

# What can the CMB and 21cm teach us about dark matter?

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The Small Scale Structure of Cold(?) Dark Matter  
KITP Santa Barbara  
5 June 2018

Based on work with Hongwan Liu (arXiv:1803.09739)  
and Chih-Liang Wu (arXiv:1803.09734)

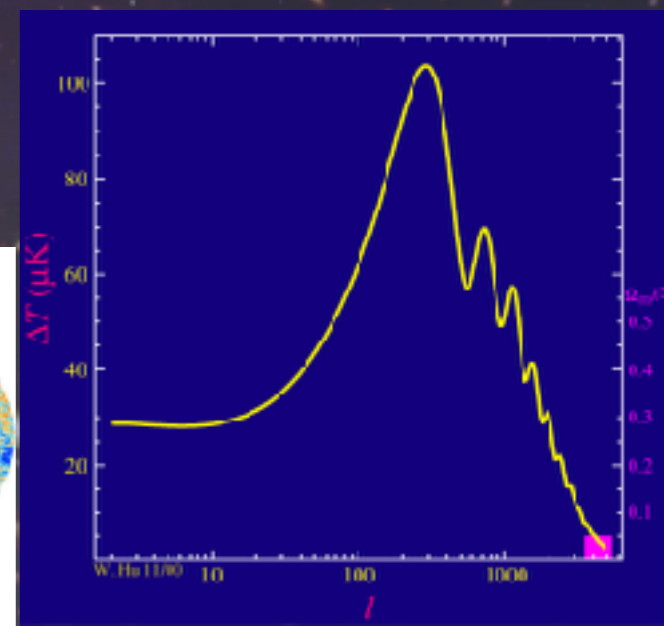
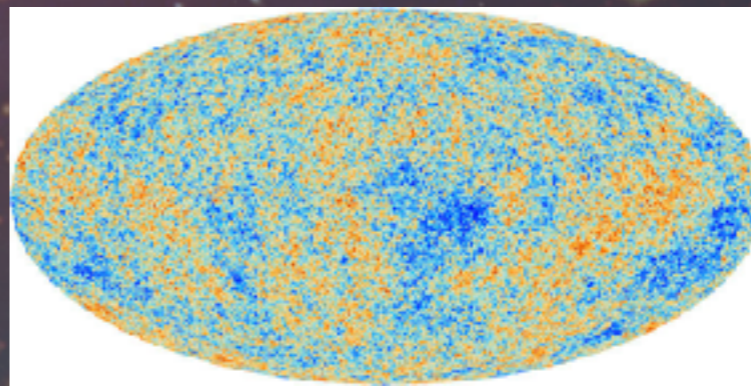
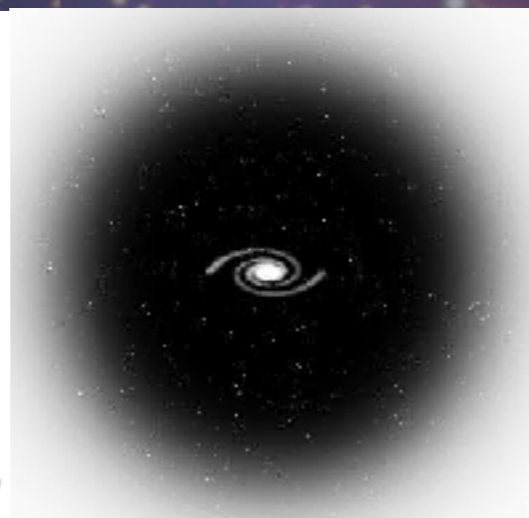
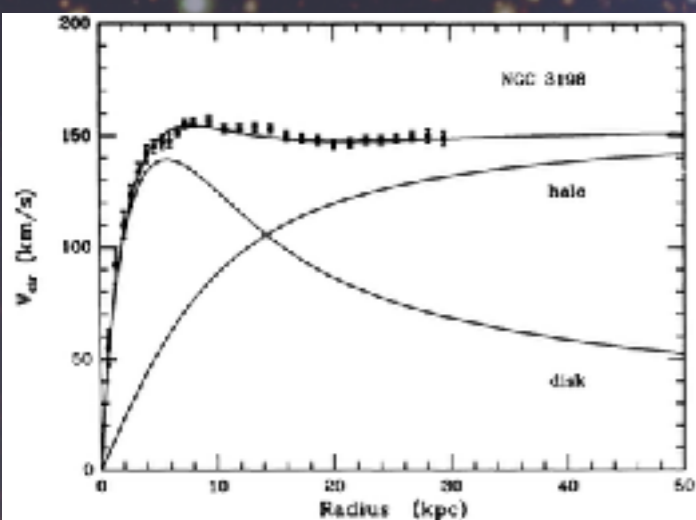


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# Gravitational probes of DM

- 100% of our current evidence for DM
- Tell us that (bulk of) DM is not too hot or too collisional
- Future probes in this category can map out DM distribution, test scenarios where DM is warm/self-interacting/etc - will give us useful information in any case!
- But also many models where DM will look cold+collisionless to all near-future gravitational probes

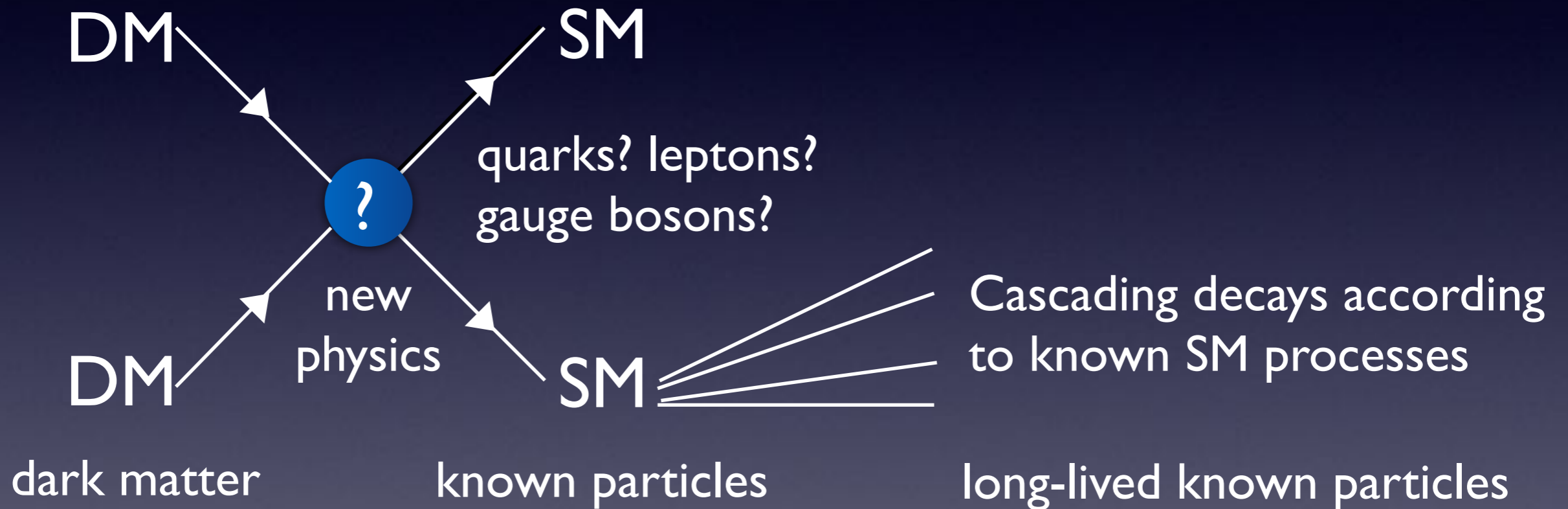


# Non-gravitational interactions (?) of DM

- As yet no unambiguous detections
- May not be detectable at all
- But IF present would provide enormous insight into DM nature and properties - motivation behind direct, indirect, collider searches
- We have fantastic cosmological observations that provide precision data on the early universe - relatively well-understood baseline, allows us to avoid complex Galactic astrophysics
- Consider generic interactions that would lead to energy transfer between dark and visible matter - how would they change early cosmic history?

# Annihilation

tested by  
present-day  
indirect  
searches



# Annihilation and abundance

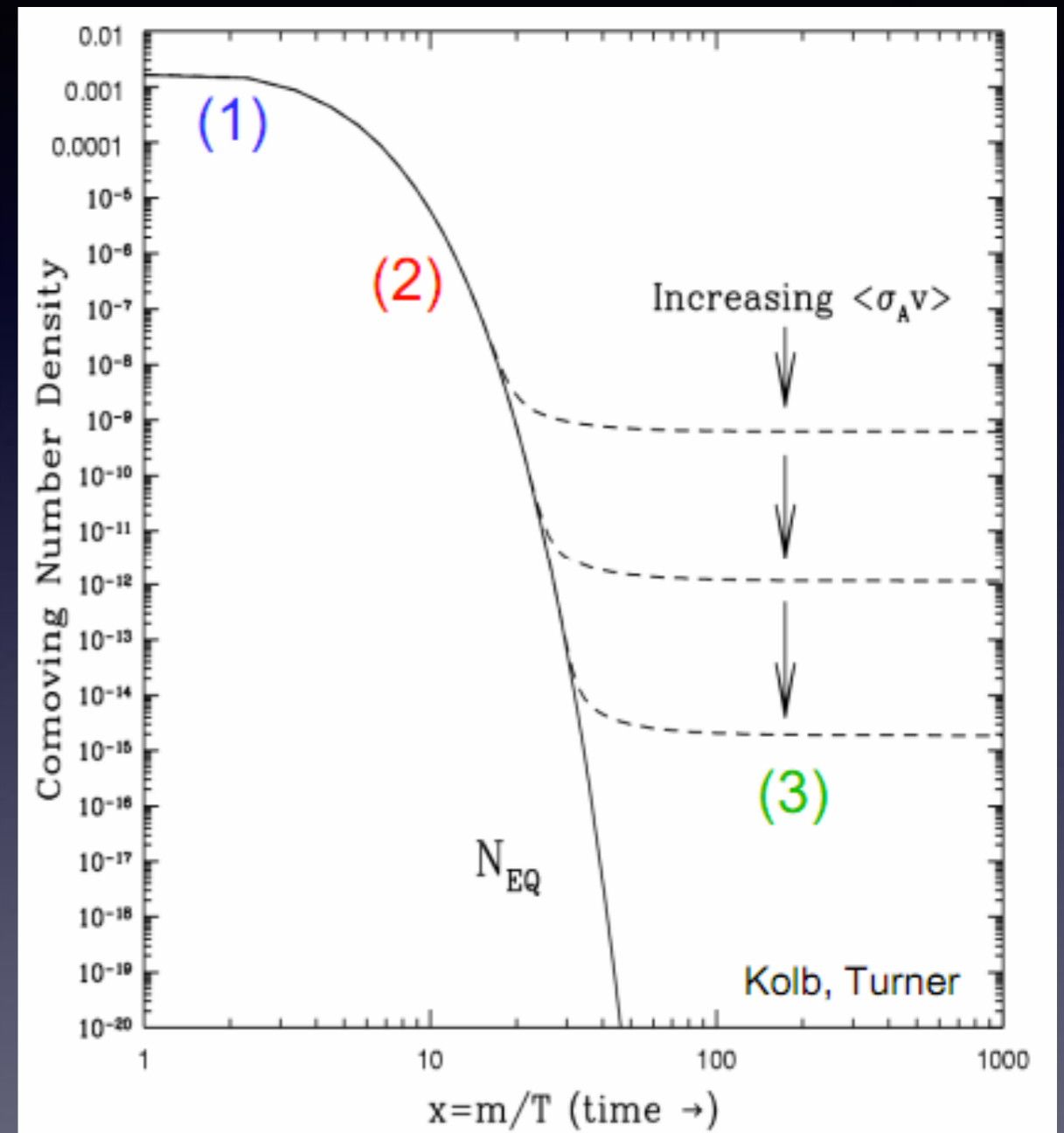
- In the early universe, suppose DM & visible matter (SM) in thermal equilibrium.
- DM can annihilate to SM particles, or SM particles can collide and produce it.



- Temperature(universe) < particle mass => can still annihilate, but can't be produced.



- Abundance falls exponentially, cut off when timescale for annihilation  $\sim$  Hubble time. The *comoving* dark matter density then freezes out.

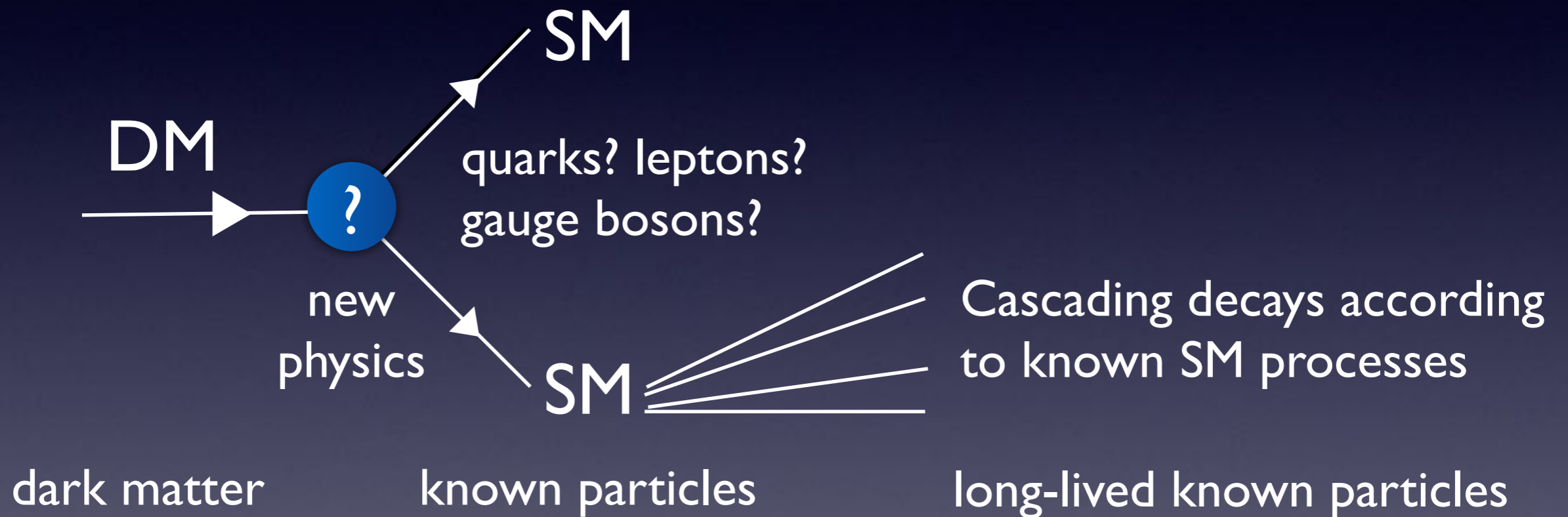


So (known) late-time density is set by annihilation rate.

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s} \sim \pi \alpha^2 / (100 \text{ GeV})^2 \quad (3)$$

# Decay

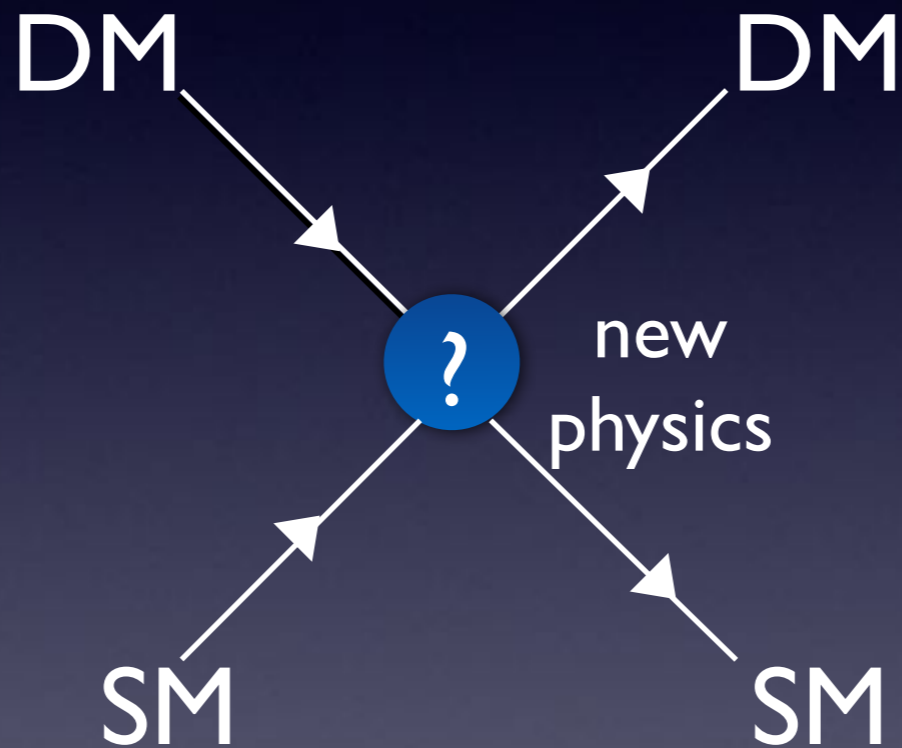
tested by  
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searches



# Scattering

tested in  
direct-  
detection  
experiments

dark matter



known particles -  
protons,  
electrons, atoms

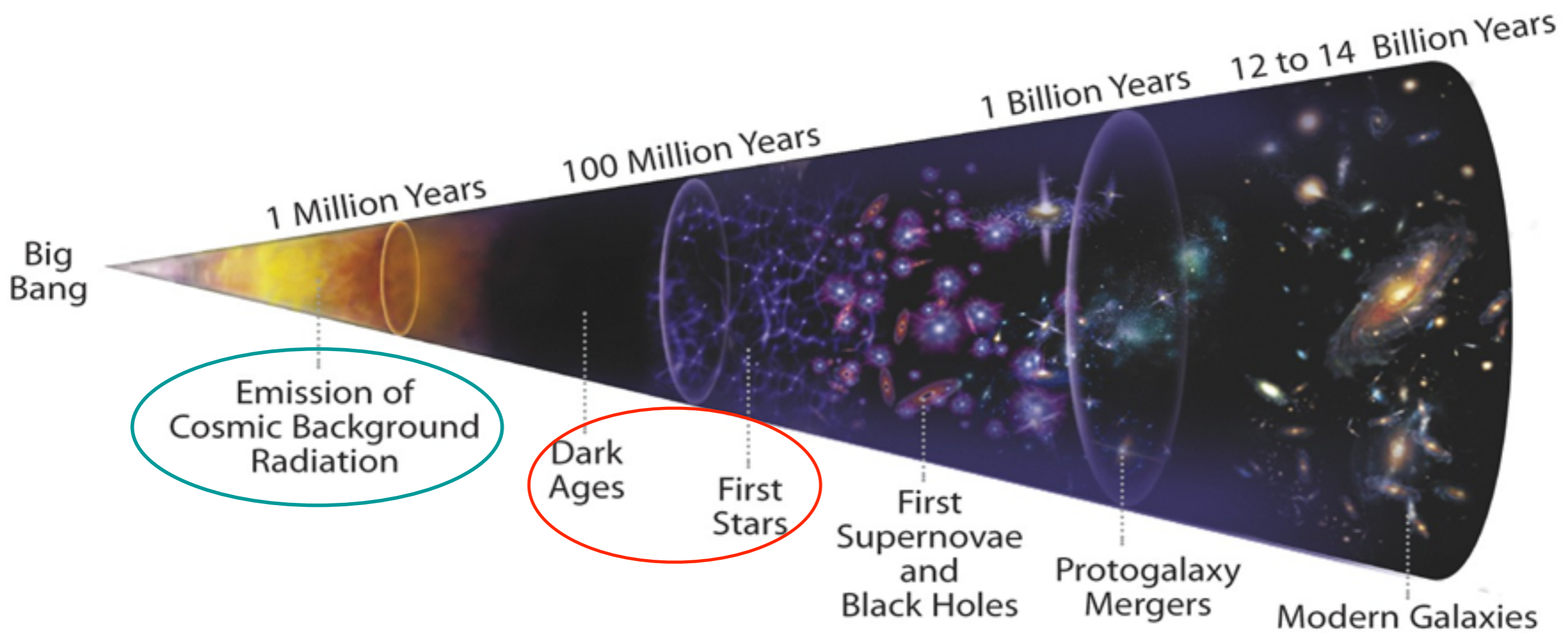
Look for effects  
of energy  
transfer to/from  
DM on visible  
matter

# A cosmic timeline

- Convenient to measure epochs by redshift - describes factor by which the universe has expanded since that time
- Redshift  $z > 10^3$  - universe is filled with a plasma of electrons, protons and photons, + dark matter and neutrinos. Almost 100% ionized.
  - Small density/temperature perturbations in the plasma are oscillating and evolving.
  - Photon bath is a near-perfect blackbody - heating or cooling the matter can lead to distortions in the blackbody energy spectrum.
- Redshift  $z \sim 10^3$  - ionization level drops abruptly, CMB photons begin to stream free of the electrons/protons. Provides “snapshot” of perturbations at this time.
- Redshift  $z \sim 30-10^3$  - “cosmic dark ages”, ionization level very low. Increasing ionization would provide a screen to CMB photons - can be sensitively measured.
- Redshift  $z < 30$  - end of dark ages, start of reionization. Can be studied with 21 cm observations. First claim of a measurement in February!



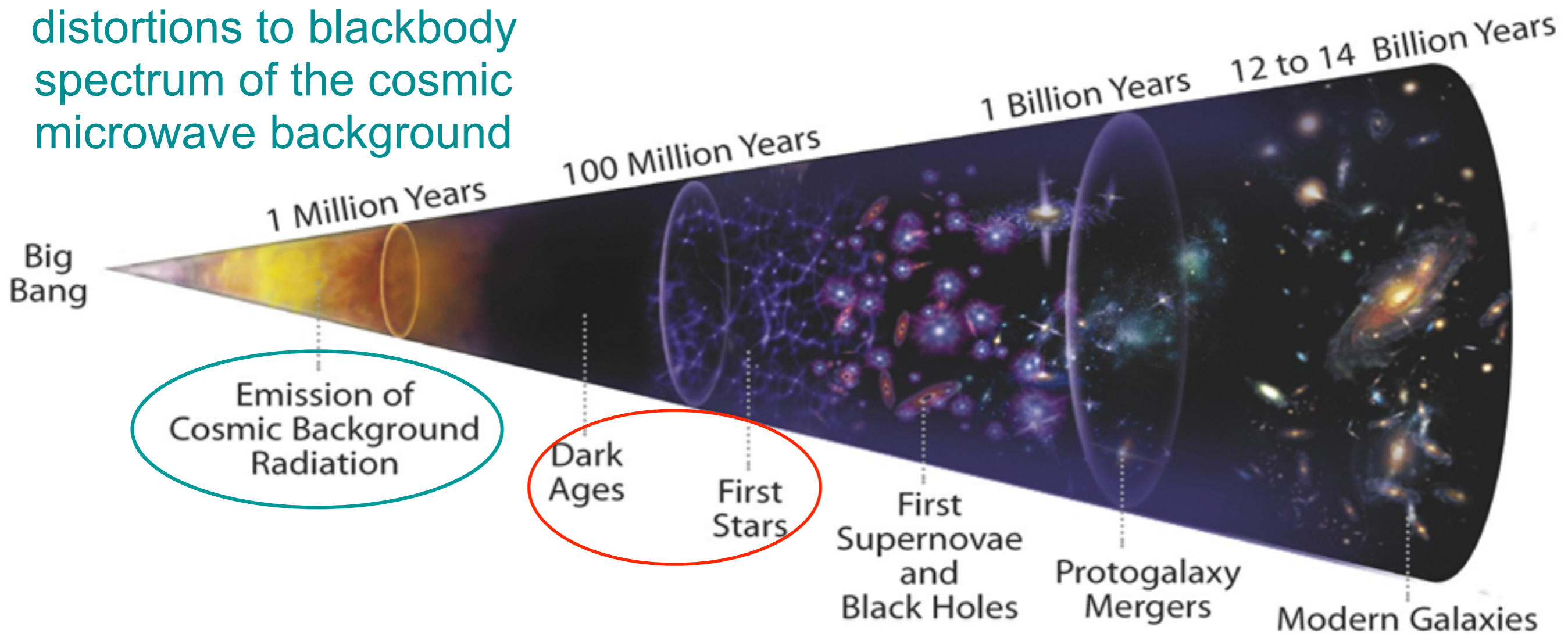
# How can dark matter change the early universe?



affects CMB      affects 21cm

# How can dark matter change the early universe?

distortions to blackbody spectrum of the cosmic microwave background

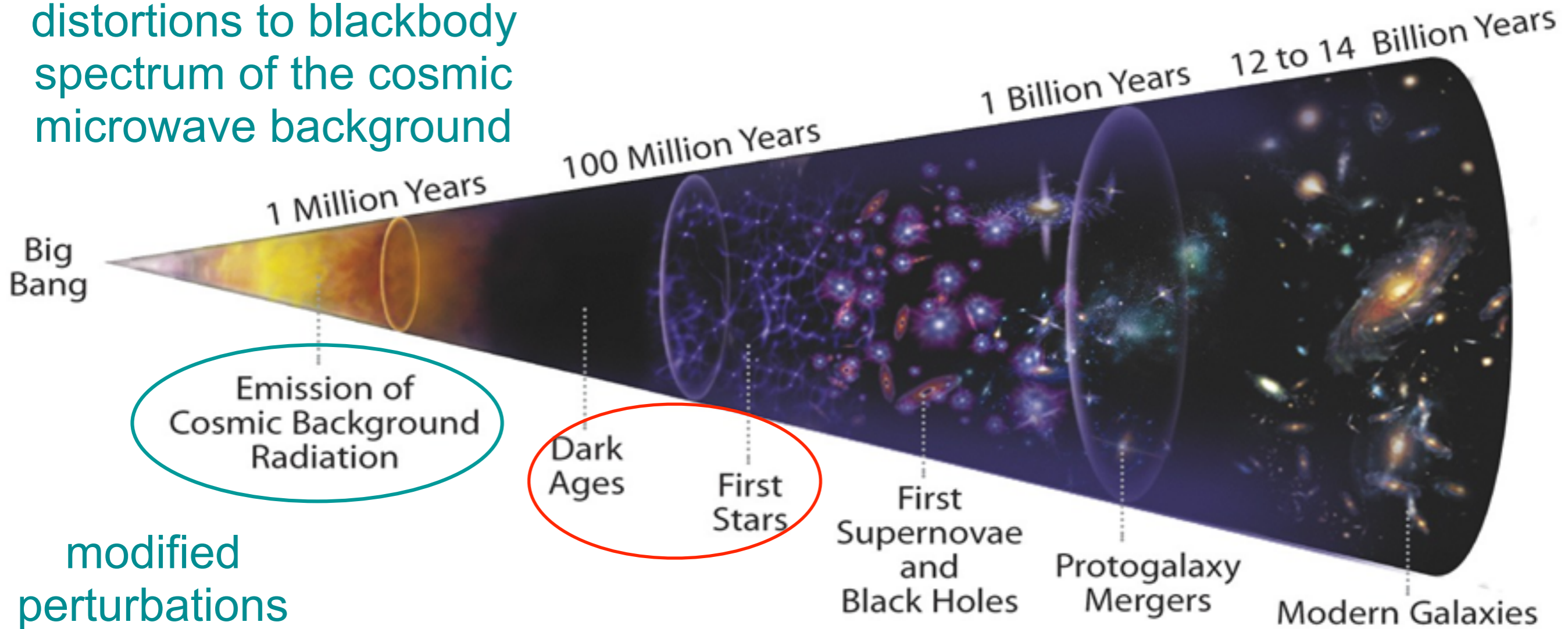


affects CMB

affects 21cm

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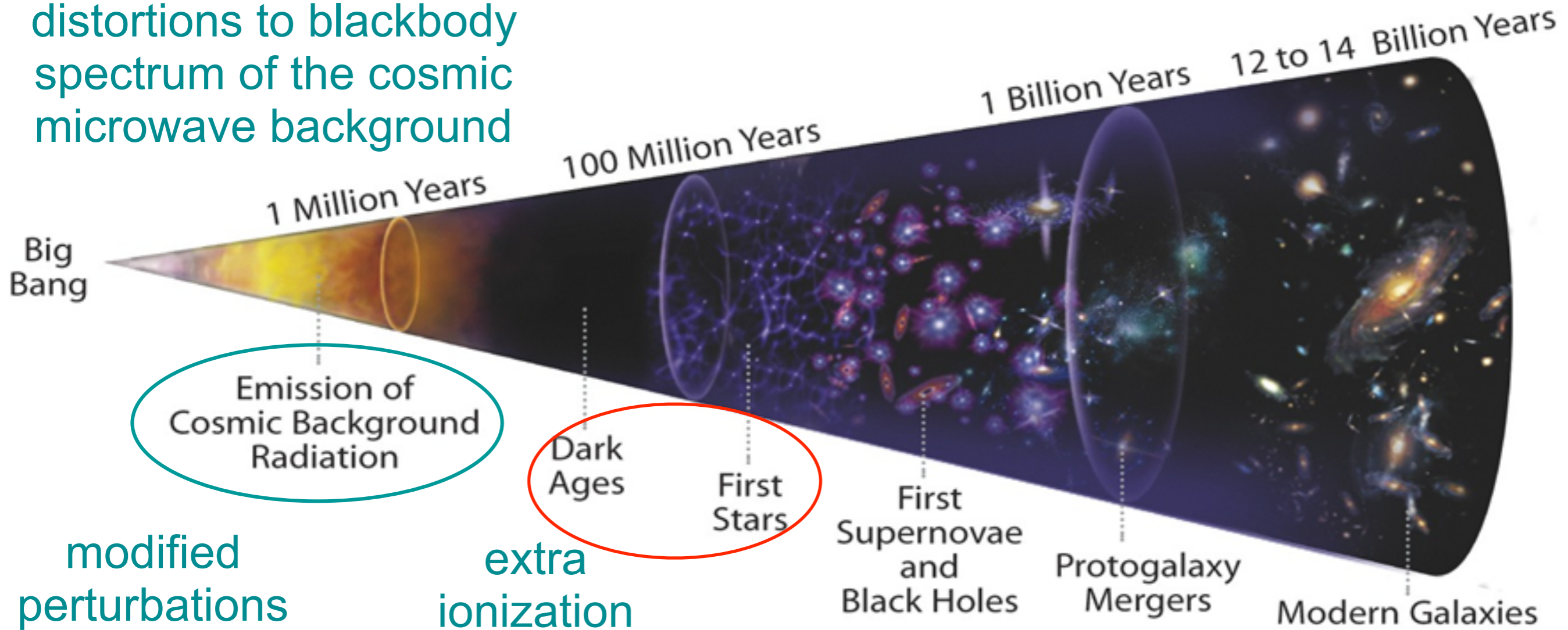


affects CMB

affects 21cm

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distortions to blackbody spectrum of the cosmic microwave background



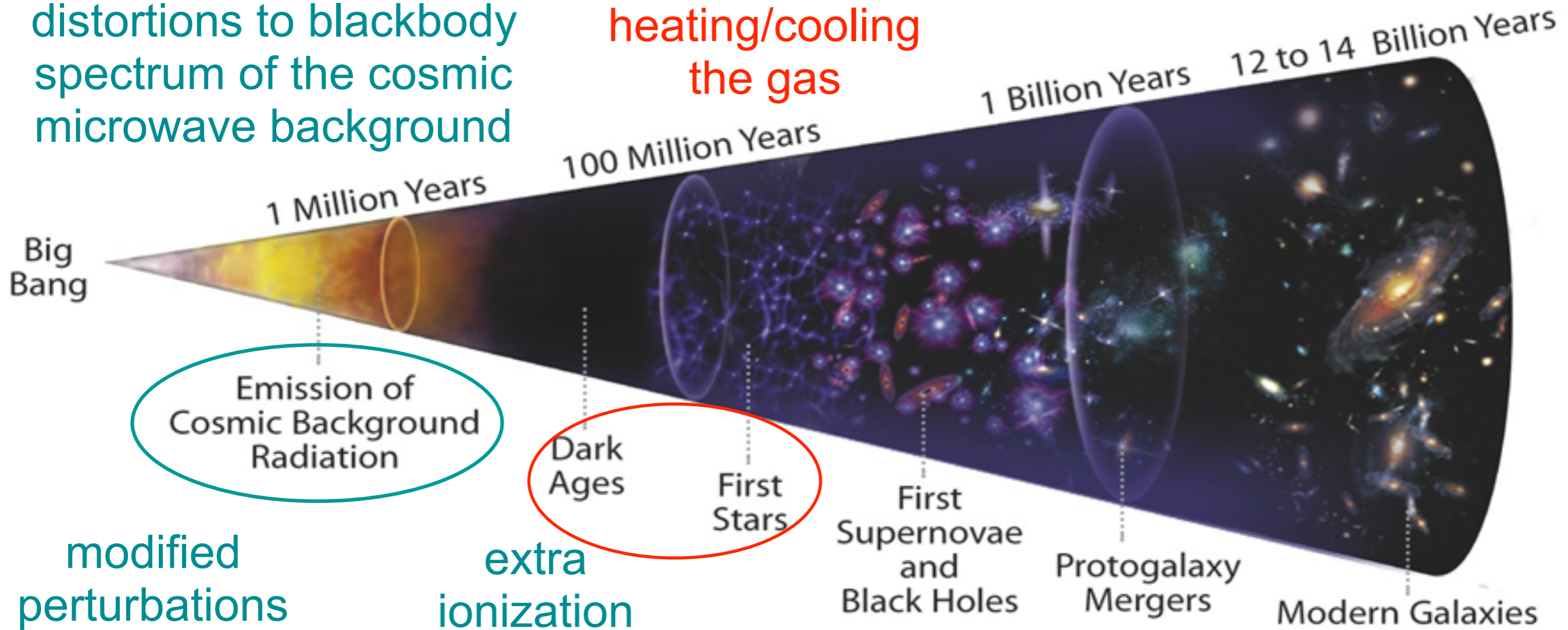
affects CMB

affects 21cm

# How can dark matter change the early universe?

distortions to blackbody spectrum of the cosmic microwave background

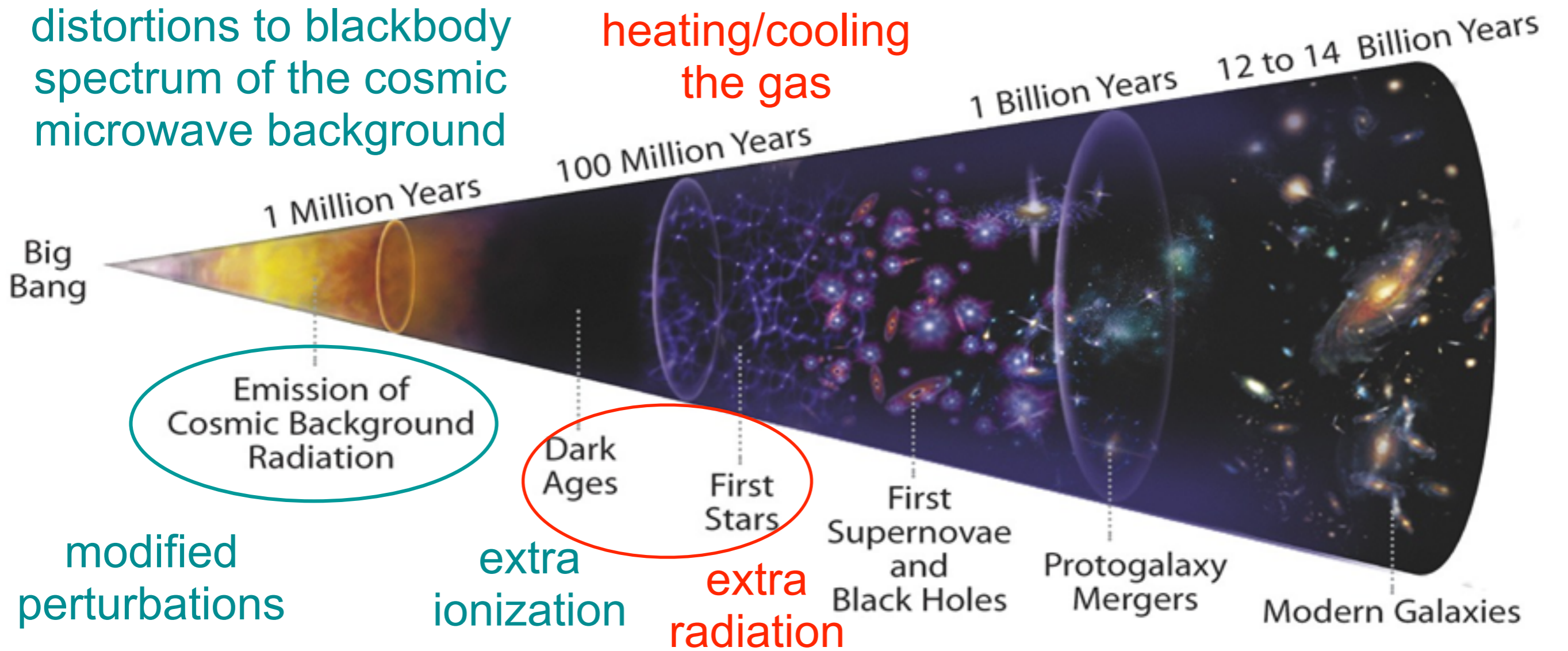
heating/cooling the gas



# How can dark matter change the early universe?

distortions to blackbody spectrum of the cosmic microwave background

heating/cooling the gas



affects CMB

affects 21cm

# Case study: from annihilation to ionization

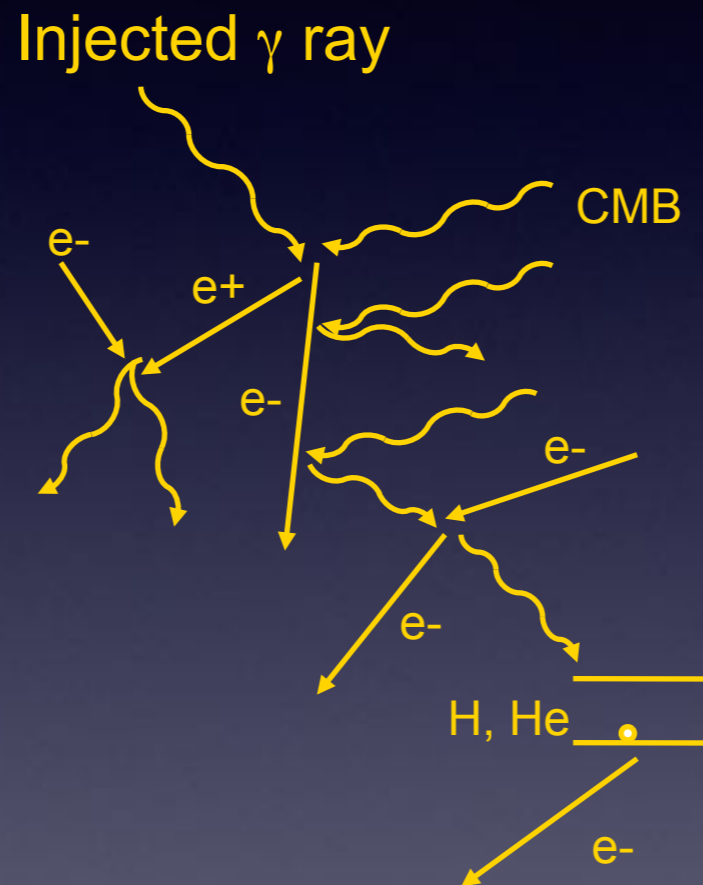
- Consider the power from DM annihilation - how many hydrogen ionizations?
  - $1 \text{ GeV} / 13.6 \text{ eV} \sim 10^8$
  - If  $10^{-8}$  of baryonic matter were converted to energy, would be sufficient to ionize entire universe. There is  $\sim 5x$  as much DM mass as baryonic mass.
  - If one in a billion DM particles annihilates (or decays), enough power to ionize half the hydrogen in the universe...

# The photon-electron cascade

TRS, Padmanabhan & Finkbeiner 2009; TRS 2016

## ELECTRONS

- Inverse Compton scattering on the CMB.
- Excitation, ionization, heating of electron/H/He gas.
- Positronium capture and annihilation.
- All processes fast relative to Hubble time: bulk of energy goes into photons via ICS.



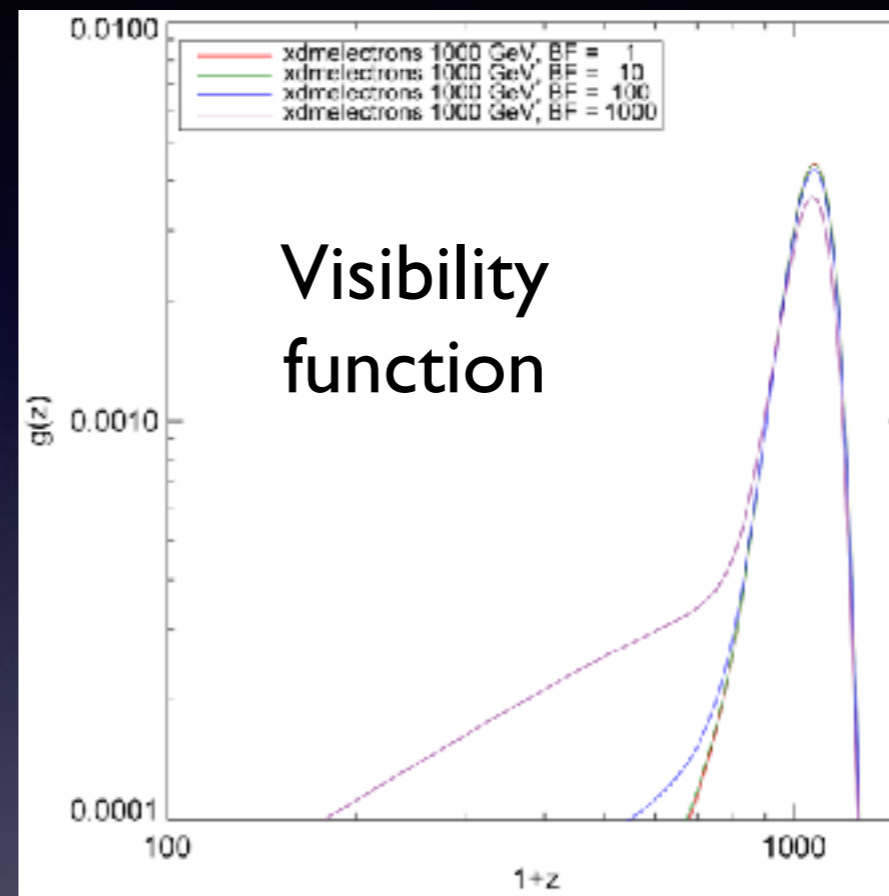
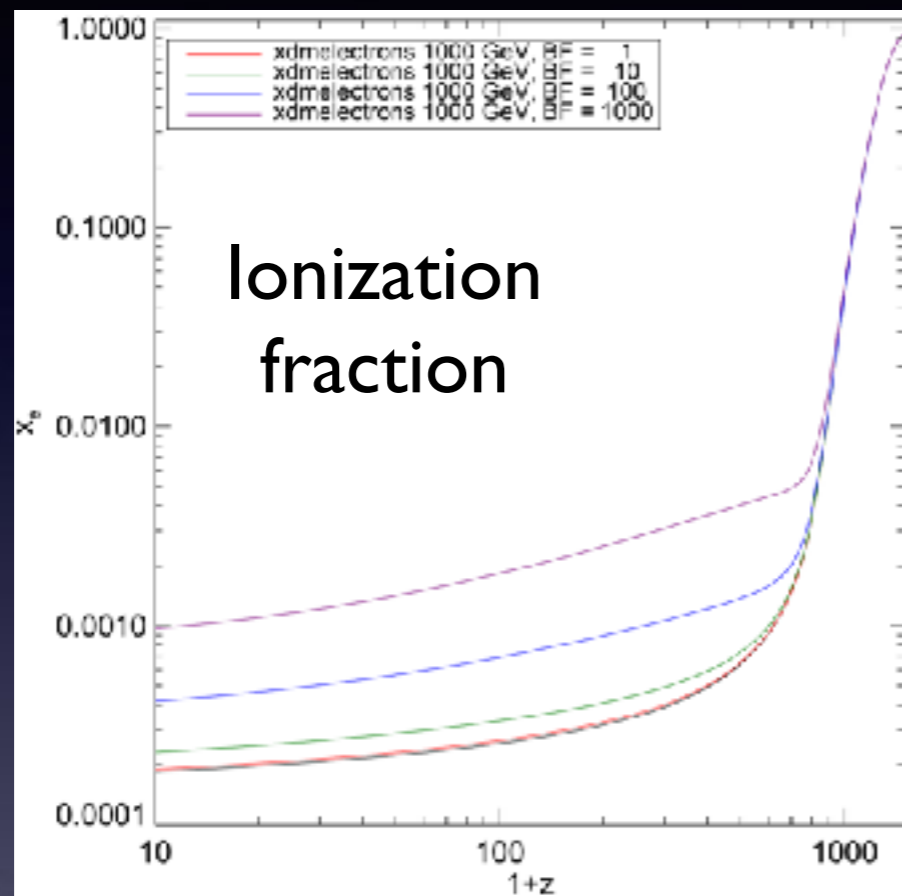
Schematic of a typical cascade:  
initial  $\gamma$ -ray  
-> pair production  
-> ICS producing a new  $\gamma$   
-> inelastic Compton scattering  
-> photoionization

## PHOTONS

- Pair production on the CMB.
- Photon-photon scattering.
- Pair production on the H/He gas.
- Compton scattering.
- Photoionization.
- Redshifting is important, energy can be deposited long after it was injected.



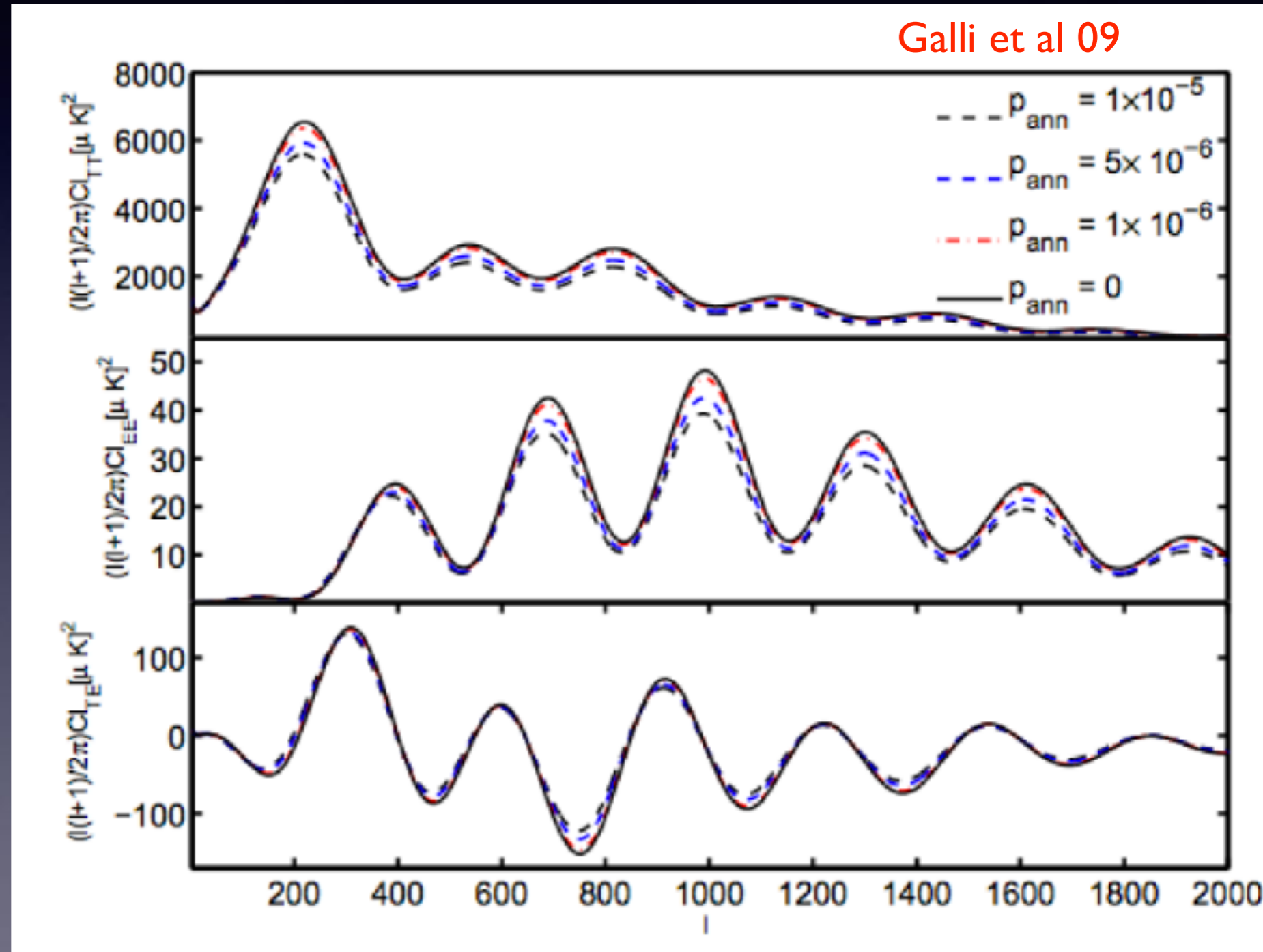
# Example ionization history



- Use public codes RECFAST (Seager, Sasselov & Scott 1999) / CosmoRec (Chluba & Thomas 2010) / HyRec (Ali-Haimoud & Hirata 2010) to solve for ionization history given extra ionization+heating+excitation.
- At redshifts before recombination, many free electrons  $\Rightarrow$  the extra energy injection has little effect.
- After recombination, secondary ionization induced by DM annihilation products  $\Rightarrow$  higher-than-usual residual free electron fraction.
- Surface of last scattering develops a tail extending to lower redshift.

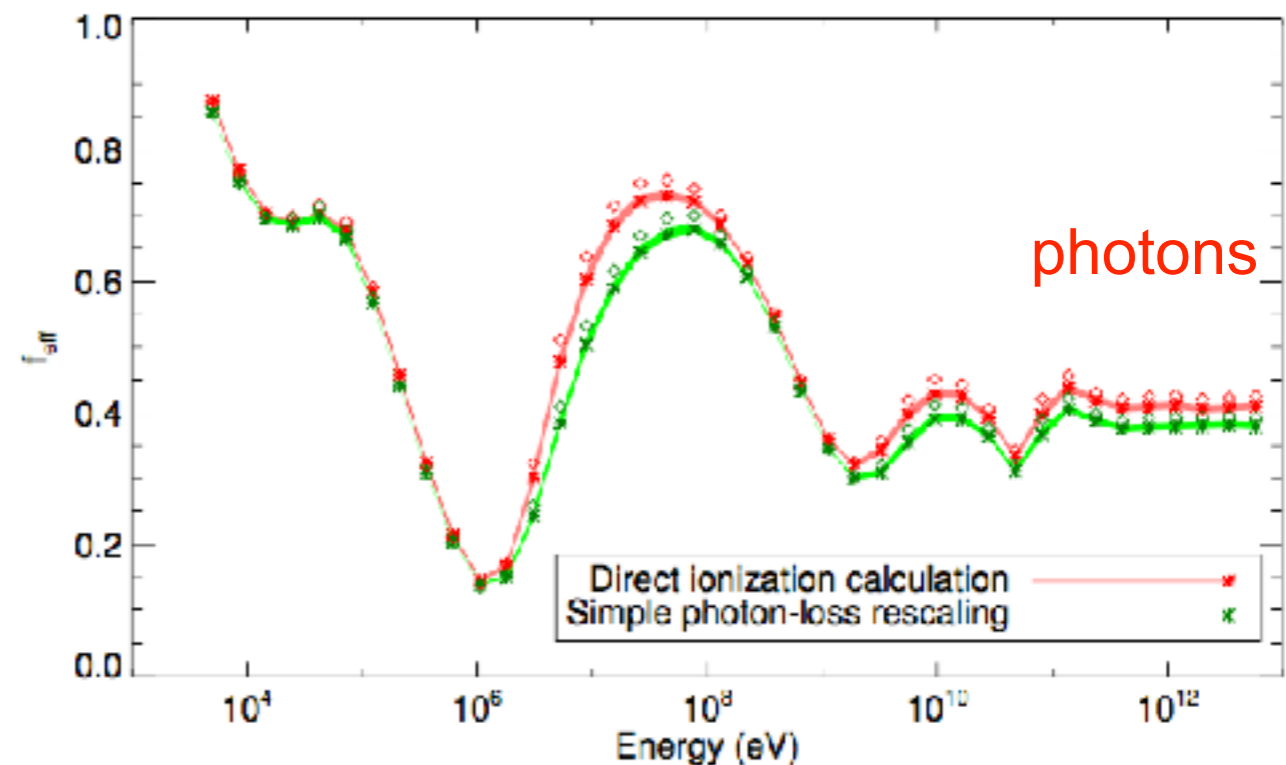
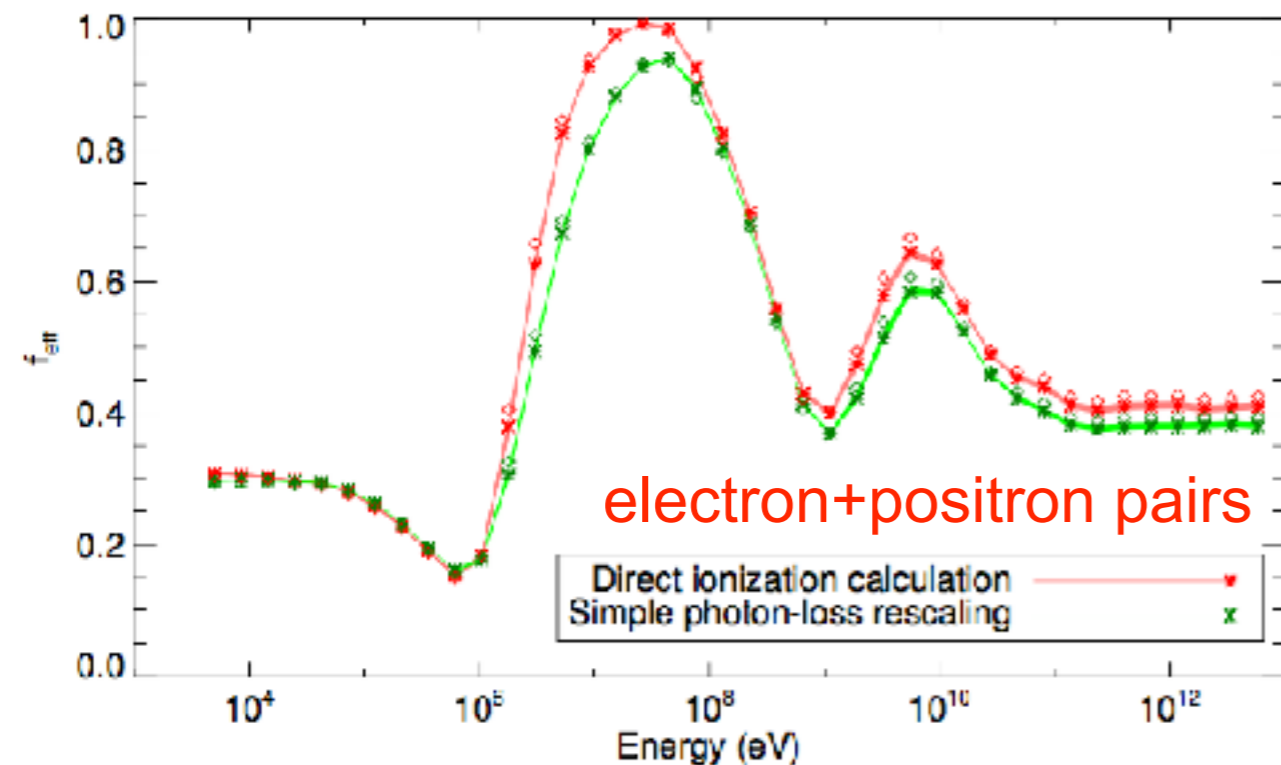
# DM annihilation and the CMB

- In the case of DM annihilation, can test the effects of a range of different DM masses (keV-TeV) and all possible Standard Model final states.
- We find the shape of the imprint on the CMB is  $\sim$ universal (first principal component  $>99\%$  of variance).
- For each model, only need to calculate normalization factor.



# Efficiency factors (annihilation)

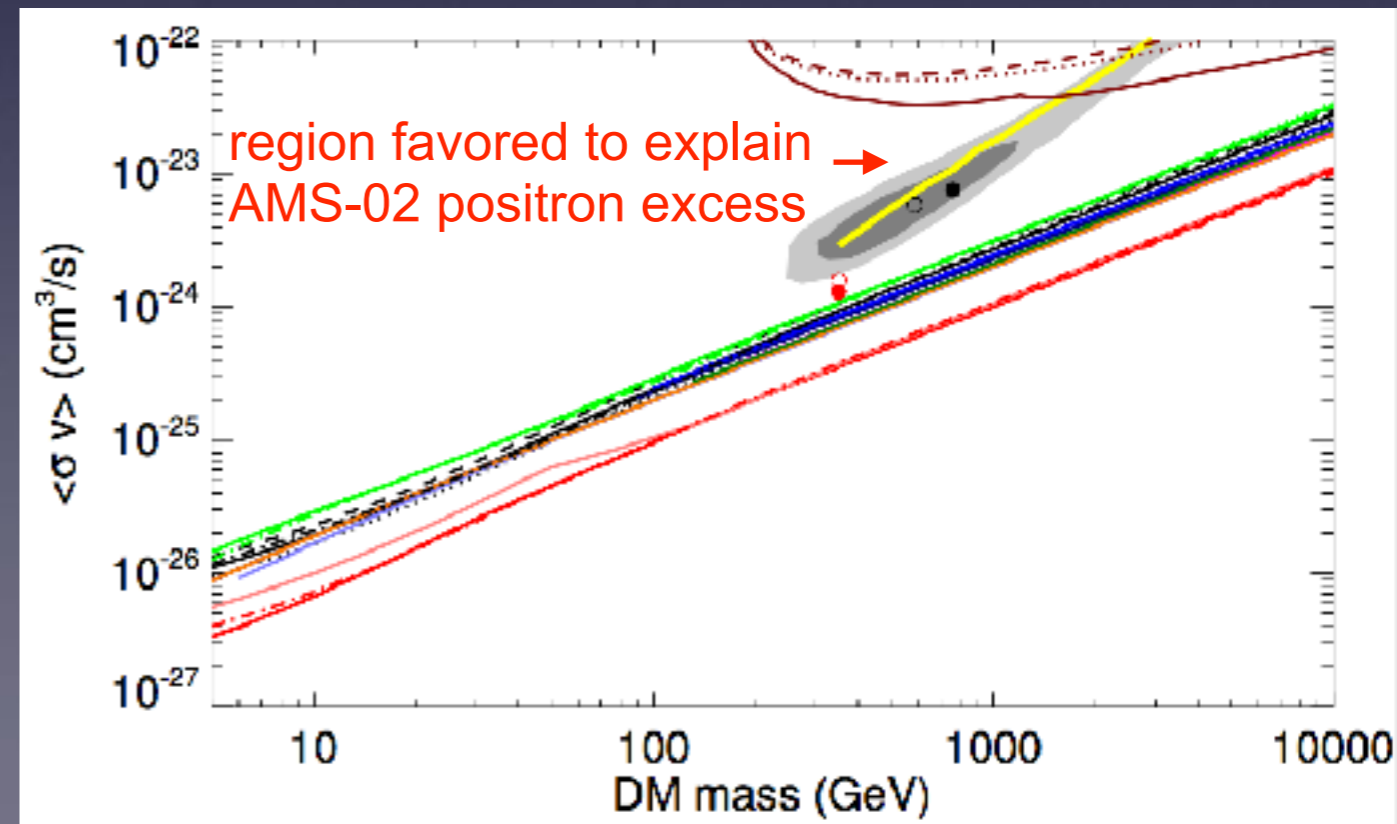
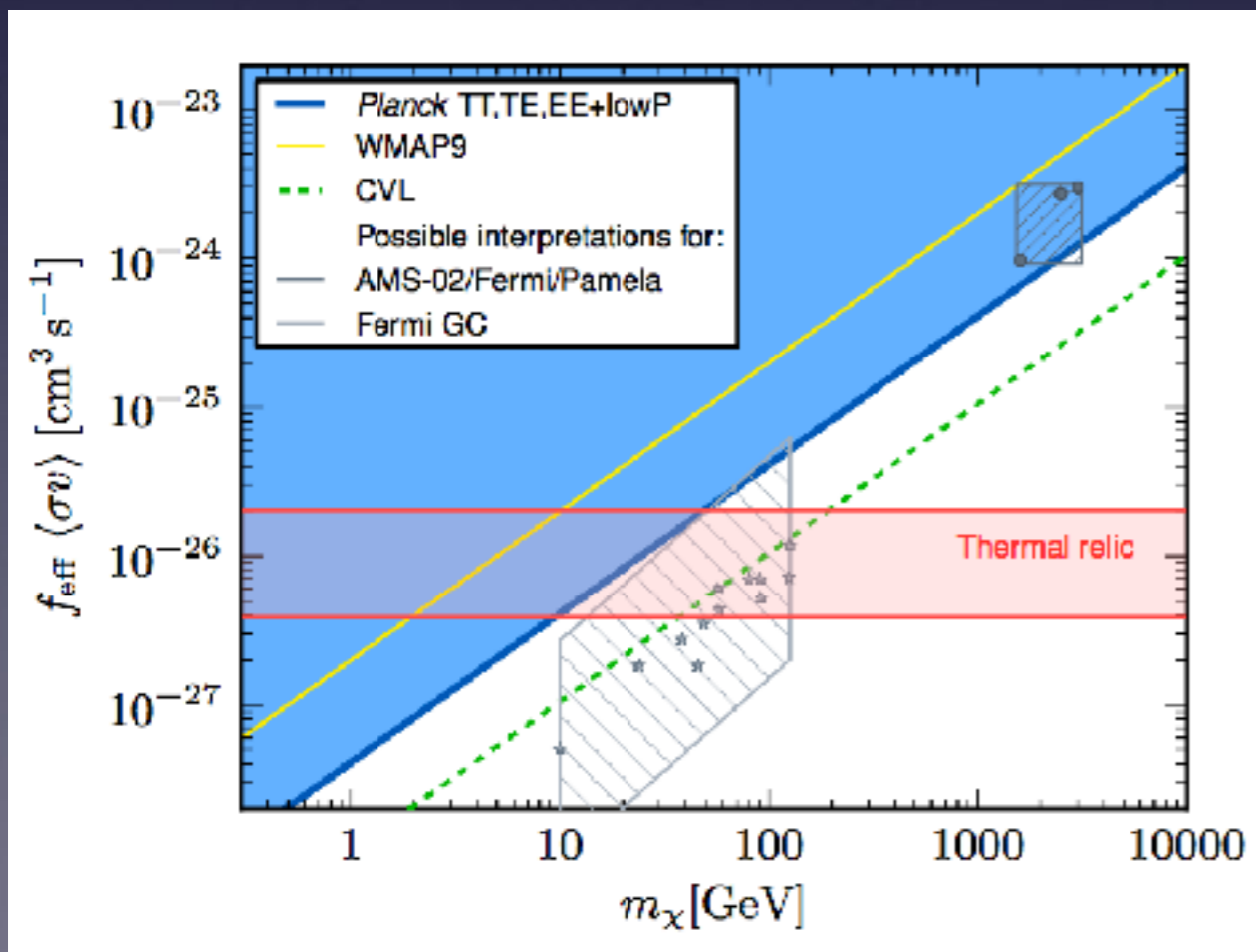
TRS 2016



- Result: all (s-wave, velocity-independent) annihilation, of keV-TeV DM, has the same effect on the CMB up to a normalization factor.
- We can compute this normalization/efficiency factor for electrons, positrons, photons at all injection energies.
- Integrate over this curve to determine strength of CMB signal for arbitrary spectra of annihilation products.
- These curves (and the transfer functions used to calculate them) are available online, <https://faun.rc.fas.harvard.edu/epsilon/>

# Annihilation limits from Planck

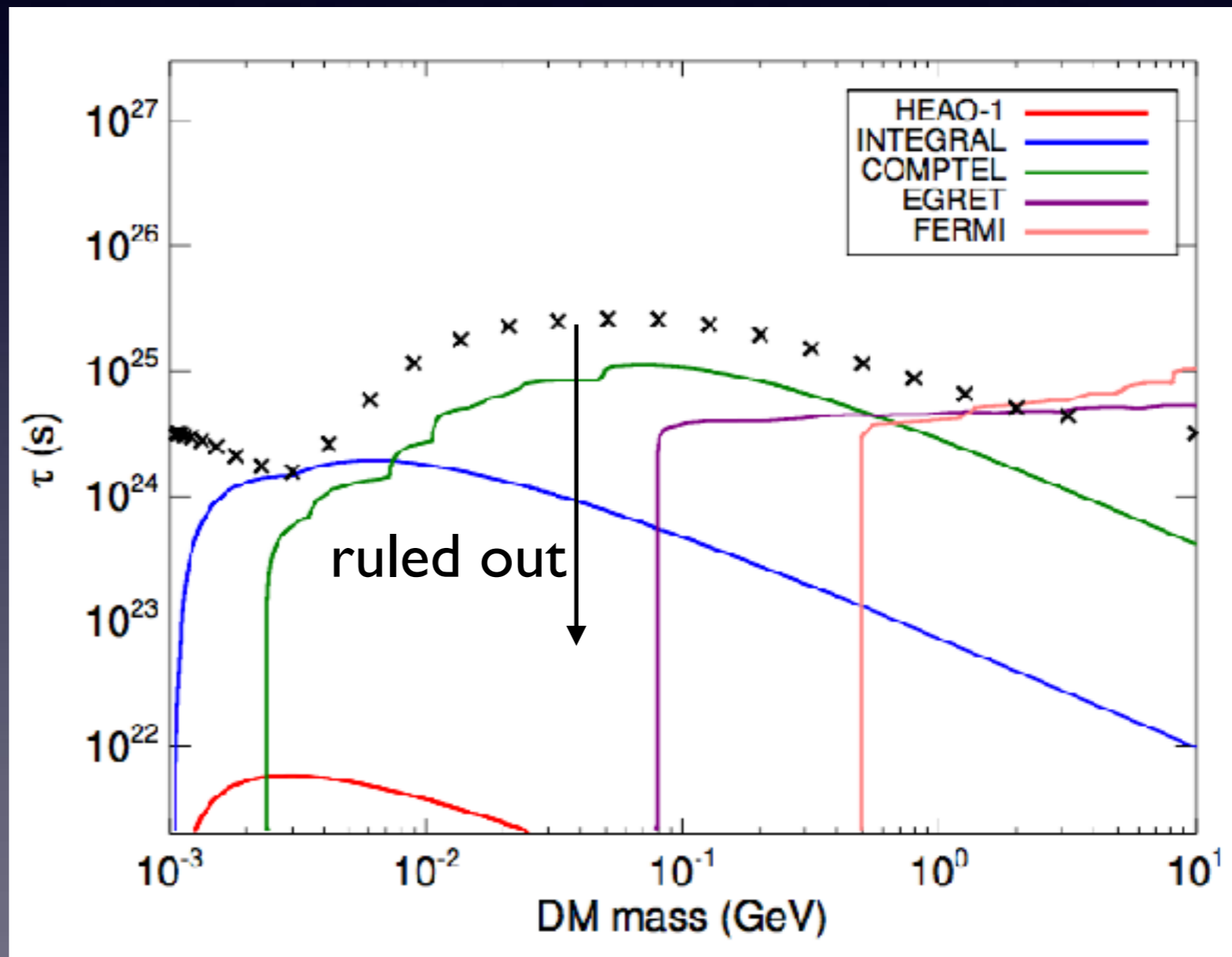
- Planck Collaboration '15 set bounds on DM annihilation; consistent with sensitivity predictions from TRS et al, Galli et al 09.
- Left plot shows Planck bound, right plot shows resulting cross-section limits for a range of channels from TRS '16.



# Constraints on decay from Planck

- For decaying dark matter, can use same approach.
- Sets some of the strongest limits on relatively light (MeV-GeV) DM decaying to produce electrons and positrons.
- For short-lifetime decays, can rule out even  $10^{-11}$  of the DM decaying! (for lifetimes  $\sim 10^{14}$  s)

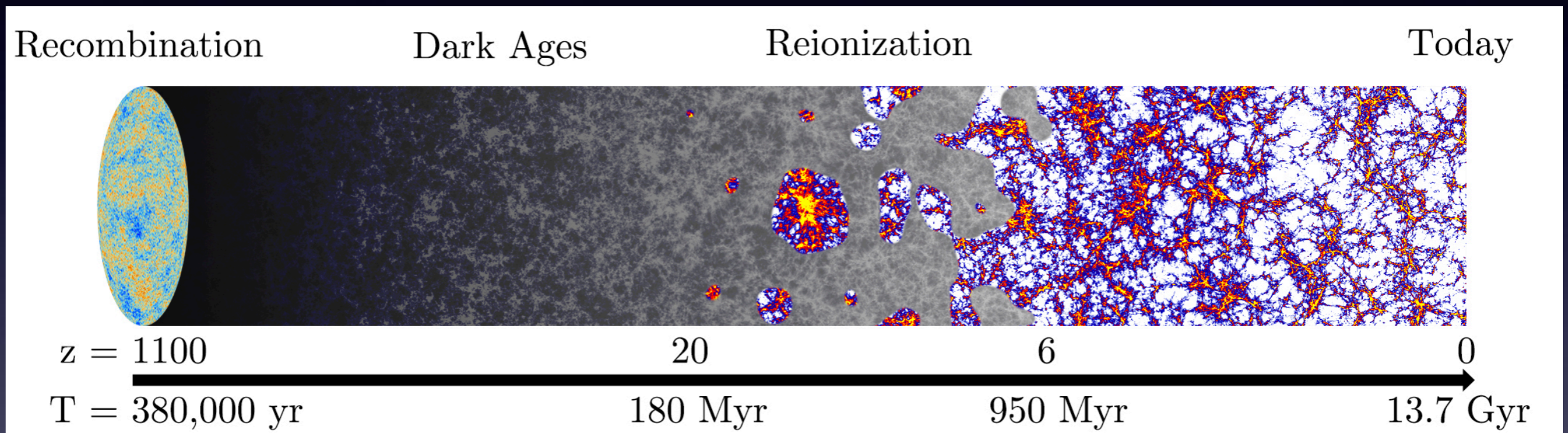
TRS and Wu, PRD95, 023010 (2017)



Other constraints from Essig et al '13

# The epoch of reionization

Liu, TRS & Zavala 2016, PRD 94, 063507

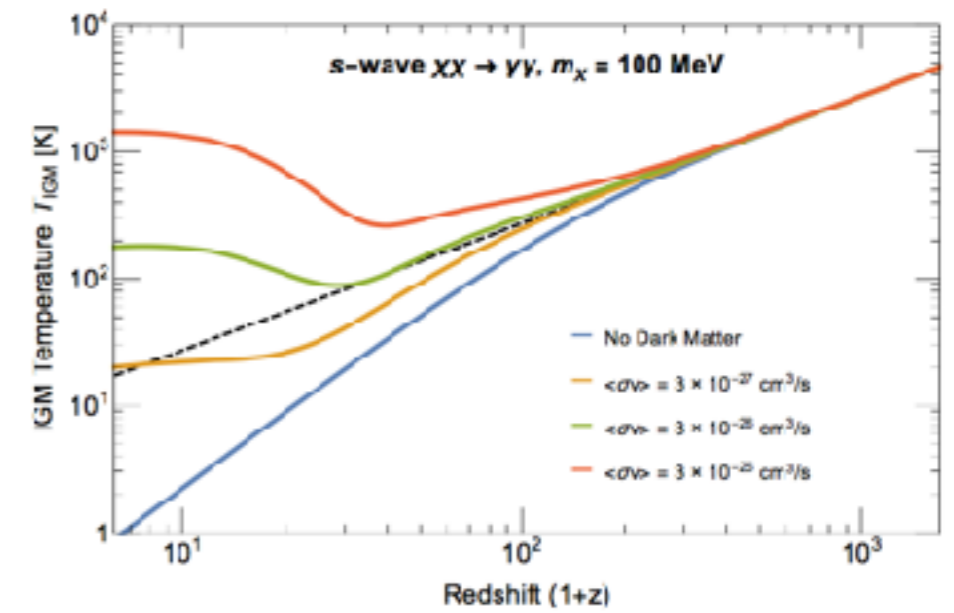
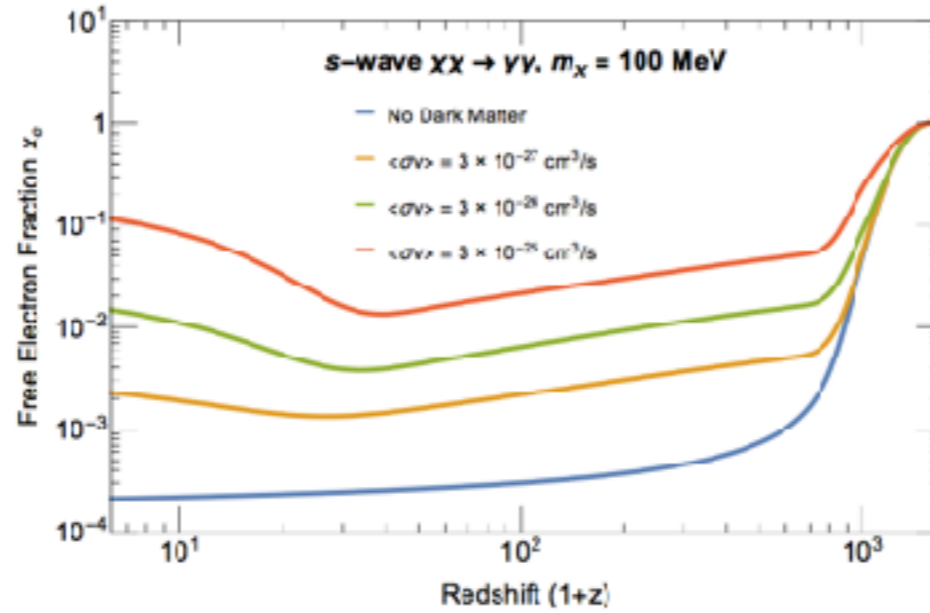


- Around  $z \sim 6-10$ , the universe became  $\sim$ fully ionized again.
- Can DM annihilation or decay affect reionization?
- Can it affect the thermal history of our cosmos? Could DM annihilation/decay overheat the universe?

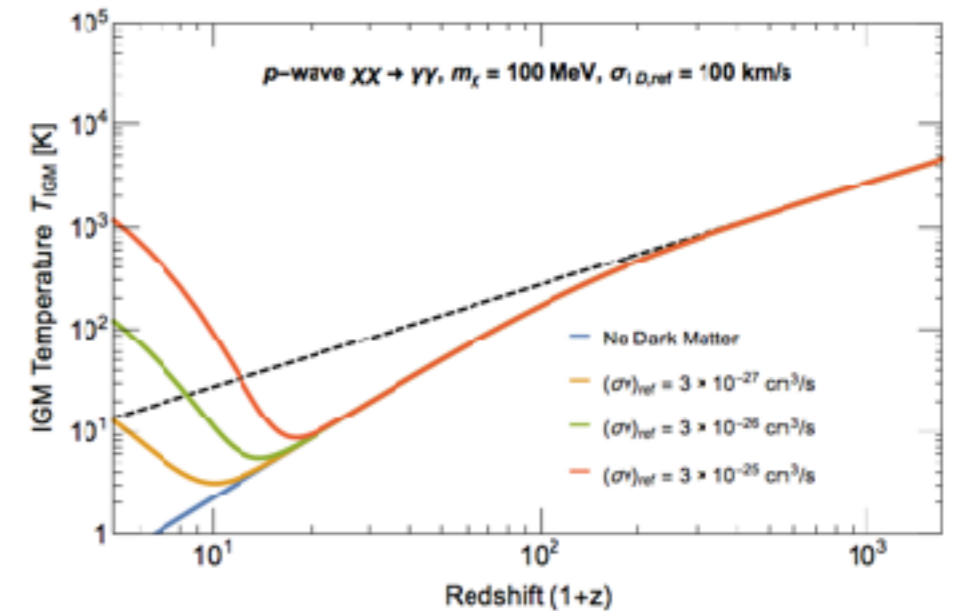
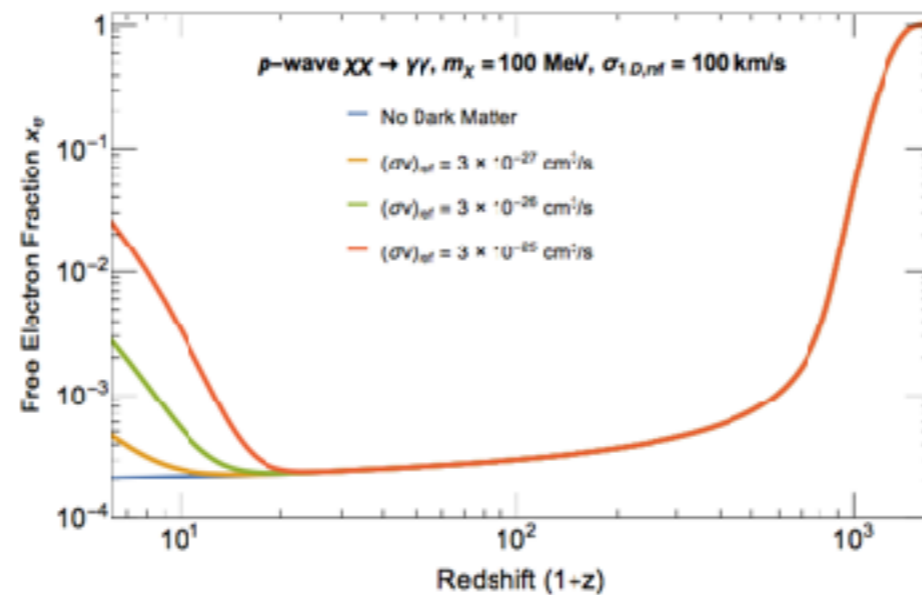
# ionization

# temperature

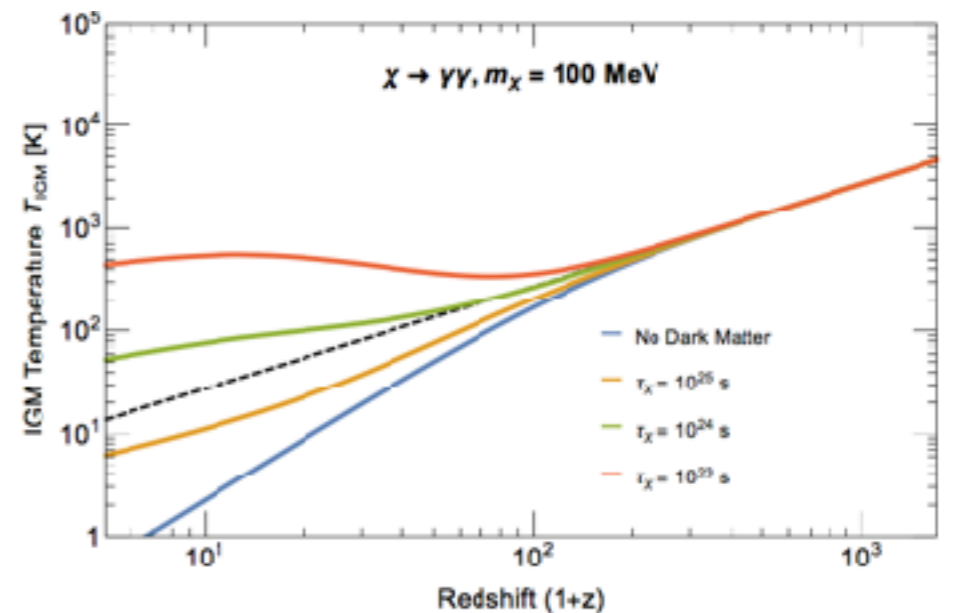
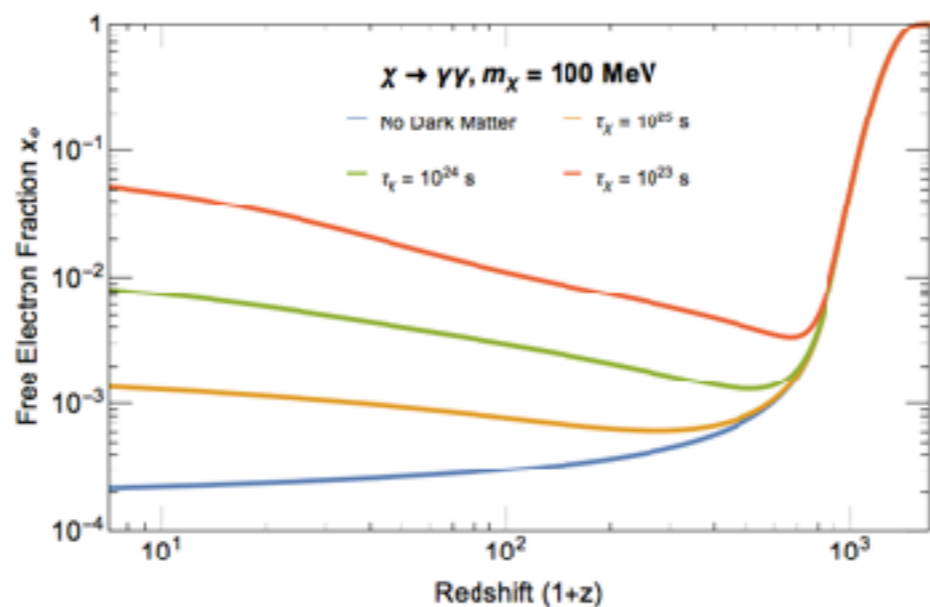
s-wave  
annihilation



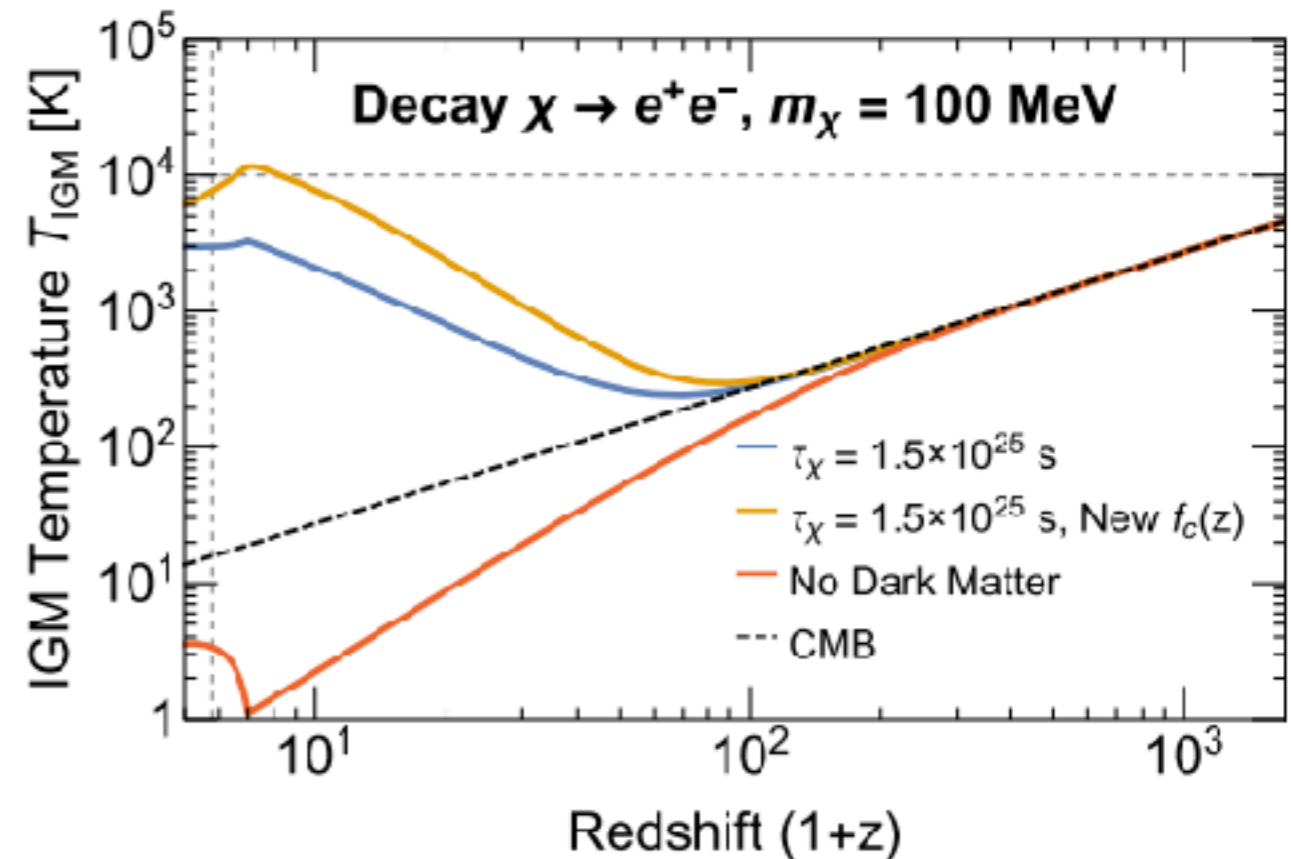
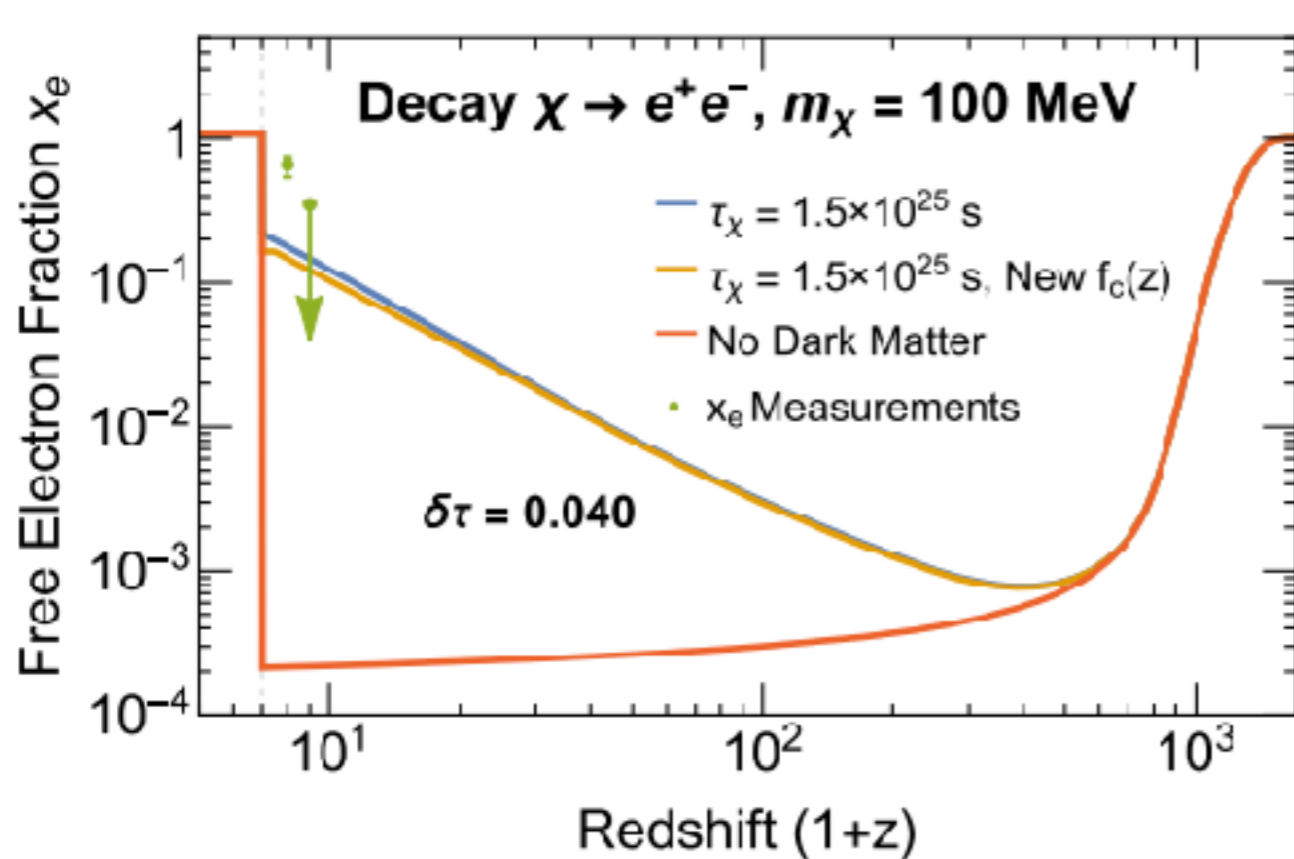
p-wave  
annihilation



decay



# An (optimistic) example scenario



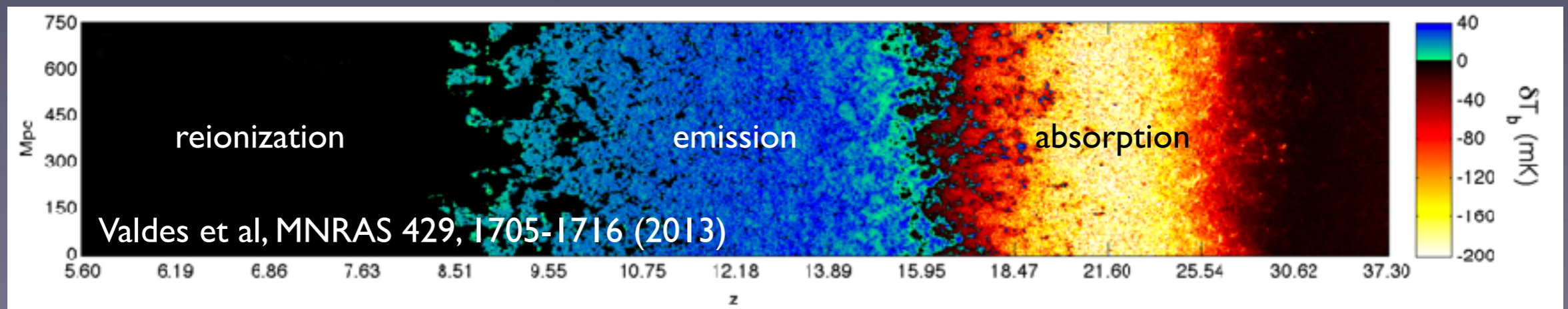
- Ex: 100 MeV DM decaying to  $e^+e^-$  pairs
- Marginally allowed by conservative constraints - could be ruled out by stronger bounds on late-time temperature



# Parametrics of a 21 cm signal

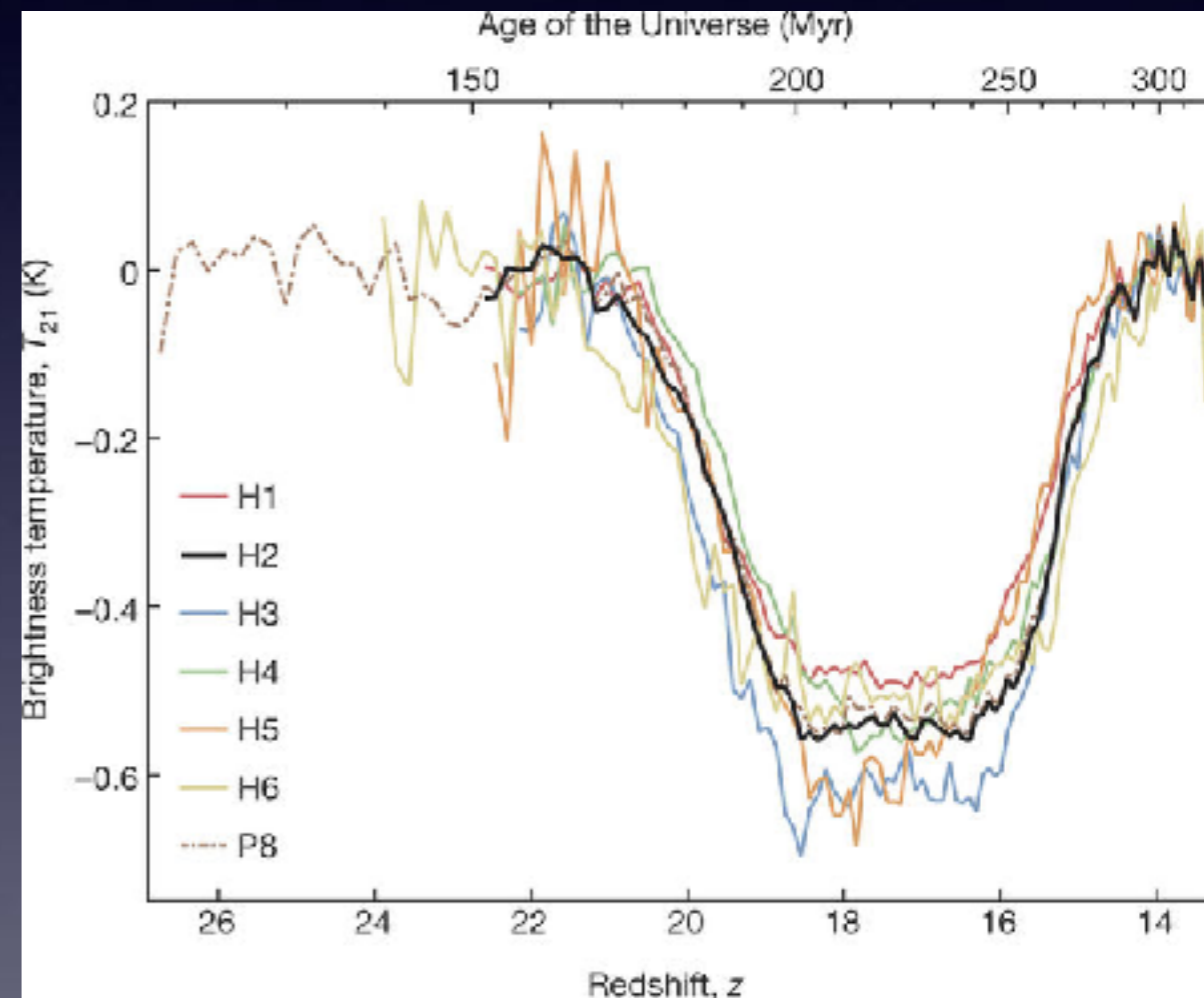
$$T_{21}(z) \approx x_{\text{HI}}(z) \left(\frac{0.15}{\Omega_m}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\Omega_b h}{0.02}\right) \times \left(\frac{1+z}{10}\right)^{1/2} \left[1 - \frac{T_R(z)}{T_S(z)}\right] 23 \text{ mK},$$

- Spin-flip transition of neutral hydrogen can be used to probe temperature and distribution of the neutral gas in the early universe prior to reionization ( $z > 7$  or so).
- 21 cm absorption/emission signal strength depends on “spin temperature”  $T_S$ , measure of #H in ground vs excited state - expected to lie between gas temperature  $T_{\text{gas}}$  and CMB temperature  $T_{\text{CMB}}$ .
- Absorption signal when  $T_S < T_R$  (radiation temperature), emission signal if  $T_S > T_R$ .
- $T_R$  here describes # photons at 21 cm wavelength - not necessarily thermally distributed.
- Expected behavior:  $T_{\text{gas}}$  decouples from  $T_{\text{CMB}}$  around redshift  $z \sim 150$ , subsequently satisfies  $T_{\text{gas}} \sim T_{\text{CMB}} (1+z)/(1+z)_{\text{dec}}$ . Gas is later heated by the stars, and eventually  $T_{\text{gas}}$  increases above  $T_{\text{CMB}}$ . Thus expect early absorption, later emission.



# A measurement of 21 cm absorption in the dark ages?

- The Experiment to Detect the Global Epoch-of-reionization Signature (EDGES) has claimed a detection of the first 21 cm signal from the cosmic dark ages [Bowman et al, Nature, March '18]
- Claim is a deep absorption trough corresponding to  $z \sim 15-20$  - implies spin temperature  $<$  CMB temperature.
- Measurement of  $T_{\text{gas}}/T_{\text{R}}(z=17.2) < T_{\text{S}}/T_{\text{R}} < 0.105$  (99% confidence).

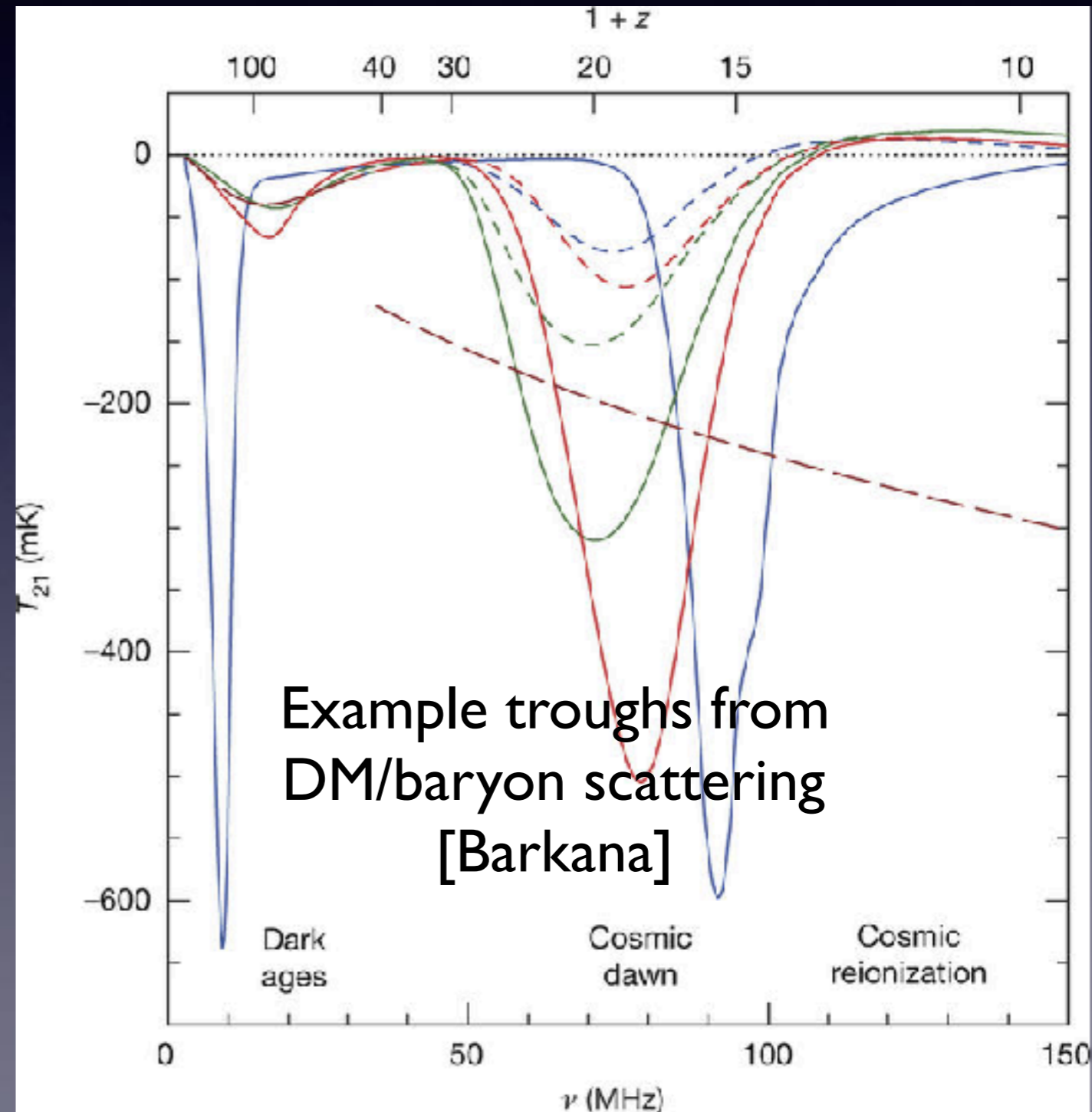


# Interpreting EDGES

- If  $T_R$  is taken to be the CMB temperature, this gives  $T_{\text{gas}} < 5.2$  K.
- But assuming standard decoupling and no stellar heating, we can calculate  $T_{\text{gas}} \sim 7$  K.
- It is quite possible this result is spurious - e.g. due to instrumental effects and/or foregrounds [e.g. Hills et al 1805.01421].
- But if it is confirmed, suggests either  $T_R > T_{\text{CMB}}$  (new radiation backgrounds) [Feng & Holder 1802.07432], or some modification to the standard scenario that lowers  $T_{\text{gas}}$ .
- New radiation backgrounds could arise from either novel astrophysics, i.e. radio emission from early black holes [Ewall-Wice et al 1803.01815] or more exotic (DM-related?) sources [e.g. Fraser et al 1803.03245, Pospelov et al 1803.07048].
- Additional cooling of the gas could be due to modified recombination history (earlier decoupling from CMB), or thermal contact of the gas with a colder bath, e.g. (some fraction of) the dark matter [e.g. Barkana, Nature, March '18; Munoz & Loeb 1802.10094; Berlin et al 1803.02804; Barkana et al 1803.03091; Houston et al 1805.04426; Sikivie 1805.05577].

# DM scattering as an explanation for EDGES

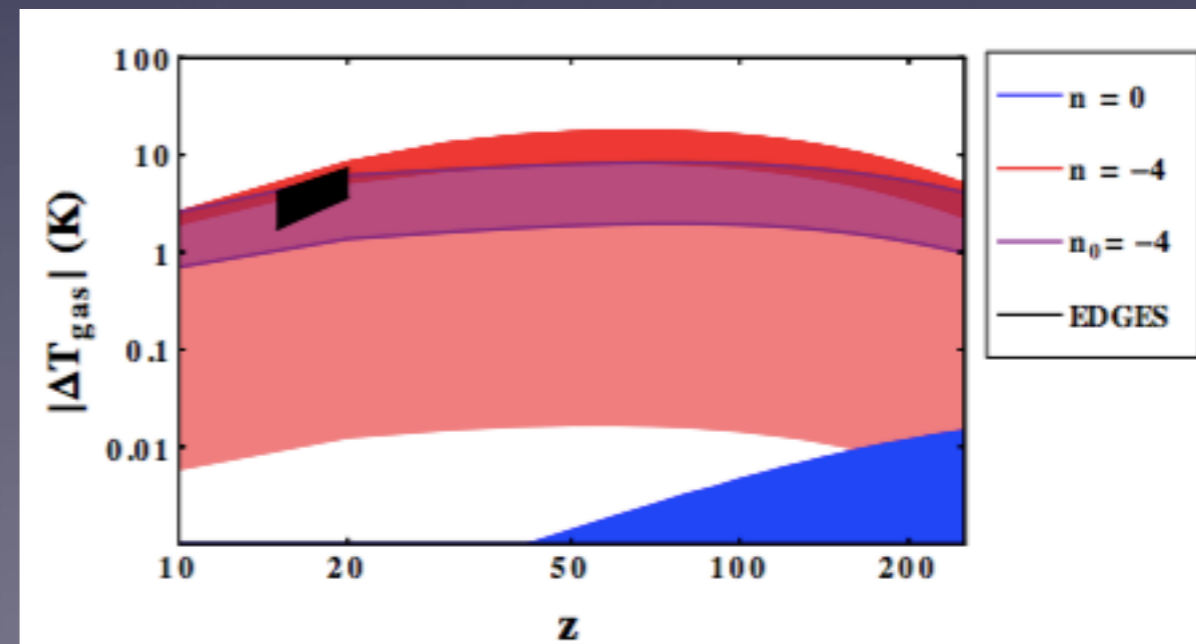
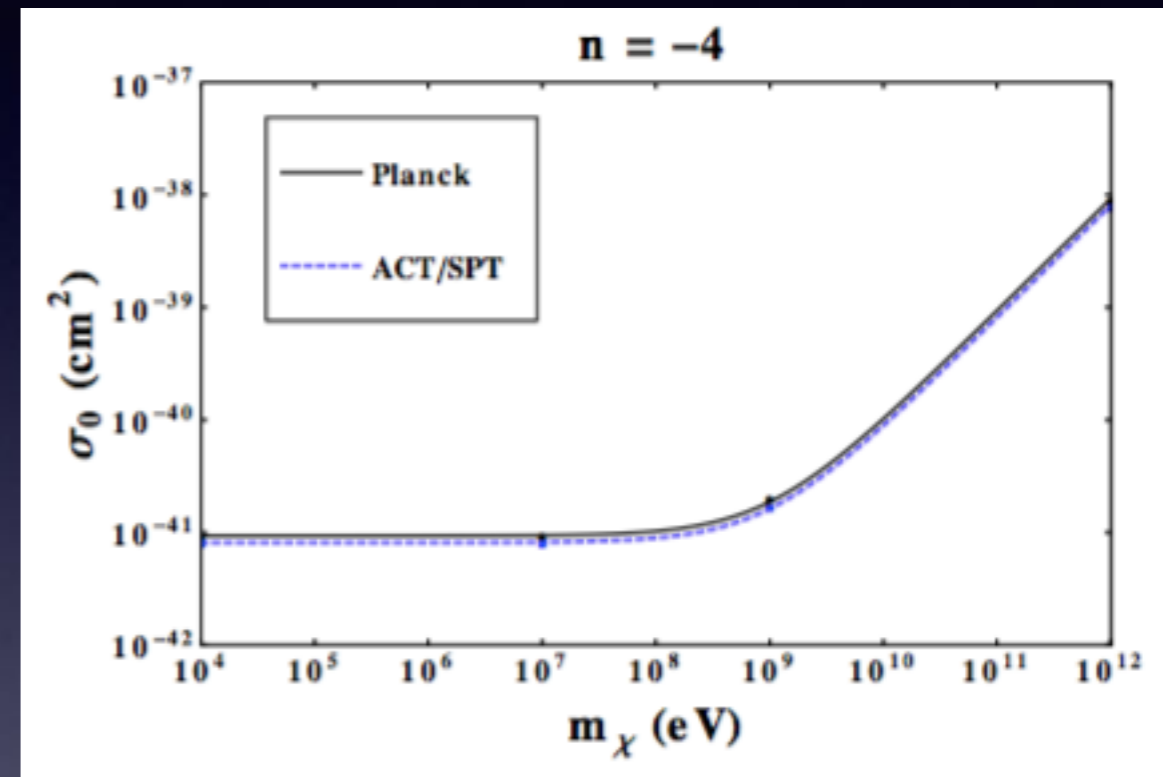
- DM-baryon scattering can cool down the ordinary matter [e.g. Munoz et al '15]
- But strong DM-baryon interactions also disrupt CMB perturbations! [Dvorkin et al '13, Gluscevic et al '17, Boddy et al '18, Xu et al '18].
- If an  $O(1)$  fraction of DM scatters with baryons, need scattering to be enhanced at late times to avoid CMB limits.
- Late times = low thermal velocities - consider models where cross section scales like  $v^{-4}$  (Rutherford scattering)



# DM-baryon scattering in the early universe

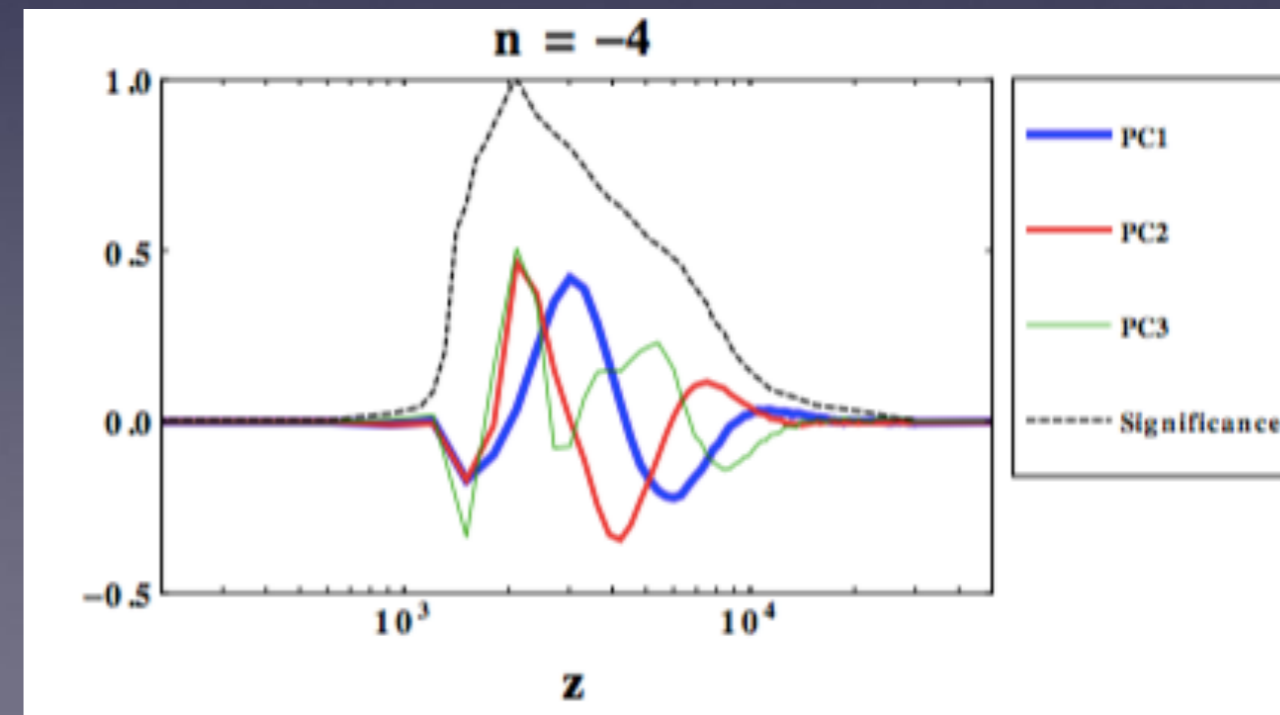
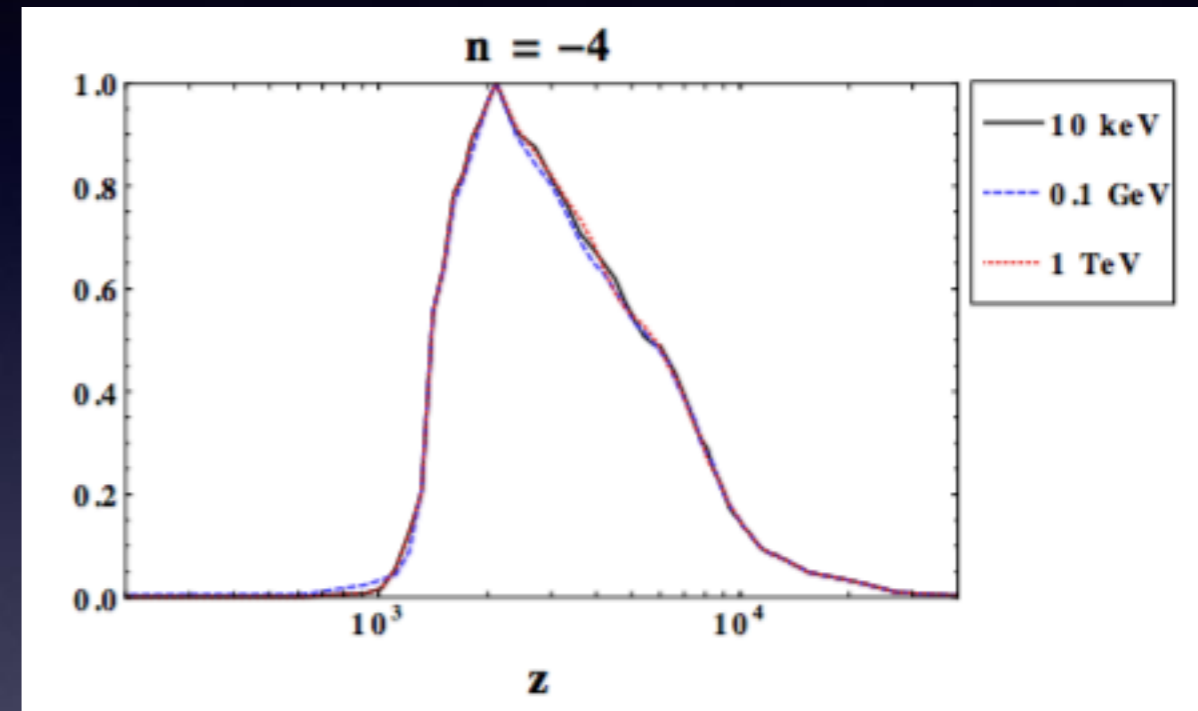
TRS & Wu 1803.09734

- Modify perturbation-evolution equations, temperature-evolution equations, solve using public CLASS code.
- $\sigma \sim v^{-4}$  scaling can cool the gas enough to accommodate the EDGES observation for sub-GeV DM masses, without violating CMB bounds.
- Substantially weaker velocity scalings (in particular,  $\sigma \sim v^{-2}$  and  $\sigma \sim v^0$ ) are not sufficient under standard assumptions.
- Likely requires very light mediator - in general, quite strongly constrained.



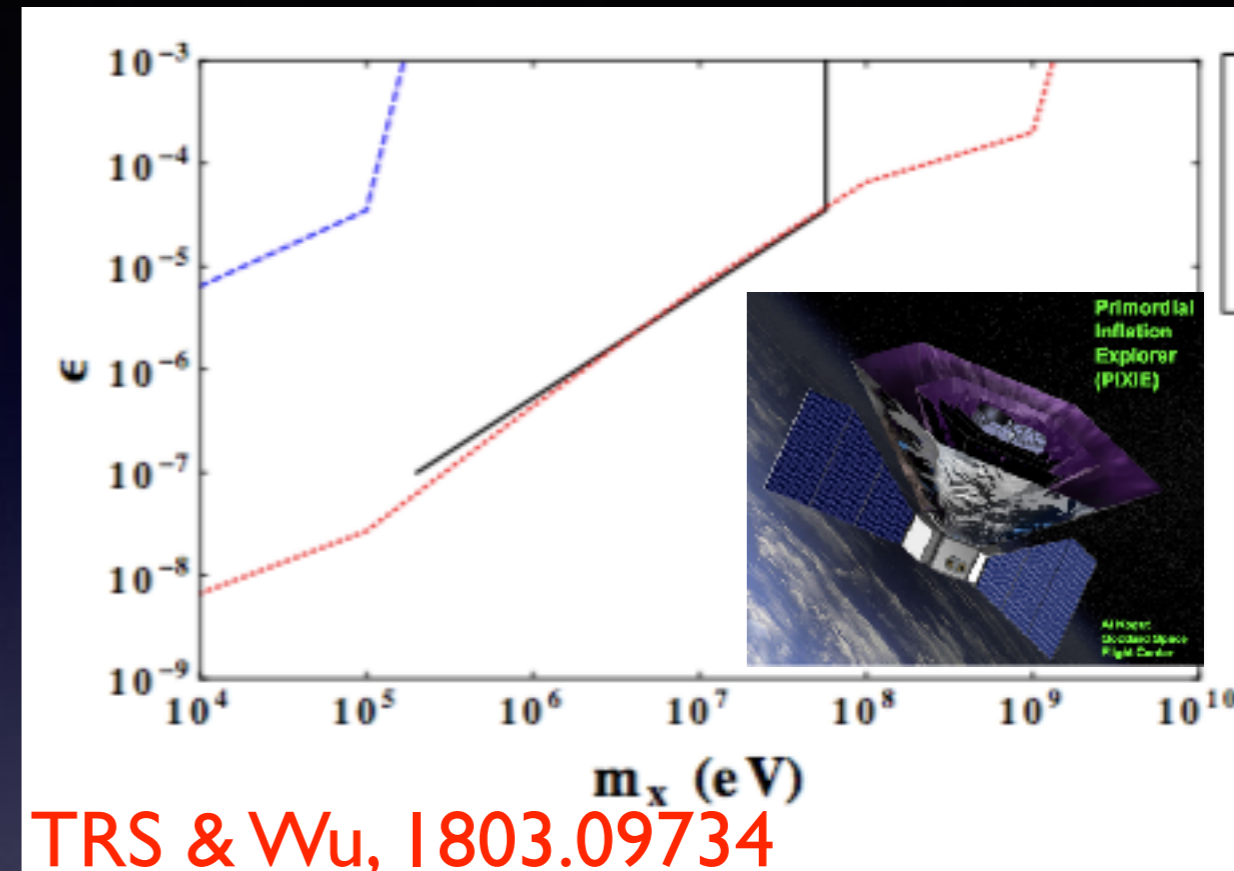
# Understanding the CMB constraints on scattering

- If problem is linear (valid if DM remains sufficiently cold), final result can be decomposed into contributions from different redshifts.
- To probe impact of different redshifts, consider the effects of turning on scattering for short periods.
- We see the constraint dominantly comes from  $z \sim 10^3$ -few  $\times 10^4$  - suppressing signal at these redshifts would evade CMB limits.
- We have developed a principal component basis for arbitrary redshift-dependent scattering histories - allows quick estimation of constraints for a wide range of redshift-dependent scattering histories.



# Probing millicharged dark matter

- Several authors [e.g. Munoz et al '18, Berlin et al '18, Barkana et al '18] have suggested that if  $\sim 1\%$  of (10-100 MeV) DM carries a tiny electric charge, this could explain the signal.
- Evade CMB-anisotropy constraints because bulk of DM is not interacting (although in strongly-coupled case, constrained to  $<0.6\%$  [1805.11616])



- But early DM-baryon interactions (cooling the gas) could distort CMB blackbody spectrum [Ali-Haimoud et al '2015, Choi et al '17] - depends on energy flow from baryons to DM, like EDGES, not on gravitational effects.

$$\rho_\gamma \frac{d\Delta}{dt} = \frac{3}{2} n_b \frac{2\mu_b}{m_e} R_\gamma (T_b - T_\gamma)$$

- We find that extending these limits to fractional abundance with millicharge, next-gen experiment PIXIE could test this parameter space.

# Constraining DM annihilation/ decay with 21 cm

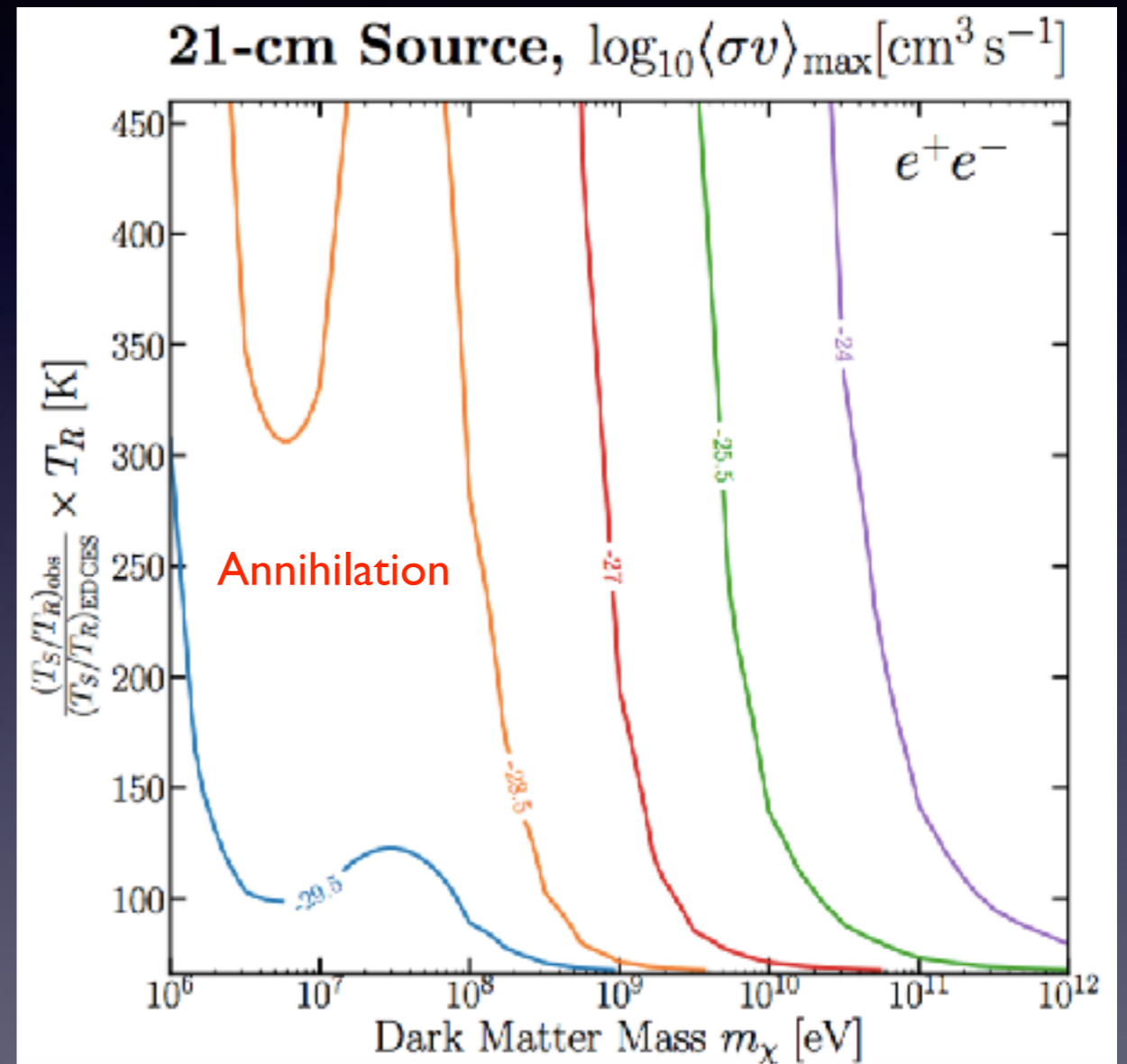
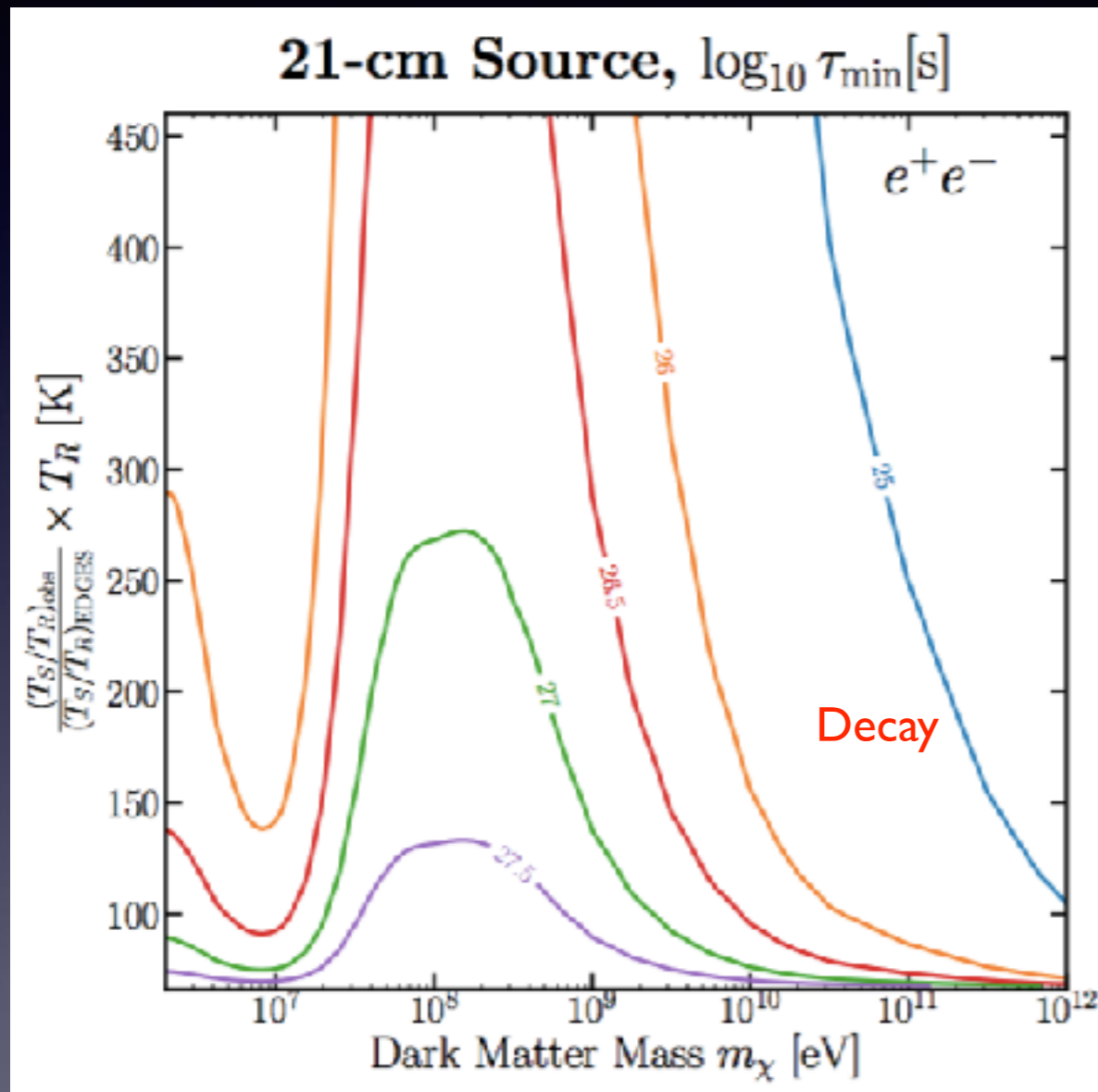
Liu & TRS 1803.09739

- If we can constrain the gas temperature at  $z \sim 17$  at a similar level of precision to the EDGES claim ( $T \sim 5$  K), what can we learn about DM annihilation/decay?
- Some previous studies [Lopez-Honorez et al '16, Poulin et al '17], but if we want to use EDGES result, need to account for whatever process is causing the deep absorption trough (else limits are unrealistically strong).
- Simplest case: extra radiation backgrounds, limit on gas temperature increases, but otherwise keep standard scenario.
- More complex cases: new gas-cooling processes (need to account for these when computing heating from decay/annihilation).
- We study the heating from annihilation and decay in the presence of:
  - DM-baryon scattering (all DM or sub-component)
  - Early baryon-photon decoupling
  - Extra radiation backgrounds
- We carefully model the cooling of annihilation products, and include a conservative model for dark matter structure formation (increasing annihilation rate).





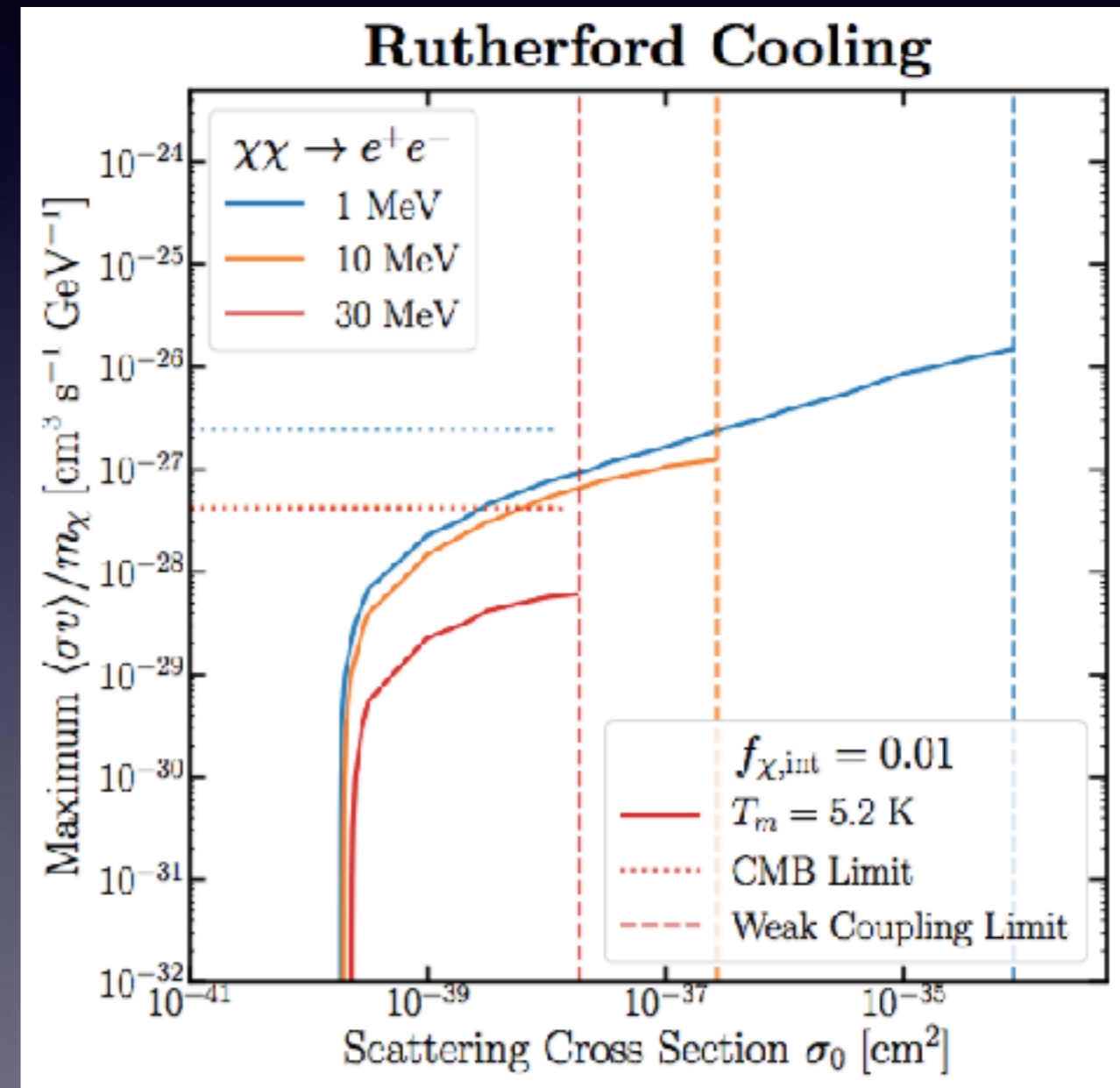
# Annihilation/decay heating + extra photons



- Example for decay/annihilation to electrons - if extra radiation backgrounds are of same order as the CMB (at 21 cm frequency), probe lifetimes of a few  $\times 10^{27}$  s for 100 MeV DM, annihilation cross sections of order few  $\times 10^{-30}$   $\text{cm}^3/\text{s}$  - four orders of magnitude below thermal relic. [See also d'Amico et al 1803.03629.]

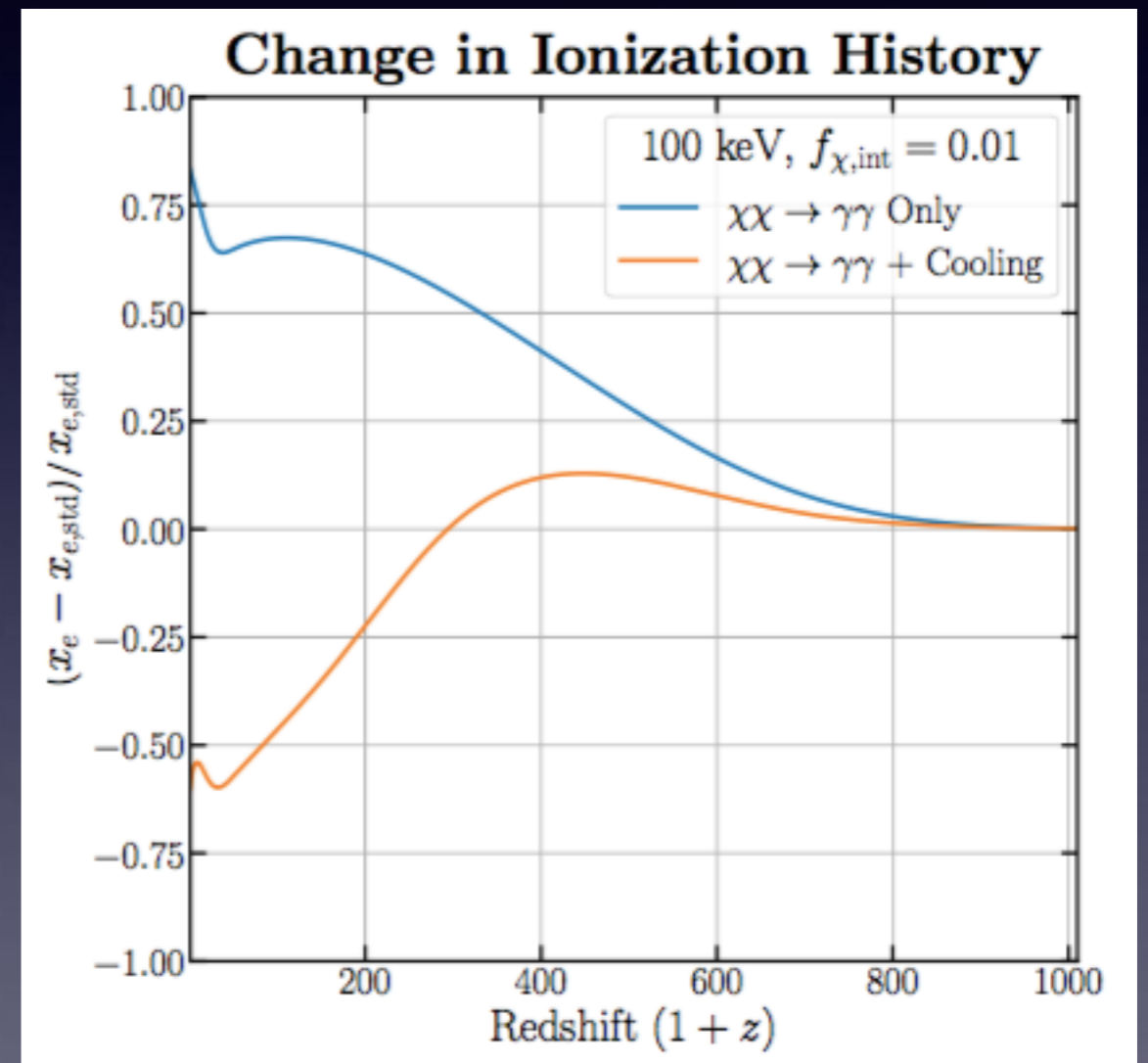
# Annihilation/decay + weak scattering

- When we turn on DM-baryon scattering, the gas is cooled - counteracts heating from annihilation/decay
- Limits relax as cross section gets larger
- But for strong enough scattering, DM temperature = baryon temperature - increasing scattering further has no effect.
- Heating from exotic sources is divided between baryons and interacting DM - limit depends on #density of interacting DM, but not on  $x_{\text{sec}}$



# Annihilation/decay + strong scattering

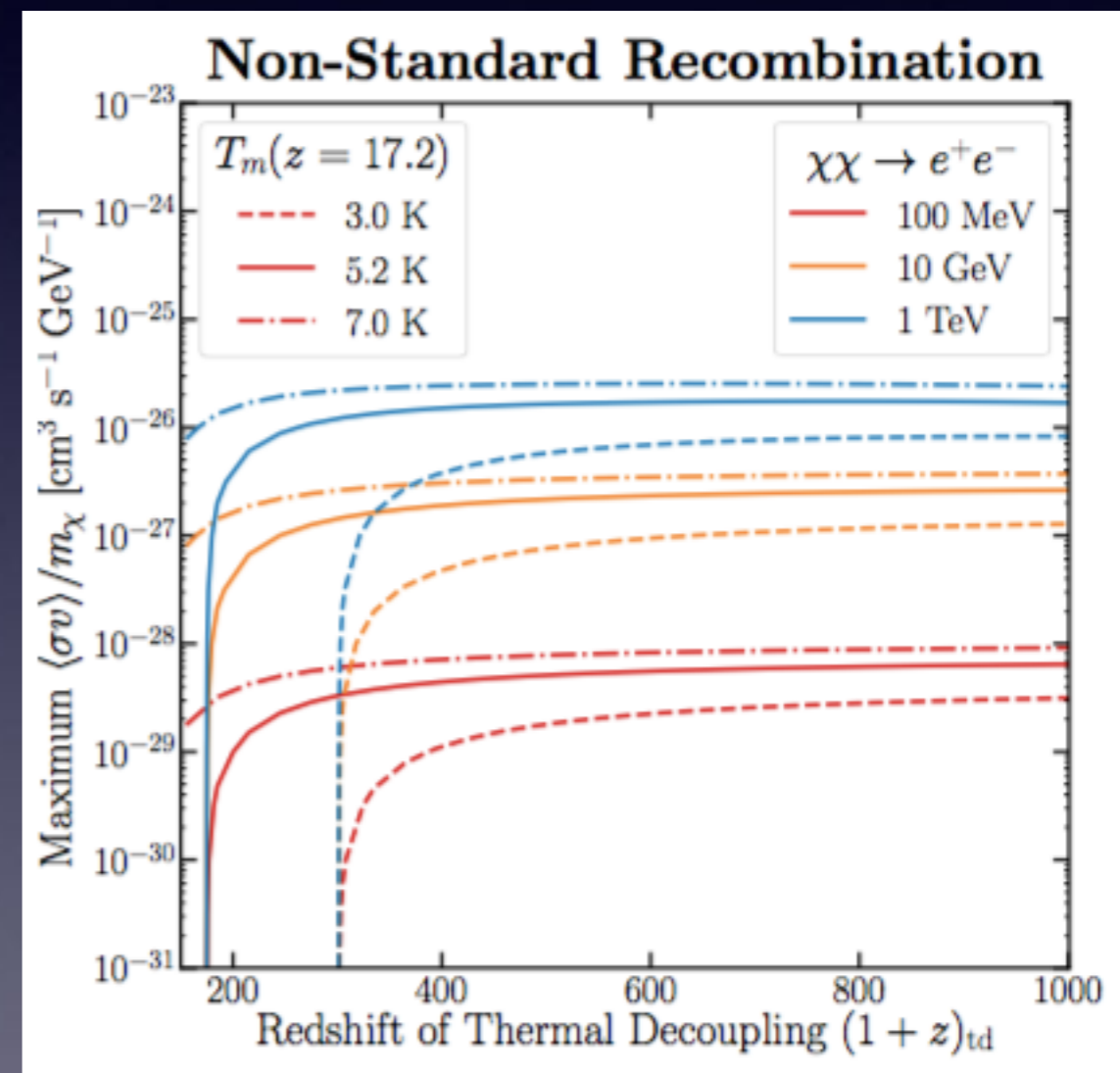
- Case where baryons and (some subcomponent of) DM are strongly coupled - DM acts as heat sink for all effects heating baryons
- Causes early photon-gas decoupling, gas has longer to cool due to expansion.
- Effect is independent of scattering  $x_{\text{sec}}$ , once  $x_{\text{sec}}$  is large enough.
- Net effect is delayed recombination + dilution of heating by needing to heat DM too.
- Cooler gas recombines better; can reduce ionization levels, also relaxes annihilation/decay constraints from CMB!



Example of a case nominally ruled out by CMB limits on extra ionization - turning on small scattering component reduces ionization signal.

# Annihilation/decay + delayed recombination

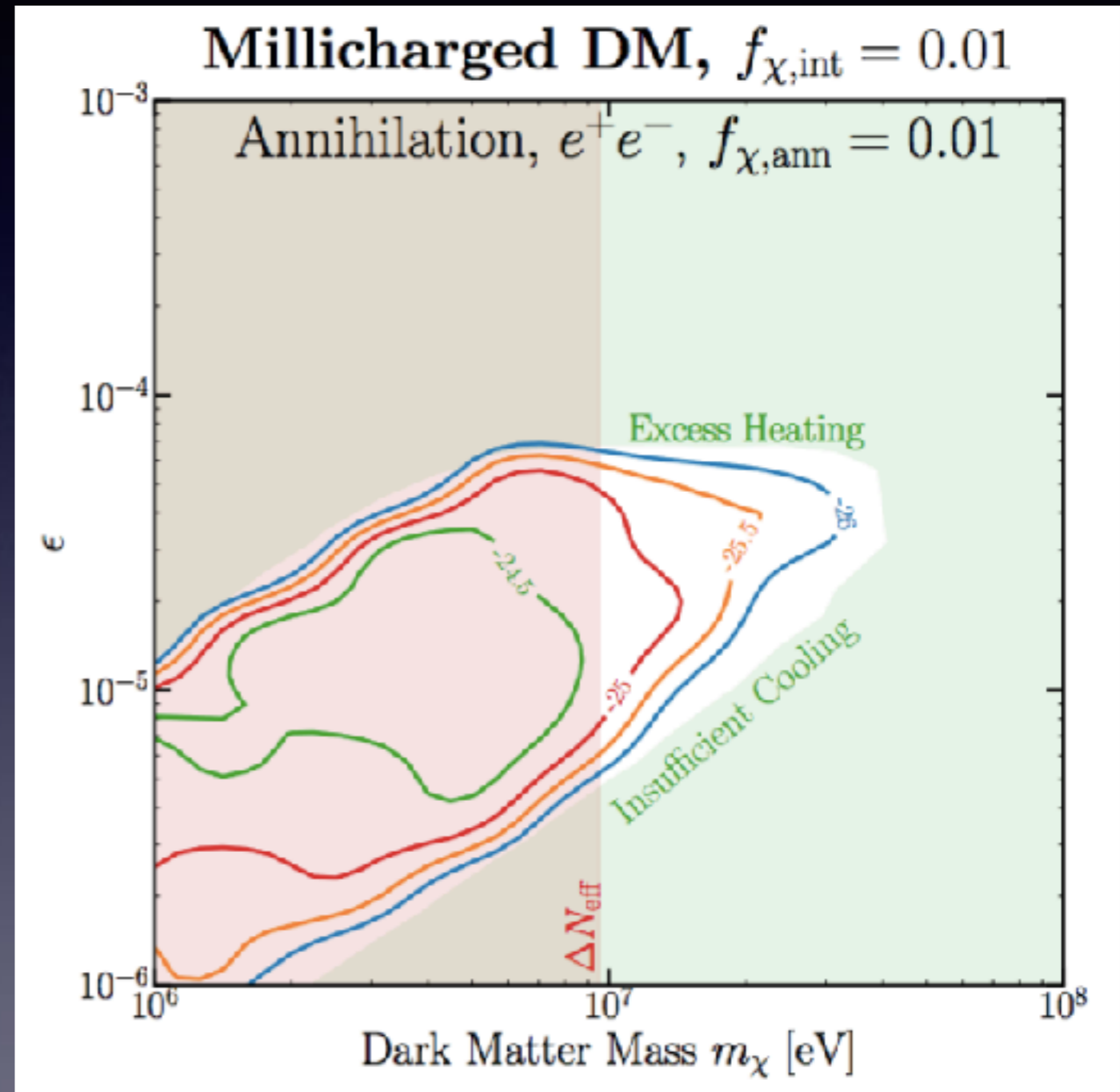
- Suppose baryons decouple from photons earlier than expected (can be due to a small scattering DM component, or for other reasons).
- If decoupling is early enough, gas temperature before heating at  $z \sim 17$  is very small - set constraint by requiring DM heating not overproduce total observed  $T_{\text{gas}}$ , starting from 0K.
- Thus as with scattering, there is an asymptotic constraint when decoupling is early enough.



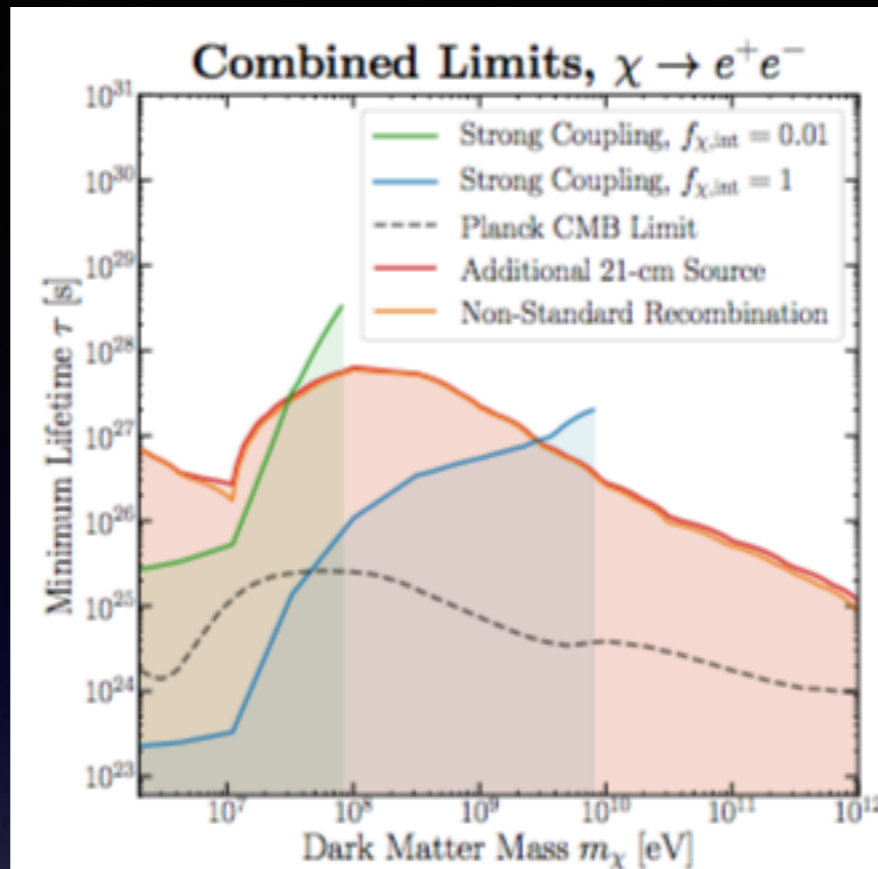
Example of DM annihilation to  $e^+e^-$  pairs; constraints as a function of decoupling redshift

# Millicharged DM

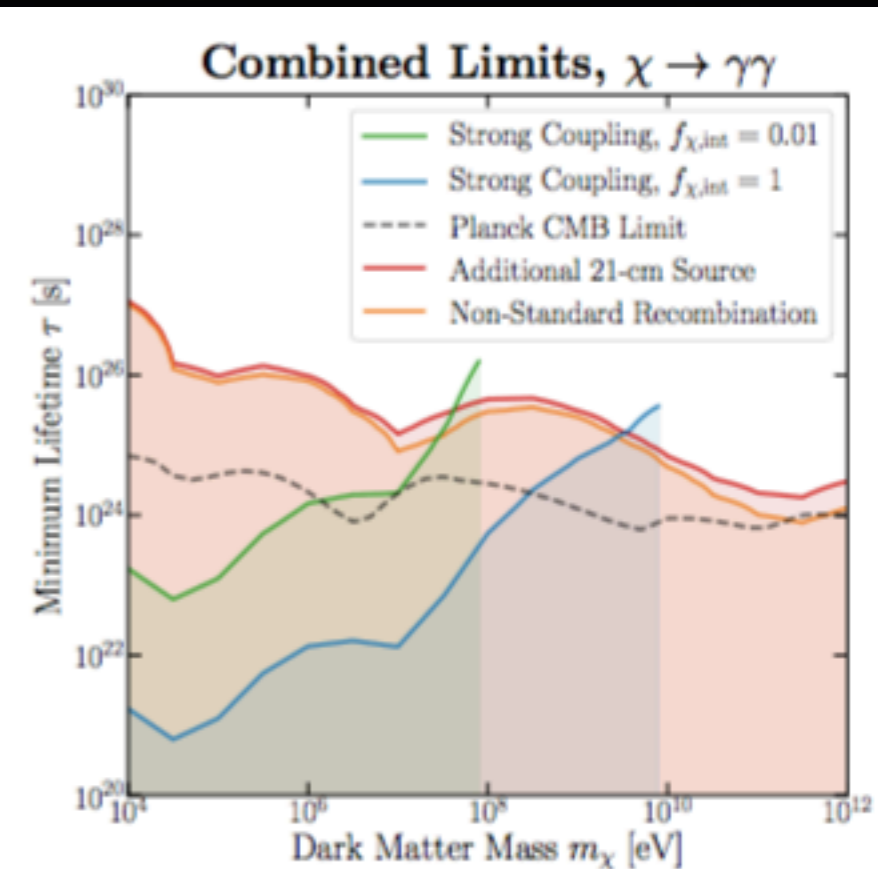
- Consider millicharged DM comprising 1% of total DM, and assume EDGES observation is correct.
- If millicharge is too small, cannot scatter efficiently enough to cool the gas.
- If millicharge is too large, automatic annihilation (through s-channel photon) overheats the gas.
- In intermediate region, can set limits on extra (non-automatic) annihilation channels.
- Cannot get desired 1% density through thermal freezeout of such channels if branching ratio to electrons is appreciable & annihilation is unsuppressed at late times.



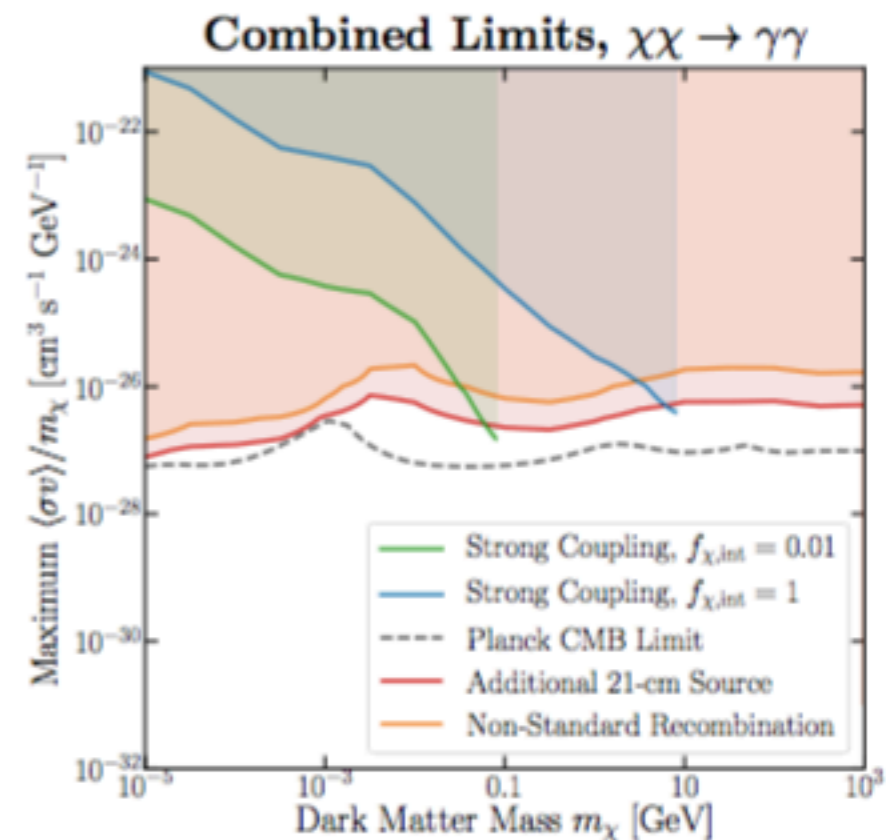
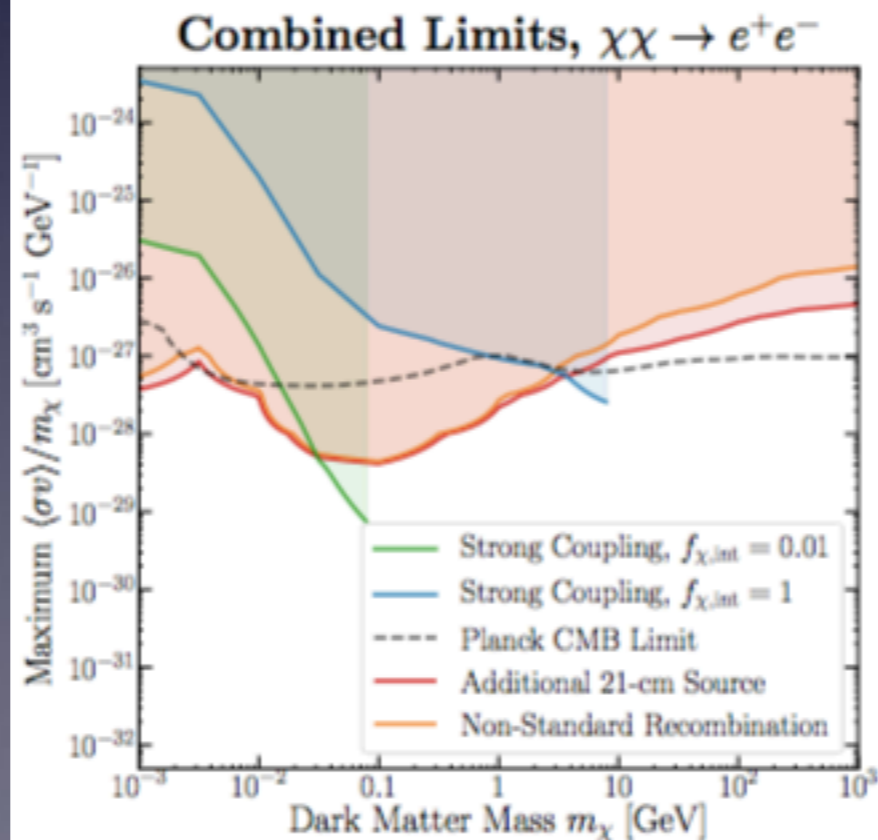
- Summary of limits assuming EDGES is correct
- Orange/red lines = limits in presence of early recombination (orange) or extra radiation up to same strength as CMB (red)
- Blue/green regions = allowed regions with 100%/1% of DM scattering, strong-coupling limit
- Dashed black lines = standard CMB bound
- Heating bounds are stronger than standard CMB limits for light DM in most cases (especially decay to  $e^+e^-$ )



(a)



(b)



# Ongoing work

- Many other questions we can address using a similar toolbox.
- Work in progress:
  - adapt modeling of secondary-particle cascade to self-consistently include changes to ionization history, allow testing of many ionization scenarios rapidly - hope to use as input for codes modeling the reionization epoch, and 21 cm signals.
  - improve treatment of low-energy particles to get precise predictions for distortion of CMB blackbody spectrum, + constraints for light (sub-keV) dark matter.
- Goal: comprehensive understanding of the possible effects of DM annihilation/decay/scattering in the early universe.

# Summary

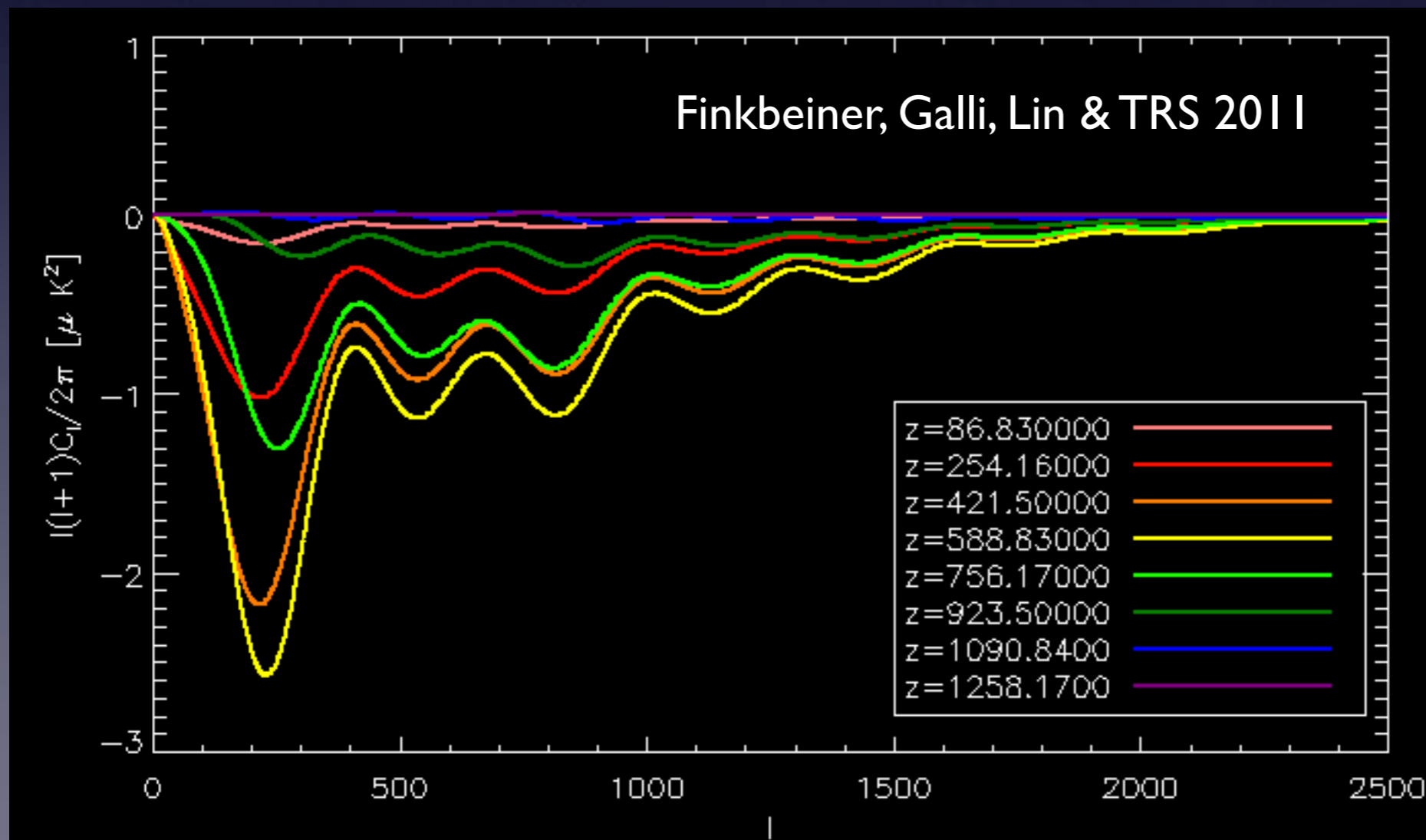
- Measurements of the ionization and temperature history of the early universe, via CMB and 21 cm observations, can set stringent constraints on the properties of dark matter.
- Scattering between baryons and the bulk of the DM during the pre-recombination epoch  $z \sim 10^3$ -few  $\times 10^4$  is tightly constrained by the CMB. We have developed a framework for estimating CMB constraints on general scattering histories for cold DM.
- Scattering between baryons and a small sub-component of the DM is likely difficult to constrain with CMB anisotropies, but could be tested by future observations of CMB blackbody spectral distortions.
- Confirmed measurement of a global 21 cm signal could set robust and stringent new constraints on DM annihilation/decay (especially light DM decaying to electrons), even in the presence of deviations from the standard scenario.
- Modifications to standard recombination, e.g. by having a small fraction of the DM coupling strongly to the baryons, could weaken standard limits on annihilating/decaying light dark matter from the CMB.



**BONUS SLIDES**

# Energy injection & the CMB

- Extra ionization from DM annihilation would suppress & distort temperature and polarization anisotropies in the CMB. Different DM models lead to different amount of ionizing energy, + slightly different redshift dependence (due to cooling times of annihilation products).
- We can numerically calculate the CMB imprint of a generic source of extra ionization at early times (model-independent), then combine with calculation of ionization from a given DM model.



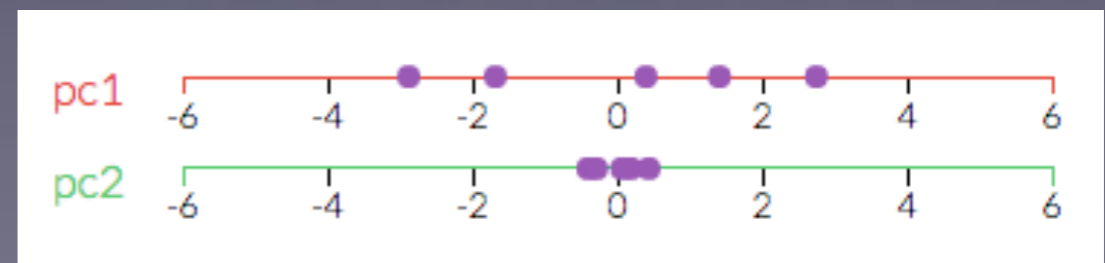
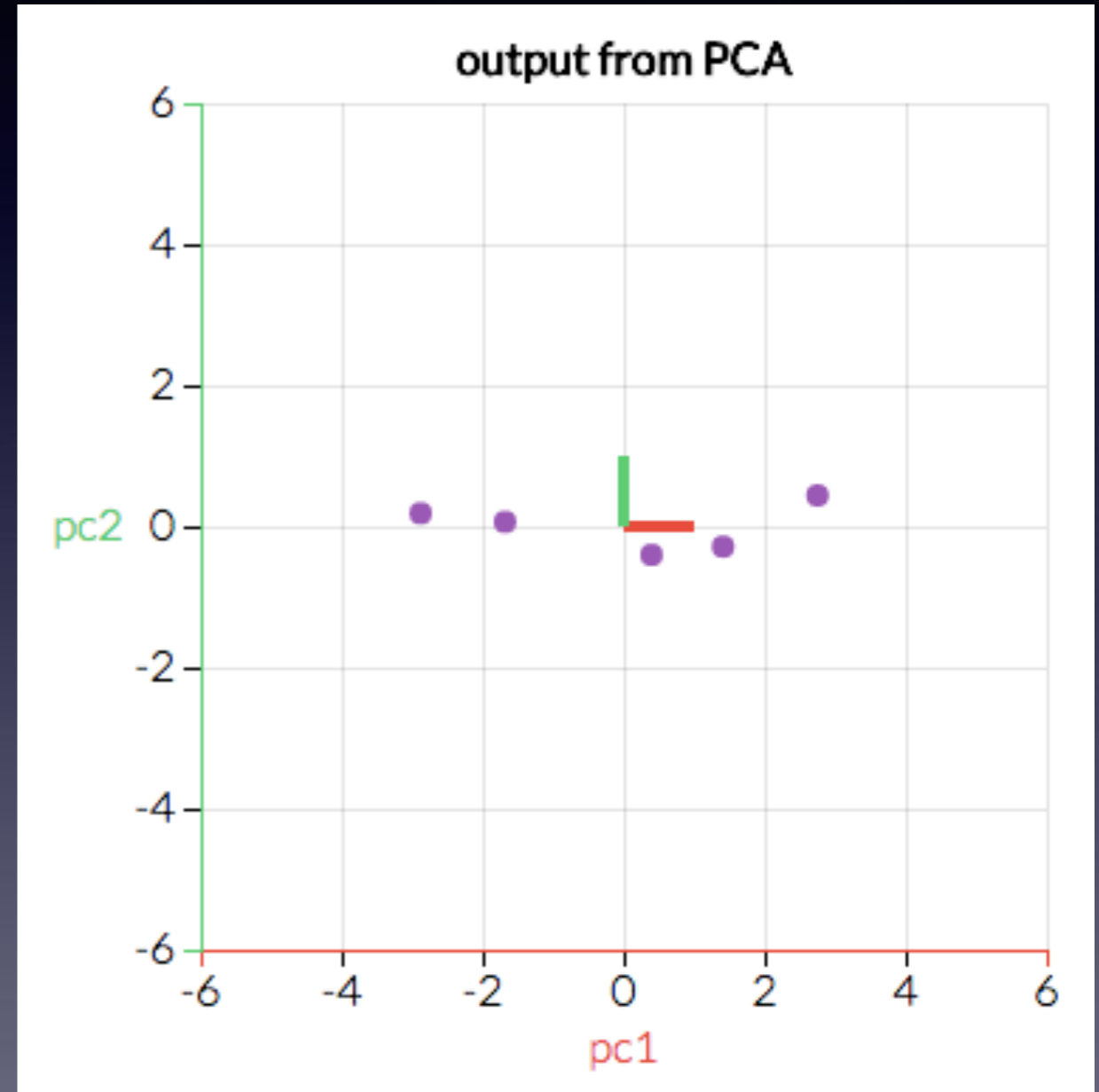
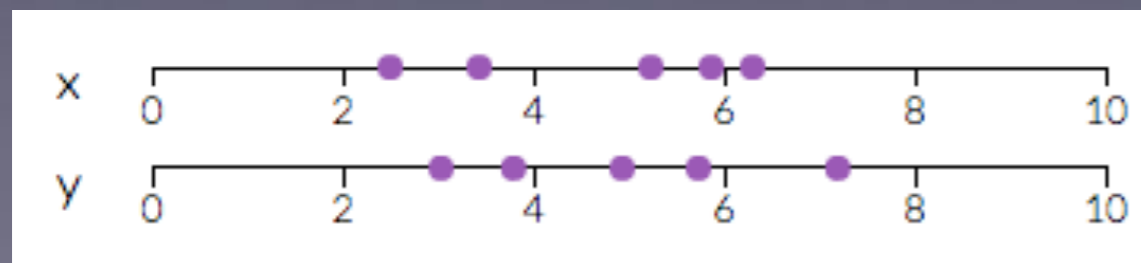
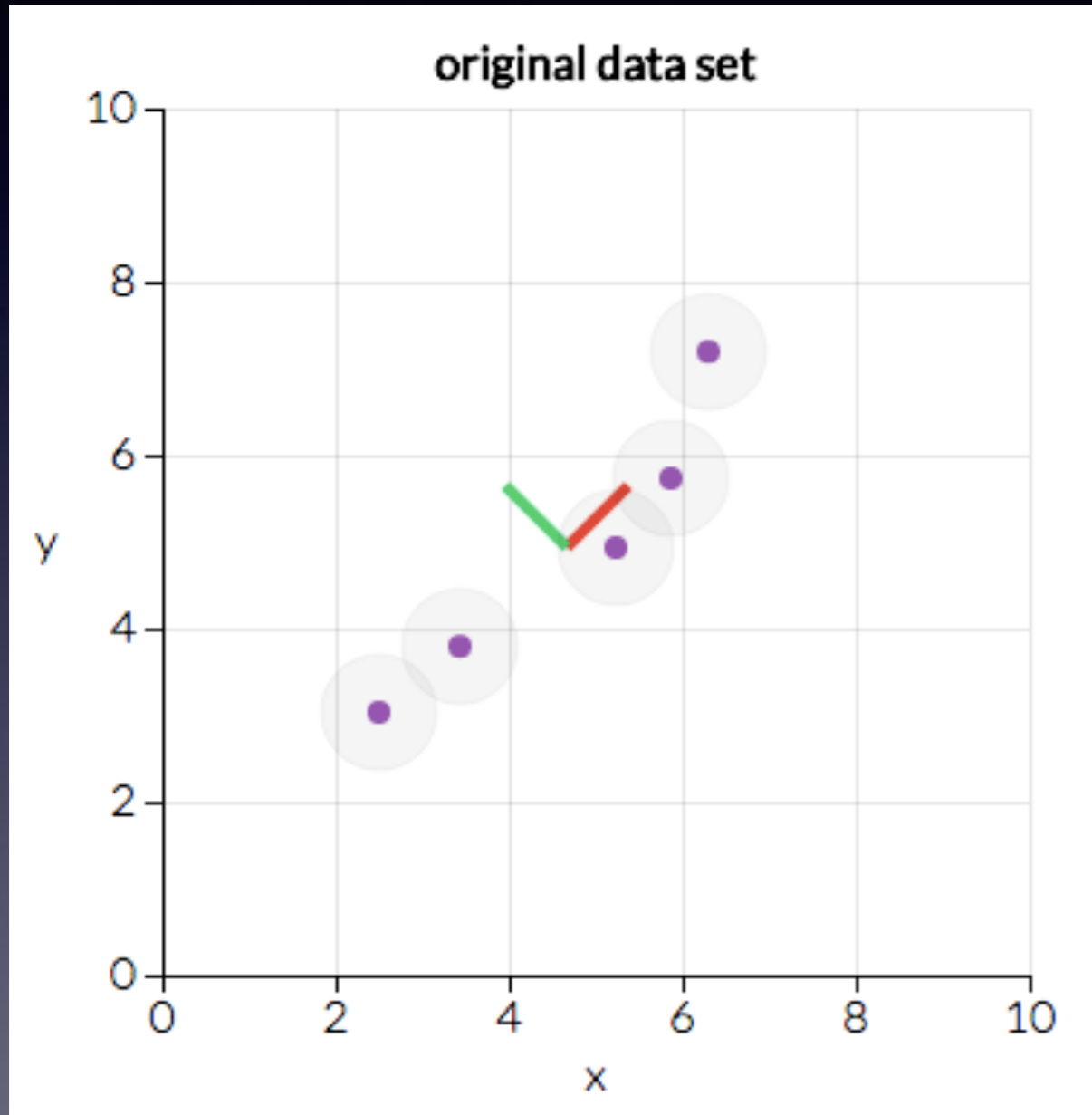
- Note: ionization at different redshifts has similar (albeit not identical) effects - can be described by low-dimensional parameter space.
- Codify with principal component analysis.

# Principal component analysis

- Consider a space of models that span some interesting “model space” and predict signals in some dataset.
- Model space can generally be very high-dimensional, but signal space may be approximated by a low-dimensional space.
- Goal: find orthogonal basis for signal space, where first few basis vectors capture most of the significance of signals (with respect to some null hypothesis).
- Can then expand any model (within space spanned by initial set) in terms of corresponding model-space basis, and the first few terms in the expansion should largely describe the signal significance.

# Toy example

Image credit: <http://setosa.io/ev/principal-component-analysis/>



# Principal component analysis details

- Calculate Fisher matrix (describes significance) for signals as a function of model parameters  $\{\alpha_i\}$

$$(F_e)_{ij} = \sum_{\ell} \left( \frac{\partial C_{\ell}}{\partial \alpha_i} \right)^T \cdot \Sigma_{\ell}^{-1} \cdot \frac{\partial C_{\ell}}{\partial \alpha_j}.$$

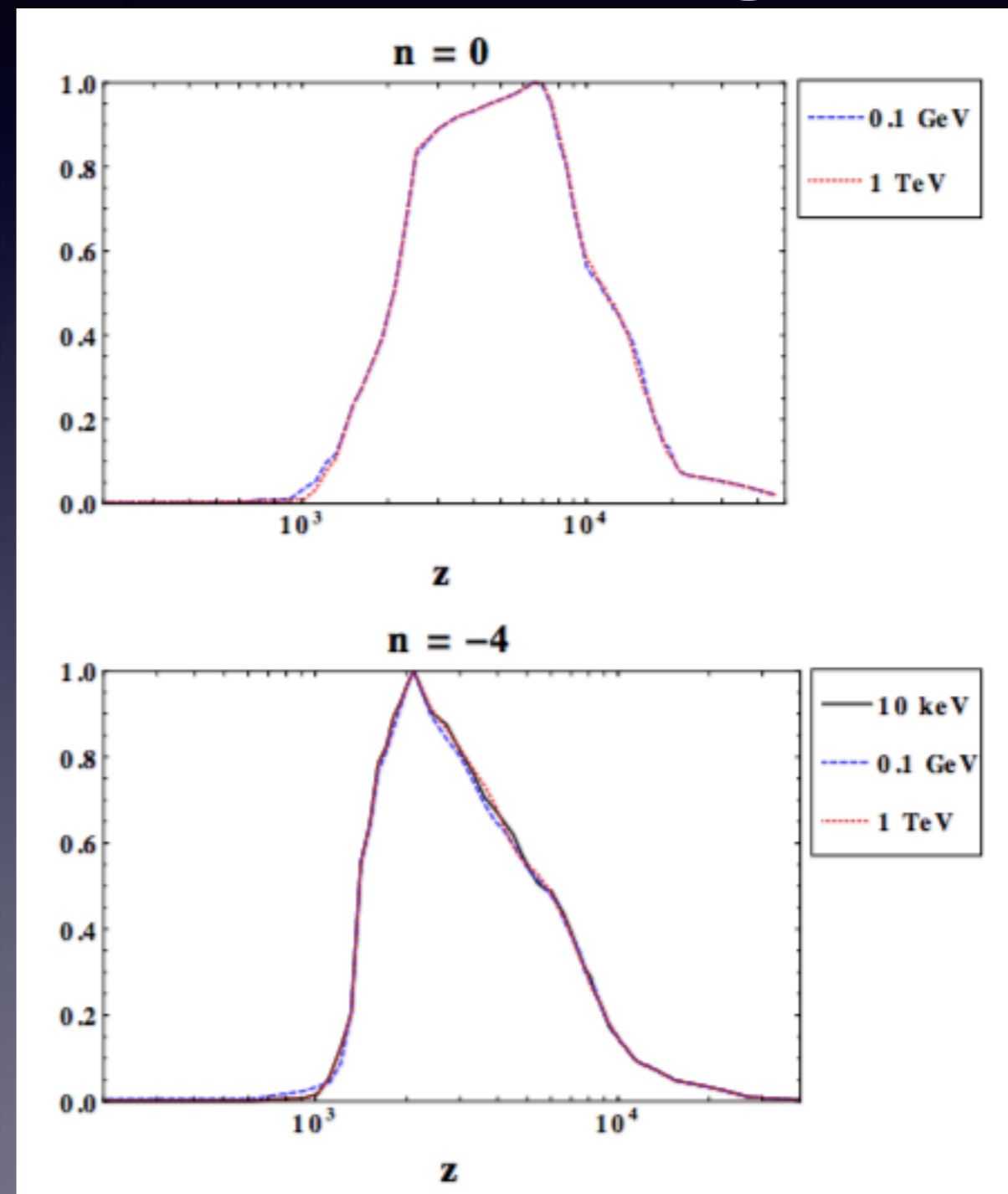
$$\Sigma_{\ell} = \frac{2}{2l+1} \times \begin{pmatrix} (C_{\ell}^{TT})^2 & (C_{\ell}^{TE})^2 & C_{\ell}^{TT}C_{\ell}^{TE} \\ (C_{\ell}^{TE})^2 & (C_{\ell}^{EE})^2 & C_{\ell}^{EE}C_{\ell}^{TE} \\ C_{\ell}^{TT}C_{\ell}^{TE} & C_{\ell}^{EE}C_{\ell}^{TE} & \frac{1}{2} [(C_{\ell}^{TE})^2 + C_{\ell}^{TT}C_{\ell}^{EE}] \end{pmatrix}$$

- Marginalize over cosmological parameters by including them in Fisher matrix, then inverting + truncating Fisher matrix.
- Diagonalize this matrix to obtain principal components (eigenvectors)  $PC_i$ .
- Eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  describe the contribution of the corresponding eigenvectors to the variance. Suppose the null hypothesis is the best-fit result, then if a model to be tested can be written in the form  $\sum \alpha_i PC_i$

we estimate it will be excluded with approximately,  $\Delta\chi^2 \approx \sum \lambda_i \alpha_i^2$

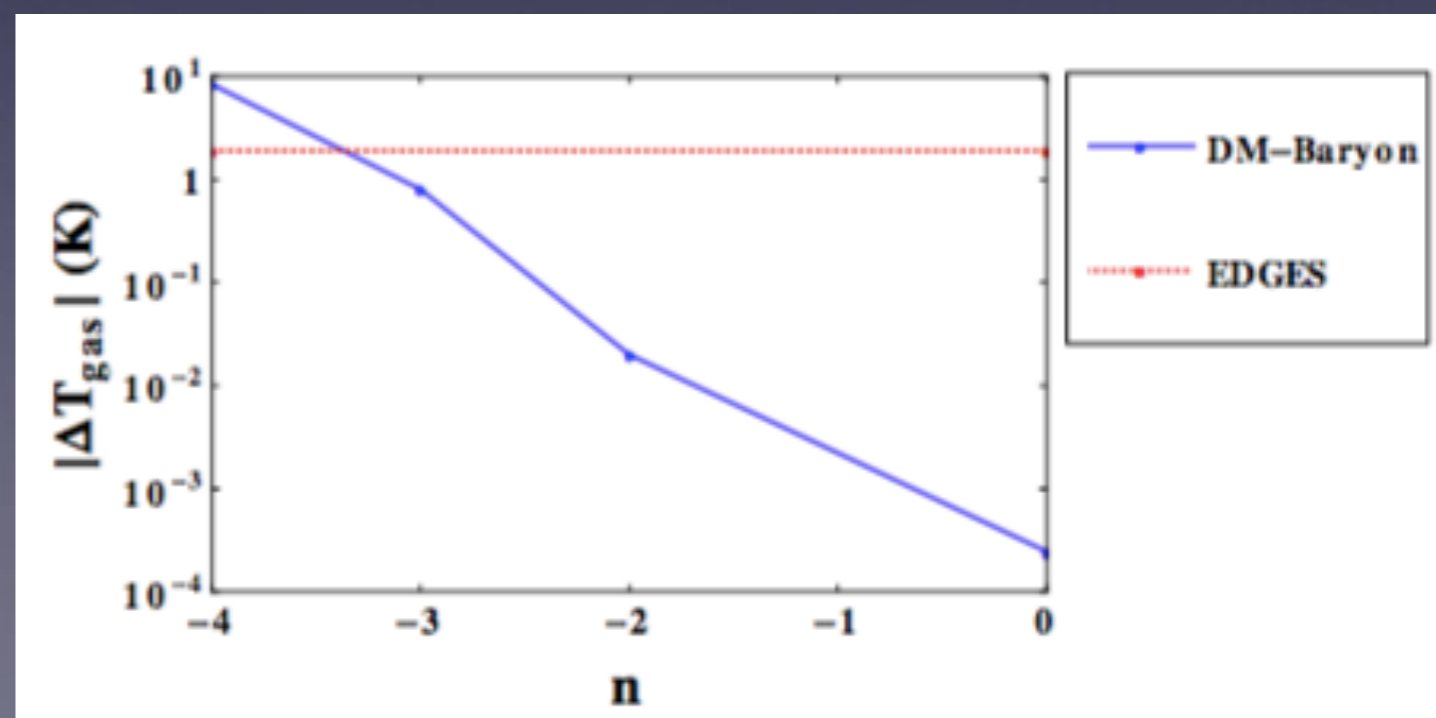
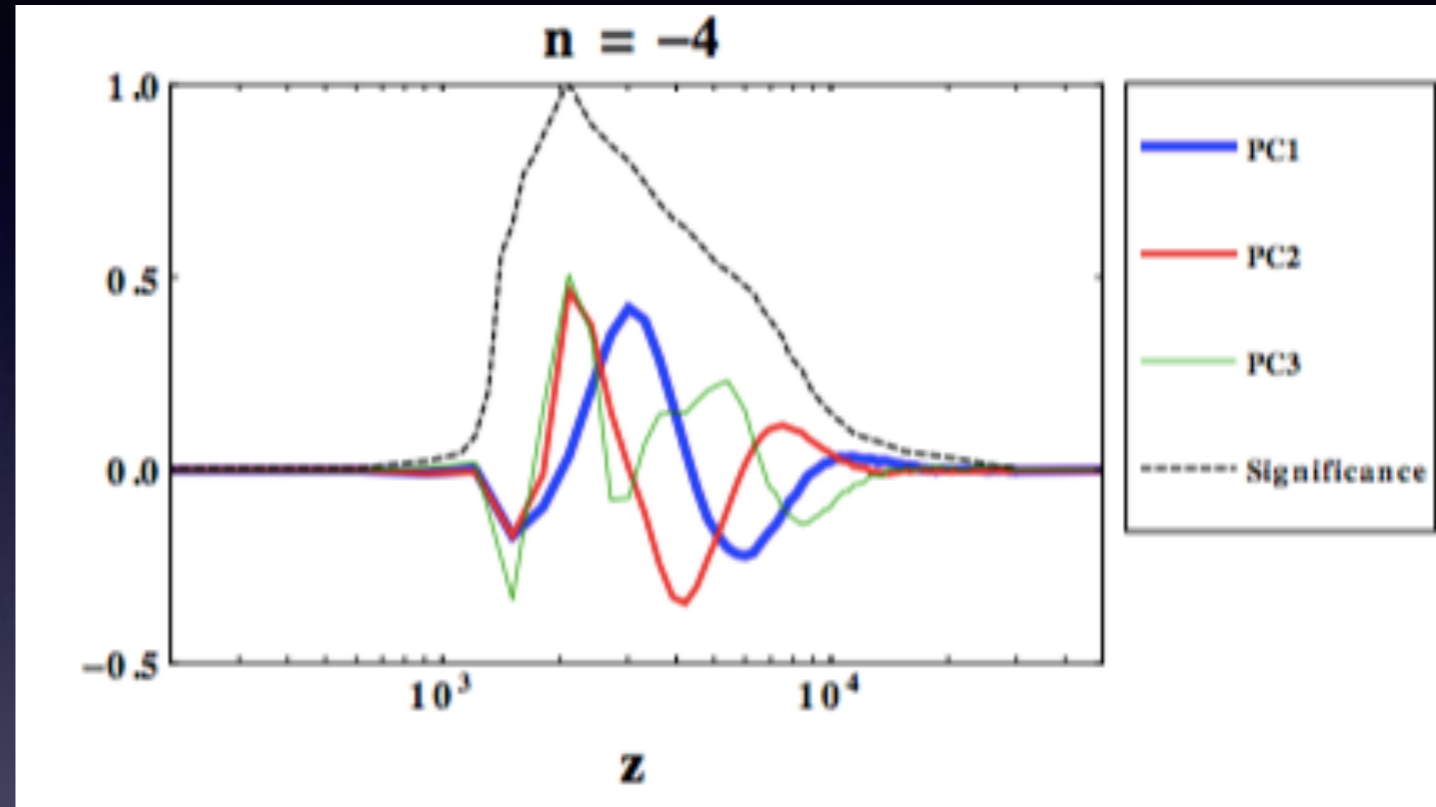
# Understanding the CMB constraints on scattering

- If problem is linear (valid if DM remains sufficiently cold), final result can be decomposed into contributions from different redshifts.
- To probe impact of different redshifts, consider the effects of turning on scattering for short periods.
- Can generate a Fisher matrix  $F$  based on  $N$  such basis models, with scattering turned on around redshift  $z_i$ ,  $i=1..N$ .
- Plot  $F_{ii}$  to estimate which redshifts have a large signal in the CMB.
- We see the constraint dominantly comes from  $z \sim 10^3$ -few  $\times 10^4$  - suppressing signal at these redshifts would evade CMB limits.



# A principal component analysis for DM-baryon scattering

- Using the same Fisher matrix, we can perform a principal component analysis as previously.
- Find that first four PCs account for 90-95% of the variance.
- Allows quick estimate of constraints for a wide range of redshift-dependent scattering histories.
- For example, if 100% of DM scatters on baryons, cooling to match EDGES results requires  $n < -3$ .
- Caveat: will fail (linearity breaks down) if the DM thermal velocity from scattering becomes comparable to baryon thermal velocity.



# Modifications to evolution equations

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{\delta}_\chi &= -\theta_\chi - \frac{\dot{h}}{2}, \\
 \dot{\delta}_b &= -\theta_b - \frac{\dot{h}}{2}, \\
 \dot{\theta}_\chi &= -\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\theta_\chi + c_\chi^2 k^2 \delta_\chi + R_\chi (\theta_b - \theta_\chi), \\
 \dot{\theta}_b &= -\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\theta_b + c_b^2 k^2 \delta_b + R_\gamma (\theta_\gamma - \theta_b) \\
 &\quad + \frac{\rho_\chi}{\rho_b} R_\chi (\theta_\chi - \theta_b), \\
 \dot{\theta}_\gamma &= k^2 \left( \frac{1}{4} \delta_\gamma - \sigma_\gamma \right) - \frac{1}{\tau_c} (\theta_\gamma - \theta_b). \quad (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $c_\chi$  and  $c_b$  are the sound speeds (for DM/baryons respectively) defined by:

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_b^2 &= \frac{k_B T_b}{\mu_b} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{3} \frac{d \ln T_b}{d \ln a} \right), \\
 c_\chi^2 &= \frac{k_B T_\chi}{m_\chi} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{3} \frac{d \ln T_\chi}{d \ln a} \right), \quad (2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$R_\chi = \frac{a c_n \rho_b \sigma_0}{m_\chi + m_H} \left( \frac{T_b}{m_H} + \frac{T_\chi}{m_\chi} \right)^{\frac{n+1}{2}} F_{\text{He}},$$

where the numerical prefactor  $c_n$  is given by:

$$c_n = \frac{2^{\frac{n+5}{2}} \Gamma \left( 3 + \frac{n}{2} \right)}{3\sqrt{\pi}}.$$

$$R_\chi \rightarrow \frac{a c_n \rho_b \sigma_0}{m_\chi + m_H} \left( \frac{T_b}{m_H} + \frac{T_\chi}{m_\chi} + \frac{V_{\text{rms}}^2}{3} \right)^{\frac{n+1}{2}} F_{\text{He}},$$

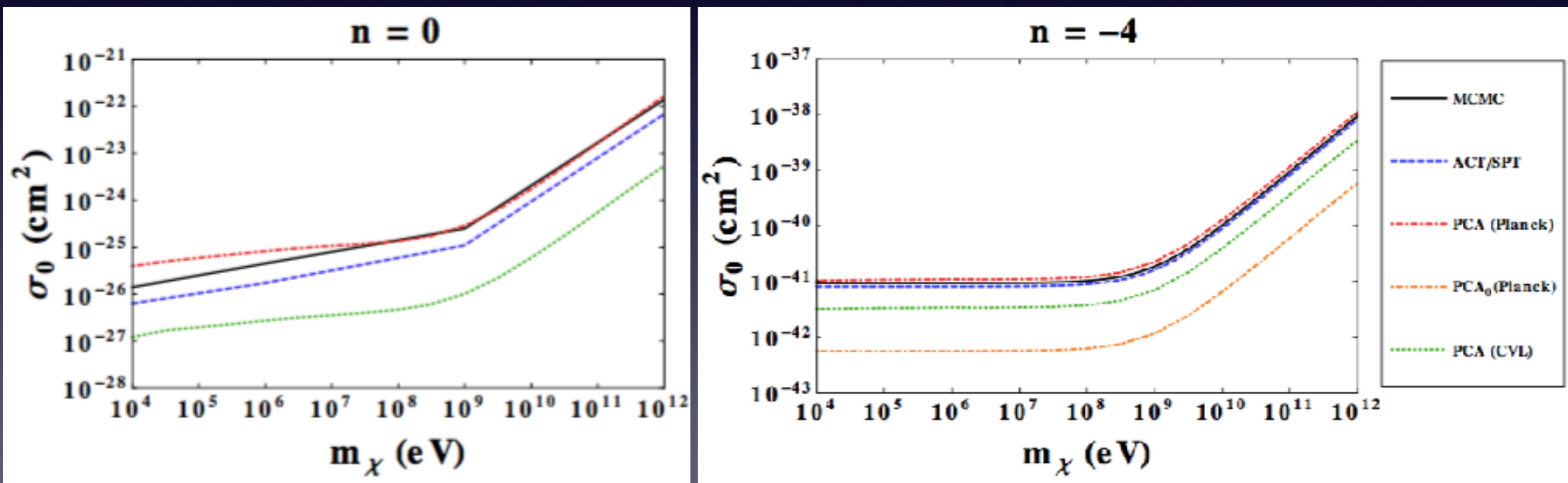
where  $V_{\text{rms}}$  is estimated as:

$$V_{\text{rms}}^2 \approx \begin{cases} 10^{-8} & z > 10^3 \\ 10^{-8} \left( \frac{1+z}{10^3} \right)^2 & z \leq 10^3. \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{T}_\chi &= -2 \frac{\dot{a}}{a} T_\chi + \frac{2 m_\chi}{m_\chi + m_H} R_\chi (T_b - T_\chi), \\
 \dot{T}_b &= -2 \frac{\dot{a}}{a} T_b + 2 \frac{\mu_b}{m_e} R_\gamma (T_\gamma - T_b) \\
 &\quad + \frac{2 \mu_b}{m_\chi + m_H} \frac{\rho_\chi}{\rho_b} R_\chi (T_\chi - T_b).
 \end{aligned}$$

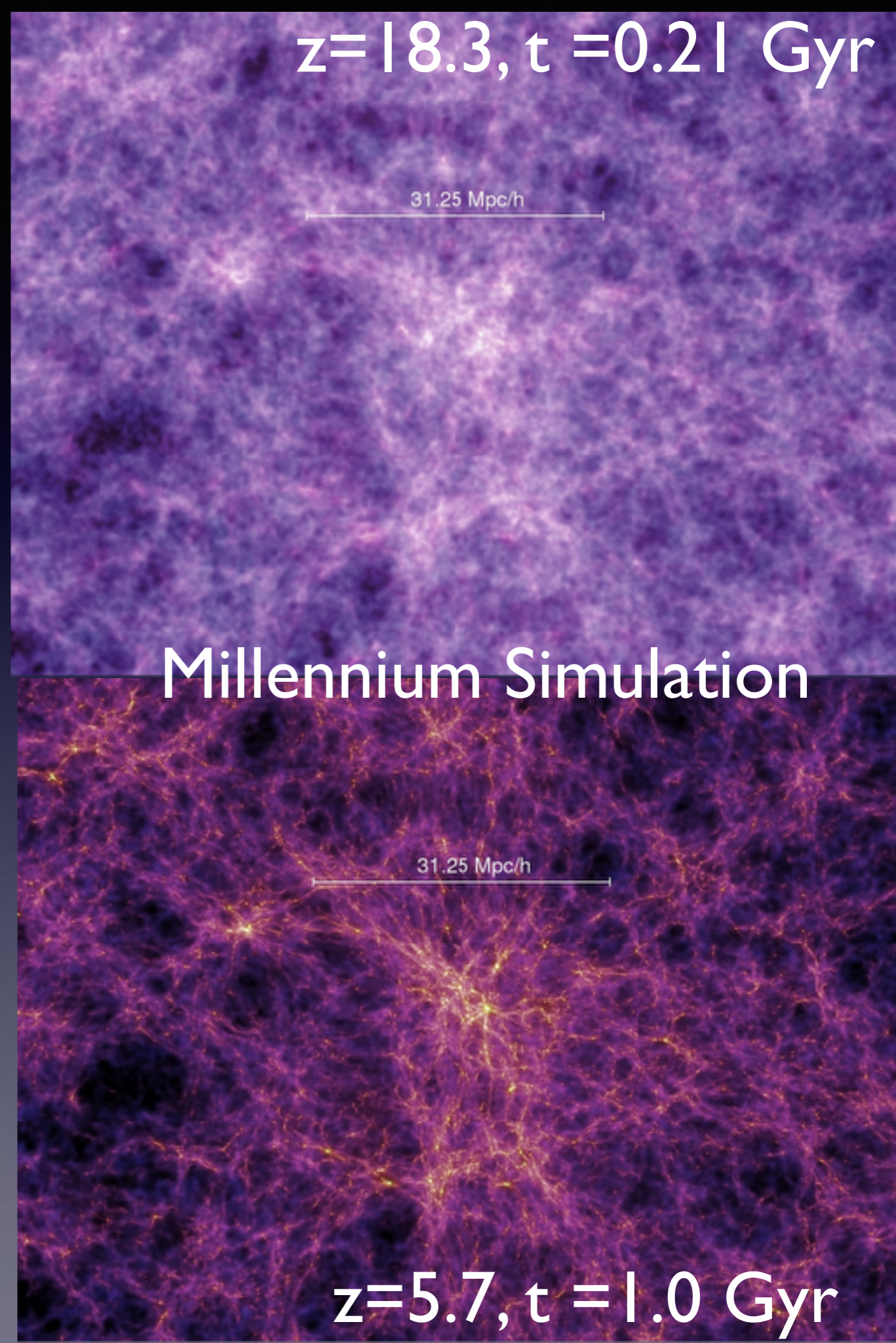


# Validation of PCA vs MCMC



# Dark matter in the reionization epoch

- By this time, early galaxies have formed.
- Dark matter has clumped into halos and filaments at a wide range of scales.
- Need to account for the resulting higher densities - enhancement to annihilation.



s-wave annihilation

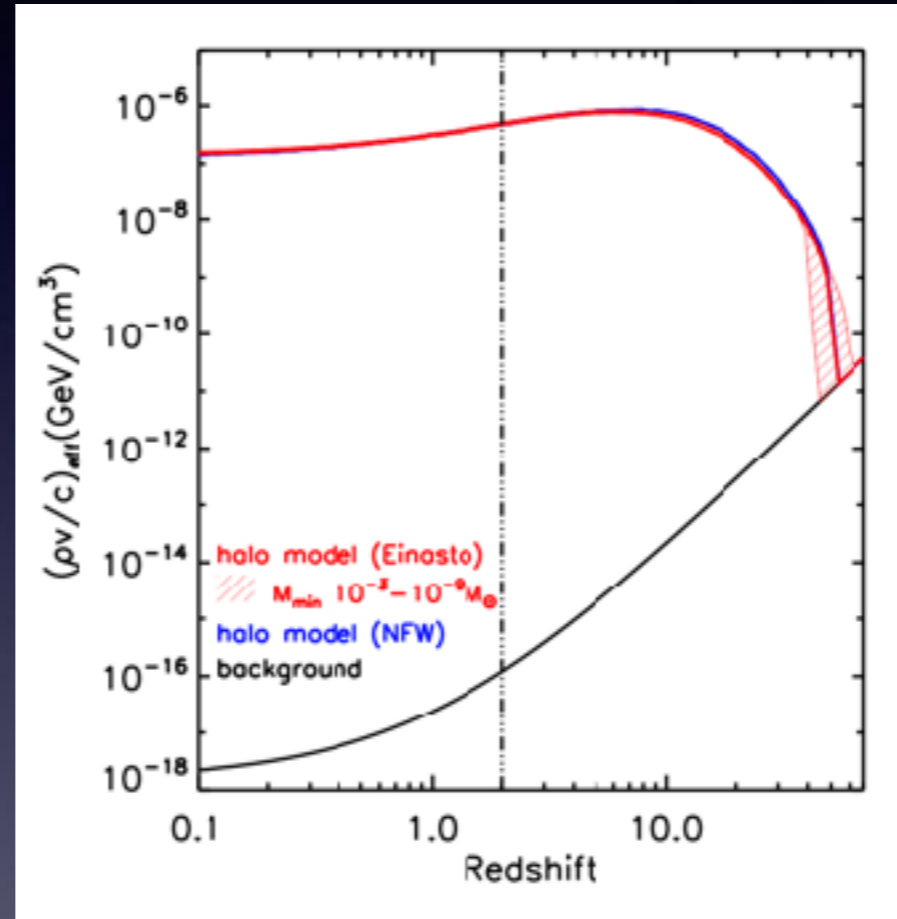
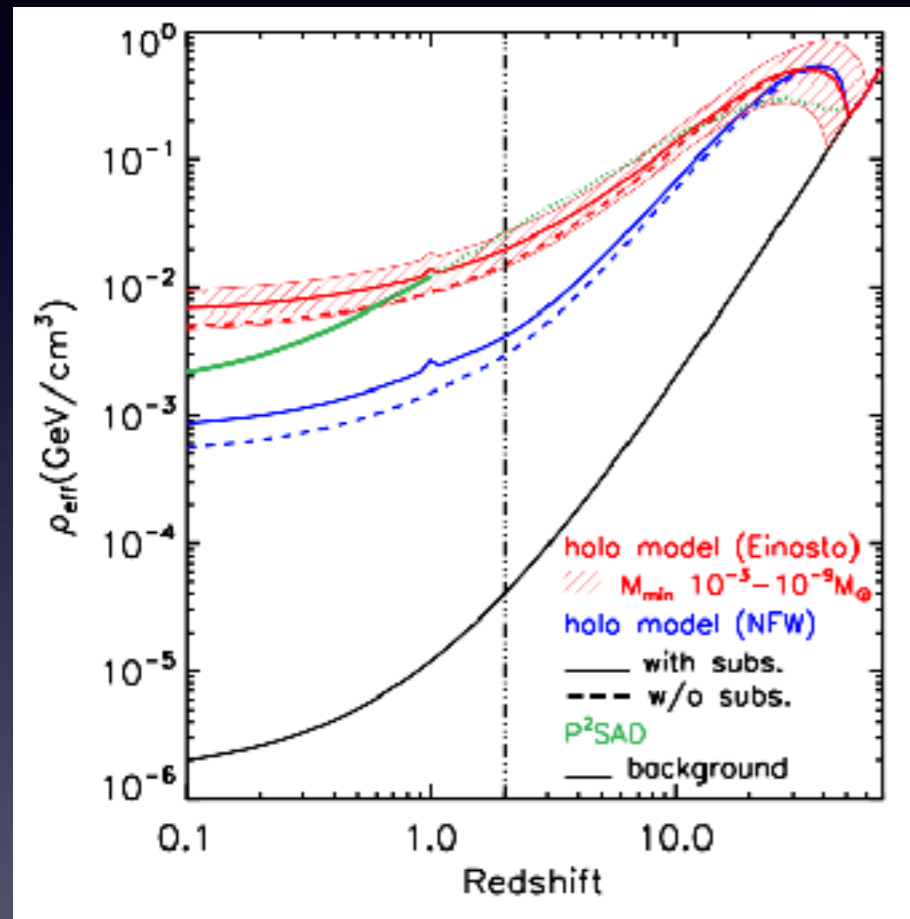
$$\text{rate} \propto \rho^2$$

p-wave annihilation

$$\text{rate} \propto \rho^2 v^2$$

decay

$$\text{rate} \propto \frac{\rho}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau}$$

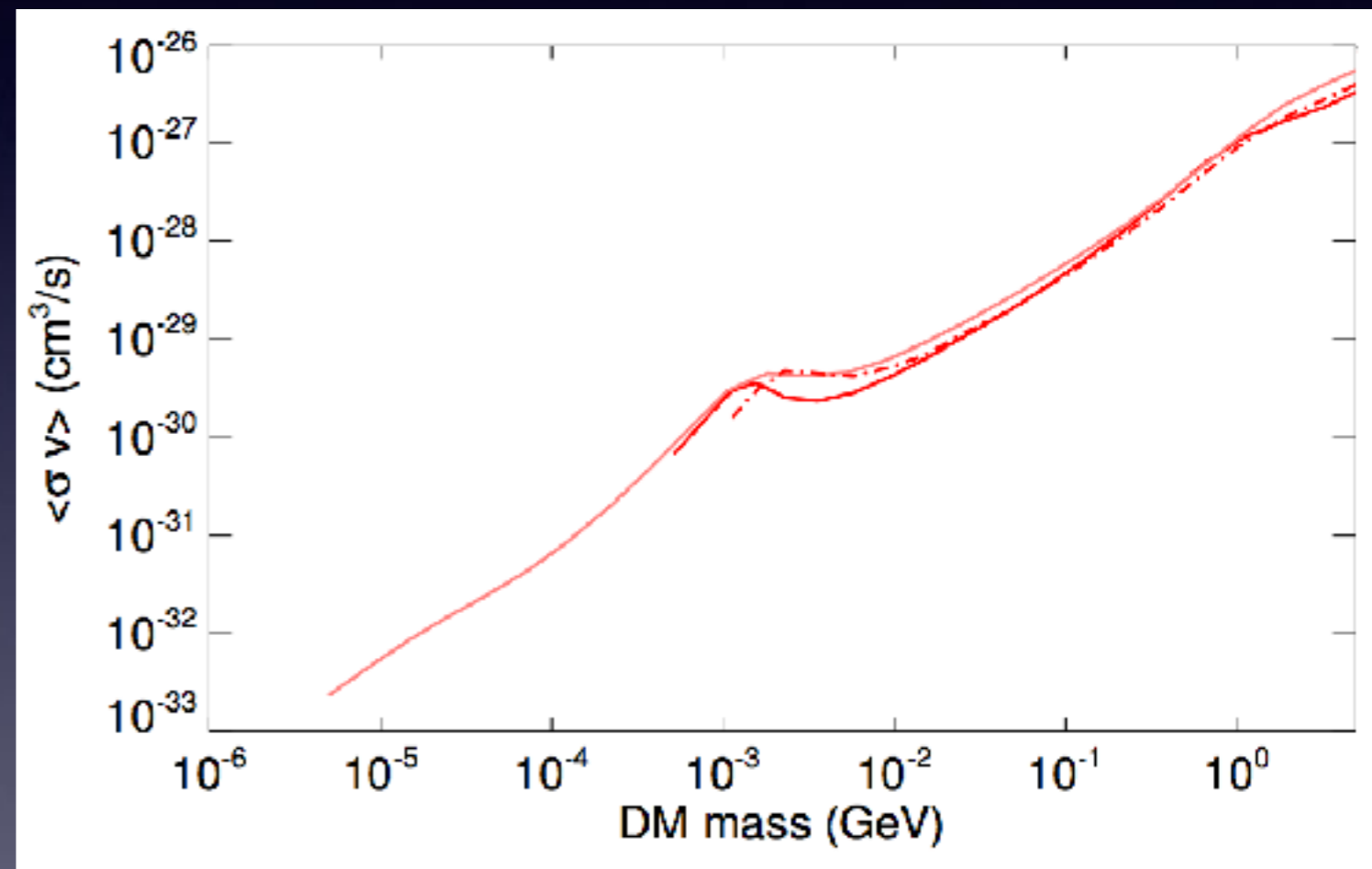


assume  $\tau \gg \gg$   
age of universe,  
rate follows DM  
density

colored curves show effective average  $\rho$ ,  
 $\rho v$ , accounting for structure formation

# Limits on light dark matter

- These are often the strongest existing bounds on light (sub-GeV) dark matter.
- Often other constraints are limited by lack of observations or large backgrounds at relevant energies.
- Such models are also less constrained by direct detection - have garnered much recent interest.



# CMB constraints on short-lifetime decays

- Long-lived particles could decay completely during cosmic dark ages
- Alternatively, decays from a metastable state to the final DM state could liberate some fraction of the DM mass energy
- CMB constrains the amount of power converted to SM particles in this way; width of band reflects variation with energy of SM products

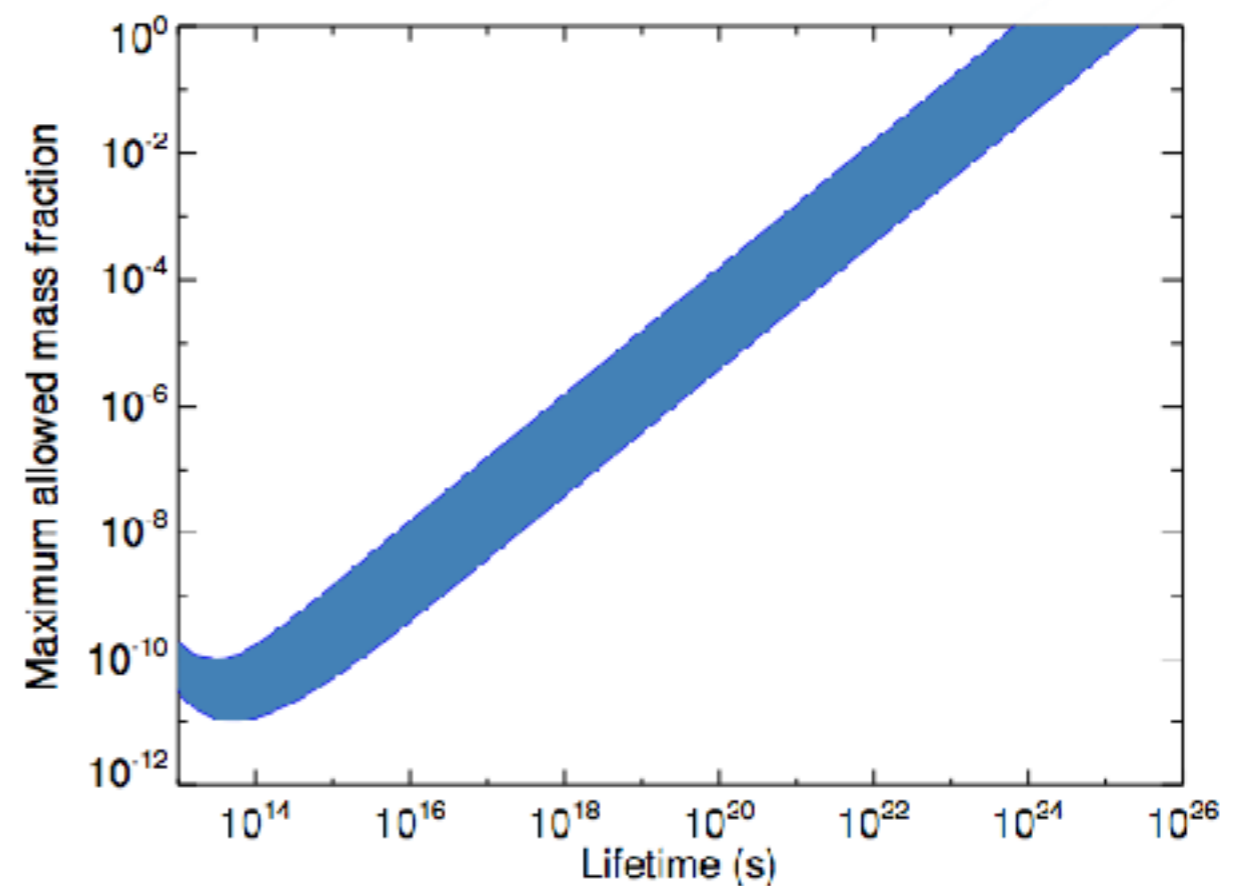
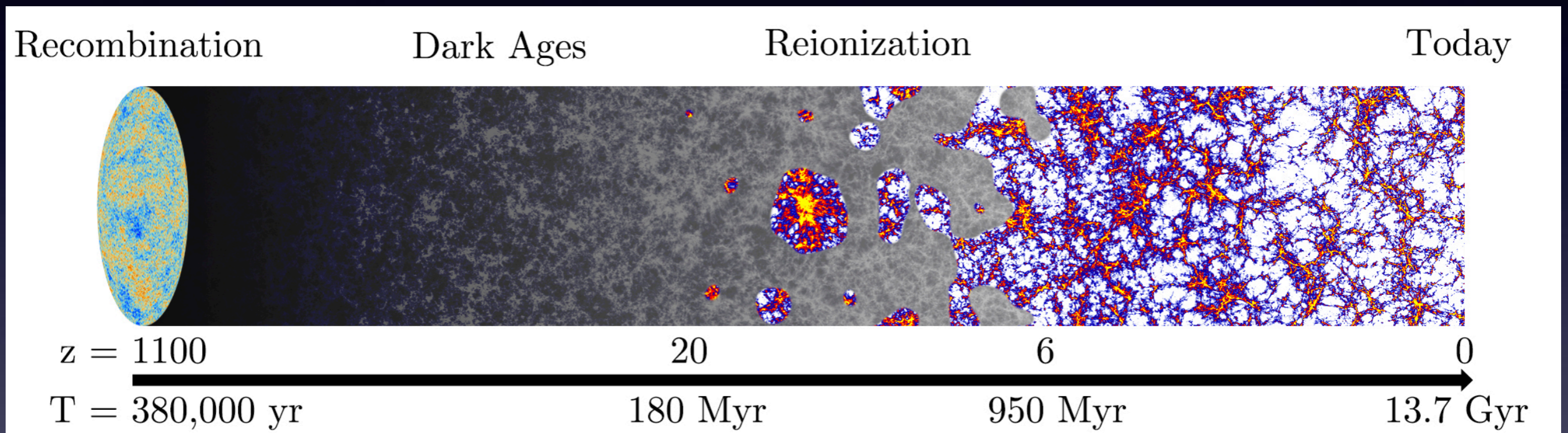


FIG. 11: Range of upper bounds on the mass fraction of DM that can decay with a lifetime  $\tau$ , for injections of 10 keV – 10 TeV photons and  $e^+e^-$  pairs; the width of the band represents a scan over injection species and energy. The constraint is based on the PCA (first PC only) calibrated to the MCMC bound for our reference model.

# The epoch of reionization

Liu, TRS & Zavala 2016, PRD 94, 063507



- Around  $z \sim 6-10$ , the universe became  $\sim$ fully ionized again.
- Can DM annihilation or decay affect reionization?
- Can it affect the thermal history of our cosmos? Could DM annihilation/decay overheat the universe?

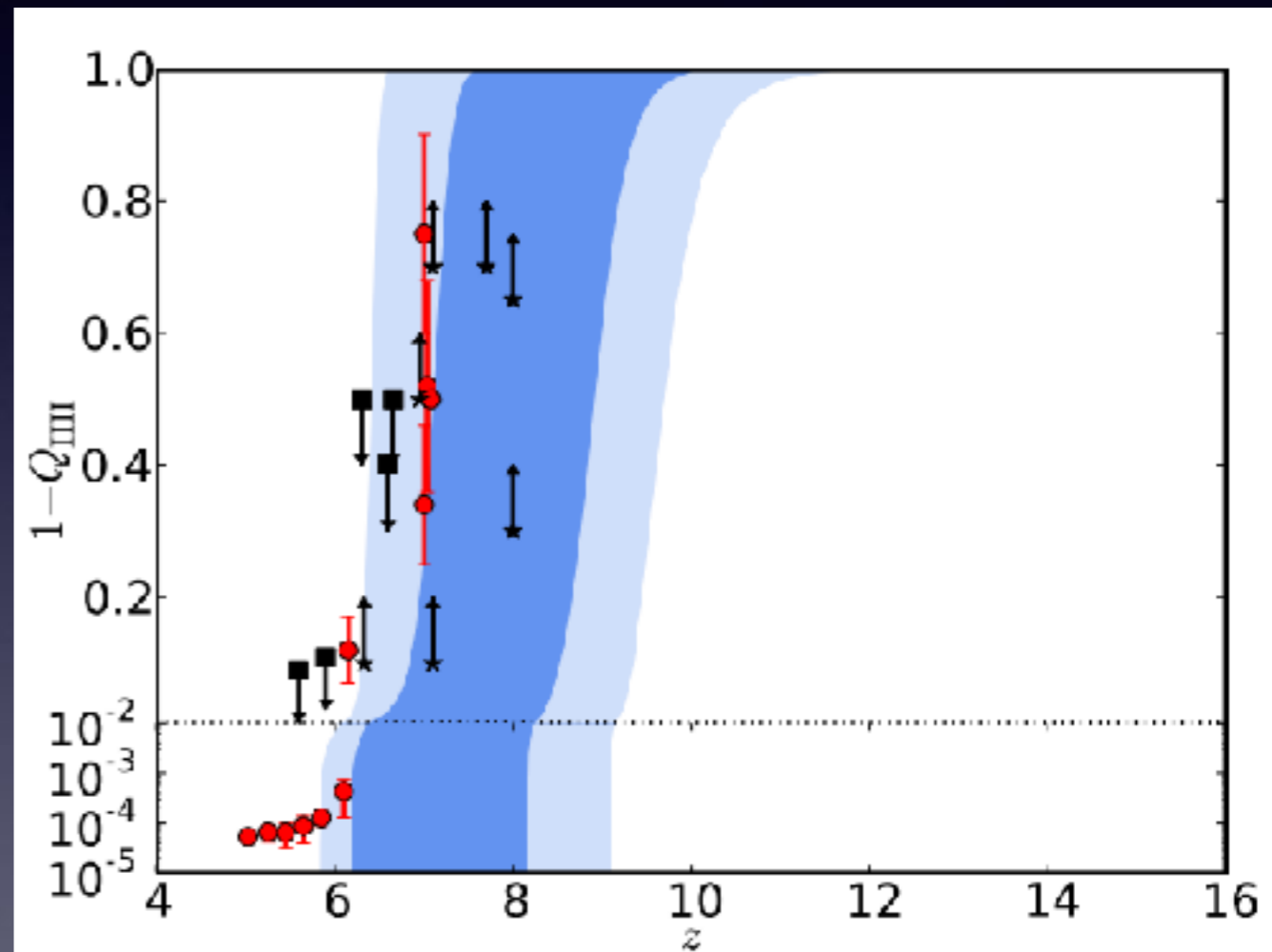
# What we know about reionization

- Most recent results from Planck, May 2016 (paper XLVII), for cosmic reionization optical depth:

$$\tau = 0.058 \pm 0.012$$

- “The average redshift at which reionization occurs is found to lie between  $z = 7.8$  and  $8.8$ , depending on the model of reionization adopted... in all cases, we find that the Universe is ionized at less than the 10% level at redshifts above  $z = 10$ .”

- What limits does this set on DM annihilation? To what degree could DM contribute to the ionization history around reionization, consistent with these (and other) bounds?



**Fig. 17.** Reionization history for the redshift-symmetric parameterization compared with other observational constraints compiled by [Bouwens et al. \(2015\)](#). The red points are measurements of ionized fraction, while black arrows mark upper and lower limits. The dark and light blue shaded areas show the 68 % and 95 % allowed intervals, respectively.

# Constraints

- CMB anisotropy bounds (discussed earlier) - limits changes to ionization history at high redshift. Strongly constrains s-wave annihilation, but less important for p-wave annihilation & decay.
- Total optical depth, as measured by Planck - limits integrated changes to ionization history.

$$\tau = 0.058 \pm 0.012$$

- Temperature after reionization (Becker et al '11, Bolton et al '11):

$$\log_{10} \left( \frac{T_{\text{IGM}}(z = 6.08)}{\text{K}} \right) \leq 4.21^{+0.06}_{-0.07} \quad \log_{10} \left( \frac{T_{\text{IGM}}(z = 4.8)}{\text{K}} \right) \leq 3.9 \pm 0.1$$

+ bounds on decay and annihilation from present-day measurements of photon flux



# Can DM contribute to reionization?

- Answer appears to be “no”. Models that would give large contribution to reionization also produce:
  - late-time heating (potentially testable with 21 cm observations?)
  - early ionization, leading to strong CMB bounds (for decay, s-wave annihilation)
  - diffuse photon backgrounds in present day
- Most optimistic scenario is for DM decay producing  $O(10-100)$  MeV electrons/positrons - could contribute at  $O(10\%)$  level