

# DARK MATTER RELIC DENSITY

REVISITED

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based on: **T. Binder, T. Bringmann, M. Gustafsson and AH,**  
Phys.Rev. D96 (2017) 115010, [astro-ph.co/1706.07433](https://arxiv.org/abs/1706.07433)



Rencontres de Moriond, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018

# MOTIVATION

## THERMAL RELIC DENSITY

**Theory:**  
(a.k.a. wishful thinking)

### I. Natural

Comes out **automatically** from the expansion of the Universe

Naturally leads to **cold DM**

### II. Predictive

No dependence on **initial conditions**

**Fixes coupling(s)**  $\Rightarrow$  signal in DD, ID & LHC

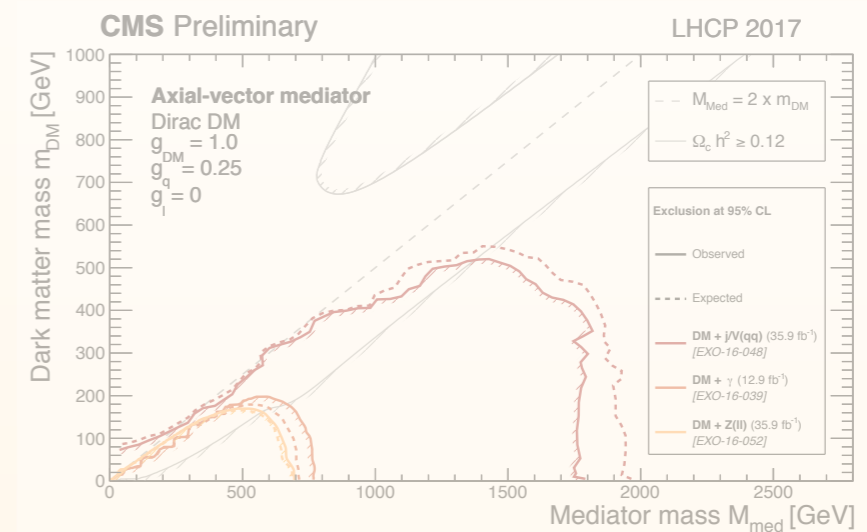
### III. It is not optional

**Overabundance** constraint

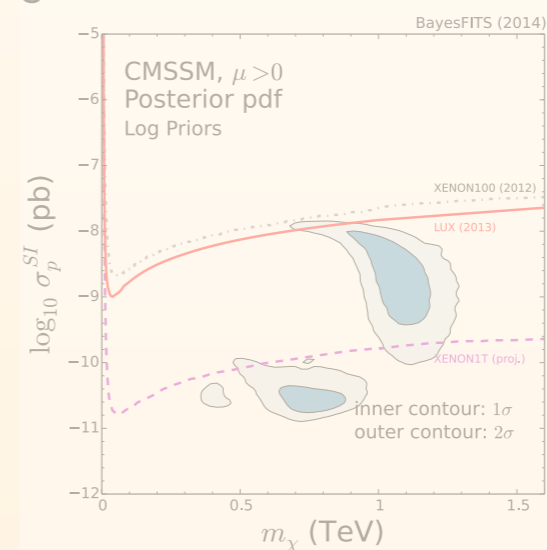
To avoid it one needs **quite significant deviations** from standard cosmology

**Experiment:**  
(a.k.a. reality)

...as a constraint:



...as a target:



“(...) besides the Higgs boson mass measurement and LHC direct bounds, the constraint showing **by far the strongest impact** on the parameter space of the MSSM is the **relic density**”

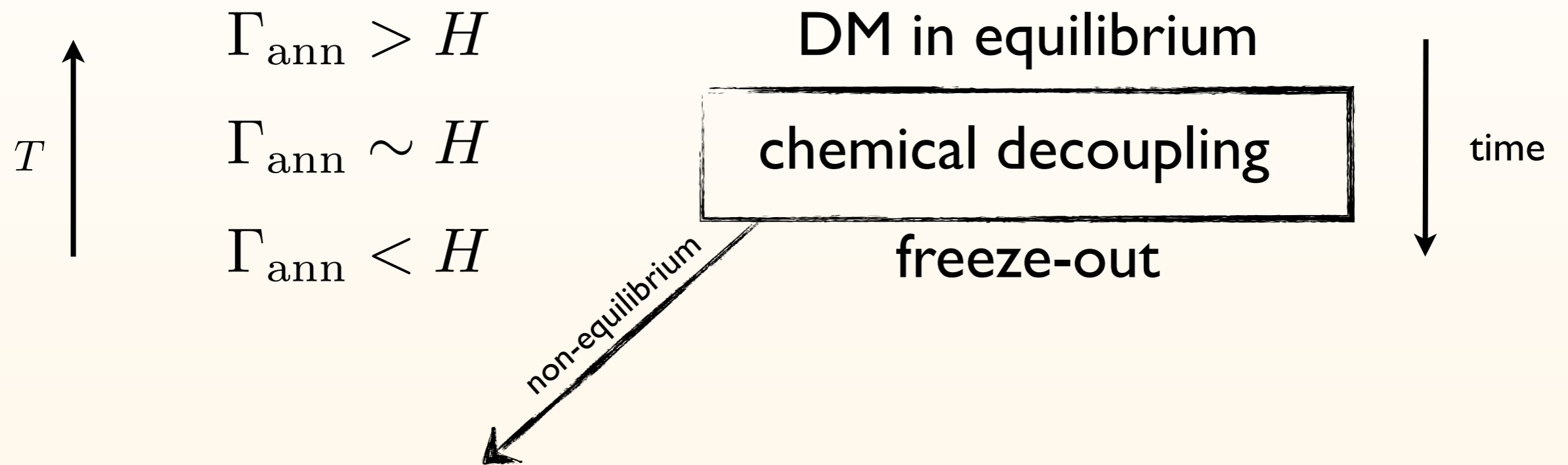
Roszkowski et al. '14

...as a pin:

When a **dark matter signal** is (finally) found:  
relic abundance can **pin-point** the **particle physics** interpretation

# THERMAL RELIC DENSITY

## STANDARD APPROACH



time evolution of  $f_\chi(p)$  in kinetic theory:

$$E (\partial_t - H \vec{p} \cdot \nabla_{\vec{p}}) f_\chi = \mathcal{C}[f_\chi] \implies \frac{dn_\chi}{dt} + 3Hn_\chi = C$$

Liouville operator in  
FRW background

the collision term

integrated

assumptions for using Boltzmann eq: classical limit, molecular chaos,...

...for derivation from thermal QFT see e.g., 1409.3049

# THERMAL RELIC DENSITY

## THE COLLISION TERM

$$C_{\text{LO}} = -h_{\chi}^2 \int \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_{\chi}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_{\bar{\chi}}}{(2\pi)^3} \sigma_{\chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow ij} v_{\text{rel}} [f_{\chi} f_{\bar{\chi}} (1 \pm f_i)(1 \pm f_j) - f_i f_j (1 \pm f_{\chi})(1 \pm f_{\bar{\chi}})]$$

assuming kinetic equilibrium at chemical decoupling:  $f_{\chi} \sim a(\mu) f_{\chi}^{\text{eq}}$

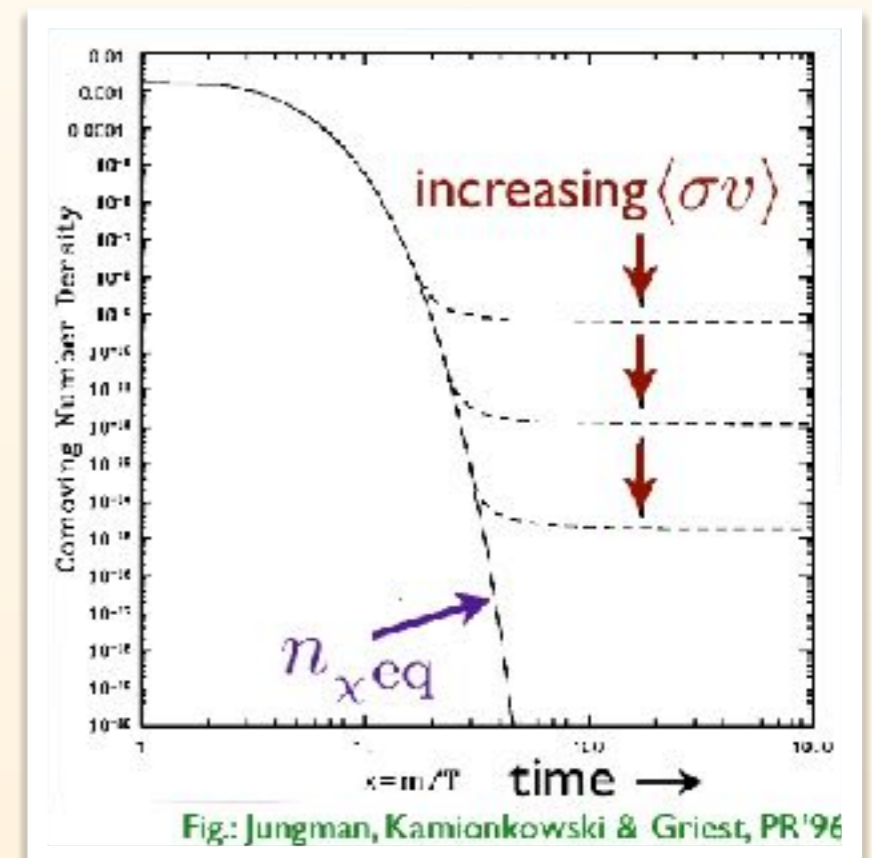
$$\frac{dn_{\chi}}{dt} + 3Hn_{\chi} = -\langle \sigma_{\chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow ij} v_{\text{rel}} \rangle^{\text{eq}} (n_{\chi} n_{\bar{\chi}} - n_{\chi}^{\text{eq}} n_{\bar{\chi}}^{\text{eq}})$$

where the **thermally averaged cross section**:

$$\langle \sigma_{\chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow ij} v_{\text{rel}} \rangle^{\text{eq}} = -\frac{h_{\chi}^2}{n_{\chi}^{\text{eq}} n_{\bar{\chi}}^{\text{eq}}} \int \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_{\chi}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_{\bar{\chi}}}{(2\pi)^3} \sigma_{\chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow ij} v_{\text{rel}} f_{\chi}^{\text{eq}} f_{\bar{\chi}}^{\text{eq}}$$

Recipe:

compute annihilation **cross-section**,  
take a **thermal bath average**,  
throw it into **BE**... and voilà



# THERMAL RELIC DENSITY

## “EXCEPTIONS”

### 1. Three “exceptions”

Griest, Seckel '91

### 2. Non-standard cosmology

many works... very recent e.g., D'Eramo, Fernandez, Profumo '17

### 3. Second era of annihilation

Feng et al. '10; Bringmann et al. '12; ...

### 4. Bound State Formation

recent e.g., Petraki et al. '15, '16; An et al. '15, '16; Cirelli et al. '16; ...

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### 5. $3 \rightarrow 2$ and $4 \rightarrow 2$ annihilation

e.g., D'Agnolo, Ruderman '15; Cline et al. '17; Choi et al. '17; ...

### 6. Semi-annihilation/Cannibalization

D'Eramo, Thaler '10; ... e.g., Kuflik et al. '15; Pappadopulo et al. '16; ...

### 7. Conversion driven/Co-scattering

Garny, Heisig, Lulf, Vogl '17 D'Agnolo, Pappadopulo, Ruderman '17

### 8. ...

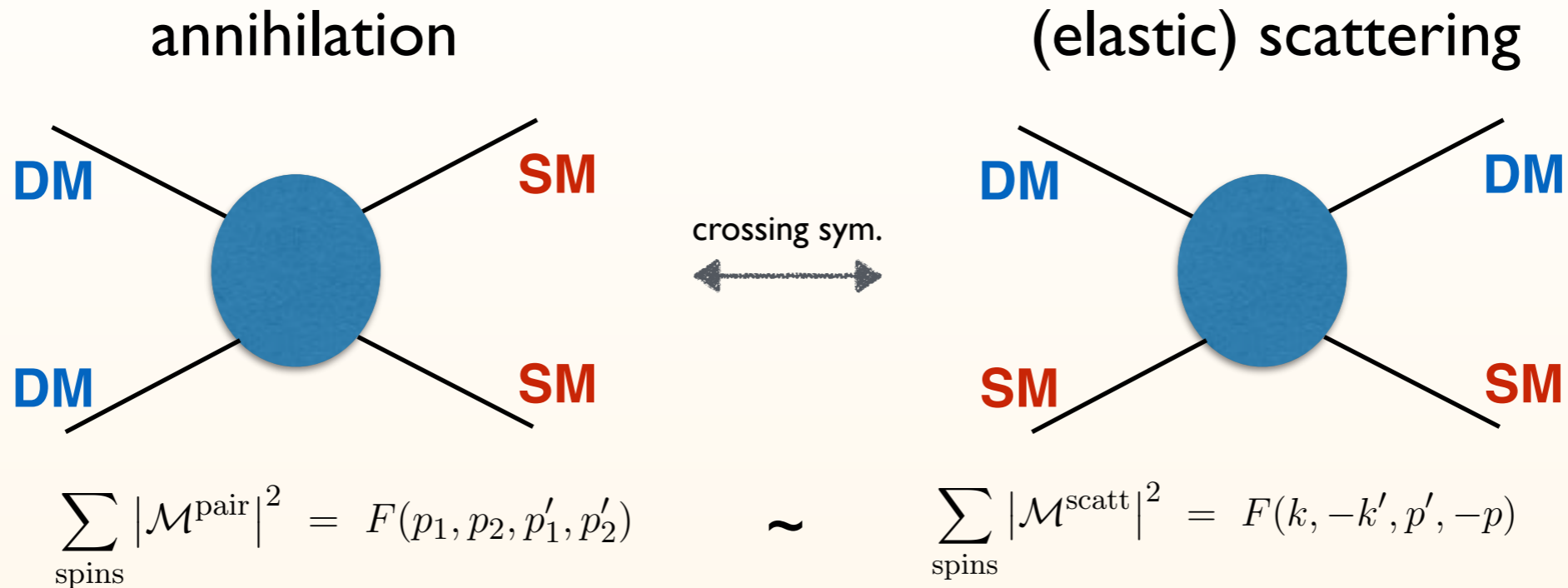
In other words: whenever studying non-minimal scenarios “exceptions” appear —  
but most of them come from interplay of **new added effects**,  
while do **not affect the foundations** of modern calculations

# WHAT IF NON-MINIMAL SCENARIO?

**Example:** assume two particles in the dark sector: **A** and **B**

scenario process	Co-annihilation	superWIMP	Co-decaying	Conversion-driven/ Co-scattering	Cannibal/Semi- annihilation	Forbidden-like	...
annihilation $A A \leftrightarrow SM SM$ $A B \leftrightarrow SM SM$ $B B \leftrightarrow SM SM$	sets the value of relic density						
conversion $A A \leftrightarrow B B$ inelastic scattering $A SM \leftrightarrow B SM$	efficient by construction						
elastic scattering $A SM \leftrightarrow A SM$ $B SM \leftrightarrow B SM$	assumed to be efficient						in all scenarios <b>kinetic equilibrium</b> assumption crucial, but not always "automatic"!
el. self-scattering $A A \leftrightarrow A A$ $B B \leftrightarrow B B$							
decays $A \leftrightarrow B SM$ $A \leftrightarrow SM SM$ $B \leftrightarrow SM SM$							
semi-ann/3->2 $A A A \leftrightarrow A A$ $A A \leftrightarrow A B$ $A A A \leftrightarrow SM A$							

# FREEZE-OUT VS. DECOUPLING



Boltzmann suppression of **DM** vs. **SM**  $\Rightarrow$  scatterings typically more frequent  
 dark matter frozen-out but typically still kinetically coupled to the plasma

$$\tau_r(T_{\text{kd}}) \equiv N_{\text{coll}}/\Gamma_{\text{el}} \sim H^{-1}(T_{\text{kd}})$$

Schmid, Schwarz, Widern '99; Green, Hofmann, Schwarz '05

Two consequences:

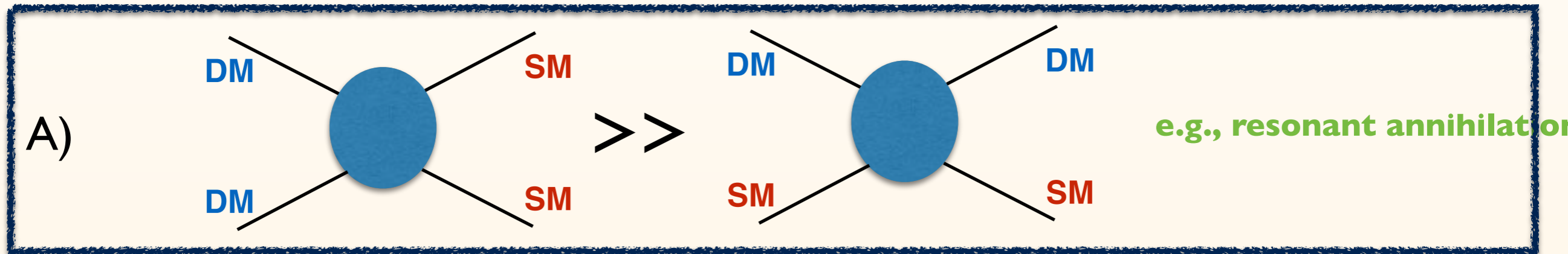
1. During freeze-out (chemical decoupling) typically:  $f_\chi \sim a(\mu) f_\chi^{\text{eq}}$
2. If kinetic decoupling much, much later: possible impact on the matter power spectrum  
 i.e. kinetic decoupling can have observable consequences and affect e.g. missing satellites problem

see e.g., Bringmann, Ihle, Karsten, Valia '16

# EARLY KINETIC DECOUPLING?

A **necessary** and **sufficient** condition: scatterings weaker than annihilation  
i.e. rates around freeze-out:  $H \sim \Gamma_{\text{ann}} \gtrsim \Gamma_{\text{el}}$

Possibilities:



B) Boltzmann suppression of **SM** as strong as for **DM**  
e.g., below threshold annihilation (forbidden-like DM)

C) Scatterings and annihilation have different structure  
e.g., semi-annihilation, 3 to 2 models,...



# HOW TO DESCRIBE KD?

All information is in full BE:

both about chemical ("normalization") and kinetic ("shape") equilibrium/decoupling

$$E (\partial_t - H\vec{p} \cdot \nabla_{\vec{p}}) f_{\chi} = \mathcal{C}[f_{\chi}]$$

contains both **scatterings** and **annihilation**

Two possible approaches:

solve numerically  
for full  $f_{\chi}(p)$

have insight on the distribution  
no constraining assumptions

numerically challenging  
typically overkill

consider system of equations  
for moments of  $f_{\chi}(p)$

partially analytic/much easier numerically  
manifestly captures all of the relevant physics

finite range of validity  
no insight on the distribution

0-th moment:  $n_{\chi}$   
2-nd moment:  $T_{\chi}$   
...

# KINETIC DECOUPLING 101

Consider general KD scenario, i.e. coupled **temperature** and **number density** evolution:

annihilation and production thermal averages done at different  $T$  — feedback of modified  $y$  evolution

$$\frac{Y'}{Y} = -\frac{1 - \frac{x}{3} \frac{g'_{*S}}{g_{*S}}}{Hx} sY \left( \langle \sigma v_{\text{rel}} \rangle \Big|_{x=m_\chi^2/(s^{2/3}y)} - \frac{Y_{\text{eq}}^2}{Y^2} \langle \sigma v_{\text{rel}} \rangle \Big|_x \right)$$

$$\frac{y'}{y} = -\frac{1 - \frac{x}{3} \frac{g'_{*S}}{g_{*S}}}{Hx} \left[ 2m_\chi c(T) \left( 1 - \frac{y_{\text{eq}}}{y} \right) - sY \left( \left( \langle \sigma v_{\text{rel}} \rangle - \langle \sigma v_{\text{rel}} \rangle_2 \right) \Big|_{x=m_\chi^2/(s^{2/3}y)} - \frac{Y_{\text{eq}}^2}{Y^2} \left( \langle \sigma v_{\text{rel}} \rangle - \frac{y_{\text{eq}}}{y} \langle \sigma v_{\text{rel}} \rangle_2 \right) \Big|_x \right) \right]$$

$$+ \frac{1 - \frac{x}{3} \frac{g'_{*S}}{g_{*S}}}{3m_\chi} \langle p^4/E^3 \rangle_{x=m_\chi^2/(s^{2/3}y)}$$

$$Y = \frac{n_\chi}{s} \quad y \equiv \frac{m_\chi T_\chi}{s^{2/3}}$$

”relativistic” term

$$T_\chi \equiv \frac{g_\chi}{3n_\chi} \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{p^2}{E} f_\chi(p)$$

elastic scatterings term

$$c(T) = \frac{1}{12(2\pi)^3 m_\chi^4 T} \sum_X \int dk k^5 \omega^{-1} g^\pm (1 \mp g^\pm) \int_{-4k^2}^0 (-t) \frac{1}{8k^4} |\mathcal{M}_{\text{el}}|^2$$

impact of annihilation

$$\langle \sigma v_{\text{rel}} \rangle_2 \equiv \frac{g_\chi^2}{3T m_\chi n_\chi^2} \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d^3\tilde{p}}{(2\pi)^3} p^2 v_{\text{rel}} \sigma_{\tilde{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \tilde{X}X} f(E) f(\tilde{E})$$

These equations still assume the equilibrium shape of  $f_\chi(p)$  — but with variant temperature

or more accurately: that the thermal averages computed with true non-equilibrium distributions don't differ much from the above ones

# NUMERICAL APPROACH

... or one can just solve full phase space Boltzmann eq.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_x f_\chi(x, q) &= \frac{m_\chi^3}{\tilde{H}x^4} \frac{g_{\bar{\chi}}}{2\pi^2} \int d\tilde{q} \tilde{q}^2 \frac{1}{2} \int d\cos\theta \ v_{M\phi l} \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \bar{f}f} \\
 &\times [f_{\chi,eq}(q) f_{\chi,eq}(\tilde{q}) - f_\chi(q) f_\chi(\tilde{q})] \\
 &+ \frac{2m_\chi c(T)}{2\tilde{H}x} \left[ x_q \partial_q^2 + \left( q + \frac{2x_q}{q} + \frac{q}{x_q} \right) \partial_q + 3 \right] f_\chi \\
 &+ \tilde{g} \frac{q}{x} \partial_q f_\chi,
 \end{aligned}$$

fully general

expanded in NR and small momentum transfer (semi-relativistic!)

discretization,  
~1000 steps

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_x f_i &= \\
 &\frac{m_\chi^3}{\tilde{H}x^4} \frac{g_{\bar{\chi}}}{2\pi^2} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} \frac{\Delta\tilde{q}_j}{2} \left[ \tilde{q}_j^2 \langle v_{M\phi l} \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \bar{f}f} \rangle_{i,j}^\theta (f_i^{\text{eq}} f_j^{\text{eq}} - f_i f_j) \right. \\
 &+ \left. \tilde{q}_{j+1}^2 \langle v_{M\phi l} \sigma_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \bar{f}f} \rangle_{i,j+1}^\theta (f_i^{\text{eq}} f_{j+1}^{\text{eq}} - f_i f_{j+1}) \right] \\
 &+ \frac{2m_\chi c(T)}{2\tilde{H}x} \left[ x_{q,i} \partial_q^2 + \left( q_i + \frac{2x_{q,i}}{q_i} + \frac{q_i}{x_{q,i}} \right) \partial_q + 3 \right] f_i \\
 &+ \tilde{g} \frac{q_i}{x} \partial_q f_i,
 \end{aligned}$$

Solved numerically with MatLab

Note:

can be extended to e.g. self-scatterings  
very stiff, care needed with numerics

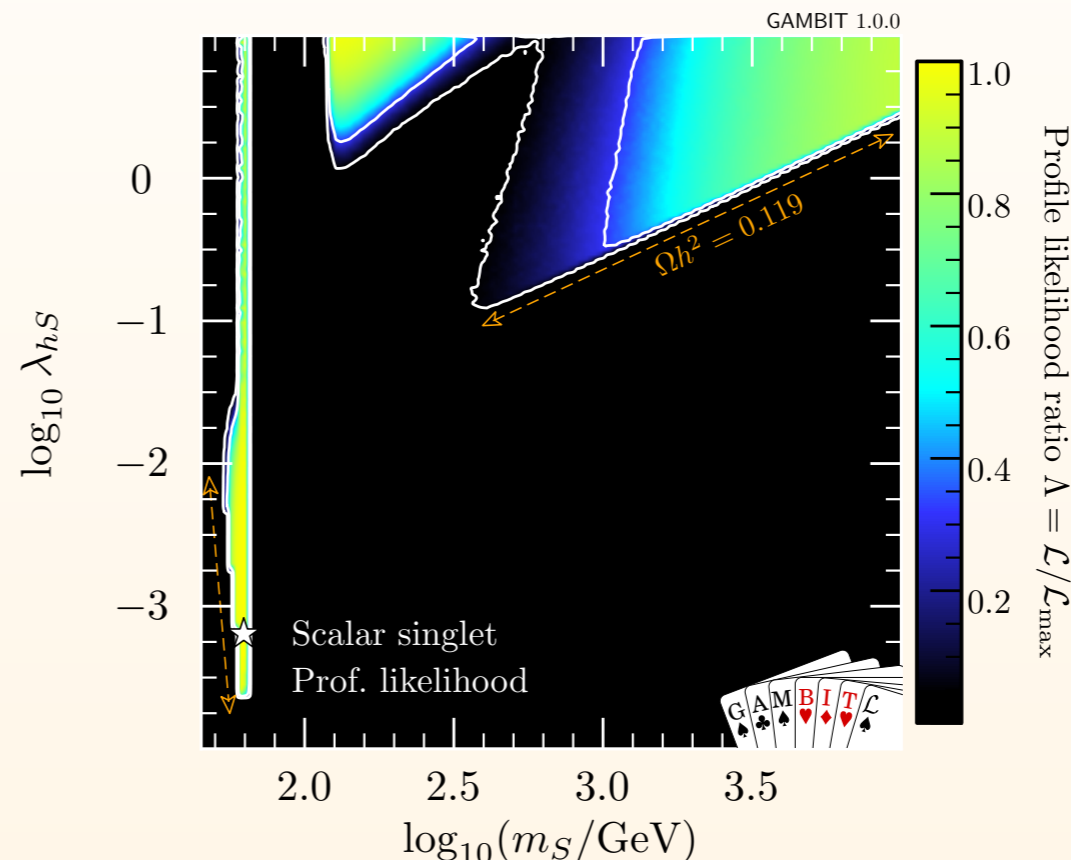
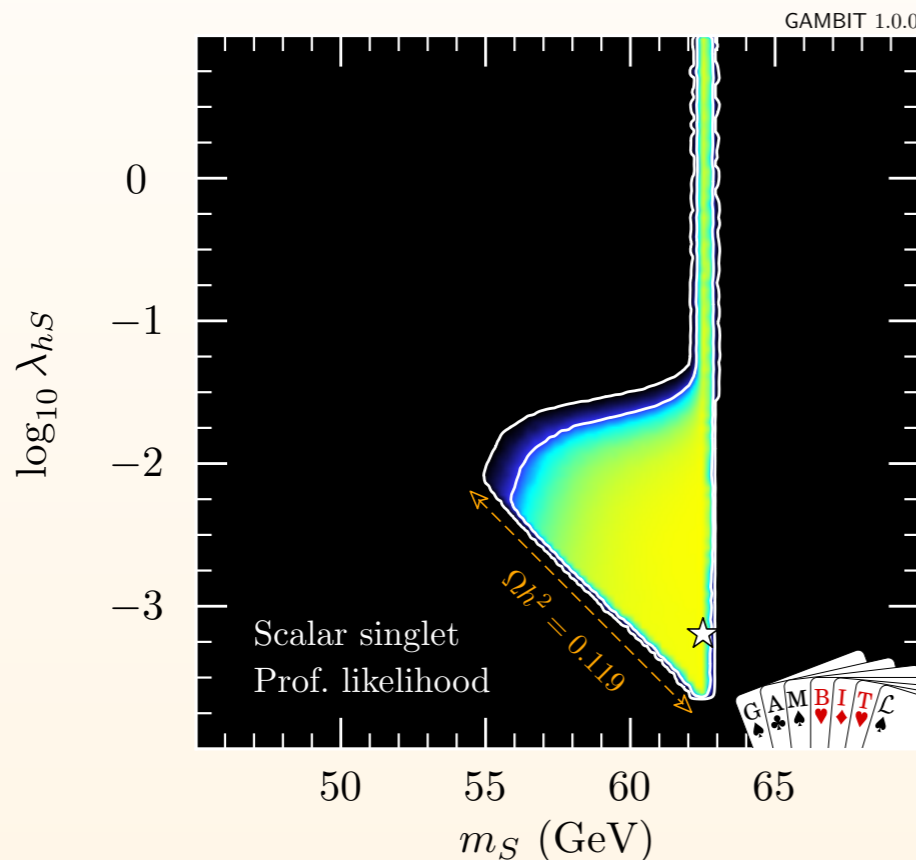
**EXAMPLE:**  
**SCALAR SINGLET DM**

# SCALAR SINGLET DM

To the SM Lagrangian add one singlet scalar field  $S$  with interactions with the Higgs:

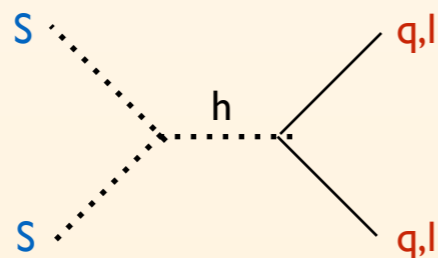
$$\mathcal{L}_S = \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu S \partial^\mu S - \frac{1}{2} \mu_S^2 S^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_s S^2 |H|^2$$

$$m_s = \sqrt{\mu_S^2 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_s v_0^2}$$

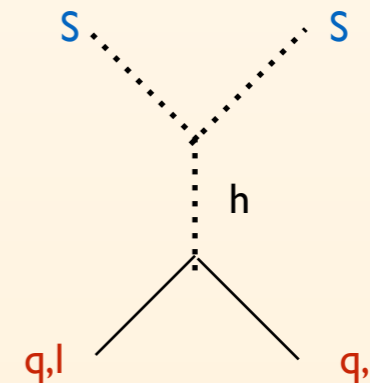


GAMBIT collaboration  
1705.07931

Annihilation  
processes:  
resonant



El. scattering  
processes:  
non-resonant



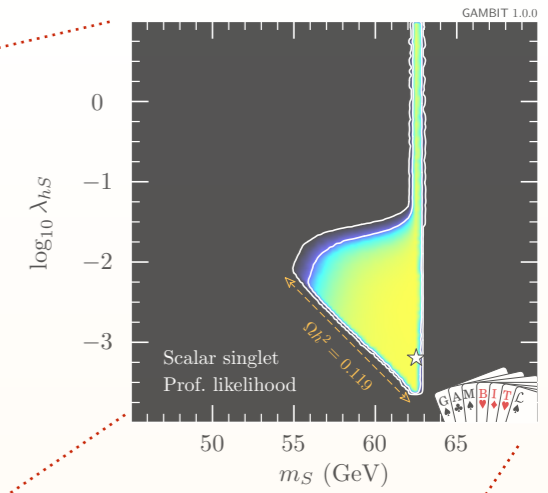
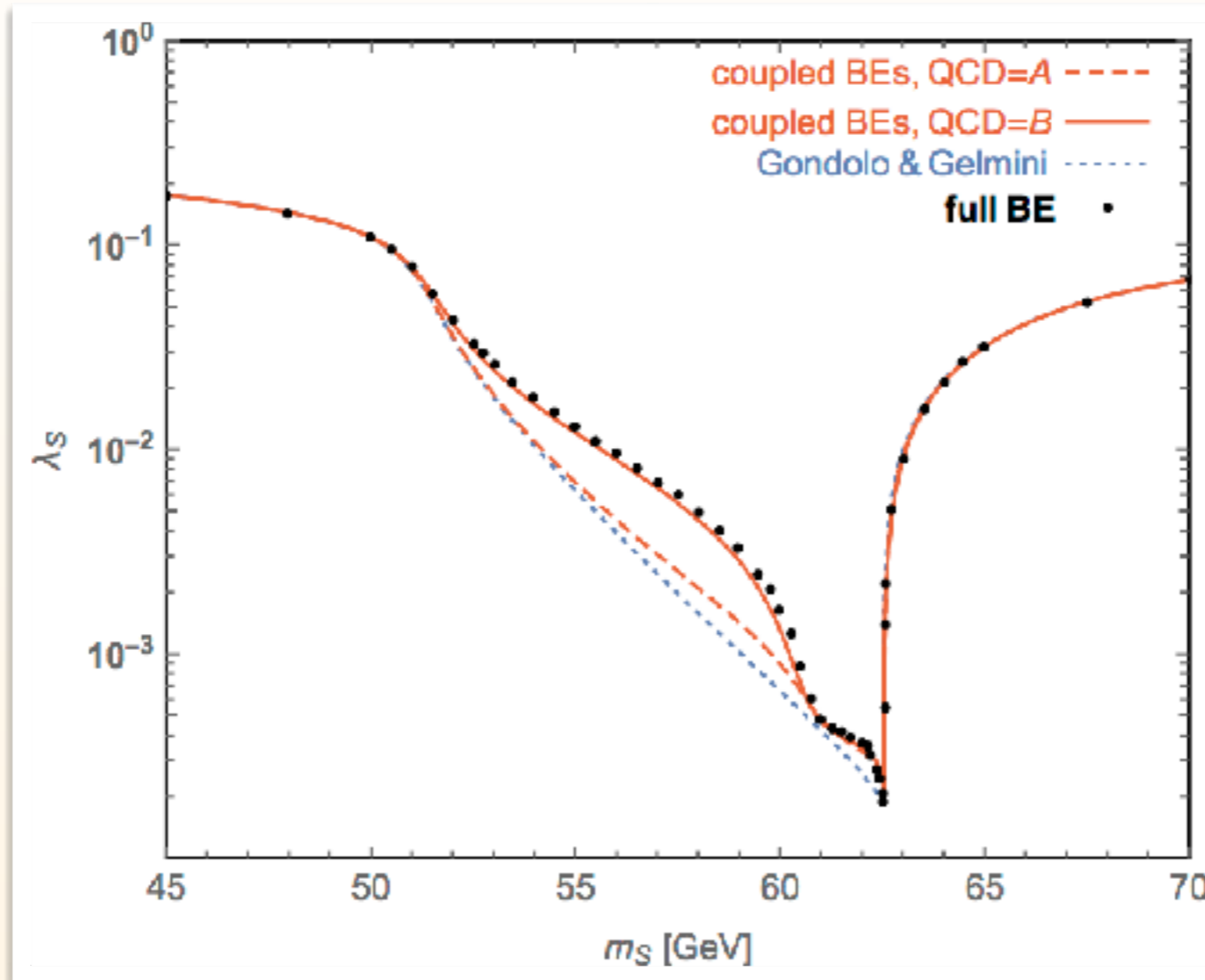
Hierarchical Yukawa couplings: strongest coupling to more Boltzmann suppressed quarks/leptons

# RESULTS

## RD CONTOURS

**QCD = A** - all quarks are free and present down to  $T_c = 154$  MeV

**QCD = B** - only light quarks in the plasma and only down to  $4T_c$



essentially the only region left for this model

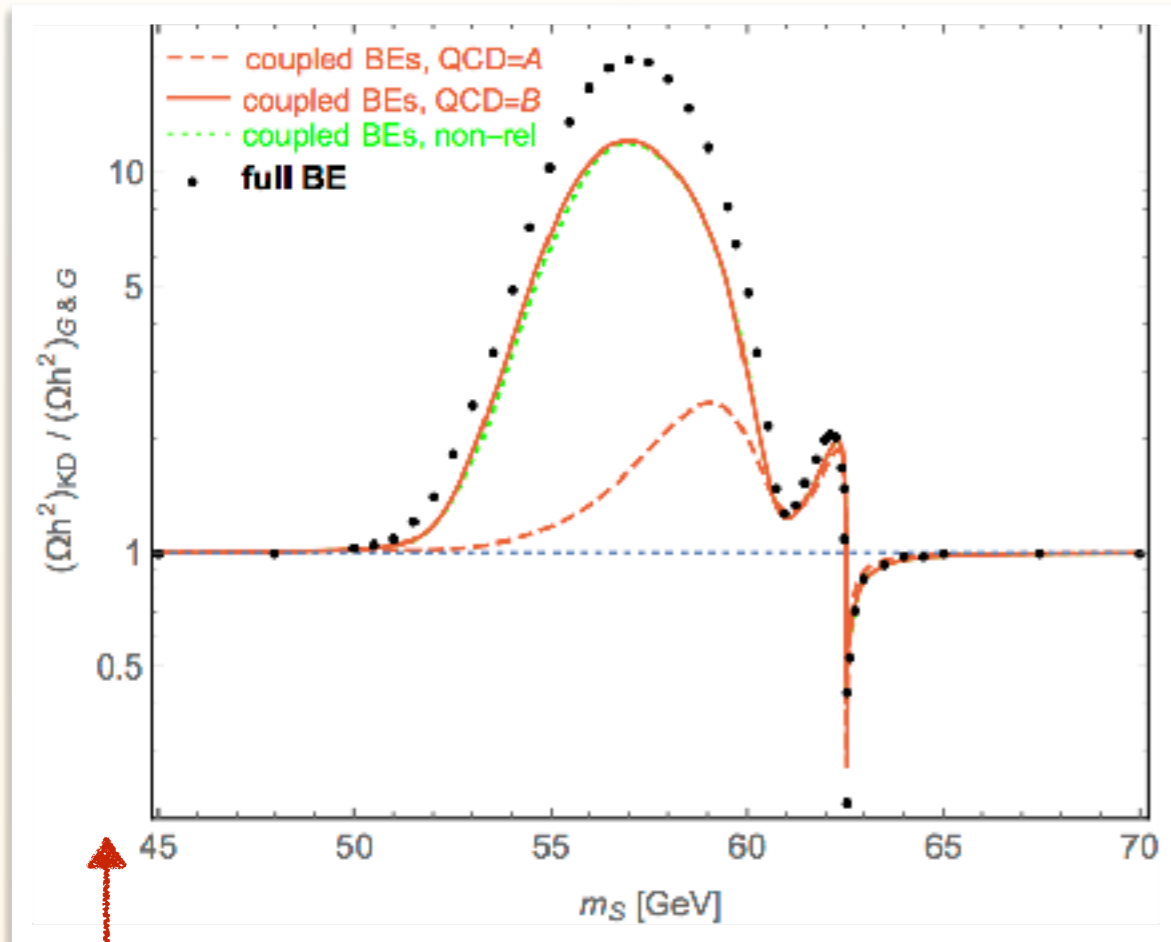
Significant modification of the **observed relic density contour** in the Scalar Singlet DM model

→ **larger coupling** needed → better chance for closing the last window

# RESULTS

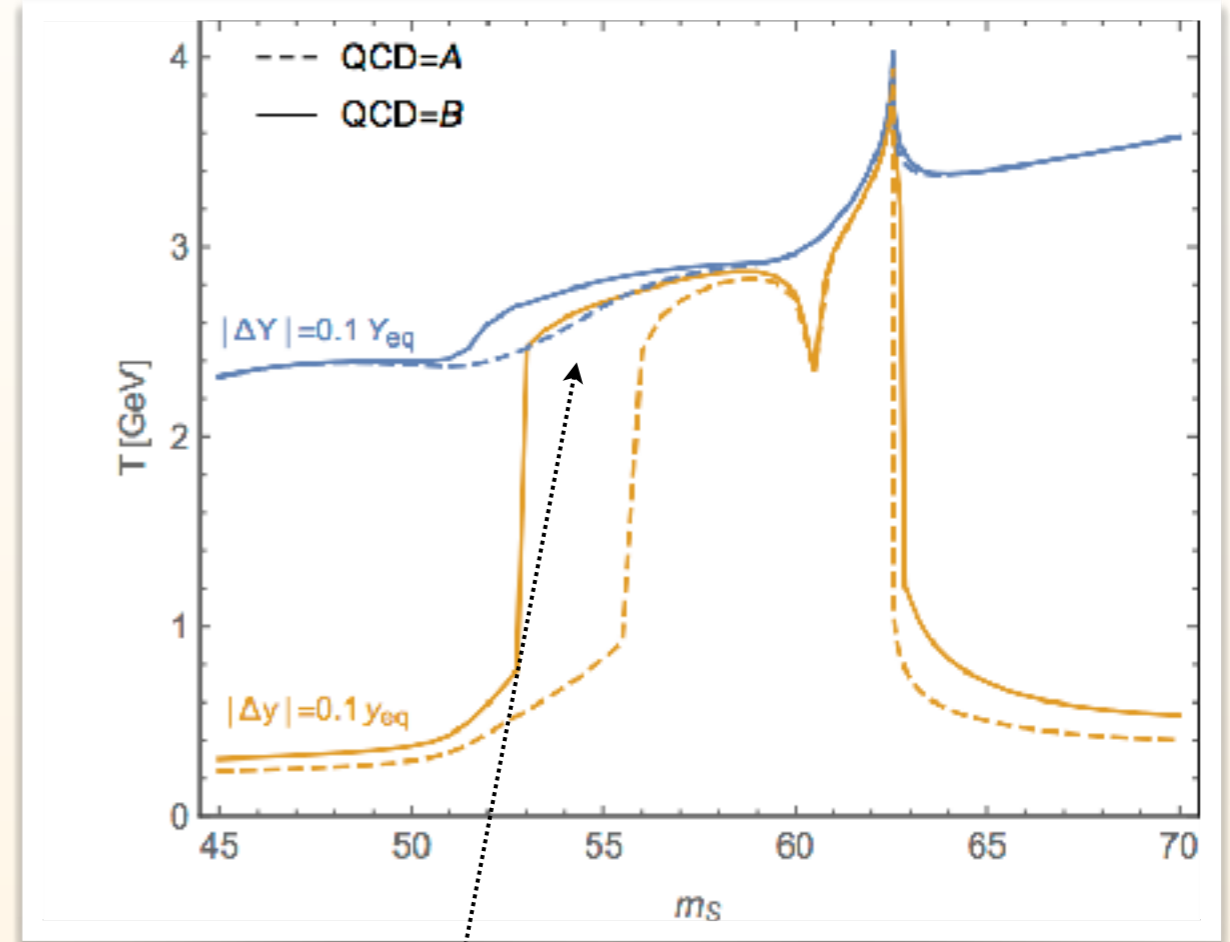
## EFFECT

effect on relic density:



effect on relic density:  
up to  $O(\sim 10)$

kinetic and chemical decoupling:



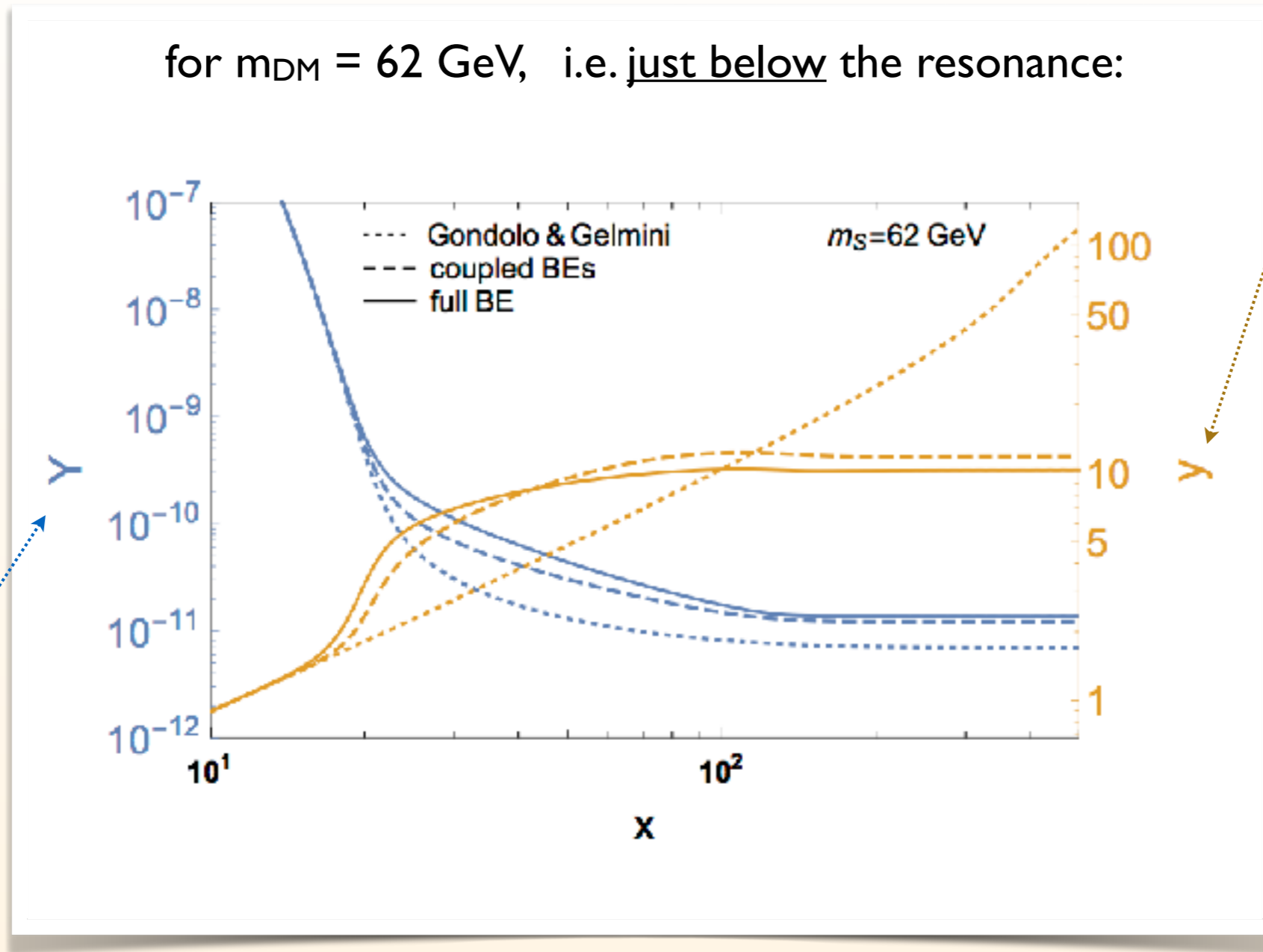
ratio approaches 1,  
but does not reach it!

Why such **non-trivial shape** of the effect of early kinetic decoupling?

↳ we'll inspect the  $y$  and  $Y$  evolution...

# DENSITY AND $T_{\text{DM}}$ EVOLUTION

for  $m_{\text{DM}} = 62 \text{ GeV}$ , i.e. just below the resonance:



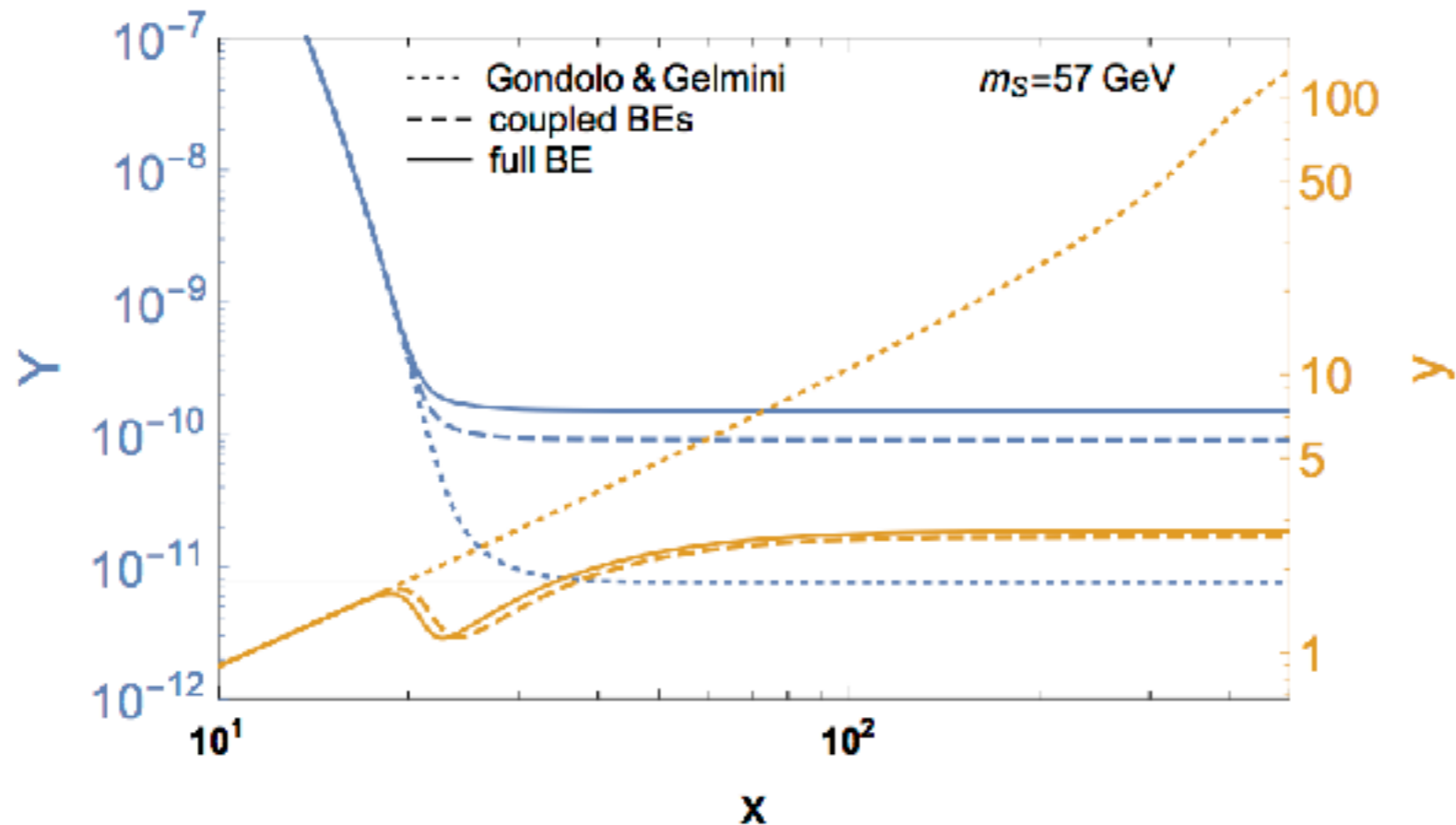
**Resonant annihilation most effective for low momenta**

→ DM fluid goes through "heating" phase before leaves kinetic equilibrium



# DENSITY AND $T_{\text{DM}}$ EVOLUTION

for  $m_{\text{DM}} = 57 \text{ GeV}$ , i.e. further away from the resonance:



**Resonant annihilation most effective for high momenta**

→ DM fluid goes through fast "cooling" phase

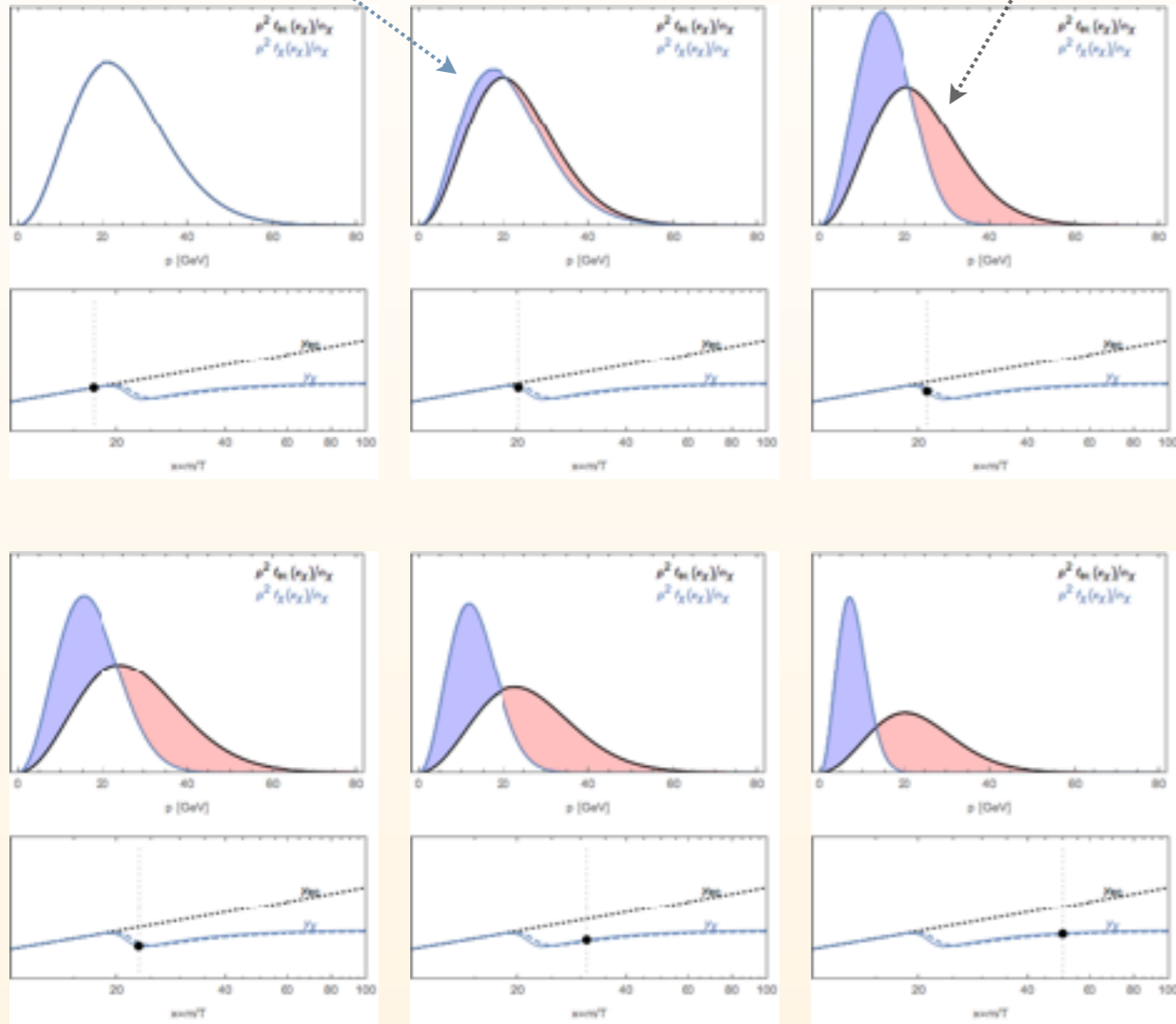
after that when  $T_{\text{DM}}$  drops to much annihilation not effective anymore

# FULL PHASE-SPACE EVOLUTION

blue - full solution for  $f_{DM}$  at  $T_{DM}$

$m_{DM} = 58 \text{ GeV}$

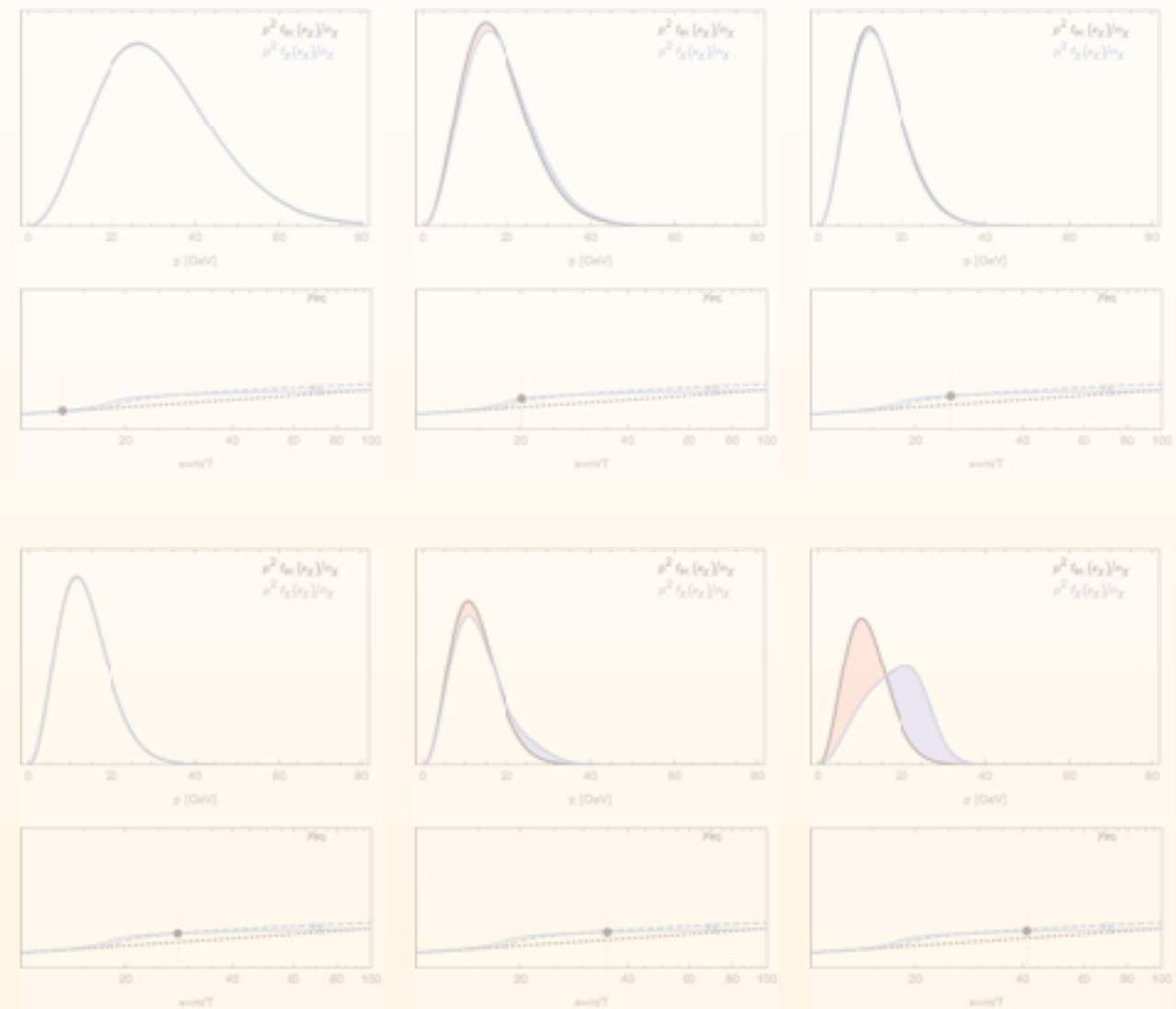
black - equilibrium at  $T_{DM}$



significant deviation from equilibrium shape **already around freeze-out**

→ effect on relic density largest, both from different  $T$  and  $f_{DM}$

$m_{DM} = 62.5 \text{ GeV}$



large deviations **only at later times**, around freeze-out not far from eq. shape

→ effect on relic density ~only from different  $T$

# WHAT NEXT?

1. Extend the **numerical full phase space BE code** to the case of **scattering on heavy particles**

(no small momentum transfer!)

2. Prepare a **public release** (and study some more examples)

*stay tuned for this!*

3. Work on extension to **self-scattering**

(none of the particles in scattering term has equilibrium phase space density)

4. At later stage: inelastic scatterings, semi-annihilation, cannibal, ...

# KD BEFORE CD?

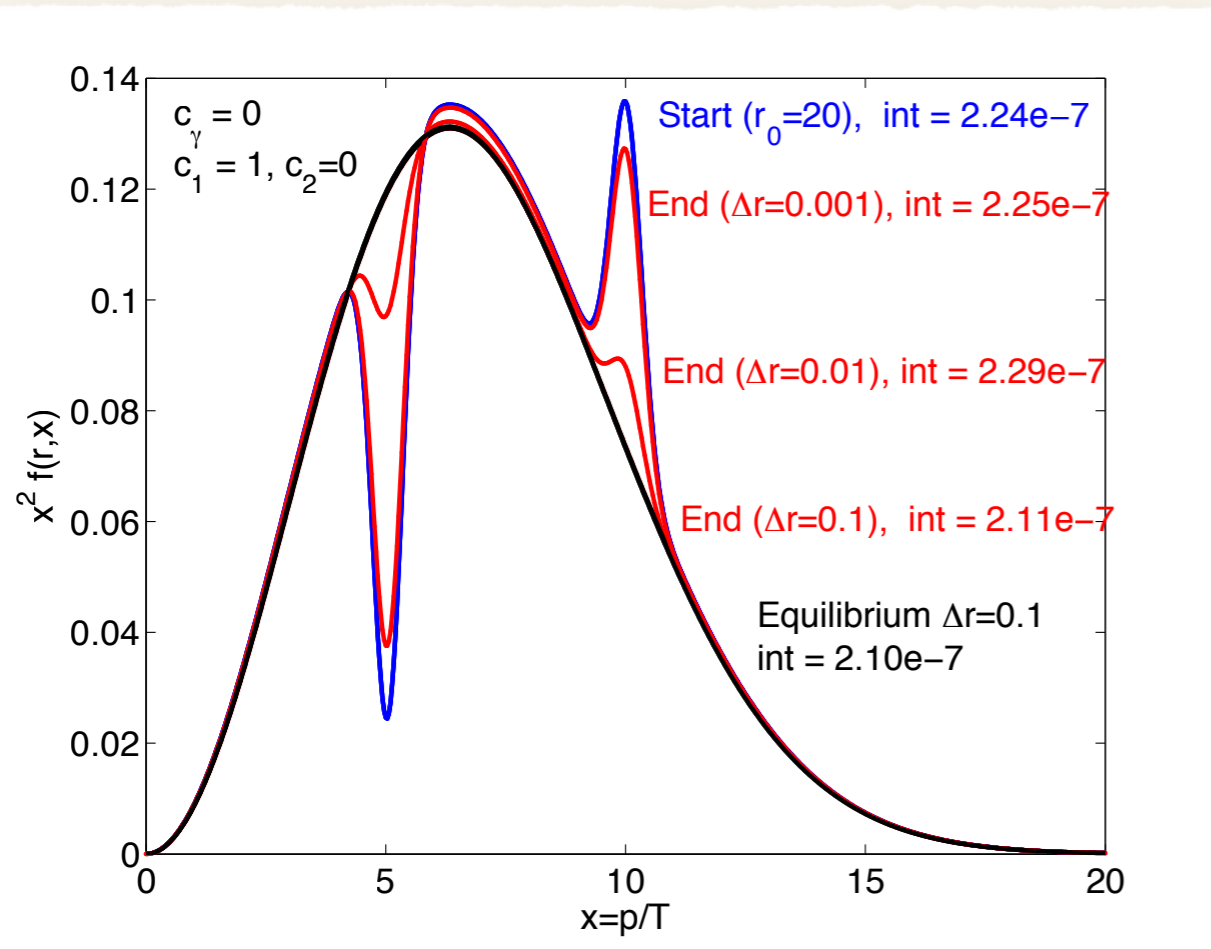
Obvious issue:

How to define exactly the **kinetic** and **chemical** decouplings and what is the significance of such definitions?



Improved question:

Can **kinetic** decoupling happen much earlier than **chemical**?



we have already seen that even if scatterings were very inefficient compared to annihilation, departure from equilibrium for both  $Y$  and  $y$  happened **around the same time**...

← turn off scatterings and take s-wave annihilation; look at local disturbance

annihilation/production processes drive to restore **kinetic equilibrium**!

# CONCLUSIONS

1. One needs to remember that **kinetic equilibrium** is a necessary assumption for standard relic density calculations
2. Coupled **system of Boltzmann equations for 0th and 2nd moments** allow for a very accurate treatment of the kinetic decoupling and its effect on relic density
3. In special cases the **full phase space Boltzmann equation** can be necessary — especially if one wants to trace DM temperature as well
4. A public release of the **full phase space Boltzmann code** coming soon

**BACKUP**

# SCATTERING

The **elastic scattering** collision term:

$$C_{\text{el}} = \frac{1}{2g_\chi} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3 2\omega} \int \frac{d^3\tilde{k}}{(2\pi)^3 2\tilde{\omega}} \int \frac{d^3\tilde{p}}{(2\pi)^3 2\tilde{E}}$$

$$\times (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(\tilde{p} + \tilde{k} - p - k) |\mathcal{M}|_{\chi f \leftrightarrow \chi f}^2$$

$$\times \left[ (1 \mp g^\pm)(\omega) g^\pm(\tilde{\omega}) f_\chi(\tilde{\mathbf{p}}) - (\omega \leftrightarrow \tilde{\omega}, \mathbf{p} \leftrightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{p}}) \right]$$

$\downarrow$   
 equilibrium functions for SM particles

Expanding in **NR** and small **momentum transfer**:

Bringmann, Hofmann '06

$$C_{\text{el}} \simeq \frac{m_\chi}{2} \gamma(T) \left[ T m_\chi \partial_p^2 + \left( p + 2T \frac{m_\chi}{p} \right) \partial_p + 3 \right] f_\chi$$

More generally, Fokker-Planck scattering operator  
(relativistic, but still small **momentum transfer**):

Binder et al. '16

physical interpretation:  
**scattering rate**

$$C_{\text{el}} \simeq \frac{E}{2} \nabla_{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \left[ \gamma(T, \mathbf{p}) (ET \nabla_{\mathbf{p}} + \mathbf{p}) f_\chi \right]$$

Semi-relativistic: assume that scattering  $\gamma(T, \mathbf{p})$  is momentum independent

# EARLY KD AND RESONANCE

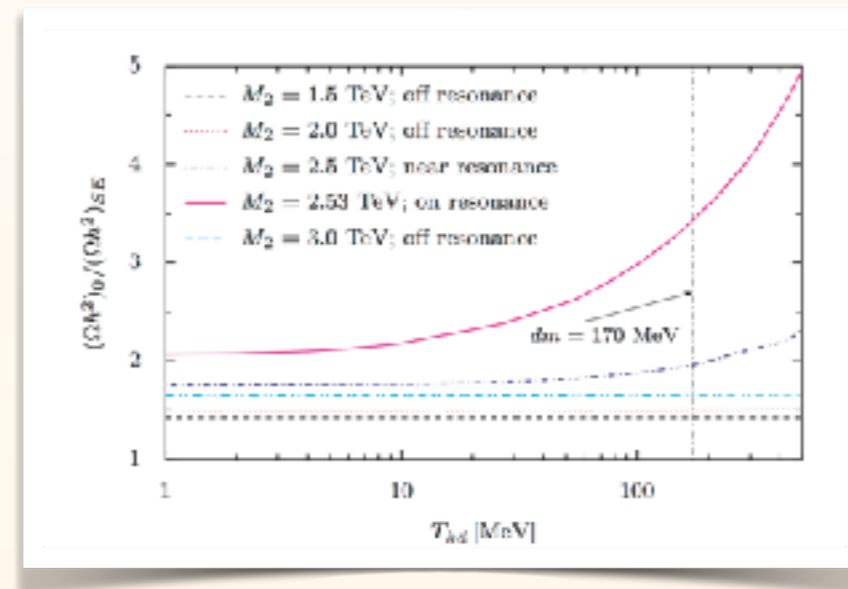
our work wasn't the first to realize that resonant annihilation can lead to early kinetic decoupling...

Feng, Kaplinghat, Yu '10 — noted that for Sommerfeld-type resonances KD can happen early

Dent, Dutta, Scherrer '10 — looked at potential effect of KD on thermal relic density

Since then people were aware of this effect and sometimes tried to estimate it assuming **instantaneous KD**, e.g., in the case of Sommerfeld effect in the MSSM:

but **no systematic studies** of decoupling process were performed, until...



AH, Iengo, Ullio '11

...models with very late KD become popular, in part to solve „missing satellites” problem  
van den Aarssen et al '12; Bringmann et al '16, x2; Binder et al '16

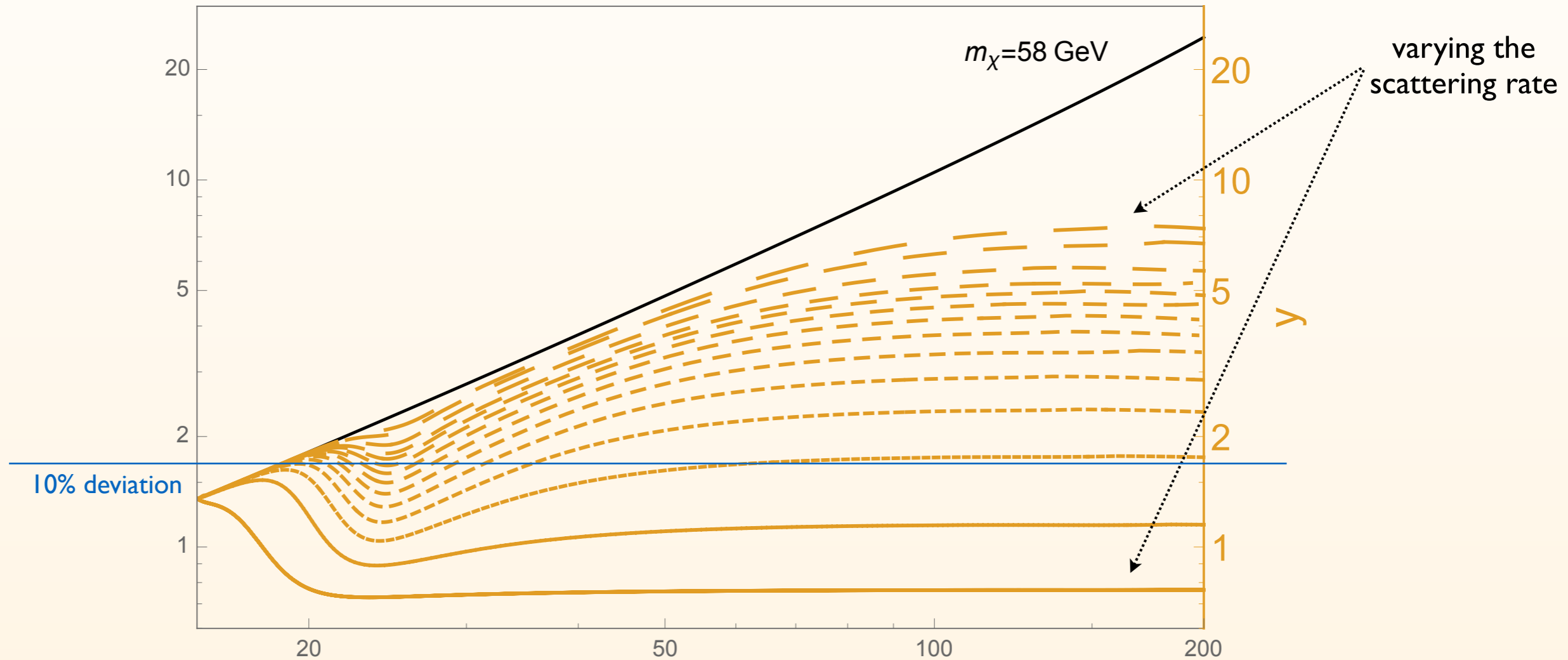
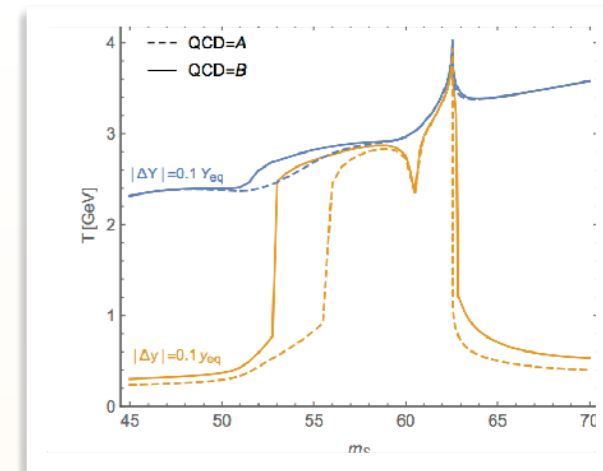
this progress allowed for **better approach to early KD** scenarios as well and was applied to the **resonant annihilation case** in

Duch, Grządkowski '17

... but we developed a **dedicated accurate method/code** to deal with this and other similar situations



# WHY SPIKES IN $T_{KD}$ ?



Effect resembling first order „phase transition” —  
**artificial** as dependent on a particular choice of  $T_{KD}$  definition

# IMPLICATIONS OF KINETIC DECOUPLING

E.g. for SUSY neutralino:

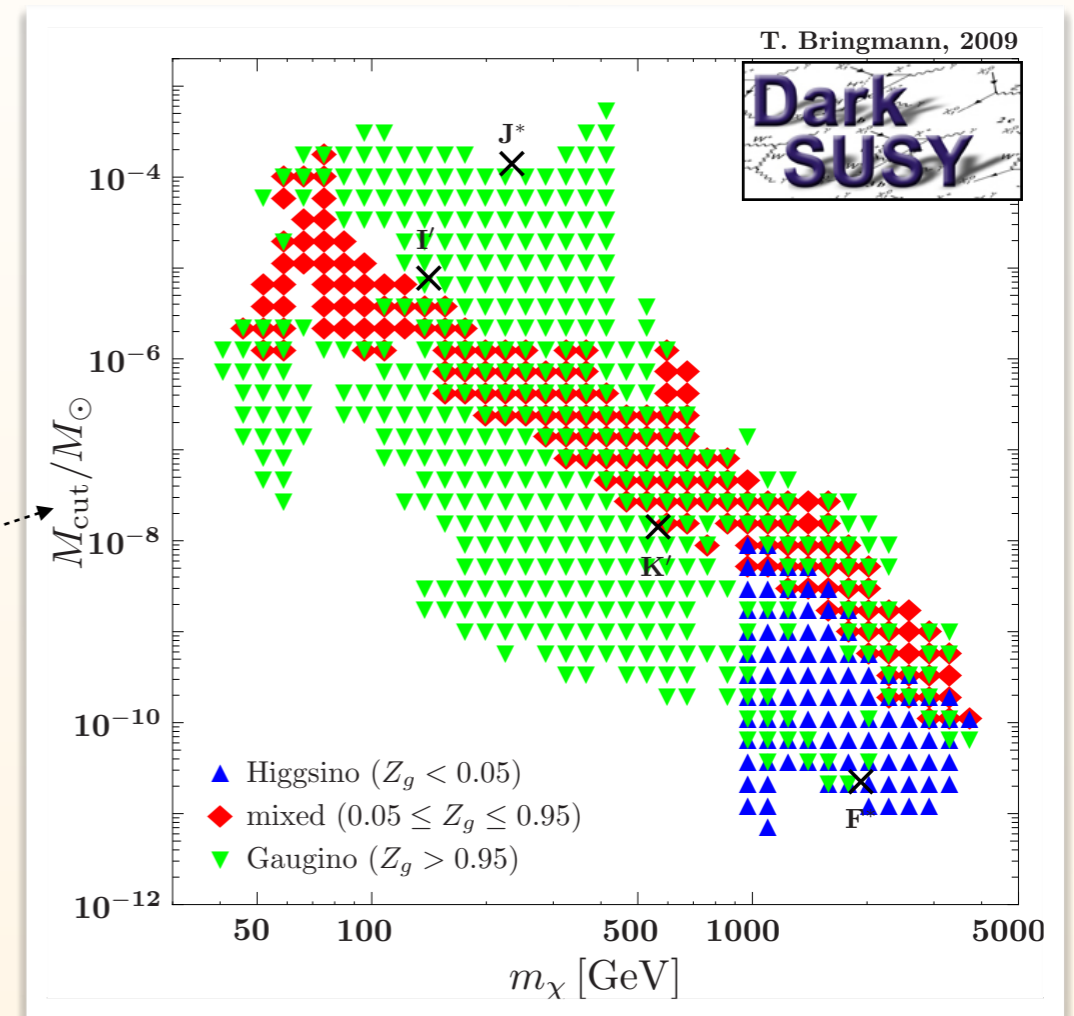
Bringmann '09

Free-streaming of DM after KD washes out **density contrasts at small scales** (similarly to baryonic oscillations)

Green, Hofmann, Schwarz '05



Cut-off in the power spectrum corresponding to **smallest gravitationally bound objects**



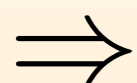
„Typical” values for **WIMPs** are relatively small



**small substructures expected**



**but bad for missing satellites problem**



moment of KD leaves important imprint on the Universe