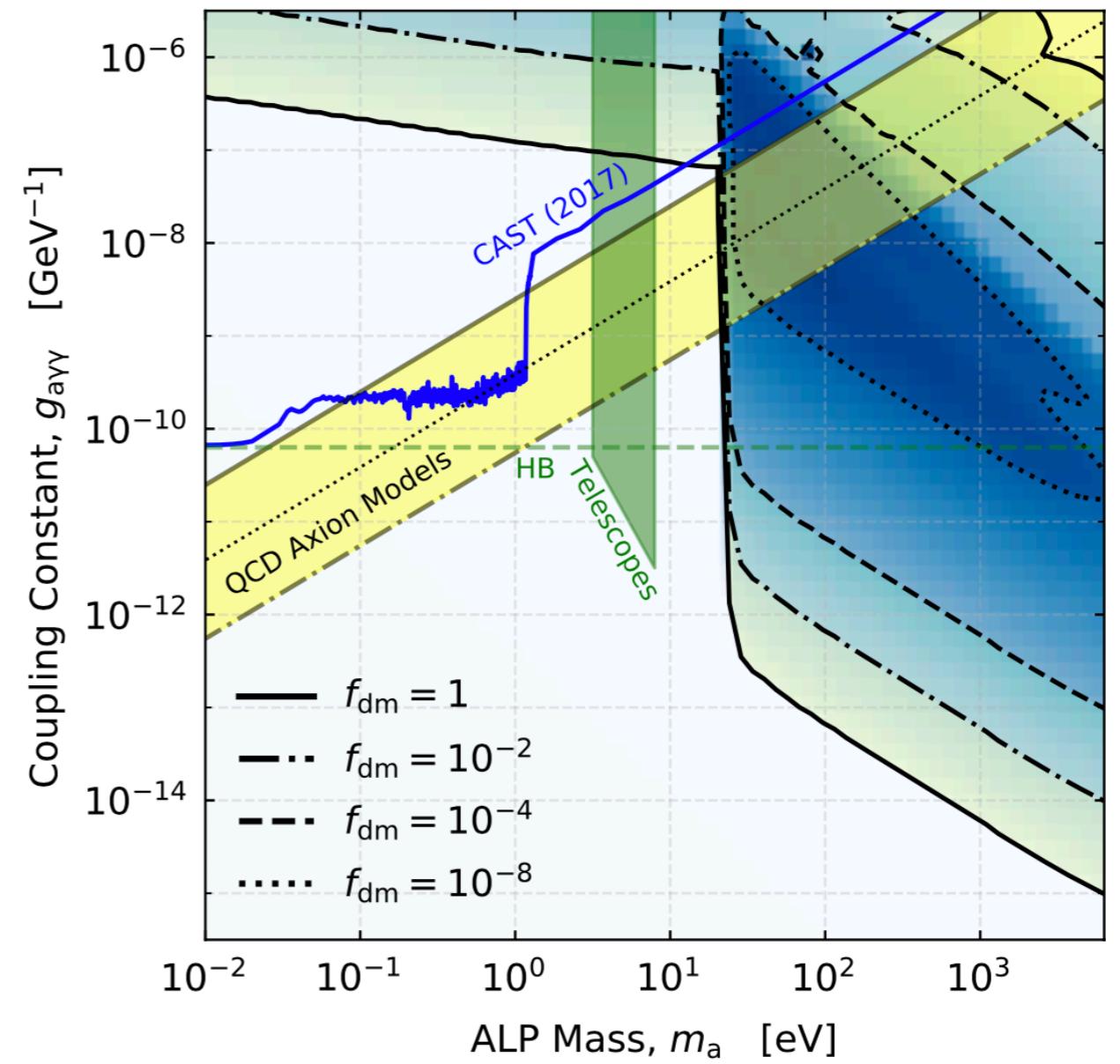


Spectral distortion constraints on photon injection from low-mass decaying particles

[arxiv:2012.07292](https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.07292)
accepted in MNRAS

Marcel Grossmann Meeting MG16 - July 2021

Boris Bolliet (Columbia)



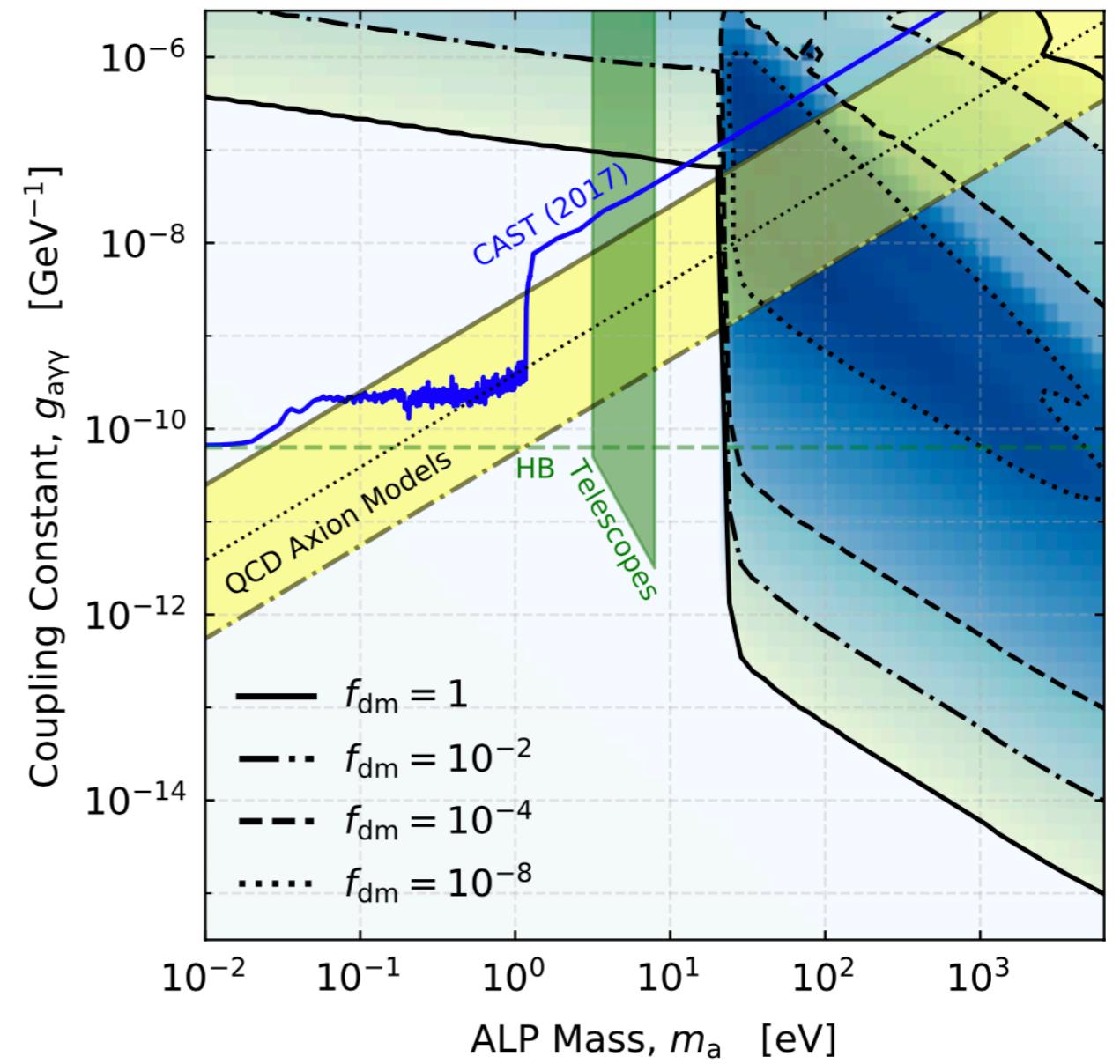
With Jens Chluba, Richard Battye (JBCA Manchester)

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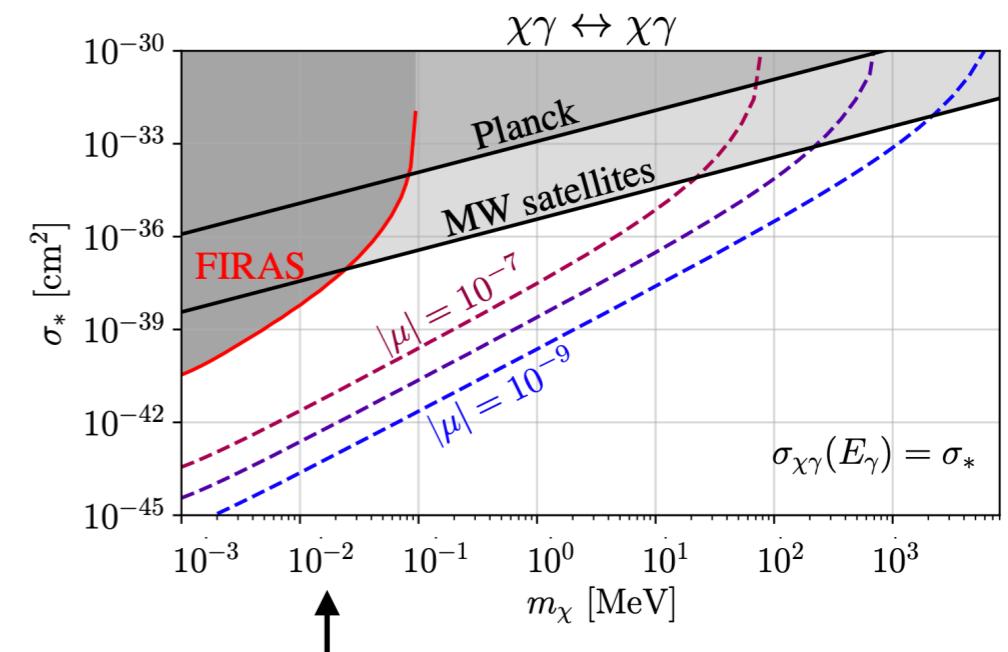
Spectral distortions are powerful probe of the thermal history

Decay/Annihilation of relic particles with coupling to photons/EM

Constraints on DM cross-section

$$\dot{Q}_\chi = \frac{3}{2} n_\chi \Gamma_{\chi s} (T_s - T_\chi),$$

$$\Gamma_{\chi s} \equiv \frac{2}{3} \frac{m_\chi \rho_s}{(m_\chi + m_s)^2} \frac{\langle \sigma_{\chi s}(v) v^3 \rangle}{v_{\text{th}}^2}$$



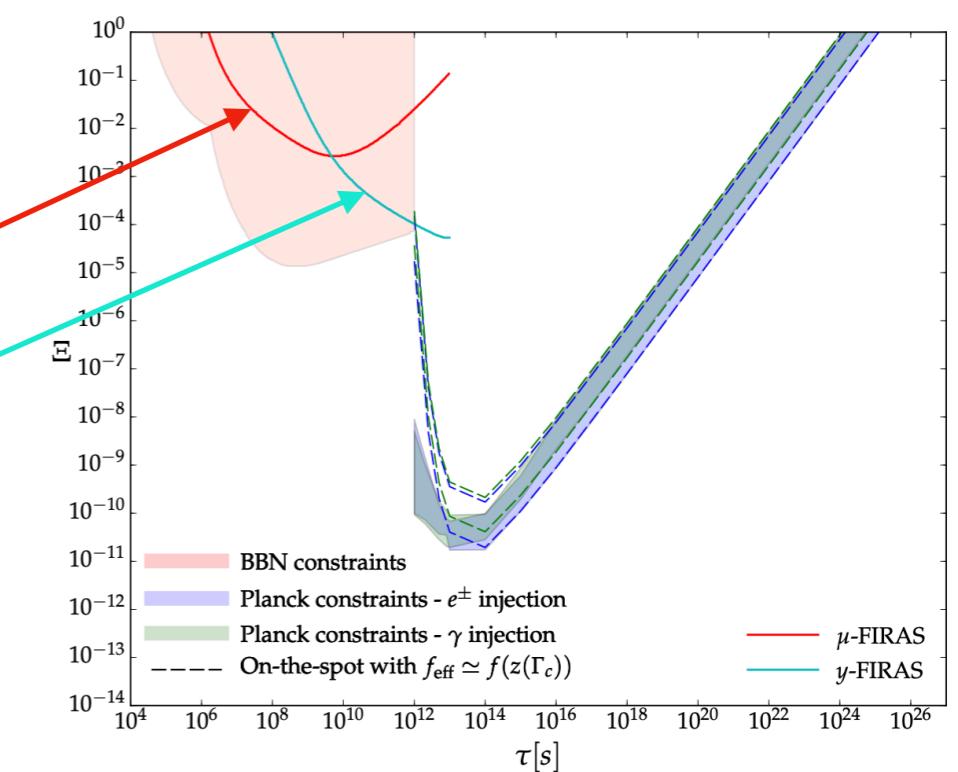
See e.g., Ali-Haïmoud, Chluba, Kamionkowski (1506.04745), **Ali-Haïmoud (2101.04070)**

Constraints on relic mass, lifetime and abundance

μ and y -distortions from energy injection

$$\mu_0 \approx 1.401 \left[\frac{\Delta \rho_\gamma}{\rho_\gamma} \Big|_\mu - \frac{4}{3} \frac{\Delta N_\gamma}{N_\gamma} \Big|_\mu \right]$$

$$y \approx \frac{1}{4} \frac{\Delta \rho_\gamma}{\rho_\gamma} \Big|_y$$



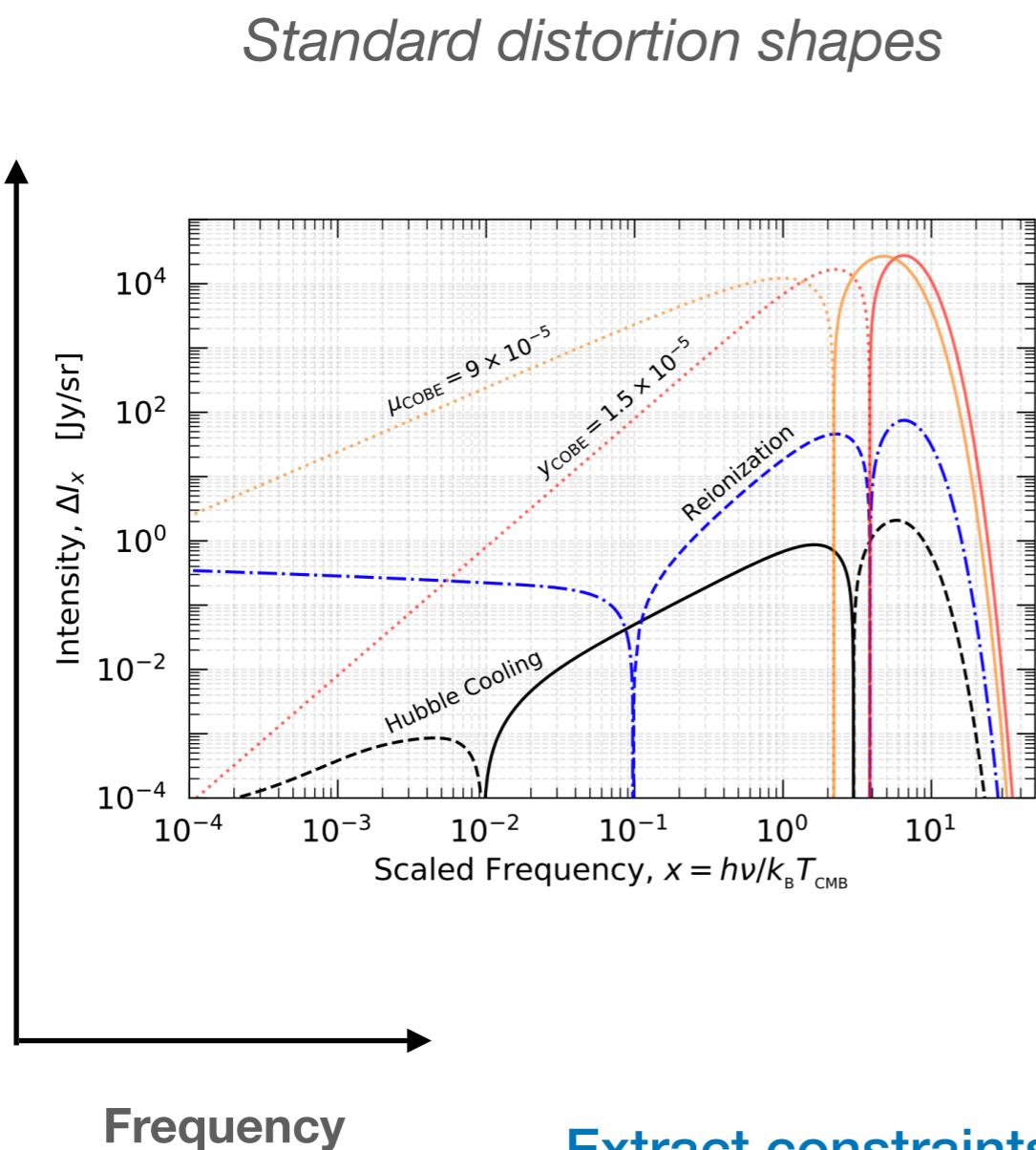
See e.g., Chluba (1506.06582), Poulin, Serpico, Lesgourgues (1610.10051)



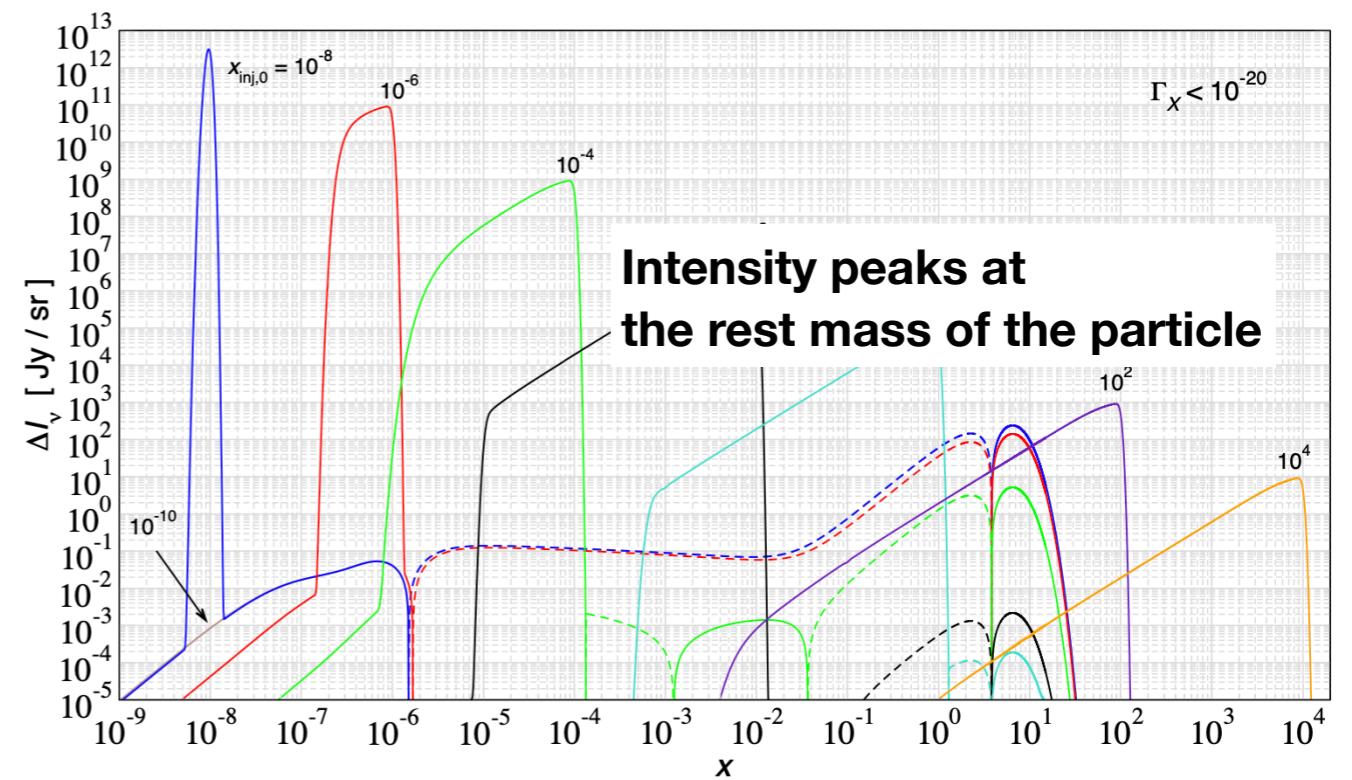
Motivations for detailed photon evolution treatment

- When injected photon don't have time to scatter/comptonize, **simple μ and y -distortions are not sufficient** to characterize the CMB spectrum post-injection

Relative intensity with respect to black-body



Typical distortions from decaying particles into photons with long lifetime



Extract constraints that take into account the full distortion spectrum

Solving the thermalization problem with CosmoTherm



Chluba, Sunyaev 1109.6552

$$\frac{\partial n_\nu}{\partial \tau} - H t_C \nu \frac{\partial n_\nu}{\partial \nu} = \left. \frac{dn_\nu}{d\tau} \right|_C + \left. \frac{dn_\nu}{d\tau} \right|_{DC} + \left. \frac{dn_\nu}{d\tau} \right|_{BR}$$

Compton energy exchange with **C**Spack (Sarkar, Chluba, Lee 1905.00868)

BR emission with **BRpack**
(Chluba, Ravenni, Bolliet 1911.08861)

- Challenging numerical problem: photon and electron energy/temperature equations need to be solved simultaneously + ionization history
 - Reionization (Poulin, Serpico, Lesgourgues 1508.01370)
 - Refined treatment of HeI, HeII (Chluba, Ali-Haïmoud 1510.03877)
 - Recombination with **Recfast** (Slatyer, Chluba,...)
 - All codes run from **Specdist**

specdist <https://github.com/CMBSPeC/specdist>

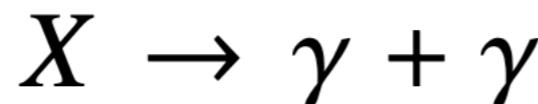
Python package to study spectral distortions of the cosmic microwave background radiation.

Python MIT 3.0 1.0 0.0 Updated on Mar 17



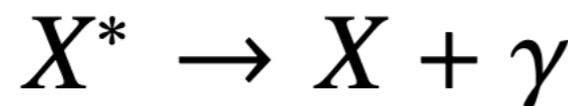
Decay channels

Two-photons decay



$$E_{\text{inj}} = h\nu_{\text{inj}} = m_X c^2 / 2$$

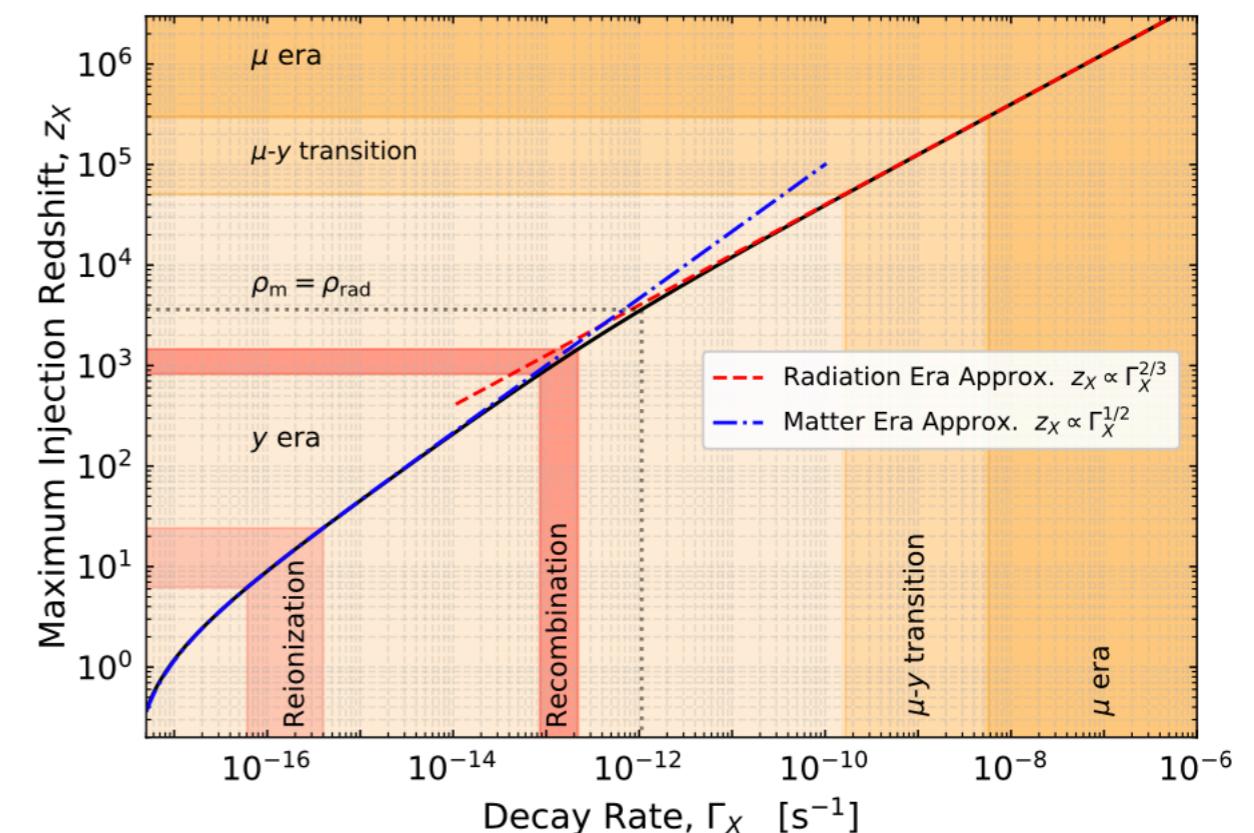
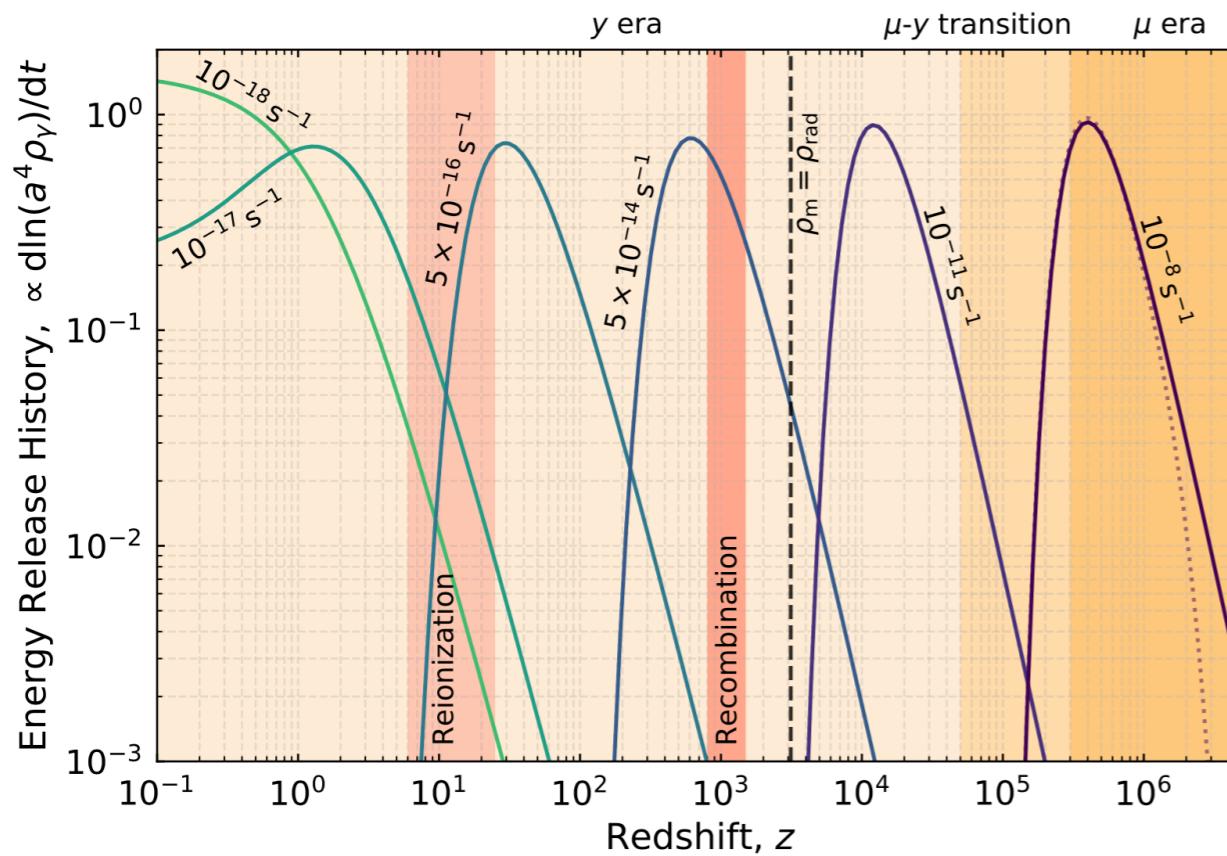
Excited states



$$E_{\text{inj}} = h\nu_{\text{inj}} = E_X^{\text{ex}}$$

$$\frac{d \ln a^3 N_X}{dt} = -\Gamma_X$$

Decay rate dictates when the injection happens



→ Determines the type of distortion and change in ionisation history



Spectrum of injected photons

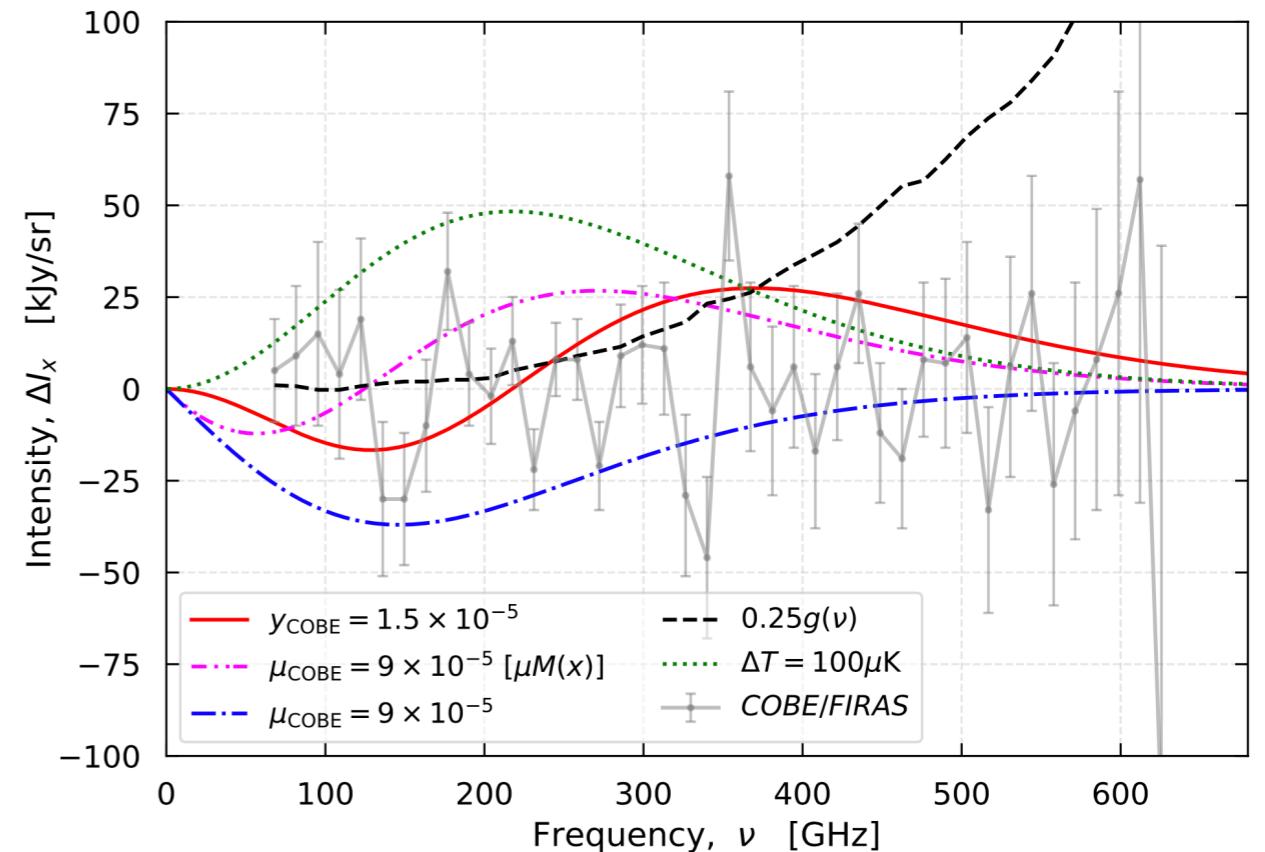
- Line (narrow Gaussian) at the rest-mass energy of the particle

$$\left. \frac{dn_x}{dt} \right|_{\text{inj}} = \mathcal{G}_2 f_{\text{inj}} \Gamma_X \exp(-\Gamma_X t) \times \frac{G(x, x_{\text{inj}}, \sigma_x)}{x^2}$$

- Normalization of the spectrum proportional to abundance/DM fraction

$$f_{\text{inj}} \approx 1.31 \times 10^4 \frac{\epsilon f_{\text{dm}}}{x_{\text{inj},0}} \left[\frac{\Omega_{\text{cdm}} h^2}{0.12} \right]$$

- Compare distortion versus measured CMB intensity to obtain constraints on mass, DM fraction and lifetime



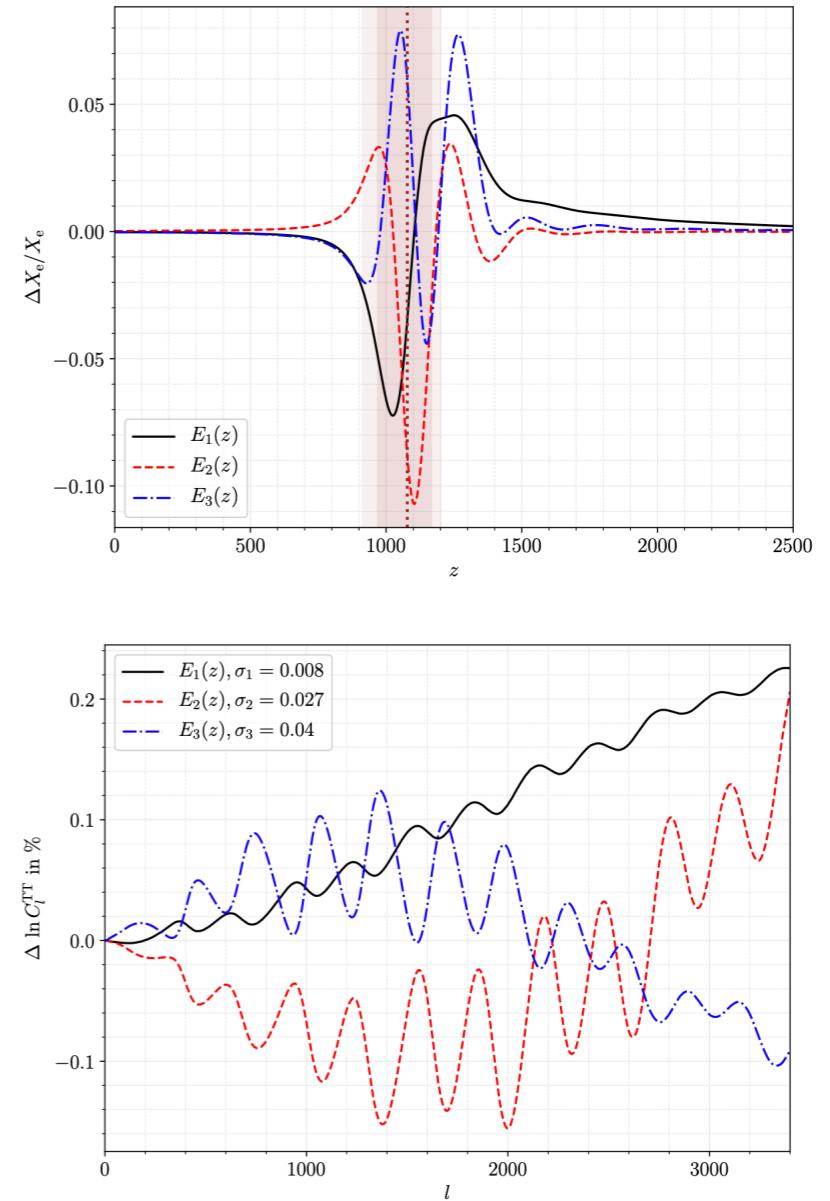
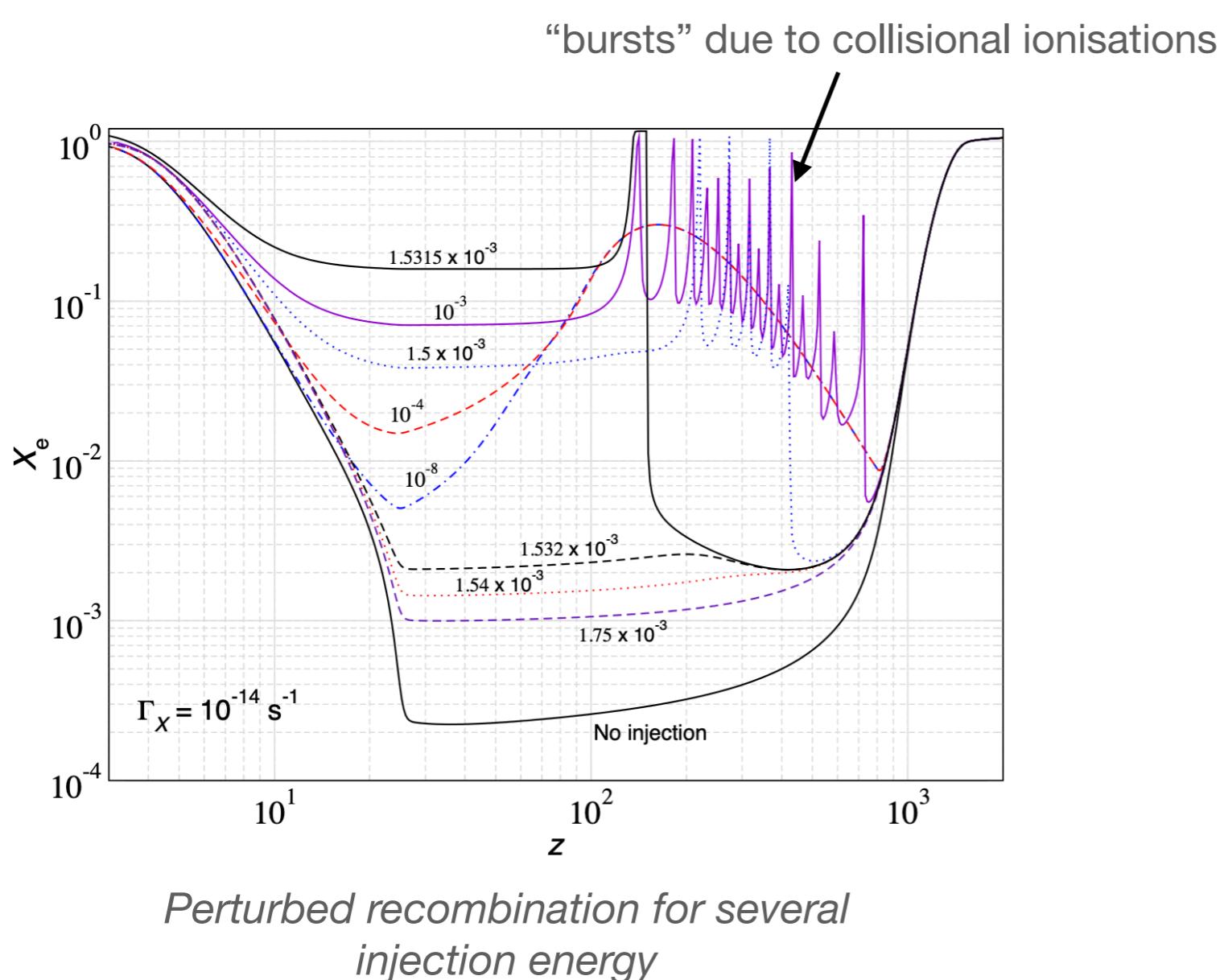
- CMB spectra data from COBE/FIRAS + EDGES brightness temperature at 78MHz

$$I(\nu) = B(T_0) + \Delta T \left. \frac{\partial B}{\partial T} \right|_{T_0} + \mu \left. \frac{\partial S_\mu}{\partial \mu} \right|_{T_0} + y \left. \frac{\partial S_y}{\partial y} \right|_{T_0} + G_0 g(\nu).$$



Perturbed recombination

- Use perturbed recombination as complementary constraints from CMB anisotropy

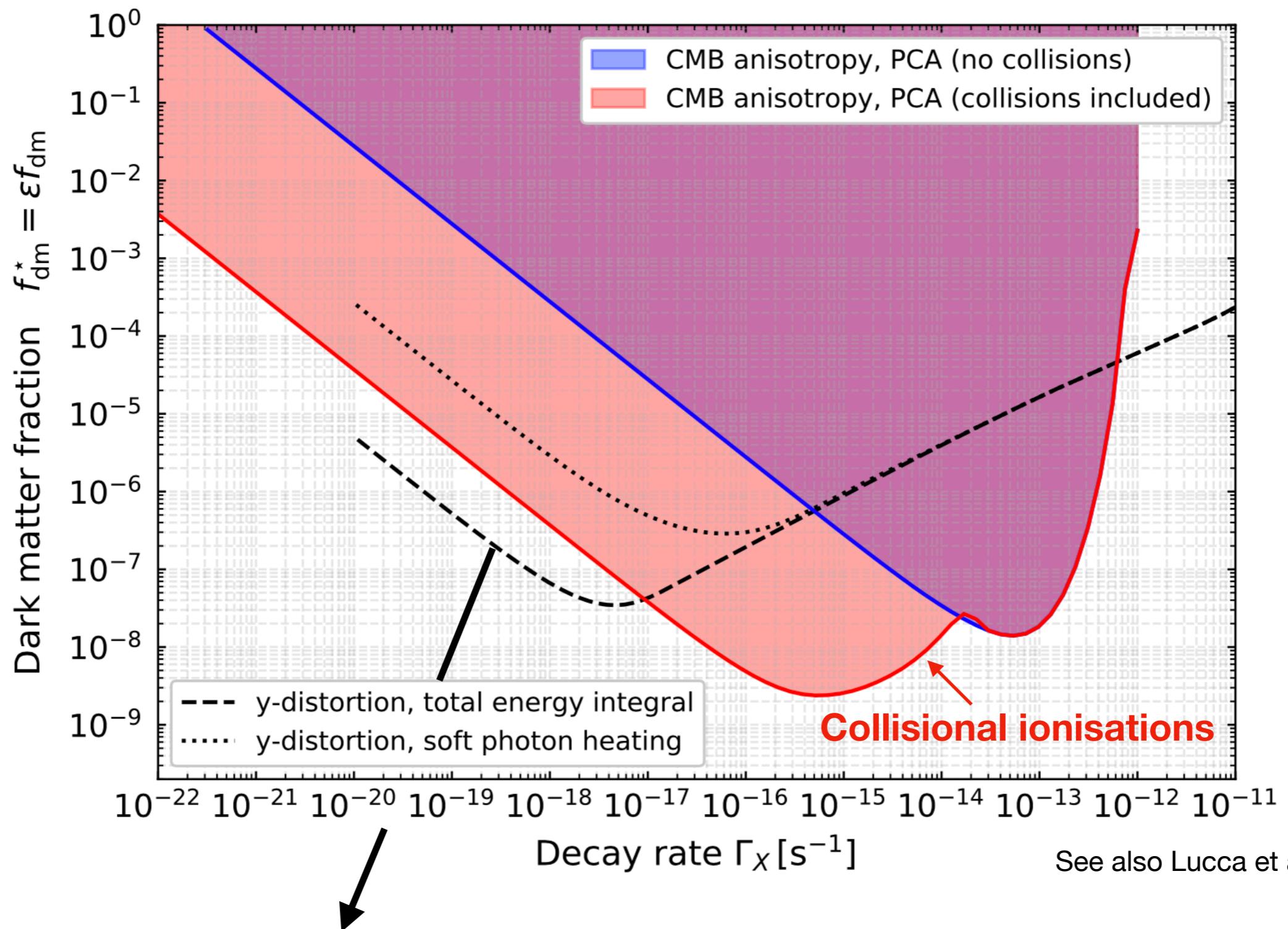


- Planck CMB TT.TE.EE data and projection method from Hart & Chluba (1912.04682)

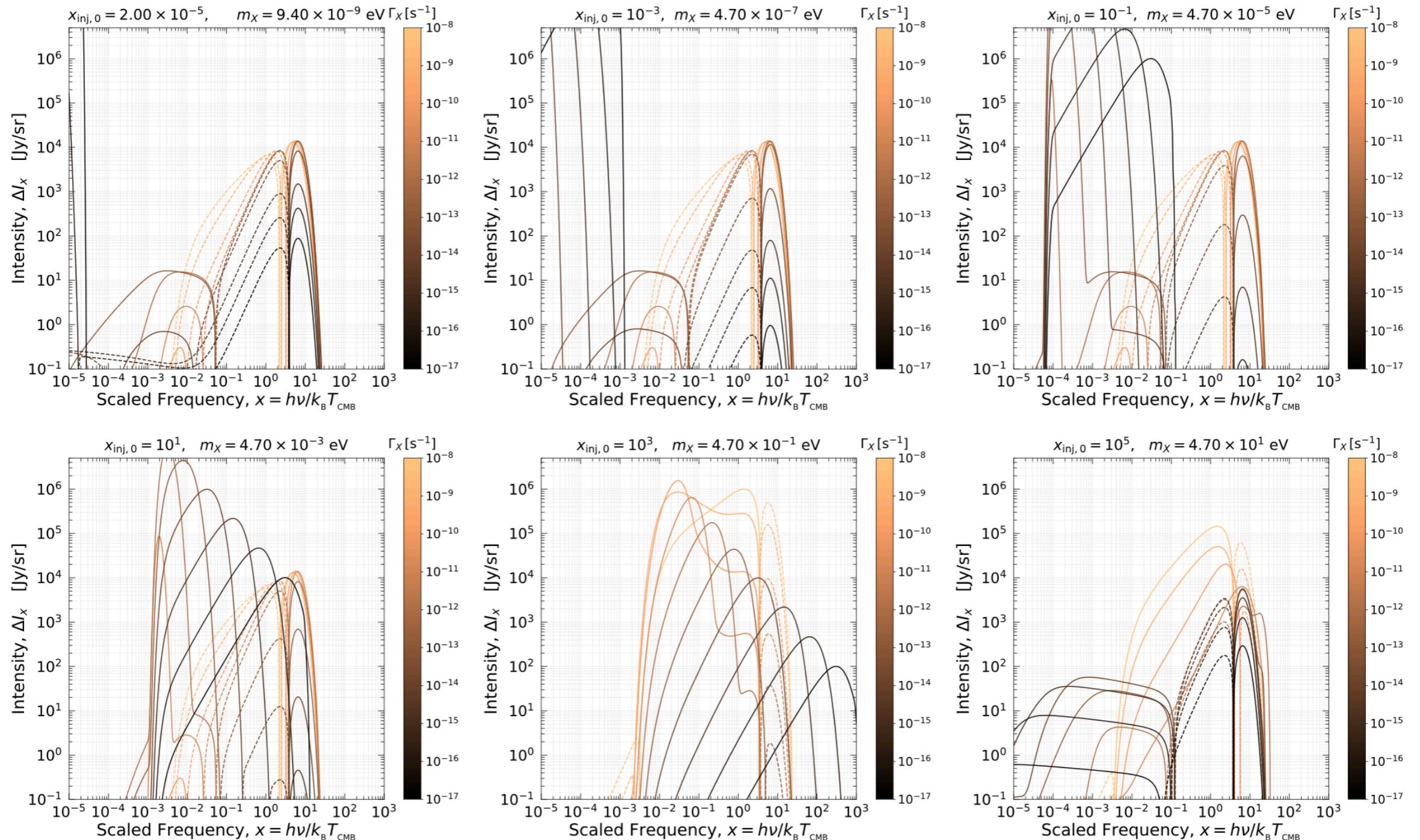


Distortions vs CMB anisotropy

Comparison of constraints from CMB anisotropy and γ -distortion limits,
for low-frequency injection



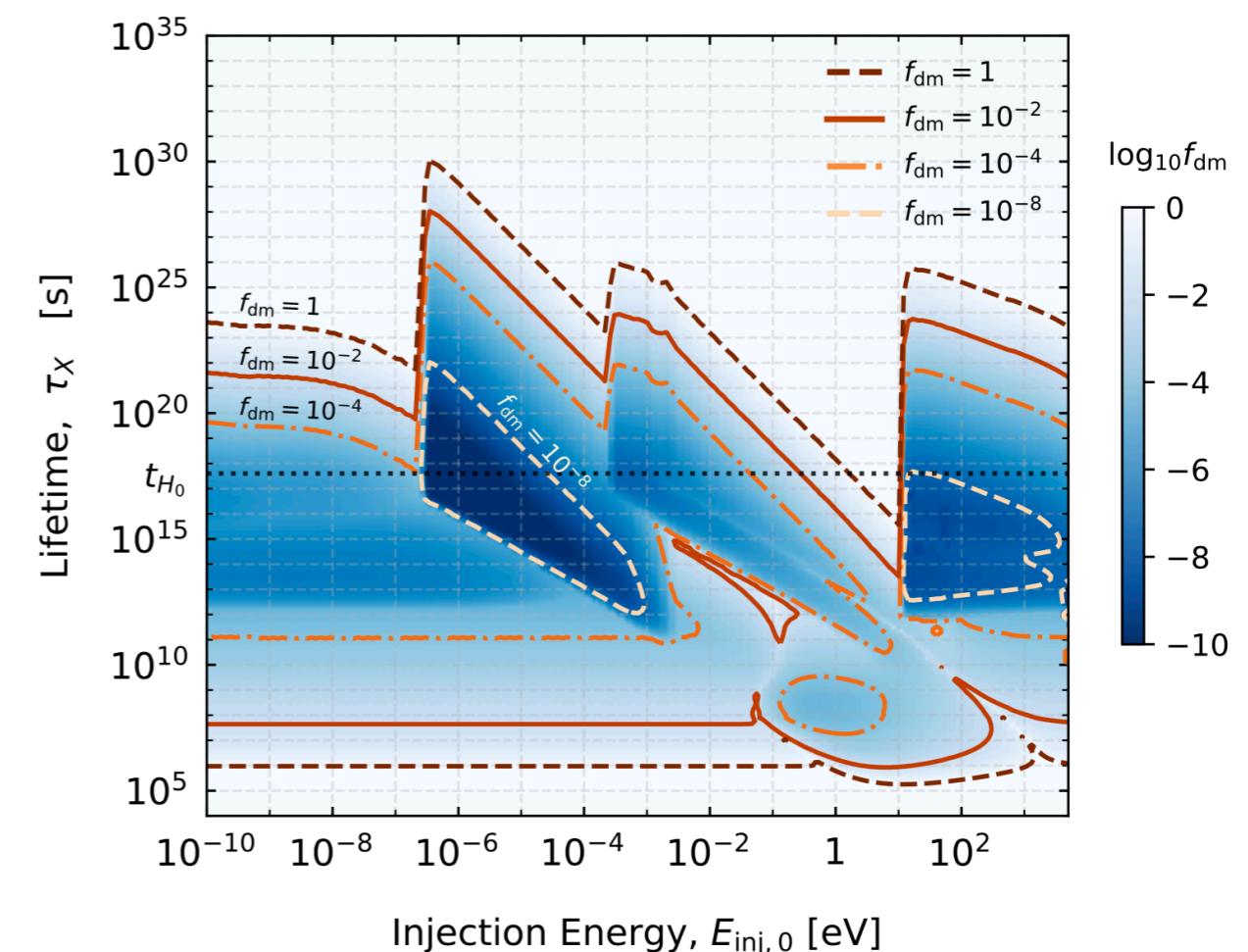
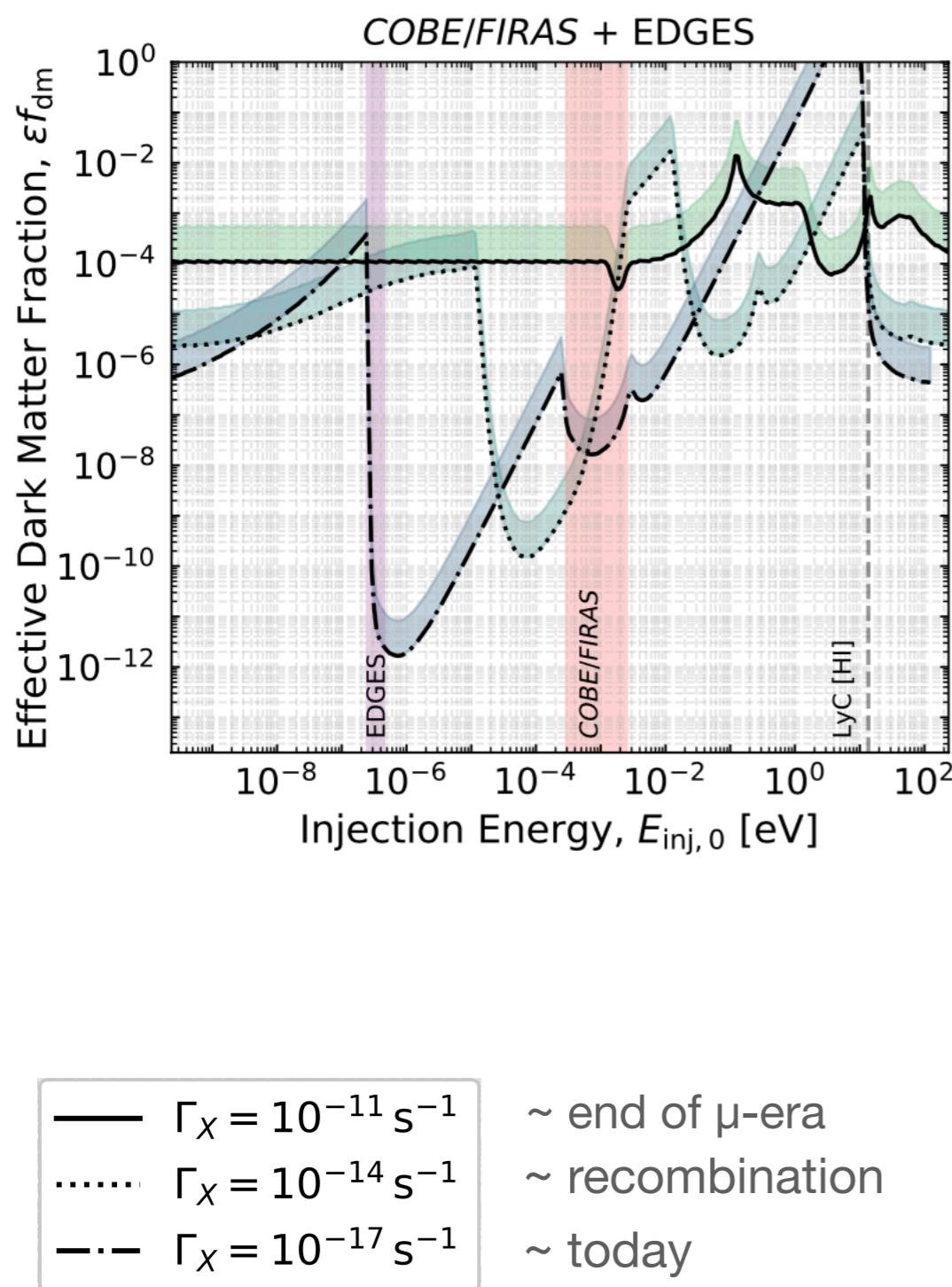
Library of spectra using specdist/cosmotherm



- Fast computation of spectra at any point in parameter space with interpolation
- Emulator for spectral distortions/ionisation histories (next step)



Model independent constraints from full spectra



- μ and γ constraints
- Negative μ

$$\mu_{\text{inj}} \approx 1.401 \int [x_{\text{inj}} - x_{\text{null}} \mathcal{P}_s(x_{\text{inj}}, z)] \alpha_\rho \frac{d \ln N_\gamma}{dz} \mathcal{J}_{\text{bb}}^*(z) dz.$$

- LyC absorption
- Redshifted peaks



Stimulated decay

- Decay rate enhanced in ambient CMB photons bath

Caputo, Regis, Taoso, Witte 1811.08436

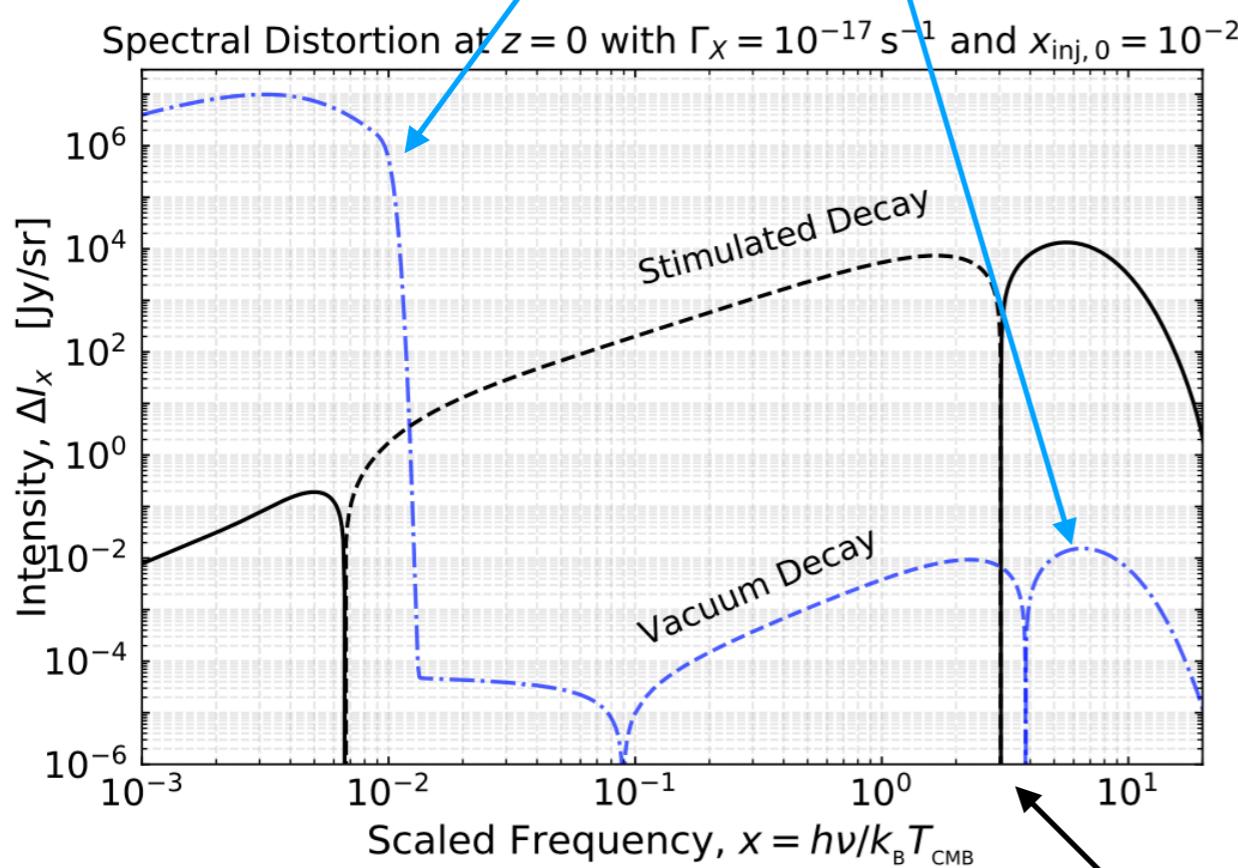
Frequency dependent term

$$n_\gamma(x_{\text{inj}}) \approx (1+z)/x_{\text{inj},0} \quad \text{for } x_{\text{inj}} \lesssim 1$$

$$\Gamma_X^{\text{stim}} \approx [1 + 2n_\gamma(x_{\text{inj}})]\Gamma_X$$

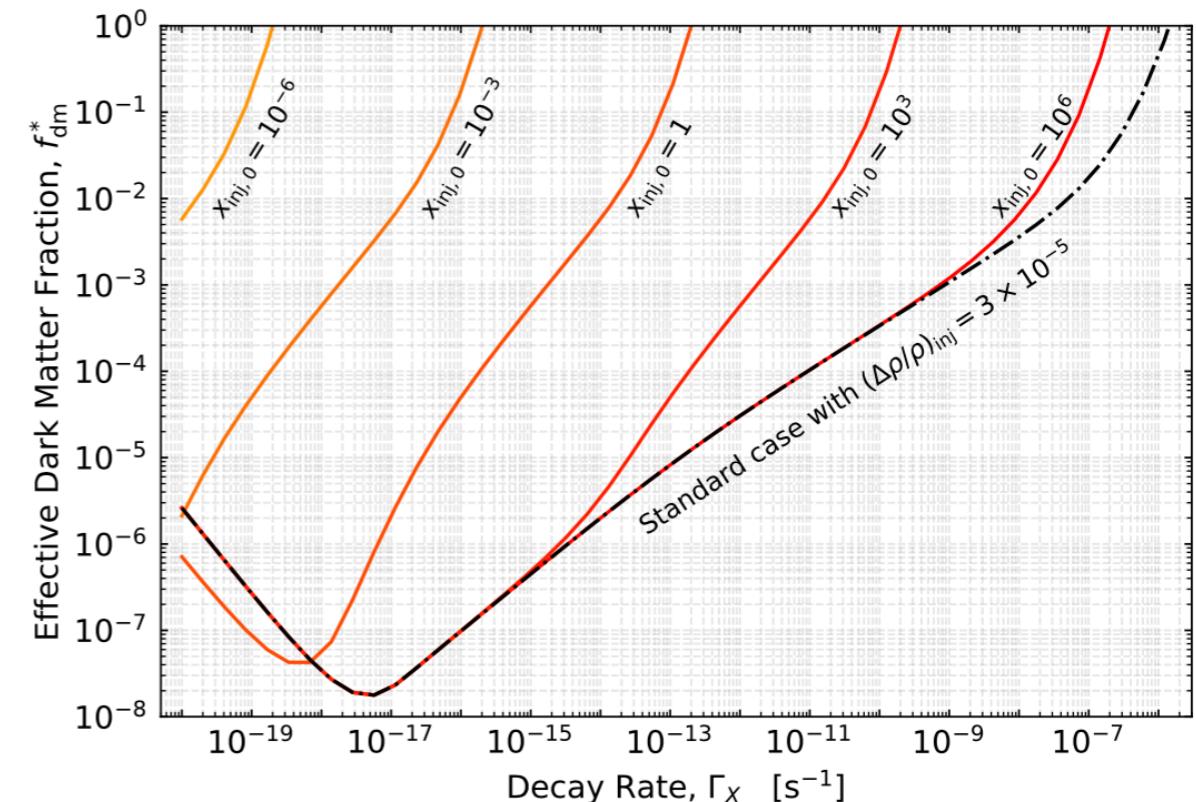
- Particles decay earlier than they would have in vacuum

Peak + y-distortion

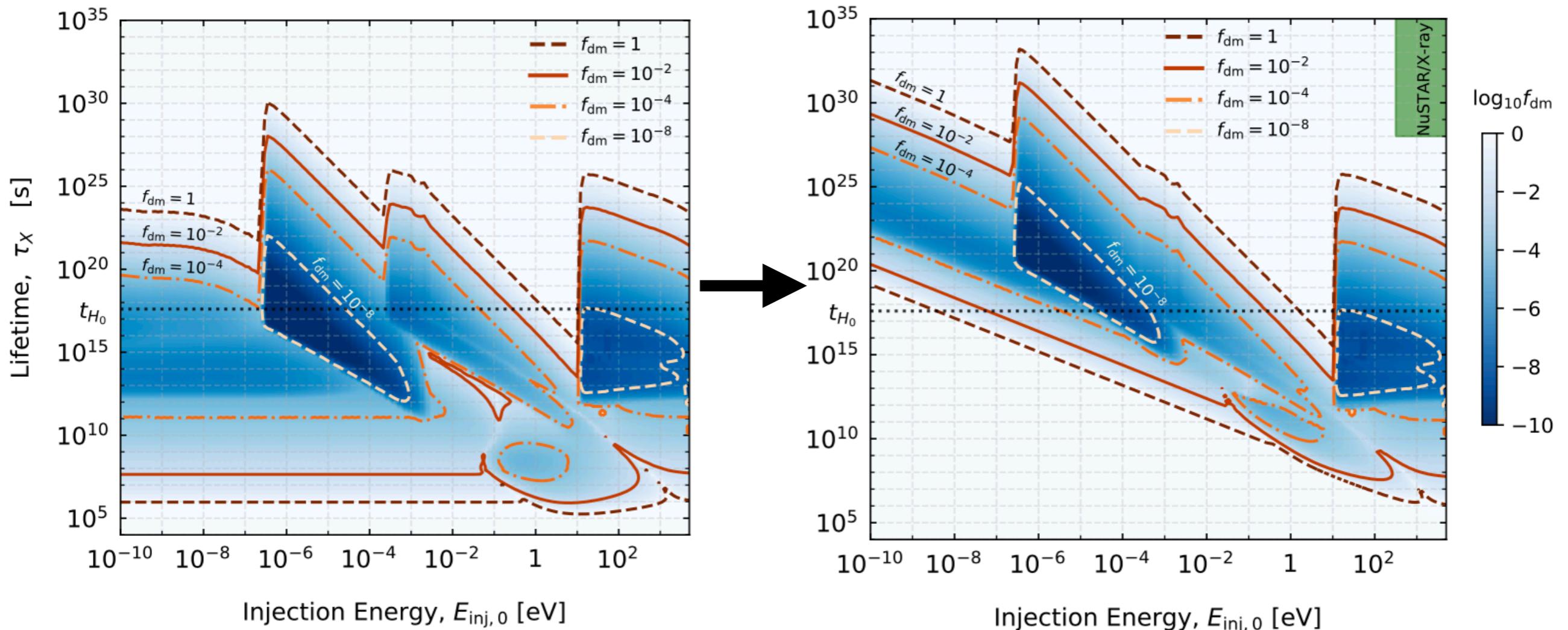


μ -distortion

DM fraction for fixed injected energy



Model independent constraints from full spectra - stimulated decay

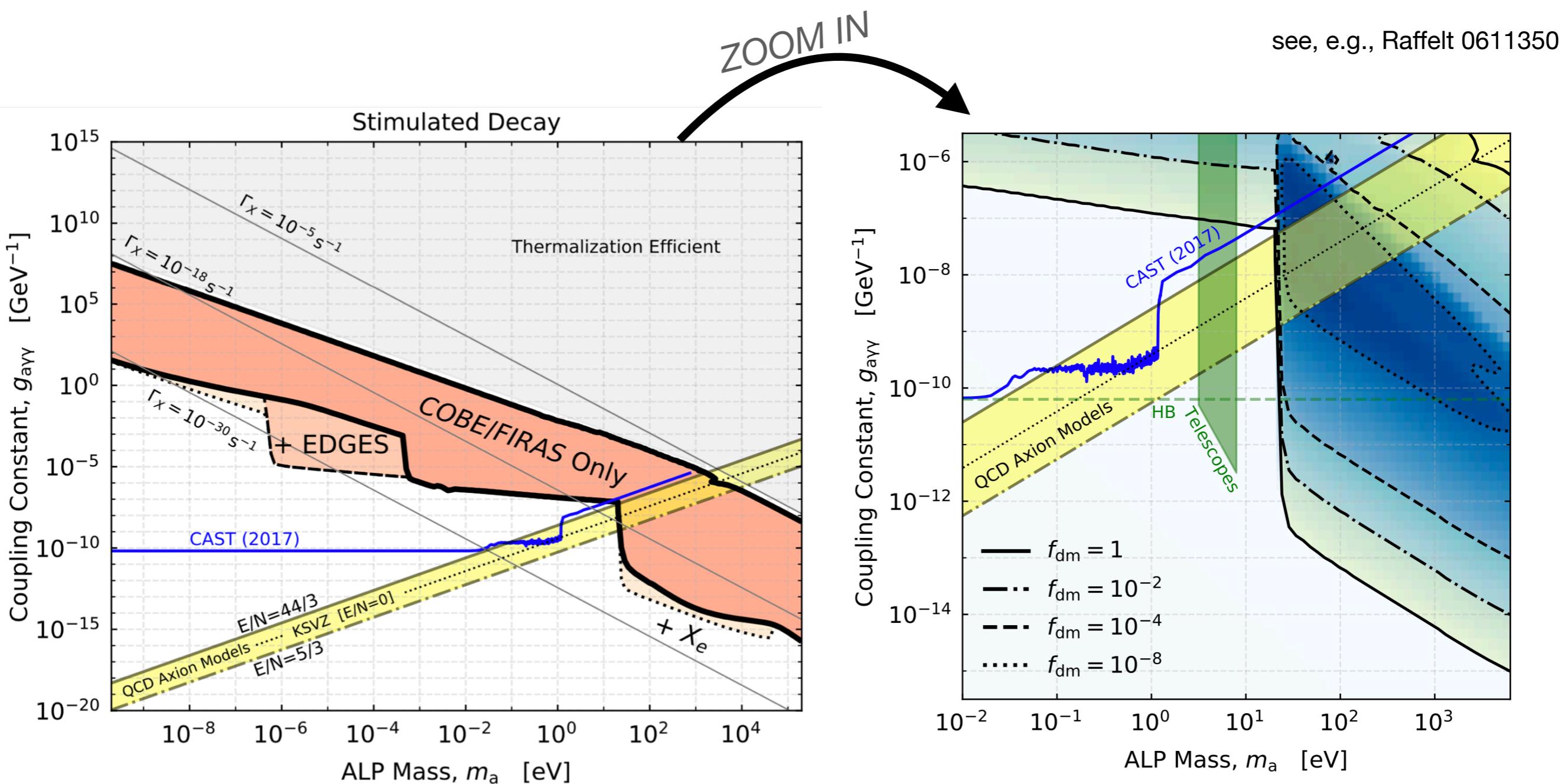


- ‘Tilted’ constraints regions towards long life-time compared to non-stimulated decay
- Complementarity with other constraints (e.g, Roach et al 1908.09037, sterile neutrino)
- Constraints can be translated to specific particle physics models



Constraints on axion like particles

$$g_{a\gamma\gamma} = \left(\frac{64\pi\Gamma_a}{m_a^3} \right)^{1/2} \approx \frac{3.63 \times 10^{-2}}{\text{GeV}} \left[\frac{\Gamma_a}{10^{-17} \text{s}^{-1}} \right]^{1/2} \left[\frac{m_a c^2}{\text{meV}} \right]^{-3/2}$$





- First constraints from full distortion spectra calculations
- Still harvesting insights into dark matter from 30 years old COBE/FIRAS data

Next steps

- Machine learning to alleviate computationally expensive calculations
- Turning current work into forecast analysis