

Sterile neutrinos as dark matter

Dmytro Iakubovskiy

Discovery Center, Niels Bohr Institute, Copenhagen Univ.

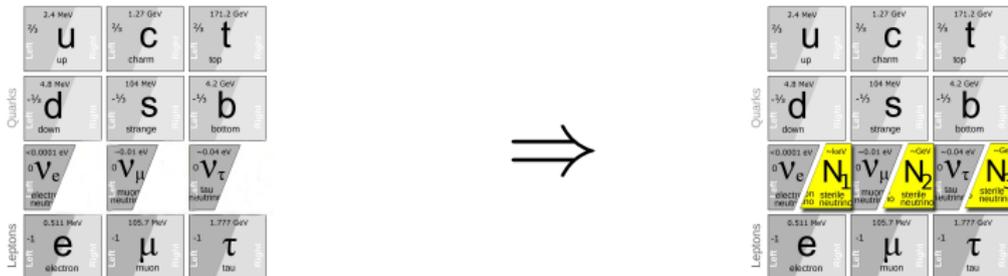
Borexino10 Workshop, Gran Sasso, September 7, 2017.



ν MSM: SM extension with 3 sterile neutrinos

Asaka & Shaposhnikov'05. Review: Boyarsky+'09

- Neutrino masses: [Bilenky & Pontecorvo'76](#); [Minkowski'77](#); [Yanagida'79](#); [Gell-Mann et al.'79](#); [Mohapatra & Senjanovic'80](#); [Schechter & Valle'80](#)
- Baryon asymmetry: [Fukugita & Yanagida'86](#); [Akhmedov, Smirnov & Rubakov'98](#); [Pilaftsis & Underwood'04-05](#);
- Dark matter: [Dodelson & Widrow'93](#); [Shi & Fuller'99](#); [Dolgov & Hansen'00](#)



A unified SM of particle physics and cosmology

Sharing success of the Standard Model at accelerators and resolving major BSM problems:
Neutrino masses and oscillations; Baryon asymmetry of the Universe; Dark matter



Type I seesaw model

- Left-handed neutrino is **not** truly neutral; we can write

$$\text{Neutrino Majorana mass} = \frac{c(\bar{L} \cdot \tilde{H}^\dagger)(L^c \cdot \tilde{H})}{\Lambda}$$

but it violates unitarity! Alternative: **see-saw mechanism**,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Seesaw Type I}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + i\bar{N}\not{\partial}N + \bar{N}(\tilde{H} \cdot L) + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}MN^c + \text{h.c.}$$

- Contains both Dirac and Majorana mass terms
- Neutrinos are light because $m_{\text{Dirac}} \ll M$: **active-sterile mixing angle**

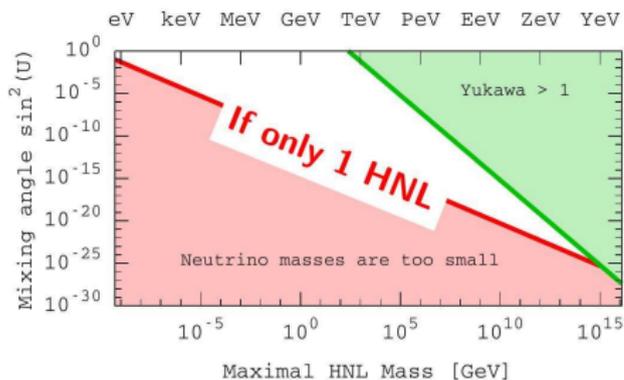
$$m_\nu \simeq \frac{(m_{\text{Dirac}})^2}{M} = U^2 M$$

$$U = \frac{m_{\text{Dirac}}}{M} \ll 1$$

The new particle is called “Sterile neutrino” or “heavy neutral lepton” or **HNL**



HNL parameters and neutrino oscillations



For every point in the white region, HNLs with such mass/interaction that can explain the phenomenology of neutrino oscillations

- \mathcal{N} HNLs bring $7 \times \mathcal{N} - 3$ new parameters
- With the **full knowledge** of PMNS and active neutrino masses/phases we will be able to determine

7 out of 11 parameters ($\mathcal{N} = 2$)

9 out of 18 parameters ($\mathcal{N} = 3$)

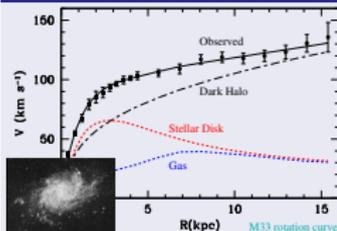
- Undetermined parameters are: \mathcal{N} Majorana masses + some ratios of Yukawas (for example, one replace $Y_{\alpha I} \leftrightarrow Y_{\alpha J} (M_I/M_J)^{1/2}$ for some pairs $I \neq J$.)

What can **dark matter** tell us about the HNLs mass?



Dark Matter in the Universe

Astrophysical evidence:

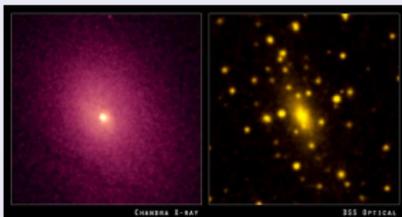


Expected:

$$v(R) \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{R}}$$

Observed:

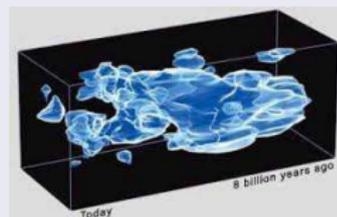
$$v(R) \approx \text{const}$$



Expected:

$$\text{mass}_{\text{cluster}} = \sum \text{mass}_{\text{gals}}$$

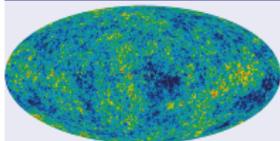
Observed: 10² times more mass confining ionized gas



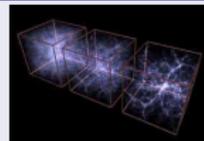
Lensing signal (direct mass measurement)

confirms other observations

Cosmological evidence:



Jeans instability turned tiny density fluctuations into visible structures



Neutrino dark matter

Neutrino seems to be a perfect dark matter candidate: neutral, long-lived, massive, abundantly produced in the early Universe

Cosmic neutrinos

- We know how neutrinos interact and we can compute their primordial number density $n_\nu = 112 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (per flavour)
- To give correct dark matter abundance the sum of neutrino masses, $\sum m_\nu$, should be $\sum m_\nu \sim 11 \text{ eV}$

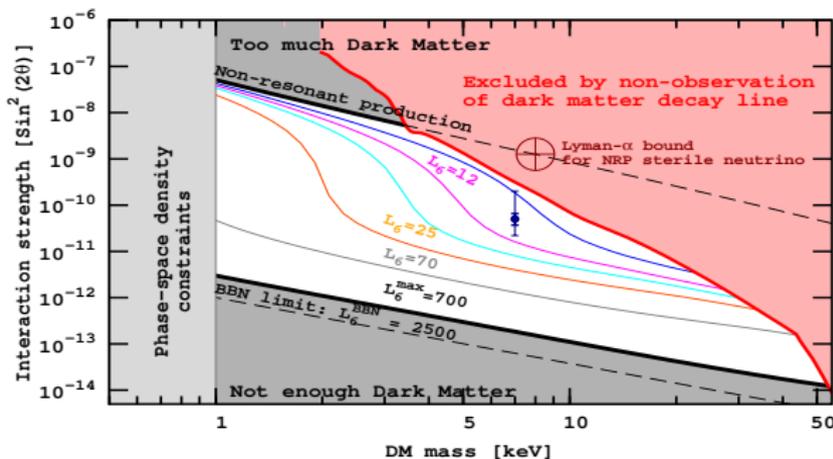
Tremaine-Gunn bound (1979)

- Such light neutrinos **cannot form small galaxies** – one would have to put too many of them and violated Pauli exclusion principle
- Minimal mass for fermion dark matter $\sim 300 - 400 \text{ eV}$
- If particles with such mass were **weakly interacting** (like neutrino) – they would **overclose the Universe** ($\Omega h^2 \sim 3!$)



ν MSM dark matter parameters

Parameter space of sterile neutrino dark matter in the ν MSM is bounded on all sides



Is it possible to probe **the whole** parameter space of the ν MSM?



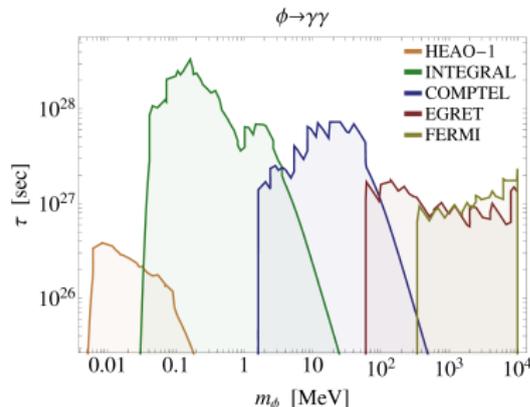
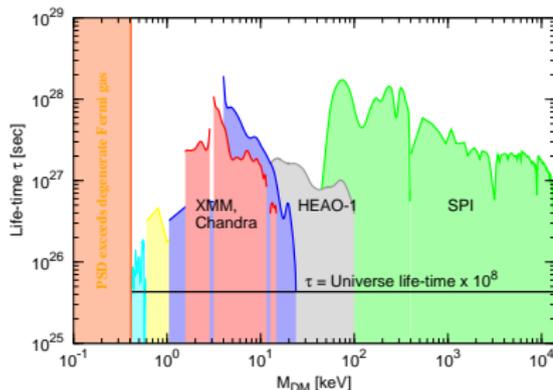
A smoking gun signature: DM decay line

MW (HEAO-1) Boyarsky+'05; Coma and Virgo clusters Boyarsky+'06; Bullet cluster Boyarsky+'06;

LMC+MW(XMM) Boyarsky+'06; MW Riemer-Sørensen+'06; Abazajian+'06; MW (XMM) Boyarsky+'07;

MW (INTEGRAL) Yuksel+'07; Boyarsky+'07; M31 Watson+'06; Boyarsky+'07; Horiuchi+'13; dSphs

Loewenstein+'08,'09,'12; Malyshev+'15,...



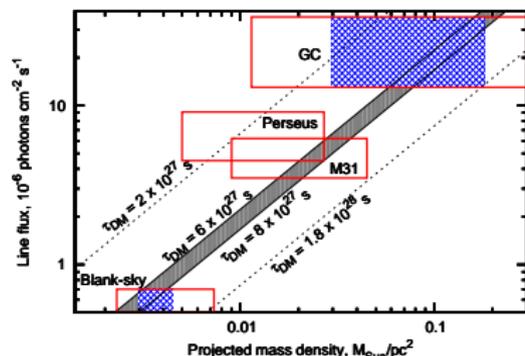
See e.g. [1602.04816] “A White Paper on keV Sterile Neutrino Dark Matter”



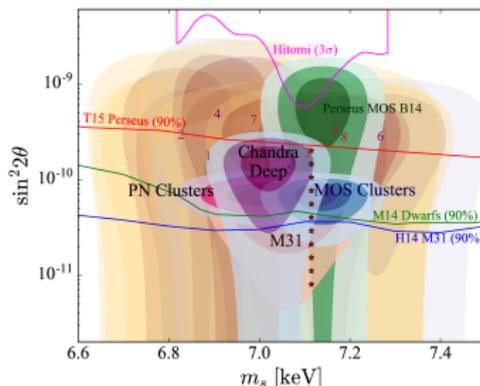
3.5 keV line origin: radiatively decaying DM?

3.5 keV line: [Bulbul et al, ApJ'14](#); [Boyarisky, Ruchayskiy, DI, Franse, PRL'14](#)

- **Observations** point to $\tau_{\text{DM}} = (6 - 8) \times 10^{27}$ s [[1408.2503](#), [1508.05186](#)];
- Many detections and non-detections in different objects;
- Should be **careful** when comparing results from different objects – DM content in **each** of them is **uncertain!**



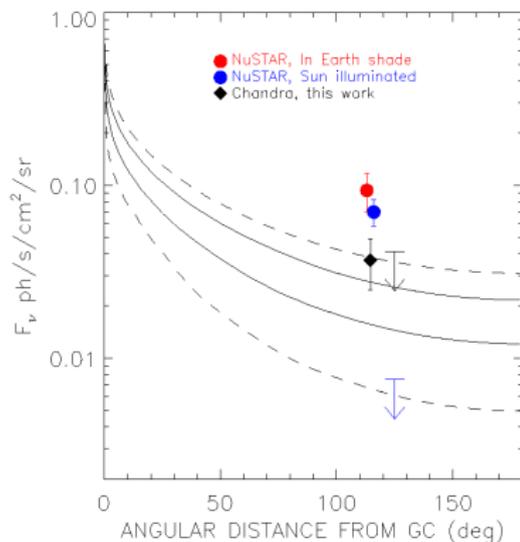
Boyarisky, Franse, DI, Ruchayskiy, PRL'15



Abazajian, PhysRep'17



New detections



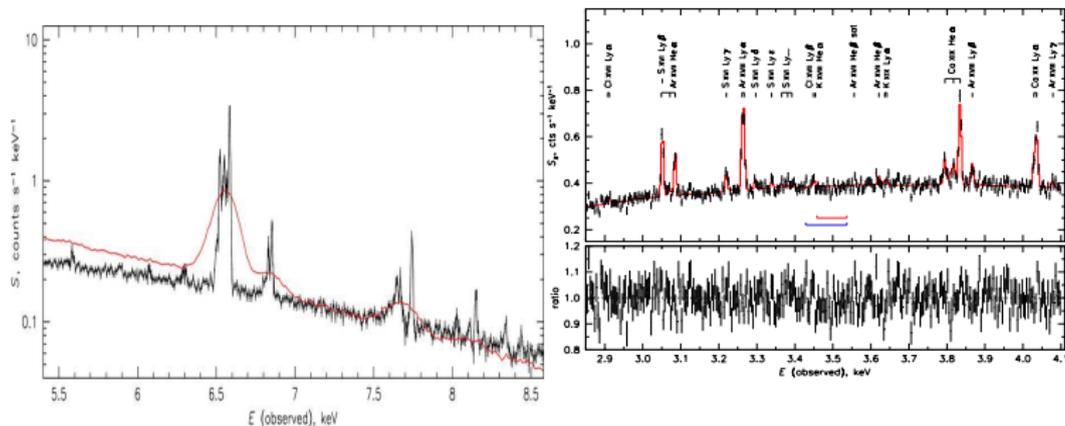
- **11 σ detection** by NuSTAR blank-sky [1607.07328](#)
- **3 σ detection** by Chandra from the same region [1701.07932](#)
- 5 times larger signal than blank-sky from Galactic Center [1609.00667](#)

Combined with previous detections, argues **against** systematical origin



Next step for 3.5 keV line: resolve the line

- A new microcalorimeter with a superb spectral resolution – Hitomi (Astro-H) launched February 17, lost March 26, 2016;
- Before its loss, **observed** Perseus cluster core in calibration phase (additional filters block most of X-ray below 3 keV)



What did we learn with existing Hitomi data?

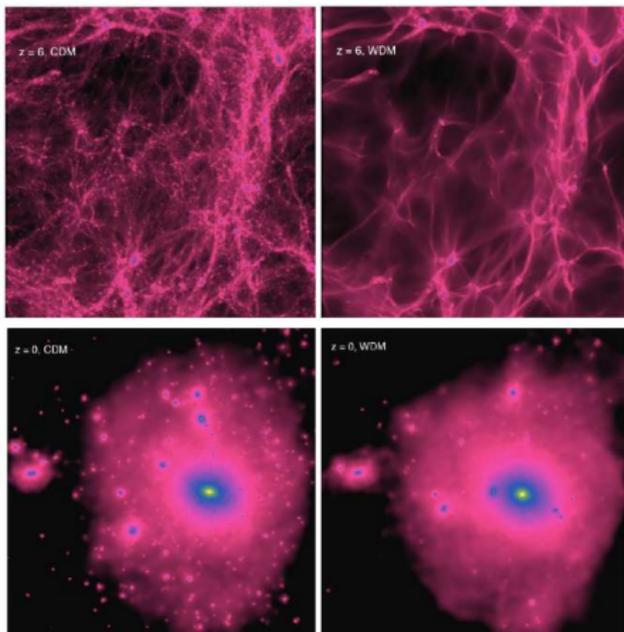
- Due to its superior energy resolution, *Hitomi* can distinguish between **atomic line broadening** (thermal velocities $\sim 10^2$ km/sec) and **decaying dark matter line broadening** (virial velocity $\sim 10^3$ km/sec)
- Bounds much weaker for a **broad** (dark matter) line \rightarrow not at tension with previous detections
- Even the short observation of Hitomi showed **no nearby astrophysical lines** in Perseus cluster \rightarrow 3.5 keV line is **not astrophysical** [Hitomi collaboration, 1607.04487](#)

- **This does not seem to be astrophysics** (Hitomi spectrum)
- **This does not seem to be systematics** (4 different instruments)
- **???**



Sterile neutrino: warm dark matter

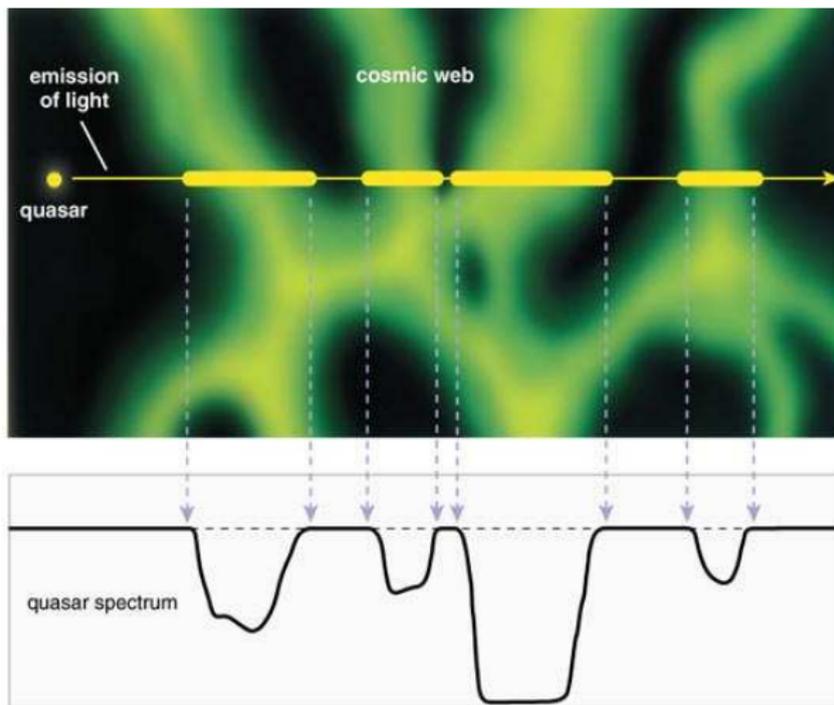
COCO Warm simulation Bose+'15. HNL dark matter:



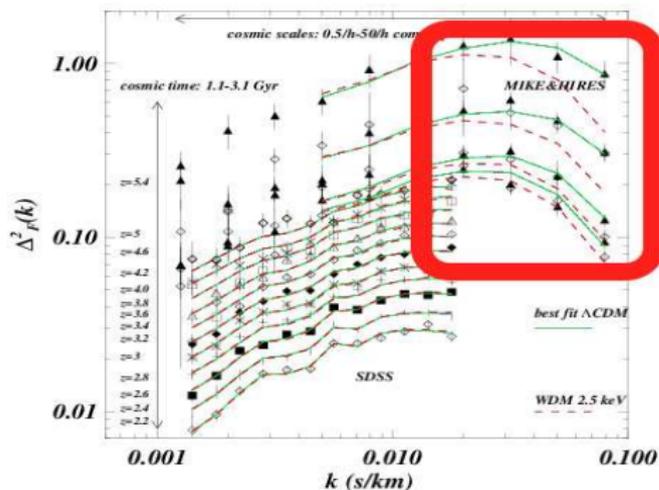
- Same structures as in **CDM** Universe at Mpc scales and above \rightarrow no signatures in CMB/galaxy counts
- Decreasing number of small galaxies around Milky Way
- Decreasing number of small satellite galaxies **within** Milky Way halo
- **Can help** with “too big to fail” or “missing satellites” problems



Lyman- α forest and power spectrum



High-resolution Ly- α forest and ν MSM DM

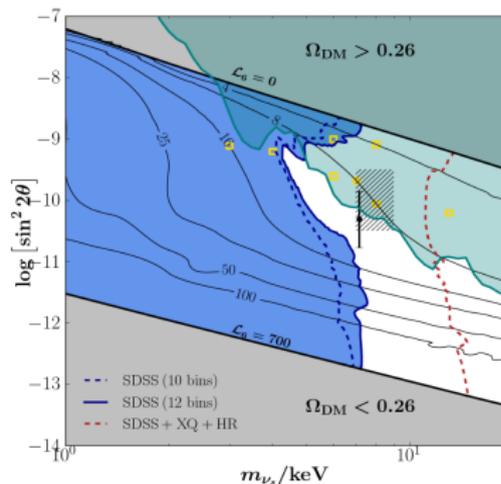
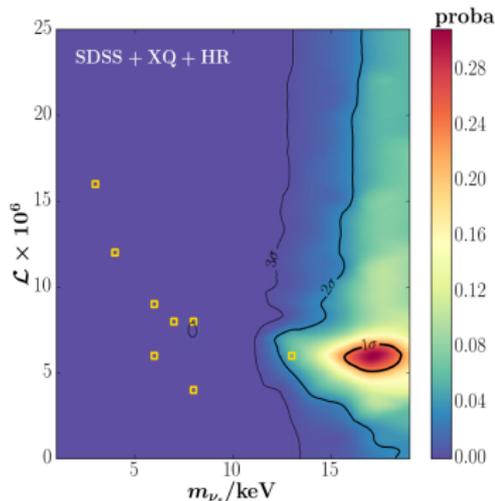


- Best fit **thermal relic** mass = 2.1 keV
- Corresponds to resonantly produced sterile neutrino with $M_N = 7$ keV and lepton asymmetry $L_6 = 11$
- 3.5 keV line, interpreted as sterile neutrino DM, gives range of lepton asymmetries $L_6 = 8 - 12$

By accident (or maybe not?) the HNL dark matter interpretation of 3.5 keV line predicts **exactly** the amount of suppression of power spectrum observed in HIRES/MIKE (and **fully consistent** with all other structure formation bounds), see [Garzilli, Boyarsky, Ruchayskiy \[1510.07006\]](#)



The latest results from Ly- α forest [1706.03118]



Data from SDSS-III (BOSS) + X-Shooter + HIRES

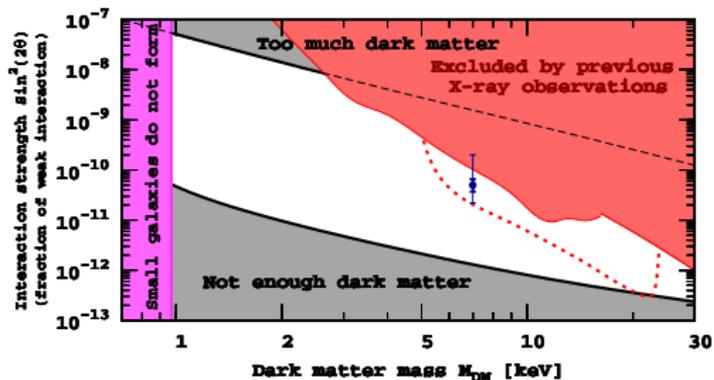
Hatched rectangle indicates 3σ 'island' in ν MSM parameter space

Similar result from reionization (DI et al., in progress) and high- z luminosity function (1611.05892)

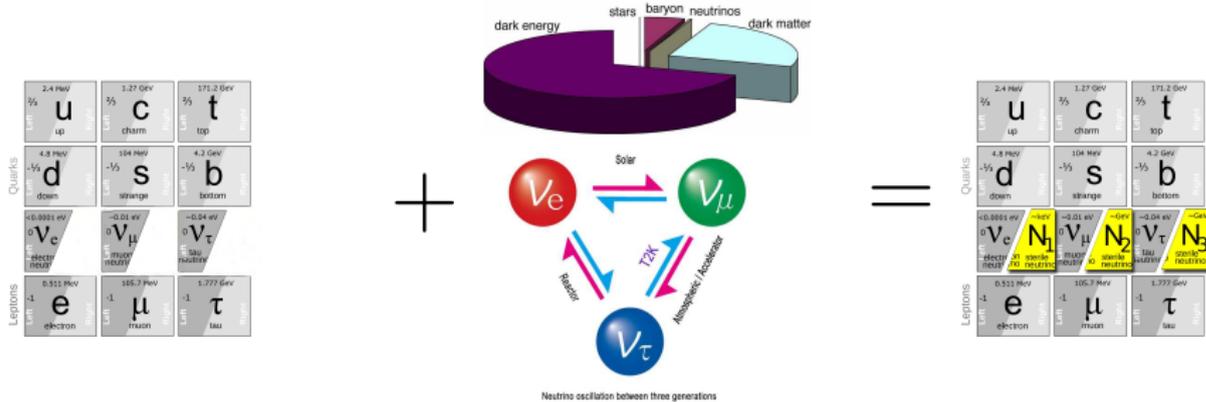


Future X-ray observations:

- **Micro-X** sounding rocket experiment (2019+) – large field-of-view, large energy resolution, very small exposure – will probe Galactic Center+ Bulge region (ApJ'15 [1506.05519]);
- **Hitomi-2** – planned to launch by NASA during 2020-2021;
- **Athena** – large ESA mission (2028+), very large resolution and collecting area (each $10\times$ XMM-Newton) – will probe individual DM haloes (e.g. galaxy clusters).



Conclusions



Thank you for your attention!

Backup slides:



DM decay line: basic properties

- Signature of 2-body radiative decay (e.g. $DM \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$, $DM \rightarrow \gamma + \nu$): **monochromatic line** from **all** DM overdensities.
- Due to small ($v \sim 10^{-4} - 10^{-2}$) Doppler broadening the line is **narrow**.
- Observed line position should **evolve** with redshift.
- Line position from nearby objects $E_\gamma = \frac{1}{2}m_{DM}c^2$
- Flux from DM decay:

$$F_{DM} = \frac{E_\gamma}{m_{DM}\tau_{DM}} \int_{\text{fov cone}} \frac{\rho_{DM}(\vec{r})}{4\pi|\vec{D}_L + \vec{r}|^2} d^3\vec{r} \approx \frac{\Omega_{\text{fov}}}{8\pi m_{DM}\tau_{DM}} \mathcal{S}$$

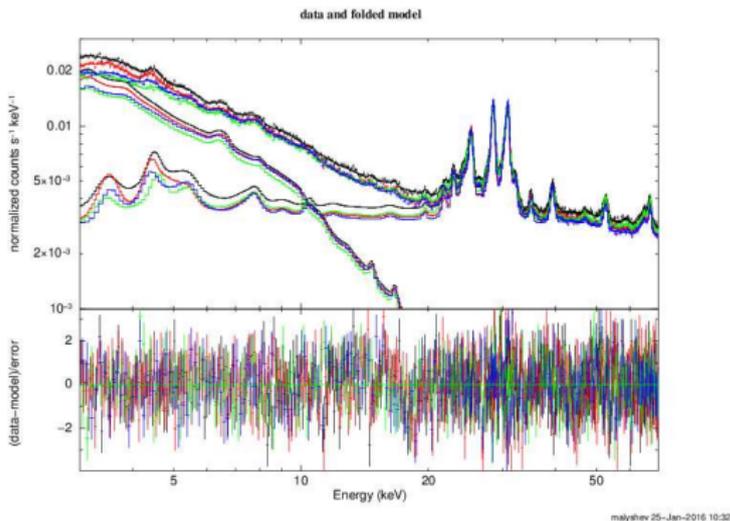
- **DM column density**

$$\mathcal{S} = \int_{\Omega_{\text{fov}}} \rho_{DM}(r) dr$$

– integral along the line-of-sight, averaged within the instrument's field-of-view – **slowly** grows with halo mass ($\sim M^{0.2}$) – 0911.1774.



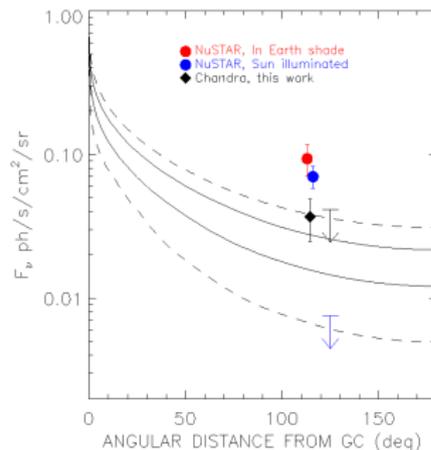
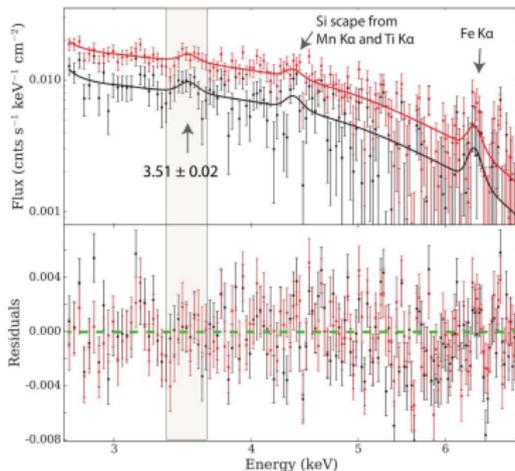
NuSTAR detections: blank-sky [1607.07328]



- **11σ detection** at the level **slightly more than predicted with decaying DM**;
- Located 'at the edge of energy range, where large uncertainties of response functions are potentially present'.



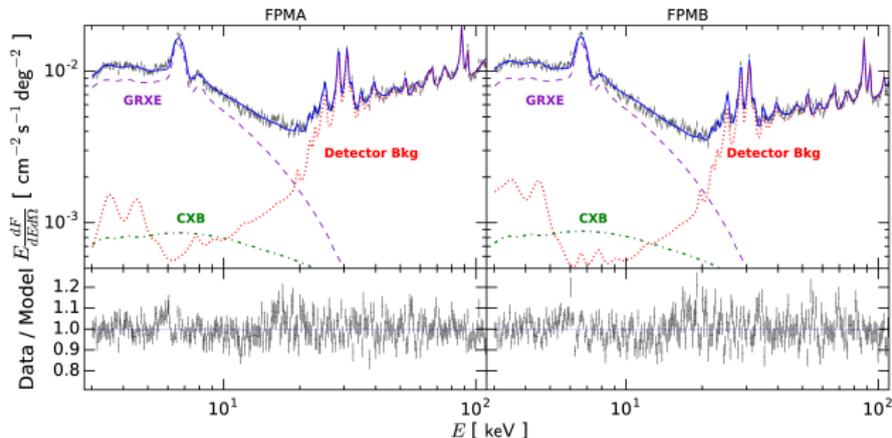
Chandra detections: blank-sky [1701.07932]



- **3 σ detection** at the level **consistent with decaying DM**
- **No instrumental features** at these energy (compared with the other instruments)
- Combined with XMM and Suzaku detections, argues **against** systematical origin.



NuSTAR detections: GC [1609.00667]

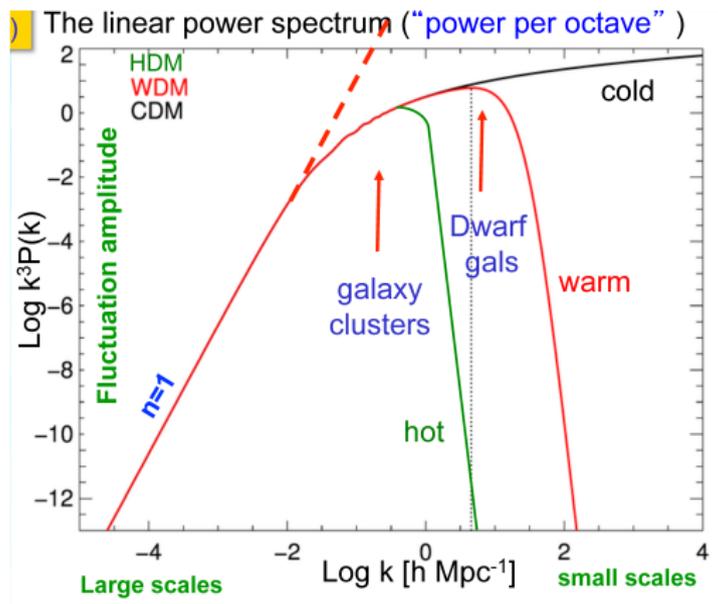


- 3.5 keV line nature 'is not totally clear' and 'its determination is beyond the scope of this work';
- No numbers are given but from above Fig. one can estimate 3.5 keV line flux that is ~ 5 **times larger** than found by 1607.07328 – **perfectly consistent** with decaying DM!



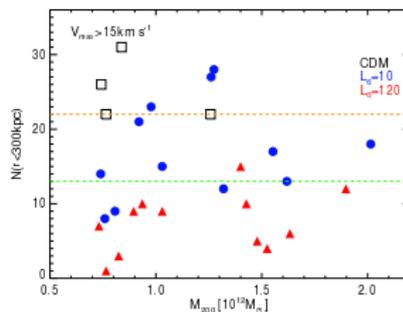
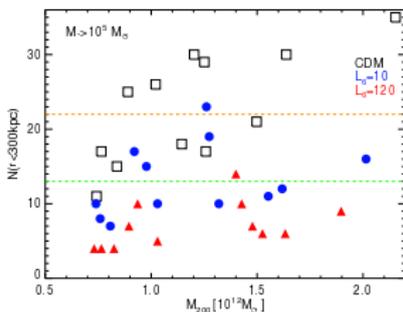
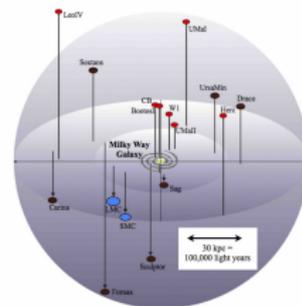
Sterile neutrino: warm dark matter

- keV sterile neutrinos are born **relativistic**
- Relativistic particles **free stream** out of overdense regions and smooth primordial inhomogeneities



Satellite number and properties

- Warm dark matter erases substructures – compare number of dwarf galaxies inside the Milky Way with “predictions”
- **Simulations:** The answer depends **how** you “light up” satellites
- **Observations:** We do not know how typical Milky Way is
[Lovell, Boyarsky, Ruchayskiy et al. \[1611.00010\]](#)



Current status of structure formation bounds from the Local Universe

- Connection “dark structures” \leftrightarrow “visible structures” depends on (yet unknown) way to implement baryonic feedback
- Simulation to simulation (or even halo-to-halo) scatter is **large** and **affects** the conclusions
- We **do not know** how typical is our Galaxy, our Local Group, etc.
- We **cannot “rule out”** your warm dark matter model with these observations
- Need **statistically significant** sample instead

