

# COSMOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS ON NEUTRINOS AND OTHER LIGHT RELICS

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**International Conference on the  
Physics of the Two Infinities  
Kyoto, Mar 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

# COSMIC NEUTRINO BACKGROUND (CνB)

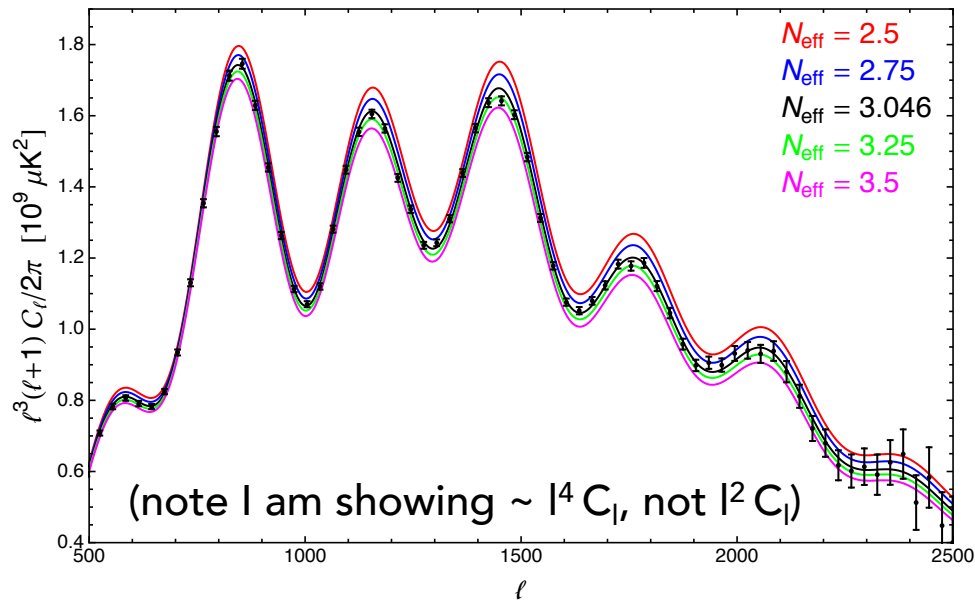
- Neutrinos are the most abundant (number wise) particles in the Universe today, after photons  
~ 100 particles/cm<sup>3</sup> per family...
- ...and were contributing a significant fraction of the energy density during the radiation-dominated era

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

Theoretical expectation for the three SM neutrinos\* :

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.0440 \pm 0.0002$$

Seen in the CMB small-scale anisotropies

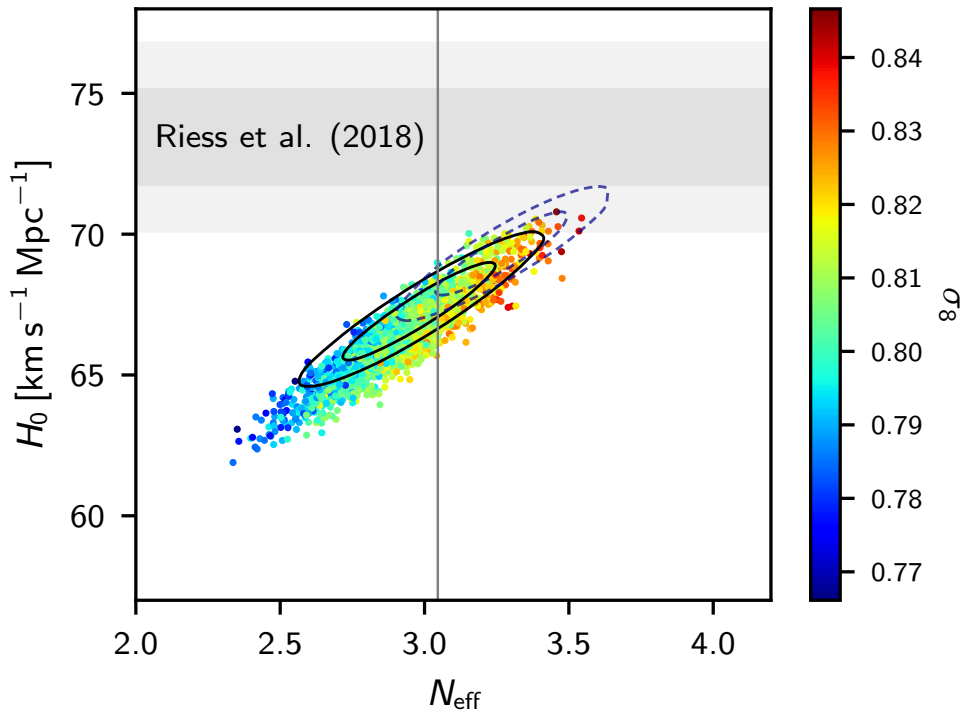


\* Dolgov; Mangano+ 2005; ....; Akita&Yamaguchi 2020; Bennett+,2020; Froustey+ 2020

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Theoretical expectation for the three SM neutrinos:

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$N_{\text{eff}}$  measured with ~5% precision:

$$\text{Planck 2018: } N_{\text{eff}} = 2.89 \pm 0.19$$

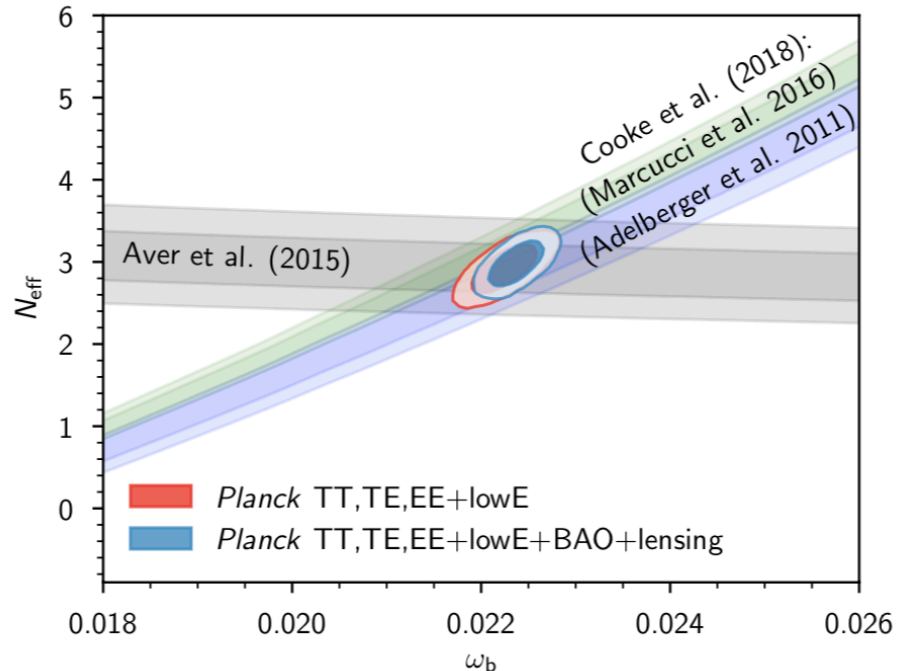
In agreement with the theoretical expectation  
Excludes a fourth, very light, *thermalized* neutrino at more than  $5\sigma$

Planck collaboration, VI 2018

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Planck collaboration, VI 2018

Theoretical expectation for the three SM neutrinos:

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.0440 \pm 0.0002$$

Light element abundances are also sensitive to  $N_{\text{eff}}$ :

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 2.86 \pm 0.28 \text{ [Yp + D/H]}$$

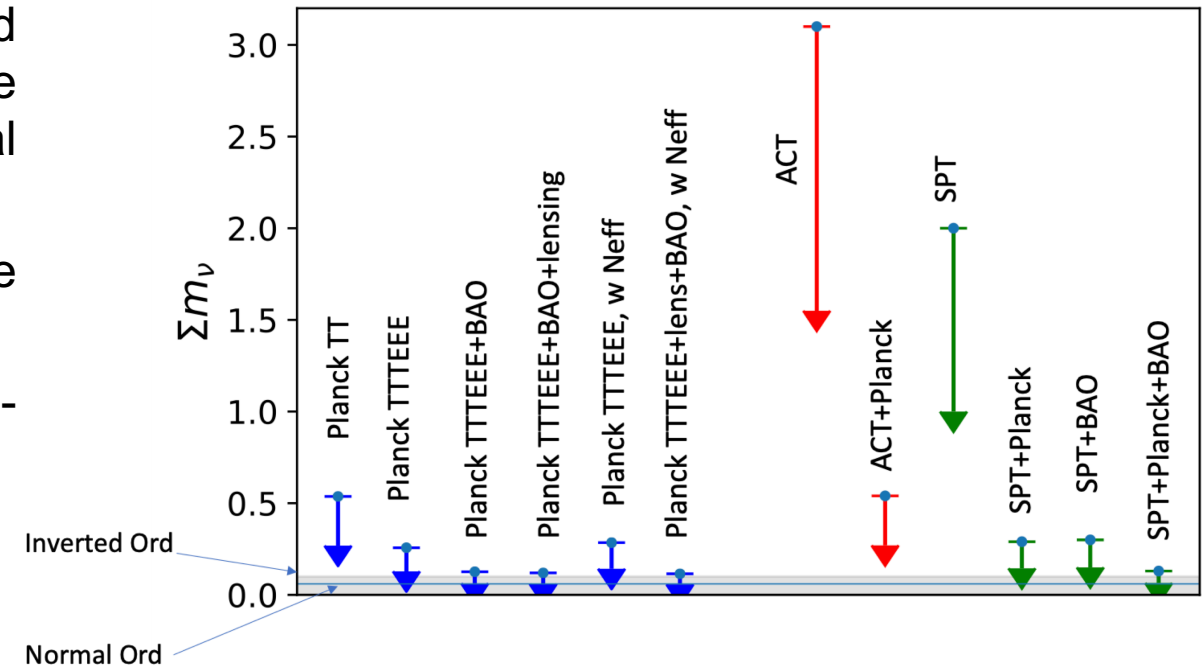
$$N_{\text{eff}} = 2.88 \pm 0.15 \text{ [BBN + CMB]}$$

Pisanti et al, JCAP 2021

Yeh et al., JCAP 2021

# NEUTRINO MASSES AND COSMOLOGY

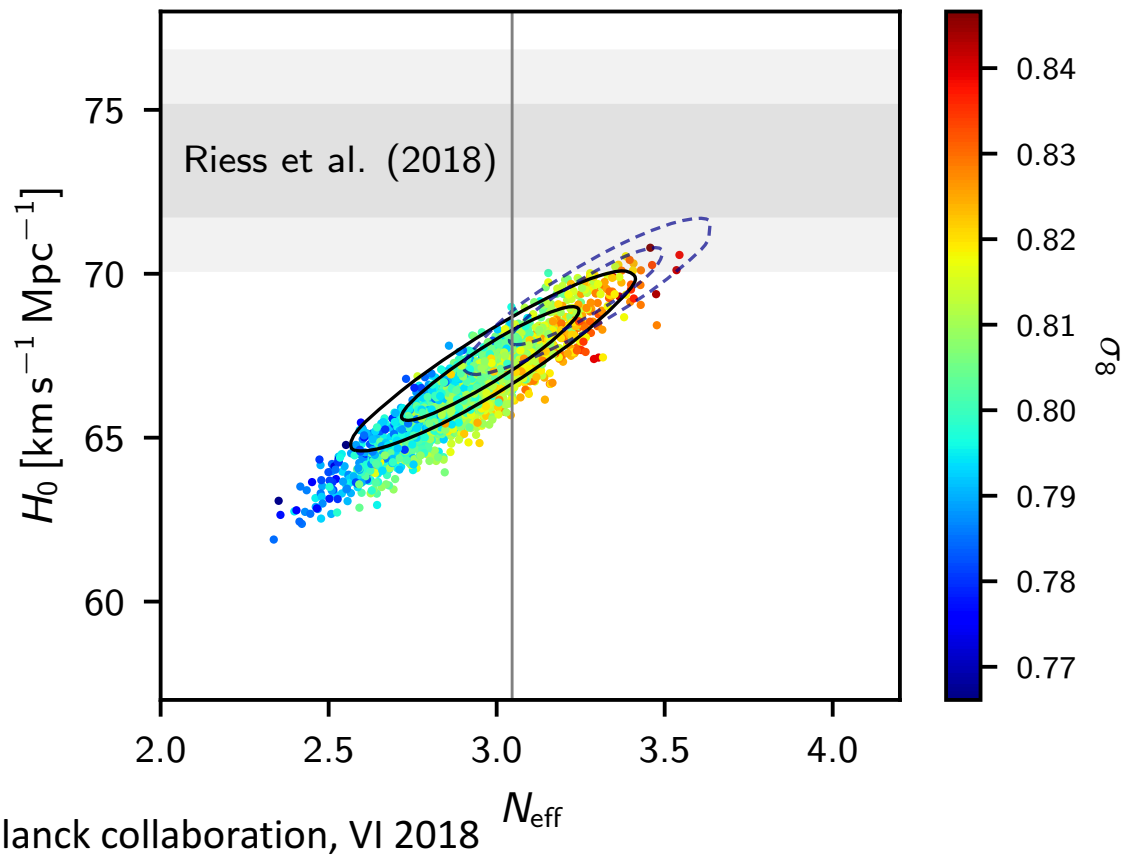
- The neutrino abundance and  $N_{\text{eff}}$  are essentially fixed by the freeze-out of weak interaction, i.e. by the competition between expansion (GR+cosmological principle) and the weak interaction rate (SM).
- Only free parameter in the  $\nu$  sector is the sum of the masses
- We should really start thinking of LCDM as a 7-parameter model....



**See M. Gerbino's talk on Monday!**

# NEFF AS A PROBE OF NEW PHYSICS

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



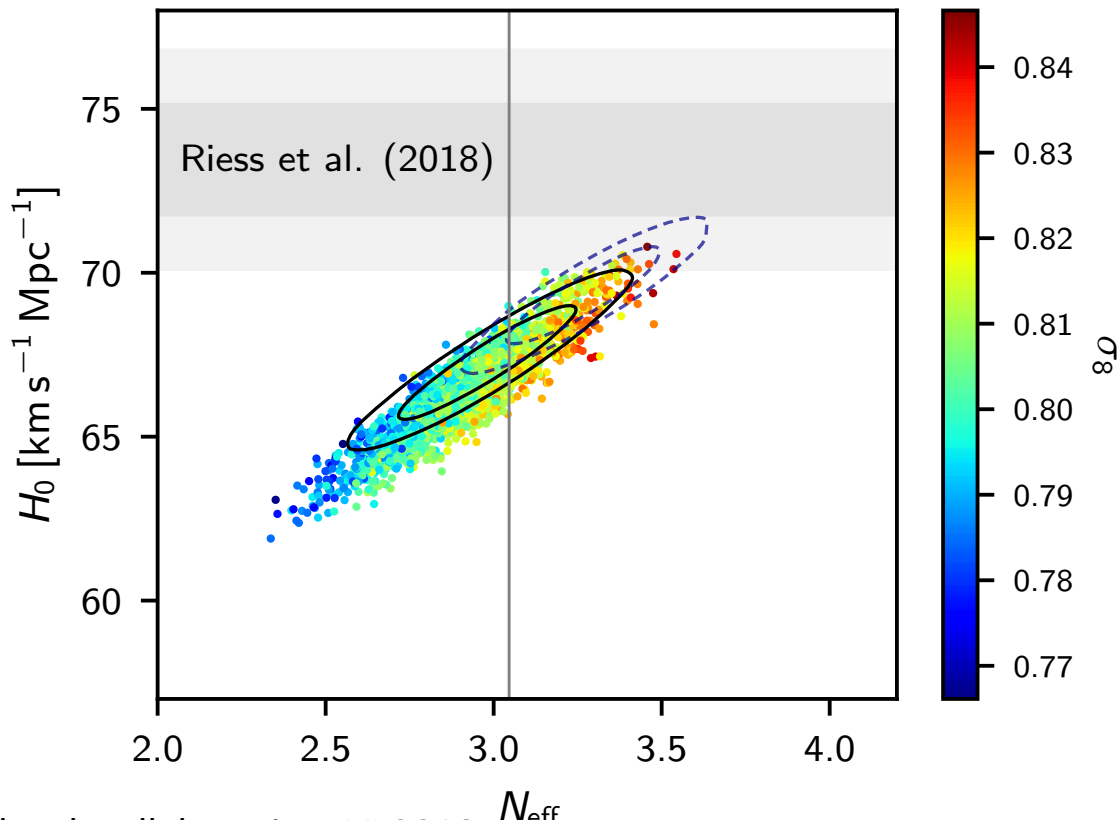
A deviation from the standard value of  $N_{\text{eff}}$  might be due to:

- Additional light species (e.g. sterile neutrinos, thermal axions)
- Nonstandard expansion history (e.g. low-reheating temperature scenarios)
- New physics affecting neutrino decoupling (as due e.g. to nonstandard  $\nu$ -electron interactions)
- Large lepton asymmetry
- .....

In general, the observed  $N_{\text{eff}}$  puts tight constraints on theories beyond the SM and beyond  $\Lambda\text{CDM}$

# NEFF AS A PROBE OF NEW PHYSICS

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



Both a blessing and a curse!

We can use  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = N_{\text{eff}} - 3.044$  to probe a wide range of models of new physics...

....however, if  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \neq 0$  is measured, how should we interpret it?

- Look for other cosmological signatures (concurring signal in the sum of the masses, effects on cosmological perturbations....)
- Search for confirmation in the lab

(not really much different from the present situation with dark matter and dark energy, if you think of it!)

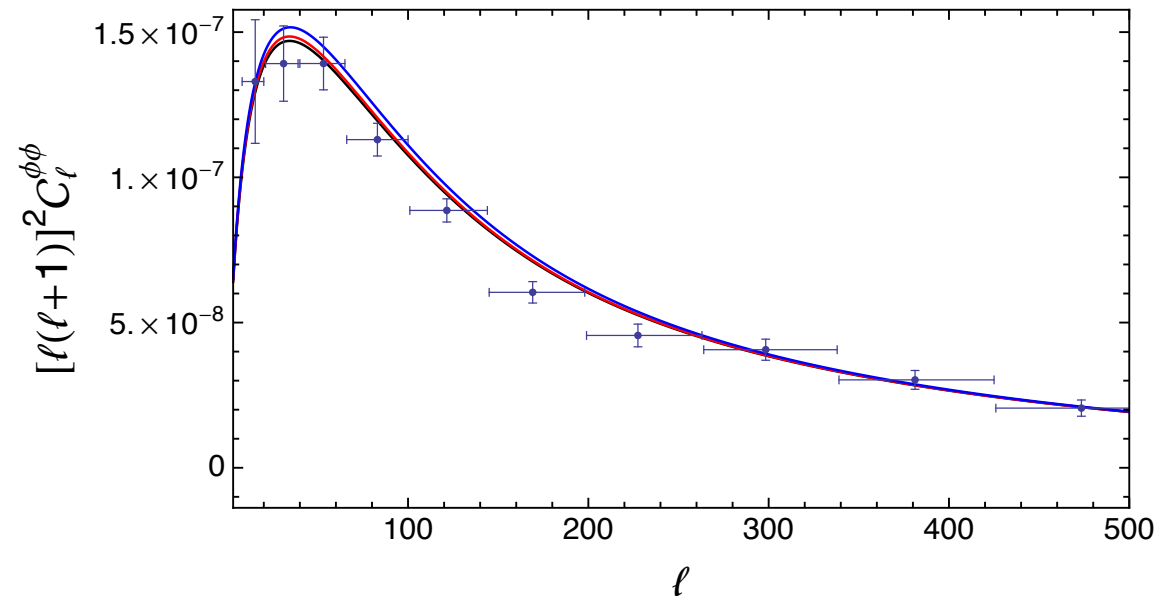
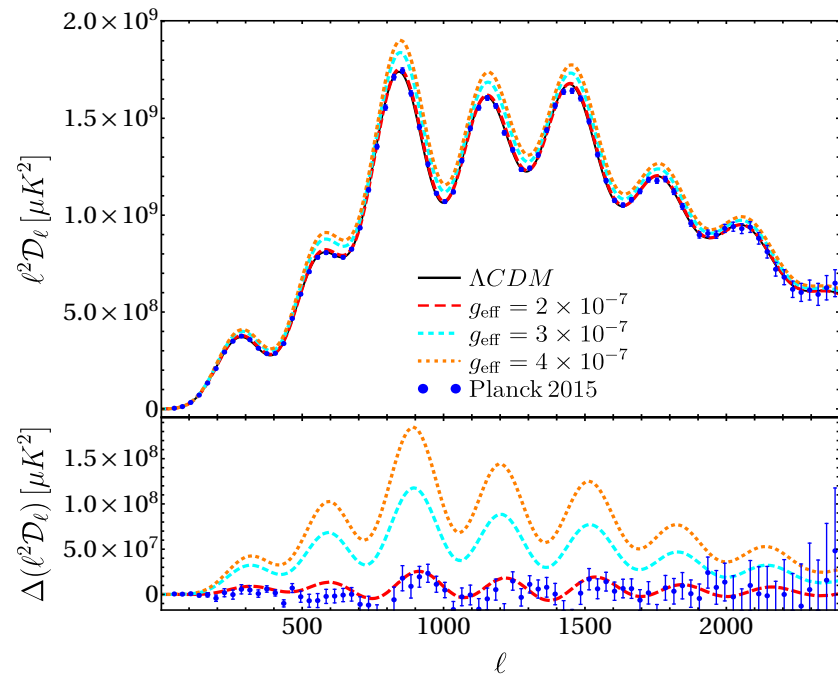
Planck collaboration, VI 2018  $N_{\text{eff}}$

# $\nu$ NSI IN COSMOLOGY

CMB is also sensitive to the **collisional properties** of light relics (Bashinsky & Seljak 2004)  
Neutrino free streaming can be tested!

E.g. a probe of **nonstandard interactions**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = \frac{i}{2} g \phi \bar{\nu}_i \gamma^5 \nu_i$$



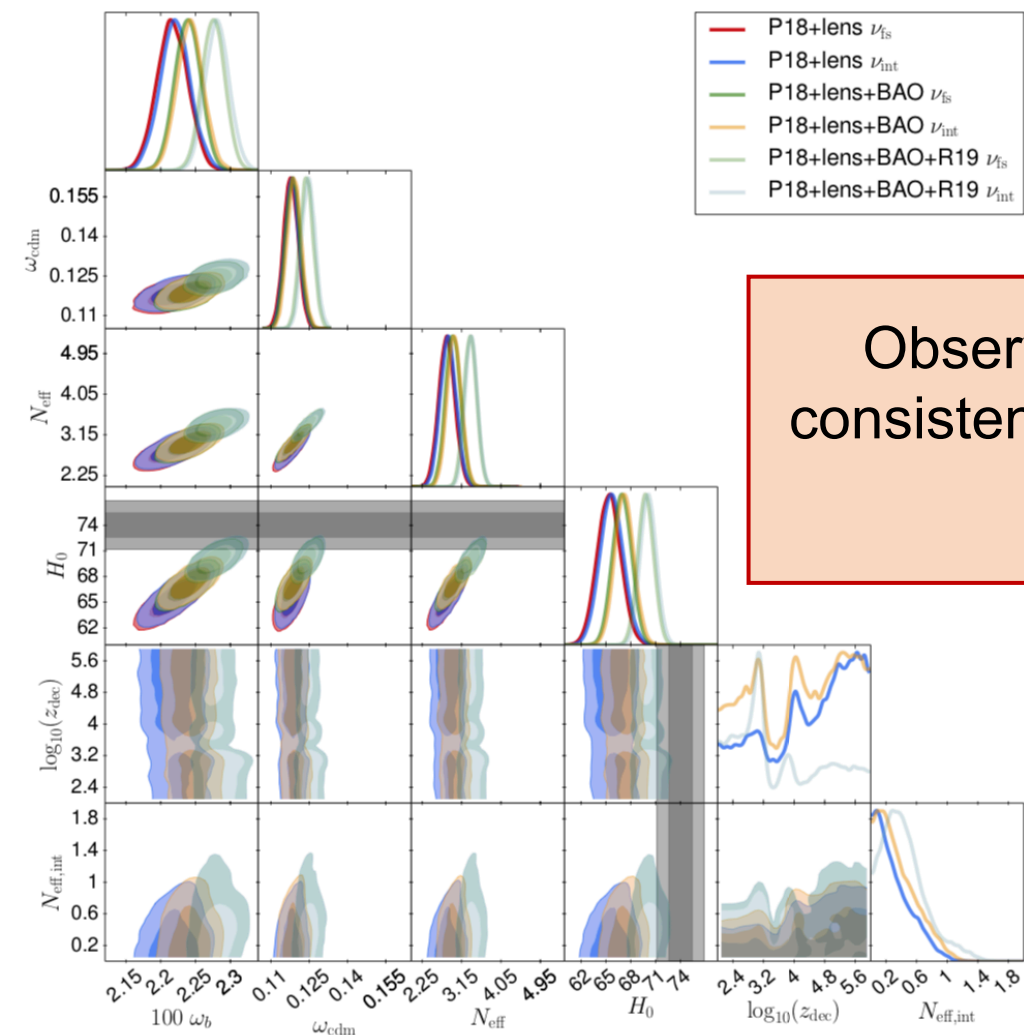
Self-interactions suppress neutrino free-streaming



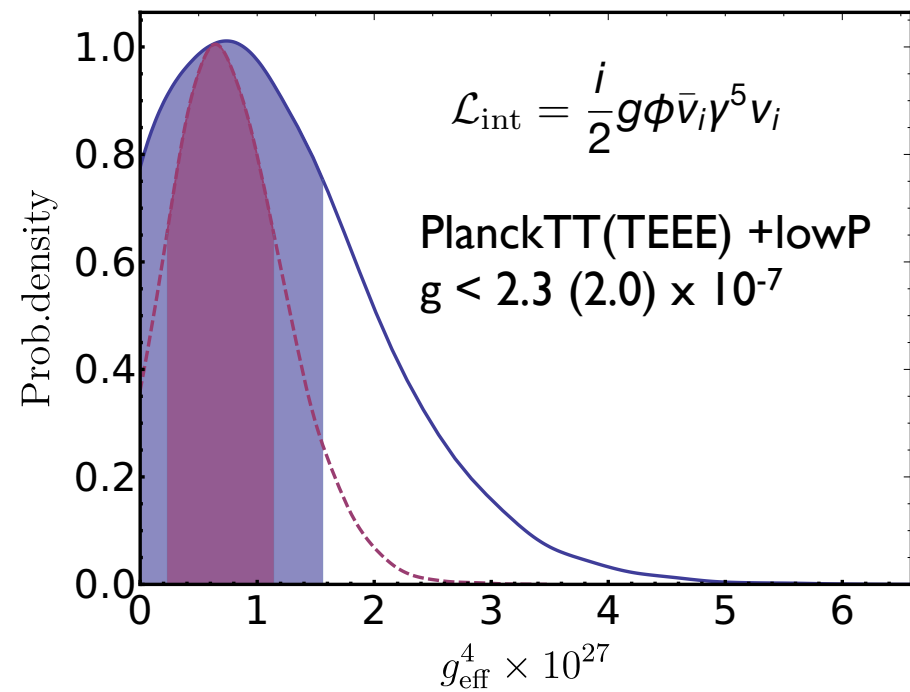
larger fluctuations in the gravitational potentials



# $\nu$ NSI IN COSMOLOGY



Observations are mostly consistent with free-streaming neutrinos



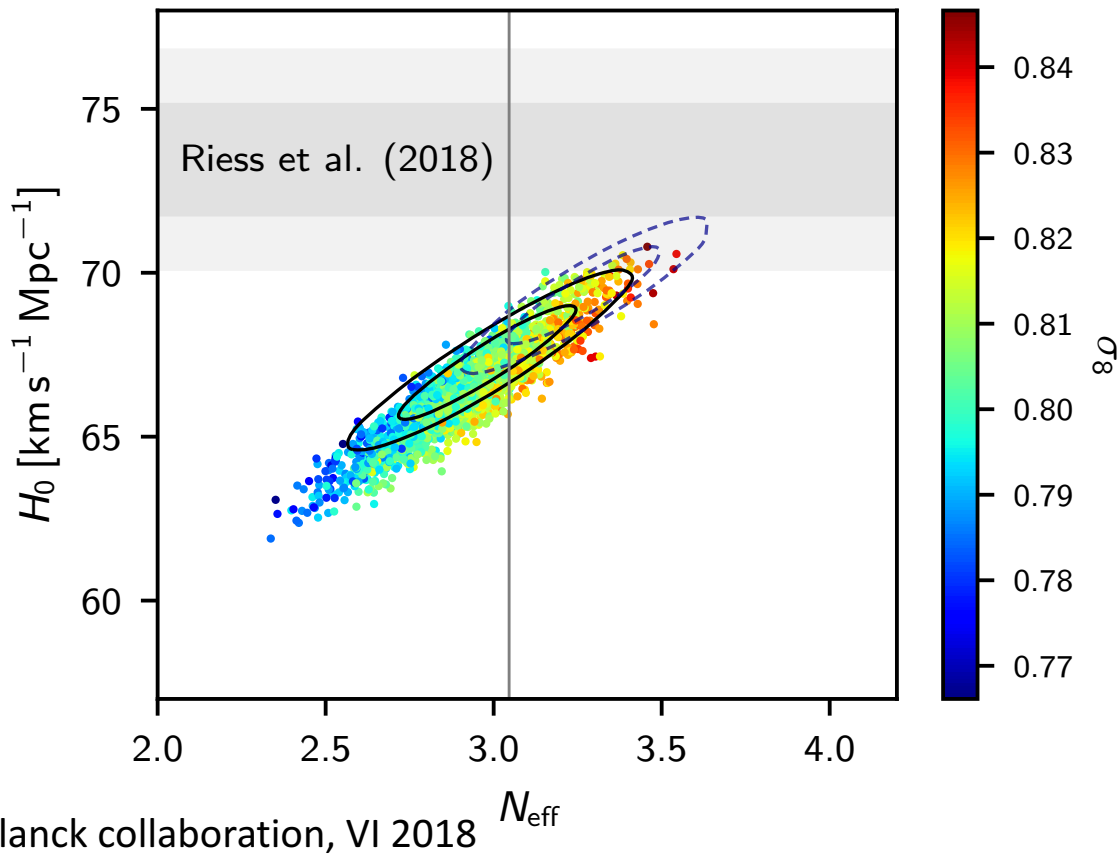
Forastieri, ML, Natoli,, 2019

See also Cyr-Racine & Sigurdson 2013, Archidiacono & Hannestad 2013, Forastieri, ML, Natoli 2015, Oldengott et al 2017, Kreisch et al. 2207.03164, Choudhury, Hannestad, Tram 2207.07142

Brinckmann, Chang, LoVerde, 2021

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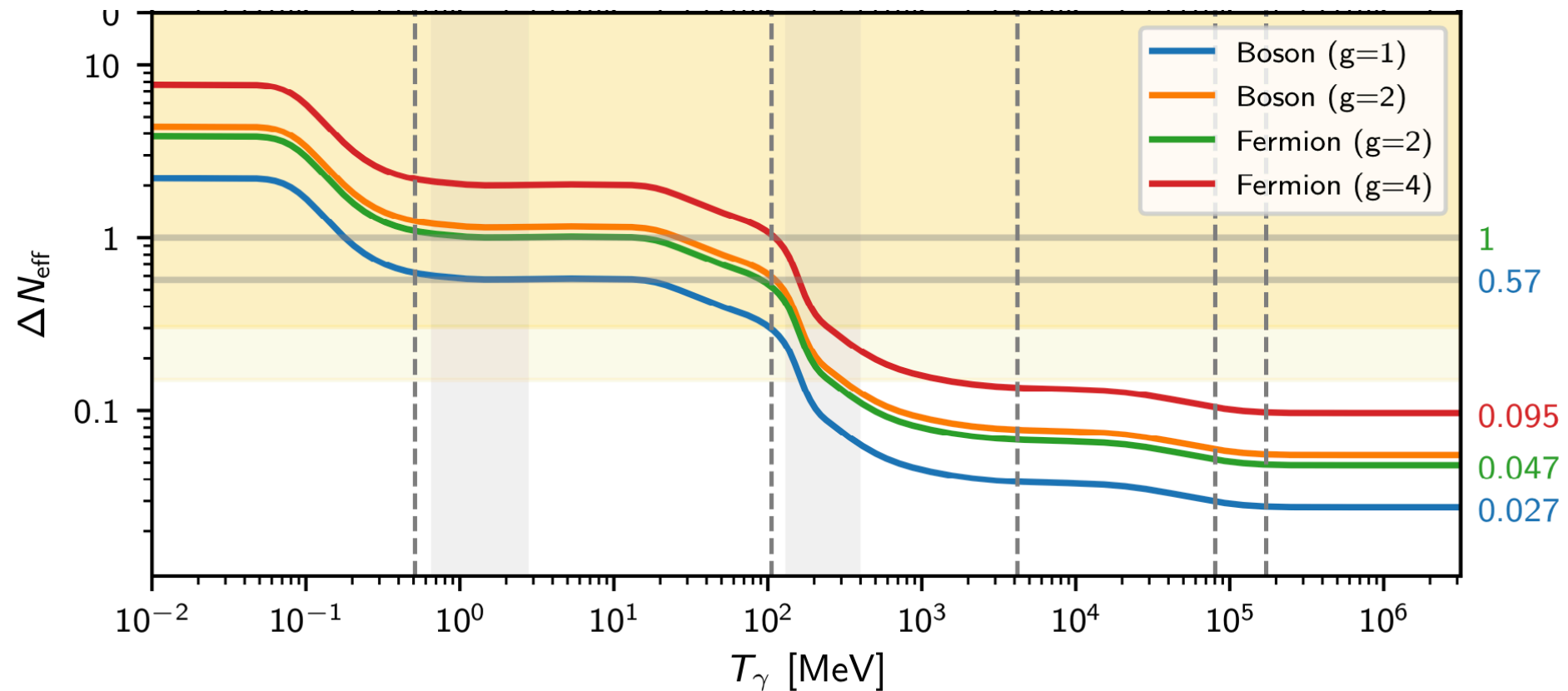
A deviation from the standard value of  $N_{\text{eff}}$  might be due to:

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- .....

In general, the observed  $N_{\text{eff}}$  puts tight constraints on theories beyond the SM and beyond  $\Lambda\text{CDM}$

# $N_{\text{EFF}}$ AND THE DECOUPLING OF SPECIES

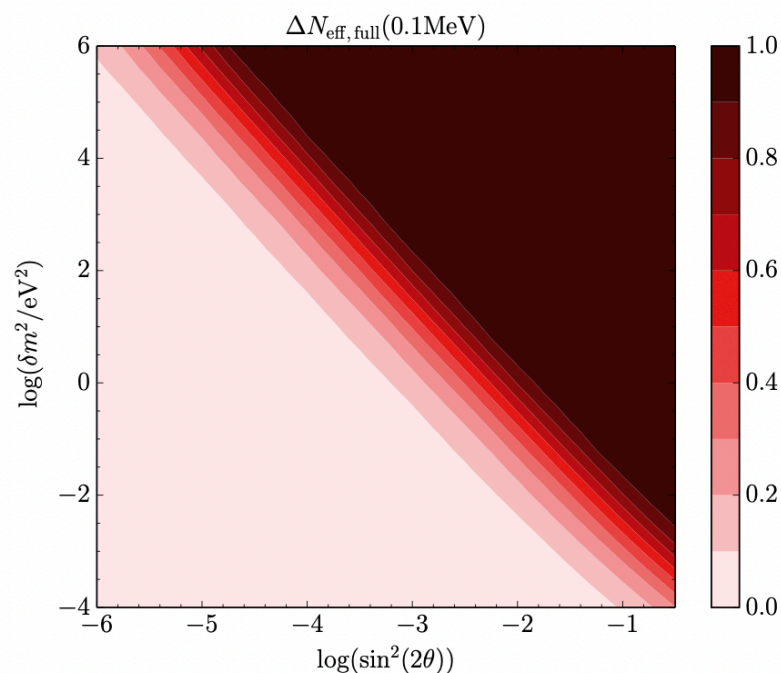
For a species that was in thermal equilibrium in the early Universe,  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$  is directly related to the decoupling temperature:



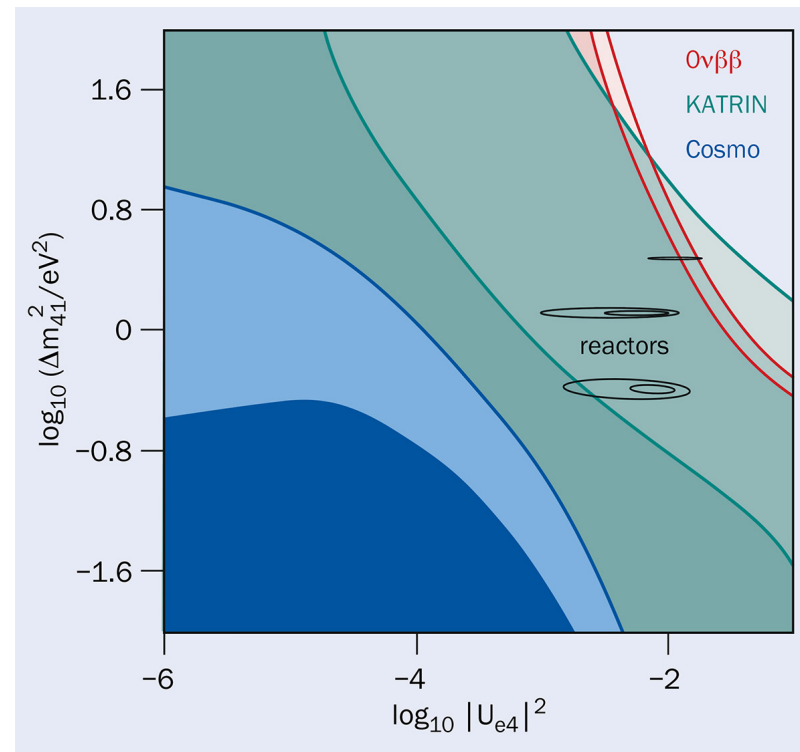
Planck collaboration, VI 2018

# $N_{\text{EFF}}$ AND STERILE NEUTRINOS

$N_{\text{eff}}$  is a powerful probe of particle interactions  
E.g. sterile neutrinos: production from oscillation from active states, final abundance depends on both active-sterile mixing angle and mass difference



Hannestad et al. 2015



S. Hagstotz

Cosmology robustly exclude region of large sterile mass and mixing params larger than  $10^{-3}$  in LCDM extensions

Light sterile solution to short-baseline oscillation anomalies hard to accommodate! (NSI? Large lepton asymmetries?)

See Hagstotz+ (incl ML) 2021

# $N_{\text{EFF}}$ AND THERMAL AXIONS

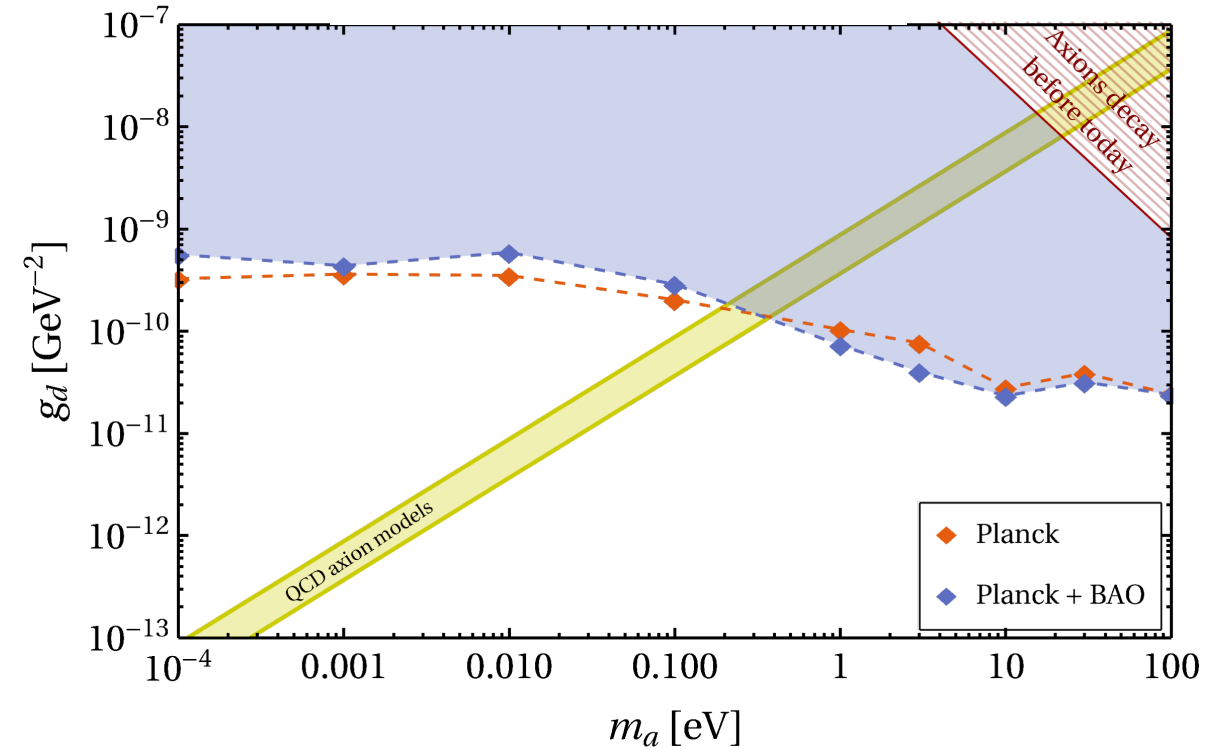
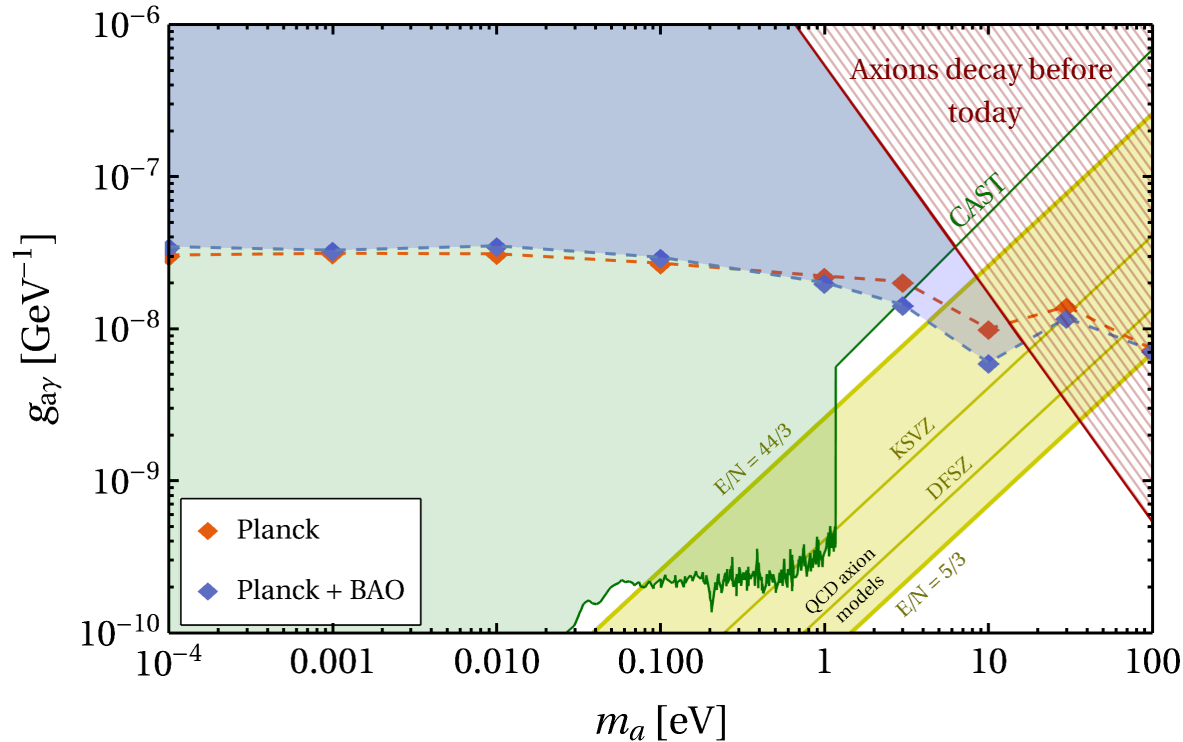


L. Caloni

Axions can be produced thermally in the early Universe through their coupling to **photons** or **gluons**

$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma} = \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma}^0 a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{ag} = \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{C_g}{f_a} a G_{\mu\nu}^i \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu,i}$$



Caloni, ML, Gerbino, Visinelli, 2022

# NEUTRINO MAGNETIC MOMENT

If neutrinos have a magnetic moment, e.m. interactions in the plasma can flip the  $\nu$  helicity



A population of right-handed neutrinos is created from a purely left-handed initial ensemble

## Constraints from cosmology and SN

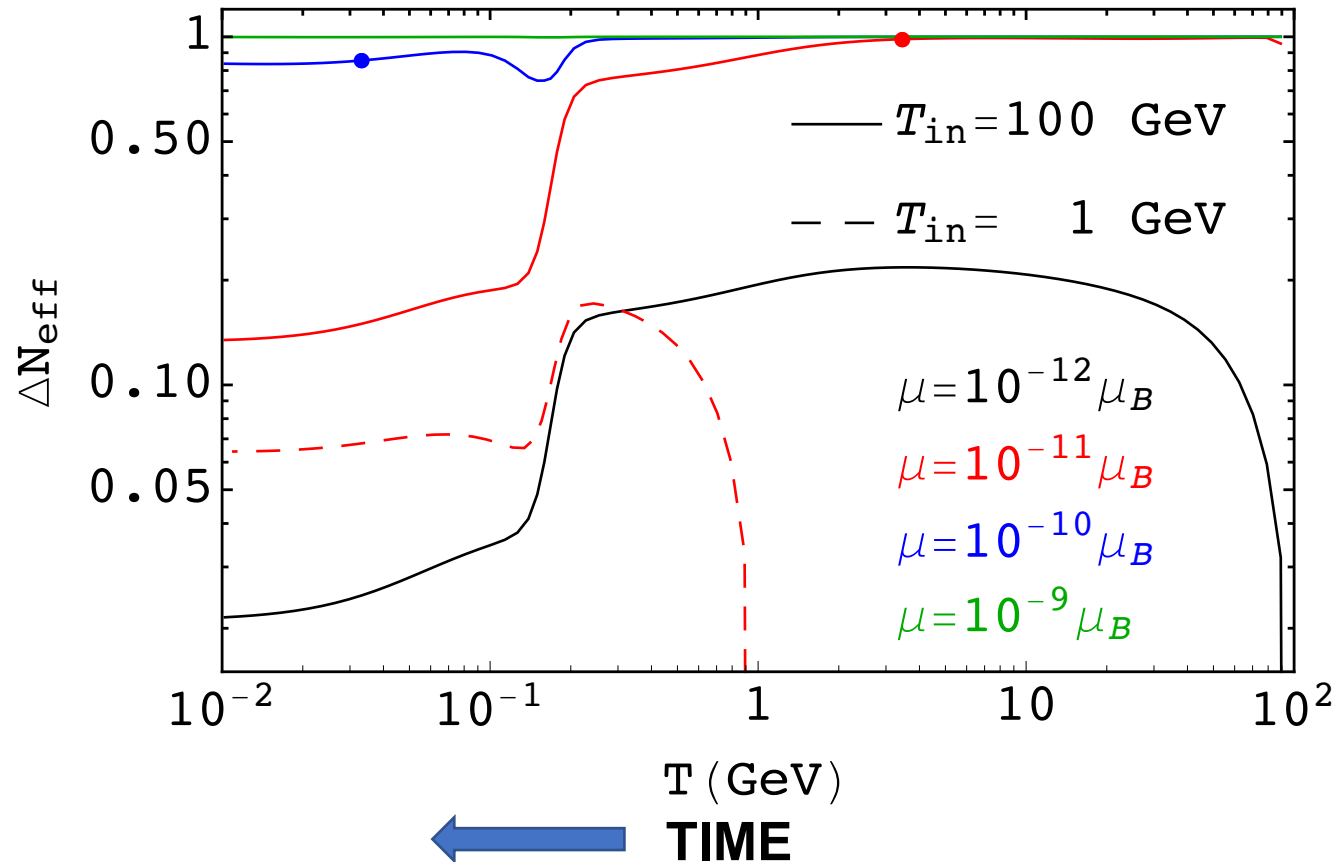
- J. A. Morgan, MNRAS 1981
- J. A. Morgan, PLB 1981
- Fukugita & Yazaki, PRD 1987
- Barbieri & Mohapatra PRL 1988
- Barbieri, Mohapatra & Yanagida PLB 1988
- Notzold, PRD 1988
- Loeb & Stodolsky, PRD 1989
- Elmfors, Enqvist, Raffelt & Sigl, NPB 1997 (EERS87)

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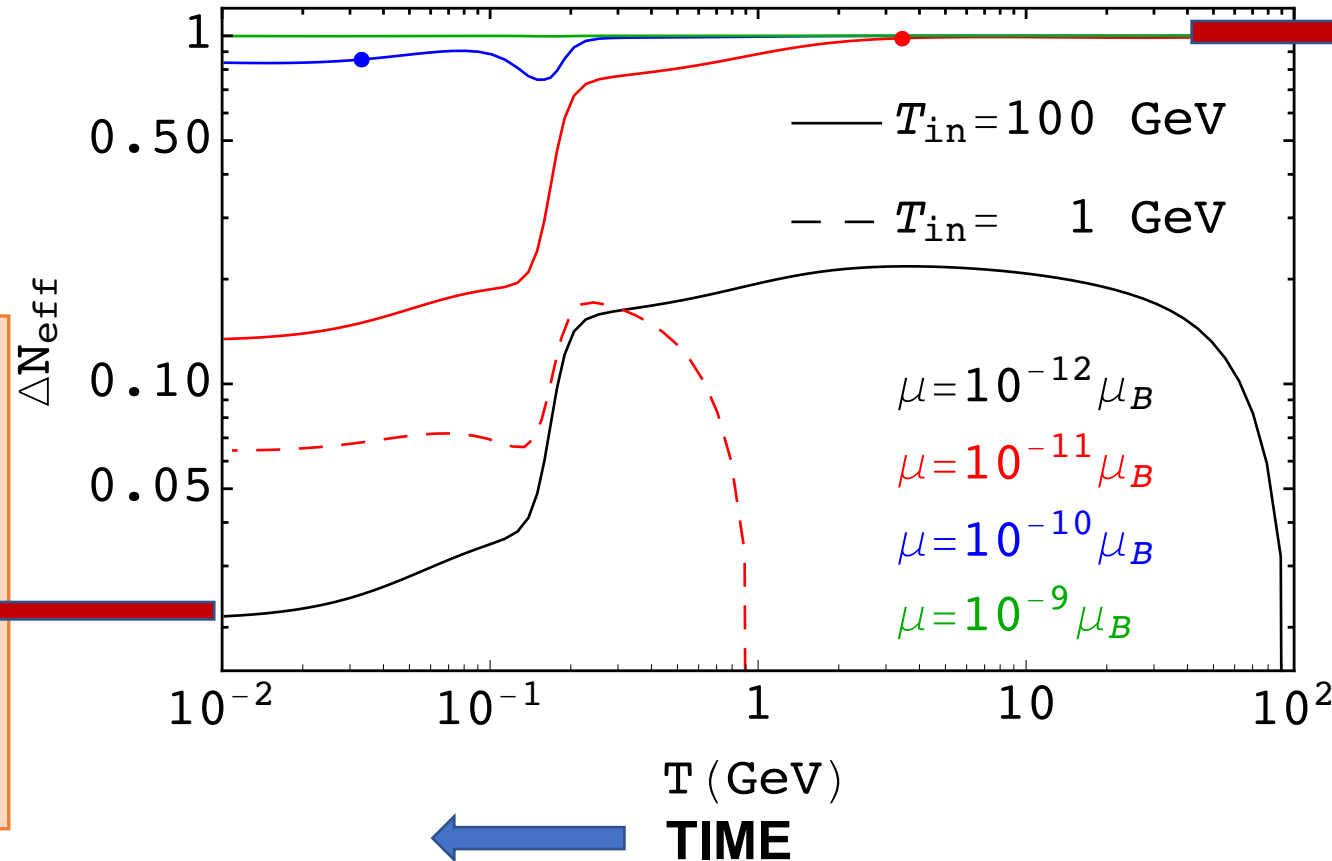
Carenza+ (incl ML, arXiv:2211.0432)

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“Large” magnetic moment: thermal equilibrium is established at early times.

In both cases, abundance is diluted by entropy production after decoupling

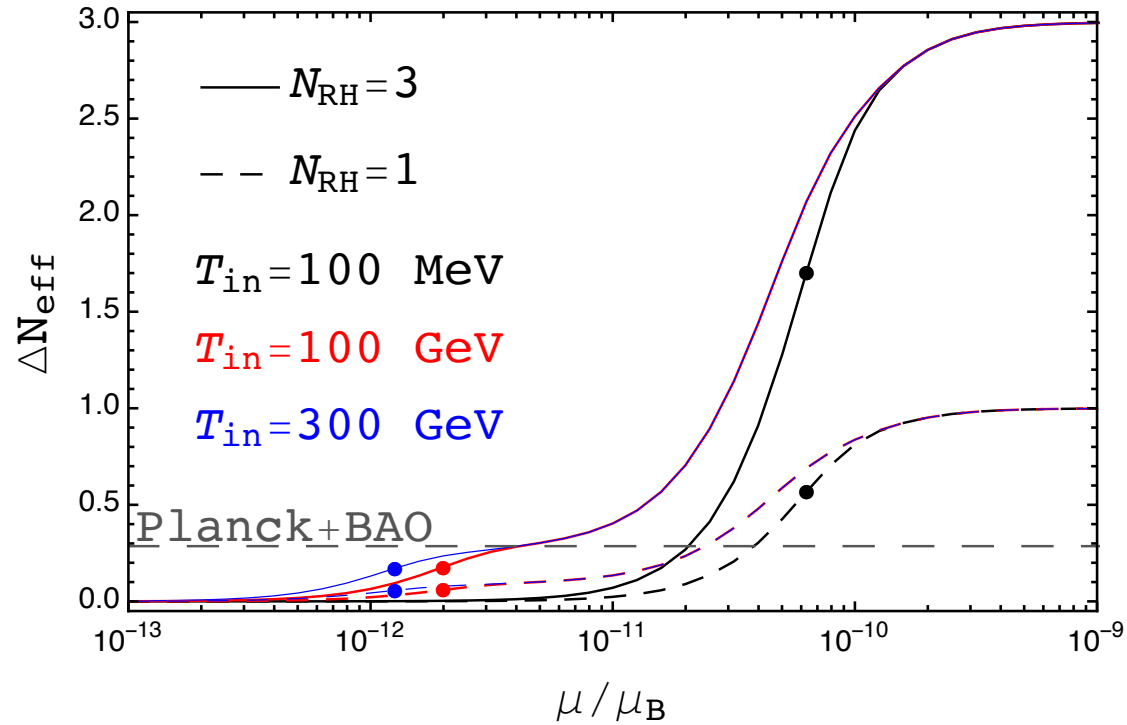
“Small” magnetic moment: thermal equilibrium never established. Freeze-in production. Abundance depends on initial temperature.

Carenza+ (incl ML, arXiv:2211.0432)



# NEUTRINO MAGNETIC MOMENT

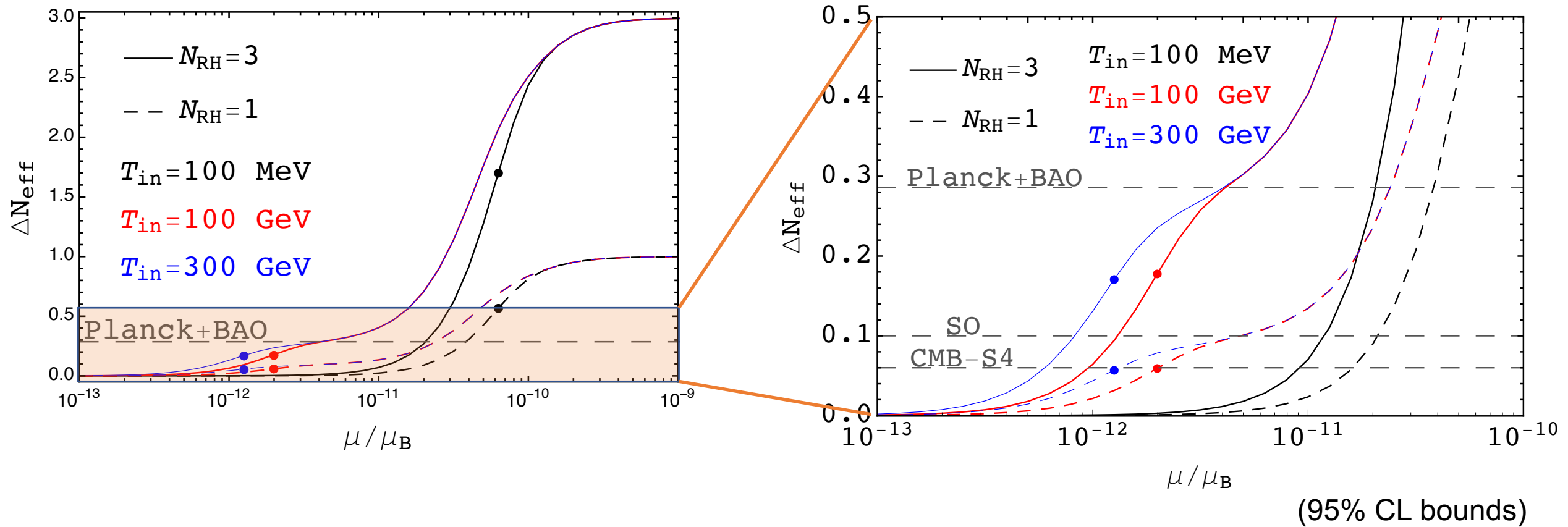
Measurements of  $N_{\text{eff}}$  can be used to constrain the neutrino magnetic moment



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# NEUTRINO MAGNETIC MOMENT

Measurements of  $N_{\text{eff}}$  can be used to constrain the neutrino magnetic moment

$\mu < 4.6 \times 10^{-12} \mu_b$  (Planck+BAO)

$\mu < 1.7 \times 10^{-12} \mu_b$  (Planck+BBN)

( $T_{\text{max}} \geq 100$  GeV)

Carenza+ (incl ML, arXiv:2211.0432)

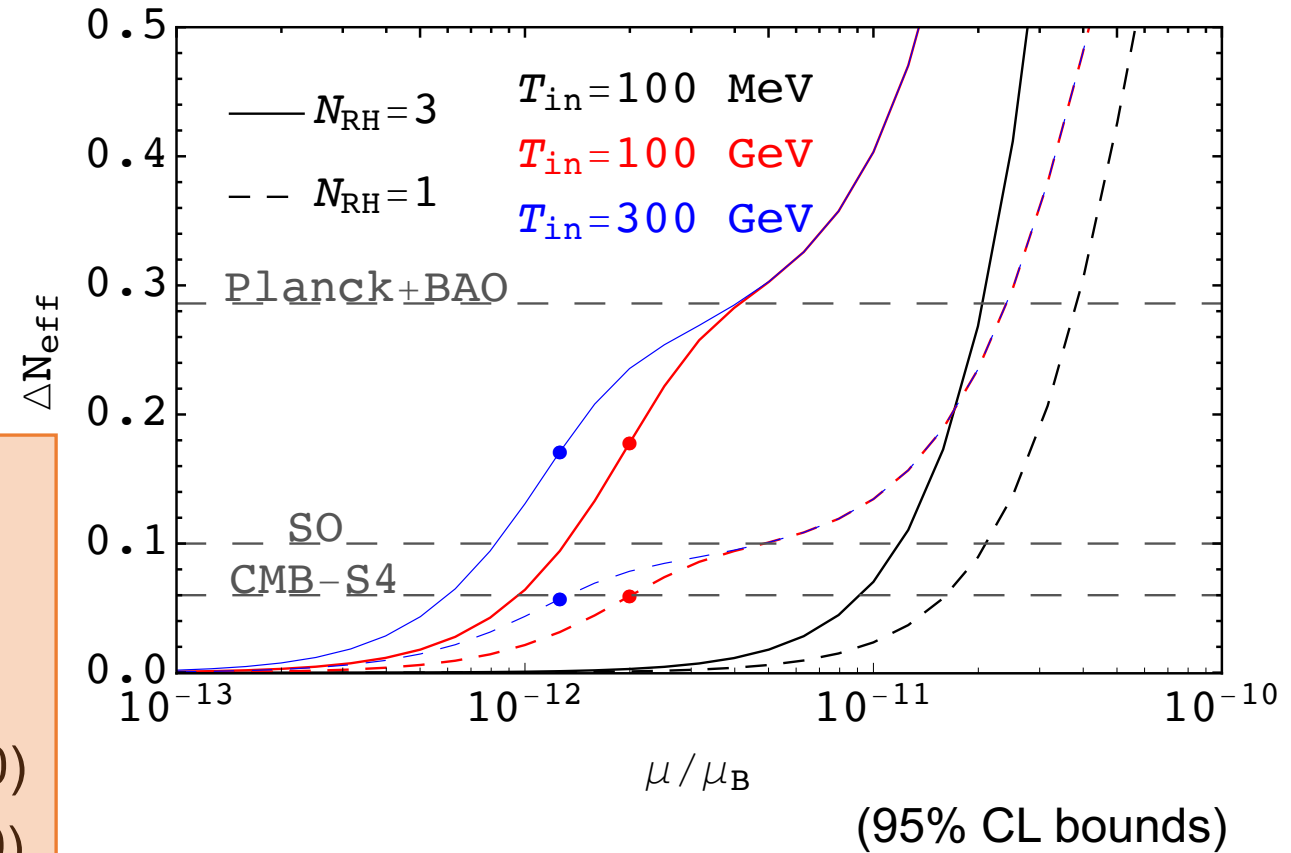
Compare with

$\mu < 6 \times 10^{-11} \mu_b$  (cosmo, EERS87, assumes th. eq)

$\mu < 2.7 \times 10^{-12} \mu_b$  (cosmo, Li&Xu arXiv:2211.04669)  
(assumes th. eq)

$\mu < 6.4 \times 10^{-11} \mu_b$  (lab, XENONnT arXiv:2207:11330)

$\mu < 1.2 \times 10^{-12} \mu_b$  (astro, Capozzi&Raffelt PRD2020)



# FUTURE PROSPECTS

## Euclid



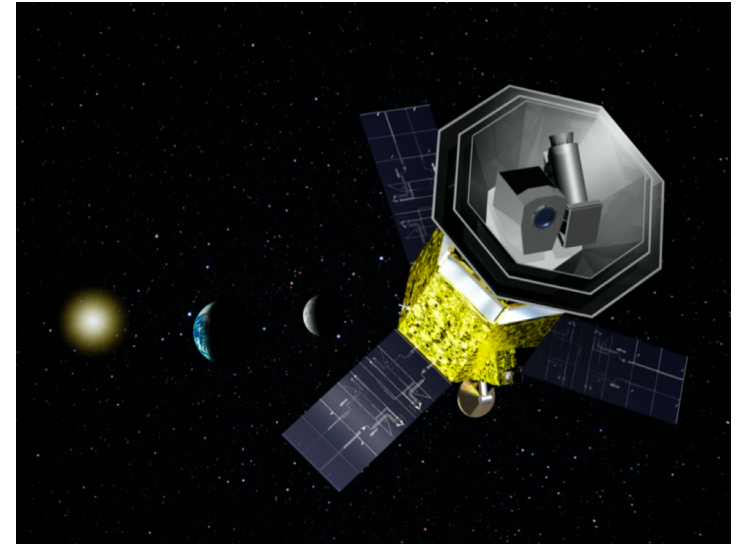
Galaxy survey  
Launch in 94 days!

## Simons Observatory



CMB pol. anisotropies  
(intermediate/small scales)  
First light in late 2023

## LiteBIRD



CMB pol. anisotropies  
(large/intermediate scales)  
Launch in 2029

**+ many other players!**

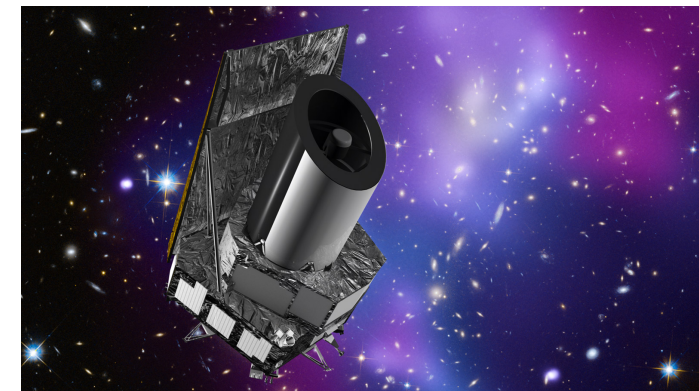
# THE EUCLID MISSION

**Euclid** is an ESA M-class space mission devoted to studying :

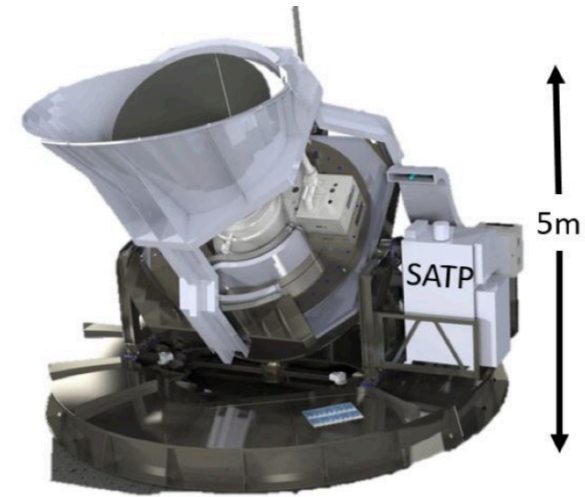
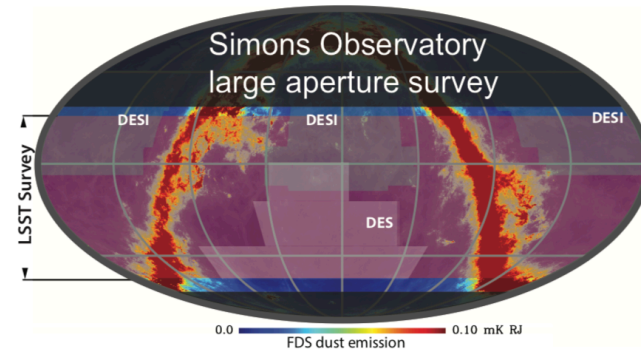
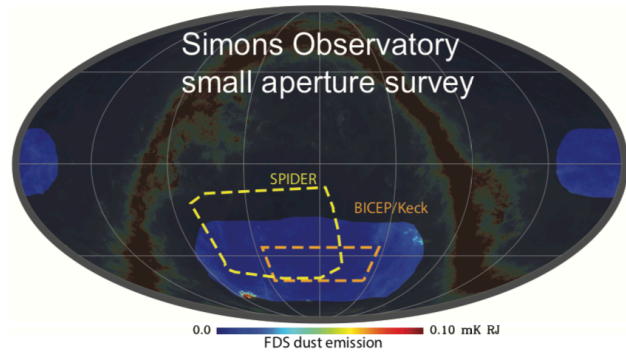
- the origin of the **accelerated expansion** of the Universe
- **Dark energy, dark matter** and the behaviour of **gravity at large scales**
- + **neutrino masses, the initial conditions of cosmological evolution, ...**

Euclid will measure **weak lensing** and **galaxy clustering** observing 15.000 deg<sup>2</sup> (>1/3 of the sky) down to  $z=2$  (lookback time 10 Gyrs) + 3 deep fields (40 deg<sup>2</sup>)

This will allow to reconstruct the **expansion history** and the **growth of cosmological structuree**



# SIMONS OBSERVATORY



- Ground-based CMB experiment sited in Cerro Toco in the Atacama Desert in Chile
- 5-yr obs campaign starting in 2023
- 3 Small Aperture (0.4m) Telescopes (SATs) for 'r science'
- 1 Large Aperture (6m) Telescope (LAT) for small-scale (arcmin) science
- > 60k TES detectors
- 10x sensitivity and 5x resolution wrt Planck
- 6 freq. bands from 27 to 280 GHz

# LiteBIRD

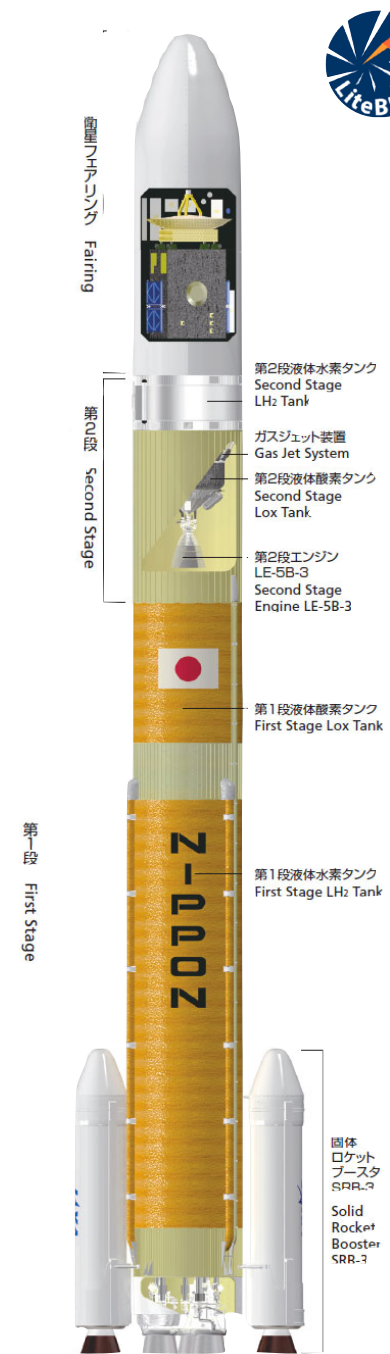
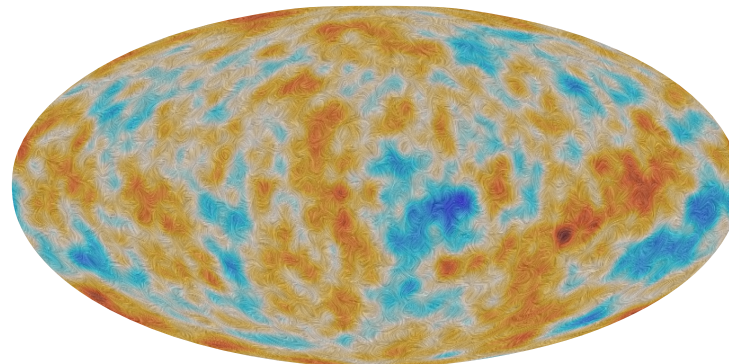
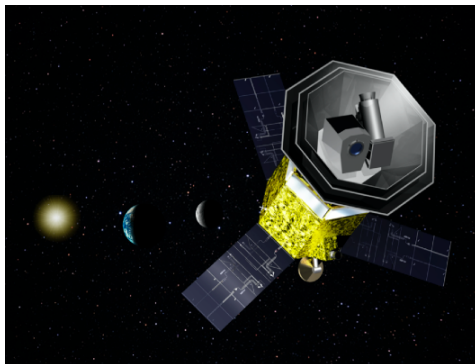
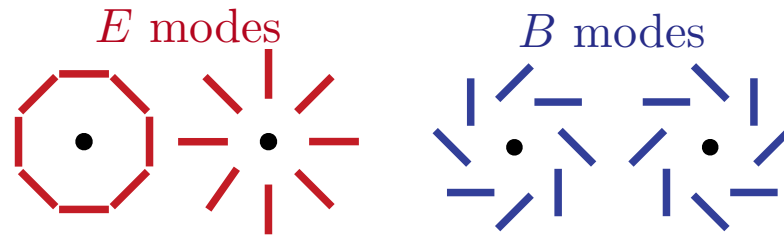
The background of the slide is a composite image of space. On the left, a portion of Earth is visible, showing blue oceans and white clouds. In the center, a satellite with a yellow body and blue solar panels is shown in orbit. The rest of the image is filled with a vast field of stars, distant galaxies, and a bright nebula in the upper right.

A JAXA-led post-Planck  
space mission for CMB  
polarization, with participation  
from US and Europe

# LiteBIRD Overview



- Light satellite for B-modes from Inflation CMB Radiation Observation
- Selected (May 2019) as the next JAXA's L-class mission
- Expected launch in 2029 with JAXA H3 rocket
  - LiteBIRD is the only CMB space mission that can be realized in 2020s
- Observations for 3 years (baseline) around Sun-Earth Lagrangian point L2
- Millimeter-wave all sky surveys (40–402 GHz, 15 bands) at 70–18 arcmin
  - three telescopes: LFT, MFT, HFT.
- 4508 TES detectors cooled down to 100 mK read by SQUIDs
- Final combined sensitivity: 2.2  $\mu\text{K arcmin}$ , after component separation

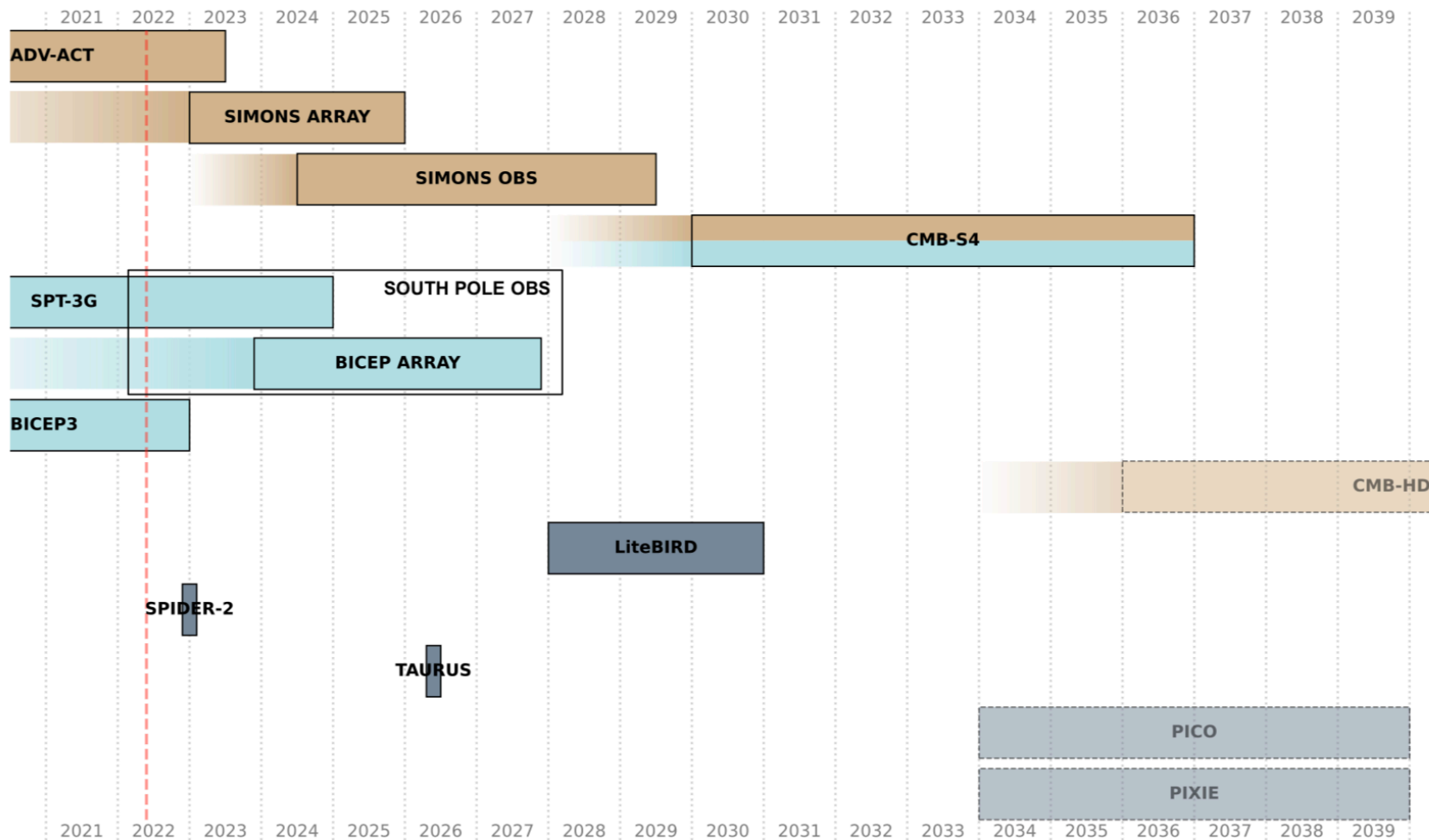


H3-321

Slide courtesy: G. Signorelli

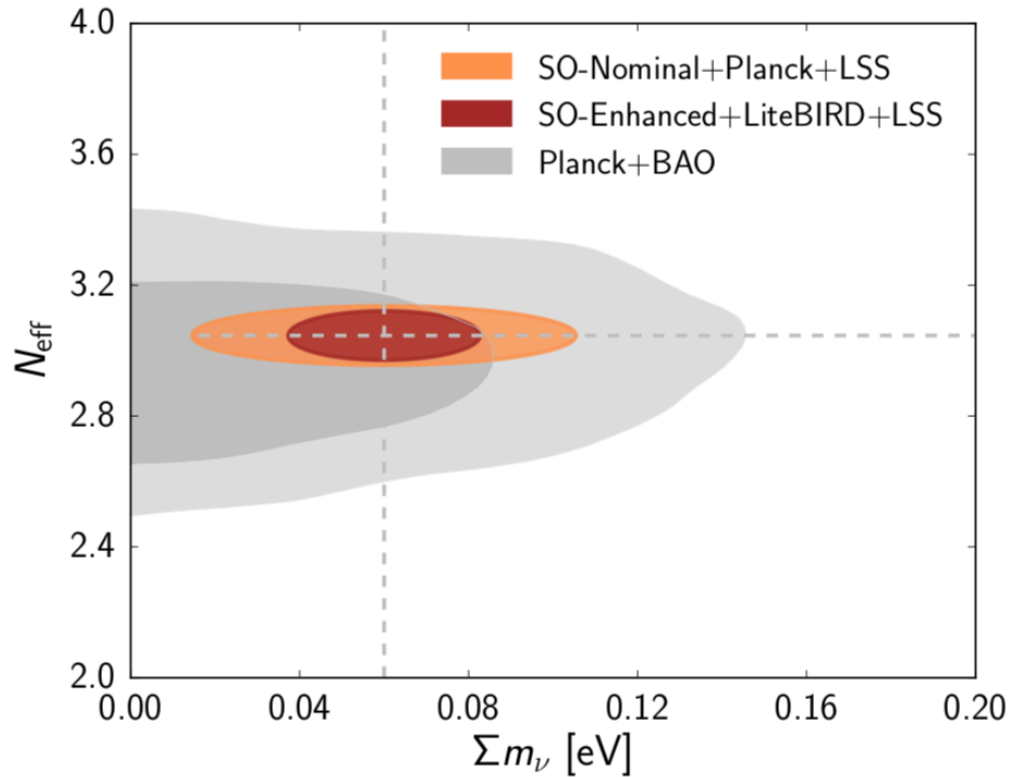


# TIMELINE OF CMB EXPERIMENTS



Snowmass2021 Cosmic Frontier: CMB Measurements White Paper  
arXIV: [2203.07638](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.07638)

# SIMONS OBSERVATORY



$$\sigma(N_{\text{eff}}) = 0.07 [0.05]$$

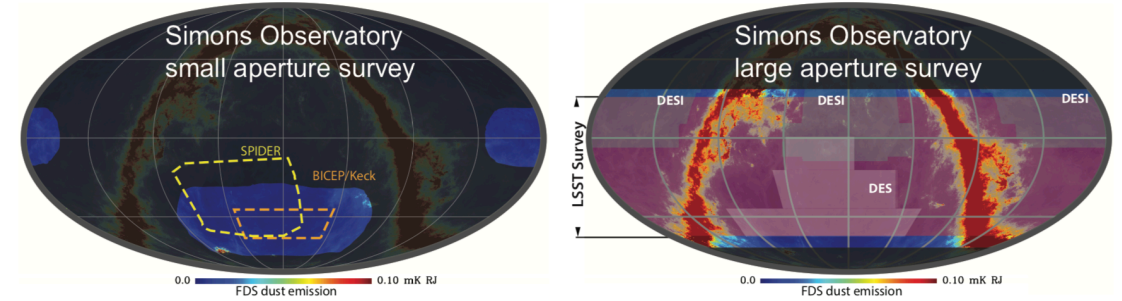
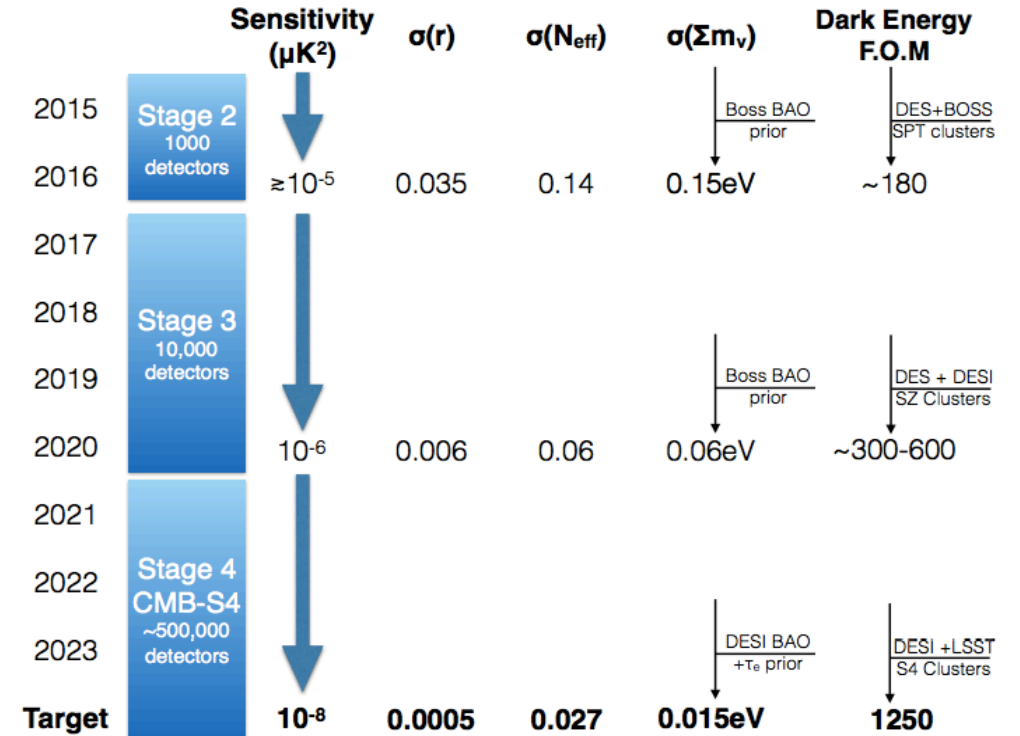


Table 1: Summary of SO-Nominal key science goals<sup>a</sup>

	Current <sup>b</sup>	SO-Nominal (2022-27) Baseline	Goal	Method <sup>d</sup>
<b>Primordial perturbations (§2.1)</b>				
$r$ ( $A_L = 0.5$ )	0.03	0.003	0.002 <sup>e</sup>	BB + external delensing
$n_s$	0.004	0.002	0.002	TT/TE/EE
$e^{-2\tau} \mathcal{P}(k = 0.2/\text{Mpc})$	3%	0.5%	0.4%	TT/TE/EE
$f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}}$	5	3	1	$\kappa \times$ LSST-LSS
		2	1	$\kappa\text{SZ} +$ LSST-LSS
<b>Relativistic species (§2.2)</b>				
$N_{\text{eff}}$	0.2	0.07	0.05	TT/TE/EE + $\kappa\kappa$
<b>Neutrino mass (§2.3)</b>				
$\Sigma m_\nu$ (eV, $\sigma(\tau) = 0.01$ )	0.1	0.04	0.03	$\kappa\kappa +$ DESI-BAO
		0.04	0.03	tSZ-N $\times$ LSST-WL
$\Sigma m_\nu$ (eV, $\sigma(\tau) = 0.002$ )		0.03 <sup>f</sup>	0.02	$\kappa\kappa +$ DESI-BAO + LB
		0.03	0.02	tSZ-N $\times$ LSST-WL + LB

# CMB STAGE-4

- Definitive ground-based CMB experiment
- Observing from Atacama Desert and South Pole
- Joint NSF and DOE project
- 7-years obs campaign
- Ultra-deep survey (3% of the sky): 18 SATs + 1 LAT at the South Pole
- Deep and wide survey (60% of the sky): 2 LATs in Chile
- 8 frequency bands between 20 and 280 GHz
- ~ 550K detectors



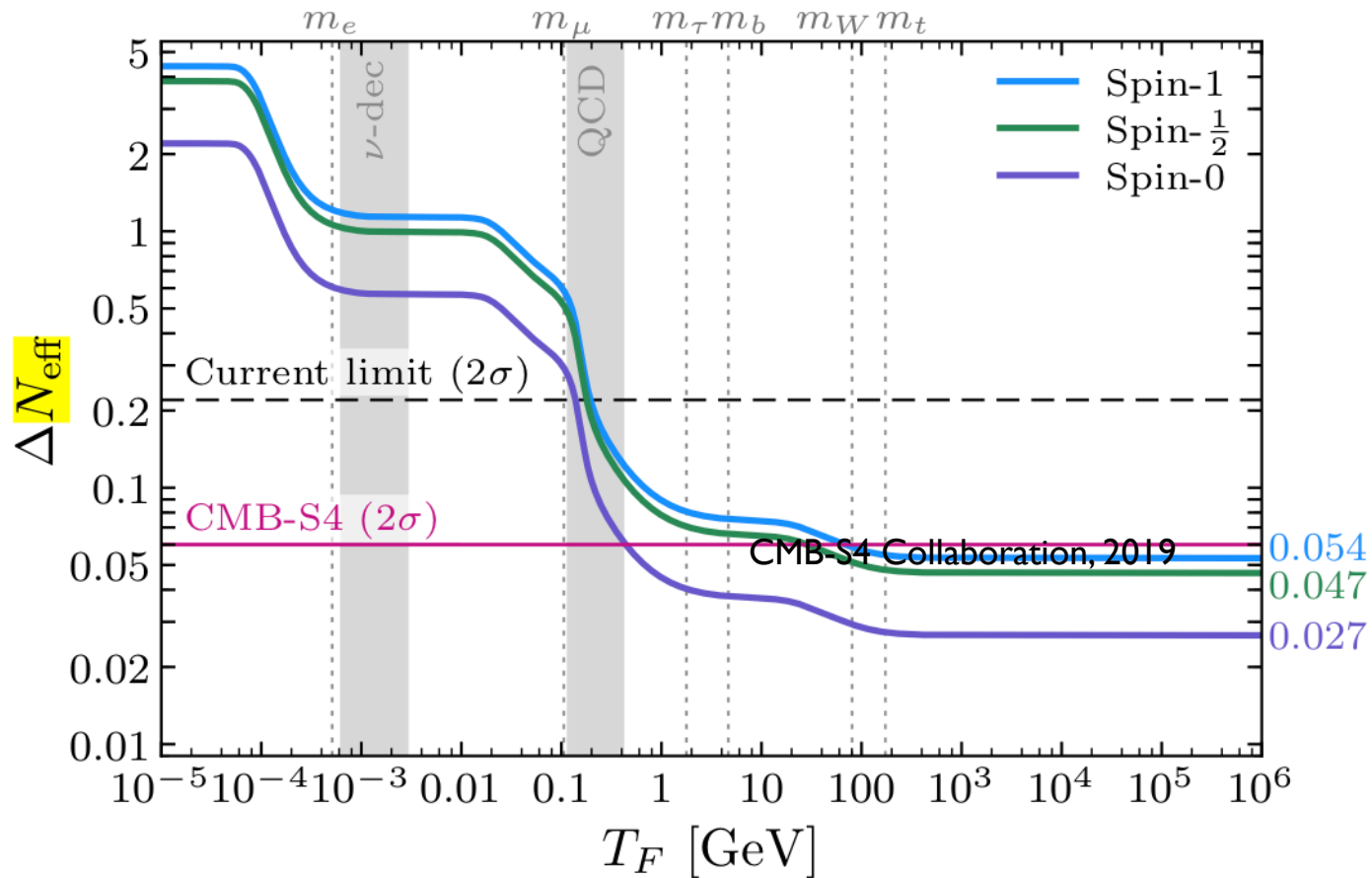
$$\sigma(N_{\text{eff}}) = 0.027$$

See Snowmass 2021 CMB-S4 White Paper  
arXiv:2203.08024

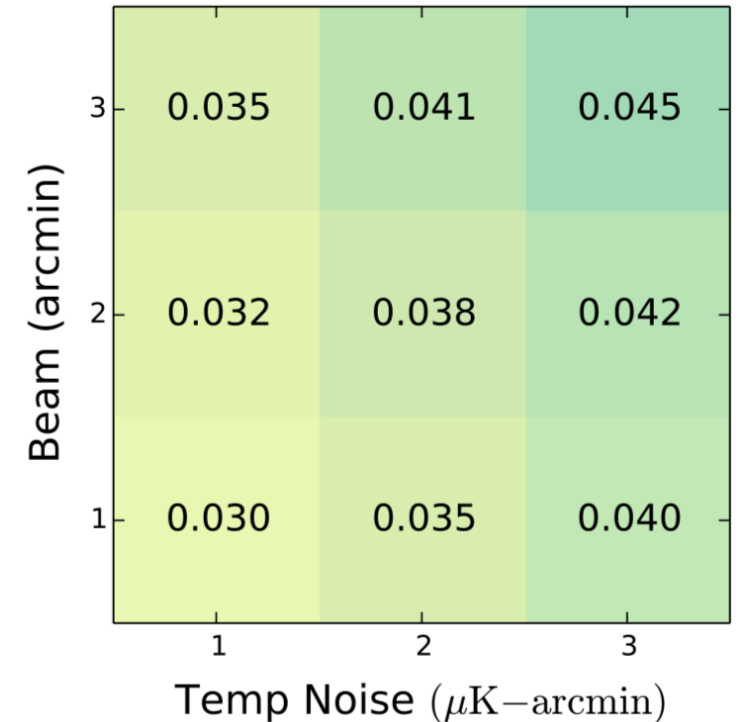
CMB-S4 Science Book (arXiv: 1610.02743)

# $N_{\text{EFF}}$ FROM CMB-S4

CMB-S4 will probe the minimum contribution from species in thermal equilibrium (in minimal SM extensions)



CMB-S4 Forecasts for  $\sigma(N_{\text{eff}})$



CMB-S4 Science Book

# NEUTRINO MAGNETIC MOMENT

Measurements of  $N_{\text{eff}}$  can be used to constrain the neutrino magnetic moment

In case of no detection:

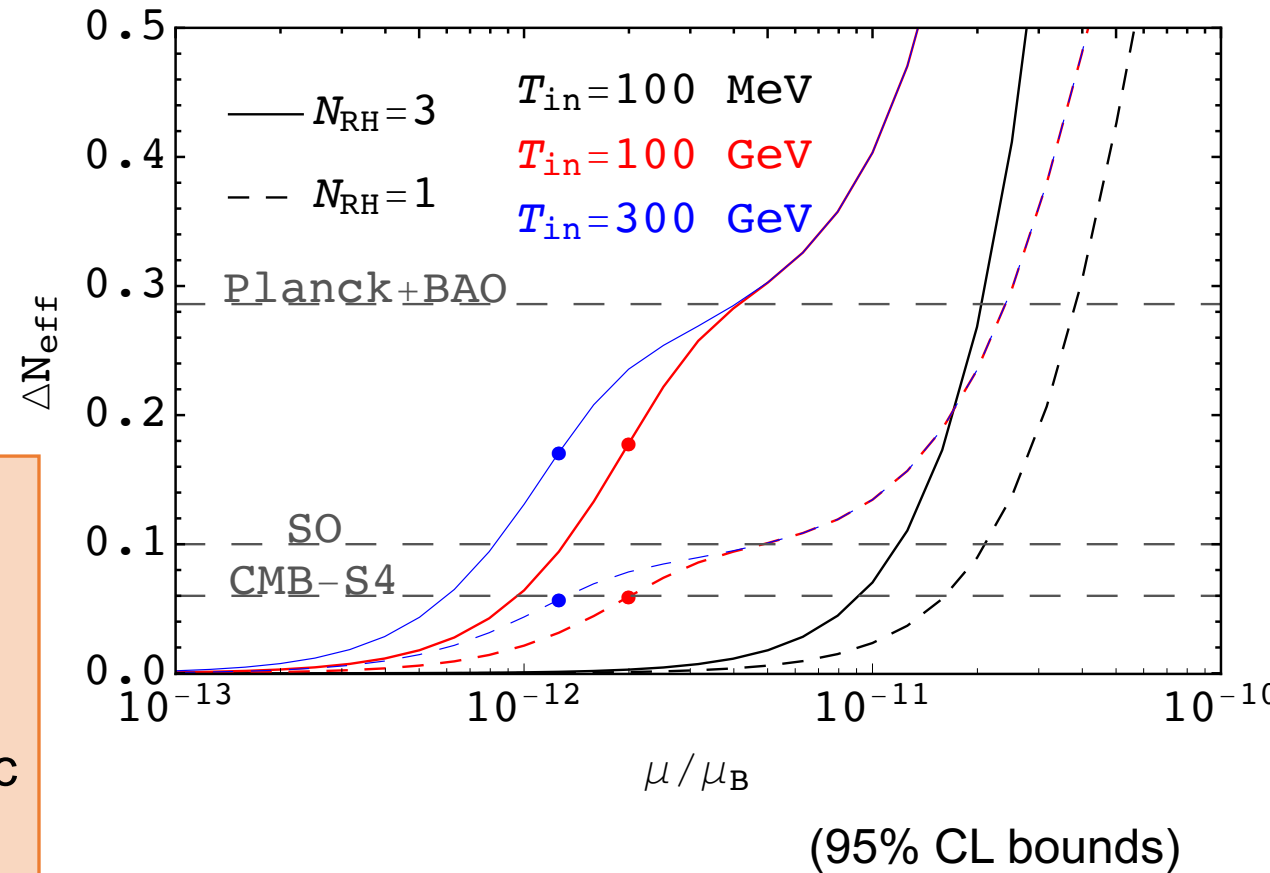
$$\mu < 1.3 \times 10^{-12} \mu_b \text{ (SO)}$$

$$\mu < 9.6 \times 10^{-11} \mu_b \text{ (S4)}$$

$$(T_{\text{in}} = 100 \text{ GeV})$$

Carenza+ (incl ML, arXiv:2211.0432)

- Probes the freeze-in regime!
- Final abundance will depend on  $T_{\text{in}}$
- Constraints scale like  $1/\sqrt{T_{\text{in}}}$
- For  $T_{\text{in}} = (V_{\text{inf}})^{1/4} = 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$  this might even probe the SM prediction for the magnetic moment of Dirac neutrinos
- Nice interplay with  $r$  measurements (es. LiteBIRD) since these constrain the energy scale of inflation

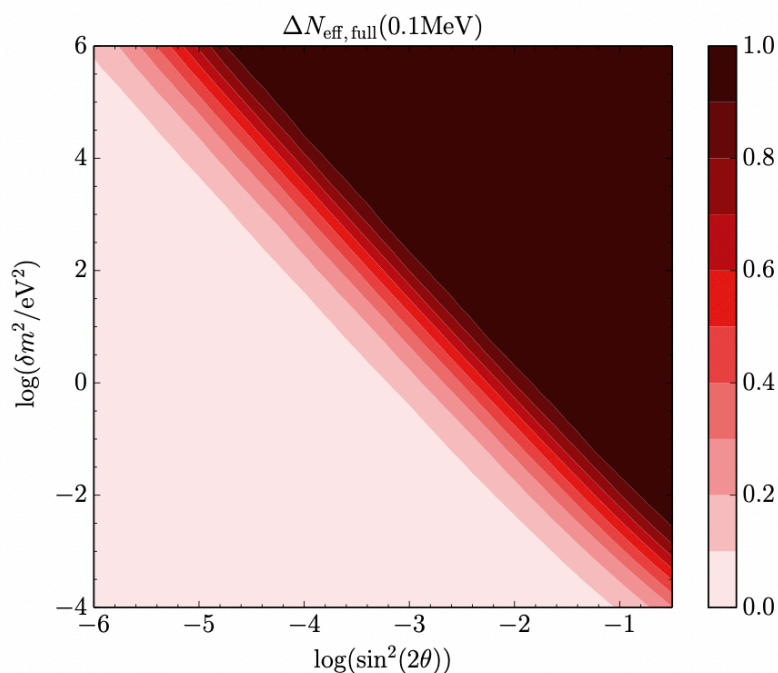


**THANKS!**

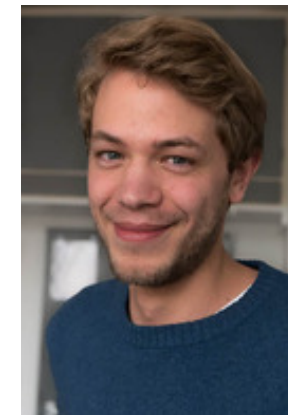
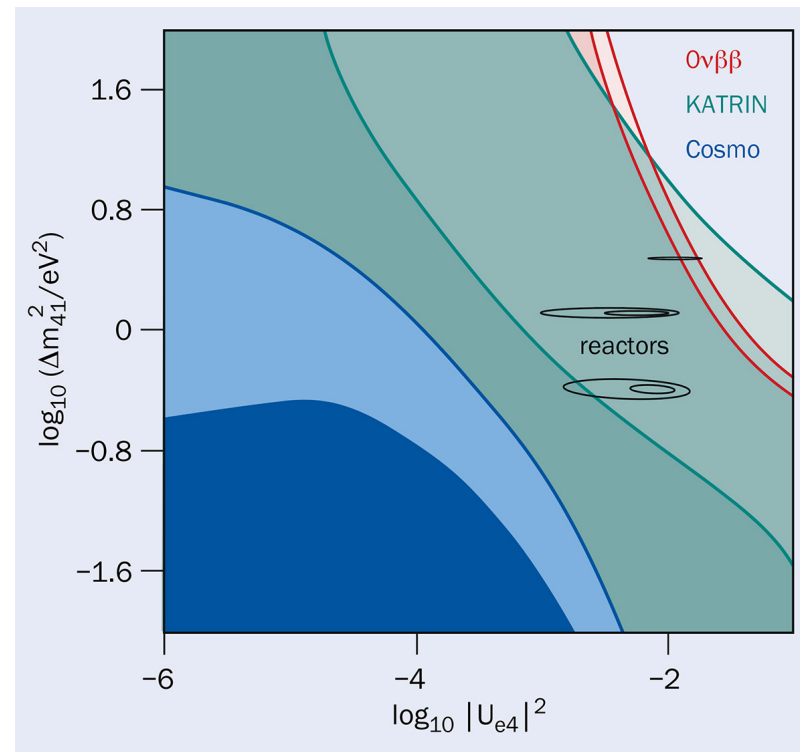
# BACKUP SLIDES

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E.g. sterile neutrinos: production from oscillation from active states, final abundance depends on both active-sterile mixing angle and mass difference



Hannestad et al. 2015



S. Hagstotz

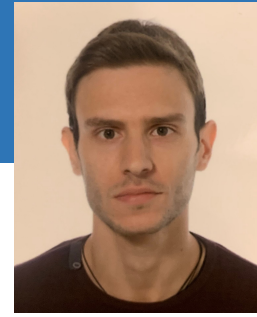
Cosmology robustly exclude region of large sterile mass and mixing params larger than  $10^{-3}$  in LCDM extensions

Light sterile solution to short-baseline oscillation anomalies hard to accommodate! (NSI? Large lepton asymmetries?)

See Hagstotz+ (incl ML) 2021



# $N_{\text{EFF}}$ AND THERMAL AXIONS

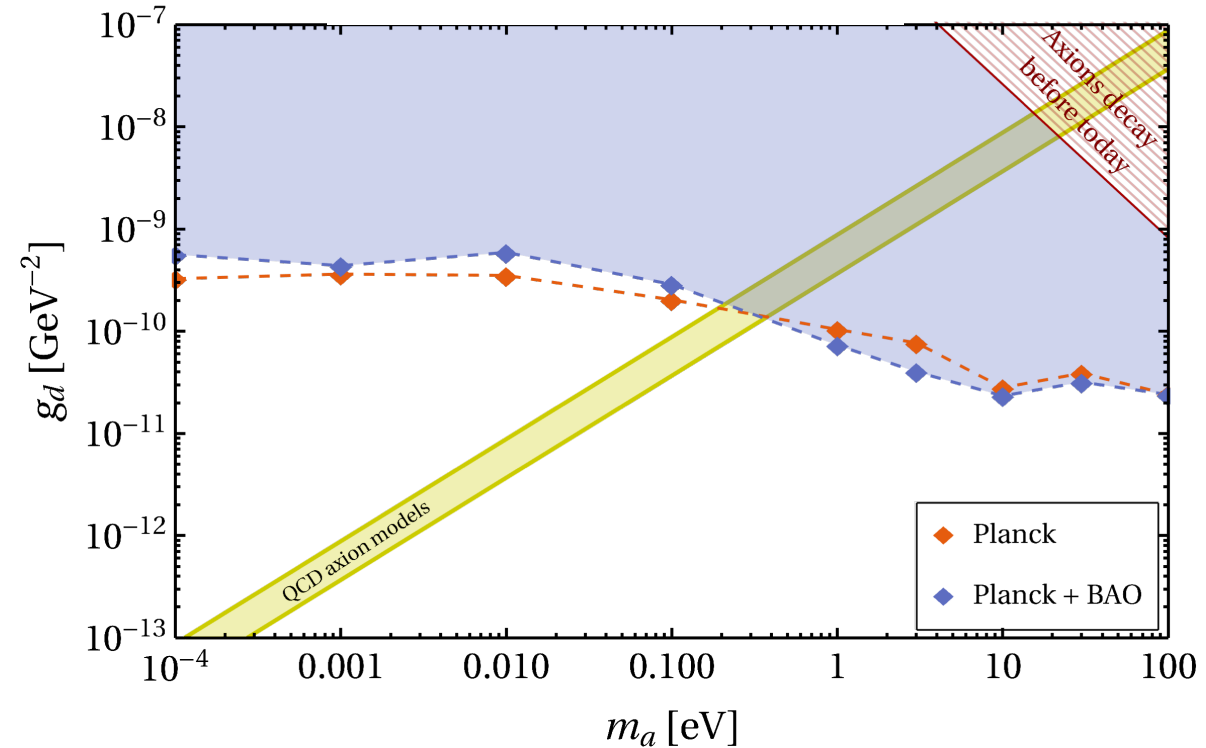
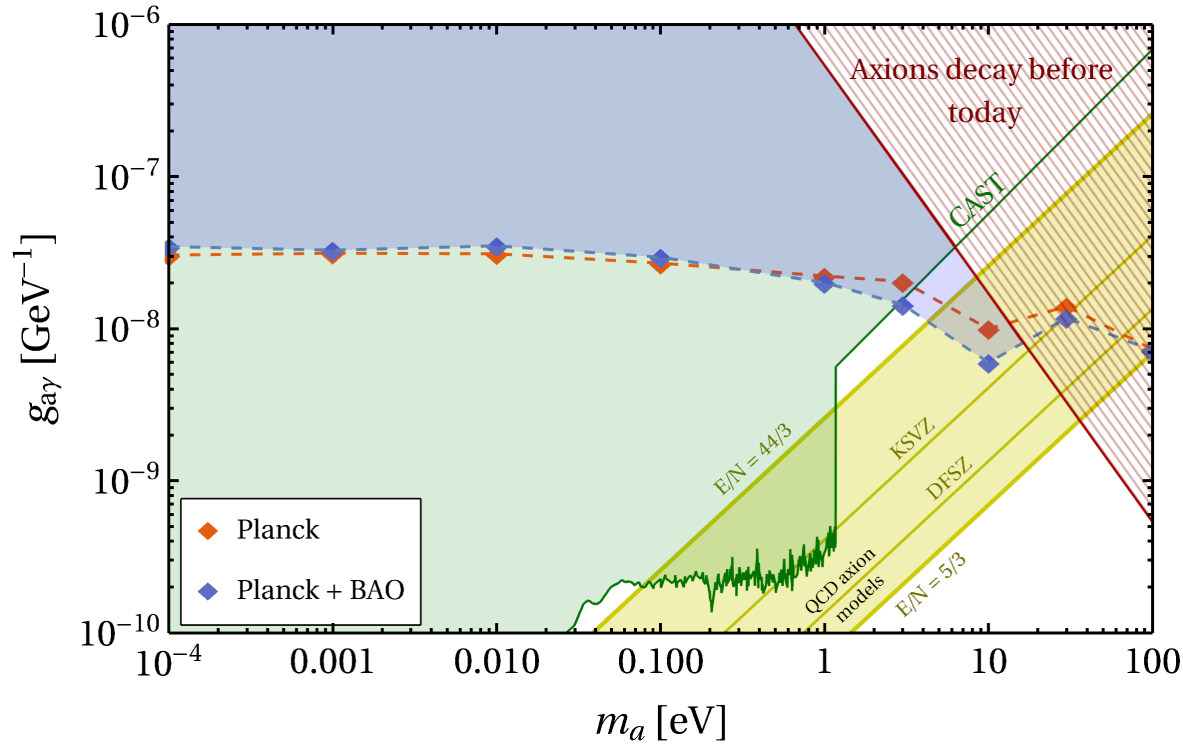


L. Caloni

Axions can be produced thermally in the early Universe through their coupling to **photons** or **gluons**

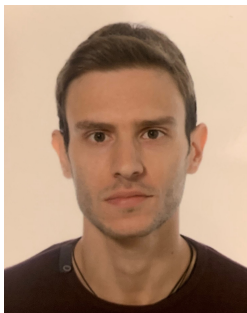
$$\mathcal{L}_{a\gamma} = \frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma}^0 a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{ag} = \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{C_g}{f_a} a G_{\mu\nu}^i \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu,i}$$



Caloni, ML, Gerbino, Visinelli, 2022

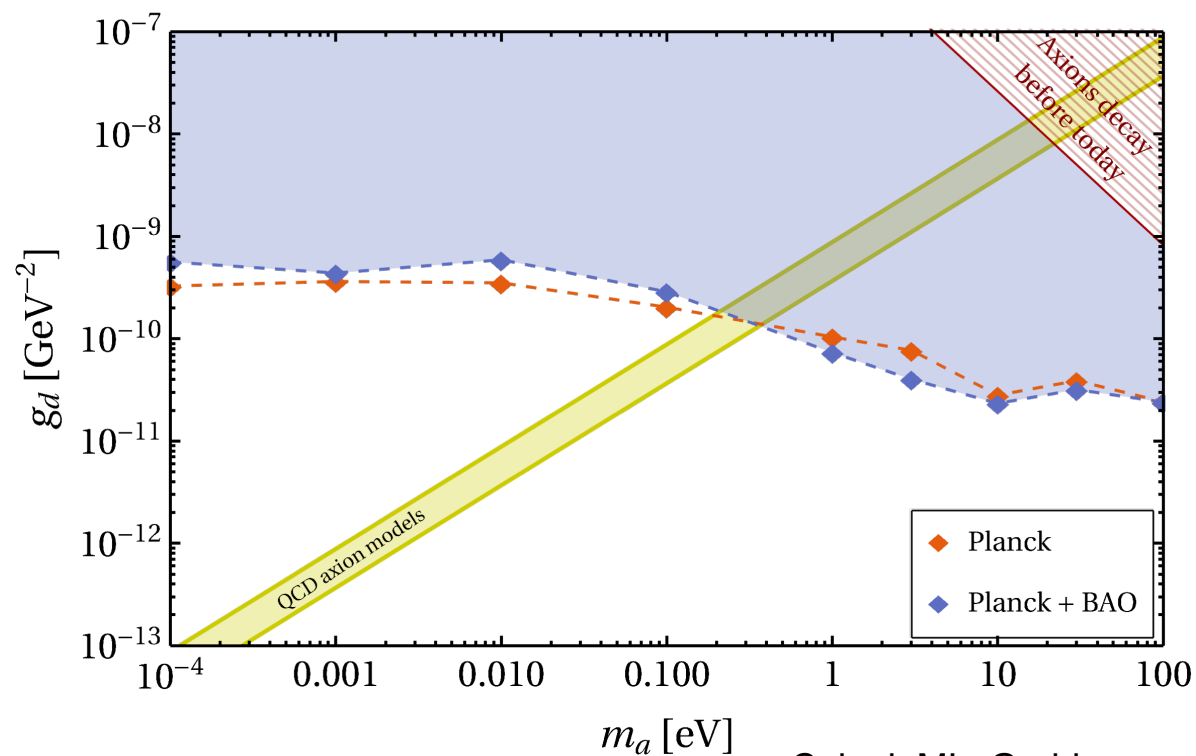
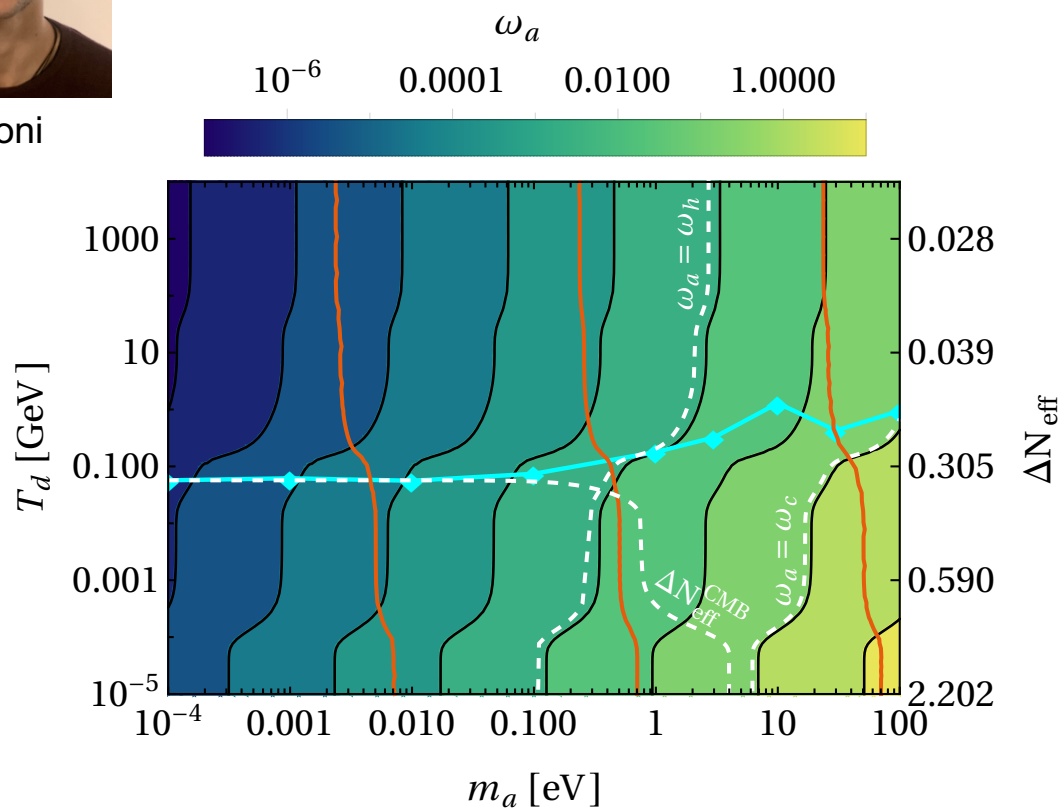
# $N_{\text{EFF}}$ AND THERMAL AXIONS



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Caloni, ML, Gerbino, Visinelli, 2022

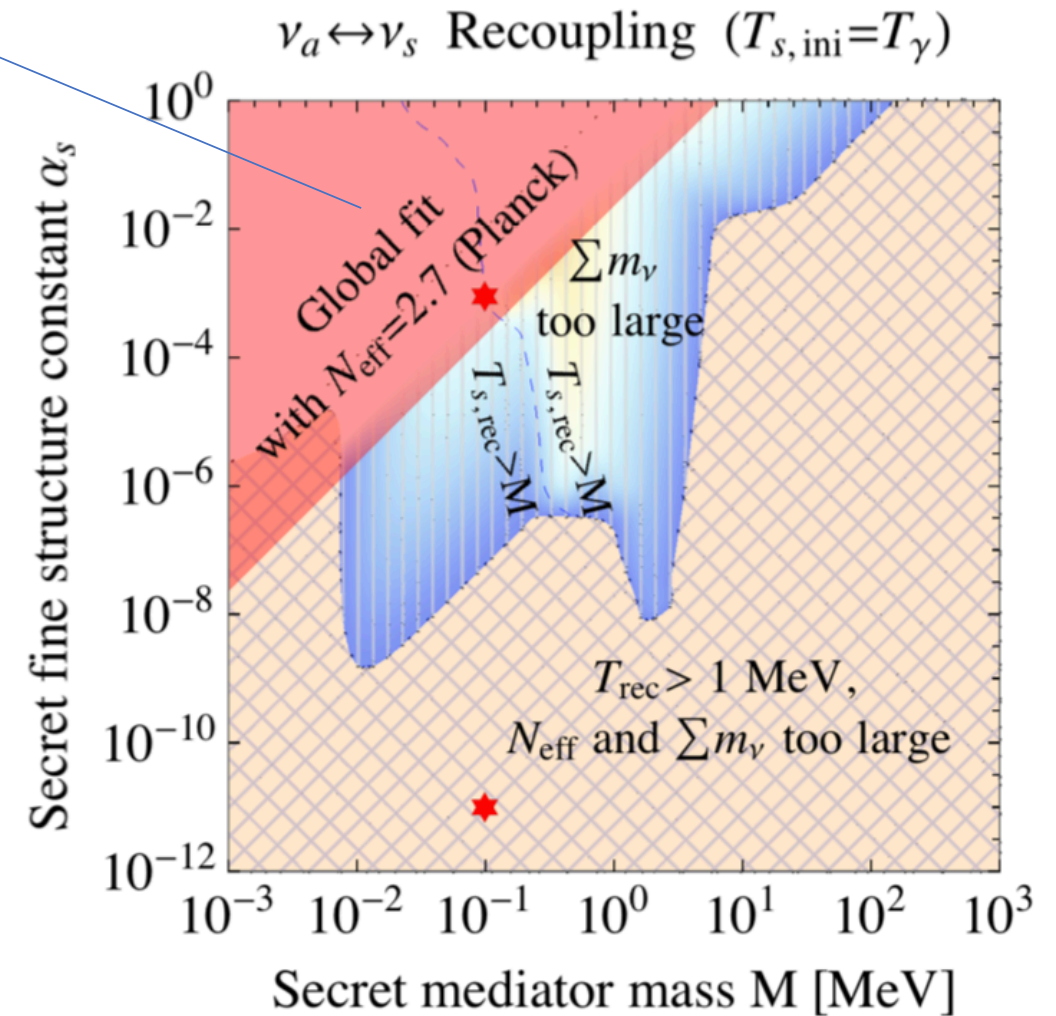
# $\nu$ NSI AND SBL ANOMALIES

Excluded region from Forastieri+ (incl ML) 2017

## Catch-22 situation:

If nonstandard interactions are strong enough to prevent sterile neutrino free-streaming (and erase the neutrino mass bound) then they should leave an observable imprint on CMB anisotropies

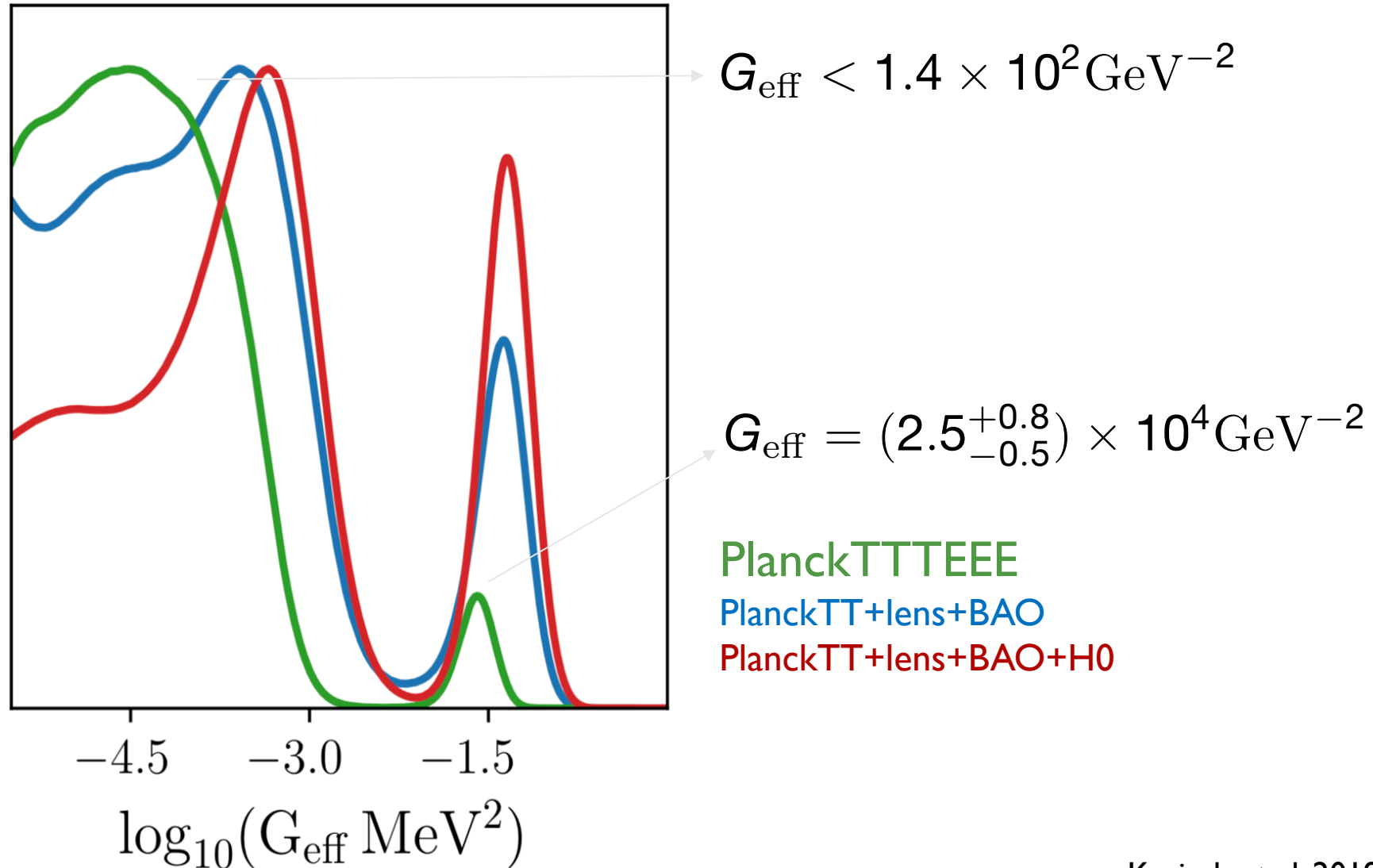
In the end, **you violate either the mass or the interaction strength bound.**

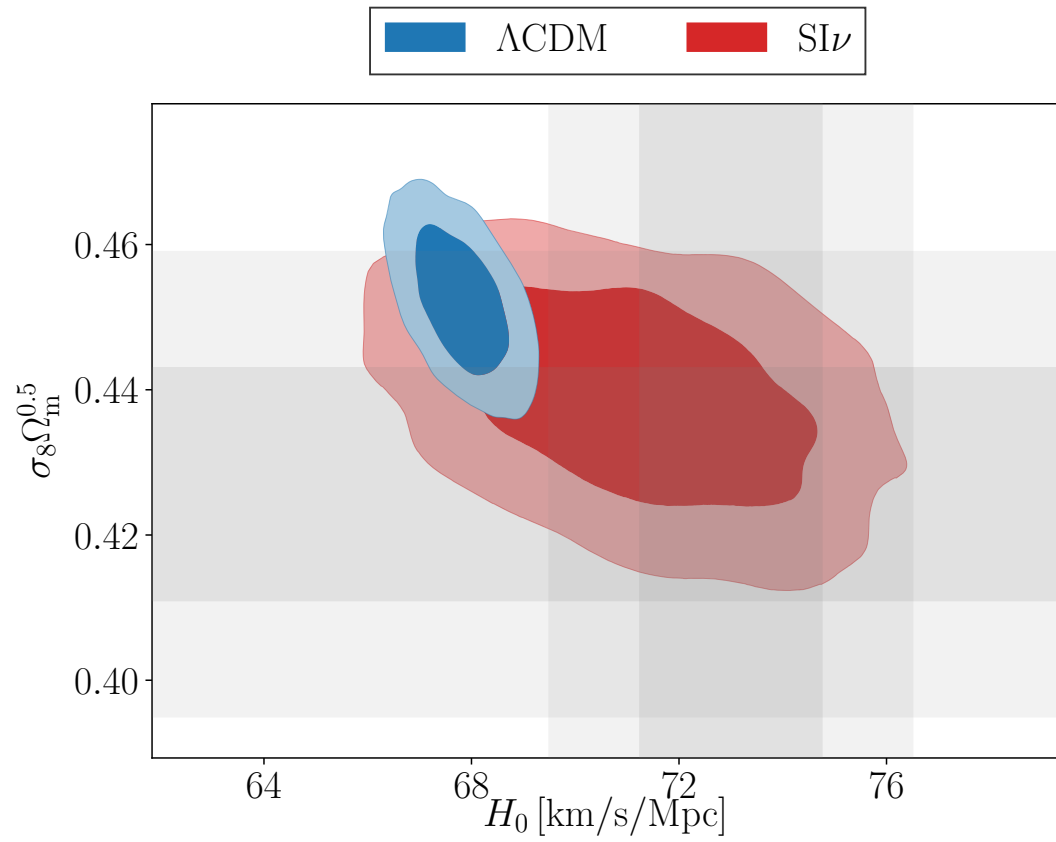


Plot from Chu et al. 2018

# CONSTRAINTS ON NSI FROM PLANCK 2015

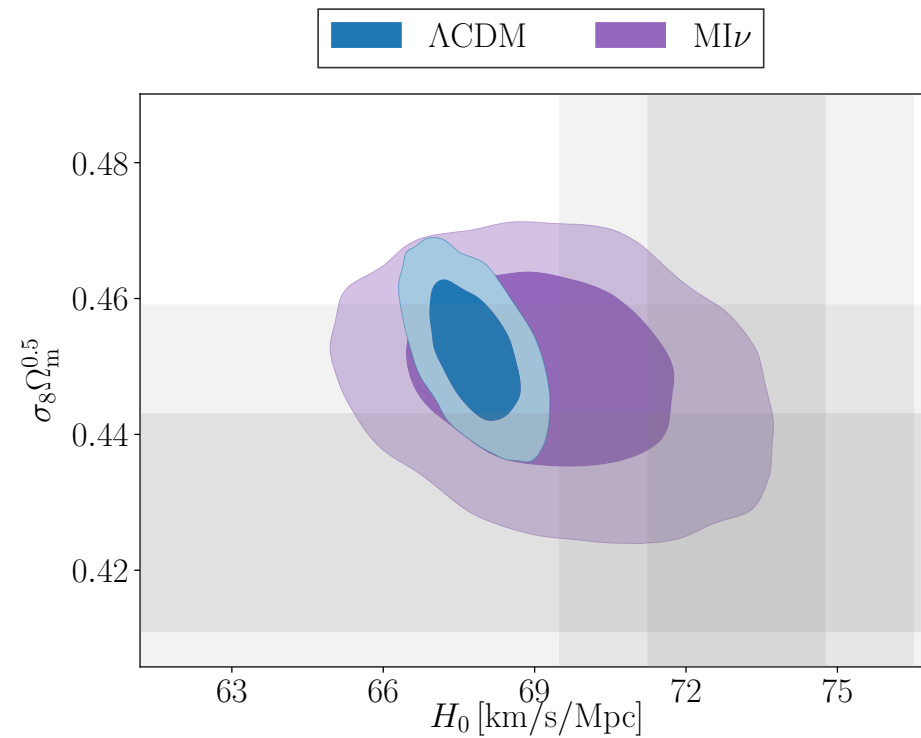
## Heavy mediator case



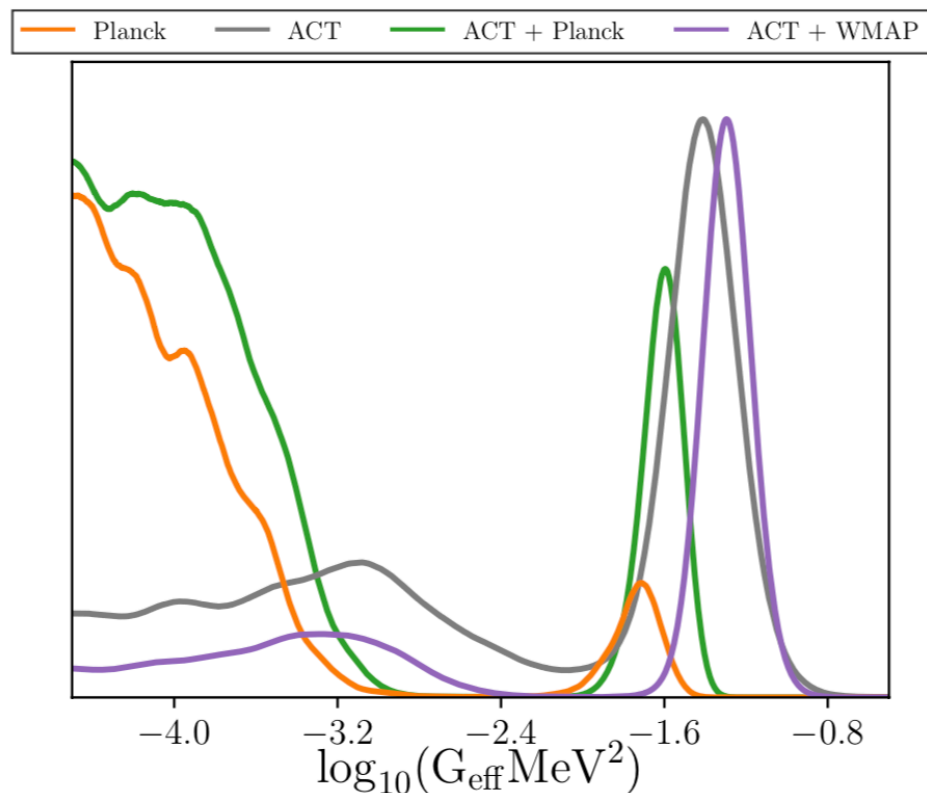


Kreisch et al. 2019

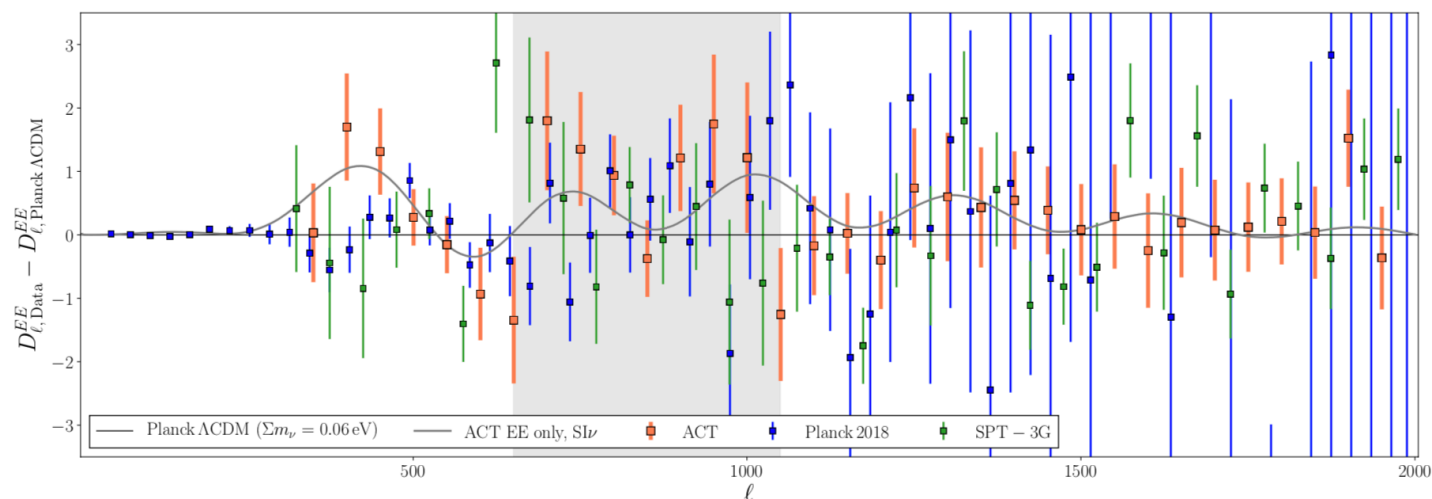
## PlanckTT+lens+BAO



Preference for delayed onset of neutrino free streaming in the ACT data?

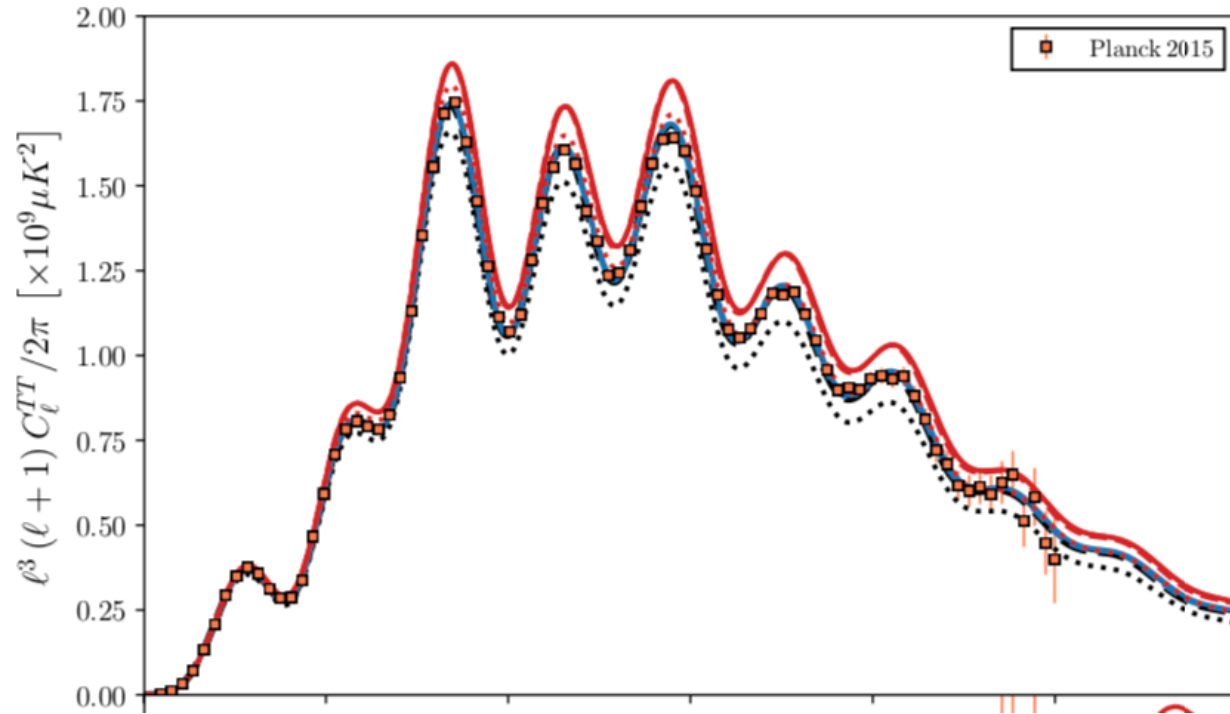


Driven by the  $\ell$  range 700-1000 in the EE data



Kreisch et al. 2207.03164

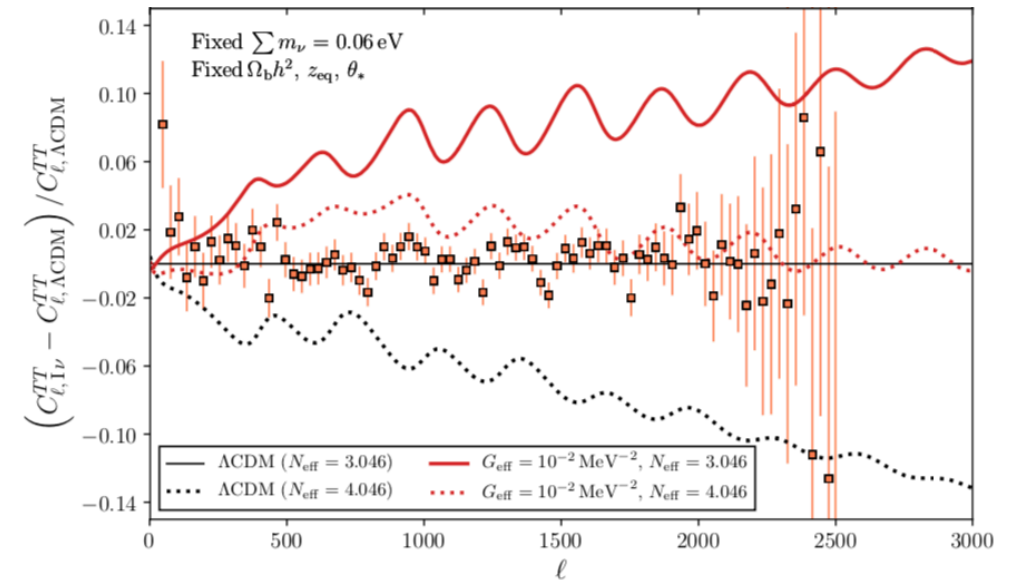
# $\nu$ NSI AND CMB ANISOTROPIES: HEAVY MEDIATOR



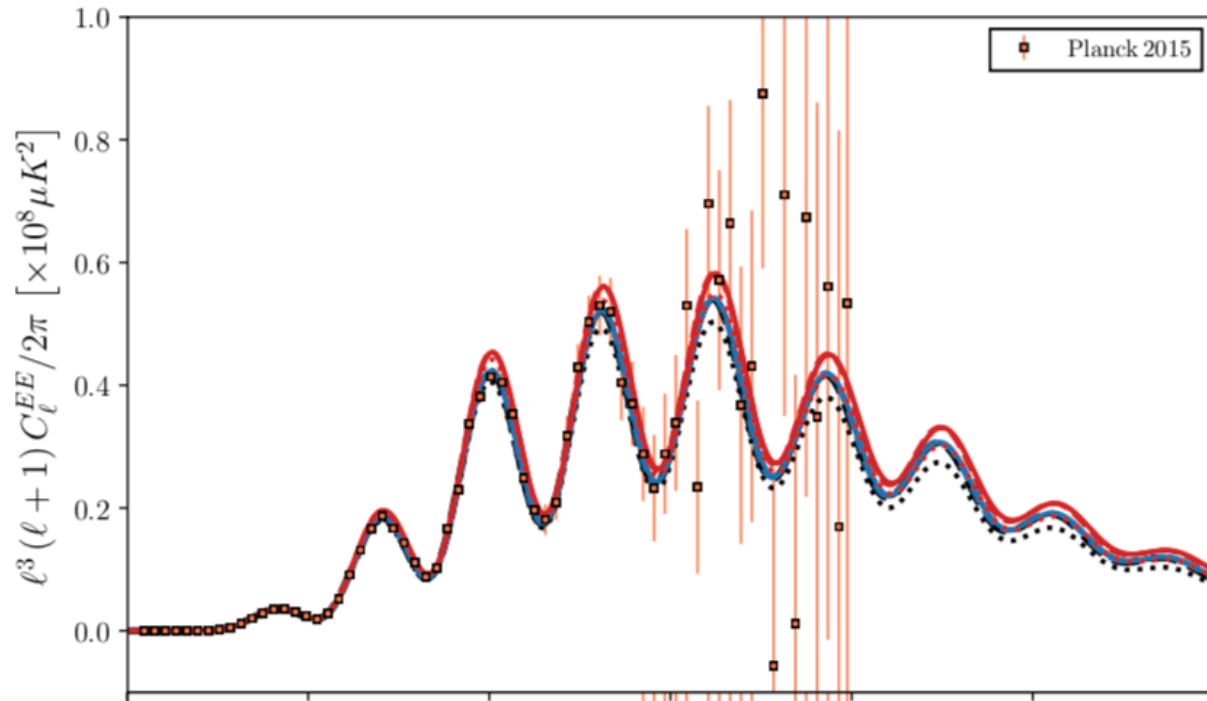
Kreisch, Cyr Racine & Dore 2019

See also Cyr-Racine & Sigurdson 2014; Lancaster, Cyr-Racine, Knox & Pan 2017; Oldengott, Tram, Rampf & Wong 2017

Scales entering the horizon before decoupling are affected  
i.e. smaller scales are more affected



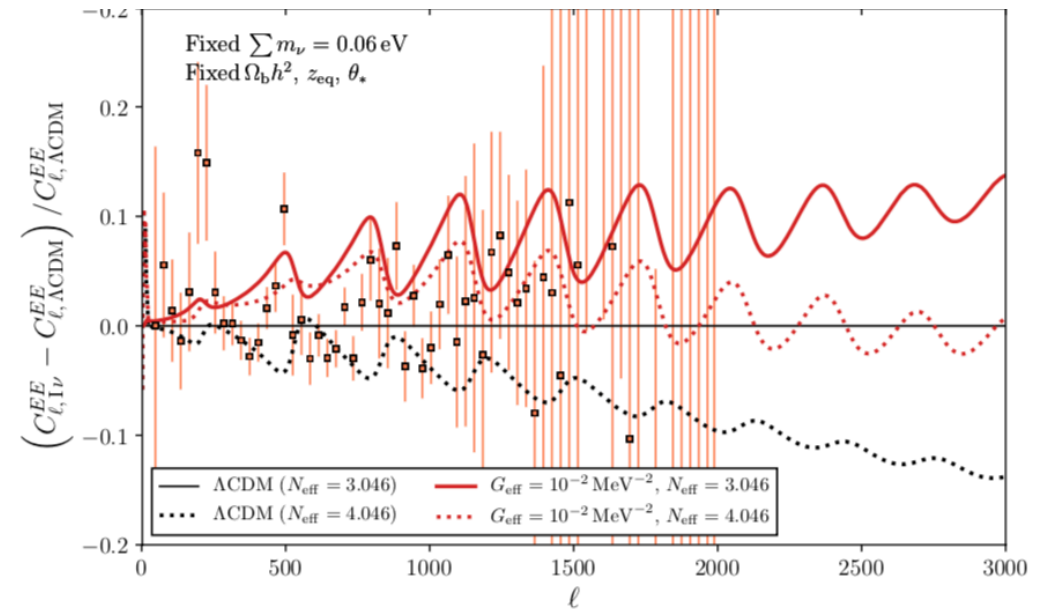
# $\nu$ NSI AND CMB ANISOTROPIES: HEAVY MEDIATOR



Kreisch, Cyr Racine & Dore 2019

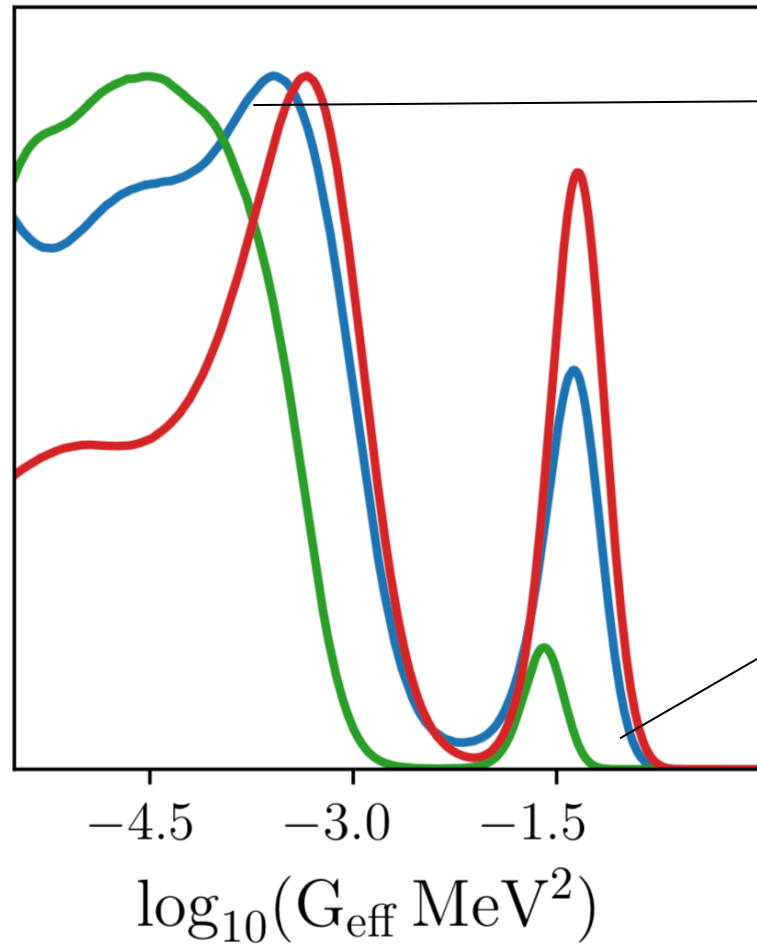
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Scales entering the horizon before decoupling are affected  
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# $\nu$ NSI CONSTRAINTS: HEAVY MEDIATOR



$$G_{\text{eff}} < 1.4 \times 10^2 \text{ GeV}^{-2}$$

$$G_{\text{eff}} = (2.5^{+0.8}_{-0.5}) \times 10^4 \text{ GeV}^{-2}$$

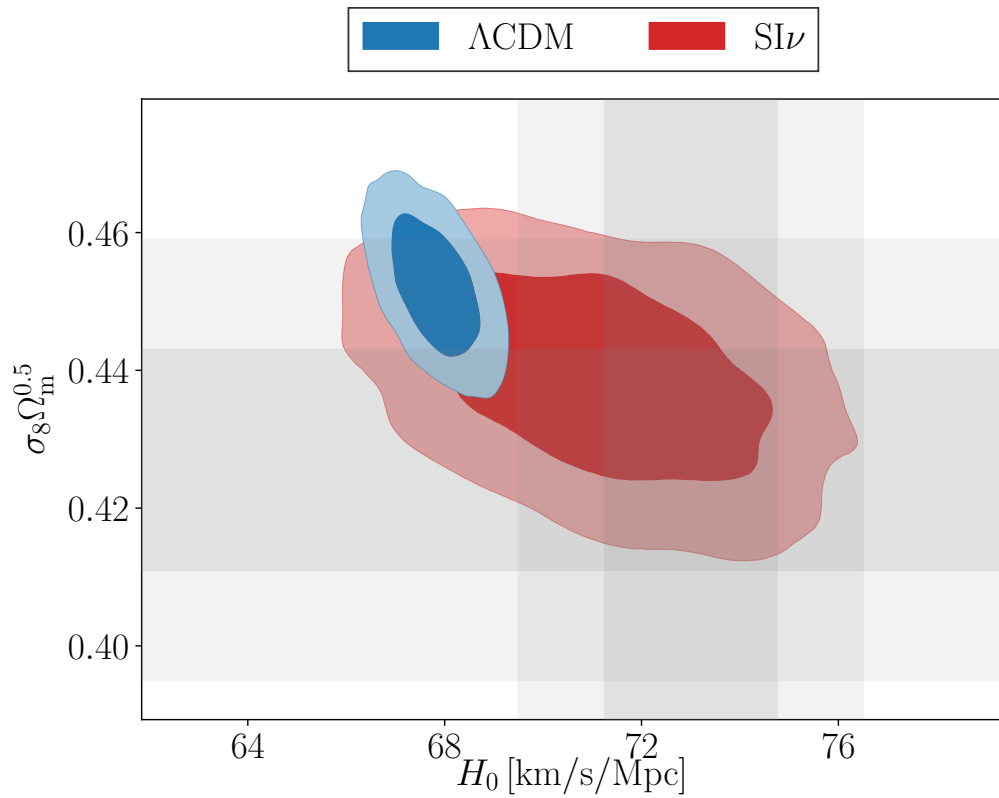
PlanckTT TEE

PlanckTT+lens+BAO

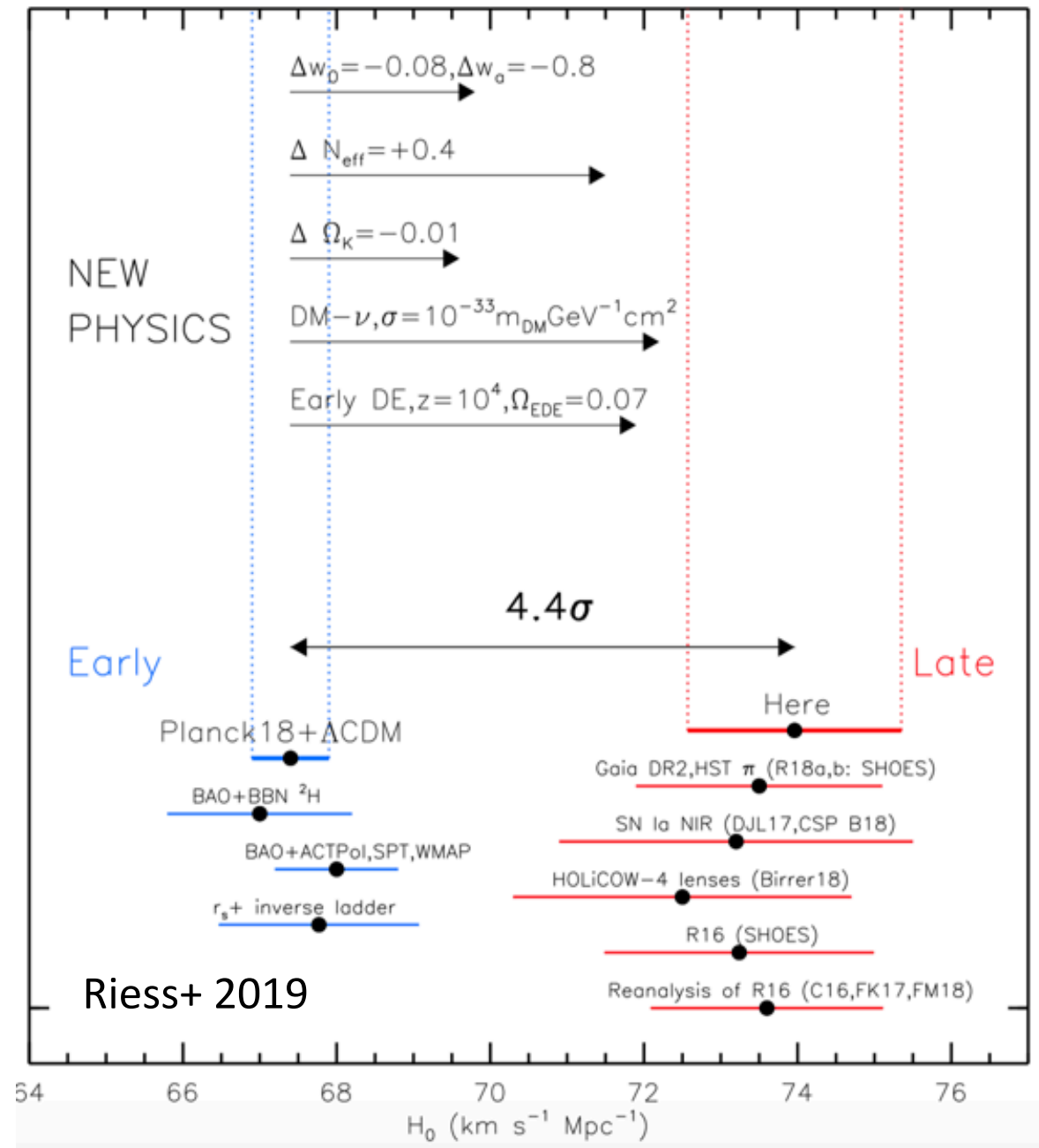
PlanckTT+lens+BAO+H0

Preference for a “strong-interacting” mode emerges from some data combinations

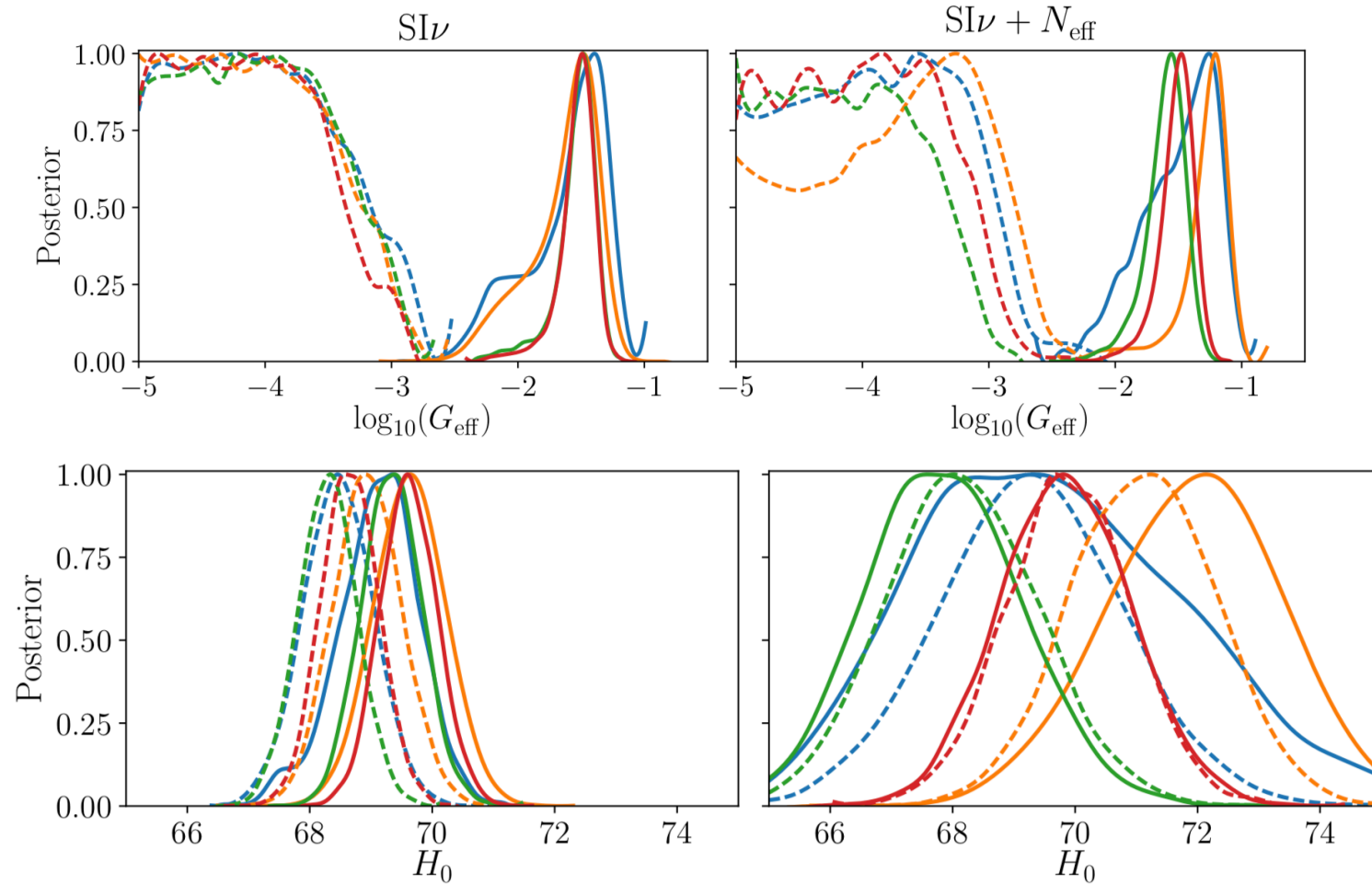
# $\nu$ NSI: A WAY TO ALLEVIATE THE HUBBLE TENSION?



Kreisch, Cyr Racine & Dore 2019



# $\nu$ NSI: A WAY TO ALLEVIATE THE HUBBLE TENSION?

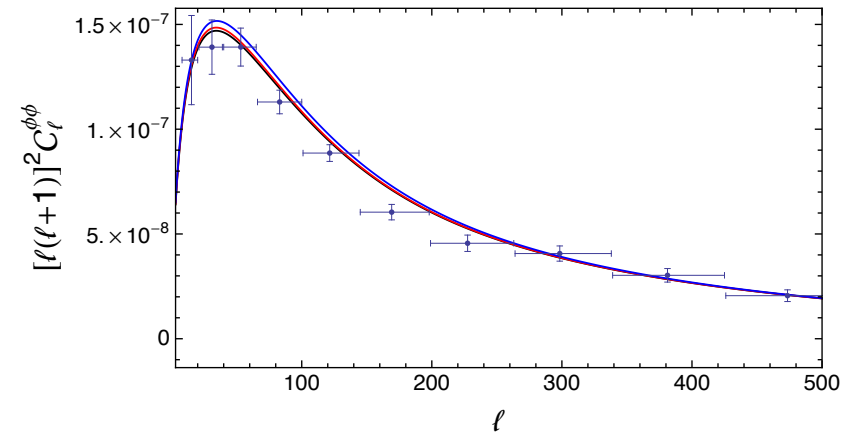
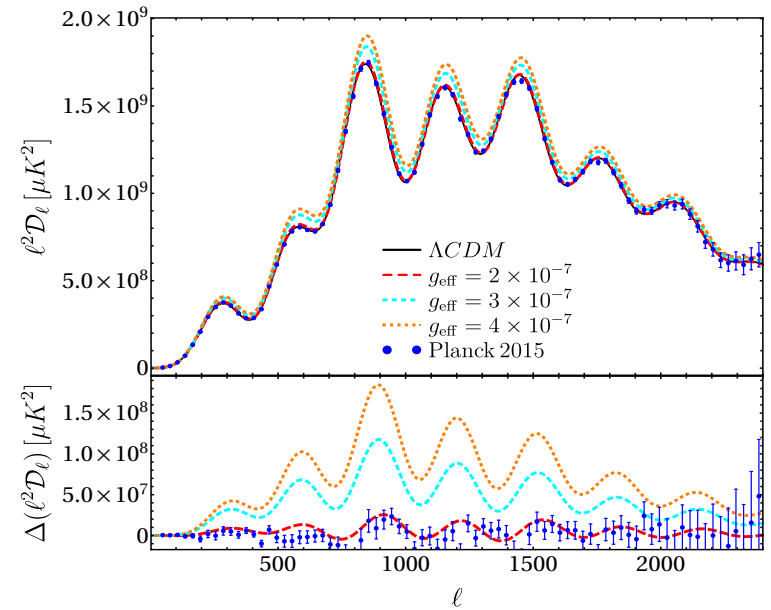
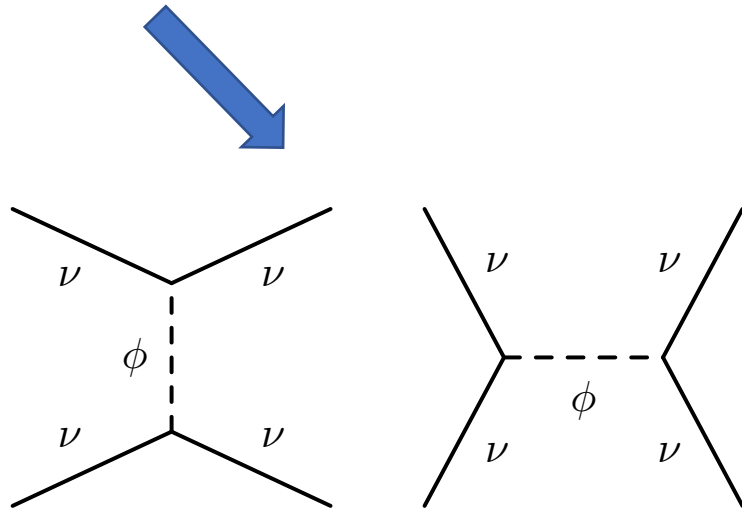


# $\nu$ NONSTANDARD INTERACTIONS

CMB is also sensitive to the collisional properties of light relics (Bashinsky & Seljak 2004)

E.g. in models of neutrino nonstandard interactions:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = \frac{i}{2} g \phi \bar{\nu}_i \gamma^5 \nu_i$$

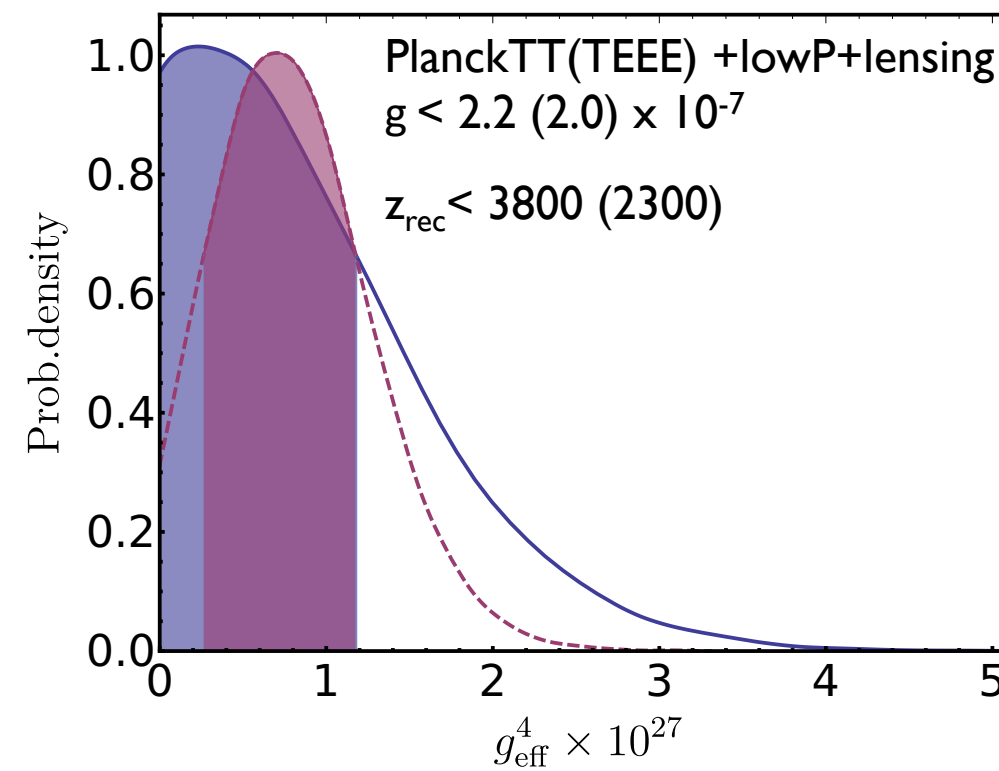
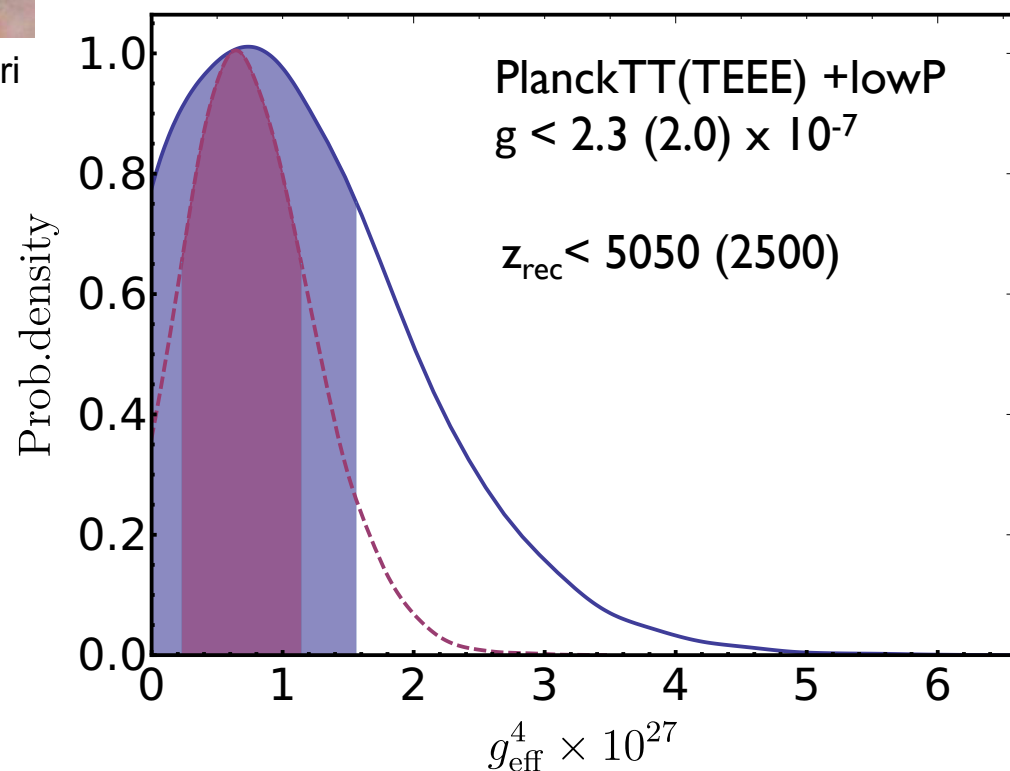


# $\nu$ NONSTANDARD INTERACTIONS

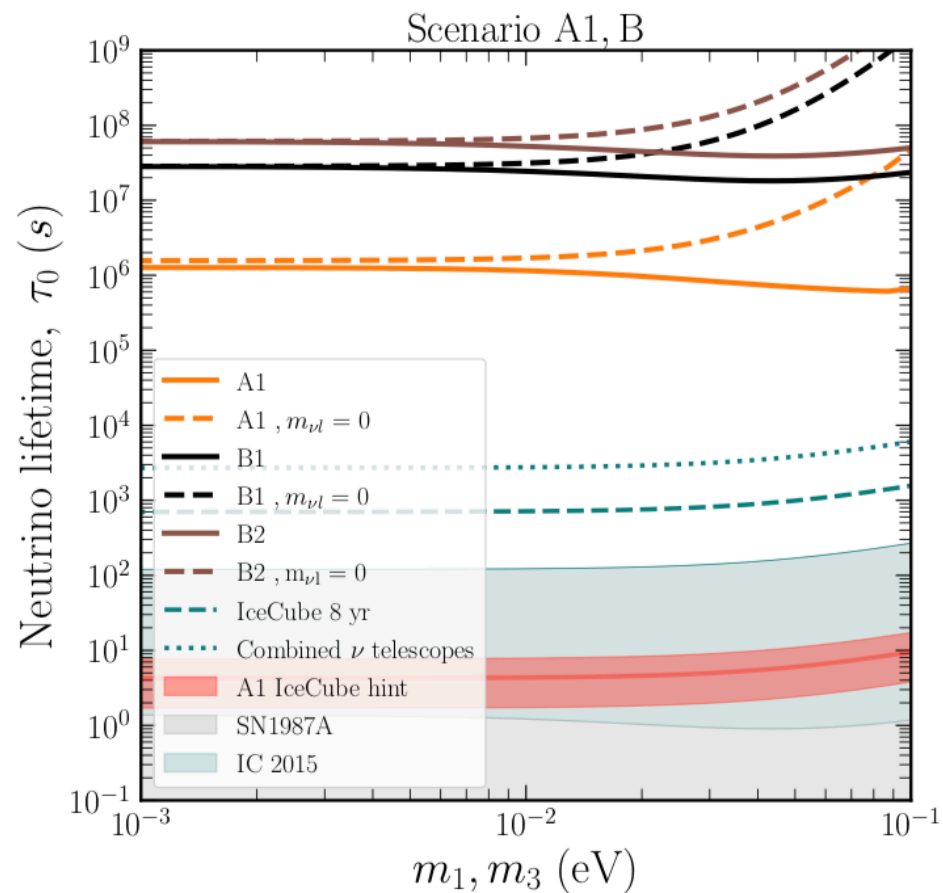


F. Forastieri

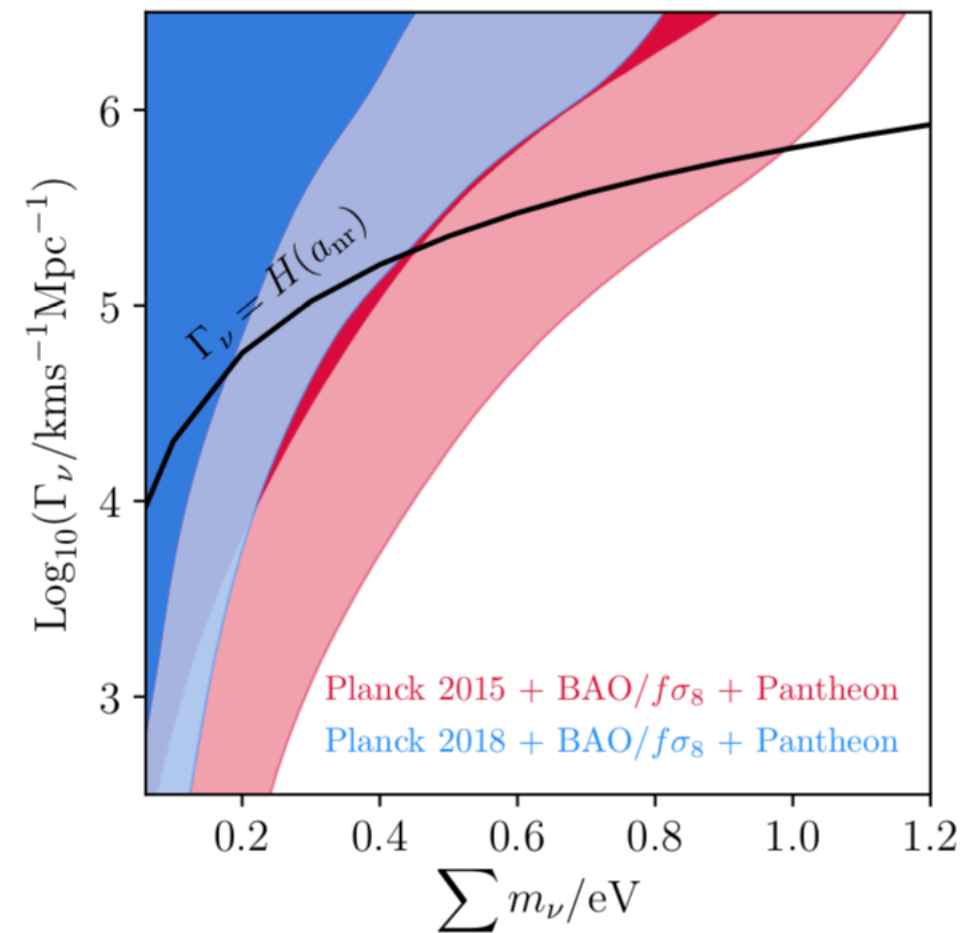
Forastieri, ML, Natoli, PRD 2019



# NEUTRINO DECAY



Chen et al. 2016



Abellan et al. 2021