



中国科学院高能物理研究所  
*Institute of High Energy Physics*  
*Chinese Academy of Sciences*



# A modular $S_4$ model for neutrino mixing and dark matter

Xinyi Zhang (张忻怿)

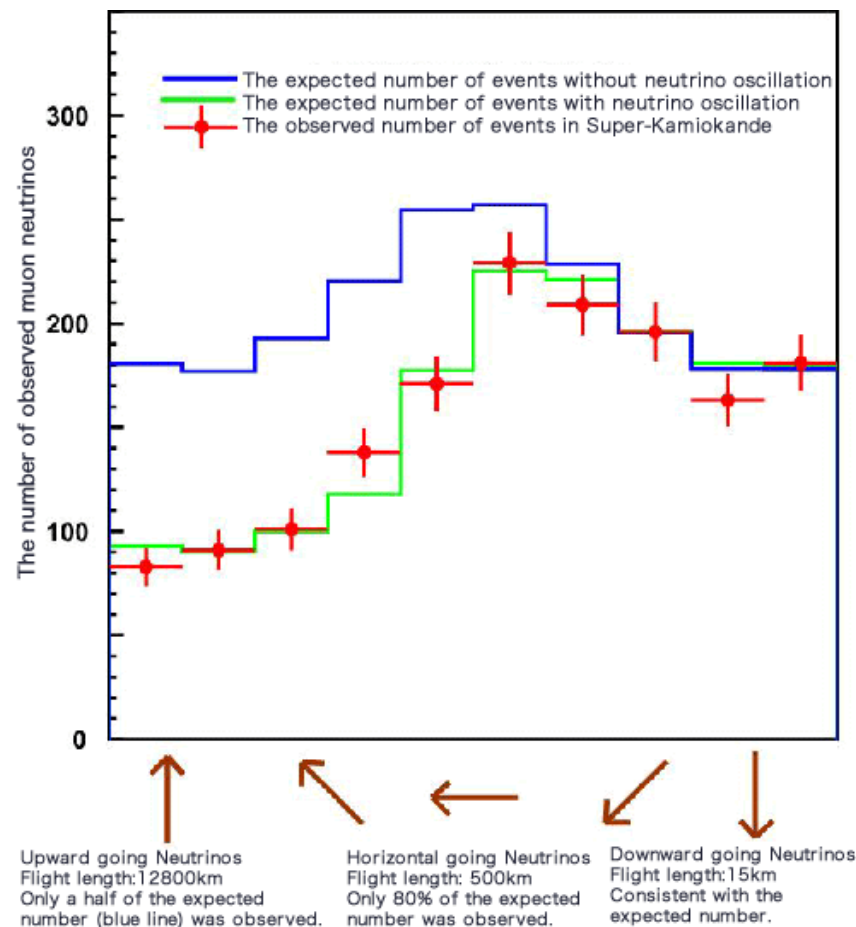
IHEP [zhangxinyi@ihep.ac.cn](mailto:zhangxinyi@ihep.ac.cn)

In collaboration with Shun Zhou, based on arXiv: 2106.03433

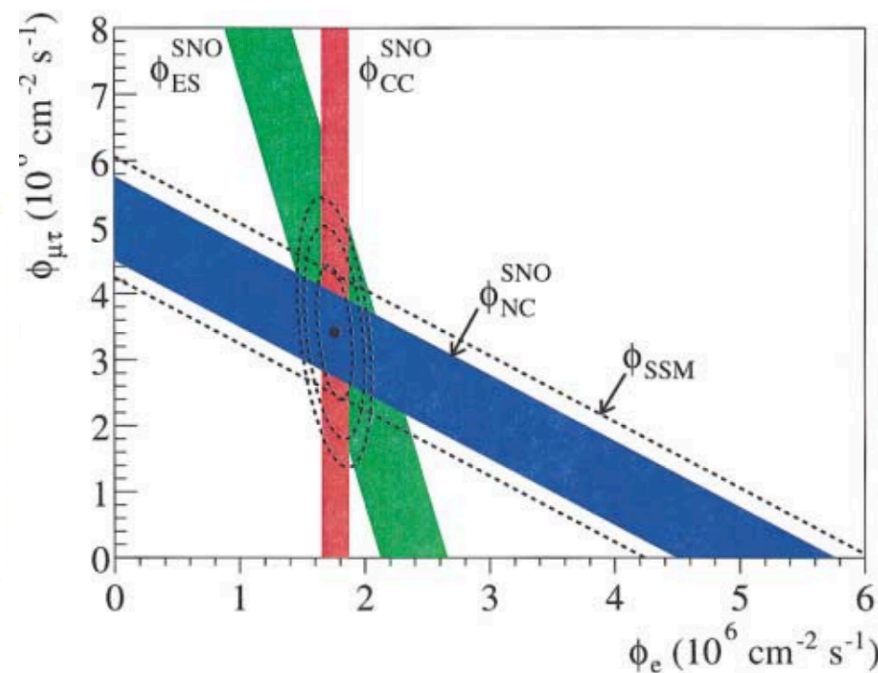
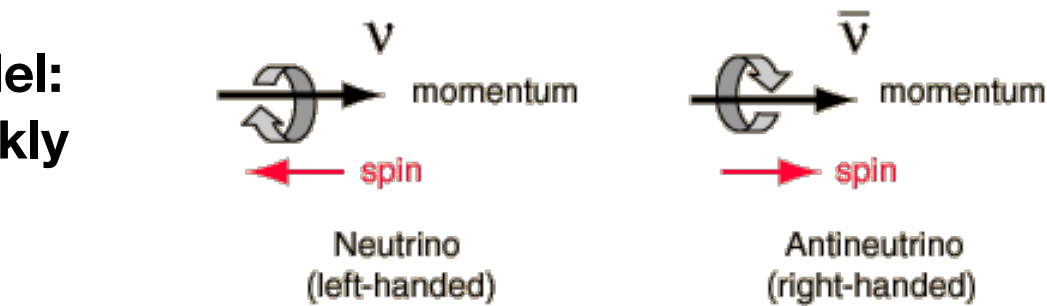
中国物理学会高能物理分会第十三届全国粒子物理学术会议, 2021年8月17日

# Oscillating neutrinos

Neutrinos in the Standard Model:  
massless, interact only weakly



<http://www.hyper-k.org/>



Phys.Rev.Lett. 89 (2002), 011301

- Neutrinos have mass
- Mass eigenstates do not match flavor (weak) eigenstates  
→ neutrino mixing

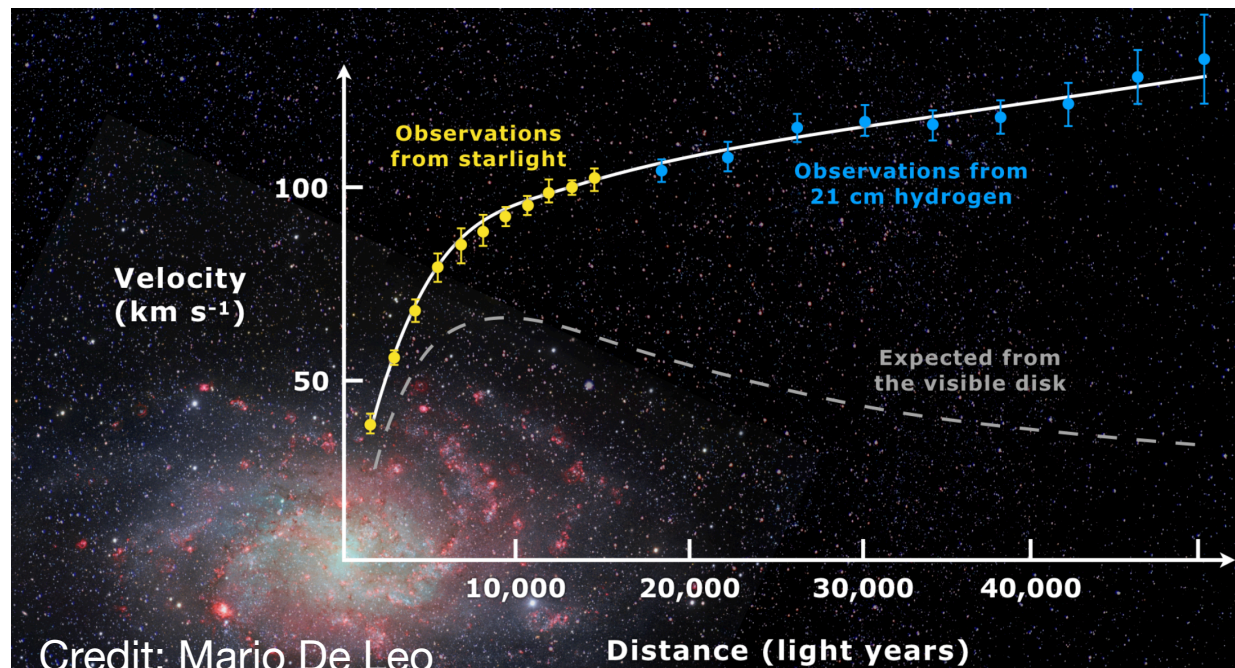
Takaaki Kajita and Arthur B. McDonald shared the 2015 Nobel Prize in Physics,  
“for the discovery of neutrino oscillations, which shows that **neutrinos have mass**”.

$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\alpha) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta \sin^2 \left( 1.27 \frac{\Delta m^2 L}{E} \right)$$

**Solid beyond Standard Model physics**

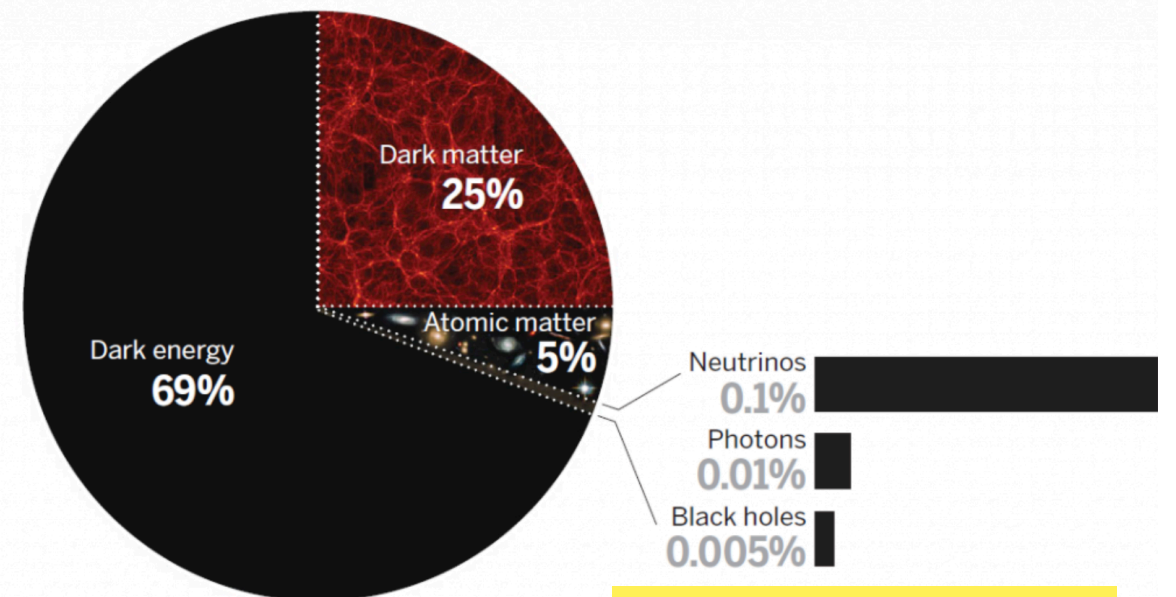


# Dark matter



## The multiple components that compose our universe

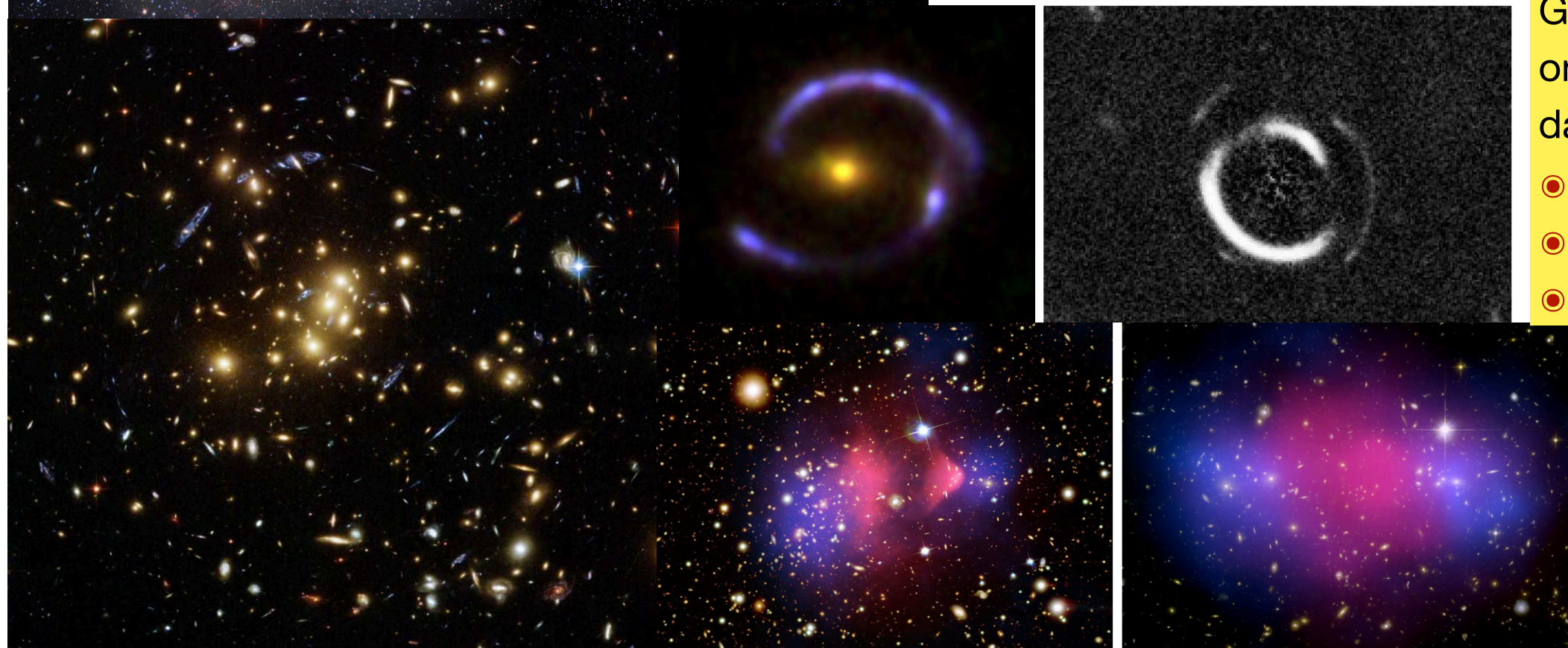
Current composition (as the fractions evolve with time)



General consensus on the existence of dark matter

- Non-baryonic
- Cold
- Collision-less

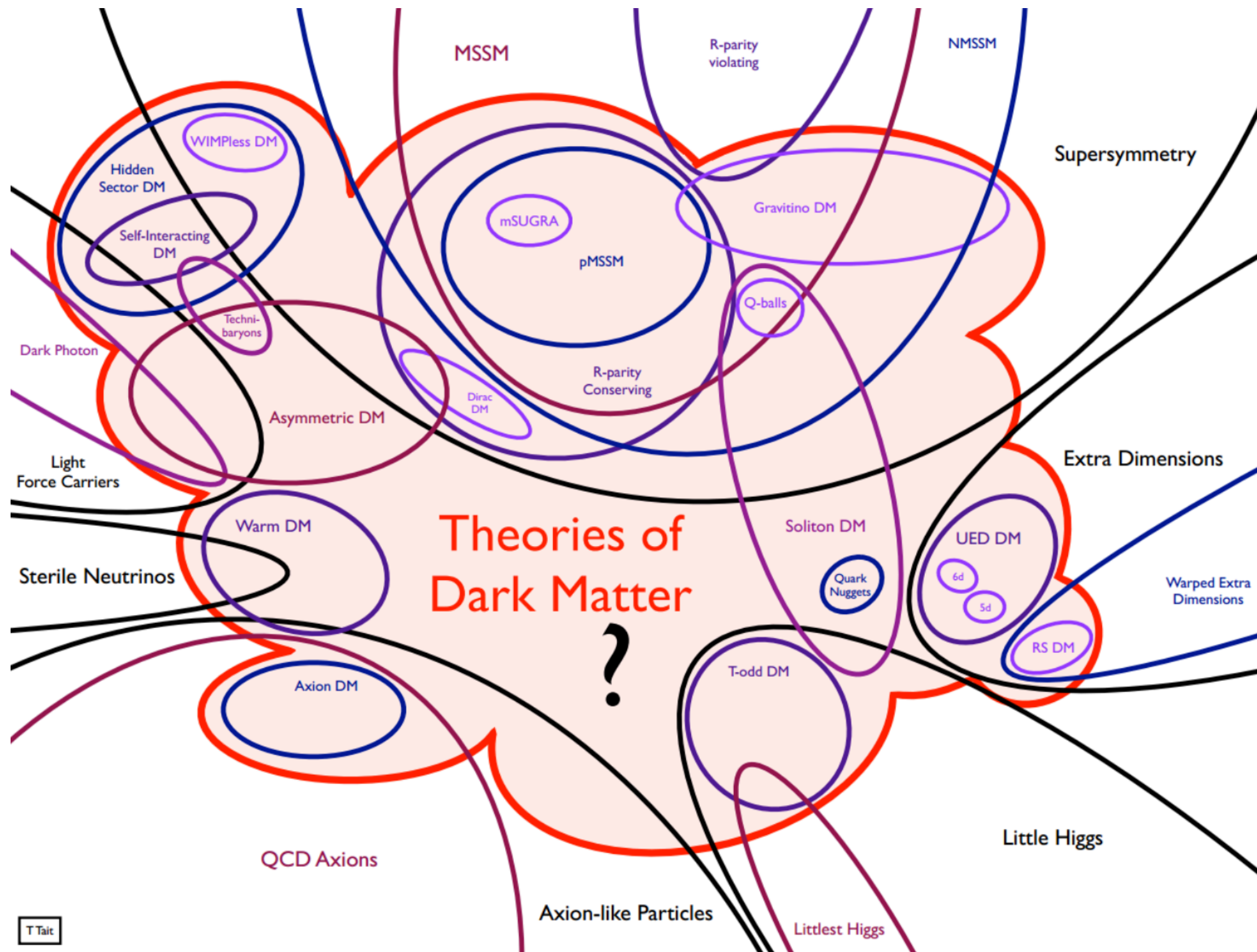
Another beyond Standard Model physics



R. Massey, T. Kitching, RPP 2010

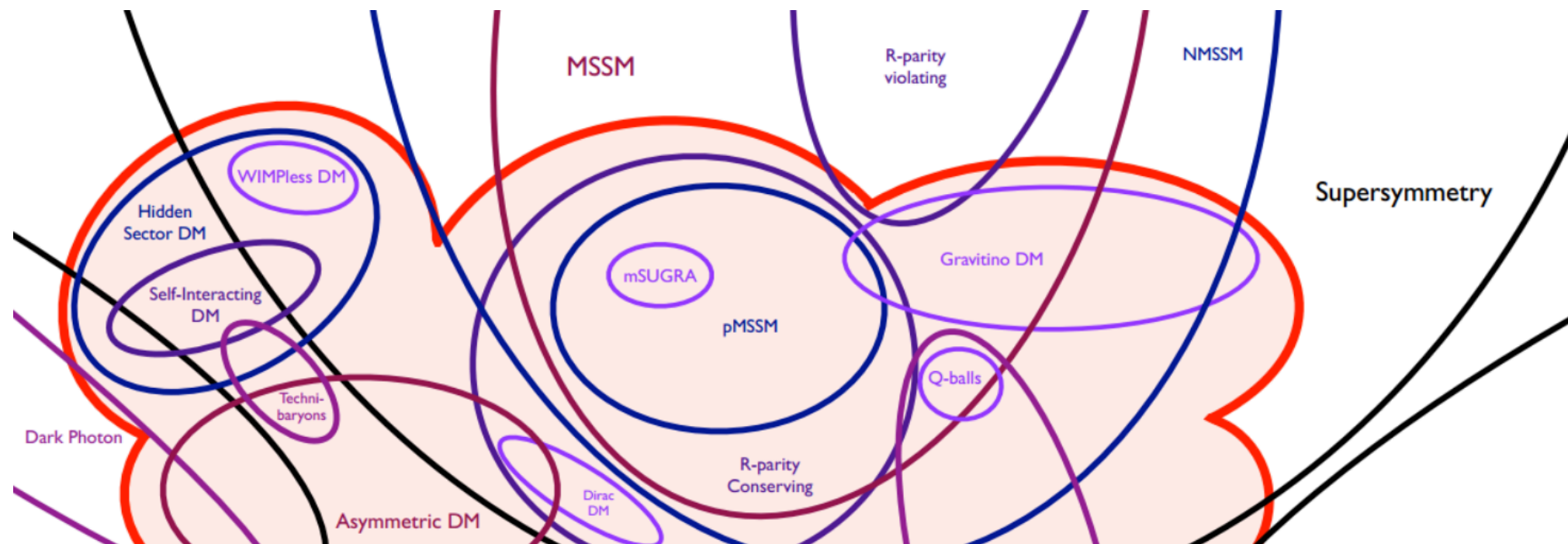


# A closer look at dark matter: theoretical candidates

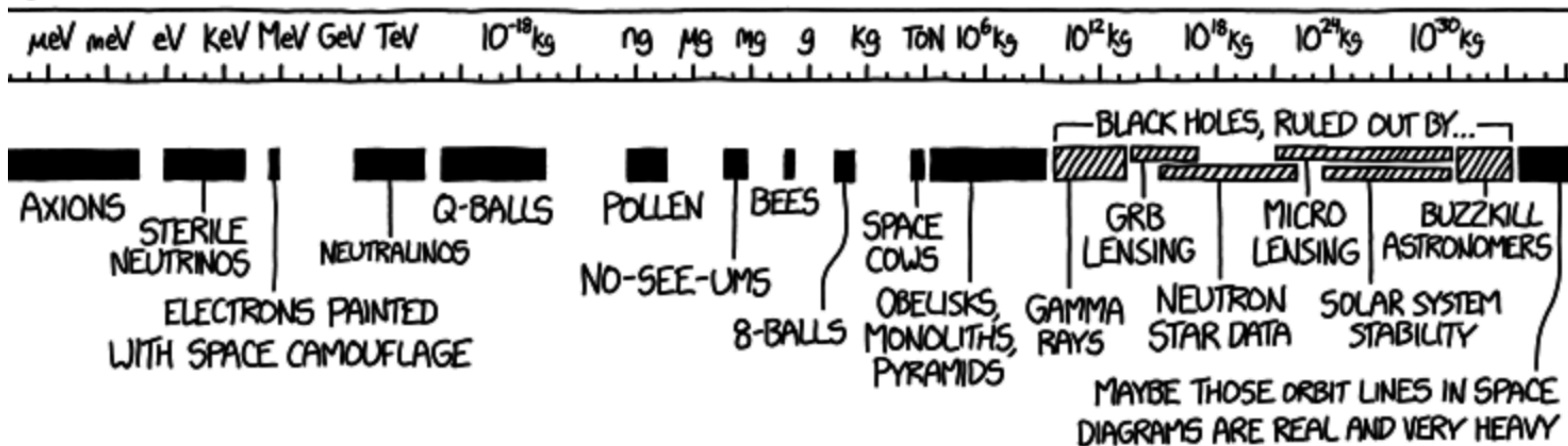




# A closer look at dark matter: theoretical candidates

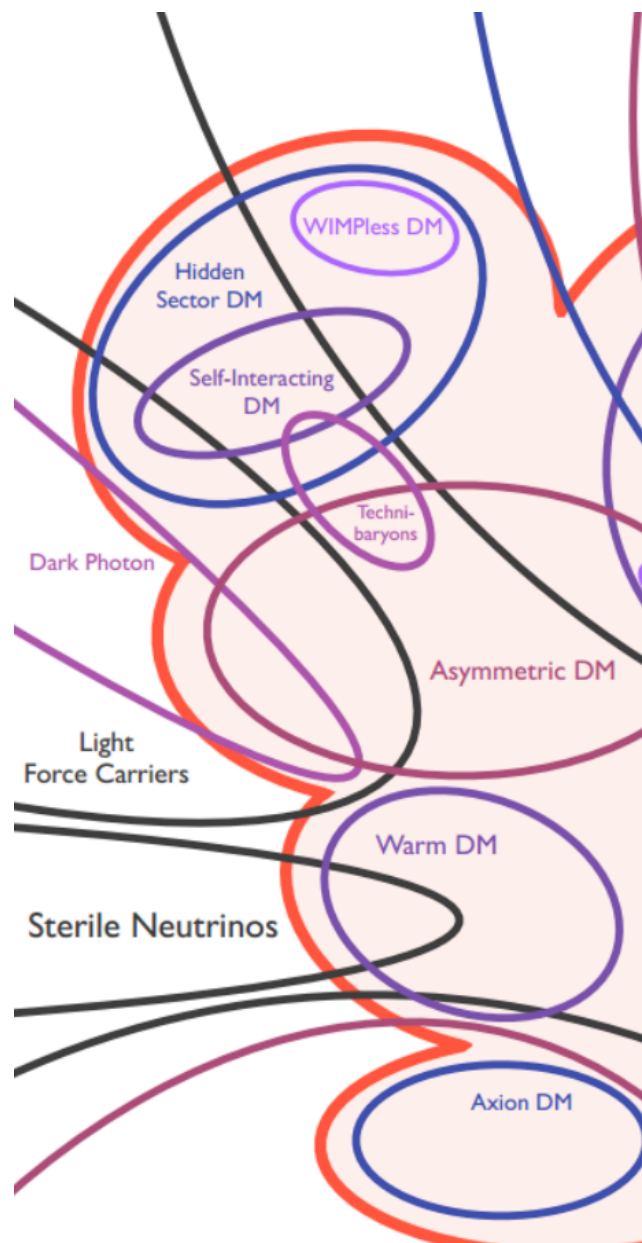


## DARK MATTER CANDIDATES:



[https://explainxkcd.com/wiki/index.php/2035:\\_Dark\\_Matter\\_Candidates](https://explainxkcd.com/wiki/index.php/2035:_Dark_Matter_Candidates)

# A closer look at dark matter



## Require:

- a single particle DM candidate (not a dark sector)
- a relation with neutrino physics

## DM candidates:

- ☒ Neutrinos 0.5% - 1.5%
- ☒ keV sterile neutrinos This work
- ☐ Majoron Possible, but another story, not tell it here
- ☐ Exotic fermions

The framework explains two BSM physics at the same time



# A closer look at neutrino mass & mixing

Why it is massive?

Why it is so light?

With only SM fields, S. Weinberg, 1980

$$\frac{1}{\Lambda} \bar{L}^c \otimes \Phi \otimes \Phi \otimes L$$

$$\underbrace{\bar{L}^c \otimes \Phi \otimes \Phi \otimes L}_1, \quad \underbrace{\bar{L}^c \otimes L \otimes \Phi \otimes \Phi}_3, \quad \underbrace{\bar{L}^c \otimes \Phi \otimes \Phi \otimes L}_3$$

Type I                      Type II                      Type III



**Seesaw** paradise (mostly Majorana neutrino)

Tree-level realization of Weinberg operator: Type I, II, III & ...

Loop-level realization of Weinberg operator: radiative seesaw

Low-scale seesaw: linear, inverse, ...

Other variants: Dirac seesaw

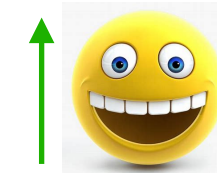
P. Minkowski, 1977; T. Yanagida, 1979; J. Schechter and J. W. F. Valle, 1980, ...

Why mixing so?

Flavour (horizontal) **symmetry**

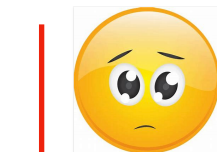
Constant mixing @LO:

bimaximal mixing, tribimaximal mixing, ...

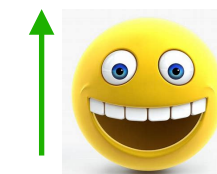


Discrete flavor symmetry:

$$A_4, S_3, S_4, A_5, \dots$$



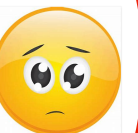
Flavons # & vacuum alignments



Modular symmetry:

$$\Gamma_2 \simeq S_3, \Gamma_3 \simeq A_4, \Gamma_4 \simeq S_4, \Gamma_5 \simeq A_5$$

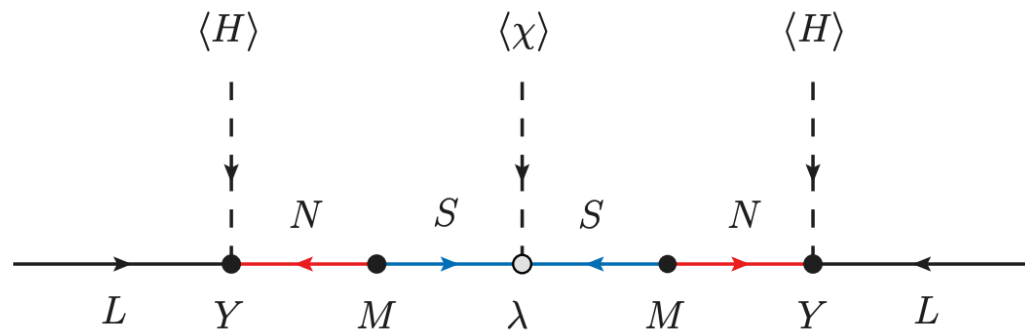
S. F. King, 2017; S. T. Petcov, 2018; Z. z. Xing, 2019.



# Inverse seesaw & dark matter

R.N. Mohapatra & J.W.F. Valle, 1986

M. C. Gonzalez-Garcia & J. W. F. Valle, 1989



S. C. Chulia et al, 2020

$$\mathcal{L}_m = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\nu}^c & \bar{N}^c & \bar{S}^c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & Y v & 0 \\ Y^T v & \mu' & M^T \\ 0 & M & \mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu \\ N \\ S \end{pmatrix}$$

LVN terms are small - naturalness

$$\mu, \mu' \ll Y v \ll M, \quad m_\nu = -Y^2 \frac{v^2 \mu}{M^2},$$

**Neutrinos are light due to the smallness of LVN effects**

Mass

E.g.

2 #  $\nu_R$  heavy states  $\approx \mathcal{O}(n)$

TeV

#  $s$  - #  $\nu_R$  light sterile states

(only if #  $s >$  #  $\nu_R$ )

$\approx \mathcal{O}(\mu)$

eV

#  $\nu_L$  active neutrinos

$\approx \mathcal{O}(\mu) \mathcal{O}(k^2)$

meV

A. Abada & M. Lucente, 1401.1507

**Appearance of an intermediate mass state!**

$$\left( \frac{m_\nu}{0.1 \text{ eV}} \right) = \left( \frac{M_D}{100 \text{ GeV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\mu}{\text{keV}} \right) \left( \frac{M_{NS}}{10^4 \text{ GeV}} \right)^{-2}$$

**This mass state @ keV fits  $\nu$  mass!**

**Warm dark matter**

For reviews, see, e.g.,

K. Abazajian, G. M. Fuller and M. Patel, 2001;

A. Kusenko, 2009; A. Merle, 2013, 2017.



# Models

Basic idea

**Inverse seesaw → keV dark matter**  
**Modular symmetry → light neutrino masses & mixings**

Guiding principle: **Simplicity & Generality**  
 modular form multiplets with weights  $\leq 4$   
 all allowed couplings included

	$L$	$H_u$	$H_d$	$E_1^C$	$E_2^C$	$E_3^C$	$N^C$	$S$
SU(2)	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
$S_4$	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1'</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1'</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

→ Minimal group:  $S_4$

**Charged lepton sector**  $W_l = \alpha (LE_1^C)_{3'} Y_{3'} H_d + \beta (LE_2^C)_3 Y_3^{(4)} H_d + \gamma (LE_3^C)_3 Y_{3'}^{(4)} H_d$

**Neutrino sector**

**A1**  $g (SS)_1, \quad k_S = 0 ;$

**A2**  $g (SS)_2 Y_2, \quad k_S = -1 ;$

**A3**  $g \left[ (SS)_1 Y_1^{(4)} + r_{g1} e^{ip_{g1}} (SS)_2 Y_2^{(4)} + r_{g2} e^{ip_{g2}} (SS)_3 Y_3^{(4)} \right], \quad k_S = -2 ,$

**B1**  $\Lambda (SN^C)_{3'} Y_{3'}, \quad k_{N^C} = -2 - k_S ;$

**B2**  $\Lambda \left[ (SN^C)_3 Y_3^{(4)} + r_\Lambda e^{ip_\Lambda} (SN^C)_{3'} Y_{3'}^{(4)} \right], \quad k_{N^C} = -4 - k_S ;$

**C1**  $y (LN^C)_{3'} Y_{3'}, \quad k_L = -2 - k_{N^C} ;$

**C2**  $y \left[ (LN^C)_3 Y_3^{(4)} + r_y e^{ip_y} (LN^C)_{3'} Y_{3'}^{(4)} \right], \quad k_L = -4 - k_{N^C} ,$

We have  $3 \times 2 \times 2$  models:

**AiBjCk**

XYZ and S. Zhou, 2106.03433

# Models After symmetry breaking

Basic idea

Inverse seesaw → keV dark matter  
Modular symmetry → light neutrino masses & mixings

Guiding principle: **Simplicity & Generality**  
modular form multiplets with weights  $\leq 4$   
all allowed couplings included

	$L$	$H_u$	$H_d$	$E_1^C$	$E_2^C$	$E_3^C$	$N^C$	$S$
SU(2)	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
$S_4$	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1'</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1'</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

→ Minimal group:  $S_4$

**Charged lepton sector**  $W_l = \alpha (LE_1^C)_{3'} Y_{3'} H_d + \beta (LE_2^C)_3 Y_3^{(4)} H_d + \gamma (LE_3^C)_{3'} Y_{3'}^{(4)} H_d$

**Neutrino sector**

$\mu$  A1  $g(SS)_1, \quad k_S = 0;$   
A2  $g(SS)_2 Y_2, \quad k_S = -1;$   
A3  $g[(SS)_1 Y_1^{(4)} + r_{g1} e^{ip_{g1}} (SS)_2 Y_2^{(4)}], \quad k_S = -2;$

$M_S$  B1  $\Lambda(SN^C)_{3'} Y_{3'}, \quad k_{N^C} = -2 = k_S,$   
B2  $\Lambda[(SN^C)_3 Y_3^{(4)} + r_\Lambda e^{ip_\Lambda} (SN^C)_{3'} Y_{3'}^{(4)}], \quad k_{N^C} = -4 - k_S;$

$M_D$  C1  $y(LN^C)_{3'} Y_{3'}, \quad k_L = -2 - k_{N^C};$   
C2  $y[(LN^C)_3 Y_3^{(4)} + r_y e^{ip_y} (LN^C)_{3'} Y_{3'}^{(4)}], \quad k_L = -4 - k_{N^C},$

$$\mathcal{M} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{3 \times 3} & [M_D]_{3 \times 2} & \mathbf{0}_{3 \times 3} \\ [M_D^T]_{2 \times 3} & \mathbf{0}_{2 \times 2} & [M_S^T]_{2 \times 3} \\ \mathbf{0}_{3 \times 3} & [M_S]_{3 \times 2} & [\mu]_{3 \times 3} \end{pmatrix}$$

We have  $3 \times 2 \times 2$  models:

**AiBjCk**

$$M_\nu = -M_D (M_S^T M_S)^{-1} M_S^T \mu M_S (M_S^T M_S)^{-1} M_D^T.$$

XYZ and S. Zhou, 2106.03433



# The mass matrices

For example,

Recall that

$$\mathbf{B1} : M_S = \Lambda^* \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -Y_3 \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}Y_4 & \frac{1}{2}Y_5 \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}Y_5 & \frac{1}{2}Y_4 \end{pmatrix} \text{Modular form}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{3 \times 3} & [M_D]_{3 \times 2} & \mathbf{0}_{3 \times 3} \\ [M_D^T]_{2 \times 3} & \mathbf{0}_{2 \times 2} & [M_S^T]_{2 \times 3} \\ \mathbf{0}_{3 \times 3} & [M_S]_{3 \times 2} & [\mu]_{3 \times 3} \end{pmatrix}$$

Basis in the space of the lowest-weight modular forms

$$Y_1 = -3\pi \left( \frac{1}{8} + 3q + 3q^2 + 12q^3 + 3q^4 + 18q^5 + 12q^6 + 24q^7 + 3q^8 + 39q^9 \right) ;$$

$$Y_2 = 3\sqrt{3}\pi q^{1/2} (1 + 4q + 6q^2 + 8q^3 + 13q^4 + 12q^5 + 14q^6 + 24q^7 + 18q^8 + 20q^9) ;$$

$$Y_3 = \pi \left( \frac{1}{4} - 2q + 6q^2 - 8q^3 + 6q^4 - 12q^5 + 24q^6 - 16q^7 + 6q^8 - 26q^9 + 38q^{10} \right) ;$$

$$Y_4 = -\sqrt{2}\pi q^{1/4} (1 + 6q + 13q^2 + 14q^3 + 18q^4 + 32q^5 + 31q^6 + 30q^7 + 48q^8 + 38q^9) ;$$

$$Y_5 = -4\sqrt{2}\pi q^{3/4} (1 + 2q + 3q^2 + 6q^3 + 5q^4 + 6q^5 + 10q^6 + 8q^7 + 12q^8 + 14q^9) ,$$

$$q \equiv e^{i2\pi\tau} \text{Moduli}$$

Highly non-linear system

Difficult to get a constant LO approximation (except for special values of  $\tau$ )

XYZ and S. Zhou, 2106.03433

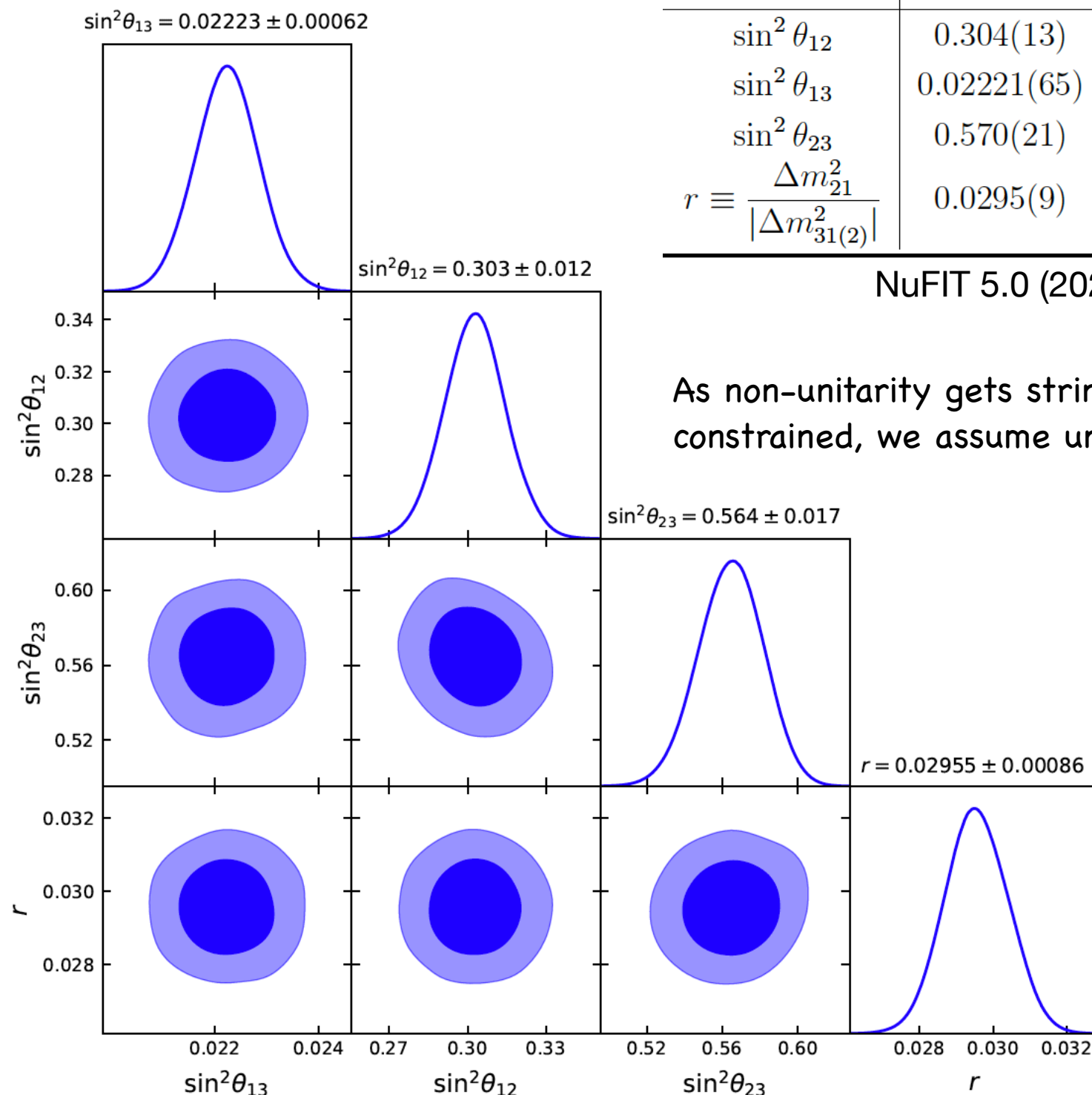
# Confronting oscillation data: fitting results

Model: A1B2C2

	NO	IO
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	0.304(13)	0.304(13)
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	0.02221(65)	0.02240(62)
$\sin^2 \theta_{23}$	0.570(21)	0.575(19)
$r \equiv \frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{ \Delta m_{31(2)}^2 }$	0.0295(9)	0.0297(9)

NuFIT 5.0 (2020)

As non-unitarity gets stringently constrained, we assume unitarity at LO.



Parameters	Predicted value
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	0.305
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	0.02227
$\sin^2 \theta_{23}$	0.571
$\frac{\Delta m_{21}^2}{\Delta m_{31}^2}$	0.0296
$y_e$	$2.7774 \times 10^{-6}$
$y_\mu$	$5.8505 \times 10^{-4}$
$y_\tau$	$9.9372 \times 10^{-3}$
$\delta [^\circ]$	108.9
$\alpha_{21} [^\circ]$	25.8
$\alpha_{31} [^\circ]$	52.7

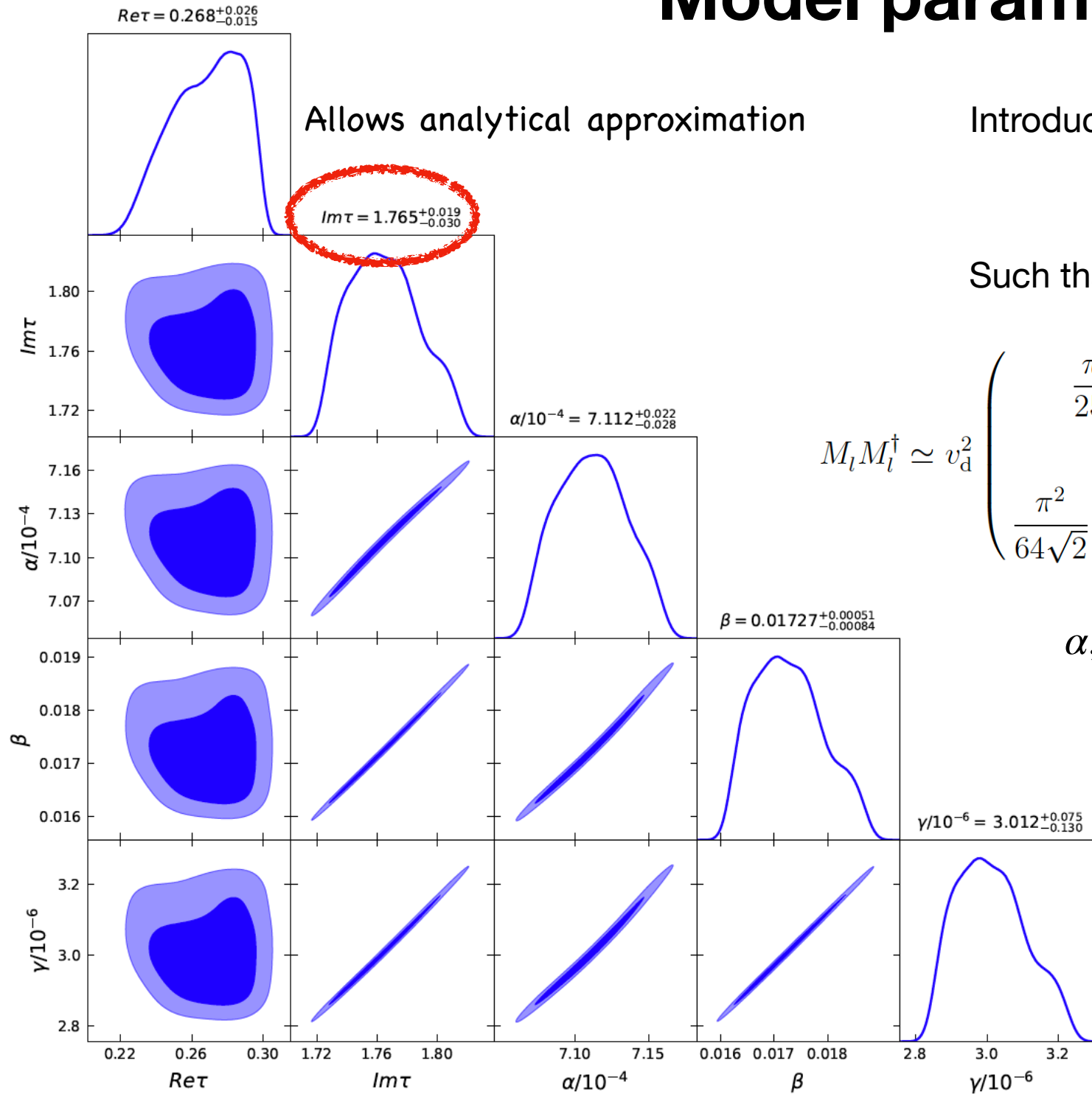
Our results

**A good fit.**  
**How many parameters & observables?**

XYZ and S. Zhou, 2106.03433

## Model: A1B2C2

# Model parameters



Allows analytical approximation

Introduce

$$x \equiv \exp(-\pi \text{Im}\tau/2), \quad y \equiv \pi \text{Re}\tau/2,$$

Such that  $x \simeq 0.063$  can be a good perturbative parameter

$$M_l M_l^\dagger \simeq v_d^2 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\pi^2}{256}(16\alpha^2 + 9\pi^2\gamma^2) & 0 & \frac{\pi^2}{64\sqrt{2}}(-32\alpha^2 + 9\pi^2\gamma^2)xe^{iy} \\ 0 & \frac{27}{32}\pi^4\beta^2x^2 & 0 \\ \frac{\pi^2}{64\sqrt{2}}(-32\alpha^2 + 9\pi^2\gamma^2)xe^{-iy} & 0 & \frac{\pi^2}{32}(64\alpha^2 + 9\pi^2\gamma^2)x^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\alpha, \beta, \gamma, x$  are correlated by charged lepton masses

$$\tan 2\theta_{13}^l = \frac{2|H_{13}|}{H_{33} - H_{11}} \simeq 8\sqrt{2}x,$$

$$\theta_{13}^l \simeq 18^\circ$$

Neutrino mass matrix: complicated...

9 parameters, 3 strongly correlated

Fit to 7 observables (data)

XYZ and S. Zhou, 2106.03433



# keV sterile neutrino as warm dark matter

## Production Mechanism:

Our model

- Dodelson-Widrow (DW) mechanism S. Dodelson and L. M. Widrow, 1994  
through active-sterile mixing at  $T \sim 100$  MeV
- Shi-Fuller (SF) mechanism X. D. Shi and G. M. Fuller, 1998  
resonant production by a preexisting lepton asymmetry Rely on DW
- Particle decay: e.g., inflaton decay
- Diluted thermal overproduction: charged under BSM gauge group
- Gravitational production

Non-thermal

Thermal

Depends

## Constraints for being a dark matter candidate:

### \* Relic density:

$$\Omega_{\text{DM}} h^2 = 1.1 \times 10^7 \sum_{\alpha} C_{\alpha}(m_s) |U_{\alpha s}|^2 \left( \frac{m_s}{\text{keV}} \right)^2, \quad \alpha = e, \mu, \tau$$

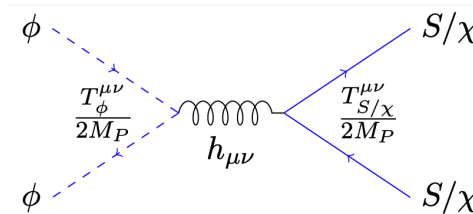
### \* X-ray line search: Chandra, XMM-Newton, NuSTAR, ... Model-independent

$$\Gamma_{\gamma}(m_s, \sin^2 2\theta) \approx 1.36 \times 10^{-30} \text{ s}^{-1} \left( \frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{10^{-7}} \right) \left( \frac{m_s}{1 \text{ keV}} \right)^5$$

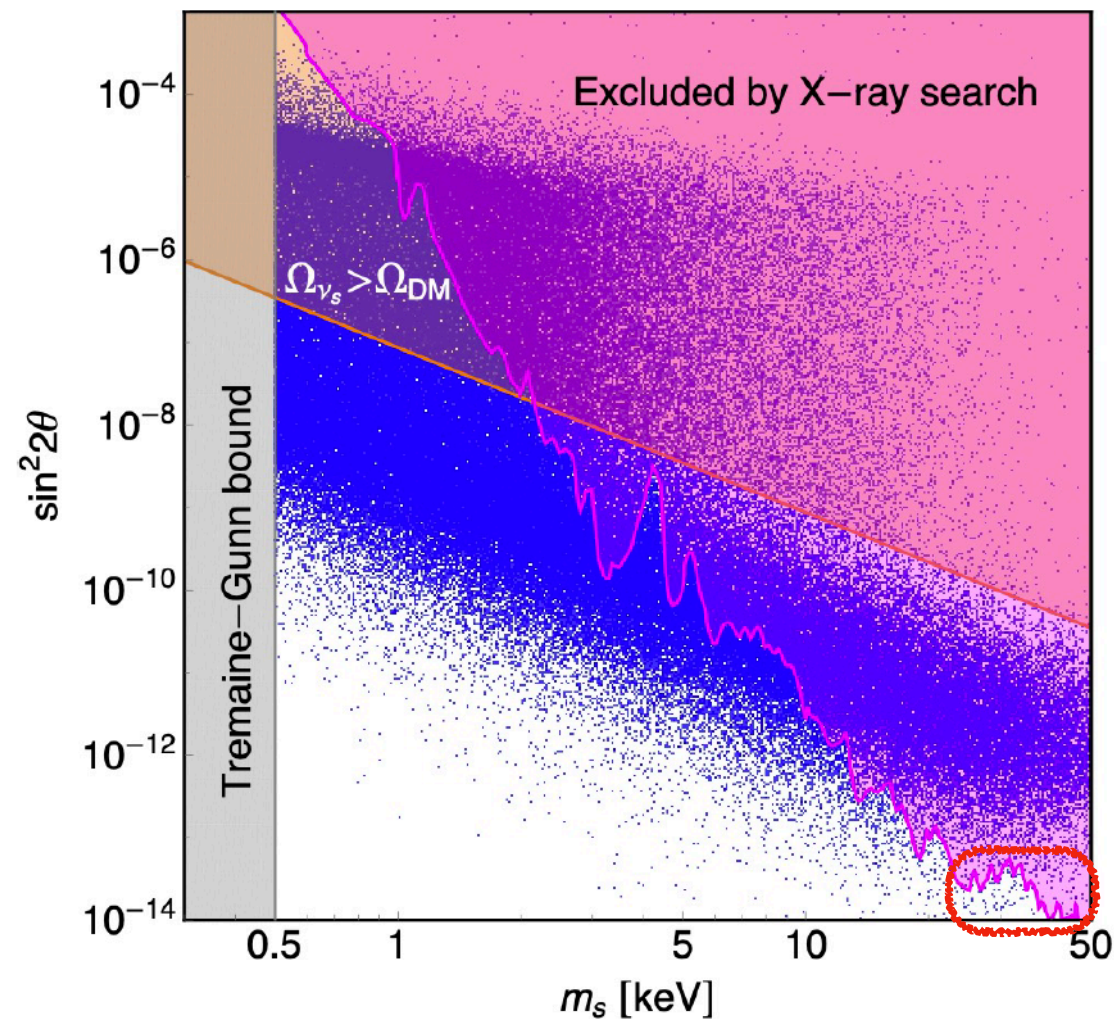
### \* Lyman- $\alpha$ forest data: SDSS-III/BOSS, XQ-100, HIRES, MIKE, ... Thermal, DW

$$m_{\text{WDM}} \gtrsim (1.9 - 5.3) \text{ keV} \xrightarrow{\text{Rescaling in DW production}} \frac{m_s}{3.9 \text{ keV}} = \left( \frac{m_{\text{WDM}}}{\text{keV}} \right)^{1.294} \left( \frac{0.25 \times 0.7^2}{\Omega_{\text{DM}} h^2} \right)^{1/3}$$

Fermi-Dirac distribution



# Confronting DM constraints: results



$$m_s \simeq m_4$$

$$m_5 \simeq m_6 \in [1, 10^3] \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_7 \simeq m_8 \in [10, 10^4] \text{ GeV}$$

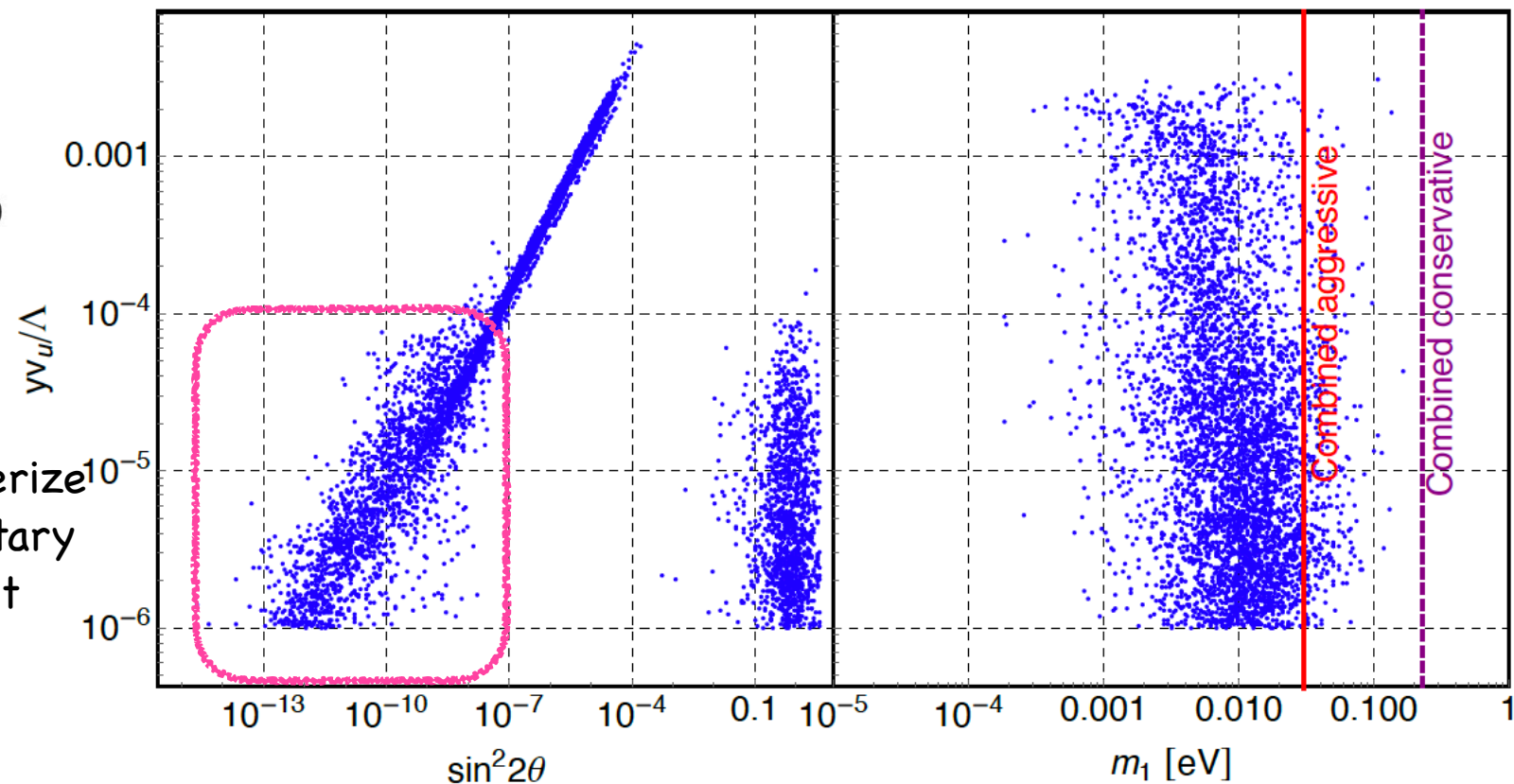
Characterize  
non-unitary  
effect

**Tremaine-Gunn bound** S. Tremaine and J. E. Gunn, 1979

$$m_s \gtrsim 0.5 \text{ keV}$$

**Lyman- $\alpha$  bound**  $m_s \gtrsim (8.9 - 33.8) \text{ keV}$ .

- Produced from DW, contribute only a fraction of DM
- DW production + entropy dilution from heavy states
- SF production: loose Lyman- $\alpha$ ; small mixing - loose X-ray



XYZ and S. Zhou, 2106.03433

# Concluding remarks

- By natural and simple construction, we find one model among all the possibilities **in excellent agreement with neutrino masses and mixings** and it provides **a viable dark matter candidate**.
  - The model is **highly predictive** (whole mass spectrum & mixing) and can be tested in future oscillation experiments and cosmological observations.
- 
- ☒ **keV sterile neutrino can still be 100% dark matter (very constrained)**
    - ☒ Compatible with oscillation constraints
      - ❖ But not produced by simplest DW mechanism
    - ☐ Other production mechanisms?

谢谢大家！