

# Probing Dark Matter Energy Injection in the Cosmic Dawn with the 21-cm Power Spectrum

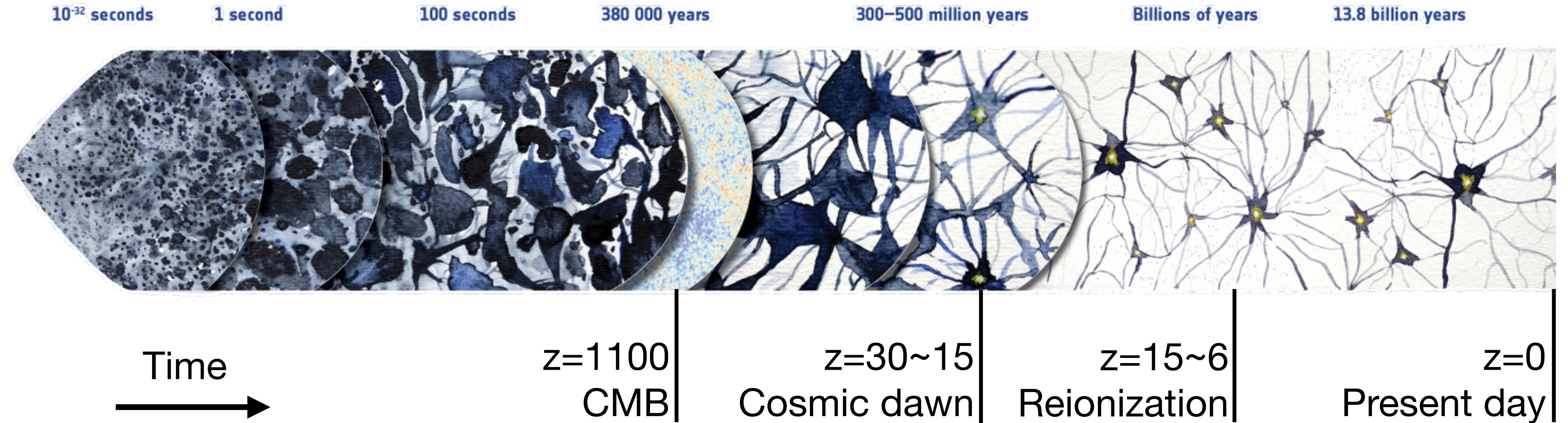
Yitian Sun



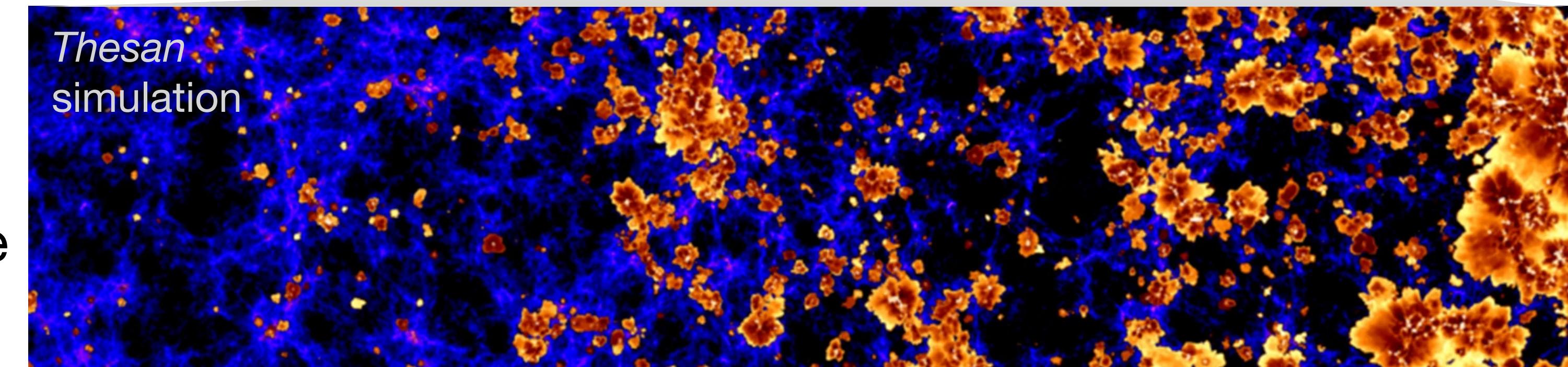
The NSF Institute for  
Artificial Intelligence and  
Fundamental Interactions

Based on work by **YS**, Joshua Foster,  
Hongwan Liu, Julian Muñoz, and  
Tracy Slatyer [[2312.11608](#)] and *in prep.*

DPF-Pheno 2024



The first stars produce X-ray and UV, heating and reionizing the universe.



So can dark matter and other exotic energy injection!  
Energy injection changes IGM thermal and ionization states, radiation field states...

# Observable: the 21-cm line

Hydrogen atom's hyperfine transition emits the 21-cm line

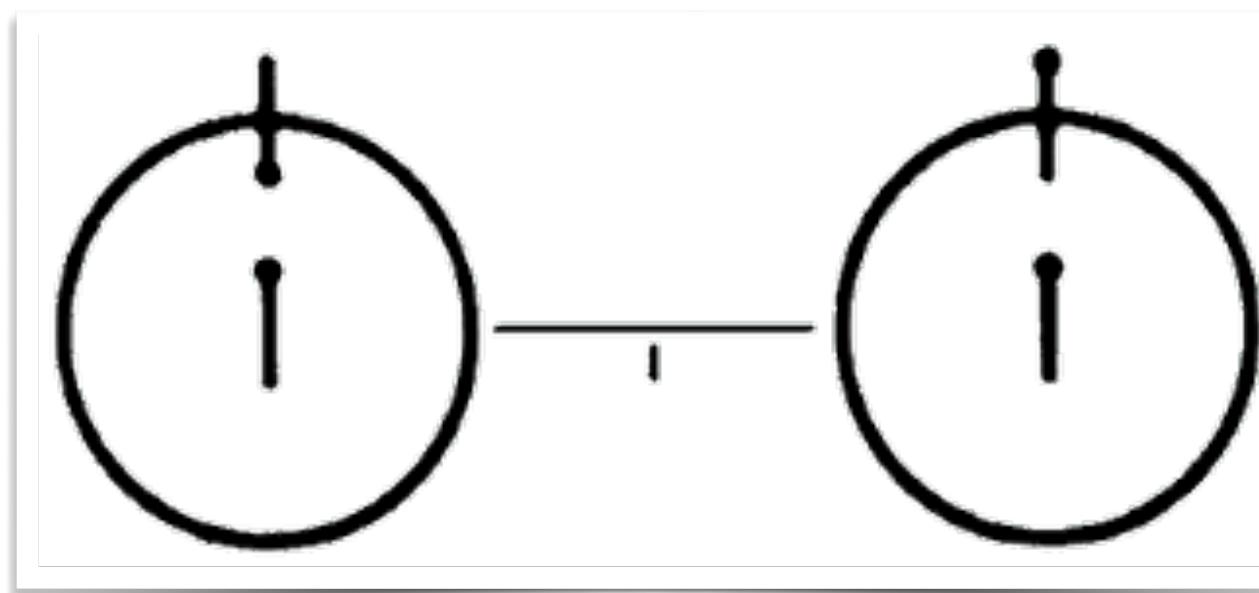
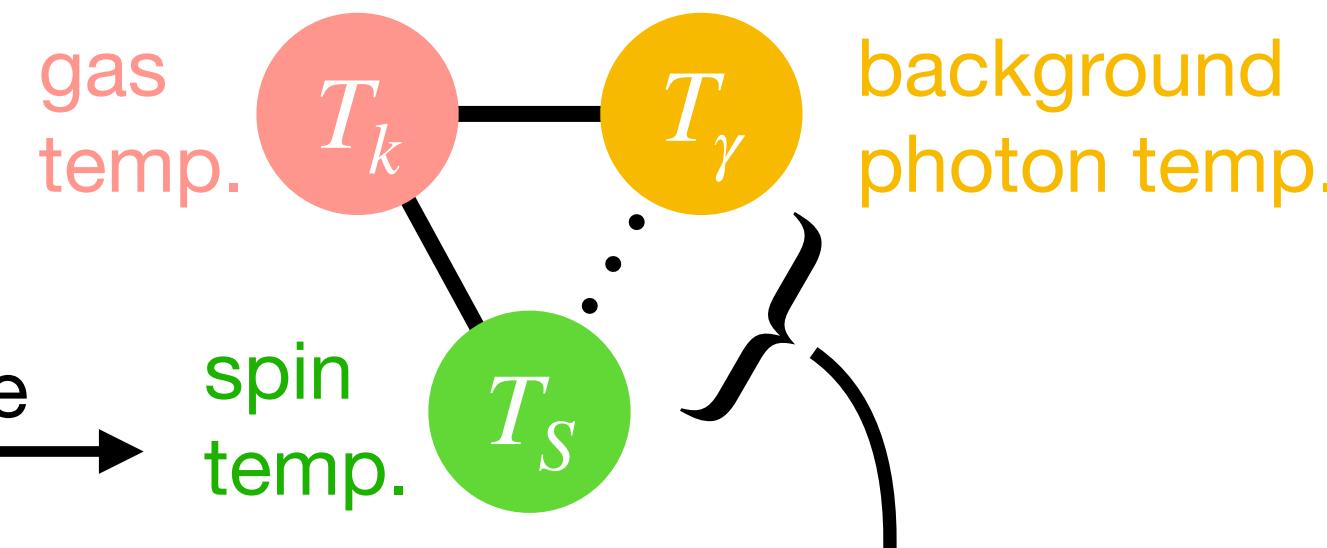
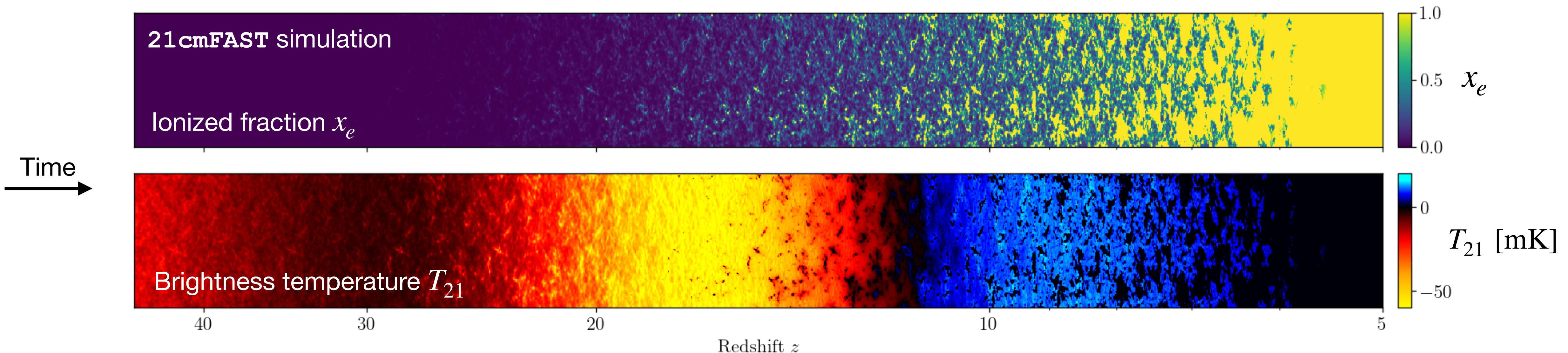


diagram on board the *Voyagers*

Emission / absorption depends on difference between  $T_S$  and background  $T_\gamma$



$$T_{21} \propto x_H (T_S - T_\gamma)/T_S$$



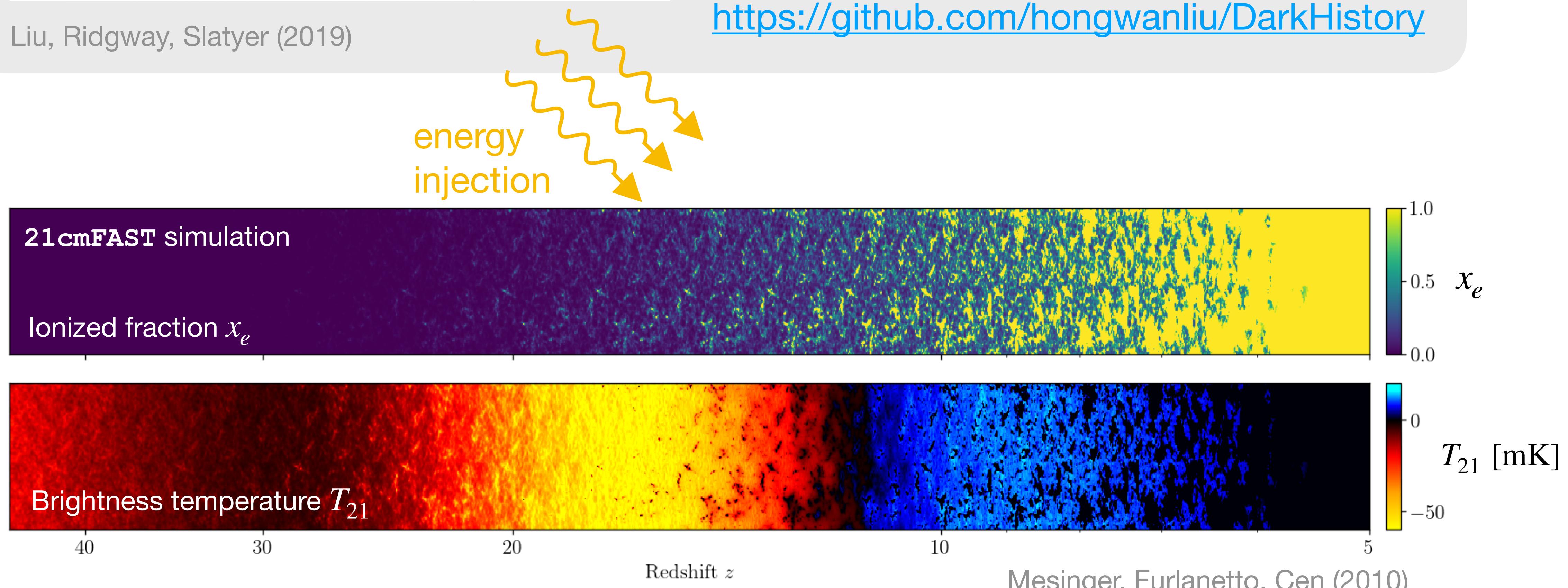
# DM21cm : A new simulation



Liu, Ridgway, Slatyer (2019)

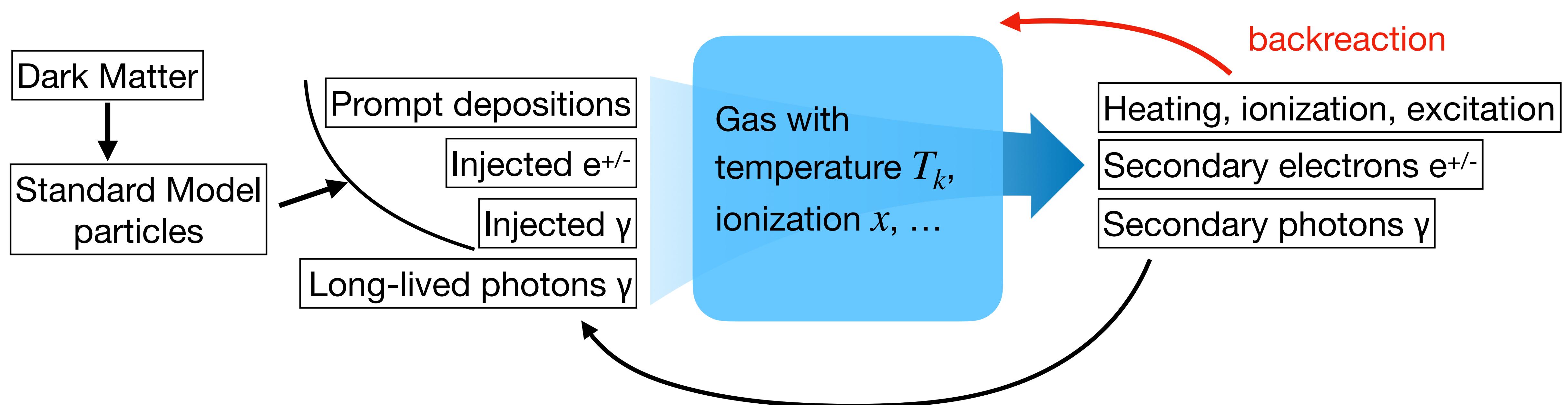
A `python` code package for dark matter energy injection in a homogeneous universe (from before the CMB to reionization)

<https://github.com/hongwanliu/DarkHistory>



# DM21cm : A new simulation

## ~~DarkHistory~~ $\gamma$ and $e^{+/-}$ processes

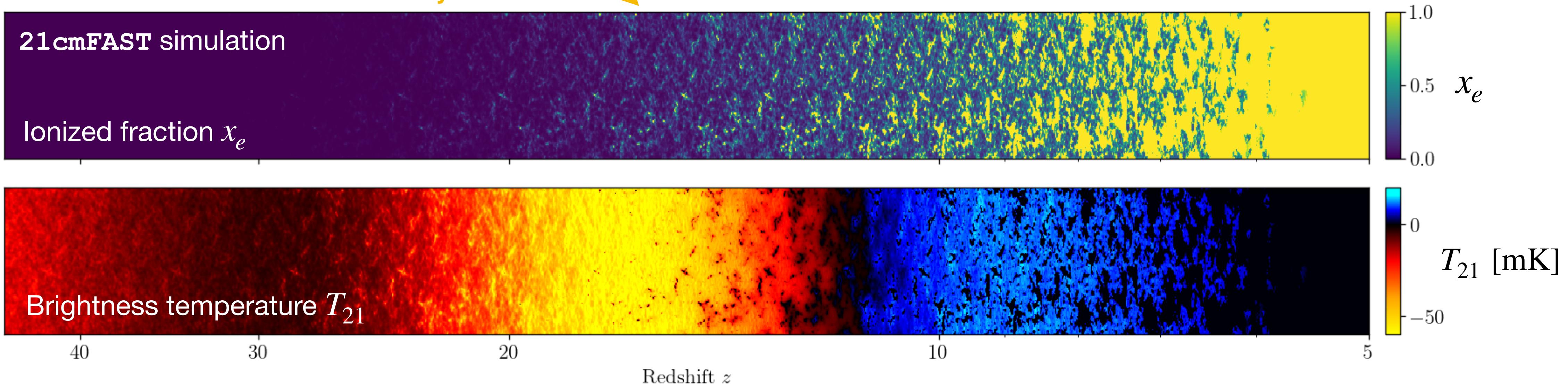


# DM21cm : A new simulation

~~DarkHistory~~



evolves the IGM thermal state and radiation in a **homogeneous** universe.

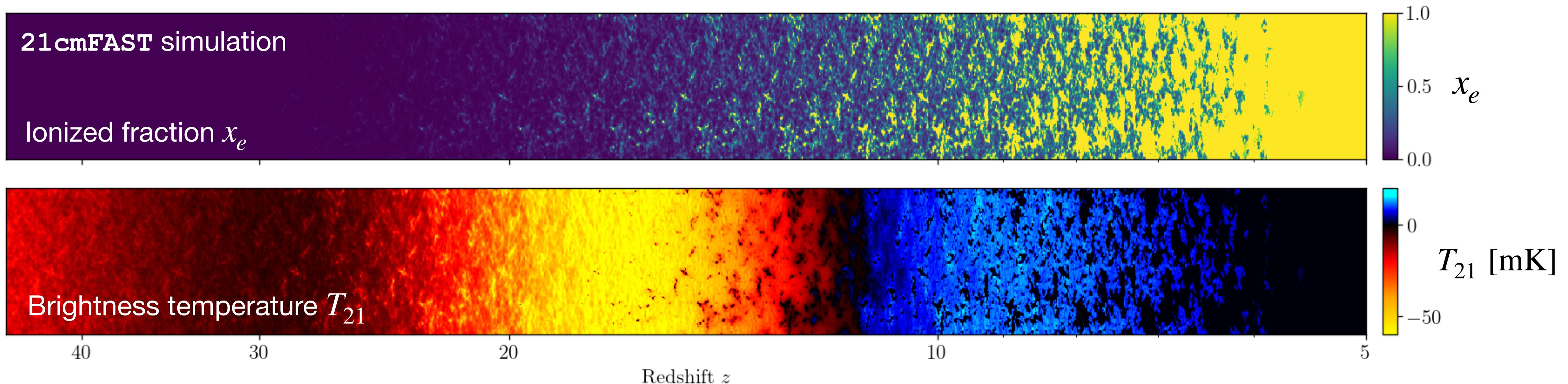


# DM21cm : A new simulation

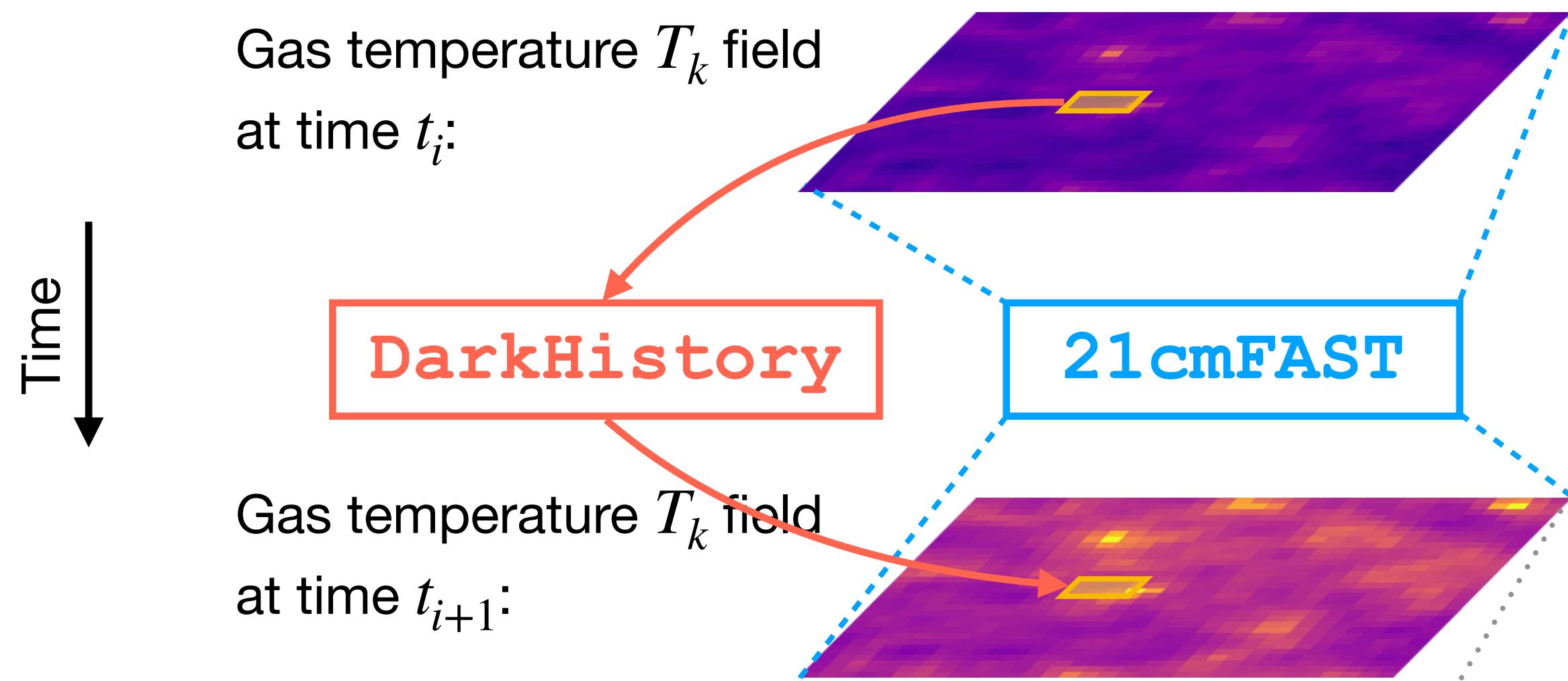
**21cmFAST**  
evolves the IGM  
thermal state in a  
reionizing,  
**inhomogeneous**  
universe:

$$\frac{dx_e(z, \mathbf{x})}{dz} = \frac{dt}{dz} [\Lambda_{\text{ion}} - \alpha_A C x_e^2 n_A f_{\text{H}}] + \frac{dx_e^{\text{DM}}}{dz}$$
$$\frac{dT_k(z, \mathbf{x})}{dz} = \frac{2}{3k_B(1+x_e)} \frac{dt}{dz} \sum_p \epsilon_p + \frac{2T_k}{3n_A} \frac{dn_A}{dz} - \frac{T_k}{1+x_e} \frac{dx_e}{dz} + \frac{dT_k^{\text{DM}}}{dz}$$
$$J_\alpha \rightarrow J_\alpha + J_\alpha^{\text{DM}}$$

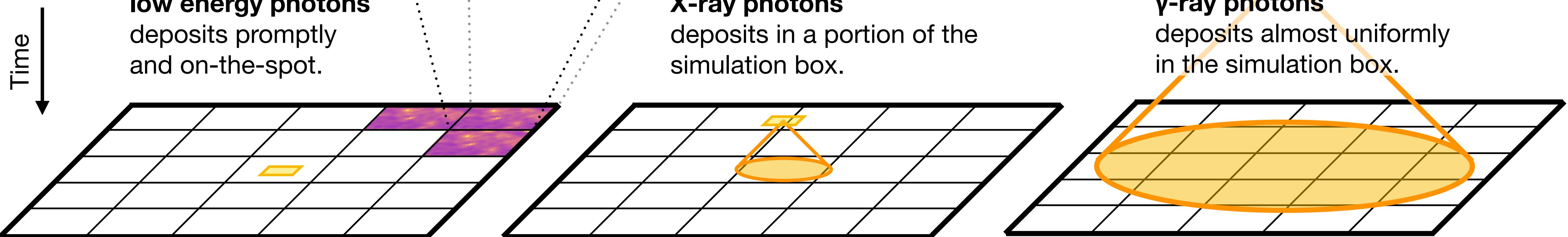
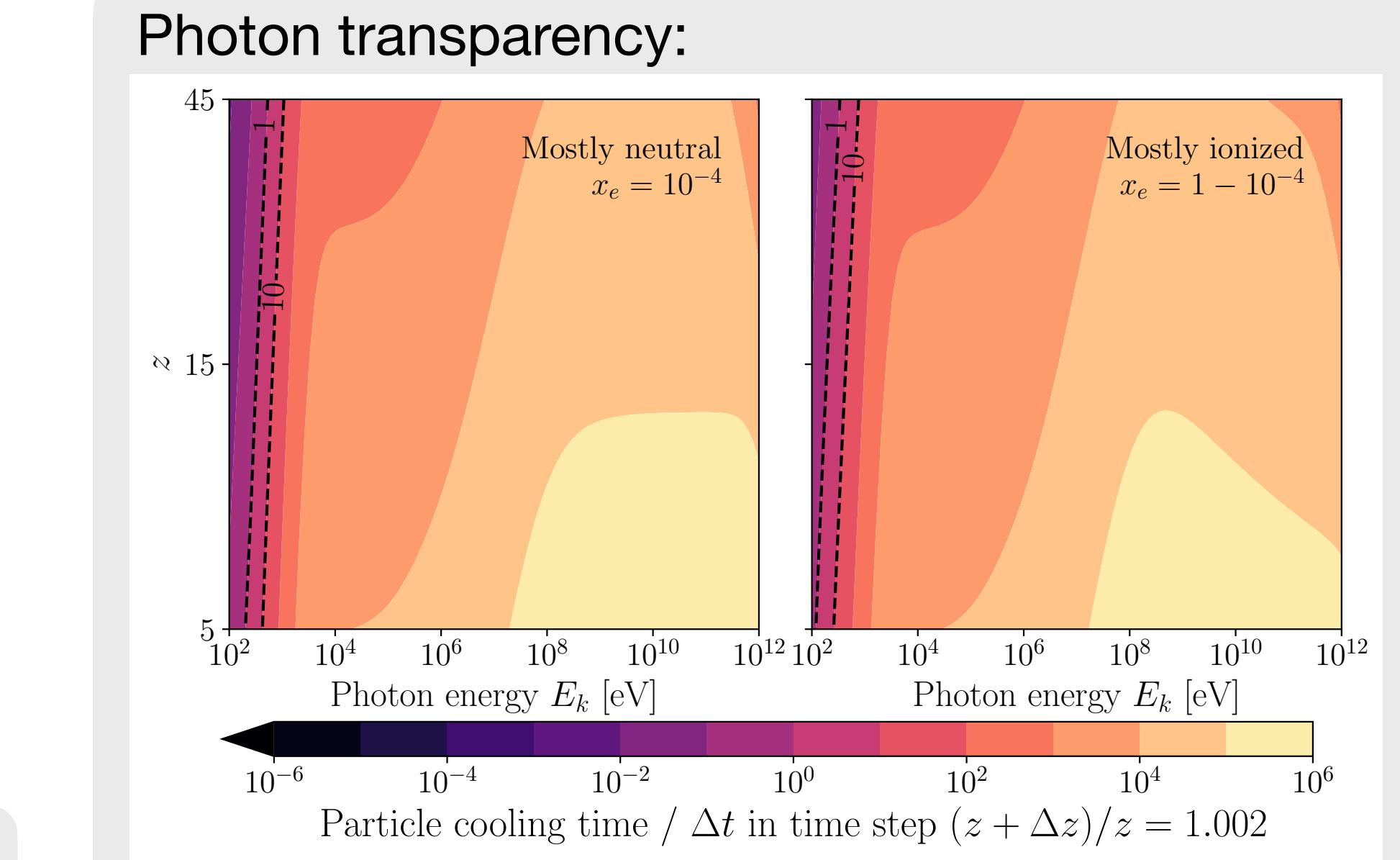
exotic energy injection terms



# Adding ~~DarkHistory~~ to 21cmFAST

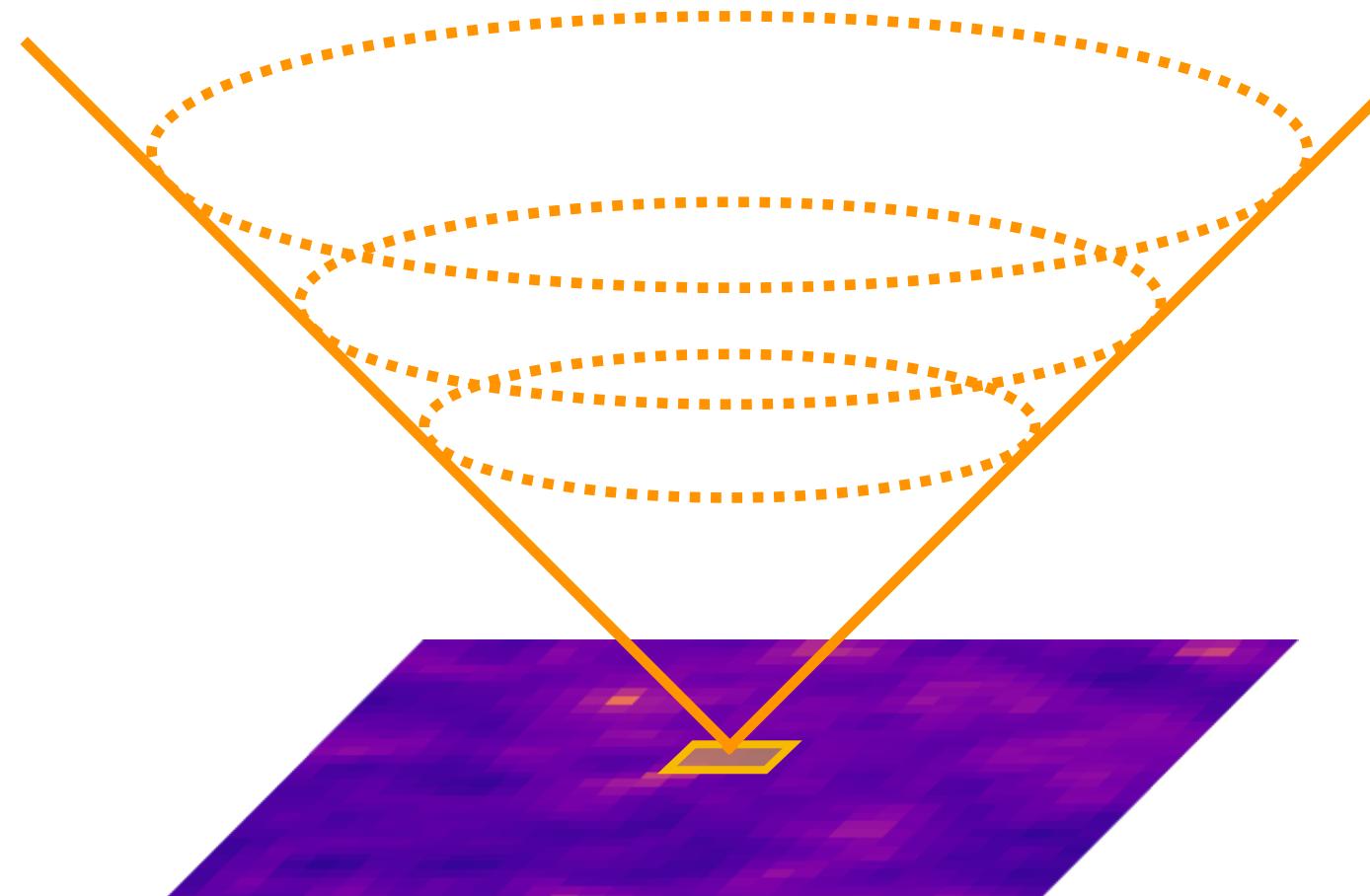


Photons can be treated in 3 regimes:

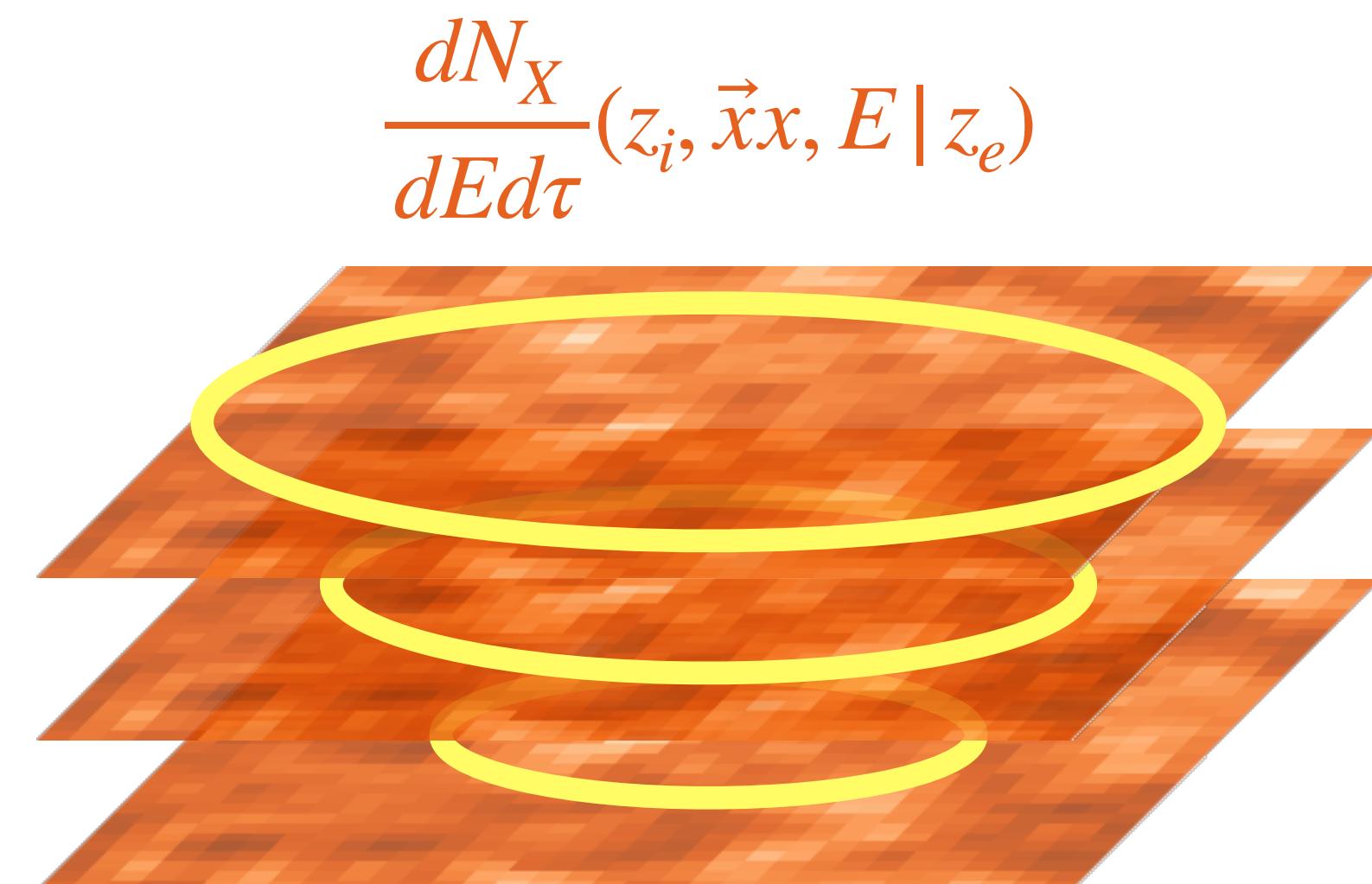


# X-ray photon treatment

From the receiving site, need to look back along the lightcone.



Need to perform convolution of X-ray luminosity with spherical filters.



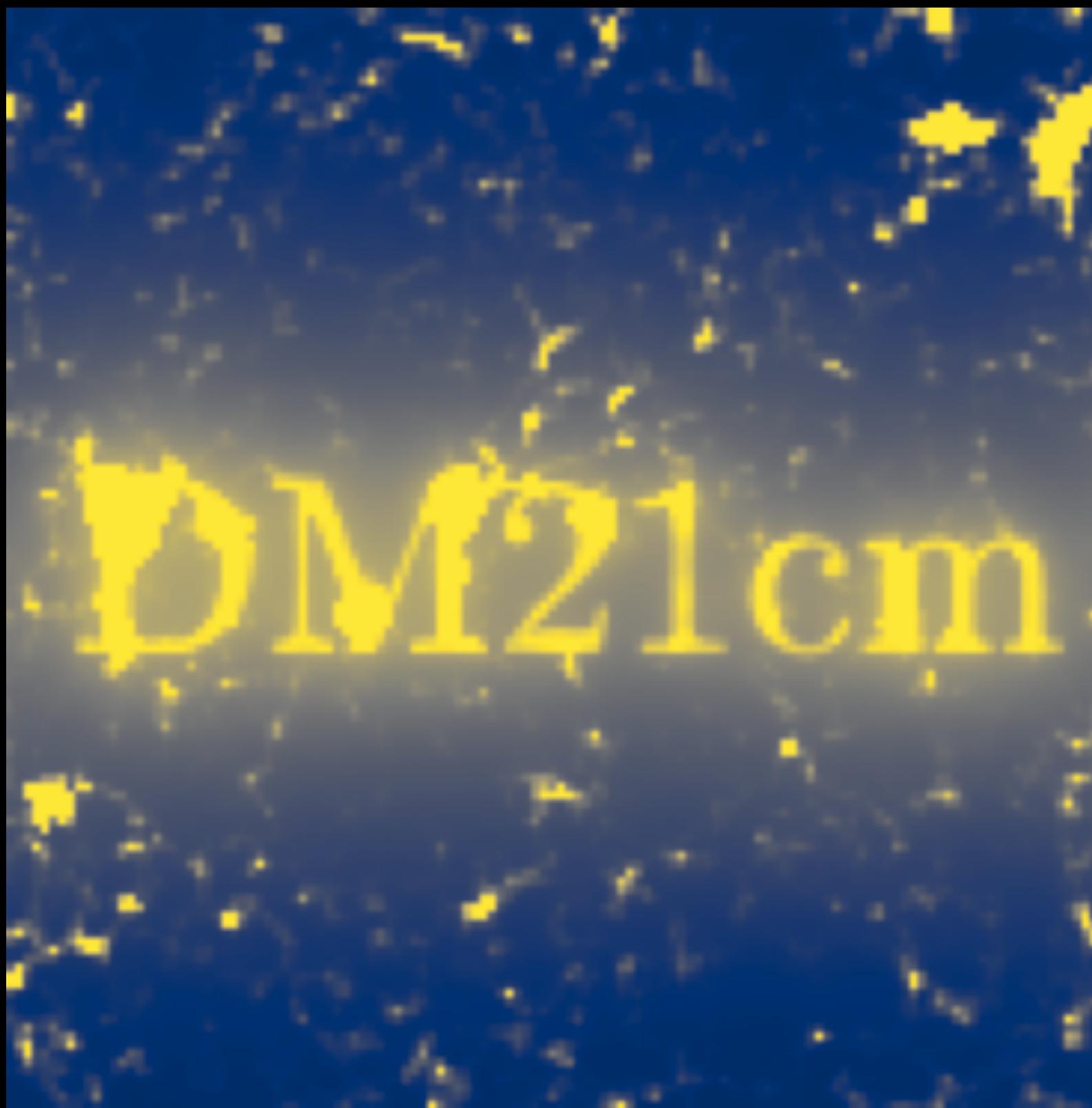
$$\frac{dN_X}{dEd\tau}(z_i, \vec{x}, E | z_e)$$

Use GPU to accelerate convolution & interpolation. Greatly speeds up run time.



\* Not actual GPU used

# X-ray deposition in action



# DM21cm works with your favorite model!

```
class CustomInjection:  
    """Handles DarkHistory and DM21cm."""  
  
    def __init__(self):  
        pass  
  
    def inj_rate(self, z):  
        pass # [1 / pcm3 s]  
  
    def inj_power(self, z):  
        pass # [eV / pcm3 s]  
  
    def inj_phot_spec(self, z, **kwargs):  
        pass # [1 / eV pcm3 s] }  
  
    def inj_elec_spec(self, z, **kwargs):  
        pass # [1 / eV pcm3 s] }  
  
    def inj_phot_spec_box(self, z, **kwargs):  
        pass # [1 / eV pcm3 s] [1] }  
  
    def inj_elec_spec_box(self, z, **kwargs):  
        pass # [1 / eV pcm3 s] [1]
```

Github:  
[github.com/yitiansun/DM21cm](https://github.com/yitiansun/DM21cm)

Examples:  
[github.com/yitiansun/DM21cm/  
blob/main/examples](https://github.com/yitiansun/DM21cm/blob/main/examples)

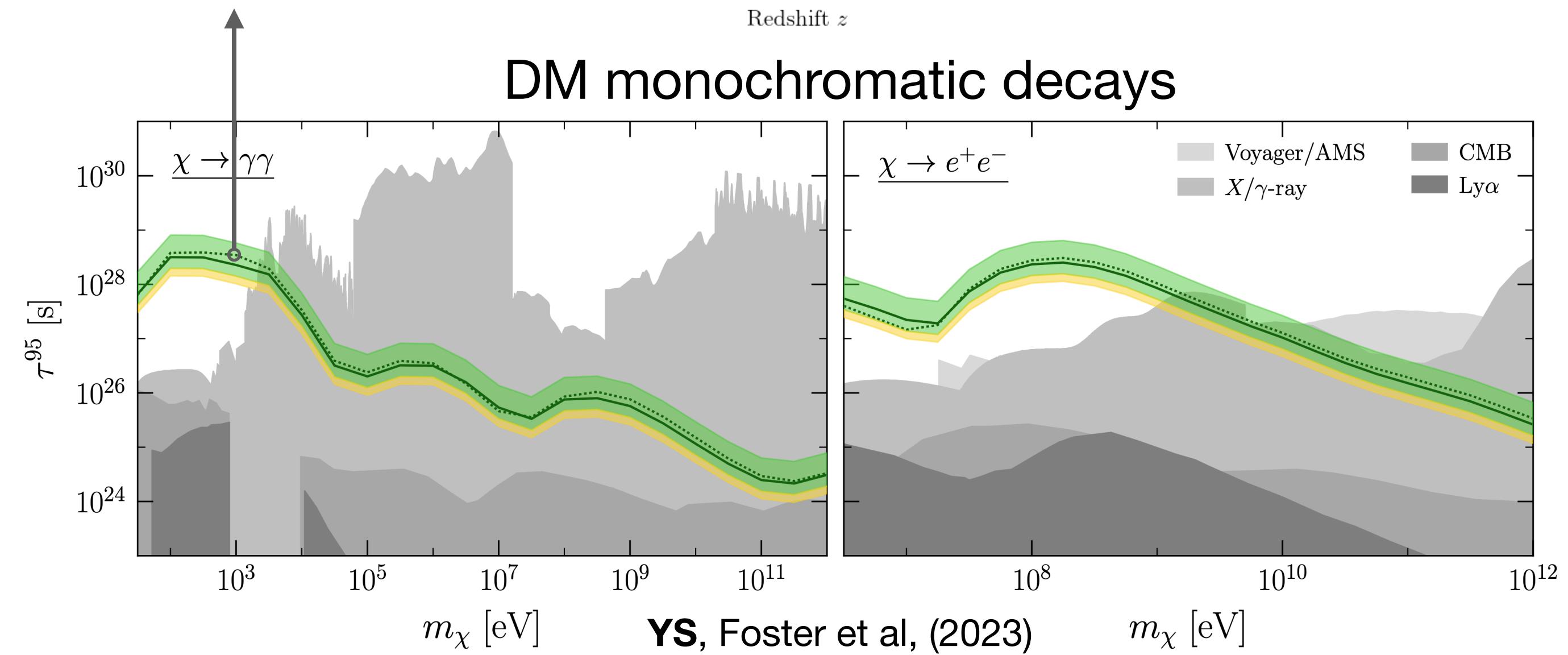
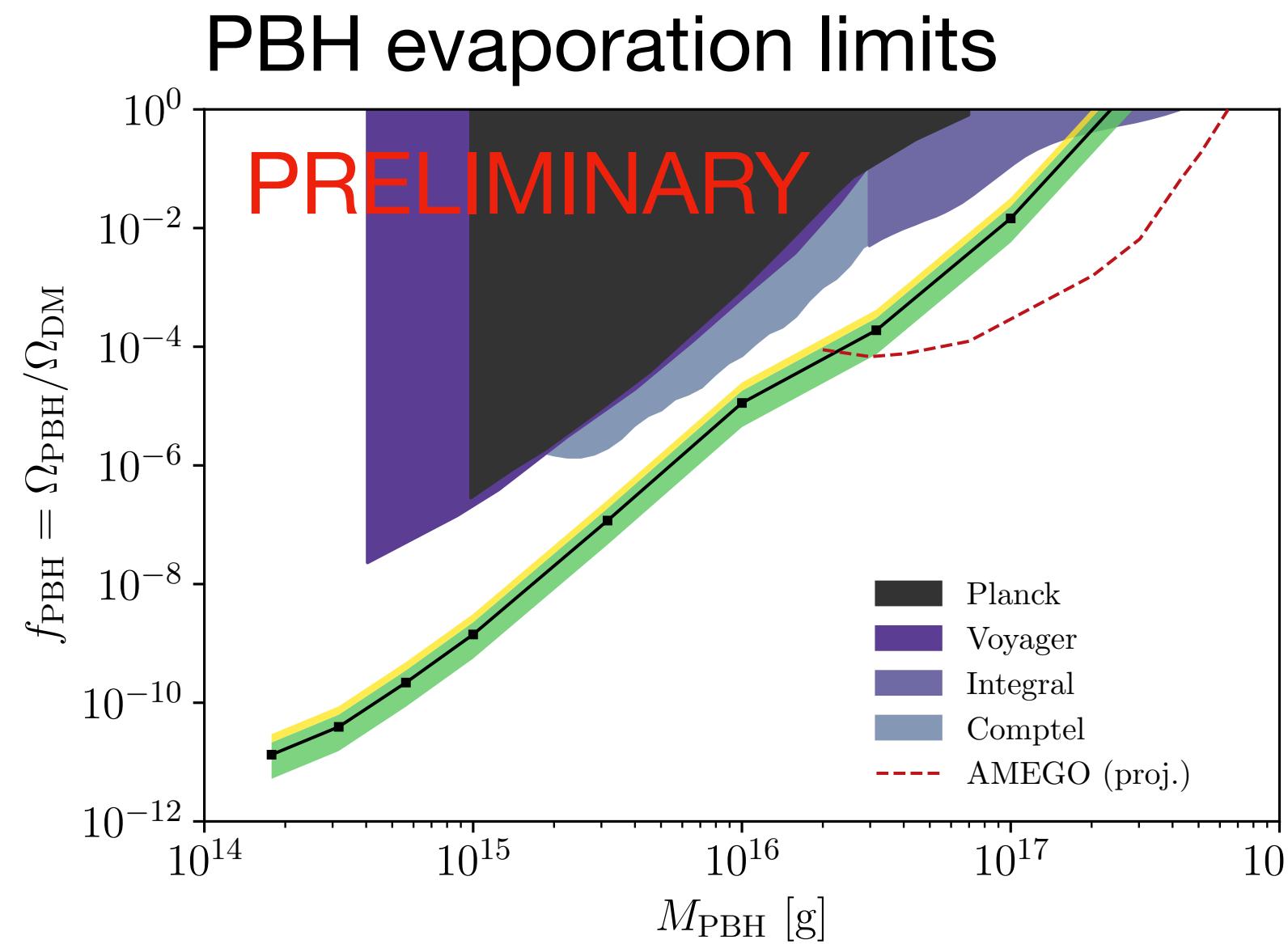
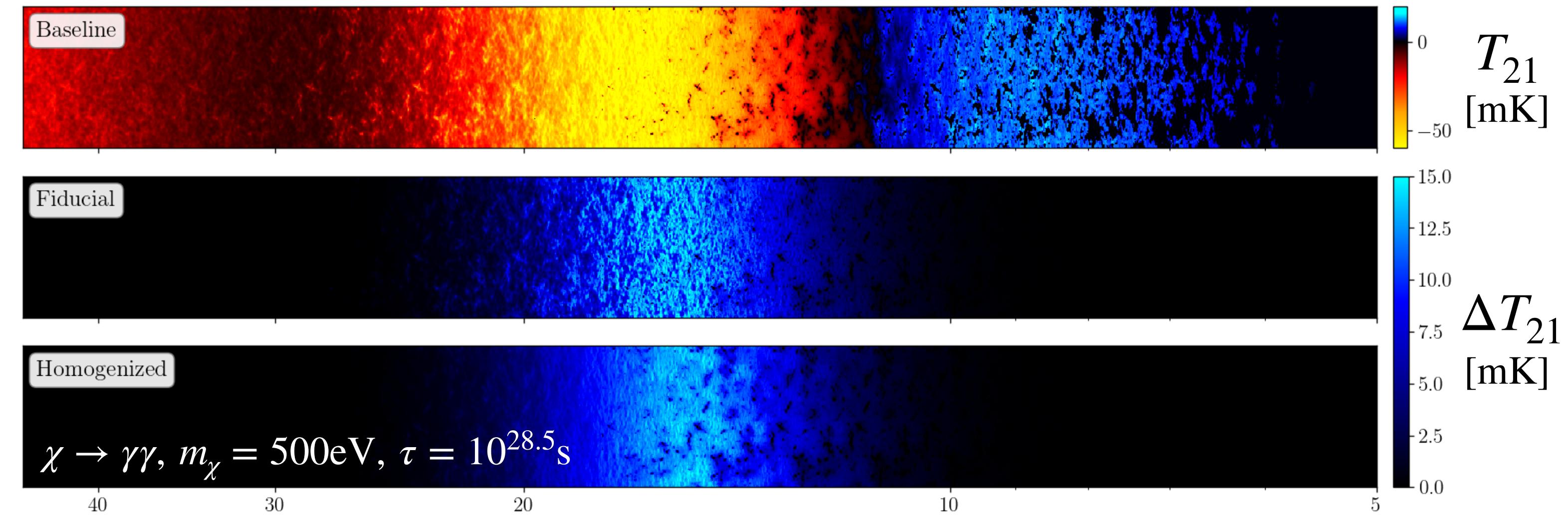
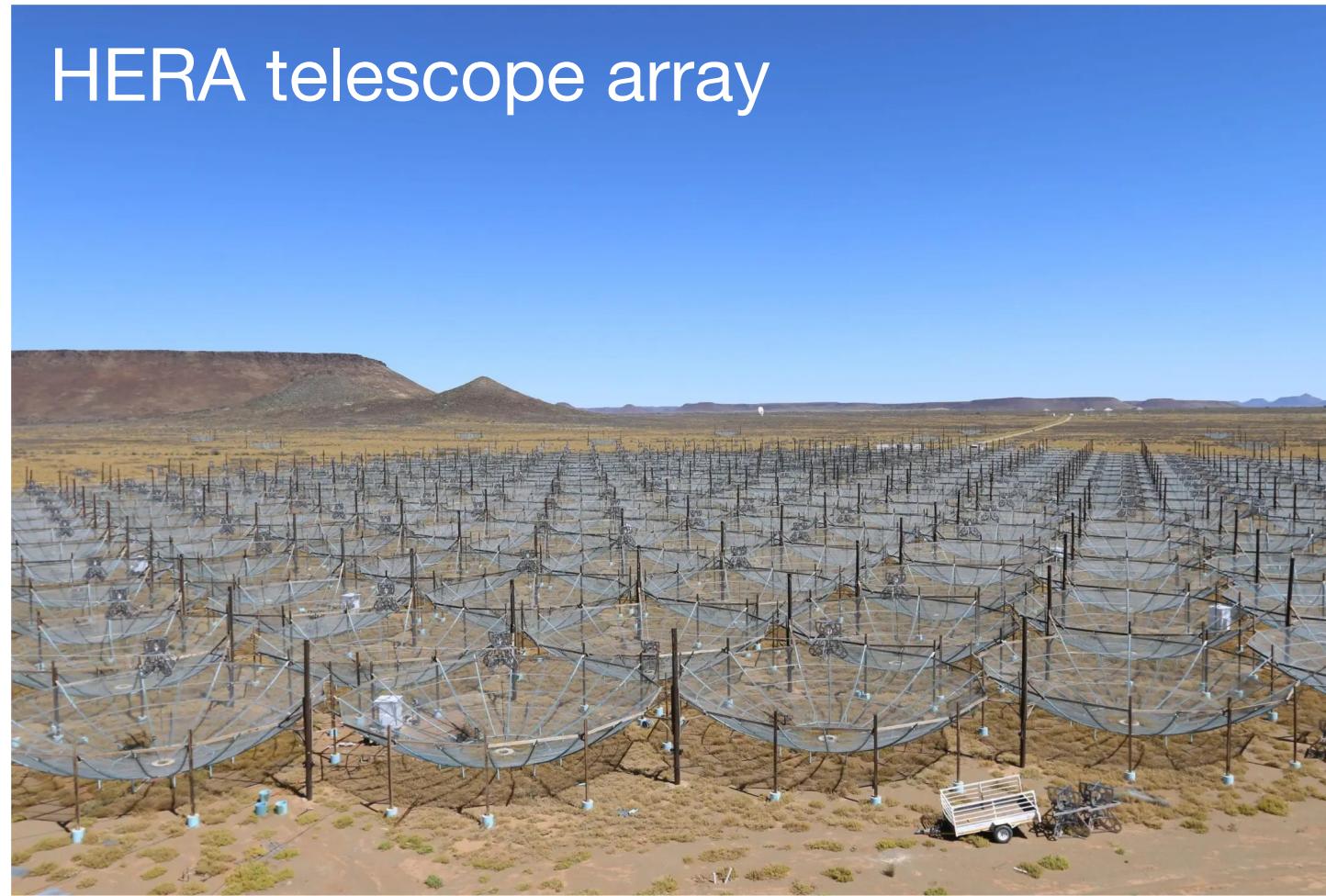
Homogeneous  
rates



Inhomogeneous  
rates

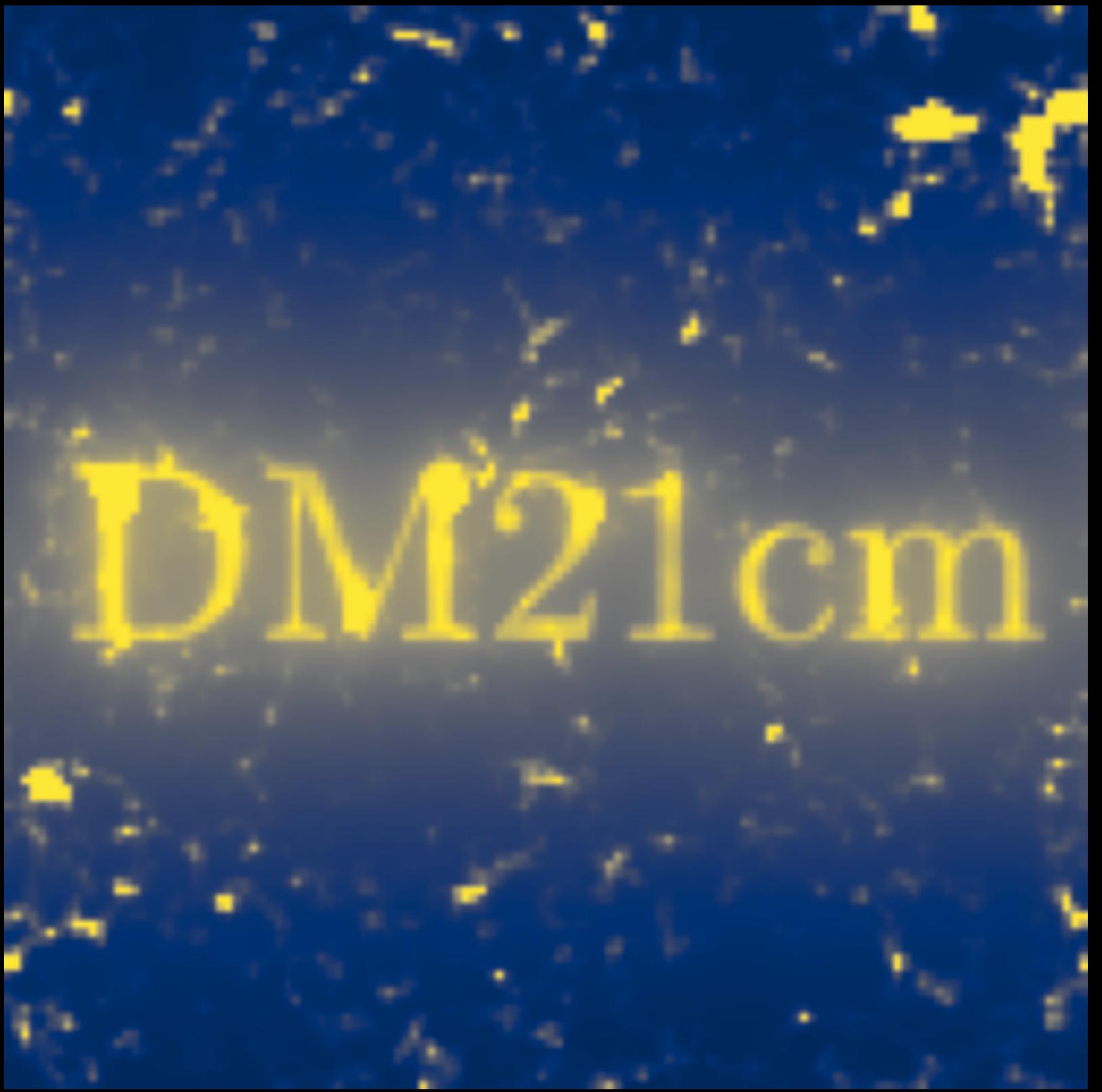


# HERA limits projections on decays



# Summary

- We built **DM21cm**: a simulation for dark matter energy injection during reionization.
- It self-consistently deposit energy into the IGM, and tracks propagating photons.
- We forecast HERA's sensitivity on DM decays. Stay tuned for more.
- Many avenues for future improvements.



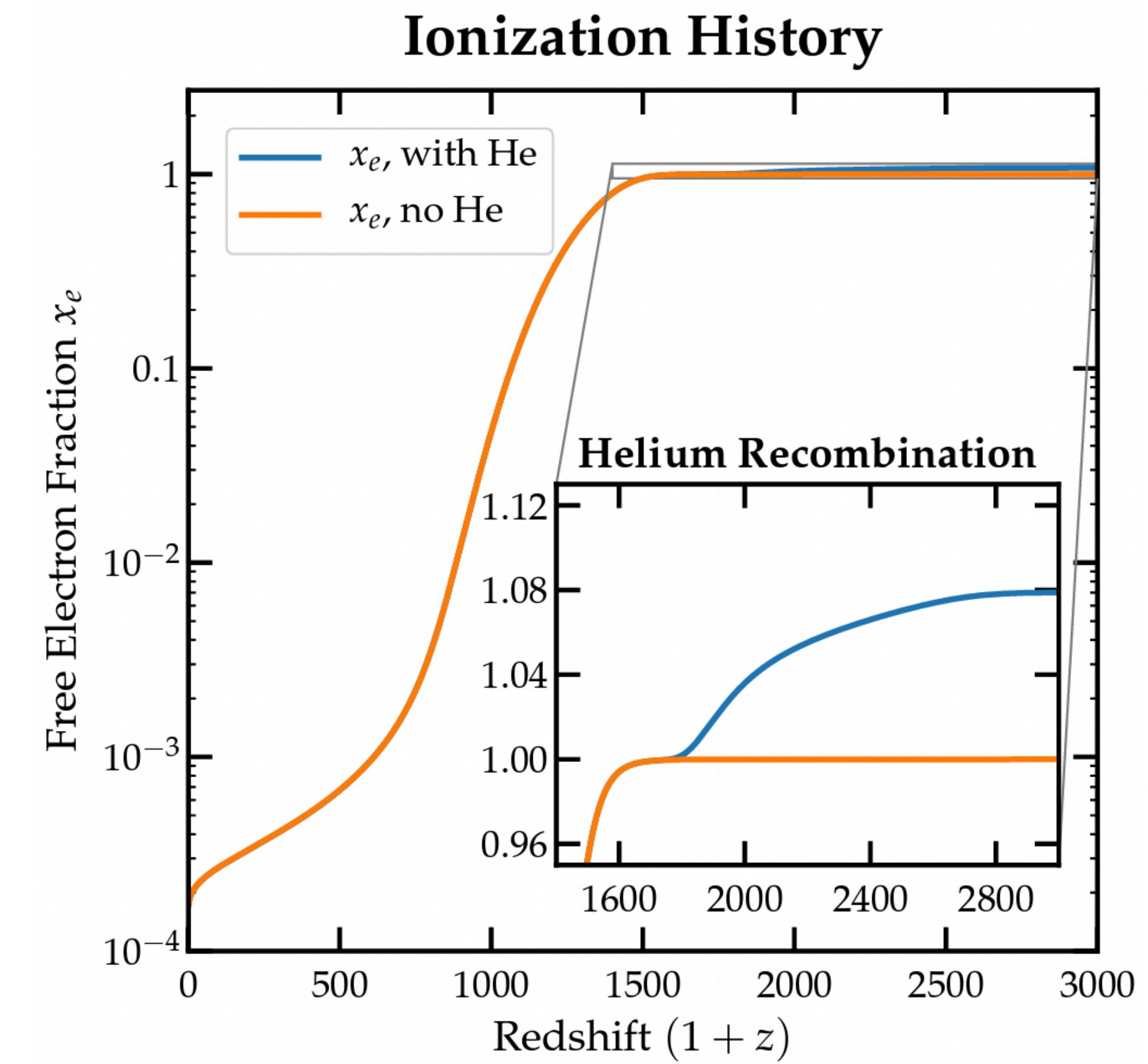
Thank you!

# Backup slides



A **python** code package available at  
<https://github.com/hongwanliu/DarkHistory>

- In a homogeneous universe, calculates exotic energy injection and deposition from before CMB ( $z=3000$ ) to reionization (given reionization model).
- Handles injected photons and electrons from  $10^{-4}$  eV to  $10^{12}$  eV kinetic energy.
- Self-consistently modifies IGM temperature, ionization (backreaction).
- Tracks propagating photons as a photon bath.



Liu, Ridgway, Slatyer (2019)

# ~~DarkHistory~~ $\gamma$ and $e^{+/-}$ processes

$\gamma$  :

- Compton scatter  $\rightarrow \gamma, e^-$
- Pair produce  $\rightarrow e^+, e^-$
- Heat, ionize, excite matter
- Just redshift

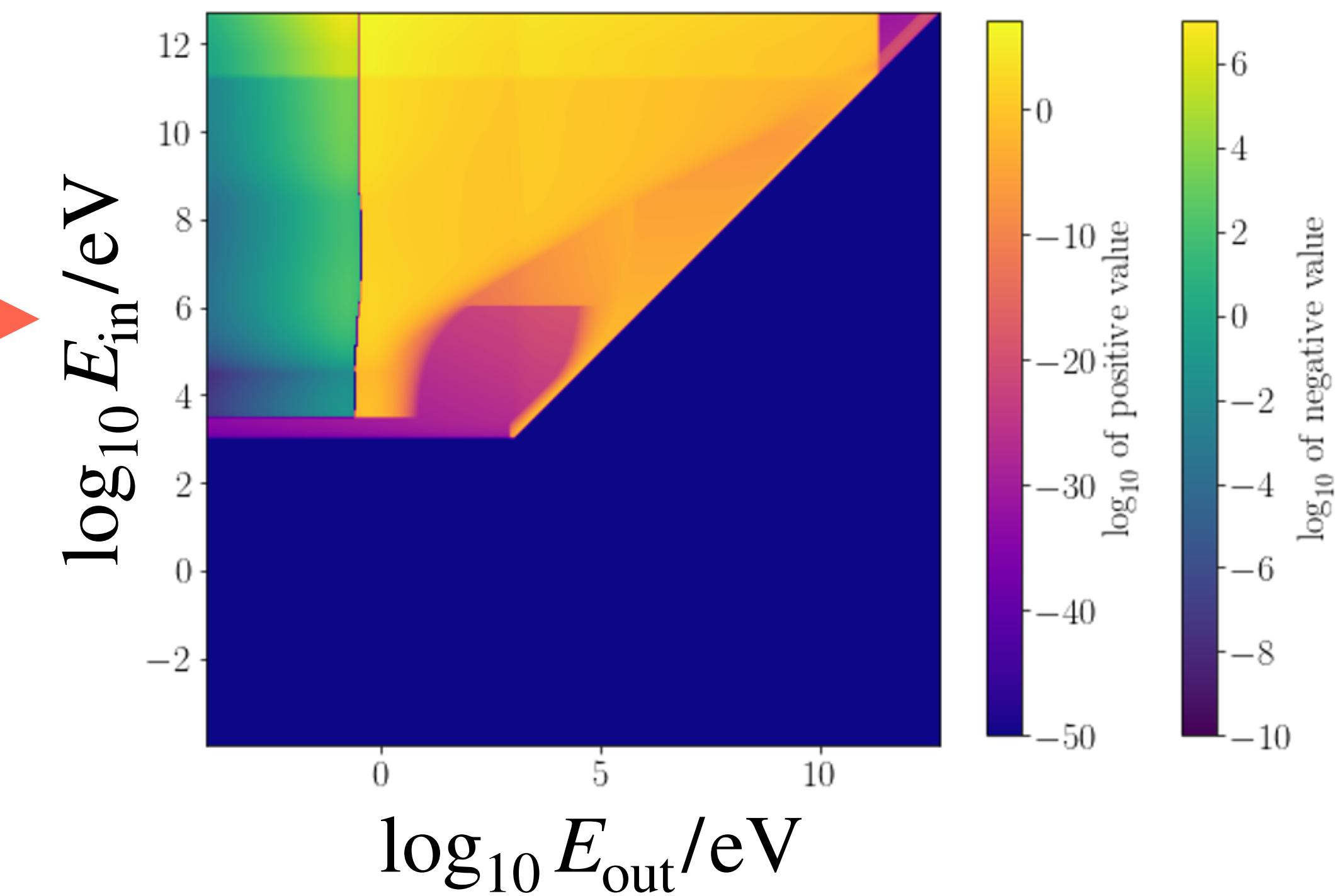
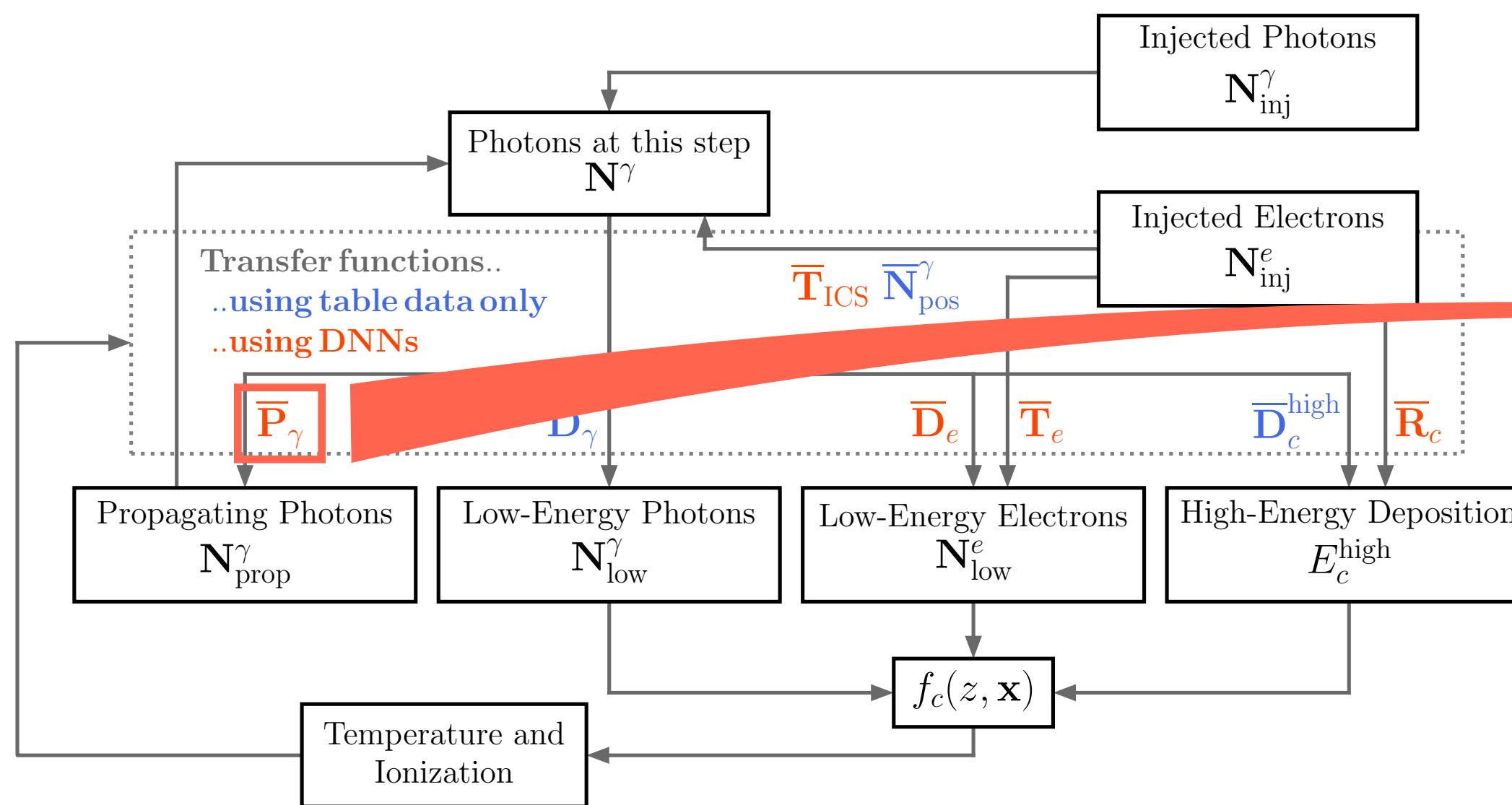
$e^-$  :

- Inverse Compton scatter  $\rightarrow \gamma, e^-$
- Heat, ionize, excite matter

$e^+$  :

- Annihilate with electrons  $\rightarrow \gamma, \gamma$

# DarkHistory particle transfer functions

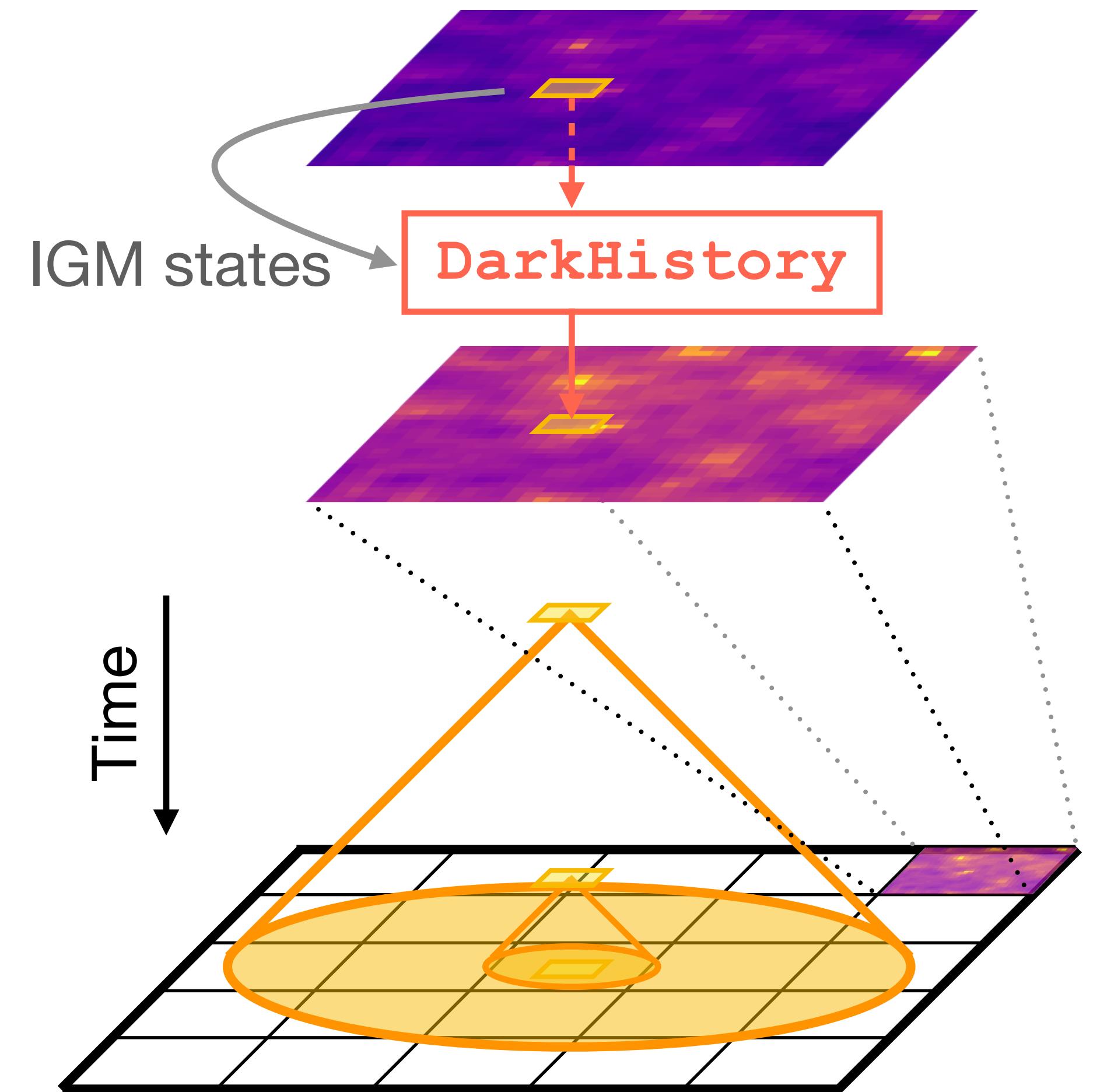


- Transfer functions encode all the physical processes for **DarkHistory**.
- Similar ones are generated for energy deposition in **DM21cm**.

- Can dependent on: YS, Slatyer (2022)
- $T_{\text{CMB}}$
  - Ionization levels  $x_{\text{HII}}, x_{\text{HeII}}, x_{\text{HeIII}}, \dots$
  - Local gas overdensity  $\delta_B$  (new!)

# Plan for DM21cm

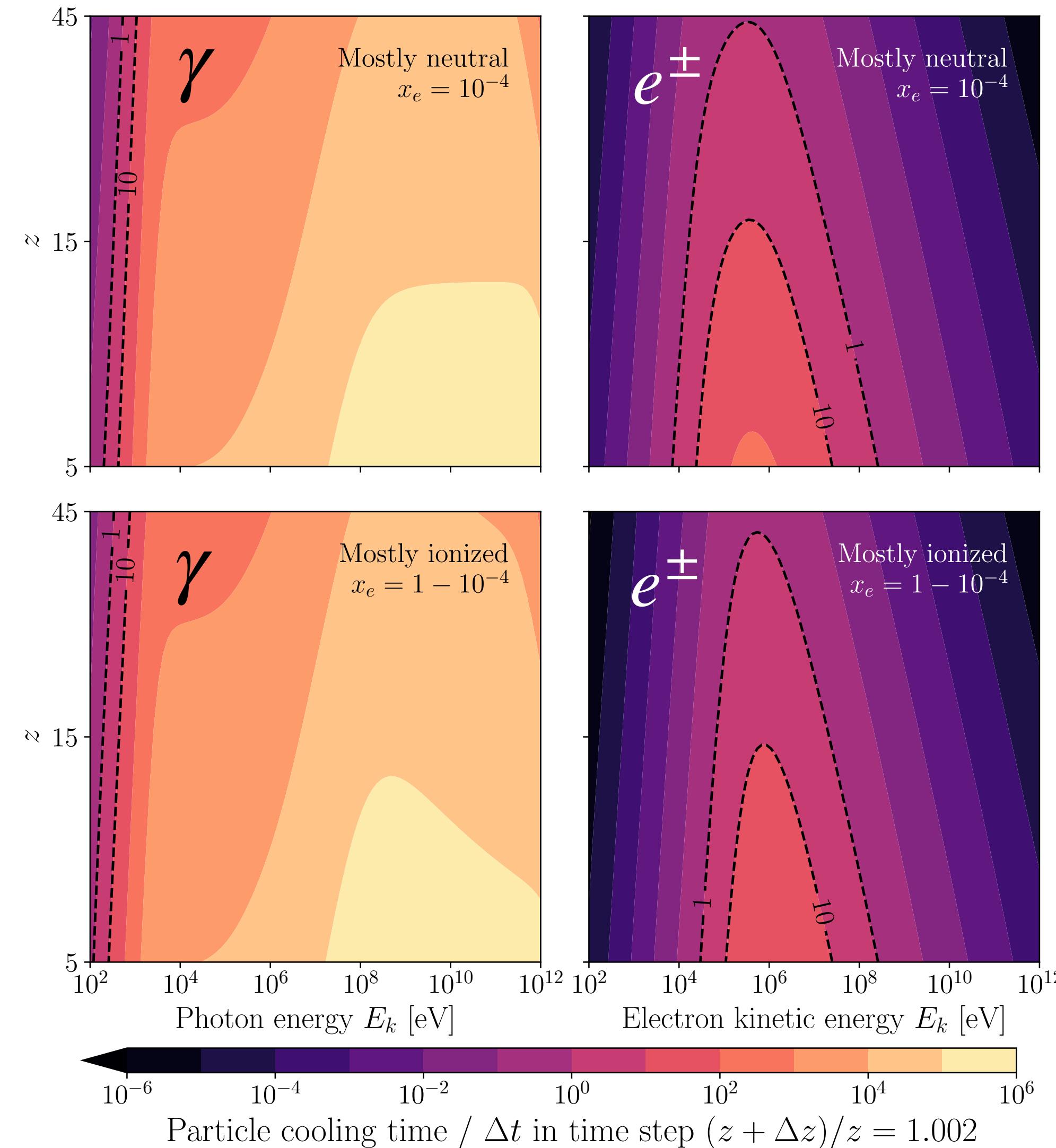
- In order to calculate 21-cm line signal, we need spatially resolved simulations.
- Naively, we can
  - track states of the universe in a periodic box.
  - track long-lived photon intensity field (very expensive!)
- If we don't want to do radiative transfer, we can
  - notice that some photons deposit energy very quickly, while others travel for a long time / space relative to time step / box size.
  - long-lived photons saturate the box quickly, but deposit energy over long period of time. Can model as a homogeneous isotropic bath.
  - What about particles in between?



# Transparency window

## Photons:

- High energy photons free stream and are long-lived.
- Lowering the energy to  $\sim \text{keV}$ , opacity quickly turns on as photoionization becomes efficient.
- Low energy photons from 10.2-100 eV ionize/excite IGM efficiently.
- Lower energy photons free stream.



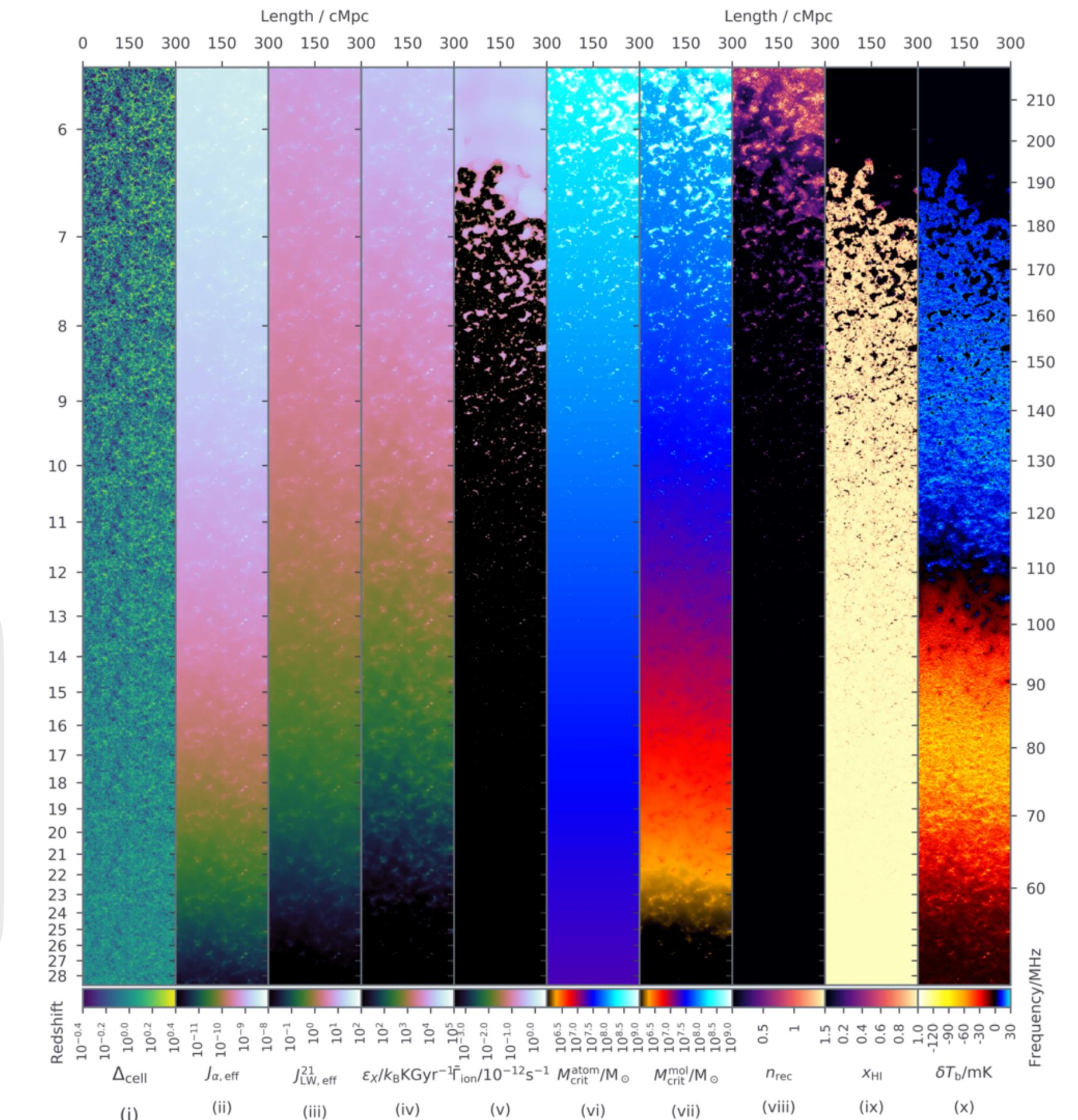
## Electrons:

- Do not propagate, as trace amount ( $10^{-20}\text{G}$ ) of the IG magnetic field confines them. Deposit energy on-the-spot.
- We assume they promptly deposit as well. In cases where our constraints are not the strongest, this is a good approximation.
- Future work can account for long-lived localized electrons.

# 21cmFAST overview

- simulates the reionizing universe in a periodic box.
- typical run  $\sim (128 \text{ cell} * 2 \text{ Mpc}/\text{cell})^3$ .
- tracks IGM temperature  $T_k$ , IGM ionization level  $x_{\text{HII}} = x_{\text{HeII}} = x_e$ , ( $x_{\text{HeIII}} = 0$ ), overdensity  $\delta_M = \delta_B$ .
- EoM:
 
$$\frac{dx_e(z, \mathbf{x})}{dz} = \frac{dt}{dz} [\Lambda_{\text{ion}} - \alpha_A C x_e^2 n_A f_{\text{H}}]$$

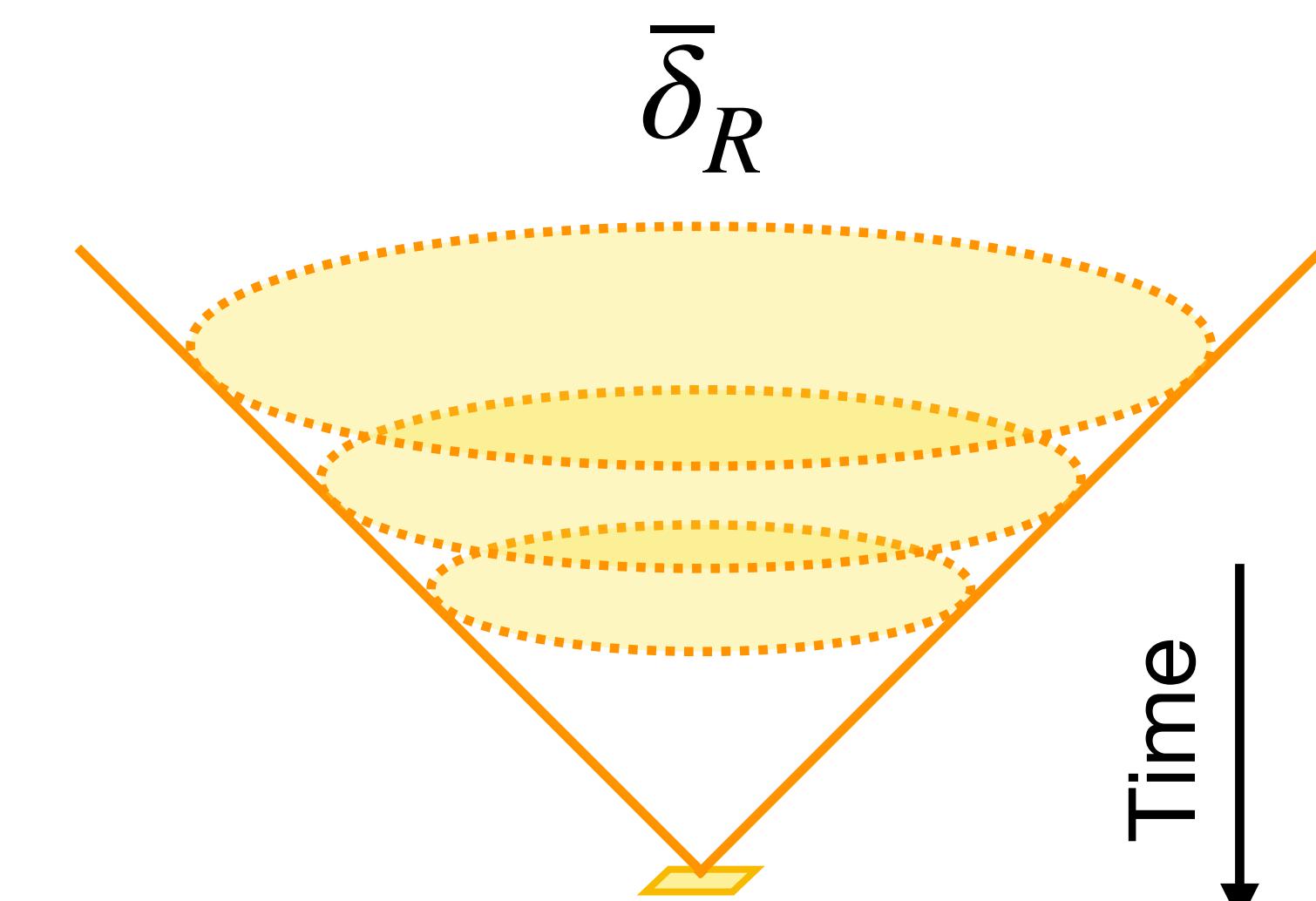
$$\frac{dT_k(z, \mathbf{x})}{dz} = \frac{2}{3k_B(1 + x_e)} \frac{dt}{dz} \sum_p \epsilon_p + \frac{2T_k}{3n_A} \frac{dn_A}{dz} - \frac{T_k}{1 + x_e} \frac{dx_e}{dz}$$
- construct lightcone for  $T_{21}$  after a typical simulation run from  $z \sim 45$  to  $z \sim 5$ .



Murray, Greig, Mesinger, Muñoz, Qin, Park, Watkinson (2020)

# 21cmFAST's X-ray treatment

- 21cmFAST calculates astrophysical X-ray from the first stars. The luminosity is proportional to the star formation rate density (SFRD).
- It uses past overdensity  $\delta$ , calculates  $\bar{\delta}_R$ , use the Press-Schechter formalism to calculate  $f_{\text{collapse}}(\vec{x}, z)$ , normalize with Sheth-Tormen  $\bar{f}_{\text{collapse}}(z)$ , then calculate SFRD.
- integrates over frequencies: assumes a power law spectrum to simplify redshifting.
- uses ON/OFF attenuation in the frequency domain.

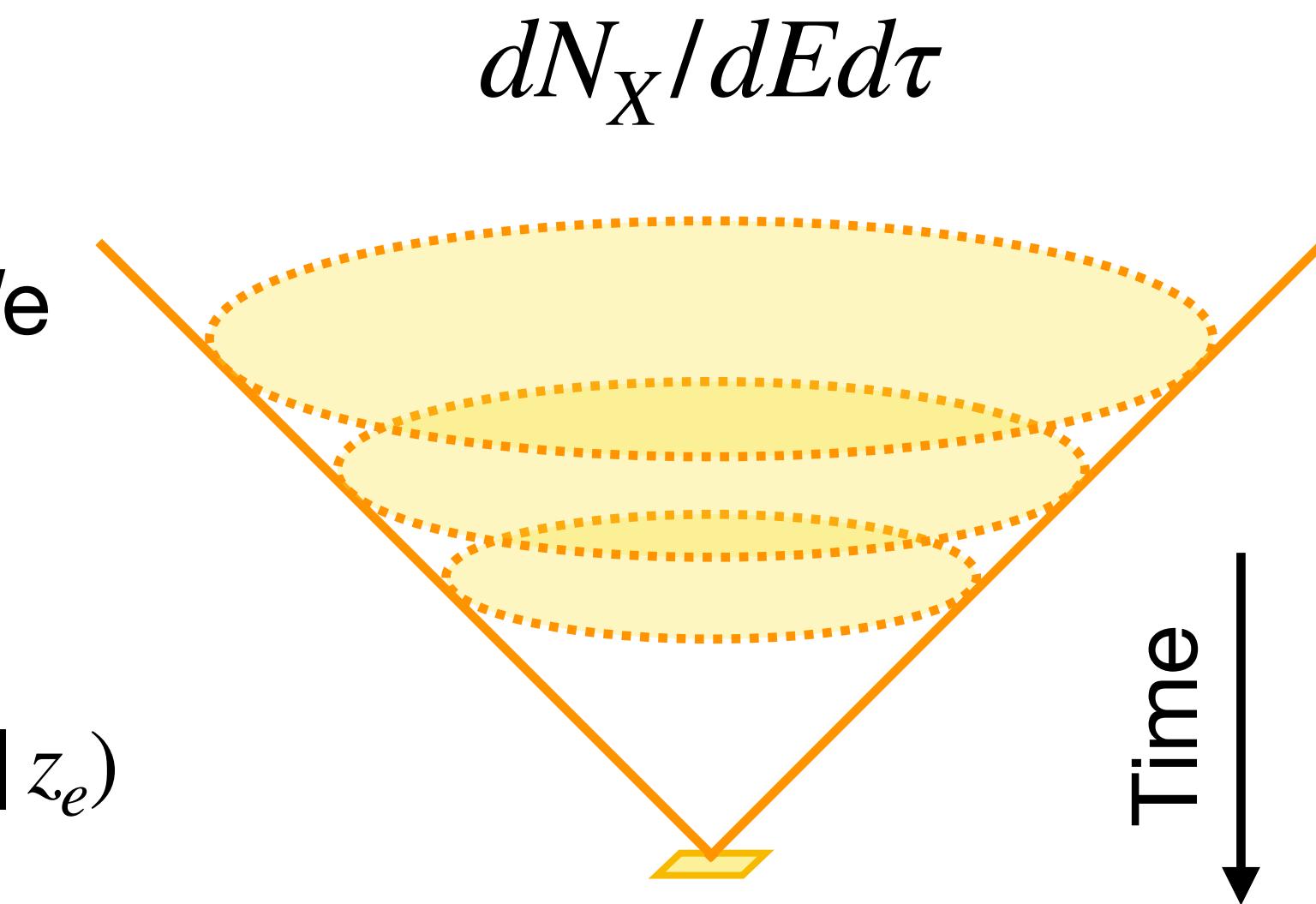


# DM21cm's X-ray treatment

- We would like a more physical method. We take inspiration from **21cmFAST**.
- No need for photon direction information: sources are usually isotropic, and there's almost no scattering in the X-ray regime. We only need the shell averaging.
- To keep memory manageable, we assume the X-ray luminosity field can be separated into

$$\frac{dN_X}{dEd\tau}(z_i, \vec{x}, E | z_e) \approx \frac{dN_X}{dEd\tau}(z_i, E | z_e) \tilde{\epsilon}_X(\vec{x} | z_e)$$

- We physically attenuate and redshift  $dN_X/dEd\tau$ .
- Each previous shell has a different X-ray spectrum; their deposition happens in serial. This is enabled by faster computation of FFT and interpolation on GPUs by a factor of  $\sim 100$ .



# Aside: computational performance

- Few lines of code in the main evolve function, very readable.
- GPU-enabled with **JAX**, FFTs, interpolations can be faster by a factor of 100 than running on 16-core CPU. (Although automatic differentiation may be hard.)
- Deposition precision constrained by size of transfer function tables from **DarkHistory** and the memory of GPUs. Can easily replace with neural networks (**YS et al 2022**). Necessary for additional dimensions in the table.

```
for i_state, state in enumerate(xray_cache.states):
    if state.isinbath:
        continue # skip states that are already in bath
    if i_state not in inds_chosen_shells:
        accumulated_shell_spec += state.spectrum
        continue

smoothed_rel_eng_box = xray_cache.get_smoothed_box(state, z_current)
xray_spec = state.spectrum + accumulated_shell_spec
tfs.inject_phot(xray_spec, inject_type='xray', weight_box=smoothed_rel_eng_box)

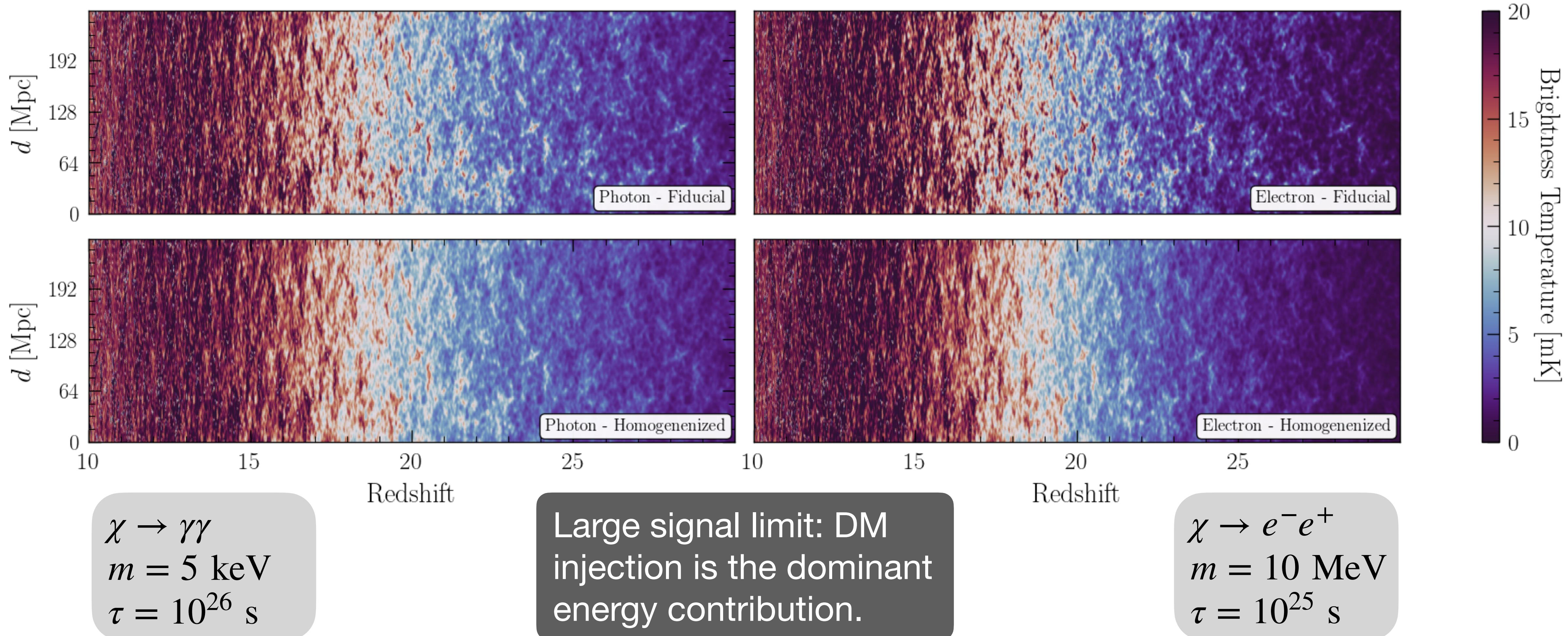
accumulated_shell_spec *= 0.

profiler.record('xray')

---- bath and homogeneous portion of xray ----
tfs.inject_phot(phot_bath_spec, inject_type='bath')

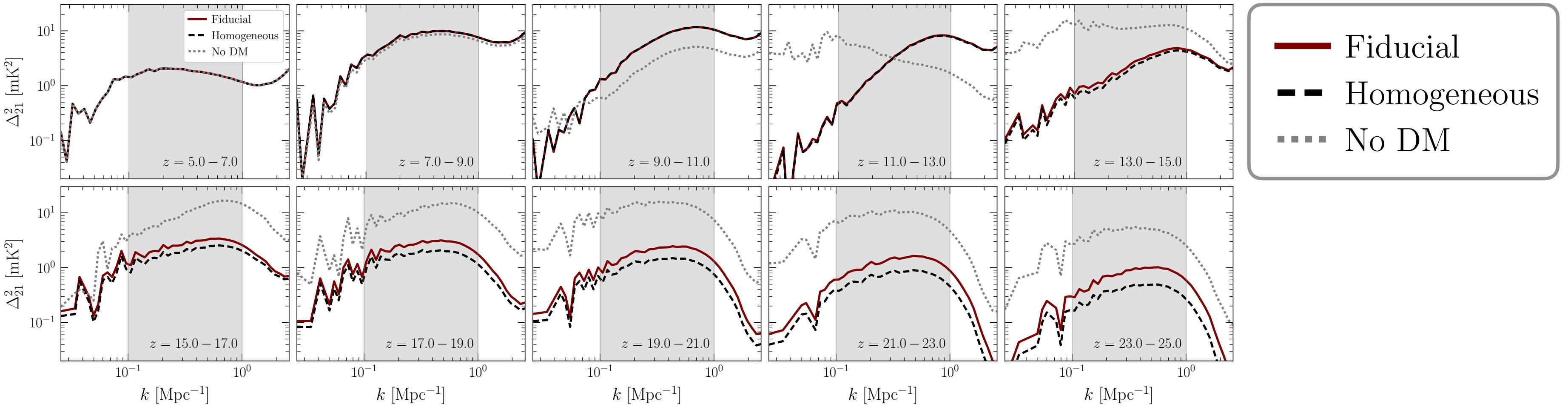
---- dark matter (on-the-spot) ----
tfs.inject_from_dm(dm_params, inj_per_Bavg_box)
```

# $T_{21}$ signal: large signal limit

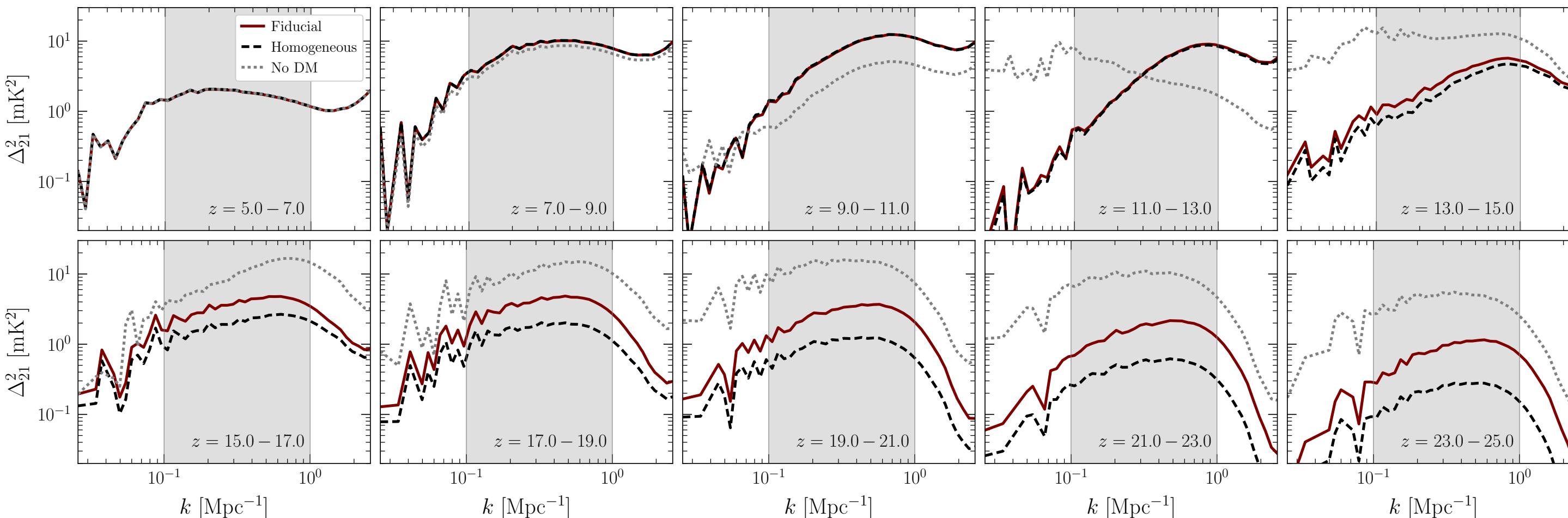


# $T_{21}$ power spectrum

$\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$   
 $m = 5 \text{ keV}$   
 $\tau = 10^{26} \text{ s}$

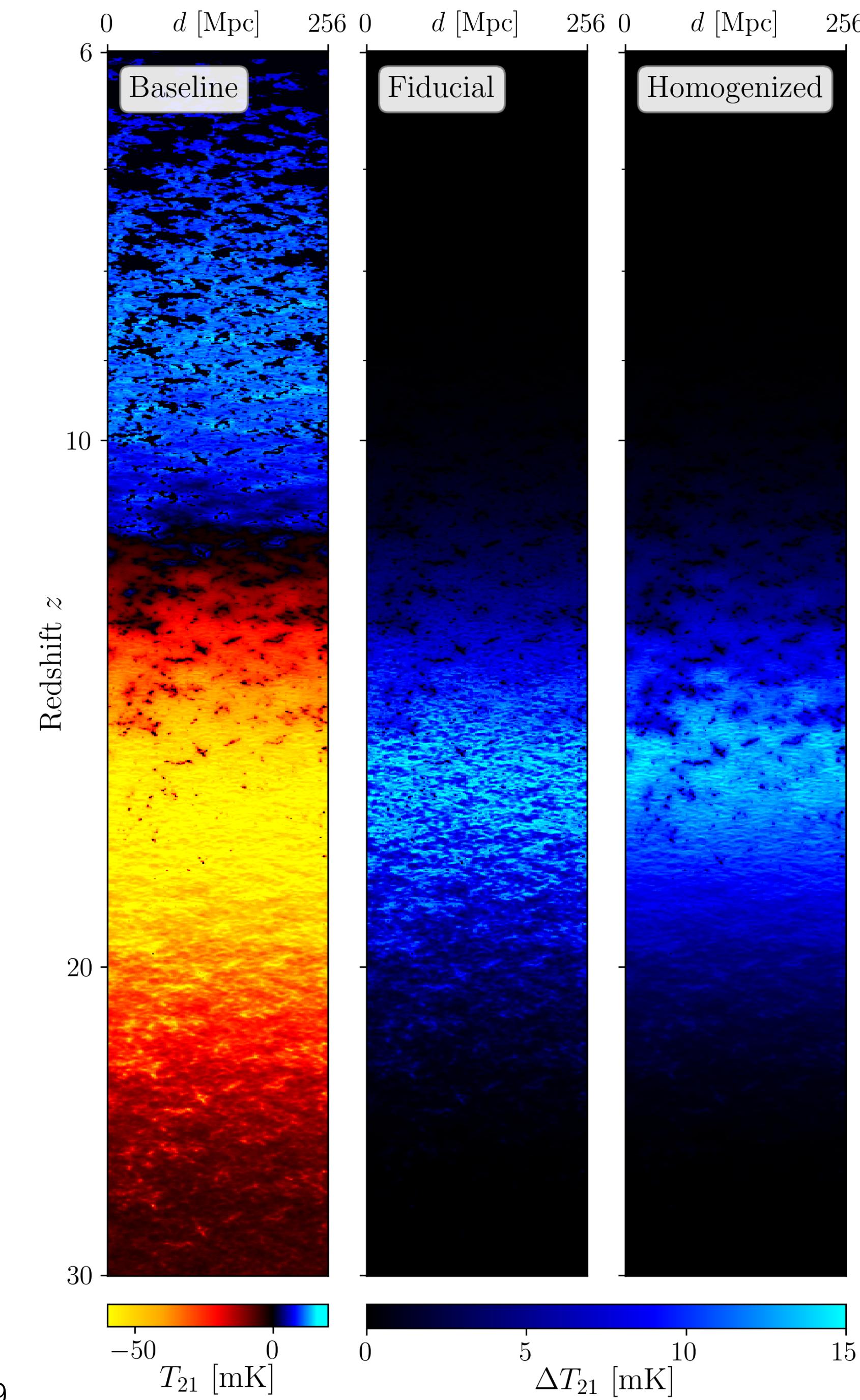


$\chi \rightarrow e^-e^+$   
 $m = 10 \text{ MeV}$   
 $\tau = 10^{25} \text{ s}$



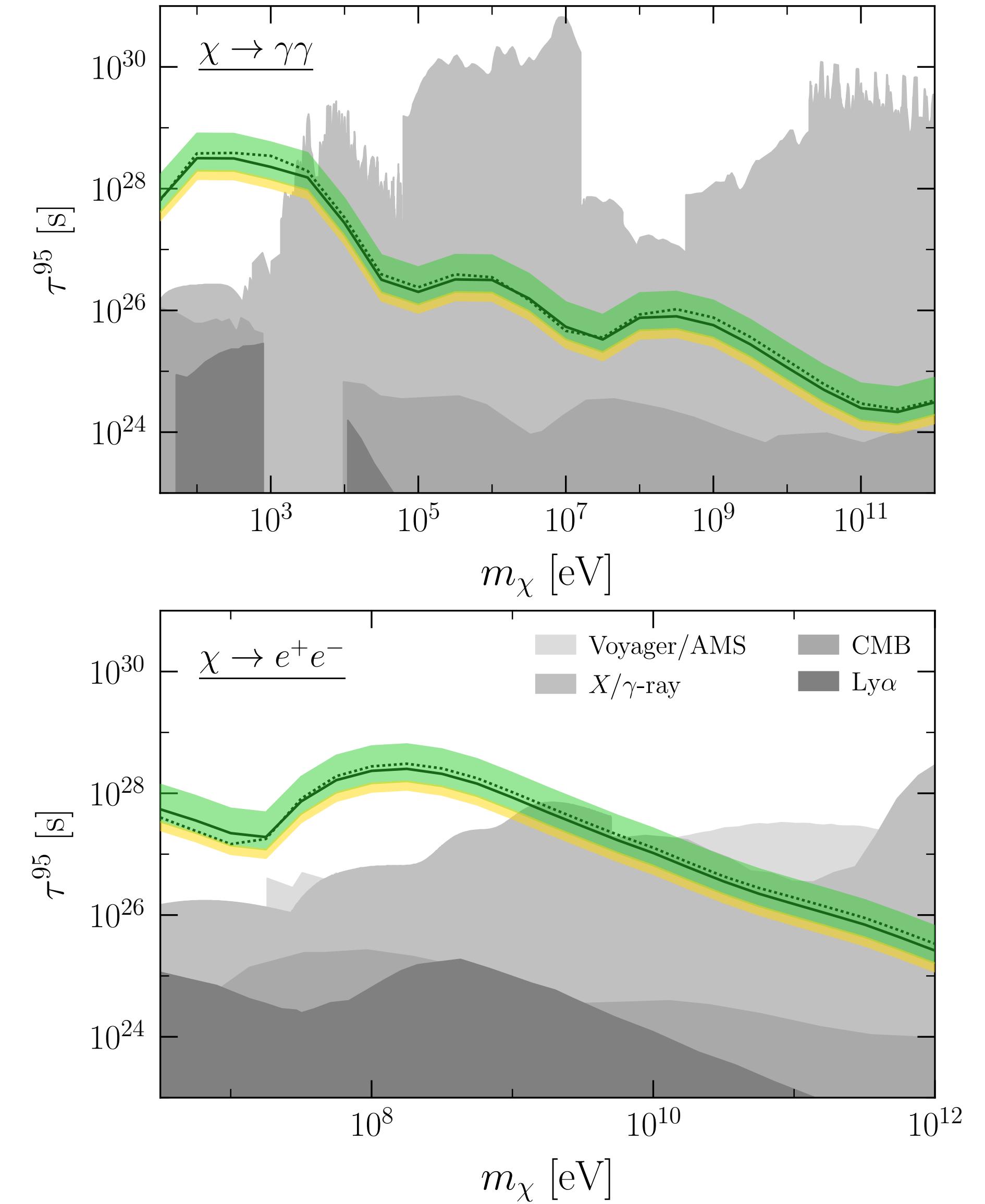
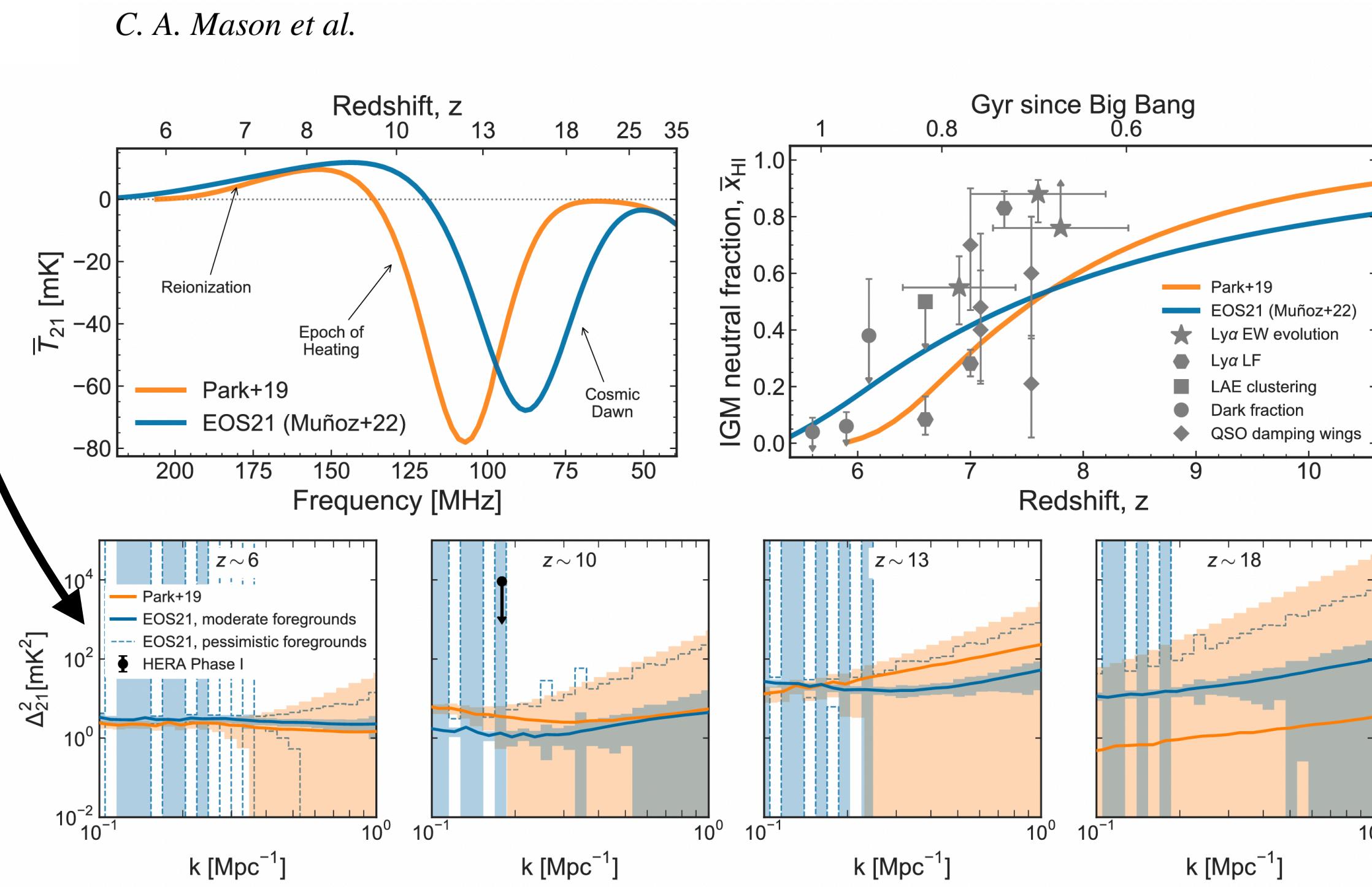
# $T_{21}$ signal: small signal limit

Small signal limit: universe close to no-DM configuration.  
More relevant for observation forecasts.

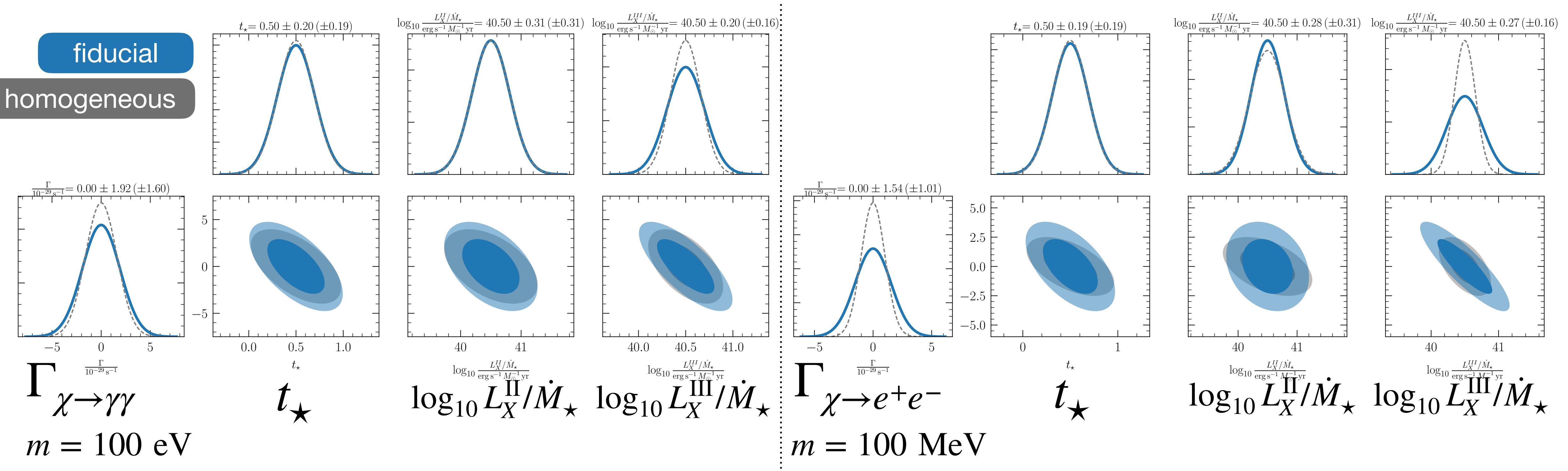


# Fisher information forecast of HERA sensitivity

We use **21cmfish** and assume its fiducial power spectrum  $\Delta_{21}^2$  noise model for HERA:



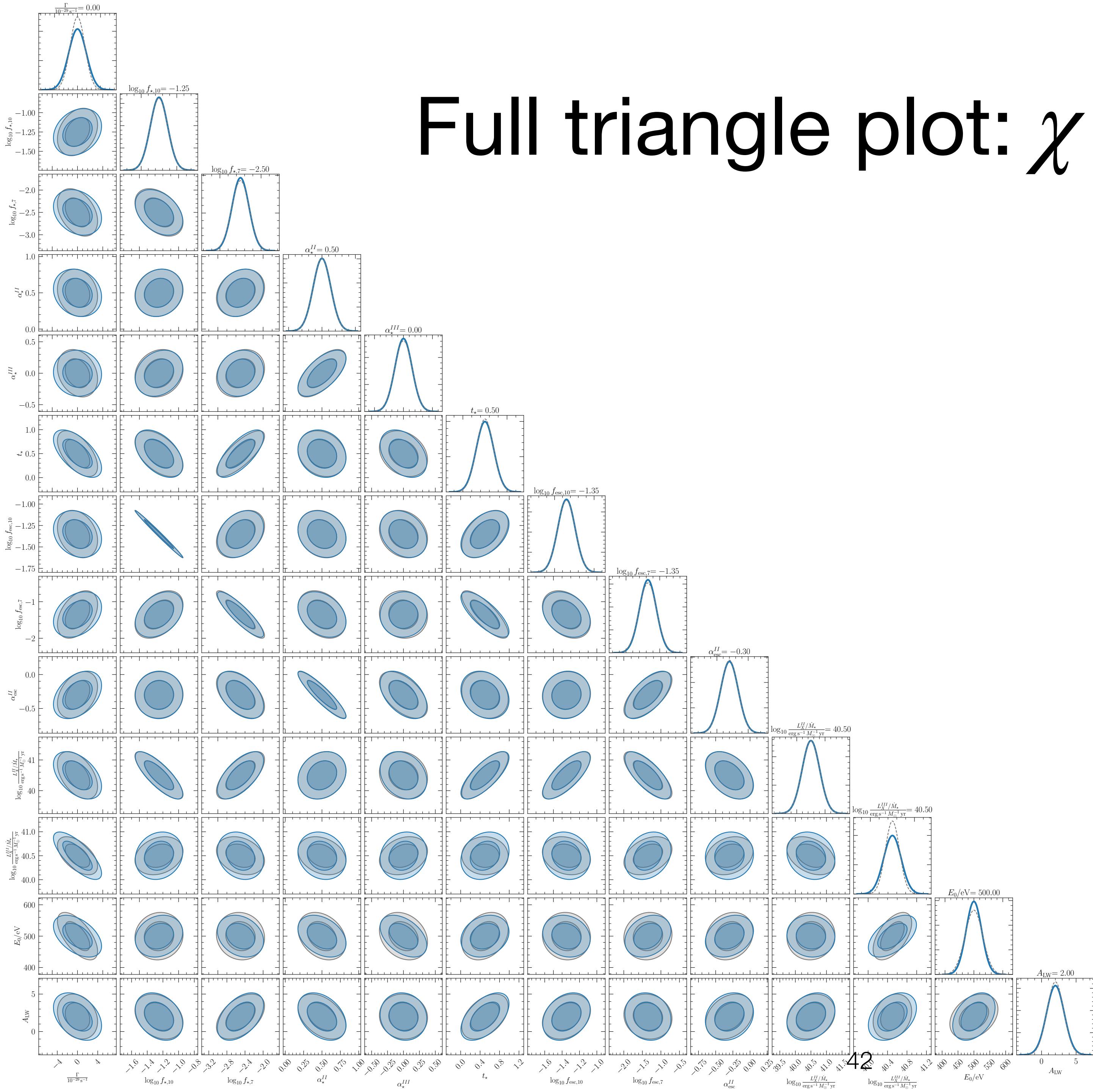
# Degeneracy with astrophysical parameters



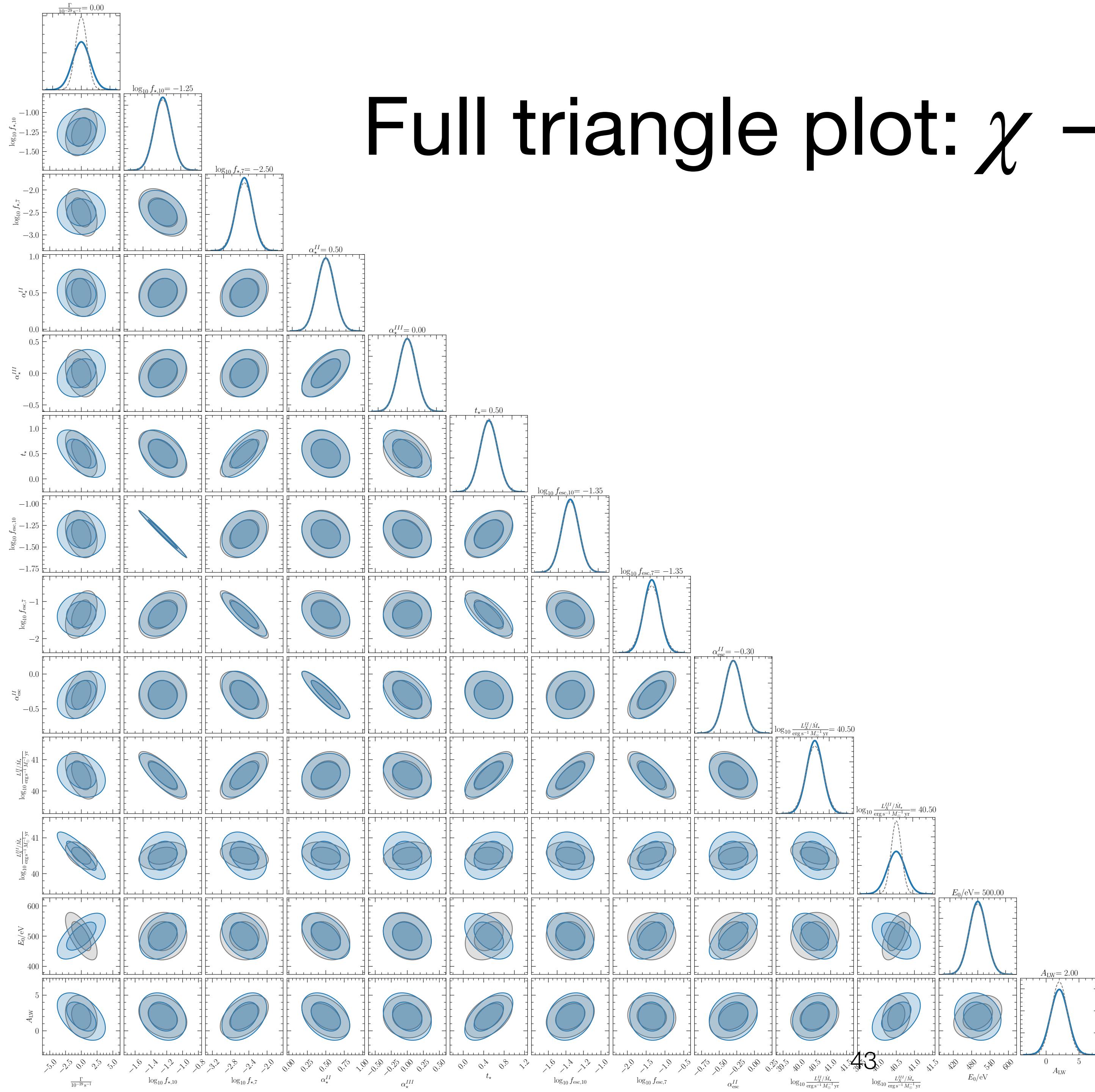
$t_\star H^{-1}$  is the characteristic star formation rate (SFR) timescale.

$L_X^{II/III} / \dot{M}_\star$  is X-ray luminosity per SFR for PopII/III stars.

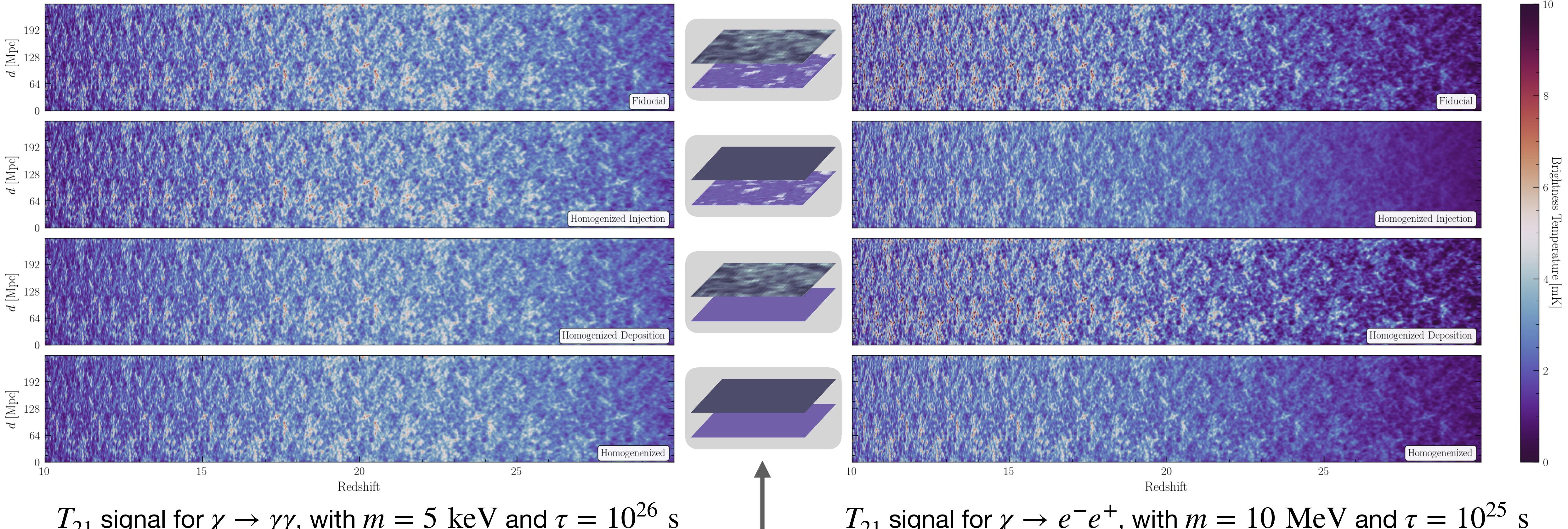
# Full triangle plot: $\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$



# Full triangle plot: $\chi \rightarrow e^+e^-$



# $T_{21}$ signal: homogeneous injection / deposition



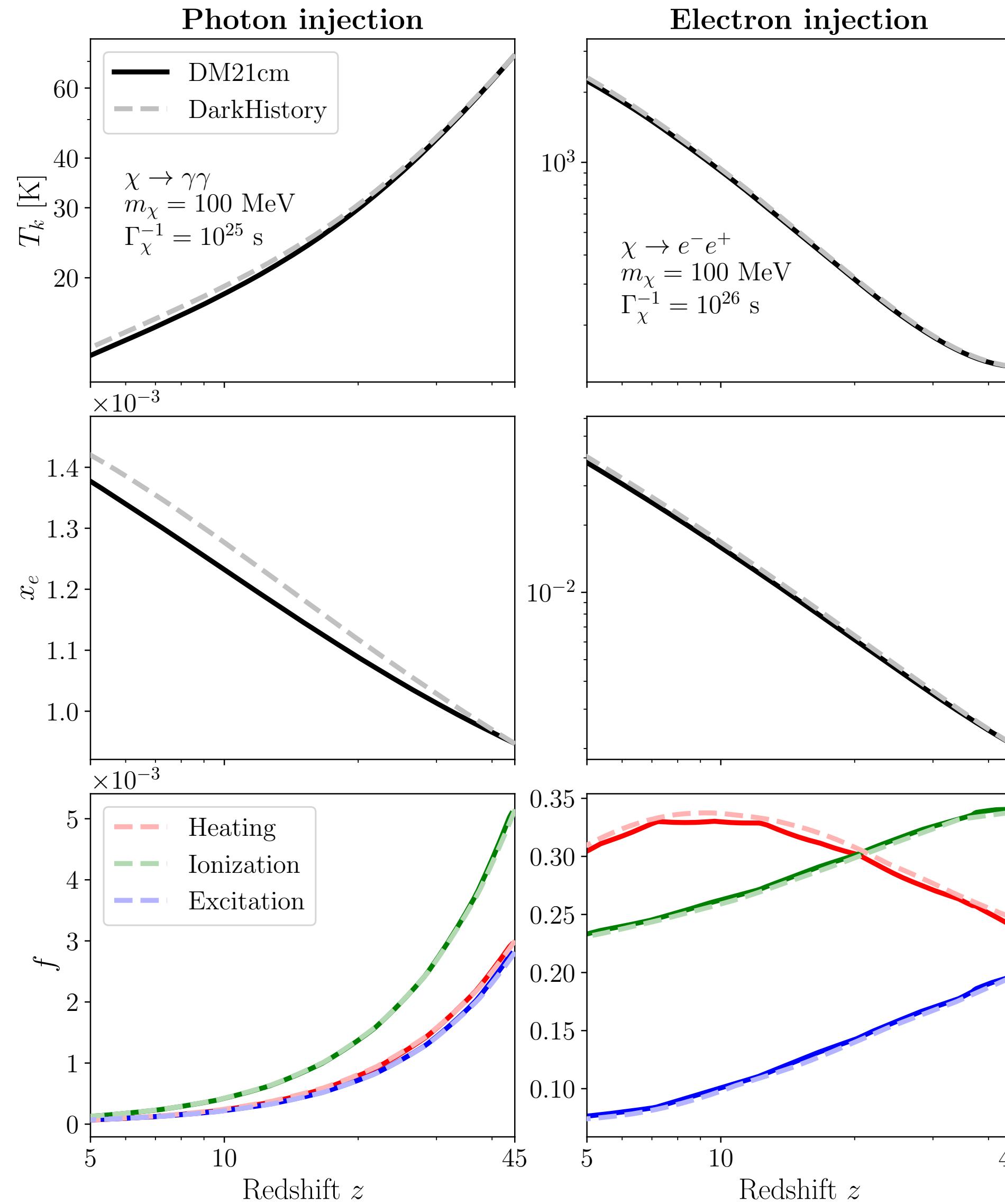
$T_{21}$  signal for  $\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ , with  $m = 5$  keV and  $\tau = 10^{26}$  s

$T_{21}$  signal for  $\chi \rightarrow e^-e^+$ , with  $m = 10$  MeV and  $\tau = 10^{25}$  s

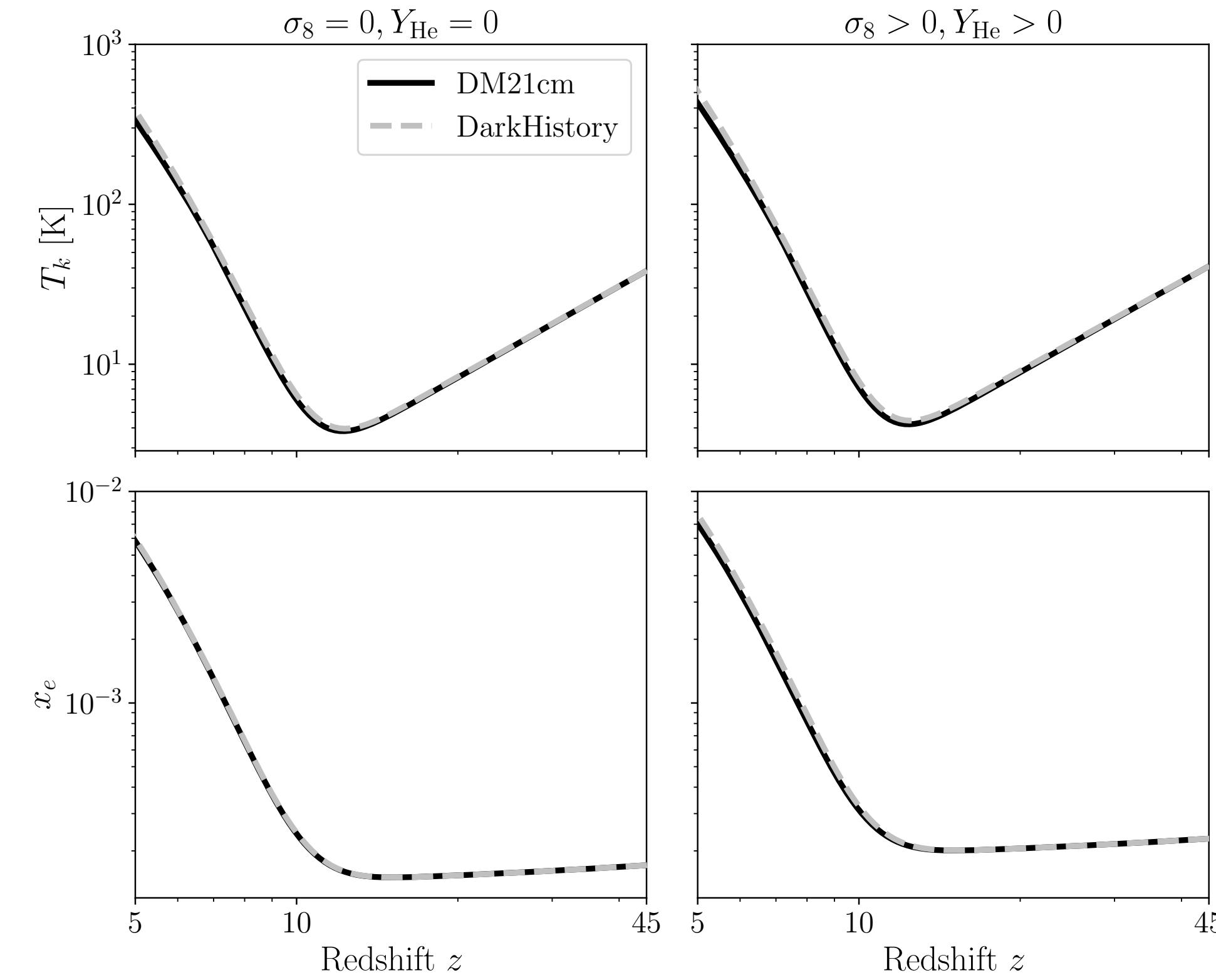
Injection  $dE/dVdt$

Deposition  $f_c(T_k, x, \delta)$

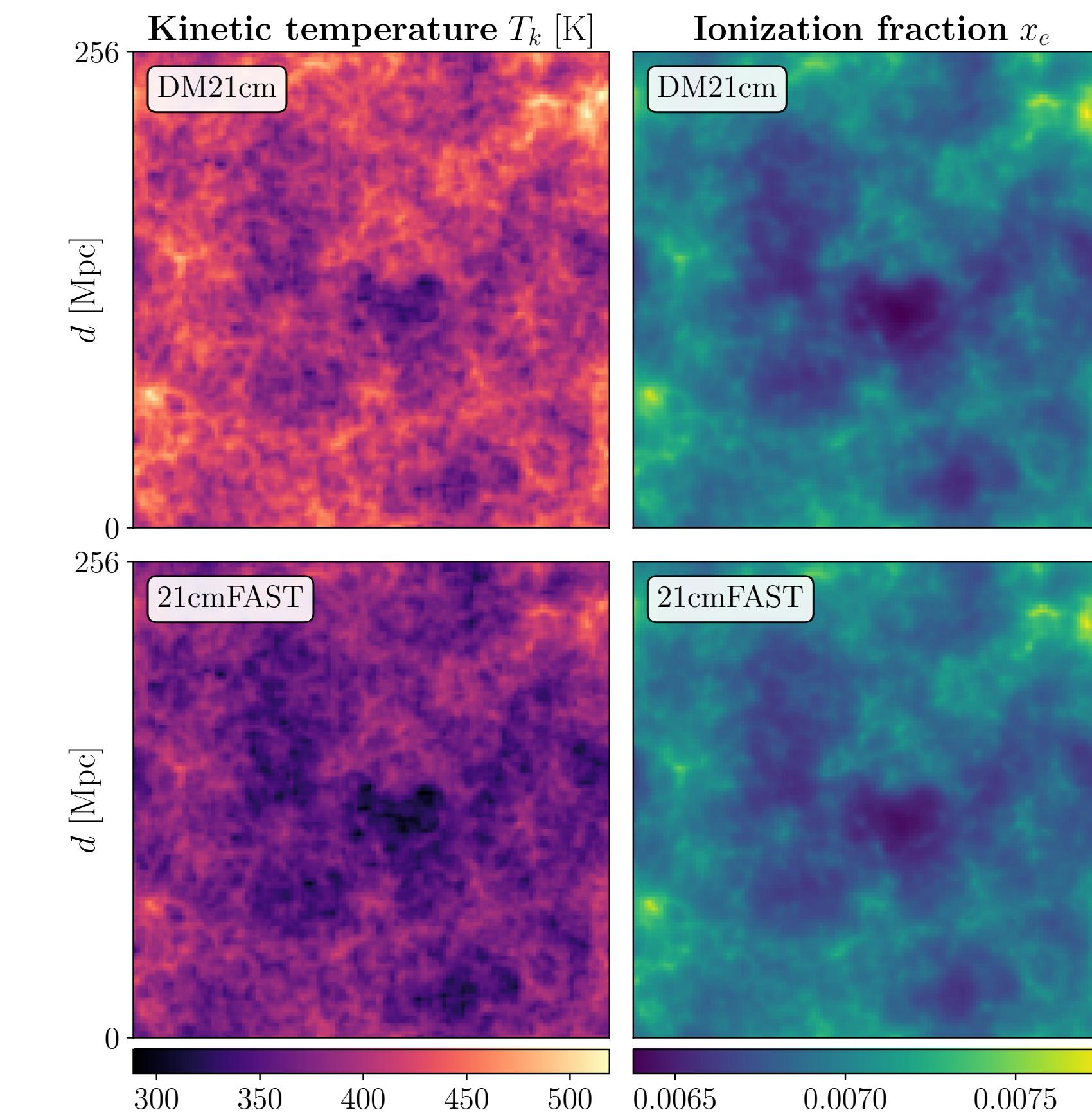
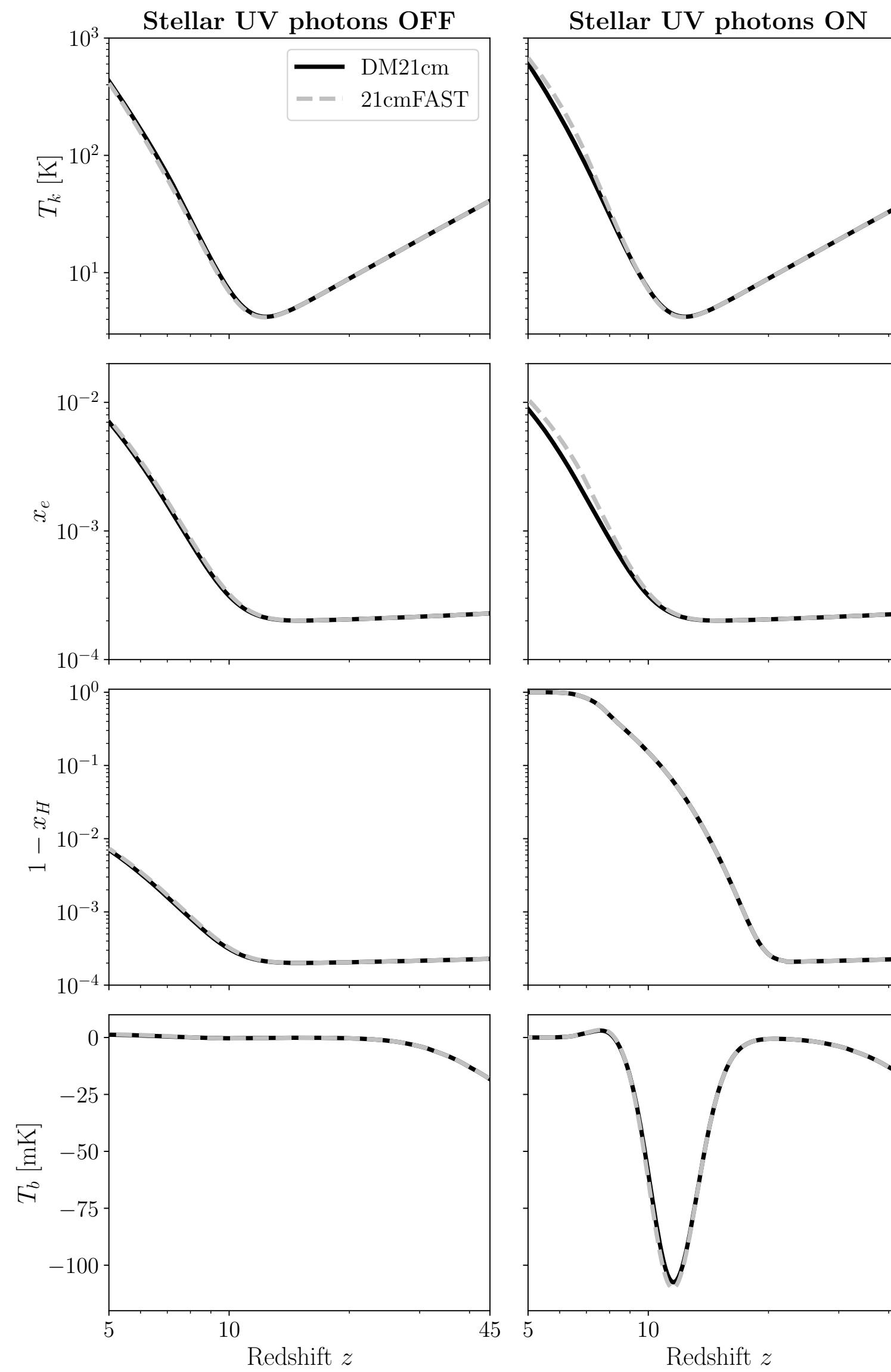
# Cross check: DarkHistory and DM21cm



## X-ray injection (Sheth-Torman HMF)



# Cross check: 21cmFAST & DM21 cm



# spatiotemporal convergence

