



# Reconciling cosmological tensions with inelastic dark matter and radiation in $U(1)_D$ framework

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# Motivation

## Cosmological Tensions

- Hubble tension  
local distance ladder measurements  $73.0 \pm 1.0 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  vs CMB  
Planck  $67.3 \pm 0.6 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$
- S8 tension: Weak lensing survey prefer  $S_8 = 0.77$ , while Planck prefers  $S_8 = 0.83 (3\sigma)$
- Lyman- $\alpha$  discrepancy: Small-scale matter power spectrum inferred from the eBOSS Ly $\alpha$  forest shows  $4.9\sigma$  with  $\Lambda$ CDM fit to the CMB.

# DR

## Dark Radiation ( $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$ )

- Although, additional radiation species (DR) radiation can solve the Hubble tension, it cannot solve the large scale problem (S8 tension) and Lyman-alpha problem.

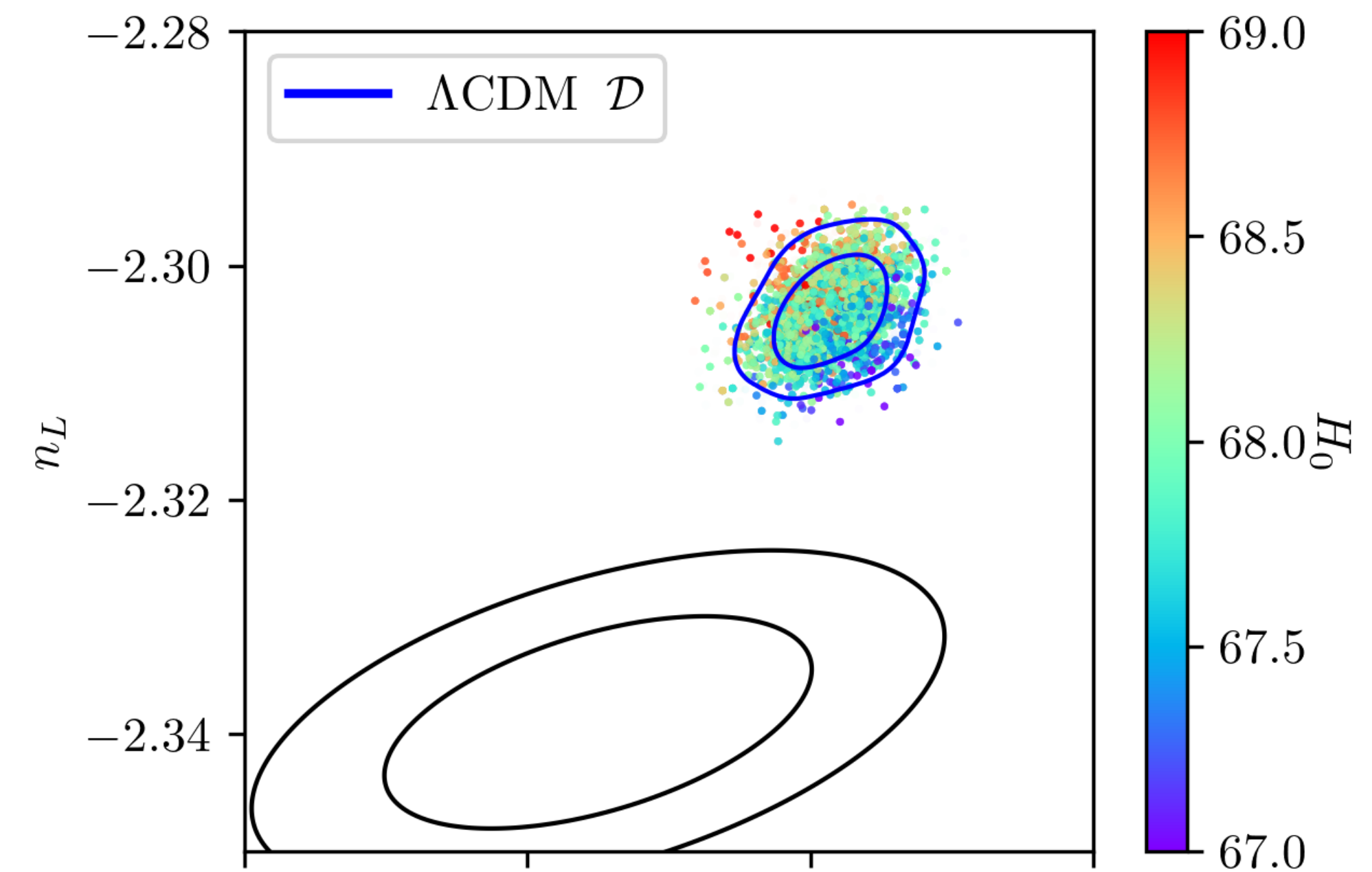
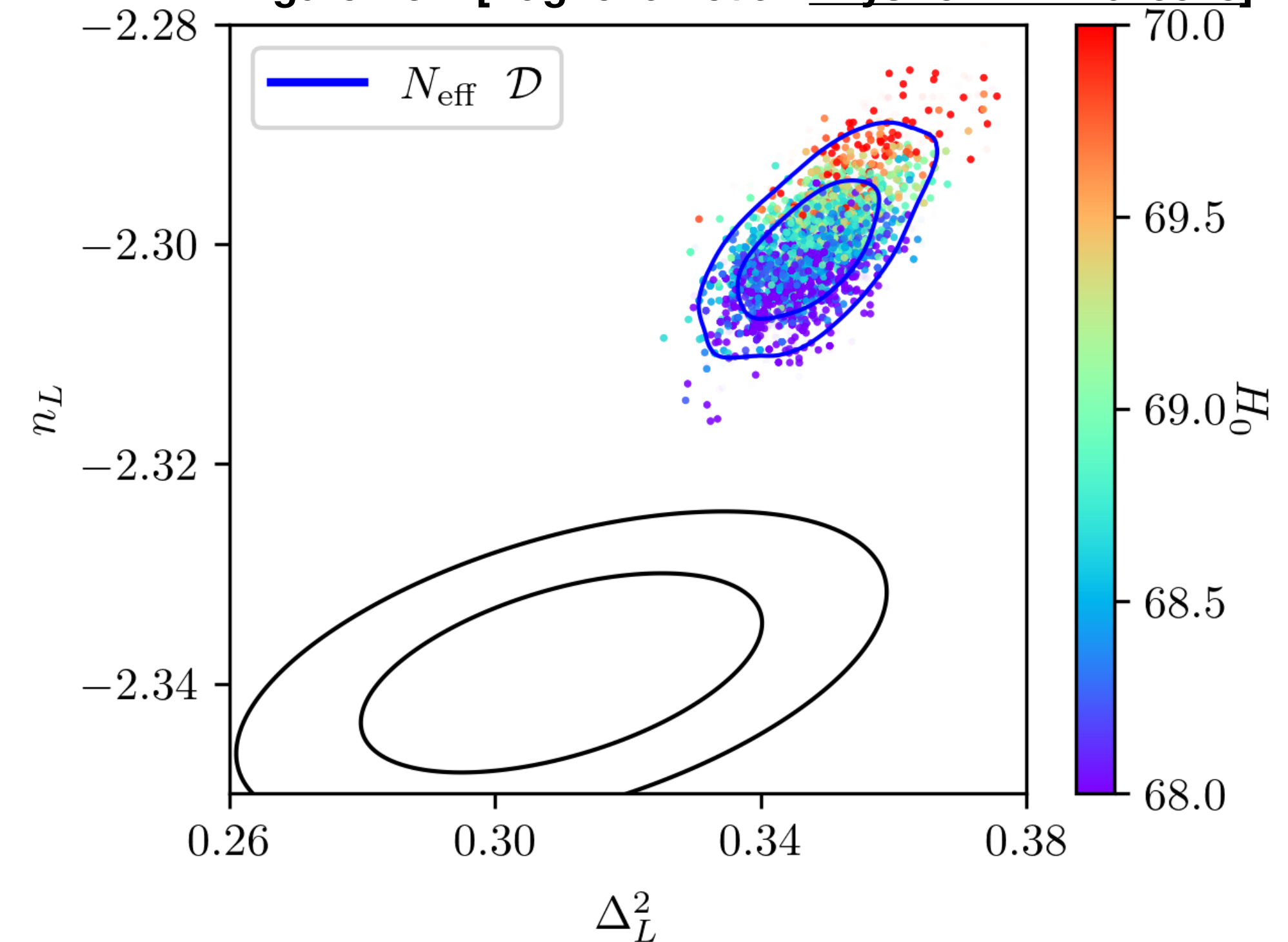


Figure from [Bagherian et al. [PhysRevD.111.043513](#)]



# SIDR

## Self Interacting Dark Radiation

- Self Interacting Dark Radiation (SIDR) model is for the explaining the large scale structure: S8 tension.
- However, they exacerbate the existing tension with Ly- $\alpha$  data.

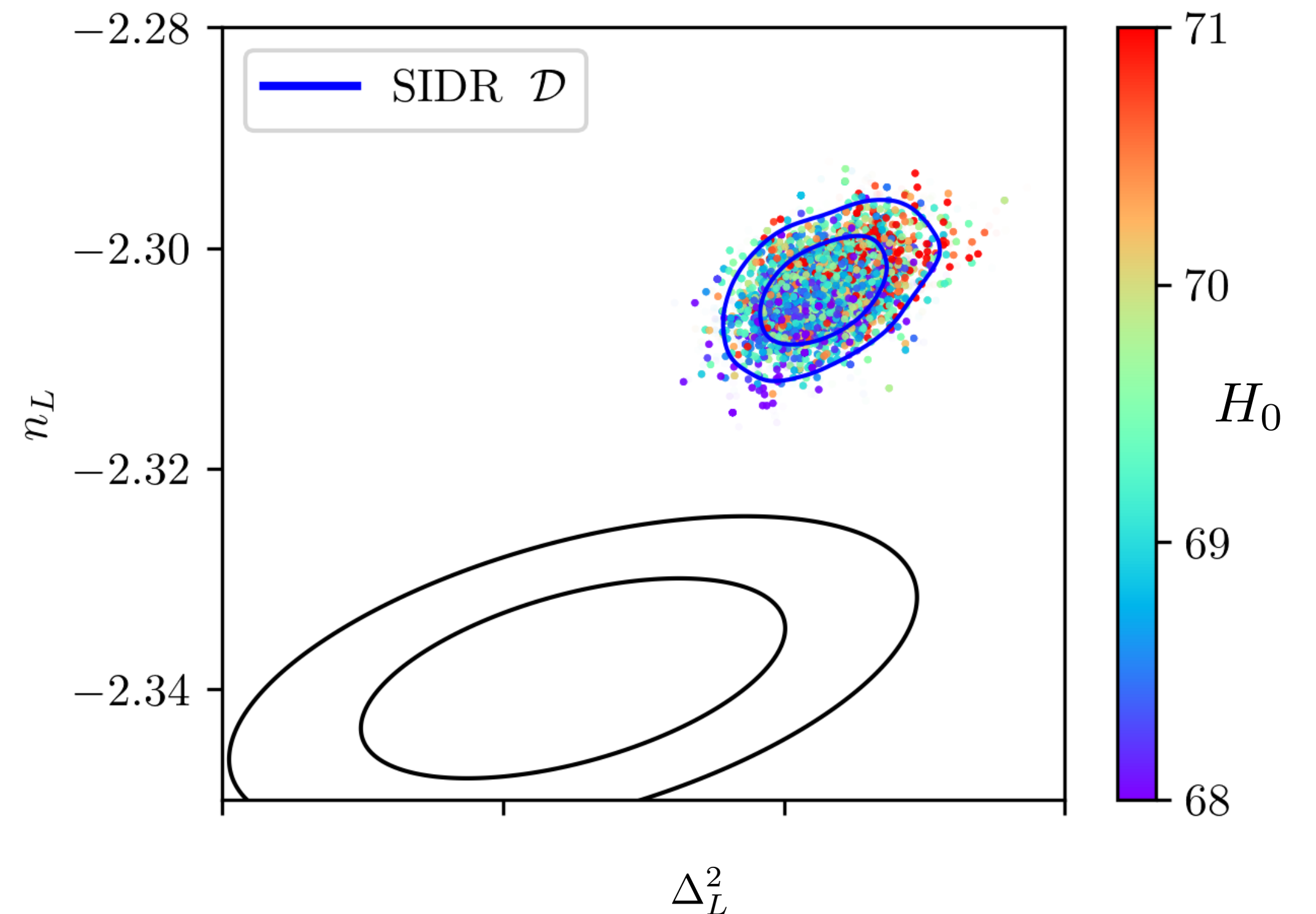


Figure from [Bagherian et al. [PhysRevD.111.043513](#)]

# WZDR

- Wess-Zumino Dark Radiation(WZDR) Model is two particle species before the CMB, one particle become non-relativistic and annihilated into the dark radiation.
- Call as a step that  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$  increases around the annihilation into dark radiation and call that time as  $z_t$ .

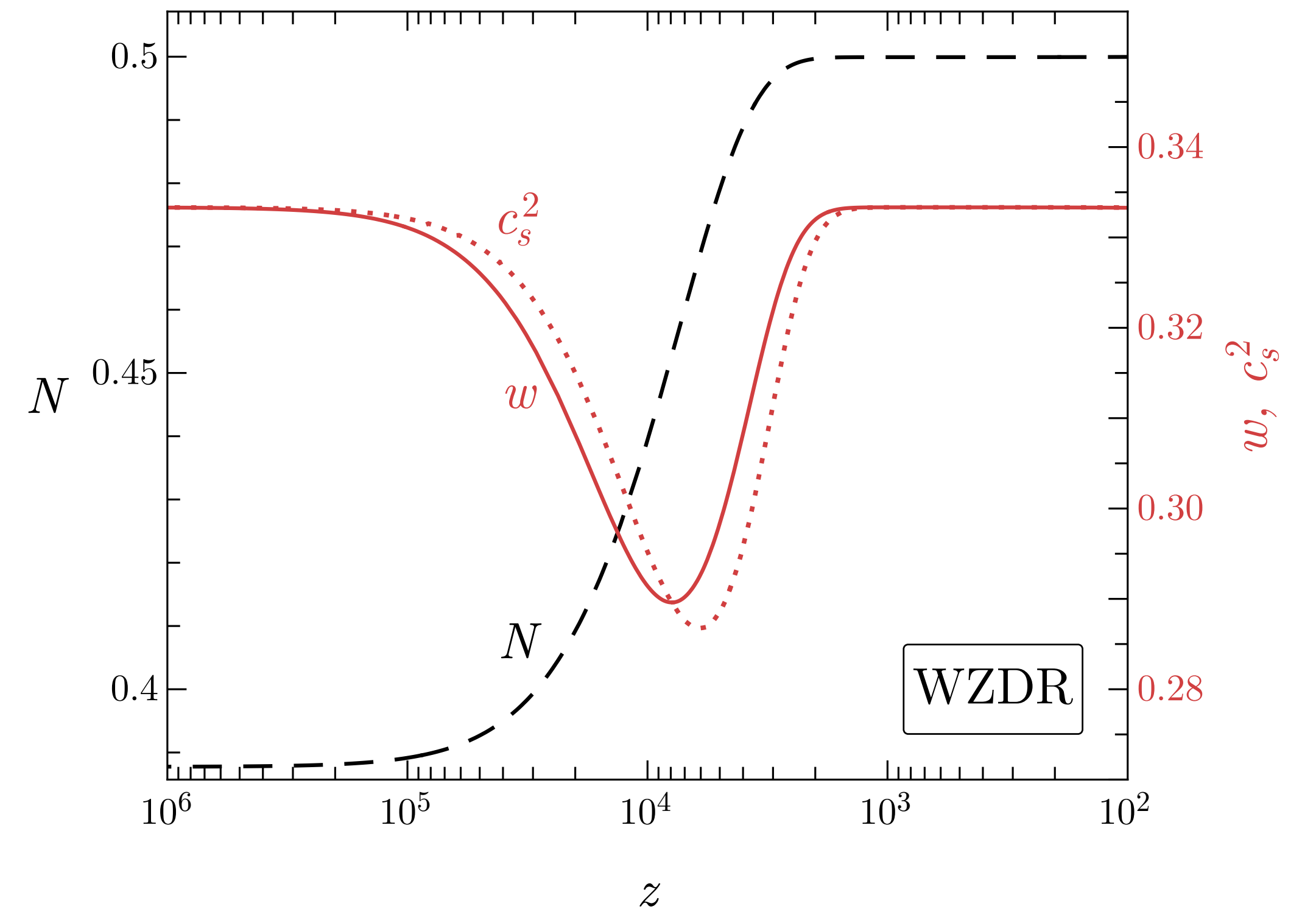


Figure from [Aloni et al. PhysRevD.105.123516]



# SIDR+/WZDR+

- The interaction between dark matter and dark radiation exist that the momentum transfer to the dark matter from DR, which can suppress the structure formation.
- The ratio of the momentum transfer rate to the Hubble expansion rate  $R_\Gamma$  (0.07) and transition redshift  $\log_{10} z_t$  (4.25) are new parameters to explain the tension.

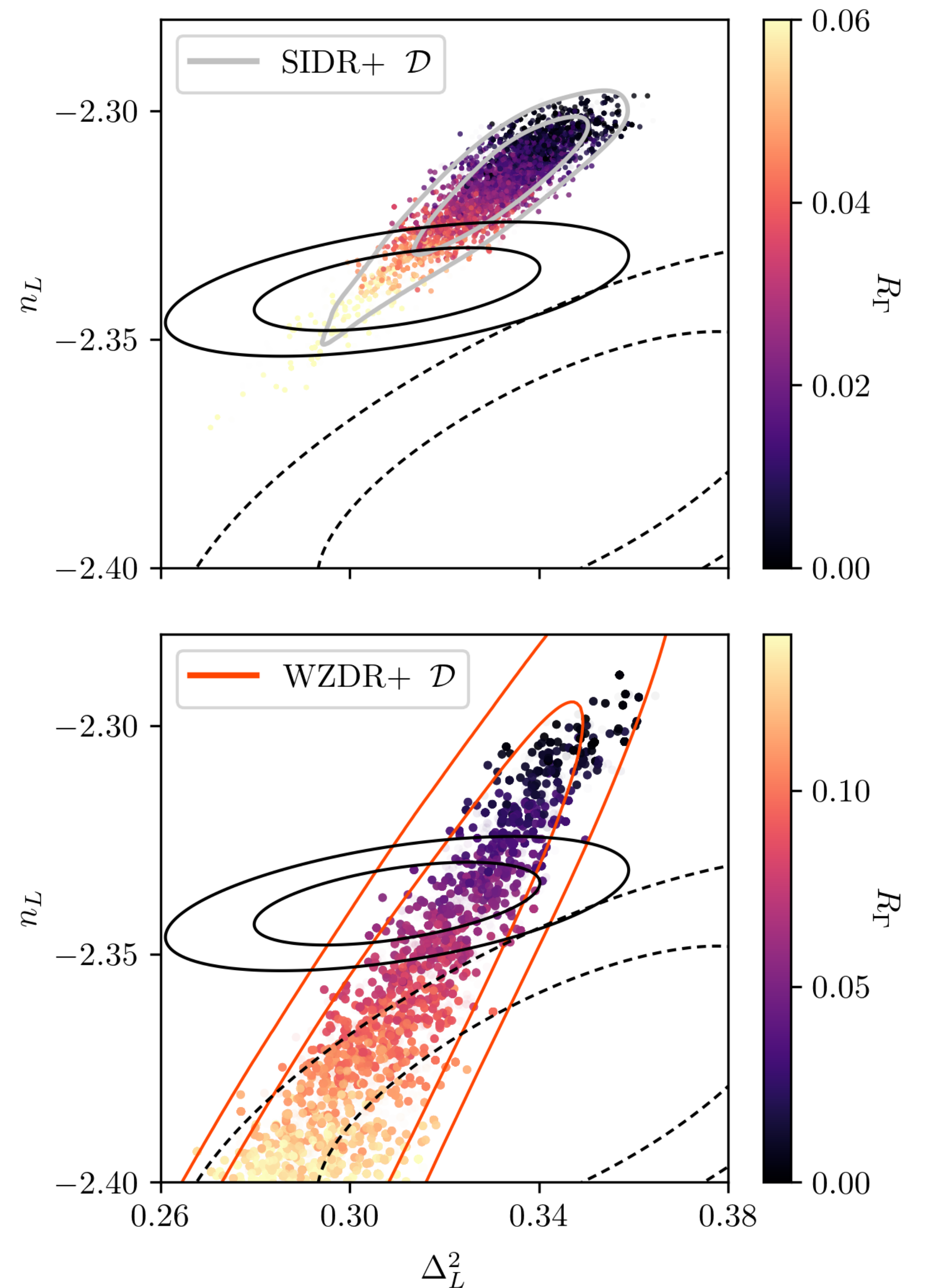


Figure from [Bagherian et al. [PhysRevD.111.043513](#)]

# Inelastic Dark Matter / Dark Gauge Boson Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} \supset i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi - M_\psi\bar{\psi}\psi + i\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu D_\mu\chi - M_\chi\bar{\chi}\chi \\ + (D_\mu\Phi)^\dagger(D^\mu\Phi) - Y\bar{\chi}\Phi\psi - \frac{1}{4}F_X^{\mu\nu}F_X^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\epsilon}{2}F_X^{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu} + h.c.$$

$\epsilon$ : Kinetic mixing with  $U(1)_D$  gauge boson and  $U(1)_Y$

$\phi$ : Scalar particle that have charge under  $U(1)_D$

$\chi, \psi$ : vector like fermion, singlets under SM gauge group, acts as dark matter

# Inelastic Dark Matter / Dark Gauge Boson

- After  $U(1)_D$  breaking, the fermions  $\psi$  and  $\chi$  mix because of the Yukawa coupling among them as  $\Phi$  acquires a VEV.

$$\begin{pmatrix} M_\chi & Y v_\phi / \sqrt{2} \\ Y v_\phi / \sqrt{2} & M_\psi \end{pmatrix}$$

- With the diagonalization of the above mass matrix we get the physical states:

$$\xi_1 = \cos \theta \chi - \sin \theta \psi \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_2 = \sin \theta \chi + \cos \theta \psi.$$

- From the inverse transformation, we can obtain:

$$M_{\xi_2} - M_{\xi_1} = \delta = \frac{\sqrt{2} Y v_\phi}{\sin 2\theta}$$



# Inelastic Dark Matter / Dark Gauge Boson

Interaction between dark/hidden sector

$$\mathcal{L} \supset ig_X (Z_X)_\mu \left[ c_\theta^2 \bar{\xi}_1 \gamma^\mu \xi_1 + s_\theta^2 \bar{\xi}_2 \gamma^\mu \xi_2 + c_\theta s_\theta (\bar{\xi}_1 \gamma^\mu \xi_2 + \bar{\xi}_2 \gamma^\mu \xi_1) \right] \\ - Y (\cos \beta h_2 + \sin \beta h_1) \left[ c_{2\theta} (\bar{\xi}_1 \xi_2 + \bar{\xi}_2 \xi_1) + s_{2\theta} (\bar{\xi}_2 \xi_2 - \bar{\xi}_1 \xi_1) \right].$$

- Interaction in the hidden sector:

$$\xi_1 \bar{\xi}_1 \rightarrow Z_X Z_X, \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_2 \rightarrow Z_X Z_X, \xi_2 \bar{\xi}_1 \rightarrow Z_X Z_X, \xi_2 \bar{\xi}_2 \rightarrow Z_X Z_X, Z_X Z_X \rightarrow \phi \phi$$

# Production of hidden sector

- Interaction like makes hidden sector particles from heavy particle  $S$  decay

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \kappa_1 S \bar{\xi}_1 \xi_1 + \kappa_2 S \bar{\xi}_2 \xi_2$$

- We can express energy injection from visible sector to hidden sector as  $j_h$  and energy conservation,

$$\frac{d\rho_v}{dt} + 3H(1 + \omega_v)\rho_v = -j_h,$$

$$\frac{d\rho_h}{dt} + 3H(1 + \omega_h)\rho_h = j_h$$

$$j_h = n_S m_S \Gamma_S$$

# Thermal Equilibrium of hidden sector

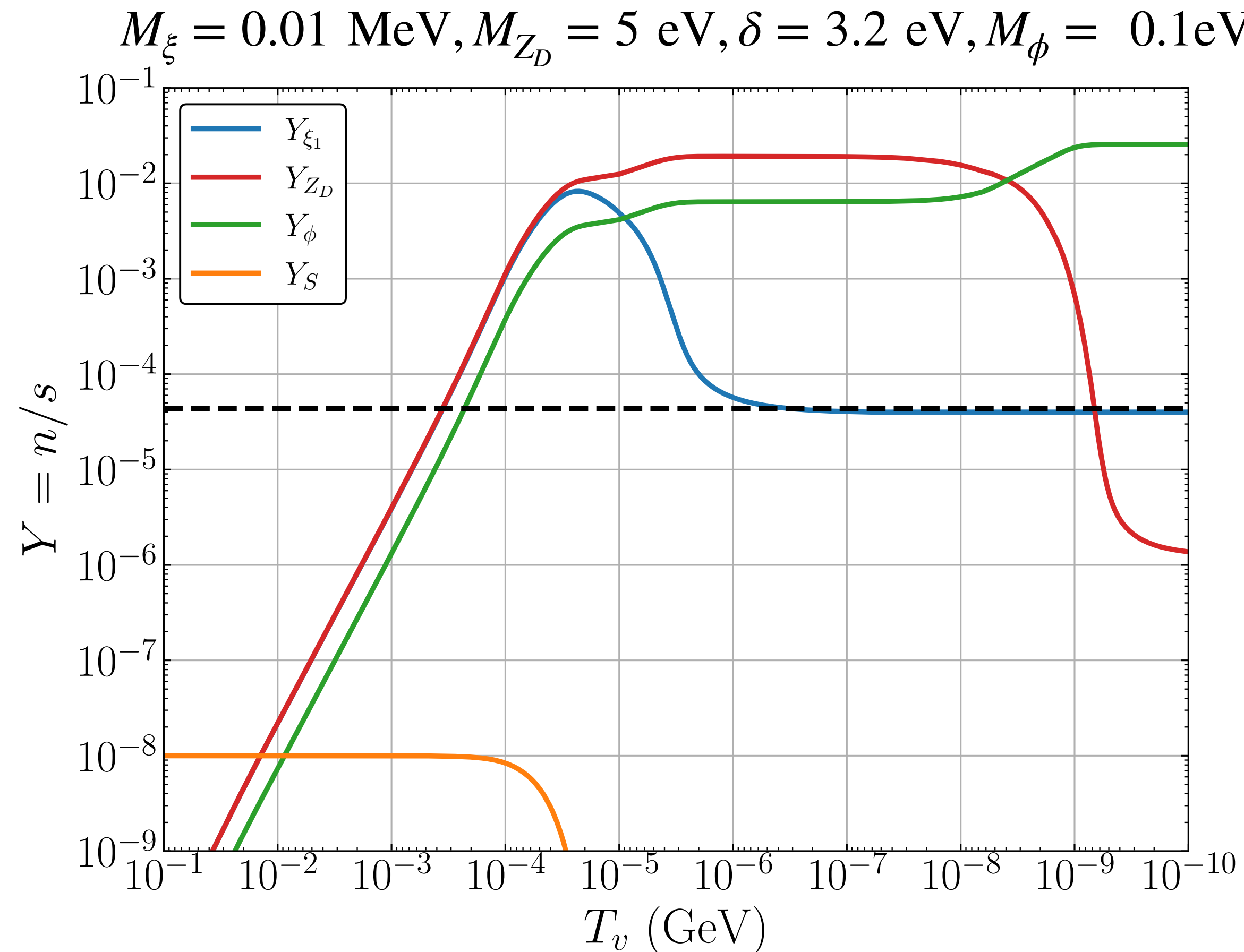
## Assumption

- Kinetic equilibrium is quickly achieved by strong gauge interaction between hidden sector particle, and the momentum distribution form Maxwell Boltzmann distribution [JCAP 08 (2023), 075].
- Evolution of Hidden sector temperature  $T_h$  can be described as

$$\frac{d\xi}{dT_v} = -\frac{\xi}{T_v} + \frac{1}{T_v} \frac{3H(1 + \omega_h)\rho_h - \dot{j}_h}{3H(1 + \omega)\rho_v + 3H(\omega - \omega_h)\rho_h + \dot{j}_h} \frac{d\rho_v}{dT_v} / \frac{d\rho_h}{dT_h}.$$

# Evolution of dark sector

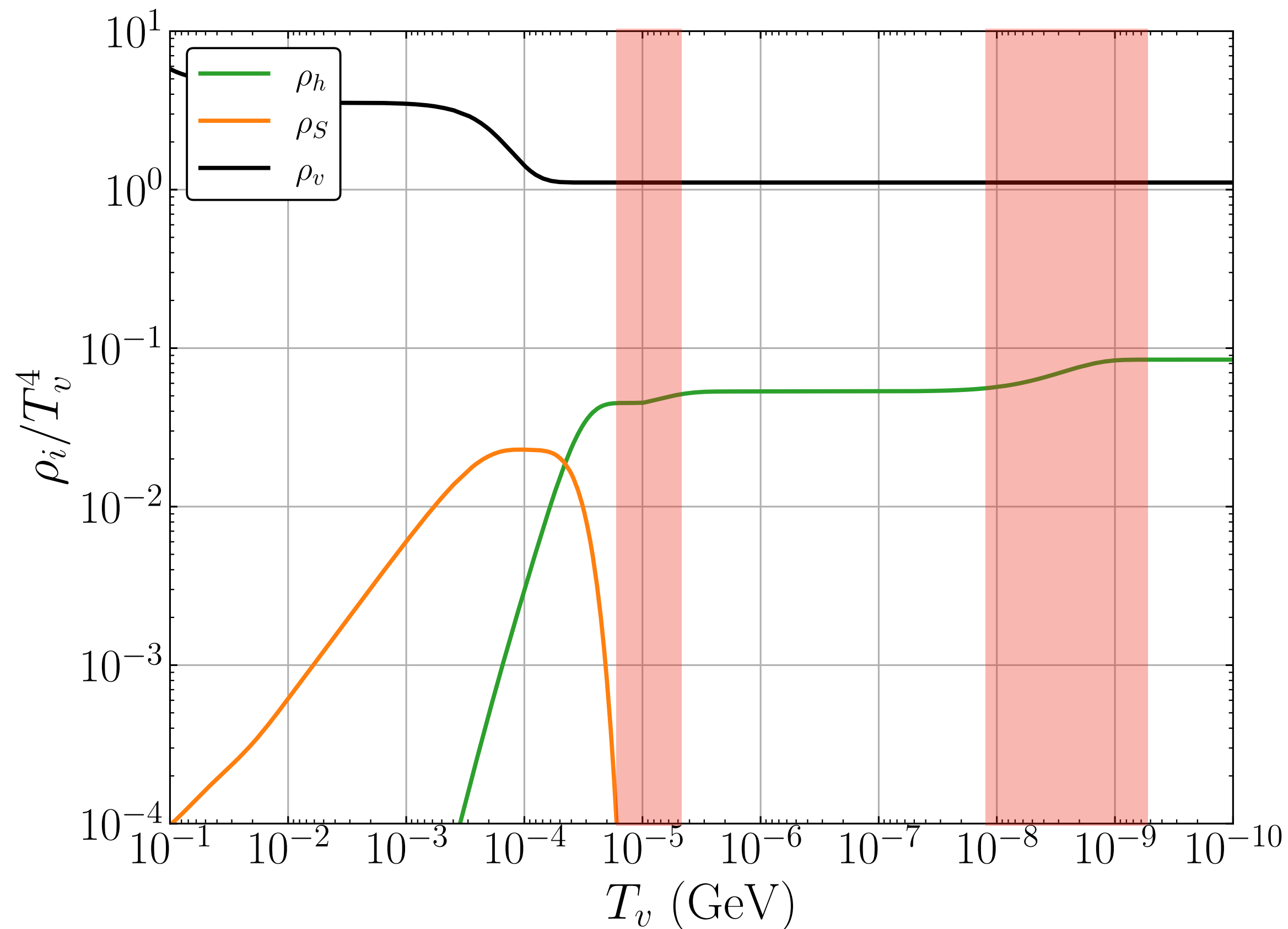
## Abundance



- S decays into dark sector, and make  $\xi_1, \xi_2, Z_D, \phi$ .
- Soon after dark matter( $\xi_1$ ) becomes non-relativistic, it decays into dark gauge bosons.
- Similarly, when dark gauge boson becomes non-relativistic, it annihilated into dark radiations.

# Evolution of dark sector

## Density evolution



- S Decay: dumps the energy into hidden sector
- $\xi_1 \xi_1 \rightarrow Z_D Z_D$  annihilation
- $Z_D Z_D \rightarrow \phi \phi$  annihilation at  $T_v \sim M_{Z_D}$
- There is two stepping behaviors relative to the visible sector, which are annihilations of dark matter and gauge boson that makes hidden sector temperature increase.

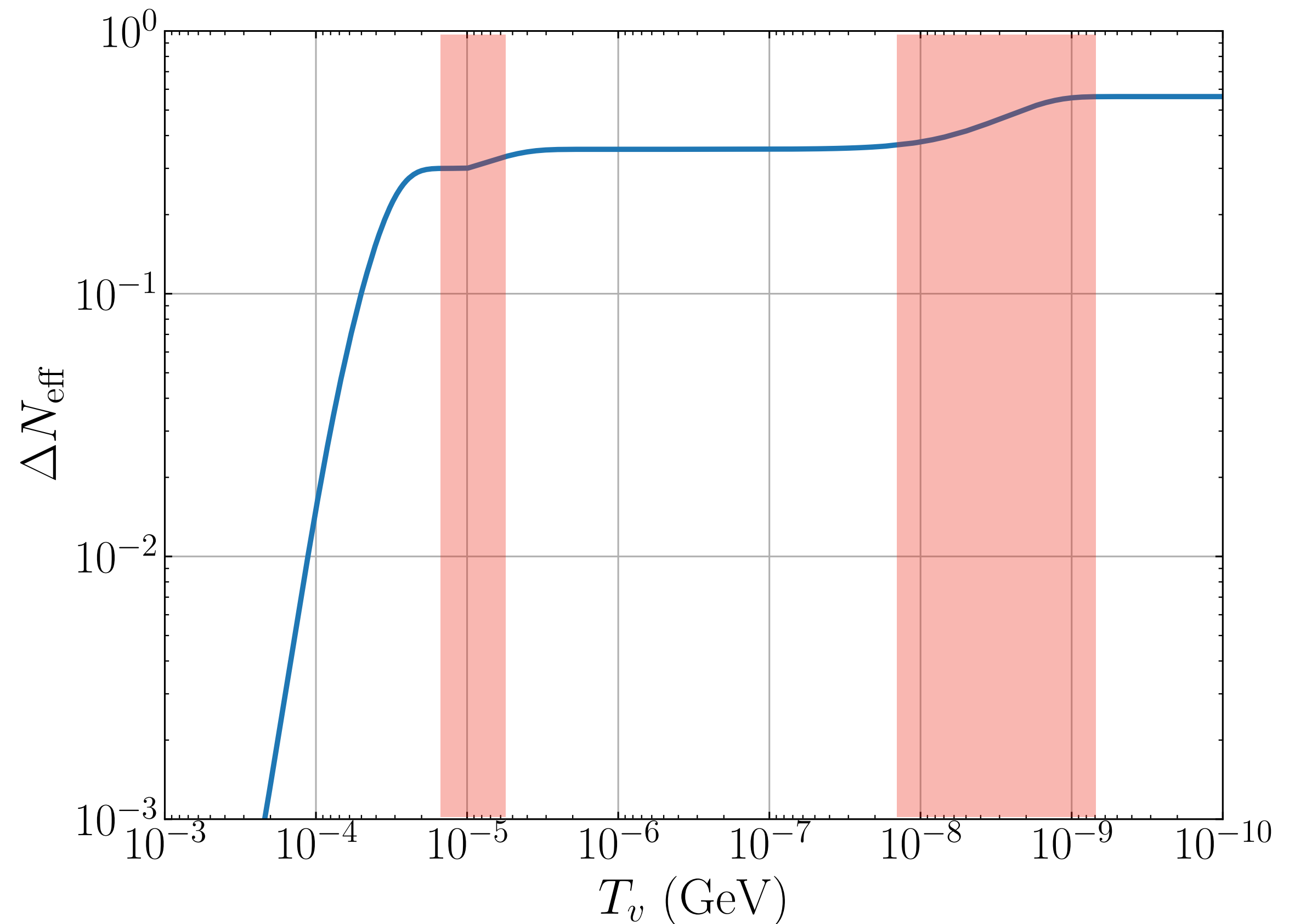
# Double stepping behavior of $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$

- $\xi_1 \xi_1 \rightarrow Z_D Z_D$  annihilation: boost  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$  by a factor 1.23

$$\frac{\Delta N_{\text{eff}}|_{\text{after}}}{\Delta N_{\text{eff}}|_{\text{before}}} = \left( \frac{\frac{7}{8}g_*^{\xi_1} + g_*^{Z_D} + g_*^{\phi}}{g_*^{Z_D} + g_*^{\phi}} \right)^{1/3} \simeq 1.23.$$

- $Z_D Z_D \rightarrow \phi \phi$  annihilation: boost  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$  by a factor of 1.58

$$\frac{\Delta N_{\text{eff}}|_{\text{after}}}{\Delta N_{\text{eff}}|_{\text{before}}} = \left( \frac{g_*^{Z_D} + g_*^{\phi}}{g_*^{\phi}} \right)^{1/3} \simeq 1.58.$$

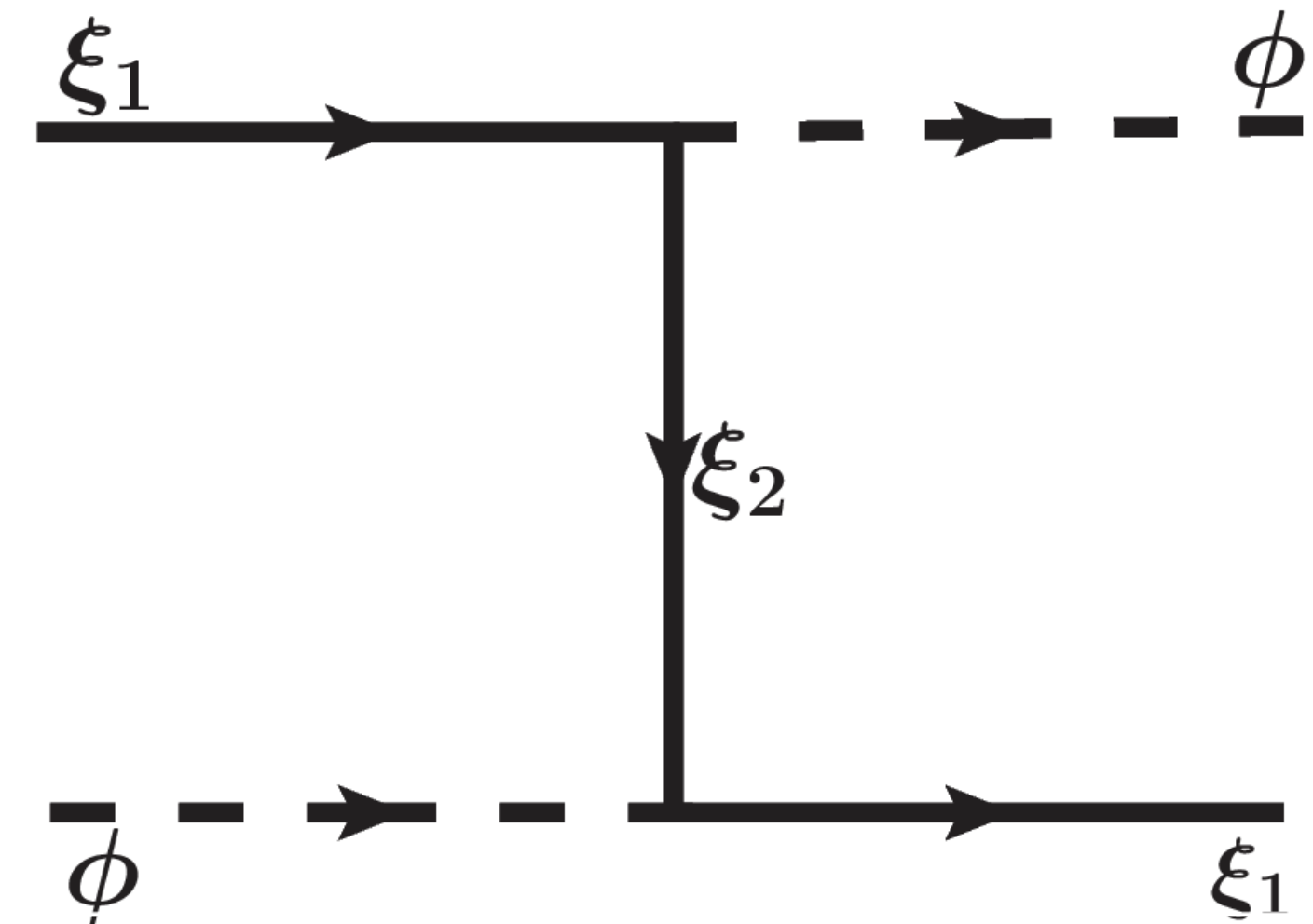




# DM-DR Interaction

- Dark matter and dark radiation elastic scattering dominated by u-channel process and Dark radiation transfer momentum to DM.
- A distinct temperature dependence for DM-DR interaction rate: a cut-off at the transition redshift determined by the mass-splitting between inelastic dark fermions

$$R_{\Gamma} \equiv \frac{\Gamma}{H} \simeq 0.07 \left( \frac{y(1 - 2 \sin^2 \beta)}{4.1 \times 10^{-6}} \right)^4 \left( \frac{0.01 \text{ MeV}}{M_{\xi_1}} \right), \quad \text{for } T \gg \delta,$$



$$|\mathcal{M}|^2 \simeq \frac{y^4 (1 - 2 \sin^2 \beta)^4 M_{\xi_1}^2}{(k + \delta)^2}$$

# Conclusion

- Our SIDR+ $z_t$  framework introduces a new approach to resolving cosmological tensions by leveraging self-interacting dark radiation and inelastic dark matter within a  $U(1)_D$  gauge extension of the Standard Model.
- Temperature-dependent DM-DR interactions and flexible DR energy-density steps, allow it to address the Hubble tension,  $S_8$  tension, and Lyman- $\alpha$  discrepancies while maintaining consistency with BBN constraints.

**Thank you for listening!**

# Backup slide

# Inelastic Dark Matter / Dark Gauge Boson

Interaction between hidden sector and visible sector

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \epsilon g (Z_X)_\mu \bar{f} \gamma^\mu f + \epsilon g_X \frac{s_{\theta_W}}{c_{\theta_W}} Z_\mu \left[ c_\theta^2 \bar{\xi}_1 \gamma^\mu \xi_1 + s_\theta^2 \bar{\xi}_2 \gamma^\mu \xi_2 + c_\theta s_\theta (\bar{\xi}_1 \gamma^\mu \xi_2 + \bar{\xi}_2 \gamma^\mu \xi_1) \right]$$

- Interaction like makes hidden sector particles from visible sector

$$f \bar{f} \rightarrow \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_1, \quad f \bar{f} \rightarrow \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_2, \quad f \bar{f} \rightarrow \bar{\xi}_1 \xi_2, \quad f \bar{f} \rightarrow \xi_2 \bar{\xi}_2, \quad f \bar{f} \rightarrow Z_X \gamma, \quad f \gamma \rightarrow f Z_X$$

- Assuming interaction of dark/hidden sector with SM particles negligible

# Boltzmann equation

DM

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dY_{\xi_1}}{dT_v} = & -\frac{s}{H} K_v \left[ \langle \sigma v \rangle_{f\bar{f} \rightarrow \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_1} (T_v) \left( Y_f^{eq}(T_v) \right)^2 + \langle \sigma v \rangle_{f\bar{f} \rightarrow \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_2} (T_v) \left( Y_f^{eq}(T_v) \right)^2 \right. \\ & + \frac{1}{s} \langle \Gamma_{Z \rightarrow \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_1} \rangle (T_v) Y_Z^{eq} + \frac{1}{s} \langle \Gamma_{Z \rightarrow \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_2} \rangle (T_v) Y_Z^{eq} \\ & + \frac{1}{s} \langle \Gamma_{S \rightarrow \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_1} \rangle (T_v) Y_S + \frac{1}{s} \langle \Gamma_{\xi_2 \rightarrow \xi_1 \phi} \rangle (T_h) Y_{\xi_2} \\ & + \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\bar{\xi}_1 \xi_2 \rightarrow \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_1} (T_h) \left( Y_{\xi_1} Y_{\xi_2} - \frac{Y_{\xi_1}^{eq}(T_h) Y_{\xi_2}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_{\xi_1}^{eq}(T_h)^2} Y_{\xi_1}^2 \right) \\ & + \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\xi_2 \bar{\xi}_2 \rightarrow \xi_1 \bar{\xi}_1} (T_h) \left( Y_{\xi_2}^2 - \left( \frac{Y_{\xi_2}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_{\xi_1}^{eq}(T_h)} \right)^2 Y_{\xi_1}^2 \right) \\ & - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\xi_1 \bar{\xi}_1 \rightarrow Z_D Z_D} (T_h) \left( Y_{\xi_1}^2 - \left( \frac{Y_{\xi_1}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_{Z_D}^{eq}(T_h)} \right)^2 Y_{Z_D}^2 \right) \\ & \left. - \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\xi_1 \bar{\xi}_2 \rightarrow Z_D Z_D} (T_h) \left( Y_{\xi_1} Y_{\xi_2} - \frac{Y_{\xi_1}^{eq}(T_h) Y_{\xi_2}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_{Z_D}^{eq}(T_h)^2} Y_{Z_D}^2 \right) \right], \end{aligned}$$

# Boltzmann equation

## Gauge boson

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dY_{Z_D}}{dT_v} = & -\frac{s}{H} K_v \left[ \langle \sigma v \rangle_{f\bar{f} \rightarrow Z_D \gamma}(T_v) \left( Y_f^{eq}(T_v) \right)^2 + 2 \langle \sigma v \rangle_{f\gamma \rightarrow f Z_D}(T_v) \left( Y_f^{eq}(T_v) \right)^2 \right. \\ & + 2 \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\xi_1 \bar{\xi}_1 \rightarrow Z_D Z_D}(T_h) \left( Y_{\xi_1}^2 - \left( \frac{Y_{\xi_1}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_{Z_D}^{eq}(T_h)} \right)^2 Y_{Z_D}^2 \right) \\ & + 2 \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\xi_2 \bar{\xi}_2 \rightarrow Z_D Z_D}(T_h) \left( Y_{\xi_2}^2 - \left( \frac{Y_{\xi_2}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_{Z_D}^{eq}(T_h)} \right)^2 Y_{Z_D}^2 \right) \\ & + 2 \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\xi_1 \bar{\xi}_2 \rightarrow Z_D Z_D}(T_h) \left( Y_{\xi_1} Y_{\bar{\xi}_2} - \frac{Y_{\xi_1}^{eq}(T_h) Y_{\xi_2}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_{Z_D}^{eq}(T_h)^2} Y_{Z_D}^2 \right) \\ & + 2 \langle \sigma v \rangle_{\xi_2 \bar{\xi}_1 \rightarrow Z_D Z_D}(T_h) \left( Y_{\bar{\xi}_1} Y_{\xi_2} - \frac{Y_{\xi_1}^{eq}(T_h) Y_{\xi_2}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_{Z_D}^{eq}(T_h)^2} Y_{Z_D}^2 \right) \\ & \left. - 2 \langle \sigma v \rangle_{Z_D Z_D \rightarrow \phi \phi} \left( Y_{Z_D}^2 - \left( \frac{Y_{Z_D}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_{\phi}^{eq}(T_h)} \right)^2 Y_{\phi}^2 \right) \right], \end{aligned}$$



# Boltzmann equation

DR

$$\frac{dY_\phi}{dT_v} = -\frac{s}{H} K_v \left[ 2\langle\sigma v\rangle_{Z_D Z_D \rightarrow \phi\phi} \left( Y_{Z_D}^2 - \left( \frac{Y_{Z_D}^{eq}(T_h)}{Y_\phi^{eq}(T_h)} \right)^2 Y_\phi^2 \right) \right]$$

# Momentum Transfer rate

## Momentum transfer from DR to DM

- The momentum transfer equation can be expressed as

$$\dot{\vec{p}}_{\text{DM}} = \frac{a}{2E_p} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3 2E_k} f(k; T) \int \frac{d^3k'}{(2\pi)^3 2E_{k'}} \frac{d^3p'_{\text{DM}}}{(2\pi)^3 2E_{p'_{\text{DM}}}} (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(p_{\text{DM}} + k - p'_{\text{DM}} - k') \\ \times |\mathcal{M}|^2 (\vec{p}'_{\text{DM}} - \vec{p}_{\text{DM}})$$

- Momentum transfer rate  $\Gamma$  can be calculated as

$$\Gamma \simeq \frac{1}{8(2\pi)^3 M_{\text{DM}}^3} \int k^3 f(k; T) dk \int d\cos\theta |\mathcal{M}|^2 (1 - \cos\theta)$$

# Momentum Transfer

## Momentum transfer from DR to DM

- Momentum transfer rate is proportional to  $T^2$  at relatively high temperatures but suppressed to  $T^4$  when  $T_h \ll \delta$ .

$$\Gamma \simeq \frac{y^4 (1 - 2 \sin^2 \beta)^4 T_h^2}{32\pi^3 M_{\xi_1}} f(x)$$

$$\simeq 2.43 \times 10^{-34} \text{GeV} \left( \frac{T_h}{100 \text{eV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{y (1 - 2 \sin^2 \beta)}{4.1 \times 10^{-6}} \right)^4 \left( \frac{0.01 \text{MeV}}{M_{\xi_1}} \right), \text{ for } T_h \gg \delta,$$

$$\simeq 1.46 \times 10^{-43} \text{GeV} \left( \frac{T_h}{0.1 \text{eV}} \right)^4 \left( \frac{y (1 - 2 \sin^2 \beta)}{4.1 \times 10^{-6}} \right)^4 \left( \frac{0.01 \text{MeV}}{M_{\xi_1}} \right) \left( \frac{10 \text{eV}}{\delta} \right)^2, \text{ for } T_h \ll \delta,$$

# MPS of the SIDR+/WZDR+ Model

