

Royal Society Yusuf Hamied virtual Workshop for India and the UK
22 - 23 February 2023

Dark Matter from sterile-sterile neutrino mixing

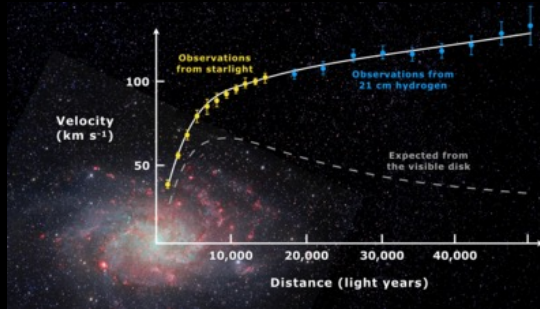
Pasquale Di Bari
(University of Southampton)

Dark Matter

At the present time dark matter acts as a cosmic glue keeping together

stars in galaxies and

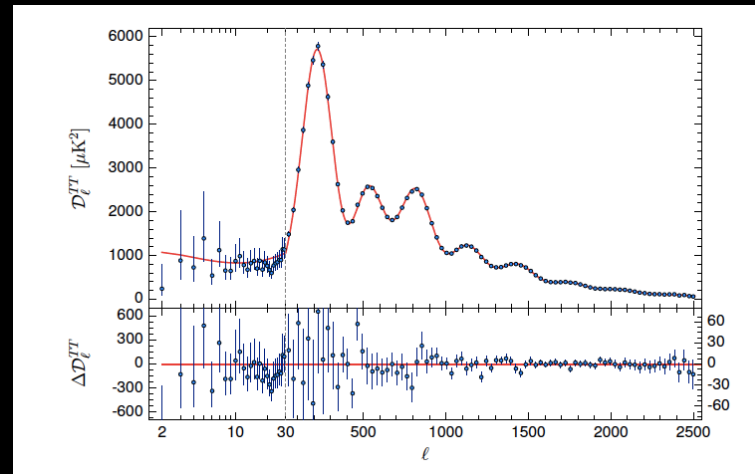
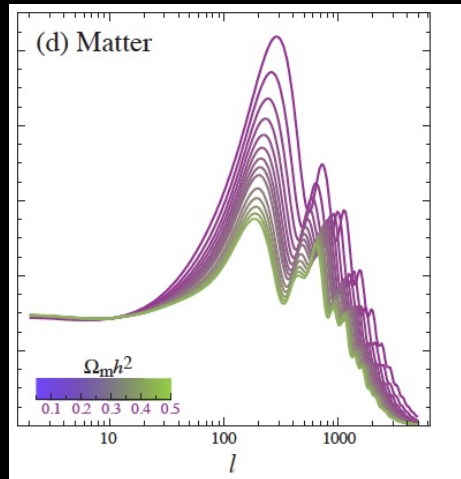
galaxies in clusters of galaxies



...it also explains gravitational lensing+Xray observations in

bullet cluster

...but it also has to be primordial to understand structure formation and CMB anisotropies



CMB +
BAO

(Planck 2018, 1807.06209)

(Hu, Dodelson, astro-ph/0110414)

$$\Omega_{CDM,0} h^2 = 0.11933 \pm 0.0009 \sim 5 \Omega_{B,0} h^2$$

Massive neutrinos as dark matter?

Neutrino abundance freezes out when neutrinos are still ultra-relativistic \Rightarrow

$$\Omega_{\nu 0} = \frac{n_{\nu 0} \sum_i m_i}{\epsilon_{c0}} \Rightarrow \sum_i m_i \simeq 93 \text{ eV } \Omega_{\nu 0} h^2$$

Imposing $\Omega_{\nu 0} h^2 \leq \Omega_{\text{DM}0} h^2 \simeq 0.12 \Rightarrow \sum_i m_i = 11 \text{ eV } f_\nu$ ($f_\nu \equiv \Omega_{\nu 0} / \Omega_{\text{DM}0}$)

- Massive neutrinos do not seem to play any role in **structure formation**.
- In fact **neutrino masses are even detrimental** contributing to unwanted **hot dark matter** and for this reason (combining CMB + BAO) one obtains an upper bound $f_\nu \lesssim 0.02$ translating into an upper bound $\sum_i m_i \lesssim 0.2 \text{ eV}$

Combining the upper bound from cosmology with the lower bound from neutrino oscillation experiments, one has a narrow window:

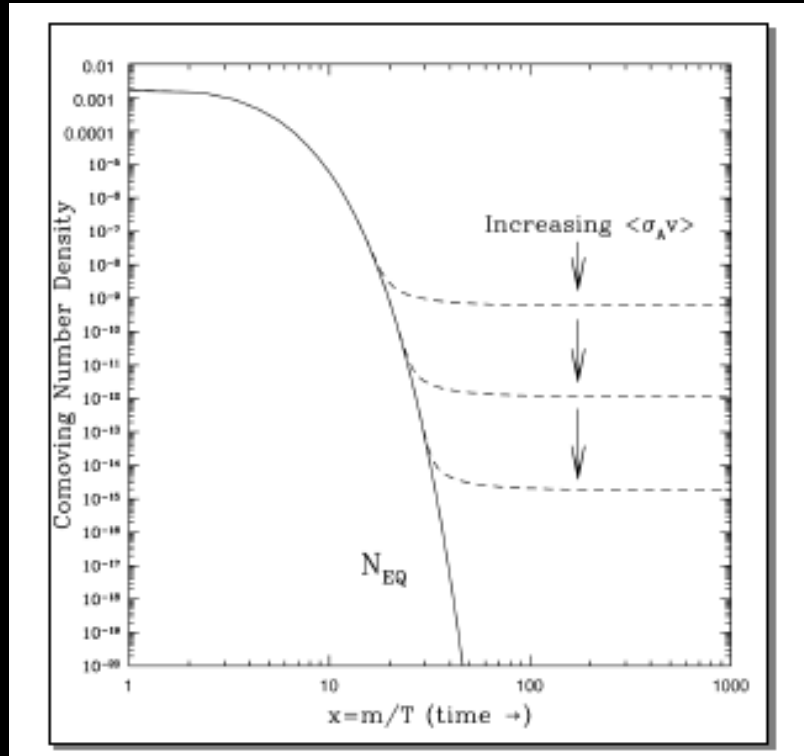
$$0.06 \text{ eV} \leq \sum_i m_i \leq 0.17 \text{ eV} \quad (95\% \text{ C.L.})$$

In next years cosmology should be able to measure $\sum_i m_i$ with $\delta(\sum_i m_i) \simeq 0.015 \text{ eV}$

Curiosity: neutrino contribution to matter today is comparable to that of stars

$$\Omega_{\text{stars},0} / 3 \leq \Omega_{\nu 0} \leq \Omega_{\text{stars},0} \simeq 0.004$$

Non-relativistic freeze-out



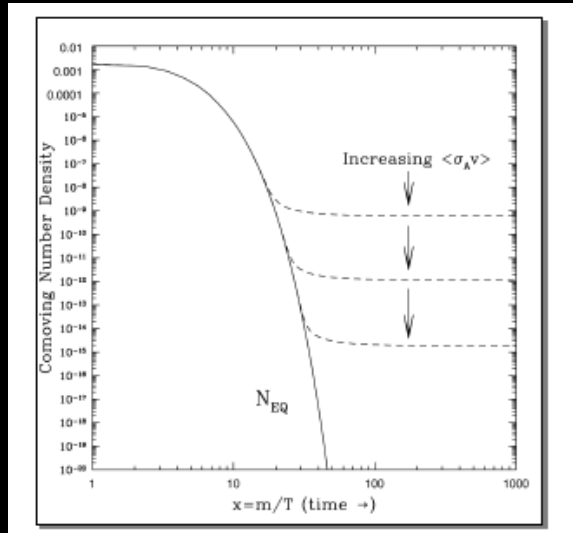
$$\Omega_X h^2 \simeq \frac{4 \times 10^{-10}}{\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} \beta_{\text{rel}} \rangle} \left(\frac{\hbar c}{\text{GeV}} \right)^2 \simeq \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-37} \text{ cm}^2}{\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} \beta_{\text{rel}} \rangle_f},$$

WIMP miracle

$$\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}}^{\text{weak}} \beta_{\text{rel}} \rangle \simeq \frac{\alpha_{\text{weak}}^2}{m_X^2} \simeq 4 \times 10^{-37} \text{ cm}^2 \left(\frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{m_X} \right)^2 \Rightarrow (\Omega_X h^2)_{\text{WIMP}} \sim \mathcal{O}(0.1) \left(\frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{m_X} \right)^2$$

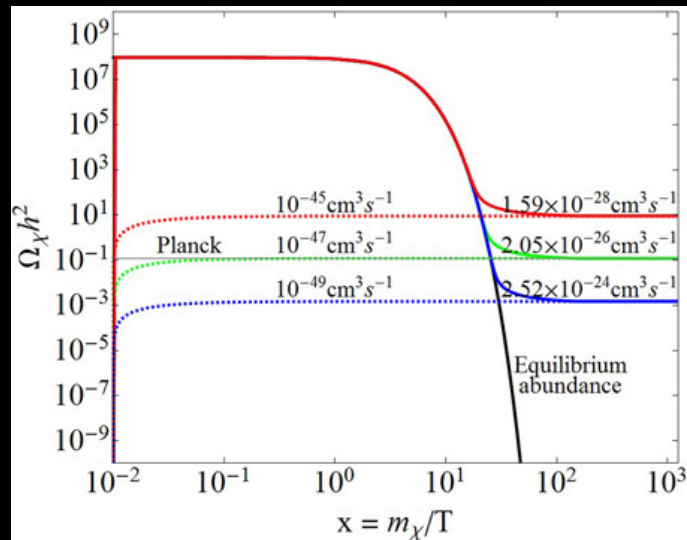
Freeze-out vs. freeze-in solutions

Freeze-out (WIMPs)



$$\Omega_X h^2 \simeq \frac{4 \times 10^{-10}}{\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} \beta_{\text{rel}} \rangle} \left(\frac{\hbar c}{\text{GeV}} \right)^2 \simeq \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-37} \text{ cm}^2}{\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} \beta_{\text{rel}} \rangle_t},$$

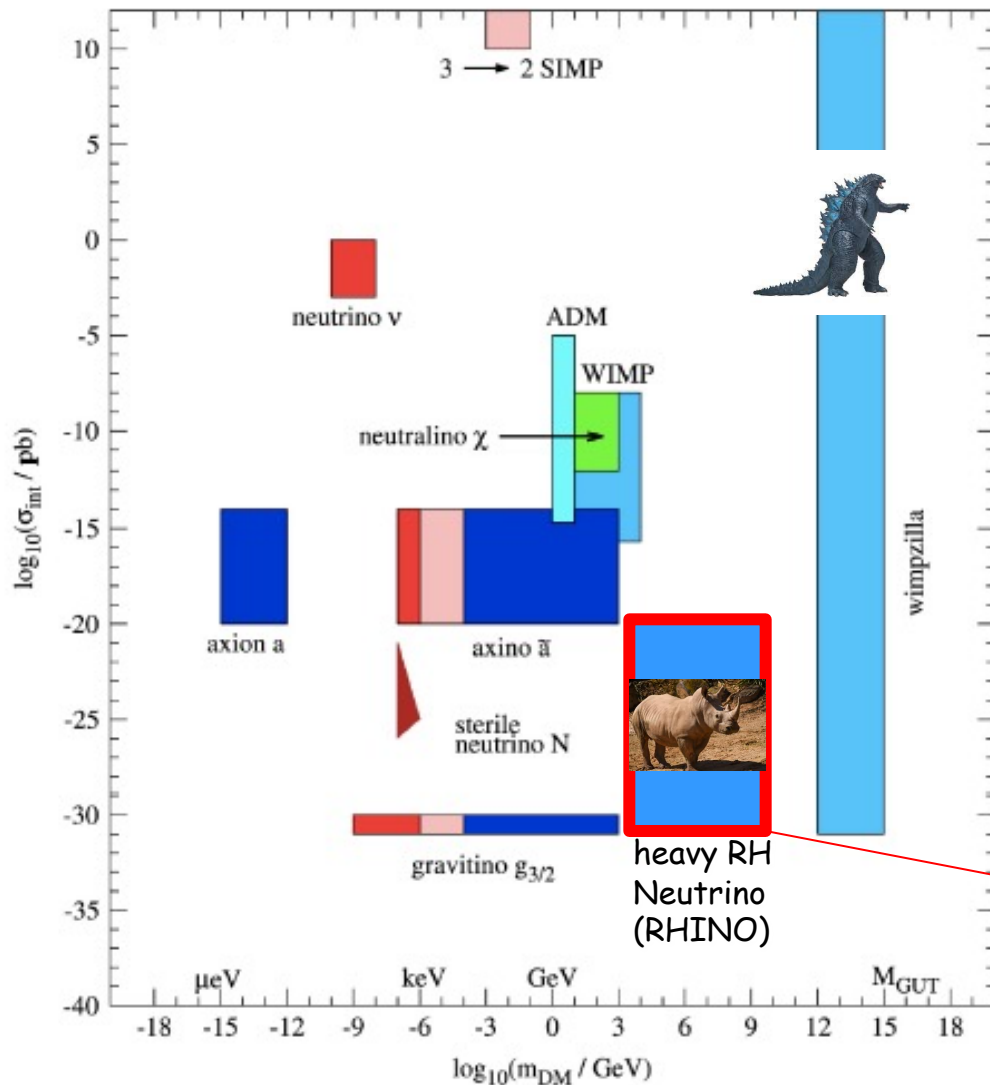
Freeze-in solution (FIMPs)



$$\Omega_{DM0} h^2 \propto \langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} \beta_{\text{rel}} \rangle$$

Beyond the WIMP paradigm

(from Baer et al.1407.0017)

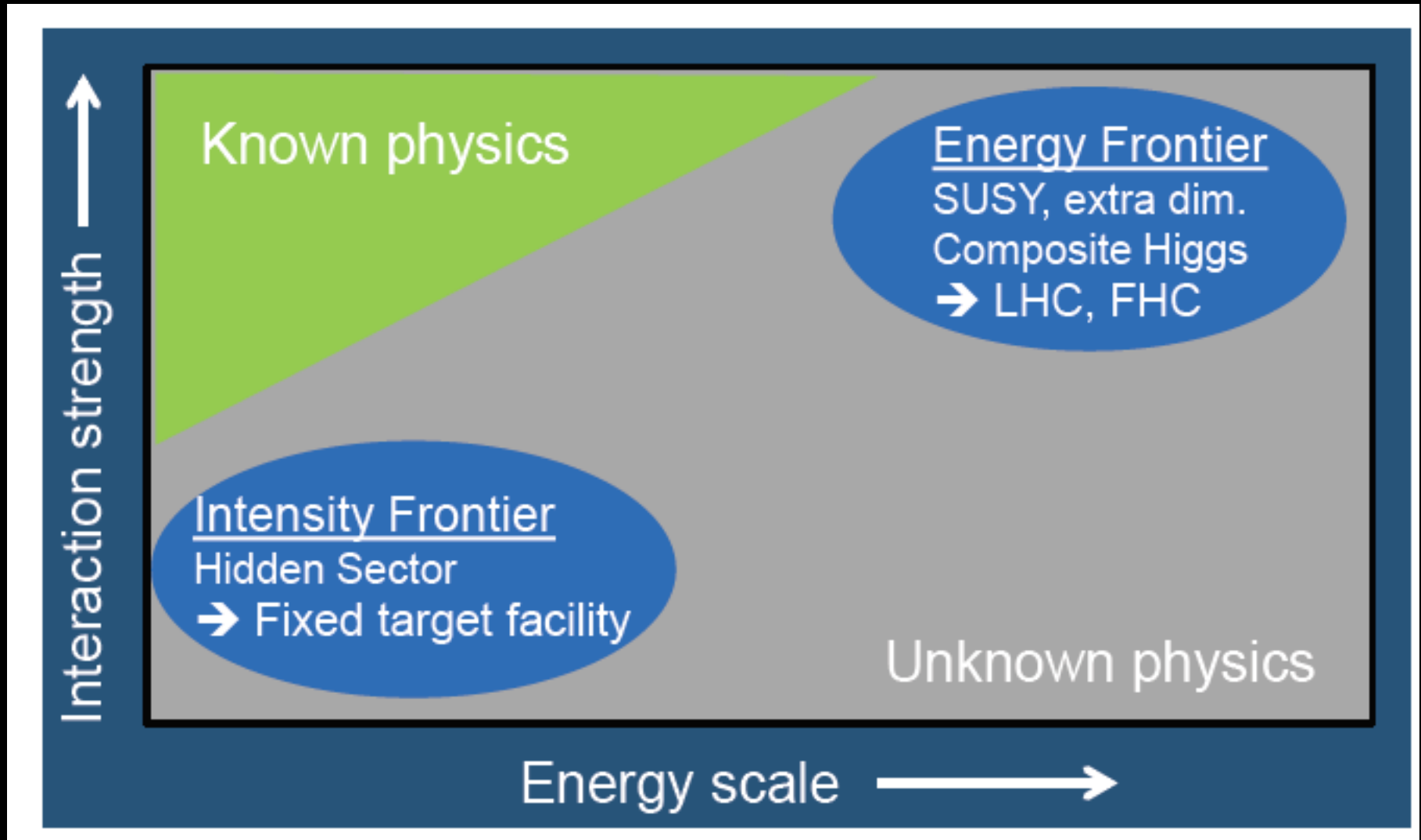


(PDB, Anisimov '08)

The more we know the less we understand?

Right-handed neutrino laboratory searches

(SHIP proposal, 1504.04855)



Dark matter from active-sterile neutrino mixing

(Dodelson Widrow '94; Shi, Fuller '99; Dolgov and Hansen '00; Asaka, Blanchet, Shaposhnikov '05)

- Type-I seesaw Lagrangian

$$-\mathcal{L}_{mass}^{\nu} = \bar{\nu}_L m_D \nu_R + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\nu}_R^c M \nu_R + h.c. = -\frac{1}{2} (\bar{\nu}_L \quad \bar{\nu}_R^c) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D^T \\ m_D & M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ \nu_R^c \end{pmatrix} + h.c.$$
- LH-RH neutrino mixing

$$\nu_{1L} \simeq U_{1\alpha}^{\dagger} \left(\nu_{L\alpha} - \frac{m_{D\alpha 1}}{M_1} \nu_{R1}^c \right)$$

$$N_{1R} \simeq \nu_{1R} + \frac{m_{D\alpha 1}}{M_1} \nu_{L\alpha}^c$$
- For $M_1 \ll m_e \Rightarrow \tau_1 = 5 \times 10^{26} s \left(\frac{M_1}{\text{keV}} \right)^{-5} \left(\frac{10^{-8}}{\theta^2} \right) \gg t_0$ $\theta^2 \equiv \frac{\sum |m_{D\alpha 1}|^2}{M_1^2}$
- Solving Boltzmann equations an abundance is produced at $T \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$:

$$\Omega_{N_1} h^2 \sim 0.1 \frac{\theta^2}{10^{-8}} \left(\frac{M_1}{\text{keV}} \right)^2 \sim \Omega_{DM,0} h^2$$
- The lightest neutrino mass $m_1 \lesssim 10^{-5} \text{ eV} \Rightarrow$ hierarchical limit
- The N_1 's also radiatively decay and this produces constraints from X-rays (or opportunities to observe it).
- Considering also structure formation constraints, one is forced to consider a resonant production induced by a large lepton asymmetry
- $L \sim 10^{-4}$ (3.5 keV line?). (Horiuchi et al. '14; Bulbul et al. '14; Abazajian '14)

Heavy RH neutrino as dark matter ?

(Anisimov,PDB '08)

What production mechanism? For high masses just a tiny abundance is needed:

$$N_{DM} \simeq 10^{-9} (\Omega_{DM,0} h^2) N_\gamma(t_{prod}) \frac{\text{TeV}}{M_{DM}}$$

Suppose a RH neutrino has tiny Yukawa couplings (e.g., proportional to a small symmetry breaking parameter):

$$m_D \simeq \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{e1} & m_{De2} & m_{De3} \\ \varepsilon_{\mu1} & m_{D\mu2} & m_{D\mu3} \\ \varepsilon_{\tau1} & m_{D\tau2} & m_{D\tau3} \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } m_D \simeq \begin{pmatrix} m_{De1} & \varepsilon_{e2} & m_{De3} \\ m_{D\mu1} & \varepsilon_{\mu2} & m_{D\mu3} \\ m_{D\tau1} & \varepsilon_{\tau2} & m_{D\tau3} \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } m_D \simeq \begin{pmatrix} m_{De1} & m_{De2} & \varepsilon_{e3} \\ m_{D\mu1} & m_{D\mu2} & \varepsilon_{\mu3} \\ m_{D\tau1} & m_{D\tau2} & \varepsilon_{\tau3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$m_D = V_L^\dagger D_{m_D} U_R \quad D_{m_D} \equiv v \text{diag}(h_A, h_B, h_C) \text{ with } h_A \leq h_B \leq h_C$$

$$\tau_{DM} = \frac{4\pi}{h_A^2 M_{DM}} = 0.87 h_A^2 10^{-26} \frac{\text{TeV}}{M_{DM}} s$$

\Rightarrow

$$\tau_{DM} > \tau_{DM}^{\min} \simeq 10^{28} s \Rightarrow h_A < 10^{-27} \sqrt{\frac{\text{TeV}}{M_{DM}} \times \frac{10^{28} s}{\tau_{DM}^{\min}}}$$

Too small to reproduce the correct abundance with any production mechanism within a minimal type-I seesaw extension

Many proposed production mechanisms

Recently many production mechanisms have been proposed especially to address **IceCube** initially seemingly anomalous **PeV neutrino** events:

- from $SU(2)_R$ extra-gauge interactions (LRSM) (Fornengo, Niro, Fiorentin);
- from inflaton decays (Anisimov, PDB'08; Higaki, Kitano, Sato '14);
- from resonant annihilations through $SU(2)'$ extra-gauge interactions (Dev, Kazanas, Mohapatra, Teplitz, Zhang '16);
- From new $U(1)_Y$ interactions connecting DM to SM (Dev, Mohapatra, Zhang '16);
- From $U(1)_{B-L}$ interactions (Okada, Orikasa '12);

•

In all these models IceCube data are fitted through fine tuning of parameters responsible for decays (they are post-dictive)

A 5-dimensional Higgs portal operator as a way out

(Anisimov hep-ph/0612024, Anisimov,PDB 0812.5085)

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \mathcal{L}_{Y+M}^{\nu} + \mathcal{L}_A$$

Type-I
Seesaw
Lagrangian

$$-\mathcal{L}_{Y+M}^{\nu} = \bar{L}_{\alpha} h_{\alpha I} N_I \tilde{\phi} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{N_I^c} M_I N_I + h.c.$$

Anisimov
operator(s)

$$\mathcal{L}_A = \sum_{I,J} \frac{\lambda_{IJ}}{\Lambda} \phi^{\dagger} \phi \overline{N_I^c} N_J + h.c.$$

$$= \frac{\lambda_{DS}}{\Lambda} \phi^{\dagger} \phi \overline{N_D^c} N_S + \frac{\lambda_{SS}}{\Lambda} \phi^{\dagger} \phi \overline{N_S^c} N_S + \frac{\lambda_{DD}}{\Lambda} \phi^{\dagger} \phi \overline{N_D^c} N_D + h.c. \quad (N_D = N_3; N_S = N_2)$$

Remarks:

- from SMEFT to vSMEFT
- They are kind of Weinberg operators but a further step up
- They extend Higgs portal renormalizable operator (Patt, Wilczek hep-ph/0605188)

RHINO dark matter

(Anisimov '06, Anisimov,PDB '08)

Consider the RH Higgs-induced neutrino mixing (RHINO) A. operator:

$$\mathcal{L}_A = \frac{\lambda_{DS}}{\Lambda} \phi^\dagger \phi \overline{N_D^c} N_S$$

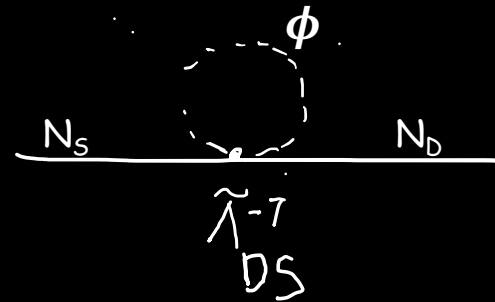
In general, $\lambda_{DS} \neq 0$ this generates a dark-source RH neutrino mixing. The Yukawa and Anisimov interactions both generate effective potentials from self-energies:

From Yukawa interactions

$$V_S^Y = \frac{T^2}{8p} h_S^2$$

From mixing

$$V_{DS}^\Lambda = \frac{T^2}{12\Lambda} \lambda_{DS}$$



$$\tilde{\Lambda}_{DS} = \Lambda / \lambda_{DS}$$

Effective mixing Hamiltonian :

$$\Delta H \simeq \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\Delta M^2}{4p} - \frac{T^2}{16p} h_S^2 & \frac{T^2}{12\tilde{\Lambda}_{DS}} \\ \frac{T^2}{12\tilde{\Lambda}_{DS}} & \frac{\Delta M^2}{4p} + \frac{T^2}{16p} h_S^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta M^2 \equiv M_S^2 - M_D^2$$

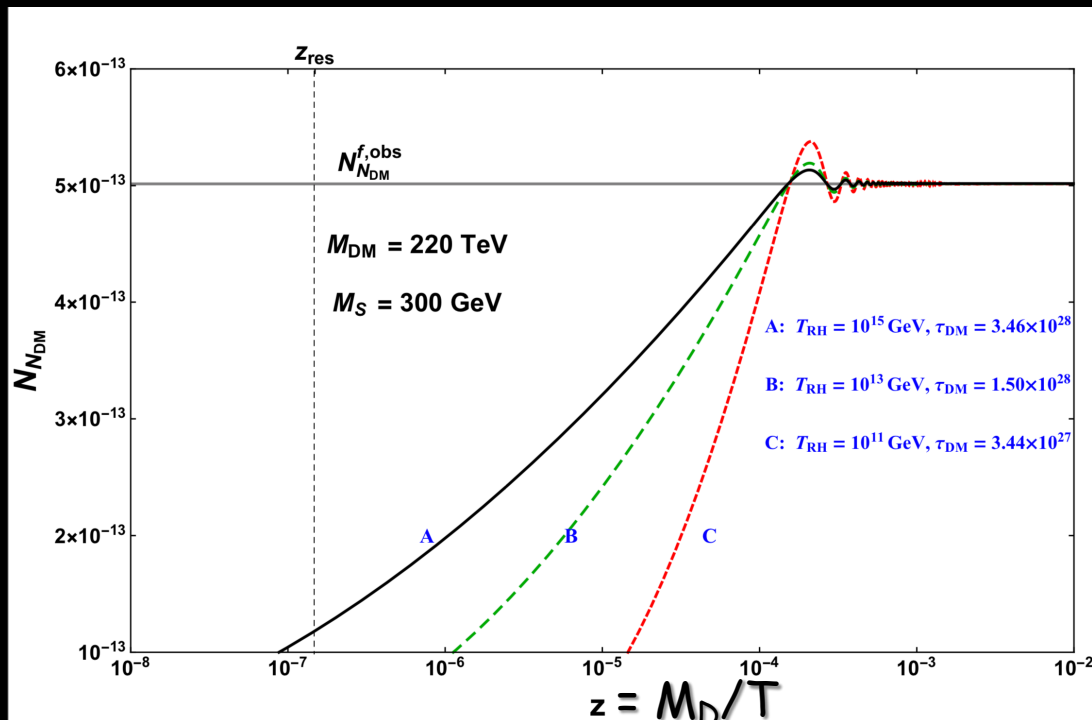
Density matrix calculation of the relic abundance

(P.Di Bari, K. Farrag, R. Samanta, Y. Zhou, 1908.00521)

Density matrix equation for the dark-source RH neutrino system (using a monochromatic approximation $p \sim 3T$)

$$\frac{dN_{IJ}}{dt} = -i[\Delta H, N]_{IJ} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2}(\Gamma_D + \Gamma_S)N_{DS} \\ \frac{1}{2}(\Gamma_D + \Gamma_S)N_{SD} & (\Gamma_D + \Gamma_S)(N_{N_S} - N_{N_S}^{eq}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Example for **initial N_S thermal abundance**

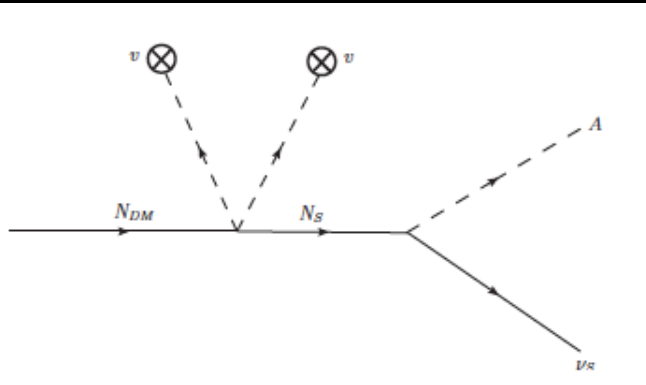


Constraints from decays

(Anisimov,PDB '08; Anisimov,PDB'10; P.Ludl,PDB,S.Palomarez-Ruiz'16)

2 body decays ($M_S > M_W$)

DM neutrinos unavoidably decay today into $A + \text{leptons}$ ($A = H, Z, W$) through the same mixing that produced them in the very early Universe



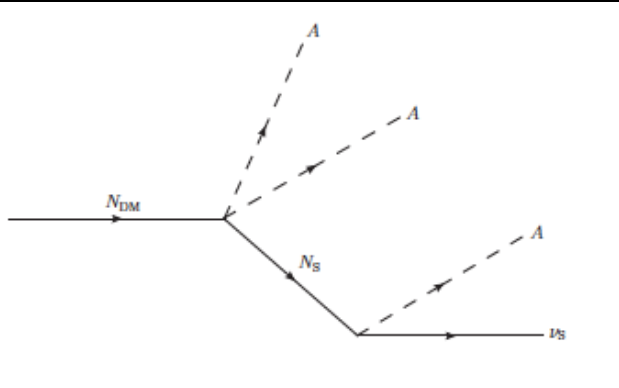
$$\theta_{\Lambda 0} = \frac{2 v^2 / \tilde{\Lambda}_{DS}}{M_D (1 - M_S / M_D)}$$

mixing angle today
(for $\theta_{\Lambda 0} \ll 1$)

$$\Gamma_{D \rightarrow A + \ell_S} = \frac{h_S^2}{\pi} \left(\frac{v^2}{\tilde{\Lambda}} \right)^2 \frac{M_D}{(M_D - M_S)^2}.$$

\Rightarrow Lower bound on M_{DM}

4 body decays



$$N_{DM} \rightarrow 2 A + N_S \rightarrow 3 A + \nu_S \quad (A = W^\pm, Z, H).$$

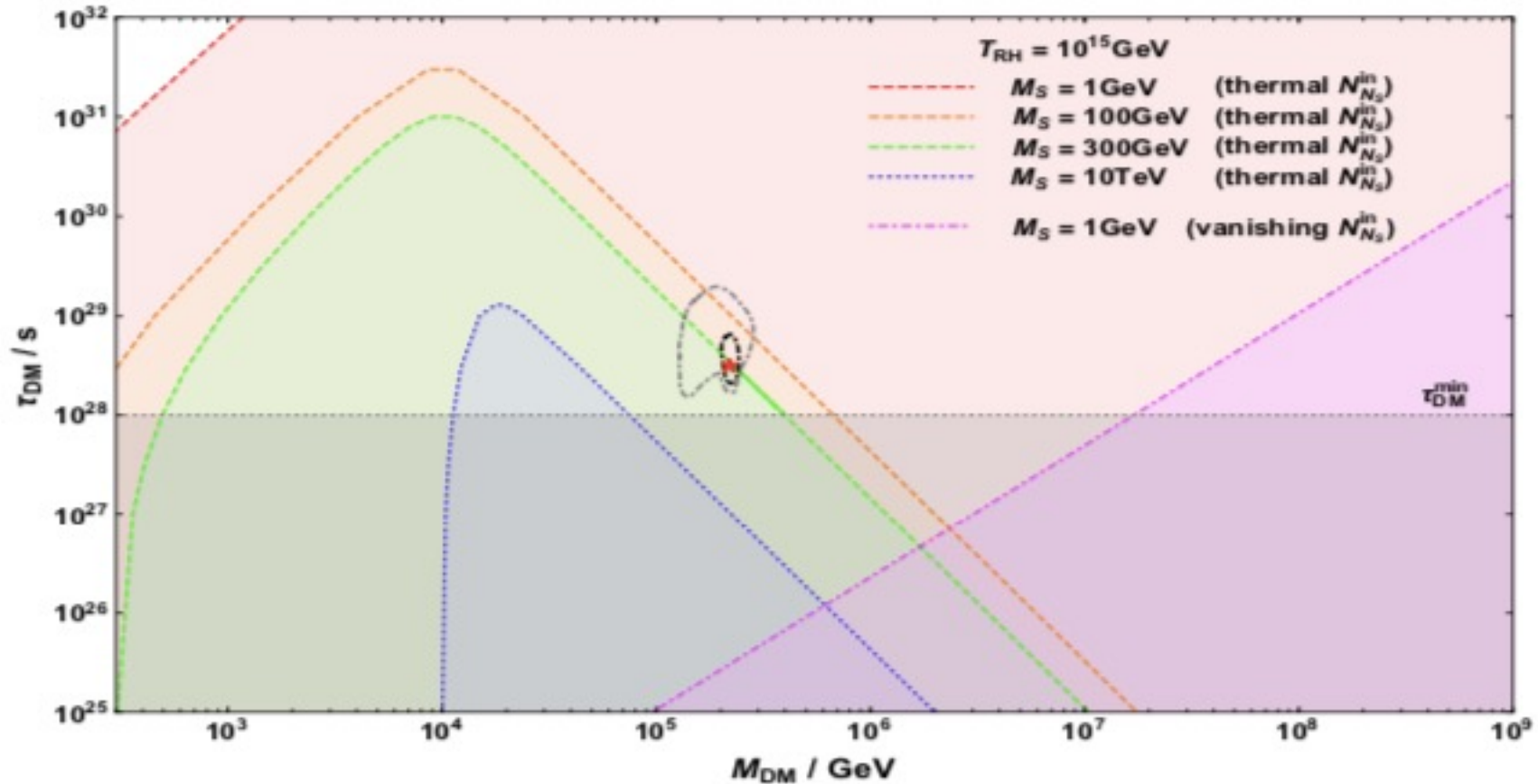
$$\Gamma_{D \rightarrow 3A + \ell_S} = \frac{\Gamma_S}{15 \cdot 2^{11} \cdot \pi^4} \frac{M_D}{M_S} \left(\frac{M_D}{\tilde{\Lambda}_{DS}} \right)^2$$

\Rightarrow Upper bound on M_{DM}

3 body decays and annihilations also can occur but yield weaker constraints

DM lifetime vs. mass plane: allowed regions

(P.Di Bari, K. Farrag, R. Samanta, Y. Zhou, 1908.00521)



Solutions only for initial thermal N_S abundance, unless $M_S \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$ and $M_D \gtrsim 10^7 \text{ GeV}$

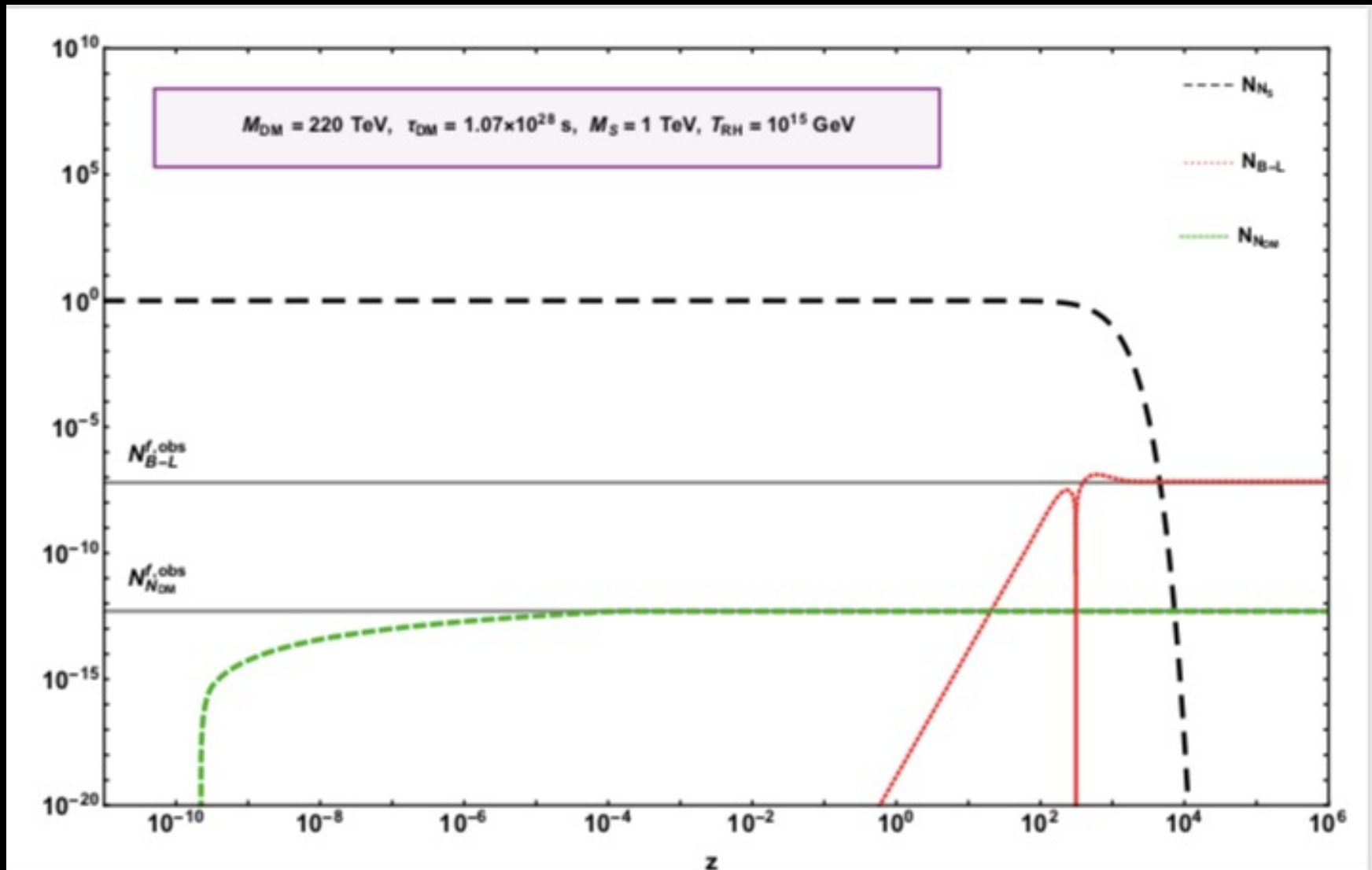
Can one think of processes able to thermalize the N_S abundance prior to the oscillations?

Two good motivations

Unifying Leptogenesis and Dark Matter

(PDB, K. Farrag, R. Samanta, Y. Zhou, 1908.00521)

A solution for initial thermal N_S abundance:



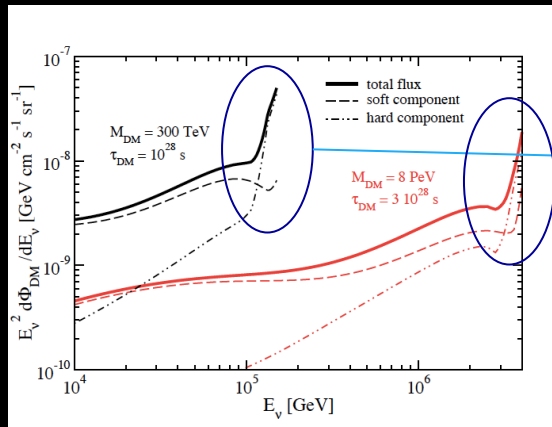
Very high energy neutrinos from decays

(Anisimov,PDB,0812.5085;PDB, P.Ludl,S. Palomarez-Ruiz 1606.06238)

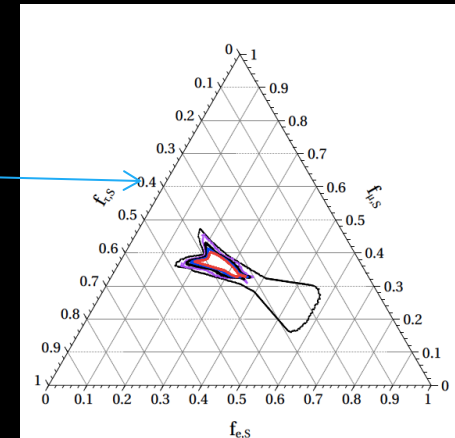
- DM neutrinos unavoidably decay today into $A + \text{leptons}$ ($A = H, Z, W$) through the same mixing that produced them in the very early Universe
- Potentially testable high energy neutrino contribution

Energy neutrino flux

Flavour composition at the detector

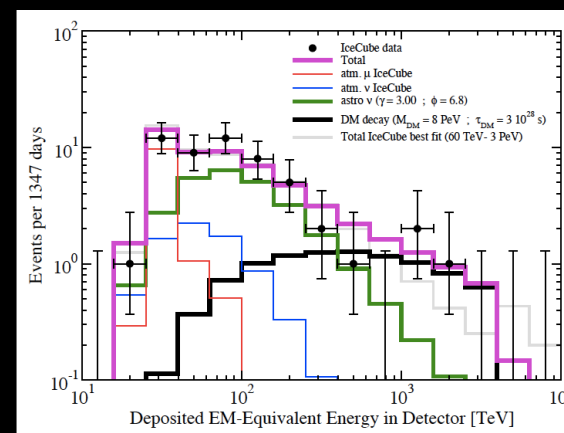
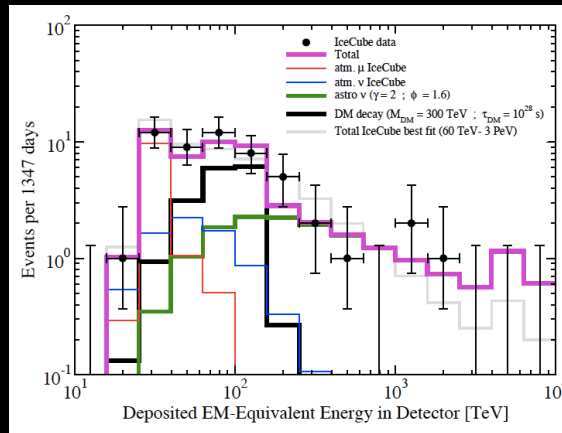


Hard component



Neutrino events at IceCube: 2 examples

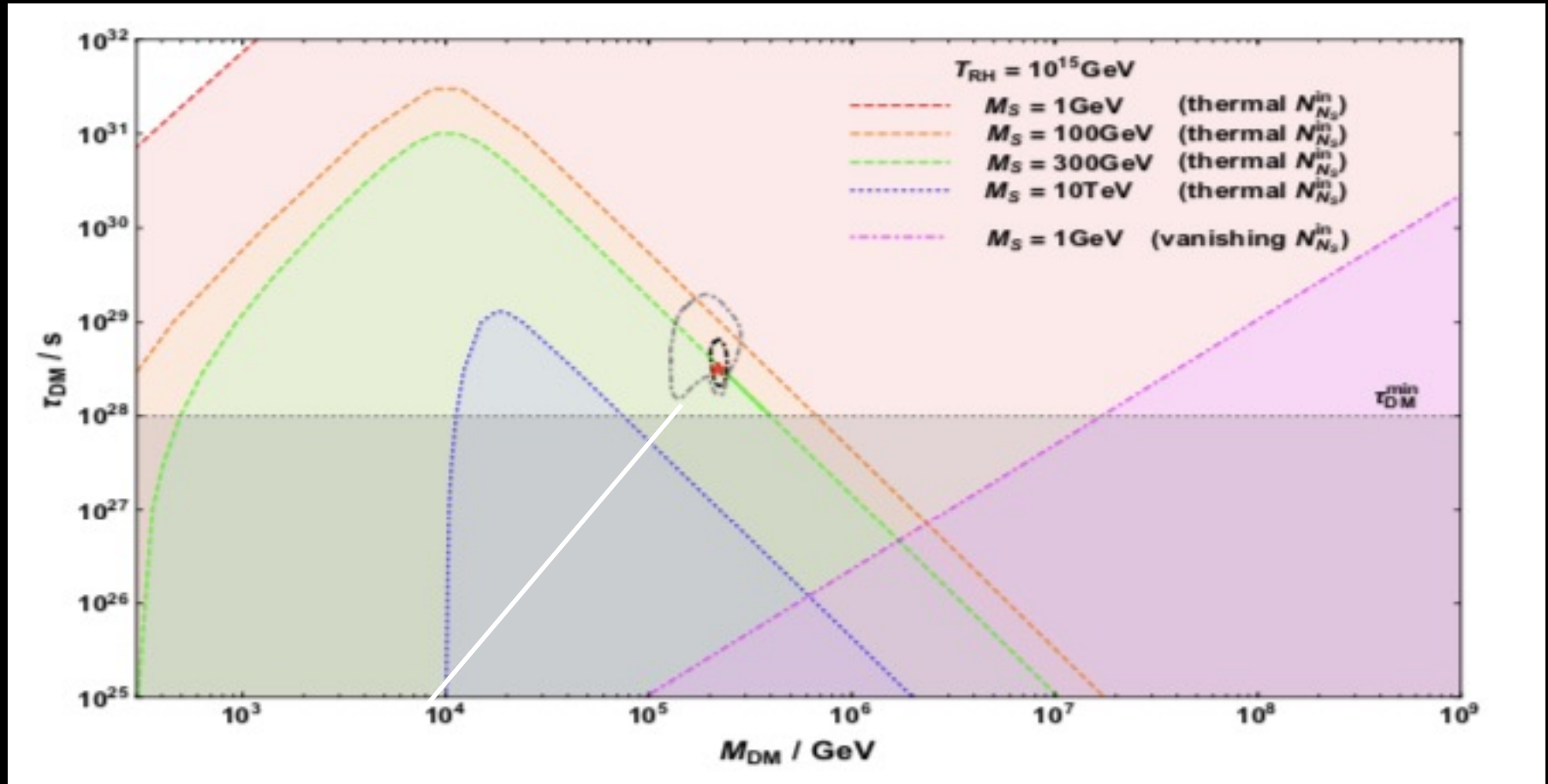
$M_{\text{DM}} = 300 \text{ TeV}$



$M_{\text{DM}} = 8 \text{ PeV}$

DM lifetime vs. mass plane: allowed regions

(P.Di Bari, K. Farrag, R. Samanta, Y. Zhou, 1908.00521)



95% C.L. region where neutrinophilic DM decays well fit an excess in the neutrino flux at $\sim 100 \text{ TeV}$ energies in addition to an astrophysical component (Chianese et al. 1808.02486)

Including Higgs portal interactions for N_S

(PDB, A. Murphy, arXiv 2210.10801)

$$\mathcal{L}_A = \frac{\lambda_{DS}}{\Lambda} \phi^\dagger \phi \overline{N_{DM}^c} N_S + \frac{\lambda_{SS}}{\Lambda} \phi^\dagger \phi \overline{N_S^c} N_S$$



Can these interactions thermalise the source neutrinos prior to the mixing?
Let us modify the kinetic equations including these processes:

$$\frac{dN_{IJ}}{dt} = -i[\Delta H, N]_{IJ} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2}(\Gamma_D + \Gamma_S)N_{DS} \\ \frac{1}{2}(\Gamma_D + \Gamma_S)N_{SD} & (\Gamma_D + \Gamma_S)(N_{N_S} - N_{N_S}^{eq}) + \frac{\langle \sigma_{\phi\phi \rightarrow N_S N_S \nu} \rangle}{R^3} (N_{N_S}^2 - N_{N_S}^{eq 2}) \end{pmatrix}$$

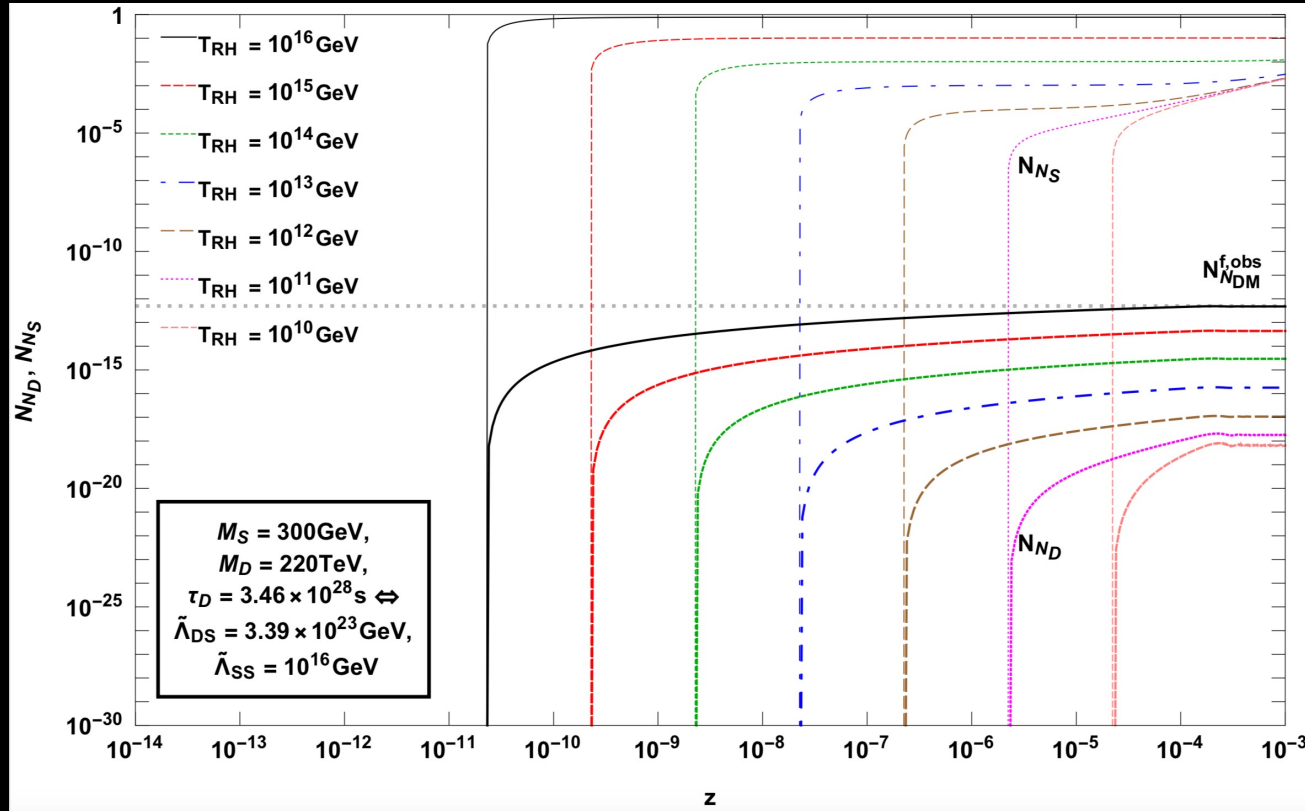
$$A(z) \equiv \frac{\langle \sigma_{\phi\phi \rightarrow N_S N_S \nu} \rangle}{R^3 H z} = \frac{A(z=1)}{z^2}; \quad \langle \sigma_{\phi\phi \rightarrow N_S N_S \nu} \rangle_{T \gg M_S} \simeq \frac{1}{\sim^2 4\pi \Lambda_{SS}}$$

$$\Rightarrow A(z=1) \simeq g_N \frac{3}{16} \frac{\xi(3)}{\pi^3} \sqrt{\frac{90}{8\pi^3 g_R}} \frac{M_D M_{Pl}}{\sim^2 \Lambda_{SS}}$$

Condition for the thermalisation of the N_S abundance

(PDB, A. Murphy, arXiv 2210.10801)

$$\Rightarrow N_{N_S}(z_{in} \ll z \ll 1) - N_{N_S}(z_{in}) \simeq \frac{A_1}{z_{in}} \simeq 1.0 \times \left(\frac{T_{in}}{10^{16} \text{ GeV}} \right) \left(\frac{10^{16} \text{ GeV}}{\tilde{\Lambda}_{SS}} \right)^2 \simeq 1$$

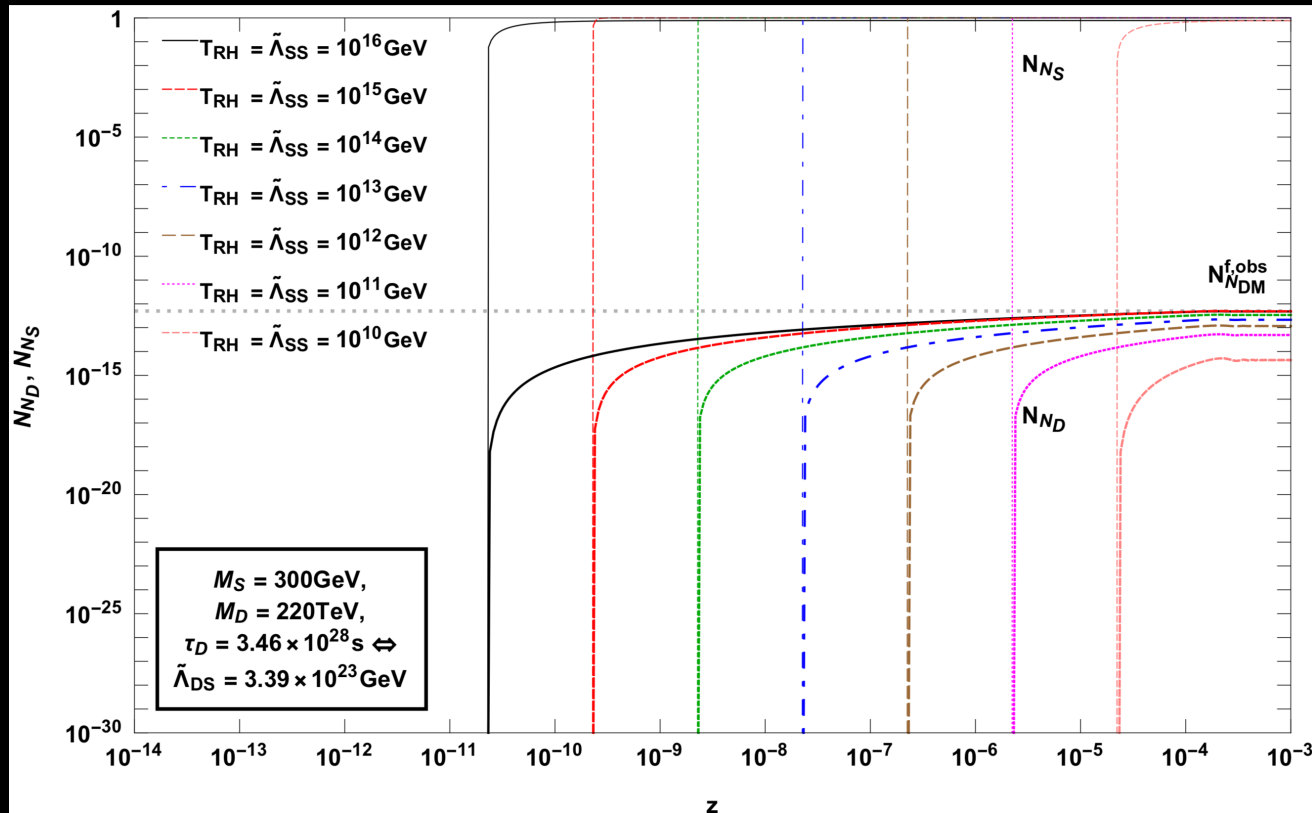


The emerging effective scale for the thermalization coincides with the **grandunified scale**: a **RHINO miracle** ?

Condition for the thermalisation of the N_S abundance

(PDB, A. Murphy, arXiv 2210.1081)

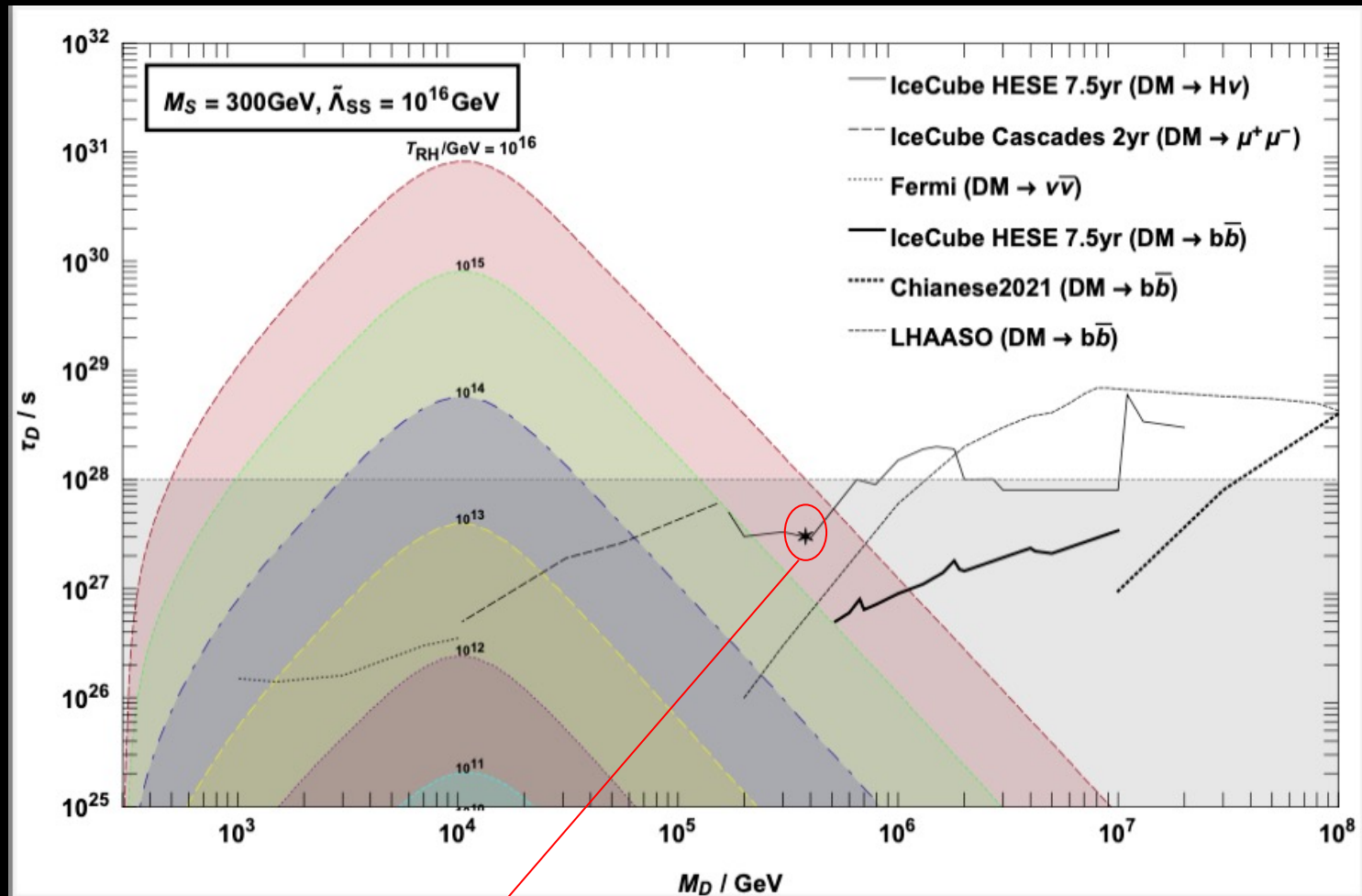
$$\Rightarrow N_{N_S}(z_{in} \ll z \ll 1) - N_{N_S}(z_{in}) \simeq \frac{A_1}{z_{in}} \simeq 1.0 \times \left(\frac{T_{in}}{10^{16} \text{ GeV}} \right) \left(\frac{10^{16} \text{ GeV}}{\tilde{\Lambda}_{SS}} \right)^2 \simeq 1$$



For the validity of the EFT: $T_{RH} \lesssim \tilde{\Lambda}_{SS}$

DM lifetime vs. mass plane: allowed regions

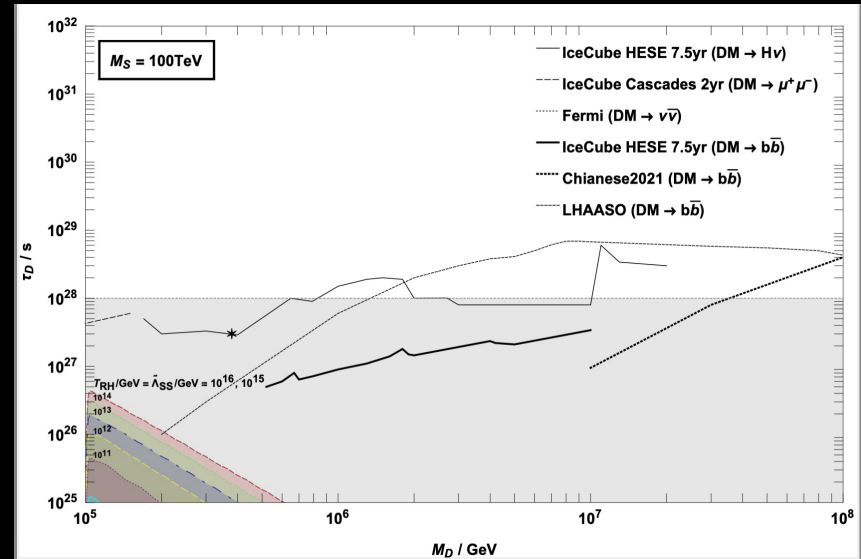
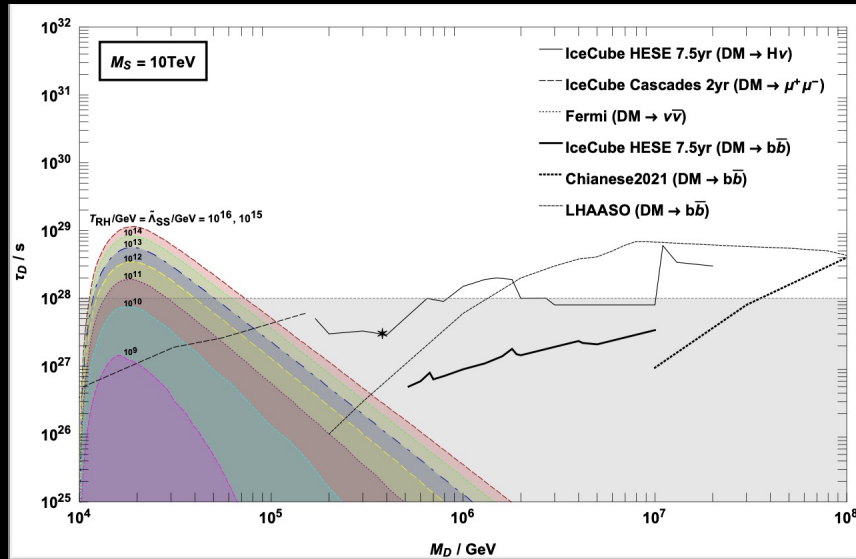
(PDB, A. Murphy, arXiv 2210.10801)



Decaying DM best fit (2.5σ) from IceCube 7.5 year data (2205.12950)

Upper bound on the seesaw (=leptogenesis) scale

(PDB, A. Murphy, arXiv 2210.10801)

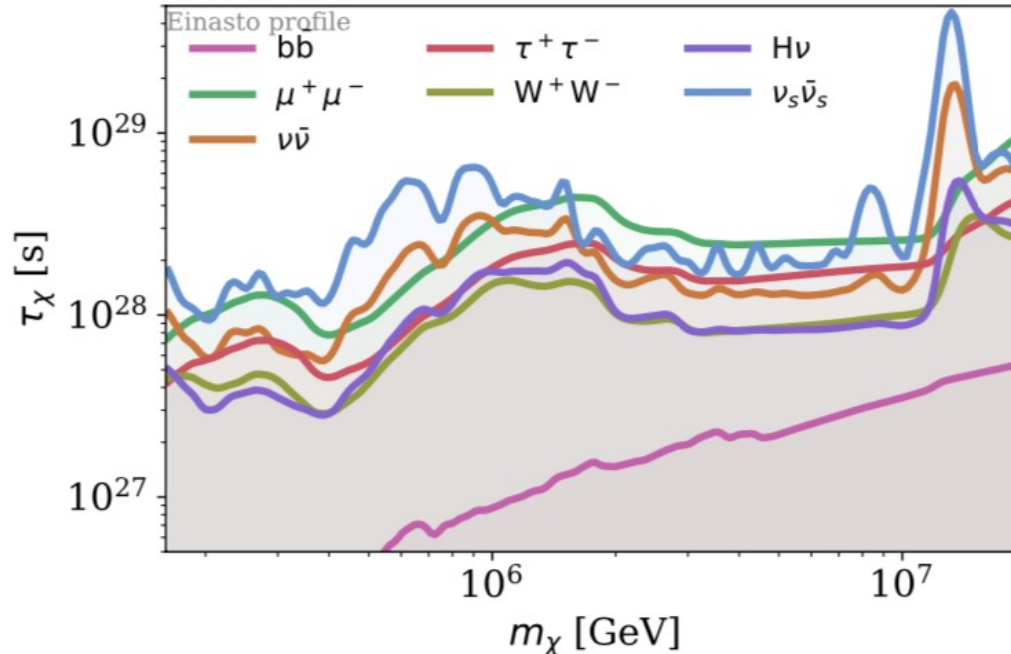


The mechanism is compatible with (resonant) leptogenesis at a scale upto $\sim 100 \text{ TeV}$

Searches for Connections between Dark Matter and High-Energy Neutrinos with IceCube

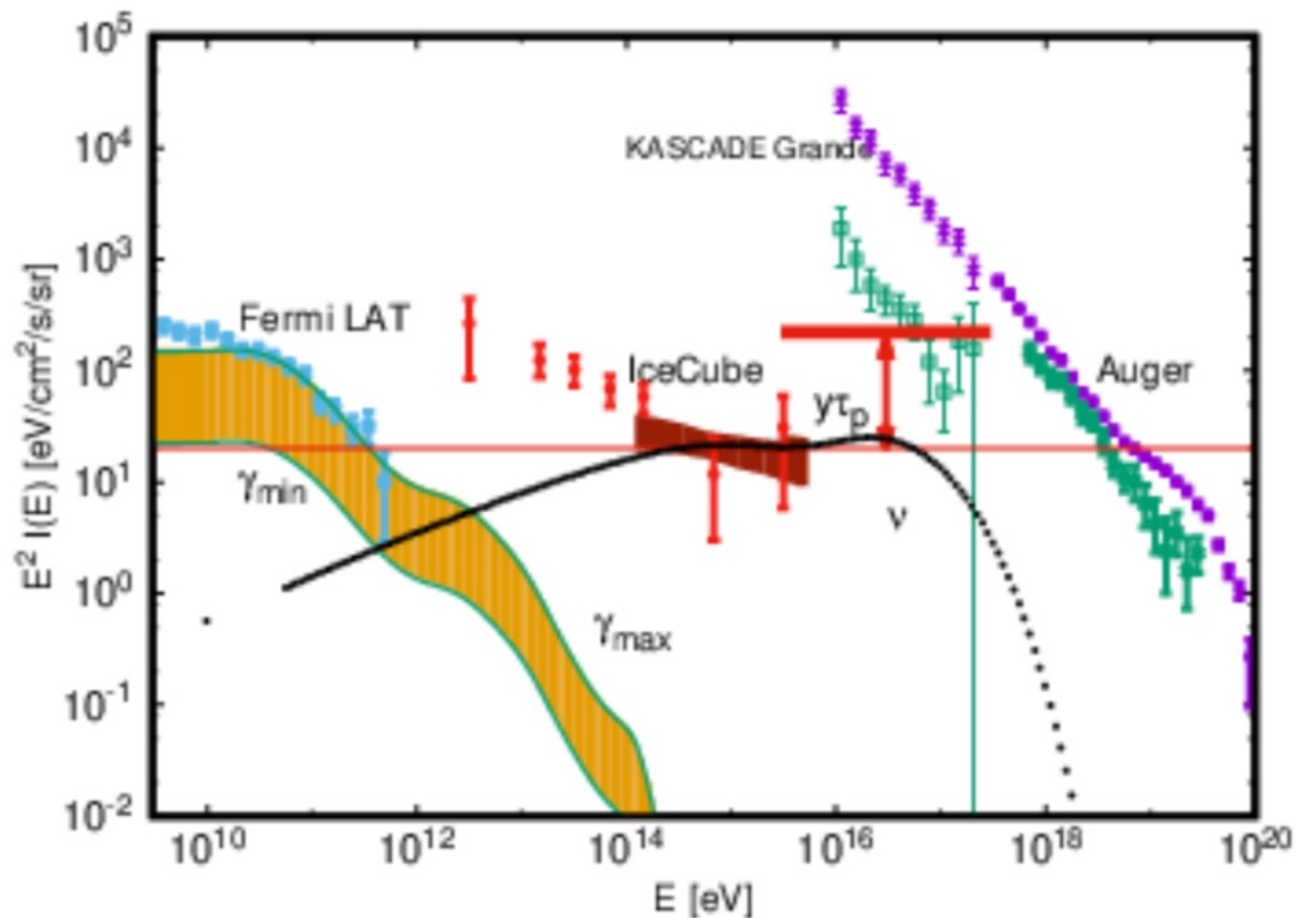
IceCube Collaboration

(2205.12950)



2.5 σ significance when compared to the null hypothesis
best fit point: $m_D=386$ TeV, $\tau_D=2.8\times 10^{27}$ s

Multimessenger analysis

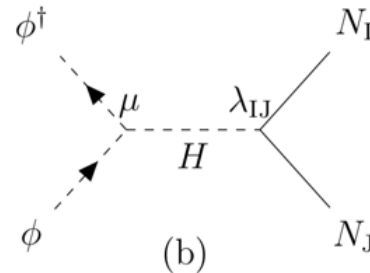
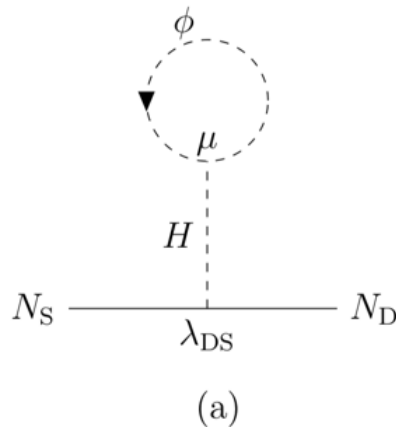


From Kachelriess 2201.04535 (IceCube 3 year data)

A possible GUT origin ? Heavy scalar H as mediator

(Anisimov,PDB, 2008; P.Ludl,PDB,S.Palomarez-Ruiz'16; Kolb and Long 1708.04293; PDB, A. Murphy, arXiv 2210.10801)

$$\mathcal{L}_H = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu H \partial^\mu H - \frac{1}{2} M_H^2 H^2 - \sum_{I,J} \lambda_{IJ} H \overline{N}_I^c N_J - \mu H \phi^\dagger \phi.$$



$$\mathcal{L}_H^{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I,J,K,L} \frac{\lambda_{IJ} \lambda_{KL}}{M_H^2} (\overline{N}_I^c N_J) (\overline{N}_K^c N_L) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mu^2}{M_H^2} (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2 + \sum_{I,J} \frac{\mu \lambda_{IJ}}{M_H^2} \Phi^\dagger \Phi \overline{N}_I^c N_J.$$

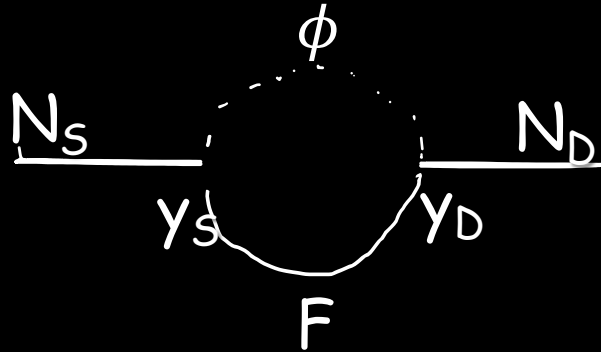
$$\Rightarrow \tilde{\Lambda}_{IJ} = \Lambda / \lambda_{IJ}, \text{ and } \Lambda = M_H^2 / \mu.$$

For $\mu \sim 10^9 \text{ GeV}$ one can have $\tilde{\Lambda}_{DS} \sim 10^{23} \text{ GeV}$ and $\lambda_{DS} \sim O(1)$ but one cannot reproduce simultaneously $\tilde{\Lambda}_{SS} \sim 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$ with the same scale Λ

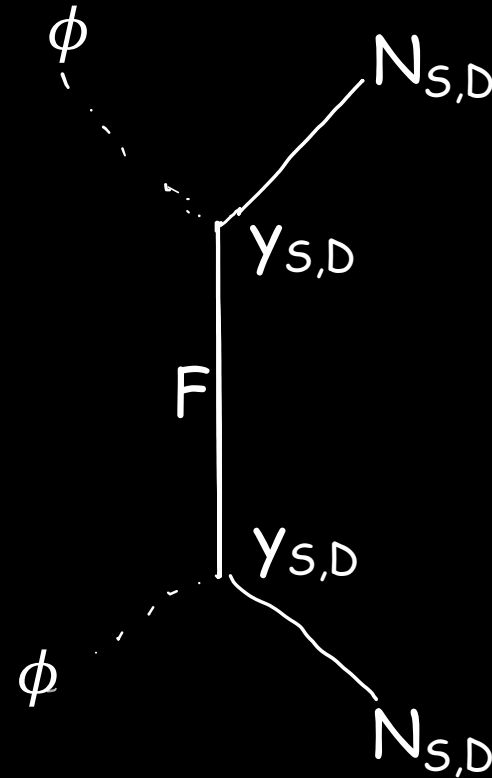
A possible GUT origin ? Heavy fermion F as mediator

(Anisimov,PDB, 2008; PDM, A. Murphy 2210.10801)

$$\mathcal{L}_F = \bar{F} (i \not{\partial} - M_F) F - \sum_I y_I (\bar{F} \phi N_I + \bar{N}_I \phi^\dagger F)$$



$$-\mathcal{L}_F^{\text{eff}} = \sum_{I,J} \frac{y_I y_J}{M_F} \bar{N}_I N_J \phi^\dagger \phi, \implies \Lambda = M_F \text{ and } \lambda'_{IJ} = y_I y_J.$$



This time one can have one scale $\Lambda = M_F \sim M_{\text{GUT}}$ and for $y_S \sim 1$ and $y_D \sim 10^{-7}$:

$$\tilde{\Lambda}_{DS} = \frac{\Lambda}{y_D y_S} \sim 10^{23} \text{ GeV} \quad \tilde{\Lambda}_{SS} = \frac{\Lambda}{y_S y_S} \sim \Lambda \sim 10^{16} \text{ GeV} \quad \tilde{\Lambda}_{DD} = \frac{\Lambda}{y_D y_D} \sim 10^{30} \text{ GeV}$$

$y_D \sim 10^{-7}$ could be understood as a small symmetry (e.g. Z_2) breaking parameter

Summary

- The DM puzzle might have a solution at higher scales than those usually explored and....
-neutrino physics is a good place where to look for such a solution. A high scale RH neutrino playing the role of DM requires an extension of the usual type-I seesaw Lagrangian (able already to explain neutrino masses and mixing and the matter-antimatter asymmetry via leptogenesis).
- Higgs induced sterile-sterile neutrino mixing provides not only a way to produce dark neutrinos with the right abundance but also....it makes them detectable at neutrino telescopes.
- Higgs portal interactions for the seesaw (source) neutrino enhance the dark neutrino production and allow to lift the scale of leptogenesis certainly above 300 GeV but even higher,
- Interestingly, the IceCube collaboration find an excess in the neutrino flux at energies well explained by a RHINO DM (~ 100 TeV) and further support (or constraints) might come from multimessenger astronomy and anisotropies in the high energy neutrino flux (stay tuned!)i.