

Conversion-Driven Baryogenesis with Quark-Philic Flavored Dark Matter

Based on [ArXiv:26XX.XXXXXX](#)

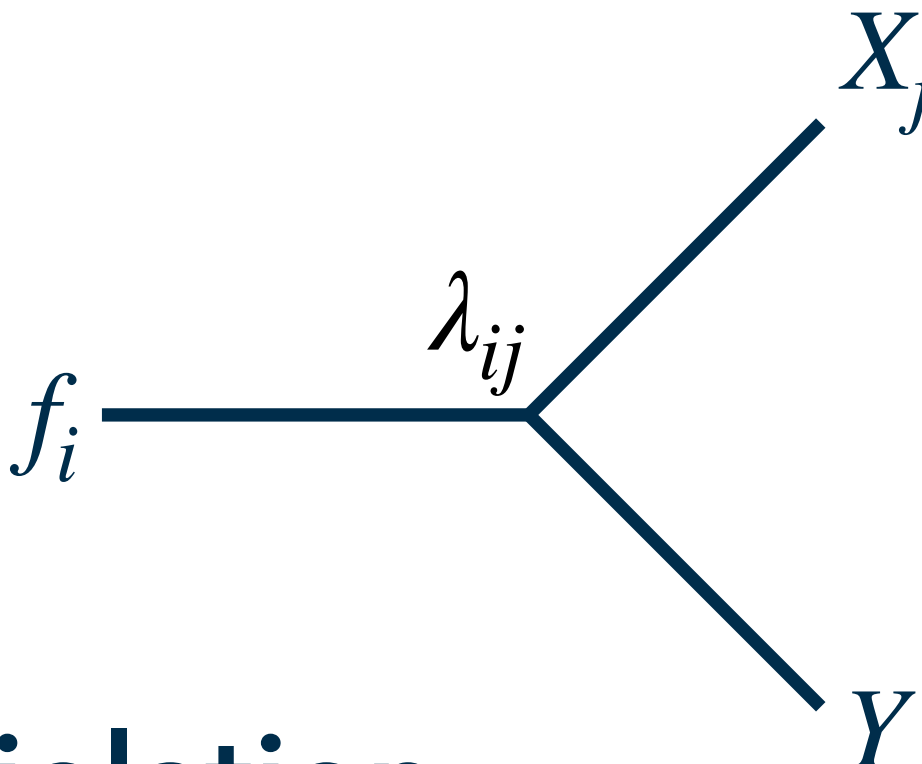
Lena Rathmann

IDM 2026

In collaboration with B. Belfatto, M. Blanke, J. Heisig,
and F. Wilsch

01.06.2026

Why Flavored Dark Matter?

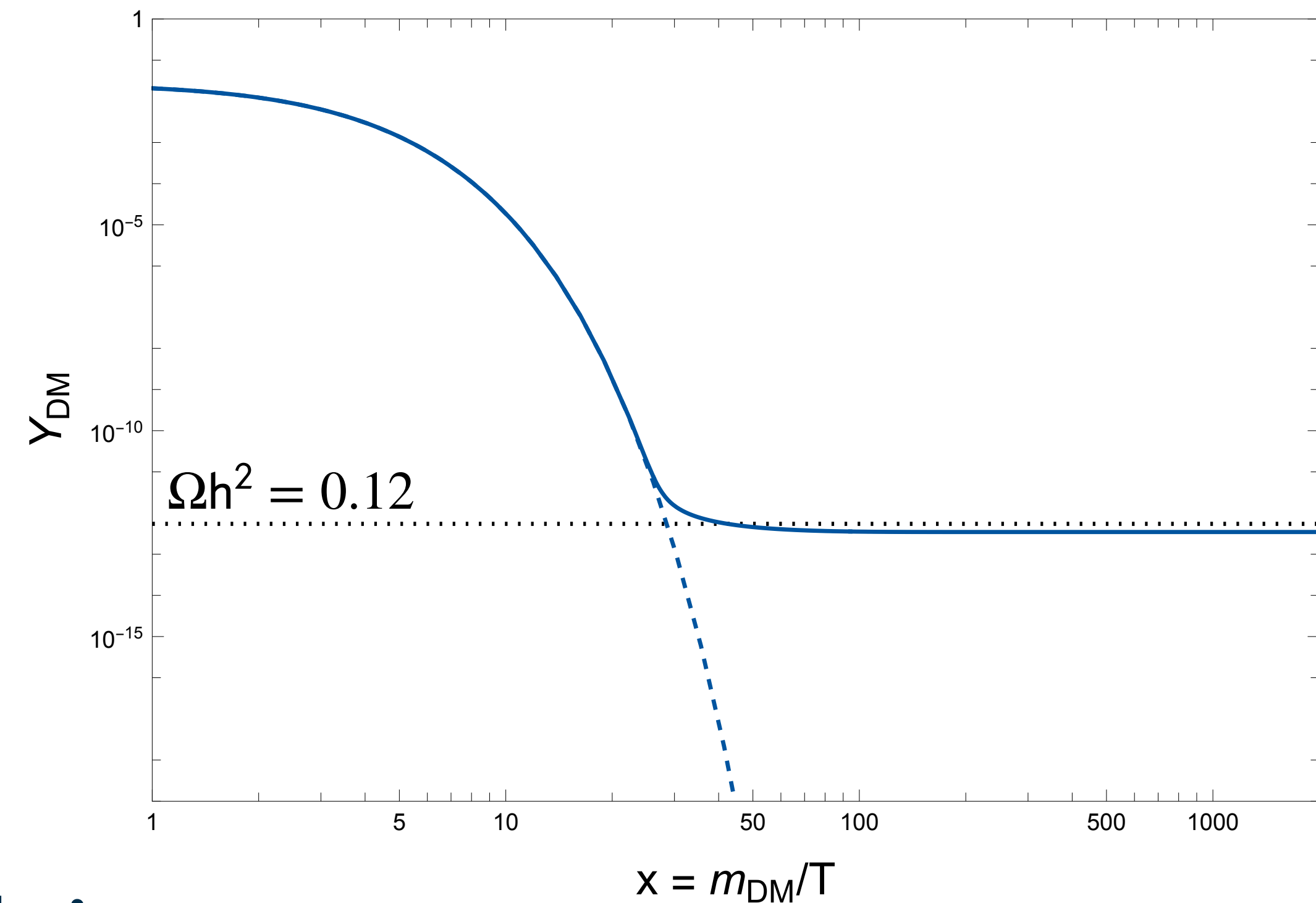
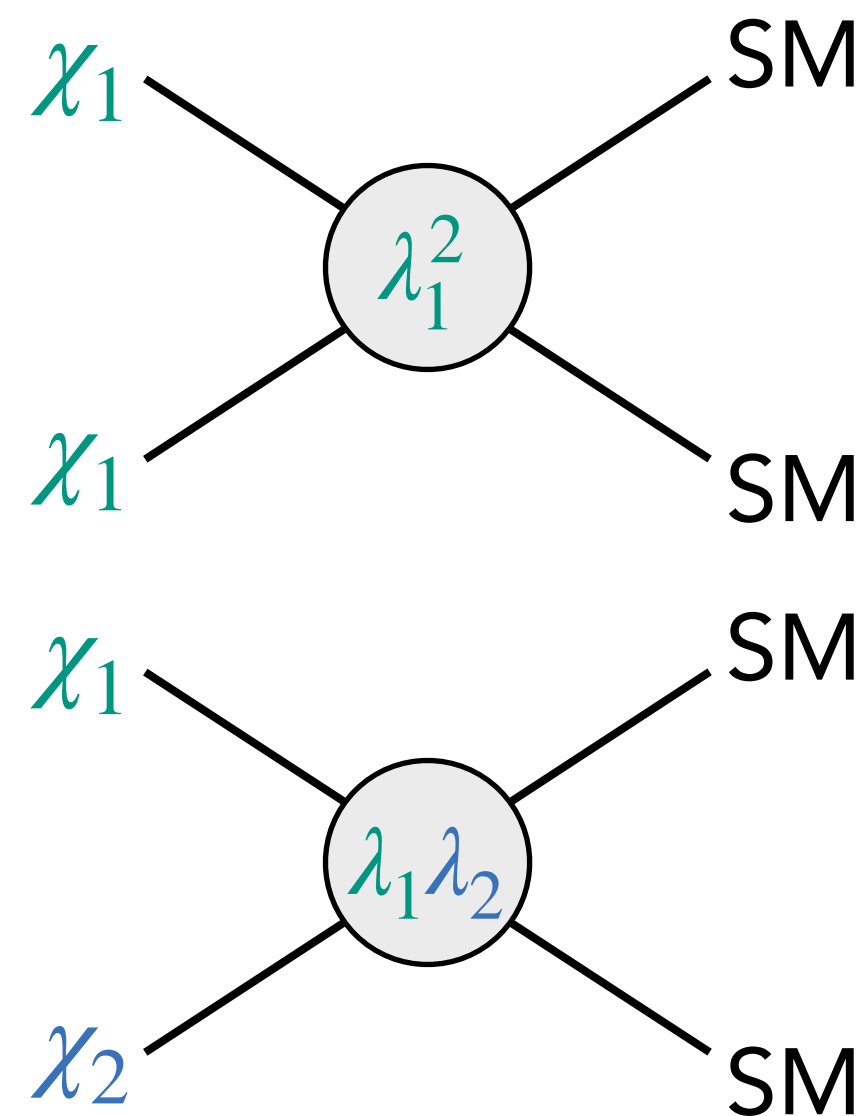
- Traditional WIMP models under severe pressure
→ Assume **DM has non-trivial flavor structure** like SM
- Couple to SM fermions f through complex 3×3 matrix λ**
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = -\lambda_{ij} \bar{f}_i X_j Y + \text{h.c.}$$

- New source of **flavor and CP violation**
→ Different phenomenology like more complex freeze-out mechanism

three generations of matter (fermions)			
	I	II	III
QUARKS	mass $\approx 2.16 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge $\frac{2}{3}$ spin $\frac{1}{2}$ u up	mass $\approx 1.273 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge $\frac{2}{3}$ spin $\frac{1}{2}$ c charm	mass $\approx 172.57 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge $\frac{2}{3}$ spin $\frac{1}{2}$ t top
	mass $\approx 4.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge $-\frac{1}{3}$ spin $\frac{1}{2}$ d down	mass $\approx 93.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge $-\frac{1}{3}$ spin $\frac{1}{2}$ s strange	mass $\approx 4.183 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge $-\frac{1}{3}$ spin $\frac{1}{2}$ b bottom
	mass $\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge -1 spin $\frac{1}{2}$ e electron	mass $\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge -1 spin $\frac{1}{2}$ μ muon	mass $\approx 1.77693 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ charge -1 spin $\frac{1}{2}$ τ tau
	mass $< 0.8 \text{ eV}/c^2$ charge 0 spin $\frac{1}{2}$ ν_e electron neutrino	mass $< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge 0 spin $\frac{1}{2}$ ν_μ muon neutrino	mass $< 18.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ charge 0 spin $\frac{1}{2}$ ν_τ tau neutrino
			
	flavored dark matter	flavored dark matter	flavored dark matter

Freeze-Out with Coannihilations

$\lambda_1 \sim \lambda_2$, couplings large

Dark Matter depletes through

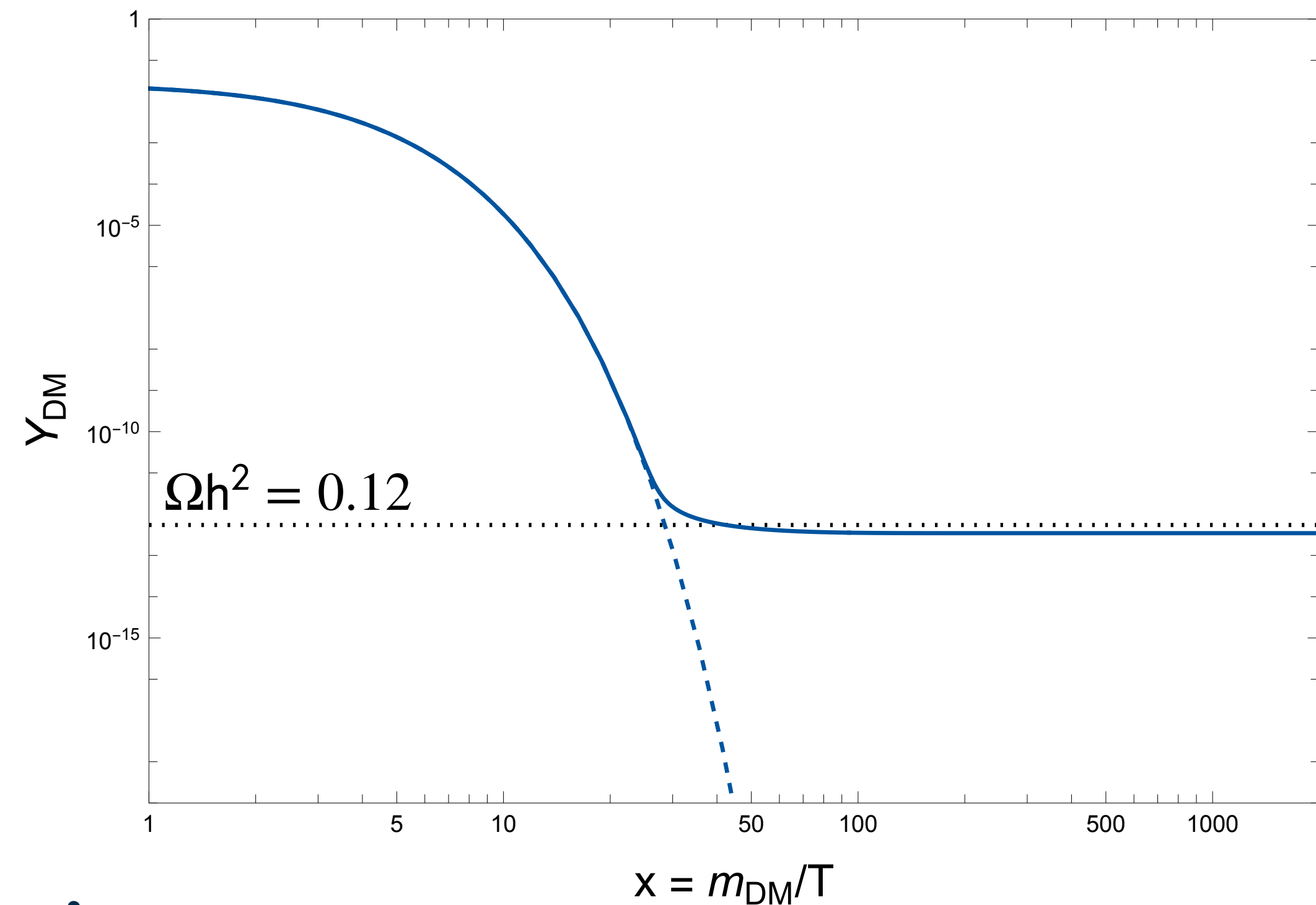
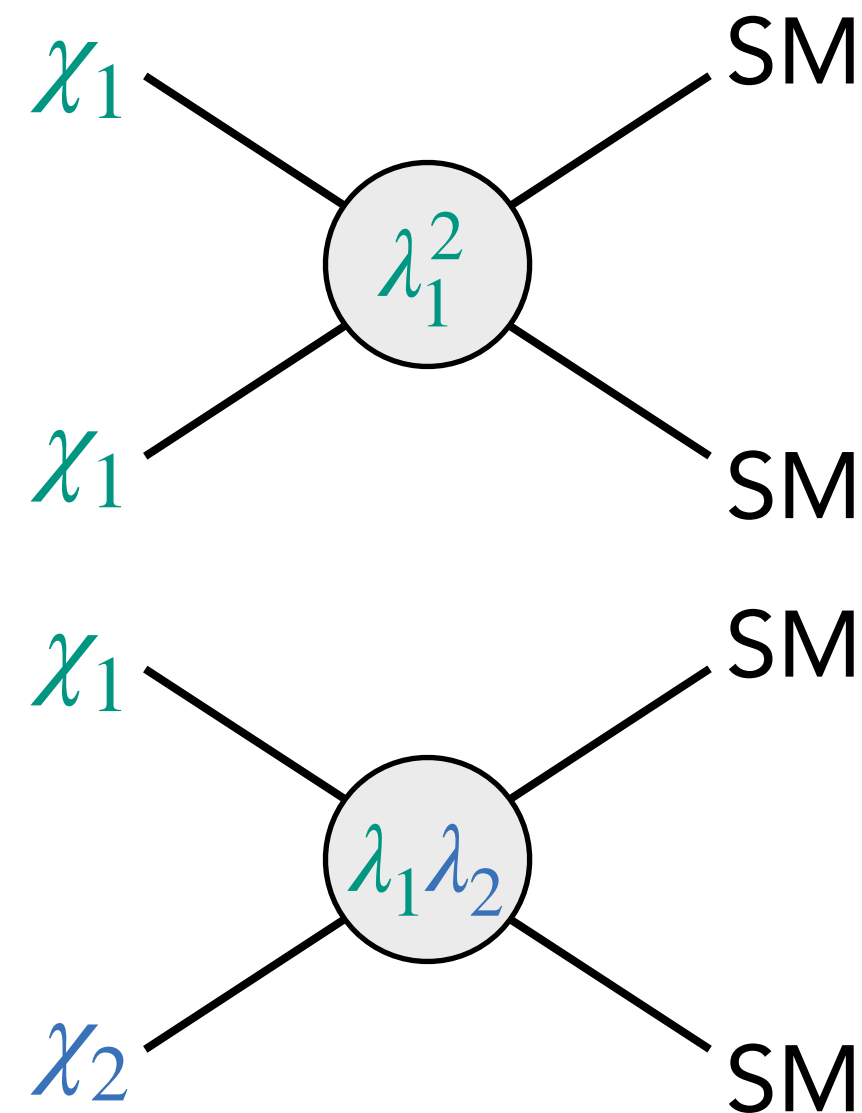


Dark sector particles in **chemical equilibrium**

Freeze-Out with Coannihilations

$\lambda_1 \sim \lambda_2$, couplings large

Dark Matter depletes through



Dark sector particles in **chemical equilibrium**

→ Solve

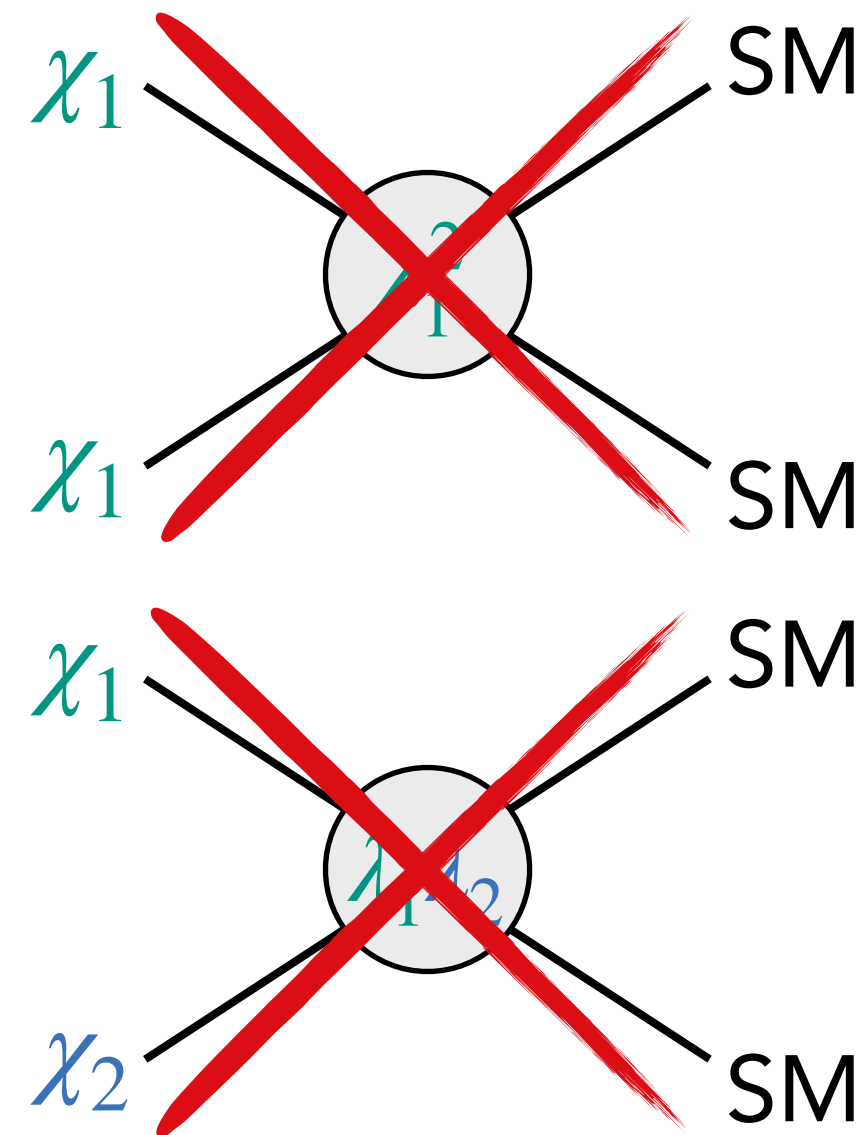
$$\frac{dY}{dx} = -\frac{1}{3H} \frac{ds}{dx} \langle \sigma_{\text{eff}} v \rangle (Y^2 - Y_{\text{eq}}^2)$$

where

$$\langle \sigma_{\text{eff}} v \rangle = \sum_{ij} \langle \sigma_{ij} v_{ij} \rangle \frac{n_i^{\text{eq}}}{n^{\text{eq}}} \frac{n_j^{\text{eq}}}{n^{\text{eq}}}$$

Conversion-Driven Freeze-Out

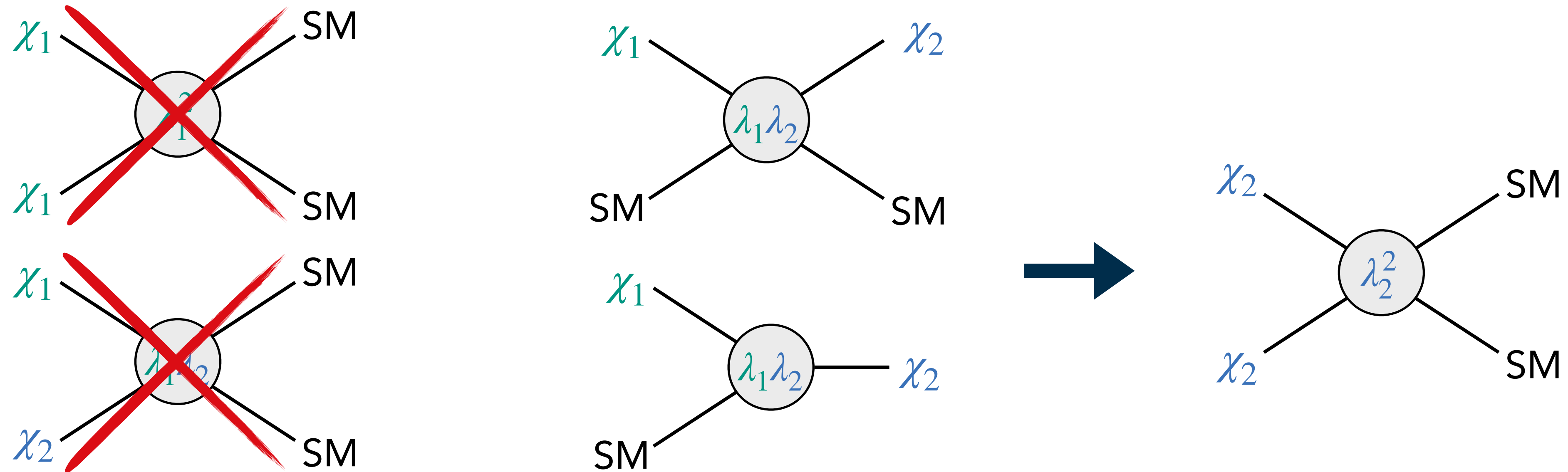
λ_1 very small, λ_2 large



Conversion-Driven Freeze-Out

λ_1 very small, λ_2 large

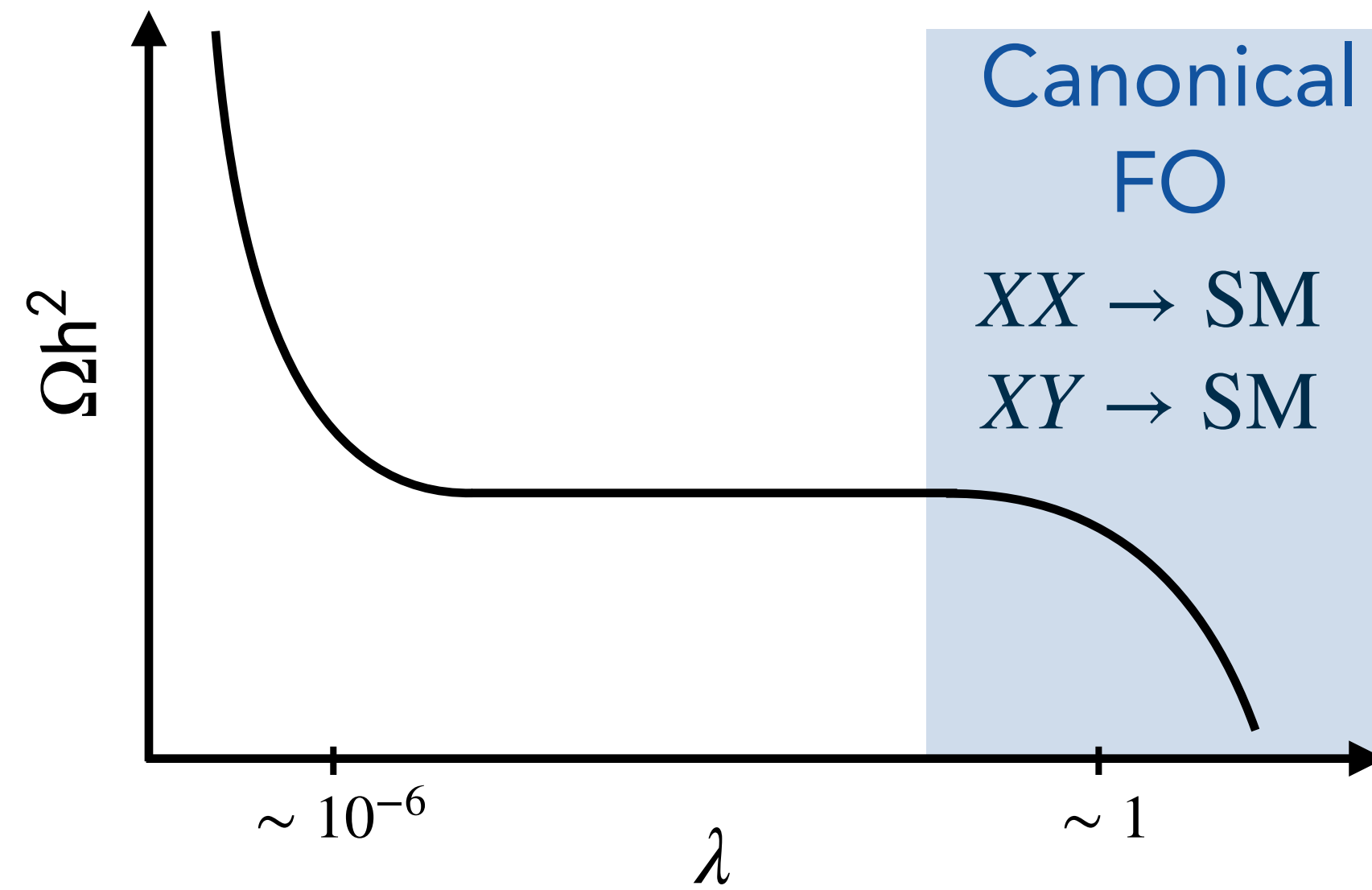
Dark Matter depletes through



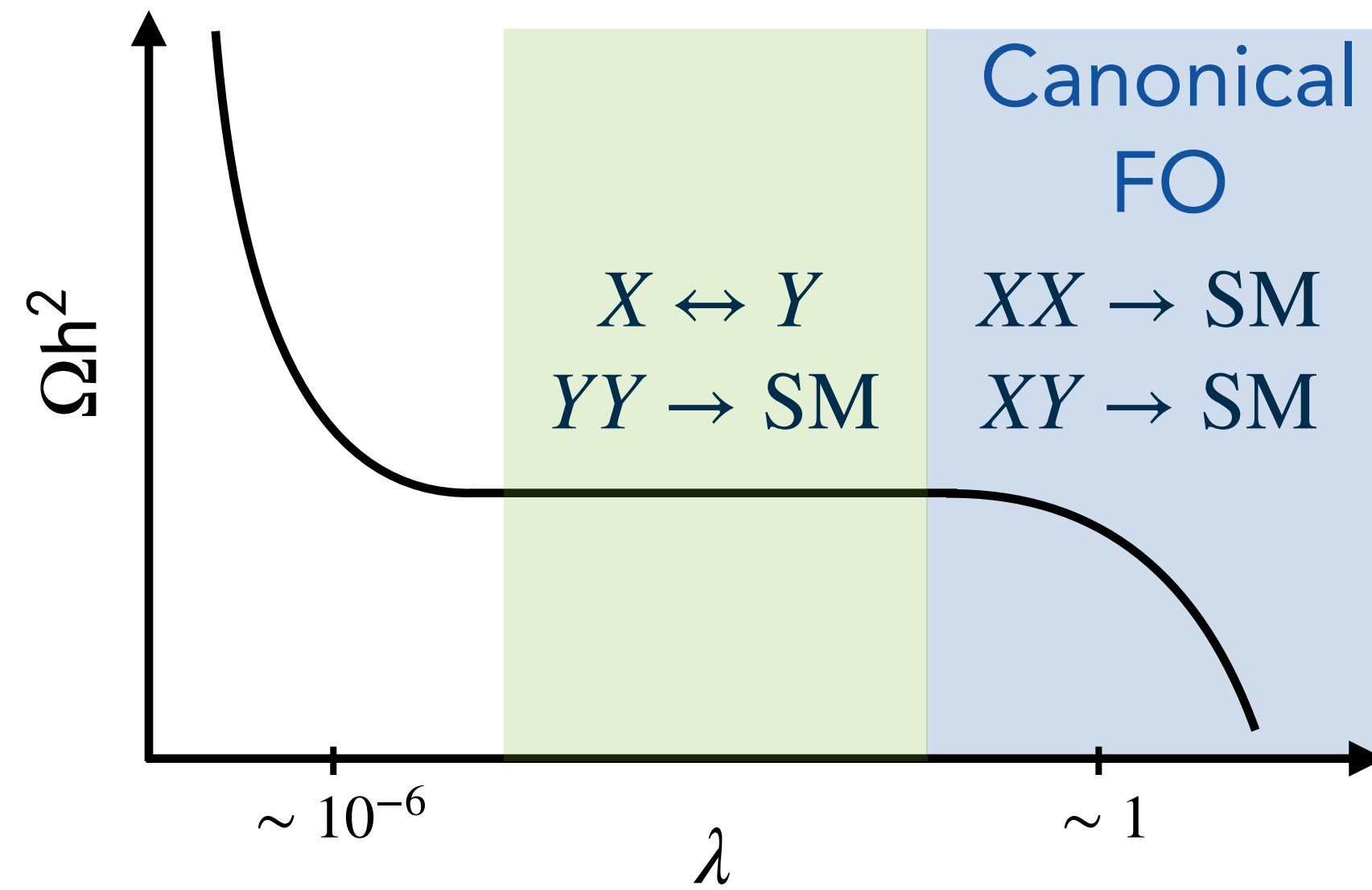
$\Gamma_{\text{conv}} \sim H \rightarrow$ **no chemical equilibrium**

$\rightarrow$ Set of coupled Boltzmann equations needs to be solved for all contributing particles

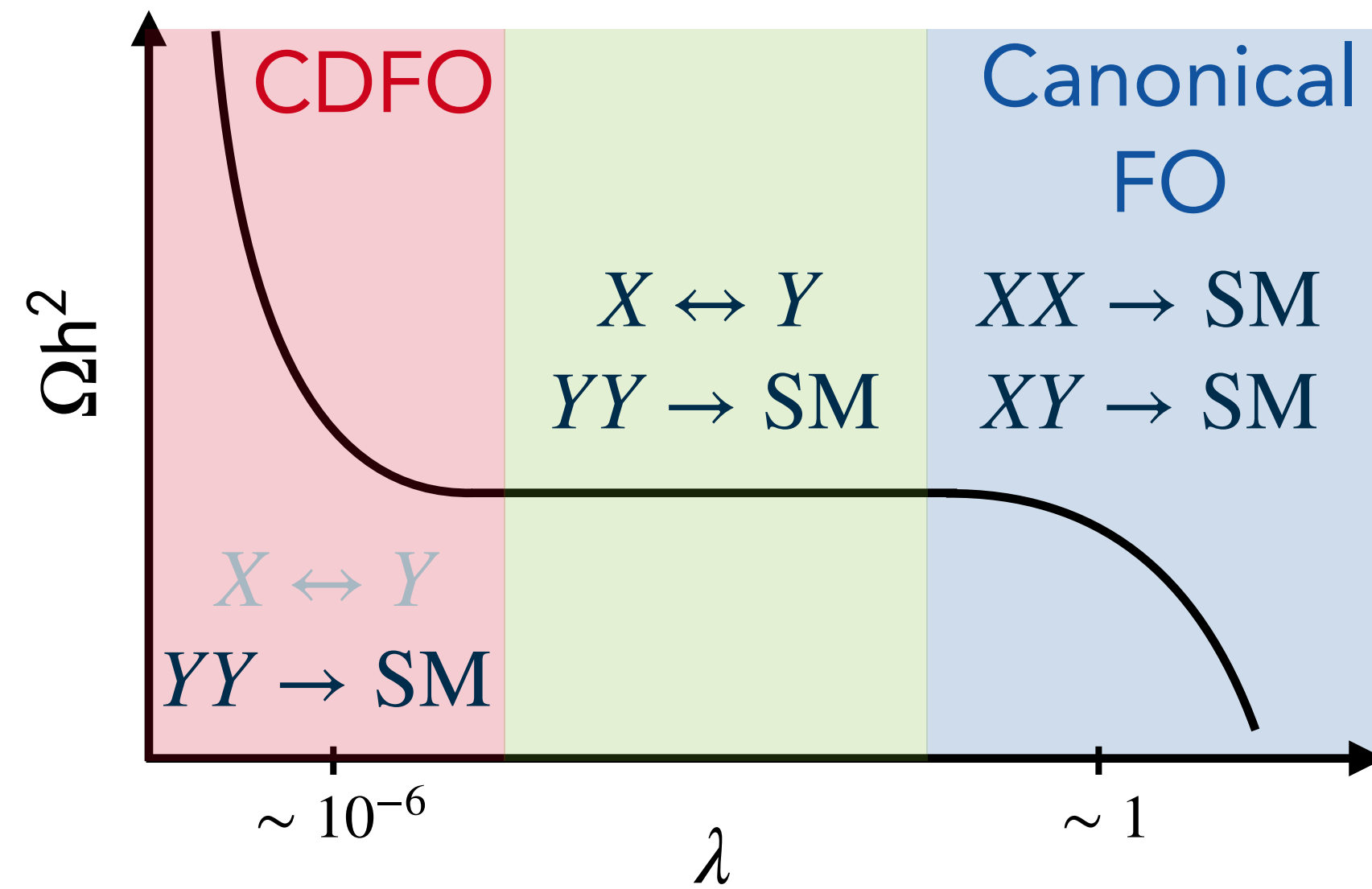
Conversion-Driven Freeze-Out



Conversion-Driven Freeze-Out



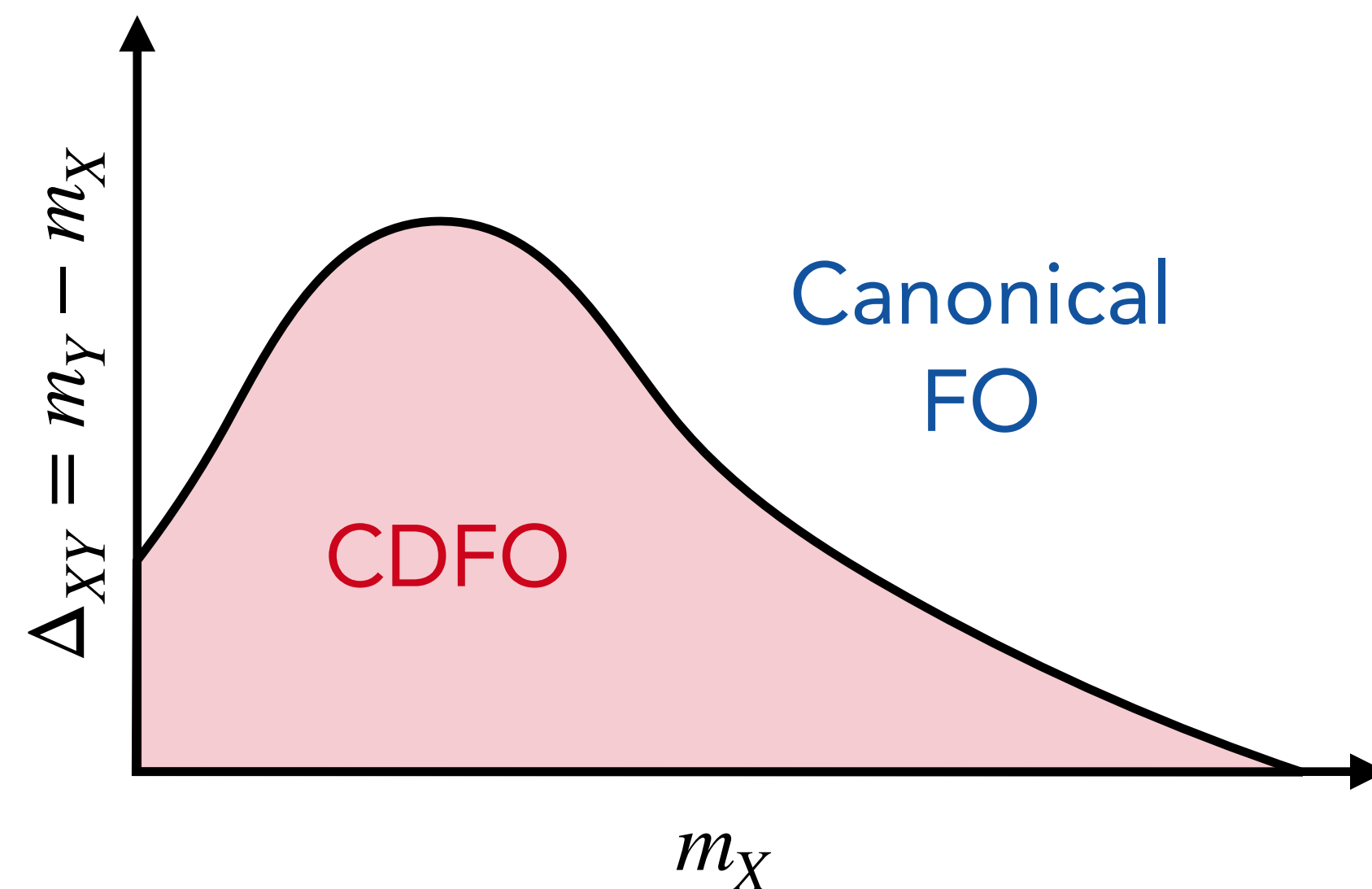
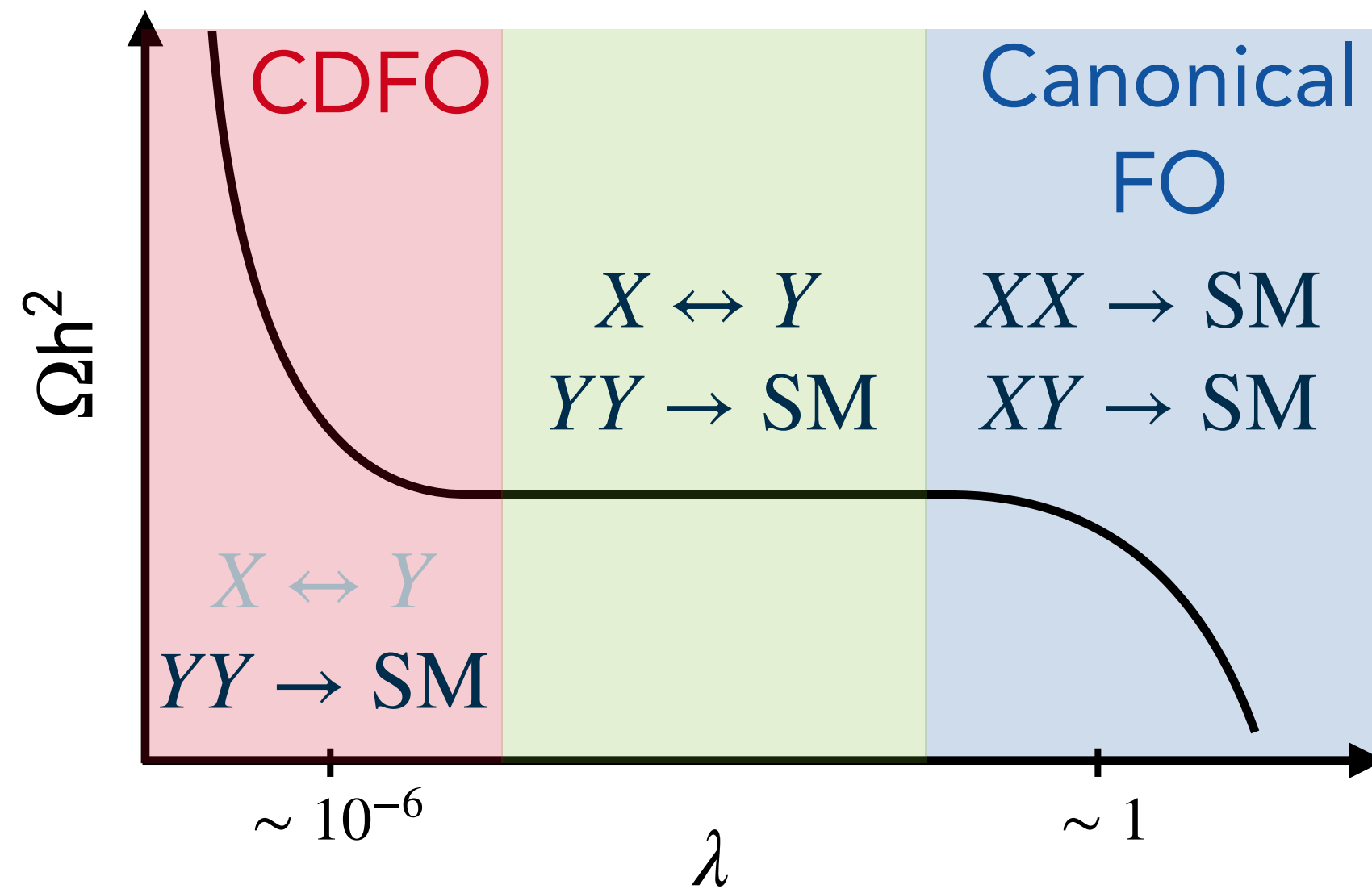
Conversion-Driven Freeze-Out



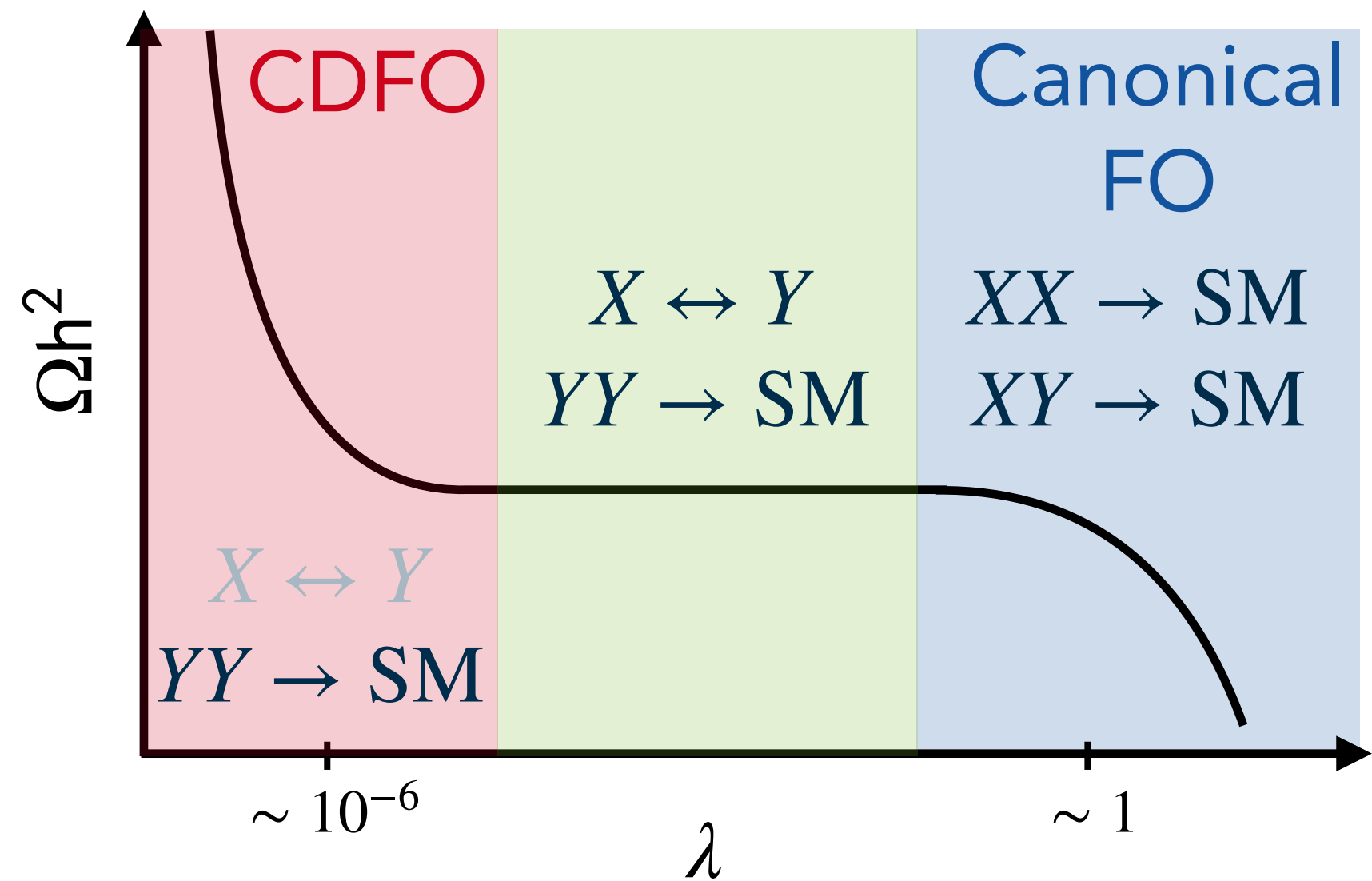
→ Relic abundance is enhanced for very small couplings

Conversion-Driven Freeze-Out

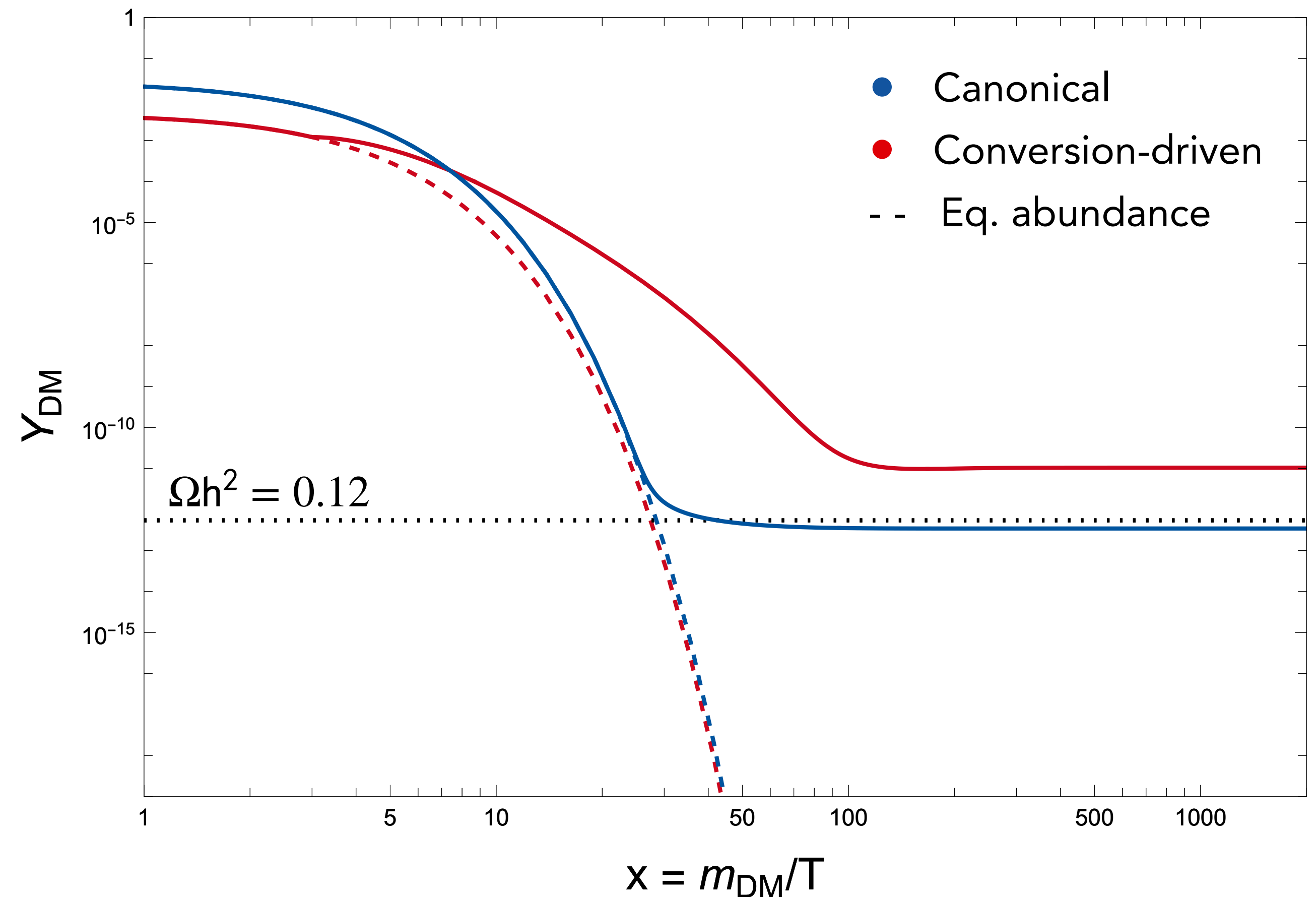
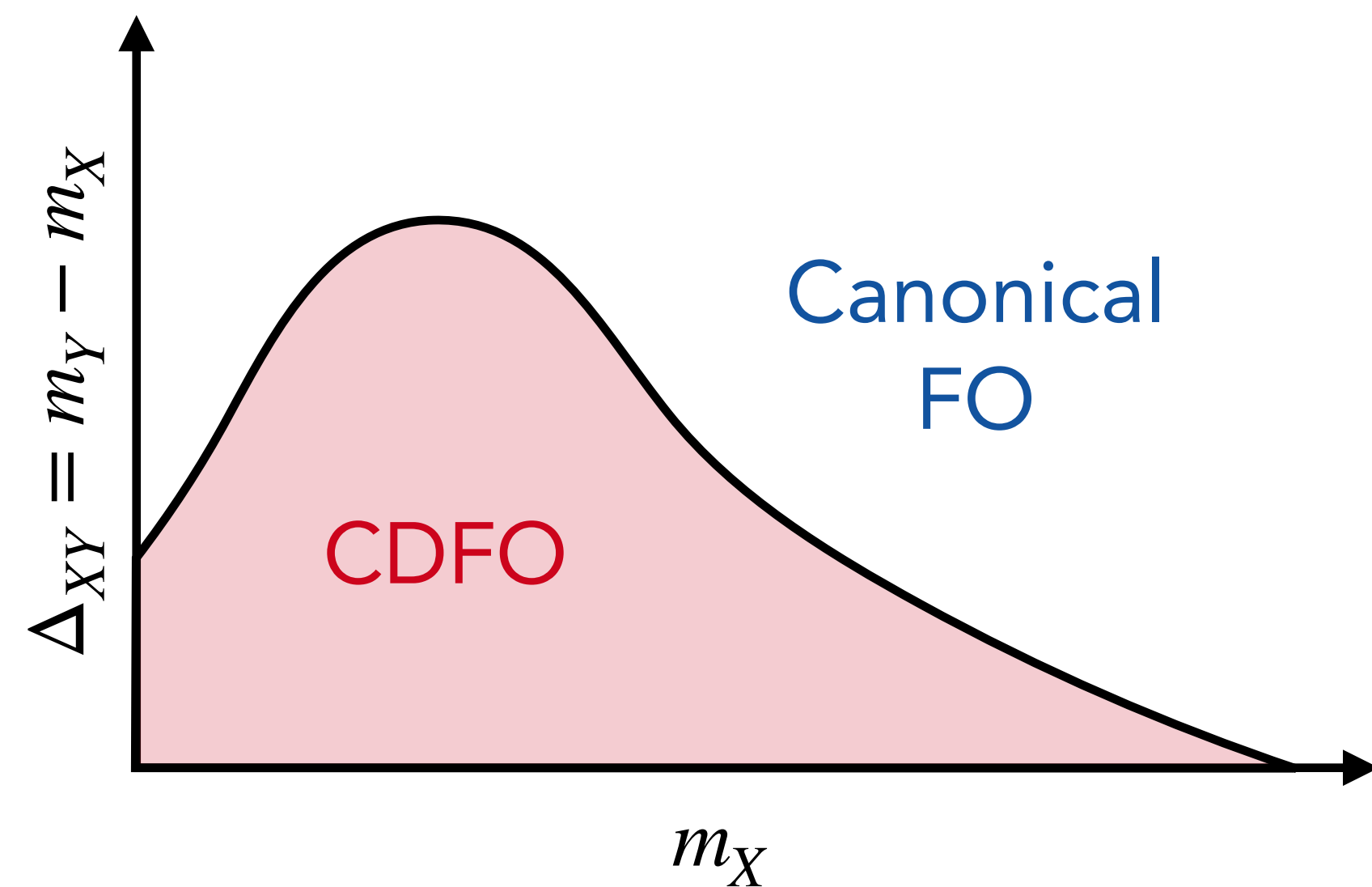
→ Relic abundance is enhanced for very small couplings



Conversion-Driven Freeze-Out



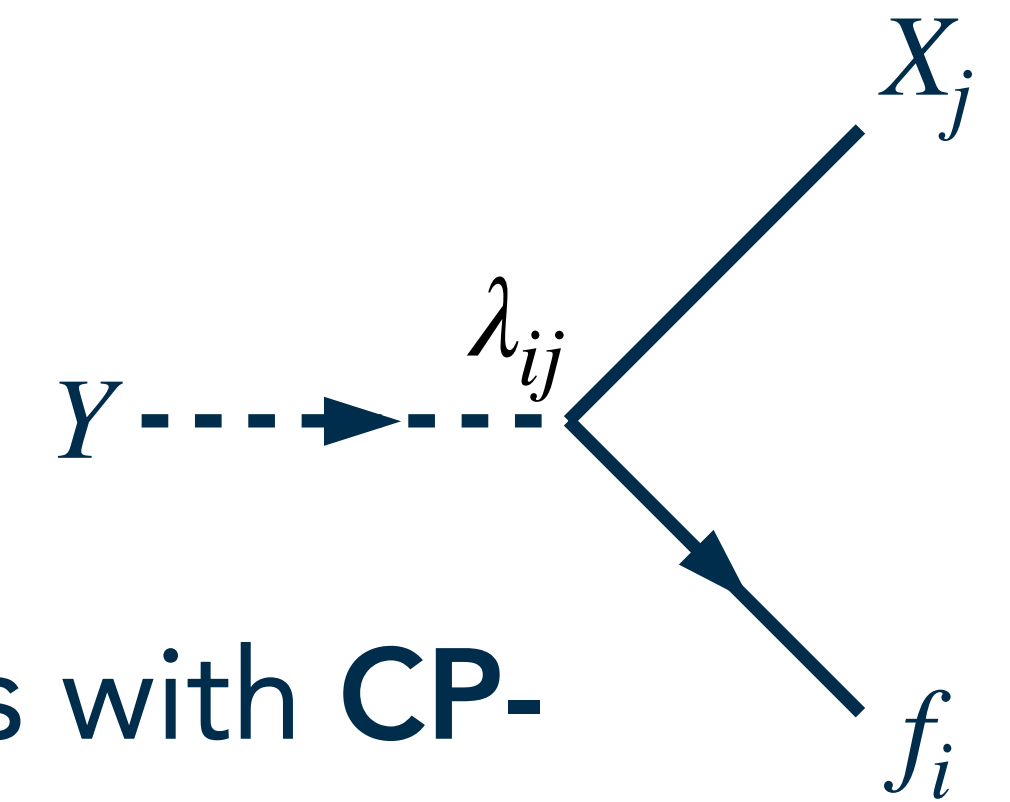
→ Relic abundance is enhanced for very small couplings



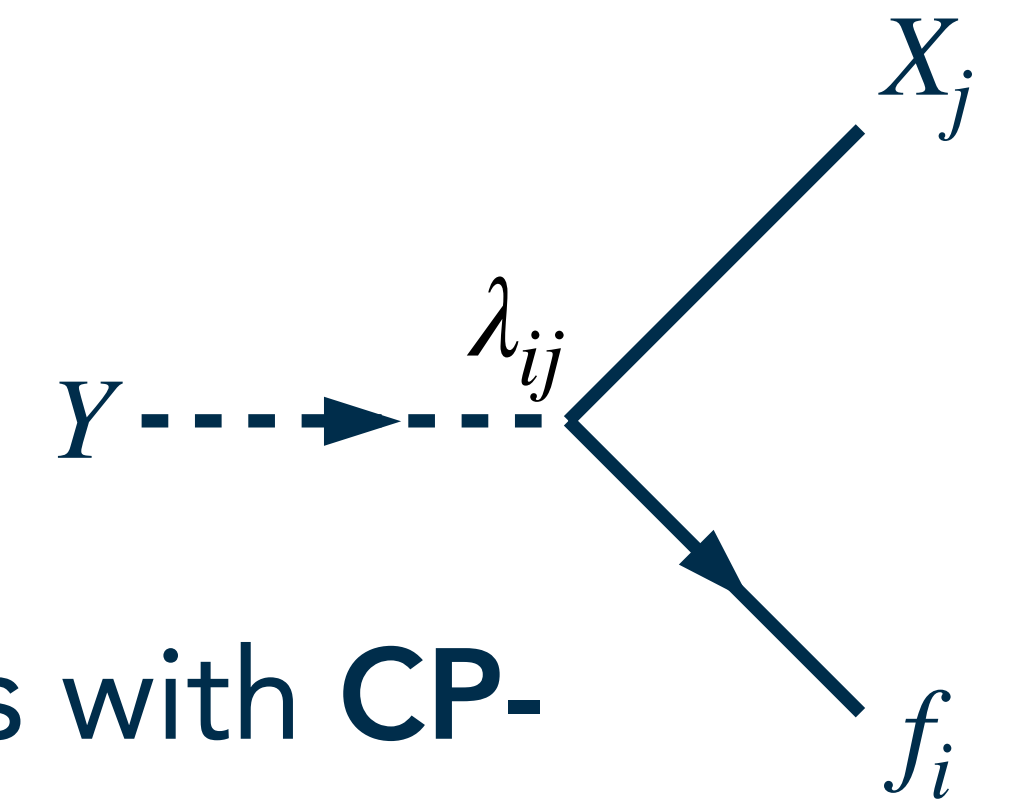
Baryon Asymmetry with Flavored DM

- Sakharov conditions:

- C- and CP-symmetry violation  From conversion process with **CP-violating coupling**
- Interactions out of equilibrium  **Early DM departure from equilibrium** because of very small couplings
- Baryon number violation  **Sphaleron processes** violate $B + L$ in SM sector (but conserve $B - L$)



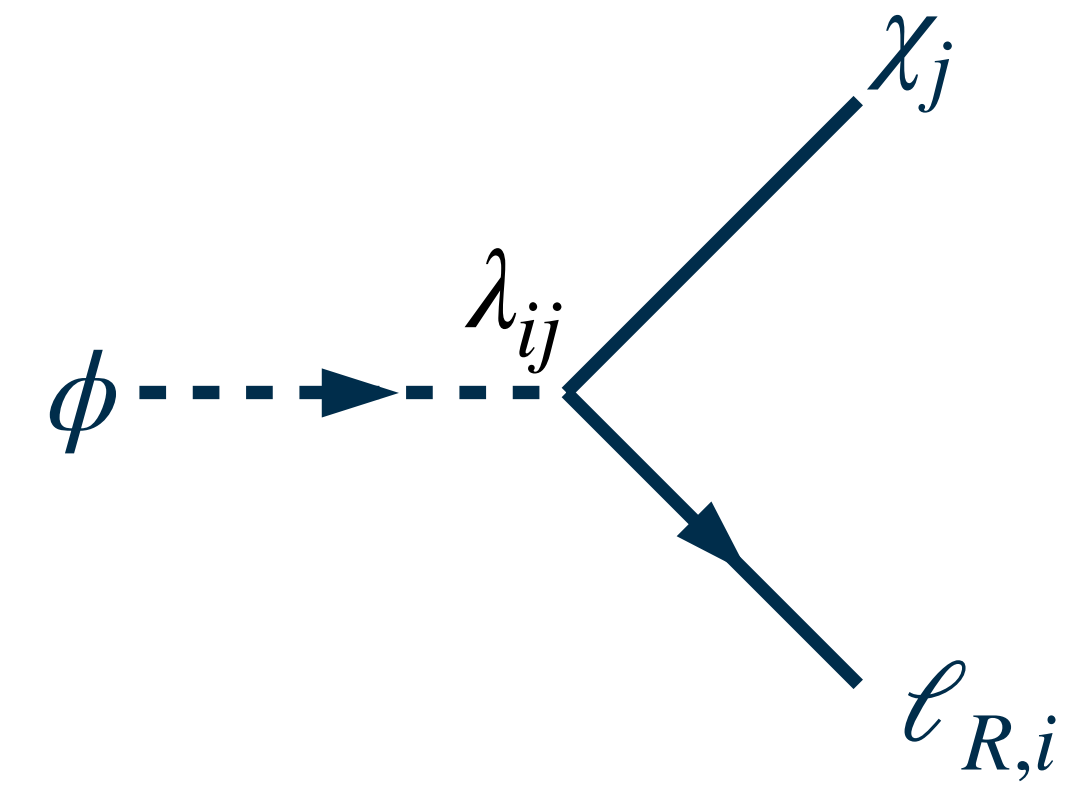
Baryon Asymmetry with Flavored DM



- Sakharov conditions:
 - C- and CP-symmetry violation ☒ From conversion process with **CP-violating coupling**
 - Interactions out of equilibrium ☒ **Early DM departure from equilibrium** because of very small couplings
 - Baryon number violation ☒ **Sphaleron processes** violate $B + L$ in SM sector (but conserve $B - L$)
- **Sphaleron processes:** non-perturbative transitions in the electroweak theory between topologically distinct vacua, active at high temperatures (until $T \sim 130$ GeV)

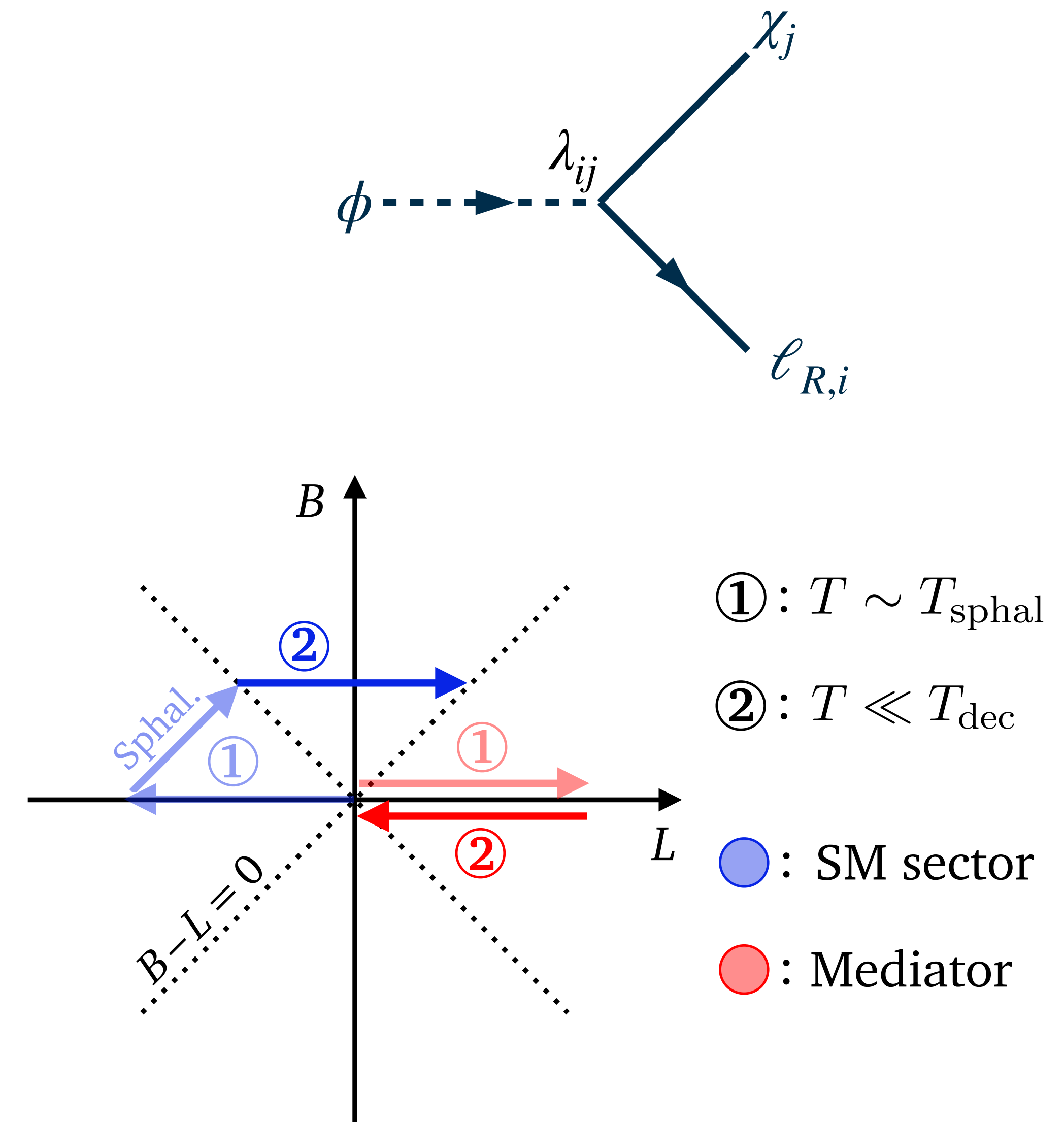
Conversion-Driven Leptogenesis

- Studied already using leptophilic flavored DM with 2 nearly mass-degenerate χ flavors



Conversion-Driven Leptogenesis

- Studied already using leptophilic flavored DM with 2 nearly mass-degenerate χ flavors
- Generate Δ_ϕ and Δ_{ℓ_R} through **CP-violating conversion** where $\Delta_A = Y_A - Y_{\bar{A}}$
- Lepton number conserved overall
 $\rightarrow \Delta_\phi = -\Delta_{\ell_R} = -\Delta L$
- **Sphaleron processes convert ΔL to ΔB** , only affecting SM
- After sphaleron decoupling, ϕ decays and asymmetry is removed



Conversion-Driven Leptogenesis

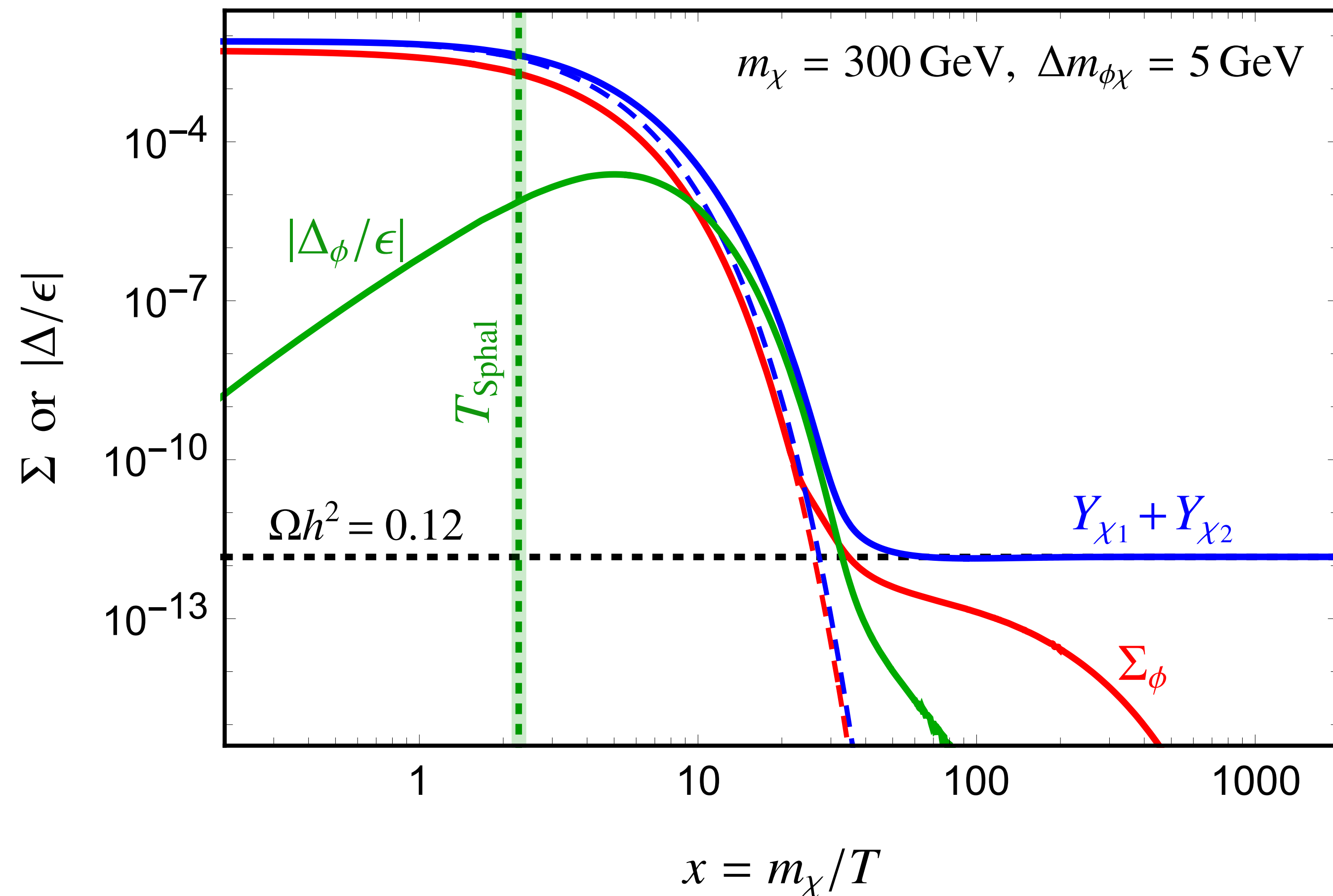
- CP-asymmetry in $\phi \rightarrow \chi_i \ell_R$ decay

$$\epsilon_i = \frac{\Gamma_i^- - \Gamma_i^+}{2\Gamma_i}, \quad \epsilon \equiv \epsilon_1$$

- **Asymmetry** $\Delta_\phi = Y_\phi - Y_{\bar{\phi}}$ large at sphaleron decoupling temperature

- Can be converted into Baryon asymmetry with

$$Y_{\Delta B} \approx -\frac{28}{79} \epsilon \frac{\Delta_\phi}{\epsilon} \bigg|_{T=T_{\text{Sphal}}}$$



Conversion-Driven Leptogenesis

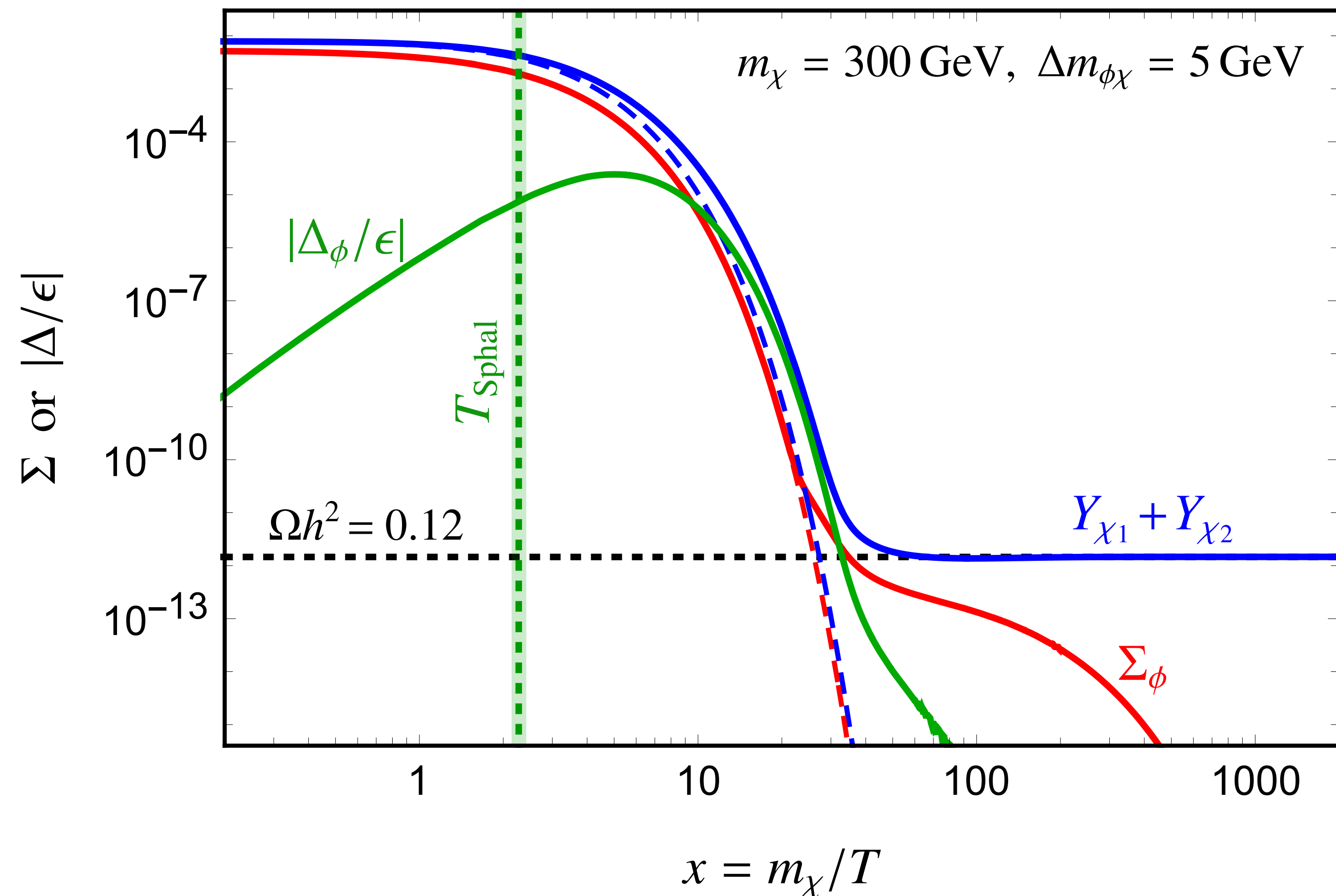
- CP-asymmetry in $\phi \rightarrow \chi_i \ell_R$ decay

$$\epsilon_i = \frac{\Gamma_i^- - \Gamma_i^+}{2\Gamma_i}, \quad \epsilon \equiv \epsilon_1$$

- **Asymmetry** $\Delta_\phi = Y_\phi - Y_{\bar{\phi}}$ large at sphaleron decoupling temperature

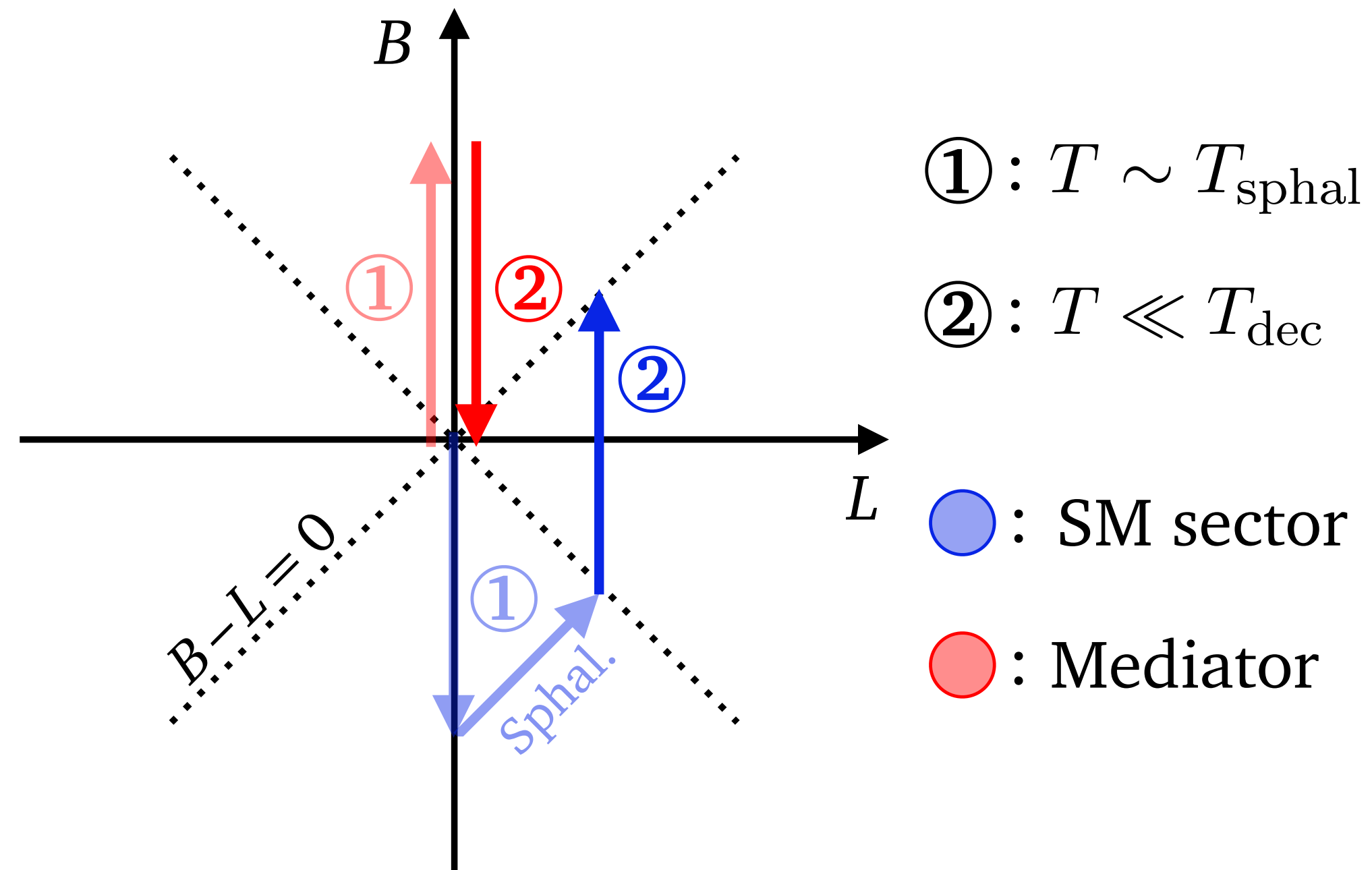
- Can be converted into Baryon asymmetry with

$$Y_{\Delta B} \approx -\frac{28}{79} \epsilon \frac{\Delta_\phi}{\epsilon} \bigg|_{T=T_{\text{Sphal}}}$$



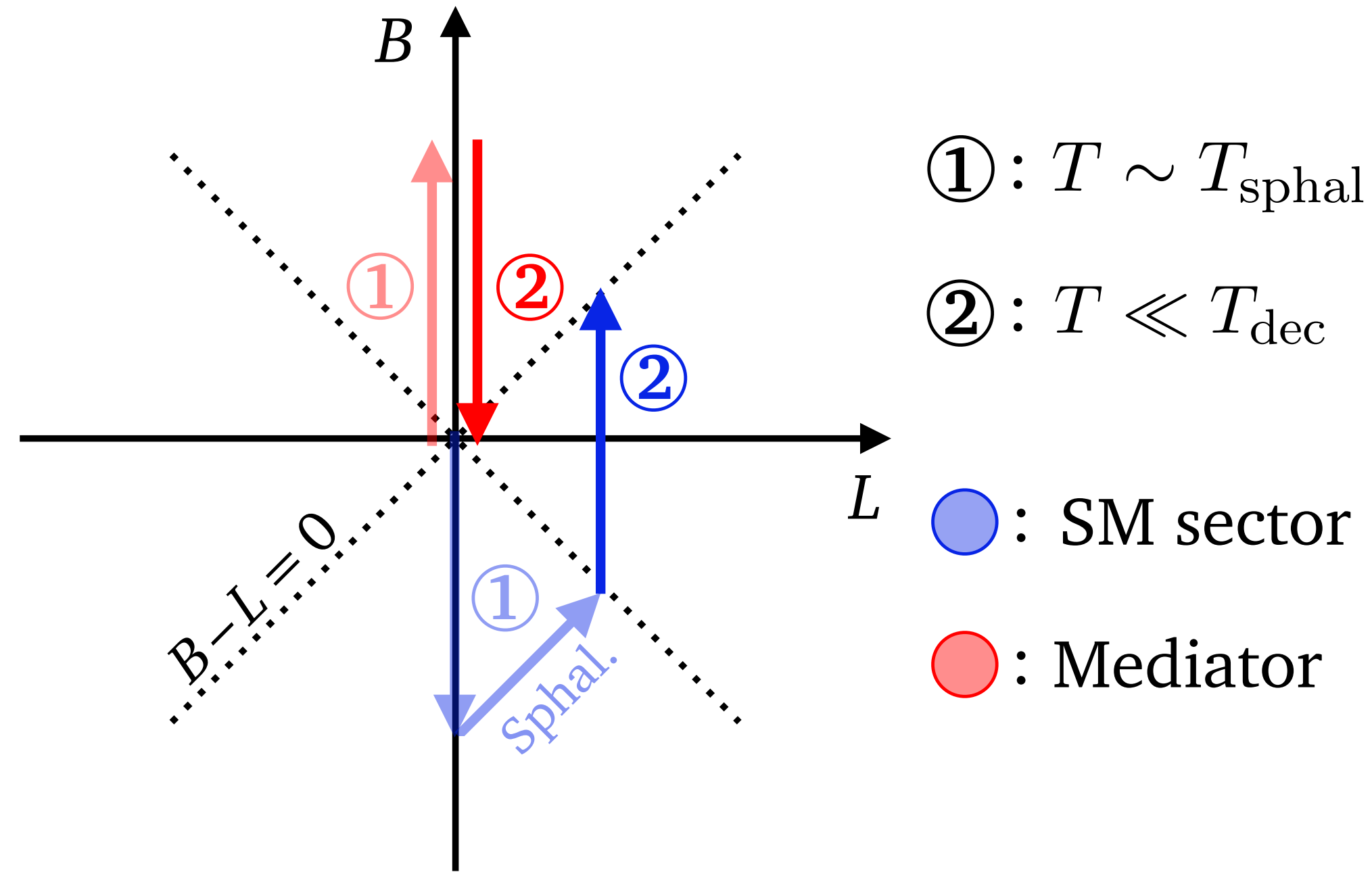
→ Study case for quark-philic model, include thermal corrections

Conversion-Driven Baryogenesis

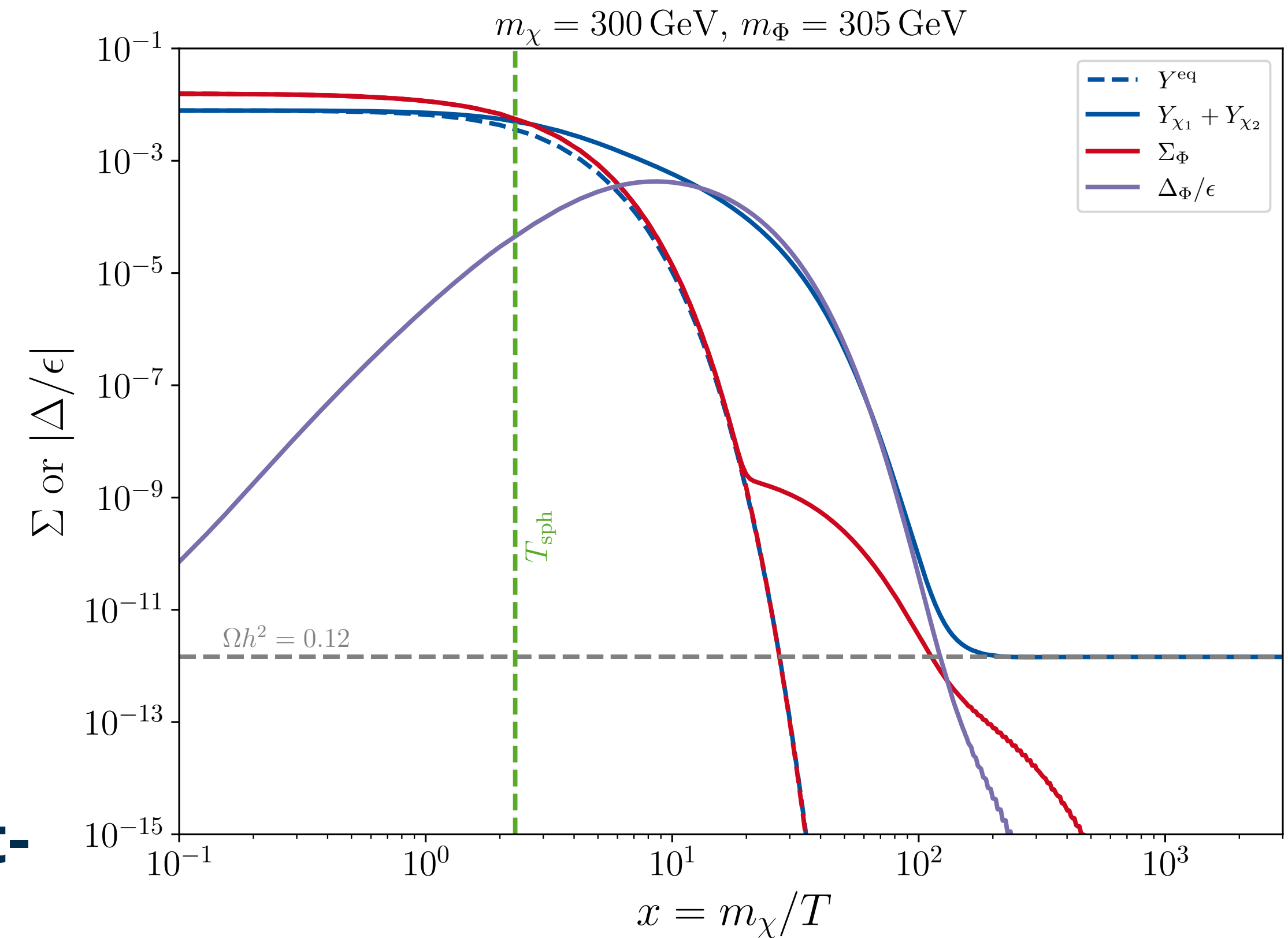


- Use flavored DM model **coupling to right-handed down-type quarks** with 2 flavors
- Include **Sommerfeld enhancement** and **bound state formation effects** from [Binder et al. 2025] for $\phi\phi$ pair-annihilation

Conversion-Driven Baryogenesis



- Use flavored DM model **coupling to right-handed down-type quarks** with 2 flavors
- Include Sommerfeld enhancement and bound state formation effects from [Binder et al. 2025] for $\phi\phi$ pair-annihilation



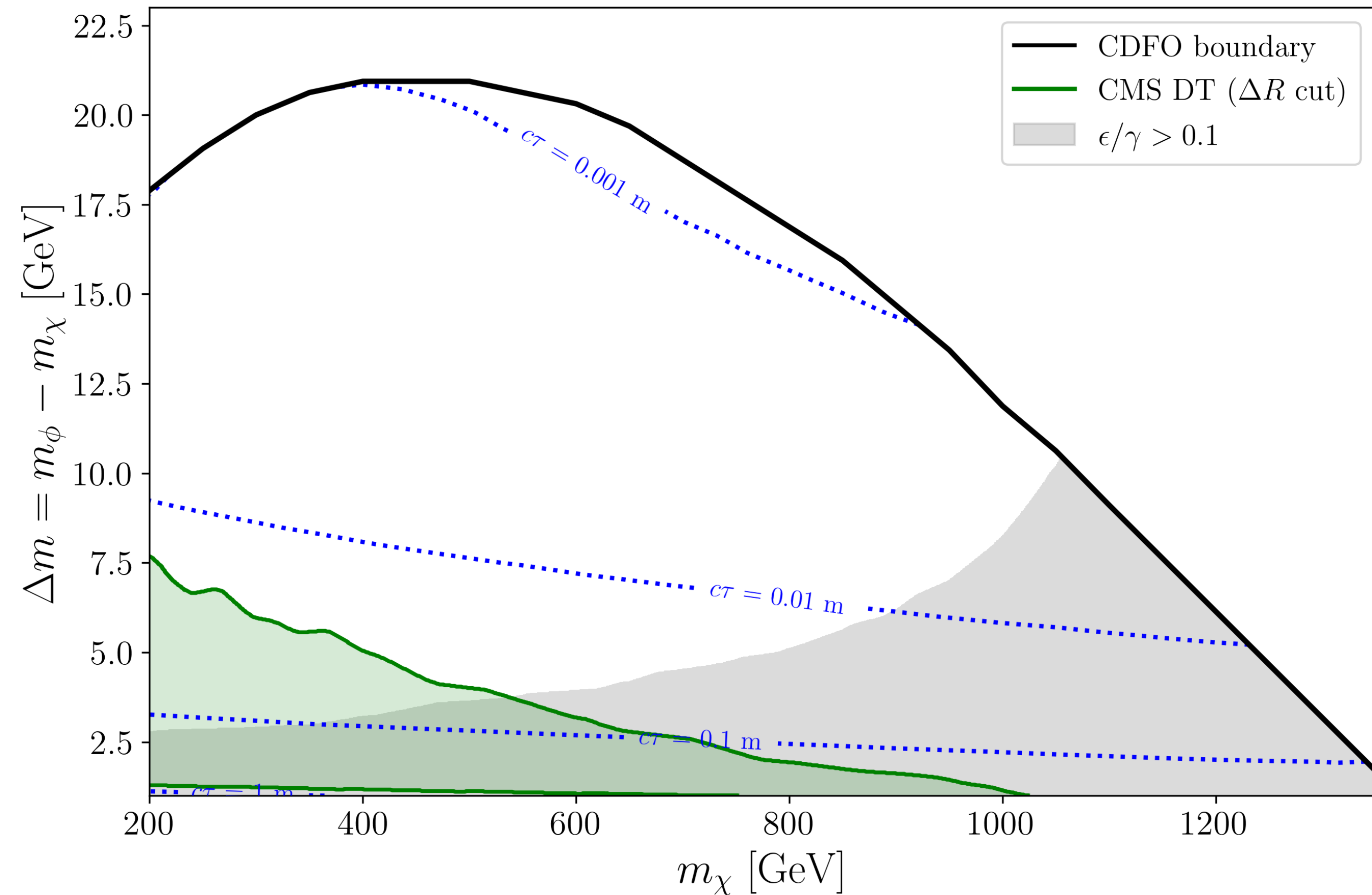
Convert into baryon asymmetry:

$$Y_{\Delta B} = -\frac{21}{79}\epsilon \frac{\Delta_\phi}{\epsilon} \bigg|_{T=T_{\text{Sphal}}}$$

Viable Parameter Space

- Solution possible for $\Omega h^2 = 0.12$ and $Y_{\Delta B} = 0.9 \times 10^{-10}$ with $\epsilon \sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-3}$
- Couplings of order $\mathcal{O}(10^{-7})$ $\rightarrow$ evade direct and indirect searches, possible to **look for disappearing tracks (DT)** at LHC
- For $\epsilon/\gamma > 0.1$ validity of computation questionable

Branching fraction $\phi \rightarrow \chi_1$: 0.95

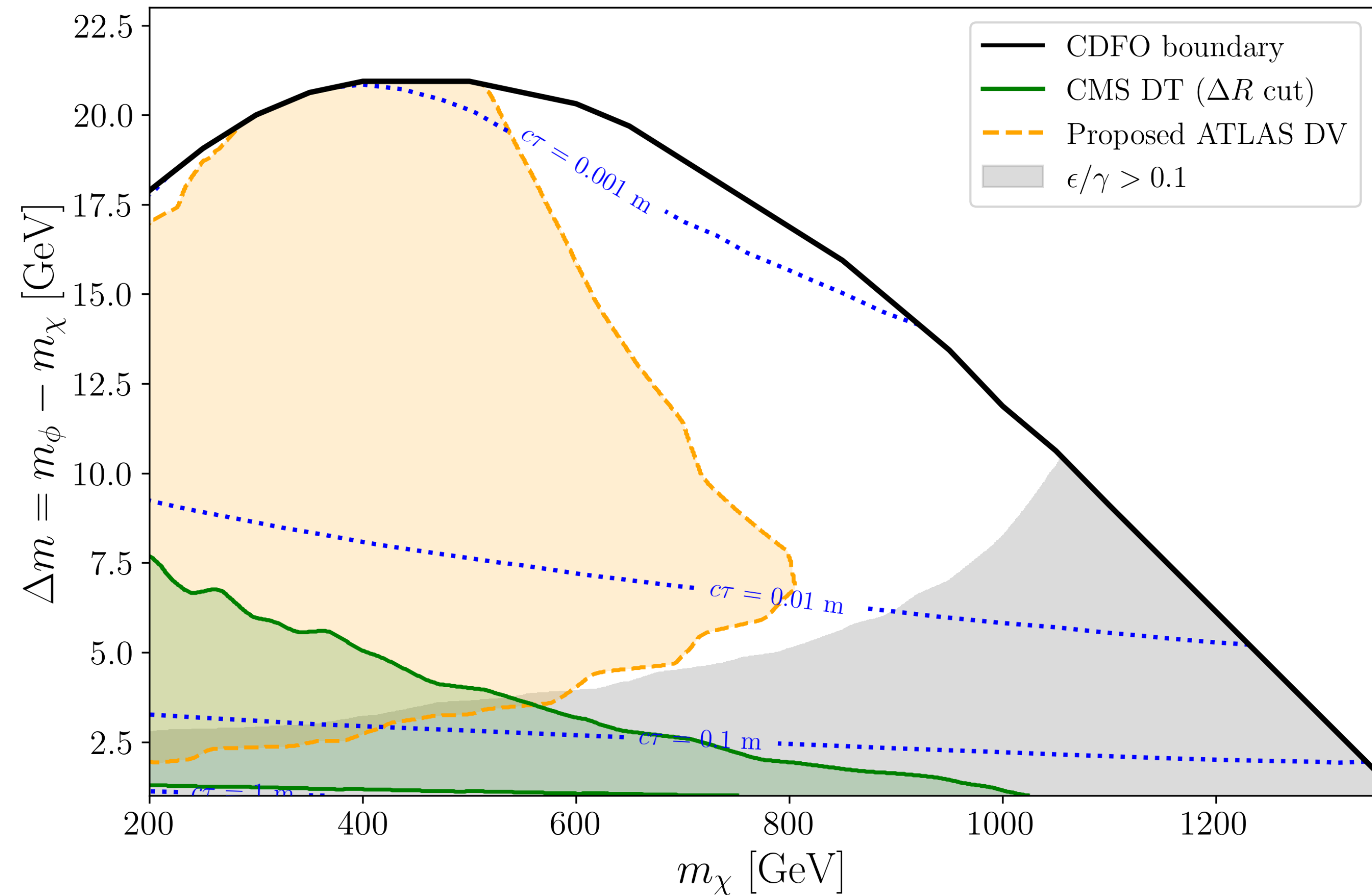


Limits reinterpreted from [Heisig et al. 2024]

Viable Parameter Space

- Solution possible for $\Omega h^2 = 0.12$ and $Y_{\Delta B} = 0.9 \times 10^{-10}$ with $\epsilon \sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-3}$
- Couplings of order $\mathcal{O}(10^{-7})$ $\rightarrow$ evade direct and indirect searches, possible to **look for disappearing tracks (DT)** at LHC
- For $\epsilon/\gamma > 0.1$ validity of computation questionable
- Proposed displaced vertices (DV) +MET search could cover most of parameter space

Branching fraction $\phi \rightarrow \chi_1: 0.95$

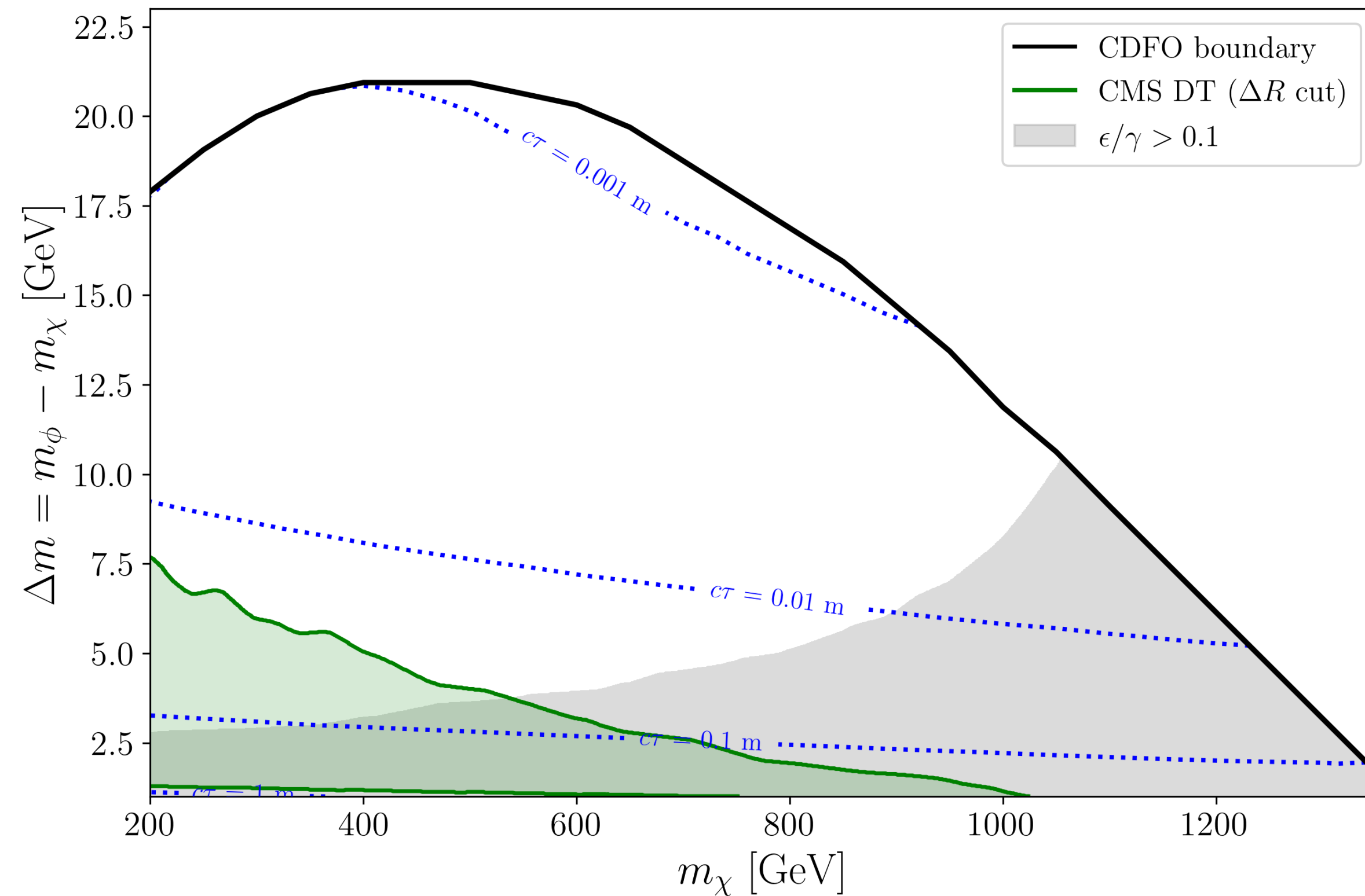


Limits reinterpreted from [Heisig et al. 2024]

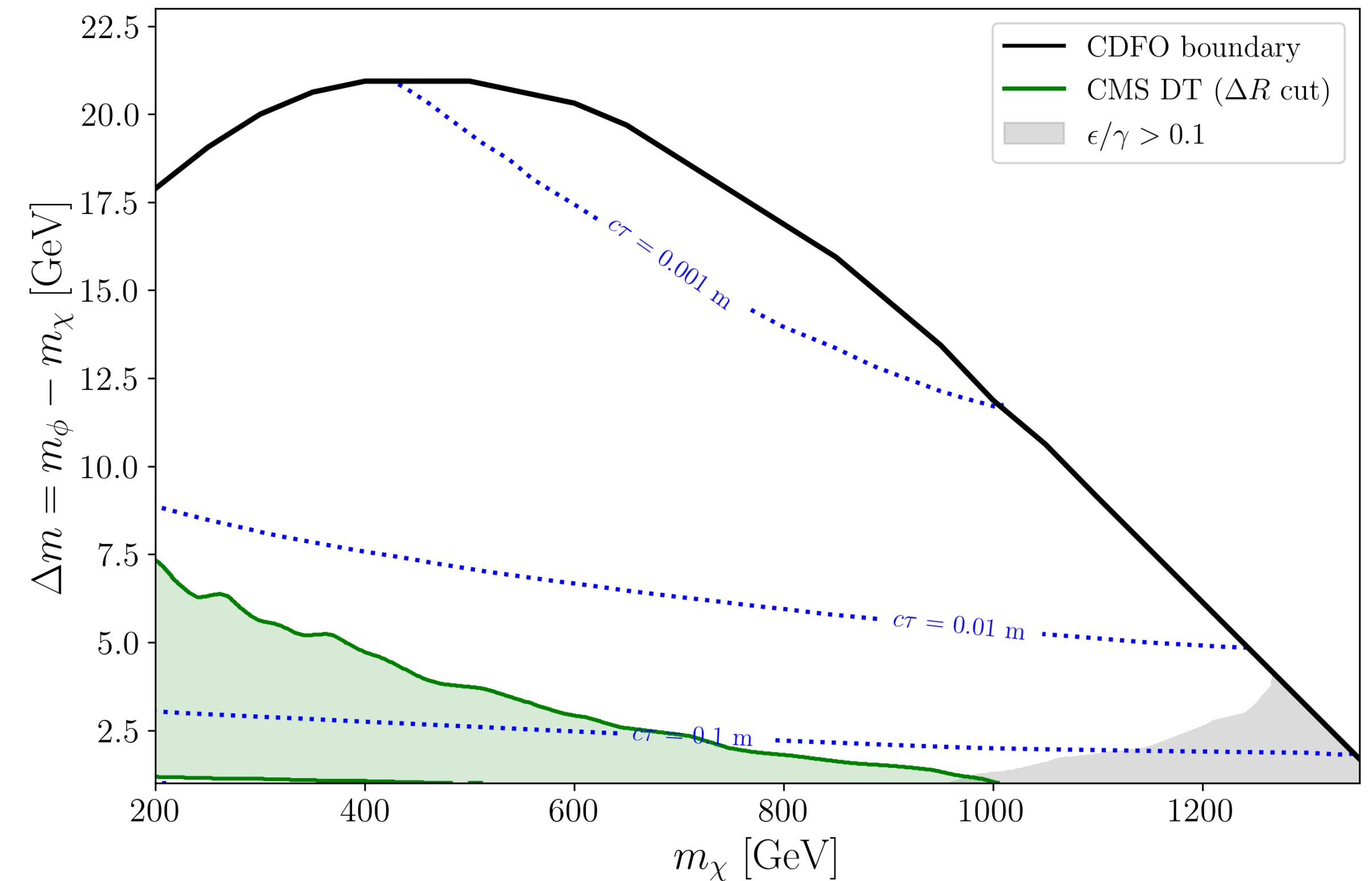
Thermal Effects

- Include **thermal effects for propagators** using real time formalism and include **thermal masses** of particles

Without thermal masses



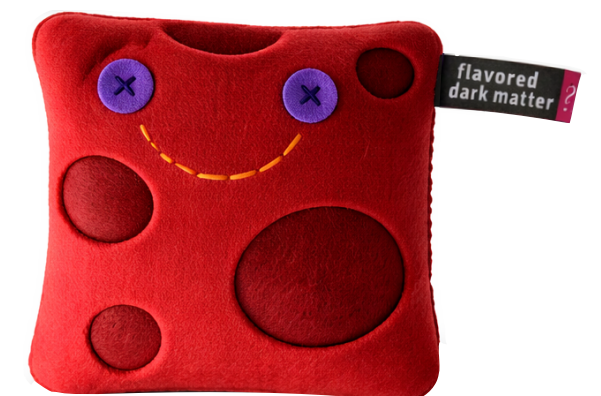
With thermal masses



Conclusions



- **Conversion-driven freeze-out** scenario in flavored DM models allows for couplings $\lambda \sim 10^{-7} \rightarrow$ provides **correct relic abundance** while **evading WIMP constraints** and **fulfills Sakharov conditions**
- **Conversion-driven baryogenesis** can produce viable dark matter candidate and baryon asymmetry at the same time in large region of parameter space
- **Solution possible up to DM masses of ~ 1200 GeV** (compared to leptogenesis case with DM masses only up to 500 GeV)
- Most of the parameter space is **testable at colliders** with existing DV or proposed DT searches

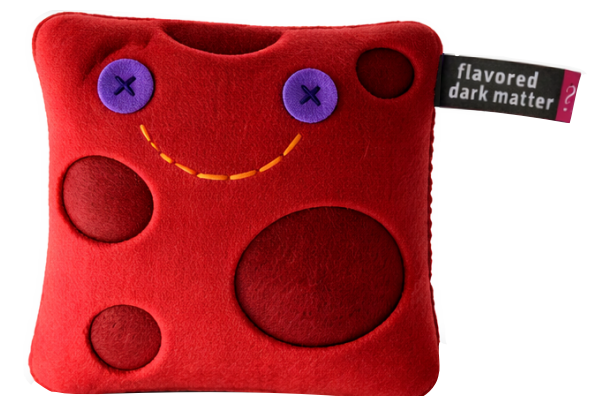


Conclusions



- **Conversion-driven freeze-out** scenario in flavored DM models allows for couplings $\lambda \sim 10^{-7} \rightarrow$ provides **correct relic abundance** while **evading WIMP constraints** and **fulfills Sakharov conditions**
- **Conversion-driven baryogenesis** can produce viable dark matter candidate and baryon asymmetry at the same time in large region of parameter space
- **Solution possible up to DM masses of ~ 1200 GeV** (compared to leptogenesis case with DM masses only up to 500 GeV)
- Most of the parameter space is **testable at colliders** with existing DV or proposed DT searches

Thank you!



Backup Slides

Majorana DM Coupling to d_R

- Dark matter flavor triplet $\tilde{\chi}$, mediator φ
- New physics contribution with flavor and CP violating interaction:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NP}} \supset \frac{1}{2} \bar{\tilde{\chi}} (i \not{\partial} - M_{\tilde{\chi}}) \tilde{\chi} + (D_\mu \varphi)^\dagger (D^\mu \varphi) - M_\varphi^2 \varphi^\dagger \varphi + (\lambda_{ij} \bar{d}_{R,i} \tilde{\chi}_j \varphi + \text{h.c.}) \\ + \lambda_{\varphi\varphi} (\varphi^\dagger \varphi)^2 + \lambda_{\varphi H} (\varphi^\dagger \varphi) (H^\dagger H)$$

Conversion Driven Freeze-Out

- Conversions $\chi_i \leftrightarrow \chi_j$ or $\chi_i \leftrightarrow \phi$ can become inefficient during freeze-out when conversion rate $\Gamma \sim H$
- Chemical equilibrium breaks down $\rightarrow$ coupled BME of all particles need to be solved

$$\frac{dY_{\chi_i}}{dx} = \frac{1}{3H} \frac{ds}{dx} \left(\langle \sigma_{\chi_i \chi_j} v \rangle (Y_{\chi_i} Y_{\chi_j} - Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}} Y_{\chi_j}^{\text{eq}}) + \frac{\Gamma_{\chi_i \rightarrow \chi_j}}{s} \left(Y_{\chi_i} - Y_{\chi_j} \frac{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}}{Y_{\chi_j}^{\text{eq}}} \right) + \langle \sigma_{\phi \chi_i} v \rangle (Y_{\chi_i} Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}} Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}) - \frac{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \chi_i}}{s} \left(Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i} \frac{Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}}{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}} \right) \right)$$

$$\frac{dY_{\phi}}{dx} = \frac{1}{3H} \frac{ds}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{2} \langle \sigma_{\phi \phi} v \rangle (Y_{\phi}^2 - (Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}})^2) + \langle \sigma_{\phi \chi_i} v \rangle (Y_{\chi_i} Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}} Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}) + \frac{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \chi_i}}{s} \left(Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i} \frac{Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}}{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}} \right) \right)$$

Conversion Driven Freeze-Out

- Conversions $\chi_i \leftrightarrow \chi_j$ or $\chi_i \leftrightarrow \phi$ can become inefficient during freeze-out when conversion rate $\Gamma \sim H$
- Chemical equilibrium breaks down $\rightarrow$ coupled BME of all particles need to be solved

$$\frac{dY_{\chi_i}}{dx} = \frac{1}{3H} \frac{ds}{dx} \left(\langle \sigma_{\chi_i \chi_j} v \rangle (Y_{\chi_i} Y_{\chi_j} - Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}} Y_{\chi_j}^{\text{eq}}) + \frac{\Gamma_{\chi_i \rightarrow \chi_j}}{s} \left(Y_{\chi_i} - Y_{\chi_j} \frac{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}}{Y_{\chi_j}^{\text{eq}}} \right) + \langle \sigma_{\phi \chi_i} v \rangle (Y_{\chi_i} Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}} Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}) - \frac{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \chi_i}}{s} \left(Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i} \frac{Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}}{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}} \right) \right)$$

$$\frac{dY_{\phi}}{dx} = \frac{1}{3H} \frac{ds}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{2} \langle \sigma_{\phi \phi} v \rangle (Y_{\phi}^2 - (Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}})^2) + \langle \sigma_{\phi \chi_i} v \rangle (Y_{\chi_i} Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}} Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}) + \frac{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \chi_i}}{s} \left(Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i} \frac{Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}}{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}} \right) \right)$$

All coannihilations

Conversion Driven Freeze-Out

- Conversions $\chi_i \leftrightarrow \chi_j$ or $\chi_i \leftrightarrow \phi$ can become inefficient during freeze-out when conversion rate $\Gamma \sim H$
- Chemical equilibrium breaks down $\rightarrow$ coupled BME of all particles need to be solved

$$\frac{dY_{\chi_i}}{dx} = \frac{1}{3H} \frac{ds}{dx} \left(\langle \sigma_{\chi_i \chi_j} v \rangle (Y_{\chi_i} Y_{\chi_j} - Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}} Y_{\chi_j}^{\text{eq}}) + \frac{\Gamma_{\chi_i \rightarrow \chi_j}}{s} \left(Y_{\chi_i} - Y_{\chi_j} \frac{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}}{Y_{\chi_j}^{\text{eq}}} \right) + \langle \sigma_{\phi \chi_i} v \rangle (Y_{\chi_i} Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}} Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}) - \frac{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \chi_i}}{s} \left(Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i} \frac{Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}}{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}} \right) \right)$$

$$\frac{dY_{\phi}}{dx} = \frac{1}{3H} \frac{ds}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{2} \langle \sigma_{\phi \phi} v \rangle (Y_{\phi}^2 - (Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}})^2) + \langle \sigma_{\phi \chi_i} v \rangle (Y_{\chi_i} Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}} Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}) + \frac{\Gamma_{\phi \rightarrow \chi_i}}{s} \left(Y_{\phi} - Y_{\chi_i} \frac{Y_{\phi}^{\text{eq}}}{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}} \right) \right)$$

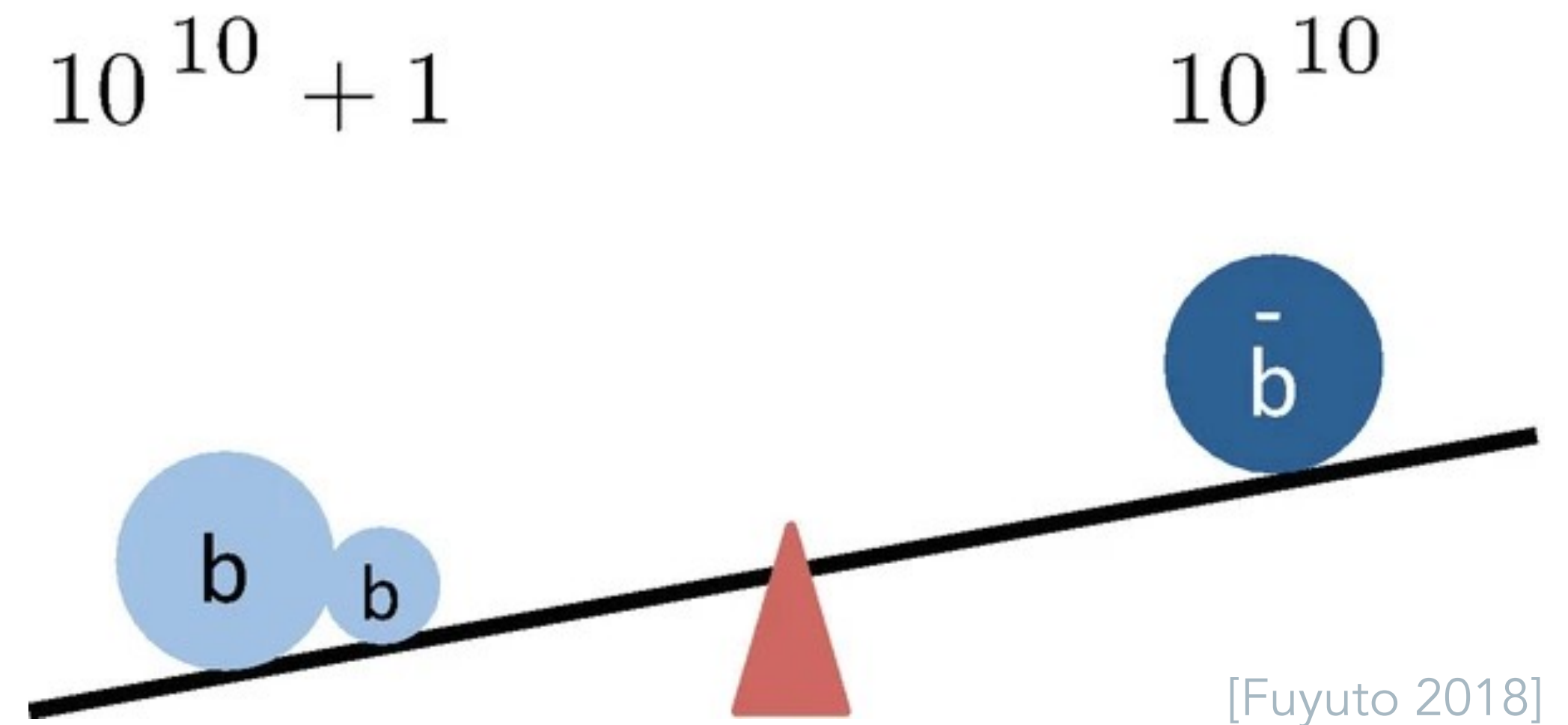
All conversions including decays

BME for Conversion-Driven Baryogenesis

$$\begin{aligned}x\mathcal{H}Z \frac{d\Sigma_\phi}{dx} &= -\Gamma_\phi \Sigma_\phi + \frac{1}{2} \Sigma_\phi^{\text{eq}} \sum_i \Gamma_i \frac{Y_{\chi_i}}{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}} \\&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \langle \sigma v \rangle s \left(\Sigma_\phi^2 - \Sigma_\phi^{\text{eq}2} \right) \\x\mathcal{H}Z \frac{d\Delta_\phi}{dx} &= -\Gamma_\phi \Delta_\phi \\&\quad + \Gamma_\phi Y_\phi^{\text{eq}} \sum_i \frac{Y_{\chi_i}}{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}} \left(-\epsilon_i + \frac{\Gamma_i}{\Gamma_\phi} \frac{\Delta_f}{\Sigma_f^{\text{eq}}} \right) \\x\mathcal{H}Z \frac{dY_{\chi_i}}{dx} &= \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_i \left(\Sigma_\phi - \Sigma_\phi^{\text{eq}} \frac{Y_{\chi_i}}{Y_{\chi_i}^{\text{eq}}} \right)\end{aligned}$$

Baryon Asymmetry

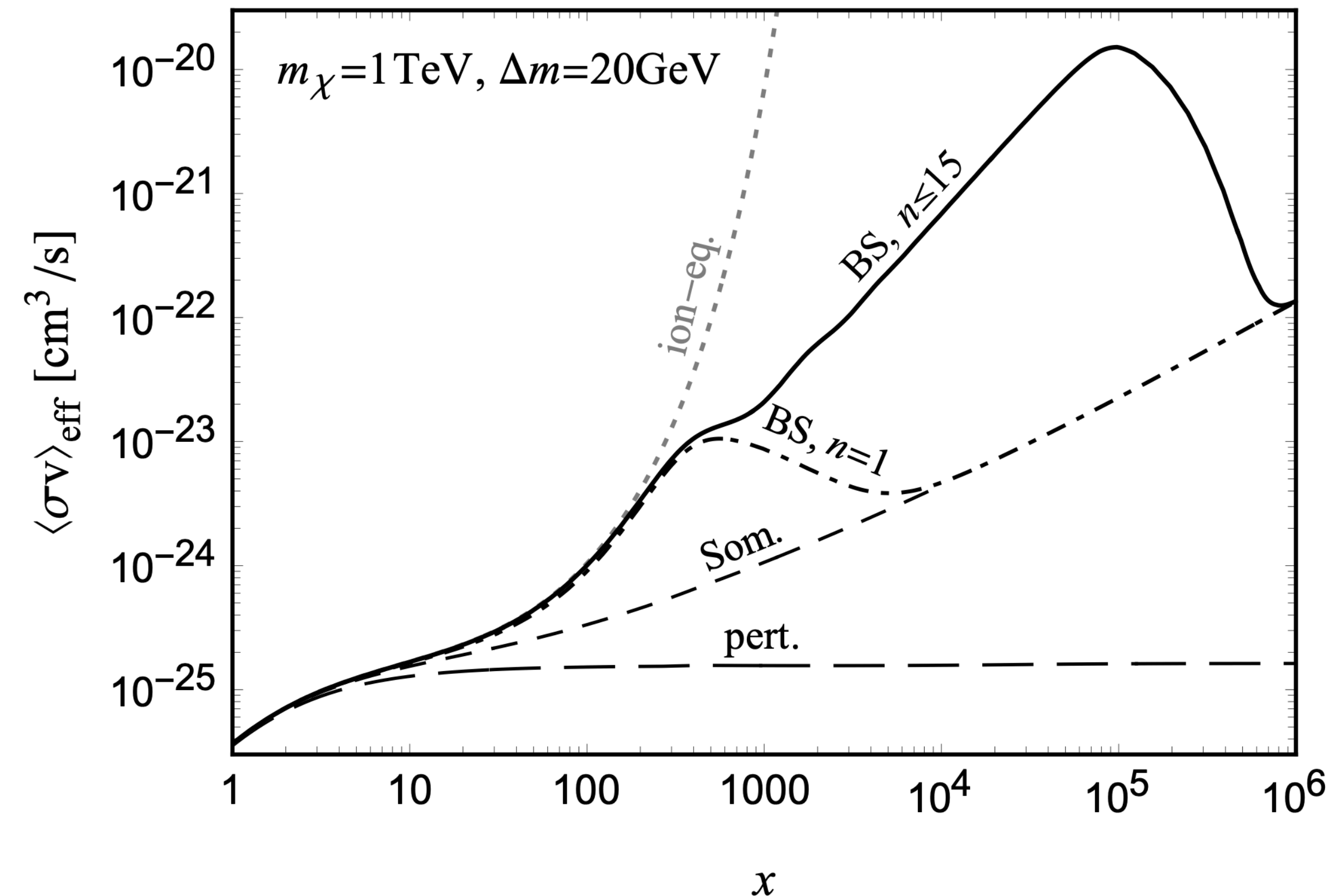
- **Sakharov conditions** for baryon-generating interactions:
 - C- and CP-symmetry violation
 - Interactions out of equilibrium
 - Baryon number violation
- Possible solutions linking DM and baryon asymmetry: sterile neutrino, [Canetti et al. 2013]
asymmetric DM [Petraki, Volkas 2013]



Sommerfeld Enhancement and Bound State Effects

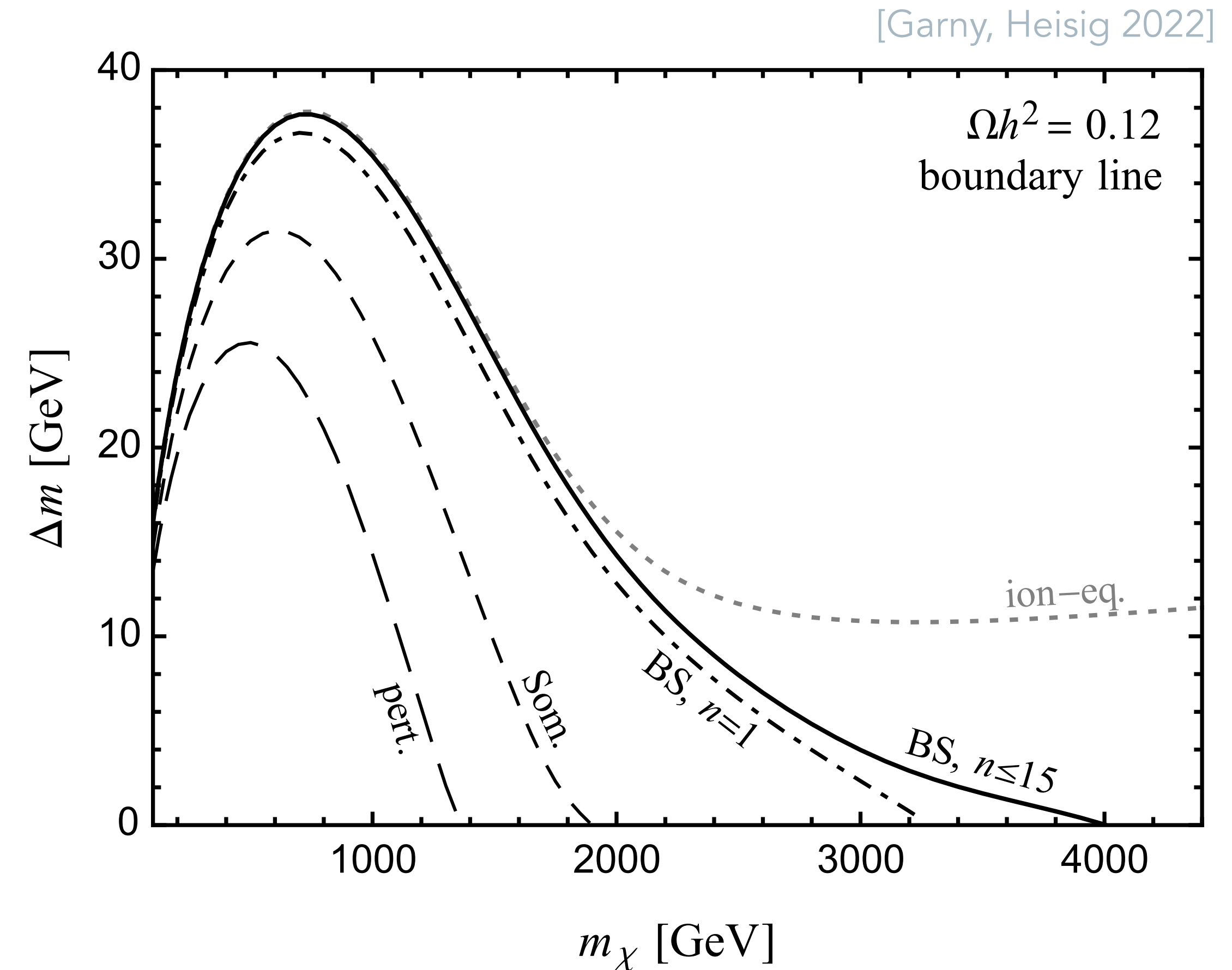
- Occur in models with t-channel mediators, can become relevant in conversion-driven freeze-out when mediator annihilation is dominant
- **Sommerfeld enhancement:** two-body wave-function of $\phi\phi$ is distorted by long-range potential $\rightarrow$ enhanced wave-function at short distance
- **Bound State Effects:** particles can form bound states which increases annihilation cross section

[Garny, Heisig 2022]



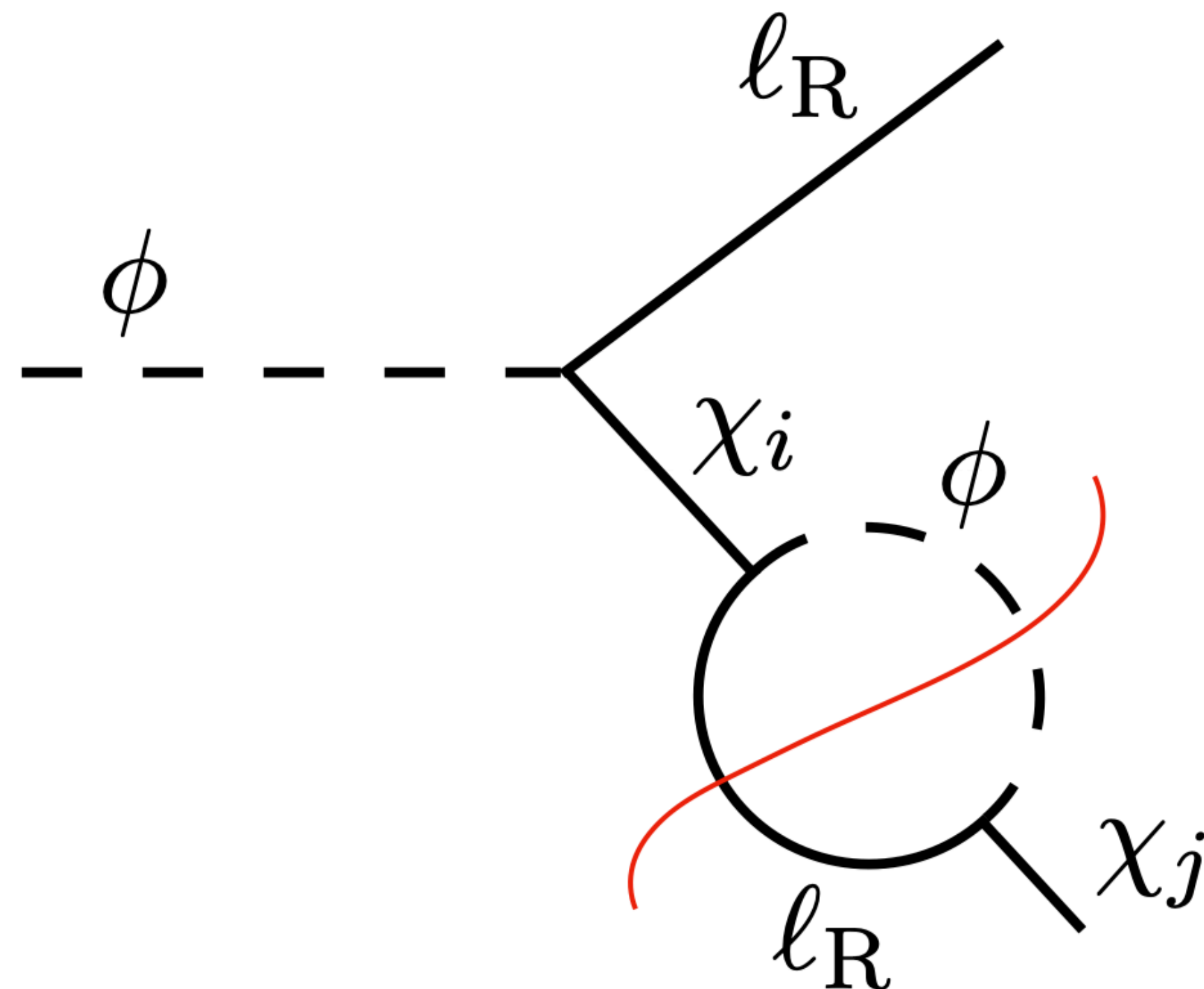
Sommerfeld Enhancement and Bound State Effects

- Occur in models with t-channel mediators, can become relevant in conversion-driven freeze-out when mediator annihilation is dominant
- **Sommerfeld enhancement:** two-body wave-function of $\phi\phi$ is distorted by long-range potential $\rightarrow$ enhanced wave-function at short distance
- **Bound State Effects:** particles can form bound states which increases annihilation cross section



CP-Asymmetry in Decay

- Leading contribution to CP-asymmetry from interference of tree-level and one-loop diagram at finite temperatures



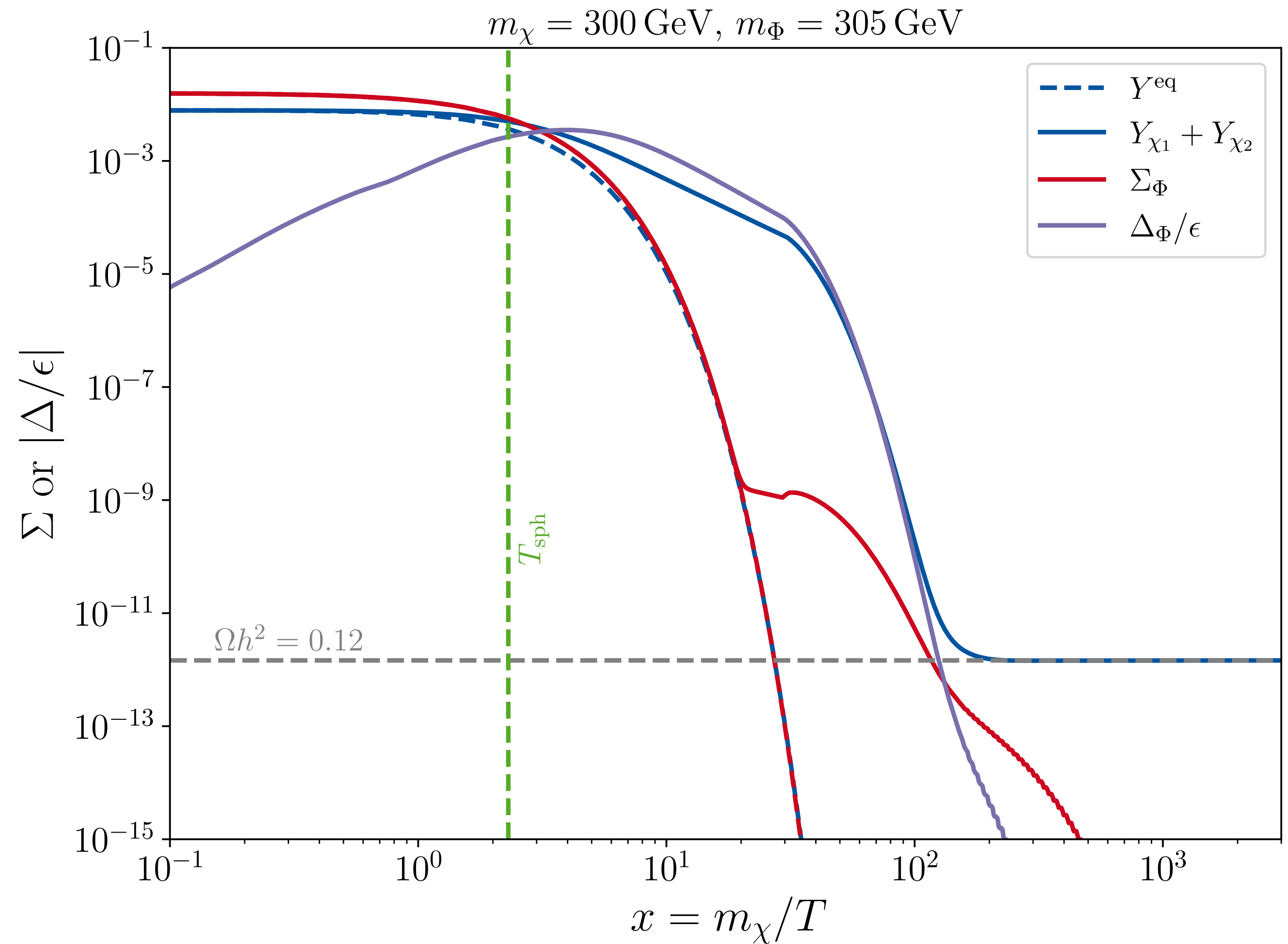
$$\epsilon(T) = I_1 \frac{\xi \gamma(T)}{(\xi + \pi\varphi/(2x)^2)^2 + \gamma(T)^2} \simeq I_1 \frac{\gamma(T)}{\xi}$$

$$I_1 = \Im[(\lambda^\dagger \lambda)_{12}^2] / (|\lambda^\dagger \lambda|_{11} |\lambda^\dagger \lambda|_{22}), \quad \xi = 2\Delta m_{12} / \Gamma_{\chi_2}^0$$

- I_1 : complex phase, should be smaller than 1
- ξ : decay width should be smaller than mass splitting $\rightarrow \xi > 10$

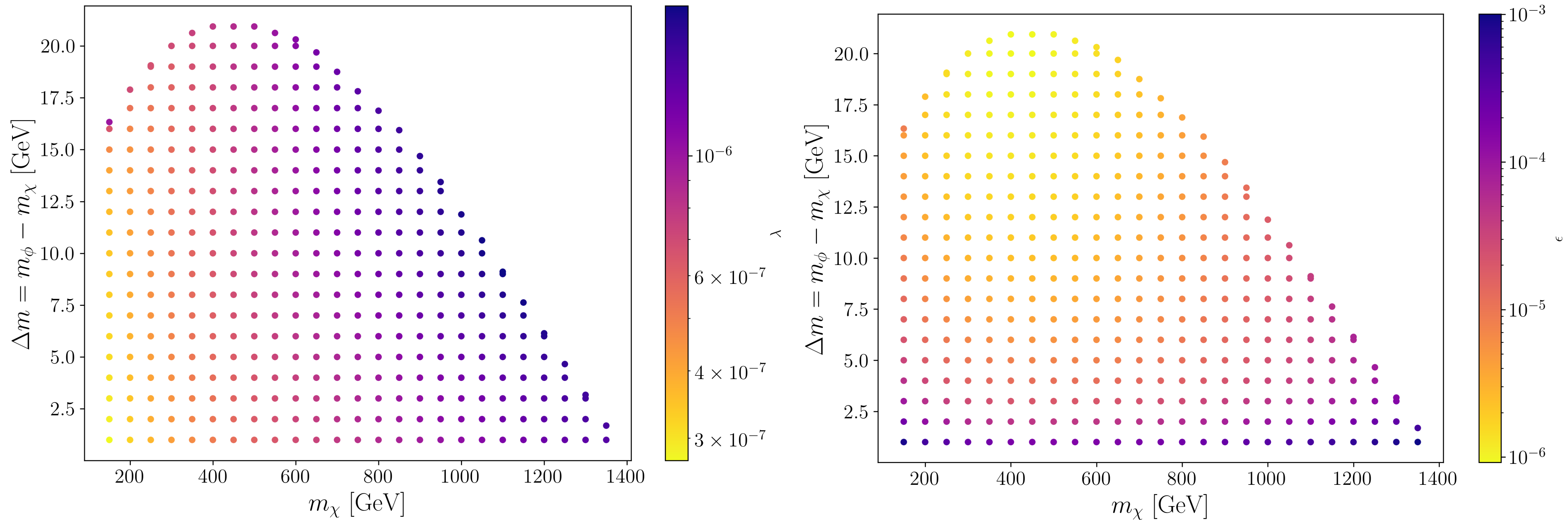
BME Solutions Including Thermal Effects

• ...



Parameter Values

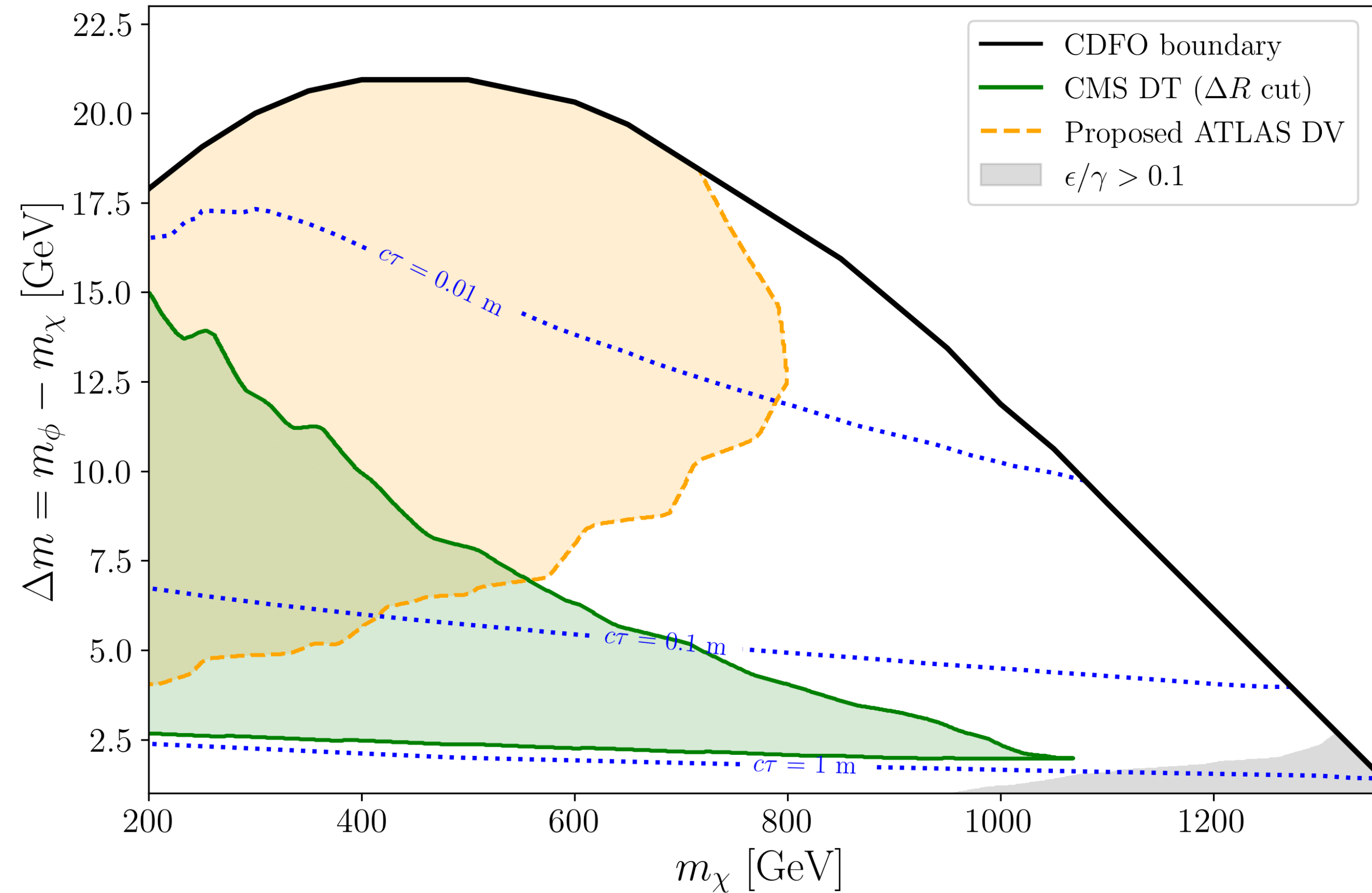
- Needed coupling and ϵ values to obtain $\Omega h^2 = 0.12$ and $Y_{\Delta B} = 0.9 \times 10^{-10}$



Viability Parameter Space

- Solution possible for $\Omega h^2 = 0.12$ and $Y_{\Delta B} = 0.9 \times 10^{-10}$ with $\epsilon \sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-3}$
- For $\epsilon/\gamma > 0.1$ validity of computation questionable
- Couplings of order $\mathcal{O}(10^{-7})$ → evade direct and indirect searches, possible to **look for disappearing tracks (DT)** at LHC

Branching fraction $\phi \rightarrow \chi_1: 0.75$

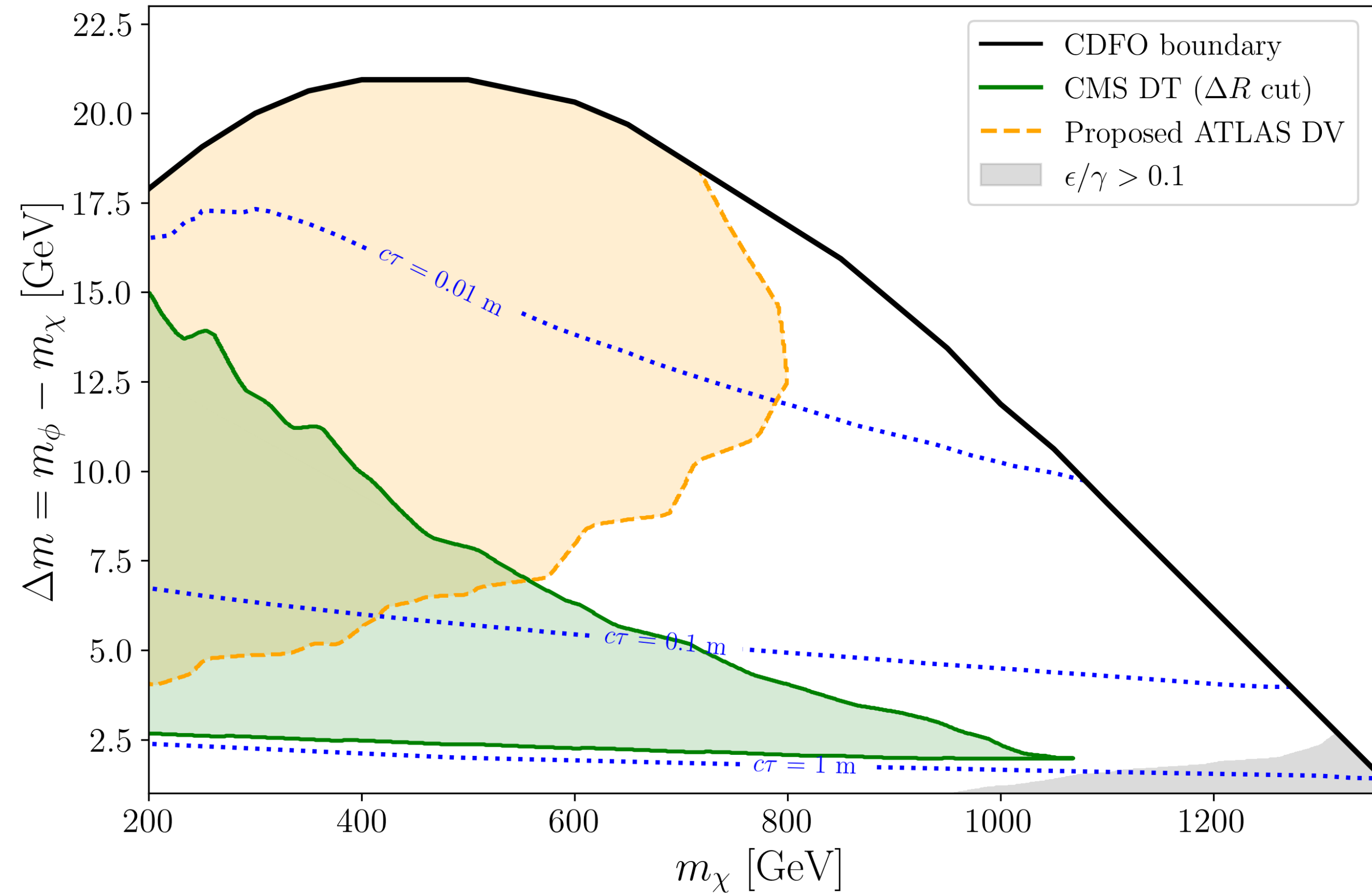


Limits reinterpreted from [Heisig et al. 2024]

Viable Parameter Space

- Solution possible for $\Omega h^2 = 0.12$ and $Y_{\Delta B} = 0.9 \times 10^{-10}$ with $\epsilon \sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-3}$
- For $\epsilon/\gamma > 0.1$ validity of computation questionable
- Couplings of order $\mathcal{O}(10^{-7})$ → evade direct and indirect searches, possible to **look for disappearing tracks (DT)** at LHC
- Proposed displaced vertices (DV) +MET search could cover most of parameter space

Branching fraction $\phi \rightarrow \chi_1$: 0.75



Limits reinterpreted from [Heisig et al. 2024]