

# Sterile Neutrinos as Warm Dark Matter

Manfred Lindner

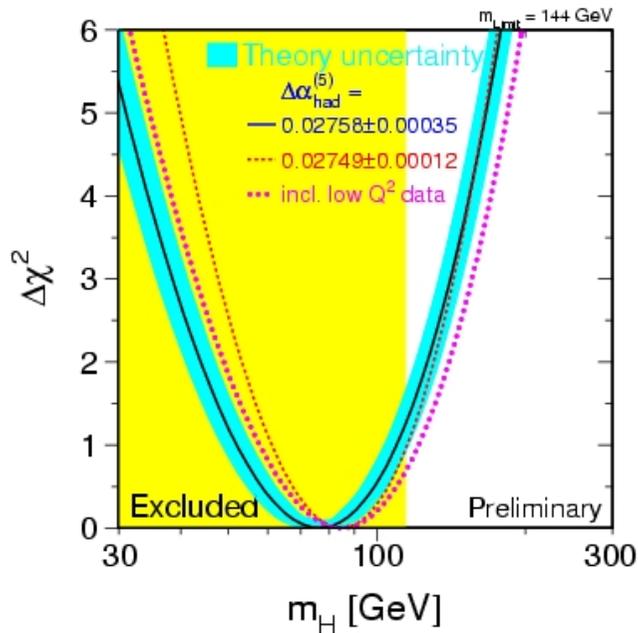


What is  $\nu$  – June 25-29

The Galileo Galilei Institute for Theoretical Physics  
Arcetri, Florence

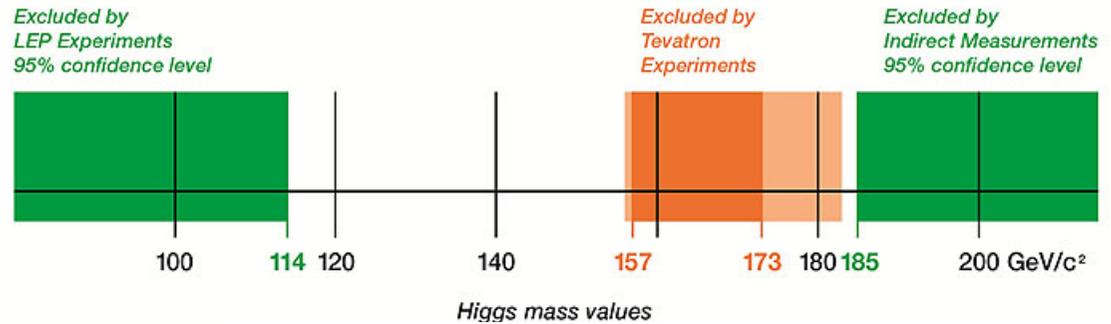


# SM works perfectly & Higgs Mass Range is converging

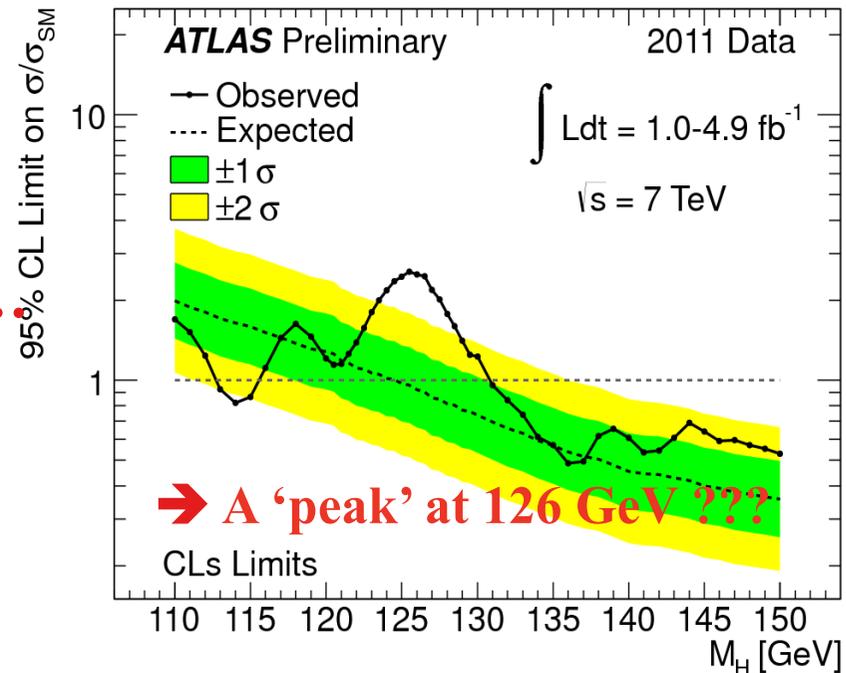


## Search for the Higgs Particle

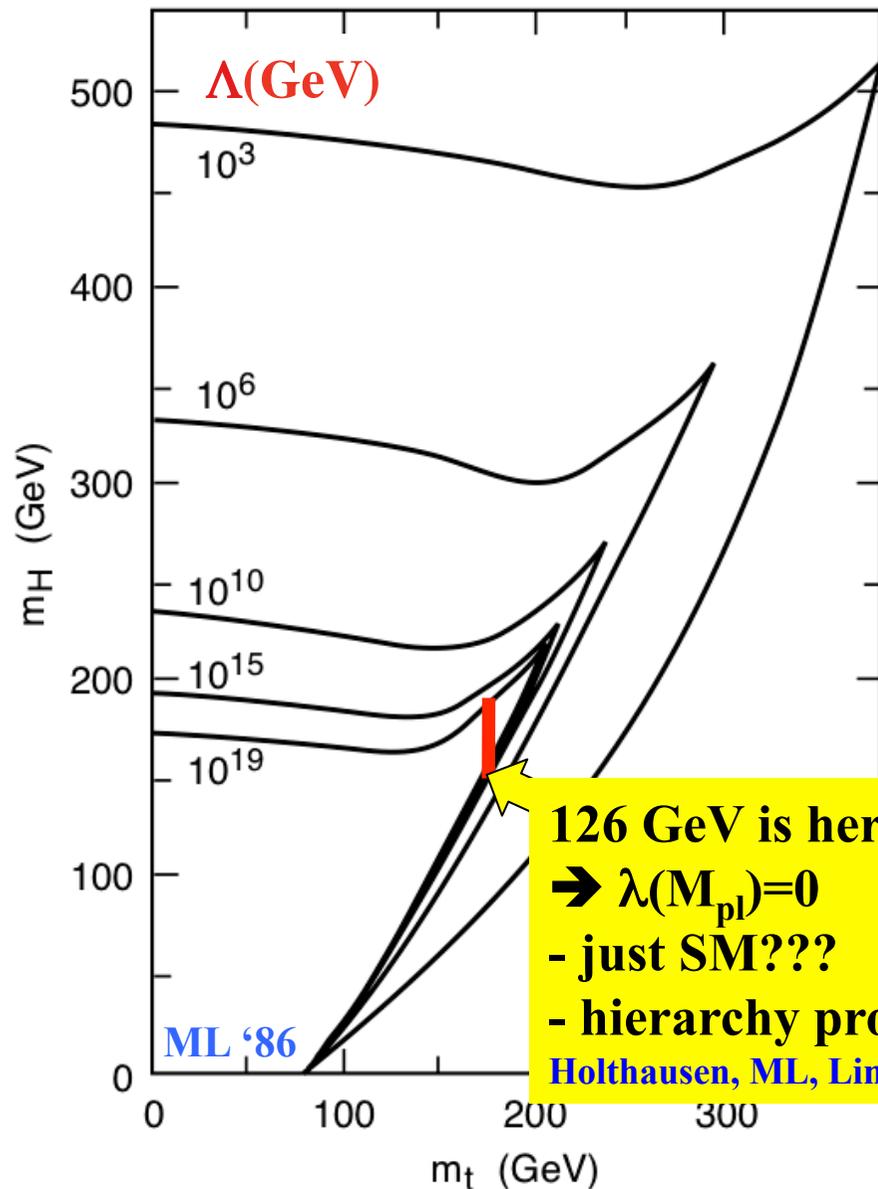
Status as of March 2011



- allowed mass range is shrinking..
- if SM Higgs exists → light
- no (clear) signs for anything else
- just the SM?
- Dark Matter?

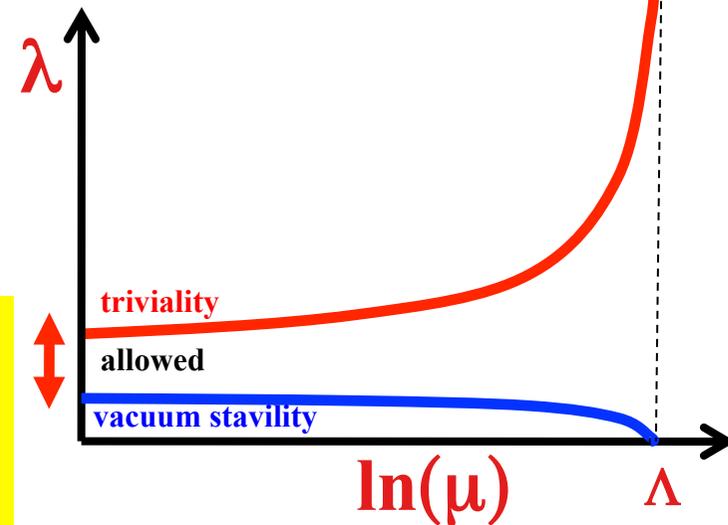


# Triviality and Vacuum Stability



$$126 \text{ GeV} < m_H < 174 \text{ GeV}$$

SM does not exist w/o embedding  
- U(1) coupling, Higgs self-coupling



126 GeV is here!  
→  $\lambda(M_{\text{pl}})=0$   
- just SM???  
- hierarchy problem  
Holthausen, ML, Lim

→ RGE arguments seem to work  
→ we need some embedding

# The SM works perfect but must be extended....

- **Hierarchy problem**

- separation of two scalar scales is unstable... SUSY, TeV physics
- Planck scale physics: New concepts ... ???

- **Many theoretical reasons for BSM physics...**

- **SM cannot explain Baryon Asymmetry of the Universe (BAU)**

- BUT: Massive neutrinos require SM extension → SM+
- leptogenesis = one of the best BAU explanations
  - nothing else needed!

- **Dark Matter**

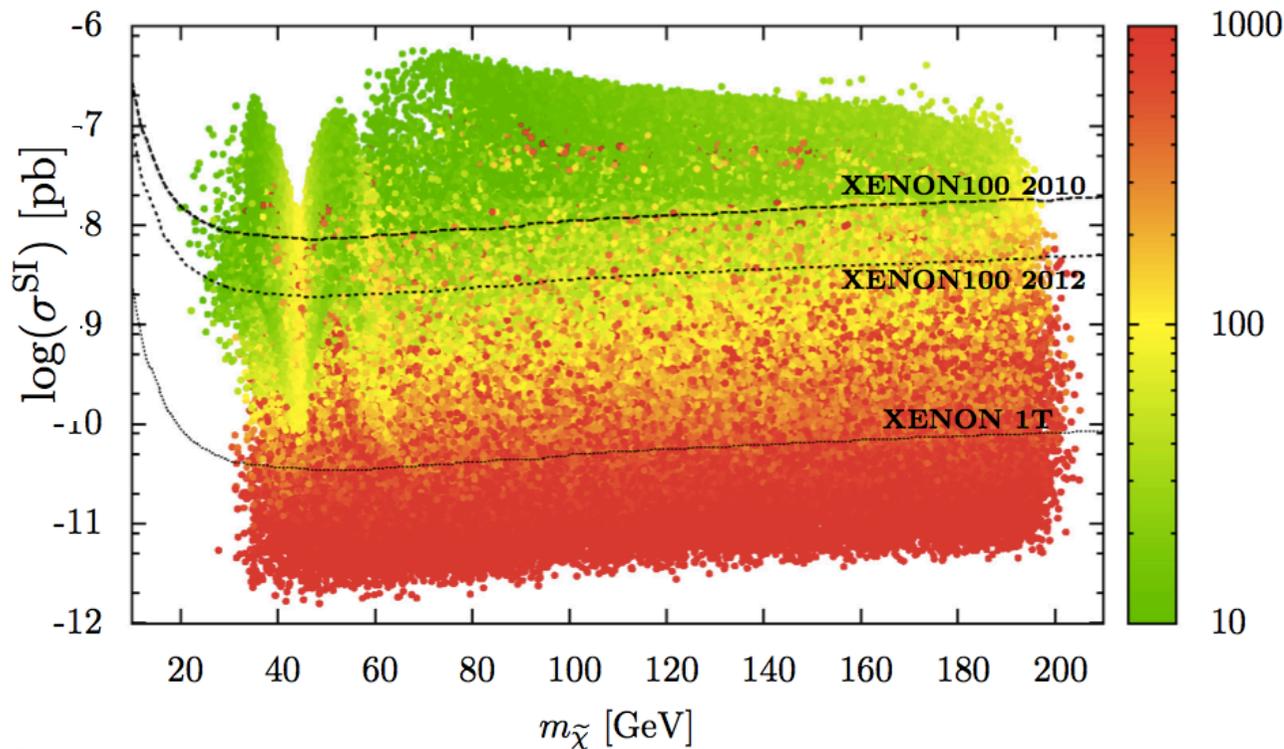
- an extra particle is needed which is DM
- particles connected to the hierarchy problem, strong CP, ...
- massive neutrinos require new physics  $\leftrightarrow$  DM?

# Most favoured Dark Matter: WIMPs

- Candidates in BSM models  $\leftrightarrow$  hierarchy problem
- WIMP miracle  $\rightarrow$  correct abundance
- **MSSM neutralino: Level of fine-tuning  $\rightarrow \Delta_{\text{tot}}$**

$$\Delta p_i \equiv \left| \frac{p_i}{M_Z^2} \frac{\partial M_Z^2(p_i)}{\partial p_i} \right| = \left| \frac{\partial \ln M_Z^2(p_i)}{\partial \ln p_i} \right|$$

$$\Delta_{\text{tot}} \equiv \sqrt{\sum_{p_i=\mu^2, b, m_{H_u}^2, m_{H_d}^2} \{\Delta p_i\}^2}$$



XENON100-2010

XENON100-2012 ???

XENON1T

\* becoming more tuned...

\* other candidates..?

$\rightarrow$  BSM

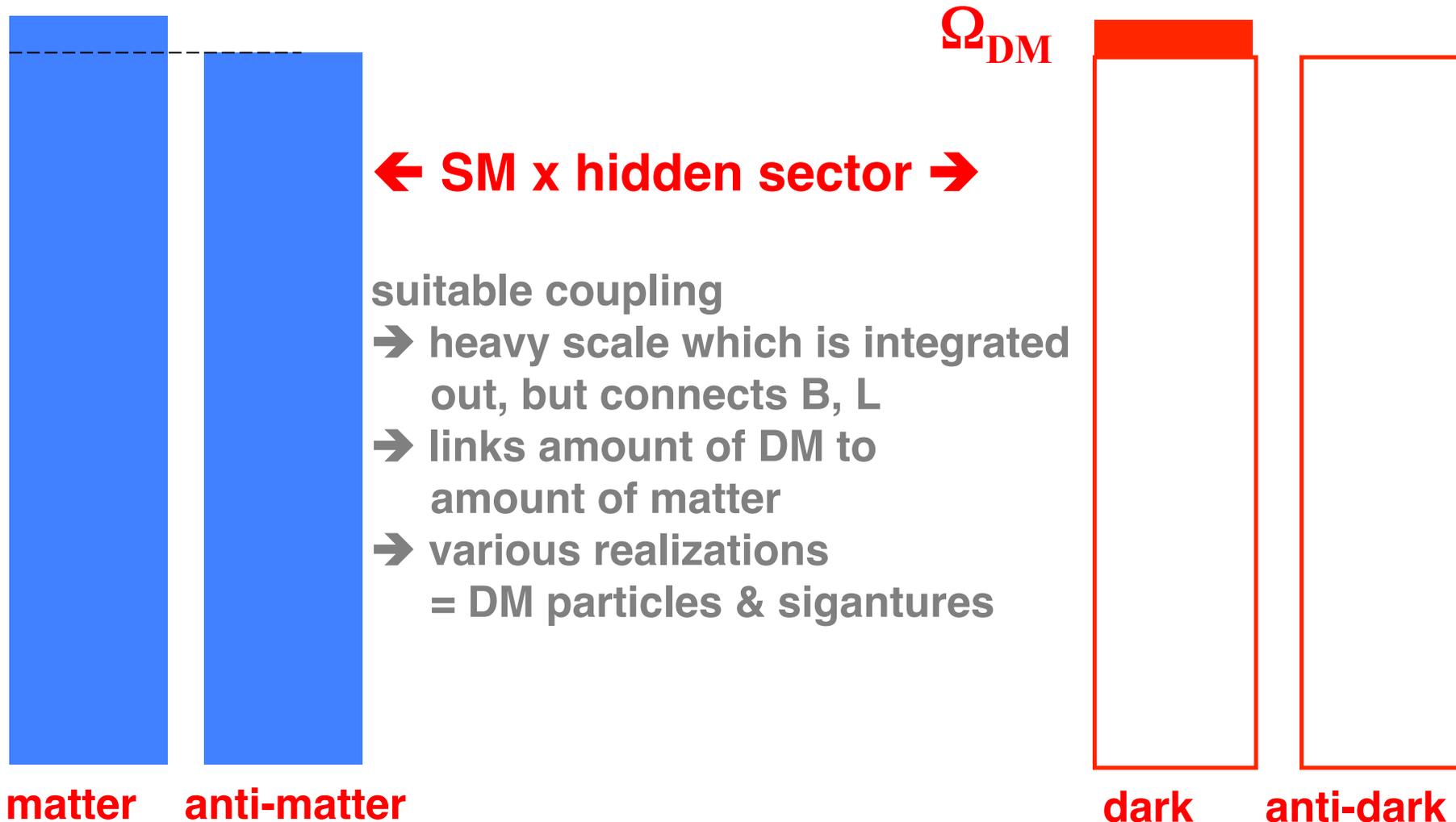
$\rightarrow$  neutrinos?

$\leftrightarrow$  natural...

P. Grothaus, ML, Y. Takanishi - to appear very soon...

# New Directions: Asymmetric Dark Matter

→ Why is  $\Omega_{\text{DM}} \simeq 5 * \Omega_{\text{baryonic}}$  ? (a factor 5 or 500?)



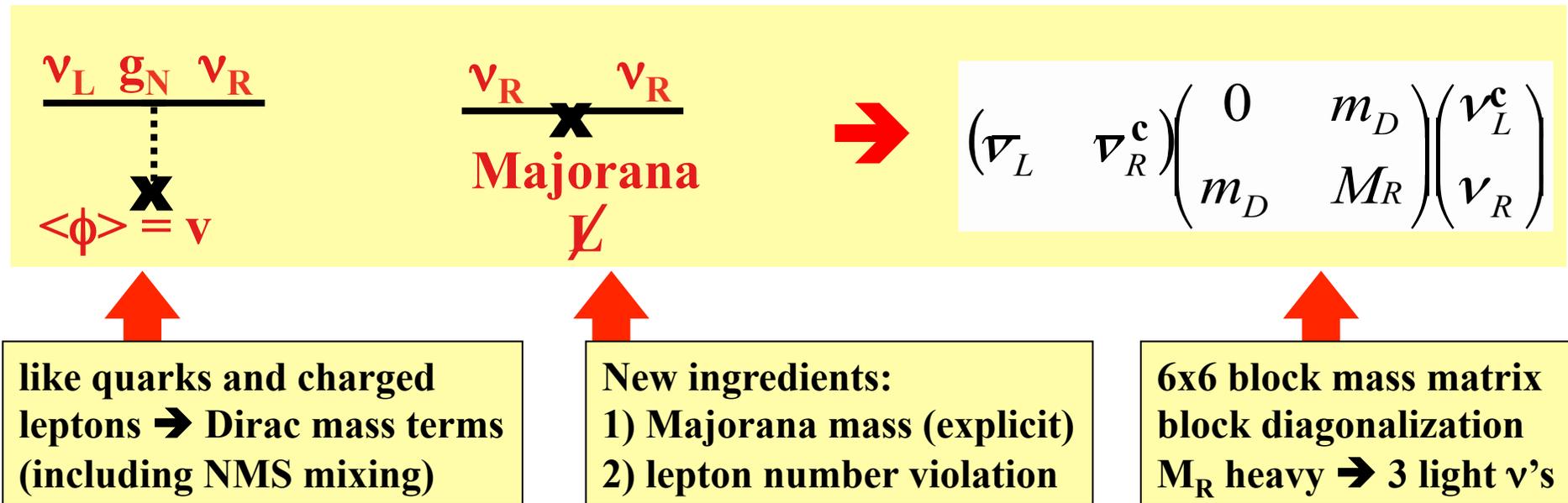
# Most minimalistic: DM & Neutrino Mass

# New Physics: Neutrino Mass Terms

Mass terms  $\sim m\bar{L}R = (2,1)$

**→ Simplest possibility:**  
**add 3 right handed neutrino fields**

Field	$SU(3)_C$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$
$L_Q = \begin{pmatrix} l_u \\ l_d \end{pmatrix}$	3	2	1/3
$r_u$	3	1	4/3
$r_d$	3	1	-2/3
$L_L = \begin{pmatrix} l_\nu \\ l_e \end{pmatrix}$	1	2	-1
$r_\nu ???$	1	1	0
$r_e$	1	1	-2



**NEW ingredients, 9 parameters  $\rightarrow$  SM+ and sea-saw**

# Sterile Neutrino Spectrum

## The standard picture:

3 heavy sterile neutrinos typ.  $\geq 10^{13}$  GeV  
 → leptogenesis, role in GUTs, ...

Some mechanism which makes  
 1, 2, ... heavy states light?  
 → light sterile neutrino(s)  
 → tiny heavy-light mixing expected  
 $\theta^2 < O(m_\nu/m_s)$

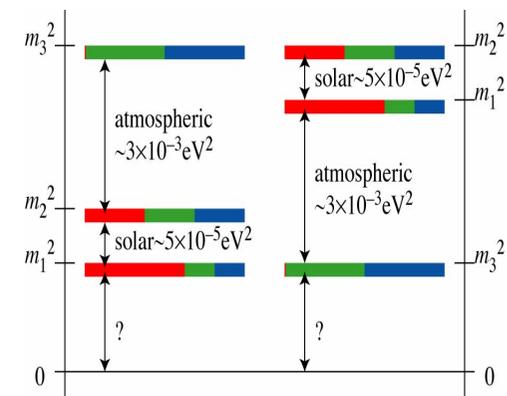
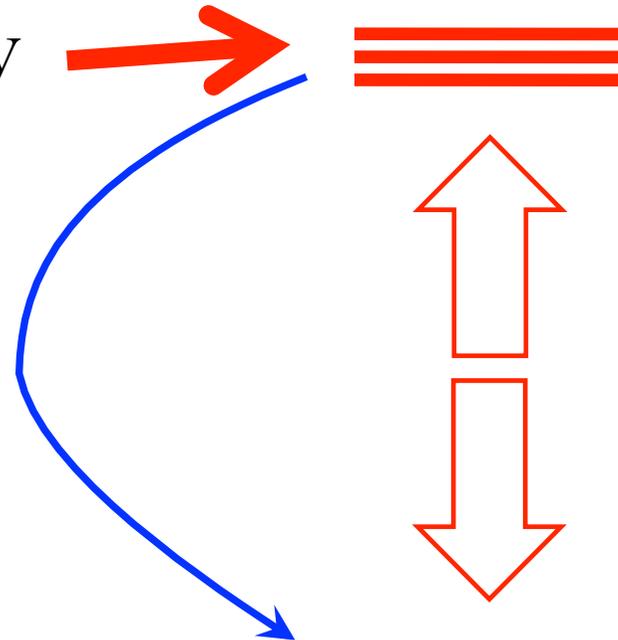
3 light active neutrinos

→ this could easily be wrong

- more than 3  $N_R$  states, ...

-  $M_R$  may have special eigenvalues, ...

→ light sterile neutrinos ?!



# Evidences for Light Sterile Neutrinos

## Particle Physics:

Reactor anomaly, LSND, MiniBooNE, MINOS, Gallex...

→ evidences for light sterile  $\nu$ 's?

→ New and better data / experiments are needed to clarify the situation

→ maybe something exciting around the corner?

→ but eV scale and sizable mixings

CMB: extra eV-ish neutrinos J. Hamann et al. , ...

BBN: extra  $\nu$ 's possible:  $N_\nu \simeq 3.7 \pm 1$

E. Aver, K. Olive, E. Skillman (2010), Y. Izotov, T. Thuan(2010)

## Astrophysics:

Effects of keV-ish sterile  $\nu$ 's on pulsar kicks, PN star kicks, ...

Kusenko, Segre, Mocioiu, Pascoli, Fuller et al., Biermann & Kusenko, Stasielak et al., Loewenstein et al., Dodelson, Widrow, Dolgov, ...

Most likely not all of them are true! → consequences?

# Could Neutrinos be Dark Matter?

- Active neutrinos would be perfect Hot Dark Matter → ruled out:
  - destroys small scale structures in cosmological evolution
  - measured neutrino masses too small → maybe HDM component
- keV sterile neutrinos: Warm Dark Matter → workes very well:
  - relativistic at decoupling
  - non-relativistic at radiation to matter dominance transition
  - OK for  $M_X \simeq \text{few keV}$  with very tiny mixing
  - reduced small scale structure → smoother profile, less dwarf satellites
  - scenario where one sterile neutrino is keV-ish, the others heavy
  - tiny active – sterile mixings  $O(m_\nu/M_R)$
  
  - ↔ observational hints from astronomy
  - hints that a keV sterile particle may exist → right-handed neutrino?

**Note: Right-handed neutrinos exist probably anyway – just make one light!**

# keV sterile Neutrinos as WDM

# The $\nu$ MSM

Asaka, Blanchet, Shaposhnikov, 2005 Asaka, Shaposhnikov, 2005

## Particle content:

- Gauge fields of  $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_W \times U(1)_Y$ :  $\gamma, W_{\pm}, Z, g$
- Higgs doublet:  $\Phi=(1,2,1)$

### • Matter

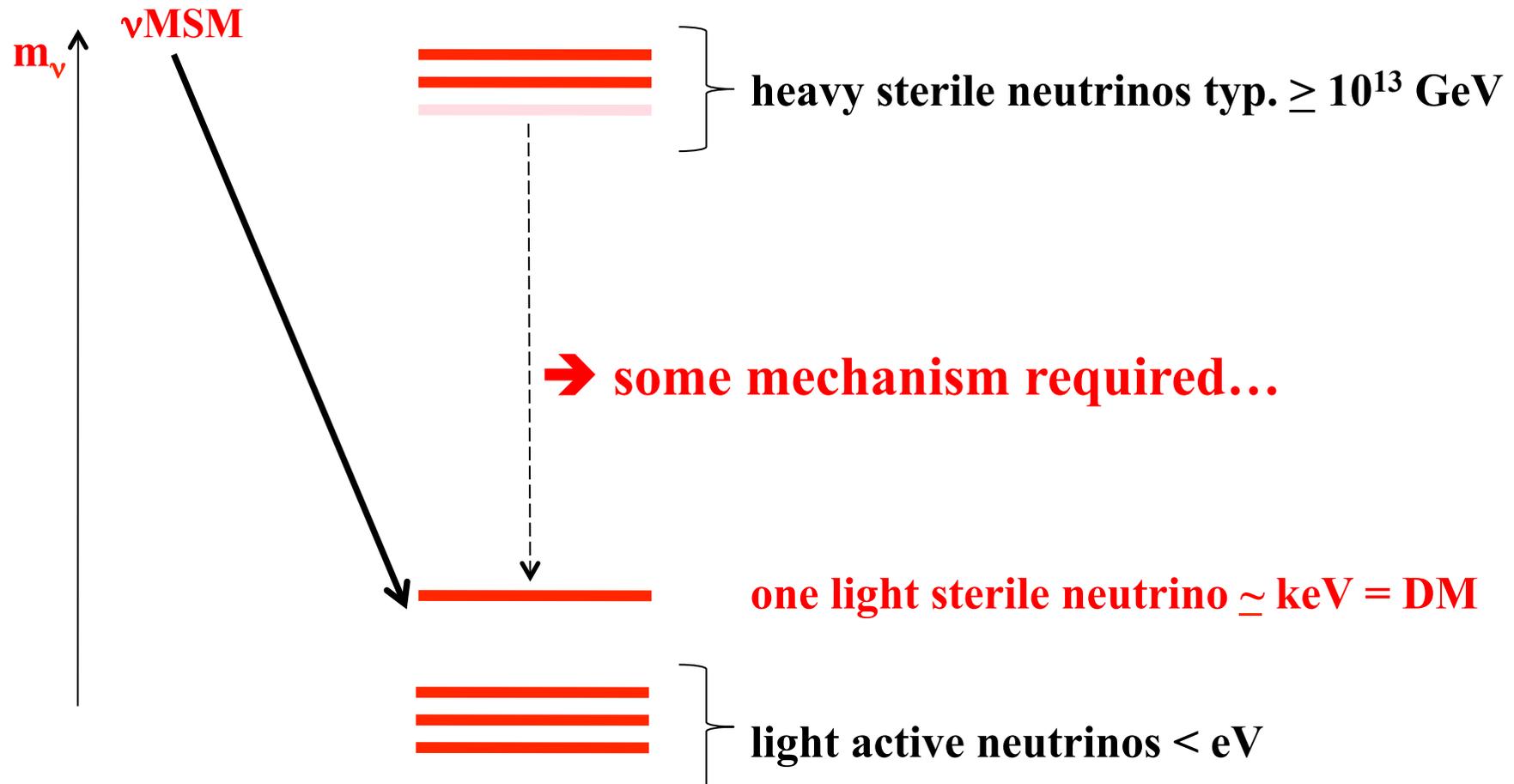
	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(2)_W$	$U(1)_Y$	$U(1)_{em}$
$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}_L$	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>+1/3</b>	$\begin{pmatrix} +2/3 \\ -1/3 \end{pmatrix}$
$u_R$	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>+4/3</b>	<b>+2/3</b>
$d_R$	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-2/3</b>	<b>-1/3</b>
$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e \end{pmatrix}_L$	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-1</b>	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$
$e_R$	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>-1</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**x3 generations**

- lepton sector more symmetric to the quark sector
- Majorana masses for N
- choose for one sterile  $\nu \sim \text{keV}$  mass → exceeds lifetime of Universe

# Virtue and Problem of the $\nu$ MSM

- $\nu$ MSM:** Scenario with sterile  $\nu$  and tiny mixing  $\rightarrow$  never enters thermal equilibrium
- $\rightarrow$  requires **non-thermal production** from other particles (avoid over-closure)
  - $\rightarrow$  **new physics** before the beginning of the thermal evolution sets abundance



# Alternative Scenario with Thermal Abundance

An alternative scenario: Bezrukov, Hettmannsperger, ML

- Three right-handed neutrinos  $N_1, N_2, N_3$
- Dirac and Majorana mass terms
- **N Charged under some (BSM) gauge group  $\rightarrow$  scale  $M$  ( $\sim$ sterile)**
- **Specific example: LR-symmetry  $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times U(1)_{B-L}$**

Roles played by the sterile ( $\sim$ right-handed) neutrinos:

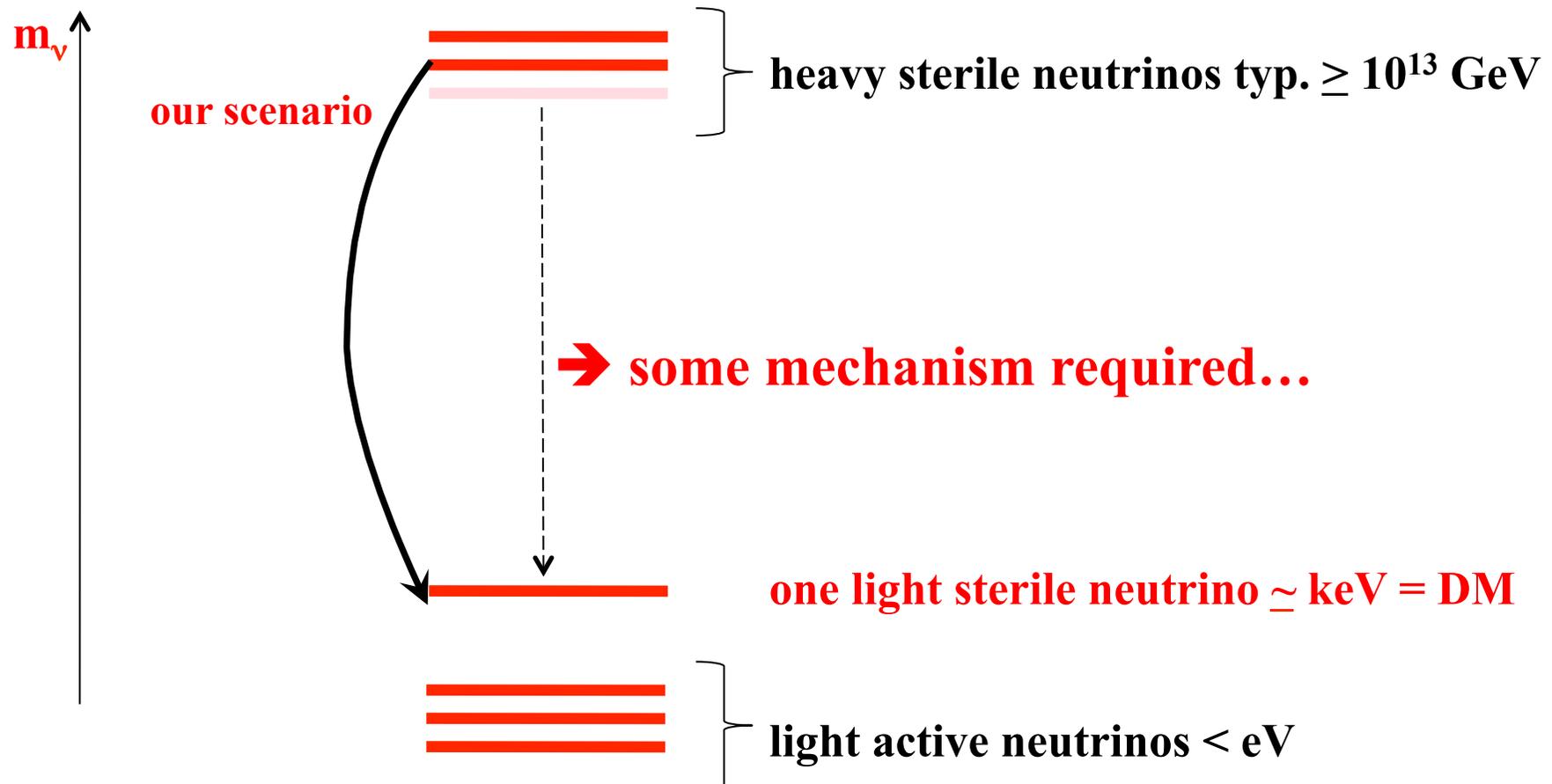
$N_1$  – Warm Dark Matter

- Mass  $M_1 \sim \text{keV}$
- Lifetime  $\tau_1 > \tau_{\text{Universe}} \sim 10^{17} \text{ s}$

$N_{2,3}$  – dilute entropy after DM decoupling

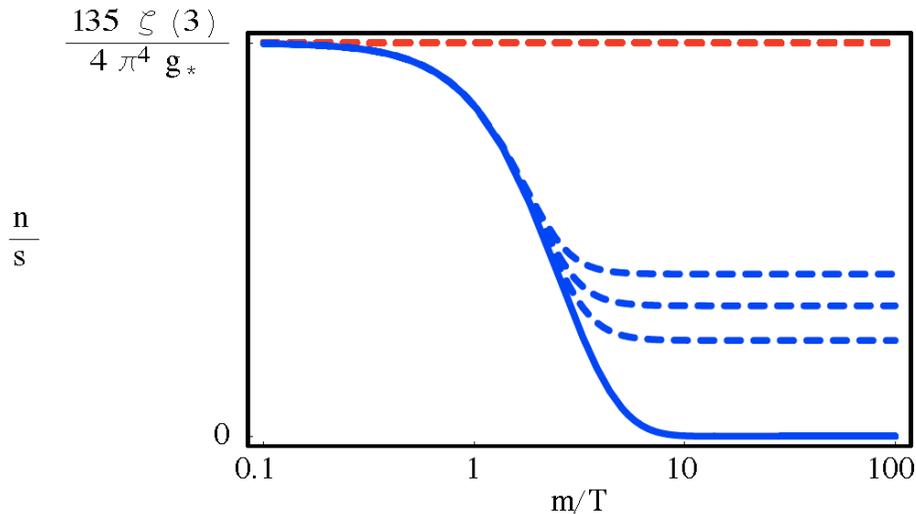
- Mass  $M_{2,3} > \text{GeV}$
- Lifetime  $\tau_{2,3} \lesssim 0.1 \text{ s}$

## Thermal production of the correct abundance in our model:



# Obtaining the correct Abundance

**Usual thermal WIMP case:**



$$\frac{\Omega}{\Omega_{\text{DM}}} \simeq \left( \frac{10}{g_{*f}} \right) \left( \frac{M}{10 \text{ eV}} \right)$$

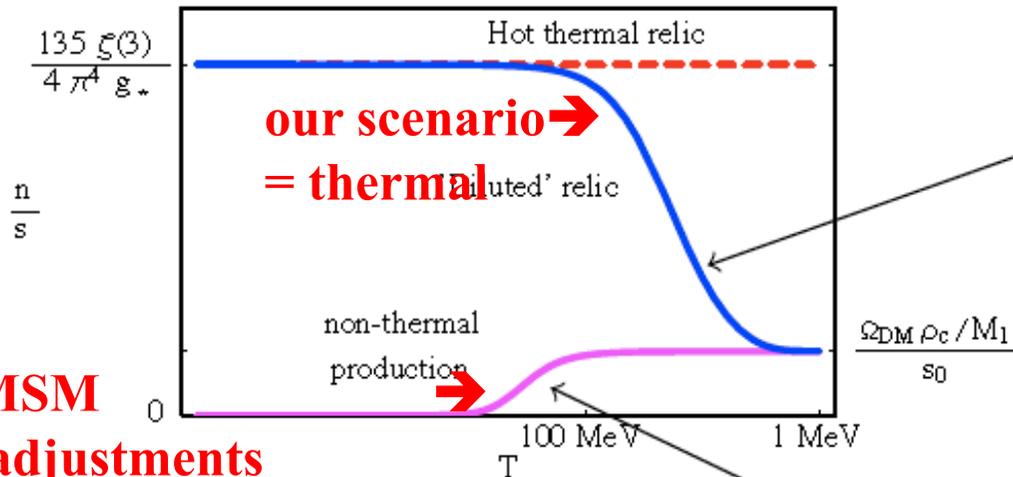
Decoupled relativistic

**CDM:**  
**(M >> MeV)**

$$\Omega \sim \Omega_{\text{DM}}$$

Decoupled  
nonrelativistic

**keV sterile neutrinos:**



**νMSM**  
**= adjustments**

Diluted after decoupling  
(entropy generated by other  
particle decay)

$$\Omega \sim \Omega_{\text{DM}}$$

Never entered thermal equilibrium

# Sterile Neutrino DM Freeze-Out & Abundance

**Decoupling of  $N_1$  in early Universe:** sterile neutrino DM is light  
→ freezout while relativistic → calculation like for active neutrinos  
+ suppression of annihilation x-section by  $M$

**Freeze-out temperature:**

$$T_f \sim g_{*f}^{1/6} \left( \frac{M}{M_W} \right)^{4/3} (1 \div 2) \text{ MeV}$$

**Abundance of  $N_1$  today:**

$$\frac{\Omega_N}{\Omega_{\text{DM}}} \simeq \frac{1}{S} \left( \frac{10.75}{g_{*f}} \right) \left( \frac{M_1}{1\text{keV}} \right) \times 100$$

**Required entropy generation factor:**

$$S \simeq 100 \left( \frac{10.75}{g_{*f}} \right) \left( \frac{M_1}{1\text{keV}} \right)$$

# Entropy Generation by out-of Equilibrium Decay

Heavy particle (here:  $N_3$ ) dropping out of thermal equilibrium while relativistic  $T_f > M_2$  :  $\rightarrow$  **bounds gauge scale from below**

$$M > \frac{1}{g_{*f}^{1/8}} \left( \frac{M_2}{\text{GeV}} \right)^{3/4} (10 \div 16) \text{ TeV}$$

$\rightarrow$  sufficiently long lived  $\rightarrow$  become non-relativistic  
 $\rightarrow$  dominates expansion of Universe during its decay

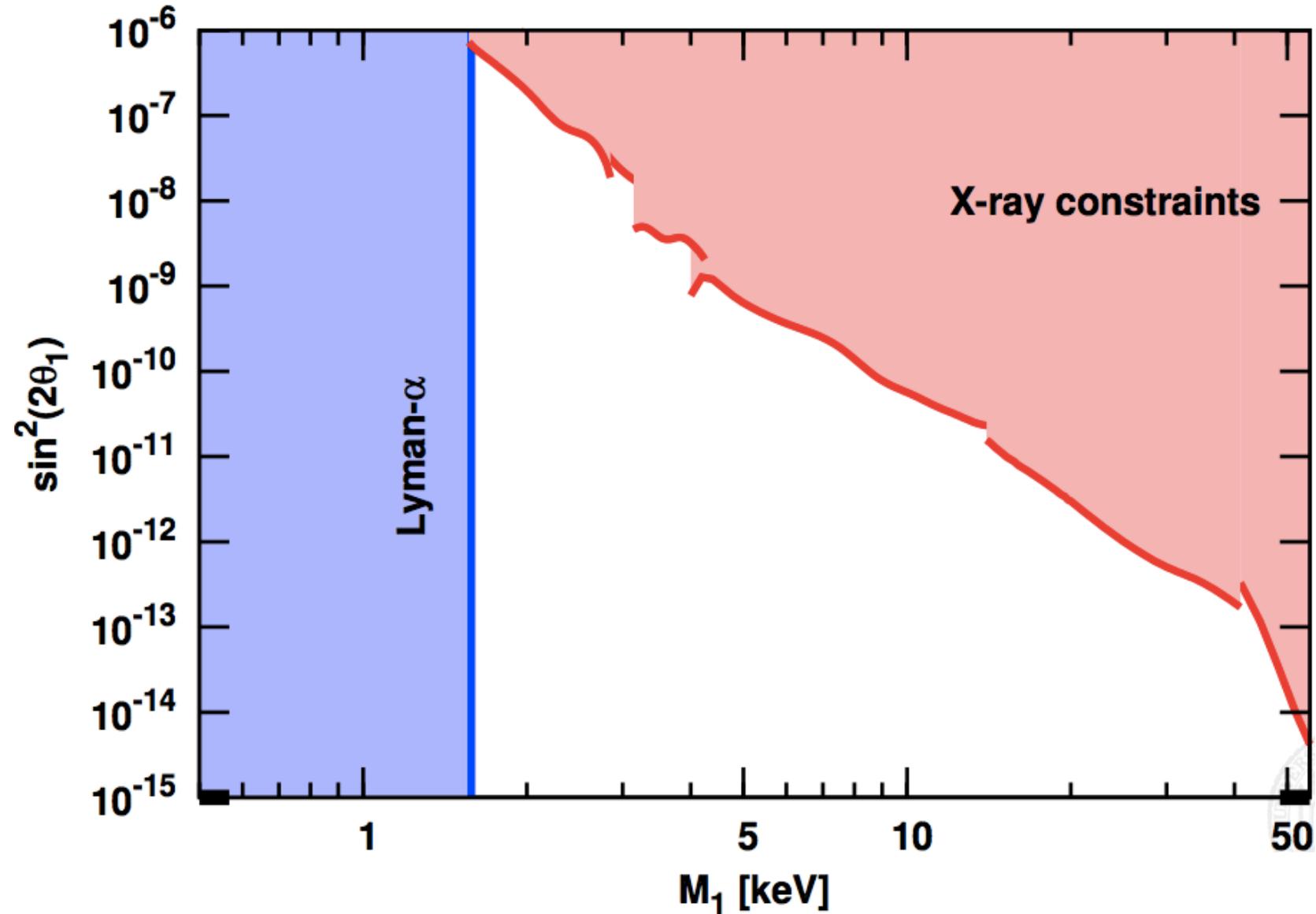
$\rightarrow$  entropy generation factor  $\rightarrow$

$$\frac{S_{\text{after}}}{S_{\text{before}}} = S \frac{a_{\text{before}}^3}{a_{\text{after}}^3}$$

$$S \simeq 0.76 \frac{\bar{g}_*^{-1/4} M_2}{g_* \sqrt{\Gamma_2} M_{\text{Pl}}}$$

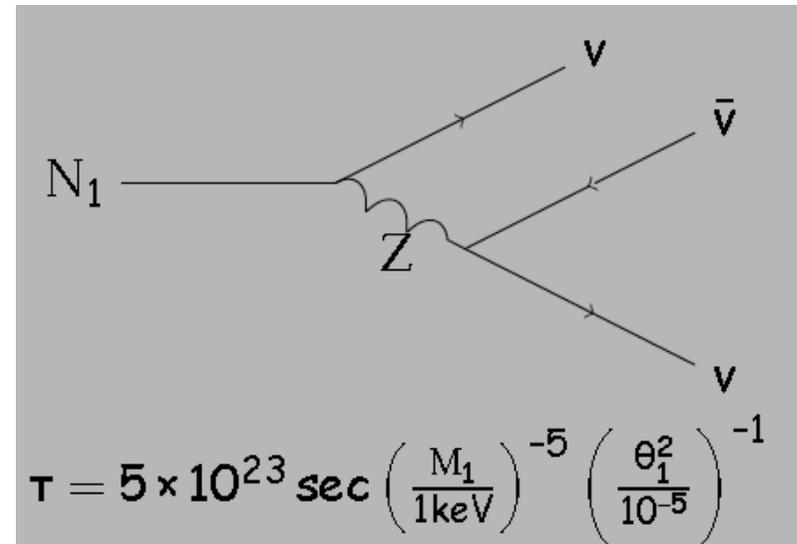
$\rightarrow$  fixes decay width  $\Gamma_2$

# Allowed Parameter Range



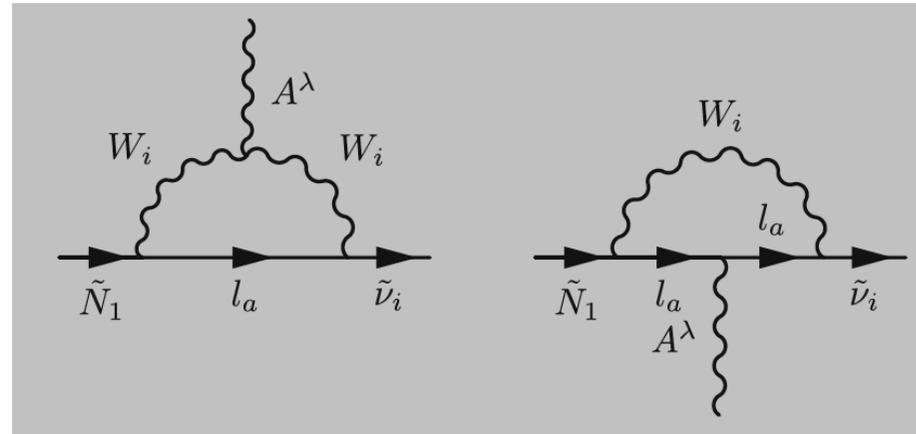
# Observing keV-ish Neutrino DM

- **LHC**
  - sterile neutrino DM is not observable
  - WIMP-like particles still possible – but not DM
- **direct searches**
  - sterile  $\nu$  DM extremely difficult; maybe in  $\beta$ -decay (MARE)
- **astrophysics/cosmology**  $\rightarrow$  at some level: keV X-rays
  - $\rightarrow$  sterile neutrino DM is decaying into active neutrinos
  - decay  $N_1 \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$ ,  $N_1 \rightarrow \nu\nu$
  - not very constraining since  $\tau \gg \tau_{\text{Universe}}$



- radiative decays  $N_1 \rightarrow \nu\gamma$

→ photon line  $E_\gamma = m_s/2$



- so far: observational limit on active-sterile mixing angle

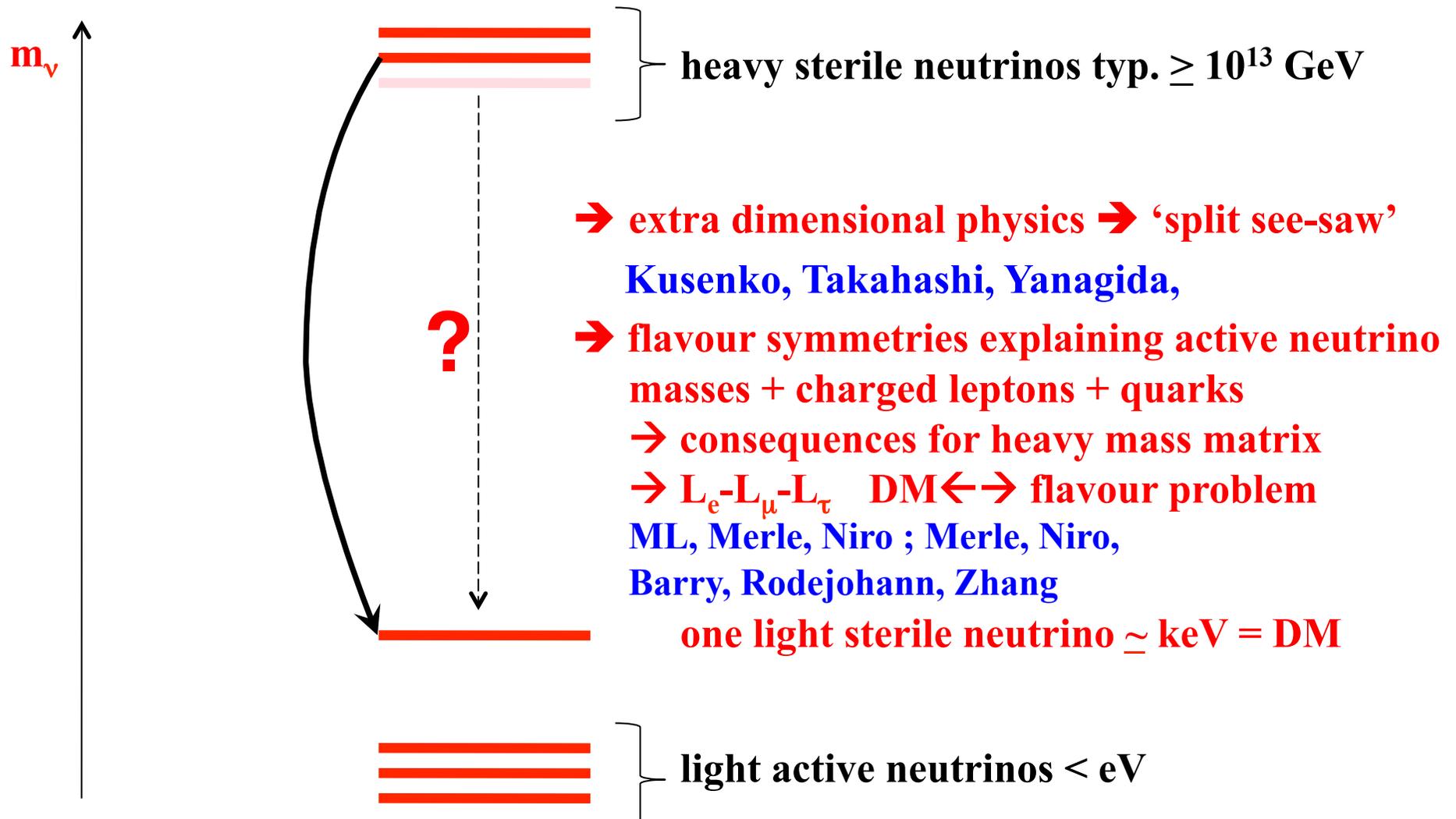
$$\Gamma_{N_1 \rightarrow \nu\gamma} \simeq 5.5 \times 10^{-22} \theta_1^2 \left( \frac{M_1}{1 \text{ keV}} \right)^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\theta_1^2 \lesssim 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \left( \frac{1 \text{ keV}}{M_1} \right)^5$$

- mixing tiny, but naturally expected to be tiny:  $O(\text{scale ratio})$

# Explaining keV-ish Sterile Neutrinos

Possible scenario: See-saw + a reason why 1 sterile  $\nu$  is light



# How it may work...

Neutrino mass matrix:

$$\Psi \equiv ((\nu_{eL})^C, (\nu_{\mu L})^C, (\nu_{\tau L})^C, N_{1R}, N_{2R}, N_{3R})^T$$

$$\mathcal{M}_\nu = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 0 & m_L^{e\mu} & m_L^{e\tau} & m_D^{e1} & 0 & 0 \\ m_L^{e\mu} & 0 & 0 & 0 & m_D^{\mu 2} & m_D^{\mu 3} \\ m_L^{e\tau} & 0 & 0 & 0 & m_D^{\tau 2} & m_D^{\tau 3} \\ \hline m_D^{e1} & 0 & 0 & 0 & M_R^{12} & M_R^{13} \\ 0 & m_D^{\mu 2} & m_D^{\tau 2} & M_R^{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_D^{\mu 3} & m_D^{\tau 3} & M_R^{13} & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

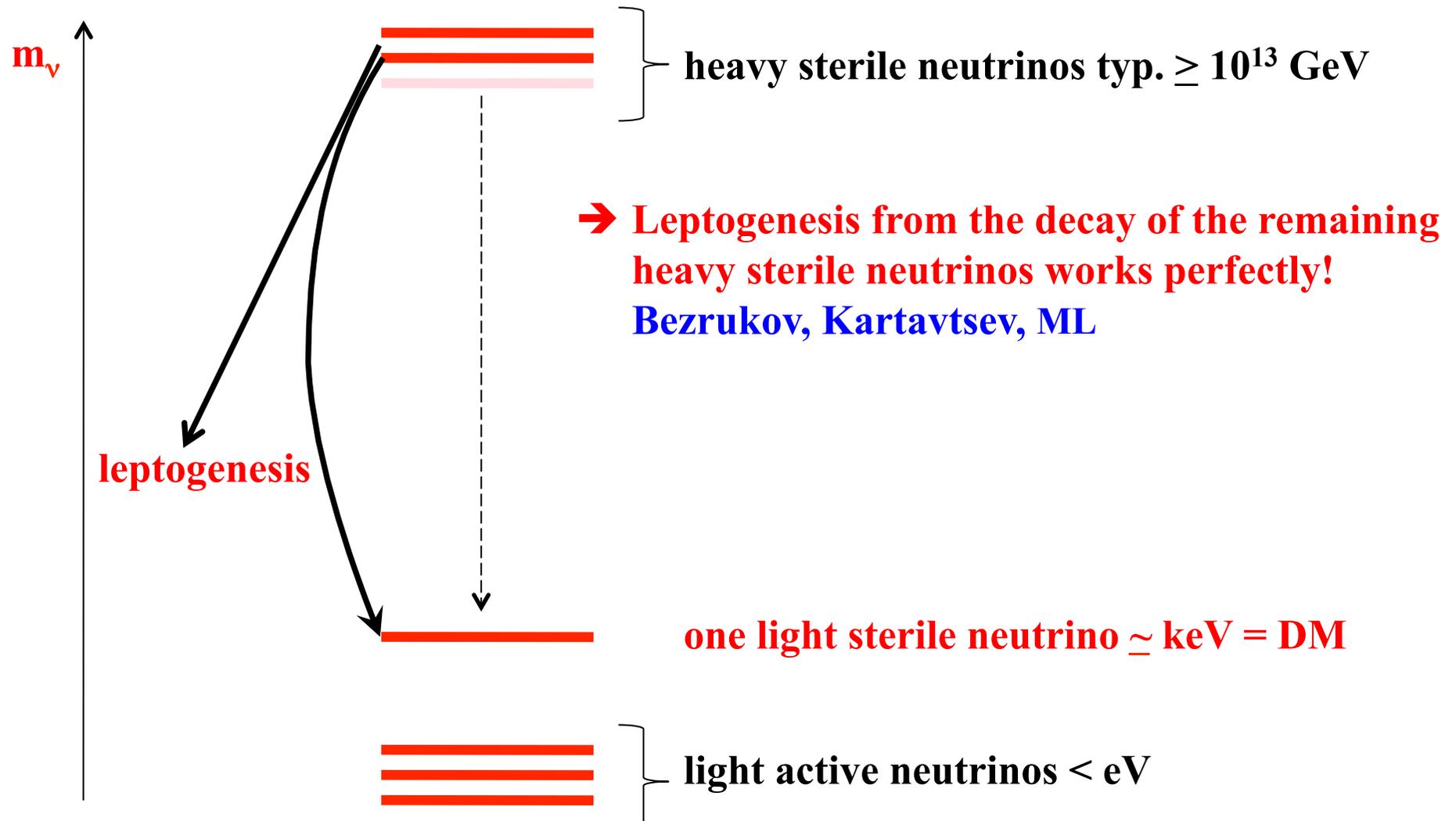
$\det(M_{ij}) = 0 \rightarrow M_1 = 0$

$\rightarrow$  massless sterile state + soft breaking

$\rightarrow$  light sterile  $\nu$

# Leptogenesis

...there still exist heavy sterile states ...



# Conclusions

- A **keV-ish sterile neutrino** is a very well motivated and good working **Warm Dark Matter candidate**  $\leftrightarrow$  finite  $\nu$ -masses
  - Simplest realization:  $\nu$ MSM  $\rightarrow$  requires non-thermal production
  - Our scenario: **Sterile  $\nu$ 's which are charged under some extended gauge group**  $\rightarrow$  abundance from thermal production
    - $\rightarrow$  interesting constrains
      - small mixings from X-ray constraints and entropy generation (DM abundance)
      - masses bound by BBN
- $\rightarrow$  Implications for neutrino mass generation:
- type-I see-saw not possible
  - type-II works  $\leftrightarrow$  very natural in gauge extensions
  - requires one sterile neutrino to be light
- $\rightarrow$  Combination with Leptogenesis  $\rightarrow$  BAU
- $\rightarrow$  More general scenarios: just invent some mechanism which 'naturally' explains light sterile neutrinos