

SELF-INTERACTING DM AND THE H_0 TENSION

Andrzej Hryczuk



NATIONAL
CENTRE
FOR NUCLEAR
RESEARCH
ŚWIERK

based on:

AH, K. Jodłowski [2006.16139](#)

(see also poster by Krzysztof!)

OUTLINE

1. Motivation

- issues with the Λ CDM (large and small)
- significance of the beyond CDM component

2. Idea: self-interacting DM from late decays

- a.k.a. how to have viable long range force with **stable light mediator**

3. Example model

- with **natural mechanism** of transferring few % of energy to radiation

4. Phenomenology

- **impact on the H_0 tension**
- candidate for ultra-SIDM

5. Conclusions

Λ CDM PROBLEMS

Small scale:

I. Diversity

in Λ CDM essentially one parameter specifying a halo, while **reality much more diverse**

II. Too-big-to-fail

most massive sub-haloes are **expected to host luminous counterparts**, but seem not to

III. Core-cusp

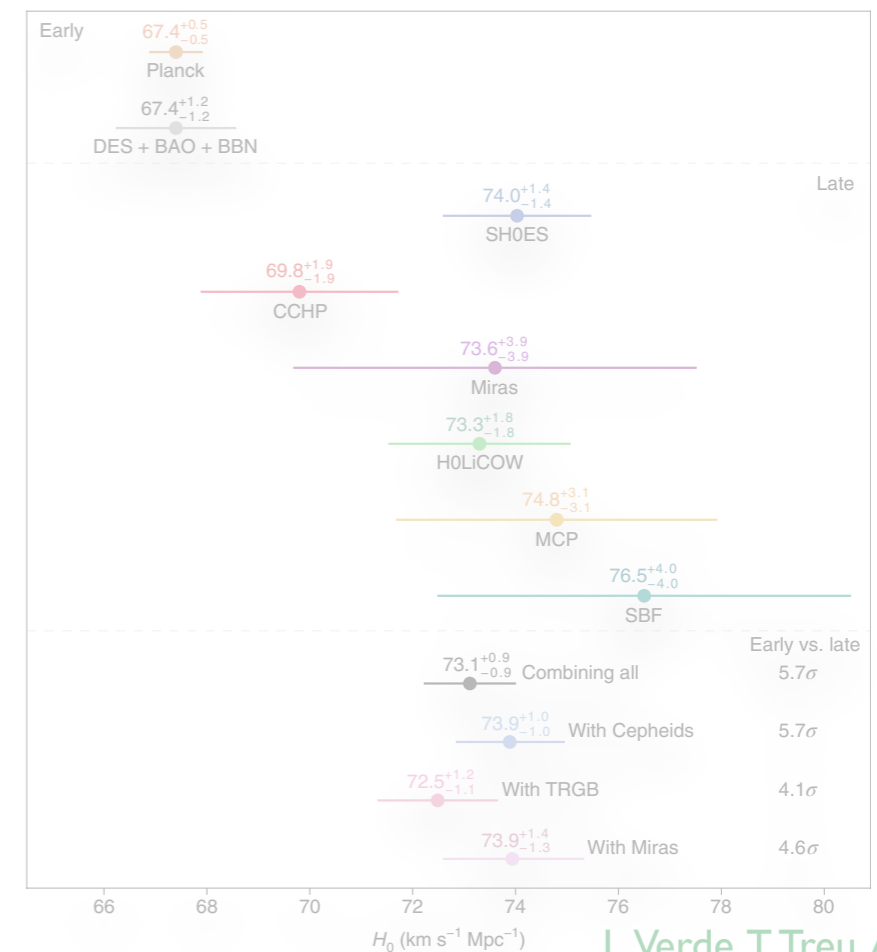
simulations predict **more cuspy profiles** than typically observed

IV. Missing satellites

simulations predict more **more sub-haloes** and hence we'd expect more MW satellites

Early vs late:

I. H_0 tension



L.Verde, T.Treu, A. Riess '19

II. $\sigma_8 - \Omega_m$

III. BAO $z < 1$ vs. Ly- α

(recently shrunk to below 2σ ...)

WHAT IS THE ROLE FOR DM?

Small scale:

going **beyond the collisionless CDM**
(e.g. having warm component or **including self-interactions**) can address
(at least some of the) cosmological problems

quite rich literature on the
subject...

...generically **velocity-dependent self-interactions are preferred**

see e.g. review by Tulin, Yu '17



DM self-interactions due to
exchange of a **light mediator**

Early vs late:

in Λ CDM the DM component is **extremely simple**



non-interacting, cold, with **constant equation of state throughout whole evolution**

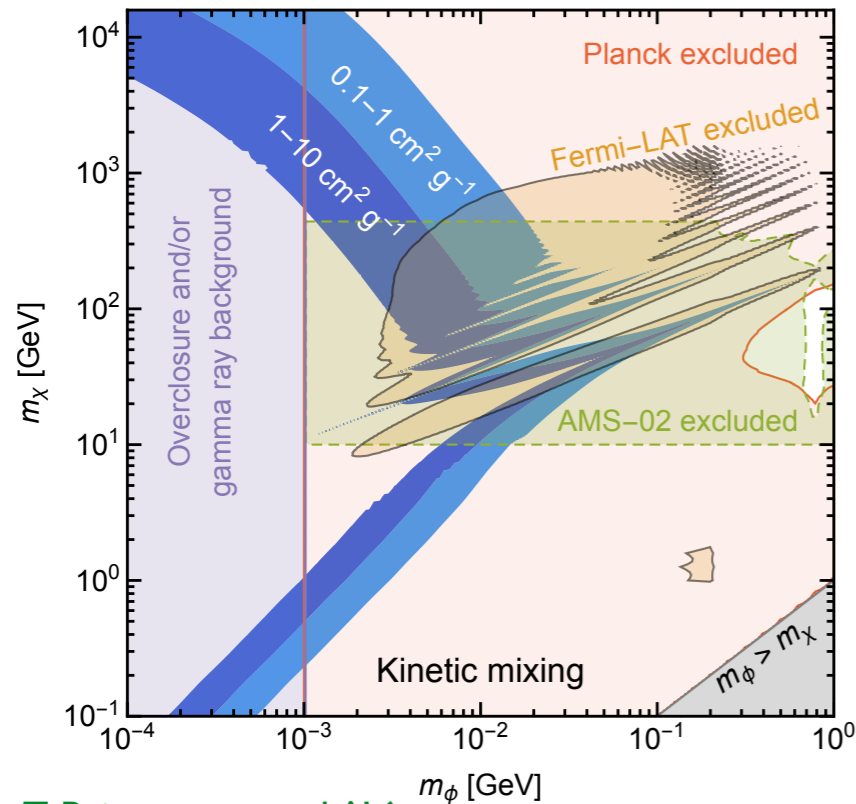


however, if at **late times a fraction of its energy is transferred to radiation** (e.g. through decay or annihilation), then this can significantly affect the evolution

... but can it address both at the same time?!

SOME ISSUES...

Simple models with **thermally produced DM** very strongly constrained



T. Bringmann et al. '16

with many of the constraints quite severe even in more general models



light mediator (if coupled to SM) affects CMB, indirect detection, colliders...

Energy transfer to radiation needs to happen very late (often after recombination)

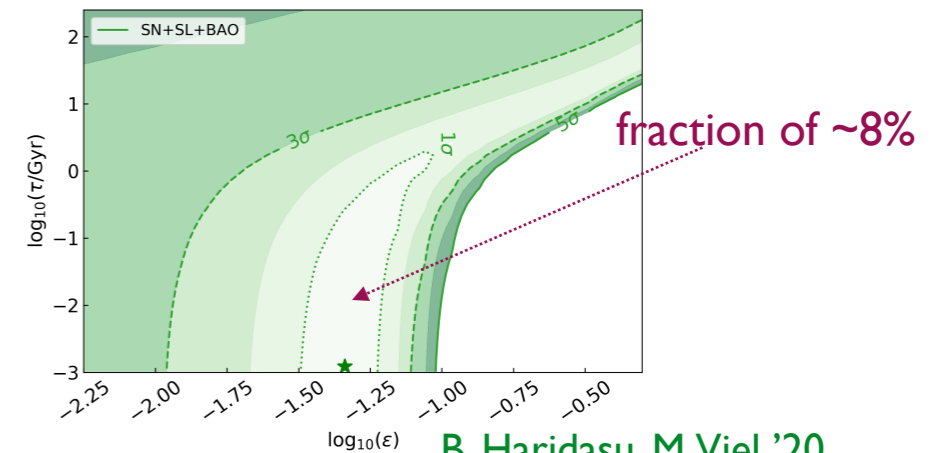
if through **annihilation** enormous rates are needed

[but see T. Bringmann et al. '18; T. Binder et al. '18 for models of this type]

the **rate of change of eq. of state** not ideal for the fit

if through **decay**

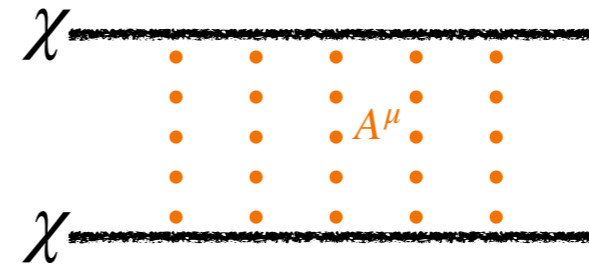
one needs to ensure **only a small fraction** of DM decayed (extremely long lifetime or multi-component)



B. Haridasu, M. Viel '20

THE IDEA

Dark matter self-interacting
through **light mediator**



to **avoid limits** from CMB
and indirect detection



make the **mediator** stable...

typically overcloses the Universe

...but **never in equilibrium**
(with negligible initial population)



freeze-in like

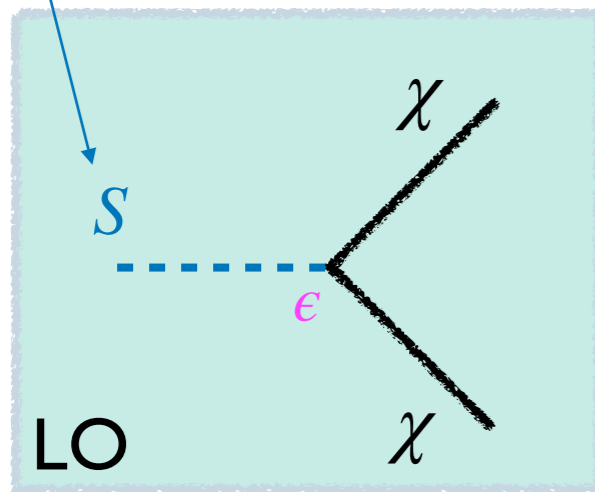


superWIMP like

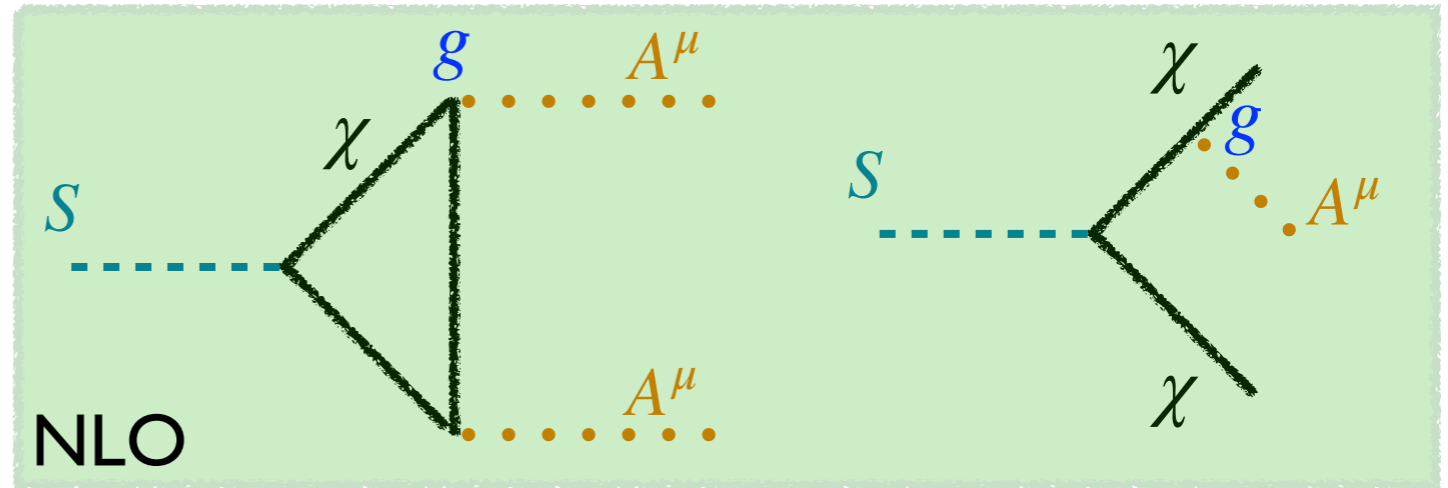
both give viable, though not that unexpected mechanisms for
self-interacting DM production, but **superWIMP** has an **intriguing feature...**

THE IDEA

WIMP-like
connector state



$$\Gamma_{S \rightarrow \chi\chi} \propto \epsilon^2$$



$$\Gamma_{S \rightarrow AA} \propto \epsilon^2 g^4$$

$$\Gamma_{S \rightarrow \chi\chi A} \propto \epsilon^2 g^2$$

therefore, parametrically:

$$\begin{aligned} BR(S \rightarrow AA) &\propto g^4 \\ BR(S \rightarrow \chi\chi A) &\propto g^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sim (1 - 10) \%$$

(with different phase space factors
and energy of the mediator A)

if

$$\delta = 1 - \frac{2m_\chi}{m_S} \ll 1$$



S

decays mostly to matter χ

with small fraction to radiation A

Property needed to modify expansion rate here **present in an automatic way!**

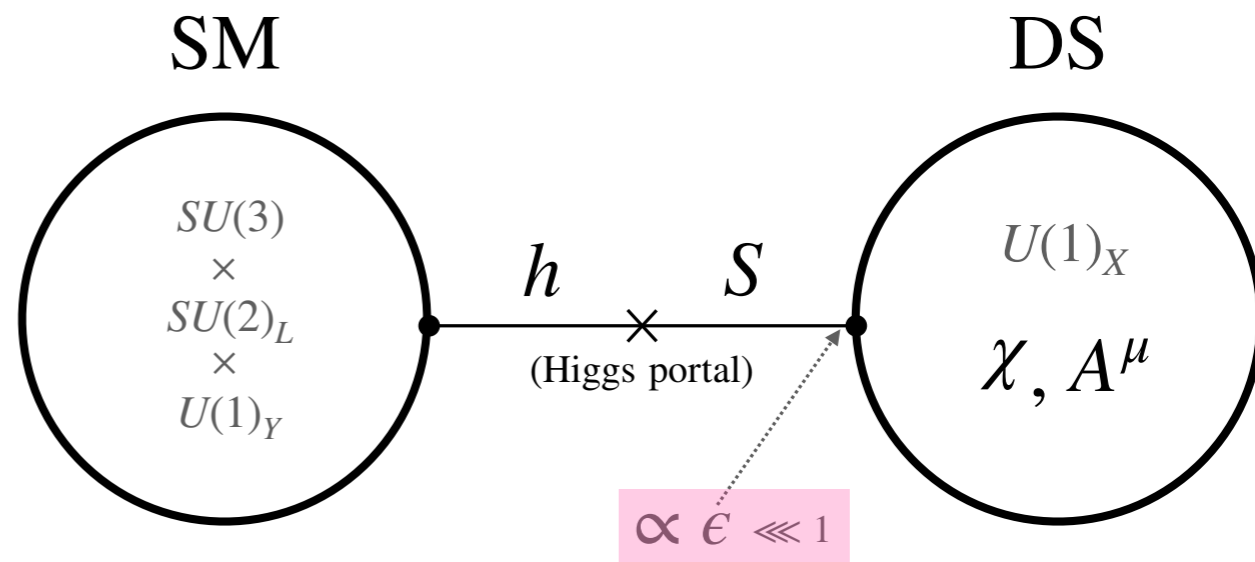
EXAMPLE MODEL

SM and dark sector connected through a **very weak Higgs portal**:

Assume WIMP-like symmetry

$$Z_2 : S \rightarrow -S$$

that is broken* (explicitly or spontaneously) with breaking parametrized by ϵ



Relevant interaction terms:

$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{DS}} \supset \lambda_{HS} S^2 H^\dagger H + \epsilon S \bar{\chi} \chi + \cancel{\epsilon \mu_{HS} S H^\dagger H} + ig A^\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \chi$$

leads to
freeze-out
of S

decay

$$\epsilon \lll 1$$



very long
life-time of S

subdominant

self-
interactions

g not tied
to DM production

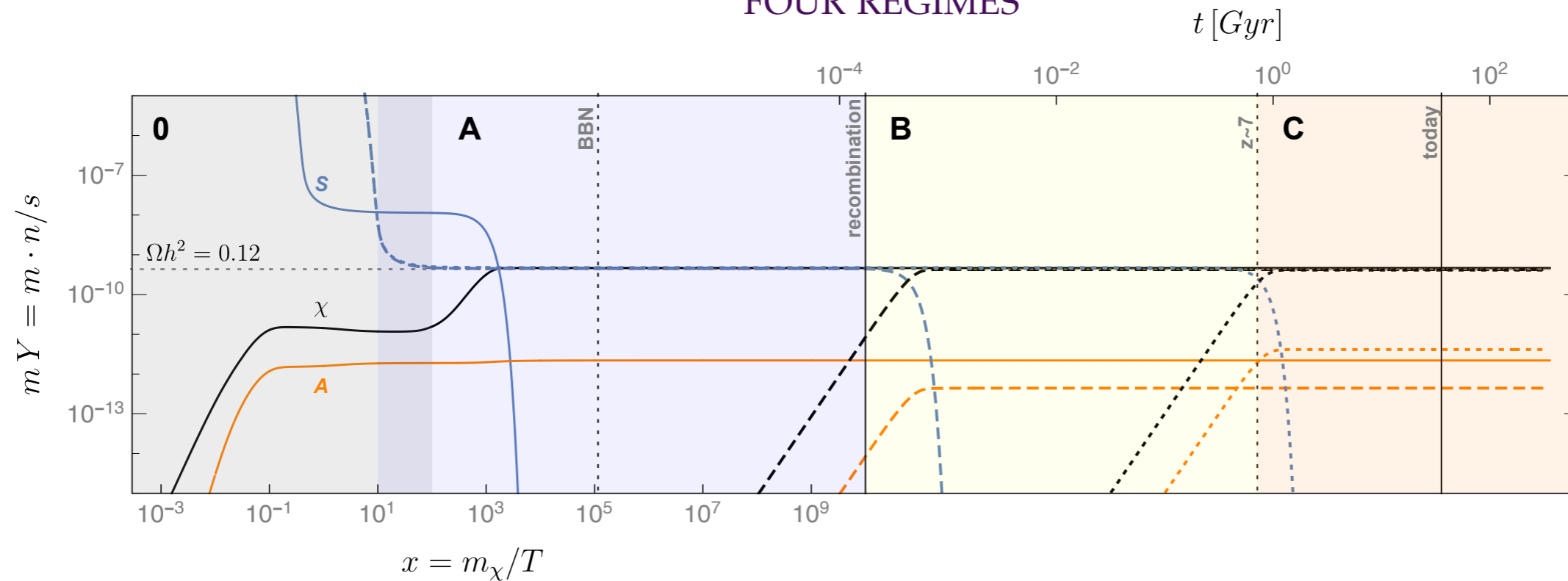


can be large

* at some high scale, e.g GUT or even Planck scale

HISTORY

FOUR REGIMES



0) weak $\lesssim \epsilon$

DS thermalizes, usual thermal self-interacting DM model

A) very weak $\lesssim \epsilon \lesssim$ weak

superWIMP production, viable model but no impact on H_0 tension

B) ultra weak $\lesssim \epsilon \lesssim$ very weak

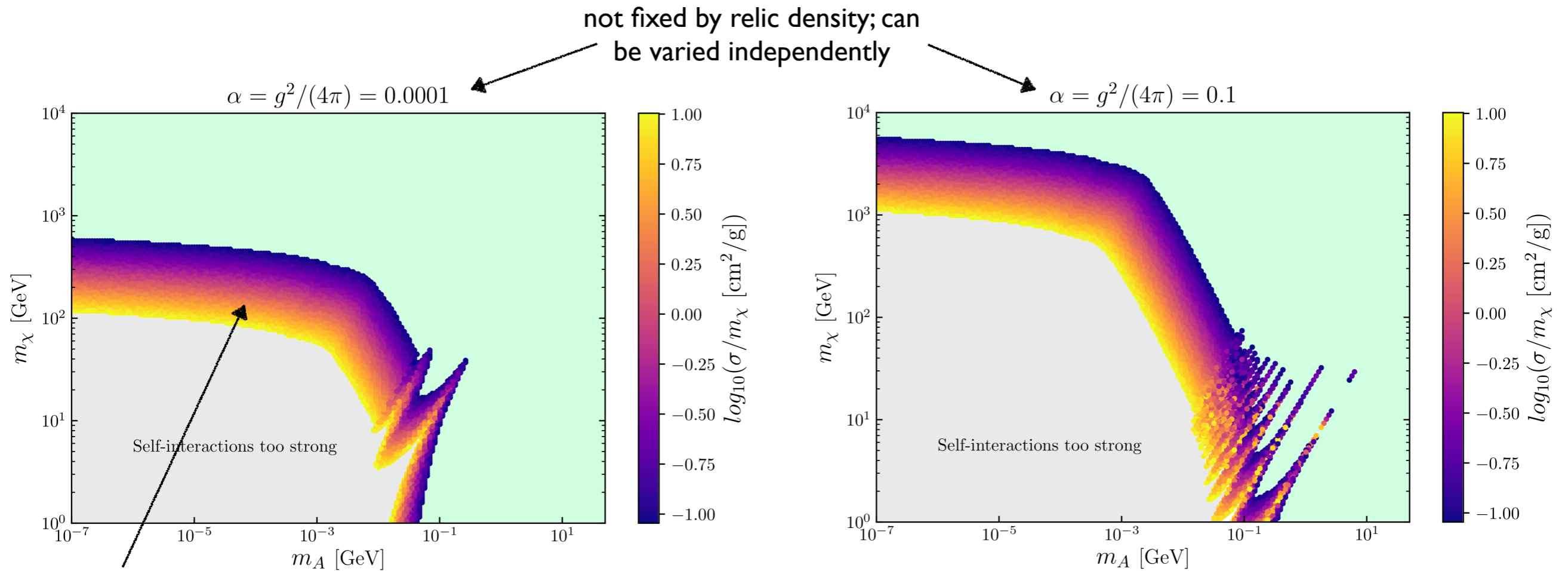
life-time on cosmological scales changing the expansion rate - chance to impact the H_0 tension

C) $\epsilon \lesssim$ ultra weak

two-component DM (S and χ), where only one is self-interacting (in this case perhaps even ultra-strongly)

[The model can be viewed also as an extension of the usual Higgs portal DM to weaker couplings]

REGIME A: ONLY SIDM

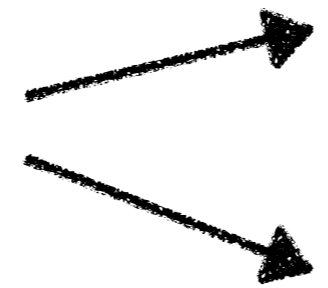


preferred regime for small scale problems

more extended parameter space giving large self-interactions than in thermal models

In this regime DM is produced from **out of equilibrium decay** and **never thermalizes**

the mediator **is not in the plasma** and therefore can be **absolutely stable**



DCDM MODEL

It has been noted that the Decaying DM model (DCDM) with two parameters:

Γ — decay width F — fraction of the decaying component

can improve the fit to the Hubble parameter over the CDM

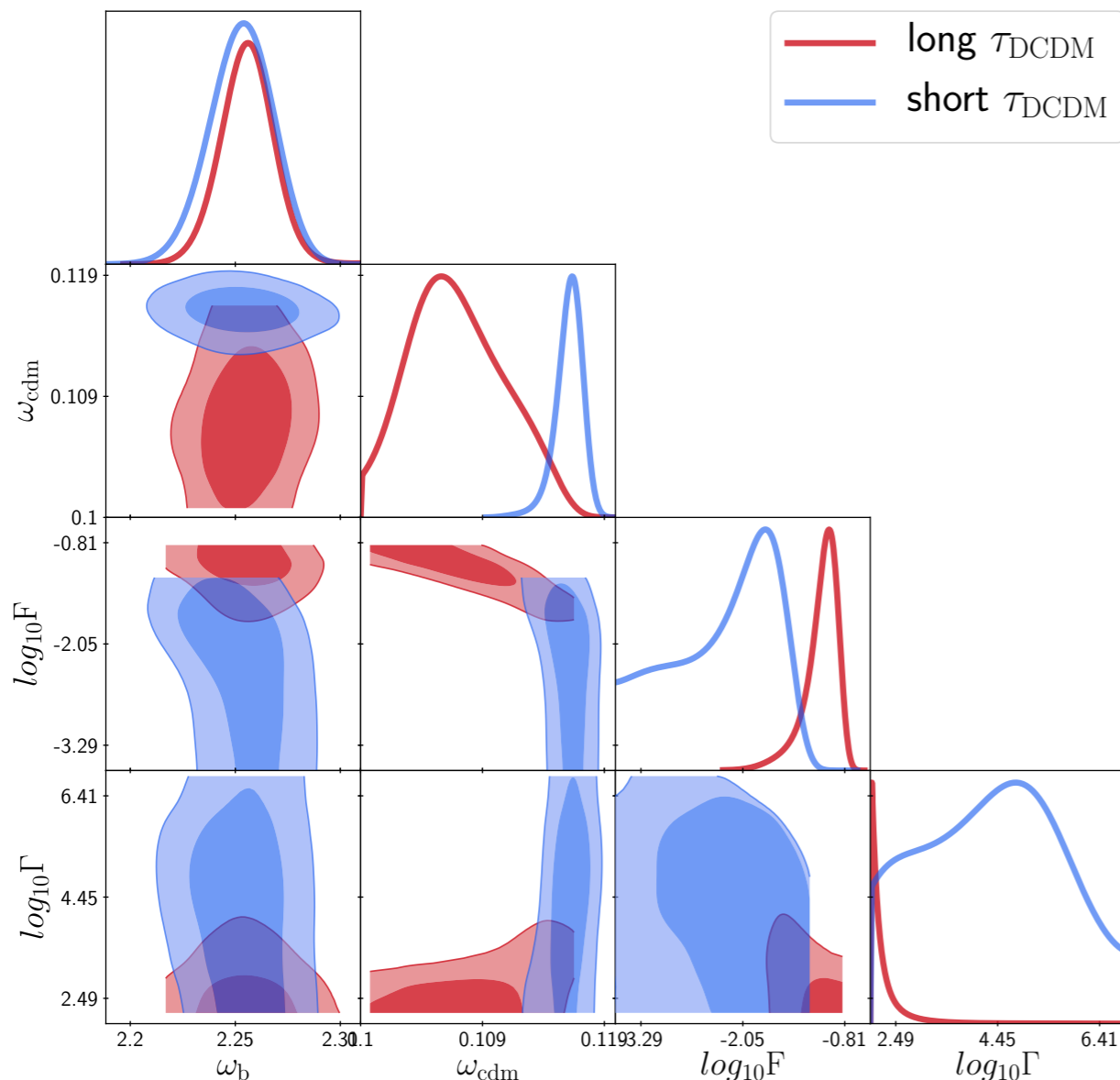
...; S. Aoyama et al. '14; V. Poulin, P. Serpico, J. Lesgourgues '16; K. Enqvist et al. '15; G. Blackadder, S. Koushiappas '18; Y. Gu et al. '20; ...

We have performed our fit with MontePython using combined datasets:

- Planck 2018
- BAO data from the BOSS survey
- the galaxy cluster counts from Planck catalogue
- local measurement of the Hubble constant.

with two different life-time priors: **short** and **long** (motivated by previous results)

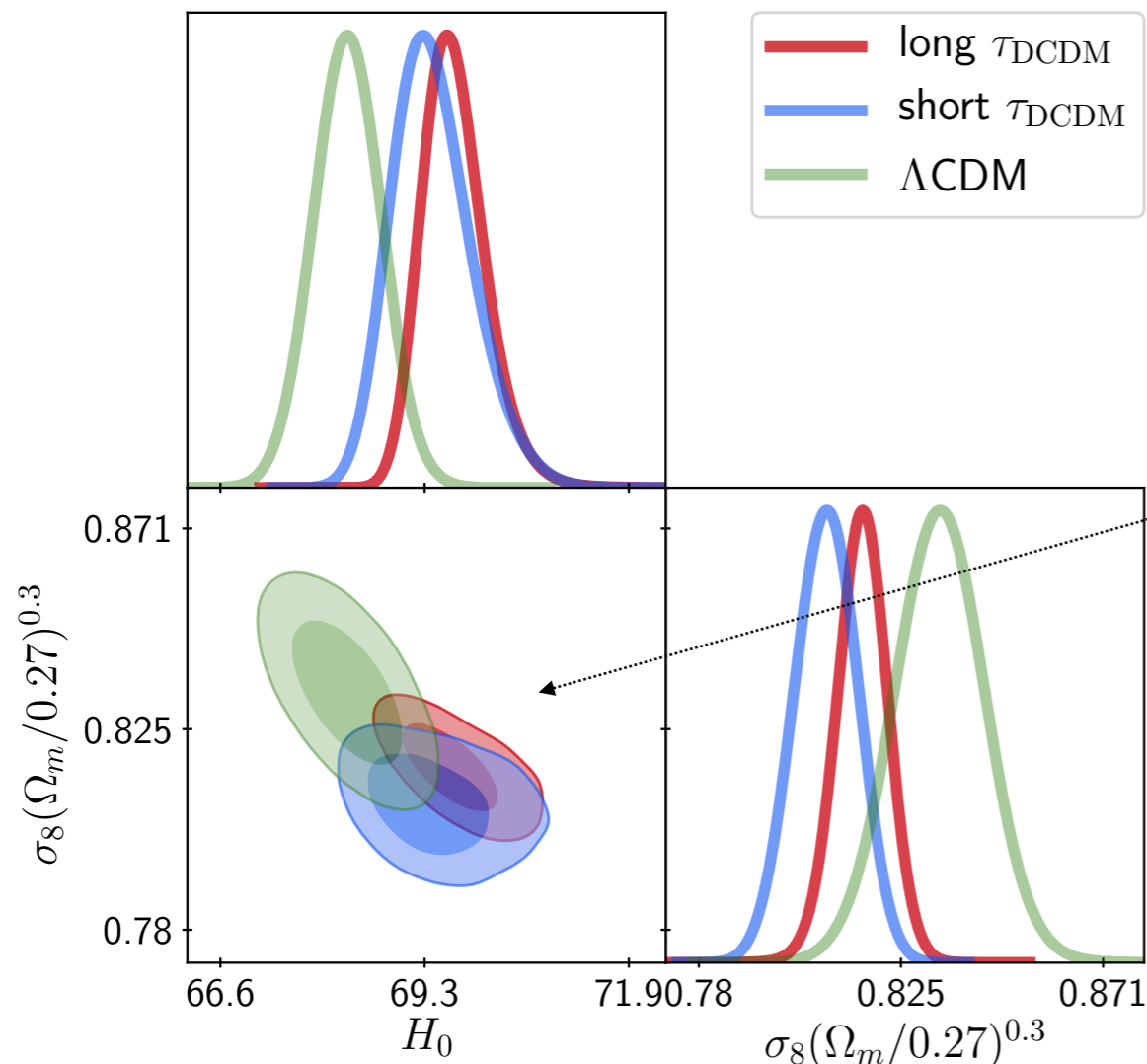
K. Vattis, S. Koushiappas, A. Loeb '19



DCDM MODEL

The H_0 parameter best fit:

$\log_{10} F$	$-2.41^{+0.96}_{-0.48}$	$-1.1^{+0.25}_{-0.081}$	-
$\log_{10} \Gamma$	$4.36^{+1.38}_{-1.49}$	$2.33^{+0.13}_{-0.33}$	-
H_0	$69.4^{+0.43}_{-0.60}$	$69.7^{+0.33}_{-0.44}$	$68.28^{+0.45}_{-0.45}$
σ_8	$0.791^{+0.0062}_{-0.0051}$	$0.80^{+0.0030}_{-0.0031}$	$0.8065^{+0.0073}_{-0.0077}$



Two preferred lifetime regimes:

- short (regime B): $\tau \sim 4$ Myr while fraction of dark radiation is strongly constrained to be below $\sim 1\%$
- long (regime C): $\tau \sim 5$ Gyr while fraction of dark radiation is allowed to be as big as $\sim 10\%$.

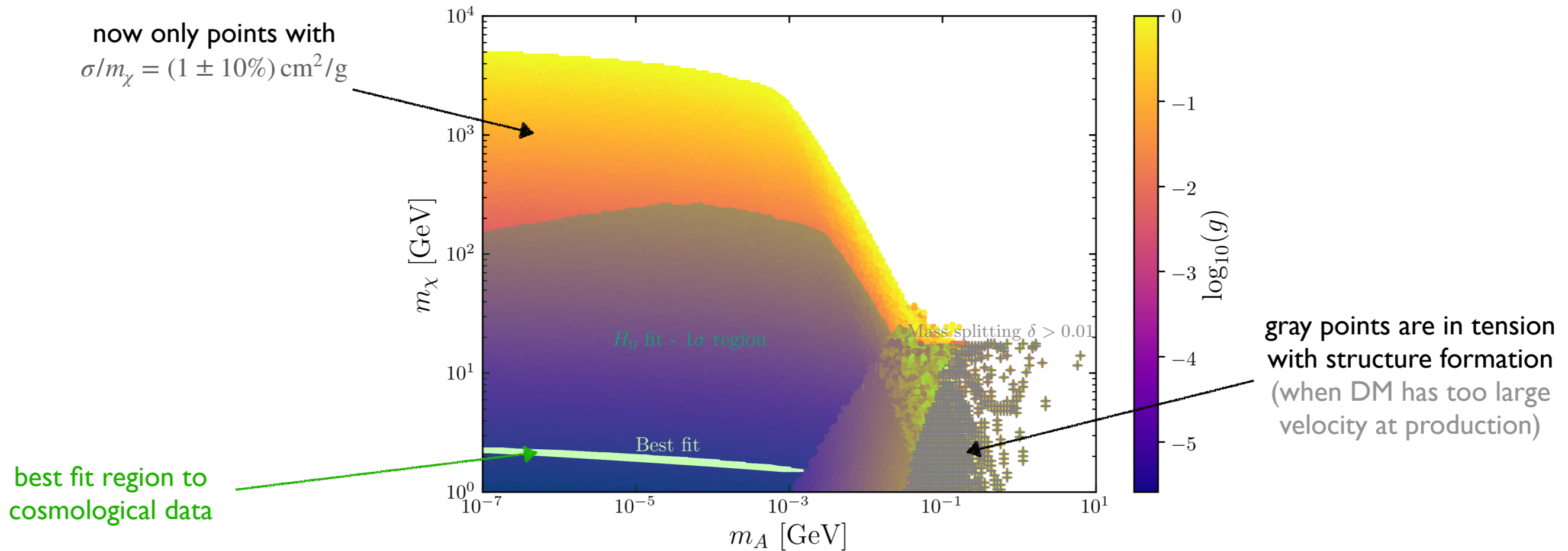
The shift of the H_0 compared to Λ CDM is however rather mild in models of the type as our example

... although this could perhaps be modified with model building, complete solution of the H_0 tension is unlikely

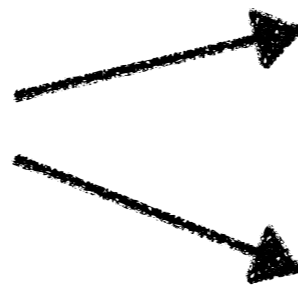
see also S. Clark et al. '20

but DCDM can play its part in the full solution

REGIME B: SIDM FROM LATE DECAYS



In this regime life-time on cosmological scales changing the expansion rate - **chance to impact the H_0 tension**



best fit spans over wide region of mediator mass $\lesssim 1\text{MeV}$ but pretty specific m_χ

though the change of the H_0 parameter **is not large enough to completely solve the tension**

REGIME C: ULTRA-SIDM

For longer S life-times it won't decay completely even till today



two-component DM (S and χ) combination of CDM and SIDM



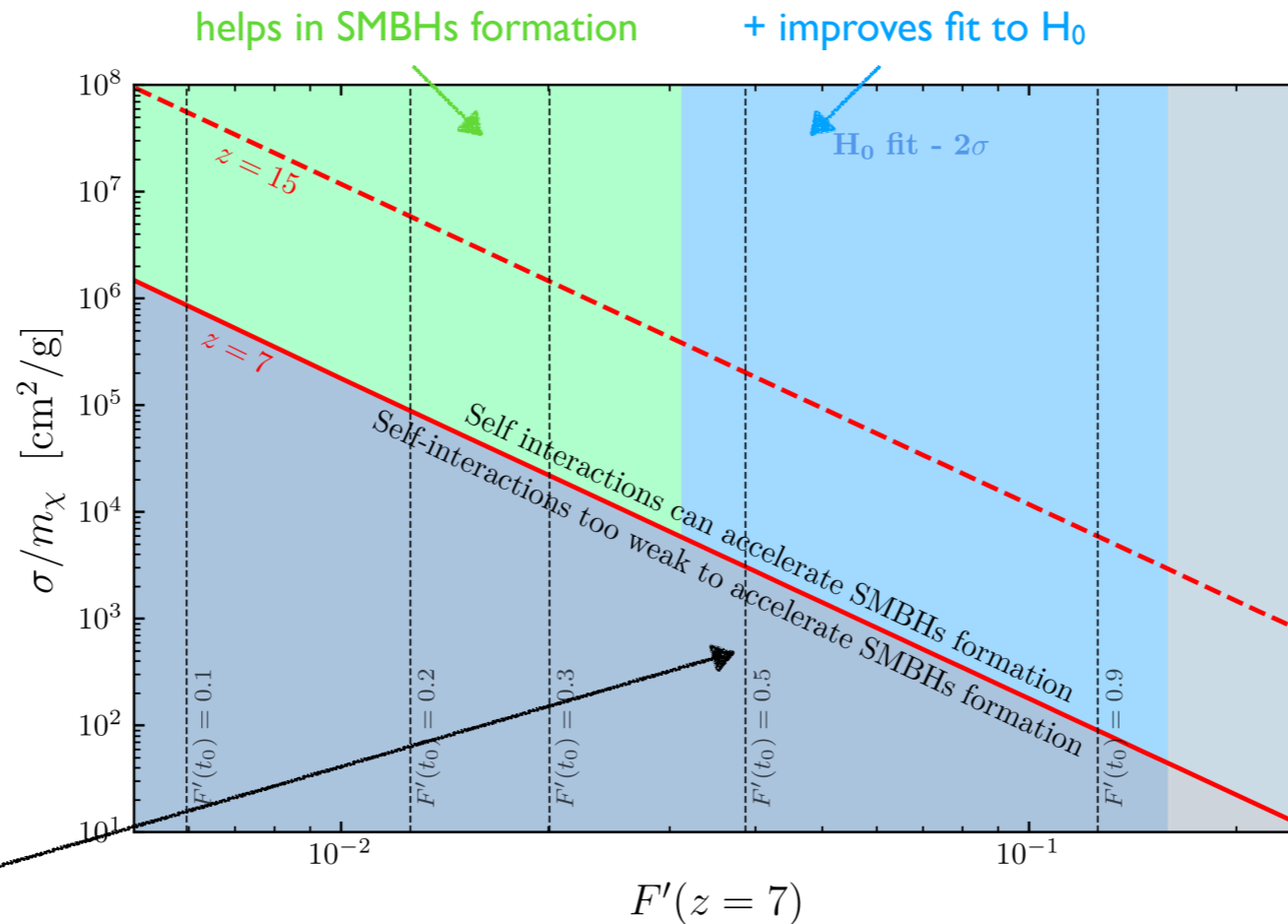
when only fraction of DM is self-interacting it can actually have **much larger scattering cross section**



to fit the H_0 one needs larger fraction going to radiation (i.e. larger BR to mediator A)



problem: between $z \sim 7$ and $z \sim 0$ large fraction of S will manage to decay leading to too large present day population of uSIDM



uSIDM

J. Pollack, D. Spergel, P. Steinhardt '14



provides a candidate mechanism for seeding the formation of supermassive black holes (SMBHs)

[standard formation theory is challenged by observation of very old, $z \sim 7$ SMBHs]

J. Choquette, J. Cline, J. Cornell '19



the model can either improve the fit to H_0 or help with SMBHs formation rate, but not both



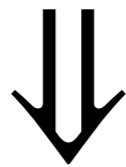
BONUS: XENON 1T

Throughout the whole discussion we assumed the mediator is completely stable...

...but it does not need to be

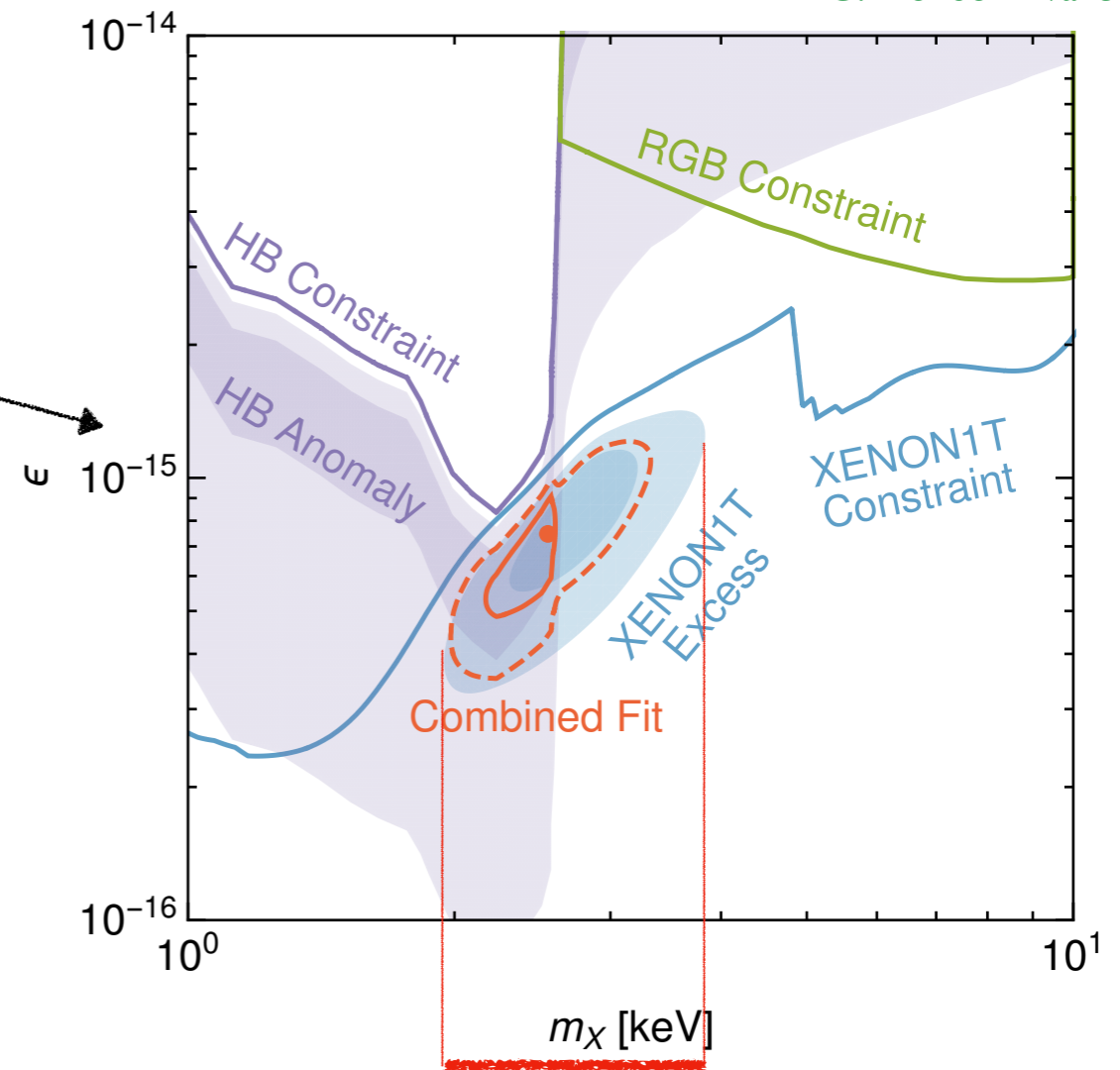
Allowing e.g. some small kinetic mixing with the SM photon **does not spoil any of the results above**, while can have phenomenological consequences

e.g.



Worth investigating also other potential signals, e.g. the detection of the decay products (especially in regimes B and C)

G.Alonso-Alvarez et al. '20



[mass range perfectly consistent with best fit to self-interaction strength + H_0 in our model]

CONCLUSIONS

1. Mechanism of self-interacting DM production from decays of an intermediate state offers a **new way of constructing models** satisfying the known constraints

2. It provides a **natural way of transferring few % of energy density to radiation** at late times allowing for moderately alleviating the H_0 tension

[or from a different angle: can be **a part of the solution** as it's quite likely that true explanation is a combination of few effects]

3. Extensions of the simple model discussed here can **offer interesting phenomenology** and are **worth investigating**