



## LPT-Orsay

### Rôle of Sterile Fermions in Flavour Physics



- ▶ Why Sterile Fermions?
- ▶ Basic theoretical frameworks
- ▶ Lepton Flavour Universality, Charged Lepton Flavour Violation, ....  
Direct and indirect searches at high-intensities and colliders

New physics at the junction of flavor and collider phenomenology



Asmaa Abada  
Portoroz 18-21 April 2017



# Sterile fermions

☞ **Observational problems (not accounted by the SM):**

BAU, DM,  $\nu$  masses & mixings

☞ **Extending the SM with sterile fermions:** singlets under  $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$

Interactions with SM fields: through mixings with **active neutrinos**

A priori, **no bound** on the **number** of sterile states, **no limit** on their **mass scale(s)**

Present in **several theoretical models** accounting for  $\nu$  **masses and mixings**

► **Interest & phenomenological implications** - strongly dependent on their **mass!**

**eV scale**  $\leftrightarrow$  extra neutrinos suggested by **short baseline  $\nu$  oscillation anomalies**

**keV scale**  $\leftrightarrow$  warm dark matter candidates; explain **pulsar velocities (kicks)**; 3.5 keV line..

**MeV - TeV scale**  $\leftrightarrow$  **experimental testability!** (and BAU, DM,  $m_\nu$  generation...)

**Beyond  $10^9$  GeV**  $\leftrightarrow$  **theoretical appeal:** standard seesaw, BAU, GUTs

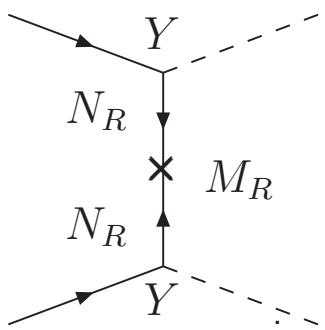
$m_{\nu_s}$	Motivation	$\nu$ -oscillations	laboratory searches
$\lesssim \text{eV}$	$\nu$ -oscil. anomalies, dark radiation	masses by seesaw, explain anomalies	oscillation anomalies, $\beta$ -decays
keV	DM	no if DM	direct searches? , nuclear decays?
MeV	testability	masses by seesaw	intensity frontier, $0\nu\beta\beta$
GeV	testability, minimality	masses by seesaw	intensity frontier, EW precision data, $0\nu\beta\beta$
TeV	minimality, testability	masses by seesaw	LHC
$\gtrsim 10^9 \text{ GeV}$	grand unification, “naturality”	masses by seesaw	—



$m_{\nu_s}$	CMB	BBN	DM	Leptogenesis
$\lesssim \text{eV}$	explain $N_{\text{eff}} > 3$	may explain $N_{\text{eff}} > 3$	no	no
keV	act as DM, no effect on $N_{\text{eff}}$	effect on $N_{\text{eff}}$ too small if DM	good candidate	no
MeV	unaffected	constrains $m_{\nu_s} \gtrsim 200 \text{ MeV}$	no	possible (finetuning)
GeV	unaffected	unaffected	no	possible
TeV	unaffected	unaffected	no	possible
$\gtrsim 10^9 \text{ GeV}$	unaffected	unaffected	no	natural

[Adapted from  
Drewes, '13]

## 👉 Extending the SM with sterile fermions: masses at tree-level → Seesaw mechanisms



**type I (fermionic singlet)**

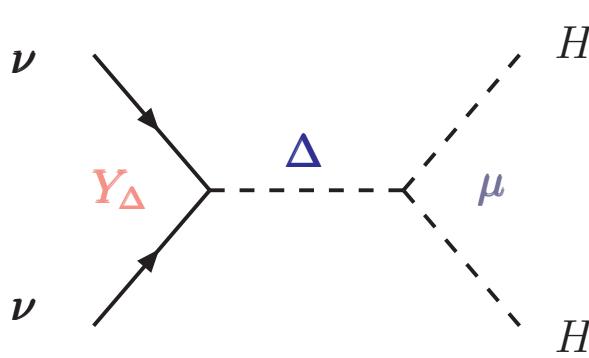
$$\mathbf{m}_\nu = -\frac{1}{2}v^2 Y_N^T \frac{1}{M_N} Y_N$$

Minkowski, Gell-Man,

Ramond, Slansky

Yanagida, Glashow

Mohapatra, Senjanovic



**type II (scalar triplet)**

$$\mathbf{m}_\nu = -2v^2 Y_\Delta \frac{\mu_\Delta}{M_\Delta^2}$$

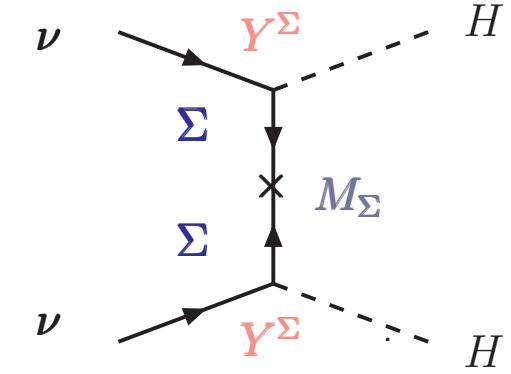
Magg, Wetterich,

Nussinov

Mohapatra, Senjanovic

Schechter, Valle

Ma, Sarkar



**type III (fermionic triplet)**

$$\mathbf{m}_\nu = -\frac{v^2}{2} Y_\Sigma^T \frac{1}{M_\Sigma} Y_\Sigma$$

Ma, Hambye et al.

Bajc, Senjanovic, Lin

A.A., Biggio, Bonnet, Gavela,

Notari, Strumia, Papucci, Dorsner

Fileviez-Perez, Foot, Lew...



right-handed neutrinos

☞ Neutrino masses require the addition of new fields (or extremely tiny  $Y_\nu$ )

► Effects at low energy: effective theory approach

☞ heavy fermion:  $\frac{1}{D-M} \sim -\frac{1}{M} - \frac{1}{M} D \frac{1}{M} + \dots$

☞ heavy scalar :  $\frac{1}{D^2-M^2} \sim -\frac{1}{M^2} - \frac{D^2}{M^4} + \dots$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{M} c^{d=5} \mathcal{O}^{d=5} + \frac{1}{M^2} c^{d=6} \mathcal{O}^{d=6} + \dots$$

$$\Delta \mathcal{L}^{d \geq 5} = -\frac{c^{d=5}}{M} \times \begin{array}{c} H \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad + \quad \frac{c_{\mu e e e}^{d=6}}{M^2} \times \begin{array}{c} e \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \text{---} \\ \mu \quad e \quad e \end{array} \quad + \quad \frac{c_{\ell i \ell j \gamma}^{d=6}}{M^2} \dots$$

## 👉 Extending the SM with sterile fermions: (testable!) theoretical frameworks

- Incorporating  $\nu_R$  - low scale seesaws: type I seesaw [ TeV ] → small  $Y_\nu$

$$\mathcal{M}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & v Y_\nu^T \\ v Y_\nu & \mathbf{M}_R \end{pmatrix}$$

type I seesaw variants → "large"  $Y_\nu$   
 $\nu$ MSM [ GeV ] → tiny  $Y_\nu$

$$m_\nu \approx -v^2 Y_\nu^T \frac{1}{\mathbf{M}_R} Y_\nu$$

- Incorporating  $\nu_R$  and additional steriles  $\nu_S$ : Inverse seesaw (ISS) → sizeable  $Y_\nu$

Linear seesaw (LSS) → sizeable  $Y_\nu$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{ISS}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & Y_\nu^T v & 0 \\ Y_\nu v & 0 & \mathbf{M}_R \\ 0 & \mathbf{M}_R^T & \mu_X \end{pmatrix}$$

[in the basis  $(\nu_L, \nu_R^c, \nu_S)^T$ ]

$$m_\nu \approx \frac{(Y_\nu v)^2}{\mathbf{M}_R} \mu_X$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{LSS}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & Y_\nu^T v & \mathbf{M}_L^T \\ Y_\nu v & 0 & \mathbf{M}_R \\ \mathbf{M}_L & \mathbf{M}_R^T & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$m_\nu \approx (v Y_\nu) (\mathbf{M}_L \mathbf{M}_R^{-1})^T + (\mathbf{M}_L \mathbf{M}_R^{-1}) (v Y_\nu)^T$$

[see, e.g., Mohapatra et al, 1986, Gonzalez-Garcia et al, 1988, Deppisch et al, '04, Asaka et al, '05, Gavela et al, '09, Ibarra, Petcov et al, '10, Abada, Lucente, '14, ...]

👉 Extending the SM with sterile fermions: phenomenological consequences

► Modified charged ( $W^\pm$ ) and neutral ( $Z^0$ ) current interactions:

$$\mathcal{L}_{W^\pm} \sim -\frac{g_w}{\sqrt{2}} W_\mu^- \sum_{\alpha=e,\mu,\tau} \sum_{i=1}^{3+N_s} \mathbf{U}_{\alpha i} \bar{\ell}_\alpha \gamma^\mu P_L \nu_i$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{Z^0} \sim -\frac{g_w}{2 \cos \theta_w} Z_\mu \sum_{i,j=1}^{3+N_s} \bar{\nu}_i \gamma^\mu \left[ P_L (\mathbf{U}^\dagger \mathbf{U})_{ij} - P_R (\mathbf{U}^\dagger \mathbf{U})_{ij}^* \right] \nu_j$$

$\mathbf{U}_{\alpha i}$  → modified lepton mixing - now encodes also active-sterile mixings

(for  $N_s = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{U}_{\alpha i} = U_{\text{PMNS}}$ )

► If sufficiently light, sterile  $\nu_s$  can be produced as final states

👉 Huge impact for numerous observables: high-intensity and colliders (as well as DM, ..)

[see talks of J. Lopez-Pavon, F. Deppisch] But also abundant constraints!!

👉 Illustrate these phenomenological consequences via simple ad-hoc extensions:

SM +  $N_s$  sterile fermions

## 👉 Extending the SM with sterile fermions: (testable!) simple “ad-hoc models”

First phenomenological studies can be carried for  $\text{SM} + \#\nu_s \rightarrow \text{"3 + } N_s\text{"}$

No hypothesis on mechanism of neutrino mass generation (seesaw, ...)

Physical parameters: masses [3 light (mostly active) +  $N_s$  heavier (mostly sterile) states]

mixing matrix (angles and CPV phases)

$$U_{(3+N_s) \times (3+N_s)} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & U_{e4} & \dots \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} & U_{\mu 4} & \dots \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} & U_{\tau 4} & \dots \\ U_{s1} & U_{s2} & U_{s3} & U_{s4} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

**Left-handed lepton mixing  $U_{\alpha 1-3}$ :**

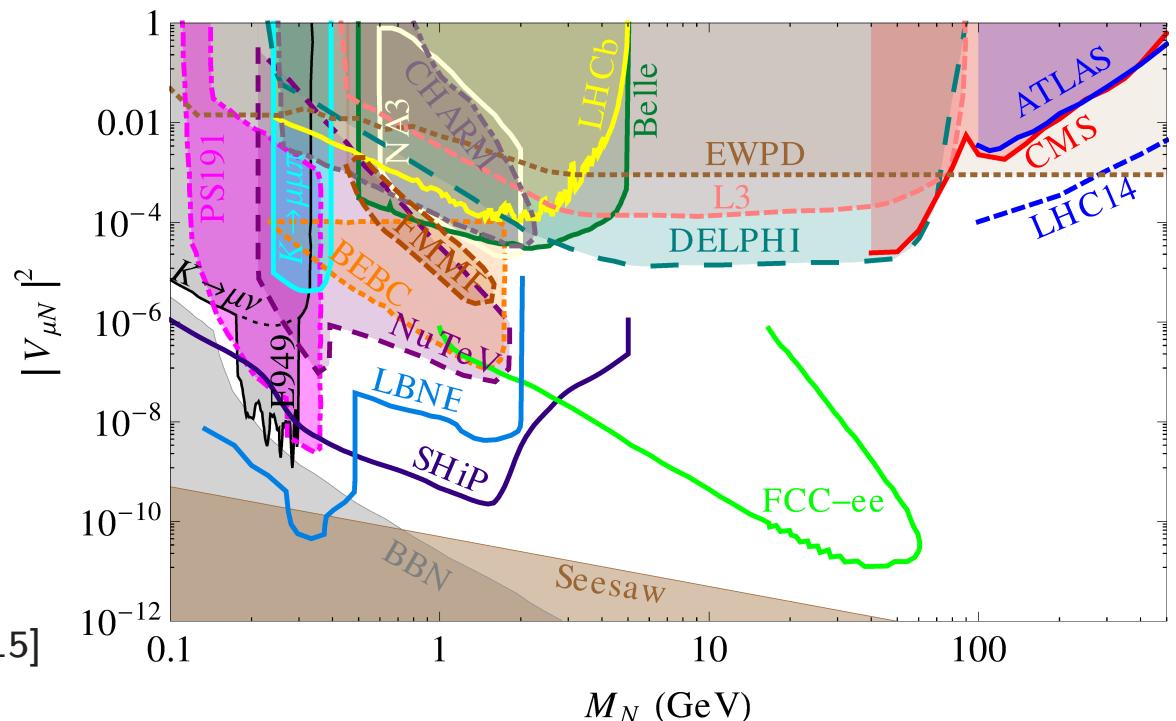
$\tilde{U}_{\text{PMNS}}$  (non-unitary)

**Active-sterile mixing:  $U_{\alpha i}$**

$$\mathbf{U} = U|_{3 \times (3+N_s)}$$

👉 Heavily constrained  
sterile masses and mixings

[Deppisch et al, '15]



## 👉 Constraints on sterile fermions

- 👉 **Neutrino oscillation parameters:**  $\tilde{U}_{\text{PMNS}}$  comply with observed mixings
- 👉 **Electroweak precision tests:** invisible  $Z$  width; leptonic  $Z$  width; Weinberg angle...  
[Del Aguila et al, '08; Atre et al, '09; ...  
Antusch et al, '09-'14; Fernandez-Martinez et al, '16; ...]
- 👉 **Searches at the LHC:** invisible Higgs decays  $H \rightarrow \nu_L \nu_R$ ; direct searches, ...  
[Dev et al, '12-'15; Bandyopadhyay et al, '12; Cely et al, '14;  
Arganda et al, '14-'15; Deppisch et al, '15; ...]
- 👉 **Peak searches in meson decays:** monochromatic lines in  $\ell^\pm$  spectrum from  $X_M^\pm \rightarrow \ell^\pm \nu_s$   
[Shrock, '80-'81; Atre et al, '09; Kusenko et al, '09; Lello et al, '13]
- 👉 **Beam dump experiments:**  $\nu_s$  decay products (light mesons,  $\ell^\pm$ ) from  $X_M^\pm$  decays  
[PS191, CHARM, NuTeV, ...]

## 👉 Constraints on sterile fermions (contd.)

👉 **Neutrinoless double beta decays -  $|m_{ee}|$ :** [EXO-200, KamLAND-Zen, GERDA,...]

[Blenow et al, '10; Lopez-Pavon et al, '13;  
AA et al, '14, ..., Giunti et al]

👉 **Rare meson decays: Lepton Number Violating (LNV)** e.g.  $K^+ \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^+ \pi^-$

**Lepton Universality Violating (LUV)** e.g.  $R_{X_M}$ ,  $R(D)$ ,  $R_\tau$

[CLEO, Belle, BaBar, NA62, LHCb, BES III, ...]  
[Shrock, '81; Atre et al, '09; AA et al, '13-'15, ...]

👉 **Lepton Flavour Violation: 3 body decays among most stringent...**

[Gronau et al, '85; Ilakovac & Pilaftsis, '95 - '14;  
Deppisch et al, '05; Dinh et al, '12; Alonso et al, '12; ...]

👉 **Cosmology:** large scale structures, Lyman- $\alpha$ , BBN, CMB, X-ray, SN1987a, ...

[Smirnov et al, '06; Kusenko, '09; Gelmini, '10;  
Donini et al, '14; Hernández et al, '15-'16; ...]

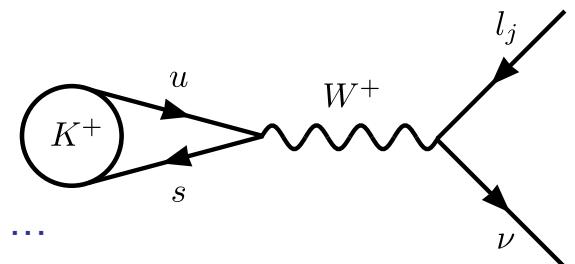
## ⌚ Sterile fermions: contributions to observables

### → Cosmology and astroparticle

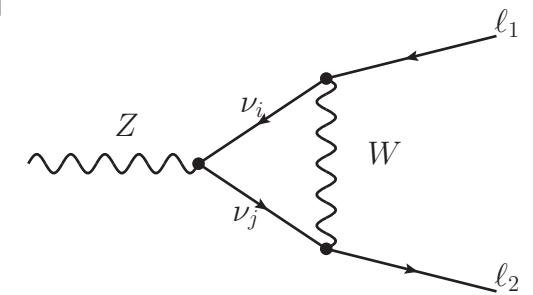
- ⇒ BAU from leptogenesis (oscillations) [See talk by J. Lopez-Pavon]
- ⇒ (Warm) dark matter candidates[White paper: Drewes et al, '16; Merle; AA, Lucente, Arcadi, '14, ...]
- ⇒ Astrophysical puzzles: pulsar kicks, ... [e.g. Kusenko, '04 & '09]

### → Particle physics

- Lepton properties:** {
- Electric and magnetic moments
  - Neutrinoless double beta decay (LNV)
  - Violation of flavour universality (e.g.  $\Delta r_K$ ), ...



- Rare decays:** {
- Lepton number violation [See talk by F. Deppisch]
  - Violation of lepton flavour
  - cLFV  $Z$  decays
  - cLFV and invisible  $H$  decays
  - Collider signatures, ...



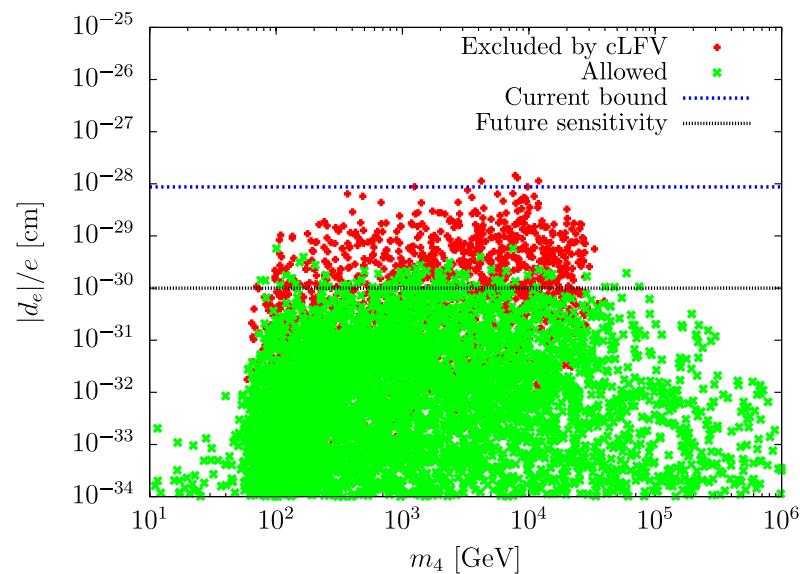
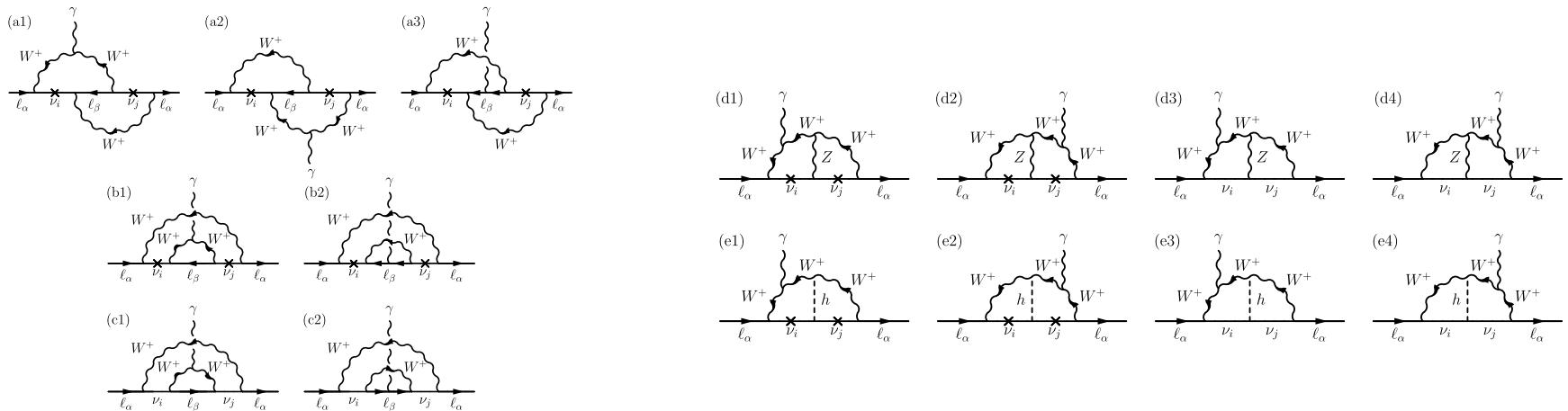
## 👉 Sterile fermions & CPV: contributions to EDMs

► Majorana (and Dirac) phases  $\Rightarrow$  lepton EDMs:

$$d_e = -\frac{g_2^4 e m_e}{4(4\pi)^2 m_W^2} \sum_{\beta} \sum_{i,j} \left[ J_{ij\alpha\beta}^M I_M(x_i, x_j) + J_{ij\alpha\beta}^D I_D(x_i, x_j) \right],$$

$$J_{ij\alpha\beta}^M \equiv \text{Im} (U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j} U_{\beta i}^* U_{\alpha i}^*), \quad J_{ij\alpha\beta}^D \equiv \text{Im} (U_{\alpha j} U_{\beta j}^* U_{\beta i} U_{\alpha i}^*)$$

► Many new (2-loop) contributions!



- Non-vanishing contributions: at least two sterile  $\nu$
- $|d_e|/e \geq 10^{-30}$  cm for  $m_{\nu_{4,5}} \sim [100 \text{ GeV}, 100 \text{ TeV}]$

Within ACME reach

[AA and Toma, '15, '16]

## 👉 Sterile fermions: lepton number violation

### ► Lepton number violation: $0\nu 2\beta$ decays

►  $\nu_s$  can strongly impact predictions for  $|m_{ee}|$

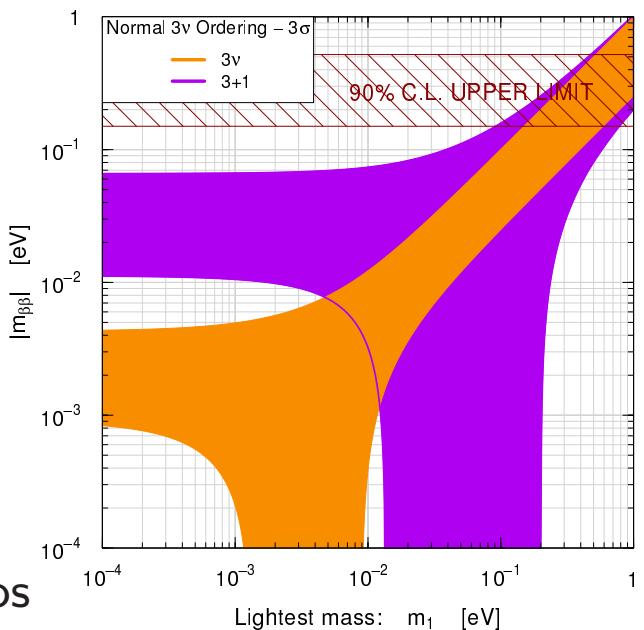
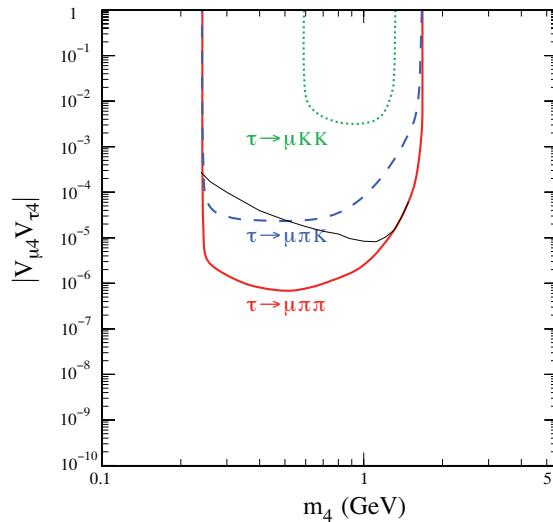
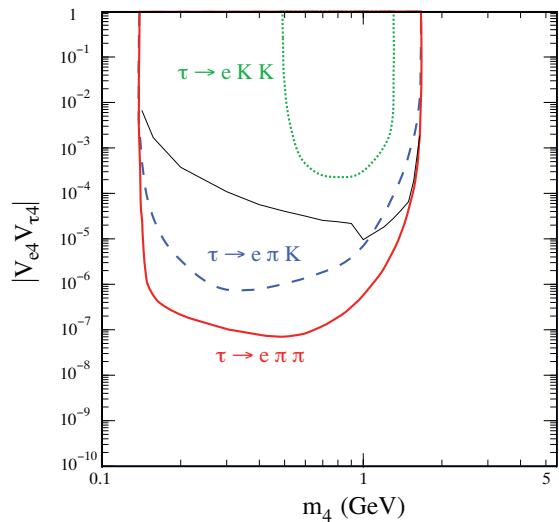
⇒ augmented ranges for effective mass (*IH and NH*)

► Observation of  $0\nu 2\beta$  signal in future experiments

does not imply Inverted Ordering for light neutrinos

[AA, De Romeri and Teixeira, '14; Lopez-Pavon et al. '13, Girardi, Meroni, Petcov, '13,...; Giunti et al, '15 ↗]

### ► Lepton number violation in meson decays



$$\begin{aligned} \tau^- &\rightarrow \ell^+ \pi^- \pi^- (K^- K^-) \\ \tau^- &\rightarrow \ell^+ \pi^- K^- \\ D_{(s)}^- &\rightarrow \ell^- \ell'^- \pi^+ (K^+) \\ B^- &\rightarrow \ell^- \ell'^- \pi^+ (K^+, D^+) \end{aligned}$$

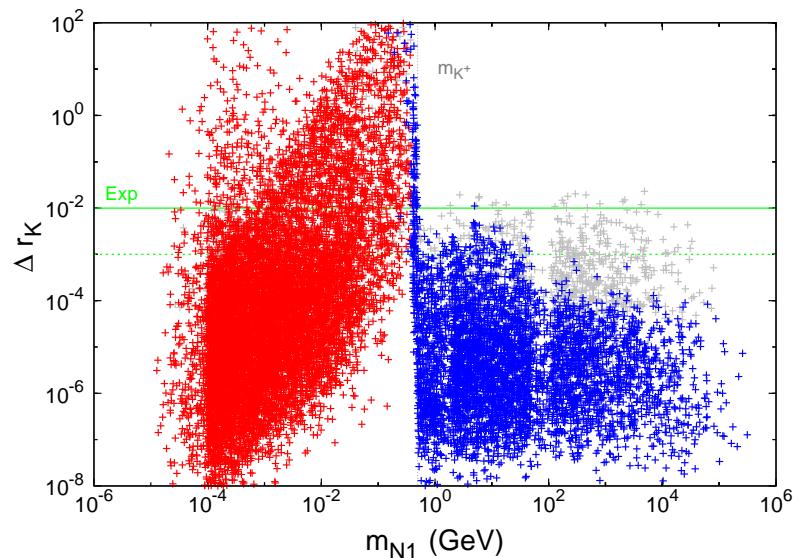
[Belle, BaBar, LHCb - NA62, ... ]

[Atre et al, '09]

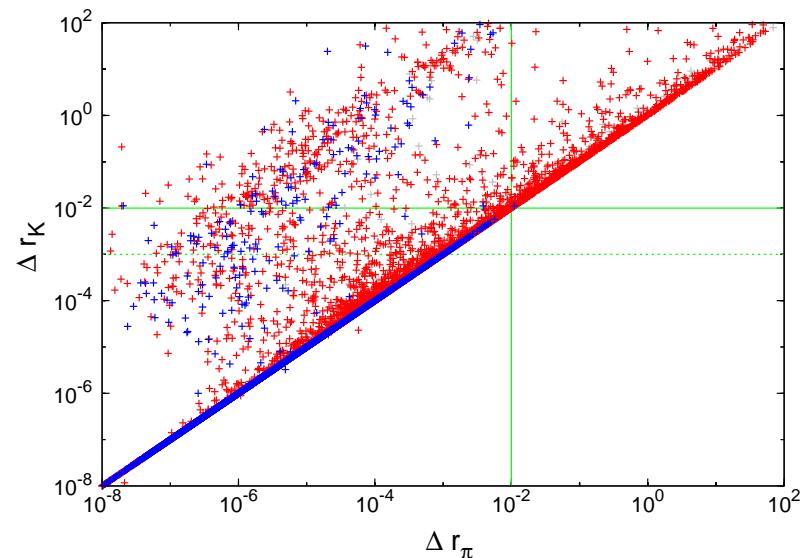
## 👉 Sterile fermions: violation of lepton flavour universality

**Lepton Universality Violation in  $K$  and  $\pi$  decays:** tree level effect

$$R_K = \frac{\Gamma(K \rightarrow e\nu)}{\Gamma(K \rightarrow \mu\nu)} \quad \text{comparison with SM th predictions} \quad \Delta r_K = \frac{R_K^{\text{exp}}}{R_K^{\text{SM}}} - 1$$

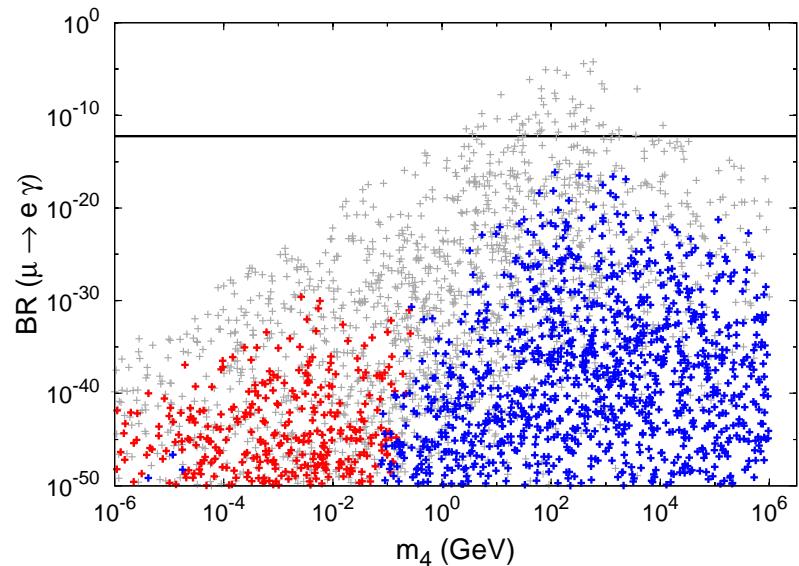


[“ISS (3,3)”: AA, Teixeira, Vicente and Weiland, ’11-’13]

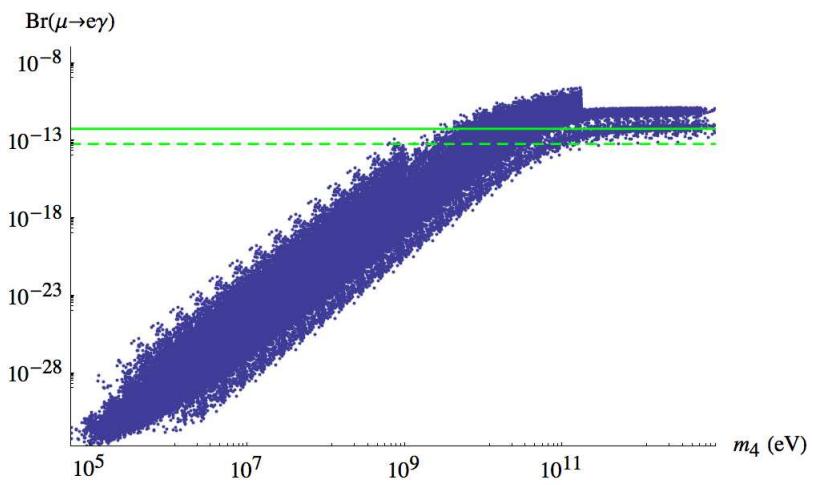


- ▶ Sterile neutrino contributions:  $\Delta r_{K,\pi} \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(10^{-2})$
- ▶  $\Delta r_{K,\pi} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$  ⇒ one of the strongest constraints in SM +  $\nu_s$  models!

## ⌚ Sterile fermions: cLFV in radiative decays $\ell_i \rightarrow \ell_j \gamma$ and 3-body decays $\ell_i \rightarrow 3\ell_j$



“3+1” toy model, [AA, De Romeri and Teixeira, '15]



“(2,2) ISS realisation” [AA and Lucente, '14]

► Consider  $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ :

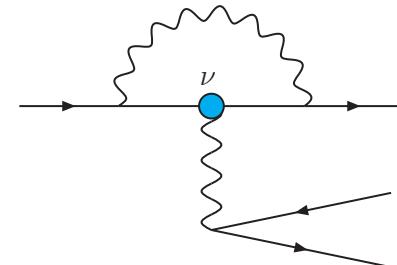
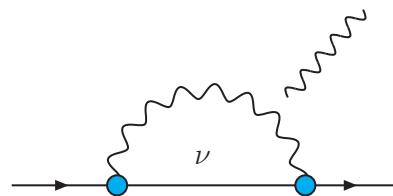
for  $m_s \gtrsim 10 - 100$  GeV sizeable  $\nu_s$  contributions

... but precluded by invisible  $Z$  width

And by other cLFV observables!

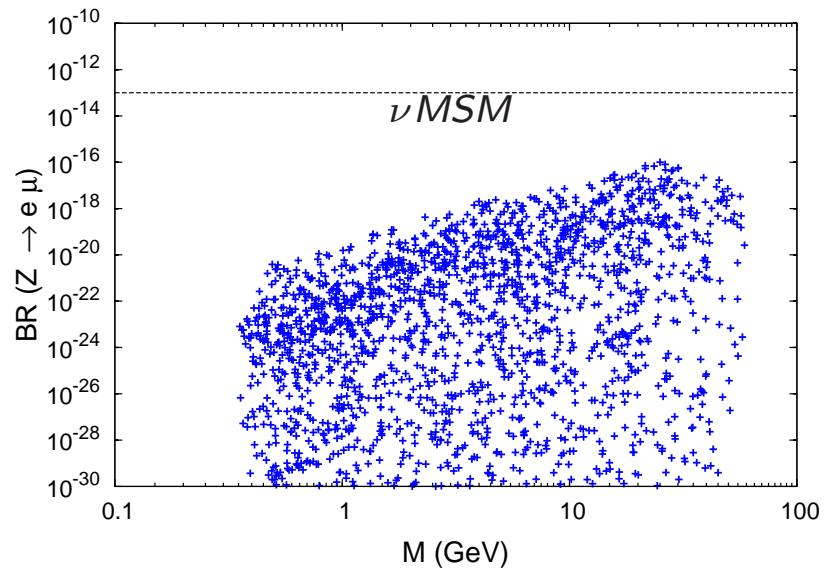
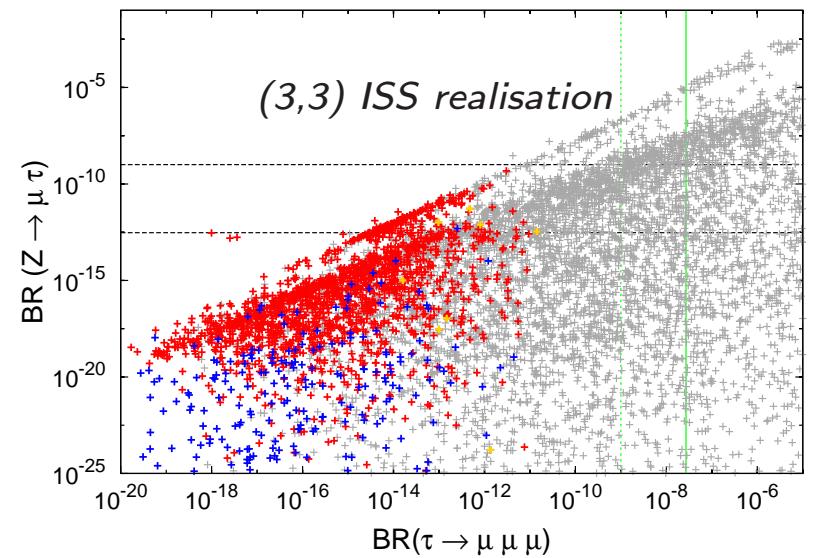
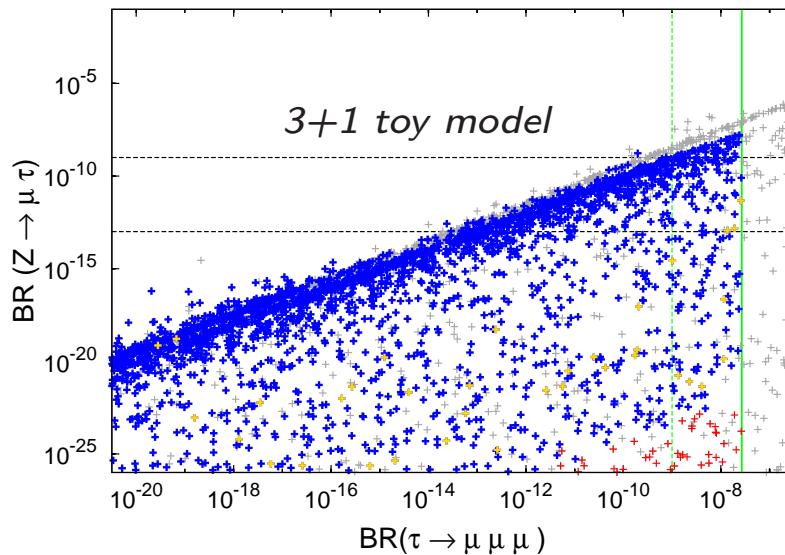
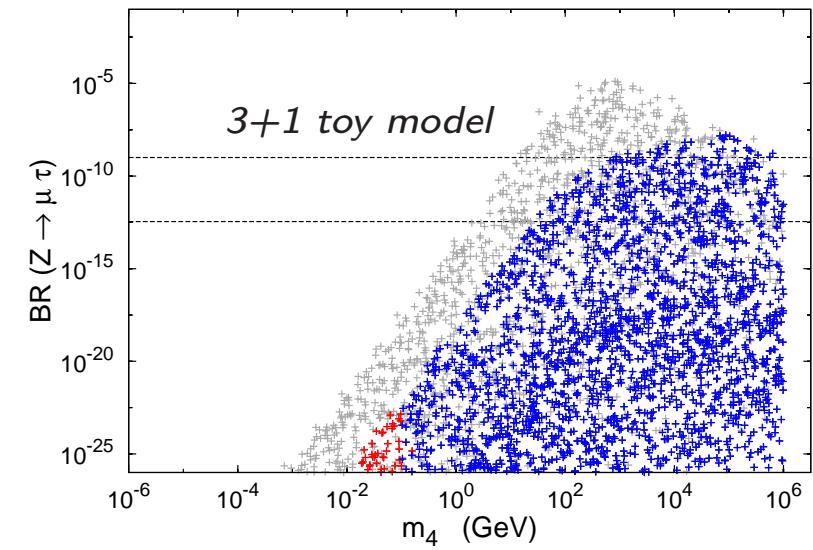
► Particularly constraining:  $\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow 3e)$ ,  $\text{CR}(\mu - e, N)$

Dominated by  $Z$  penguin contributions for  $m_s \gtrsim M_Z$



# 👉 Sterile fermions: cLFV at high- and low-energies

[AA, De Romeri, Monteil, Orloff, Teixeira, '15]



- Complementarity probes of  $\nu_s$  cLFV at low- and high energies! (and in LNV...)
- $Z \rightarrow \mu\tau$  at FCC-ee: allows to probe  $\mu - \tau$  cLFV beyond SuperBelle reach

[see also AA, Becirevic, Lucente, Sumensari '15, and De Romeri et al, '16]

## 👉 Sterile fermions: cLFV in muonic atoms

- **Muonic atoms:** 1s bound state formed when  $\mu^-$  stopped in target

Interesting laboratory to study cLFV!  $\mu - e$  conversion

- **Muonic atom decay:**  $\mu^- e^- \rightarrow e^- e^-$

[Koike et al, '10]

Initial  $\mu^-$  and  $e^-$ : 1s state bound in Coulomb field of the **muonic atom's nucleus**

- **Experimental status:** New observable!

Hopefully included in Physics programmes of **COMET & Mu2e** (?)

- **Coulomb interaction** increases overlap between

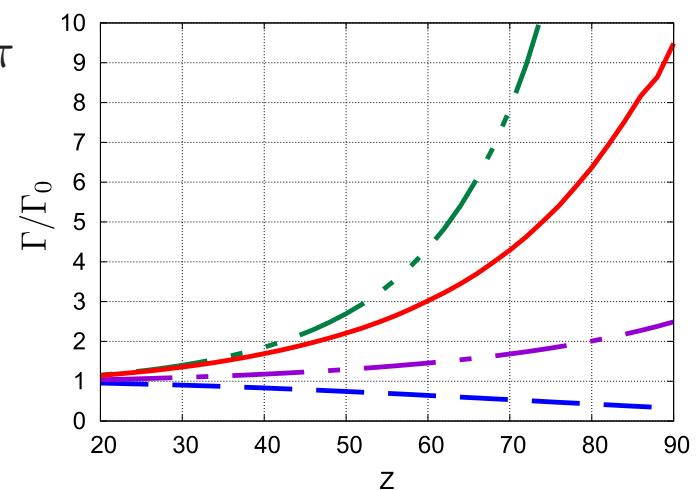
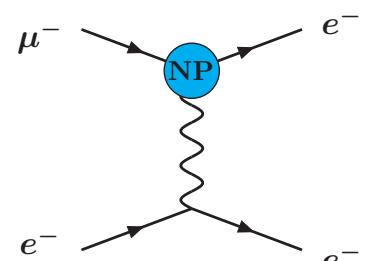
$\Psi_{\mu^-}$  and  $\Psi_{e^-}$  wave functions

$$\Gamma(\mu^- e^- \rightarrow e^- e^-, N) \propto \sigma_{\mu e \rightarrow ee} v_{\text{rel}} [(Z-1) \alpha m_e]^3 / \pi$$

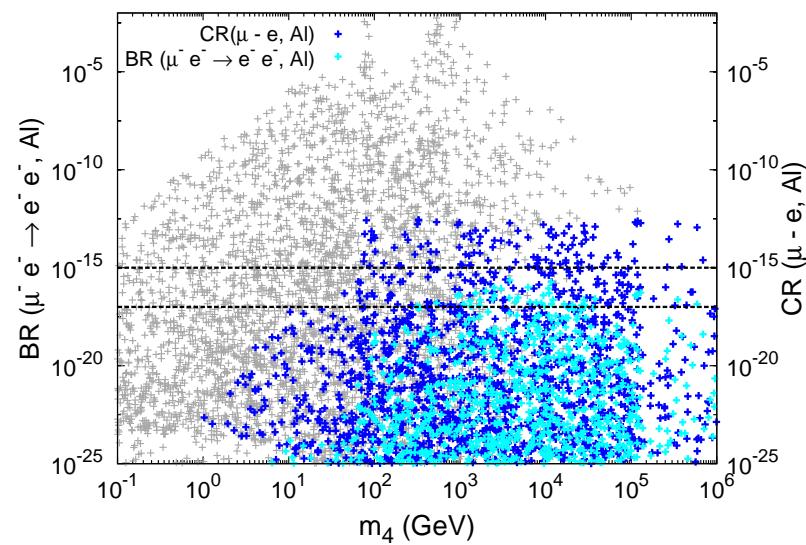
- Rate strongly enhanced in large  $Z$  atoms

$$\Gamma/\Gamma_0 \gtrsim 10 \times (Z-1)^3 \quad [\text{Uesaka et al, '15-'16}]$$

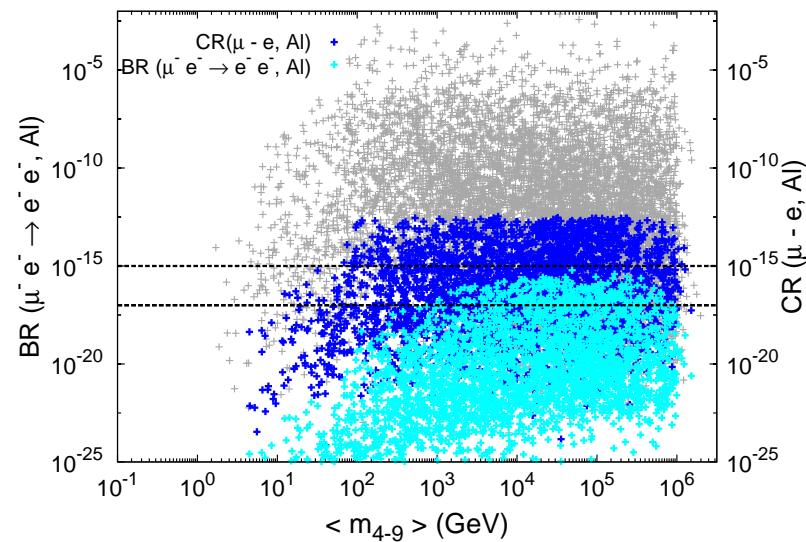
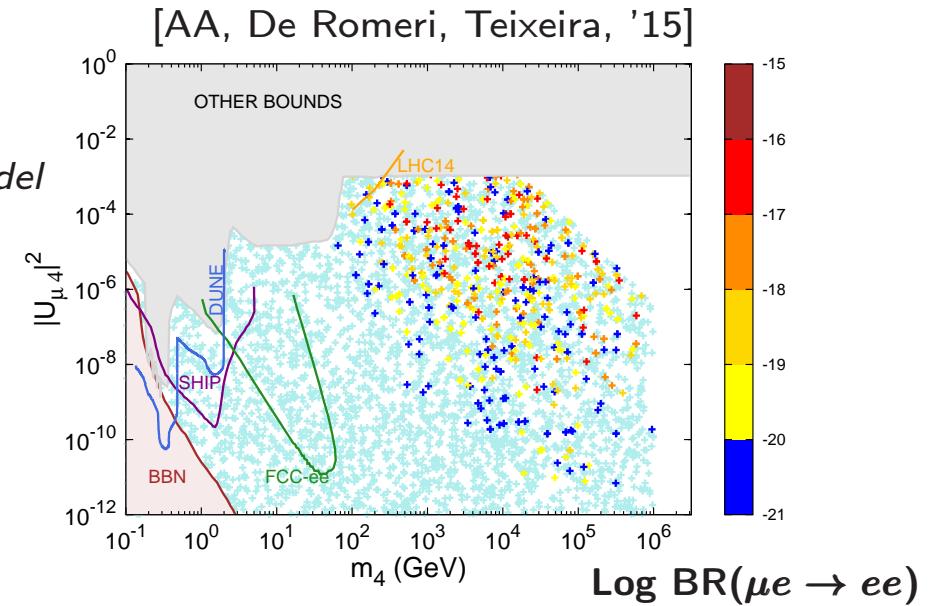
Consider experimental setups for Pb, U !?



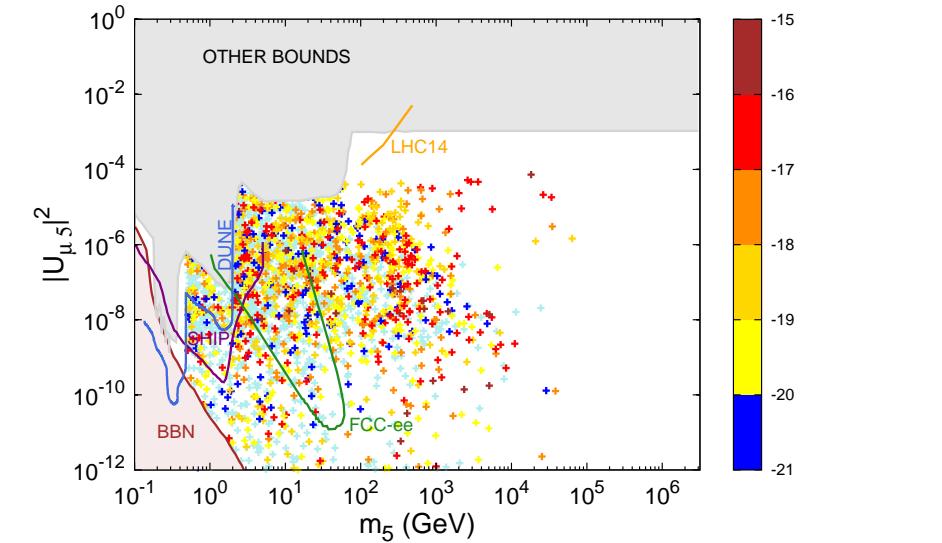
## 👉 Sterile fermions: cLFV muonic atom decays



*3+1 toy model*



*(3,3) ISS*



- Sizeable values for  $BR(\mu^- e^- \rightarrow e^- e^-)$  - potentially within **experimental reach!**
- For **Aluminium**,  $CR(\mu - e)$  appears to have **stronger experimental potential**
  - .. consider “heavy” targets to probe  $BR(\mu^- e^- \rightarrow e^- e^-)$

## 👉 Sterile fermions: searches at the LHC and beyond

- ▶ Searches for  $\nu_s$  by ATLAS and CMS

“smoking-gun” (LNV) channel:

$$pp \rightarrow W^* \rightarrow N \ell^\pm \rightarrow \ell^\pm + \ell^\pm + 2 \text{ jets}$$

- ▶ Promising prospects for FCC-ee, ILC, CEPC...

[Banerjee et al, 1503.05491]

- ▶ Further searches carried for LFV final states and/or other exotic channels

### ► cLFV exotic events at the LHC

- ▶ Searches for **heavy  $N$**  at the LHC

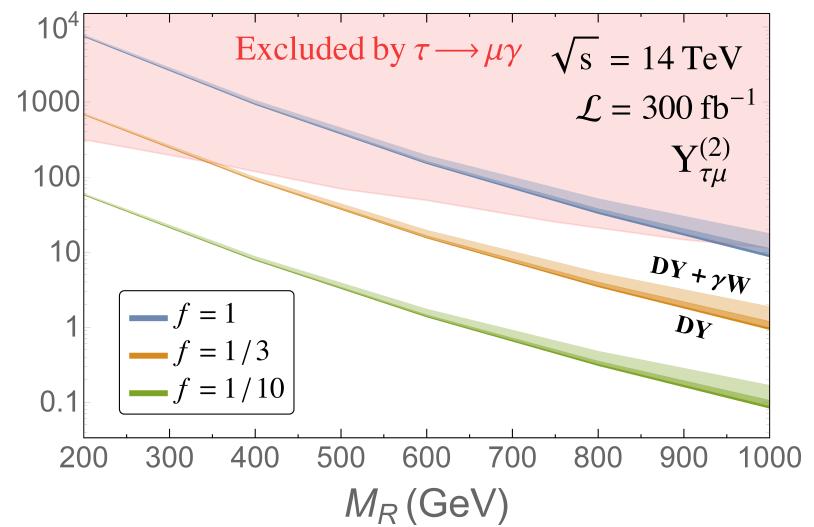
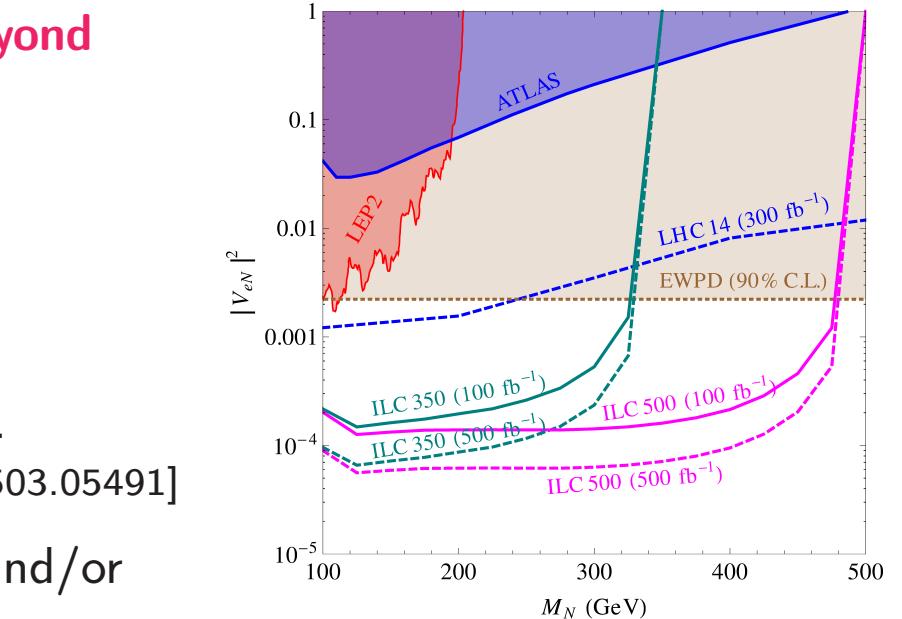
$$q q' \rightarrow \tau \mu + 2 \text{ jets} \quad (\text{no missing } E^T!)$$

- ▶ After cuts, **significant number of events!**

### ► Resonant mono-Higgs production at FCC-ee

$N \rightarrow H \nu \rightsquigarrow$  sizeable deviations from SM mono-Higgs

- ▶ Sensitive probe of  $\nu_s$  at high-energies!



[Arganda et al, 1508.05074]

[Antusch et al, '15]

## 👉 Conclusions

- ▶ SM + Sterile fermions constitute the “most minimal BSM” ...  
... embedded in several well motivated frameworks
- ▶ Sterile neutrinos contribute to a vast array of observables: CPV, LNV, LFUV, cLFV, ...  
... at high and low energy
- ▶ Sterile neutrinos: key rôle in cosmology as well
- ▶ Sterile neutrinos testable at the three frontiers: high intensity, high energy and cosmology  
and in LNV neutrinoless double beta decays