# DARK MATTER EXISTENCE AND OTHER RESULTS FROM A COLLISION OF GALAXY CLUSTERS

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#### **Galaxy clusters contain:**

- 1–3% of mass in stars
- 10–20% in hot gas (~ 10 keV, ~  $10^{-3}$  cm<sup>-3</sup>, optically thin for X-rays)
- 80–90% in dark matter (~  $10^{15} M_{\odot}$ )

**Plasma contains:** 

- magnetic fields  $B \sim 1 \mu G \rightarrow$  plasma collisionless, but "hot" ( $\beta \equiv p/p_B \gg 1$ )
- ultrarelativistic particles ( $\gamma \sim 10^4$ )

Cluster mass function  $N(M_{tot})$  and baryon fraction  $M_{gas}/M_{tot}$  — sensitive cosmological probes

## **Cluster mergers**







The most energetic events since the Big Bang: two  $10^{15} M_{\odot}$  clusters carry  $E_{\rm kin} \sim 10^{63-64}$  ergs

Laboratory for studying intracluster plasma: shocks, instabilities, ram pressure stripping, transport processes, relativistic particle accelertion, magnetic fields

#### Chandra X-ray Observatory



#### **ACIS detector:**

- 0.3 8 keV energy band
- 16' × 16' FOV
- 1" on-axis angular resolution

# Shock front in 1E 0657–56



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#### **Textbook example of a shock front:**



 $M = 3.0 \pm 0.4$ , shock  $v = 4700 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ 

# **Testing alternative dark matter theories**

## **Modified Gravity**

MOND, TeVeS, others (Milgrom 1983, Bekenstein 2004):

• No need for dark matter — gravity laws modified to mimic effects of DM

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Can be falsified: find an object where visible mass and center of gravity are spatially separated

# Gravitational lensing







# 1E0657-56 HST image weak lensing mass contours (Clowe 06) (strong lensing confirms, Bradač 06)



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# 1E 0657-56

Offset between gas and mass peaks → Dark Matter exists!) (Clowe 04, 06)

weak lensing mass contours (Clowe 06)

(strong lensing confirms, Bradač 06)

#### **Other examples of gas – lensing mass offsets:**





Gas mass — lensing mass offset:

- proves that dark matter exists
- does not say anything about the nature of DM
- does not prove that gravity is Newtonian

## **Self-interacting Dark Matter**

SIDM with  $\sigma/m \sim 0.5 - 5 \text{ cm}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$  was proposed to explain problems in standard CDM:

- Absence of central cusps in dwarf galaxies
- Too many surviving small-mass subhalos within large halos

(Spergel & Steinhardt 2000; Davé et al. 2001)

Upper limits on  $\sigma/m$  from cluster mass peaks, evaporation of elliptical galaxy halos, ...

#### **Direct constraint on cross-section from 1E 0657–56**

**Observational evidence:** 

- 1. Offset between gas and dark matter clump
- 2. No offset between dark matter and galaxies
- 3. Subcluster's velocity not less than free-fall velocity
- 4. Subcluster's M/L ratio close to universal

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The best constraint comes from method 4 (Markevitch et al. 2004; Randall in prep.)

$$\frac{\sigma}{m} < 0.7 \text{ cm}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$$

Excludes almost all of interesting range — unless  $\sigma$  velocity-dependent

#### **Direct constraint on cross-section from 1E 0657–56**

Our limit:  $\sigma/m < 0.7 \text{ cm}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$ 

- $m = m_p \rightarrow \sigma < 2 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ • strong interactions ~  $10^{-24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$
- $m = 1 \text{ eV} \rightarrow \sigma < 2 \times 10^{-33} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

• neutrino-neutrino interaction from SN 1987a:  $\sigma < 10^{-35} - 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ 

#### **Sterile neutrinos as Warm DM**

- Does not interact with ordinary matter
- If  $m_s \sim 1 10$  keV, can explain cores in dwarf galaxies and deficit of small halos
- Decays into active neutrino and photon  $E_{\gamma} = m_s/2$ 
  - → constraints from X-ray observations of CXB and clusters

#### **Sterile neutrinos as Warm DM**



Abazajian & Koushiappas (2006)

#### **Sterile neutrinos as Warm DM**



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# **Summary on exotic theories**

#### MOND

#### SIDM

**Sterile neutrino DM** 

# **Summary on exotic theories**



#### SIDM

**Sterile neutrino DM** 

## **Summary on exotic theories**



**SIBM** (or  $\sigma$  is velocity-dependent)

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(Persistent strong / weak lensing mass discrepancy?)

# **Mainstream physics from cluster mergers**

# **Electron-proton temperature equilibration**



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At shock, protons <mark>heated dissipatively</mark>

















#### In magnetized plasma, is electron-proton equilibration Coulomb?

- Cluster outer regions  $\rightarrow$  errors in cluster masses?
- Supermassive black holes in AGN: advection-dominated accretion?

#### **Temperature across shock front in 1E 0657–56**



#### Model predictions for shock in 1E 0657–56



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• 95% confidence:  $\tau_{ep} \ll$  Coulomb

**Typical Earth's bow shock:** 



**Electrons are not heated at shock** 

**Typical Earth's bow shock:** 



**Electrons are not heated at shock** 

 $\rightarrow$  fast  $T_e - T_p$  equilibration outside shocks

# **Summary**

- Dark matter exists!
- DM self-interaction cross-section  $\sigma/m < 0.7 \text{ cm}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$

• Excludes astrophysically interesting range (for velocity-independent  $\sigma$ )

• Sterile neutrino DM: improved constraints

Electron-proton equilibration in plasma faster than Coulomb
First such test for any astrophysical plasma