

# Sterile neutrino portals to Majorana dark matter

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Based on arXiv: 2203.01946  
[L.Coito, C.Faubel, JHG, A.Santamaría, A.Titov]

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**CSIC**

Gen-T

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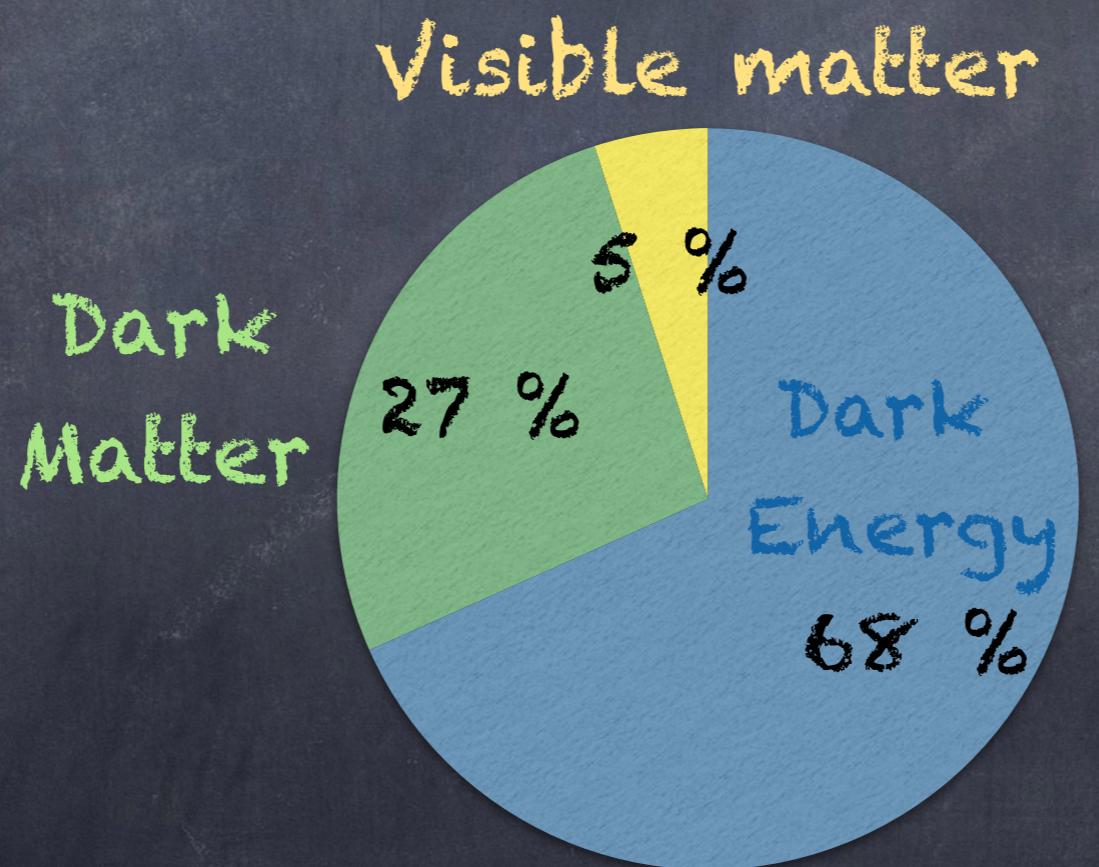
I- Dark matter framework

II- Effective operators and models

III- Phenomenology

IV- Conclusions

# I - Dark matter framework



Ford, Rubin 1970

Zwicky 1933



# Dark Matter Evidence

Rotation curves

$$\text{Total } \rho \propto r^{-2}$$

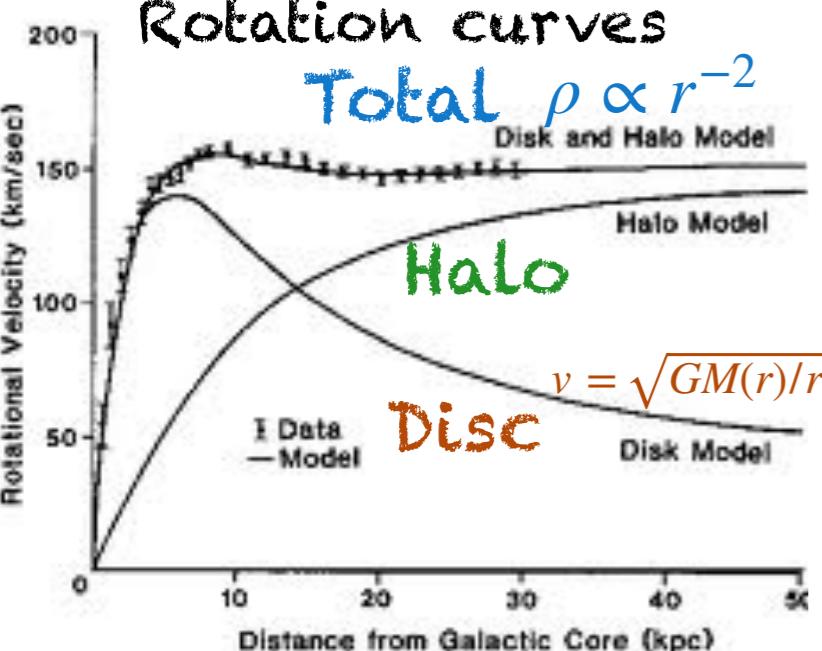
Disk and Halo Model

Halo Model

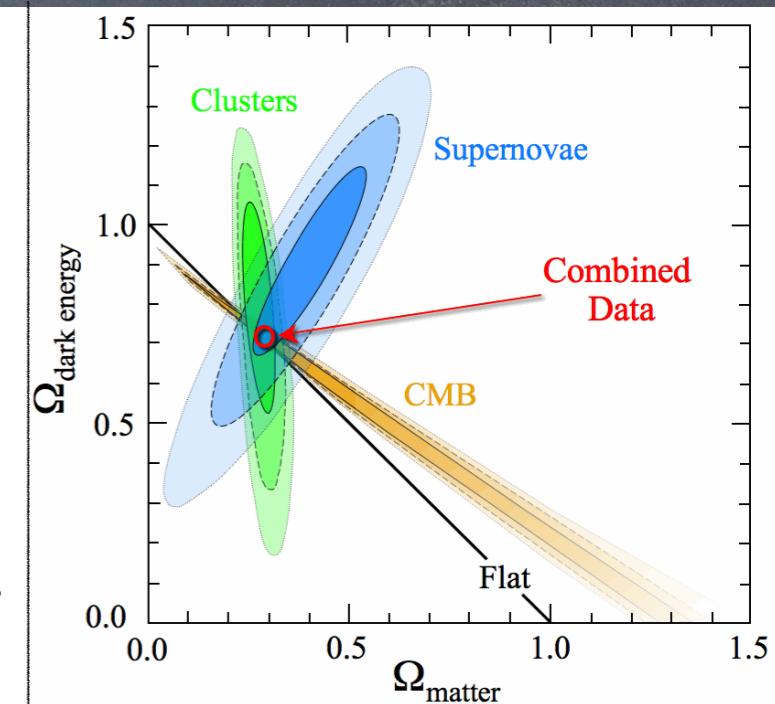
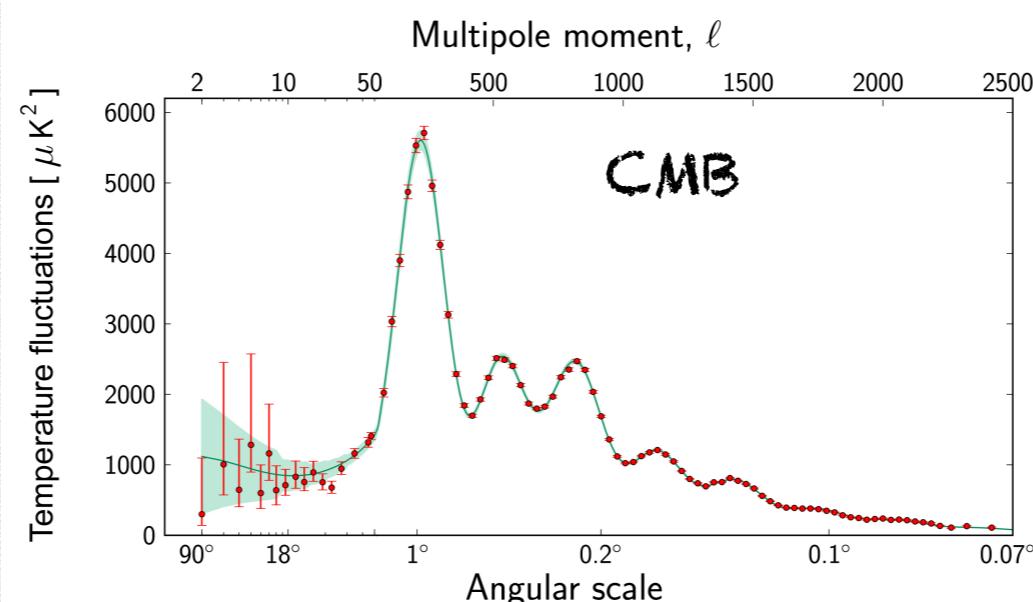
Halo

DISC

$$v = \sqrt{GM(r)/r}$$



Temperature fluctuations [ $\mu\text{K}^2$ ]



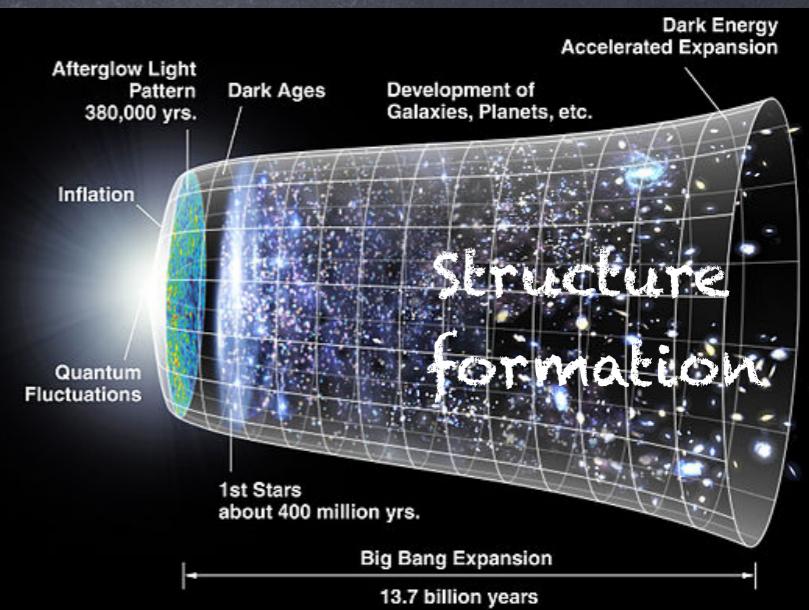
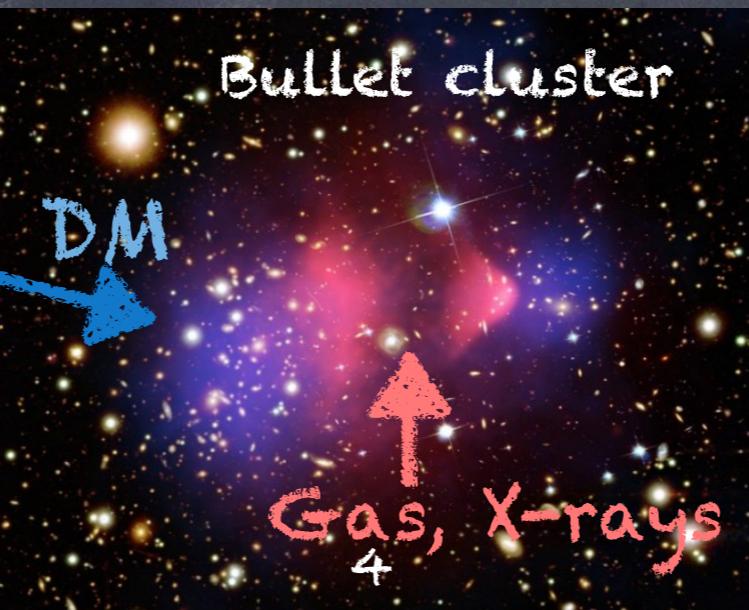
Gravitational  
lensing



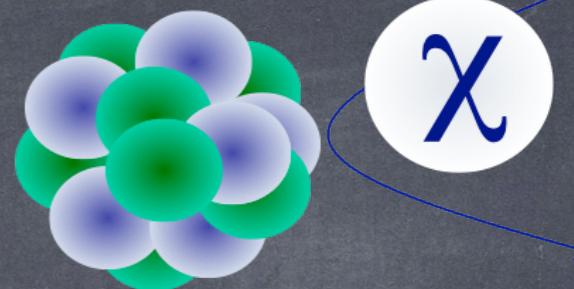
Bullet cluster

DM

Gas, X-rays



# Temporal evolution of WIMPs DD



[Goodman and Witten 1985; Drukier, Freese, Spergel 1986]

[Figure from Snowmass WG, 1310.8327]

Evolution of the WIMP–Nucleon  $\sigma_{\text{SI}}$

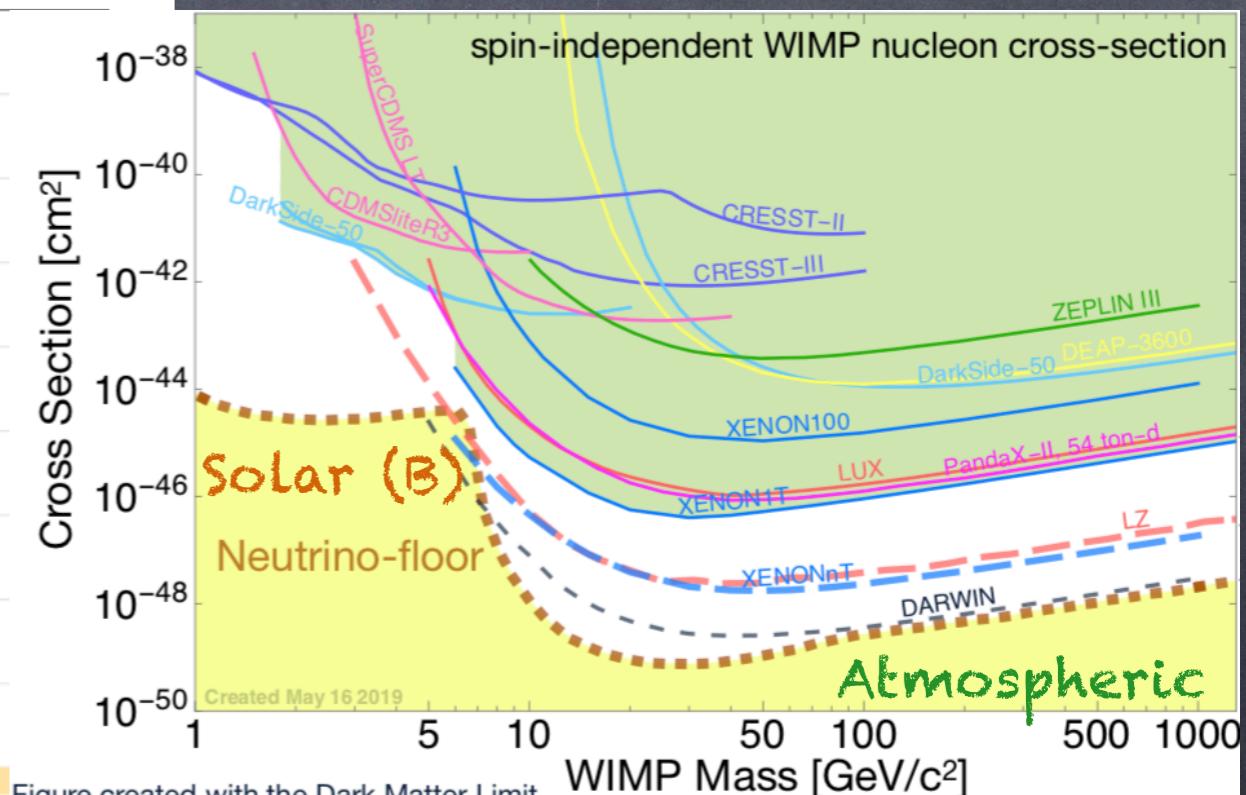
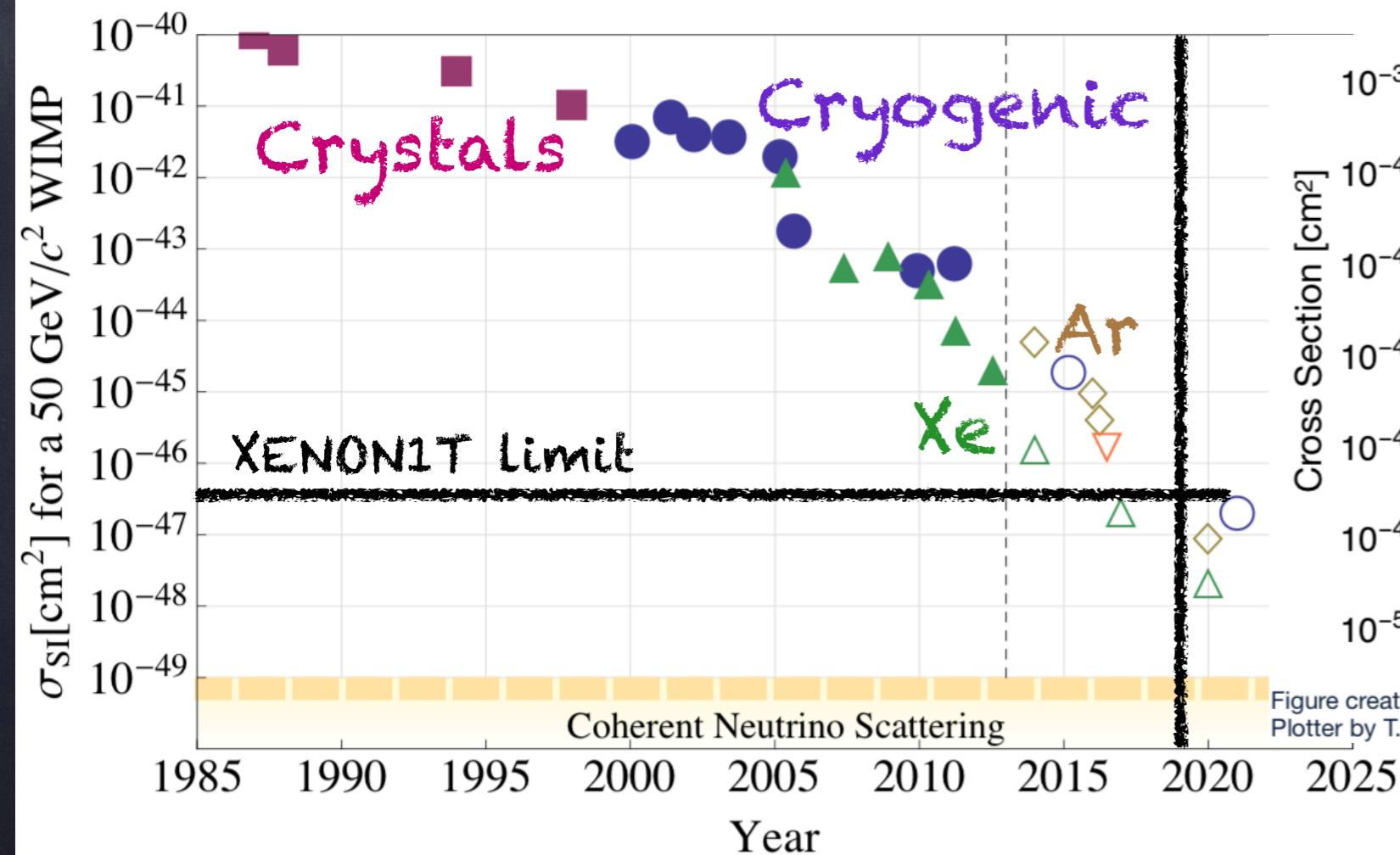
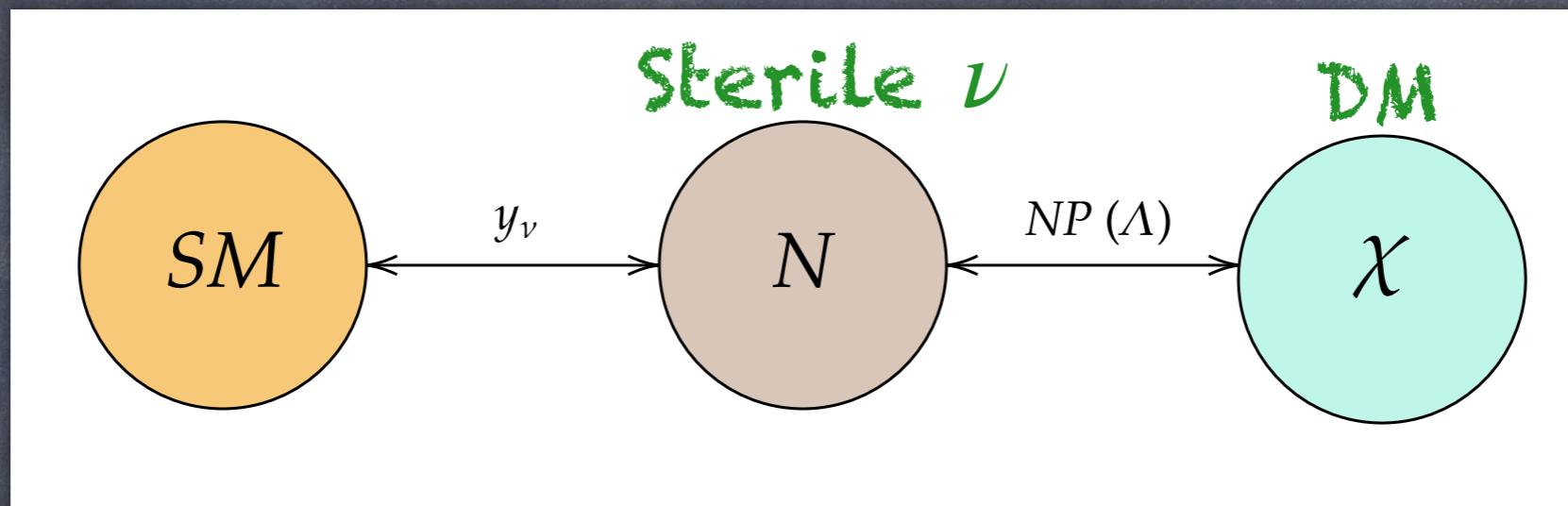


Figure created with the Dark Matter Limit Plotter by T. Saab and E. Figueroa

Where are the WIMPs?

# What if WIMPs only couple to sterile neutrinos $N_R$ ?



- $N_R$  are well motivated by neutrino masses
- DM coupled to SM via  $N_R$ : most bounds evaded
- We consider Majorana DM  $\chi$ , with  $m_N < m_\chi$
- Other neutrino portals [Escudero, Batell, Blennow...]

# Framework

DM stability by a  $Z_2$  symmetry,  $\chi \rightarrow -\chi$ :

$$\mathcal{L}_4 = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} - \left[ \frac{1}{2} m_N \overline{N}_R^c N_R + \frac{1}{2} m_\chi \overline{\chi}_L \chi_L^c + y_\nu \overline{L} \tilde{H} N_R + \text{H.c.} \right]$$

Neutrino masses by standard seesaw:

$$m_\nu \simeq \frac{m_D^2}{m_N}$$

Other options:  
inverse seesaw, etc.

## II- Effective operators and models

# Effective operators

$$\mathcal{O}_1 = (\overline{N}_R \chi_L)(\overline{\chi}_L N_R) = -\frac{1}{2}(\overline{N}_R \gamma_\mu N_R)(\overline{\chi}_L \gamma^\mu \chi_L), \quad \text{LNC}$$

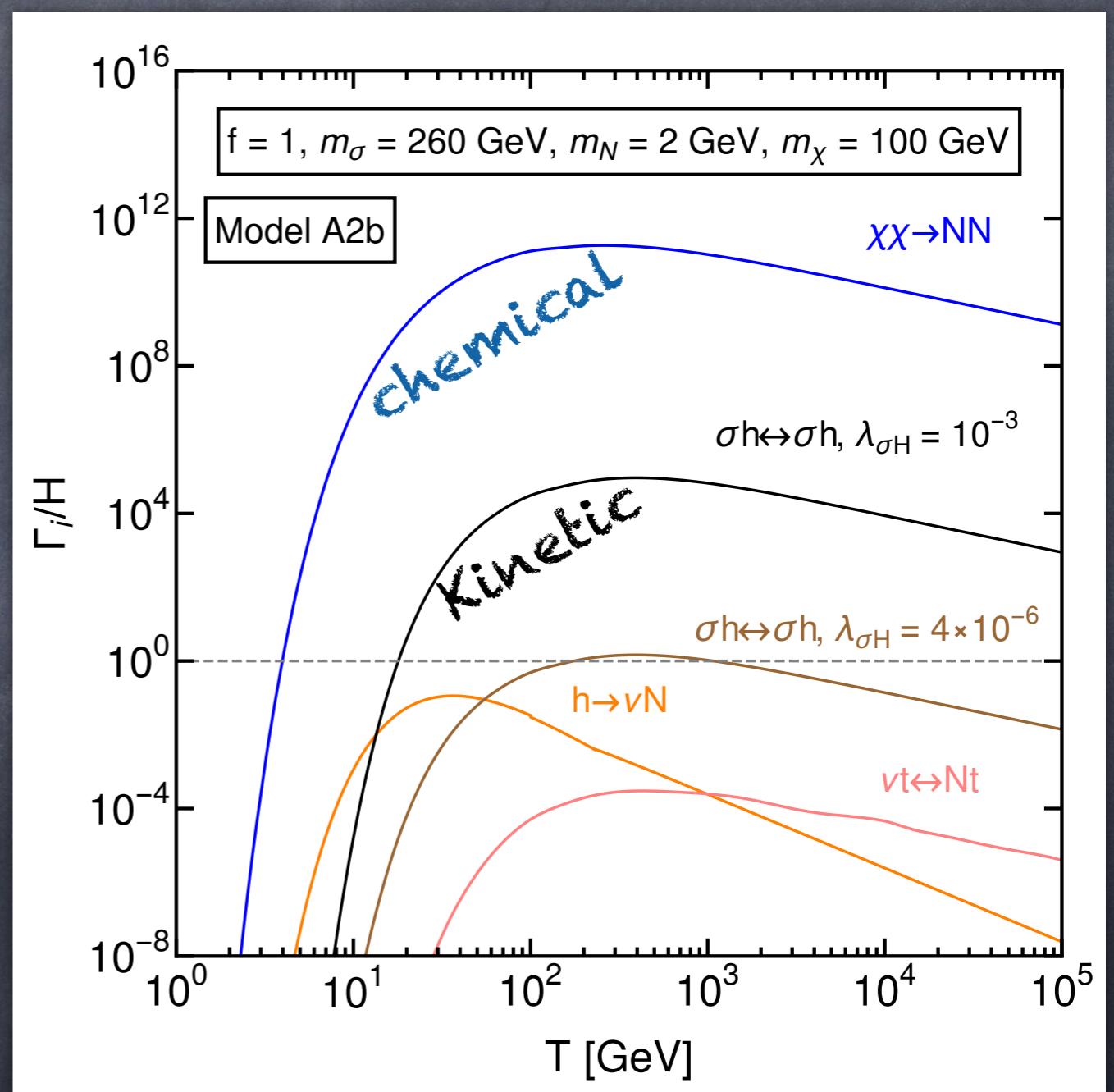
$$\mathcal{O}_2 = (\overline{N}_R \chi_L)(\overline{N}_R \chi_L) = -\frac{1}{2}(\overline{N}_R N_R^c)(\overline{\chi}_L^c \chi_L), \quad \text{LNV}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_3 = (\overline{N}_R^c N_R)(\overline{\chi}_L^c \chi_L) = -\frac{1}{2}(\overline{N}_R^c \gamma_\mu \chi_L)(\overline{\chi}_L^c \gamma^\mu N_R). \quad \text{LNV}$$

UV completions include new scalars

# Thermal Equilibrium

- Chemical f.o. of  $\chi\chi \rightarrow NN$ .
- Kinetic eq. early on with SM via  $\lambda_{\sigma H} |H|^2 |\sigma|^2$  for  $\lambda_{\sigma H} \gtrsim 10^{-6}$ .
- Kinetic eq. within the DS via  $\chi N \rightarrow \chi N$ .

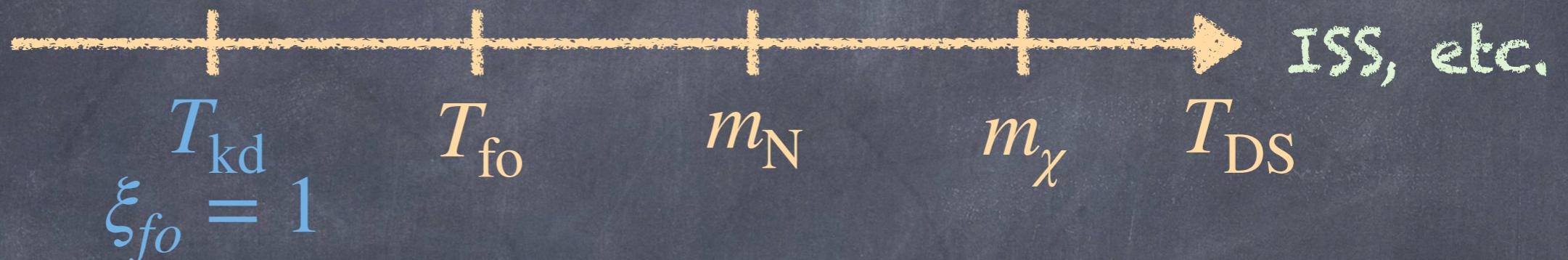


# Kinetic decoupling

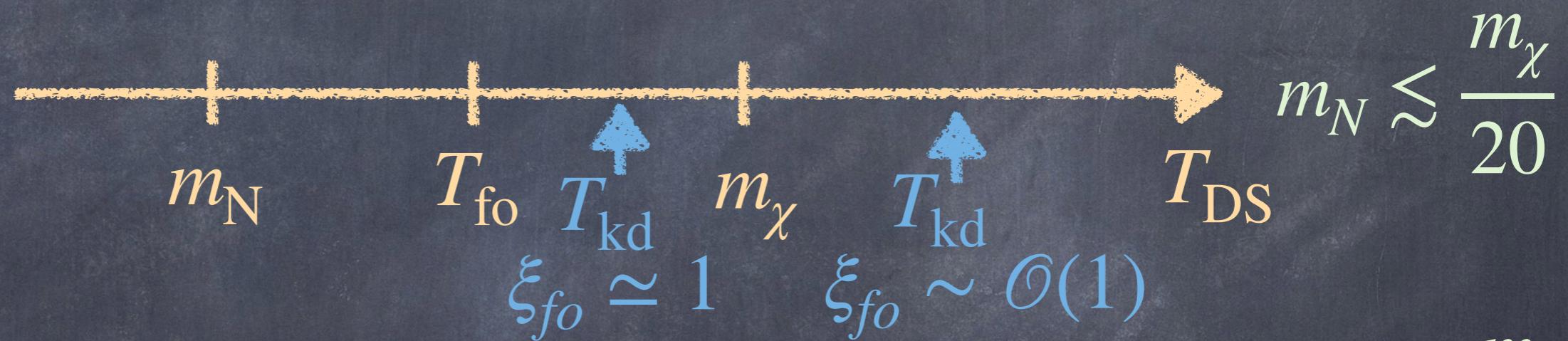
[Berlin 2016]

$$\xi = \frac{T_D}{T_{\text{SM}}}$$

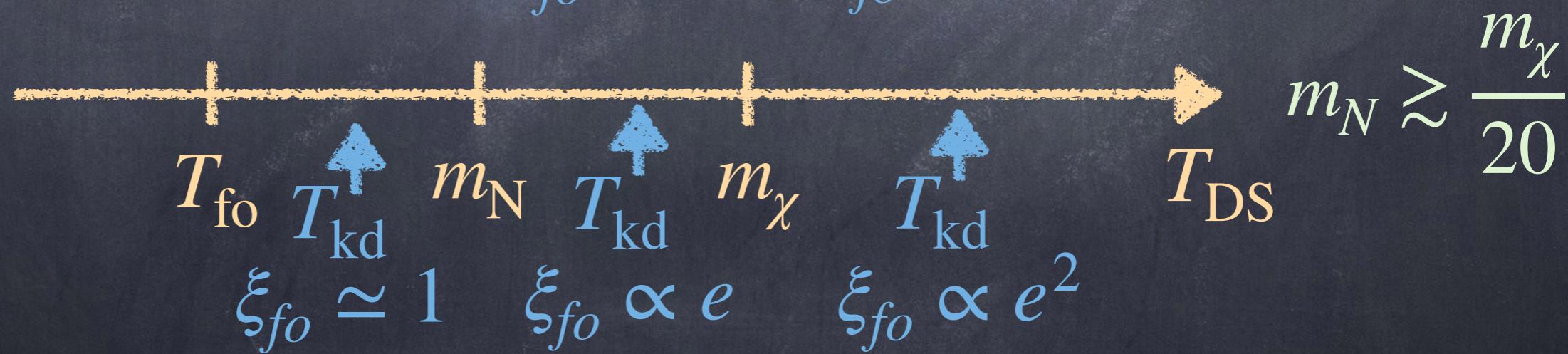
$$\xi_{\text{init}} = 1$$



$$\xi_{\text{fo}} = 1$$



$$\xi_{\text{fo}} \simeq 1 \quad \xi_{\text{fo}} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$$



$$\xi_{\text{fo}} \simeq 1 \quad \xi_{\text{fo}} \propto e \quad \xi_{\text{fo}} \propto e^2$$

$\rightarrow$  up to  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  uncertainty in  $\Omega$

# DM annihilations

$$\sigma v_{\chi\chi \rightarrow NN} = a + b \frac{v^2}{4}$$

For  $m_N = 0$ :

$$a = \frac{m_\chi^2}{4\pi\Lambda^4} \left[ |c_2|^2 + 4|c_3|^2 + 4\operatorname{Re}(c_2 c_3) \right]$$

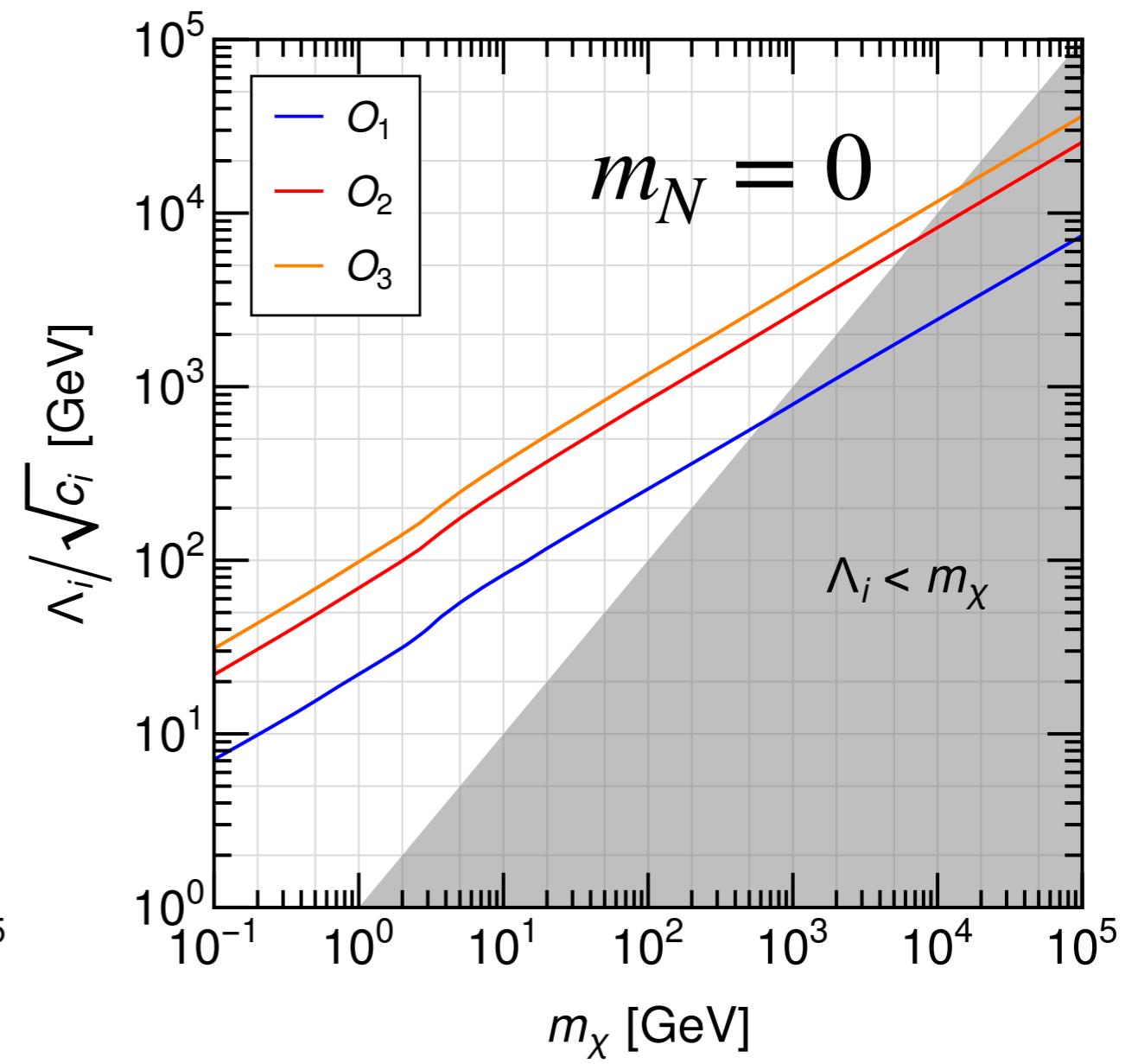
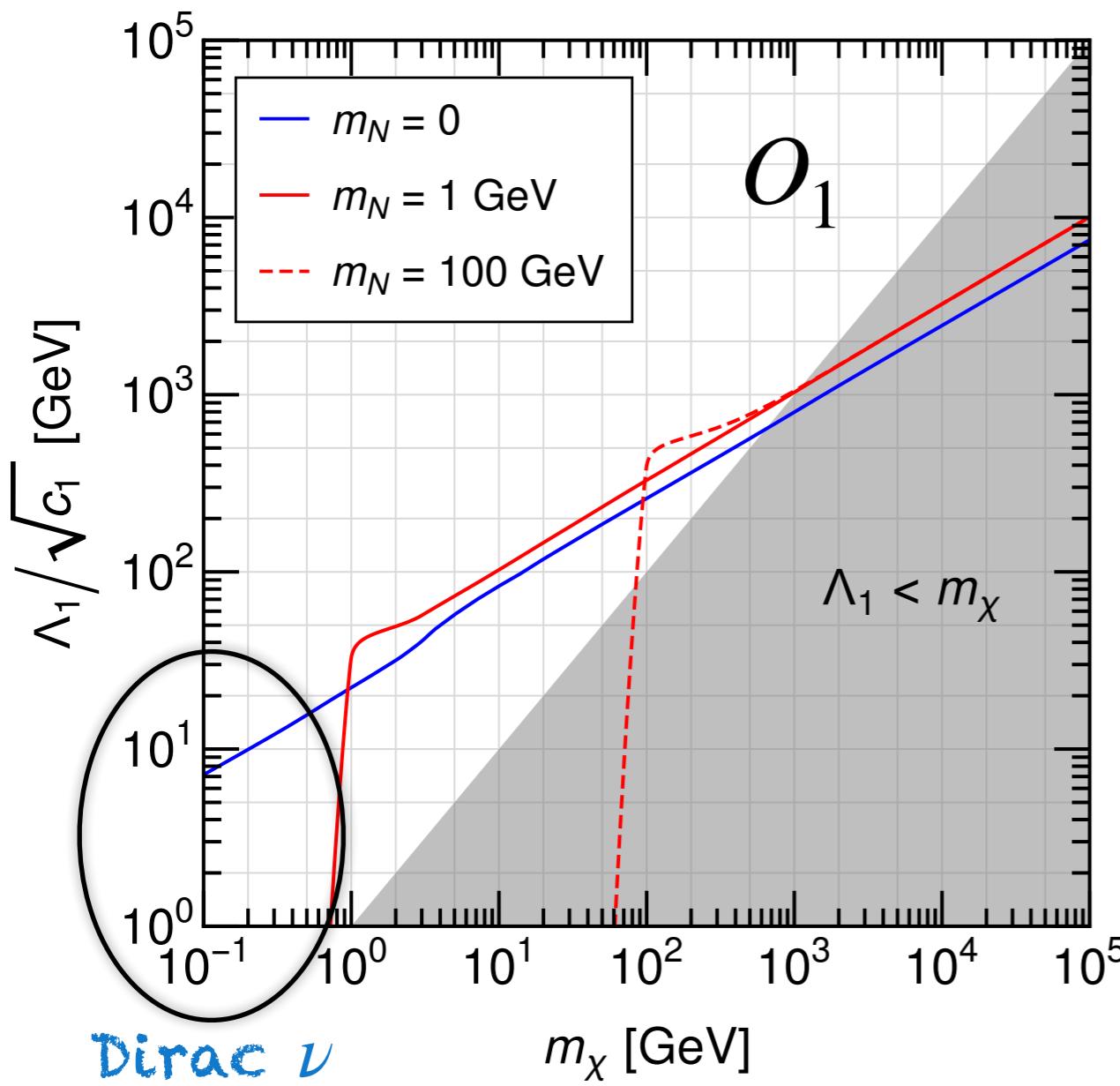
$$b = \frac{m_\chi^2}{12\pi\Lambda^4} \left[ c_1^2 + 3|c_2|^2 + 12|c_3|^2 - 12\operatorname{Re}(c_2 c_3) \right]$$

$\mathcal{O}_1$  gives  $p$ -wave or chirality-sup. ( $m_N$ ) contributions

For  $c_2 = -2c_3^*$   $\rightarrow p$ -wave annihilations

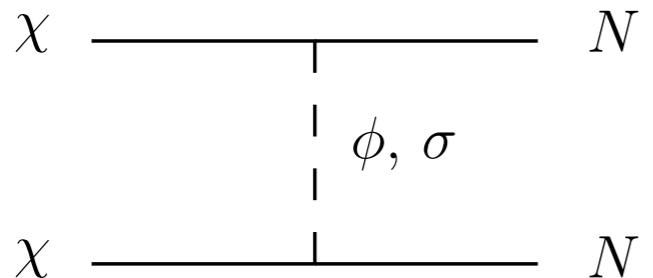
# Relic abundance

$$\chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow NN$$

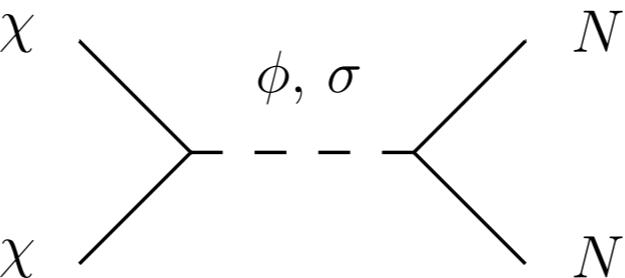


# Models

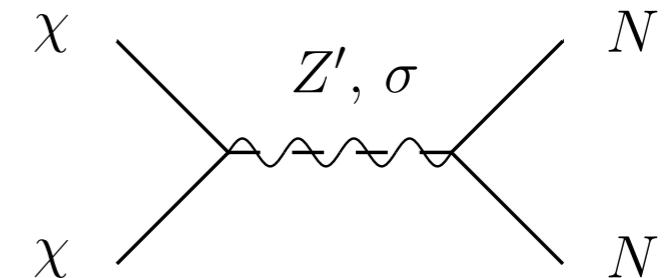
Models A



Models B



Models C

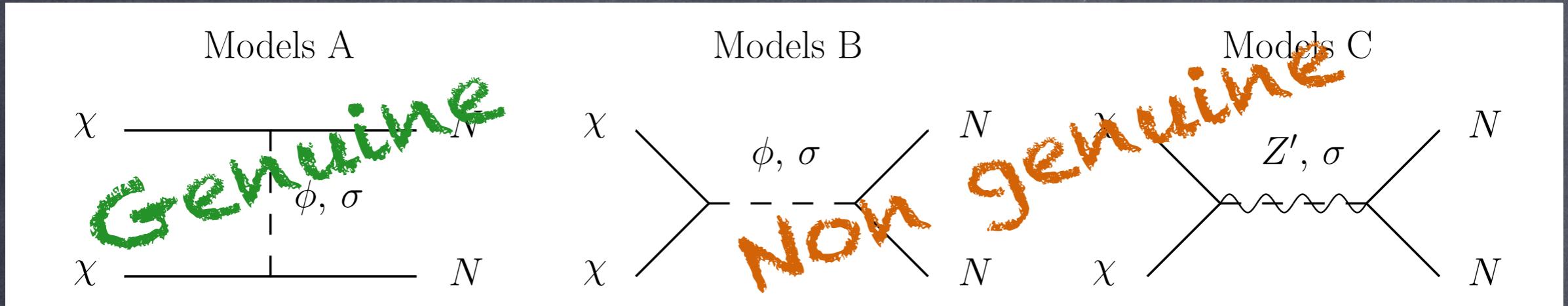


| Model | Dark sector particles   | $Z_2$ | $U(1)_{B-L}$ |
|-------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|
| A1    | Majorana fermion $\chi$ | -1    | 0            |
|       | real scalar $\phi$      | -1    | 0            |
| A2    | Majorana fermion $\chi$ | -1    | 0            |
|       | complex scalar $\sigma$ | -1    | -1           |
| B1    | Majorana fermion $\chi$ | -1    | 0            |
|       | real scalar $\phi$      | +1    | 0            |

| Model | Dark sector particles     | $Z_2$ | $U(1)_{B-L}$ |
|-------|---------------------------|-------|--------------|
| B2    | chiral fermion $\chi_L$   | -1    | +1           |
|       | complex scalar $\sigma$   | +1    | +2           |
| C1    | Majorana fermion $\chi$   | -1    | 0            |
|       | massive vector boson $Z'$ | +1    | 0            |
| C2    | chiral fermion $\chi_L$   | -1    | +1           |
|       | complex scalar $\sigma$   | +1    | +2           |
|       | gauge boson $Z'$          | +1    | 0            |

C2, gauged  $B - L$ :  $2 N_R + 1 \chi_L$

# Models



| Model | Dark sector particles                                 | $Z_2$ | $U(1)_{B-L}$ |
|-------|---|-------|--------------|
| A1    | $f\bar{N}_R \chi_L \phi$                              |       |              |
| A2    | $f\bar{N}_R \chi_L \sigma$                            |       |              |
| B1    | $f\bar{N}_R^c N_R \phi - g\bar{\chi}_L^c \chi_L \phi$ |       |              |

| Model | Dark sector particles  | $Z_2$ | $U(1)_{B-L}$ |
|-------|--|-------|--------------|
| B2    | $f\bar{N}_R^c N_R \sigma + g\bar{\chi}_L^c \chi_L \sigma$                              |       |              |
| C1    | $g_N^c \bar{N}_R \gamma^\mu N_R Z'_\mu + g_\chi \bar{\chi}_L \gamma^\mu \chi_L Z'_\mu$ |       |              |
| C2    | $f\bar{N}_R \gamma^\mu N_R Z'_\mu + f\bar{\chi}_L \gamma^\mu \chi_L Z'_\mu$            |       |              |

→ + couplings to SM



# Non-genuine genuine

## MATCHING TIME

$(\overline{N}_R \chi_L) (\overline{\chi}_L N_R)$

$(\overline{N}_R \chi_L) (\overline{\chi}_R \chi_L)$

$(\overline{N}_R^c N_R) (\overline{\chi}_L^c \chi_L)$

$(\overline{N}_R^c N_R) (\overline{\chi}_R^c \chi_R)$

$(\overline{\chi}_L^c \chi_L) (\overline{\chi}_L^c \chi_L)$

$(\overline{N}_R^c N_R) (H^* H)$

$(\overline{\chi}_L^c \chi_L) (H^* H)$

| Model                                    | $c_1/\Lambda^2$                     | $c_2/\Lambda^2$                         | $c_3/\Lambda^2$       | $c_4/\Lambda^2$                                    | $c_5/\Lambda^2$                                       | $c_{NH}/\Lambda$                                       | $c_{\chi_H}/\Lambda$                                   |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|---|--|--|
| A1                                       | $\frac{ f ^2}{m_\phi^2}$            | $\frac{f^2}{2m_\phi^2}$                 | x                     | x  | x   | x  | x  |
| A <sub>2a</sub><br>Dirac                 | $\frac{f^2}{m_\sigma^2}$            | x                                       | x                     | x  | x   | x  | x  |
| A <sub>2b</sub><br>$m_N \neq 0$          | $\frac{f^2}{m_\sigma^2}$            | x                                       | x                     | x  | x   | x  | x  |
| A <sub>2c</sub><br>$\mu_\sigma^2 \neq 0$ | $\frac{f^2}{m_\sigma^2}$            | $-\frac{f^2 \mu_\sigma^2}{2m_\sigma^4}$ | x                     | x  | x   | x  | x  |
| B1<br>Real scalar                        | x                                   | $-\frac{2f^* g}{m_\phi^2}$              | $\frac{fg}{m_\phi^2}$ | $\frac{ f ^2}{m_\phi^2}$                           | $\frac{ g ^2}{m_\phi^2}$                              | $\frac{f \lambda_{\phi H}}{m_\phi^2}$                  | $\frac{g \mu_{\phi H}}{m_\phi^2}$                      |
| B2<br>Global                             | x                                   | $-\frac{fg}{m_s^2}$                     | $\frac{fg}{2m_s^2}$   | $\frac{f^2}{2m_s^2}$                               | $\frac{g^2}{2m_s^2}$                                  | $\frac{f \lambda_{\sigma H} v_\sigma}{\sqrt{2} m_s^2}$ | $\frac{g \lambda_{\sigma H} v_\sigma}{\sqrt{2} m_s^2}$ |
| C1<br>Effective                          | $\frac{2g_N g_\chi}{m_{Z'}^2}$      | x                                       | x                     | $-\frac{g_N^2}{m_{Z'}^2}$                          | $-\frac{g_\chi^2}{m_{Z'}^2}$                          | x  | x  |
| C2<br>Gauge                              | $\frac{2g'^2 Q_N Q_\chi}{m_{Z'}^2}$ | $-\frac{fg}{m_s^2}$                     | $\frac{fg}{2m_s^2}$   | $\frac{f^2}{2m_s^2} - \frac{g'^2 Q_N^2}{m_{Z'}^2}$ | $\frac{g^2}{2m_s^2} - \frac{g'^2 Q_\chi^2}{m_{Z'}^2}$ | $\frac{f \lambda_{\sigma H} v_\sigma}{\sqrt{2} m_s^2}$ | $\frac{g \lambda_{\sigma H} v_\sigma}{\sqrt{2} m_s^2}$ |

# III – Phenomenology

# Models' features

Dirac  $v$

$m_N \neq 0$

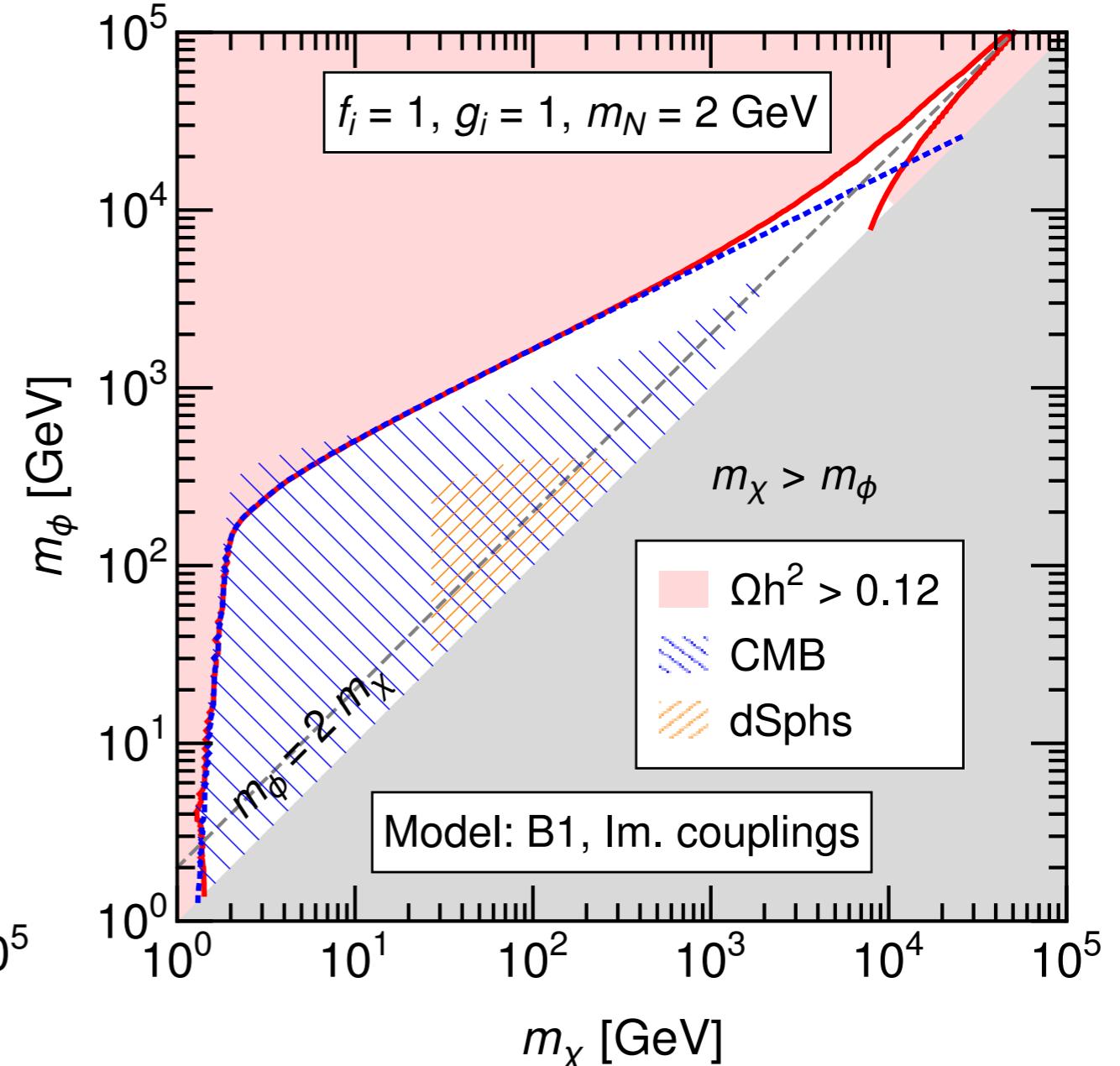
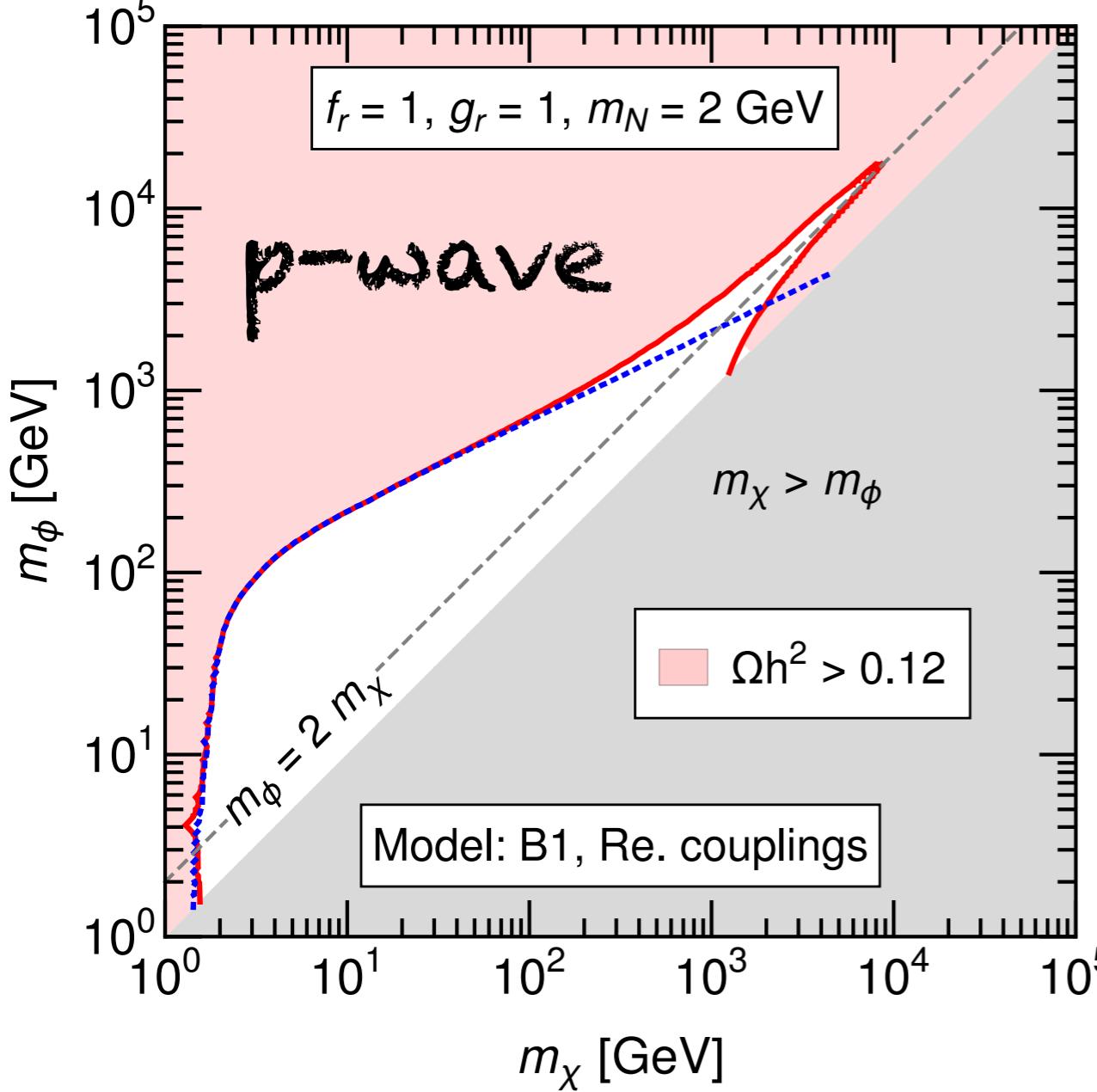
$m_N \neq 0$  loop

| Model  | A1 | A2a | A2b | A2c | B1 | B2 | C1 | C2 |
|--|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| Feature  |    |     |     |     |    |    |    |    |
| <u><math>s</math>-wave <math>\langle\sigma v\rangle_{\chi\chi \rightarrow NN}</math></u> | ✓  | ✗   | ✓   | ✓   | ✗  | ✗  | ✓  | ✓  |
| <u>DD @ tree level</u>   | ✗  | ✗   | ✗   | ✗   | ✓  | ✓  | ✗  | ✓  |
| <u>Self-interactions</u>   | ✗  | ✗   | ✗   | ✗   | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |

Genuine Non-genuine

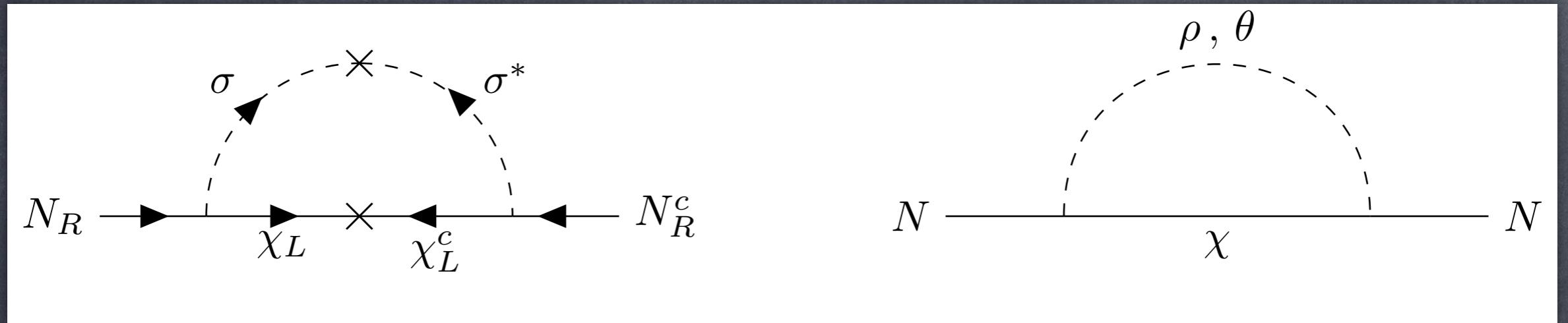
# Model B1

$$\mathcal{L}_{A2c} \supset -f \overline{N_R^c} N_R \phi - g \overline{\chi_L^c} \chi_L \phi + \text{H.c.}$$



# Model A2c: $m_N = 0$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{A2c}} \supset -f \bar{N}_R \chi_L \sigma - \frac{1}{2} m_\chi \bar{\chi}_L \chi_L^c - \frac{1}{2} \mu_\sigma^2 \sigma^2 + \text{H.c.}$$



Scotogenic-like mass. For  $m_{\chi_k} \ll m_\rho, m_\theta$ :

$$(m_N)_{ij} \approx \frac{\mu_\sigma^2}{16\pi^2 m_\sigma^2} \sum_{k=1}^{n_\chi} f_{ik}^* f_{jk}^* m_{\chi_k}$$

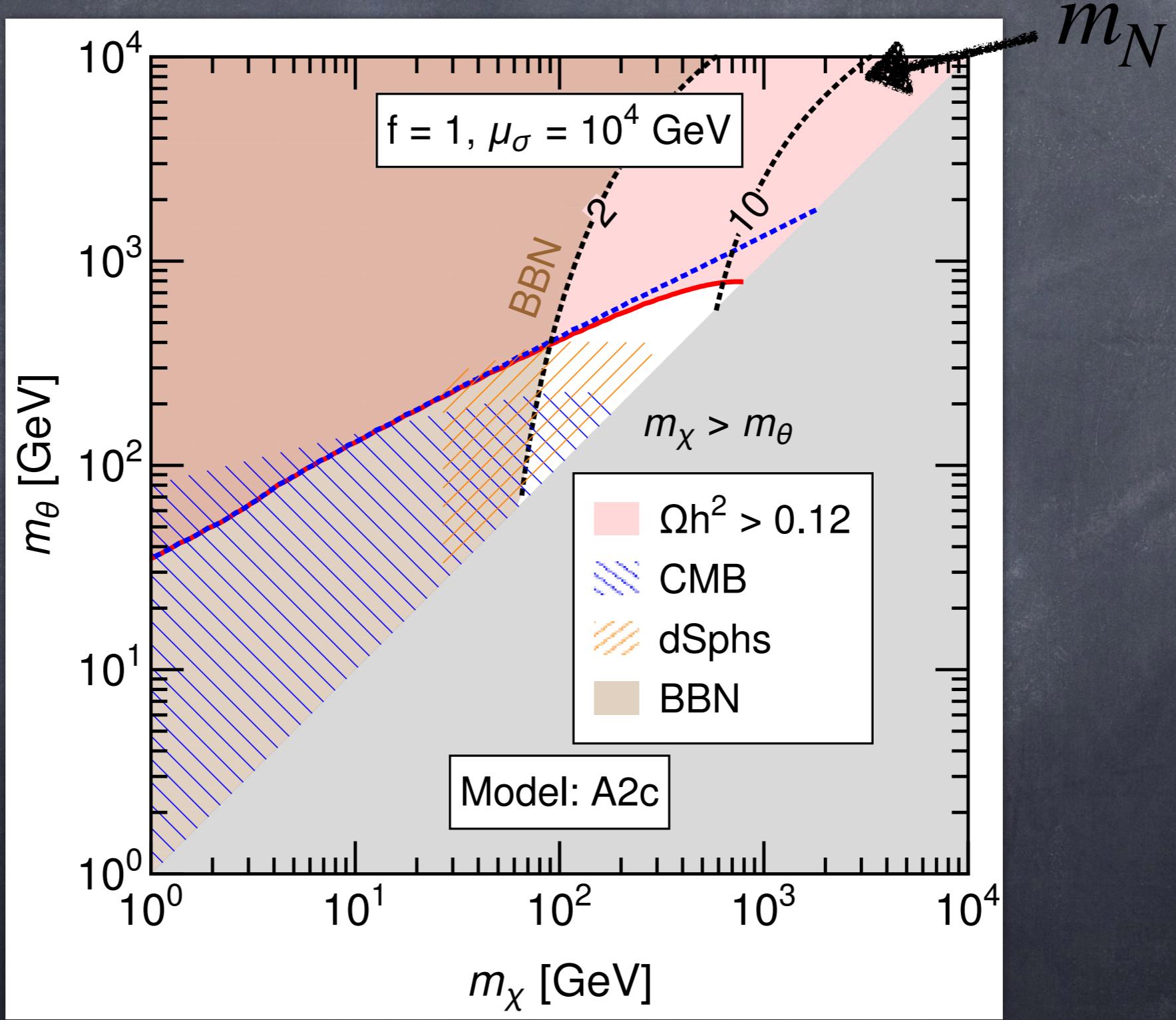
Need  $n_\chi \geq 2$

Casas-Ibarra generalisation:

$$n_\chi = n_N = 1$$

$$f = 4\pi \frac{y_\nu v_h m_\sigma}{\sqrt{2 m_\nu m_\chi \mu_\sigma^2}}$$

# Model A2c



## IV- Conclusions

# Conclusions

- WIMPs still one of the best motivated DM candidates.
- If coupled to SM only via  $N_R$ , they evade most limits.  
Connection to  $m_\nu$ .
- Genuine models involve  $t$ -channel mediators, with new  $Z_2$ -odd scalars, that are early on in kinetic eq. with SM.
- For Dirac  $\nu$ ,  $p$ -wave and light thermal DM are possible.
- For Majorana  $\nu$ ,  $m_N$  may be generated at 1 loop.



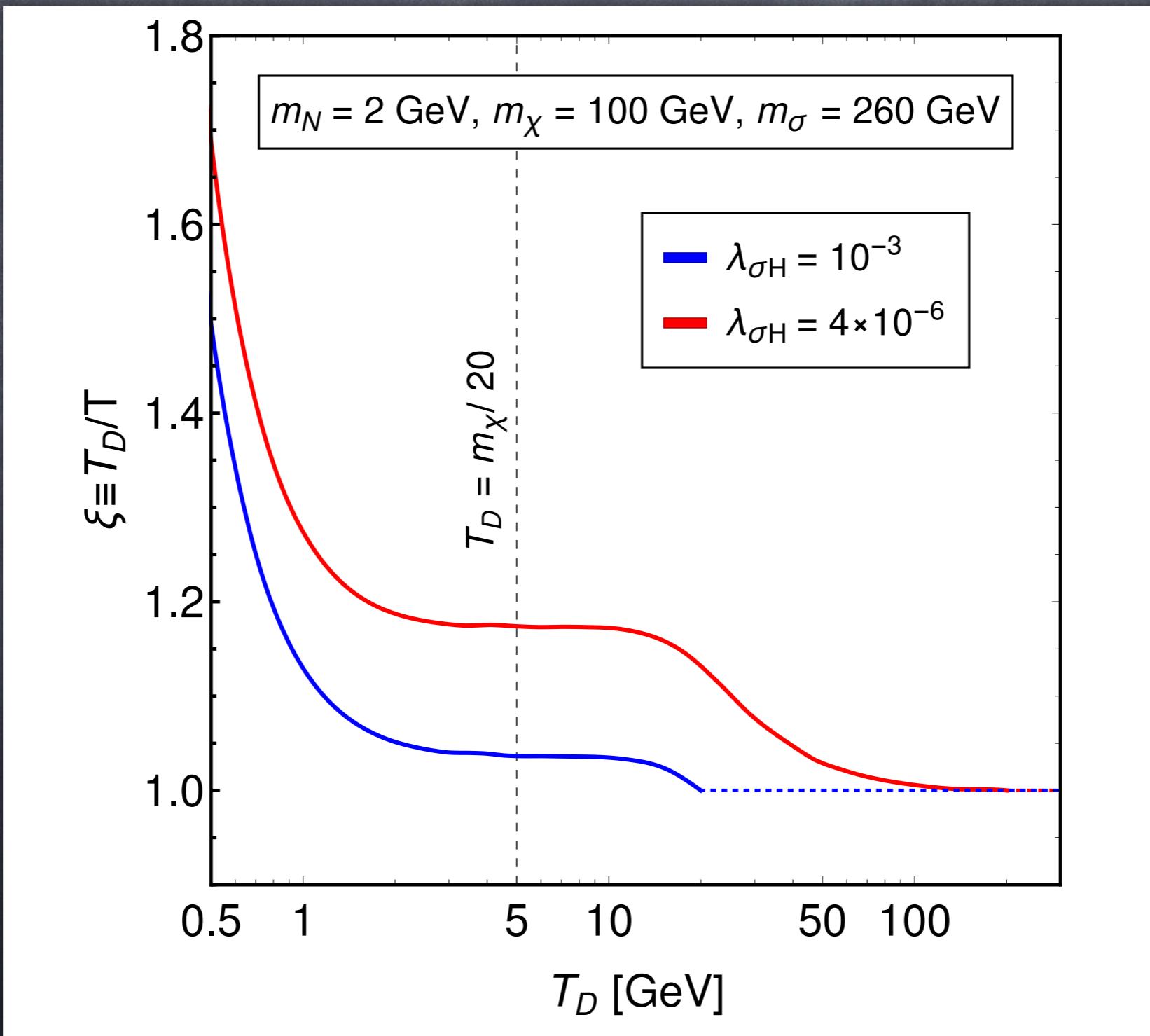
"WIMPs...  
It is now or never...  
Aint gonna live forever..."

METC

BACK-UP

# DS temperature $T_D$

[Berlin 2016]



Could  $N$  be long-lived enough  
to create a period of MD?

- For the mixings and masses of  $N$  that reproduce  $m_\nu$ , even if  $N$  is relativistic at f.o., it decays soon (and before BBN) [Berlin 2016]
- Therefore, it never dominates  $\rho_U$ .
- And there is no entropy injection after fo.