

# Cosmological signature of (e.m.) decaying Dark Matter

Vivian Poulin

LAPTh, Annecy, France and RWTH, Aachen, Germany

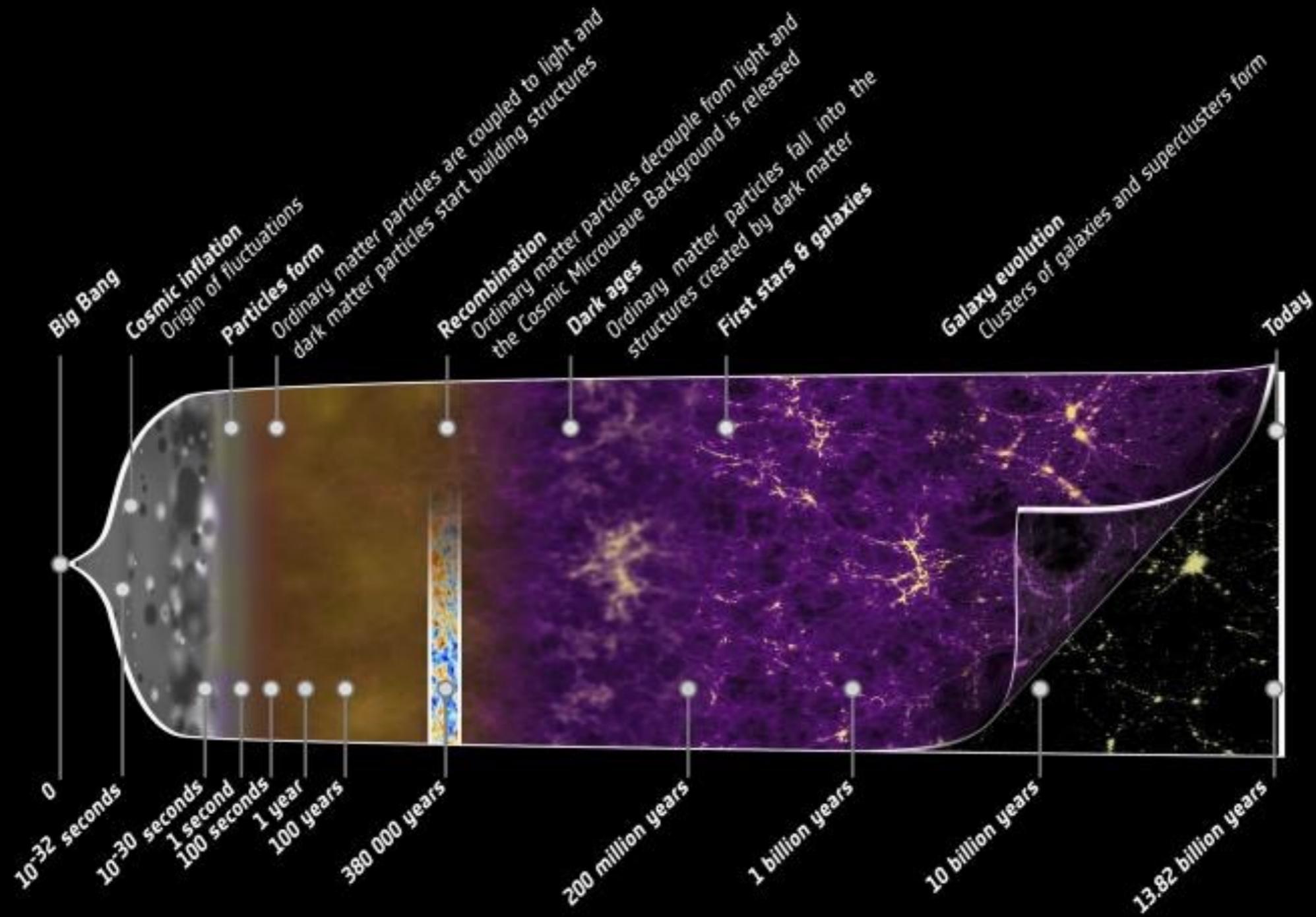
In collaboration with  
Julien Lesgourgues (RWTH, Aachen)  
and Pasquale D. Serpico (LAPTh, Annecy)

*mainly : VP, Serpico & Lesgourgues JCAP 1703 (2017) no.03, 043*

*see also : VP & Serpico PRL 114 (2015) no.9, 091101*

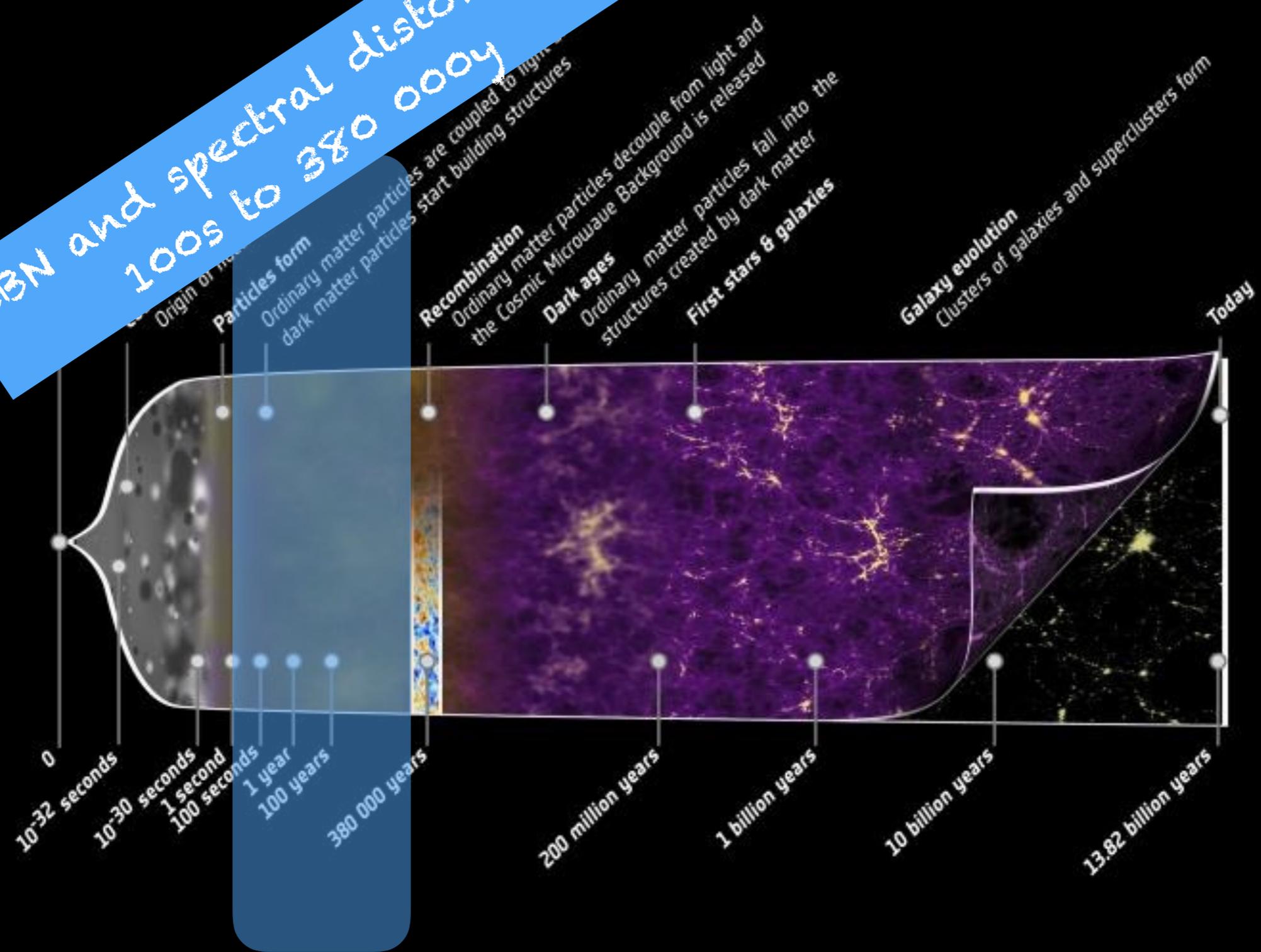
*VP & Serpico PRD 91 103007 (2015) no.10*

*VP, Serpico & Lesgourgues JCAP 1512 (2015) no.12 041*



Our Universe is a great particle physics laboratory !

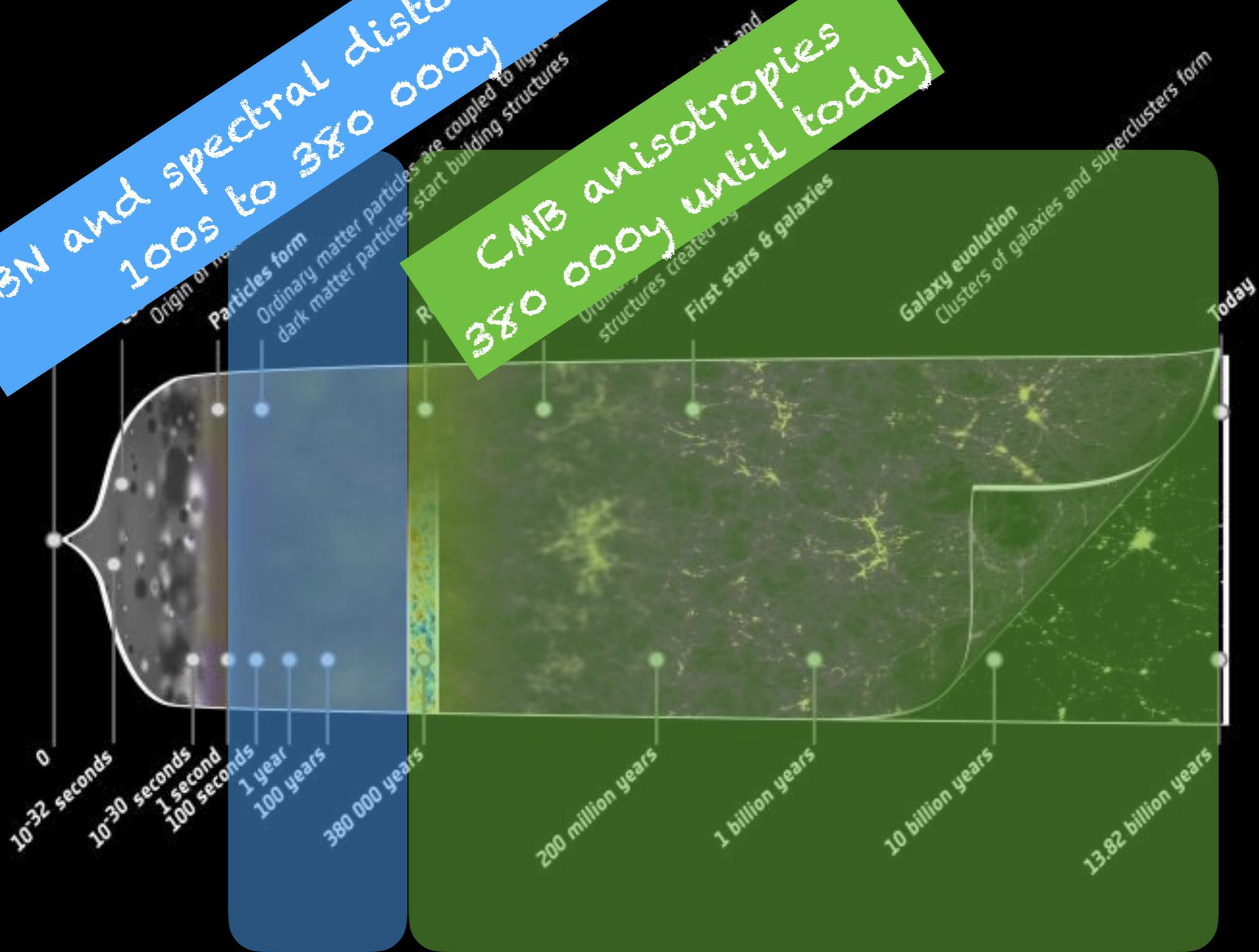
# BBN and spectral distortions 100s to 380 000y



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BBN and spectral distortions  
100s to 380 000y

CMB anisotropies  
380 000y until today

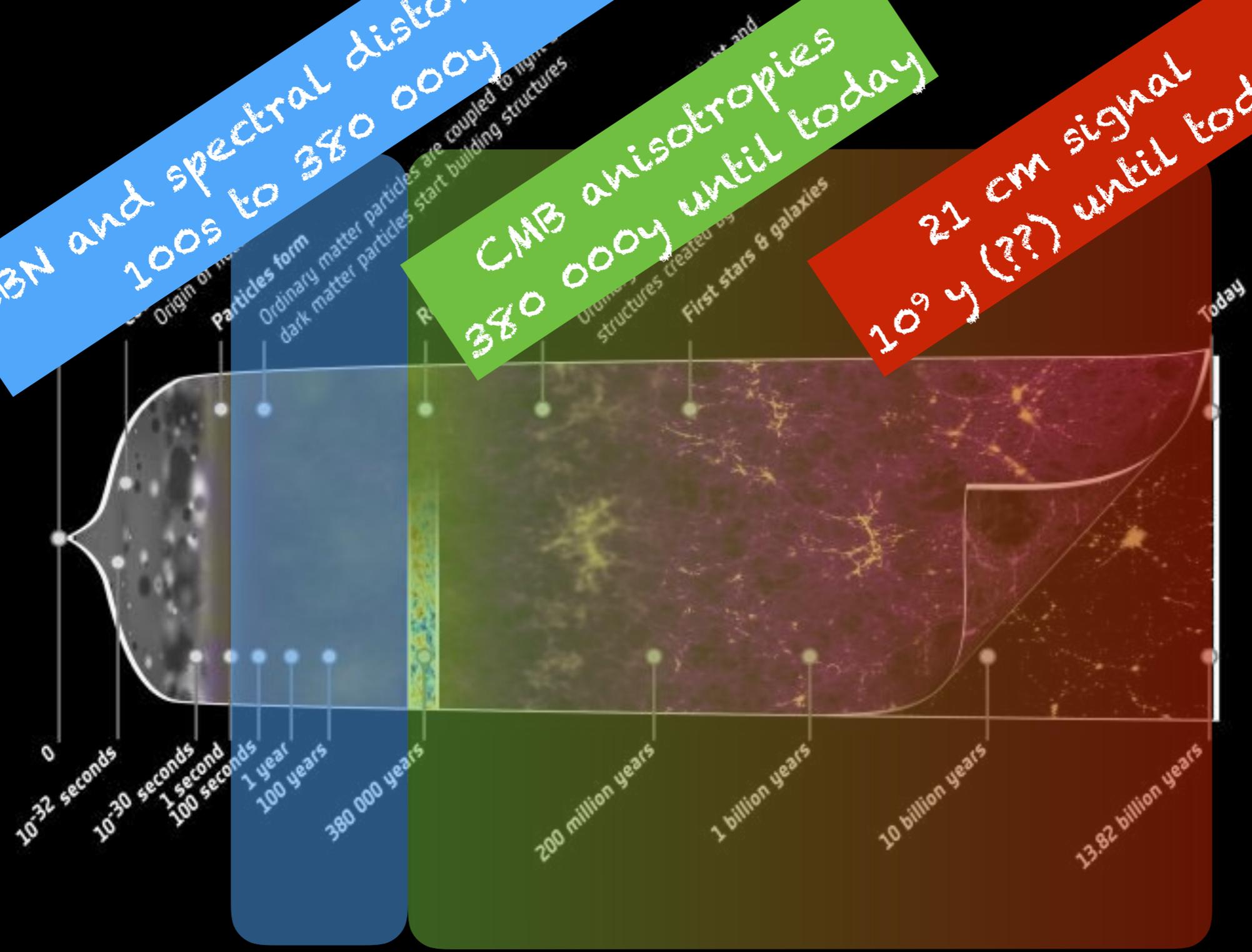


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$10^9$  y  $21$  cm signal  
(??) until today



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## A Journey in Wonderland of particle physics

see e.g.

[\[hep-ph/0404175\]](#),  
[\[arXiv:0810.0713\]](#),  
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**Q. :** What models are concerned by these constraints ?

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- Spectral Distortions of the BB distribution

- CMB power spectra

- Matter power spectrum

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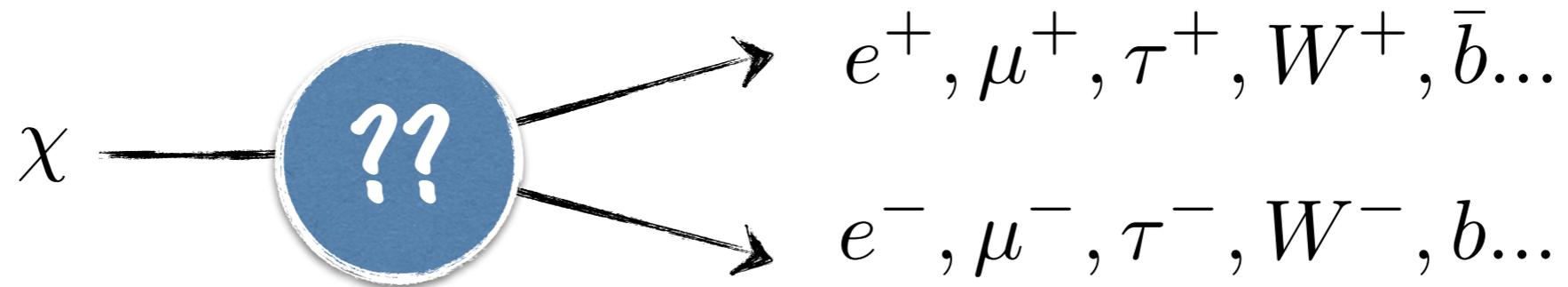
- Matter power spectrum

- Future: 21 cm ? ?

Electromagnetic decay products

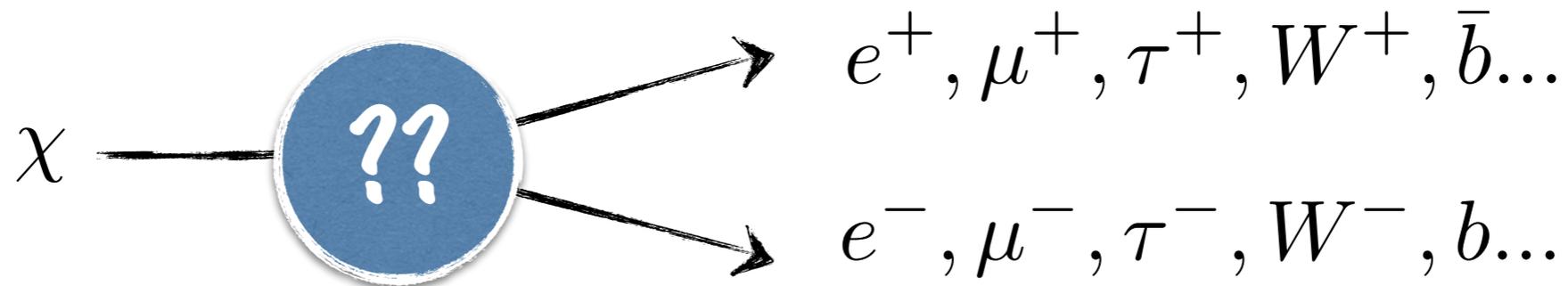
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The typical electromagnetic decay of an exotic particle



What happens to the decay products ?

## The typical electromagnetic decay of an exotic particle



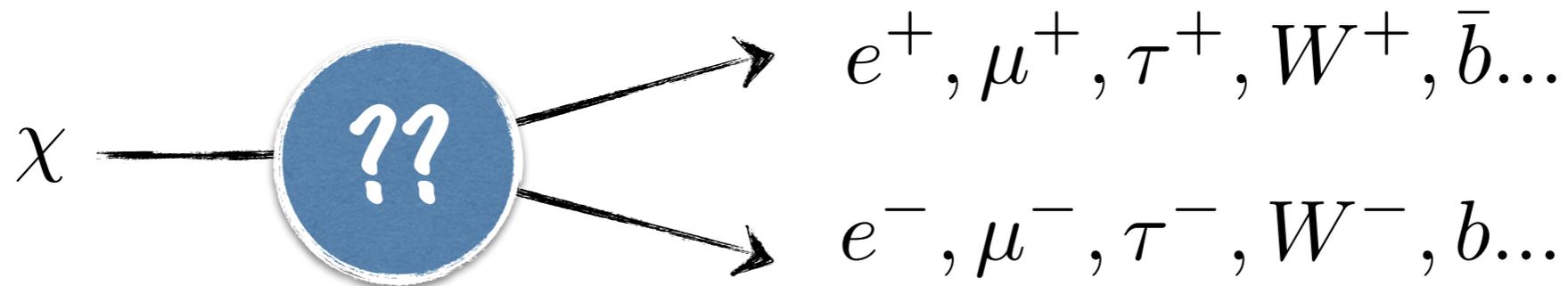
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 $\Rightarrow$  We can neglect **hadronic products**!

Only BBN constraints (for very short lifetime) are sensitive.

*e.g. Kawasaki et al.  
 PRD D71 (2005) 083502  
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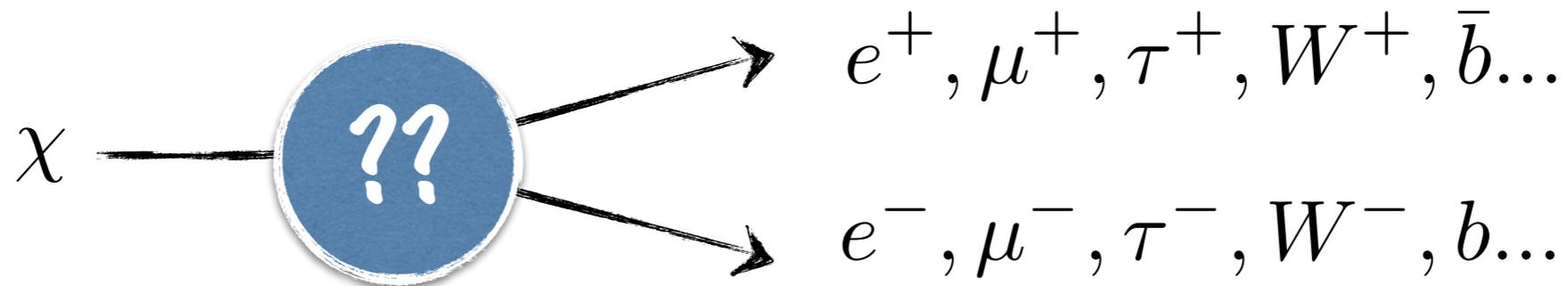
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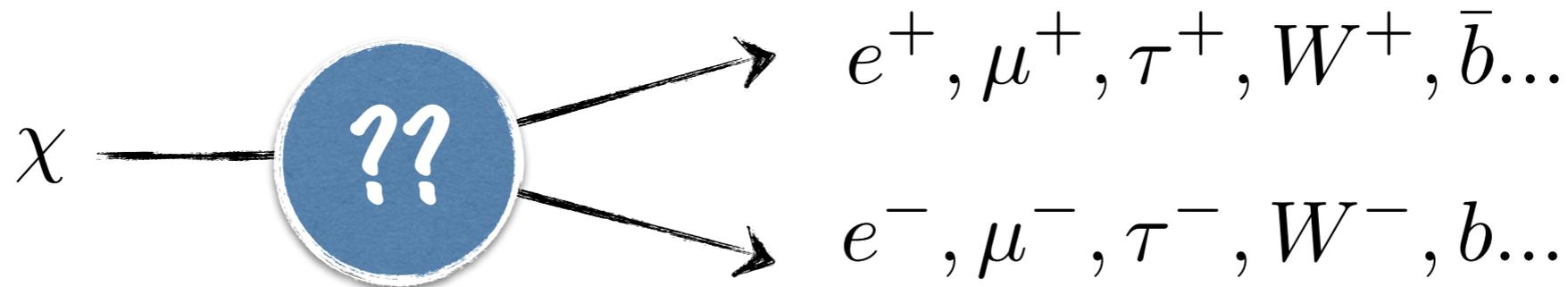
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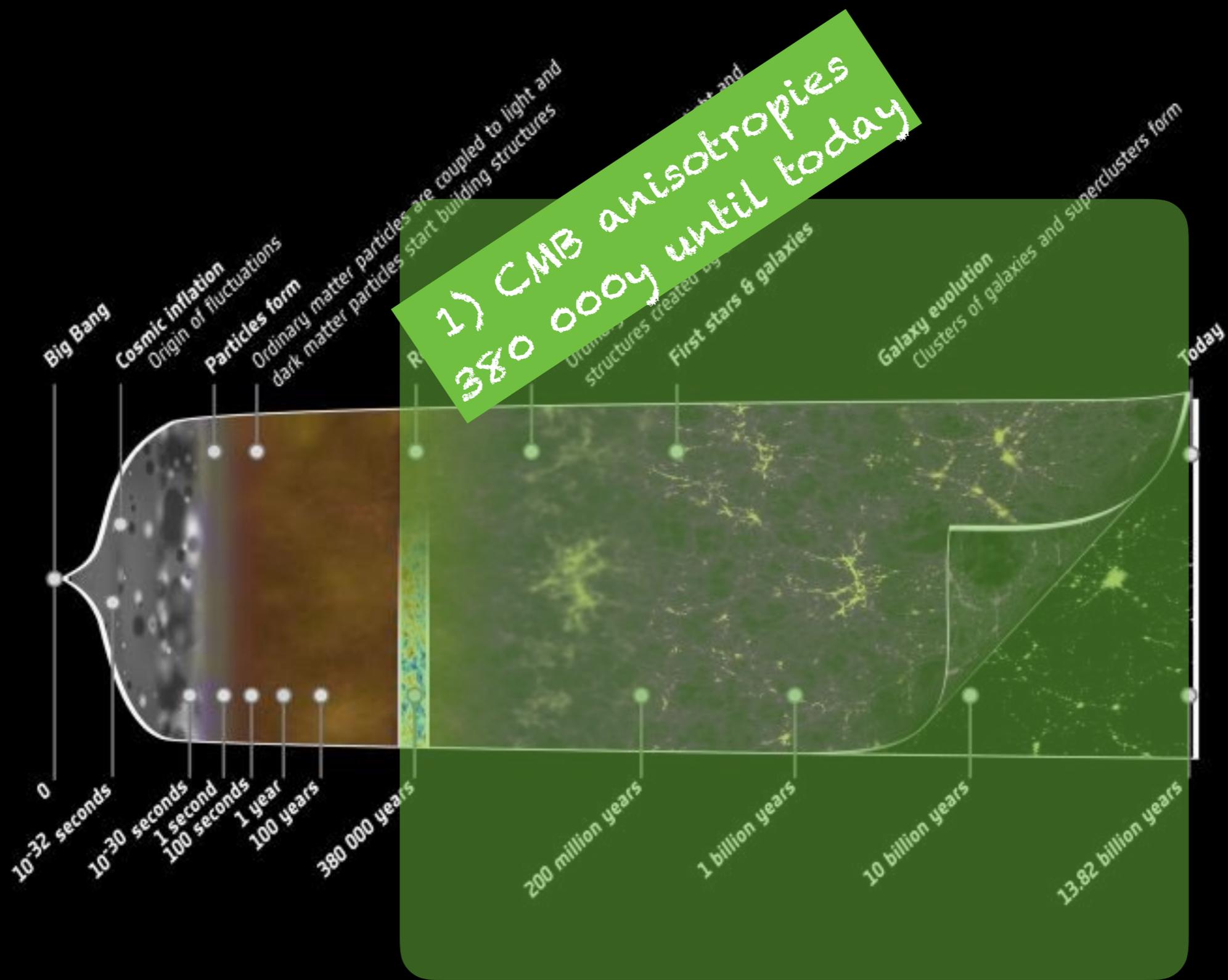
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- They ionize, excite or heat the IGM... and break atoms !

spectral distortions

BBN, CMB anisotropies



# From perturbations to spectrum of temperature anisotropies

see e.g. textbook « *The Cosmic Microwave Background* » by R. Durrer; « *Cosmology* » By Weinberg.  
or original papers Seljak & Zaldarriaga APJ. 469 (1996) 437-444; Kamionkowski et al. PRD55 (1997) 7368-7388

In the L.O.S formalism:

(Here, I only recall computation of Temp. anisotropies at 1st order, Newt. gauge)

$$C_\ell^{\text{TT}} = \int \frac{dk}{k} \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}}(k) [\Theta_\ell(\tau_0, k)]^2$$

Temperature power spectrum

$$\Theta_\ell(\tau_0, k) = \int_\tau^{\tau_0} d\tau S_T(\tau, k) j_\ell(k(\tau_0 - \tau))$$

Transfer function

$$S_T(k, \tau) \equiv \underbrace{g(\Theta_0 + \psi)}_{\text{SW}} + \underbrace{(gk^{-2}\theta_B)'}_{\text{Doppler}} + \underbrace{e^{-\kappa}(\phi' + \psi')}_{\text{ISW}} + \text{polarisation}$$

Temperature source function

$$g(\tau) \equiv -\kappa' e^{-\kappa} \quad \kappa(\tau) = \int_\tau^{\tau_0} d\tau \sigma_T a n_e x_e$$

Visibility function, optical depth

What could DM decay do to these functions?

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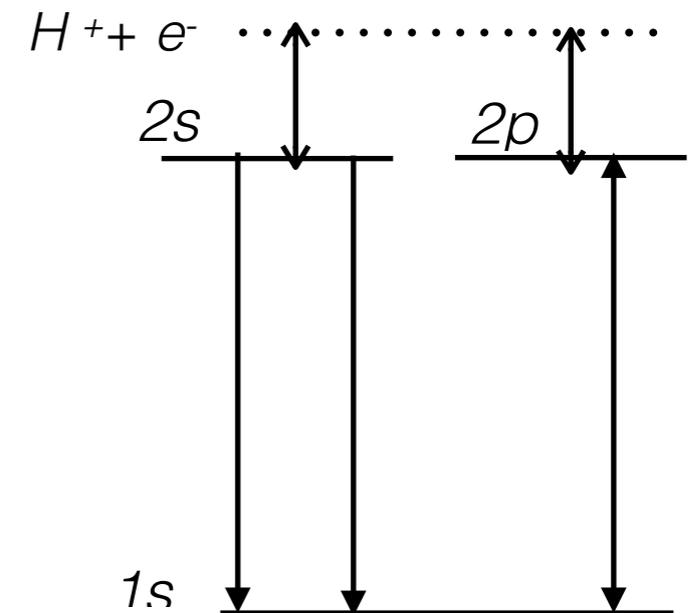
non e.m. decay : modify  $\phi'$  and  $\psi'$

Evolution equations for  $x_e$  : the free electron fraction  
and  $T_m$  : the matter temperature

$$\frac{dx_e}{dz} = \frac{1}{(1+z)H(z)} [R_s(z) - I_s(z)]$$

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*VP, Serpico & Lesgourgues  
ArXiv:1610.10051  
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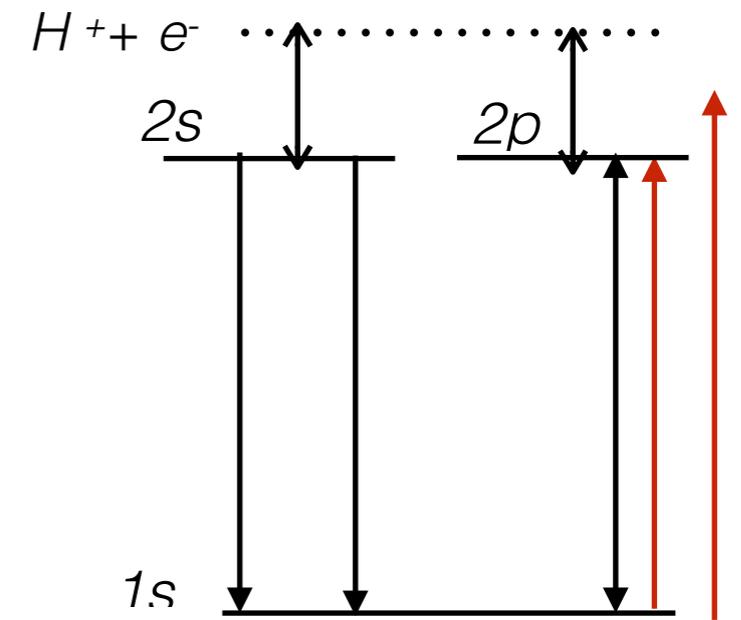
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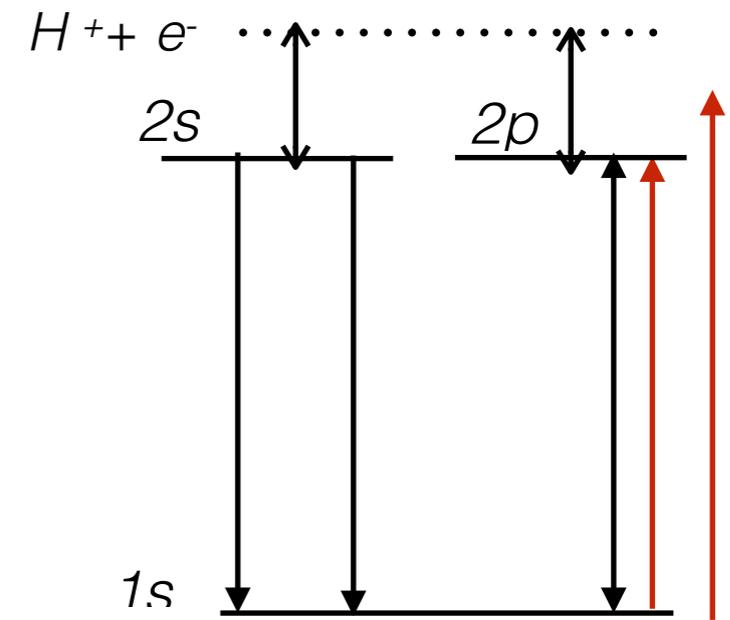


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$$I_X(z) \text{ and } K_h(z) \propto \left. \frac{dE}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{dep,c}}$$

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Key quantity  $dE/dVdt|_{\text{dep,c}}$ :

- The energy deposition rate by the decay per unit volume in each channel:  
**ionization, excitation, heating.**
- Depending on  $z$  and  $x_e$ , the plasma can be **very inefficient at absorbing energy** !

$$\left. \frac{dE}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{inj}}(z) = (1+z)^3 f_{\text{dcdm}} \rho_{\text{dm}} c^2 \times \Delta_{\text{em}} \times \frac{e^{-t/\tau}}{\tau}$$

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Typical parametrization through the  $f_c(z, x_e)$  functions :

$$\left. \frac{dE}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{dep,c}}(z) = f_c(z, x_e) \left. \frac{dE}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{inj}}(z)$$

see e.g. Slatyer et al.  
PRD80 (2009) 043526  
updated in  
PRD93 (2016) no.2, 023521

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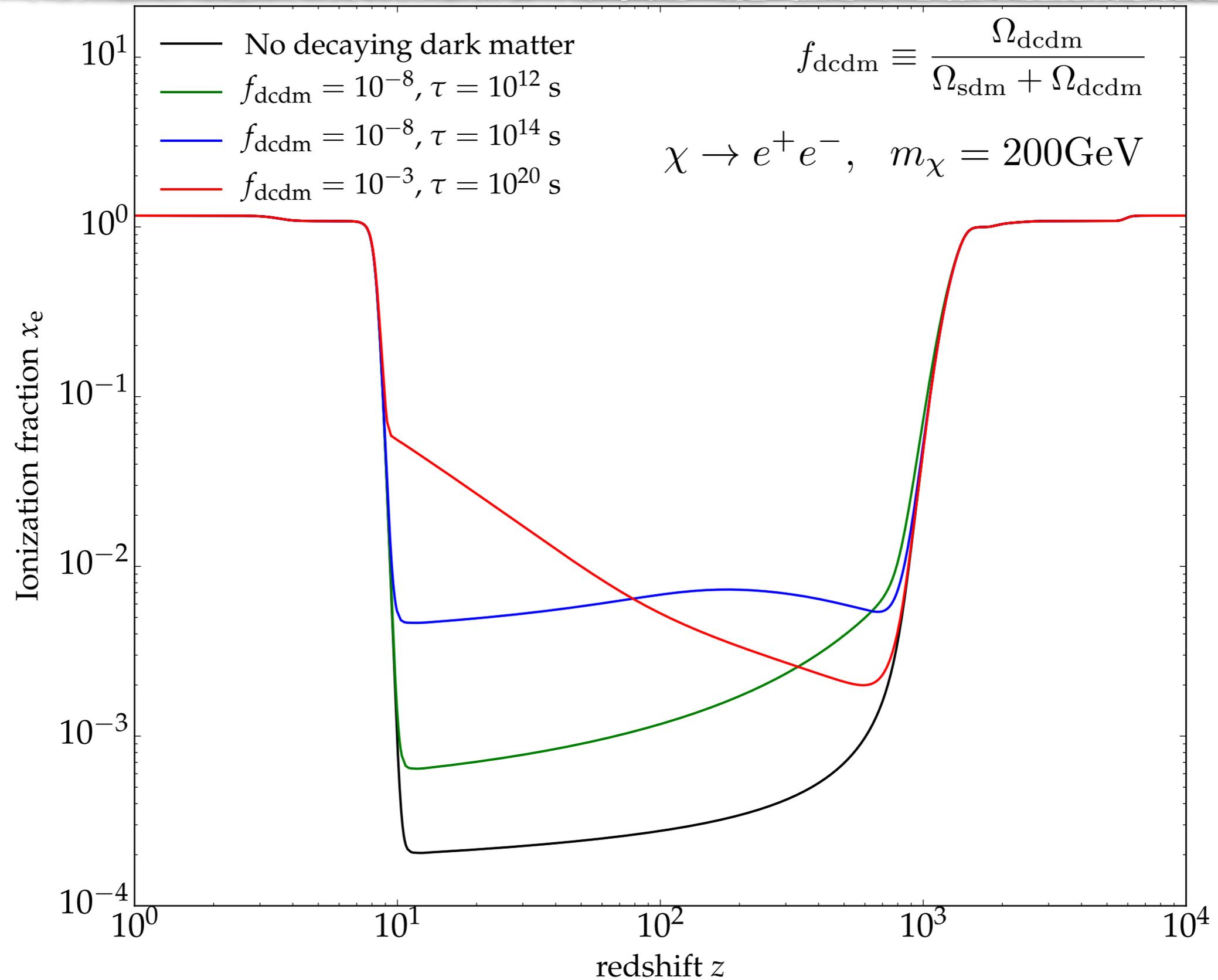
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$f_c(z, x_e)$  is the key quantity, it encodes:

- What fraction of the injected energy is left to interact with the IGM
- How this energy is distributed among each channel : 'heat', 'ionization', 'excitation'

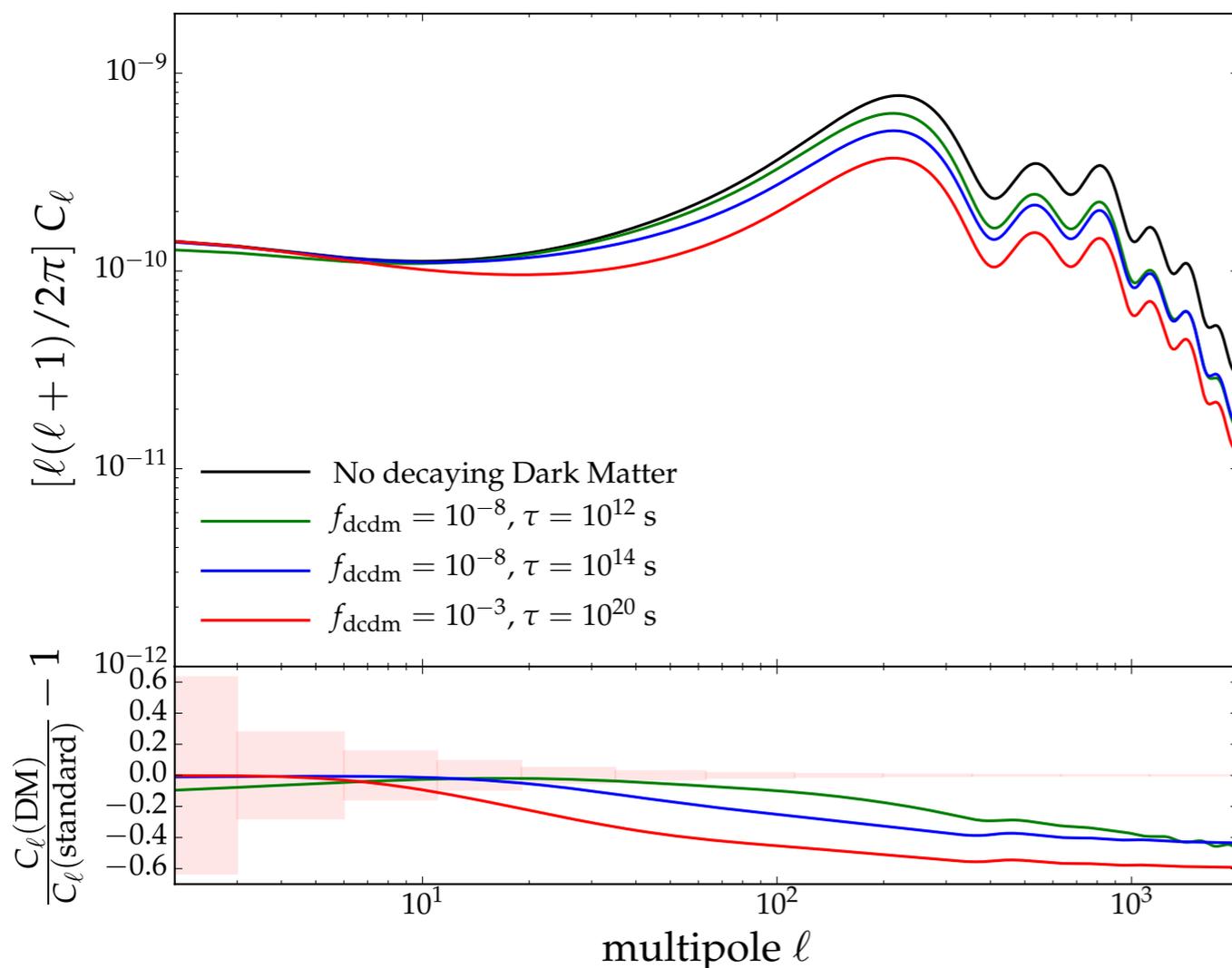
In practice, it depends on details of the particle physics and injection history.

$x_e$  carries information on the time / amount of energy injection !

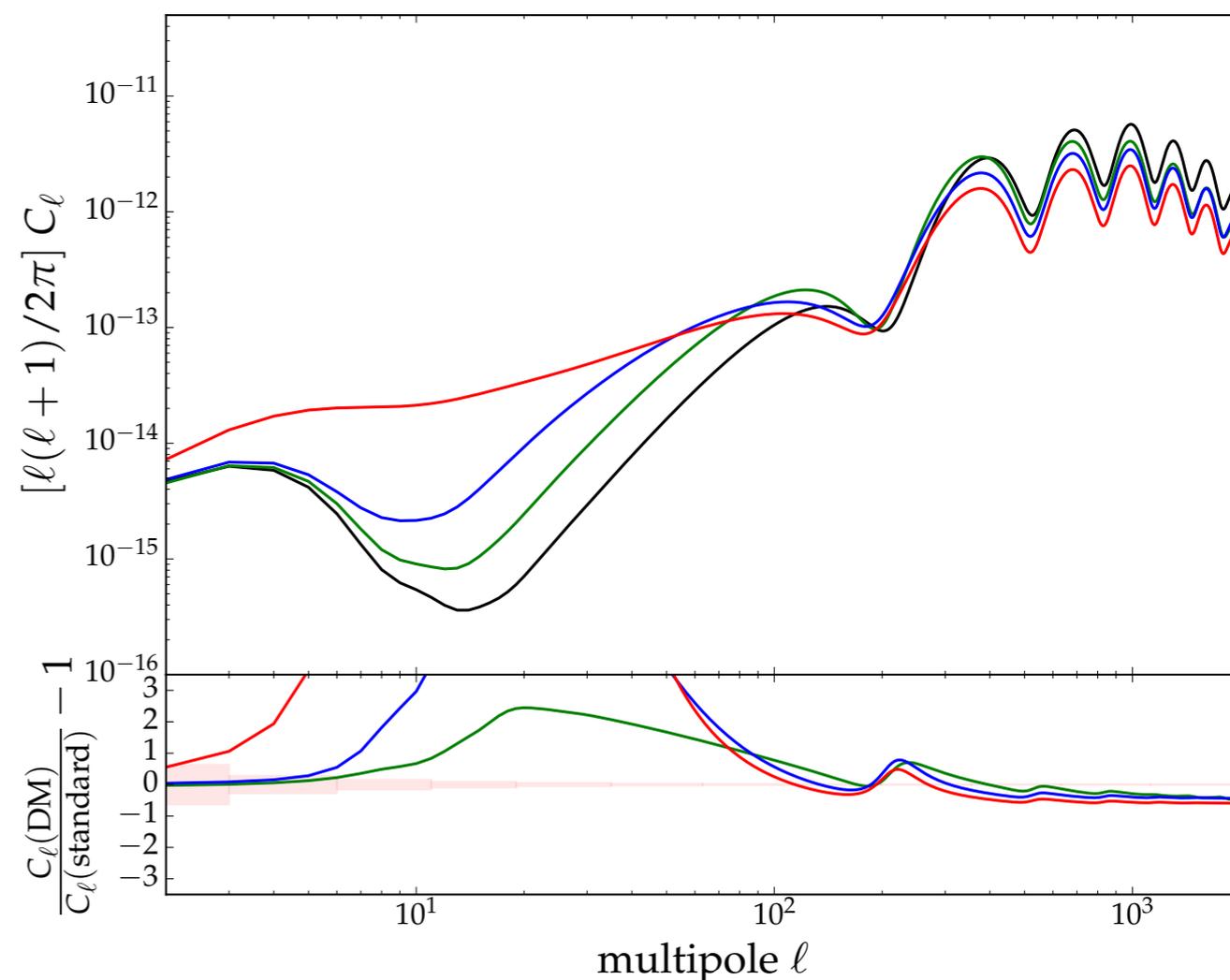


# Many lifetime dependent effects on the CMB power spectra !

## temperature anisotropies

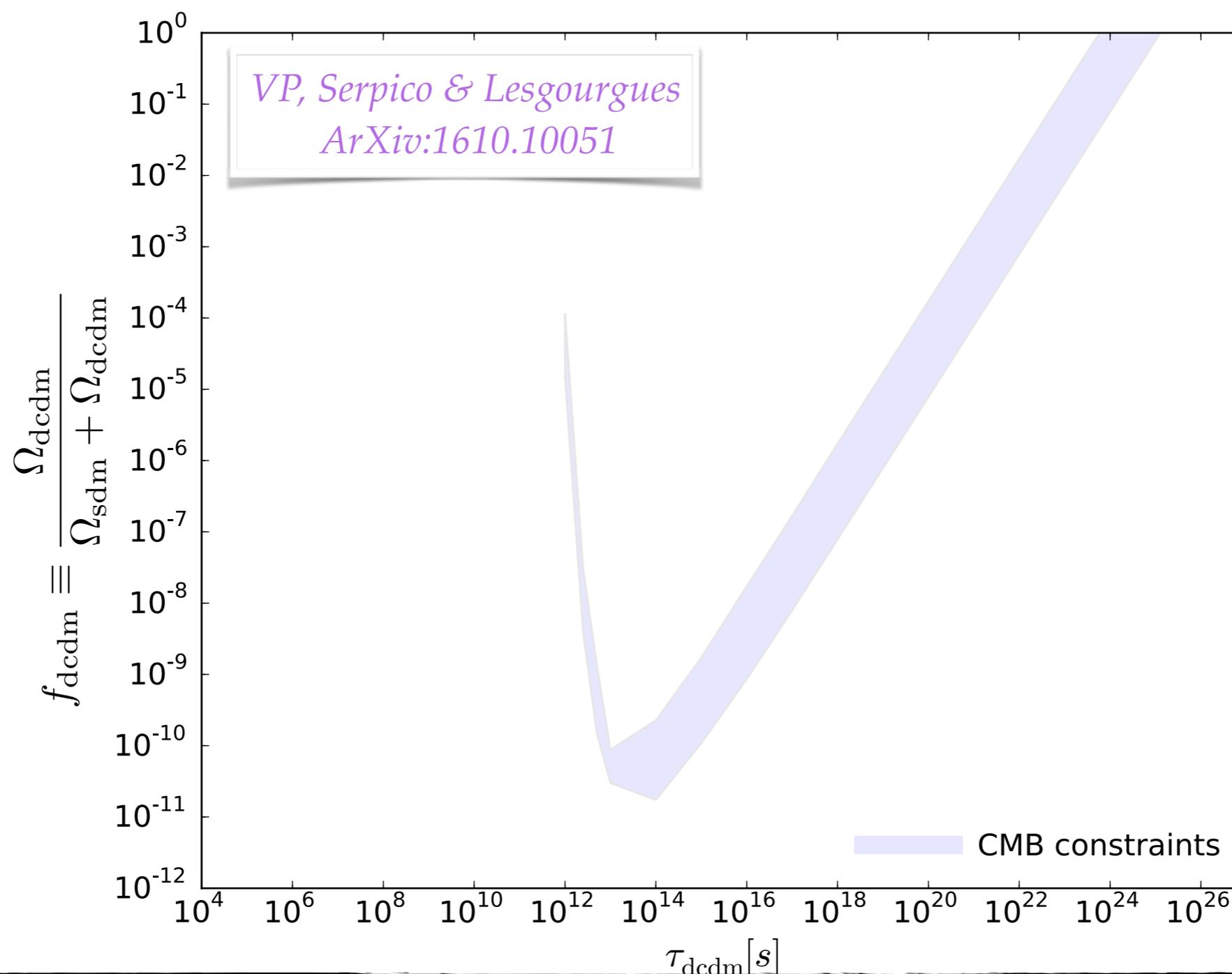
 $C_\ell^{\text{TT}}$ 


## polarization anisotropies

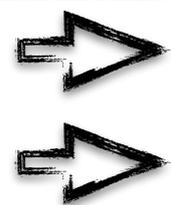
 $C_\ell^{\text{EE}}$ 


- Long lifetime : looks like **early reionization**, i.e. increase of  $\kappa_{\text{reio}}$  leads to step-like suppression above  $l = 10$  and bigger reionization bump.
- Short lifetime: can have **very peculiar behaviour**! Larger damping tail, shifted/broaden reionization bump and suppress LISW.

CMB anisotropies very powerful at constraining  $\tau = [10^{12}, 10^{25}]s$



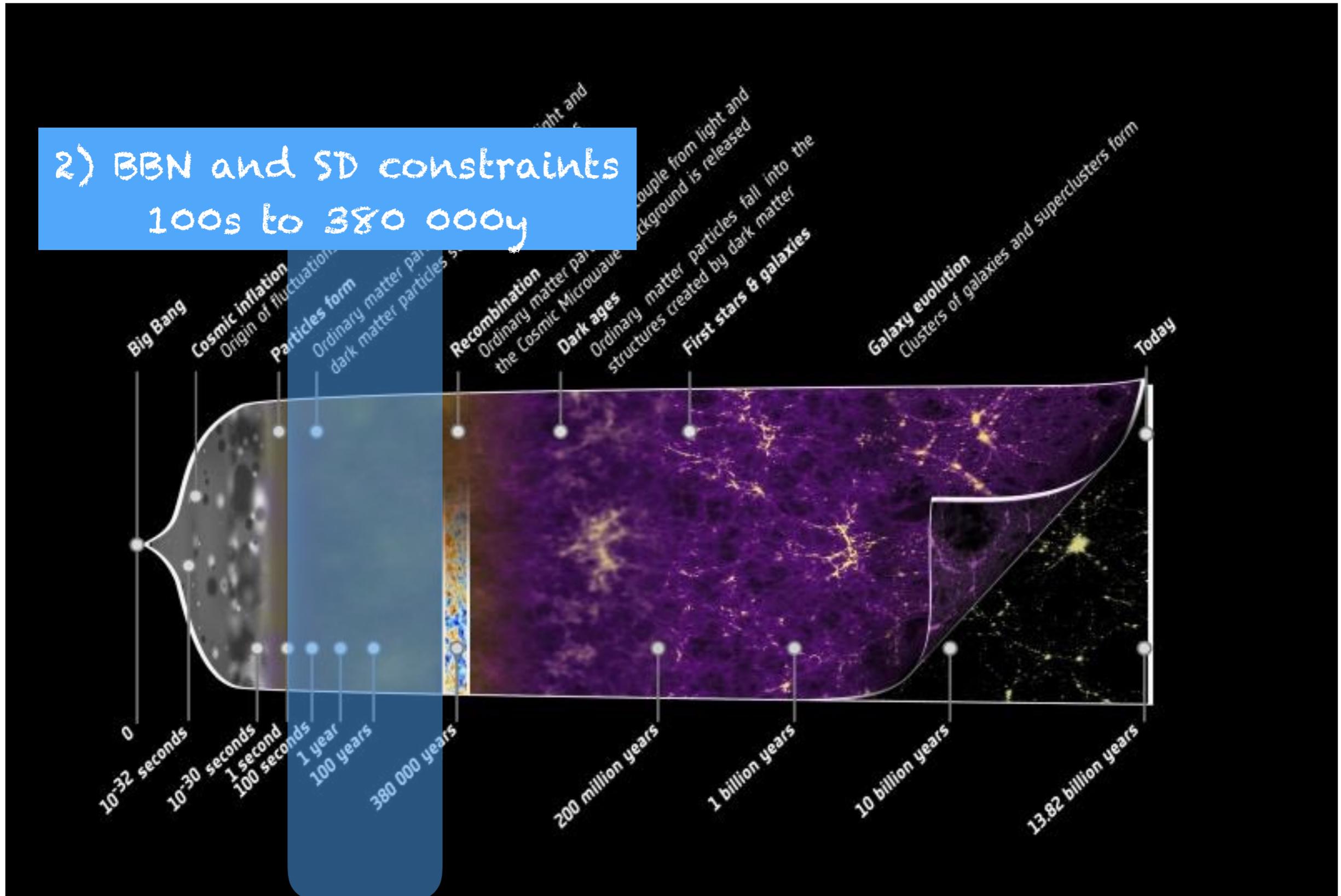
see also  
Slatyer & Wu  
PRD (2017)  
no.2, 023010



Blue band : reflects difference between **energy deposition efficiency**.

Results are reliable for  $m_\chi$  in  $[10^3, 10^{12}]$  eV **whatever decay channel** !

2) BBN and SD constraints  
100s to 380 000y



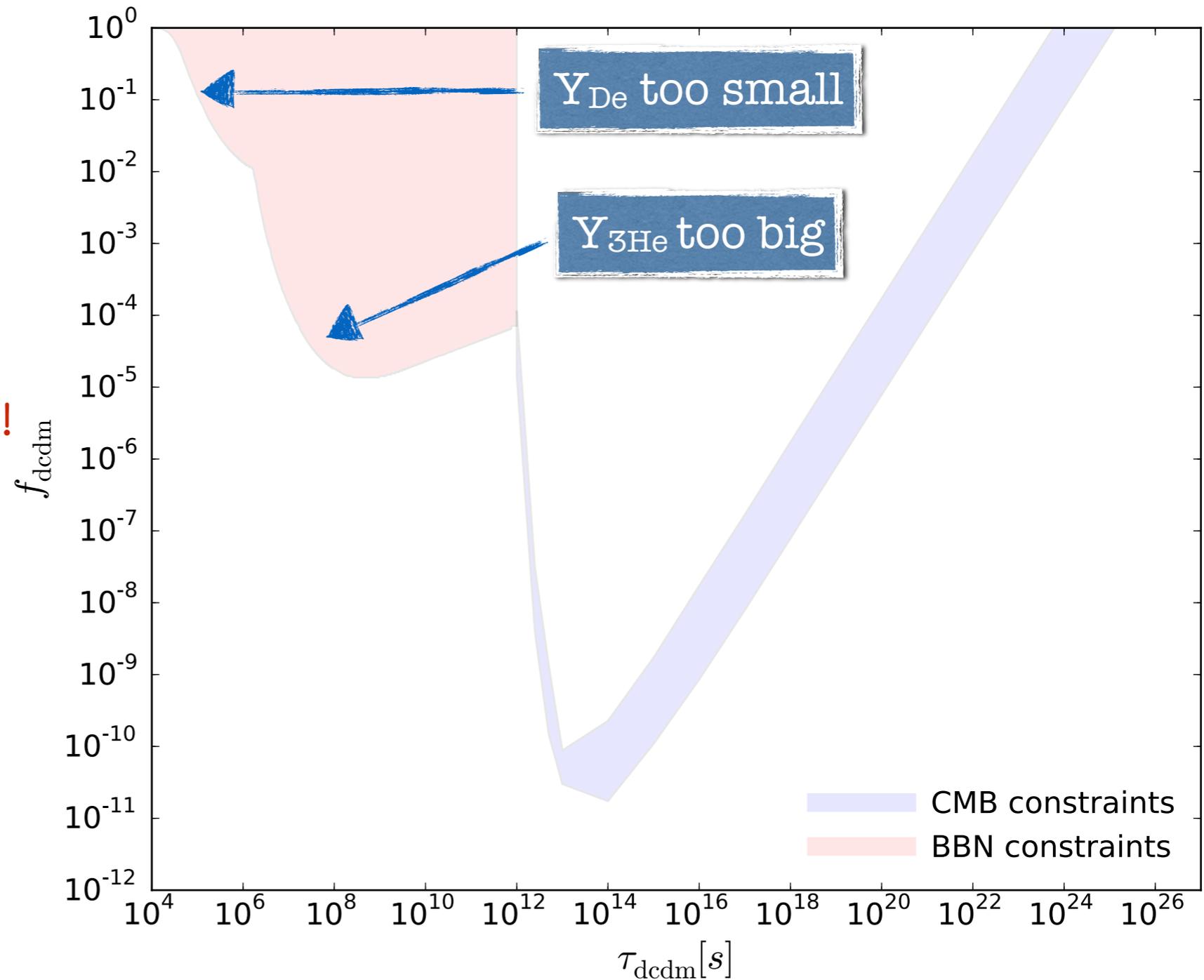
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Injected high energy particles initiate an E.M. Cascade :

Same idea as before but now  $\Gamma_{\text{scat}} \gg \Gamma_{\text{hubble}}$  !  
(valid until recombination)

Those bounds are universal !!

*Kawasaki & Moroi,  
ApJ 452,506 (1995)*



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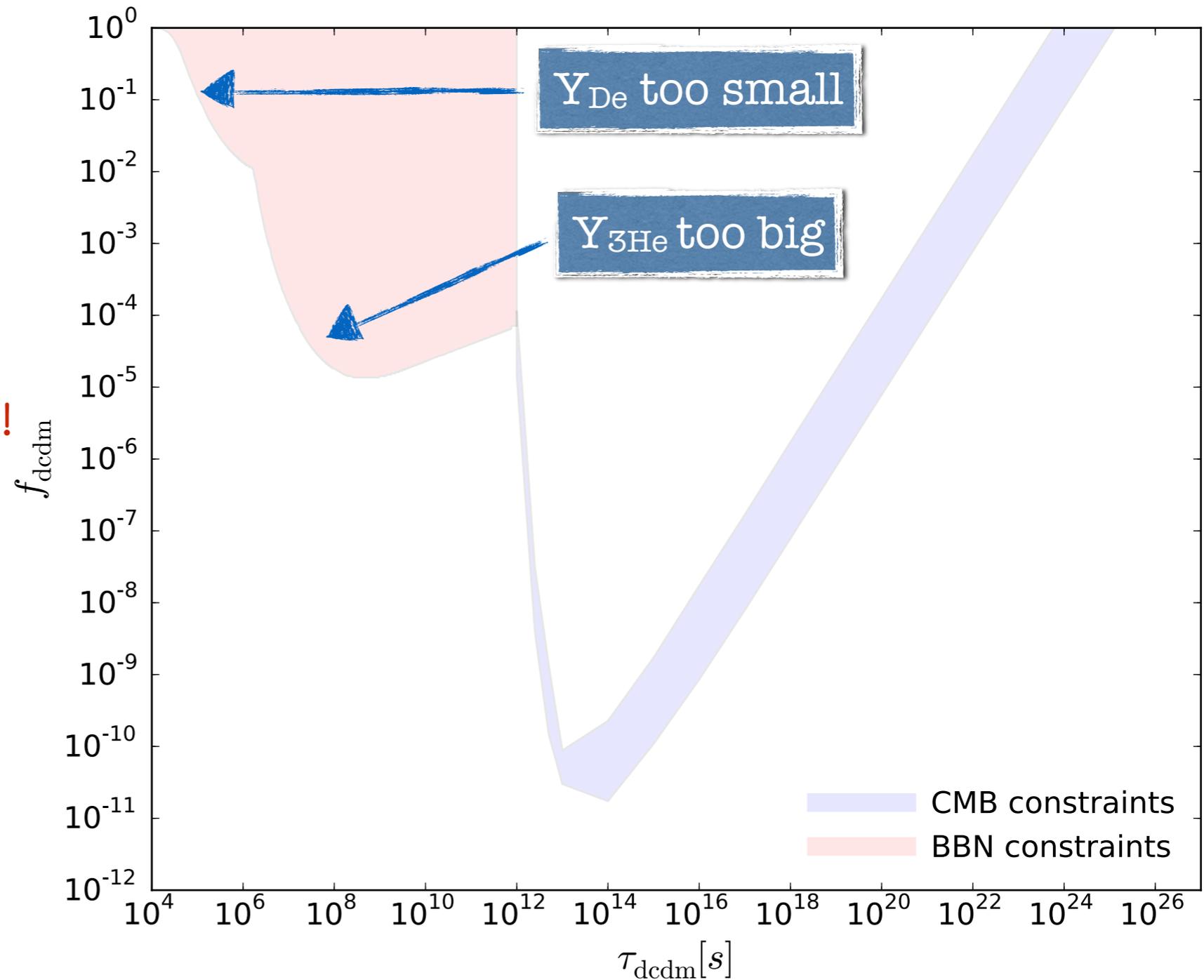
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In reality, this is not always true!

For MeV-GeV energy injection, bounds can be much stronger.

*e.g. Poulin & Serpico  
PRD D91 103007 (2015) no.10*



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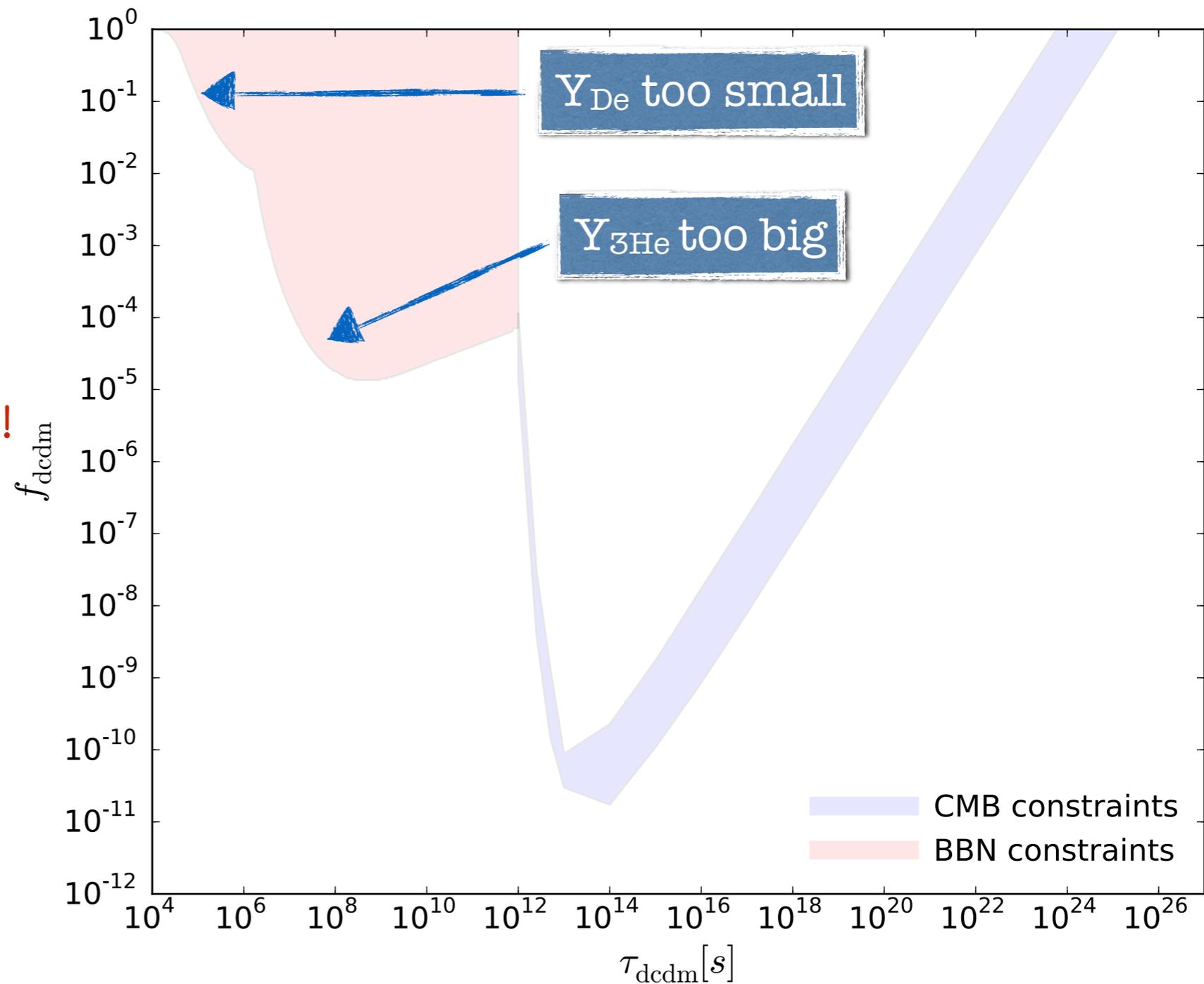
Those bounds are universal !!

*Kawasaki & Moroi,  
ApJ 452,506 (1995)*

In reality, this is not always true!

For MeV-GeV energy injection, bounds can be much stronger.

*e.g. Poulin & Serpico  
PRD D91 103007 (2015) no.10*



Those bounds are very conservative !

## CMB vs BBN vs spectral distortions

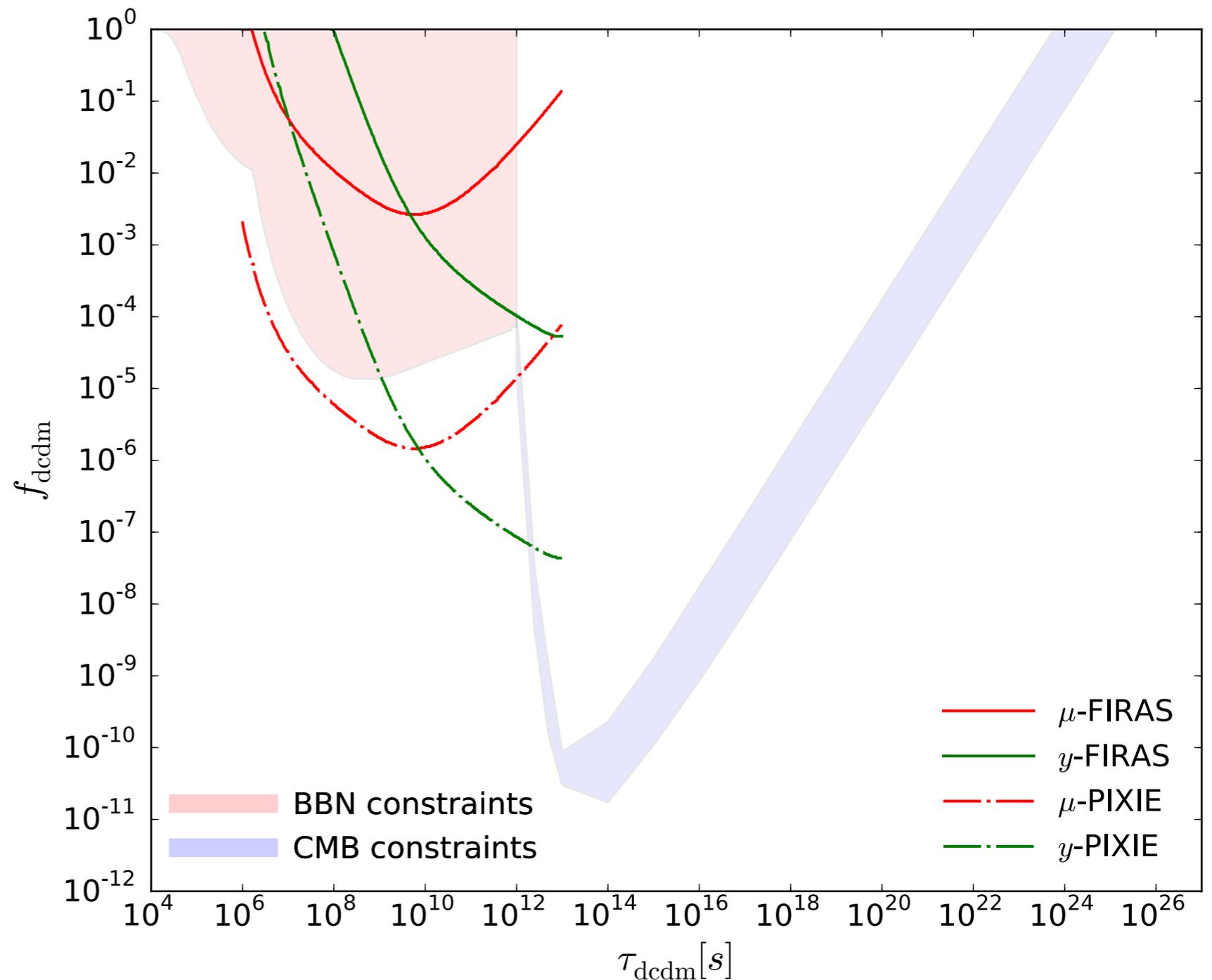
➤ Double Compton /  
Bremsstrahlung off

$\mu$  = creation of a chemical  
potential

➤ Compton Scattering off

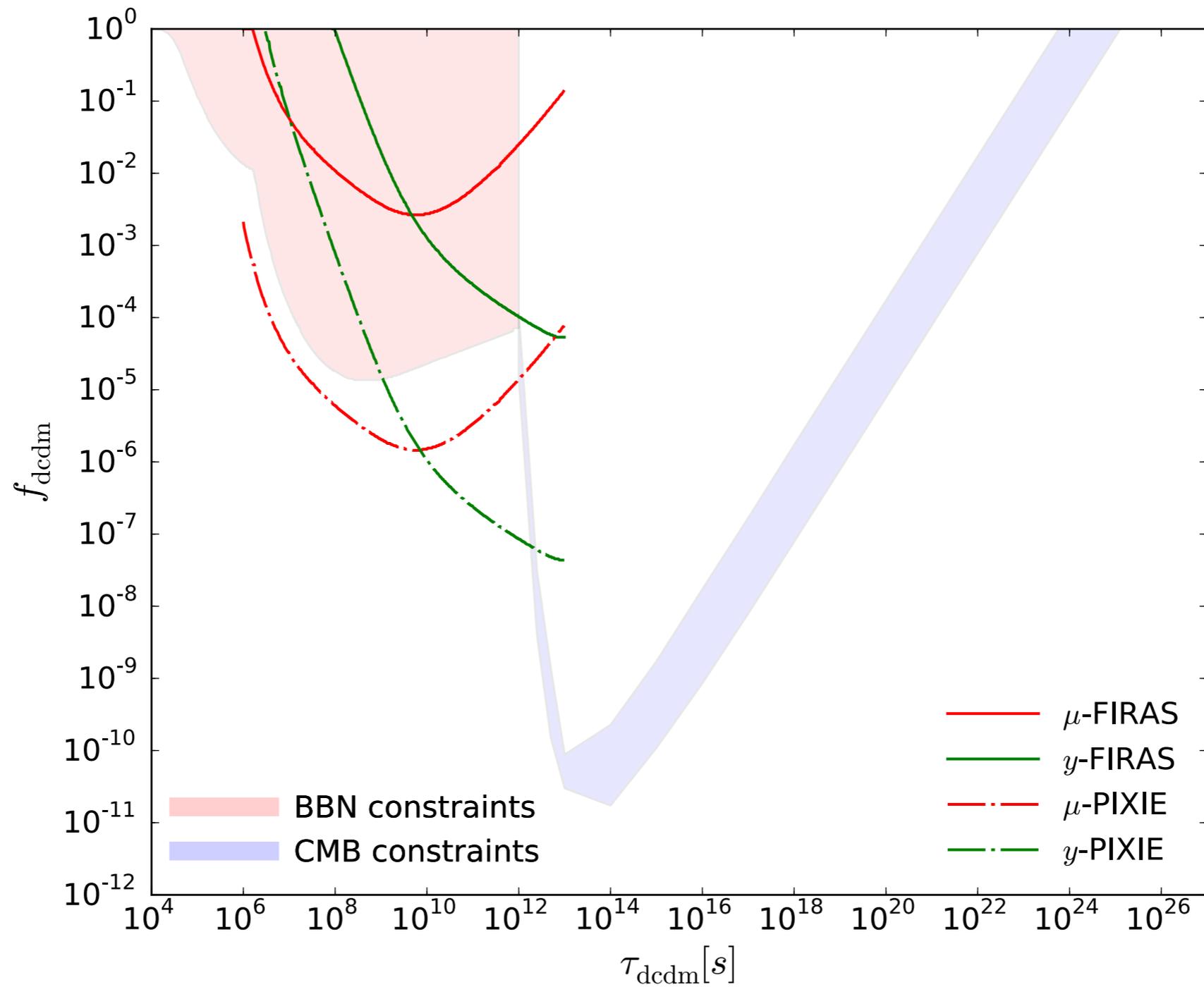
$y$  = Compton heating  
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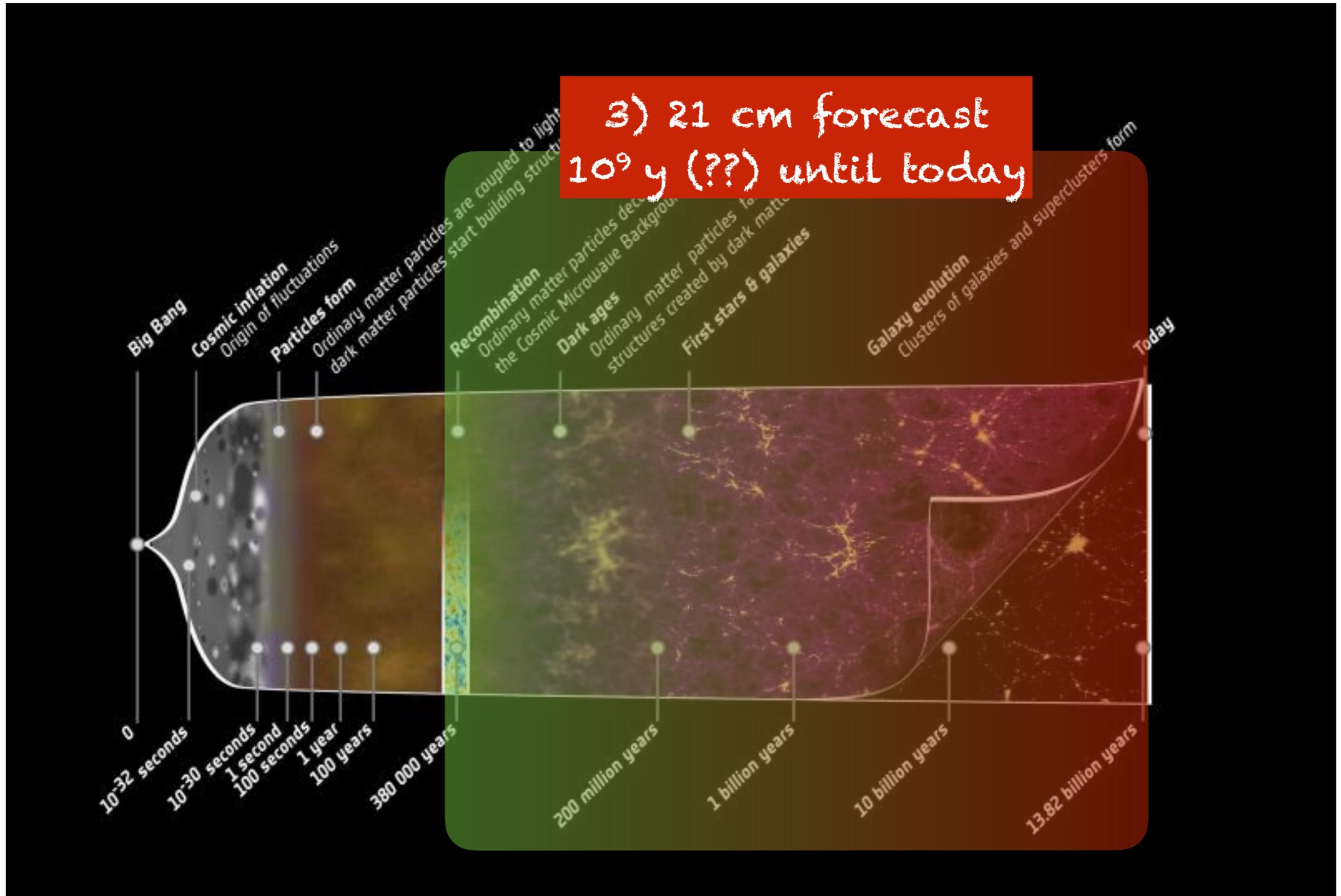
*Review: Chluba & Sunyaev  
[arXiv:1109.6552]*

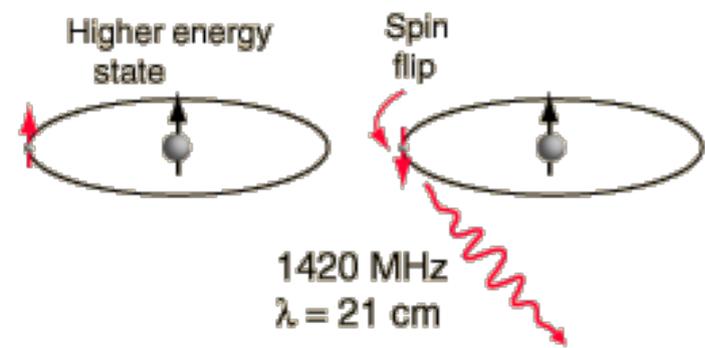


Current constraints from **FIRAS** on the  $\mu$  and  $y$  parameters are worst than BBN.  
This will (might) change in the future with **PIXIE** !

# A fair « Status of the art », what's next ?







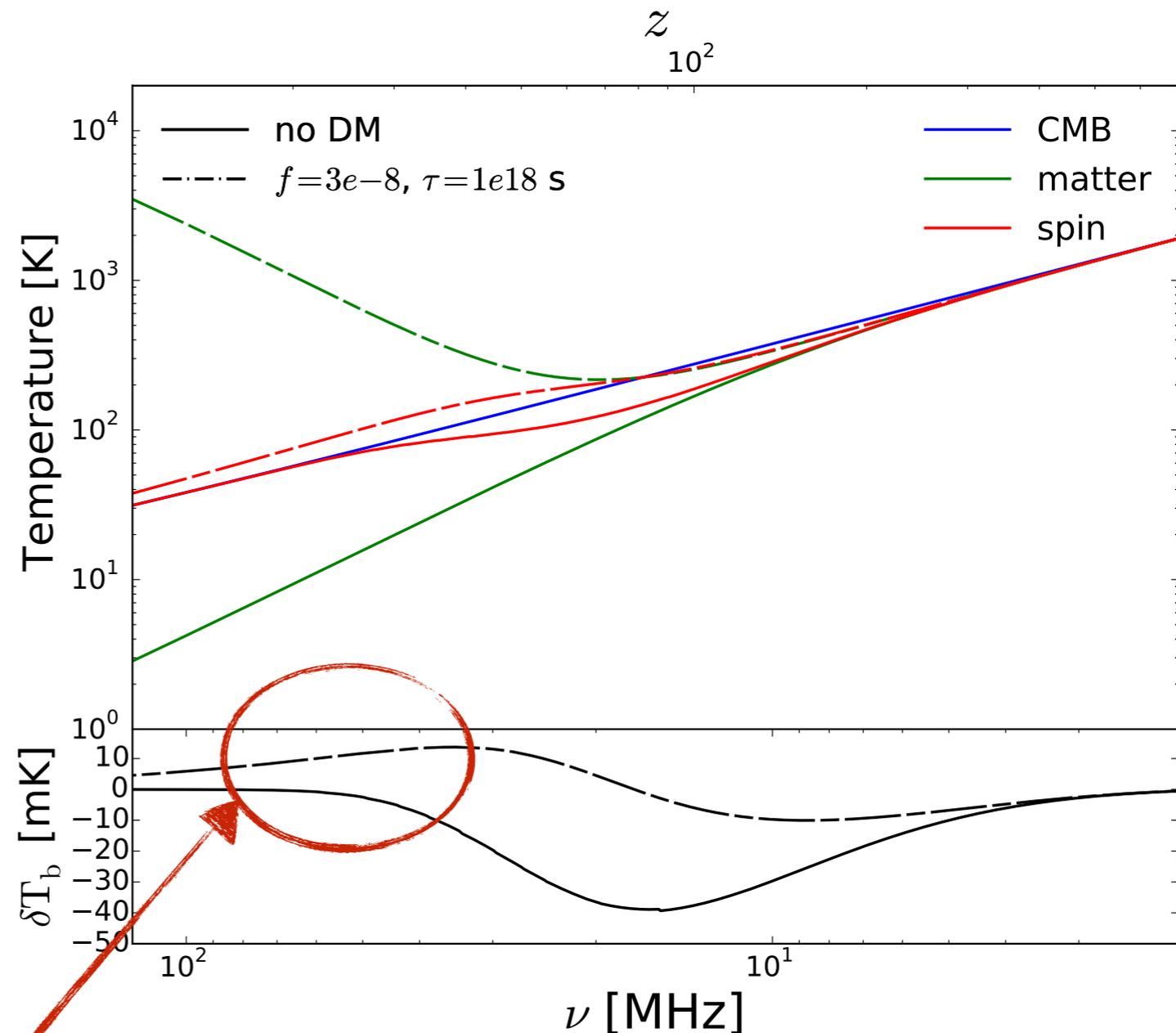
## The next-generation experiment : 21 cm with SKA

$$\delta T_b(\nu) = \frac{T_s - T_{\text{CMB}}}{1 + z} (1 - \exp(-\tau_{\nu 21}))$$

At low- $z$ , **large uncertainty** due to star formation leads to **pessimistic results**.

*Lopez-Honorez et al.*  
*JCAP 1608 (2016) no.08, 004*

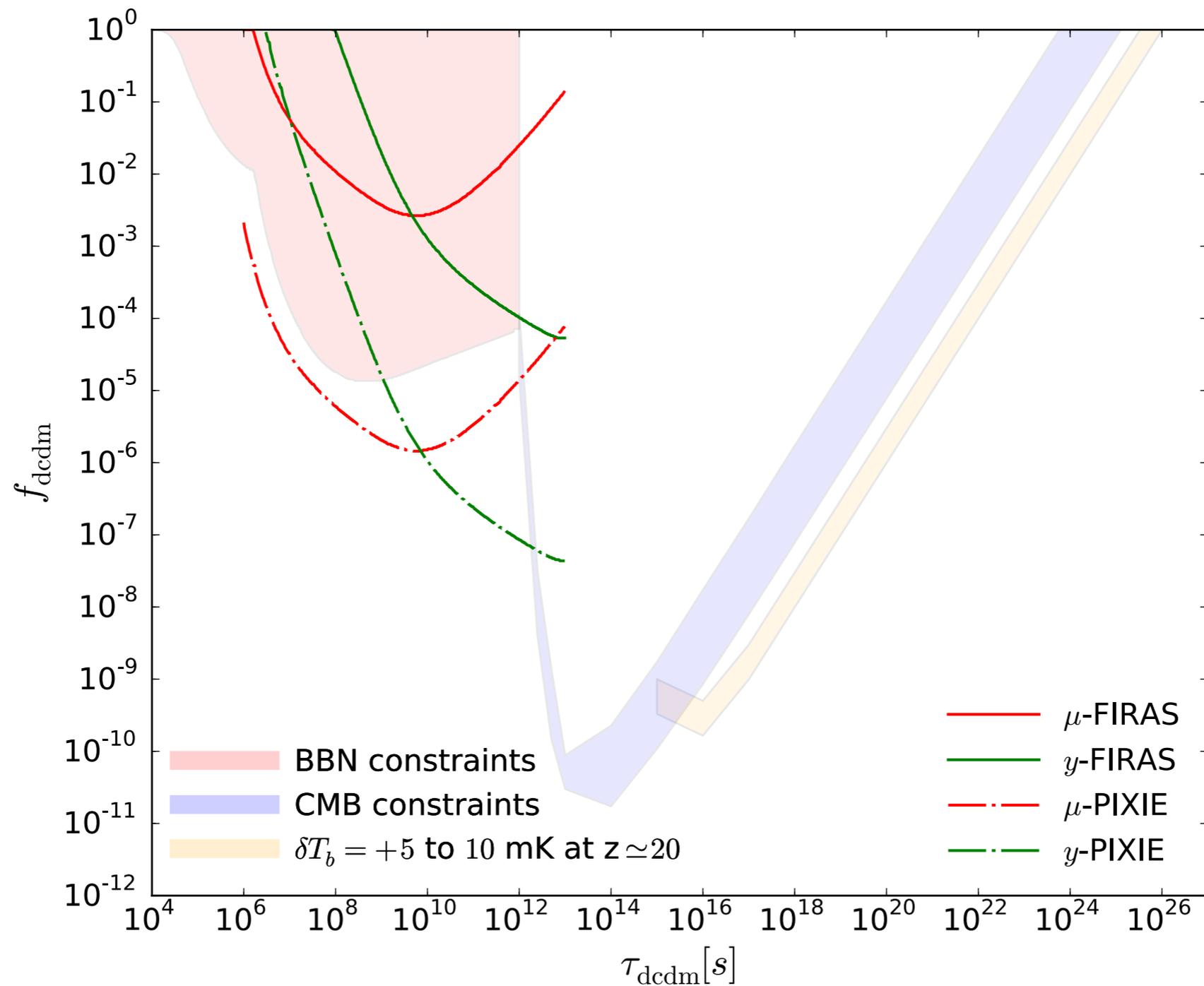
We neglect stars : valid until  $z = 20$ .  
=> SKA will measure  $\delta T_b = 5-10$  mK  
**up to  $z = 20/25$  ( $\nu = 60$  MHz) !**



Potential « smoking gun » signal from DM e.m. decay at the end (and during !) the dark ages

# SKA could be better at detecting - or constraining - e.m. decay

very crude treatment, for illustration only :  
 next step => add information from power spectrum analysis



## Take-home message

Exotic particle decays (including DM) can be strongly constrained by Cosmology.

- Bounds are **competitive with diffuse gamma-ray background** ones.
- Combination of BBN /spectral distortions / CMB allow constraining more than **20 orders of magnitude in lifetime**, and **10 orders of magnitude in abundances**.
- can also **constrain non-electromagnetic decay!**

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Next Step : 21 cm and reionization ! Many experiments are launched (e.g. SKA, HERA).

- First result quite pessimistic given the **huge astrophysical uncertainties**.
- Some hope : the **dark ages**, when no stars were there.

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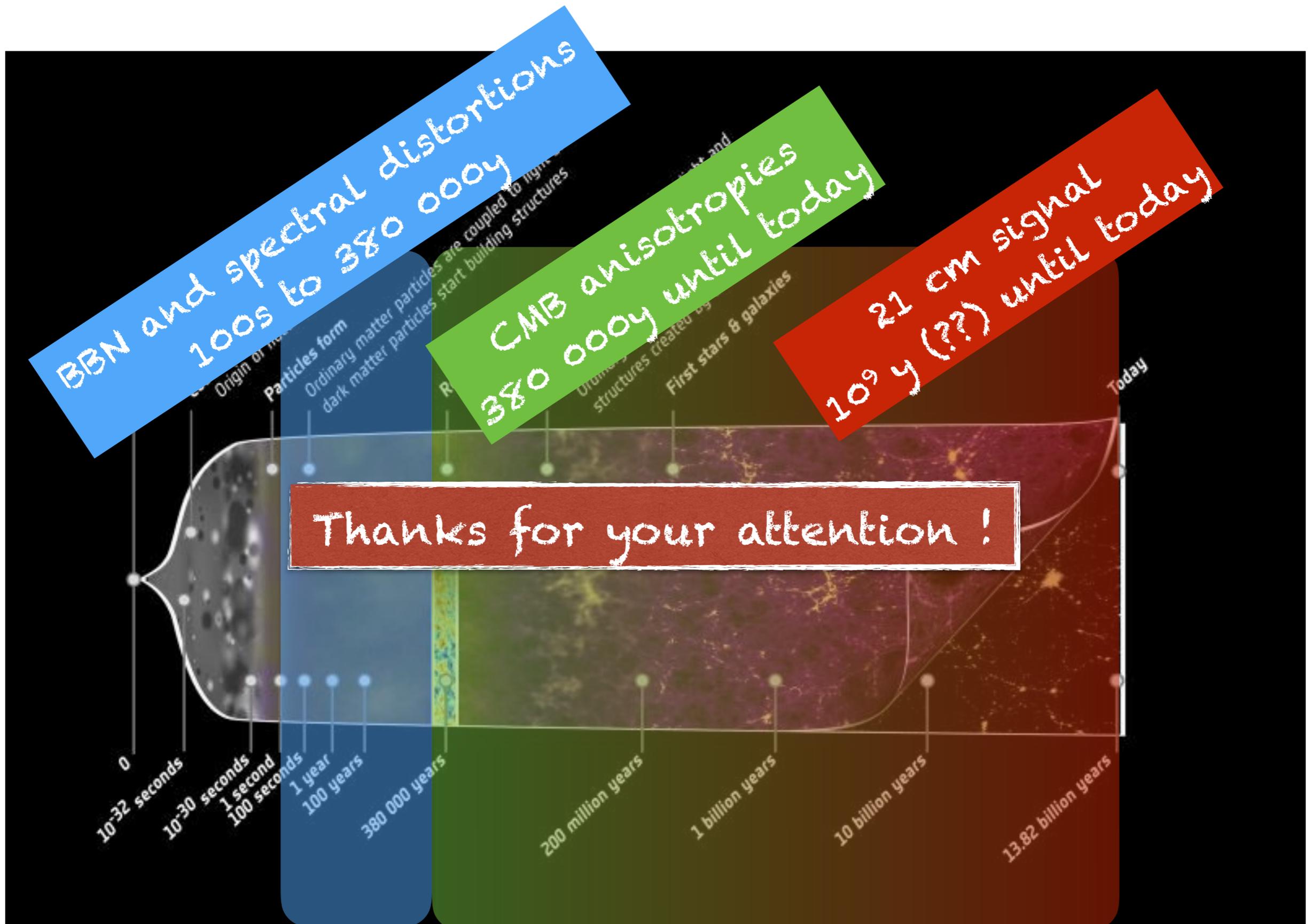
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Stay tuned ! Many results to come !



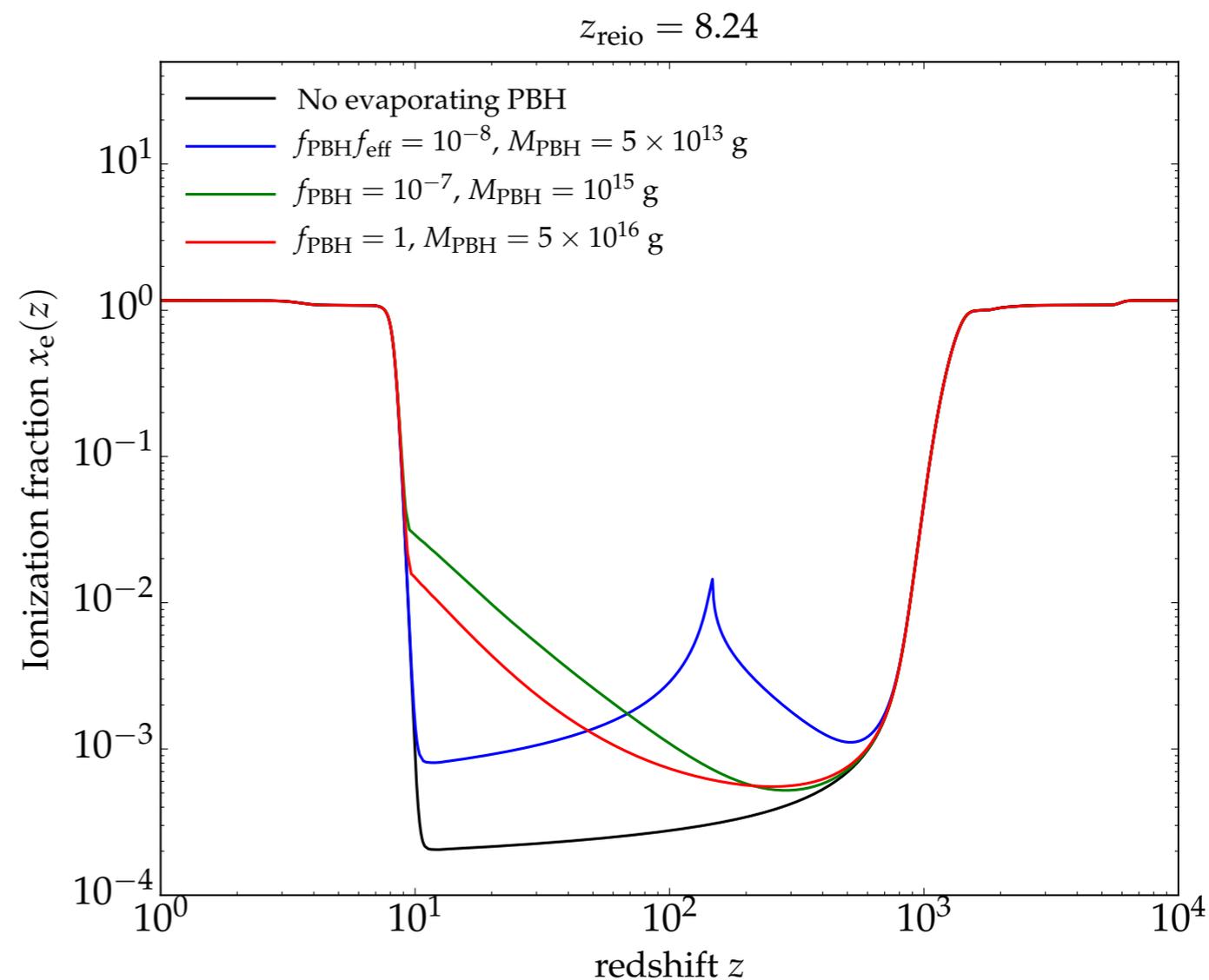
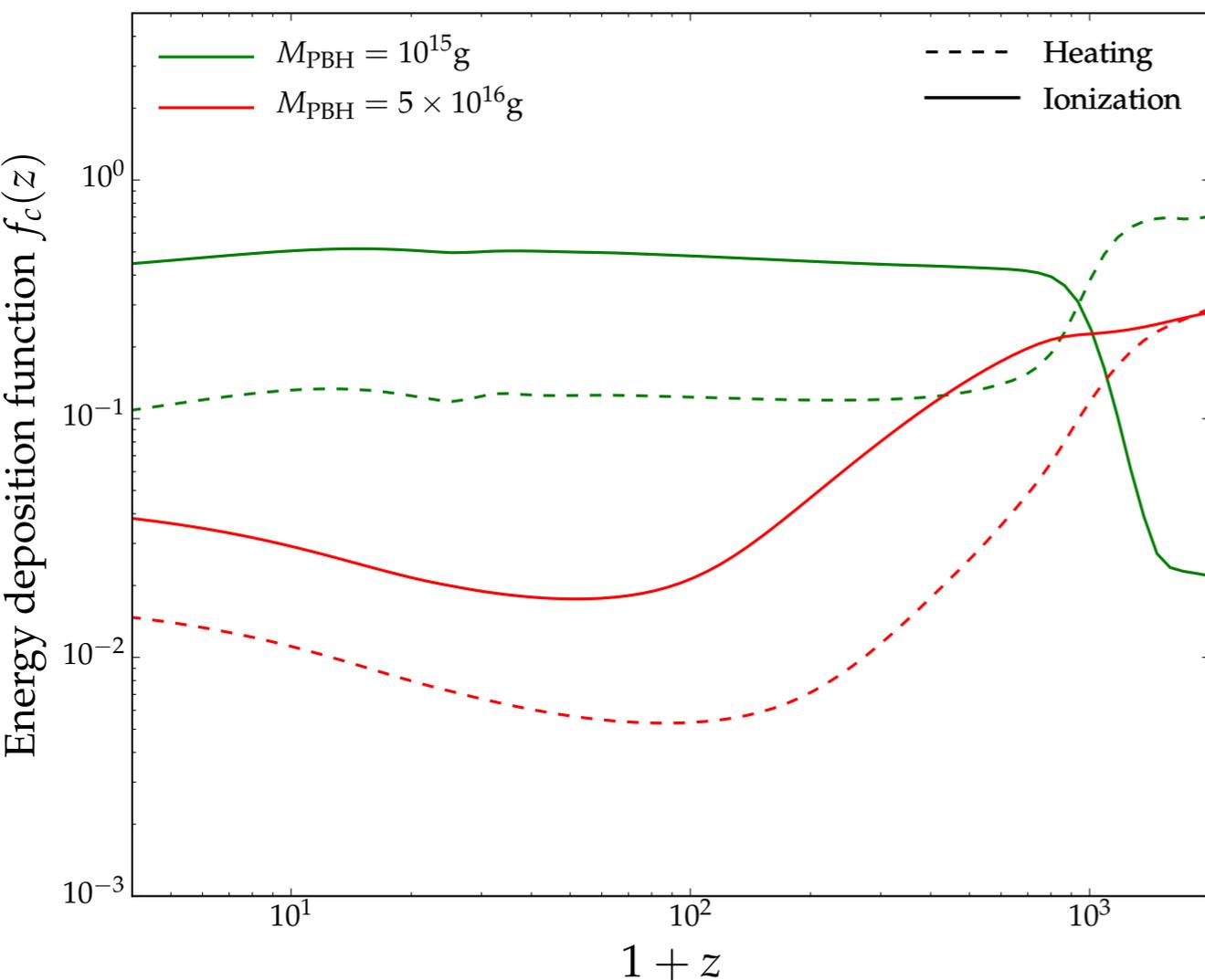
Backup slides

# Constraints on evaporating PBH (1)

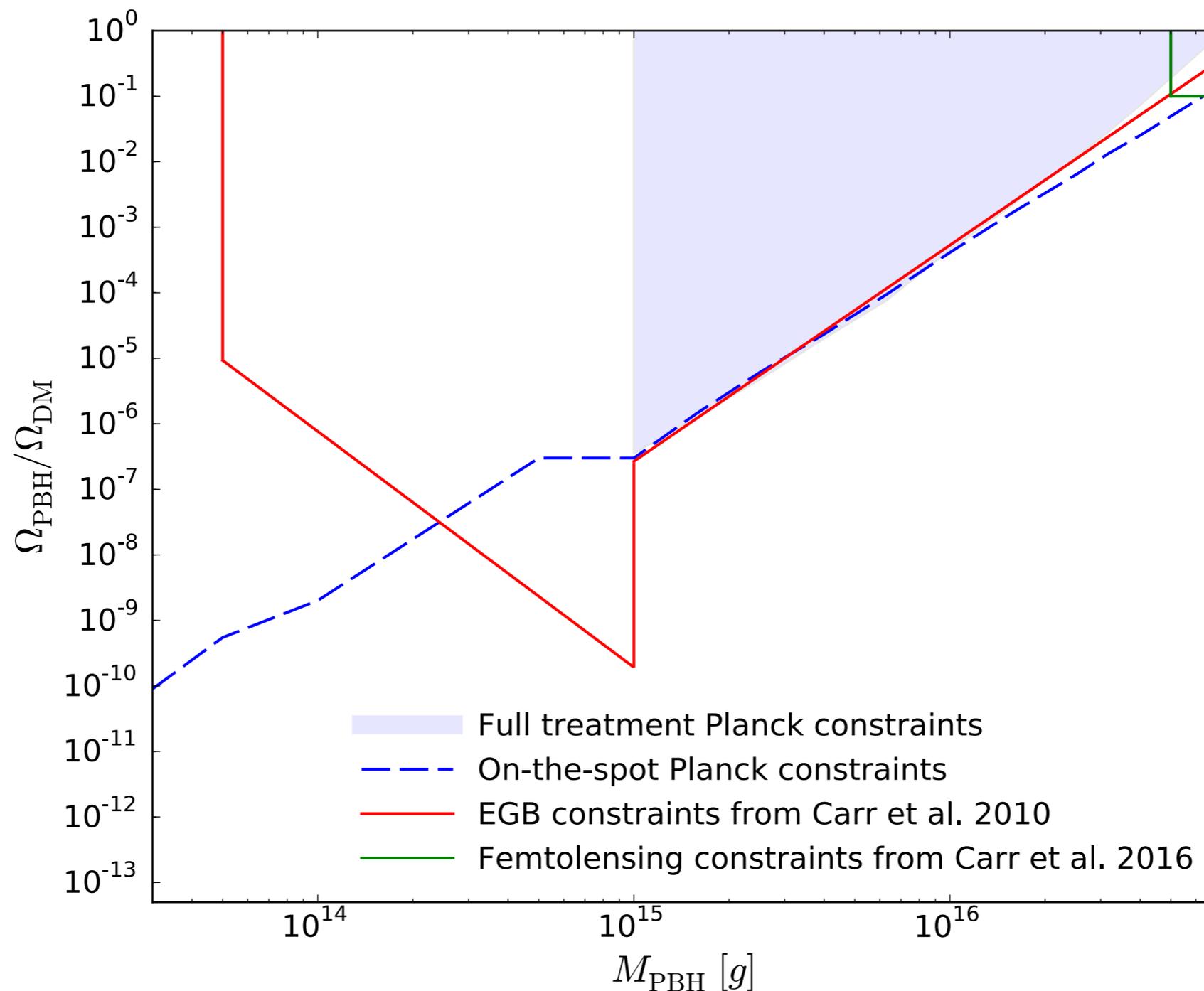
*Hawking, Nature 248, 30 (1974), more details in Carr et al. PRD81 (2010) 104019*

$$T_{\text{BH}} = \frac{1}{8\pi GM} \simeq 1.06 \left( \frac{10^{10} \text{g}}{M} \right) \text{TeV}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{PBH}}^{-1} \simeq 407 \left( \frac{15.35}{\mathcal{F}(M)} \right) \left( \frac{M}{10^{10} \text{g}} \right)^3 \text{s}$$

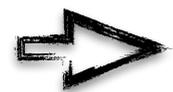
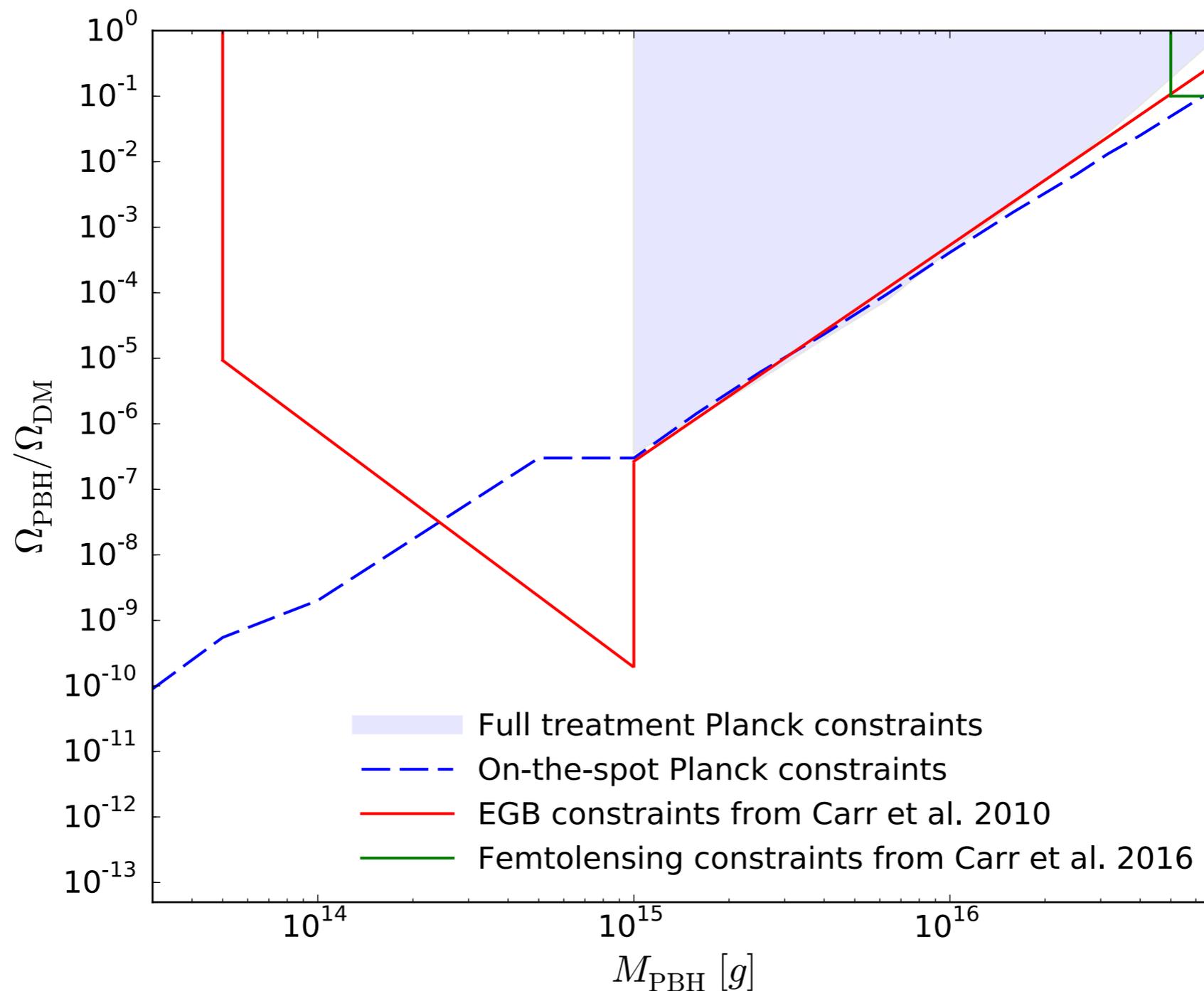


## Constraints on evaporating PBH (2)



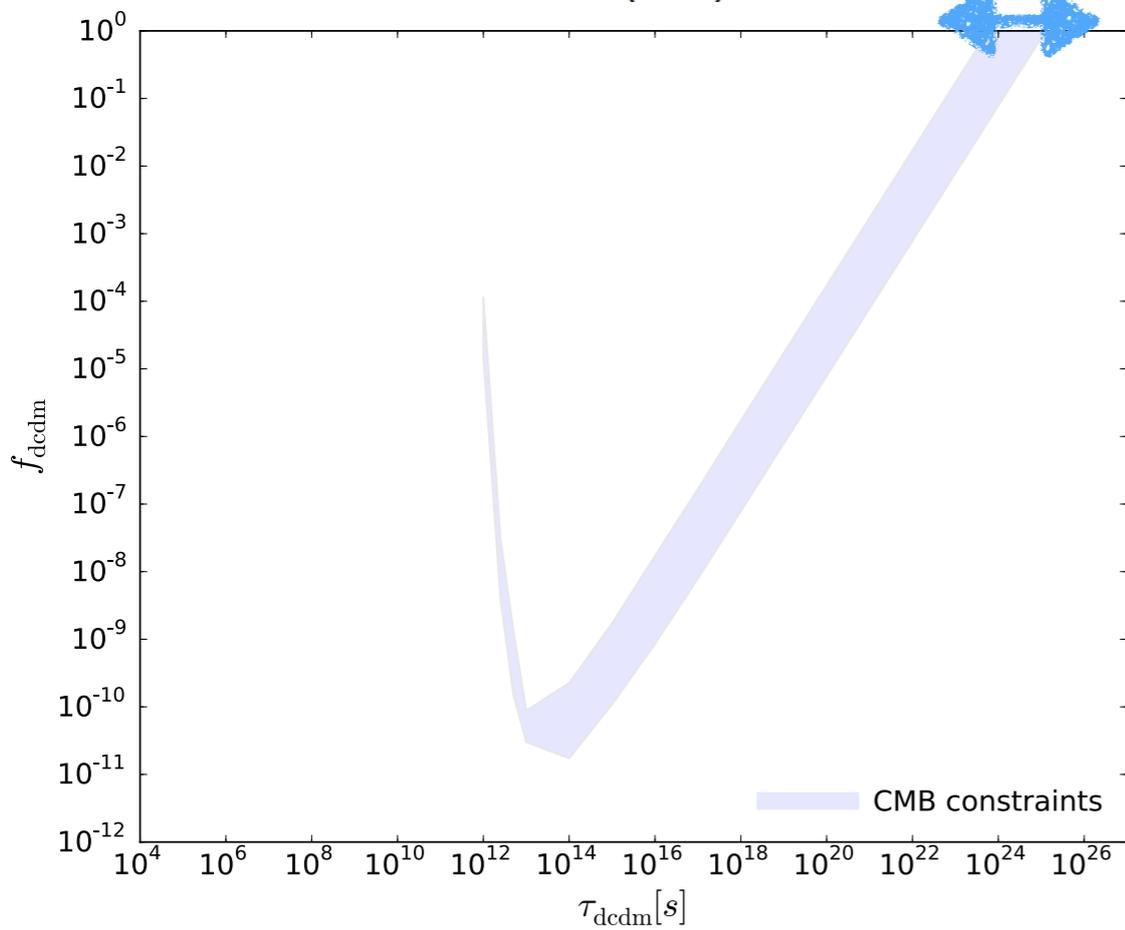
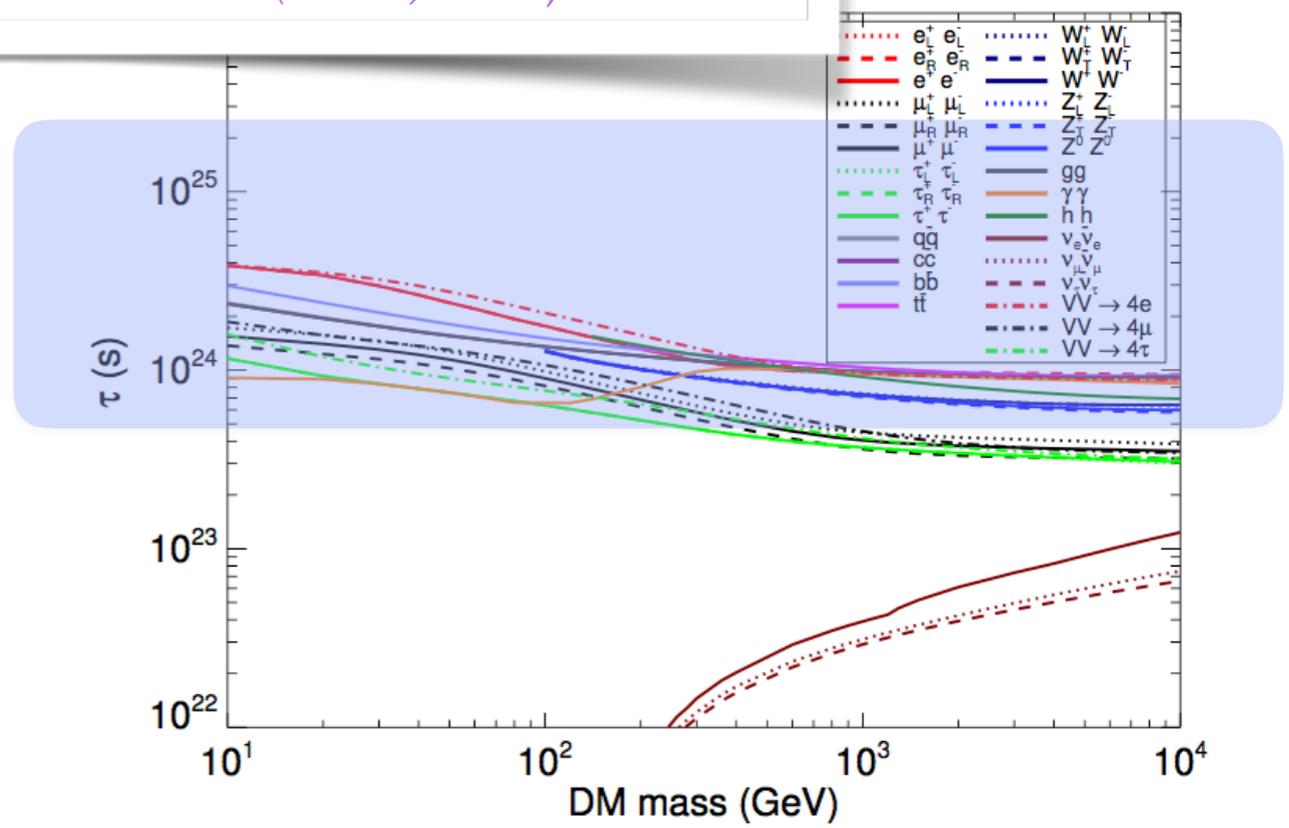
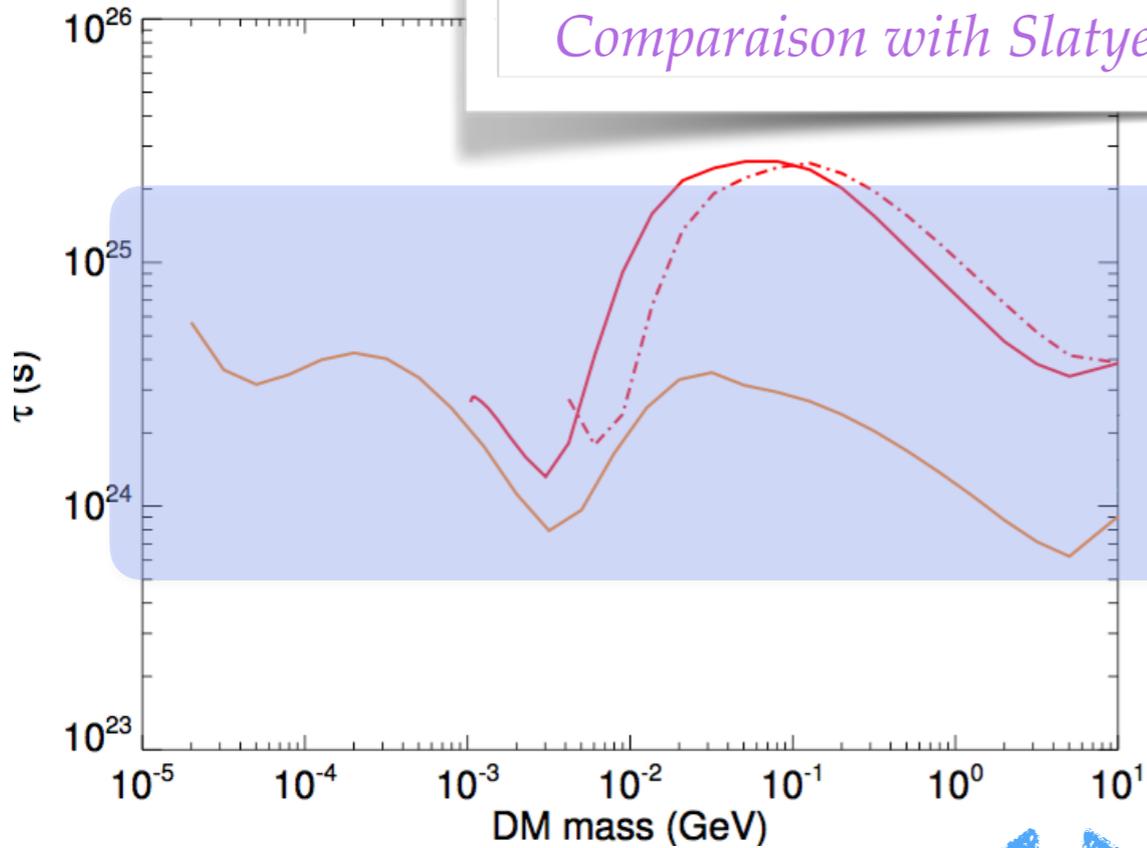
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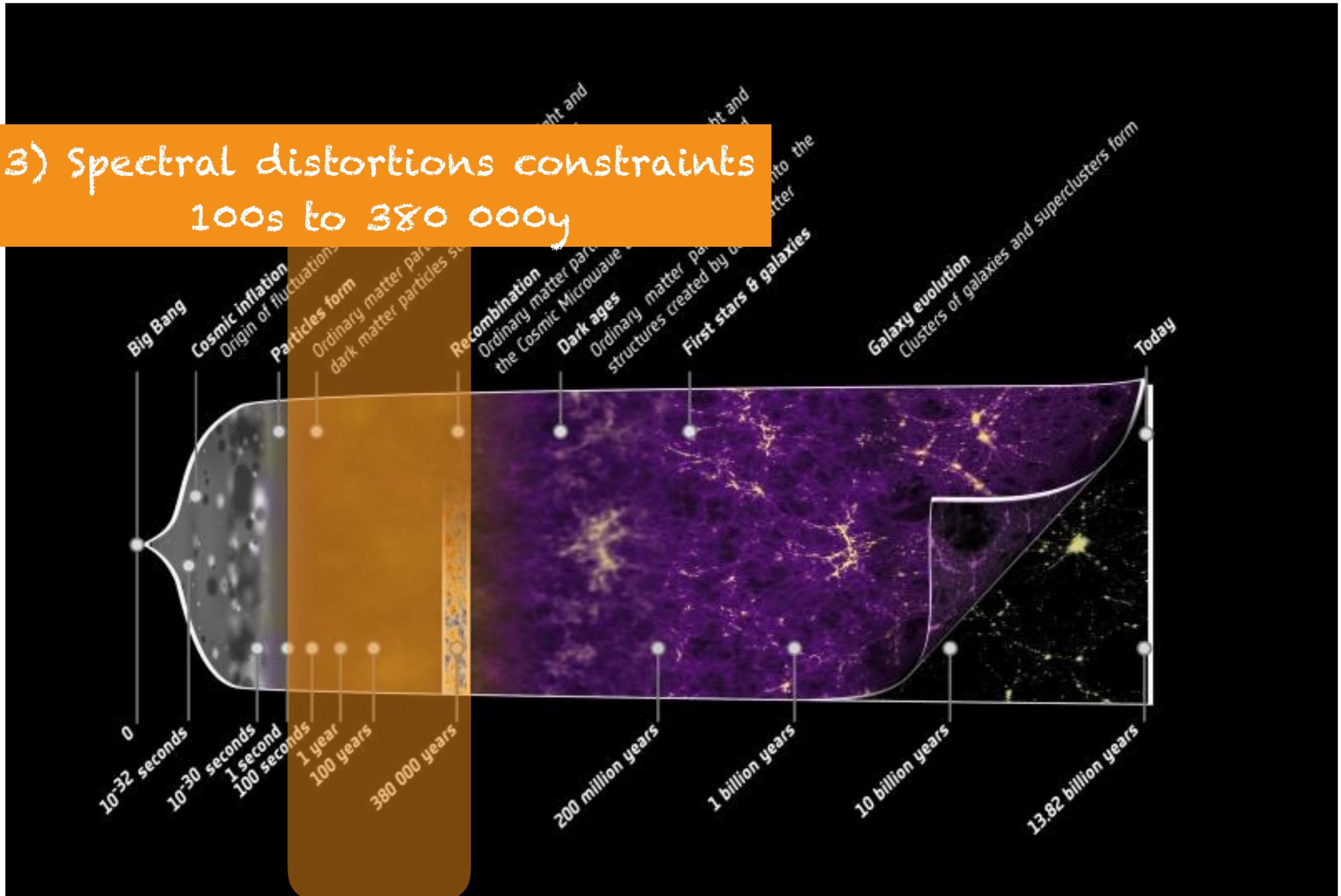
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*Comparison with Slatyer&Wu PRD 95 (2017) no.2, 023010*



- « Proof of principle »:  
All decay channels and masses are contained in the uncertainty band, except neutrinos.
- Models with invisible decay products should typically rescale bound by the corresponding e.m. BR

### 3) Spectral distortions constraints 100s to 380 000y



## $\mu$ and $y$ spectral distortions

*see e.g. Chluba & Sunyaev  
[arXiv:1109.6552]*

Most important processes to thermalize any energy injection are  
**Bremsstrahlung, Compton and Double-Compton scattering.**

If those processes go out of equilibrium, in full generality:

$$\Delta I(\nu) = I_{\text{true}}(\nu) - I_{\text{bb}}(\nu)$$

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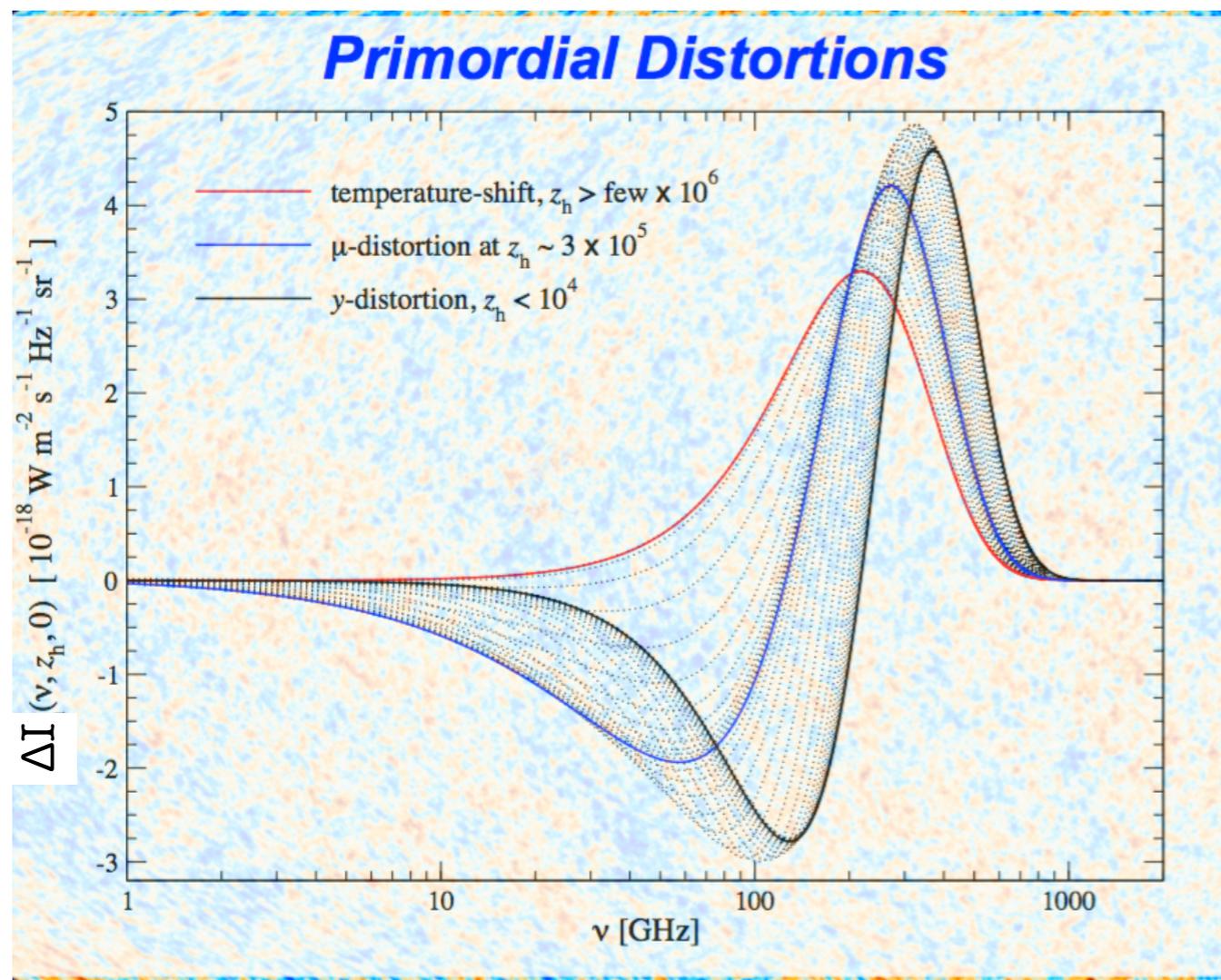
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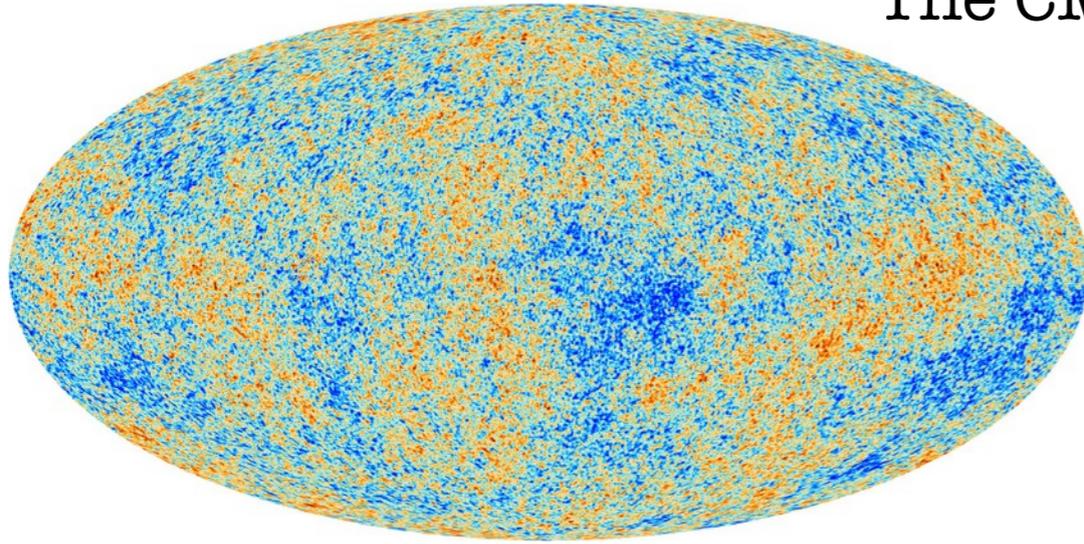
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Intermediate distortions probe the time dependence of the energy injection history

credit: Jens Chluba, « Ecole de Gif », 2014

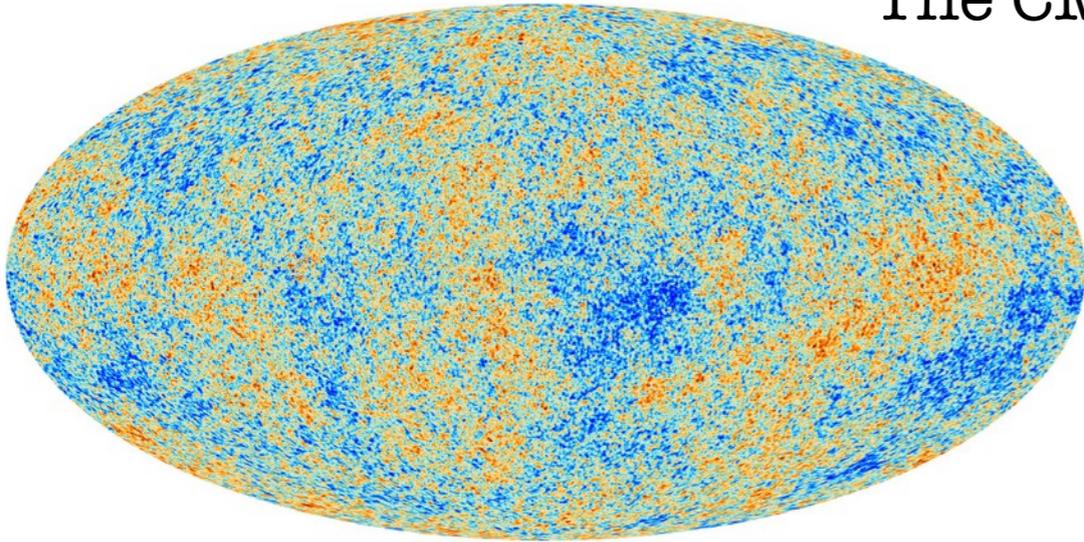
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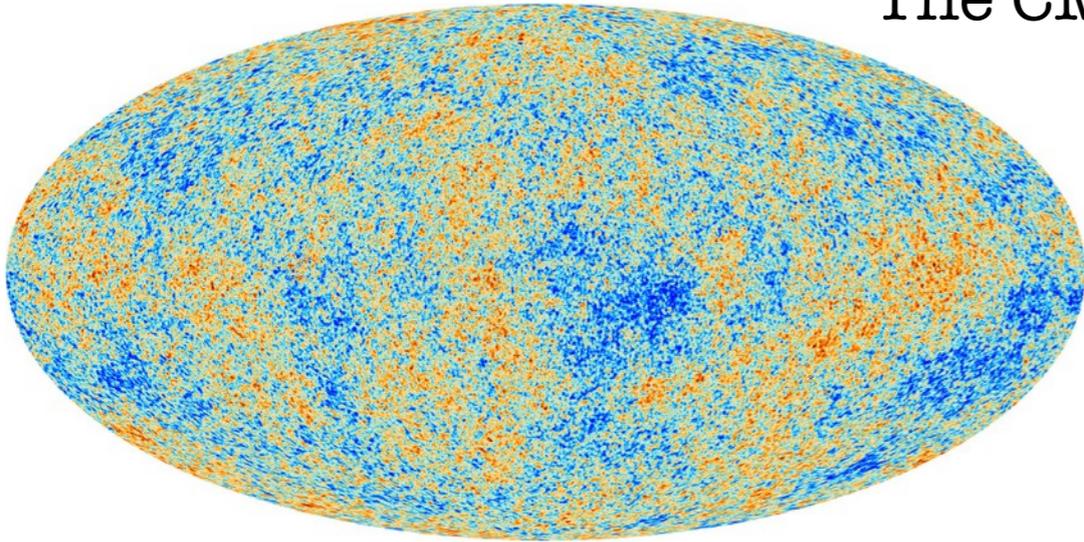
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In every point on the sky :

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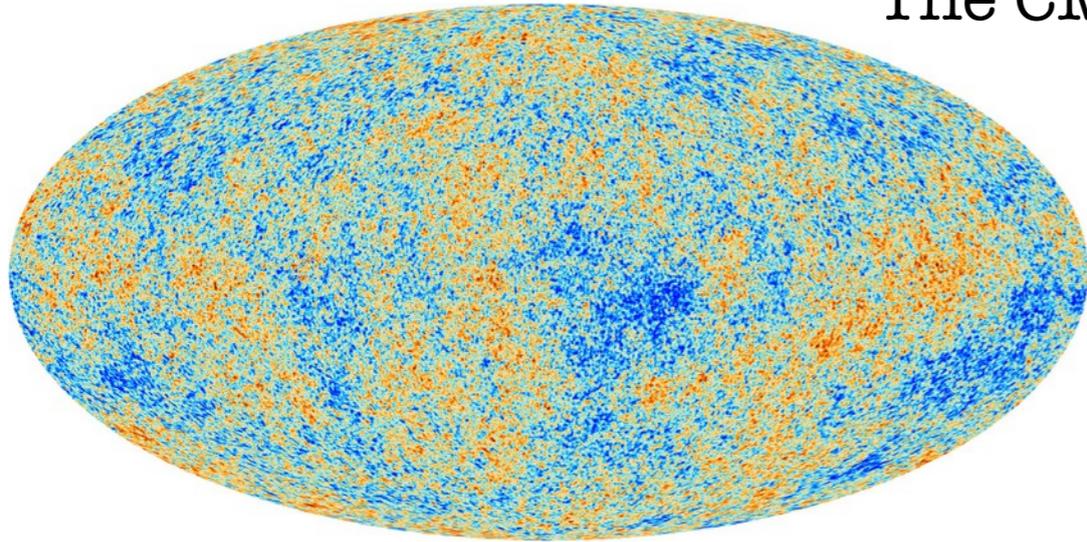
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the so called « n-points correlation functions »

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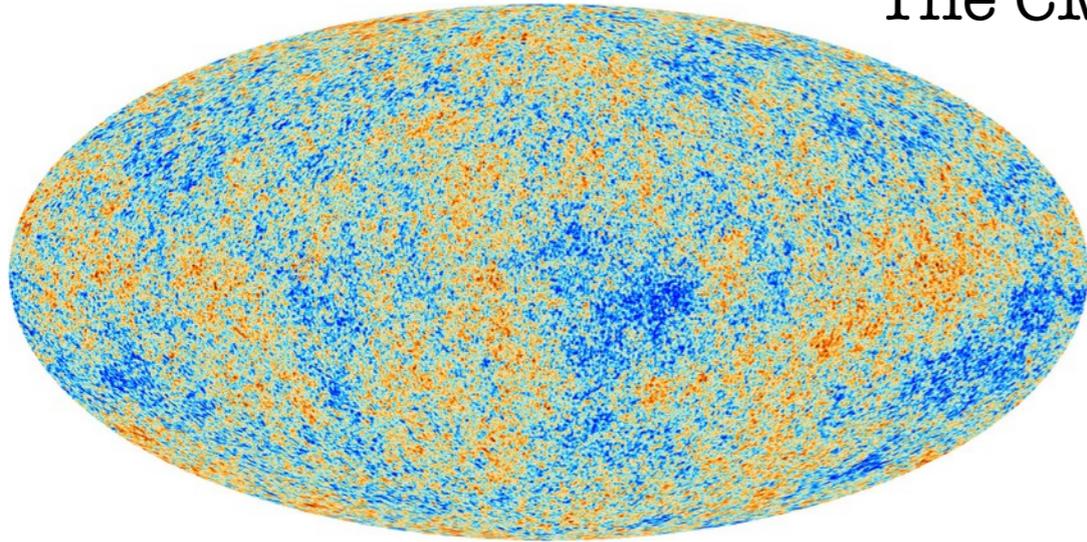
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Only 2 moments of interest :

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Power spectra = Harmonic Transform of the 2-points correlation functions

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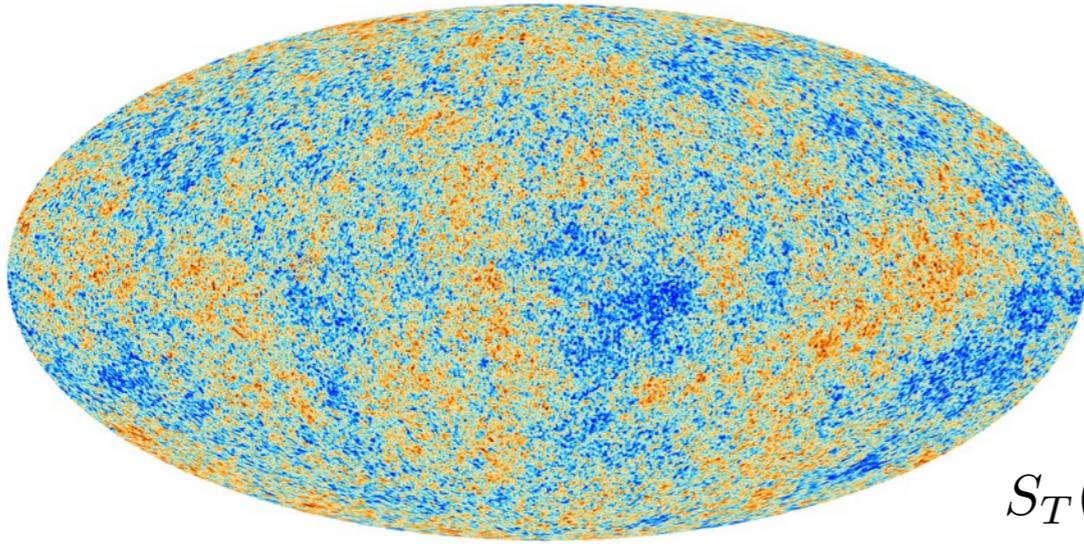
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DM interacts only gravitationally in the standard Cosmology  
=> Constraints can be derived

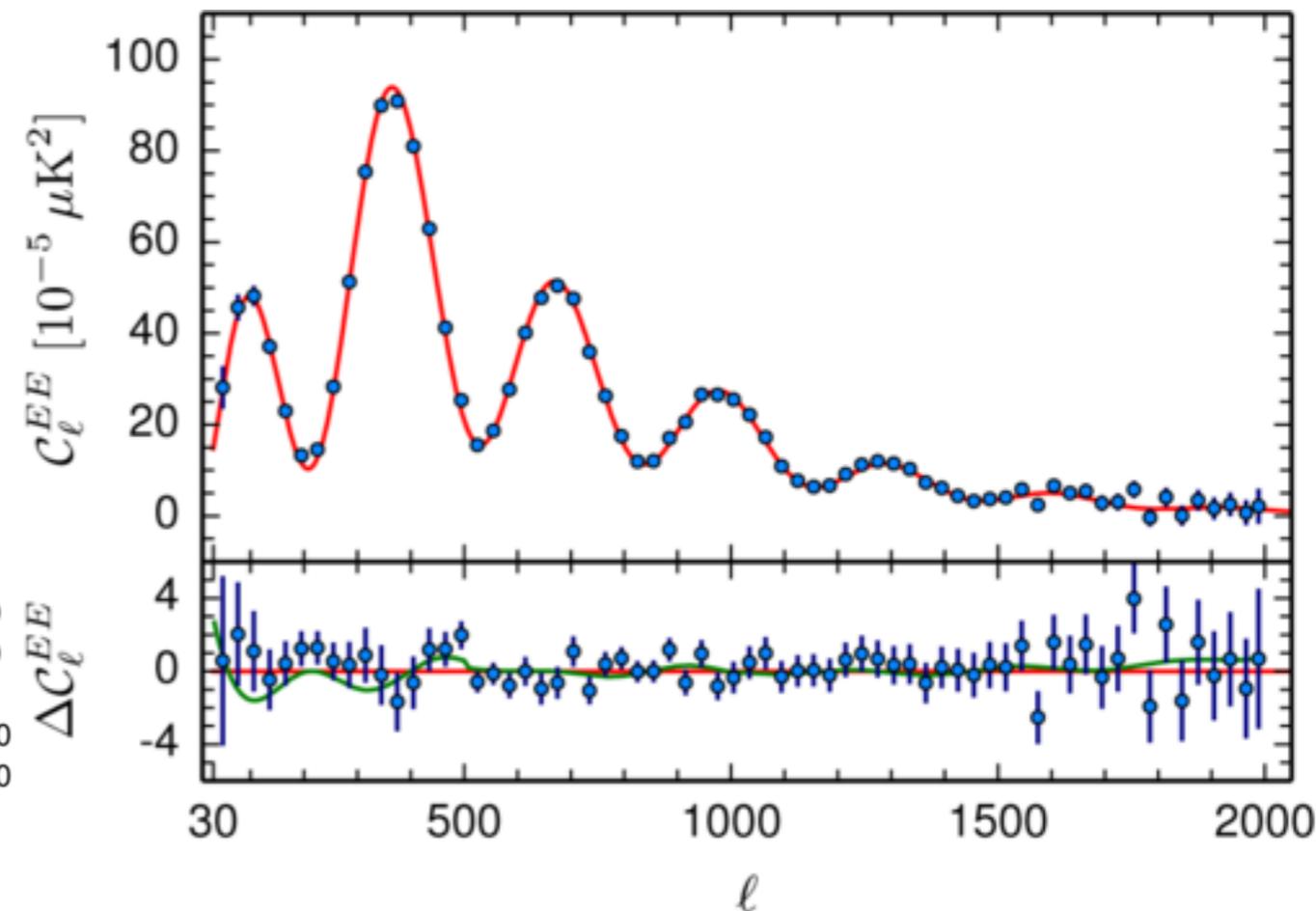
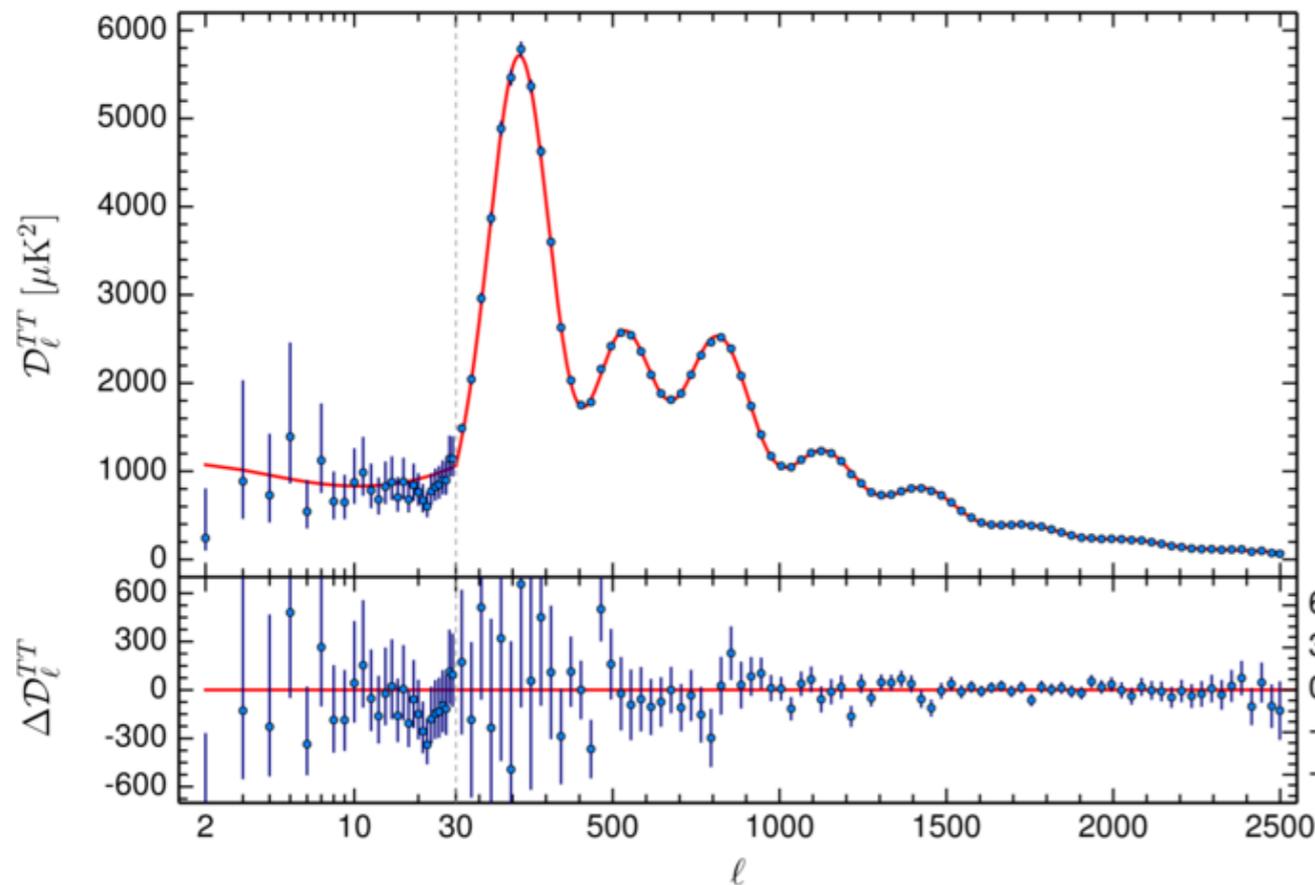


$$C_\ell = \int \frac{dk}{k} \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{R}}(k) [\Theta_\ell(\tau_0, k)]^2$$

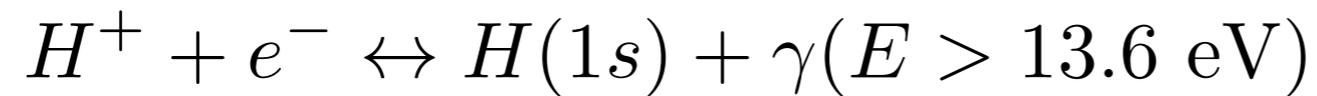
$$\Theta_\ell(\tau_0, k) = \int_\tau^{\tau_0} d\tau S_T(\tau, k) j_\ell(k(\tau_0 - \tau))$$

$$S_T(k, \tau) \equiv \underbrace{g(\Theta_0 + \psi)}_{\text{SW}} + \underbrace{(gk^{-2}\theta_B)'}_{\text{Doppler}} + \underbrace{e^{-\kappa}(\phi' + \psi')}_{\text{ISW}} + \text{polarisation}$$

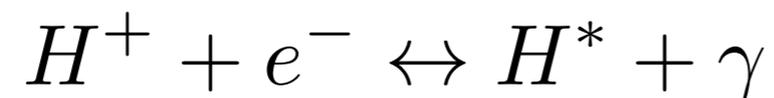
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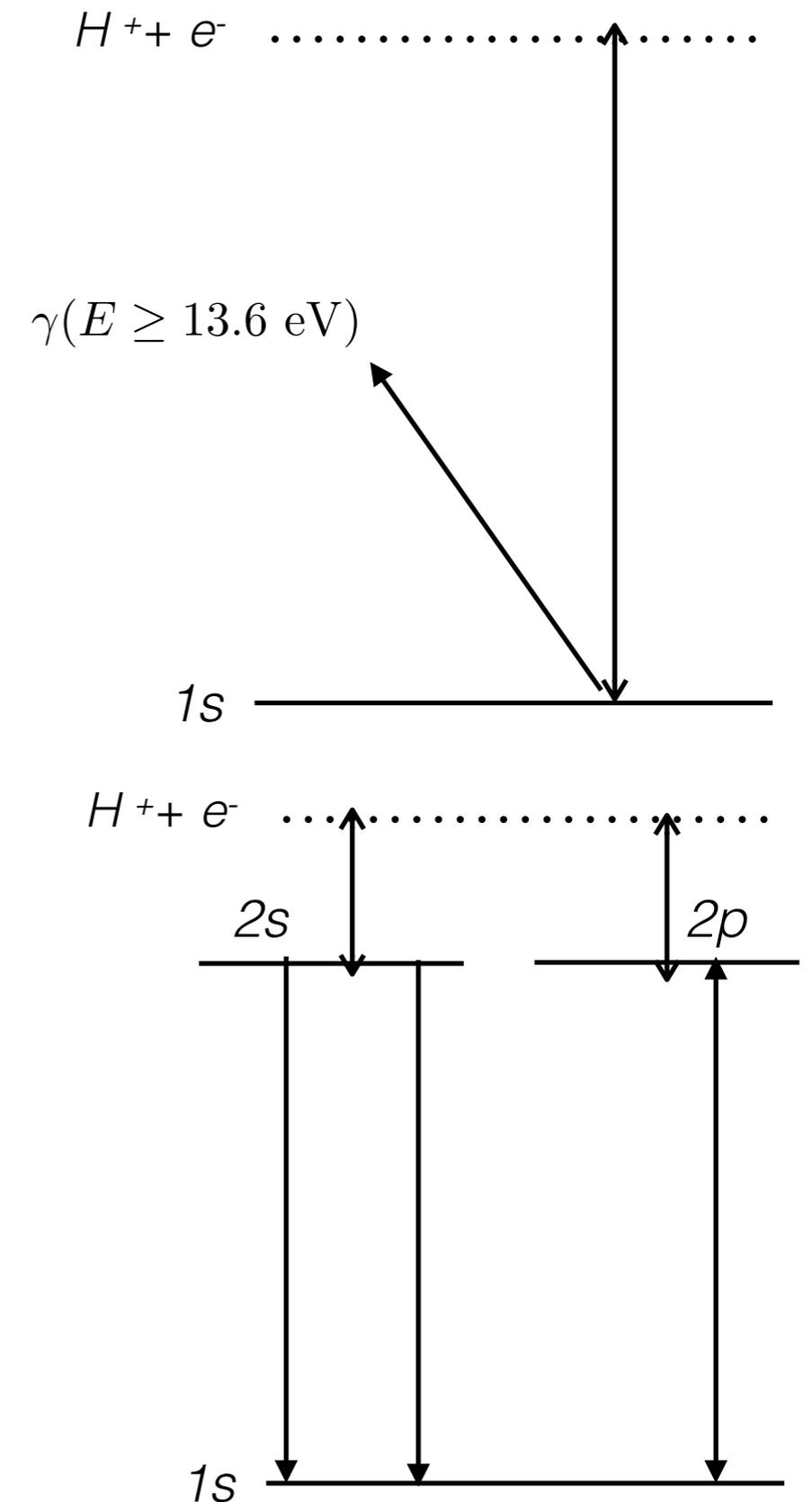
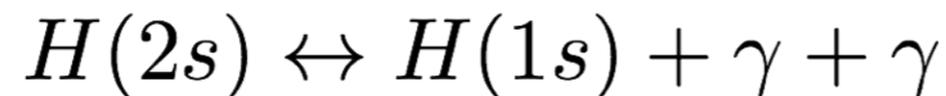
## Recombination in a nutshell



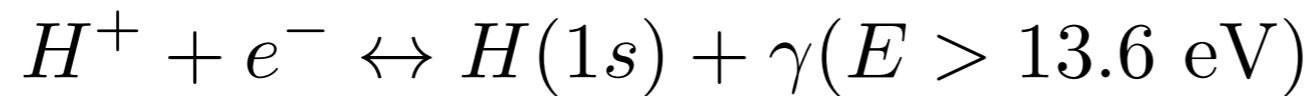
leads to the « saha » equation at equilibrium



followed by

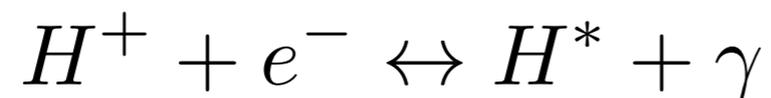


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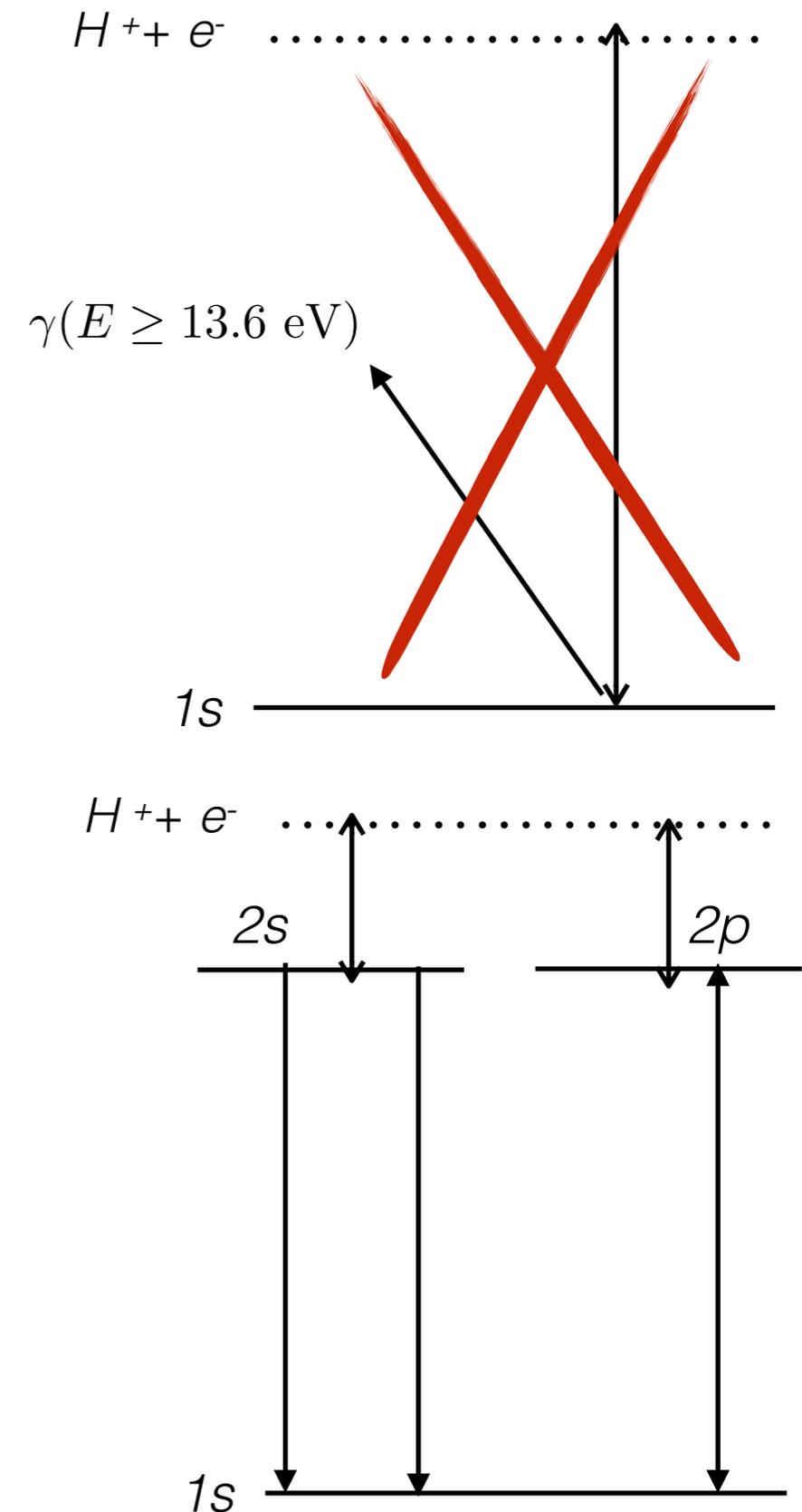
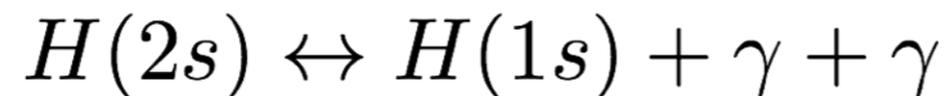


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### The « three-levels atom »



followed by



Recombination as a nutshell

Peebles « case-b » recombination

$$e^- \leftrightarrow H(1s) + \gamma(E > 13.6 \text{ eV})$$

leads to the « saha » equation at equilibrium

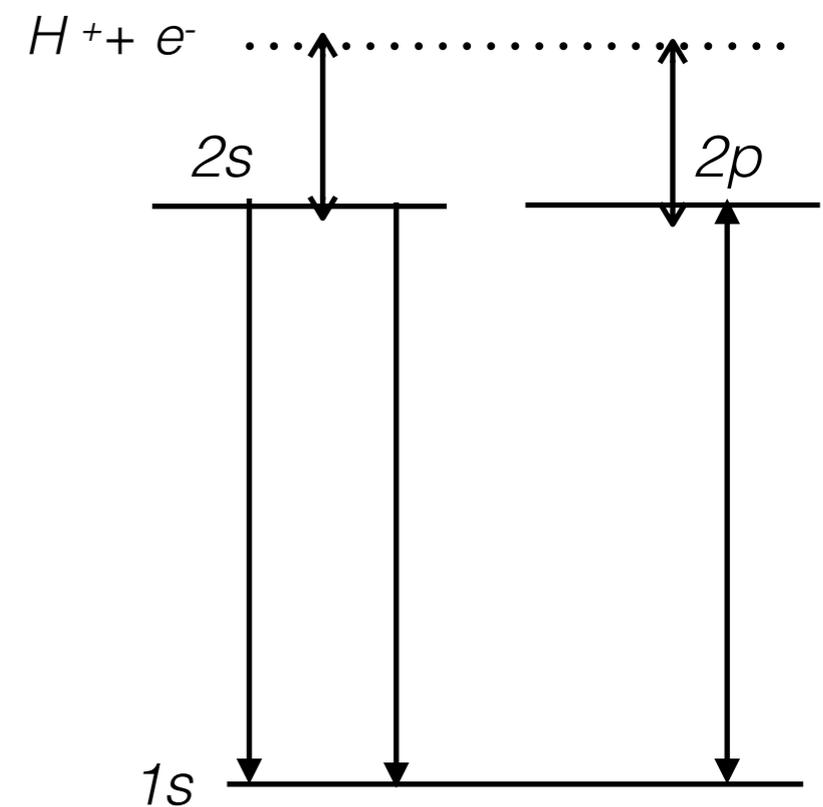
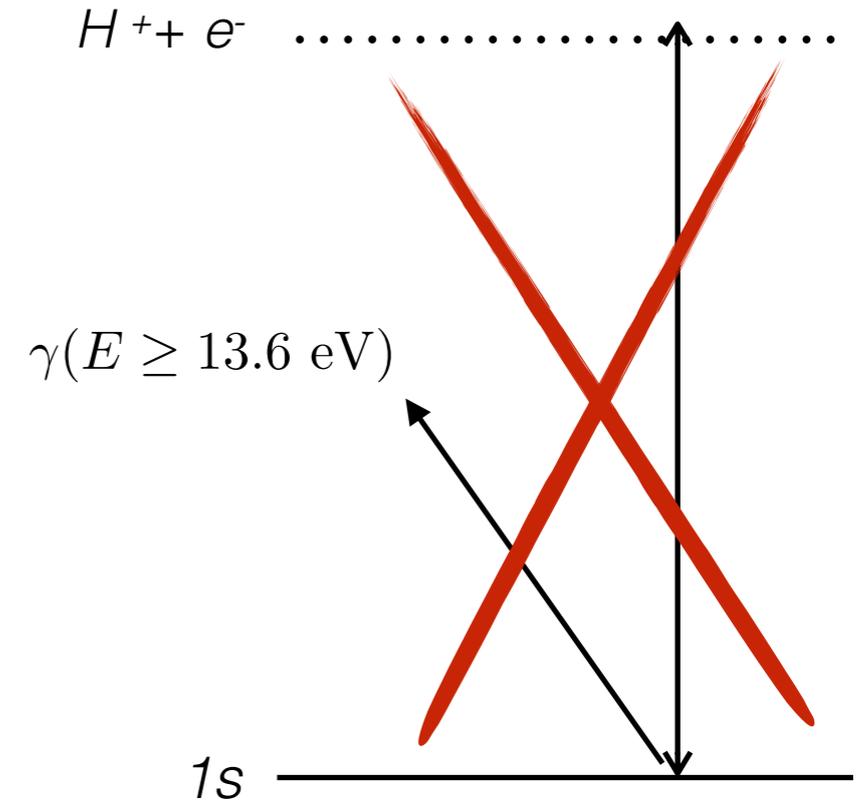
The « three-levels atom »

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

followed by

$$H(2p) \leftrightarrow H(1s) + \gamma$$

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## $\mu$ and $y$ spectral distortions

*see e.g. Chluba & Sunyaev  
[arXiv:1109.6552]*

Scattering processes should thermalize the injected photons, but if those processes go out of equilibrium

In full generality:  $\Delta I(\nu) = I_{\text{true}}(\nu) - I_{\text{bb}}(\nu)$   $\mu$  and  $y$  are (almost) eigenmodes in the PCA!

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$$\mu \equiv 1.401 \left[ \frac{\Delta \rho_\gamma}{\rho_\gamma} \right]_\mu \simeq 1.4 \int \mathcal{J}_{\text{bb}} \mathcal{J}_\mu \frac{1}{\rho_\gamma} \left( \frac{dE}{dt} \Big|_\gamma \right) dt,$$

$$y \equiv \frac{1}{4} \left[ \frac{\Delta \rho_\gamma}{\rho_\gamma} \right]_y \simeq \frac{1}{4} \int \mathcal{J}_{\text{bb}} \mathcal{J}_y \frac{1}{\rho_\gamma} \left( \frac{dE}{dt} \Big|_\gamma \right) dt$$

creation of a chemical potential  
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$$\mathcal{J}_{\text{bb}}(z) \approx \exp[-(z/z_\mu)^{5/2}], \quad \mathcal{J}_y(z) \approx \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{1+z}{6 \times 10^4} \right)^{2.58} \right]^{-1}, \quad \mathcal{J}_\mu(z) \approx 1 - \mathcal{J}_y.$$

Visibility functions related to the range of efficiency of typical processes:

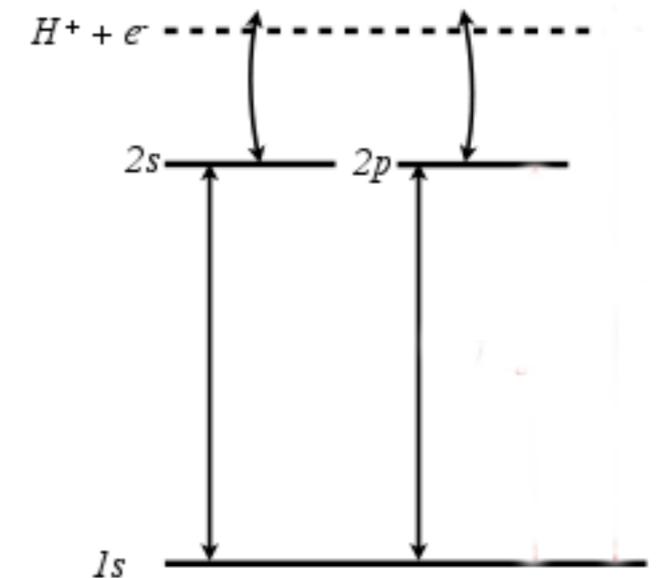
- Compton scattering for Comptonization-y
- Double Compton and Bremsstrahlung for μ-distortion

Evolution equations for  $x_e$  : the free electron fraction  
and  $T_m$  : the matter temperature

$$\frac{dx_e}{dz} = \frac{1}{(1+z)H(z)} [R_s(z) - I_s(z)]$$

$$\frac{dT_M}{dz} = \frac{1}{1+z} \left[ 2T_M + \gamma(T_M - T_{\text{CMB}}) \right]$$

$$I_x(z) \text{ and } K_h(z) \propto \left. \frac{dE}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{dep,c}}$$



Key quantity  $dE/dVdt|_{\text{dep,c}}$ :

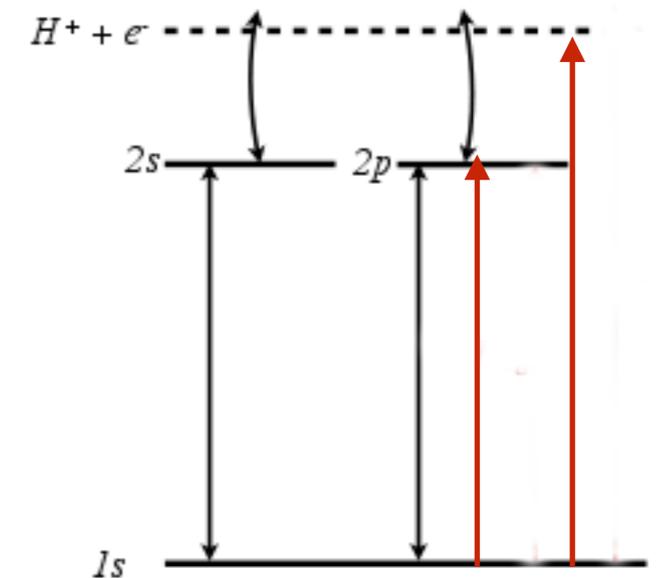
- The energy deposition rate by the decay per unit volume in each channel: ionization, excitation, heating
- Depending on  $z$  and  $x_e$ , the plasma can be very inefficient at absorbing energy !
- In full generality, very complicated to compute, need MC simulations.

Evolution equations for  $x_e$  : the free electron fraction  
and  $T_m$  : the matter temperature

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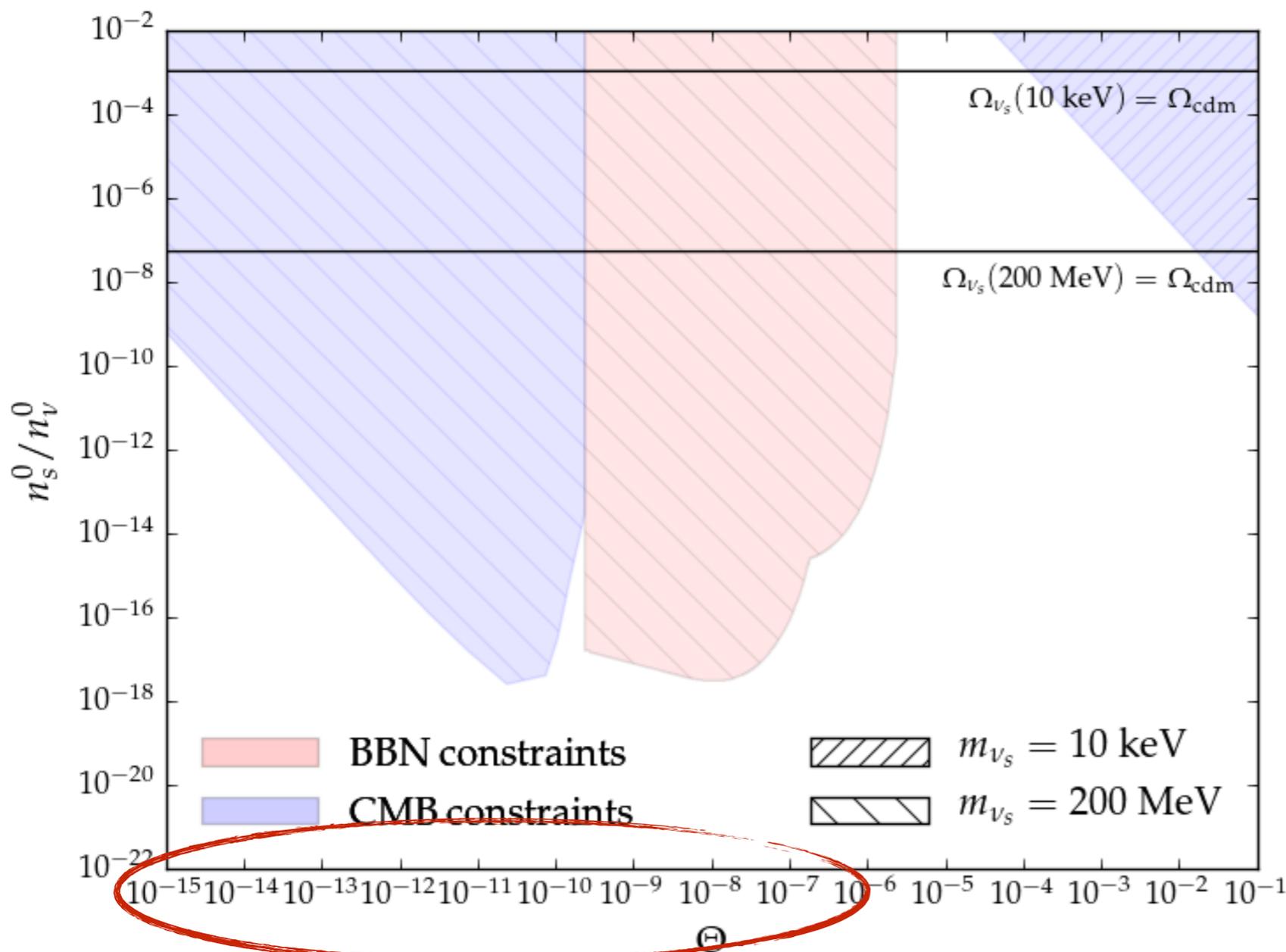
# Constraints on keV-MeV scale majorana sterile neutrinos

- Below 200MeV, main decay channels are :

*e.g. Drewes et al. JCAP 1701(2017) 025*

$$\Gamma_{3\nu}^{-1} \simeq 3 \times 10^4 \text{s} \left( \frac{\text{MeV}}{M_s} \right) \Theta^{-2} \quad \Gamma_{\nu\gamma} \simeq 1.6\% \Gamma_{3\nu} \quad \Gamma_{\nu e^+e^-} \simeq \mathcal{O}(10\%) \Gamma_{3\nu}$$

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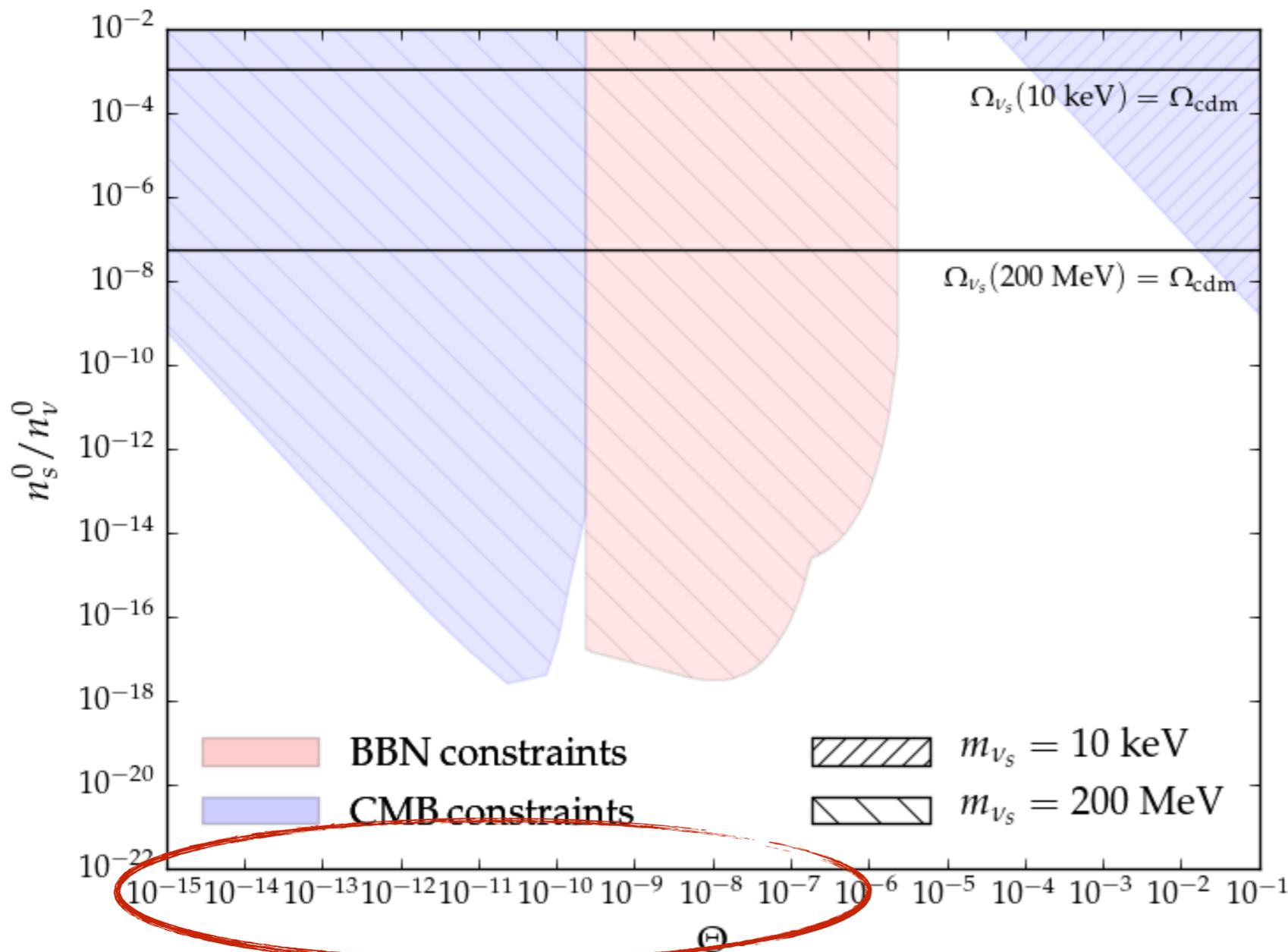
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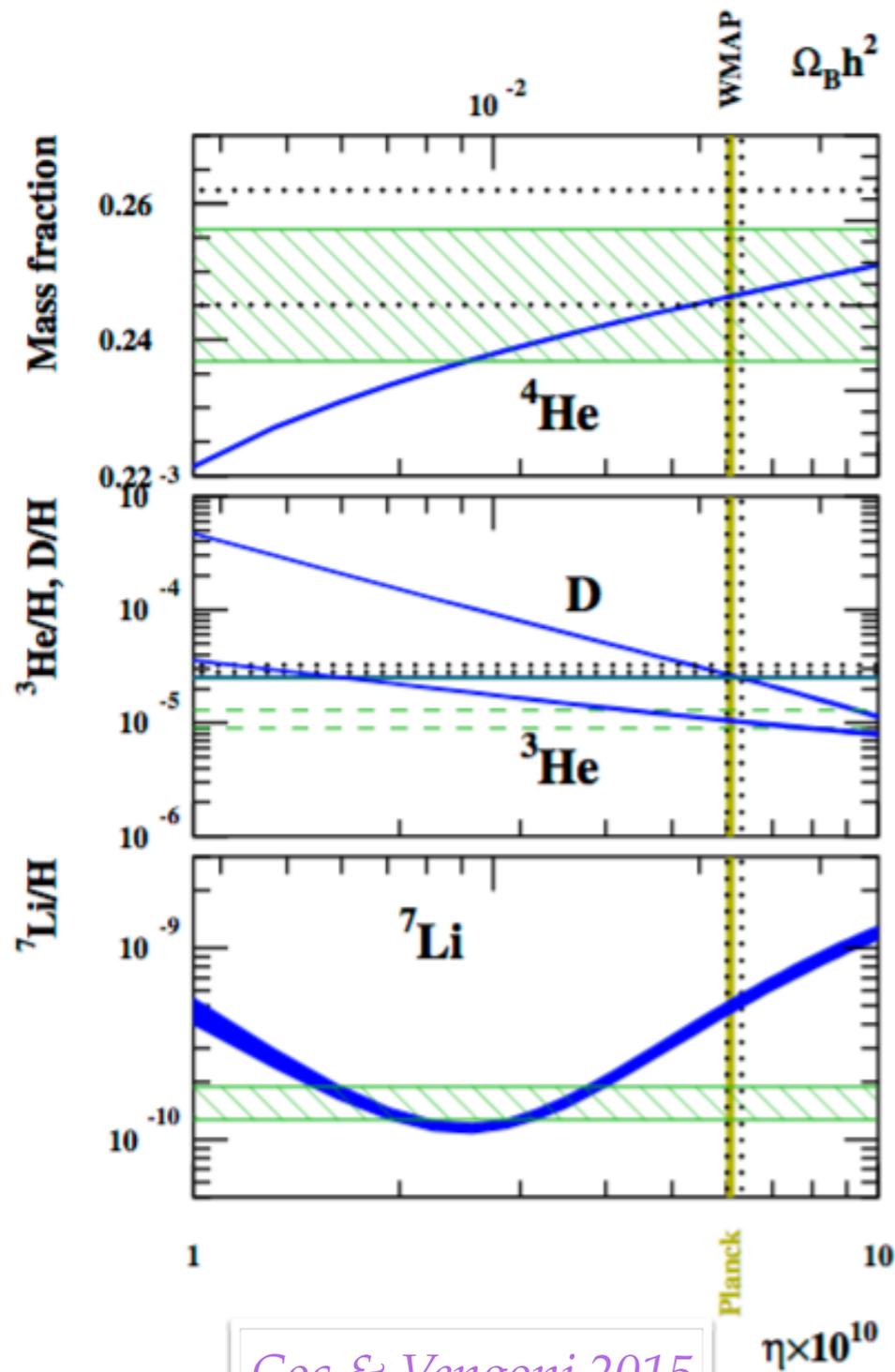


- Cosmology is mostly sensitive to **sterile neutrinos more weakly coupled** than those evolve in see-saw mechanism;
- Still, it is interesting since **masses and mixing of the right-handed neutrinos are not constrained** by fundamental physics arguments !
- KeV-scale neutrinos are usually better constrained by diffuse X-ray background

*Boyarsky et al.  
MNRAS 370 (2006) 213–218*

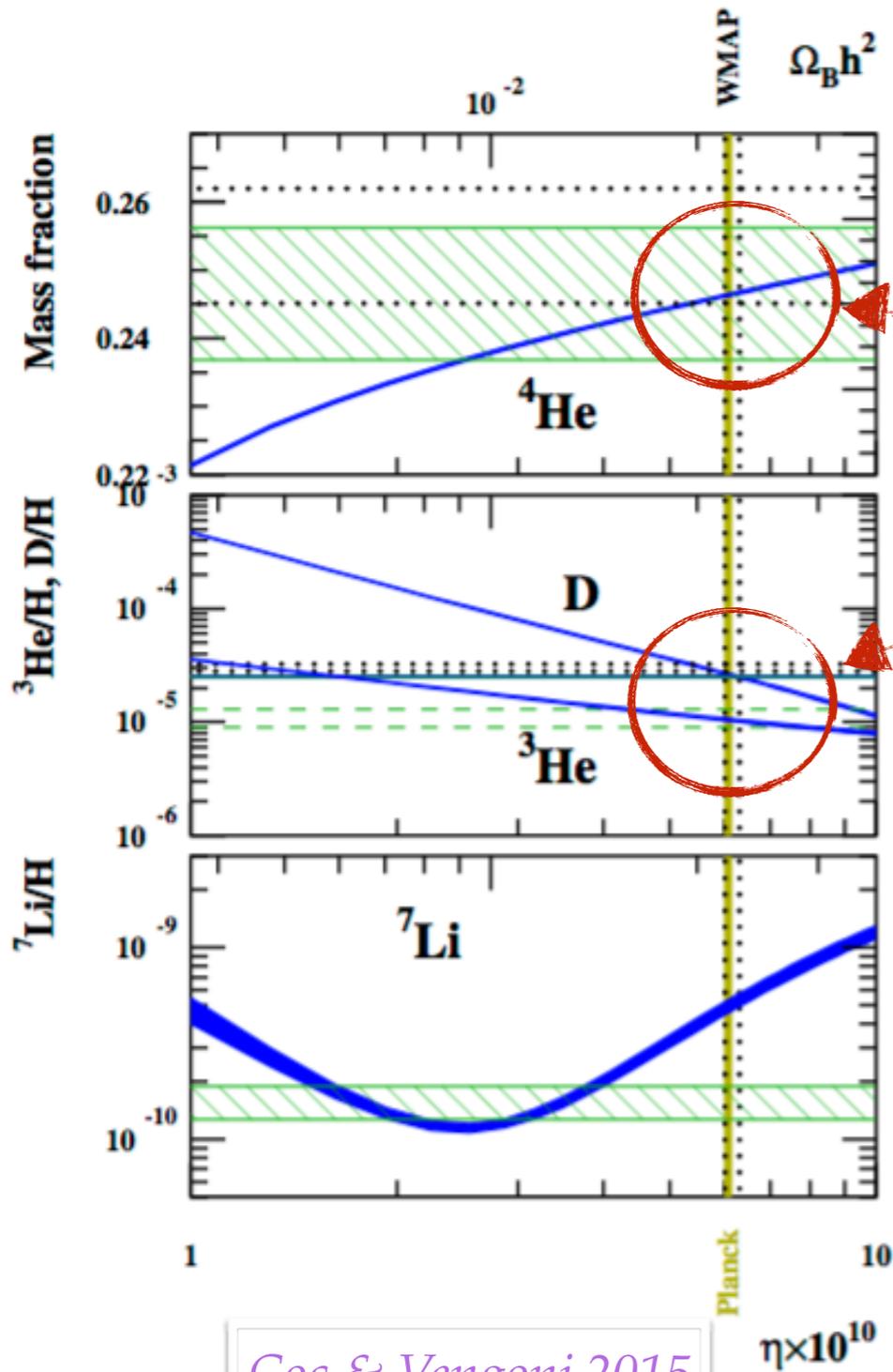
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Coc & Vengoni 2015

For 3 nuclei :

Strong observational constraints

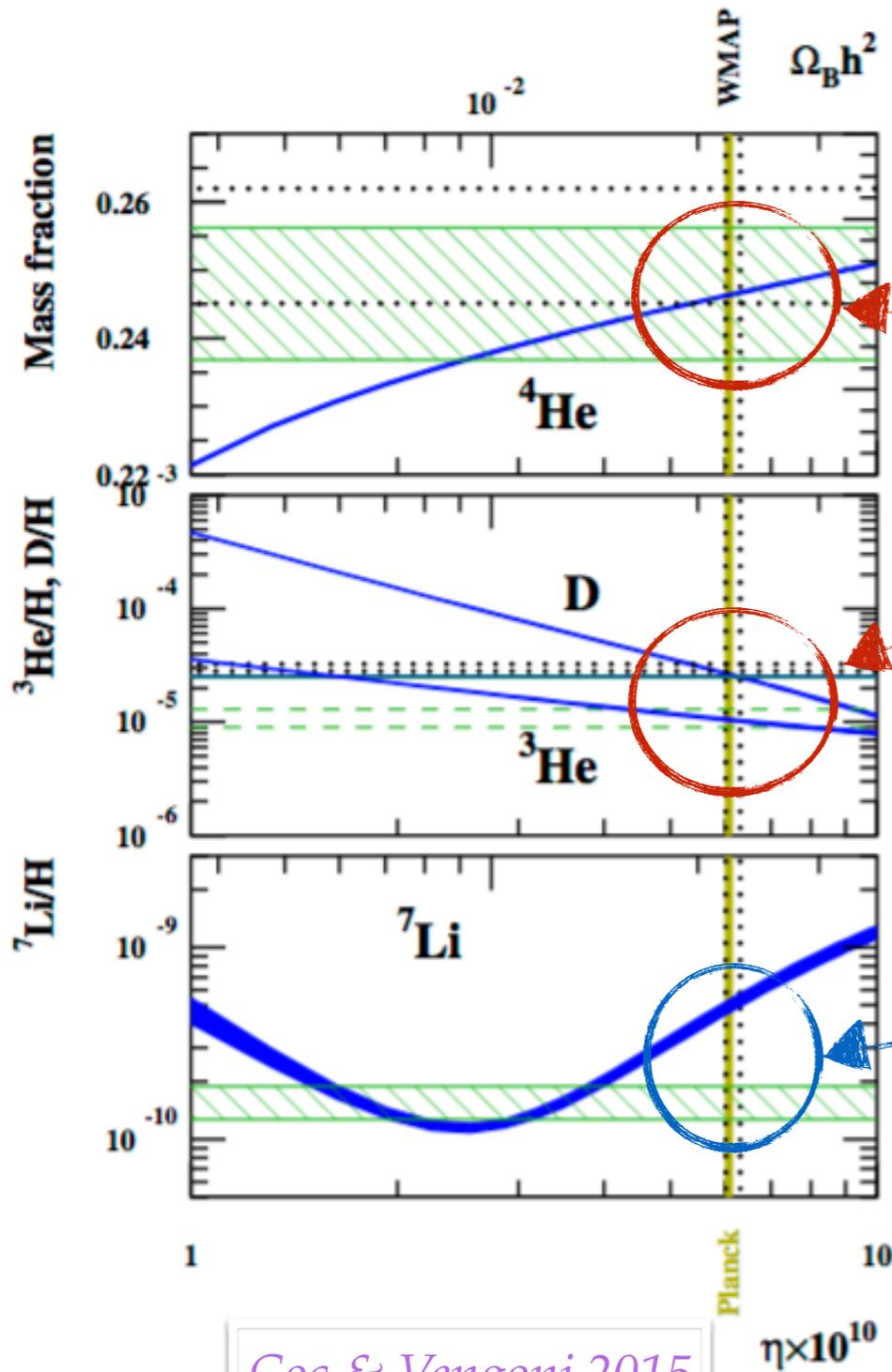
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The Lithium problem :

Overprediction of the  ${}^7\text{Li}$  abundance

$$Y_{\text{Li}}^{\text{theo}} \simeq 3 \times Y_{\text{Li}}^{\text{obs}}$$

ignored today !

*e.g. Poulin & Serpico  
PRL 114 (2015) no.9, 091101*

same « EM cascade » to compute ... But much simpler

We inject electromagnetic energy in a plasma with  $n_\gamma \gg n_b$

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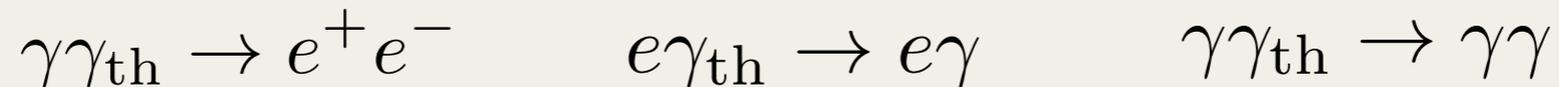
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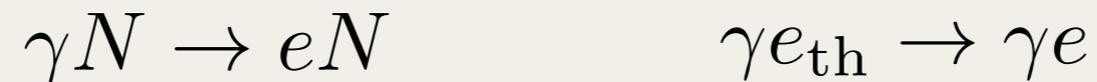
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Basic processes are (at high energies)



and eventually (very low rates)



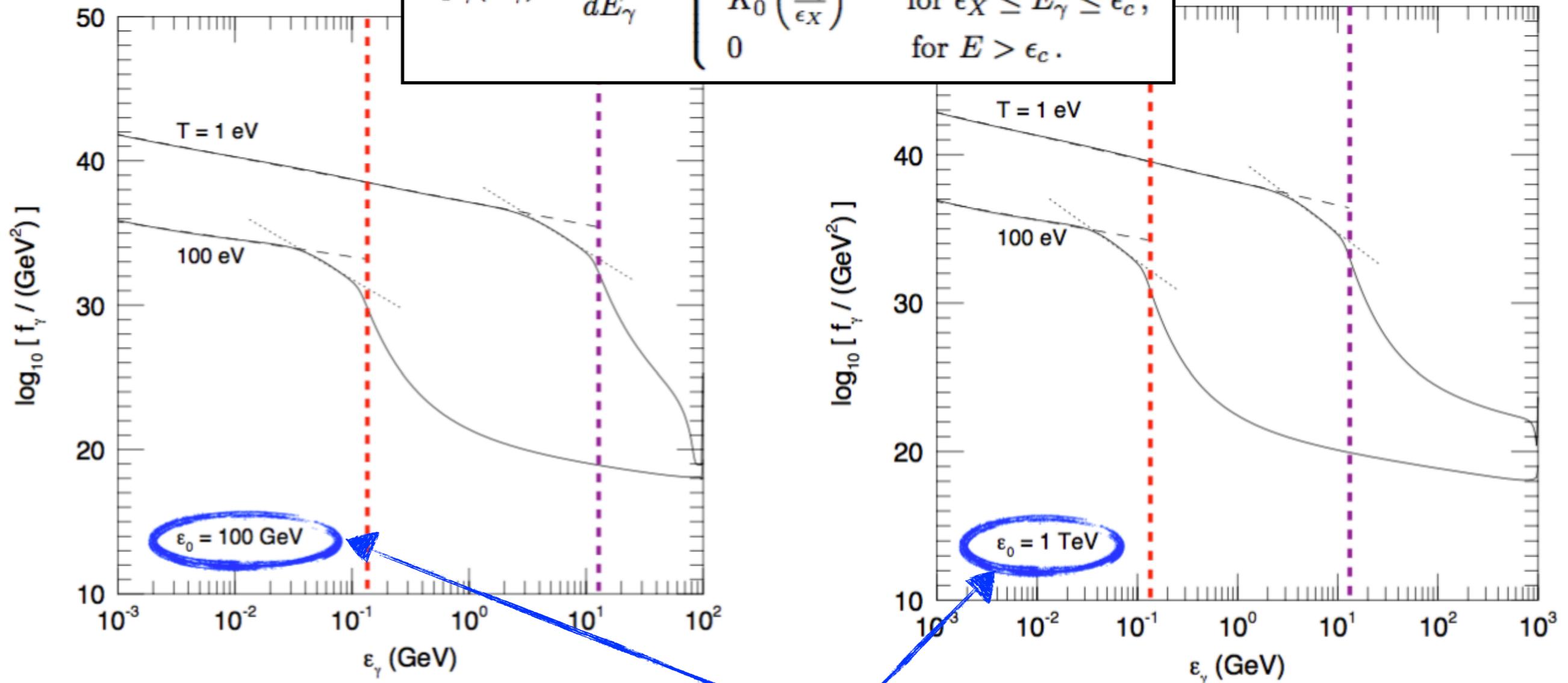
Particle multiplication and energy redistribution

=> **Electromagnetic cascade** !

*Kawasaki & Moroi,  
ApJ 452,506 (1995)*

This has been shown to lead to a universal spectrum

$$p_\gamma(E_\gamma) \equiv \frac{dN_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} = \begin{cases} K_0 \left(\frac{E_\gamma}{\epsilon_X}\right)^{-3/2} & \text{for } E_\gamma < \epsilon_X, \\ K_0 \left(\frac{E_\gamma}{\epsilon_X}\right)^{-2} & \text{for } \epsilon_X \leq E_\gamma \leq \epsilon_c, \\ 0 & \text{for } E > \epsilon_c. \end{cases}$$



- Shape independent of the energy / temperature of the bath:  
Only dictates the overall normalisation;
- Threshold due to pair production.

## Non-Universal BBN bounds

Typically, after the end of standard BBN (5 keV) :

$$E_{\text{cutoff}}(1 \text{ keV}) \sim 12 \text{ MeV} \quad E_{\text{cutoff}}(10 \text{ eV}) \sim 1.2 \text{ GeV}$$

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After « standard » BBN :

$$E_{\text{threshold}}(\text{Be}) = 1.58 \text{ MeV} < E_{\text{cutoff}}$$

If  $E_{\text{threshold}} < E_0 < E_{\text{cutoff}}$

results in the literature are wrong !

Consider a photon injection and start by neglecting diffused electrons.

Remaining processes are :

$$\gamma\gamma_{\text{th}} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, \quad \gamma e_{\text{th}}^{\pm} \rightarrow \gamma e^{\pm}, \quad \gamma N \rightarrow N e^{\pm}$$

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Hubble rate much smaller than  
all particle physics interaction rate,  
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where for a decaying particle

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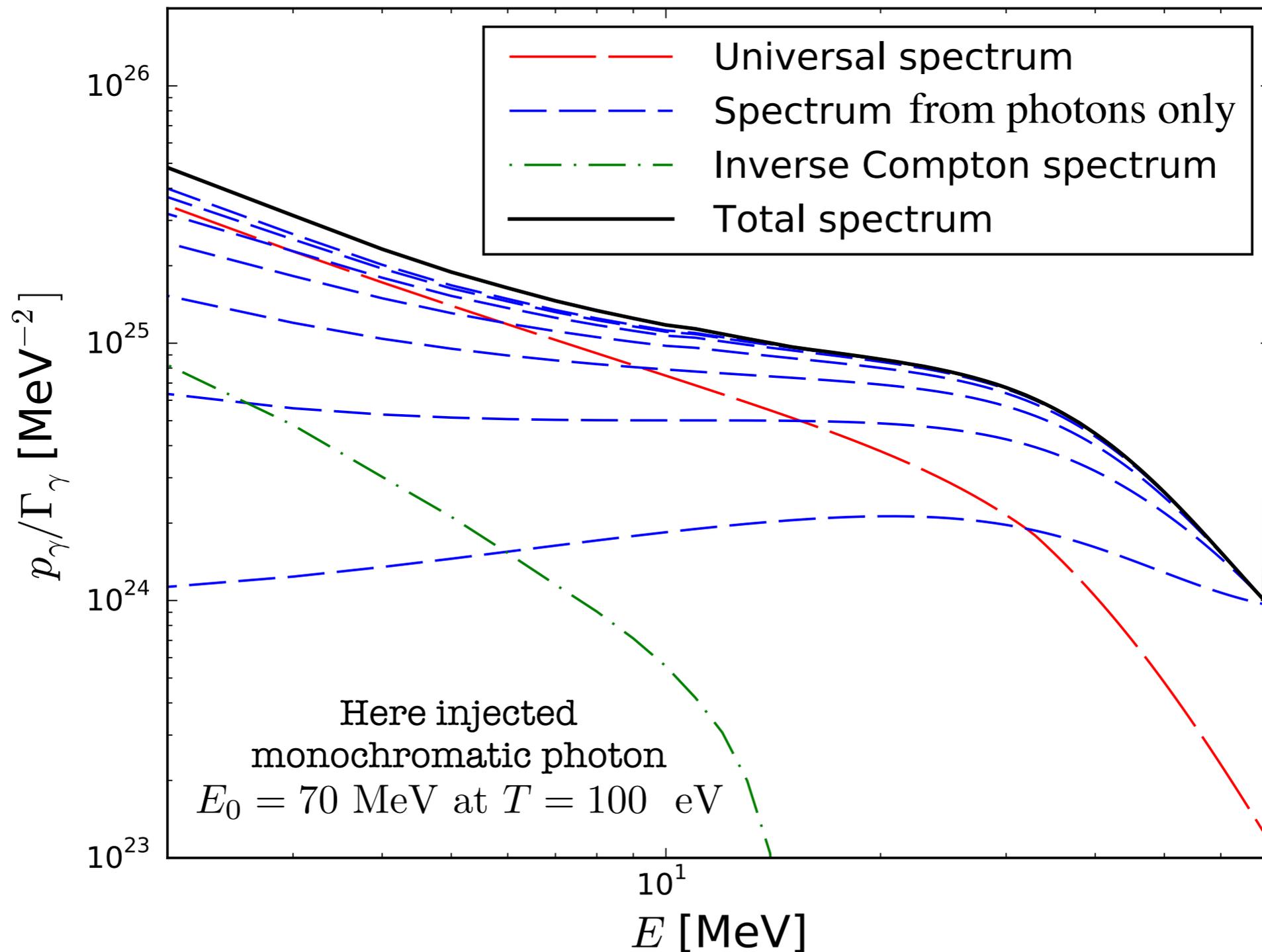
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Typical results for a given energy and a given temperature of the thermal bath



Proof of principle solution :  
monochromatic photon injection

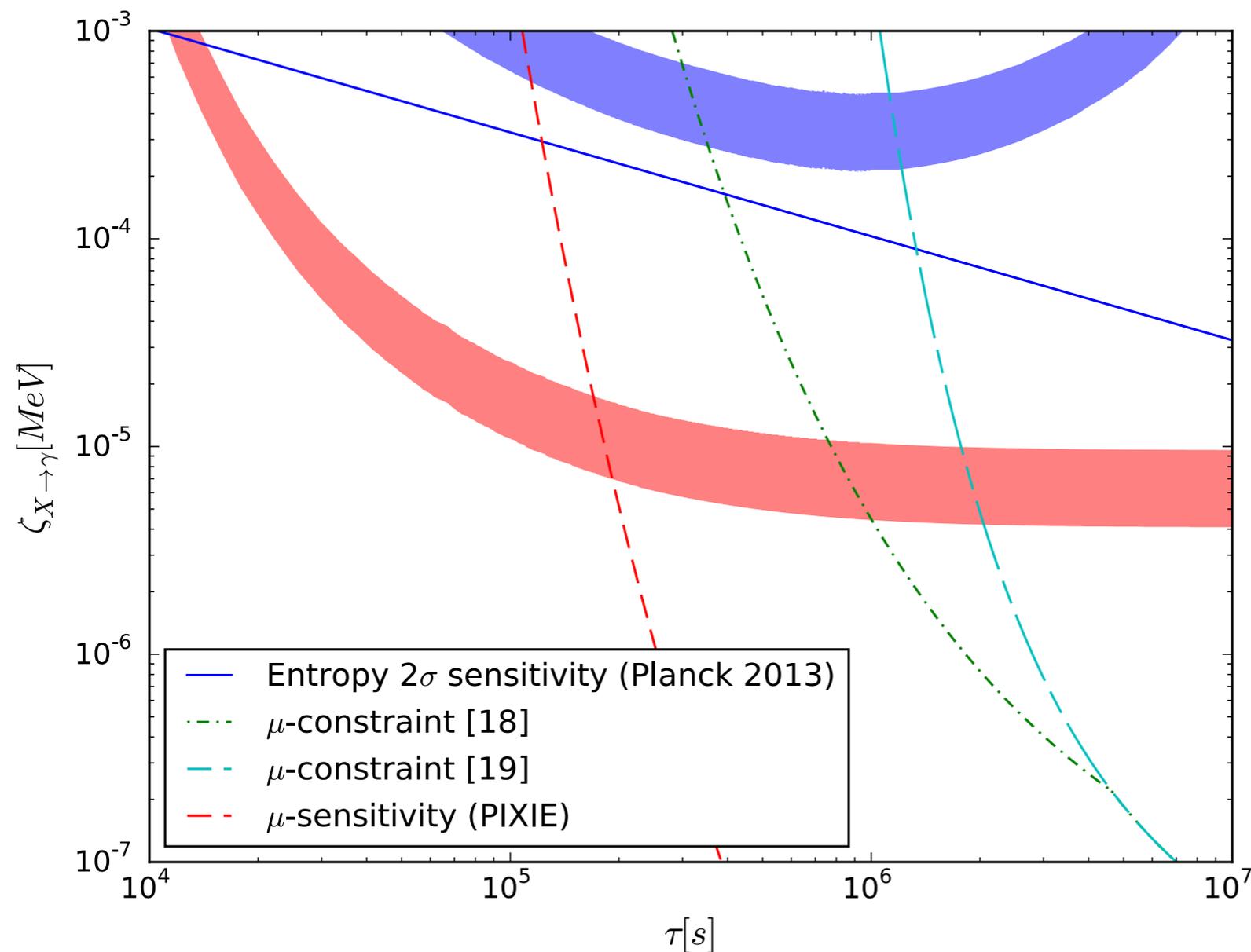
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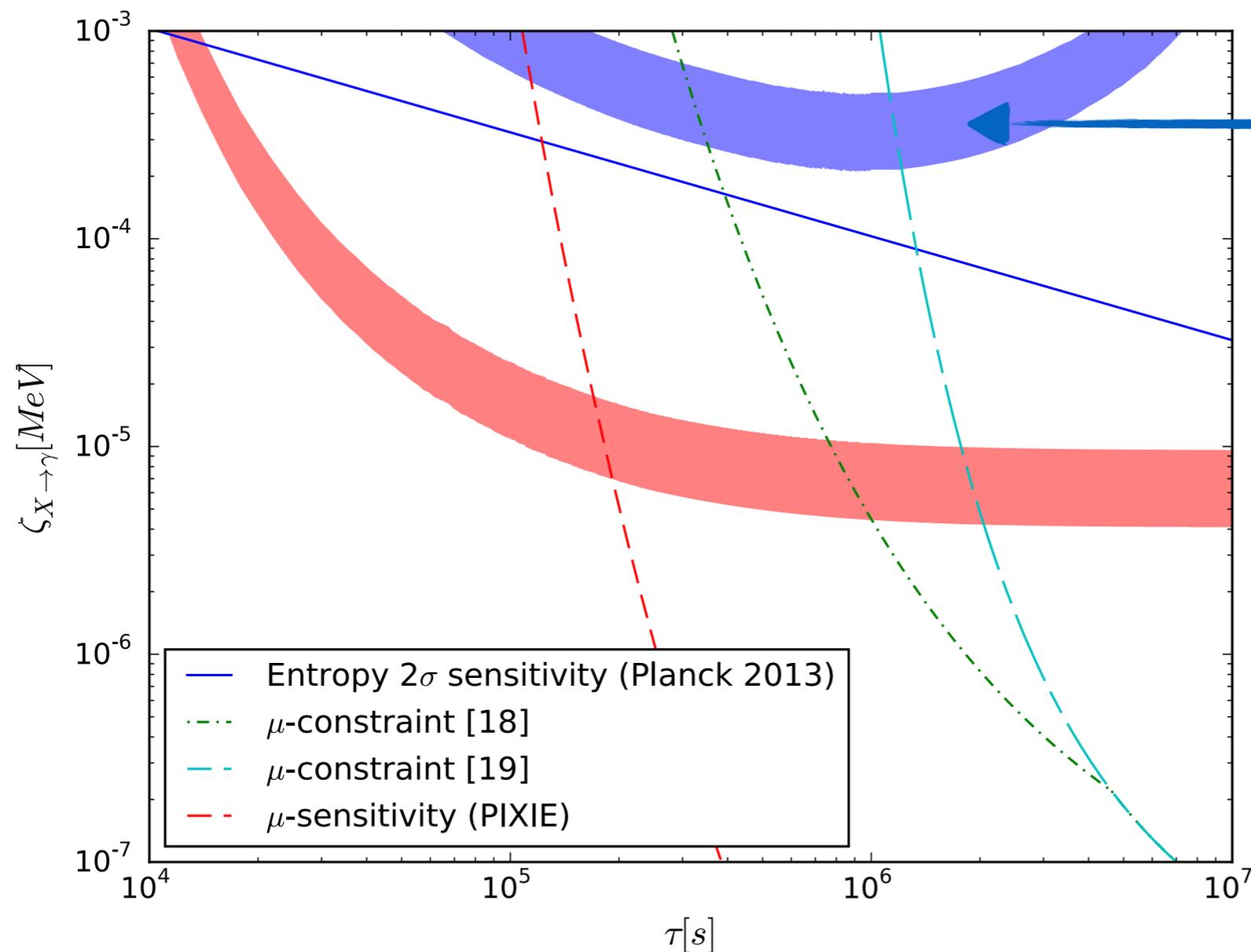
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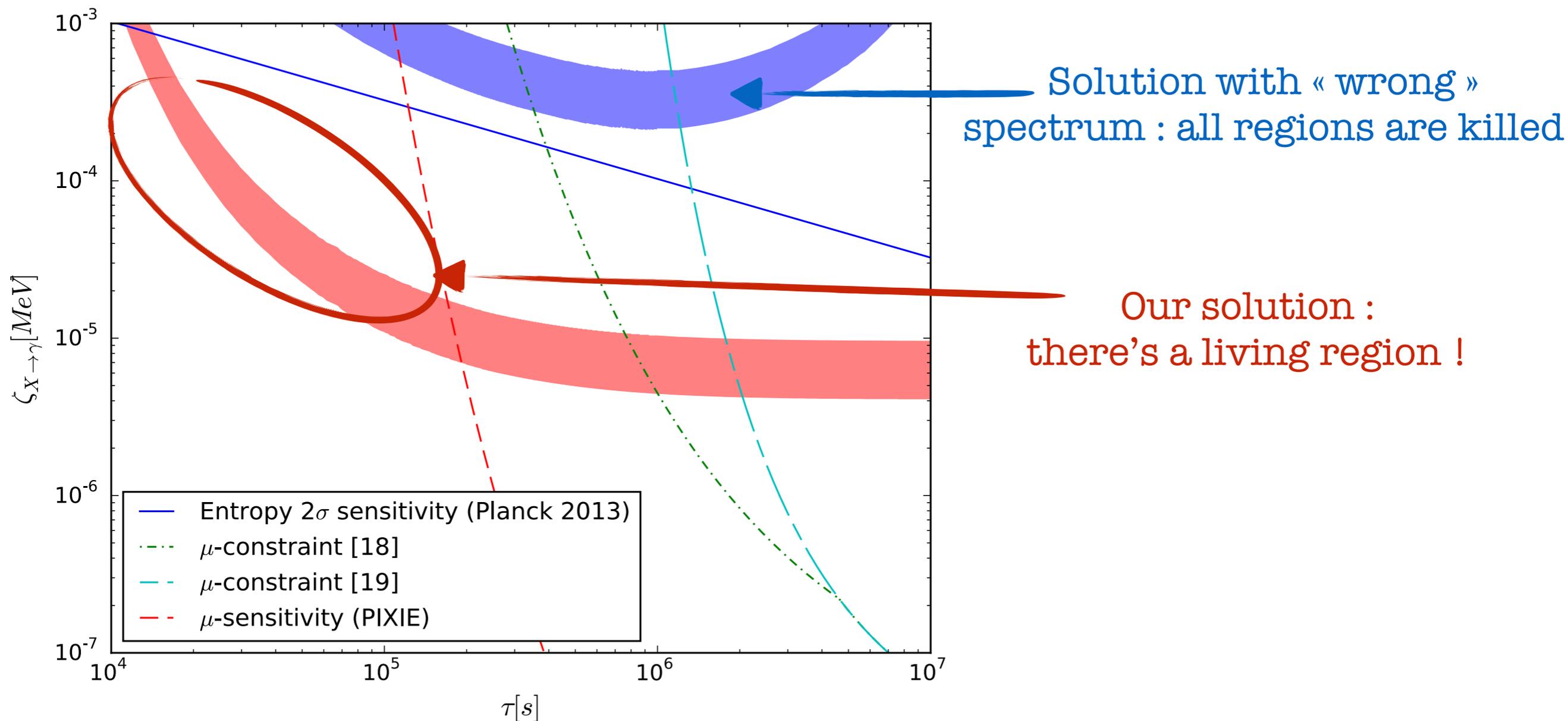


Solution with « wrong »  
spectrum : all regions are killed

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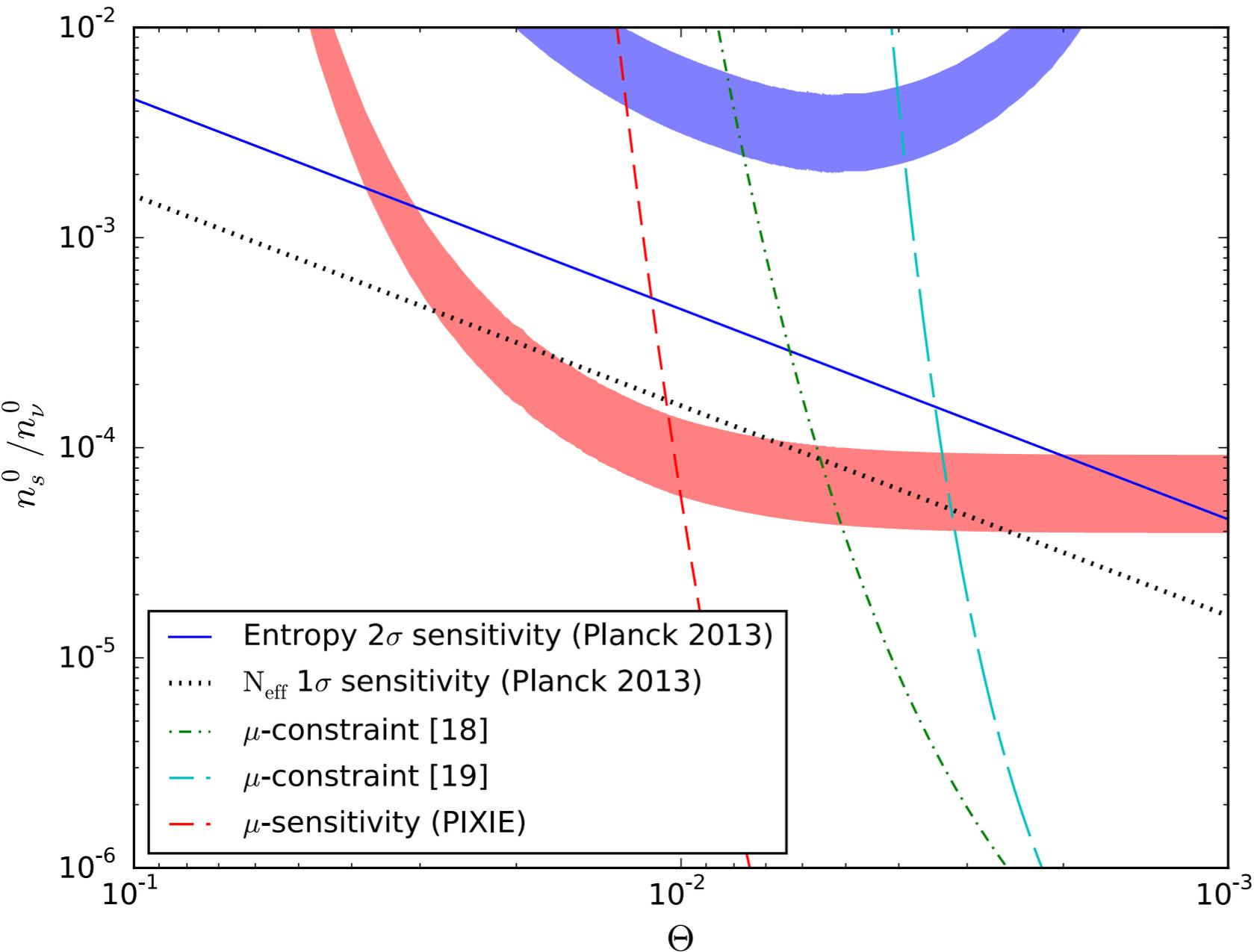
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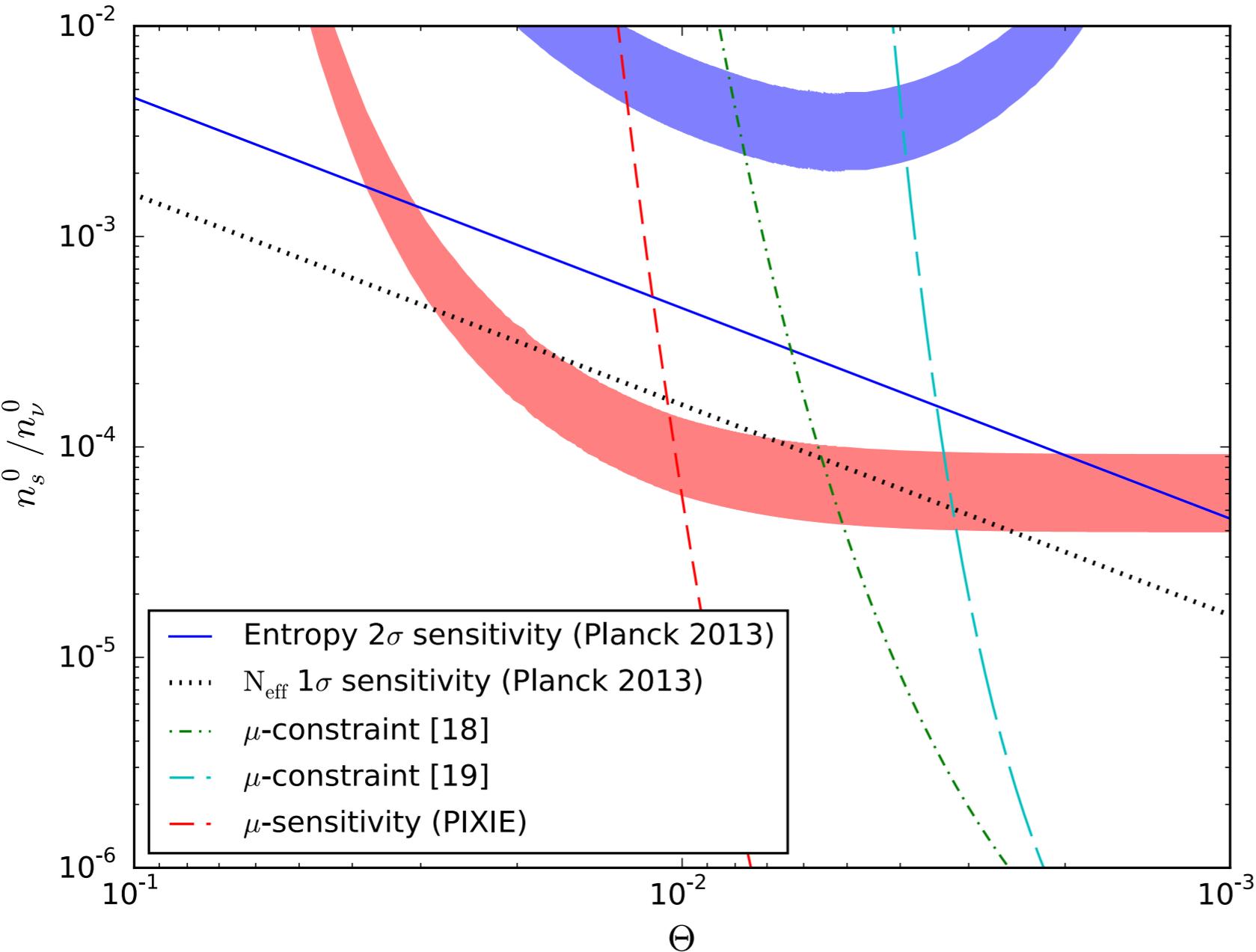
Try with a « real » model that was known to fail  
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the Sterile (majorana) Neutrino

*H. Ishida et al.*  
*PRD 90, 8, 083519 (2014)*



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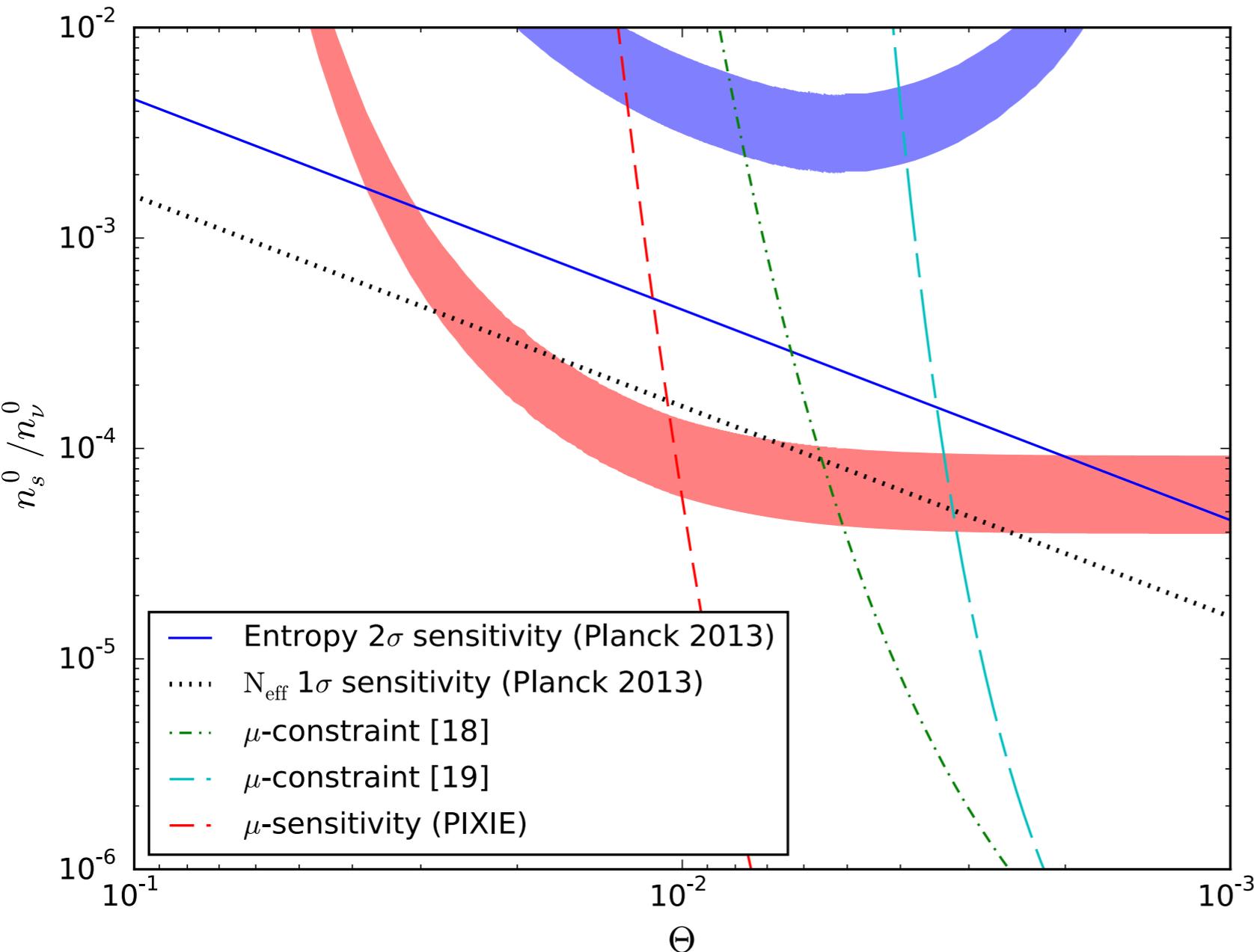
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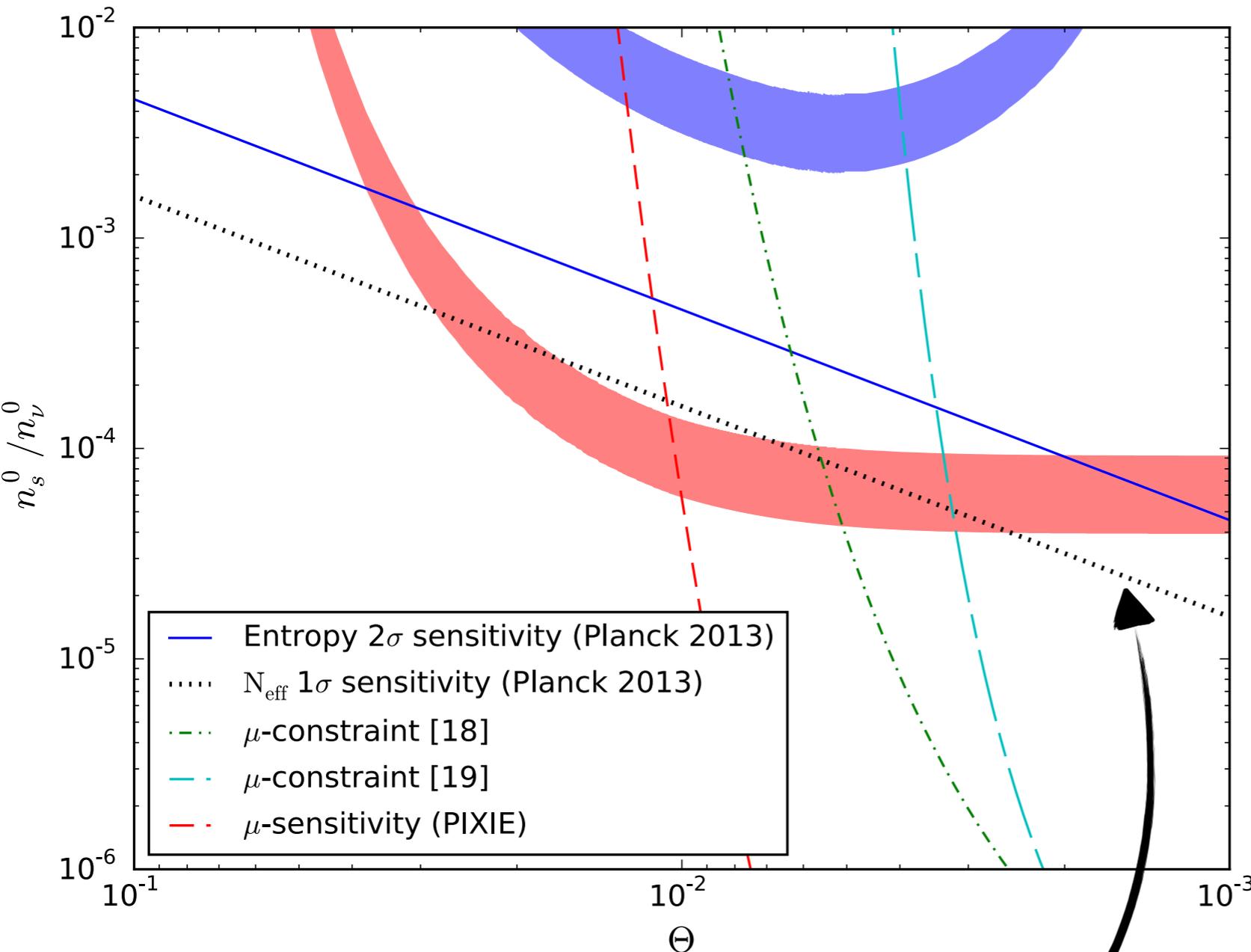
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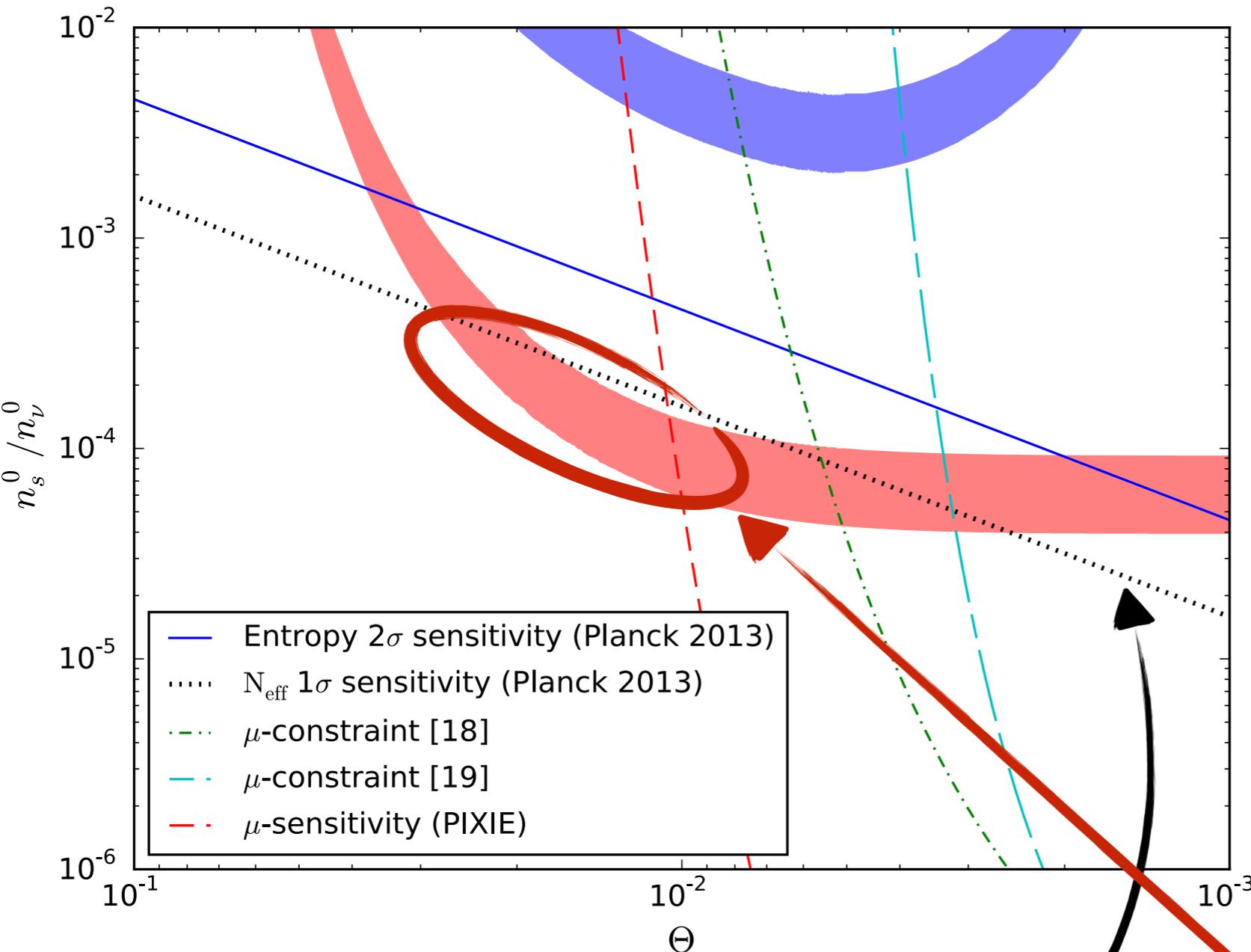
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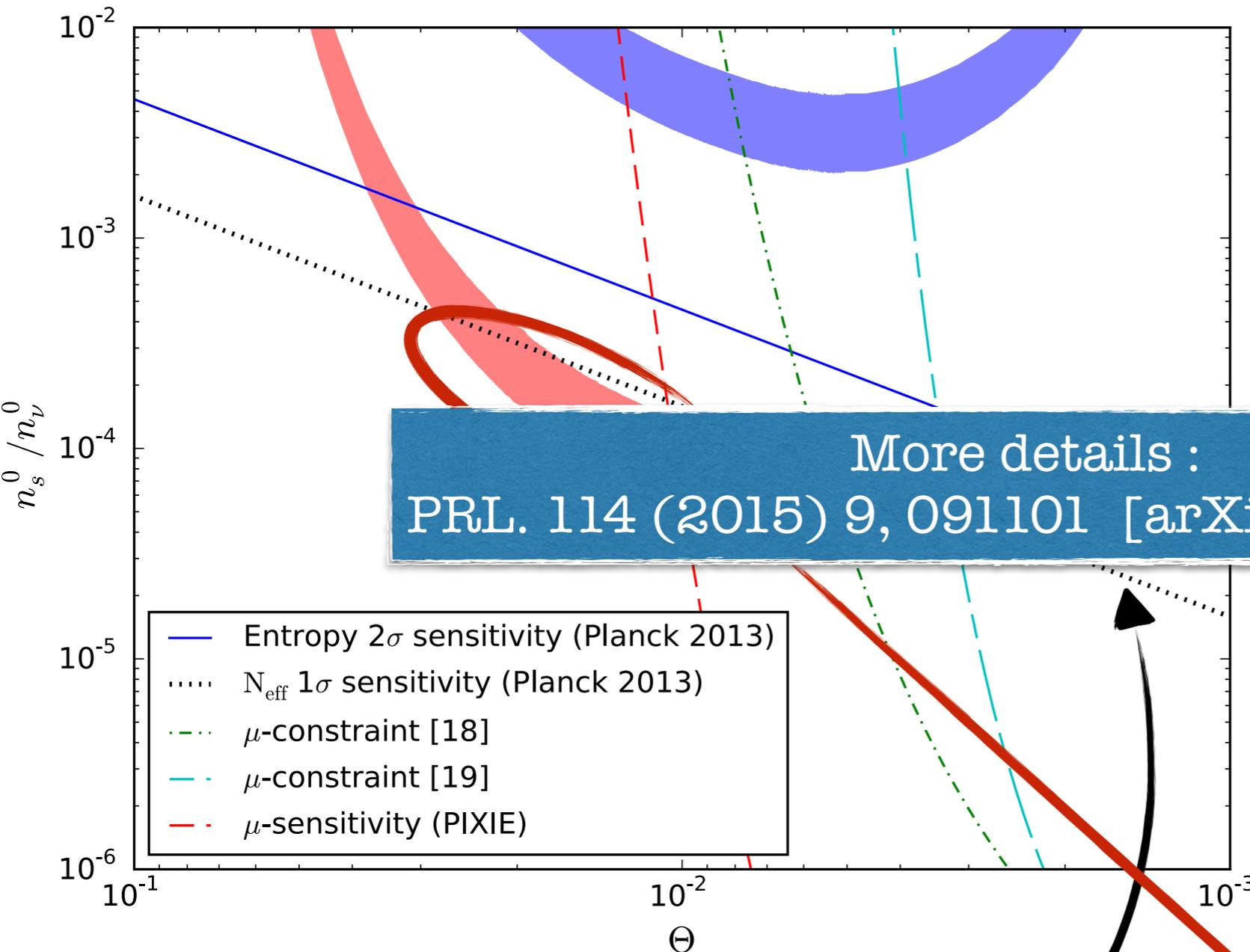
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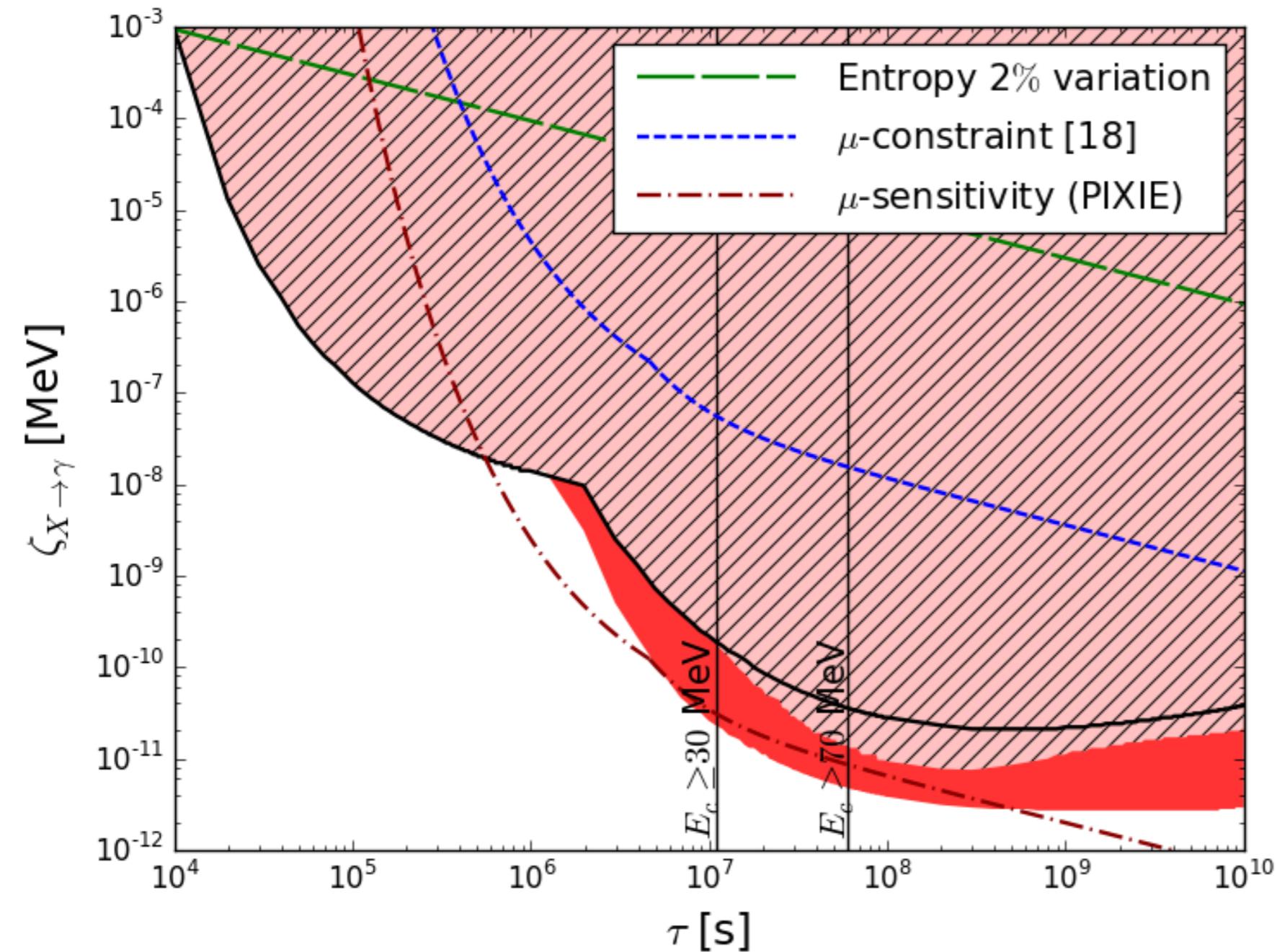
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## Example with two monochromatic photon injection

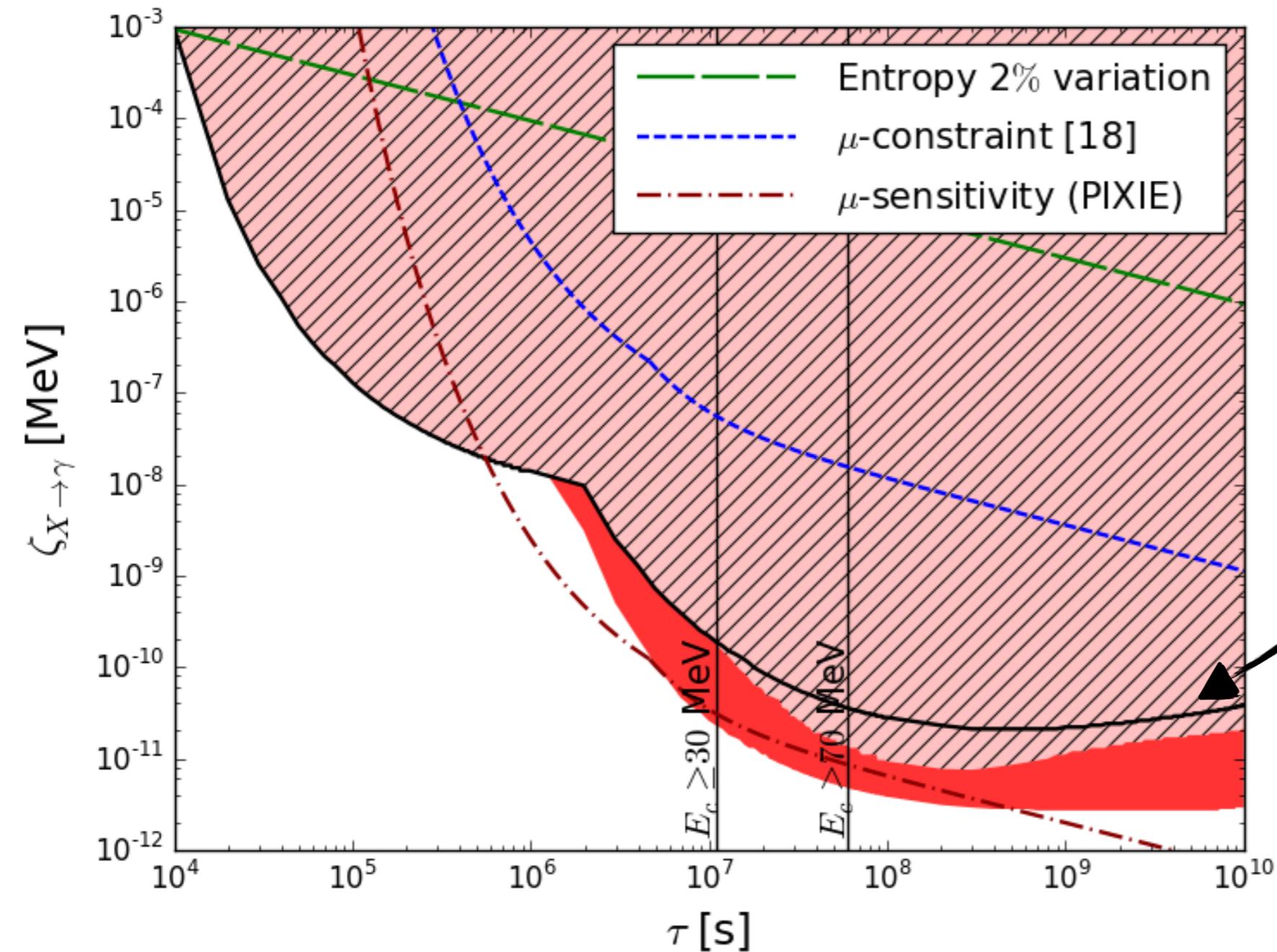
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*VP & Serpico*  
*PRD. 91 (2015) 10,*  
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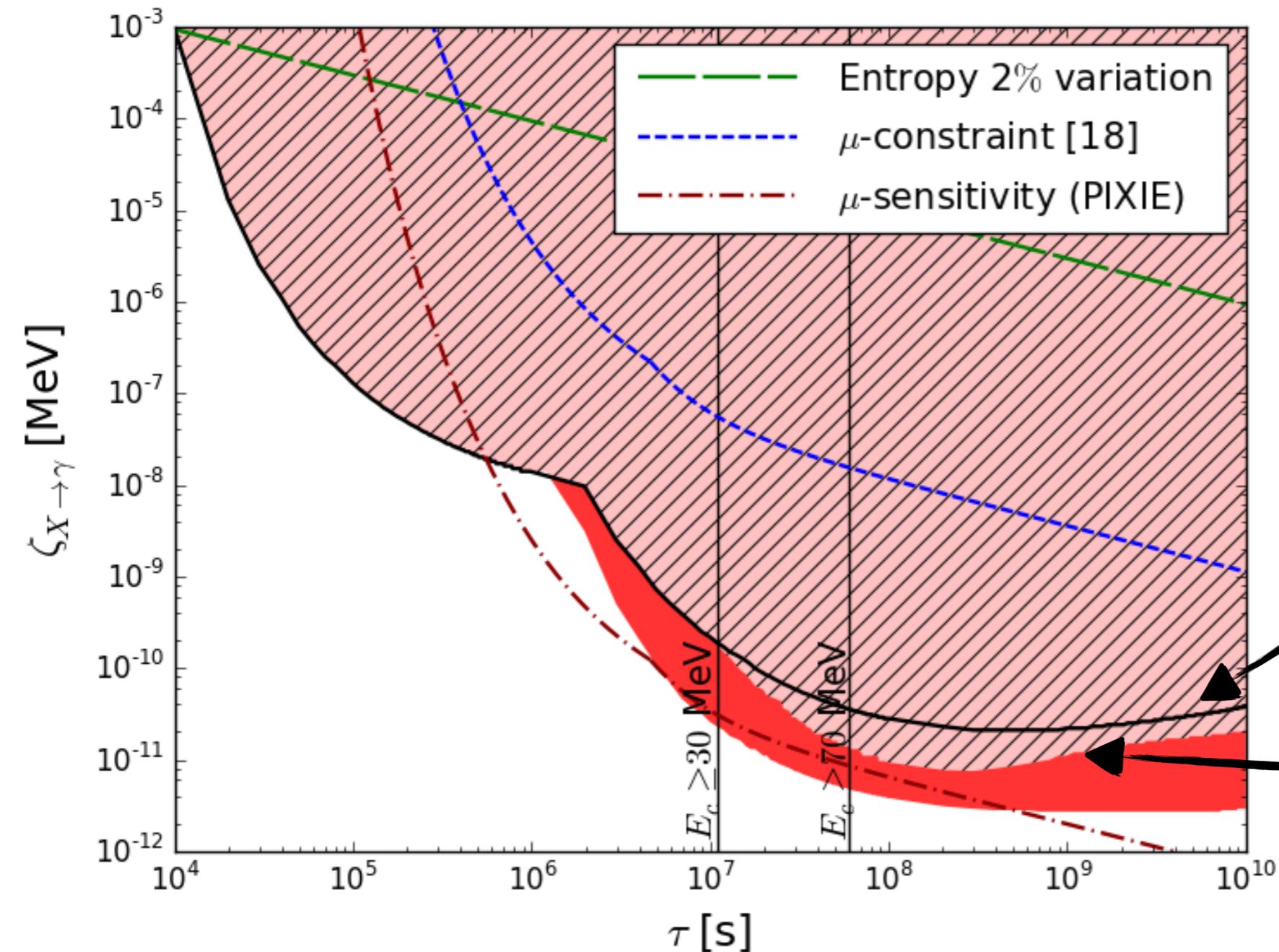
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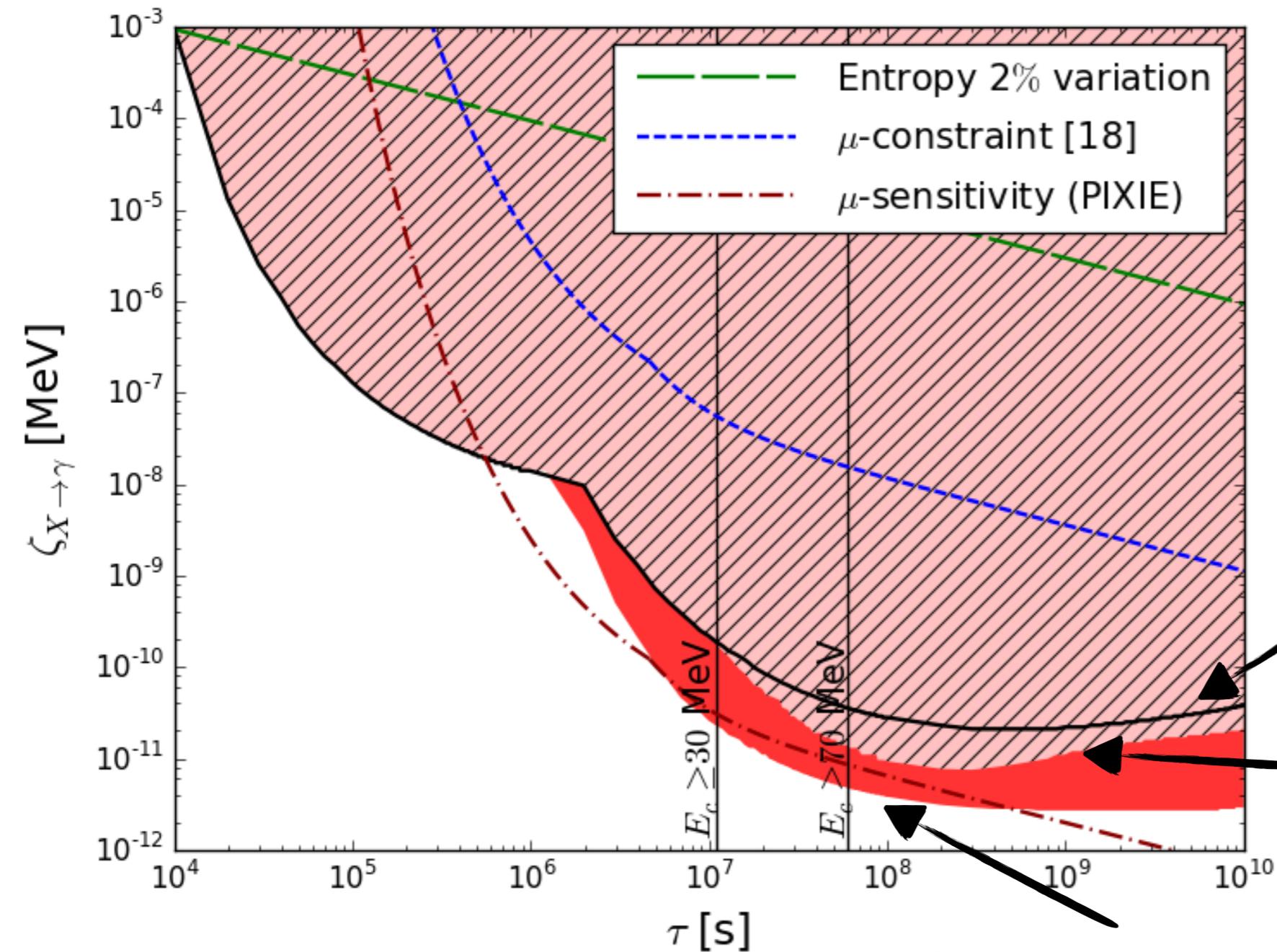
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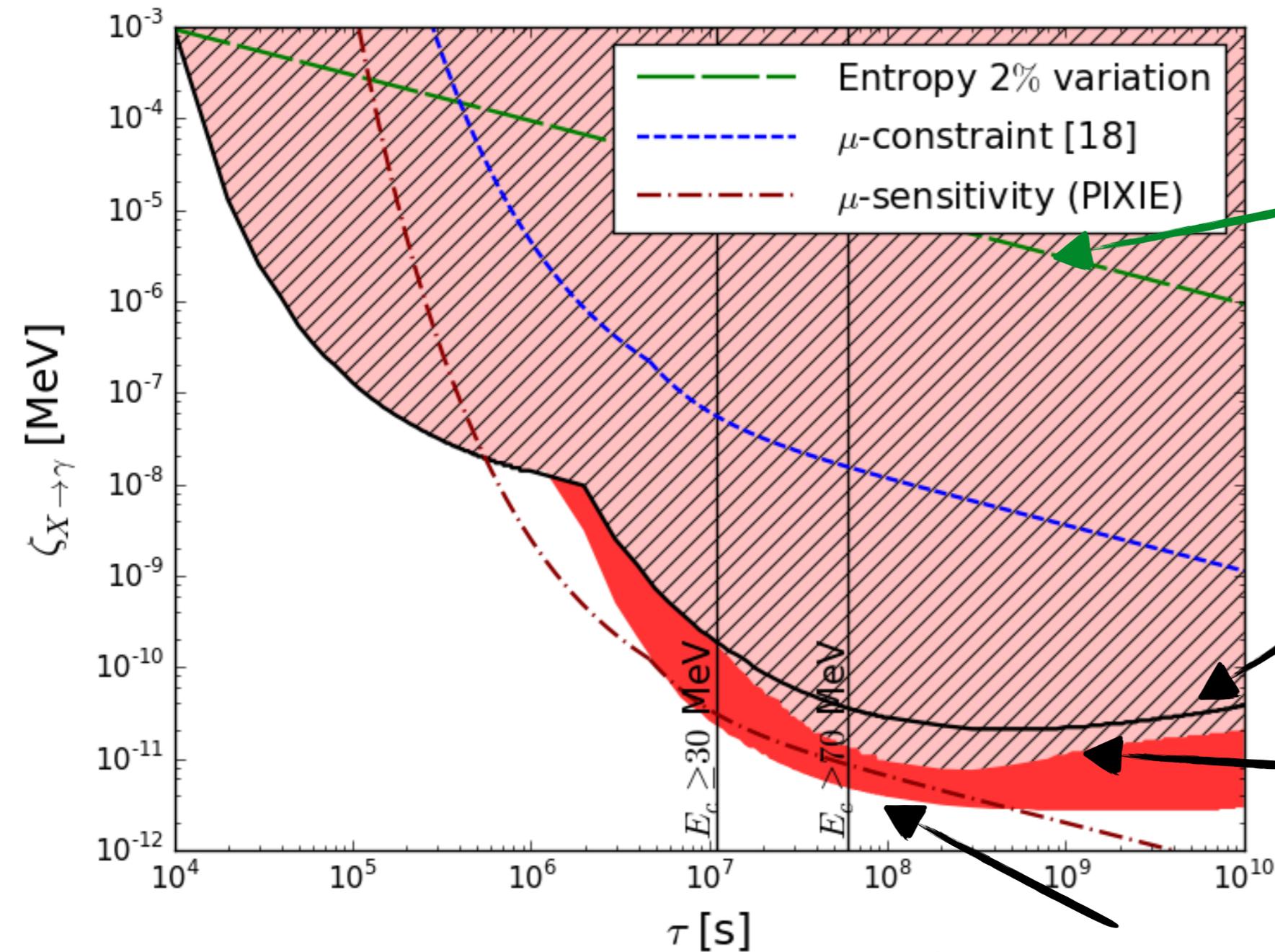
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## Example with two monochromatic photon injection



Bounds are up to  
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Entropy variation  
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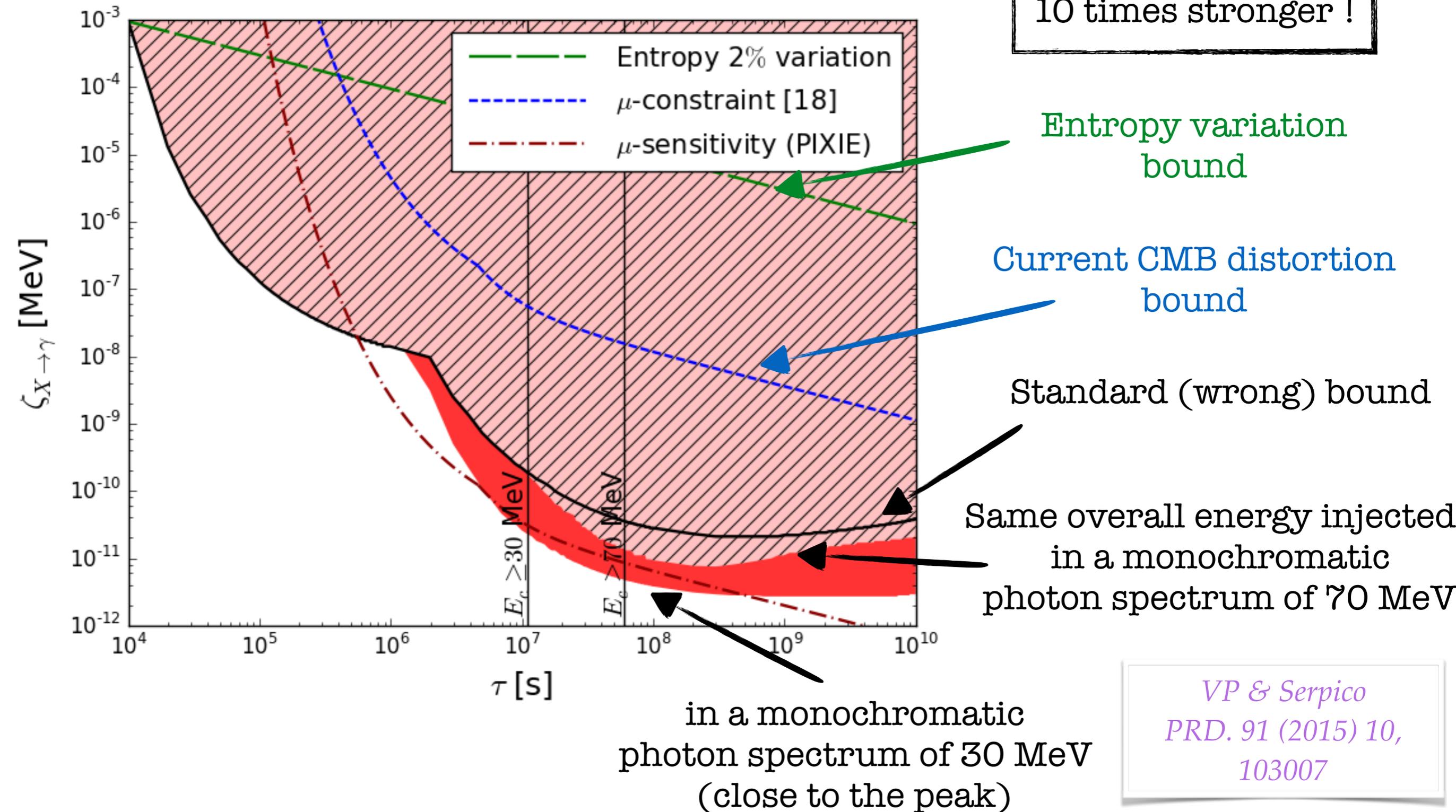
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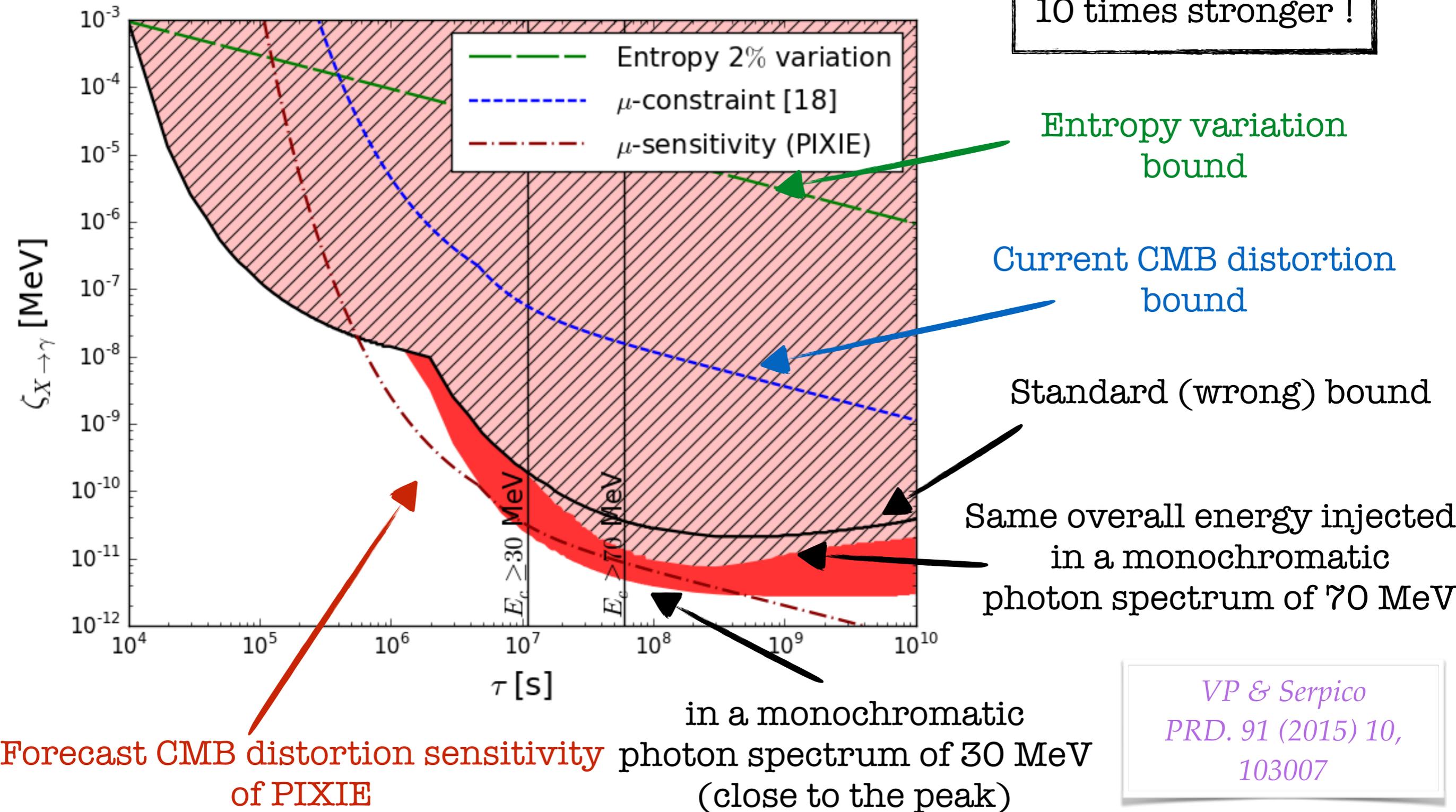
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*103007*

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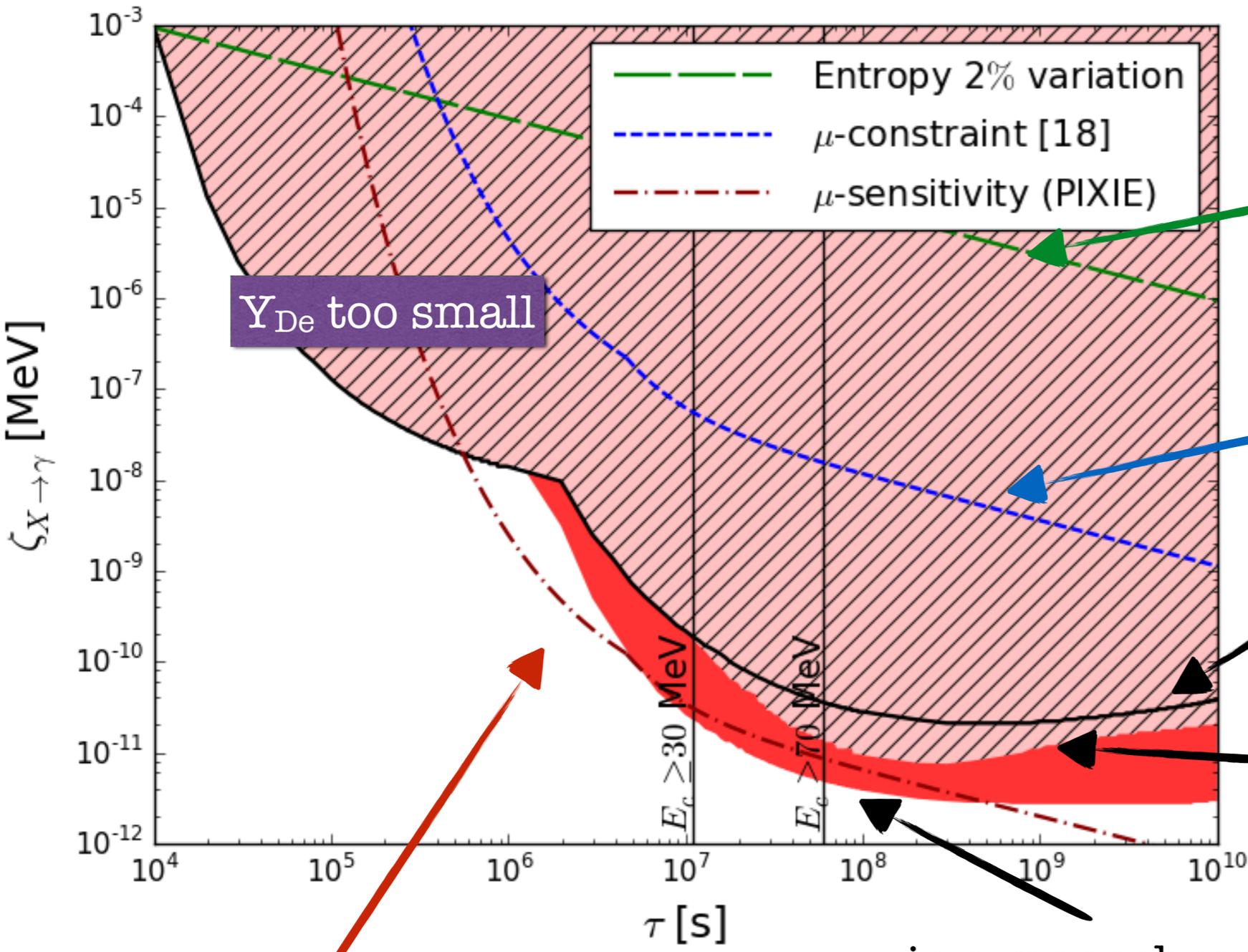


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Bounds are up to 10 times stronger !



Entropy variation bound

Current CMB distortion bound

Standard (wrong) bound

Same overall energy injected in a monochromatic photon spectrum of 70 MeV

$Y_{De}$  too small

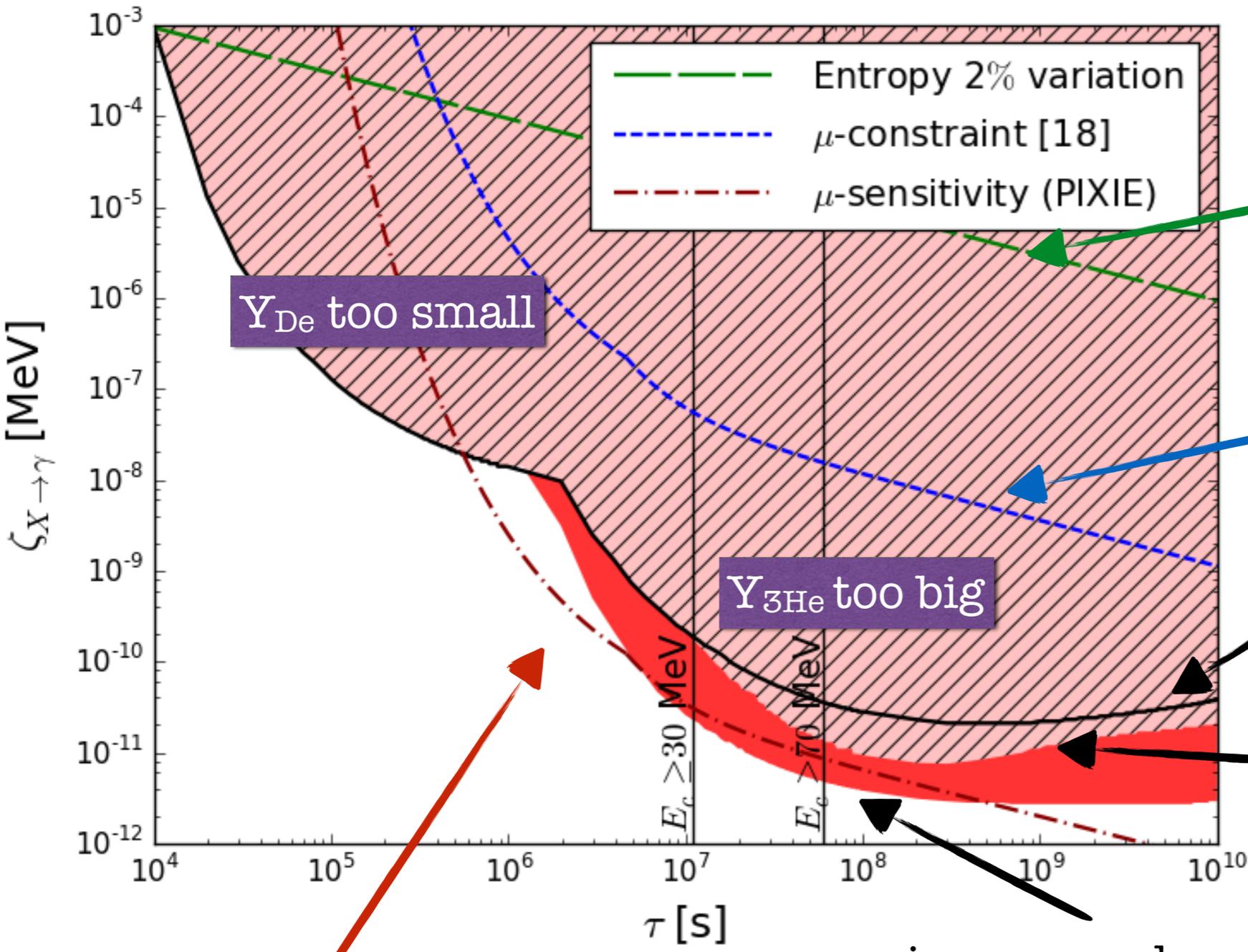
Forecast CMB distortion sensitivity of PIXIE

in a monochromatic photon spectrum of 30 MeV (close to the peak)

*VP & Serpico  
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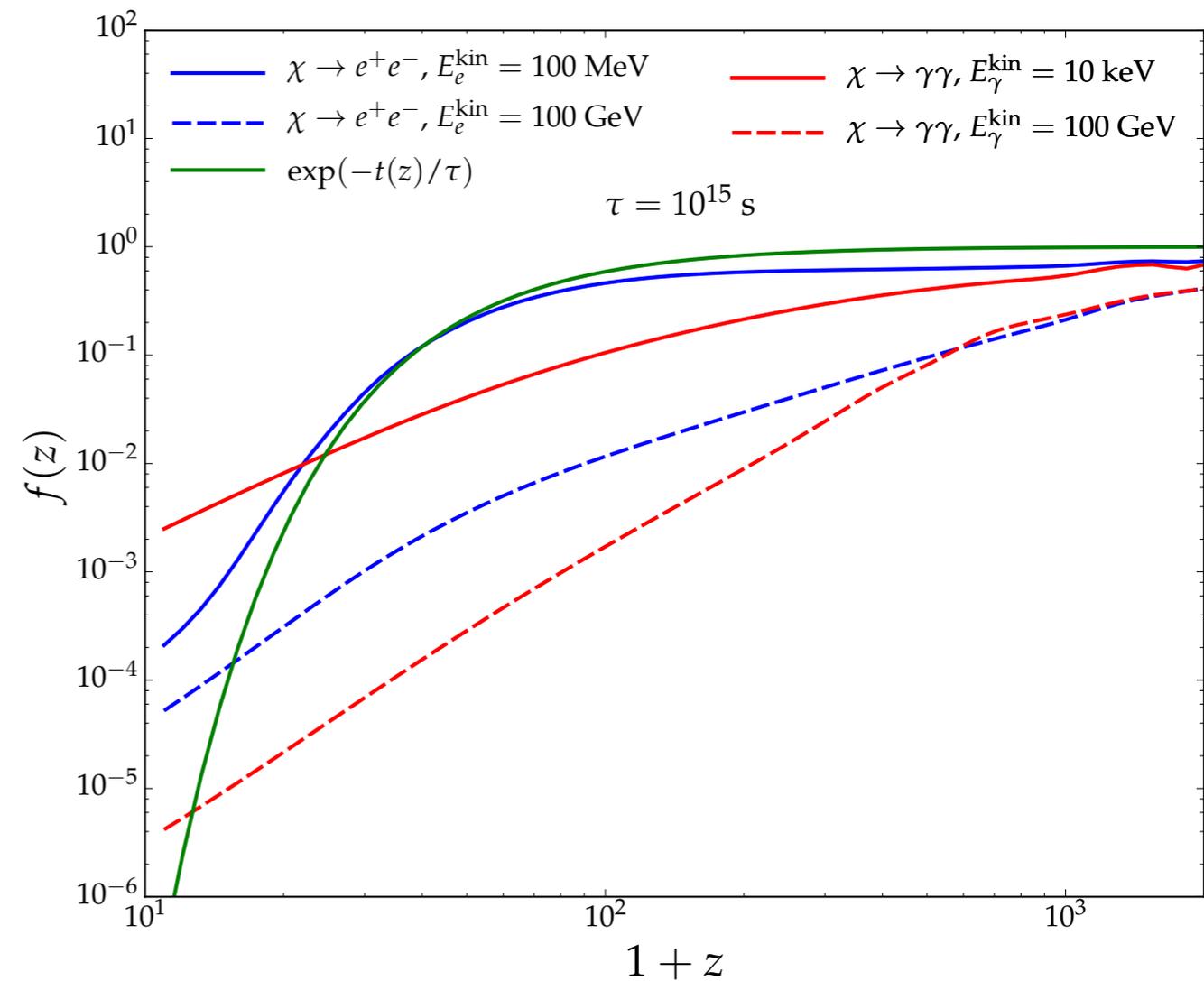
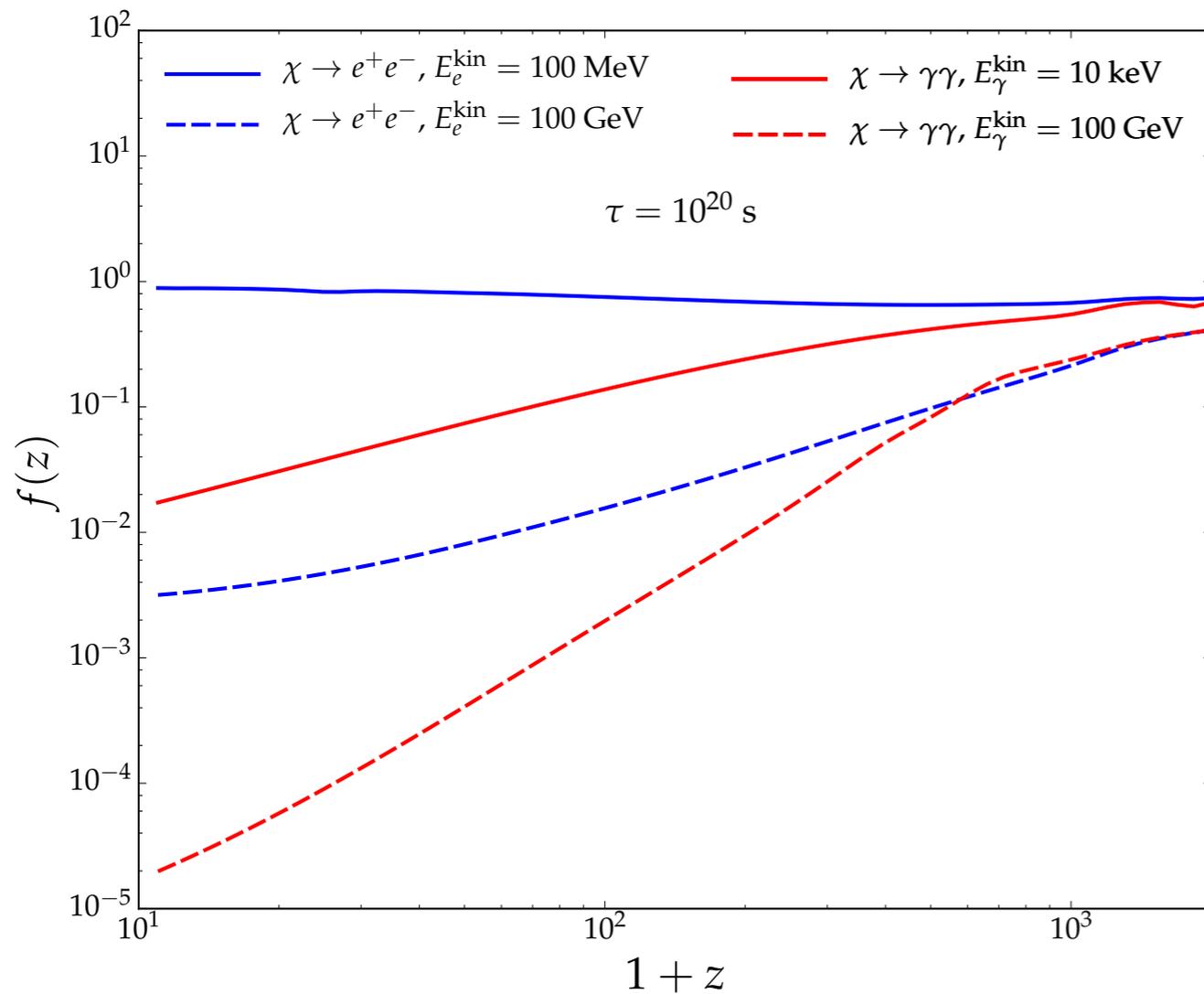
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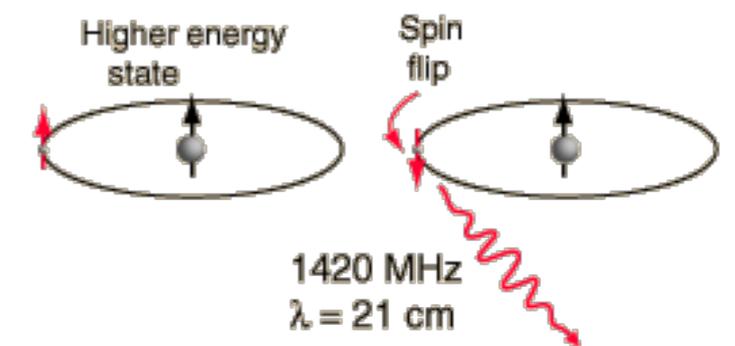
# examples of energy deposition efficiency function



- Here, the deposition efficiency is **summed over all channels** : It represents the efficiency of the plasma at absorbing energy.
- It typically depends on the lifetime, particle energy and nature!

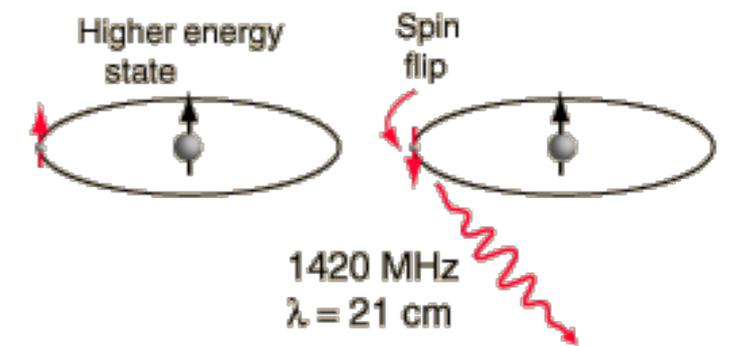
## The next-generation experiment : 21 cm with SKA

- Hyperfine transition from neutral hydrogen
- Very sensitive probes of the Epoch of Reionization (EoR)
- Key quantities : **Spin temperature** and **differential brightness temperature**



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Exc. = Des-exc.

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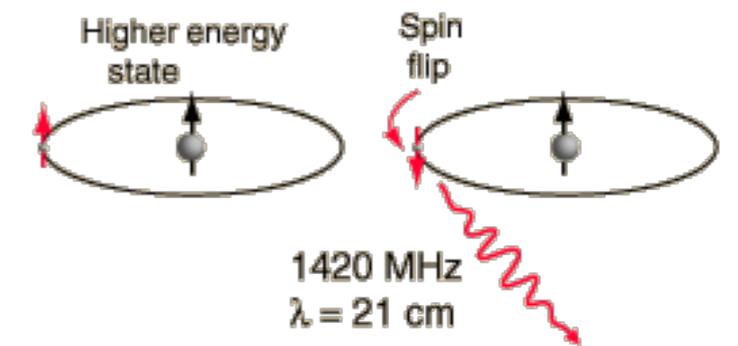
scattering with CMB

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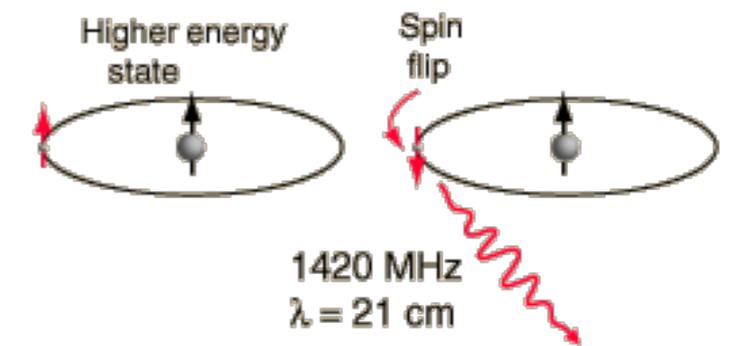
Compare patch of the sky with/without hydrogen clouds:

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see e.g. Furlanetto et al. [astro-ph/0608032]

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Difficulty = **Huge astrophysical uncertainty**, one trick :

SKA will be able to measure  $\delta T_b = 5\text{-}10$  mK up to  $z = 20/25$  ( $\nu = 60$  MHz)