

## Abstract

Dark matter (DM) is known to interact gravitationally. If it is ultralight then there will be unique macroscopic effects that may be probable in the same environments that we see the evidence for DM. I will discuss how ultralight DM can be fermionic, evading the Tremaine-Gunn bound, and the new relevant constraints including those from supermassive black holes.

# Light (Fermionic?) Dark Matter

Peter B. Denton

NuDM22

September 27, 2022

1904.09242 w/ Hooman Davoudiasl

2008.06505 w/ Hooman Davoudiasl and David McGady



# Outline

## Superradiance, M87\*, ultralight bosons, fuzzy DM

1. Superradiance probes the existence of ultralight bosons
2. M87\* provides constraints
3. Relevant for fuzzy DM

## Ultralight fermionic DM

1. Fermionic dark matter **can** be lighter than 100 eV
2. New limits arise from LHC, cosmic rays, black holes, ...
3. Strong gravity becomes important
4. How many species of particles are there?



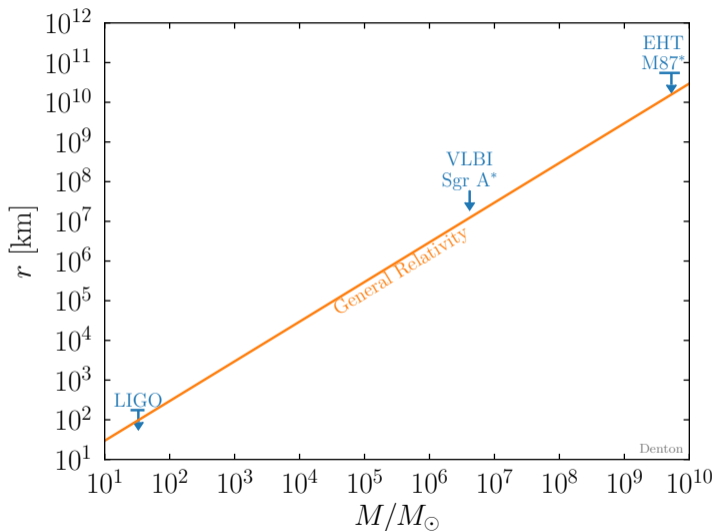
# Superradiance, M87\*, Fuzzy DM



Event Horizon Telescope: [ApJL 875 L1 \(2019\)](#)

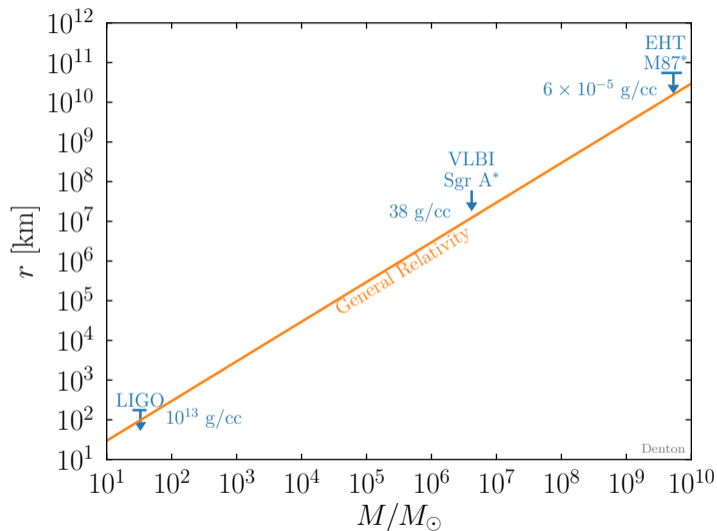
# What is this good for?

Black holes seem to follow  $r \propto M$  over a huge range of masses



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# Superradiance

Rotating BHs will create particles on-shell out of the vacuum:  
Extracts angular momentum

Y. Zeldovich JETP Lett. 14, 180 (1971)

Conceptually similar to Hawking and Unruh radiation

Phenomenologically:

BHs can constrain the *existence* of bosons, independent of coupling

A. Arvanitaki, et al. [0905.4720](#)

A cloud of particles forms around the BH  $\Rightarrow$  no fermions<sup>1</sup>

Care is needed for axions<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>See slide 16

<sup>2</sup>See slide 42



# Superradiance

Boson cloud growth rate:

$$\Gamma_0 = \frac{1}{24} a^* G^8 M^8 \mu_B^9, \quad \Gamma_1 = 4 a^* G^8 M^8 \mu_B^7$$

Leading to an occupation number after spinning down  $\Delta a^*$ :  
 $a^* \equiv J/GM^2 \in [-1, 1]$

$$N = GM\Delta a^*$$

Superradiance depletes the spin of a BH if:

$$e^{\Gamma_B \tau_{\text{BH}}} > N$$

$\tau_{\text{BH}} \sim$  time to spin the BH back up

Wavelength has to enter into the ergosphere:

$$\mu_B > \Omega_H$$

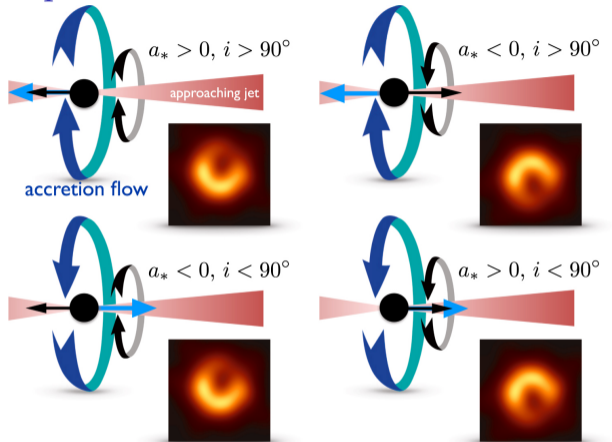
Angular velocity:

$$\Omega_H \equiv \frac{1}{2GM} \frac{a^*}{1 + \sqrt{1 - a^{*2}}}$$

Only include dominant  $m = 1$  spherical harmonic mode

M. Baryakhtar, R. Lasenby, M. Teo [1704.05081](#)

# Spin



EHT: [ApJL 875 L5 \(2019\)](#)

- ▶ EHT can infer the spin
- ▶ Some degeneracies with disk properties
- ▶ EHT (conservative):  $|a^*| \gtrsim 0.5$
- ▶ Circularity: No real power yet

C. Bambi, et al. [1904.12983](#)

- ▶ Twisted light:  $|a^*| = 0.9 \pm 0.05$  at 95%

F. Tamburini, B. Thidé, M. Valle [1904.07923](#)

rules out  $a^* = 0$  at  $6 \sigma$

If a BH with large  $|a^*|$  is measured, it could not have spun down much

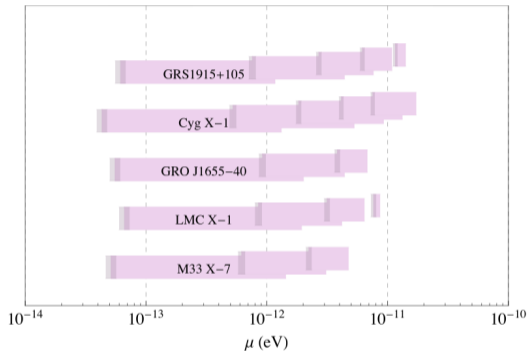
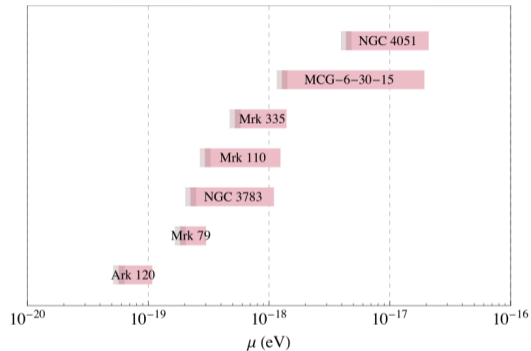
## Time scale

Astrophysics can spin the BH back up, possibly faster than superradiance

- ▶ From the Eddington limit,  $\tau_{\text{Salpeter}} \sim 4.5 \times 10^7$  yrs
- ▶ EHT:  $\dot{M}_{\text{M87}^*} / \dot{M}_{\text{Edd}} \sim 2 \times 10^{-5}$
- ▶ Mergers: one  $\sim 10^9$  yrs ago with a much smaller galaxy  
A. Longobardi, et al. [1504.04369](#)
- ▶  $\mu_B$  constraint has very weak dependence:  $\tau_{\text{BH}}^{-1/7}$  or  $\tau_{\text{BH}}^{-1/9}$

We take  $\tau_{\text{BH}} = 10^9$  yrs

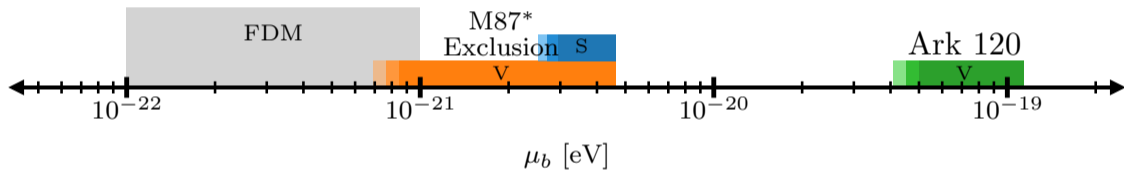
# Past ultra light boson constraints



Spin-1 constraints

M. Baryakhtar, R. Lasenby, M. Teo [1704.05081](#)

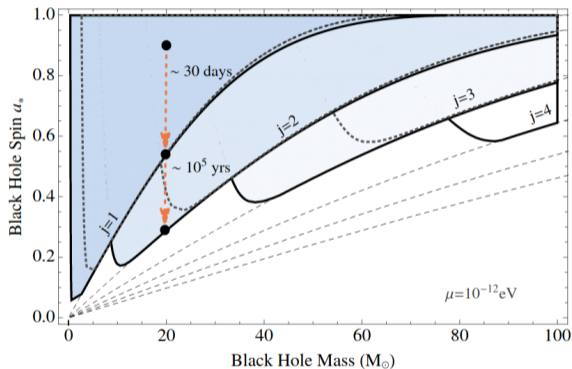
# New constraints from M87\*



Bosons with masses in the regions in color are ruled out.

# Superradiance Spin-down

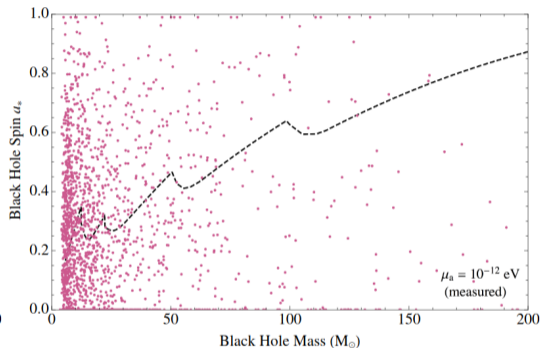
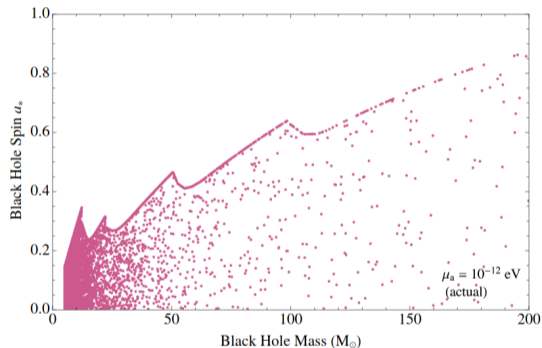
Different spherical harmonic modes leads to different maximum spins



Vector (scalar) in bold (dotted) for  $\mu_B = 10^{-12} \text{ eV}$

M. Baryakhtar, R. Lasenby, M. Teo [1704.05081](#)

# How to detect ultra light bosons with superradiance



Vector with  $\mu_B = 10^{-12}$  eV

$\sigma_{a^*} \sim 0.3, \sigma_M/M \sim 10\%$

M. Baryakhtar, R. Lasenby, M. Teo [1704.05081](#)

# Superradiance conclusions

- ▶ Superradiance is a powerful probe of ultralight bosons
- ▶ Constraints from M87\* relevant for fuzzy DM
- ▶ Discovering ultralight bosons is hard



# Ultralight Fermionic DM

# Dark matter: what we know

**Astrophysically/gravitationally:** lots

**Particle nature:**

- ▶ Coupling to SM/self? Could be zero (other than gravity)
- ▶ Heavier than  $\sim 100 M_{\odot}$  leads to tidal disruption effects
- ▶ Lighter than  $\sim 10^{-22}$  eV, at  $v \sim 10^{-3}$ , Compton wavelength is too big
  - ▶ Small scale structures weakly suggests  $\sim 10^{-22} - 10^{-21}$  eV
- ▶ Fermionic DM lighter than  $\sim 100$  eV can't be squeezed into a galaxy

S. Tremaine, J. Gunn [PRL 42, 407 \(1979\)](#)

# Light fermionic dark matter

Light fermionic dark matter  $m < 100$  eV can't be squeezed into galaxies

Two issues:

1. Getting light thermal population into low momentum states is difficult
2. Pauli exclusion principle

S. Tremaine, J. Gunn [PRL 42, 407 \(1979\)](#)

Focus on #2

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S. Tremaine, J. Gunn [PRL 42, 407 \(1979\)](#)

Focus on #2

Modern treatments find that the limit is

▶ 100 eV

C. Di Paolo, et al. [1704.06644](#)

▶ 190 eV ( $2\sigma$ )

D. Savchenko, A. Rudakovskiy [1903.01862](#)

▶ 130 eV ( $2\sigma$ )

J. Alvey, et al. [2010.03572](#)

# Evading Tremaine-Gunn

Dark matter could be composed of many different species

The correct bound on light fermionic DM:

$$N_F \gtrsim \left( \frac{100 \text{ eV}}{m} \right)^4$$

- ▶ One power: lighter DM requires more species
- ▶ Three powers: phase space

So 1 eV fermionic DM is possible if there are  $N_F \gtrsim 10^8$  species.

## “Model”

Different species can be degenerate:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -m \sum_{i=1}^{N_F} \bar{\chi}_i \chi_i$$

Perhaps  $SU(\sqrt{N_F})$  which leads to quasi-degenerate states:

$$\frac{m_i - m_j}{m_1} \sim \frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2} \log \frac{m_1}{\Lambda}$$

$m_1$  is the lightest mass

L. Randall, J. Scholtz, J. Unwin [1611.04590](#)

Perhaps Kaluza-Klein modes: Constraint is more complicated

# Extrapolation!

Let's extrapolate this as far as possible!

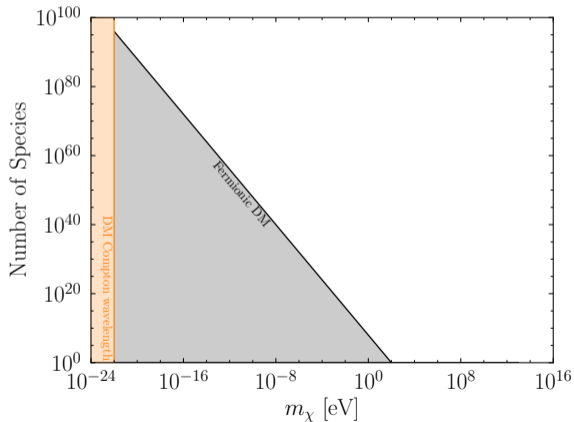
$$m \gtrsim 10^{-22} \text{ eV} \Rightarrow N_F \gtrsim 10^{96}$$

How many DM particles would there be in a galaxy in this case?

Dwarf spheroidals have  $\sim 10^{96}$  DM particles if  $m \sim 10^{-22}$  eV

Below this the fourth power scaling law drops to  $N_F \gtrsim \left(\frac{100 \text{ eV}}{m}\right)^4$

No more Pauli exclusion



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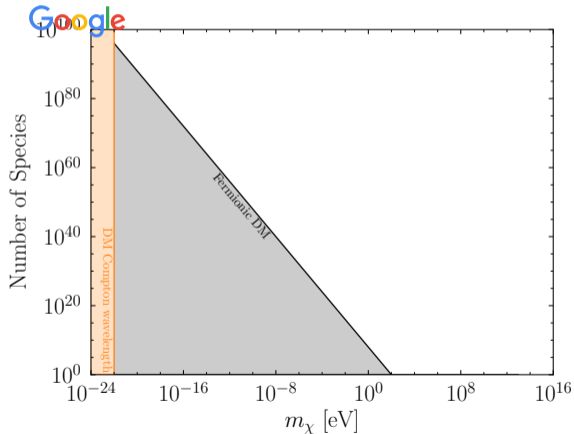
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# Too many species

Claim:

$10^{96}$  species is Too Many

SM has  $10^2$  species

From now it doesn't matter:

1. if the species are DM,
2. if they are fermions,
3. if their masses are degenerate

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Gravitational effects are suppressed by  $M_P$ , but enhanced by  $N$

$$\sum_i^N \sigma_i \sim N \frac{E^2}{M_P^4}$$

# Cosmic ray constraints

Highest energy collisions recorded are UHECRs

Telescope Array and the Pierre Auger Observatory see a suppression at  $10^{19.5}$  eV

O. Deligny for TA and Auger [2001.08811](#)

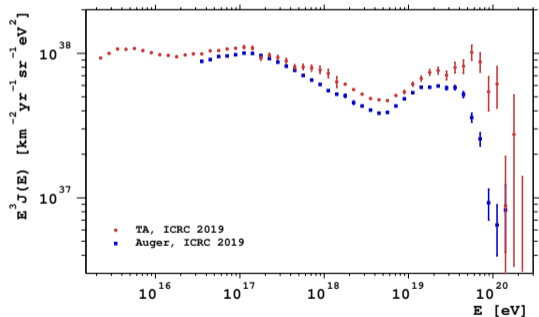
Could be photo-pion production (GZK)

K. Greisen [PRL 16, 748 \(1966\)](#)

G. Zatsepin, V. Kuzmin [JETP Lett. 4, 78 \(1966\)](#)

Could be end of sources

See e.g. R.A. Batista, et al. [1903.06714](#)

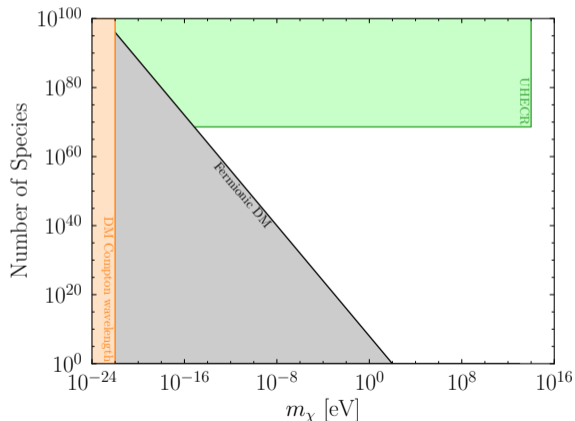


# Cosmic ray constraints

Can use cosmic rays to constrain large number of species

1. As  $N$  increases,  $BR(pp \rightarrow \chi\chi) \rightarrow 1$
2. Showers would be reconstructed at a lower energy
3. There would appear to be a suppression to the flux
4. No suppression is seen below  $E_{\text{LAB}} \sim 10^{19.5}$  eV ( $\sqrt{s} = 250$  TeV)

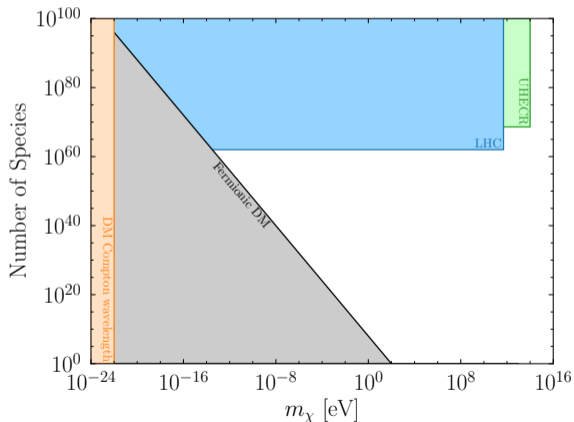
$$N \lesssim 4 \times 10^{68} \quad \text{for} \quad m \lesssim 100 \text{ TeV}$$



Lower energy, better precision

- ▶ Searches for monojets
  - ▶ Detected 245 events with  $E_T^{miss} > 1$  TeV
  - ▶ Expected  $238 \pm 23$ 
    - ▶ Mostly  $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$  with ISR or brem
- ATLAS 1711.03301
- ▶  $G \rightarrow \chi\chi$  looks the same
  - ▶ Include 3-body  $(4\pi)^{-3}$  factor

$$N \lesssim 10^{62} \quad \text{for} \quad m \lesssim 500 \text{ GeV}$$

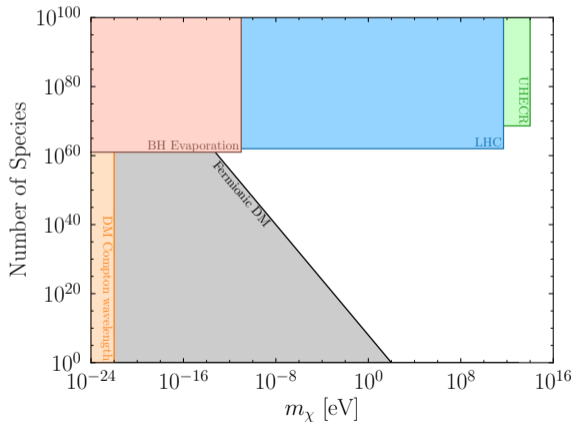


100 TeV will improve by  $\sim 2+$  orders of magnitude

# BH evaporation

- ▶  $t_{evap} \sim \frac{10^{67}}{N} \left( \frac{M_{BH}}{M_{\odot}} \right)^3 \text{ yr}$
- ▶ We assume that  $M_{BH} \sim 10M_{\odot}$  have been around for  $\sim 10^9 \text{ yr}$
- ▶  $10M_{\odot} \rightarrow T_{BH} \sim 10^{-11} \text{ eV}$

$$N \lesssim 10^{61} \quad \text{for} \quad m \lesssim 10^{-11} \text{ eV}$$



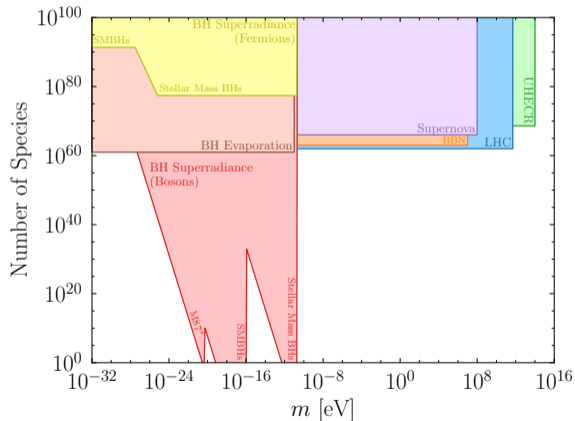
Fermionic DM can be as light as  $\sim 10^{-13}$  eV

Need  $\sim 10^{61}$  quasi-degenerate species

These constraints apply regardless of whether it is  
DM, fermionic, or quasi-degenerate

# General constraints on many species

- ▶ BBN: Can't overproduce dark particles
- ▶ SN: Cooling arguments
- ▶ Evaporation: BHs must survive to merge
- ▶ Superradiance: BHs can't spin down too much





# Neutrino oscillations

If neutrinos get mass via usual seesaw, can write down:

$$\xi_i H^* \bar{\ell} \chi_i$$

leads to oscillations

$$P(\nu_\ell \rightarrow \chi_i) \sim \frac{\xi_i^2 \langle H \rangle^2}{m_\nu^2} \sin^2 \left( \frac{m_\nu^2 L}{4E} \right)$$

Assume  $m_{\nu, \text{lightest}}$  is not too light

$$\langle H \rangle^2 / m_\nu^2 \sim 10^{24}$$

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Assume  $m_{\nu, \text{lightest}}$  is not too light

$$\langle H \rangle^2 / m_\nu^2 \sim 10^{24}$$

$$P(\nu_\ell \rightarrow \chi) \sim N_F P(\nu_\ell \rightarrow \chi_i) \lesssim 0.1$$

$$N_F \xi_i^2 \lesssim 10^{-25}$$

To be competitive with LHC, need  $\xi_i \gtrsim e^{-97}$   
Instanton effects should suppress by  $\sim e^{-100}$

L. Abbott, M. Wise [NPB 325, 687 \(1989\)](#)

R. Kallosh, et al. [hep-th/9502069](#)

P. Svrcek, E. Witten [hep-th/0605206](#)

H. Davoudiasl [2003.04908](#)

L. Hui, et al. [1610.08297](#)

# Nucleon decay

One can write down this operator

$$\mathcal{O} \sim \frac{udd\chi_i}{M_P^2}$$

$$\Gamma(p \rightarrow \pi^+ + \chi) \sim N_F \frac{m_p^5}{M_P^4}$$

$$N_F \lesssim 10^{12} \quad \text{for} \quad m \lesssim 100 \text{ MeV}$$

If there is an associated global  $U(1)$  charge, an instanton would suppress this rate by  $e^{-200} \sim 10^{87}$

# Strong gravity

Literature suggests that at  $N \sim 10^{32}$   
something happens with strong gravity at  
 $m \sim 1$  TeV

G. Dvali [0806.3801](#)

I. Antoniadis, et al. [hep-ph/9804398](#)

S. Adler [PRL 44, 1567 \(1980\)](#)

N. Arkani-Hamed, S. Dimopoulos, G. Dvali [hep-ph/9807344](#)

X. Calmet, S. Hsu, D. Reeb [0803.1836](#)

G. Dvali, M. Redi [0905.1709](#)

A. del Rio, R. Durrer, S. Patil [1808.09282](#)

$N \sim 10^{32}$  species with  $m \lesssim 1$  TeV may pull  
 $M_P$  to electroweak

According to Dvali or Adler:

$$G^{-1}(\mu) \sim G^{-1}(0) - Nm^2 \log \frac{\mu^2}{m^2}$$

$$G^{-1}(0) = M_P^2$$

This leads to

$$m\sqrt{N} \lesssim M_P$$

Calmet:

$$G^{-1}(\mu) \sim G^{-1}(0) - \frac{N\mu^2}{12\pi}$$

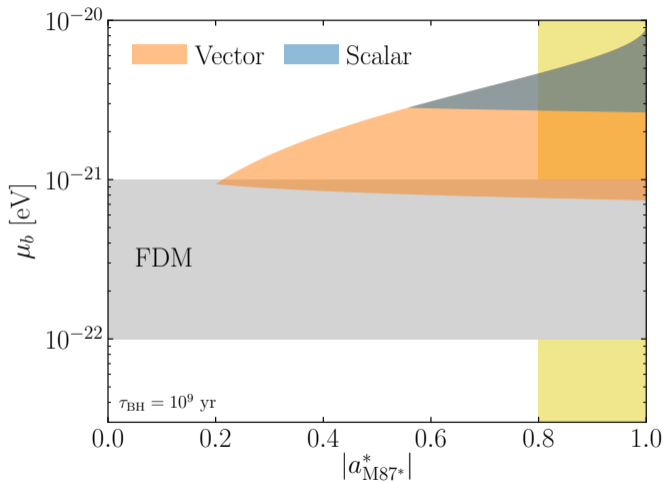
## Fermionic dark matter conclusions

- ▶ The “number of species” axis for DM is interesting
- ▶ Fermionic DM can be as light as  $10^{-13}$  eV with key constraints from BH lifetimes and the LHC
- ▶ Many similar constraints on the number of species from cosmic rays, LHC, BH lifetimes, BBN, and SNe
- ▶ More work to be done on this topic in many directions: pheno and theory

Thanks!

# Backups

# Spin dependence

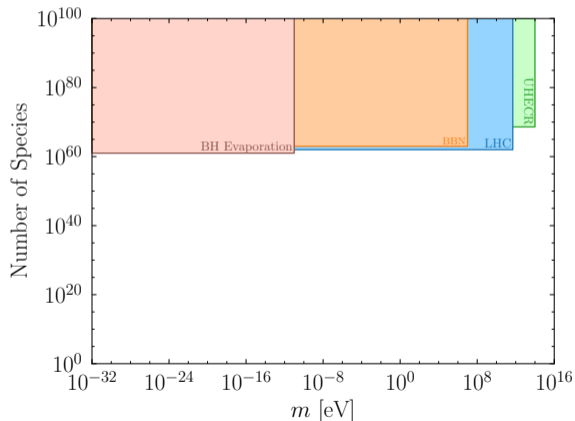




## Low energies but high densities

- ▶ New states populated via gravity in the early universe
- ▶ Don't want  $\rho_\chi \gtrsim \rho_\gamma$
- ▶  $\rho_\chi/\rho_\gamma \sim NT^3/M_P^3$
- ▶ Implies a maximum reheat temperature
- ▶ BBN requires  $T_{rh} \gtrsim 10$  MeV

$$N \lesssim 10^{63} \quad \text{for} \quad m \lesssim 10 \text{ MeV}$$

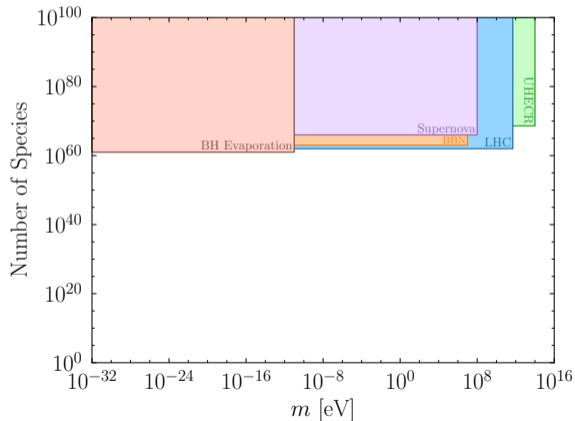


# Supernovae

Low energies but high densities and more measurements

- ▶ Neutrino production  $\sigma_\nu \sim E^2 G_F^2$
- ▶ Dark sector production  $\sigma_\chi \sim N E^2 / M_P^4$
- ▶ Can't have a significant amount of energy to dark sector
- ▶  $N \lesssim G_F^2 M_P^4$

$$N \lesssim 10^{66} \quad \text{for} \quad m \lesssim 100 \text{ MeV}$$



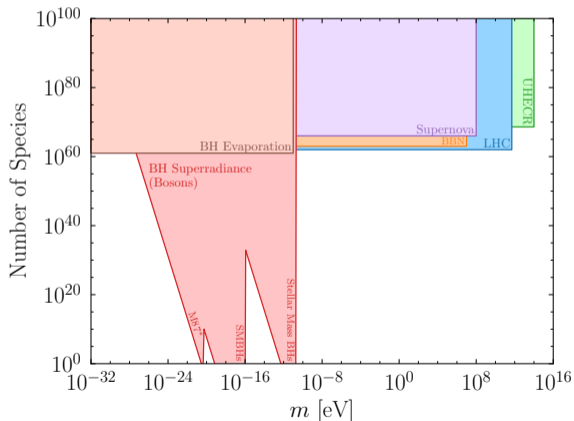
# Superradiance with bosons

Narrow applicability range, apply down to  $N_B = 1$  for bosons

- ▶ Power law for small masses  $m^{-9}$
- ▶ Exponential for large masses
- ▶ Conservatively take constraints on  $S = 0$
- ▶ Different regions are distinct constraints

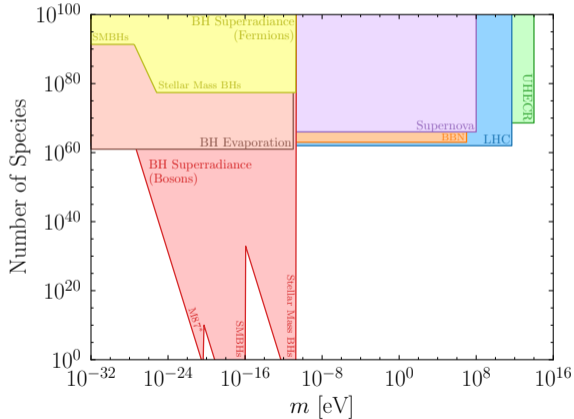
H. Davoudiasl, [PBD 1904.09242](#)

M. Baryakhtar, R. Lasenby, M. Teo [1704.05081](#)



# Superradiance with fermions

- ▶ Power law for small masses  $m^{-6}$
- ▶ Exponential for large masses
- ▶ Conservatively take constraints on  $S = \frac{1}{2}$
- ▶ Different regions are distinct constraints
- ▶ If  $N_F \lesssim$  cloud occupation number, superradiance stops
  - ▶ Occupation number  $\sim 10^{77}$  for stellar mass BH



# Superradiance combinatorics

Assumed that generating  $N_F$  particles out of  $N_F$  species yields  $N_F$  distinct species

Just because a large number of particles spanning a large number of species are produced doesn't mean that they are actually different

The expected number of distinct species is

$$N_F \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{N_F - 1}{N_F} \right)^{N_F} \right] \rightarrow N_F \left( 1 - \frac{1}{e} \right) \approx 0.63 N_F$$

Less than factor of two  $\Rightarrow$  we're good

## Strong gravity: deviations

A running in  $G$  would lead to variations in gravity on different scales

$$\frac{\delta G}{G} \lesssim 10^{-9} \quad \text{for} \quad \ell \gtrsim 10^3 \text{ km} \rightarrow 10^{-13} \text{ eV}$$

P. Fayet [1712.00856](#)

S. Schlamminger, et al. [0712.0607](#)

This is not as strong as the  $10^{32}$  arguments

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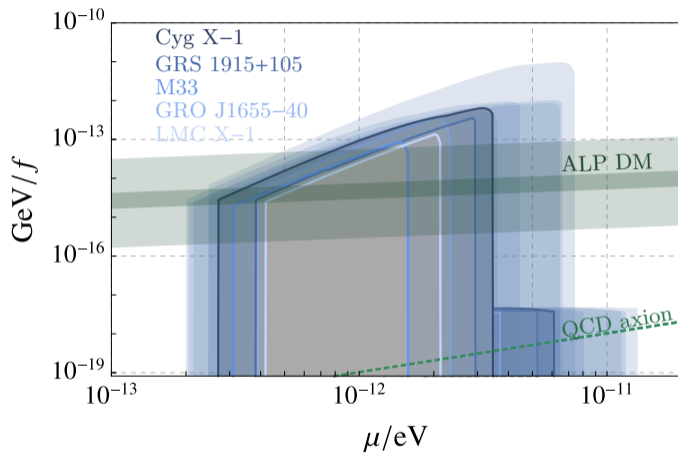
At  $N \sim 10^{60}$  and  $m \sim 10^{-3}$  eV consistent with theory arguments on previous slide

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\delta G}{G} \sim 10^{-2} \quad \text{for} \quad \ell \sim 0.1 \text{ mm}$$

Close to current constraints

J. Lee, et al. [2002.11761](#)

# Superradiance constraints with interactions



M. Baryakhtar, et al. [2011.11646](#)