

The 21 cm Signal and Fuzzy Dark Matter

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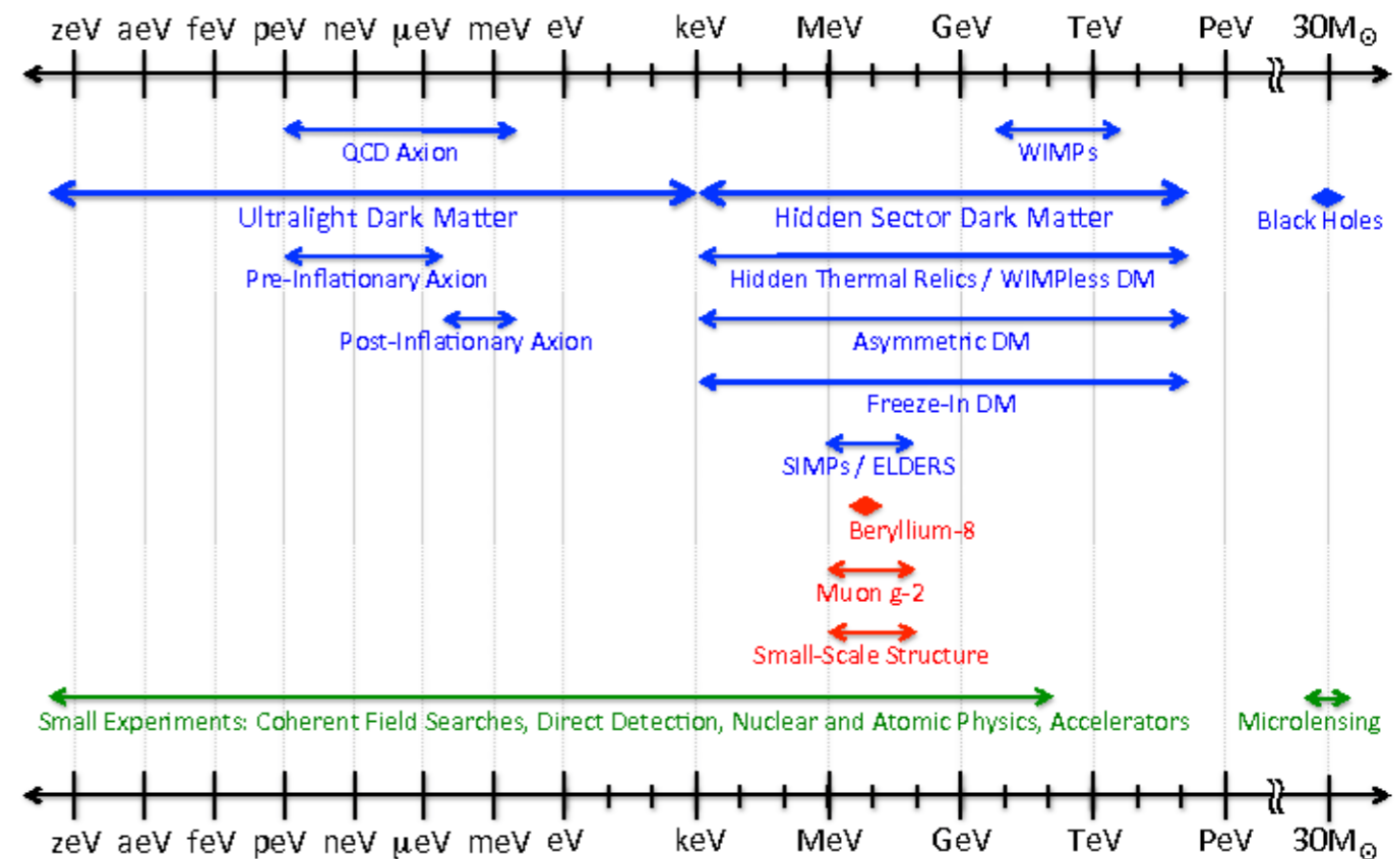
The Main Point...

- The 21 cm signal times the onset of Cosmic Dawn and some of the earliest phases of structure formation.
- An early onset redshift yields tight constraints on interesting alternatives to Cold Dark Matter models in which small-scale structure is suppressed.

Dark Matter Candidates

1 zeV = 10^{-21} eV (“zetta-eV”)

- Current dark matter candidates in the literature span about 88 orders of magnitude in particle mass!
- This talk will focus on Fuzzy Dark Matter (FDM), the lightest candidate in this range with $m \sim 10^{-22}$ eV (e.g. Hu, Barkana, & Gruzinov 2000).



US Cosmic Visions: Battaglieri+ 2017

FDM gives us another lamppost!



Fuzzy Dark Matter

- Suppose dark matter consists of ultralight bosons with $m \sim 10^{-22}$ eV.
- DeBroglie wavelength is \sim galactic scale.

$$\lambda_D = \frac{\hbar}{mv} \sim 2 \text{ kpc} \frac{10^{-22} \text{ eV}}{m} \frac{10 \text{ km/s}}{v}$$

- Heisenberg Uncertainty principle prevents confinement on scales smaller than \sim DeBroglie wavelength.
- Prevents dark matter particles from collapsing into small mass halos.
- On large scales (relative to the DeBroglie wavelength) behaves like CDM.

See e.g. Hu+ 2000, Hui + 2017

Motivation

- Ultralight scalar fields arise in many beyond the standard model of particle physics theories, e.g. string theory.

- Can naturally explain relic abundance (e.g. Hui+ 2017):

$$\Omega_{\text{axion}} \sim 0.1 \left(\frac{F}{10^{17} \text{ GeV}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{m}{10^{-22} \text{ eV}} \right)^{1/2} .$$

- Help with small-scale CDM issues (and/or baryonic physics): missing satellites, cuspy halo, too-big-to-fail, etc...?

- *Makes distinctive testable predictions!*

Fuzzy Dark Matter and Initial Power Spectrum

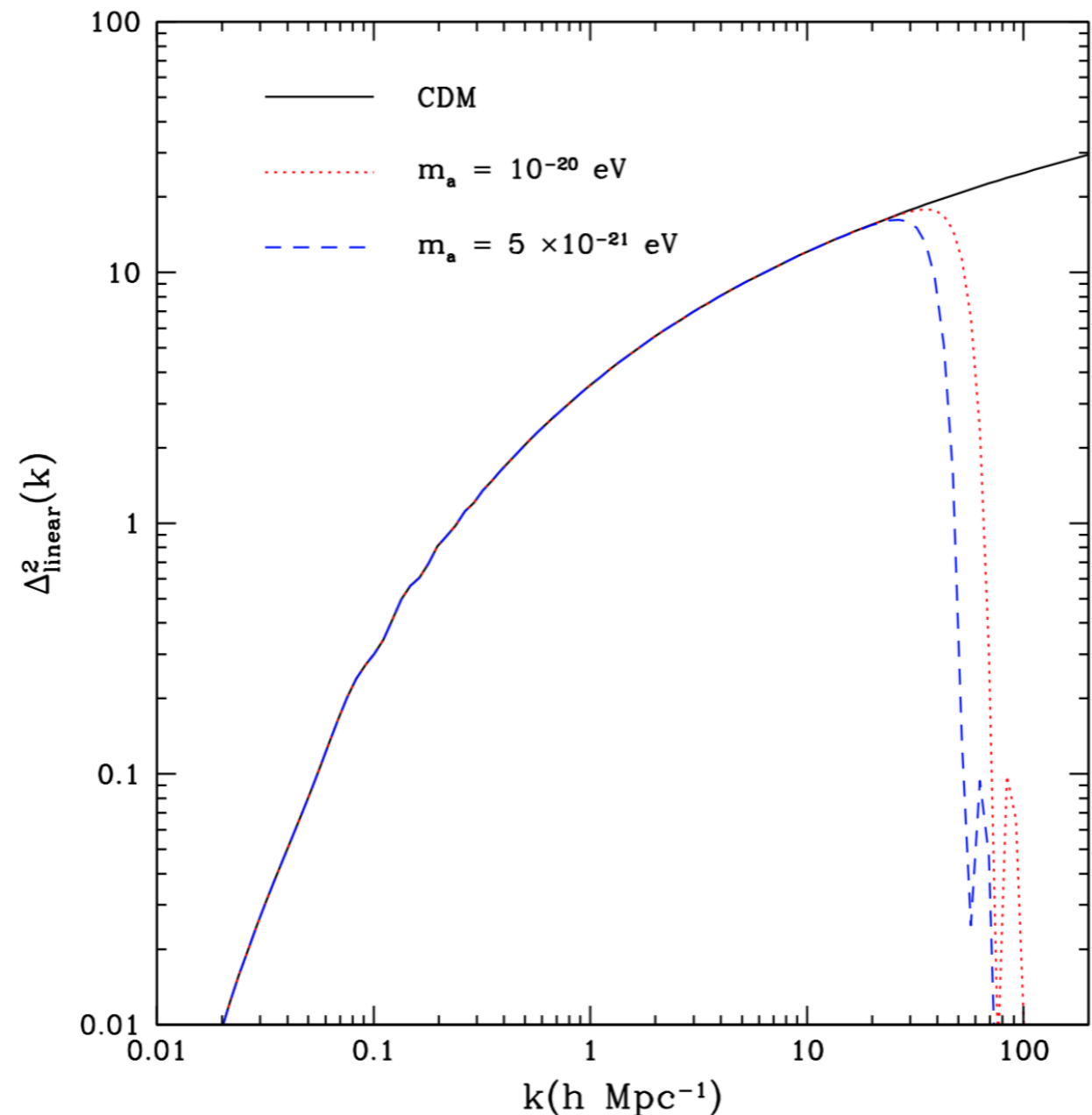
- Macroscopic DeBroglie wavelength leads to suppression of power below a Jeans scale:

$$\lambda_D \sim \lambda_{\text{Jeans}} \sim \frac{\hbar}{mv}$$

$$v \sim \frac{\lambda_{\text{Jeans}}}{t_{\text{dyn}}} \quad t_{\text{dyn}} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{G\bar{\rho}}}$$

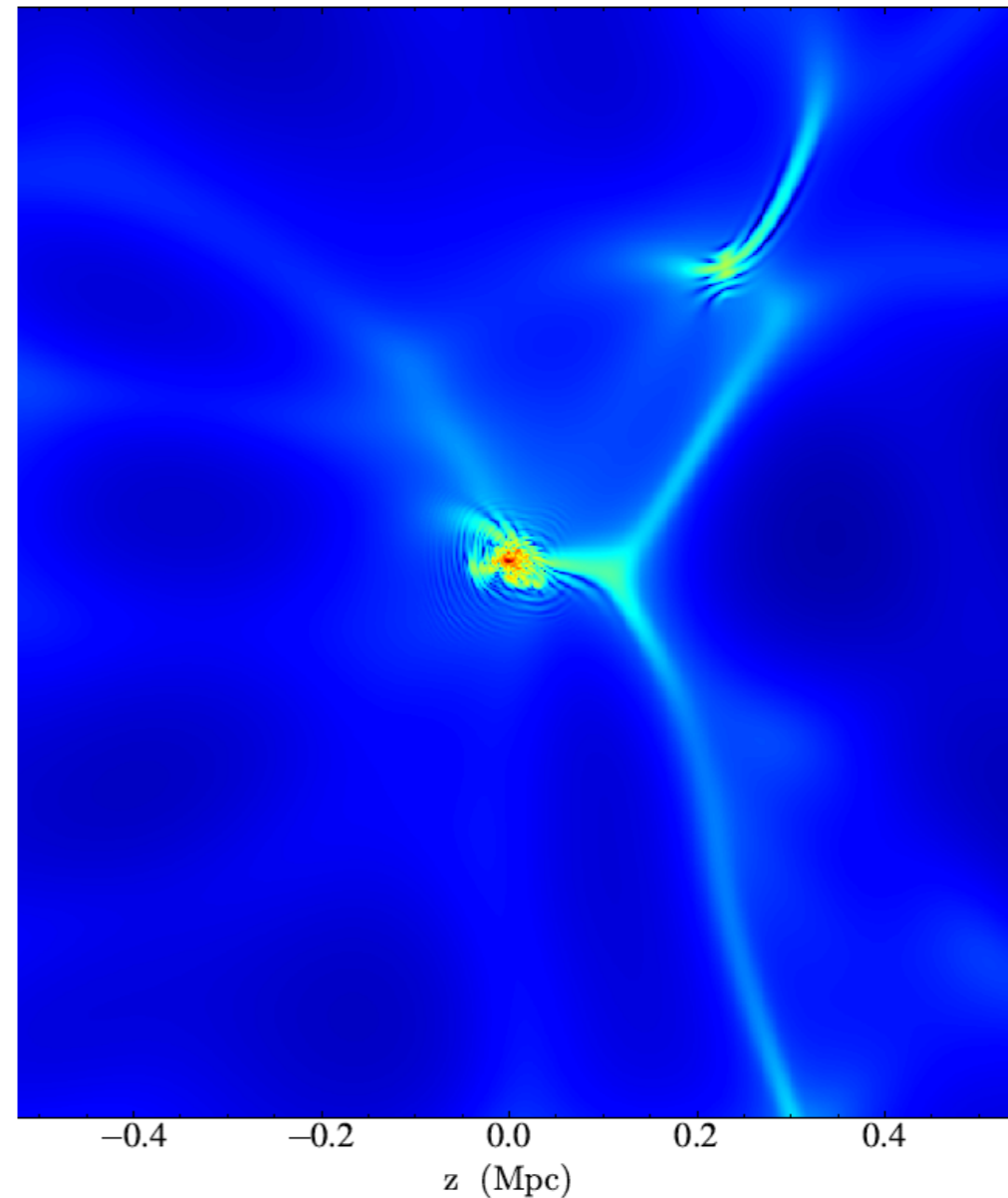
- More precisely, linear $P(k)$ is reduced by a factor of two in FDM at a co-moving wavenumber:

$$k_{1/2} = 26 \text{ Mpc}^{-1} \left(\frac{m}{5 \times 10^{-21} \text{ eV}} \right)^{4/9}$$



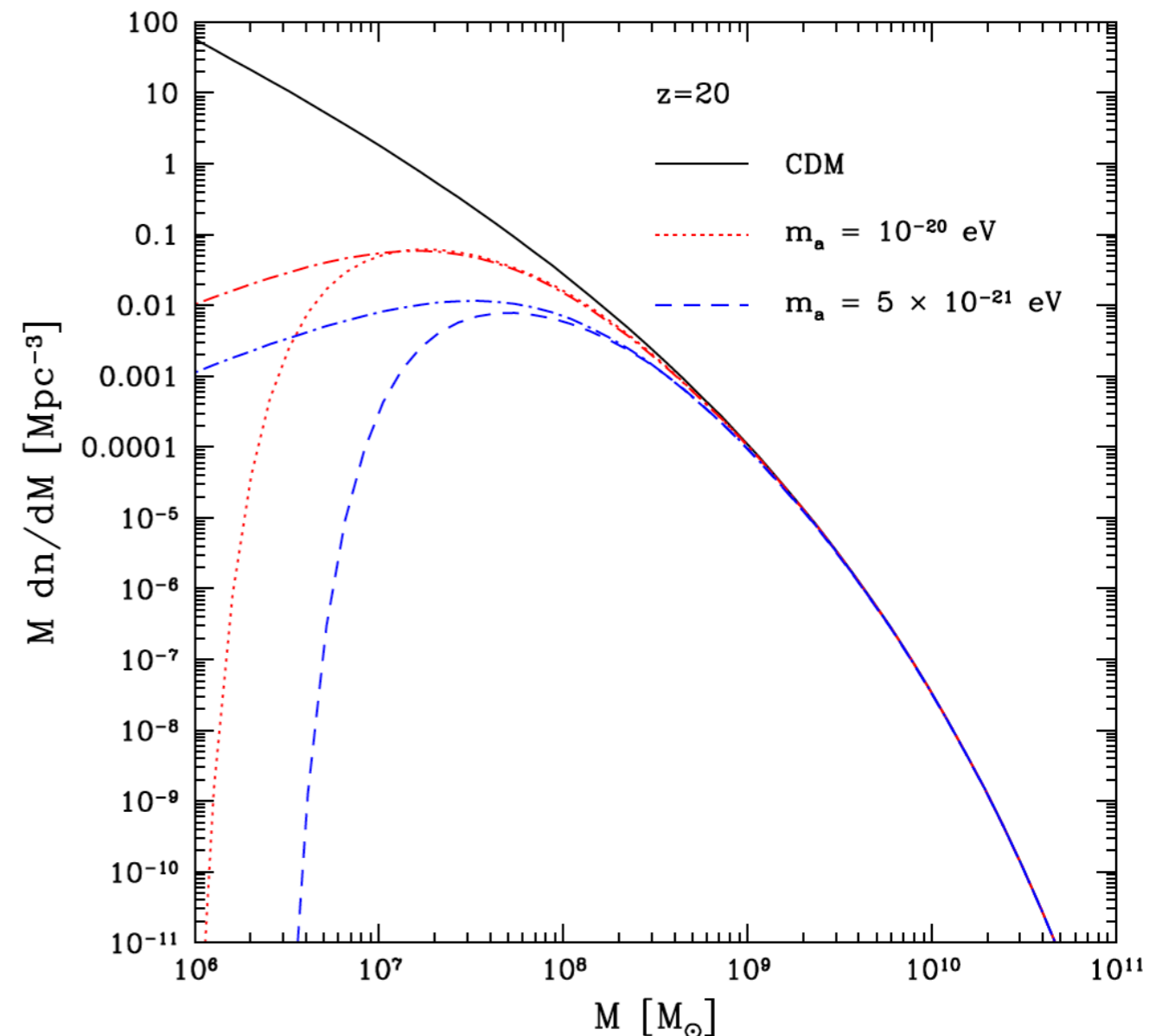
Halo Mass Function in FDM?

- FDM modifies dark matter dynamics as well as initial conditions.
- Challenging to simulate because one needs to resolve \sim DeBroglie scale everywhere!
- A lot of recent progress, but we don't know exactly what the mass function is in FDM!



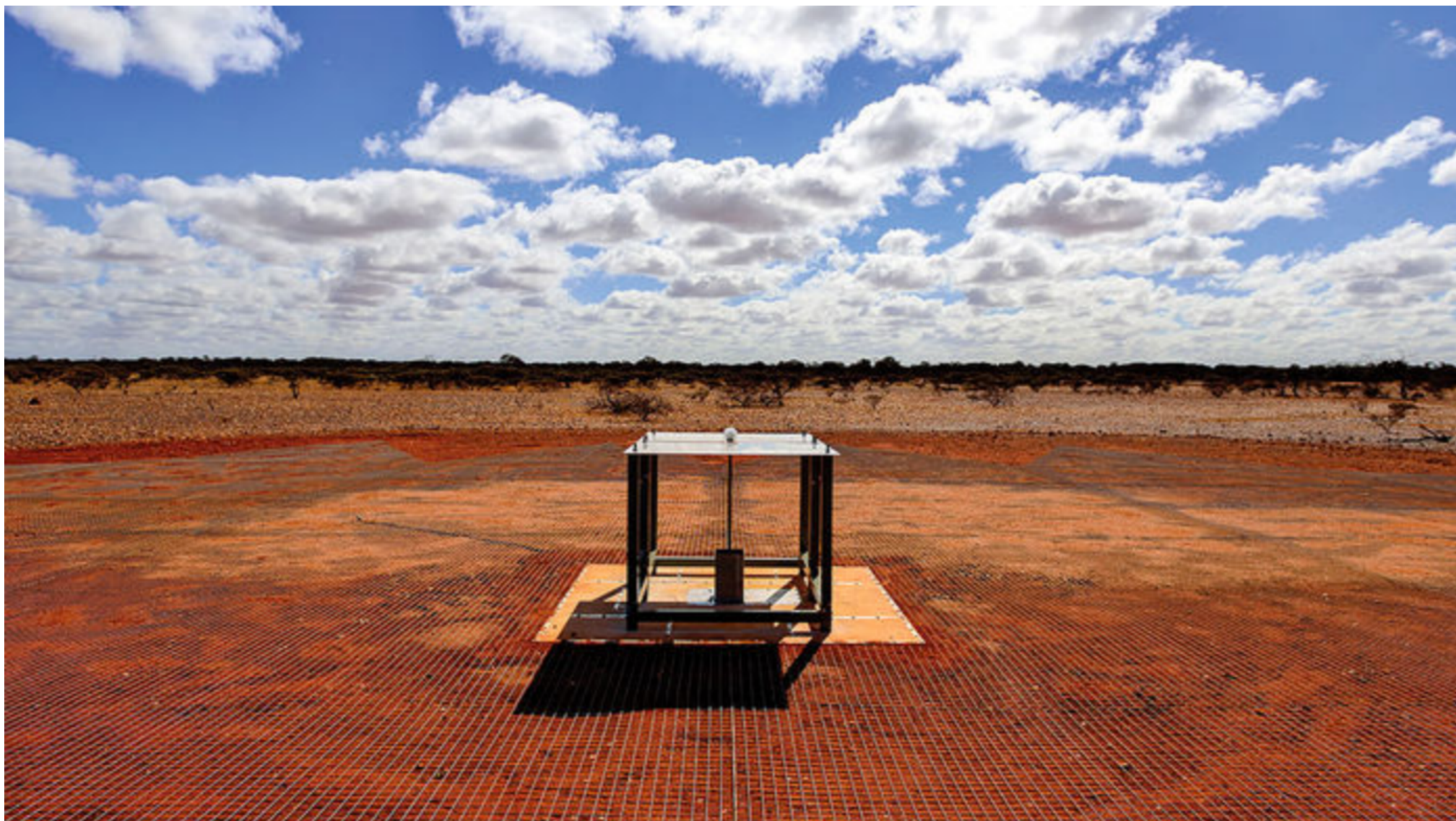
Mass Function Suppression near Cosmic Dawn

- Suppression in abundance of dark matter halos near Cosmic Dawn epoch.
- Likely to delay onset redshift.
- Dotted lines: model including only initial condition suppression (Schive+2016).
- Dashed lines : semi-analytic model intended to also roughly account for FDM dynamics (Marsh & Silk 2014)



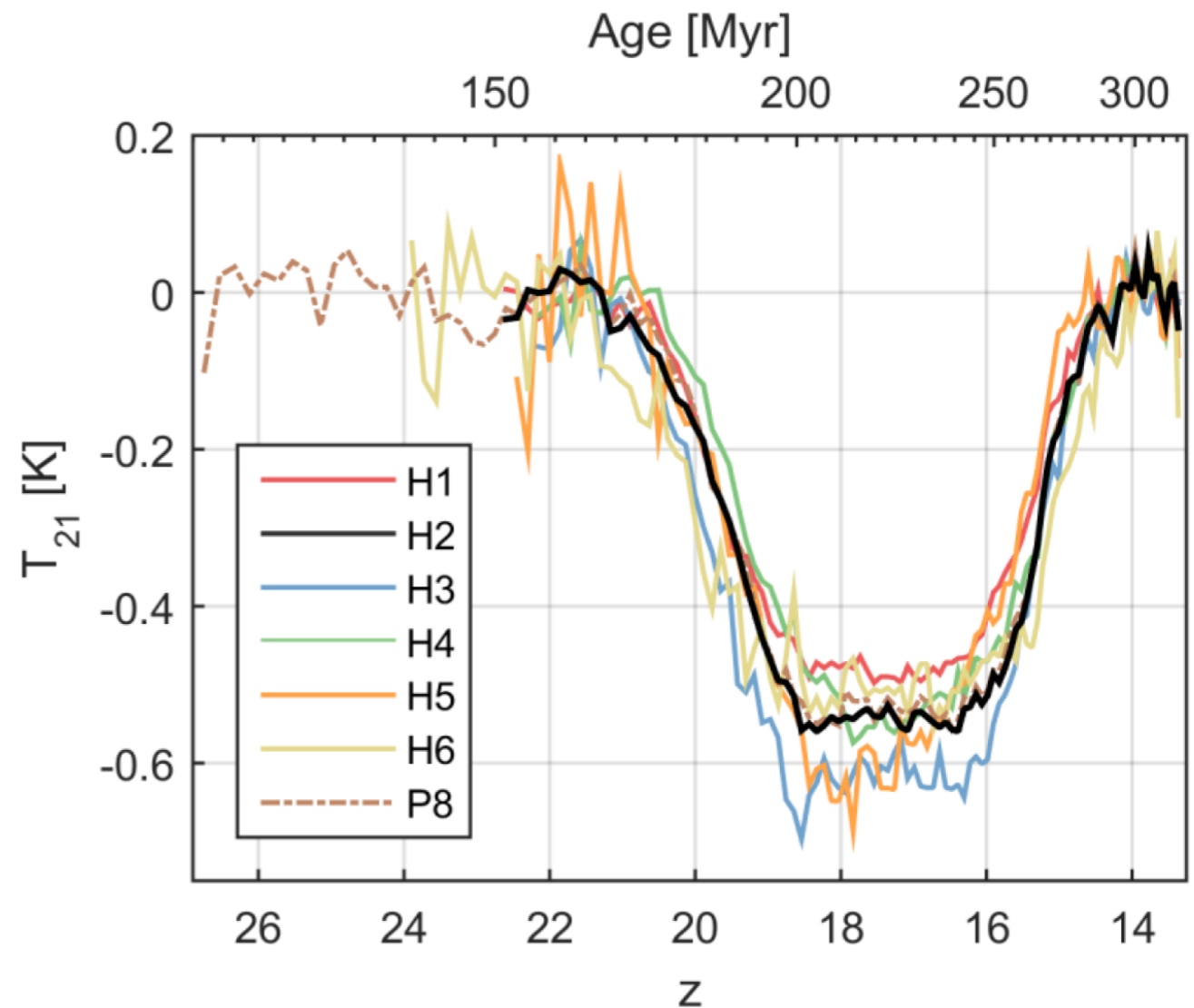
Lidz & Hui 2018

Enter EDGES and the global 21 cm signal



EDGES Absorption Feature

- Claimed absorption feature in sky-averaged radio spectrum!!!
- Attributed to neutral hydrogen absorption at $z \sim 15-20$.



Bowman+ 2018

EDGES is surprising (if real)...

- Taken at face value, depth requires: mechanism to “super-cool” the gas and/or prominent radio background at $z \sim 20$.
- A significant Ly- α photon background at $z \sim 20$ to couple the spin temperature to the gas temperature.
- This requires significant early star-formation, without heat input from early X-rays, cosmic rays, weak shocks, etc..
- The flat bottomed feature requires a delicate balance between heating/cooling over $\Delta z \sim 5$.
- Sharp evolution on both sides of the flat-bottom.

Implications for FDM?

- Require ~ 0.1 Ly-alpha photons per hydrogen atom at $z \sim 20$ to break equilibration of spin temperature to CMB temperature. This is needed to make HI visible against the CMB!
- Need early halo formation, star formation to achieve this Ly-a background! Hard to meet this requirement with FDM!
- We avoid modeling the full shape of the signal and assume that the Wouthuysen-Field coupling $x_\alpha \sim 1$ at $z \sim 20$.

Implications for FDM

- Calculate Ly- α specific intensity assuming UV emissivity in CDM/
FDM traces time derivative of halo collapse fraction:

$$\epsilon \propto \frac{df_{\text{coll}}(> M_{\text{min}}, z)}{dt}$$

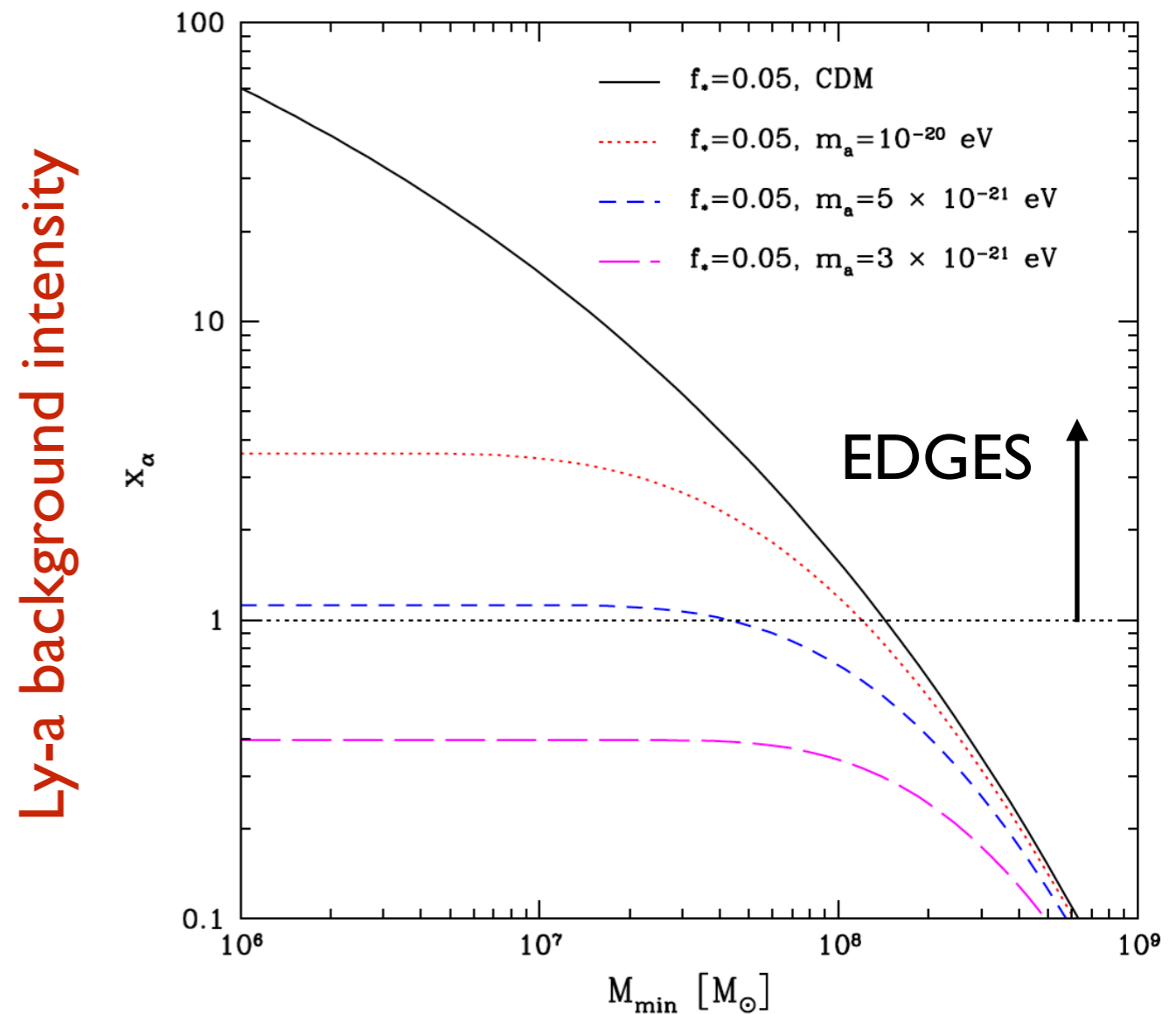
- Assume halo-mass independent star-formation efficiency, conservatively $f_* \leq 0.05$ in halos above a minimum mass M_{min} .
- Assume 9690 between Ly- α and the Ly-limit frequency are produced per stellar baryon (e.g. Barkana & Loeb 2005).

Lidz & Hui (2018)

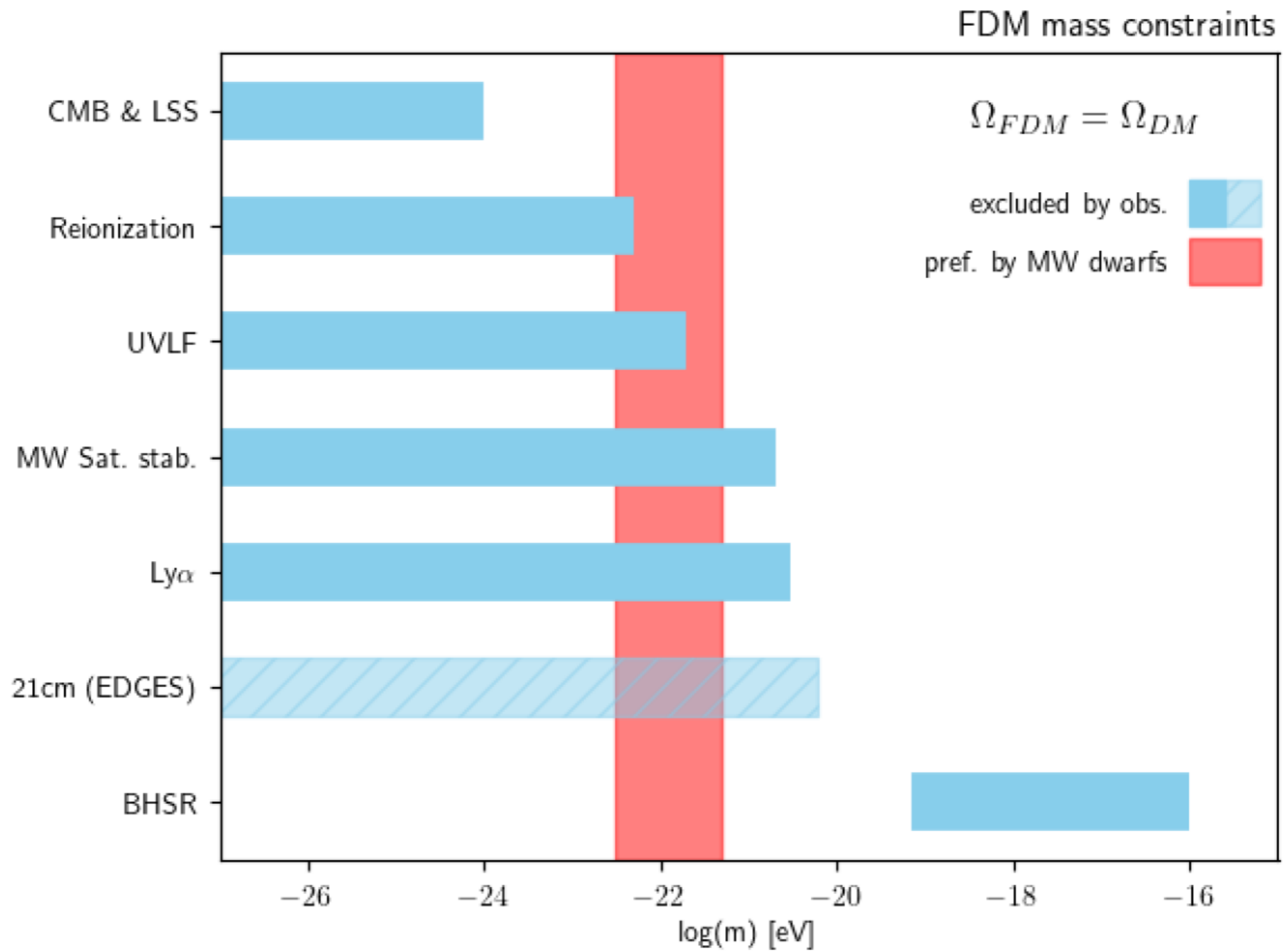
EDGES and Fuzzy Dark Matter

- In order to couple the spin temperature to the gas temperature via WF effect at $z \sim 20$, require ~ 0.1 Ly- α photons per hydrogen atom.
- Strongly constrains any model where the formation of small mass halos is suppressed such as fuzzy or warm dark matter.

Lidz & Hui 2018



Minimum halo mass hosting star-formation

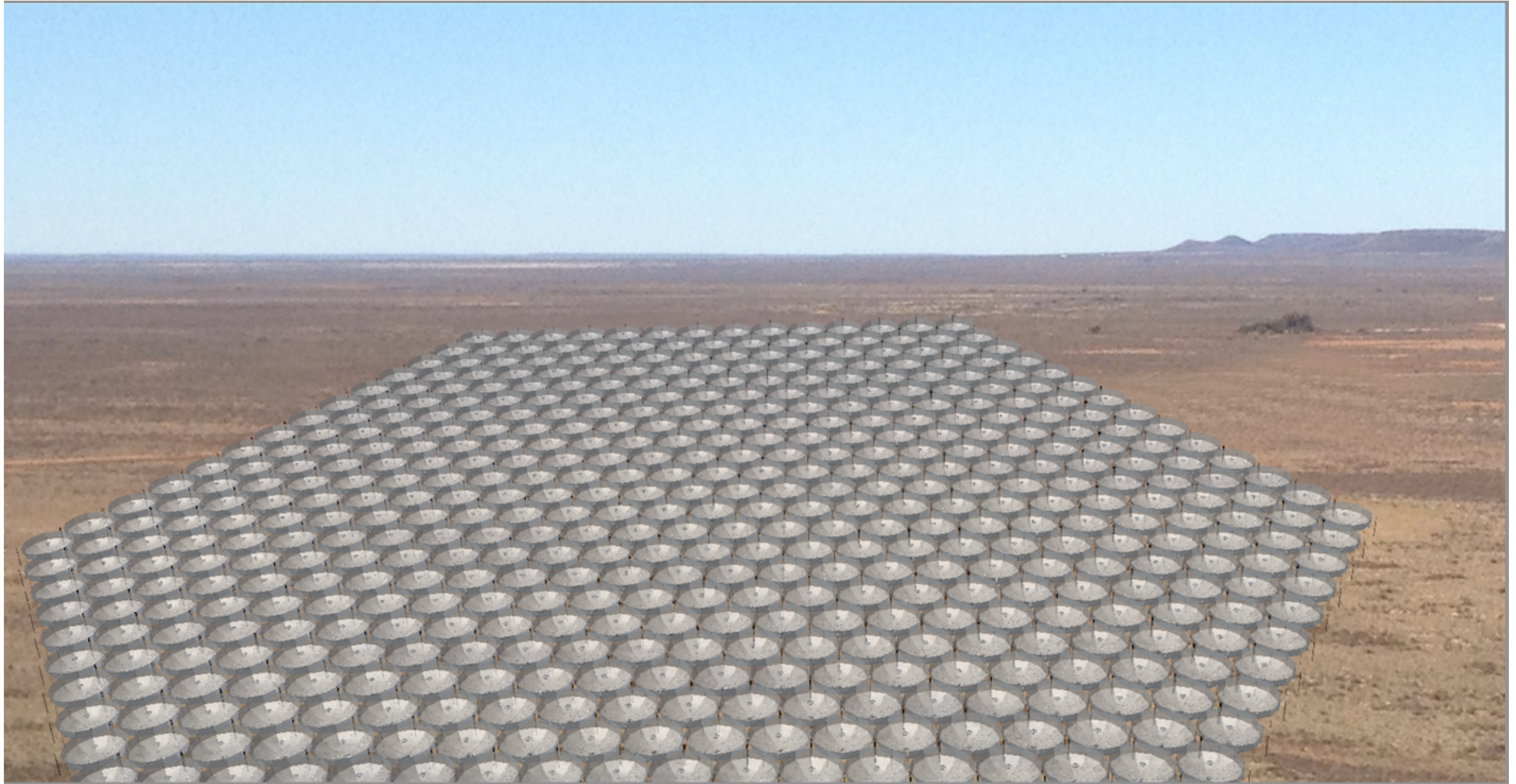


Credit: Schwabe 2018

How about Warm Dark Matter?

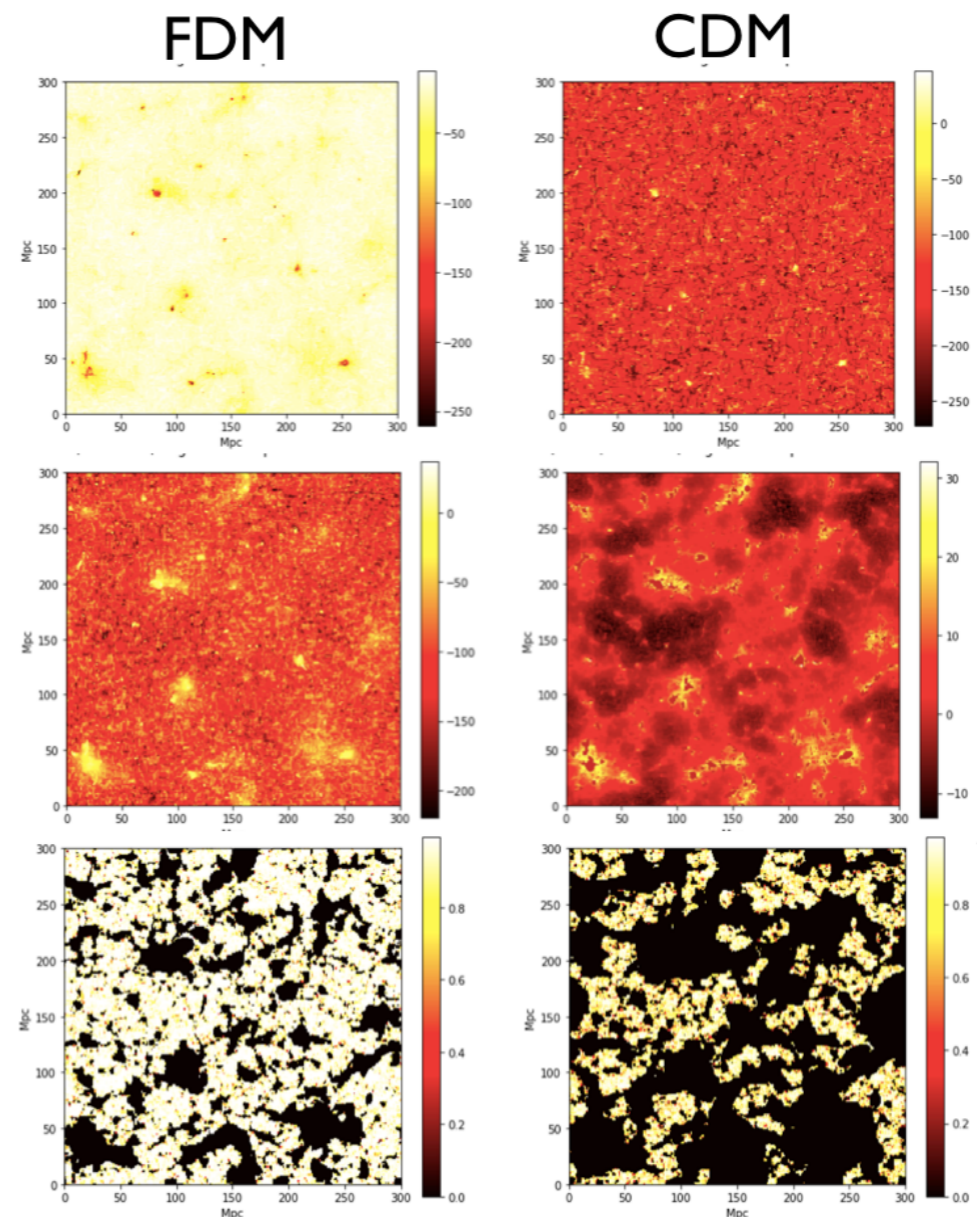
- In WDM, free-streaming suppresses small scale structure. By matching suppression scale in linear $P(k)$ we can roughly determine WDM constraint.
- For thermal relic WDM, the corresponding limit from EDGES is $m_{\text{wdm}} \geq 5 \text{ keV}$ (see also e.g. Safarzadeh+ 2018, Schneider 2018).

What about the 21 cm Fluctuation Signal in FDM?



Delay in structure formation leads to interesting signatures in 21 cm fluctuations and power spectra

- Should lead to interesting FDM detections or constraints with HERA (work in progress).
- Different systematics than global 21 cm experiments.
- Help break degeneracies with f_* .



Jones+...,AL (in prep)

Conclusions

- The 21 cm signal marks the timing of first structure formation, which helps constrain dark matter properties.
- If EDGES is real and the Ly- α background reaches ~ 0.1 photons/hydrogen atom by $z \sim 20$, this implies the tightest constraints to date on Fuzzy Dark Matter.
- Future 21 fluctuation measurements from e.g. HERA provide an interesting cross-check here, and should help in breaking parameter degeneracies.

Sensitivity to Assumptions

- Redshift at which coupling is achieved vs. FDM mass lower limit (for different star formation efficiencies.)
- This shows how the bound would relax if future refined measurements find that VV coupling is achieved at lower redshifts...
- Also how the constraint sharpens if f_* is smaller.

