



# Light Thermal Self-Interacting Dark Matter in the Shadow of Non-Standard Cosmology

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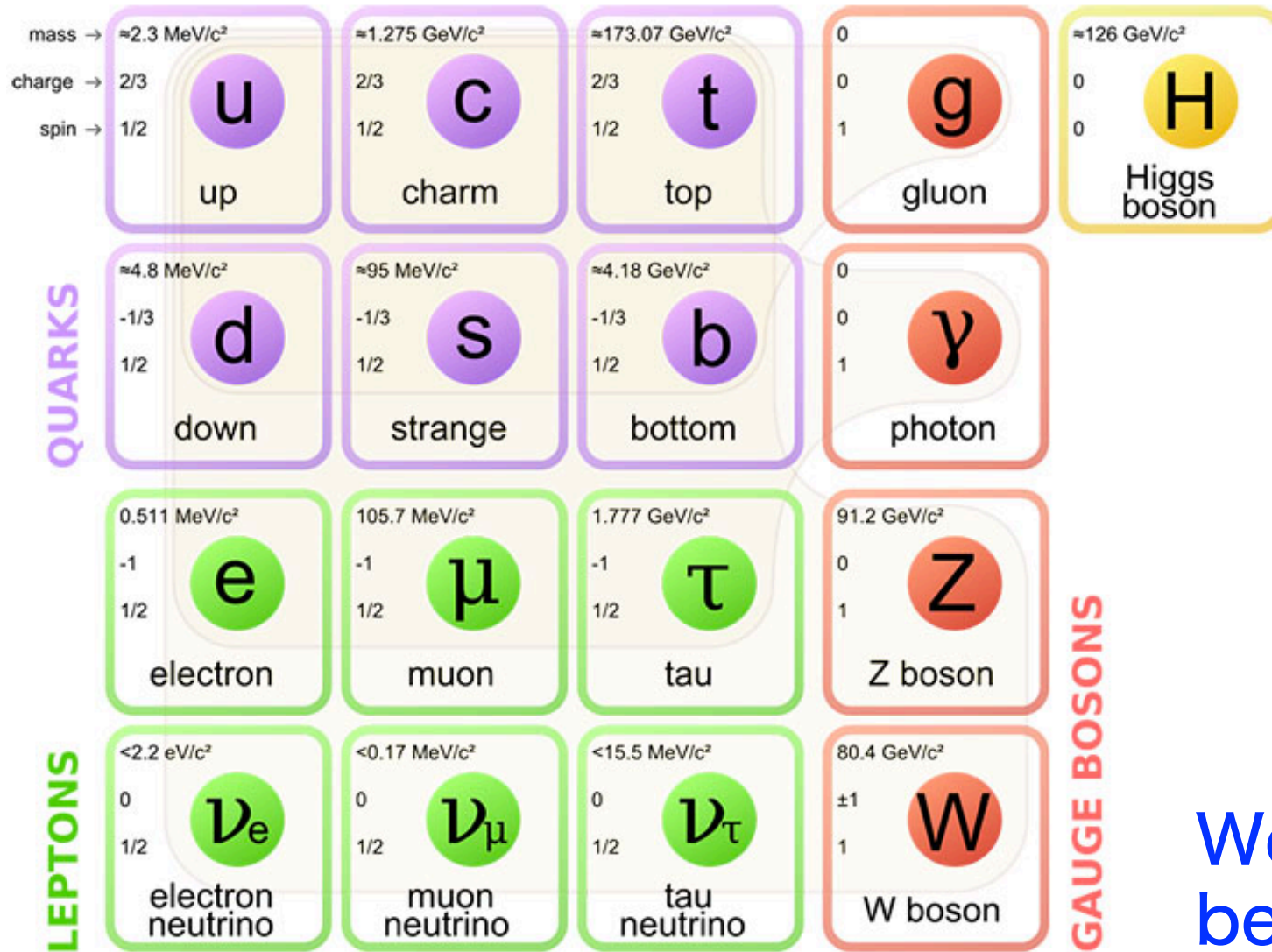
The Dark Side of the Universe, DSU2024, Corfu Workshop, Greece

# Contents

- Dark Matter
- Light Dark Matter in a Fast Expanding Universe
- Model
- Results & Conclusion

# The Standard Model (SM) of particle physics

■ The SM well describes the microscopic interactions, but ...



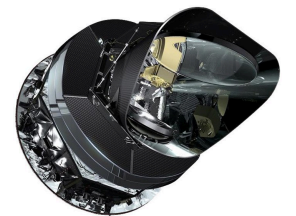
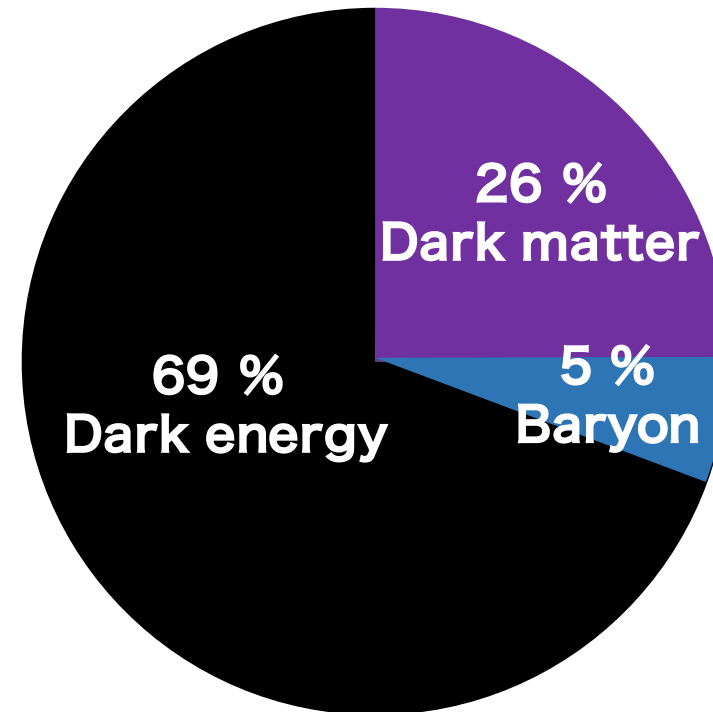
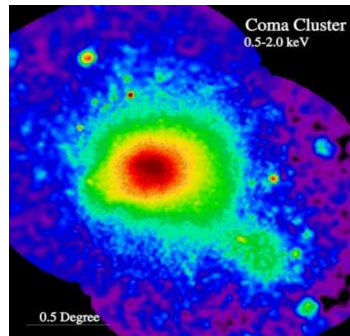
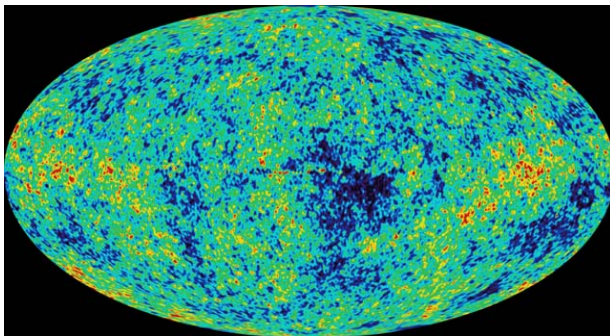
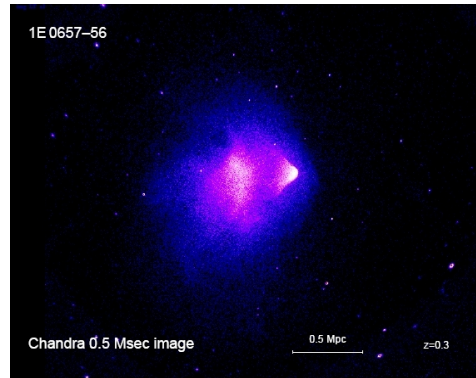
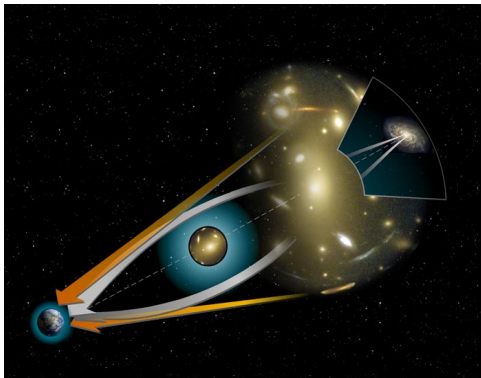
## Unsolved problems

- **Dark Matter (DM)**
- Dark energy
- Neutrino mass
- Baryon asymmetry
- Gravity
- .....

We need new physics beyond the SM (BSM)!!!

# Evidence of dark matter

- There are overwhelming evidences for dark matter in a wide range of distance scales.



Planck 2018

# Dark matter candidates

## ■ Thermal production

- Weakly interacting massive particles (WIMP)
- Strongly interacting massive particles (SIMP)
- Elastically decoupling relic (ELDER)
- Forbidden dark matter
- .....

B.W. Lee  
& S. Weinberg (1977)

Y. Hochberg, et al (2014)

E. Kuflik, et al (2016)

R. T. D'Agnolo,  
& J. T. Ruderman (2015)

## ■ Non-thermal production

- The QCD axion/axion-like particles (ALP)
- Feebly interacting massive particles (FIMP)
- Hidden monopole dark matter
- Primordial black hole (PBH)
- .....

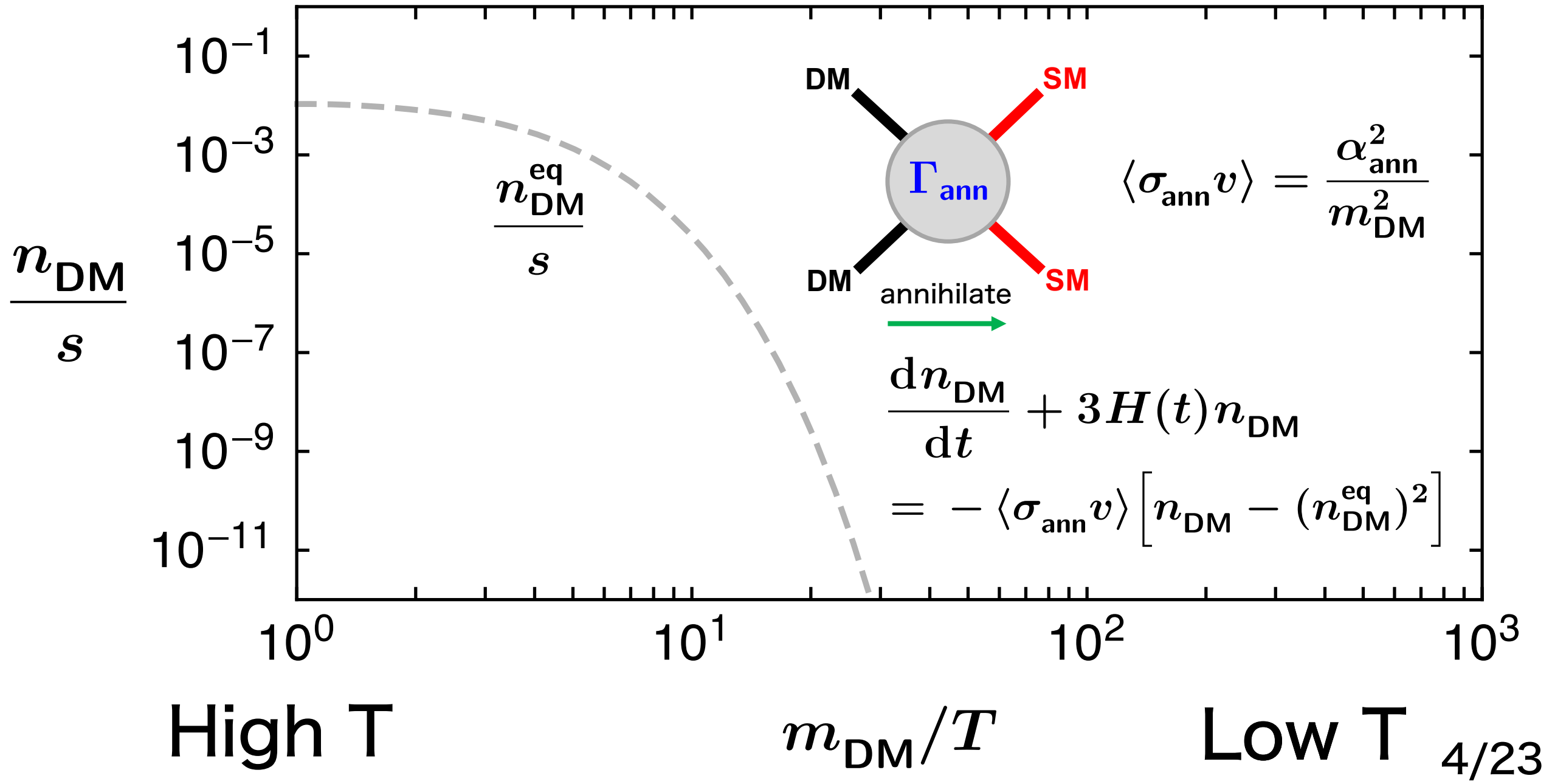
P. Arias, et al. (2012)

L. J. Hall (2009)

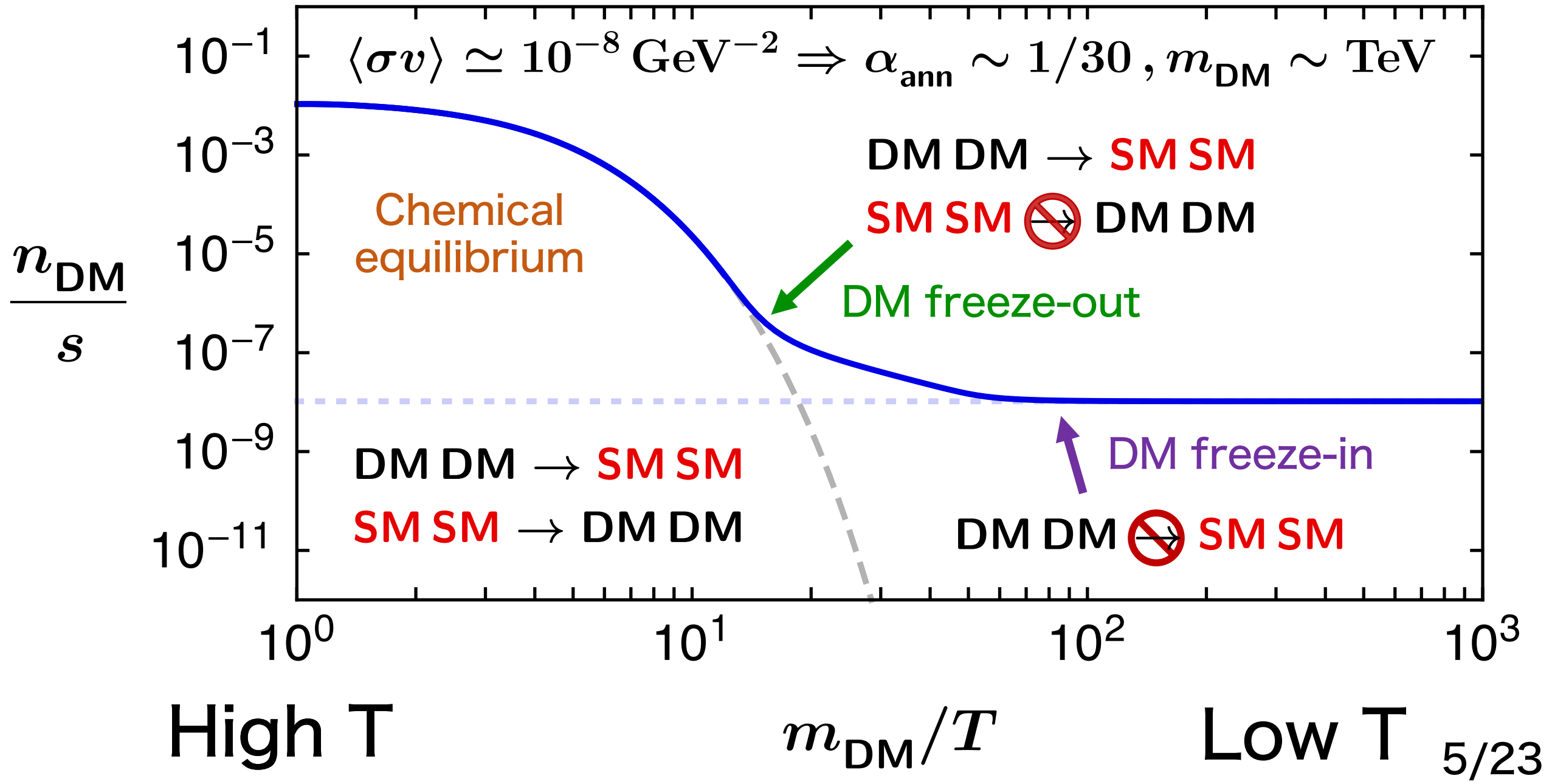
H. Murayama, J. Shu (2009)

Ya.B. Zel'dovich and I.D. Novikov (1967)

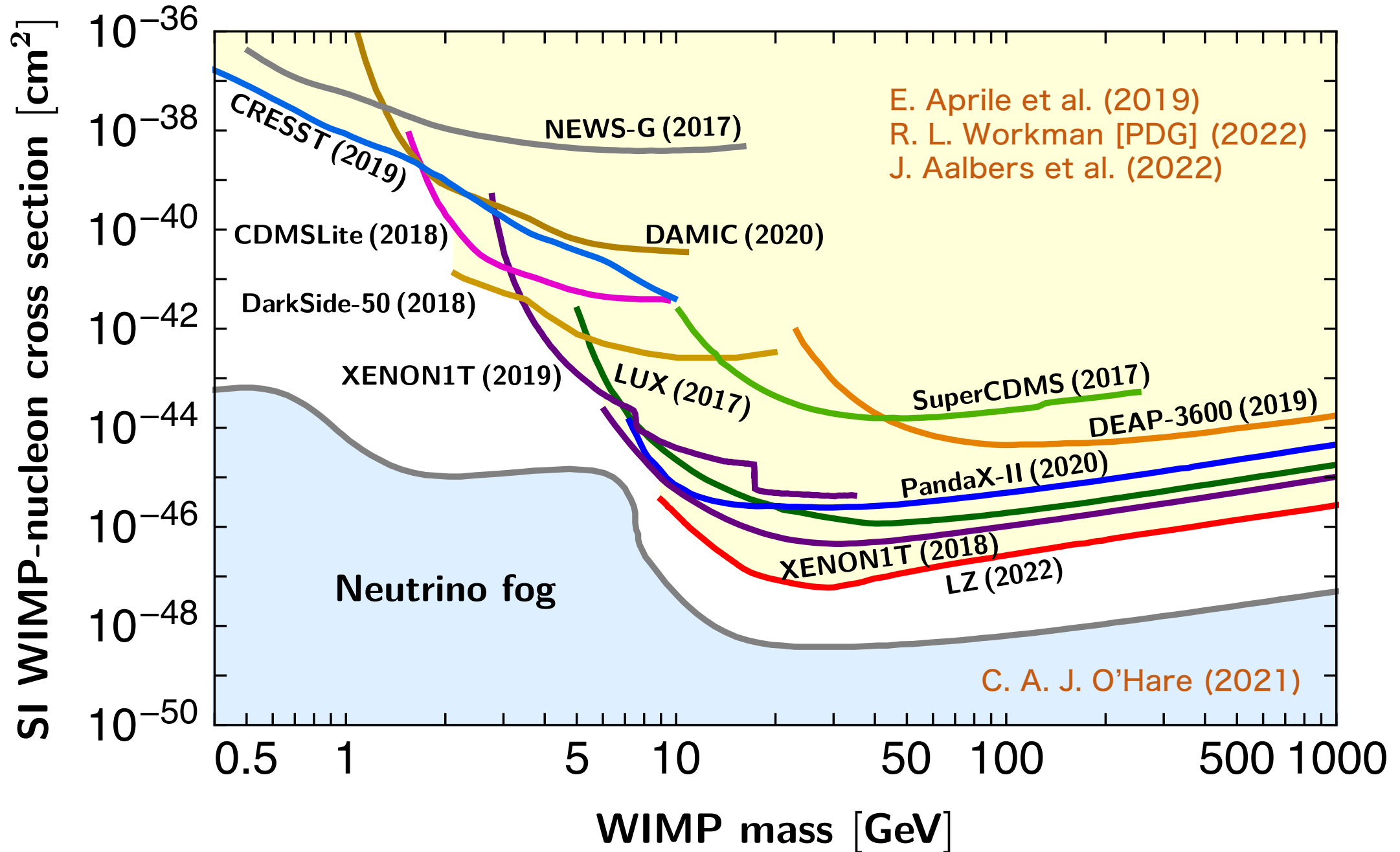
# Weakly Interacting Massive Particle (WIMP) DM



# Weakly Interacting Massive Particle (WIMP) DM

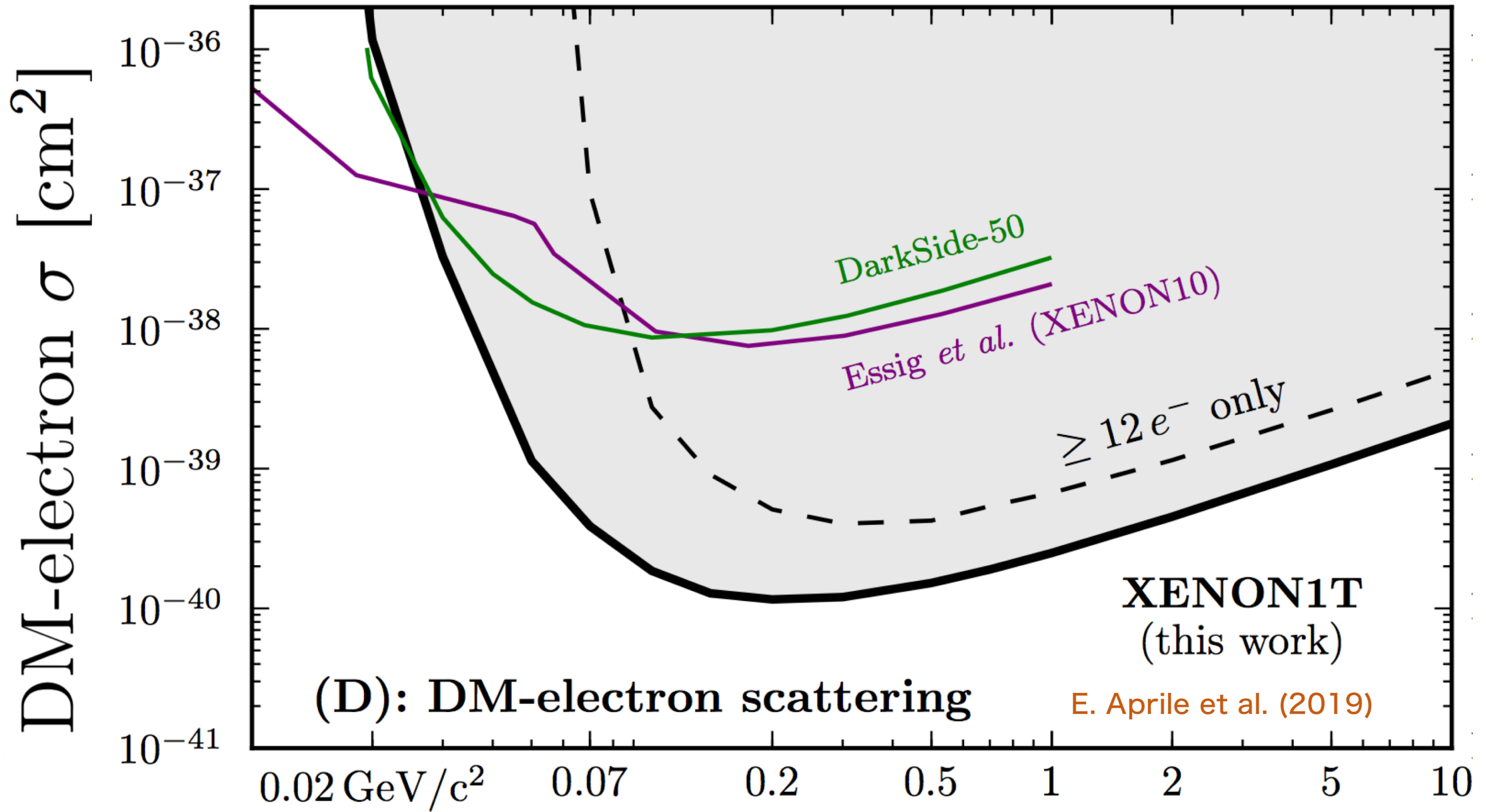


# WIMP Dark Matter (DM) direct searches



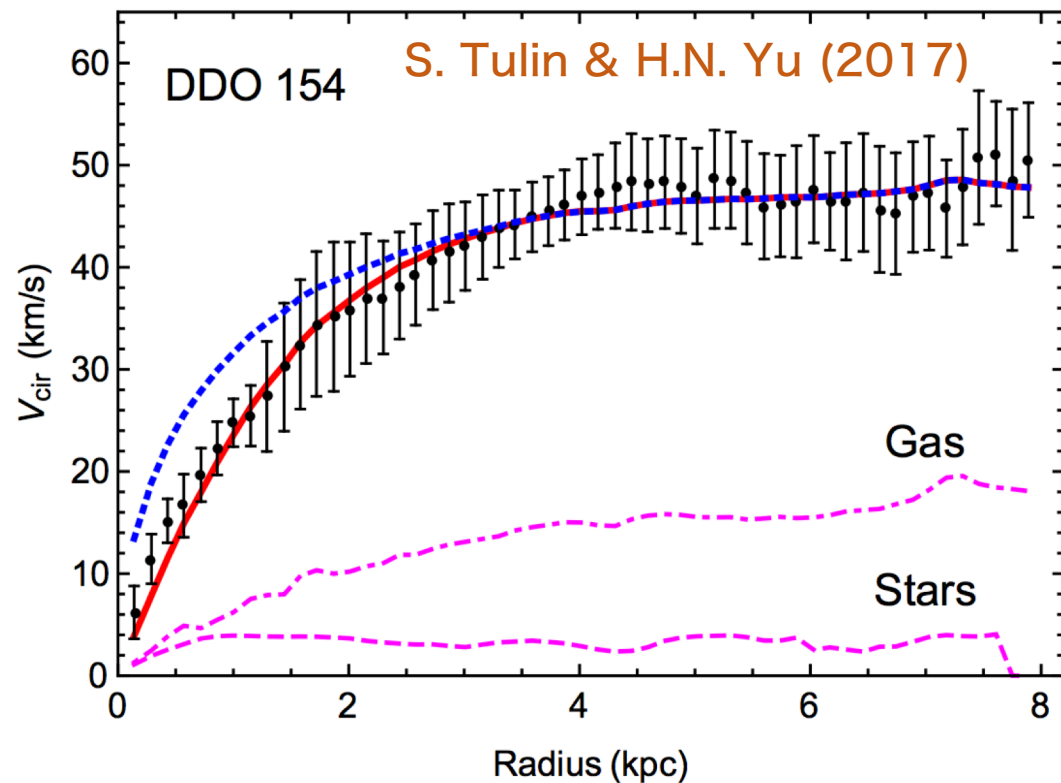


# Current experiments of light DM detections

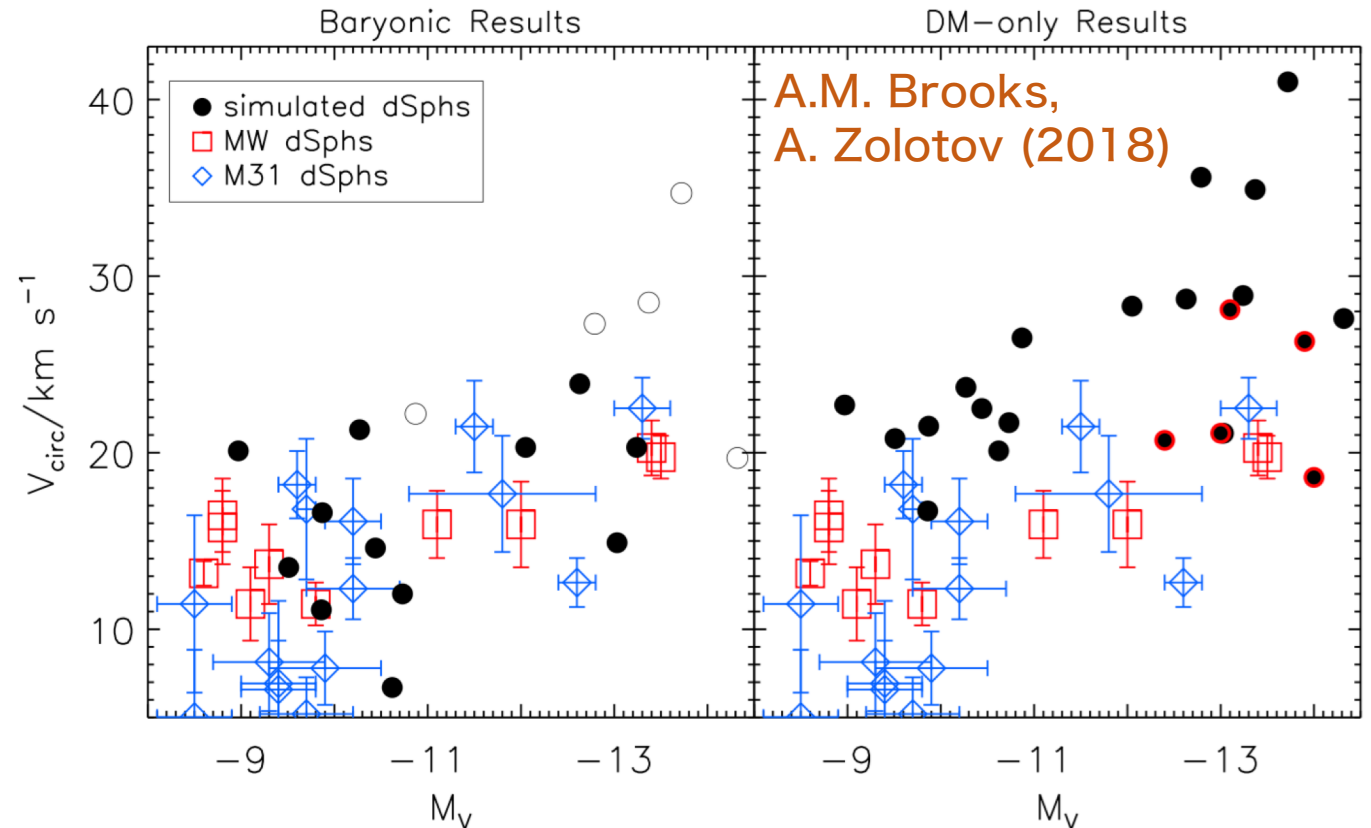


# Issues of small scale structures (< 1 Mpc)

- Discrepancy between N-body simulations and observations :



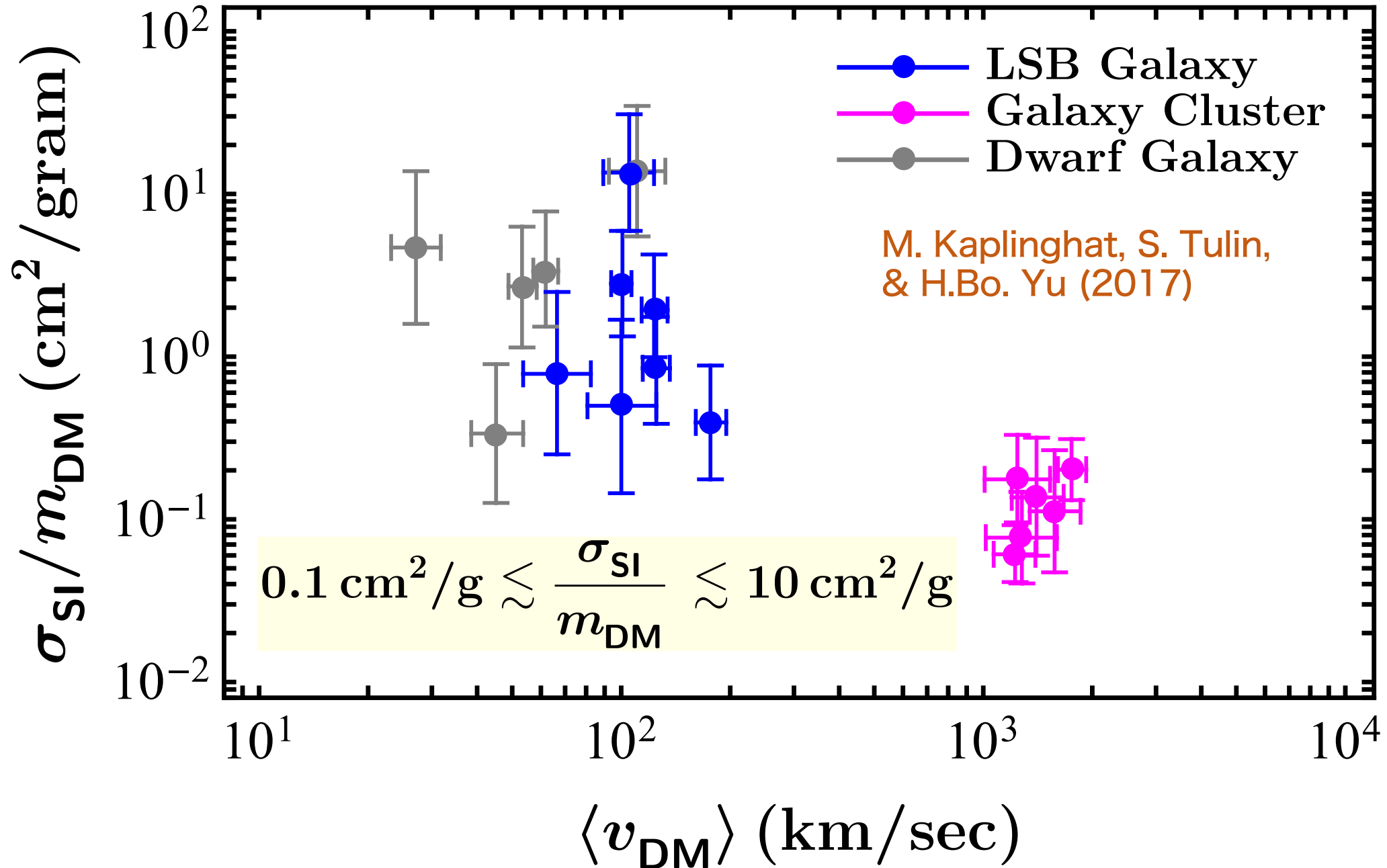
core-vs-cusp problem



too-big-to-fail problem

- DM with a sizable self-interacting (SI) cross-section can resolve these astrophysical problems (issues).

# Bounds on DM self-interacting cross-section



**Can we have light thermal  
(WIMP) DM with  
a sizable self-interaction?**

# WIMP DM

- Relic abundance of WIMP DM

$$\Omega_{\text{WIMP}} h^2 \simeq 0.12 \left( \frac{10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-2}}{\langle \sigma v \rangle} \right) \Rightarrow \langle \sigma v \rangle \simeq 10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$$

annihilation  
cross-section

- Mass scale and coupling strength of WIMP DM

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \frac{g^2}{m_{\text{DM}}^2} \Rightarrow g \simeq 10^{-2} \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{100 \text{ GeV}} \right) \quad (\text{WIMP miracle})$$

$g$  : dimensionless coupling

$$\simeq 10^{-3} \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right) \quad (\text{Our work})$$

# WIMP DM

- SI cross-section via a contact-interaction **with small velocity**

$$\left. \frac{\sigma_{\text{SI}}}{m_{\text{DM}}} \right|_{\text{obs}} \simeq 1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g} \simeq 4.6 \times 10^3 \text{ GeV}^{-3}$$

SIMP, Forbidden DM,...

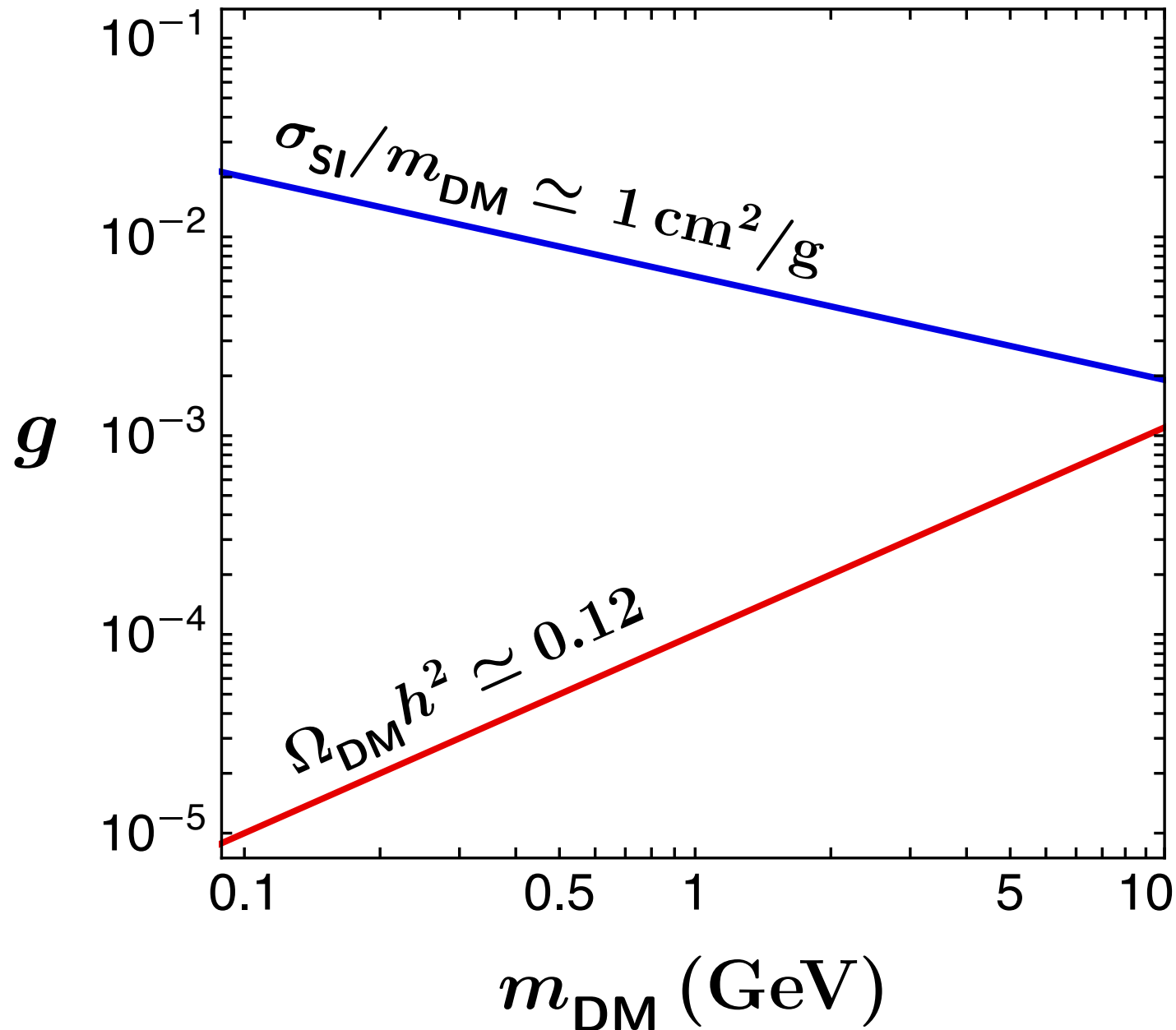
$$\frac{\sigma_{\text{SI}}}{m_{\text{DM}}} = \frac{g^2}{m_{\text{DM}}^3} \Rightarrow g \simeq 2 \times 10^3 \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right)^{3/2} \simeq \mathcal{O}(1) \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{100 \text{ MeV}} \right)^{3/2}$$

- SI cross-section via a light mediator **in the small velocity limit**

$$\frac{\sigma_{\text{SI}}}{m_{\text{DM}}} = \frac{g^2}{m_{\text{DM}}^3} \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{m_{Z'}} \right)^4 \Rightarrow g \simeq 2 \times 10^{-3} \left( \frac{m_{Z'}}{10 \text{ MeV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right)^{-1/2}$$

$\gg 1$

# DM mass v.s. coupling



## Relic abundance

$$g \simeq 10^{-3} \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right)$$

## Self-interaction

$$g \simeq 2 \times 10^{-3} \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right)^{-1/2}$$

$$m_{Z'} \sim \mathcal{O}(10) \text{ MeV}$$

DM is under-abundant in low mass regime due to too large annihilation cross section

# Fast expanding universe

D'Eramo, et al (2017)

- Assuming the early universe is dominated by a species  $\phi$  that redshifts faster than radiation :

$$\rho_{\phi}(a) \propto a^{-(4+n)}$$

$a$  : scale factor

$$n > 0$$

- The total energy density :

$$\rho_{\text{tot}}(T) = \rho_{\phi}(T) + \rho_{\gamma}(T) = \rho_{\gamma}(T) \left\{ 1 + \frac{g_{\rho}(T_r)}{g_{\rho}(T)} \left[ \frac{g_s(T)}{g_s(T_r)} \right]^{\frac{4+n}{3}} \left( \frac{T}{T_r} \right)^n \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{H}(T) \simeq \sqrt{\frac{\pi^2 g_{\rho}(T)}{90} \frac{T^2}{m_{\text{Pl}}} \left( \frac{T}{T_r} \right)^{n/2}}$$

$$\rho_{\phi}(T_r) = \rho_{\gamma}(T_r)$$

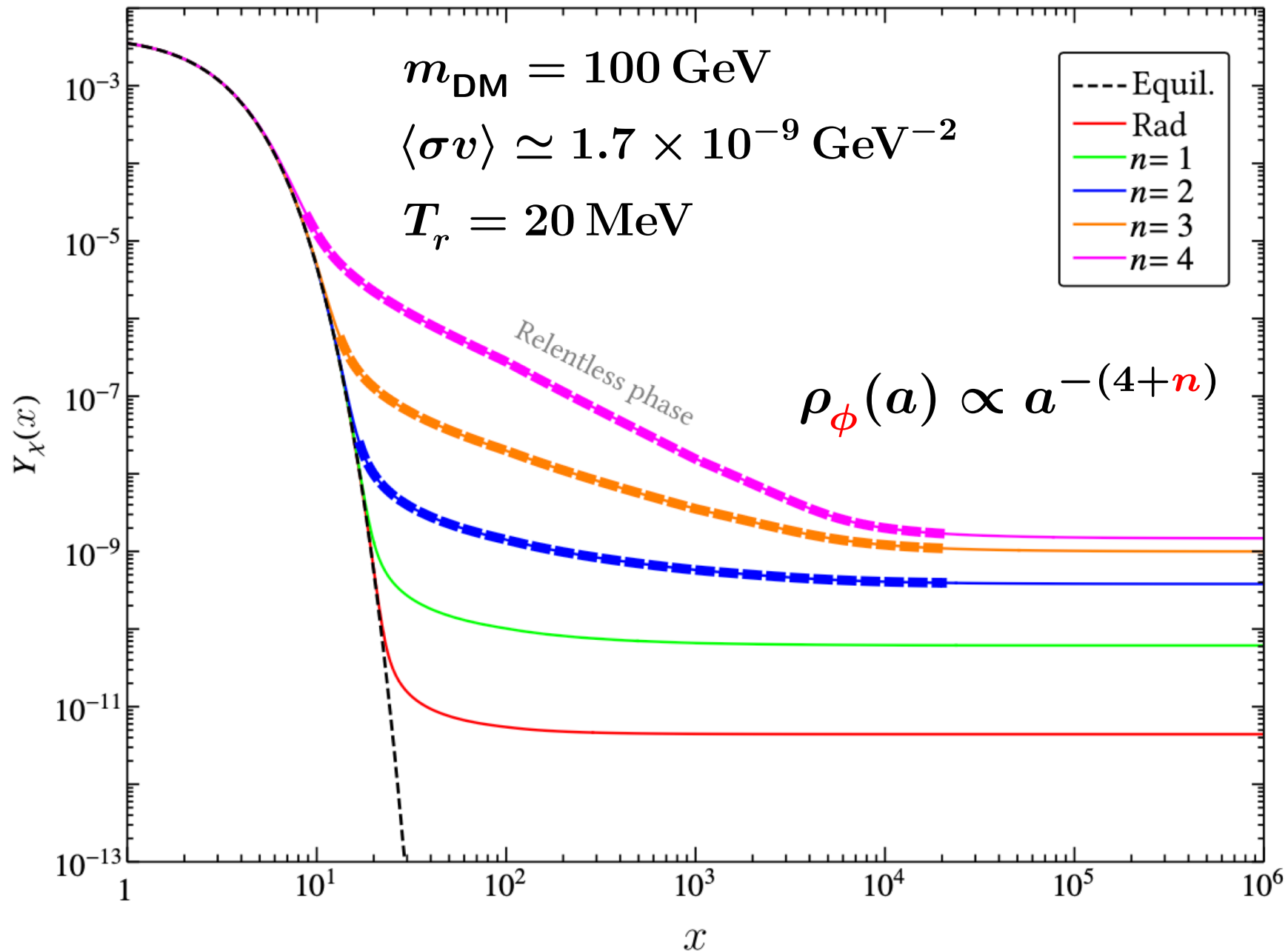
Parameters :  $(n, T_r)$

- $\Delta N_{\nu}(T_{\text{BBN}} \simeq 1 \text{ MeV})$  constraint :  $T_r \gtrsim (15.4)^{1/n} \text{ MeV}$

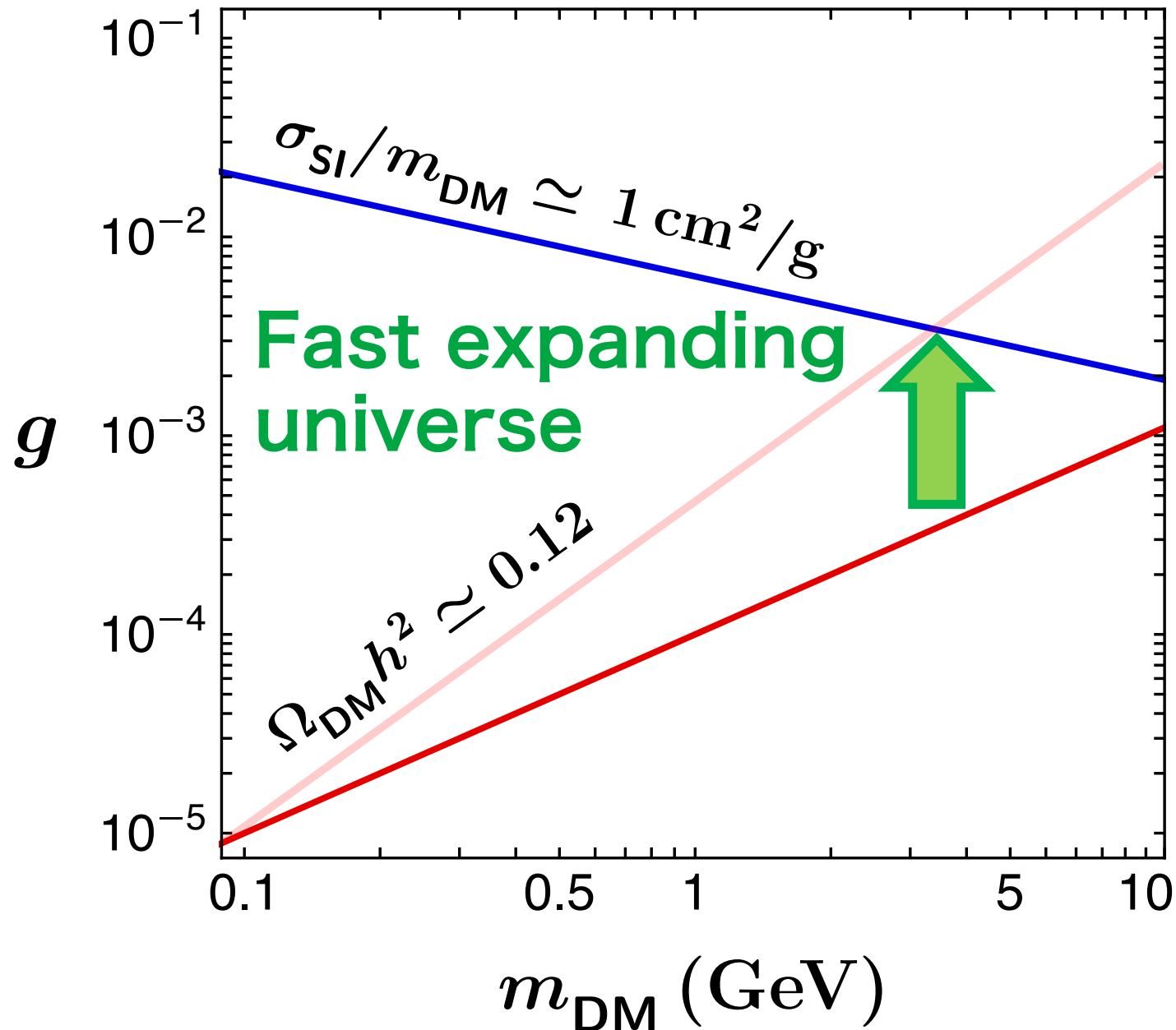


# Relentless dark matter

D'Eramo, et al (2017)



# DM mass v.s. coupling



## Relic abundance

$$g \simeq 10^{-3} \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right)$$

## Self-interaction

$$g \simeq 2 \times 10^{-3} \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right)^{-1/2}$$

$$m_{Z'} \sim \mathcal{O}(10) \text{ MeV}$$

DM is under-abundant in low mass regime due to too large annihilation cross section

# A simple light thermal self-interacting DM model

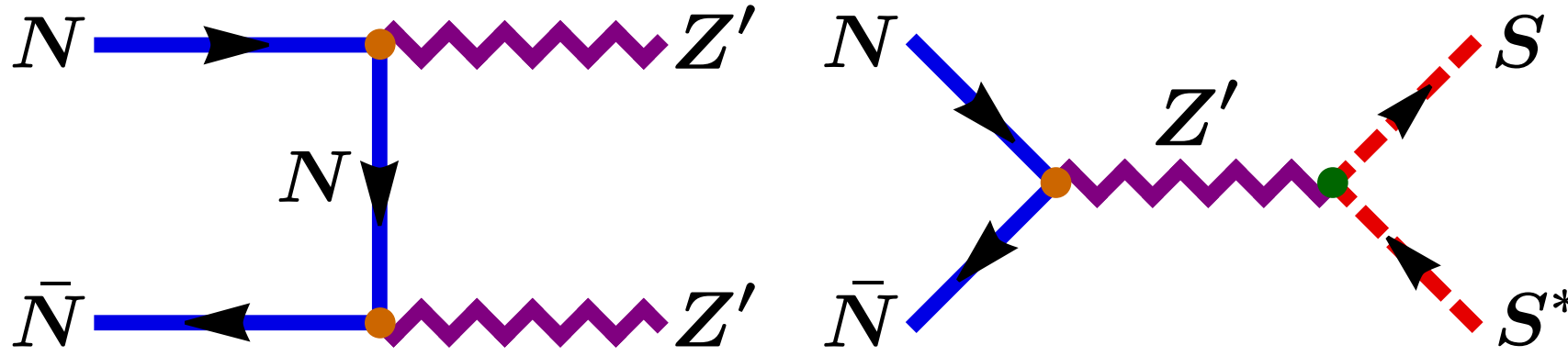
■ Particle content & charge assignment under  $G_{\text{SM}} \otimes U(1)_D$

	$L$	$E$	$H$	$N$	$S$	$Z'$
SU(2)	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
U(1) <sub>Y</sub>	-1/2	-1	+1/2	0	0	0
U(1) <sub>D</sub>	0	0	0	$Q_N$	$Q_S$	0
spin	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	0	1

- $N$  plays the role of fermionic dark matter
- $S$  develops VEV that breaks the **D**ark gauge symmetry
- $Z'$  is a mediator responding the DM self-interaction

# Feynman diagrams

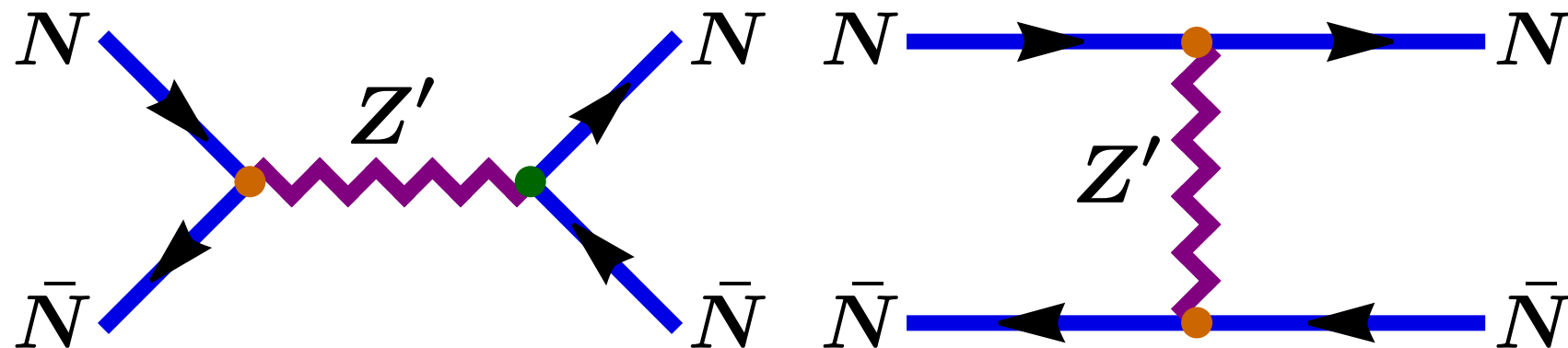
## DM annihilation cross-section



$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \frac{g_D^4}{128\pi m_N^2}$$

(s-wave)

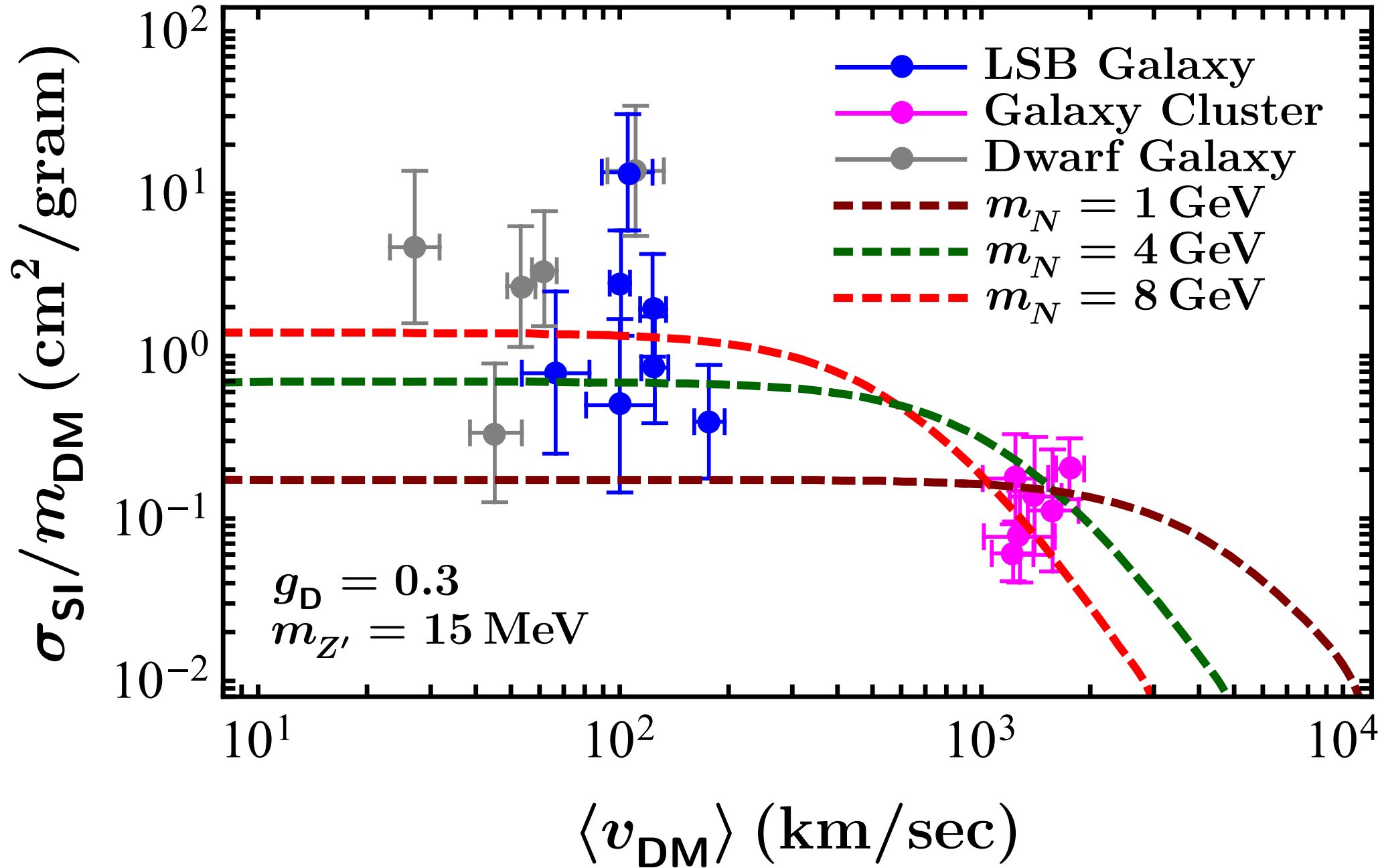
## SI cross-section/DM mass



$$\sigma_{\text{SI}} = \frac{\pi}{m_{Z'}^2} f(\beta)$$

$$\beta = \frac{2\alpha_D m_{Z'}}{m_N v_{\text{DM}}^2}$$

# Prediction of DM SI cross-section



# CMB constraint on light DM mass

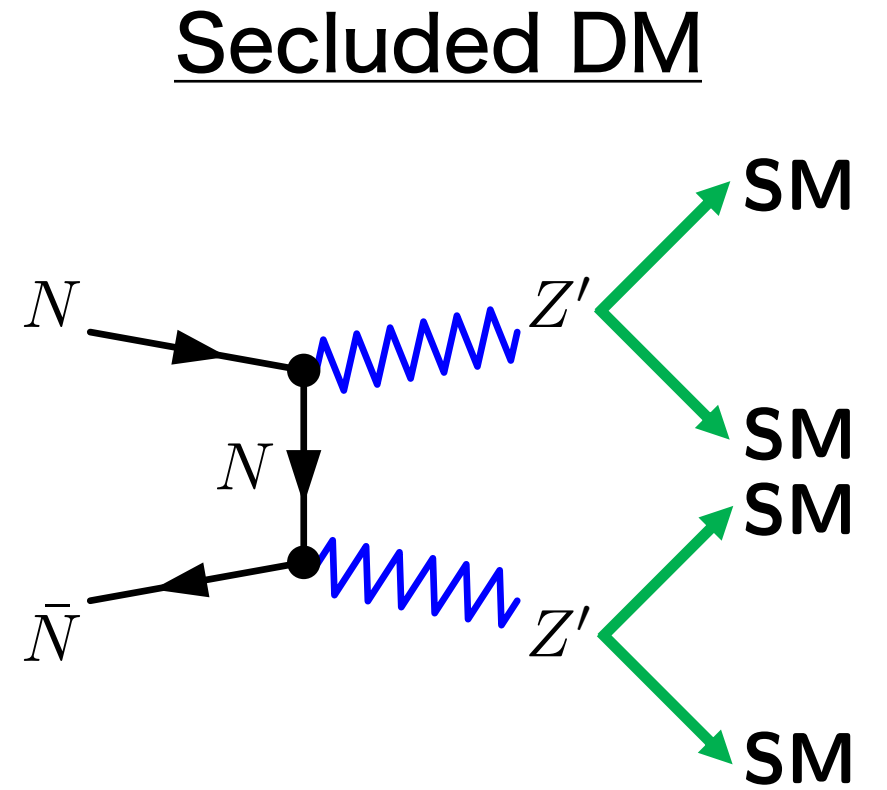
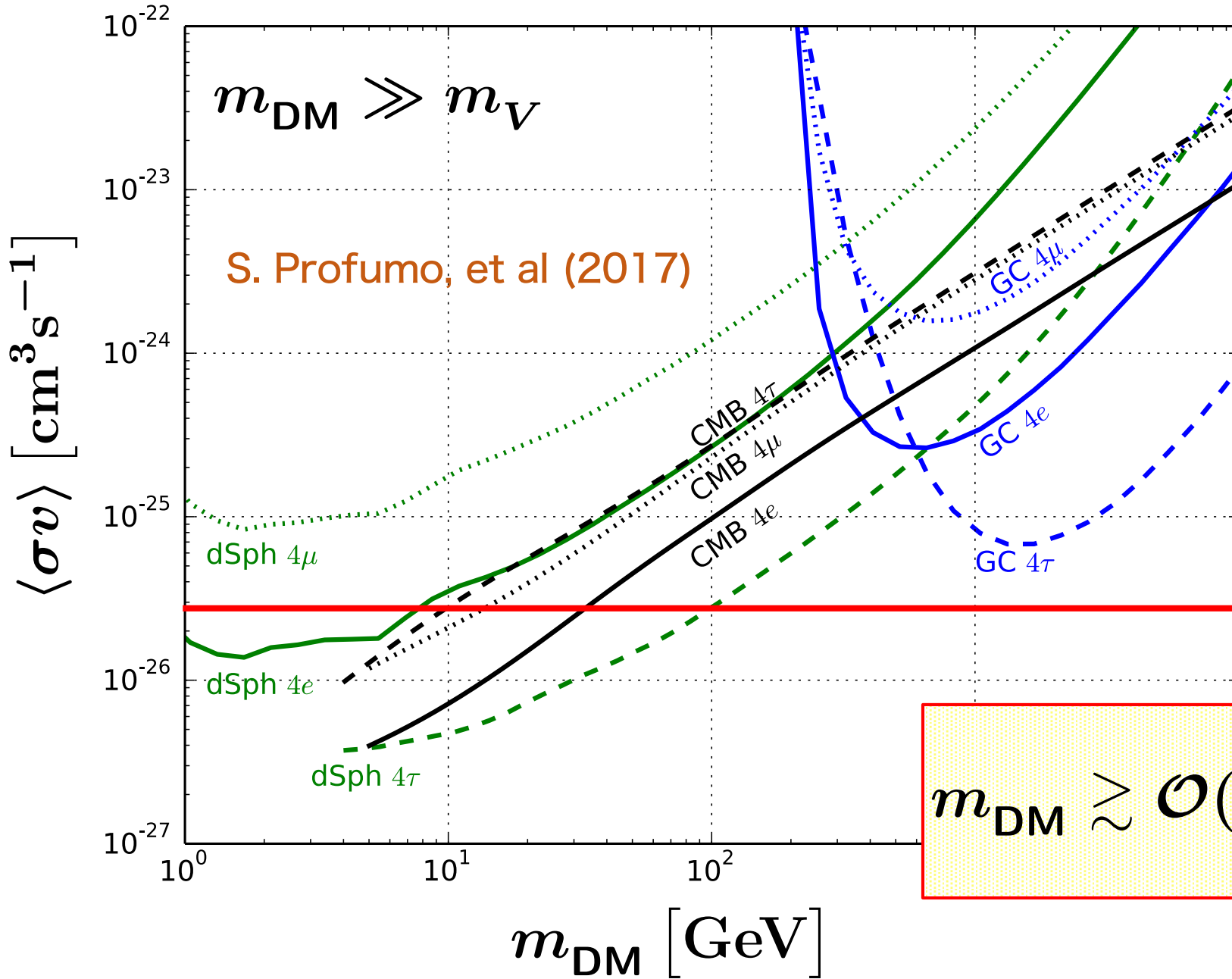
- DM annihilation continues to take place after decoupling & cause significant effects on cosmology and astrophysics.
- Energy released per DM annihilation  $E_{\text{DM}} \approx 2m_{\text{DM}}$

$$\left. \frac{dE}{dt dV} \right|_{\text{inj.}}(z) = n_{\text{DM}}^2(z) \langle \sigma v \rangle (2m_{\text{DM}}) = \rho_c^2 \Omega_{\text{DM},0}^2 (1+z)^6 \left( \frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle}{m_{\text{DM}}} \right)$$

$$n_{\text{DM}}(z) = \rho_c \Omega_{\text{DM}}(z) / m_{\text{DM}} = \rho_c \Omega_{\text{DM},0} (1+z)^3 / m_{\text{DM}}$$

**Planck**  $\longrightarrow$   $\langle \sigma v \rangle \leq \frac{4.1 \times 10^{-28} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ sec}^{-1}}{f_{\text{eff}}} \left( \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{\text{GeV}} \right)$

# CMB constraint on light DM mass

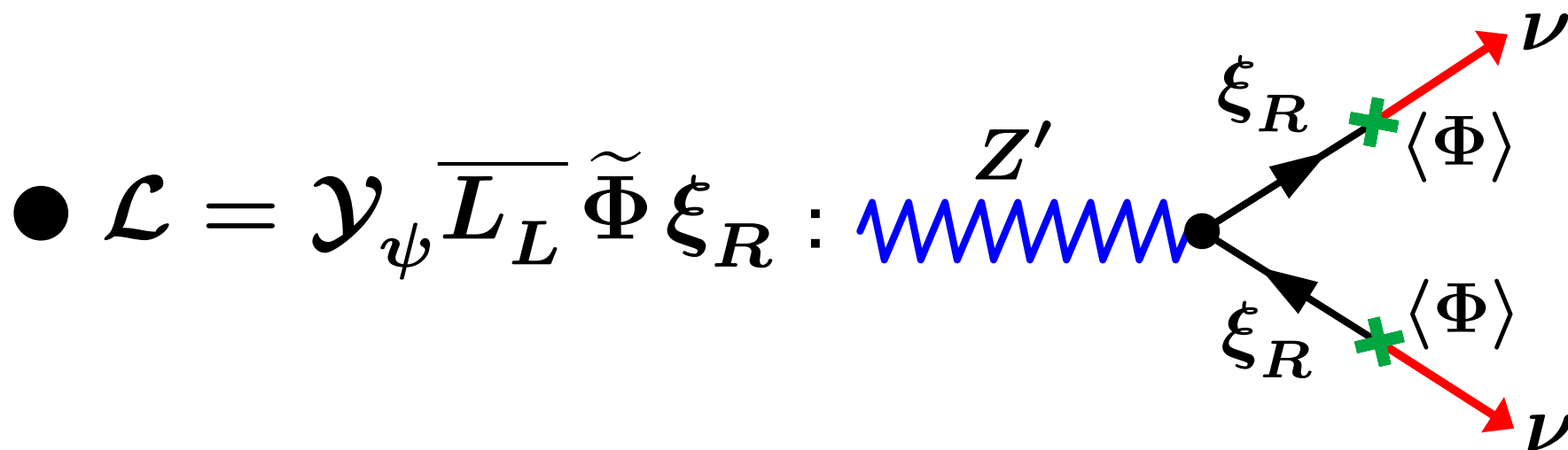


$$m_{\text{DM}} \gtrsim \mathcal{O}(10 \text{ GeV}) \left[ \frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle}{10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-2}} \right]$$

# A viable light thermal self-interacting DM model

■ Particle content & charge assignment under  $G_{SM} \otimes U(1)_D$

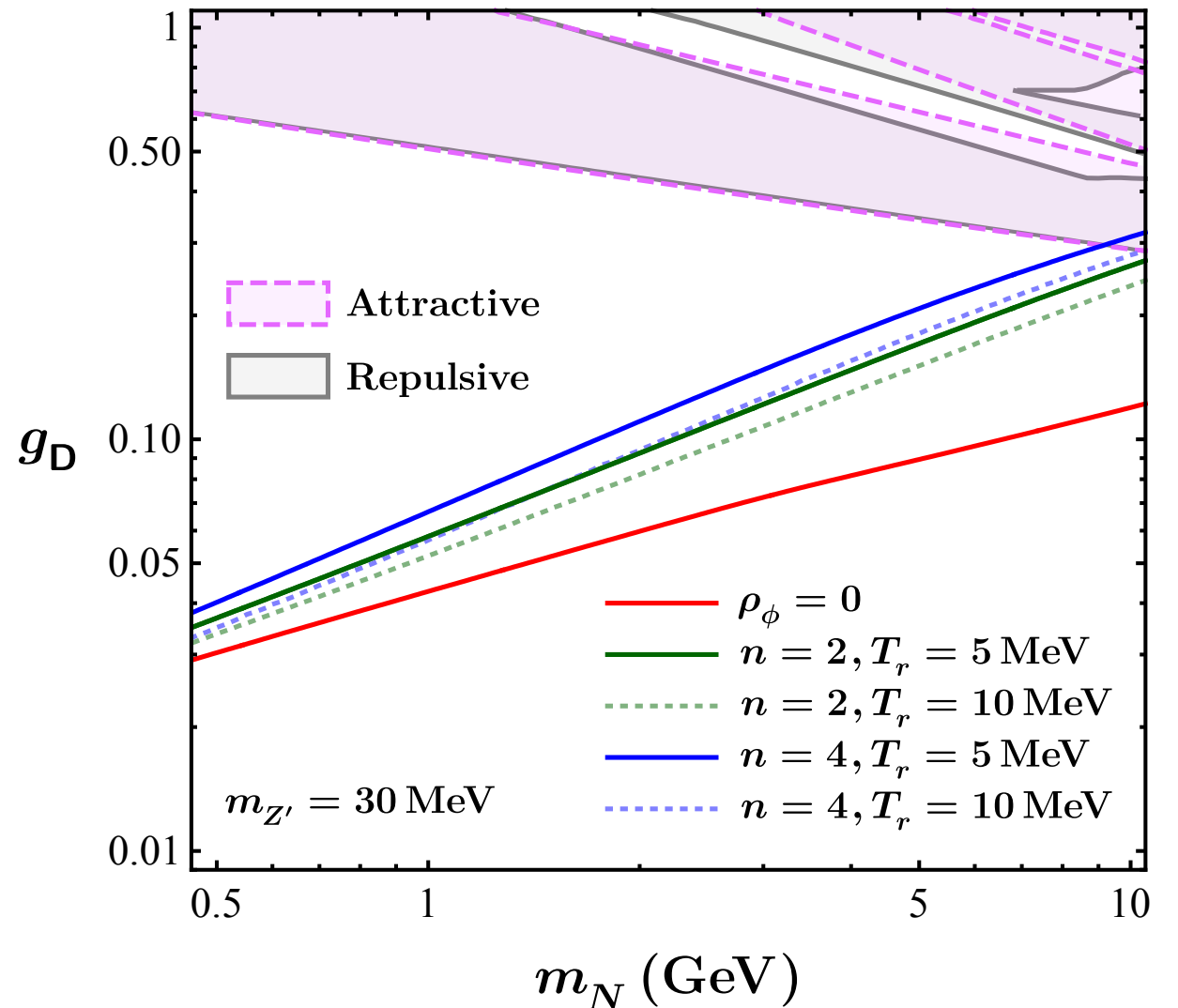
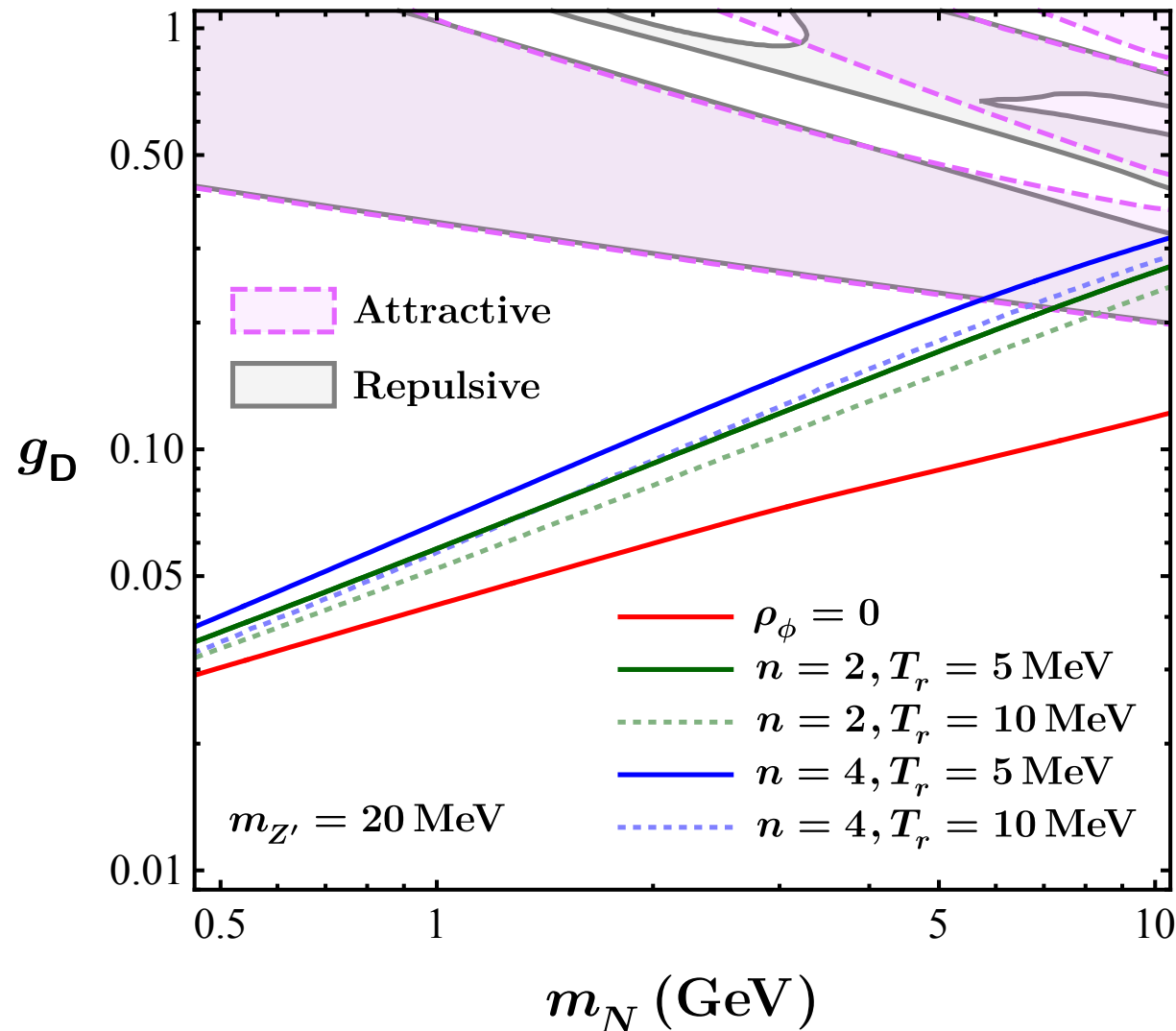
	$L$	$E$	$H$	$N$	$\xi_R$	$\chi_L$	$\Phi$	$S$	$Z'$
SU(2)	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
U(1) <sub>Y</sub>	-1/2	-1	+1/2	0	0	0	+1/2	0	0
U(1) <sub>D</sub>	0	0	0	+1/2	+1	+1	+1	+1	0
spin	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	0	0	1



Light mediator mainly decays into neutrinos at CMB epoch



# Numerical results



■ Light thermal self-interacting DM can be used to test the non-standard cosmological evolution of the universe.

**Backup**

# What we know about dark matter

- Dark matter as a particle must be
  - **Massive** : gravitationally interact with ordinary matter
  - **Cold** : non-relativistic at the time of structures formation
  - **Electric neutral** : Almost no electromagnetic interaction
  - **Stable** or with lifetime longer than the age of Universe
  - **Non-baryonic** matter
  - Making up **about a quarter** of the energy density of the present universe

# What we don't know about dark matter

## ■ Unknown particle nature of dark matter

- **Mass** :  $10^{-31} M_{\text{proton}} < M_{\text{DM}} < 5M_{\odot}$
- **Spin** : Scalar or Vector Boson? Dirac or Majorana Fermion?
- **Number of species** : There may exist more than one kind of dark matter in the universe. (Occam's razor?)
- **Interactions** : Dark matter may have interactions with ordinary matter or itself (SIDM) other than the gravitational interaction.

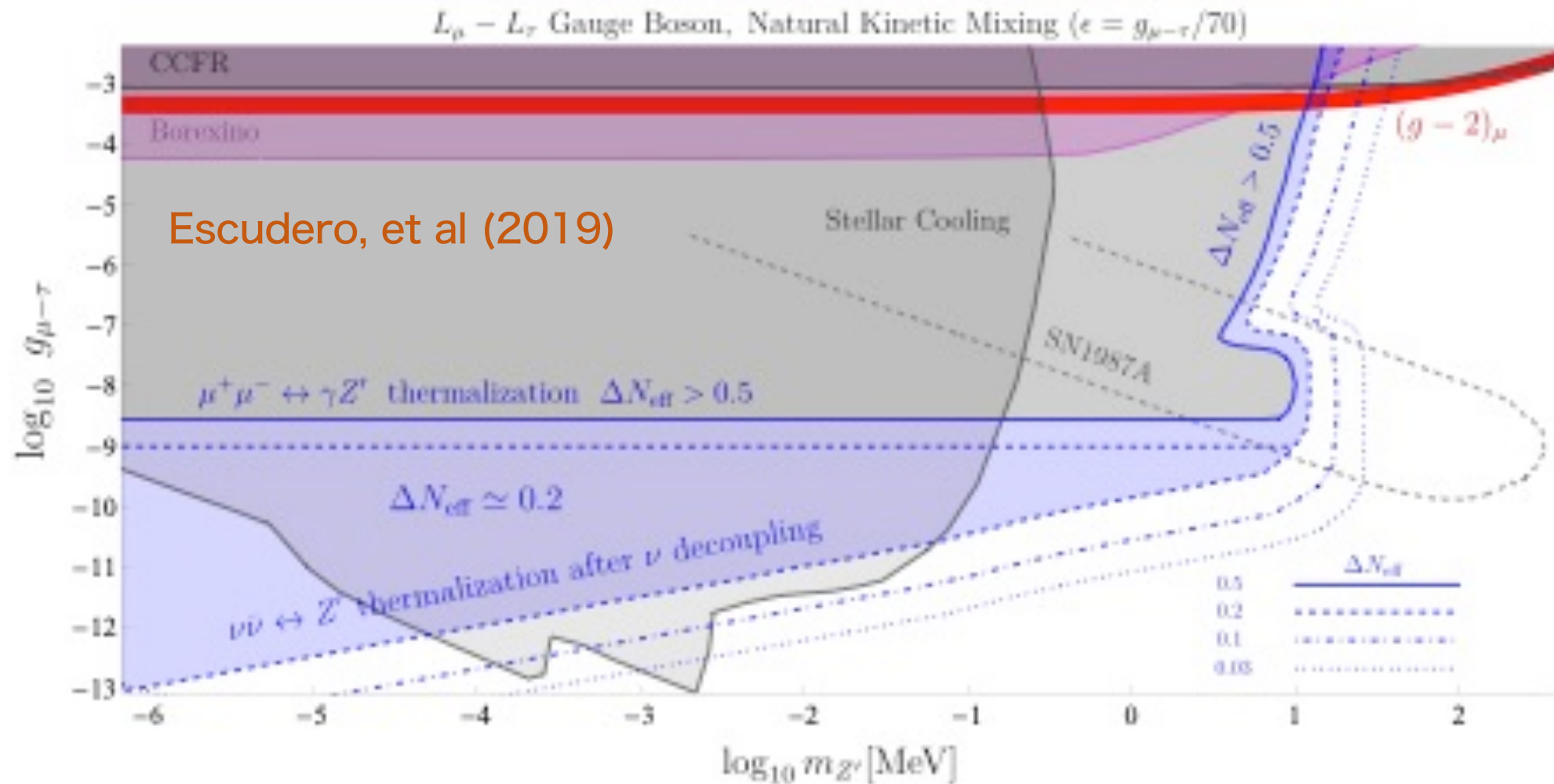
## ■ Unknown origin of dark matter

- **Thermal** : Relic produced from the SM thermal plasma
- **Non-thermal** : e.g. coherent oscillation, topological defect,.....

# Weakly Interacting Massive Particle (WIMP) DM

## ■ Assumptions for WIMP DM (2 to n annihilations)

- $\mu_{\text{DM}} = \mu_{\overline{\text{DM}}} [ \mu_{\text{DM}} \neq \mu_{\overline{\text{DM}}} \Rightarrow \text{asymmetric DM} ]$  D. E. Kaplan, M. A. Luty, & K. M. Zurek (2009)
- $m_{\text{DM}} > m_{\text{SM}} [ m_{\text{DM}} < m_{\text{SM}} \Rightarrow \text{forbidden DM} ]$  R. T. D'Agnolo, & J. T. Ruderman (2015)
- $T_{\text{FO}} < T_{\text{RH}} [ T_{\text{FO}} > T_{\text{RH}} \Rightarrow \text{WIMPs during reheating} ]$  Nicolás Bernal & Yong Xu (2022)
- Standard cosmology [  $\rho_{\phi}(a) \propto a^{-(4+n)} \Rightarrow \text{relentless DM} ]$  F. D'Eramo, etal (2017)
- Collisionless [  $\sigma_{\text{SI}} \neq 0 \Rightarrow \text{Self-interacting dark matter} ]$
- T invariance :  $|\mathcal{M}_{\text{DMDM} \rightarrow \text{SMSM}}|^2 = |\mathcal{M}_{\text{SMSM} \rightarrow \text{DMDM}}|^2$  (?)



- Early Universe Equilibrium:** If  $g_{\mu-\tau} \gtrsim 4 \times 10^{-9}$ , the  $Z'$  population thermalizes with the SM bath at early times and decays into neutrinos when  $T \sim m_{Z'}/3$ . If these decays occur predominantly after the neutrinos and photons decouple, they contribute to the neutrino energy density and thereby increase the value of  $N_{\text{eff}}$ . Furthermore, in the presence of non-negligible kinetic mixing with the photon,  $Z'$  interactions with charged particles can delay the neutrino-photon decoupling, quantitatively affecting  $N_{\text{eff}}$ .

