

EuCAPT Astroneutrino Theory Workshop 2024

Prague, Czech Republic, Sept. 2024

Large neutrino mass in cosmology: sterile neutrinos as the rescue

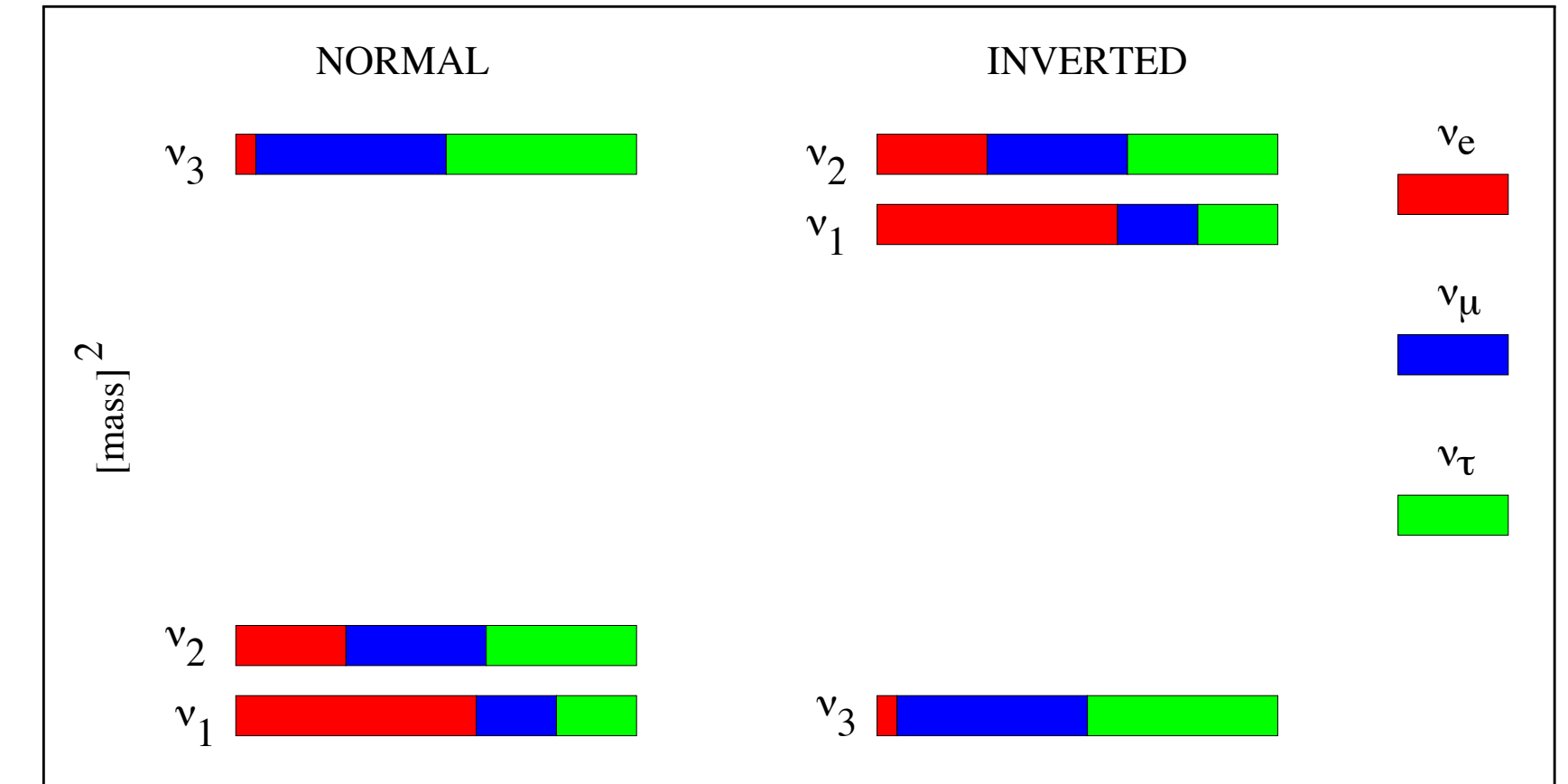


Thomas Schwetz
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Institute for Astroparticle Physics

Neutrino masses

Neutrino oscillations:

- $|m_3^2 - m_1^2| \approx (2.5 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$
- $m_2^2 - m_1^2 = (7.42 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$



Absolute mass determinations:

- beta-decay spectrum(KATRIN)
- neutrinoless double-beta decay (assuming Majorana neutrinos)
- cosmology

$$m_\beta = \sqrt{\sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2} < 0.45 \text{ eV}$$

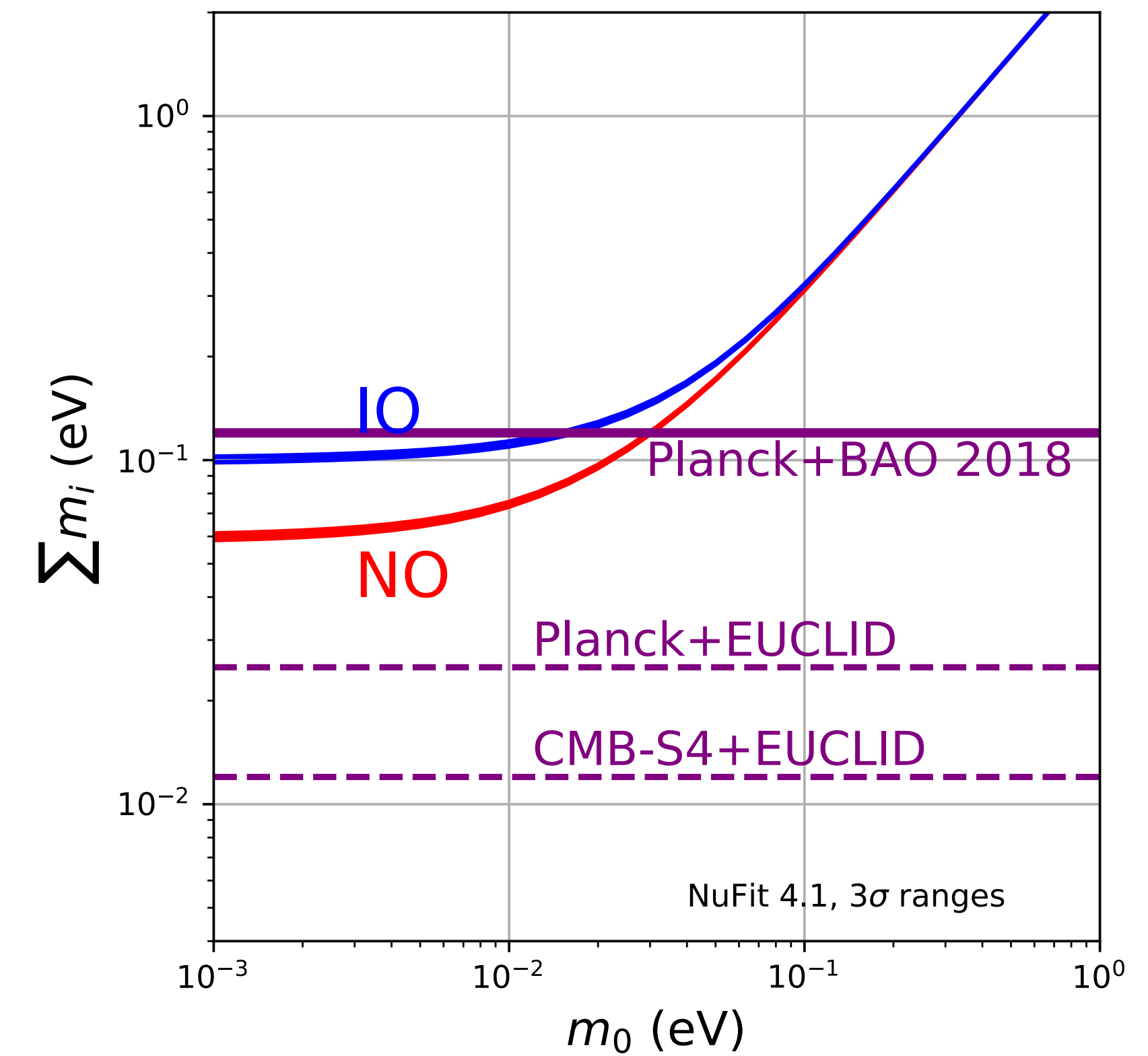
$$m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right| \lesssim 0.07 \text{ eV}$$

$$\sum_i m_i \lesssim 0.1 \text{ eV}$$

Neutrino mass from cosmology

S. talk by A. Bertólez-Martínez

$$\Sigma \equiv \sum_{i=1}^3 m_i = \begin{cases} m_0 + \sqrt{\Delta m_{21}^2 + m_0^2} + \sqrt{\Delta m_{31}^2 + m_0^2} & \text{(NO)} \\ m_0 + \sqrt{|\Delta m_{32}^2| + m_0^2} + \sqrt{|\Delta m_{32}^2| - \Delta m_{21}^2 + m_0^2} & \text{(IO)} \end{cases}$$



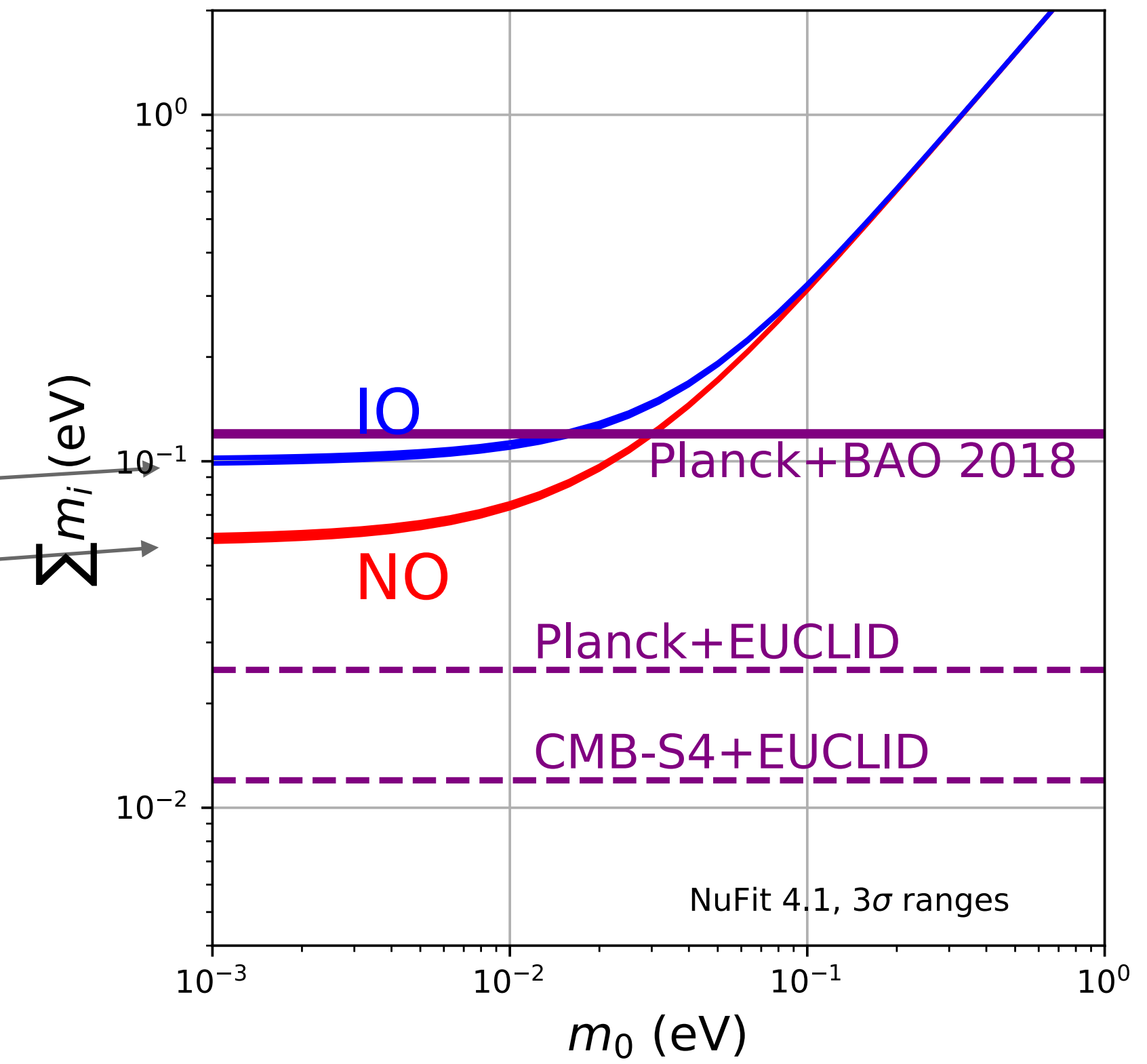
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- minimal values predicted from oscillation data for $m_0 = 0$:

$$\Sigma_{\min} = \begin{cases} 98.6 \pm 0.85 \text{ meV} & \text{(IO)} \\ 58.5 \pm 0.48 \text{ meV} & \text{(NO)} \end{cases}$$



Neutrino mass from cosmology

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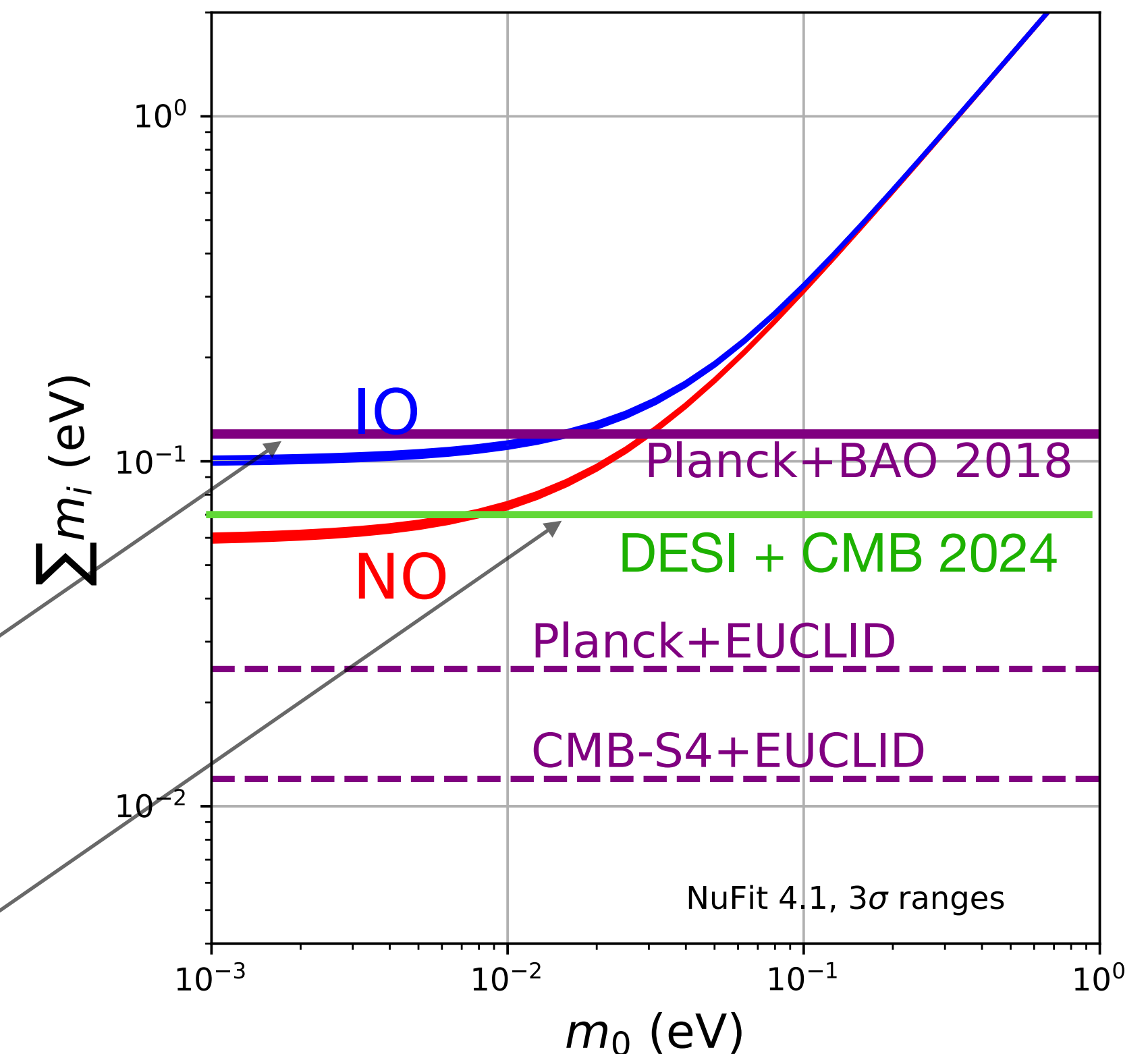
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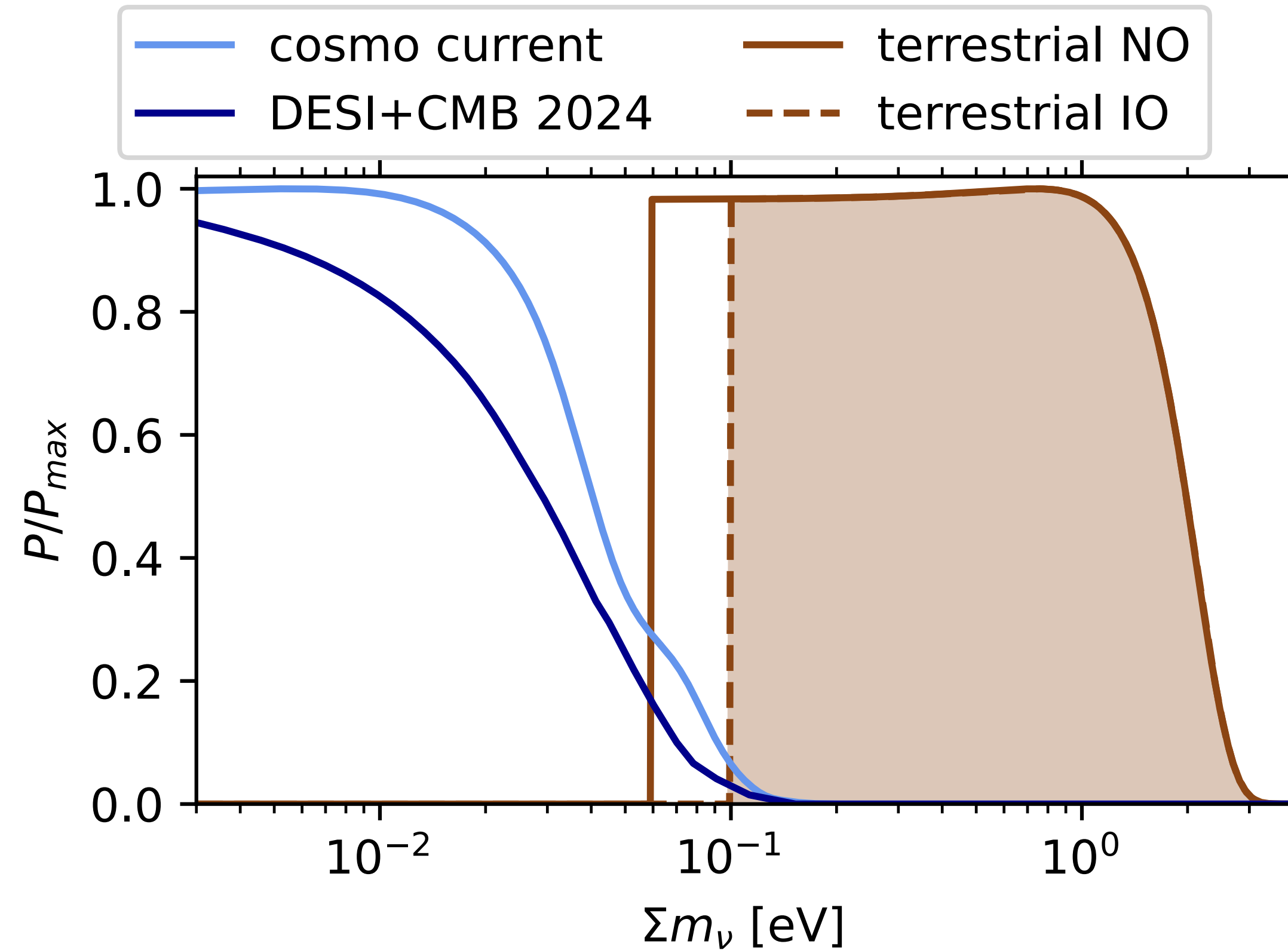
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- **Upper bounds from current data:**

- $\Sigma m_\nu < 0.12 \text{ eV}$ (95 % CL) **Planck CMB+BAO 2018**
- $\Sigma m_\nu < 0.072 \text{ eV}$ (95 % CL) **DESI + CMB 2024**

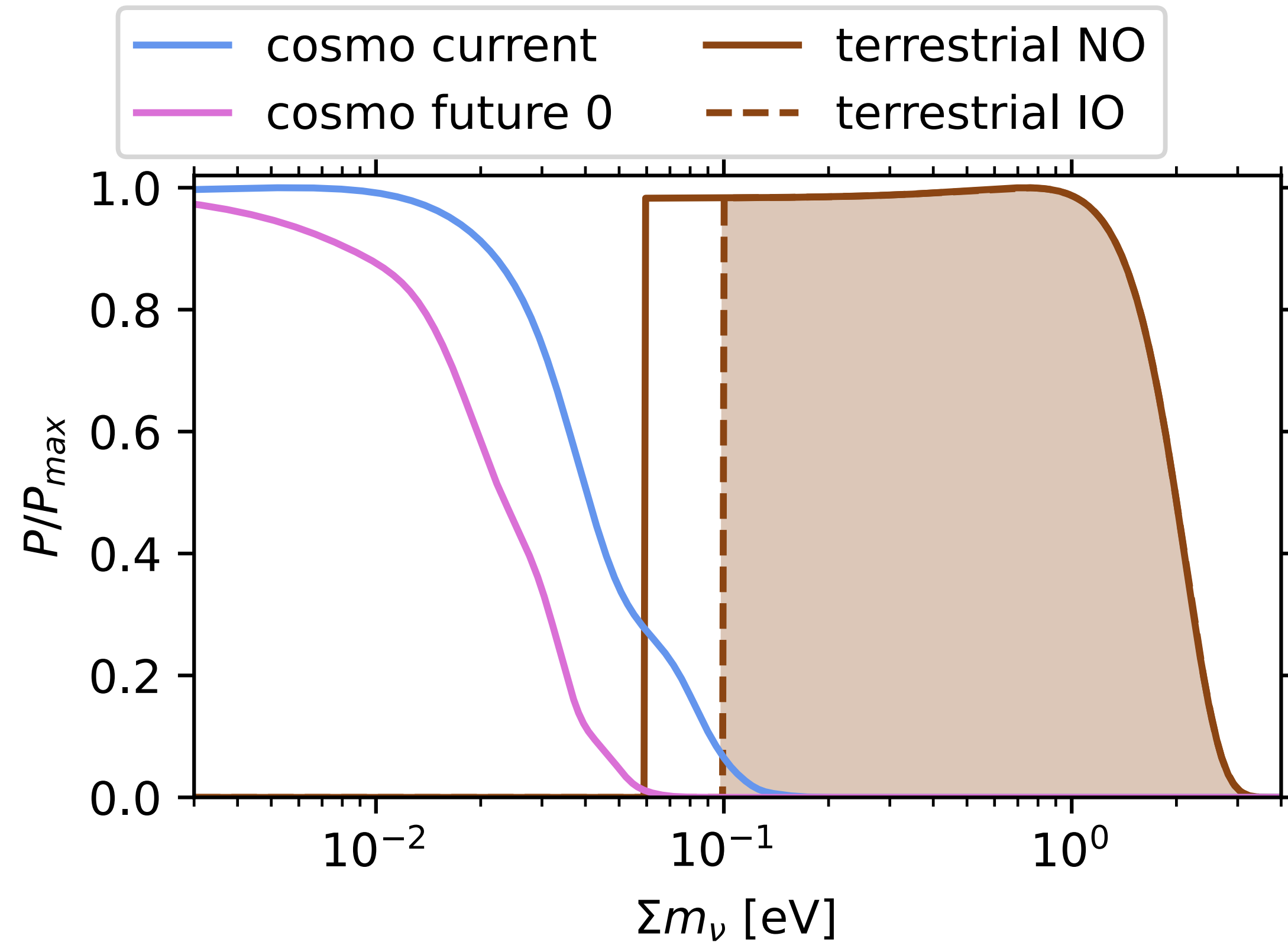


Emerging tension between cosmology and terrestrial data

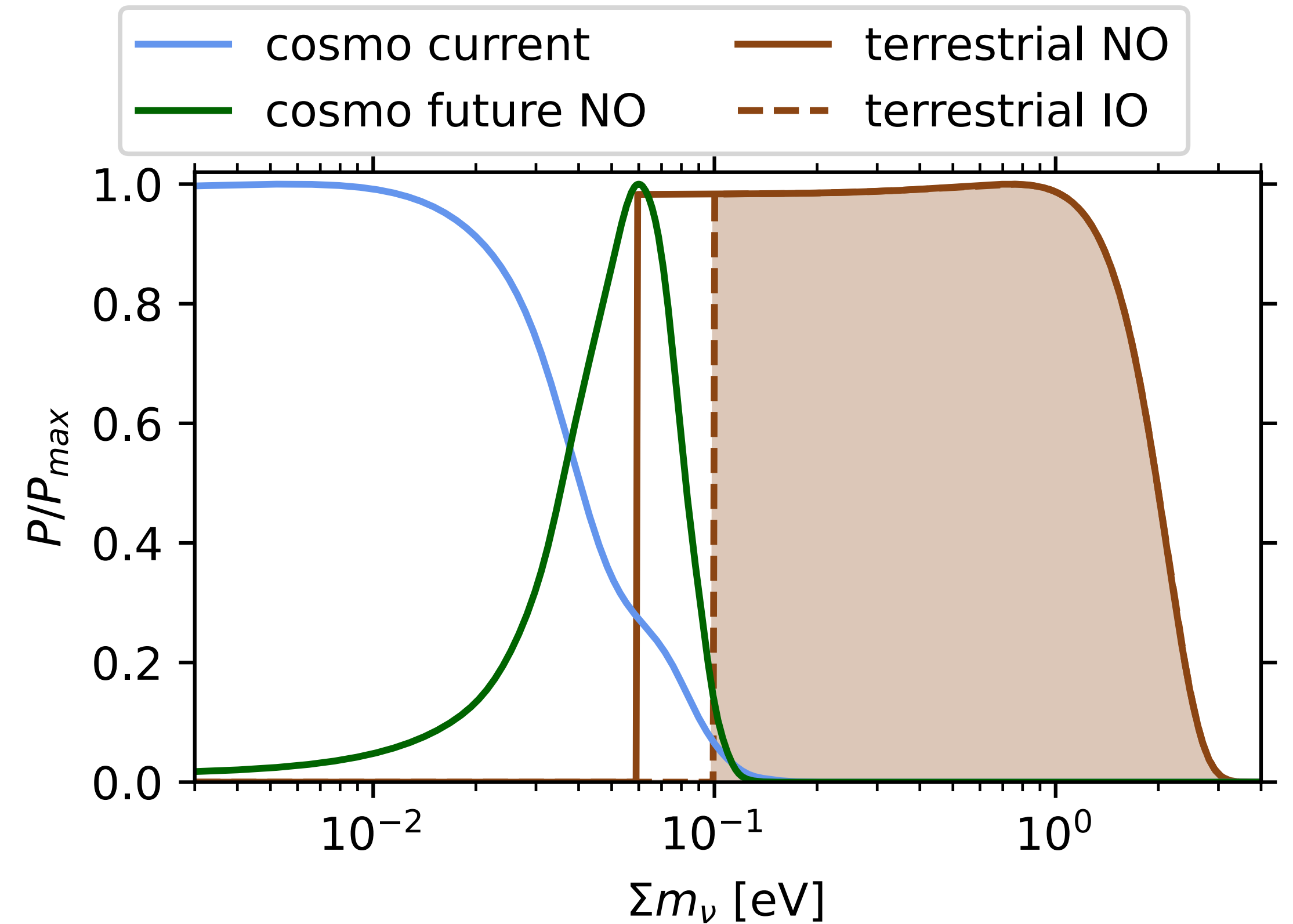


Gariazzo, Mena, Schwetz, 2302.14159

possible (near-term) future scenarios:



future 0: $\Sigma m_\nu < 0.02$ eV (1σ)



future NO: $\Sigma m_\nu = (0.06 \pm 0.02)$ eV (1σ)

Gariazzo, Mena, Schwetz, 2302.14159

Complementarity between mass determinations from heaven and earth

link between neutrino mass observables *in the standard scenario*:

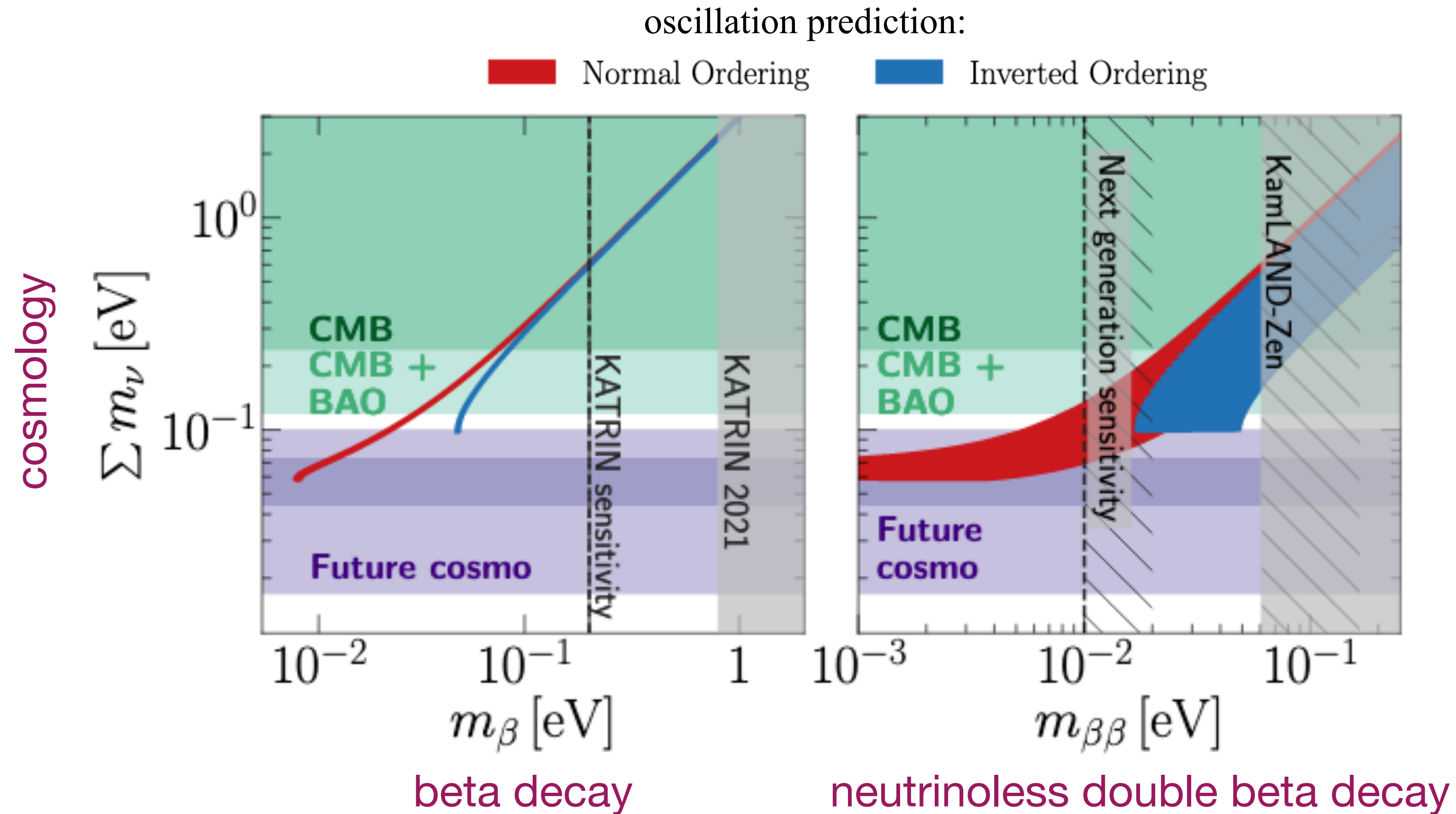


fig. by I. Esteban
based on NuFit 5.0

- What if cosmology does not see finite neutrino mass and upper bounds become tighter than the minimal value predicted by neutrino oscillation?
- What if terrestrial experiments see a positive signal? How could this be consistent with cosmology?

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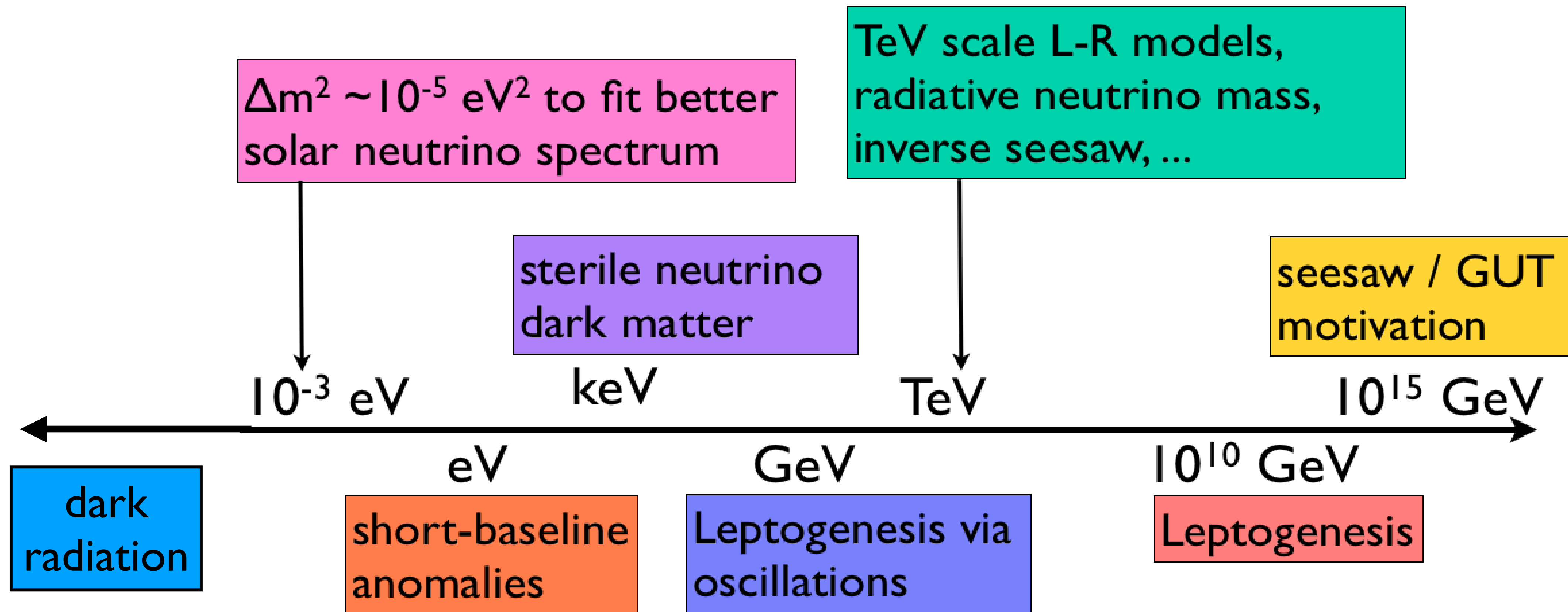
A seesaw model for „large“ neutrino mass consistent with cosmology, including sterile neutrino dark matter

work with

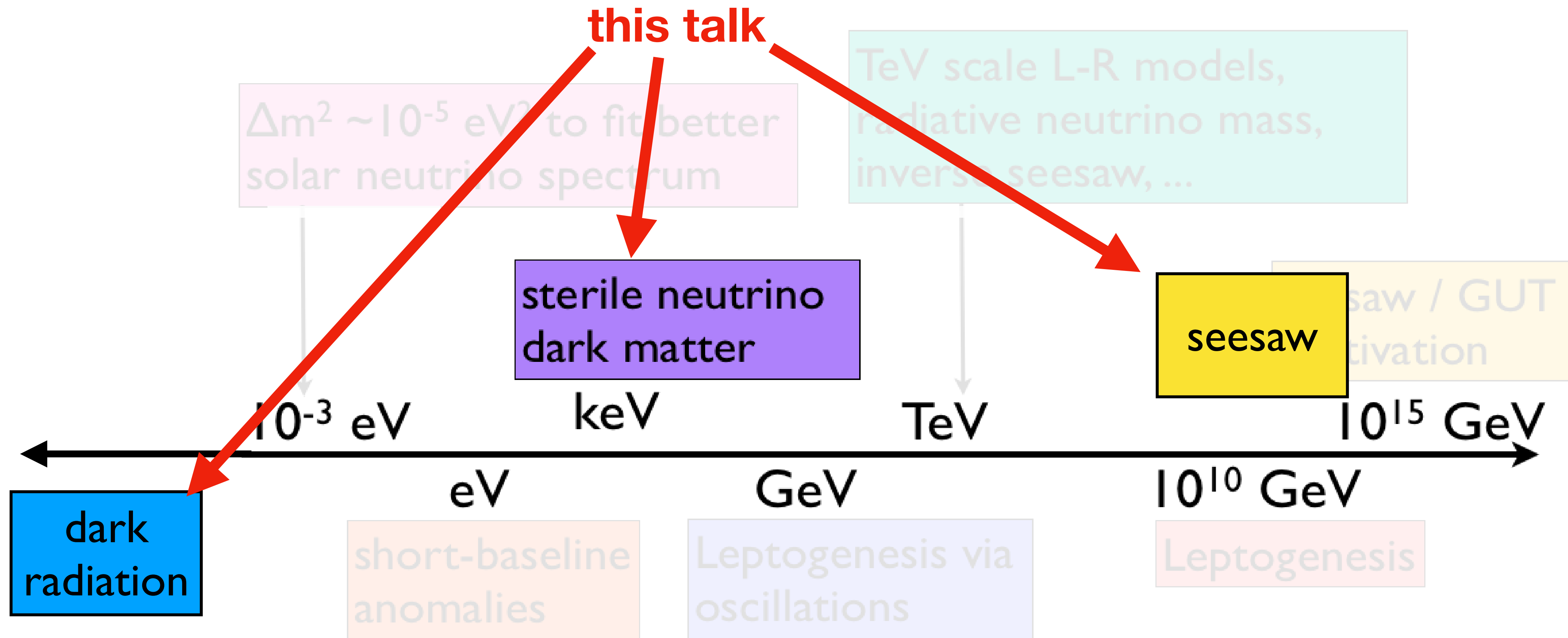
Miguel Escudero, Jorge Terol-Calvo, 2211.01729

Cristina Benso, Drona Vatsyayan, to appear

Sterile neutrino at which mass scale?



Sterile neutrino at which mass scale?



Cosmology bounds can be relaxed in non-standard scenarios

incomplete!

- neutrino decay into dark radiation

Chacko et al. 1909.05275; 2002.08401; Escudero et al., 2007.04994;

Barenboim et al., 2011.01502; Chacko et al. 2112.13862: $\sum m_\nu < 0.42 \text{ eV}$

- time dependent neutrino mass

Lorenz et al. 1811.01991; 2102.13618; Esteban, Salvado, 2101.05804;

Sen, Smirnov, 2407.02462, 2306.15718; talk by A. Smirnov

- modified momentum distribution

Cuoco et al., astro-ph/0502465; Barenboim et al., 1901.04352;

Alvey, Sabti, Escudero, 2111.14870

- reduced neutrino density + dark radiation

Beacom, Bell, Dodelson, 04; Farzan, Hannestad, 1510.02201;

Renk, Stöcker et al., 2009.03286; Escudero, TS, Terol-Calvo, 2211.01729

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Counting the number of neutrino flavours

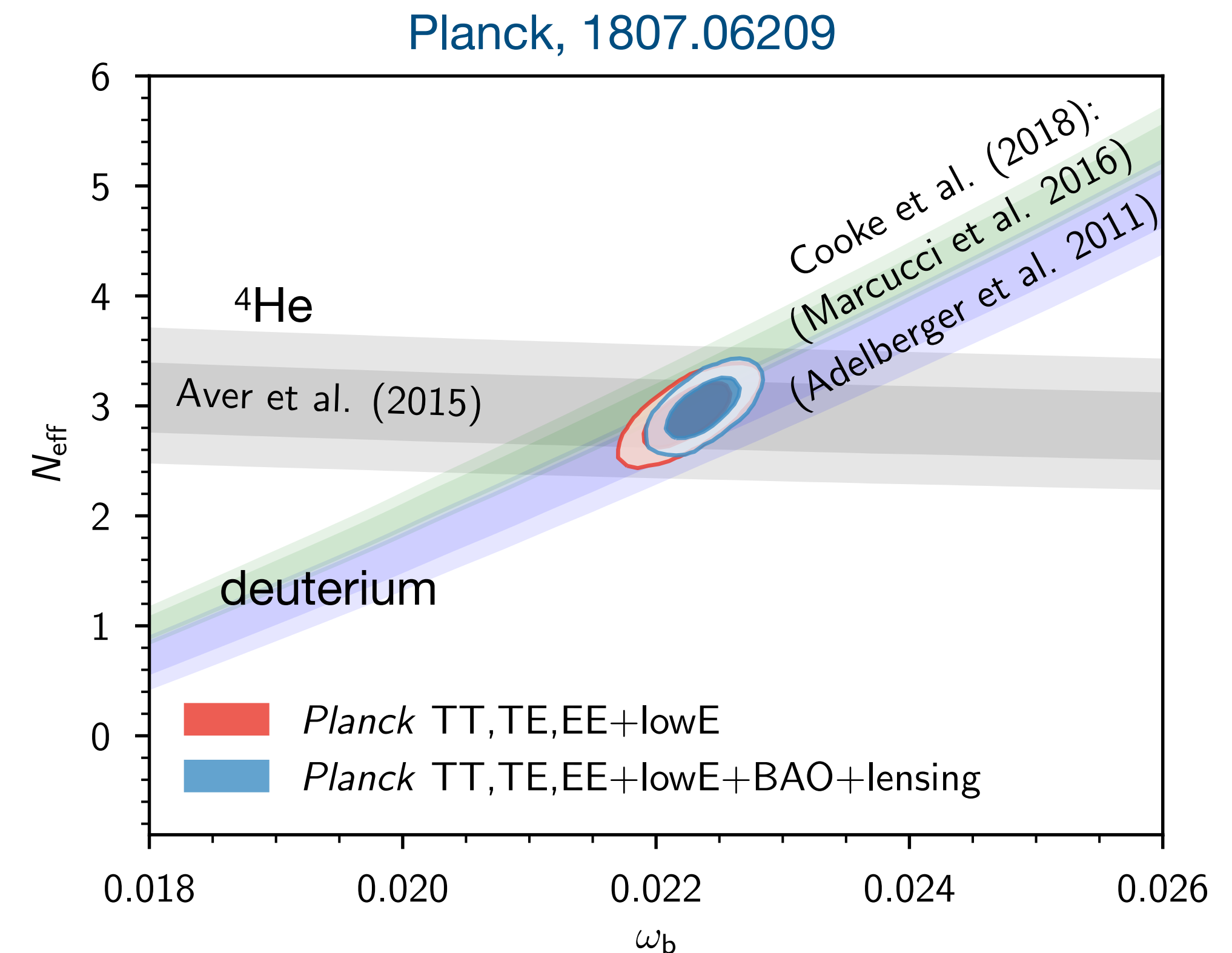
N_{eff} affects

- formation of light elements (BBN),
 $T \sim \text{MeV}$, $t \sim 1 \text{ min}$

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 2.78 \pm 0.28 \text{ (68\% CL)}$$

- CMB decoupling, $T \sim \text{eV}$, $t \sim 400\,000 \text{ yr}$

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 2.99 \pm 0.17 \text{ (68\% CL)}$$



Relaxing the neutrino mass bound from cosmology

Cosmology is sensitive to:

- energy density in non-relativistic neutrinos (late times)

$$\rho_\nu^{\text{non.rel.}} \approx n_\nu \sum m_\nu < 14 \text{ eV cm}^{-3}$$

- energy density in relativistic neutrinos (early times, BBN, CMB)

$$N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{relat.}} = 2.99 \pm 0.17$$

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$$N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{relat.}} = 2.99 \pm 0.17$$

relax bound on m_{ν} by reducing neutrino number density

$$\sum m_{\nu} < 0.12 \text{ eV} \left(\frac{n_{\nu}^{\text{SM}}}{n_{\nu}} \right)$$

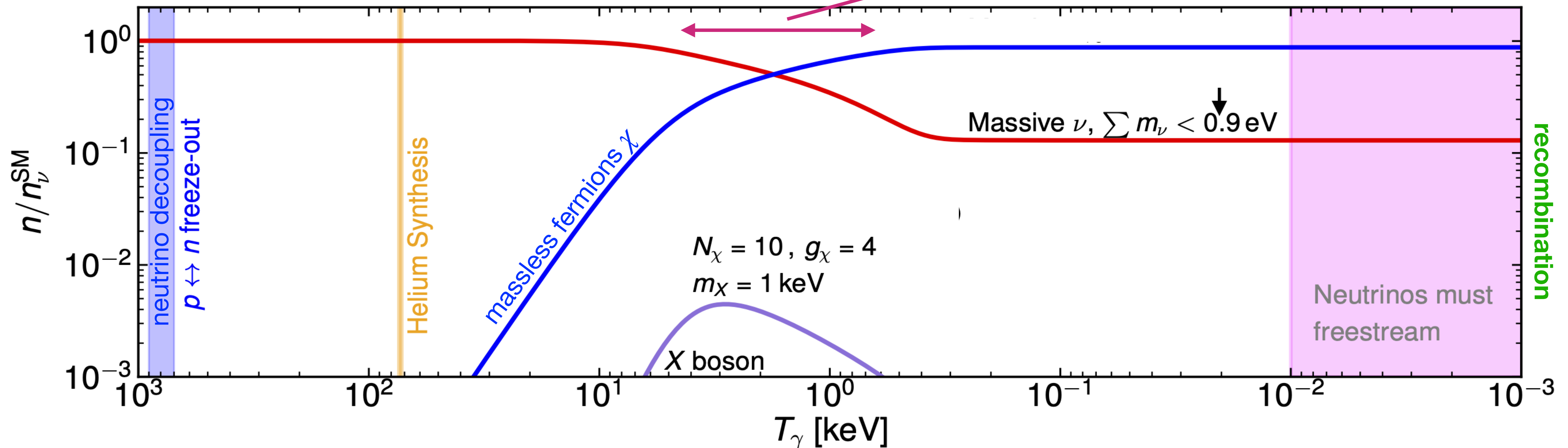
introduce „dark radiation“ to keep $N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{relat.}} \approx 3$

$$N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{relat.}} = N_{\text{eff}}^{\nu} + N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{DR}} \approx 3$$

- introduce a set of N_χ massless fermions
- a mediator X coupled to neutrinos (scalar or vector)
- convert active neutrinos into massless fermions after BBN but before CMB decoupling

$$\Gamma(\nu\nu \leftrightarrow X) \gtrsim H$$

$$\Gamma(X \leftrightarrow \chi\chi) \gtrsim H$$



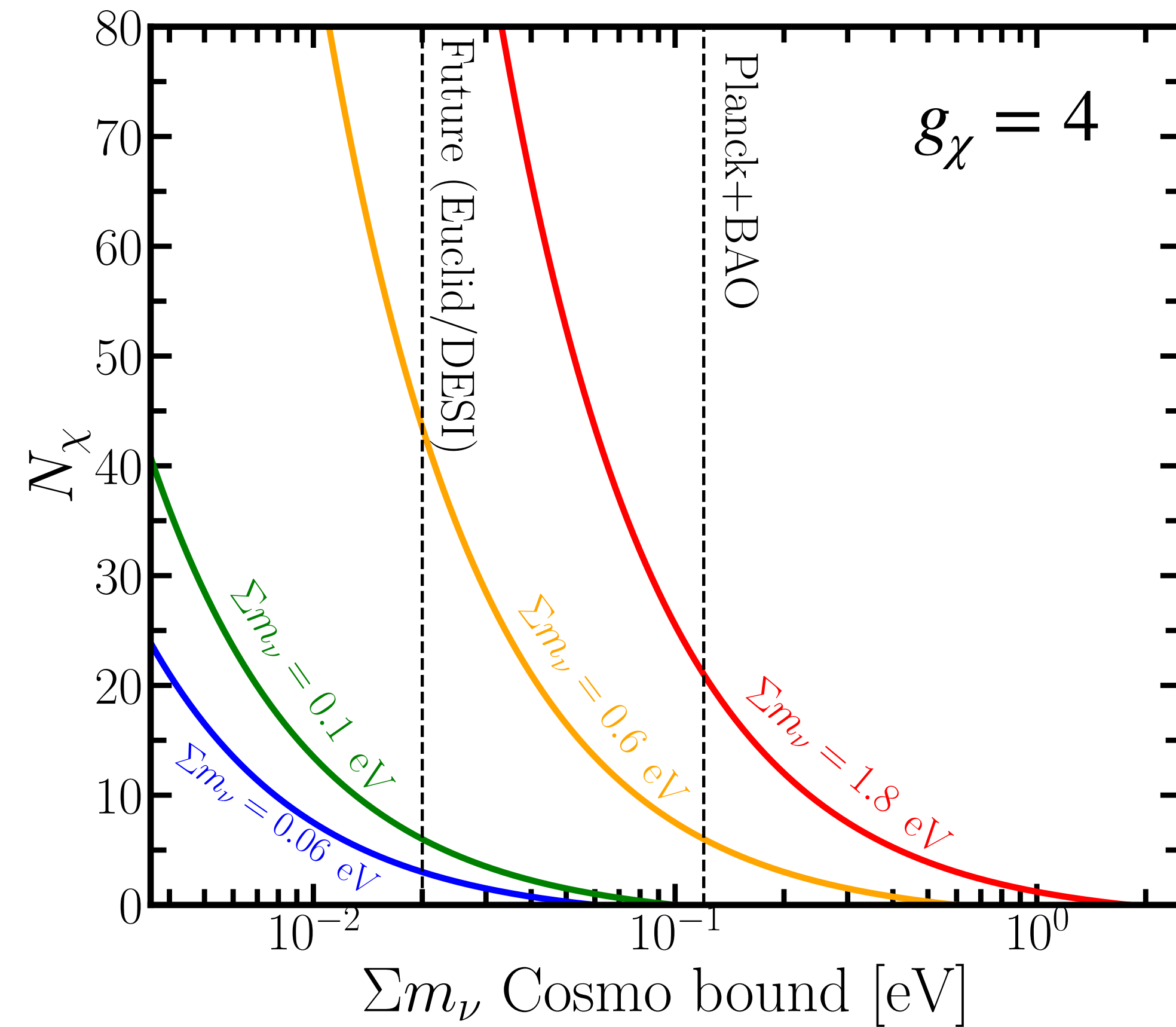
Relaxed bound from cosmology

Farzan, Hannestad, 1510.02201
Escudero, TS, Terol-Calvo, 2211.01729

relaxing the present bound by
converting neutrinos into N_χ generations
of massless fermions with g_χ internal
degrees of freedom:

$$\sum m_\nu < 0.12 \text{ eV} (1 + g_\chi N_\chi / 6)$$

need $\gtrsim 10$ massless species for $m_\nu \sim 1 \text{ eV}$



A seesaw model for large neutrino mass and dark radiation

Escudero, TS, Terol-Calvo, 2211.01729

- 3 heavy right-handed neutrinos (seesaw)
- new abelian symmetry $U(1)_X$ local or global
- a scalar Φ charged under $U(1)_X$
- a set of N_χ massless fermions charged under $U(1)_X$

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Yukawa sector

$$-\mathcal{L} = \overline{N_R} Y_\nu \ell_L \tilde{H}^\dagger + \frac{1}{2} \overline{N_R} M_R N_R^c + \overline{N_R} Y_\Phi \chi_L \Phi + \text{h.c.}$$

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Scalar potential

$$V = \mu_H^2 H^\dagger H + \lambda_H (H^\dagger H)^2 + \mu_\Phi^2 |\Phi|^2 + \lambda_\Phi |\Phi|^4 + \lambda_{H\Phi} |\Phi|^2 H^\dagger H$$

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Gauge interaction

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = g_X Z'_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi$$

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$$\mathcal{M}_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & 0 \\ m_D^T & M_R & \Lambda \\ 0 & \Lambda^T & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$m_D = \frac{v_{EW}}{\sqrt{2}} Y_\nu, \quad \Lambda = \frac{v_\Phi}{\sqrt{2}} Y_\Phi$$

$$\Lambda \ll m_D \ll M_R$$

$$m_{\text{heavy}} \approx M_R$$

$$m_{\text{active}} \approx m_D^2 / M_R$$

$$m_\chi = 0, \quad \theta_{\nu\chi} \approx \Lambda / m_D$$

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$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = g_X Z'_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi \quad g_X = \frac{m_{Z'}}{v_\Phi}$$

couplings to neutrinos induced by mixing: $Z' \leftrightarrow \nu\nu/\nu\chi/\chi\chi$

$$\lambda_{Z'}^{\chi\chi} = g_X$$

$$\lambda_{Z'}^{\chi\nu} = g_X \theta_{\nu\chi}$$

$$\lambda_{Z'}^{\nu\nu} = g_X \theta_{\nu\chi}^2$$

A seesaw model for large neutrino mass and dark radiation

Escudero, TS, Terol-Calvo, 2211.01729

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indep. params for pheno:

$$m_\nu, M_R, \theta_{\nu\chi}$$

$$v_\Phi, m_{Z'}$$

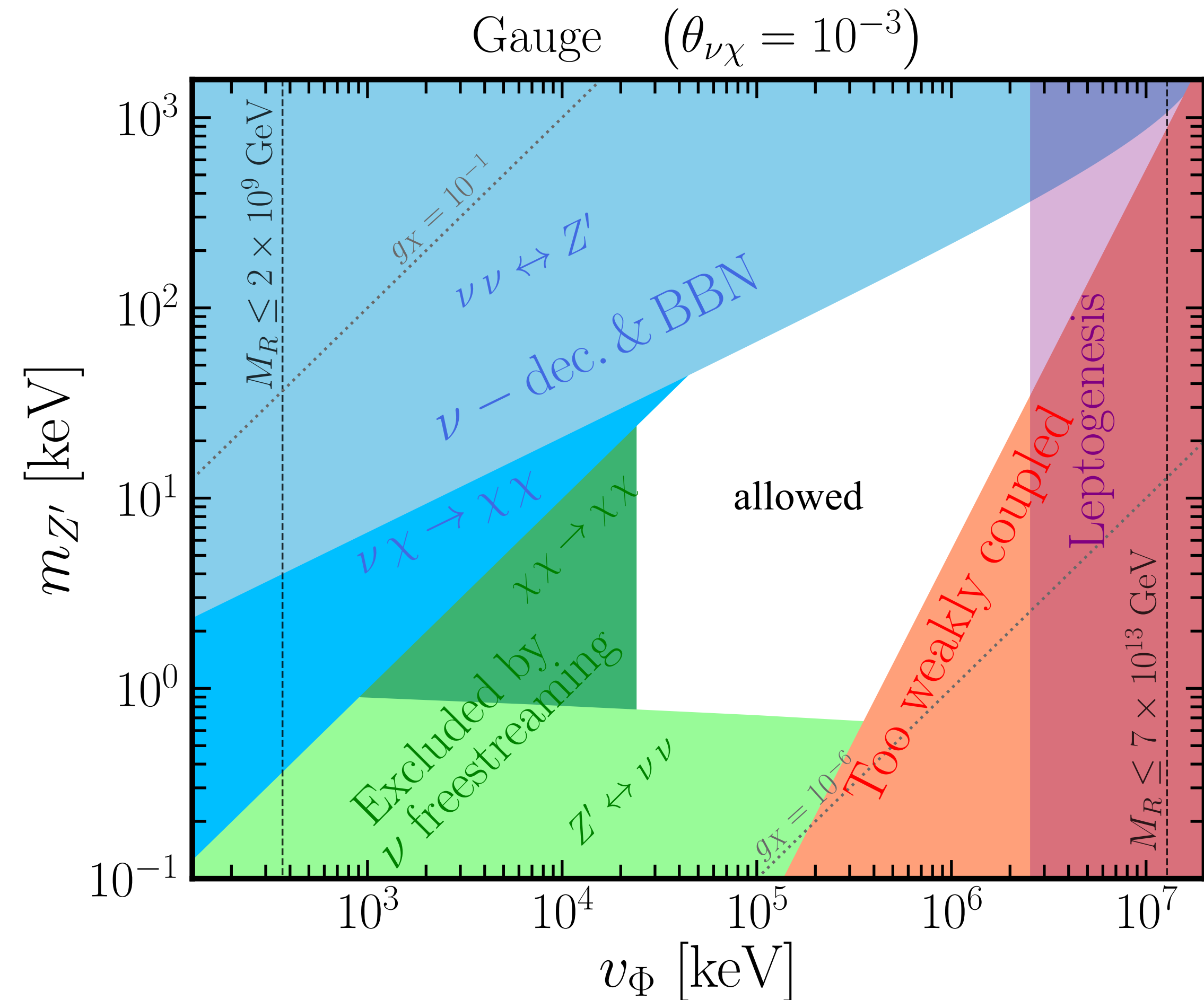
Available parameter space

$$\theta_{\nu\chi} \simeq 10^{-3}$$

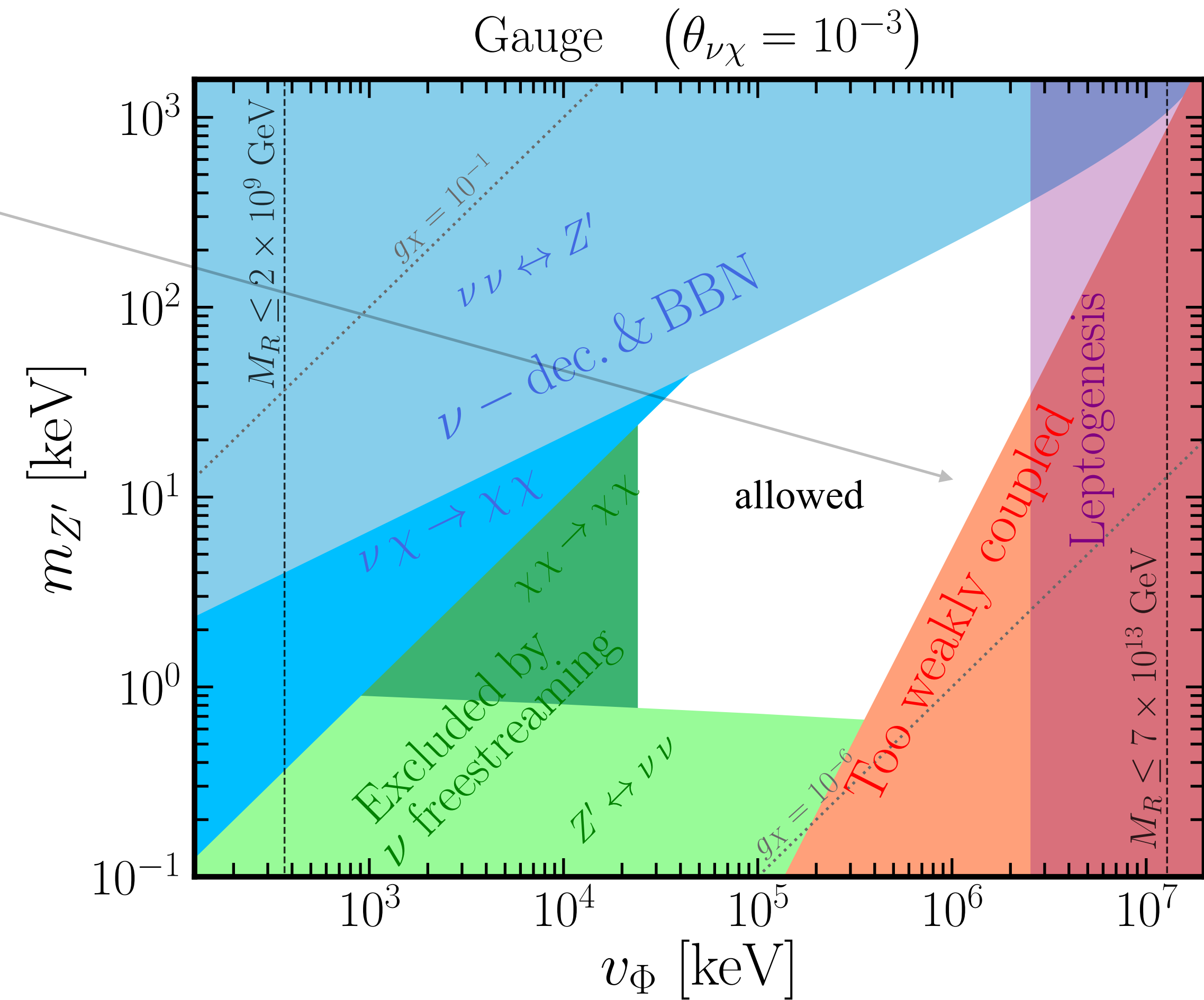
$$m_{Z'} \sim 10 \text{ keV}$$

$$v_\Phi \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$$

$$g_X = \frac{m_{Z'}}{v_\Phi} \sim 10^{-4}$$



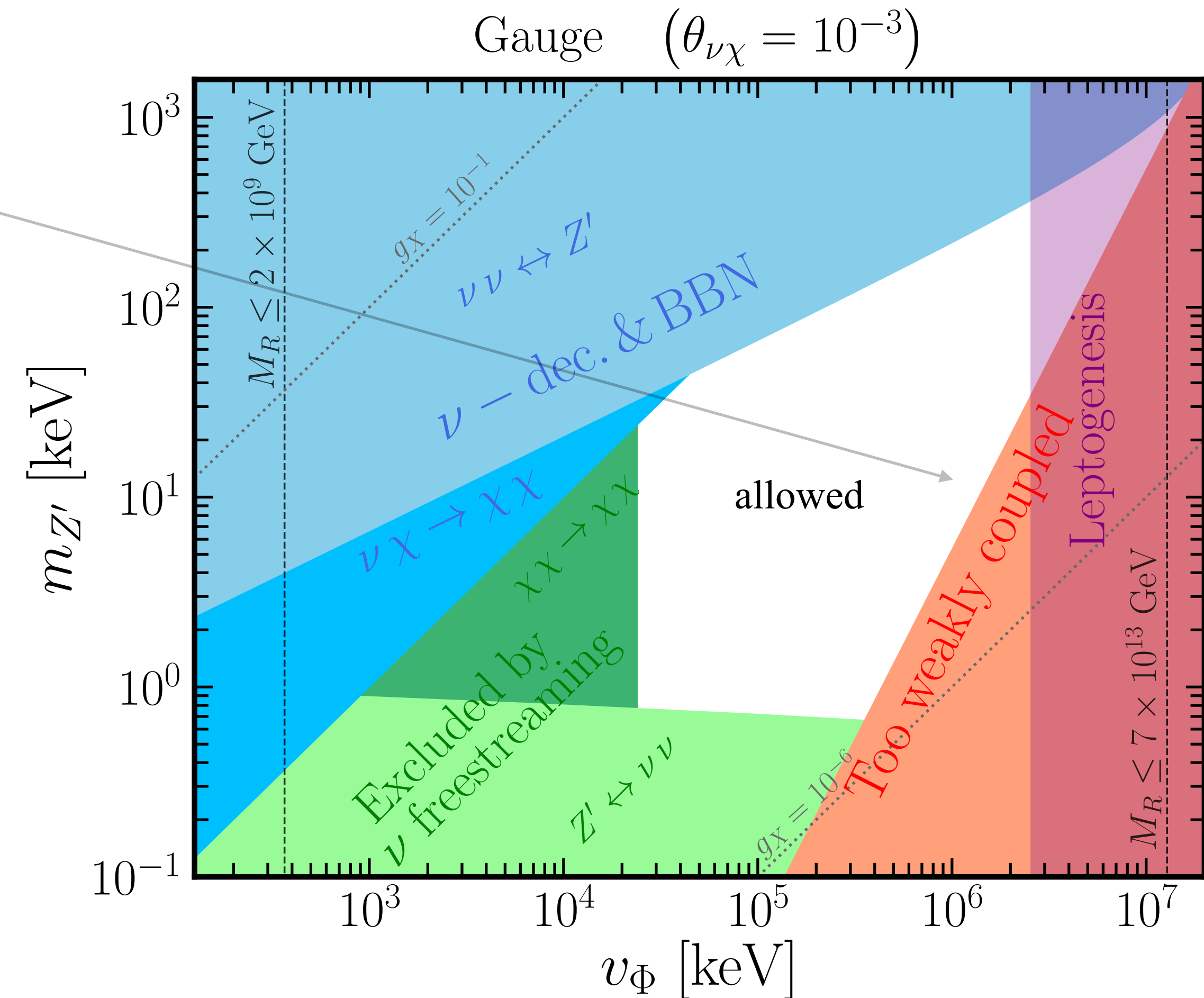
Available parameter space



Available parameter space

- thermalization of the dark sector:

$$\Rightarrow \langle \Gamma(\nu\nu \rightarrow Z') \rangle \gtrsim H(T = m_{Z'}/3)$$



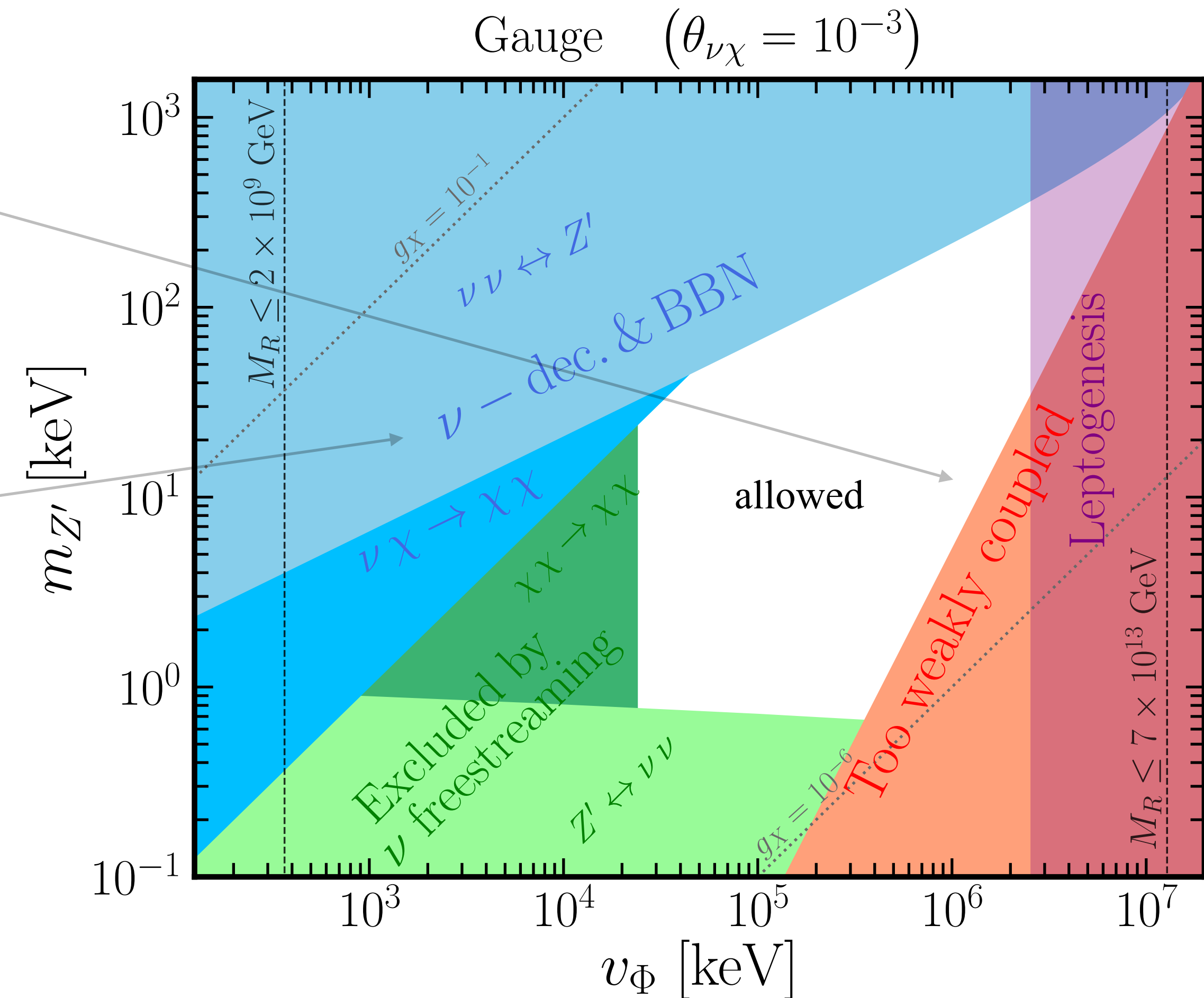
Available parameter space

- thermalization of the dark sector:

$$\Rightarrow \langle \Gamma(\nu\nu \rightarrow Z') \rangle \gtrsim H(T = m_{Z'}/3)$$

- avoid thermalization of the dark sector before BBN:

$$\langle \Gamma(\nu\nu \rightarrow Z') \rangle < H(T = 0.7 \text{ MeV})$$



Available parameter space

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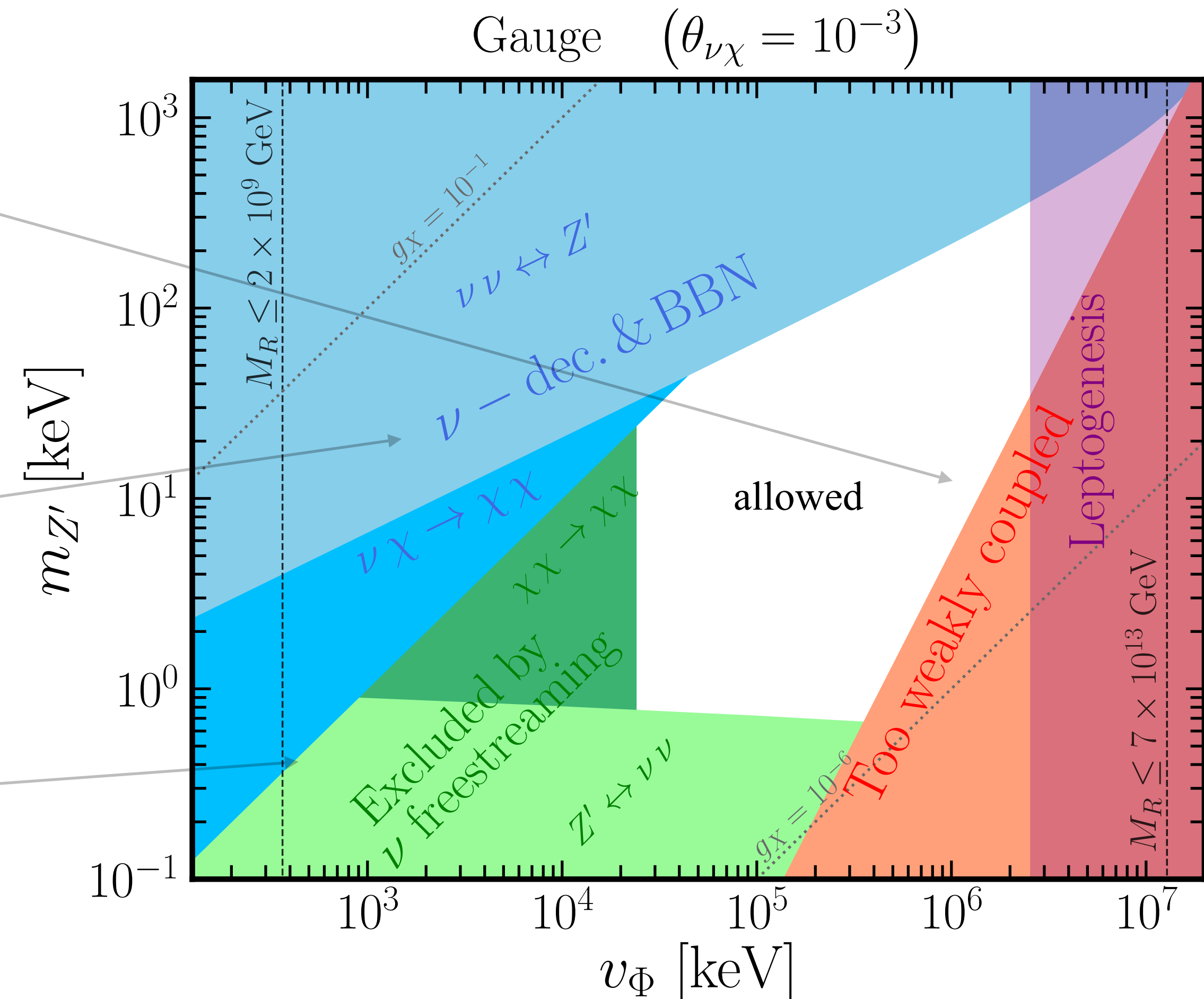
- avoid thermalization of the dark sector before BBN:

$$\langle \Gamma(\nu\nu \rightarrow Z') \rangle < H(T = 0.7 \text{ MeV})$$

- free-streaming of neutrinos & dark radiation before/around recombination

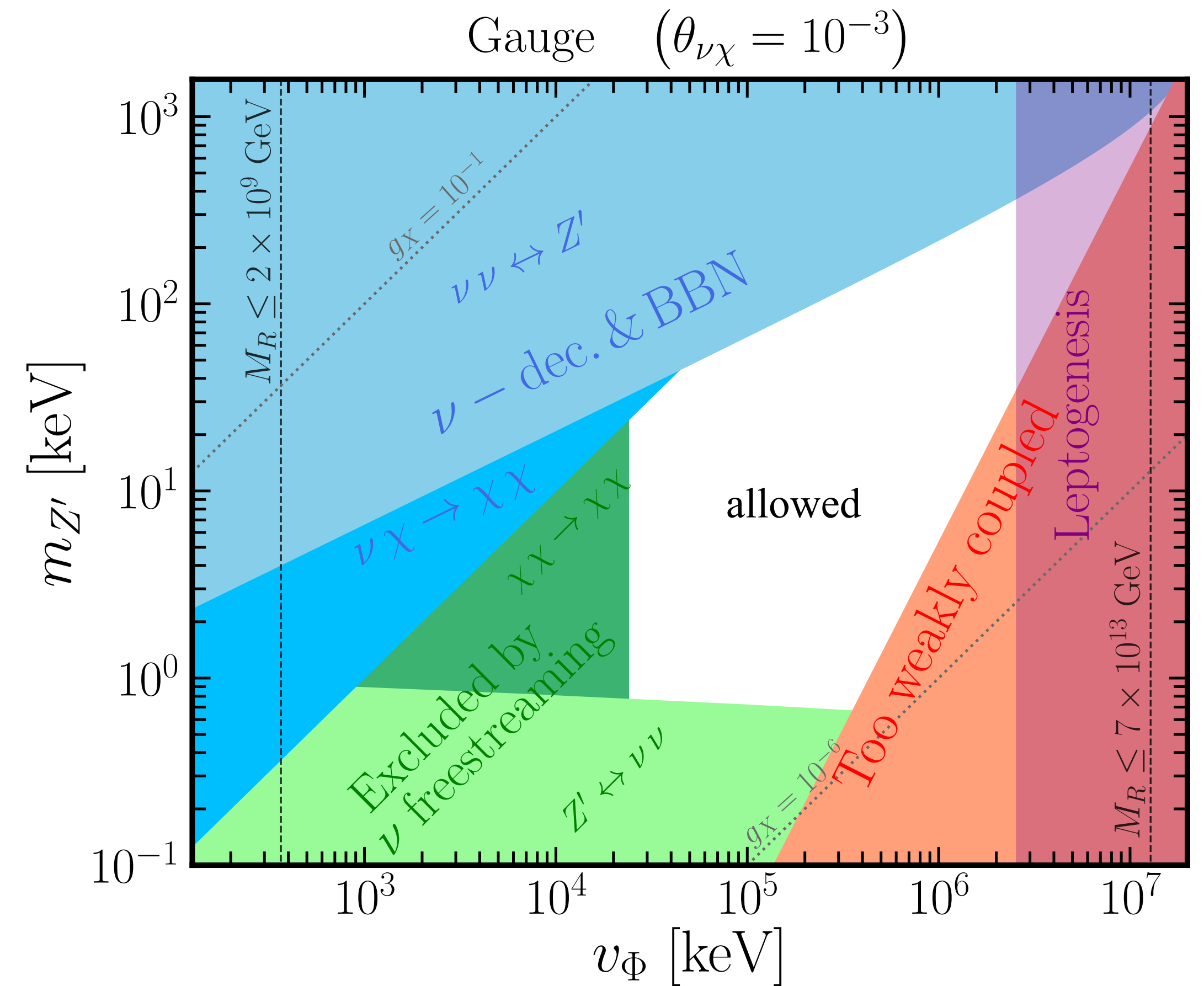
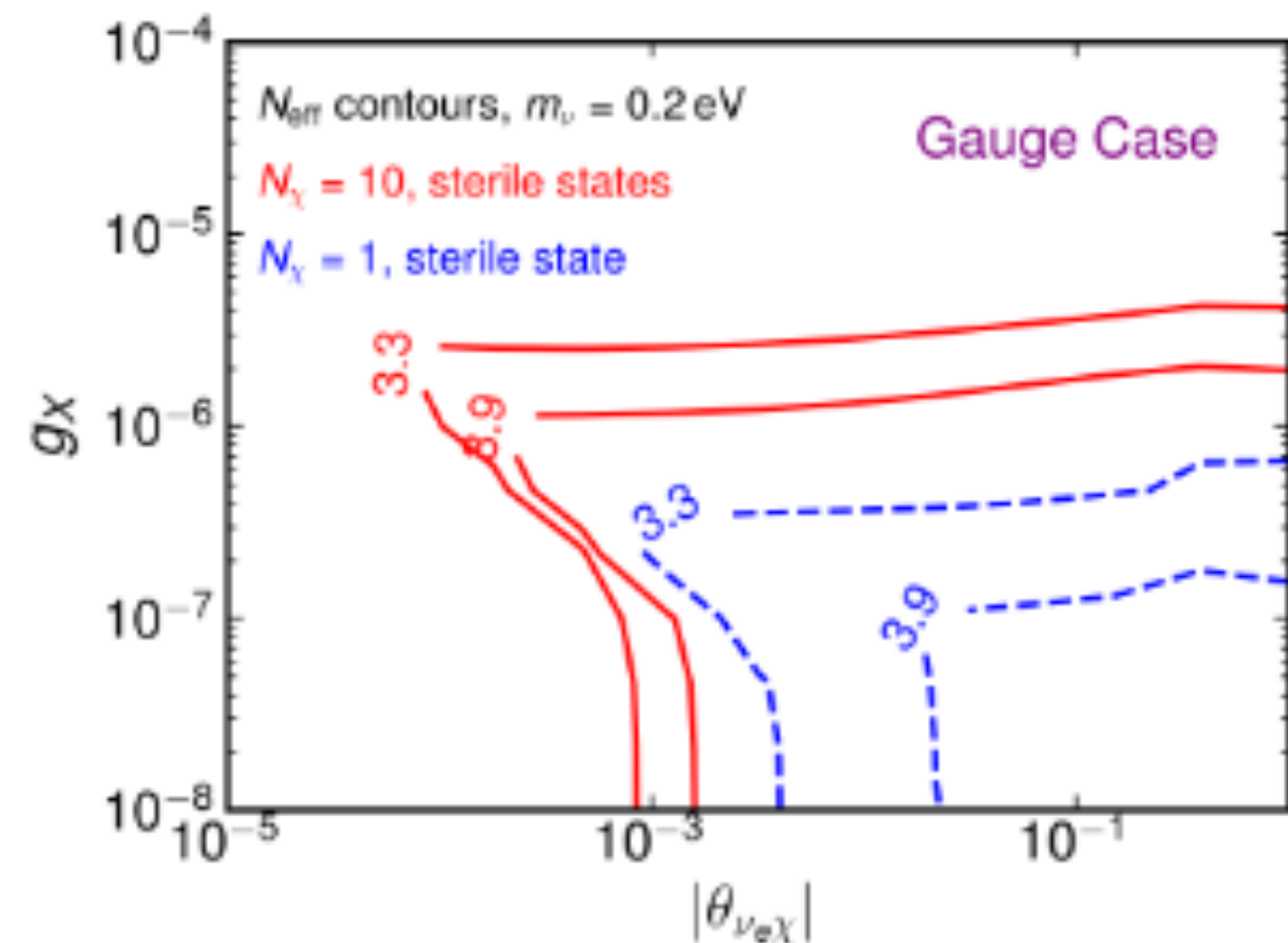
$$\langle \Gamma \rangle < H \text{ for } z < 10^5$$

Taule, Escudero, Garny, 2207.04062

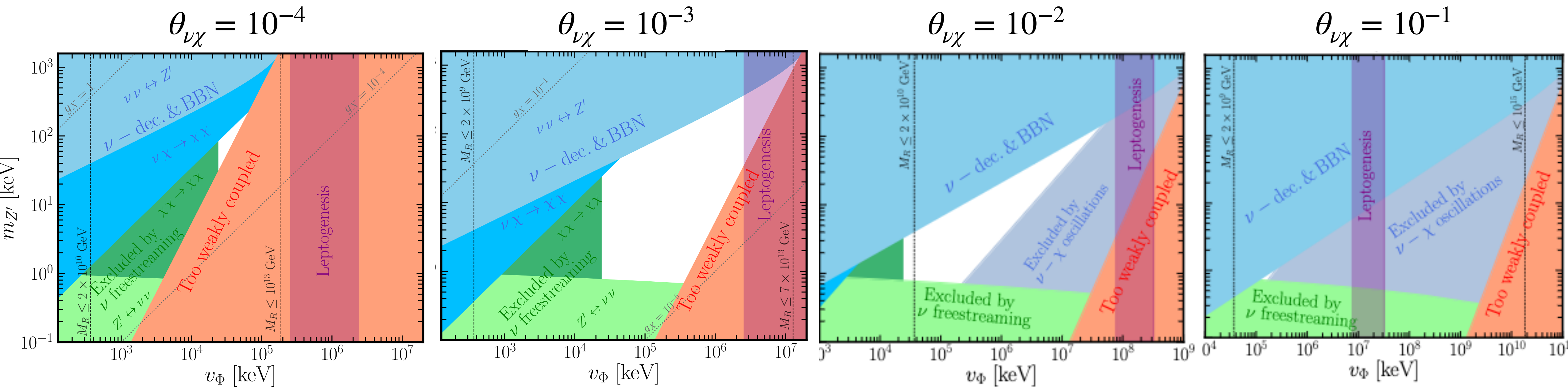


Neutrino mixing with massless states $\theta_{\nu\chi}$

- avoid thermalization of χ prior neutrino decoupling due to oscillations
- take into account effective potential due to self-interactions



Neutrino mixing with massless states $\theta_{\nu\chi}$



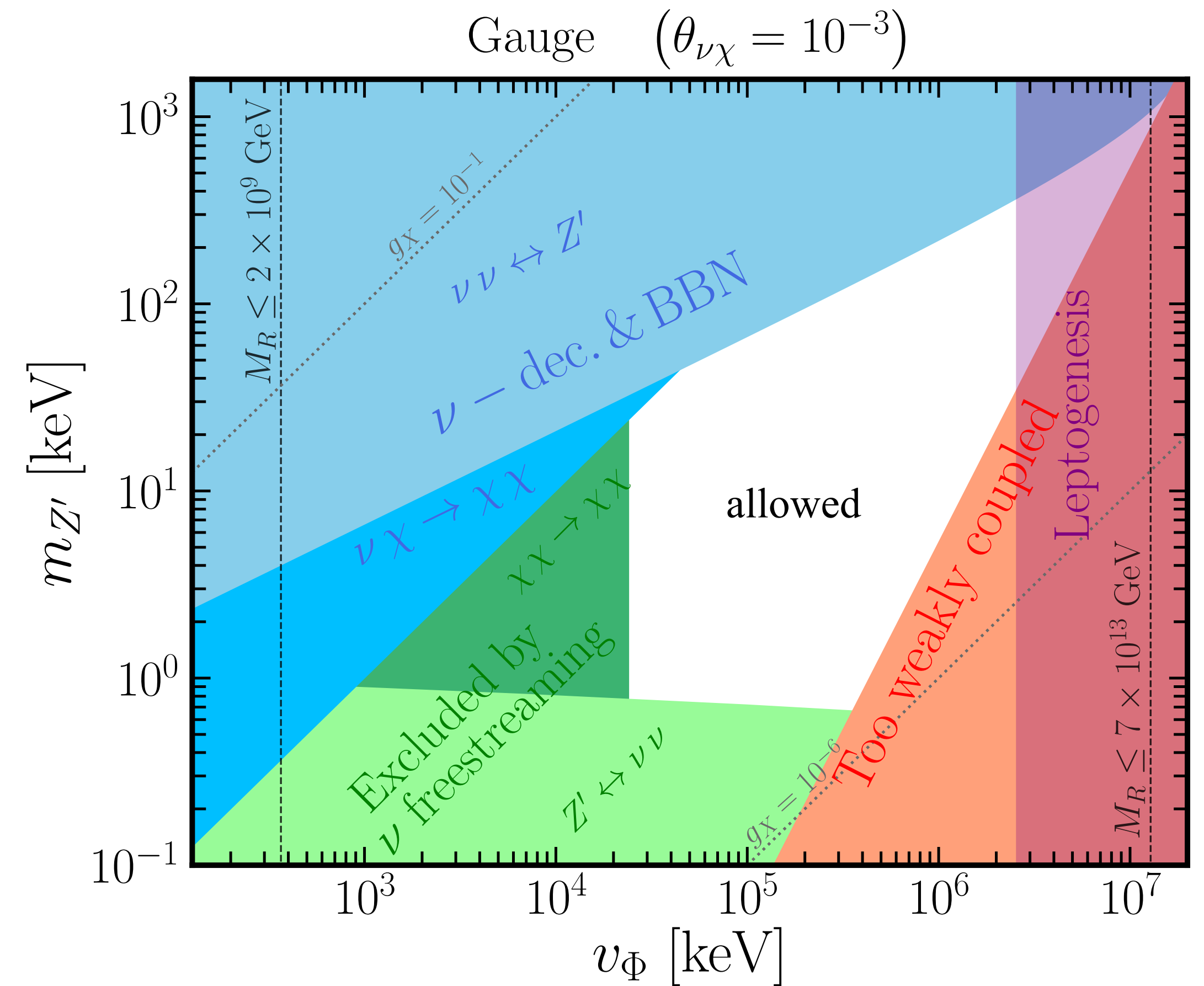
$$10^{-4} \lesssim \theta_{\nu\chi} \lesssim 10^{-1}$$

upper range potentially testable in oscillation experiments
work in progress [Escudero, Maltoni, Ota, TS]

Constraints on heavy RH neutrinos

$$M_R \lesssim 10^{10} - 10^{14} \text{ GeV}$$

- perturbativity of Yukawa $Y_\Phi \bar{N}_R \chi_L \Phi$
- loop-induced Higgs portal $\lambda_{\Phi H} |\Phi|^2 H^\dagger H$ remains small to avoid thermalization of Φ prior BBN



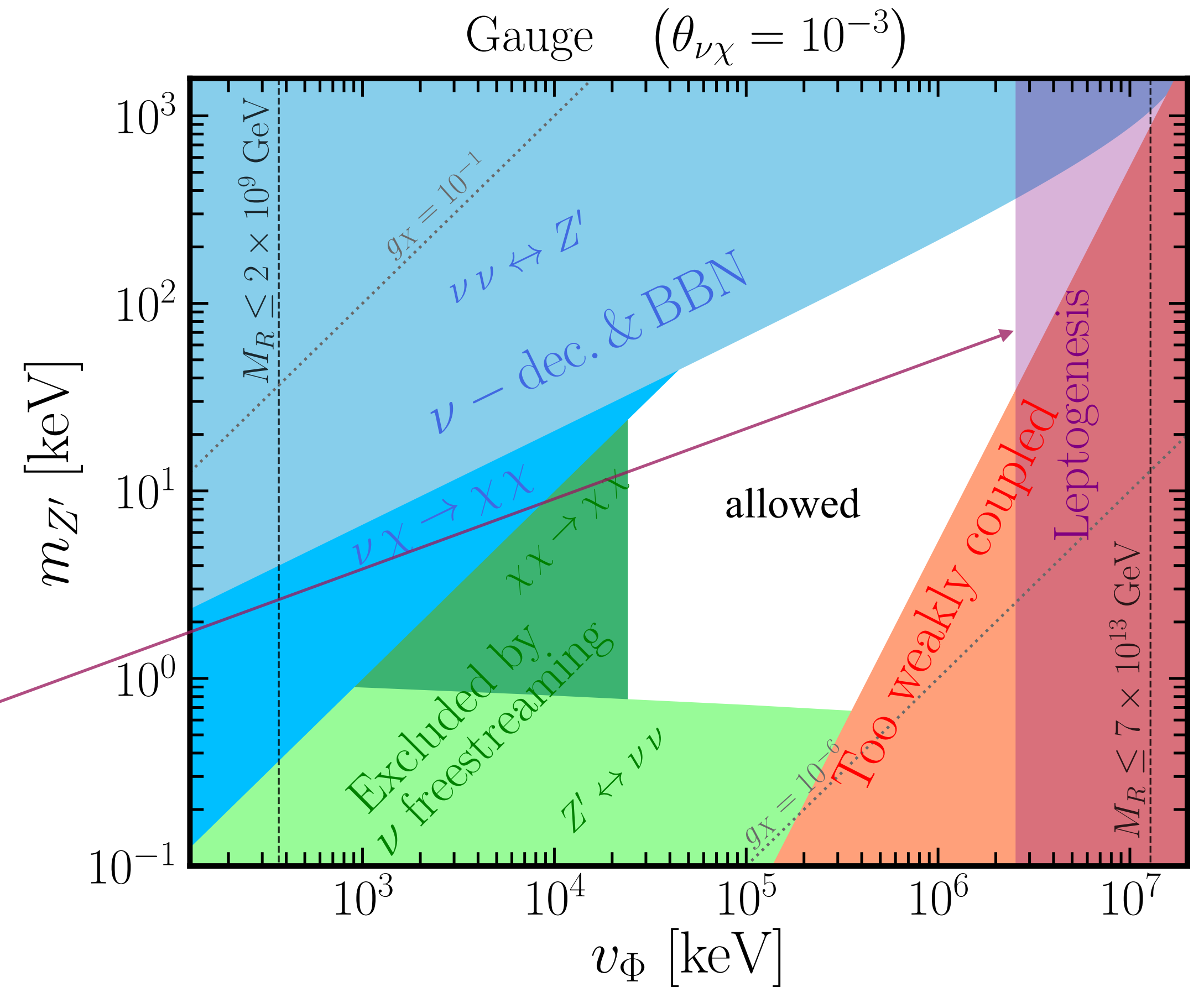
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Comment on leptogenesis:

- standard thermal LG works if $N \rightarrow HL$ dominates over $N \rightarrow \phi\chi$
- otherwise χ would thermalize and conflict with N_{eff}
 \Rightarrow require $T_{RH} < M_R$ (allows still for $T_{RH} \gg T_{EW}$)



Signatures in a super nova

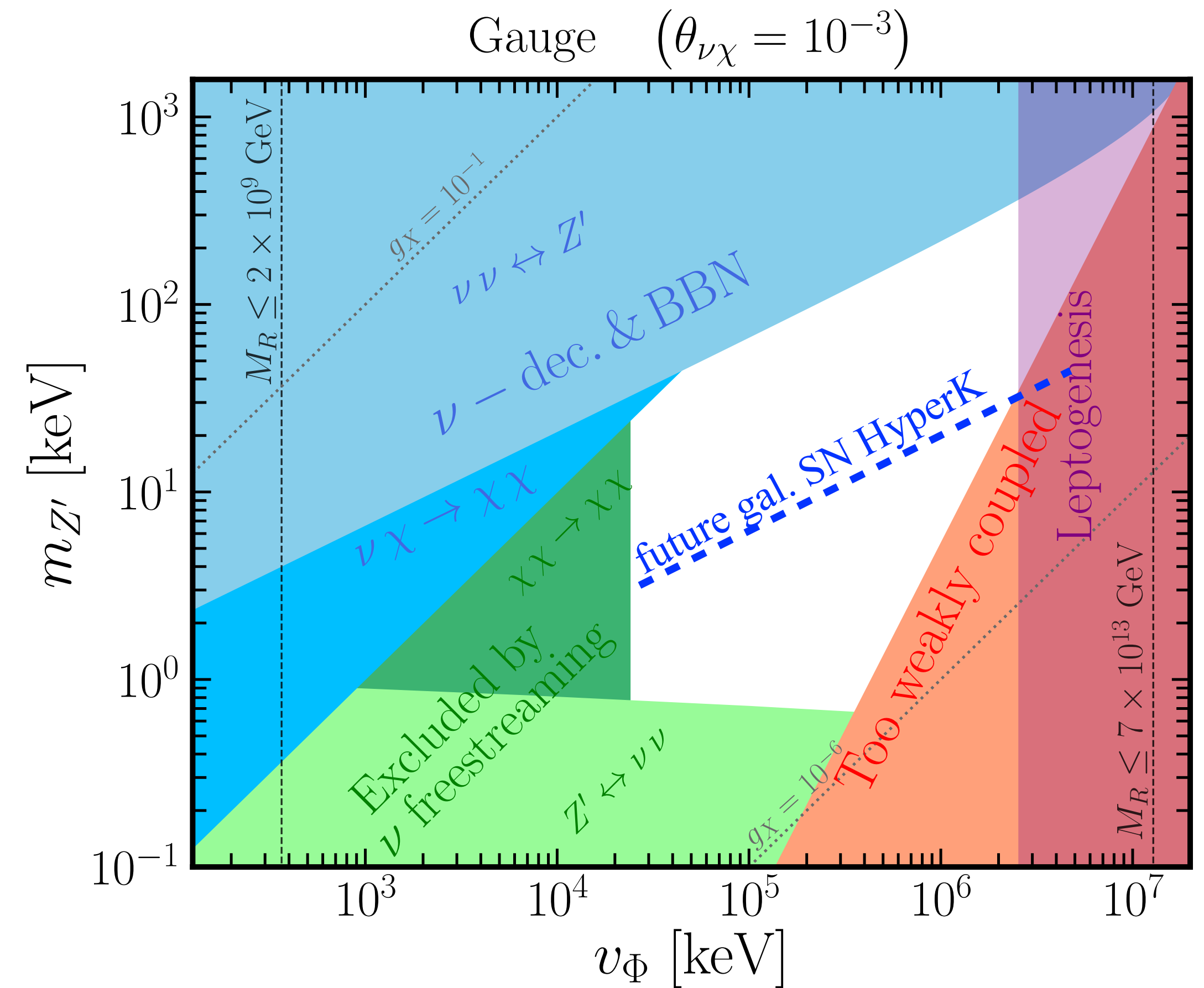
- SN cooling arguments for SN1987A exclude

$$3 \times 10^{-7} \frac{\text{keV}}{m_{Z'}} \lesssim \lambda_{Z'}^{\nu\nu} \lesssim 10^{-4} \frac{\text{keV}}{m_{Z'}} \quad \text{Fiorillo, Raffelt, Vitagliano, 2209.11773}$$

weaker than BBN constraint $\lambda_{Z'}^{\nu\nu} \lesssim 10^{-7} (\text{keV}/m_{Z'})$

- Future galactic SN at 10 kpc: neutrino signal in HyperK from $Z' \rightarrow \nu\nu$: sensitivity down to

$$\lambda_{Z'}^{\nu\nu} \sim 10^{-9} (\text{keV}/m_{Z'}) \quad \text{Akita, Im, Masud, 2206.06852}$$



Extending the model to include keV sterile neutrino dark matter

C. Benso, TS, D. Vatsyayan, to appear

Original model: [Escudero, TS, Terol-Calvo]

- 3 heavy right-handed neutrinos (seesaw) N
- new abelian symmetry $U(1)_X$ local or global
- a scalar Φ charged under $U(1)_X$
- a set of N_χ massless fermions χ charged under $U(1)_X$

- add one more heavy RH neutrino N'
⇒ one of the χ will also pick up a seesaw induced mass $\rightarrow \psi$

Extending the model to include keV sterile neutrino dark matter

C. Benso, TS, D. Vatsyayan, to appear

neutral fermion mass matrix
in the basis $(\chi_L^c, \check{\nu}_L^c, \psi_L^c, N', N)$

$$\mathcal{M}_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \Lambda' & \Lambda \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & m_D' & m_D \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \kappa' & \kappa \\ \Lambda'^T & m_D^{T'} & \kappa'^T & M' & 0 \\ \Lambda^T & m_D^T & \kappa^T & 0 & M \end{pmatrix}$$

assume hierarchies:

$$M \gg M' \gg m_D \gg \kappa' \gg \Lambda \gg m_D', \kappa, \Lambda'.$$

$$M' m_D^2 \ll M \kappa'^2$$

$$m_\chi = 0$$

$$m_\nu \approx m_D M^{-1} m_D^T$$

$$m_\psi \approx \kappa' M'^{-1} \kappa'^T.$$

$$m_{N'} \approx M'$$

$$m_N \approx M.$$

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keV DM candidate



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keV DM candidate



assume hierarchies:

$$M \gg M' \gg m_D \gg \kappa' \gg \Lambda \gg m_D', \kappa, \Lambda'.$$

$$M' m_D^2 \ll M \kappa'^2$$

$$m_\chi = 0$$

$$m_\nu \approx m_D M^{-1} m_D^T$$

$$m_\psi \approx \kappa' M'^{-1} \kappa'^T.$$

$$m_{N'} \approx M'$$

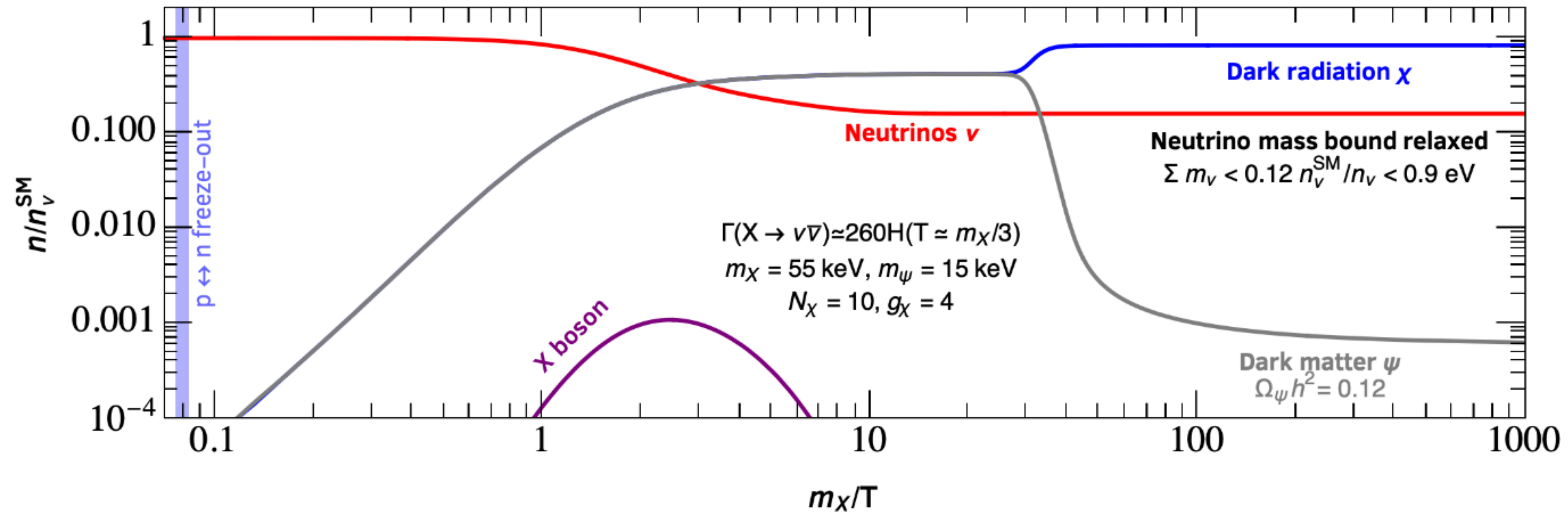
$$m_N \approx M.$$

mixing and interactions:

$$\theta_{\nu\psi} = \frac{m_D'}{\kappa'}, \quad \theta_{\chi\psi} = 0$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = g_X Z'_\mu \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi$$

DM production via dark freeze-out



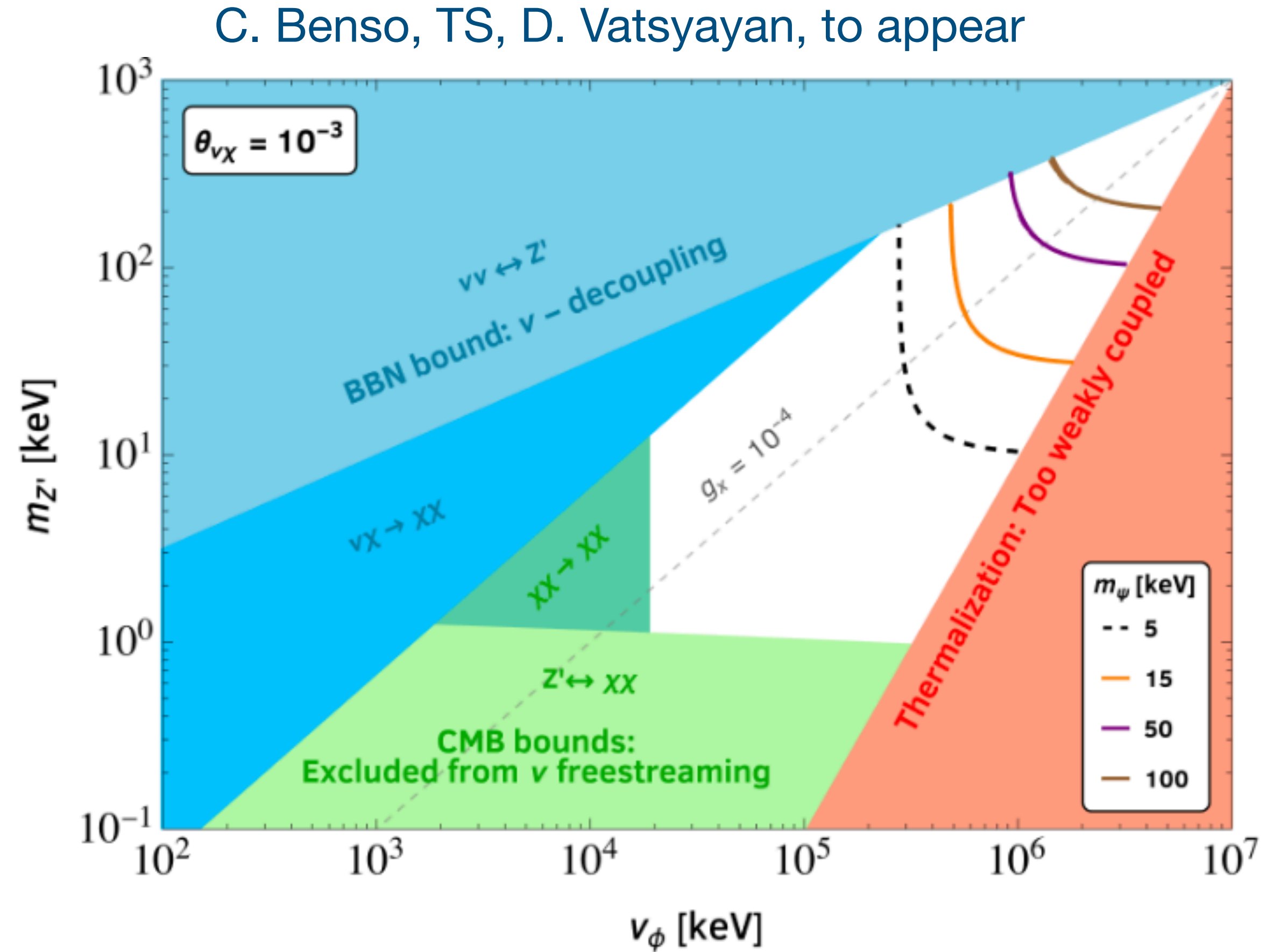
- assume $m_\psi < m_{Z'}$
- ψ thermalizes with the dark fluid via $\psi\psi \leftrightarrow Z'$
- DM freeze-out for $T_{DS} \lesssim m_\psi$

$$\Omega_\psi h^2 \simeq x_f \frac{10^{-10} \text{ GeV}^{-2}}{\langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi\psi \rightarrow \chi\chi}}$$

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle_{\psi\psi \rightarrow \chi\chi} = N_\chi \frac{g^4}{4\pi} \frac{m_\psi^2}{(m_{Z'}^2 - 4m_\psi^2)^2}$$

Right DM abundance in the relevant parameter region

- DM mass
 $15 \text{ keV} \lesssim m_\psi \lesssim 100 \text{ keV}$
- DM stability and X-ray constraints:
 $\psi \rightarrow \nu\chi\chi, \psi \rightarrow \nu\gamma$
suppressed by $\theta_{\nu\psi}^2$
require $\theta_{\nu\psi} \lesssim 10^{-8}$



Summary & Outlook

- Relaxing cosmo bound on $\sum m_\nu$ requires exciting new physics
- Presented simple seesaw model:
 - large number of massless sterile neutrinos ($N_\chi \gtrsim 10 - 30$)
 - dark U(1) symmetry with breaking scale between 10 MeV and 10 GeV
 - weakly coupled Z' with mass 1 — 100 keV with $\lambda_{Z'}^{\nu\nu} \sim 10^{-9}$
- keV sterile neutrino DM naturally integrated in the model [w C. Benso, D. Vatsyayan, to appear] production due to DS interactions, mixing w active neutrinos can be very small
- possible signatures:
 - galactic SN observations
 - sterile neutrino searches at oscillation experiments [work in progress w M. Escudero, T. Ota, M. Maltoni]

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**Thank you for
your attention!**