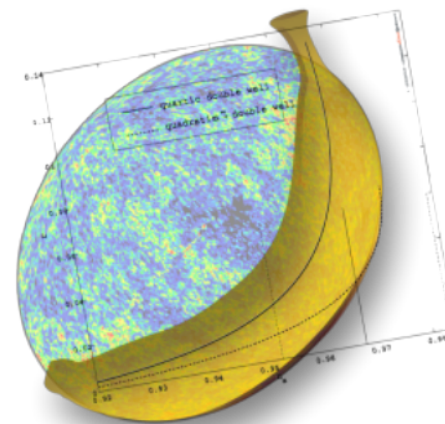
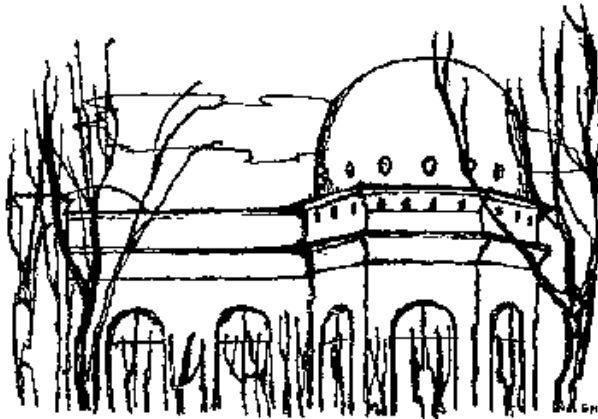


# keV Sterile Neutrinos as Dark Matter



**Manfred Lindner**  
**Max-Planck-Institut  
für Kernphysik, Heidelberg**



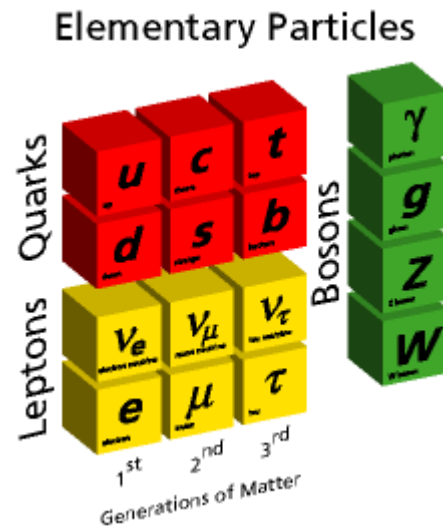
*15<sup>th</sup> Paris Cosmology Cooeloquium 2011, Observatoire de Paris, July 20-22, 2011*

# Physics Beyond the Standard Model

**QED → QCD → SM**

**$U(1)_{em}$   $SU(3)_C$   $SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$**

Success story of  
d=4 renormalizable  
QFTs



**TOE solving all problems does not (yet) exist → solve some problems → increasing levels of speculation:**

- 1) new fields
- 2) extend gauge group
- 3) new concepts (SUSY, ...)
- 4) wild speculations

**→ BSM from a neutrino perspective**

## Theoretical reasons for BSM:

SM does not exist without cutoff (triviality)

Higgs-doublet = only simplest extension

Gauge hierarchy problem

Gauge unification, charge quantization

Strong CP problem

Unification with gravity

Why: 3 generations, which representations

Many parameters (9+? masses, 4+? mixings)

## Experimental BSM facts:

- Electro weak scale  $\ll$  Planck scale
- Gauge couplings almost unify
- Neutrinos have masses & large mixings
- Baryon asymmetry of the Universe
- Dark Matter, Dark Energy, few  $\geq 2\sigma$  hints?

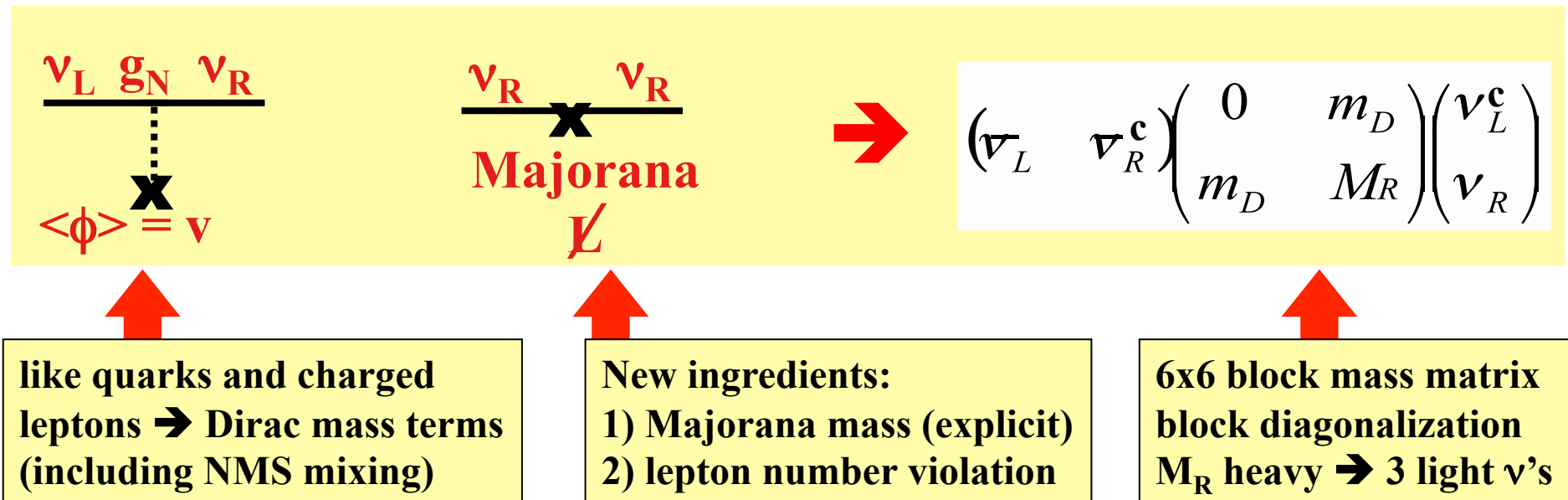
**Adding neutrino masses to the SM  $\rightarrow$  SM+**

# New Physics: Neutrino Mass Terms

Mass terms  $\sim \bar{m}LR = (2,1)$

1) Simplest possibility:  
add 3 right handed  
neutrino fields

Field	$SU(3)_C$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$
$L_Q = \begin{pmatrix} l_u \\ l_d \end{pmatrix}$	3	2	1/3
$r_u$	3	1	4/3
$r_d$	3	1	-2/3
$L_L = \begin{pmatrix} l_\nu \\ l_e \end{pmatrix}$	1	2	-1
$r_\nu ???$	1	1	0
$r_e$	1	1	-2



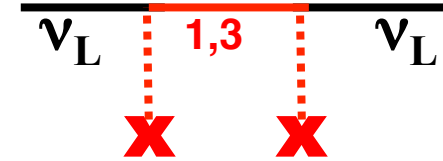
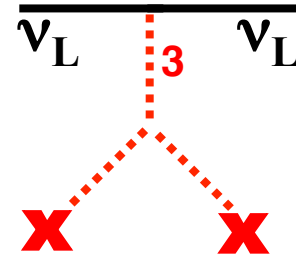
**NEW ingredients, 9 parameters  $\rightarrow$  SM+**

## 2) Maybe 3+N right handed neutrino fields

→ (6+N) x (6+N) mass matrix

→ how many of the 6+N eigenvalues are light (also for N=0)

## 3) new: scalar triplets ( $\underline{3}_L$ ) or fermionic $\underline{1}_L$ or $\underline{3}_L$



→ left-handed Majorana mass term:

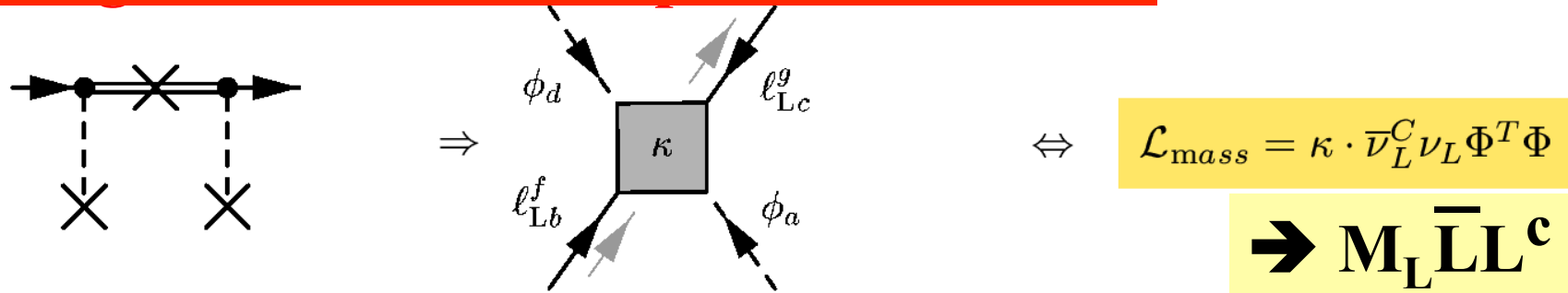
$$\rightarrow M_L \bar{L} L^c$$

## 4) Both $\nu_R$ and new singlets / triplets:

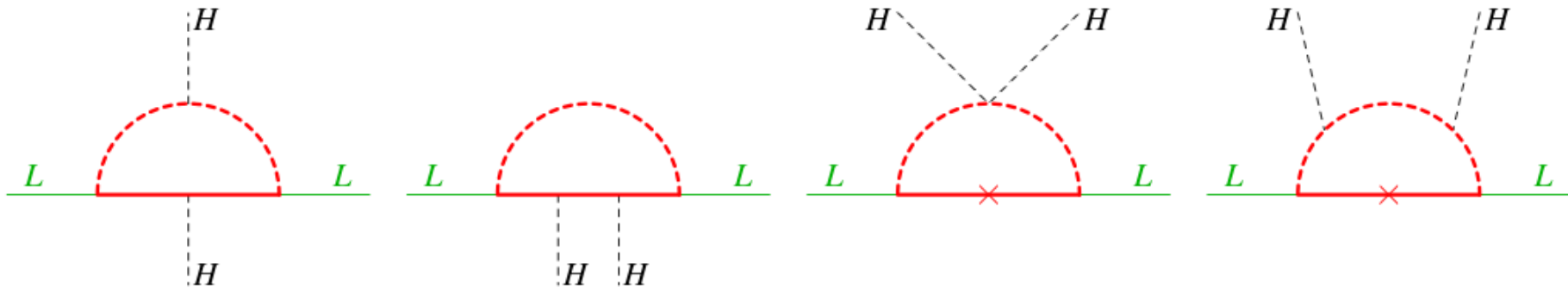
→ see-saw type II, III

$$m_\nu = M_L - m_D M_R^{-1} m_D^T$$

## 5) Higher dimensional operators: d=5, ...



## 6) Radiative neutrino mass generation



## 7-N) SUSY, extra dimensions, ...

# Other effective Operators Beyond the SM

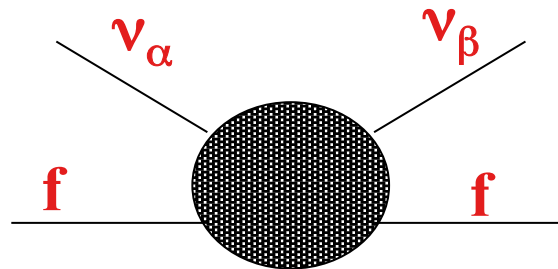
→ effects beyond 3 flavours

→ **Non Standard Interactions = NSIs** → effective 4f operators

$$\mathcal{L}_{NSI} \simeq \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} 2\sqrt{2}G_F (\bar{\nu}_{L\beta} \gamma^\rho \nu_{L\alpha}) (\bar{f}_L \gamma_\rho f_L)$$

• **integrating out heavy physics (c.f.  $G_F \leftrightarrow M_W$ )**

$$|\epsilon| \simeq \frac{M_W^2}{M_{NSI}^2}$$



Grossman, Bergmann+Grossman, Ota+Sato, Honda et al., Friedland+Lunardini, Blennow+Ohlsson+Skrotzki, Huber+Valle, Huber+Schwetz+Valle, Campanelli +Romanino, Bueno et al., Barranco+Miranda+Rashba, Kopp+ML+Ota, ...

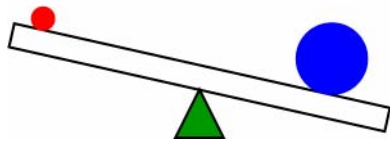
# Suggestive Seesaw Features

QFT: natural value of mass operators  $\leftrightarrow$  scale of symmetry

$m_D \sim$  electro-weak scale

$M_R \sim$  L violation scale  $\leftarrow? \rightarrow$  embedding (GUTs, ...)

See-saw mechanism (type I)



$$m_\nu = m_D M_R^{-1} m_D^T$$

$$m_h = M_R$$

Numerical hints:

For  $m_3 \sim (\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2)^{1/2}$ ,  $m_D \sim$  leptons  $\rightarrow M_R \sim 10^{11} - 10^{16} \text{GeV}$

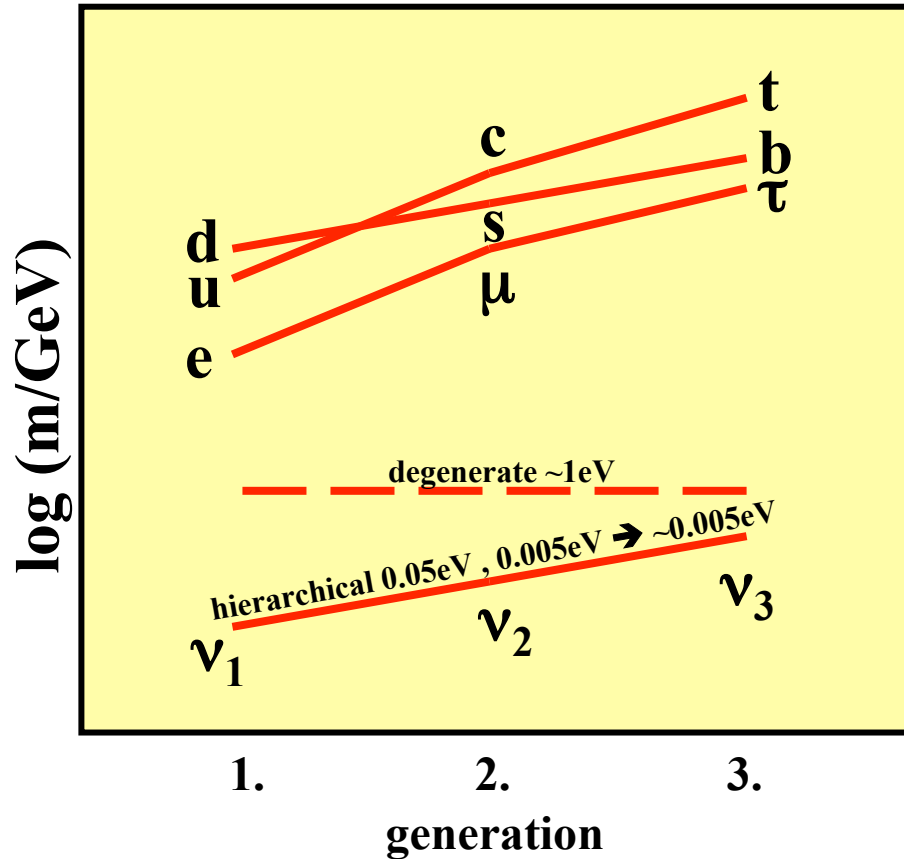
$\rightarrow \nu$ 's are **Majorana particles**,  $m_\nu$  probes  $\sim$  GUT scale physics!

$\rightarrow$  smallness of  $m_\nu \leftrightarrow$  high scale of  $L$ , symmetries of  $m_D, M_R$



# 2nd Look Questions

Quarks & charged leptons → hierarchical masses → neutrinos?



Quarks and charged leptons:

$$m_D \sim H^n ; n = 0,1,2 \rightarrow H \geq 20 \dots 200$$

Neutrinos:  $m_\nu \sim H^n \rightarrow H \leq \sim 10$

See-saw:

$$m_\nu = -m_D^T M_R^{-1} m_D$$

$\updownarrow$        $\updownarrow$        $\updownarrow$        $\updownarrow$   
 H       $\sim 10$        $\geq 20$       ?       $\geq 20$

- » less hierarchy in  $m_D$  or corr. hierarchy in  $M_R$ ? → theoretically not connected!
- » other version of see-saw? → type II, III, ...?
- » Dirac masses?

# Standard Expectation

## Heavy sterile neutrinos

↔ natural scale in QFT = highest  
unless protected by some symmetry

↔ L-violation

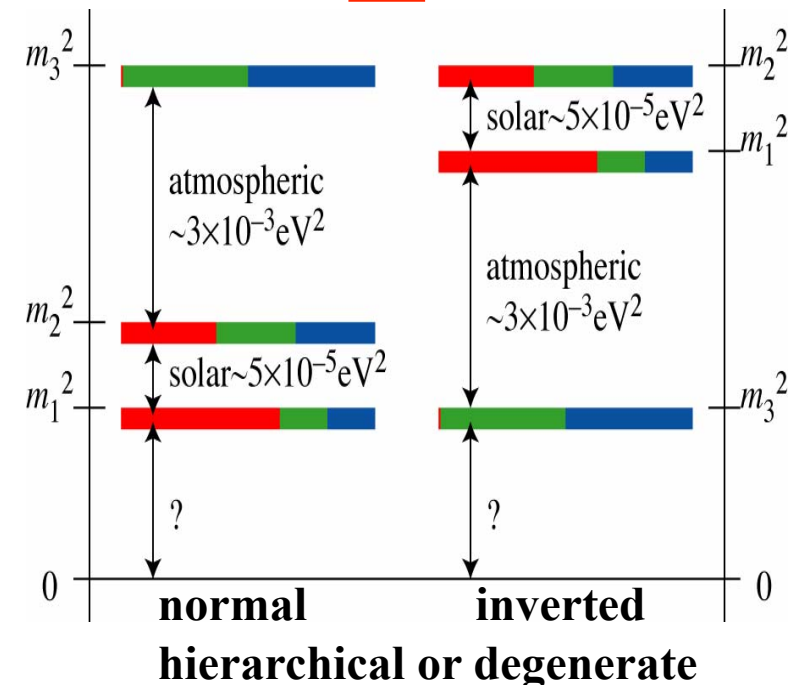
→ typical  $\geq 10^{13}$  GeV

→ tiny heavy – light mixings  
role in leptogenesis, GUTs, ...



light neutrinos & questions:  $\nu_e$   $\nu_\mu$   $\nu_\tau$

- Dirac / Majorana
- scale:  $m_1$ , ordering:  $\text{sgn}(\Delta m^2_{31})$
- how small is  $\theta_{13}$ ,  $\theta_{23}$  maximal?
- leptonic CP violation
- 3 flavour unitarity?
- why 3 generations,  $d=4$ , ...



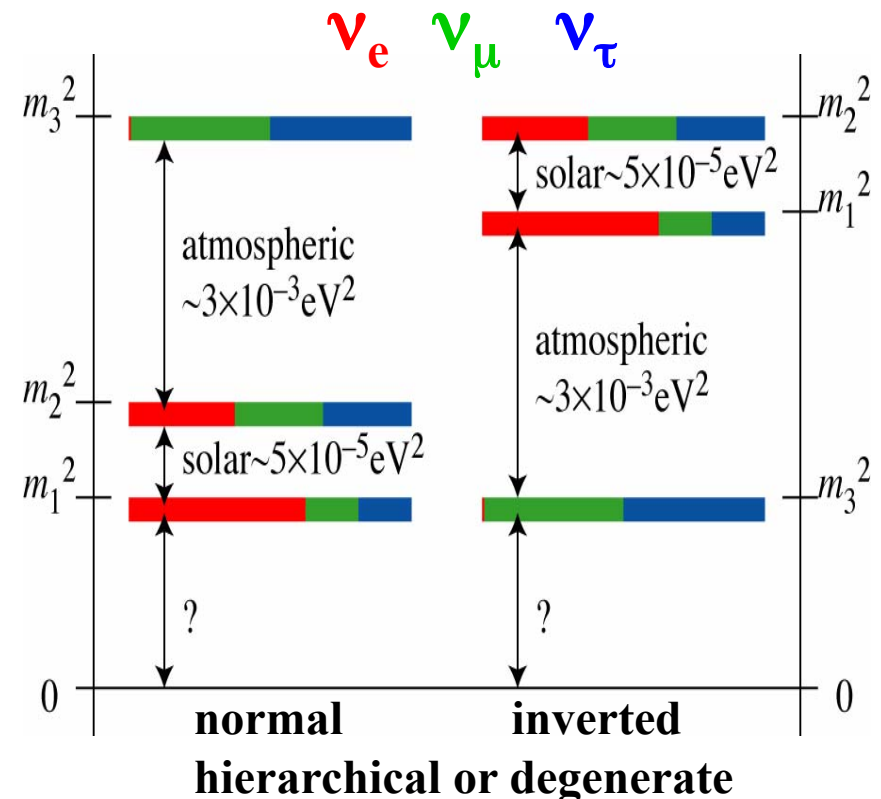
# 3 Light Neutrinos (...assumed)

Mass & mixing parameters:  $m_1$ ,  $\Delta m_{21}^2$ ,  $|\Delta m_{31}^2|$ ,  $\text{sign}(\Delta m_{31}^2)$

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} c_{12}c_{13} & s_{12}c_{13} & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ -s_{12}c_{23} - c_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{12}c_{23} - s_{12}s_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & s_{23}c_{13} \\ s_{12}s_{23} - c_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & -c_{12}s_{23} - s_{12}c_{23}s_{13}e^{i\delta} & c_{23}c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \text{diag}(e^{i\alpha}, e^{i\beta}, 1)$$

## questions:

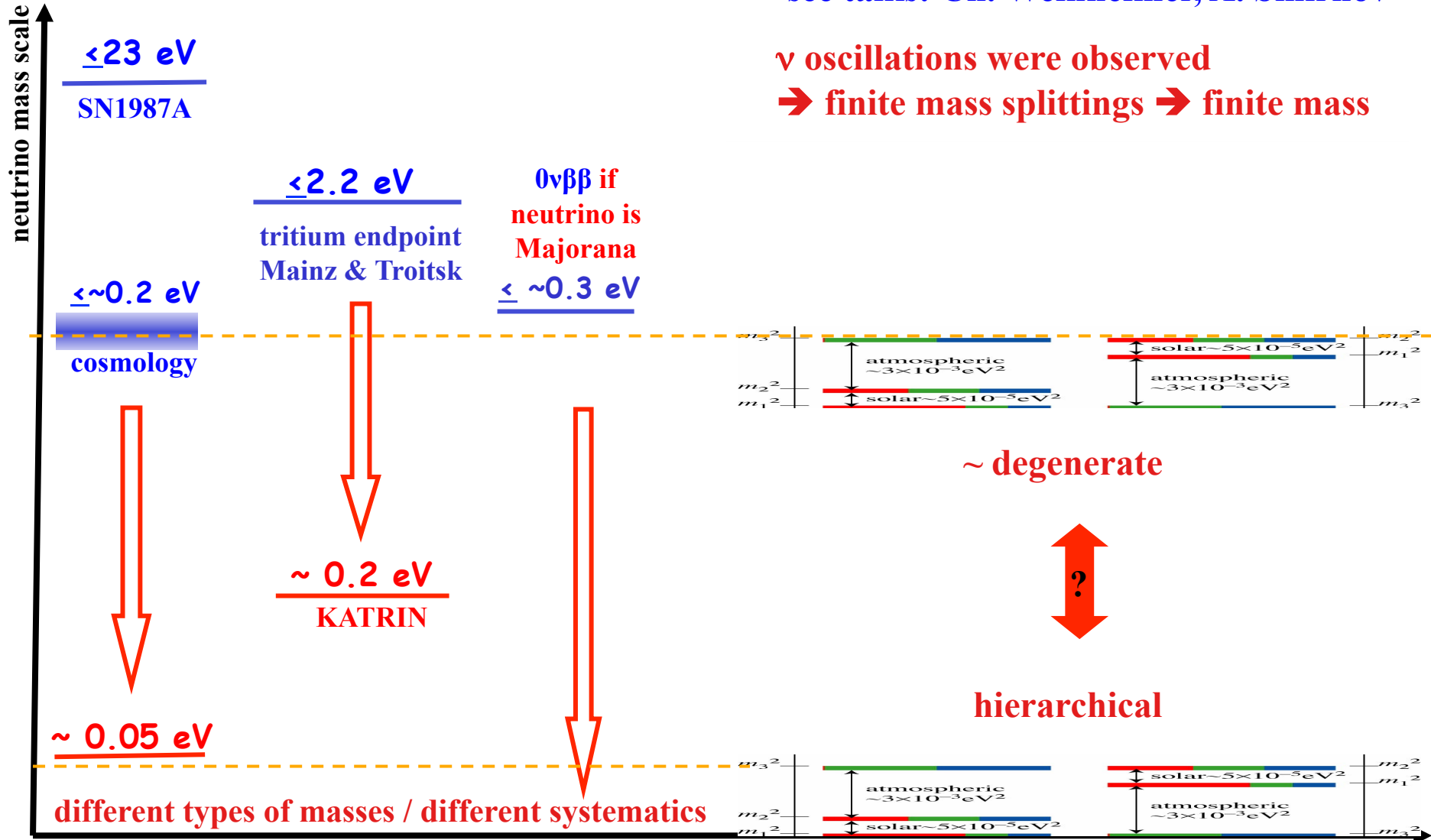
- Dirac / Majorana
- mass scale:  $m_1$
- mass ordering:  $\text{sgn}(\Delta m_{31}^2)$
- how small is  $\theta_{13}$ ,  $\theta_{23}$  maximal?
- leptonic CP violation
- 3 flavour unitarity?
- ↔ indications for sterile neutrinos!?



# Overview of Neutrino Mass Knowledge

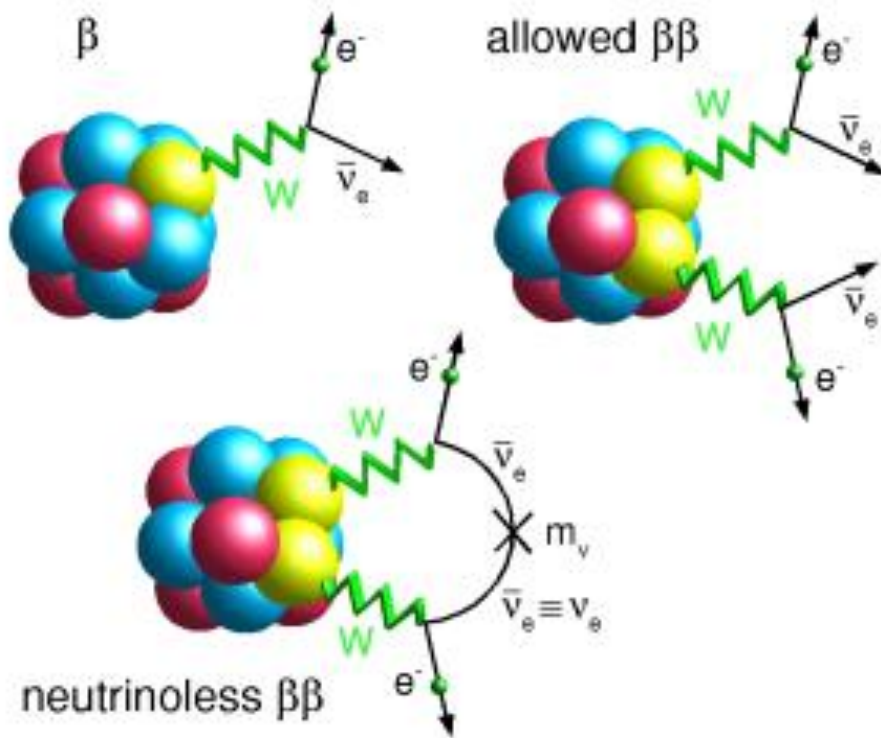
see talks: Ch. Weinheimer, A. Smirnov

$\nu$  oscillations were observed  
 → finite mass splittings → finite mass

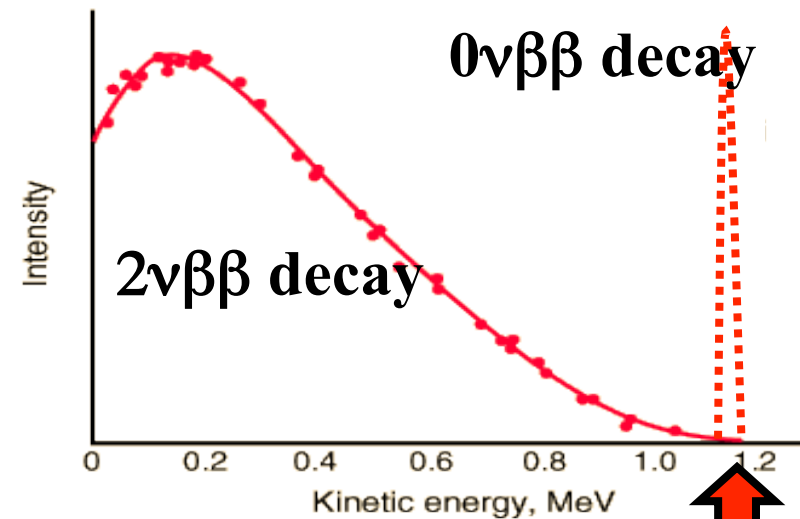


**Could there be Surprises?**

# Neutrino-less Double Beta Decay



$2\nu\beta\beta$  decay of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  observed:  
 $\tau = 1.5 \times 10^{21}$  y



Majorana  $\nu \rightarrow 0\nu\beta\beta$  decay

**warning:** other lepton number violating processes may exist...

- signal at known Q-value
- $2\nu\beta\beta$  background (resolution)
- nuclear backgrounds
- ➔ use different nuclei

# Neutrino Masses from Double $\beta$ -Decay

Beta particle (electron)

Majorana  $\nu \rightarrow 0\nu 2\beta$  decay

$\propto |\langle m_{ee} \rangle| = |\sum m_i U_{ei}^2| \leq 0.35 \text{ eV ?}$

Heidelberg-Moscow experiment

$$m_{ee} = |m_{ee}^{(1)}| + |m_{ee}^{(2)}| \cdot e^{i\Phi_2} + |m_{ee}^{(3)}| \cdot e^{i\Phi_3}$$

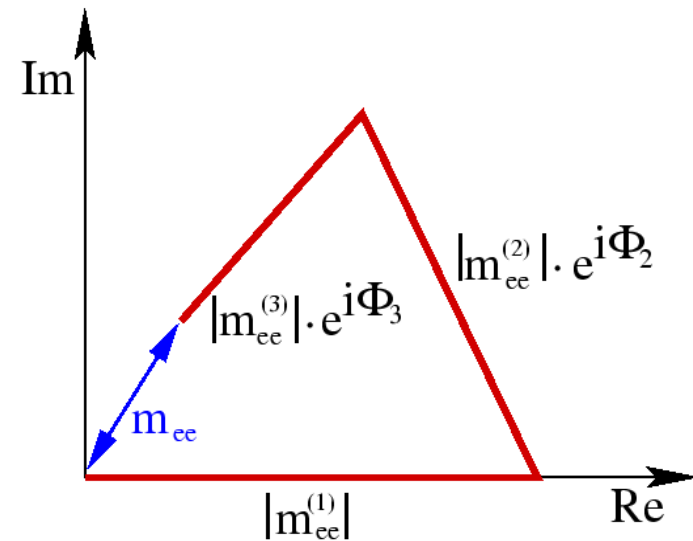
$$|m_{ee}^{(1)}| = |U_{e1}|^2 m_1$$

$$|m_{ee}^{(2)}| = |U_{e2}|^2 \sqrt{m_1^2 + \Delta m_{21}^2}$$

$$|m_{ee}^{(3)}| = |U_{e3}|^2 \sqrt{m_1^2 + \Delta m_{31}^2}$$

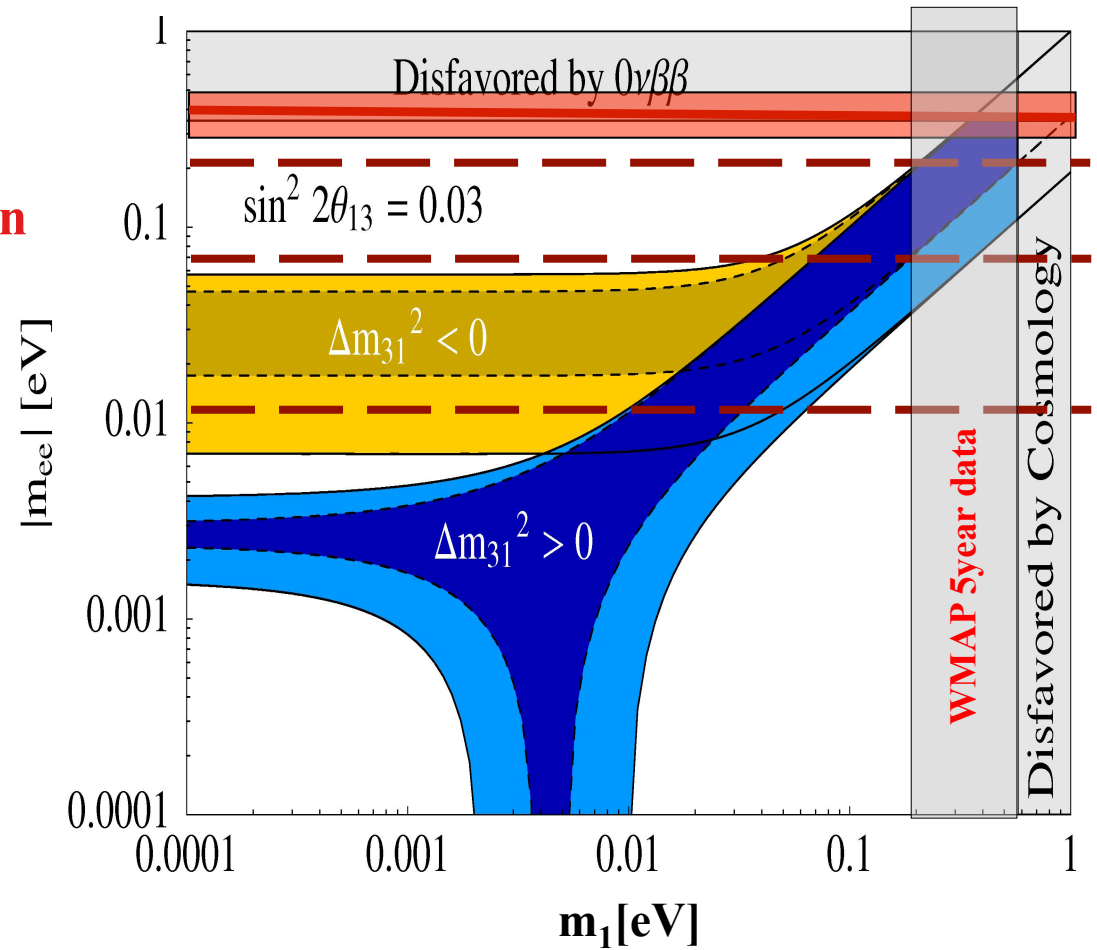
solar  $\Rightarrow |U_{e1}|^2, |U_{e2}|^2, \Delta m_{21}^2$     atmosph.  $\Rightarrow |\Delta m_{31}^2|$     CHOOZ  $\Rightarrow |U_{e3}|^2 < 0.05$

**$\rightarrow$  free parameters:  $m_1, \text{sign}(\Delta m_{31}^2), \text{CP-phases } \Phi_2, \Phi_3$**



**Claim of part of the original Heidelberg-Moscow collaboration**  
 $\leftrightarrow$  cosmology  $\rightarrow$  ,tension‘

- aims of new experiments:**
- test HM claim
  - $(\Delta m_{31}^2)^{1/2} \simeq 0.05\text{eV} \pm \text{errors}$ 
    - $\rightarrow$  reach 0.01eV
    - $\rightarrow$  CUORE
    - $\rightarrow$  GERDA phases I, II, (III)



**Comments:**

- cosmology: limitation by systematical errors  $\rightarrow$  ~another factor 5?
- $0\nu\beta\beta$  nuclear matrix elements ~factor 1.3-2 **theoretical** uncertainty in  $m_{ee}$
- $\Delta m^2 > 0$  allows complete cancellation
  - $\rightarrow$   $0\nu\beta\beta$  signal not guaranteed, but cancelation appears unlikely



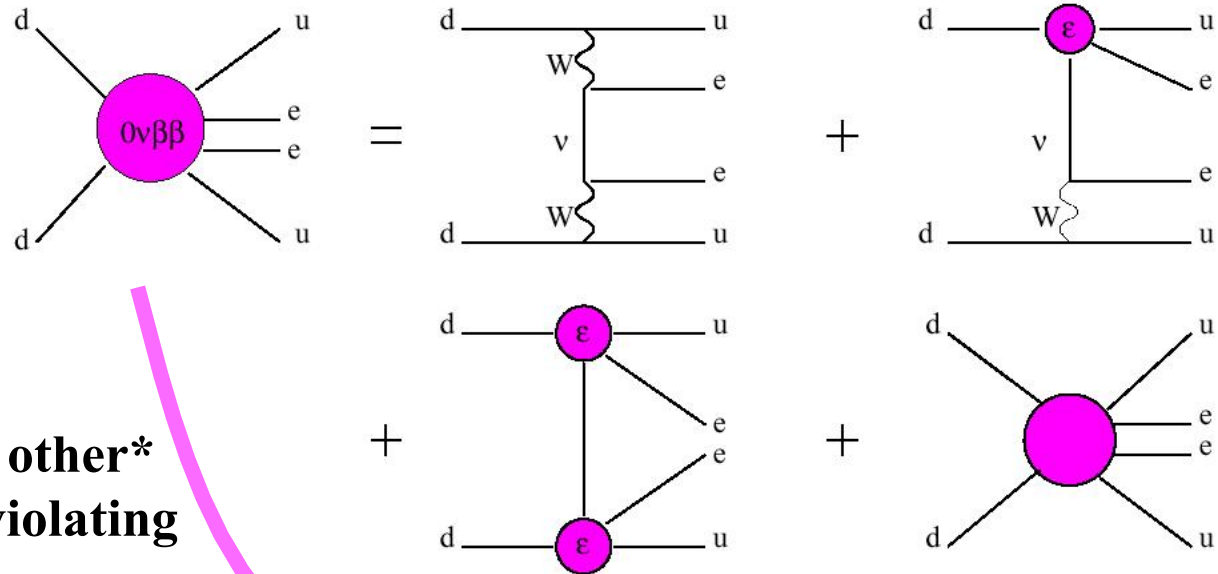
# $0\nu\beta\beta$ from Alternative $\Delta L=2$ Operators

Various possibilities:

- LR symmetry
- SUSY (RPV)
- ...

→  $0\nu\beta\beta$  signal from \*some other\* new BSM lepton number violating operator

→ very promising interplay of neutrino mass determinations, cosmology, LHC, LNF experiments and theory

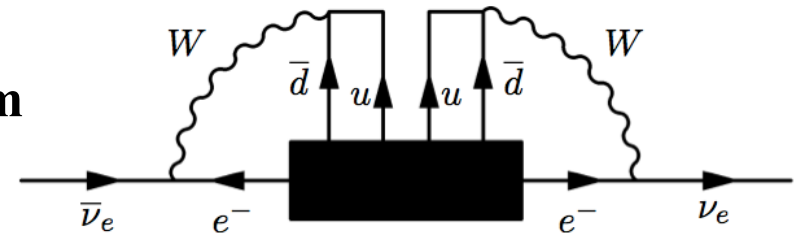


Schechter + Valle: Any  $\Delta L=2$  violating operator

→ radiative generation of Majorana mass term

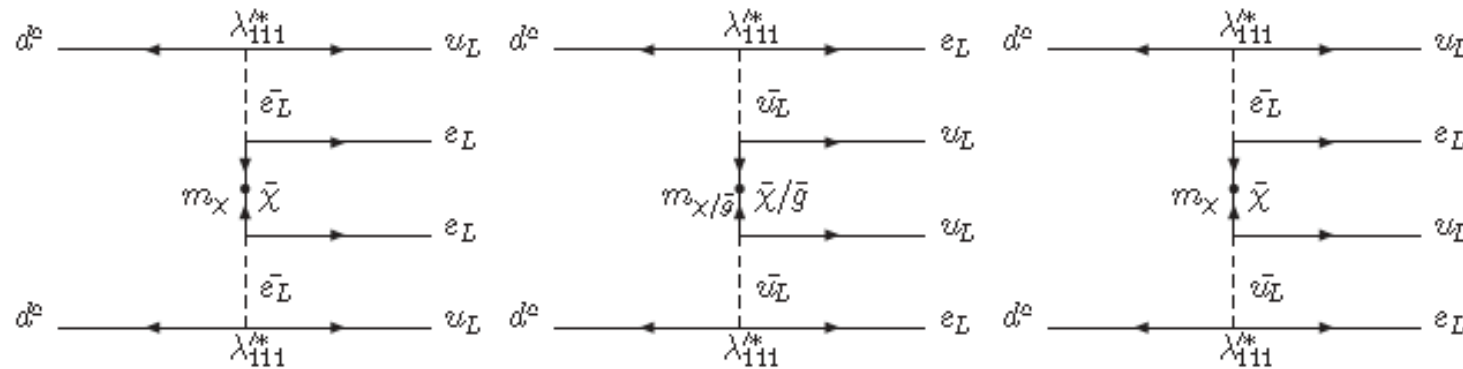
→ Majorana nature of  $\nu$ 's guaranteed

→ but how big is the mass?



# A SUSY Example

Direct, TeV scale short range mediation w/o intermediate light  $\nu$ , e.g.

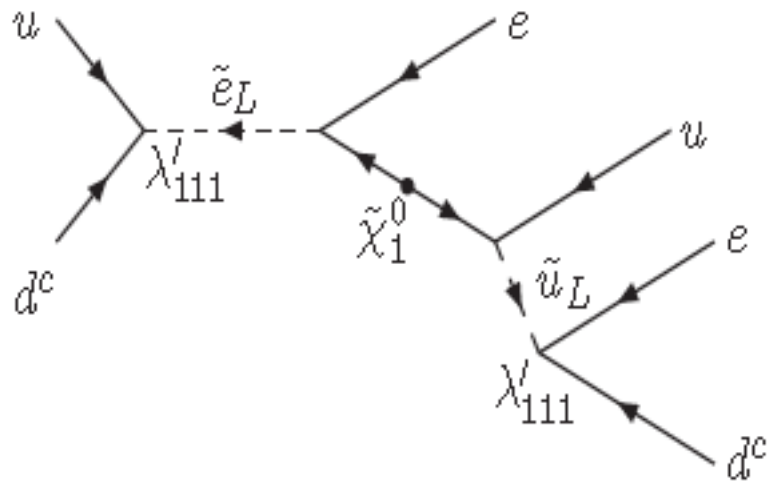


$$\mathcal{L}_{\lambda'_{111}\lambda'_{111}}^{eff, \Delta L_e=2}(x) = \frac{G_F^2}{2} m_p^{-1} [\bar{e}(1 + \gamma_5)e^c] \times \left[ (\epsilon_{\bar{g}} + \epsilon_\chi)(J_{PS}J_{PS} - \frac{1}{4}J_T^{\mu\nu}J_{T\mu\nu}) + (\epsilon_\chi\bar{e} + \epsilon'_{\bar{g}} + \epsilon_\chi\bar{f})J_{PS}J_{PS} \right]$$

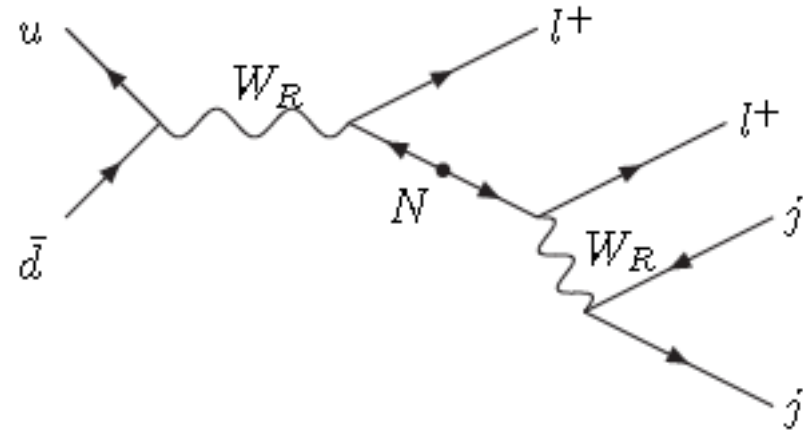
$$\epsilon_i \sim \pi\alpha_{(Strong,EW)} \frac{\lambda_{111}^2}{G_F^2} \frac{m_p}{m_{(\bar{g},\chi)}} \frac{1}{m_{(\bar{u},\bar{d},\bar{e})}^4}.$$

# $\Delta L=2$ Operators and TeV Scale Physics

**SUSY: direct test of  $\lambda'_{111}$**

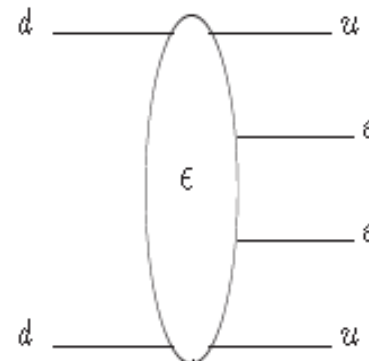
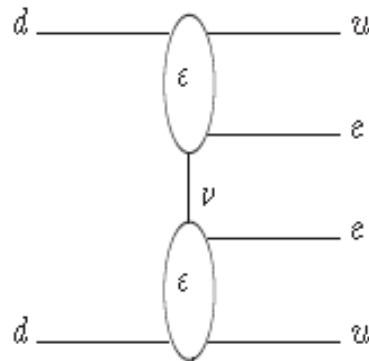


**L-R symmetry: heavy N's**



Relative strength of 'light' and 'heavy'  $0\nu\beta\beta$  amplitudes:

$$M_{\text{light}} \sim G_F^2 \frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{\langle k^2 \rangle}$$



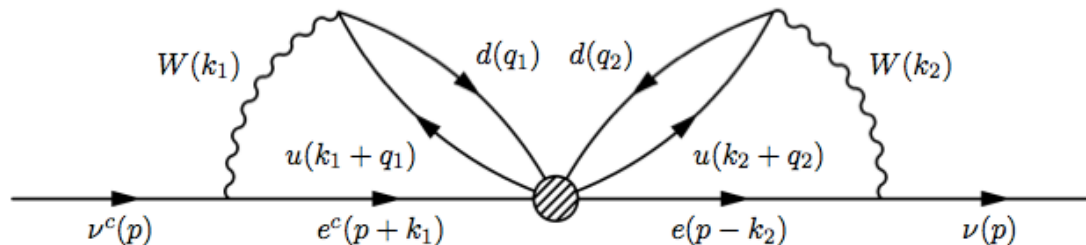
$$M_{\text{heavy}} \sim G_F^2 \left( \frac{\lambda}{g_2} \right)^4 \frac{M_W^4}{\Lambda^5}$$

# SV-induced Neutrino Masses

**General Lorentz-invariant Lagrangian for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  (point operator)**

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{G_F^2}{2} m_p^{-1} (\epsilon_1 J J j + \epsilon_2 J^{\mu\nu} J_{\mu\nu} j + \epsilon_3 J^\mu J_\mu j + \epsilon_4 J^\mu J_{\mu\nu} j^\nu + \epsilon_5 J^\mu J j_\mu)$$

$$J = \bar{u} (1 \pm \gamma_5) d, \quad J^\mu = \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 \pm \gamma_5) d \text{ etc.}$$



**Outcome:**

**M. Dürr, ML, A. Merle**

If other  $\Delta L=2$  physics drives  $0\nu\beta\beta \rightarrow$  SV gives  $\delta m_\nu = 10^{-24}$  eV

$\rightarrow$  mass correction too small to explain observed masses and splittings

$\rightarrow$  explicit neutrino mass operators required

Dirac:  $0\nu\beta\beta$  essentially unrelated to neutrino masses  $\leftrightarrow$  other BSM

Majorana: dominates over SV contribution

$0\nu\beta\beta$  may be a mixture of Majorana mass and other  $\Delta L=2$  physics

$\rightarrow$  mimics higher Majorana neutrino mass

# Neutrinos as Dark Matter?

# Could Neutrinos be Dark Matter?

- Active neutrinos would be perfect Hot Dark Matter → ruled out:
    - destroys small scale structures in cosmological evolution
    - required neutrino masses much too small → maybe HDM component
  - keV sterile neutrinos: Warm Dark Matter → workes very well:
    - relativistic at decoupling
    - non-relativistic at radiation to matter dominance transition
    - OK for  $M_X \simeq \text{few keV}$  with very tiny mixing
    - reduced small scale structure → smoother profile, less dwarf satellites
    - scenario where one sterile neutrino is keV-ish, the others heavy
    - tiny active – sterile mixings  $O(m_\nu/M_R)$
  
    - observational hints from astronomy
      - hints that a keV sterile particle may exist → right-handed neutrino?
- Biermann, Kusenko & Segre, Fuller et al., Biermann & Kusenko, Stasielak et al., Loewenstein et al., Dodelson, Widrow, Dolgov, ...

# Non-standard Sterile Neutrino Scenarios

## The standard picture:

3 heavy sterile neutrinos typ.  $\geq 10^{13}$  GeV

→ leptogenesis, role in GUTs, ...

Theory mechanism which makes

1 or 2 heavy sterile neutrinos light?

→ keV sterile neutrino, tiny H-L mixing

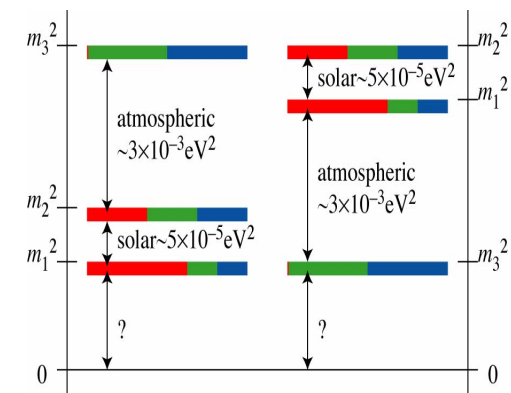
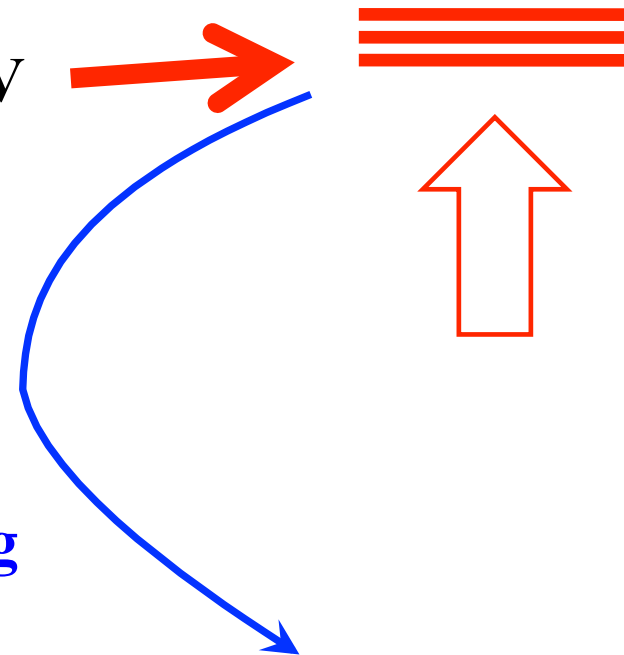
3 light active neutrinos

→ this could easily be wrong

- more than 3  $N_R$  states, ...

-  $M_R$  may have special eigenvalues, ...

→ light sterile neutrinos ?!



# Evidences for Light Sterile Neutrinos

## Particle Physics:

Reactor anomaly, LSND, MiniBooNE, MINOS, Gallex...

→ evidences for light sterile  $\nu$ 's?

→ see talk by A. Smirnov

→ New and better data / experiments are needed to clarify the situation

→ maybe something exciting around the corner?

→ but eV scale and sizable mixings

## Astrophysics:

- e.g. effects of keV-ish sterile neutrinos on pulsar kicks

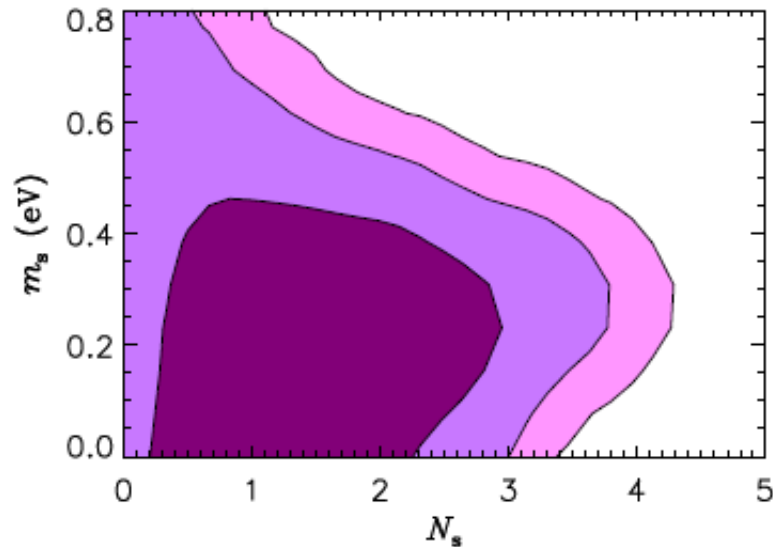
Kusenko, Segre, Fuller, Mocioiu, Pascoli

- ...

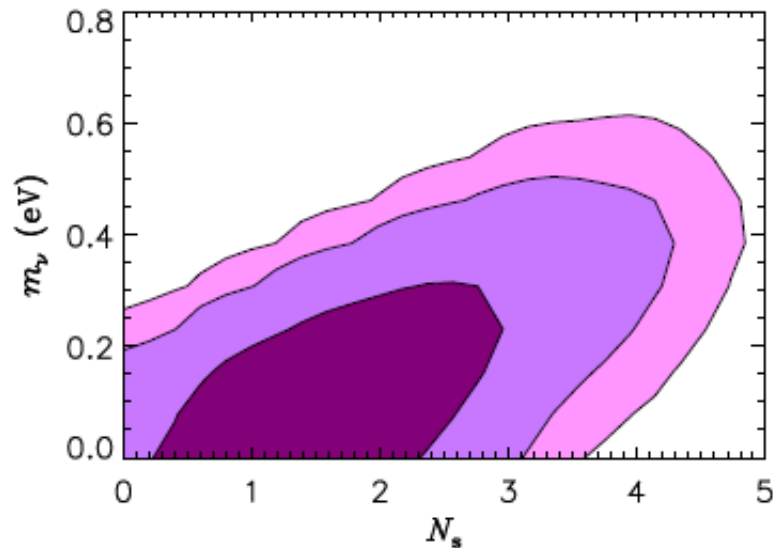
→ see talk by P. Biermann



# Extra Sterile Neutrinos & CMB



**3 active massless neutrinos**  
+  
 **$N_s$  massive neutrinos**



**3 active massive neutrinos**  
+  
 **$N_s$  massless neutrinos**

**J. Hamann et al**  
→ eV scale masses

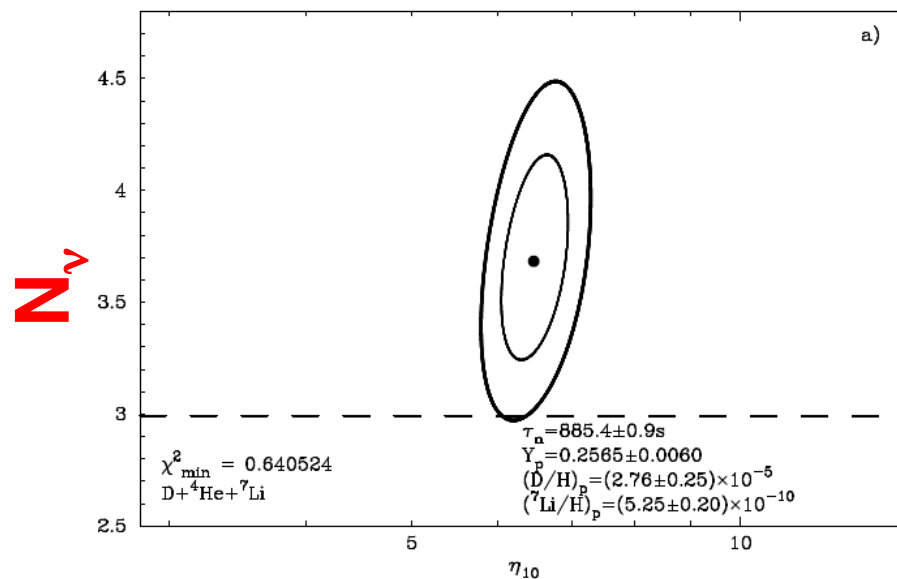
# Cosmological Indications for Sterile Neutrinos

## Cosmology and structure formation:

WDM works very well

→ see talks at this conference

## BBN – ‘feels’ extra neutrino-like particles:

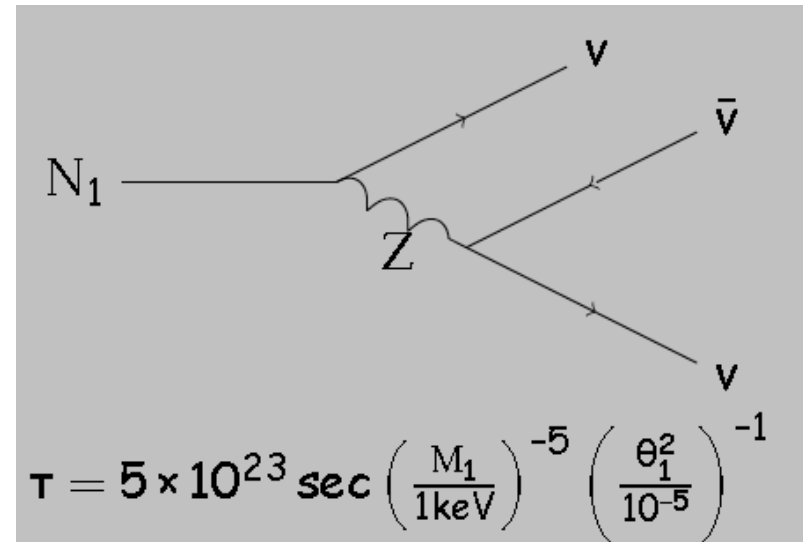


$$N_{\nu} \approx 3.7 \pm 1$$

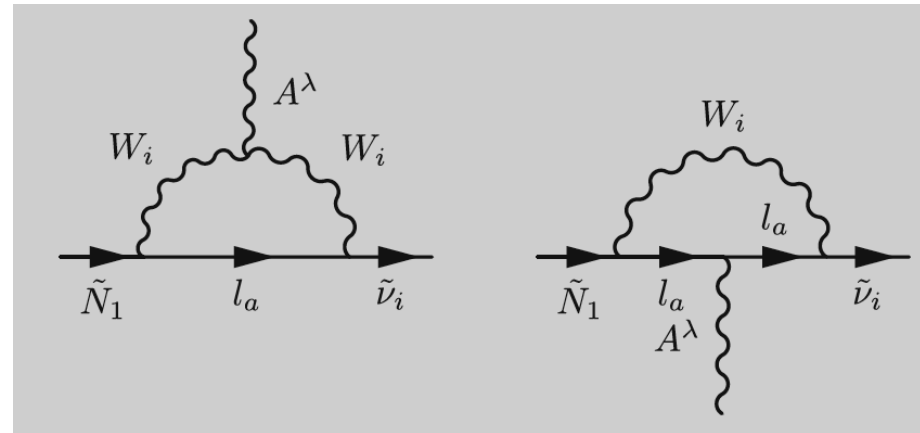
E. Aver, K. Olive, E. Skillman (2010)  
Y. Izotov, T. Thuan(2010)

# Observing keV-ish Neutrino DM

- **LHC**
  - sterile neutrino DM is not observable
  - WIMP-like particles still possible – but not DM
- **direct searches** → see talk by Ch. Weinheimer
  - sterile neutrino DM very difficult; maybe in  $\beta$ -decay (MARE)
- **astrophysics/cosmology** → at some level: keV X-rays
  - sterile neutrino DM is decaying into active neutrinos
  - decay  $N_1 \rightarrow \bar{\nu}\nu\nu$ ,  $N_1 \rightarrow \bar{\nu}\bar{\nu}\nu$
  - not very constraining since  $\tau \gg \tau_{\text{Universe}}$



- radiative decays  $N_1 \rightarrow \nu\gamma$



- so far: observational limit on active-sterile mixing angle

$$\Gamma_{N_1 \rightarrow \nu\gamma} \simeq 5.5 \times 10^{-22} \theta_1^2 \left( \frac{M_1}{1 \text{ keV}} \right)^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\theta_1^2 \lesssim 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \left( \frac{1 \text{ keV}}{M_1} \right)^5$$

- mixing tiny, but naturally expected to be tiny:  $O(\text{scale ratio})$

# **keV Neutrinos as WDM**

# The $\nu$ MSM

Asaka, Blanchet, Shaposhnikov, 2005 Asaka, Shaposhnikov, 2005

## Particle content:

- Gauge fields of  $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_W \times U(1)_Y$ :  $\gamma, W_{\pm}, Z, g$
- Higgs doublet:  $\Phi=(1,2,1)$

### • Matter

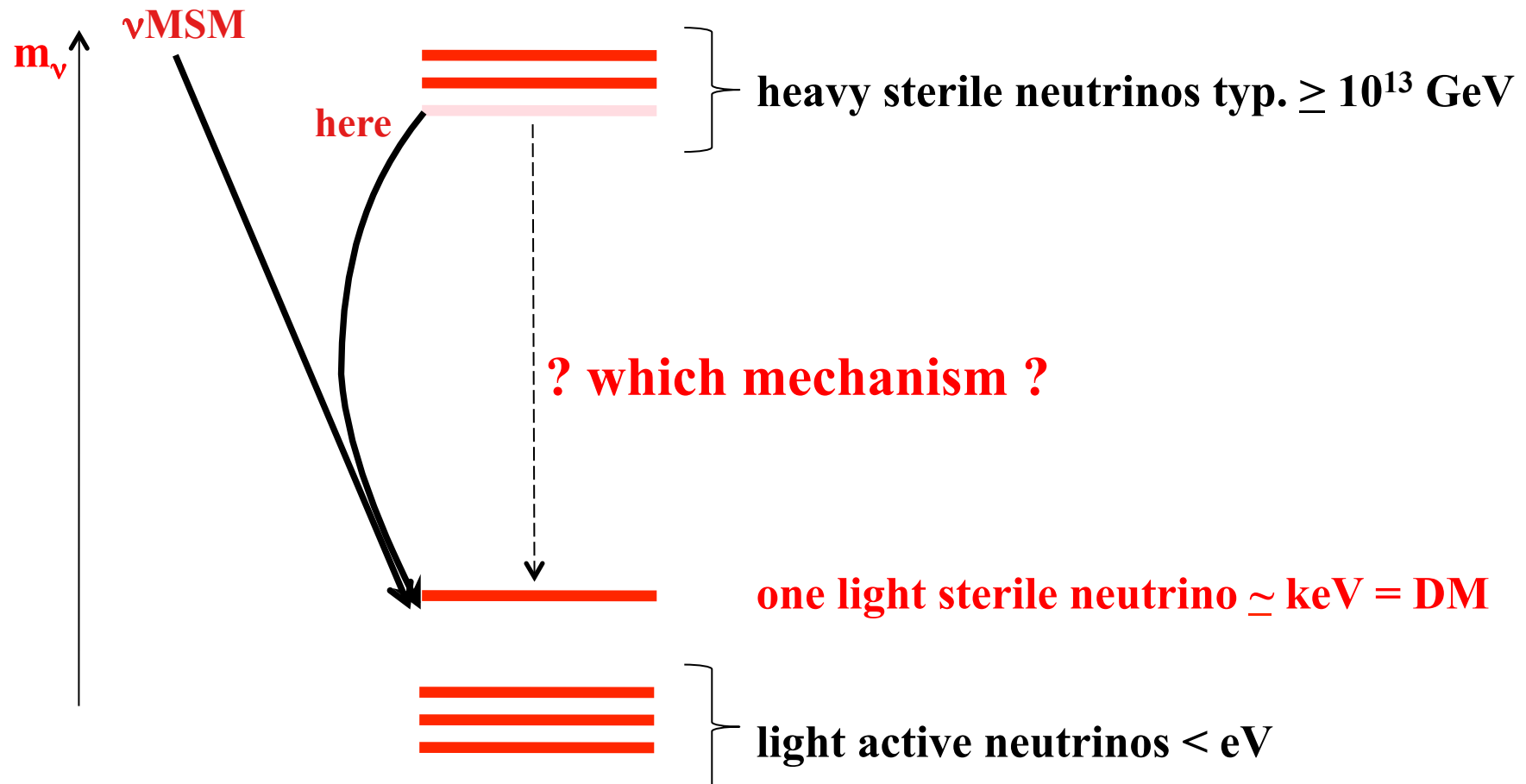
	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(2)_W$	$U(1)_Y$	$U(1)_{em}$
$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}_L$	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>+1/3</b>	$\begin{pmatrix} +2/3 \\ -1/3 \end{pmatrix}$
$u_R$	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>+4/3</b>	<b>+2/3</b>
$d_R$	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-2/3</b>	<b>-1/3</b>
$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e \end{pmatrix}_L$	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-1</b>	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$
$e_R$	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>-1</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**x3 generations**

- lepton sector more symmetric to the quark sector
- Majorana masses for N
- choose for one sterile  $\nu \sim \text{keV}$  mass → exceeds lifetime of Universe

# Virtue and Problem of the $\nu$ MSM

- $\nu$ MSM:** Scenario with sterile  $\nu$  and tiny mixing  $\rightarrow$  never enters thermal equilibrium
- $\rightarrow$  requires non-thermal production from other particles (avoid over-closure)
  - $\rightarrow$  new physics before the beginning of the thermal evolution sets abundance



# Alternative Scenario with Thermal Abundance

An alternative scenario: Bezrukov, Hettmannsperger, ML

- Three right-handed neutrinos  $N_1, N_2, N_3$
- Dirac and Majorana mass terms
- **N Charged under some (BSM) gauge group  $\rightarrow$  scale  $M$  ( $\sim$ sterile)**
- **Specific example: LR-symmetry  $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times U(1)_{B-L}$**

Roles played by the sterile ( $\sim$ right-handed) neutrinos:

$N_1$  – Warm Dark Matter

- Mass  $M_1 \sim \text{keV}$
- Lifetime  $\tau_1 > \tau_{\text{Universe}} \sim 10^{17} \text{ s}$

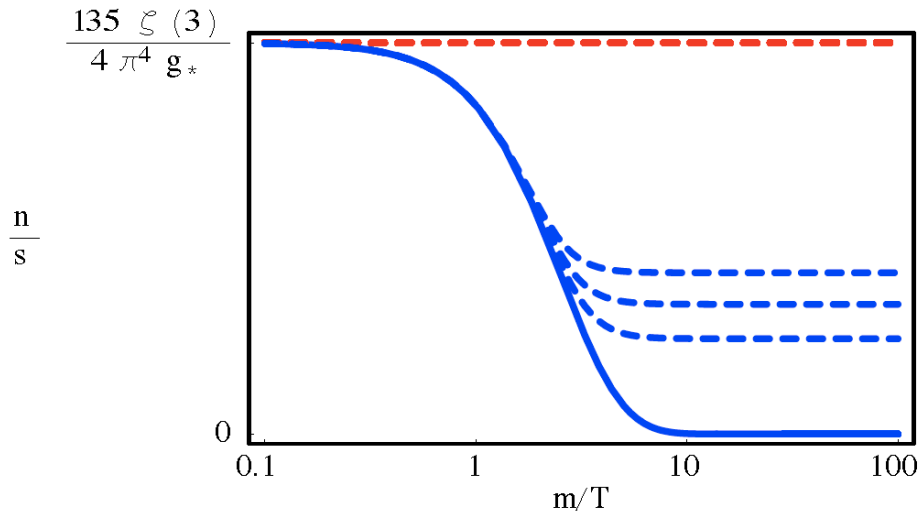
$N_{2,3}$  – dilute entropy after DM decoupling

- Mass  $M_{2,3} > \text{GeV}$
- Lifetime  $\tau_{2,3} \lesssim 0.1 \text{ s}$



# Obtaining the right Abundance

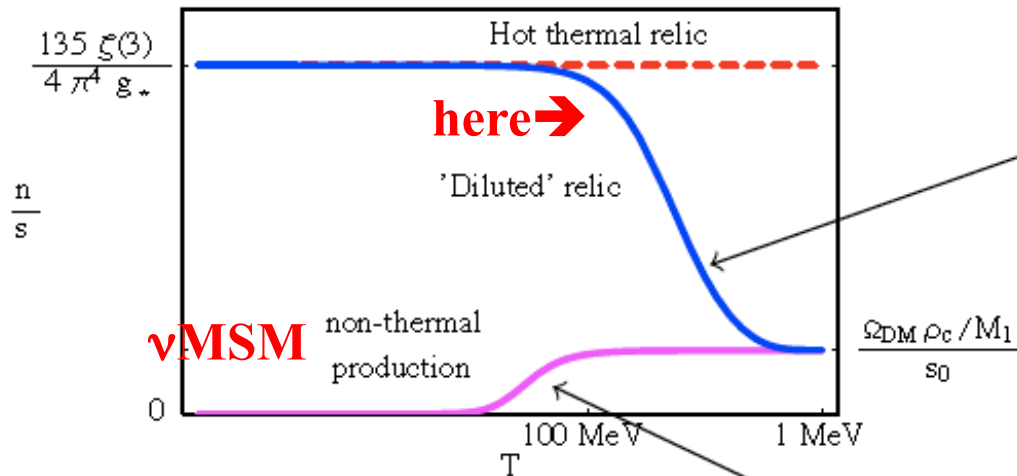
**Usual thermal case:**



**HDM:**  $\frac{\Omega}{\Omega_{DM}} \simeq \left(\frac{10}{g_{*f}}\right) \left(\frac{M}{10\text{eV}}\right)$   
Decoupled relativistic

**CDM:**  $\Omega \sim \Omega_{DM}$   
( $M \gg \text{MeV}$ )  
Decoupled nonrelativistic

**keV sterile neutrinos:**



Diluted after decoupling  
(entropy generated by other  
particle decay)

$\Omega \sim \Omega_{DM}$

Never entered thermal equilibrium

# Sterile Neutrino DM Freeze-Out & Abundance

**Decoupling of  $N_1$  in early Universe:** sterile neutrino DM is light  
→ freezout while relativistic → calculation like for active neutrinos  
+ suppression of annihilation x-section by  $M$

**Freeze-out temperature:**

$$T_f \sim g_{*f}^{1/6} \left( \frac{M}{M_W} \right)^{4/3} (1 \div 2) \text{ MeV}$$

**Abundance of  $N_1$  today:**

$$\frac{\Omega_N}{\Omega_{\text{DM}}} \simeq \frac{1}{S} \left( \frac{10.75}{g_{*f}} \right) \left( \frac{M_1}{1\text{keV}} \right) \times 100$$

**Required entropy generation factor:**

$$S \simeq 100 \left( \frac{10.75}{g_{*f}} \right) \left( \frac{M_1}{1\text{keV}} \right)$$

# Entropy Generation by out-of Equilibrium Decay

Heavy particle (here:  $N_3$ ) dropping out of thermal equilibrium while relativistic  $T_f > M_2$  :  $\rightarrow$  **bounds gauge scale from below**

$$M > \frac{1}{g_{*f}^{1/8}} \left( \frac{M_2}{\text{GeV}} \right)^{3/4} (10 \div 16) \text{ TeV}$$

- $\rightarrow$  sufficiently long lived  $\rightarrow$  become non-relativistic
- $\rightarrow$  dominates expansion of Universe during its decay
- $\rightarrow$  entropy generation factor  $\rightarrow$

$$\frac{S_{\text{after}}}{S_{\text{before}}} = S \frac{a_{\text{before}}^3}{a_{\text{after}}^3}$$

$$S \simeq 0.76 \frac{\bar{g}_*^{-1/4} M_2}{g_* \sqrt{\Gamma_2 M_{\text{Pl}}}}$$

- $\rightarrow$  fixes decay width  $\Gamma_2$

# Summary of Constraints

X/ $\gamma$ -ray

$$\theta_1^2 \lesssim 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \left( \frac{1 \text{keV}}{M_1} \right)^5$$

$$\zeta^2 \lesssim 10^{-18} \dots (\text{keV}/M_1)^3$$

Ly- $\alpha$  bound

$$M_1 > 1.6 \text{keV}$$

BBN  $\tau_2 > 0.1 \div 2 \text{sec}$

$$M_2 > \left( \frac{M_1}{1 \text{keV}} \right) (1.7 \div 10) \text{ GeV}$$

The right abundance of the sterile neutrino  $N_1$  is achieved if

$$\Gamma_2 \simeq 0.50 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\bar{g}_*^{1/2} \frac{M_2^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \left( \frac{1 \text{keV}}{M_1} \right)^2$$

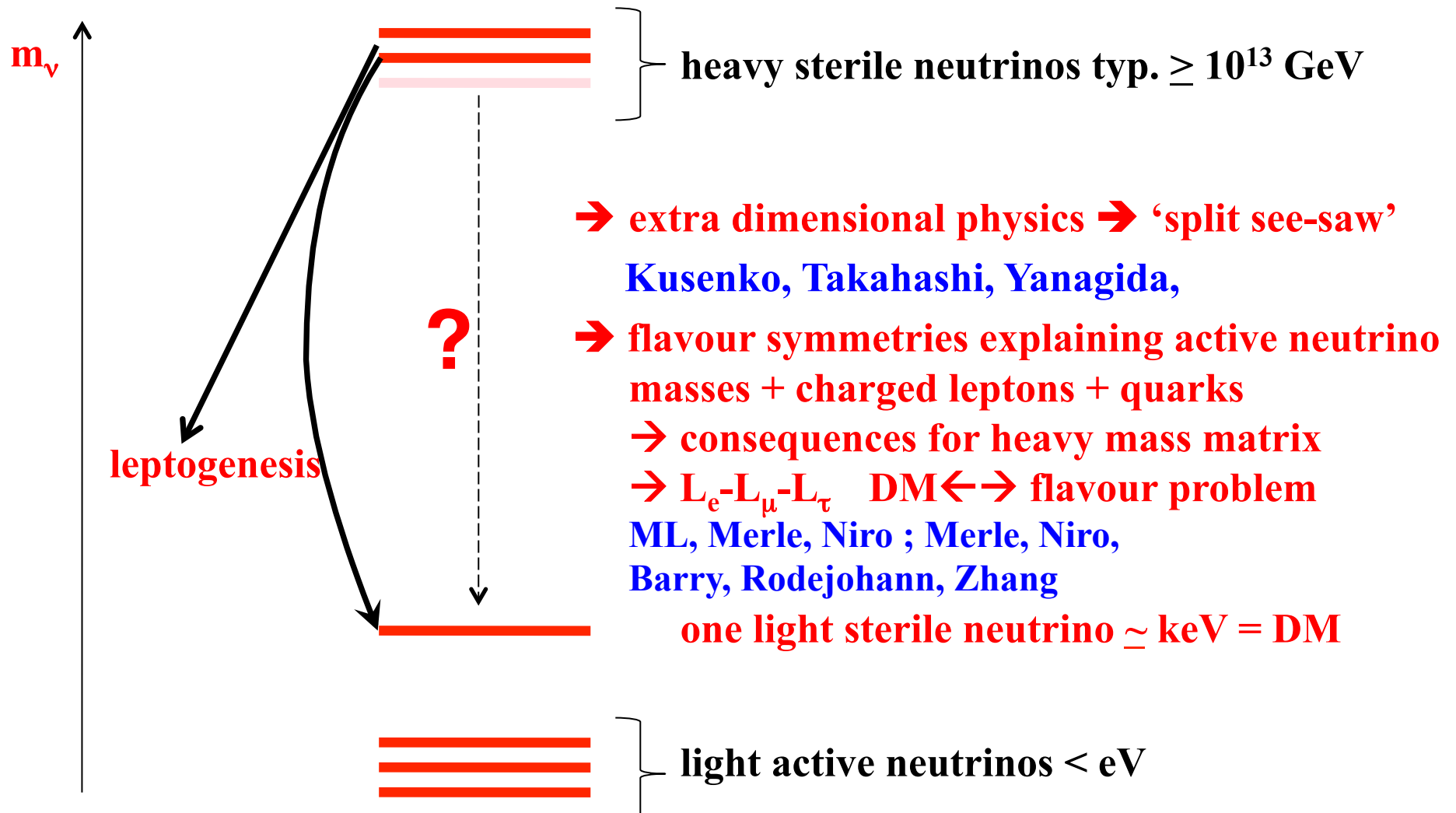
The entropy is effectively generated if the right-handed gauge scale is

$$M > g_{*f}^{-1/8} \left( \frac{M_2}{1 \text{ GeV}} \right)^{3/4} (10 \div 16) \text{ TeV}$$

# Justifying keV sterile Neutrinos

# Generating keV-ish Sterile Neutrinos

Possible scenario: See-saw + a reason why 1 sterile  $\nu$  is light



# Light Sterile Neutrinos from $L_e-L_\mu-L_\tau$

- **Flavour symmetries** have been studied to explain apparent regularities of masses and mixing: **A4, S3, D5, ...**
  - implications for sterile sector?
  - could the same symmetries **explain a keV-ish sterile  $\nu$  ?**

Model by **Lavoura & Grimus** → **modified ML, Merle, Niro**

SM +  $\nu_{iR}$  + softly broken U(1)  $\leftrightarrow$   $\mathcal{F} \equiv L_e - L_\mu - L_\tau$

type II see-saw → **+Higgs triplet**  $\Delta = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta^+/\sqrt{2} & \Delta^{++} \\ \Delta^0 & -\Delta^+/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$

	$L_eL$	$L_\mu L$	$L_\tau L$	$e_R$	$\mu_R$	$\tau_R$	$N_{1R}$	$N_{2R}$	$N_{3R}$	$\phi$	$\Delta$
$\mathcal{F}$	1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	0	0

# Neutrino Mass Terms

- **Mass matrix for right-handed neutrinos:**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = -M_R^{12} \overline{(N_{1R})^C} N_{2R} - M_R^{13} \overline{(N_{1R})^C} N_{3R} + h.c.$$

- **Dirac masses**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = & -Y_D^{e1} \overline{L_{eL}} \tilde{\phi} N_{1R} - Y_D^{\mu2} \overline{L_{\mu L}} \tilde{\phi} N_{2R} - Y_D^{\mu3} \overline{L_{\mu L}} \tilde{\phi} N_{3R} - \\ & -Y_D^{\tau2} \overline{L_{\tau L}} \tilde{\phi} N_{2R} - Y_D^{\tau3} \overline{L_{\tau L}} \tilde{\phi} N_{3R} + h.c., \end{aligned}$$

- **In addition: Triplet masses**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = -Y_L^{e\mu} \overline{(L_{eL})^C} (i\sigma_2 \Delta) L_{\mu L} - Y_L^{e\tau} \overline{(L_{eL})^C} (i\sigma_2 \Delta) L_{\tau L} + h.c.$$



- **Mass matrix in the basis**

$$\Psi \equiv ((\nu_{eL})^C, (\nu_{\mu L})^C, (\nu_{\tau L})^C, N_{1R}, N_{2R}, N_{3R})^T$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{M}_\nu = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 0 & m_L^{e\mu} & m_L^{e\tau} & m_D^{e1} & 0 & 0 \\ m_L^{e\mu} & 0 & 0 & 0 & m_D^{\mu2} & m_D^{\mu3} \\ m_L^{e\tau} & 0 & 0 & 0 & m_D^{\tau2} & m_D^{\tau3} \\ \hline m_D^{e1} & 0 & 0 & 0 & M_R^{12} & M_R^{13} \\ 0 & m_D^{\mu2} & m_D^{\tau2} & M_R^{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_D^{\mu3} & m_D^{\tau3} & M_R^{13} & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

**→ three scenarios**

- $m_D^{\alpha i} \ll m_L^{\alpha\beta} \ll M_R^{ij}$  (separation scenario),
- $m_L^{\alpha\beta} \ll m_D^{\alpha i} \ll M_R^{ij}$  (type II see-saw scenario),
- $m_L^{\alpha\beta} \sim m_D^{\alpha i} \ll M_R^{ij}$  (hybrid scenario).

**det(M<sub>ij</sub>) = 0**  
**→ M<sub>1</sub> = 0**  
**→ massless sterile state + soft breaking**  
**→ light sterile ν**

# Implications for See-Saw

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = -\frac{1}{2} (\overline{\tilde{\nu}}_{aL}^c, \overline{\tilde{N}}_{aR}) \begin{pmatrix} M_L & m_D \\ m_D^T & M_R \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\nu}_{aL} \\ \tilde{N}_{aR}^c \end{pmatrix} + \text{H.c.}$$

- **Usual flavour (=tilde) to mass basis rotation**

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\nu}_{aL} \\ \tilde{N}_{aR}^c \end{pmatrix} \simeq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & (M_R^{-1} m_D^T)^\dagger \\ -M_R^{-1} m_D^T & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & V_R \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{iL} \\ N_{iR}^c \end{pmatrix}$$

- **U = PMNS matrix,  $V_R$  = mixing in right-handed sector**

$$M_L - m_D M_R^{-1} m_D^T = U^* \cdot \text{diag}(m_1, m_2, m_3) \cdot U^\dagger \quad \rightarrow \mathbf{M}_L = \mathbf{0}: \text{Type-I}$$

$$M_R = V_R^* \cdot \text{diag}(M_1, M_2, M_3) \cdot V_R^\dagger$$

- **Mixing angles between mass states, sterile neutrinos and flavour states:**

$$\theta_{aI} \equiv \frac{(m_D V_R)_{aI}}{M_I} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta_I^2 \equiv \sum_{a=e,\mu,\tau} |\theta_{aI}|^2$$

**↔ strength of interaction (decay) of sterile neutrinos**

- **Current best fit values:**

$$\Delta m_{\text{sol}}^2 = (7.65_{-0.6}^{+0.69}) \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$$

$$\Delta m_{\text{atm}}^2 = (2.4_{-0.33}^{+0.35}) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2.$$

- **Casas-Ibarra parametrization for type-I and II (Akhmedov, Rodejohann)**

$$\theta_I^2 = \frac{[\sqrt{M_R} R^T m_\nu^{\text{diag}} R^\star \sqrt{M_R}]_{II}}{M_I^2}, \quad m_\nu^{\text{diag}} = \text{diag}(m_1, m_2, m_3)$$

- **assume (convention)  $m_1 < m_2 < m_3$  → we get for the first two sterile  $\nu$ 's**

$$M_1 \theta_1^2 = m_3 |\sin \omega_{13}|^2 + m_2 |\cos \omega_{13}|^2 |\sin \omega_{12}|^2 \\ + m_1 |\cos \omega_{13}|^2 |\cos \omega_{12}|^2,$$

$$M_2 \theta_2^2 = m_3 |\cos \omega_{13}|^2 |\sin \omega_{23}|^2 + m_2 |\cos \omega_{23} \cos \omega_{12} \\ - \sin \omega_{23} \sin \omega_{13} \sin \omega_{12}|^2 + m_1 |\cos \omega_{23} \sin \omega_{12} \\ + \sin \omega_{23} \sin \omega_{13} \cos \omega_{12}|^2.$$

- **The relation  $|\mathbf{z}-\mathbf{w}| \geq ||\mathbf{z}| - |\mathbf{w}||$  leads then to the following inequalities:**

$$M_1 \theta_1^2 \geq m_2 \{ \sin^2 \omega_{13} + \cos^2 \omega_{13} \sin^2 \omega_{12} \},$$

$$M_2 \theta_2^2 \geq m_2 \{ \cos^2 \omega_{13} \sin^2 \omega_{23} + (|\cos \omega_{23}| |\cos \omega_{12}| - |\sin \omega_{23}| |\sin \omega_{13}| |\sin \omega_{12}|)^2 \}.$$

- **The minimum of the sum on the *rhs* is  $m_2 \rightarrow$**

$$M_1 \theta_1^2 + M_2 \theta_2^2 \geq m_2 \geq \Delta m_{\text{sol}} \quad (*)$$

**In words: One cannot generate active  $\nu$  masses with type-I see-saw without sufficient mixings between active and sterile neutrinos**

**$\rightarrow$  conflict with bounds:**

Entropy generation:	$M_2 \theta_2^2$	$\lesssim 1.8 \times 10^{-3} \bar{g}_*^{1/2} \left( \frac{\text{GeV}}{M_2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\text{keV}}{M_1} \right)^2$
X-ray bound:	$M_1 \theta_1^2$	$\lesssim 2.7 \times 10^{-3} \left( \frac{1.6 \text{ keV}}{M_1} \right)^4$

**$\rightarrow$  violates bound (\*)**

**$\rightarrow$  type-I see-saw impossible  $\rightarrow$  type II**

# Working example with type II see-saw

Exactly LR-symmetric model:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mass}} = -\frac{1}{2} \left( \overline{V_{aL}^c}, \overline{N_{aR}} \right) \begin{pmatrix} f V_L & y V \\ y V & f V_R \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} V_{aL} \\ N_{aR}^c \end{pmatrix}$$

$$m_\nu = v_L f - \frac{v^2}{V_R} y f^{-1} y, \quad M_I = f_I V_R$$

$$m_1 = 5.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ eV}$$

$$m_2 = 8.7 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV} \quad m_3 = 4.9 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$$

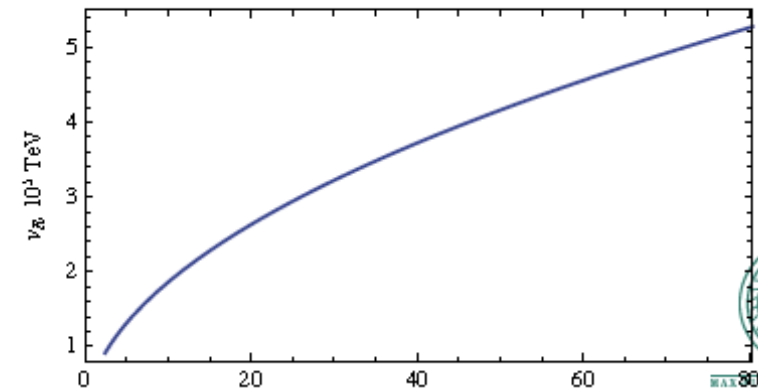
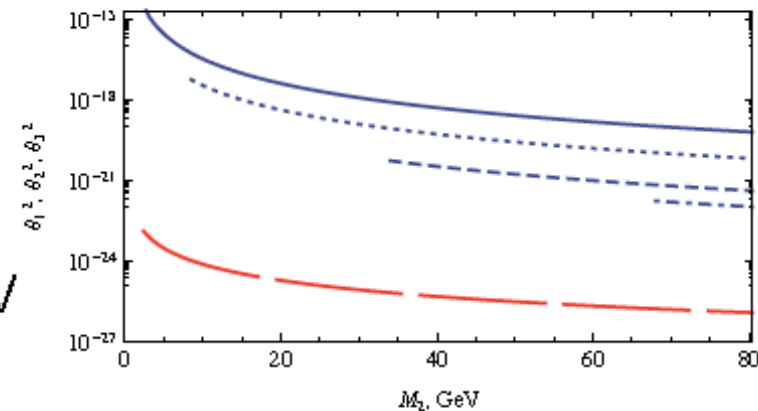
$$M_1 = 1.6 \text{ keV}$$

$$M_2 = 2.7 \text{ GeV} \quad M_3 = 15.1 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\theta_1^2 = \theta_2^2 = \theta_3^2 = 2.3 \times 10^{-15}$$

$$V_R = 9.67 \times 10^4 \text{ TeV} \quad v_L = 313 \text{ keV}$$

$$y = 0.027 f$$



# Conclusions

- A **keV-ish sterile neutrino** is a very well motivated and good working **Warm Dark Matter candidate**  $\leftrightarrow$  finite  $\nu$ -masses
  - Simplest realization:  $\nu$ MSM  $\rightarrow$  requires non-thermal production
  - Alternative: **Sterile  $\nu$ 's which are charged under some extended gauge group**  $\rightarrow$  abundance from thermal production
    - $\rightarrow$  interesting constrains
      - small mixings from X-ray constraints and entropy generation (DM abundance)
      - masses bound by BBN
- $\rightarrow$  Implications for neutrino mass generation:
- type-I see-saw not possible
  - type-II works  $\leftrightarrow$  very natural in gauge extensions
  - requires one sterile neutrino to be light
- $\rightarrow$  More general scenarios require just some mechanism which 'naturally' explains light sterile neutrinos