

Title: Dynamical friction in scalar dark matter

Speakers: Kathy Clough

Series: Strong Gravity

Date: October 14, 2021 - 1:00 PM

URL: <https://pirsa.org/21100018>

Abstract: I will discuss the dynamical friction experienced by black holes moving through scalar or "wave-like" dark matter. This has been studied analytically and numerically in the non relativistic case, which is applicable to its effect in "fuzzy dark matter" halos where the scalar wavelength is on galactic scales. On smaller scales, dynamical friction from dark matter clouds formed from accretion or superradiance may cause a dephasing in the gravitational wave signal in LISA EMRIs. I will discuss our recent numerical work (<https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.08280>) to extend the description of dynamical friction to relativistic scalars, in order to treat this case.

Zoom Link: <https://pitp.zoom.us/j/98815587081?pwd=a3FvcUtTaWFUejBpR1Q3QUhRRzF4dz09>

# Dynamical friction from light dark matter in the relativistic regime

Katy Clough



UNIVERSITY OF  
**OXFORD**



Science & Technology  
Facilities Council



Queen Mary  
University of London

## Plan for the talk

- A brief background on light dark matter candidates
- Dynamical friction in the non relativistic regime
- Dynamical friction in the relativistic regime
- Next steps





Daniel Siegel

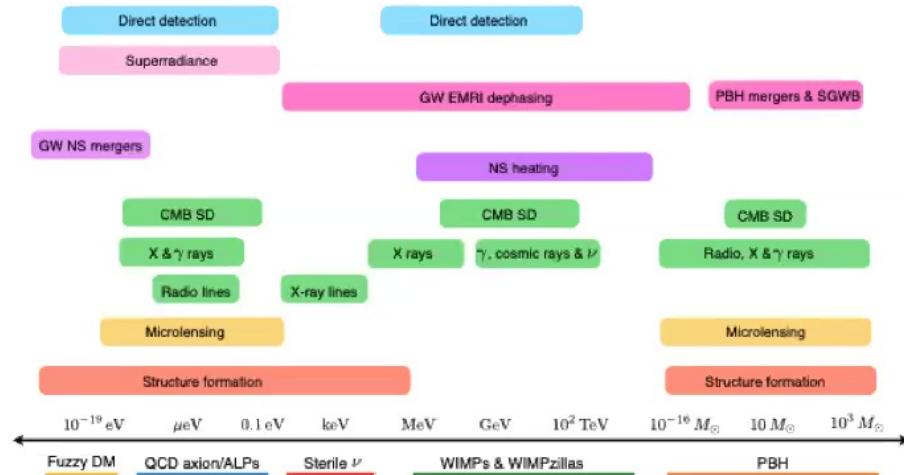
# A brief background on light DM

See Wave Dark Matter review by Lam Hui  
(Annual Review of Astronomy and Astrophysics, arXiv 2101.11735)

# Why light dark matter?

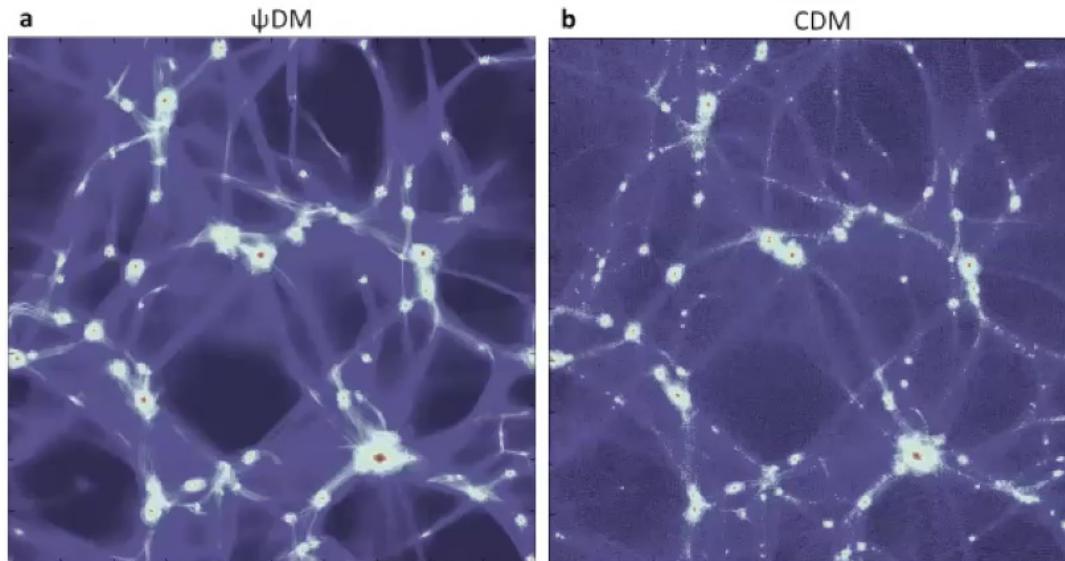


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EuCAPT white paper; in prep

# Why light dark matter?



Nature Phys. 10, 496–499  
Schive et al. 2014



# Light dark matter is wave-like

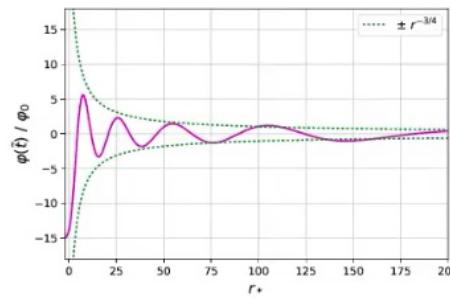


- In the limit of small mass  $m$  (sub eV), the number density is high, and dark matter is well described by a classical field, obeying (for a spin 0 particle) the Klein Gordon equation:

$$\nabla^\mu \nabla_\mu \phi = \mu^2 \phi$$

- It has a **wave like behaviour**, and **pressure support** on length scales of order  $1/\mu$
- The underlying properties of the particles (number density, velocity) at each point can be inferred by considering properties of the field, for example:

$$k_i \sim \dot{\phi} \partial_i \phi \quad \rho \sim \dot{\phi}^2 + \mu^2 \phi^2 + (\partial_i \phi)^2$$



# Light dark matter is wave-like

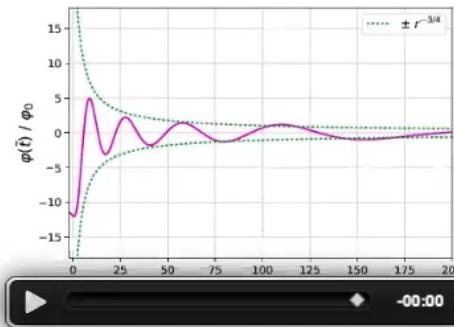


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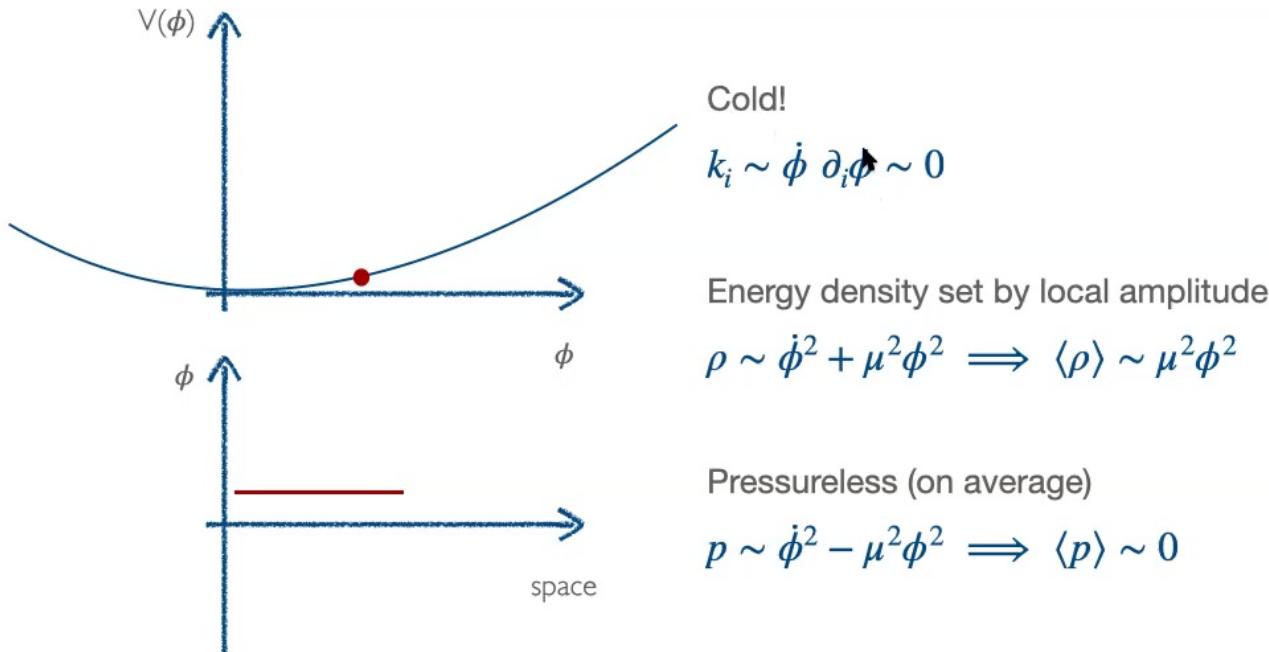
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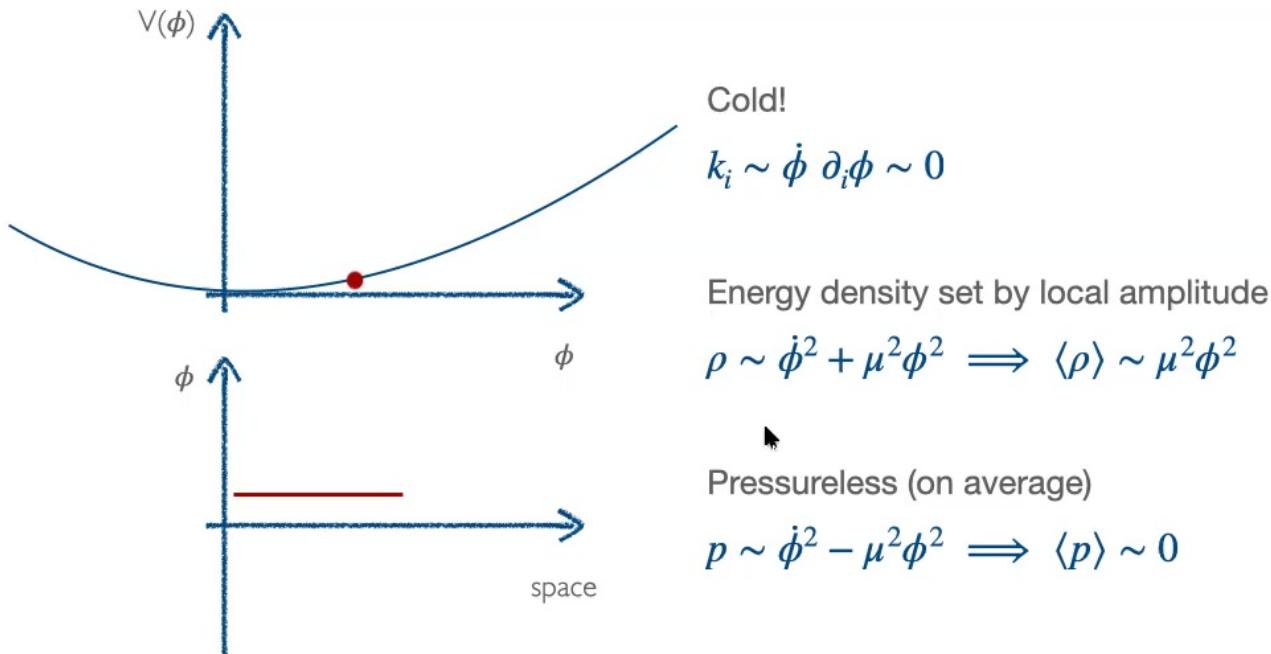
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# Light dark matter is wave-like

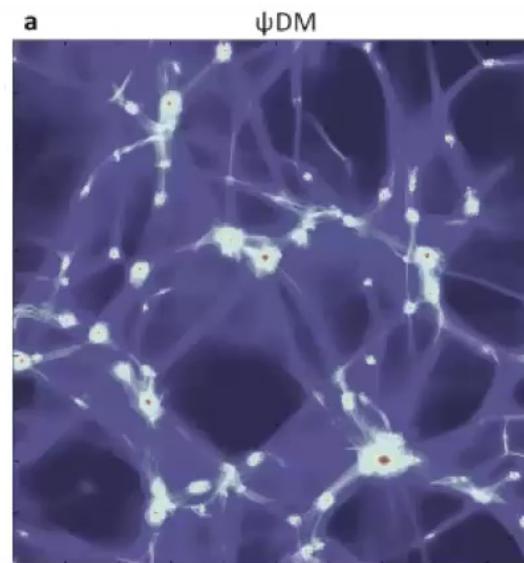


# Non relativistic description

- Modulo out the oscillations:

$$\phi(x, t) = \psi(x, t) e^{i\mu t} + c.c.$$

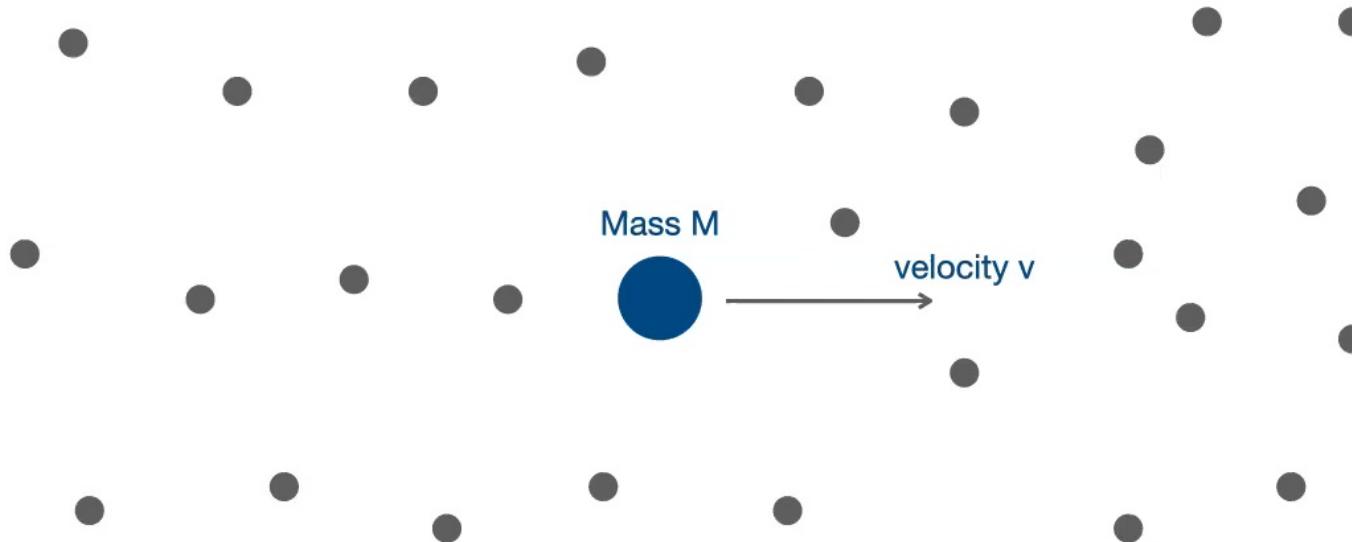
- Assuming that  $\dot{\psi} \ll \mu\psi$  one can show that  $\psi$  obeys the Schrödinger-Poisson equations
- Density is related to the amplitude of  $\psi$  as  
$$\rho \sim \psi\psi^*$$



Nature Phys. 10, 496-499  
Schive et al. 2014



# Dynamical friction

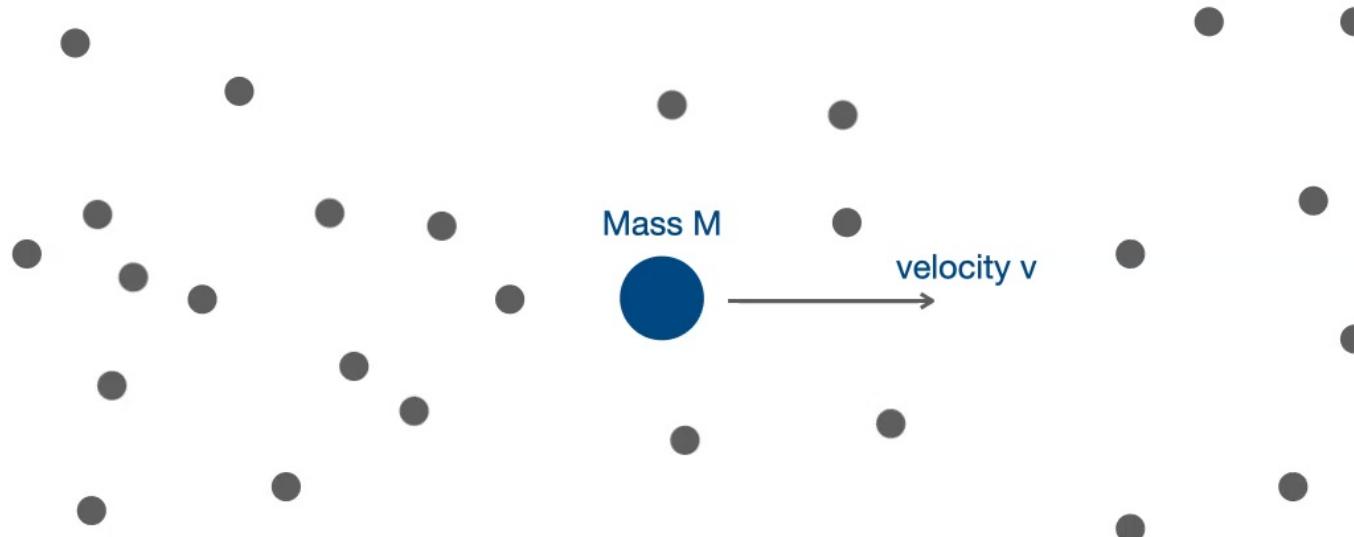


Dynamical Friction. I. General Considerations: the Coefficient of Dynamical Friction.  
S. Chandrasekhar, Astrophysical Journal, vol. 97, p.255

# Dynamical friction

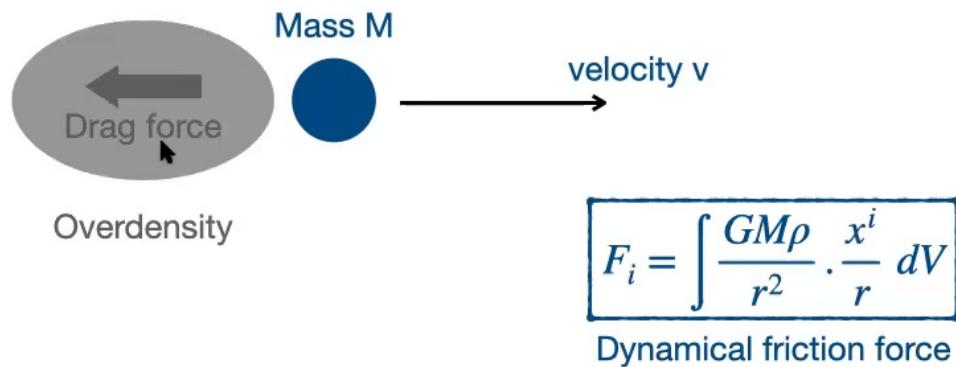


Katy Clough

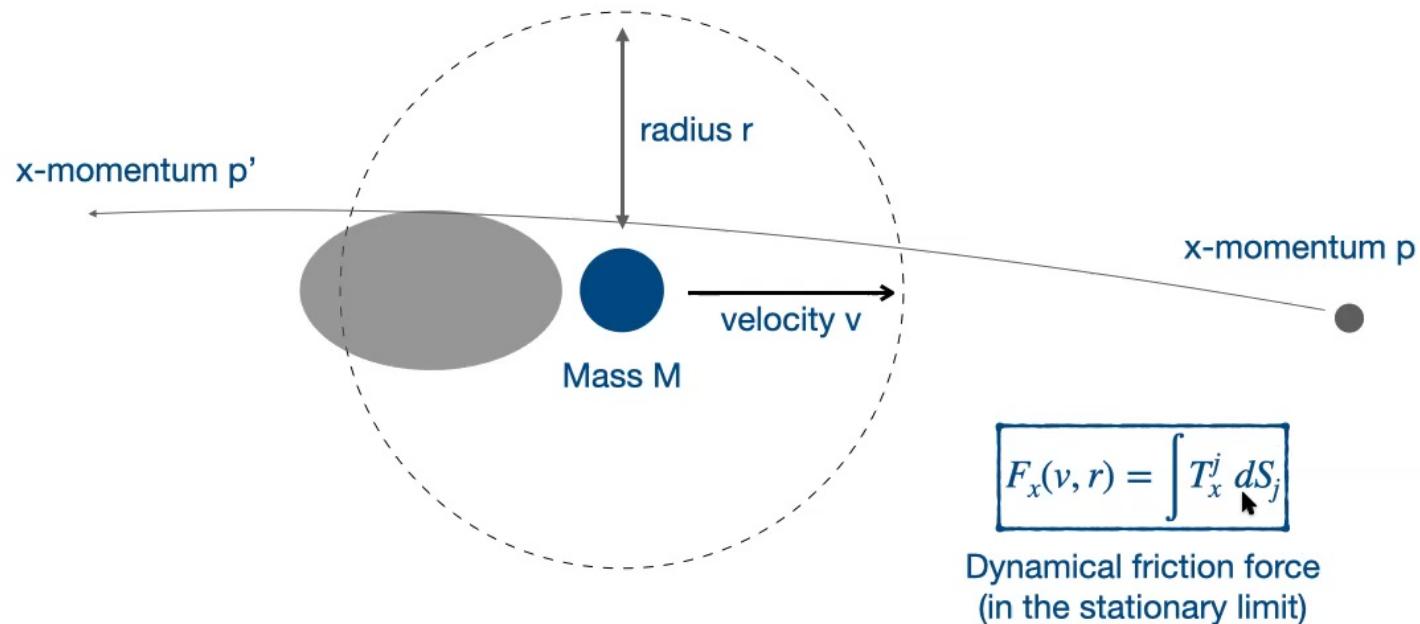


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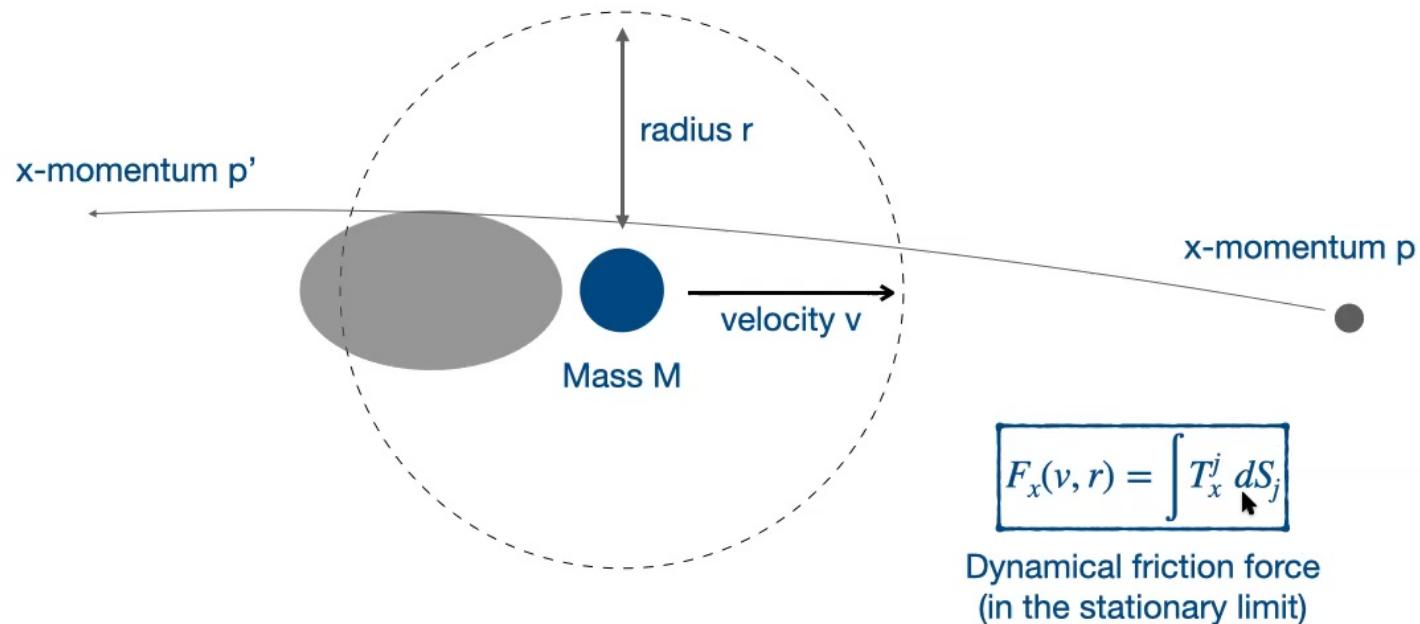
# Dynamical friction - Newtonian calculation



# Dynamical friction - Newtonian calculation



# Dynamical friction - Newtonian calculation



## Dynamical friction - Newtonian calculation for scalar DM



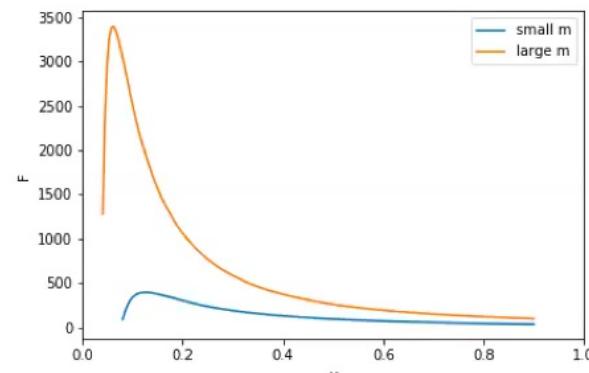
For scalar mass  $m$  the behaviour is parametrised by the ratio

$$\beta = \frac{GM}{v^2} / \frac{1}{mv}$$

And the force is

$$F = 4\pi\rho \left( \frac{GM}{v} \right)^2 \left( \ln(2mvr) - 1.0 - \text{Re}(\Psi(1 + i\beta)) \right)$$

Ultralight scalars as cosmological dark matter  
L. Hui, J. Ostriker, S. Tremaine, E. Witten, Phys. Rev. D 95, 043541 (2017)



Force versus velocity

## Dynamical friction - Newtonian calculation for scalar DM



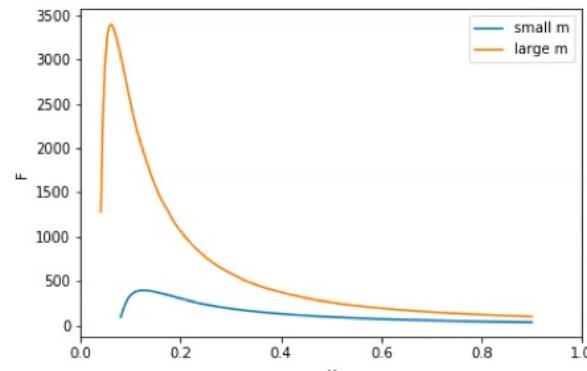
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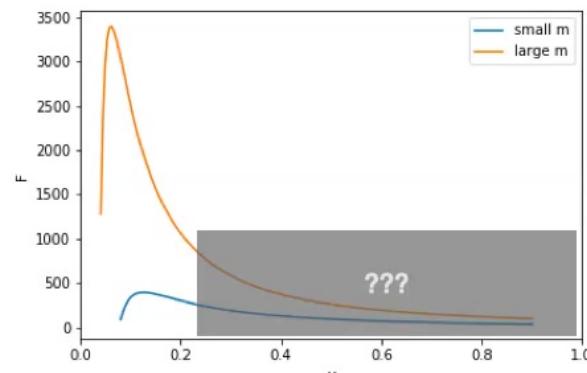
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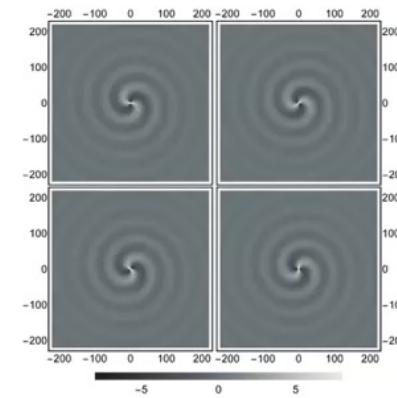
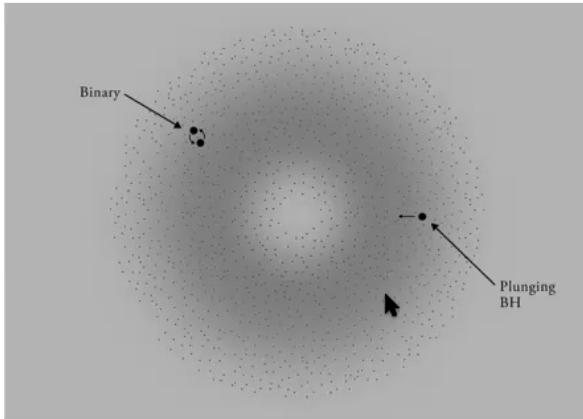
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Response of ultralight dark matter to supermassive black holes and binaries

Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020) 6, 063022

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L. Annunzi, V. Cardoso, R. Vicente

Dynamical Friction From Ultralight Dark Matter

Y. Wang, R. Easther

arXiv:2110.03428



## Dynamical friction - Newtonian calculation for scalar DM



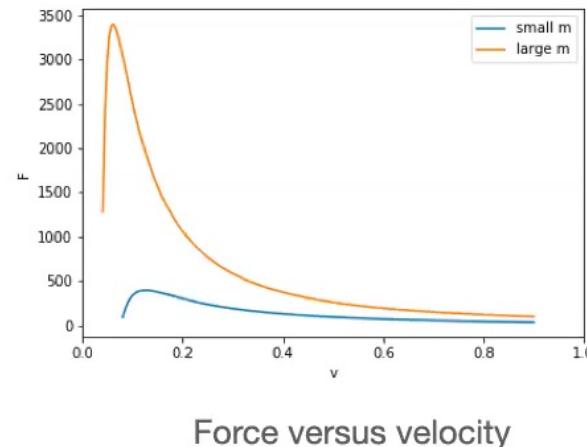
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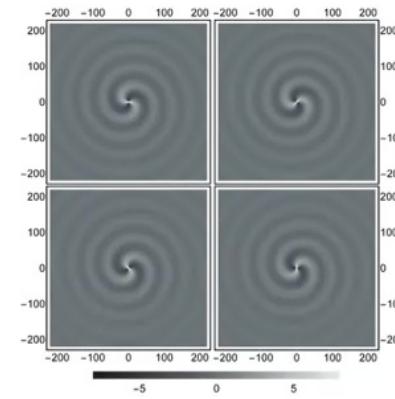
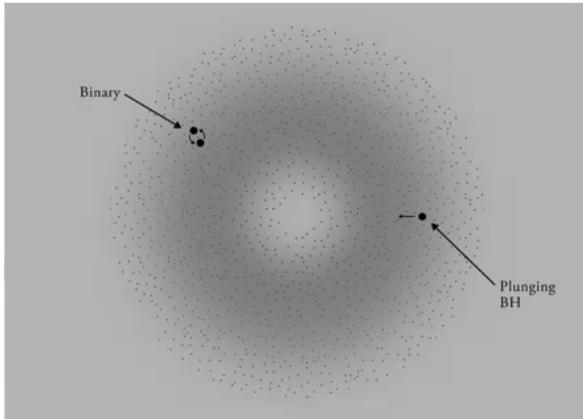
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# Relativistic dynamical friction



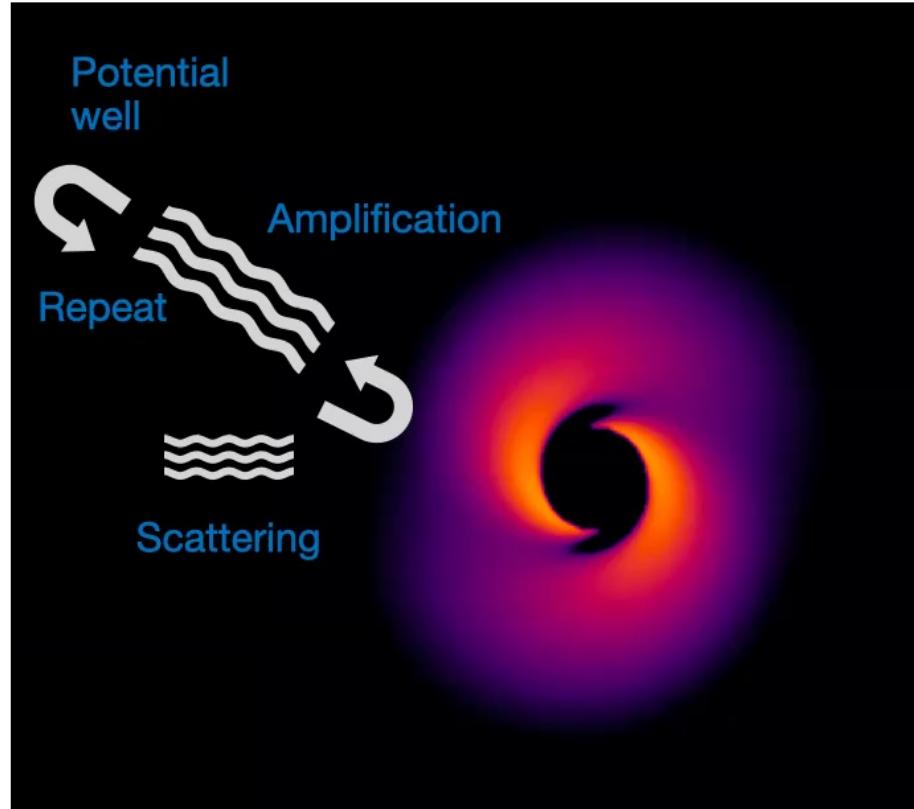
# Superradiance

Superradiant Instability and Backreaction of Massive Vector Fields around Kerr Black Holes  
W.E. East and F. Pretorius  
*Phys.Rev.Lett.* 119 (2017) 4, 041101

String Axiverse  
A. Arvanitaki et. al.  
*Phys.Rev.D* 81 (2010) 123530

see R Brito's review *Superradiance : New Frontiers in Black Hole Physics*

$$\frac{\rho}{[R_s^{-2}]} \sim \frac{0.1 M_{BH}}{\frac{4\pi}{3}(10R_s)^3} \sim 10^{-5}$$

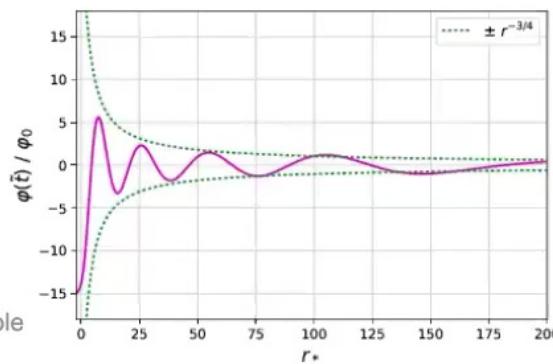


# Accretion

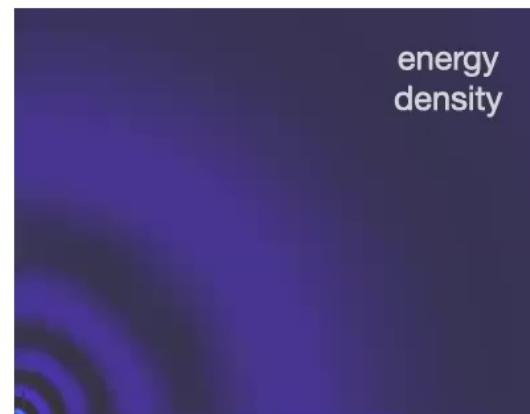
Black Hole Hair from Scalar Dark Matter  
L Hui, D Kabat, X Li, L Santoni, S.S.C. Wong  
JCAP 06 (2019) 038

Growth of massive scalar hair around a Schwarzschild black hole  
KC, P.G. Ferreira, M Lagos  
*Phys.Rev.D* 100 (2019) 6, 063014

$$\frac{\rho}{[R_s^{-2}]} \sim 10^{-12} \left( \frac{M_{BH}}{10^9 M_\odot} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\rho_0}{\text{GeV cm}^{-3}} \right) \left( \frac{v_0}{10^{-3}c} \right)^{-3}$$



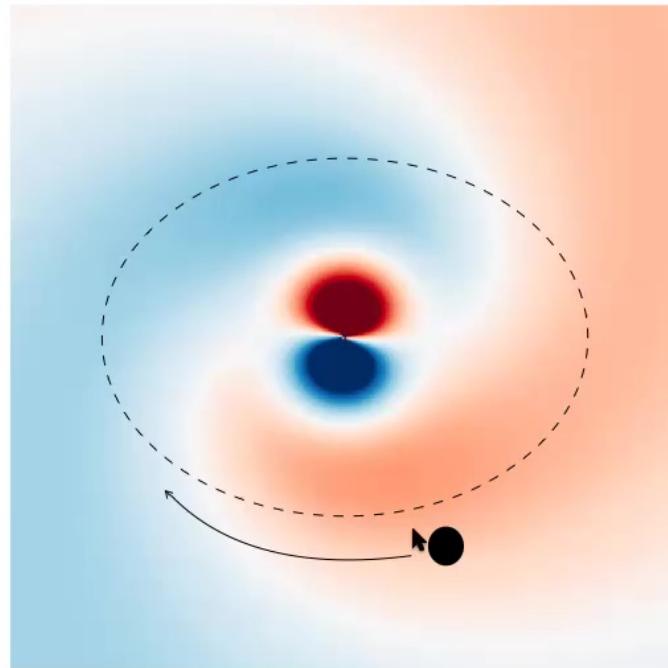
radial  
field profile



energy  
density



## Can we detect these environments in EMRI orbits?

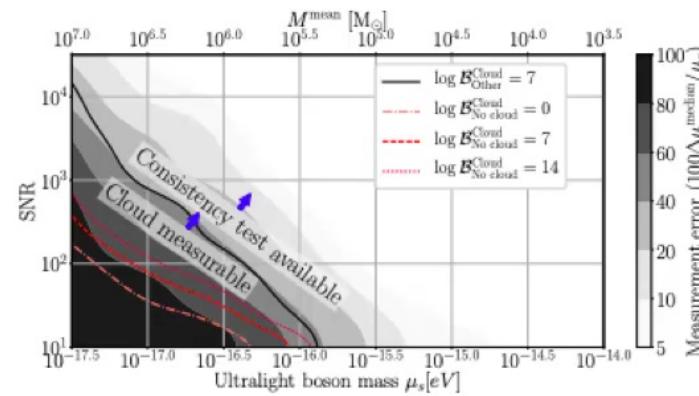


# Dynamical friction - impact on EMRI orbits



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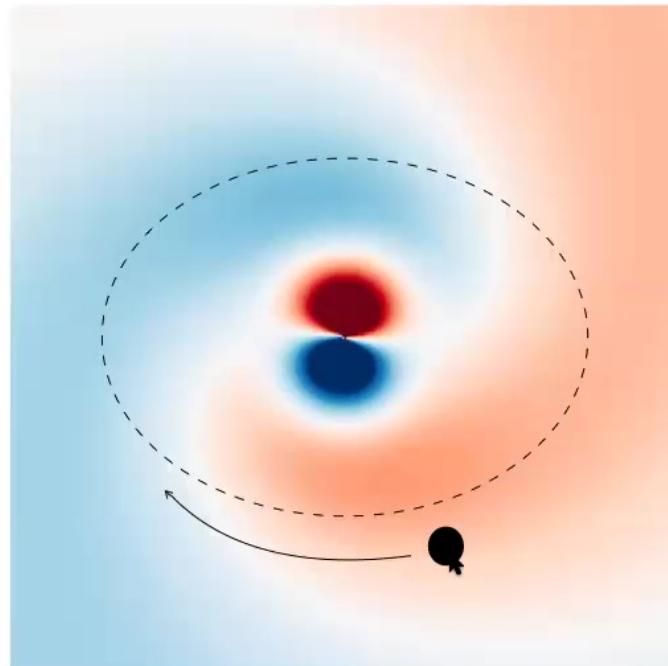
- Can work out presence of a superradiant cloud by studying the dephasing of the inspiral of a smaller object into a supermassive BH
- Impact of dynamical friction not included, only backreaction of cloud on the metric
- For inner orbits, relativistic corrections potentially matter



Probing the existence of ultralight bosons with a single gravitational-wave measurement

OA Hannuksela , K Wong , R Brito , E Berti , TGF Li  
Nature Astronomy volume 3, pages 447–451(2019)

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Dynamical friction from scalar dark matter in the relativistic regime

arXiv:2106.08280 (To appear PRD)

**Dina Traykova, KC, Thomas Helfer, E Berti, P Ferreira, L Hui**



# Dynamical friction - expected relativistic corrections



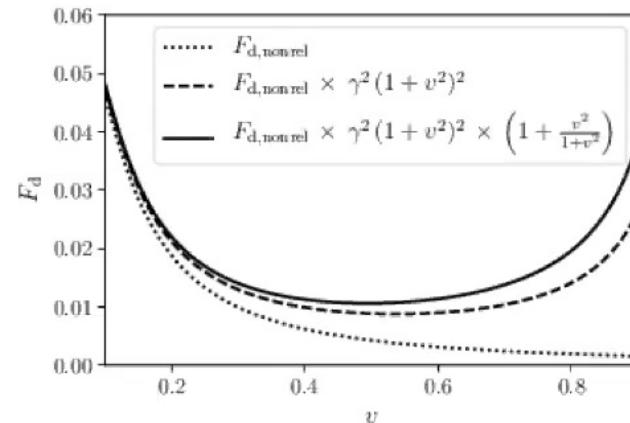
Katy Clough

- Overall relativistic correction

$$F_{\text{nonrel}} \times \gamma^2(1 + v^2)^2$$

- Also replace density  $\rho \rightarrow \rho + p$

$$F_{\text{nonrel}} \times \frac{\rho + p}{\rho}$$



Force versus velocity

Accretion onto a Moving Black Hole: A Fully Relativistic Treatment  
L Petrich, SL Shapiro, FL Stark, SA Teukolsky ApJ v.336, p.313

Relativistic dynamical friction in a collisional fluid  
E. Barausse, MNRAS, Volume 382, Issue 2, December 2007

# Dynamical friction - expected relativistic corrections

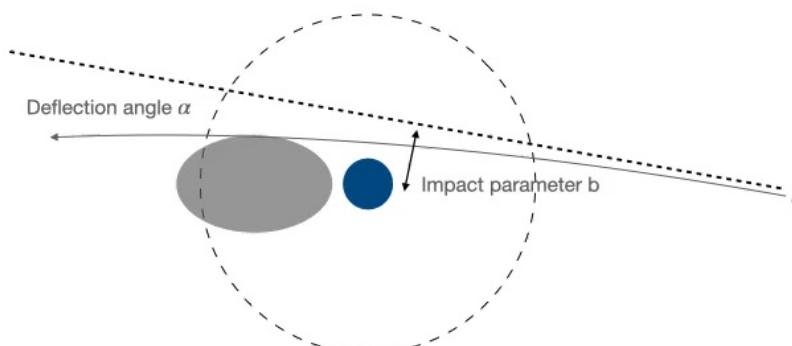


- First relativistic correction

$$F_{nonrel} \times \gamma^2 \times (1 + v^2)^2$$

- $\gamma^2$  relates to the increase in the momentum of the fluid as seen in the rest frame of the perturber
- The second part comes from the increase in the deflection angle at relativistic velocities

$$\alpha = \frac{2M}{bv^2} \times (1 + v^2)$$



# Dynamical friction - expected relativistic corrections

- Pressure is not isotropic, and is zero in the rest frame of the dark matter, so we use the pressure in the direction of motion as in the BH rest frame:

$$F_{nonrel} \times \frac{\rho + p_x}{\rho}$$

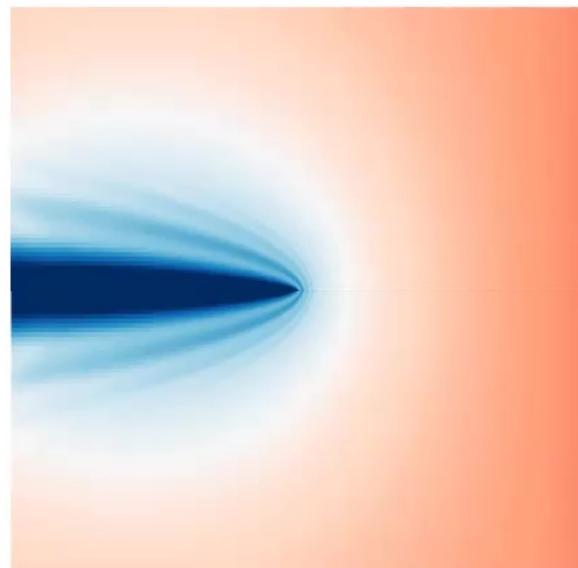
- Scalar field does not have a well defined equation of state, consider:

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_i\phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}\mu^2\phi^2$$

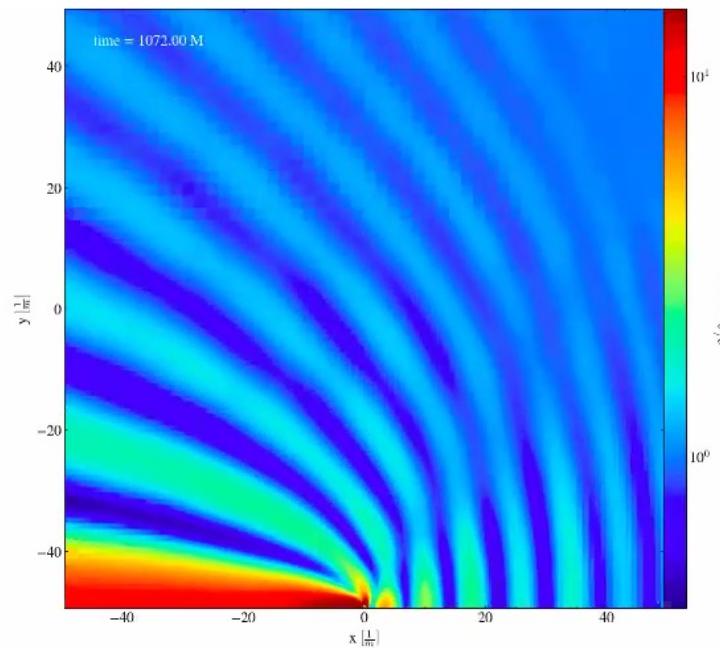
$$p_x = \frac{1}{2}\dot{\phi}^2 + \frac{1}{2}(\partial_i\phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mu^2\phi^2$$

- Assuming a plane wave in the x direction, we get a **velocity dependent** correction factor of:

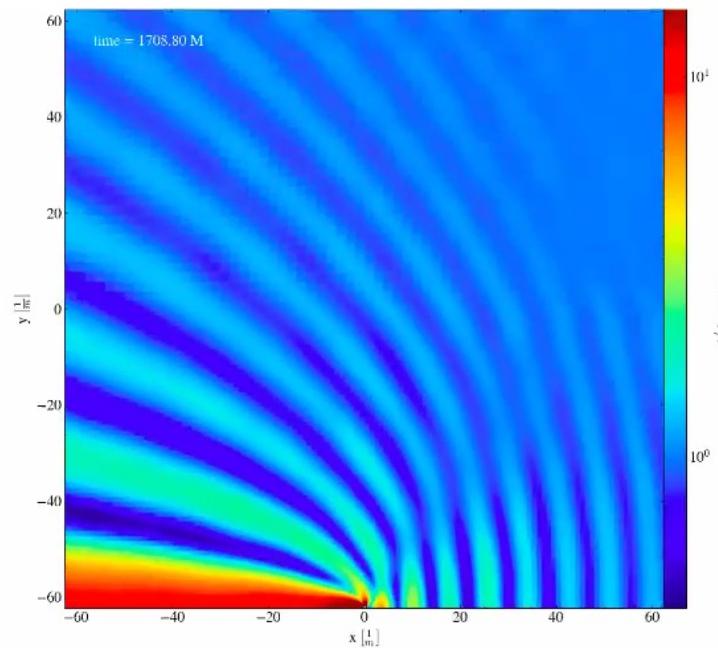
$$F_{nonrel} \times 1 + \frac{v^2}{1 + v^2}$$



# Dynamical friction simulations

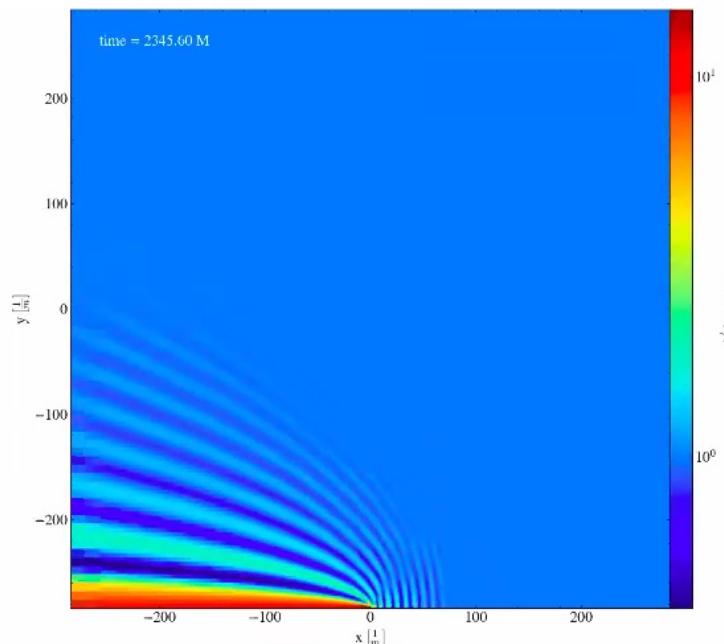


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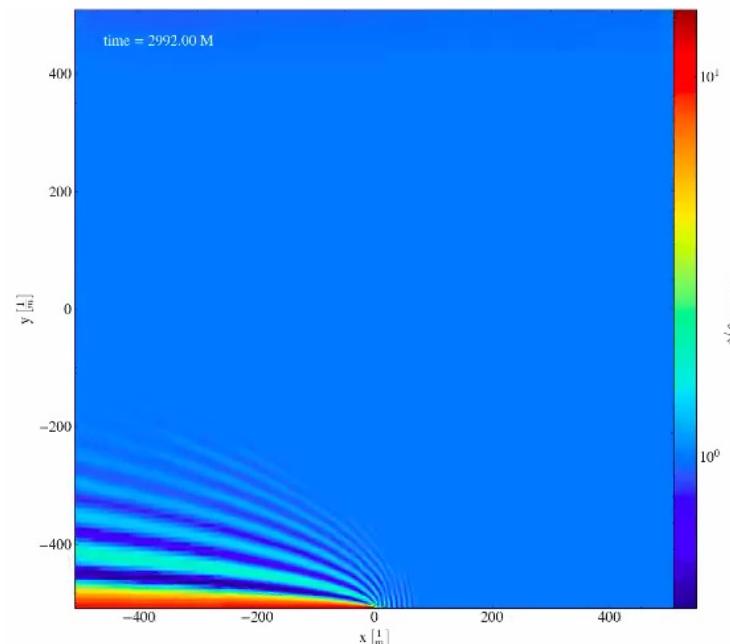


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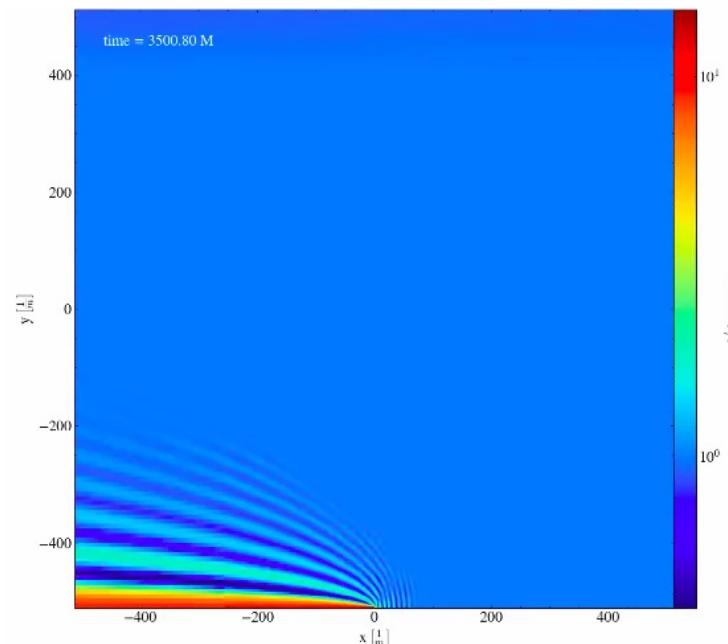
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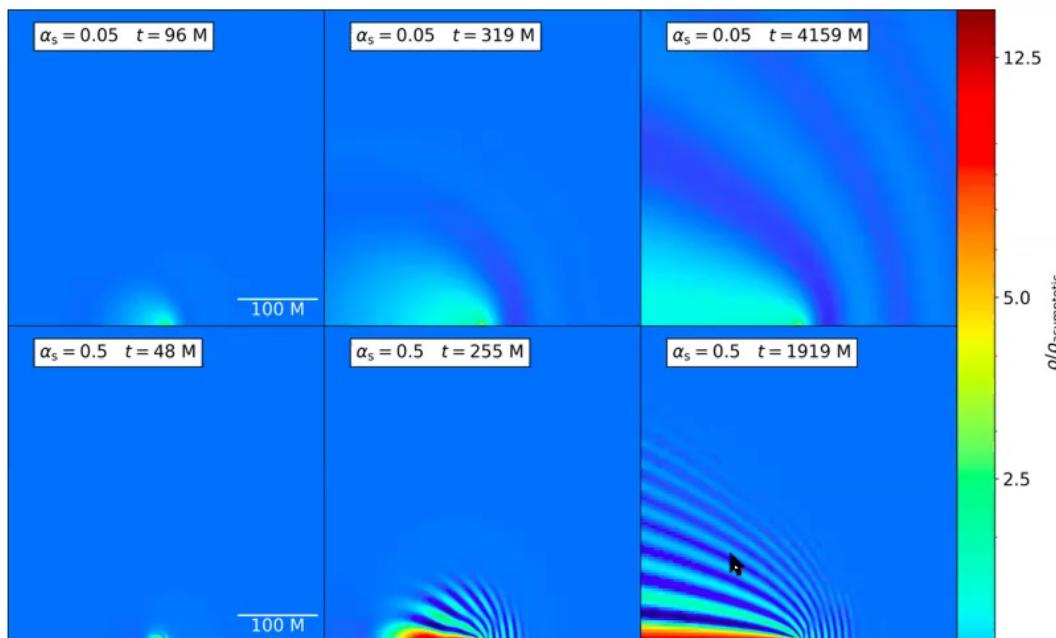


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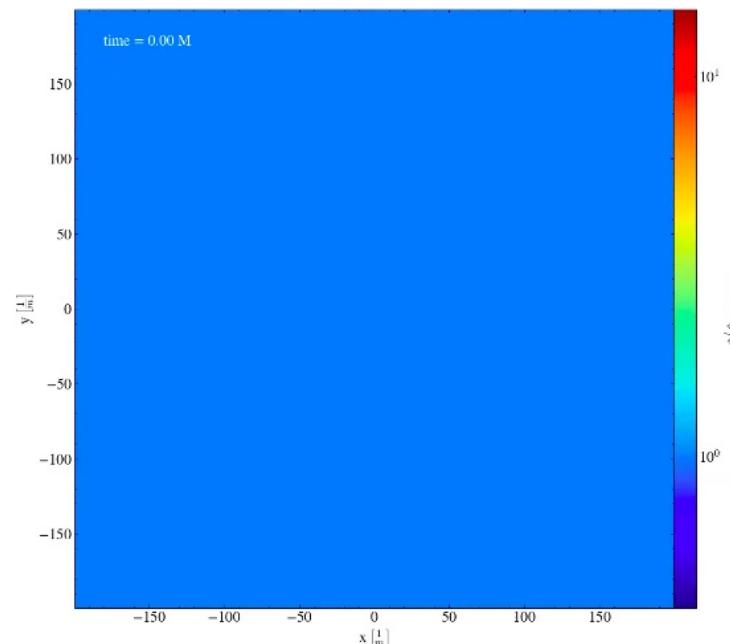


Smaller scalar mass

Larger scalar mass



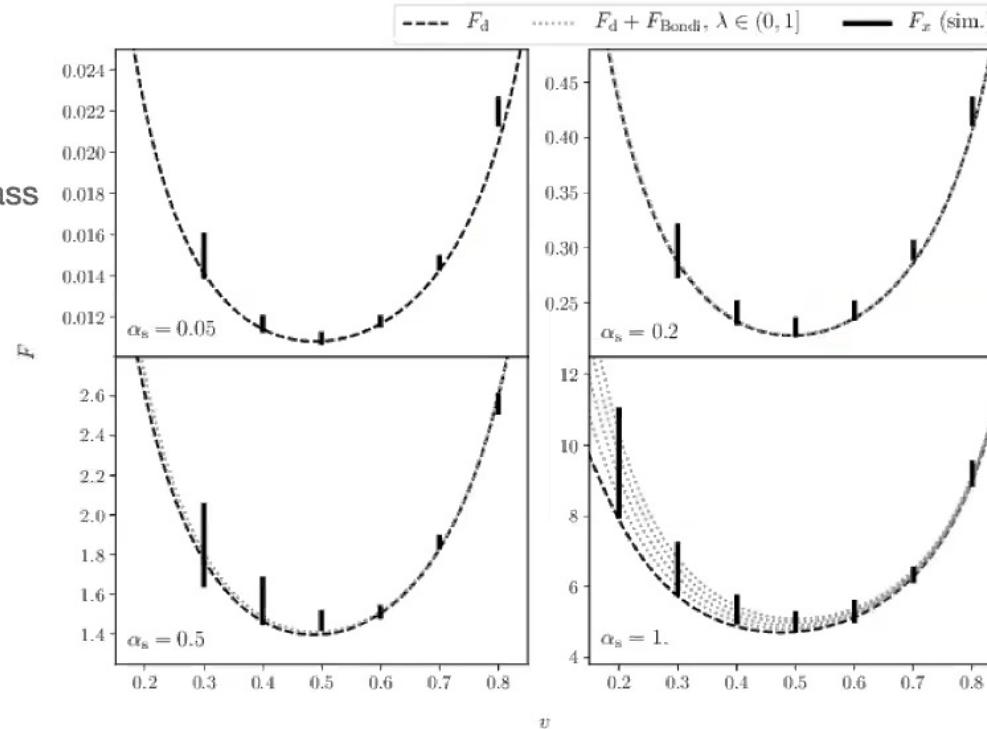
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# Dynamical friction - results

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$$F_{nonrel} \times \frac{\rho + p_x}{\rho}$$

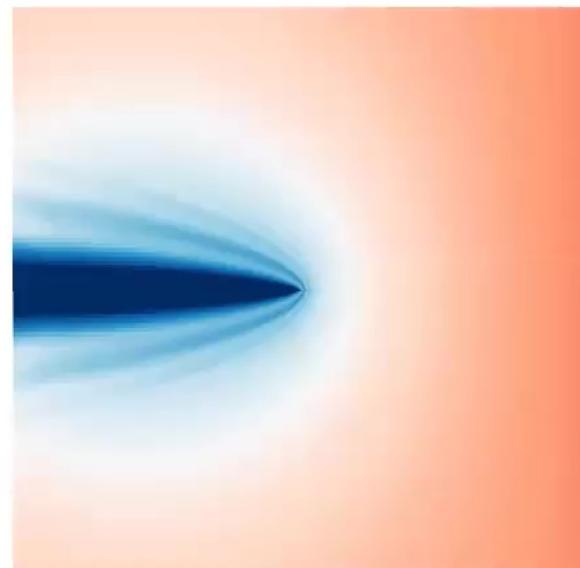
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$$F_{nonrel} \times 1 + \frac{v^2}{1 + v^2}$$



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## Reminder - Newtonian calculation for scalar DM



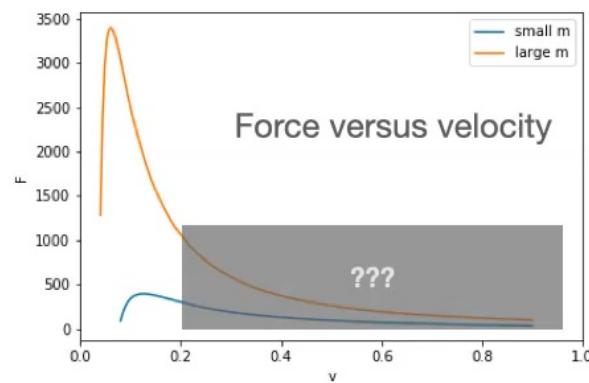
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# Dynamical friction - expected relativistic corrections



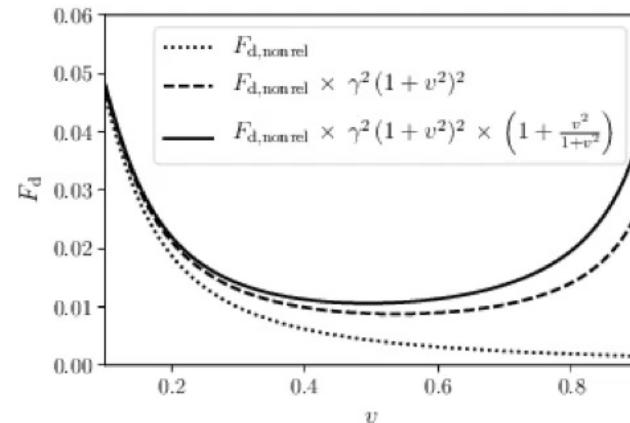
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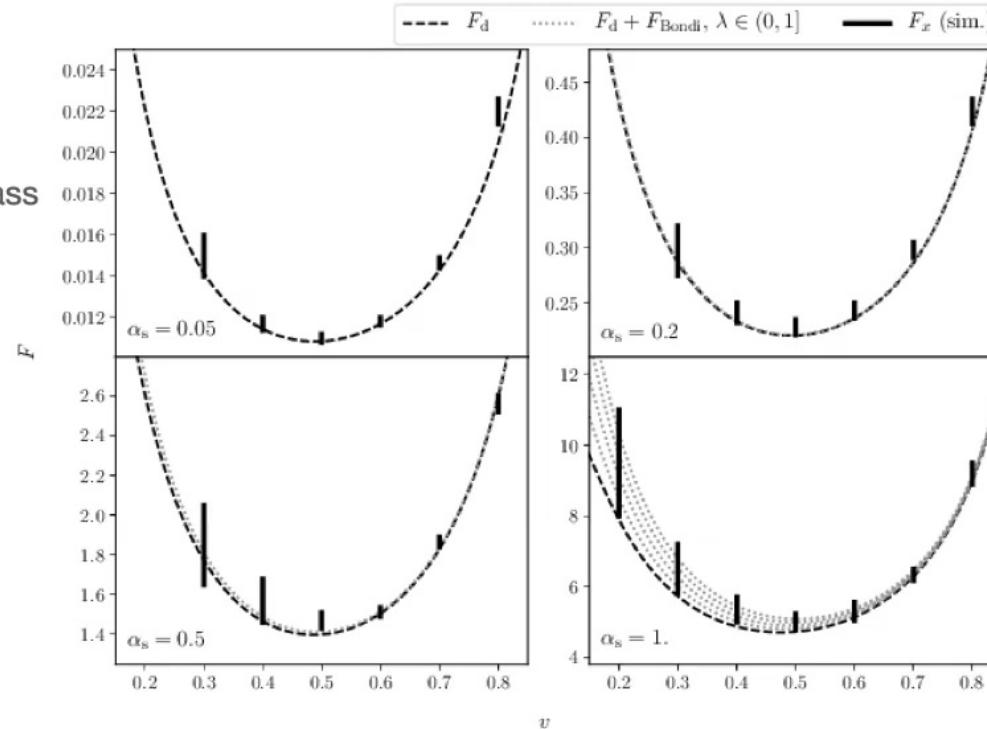
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Larger scalar mass



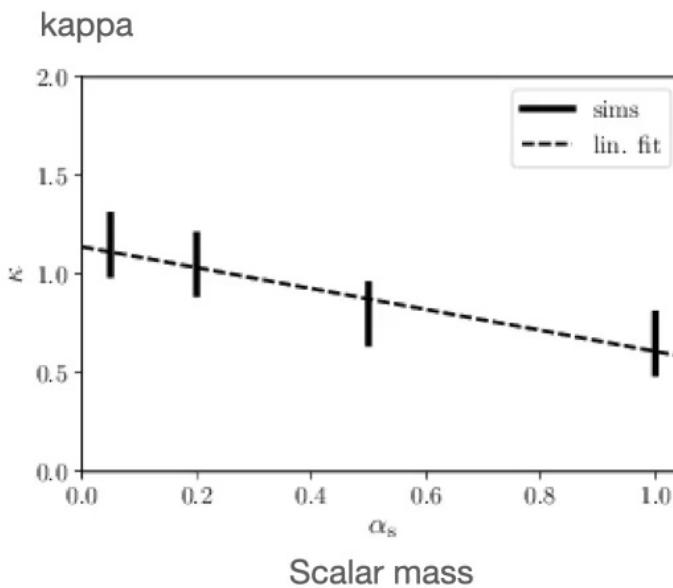
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# Dynamical friction - results

- Conclusion: Expected relativistic expression fits pretty well

$$F_{rel} = F_{nonrel} \times \underbrace{\left( 1 + k \frac{v^2}{1 + v^2} \right)}_{\text{pressure}} \times \underbrace{\gamma^2 (1 + v^2)^2}_{\text{deflection/boost}}$$

- "Fudge factor"  $\kappa$  encodes dependence of pressure correction on scalar mass - in masses  $\mu M \gg 1$  we should recover the pressureless limit, for small masses it is of order 1.



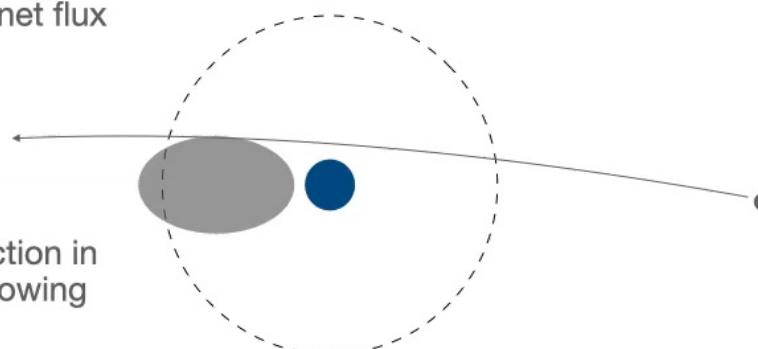
# Relativistic gravitational “forces”



- We can define a “force” as the change in the ADM momentum of the spacetime, sourced by a net flux of momentum\*:

$$F_i = \partial_t P_i^{ADM} = - \int_{\partial\Sigma} \alpha N_j T_i^j dS$$

- However this is only really the dynamical friction in the stationary limit, otherwise one is just “growing the cloud”
- It takes quite a while for our simulations to become stationary



\*Accurate to first order assuming a small asymptotic energy density - we neglect backreaction on metric



# Relativistic gravitational “forces”

- In a dynamical situation, the growth in the ADM momentum will include the momentum of the growing DM cloud as well as the BH

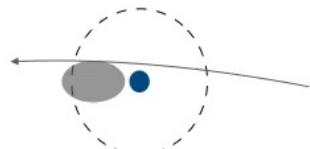
$$P_i^{ADM} = \int_{\Sigma} S_i \, dV + P_i^{curvature}$$

- In an asymptotically flat spacetime (in appropriate coordinates), one can show that at any instant in time

$$\partial_t P_i^{ADM} = \underbrace{\partial_t \int_{\Sigma} S_i \, dV}_{\text{cloud growth}} - \underbrace{\int_{\Sigma} \alpha T_{\nu}^{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} (\delta_i^{\nu}) \, dV}_{\text{dynamical friction}}$$

- Then we can use instead the volume integral to find directly the quantity of interest

$$F_i \equiv \partial_t P_i^{curvature} = - \underbrace{\int_{\Sigma} \alpha T_{\nu}^{\mu} \Gamma_{\mu i}^{\nu} \, dV}_{\text{dynamical friction}}$$

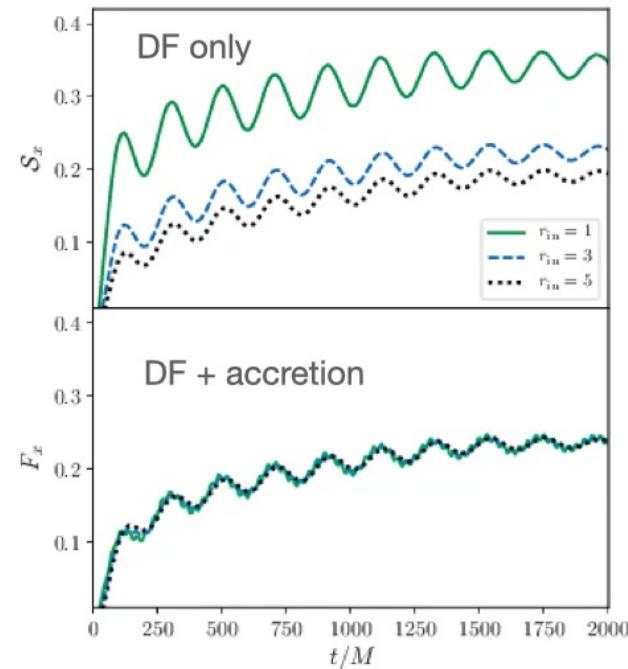


# Relativistic gravitational “forces”

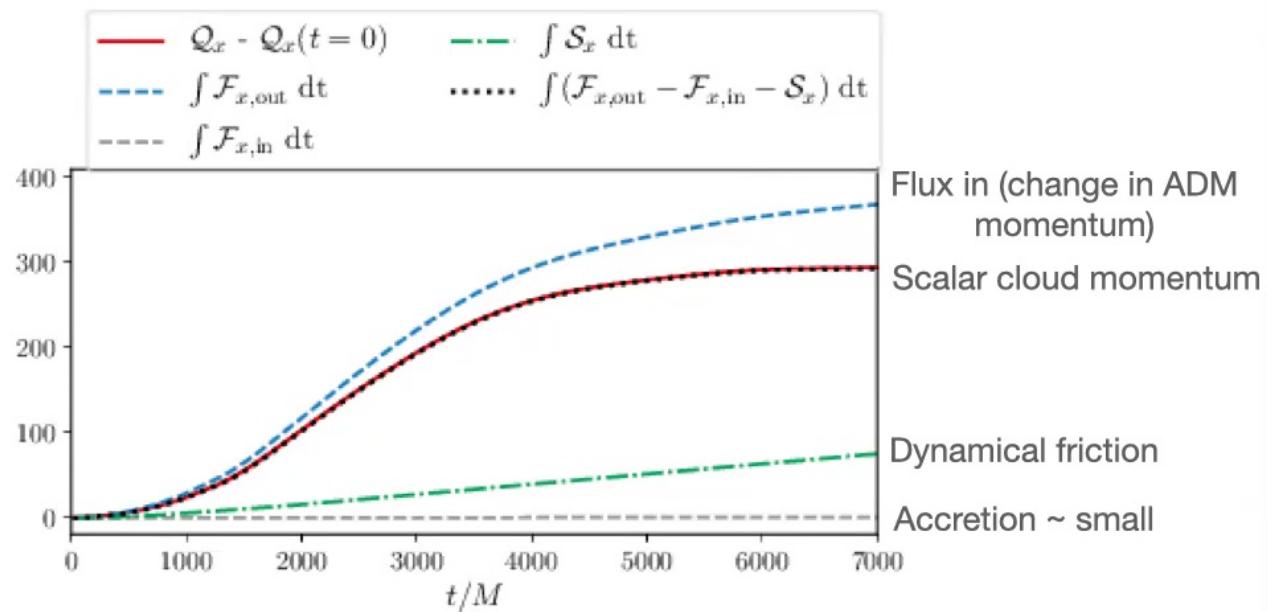
- Also need to take account of singularity

$$\partial_t P_i^{curvature} = - \underbrace{\int_{\Sigma - \Sigma_{BH}} \alpha T_\nu^\mu \nabla_\mu (\delta_i^\nu) dV}_{dynamical\ friction} - \underbrace{\int_{\partial\Sigma_{BH}} \alpha N_j T_i^j dS}_{accretion}$$

- In the relativistic case the split between accretion and dynamical friction is slicing dependent
- It is less coordinate dependent to measure the sum of the two



# Relativistic gravitational “forces”



Katy Clough

# What next?

- Feed result into EMRI calculations
- Treat more realistic scenarios
  - Impact of cloud having a finite size
  - Impact of circular orbit
- Can be easily extended to other cases
  - e.g. self interactions/vector field - that are analytically more challenging

