



# Evolution of Mixed FDM-Baryon Systems

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**Cosmology from Home (CfH23)**  
Online  
June 2023

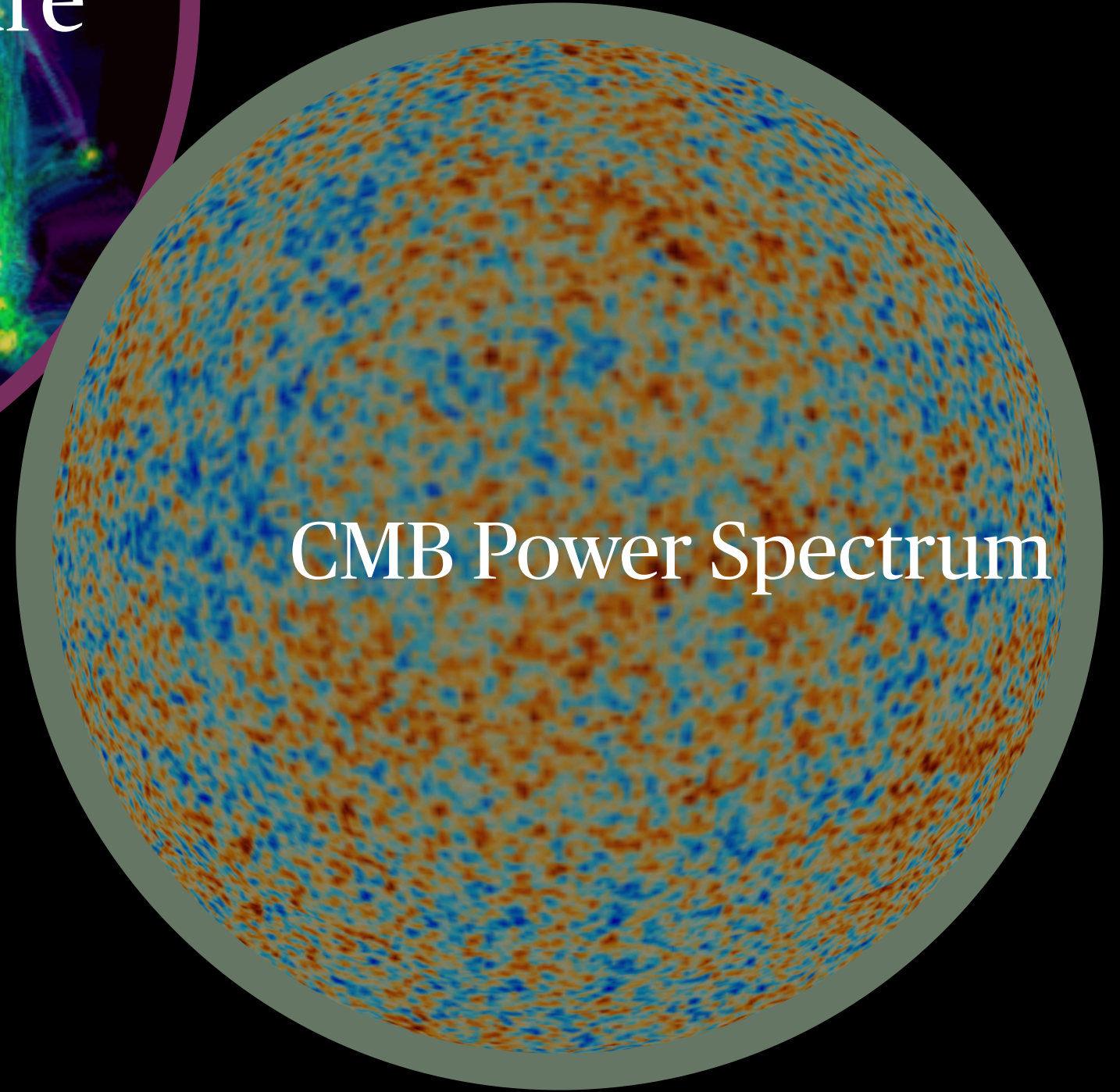
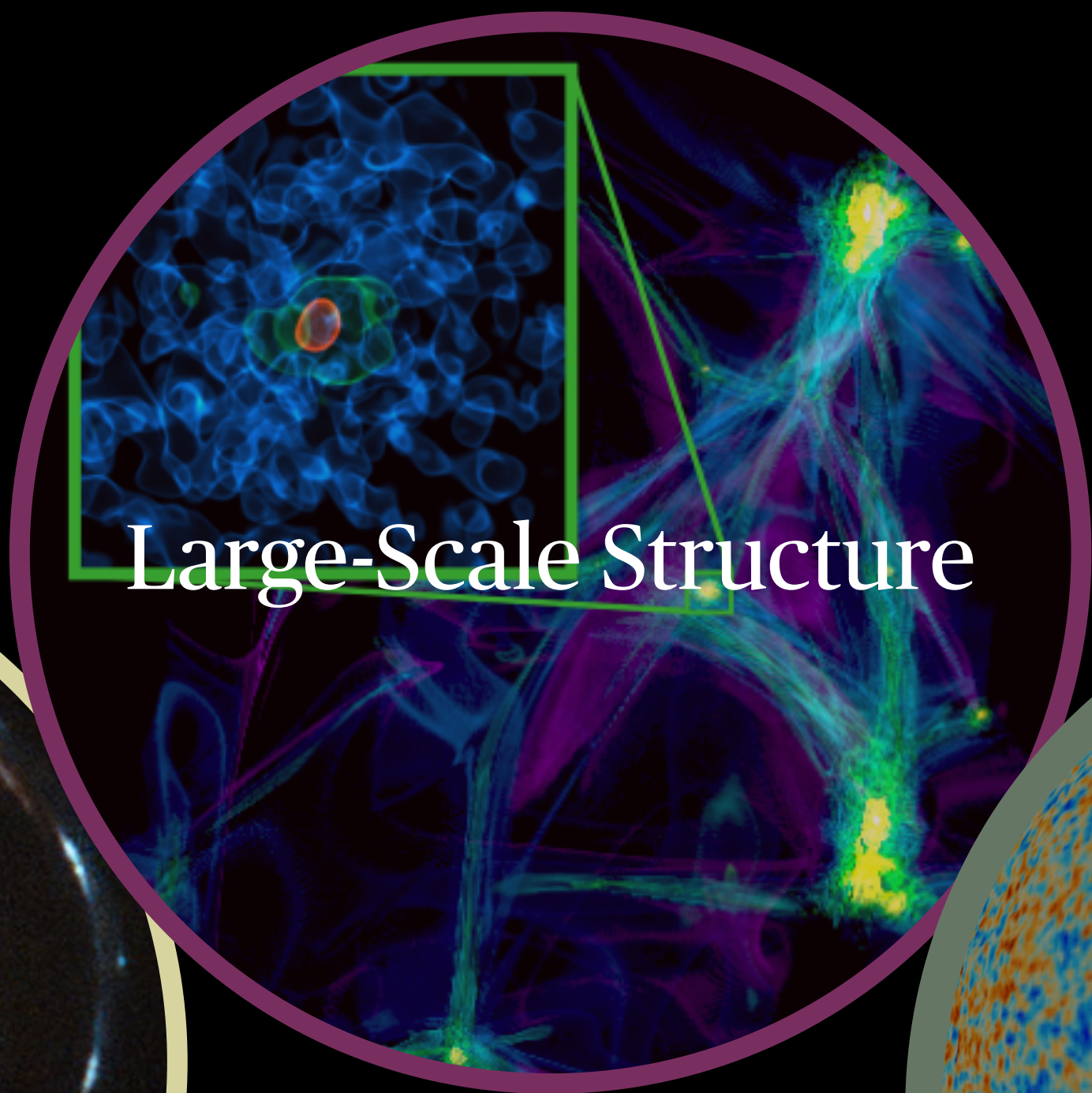
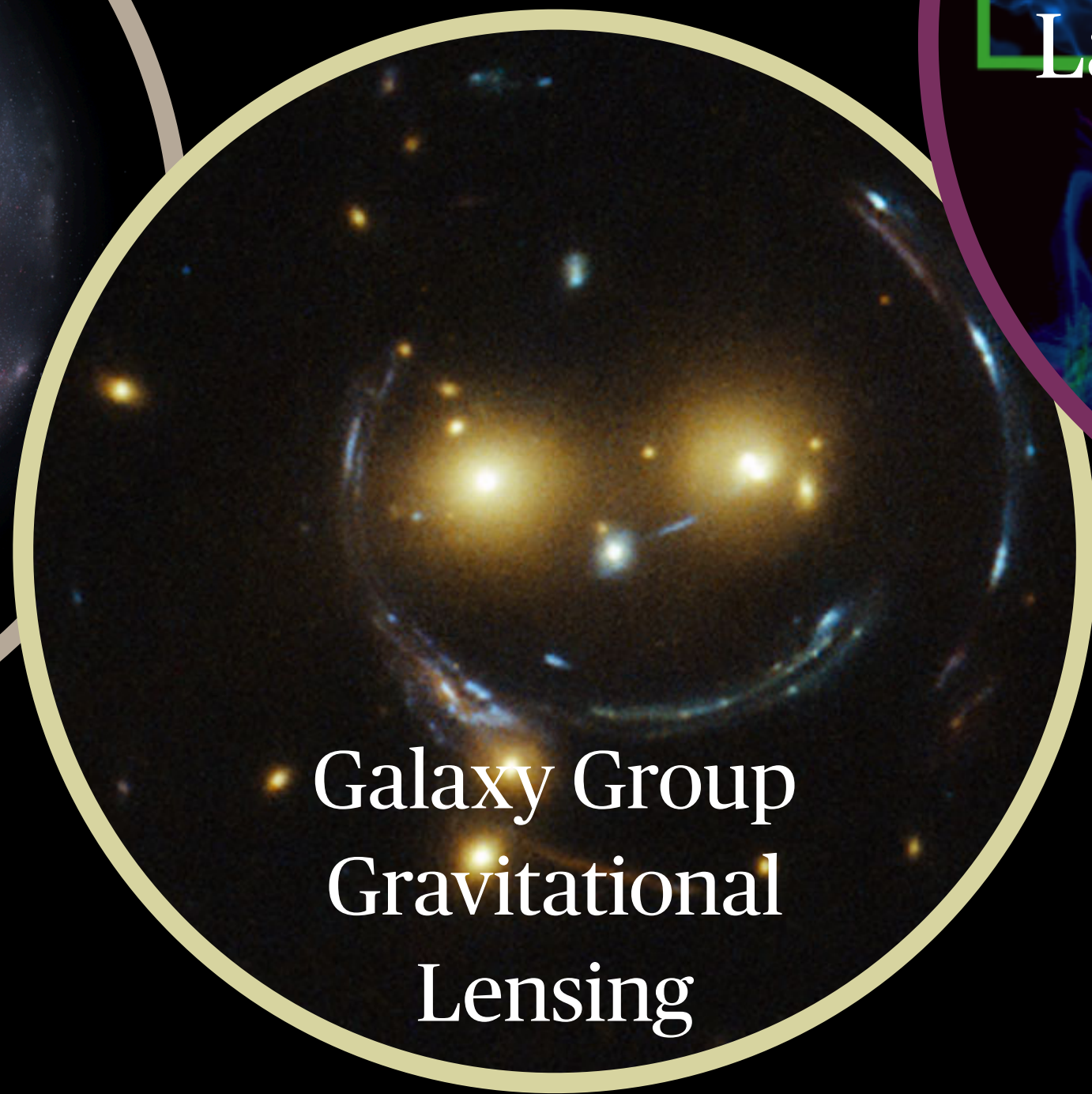
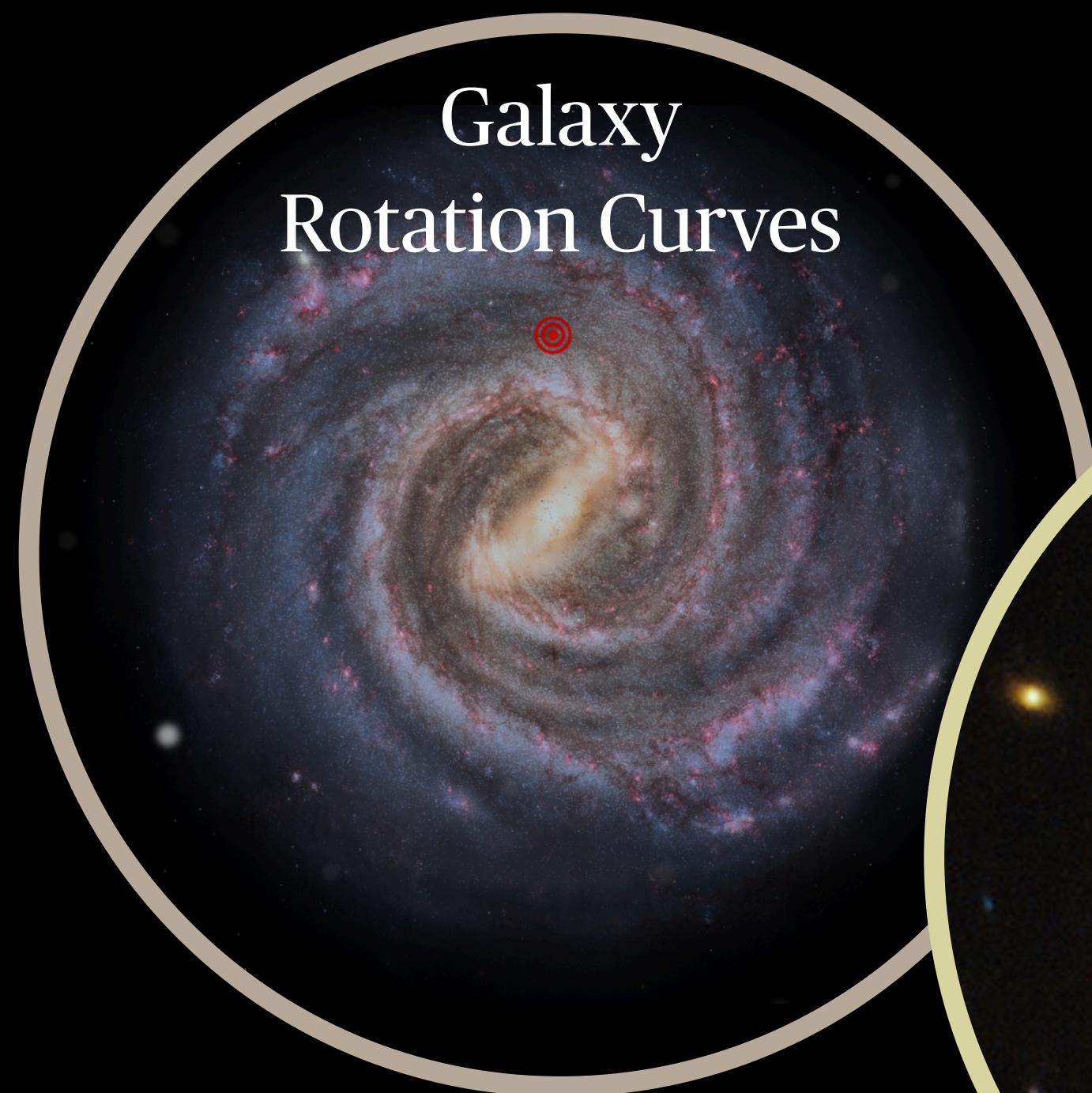


NEW ZEALAND GRAVITY



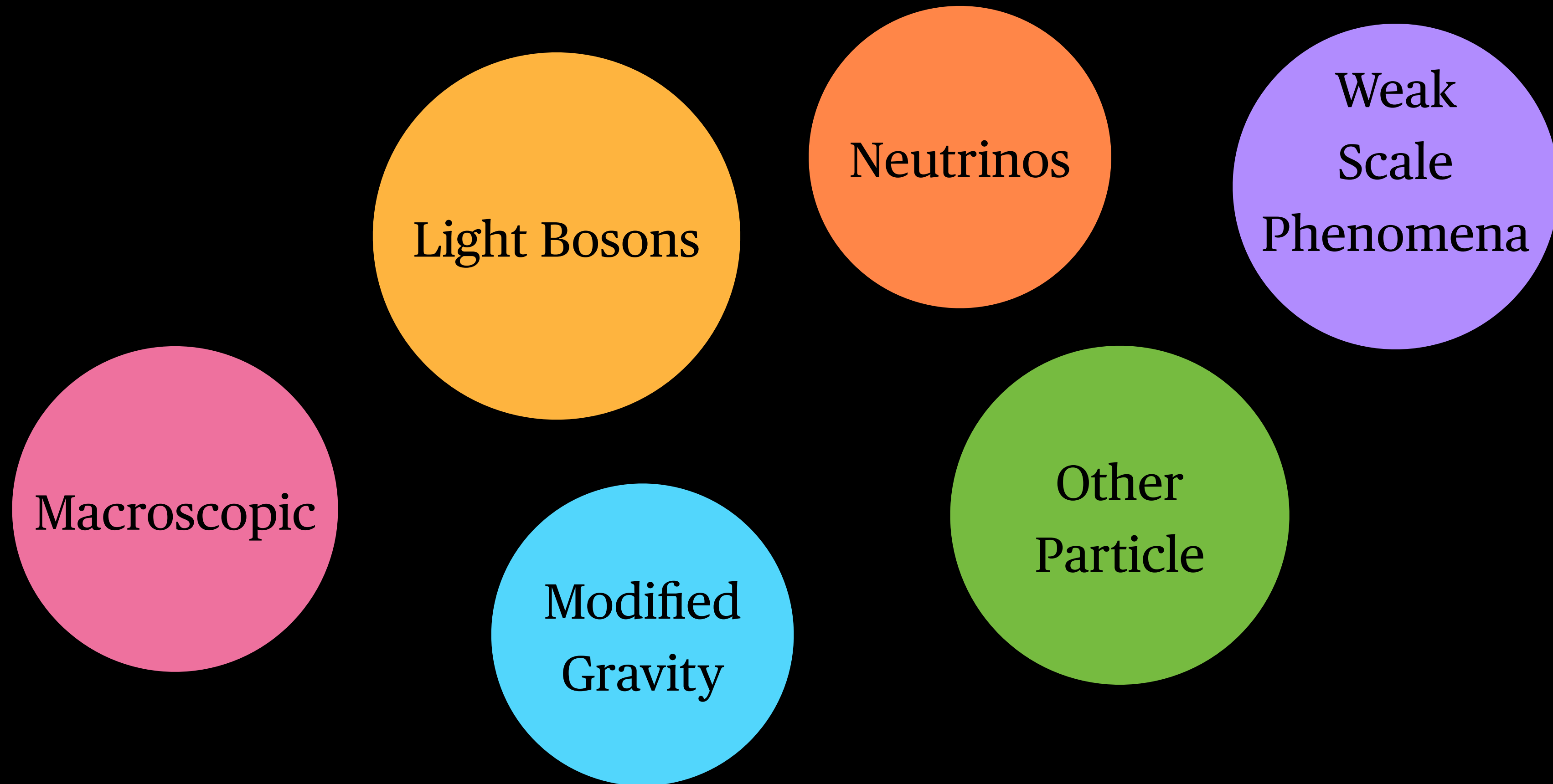


# Evidence for and Constraints on Dark Matter

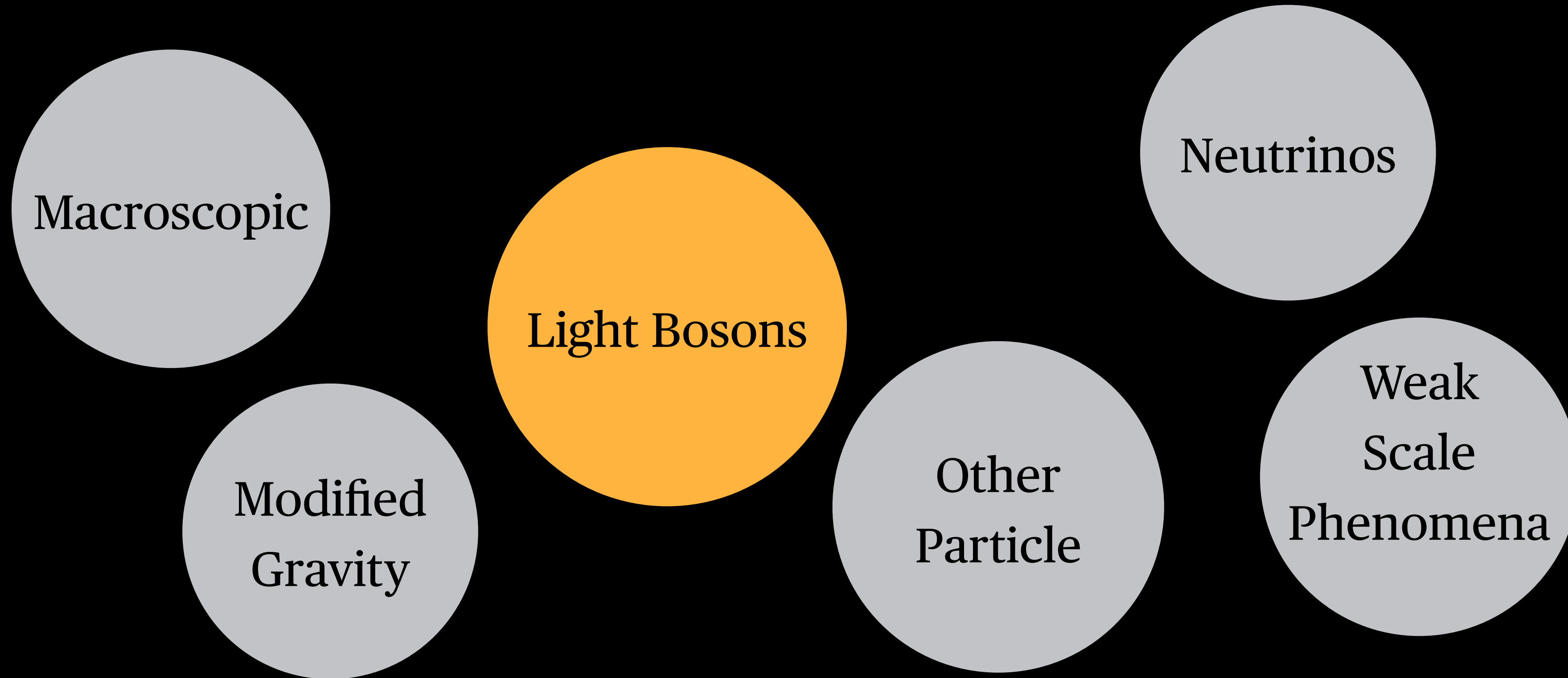




**Dark Matter Candidates**  
*From All Across Modern Physics*



**Dark Matter Candidates**  
*From All Across Modern Physics*



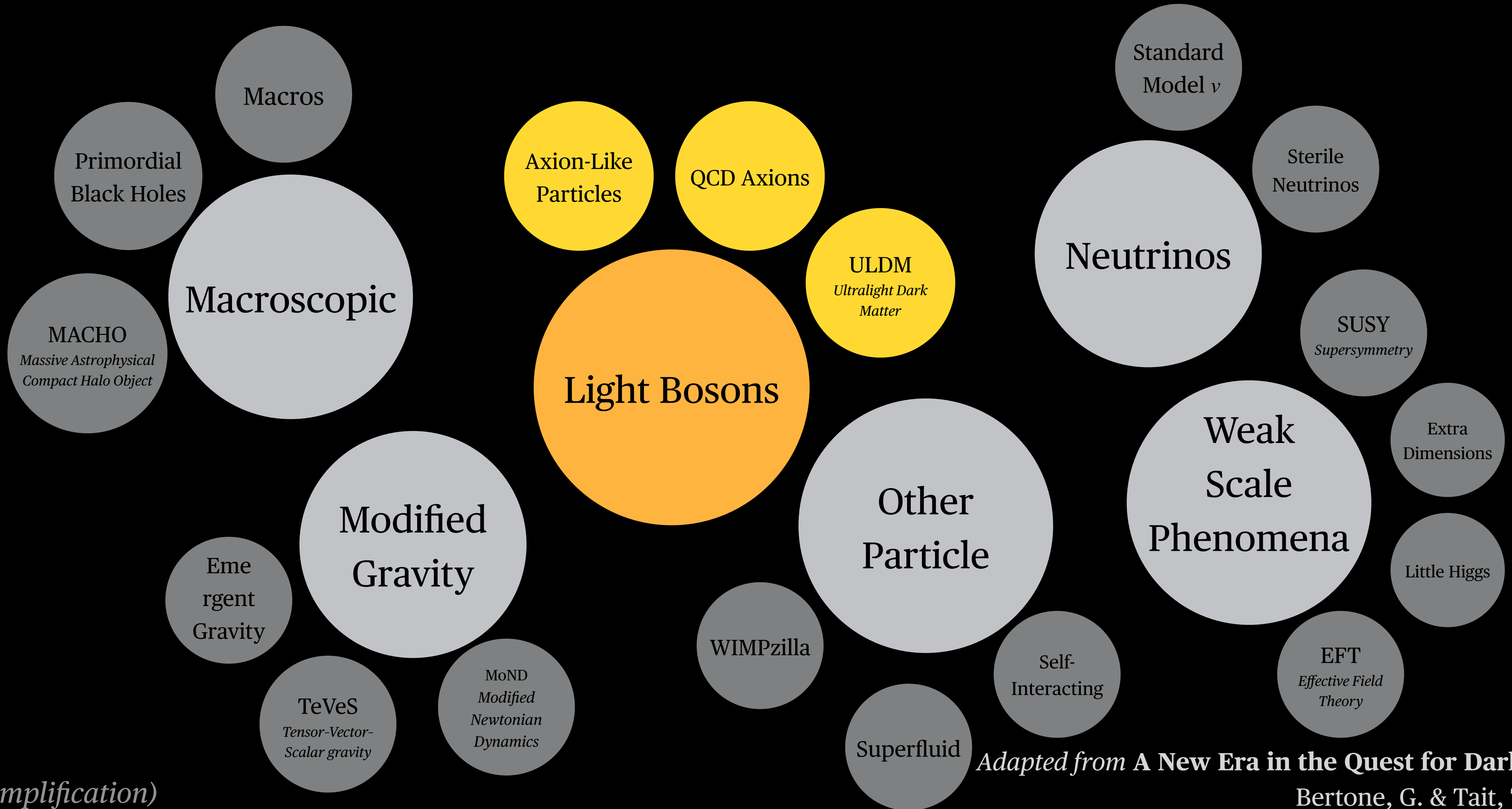
*(Simplification)*

*Adapted from A New Era in the Quest for Dark Matter*  
Bertone, G. & Tait, T. (2018).



# Dark Matter Candidates


*From All Across Modern Physics*



*(Simplification)*

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**ULDM**  
*Ultralight Dark  
Matter*

A bosonic scalar field **minimally coupled to gravity** with corresponding particle **mass around  $10^{-22}$ \* eV.**



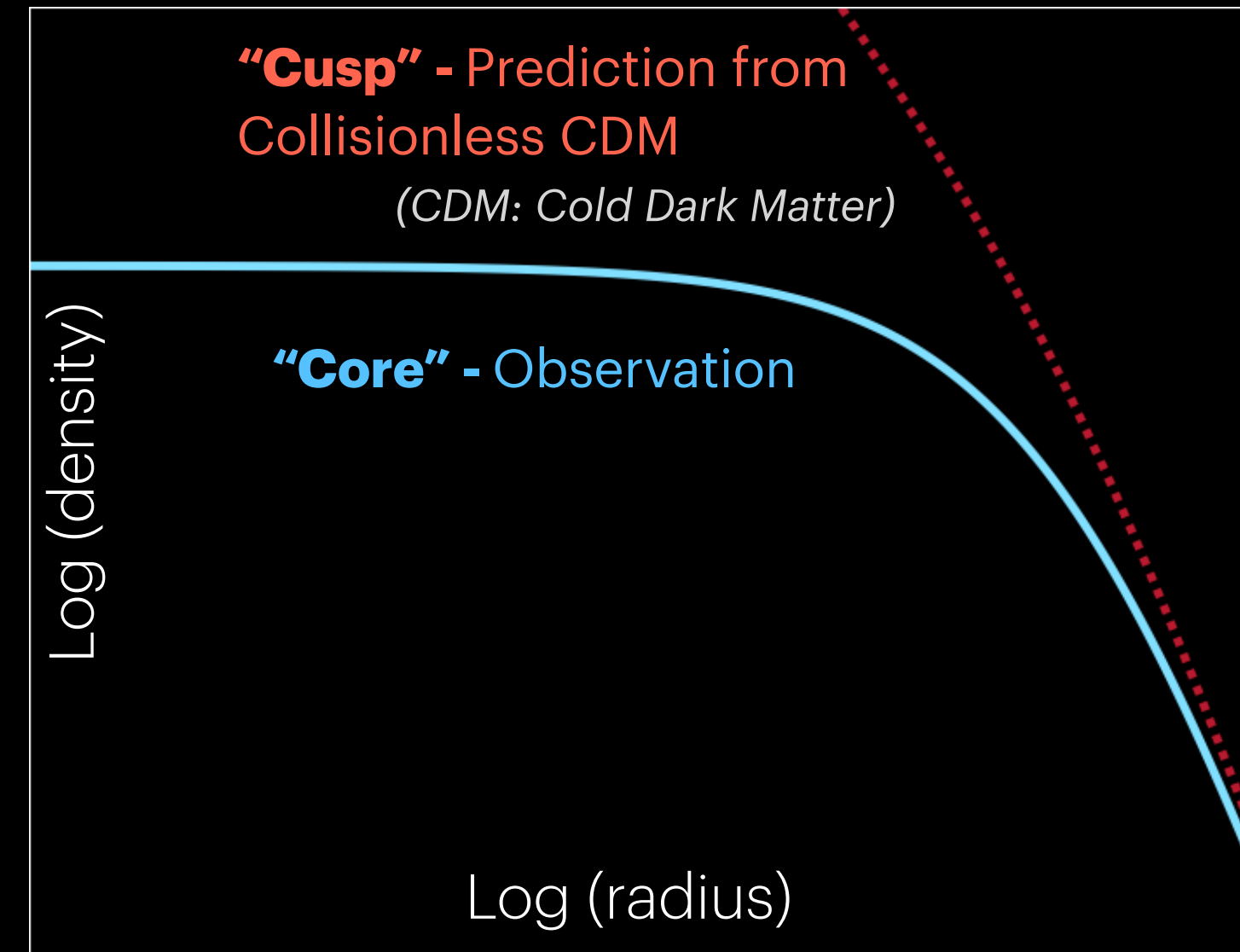
*Very Long de Broglie  
Wavelengths*

*Behaviour at small scales  
modulated by quantum mechanics.*

*Lack of Direct DM Particle Detection  
on Earth.*

*Core **Cusp** Problem*

*Smooth Density Profiles in Core Regions of Galaxies*



# ULDM

*Ultralight Dark Matter*



**NewScientist**

**Space**

# **Weird dark matter waves seem to warp the light from distant galaxies**

Ultralight dark matter particles that behave like waves, called axions, seem to be a better match for gravitational lensing measurements than more traditional explanations for dark matter

By [Leah Crane](#)

📅 20 April 2023

*Anomalies in Gravitational-Lensed Images Revealing Einstein Rings Modulated by Wavelike Dark Matter*  
arxiv 2304.09895

# ULDm

## *Ultralight Dark Matter*

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$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \left( g^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi \partial_\nu \phi - m^2 \phi^2 \right)$$




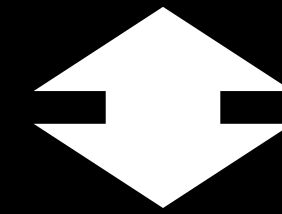
$$i\dot{\psi} = \left[ -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 + V \right] \psi$$

$$\nabla^2 \Phi_U = 4\pi m |\psi|^2$$

*A nonlinear modification to Schrödinger Equation,  
giving the wavefunction an associated mass density.*

## Schrödinger-Poisson

$$i\psi = \left[ -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 + (\Phi_U + \Phi_{Ext}) \right] \psi$$
$$\nabla^2 \Phi_U = 4\pi m |\psi|^2$$




External Gravitational Potentials  
Non-Gravitational Self-Interaction  
**Expansion of Universe**

...

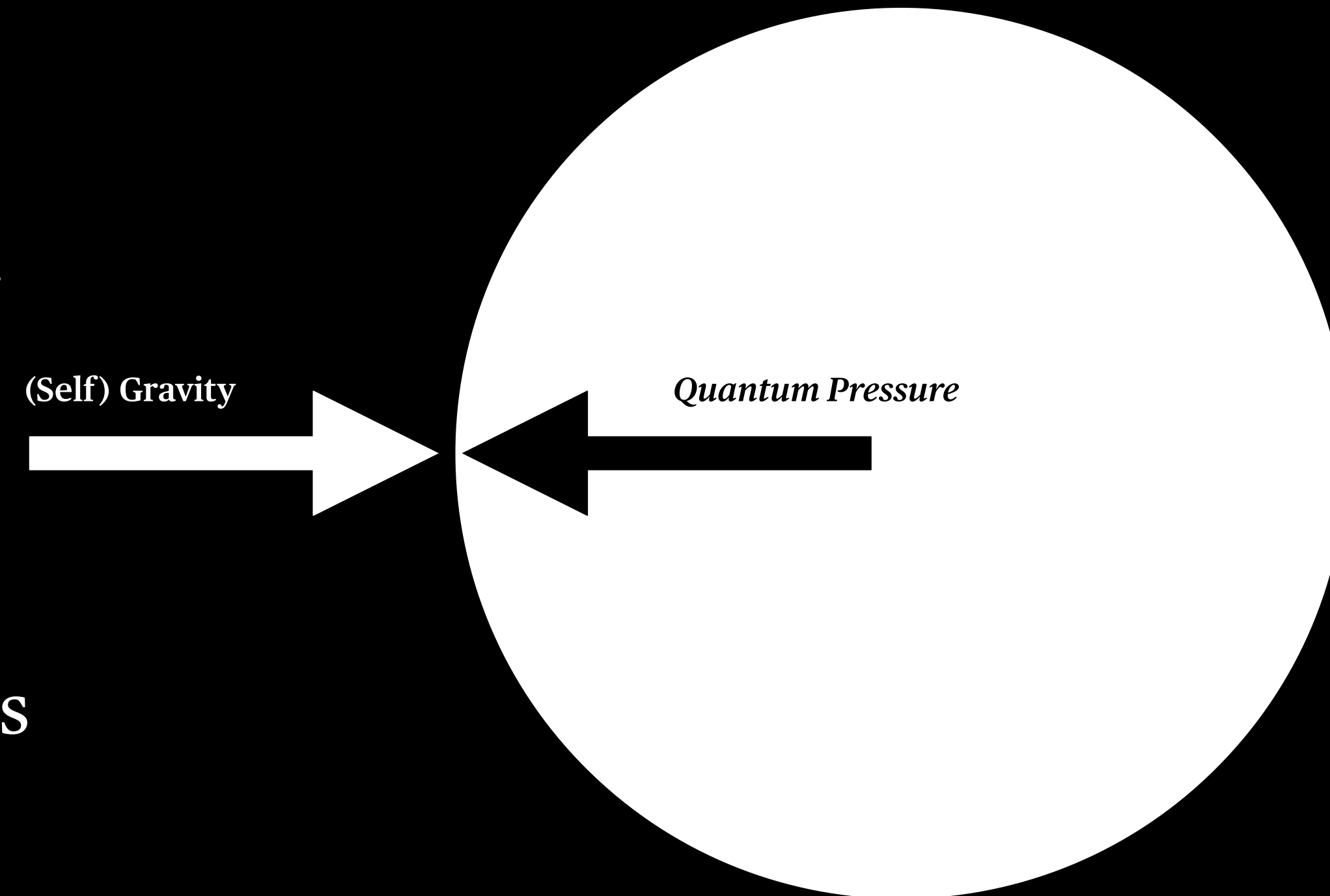


# Schrödinger-Poisson Solitons

May form dynamically in ULDM haloes.

Can obtain the general radial profile numerically\*.

Know some scaling laws: lighter solitons are *puffier*.



# Schrödinger-Poisson Solitons

Main object of interest in my ULDM work so far.

In isolation, we can perform quasi-normal mode decompositions on them.

Quantum pressure is rather weak, so external potentials might profoundly change the shape and dynamics of solitons.

**Schrödinger-Poisson Solitons: Perturbation Theory**

Zagorac et al, arXiv 2109.01920



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# Madelung Picture of Quantum Mechanics

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}, t) \equiv \sqrt{\rho(\mathbf{x}, t)} e^{i\theta(\mathbf{x}, t)}$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \nabla \theta$$

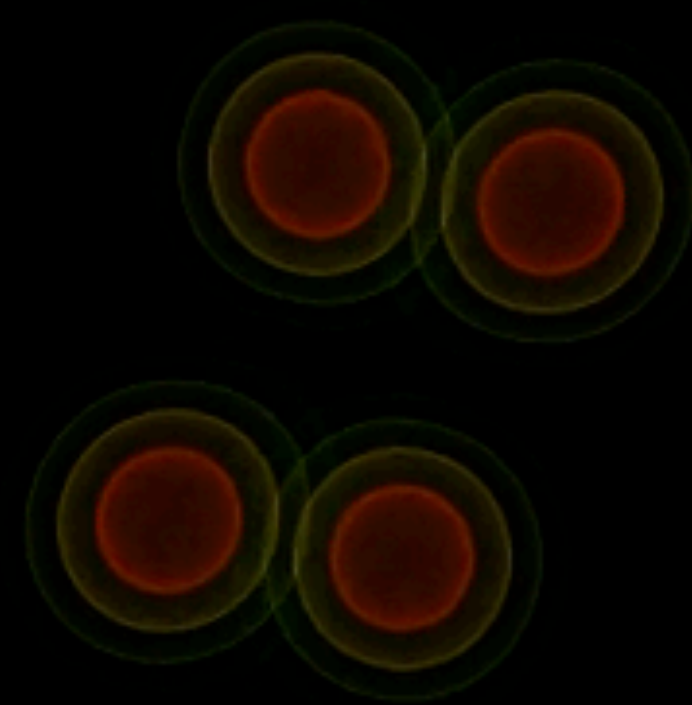
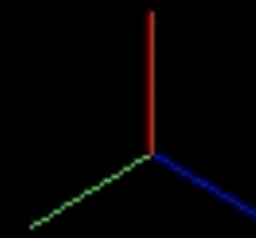
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# Power of Madelung Picture

- In some sense, we model a quantum wavefunction as a fluid.
- Can even be generalised to work in the opposite direction, i.e. to capture the dynamics of a fluid (for example, in multi-streaming CDM models) using an effective wavefunction.

**Making (dark matter) waves: Untangling wave interference  
for multi-streaming dark matter**  
Gough, Uhlemann, arXiv 2206.11918





# 16 4 ULDM Solitons Orbiting Each Other

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# Caveats (?) of Madelung Picture

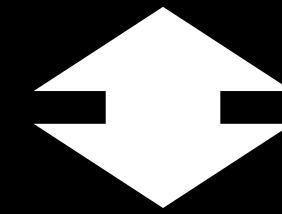
- Spatial resolution imposes a speed limit on all simulated FDM structures (aliasing)
- Phase (and hence momentum) information susceptible to numerical fluctuations when density is small.
- Such fields are spin-less by construction.
- Does this mean our simulations lack some fundamental ways that ULDM can evolve or talk to their environment?

Scalar dark matter vortex stabilization with black holes

Glennon et al, arXiv 2301.13220

## Schrödinger-Poisson

$$i\psi = \left[ -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 + (\Phi_U + \Phi_{Ext}) \right] \psi$$
$$\nabla^2 \Phi_U = 4\pi m |\psi|^2$$


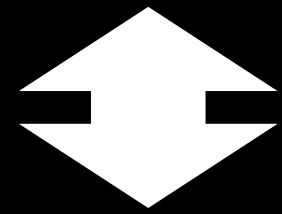


External Gravitational Potentials  
Non-Gravitational Self-Interaction  
**Expansion of Universe**

...



**Schrödinger-Poisson**



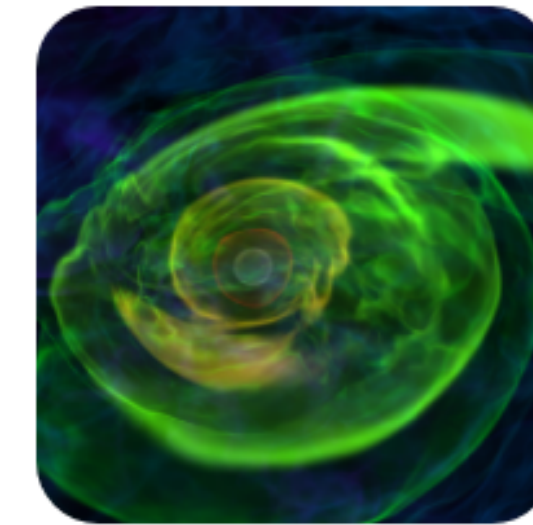
Corrections and Hydro / Baryon Physics

- **S-P equation** is solved on a mesh grid with either pseudo-spectral or finite difference methods.
  - Each method brings in a unique set of advantages and disadvantages (performance; features preserved or cut off).
  - Further, pseudo-spectral methods introduces periodic boundaries on the domain over which it is employed.
- Advancing spatial or temporal steps over empty space seems like a waste of compute resources.
  - Want to focus on regions of interest.
- **Overall strategy:**  
Use adaptive mesh refinement.  
FFT on the root grid, finite difference on refined grids.

# Nyx

## AMReX-Astro/**Nyx**

An adaptive mesh, N-body hydro cosmological simulation code



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Contributors

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Issues

★ 80

Stars

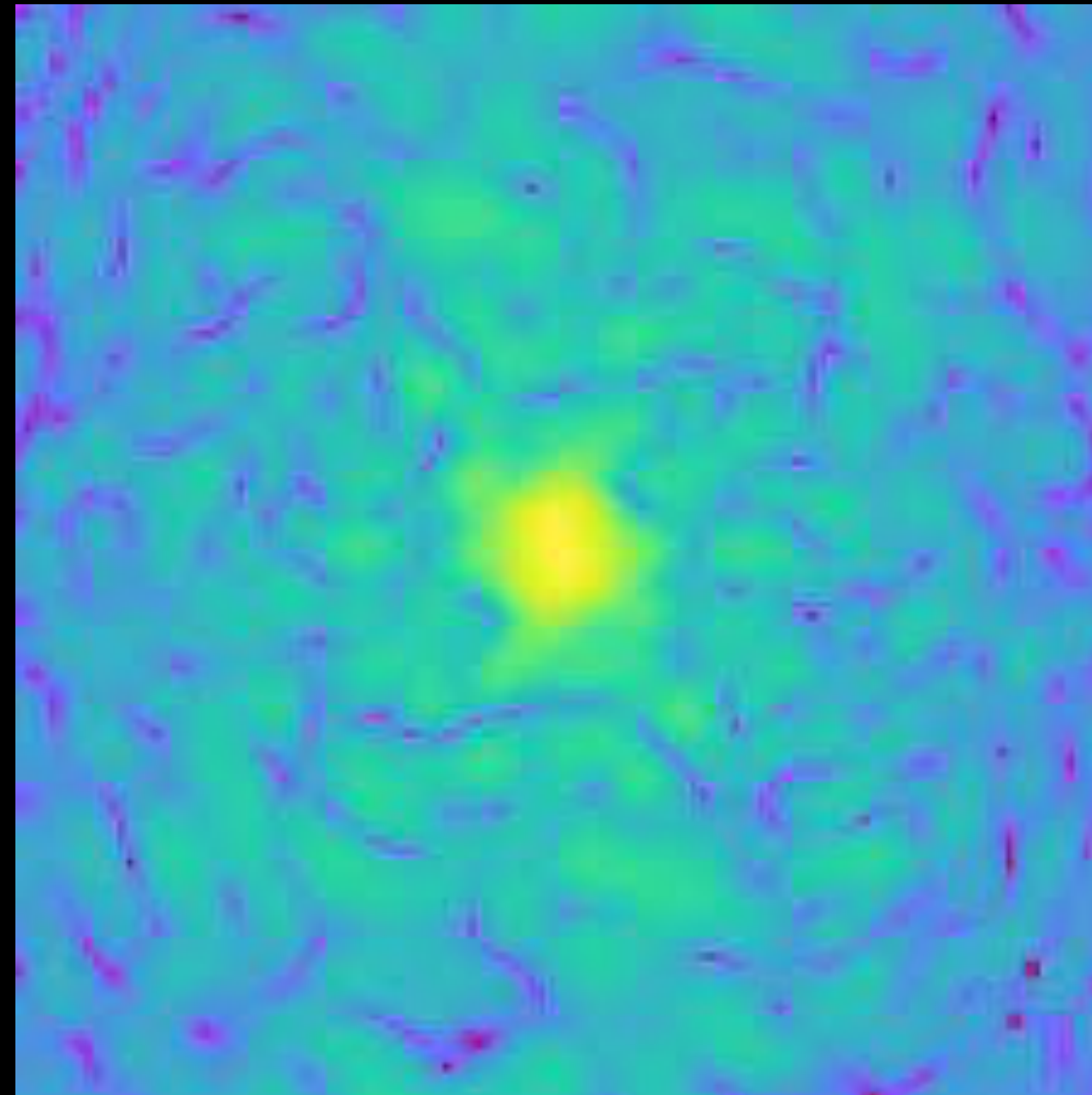
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Forks



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# AxioNyx



**AxioNyx: Simulating Mixed Fuzzy and Cold Dark Matter**

Schwabe *et al.* arXiv 2007.08256



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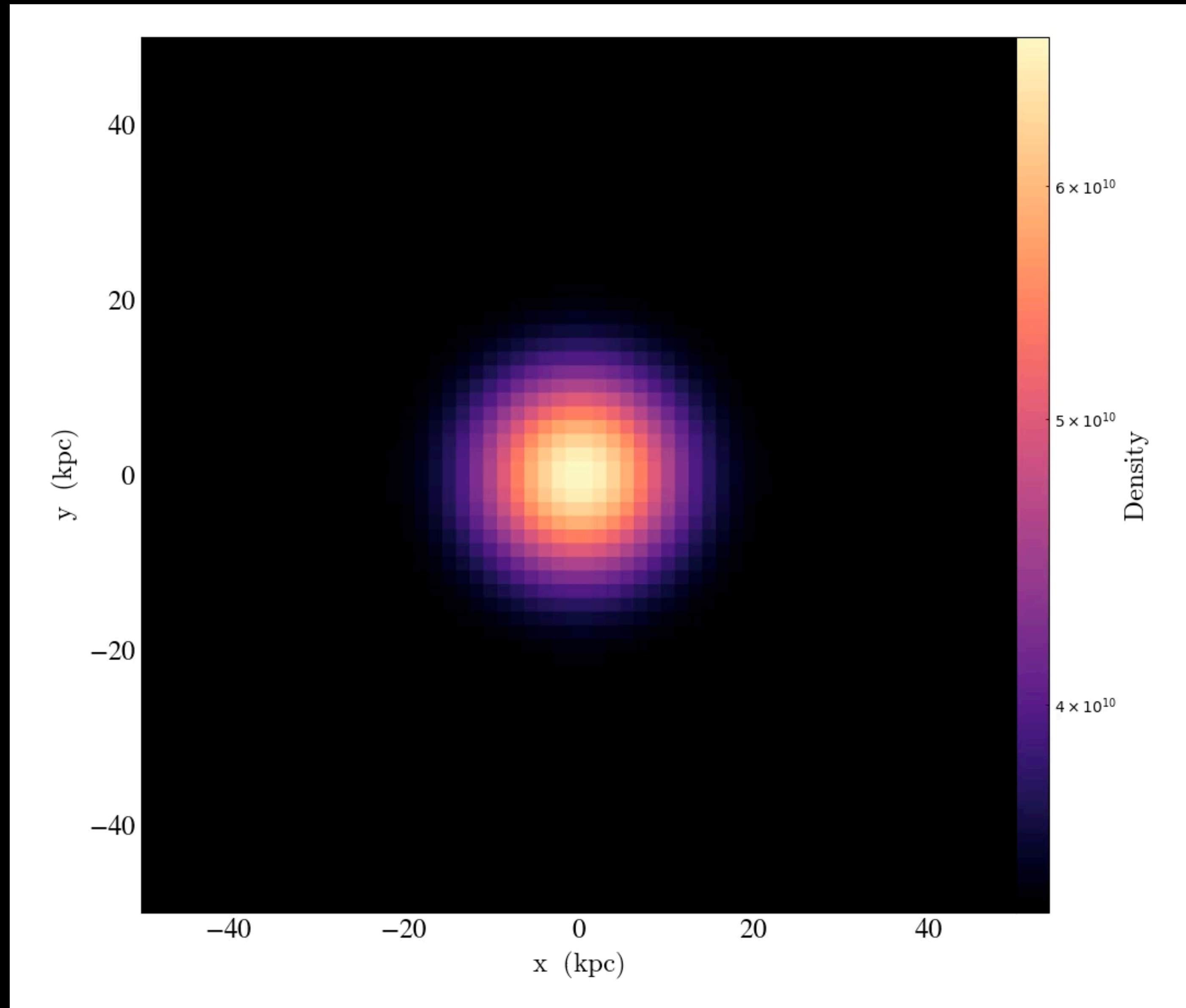
# Our Pipeline

- Built upon the public version of AxioNyx 2
- Grid-based hydrodynamical code coupled to axions via gravity.
- For the moment, no radiative cooling or feedback mechanisms are implemented.
- Both systems can trigger grid refinement subject to certain criteria.
- Compatibility with other tool sets like Nyx and PyUltralight.

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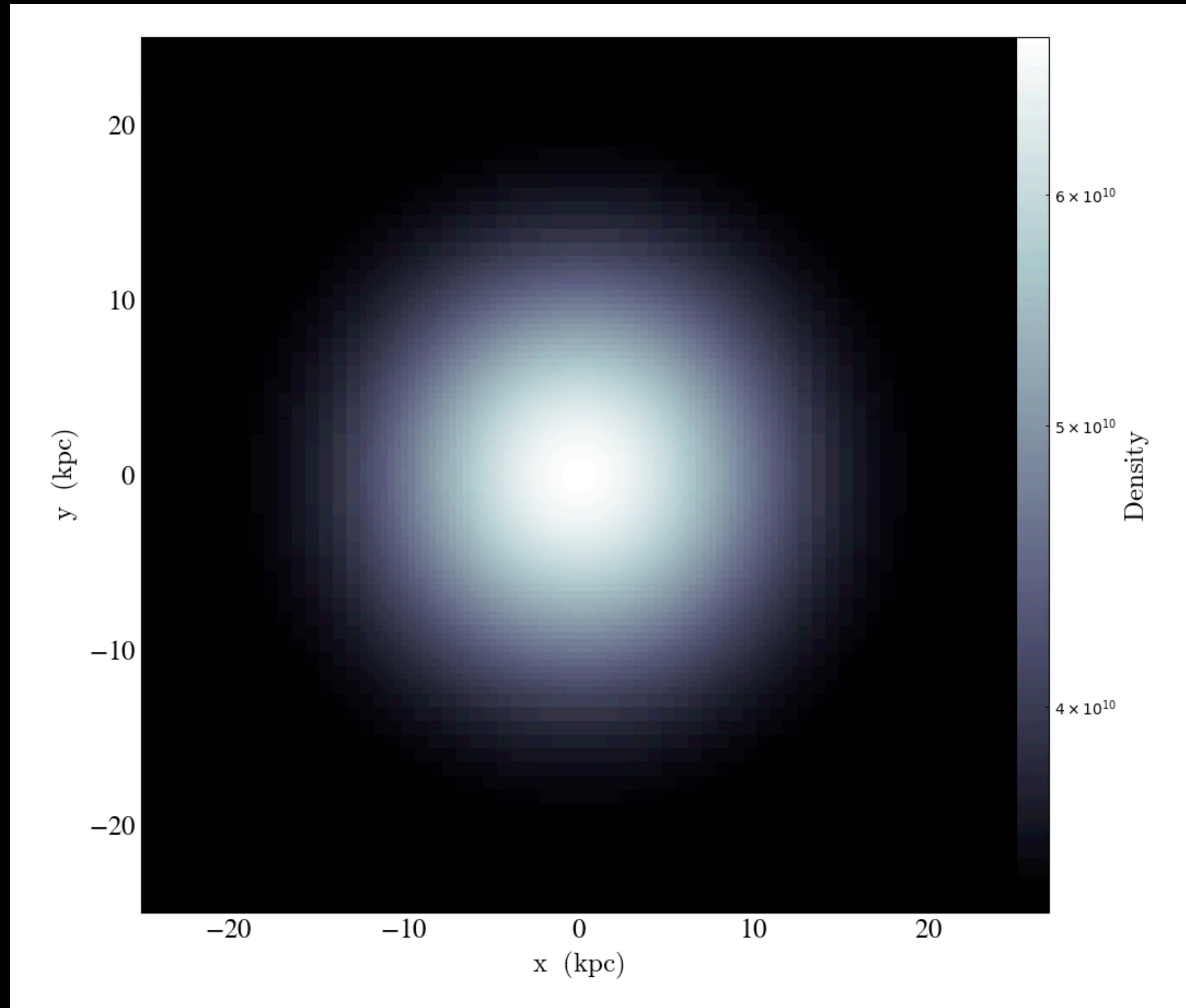
# Spherical Collapse

- A highly dynamical process, simulated within an expanding background.
- Take an spherically over-density of both ULDM and gas, and let the combined system evolve in time under own gravity.
- First high-resolution runs on NeSI are being conducted as we speak.

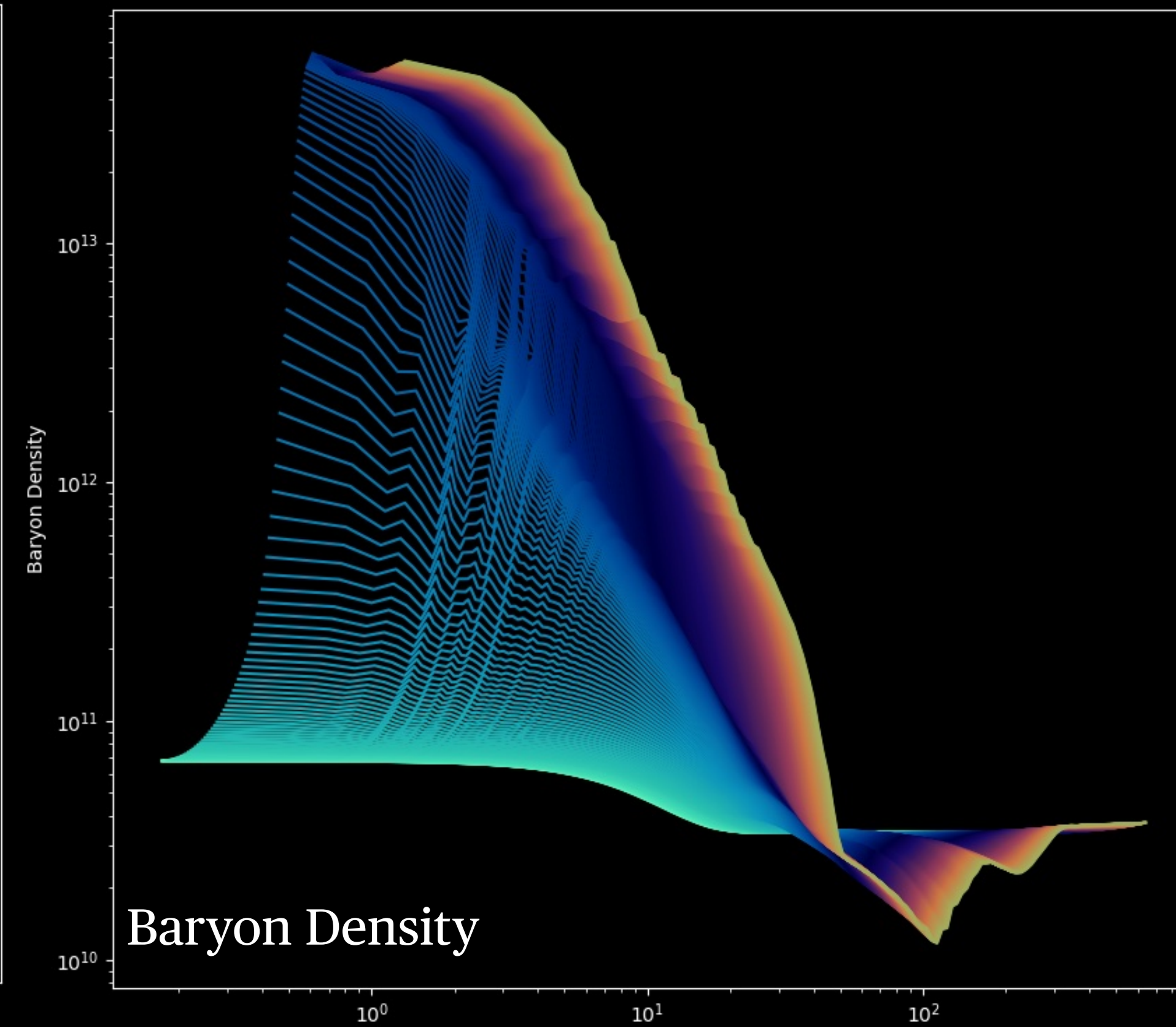
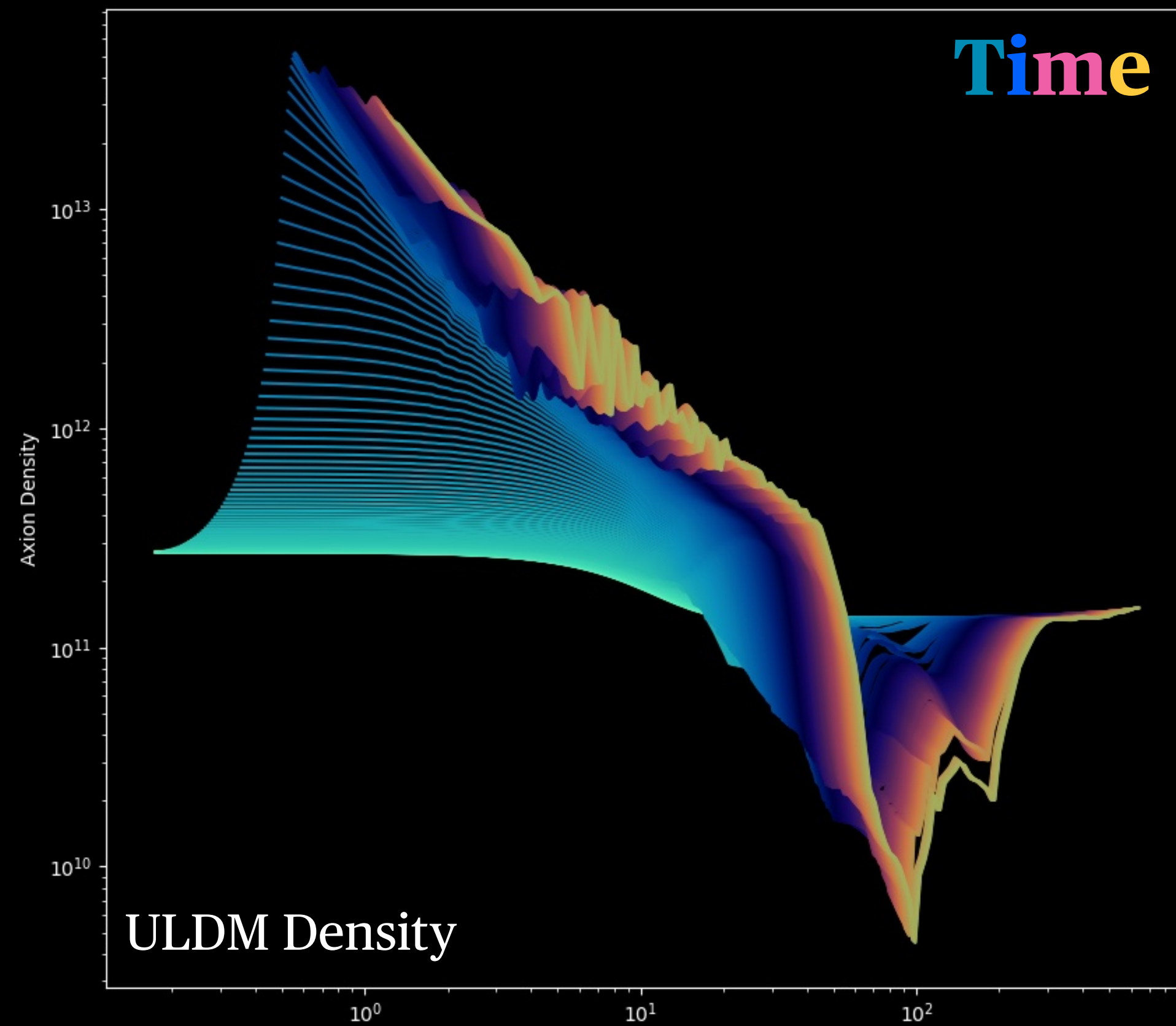


## 24 Sph. Collapse: ULDM Overdensity





## 25 Sph. Collapse: Gas Overdensity



## 26 Sph. Collapse: Density Evolution in Time

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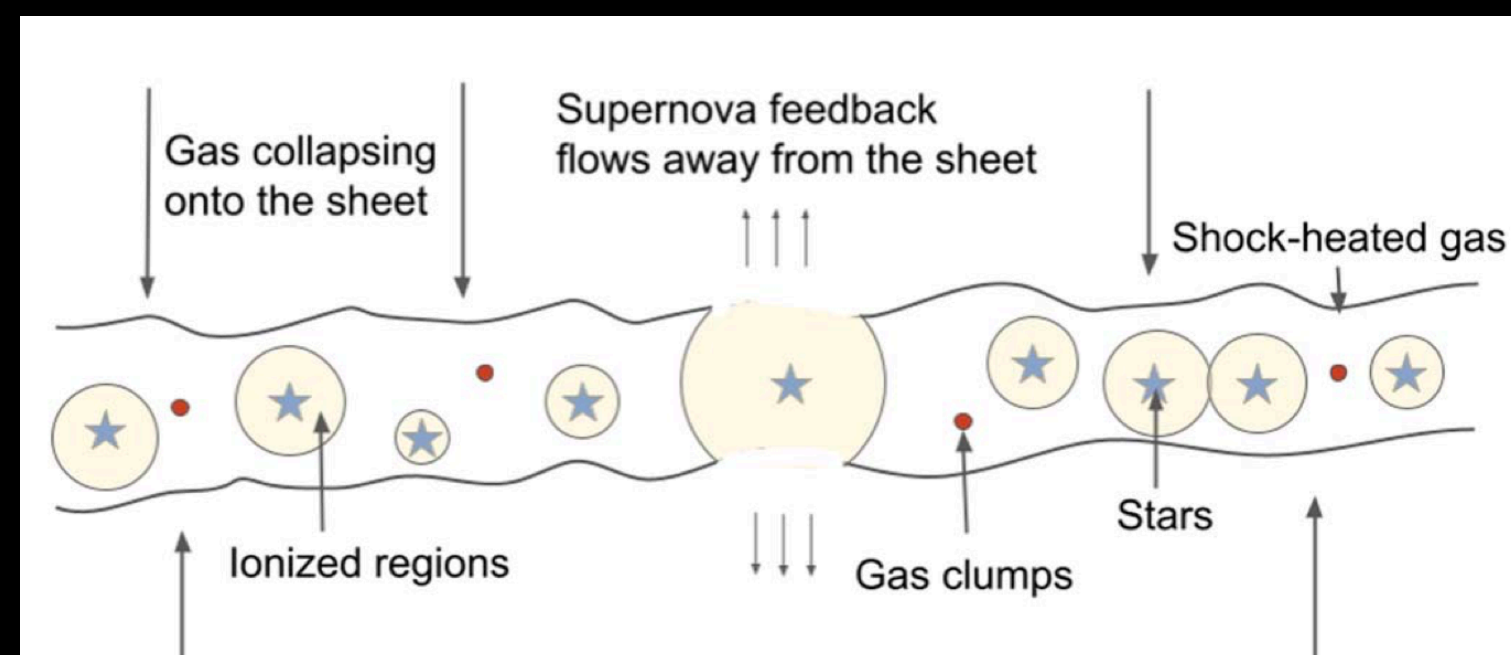
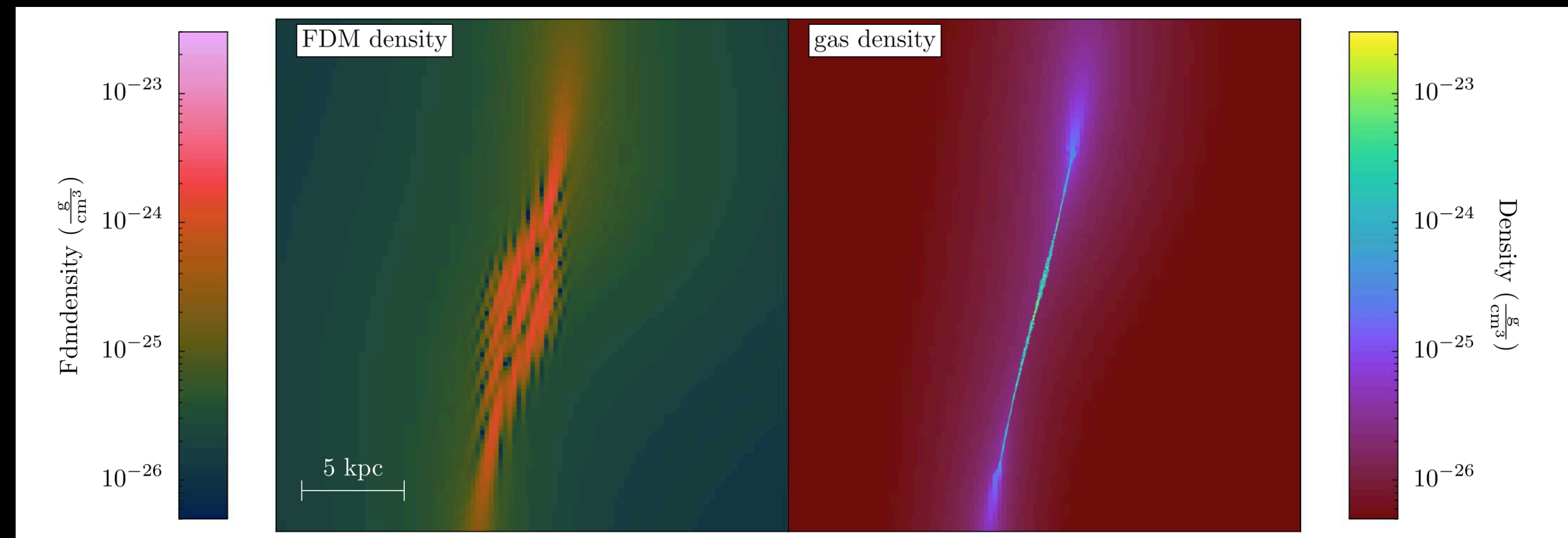
# Just a Start ...

- Higher resolution runs for the spherical collapse case.
- Bigger boxes with more realistic initial overdensity profiles.
- Systematically compare simulation results with ULDM-only runs
  - highlight how the system's evolution depends on baryon component.
- Implement rudimentary star formation and feedback considerations in the code.



# Just a Start ...

- Compare with and extend other works in this direction, e.g.



**If dark matter is fuzzy, the first stars form in massive pancakes**

*Kulkani et al. ApJL 941 L18*

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# Summary

- ULDM is an interesting dark matter candidate.
- Modelling its behaviour with a wavefunction in Madelung picture leads to a rich array of interesting dynamics.
- Coupling our ULDM simulator to hydrodynamical code is an important step in constructing testable models of ULDM properties, and bridging our predictions with astrophysics.



NeSI  
New Zealand eScience  
Infrastructure



## Acknowledgements