

Sterile Neutrino Dark Matter
and
Possible Signals in Terrestrial Experiments

OUTLINE

- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ KATRIN experiment & sensitivity to Sterile Neutrinos
- ❖ Dodelson-Widrow production
- ❖ Critical Temperature
- ❖ X-ray constraint relaxation: Cocktail & Cancellation
- ❖ Shi-Fuller production
- ❖ CPT violation case
- ❖ Conclusions

INTRODUCTION - STERILE NEUTRINOS

def: $\nu_s = \nu_{RH}$

- “sterile” because singlets with respect to any Standard Model interaction
→ in principle, no limit on their number
- only relation with the SM through their mixing with ν_{LH}
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Depending on their mass, eventual role in different puzzles :

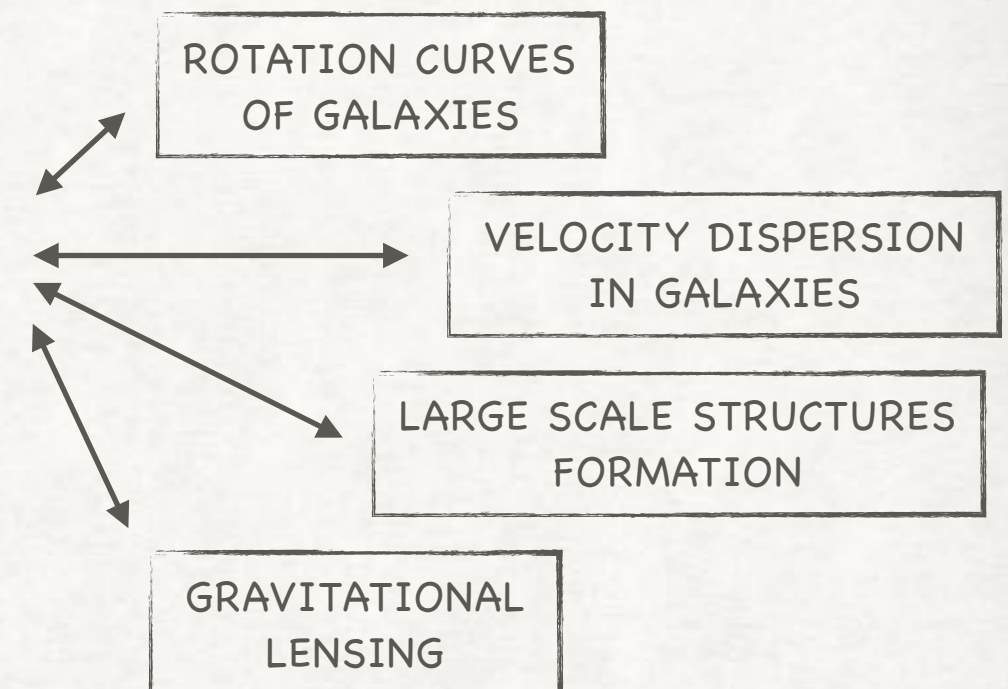
- OSCILLATION EXPERIMENTS ANOMALIES ($0(\text{eV})$)
- DARK MATTER ($0(\text{keV})$)
- BARYON ASYMMETRY THROUGH LEPTOGENESIS (150 MeV - 100 GeV)
- NEUTRINO MASS GENERATION
in the canonical minimal type-I seesaw ($0(\text{TeV})$)

INTRODUCTION - DARK MATTER

DARK MATTER represents
a **PUZZLE** historically arisen **AT LARGE SCALES**
but
likely requiring SOLUTION at very small scales,
coming FROM PARTICLE PHYSICS

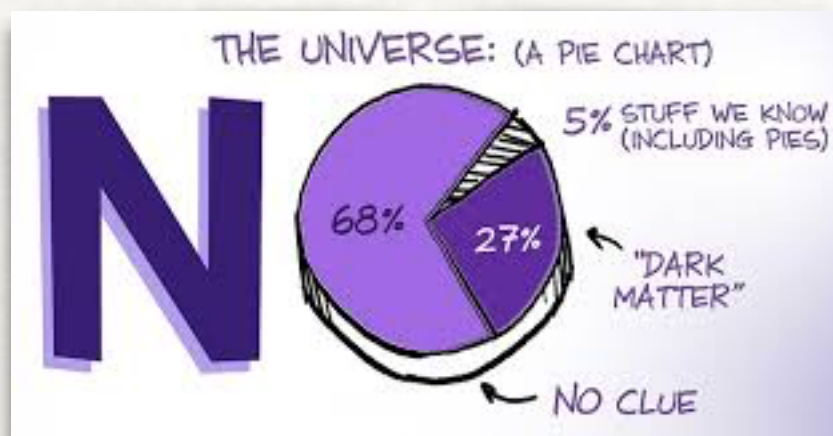
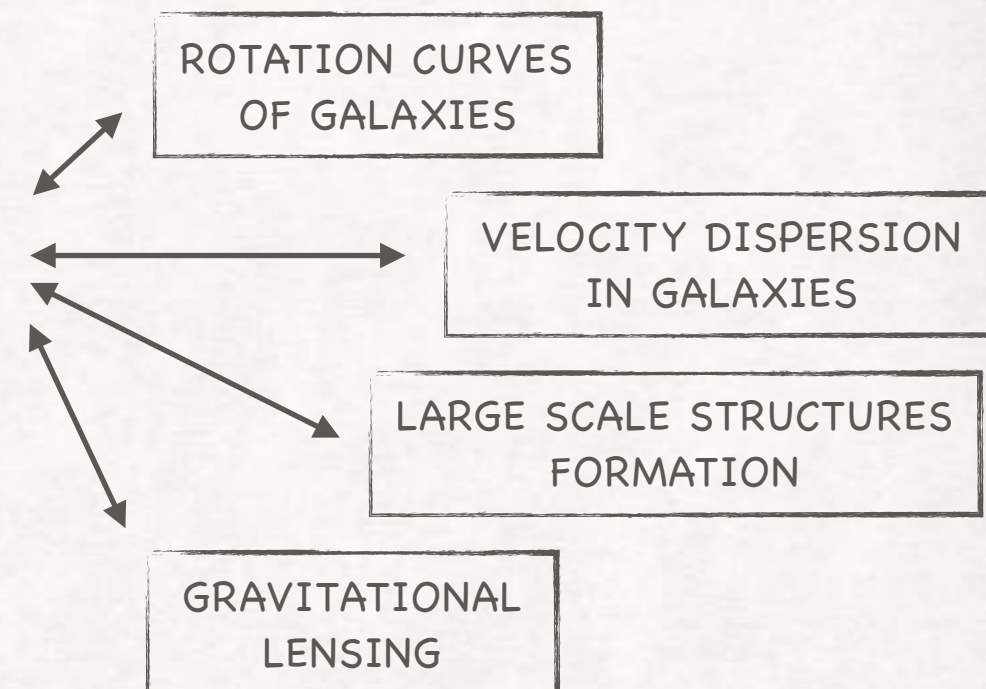
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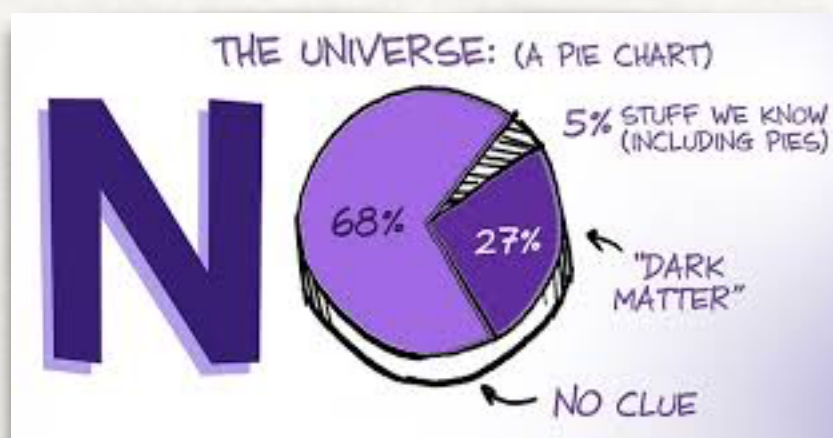
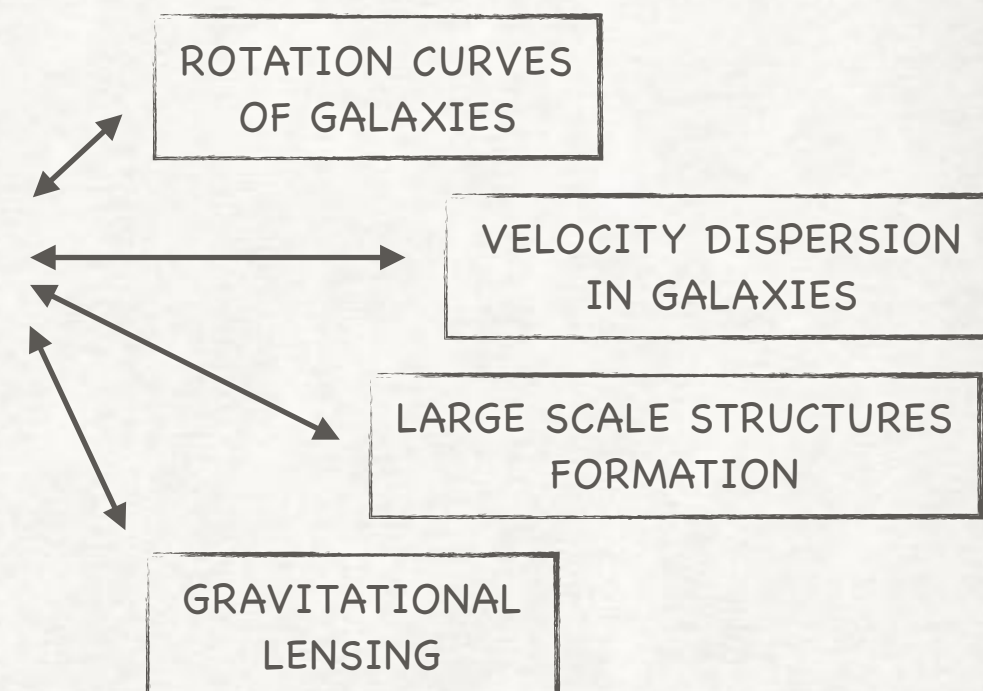


(Borrowed from J. Cham and Daniel Whiteson)

Combined cosmological and astrophysical
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Observations of galaxies, gravitational lensing phenomena
and large scale structures
provided hints about the **features of a good DM candidate**

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GOOD DARK MATTER CANDIDATE

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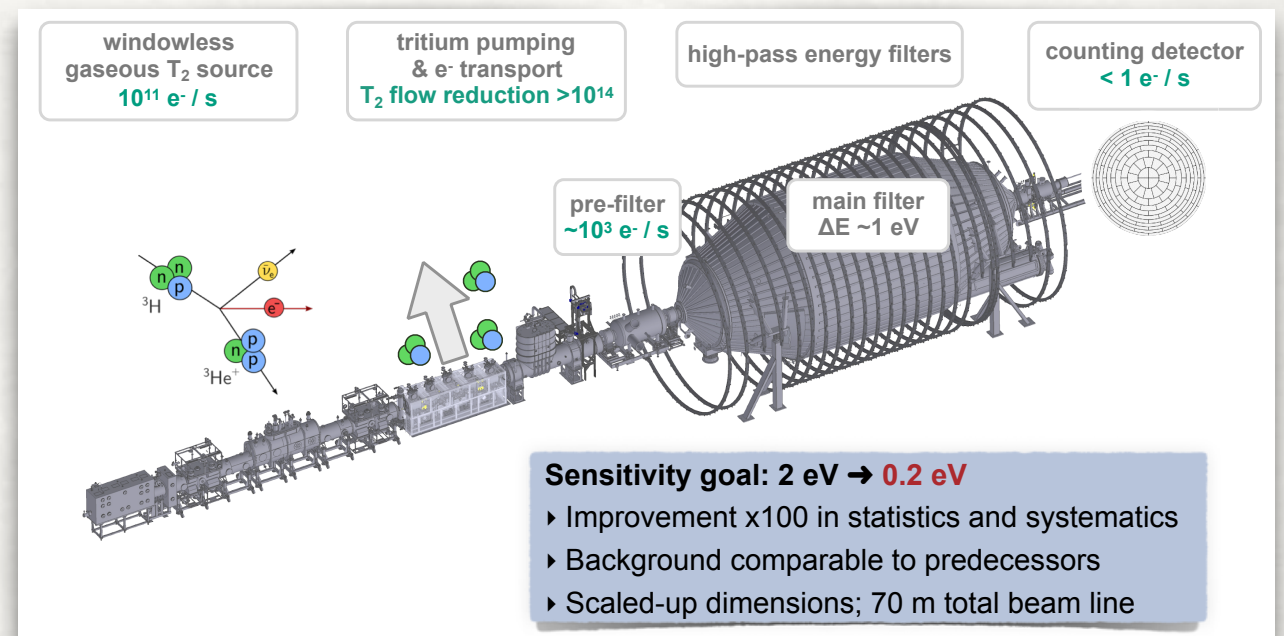
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- NO EM nor STRONG INTERACTION
- MASSIVE
- STABLE on time scales comparable with the age of the universe
- produced in the early universe with LOW ENOUGH VELOCITIES to be compatible with the L.s.s. formation

keV STERILE NEUTRINO

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- ✓ depending on the production mechanism

KATRIN EXPERIMENT



(Borrowed from K. Valerius lecture in Sinaia)

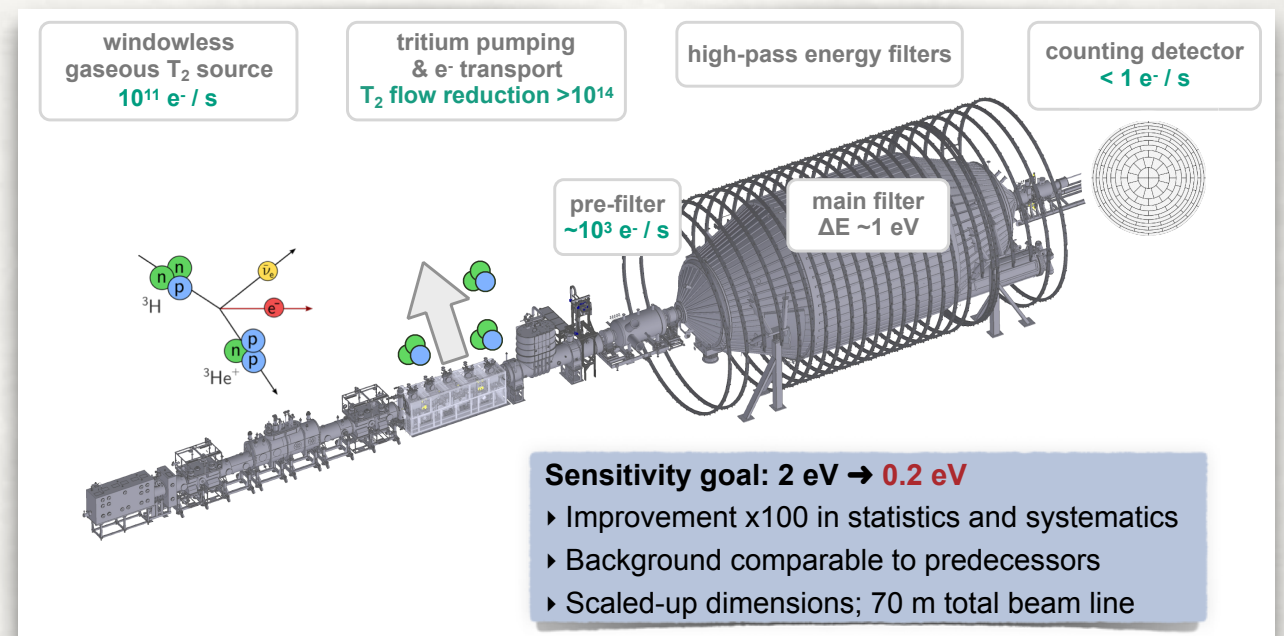
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First goal:

measurement of $m_\beta^2 \equiv \sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2 \simeq m_1^2$

hypothesis: $m_1 \simeq m_2 \simeq m_3 \gtrsim 0.2 \text{ eV}$

Process: $T_2 \rightarrow THe^+ + e + \bar{\nu}_e$



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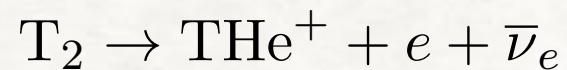
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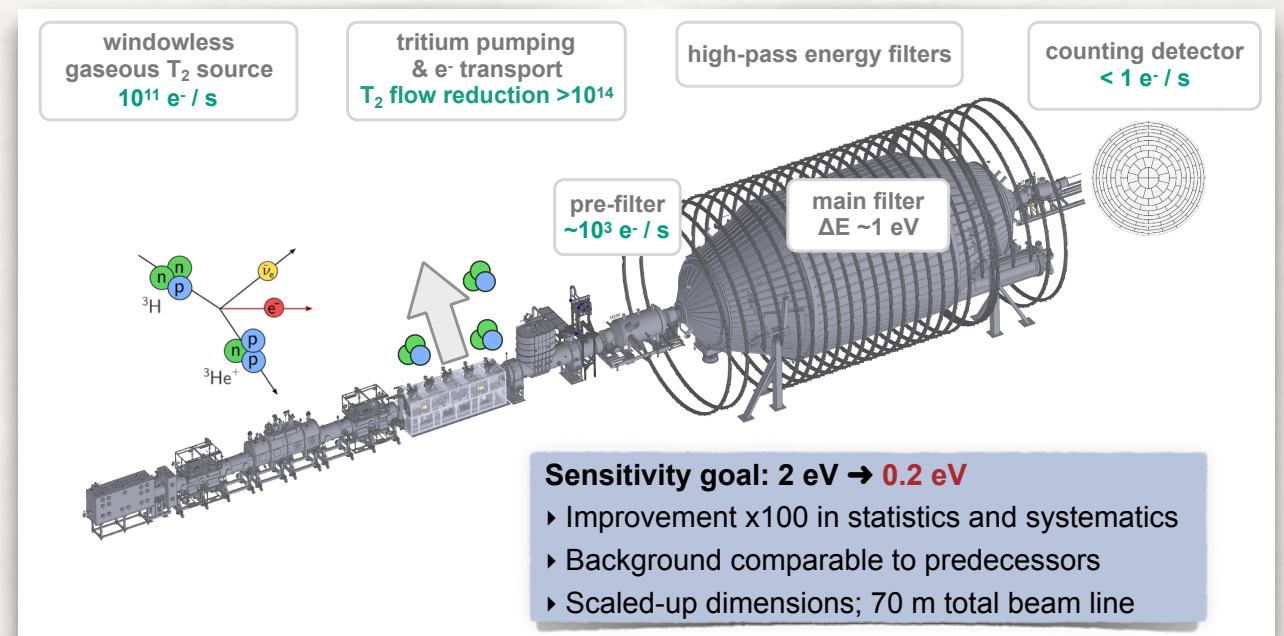
Observable: electron spectrum

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dE} = C \cdot F(E, Z=2) \cdot p \cdot (E + m_e) \cdot (E_0 - E) \sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m(\nu_i)^2}.$$

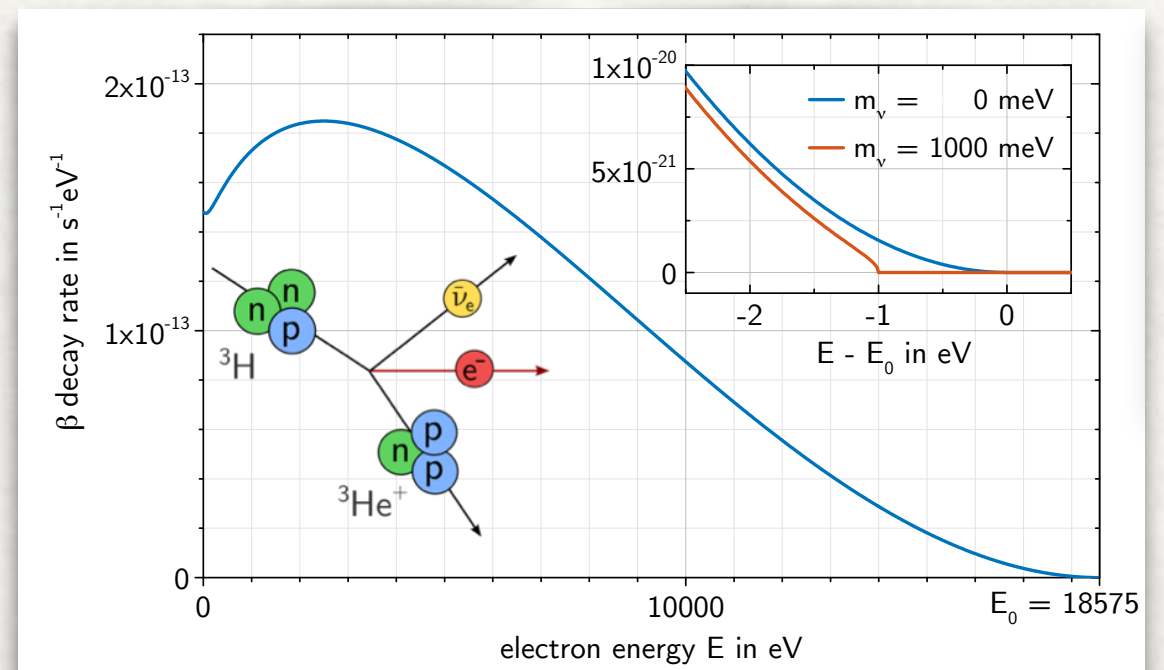
Normalization factor

Fermi function

$$C = \frac{G_F^2}{2\pi^3} \cos^2 \Theta_C |M|^2$$



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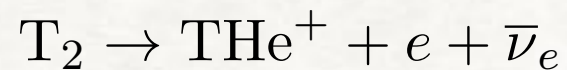
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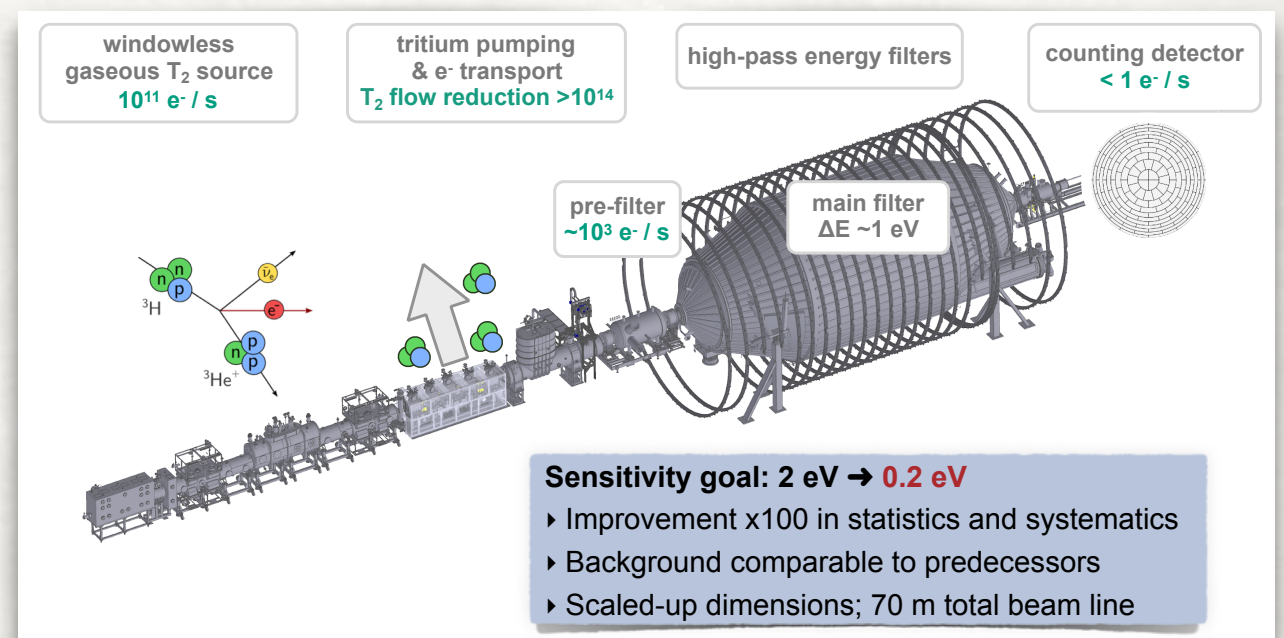
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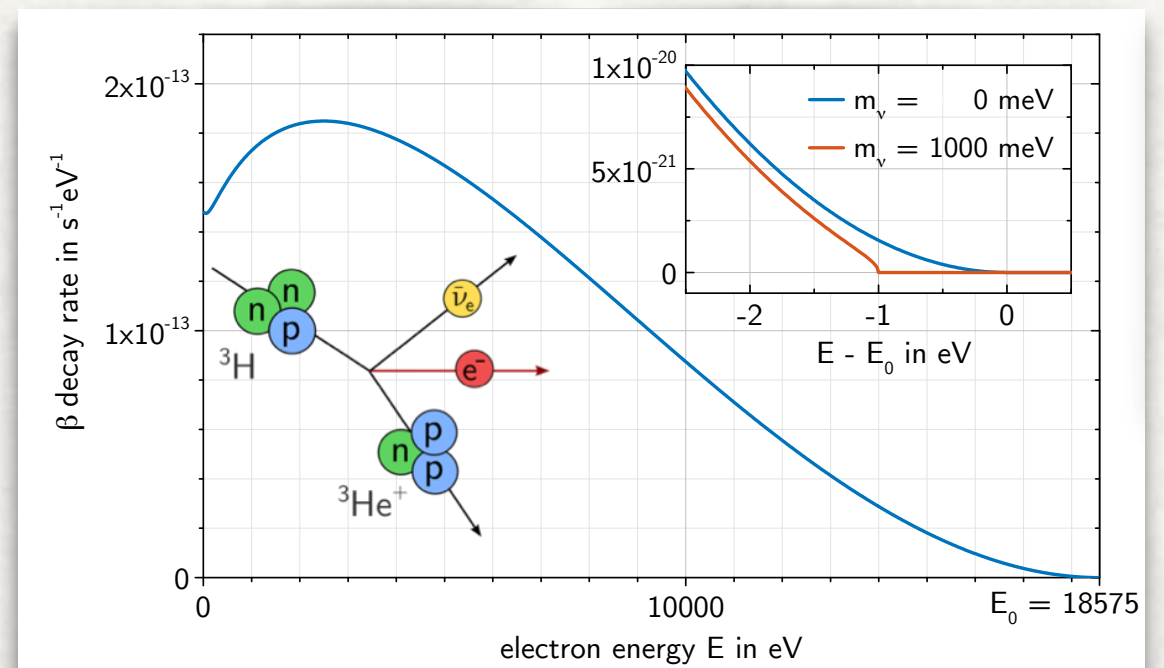
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Kurie function

$$K(E) \simeq (E_0 - E) \sqrt{1 - \frac{m_\beta^2}{(E_0 - E)^2}}$$



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KATRIN SEARCH FOR STERILE NEUTRINOS

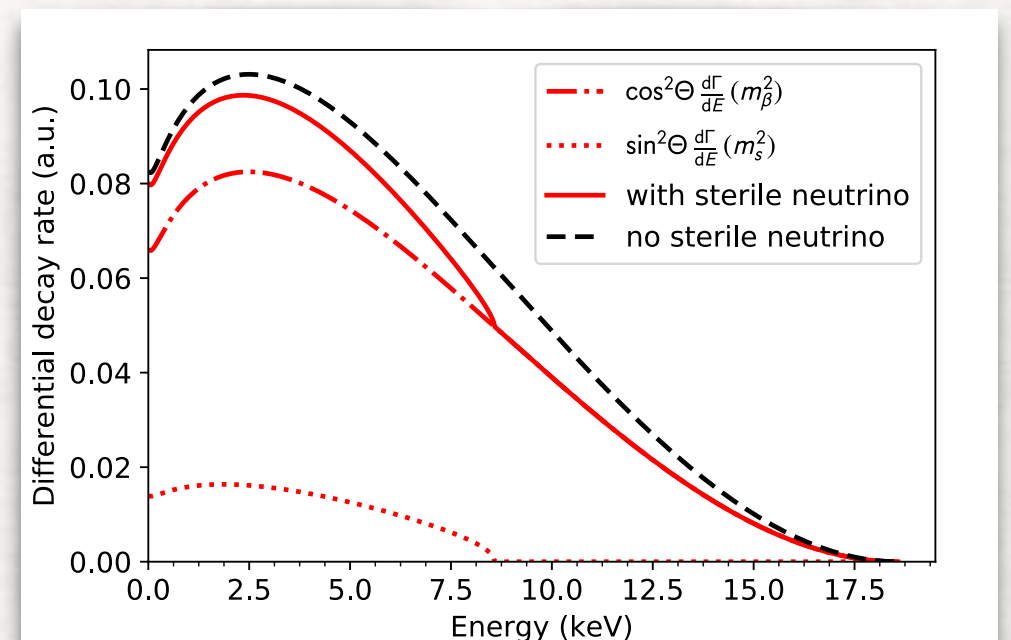
If $|\nu_e\rangle$ admixture of $|\nu_i\rangle$ and $|\nu_s\rangle$ with $m_s \sim \mathcal{O}(\text{keV})$,
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Differential spectrum:

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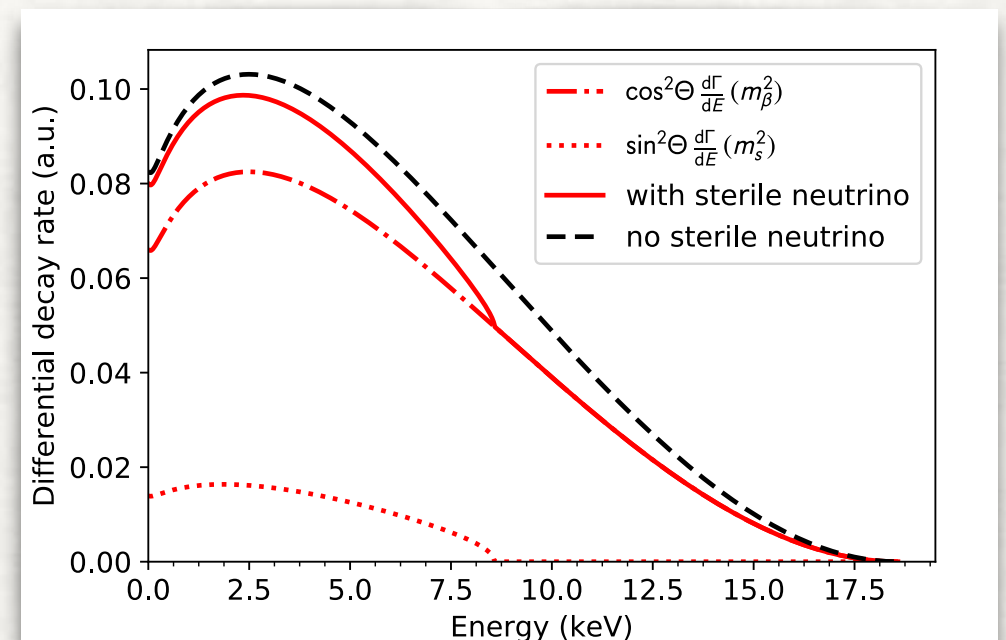
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To be able to look at the entire spectrum of the electrons,
KATRIN WILL BE UPDATED (evolving into TRISTAN)
being equipped with a NEW DETECTOR that is now under construction

DODELSON-WIDROW PRODUCTION

Hp: $\nu_s \leftrightarrow \nu_e$ (and $\bar{\nu}_s \leftrightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$) mixing

Hp: Production through oscillation and collisions:

the neutrino fields oscillate between the electron and the sterile state while propagating in the plasma; when they interact with the other fields in the bath, the wave function has probability $\propto \sin^2(2\theta_M)$ to collapse in the sterile state

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Evolution of the distribution function $f_s(p, t)$ described by the BOLTZMANN EQUATION:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f_s(p, t) - H p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} f_s(p, t) \approx \frac{\Gamma_e}{2} \langle P_m(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_s; p, t) \rangle f_e(p, t)$$

where $\Gamma_e(p) = c_e(p, T) G_F^2 p T^4$

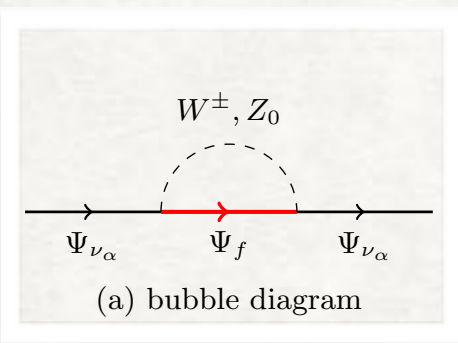
$$\langle P_m(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_s; p, t) \rangle = \sin^2(2\theta_M) \sin^2\left(\frac{v t}{L}\right) \approx \frac{1}{2} \sin^2(2\theta_M)$$

DODELSON-WIDROW PRODUCTION

$$\sin^2(2\theta_M) = \frac{\left(\frac{m_s^2}{2p}\right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta)}{\left(\frac{m_s^2}{2p}\right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta) + \frac{\Gamma_e(p)}{2} + \left[\frac{m_s^2}{2p} \cos(2\theta) - V_T(p) - V_L(p)\right]^2}$$

THERMAL POTENTIAL

$$V_T(p) = \pm \sqrt{2} G_F \frac{2\zeta(3) T^3}{\pi^2} \frac{\eta_B}{4} - \frac{8\sqrt{2} G_F p}{3m_Z^2} (\rho_{\nu_e} + \rho_{\bar{\nu}_e}) - \frac{8\sqrt{2} G_F p}{3m_W^2} (\rho_{e^-} + \rho_{e^+})$$



ASYMMETRY POTENTIAL

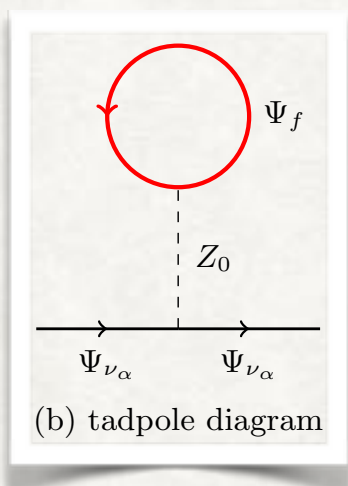
$$V_L(p) = \frac{2\sqrt{2}\zeta(3)}{\pi^2} G_F T^3 \mathcal{L}^\alpha$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}^\alpha \equiv 2L_{\nu_\alpha} + \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} L_{\nu_\beta}$$

and

$$L_{\nu_\alpha} = \frac{(n_{\nu_\alpha} - n_{\bar{\nu}_\alpha})}{n_\gamma}$$

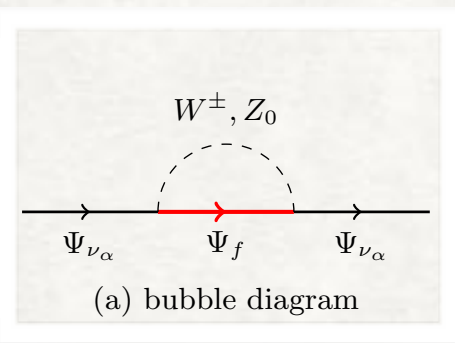


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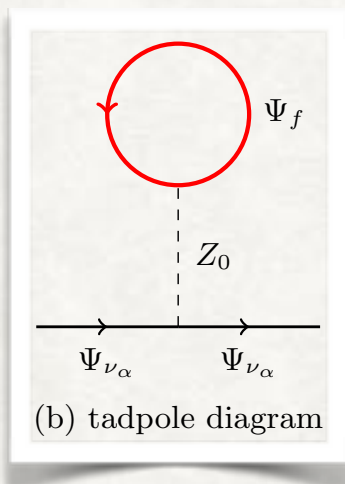


ASYMMETRY POTENTIAL

$$V_L(p) = \frac{2\sqrt{2} \zeta(3)}{\pi^2} G_F T^3 \mathcal{L}^a = 0$$

in the non resonant production

since
$$L_{\nu_\alpha} = \frac{(n_{\nu_\alpha} - n_{\bar{\nu}_\alpha})}{n_\gamma} = 0$$



DODELSON-WIDROW PRODUCTION

We are able to **solve** the Boltzmann equation and get

$$f_s(r) = \int_{T_{\text{fin}}}^{T_{\text{in}}} dT \left(\frac{M_{\text{Pl}}}{1.66 \sqrt{g_*} T^3} \right) \left[\frac{1}{4} \frac{\Gamma_e(r, T) \left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT} \right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta)}{\left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT} \right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta) + \left(\frac{\Gamma_e}{2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT} - V \right)^2} \right]$$

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For non relativistic relic
$$h^2 \Omega = \frac{s_0 m}{\rho_c / h^2} Y_0$$

where the yield is $Y = \frac{n}{s}$ and $n(T) = \frac{g}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d^3 p f(p, T)$

→ Sterile neutrino dark matter abundance

$$h^2 \Omega_s = \frac{s_0 m_s}{\rho_c / h^2} \frac{1}{g_{*s}} \left(\frac{45}{4\pi^4} \right) \int_0^\infty dr r^2 [f_{\nu_s}(r) + f_{\bar{\nu}_s}(r)]$$

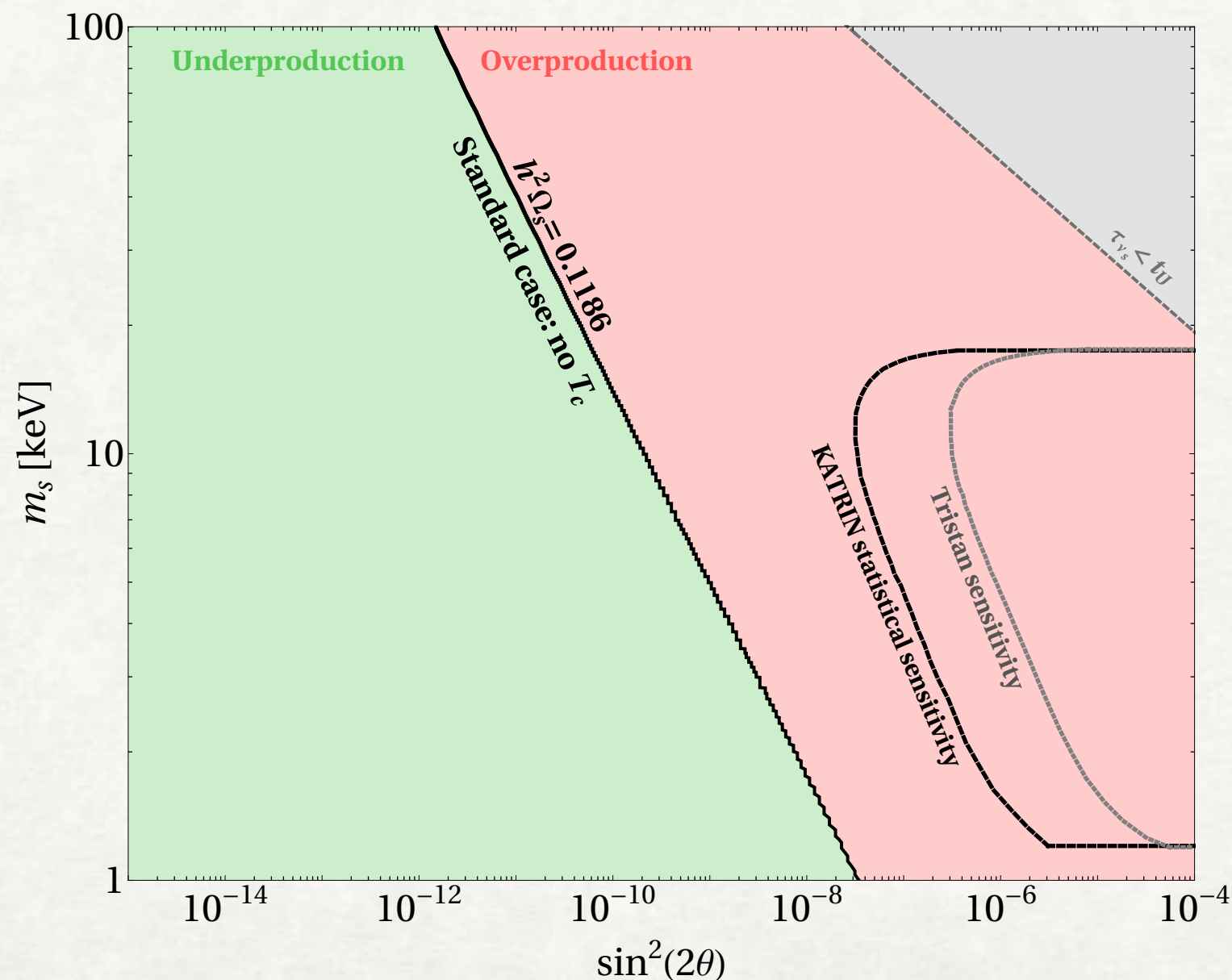
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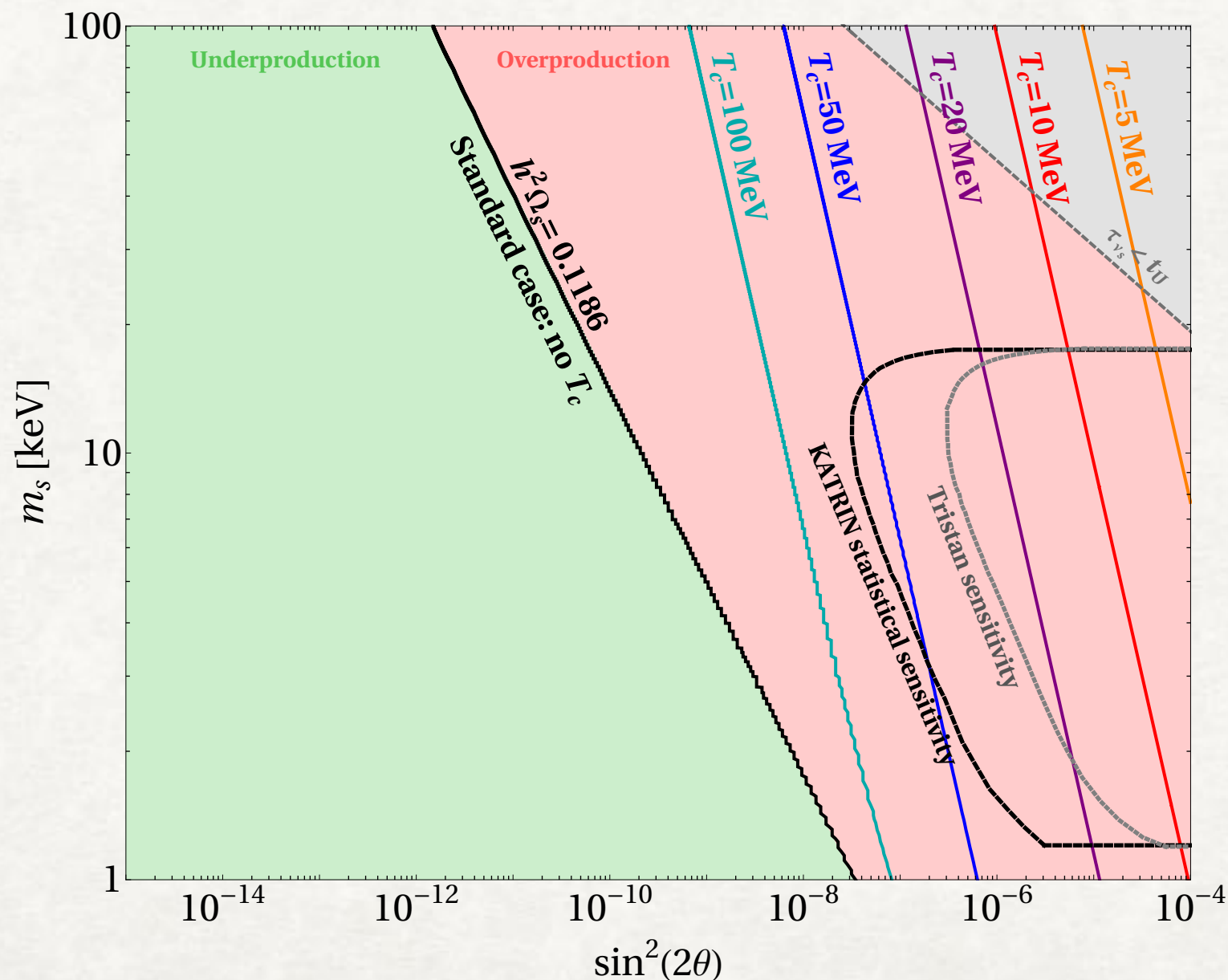
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$$\sin^2(2\theta_M) = \frac{m_D^2}{m_D^2 + [c\Gamma_\alpha E/m_s + m_s/2]^2}$$

with $m_D \simeq \theta m_s$
 $c \approx 63$

$$\Gamma_\alpha(p) = c_\alpha(T) G_F^2 T^4 p$$

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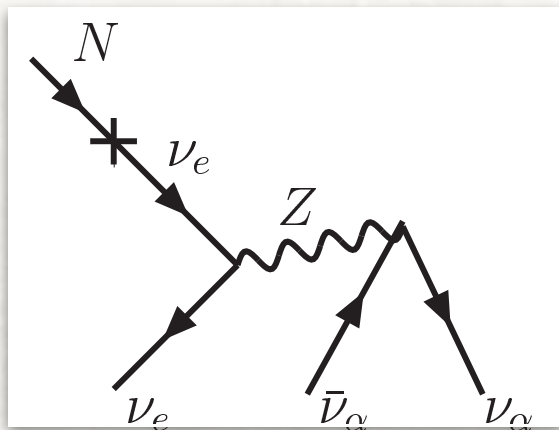
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• PHASE TRANSITION CASE: $m_s^{(T > T_c)} = 0$

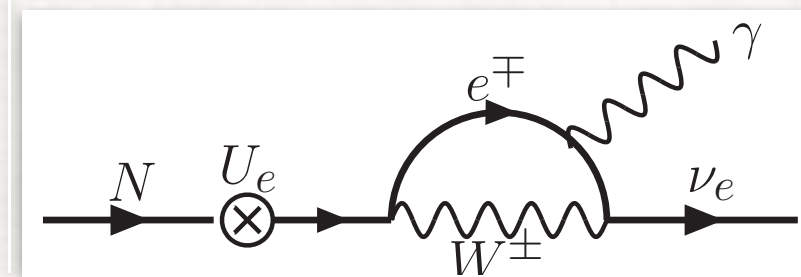
• MISALIGNMENT MECHANISM CASE: $m_s^{(T > T_c)} \gg m_s^{\text{today}}$

X-RAY CONSTRAINT

Decay channels for sterile neutrinos



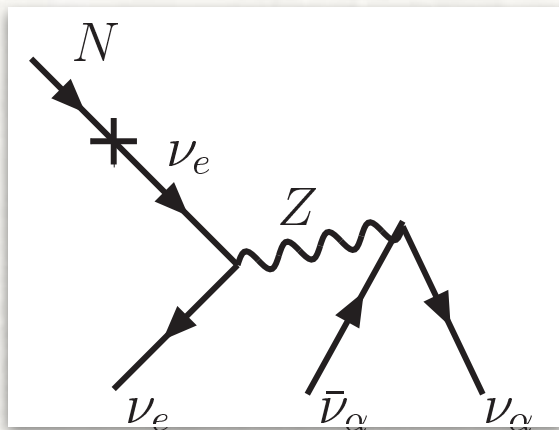
$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_{\nu_s \rightarrow 3\nu} &= \frac{G_F^2 m_s^5}{96 \pi^3} \sin^2(2\theta) \\ &= \frac{1}{4.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ s}} \left(\frac{m_s}{50 \text{ keV}} \right)^5 \sin^2(2\theta)\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_{\nu_s \rightarrow \nu \gamma} &= \frac{9 \alpha G_F^2}{1024 \pi^4} \sin^2(2\theta) m_s^5 \\ &\simeq 5.5 \times 10^{-22} \theta^2 \left(\frac{m_s}{\text{keV}} \right)^5 \text{ s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

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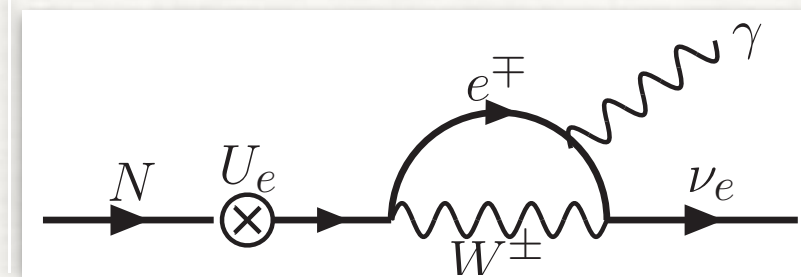
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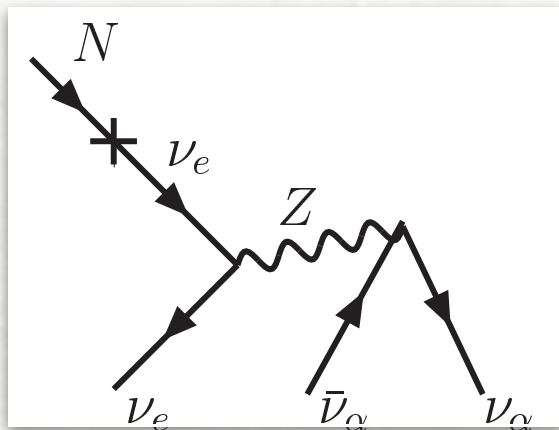
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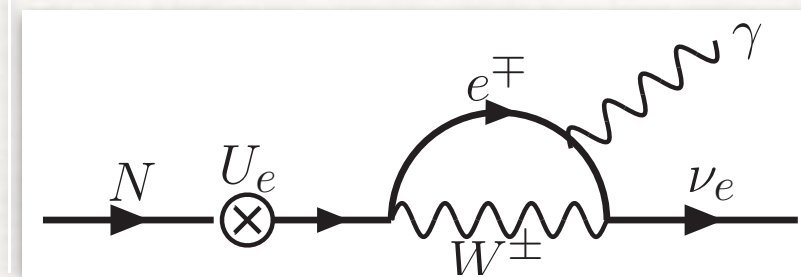
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Upper bounds on mass and mixing angle
from the X-rays observations
Exp: XMM-Newton, Chandra, Suzaku, Swift,
INTEGRAL, HEAO-1, Fermi/GBM

X-ray Constraint Relaxation - DM Cocktail

OBSERVABLE : Flux of photons

$$F = \frac{\Gamma_{\nu_s \rightarrow \nu \gamma}}{4\pi m_s} \int dl d\Omega \rho_{\text{DM}}(l, \Omega)$$

The first possibility to get a relaxed constraint from the X-rays observations is to hypothesize that **ONLY A FRACTION OF THE DARK MATTER** content of the universe is **CONSTITUTED BY STERILE NEUTRINOS**

$$\rho_s < \rho_{\text{DM}} \quad \text{allows larger} \quad \sin^2(2\theta) \quad \text{and} \quad m_s$$

X-ray Constraint Relaxation - DM Cocktail

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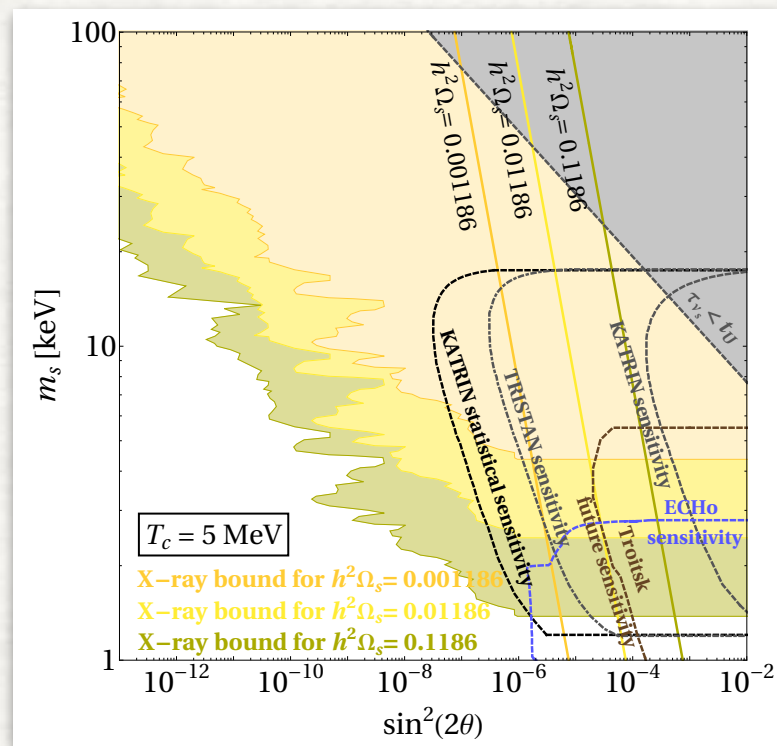
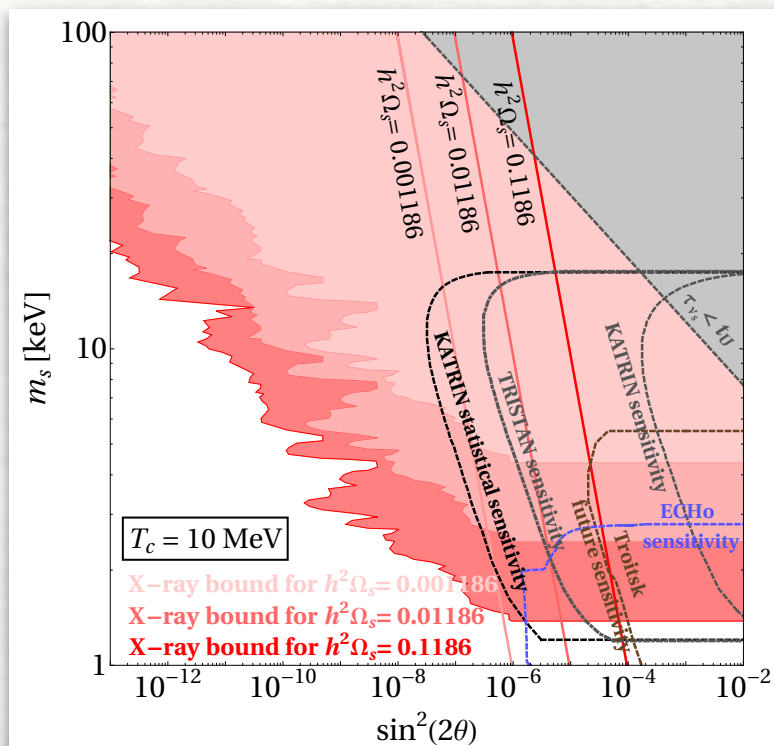
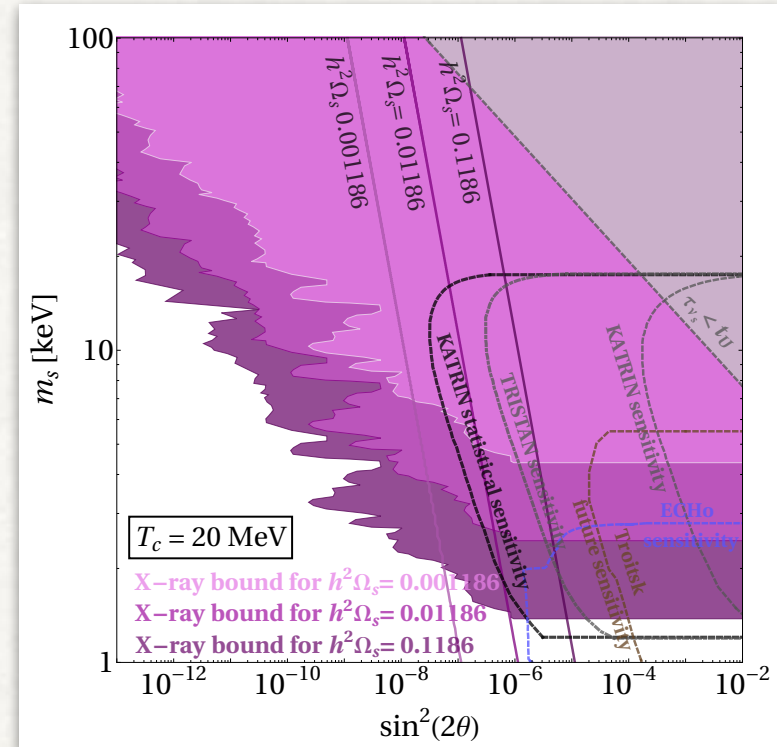
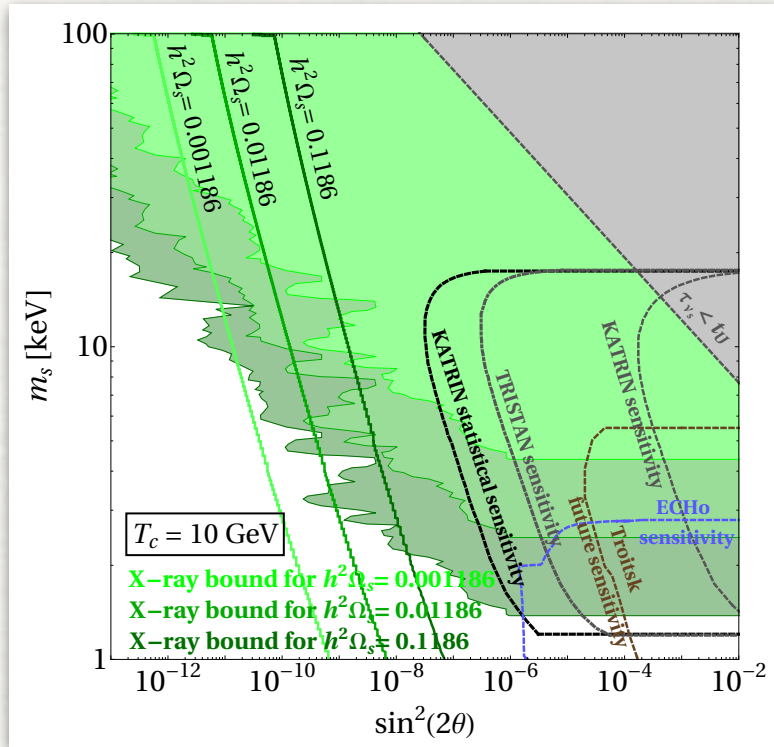
The first possibility to get a relaxed constraint from the X-rays observations is to hypothesize that **ONLY A FRACTION OF THE DARK MATTER** content of the universe is **CONSTITUTED BY STERILE NEUTRINOS**

$$\rho_s < \rho_{\text{DM}} \quad \text{allows larger} \quad \sin^2(2\theta) \quad \text{and} \quad m_s$$

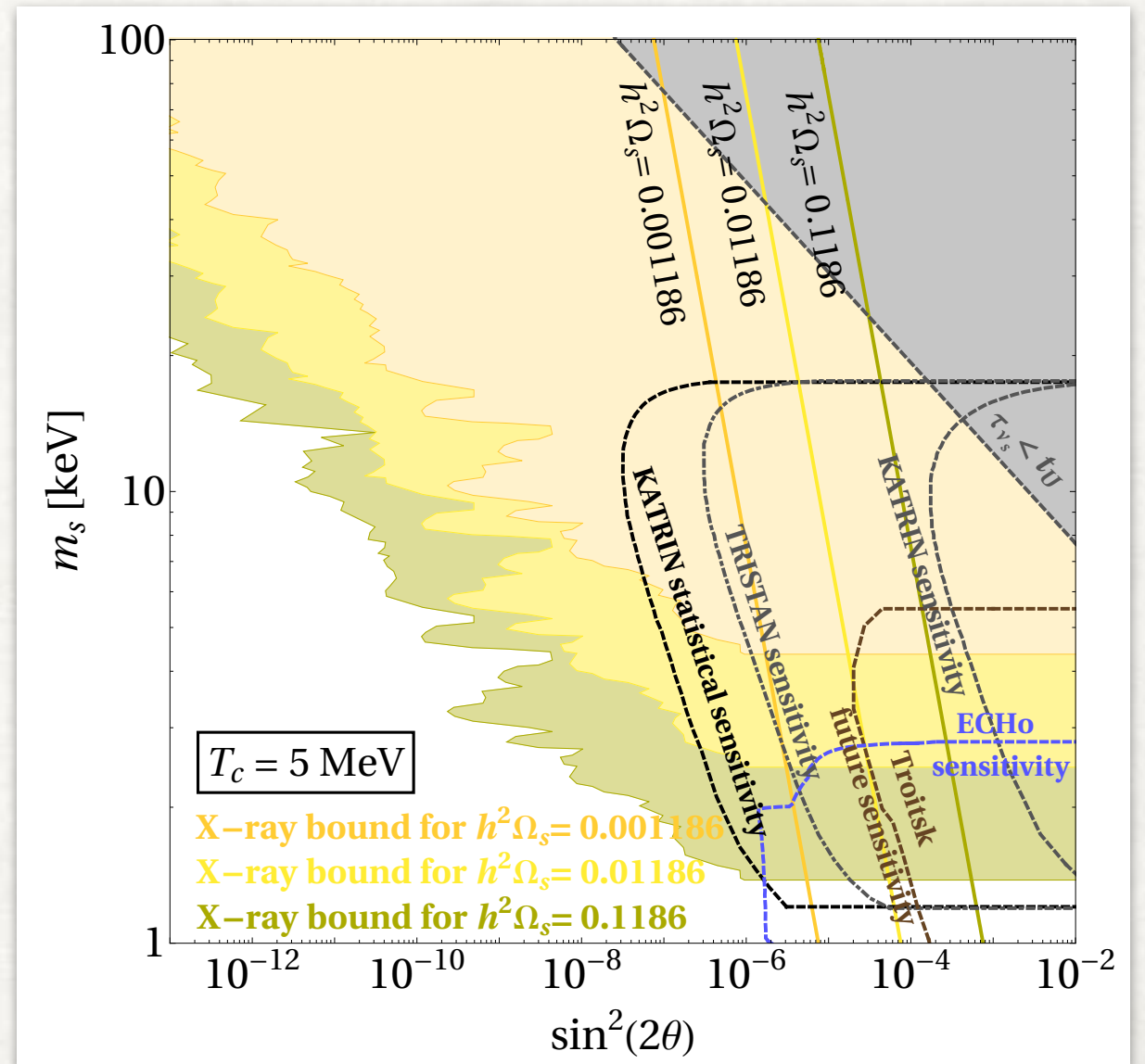
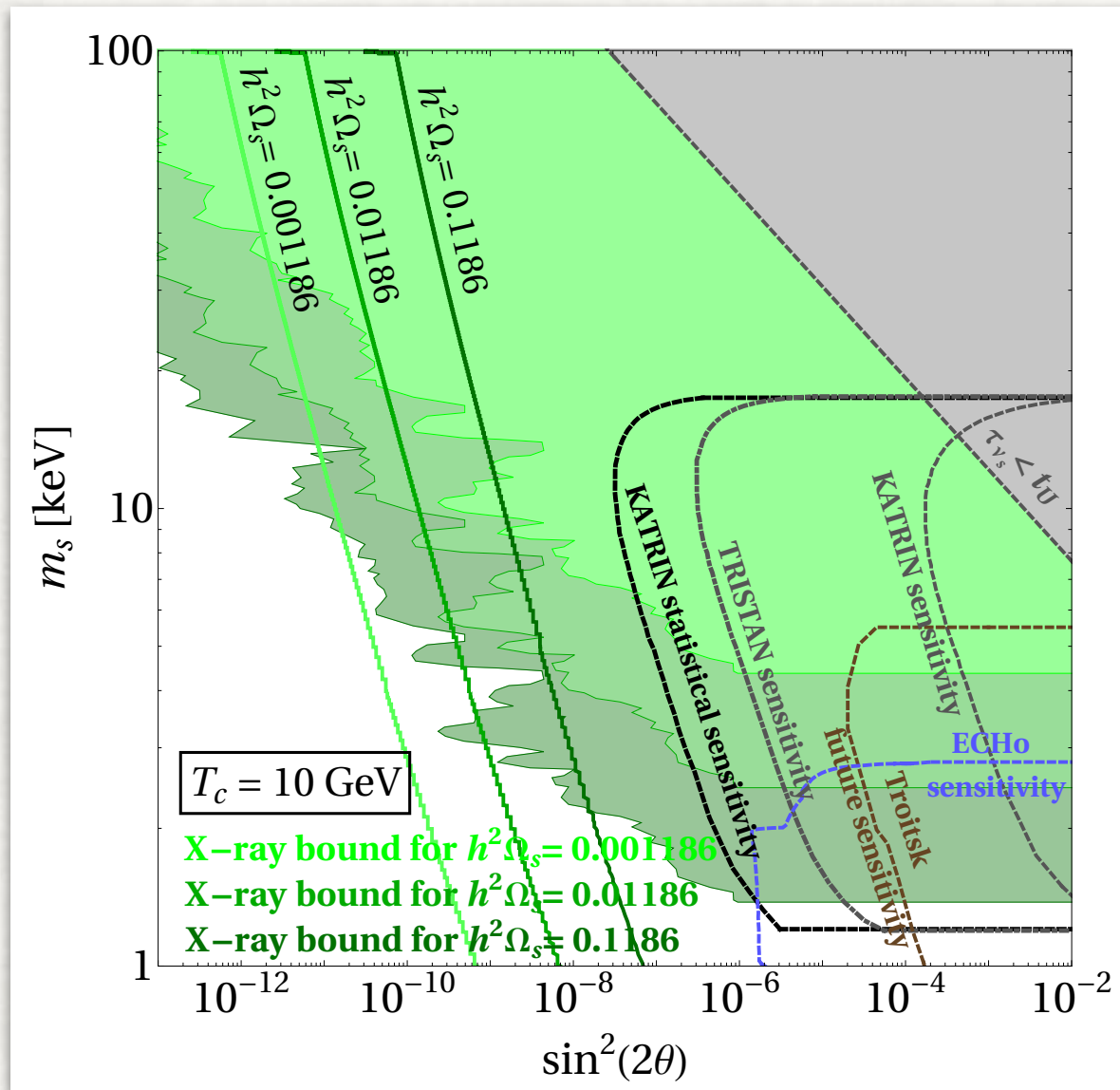
Secondary advantage:

multicomponent dark matter allows in principle more freedom also from other constraint coming, for example, from large scale structures

X-ray Constraint Relaxation - DM Cocktail



X-ray Constraint Relaxation - DM Cocktail



X-ray Constraint Relaxation - Reduced Decay Rate

OBSERVABLE : Flux of photons

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The second possibility to get a relaxed constraint from the X-rays observations is to hypothesize that the DECAY RATE determined by the mixing angle and the mass IS REDUCED

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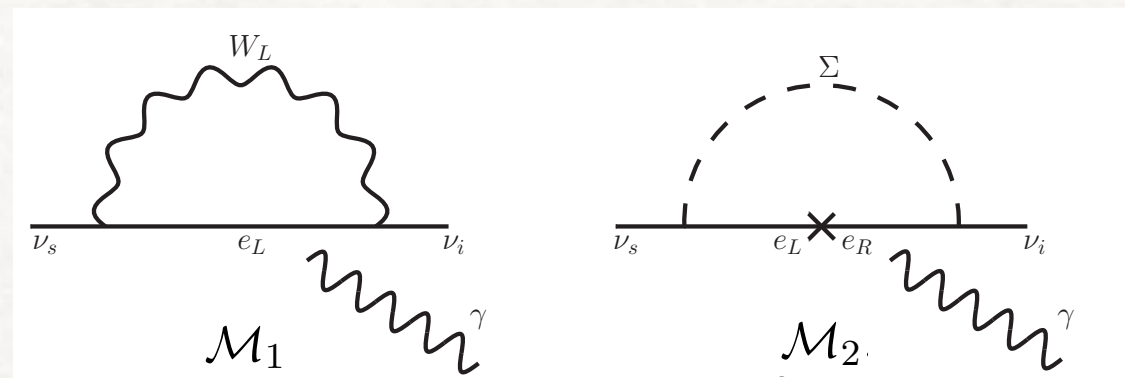
$$\Gamma \propto \int d\text{Phase} |\mathcal{M}|^2 \text{ reduced} \quad \text{if} \quad |\mathcal{M}|^2 \text{ reduced}$$

This can be achieved if we consider the contribution of two diagrams with the same initial and final state and such that

$$\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_1 + \mathcal{M}_2 \quad \text{where} \quad |\mathcal{M}|^2 < |\mathcal{M}_1 + \mathcal{M}_2|^2$$

X-ray Constraint Relaxation - Reduced Decay Rate

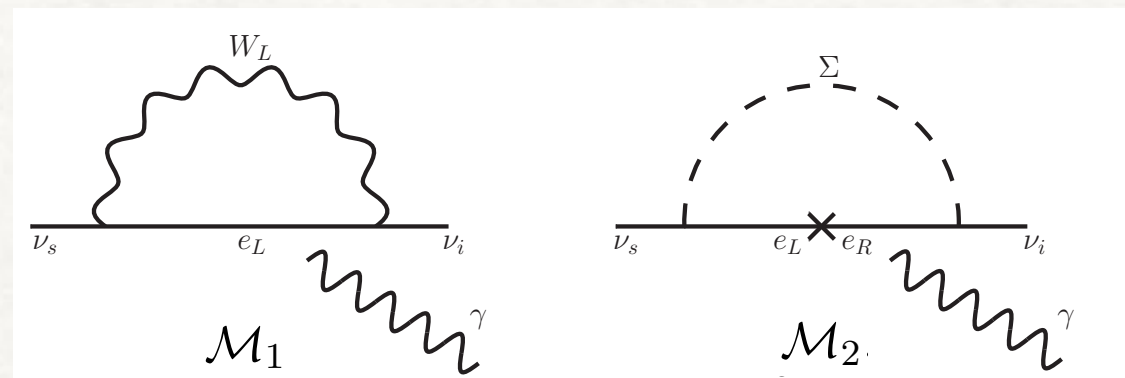
Particular realization:



Adding a heavy scalar Σ and 3 new parameters $\lambda, \lambda', m_\Sigma$

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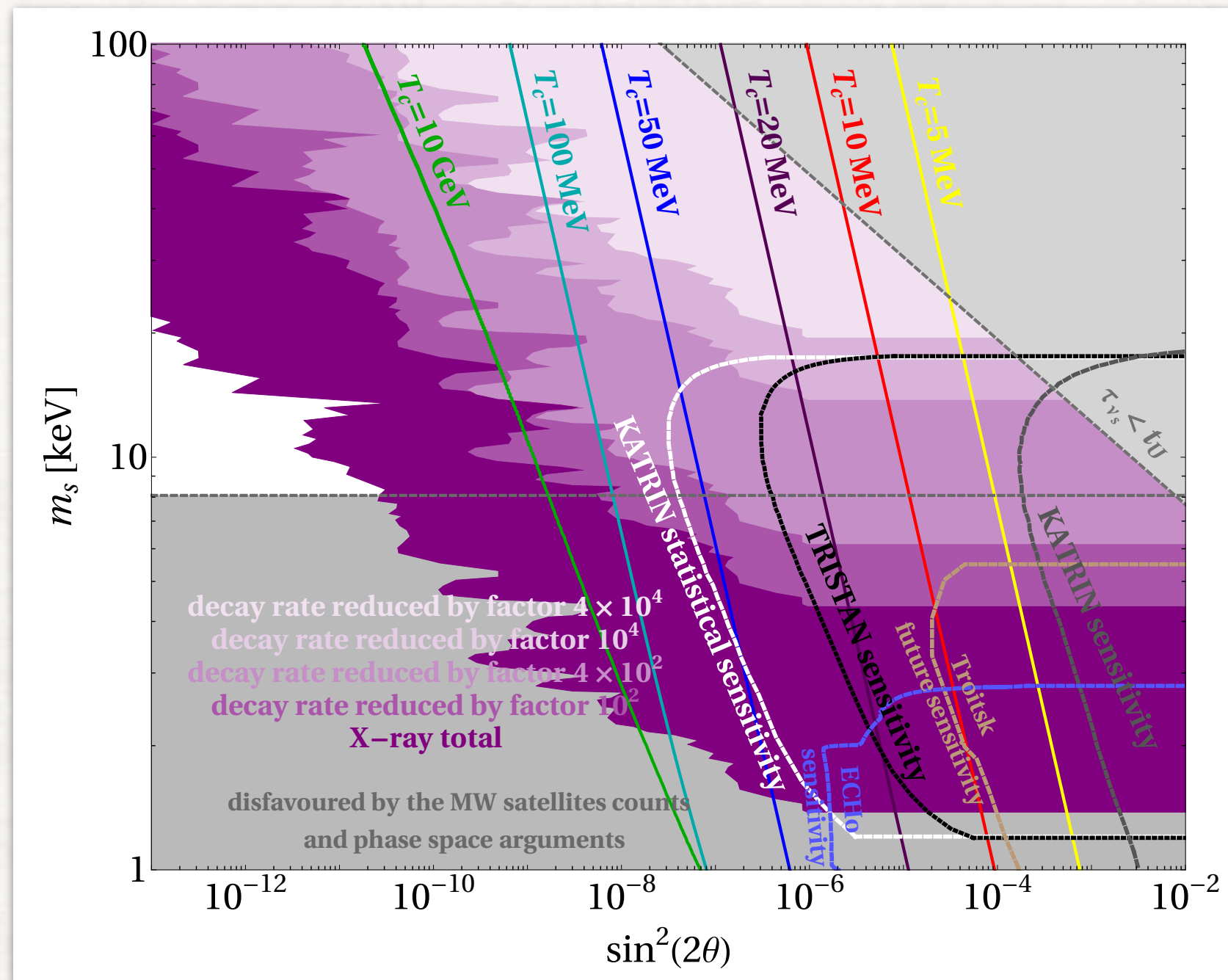
It is possible to have partial or even complete cancellation if

$$\sin \theta = \left(\frac{-4\lambda\lambda'}{3g^2} \right) \frac{m_e}{m_s} \frac{m_W^2}{m_\Sigma^2} \left[\text{Log} \left(\frac{m_e^2}{m_\Sigma^2} \right) + 1 \right]$$

Warning: Σ must not reach the thermal equilibrium in the early universe

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \lambda \lesssim 10^{-7} \\ \text{or} \\ T_{RH} < m_\Sigma \sim 1 \text{ TeV} \end{cases}$$

X-ray Constraint Relaxation - Reduced Decay Rate



RESONANT PRODUCTION – SHI-FULLER CASE

$$\text{Hp: } L_{\nu_e} \neq 0$$

→ depending on the sign of the asymmetry, the production of sterile neutrinos or antineutrinos was enhanced for specific values of p and T as a consequence of the resonance in the denominator of $\sin^2(2\theta_M)$

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$$h^2 \Omega_s = \frac{s_0 m_s}{\rho_c/h^2} \frac{45}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{M_{\text{Pl}}}{1.66 g_{*s} \sqrt{g_*}} \int_0^\infty dr r^2 \int_{T_{\text{fin}}}^{T_{\text{in}}} \frac{dT}{T^3} \times$$

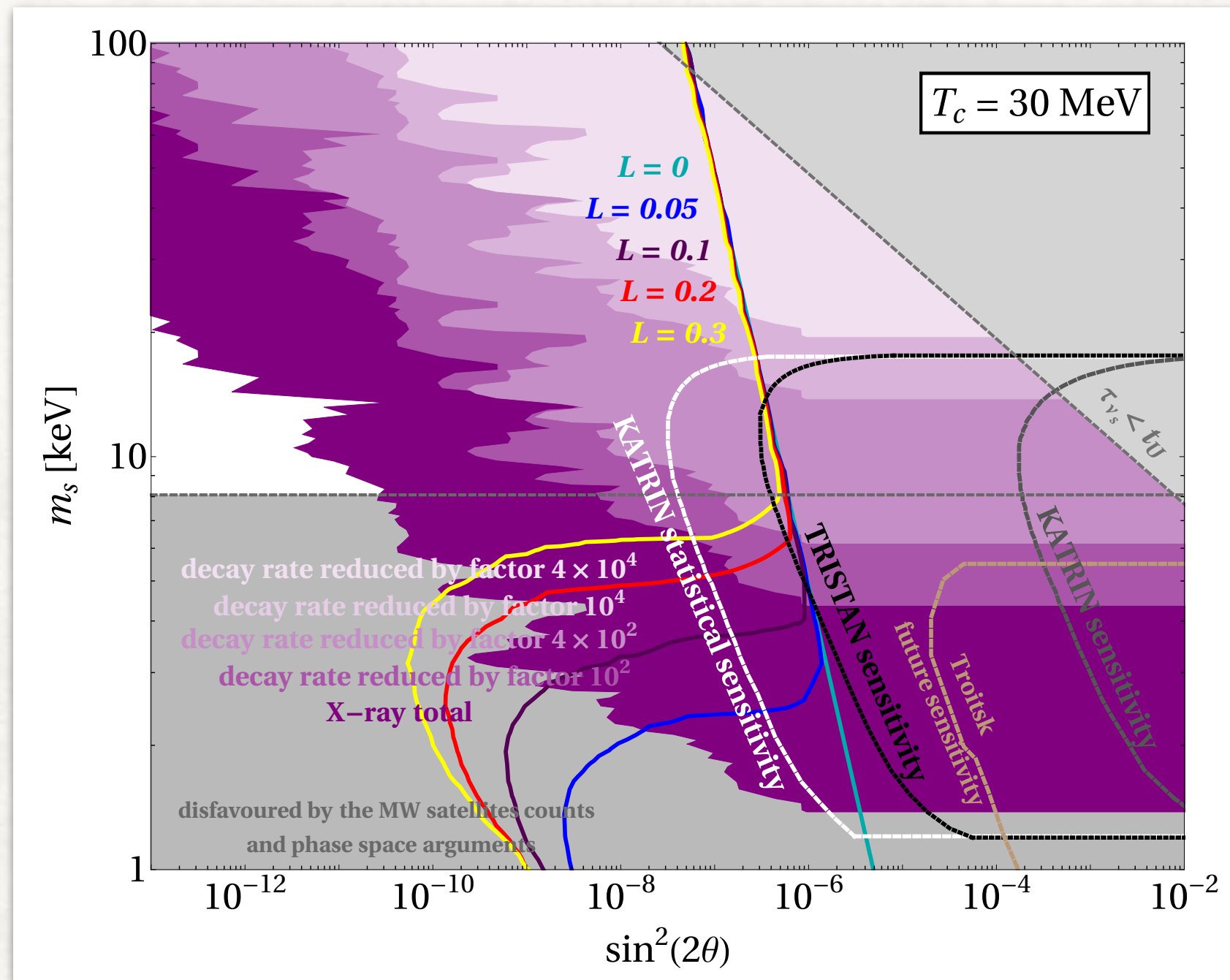
$$\left[\frac{\Gamma_e(r, T) \left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT}\right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta)}{\left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT}\right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta) + \left(\frac{\Gamma_e}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT} - V_{\nu_s}\right)^2} + \frac{\Gamma_e(r, T) \left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT}\right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta)}{\left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT}\right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta) + \left(\frac{\Gamma_e}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT} - V_{\bar{\nu}_s}\right)^2} \right]$$

where

$$V_{\nu_s}(p) = +\sqrt{2}G_F \frac{2\zeta(3)T^3}{\pi^2} \frac{\eta_B}{4} - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_Z^2}(\rho_{\nu_e} + \rho_{\bar{\nu}_e}) - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_W^2}(\rho_{e^-} + \rho_{e^+}) + \frac{2\sqrt{2}\zeta(3)}{\pi^2} G_F T^3 \times L_e$$

$$V_{\bar{\nu}_s}(p) = -\sqrt{2}G_F \frac{2\zeta(3)T^3}{\pi^2} \frac{\eta_B}{4} - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_Z^2}(\rho_{\nu_e} + \rho_{\bar{\nu}_e}) - \frac{8\sqrt{2}G_F p}{3m_W^2}(\rho_{e^-} + \rho_{e^+}) - \frac{2\sqrt{2}\zeta(3)}{\pi^2} G_F T^3 \times L_e$$

SHI-FULLER CASE



CPT VIOLATION CASE

$$\text{Hp: } L_{\nu_e} \neq 0$$

Hp: because of CPT symmetry violation,
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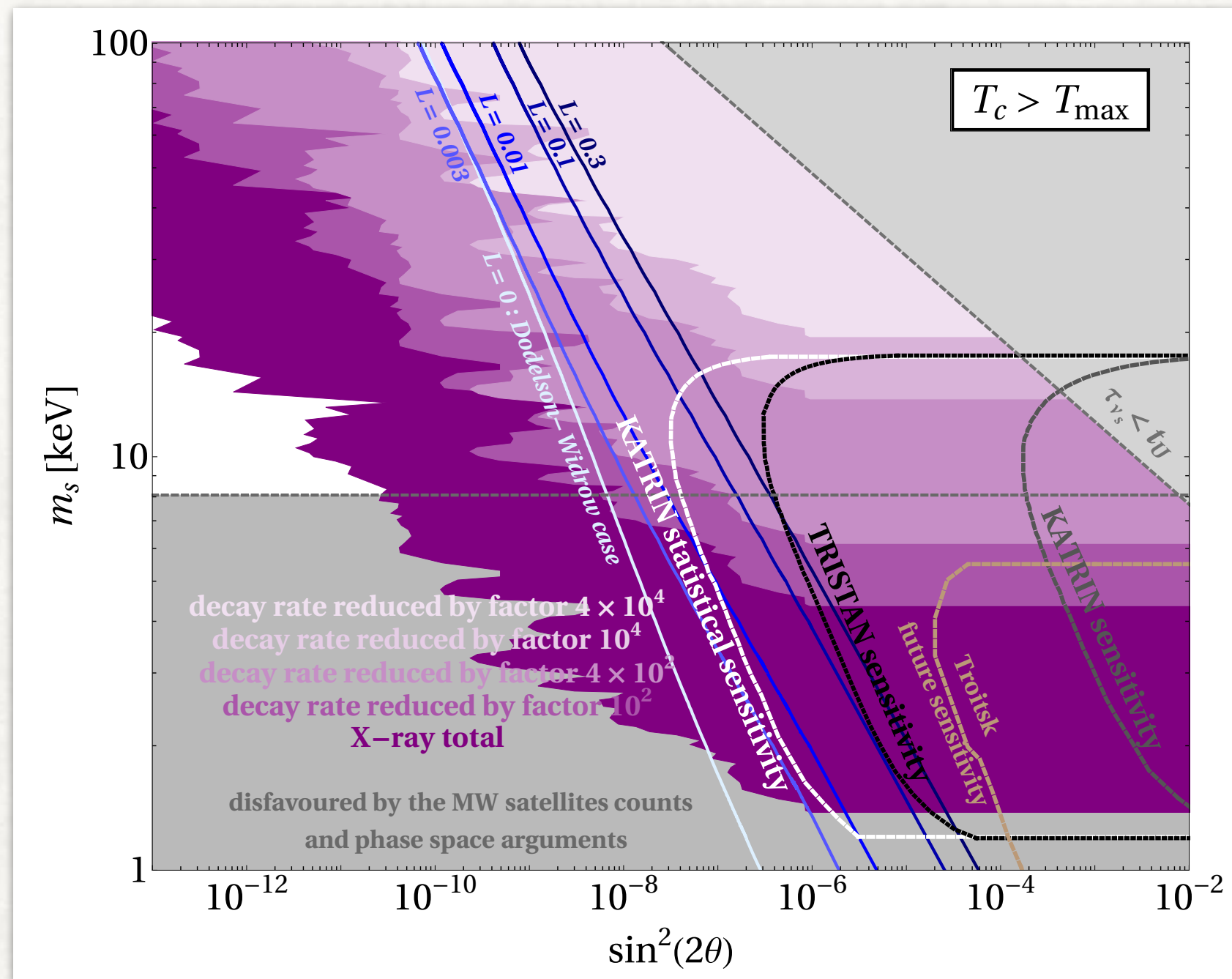
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CPT VIOLATION CASE



CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ Constraints coming from the X-ray observations and measured Ω_{DM} can cause problems in the detection at KATRIN of keV sterile neutrino dark matter produced through oscillation and collisions
- ❖ It is possible to efficiently RELAX THE X-RAY BOUND both in the Dark Matter Cocktail scenario and in the case of two (or more) decay channels for the keV sterile neutrino
- ❖ The introduction of a CRITICAL TEMPERATURE, in a non standard cosmological scenario or related to a new scale concerning the sterile neutrino mass, allows to have larger values of mixing angles
- ❖ The combination of these two methods sets available again the region of the parameter space in which we expect KATRIN to become sensitive in the near future to signals of keV sterile neutrino dark matter produced through both the Dodelson-Widrow and the Shi-Fuller mechanism.

THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION!

KATRIN SEARCH FOR STERILE NEUTRINOS

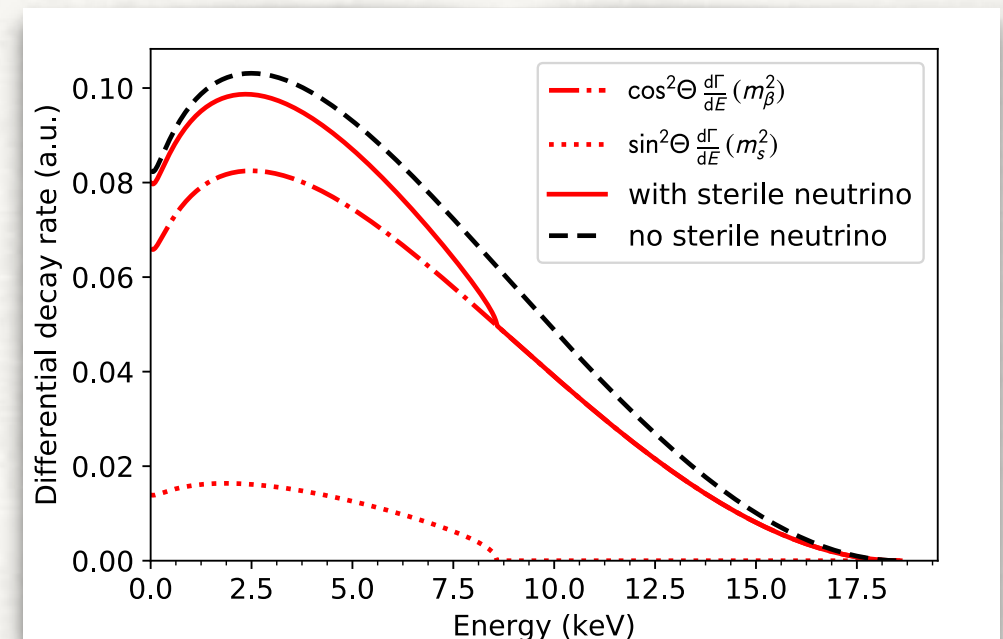
If $|\nu_e\rangle$ admixture of $|\nu_i\rangle$ and $|\nu_s\rangle$ with $m_s \sim \mathcal{O}(\text{keV})$,
 → due to the large mass splitting, THE SUPERPOSITION
 OF THE BETA-DECAY SPECTRA corresponding to the
 light effective mass term and the heavy mass
 eigenstate m_s , WILL BE DETECTABLE.

Differential spectrum:

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dE} = \cos^2 \theta \frac{d\Gamma}{dE}(m(\nu_e)) + \sin^2 \theta \frac{d\Gamma}{dE}(m_s)$$

Advantages in KATRIN searches:

- Short half-life (12.3 yrs)
- high signal rates with low source densities
- Endpoint energy of $E_0 = 18.575 \text{ keV}$
- search for sterile neutrinos in a mass range of astrophysical interest
- Ultra luminous tritium source
- high statistic search for keV-sterile neutrinos



(Borrowed from S. Mertens lecture in Bad Honnef)

DODELSON-WIDROW PRODUCTION

Assuming $g_*(T) = \text{const}$ in the plasma during the sterile neutrinos production and making use of the relation valid for fixed $r = p/T$

$$-HT \left(\frac{\partial f_s(p, T)}{\partial T} \right)_p - Hp \left(\frac{\partial f_s(p, T)}{\partial p} \right)_T = -HT \left(\frac{\partial f_s(p, T)}{\partial T} \right)_{p/T} = -HT \left(\frac{\partial f_s(r)}{\partial T} \right)_r$$

We are able to **solve** the Boltzmann equation and get

$$f_s(r) = \int_{T_{\text{fin}}}^{T_{\text{in}}} dT \left(\frac{M_{\text{Pl}}}{1.66 \sqrt{g_*} T^3} \right) \left[\frac{1}{4} \frac{\Gamma_e(r, T) \left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT} \right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta)}{\left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT} \right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta) + \left(\frac{\Gamma_e}{2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_s^2}{2rT} - V \right)^2} \right]$$

For non relativistic relic $h^2 \Omega = \frac{s_0 m}{\rho_c/h^2} Y_0$

where the yield is $Y = \frac{n}{s}$ and $n(T) = \frac{g}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d^3 p f(p, T)$

→ **Sterile neutrino dark matter abundance**

$$h^2 \Omega_s = \frac{s_0 m_s}{\rho_c/h^2} \frac{1}{g_{*s}} \left(\frac{45}{4\pi^4} \right) \int_0^\infty dr r^2 [f_{\nu_s}(r) + f_{\bar{\nu}_s}(r)]$$

Critical Temperature

NEW SCALE in the primeval universe

■ LOW REHEATING TEMPERATURE

The production of sterile neutrinos started at lower temperatures than the peak one because the universe never reached T_{max}

■ SCALE OF THE DYNAMICAL CHANGE OF m_s

$$\sin^2(2\theta_M) = \frac{m_D^2}{m_D^2 + [c\Gamma_\alpha E/m_s + m_s/2]^2} \quad \text{with} \quad m_D \simeq \theta m_s$$

$$c \approx 63$$

$$\Gamma_\alpha(p) = c_\alpha(T) G_F^2 T^4 p$$

• PHASE TRANSITION CASE: $m_s^{(T>T_c)} = 0$

if $m_s = f\langle\phi\rangle$, where ϕ is a new scalar field belonging to a hidden sector that develops a non-zero VEV after a phase transition at $T = T_c$

• MISALIGNMENT MECHANISM CASE: $m_s^{(T>T_c)} \gg m_s^{\text{today}}$

if $m_s^{(T>T_c)} = m_s^{\text{today}} + M$, where $M = f\Phi$ depends on the value of the scalar field Φ , that can be very large at $T = T_c$

X-RAY CONSTRAINT

X-RAY SIGNALS

Contribution to the diffuse
X-ray Background
in the whole universe

Overdense regions:
galaxy clusters and
dwarf spheroidal galaxies

Milky Way halo

Example: 3.5 keV line

(in stacked spectrum of galaxy clusters, individual spectra of nearby galaxy clusters, Andromeda galaxy, Galactic Center region)

line at $E = 3.55 \text{ keV}$

$\leftrightarrow$

$$\begin{cases} m_s \simeq 7.1 \text{ keV}, \\ \tau_{\nu_s} \sim 10^{27.8 \pm 0.3} \\ \sin^2(2\theta) \simeq (2 - 20) \times 10^{-11} \end{cases}$$

But uncertainty on its origin

(DM decay? instrumental origin? astrophysical origin?)