

# Dark Radiation

Jörn Kersten

University of Bergen & KIAS

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# Outline

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  - Neutrino Temperature
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Lecture notes: <https://indico.kias.re.kr/event/110/>

# Dark Radiation

- Radiation in cosmological context = relativistic particles ( $p = \rho/3$ )
- Expansion  $\rightsquigarrow$  redshift  $\rightsquigarrow$  radiation can become (non-relativistic) matter ( $p = 0$ ) eventually  $\rightsquigarrow$  equivalent to hot dark matter
- BBN, CMB:  $T \sim 0.1 \text{ MeV}..0.1 \text{ eV} \rightsquigarrow$  radiation in SM:  $\gamma, \nu$
- Dark: not in SM
  - $\rightsquigarrow$  **Dark Radiation** (DR): relativistic particles  $\neq \gamma$ , SM  $\nu$
- Examples
  - (Light) sterile neutrino (fermion)
  - Dark photon (vector)

1. Definition

radiation in cosmological context = relativistic particles  
( $p = \rho/3$ )

expansion  $\rightarrow$  redshift  $\rightarrow$  radiation can become (non-relativistic) matter ( $p = 0$ ) eventually  $\approx$  equivalent to hot DM

BBN, CMB:  $T \sim 0.1 \text{ MeV} \dots 0.1 \text{ eV}$

$\rightarrow$  radiation in SM:  $\gamma, \nu$

dark: not in SM

$\approx$  dark radiation (DR): relativistic particles  $\neq \gamma, \text{SM } \nu$

examples: (light) sterile neutrino (fermion)  
dark photon (vector)

$\rightarrow$  total radiation energy density:

$$\rho_{\text{rad}} = \rho_{\gamma} + \rho_{\nu} + \rho_{\text{DR}}$$

$\uparrow$   
SM  $\nu$

$$\rho_{\gamma} = \frac{\pi^2}{15} T^4 \quad (T \equiv T_{\gamma})$$

$$\rho_{\nu} = N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} \frac{7}{8} \frac{\pi^2}{15} T_{\nu}^4$$

$\uparrow$  fermions

effective number of  $\nu$  species in SM,  $\approx 3$

### Neutrino temperature:

weak interactions keeping  $\nu$  in thermal (chemical) equilibrium:

$$\nu\nu \leftrightarrow e^+e^-, \text{ rate} \propto g_F^2 T^5$$

expansion rate  $H \propto T^2$  decreases more slowly with decreasing  $T$

$\Rightarrow \nu$  decouple from thermal bath at  $T = 1.4 \text{ MeV}$

Later:  $T < m_e \Rightarrow e^+e^- \rightarrow 2\gamma$  but not  $e^+e^- \leftrightarrow 2\nu$

$\Rightarrow T$  increases (or decreases more slowly than  $\propto a^{-1}$ )

but not  $T_\nu$

$$\Rightarrow T_\nu < T$$

Derivation: comoving entropy density  $sa^3 = \text{const.}$  in sectors in thermal equilibrium

$$sa^3 = \frac{2\pi^2}{45} g_* T^3 a^3, \quad g_* = \sum_{\text{bosons}} g_i + \frac{7}{8} \sum_{\text{fermions}} g_i$$

for particles with common temperature  $\gg$  masses

consider  $T^{(h)} \gg m_e$  (but  $T^{(h)} \ll m_\mu$ ),  $T \ll m_e$

$$\gamma, e^-, e^+ : \frac{2\pi^2}{45} (2 + \frac{7}{8} \cdot 4) T^{(h)3} a^{(h)3} = \frac{2\pi^2}{45} 2 T^3 a^3$$

$$\nu : \frac{2\pi^2}{45} g_{*\nu} T_\nu^{(h)3} a^{(h)3} = \frac{2\pi^2}{45} g_{*\nu} T_\nu^3 a^3$$

$\parallel$   
 $T^{(h)3}$  (since  $T_\nu = T$  even after  $\nu$  decoupling as long as  $T \gg m_e$ )

$$\Rightarrow \frac{11}{2} T_\nu^3 a^3 = 2 T^3 a^3$$

$$\Rightarrow T_\nu = \left(\frac{4}{11}\right)^{1/3} T$$

$$\rho_{\text{rad}} = \left[ 1 + N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} \frac{7}{8} \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{4/3} \right] \rho_r + \rho_{\text{DR}} \quad (3)$$

Corrections to  $\nu$  temperature in SM:

- $m_e \not\ll 1.4 \text{ MeV} \rightsquigarrow e^+e^- \rightarrow 2\nu$  not completely negligible (and  $e-\nu$  scattering)  
 $\rightsquigarrow \nu$  temperature  $> \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{1/3} T$
- $m_e > 0 \rightsquigarrow$  finite- $T$  effects relevant  
 (QED e.a.s. deviates from ideal gas, corrections to  $e-\nu$  interactions)

convention: keep  $T_\nu = \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{1/3} T$  (i.e.,  $T_\nu$  is not the precise  $\nu$  temperature), absorb corrections into  $N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}}$

latest calculation:  $N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} = 3.0440 \pm 0.0002$

[Bennett et al., 2012.02726]

convention: use  $N_{\text{eff}} \equiv N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} + \Delta N_{\text{eff}}$  to parametrize DR density

$$\rho_{\text{rad}} = \left[ 1 + N_{\text{eff}} \frac{7}{8} \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{4/3} \right] \rho_r$$

$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = \underbrace{\frac{8}{7} \left( \frac{11}{4} \right)^{4/3}}_{\approx 4.4} \frac{\rho_{\text{DR}}}{\rho_r}$$

$$\rho_{\text{DR}} = 0.13 \Delta N_{\text{eff}} \underbrace{(\rho_r + \rho_\nu)}_{\rho_{\text{rad}}^{\text{SM}}} \quad (\text{as long as } \nu \text{ are relativistic})$$

## 2. Effects

Friedmann equation:  $H^2 = \left(\frac{\dot{a}}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{8\pi}{3} G \rho$  (flat universe)

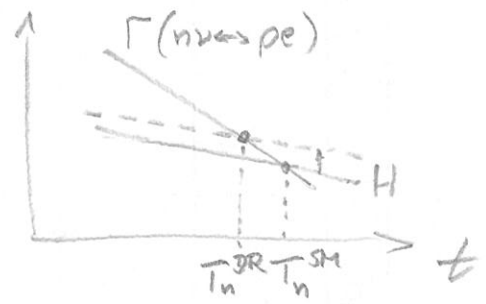
DR  $\leadsto \rho \uparrow \leadsto H \uparrow \leadsto$  faster expansion

### 2.1 Big Bang Nucleosynthesis (BBN)

$T > T_n \approx 0.75$  MeV :  $n, p$  in chemical equilibrium

via  $n \nu_e \leftrightarrow p e^-$

$H \uparrow \leadsto T_n \uparrow$



$\leadsto$  neutron-to-proton ratio

$$\frac{n_n}{n_p} = e^{-\frac{m_n - m_p}{T_n}} \quad \uparrow$$

$\leadsto$  primordial abundances of  $D, {}^4\text{He} \uparrow$   
(but  ${}^7\text{Li}$  abundance  $\downarrow$ )

result [Yeh et al., 2011, 13874],

$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} < 0.124 \text{ @ } 95\% \text{ C.L.}$$

Caveats:

- Input from CMB needed to constrain baryon density  
 $\leadsto$  non-trivial effects if  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$  changes between BBN and CMB
- Li problem

## 2.2 Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)

(5)

CMB power spectrum determined by  $\mathcal{O}(10)$  parameters

$\leadsto$  not appropriate to consider  $N_{\text{eff}}$  separately

$\leadsto$  vary all parameters to find largest allowed  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$

[Hou et al., 1104.2333; Hinshaw et al., 1212.5226]

• matter-radiation equality:  $1 + z_{\text{eq}} = \frac{\rho_m}{\rho_{\text{rad}}}$

$\leadsto \rho_{\text{rad}} \uparrow \leadsto z_{\text{eq}} \downarrow \leadsto \nu_{\text{eq}} \uparrow$

$\leadsto$  early integrated Sachs-Wolfe effect  $\uparrow \leadsto$  1<sup>st</sup> peak  $\uparrow$

(evolution of amplitude of density fluctuations depends on  $\rho_m/\rho_{\text{rad}}$  when Fourier mode reenters Hubble horizon)

$\leadsto$  keep  $z_{\text{eq}}$  constant by  $\rho_m \uparrow$  (remember for later!)

• plasma e.o.s. ( $\leadsto$  sound speed, gravity-pressure equilibrium point)

change of  $\rho_b/\rho_r \leadsto$  change of  $\frac{\text{even peak heights}}{\text{odd peak heights}}$

$\leadsto \rho_b$  fixed ( $\rho_r$  fixed by CMB spectrum)

$\leadsto \rho_m \uparrow$  has to come from  $\rho_{\text{DM}} \uparrow$

• sound horizon:  $\tau_s = \int_0^{t_{\text{rec}}} c_s \frac{dt}{a} = \int_0^{a_{\text{rec}}} \frac{c_s}{a^2} \frac{da}{H}$

$\leadsto \rho_{\text{rad}} \uparrow, \rho_m \uparrow \leadsto \tau_s \downarrow$

measured: angular size  $\Theta_s = \frac{\tau_s}{D_A}$

$D_A = \int_{t_{\text{LS}}}^{t_0} c \frac{dt}{a}$  distance to last-scattering surface

$\rho_{\text{rad}} \uparrow, \rho_m \uparrow \leadsto D_A \downarrow$ , but less than  $\tau_s$ , because

$H$  dominated by  $\rho_{\Lambda}$  at late times



net effect:  $\Theta_s \downarrow \rightarrow$  peak positions shifted

(6)

$\rightarrow$  keep  $\Theta_s$  constant by  $g_1 \uparrow$

• anisotropic stress: present for free-streaming (non-interacting) radiation, dampens density fluctuations during radiation domination

$\rightarrow N_{\text{eff}} \uparrow \rightarrow$  power spectrum  $\downarrow$  for  $l > 130$

(small-scale fluctuations reenter horizon during radiation domination)

similar effect by changing amplitude and spectral index of primordial fluctuations  $\rightarrow$  no strong bound on  $N_{\text{eff}}$

• Silk damping: photons diffuse  $\rightarrow$  dampen density fluctuations on scales  $<$  diffusion length  $\tau_D \sim \frac{1}{4H}$   
(random walk during time  $t \sim \frac{1}{H}$ )

$\rightarrow g_{\text{rad}} \uparrow \rightarrow \tau_D \downarrow$

angular size:  $\Theta_D = \frac{\tau_D}{D_A}$

$g_{\text{rad}} \uparrow, \rho_m \uparrow, \rho_1 \uparrow \rightarrow D_A \sim \frac{1}{H} \downarrow$  more than  $\tau_D$

$\rightarrow \Theta_D \uparrow \rightarrow$  more Silk damping (starts at smaller  $l$ )

result from Planck (+ BAO to partially break degeneracies)  
[1807.06209]:

$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} < 0.29$  @ 95% CL. ( $< 0.30$  if constrained to  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} > 0$ )

## Caveats:

- Silk damping  $\downarrow$  if He abundance  $Y_p \downarrow$   
 ( $Y_p \downarrow \rightsquigarrow$  density of free  $e^- \uparrow$  because He recombines earlier than H  $\rightsquigarrow$  photon mean free path  $\downarrow$ )  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  change of  $Y_p$  can compensate effect of DR  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  non-trivial interplay between BBN and CMB
- inconsistencies between high- $l$  and low- $l$  data, lensing anomaly  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  underestimated systematic errors?

2.3 Hubble Tension

Planck [1807.06209]:  $H_0 = (67.4 \pm 0.5) \frac{\text{km}}{\text{s Mpc}}$

"Local" measurement (Cepheids, SN Ia) [Riess et al., 2112.04510]

$$H_0 = (73.04 \pm 1.04) \frac{\text{km}}{\text{s Mpc}}$$

$\rightsquigarrow 5\sigma$  discrepancy

$N_{\text{eff}} \uparrow \rightsquigarrow \rho_{\text{rad}}, \rho_m, \rho_A \uparrow \rightsquigarrow H_0 \uparrow$  (as measured by CMB)

$\rightsquigarrow$  problem solved? (Planck: tension "somewhat eased")

Need to take into account another observable:

$\sigma_8$  = amplitude of matter fluctuations on scales of  $8/h$  Mpc

$$(h = \frac{H_0}{100 \frac{\text{km}}{\text{s Mpc}}})$$

$N_{\text{eff}} \uparrow, H_0 \uparrow \rightsquigarrow \sigma_8 \uparrow$

galaxy surveys measure  $\sigma_8$  (or  $S_8 = \sigma_8 \sqrt{\frac{\Omega_m}{0.3}}$ ) (8)

via weak lensing, tend to find smaller  $S_8$  (2-3% tension)

$\rightarrow$  larger  $N_{\text{eff}}$  makes this tension worse

finite DR mass could help (free-streaming  $\propto \sigma_8 \downarrow$ )

- 1307.7715,
- 1308.3255,
- 1308.5870,
- 1309.3192

### 3 Model Building

#### 3.1 SIDM + R

DM self-interactions proposed to solve small-scale problems of  $\Lambda$ CDM

DM-DR interactions in addition  $\rightarrow$  DM stays in kinetic equilibrium with DR for a relatively long time.  $\rightarrow$  fewer small dwarf galaxies formed  $\rightarrow$  missing satellites problem solved

E.g., Bringmann et al., 1312.4947,  
Dasgupta & Kopp, 1310.6337v3:

DM, mass  $\sim$  TeV or GeV

dark photon, mass  $\sim$  MeV

dark neutrino, mass  $\sim$  eV (DR)

dark Higgs, mass  $\sim$  MeV

dark sector thermalized at  $T > T_x^{\text{dec}}$  via Higgs portal

$$\text{entropy conservation} \rightarrow \Delta N_{\text{eff}}(T) = \left( \frac{1_x}{1_\nu} \right)^{4/3} = \left[ \frac{g_\nu^*(T)}{g_\nu^*(T_x^{\text{dec}})} \frac{g_x^*(T_x^{\text{dec}})}{g_x^*(T_x^{\text{dec}})} \right]^{4/3}$$

$$T_x^{\text{dec}} \gg m_t: \Delta N_{\text{eff}}(T_{\text{BBN}}) \approx 0.33 \quad (\odot)$$

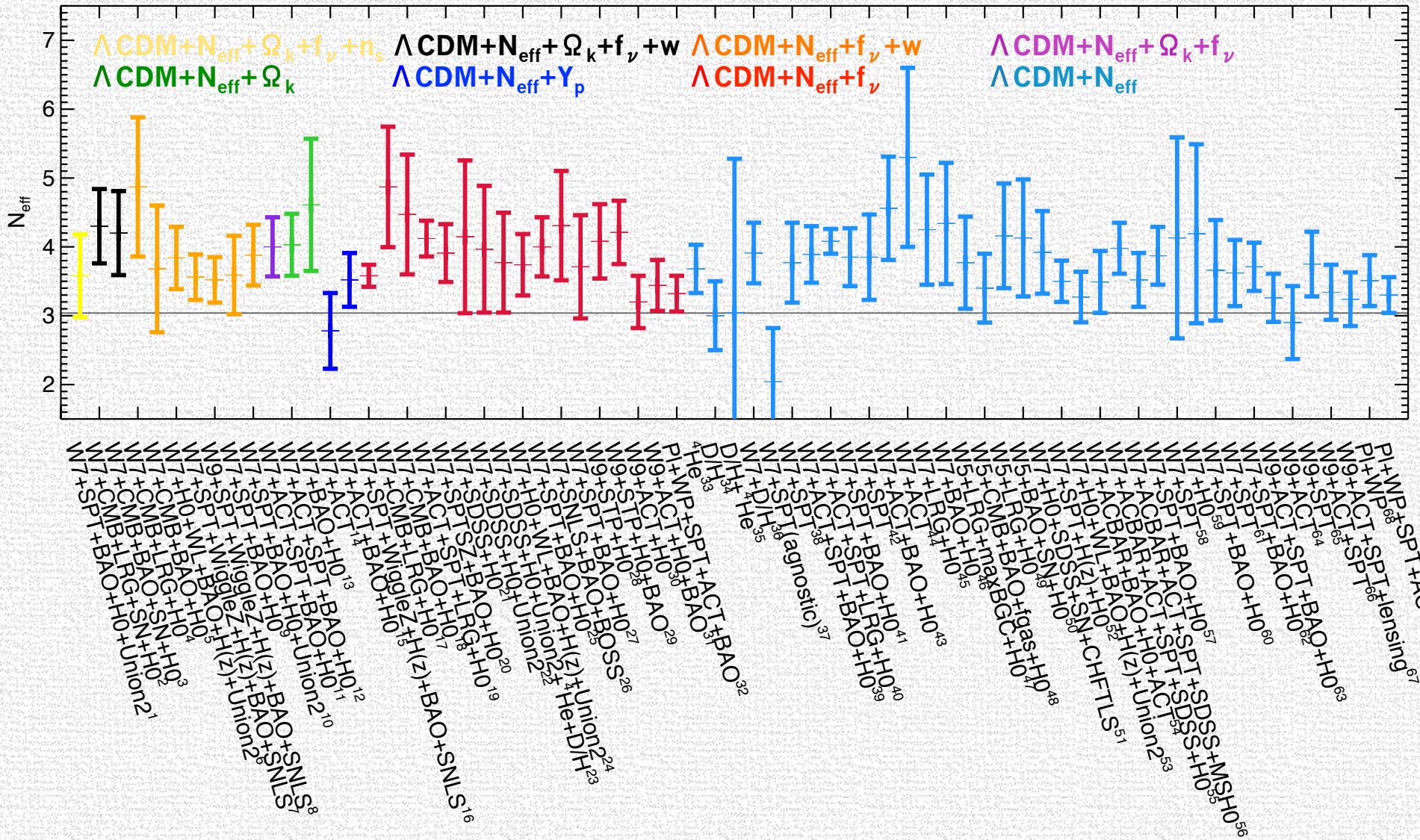
Variations:

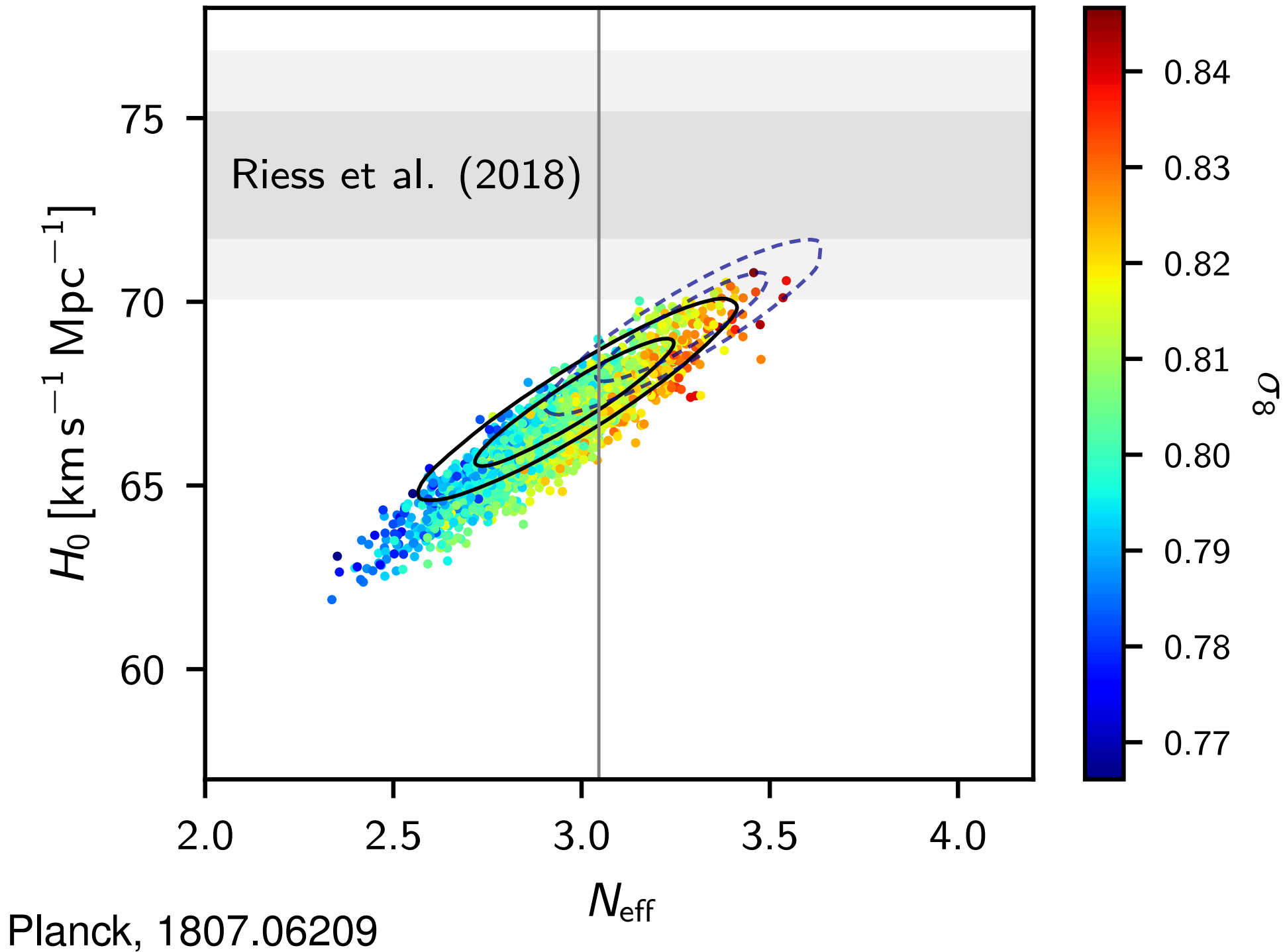
- lighter dark photon or dark Higgs  $\rightarrow$  relativistic during BBN  $\rightarrow g_*^x(T_{BBN}) \uparrow \rightarrow \Delta N_{eff} \downarrow$
- additional light dark particles  $\rightarrow g_*^x(T_{BBN}) \uparrow$  and  $g_*^x(T_x^{dec}) \uparrow$  but  $\frac{g_*^x(T_x^{dec})}{g_*^x(T_{BBN})} \downarrow \rightarrow \Delta N_{eff} \downarrow$   
 Ko & Tang, 1404.0236
- $\nu_{DM} - \nu_d$  oscillations after BBN  $\rightarrow \Delta N_{eff}(T_{CMB}) < 0$  possible  
 ( $T_\nu \downarrow$ ,  $\nu_d$  becomes non-relativistic)  
 Mirizzi et al., 1410.1385  
 Tang, 1501.00059  
 Chu et al., 1505.02795

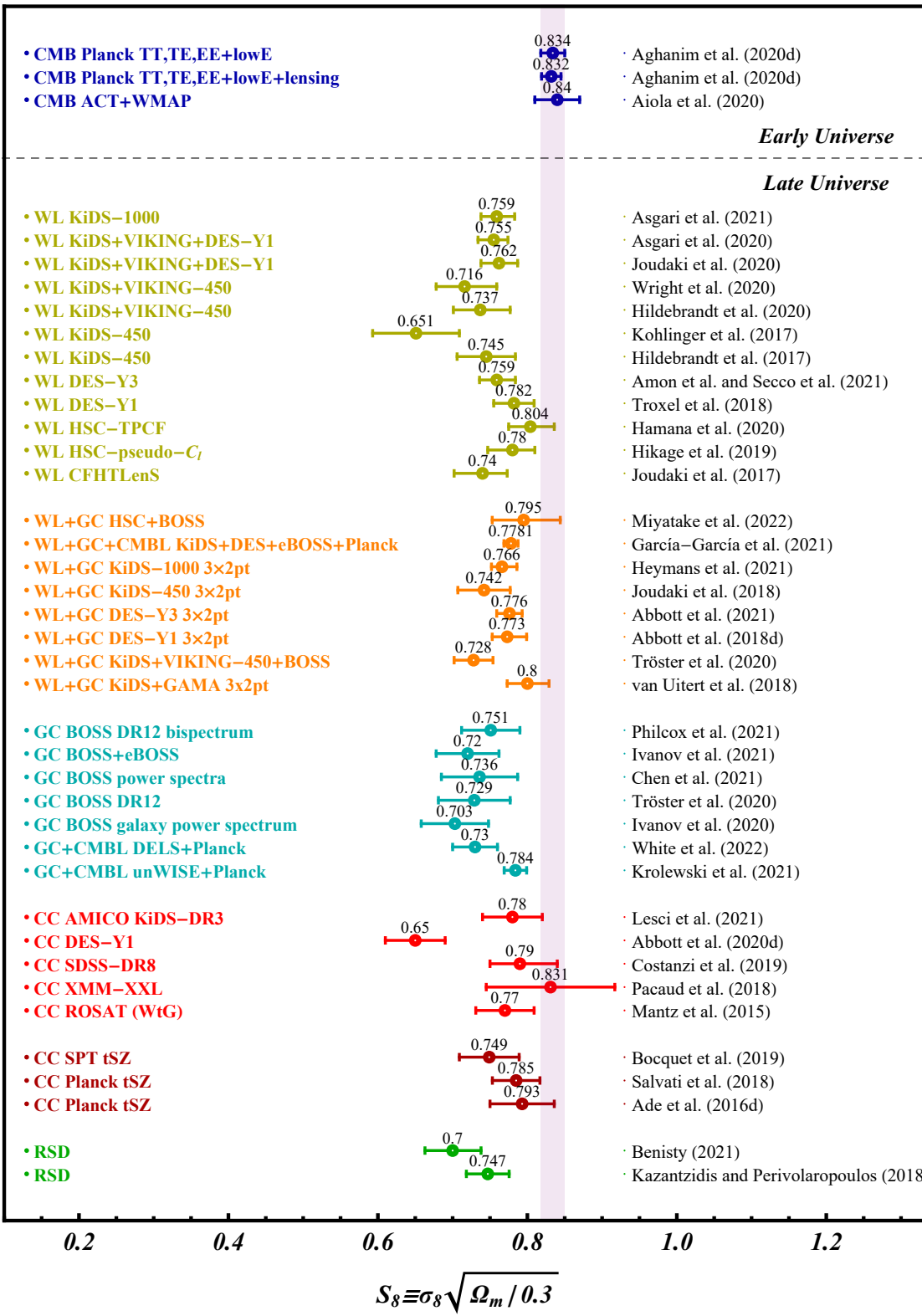
3.2 DR from Decays

Long-lived  $X$ , lifetime  $\tau$   
 decay after BBN, before recombination  $\rightarrow$  only CMB affected, strong  $\Delta N_{eff}$  bound from BBN avoided  
 light decay products ("daughters") form DR while relativistic  
 $\Delta N_{eff} = \Delta N_{eff}(\Omega_x, \frac{m_2}{m_x}, \tau)$  ( $m_2$ : mass of heavier daughter)  
 single decay mode: heavier daughter is NDM (or  $\Delta N_{eff} \ll 1$ )  
 $\rightarrow$  can only be a small part of DM  
 2 decay modes: produce DR + DM with adjustable free-streaming length  $\rightarrow$  address missing satellites,  $H_0/S_8$ ?  
 Hasenkaup & Kersten, 1212.4160  
 Ex: saxion  $\rightarrow$  2 axion or 2 axino  
 modulus  $\rightarrow$  2 gravitino or 2 axion

# Measurements







# 3. Model Building Aspects

## Motivations for Dark Radiation

- Tensions in  $\Lambda$ CDM ( $H_0$ ,  $S_8$ , small scale structure, ...)
- Neutrino oscillation anomalies  $\rightsquigarrow$  light sterile neutrinos?
- Dark sectors for physics BSM, lack of evidence for new EW-scale particles  $\rightsquigarrow$  light new states?



# Decaying Dark Matter

- $DM \rightarrow WDM + DR \rightsquigarrow$  velocity-kick for massive daughter  $\rightsquigarrow \sigma_8 \downarrow$   
Abellán et al., 2008.09615
- CMB, LSS  $\rightsquigarrow$  strong constraints  $\rightsquigarrow H_0$  tension cannot be resolved  
Anchordoqui et al., 2203.04818
- $S_8$  tension can be resolved  
Simon et al., 2203.07440
- $H_0$  and  $S_8$  tensions cannot be resolved  
Davari & Khosravi, 2203.09439

# Conclusions

- Dark Radiation (= BSM relativistic species) influences expansion history of the Universe
- Energy density parametrized by  $\Delta N_{\text{eff}}$
- Big Bang Nucleosynthesis  $\rightsquigarrow \Delta N_{\text{eff}} < 0.124 @ 95\% \text{ C.L.}$
- Cosmic Microwave Background  $\rightsquigarrow \Delta N_{\text{eff}} < 0.29 @ 95\% \text{ C.L.}$
- Constraints on specific scenarios
  - BBN constraints on MeV-scale particles decaying into DR  
Hufnagel et al., 1712.03972
  - BBN, CMB  $\rightsquigarrow$  lower bound on DM mass in thermal dark sector  
Sabti et al., 1910.01649, 2107.11232