

# TESTING NEUTRINO NON-STANDARD PROPERTIES

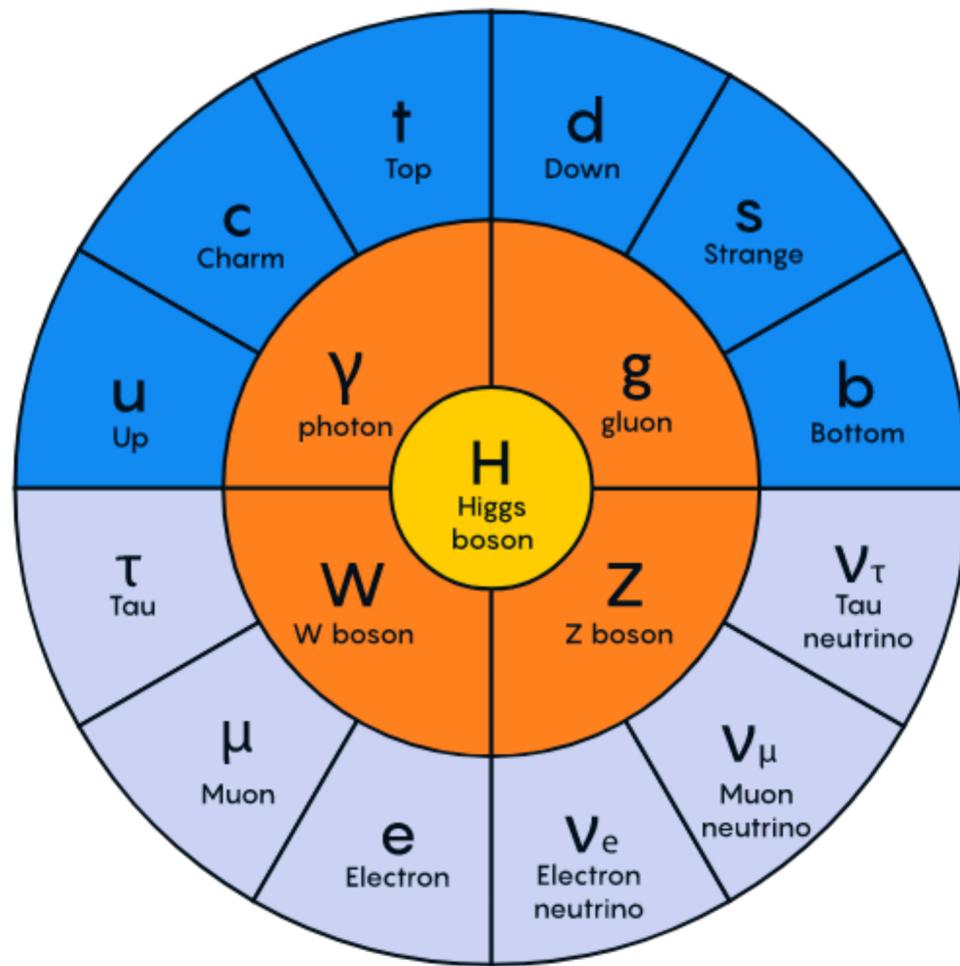
Manibrata Sen  
MPIK, Heidelberg

Neutrino Oscillation Workshop  
04.09.24

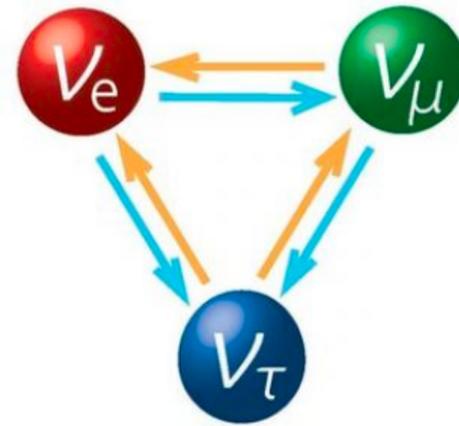


# Sensitive to new physics

The Standard Model



+



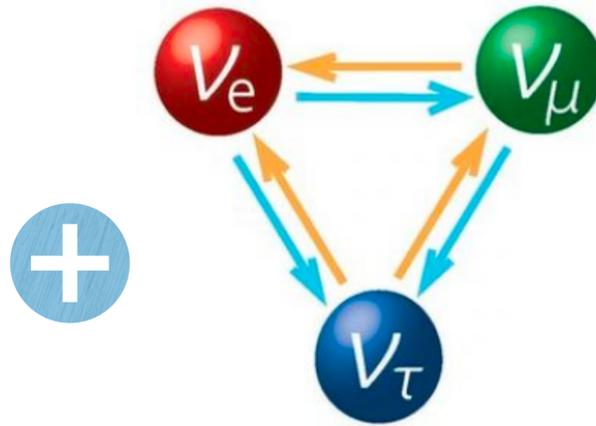
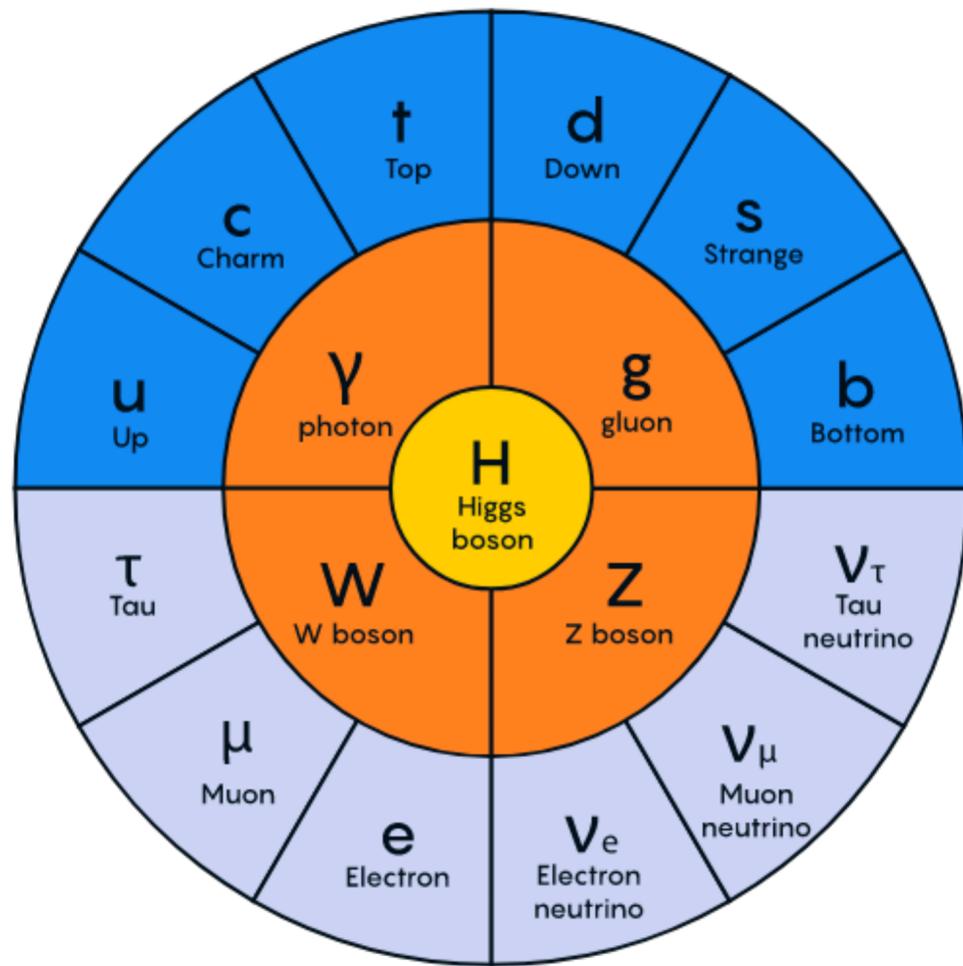
Credit: BBC

FERMIONS (MATTER)      BOSONS (FORCE CARRIERS)  
● QUARKS   ● LEPTONS   ● GAUGE BOSONS   ● HIGGS BOSON

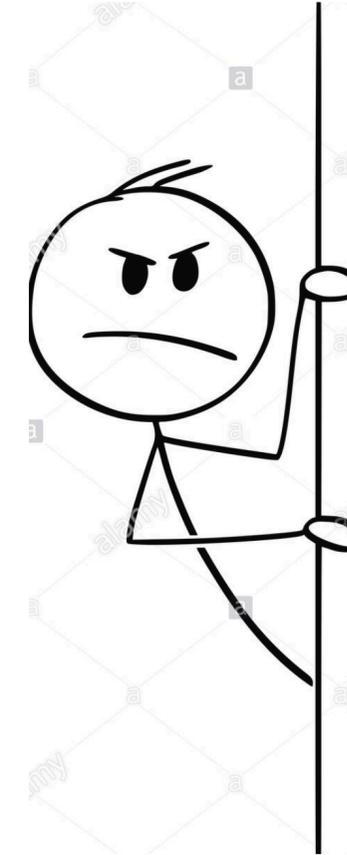
## The Standard Model

# Sensitive to new physics

The Standard Model



Credit: BBC



Beyond

## The Standard Model

# How can new physics affect neutrinos?

A brief list of non-standard neutrino physics:

Mass and Mixing, Decay,

Dirac or Majorana nature (L-violation),

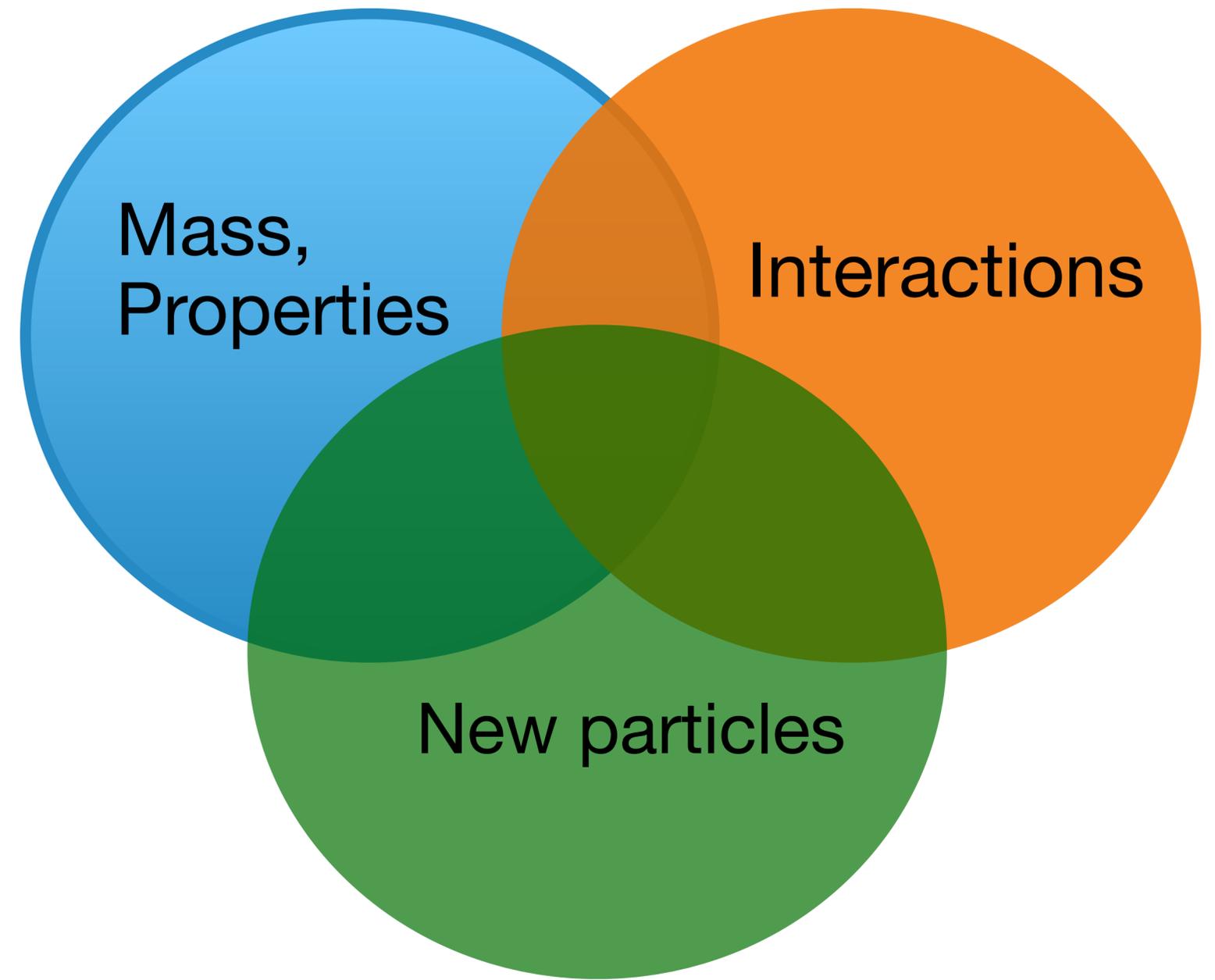
Sterile Neutrinos,

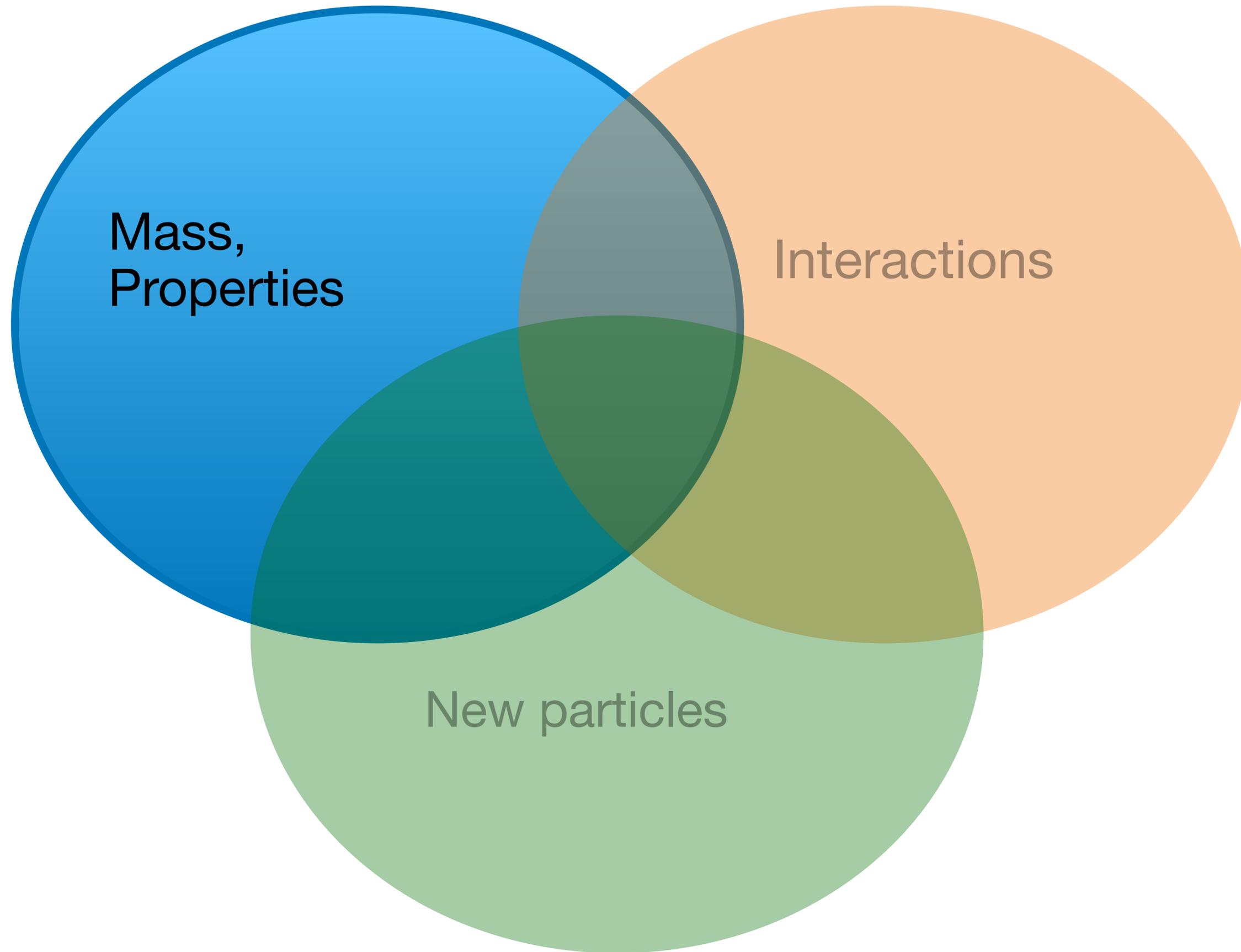
Non-SM interactions,

Electromagnetic properties, CPT-properties  
and Lorentz invariance,

Quantum Decoherence,

.....





Mass,  
Properties

Interactions

New particles

# Origin of neutrino mass

- Neutrino mass can be of **Dirac** type - no lepton number violation.

- **Majorana** neutrinos-lepton number violated.

Generate the Weinberg operator at dim=5:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset y (LH)^2 / \Lambda .$$

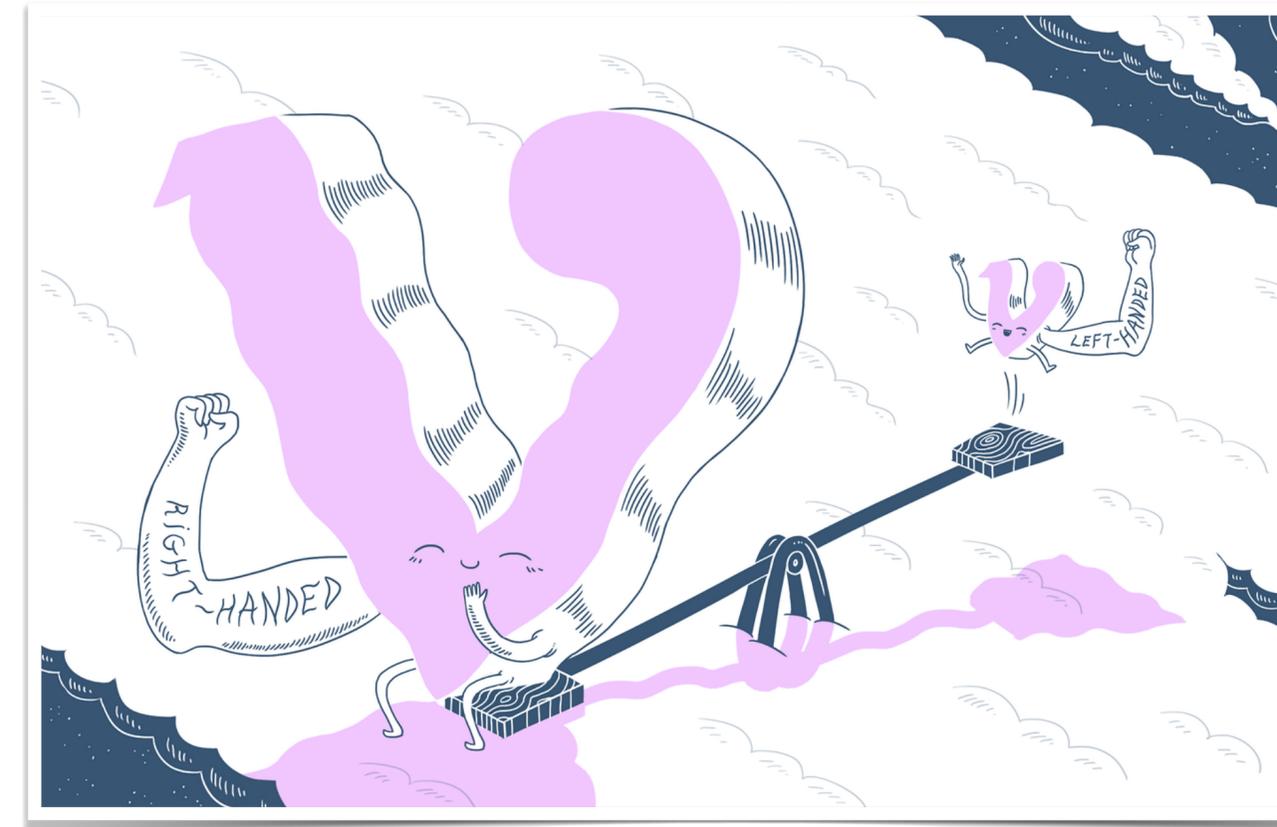
- **Seesaw mechanism** - introduce SM singlet neutrinos  $N$ .

$$\mathcal{L} = m_D \nu N + m_N N N$$

- Diagonalise and if  $m_N \gg m_D$ , then  $m_{\text{light}} \sim m_D^2 / m_N$  and  $m_{\text{heavy}} \sim m_N$ .

- Neutrino mass from **vacuum expectation values of scalars**.

- Other sources?



Talk by E. Fernandez-Martinez

# Dark origin of neutrino mass

$\nu_i$



$\nu_i$

# The basic observation

- How do we know that the vacuum neutrino mass is behind neutrino oscillations?

- Oscillation experiments probe mass-squared  $H \sim \sqrt{p^2 + |m|^2} \approx p + \frac{|m|^2}{2E}$

- Any contribution to the Hamiltonian of evolution with a  $\frac{\text{const}}{E}$  form can reproduce oscillation data. A forward scattering potential?

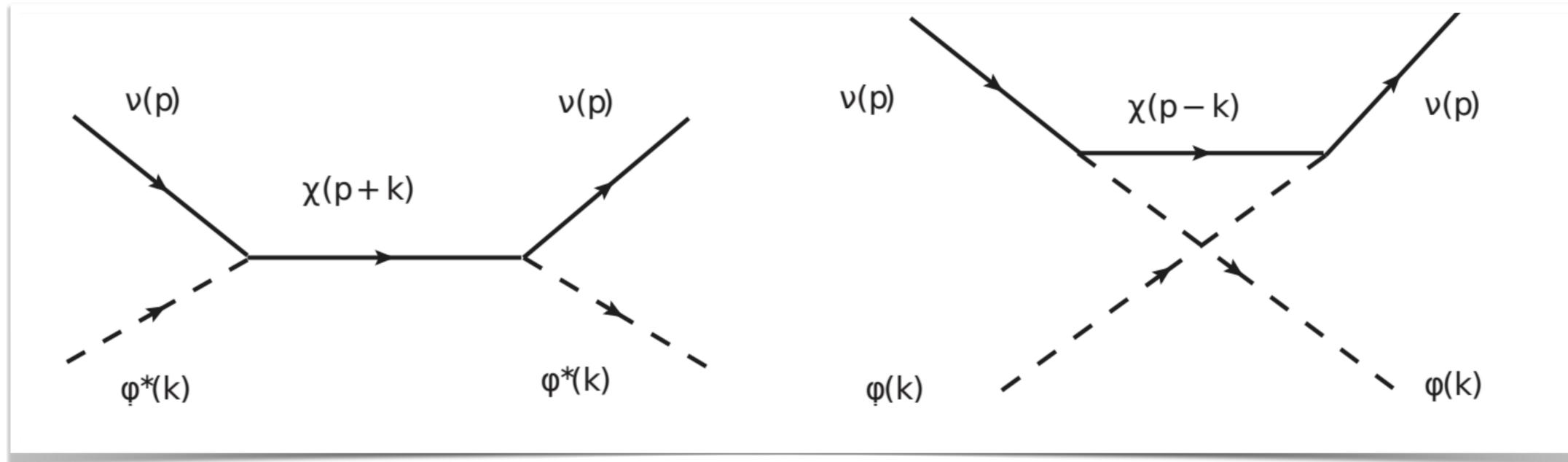
- Wolfenstein's potential in the SM also has an energy dependence above the mediator masses.

- Therefore, we need a light mediator.

# A model of dark neutrino mass

- Consider **massless** neutrinos scattering off ultralight scalar DM  $\phi$  through a fermionic mediator  $\chi$ .

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_{\alpha=e,\mu,\tau} \sum_k g_{\alpha k} \bar{\chi}_{kR} \nu_{\alpha L} \phi^* + m_{\chi k} \bar{\chi}_{kR} \chi_{kL} + \text{h.c.}$$



The effective potential

$$V_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_k g_{\alpha k} g_{\beta k}^* \left[ \frac{\bar{n}_\phi (2Em_\phi - m_{\chi k}^2)}{(2Em_\phi - m_{\chi k}^2)^2 + (m_\chi \Gamma_{\chi k})^2} + \frac{n_\phi}{2Em_\phi + m_{\chi k}^2} \right], \quad E_R = \frac{m_\chi^2}{2m_\phi}$$

# The refractive mass

- Define the refractive mass  $\tilde{m}_{\alpha\beta}^2 \equiv 2EV_{\alpha\beta}$
- In terms of  $y \equiv E/E_R$ , we can write

$$\tilde{m}_{\alpha\beta}^2 = 2y E_R \sum_k \frac{g_{\alpha k} g_{\beta k}^*}{2m_\chi^2} (n_\phi + \bar{n}_\phi) \left[ \frac{(1 - \epsilon)(y - 1)}{(y - 1)^2 + \frac{\Gamma_{\chi k}^2}{m_\chi^2}} + \frac{1 + \epsilon}{1 + y} \right]$$

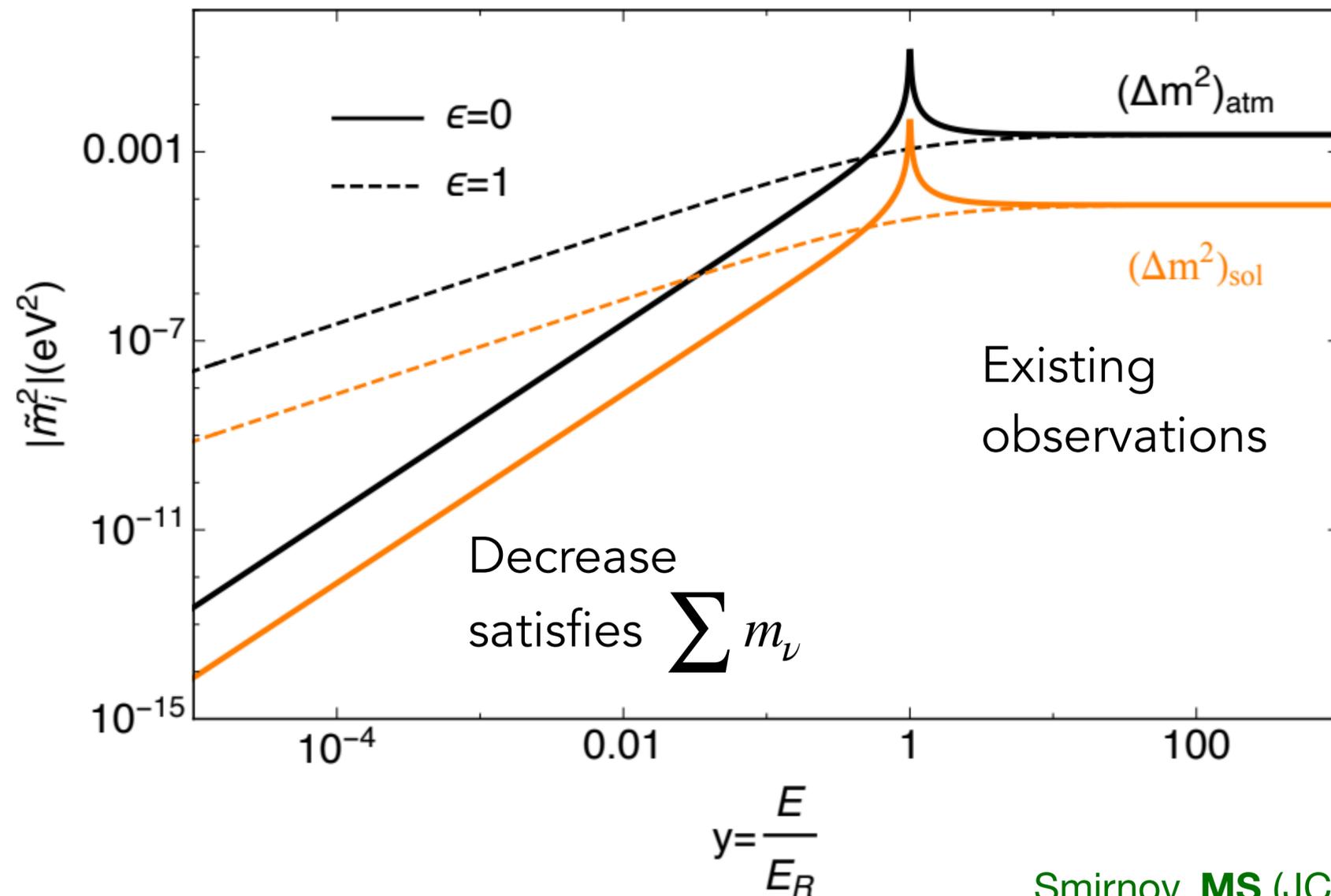
where  $\epsilon \equiv \frac{n_\phi - \bar{n}_\phi}{n_\phi + \bar{n}_\phi}$ , ( $\epsilon = -1 \div 1$ ),

- Neglecting  $\Gamma_{\chi k}$ , we can write this as

$$\tilde{m}^2 = \left( \frac{n_\phi + \bar{n}_\phi}{m_\phi} \sum_k g_{\alpha k} g_{\beta k}^* \right) \frac{y(y - \epsilon)}{y^2 - 1} = \tilde{m}_{\text{asy}}^2 \frac{y(y - \epsilon)}{y^2 - 1}$$

# Fitting the neutrino oscillation data

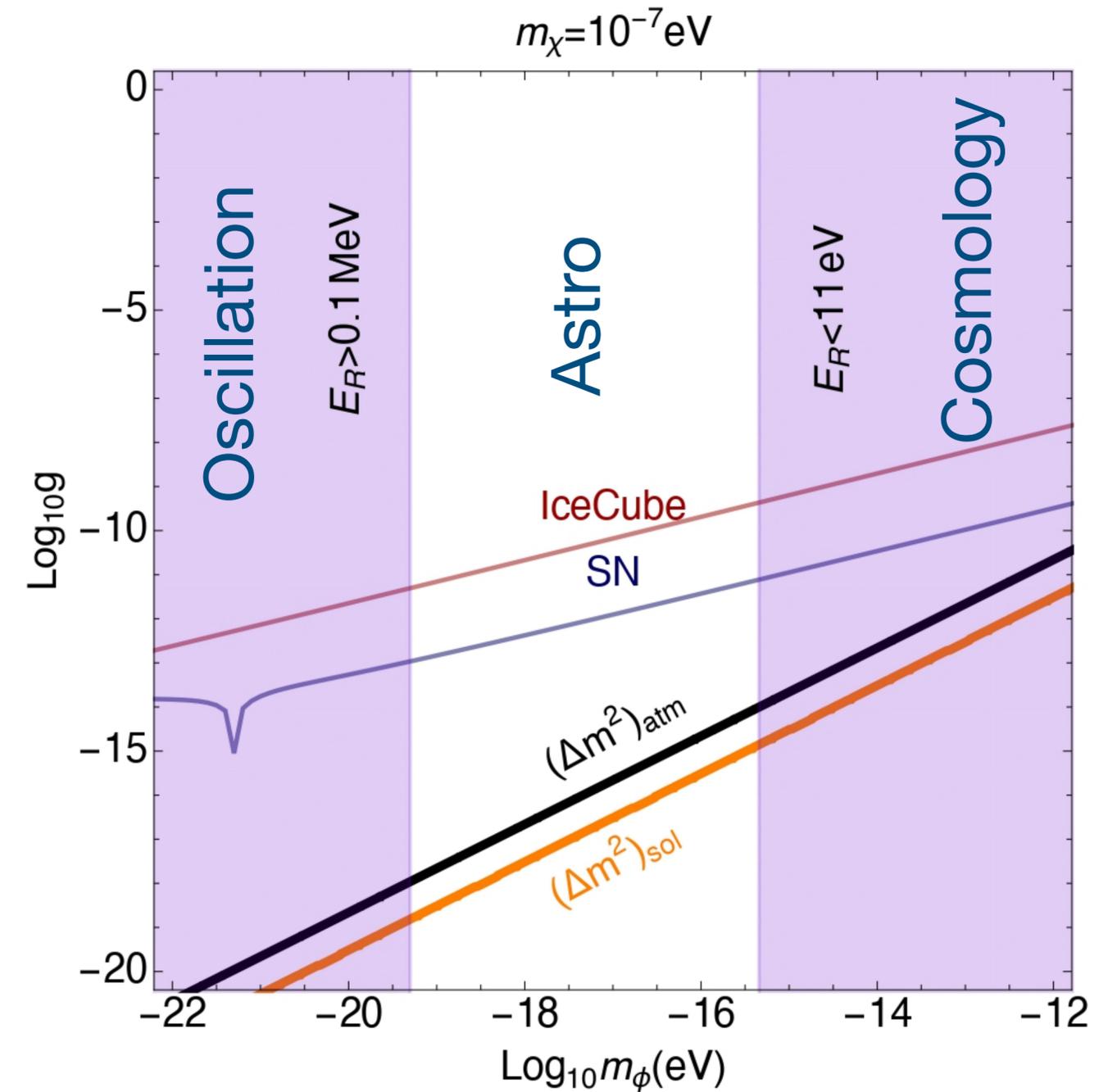
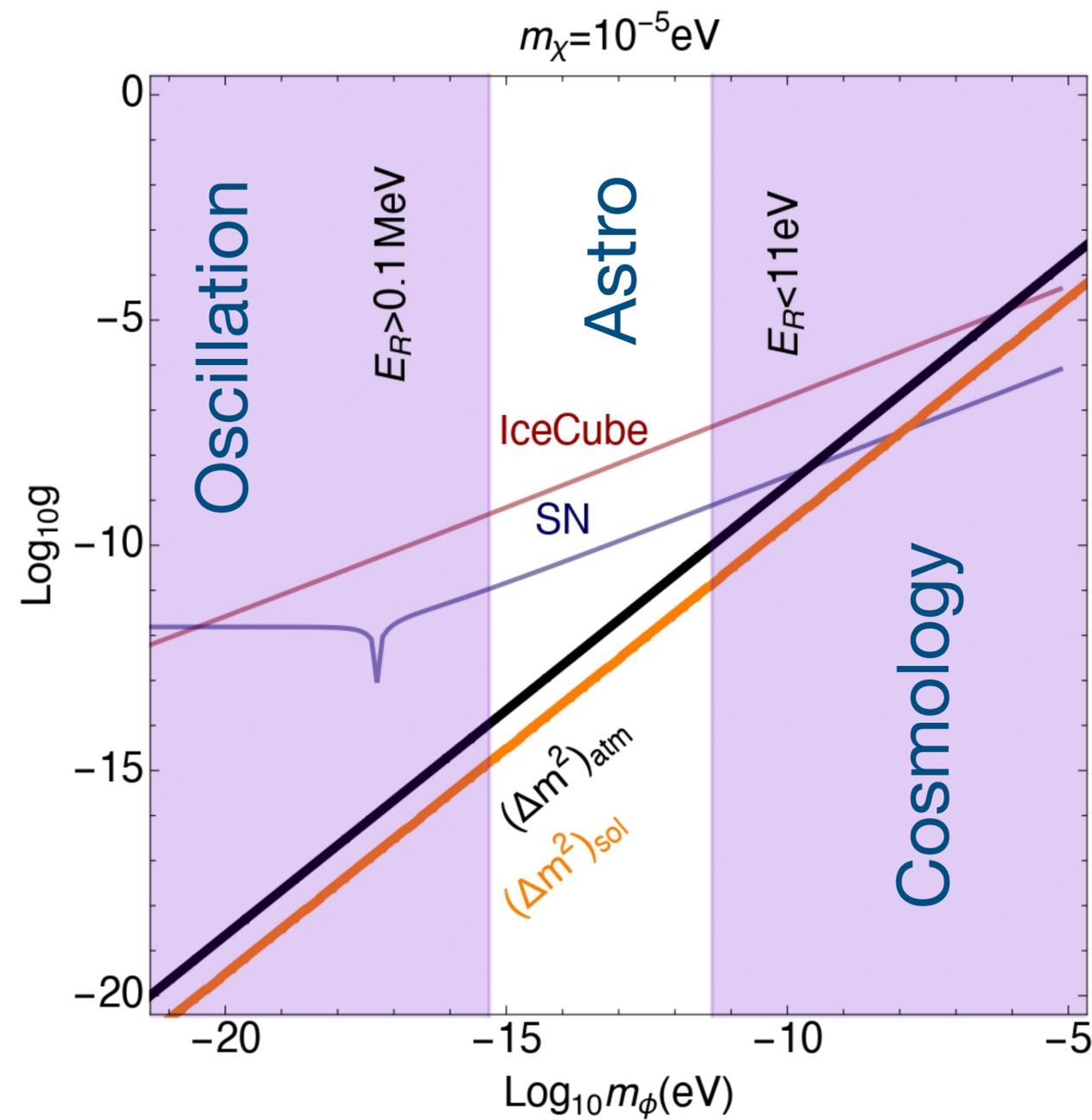
$$\tilde{m}^2 = \tilde{m}_{\text{asy}}^2 \frac{y(y - \epsilon)}{y^2 - 1}$$



Smirnov, **MS** (JCAP 2024)

- $\Delta m^2$  does not vary with energy for  $E > 0.1 \text{ MeV}$
- $E_R$  cannot be bigger than lowest energy neutrinos observed - pp neutrinos from the Sun  $\sim 0.1 \text{ MeV}$ .
- $m_{\text{asy}}^2 \propto n_{\phi'}$ , hence it redshifts and grows. Need to satisfy bounds on  $\sum m_\nu$ .

# Different constraints



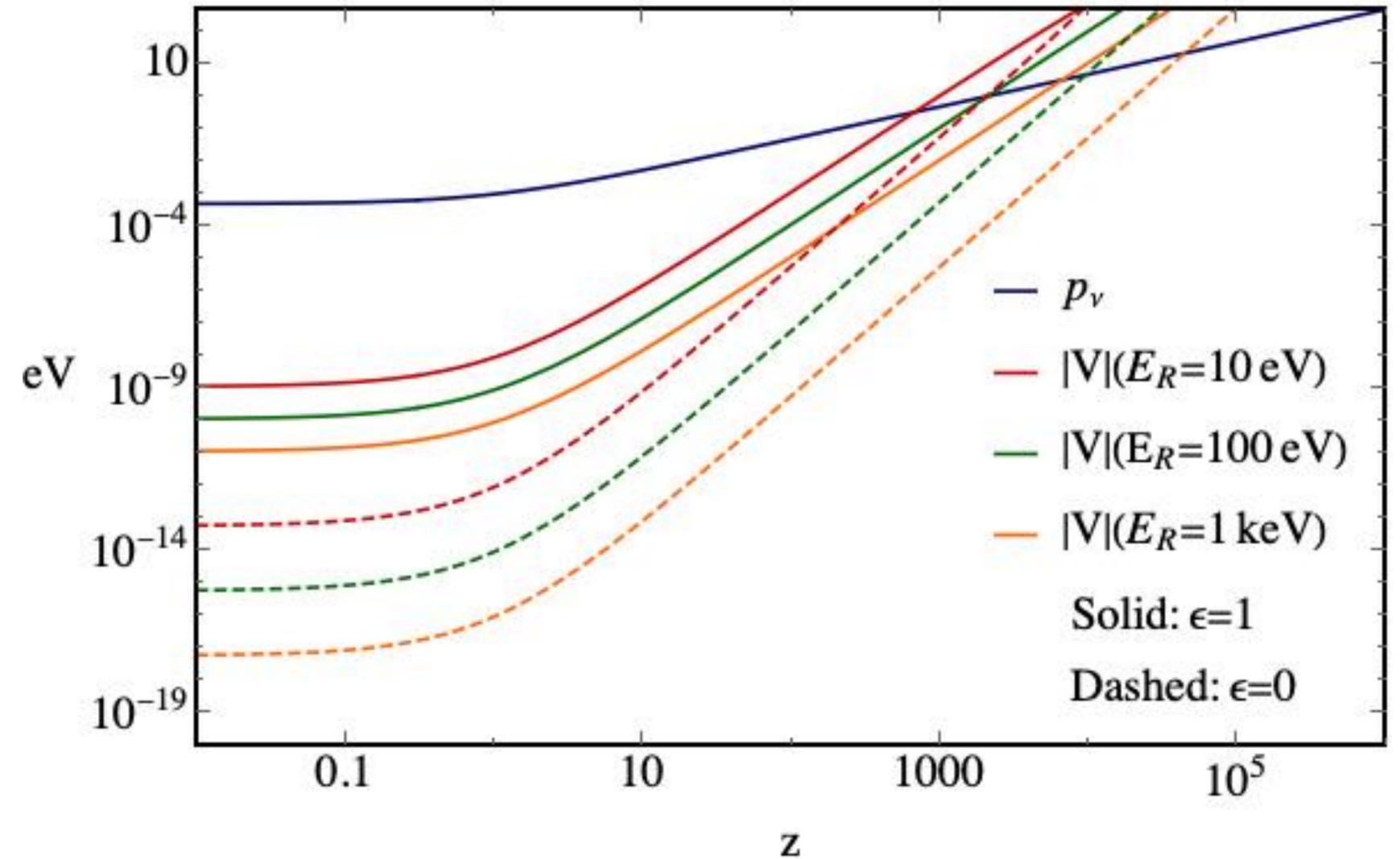
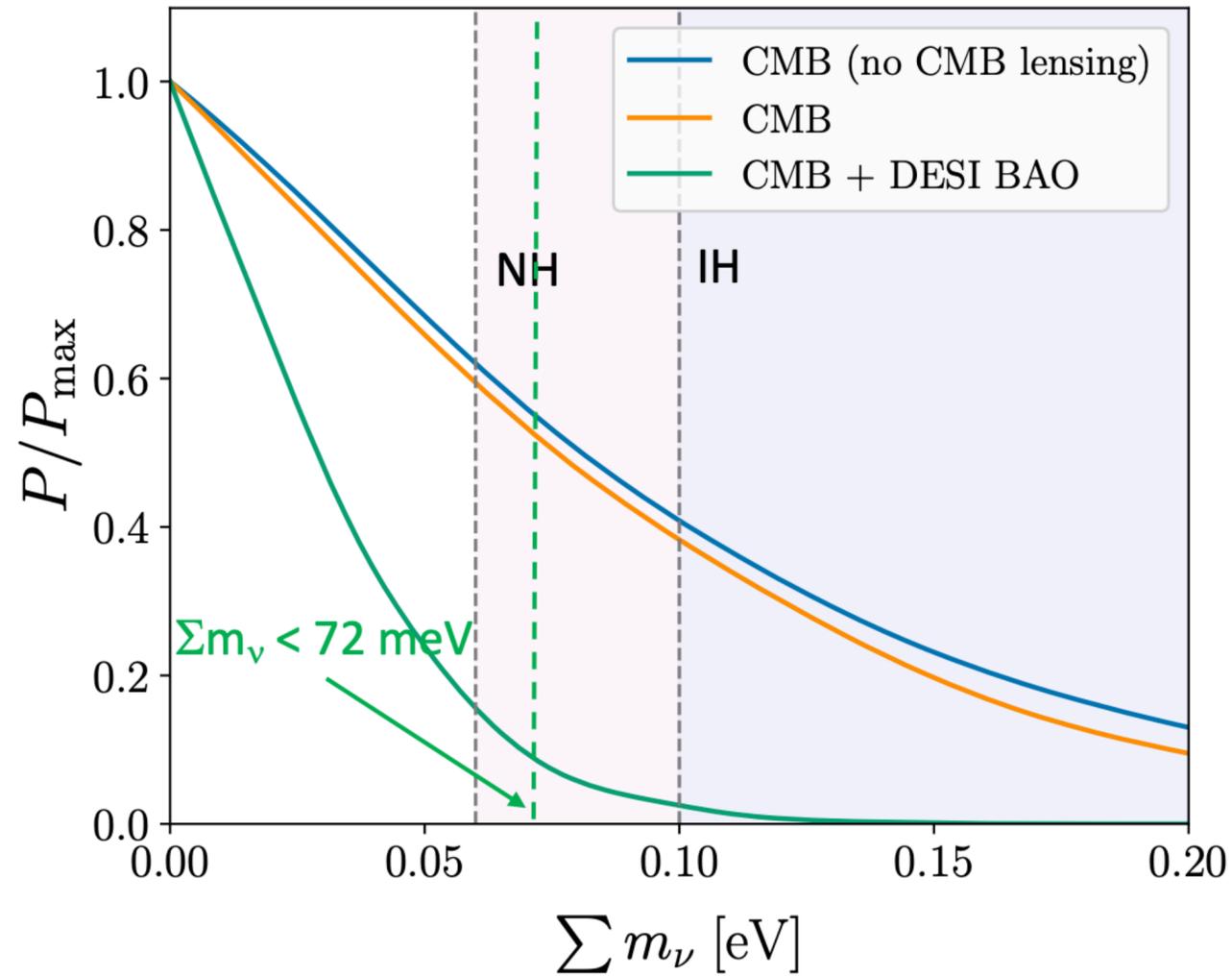
Smirnov, **MS** (JCAP 2024)

Bounds on parameters required for explaining observation.

# Cosmological probes

Talk by M. Lattanzi

Smirnov, **MS** (2024)



CMB+DESI-BAO :

$$\sum m_\nu < 72 \text{ meV}$$

Redshift  $< 1000$

Dispersion for massless neutrinos:  $E = p(z) + V(z)$

Below  $z=1000$ , neutrinos effectively massless.

Can explain DESI results.

# Neutrino Decay



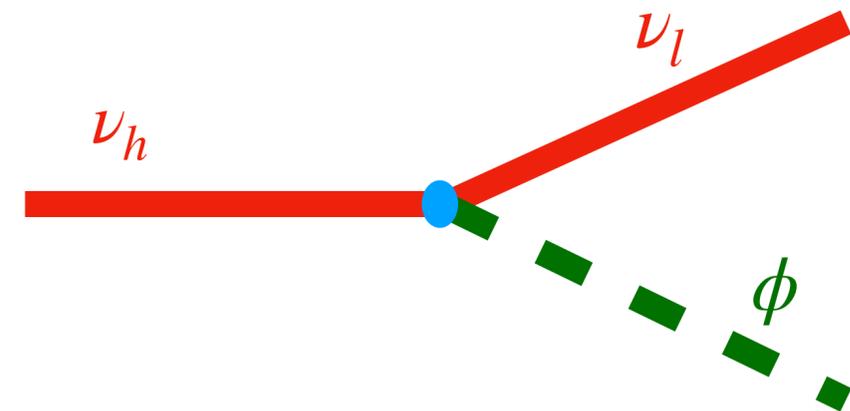
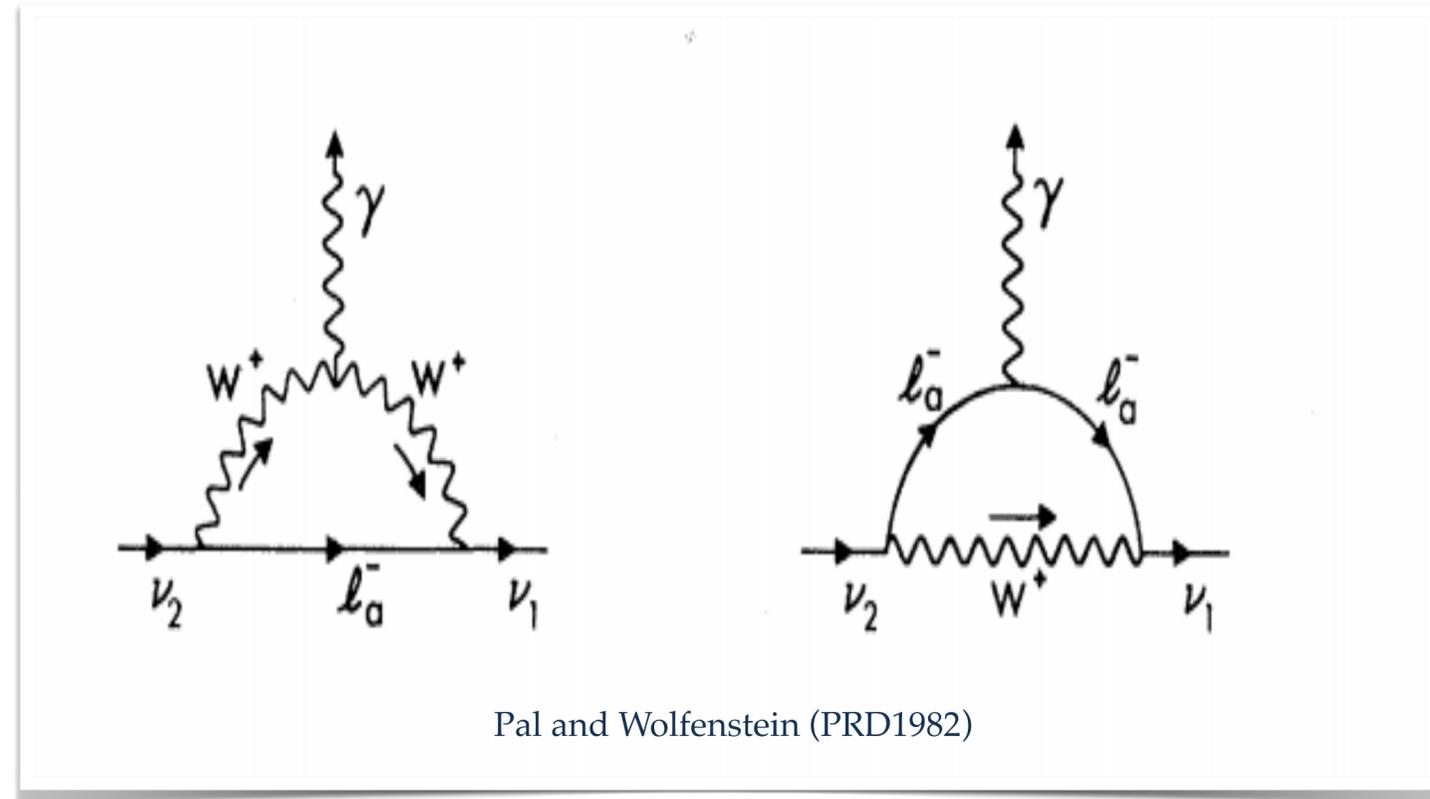
# Neutrino Decay

- Massive neutrinos can decay to lighter ones even within the SM. Age longer than universe.
- New physics can mediate faster decay.

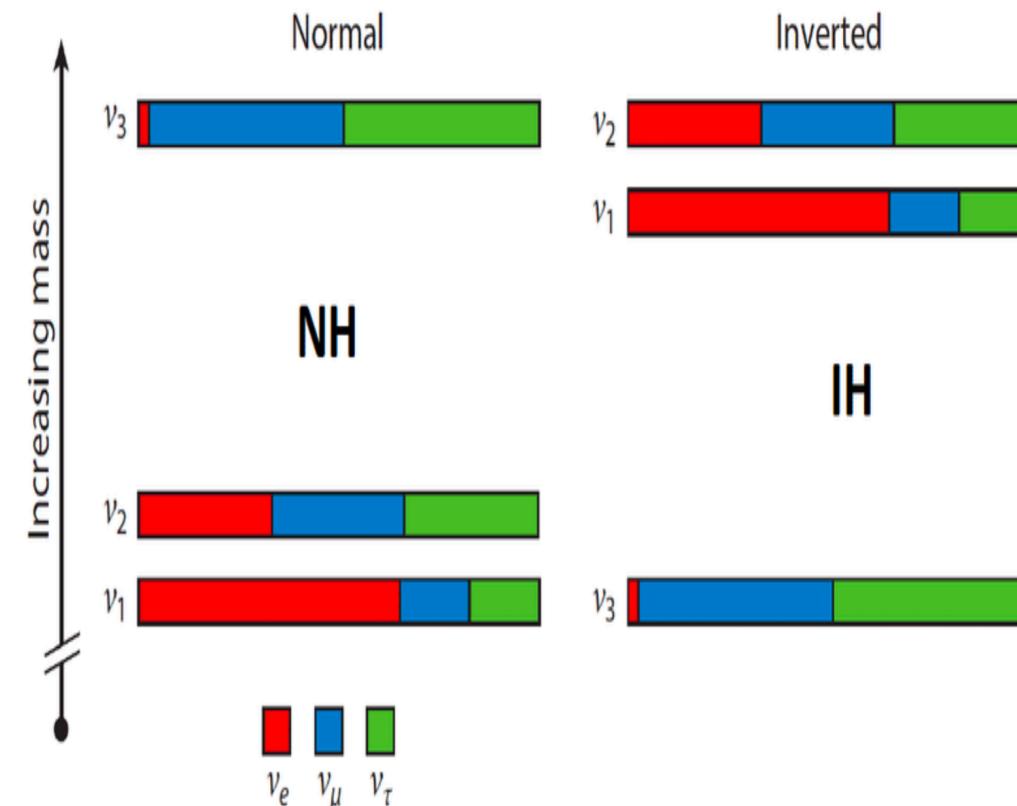
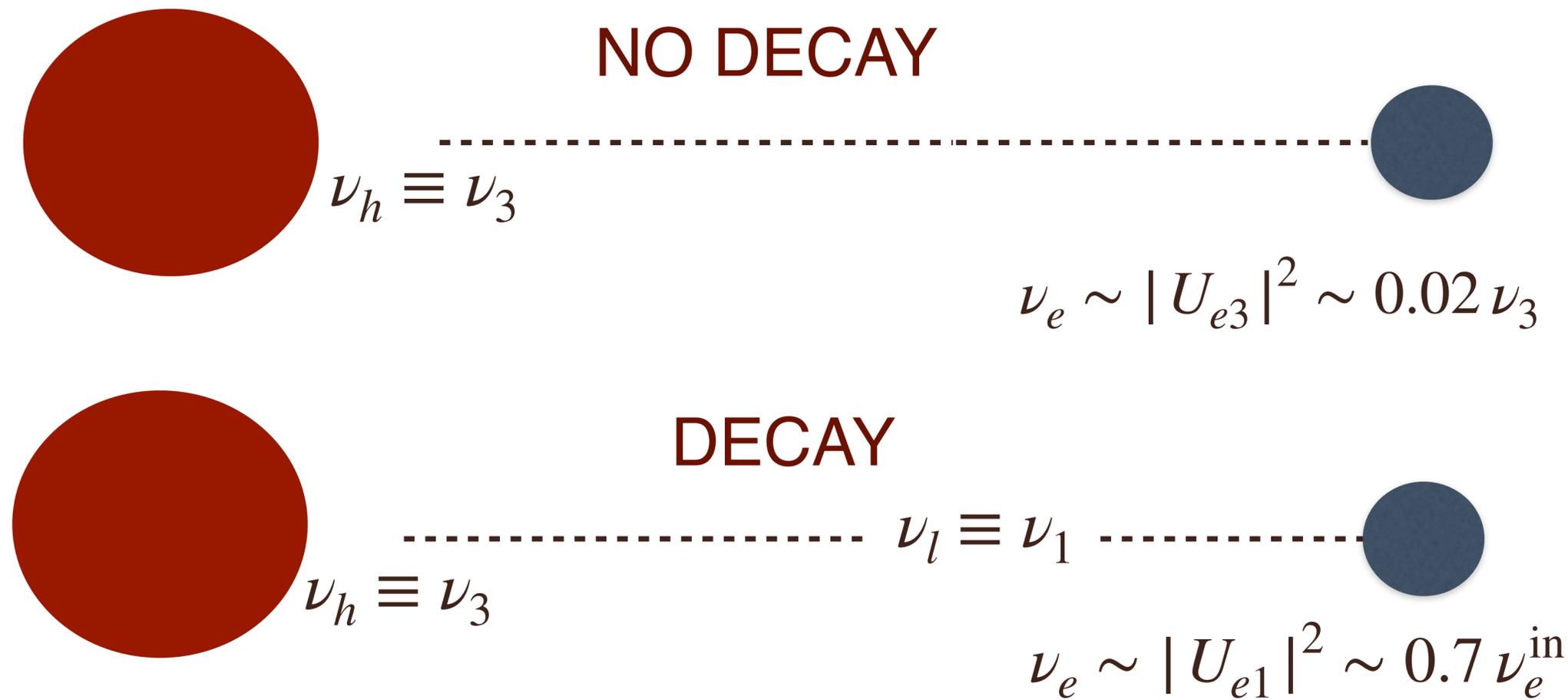
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \bar{\nu}_l \nu_h \varphi + \text{H.c.}$$

- $\nu_{hL} \rightarrow \nu_{lL} + \varphi$  .... Helicity cons. (h.c.)  
 $\nu_{hL} \rightarrow \nu_{lR} + \varphi$  .... Helicity flip. (h.f.)

- Visible vs Invisible decay



# How does neutrino decay work?



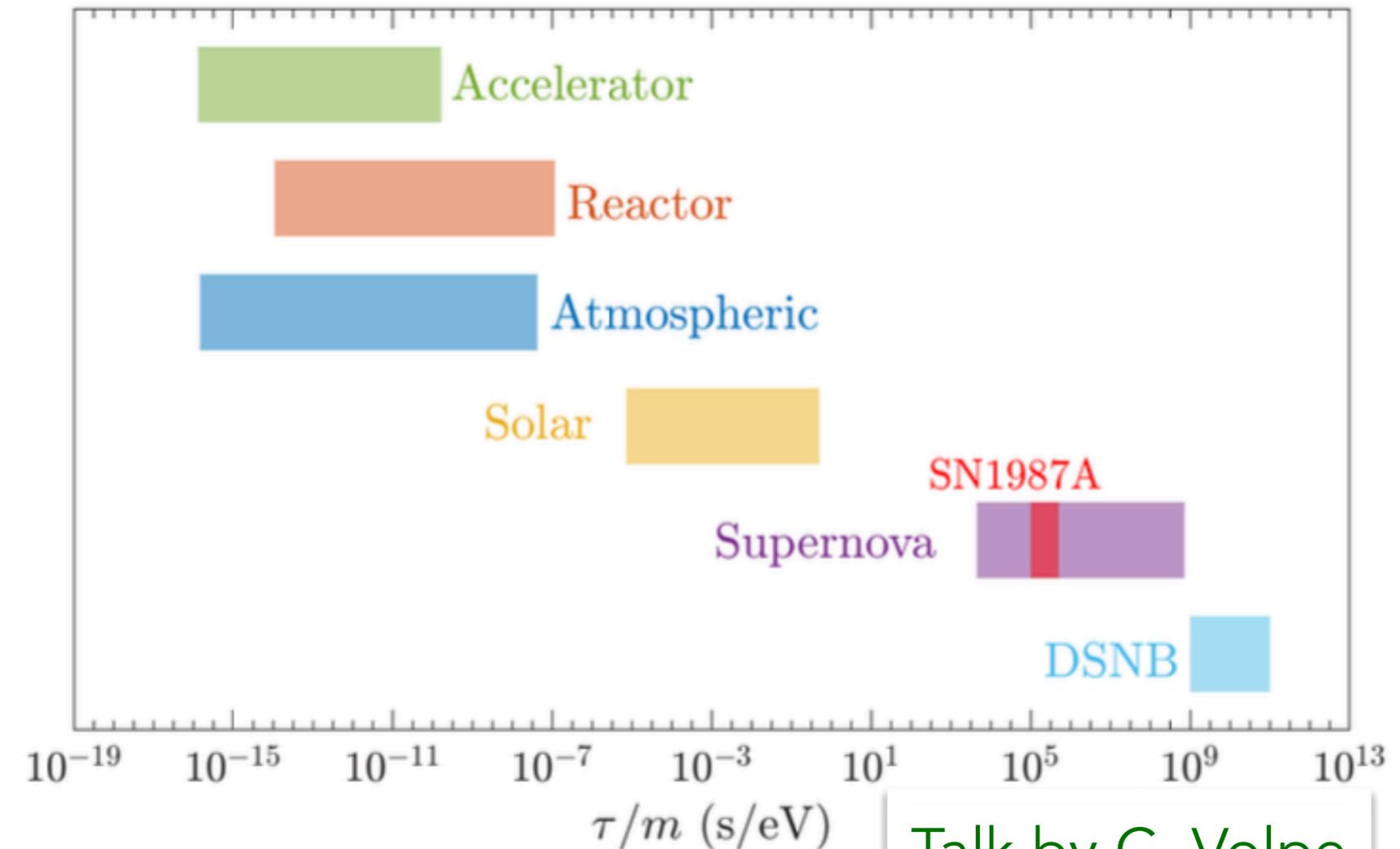
Normal Ordering

$$\nu_3 \rightarrow \nu_1 \varphi$$

Enhancement in spectra

# Constraints from neutrino decay

- Solar bounds:  $\tau_2/m_2 > 10^{-3}$  s/eV.  
 $\tau_3/m_3 > 10^{-5}$  s/eV.
- Long baseline:  $\tau_3/m_3 \sim 10^{-14} - 10^{-10}$  s/eV
- IceCube:  $\tau_3/m_3 \sim 10^{2-3}$  s/eV.
- SN1987A:  $\tau/m \sim 10^5$  s/eV
- CMB:  $\tau/m \sim 10^6$  s/eV



Ivanez-Ballesteros, Volpe (PLB 2023)

Talk by C. Volpe

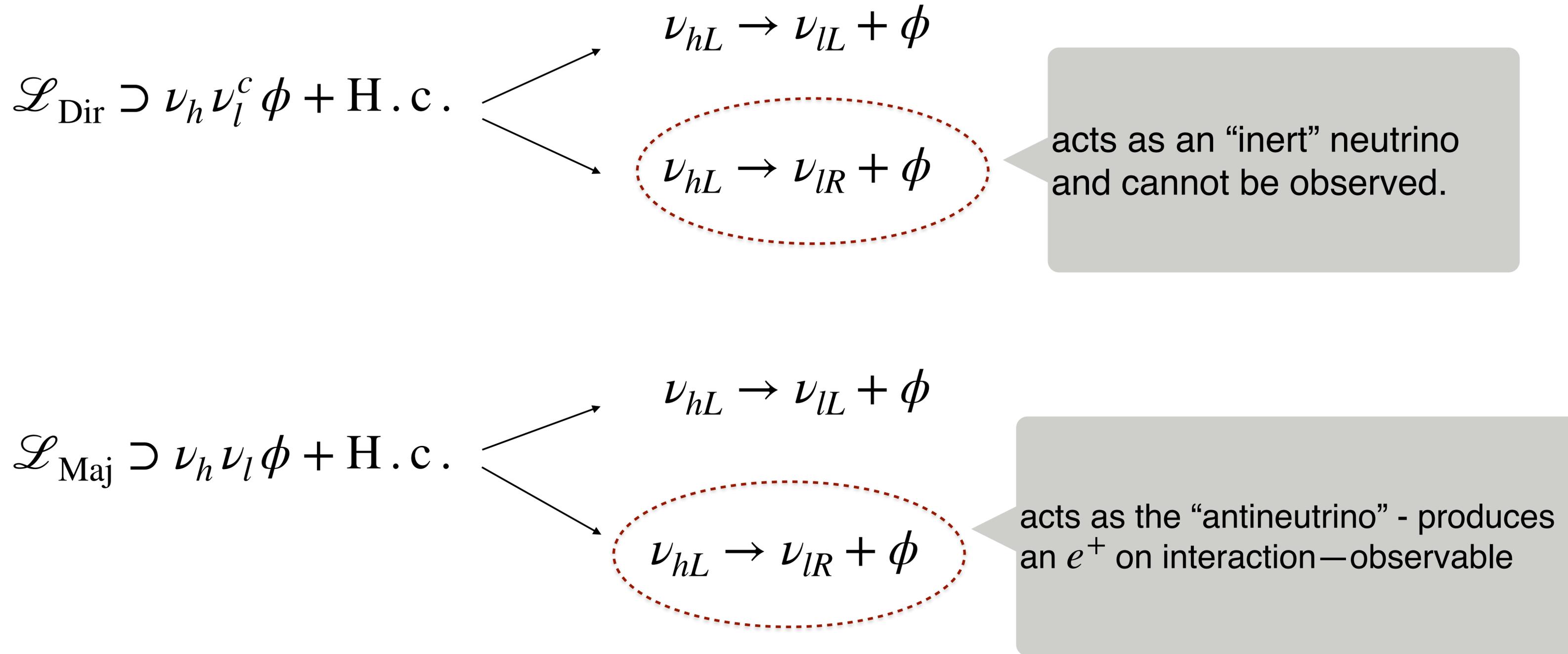
Longer baselines provide stronger constraints  $\frac{L}{\tau} \cdot \frac{m}{E} \sim 1$

# Dírac vs Majorana+ Non-standard physics

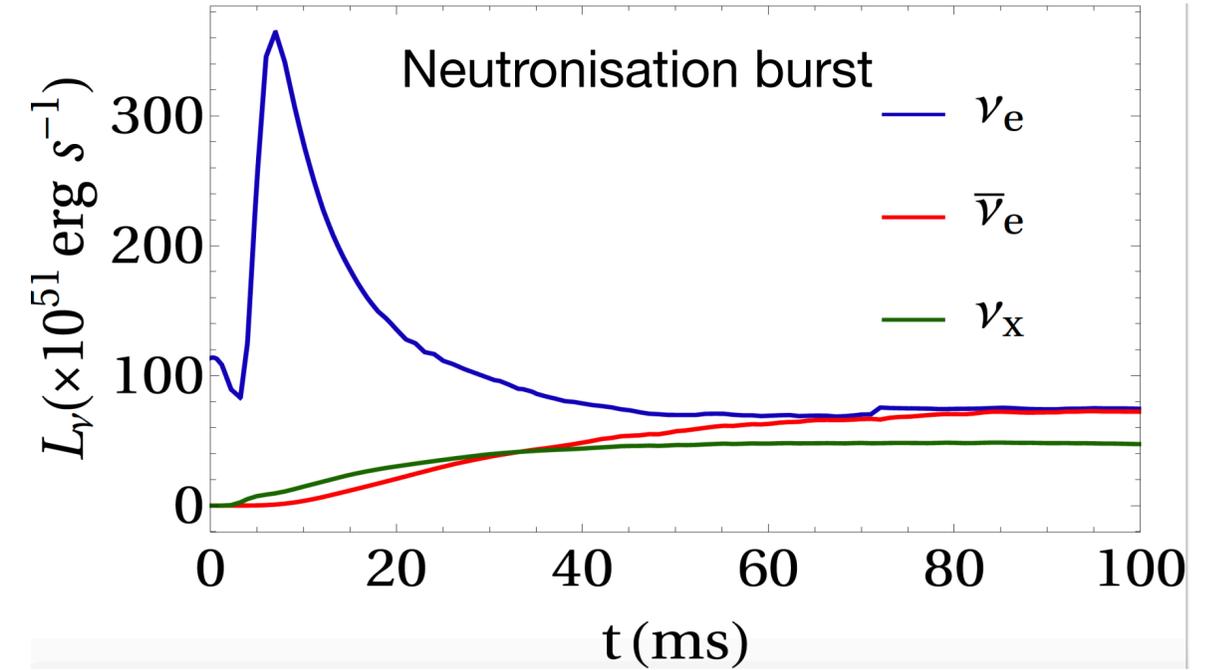
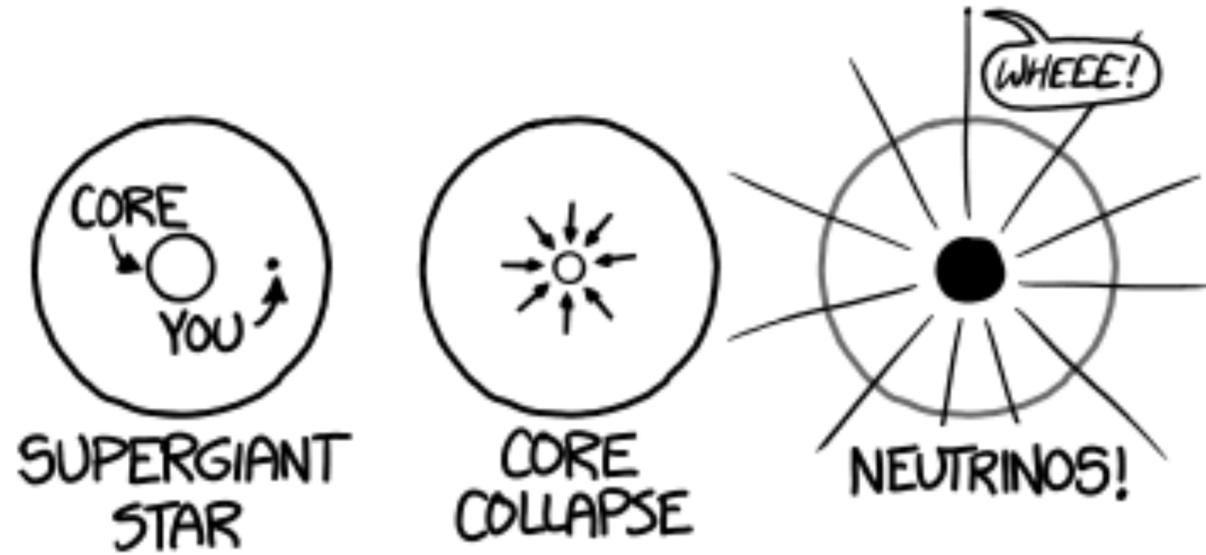


Talk by E. Akhmedov

# Decaying Dirac vs Decaying Majorana

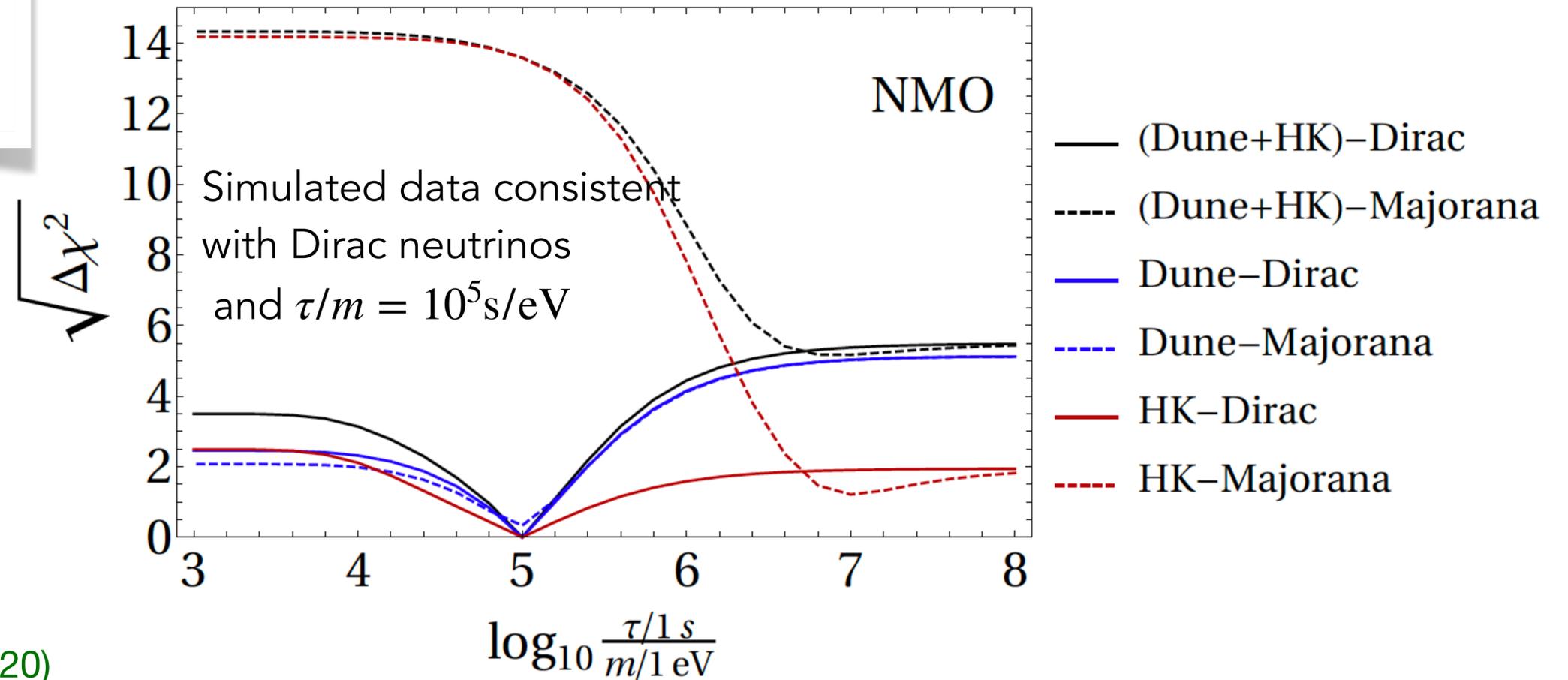


# Decaying Dirac vs Decaying Majorana



Talks by C. Volpe, S. Abbar, H. Nagakura, L. Johns,...

## Dirac vs Majorana



# Pseudo-Dirac Neutrinos



# Pseudo-Dirac neutrinos

- Neutrinos have sub-dominant Majorana mass terms.

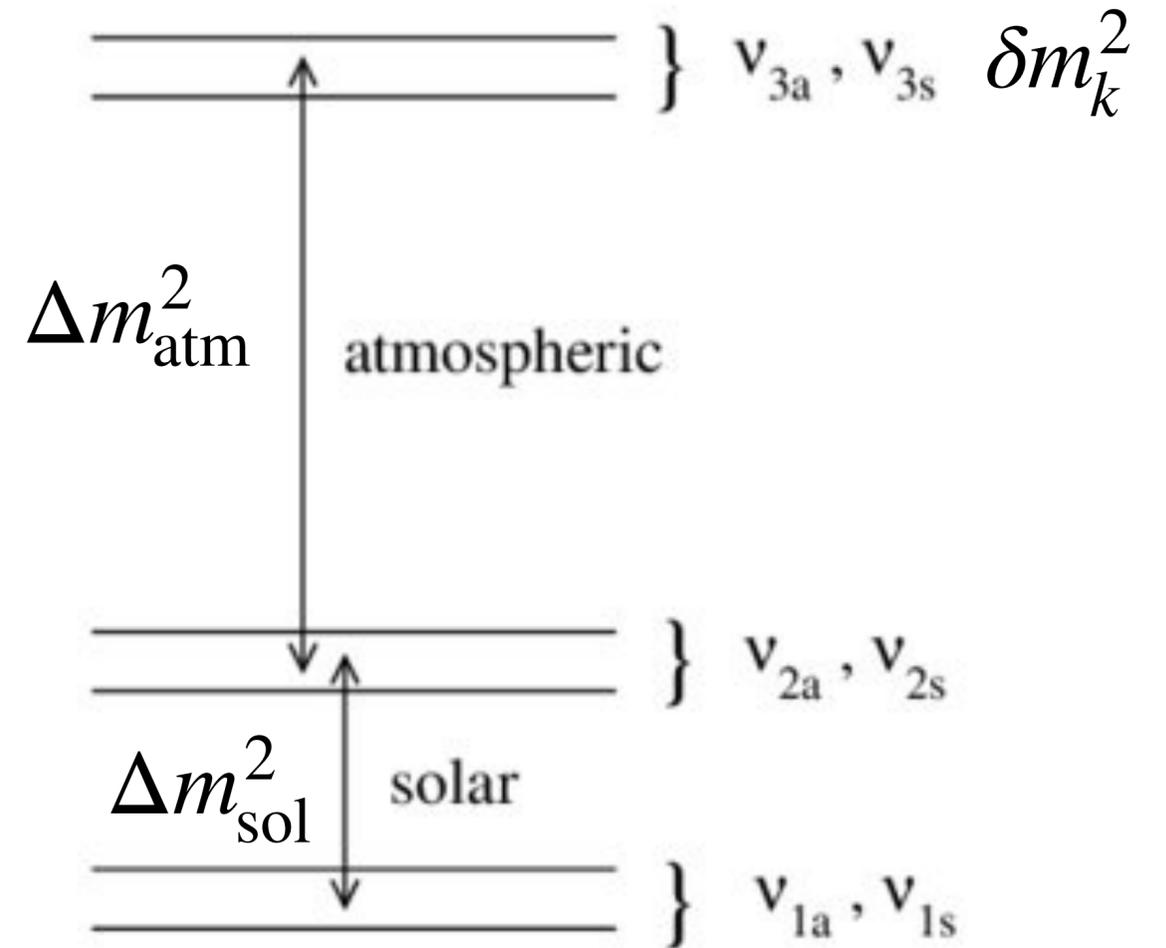
Generic Majorana mass matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} m_L & m_D \\ m_D & m_R \end{pmatrix}$ .

Pseudo-Dirac limit :  $m_{L,R} \ll m_D$

- 3 pairs of quasi-degenerate states, separated by  $\delta m_k^2$ , which is much smaller than the usual  $\Delta m_{\text{sol}}^2$  and  $\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2$ .

$$\nu_{\alpha L} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} U_{\alpha j} (\nu_{js} + i \nu_{ja})$$

- Oscillations driven by this tiny  $\delta m_k^2$  at large distances.



# Active-sterile oscillations

- Flavor oscillation probability induced by  $\Delta m_{\text{sol}}^2$  and  $\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2$  over a large distance gets averaged.

$$P(\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\gamma) = P_{aa}(z, E) \left| U_{\beta k} \right|^2 \left| U_{\gamma k} \right|^2$$

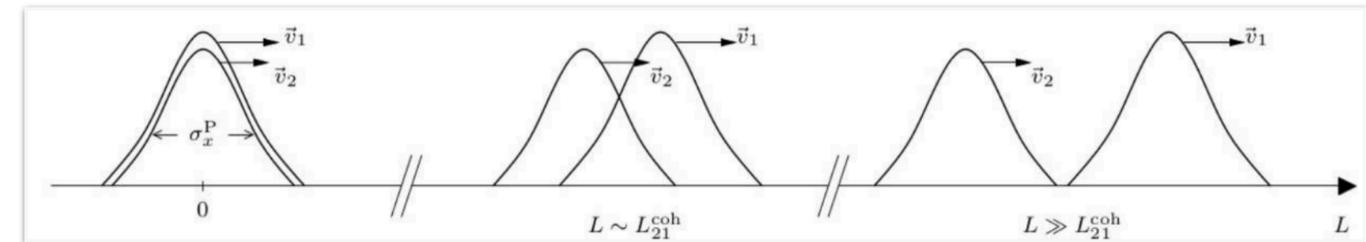
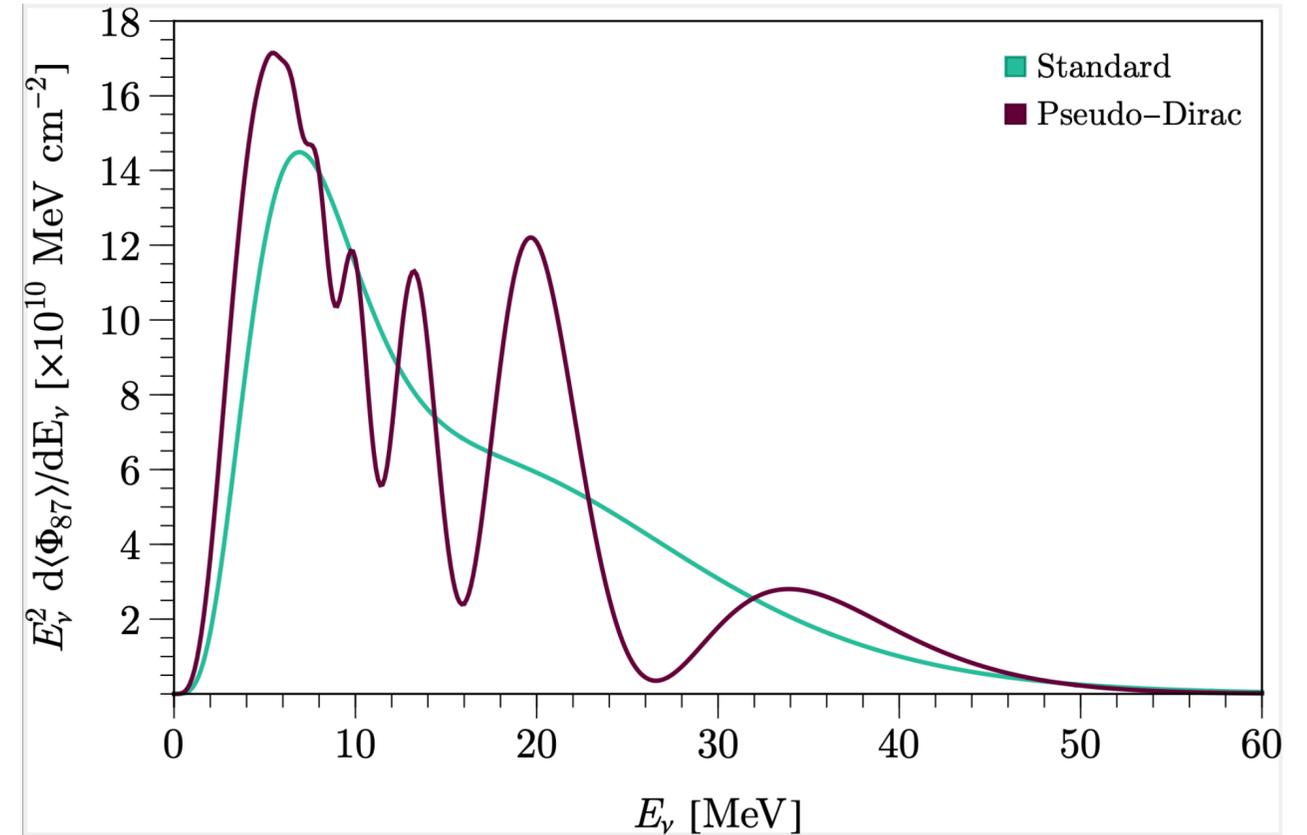
- The active-sterile probability, driven by  $\delta m_k^2$  is

$$P_{aa}(z, E) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + e^{-\left(\frac{L(z)}{L_{\text{coh}}}\right)^2} \cos\left(2\pi \frac{L(z)}{L_{\text{osc}}}\right) \right)$$

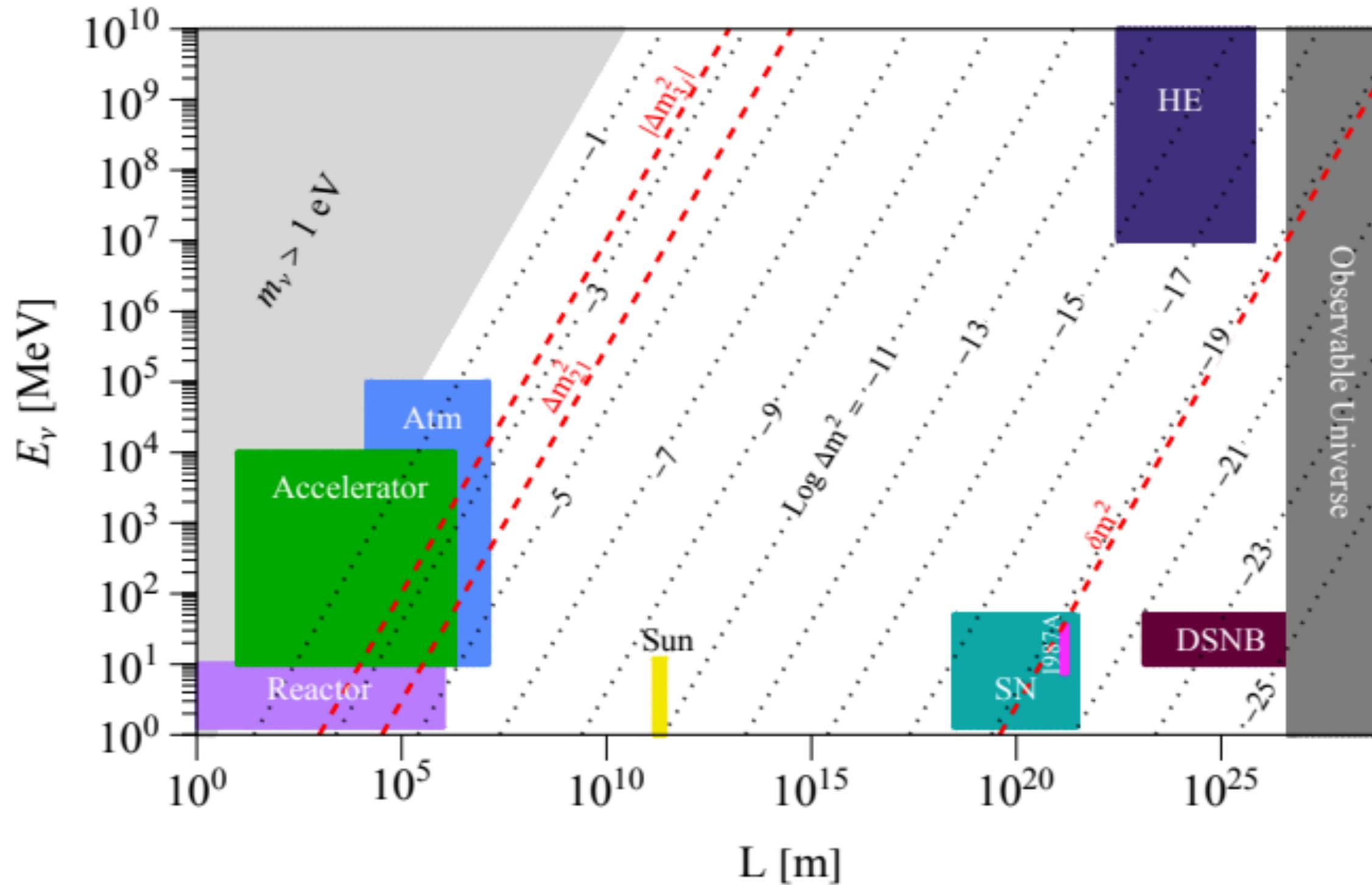
- Wave-packet separation decoherence also becomes important.

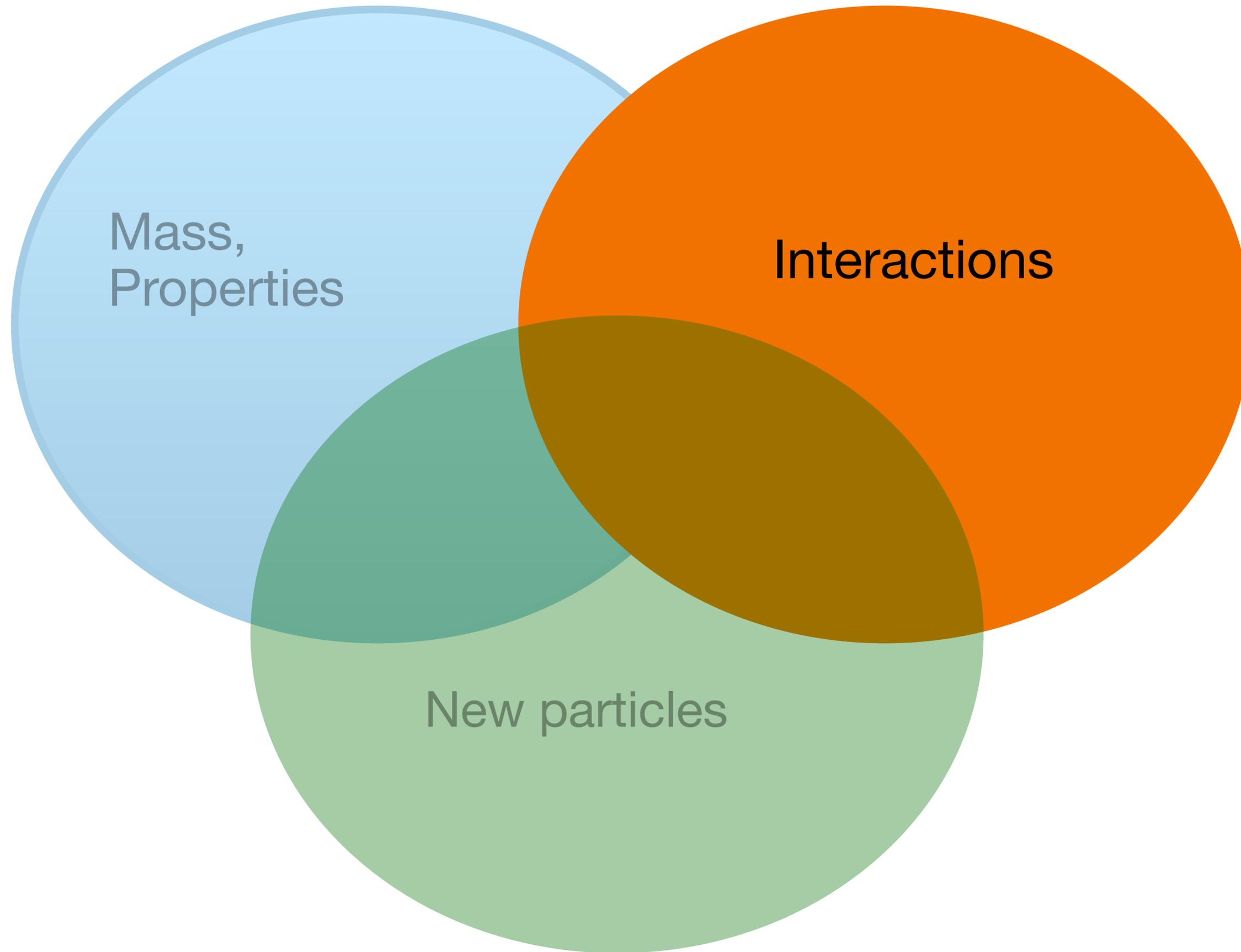
$$L_{\text{osc}} = \frac{4\pi E_\nu}{\delta m^2} \sim 20 \text{ kpc} \left( \frac{E_\nu}{25 \text{ MeV}} \right) \left( \frac{10^{-19} \text{ eV}^2}{\delta m^2} \right)$$

$$L_{\text{coh}} = \frac{4\sqrt{2} E_\nu}{|\delta m^2|} (E_\nu \sigma_x) \sim 114 \text{ kpc} \left( \frac{E_\nu}{25 \text{ MeV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{10^{-19} \text{ eV}^2}{\delta m^2} \right) \left( \frac{\sigma_x}{10^{-13} \text{ m}} \right),$$



# Pseudo-Dirac neutrinos: Landscape



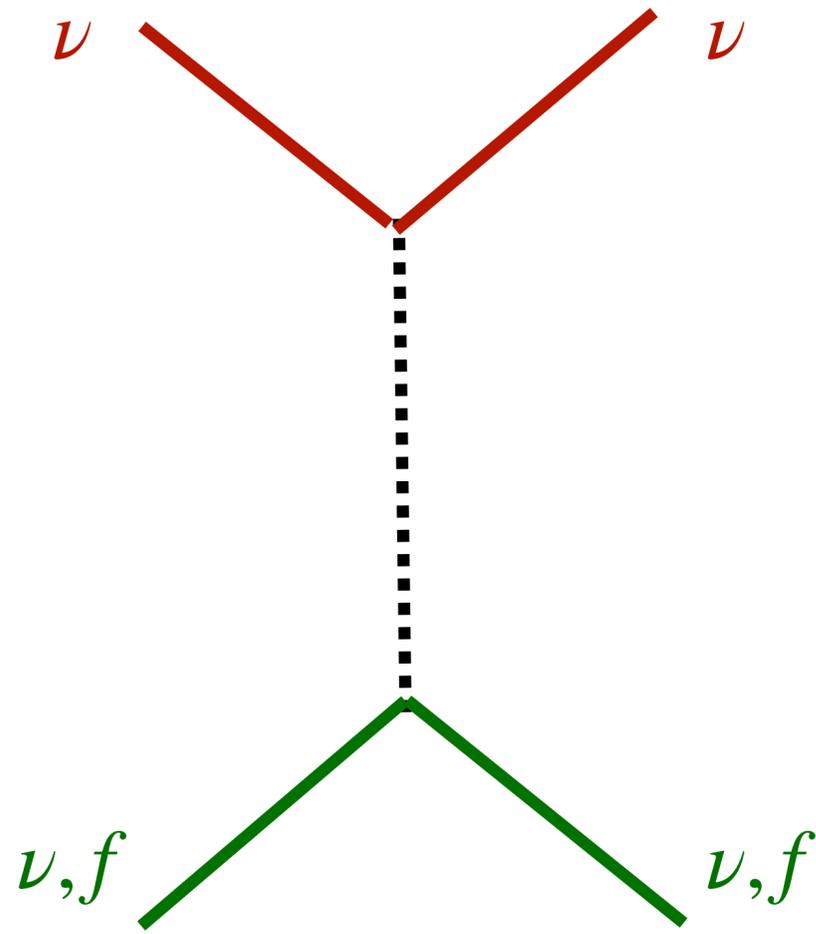


Mass,  
Properties

Interactions

New particles

# Neutrino non-standard interactions



# Neutrino secret self-interactions

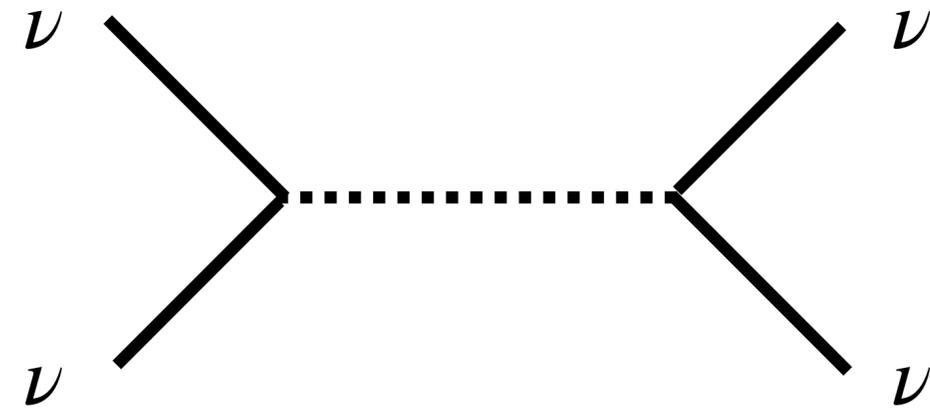
- Active neutrino secret self-interactions. Can be much stronger than ordinary weak interactions.

- Model building aspect?

Consider

$$\mathcal{L}_\nu = \frac{y}{\Lambda^2} (LH)^2 \varphi^* \xrightarrow{\text{EWSB}} \lambda_\varphi \nu_a \nu_a \varphi^* ,$$

$\varphi$  can have lepton number



- Constraints from terrestrial experiments are loose:  $G \sim (10^7 - 10^9)G_F$  cannot always be ruled out.

- However, can have strong impact in the early Universe or compact objects.

# What are the different constraints?

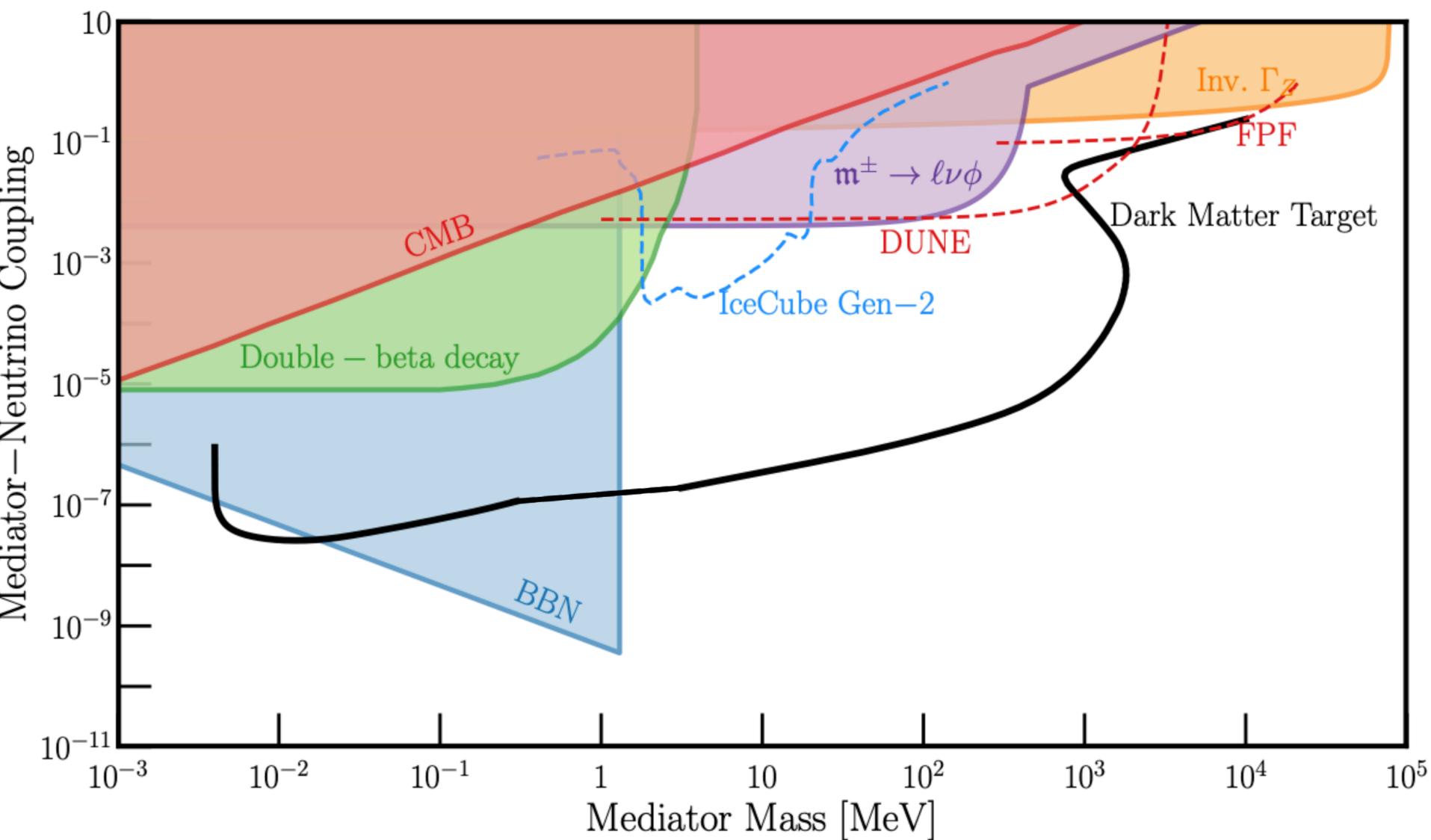
- Invisible Higgs decays, Z decays :  $H, Z \rightarrow \nu\nu\phi$ .  
Tau decays.
- Meson decays:  $K^- \rightarrow \mu^- \nu_\mu \phi$ ,  $\phi \rightarrow \nu\nu$ .  
Bounds from  $\text{Br}(K^- \rightarrow \mu^- 3\nu) < 10^{-6}$ .
- Neutrinoless double beta decay.  
 $(Z, A) \rightarrow (Z + 2, A) e^- e^- \phi$
- BBN: extra radiation

- SN1987A: cooling bounds, scattering on dense environments.
- High energy neutrinos scattering off the Cosmic Neutrino Background.
- Look for “wrong sign muon” in  $\nu_\mu N \rightarrow \mu^+ N' \phi$ .

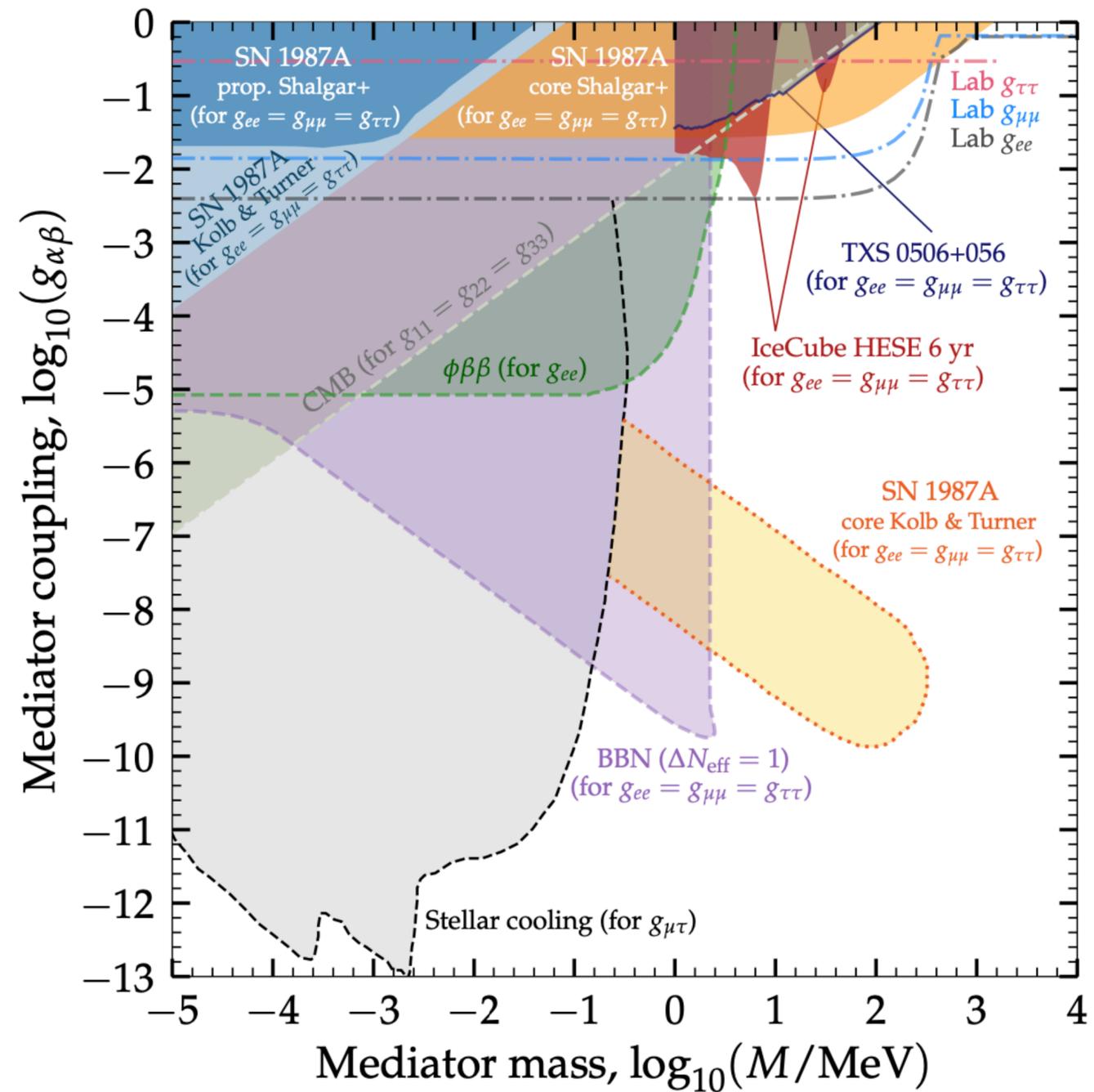
## Neutrino Self-Interactions: A White Paper

Jeffrey M. Berryman, Nikita Blinov, Vedran Brdar, Thejs Brinckmann, Mauricio Bustamante, Francis-Yan Cyr-Racine, Anirban Das, André de Gouvêa, Peter B. Denton, P.S. Bhupal Dev, Bhaskar Dutta, Ivan Esteban, Damiano F.G. Fiorillo, Martina Gerbino, Subhjit Ghosh, Tathagata Ghosh, Evan Grohs, Tao Han, Steen Hannestad, Matheus Hostert, Patrick Huber, Jeffrey Hyde, Kevin J. Kelly, Felix Kling, Zhen Liu, Massimiliano Lattanzi, Marilena Loverde, Sujata Pandey, Ninetta Saviano, Manibrata Sen, Ian M. Shoemaker, Walter Tangarife, Yongchao Zhang, Yue Zhang

# Neutrino self-interaction bounds



Zhang, Kelly, **MS**, (PRL 2021)



Snowmass report (Phys. Dark. Uni., 2023)

# Neutrino non-standard interactions

- Neutrinos give the first indication of physics beyond the SM. Hence it is not unusual to expect NSI of neutrinos.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NSI}} = \frac{\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^f}{\Lambda^2} \left( \bar{\nu}_\alpha \Gamma \nu_\beta \right) (\bar{f} \Gamma f)$$

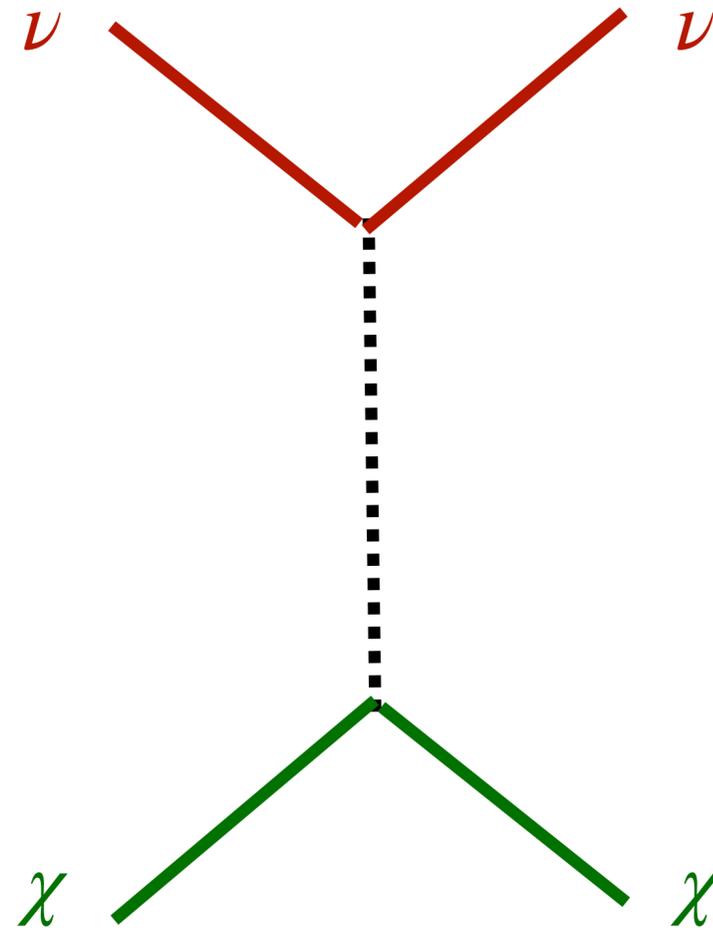
- Reasonably strong constraints exist from solar, atmospheric, reactor and long-baseline accelerator neutrinos.
- Global fit analyses exist.

## Neutrino Non-Standard Interactions: A Status Report

P. S. Bhupal Dev, K. S. Babu, Peter B. Denton, Pedro A. N. Machado, Carlos A. Argüelles, Joshua L. Barrow, Sabya Sachi Chatterjee, Mu-Chun Chen, André de Gouvêa, Bhaskar Dutta, Dorival Gonçalves, Tao Han, Matheus Hostert, Sudip Jana, Kevin J. Kelly, Shirley Weishi Li, Ivan Martinez-Soler, Poonam Mehta, Irina Mocioiu, Yuber F. Perez-Gonzalez, Jordi Salvado, Ian M. Shoemaker, Michele Tammaro, Anil Thapa, Jessica Turner, Xun-Jie Xu

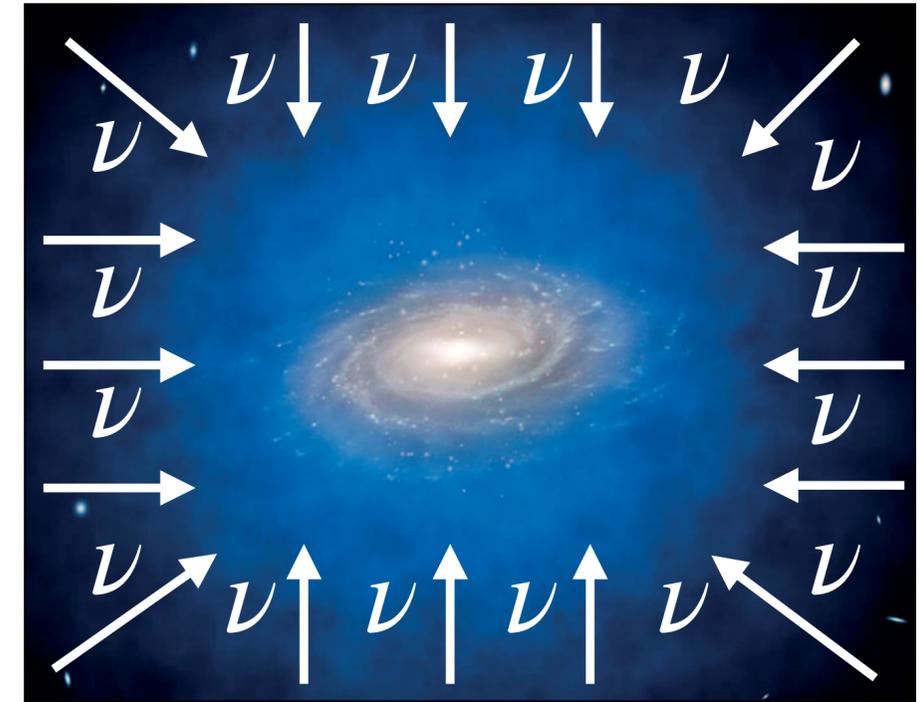
This report summarizes the present status of neutrino non-standard interactions (NSI). After a brief overview, several aspects of NSIs are discussed, including connection to neutrino mass models, model-building and phenomenology of large NSI with both light and heavy mediators, NSI phenomenology in both short- and long-baseline neutrino oscillation experiments, neutrino cross-sections, complementarity of NSI with other low- and high-energy experiments, fits with neutrino oscillation and scattering data, DUNE sensitivity to NSI, effective field theory of NSI, as well as the relevance of NSI to dark matter and cosmology. We also discuss the open questions and interesting future directions that can be pursued by the community at large. This report is based on talks and discussions during the Neutrino Theory Network NSI workshop held at Washington University in St. Louis from May 29–31, 2019 ([this https URL](#))

# Neutrino Dark Matter Interactions



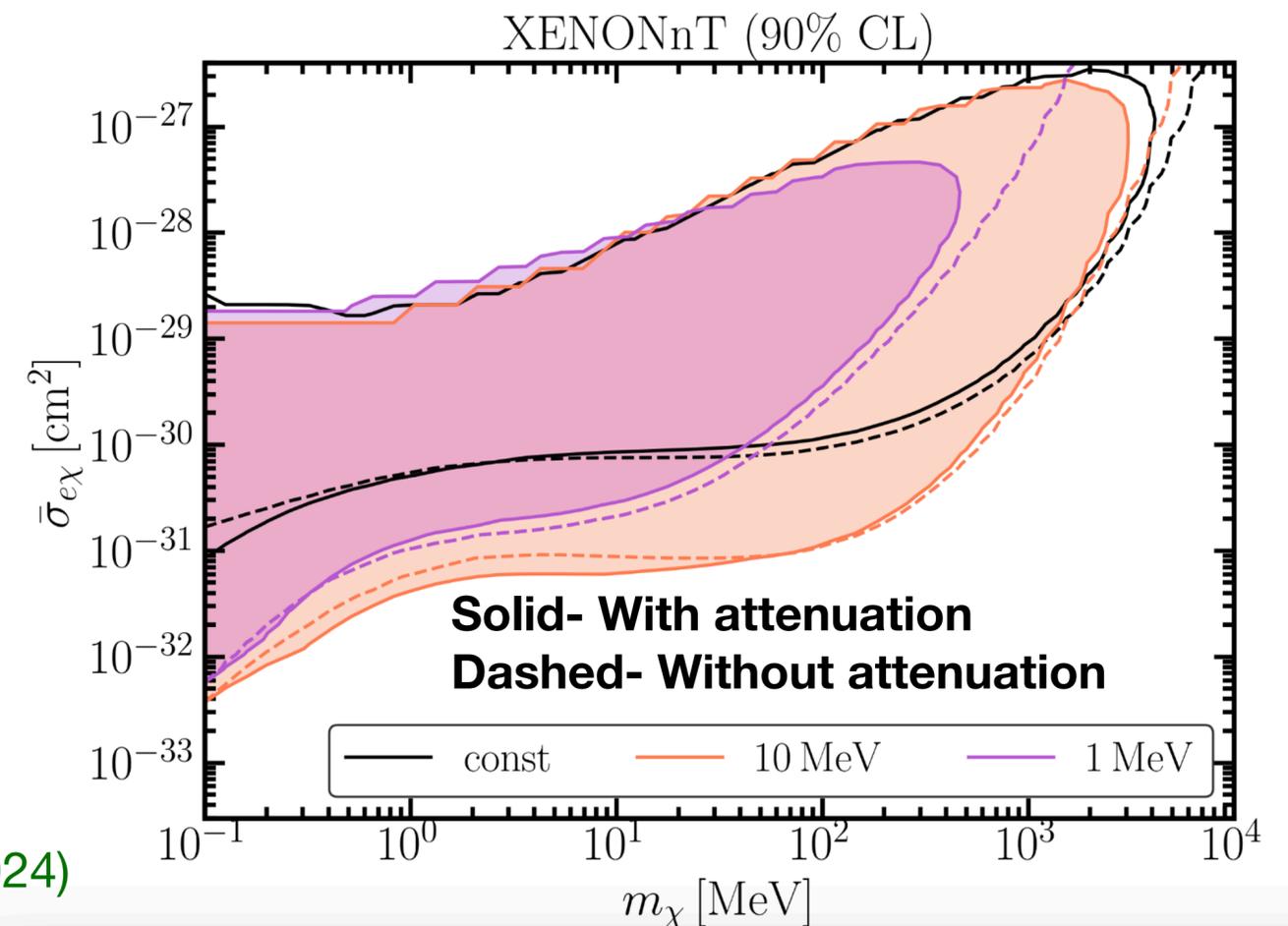
# Boosted Dark Matter interactions

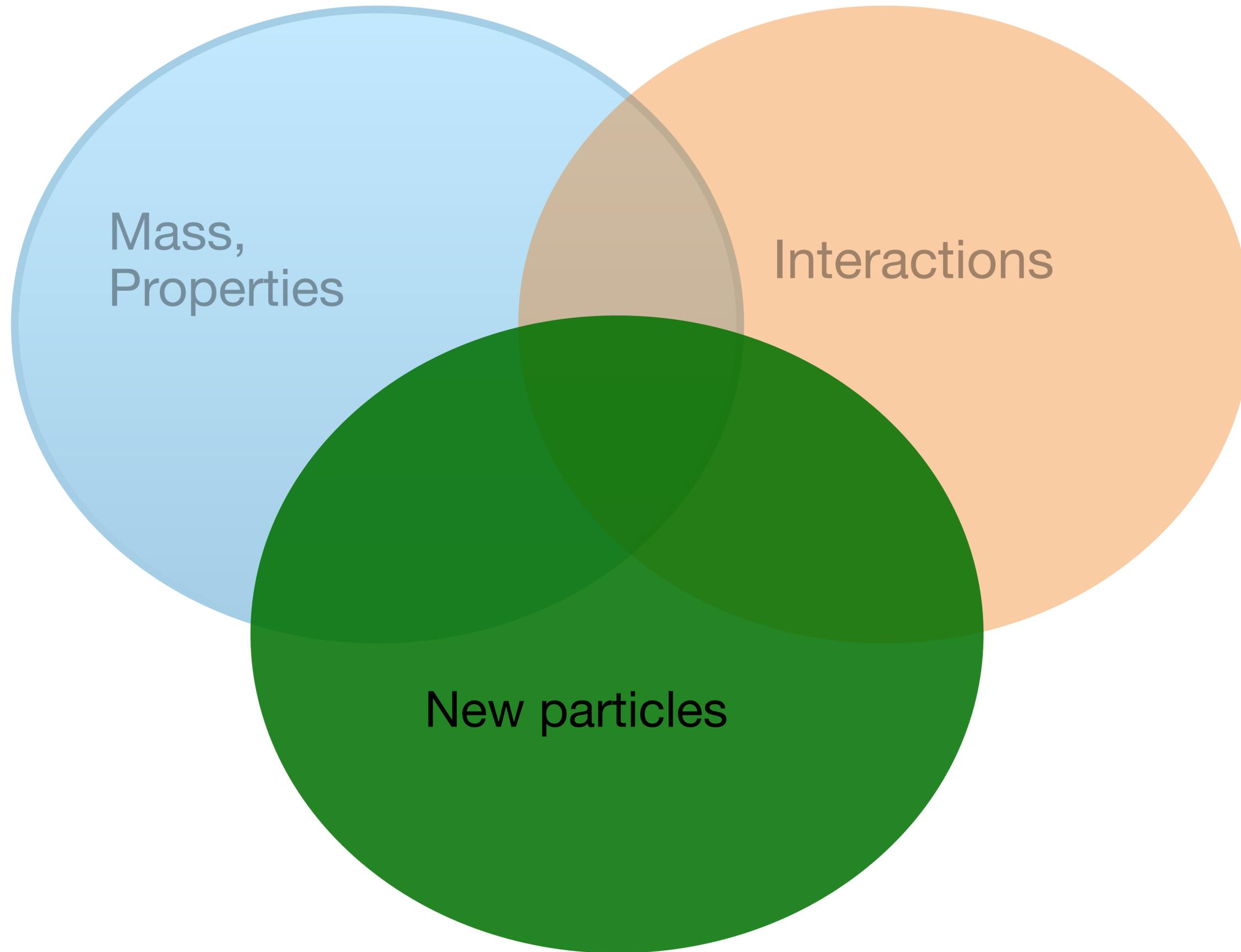
- Neutrino-Dark Matter interactions can allow neutrinos to scatter off DM.
- Upscatter a fraction of cold DM to neutrino-like energies.
- Can leave observable signature in DM direct detection experiments.
- Example: DM scattering off the DSNB.



Talk by T. Herbermann

Das, Herbermann, MS, Takhistov (JCAP 2024)



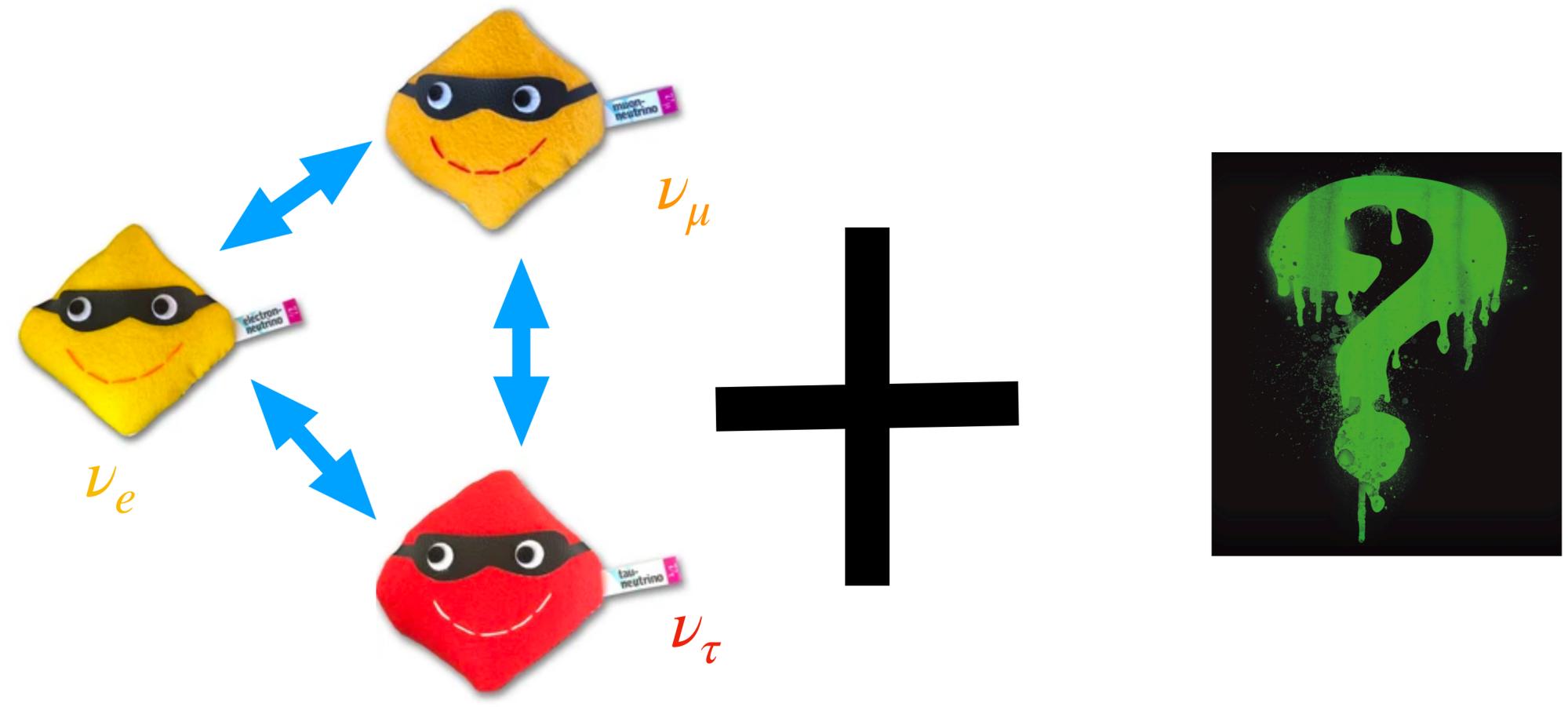


Mass,  
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# Sterile neutrinos



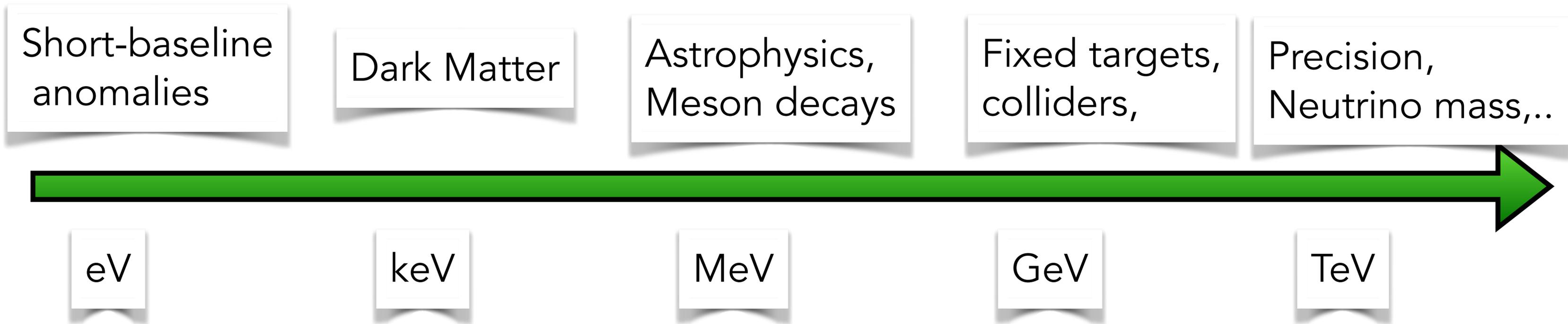
# The sterile neutrino

Three directions:

1. Neutrino masses (TeV onwards)
2. Cosmology. ( mostly keV onwards )
3. Short baseline anomalies. ( eV masses)

Talks by E. Fernandez-Martinez, C. Farnese, A. Granelli, S. Rosauro-Alcaraz, A. Nava,...

## Sterile neutrino mass range



# Production: the Dodelson-Widrow mechanism

Extra keV mass eigenstate  $\nu_4 = \cos \theta \nu_s + \sin \theta \nu_a$ .

$\nu_a$  oscillates into  $\nu_s$  before decoupling.

Creates a non-thermal population of  $\nu_s$ . Dodelson and Widrow, PRL1994

$$T \frac{\partial}{\partial T} f_{\nu_s} \Big|_{p/T} = \frac{\Gamma_a}{2H} \langle P(\nu_a \rightarrow \nu_s) \rangle f_{\nu_a} ,$$

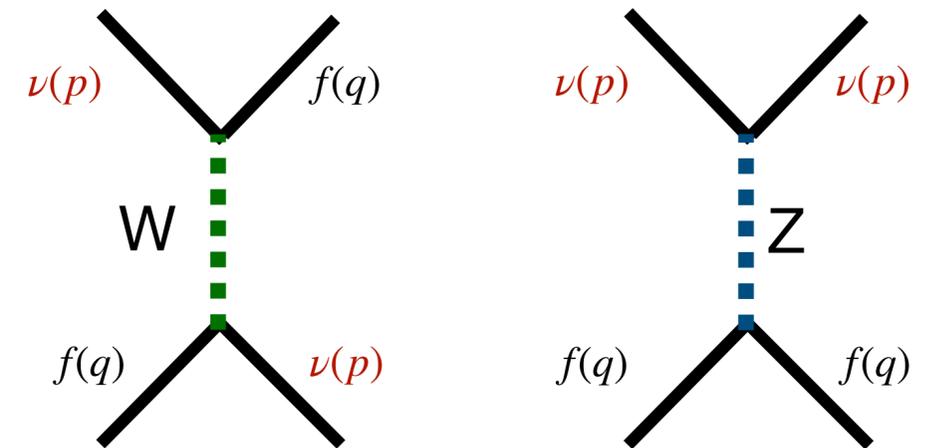
$$\langle P(\nu_a \rightarrow \nu_s) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta^2 \sin^2 2\theta}{\Delta^2 \sin^2 2\theta + \frac{\Gamma_a^2}{4} + (\Delta \cos 2\theta - V)^2}$$

Averaged over  
one mean free path

$\Delta = m_s^2 / 2E$

Damping

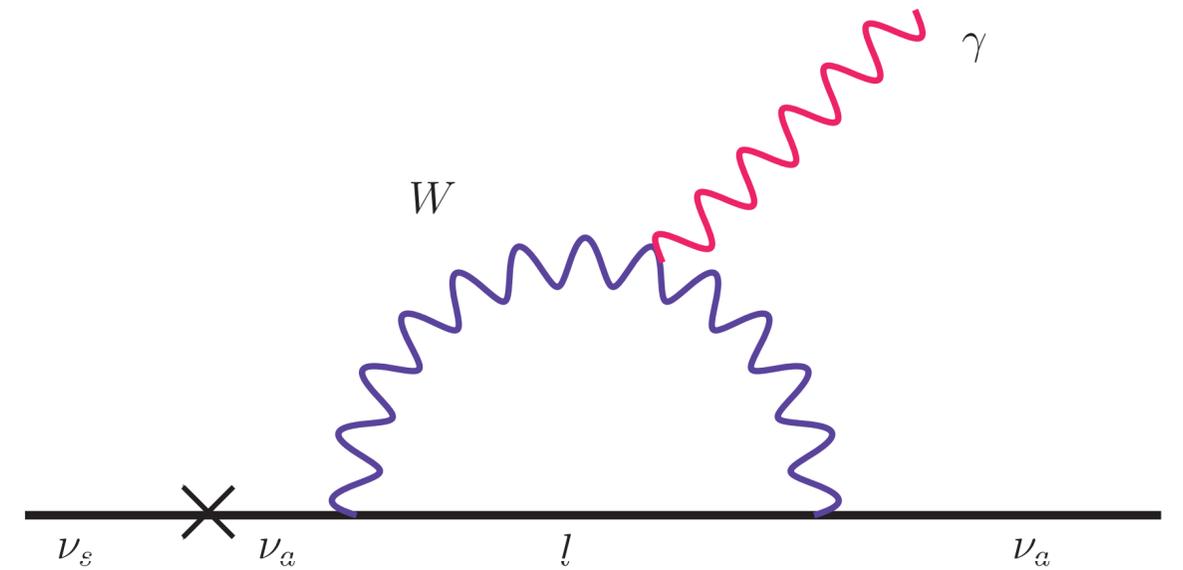
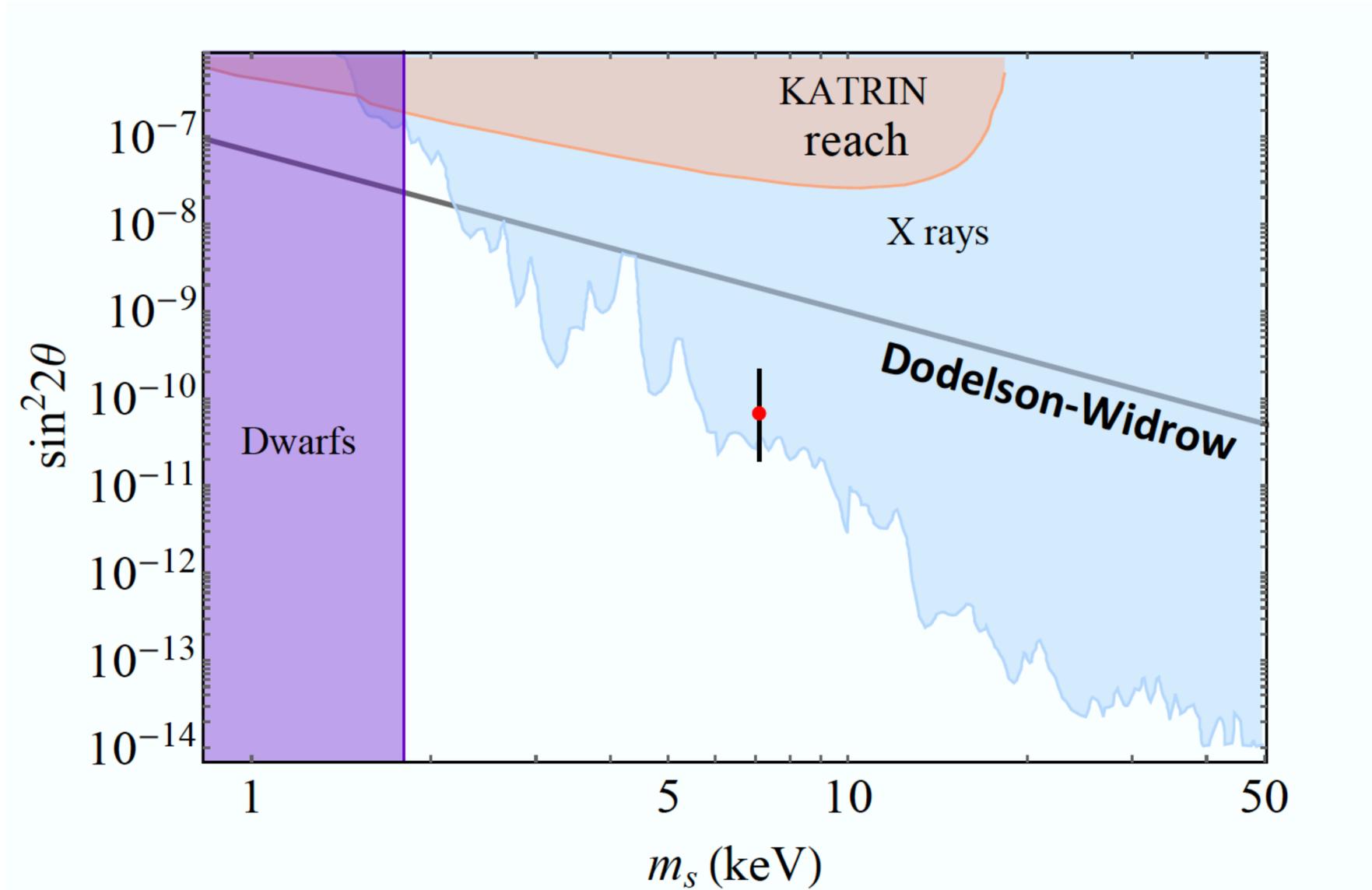
Matter potential  
 $V = V_T + V_D$



Finite temperature:  $V_T \propto T$

Finite density:  $V_D \propto n_f$

# Sterile neutrino dark matter



Ruled out by X-ray bounds and phase-space considerations (galaxy counts, Lyman alpha, strong lensing, etc.).

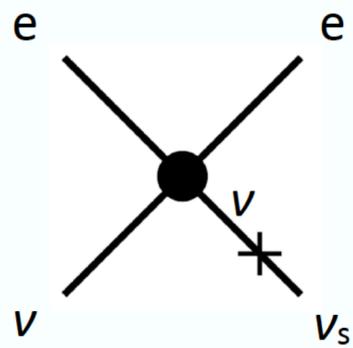
# The Dodelson–Widrow mechanism in the presence of NSSI

Relic  $\sim$  (interaction rate)  $\times$  (mixing angle)

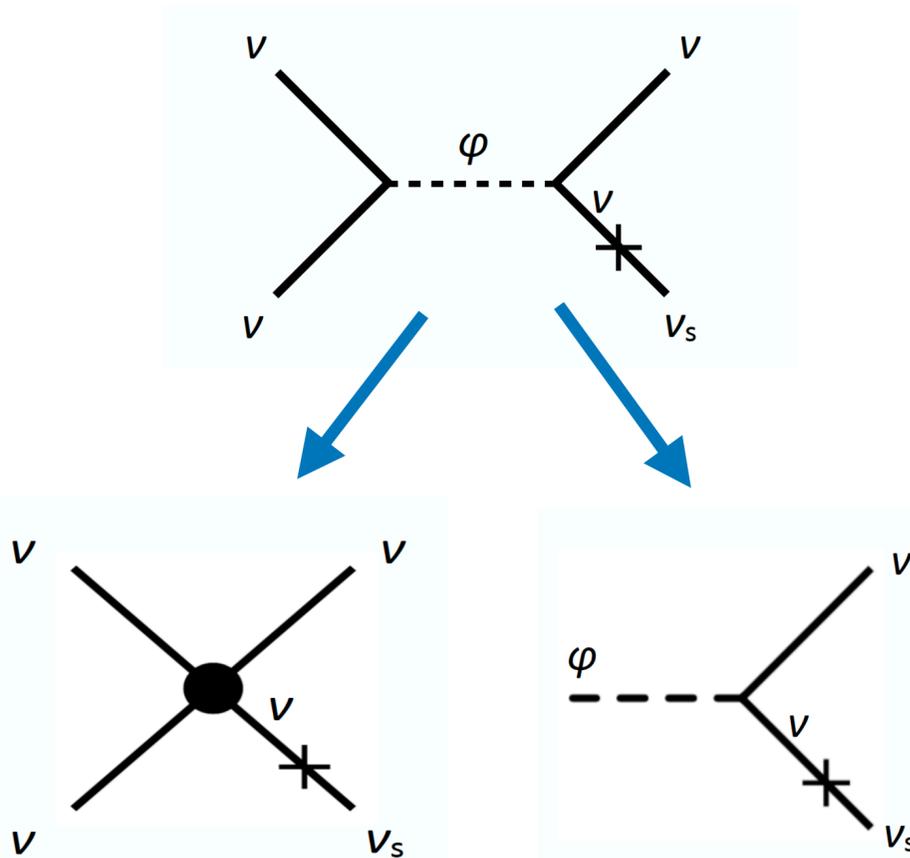
$$\mathcal{L}_\nu \supset \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \lambda_\phi \nu_a \nu_a \phi^*$$

S.M + Self-Interactions

S.M

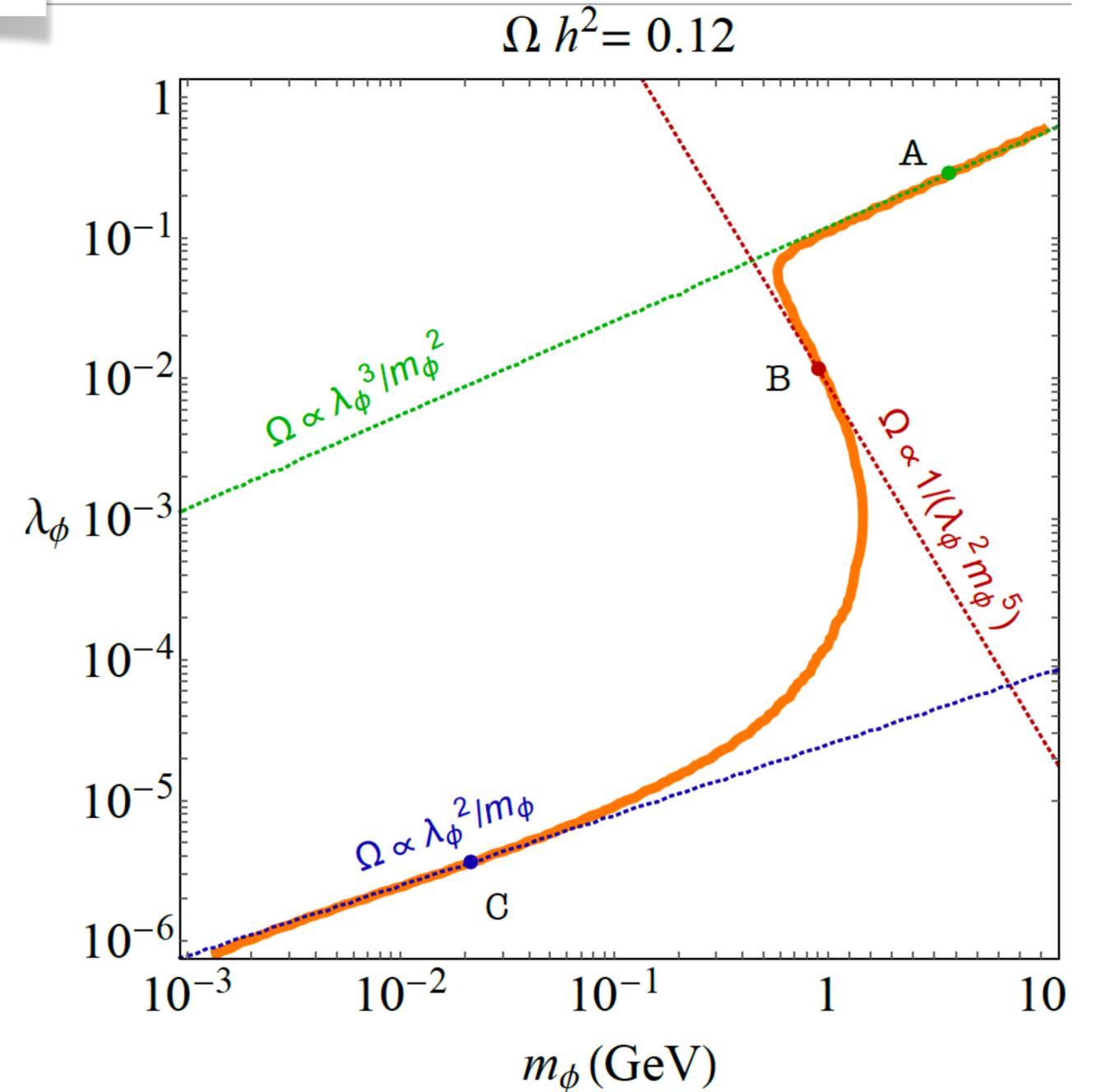


$$M_{W,Z} \geq T_{\text{peak}}$$

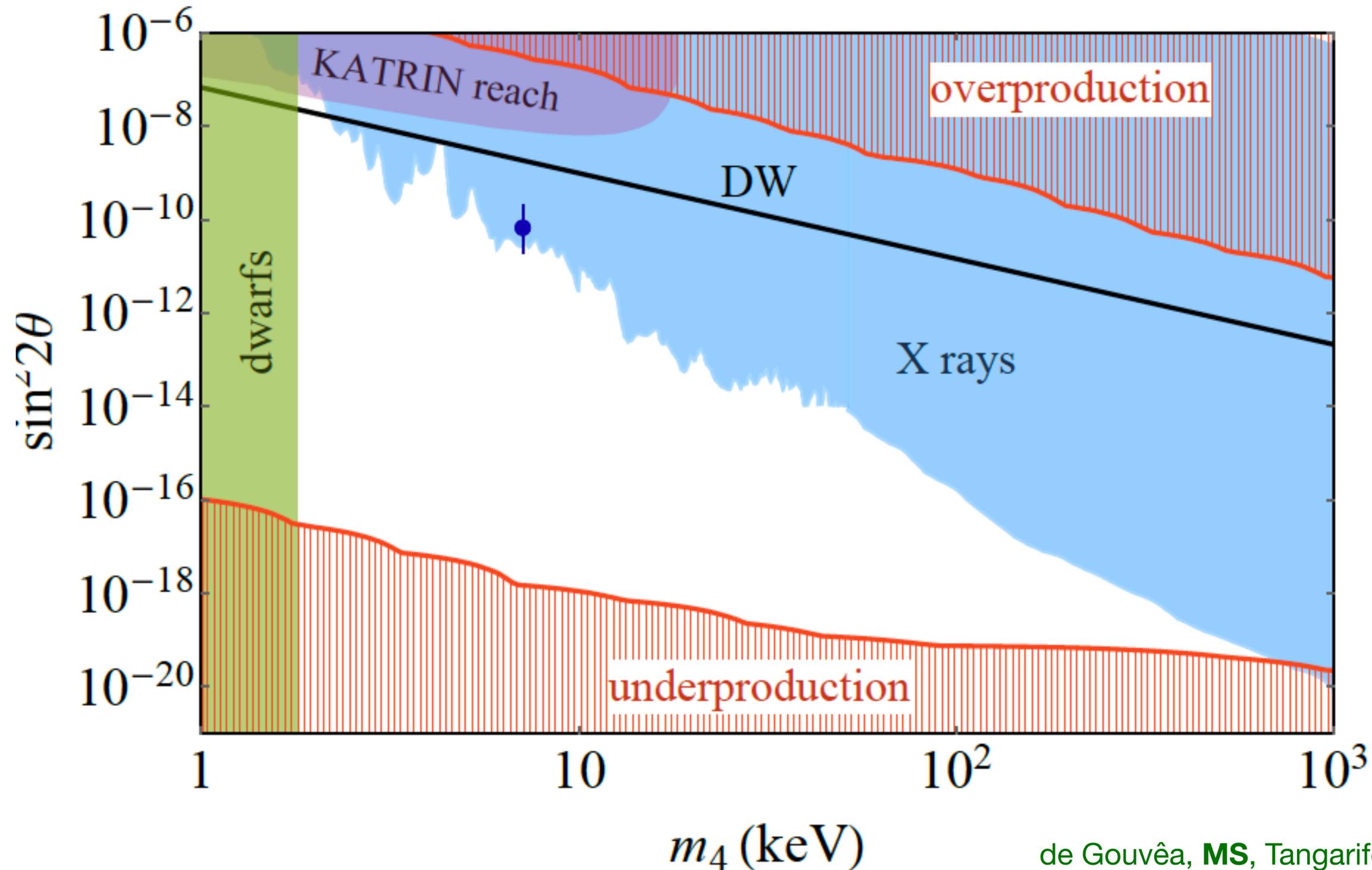


$$M_\phi > T_{\text{peak}}$$

$$M_\phi \lesssim T_{\text{peak}}$$



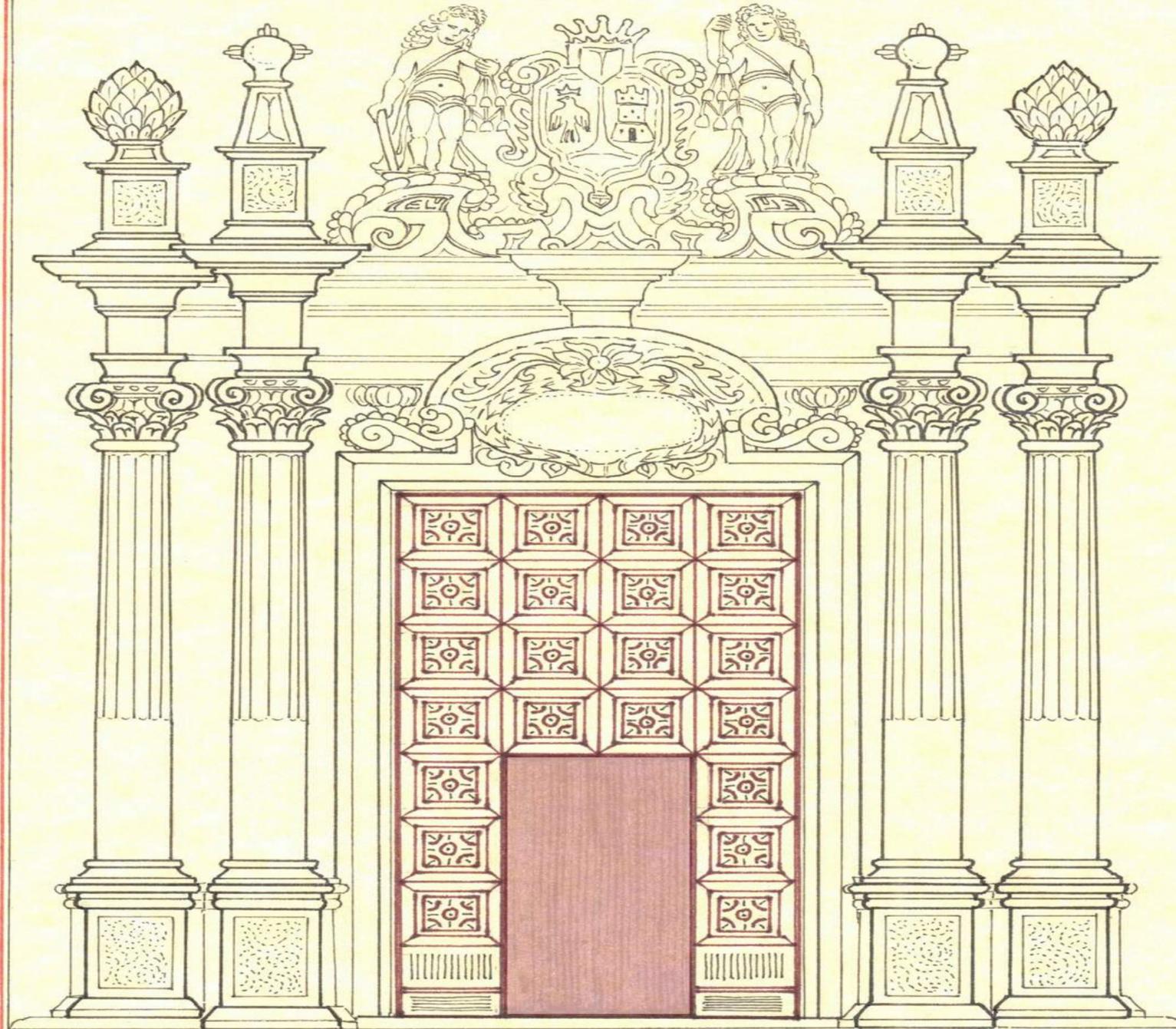
# The Dodelson-Widrow mechanism: revived



# Final thoughts

- Neutrinos present a definite clue of existence of non-standard physics - beyond the Standard Model.
- The origin of neutrino mass holds the key to this unexplored chamber of secrets.
- Ongoing terrestrial efforts aimed at testing non-standard properties of neutrinos.
- Extreme properties can only be tested with astrophysical and cosmological sources, due to the long baseline offered.
- Might give us a clue about the nature of dark matter - another unanswered avenue in the Standard Model.

# NEUTRINO OSCILLATION WORKSHOP



STANDARD  
THREE-  
NEUTRINO  
OSCILLATIONS

BEYOND  
STANDARD  
NEUTRINO  
FRAMEWORK

NOW MMXXIV  
11-VIII · SEPTER  
HYDRUNTUM  
LECCE - ITALY

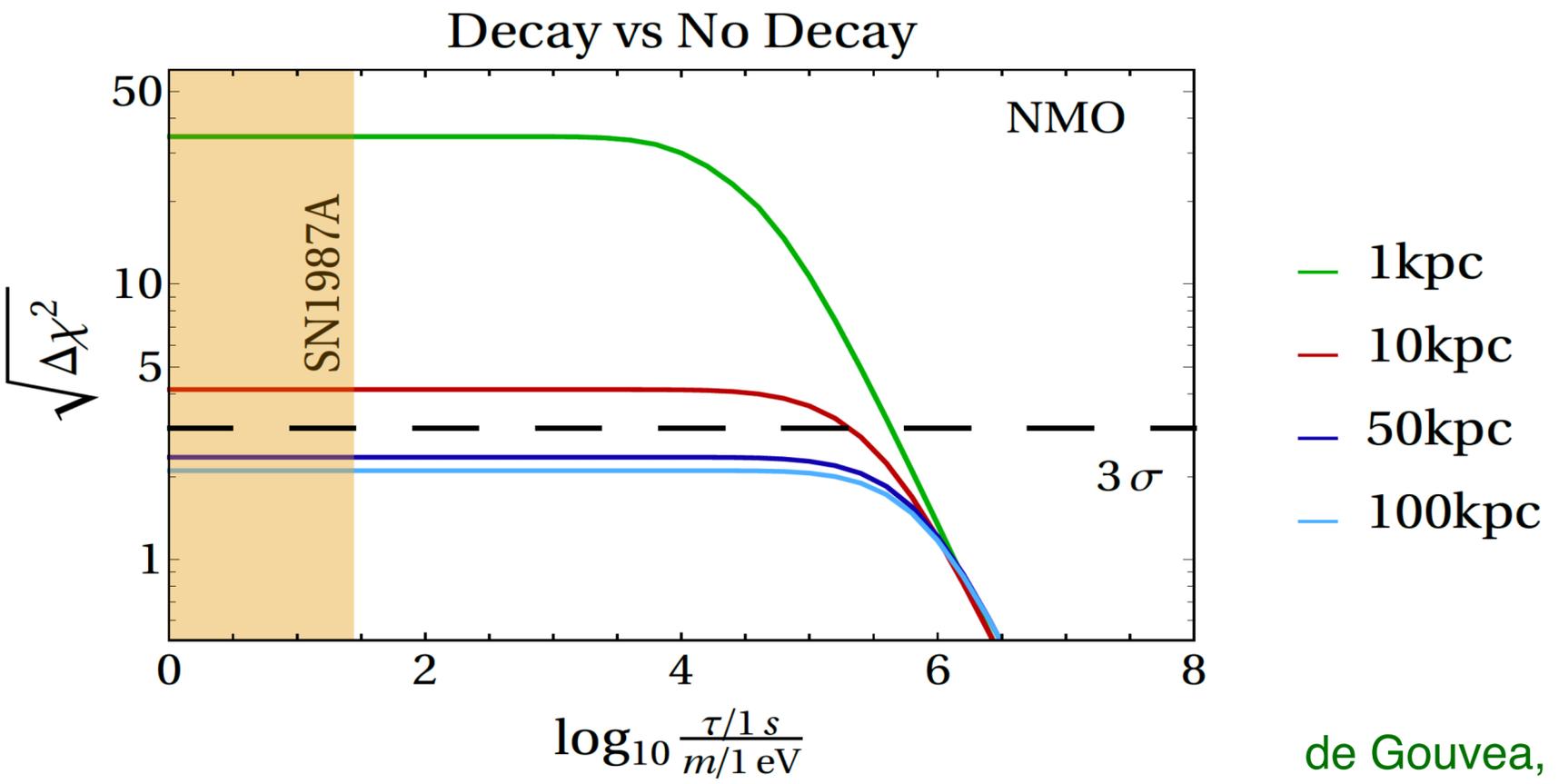
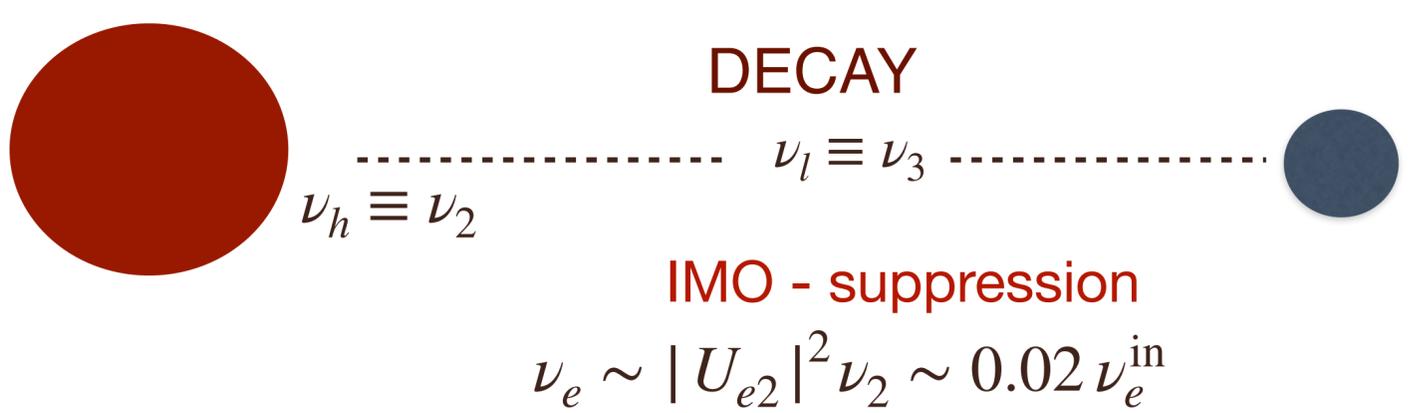
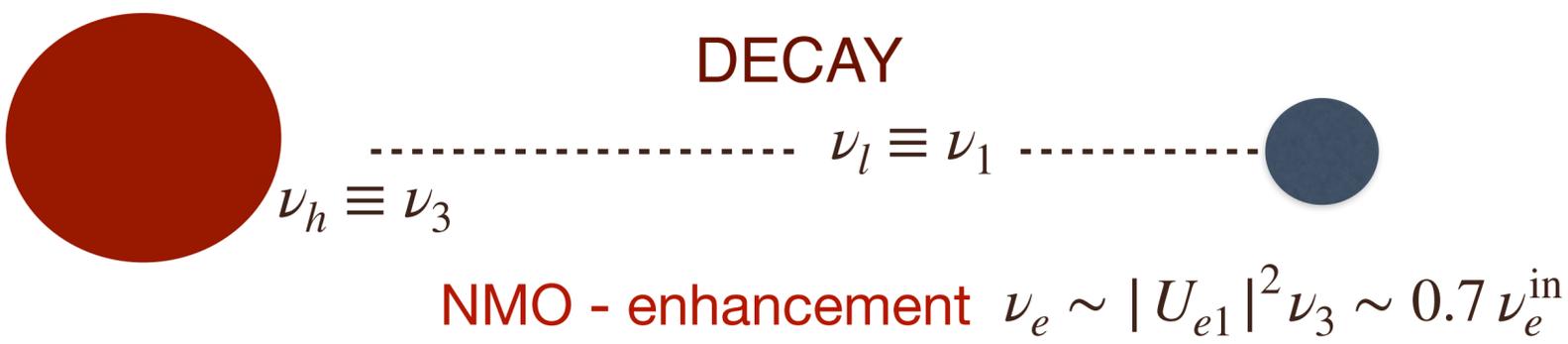
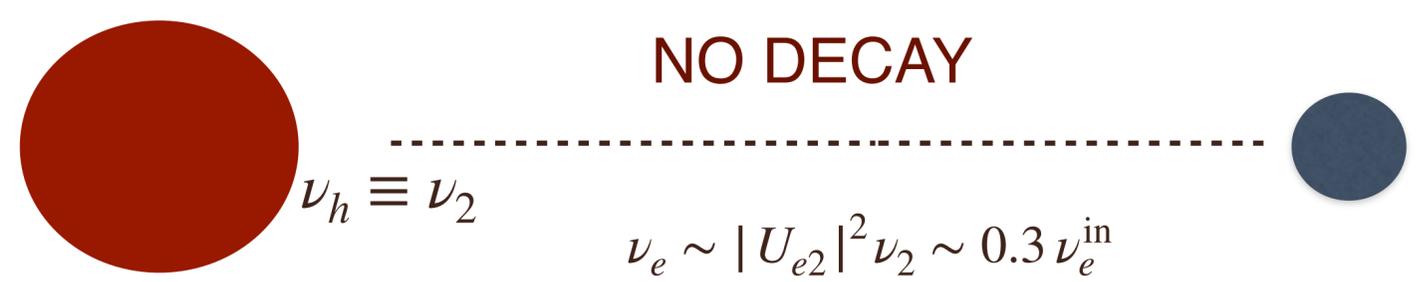
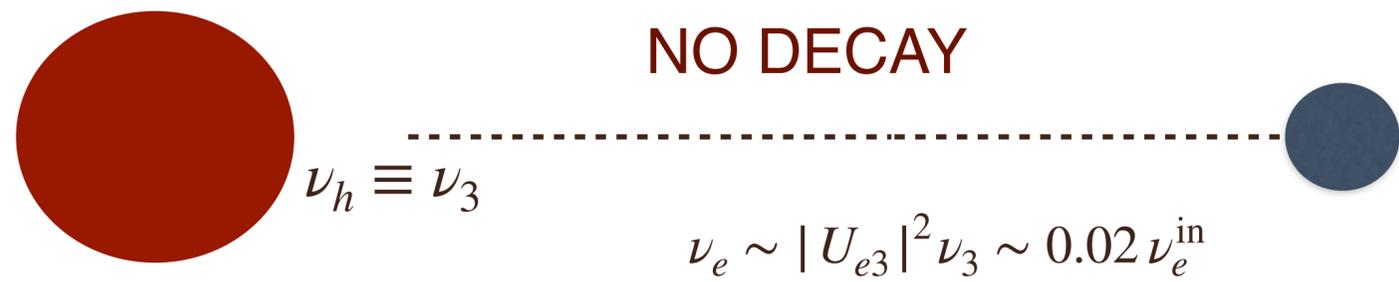
NEUTRINO  
MASSES  
STATES AND  
INTERACTIONS

PARTICLE  
PHYSICS  
FROM · SKY  
AND · COSMOS

# THANK YOU

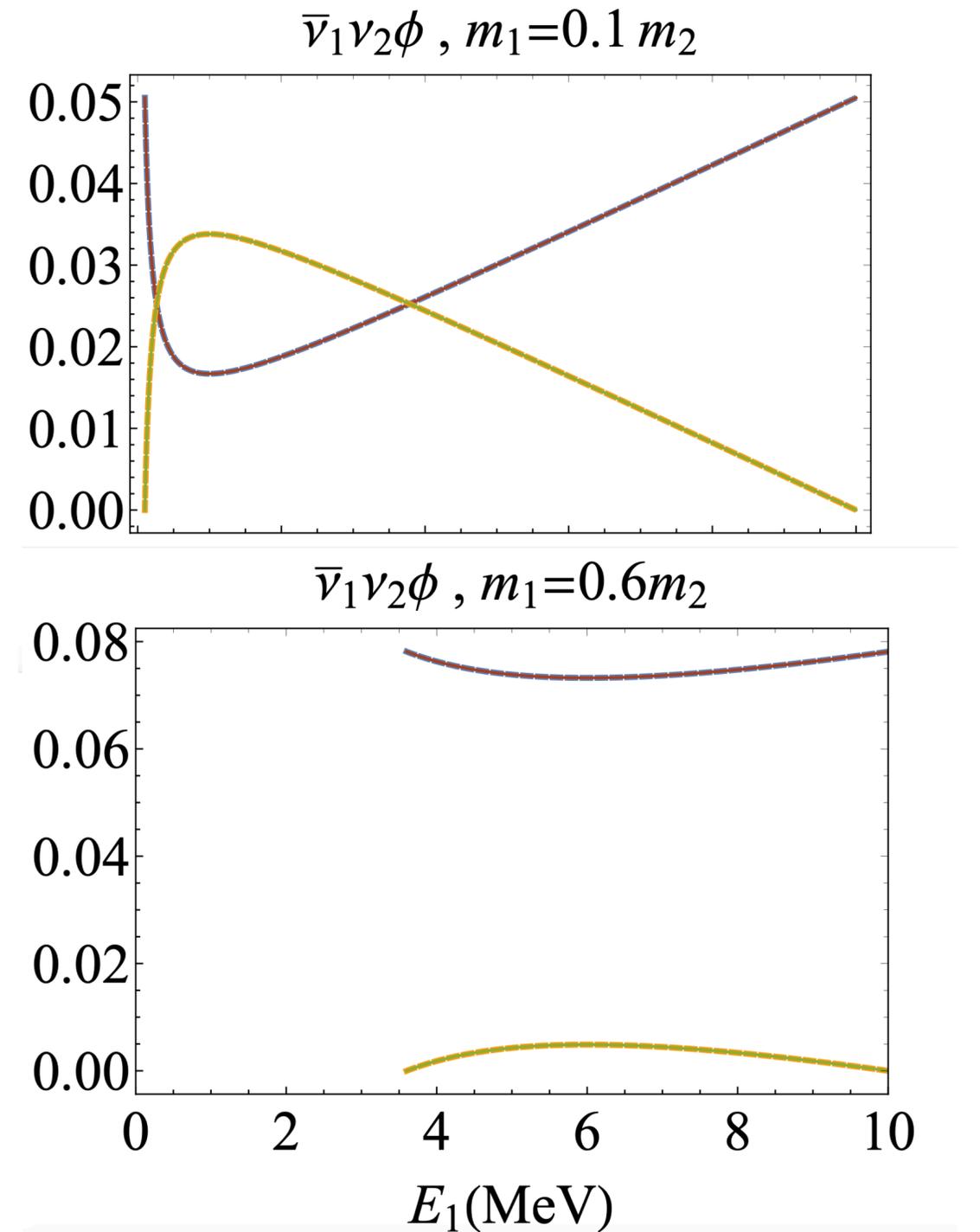
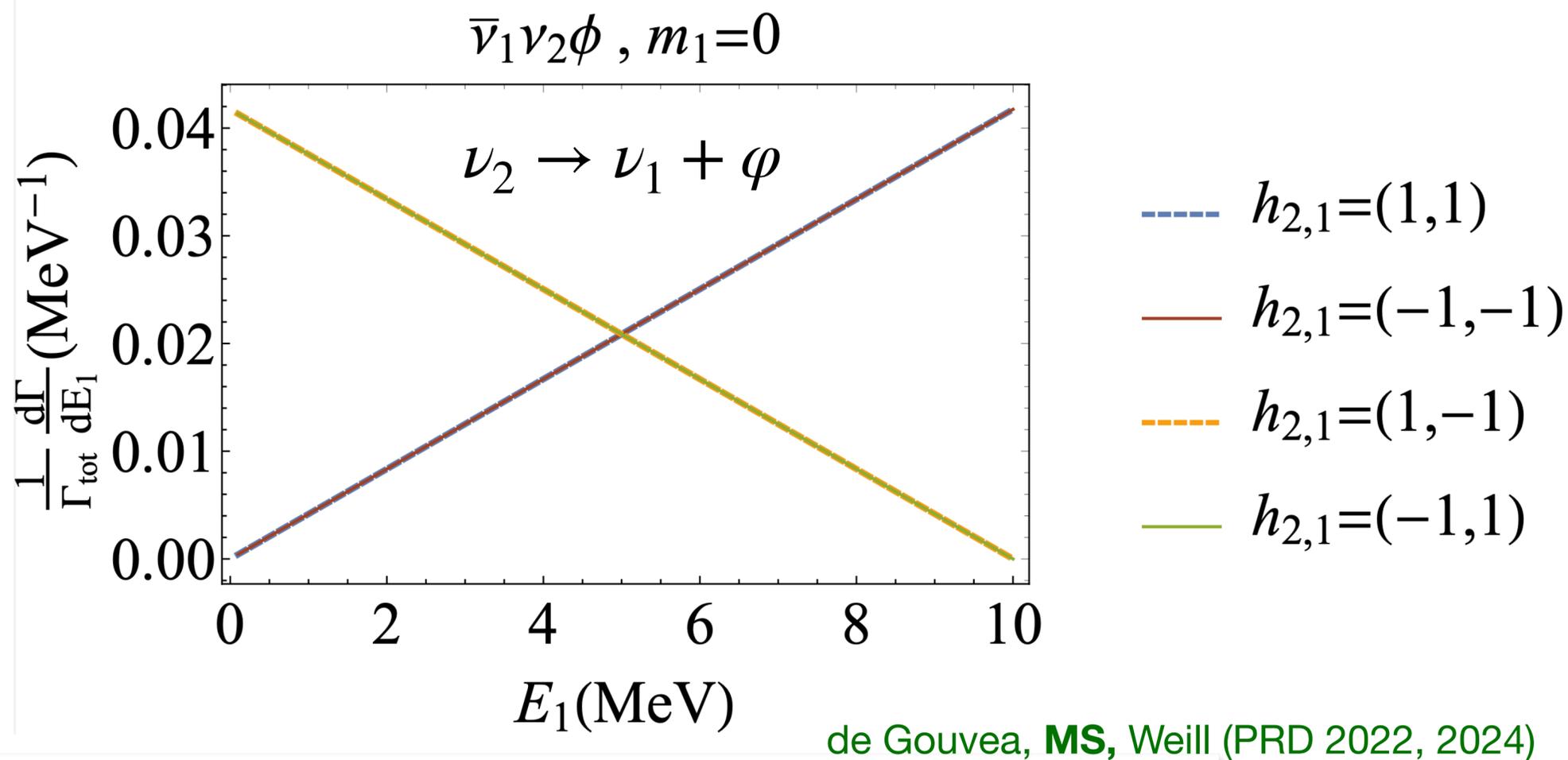


# Neutrino decay



- Strongest bounds on non-standard neutrino decay
- $\nu_h \rightarrow \nu_l + \phi$
- Confuse mass ordering determination

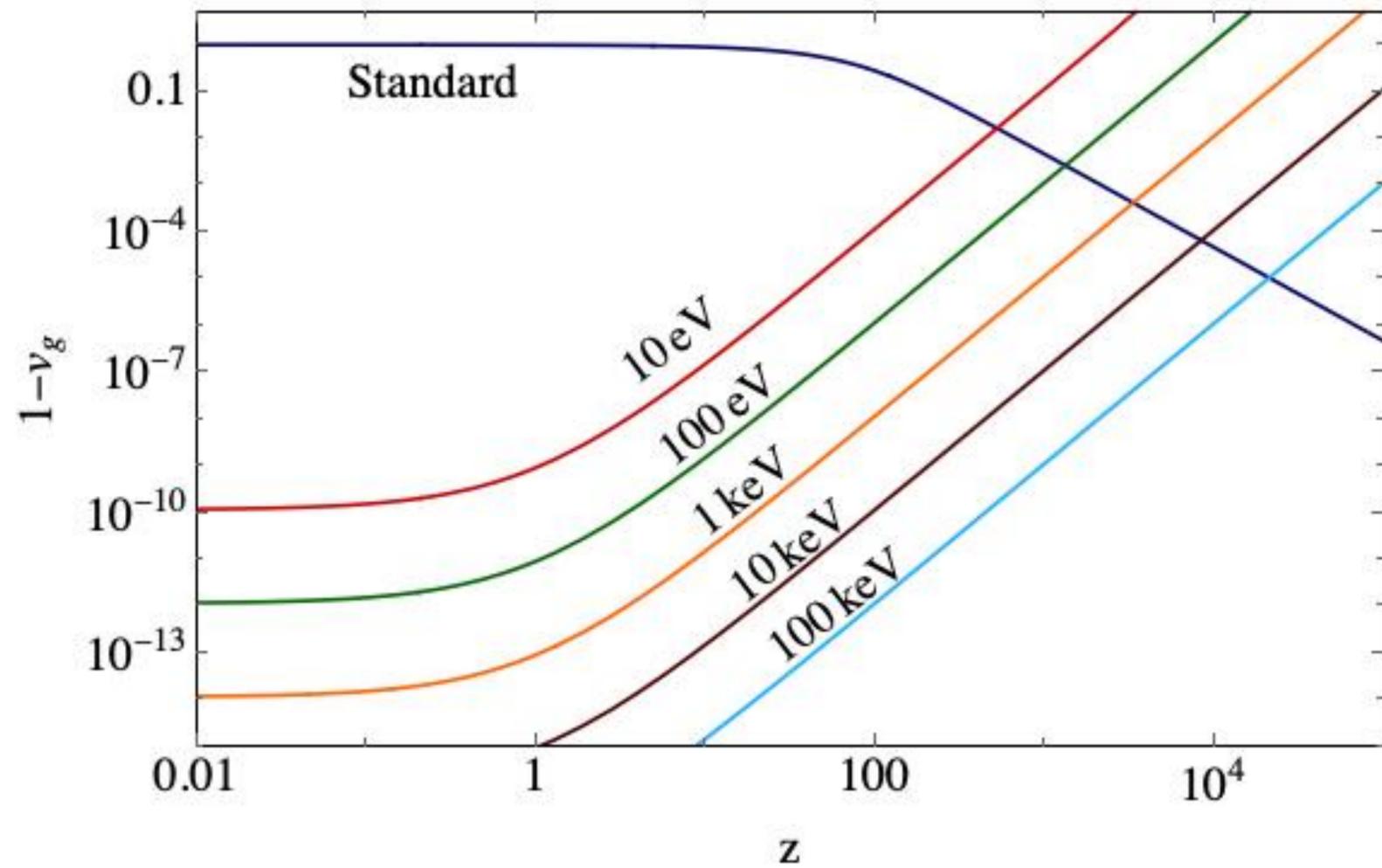
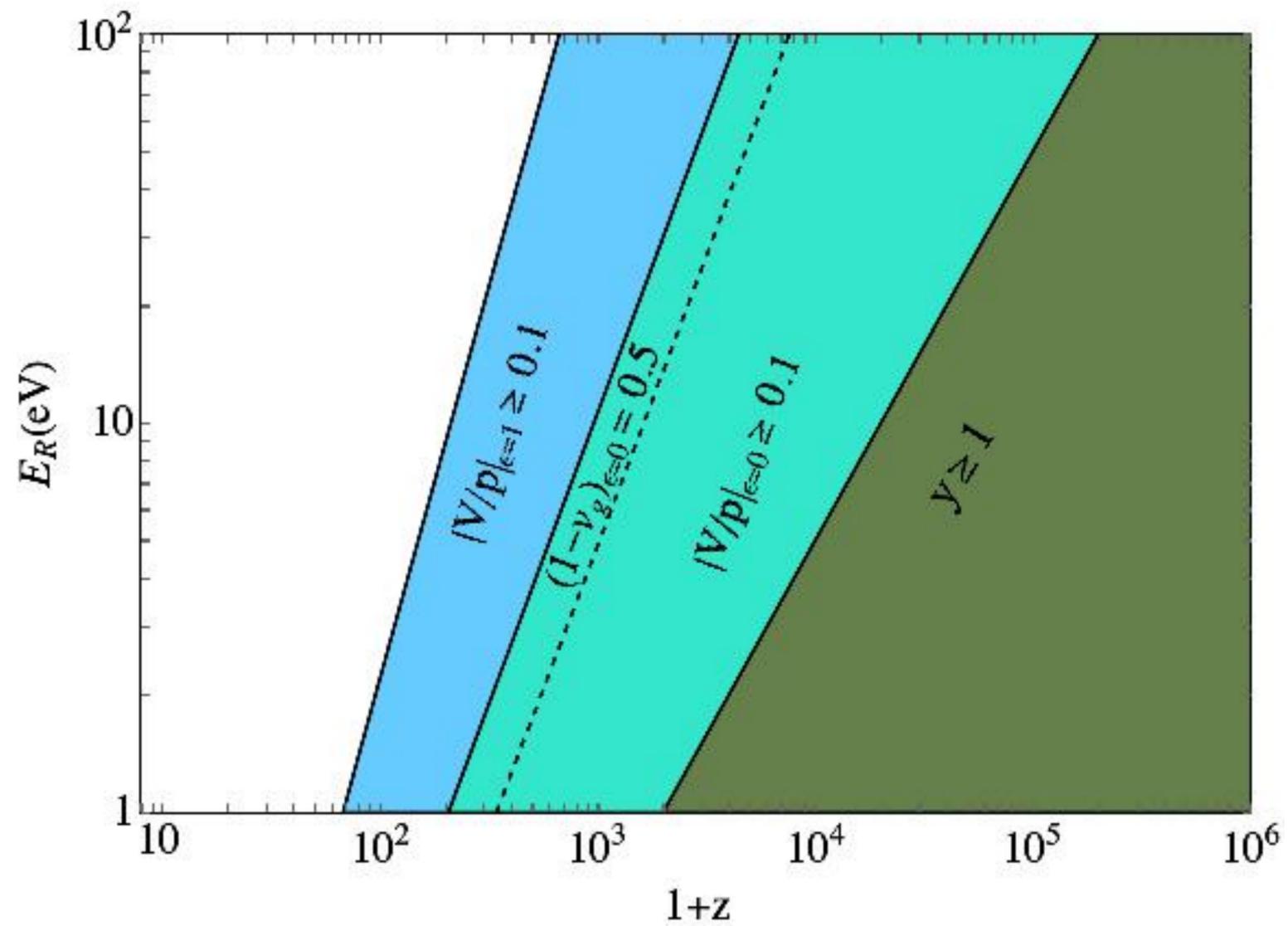
# Energy distribution of daughter particles



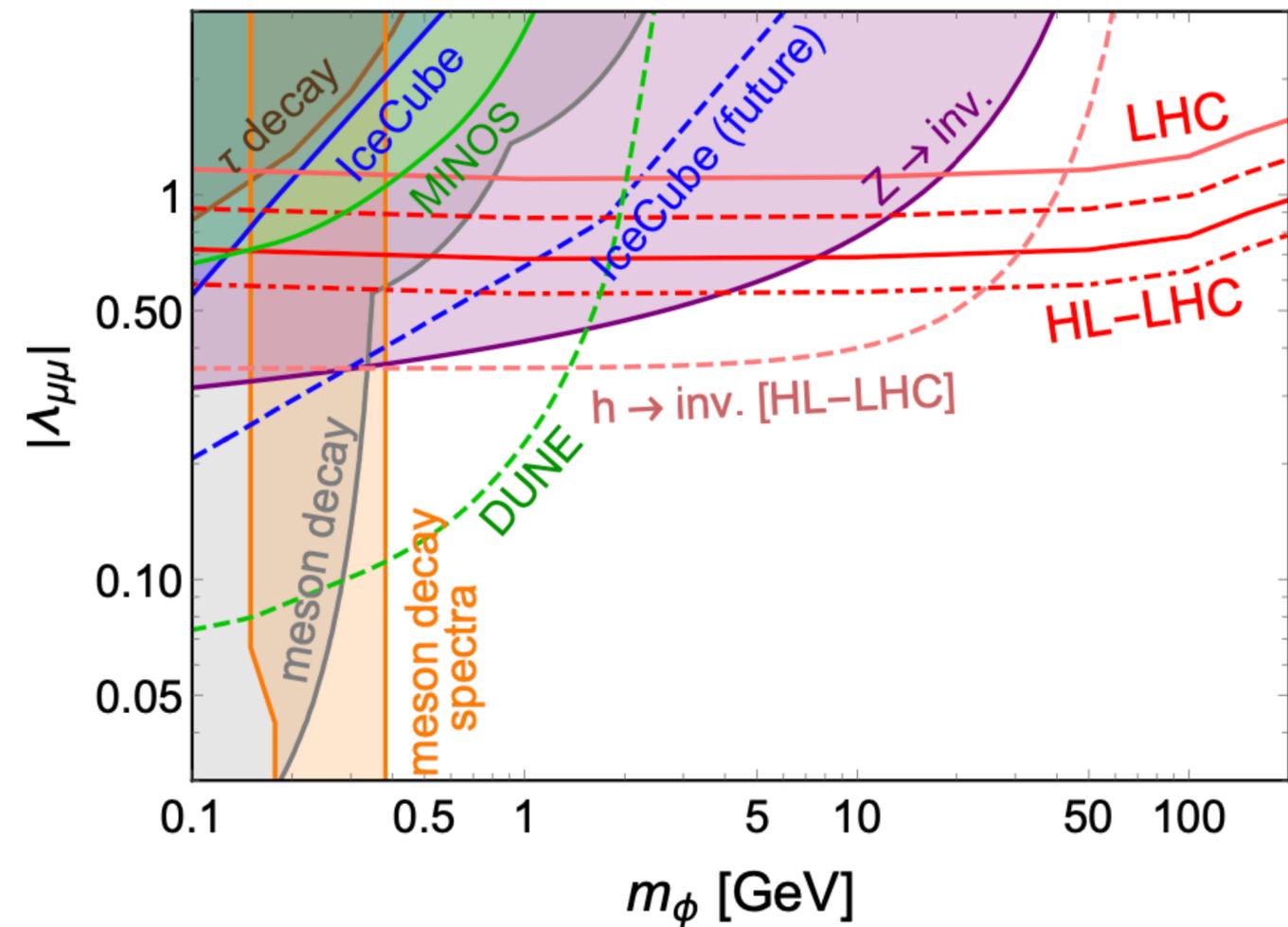
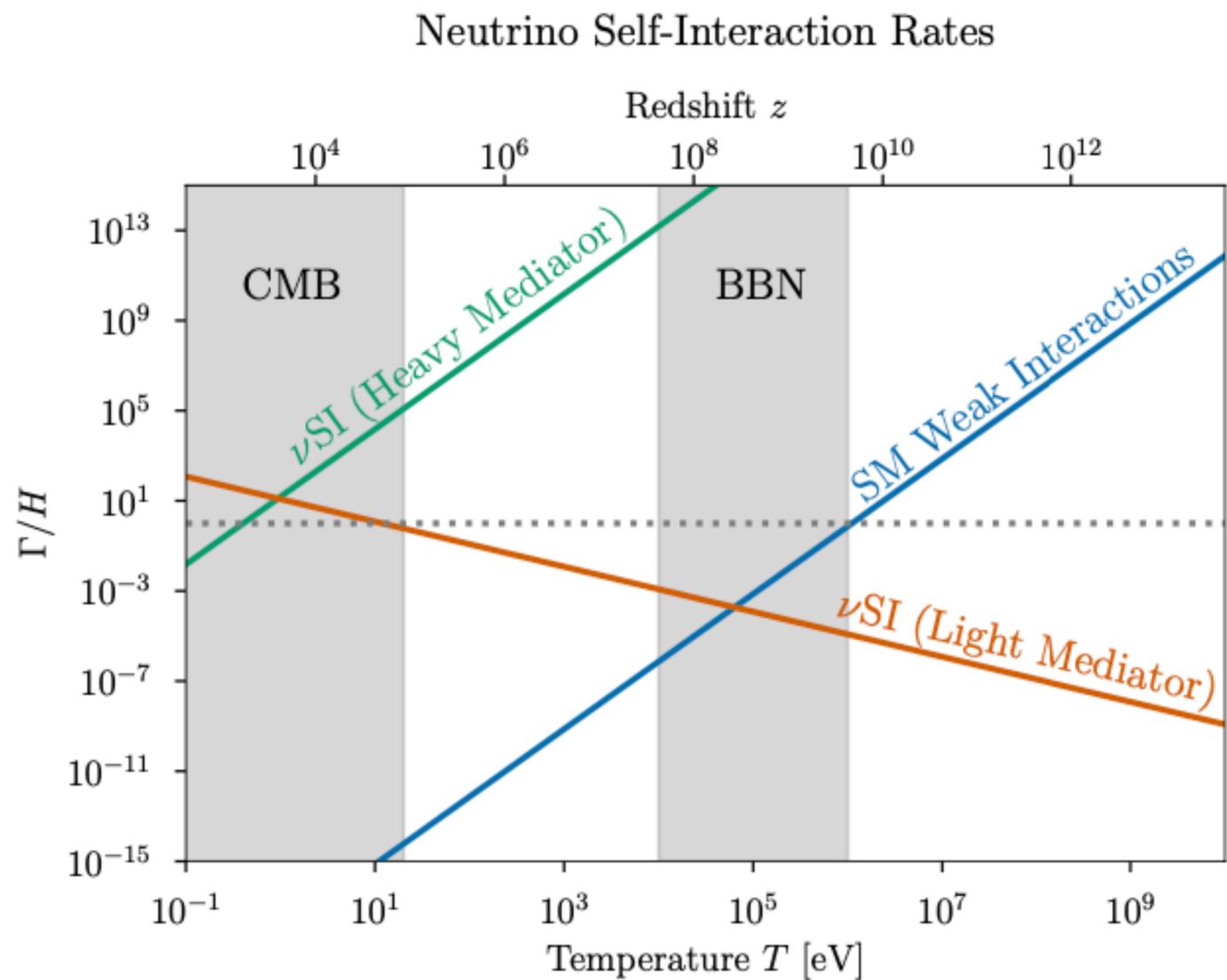
In  $\nu_h$  rest frame, the daughter that shares the same helicity as the parent is emitted preferentially along the parent helicity direction.

Effect of daughter mass

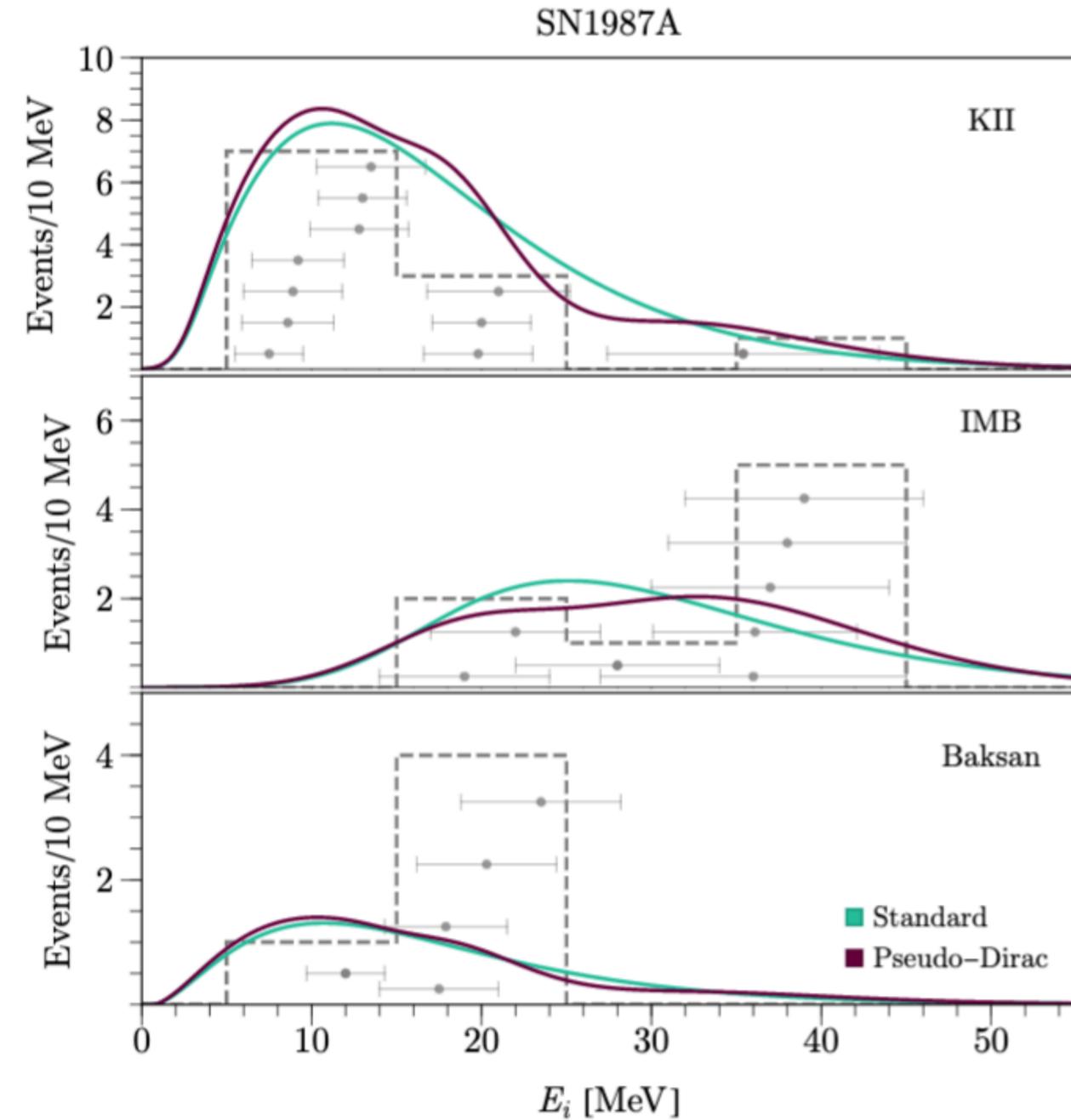
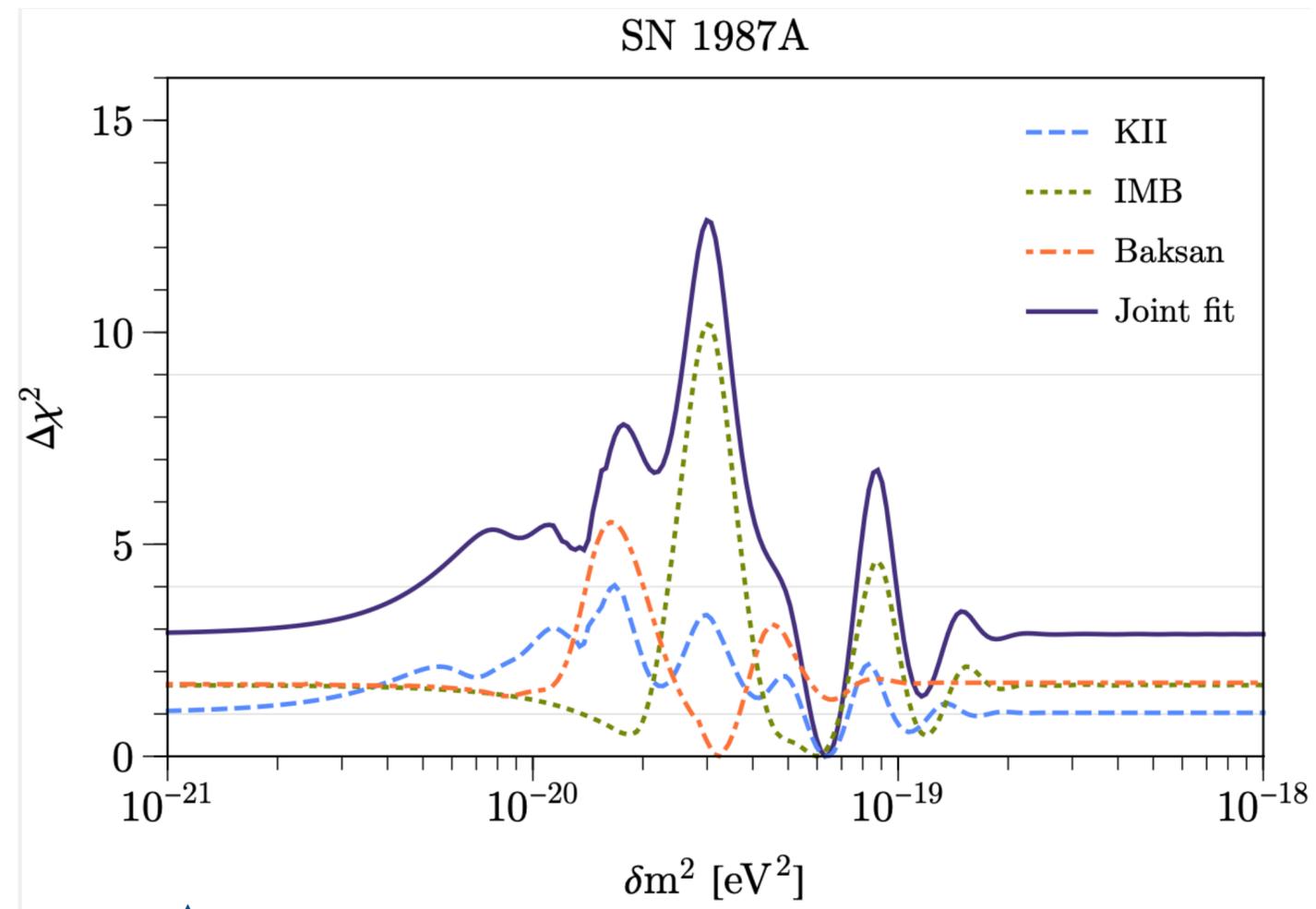
# DESI results



# Neutrino self-interactions



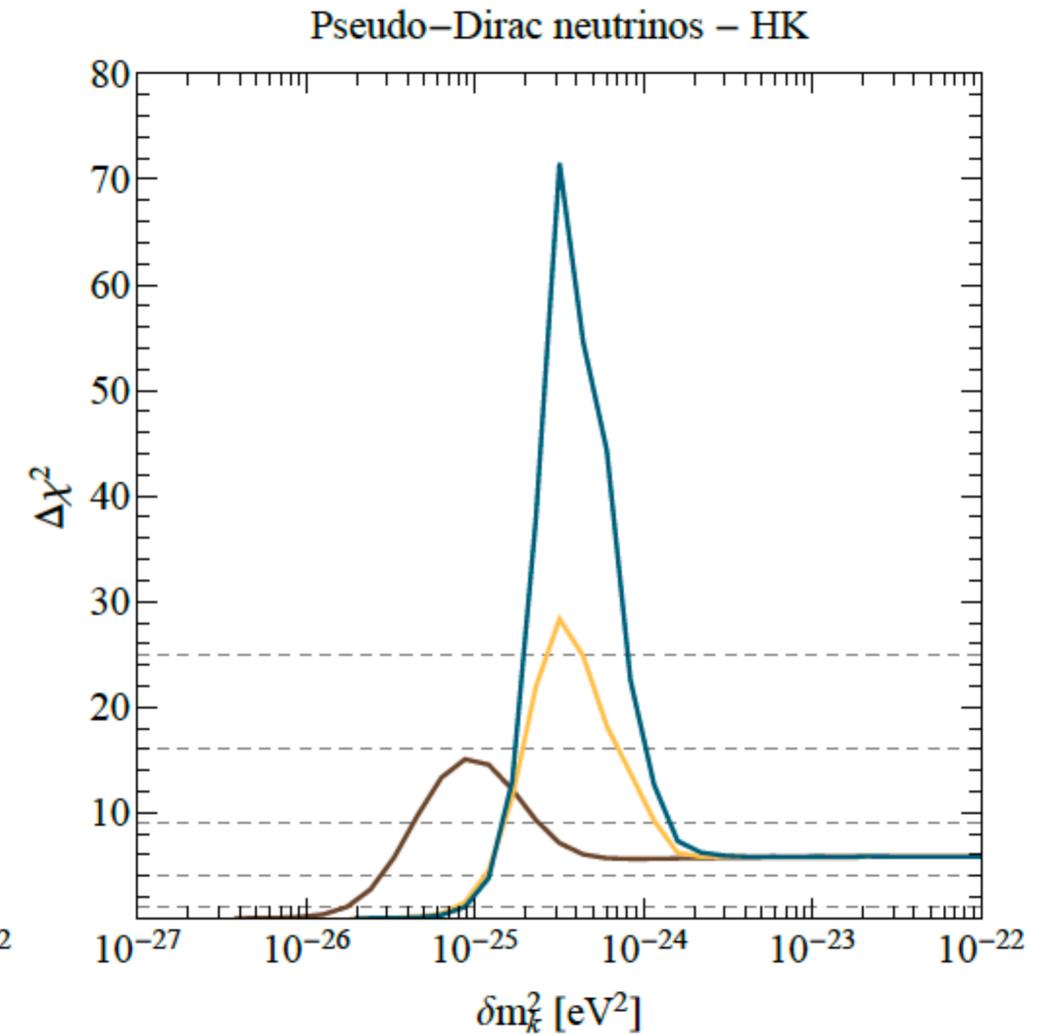
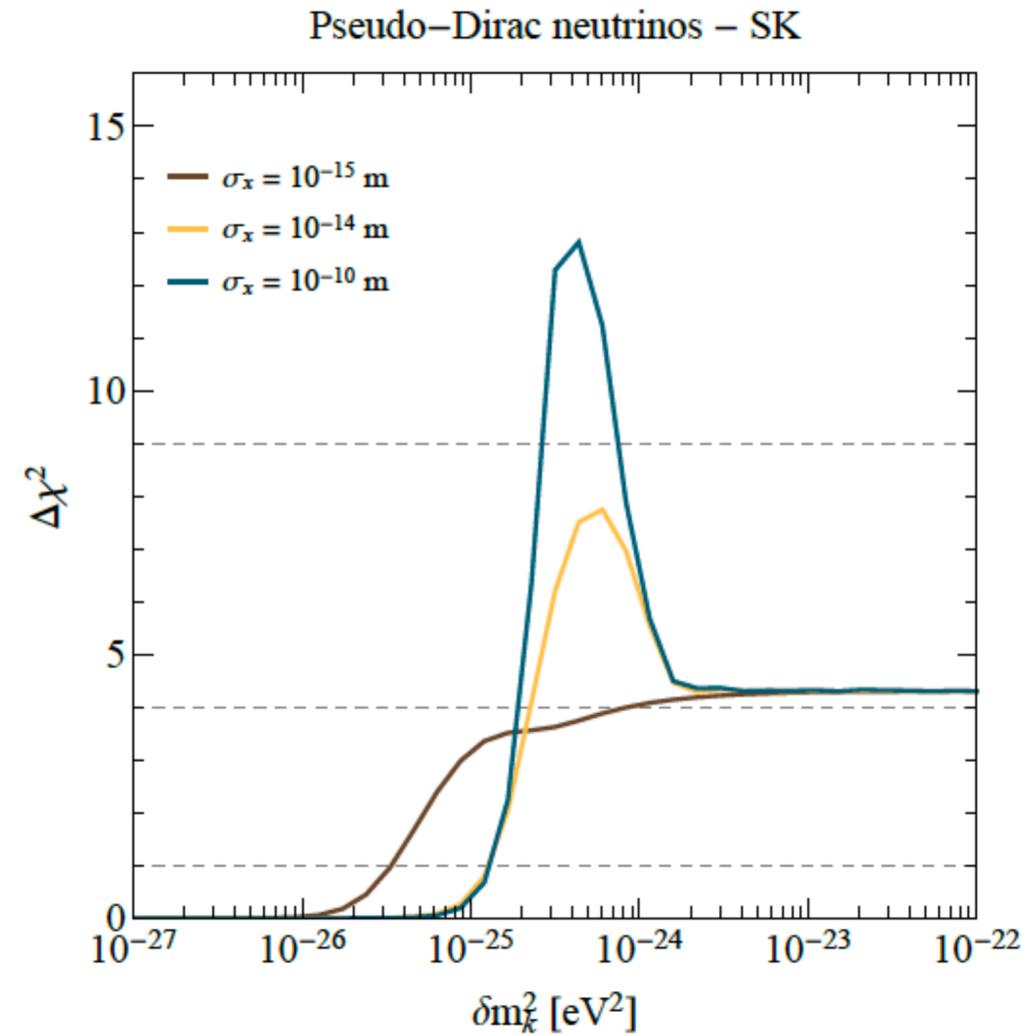
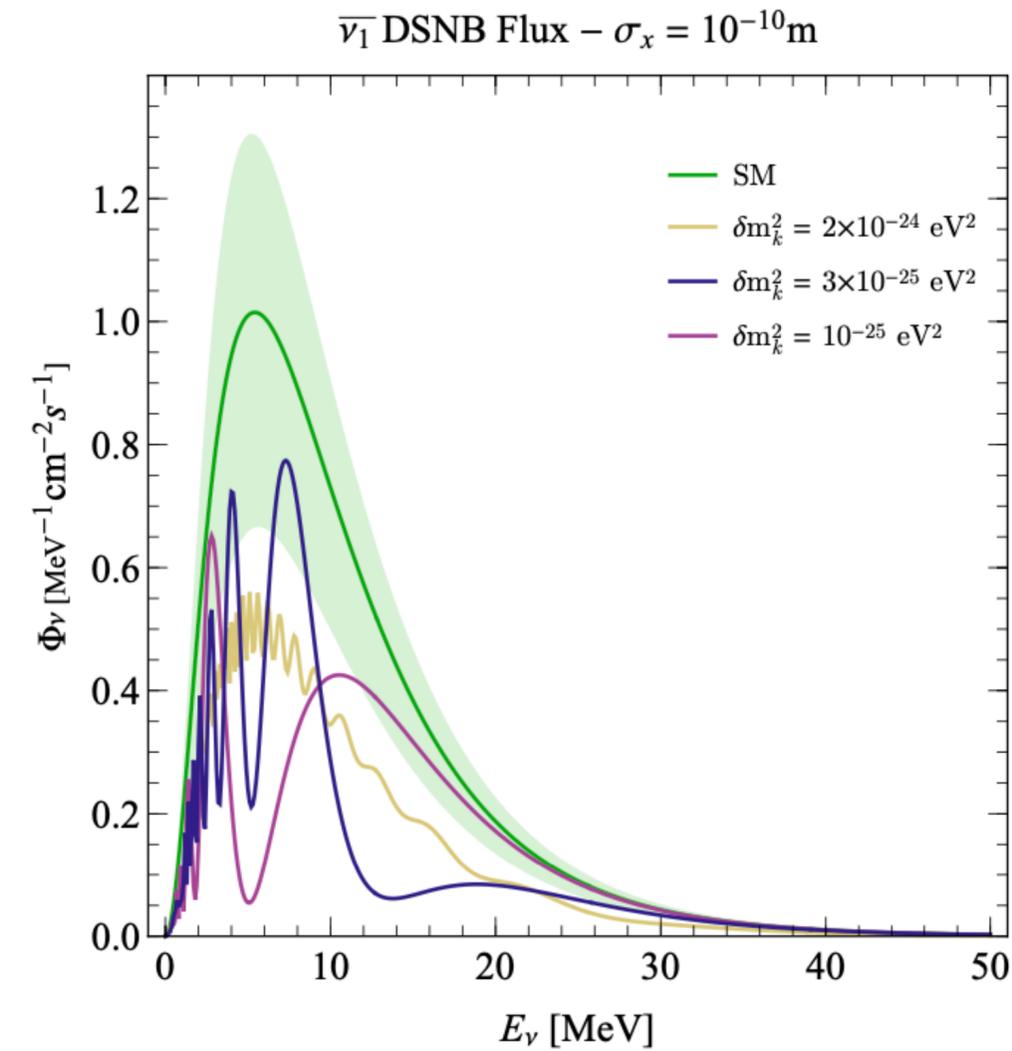
# SN1987A data and comparison



No Oscillations

- Slight preference for the PD possibility,  $\Delta\chi^2 \sim 3!$
- Exclude  $\delta m^2 \sim [2.5, 3.] \times 10^{-20} \text{eV}^2$  with  $\Delta\chi^2 > 9$

# DSNB sensitivity to pseudo-Dirac neutrinos

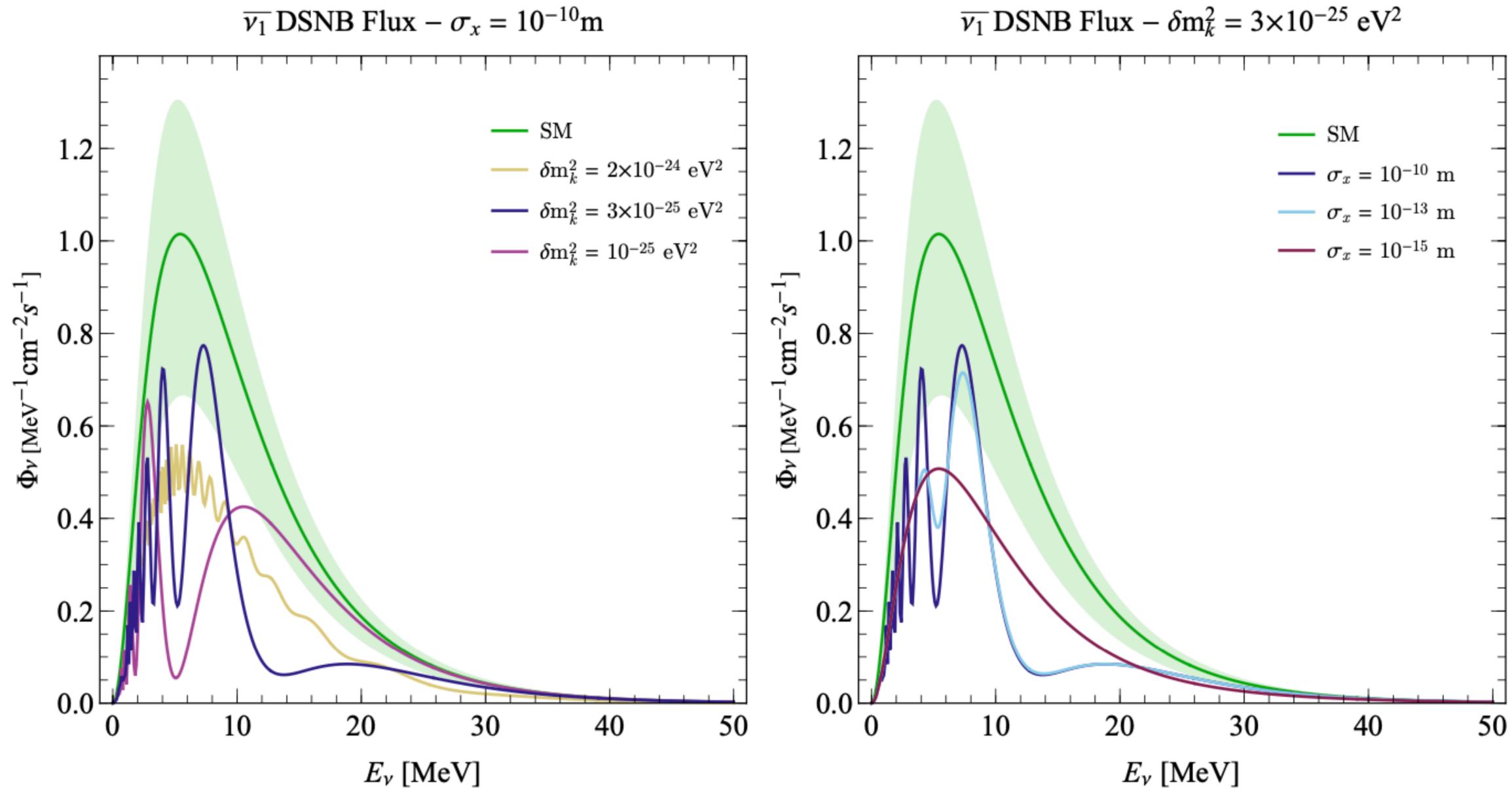


$$L_{\text{osc}} = \sim 16 \text{ Gpc} \left( \frac{E_\nu}{20 \text{ MeV}} \right) \left( \frac{10^{-25} \text{ eV}^2}{\delta m^2} \right)$$

de Gouvea, Martinez-Soler, Perez-Gonzalez, MS (PRD 2020)

DSNB sensitive to  $\delta m^2 \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-25} \text{ eV}^2)$  with a high significance.

# DSNB: Oscillations due to pseudo-Dirac nature



Increasing  $\delta m^2$  reduces  $L_{\text{osc}}$  and  $L_{\text{coh}}$ , and causes more oscillations

Decreasing  $\sigma_x$  reduces  $L_{\text{coh}}$ , and causes more decoherence

# Dark Matter annihilations to neutrinos

