

# A new light DM candidate

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In collaboration with

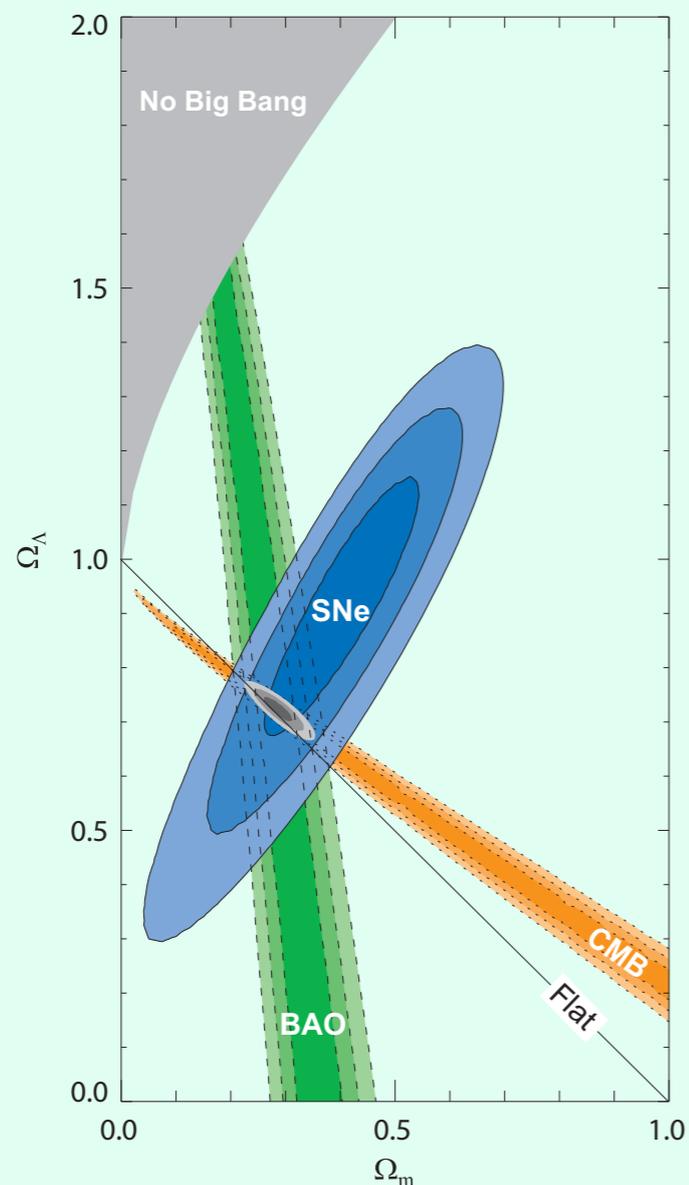
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## Outline:

- Introduction of the new DM candidate
- Mass and interactions
- Relic density
- Lifetime / decays
- Some theoretical remarks
- Conclusions

# Dark matter in the universe



$$\Omega_{DM} = 0.22 \pm 0.02$$

Many (independent) proofs of DM existence, but don't know yet its nature (apart that we have to go beyond standard physics)

Recently,  
some hints of direct detection

**Figure 21.1:** Confidence level contours of 68.3%, 95.4% and 99.7% in the  $\Omega_\Lambda$ - $\Omega_m$  plane from the Cosmic Microwave Background, Baryonic Acoustic Oscillations and the Union SNe Ia set, as well as their combination (assuming  $w = -1$ ). [Courtesy of Kowalski *et al.* [22]]

# Dark matter in the universe

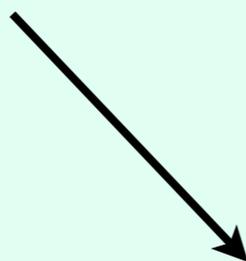
Necessary to explore different possibilities

**Context:** see-saw as neutrino-mass theory

**Scenario:**

Explicit breaking

global symmetry at see-saw scale



pseudo

Goldstone boson

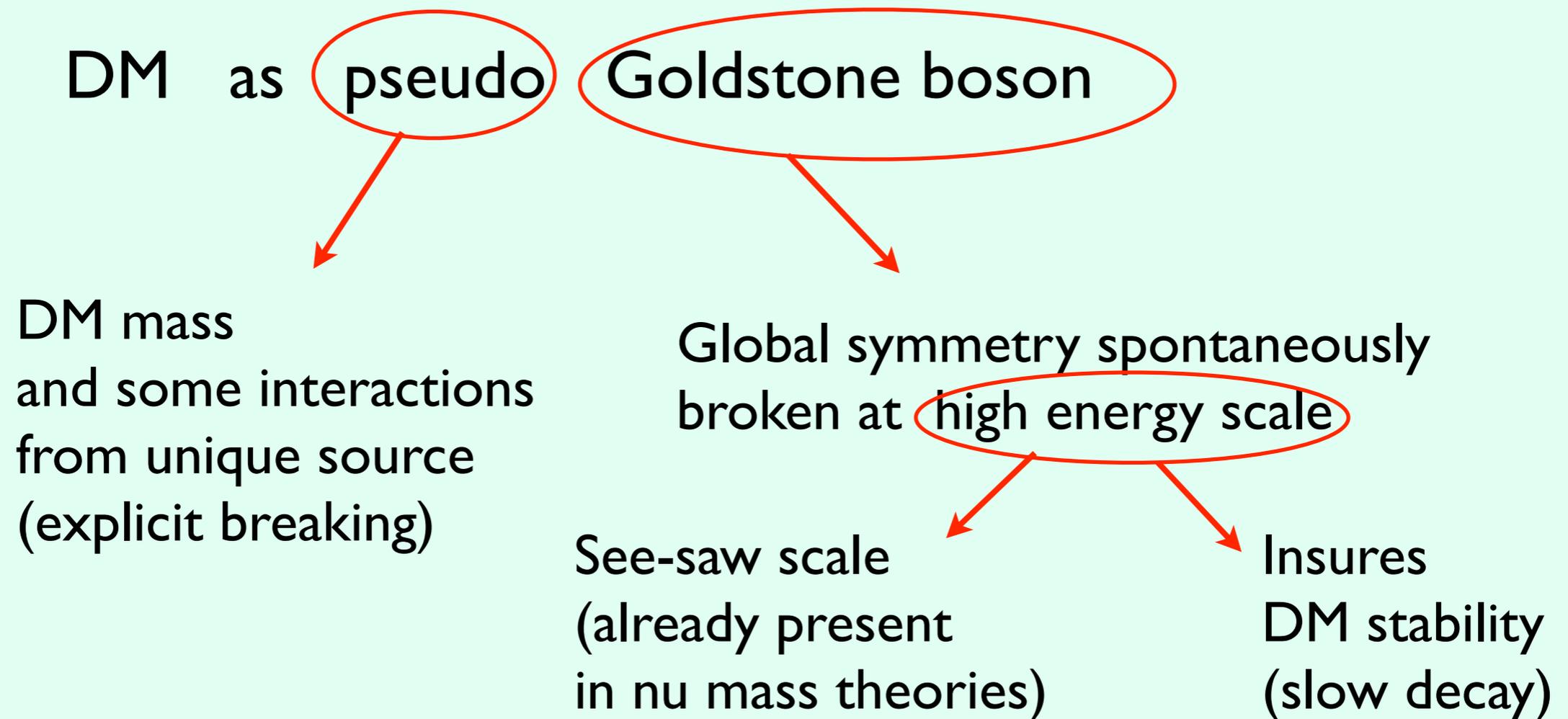
Light

~~Massless~~

Spinless

# Dark matter in the universe

We propose:



# $\theta$ **Mass & Interactions**

# $\theta$ Mass & Interactions

## I) Goldstone from SSB of global symmetry in neutrino-sector

Example: Majoron

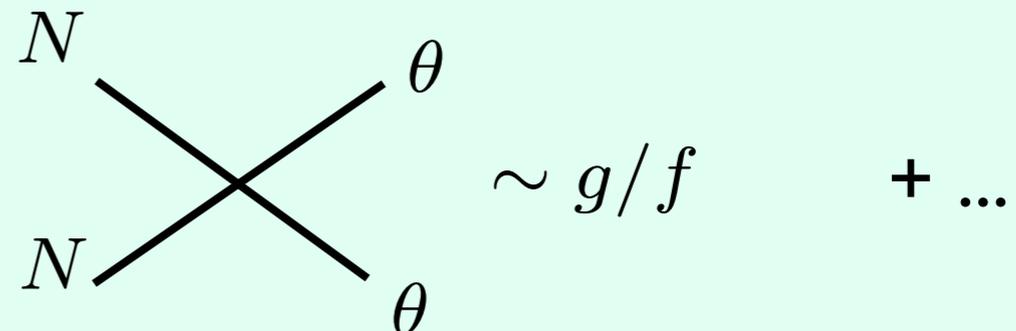
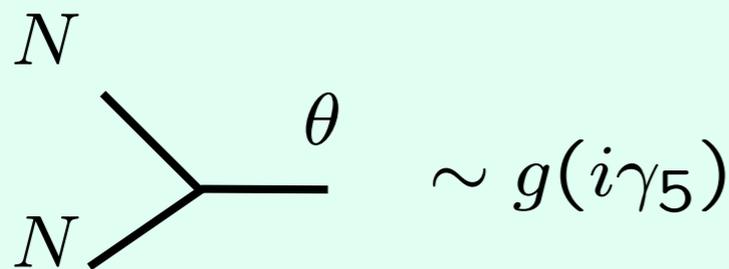
$\Phi$  Scalar, charged under B-L  $\langle \Phi \rangle = f$

$$g \Phi \nu^c \nu^c \rightarrow g f \nu^c \nu^c e^{i\theta/f} \quad g = \text{Yuk. coupl.}$$

Expand in  $\theta$

- Get:
- a) Mass of (heavy) sterile neutrino  $m_N = gf/\sqrt{2}$
  - b) Interactions (well defined, no arbitrary couplings) with **sterile neutrino**  $N$

$$N \equiv (\nu^c \ \nu^{c\dagger})^T$$



# $\theta$ Mass & Interactions

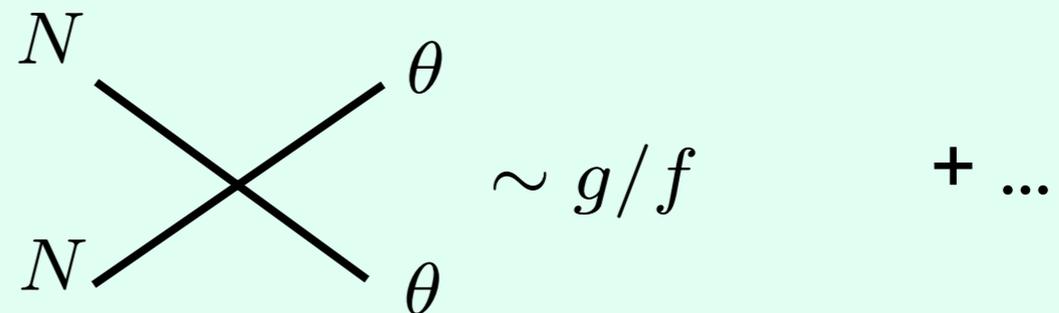
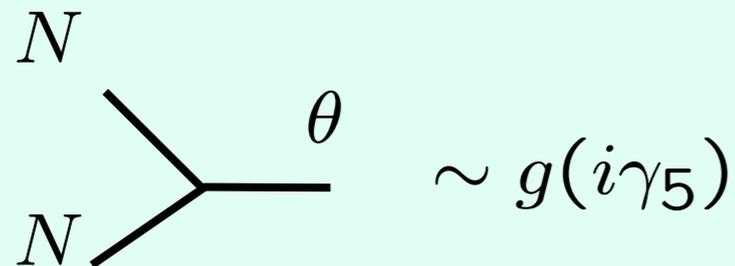
In our model:

$\theta$  our DM candidate

**not** the Majoron  
because need different charges for  
different sterile neutrinos

Still:

$$m_N = gf/\sqrt{2}$$



# $\theta$ Mass & Interactions

## II) Explicit breaking

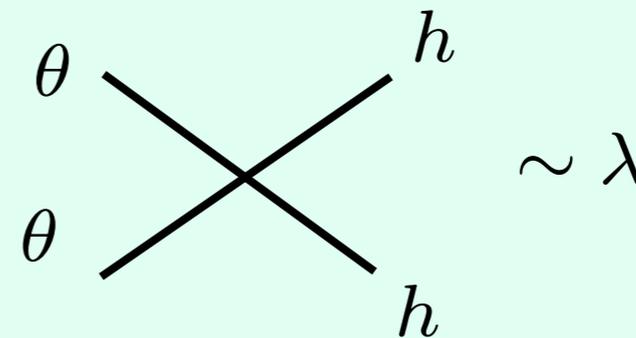
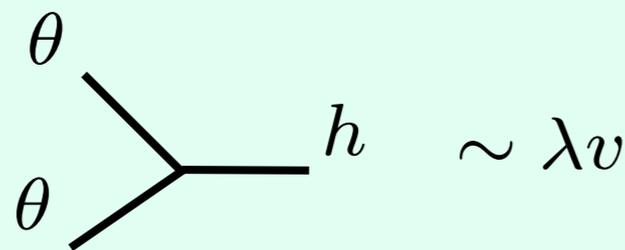
Involves nu's Dirac Yukawa's, and thus with H=Higgs doublet

$$-\frac{\lambda}{2} \theta^2 H^\dagger H$$

Higgs-portal  
(in our case related to neutrinos)

EW breaking: a) Mass for  $\theta$   $m_\theta^2 = \lambda v^2$

b) interactions with physical Higgs  $h$



Explicit breaking  $\rightarrow$  theta-potential  $\rightarrow$  pseudoGoldstone  
mass and interactions are linked

## $\theta$ Mass & Interactions

see-saw:  $m_{Dirac} \sim yv$        $m_\nu \sim y^2 v^2 / m_N$

In our model the coupling  $\lambda$

- involves active nu Yukawa
- is induced radiatively

$$\lambda \simeq g^2 y^2 \frac{\log(\Lambda^2 / m_N^2)}{8\pi^2}$$

- involves sterile nu Yukawa

## $\theta$ Mass & Interactions

We will calculate relic density and lifetime,  
and constrain the model using experimental data

However, realistic 3-family case in all generality depends on  
several parameters

In this first stage,

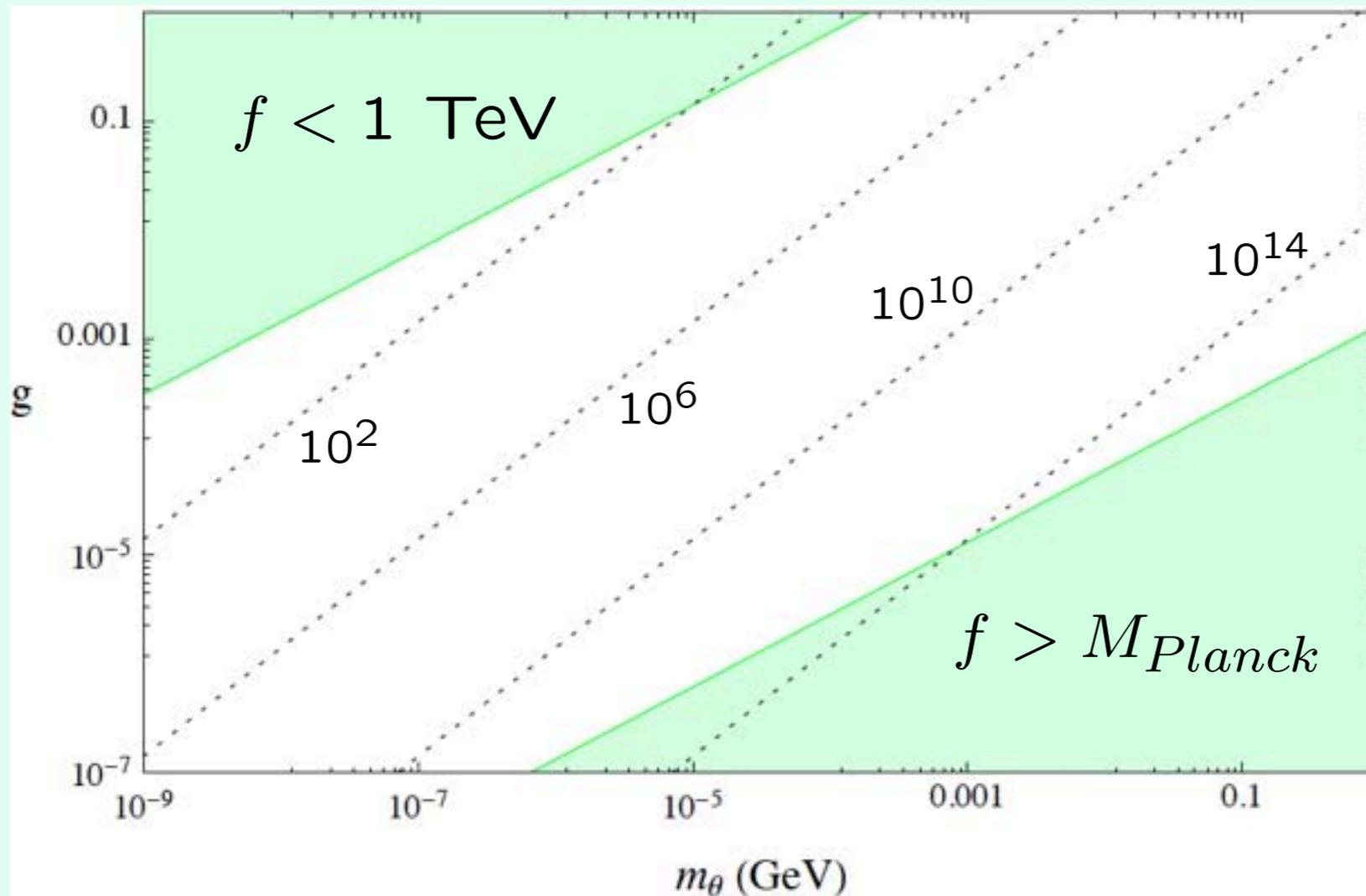
- we simplify formulae to one family case  
(equivalent to not allowing for flavor fine-tuned  
cancellations or enhancements)
- fix  $m_\nu$  and take  $k \equiv \frac{\log(\Lambda^2/m_N^2)}{8\pi^2} = 1$   
(but these values can be changed any time)

Two parameters:  $m_\theta, g$

Not the most general model but more predictive

# $\theta$ Mass & Interactions

Two parameters:  $m_\theta, g$



$$m_N = m_\theta^2 / (g^2 m_\nu k)$$

$$m_N = 10^2, 10^6, 10^{10}, 10^{14} \text{ GeV}$$

$$(m_\nu = 0.05 \text{ eV})$$

$\theta$  relic density

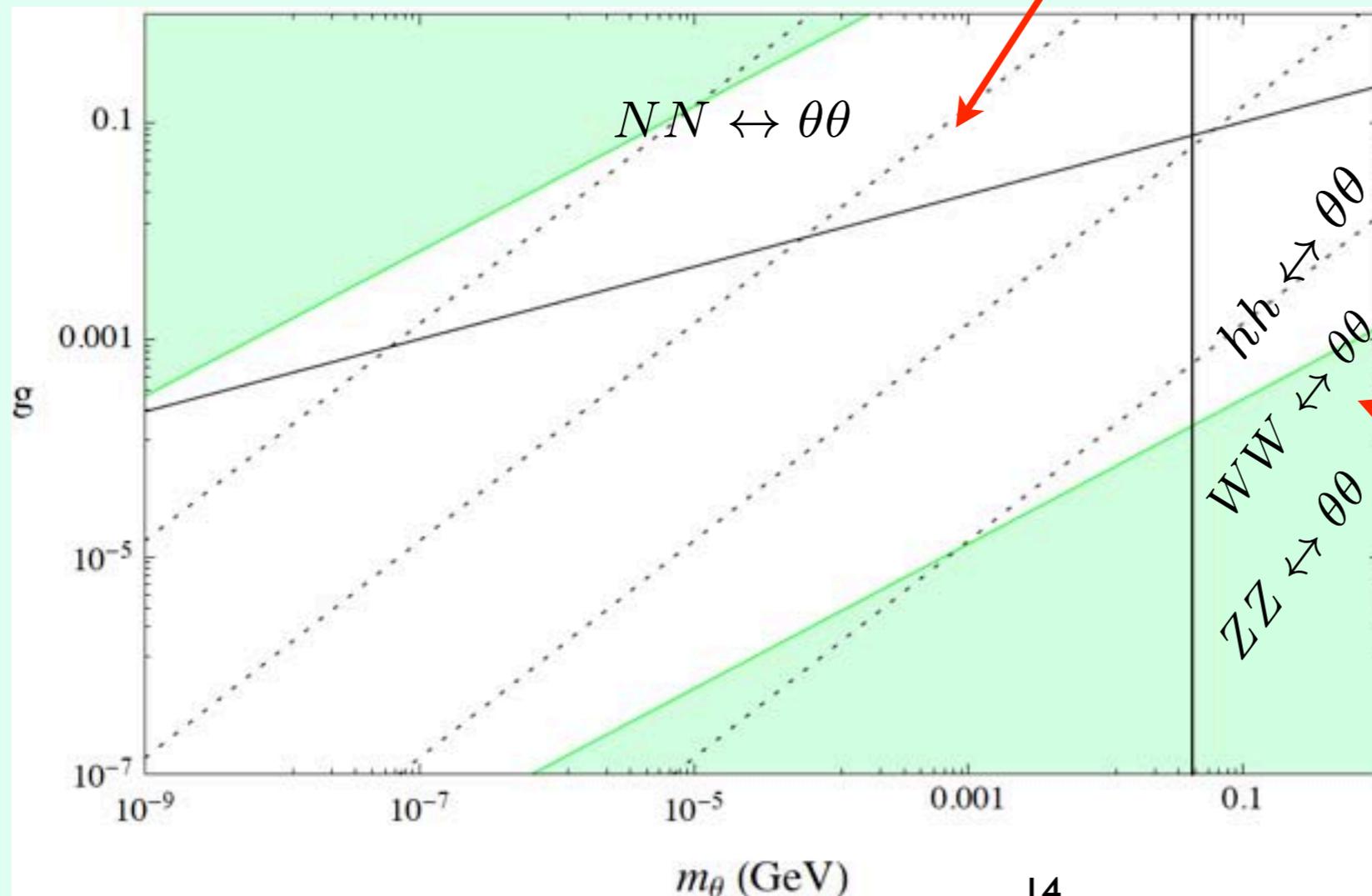
# $\theta$ relic density

Thermalization condition:  $\Gamma > H = 1.66\sqrt{g_*^\rho} T^2 / M_P$        $g_*^\rho = 106.75$

$$\sigma \propto g^4$$

$$T \sim m_N$$

$g/m_\theta^{1/3}$  large enough



$$\sigma \propto \lambda^2 \propto m_\theta^4$$

$m_\theta$  large enough

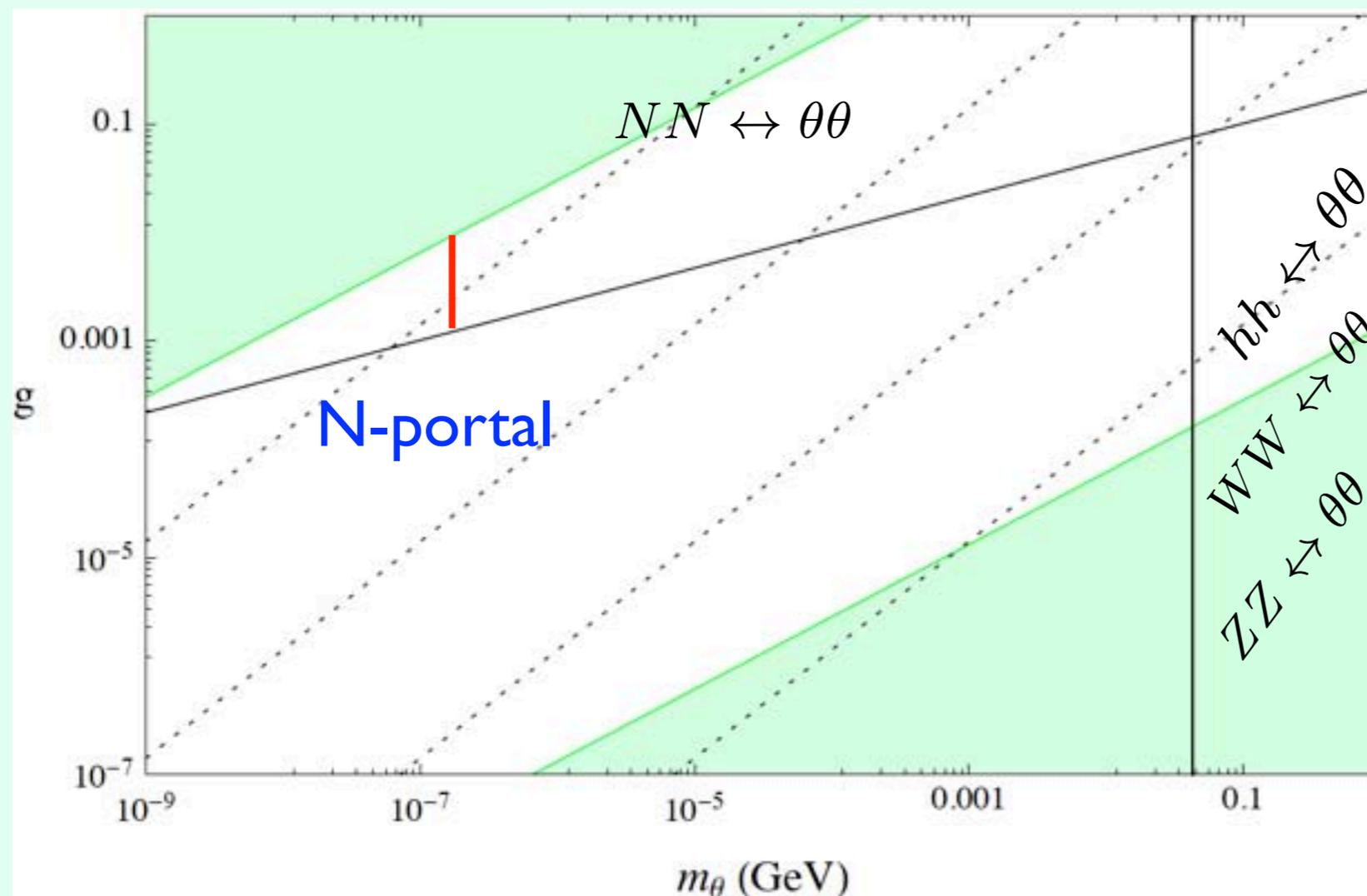
# $\theta$ relic density

Freeze-out solutions to  $\Omega_\theta = \Omega_{DM}$

$$m_\theta \simeq 0.15 \text{ keV}$$

$$m_\theta = 50 - 70 \text{ GeV}$$

(for  $m_h = 120 - 180 \text{ GeV}$ )



Higgs-portal

Farina et al  
0912.5038

## $\theta$ relic density

Regions in parameter space where rate is **too slow** to thermalize the DM candidate

$$h \rightarrow \theta\theta$$

Some production until  $T \sim m_h$   
it may happen that at this moment

$$m_\theta \quad n_\theta$$

has a value leading to  $\Omega_\theta = \Omega_{DM}$

## Freeze-in mechanism

Hall et al  
0911.1120

$\theta$  relic density

## Freeze-in versus freeze-out

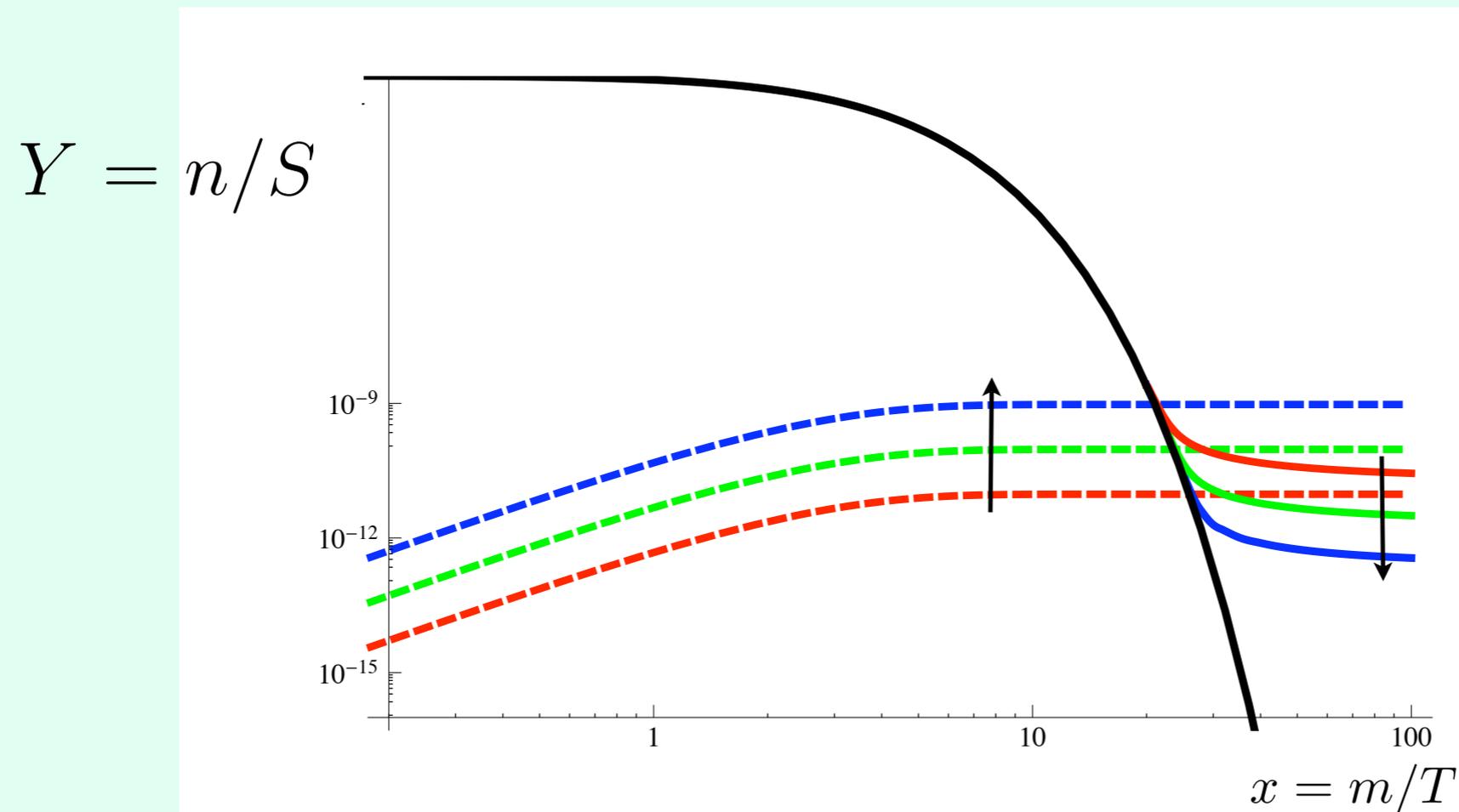


Figure 1: Log-Log plot of the evolution of the relic yields for conventional freeze-out (solid coloured) and freeze-in via a Yukawa interaction (dashed coloured) as a function of  $x = m/T$ . The black solid line indicates the yield assuming equilibrium is maintained, while the arrows indicate the effect of increasing coupling strength for the two processes. Note that the freeze-in yield is dominated by the epoch  $x \sim 2 - 5$ , in contrast to freeze-out which only departs from equilibrium for  $x \sim 20 - 30$ .

## $\theta$ relic density

We integrate Boltzmann eq. numerically

Boltzmann equation in expanding universe:

$$zH(z)s(z)Y_{\theta}'(z) = \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{Y_{\theta}(z)}{Y_{\theta}^{\text{eq}}(z)} \right)^2 \right] \gamma(z)$$

$$Y_{\theta} \equiv n_{\theta}/s \quad z \equiv m_h/T$$

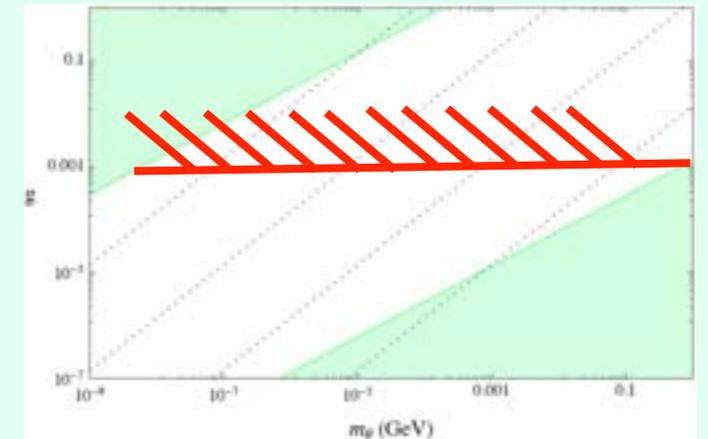
$s(z)$  entropy dens.

$\gamma(z)$

reaction densities  
(annihilation + decay)

# $\theta$ relic density

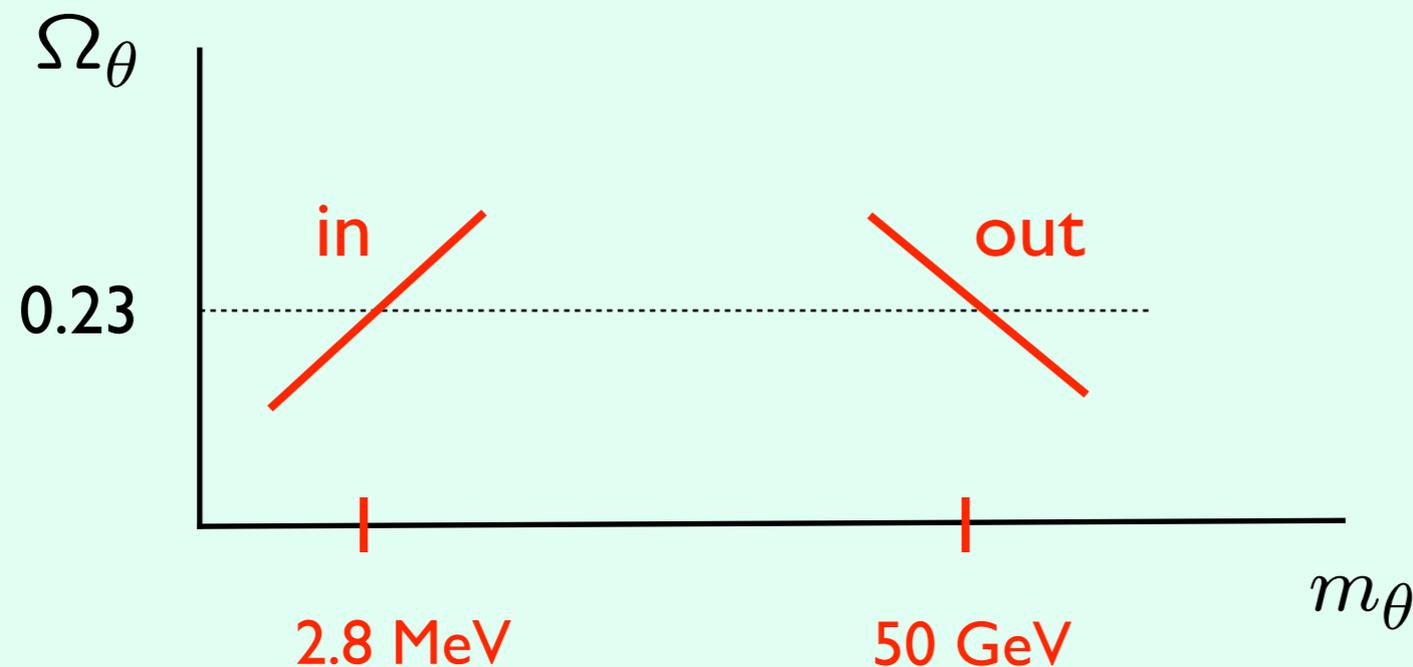
Consider case  $g \rightarrow 0$   
(only Higgs portal at work)



Interaction and mass are related.  
Freeze-in solution should fix the mass

$$m_\theta = 2.8 \text{ MeV}$$

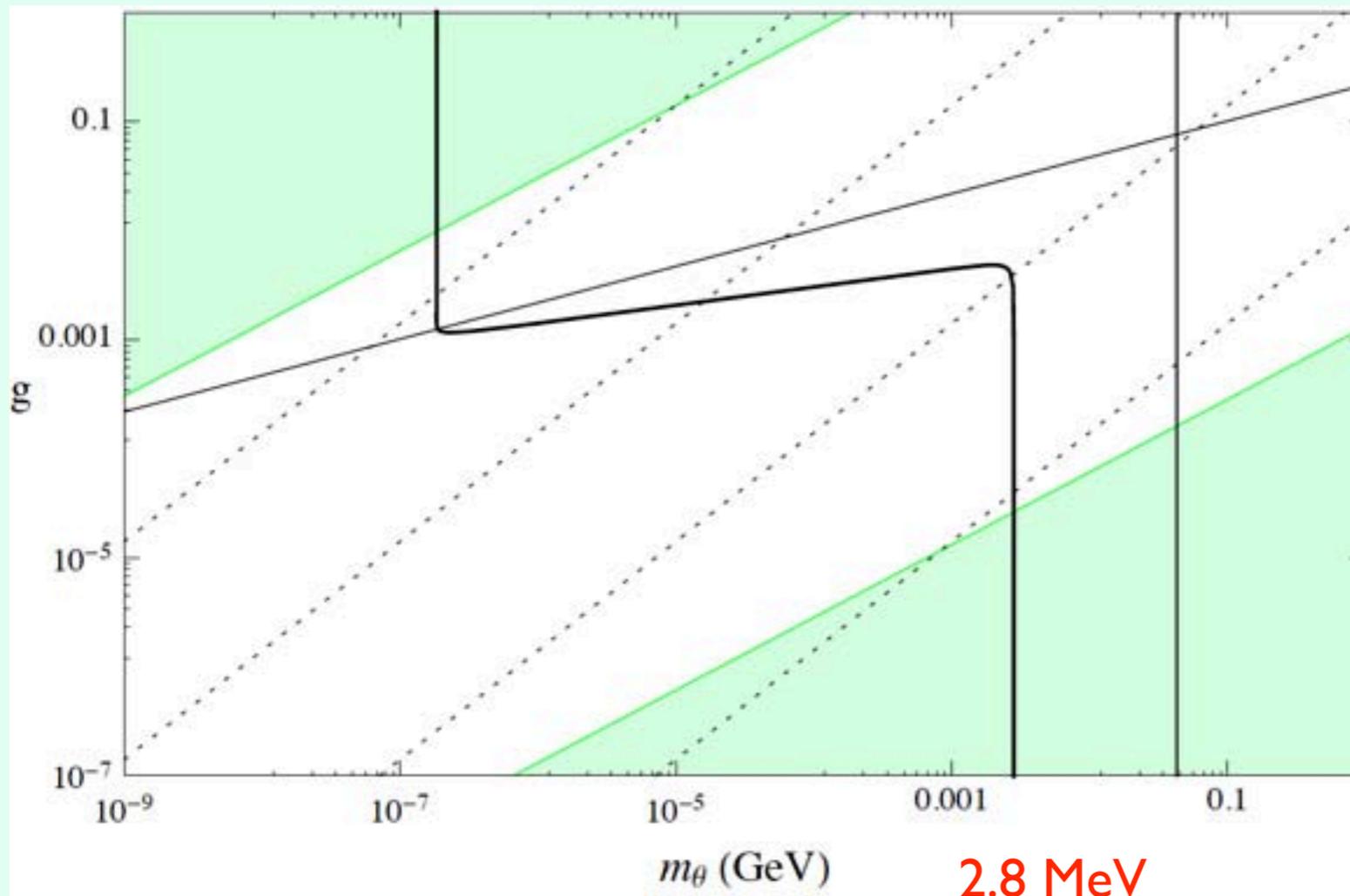
$$m_h = 120 \text{ GeV}$$



# $\theta$ relic density

Freeze-in solution obtained numerically

0.15 keV



# $\theta$ Lifetime / Decays

## $\theta$ Lifetime / Decays

It is the coupling to light fermions what determines lifetime, i.e.

$$\theta \rightarrow \nu\nu$$

$$\theta \rightarrow e^+e^-$$

PS interaction:  $\bar{f}\gamma_5 f \theta$

$$\theta \rightarrow \gamma\gamma \quad \text{subdominant}$$

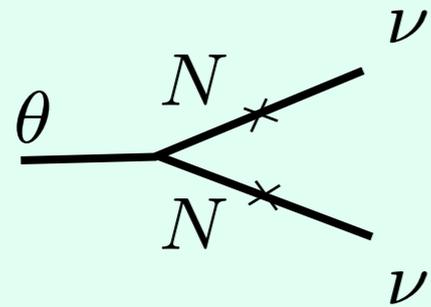
Of course, should require  $\tau_\theta > \tau_{universe}$

However, **more stringent constraints** on

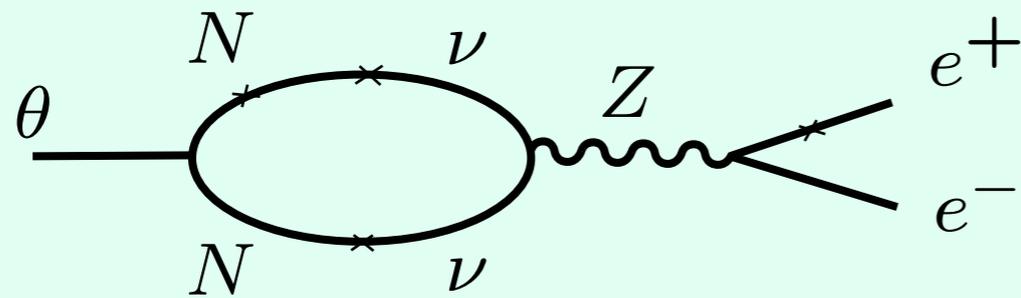
$$\Gamma(\theta \rightarrow \nu\nu) \quad \Gamma(\theta \rightarrow e^+e^-)$$

due to several astro and cosmo observations

# $\theta$ Lifetime / Decays

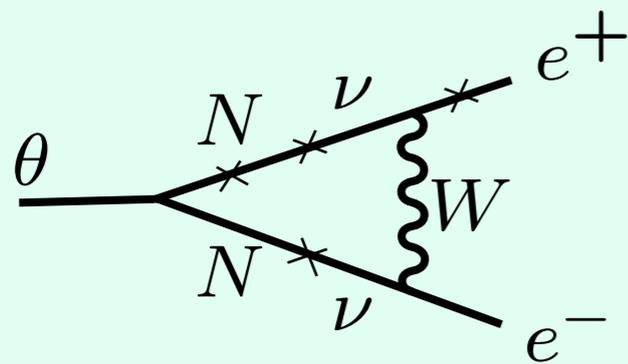


$$\frac{m_\nu}{f}$$

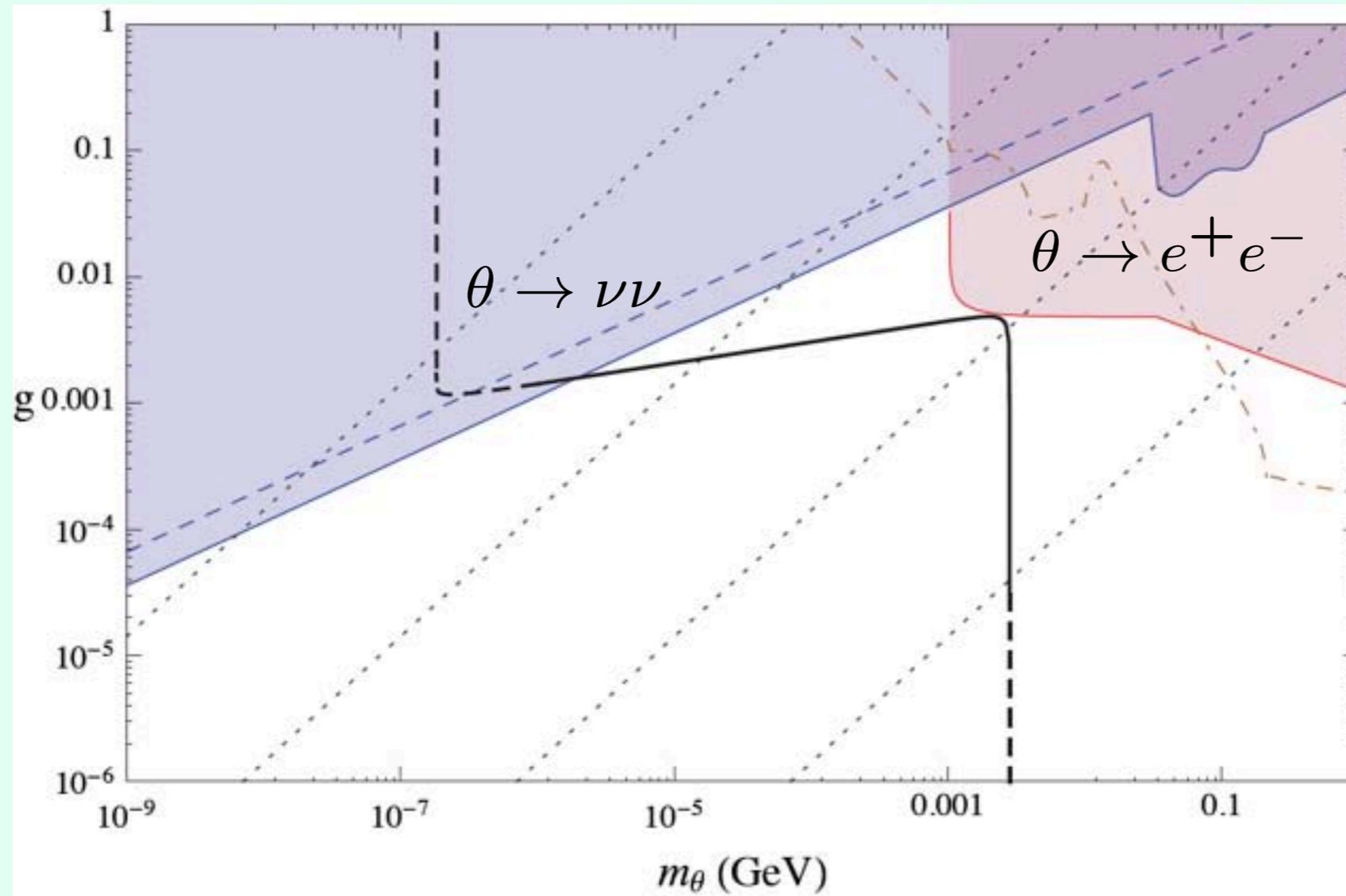


$$\frac{G_F}{(4\pi)^2} \frac{\sqrt{2}m_N}{f} m_e m_\nu$$

+



# $\theta$ Lifetime / Decays



$m_\nu = 0.05$  eV

# $\theta$ Lifetime / Decays

Origin of bounds in relevant region

$$\theta \rightarrow \nu\nu$$

Lattanzi & Valle  
0705.2406

Decay implies energy transfer from NR to R;  
would change history of universe

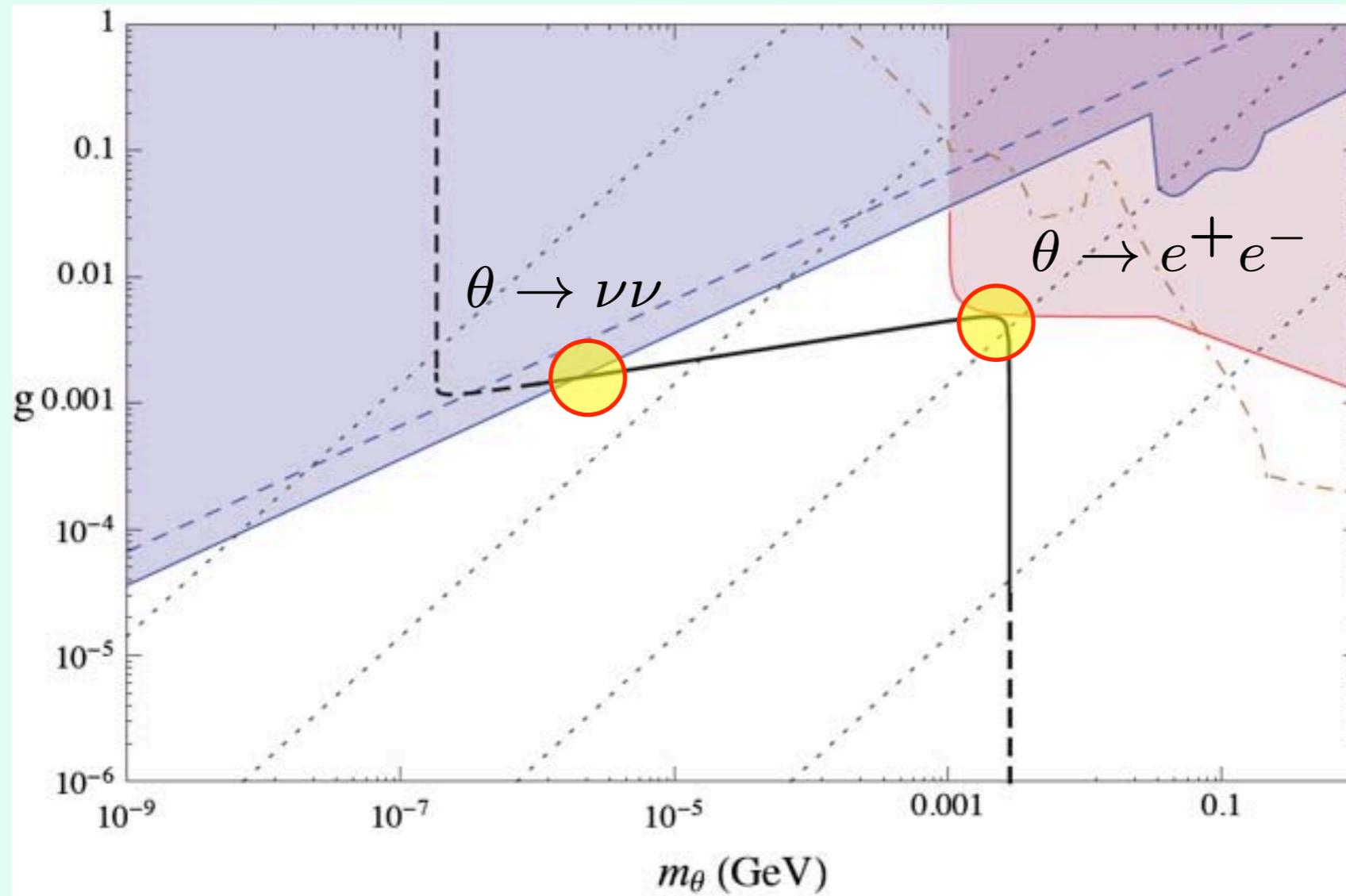
$$\theta \rightarrow e^+e^-$$

Bell et al  
1004.1008

Annihilation at rest contributing to 511 keV line

# $\theta$ Lifetime / Decays

Saturation of bounds,  
experimental signatures



$m_\nu = 0.05$  eV

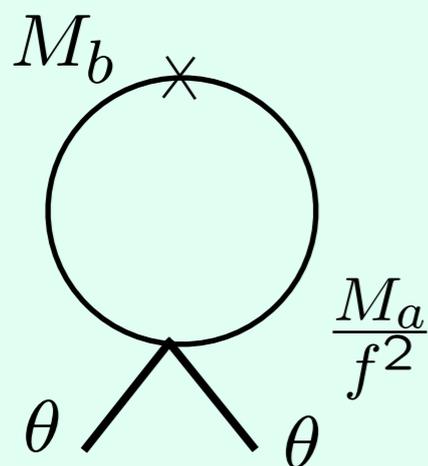
# Theoretical considerations

## Theoretical considerations

Consider explicit symmetry breaking to give a mass to  $\theta$   
but wish to **protect from large radiative corrections**

Not obvious, for example:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \nu^c (M_a e^{i\theta/f} + M_b) \nu^c + \text{h.c.} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (M_a + M_b) \bar{N} N - \frac{i M_a \theta}{2f} \bar{N} \gamma_5 N - \frac{M_a}{4f^2} \theta^2 \bar{N} N + \dots \end{aligned}$$



$$m_\theta^2 \sim \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \frac{M_a M_b}{f^2} \Lambda^2$$

Quadratically divergent,  
sensitive to high-energy completion

# Theoretical considerations

Hill & Ross  
NPB311 ('88)

Hill and Ross worried about explicit (hard) symmetry breaking and goldstones

They worked out (quark) flavor structures reducing the degree of divergence

We apply their ideas to our problem in the neutrino sector; we introduce collective breaking involving neutrino Yukawa couplings

# Theoretical considerations

Example: Model with two sterile neutrinos

$$U(1)_X \quad X(\nu_1^c) = -1, X(\nu_2^c) = 1 \text{ scalar } X(\Phi) = 2$$

SSB ↓

$$+\frac{1}{2}(\nu_1^c \ \nu_2^c) \begin{pmatrix} M_{11}e^{i\theta/f} & M_{12} \\ M_{12} & M_{22}e^{-i\theta/f} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1^c \\ \nu_2^c \end{pmatrix} + \text{h.c.}$$

allowed ↑                      ↑ SSB

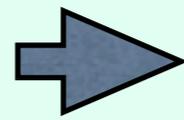
$$l_\alpha (m_{\alpha 1} \ m_{\alpha 2}) \frac{H}{v} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1^c \\ \nu_2^c \end{pmatrix} \quad \alpha = e, \mu, \tau$$

↑  
one different from zero necessarily  
breaks (expl.) the symmetry

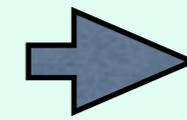
## Theoretical considerations

$$l_\alpha(m_{\alpha 1} \ m_{\alpha 2})\frac{H}{v} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1^c \\ \nu_2^c \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2}(\nu_1^c \ \nu_2^c) \begin{pmatrix} M_{11}e^{i\theta/f} & M_{12} \\ M_{12} & M_{22}e^{-i\theta/f} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1^c \\ \nu_2^c \end{pmatrix} + \text{h.c.}$$

$m_{\alpha 1} = 0$  or  $m_{\alpha 2} = 0$   
or  
two independent M-entries  
are zero



$\theta$  can be absorbed  
in field redefinitions



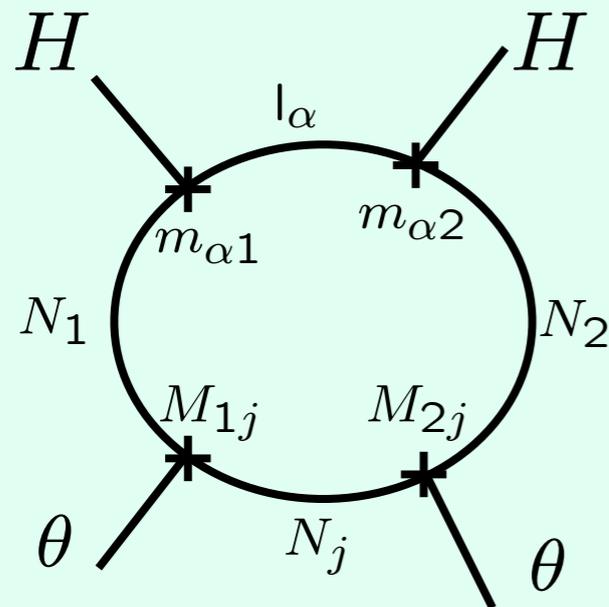
true  
massless  
Goldstone

mass of  $\theta$  is proportional to product of several masses  
and degree of divergence is **logarithmic**

# Theoretical considerations

Explicit calculation gives

$$-\frac{\lambda}{2} \theta^2 H^\dagger H$$



$$\lambda \simeq \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \frac{M_{12}(M_{11}+M_{22})}{f^2} \frac{\sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha 1} m_{\alpha 2}}{v^2} \log \frac{\Lambda^2}{\mu^2}$$

$$m_{\theta}^2 = \lambda v^2$$

for our model, need family-dependent  $U(1)_X$

but not unique choice, equivalences among different assignments

## Theoretical considerations

Can calculate decays in 3-family case

For example, effective vertex  $\theta e^+ e^-$

$$i \left( \frac{M_{11}}{f} F_1 - \frac{M_{22}}{f} F_2 \right) \frac{2\sqrt{2} G_F}{(4\pi)^2} m_e \bar{e} \gamma_5 e \theta$$

$$F_1 = m_1^2 \left( c^2 s^2 K + \frac{c^2}{M_1} + \frac{s^2}{M_2} \right) - m_2^2 c^2 s^2 K - m_1 m_2 cs \left( (c^2 - s^2) K - \frac{1}{M_1} + \frac{1}{M_2} \right)$$

$$F_2 = m_2^2 \left( c^2 s^2 K + \frac{s^2}{M_1} + \frac{c^2}{M_2} \right) - m_1^2 c^2 s^2 K + m_1 m_2 cs \left( (c^2 - s^2) K + \frac{1}{M_1} - \frac{1}{M_2} \right)$$

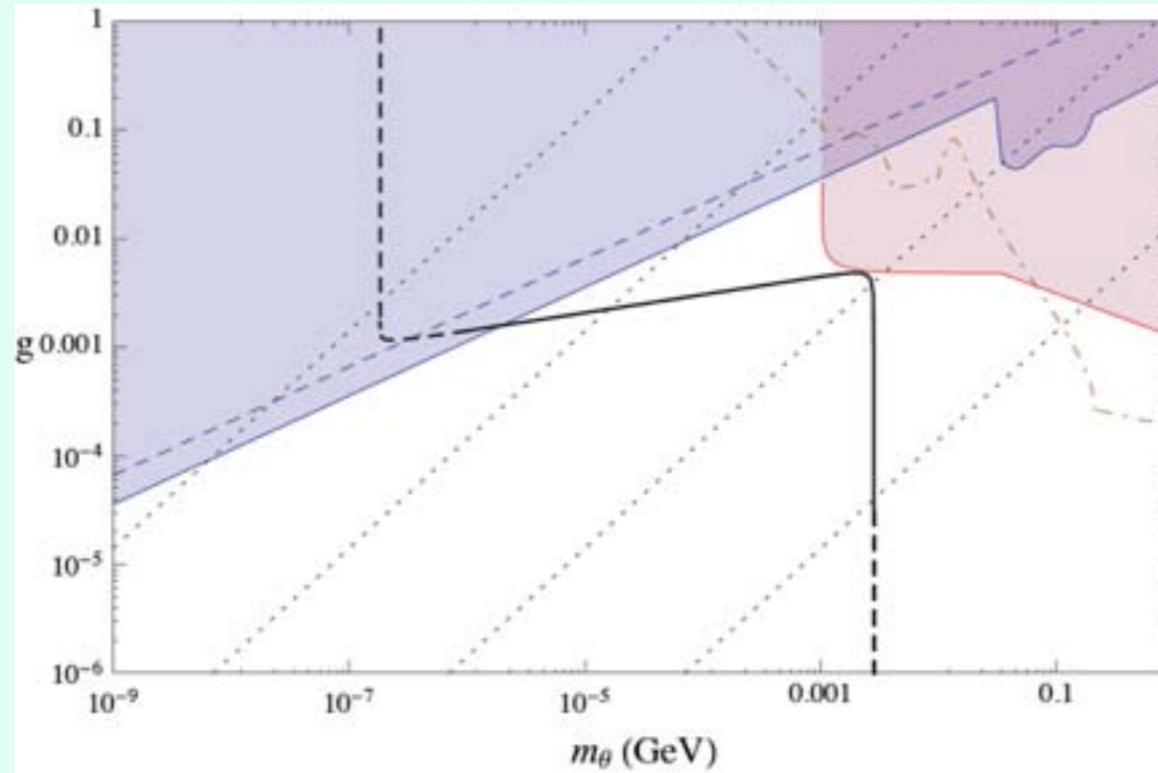
$$K(M_1, M_2) = -\frac{M_1^2 + 4M_1 M_2 + M_2^2}{M_1 M_2 (M_1 + M_2)} + \frac{4(M_1^2 + M_1 M_2 + M_2^2)}{(M_1 - M_2)(M_1 + M_2)^2} \log \frac{M_1}{M_2}$$

$$\tan 2\delta = 2M_{12}/(M_{11} - M_{22})$$

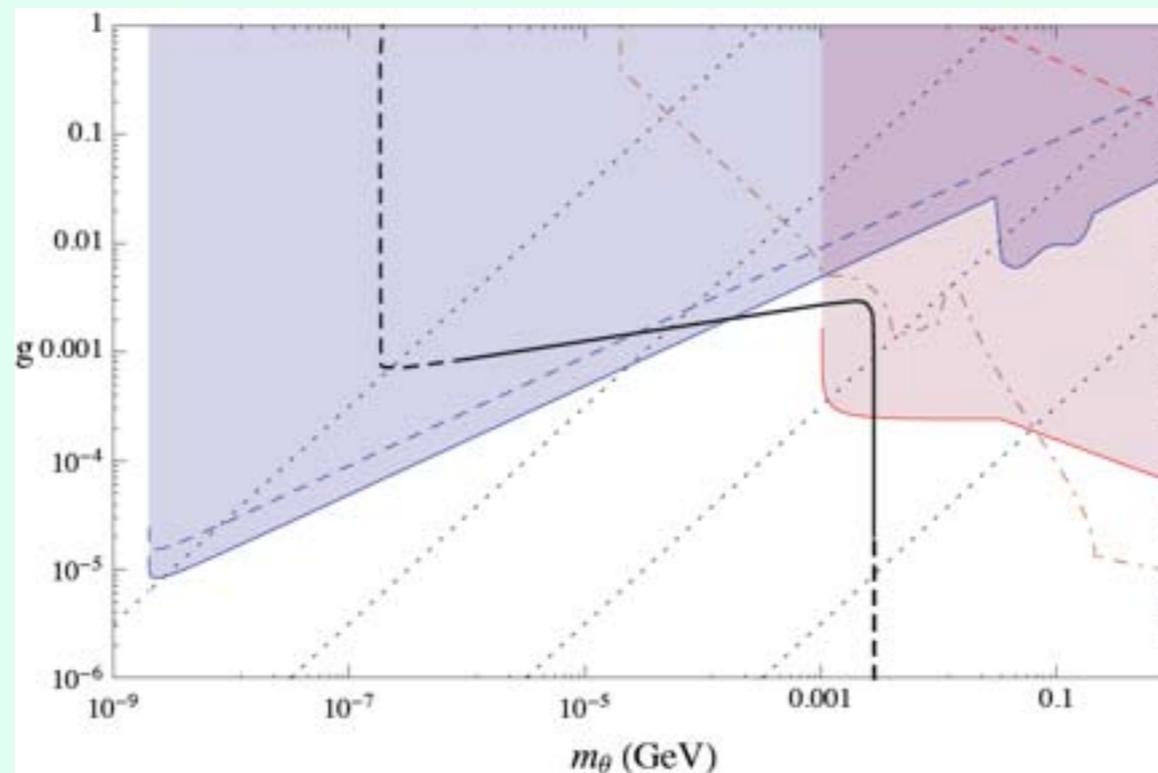
$$c \equiv \cos \delta \text{ and } s \equiv \sin \delta$$

# Theoretical considerations

0.05 eV



1 eV



## Conclusions

- New pseudoscalar gauge-singlet DM candidate
- Theoretically well motivated  
(related to see-saw scale,  
protected from large radiative corrections)
- Higgs-portal emerges naturally, mass linked to interactions
- Mass in the range keV-MeV
- Relic density from freeze-in
- Decays into neutrinos /  $e^+ e^-$  saturating bounds