



*Neutrino oscillations,  $N_{eff}$  and  
cosmological constraints:  
role of the sterile  $\nu$*

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in collaboration with: E. Borriello, C. Giunti, G. Mangano, G. Miele, A. Mirizzi, O. Pisanti and  
P.D. Serpico

# Experimental anomalies & sterile $\nu$ interpretation

Some experimental data in tension with the standard 3 $\nu$  scenario + oscillations

(...and sometimes in tension among themselves...)

## 1. $\bar{\nu}_e$ appearance signals

*Kopp et al., 2013*

- excess of  $\bar{\nu}_e$  originated by initial  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$  : LSND/ MiniBooNE

*A. Aguilar et al., 2001*

*A. Aguilar et al., 2010*

## 2. $\bar{\nu}_e$ and $\nu_e$ disappearance signals

- deficit in the  $\nu_e$  fluxes from nuclear reactors (at short distance)

*Mention et al. 2011*

*Acero, Giunti and Lavder, 2008*

- reduced solar  $\bar{\nu}_e$  event rate in Gallium experiments

*Giunti and Lavder, 2011*

*Kopp, et al. 2011*

Mention's talk

All these anomalies, if interpreted as oscillation signals, point towards the possible existence of 1 (or more) *sterile neutrino* with  $\Delta m^2 \sim O(\text{eV}^2)$  and  $\theta_s \sim O(\theta_{13})$

Many analysis have been performed  $\rightarrow$  3+1, 3+2 schemes

Sterile neutrino : does not have weak interactions and does not contribute to the number of active neutrinos determined by LEP

# Radiation Content in the Universe

At  $T < m_e$ , the radiation content of the Universe is

$$\varepsilon_R = \varepsilon_\gamma + \varepsilon_\nu + \varepsilon_x$$

The **non-e.m.** energy density is parameterized by the effective numbers of neutrino species  $N_{\text{eff}}$

$$\varepsilon_\nu + \varepsilon_x = \frac{7}{8} \frac{\pi^2}{15} T_\nu^4 N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{7}{8} \frac{\pi^2}{15} T_\nu^4 (N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} + \Delta N)$$

$N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} = 3.046$  *due to non-instantaneous neutrino decoupling*

(+ oscillations)

At  $T \sim m_e$ ,  $e^+e^-$  pairs annihilate heating photons.

Since  $T_{\text{dec}}(\mathbf{v})$  is close to  $m_e$ , neutrinos share a small part of the entropy release

*Mangano et al. 2005*

$\Delta N =$  Extra Radiation: axions and axion-like particles, **sterile neutrinos (totally or partially thermalized)**, neutrinos in very low-energy reheating scenarios, relativistic decay products of heavy particles...

*For a recent review on Cosmic Dark radiation and  $\nu$  see M. Archidiacono et al., 2013*

# *$\nu$ and Big Bang Nucleosynthesis*

Big Bang Nucleosynthesis (BBN) is the epoch of the Early Universe ( $T \sim 1 - 0.01$  MeV) when the primordial abundances of light elements were produced, in particular  ${}^2\text{H}$ ,  ${}^3\text{He}$ ,  ${}^4\text{He}$ ,  ${}^7\text{Li}$ .

When  $\Gamma_{n \leftrightarrow p} < H \rightarrow \frac{n_n}{n_p} = \frac{n}{p} = e^{-\Delta m/T}$  *freezes out*  $\rightarrow$  *fixing the primordial yields*

$\rightarrow 1/7$  including neutron decays

$$Y_p = \frac{2n/p}{1 + n/p}$$

Helium mass fraction

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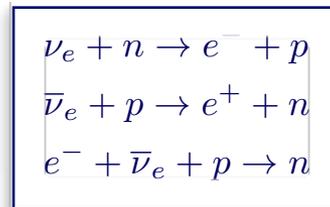
Helium mass fraction

Cosmological  $\nu$  influence the production of primordial light elements in two ways:

1)  $\nu_e, \bar{\nu}_e$  participate in the CC weak interactions which rule the  $n \leftrightarrow p$  interconversion

any change in the their energy spectra can shift the  $n/p$  ratio  
freeze out temperature  $\Leftrightarrow$  modification in the primordial yields

i.e.  $\nu_e - \bar{\nu}_e$  asymmetry (chemical potential  $\xi_e$ )  $\rightarrow \frac{n}{p} = e^{(-\Delta m/T - \xi_e)}$



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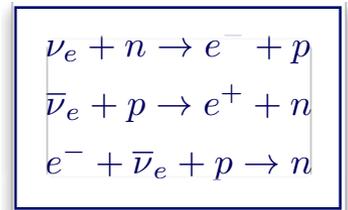
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2)  $\nu_\alpha$  contribute to the radiation energy density that governs the expansion rate of the Universe before and during BBN epoch and then the  $n/p$  ratio.

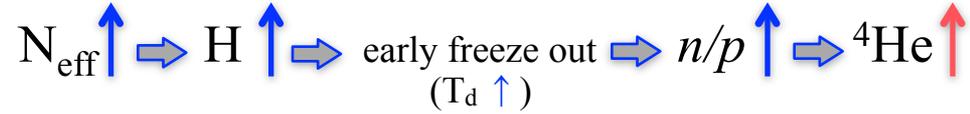
$$H = \frac{\dot{a}}{a} = \sqrt{\frac{8\pi G_N \epsilon_R}{3}}$$

$(\gamma, e, \nu, x)$   
 $\hookrightarrow \propto N_{\text{eff}}$

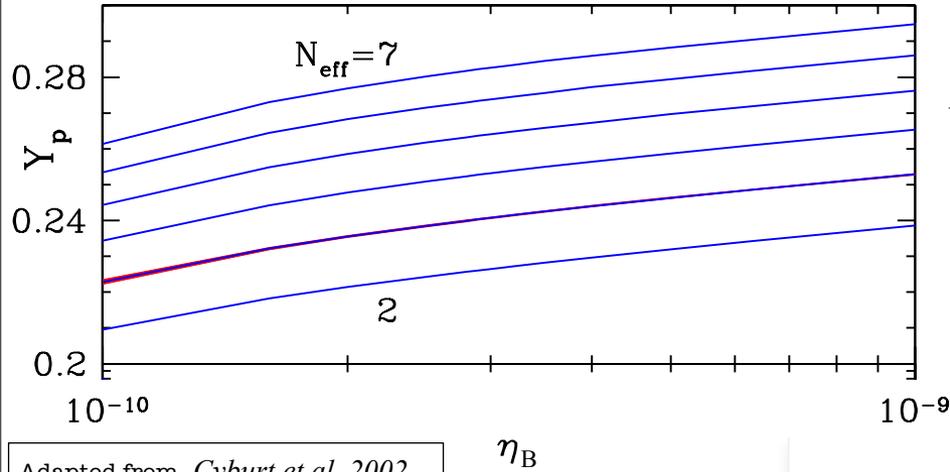
Changing the  $H$  would alter the  $n/p$  ratio at the onset of BBN and hence the light element abundances

# Extra radiation impact on BBN and constraints

Light element abundances are sensitive to extra radiation:



Upper limit on  $N_{\text{eff}}$  from constraints on primordial yields of D and  ${}^4\text{He}$



Adapted from *Cyburt et al, 2002*

$\eta_B$

$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \leq 1$$

(at 95% C.L.)

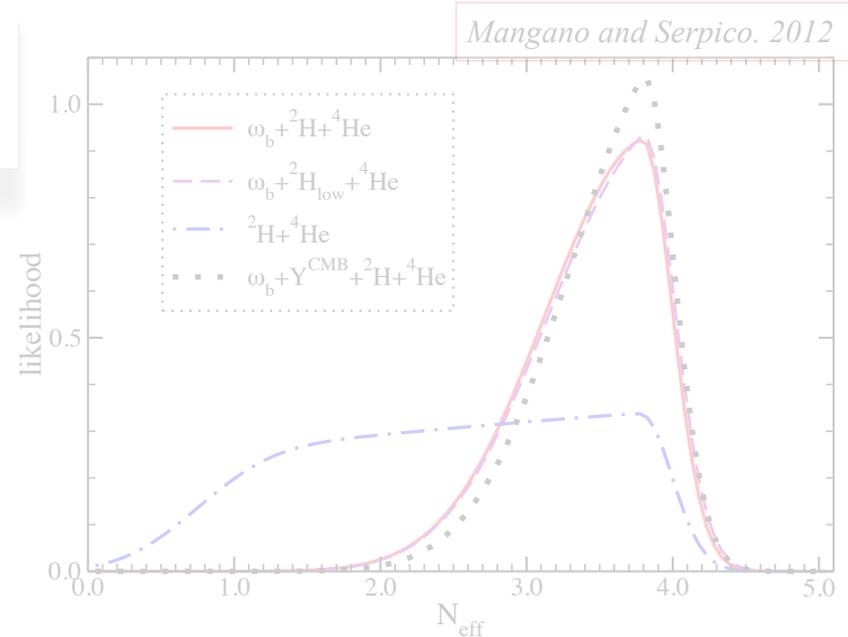
Same results from analysis on **sterile neutrino**:  
no strong indication for  $N_s > 0$  from BBN alone

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From a measurement of D in a particle astrophysical system:

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.0 \pm 0.5$$

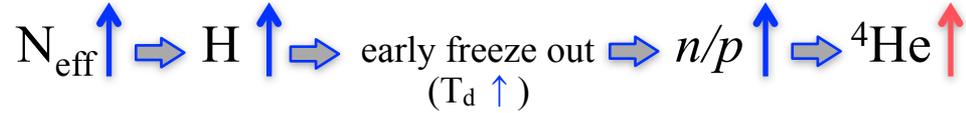
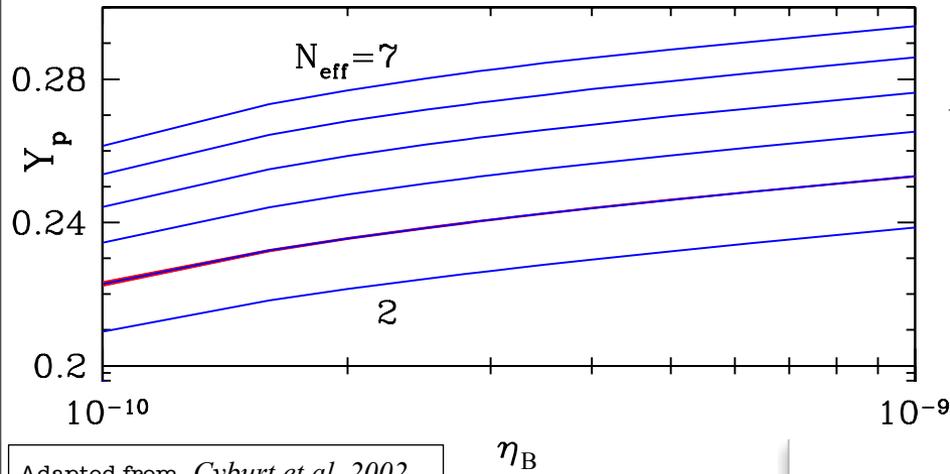
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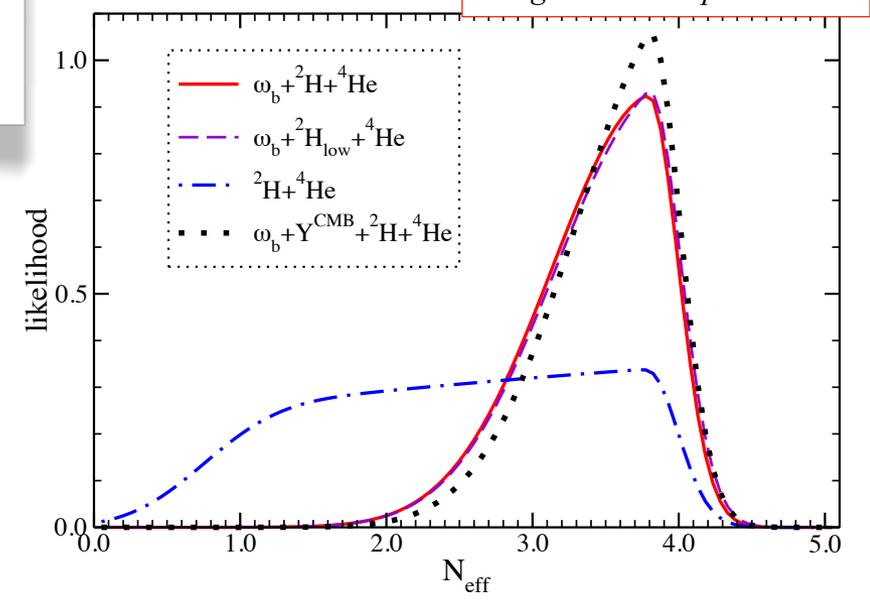
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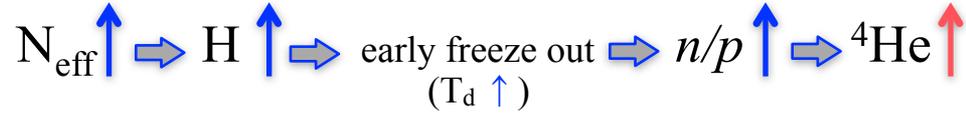
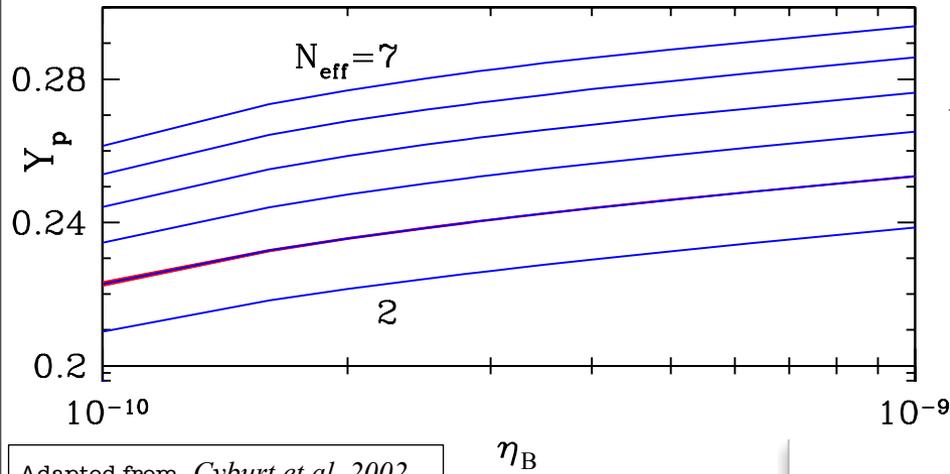
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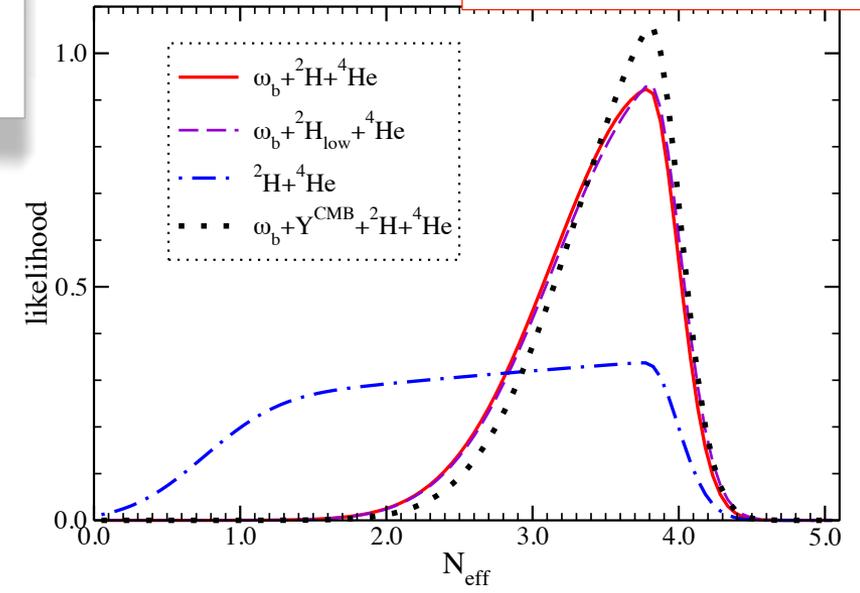
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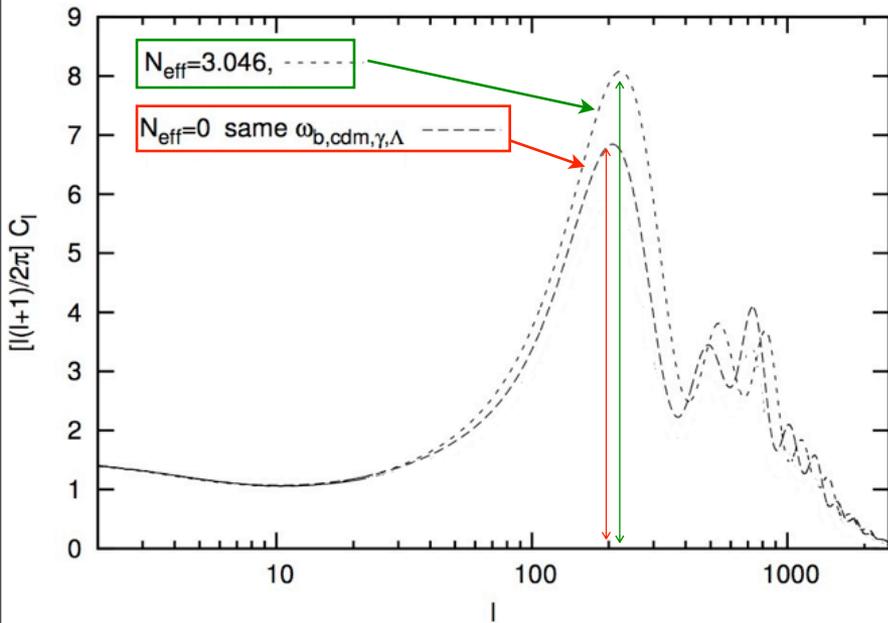
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# $\nu$ and CMB and LSS

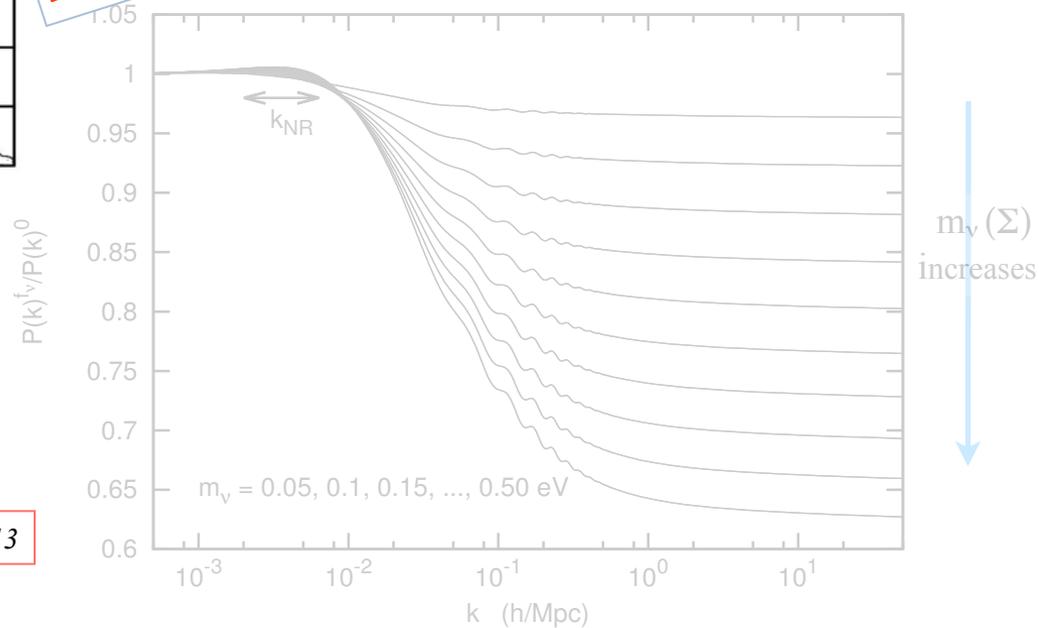
$\nu$ 's and their masses effect the PS of temperature fluctuations of CMB ( $T < eV$ ) and the matter PS of the LSS inferred by the galaxy surveys.



$N_{\text{eff}}$  and  $m_\nu$  affect the time of *matter-radiation equality*  
 → consequences on the amplitude of the first peak and on the peak locations

$$1 + z_{\text{eq}} = \frac{\omega_m}{\omega_\gamma} \frac{1}{1 + 0.227 N_{\text{eff}}}$$

Lesgourgues's talk

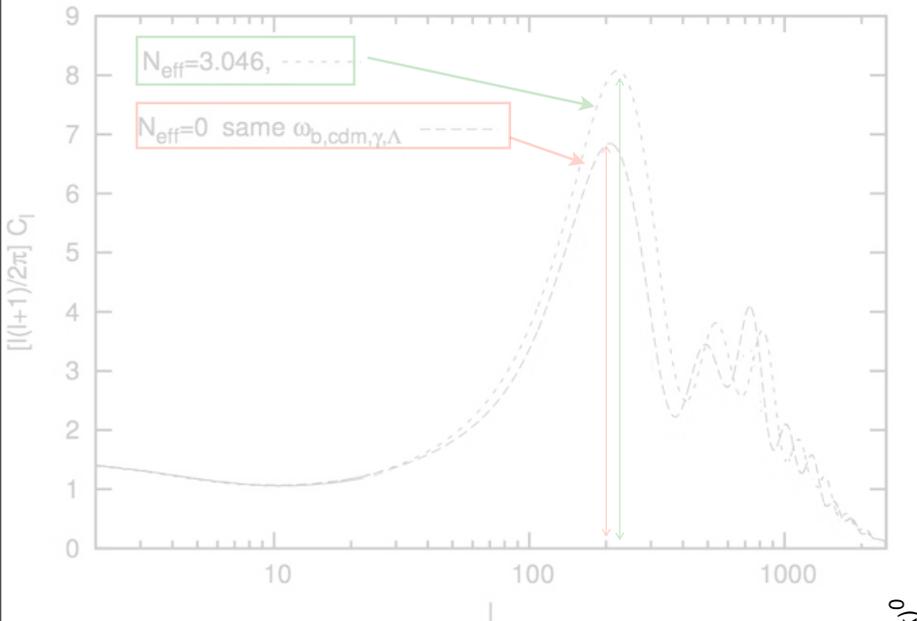


Taken from

Lesgourgues, Mangano, Miele and Pastor "Neutrino Cosmology", 2013

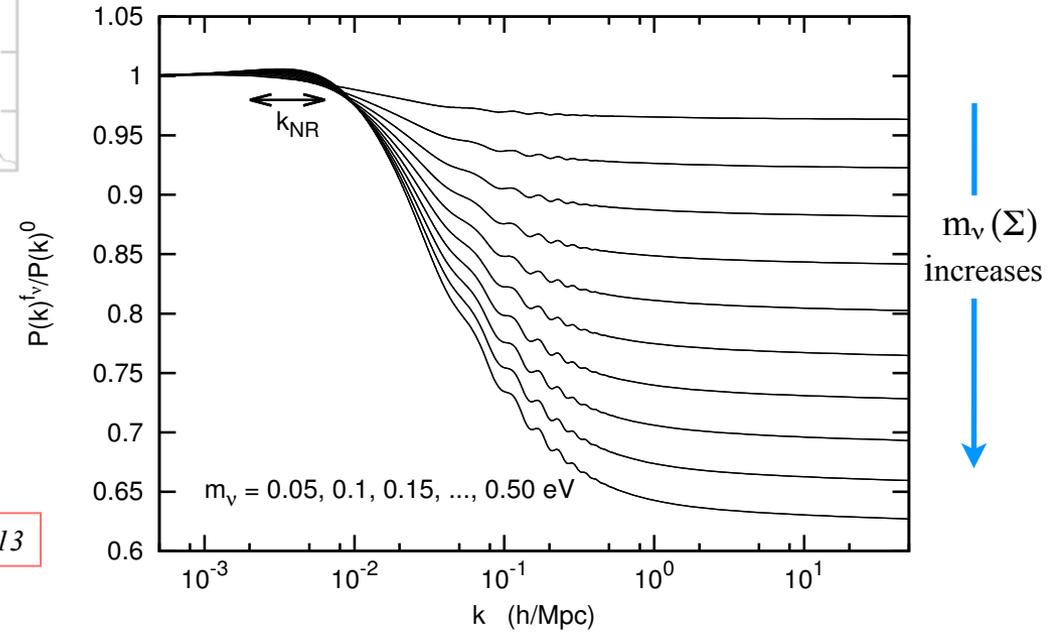
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$\nu$ 's and their masses effect the PS of temperature fluctuations of CMB ( $T < eV$ ) and the matter PS of the LSS inferred by the galaxy surveys.



The small-scale matter power spectrum  $P(k > k_{nr})$  is reduced in presence of massive  $\nu$ :

- ✓ free-streaming neutrinos do not cluster
- ✓ slower growth rate of CDM (baryon) perturbations



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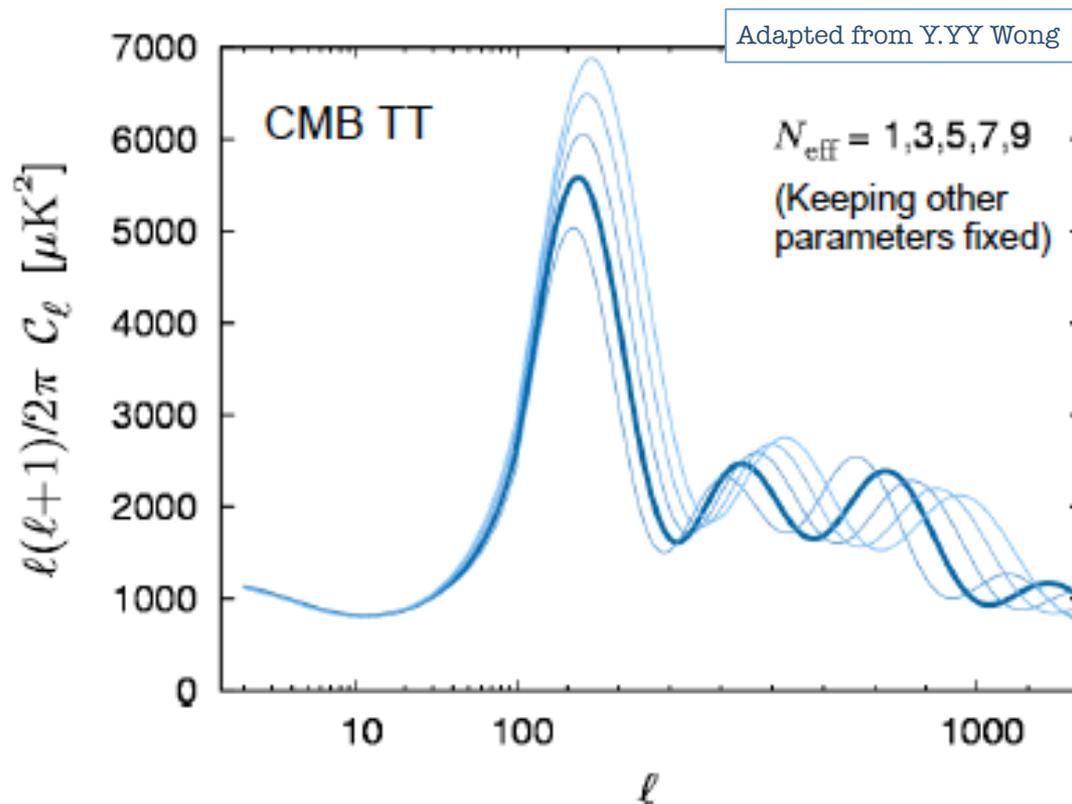
# Extra radiation impact on CMB

If additional degrees of freedom are still relativistic at the time of CMB formation, they impact the CMB anisotropies.



## Constraints $N_{\text{eff}}$ from the CMB Spectrum

(peaks height and position, anisotropic stress ( $l \sim 200$ ), damping tail ( $l > 1000$ ))



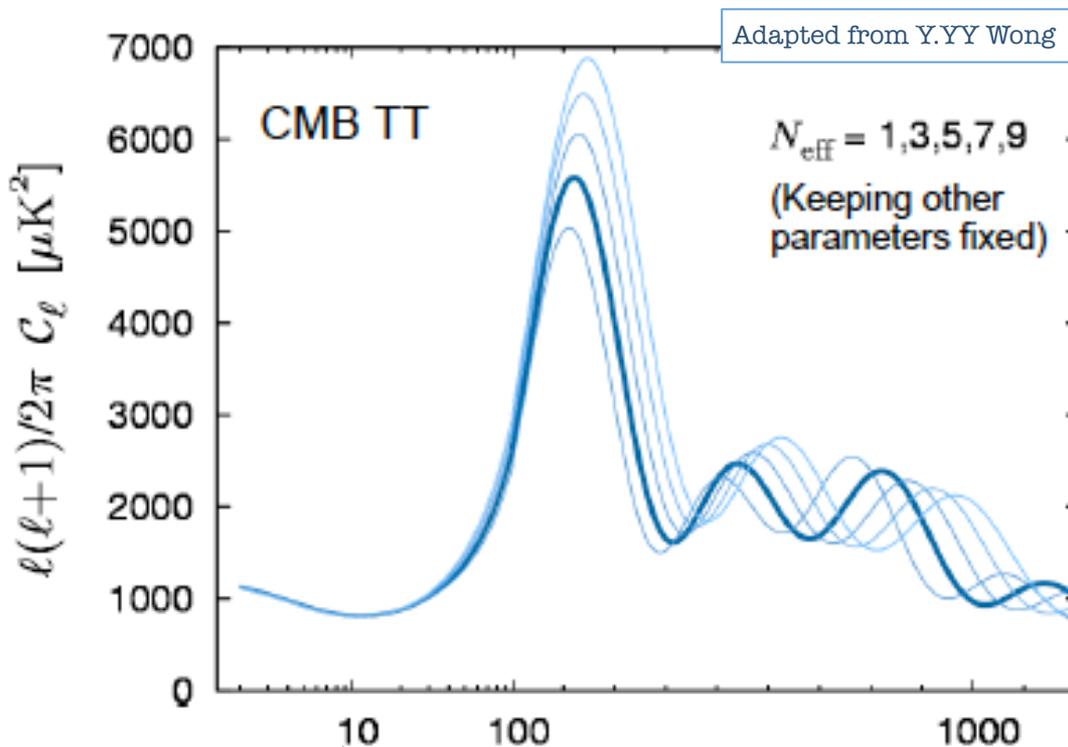
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Same data used to measure other cosmological parameters

basic parameters of  $\Lambda$ CDM:

$$(\Omega_b h^2, \Omega_c h^2, 100\theta_{MC}, n_s, A_s, \tau)$$

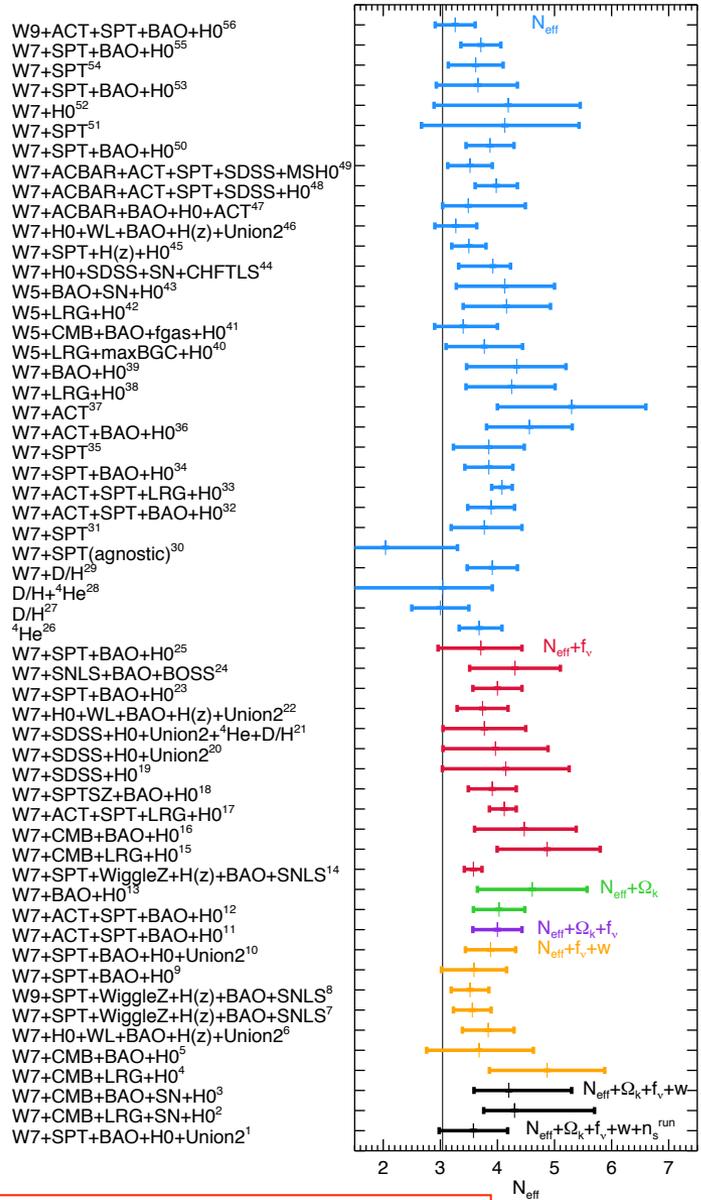
+ derived parameters

$$(H_0, \Omega_k, \Omega_\Lambda, N_{\text{eff}}, \sigma_8, \sum m_\nu, z_{re}, Y_p, w, \Omega_m z_{LS} \dots)$$

→ *degeneracies*

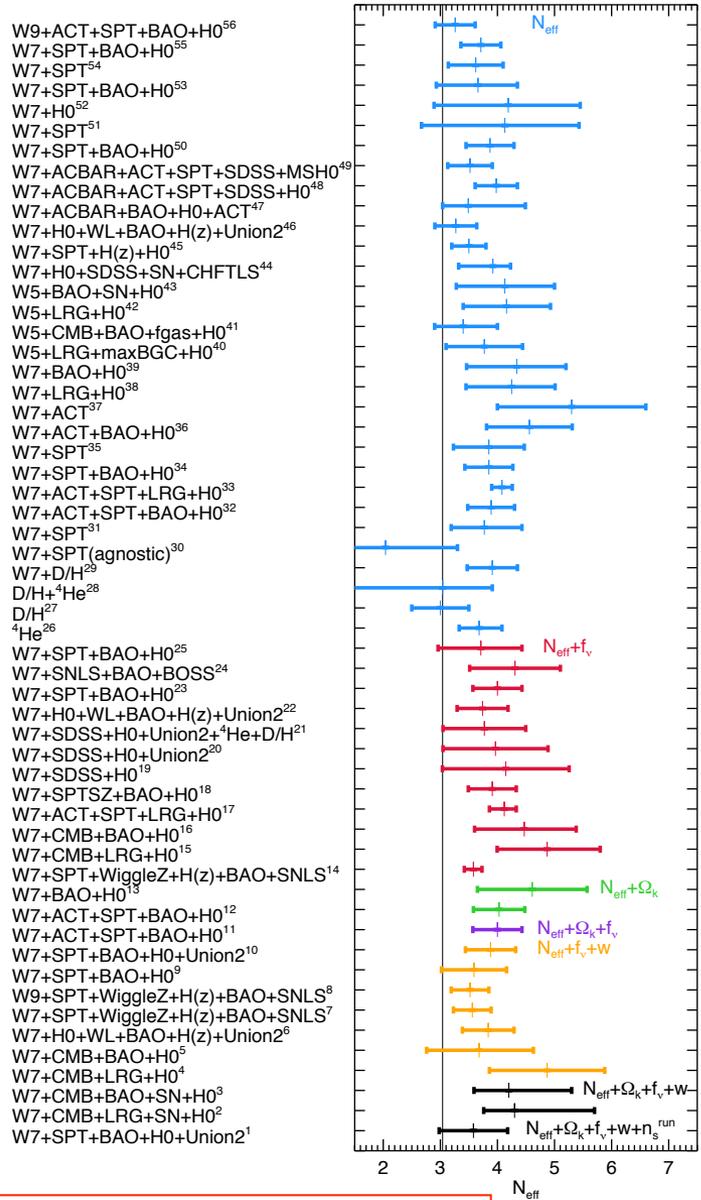
→ *necessary to combine with other cosmological probes*

# CMB & LSS hints for extra radiation before Planck



Riemer-Sørensen, Parkinson & Davis, 2013

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Summarizing:

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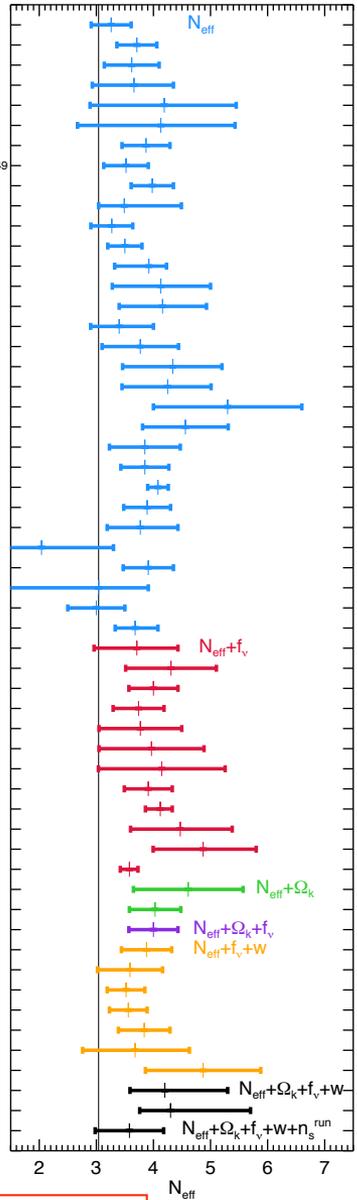
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- W5+BAO+SN+H0<sup>43</sup>
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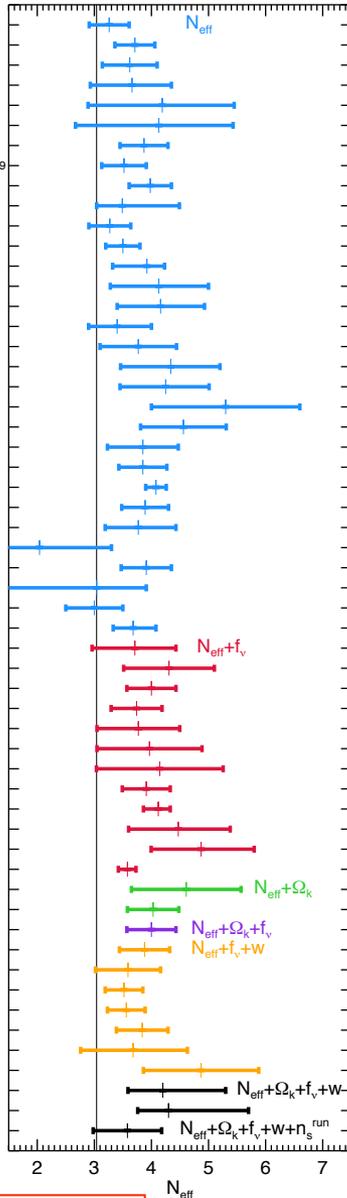
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Hints for extra radiation reduce over the years

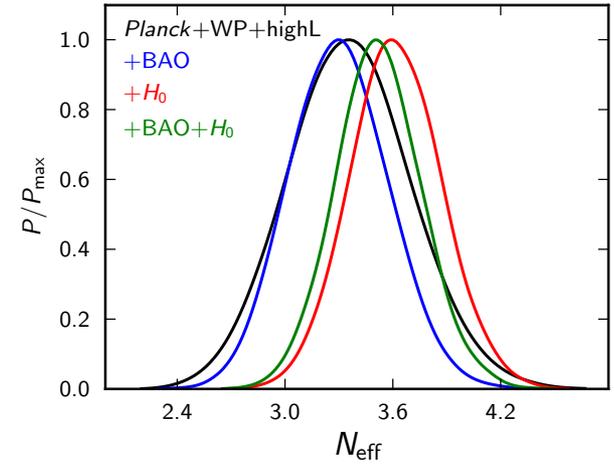
Slight preference for  $N_{\text{eff}} > 3.046$

# $N_{\text{eff}}$ and $\Sigma m_\nu$ constraints after Planck

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.30 \pm 0.54 \text{ (95 \% C.L.; Planck+WP+highL+BAO)}$$

→ compatible with the standard value at  $1-\sigma$

Lesgourgues's talk



Planck XVI, 2013

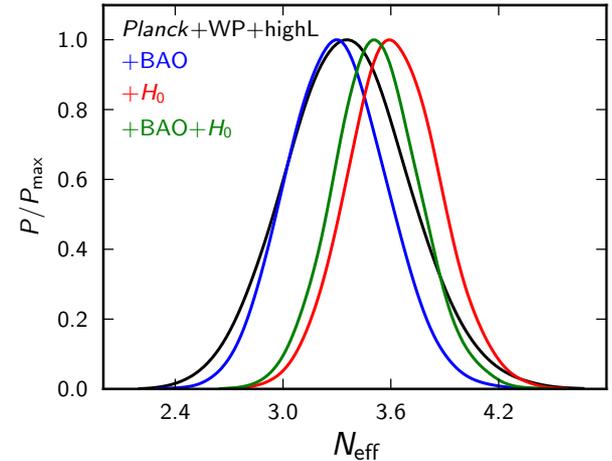
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Lesgourgues's talk

bounds on  $\nu$  mass



Planck XVI, 2013

model	Planck +	mass bound (eV) (95% C.L.)
3 degenerate $\nu_a$	WP+HighL+BAO	$\Sigma m_\nu < 0.23$
Joint analysis $N_{\text{eff}}$ & 3 degen $\nu_a$	WP+HighL+BAO	$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.32 \pm 0.54$ $\Sigma m_\nu < 0.28$
Joint analysis $N_{\text{eff}}$ & 1 mass $\nu_s$	BAO	$N_{\text{eff}} < 3.80$ $m_{\nu_s}^{\text{eff}} < 0.42$

see also E. Giusarma et al. 2013, with clustering data

$$m_{\nu_s}^{\text{eff}} \equiv (94, 1 \Omega_\nu h^2) \text{eV}$$

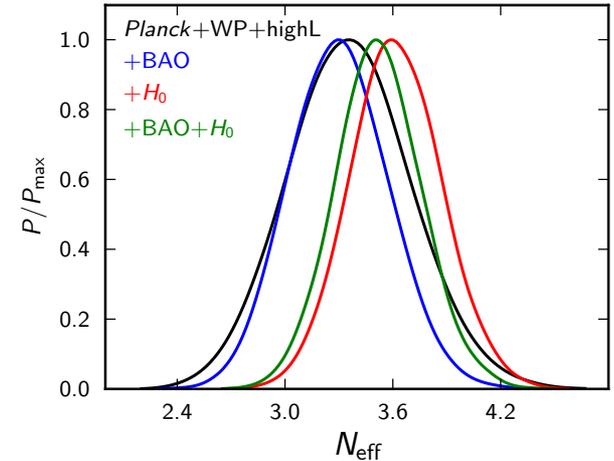
# $N_{\text{eff}}$ and $\Sigma m_\nu$ constraints after Planck

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.30 \pm 0.54 \text{ (95 \% C.L.; Planck+WP+highL+BAO)}$$

$\rightarrow$  compatible with the standard value at  $1-\sigma$

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Planck XVI, 2013

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$$m_{\nu_s}^{\text{eff}} \equiv (94, 1 \Omega_\nu h^2) \text{eV}$$

# Active-sterile flavor evolution

Sterile  $\nu$  are produced in the Early Universe by the mixing with the active species

\* No primordial sterile neutrinos are present

- Describe the  $\nu$  ensemble in terms of 4x4 density matrix  $\varrho(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} \varrho_{ee} & \varrho_{e\mu} & \varrho_{e\tau} & \varrho_{es} \\ \varrho_{\mu e} & \varrho_{\mu\mu} & \varrho_{\mu\tau} & \varrho_{\mu s} \\ \varrho_{\tau e} & \varrho_{\tau\mu} & \varrho_{\tau\tau} & \varrho_{\tau s} \\ \varrho_{se} & \varrho_{s\mu} & \varrho_{s\tau} & \varrho_{ss} \end{pmatrix}$
- introduce the dimensionless variables  $x \equiv m a$ ;  $y \equiv p a$ ;  $z \equiv T_\gamma a$ ;  
with  $m =$  arbitrary mass scale;  $a =$  scale factor,  $a(t) \rightarrow 1/T$
- denote the time derivative  $\partial_t \rightarrow \partial_t - H p \partial_p = H x \partial_x$ ,  $H$  the Hubble parameter  $\bar{H} \equiv \frac{x^2}{m} H$

➤ the EoM become:

$$i \frac{d\varrho}{dx} = + \frac{x^2}{2m^2 y \bar{H}} [M^2, \varrho] + \frac{\sqrt{2} G_F m^2}{x^2 \bar{H}} \times \left[ - \frac{8 y m^2}{3 x^2} \left( \frac{E_\ell}{m_W^2} - \frac{E_\nu}{m_Z^2} \right) + N_\nu, \varrho \right] + \frac{x \hat{C}[\varrho(y)]}{m \bar{H}}$$

*Sigl and Raffelt 1993;*

*McKellar & Thomson, 1994*

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with  $M$  neutrino mass matrix  
 $U M^2 U^\dagger$

*Sigl and Raffelt 1993;*

*McKellar & Thomson, 1994*

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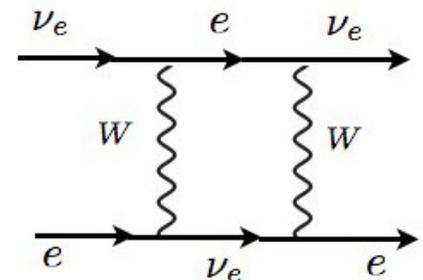
MSW effect with background medium  
(refractive effect)

charged lepton asymmetry subleading ( $O(10^{-9})$ ) →

→ 2<sup>th</sup> order term: “symmetric” matter effect

sum of  $e^- - e^+$  energy densities  $\varepsilon$

$$E_\ell \equiv \text{diag}(\varepsilon_e, 0, 0, 0)$$



Sigl and Raffelt 1993;

McKellar & Thomson, 1994

Dolgov et al., 2002.

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Sterile  $\nu$  are produced in the Early Universe by the mixing with the active species

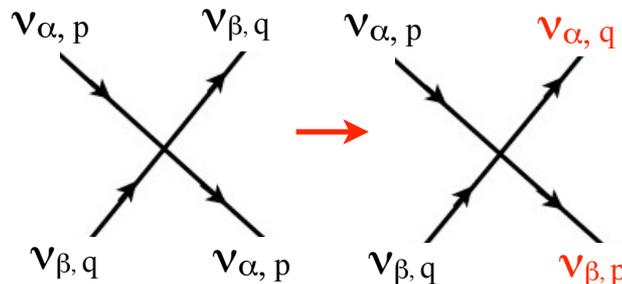
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refractive  $\nu$ - $\nu$  term



*self-interactions* of  $\nu$  with the  $\nu$  background:  
off-diagonal potentials  $\Rightarrow$  non-linear EoM

Sigl and Raffelt 1993;  
McKellar & Thomson, 1994  
Dolgov et al., 2002.

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symmetric term

$$\propto (\varrho + \bar{\varrho})$$

Sigl and Raffelt 1993;  
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**asymmetric term**

$$\propto (\varrho - \bar{\varrho}) \leftrightarrow L$$

*Sigl and Raffelt 1993;*

*McKellar & Thomson, 1994*

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Collisional term  $\propto G_F^2$   
creation, annihilation and all the momentum exchanging processes

Sigl and Raffelt 1993;  
McKellar & Thomson, 1994  
Dolgov et al., 2002.

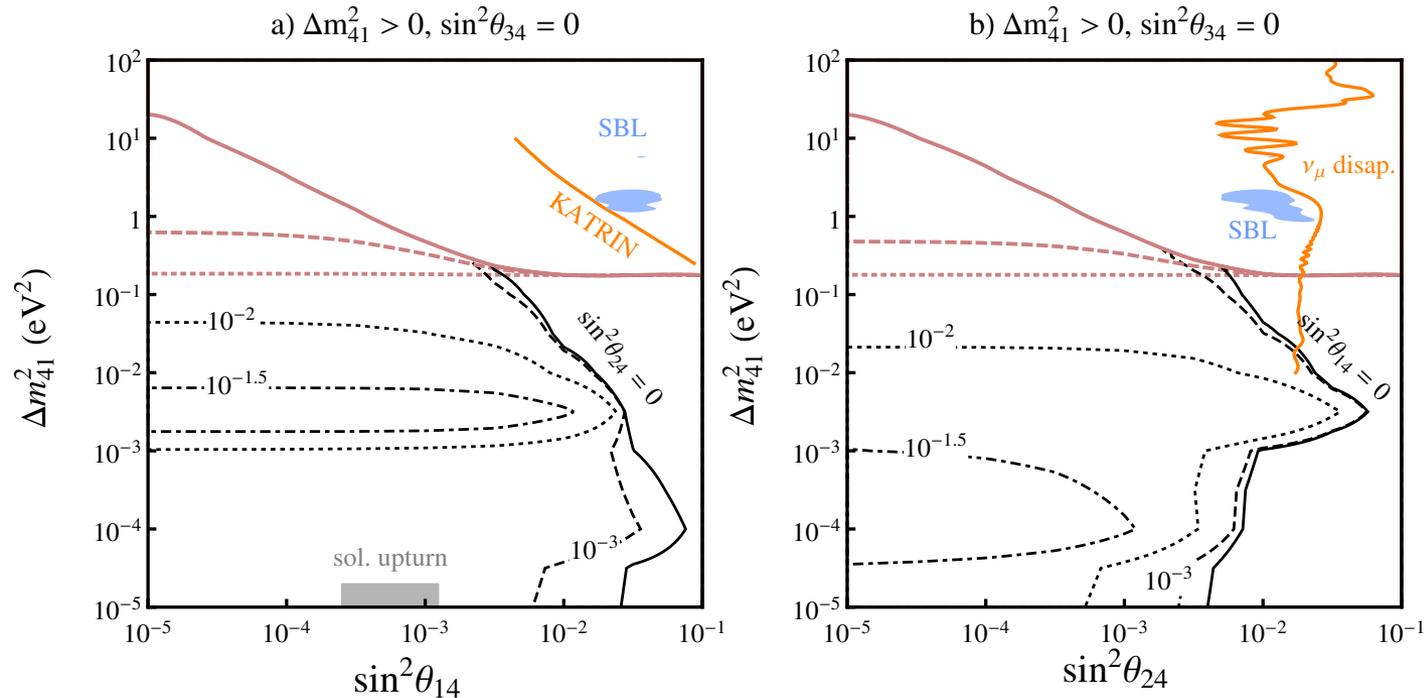
# Bounds on active-sterile mixing parameters after Planck

- ✓ sterile abundance by flavor evolution of the active-sterile system for 3+1 scenario (to compare with the Planck constraints)
- ✓ 2 sterile mixing angles (+ 3 active ones)  $10^{-5} \leq \sin^2\theta_{i4} \leq 10^{-1}$  ( $i=1,2$ )
- ✓ sterile mass-square difference  $\Delta m_{st}^2 = \Delta m_{41}^2$  (+ 2 active ones)  $10^{-5} \leq \Delta m_{41}^2 / \text{eV}^2 \leq 10^2$
- ✓ *average-momentum* approximation (single momentum):  $\varrho_{\mathbf{p}}(T) = f_{FD}(p)\rho(T)$  ( $\langle p \rangle = 3.15 T$ )
- ✓ conservative scenario: vanishing primordial neutrino asymmetry

Mirizzi, Mangano, N.S. et al 2013, arXiv:1303.5368

# Bounds on active-sterile mixing parameters after Planck

... our results

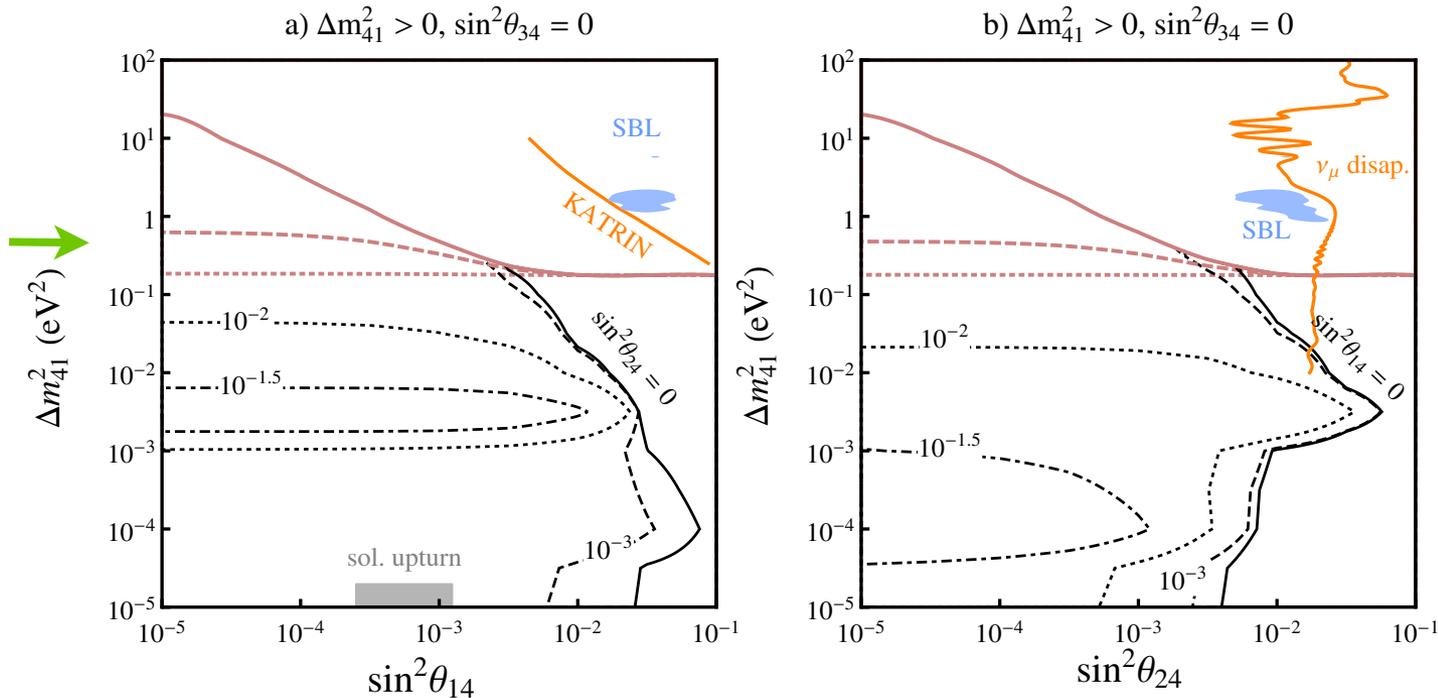


Mirizzi et al 2013,  
arXiv:1303.5368

- Black curves imposing the 95% C.L. Planck constraint  $N_{\text{eff}} < 3.8$  on ours  $N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}[\rho + \bar{\rho}]$
- The excluded regions are those on the right or at the exterior of the black contours.**

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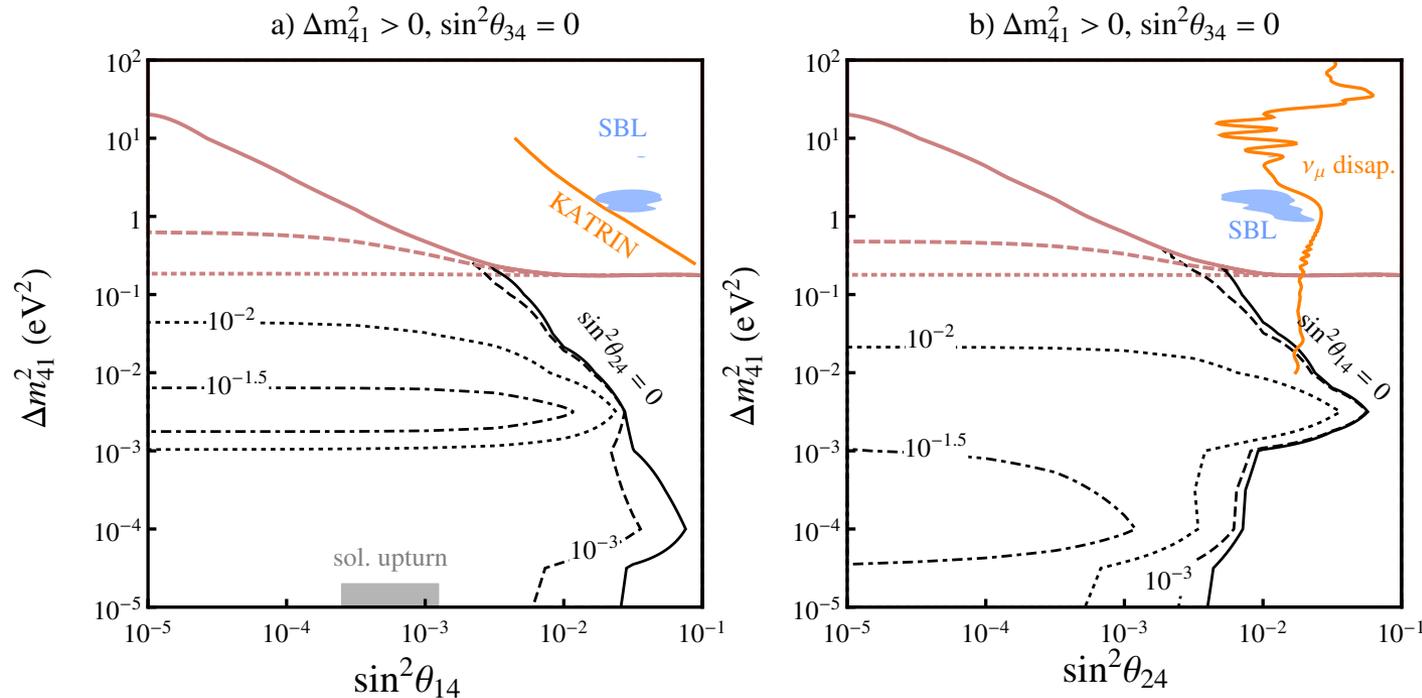
The excluded regions are those on the right or at the exterior of the black contours.

**Note:** above  $m \sim O(1 \text{ eV})$ , sterile  $\nu$  are not relativistic anymore at CMB  $\rightarrow$  **NO radiation constraint**

BUT mass constraints become important

# Bounds on active-sterile mixing parameters after Planck

... our results



Mirizzi et al 2013,  
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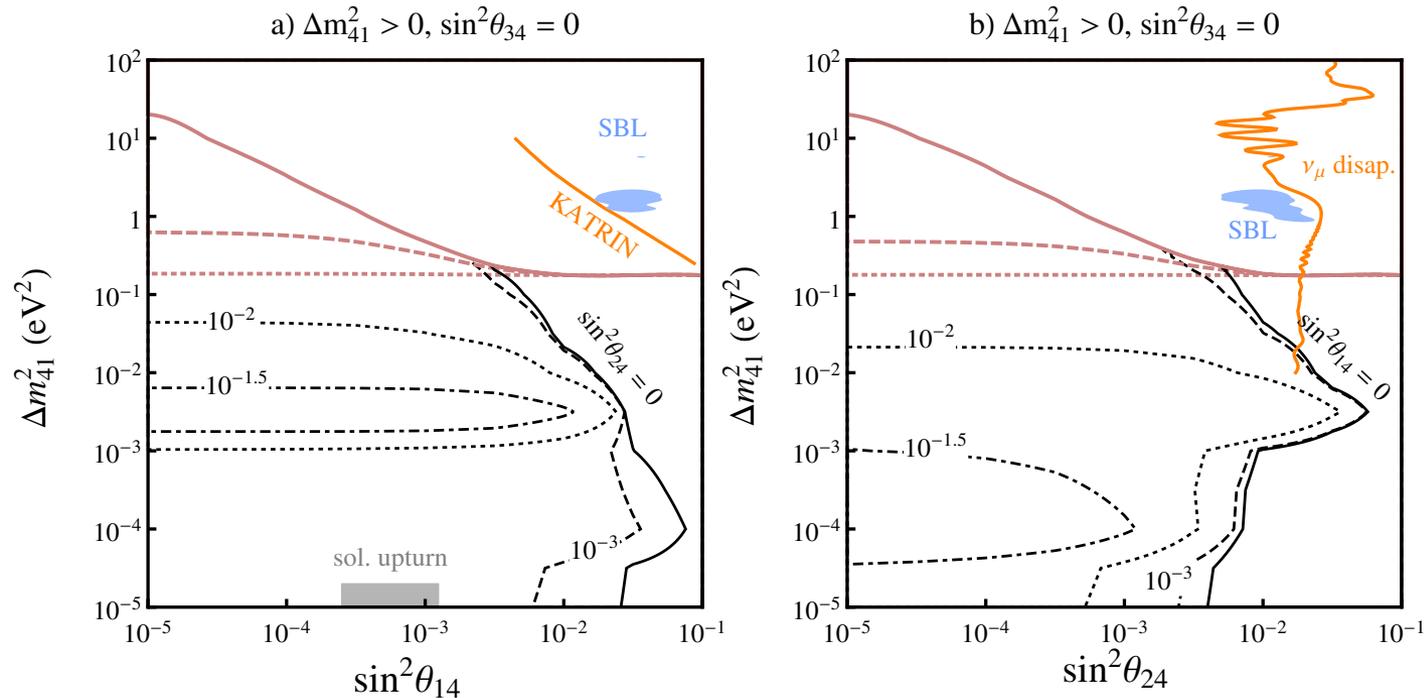
- Red curves imposing the 95% C.L. Planck constraint  $m_{\nu_s}^{\text{eff}} < 0.42 \Leftrightarrow \Omega_\nu h^2 < 4.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$  on ours

**The excluded regions are those above the red contours.**

$$\Omega_\nu h^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{[\sqrt{\Delta m_{41}^2} (\rho_{ss} + \bar{\rho}_{ss})]}{94.1 \text{ eV}}$$

# Bounds on active-sterile mixing parameters after Planck

... our results



Mirizzi et al 2013,  
arXiv:1303.5368

The sterile neutrino parameter space is severely constrained. Excluded area from the **mass bound** covers the region accessible by current and future laboratory experiments.

Remarkably, **sterile  $\nu$  with  $m \sim O(1 \text{ eV})$  strongly disfavoured**

# *Extra radiation vs laboratory sterile neutrino*

The mass and mixing parameters preferred by experimental anomalies  $\Delta m^2 \sim O(1 \text{ eV}^2)$  and  $\theta_s \sim O(0.1)$  lead to the production and **thermalization** of  $\nu_s$  (i.e.,  $\Delta N = 1, 2$ ) in the Early Universe via  $\nu_a$ - $\nu_s$  oscillations +  $\nu_a$  scatterings

*Barbieri & Dolgov 1990, 1991  
Di Bari, 2002  
Melchiorri et al 2009*



in the “standard” scenarios, thermalized eV lab-sterile  $\nu$  are *incompatible* with cosmological bounds

– 3+2: Too *many* for **BBN** (3+1 minimally accepted) and for **CMB**

– 3+1: Too *heavy* for **LSS/CMB**  $\rightarrow m_s < 0.5 \text{ eV}$  (at 95% C.L.)

versus **lab best-fit**  $m_s \sim 1 \text{ eV}$

*It is possible to find an escape route to reconcile sterile  $\nu$ 's with cosmology?*

# *A possible answer: primordial neutrino asymmetry*

*Foot and Volkas, 1995*

Introducing  $L = \frac{n_\nu - n_{\bar{\nu}}}{n_\gamma}$   $\rightarrow$  Suppress the thermalization of sterile neutrinos ( $\rho_{ss} \downarrow$ )  
(Effective  $\nu_a$ - $\nu_s$  mixing reduced by large matter term  $\propto L$ )

**Caveat :** L can also generate MSW-like resonant flavor conversions among active and sterile neutrinos enhancing their production

A lot of work has been done in this direction...

*Enqvist et al., 1990, 1991,1992; Foot, Thomson & Volkas, 1995; Bell, Volkas & Wong, 1998; Dolgov, Hansen, Pastor & Semikoz, 1999; Di Bari & Foot, 2000; Di Bari, Lipari and Iusignoli, 2000; Kirilova & Chizhov, 2000; Di Bari, Foot, Volkas & Wong, 2001; Dolgov & Villante, 2003; Abazajian, Bell, Fuller, Wong, 2005; Kishimoto, Fuller, Smith, 2006; Chu & Cirelli, 2006; Abazajian & Agrawal, 2008; Hannestad et al, 2012*

... very often adopting severe approximations

*... looking for the right L*

# *Our approach: beyond most approximations*

In order to *properly* determine the sterile neutrino abundance, we follow the flavor evolution of the active-sterile system in presence of **different primordial neutrino asymmetries  $L$**  for  $3+1$  and  $2+1$  scenarios in :

- ✓ **Average ( or single) momentum approximation**
- ✓ **Multi-momentum treatment**

Few remarks:

- $L$  dynamically evolved during the flavor evolution
- Evolution for both neutrino and antineutrino channel
- in **multi-flavor system** all active neutrinos can mix with the sterile, allowing to explore effects not possible in a simplified scenario “1+1”.

# Best-fit parameters in the active and sterile sectors

Global  $3\nu$  oscillation analysis, in terms of best-fit values

Parameter	Best fit
$\delta m^2/10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$ (NH or IH)	7.54
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}/10^{-1}$ (NH or IH)	3.07
$\Delta m^2/10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ (NH)	2.43
$\Delta m^2/10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ (IH)	2.42
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}/10^{-2}$ (NH)	2.41
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}/10^{-2}$ (IH)	2.44
$\sin^2 \theta_{23}/10^{-1}$ (NH)	3.86
$\sin^2 \theta_{23}/10^{-1}$ (IH)	3.92
$\delta/\pi$ (NH)	1.08
$\delta/\pi$ (IH)	1.09

*Fogli et al., 2012*

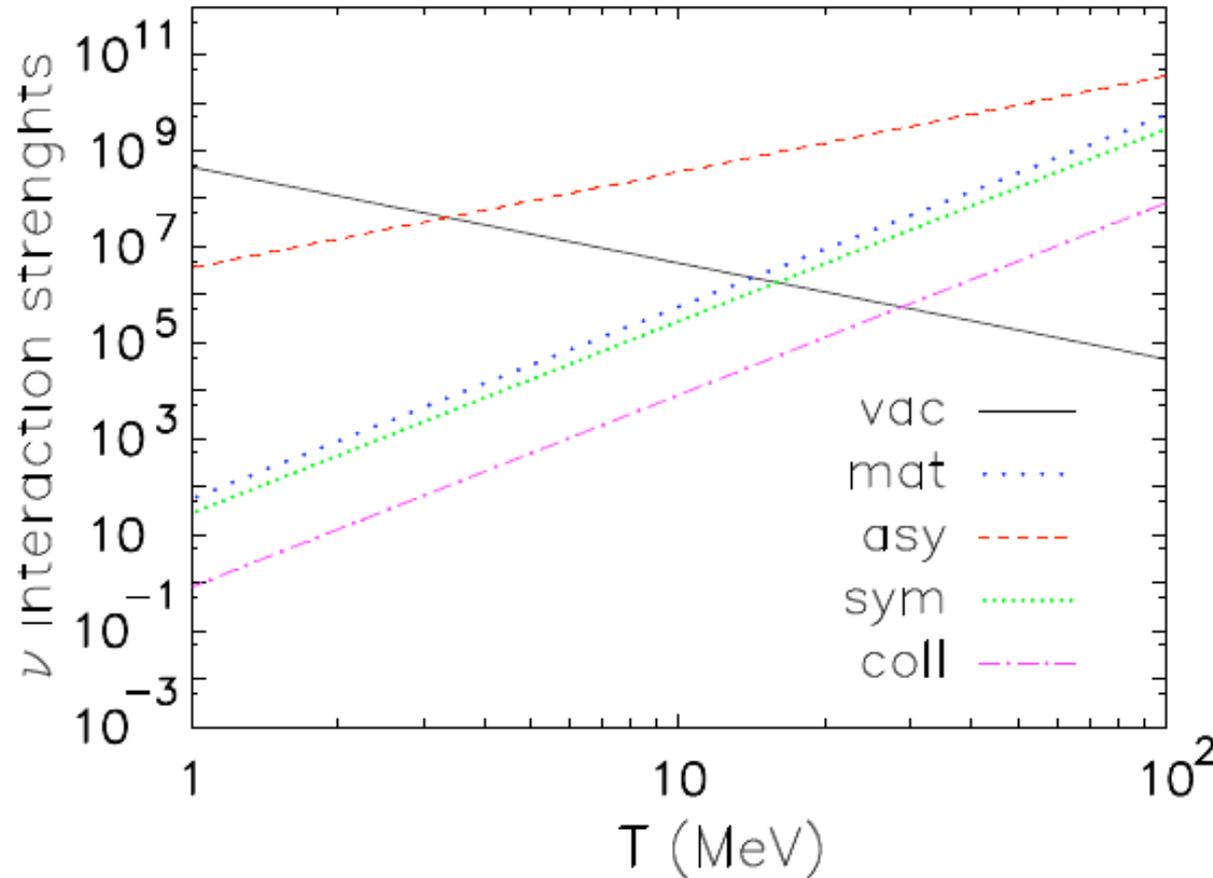
Best-fit values of the mixing parameters in  $3+1$  fits of short-baseline oscillation data.

	3+1
$\chi_{\min}^2$	100.2
NDF	104
GoF	59%
$\Delta m_{41}^2 [\text{eV}^2]$	0.89
$ U_{e4} ^2$	0.025
$ U_{\mu 4} ^2$	0.023
$\Delta m_{51}^2 [\text{eV}^2]$	
$ U_{e5} ^2$	$\tau$ -S sector undetermined
$ U_{\mu 5} ^2$	
$\eta$	
$\Delta\chi_{\text{PG}}^2$	24.1
NDF <sub>PG</sub>	2
PGoF	$6 \times 10^{-6}$

*Giunti and Laveder, 2011*

# Strength of the different interactions

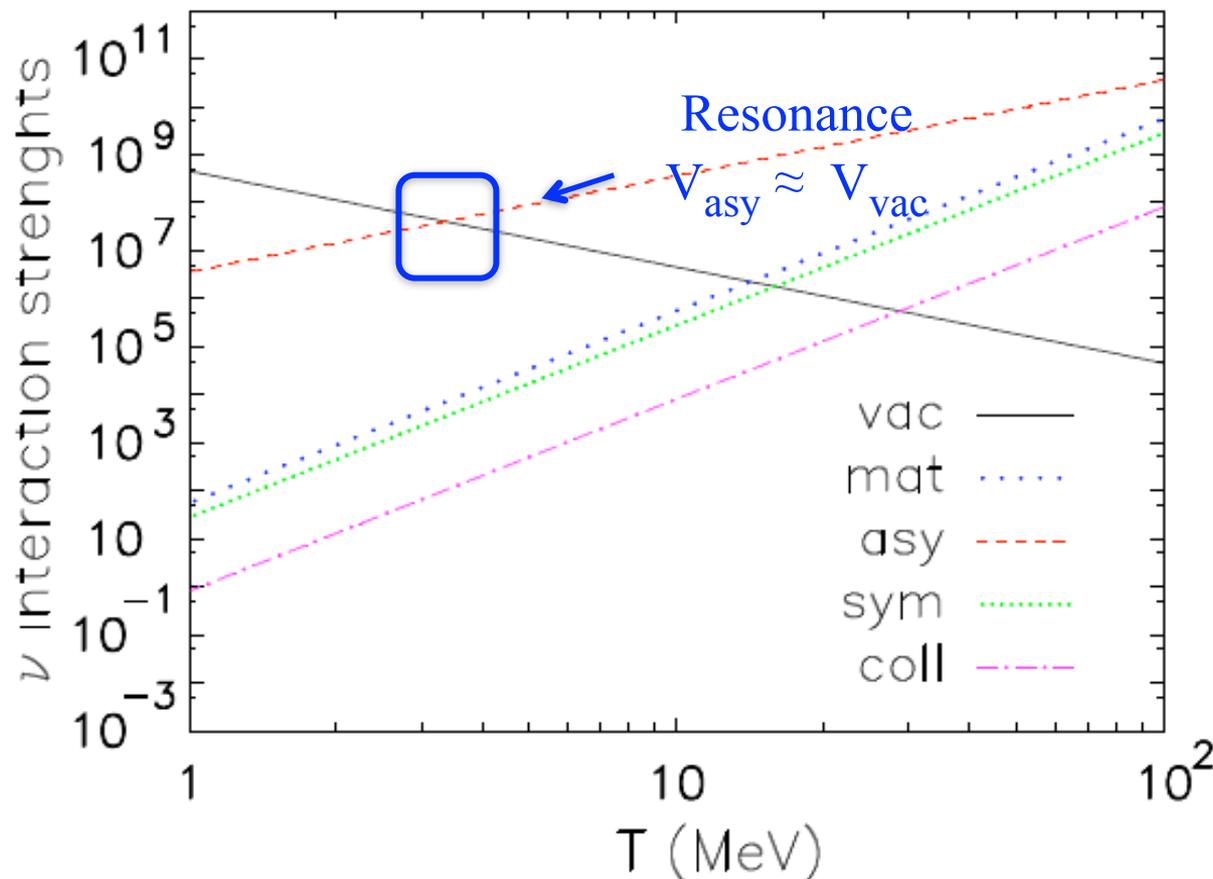
Mirizzi, N.S., Miele, Serpico 2012  
arXiv:1206.1046



$L = -10^{-4}$   
(kept constant)

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$L = -10^{-4}$   
(kept constant)

MSW effect on  $\nu$ - $\nu$  asymmetric interaction term ( $V_{\text{asy}}$ )  $\rightarrow$  *resonant sterile  $\nu$  production*

- For  $L < 0 \rightarrow$  resonance occurs in the anti- $\nu$  channel
- For  $L > 0 \rightarrow$  resonance occurs in the  $\nu$  channel

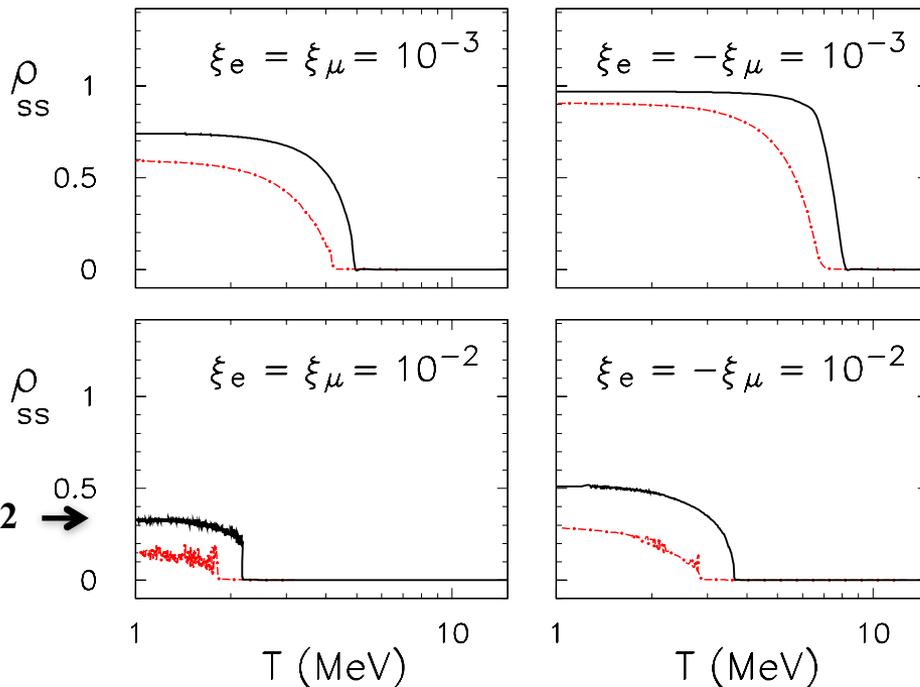
Due to its dynamical nature,  $L$  changes sign  $\rightarrow$  resonances in both  $\nu$  and  $\bar{\nu}$  channels

# Multi-momentum treatment

- ✓ Compute  $N_{\text{eff}}$  and possible distortions of  $\nu_e$  spectra as function of the *asymmetry parameter*  $\rightarrow$  evaluation of the cosmological consequences
- ✗ Very challenging task, involving time consuming numerical calculations  $\rightarrow$  study in (2+1) scenario and for few representative cases

Results:

Saviano et al, 2013; arXiv:1302.1200



— multi-momentum  $\rho_{ss}(x) = \frac{\int dy y^2 \rho_{ss}(x, y)}{\int dy y^2 f_{\text{eq}}(y, 0)}$   
 — single-momentum

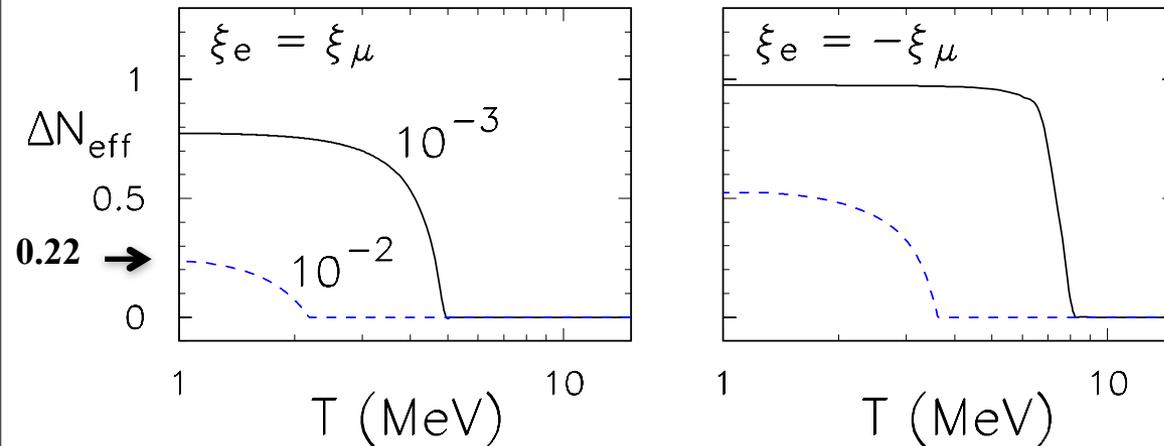
*Enhancement of the sterile production with respect to the single-momentum approx.*

$$L_\alpha = \frac{1}{12\zeta(3)} \left(\frac{T_\nu}{T_\gamma}\right)^3 (\pi^2 \xi_\alpha + \xi_\alpha^3) \simeq 0.68 \xi_\alpha \left(\frac{T_\nu}{T_\gamma}\right)^3$$

# $N_{\text{eff}}$ from multi-momentum treatment

- ✓ Compute  $N_{\text{eff}}$  as function of the  $\nu$  *asymmetry parameter*

looking at the extra contribution  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{60}{7\pi^4} \int dy y^3 \text{Tr}[\rho(x, y) + \bar{\rho}(x, y)] - 2$



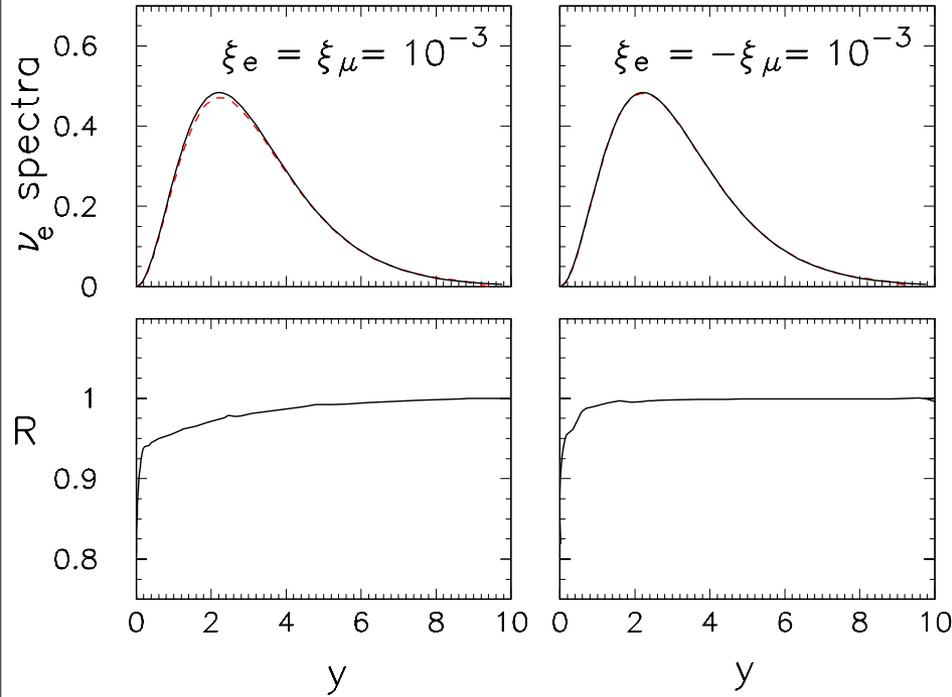
Case	$\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$	$\Delta N_{\text{eff}}^{(y)}$
$ \xi  \ll 10^{-3}$	1.0	1.0
$\xi_e = -\xi_\mu = 10^{-3}$	0.98	0.89
$\xi_e = \xi_\mu = 10^{-3}$	0.77	0.51
$\xi_e = -\xi_\mu = 10^{-2}$	0.52	0.44
$\xi_e = \xi_\mu = 10^{-2}$	0.22	0.04

Enhancement at most of 0.2 of unity for  $\Delta N$  with respect to the single-momentum approx.

One needs to consider very large asymmetries in order to significantly suppress the production of sterile neutrinos.

see also *Hannestad, Tamborra and Tram, 2012*

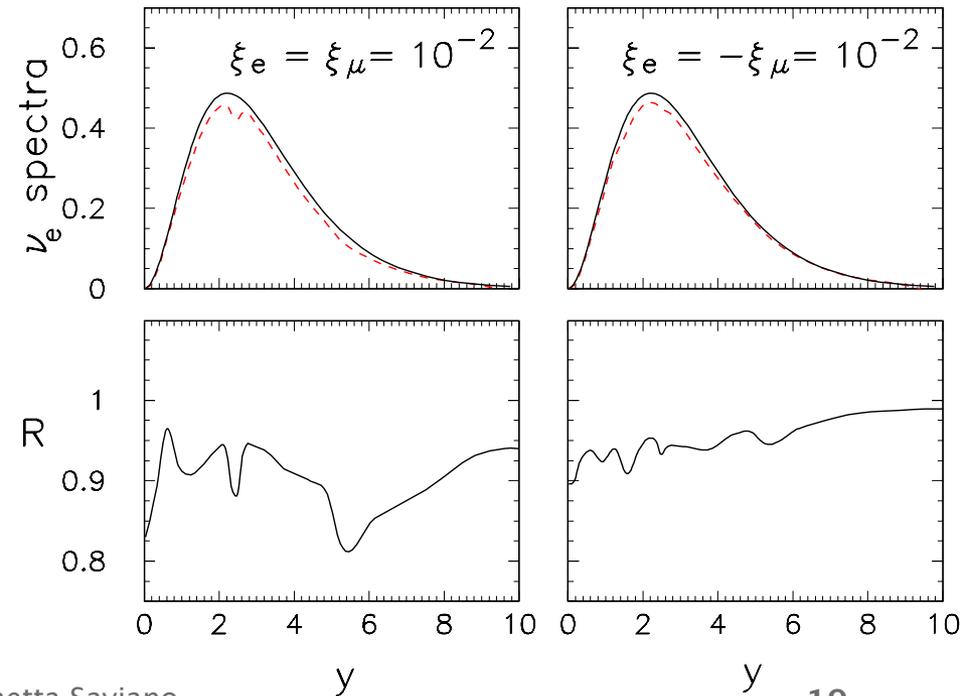
# Spectral distortions



—  $y^2 \rho_{ee}(y)$   
 —  $y^2 f_{eq}(y, \xi_e)$

$\xi_\nu = \mu_\nu / T$

$$R = \frac{\rho_{ee}(y)}{f_{eq}(y, \xi_e)}$$



Sizable distortions (especially for  $\xi = 10^{-2}$ )  
 → consequences on primordial yields

*Saviano et al, 2013; arXiv:1302.1200*

# Non-trivial implications on BBN

Saviano et al, 2013;  
arXiv:1302.1200

Case	$\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$	$\Delta N_{\text{eff}}^{(y)}$	$Y_p$	${}^2\text{H}/\text{H} (\times 10^5)$
$ \xi  \ll 10^{-3}$	1.0	1.0	0.259	2.90
$\xi_e = -\xi_\mu = 10^{-3}$	0.98	0.89	0.257	2.87
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$\xi_e =  \xi_\mu  = 10^{-3}, \text{ no } \nu_s$	$\sim 0$	–	0.246	2.56
$\xi_e =  \xi_\mu  = 10^{-2}, \text{ no } \nu_s$	$\sim 0$	–	0.244	2.55
standard BBN	0	0	0.247	2.56

$$Y_p = \frac{2(n/p)}{1+n/p}$$

Helium mass fraction

PARthENoPE code. *Pisanti et al, 2008*

# Non-trivial implications on BBN

Saviano et al, 2013;  
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Deuterium mainly sensitive to the increase of  $N_{\text{eff}}$

Helium 4 sensitive both to

- increase of  $N_{\text{eff}}$
- changes in the weak rates due to the spectral distortions

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Saviano et al, 2013;  
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The effect of the  $\nu_s$  on BBN due only the increase of  $N_{\text{eff}}$

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The effect of the  $\nu_s$  on  $Y_p$  due mainly to changes in weak interactions after spectral distortions

PARthENoPE code. *Pisanti et al, 2008*

Deuterium mainly sensitive to the increase of  $N_{\text{eff}}$

Helium 4 sensitive both to

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asymmetry +  $\nu_s$

$Y_p$  ↑

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asymmetry +  $\nu_s$

$Y_p \uparrow$

asymmetry

$Y_p \downarrow$

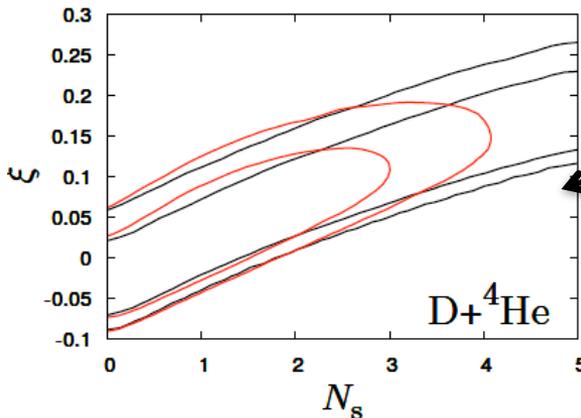
PARthENoPE code. *Pisanti et al, 2012*

## Comment 1

- Standard BBN allows at most 1  $\nu_s$  for the parameter chosen

Original idea: degenerate BBN (large chemical potential) to accommodate more  $\nu_s$

for very large positive  $\xi$ ,  $n/p = \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta m}{T} - \xi\right) \downarrow \Rightarrow Y_p \downarrow$



Positive correlation between the increase of  $\xi$  and  $N_{\text{eff}}$

*Hamman et al., 2011*

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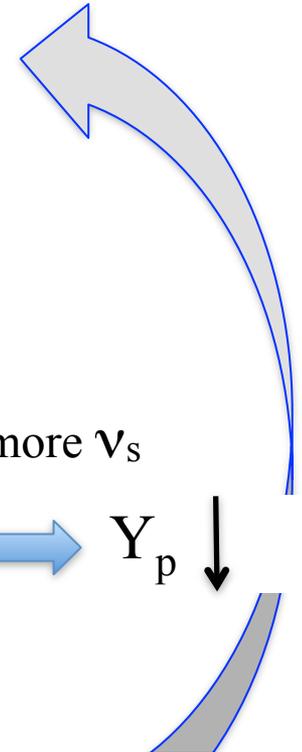
asymmetry +  $\nu_s$

$Y_p \uparrow$

asymmetry

$Y_p \downarrow$

PARthENoPE code. *Pisanti et al, 2012*

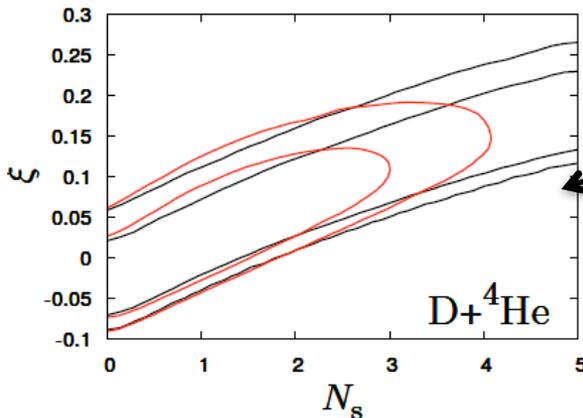


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*Hamman et al., 2011*

*not possible*  
if the  $\nu_s$  is treated properly

# Non-trivial implications on BBN

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asymmetry +  $\nu_s$

$Y_p \uparrow$

asymmetry

$Y_p \downarrow$

PARthENoPE code. *Pisanti et al, 2012*

Comment 2

The increase of  $Y_p$  can be mimicked by both large and low value of  $N_{\text{eff}}$

*Possible inconsistency in the value of  $N_{\text{eff}}$  as extracted from CMB and from BBN*

# Conclusions

- ✓ Current precision cosmological data show a very slight preference for extra relativistic degrees of freedom (beyond 3 active neutrinos)... Planck:  $N_{\text{eff}} = 3.30 \pm 0.54$
- ✓  $\nu_s$  interpretation of extra radiation: *mass and mixing parameters severely constrained*, solving the non-linear EOM for  $\nu_a$ - $\nu_s$  oscillations in a 3+1 scenario.
  - ✓ Laboratory eV sterile neutrinos *incompatible* ( $> 4\text{-}\sigma$ ) with cosmological bounds: *too many and too heavy*
- ✓ A possibility to reconcile cosmological and laboratory data would be the introduction of a neutrino asymmetry ( $L \geq 10^{-2}$ ) to suppress the sterile abundance in the Early Universe.
- ✓ However,  $L \sim 10^{-2}$  lead to sizable distortions of  $\nu_e$  and  $\bar{\nu}_e$  spectra that are basic input for BBN weak rates  $\rightarrow$  *non trivial implication on BBN*

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***If lab  $\nu_s$  would be confirmed  $\rightarrow$  new physics in the particle sector and also radical modification of the standard cosmological model.***

*Surprises could still emerge from the interplay between cosmology and lab searches of sterile  $\nu$*



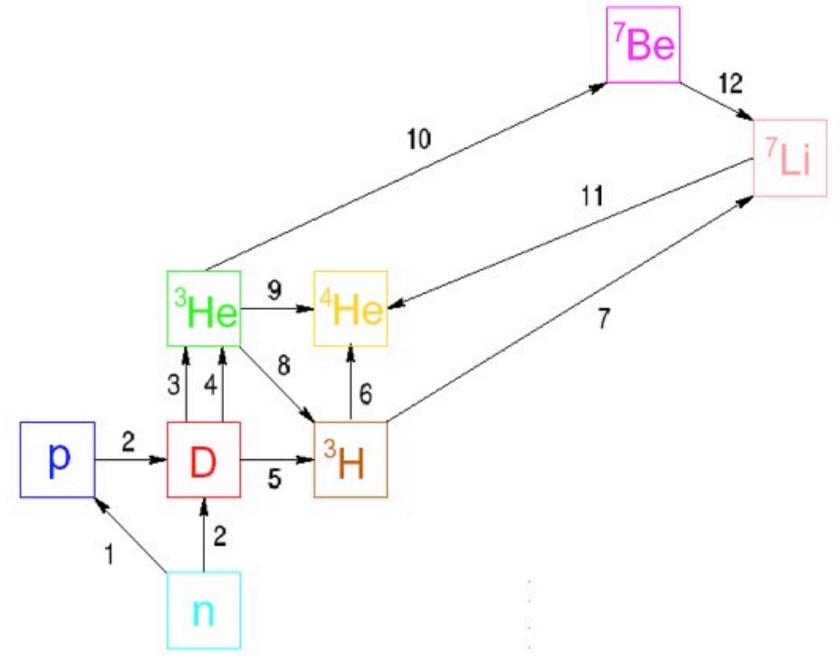
***Thank you***

# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis (II)

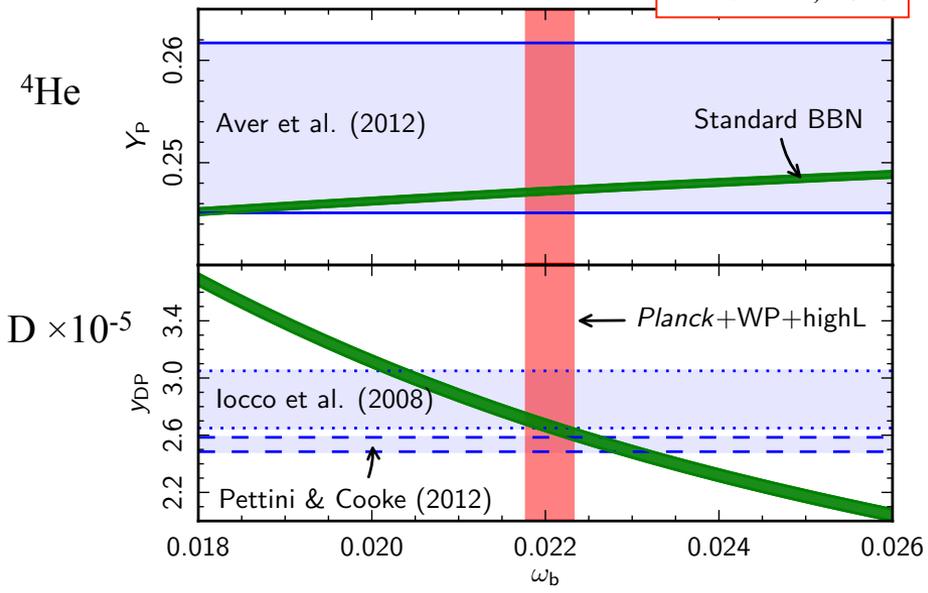
\* 0.1-0.01 MeV

Formation of light nuclei starting from D

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$                   | 7. ${}^3\text{H} + {}^4\text{He} \rightarrow {}^7\text{Li} + \gamma$   |
| 2. $p + n \rightarrow \text{D} + \gamma$                   | 8. ${}^3\text{He} + n \rightarrow {}^3\text{H} + p$                    |
| 3. $\text{D} + p \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} + \gamma$       | 9. ${}^3\text{He} + \text{D} \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + p$            |
| 4. $\text{D} + \text{D} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} + n$     | 10. ${}^3\text{He} + {}^4\text{He} \rightarrow {}^7\text{Be} + \gamma$ |
| 5. $\text{D} + \text{D} \rightarrow {}^3\text{H} + p$      | 11. ${}^7\text{Li} + p \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + {}^4\text{He}$      |
| 6. ${}^3\text{H} + \text{D} \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + n$ | 12. ${}^7\text{Be} + n \rightarrow {}^7\text{Li} + p$                  |



Planck XVI, 2013



Prediction for  ${}^4\text{He}$  and D in a **standard** BBN obtained by Planck collaboration using **PARthENoPE**

Blue regions: primordial yields from measurements performed in different astrophysical environments

$$\omega_b = 0.02207 \pm 0.00027$$

# $N_{\text{eff}}$ and $\Sigma m_\nu$ constraints after Planck

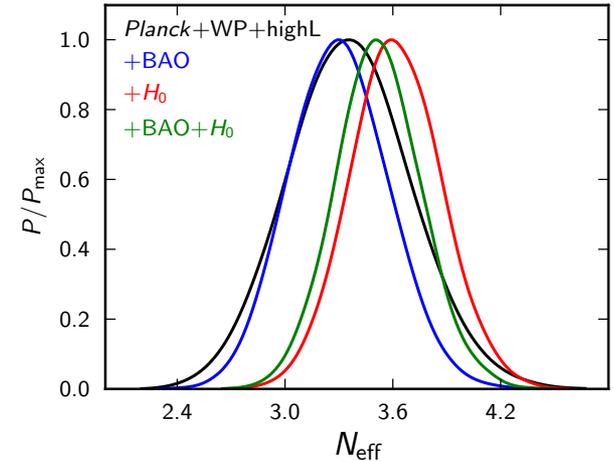
$$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.30 \pm 0.54 \text{ (95 \% C.L.; Planck+WP+highL+BAO)}$$

*compatible with the standard value at 1- $\sigma$*

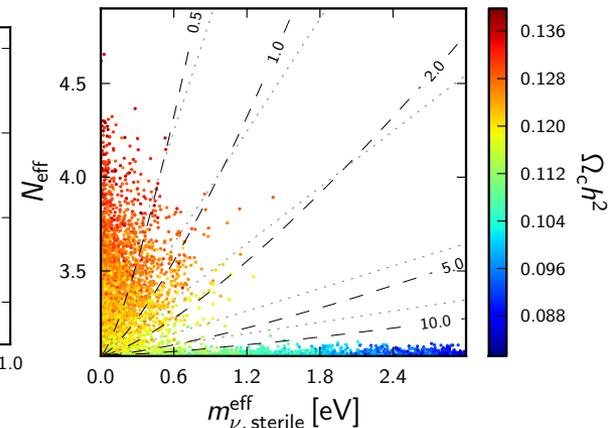
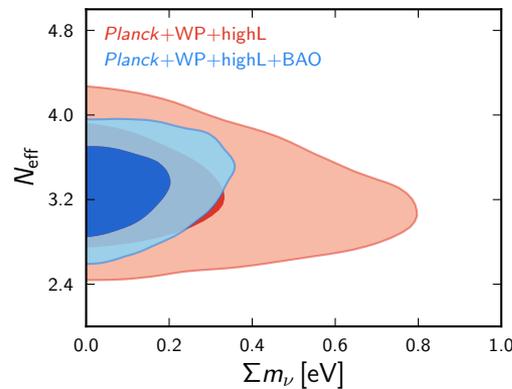
*bounds on  $\nu$  mass*

model	Planck +	mass bound (eV) (95% C.L.)
3 degenerate $\nu_a$	WP+HighL +BAO	$\Sigma m_\nu < 0.23$
Joint analysis $N_{\text{eff}}$ & 3 degen $\nu_a$	WP+HighL +BAO	$N_{\text{eff}} = 3.32 \pm 0.54$ $\Sigma m_\nu < 0.28$
Joint analysis $N_{\text{eff}}$ & 1 mass $\nu_s$	BAO	$N_{\text{eff}} < 3.80$ $m_{\nu_s}^{\text{eff}} < 0.42$

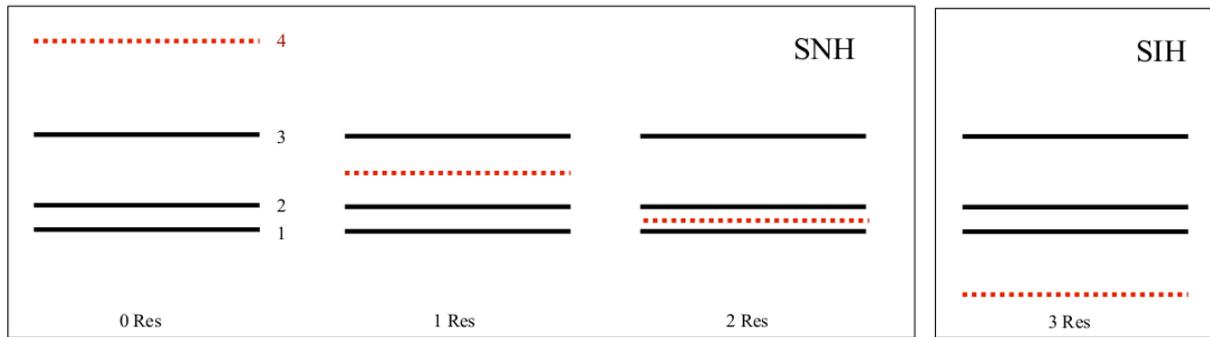
$$m_{\nu_s}^{\text{eff}} \equiv (94, 1 \Omega_\nu h^2) \text{eV}$$



Planck XVI, 2013



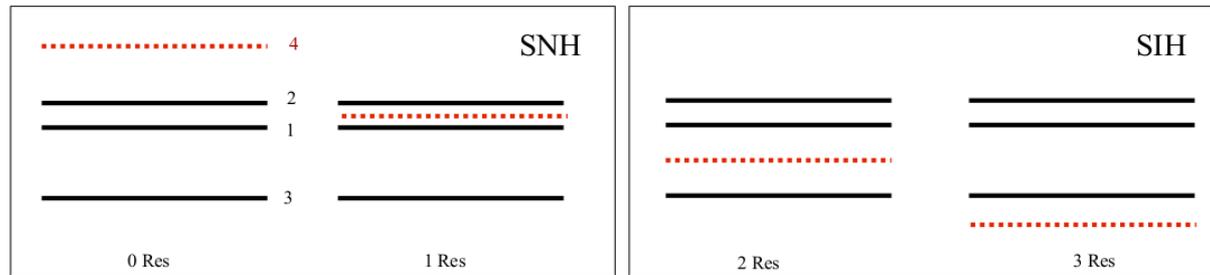
NH



Scheme of possible resonances

The matter terms can induce MSW-like resonances when they become of the same order of the sterile mass splittings

IH



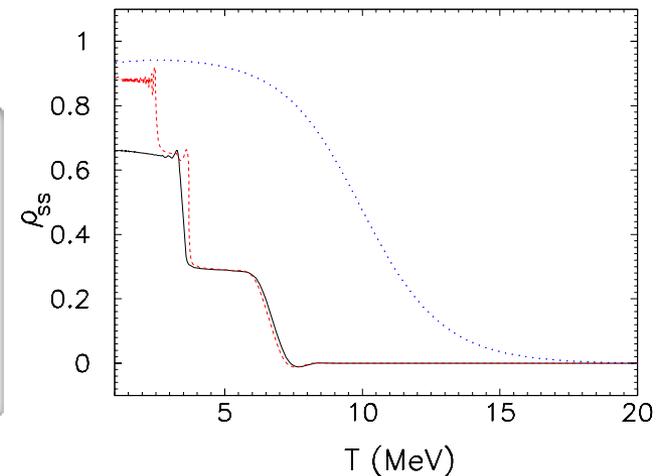
Resonances are associated with the three different active-sterile mass splittings  $\Delta m^2_{4i}$  and with the different  $\theta_{14}$  mixing angles.

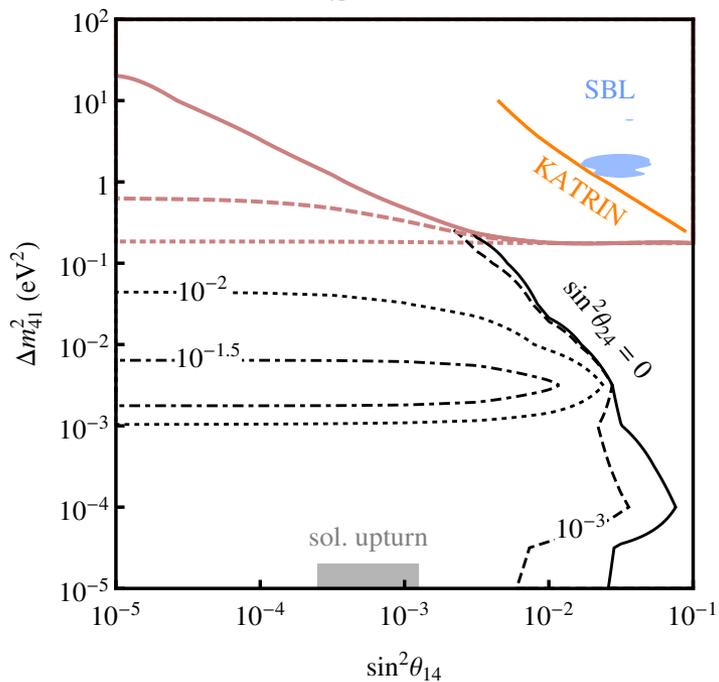
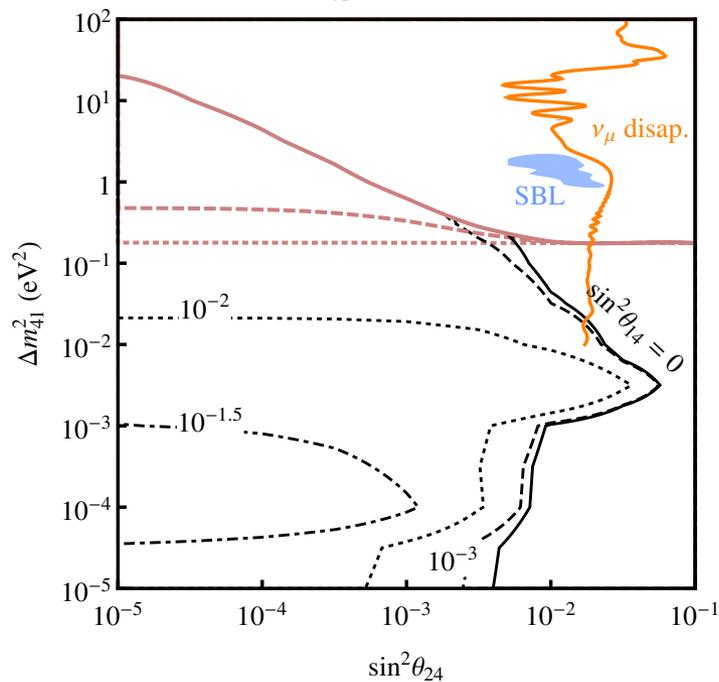
Evolution of sterile density component  $\rho_{ss}$  for 3 sterile mass splitting

$$\Delta m^2_{41} = 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$$

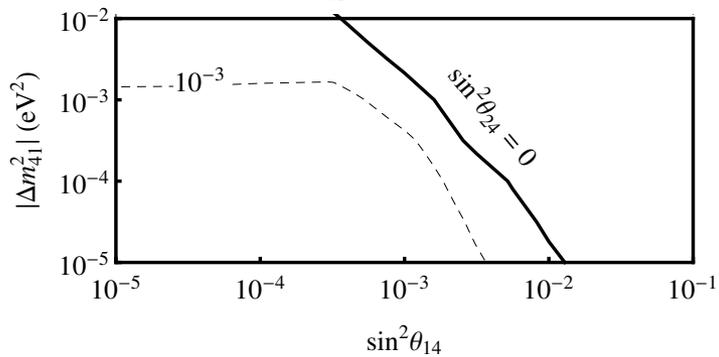
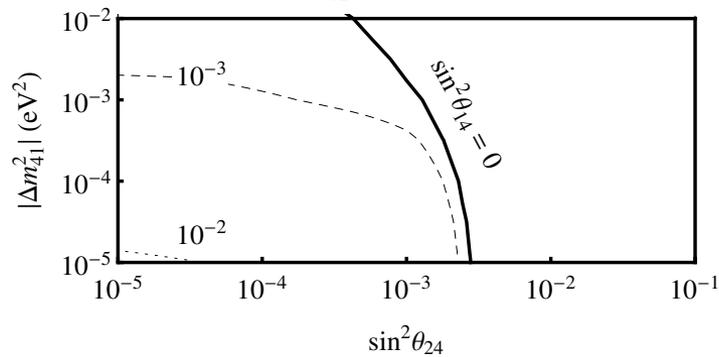
$$\Delta m^2_{41} = -10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$$

$$\Delta m^2_{41} = 5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV}^2$$



a)  $\Delta m_{41}^2 > 0, \sin^2 \theta_{34} = 0$ b)  $\Delta m_{41}^2 > 0, \sin^2 \theta_{34} = 0$ 

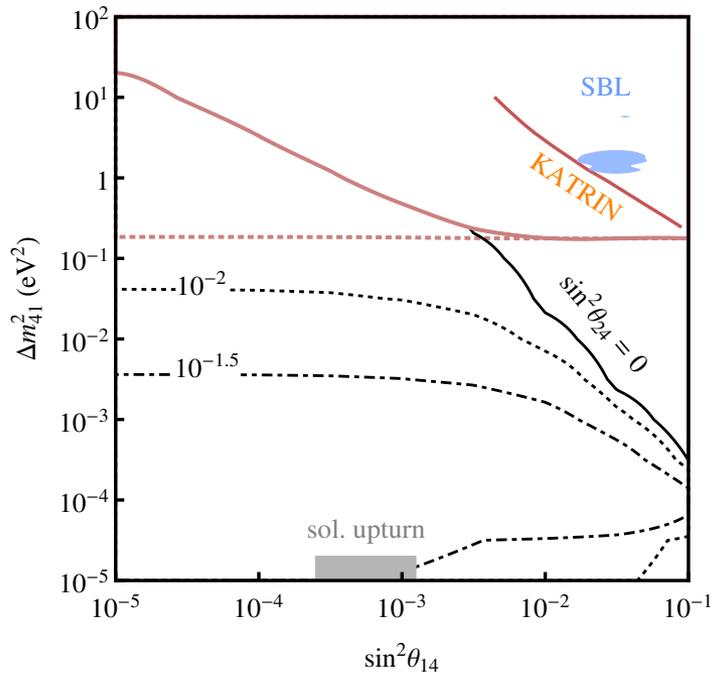
Sterile NH

c)  $\Delta m_{41}^2 < 0, \sin^2 \theta_{34} = 0$ d)  $\Delta m_{41}^2 < 0, \sin^2 \theta_{34} = 0$ 

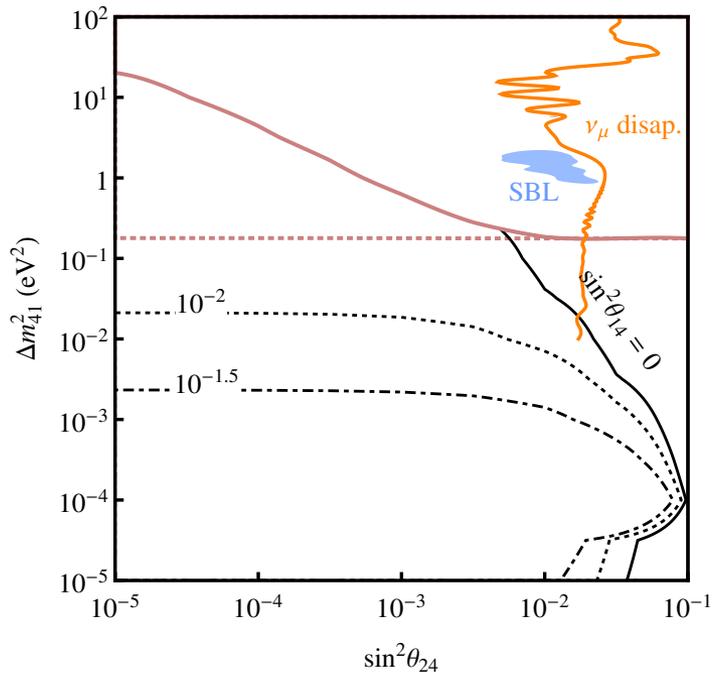
Sterile IH

# Active IH

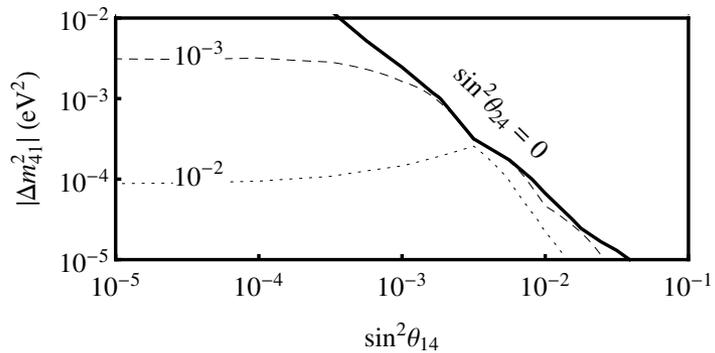
a)  $\Delta m_{41}^2 > 0, \sin^2 \theta_{34} = 0$



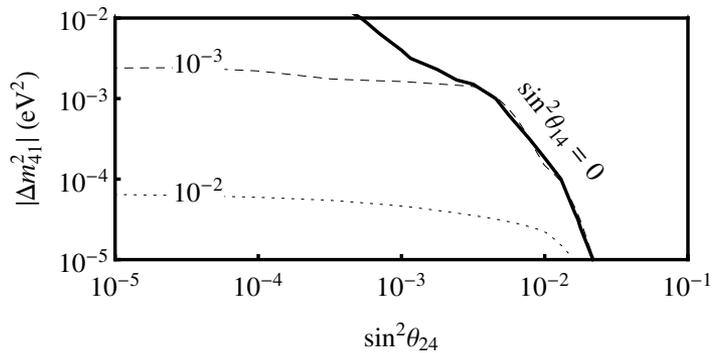
b)  $\Delta m_{41}^2 > 0, \sin^2 \theta_{34} = 0$



c)  $\Delta m_{41}^2 < 0, \sin^2 \theta_{34} = 0$



d)  $\Delta m_{41}^2 < 0, \sin^2 \theta_{34} = 0$

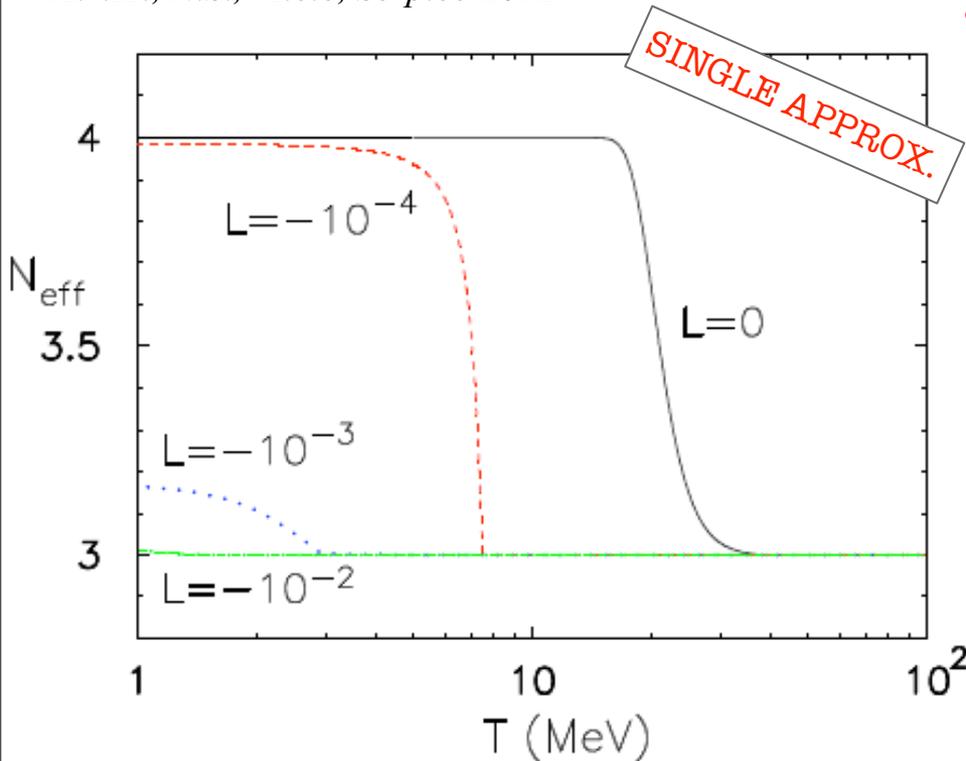


Sterile NH

Sterile IH

# Consequences on $N_{\text{eff}}$

Mirizzi, N.S., Miele, Serpico 2012



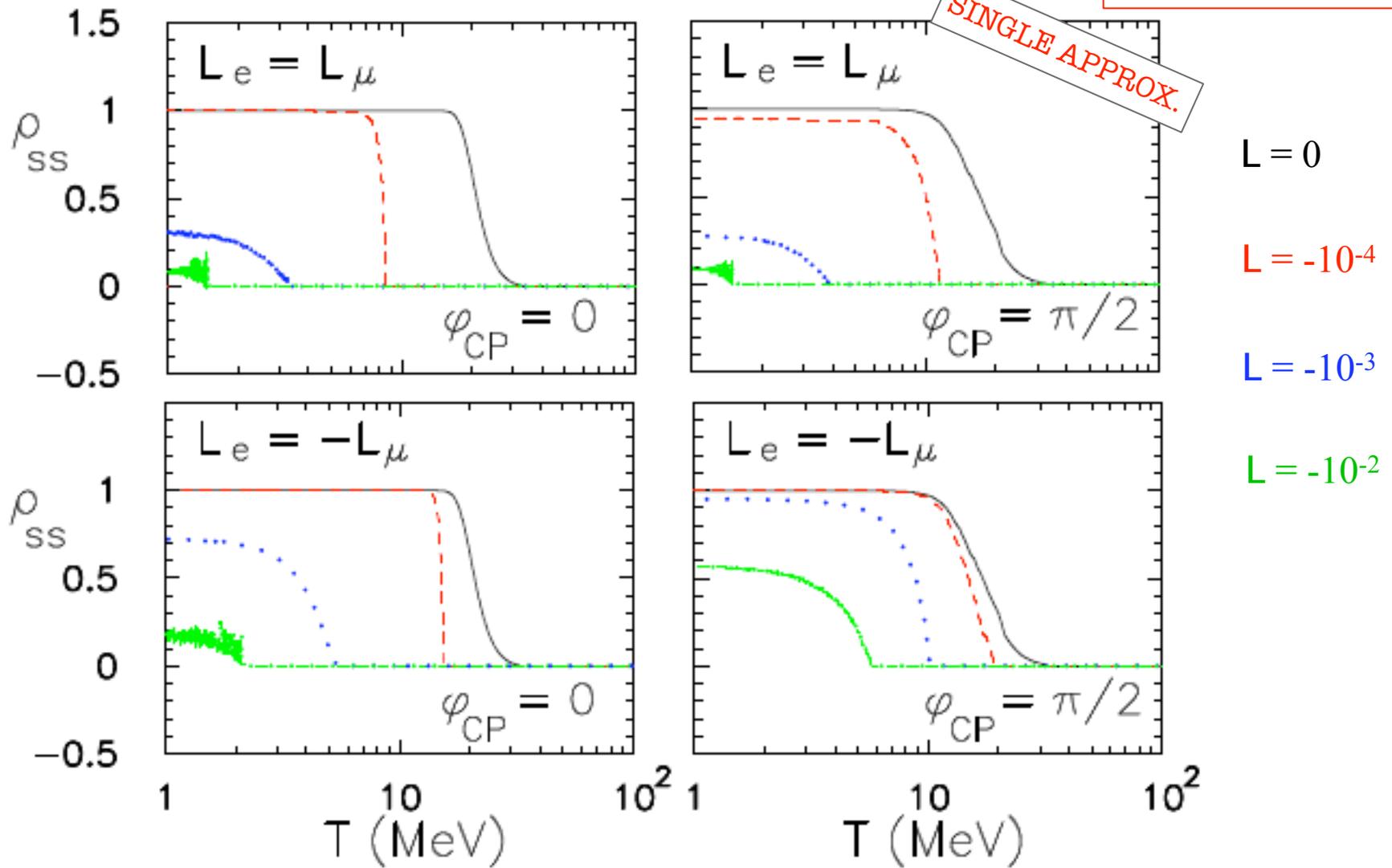
- $|L| \leq 10^{-4}$ ,  $\nu_s$  fully populated and the  $\nu_a$  repopulated by collisions  $\rightarrow N_{\text{eff}} \sim 4$   
 $\rightarrow$  tension with cosmological mass bounds (and with BBN data)
- $|L| = 10^{-3}$ ,  $\nu_s$  produced close to  $\nu$ -decoupling ( $T_d \sim 2-3$  MeV) where  $\nu_a$  less repopulated  $\rightarrow$  effect on  $N_{\text{eff}}$  less prominent.
- $L > 10^{-2}$ , no repopulation of  $\nu_a$   
 $\rightarrow$  negligible effect on  $N_{\text{eff}}$  even if  $\nu_s$  slightly produced.

## Attention:

The lack of repopulation of  $\nu_e$ , in presence of very large asymmetries, would produce distorted distributions, which can anticipate the  $n/p$  freeze-out and hence modify the  ${}^4\text{He}$  yield  $\rightarrow$  **Possible impact on the BBN (Multi-momentum treatment necessary!)**

# 2 + 1 Scenario

Mirizzi, N.S., Miele, Serpico 2012  
Phys. Rev. D 86, 053009



$L \sim 10^{-3}$  conservative limit  $\rightarrow$  Suppression crucially depends on the scenario considered

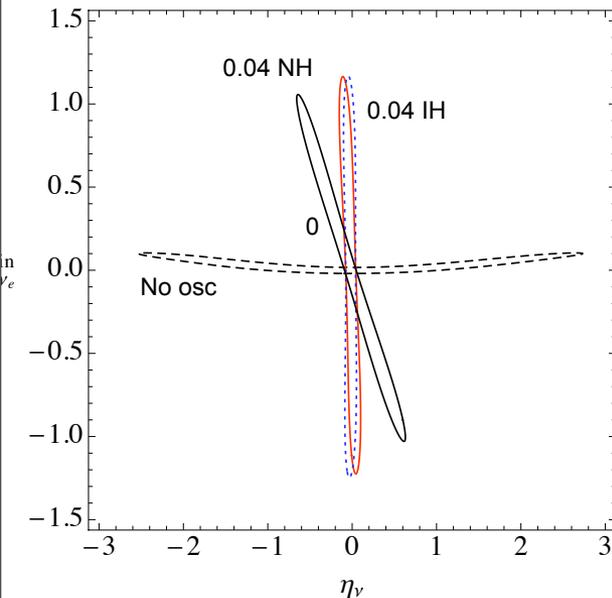
# Asymmetry in the 3 active scenario

- ◆ Flavor oscillations (effective before BBN) lead to (approximate) global flavor equilibrium. The restrictive BBN bound on the electron asymmetry applies to all flavors
- ◆  $\theta_{13}$  fixes the onset of flavor oscillations involving  $\nu_e \rightarrow$  crucial to establish the degree of equilibration of flavor  $\nu$  asymmetries in the Early Universe.
 

*Pastor, Pinto & Raffelt, 2009*  
*Mangano et al., 2011 & 2012*
- ◆ From BBN bound for a range of initial flavor neutrino asymmetries
 

*Castorina et al., 2012*

 →  $N_{\text{eff}}$  compatible with the standard value  $N_{\text{eff}} \leq 3.2$



no oscillations:

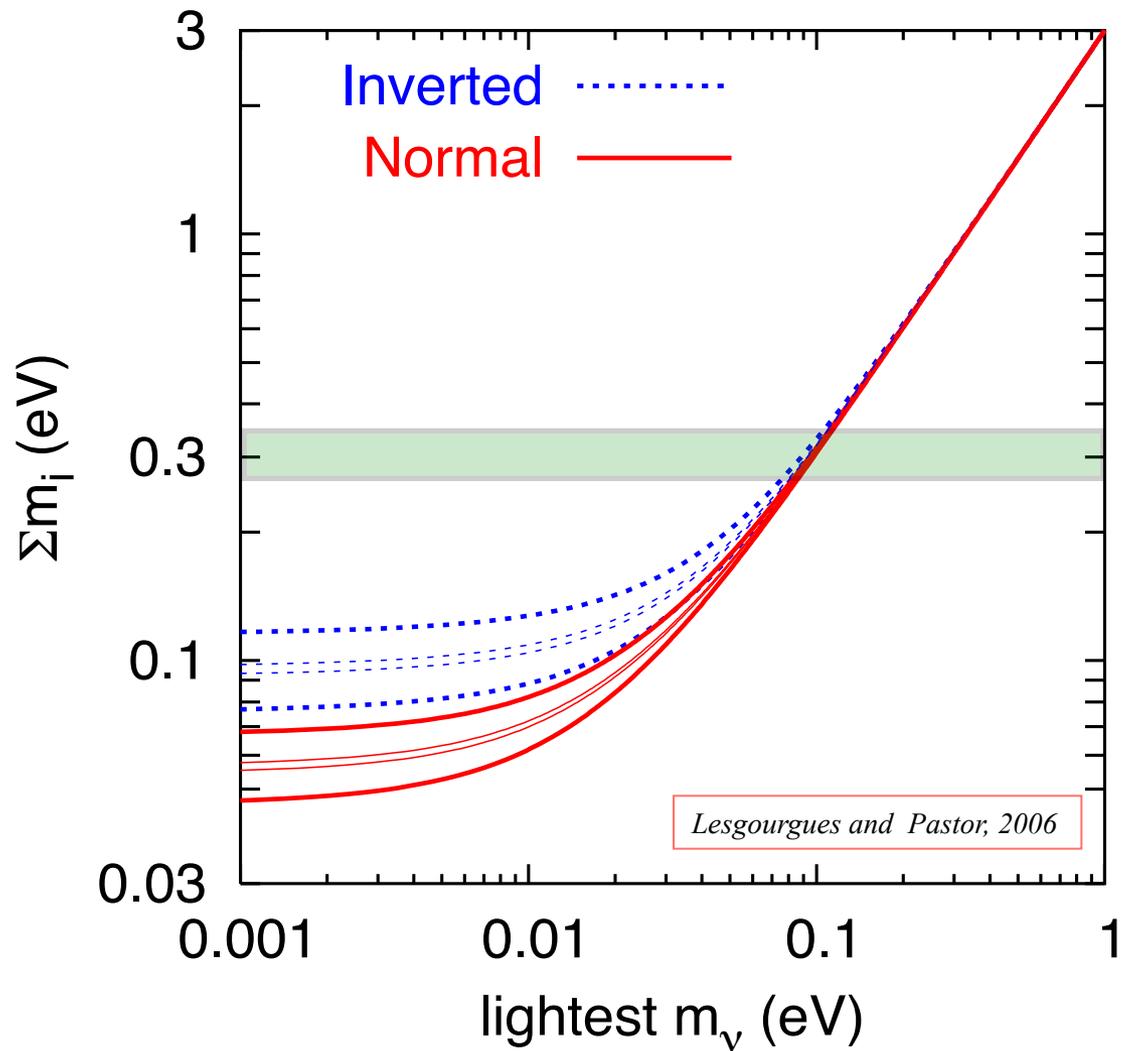
the value of  $\eta_{\nu_e}$  is severely constrained by  ${}^4\text{He}$ , while the asymmetry for other flavors could be much larger.

**with oscillations:**

an initially large  $\eta_{\nu_e}^{\text{in}}$  can be compensated by an asymmetry in the other flavors with opposite sign → bounds applied then to the total asymmetry → **rotation** of the allowed region

**Note:** BBN data still rules and fixes the value of neutrino asymmetry even in presence of CMB and neutrino mass data

*Castorina et al., 2012*



Planck

*in future...*  
Galaxy distribution, lensing of galaxies, galaxy cluster... (i.e. Euclid)

*sensitivity < 0.1*

# Non-trivial implications on BBN

Saviano et al, 2013;  
arXiv:1302.1200



Case	$\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$	$\Delta N_{\text{eff}}^{(y)}$	$Y_p$	${}^2\text{H}/\text{H} (\times 10^5)$
$ \xi  \ll 10^{-3}$	1.0	1.0	0.259	2.90
$\xi_e = -\xi_\mu = 10^{-3}$	0.98	0.89	0.257	2.87
$\xi_e = \xi_\mu = 10^{-3}$	0.77	0.51	0.256	2.81
$\xi_e = -\xi_\mu = 10^{-2}$	0.52	0.44	0.255	2.74
$\xi_e = \xi_\mu = 10^{-2}$	0.22	0.04	0.251	2.64
$\xi_e =  \xi_\mu  = 10^{-3}, \text{ no } \nu_s$	$\sim 0$	-	0.246	2.56
$\xi_e =  \xi_\mu  = 10^{-2}, \text{ no } \nu_s$	$\sim 0$	-	0.244	2.55
standard BBN	0	0	0.247	2.56

The effect of the  $\nu_s$  on  $Y_p$  due to the combination of  $N_{\text{eff}}$  and spectral distortions

PARthENoPE code. *Pisanti et al, 2008*

Deuterium mainly sensitive to the increase of  $N_{\text{eff}}$

Helium 4 sensitive both to

- increase of  $N_{\text{eff}}$
- changes in the weak rates due to the spectral distortions