



FREEZE-IN AT STRONGER COUPLING

And the highest temperature of the Universe

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Collaborators: G. Arcadi, C. Cosme, L. Covi, A. Goudelis, O. Lebedev

PRD 109, 075038 (2024), 2402.04743, 2405.XXXXX

CATCH22+2

OUTLINE:

INTRO: FREEZE-IN VS FREEZE-OUT

PROBLEMS WITH FREEZE-IN

LOW REHEATING TEMPERATURE

TEMPERATURE EVOLUTION DURING REHEATING

FREEZE-IN AT STRONG COUPLING WITH THE HIGGS PORTAL

CONCLUSIONS

INTRODUCTION

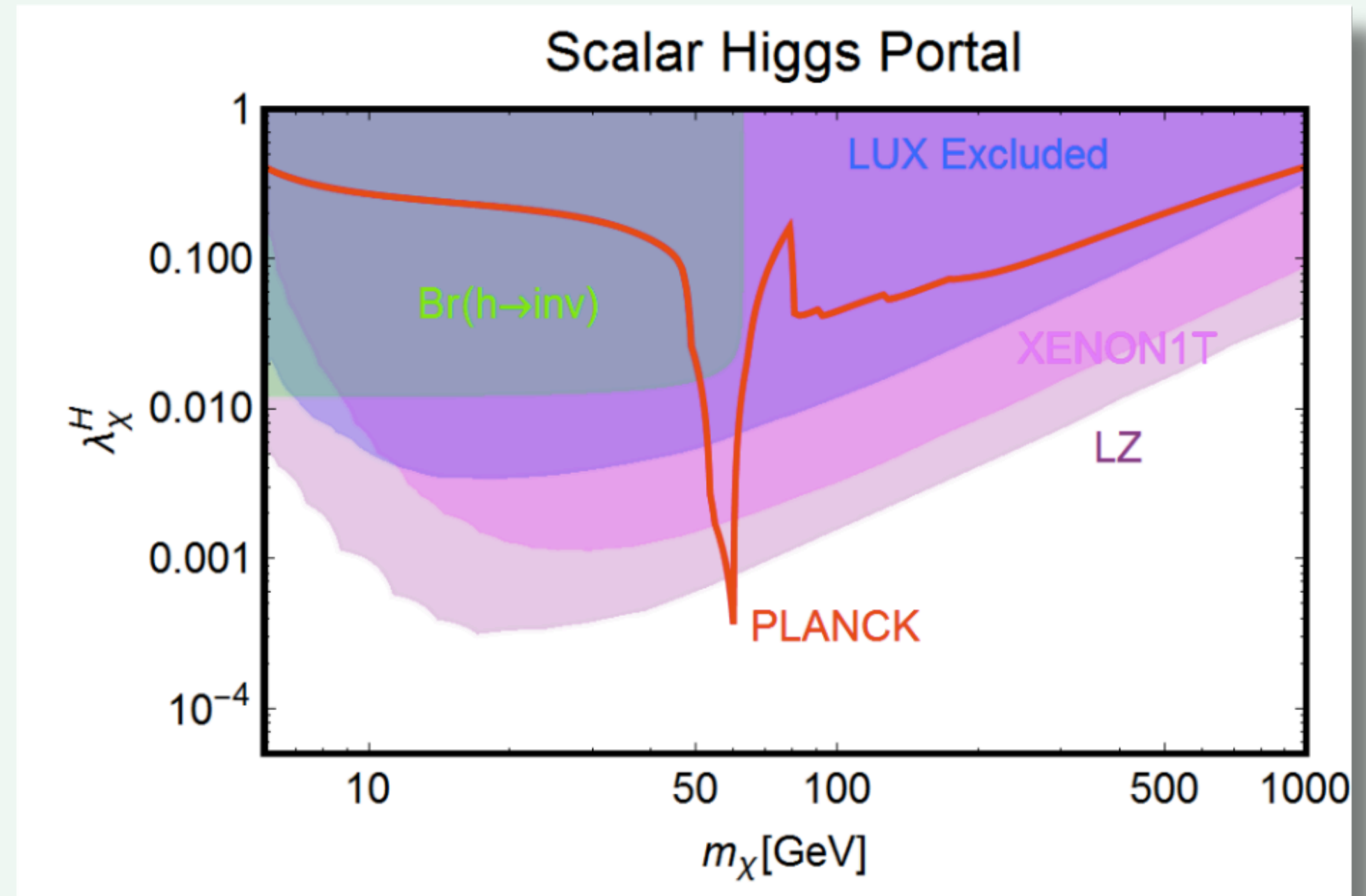
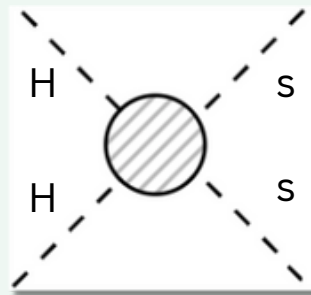
FREEZE-IN VS FREEZE-OUT

FREEZE-OUT

Higgs portal

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{hs} s^2 H^\dagger H$$

t



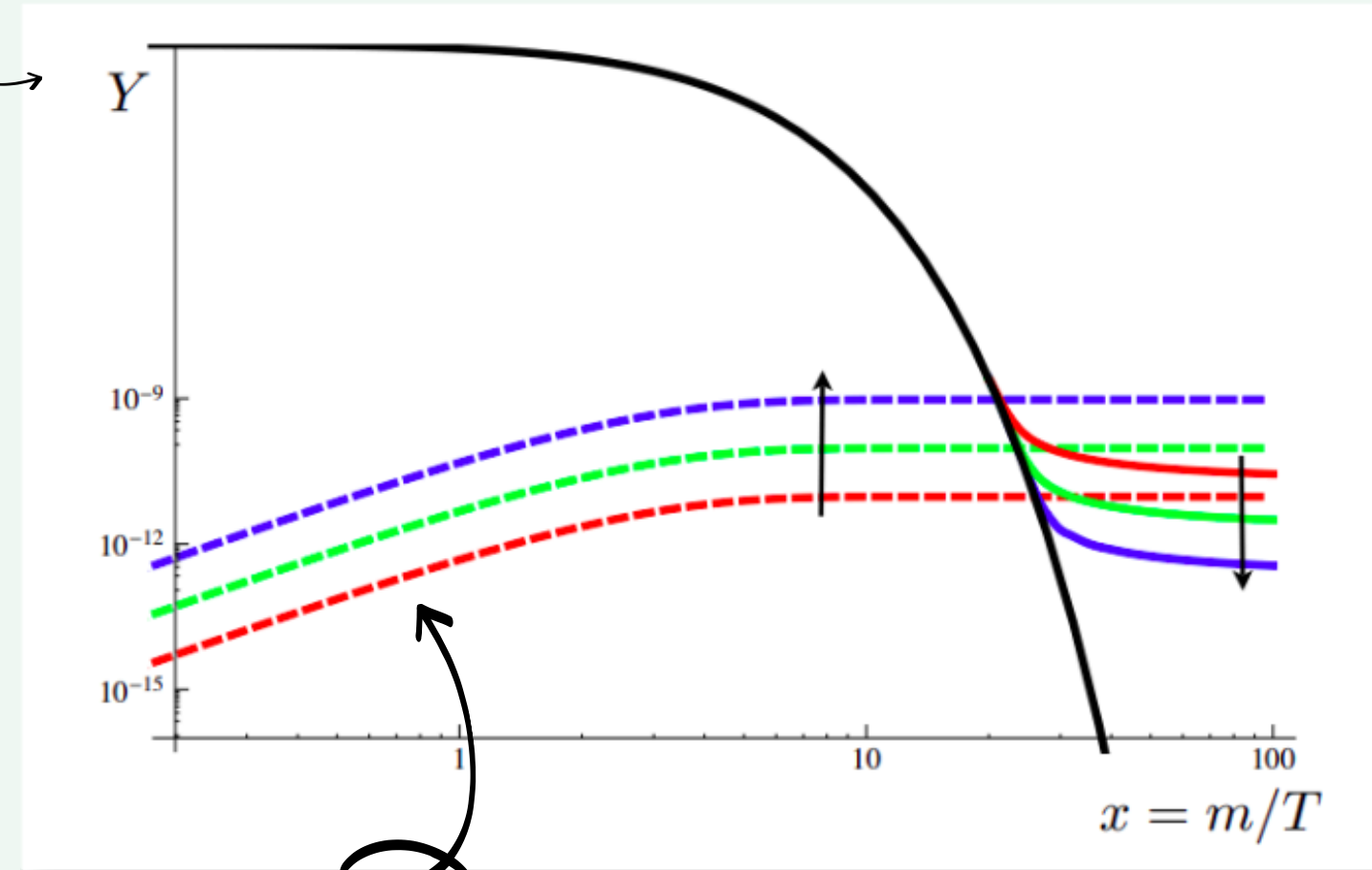
“Vanilla” WIMP models are very constrained or already excluded

FREEZE-IN

- Out-of-equilibrium
- Dependence on the initial conditions
→ We assume a negligible initial abundance
- Very low couplings

$$\lambda \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-10})$$

DM yield $Y = \frac{n_s}{S}$

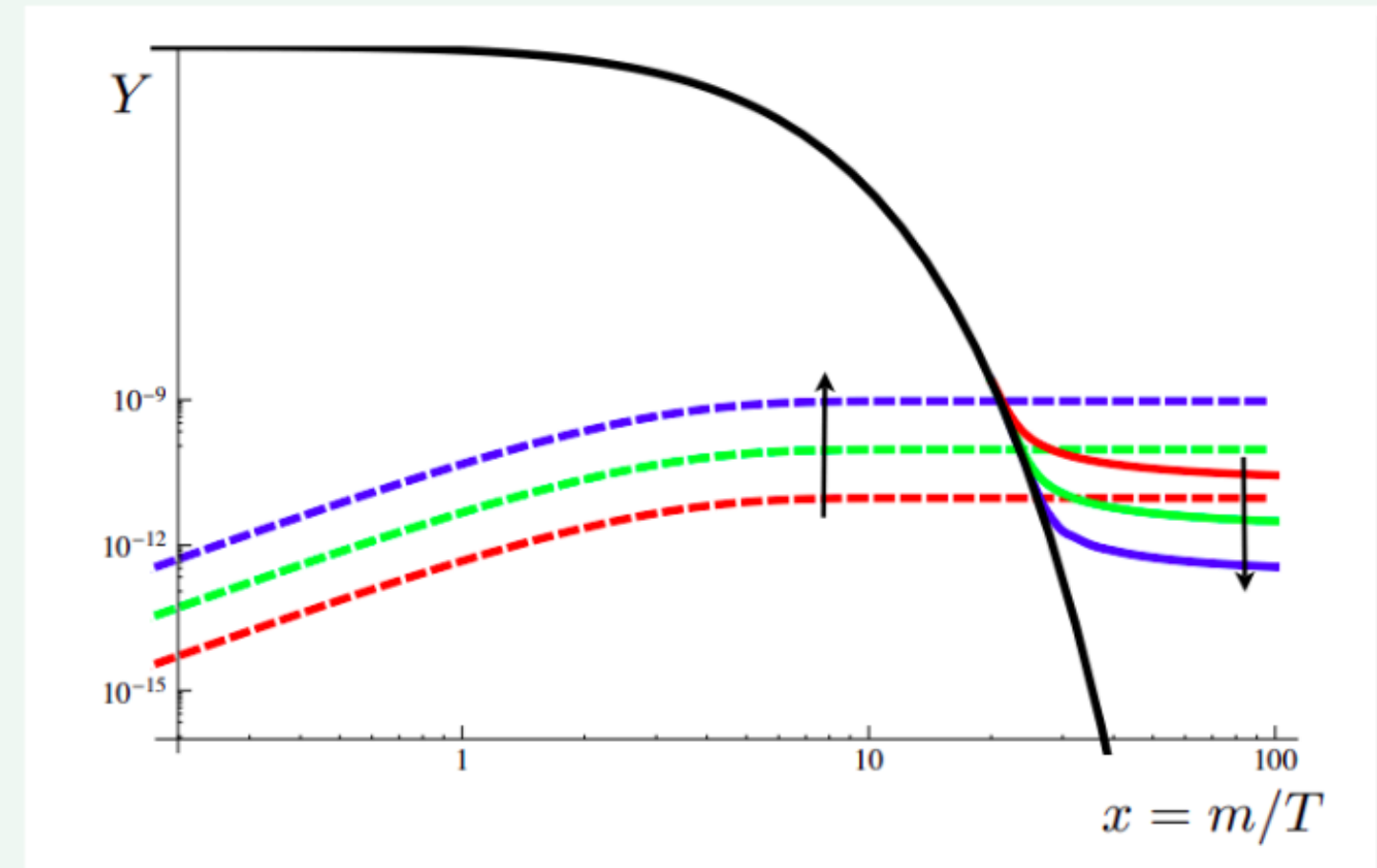


$$Y_{FI} \sim \lambda^2 \left(\frac{M_{Pl}}{m} \right)$$

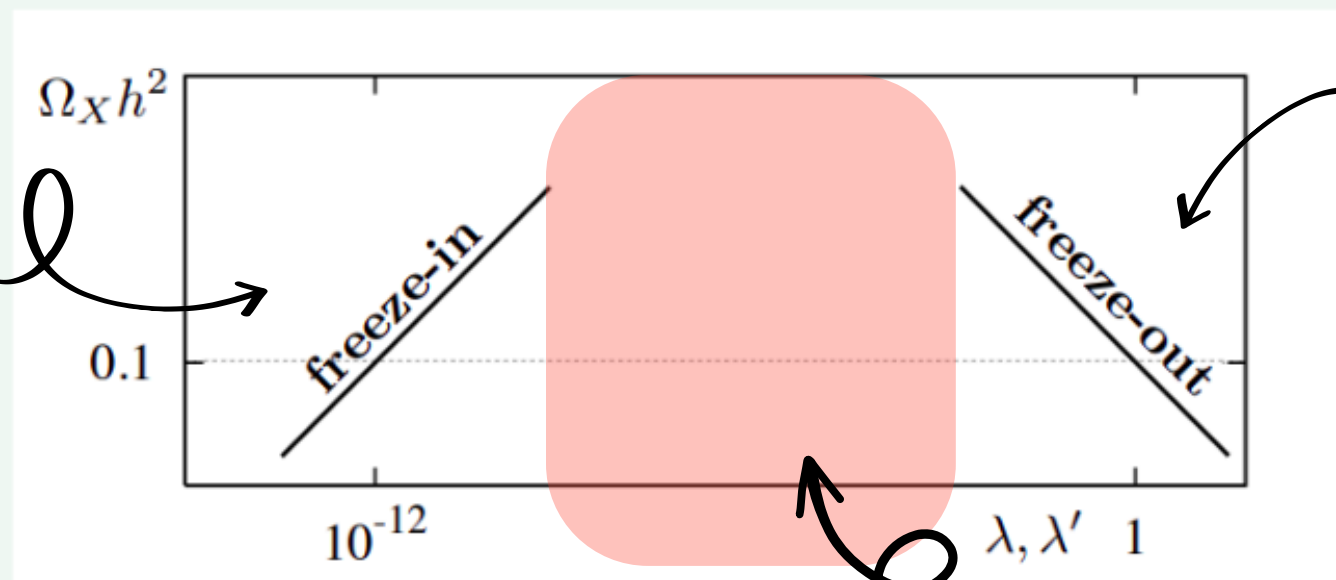
DM abundance grows with
the coupling squared

FREEZE-IN

- Out-of-equilibrium
- Dependence on the initial conditions
 → We assume a negligible initial abundance
- Very low couplings



$$\Omega h^2 \propto \lambda^2$$



$$\Omega h^2 \propto \frac{1}{\langle \sigma v \rangle} \sim \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

Overproduction

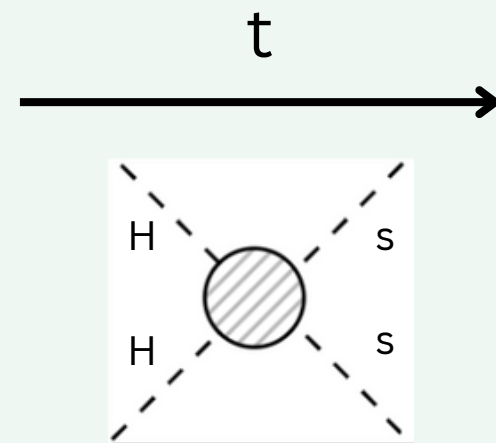
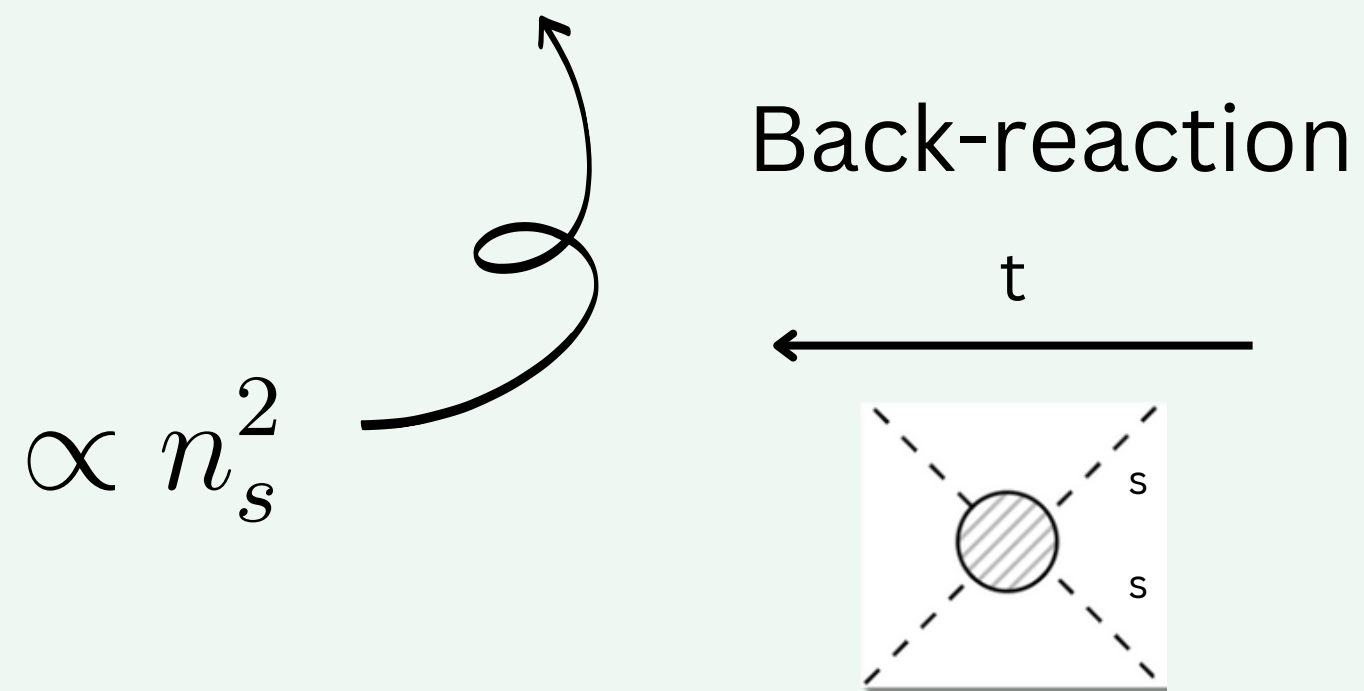
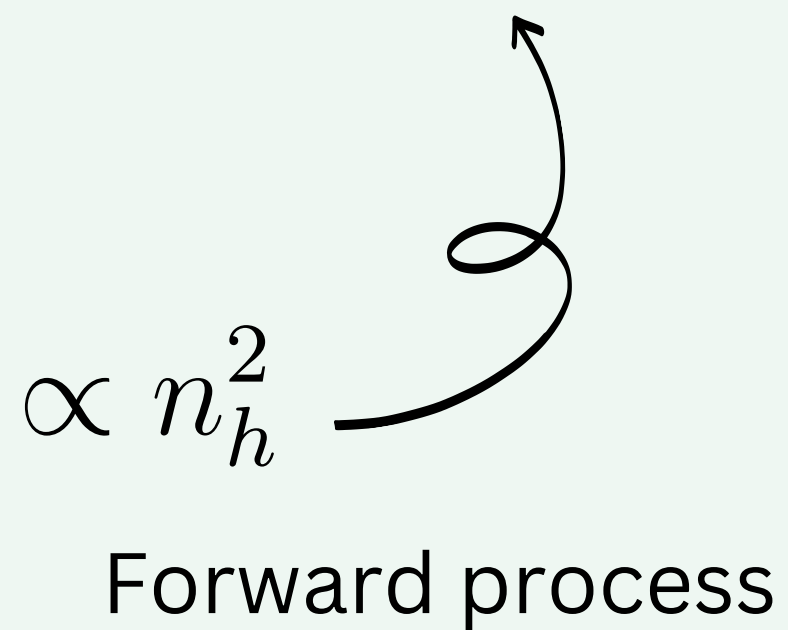
J. McDonald, hep-ph/0106249

L. J. Hall, K. Jedamzik, J. March-Russell, S. M. West, 0911.1120

FREEZE-IN

Boltzmann equation for the evolution of the DM number density

$$\dot{n}_s + 3Hn_s = \Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) - \Gamma(ss \rightarrow h_i h_i)$$



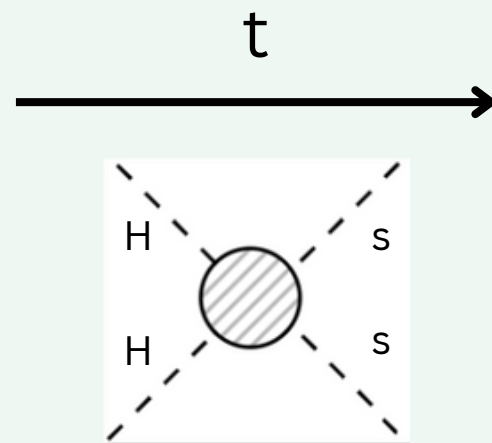
FREEZE-IN

Boltzmann equation for the evolution of the DM number density

$$\dot{n}_s + 3Hn_s = \Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) - \Gamma(ss \rightarrow h_i h_i)$$

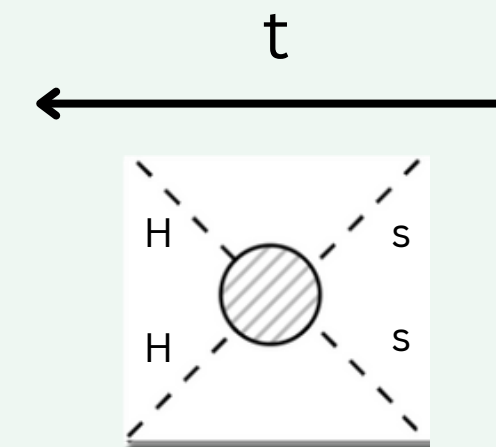
$\propto n_h^2$

Forward process



$\propto n_s^2$

Back-reaction



FREEZE-IN PROBLEMS

AND GRAVITATIONAL PARTICLE PRODUCTION

VERY SMALL COUPLINGS

$$\lambda \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-10})$$

GRAVITATIONAL PARTICLE PRODUCTION

S. G. Mamaev, V. M. Mostepanenko and A. A. Starobinsky, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 70, 1577-1591 (1976),
L. Parker, Phys. Rev. 183, 1057-1068 (1969),
A. A. Grib, S. G. Mamaev and V. M. Mostepanenko, Gen. Rel. Grav. 7, 535-547 (1976).
L. H. Ford, Phys. Rev. D 35, 2955 (1987)
Y. Ema, R. Jinno, K. Mukaida, K. Nakayama, 1502.02475
O. Lebedev, 2210.02293

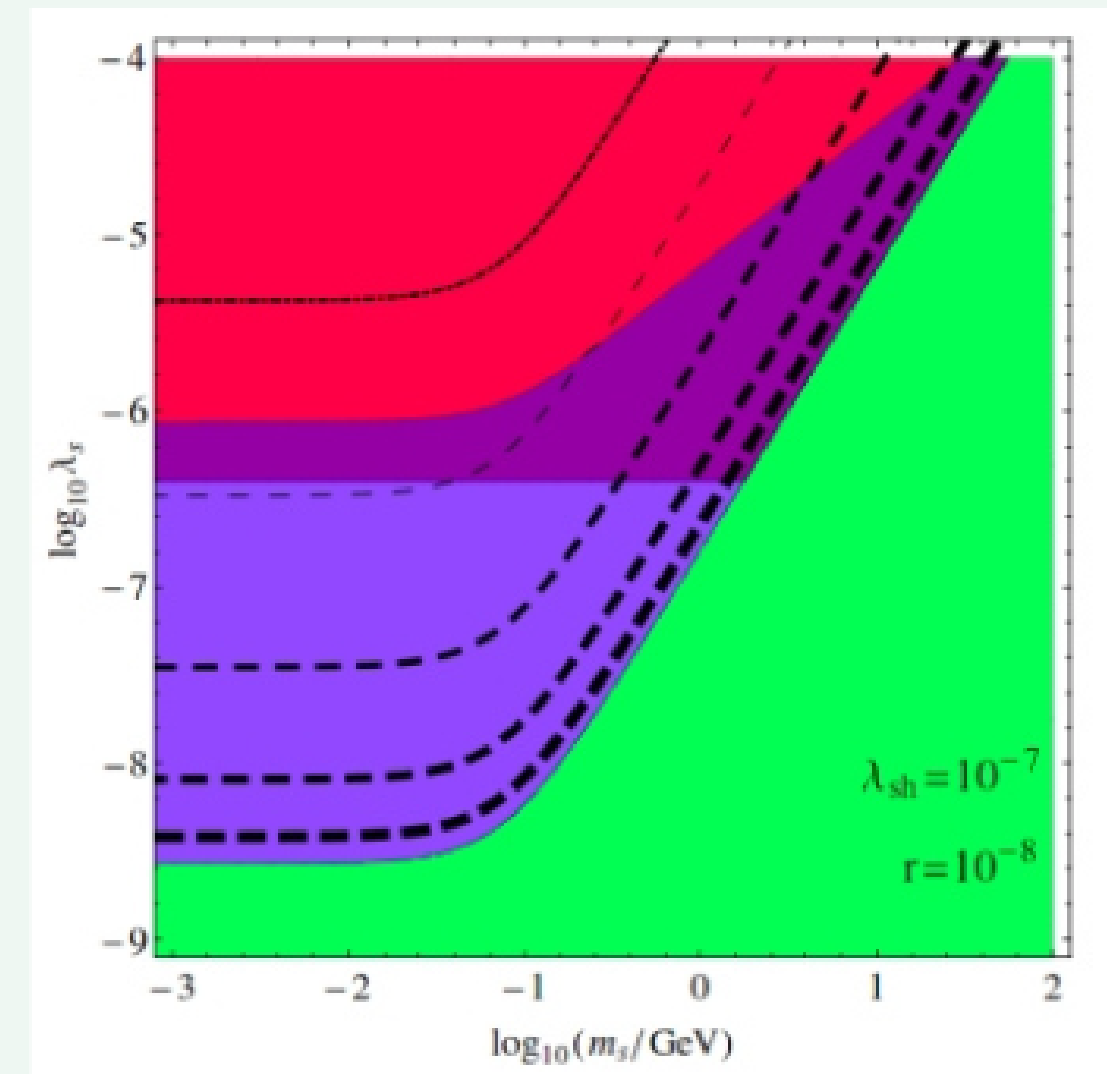
Dark Matter

P. J. E. Peebles and A. Vilenkin, Phys. Rev. D 60, 103506 (1999),
S. Nurmi, T. Tenkanen and K. Tuominen, JCAP 11, 001 (2015),
T. Markkanen, A. Rajantie and T. Tenkanen, Phys. Rev. D 98, no.12, 123532 (2018)

Starobinsky Yokoyama statistical method

A. A. Starobinsky and J. Yokoyama, Phys. Rev. D 50, 6357-6368 (1994).

→ Thursday talk by Arttu Rajantie



“Spectator DM”

HOW CAN THE FREEZE-IN ASSUMPTION BE SATISFIED?

χ is a feebly interacting particle

DILUTION due to early matter dominated epoch

PRODUCTION DURING
INFLATON OSCILLATION



$$\Delta_{\text{NR}} \equiv \left(\frac{H_{\text{end}}}{H_{\text{reh}}} \right)^{1/2}$$

e.g. $\frac{1}{2} m_{\phi}^2 \phi^2$

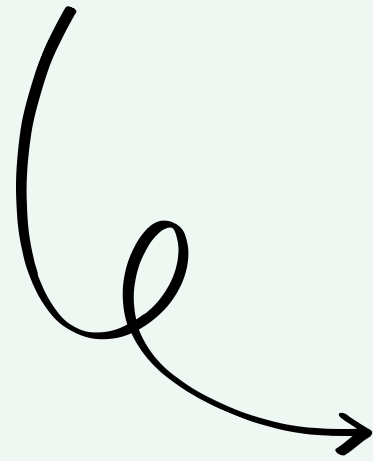
DURING INFLATION

$$\Delta_{\text{NR}} \gtrsim 10^7 \lambda_s^{-3/4} \left(\frac{H_{\text{end}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{m_s}{\text{GeV}} \right) \quad \leftarrow \quad \lambda_s \text{ is the self-coupling}$$

INFLATON OSCILLATION

$$\Delta_{\text{NR}} \gtrsim 10^6 \left(\frac{H_{\text{end}}}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{m_s}{\text{GeV}} \right)$$

**LONG MATTER DOMINATED
EPOCH**



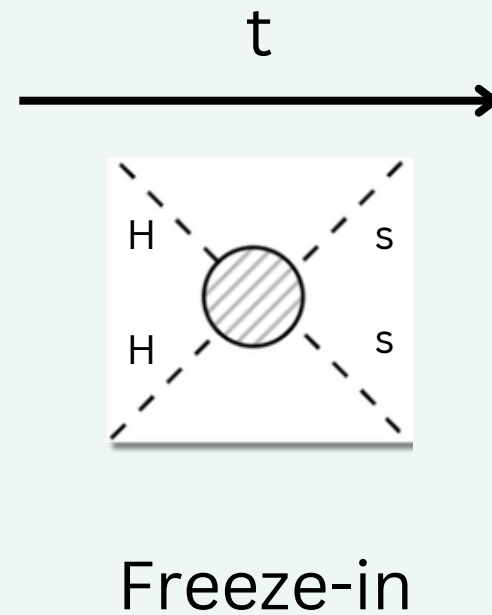
**LOW REHEATING
TEMPERATURE**

WHAT HAPPENS AT LOW T_R ?

Example:

Higgs portal

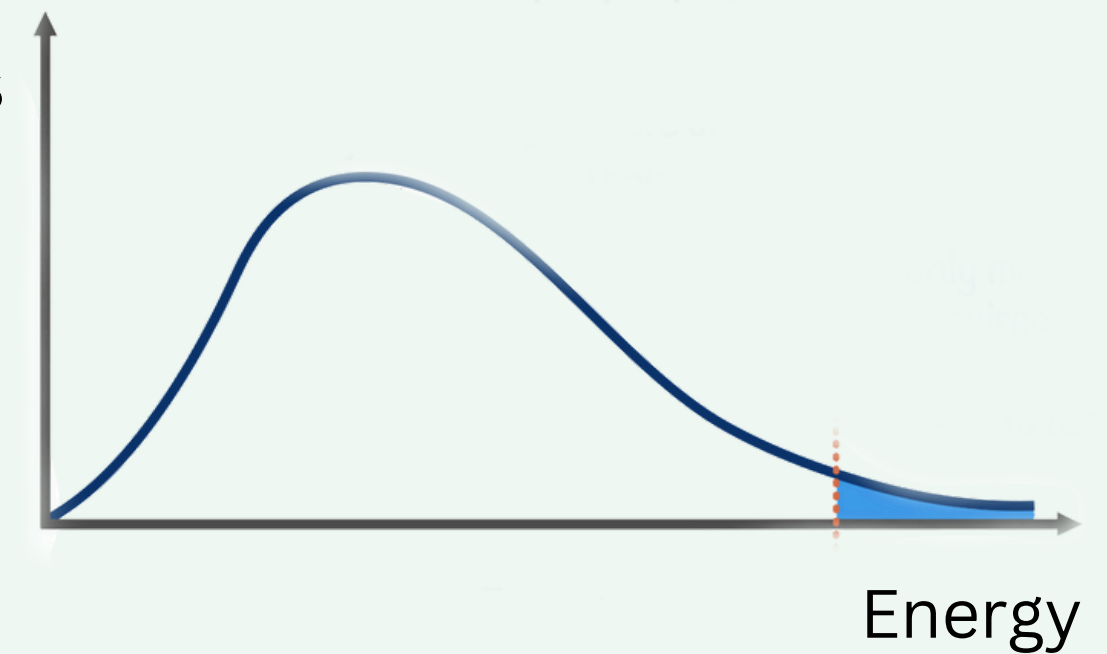
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{hs} S^2 H^\dagger H$$



Parameter space:

$$m_H < m_s \quad \& \quad T_R < m_s$$

of H particles



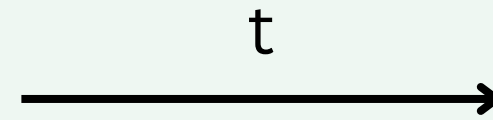
Boltzmann distribution

WHAT HAPPENS AT LOW TR?

Example:

Higgs portal

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{hs} s^2 H^\dagger H$$

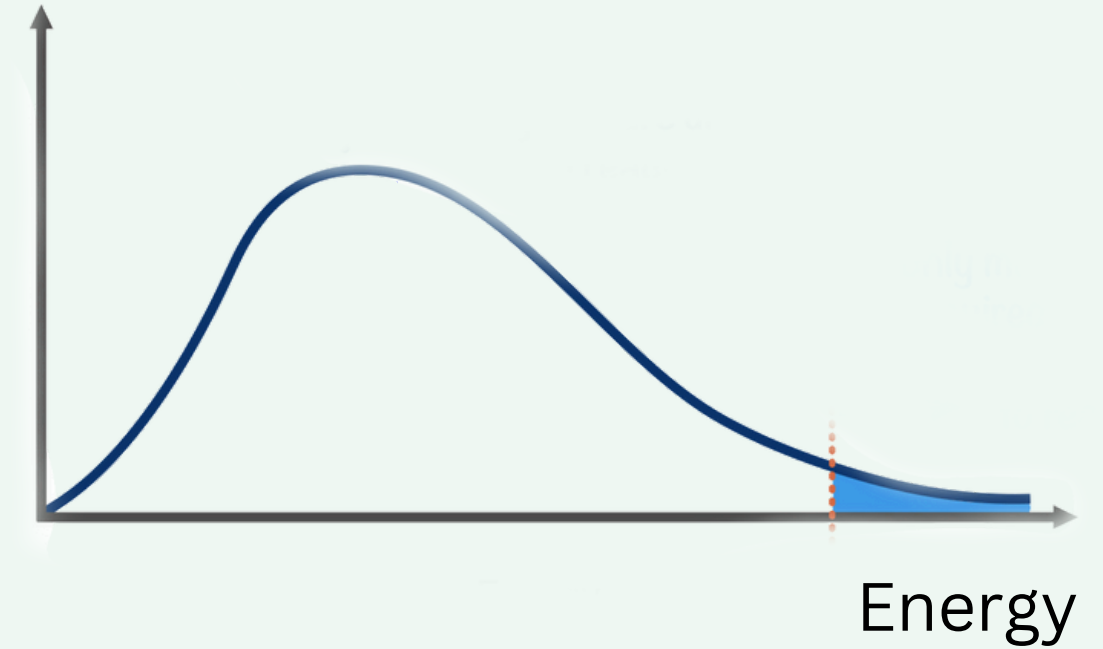


Freeze-in

Parameter space:

$$m_H < m_s \quad \& \quad T_R < m_s$$

of H particles

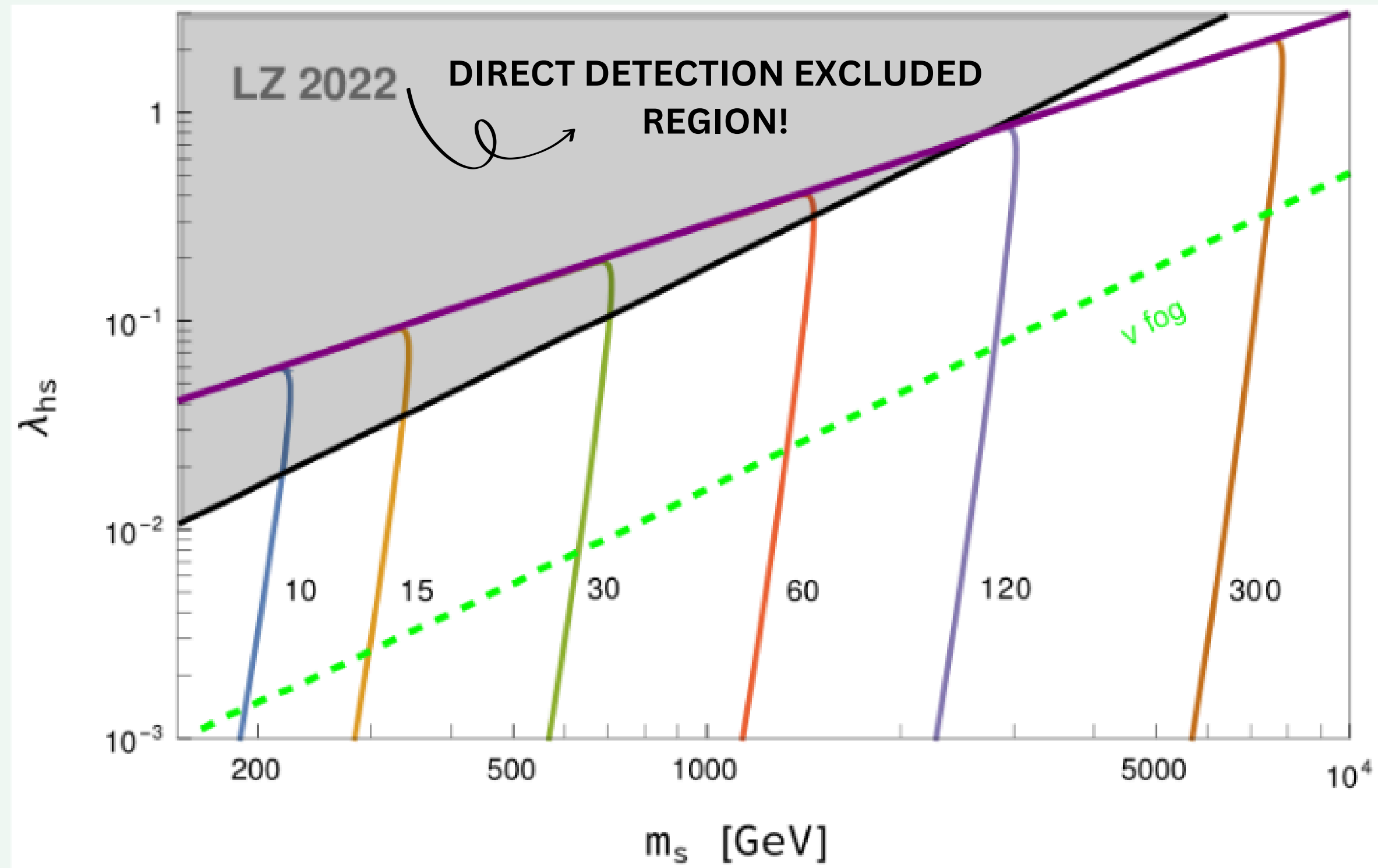
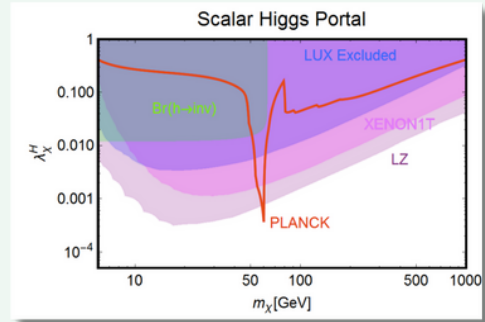


Boltzmann distribution

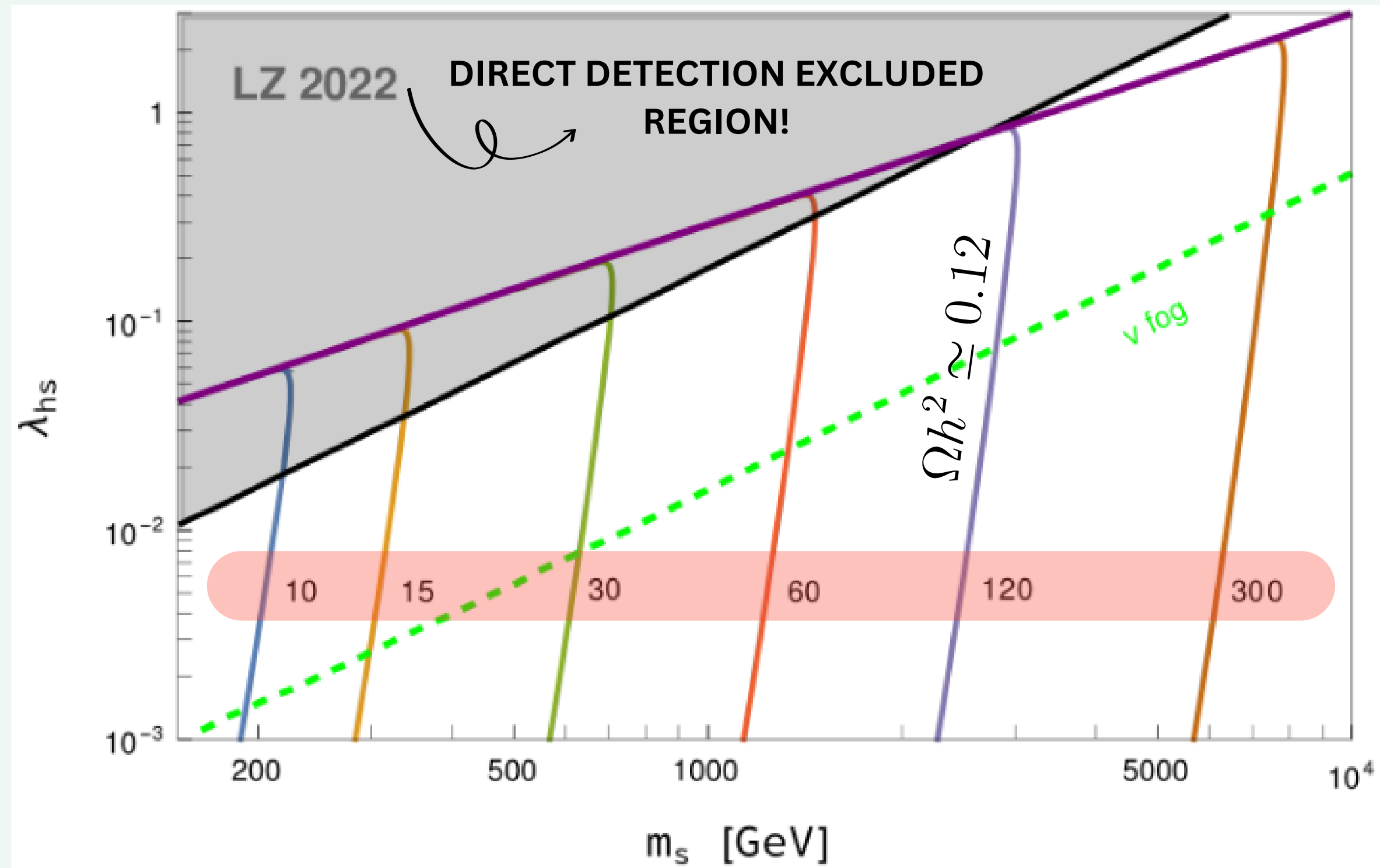
$$\Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) \simeq \frac{\lambda_{hs}^2 T^3 m_s}{2^7 \pi^4} e^{-2m_s/T}$$

The rate of production is Boltzmann suppressed

HIGGS PORTAL TO SCALAR DM



HIGGS PORTAL TO SCALAR DM



TEMPERATURE EVOLUTION DURING REHEATING

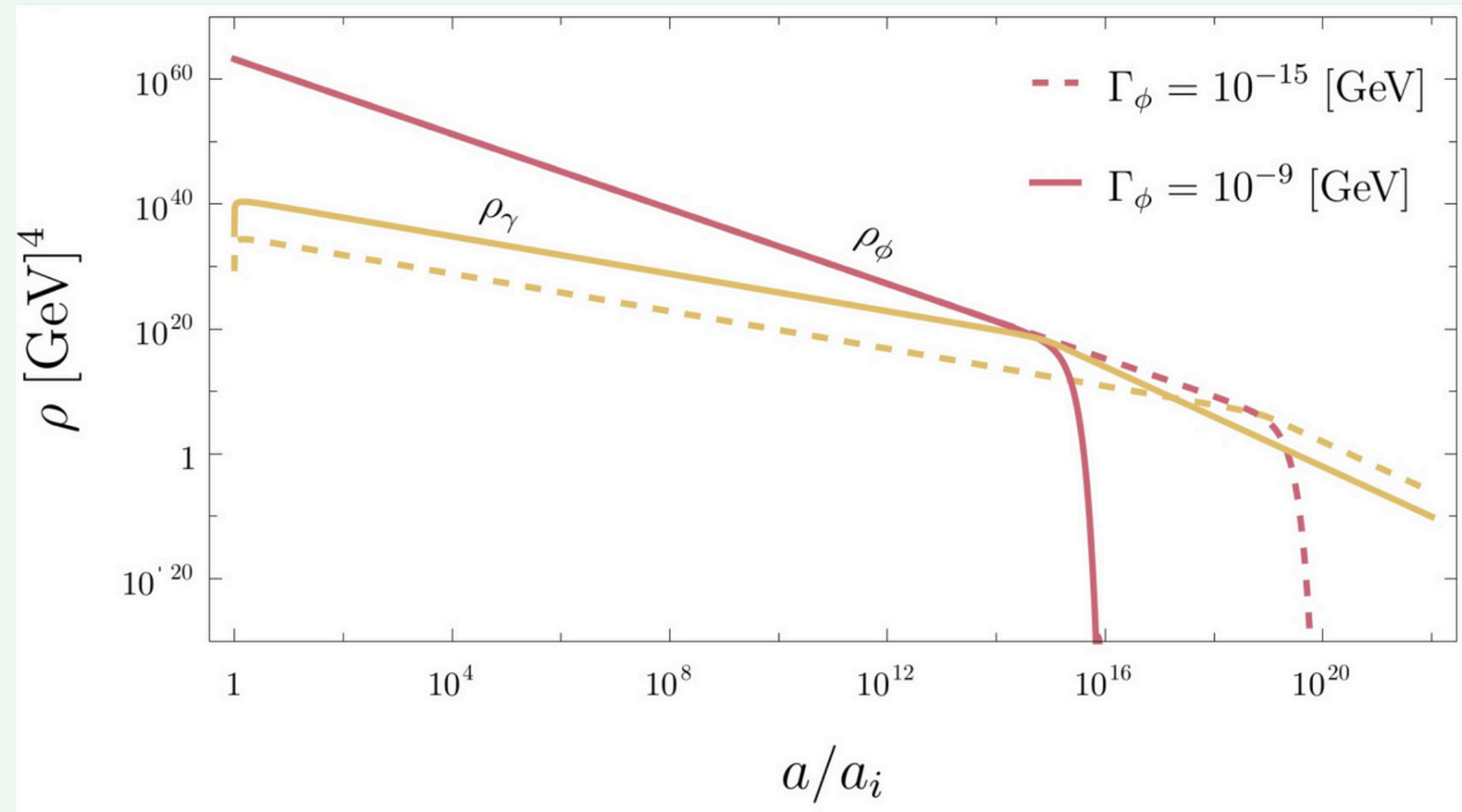
WHAT ABOUT TMAX?

Reheating Boltzmann Equations

$$\dot{\rho}_\phi + 3H\rho_\phi = -\Gamma_\phi\rho_\phi,$$

$$\dot{\rho}_\gamma + 4H\rho_\gamma = \Gamma_\phi\rho_\phi,$$

$$\rho_\phi + \rho_\gamma = 3m_P^2 H^2.$$



$$T_R \rightarrow T_{\text{max}}$$

REHEATING VIA RH NEUTRINOS

$$\phi \rightarrow \nu_R \rightarrow \text{SM}$$

If the SM is produced by a subdominant component during reheating we can have

$$T_R \simeq T_{\text{max}}$$

Reheating Boltzmann Equations

$$\dot{\rho}_\phi + 3H\rho_\phi = -\Gamma_\phi\rho_\phi,$$

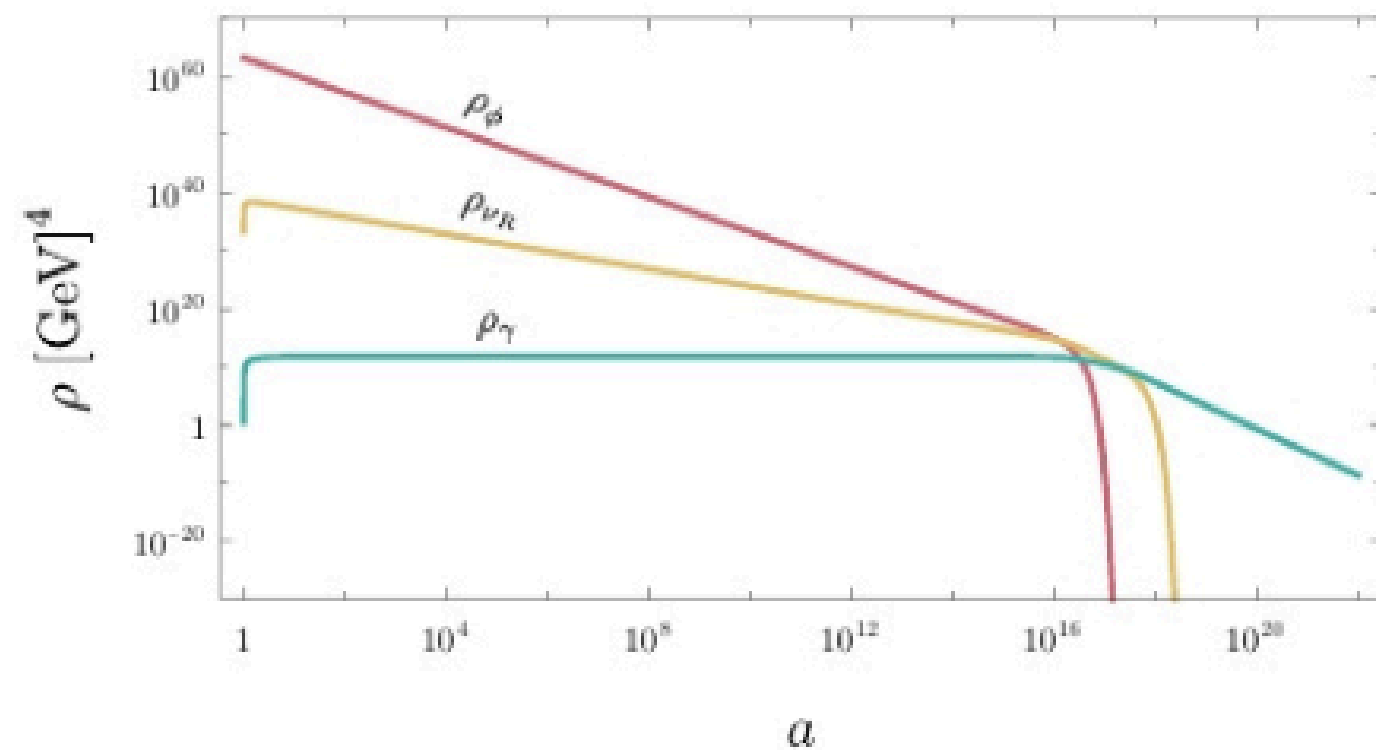
$$\dot{\rho}_\nu + 4H\rho_\nu = \Gamma_\phi\rho_\phi - \Gamma_\nu\rho_\nu,$$

$$\dot{\rho}_\gamma + 4H\rho_\gamma = \Gamma_\nu\rho_\nu,$$

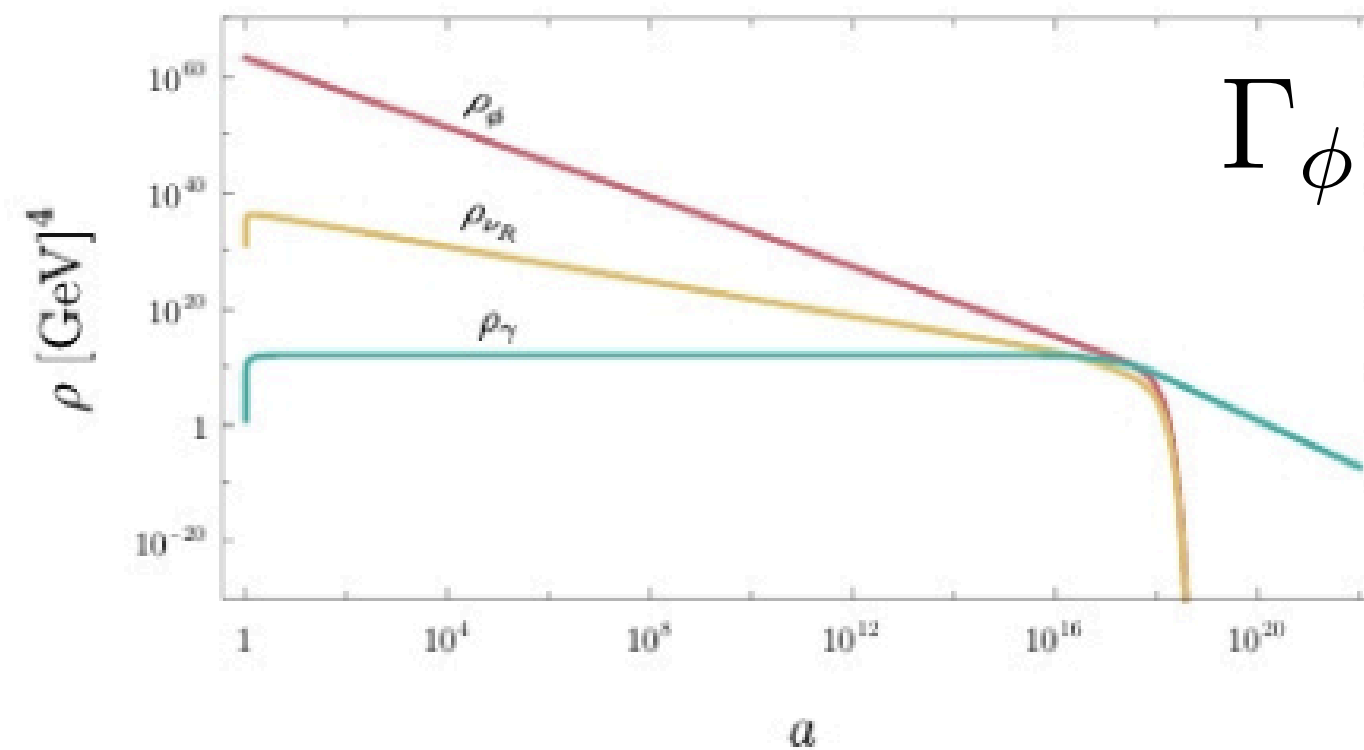
$$\rho_\phi + \rho_\nu + \rho_\gamma = 3H^2 m_P^2,$$

$$\Gamma_\phi \gg \Gamma_\nu$$

$$\Gamma_\phi = 10^{-11} \text{ GeV}, \quad \Gamma_\nu = 3 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ GeV}$$



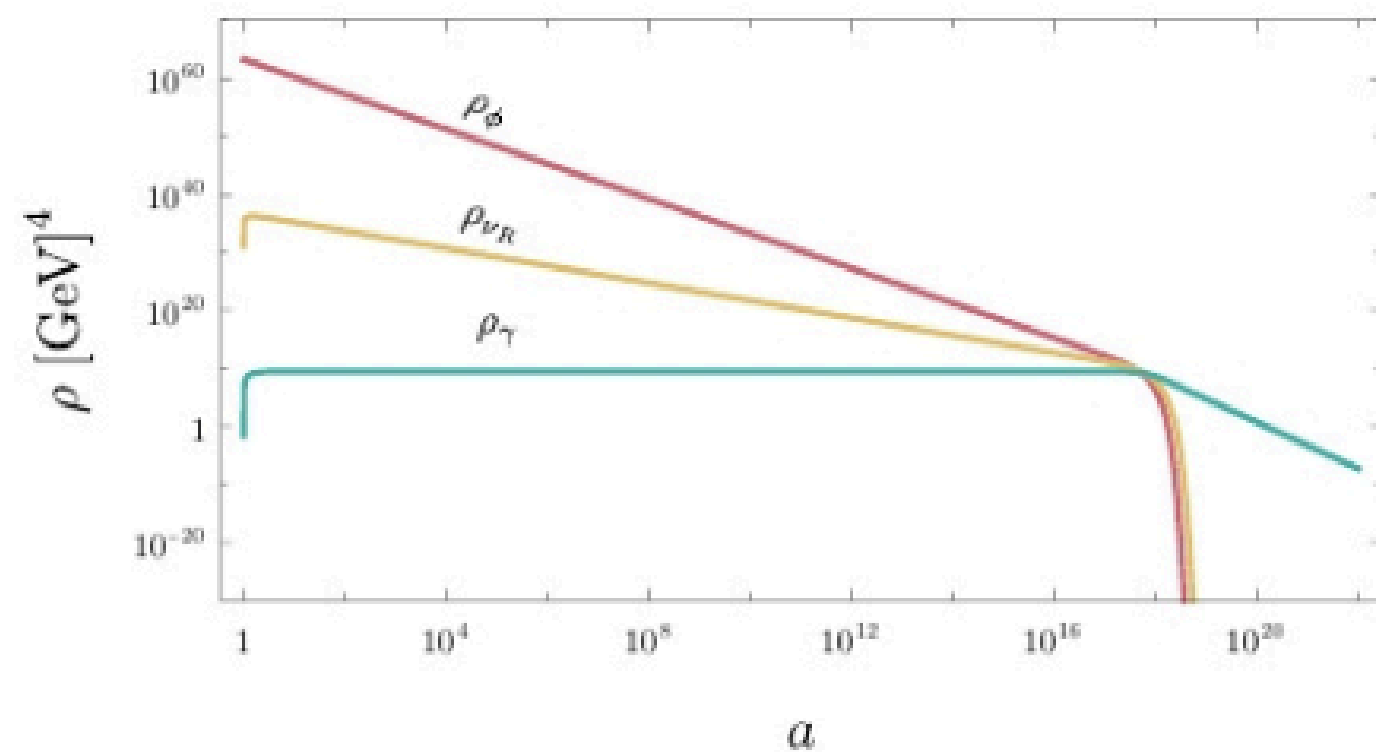
$$\Gamma_\phi = 3.5 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ GeV}, \quad \Gamma_\nu = 10^{-11} \text{ GeV}$$



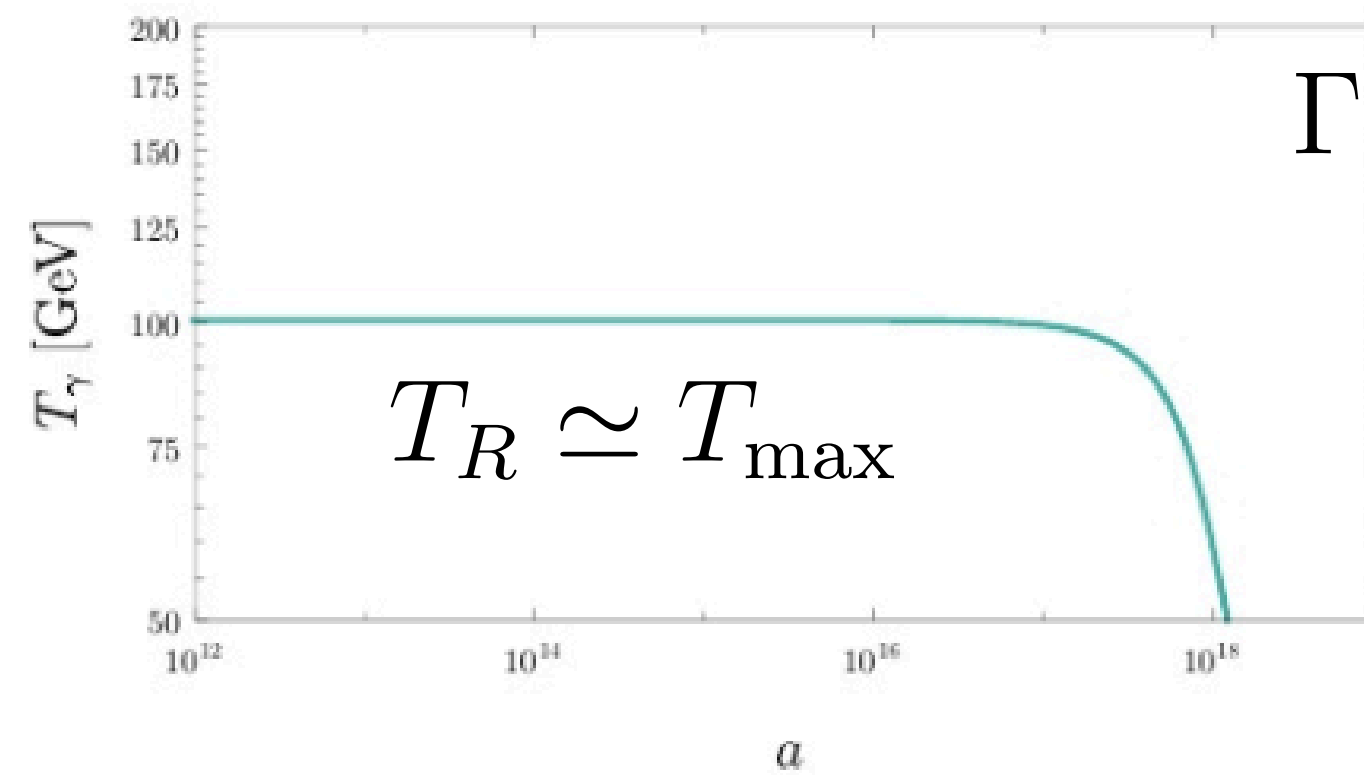
$$\Gamma_\phi \ll \Gamma_\nu$$

$$\Gamma_\phi \sim \Gamma_\nu$$

$$\Gamma_\phi = 3 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ GeV}, \quad \Gamma_\nu = 7 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ GeV}$$

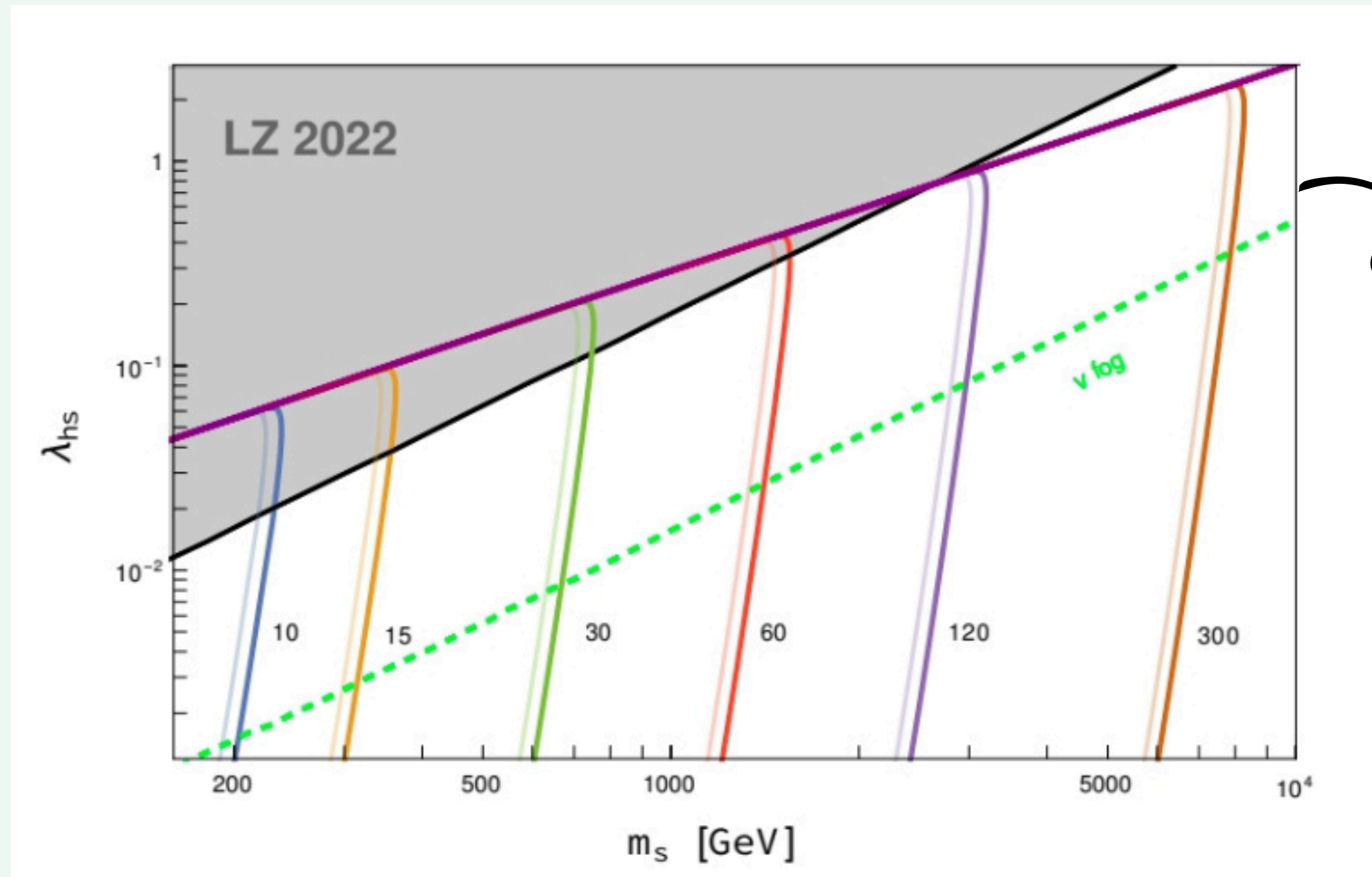


$$\Gamma_\phi = 3 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ GeV}, \quad \Gamma_\nu = 7 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ GeV}$$



$$\Gamma_\phi \sim \Gamma_\nu$$

CORRECTION TO THE DM PRODUCTION



$$T_R \rightarrow 0.95 \times T_R$$

5% correction wrt
instantaneous
reheating
approximation

HIGGS PORTAL

For different spin DM

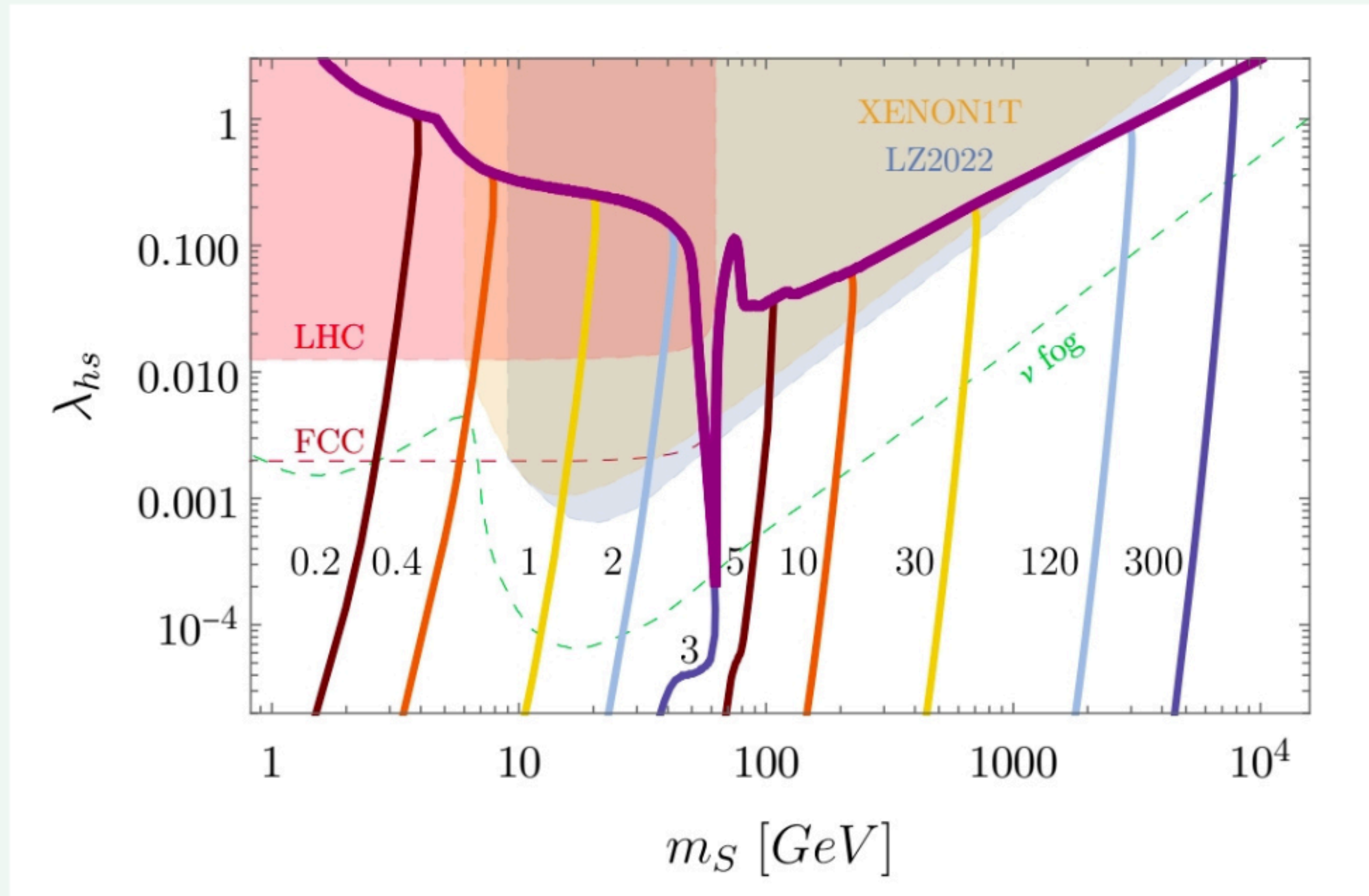
HIGGS PORTAL

$$\begin{aligned} - \Delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{scal}} &= \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{hs} H^\dagger H s^2 \\ - \Delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{ferm}} &= \frac{1}{\Lambda} H^\dagger H \bar{\chi} \chi + \frac{1}{\Lambda_5} H^\dagger H \bar{\chi} i \gamma_5 \chi \\ - \Delta \mathcal{L}_{\text{vect}} &= \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{hv} H^\dagger H V_\mu V^\mu \end{aligned}$$

Majorana fermion. CP even and fully CP odd case.



SCALAR DM

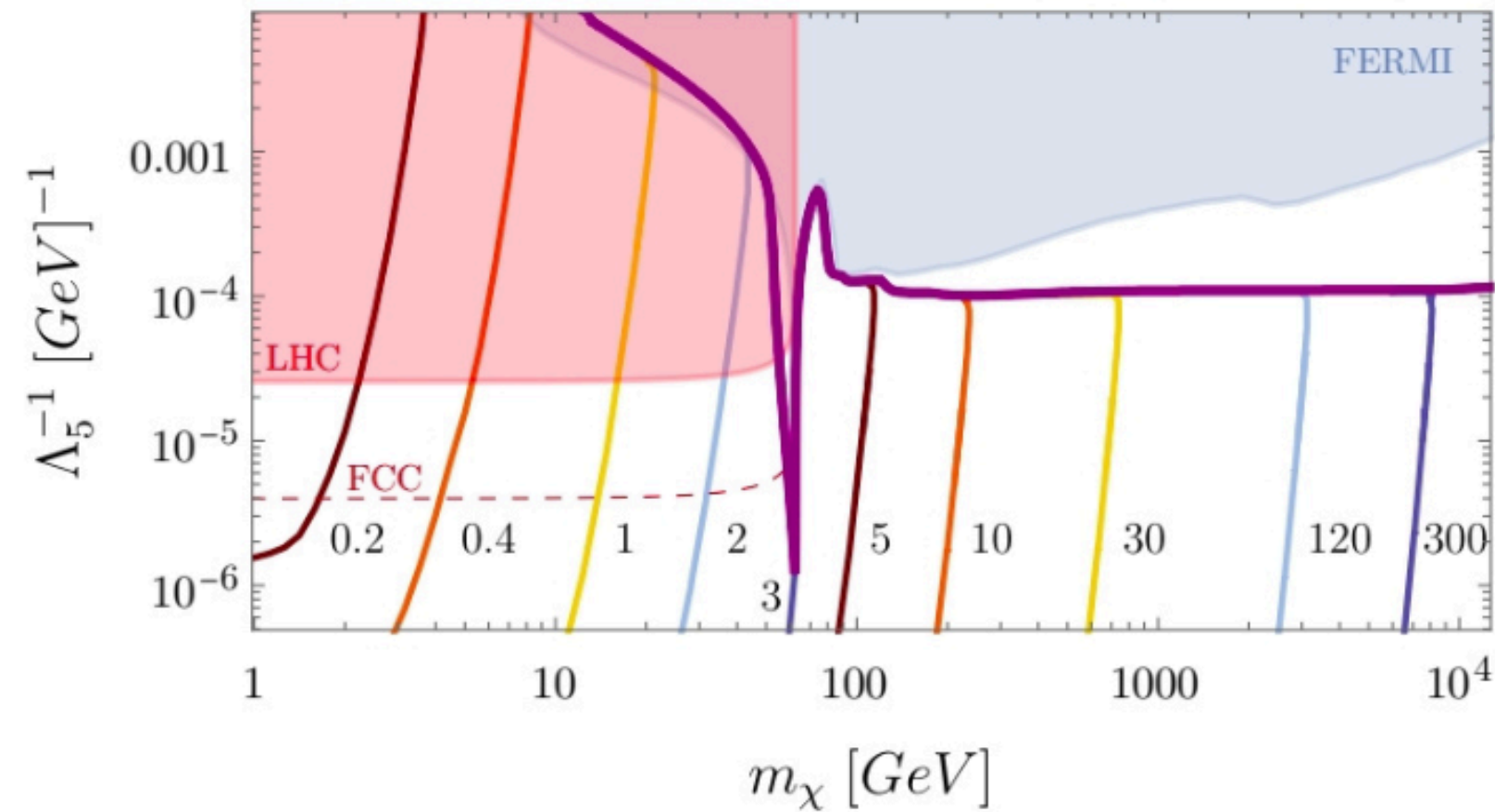


High DM mass: DD
detection constraint

Low DM mass: LHC
and future collider
constraint

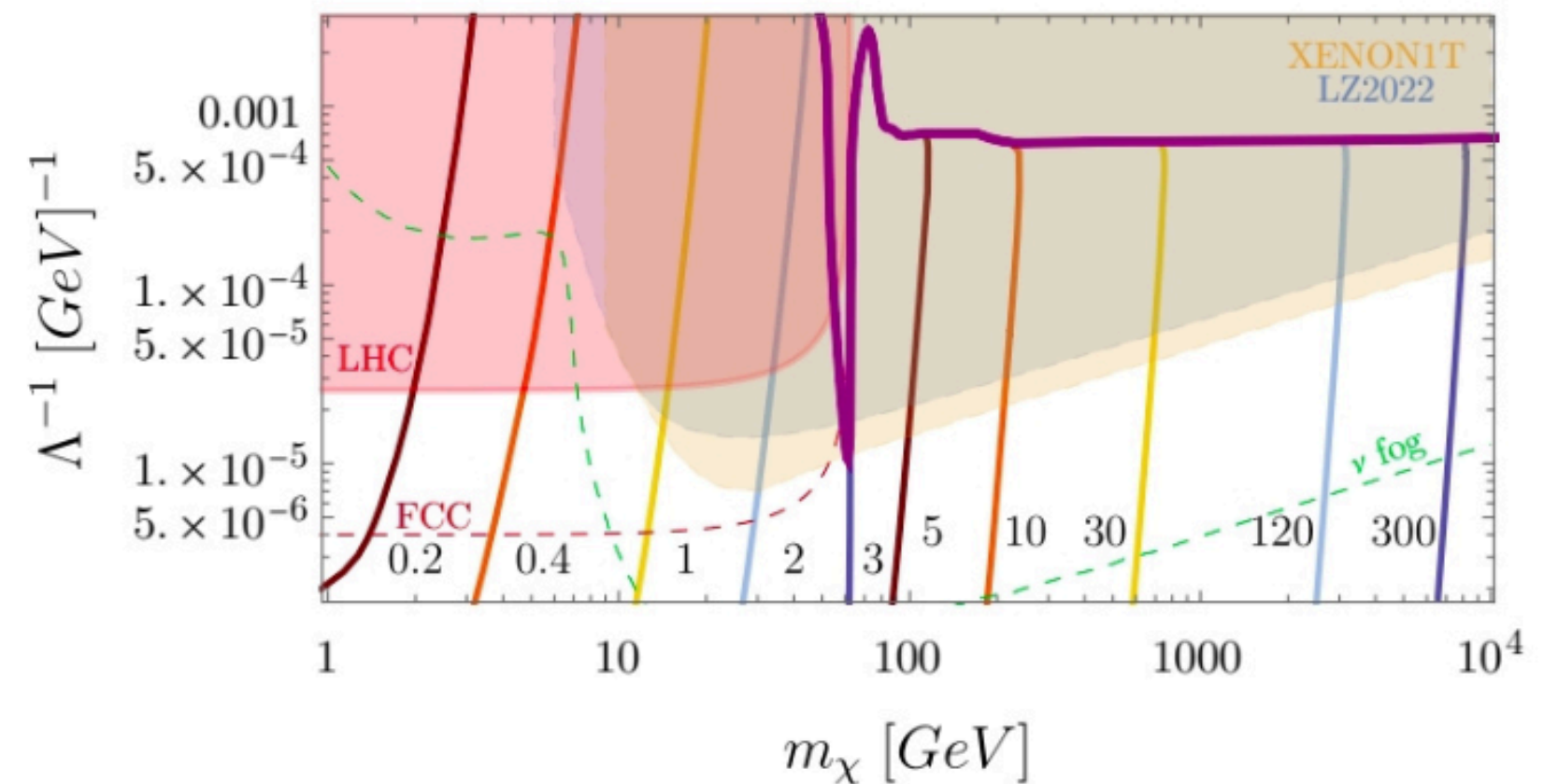
CP ODD

New parameter space opened up at low DM masses and testable at collider!




Colliders can test below the reach of DD experiments (below the neutrino fog)

CP EVEN




CONCLUSIONS



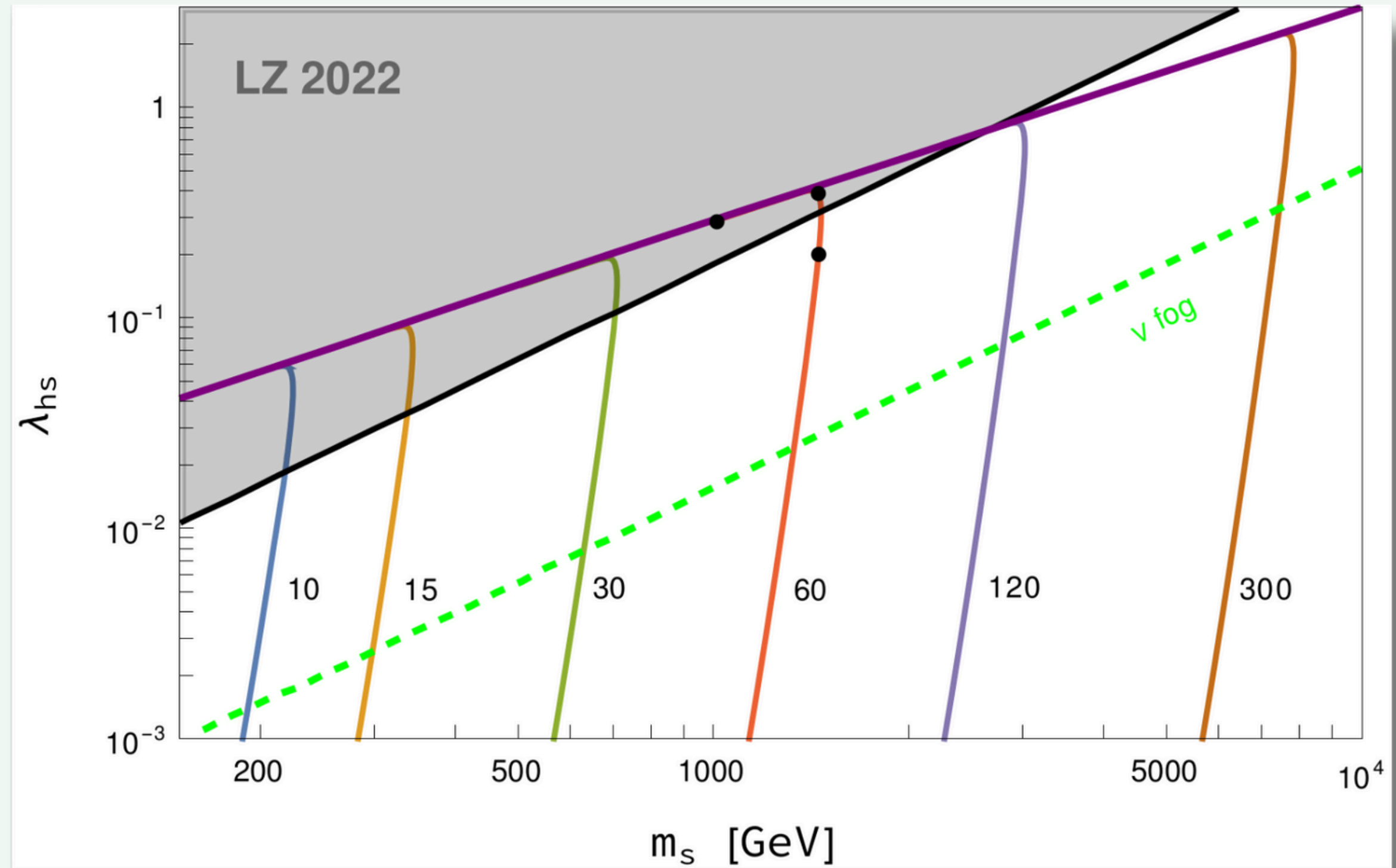
Freeze-in is realised with tiny couplings.
Natural? Observable?

Early gravitational particle production can spoil freeze-in DM models.

This issue can be addressed and solved by an early matter dominated epoch, which is long and leads to low reheating temperatures.

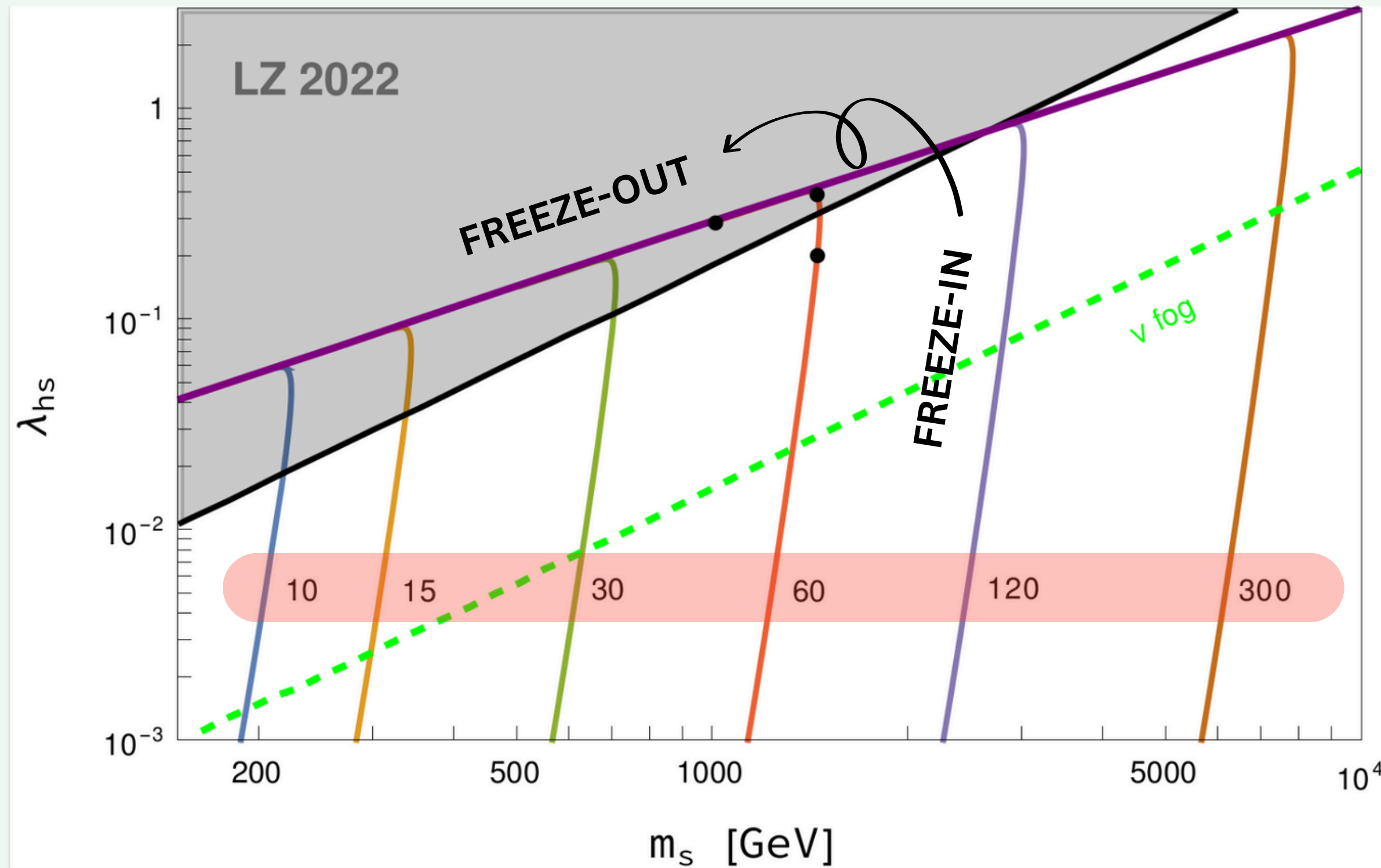
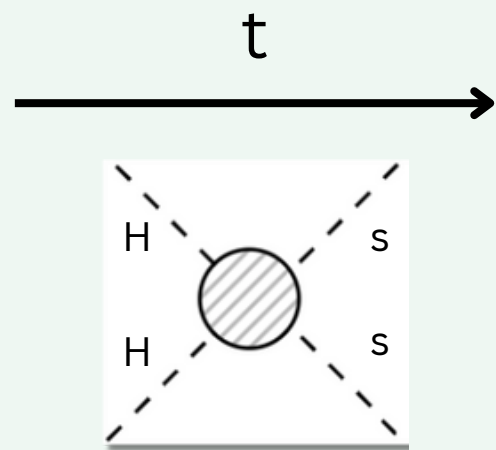


Low reheating freeze-in production is accessible by direct detection experiments and can be a target for future DD experiments



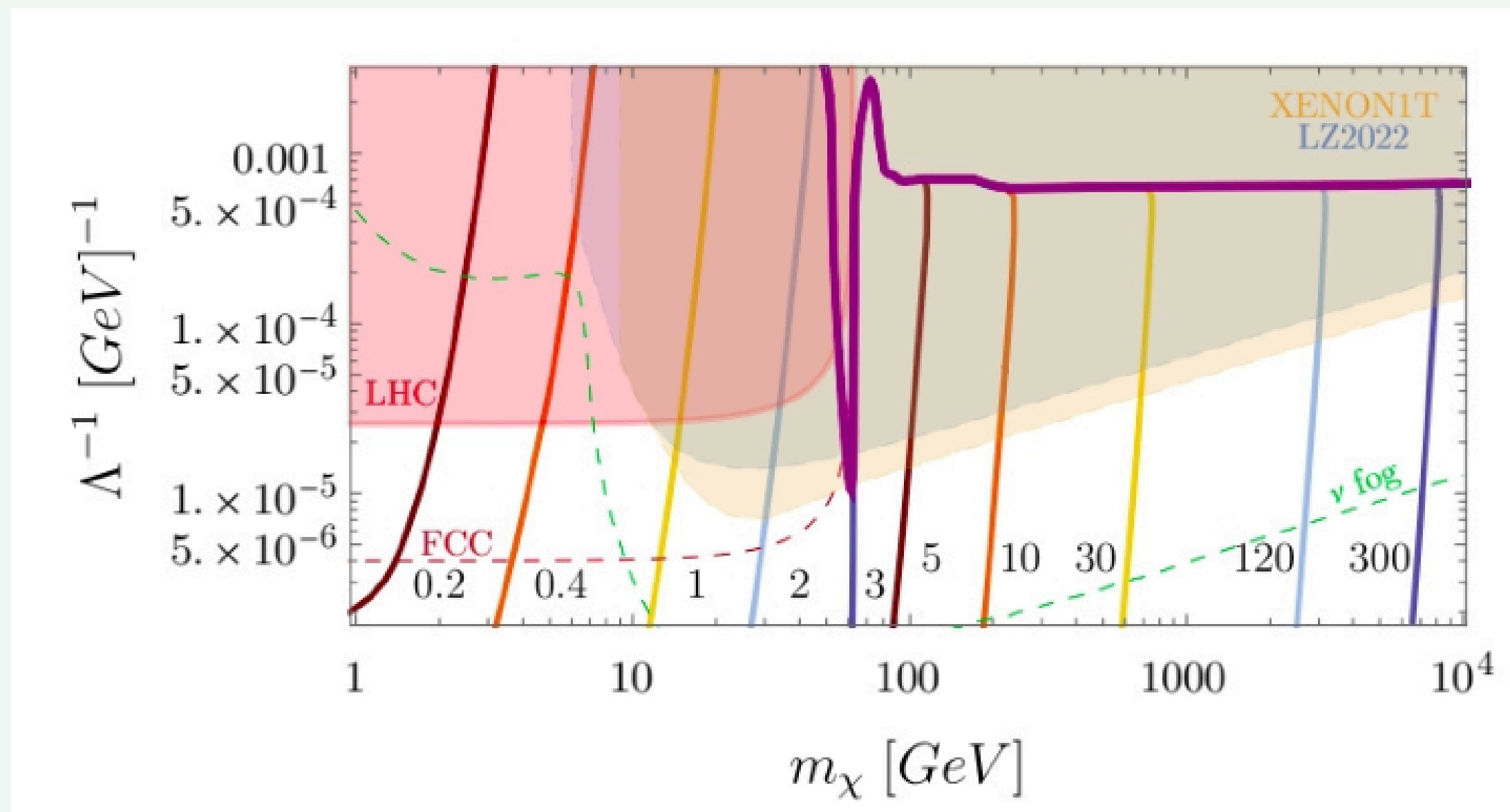
Higgs portal

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{hs} s^2 H^\dagger H$$



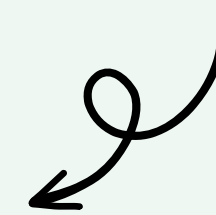
See also Javier S. Malpartida, N. Bernal, J. Jones-Pérez, R. A. Lineros, arxiv 2306:1493

At low masses LHC probes freeze-in a stronger couplings and future colliders can set bound below the neutrino fog!

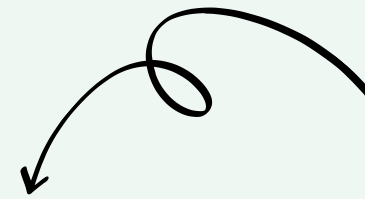


TAKE HOME MESSAGE

EARLY UNIVERSE EFFICIENT
GRAVITATIONAL PRODUCTION
OF FEEBLY COUPLED PARTICLES



NEED FOR A "LONG" MATTER DOMINATED
EPOCH AND THEREFORE **LOW REHEATING
TEMPERATURE** TO AVOID OVERPRODUCTION



- **BOLTZMANN SUPPRESSED PRODUCTION RATE AND POSSIBLE DIRECT DETECTION AND COLLIDER SIGNATURES!**
- **NO OVERPRODUCTION GAP BETWEEN FREEZE-OUT AND FREEZE-IN AT LOW REHEATING TEMPERATURES**

THANK YOU

Francesco Costa

Institute for Theoretical Physics,
University of Goettingen



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CATCH22+2

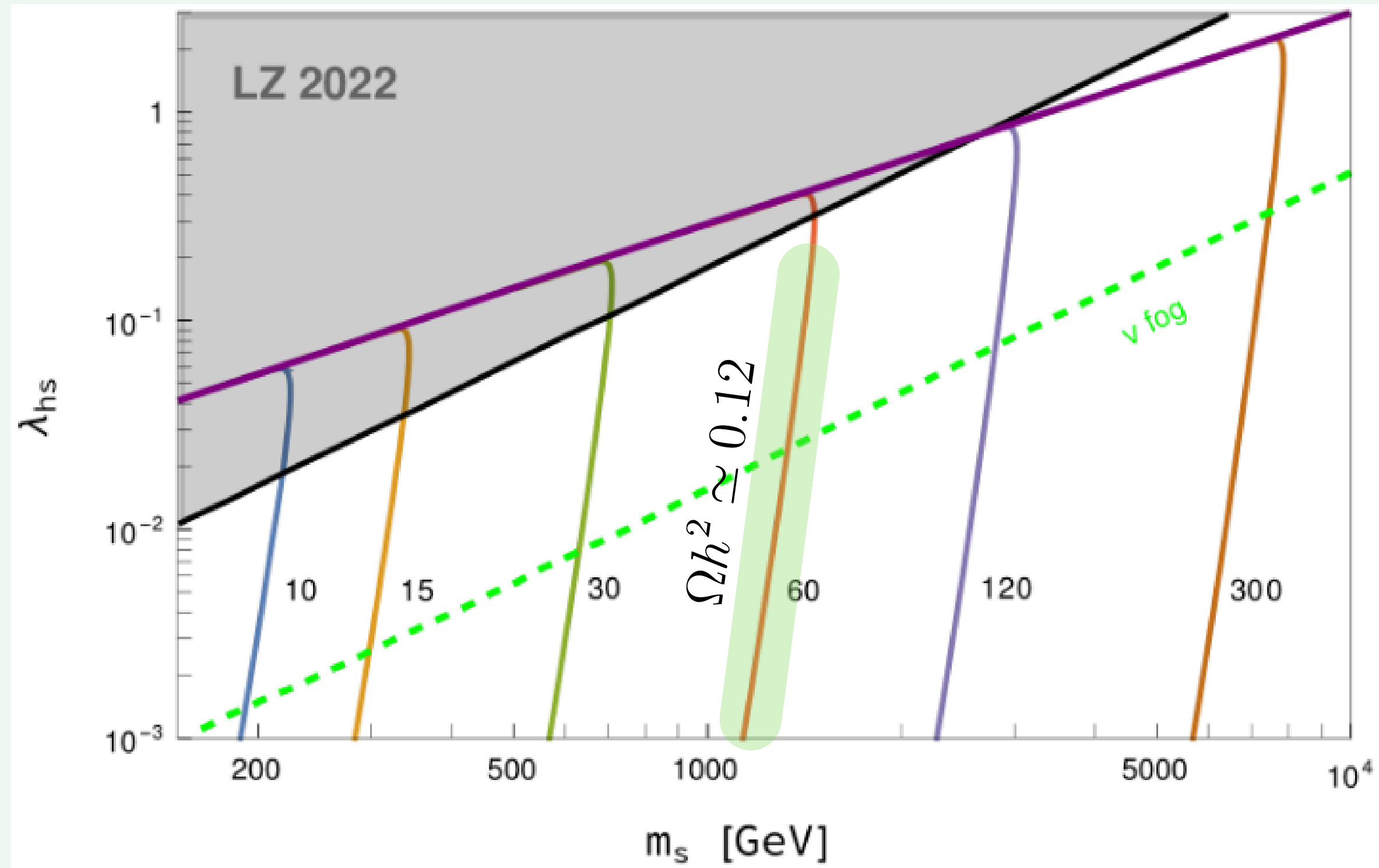
BACK-UP

The image features a light teal background with abstract, darker teal shapes in the corners. The text is centered and reads:

FREEZE-IN REGIME

HIGGS PORTAL TO SCALAR DM

FREEZE-IN

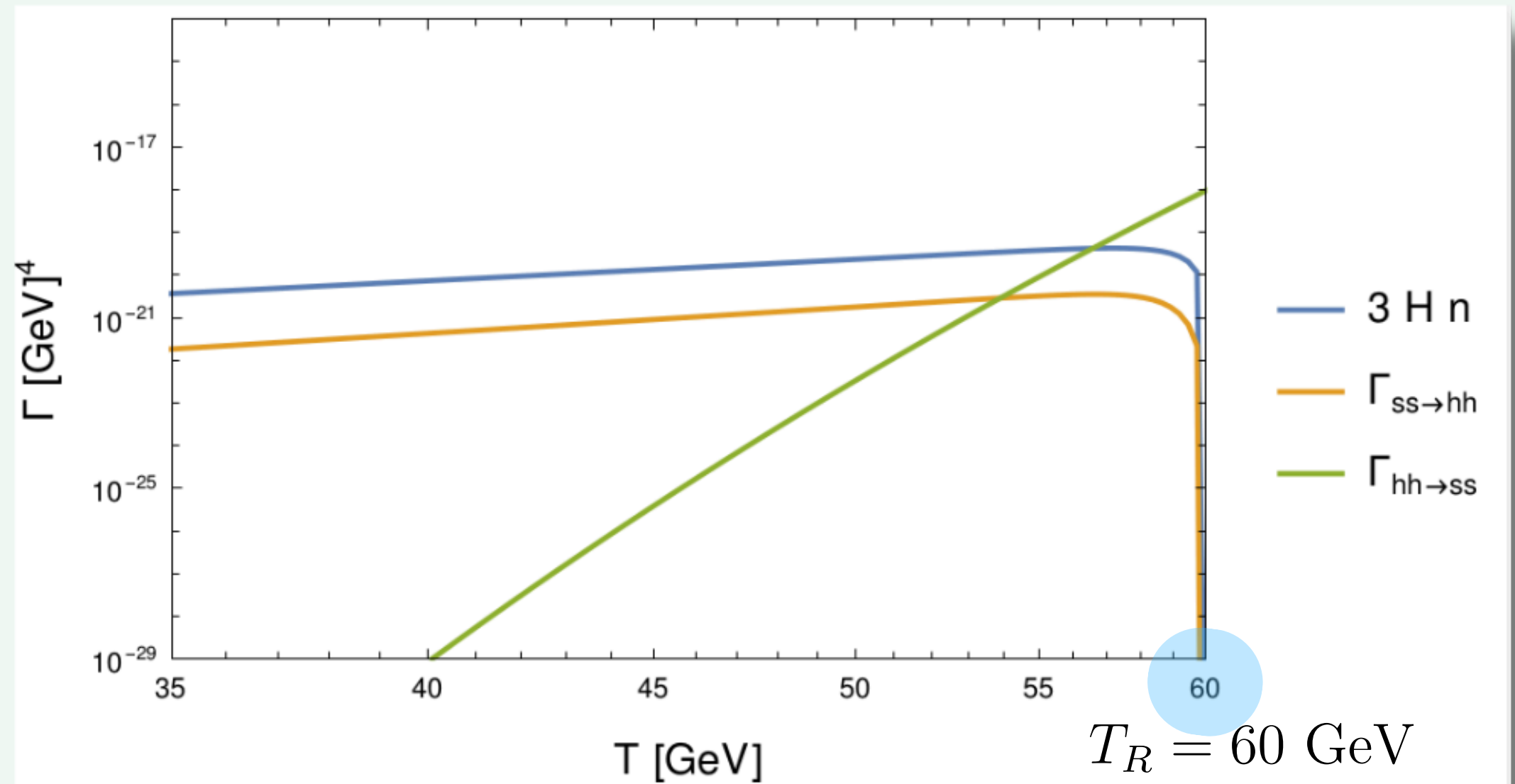


FREEZE-IN REGIME

$$m_s = 1460 \text{ GeV} \quad \lambda_{hs} = 0.10$$

Boltzmann equation

$$\dot{n}_s + 3Hn_s = \Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) - \Gamma(ss \rightarrow h_i h_i)$$

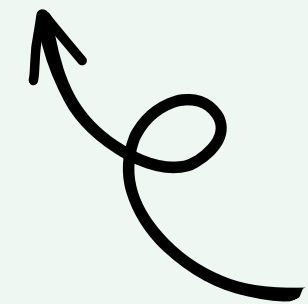
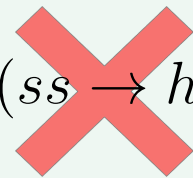


←
TIME

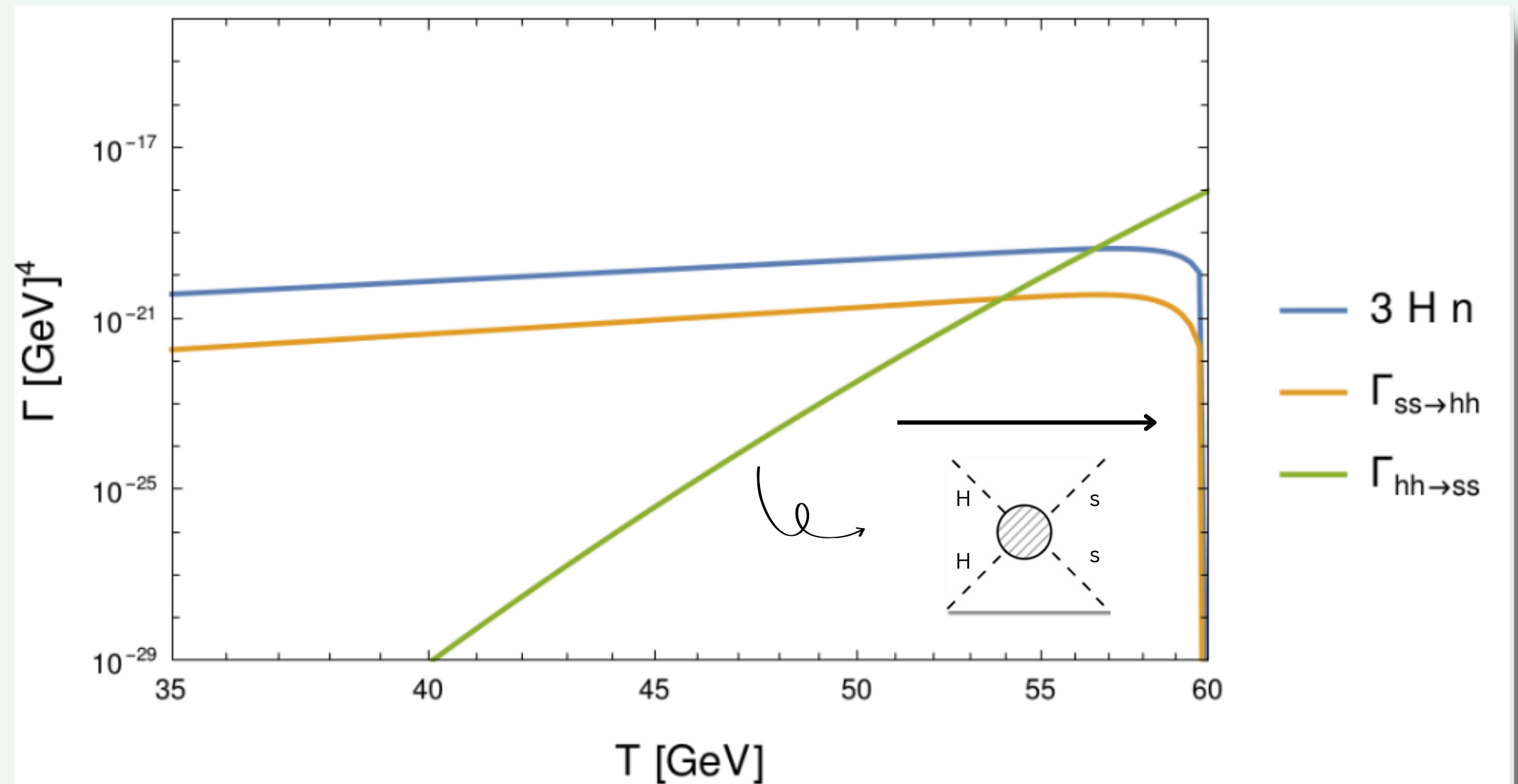
FREEZE-IN REGIME

Boltzmann equation

$$\dot{n}_s + 3Hn_s = \Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) - \Gamma(ss \rightarrow h_i h_i)$$



Only the production rate of the freeze-in process is active at early times



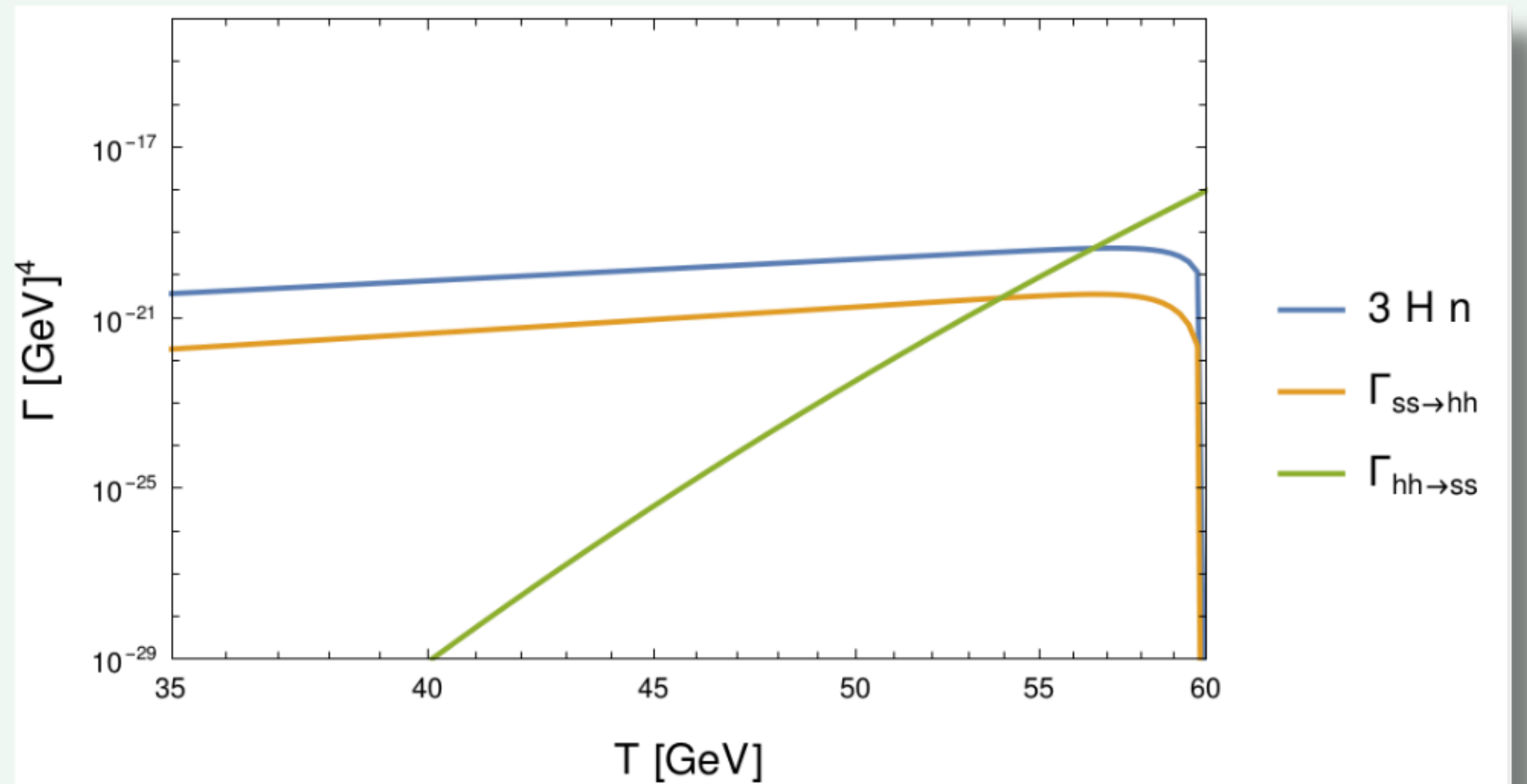
←
TIME

FREEZE-IN REGIME



But

$$\Gamma > 3Hn$$

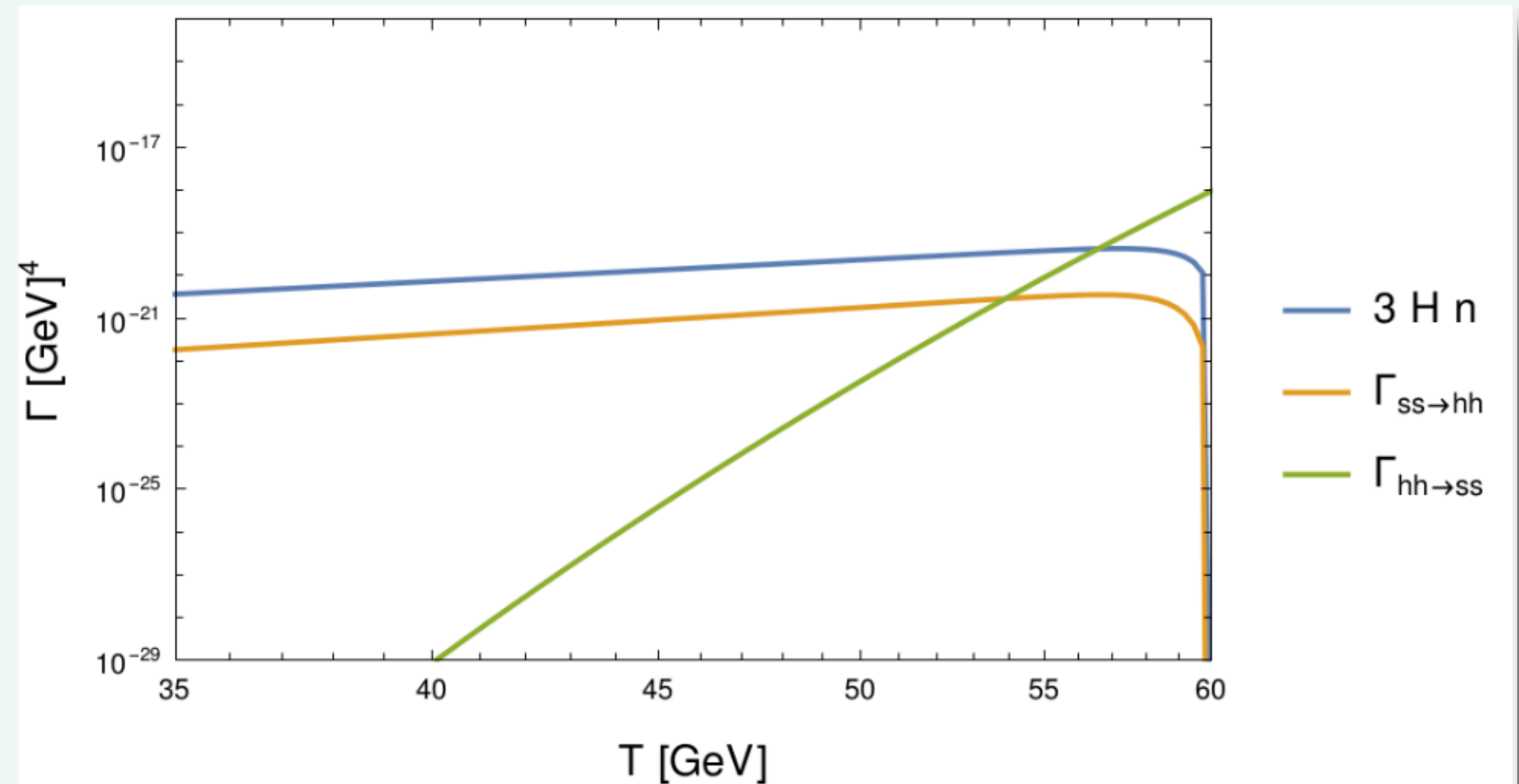


←
TIME

FREEZE-IN REGIME

$\Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) > 3Hn \not\Rightarrow$ Thermalisation

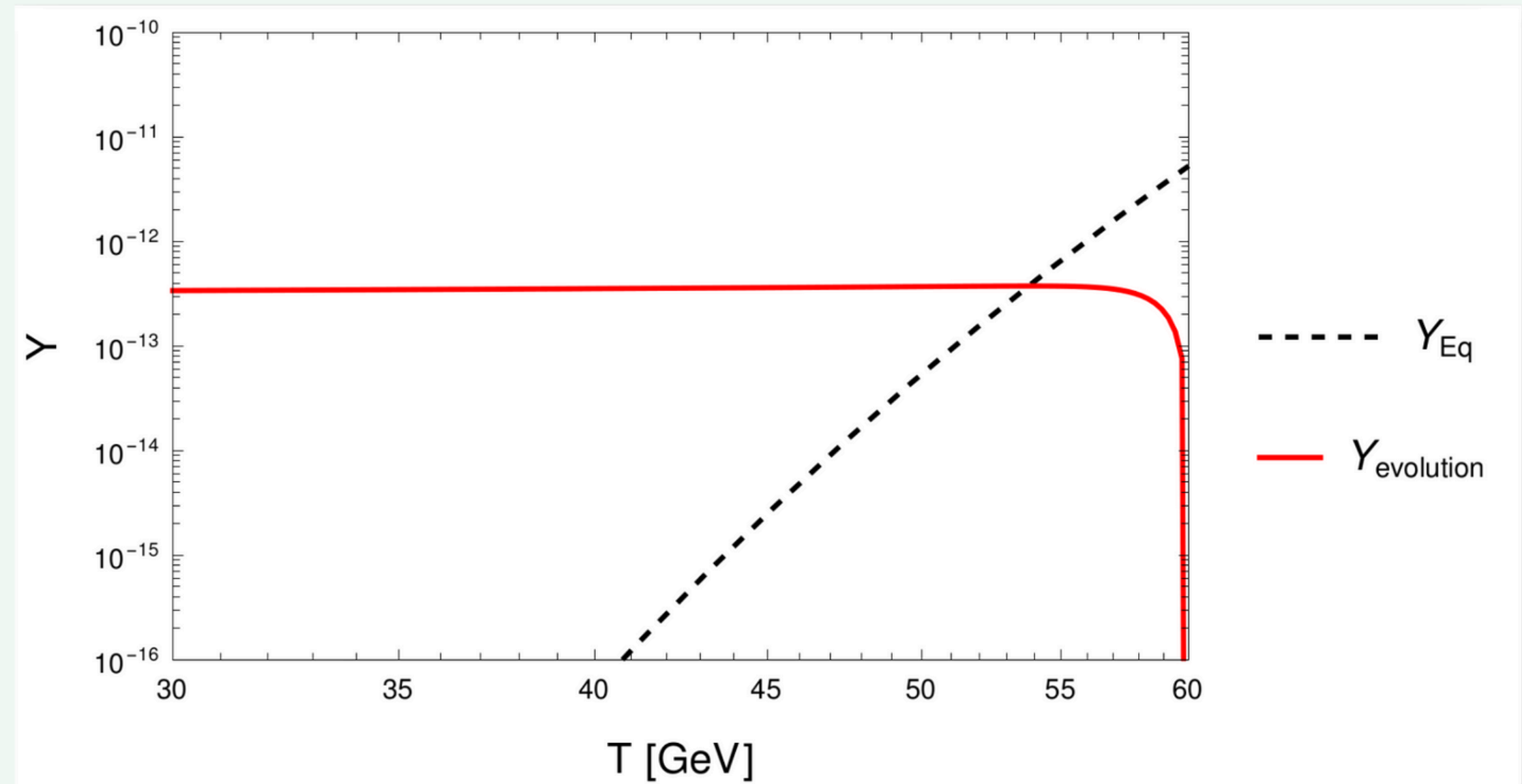
$\Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) = \Gamma(ss \rightarrow h_i h_i) \Rightarrow$ Thermalisation



←
TIME

In fact the number density does not follow the equilibrium curve
OUT OF EQUILIBRIUM

Looks like a UV freeze-in production, peaked at the reheating temperature



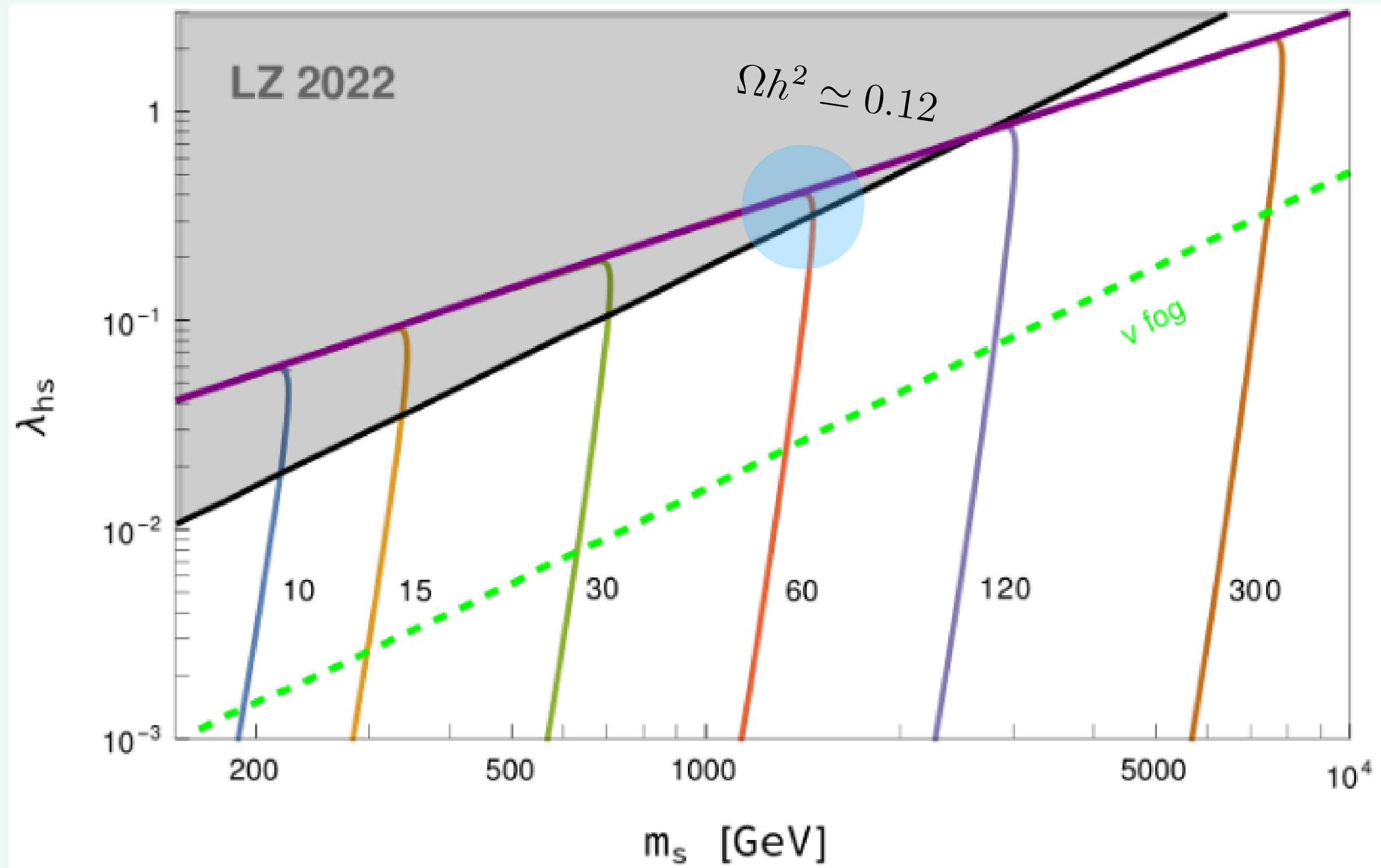
←
TIME

The image features a light teal background with decorative, wavy teal shapes in the top-right and bottom-left corners. The main text is centered and reads:

INTERMEDIATE REGIME

HIGGS PORTAL TO SCALAR DM

BACKREACTION



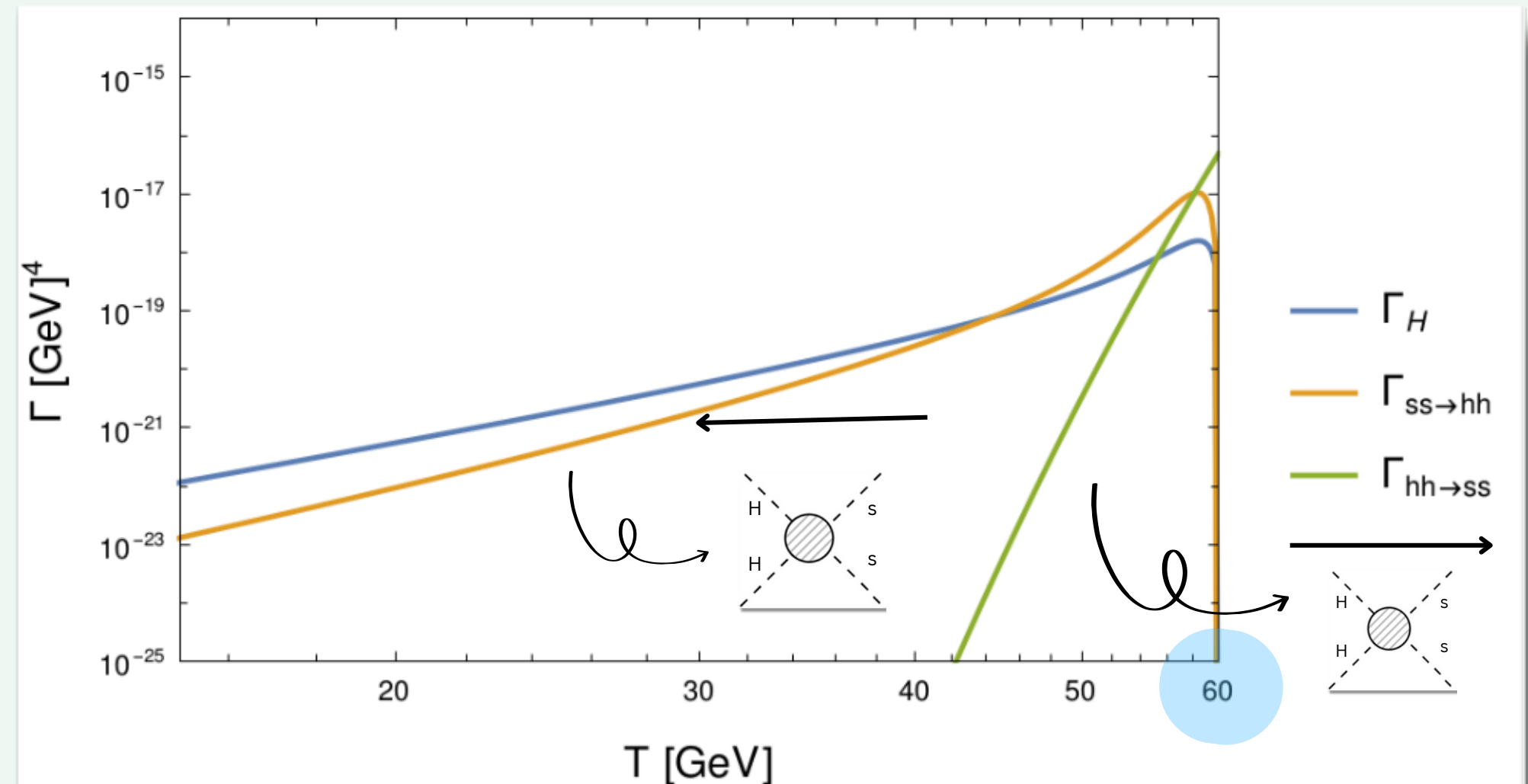
ANNIHILATION BECOMES IMPORTANT

Boltzmann equation

$$m_s = 1451 \text{ GeV} \quad \lambda_{hs} = 0.39$$

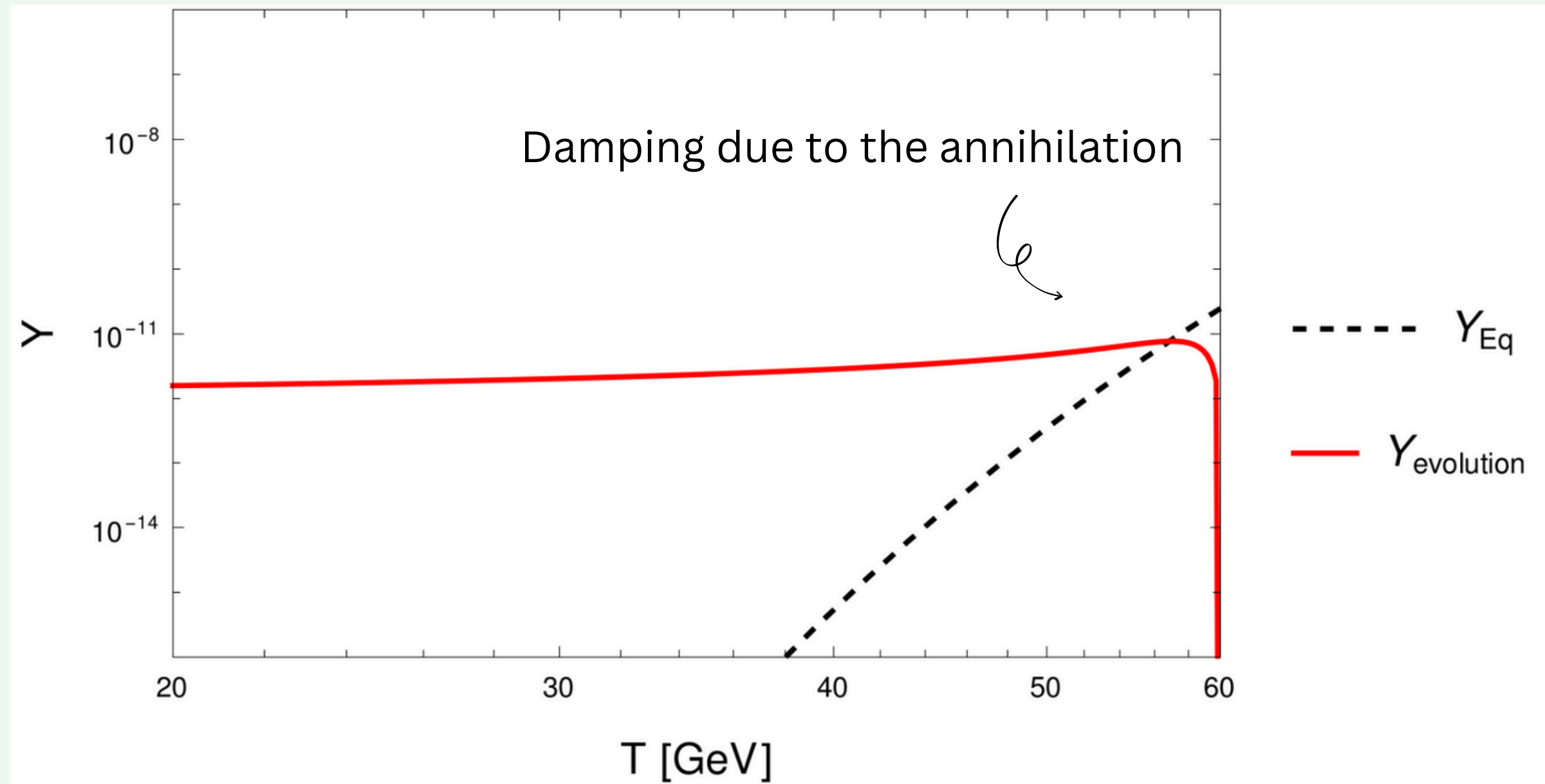
$$\dot{n}_s + 3Hn_s = \Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) - \Gamma(ss \rightarrow h_i h_i)$$

Here the backreaction is not negligible anymore



←
TIME

The number density still does not follow the equilibrium curve
OUT OF EQUILIBRIUM

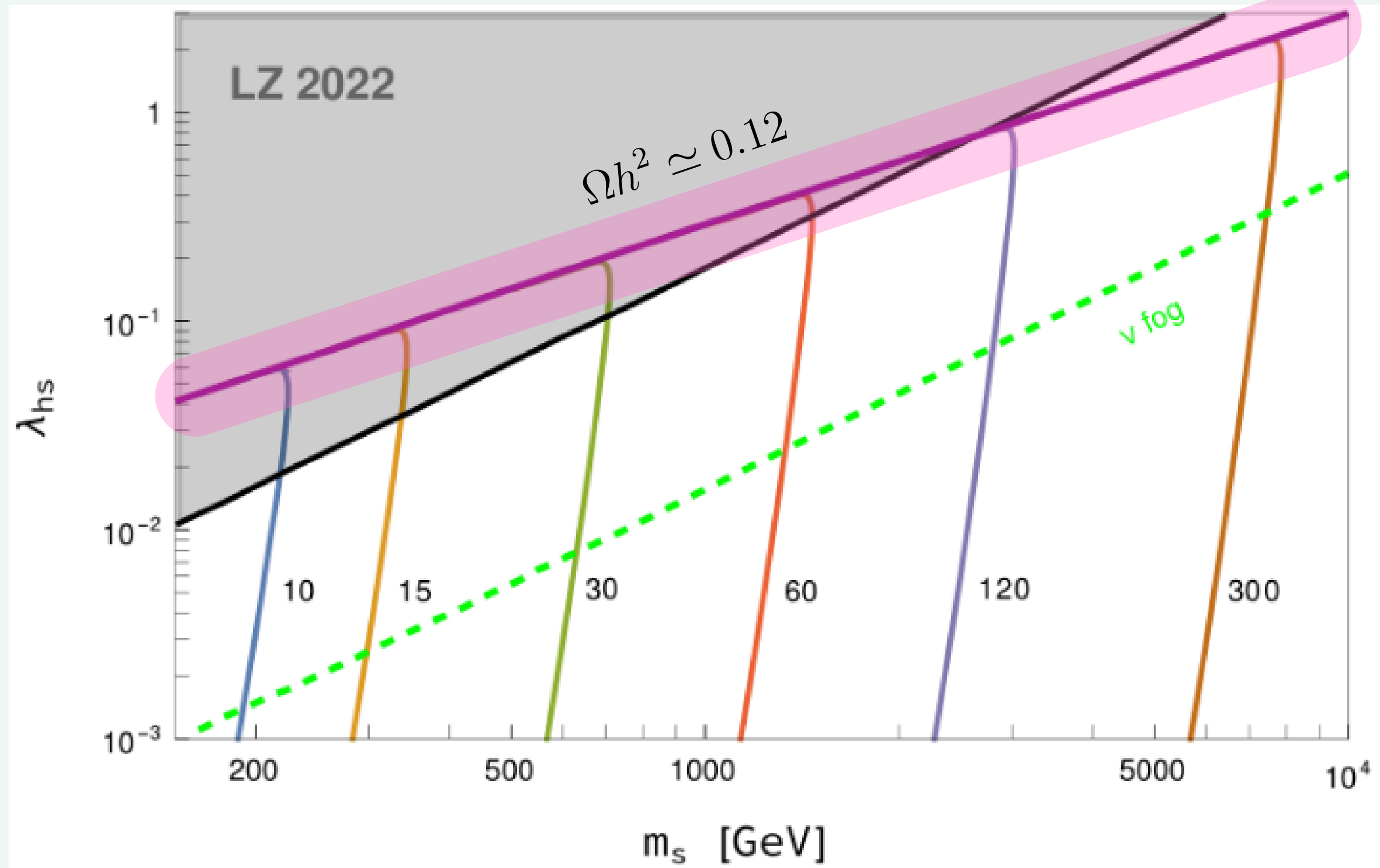


TIME

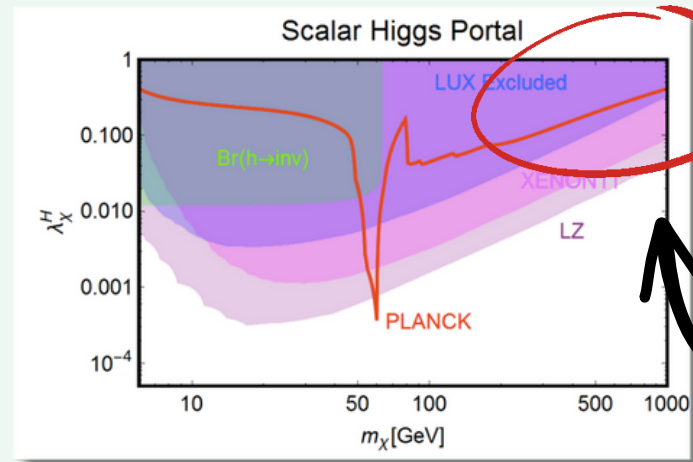
FREEZE-OUT REGIME

HIGGS PORTAL TO SCALAR DM

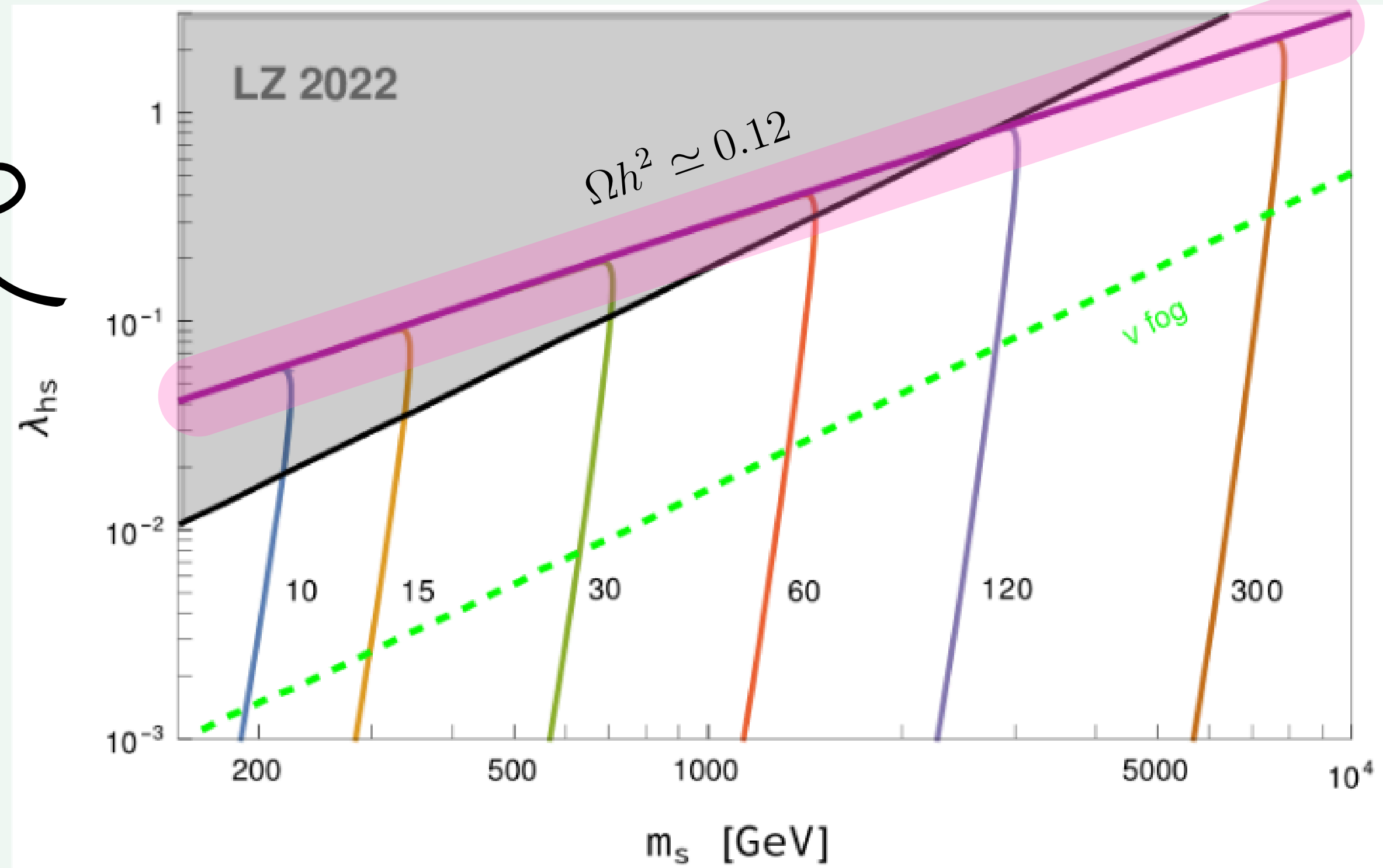
FREEZE-OUT



HIGGS PORTAL TO SCALAR DM



FREEZE-OUT



FREEZE-OUT REGIME

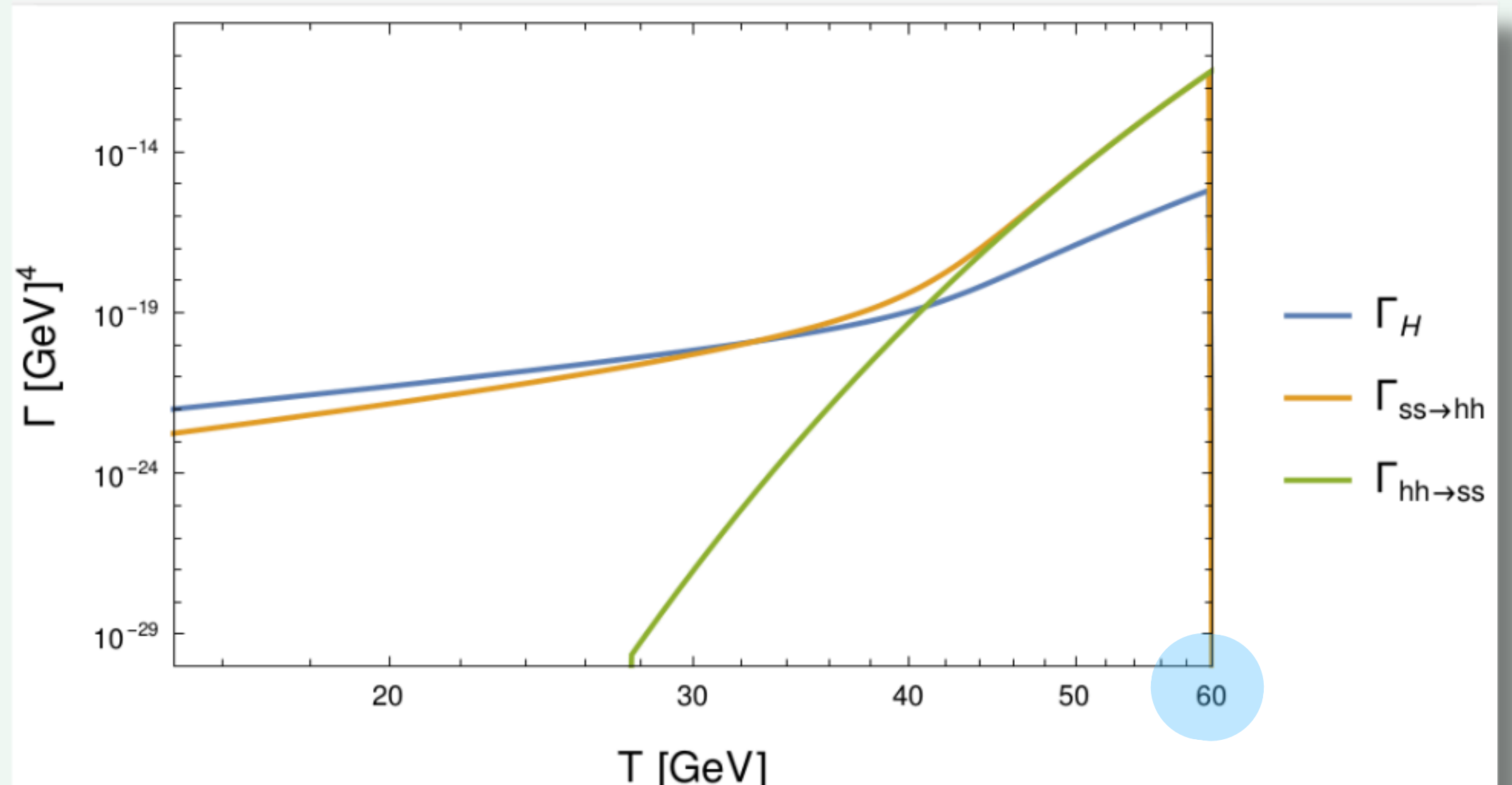
$$m_s = 1012 \text{ GeV} \quad \lambda_{hs} = 0.29$$

Boltzmann equation

$$\dot{n}_s + 3Hn_s = \Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) - \Gamma(ss \rightarrow h_i h_i)$$

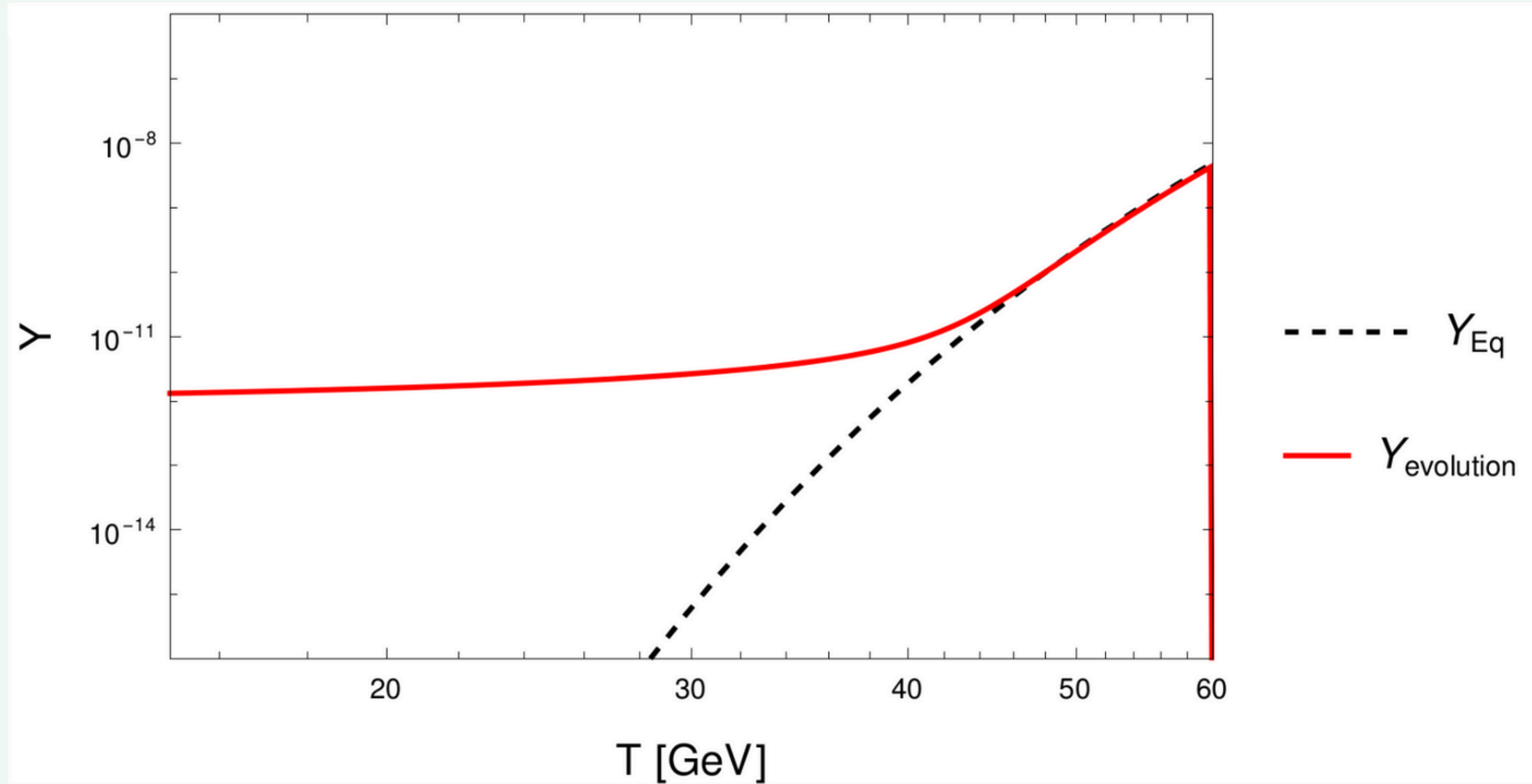
Freeze-out

$$\Gamma(h_i h_i \rightarrow ss) = \Gamma(ss \rightarrow h_i h_i)$$



←
TIME

The number density is equal to the equilibrium number density until freeze-out
IN EQUILIBRIUM

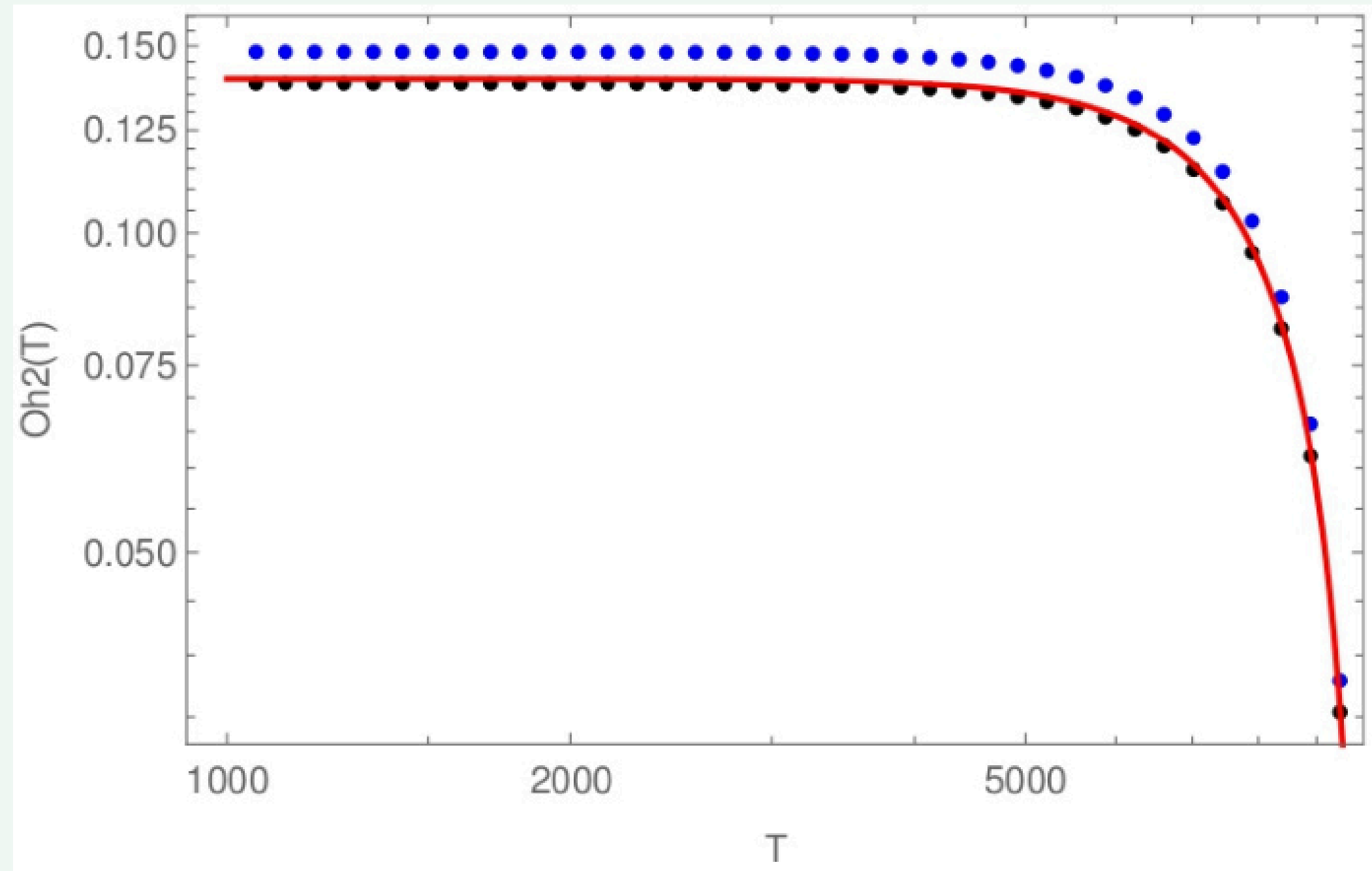


←
TIME

Relativistic effect

Non-instantaneous
reheating

$$m_\psi Y = 4 \times m_\psi Y_{inst}$$



DILUTION



Standard Cosmology

$$\text{RD} \quad a \propto t^{1/2}$$

$$n(t) \propto \left(\frac{a_{end}}{a_t}\right)^3 n(t_{end}) \propto \left(\frac{t_{end}}{t}\right)^{3/2} n(t_{end})$$

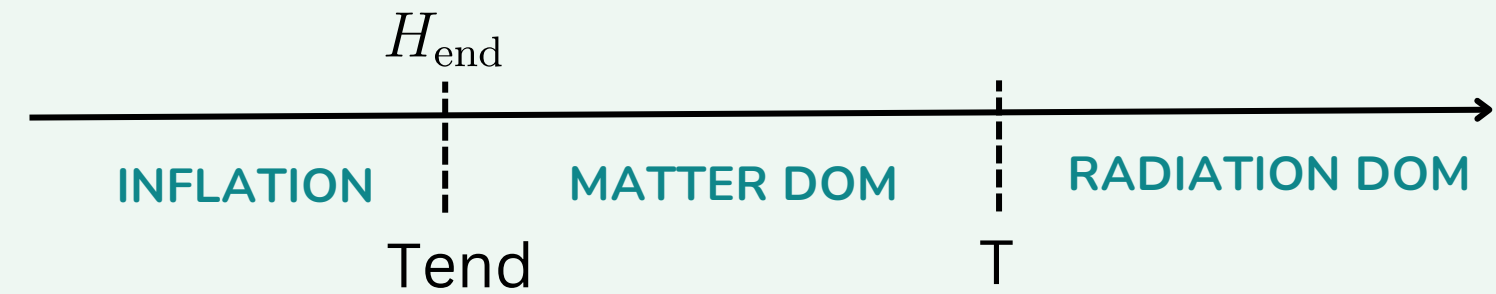
DILUTION



Standard Cosmology

$$\text{RD} \quad a \propto t^{1/2}$$

$$n(t) \propto \left(\frac{a_{\text{end}}}{a_t}\right)^3 n(t_{\text{end}}) \propto \left(\frac{t_{\text{end}}}{t}\right)^{3/2} n(t_{\text{end}})$$



Non-Standard Cosmology

$$\text{EMD} \quad a \propto t^{2/3}$$

$$n(t) \propto \left(\frac{a_{\text{end}}}{a_t}\right)^3 n(t_{\text{end}}) \propto \left(\frac{t_{\text{end}}}{t}\right)^2 n(t_{\text{end}})$$

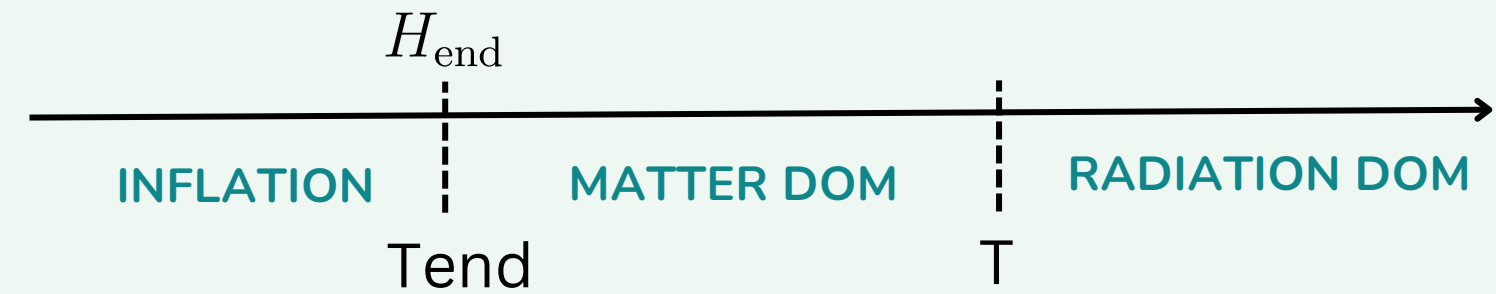
DILUTION



Standard Cosmology

RD $a \propto t^{1/2}$

$$n(t) \propto \left(\frac{a_{end}}{a_t}\right)^3 n(t_{end}) \propto \left(\frac{t_{end}}{t}\right)^{3/2} n(t_{end})$$



Non-Standard Cosmology

EMD $a \propto t^{2/3}$

$$n(t) \propto \left(\frac{a_{end}}{a_t}\right)^3 n(t_{end}) \propto \left(\frac{t_{end}}{t}\right)^2 n(t_{end})$$

Extra dilution due to the matter domination

$$\frac{n^{Non-Std}}{n^{Std}} \propto \left(\frac{t_{end}}{t}\right)^{1/2} \propto \left(\frac{T}{T_{end}}\right)$$

FREEZE-IN TO FREEZE-OUT

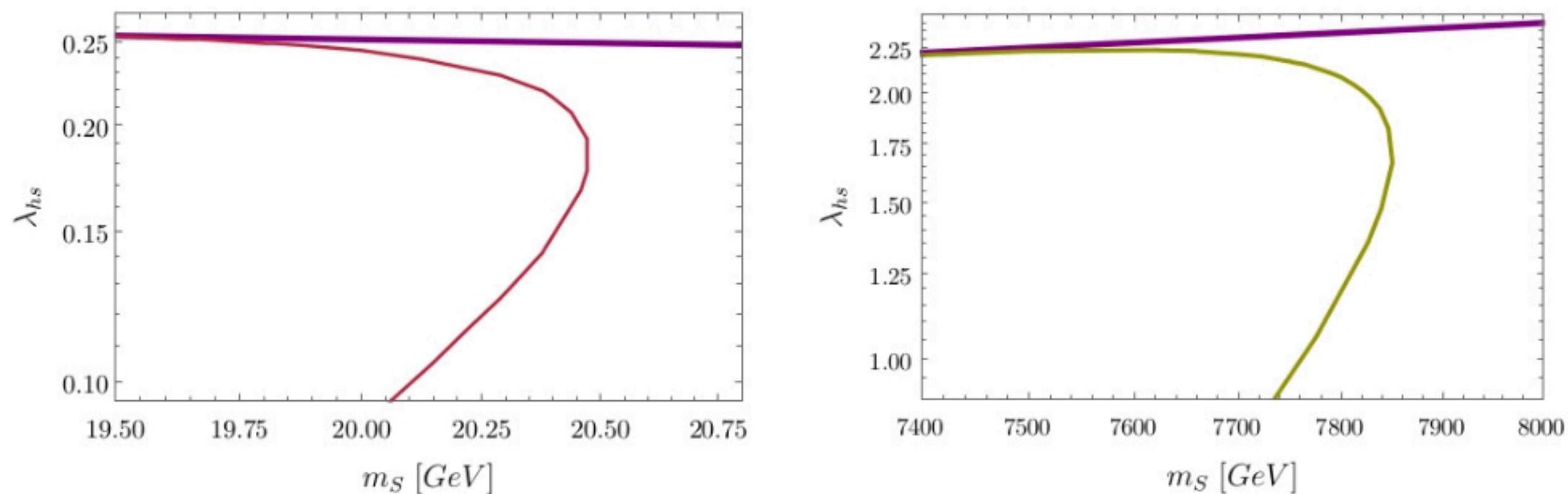


Figure 4: Freeze-in to freeze-out transition at low and high temperatures. The purple line corresponds to thermal DM as in Fig. 2. Left: $T_R = 1$ GeV. Right: $T_R = 300$ GeV.