigma$

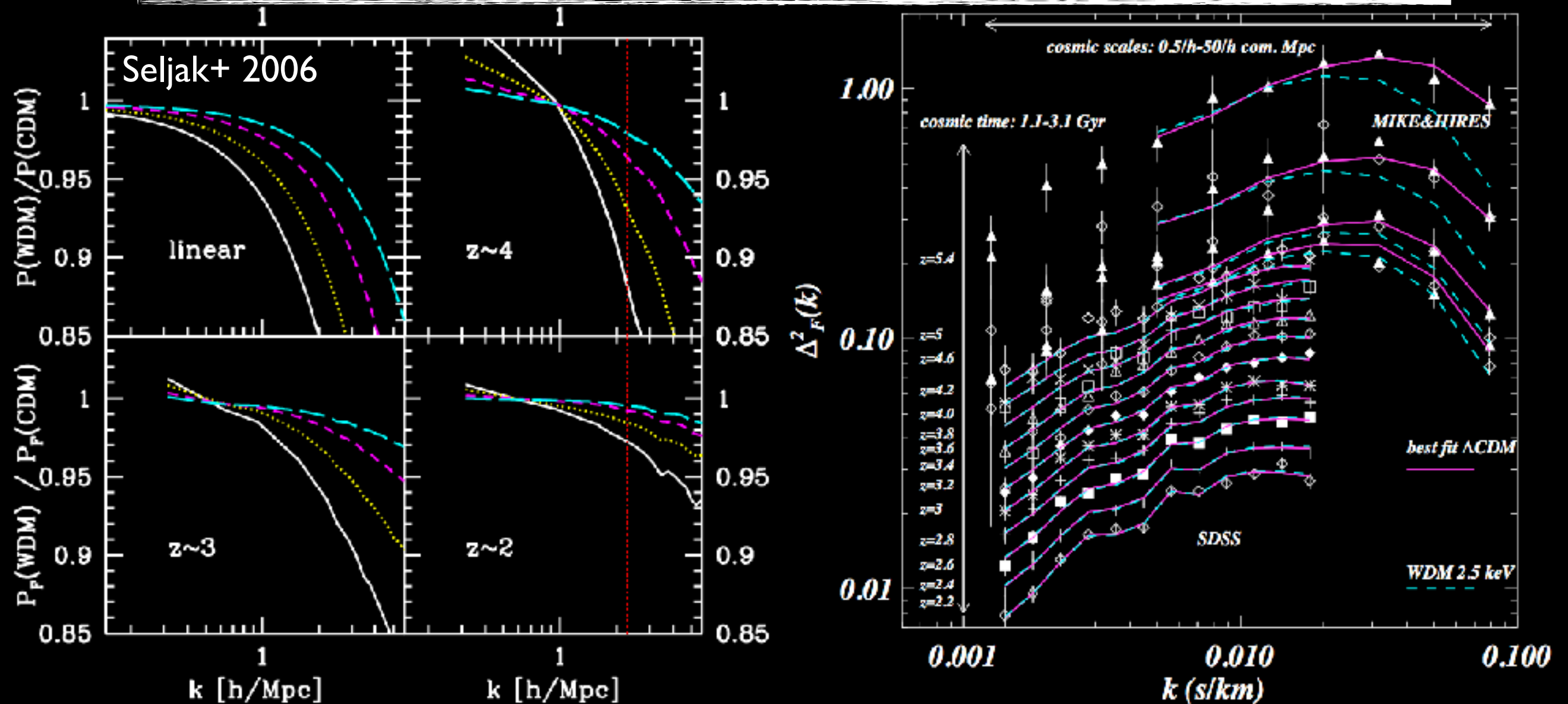
*Systematic errors are of order the uncertainties on detected  $\sin^2 2\theta$*

Despite overwhelming systematic uncertainties that are of order the signal, the authors quote statistical errors only.

Proper methodology would find a more robust, less systematics dominated method & not quote irrelevant statistical evidence which reach an invalid conclusion.



# Lyman- $\alpha$ Forest Constraints on WDM



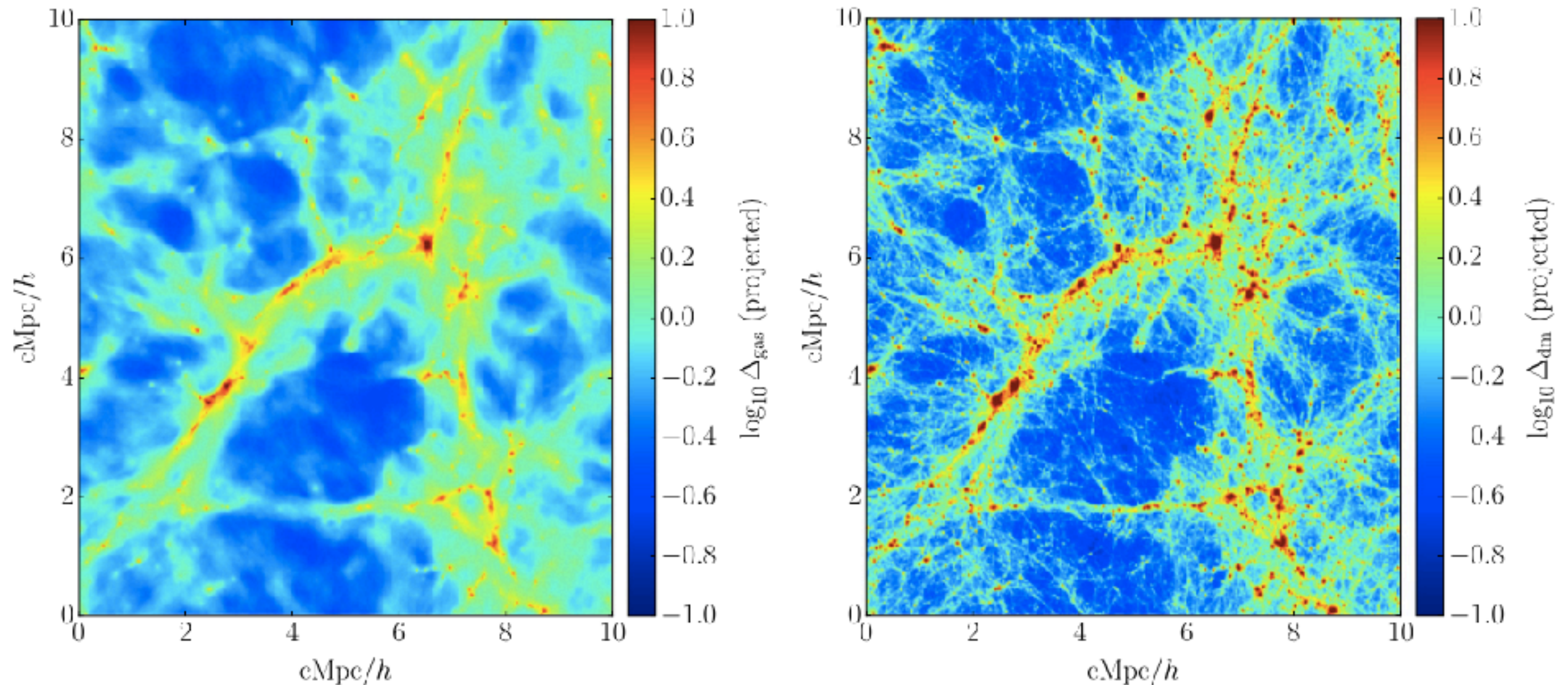
$m > 3 \text{ keV}$  (WDM) (95% CL)  
 $[m_s > 16 \text{ keV}]$   
 (Baur et al. 2015: SDSS III)

$\lambda_{FS} < 42 \text{ kpc}$   $M_{FS} < 3 \times 10^6 M_\odot$  (Abazajian & Koushiappas 2006)

# The Lyman- $\alpha$ Forest: Powerful & Challenging

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 812:30 (15pp), 2015 October 10

KULKARNI ET AL.



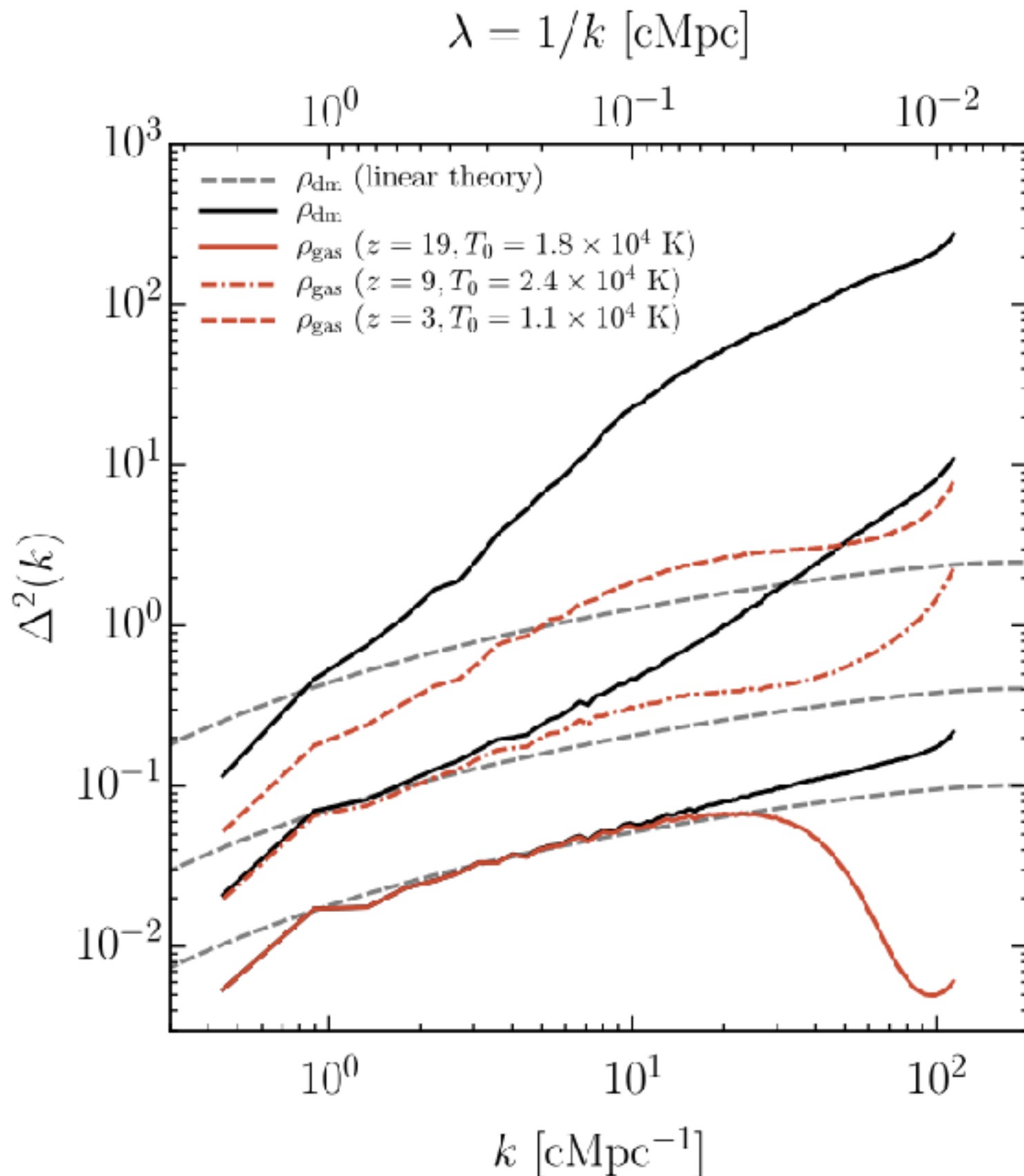
**Figure 1.** Projected density distributions of gas (left) and dark matter (right) at  $z = 3$  in our fiducial simulation, showing pressure smoothing of gas relative to dark matter. The density at each point is an average for a column approximately  $5 Mpc/h$  long.

Kulkarni et al. arXiv:1504.00366:

First hydro resolution simulation of pressure free streaming scale at high  $z$ .



# The Lyman- $\alpha$ Forest: Powerful & Challenging



Kulkarni+: “The structure of the IGM in hydrodynamical simulations is very different from linear theory expectations at redshifts probed by the Ly $\alpha$  forest.”... “the temperature–density relation should be augmented with a third pressure smoothing scale parameter  $\lambda_F$ ”

Oñorbe et al.  
arXiv:1703.08633:  
use Ly $\alpha$  to probe  
reionization (not DM)