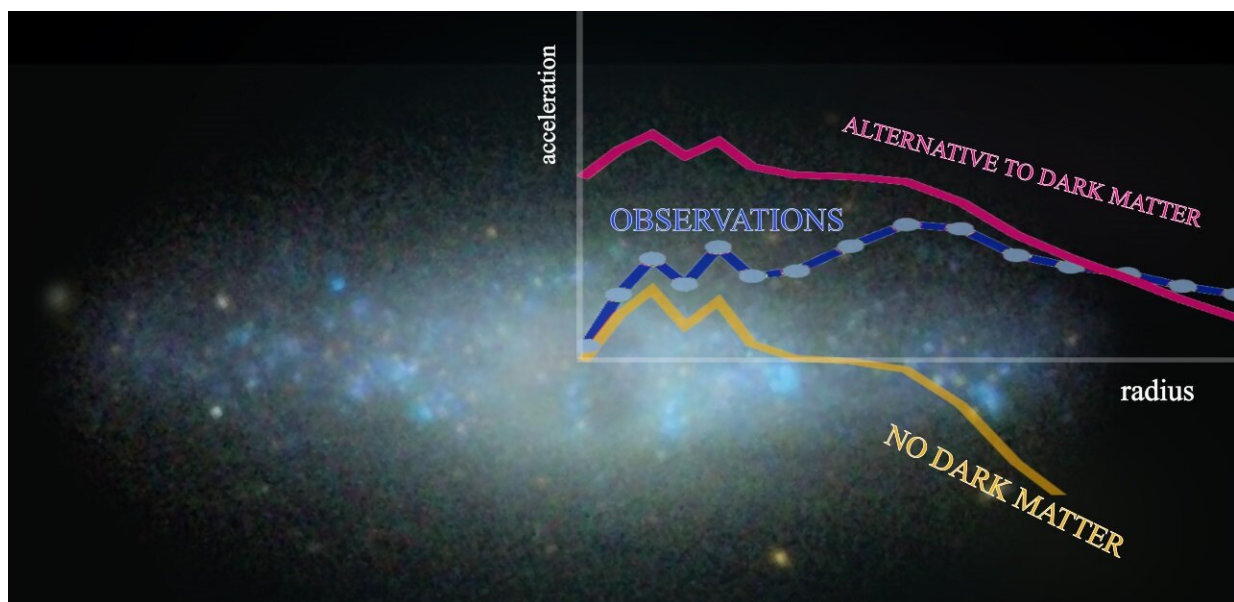


Best of Last Week – Dark matter exists, using A/Cs to reverse climate change and using sex drugs to treat heart failure

May 6 2019, by Bob Yirka



Acceleration as a function of radius in NGC 4455, one of the studied galaxies. Credit: Di Paolo et al. modified from survey SDSS9.

It was another good week for physics, as a team at the International School of Advanced Studies announced that [dark matter exists](#)—they claim their observations disprove alternate explanations. Also, a team at the Institute for Molecular Engineering at the University of Chicago announced two breakthroughs as part of their effort to [connect quantum](#)

[bits with sound over record distances](#)—entangling quantum bits using sound for the first time, and building the highest-quality long-range link between two qubits thus far. And a team at the U.S. Department of Energy's Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory built [a machine to determine if lithium can enable nuclear fusion](#) by protecting the walls inside tokamaks.

It was also a good week for [space science](#), as researchers from Columbia University and the University of Florida reported on their observations of [two neutron stars that collided near the solar system billions of years ago](#)—and possibly served as the source of some of the most coveted matter on Earth. And researchers at the Institute of Astrophysics of Andalusia reported on their observations of [the space rock that hit the moon at 61,000 kilometers an hour](#), creating a crater 10 to 15 meters across.

In other news, researchers Roland Dittmeyer, Michael Klumpp, Paul Kant and Geoffrey Ozin proposed [using air conditioners as a climate-change remedy](#) by attaching CO₂ filters to them. And a team of researchers affiliated with multiple institutions across the U.S. conducted a study showing that [a skin microbiome imbalance is likely behind eczema flareups](#). Also, a team at Tufts University reported that [their computer model suggested earthquakes are triggered well beyond fluid injection zones](#)—suggesting that fracking and associated wastewater disposal could create significant, rapidly spreading earthquake activity in more distant places. And a team at MIT announced that they had developed [a new polymer film that conducts heat instead of trapping it](#).

And finally, if you are an older man and have been considering using a drug such as Viagra to enhance your dalliances, you might want to check out a study conducted by a team at the University of Manchester—they found that [pharmaceuticals for erectile dysfunction are effective as heart failure treatments](#).

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Citation: Best of Last Week – Dark matter exists, using A/Cs to reverse climate change and using sex drugs to treat heart failure (2019, May 6) retrieved 9 July 2025 from <https://sciencex.com/news/2019-05-week-dark-acs-reverse-climate.html>

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