

# Dark matter and neutrino decays with line-intensity mapping

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Johns Hopkins University

with Andrea Caputo, Marc Kamionkowski and Francisco Villaescusa-Navarro

Fermilab CPC  
05/03/2021



JOHNS HOPKINS  
KRIEGER SCHOOL  
*of* ARTS & SCIENCES

# Introduction

- Precision cosmology: CMB, clustering & BAO, lensing, SNeIa, GWs, ...

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- Standard cosmological model:  $\Lambda$ CDM
- Excellent reproduction of the observations, but...
  - Persistent discrepancies between different cosmological probes (high-z vs low-z?):  $H_0$ ,  $\sigma_8 \Omega_M^{0.5}$
  - Phenomenological model: nature of DM and DE? Primordial Universe?

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**Strategies to explore DM and neutrino physics with LIM**

# Introduction

- Dark Matter:
  - Vast variety of candidates with rich phenomenology
  - Weak coupling with baryons: decaying dark matter (axion, sterile neutrinos, ...)
- Neutrinos:
  - Controlled by the electromagnetic transition moments
  - SM prediction of neutrino lifetime:  $\tau_\nu \sim 10^{40-50}$  s ( $\gg t_U$ )
  - BSM physics may enhance transition moments: detection → BSM physics!

**Strategies to explore DM and neutrino physics with LIM**

Phenomenological approach

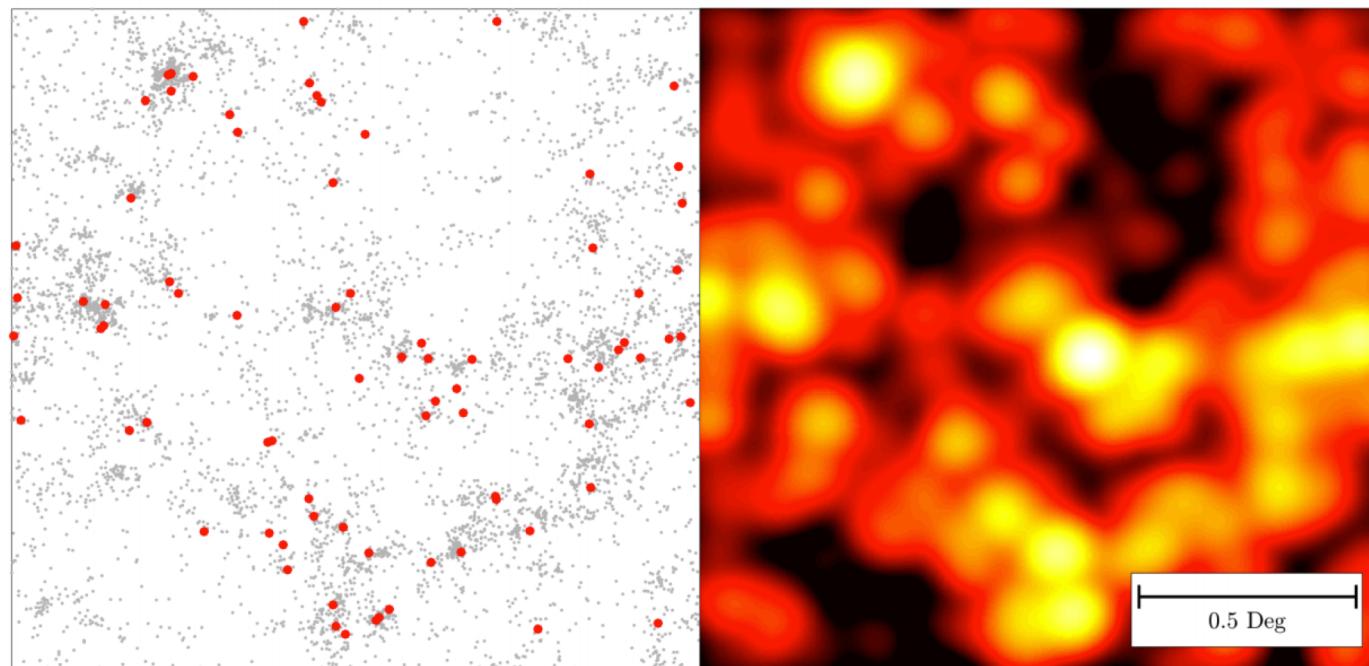
# What is Line-Intensity Mapping?

- LIM: use the integrated signal without requiring a detection threshold
- Information from all incoming photons, from all galaxies and IGM along the LoS
- Target a identifiable spectral line → know redshift → 3D maps

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CO-emitting galaxies

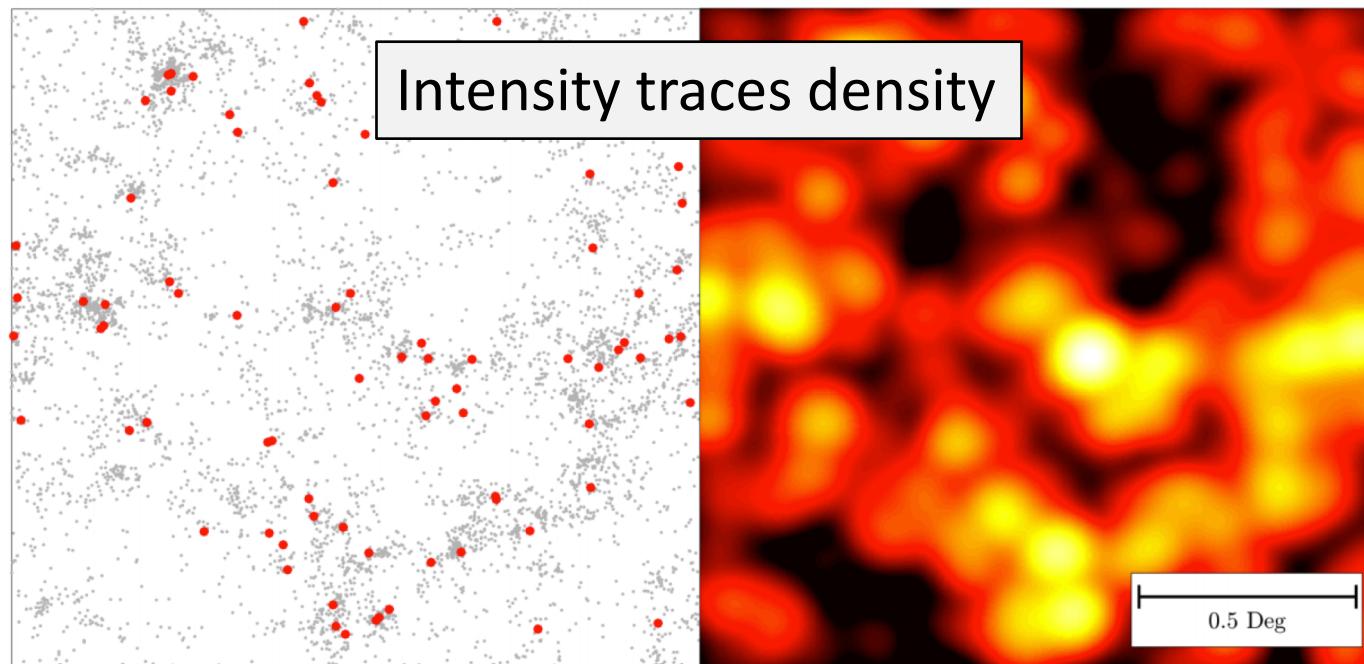


~ 1.5k hours of COMAP  
mapping CO intensity  
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# What is Line-Intensity Mapping?

- LIM: use the integrated signal without requiring a detection threshold
- Inform Galaxy surveys: detailed distribution of brightest galaxies LoS
- Target Intensity maps: noisy distribution of all galaxies and IGM

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~ 1.5k hours of COMAP  
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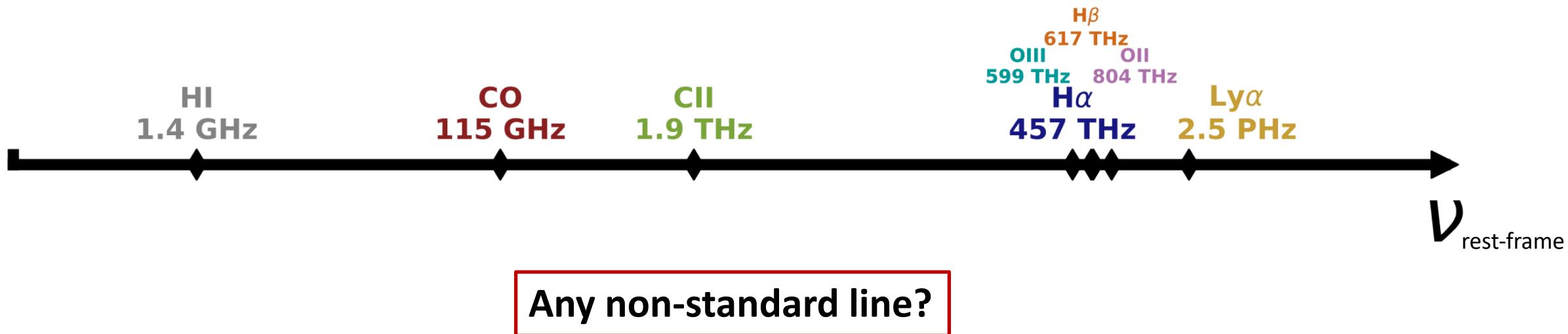
# Targeted lines

- We have multiple lines to exploit over more than 6 orders of magnitude in frequency
- $\nu_{obs} = \nu_0/(1 + z)$



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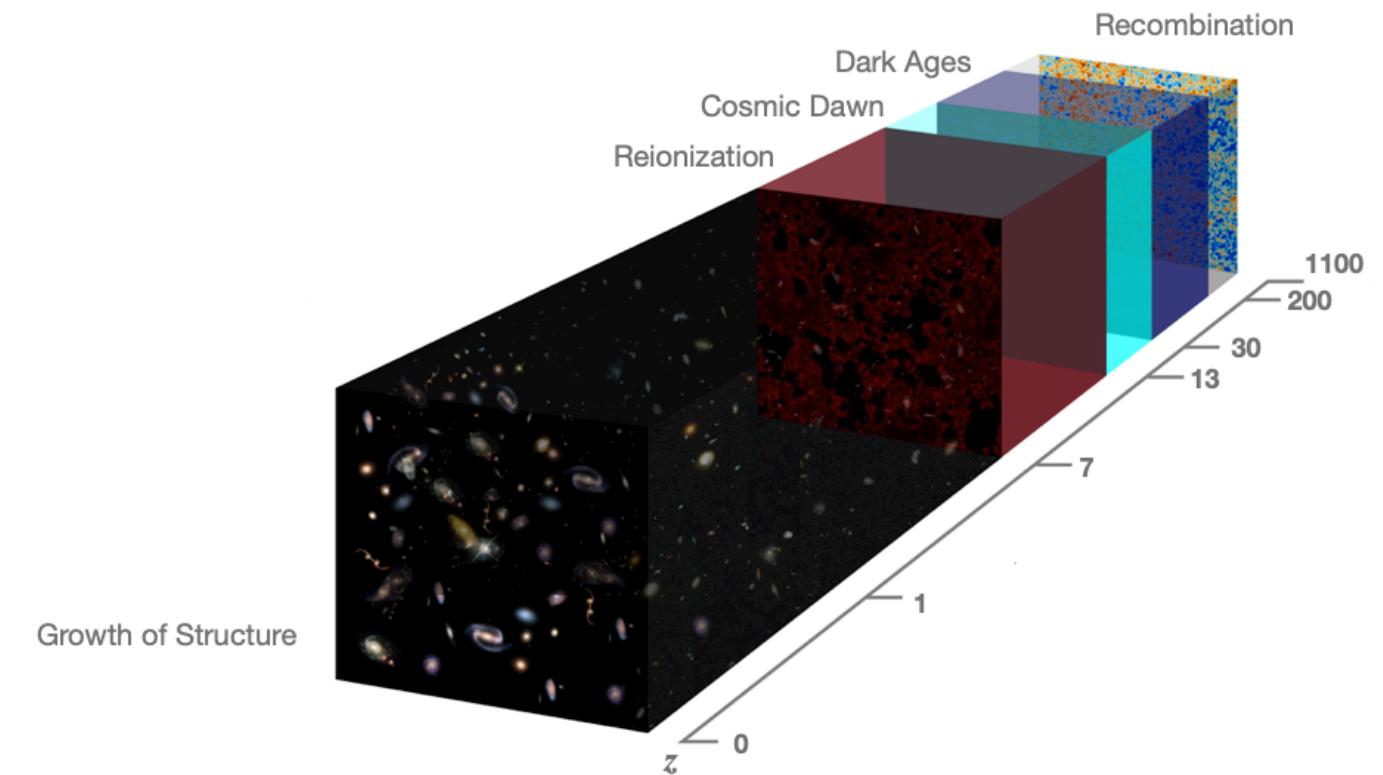
Signal strongly depends on  
astrophysical processes

21 cm (pre-reio)

CO, CII, OIII, H $\alpha$ , H $\beta$ ,...  
Ly $\alpha$       21cm (post-reio)

Continuum

# Probing the Universe

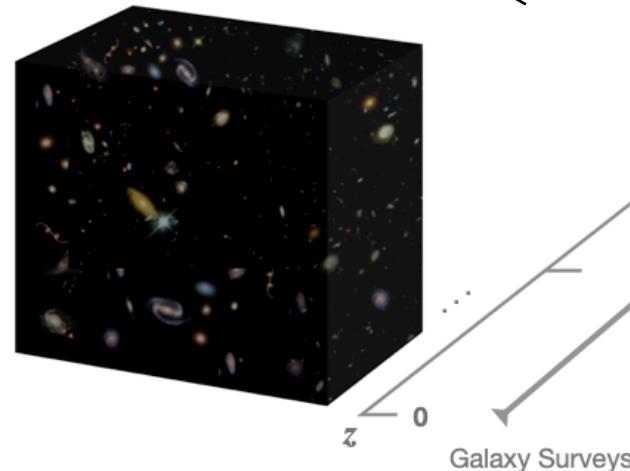


E. D. Kovetz

# Probing the Universe

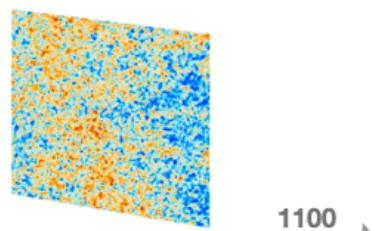
Indirect measurements with CMB lensing

(but peaked at  $z \sim 2$ , and  
don't forget  $A_{lens}$  controversy)

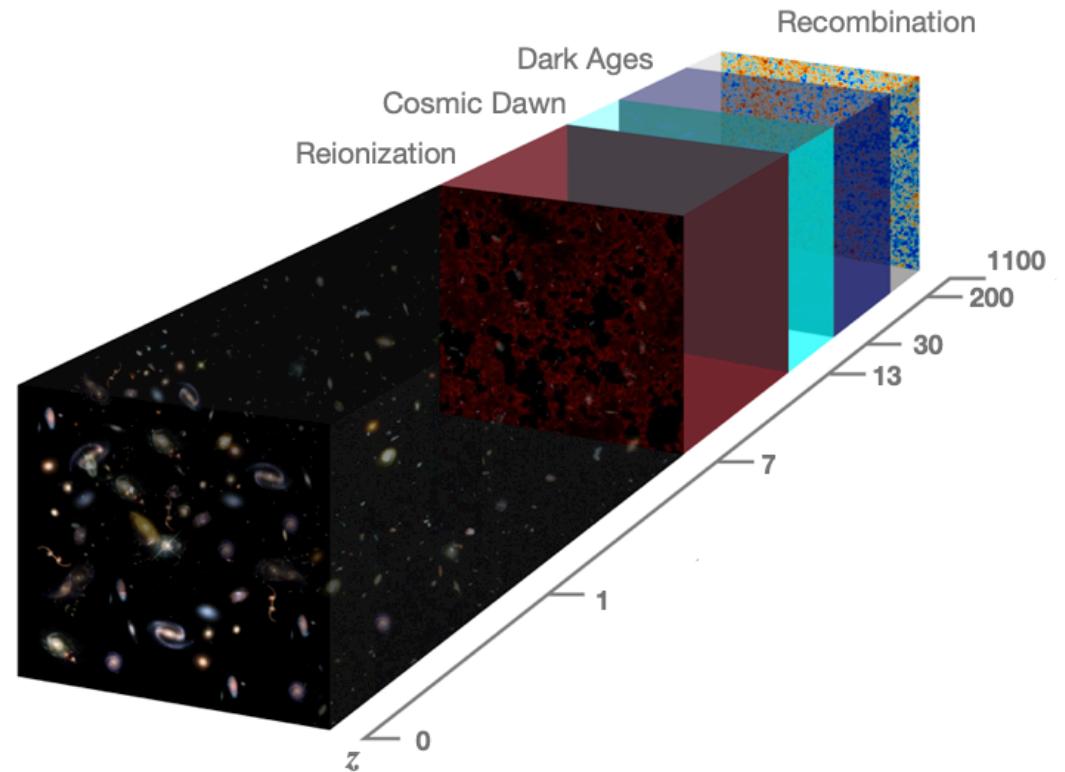


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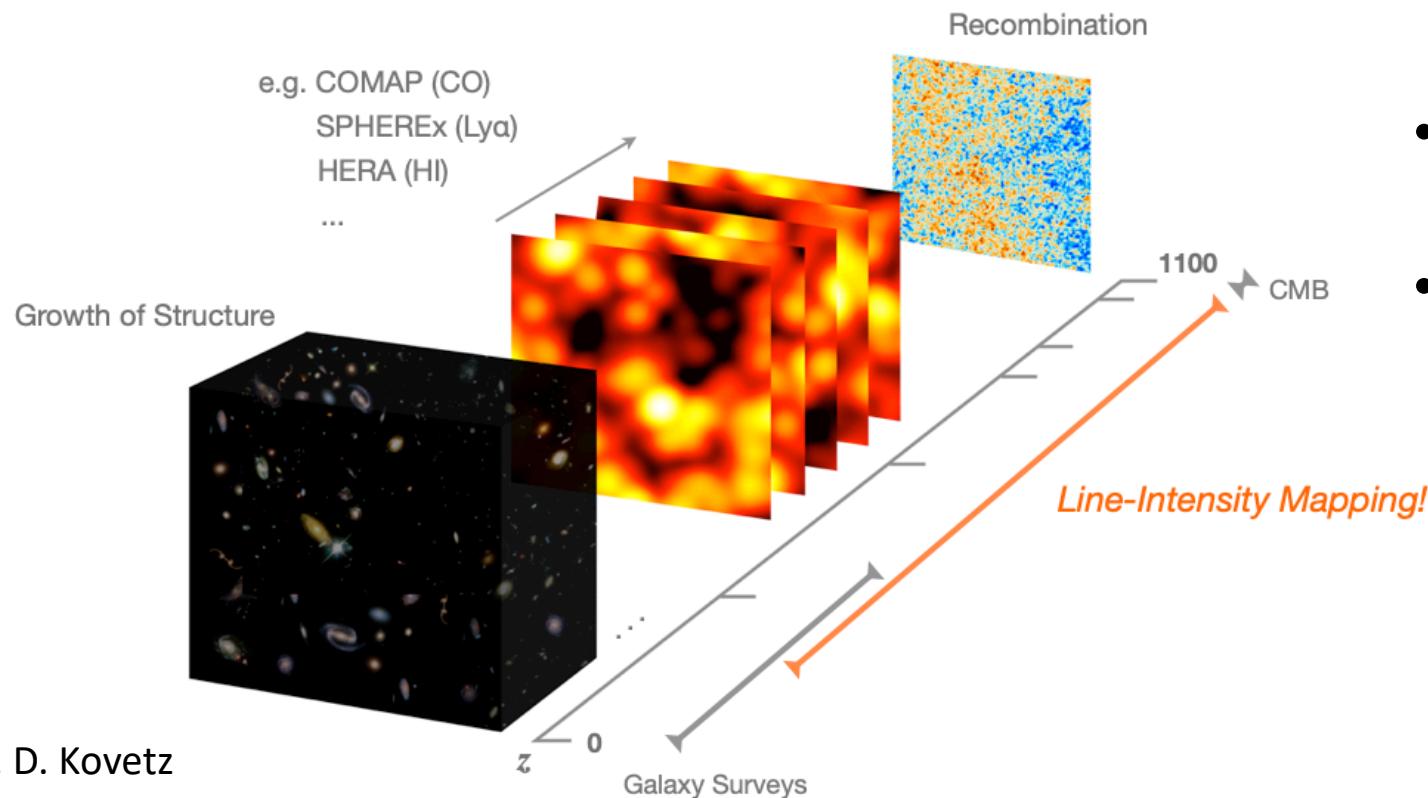


Growth of Structure



# Probing the Universe

How do we access the rest?

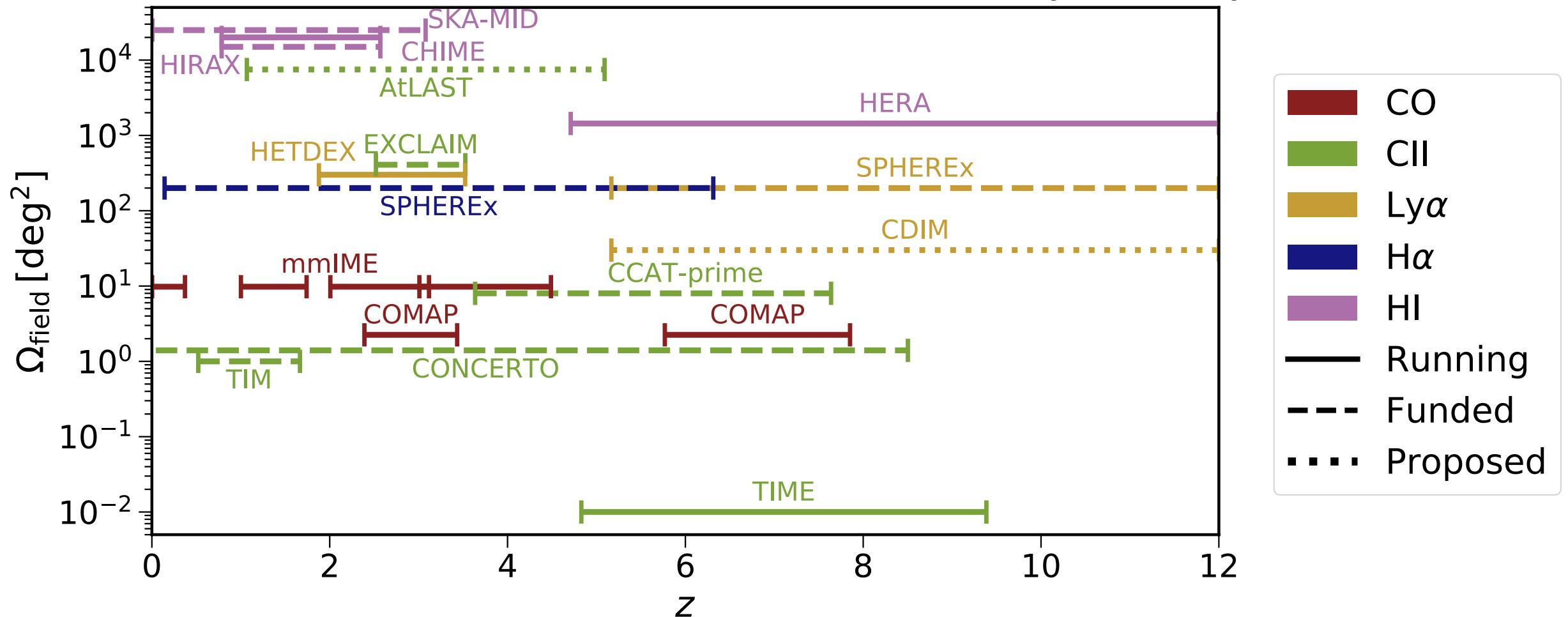


- Different stages of evolution across time
- But we have only exploited a small part
- LIM: fills the gap!

# Probing the Universe with LIM

- Exciting experimental landscape!

Sensitivity is also key!



# Using LIM for cosmology

- Focus on the anisotropic power spectrum:

$$P(k, \mu, z) = \langle T(z) \rangle^2 b^2(z) F_{RSD}^2(k, \mu, z) P_m(k, z) + P_{shot}(z)$$

The equation is  $P(k, \mu, z) = \langle T(z) \rangle^2 b^2(z) F_{RSD}^2(k, \mu, z) P_m(k, z) + P_{shot}(z)$ . Two arrows point from terms in the equation to their definitions. The first arrow points from  $\langle T(z) \rangle$  to  $\langle T(z) \rangle \propto \int L \frac{dn}{dL} dL$ . The second arrow points from  $P_{shot}$  to  $P_{shot} \propto \int L^2 \frac{dn}{dL} dL$ .

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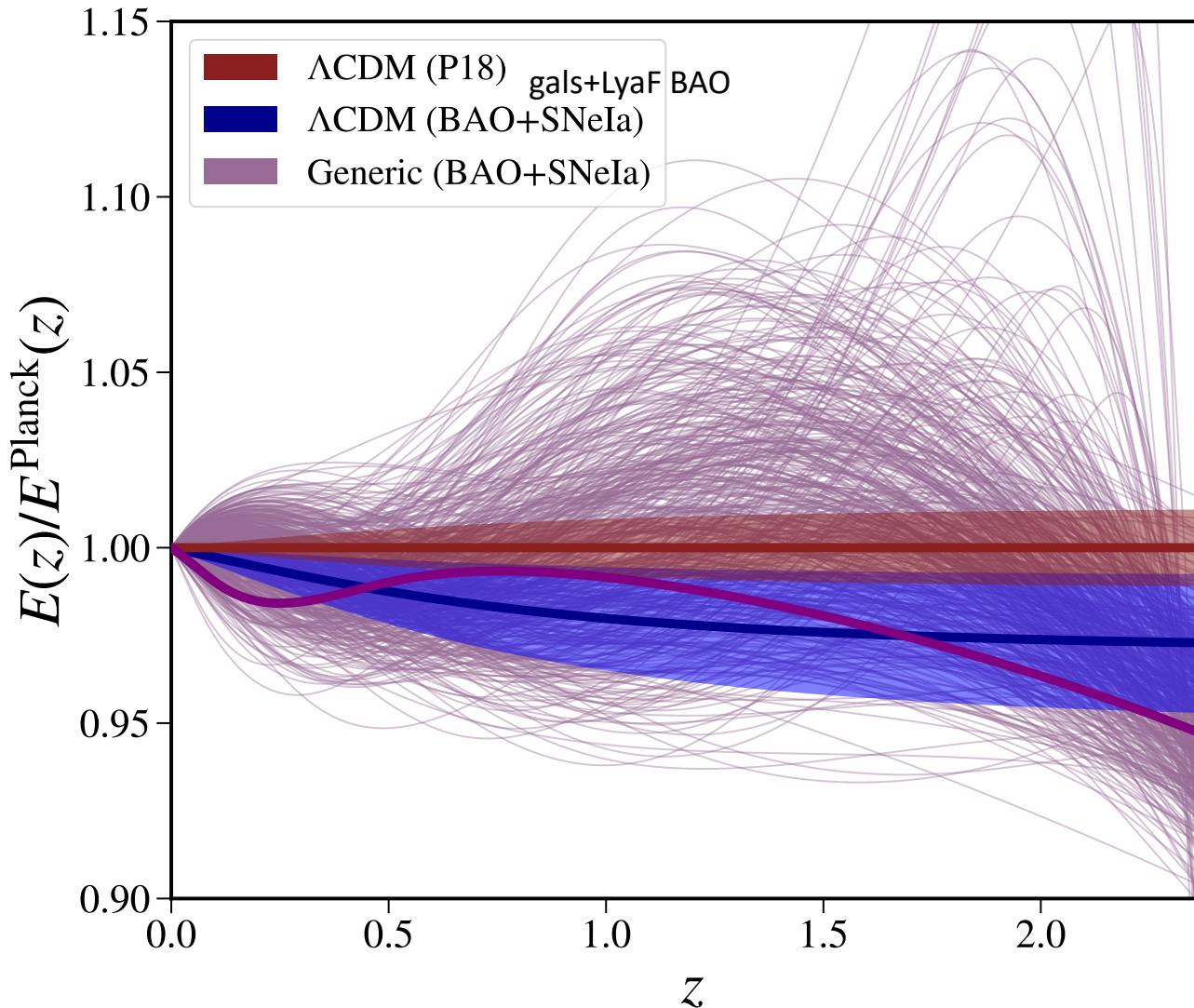
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- Amplitude determined by LF and bias
- Signal limited by resolution at small scales and by size of volume probed at large scales (modeled with window functions)
- Use Legendre multipoles to explore anisotropy!

# High-z vs low-z

Done using MABEL



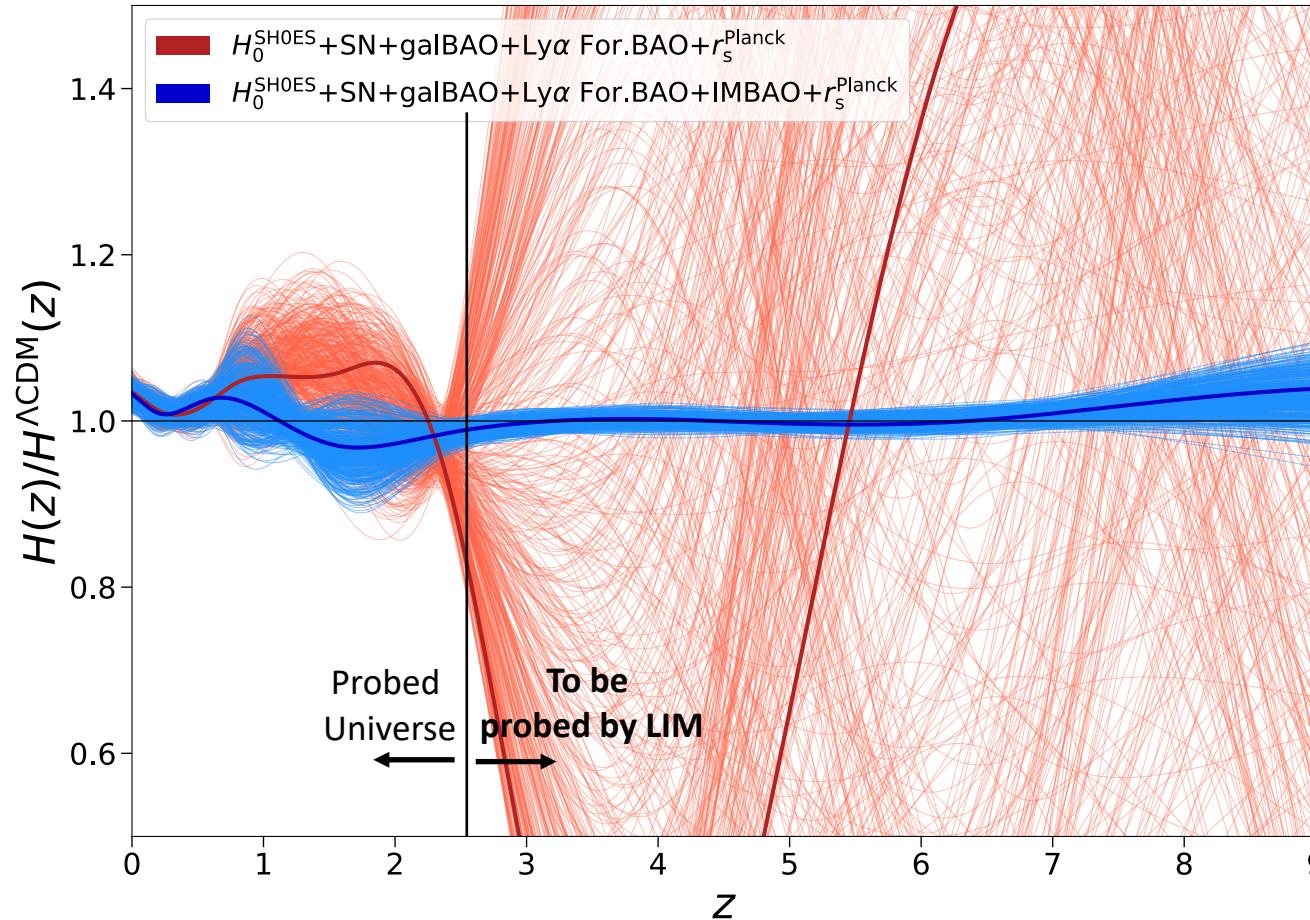
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**$r_d$  needs to be  
smaller to match a  
larger  $H_0$**

# $H(z)$ beyond the reach of galaxy surveys

Model  
independent  $H(z)$   
reconstructed with  
cubic splines

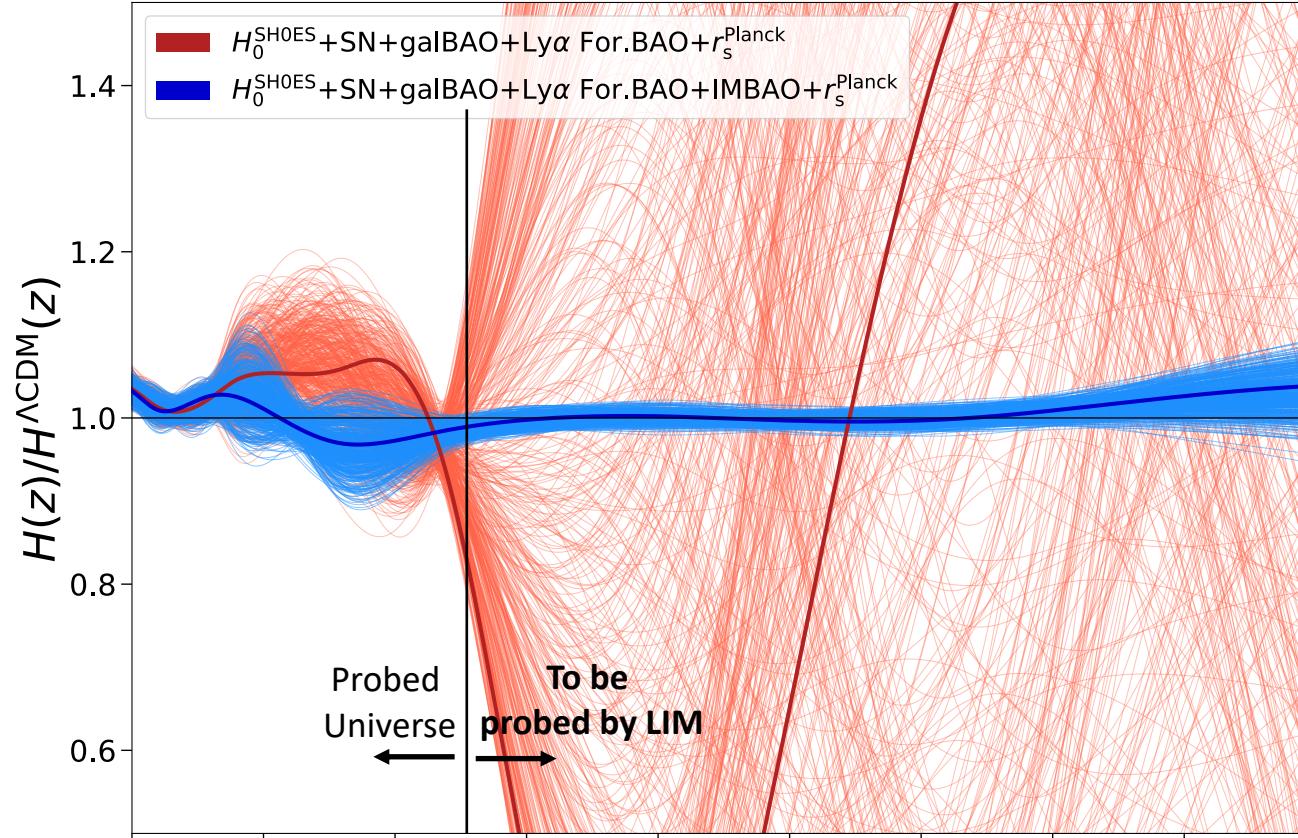


Bridge early and late Universe to probe post-recombination solutions

Current constraints using galaxy surveys  
(and  $H_0$  and  $r_s$ ) and **ADDING LIM BAO**

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Bridge early and late  
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Also a constraint on  $H_0 \times t_U \propto \int_0^z \frac{dz'}{(1+z')E(z')}$ ,  
To be compared with  $t_U$  measurements from GCs

JLB+2021  
Valcin,JLB+ 2020  
Valcin+ 2021

# Limitation of LIM $P(k)$

- Intensity maps are highly non-Gaussian: lots of information beyond  $P(k)$
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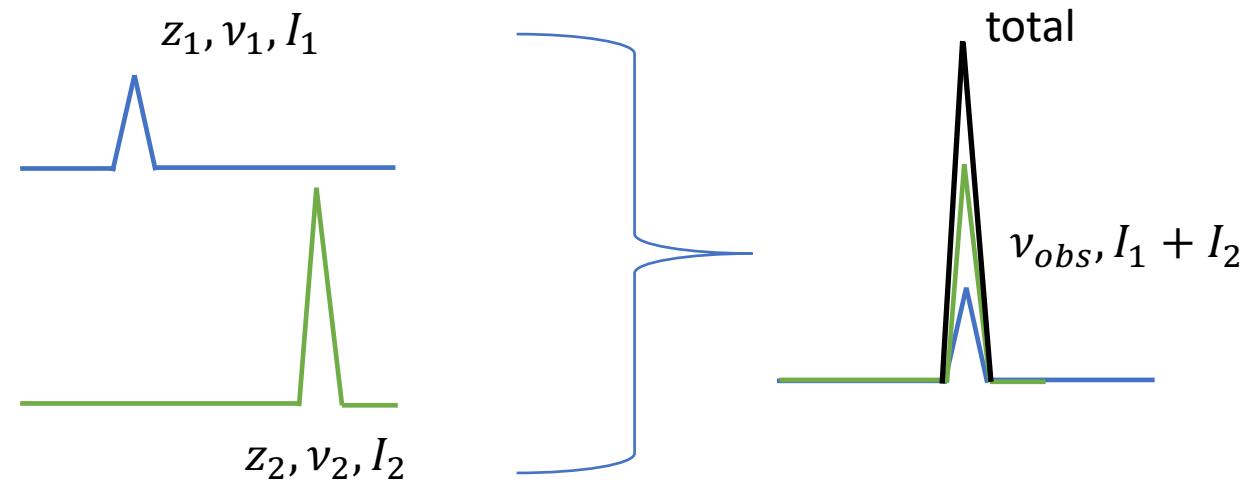
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**$P(k)$ : best for cosmo, integrals of luminosity functions**

**VID: best for astro, integrals of clustering**

# Contamination of intensity maps

- Continuous foregrounds: problem for HI surveys, less severe at higher frequencies
- **Line interlopers:** Main problem for higher freq. LIM surveys
  - $\nu_{obs} = \nu/(1+z) = \nu'/(1+z') \rightarrow$  other lines redshifted to same  $\nu_{obs}$



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**Exotic radiative decays would be inadvertently detected as a line interloper!!**

# Exotic radiative decays

- Decaying dark matter:  $\chi \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$

$$\nu_\gamma = m_\chi c^2 / 2h_P$$

$$\rho_L^\chi(x, z) = \rho_\chi(x, z) c^2 \Theta_\chi \Gamma_\chi f_\chi f_{\gamma\gamma} f_{esc} (1 + 2\mathcal{F}_\gamma)$$

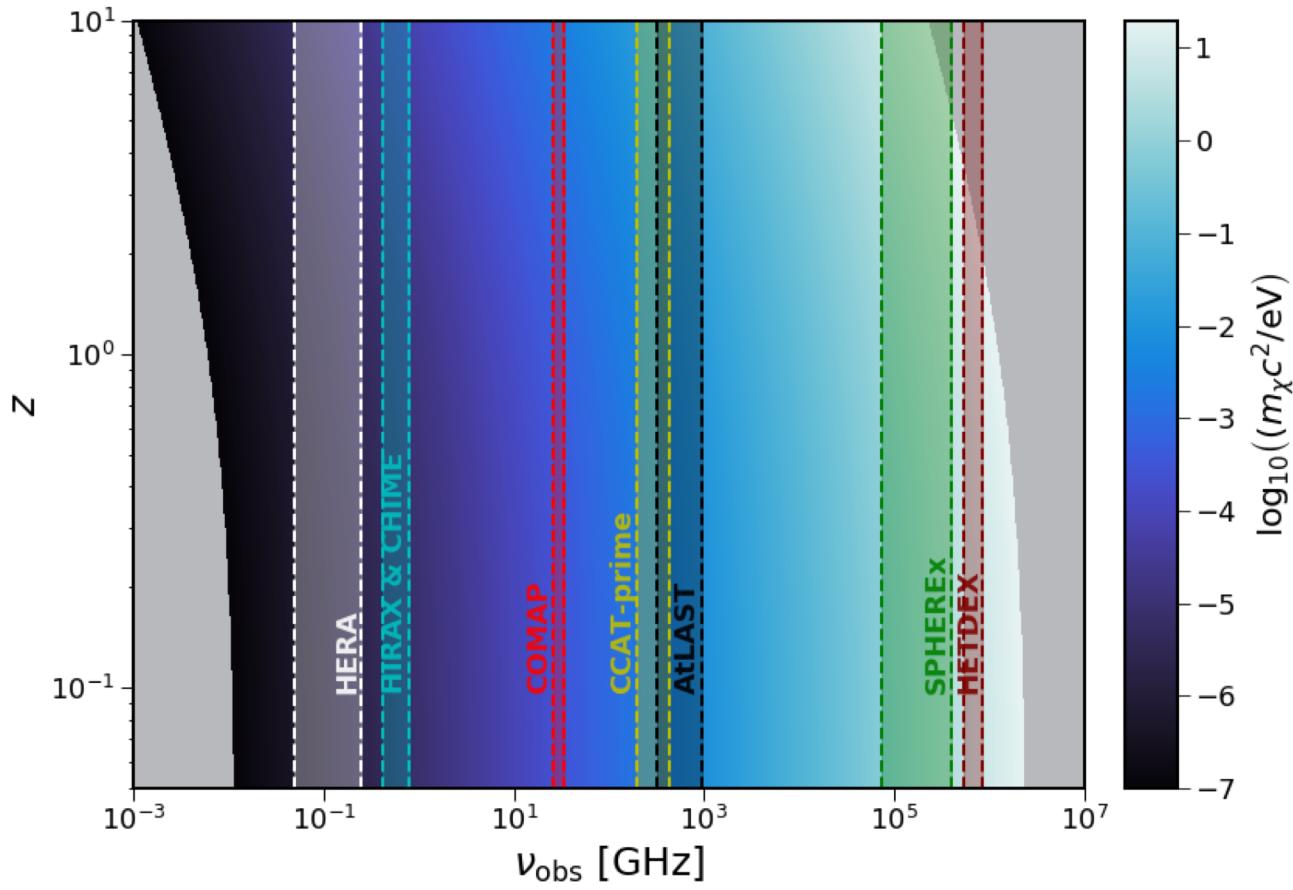
- Traces directly the DM density field

# Exotic radiative decays

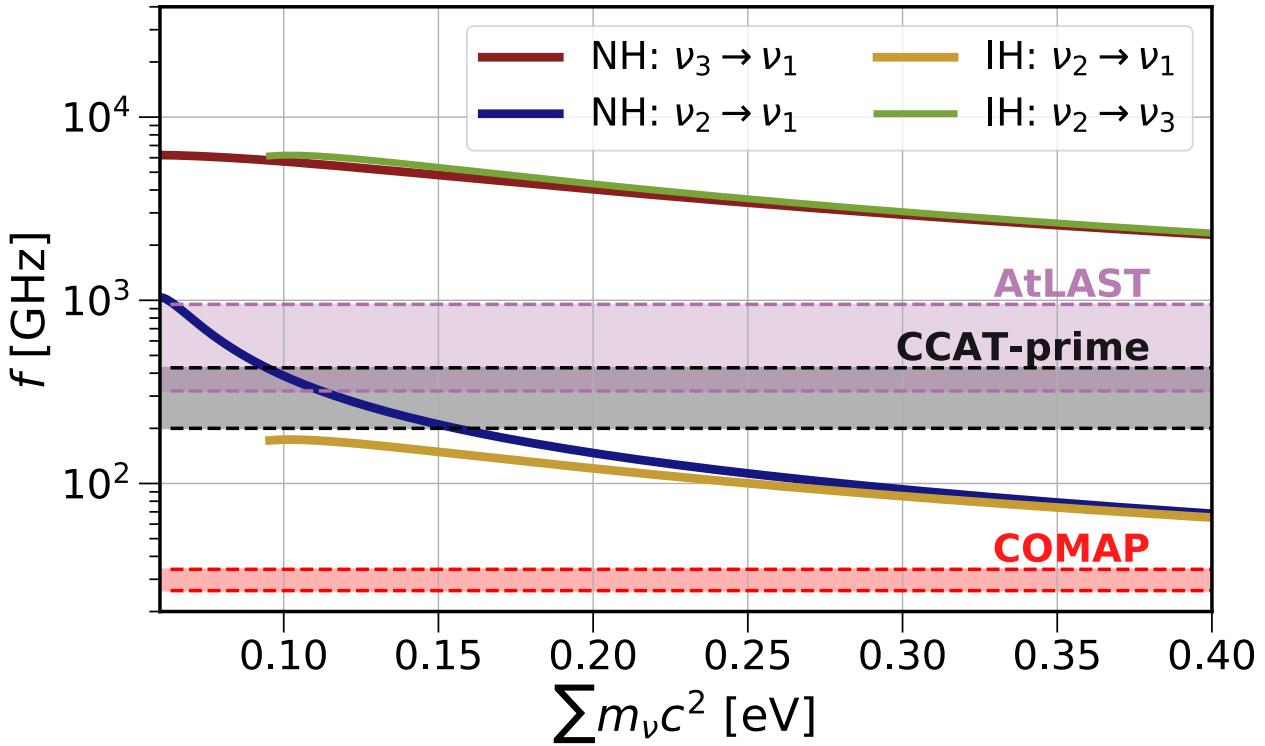
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# Exotic radiative decays



- Neutrino decay:  $\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j + \gamma$

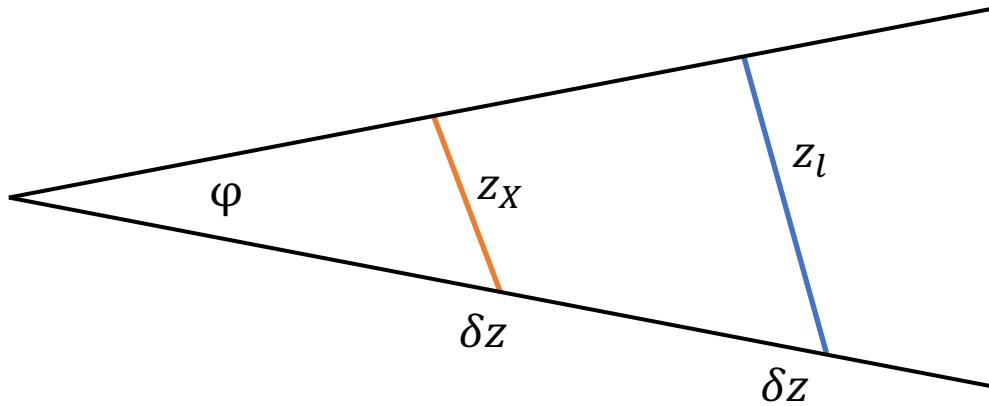
$$f_{ij} = (m_i^2 - m_j^2)c^2 / 2h_P m_i$$

$$\rho_L^{ij}(x, z) = \frac{1}{6} \rho_\nu(x, z) c^2 \Gamma_{ij} \left( 1 - \frac{m_j^2}{m_i^2} \right)$$

- Traces directly the cosmic neutrino density field

# Effect in power spectrum

- Confusion in redshift

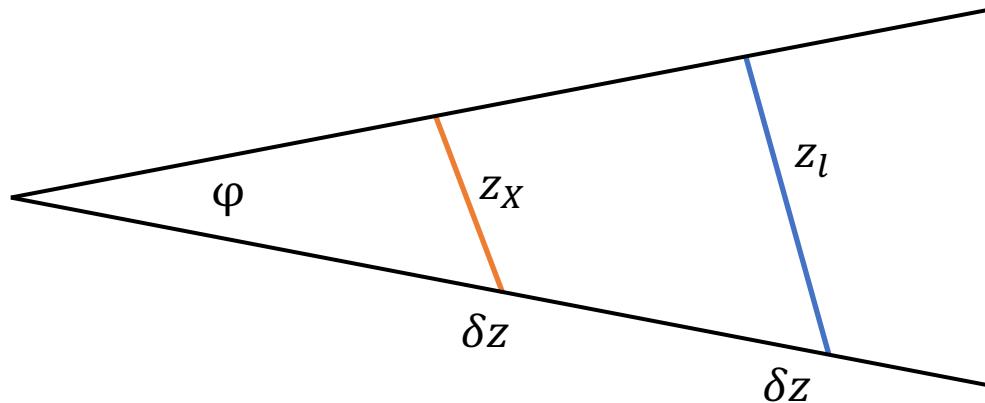


$$x_{\perp} = D_M(z)\theta$$

$$x_{\parallel} = \frac{c\delta z}{H(z)}$$

# Effect in power spectrum

- Confusion in redshift → projection effects → **extra anisotropy**



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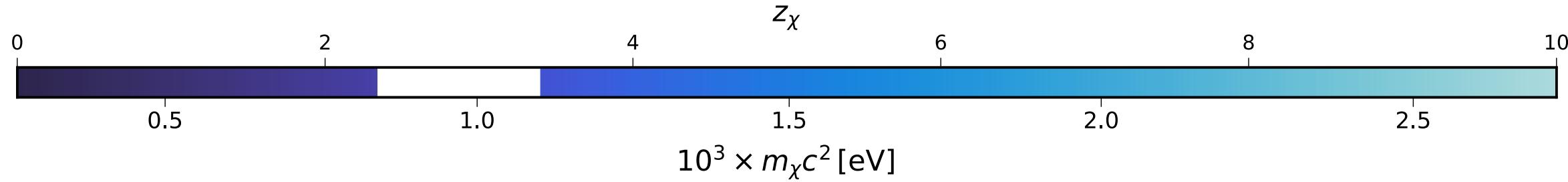
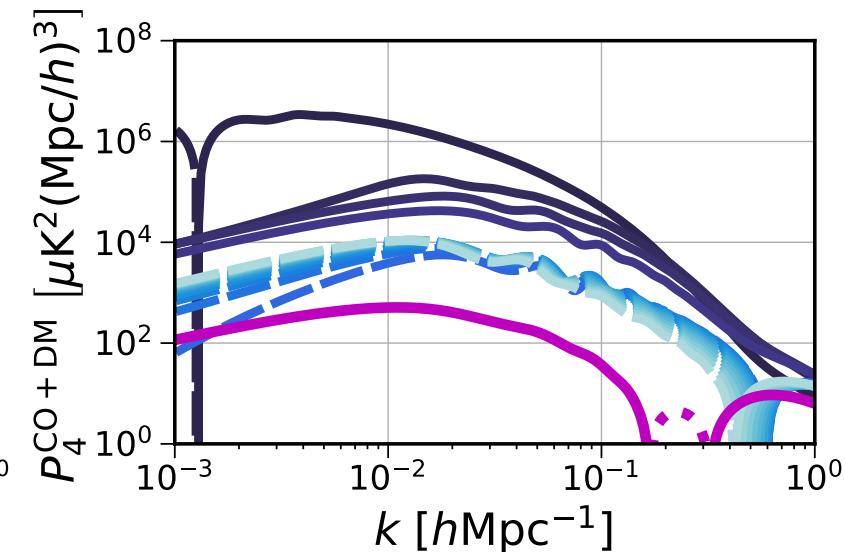
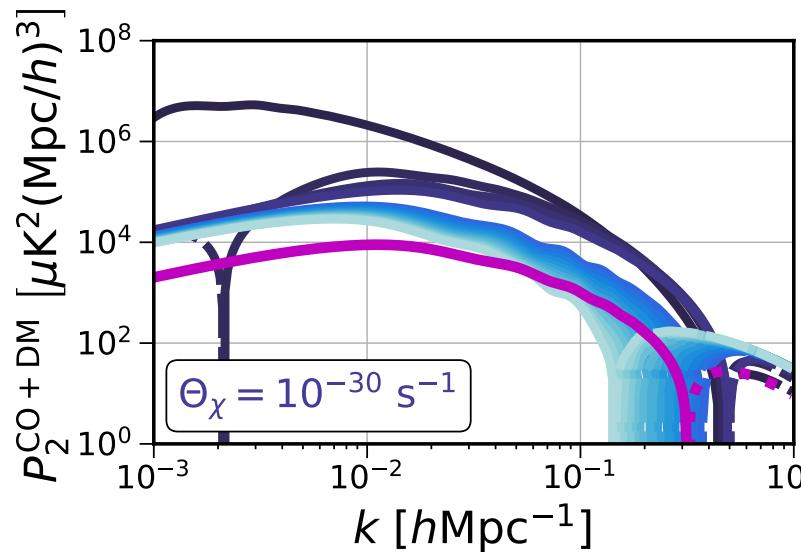
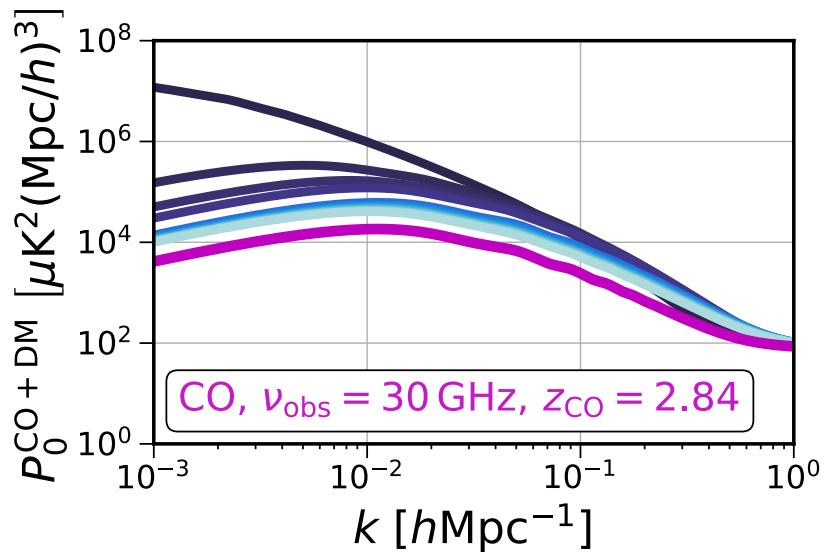
- Model it similar to AP effect:  $k_i^{true} \equiv k_i^{infer}/q_i$

$$q_{\parallel} = \frac{(1+z_X)/H(z_X)}{(1+z_l)/H(z_l)}$$

$$q_{\perp} = \frac{D_M(z_X)}{D_M(z_l)}$$

# Effect in power spectrum

- $P_{tot} = P_l + P_X$ ;  $k_i^{true} \equiv k_i^{infer} / q_i$



# Effect in VID

- Each voxel receives contributions from both emissions:

$$T_{tot} = T_l + T_{noise}$$

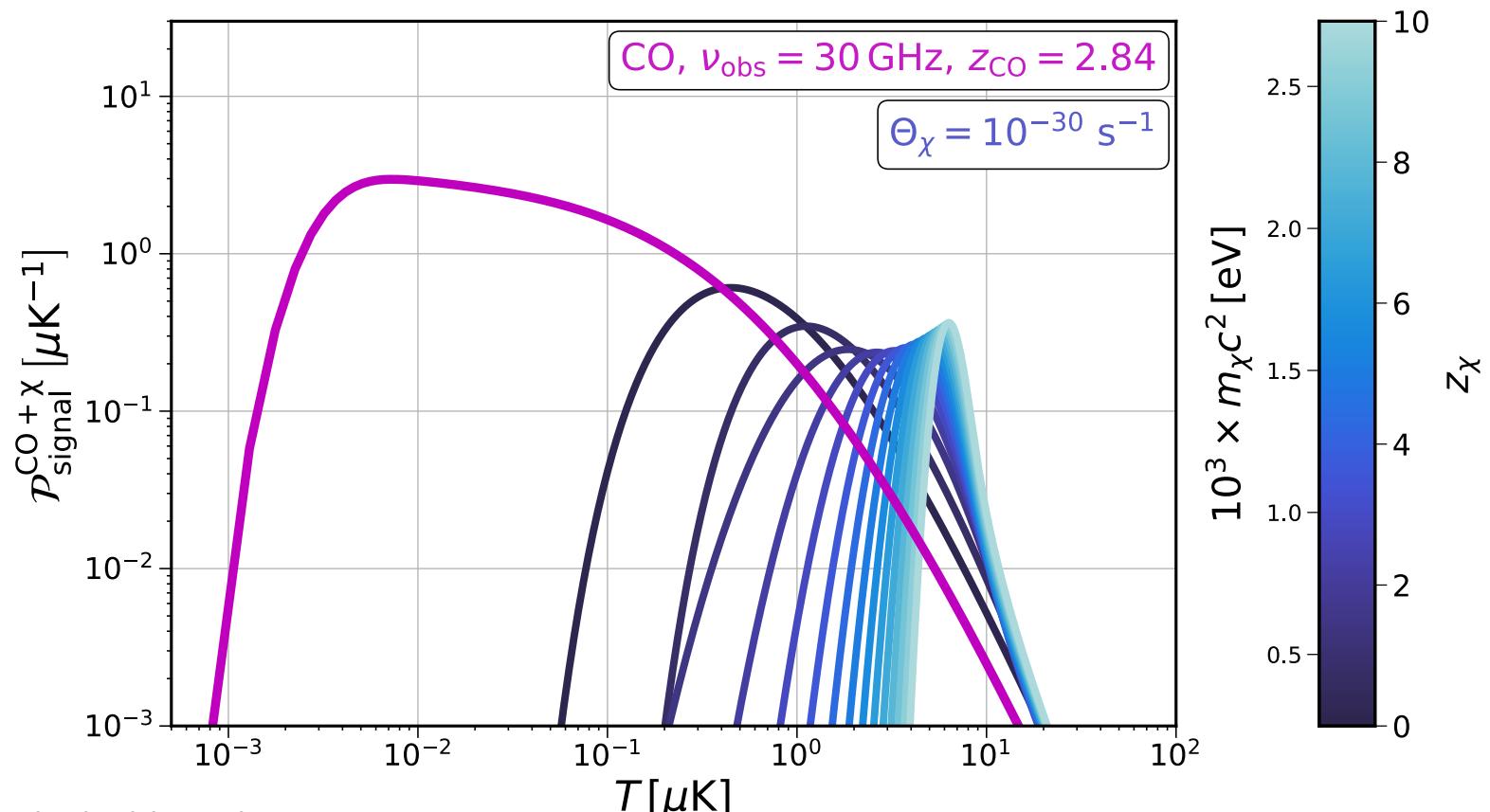
$$\mathcal{P}_{tot+X}(T) = ((\mathcal{P}_l * \mathcal{P}_X) * \mathcal{P}_{noise})(T); \quad \mathcal{P}_X = \mathcal{P}_{\tilde{\rho}} / \langle T_X \rangle$$

- $\mathcal{P}_{\tilde{\rho}}$ : PDF of normalized densities. Obtained from simulations
- We provide the first analytic fit to  $\mathcal{P}_{\tilde{\rho}_v}$ , using Quijote simulations and symbolic regression

# Effect in VID

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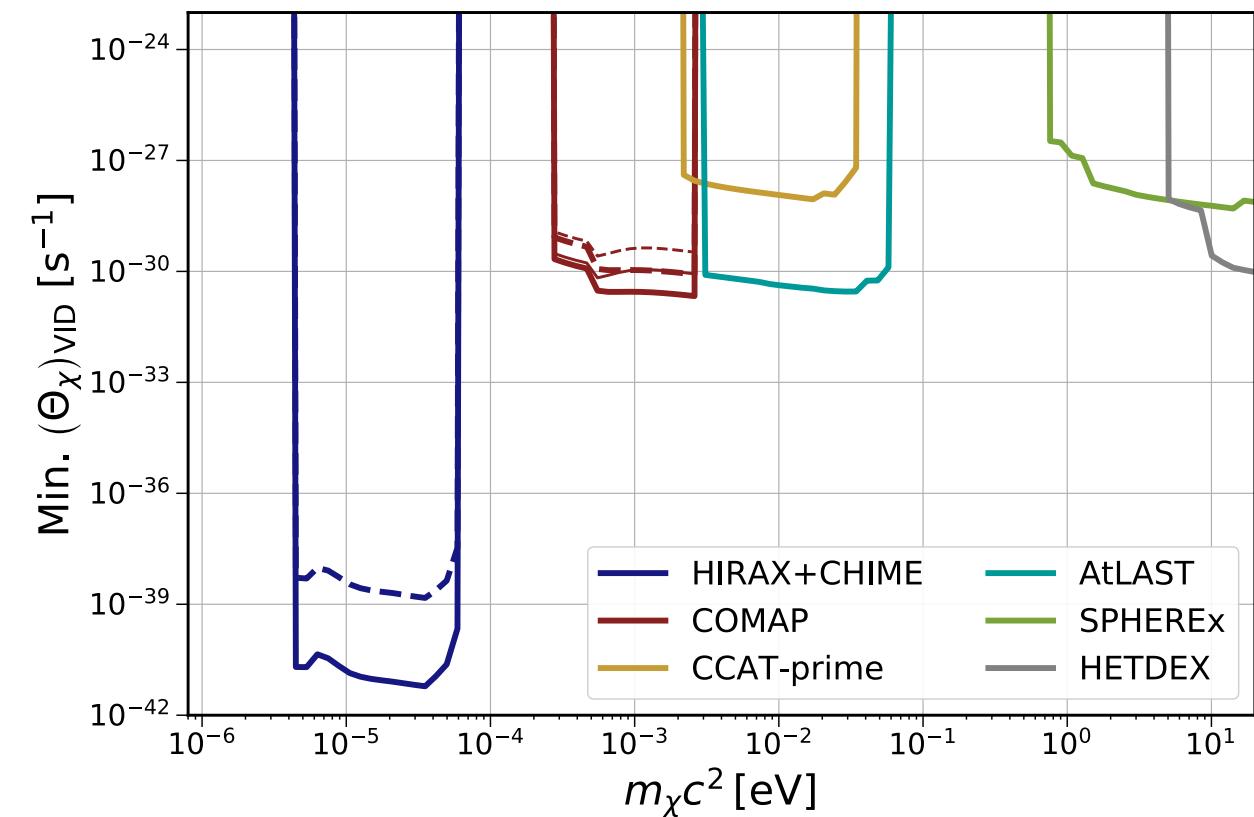
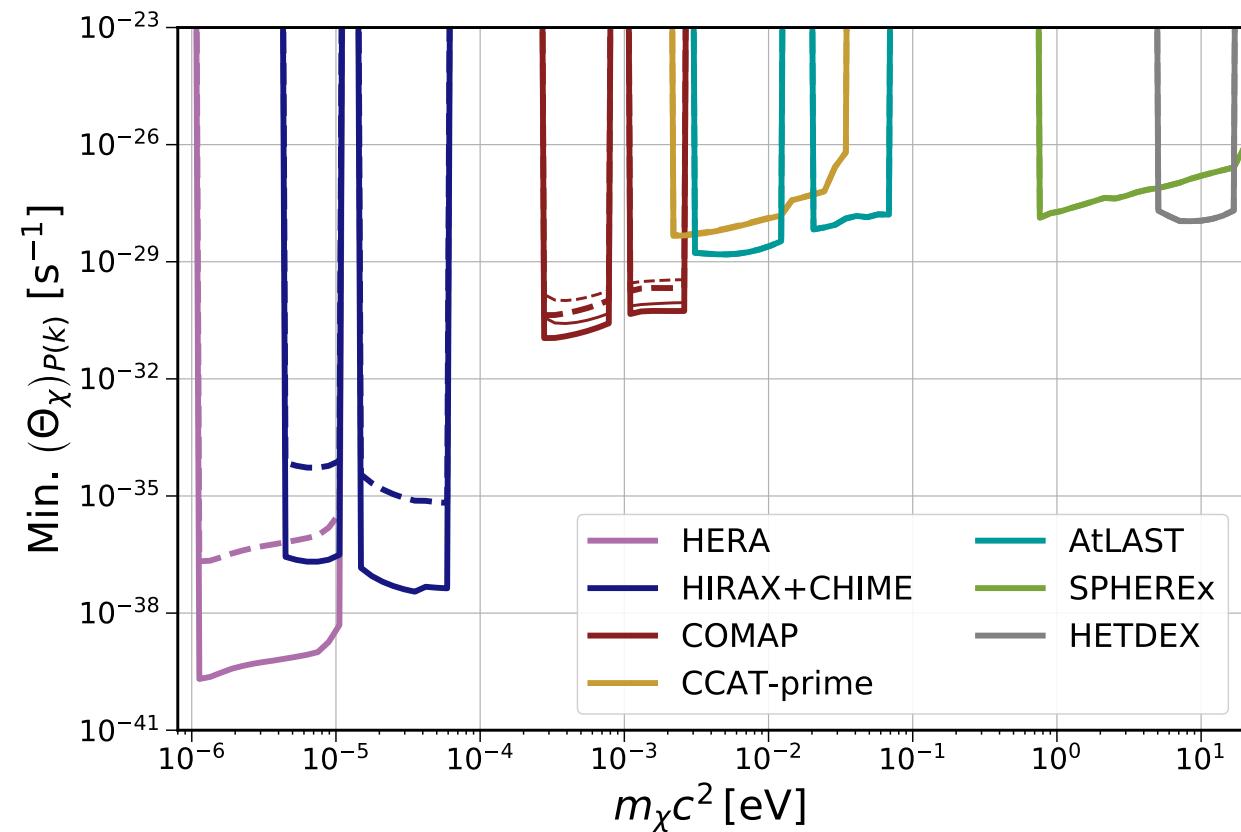
$$\mathcal{P}_{tot+\chi}(T) = \left( (\mathcal{P}_l * \mathcal{P}_\chi) * \mathcal{P}_{noise} \right)(T); \quad \mathcal{P}_\chi = \mathcal{P}_{\tilde{\rho}} / \langle T_\chi \rangle$$



No noise contribution included here!

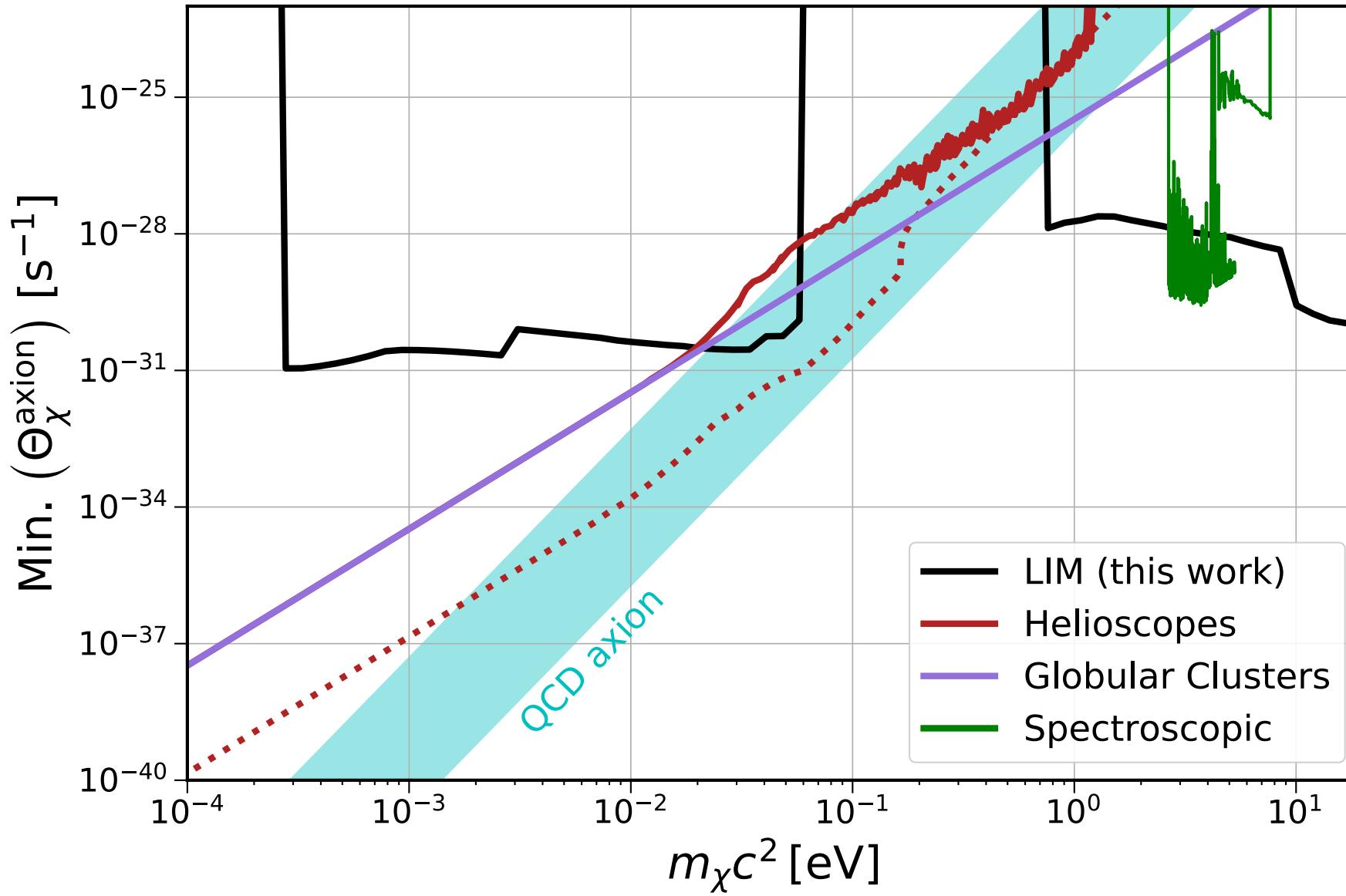
# Sensitivity to DM decays

- After marginalizing over astrophysical uncertainties of the target emission line

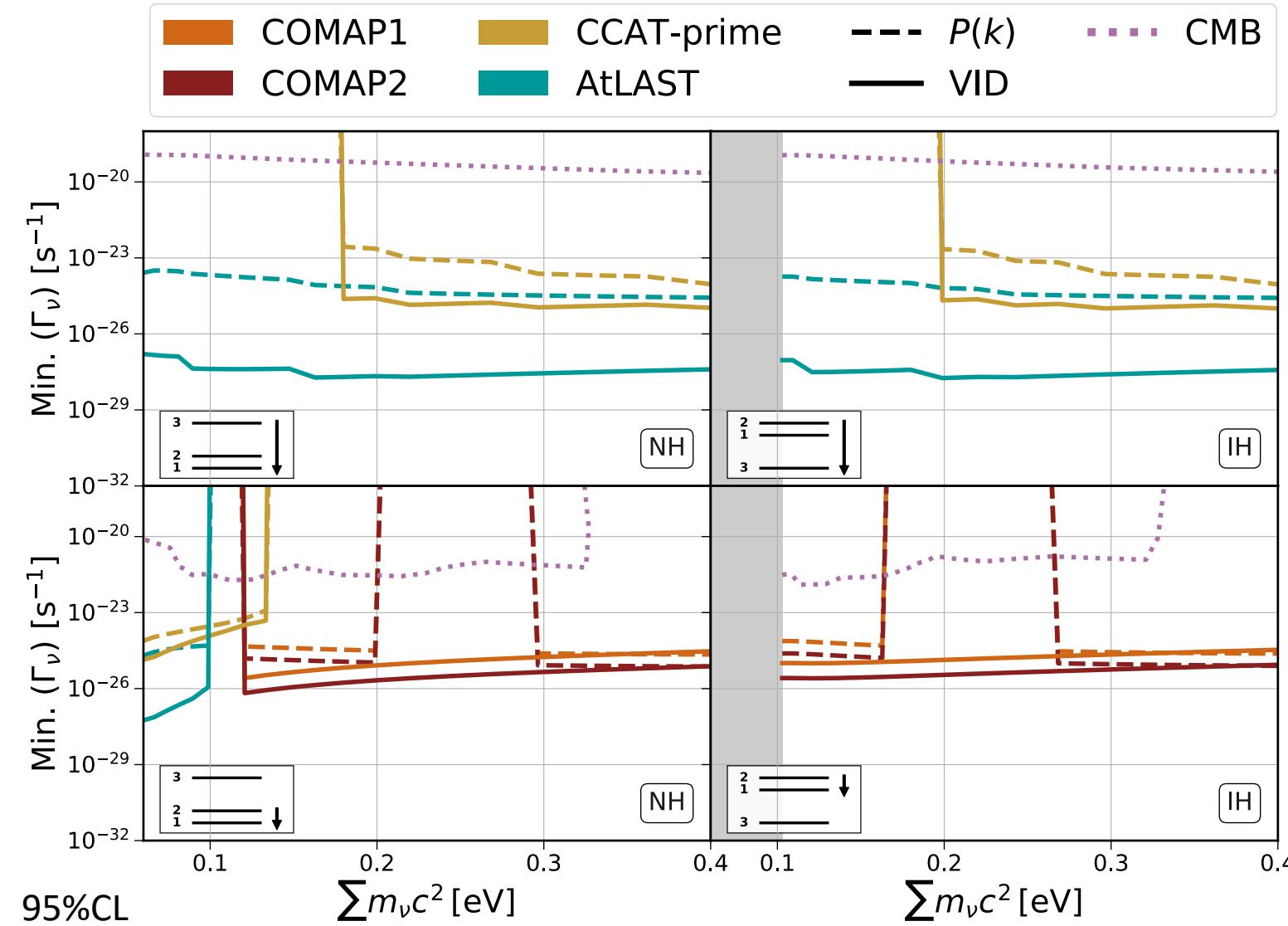


95%CL

# Sensitivity in axion context



# Sensitivities to neutrino decay



$$\Gamma_{ij} \sim 10^{-28} - 10^{-25} s^{-1}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\mu_{ij}^{eff} \sim 10^{-12} - 10^{-8} \left( \frac{m_i c^2}{0.1 \text{ eV}} \right)^{1.5} \mu_B$$

- CMB forecast:  $3 \times 10^{-11} - 10^{-8} \mu_B$
- Borexino:  $< 2.8 \times 10^{-11} \mu_B$
- TRGB:  $< 4.5 \times 10^{-12} \mu_B$

# Challenges & improvements

- Challenges:
  - Astrophysical uncertainties: marginalized over them
  - Other contaminants: modeled loss information
  - Line broadening
- Reasons to be optimistic:
  - Extensible to other summary statistics
  - Combination with cross-correlations with galaxy clustering and weak lensing
  - Confusion between DM and neutrino decays: characteristic differences when combining summary statistics and probes
  - Targeted masking to increase relative exotic contributions

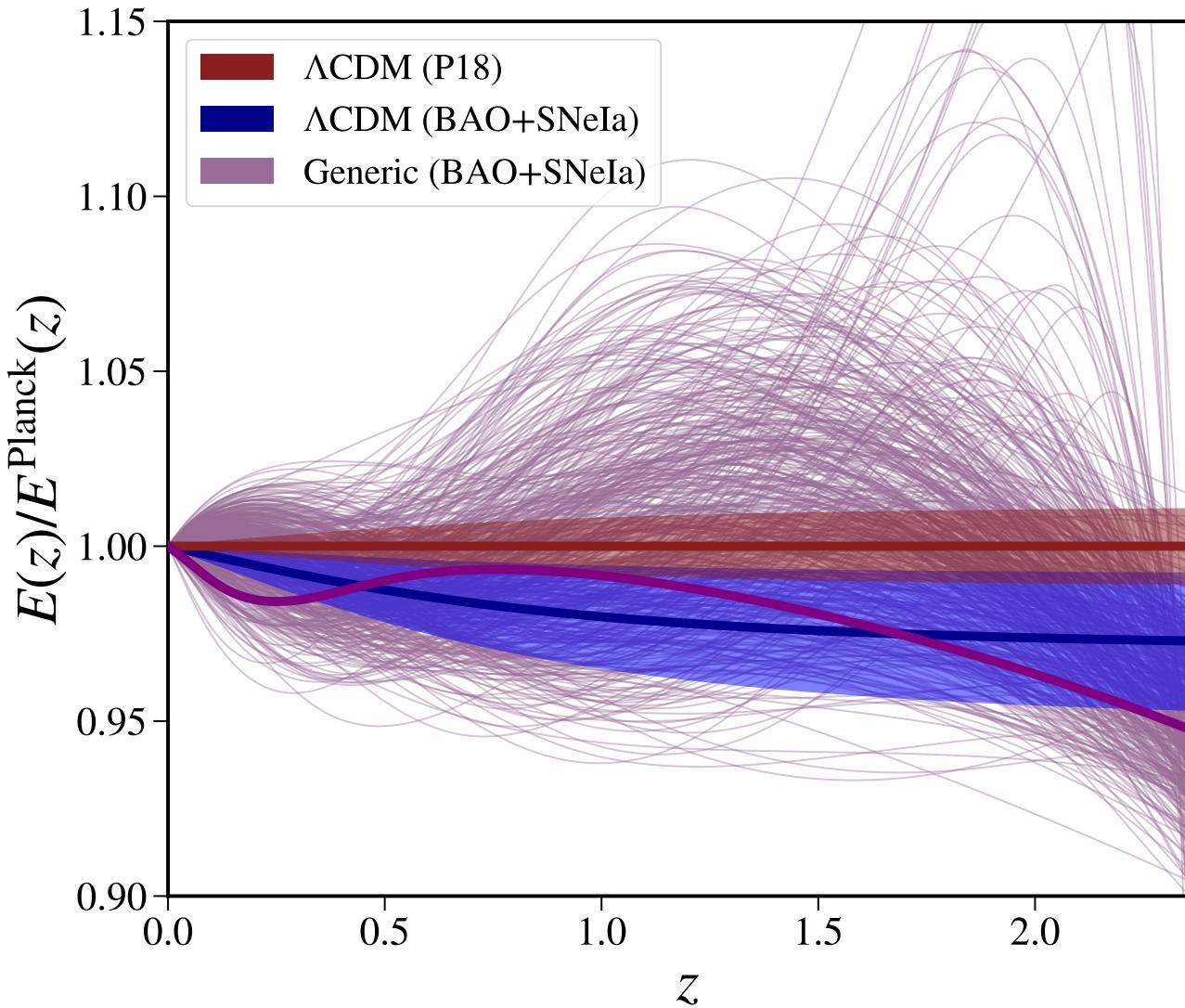
# Conclusions

- LIM holds a great potential to unadvertedly detect exotic radiative decays as line-interlopers.
- Adapting techniques to identify and model interlopers is a cheap and powerful strategy.
- General treatment, for phenomenological DM and neutrino decays that can be translated later to specific models
- Sensitivity extremely competitive:
  - DM: HETDEX & SPHEREx will improve current constraints (1-10 eV) and AtLAST will be similar to IAXO (0.01-0.1 eV)
  - Neutrinos: Improve CMB forecasts and competitive with best constraints

Back up slides

# High-z vs low-z

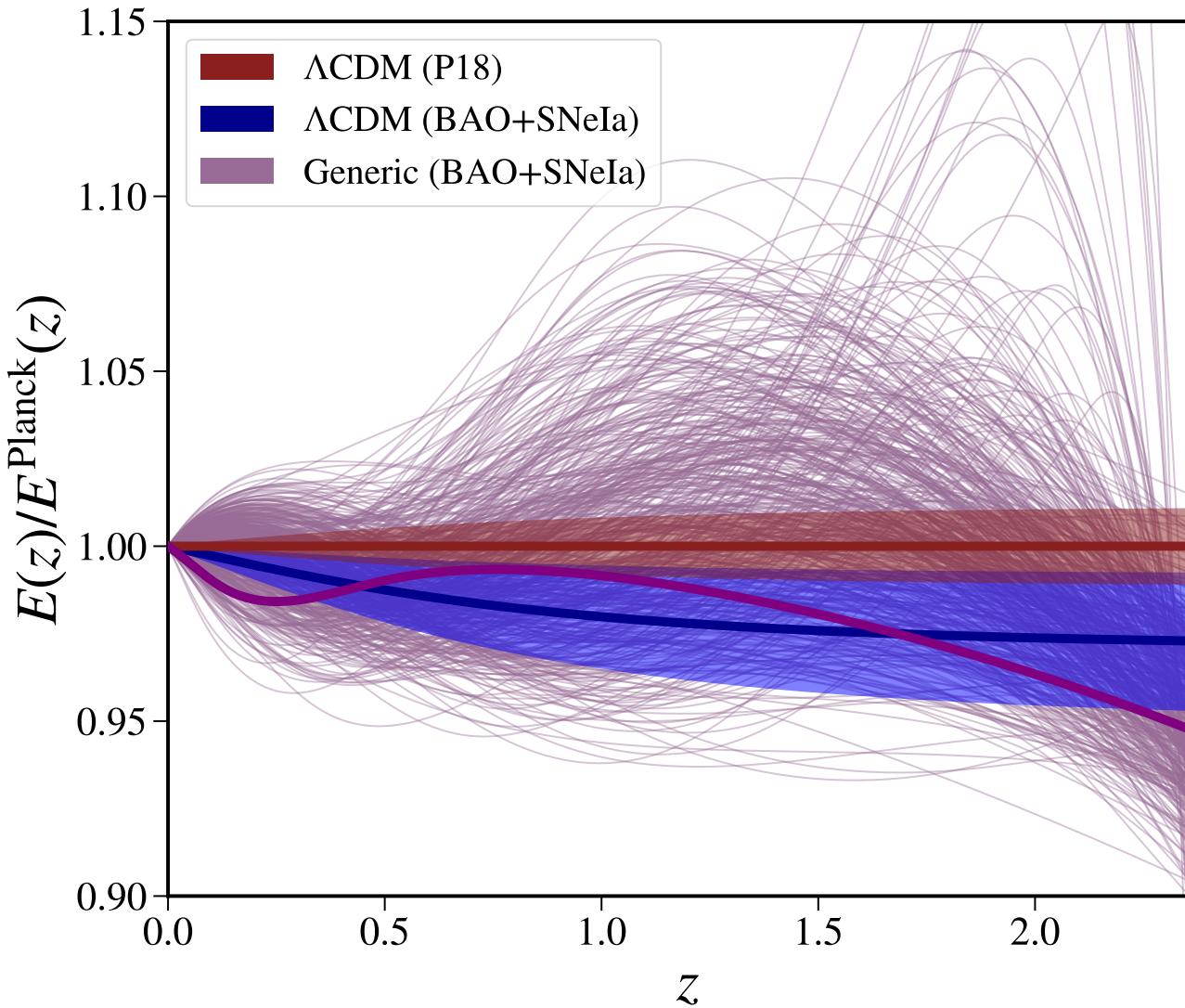
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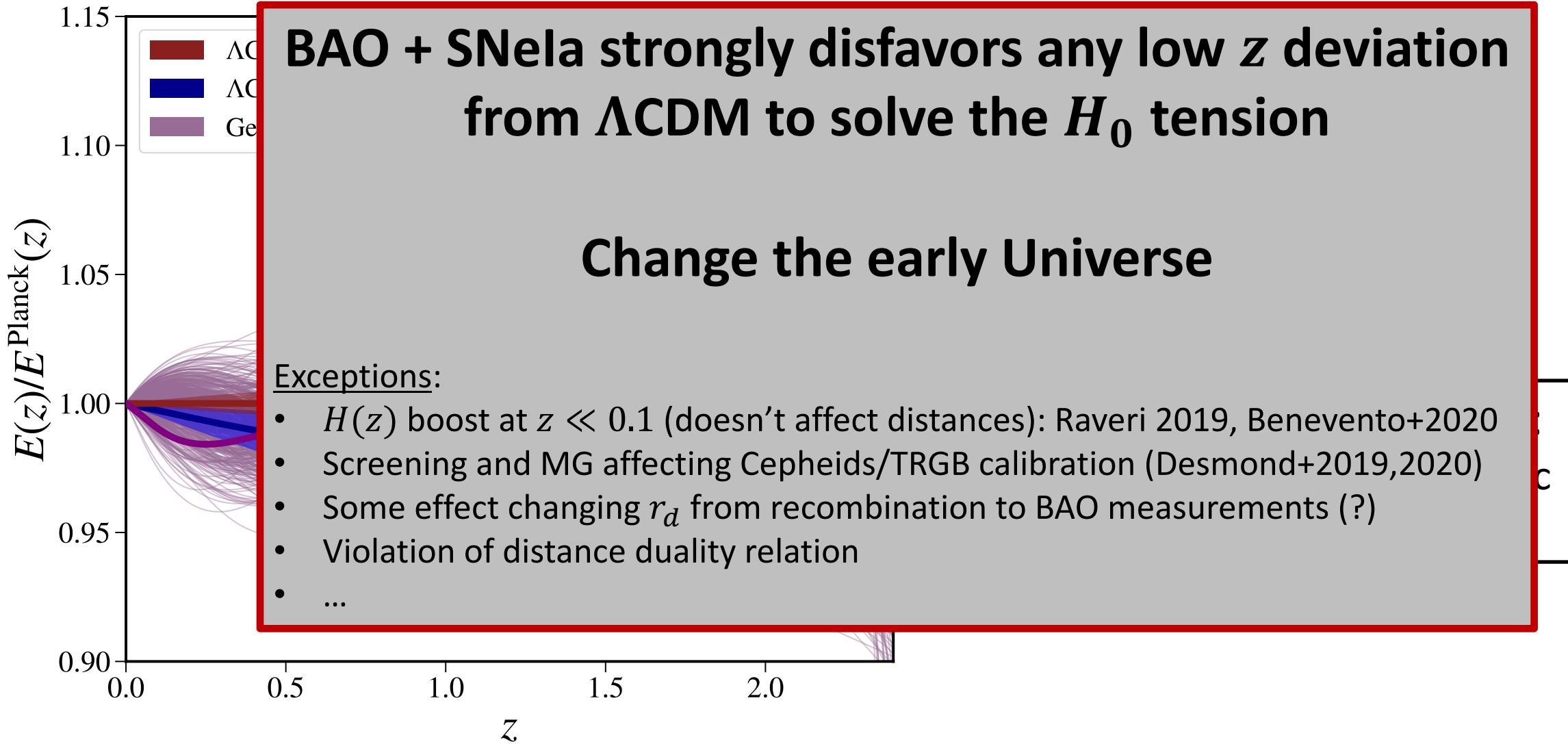
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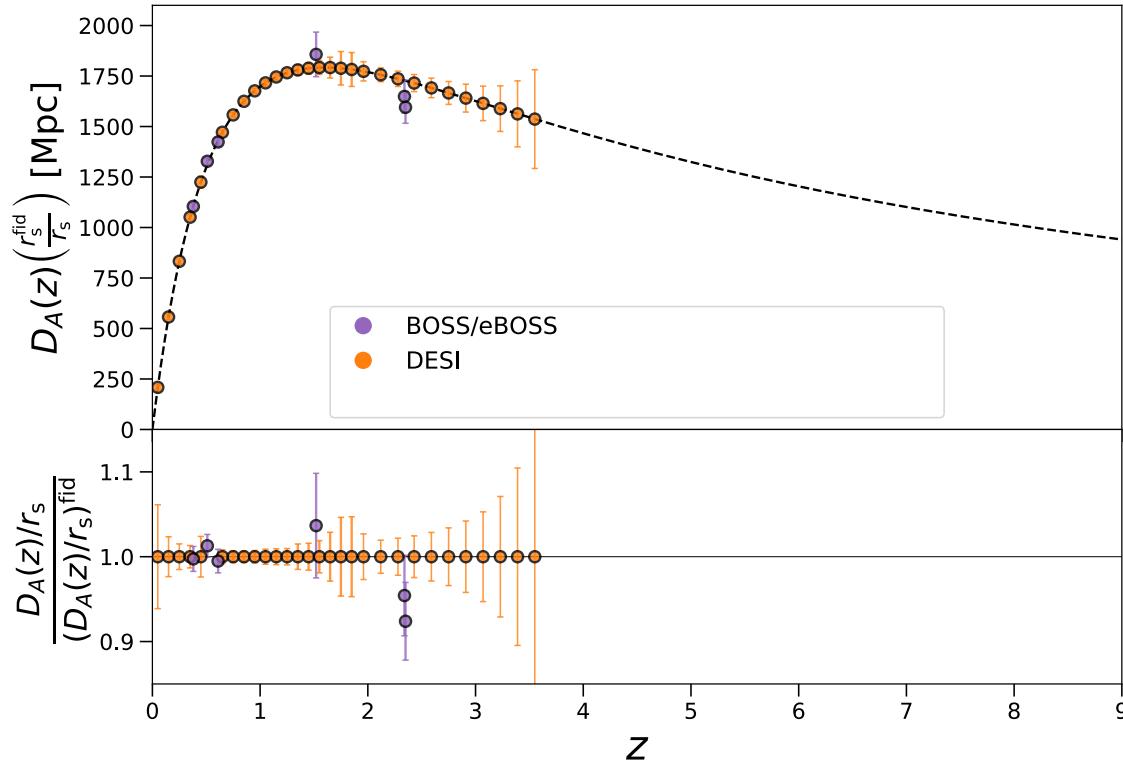
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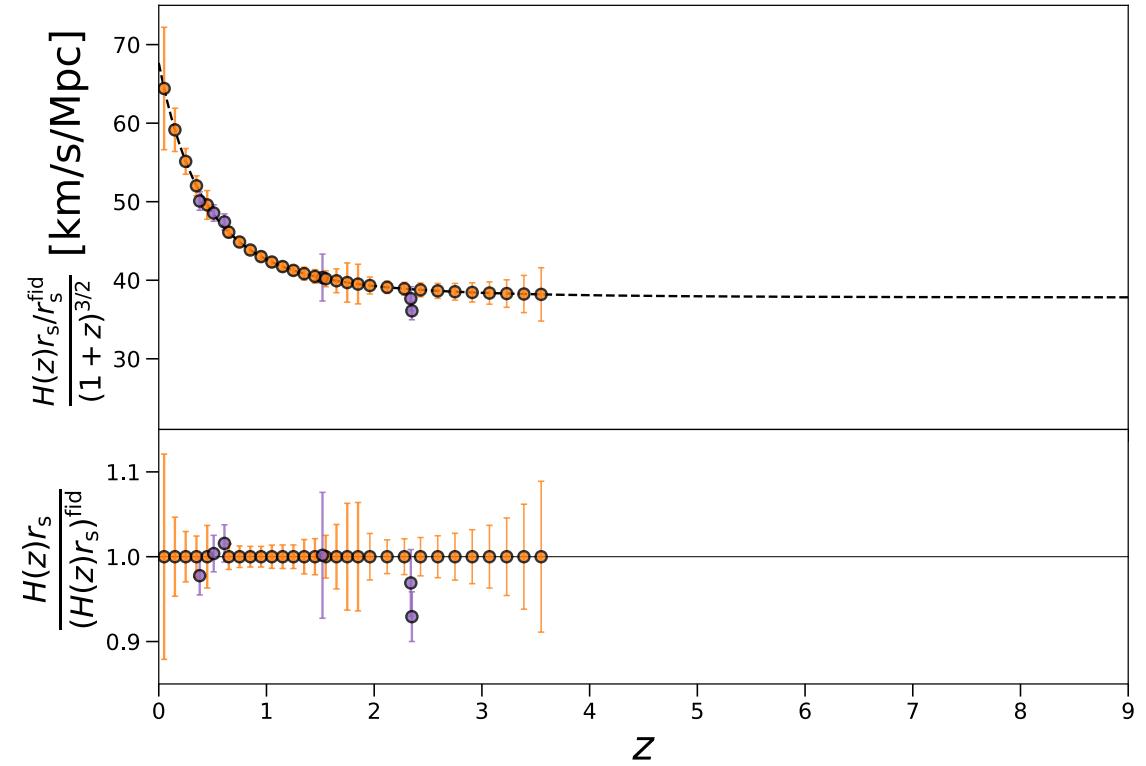


# LIM BAO

Angular diameter distance



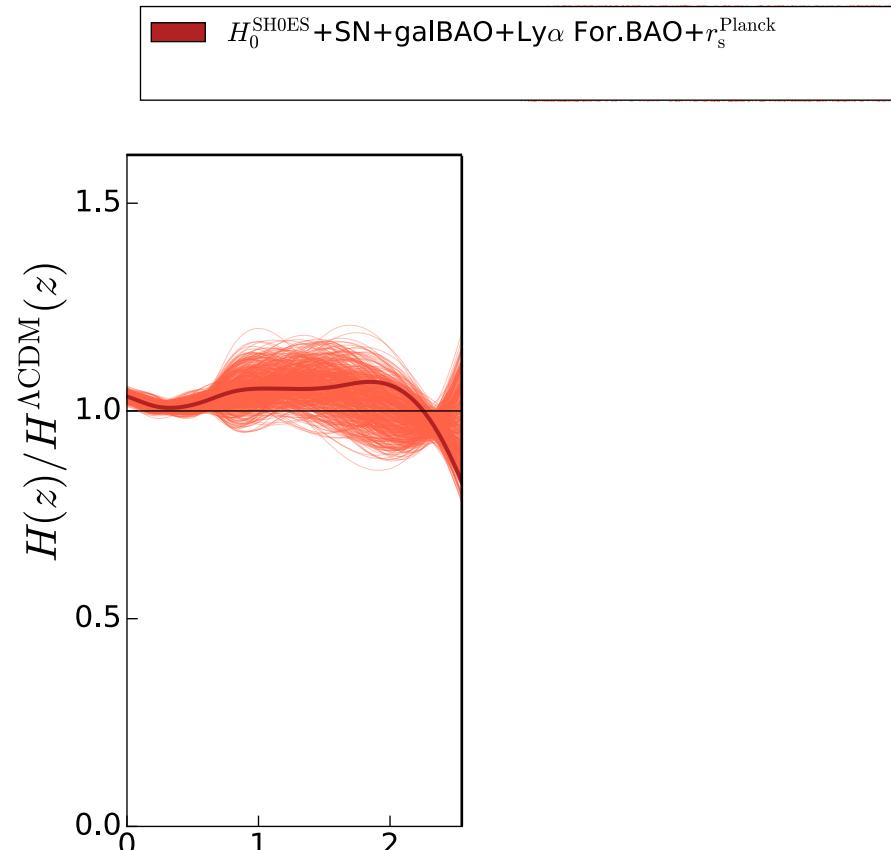
Hubble parameter



Current and coming constraints using galaxy surveys

# Constraining the expansion history

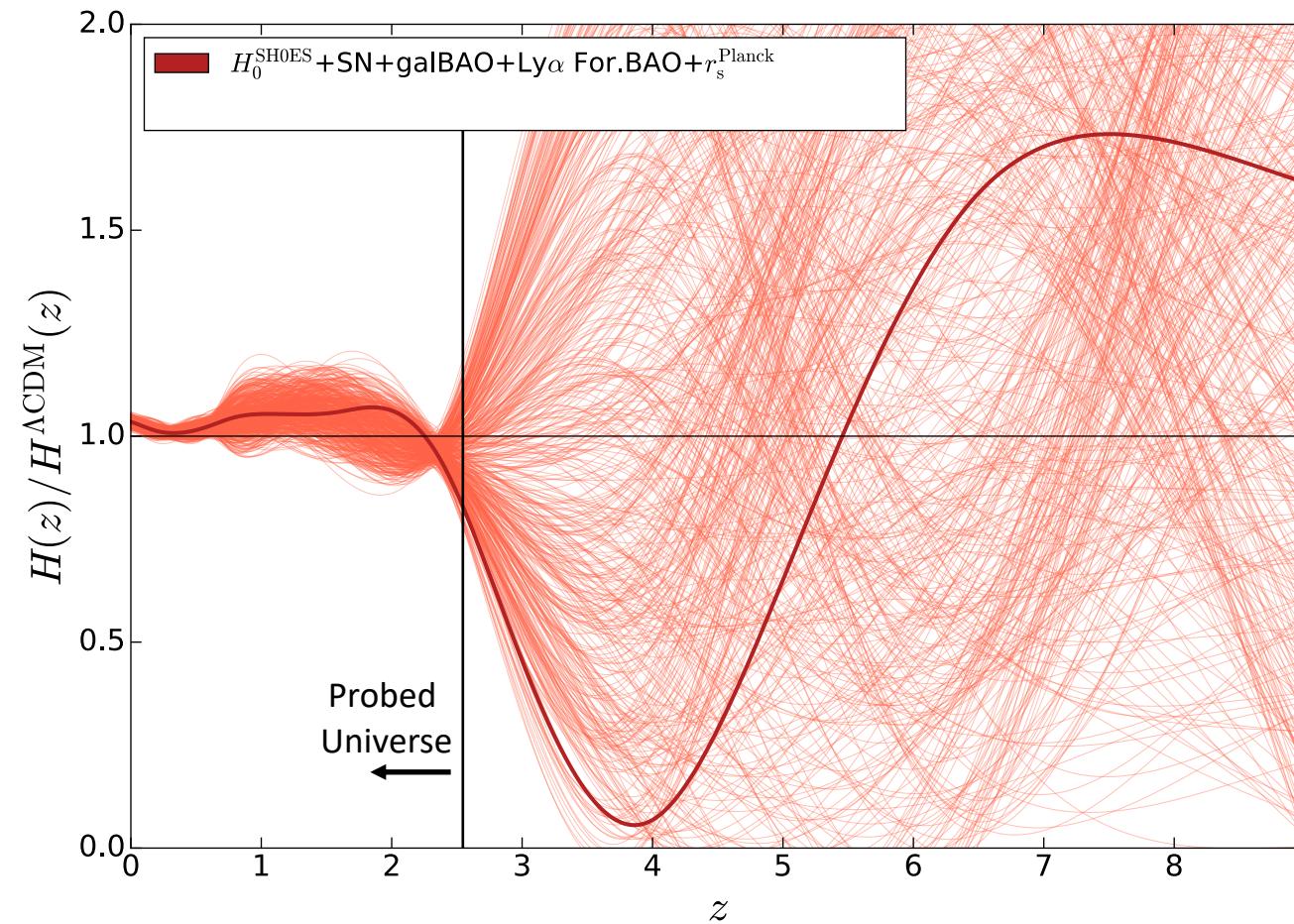
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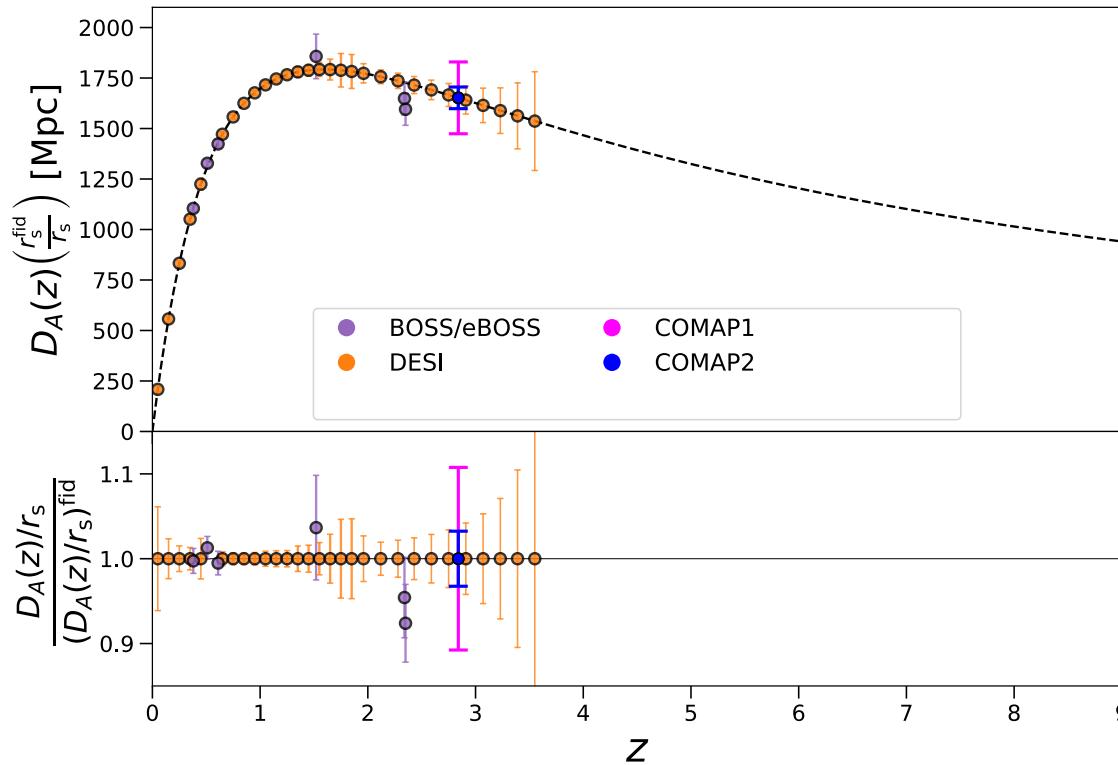
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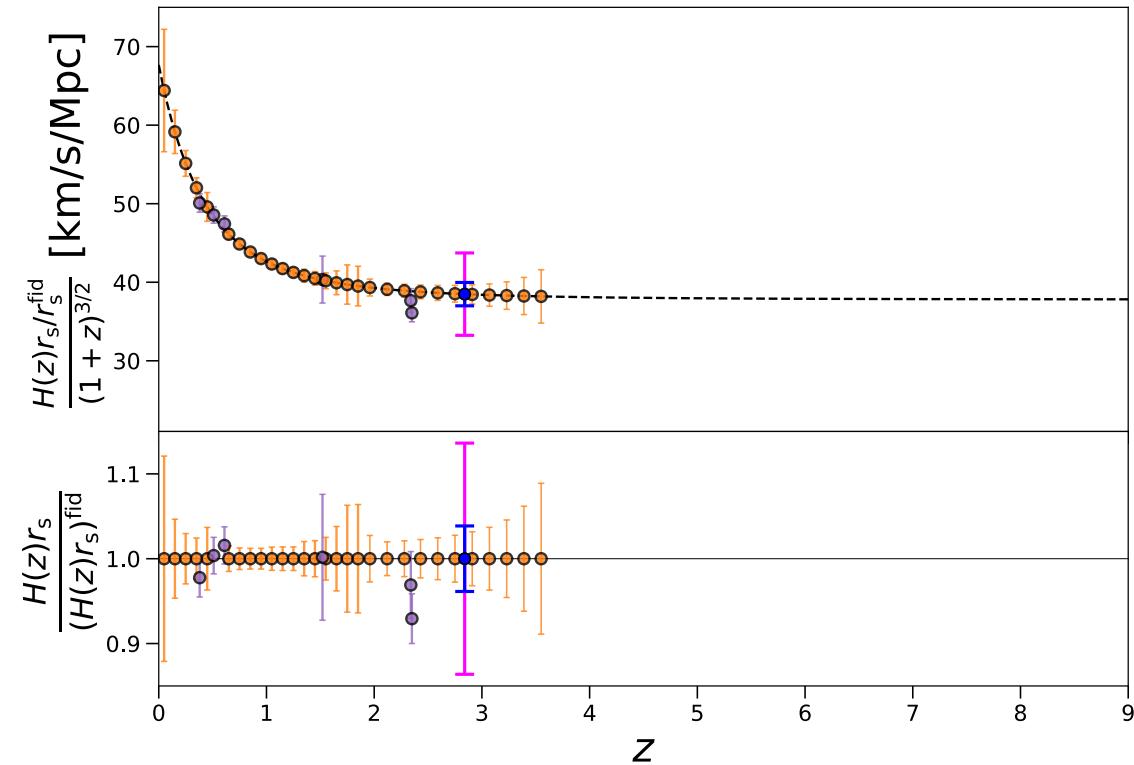
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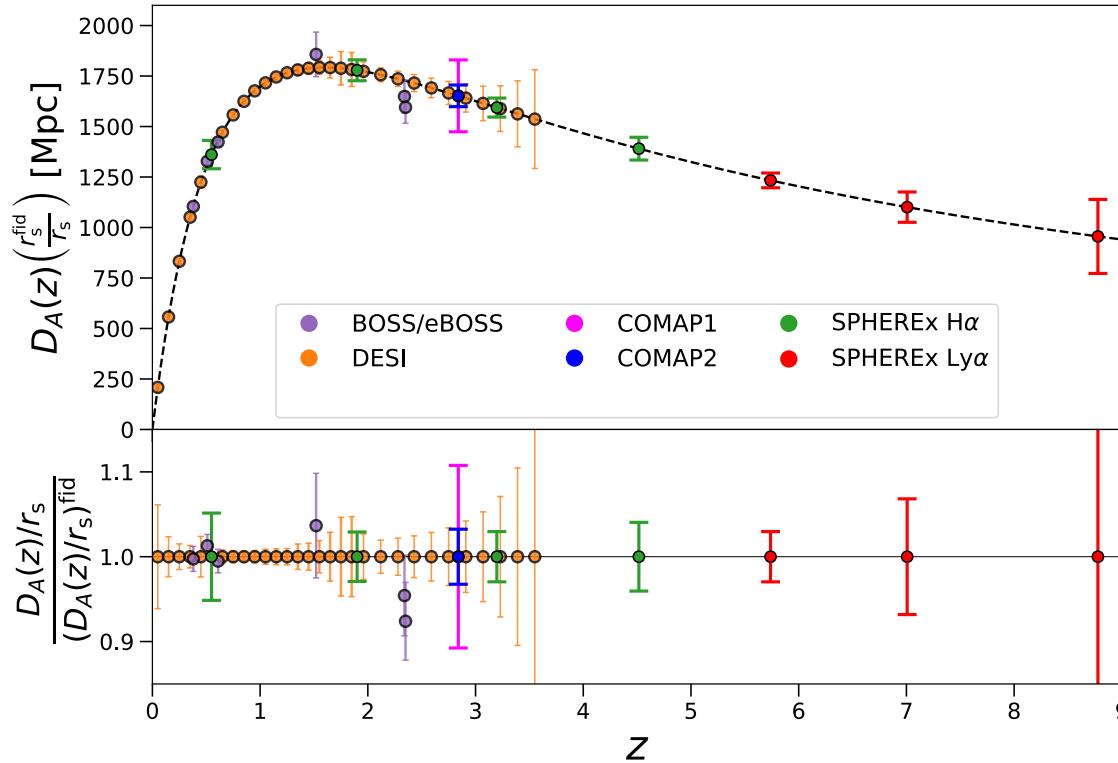
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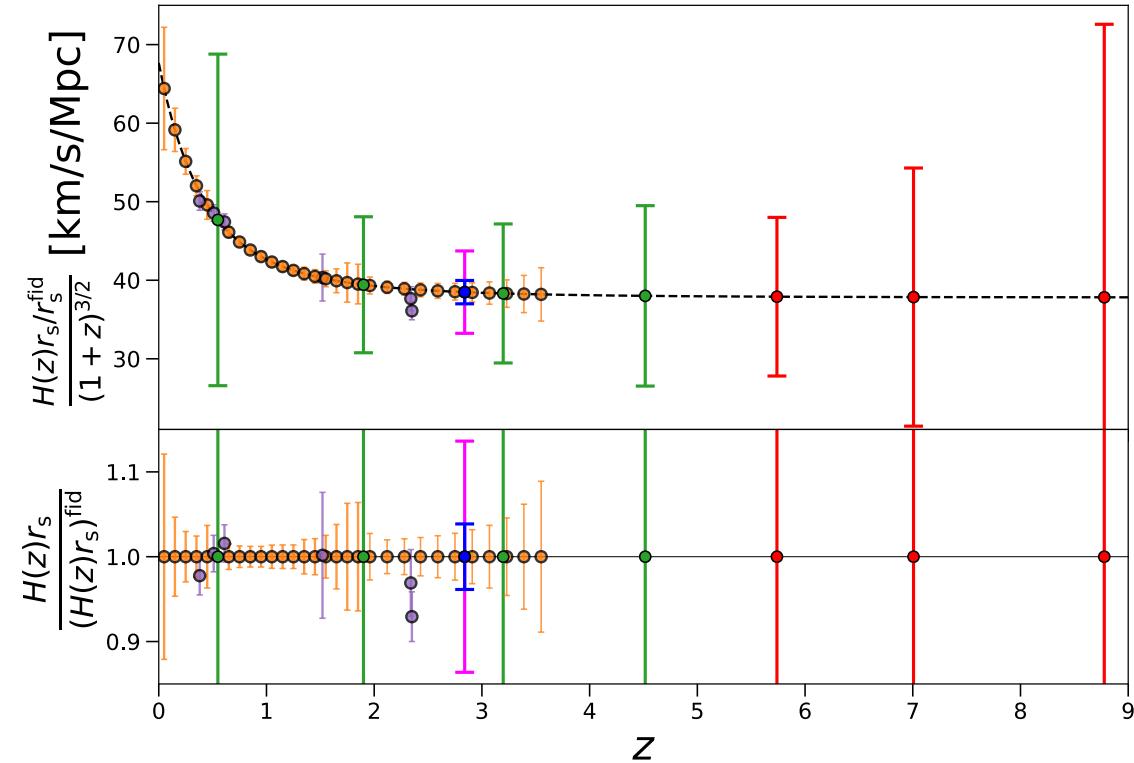
Current and coming constraints using galaxy surveys  
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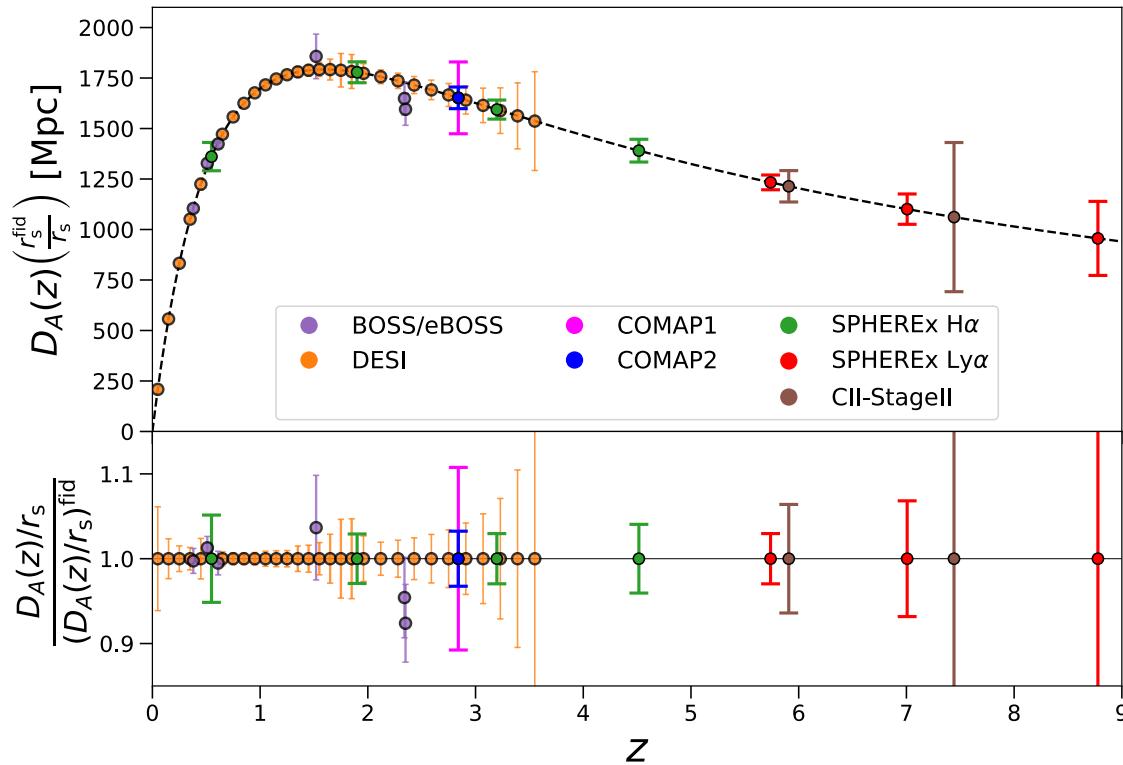
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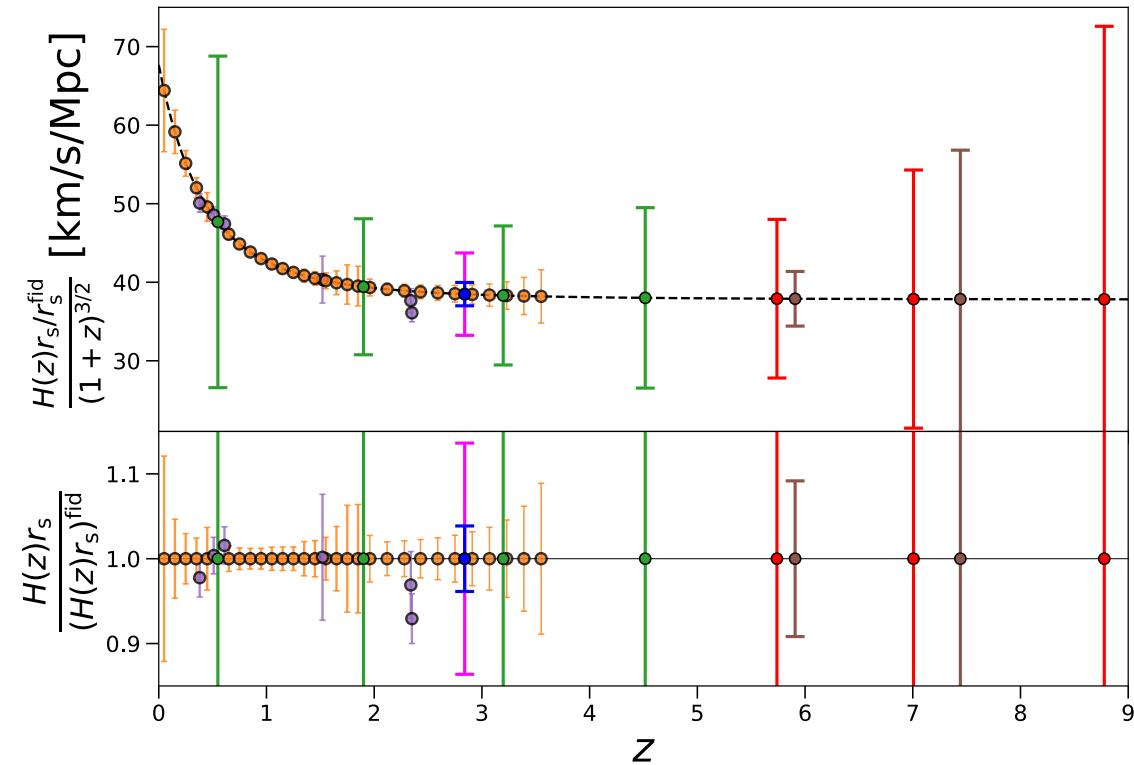
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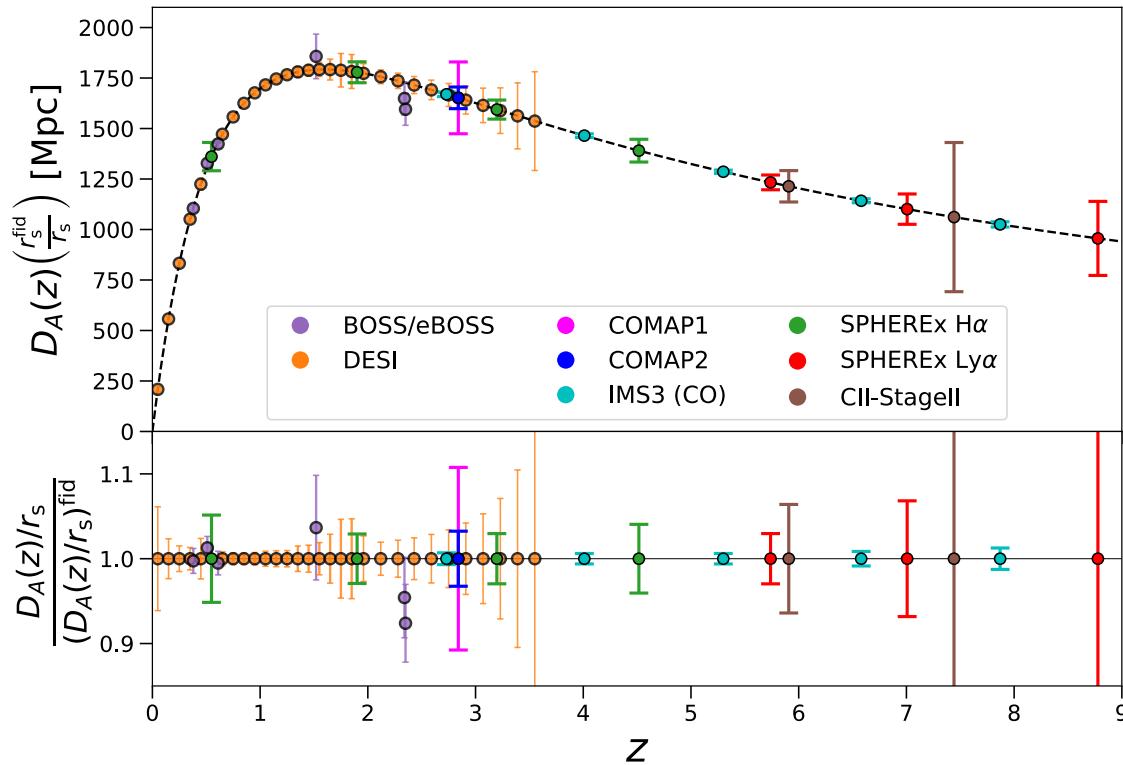
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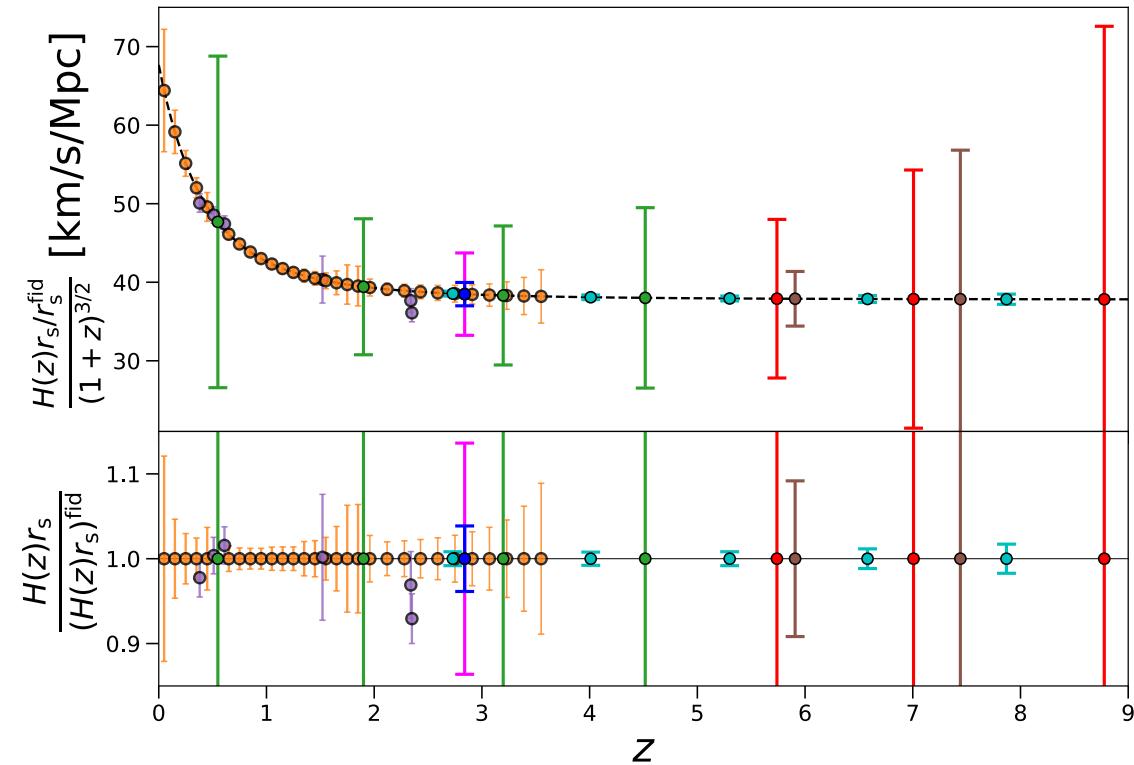
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# LIM BAO

Angular diameter distance



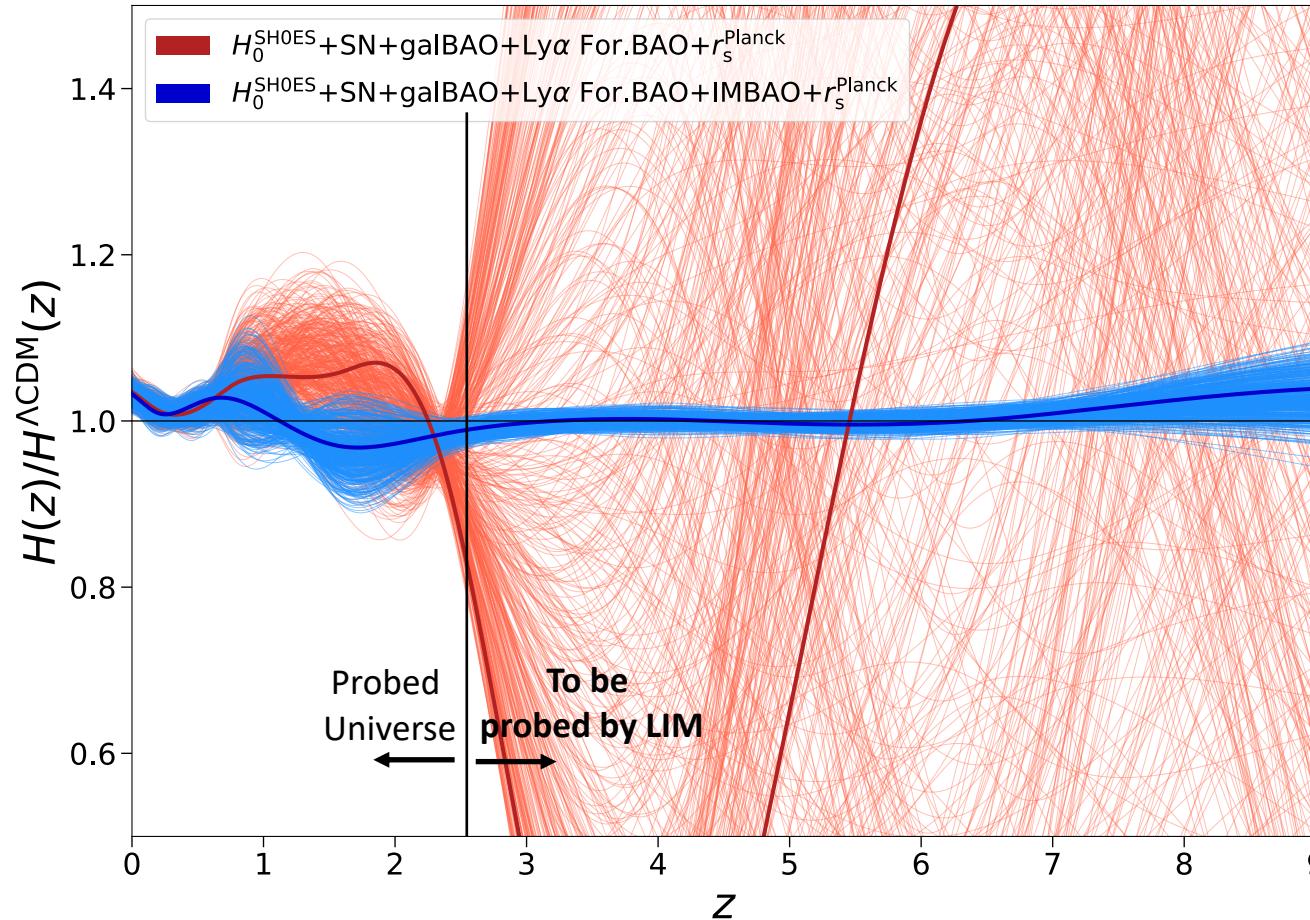
Hubble parameter



Current and coming constraints using galaxy surveys  
+ Star-Formation-related LIM BAO

# $H(z)$ beyond the reach of galaxy surveys

Model  
independent  $H(z)$   
reconstructed with  
cubic splines



Current constraints using galaxy surveys  
(and  $H_0$  and  $r_s$ ) and **ADDING LIM BAO**

Bridge early and late  
Universe to probe  
post-recombination  
solutions