

# Neutrinos in Cosmology

TEV PARTICLE ASTROPHYSICS

15 SEPT 2016, CERN



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*“Pseudoscalar – sterile neutrino interactions: reconciling the cosmos with neutrino oscillations”*

M. Archidiacono, S. Gariazzo, C. Giunti, Steen Hannestad, R. Hansen, M. Laveder, T. Tram  
JCAP 08 (2016) 067, arXiv:1606.07673

# Outline



- ❖ Neutrinos in cosmology:
  - $C\nu B$
  - cosmology & neutrino parameters
  - current status and future perspectives
- ❖ Sterile neutrinos: an open issue
- ❖ “Secret” interactions
- ❖ Conclusions

# Cosmic Neutrino Background

Thermal equilibrium in the primordial plasma

$$\Gamma = n_{e^-} \langle \sigma v \rangle \approx G_F^2 T^5$$

When  $\Gamma < H$  neutrinos decouple at

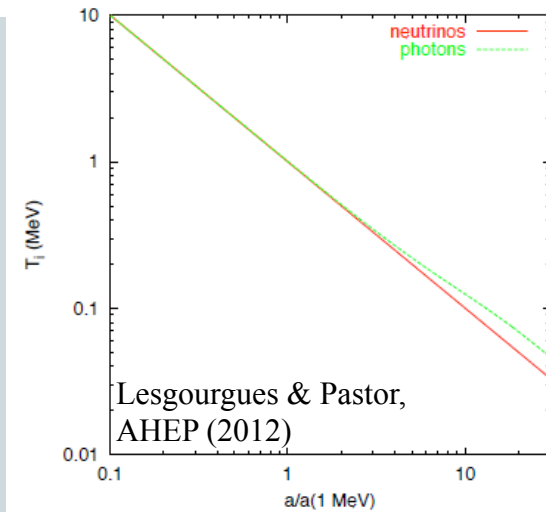
$$k_B T_{dec} = 1 \text{ MeV}$$

HDM

From entropy density conservation

$$T_\gamma / T_\nu = (11/4)^{1/3}$$

Nowadays  $T_\nu = 1.95 \text{ K}$   $n_\nu = 113 \text{ cm}^{-3}$



$$e^+ e^- \leftrightarrow \gamma \gamma$$

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Solving the q-dependent Boltzman eq.

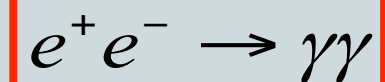
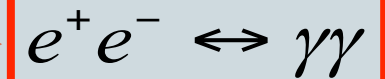
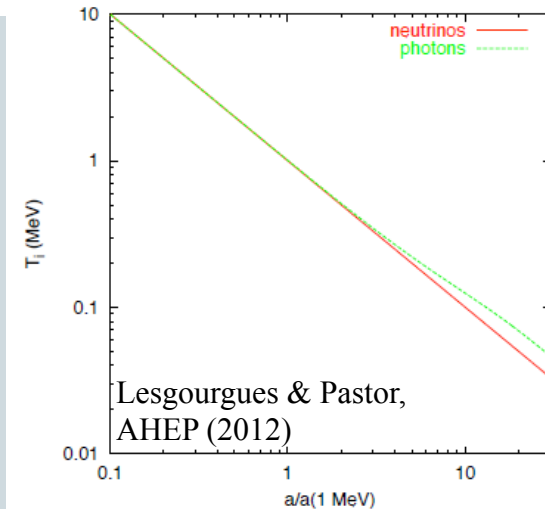
Mangano et al., Nucl.Phys.B(2005)

$$N_{eff}^{SM} = 3.046$$

flavour dependent corrections:

non instantaneous decoupling

+ finite temperature effects



# Cosmology & neutrino parameters



- The effective number of relativistic degrees of freedom

$$\rho_{rad} = \left[ 1 + \frac{7}{8} \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{4/3} N_{eff} \right] \rho_{\gamma}$$

$$N_{eff} \equiv \frac{\rho_{\nu a} + \rho_{extra\ rel}}{\rho_{1\nu a}^{SM}}$$

- It can be non-standard  $N_{eff} = 3.046 + \Delta N_{eff}$
- It can be many things (not only neutrinos)
- It is not constant (it decreases when particles go non relativistic)

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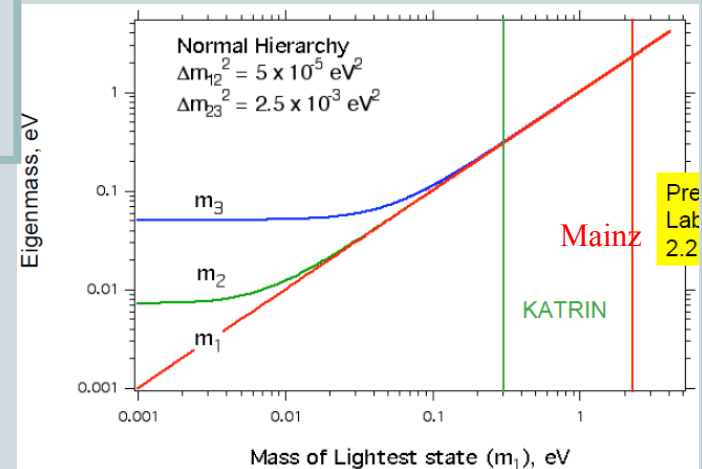
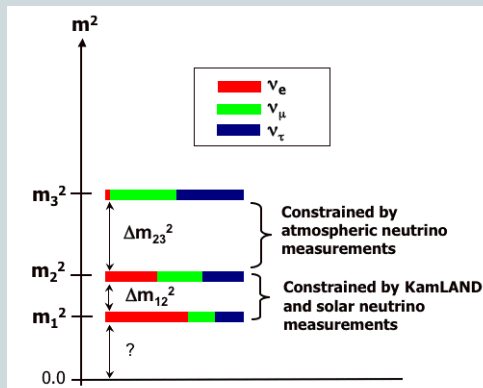
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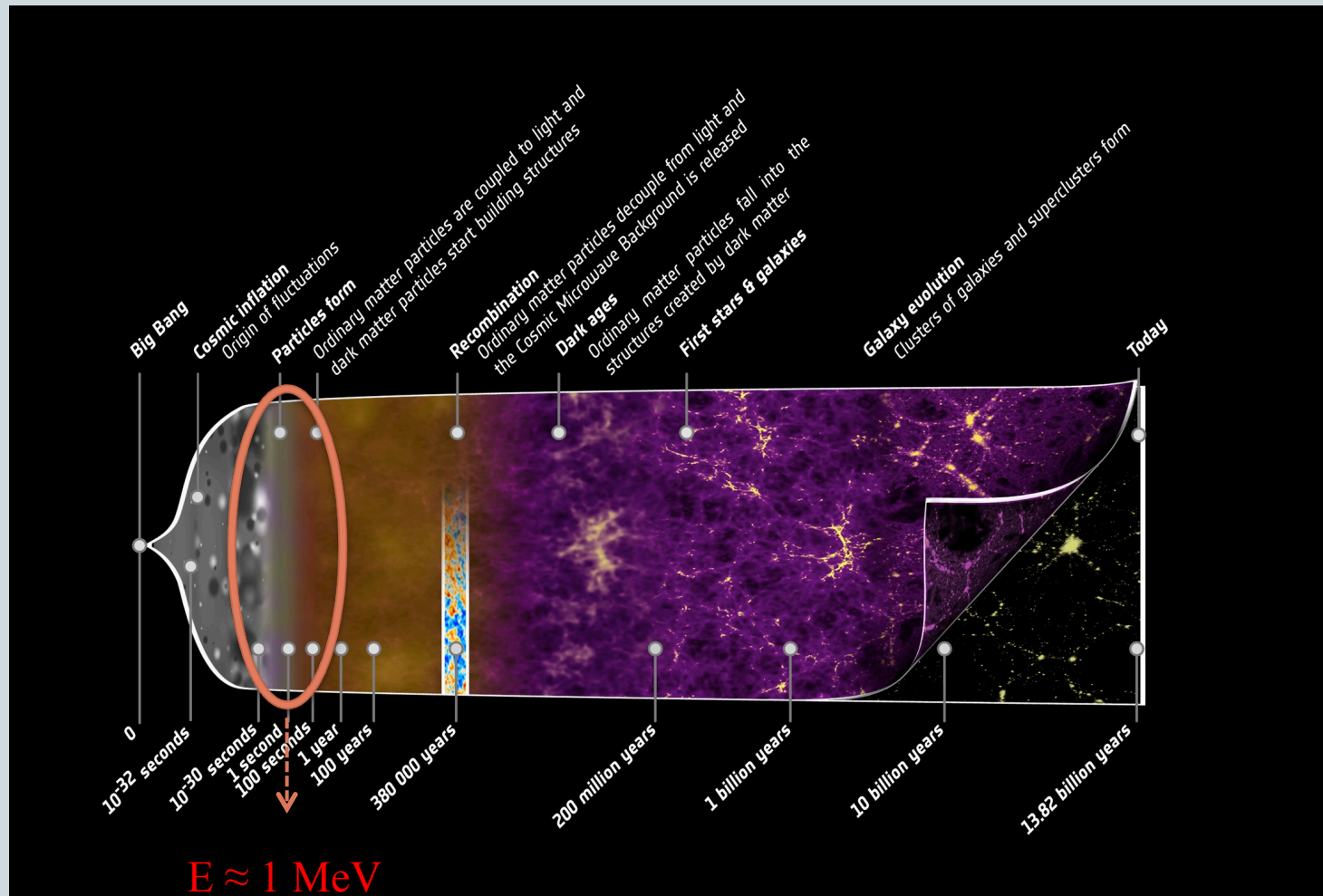
- The neutrino mass sum

$$\Omega_\nu h^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N_\nu} m_\nu / 93 eV$$

Complementarity



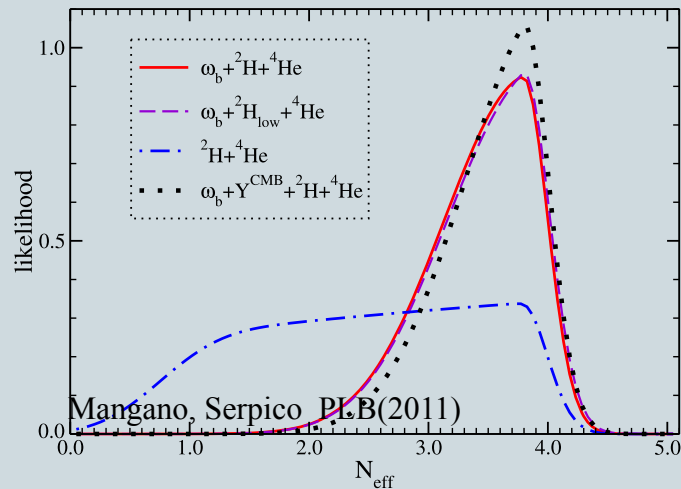
# Cosmic History: $N_{\text{eff}}$ , early Universe



# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis

Increase of the expansion rate. Earlier freeze-out

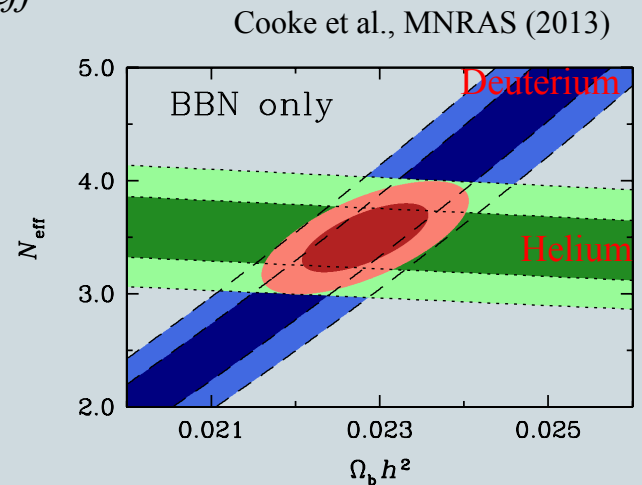
Higher primordial  ${}^4\text{He}$  abundance



$N_{\text{eff}} = 4.046$  is excluded at 95% c.l.

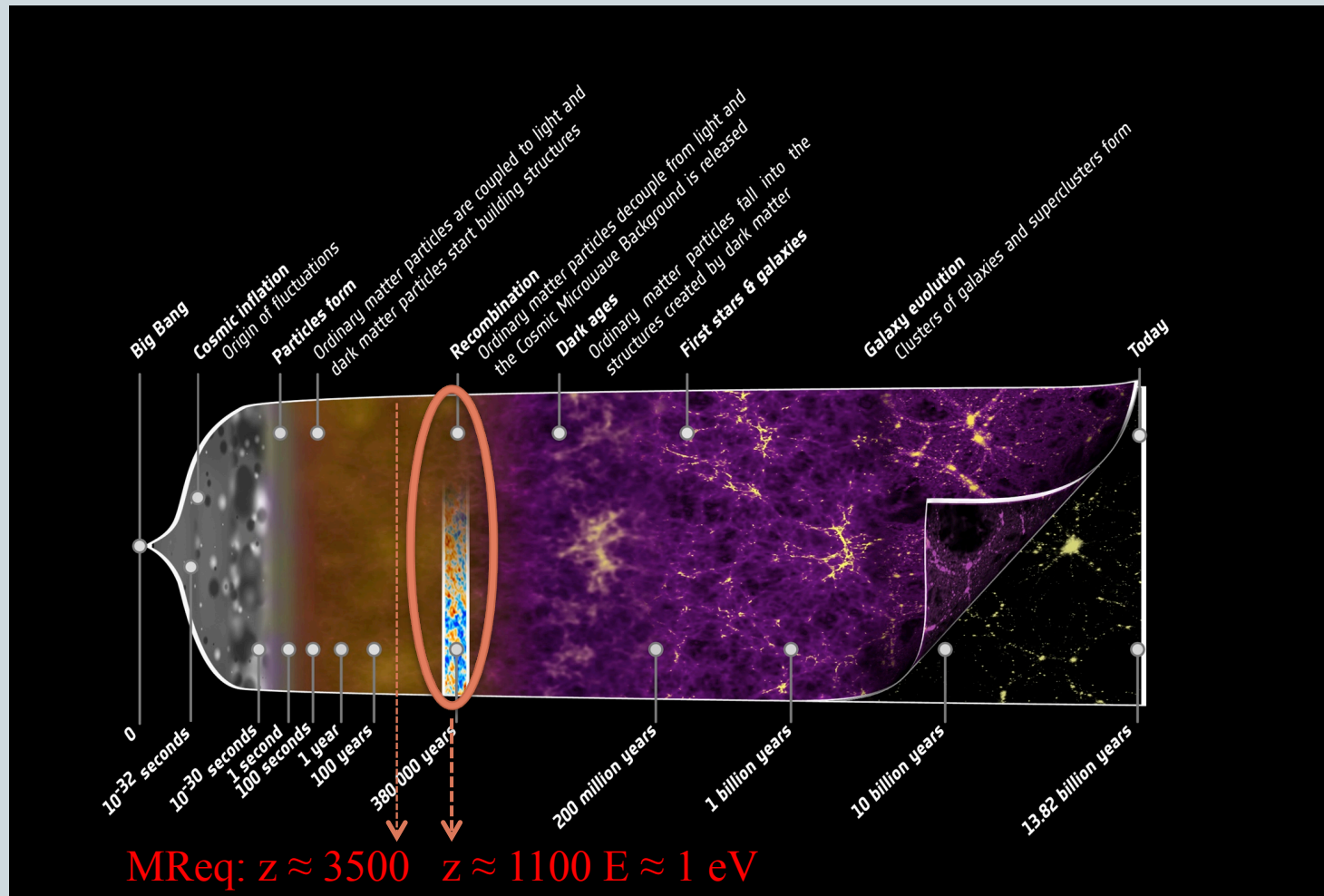
...  $N_{\text{eff}}$  is not constant!

$$N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{BBN}} \neq N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{CMB}}$$

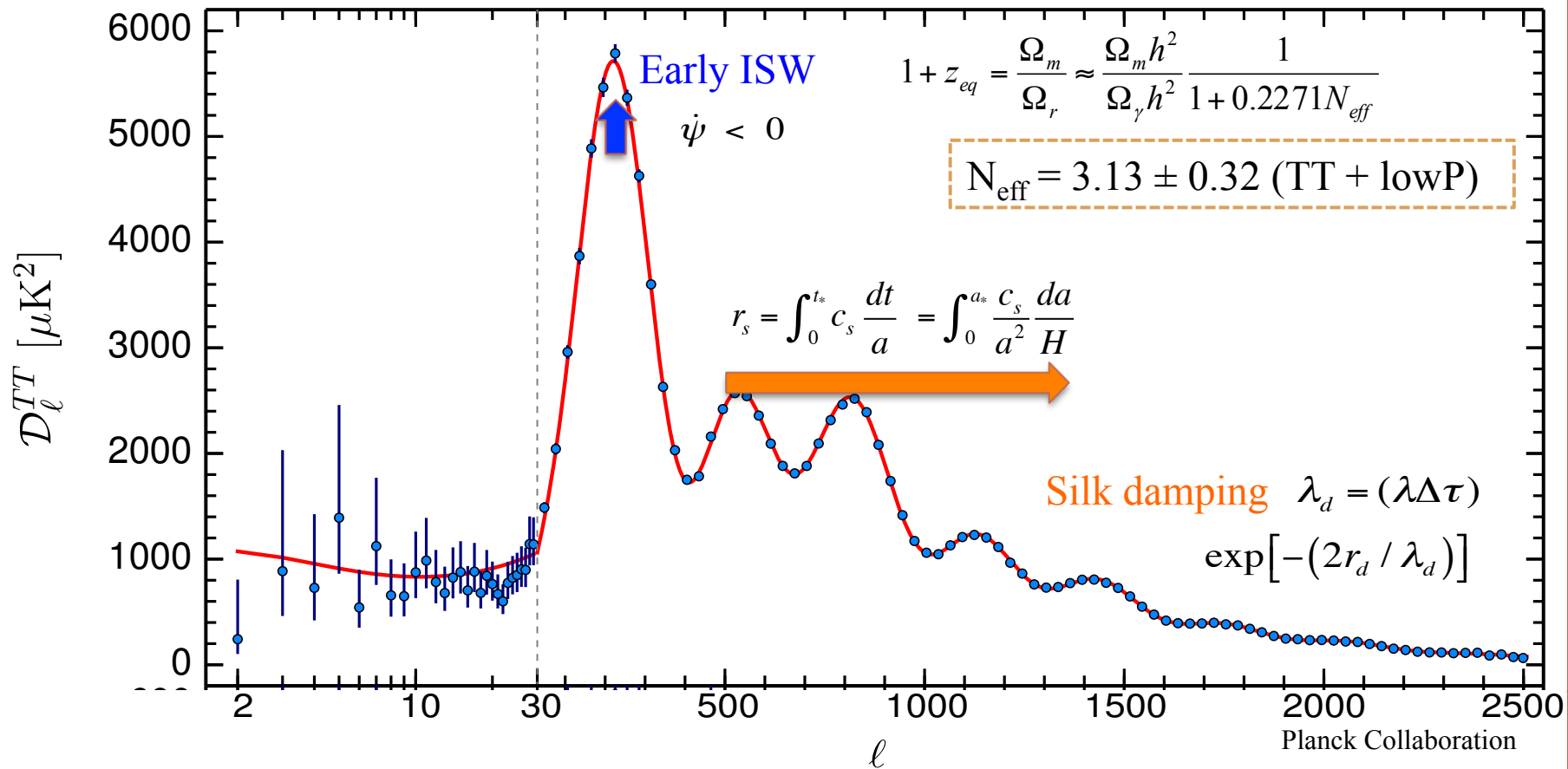




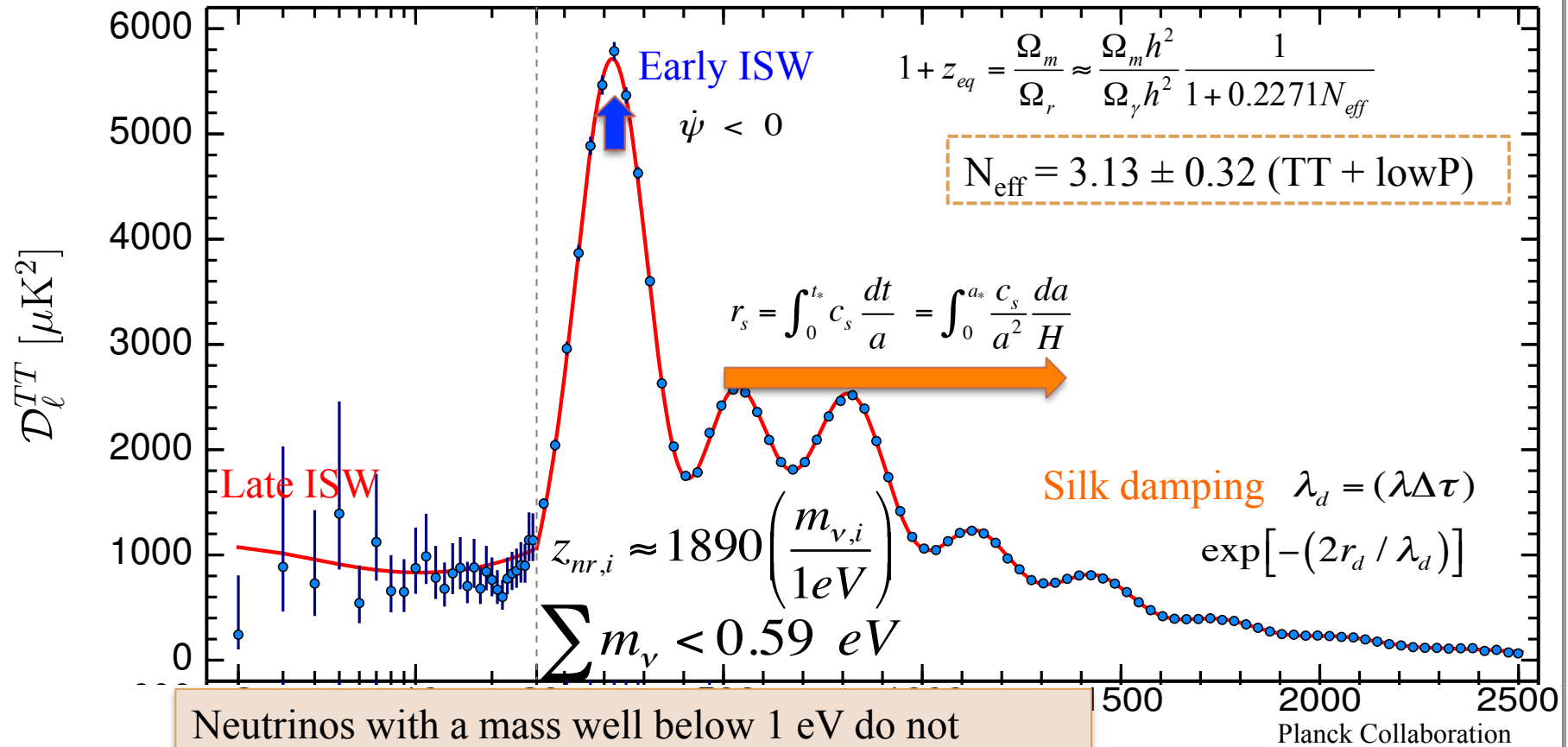
# Cosmic History: $N_{\text{eff}}$ , CMB



# Temperature power spectrum

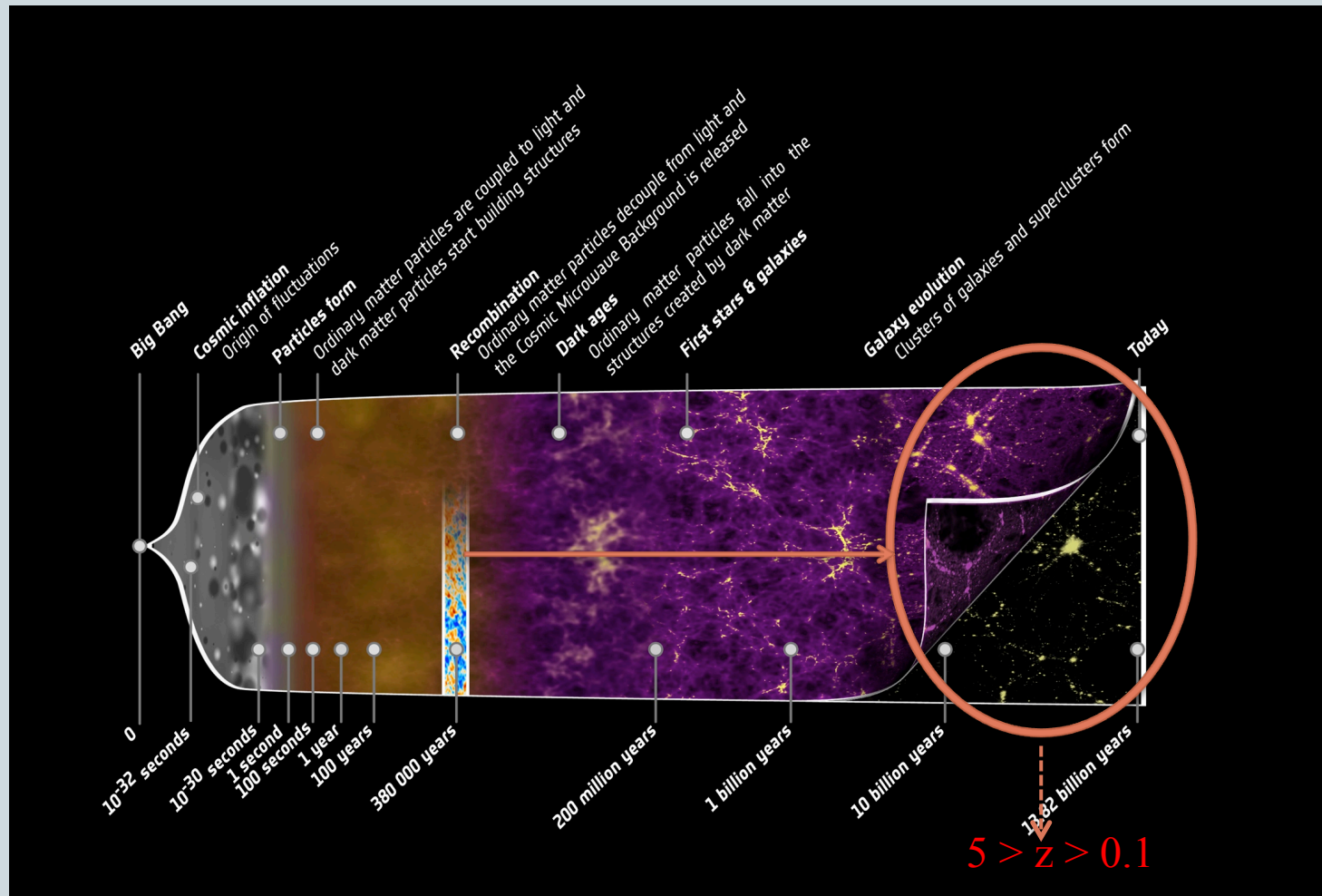


# Temperature power spectrum



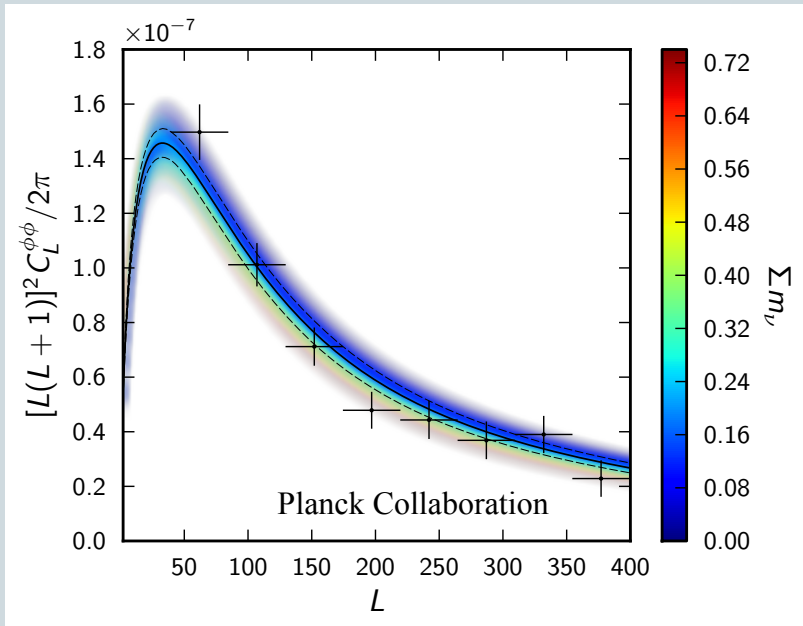
Neutrinos with a mass well below 1 eV do not directly affect the primary anisotropies of the CMB power spectrum

# Cosmic History: $m_\nu$ , late times



# CMB gravitational lensing

- Free-streaming  $k_{FS} \approx H / v_v$
- Massive neutrinos slow down the growth of matter perturbations



Suppression of lensing potential  
(plus CMB lensing on TT)

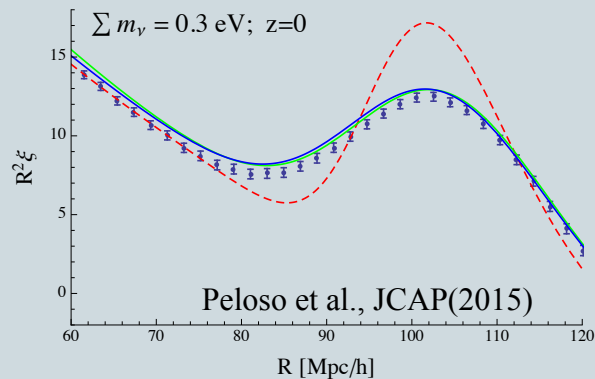
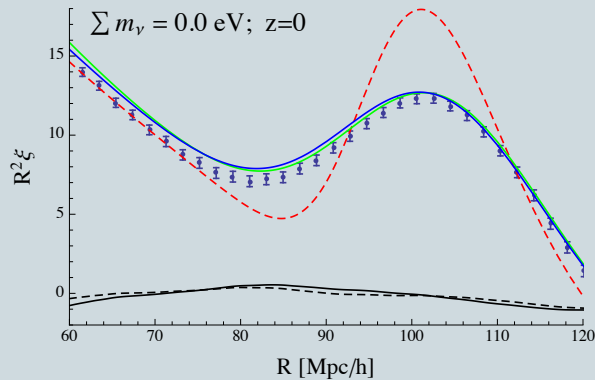
$$\sum m_\nu < 0.14 \text{ eV}$$

(95% c.l., TT + lowP + lensing)  
assuming three species of degenerate  
massive neutrinos

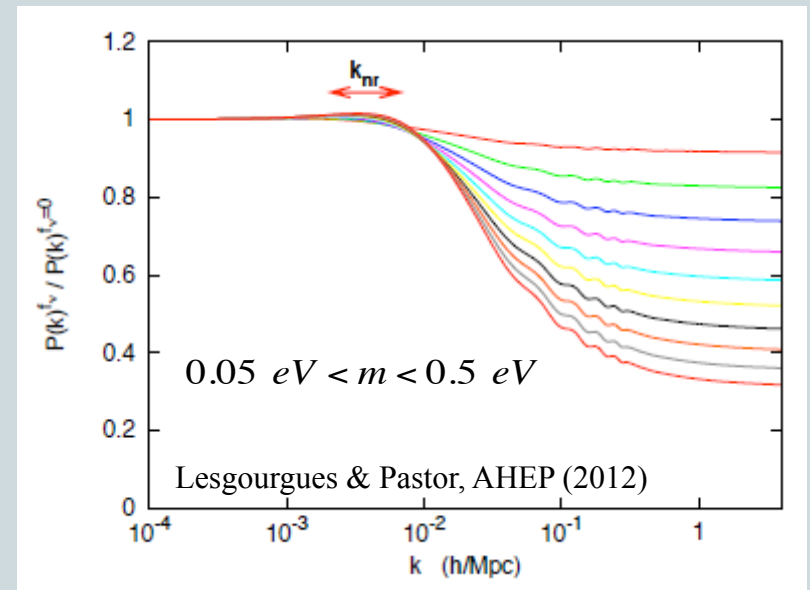
# Large Scale Structure



## BAO



## MPK



$\sum m_\nu < 0.16 \text{ eV} \text{ 95\% c.l.,}$   
SDSS-III BOSS DR12 (2016)

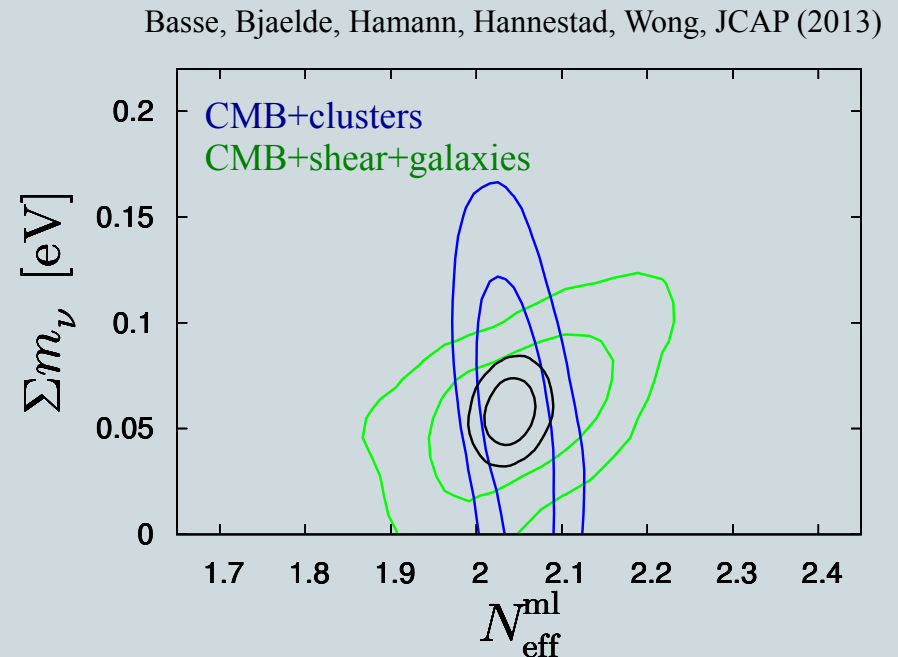
# Large Scale Structure



Euclid produces a legacy dataset with images and photometry of more than a billion galaxies and several million spectra, out to high redshifts  $z > 2$ .

$$N_{eff}^{fid} = 3.046 \quad \sigma(N_{eff}) = 0.019$$
$$\Sigma m_\nu = 0.06 \text{ eV} \quad \sigma(\Sigma m_\nu) = 0.0098 \text{ eV}$$

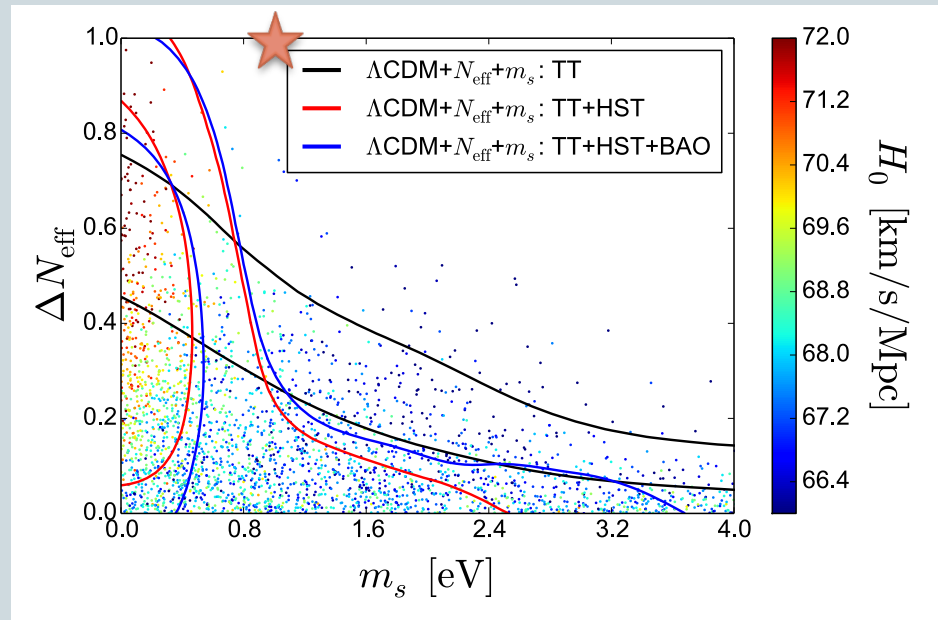
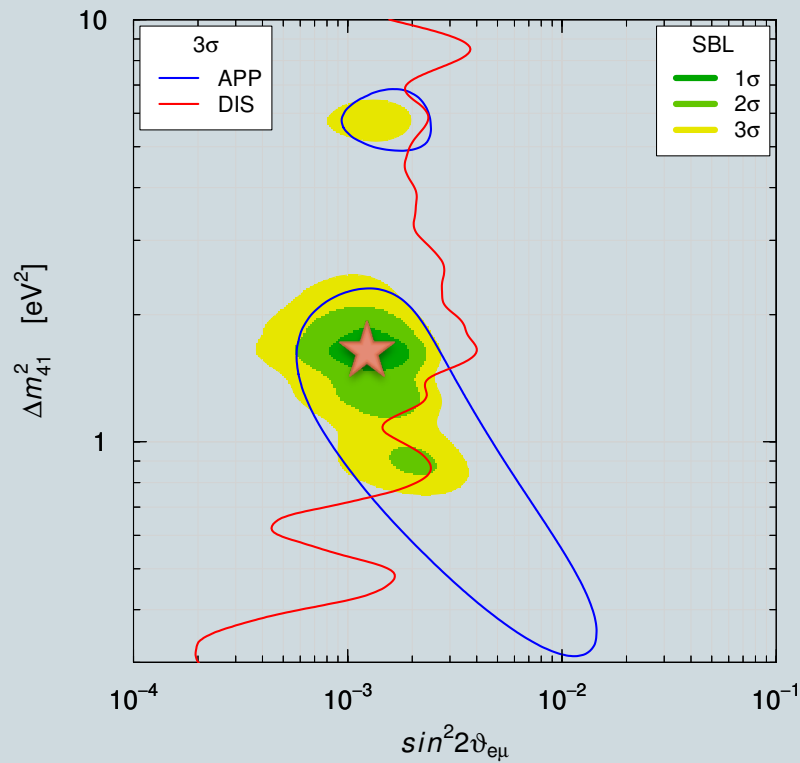
More than  $5\sigma$  detection of neutrino mass



# Sterile Neutrinos



$$m_{\text{eff}}^{\text{sterile}} = (T_s / T_a)^3 m_{\text{thermal}}^{\text{sterile}} = (\Delta N_{\text{eff}})^{3/4} m_{\text{thermal}}^{\text{sterile}}$$



M. Archidiacono, S. Gariazzo, C. Giunti, S. Hannestad, R. Hansen, M. Laveder, T. Tram, JCAP (2016)



# Solutions



How can cosmology face SBL? Partial thermalization:

- **Non-standard interactions**
  - MA, Hannestad, Hansen, Tram, PRD (2015, 2016);
  - Saviano et al., PRD (2014);
  - Mirizzi et al., PRD (2014);
  - Dasgupta, Kopp, PRL (2013, 2015);
  - Hannestad, Hansen, Tram, PRL (2013)
- **Lepton asymmetry**
  - Mirizzi, Saviano, Miele, Serpico (2012);
  - Hannestad, Tamborra, Tram (2012)
- **Low reheating temperature**
  - Rehagen, Gelmini (2014)
- **Non-standard expansion rate at MeV scale**

# Pseudoscalar model



The sterile neutrino is coupled to a new light pseudoscalar

$$L_{\text{int}} \sim g_s \phi \bar{\nu}_s \gamma_5 \nu_s$$

The phenomenological success of the model relies on two things:

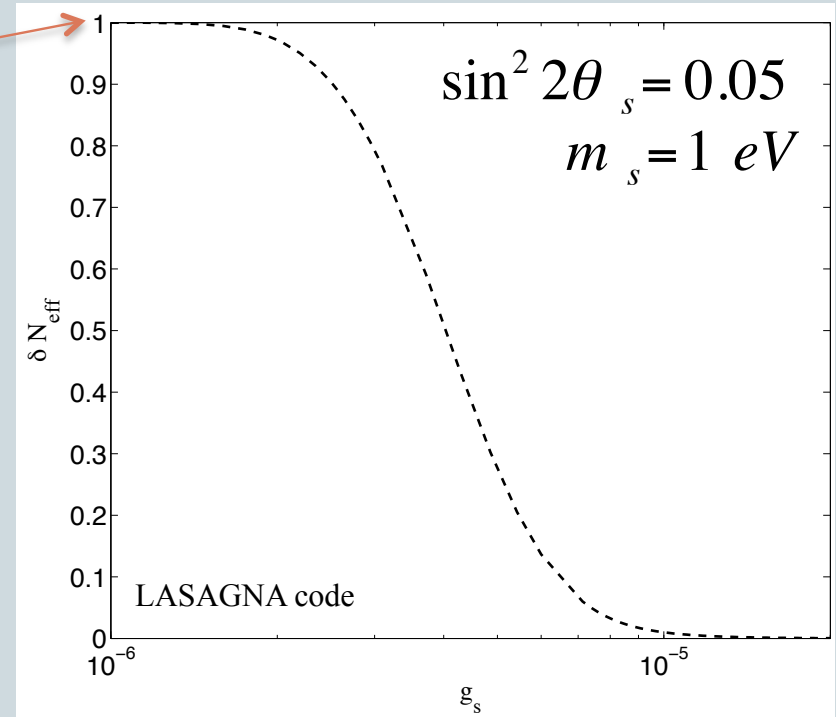
- $g_s$  should be large enough to prevent full thermalisation of the sterile neutrino:  
 $10^{-6} < g_s < 10^{-5} \rightarrow N_{\text{eff}}$
- $\nu_s$  must annihilate into  $\phi$  at late time to avoid the mass bound from large scale structure:  $m_\phi < \sim 0.1 \text{ eV} \rightarrow \Sigma m_\nu$

# Sterile neutrino number at BBN

BBN bounds:  
 $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \leq 1$  (95% c.l.)

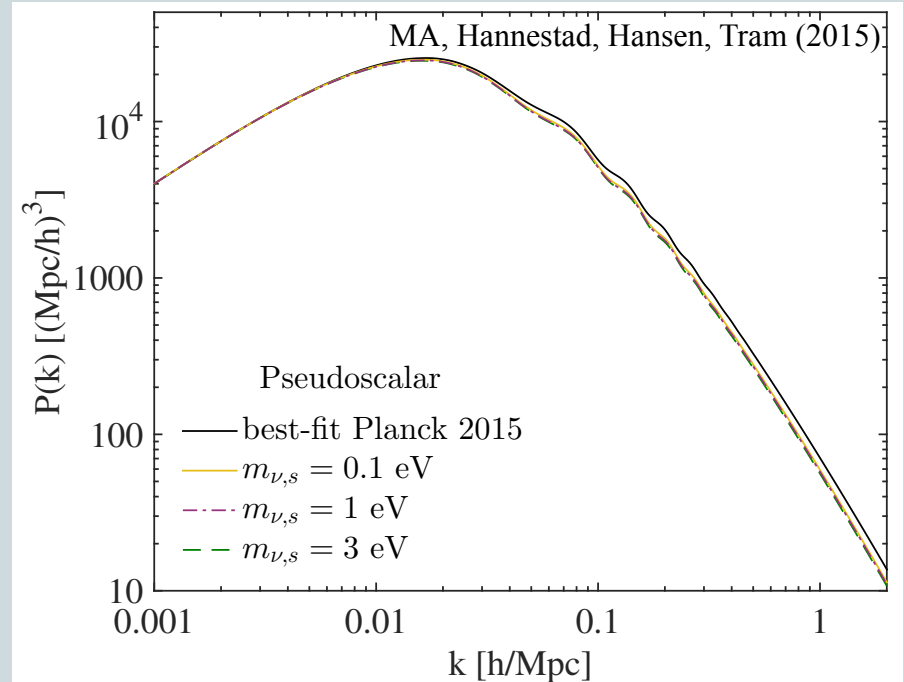
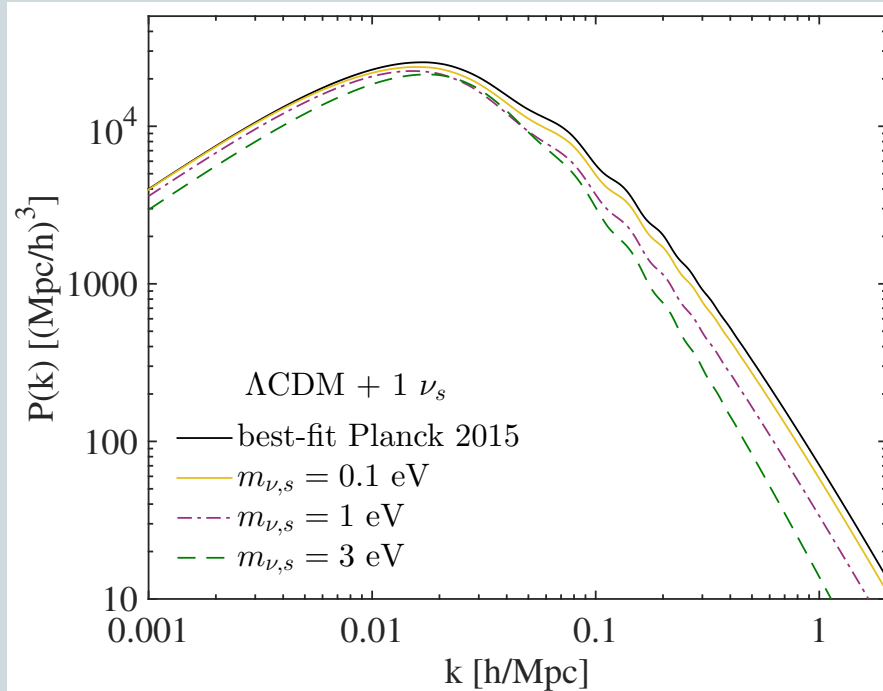
When sterile neutrinos are produced, they will create non-thermal distortions in the sterile neutrino distribution, and the sterile neutrino spectrum end up being somewhat non-thermal.

MA, Hannestad, Hansen, Tram, PRD (2014)



The transition between full thermalization and no thermalization occurs for coupling  $10^{-6} < g_s < 10^{-5}$

# Sterile neutrino mass and LSS



CMB+HST+BAO

$$\Delta\chi^2 < 0$$

ref:  $\Lambda CDM$

MA, et al., JCAP (2016)

# Conclusions



- ✓ **Cosmology** is a powerful tool to constrain **neutrino physics**
- ✓ Despite the progress of precision cosmology, **sterile neutrinos** still represent an open question
- ✓ The tension between cosmology and **oscillation experiments** exacerbates the debate: SBL light sterile neutrinos are too many and too massive for cosmology
- ✓ “Secret” sterile neutrino **self-interactions** mediated by a light pseudoscalar can accommodate one additional massive sterile state in cosmology without spoiling CMB measurements and, at the same time, evading mass constraints

# Backup



# Thermal history



◆  $T > \text{TeV}$   $\phi$  particles are thermally produced

◆  $T \sim \text{GeV}$  ( $g_s \sim 10^{-5}$ )  $\nu_s$  and  $\phi$  in thermal equilibrium

$$\nu_s \nu_s \leftrightarrow \phi\phi \quad \langle \sigma |v| \rangle = \frac{g_s^4}{8\pi T_s^2} \text{ in the relativistic limit}$$

one single tightly-coupled fluid

◆  $T > 200\text{MeV}$  the dark sector decouples

$$T_\phi = \left( \frac{g_*(T_\gamma)}{g_*(1\text{TeV})} \right)^{1/3} T_\nu^{SM} = 0.465 T_\nu^{SM}$$

◆  $T \sim 10\text{MeV}$  neutrino oscillations become important

# Early Universe: Flavour evolution



Density matrix

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2} f_0 \begin{pmatrix} P_a & P_x - iP_y \\ P_x + iP_y & P_s \end{pmatrix}$$

QKEs:

$$\dot{P}_a = V_x P_y + \Gamma_a [2 - P_a], \text{ Repopulation}$$

$$\dot{P}_s = -V_x P_y + \Gamma_s \left[ 2 \frac{f_{0,s}(T_s, \mu_s)}{f_0} - P_s \right],$$

$$\dot{P}_x = -V_z P_y - D P_x,$$

$$\dot{P}_y = V_z P_x - \frac{1}{2} V_x (P_a - P_s) - D P_y$$

Damping:  $D = \frac{1}{2} (\Gamma_a + \Gamma_s)$  Collisions:  $\Gamma_a = C G_F^2 p T^4$

Potentials:

$$V_x = \frac{\Delta m_s^2}{2p} \sin 2\theta_s, \text{ Vacuum}$$

$$V_z = -\frac{\Delta m_s^2}{2p} \cos 2\theta_s - \frac{14\pi^2}{45\sqrt{2}} p \frac{G_F}{M_Z^2} T^4 n_a + V_s \text{ Background } \nu$$

$$V_s(p_s) = \frac{g_s^2}{8\pi^2 p_s} \int p dp (f_\phi + f_s) \sim 10^{-1} g_s^2 T_s$$

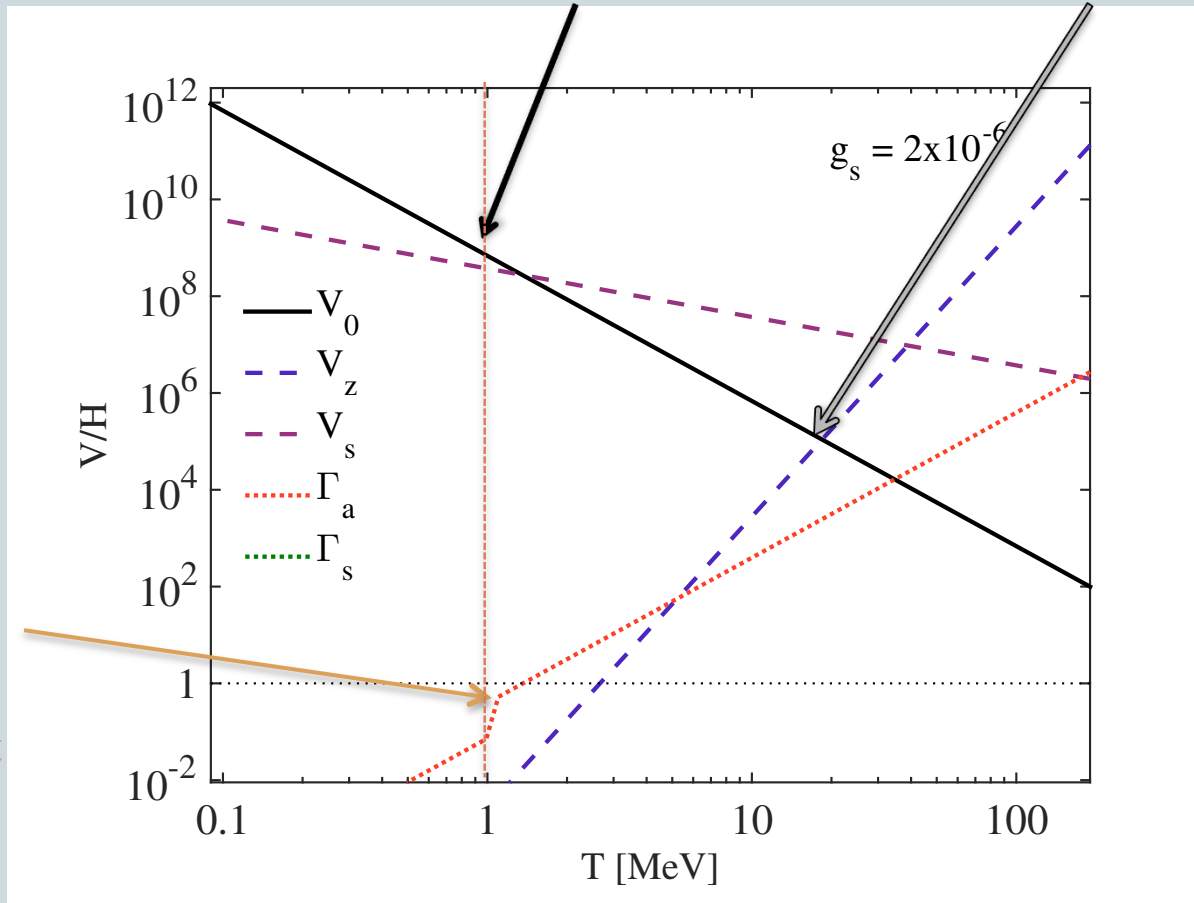
$$\Gamma_s = \frac{g_s^4}{4\pi T_s^2} n_s$$



# Sterile neutrino production



Resonant production



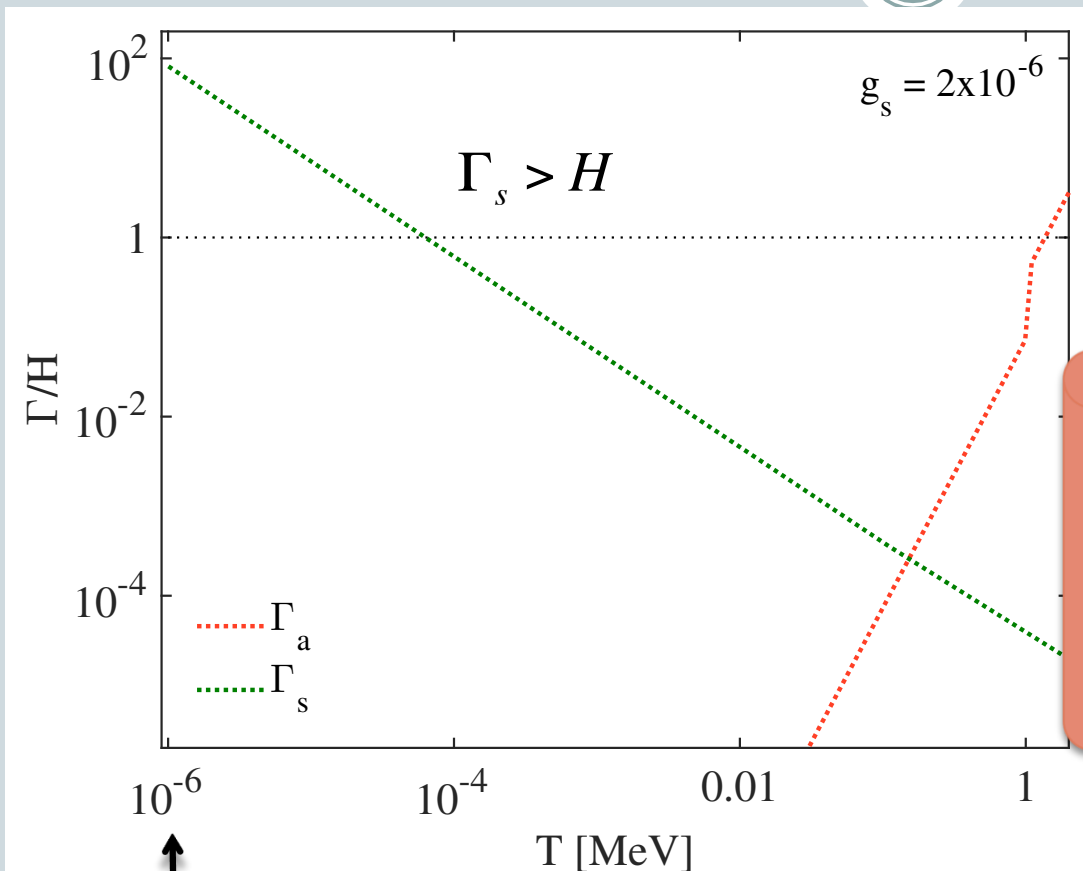
To prevent sterile neutrino thermalization, we need to suppress the mixing angle in matter, i.e.

$$V_s > \sim \frac{\Delta m_s^2}{2p}$$

prior to standard neutrino decoupling

Standard  
neutrino  
decoupling  
&~  
n/p freeze-out

# Late time phenomenology (1): $\nu_s - \phi$ interactions



Recombination

$$\Gamma_a = C G_F^2 p T^4 \quad \Gamma_s = \frac{g_s^4}{4\pi T_s^2} n_s$$

The  $\nu_s - \phi$  fluid becomes strongly interacting before neutrinos go non-relativistic around recombination

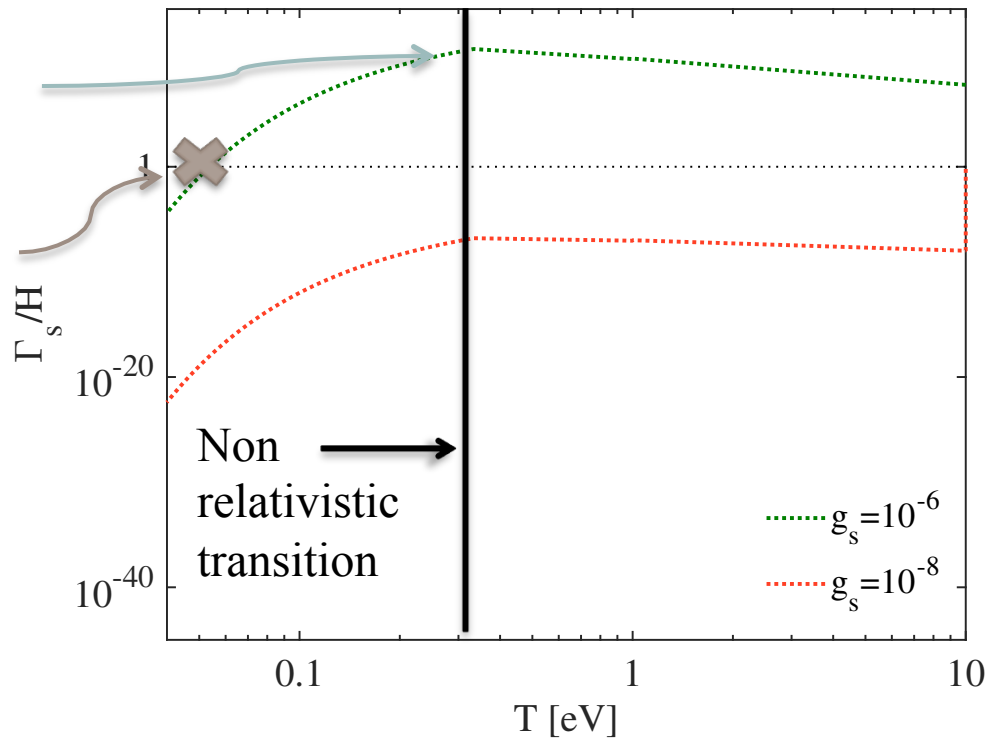
Low energy / late time process

# Late time phenomenology (2): $\nu_s - \phi$ annihilations

As soon as sterile neutrinos go non-relativistic, they start annihilating into pseudoscalars  $\nu_s \bar{\nu}_s \rightarrow \phi\phi$

Annihilations

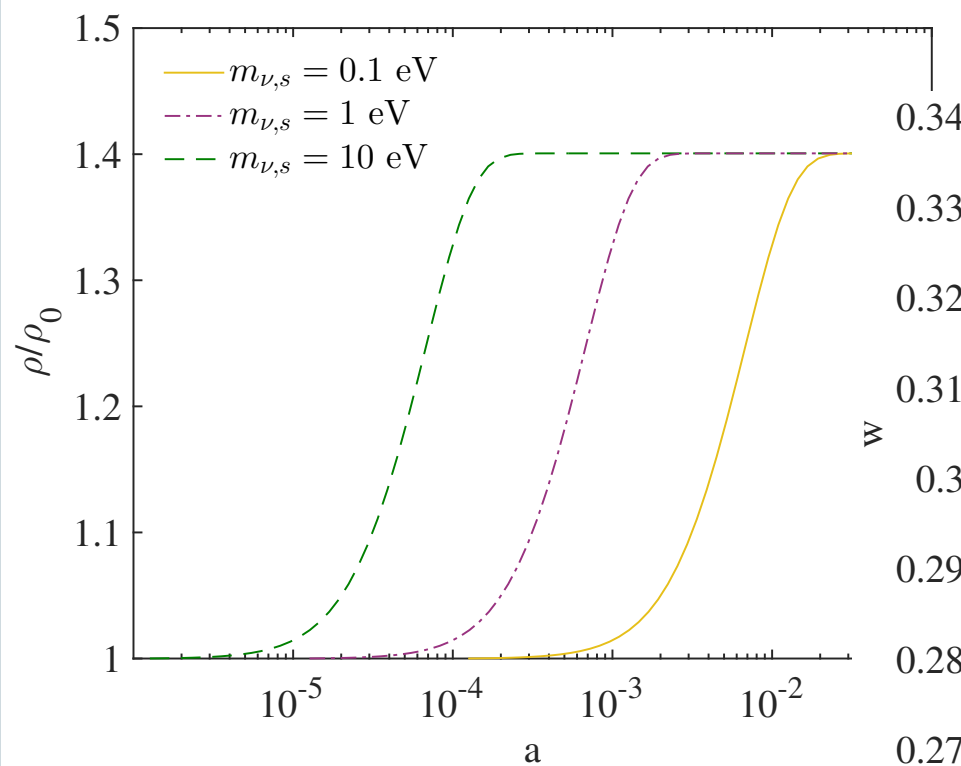
Freez-out



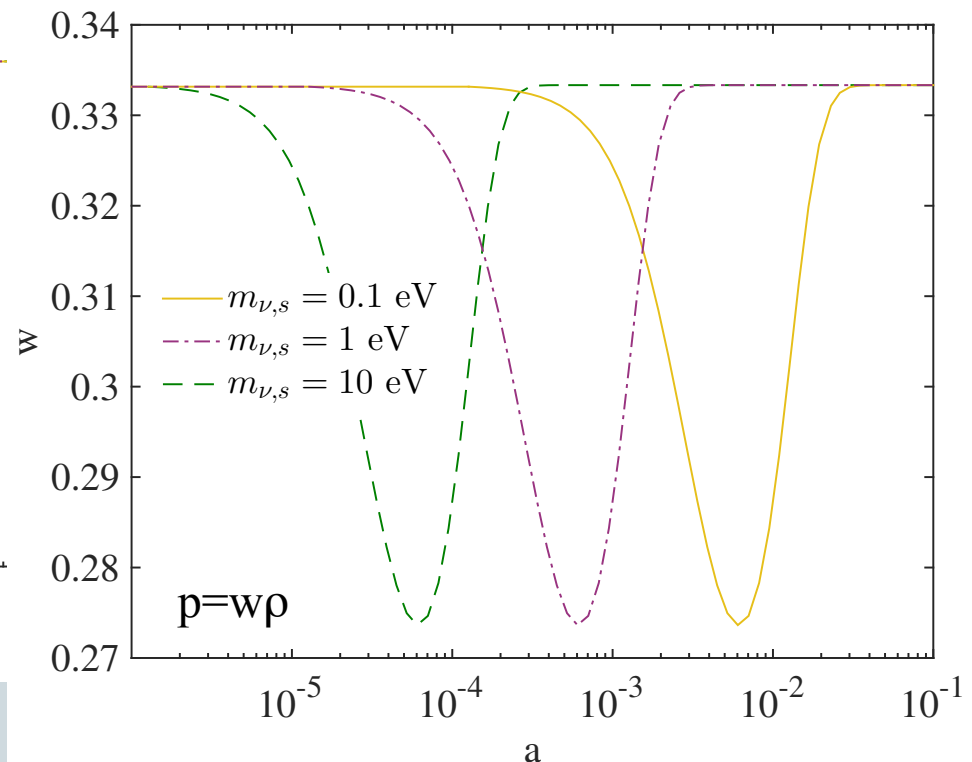
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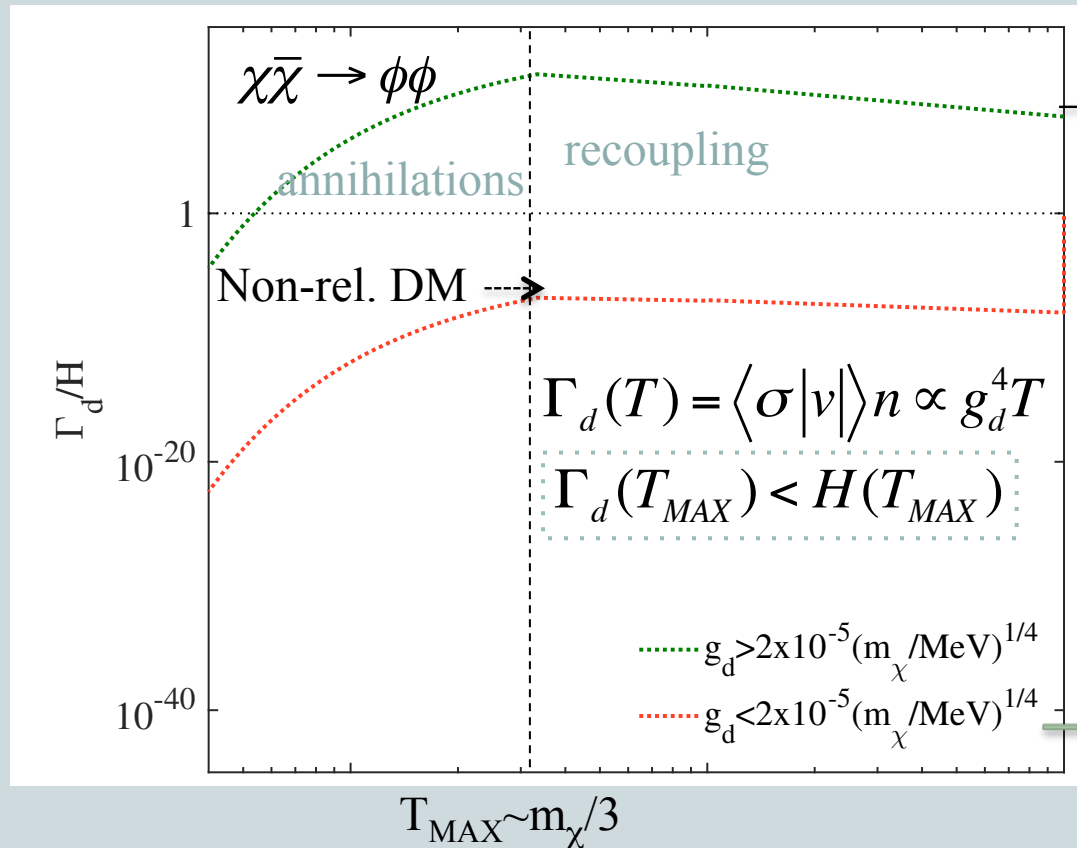
Sterile neutrino annihilations will heat up the scalars



MA, Hannestad, Hansen, Tram (2015)



# Coupling to DM: not too strong



decoupled

$$g_d \leq 2 \times 10^{-5} \left( \frac{m_\chi}{\text{MeV}} \right)^{1/4}$$

No Dark Acoustic Oscillations at CMB  
i.e. no  $\chi\phi \rightarrow \chi\phi$   
if  $m_\chi \gg m_e$   
and  $\alpha_d \ll \alpha$

# Coupling to DM: not too weak



Galactic Dynamics:

$$\frac{\tau_{scat}}{\tau_{dyn}} = \frac{2R^2}{3N_\chi\sigma} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tau_{dyn} = \frac{2\pi R}{v} \quad \tau_{scat} = \frac{1}{n\langle\sigma|v|\rangle} \quad N_\chi = \frac{M_{gal}}{m_\chi} \end{array} \right.$$

Hard scattering  $\sigma \sim 4\pi b^2$   $\frac{1}{2}m_\chi v^2 = \frac{\alpha_d}{m_\chi b^3}$   $\alpha_d = \frac{g_d^2}{4\pi}$

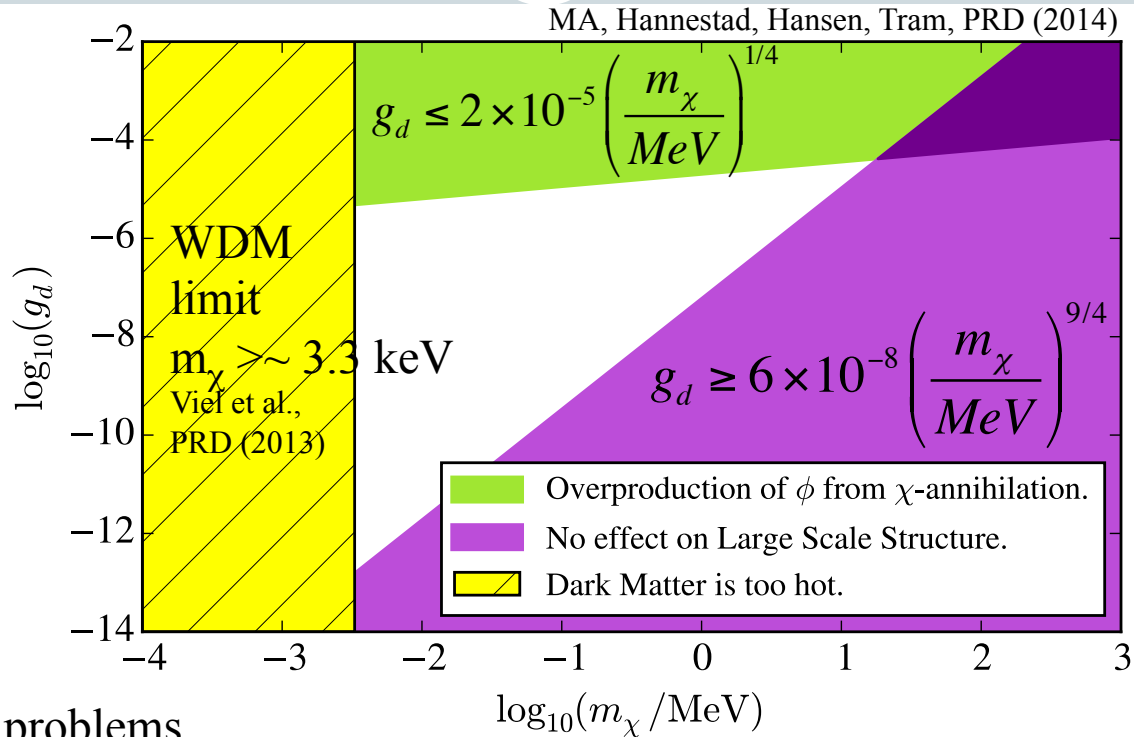
The condition for having observable consequences on galactic dynamics is that the scattering time scale of DM self interactions is less than the age of the Universe.

Milky Way:

$$g_d \geq 6 \times 10^{-8} \left( \frac{m_\chi}{MeV} \right)^{9/4}$$

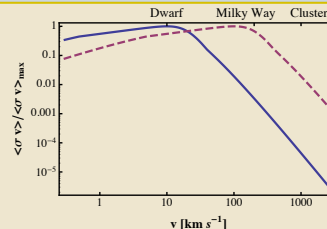
It is just a **lower bound**  
It requires further  
investigation

# Coupling to DM



$\Lambda$ CDM small scale problems

- ✓ “too big to fail”
  - ✓ “cusp vs core”
  - ✗ “missing satellites”
- DM – DM      DM - DR



Loeb & Weiner, PRL (2010)

Chu & Dasgupta, PRL (2014)