

Title: Cosmological Constraints on Ultra-light Axions

Date: Jun 18, 2014 11:30 AM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/14060026>

Abstract: Ultra-light axions (ULAs) with masses in the range  $1e-33 \text{ eV} < m < 1e-18 \text{ eV}$  can constitute a novel component of the dark matter, which can be constrained by cosmological observations. ULA dark matter (DM) is produced non-thermally via vacuum realignment in the early universe and is cold. Pressure perturbations, however, manifest a scale in the clustering (also the de Broglie scale). For the range of masses considered this spans the Hubble scale down to sub-galactic scales. In the model-independent adiabatic mode of initial conditions, one can gain strong constraints on ULAs as DM from the CMB and large scale structure (LSS). I will present constraints from Planck and WiggleZ, constraining  $m \sim 1e-33 \text{ eV}$  to  $1e-25 \text{ eV}$  at the percent level. In the range  $m \gtrsim 1e-22 \text{ eV}$  ULAs may also solve the "small-scale problems" of CDM, and suggest other constraints from LSS and high- $z$  observations, constraining  $m \lesssim 1e-22 \text{ eV}$  to be sub-dominant in DM. Future prospects from CMB lensing, and from Euclid galaxy weak lensing, will make sub-percent constraints out to  $m \sim 1e-21 \text{ eV}$ . Model-dependent couplings between axions and photons provide still other bounds from CMB spectral distortions. Finally, if the inflationary energy scale is high, corresponding to an observable tensor-to-scalar ratio, then CMB isocurvature perturbations provide the strongest constraints on  $m > 1e-24 \text{ eV}$ , ruling out ULA dark matter in the simplest inflationary scenarios over the entire range considered, as well as the "anthropic window" for the QCD axion.

## Mass scales: being a Bayesian

- ULA mass range data driven:

$$\text{ULAs } 10^{-33} \text{ eV} \lesssim m_a \lesssim 10^{-18} \text{ eV}$$

Dark Energy

CDM, plus BH spins

- Decay constant from DM density (ULAs), interactions (QCD):

$$\text{ULAs } 10^{16} \text{ GeV} \lesssim f_a \lesssim 10^{18} \text{ GeV}$$

Non-negligible density

weak gravity conjecture (Arkani-Hamed et al)

$$\text{QCD } 10^9 \text{ GeV} \lesssim f_a \lesssim 10^{17} \text{ GeV}$$

stellar cooling (e.g. Raffelt, 2002)

BH spins (Arvanitaki and Dubovsky, 2011)

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# Production and Initial Conditions

## Production of axion DM

✧ Stage I: SSB at high scale  $f$ .  
Axion is Goldstone mode.



<http://www.hep.ph.ic.ac.uk/cms/physics/higgs.ht>

- ✧ Stage II: mass term turns on, friction  $\rightarrow$  density constant.
- ✧ Stage III: oscillations, scale with volume  $\rightarrow$  matter.

$$\ddot{\phi} + \boxed{3H}\dot{\phi} + \boxed{V'(\phi)} = 0$$

Hubble friction      Mass

High occupation number  $\rightarrow$  classical field

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ULAs

vs

WDM/ $\nu$ 's

Non-thermal misalignment

$$H > m_a \Rightarrow w_a \approx -1$$

Hubble friction  $\rightarrow$  no clustering.

Relativistic at early times

$$T > m_W \Rightarrow w_W \approx 1/3$$

Large velocity  $\rightarrow$  no clustering

$\rightarrow$  Structure suppressed below horizon scales at transition  
Matching scales  $\rightarrow$  equivalent WDM *much heavier* than ULA

$$\Gamma \sim \sqrt{M_{pl} H} \Rightarrow m_W \sim \sqrt{M_{pl} m_a}$$

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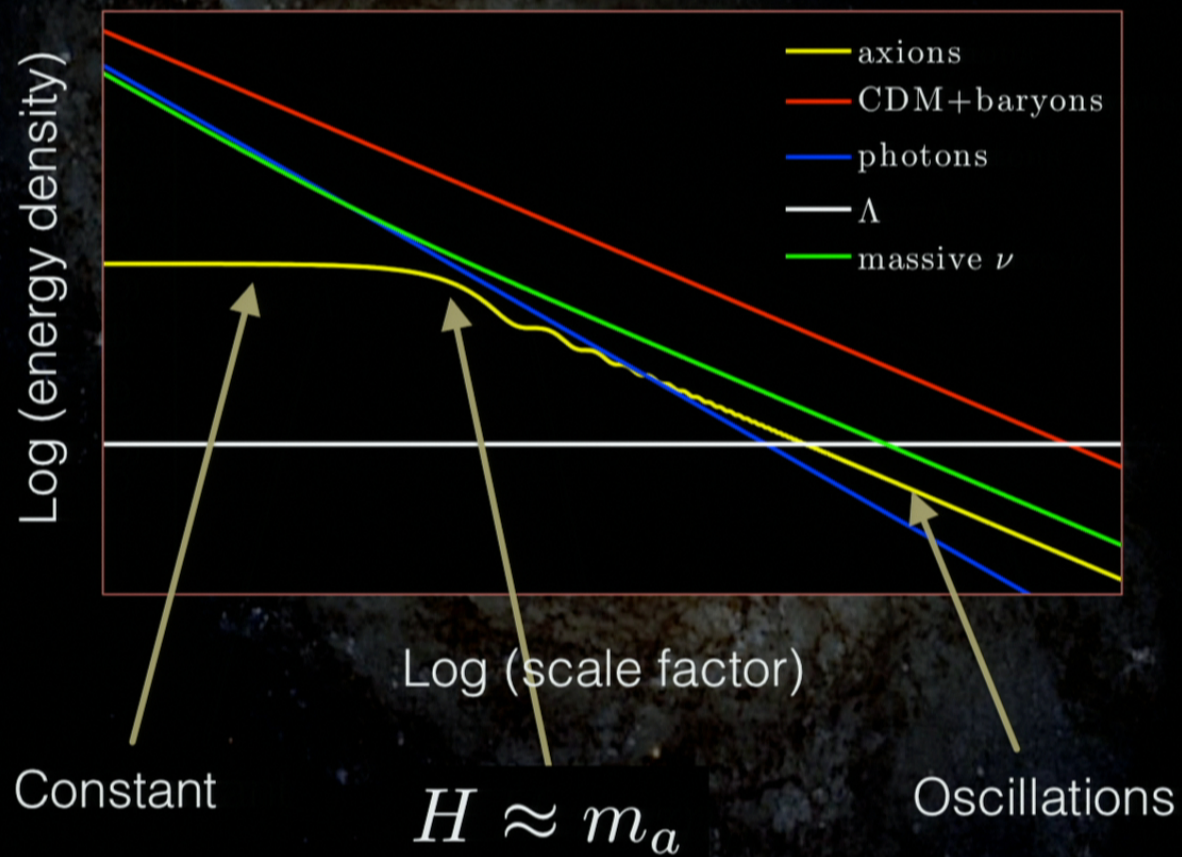
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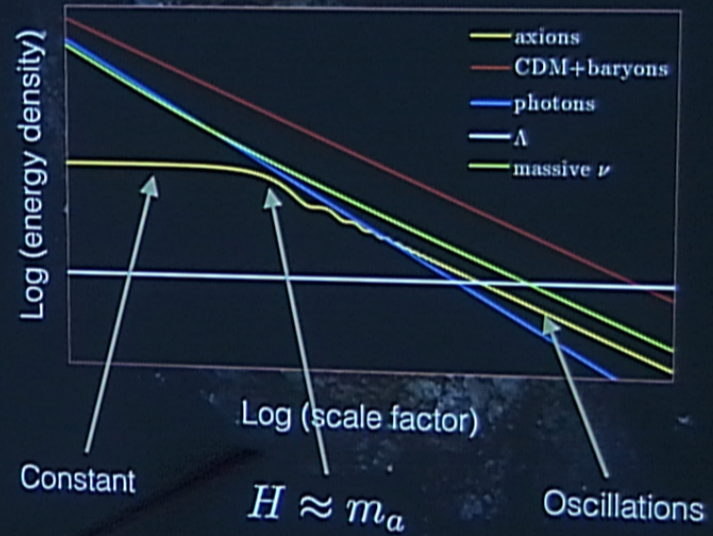
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# Misalignment Production



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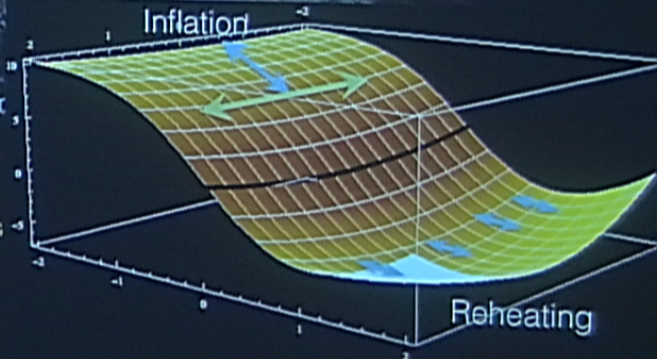


## Inflation: all massless fields fluctuate

- ❖ Two modes: **adiabatic** and **isocurvature**. e.g. Gordon et al (2000)
- ❖ **Adiabatic**: all species from inflaton decay. Amp. from slow roll. Model independent.
- ❖ **Isocurvature**: additional fields (**axion**). Amp. fixed by H. Important if **BICEP** is correct.
- ❖ CMB spectra out of phase  $\rightarrow$  **adiabatic is dominant**.

Inflaton ~ clock.  
Fluctuations delay  
reheating  $\rightarrow$  curvature

Axion ~ spectator.  
Massless  $\rightarrow$  frozen.  
Late universe effects

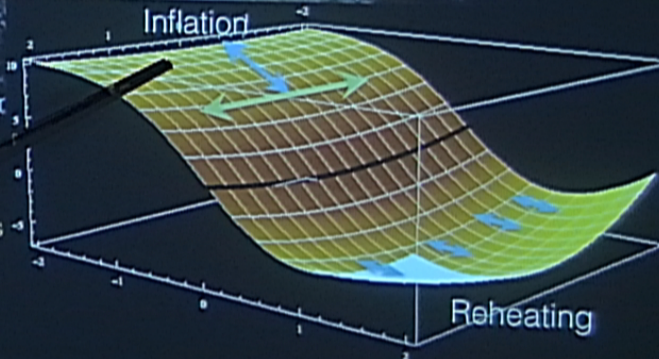


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## Clustering of axions: de Broglie scale

✧ Fluid approximation for density perturbations.

$$\ddot{\delta} + \mathcal{H}\dot{\delta} + \left( k^2 c_s^2 - 4\pi G a^2 \rho \right) \delta = 0$$

Oscillations (sound-speed)      Linear Growth (Poisson)

✧ Transition to no growth at large wavenumber: "Jeans" scale.

$$c_s^2 \approx \frac{k^2}{4m_a^2 a^2} \Rightarrow k_J \sim m_a^{1/2} \rho^{1/4} \sim \left( \frac{m_a}{10^{-22} \text{ eV}} \right)^{1/2} 10^2 \text{ hMpc}^{-1}$$

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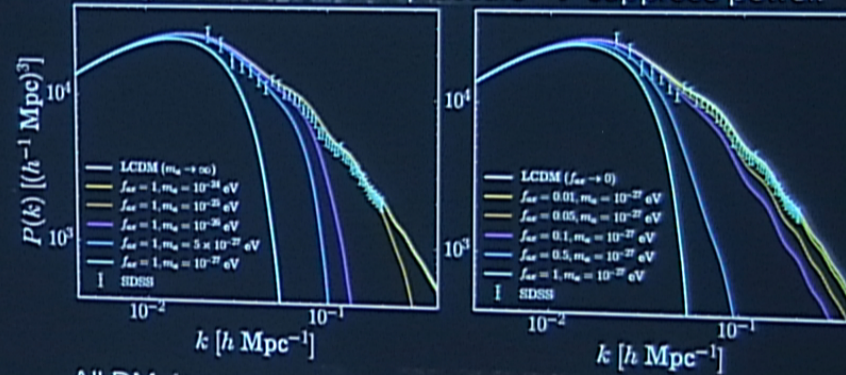
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## Matter Power Spectrum: Jeans Scale

- ✧ Galaxy power spectrum measures clustering.
- ✧ Sound speed  $\rightarrow$  "Quantum pressure"  $\rightarrow$  suppress power.



All DM: increase mass  
 $10^{-27} \text{ eV} \leq m_a \leq 10^{-24} \text{ eV}$

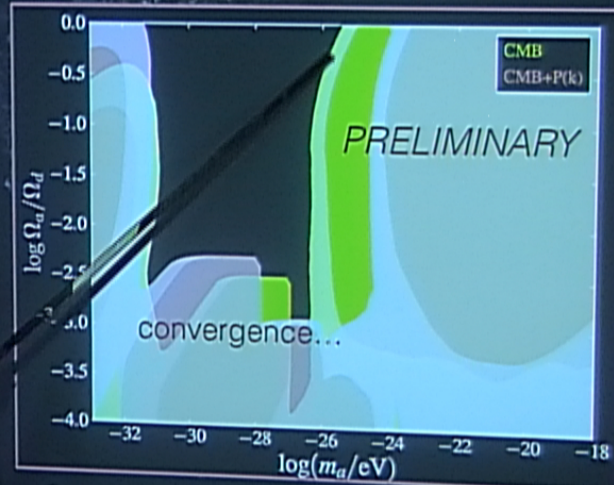
Fix mass: reduce DM  
 contribution

Data: Sloan Digital Sky Survey (2010)

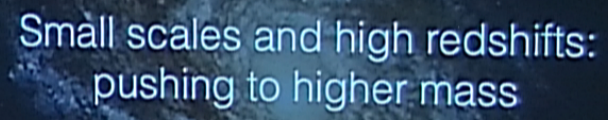
# Planck + WiggleZ Constraints

DJEM et al (in prep)  
also Amendola and Barbieri (2006)

Lots of degeneracies: nested sampling (Multinest) necessary.



constraint ~ 6 to 8 orders of mag in mass at sub-percent level!



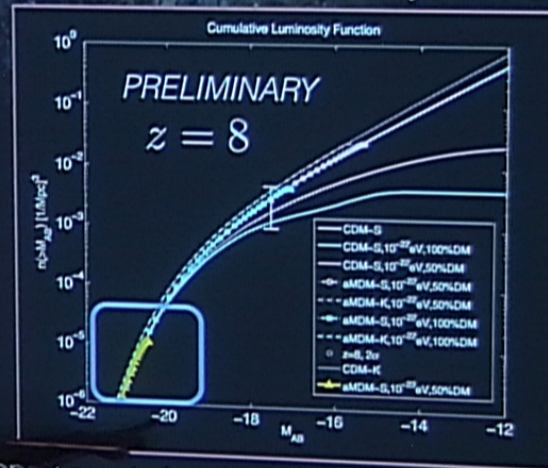
## Small scales and high redshifts: pushing to higher mass

DJEM and J. Silk (2013), B. Bozek et al (in prep)

# Hubble UDF Constraints

Schultz et al (2014)  
Bozek et al (in prep)

- Abundance matching  $\rightarrow$  UV luminosity function.
- $10^{-23}$  eV excluded.  $10^{-22}$  eV can be by JWST @z=13.



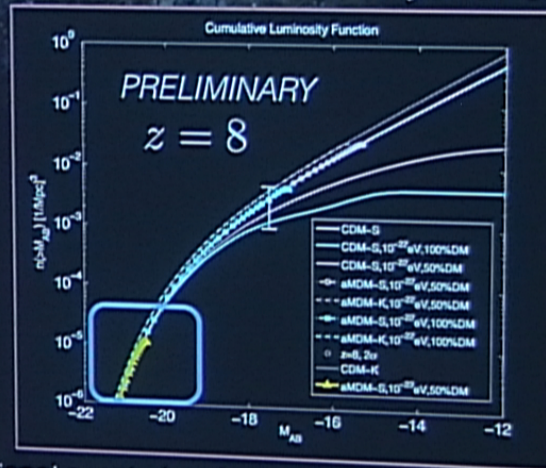
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>50% DM  
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Additional constraints from reionisation...  $10^{-22}$  eV or more?

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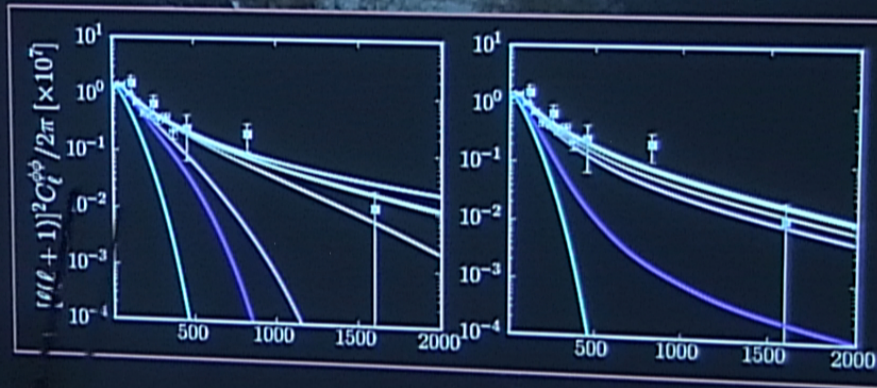
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## CMB lensing: Planck and ACT

DJEM et al (in prep)

- ✧ Lensing deflection measures DM dist. directly.
- ✧ Probes smaller scales than galaxy survey: heavier axions.
- ✧ Data already in existence! Improvements from polarisation.
- ✧ Possible to push "clean" CMB by 1-2 orders of magnitude.





## Galaxy lensing e.g. Euclid

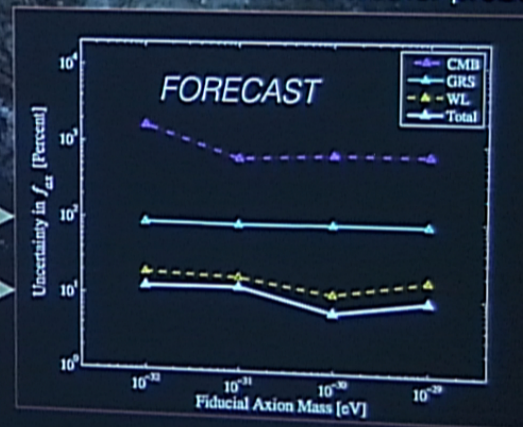
DJEM et al (2011)  
DJEM (in prep)

- ◇ Euclid: ESA mission, flies 2019.
- ◇ Galaxy shear lensing at many redshifts  $\rightarrow$  growth.
- ◇ Large scale: probes lower masses, out to DE  $10^{-33}$  eV.
- ◇ High precision: up to  $10^{-21}$  eV, contact to other probes.

1% DM at high  
significance.

$1\sigma$   $\rightarrow$

$10\sigma$   $\rightarrow$



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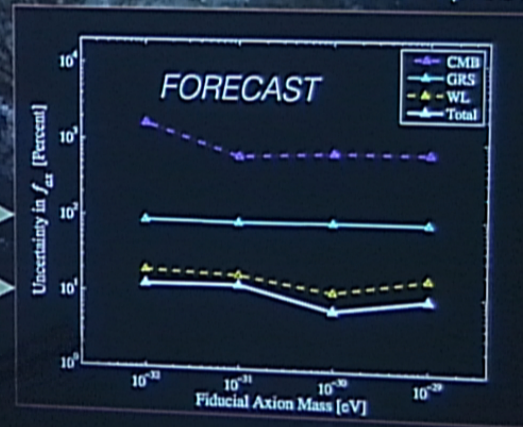
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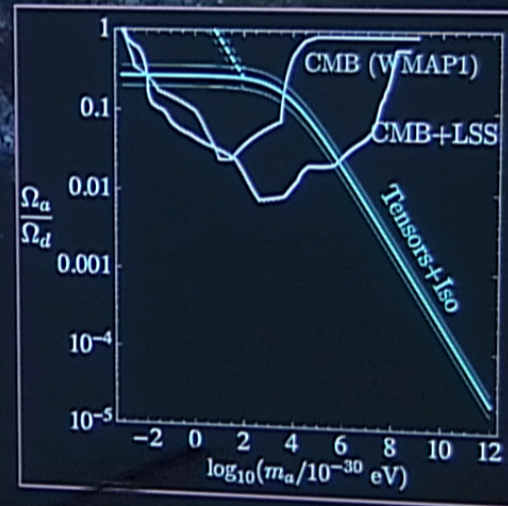
$1\sigma$   $\rightarrow$

$10\sigma$   $\rightarrow$

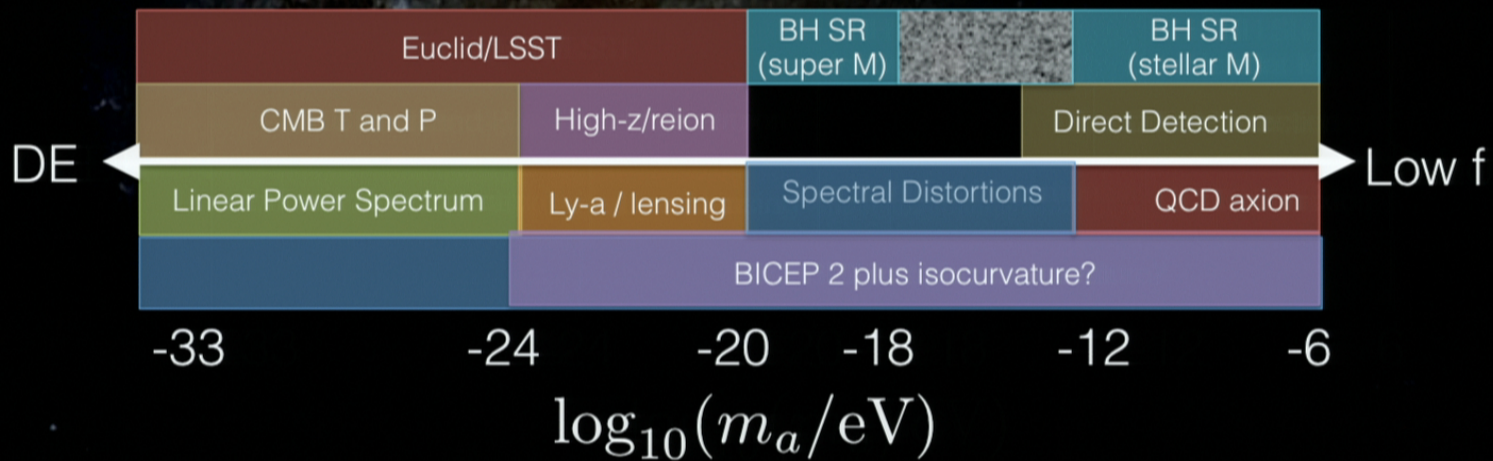


## Ultra-light Axions (II): Constraints

WMAP1/LSS: Amendola+2005. LSS assumes Ly- $\alpha$  valid.  
Complimentary: push further, test consistency.



# Summary



Cosmology can constrain  $\sim 13$  orders of magnitude in axion mass, at percent or smaller fraction of the DM

*(if BICEP2 holds up: even stronger!)*

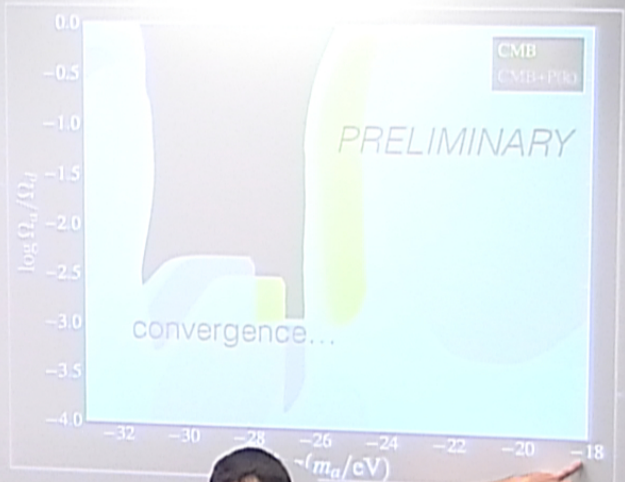
- ✧ Lensing and high-z observations can bridge gap to BHSR.
- ✧ Motivated by small-scale problems of CDM...



# Planck + WMAP

et al (in prep)  
Lombroni, Mena and Barbieri (2006)

Lots of degeneracies... (tightest) necessary.



Constrain ~ 6 to 8 orders of magnitude at sub-percent level!