

# Constraining Atomic Dark Matter with the high-redshift UV Luminosity Function

Jared Barron

Based on work w/ David Curtin, Mariangela Lisanti, Hongwan Liu,  
Julian Muñoz, Sandip Roy

August 29, 2024

# Motivations

## Observational

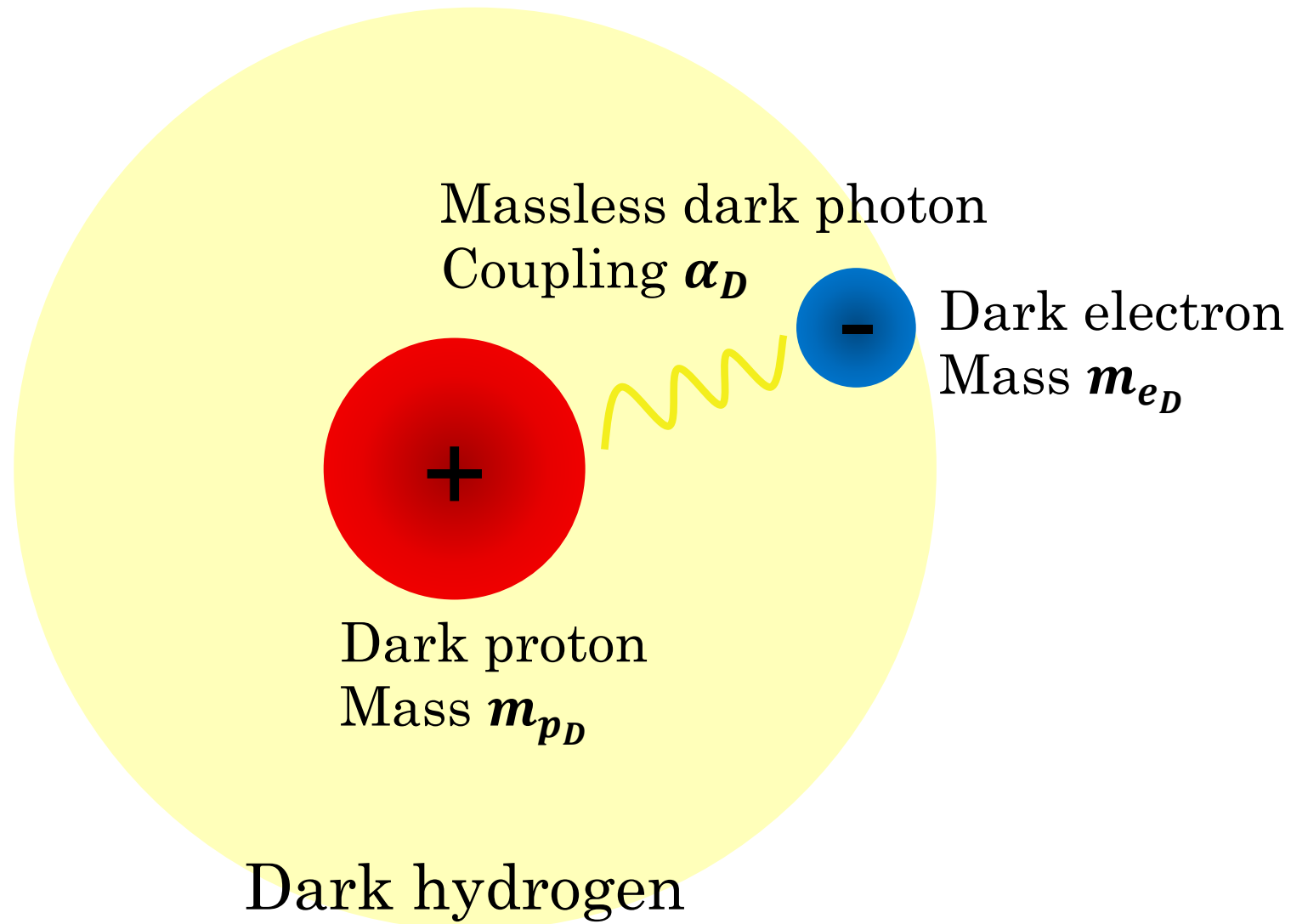
- “Small-scale crises” like diversity problem.
- $H_0$  and  $S_8$  tensions.
- Dark sector interactions with dark radiation could address these?

## Theoretical

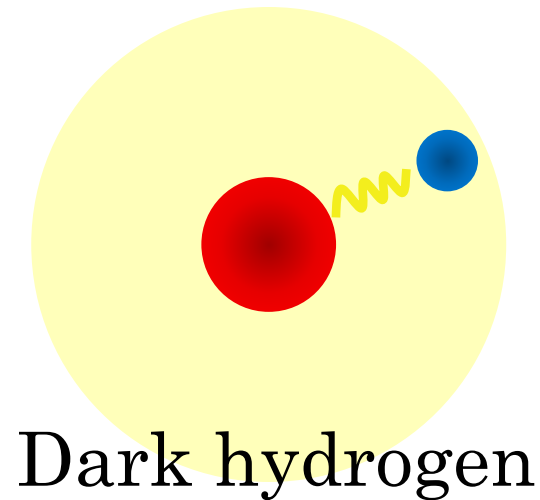
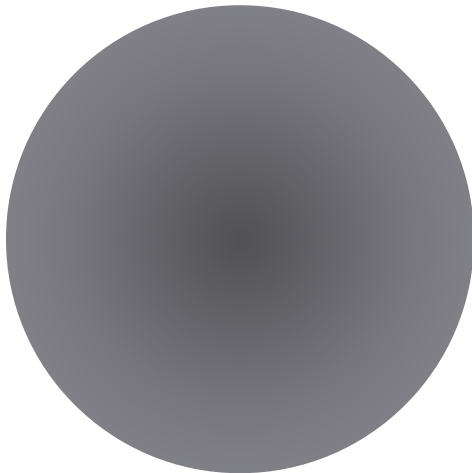
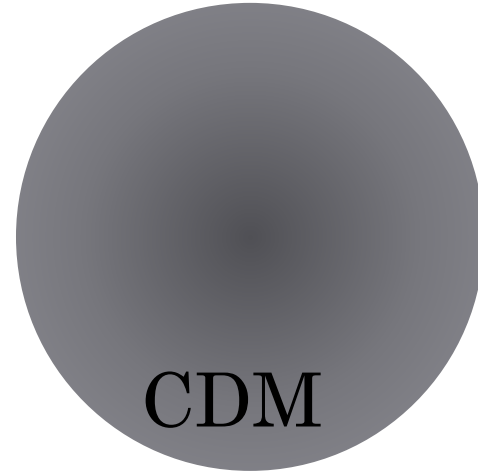
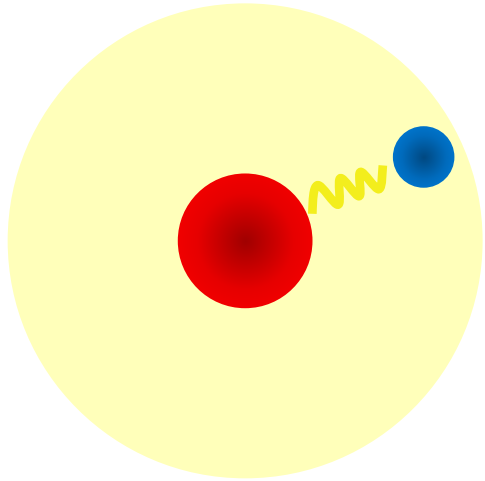
- Hierarchy problem: why is the Higgs boson so light?
- “Neutral naturalness” solutions introduce hidden sector particles.
- Typical example: Twin Higgs.
- Relic abundance of twin protons, electrons, and photons could form a component of dark matter.

(Alonso-Alvarez, Curtin, Rasovic, Yuan 2023)

# Atomic Dark Matter



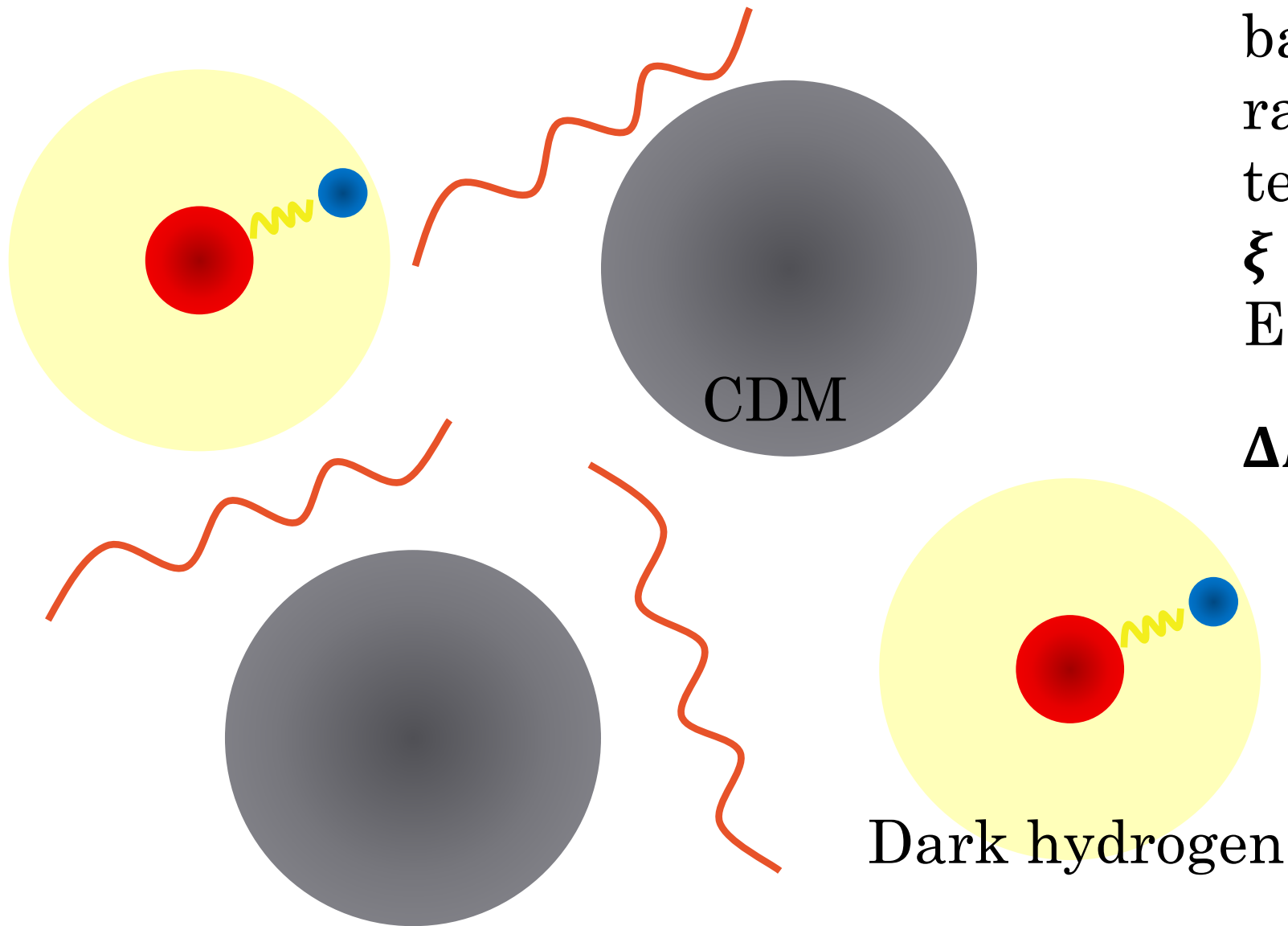
# Atomic Dark Matter



Fraction of  
total dark  
matter density

$$f_D \equiv \frac{\Omega_{aDM}}{\Omega_{DM}} \leq 1$$

# Atomic Dark Matter



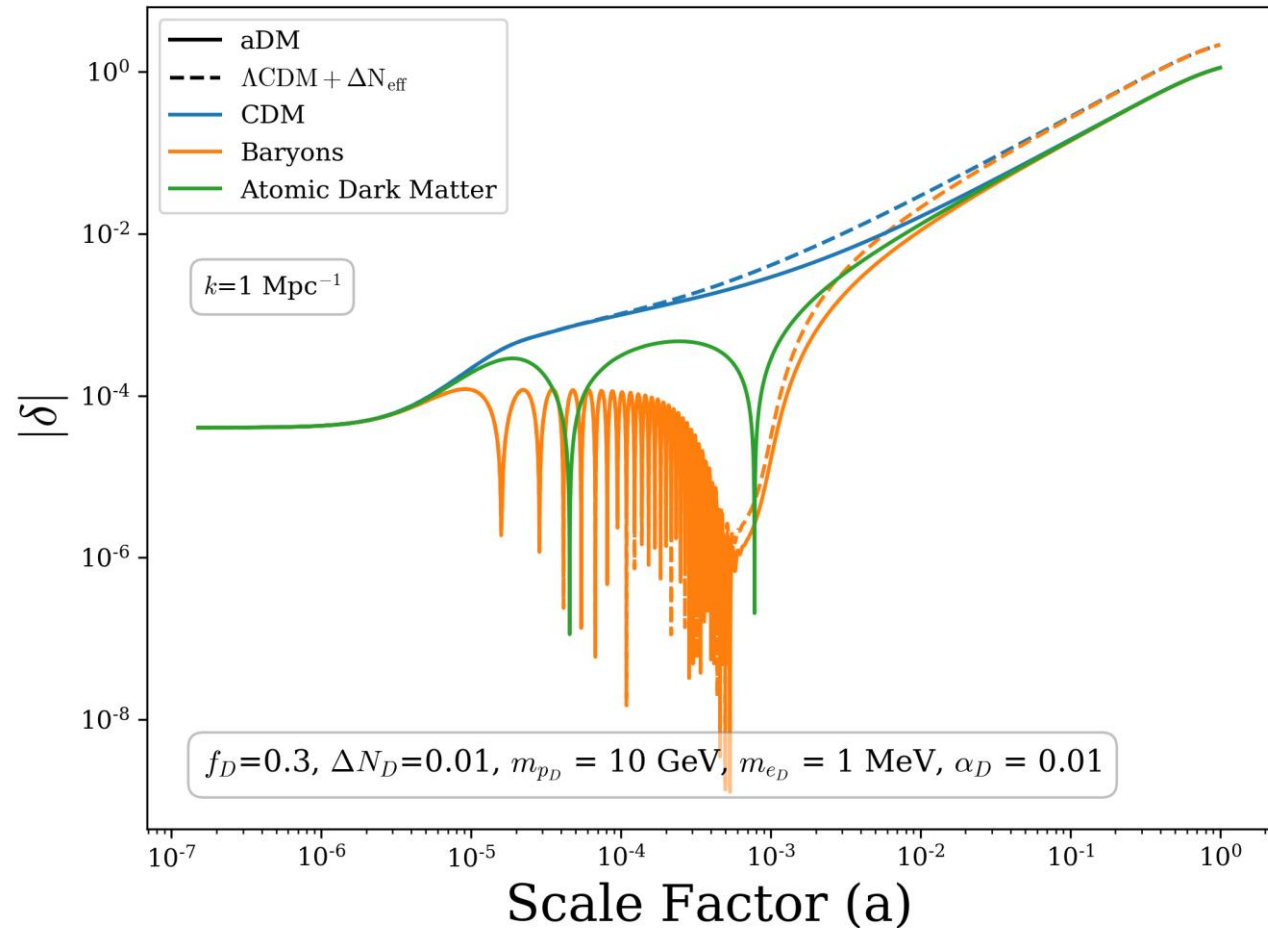
Dark photon  
background  
radiation with  
temperature ratio  
 $\xi \equiv T_D/T_{SM}$ .  
Equivalently,

$$\Delta N_D \equiv \left(\frac{8}{7}\right) \left(\frac{11}{4}\right)^{\frac{4}{3}} \xi^4$$

# Cosmology of Atomic Dark Matter

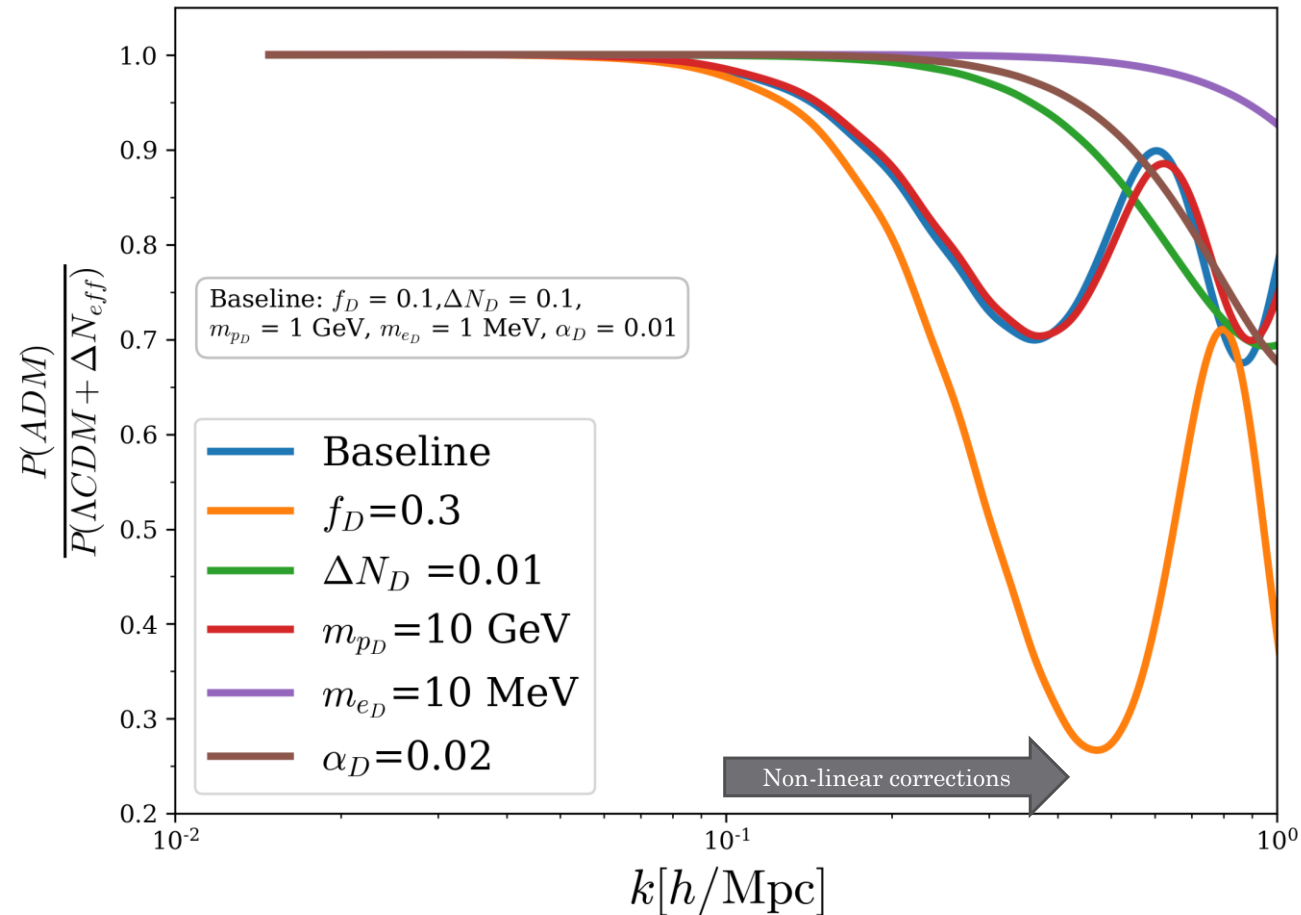
- Early universe: plasma of dark photons, protons, electrons.
- Dark acoustic oscillations (DAOs) due to dark photon pressure support.
- DAOs end when dark hydrogen recombines and decouples from dark CMB.
- Dark sound horizon

$$r_{\text{DAO}} \sim \frac{2\pi}{k_{\text{DAO}}}$$



# Matter Power Spectrum

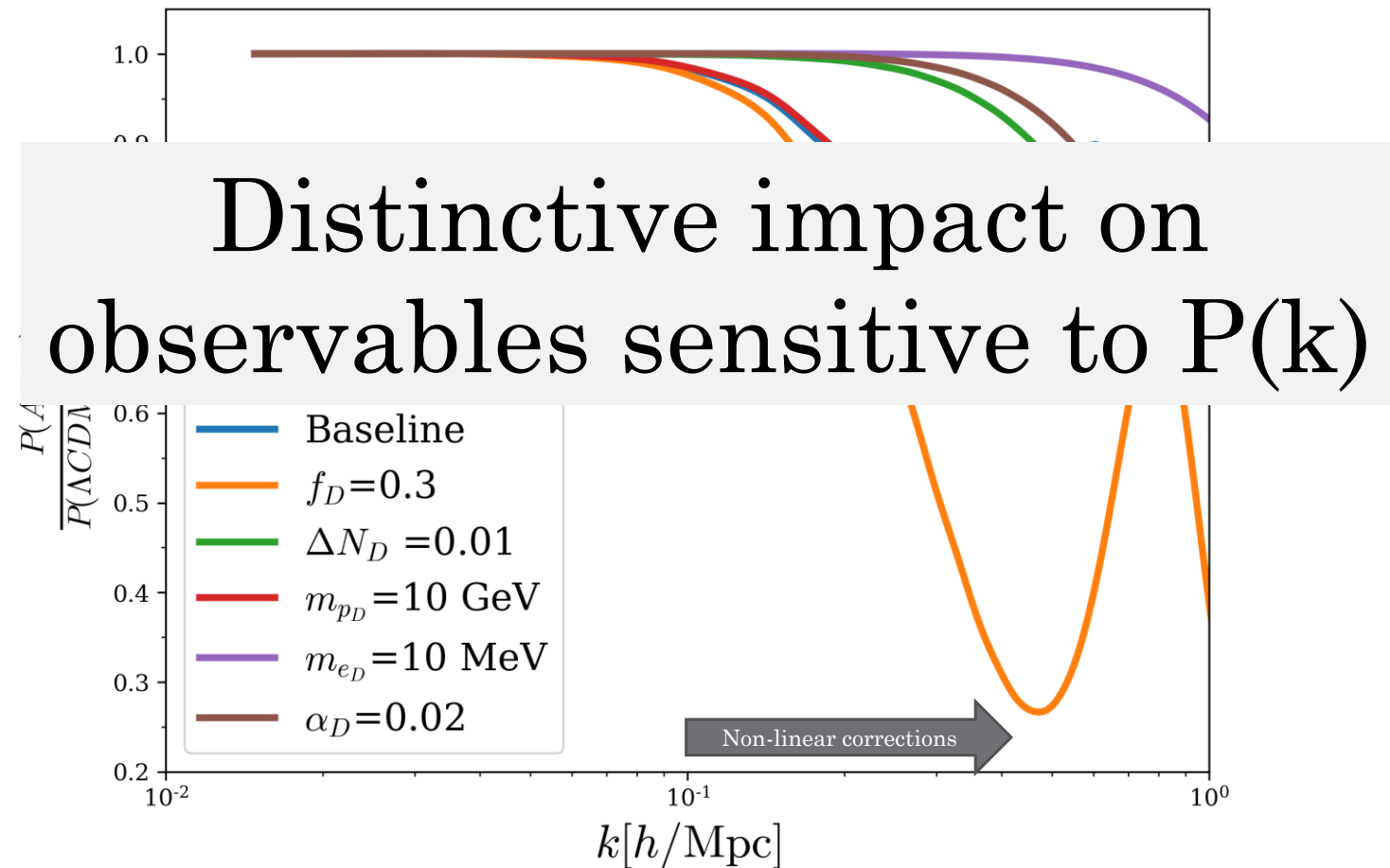
Suppression and oscillations for  $k$  that enter horizon before dark decoupling,  $k > k_{\text{DAO}}$ .



Matter power spectrum relative to  $\Lambda\text{CDM} + \Delta N_{\text{eff}}$

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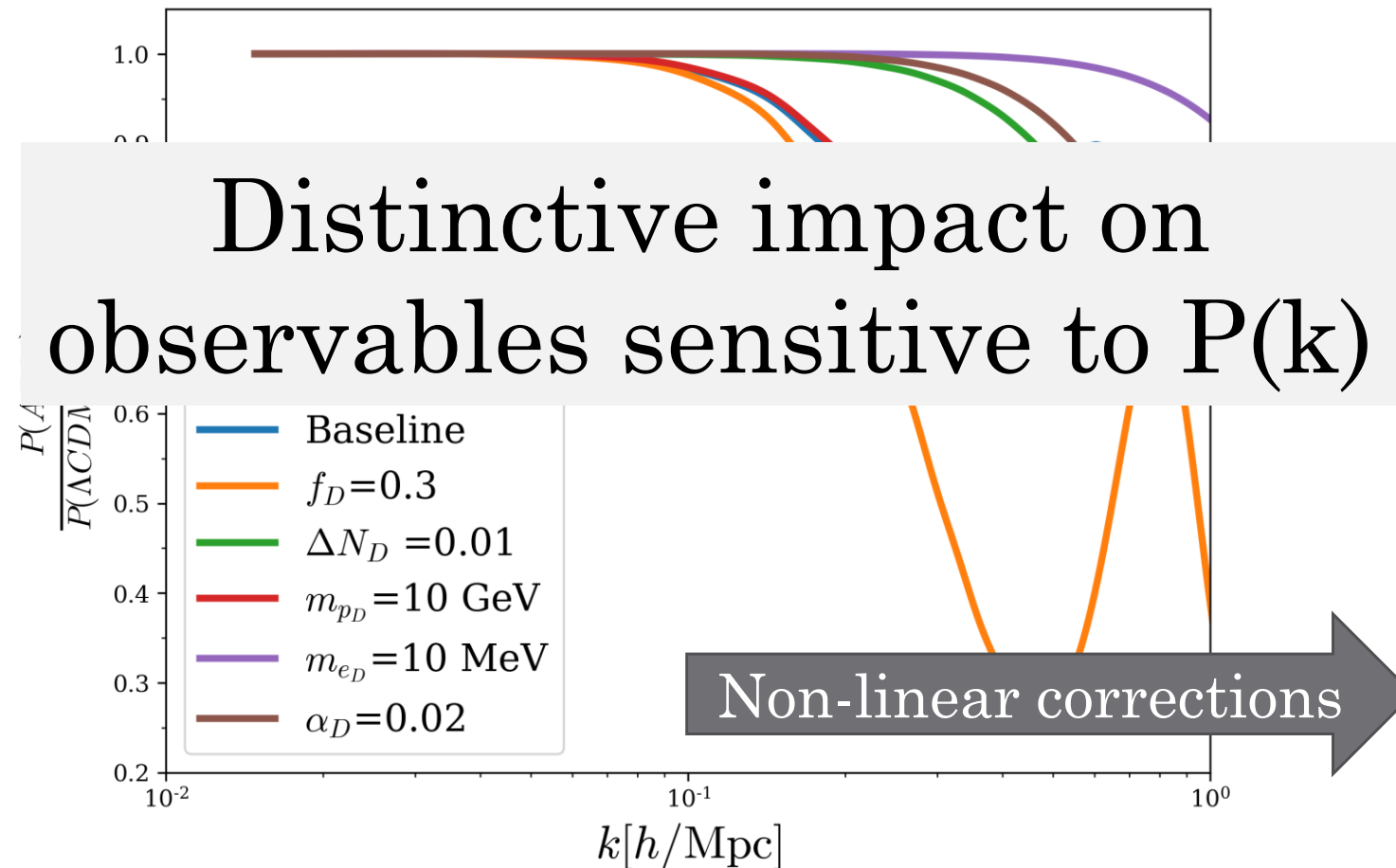


Matter power spectrum relative to  $\Lambda\text{CDM} + \Delta N_{\text{eff}}$



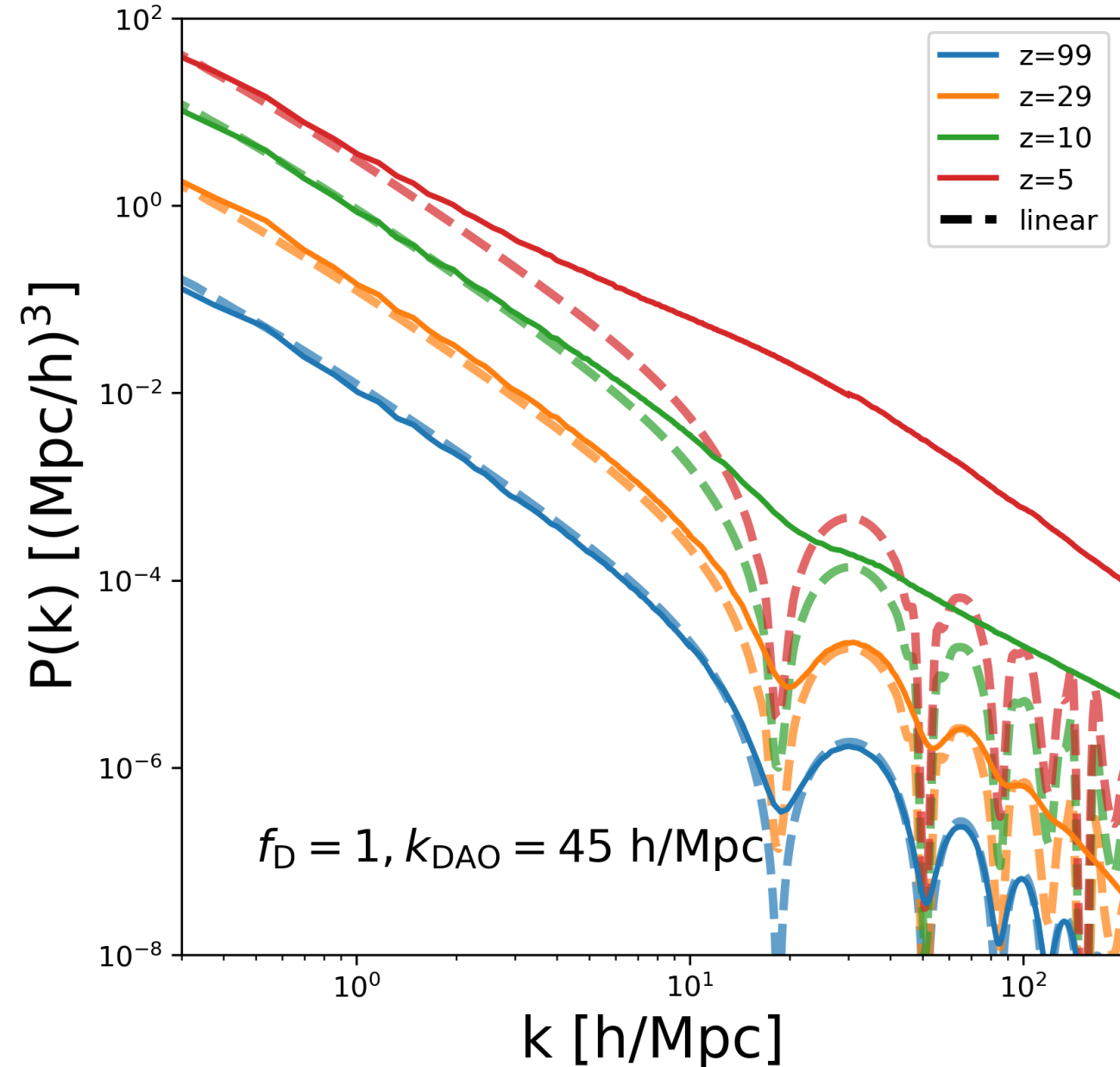
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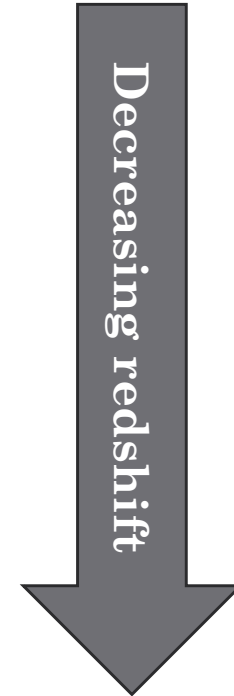
# Non-linear evolution



- n-body simulations required to compute non-linear evolution. (Roy et al, 2304.09878)
- DAOs are washed out at low redshifts.
- Power transferred from large to small scales.
- High redshift observables may retain more information about DAOs.

# Probing the dark sector with measurements of structure

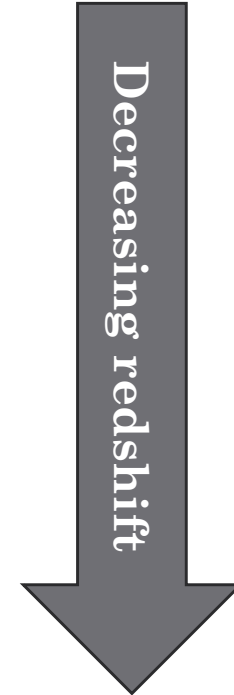
- **CMB** (Cyr-Racine and Sigurdson 2013, Bansal, JB, Curtin, Tsai 2023)
- 21-cm cosmology
- High-redshift UV luminosity function
- Lyman- $\alpha$  forest
- Cosmic shear
- And more (especially on galactic scales)



# Probing the dark sector with measurements of structure

- CMB

- 21-cm cosmology
- High-redshift UV luminosity function
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**Require n-body simulations**

# Probing the dark sector with measurements of structure

- CMB

- **21-cm cosmology** This talk

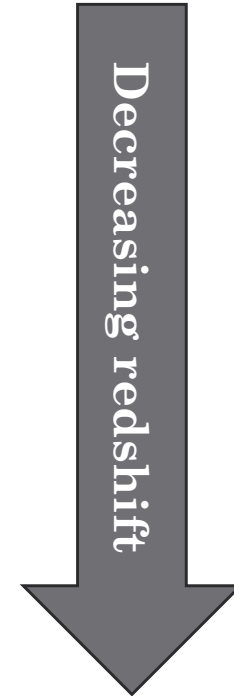
- **High-redshift UV luminosity function**

- **Lyman- $\alpha$  forest** cf. Caleb's talk

- **Cosmic shear**

- **And more (especially on galactic scales)**

cf. Sandip's talk

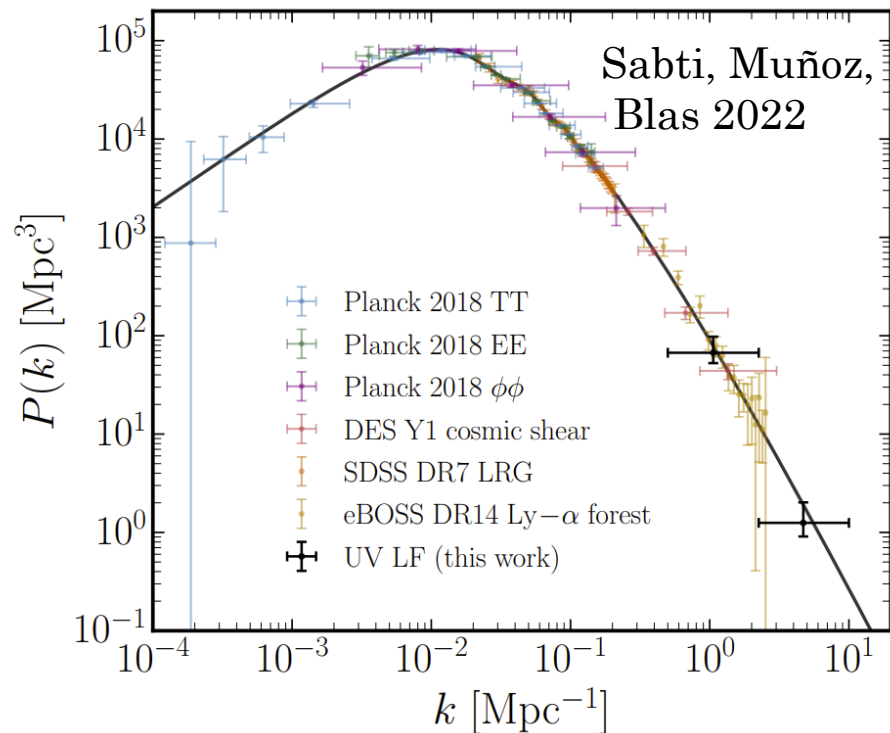


**Require n-body simulations**

# Probing structure with the UVLF

$$\Phi_{UV} = \frac{dn}{dM_h} \times \frac{dM_h}{dM_{UV}}$$

Halo mass function      Halo-galaxy connection

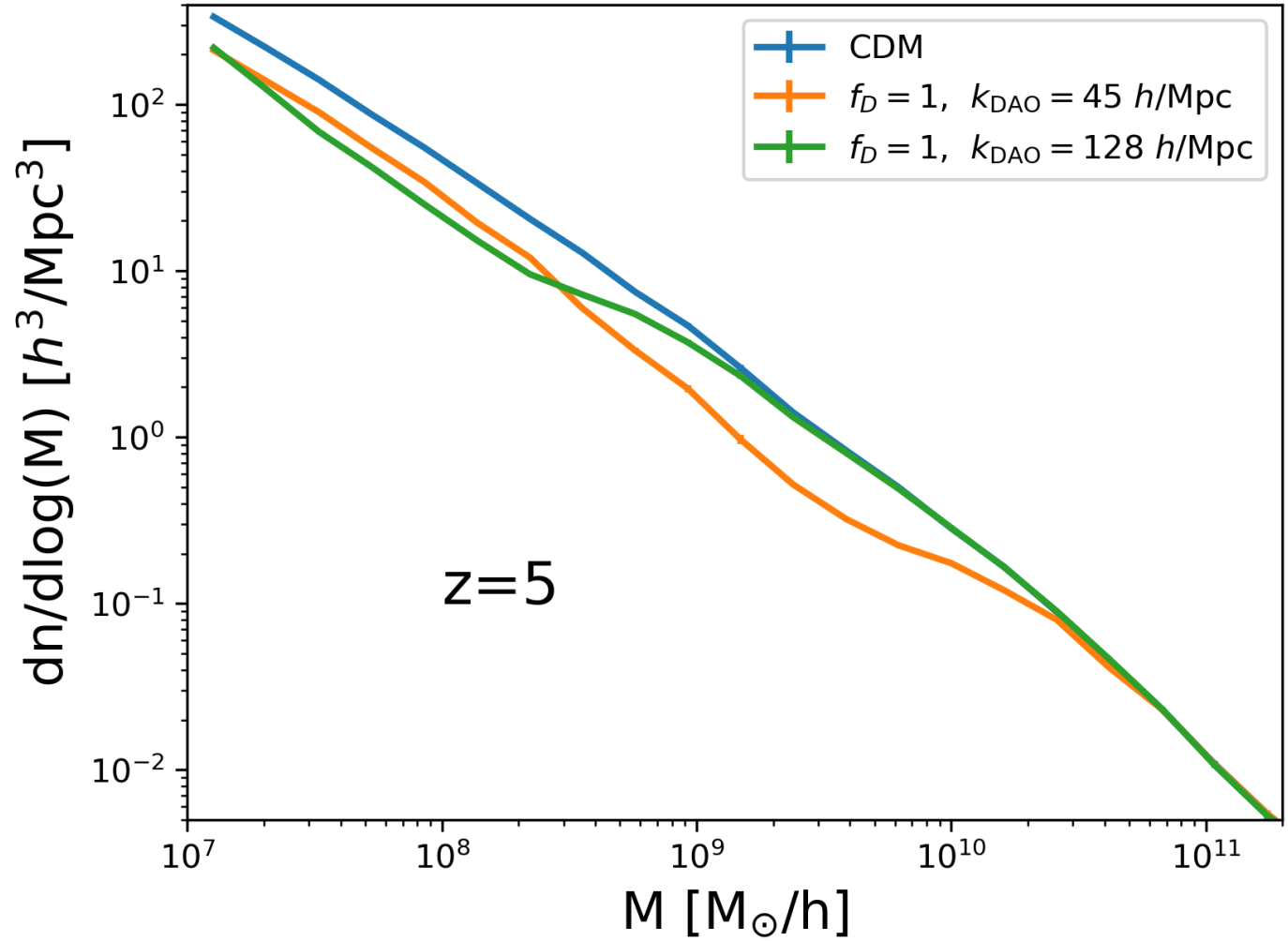


- Halo mass function depends on cosmology – extract from simulation.
- Halo-galaxy connection depends on astrophysics, stellar formation – use Zeus21 code.
- Using HST observations at  $z=4-10$ , matter power spectrum has been constrained for  $k \sim 1 - 10$  h/Mpc.
- New JWST observations measure the UVLF at  $z > 10$ .

# Halo Mass Function

- HMF from simulation.
- Suppression relative to CDM at low halo mass.
- Suppression goes away as  $f_D \rightarrow 0$  and pushed to smaller  $M$  as  $k_{\text{DAO}}$  increases.
- HMF from simulation can be used to calibrate Extended Press-Schechter formalism for power spectrum with DAOs.

(Bohr, Zavala, Cyr-Racine, Vogelsberger 2021)

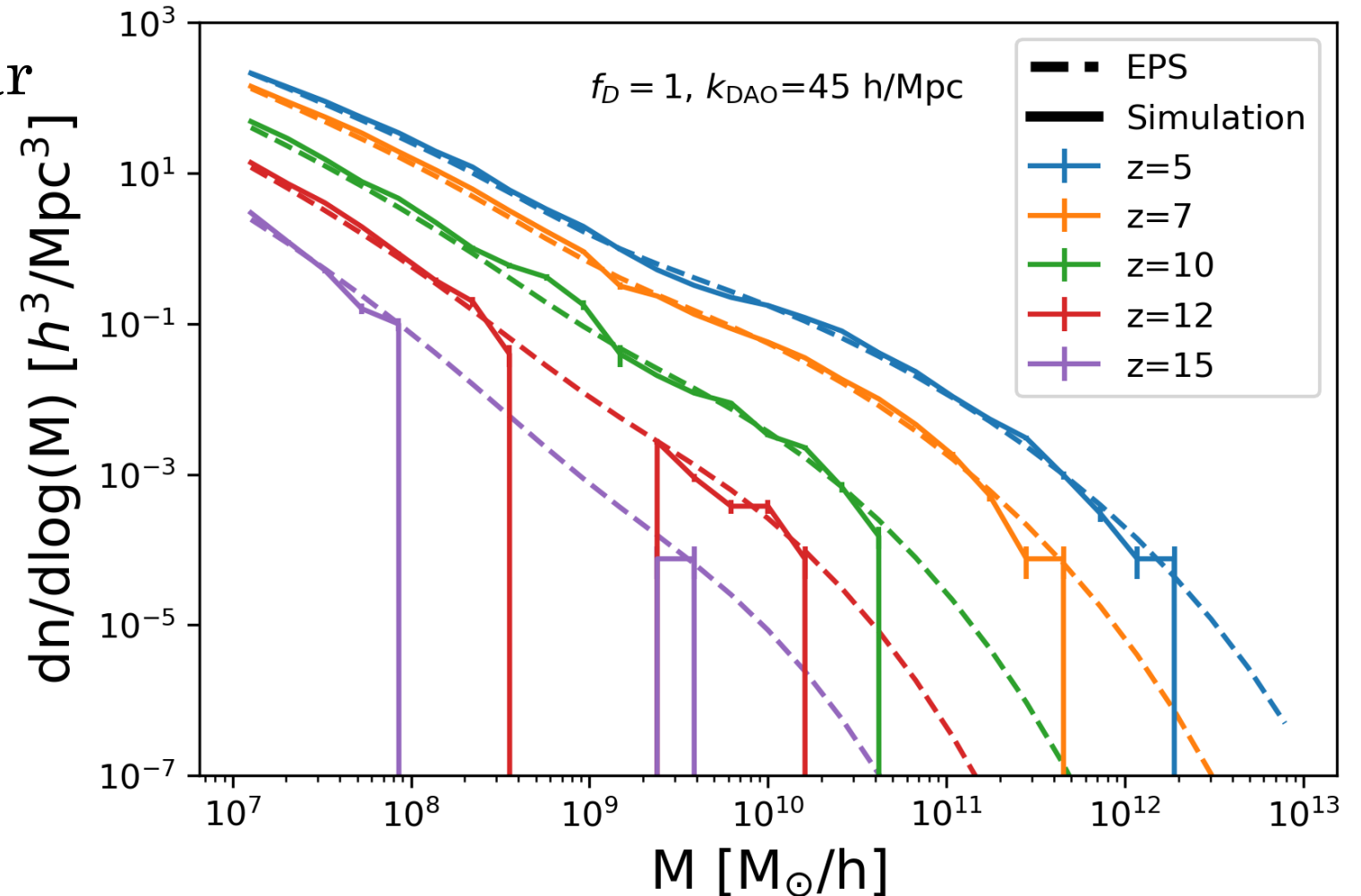


# Semi-analytic HMF

$$\tilde{W}_R^{\text{smooth}}(k) = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{kR}{c_W}\right)^\beta},$$

$$f(v) = A \sqrt{\frac{2qv}{\pi}} (1 + (qv)^{-P}) \exp\left(-\frac{qv}{2}\right)$$

- Use extended Press-Schechter formalism to model HMF given linear power spectrum.
- Fit parameters to simulations across redshift and  $\Lambda$ CDM parameter space.
- Obtain semi-analytic HMF, much faster to evaluate than running simulation.





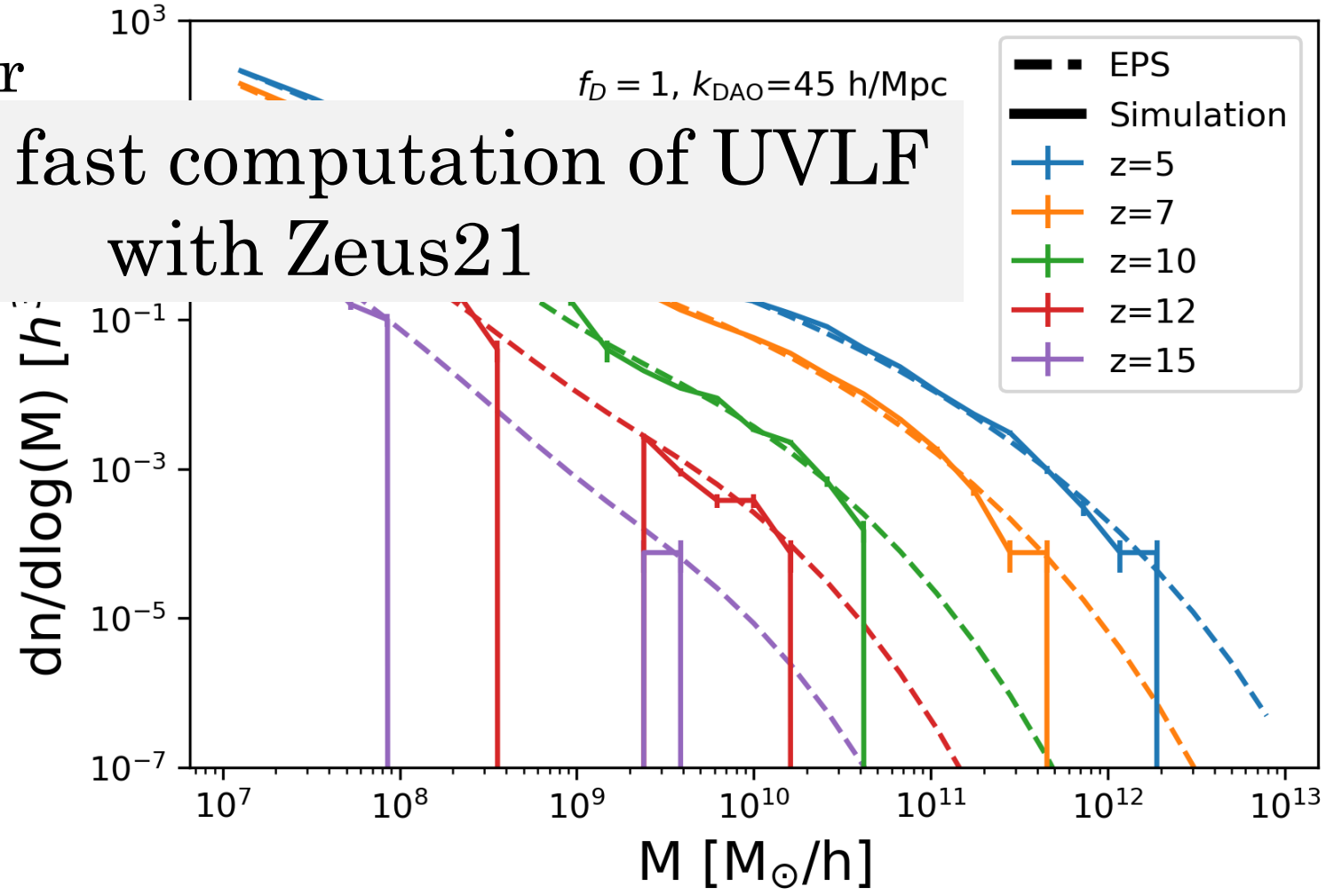
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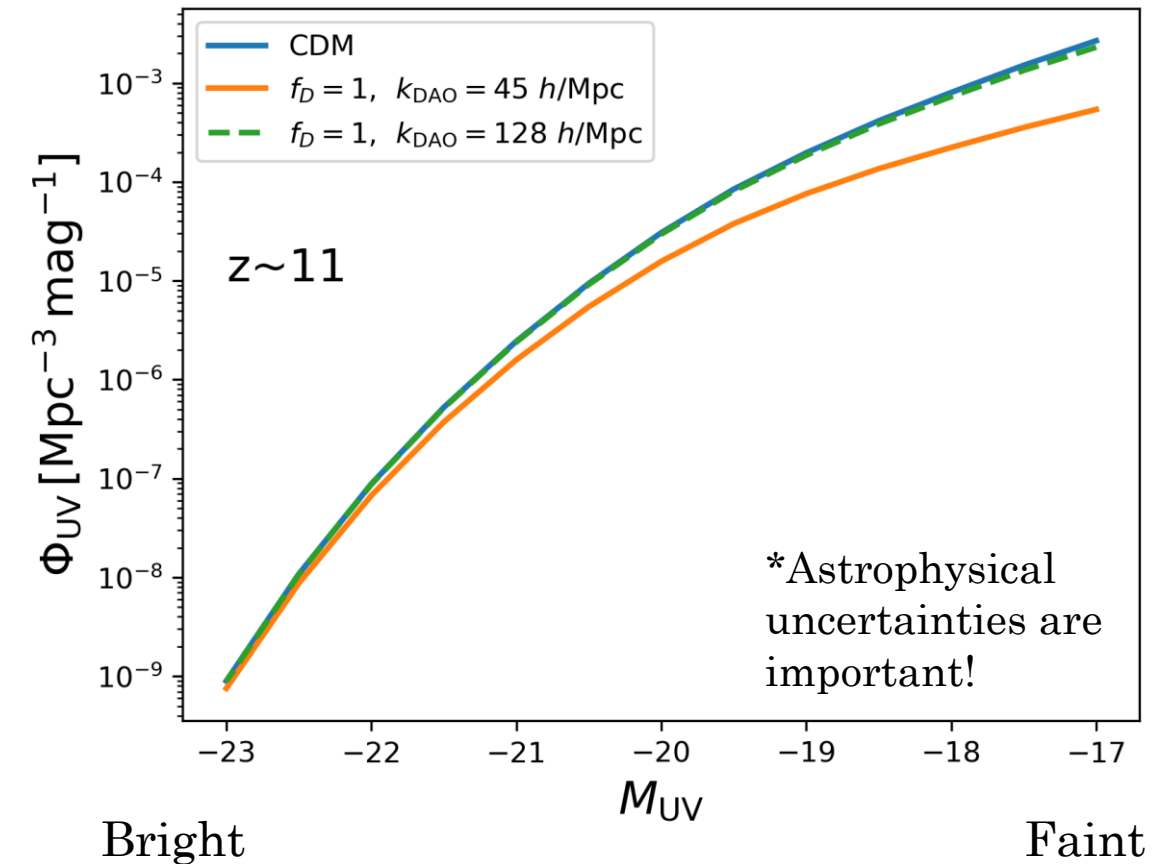
- Use extended Press-Schechter formalism to model HMF given linear power spectrum
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Enables fast computation of UVLF with Zeus21

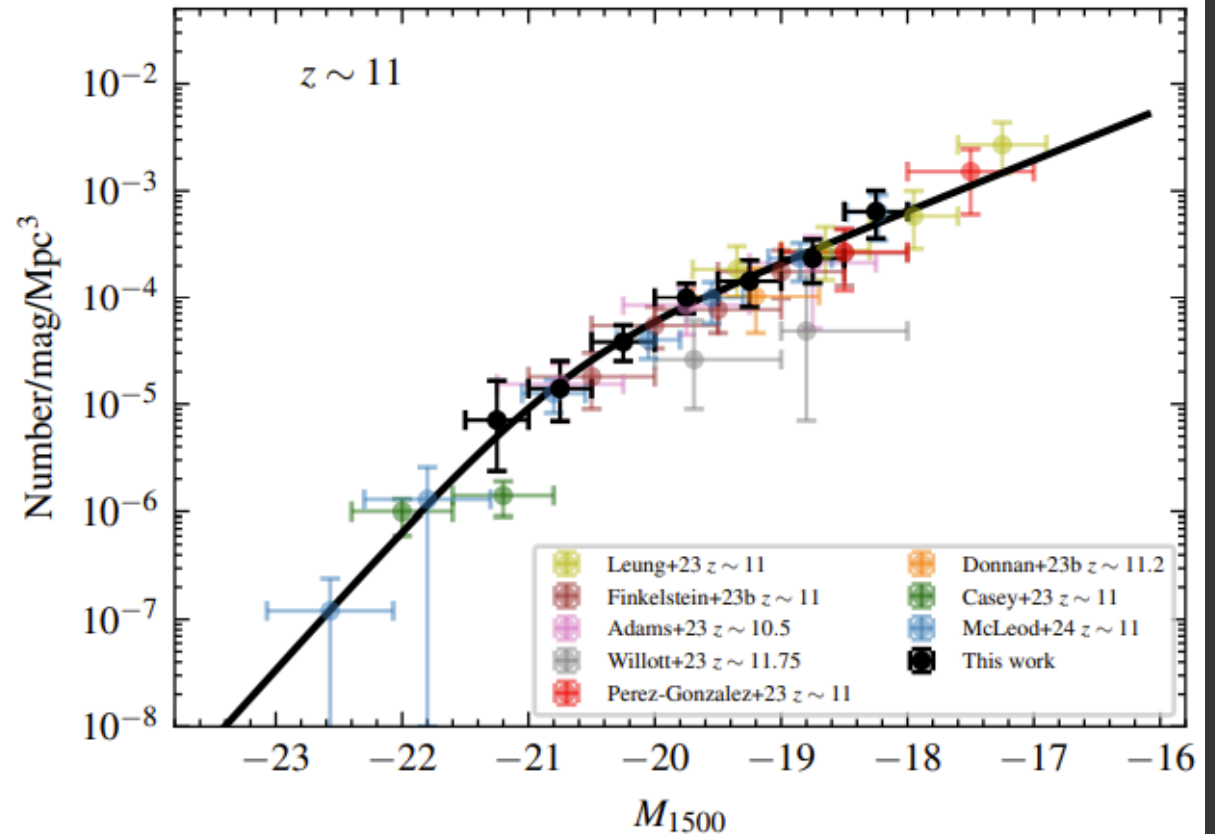


# UV Luminosity Function

UVLF prediction from Press-Schechter HMF



New JWST observations

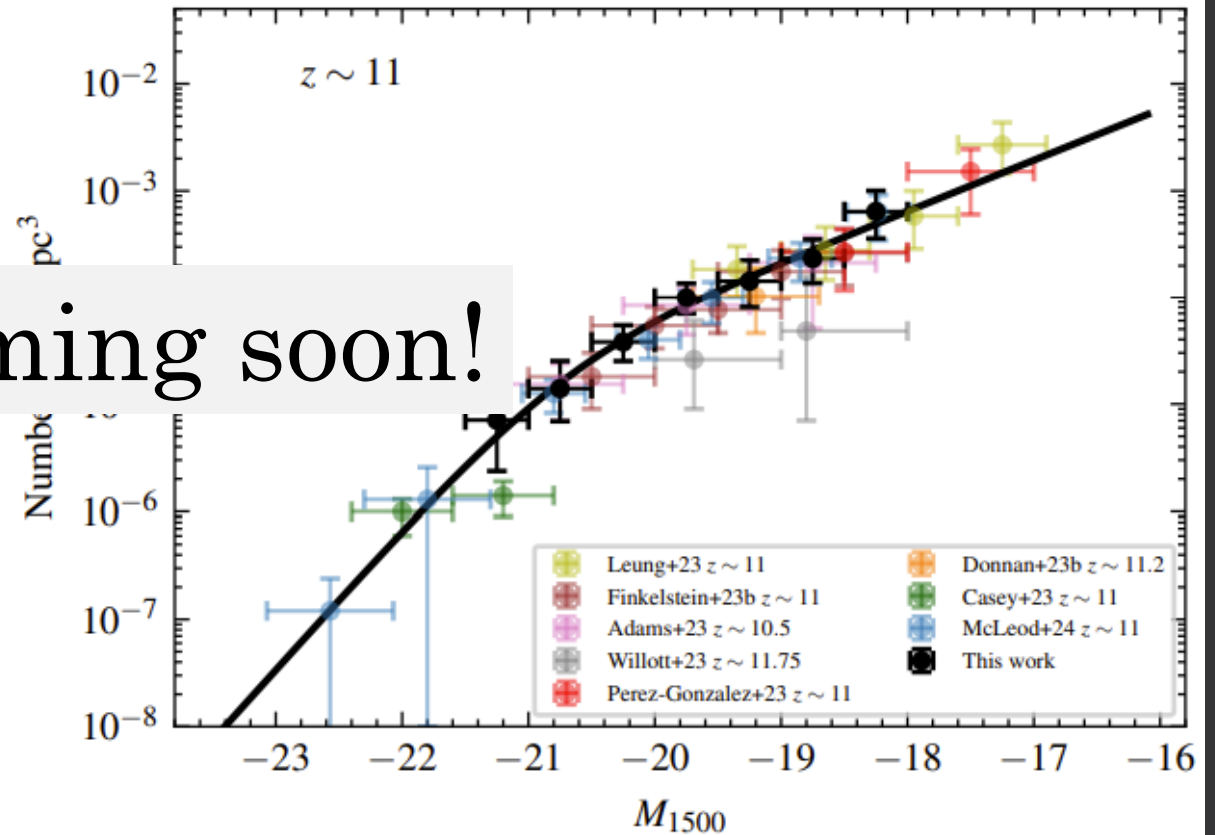
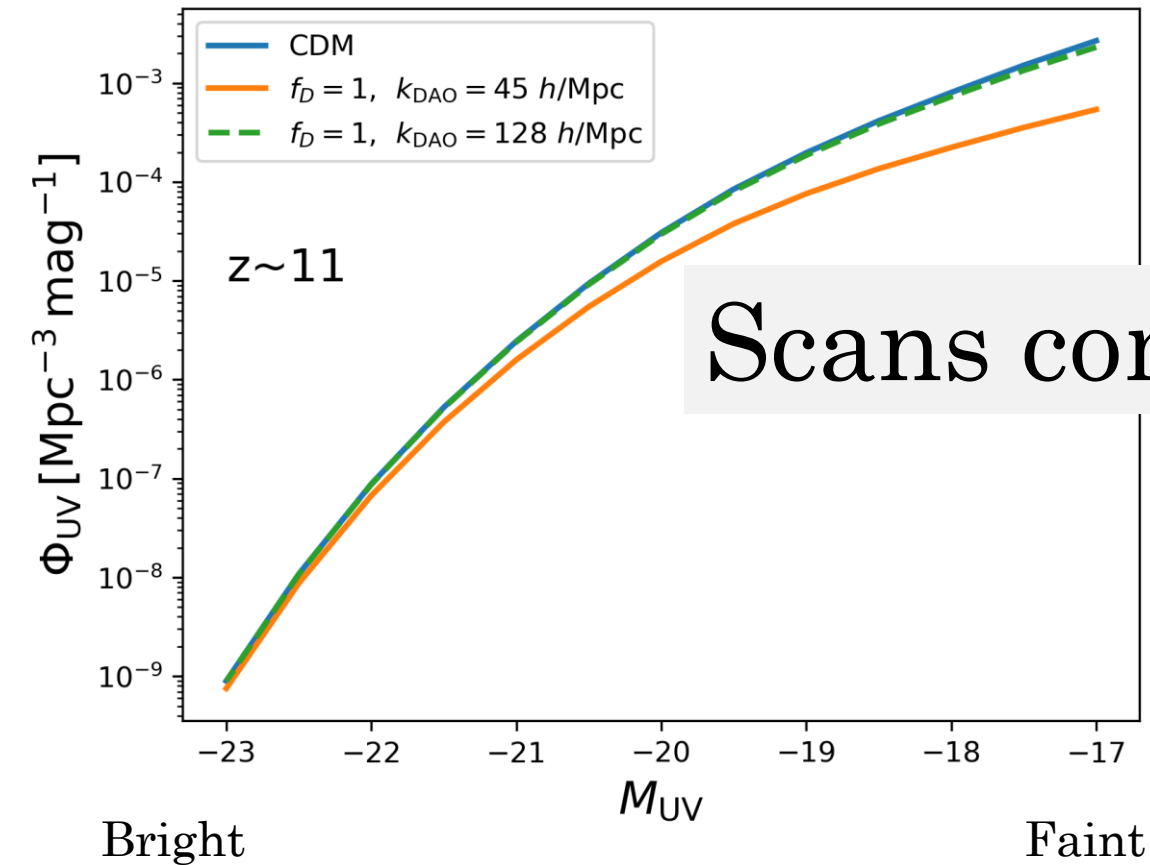


Donnan et al., 2403.03171

# UV Luminosity Function

UVLF prediction from Press-Schechter HMF

New JWST observations



Scans coming soon!

Donnan et al., 2403.03171

# Conclusions

- Atomic dark matter is a well-motivated dark sector model.
- It can dramatically impact the growth of structure.
- To compute these effects on small scales, n-body simulations are required.
- By using the output of those simulations to calibrate an Extended Press-Schechter fit, we can predict observables like the UV luminosity function.
- Existing HST and new JWST data will put new constraints on the aDM parameter space – and other models with DAOs.

Thank you for your attention!