

Astrophysical neutrino point sources as a probe of new physics

arXiv:2304.08533

in collaboration with
[Stefan Vogl](#)

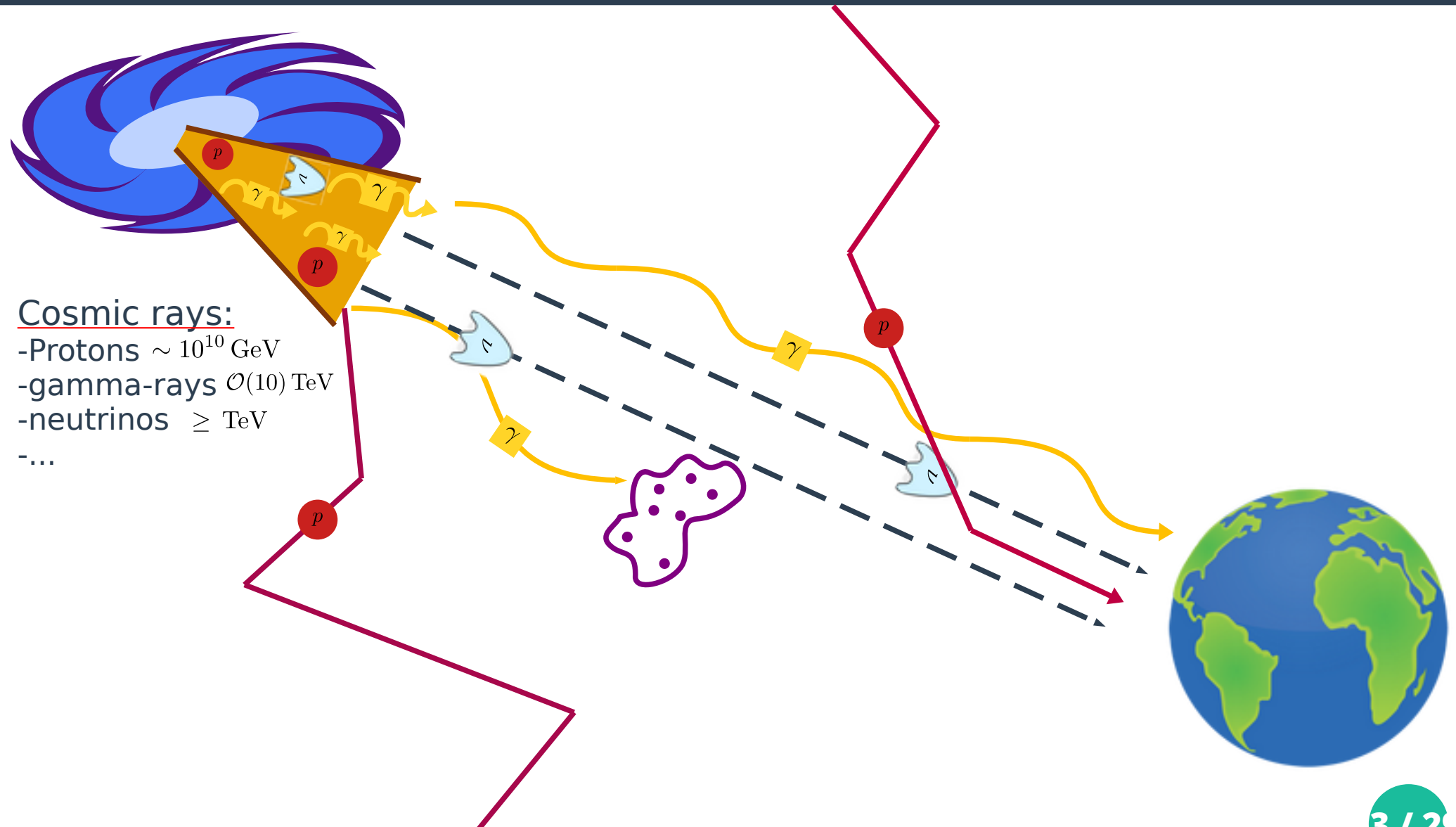
Christian Döring

Be.HEP-Meeting, KU Leuven - 21.06.24

Brief Overview

- **Introduction**
 - Neutrinos and Cosmic Rays
 - Observations: TXS 0506+056 and NGC 1068
- **New Physics and the Neutrino Signal**
 - Secret neutrino interaction and the cosmic neutrino background
- **Mean free path and flux**
 - Massfull case
 - Massless case
- **Results**
 - Universal Coupling
 - Tauphilic Coupling
 - Future Sources
- **Conclusion**

Cosmic Rays and Neutrinos



Cosmic rays:

- Protons $\sim 10^{10}$ GeV
- gamma-rays $\mathcal{O}(10)$ TeV
- neutrinos \geq TeV
- ...

Galactic Neutrino Signals

Blazar TXS 0506+056

Neutrino emission from the direction of the blazar TXS 0506+056 prior to the IceCube-170922A alert

IceCube Collaboration[†]

Multi-messenger observations of a flaring blazar coincident with high-energy neutrino IceCube-170922A

The IceCube, *Fermi*-LAT, MAGIC, *AGILE*, ASAS-SN, HAWC, ILLIES, INTEGRAL, Kanata, Kiso, Kapteyn, Liverpool telescope, Subaru, *Swift*/*NuSTAR*, VERITAS, and VLA/17B-403 teams[†]

Facts:

Distance: 1.2 Gpc
 Flux: $\hat{\Phi}_0 = 1.2 \times 10^{-13} \frac{1}{\text{TeV cm}^2 \text{s}}$
 Spectral index: $\gamma = 2.0$
 Energy: 40-4000 TeV

Active Galaxy NGC 1068

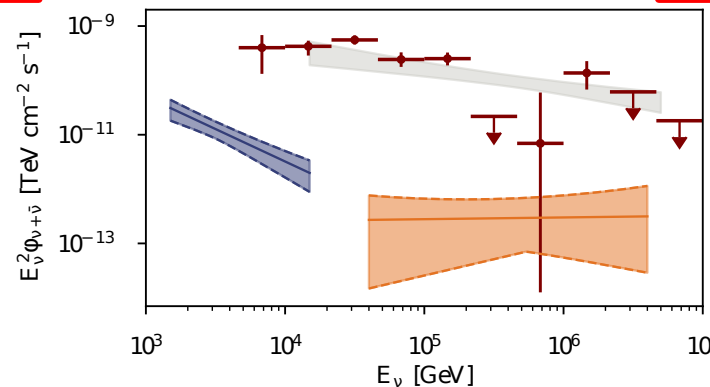
Evidence for neutrino emission from the nearby active galaxy NGC 1068

IceCube Collaboration^{*}

2022

Facts:

Distance: 14.4 Mpc
 Flux: $\hat{\Phi}_0 = 5 \times 10^{-11} \frac{1}{\text{TeV cm}^2 \text{s}}$
 Spectral index: $\gamma = 3.2$
 Energy: 1.5-15 TeV



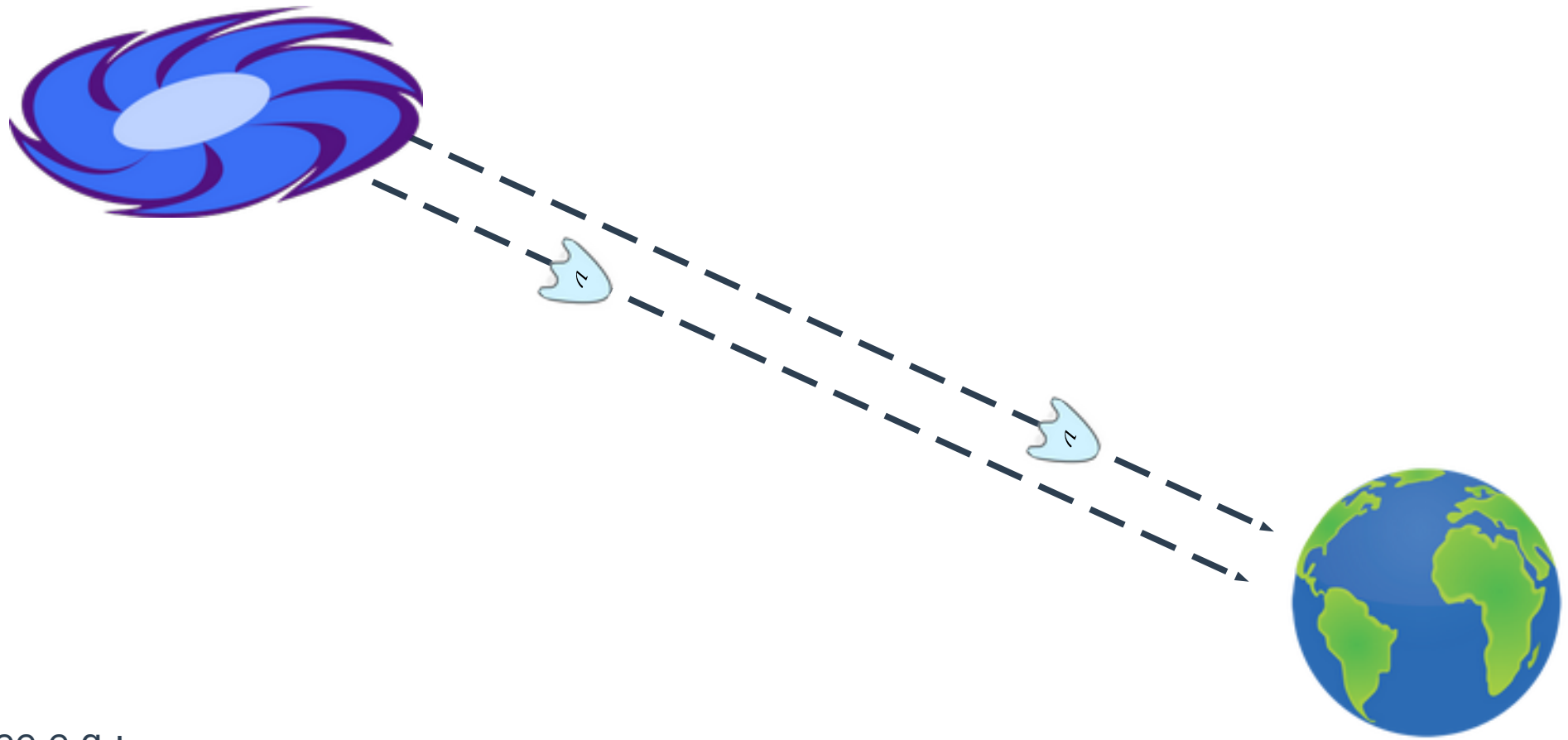
arXiv:2211.09972

arXiv:1807.08794
 arXiv:1807.08816



What if...?
How to „stop“ Neutrinos

... there would be Sterile Neutrinos?

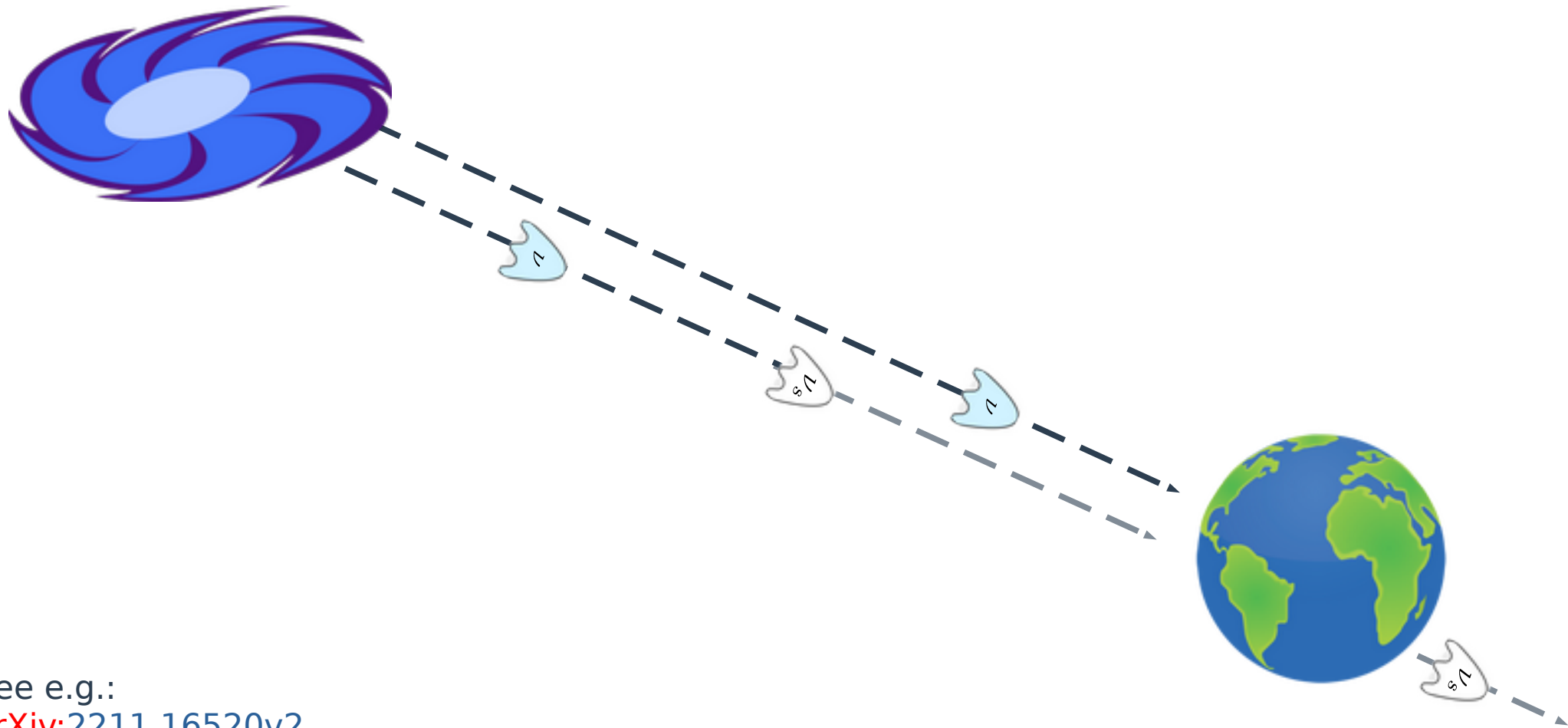


See e.g.:

[arXiv:2211.16520v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.16520v2)

[arXiv:2212.00737v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.00737v2)

... there would be Sterile Neutrinos?

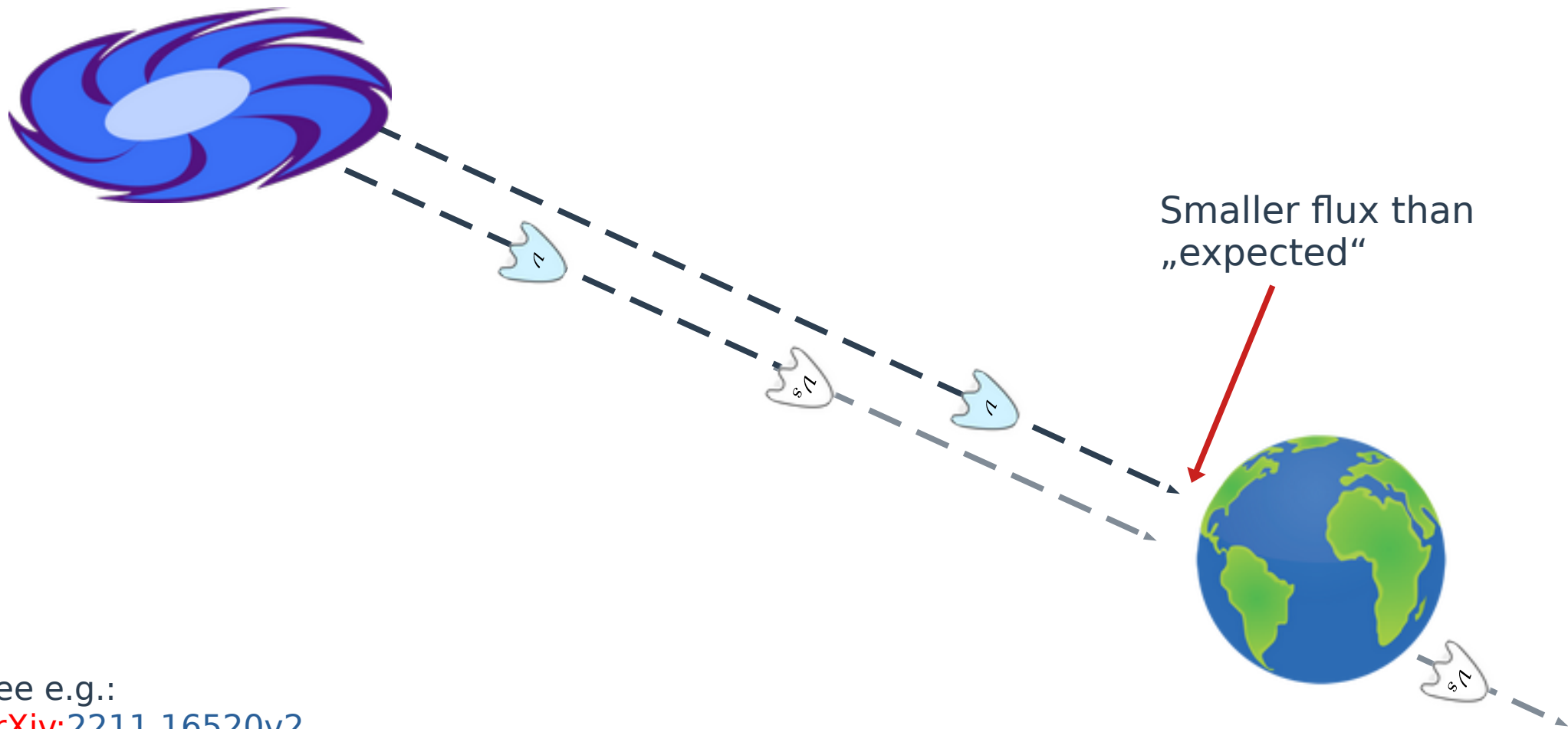


See e.g.:

[arXiv:2211.16520v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.16520v2)

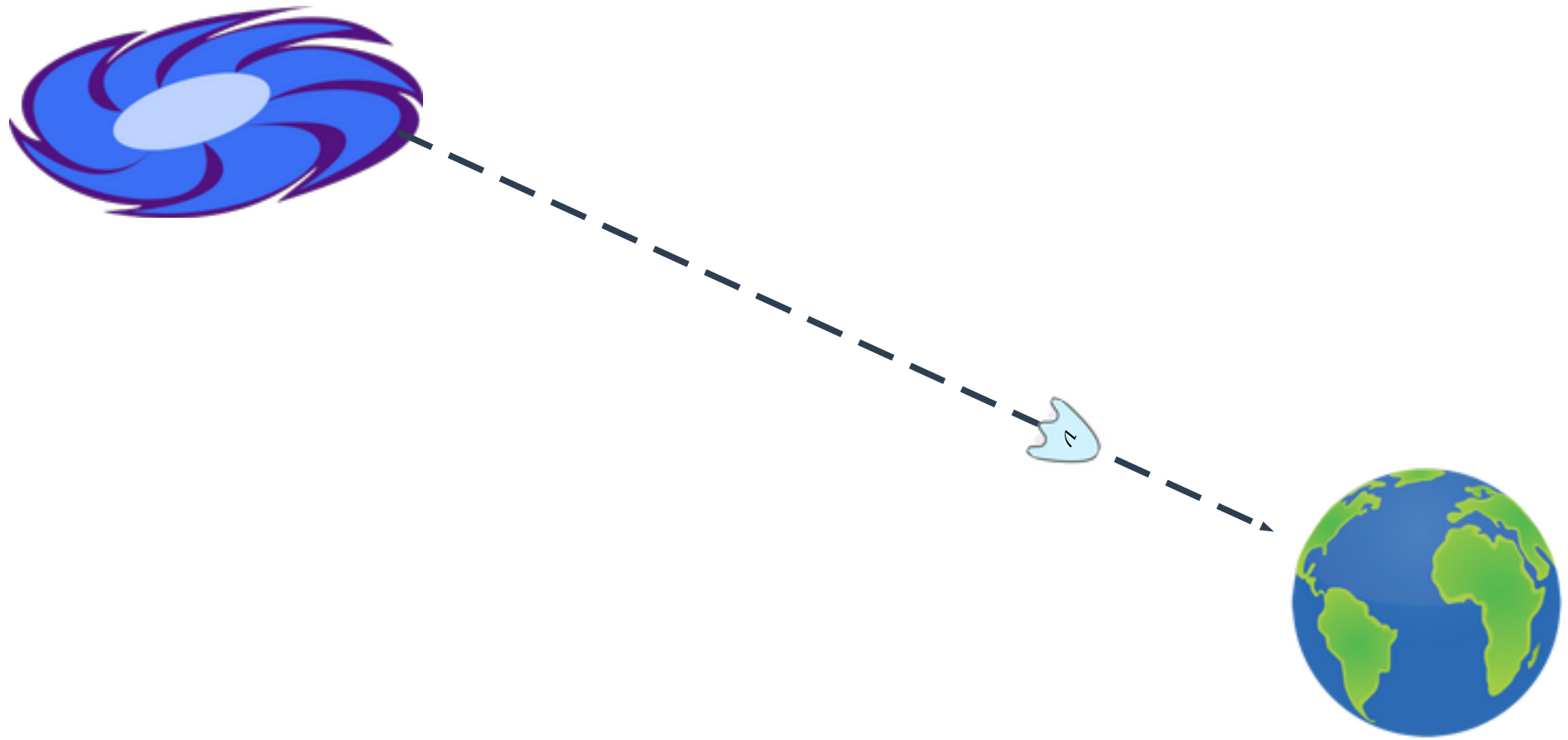
[arXiv:2212.00737v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.00737v2)

... there would be Sterile Neutrinos?



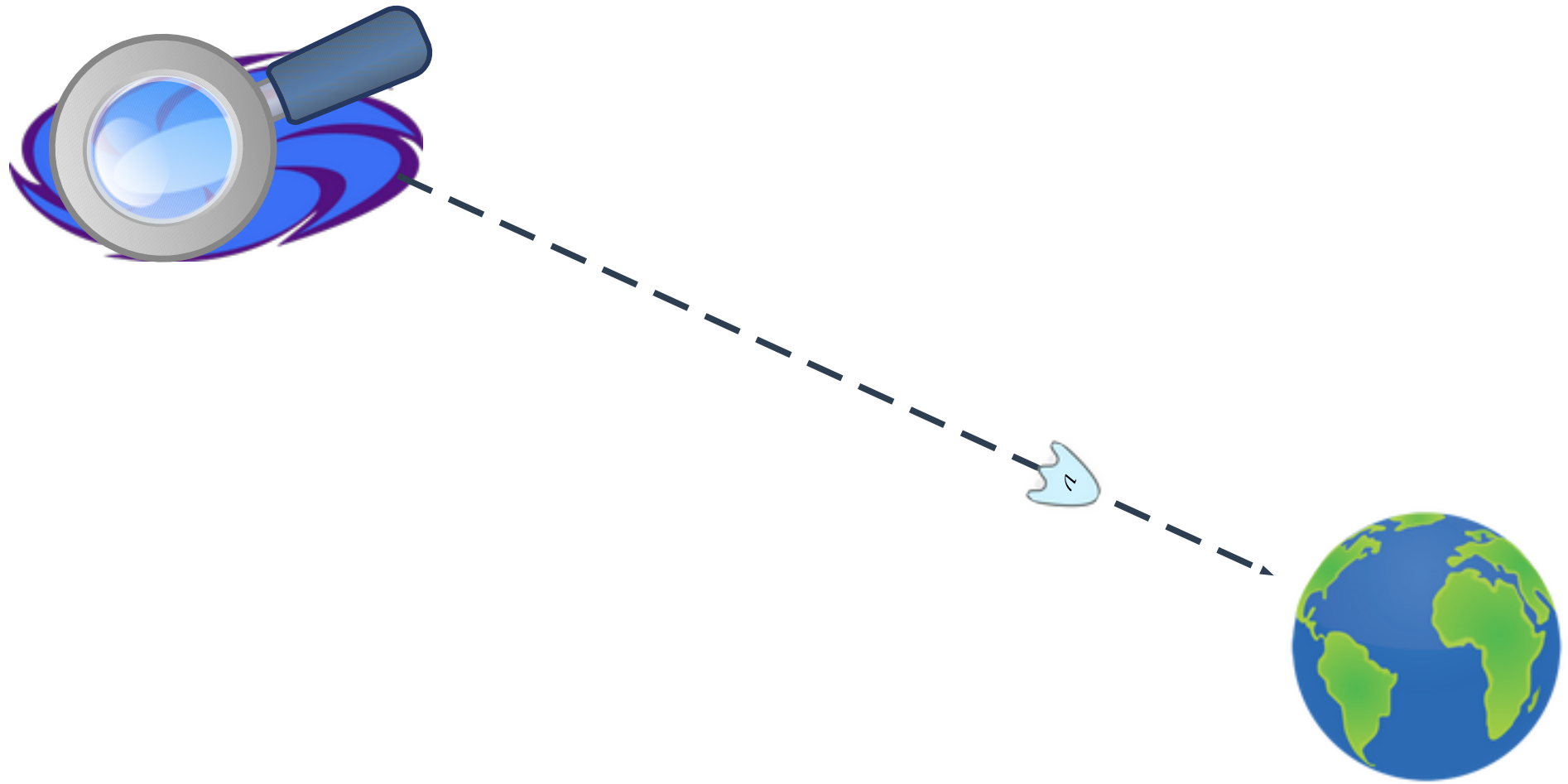
See e.g.:
[arXiv:2211.16520v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.16520v2)
[arXiv:2212.00737v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.00737v2)

... there would DM-Neutrino interactions?



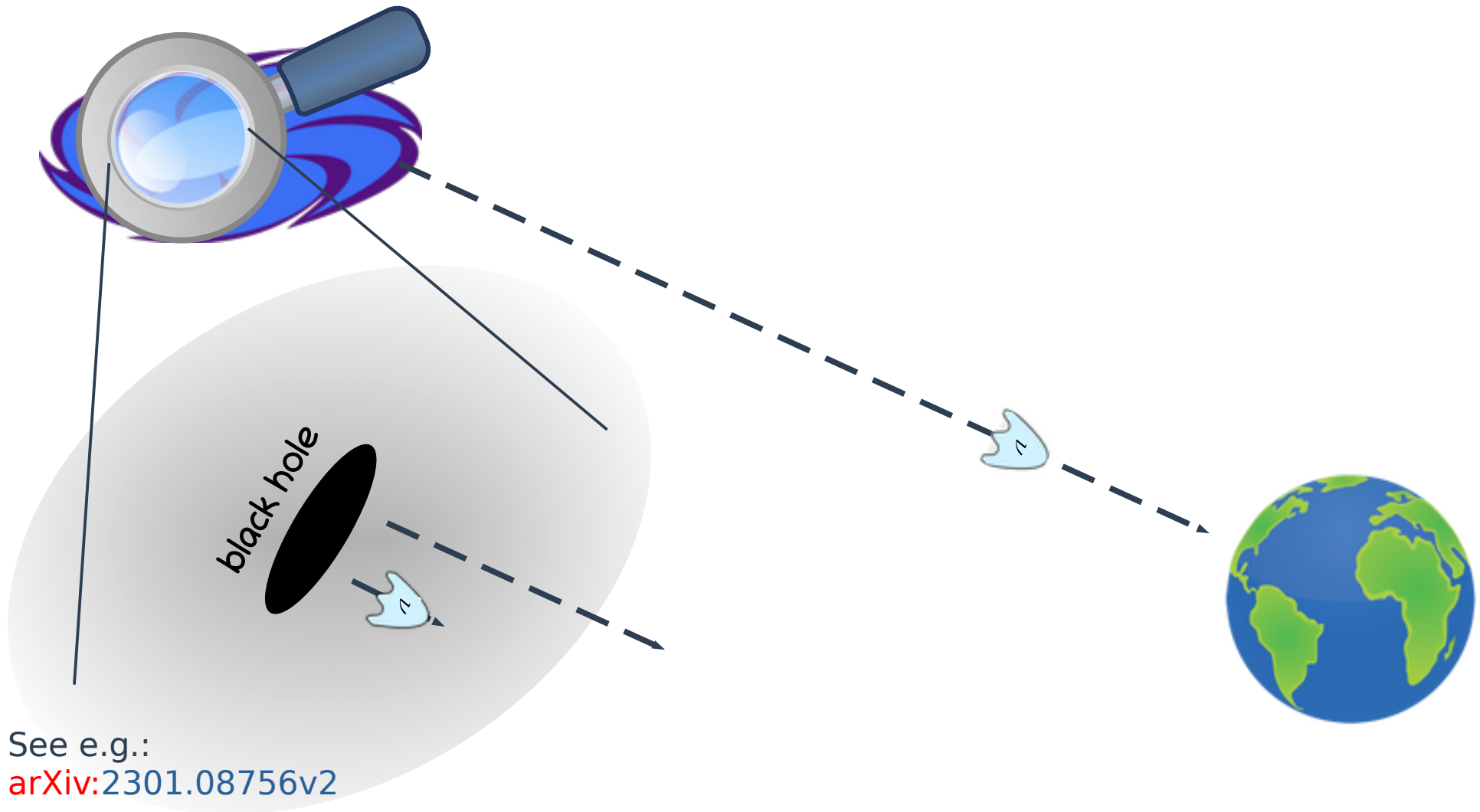
See e.g.:
[arXiv:2301.08756v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.08756v2)

... there would DM-Neutrino interactions?

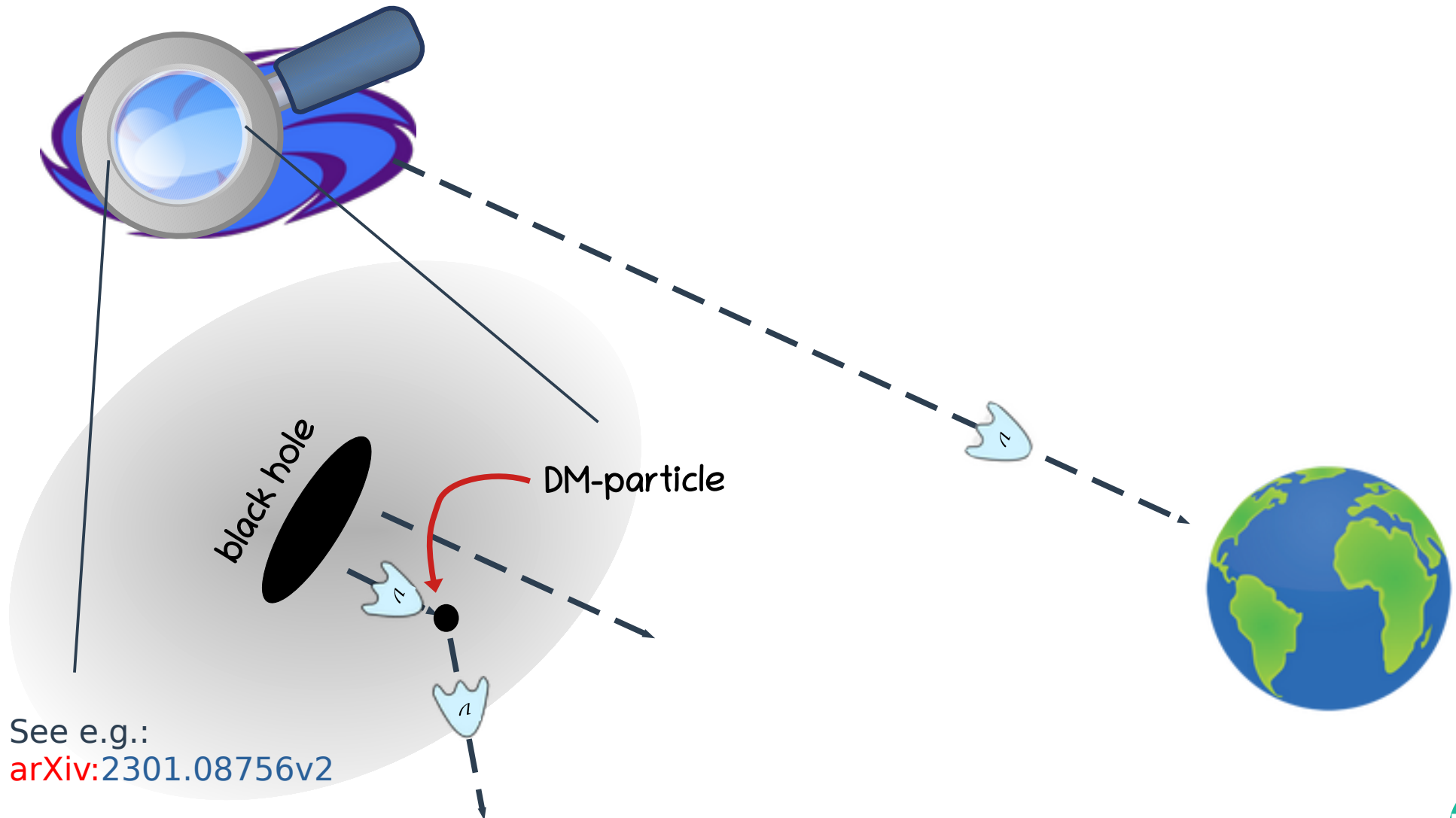


See e.g.:
[arXiv:2301.08756v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.08756v2)

... there would DM-Neutrino interactions?

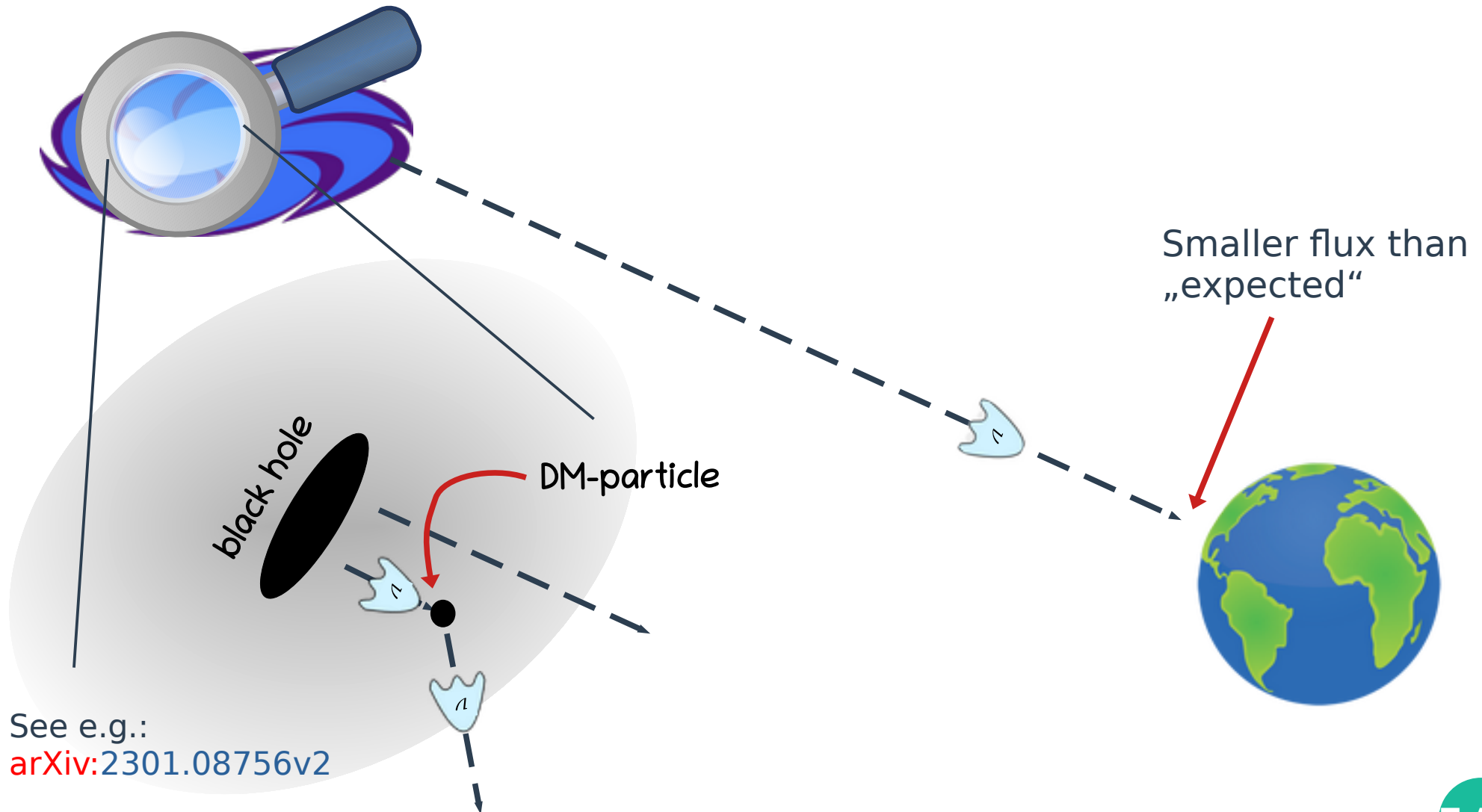


... there would DM-Neutrino interactions?



See e.g.:
[arXiv:2301.08756v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.08756v2)

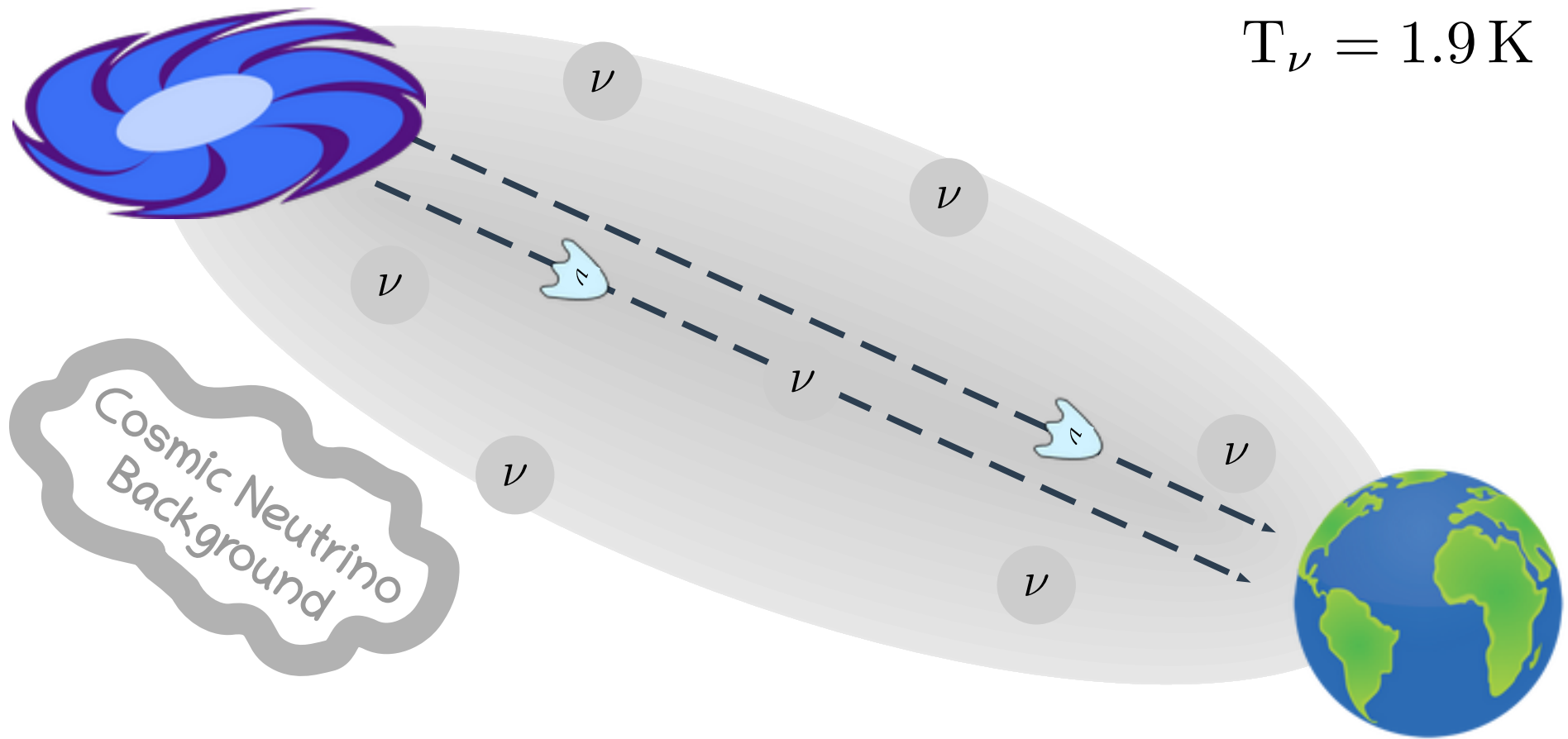
... there would DM-Neutrino interactions?



... there would be strong Neutrino-Neutrino interactions?

$$n_{\text{tot}} \approx 340 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$T_{\nu} = 1.9 \text{ K}$$

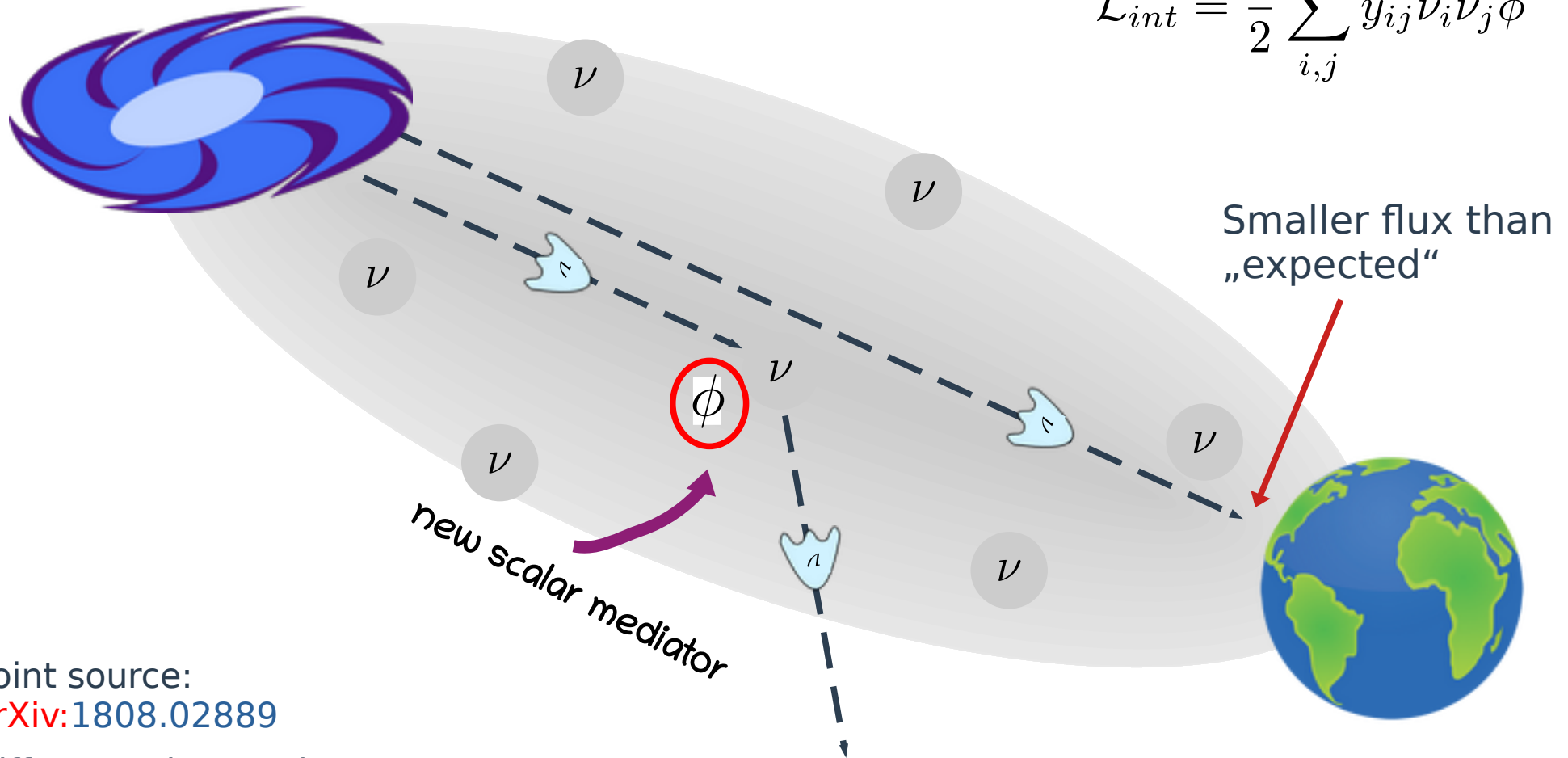


In the standard model the interaction is negligibly small but...

Cosmic Neutrino Background as a Milk Glass

... in physics **beyond** the SM interaction can be sizeable!

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} y_{ij} \bar{\nu}_i \nu_j \phi$$



Smaller flux than „expected“

Point source:
[arXiv:1808.02889](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.02889)

Diffuse Background:
[arXiv:2107.13568](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.13568)

**How far can they
come?
The mean free path**

The Mean Free Path and the Reduced Flux

Flux

Spectral index

$$\Phi_0(E_a) = \hat{\Phi}_0 \cdot \left(\frac{E_a}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-\gamma} \cdot T(E_a)$$

Normalised flux

The Mean Free Path and the Reduced Flux

Flux

Spectral index

Normalised flux

$$\Phi_0(E_a) = \hat{\Phi}_0 \cdot \left(\frac{E_a}{1 \text{ TeV}}\right)^{-\gamma} \cdot T(E_a)$$

Transmittance

Source distance

$$T(E_a) = e^{-\frac{d}{\lambda_{\text{MFP}}(E_a)}}$$

The Mean Free Path and the Reduced Flux

Flux

Spectral index

Normalised flux

$$\Phi_0(E_a) = \hat{\Phi}_0 \cdot \left(\frac{E_a}{1 \text{ TeV}}\right)^{-\gamma} \cdot T(E_a)$$

Source distance

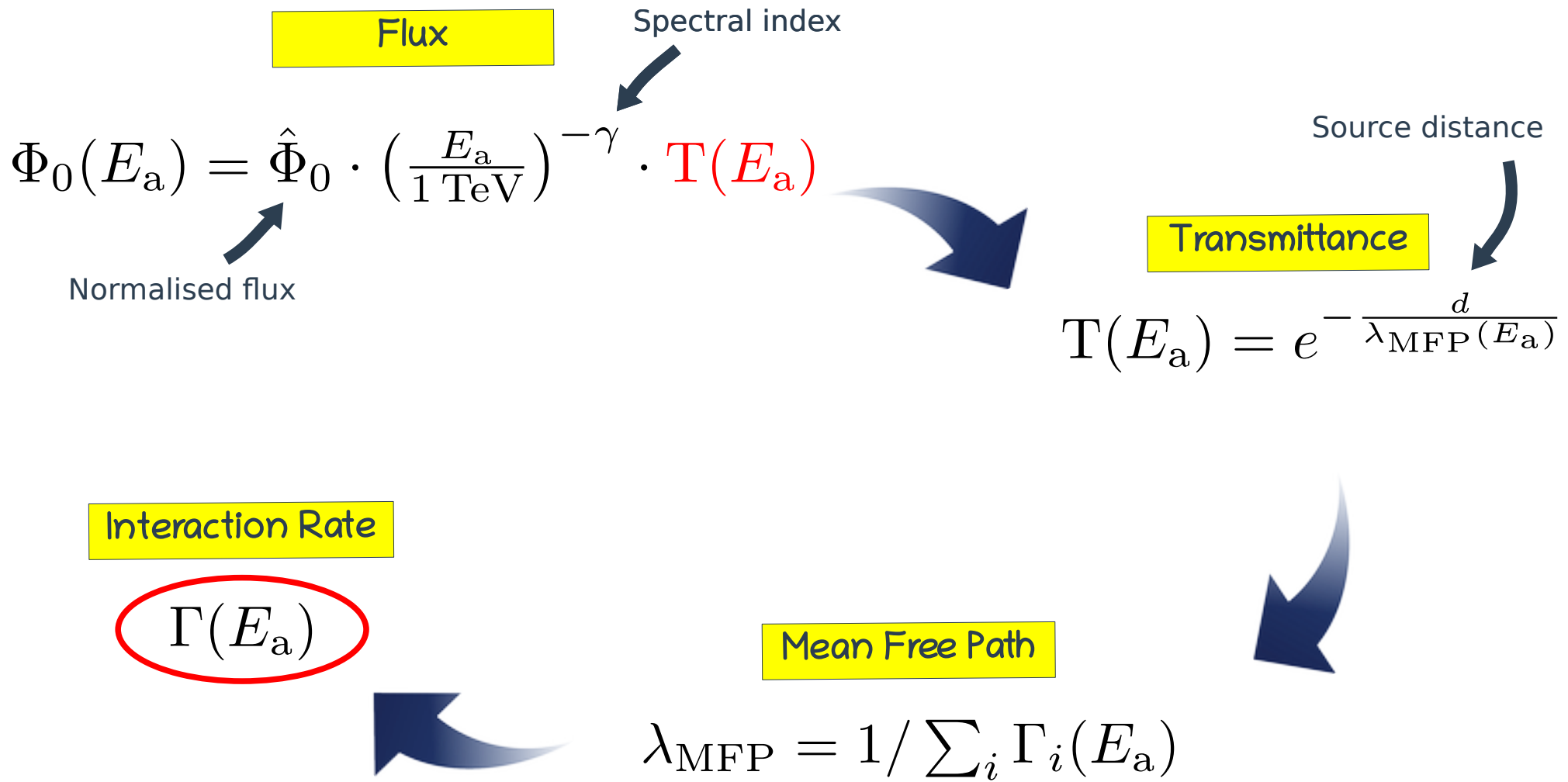
Transmittance

$$T(E_a) = e^{-\frac{d}{\lambda_{\text{MFP}}(E_a)}}$$

Mean Free Path

$$\lambda_{\text{MFP}} = 1 / \sum_i \Gamma_i(E_a)$$

The Mean Free Path and the Reduced Flux



Interaction Rate

Interaction rate

$$\Gamma_i(E_a) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} f_i(\vec{p}) v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p}) \sigma(s(E_a, \vec{p}))$$

Energy of
astrophysical neutrino

Interaction Rate

Interaction rate

momentum distribution

Energy of astrophysical neutrino

$$\Gamma_i(E_a) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} f_i(\vec{p}) v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p}) \sigma(s(E_a, \vec{p}))$$

Interaction Rate

Interaction rate

Energy of astrophysical neutrino

momentum distribution

Møllervelocity

$$\Gamma_i(E_a) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} f_i(\vec{p}) v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p}) \sigma(s(E_a, \vec{p}))$$
The diagram shows the equation for the interaction rate $\Gamma_i(E_a)$. The left side of the equation is labeled "Interaction rate" with a curved arrow pointing to $\Gamma_i(E_a)$. The right side of the equation is an integral over momentum \vec{p} . The integrand consists of four terms: $\frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3}$, $f_i(\vec{p})$, $v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p})$, and $\sigma(s(E_a, \vec{p}))$. The term $f_i(\vec{p})$ is labeled "momentum distribution" with a straight arrow pointing to it. The term $v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p})$ is labeled "Møllervelocity" with a straight arrow pointing to it. Both $f_i(\vec{p})$ and $v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p})$ are circled in red. The term $\sigma(s(E_a, \vec{p}))$ is not circled. The term E_a is labeled "Energy of astrophysical neutrino" with a curved arrow pointing to it.

Interaction Rate

Interaction rate

Energy of astrophysical neutrino

momentum distribution

Møllervelocity

cross section

$$\Gamma_i(E_a) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} f_i(\vec{p}) v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p}) \sigma(s(E_a, \vec{p}))$$

The diagram shows the equation for the interaction rate $\Gamma_i(E_a)$. The left side is labeled 'Interaction rate' with an arrow pointing to $\Gamma_i(E_a)$. Below the left side, 'Energy of astrophysical neutrino' has an arrow pointing to E_a . The right side is an integral over momentum \vec{p} . The integrand consists of three terms: $f_i(\vec{p})$, $v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p})$, and $\sigma(s(E_a, \vec{p}))$. Each of these three terms is circled in red. Arrows point from labels to these terms: 'momentum distribution' points to $f_i(\vec{p})$, 'Møllervelocity' points to $v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p})$, and 'cross section' points to $\sigma(s(E_a, \vec{p}))$.

Interaction Rate

$$\Gamma_i(E_a) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3} f_i(\vec{p}) v_{M\phi l}(E_a, \vec{p}) \sigma(s(E_a, \vec{p}))$$

Interaction rate

Energy of astrophysical neutrino

momentum distribution

Møllervelocity

cross section

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} y_{ij} \bar{\nu}_i \nu_j \phi$$

Assumptions on the Neutrino Sector and the Mass of the Lightest Neutrino

Our Neutrino Sector (Assumptions):

- Flavor universal coupling
- Normal mass ordering
- Majorana fermion

Assumptions on the Neutrino Sector and the Mass of the Lightest Neutrino

Our Neutrino Sector (Assumptions):

- Flavor universal coupling
- Normal mass ordering
- Majorana fermion

For the mass, we distinguish two cases:

$$m(\nu_{\text{light}})$$

Assumptions on the Neutrino Sector and the Mass of the Lightest Neutrino


Our Neutrino Sector (Assumptions):

- Flavor universal coupling
- Normal mass ordering
- Majorana fermion

For the mass, we distinguish two cases:

non-relativistic today
($m_\nu \gg T_\nu$)

$m(\nu_{\text{light}})$



Assumptions on the Neutrino Sector and the Mass of the Lightest Neutrino

Our Neutrino Sector (Assumptions):

- Flavor universal coupling
- Normal mass ordering
- Majorana fermion

For the mass, we distinguish two cases:

non-relativistic today
($m_\nu \gg T_\nu$)

$$\sum_i m_i = 0.1 \text{ eV}$$
$$\Delta m_{12}^2, \Delta m_{23}^2$$

$m(\nu_{\text{light}})$



Assumptions on the Neutrino Sector and the Mass of the Lightest Neutrino

Our Neutrino Sector (Assumptions):

- Flavor universal coupling
- Normal mass ordering
- Majorana fermion

For the mass, we distinguish two cases:

non-relativistic today
($m_\nu \gg T_\nu$)

$m(\nu_{\text{light}})$

$$\sum_i m_i = 0.1 \text{ eV}$$
$$\Delta m_{12}^2, \Delta m_{23}^2$$



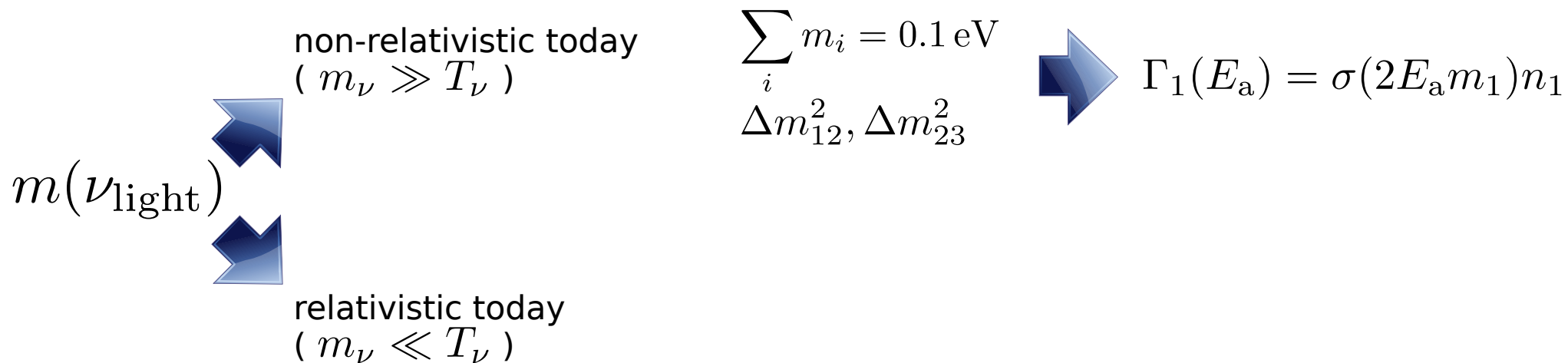
$$\Gamma_1(E_a) = \sigma(2E_a m_1) n_1$$

Assumptions on the Neutrino Sector and the Mass of the Lightest Neutrino

Our Neutrino Sector (Assumptions):

- Flavor universal coupling
- Normal mass ordering
- Majorana fermion

For the mass, we distinguish two cases:

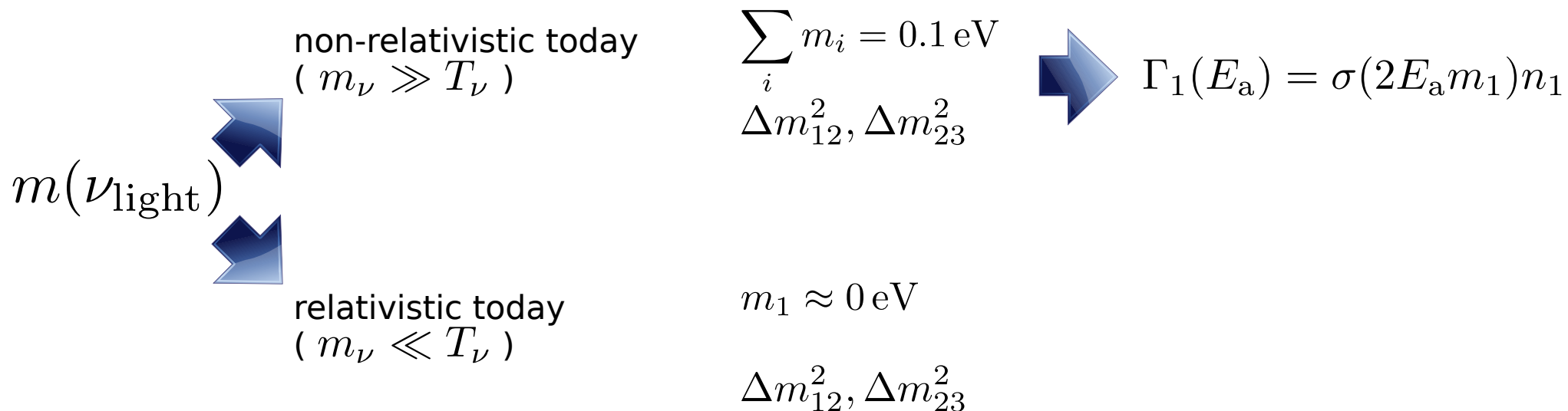


Assumptions on the Neutrino Sector and the Mass of the Lightest Neutrino

Our Neutrino Sector (Assumptions):

- Flavor universal coupling
- Normal mass ordering
- Majorana fermion

For the mass, we distinguish two cases:

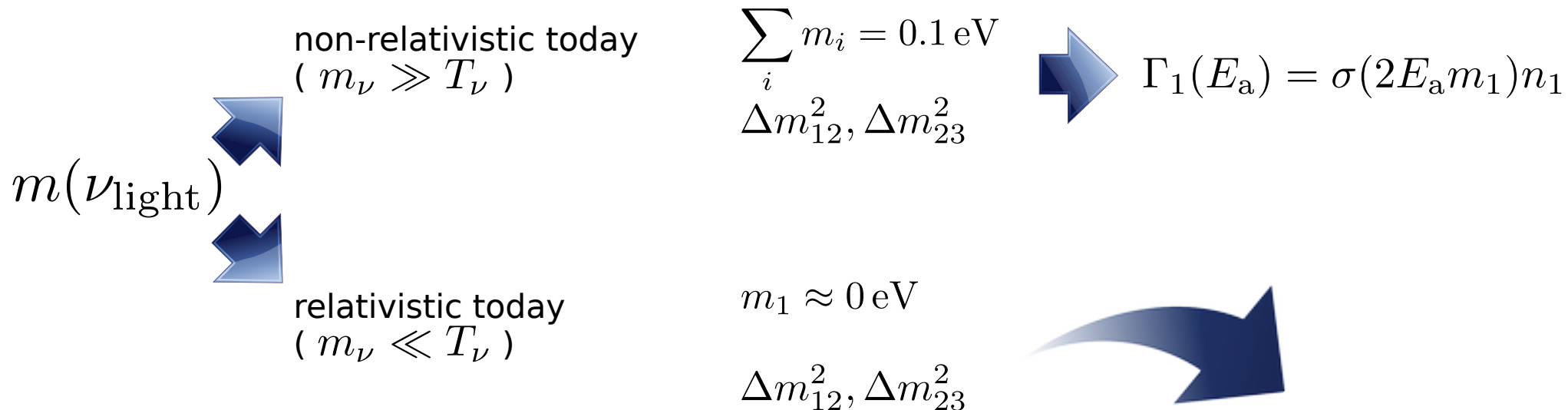


Assumptions on the Neutrino Sector and the Mass of the Lightest Neutrino

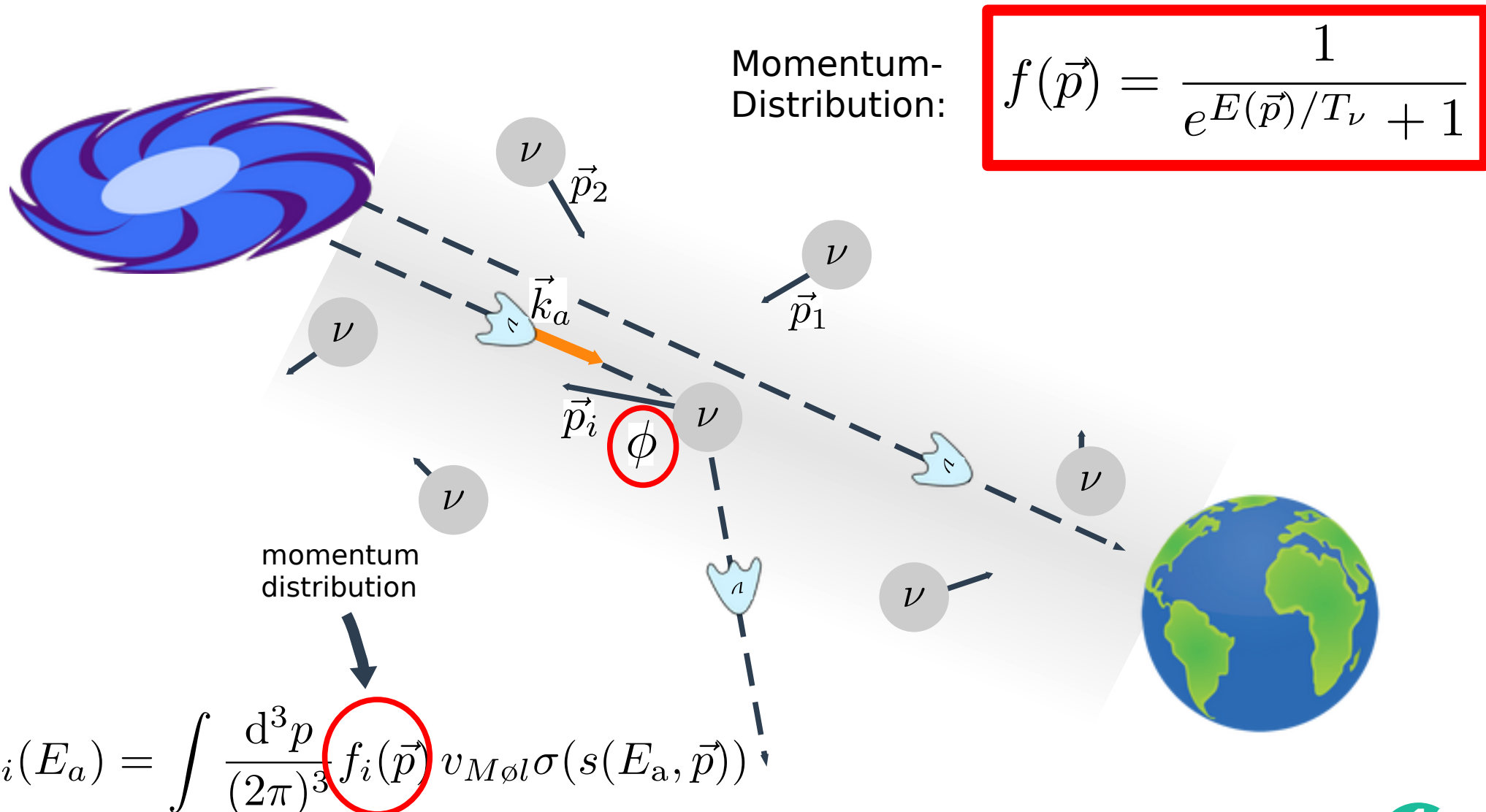
Our Neutrino Sector (Assumptions):

- Flavor universal coupling
- Normal mass ordering
- Majorana fermion

For the mass, we distinguish two cases:



Interaction Rate for the Massless Neutrinos



Mean Free Path

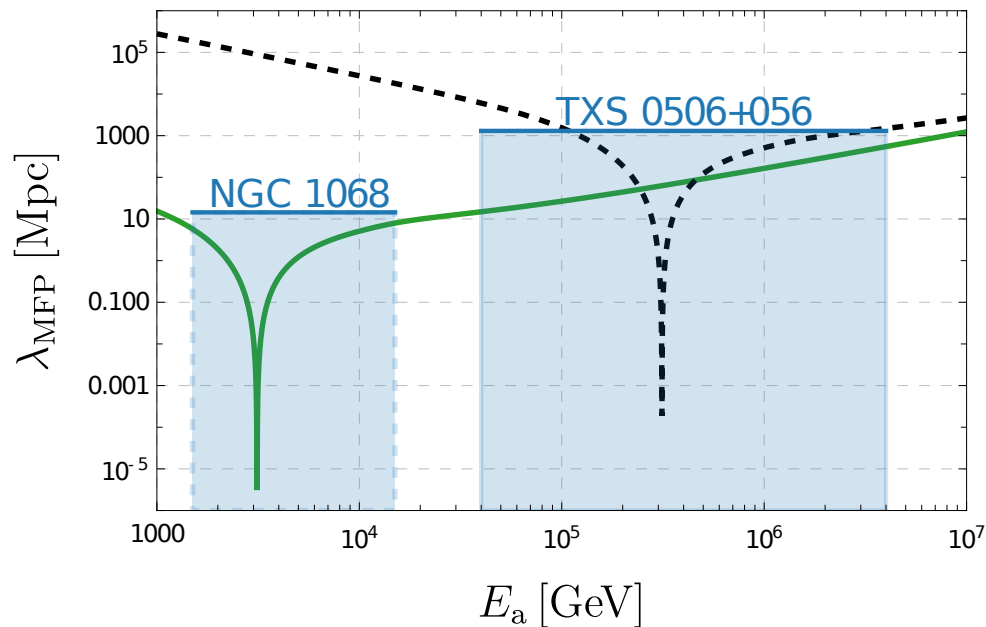
Mean free path: $\lambda_{\text{MFP}} = 1 / \sum_i \Gamma_i(E_a)$

$y=0.05$
 $m_\phi \in \{0.25, 2.5\} \text{ MeV}$

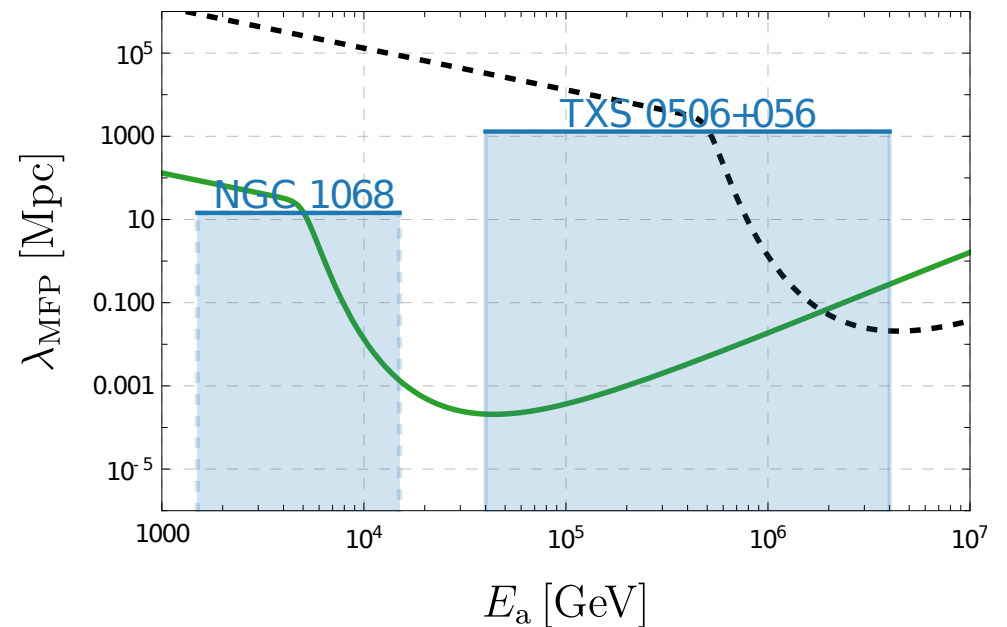
Illustrative example:

single neutrino species

Non-relativistic today $m_i = 0.01 \text{ eV}$



Relativistic today

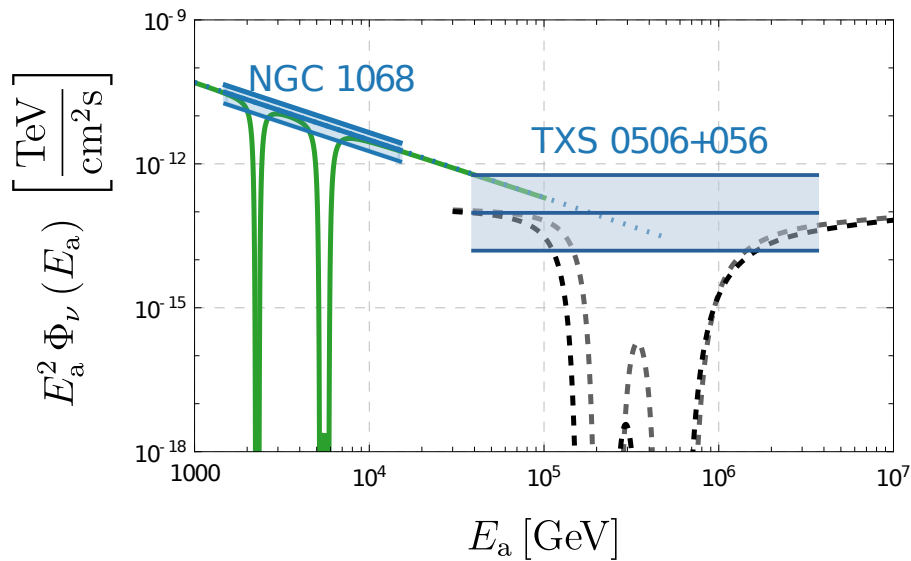


Flux

$$\Phi_0(E) = \hat{\Phi}_0 \cdot \left(\frac{E}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-\gamma} \cdot T(E)$$

Transmittance
 $T(E) = e^{-\frac{d}{\lambda_{\text{MFP}}(E)}}$

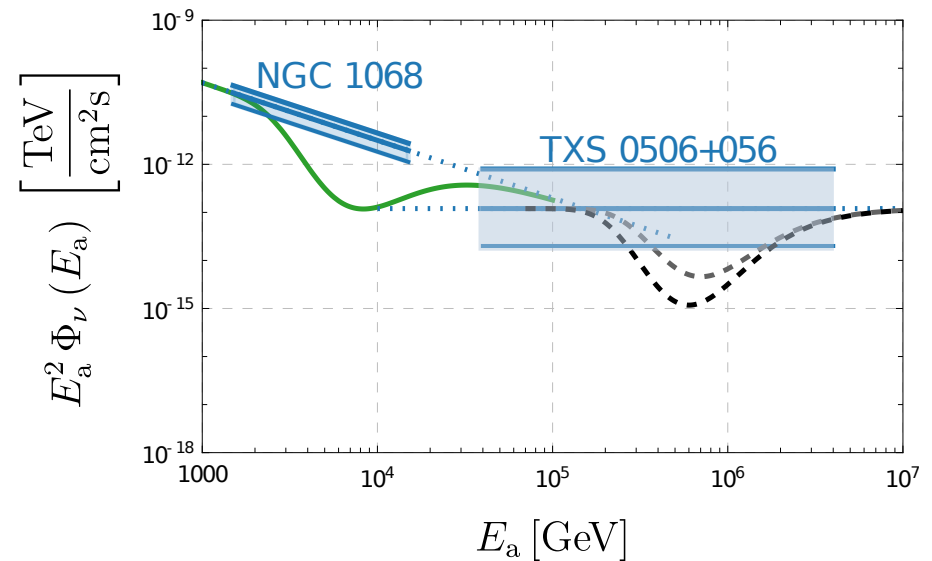
Non-relativistic today



$$y \in \{0.03, 0.05\}$$

$$m_\phi \in \{0.5, 5\} \text{ MeV}$$

Relativistic today



$$y \in \{2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}, 2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}\}$$

$$m_\phi \in \{0.1, 1\} \text{ MeV}$$

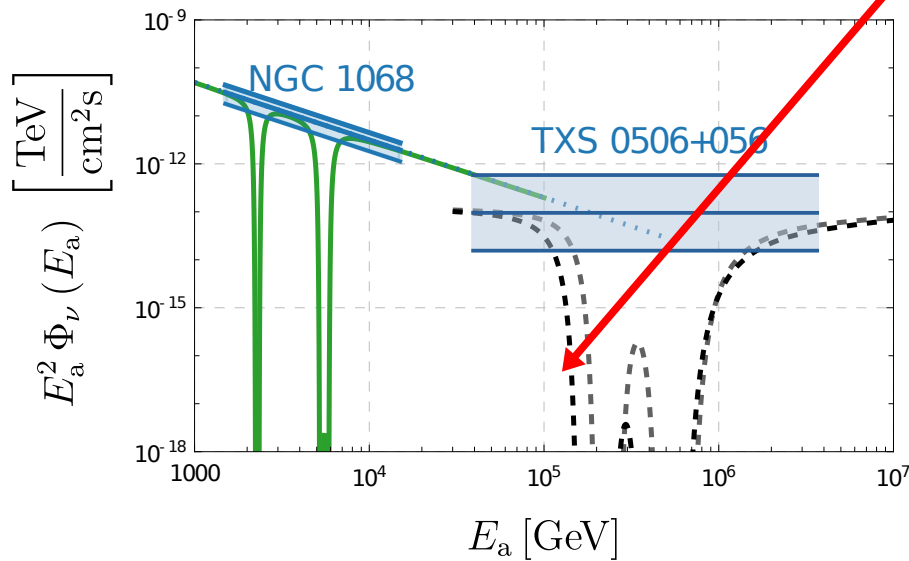
Flux

$$\Phi_0(E) = \hat{\Phi}_0 \cdot \left(\frac{E}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-\gamma} \cdot \mathbf{T(E)}$$

Transmittance
 $T(E) = e^{-\frac{d}{\lambda_{\text{MFP}}(E)}}$

Redshift broadening

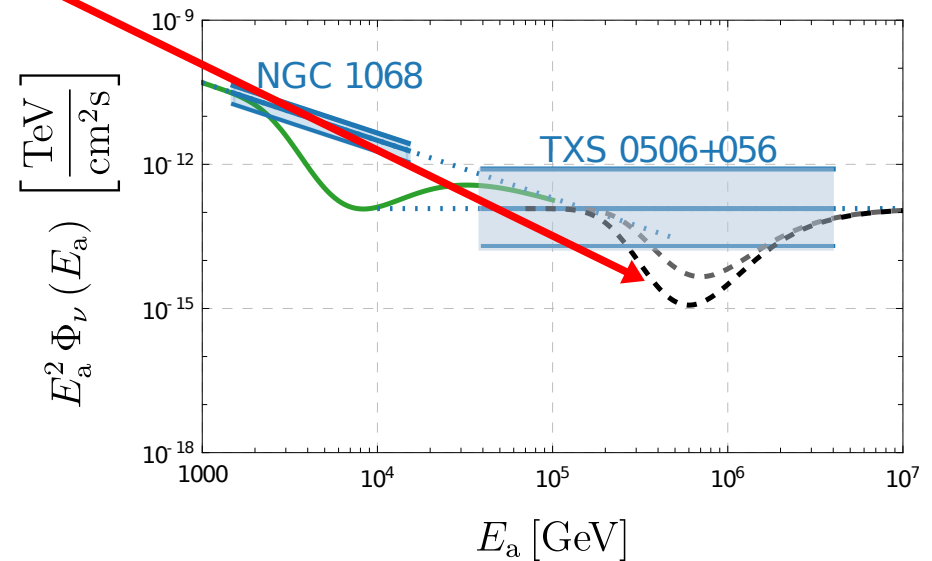
Non-relativistic today



$$y \in \{0.03, 0.05\}$$

$$m_\phi \in \{0.5, 5\} \text{ MeV}$$

Relativistic today



$$y \in \{2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}, 2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}\}$$

$$m_\phi \in \{0.1, 1\} \text{ MeV}$$

Estimating the amount of absorbed neutrinos

Problem: We don't know the original amount of neutrinos emitted by the source...

Estimating the amount of absorbed neutrinos

Problem: We don't know the original amount of neutrinos emitted by the source...

Estimate:

$$\frac{n}{n_0} = \frac{\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} dE A_{\text{eff}}(E) \Phi(E)}{\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} dE A_{\text{eff}}(E) \Phi_0(E)} \geq q$$

with absorption (milky)


measured number (transparent)


Estimating the amount of absorbed neutrinos

Problem: We don't know the original amount of neutrinos emitted by the source...

Estimate:

$$\frac{n}{n_0} = \frac{\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} dE A_{\text{eff}}(E) \Phi(E)}{\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} dE A_{\text{eff}}(E) \Phi_0(E)} \geq q$$

with absorption (milky) 

measured number (transparent) 

Here:

$$q=0.5$$

Estimating the amount of absorbed neutrinos

Problem: We don't know the original amount of neutrinos emitted by the source...

Estimate:

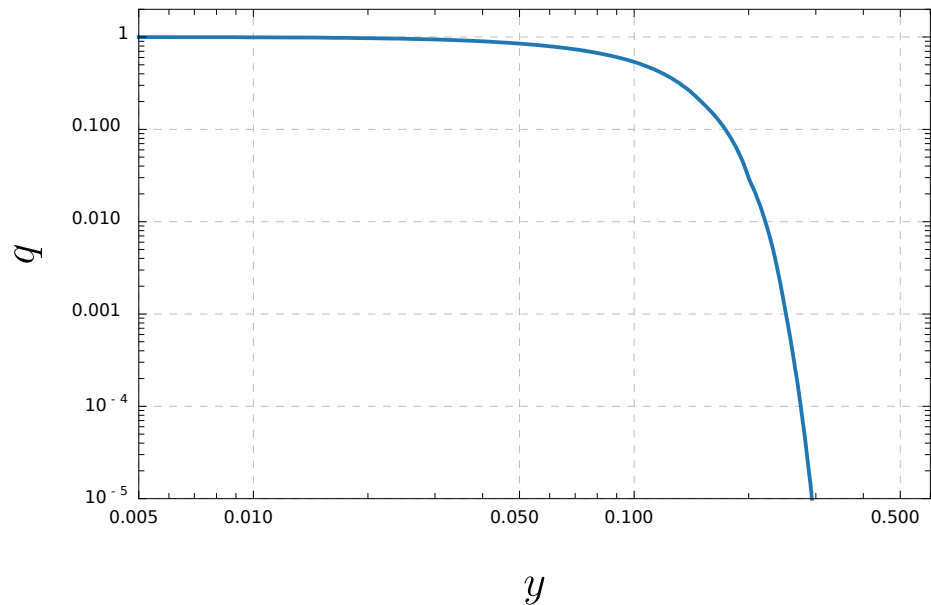
$$\frac{n}{n_0} = \frac{\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} dE A_{\text{eff}}(E) \Phi(E)}{\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} dE A_{\text{eff}}(E) \Phi_0(E)} \geq q$$

with absorption (milky) \rightarrow

measured number (transparent) \rightarrow

Here:

$$q=0.5$$



Estimating the amount of absorbed neutrinos

Problem: We don't know the original amount of neutrinos emitted by the source...

Estimate:

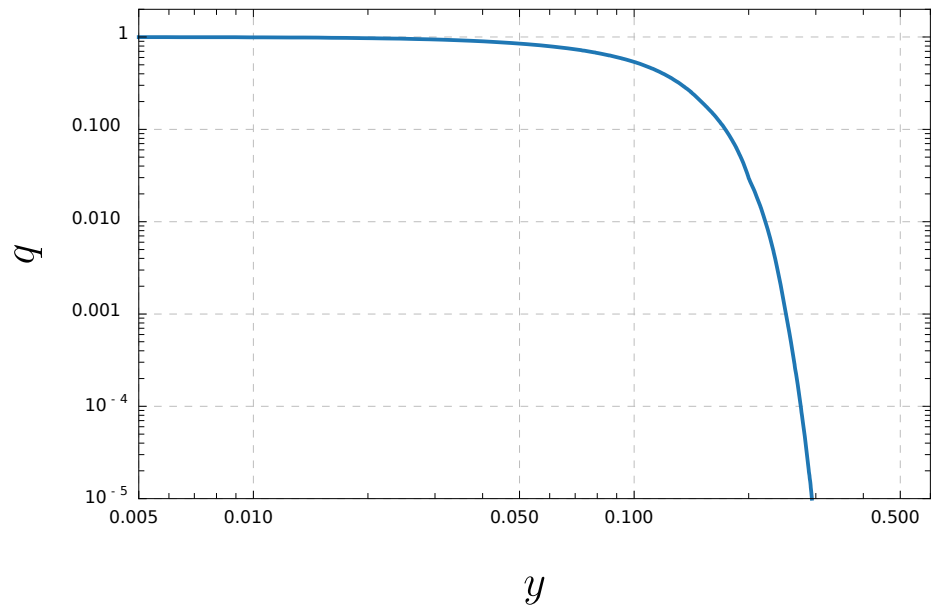
$$\frac{n}{n_0} = \frac{\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} dE A_{\text{eff}}(E) \Phi(E)}{\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} dE A_{\text{eff}}(E) \Phi_0(E)} \geq q$$

with absorption (milky) \rightarrow

measured number (transparent) \rightarrow

Here:

$$q=0.5$$



More dedicated analysis,
see [arXiv:2307.02361](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.02361)

Results

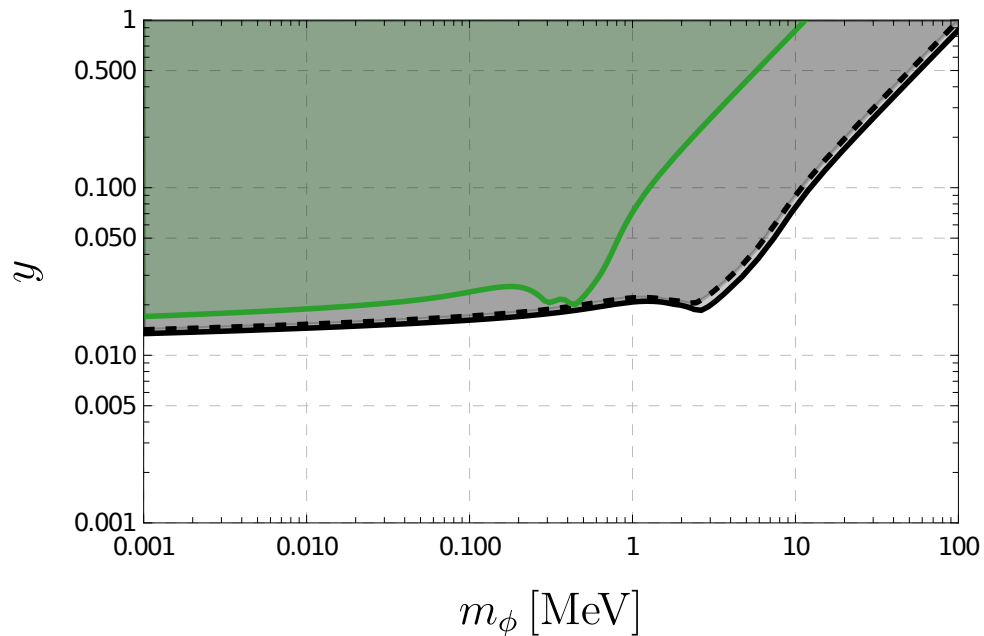
Results: Estimated Limits

Color Code:

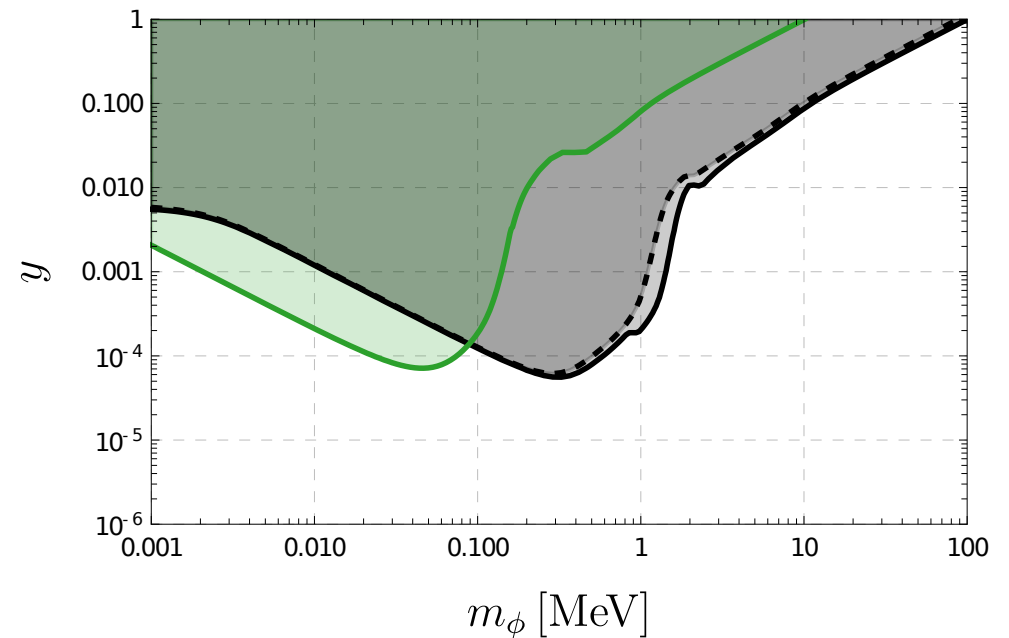
NGC 1068

TXS 0506+056

Non-relativistic today



Relativistic today



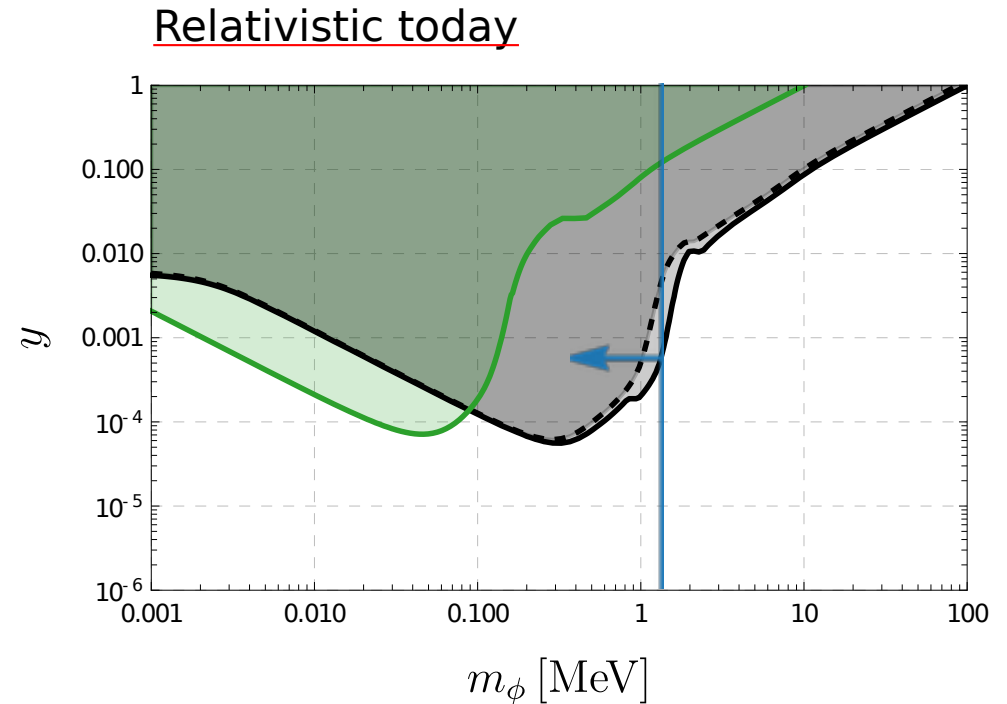
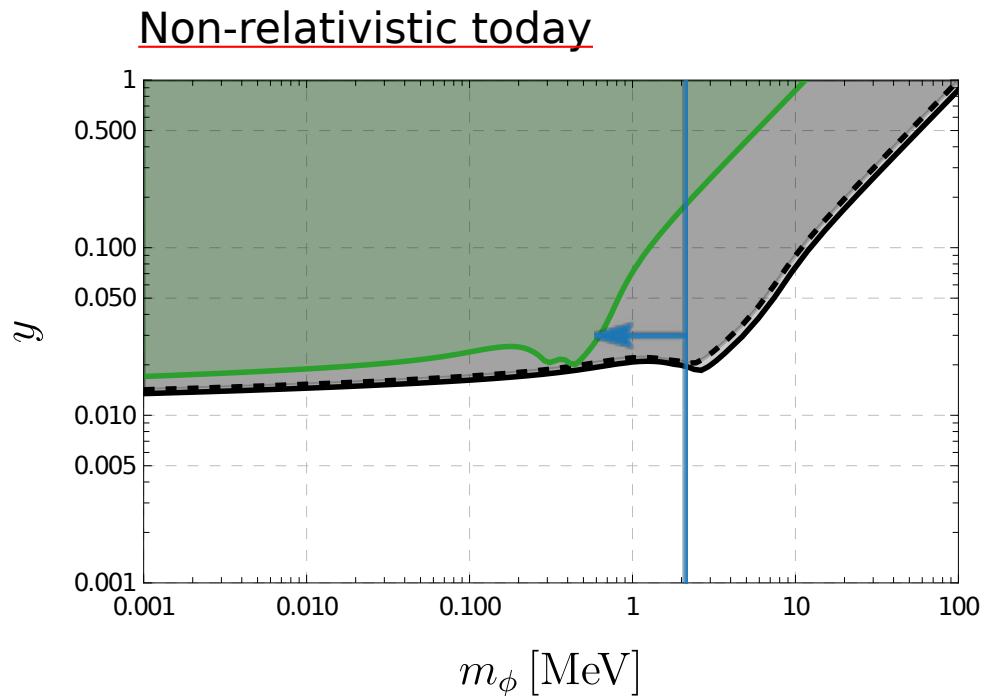
Results: Estimated Limits

Color Code:

NGC 1068

TXS 0506+056

- Blue Line: BBN constrain (N_{eff})



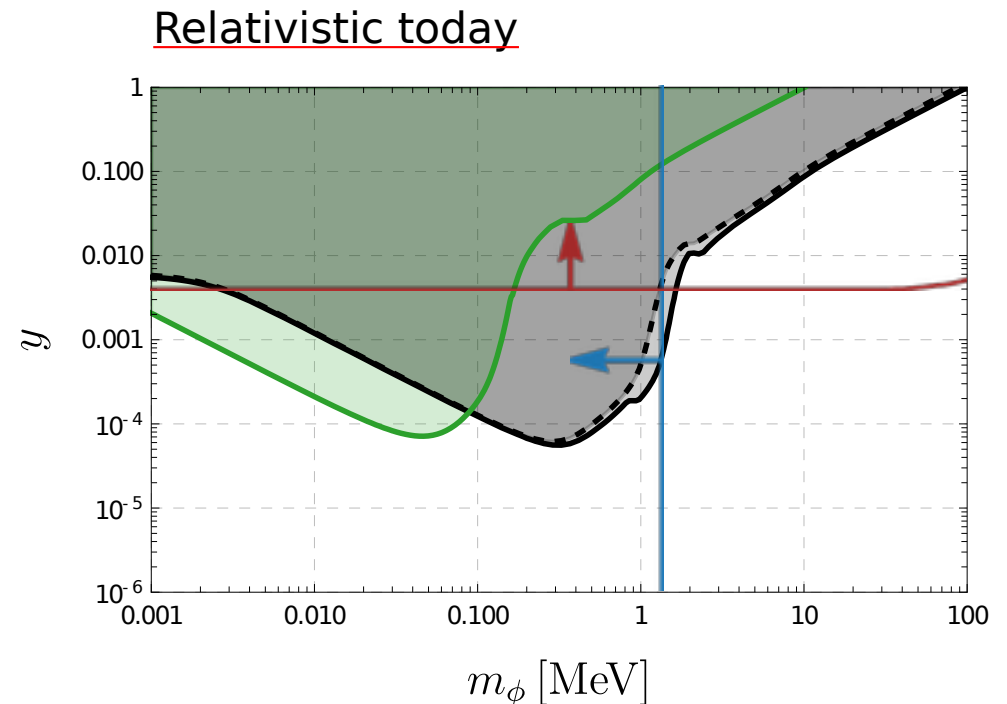
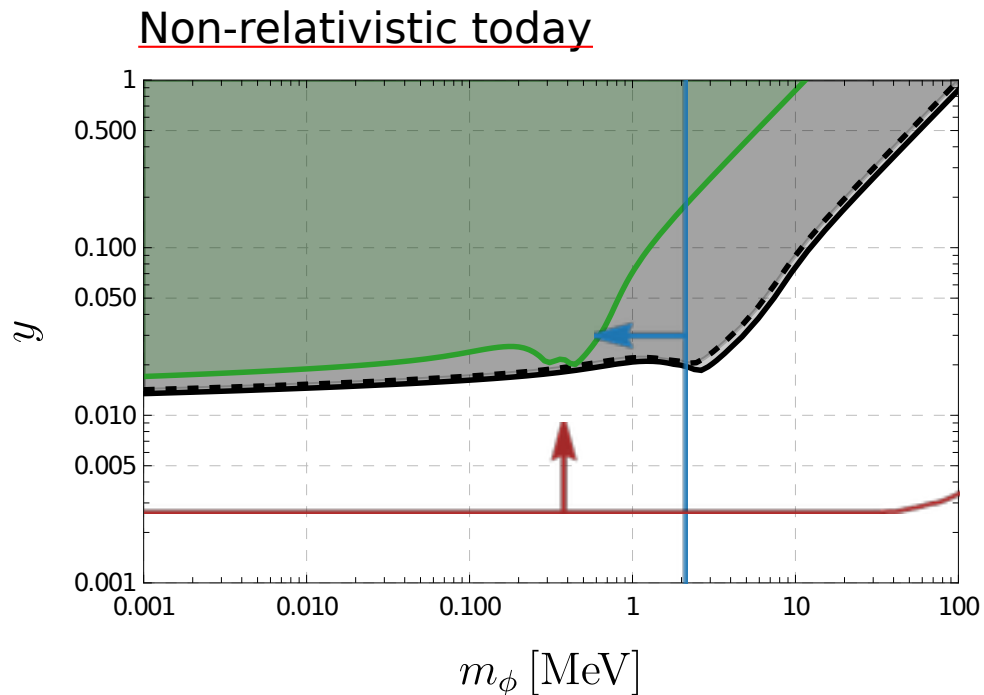
Results: Estimated Limits

Color Code:

NGC 1068

TXS 0506+056

- **Blue Line:** BBN constrain (N_{eff})
- **Brown Line:** Lab K^- decay (flavor dependent)



Results: Estimated Limits

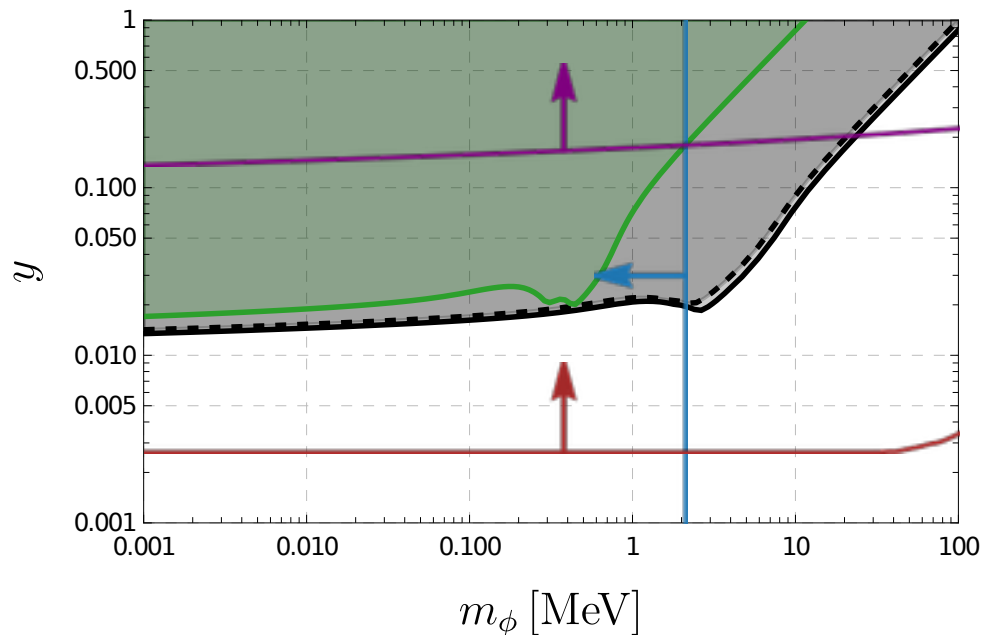
Color Code:

NGC 1068

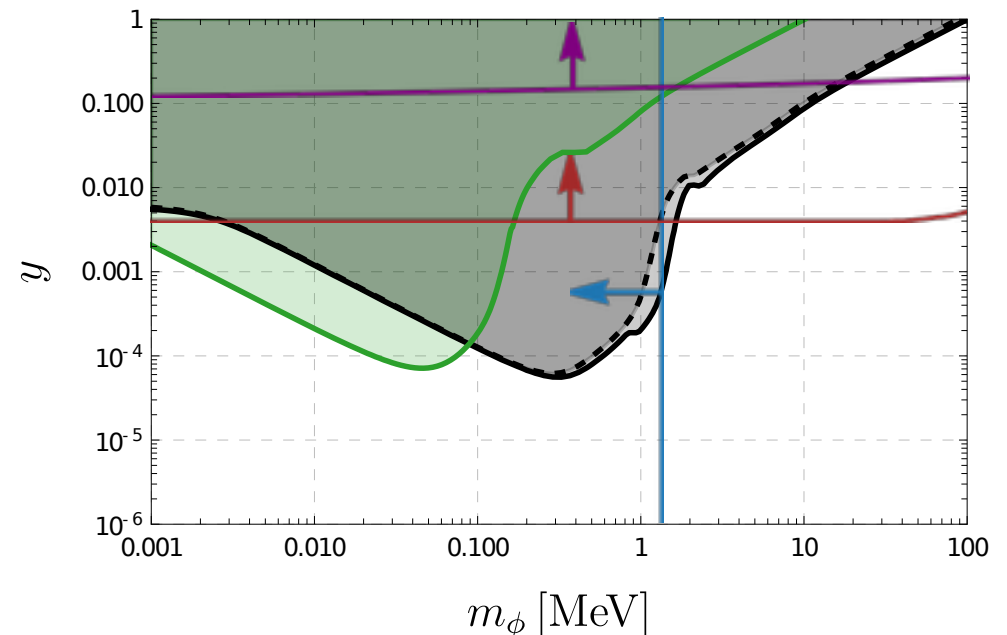
TXS 0506+056

- **Blue Line:** BBN constrain (N_{eff})
- **Brown Line:** Lab K^- decay (flavor dependent)
- **Pink Line:** Lab constrain Z-decay

Non-relativistic today



Relativistic today



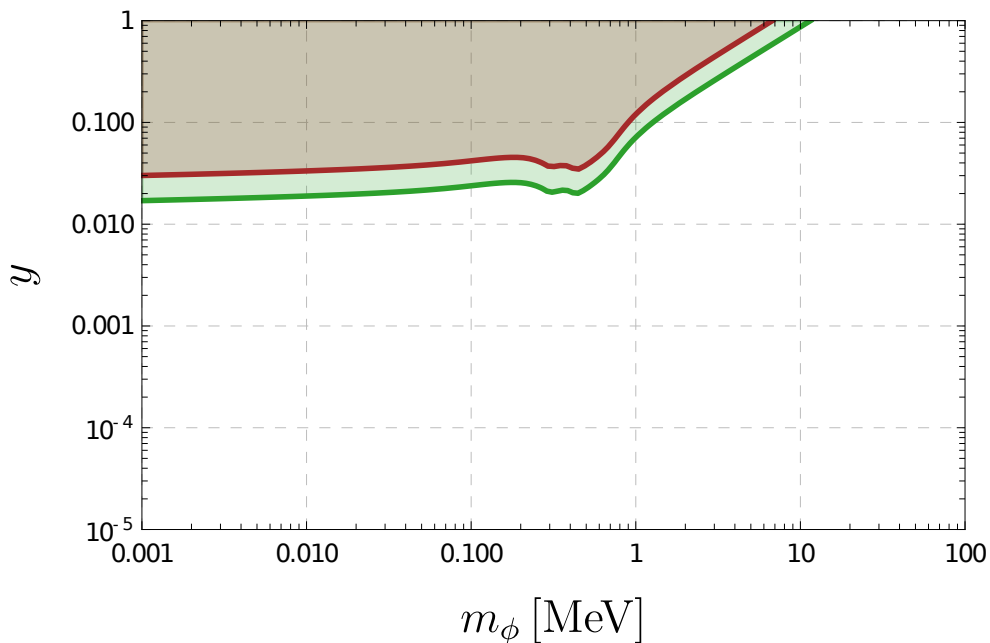
Tauphilic interactions

Example: NGC 1068

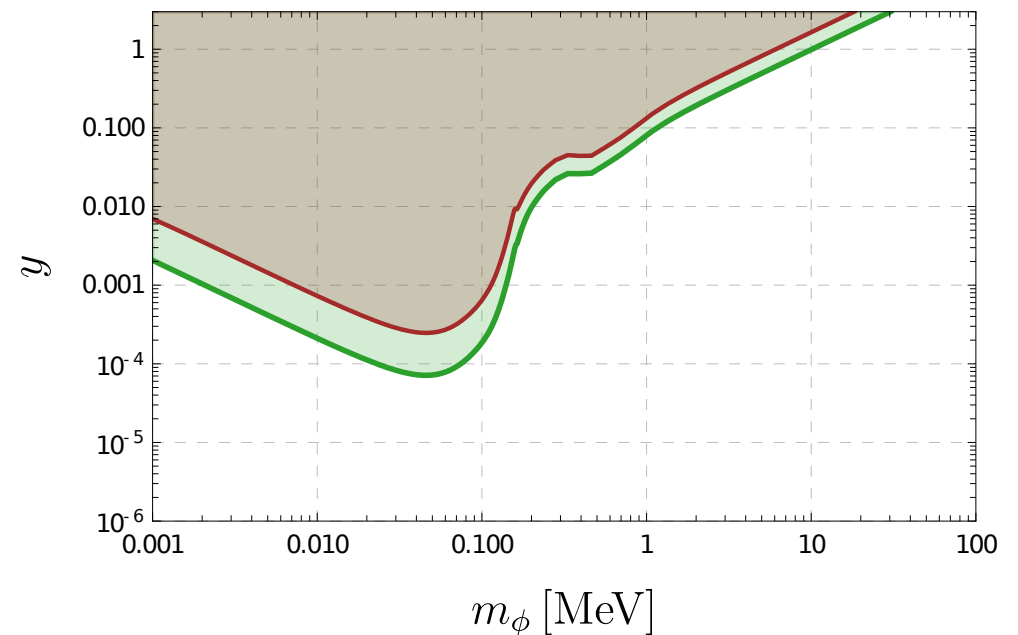
Flavor Universal Coupling

Coupling only to Tau-Neutrinos

Non-relativistic today



Relativistic today



Future Sources – Outlook to PKS 1424+240

Color Code:

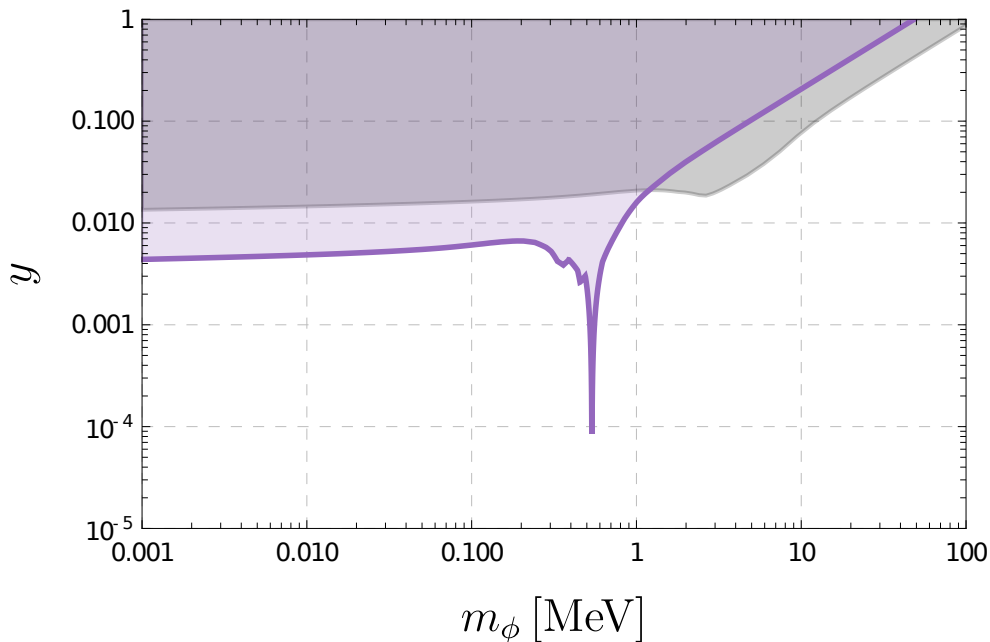
PKS 1424+240

Combined estimated limits:
NGC 1068 and TXS 0506+056

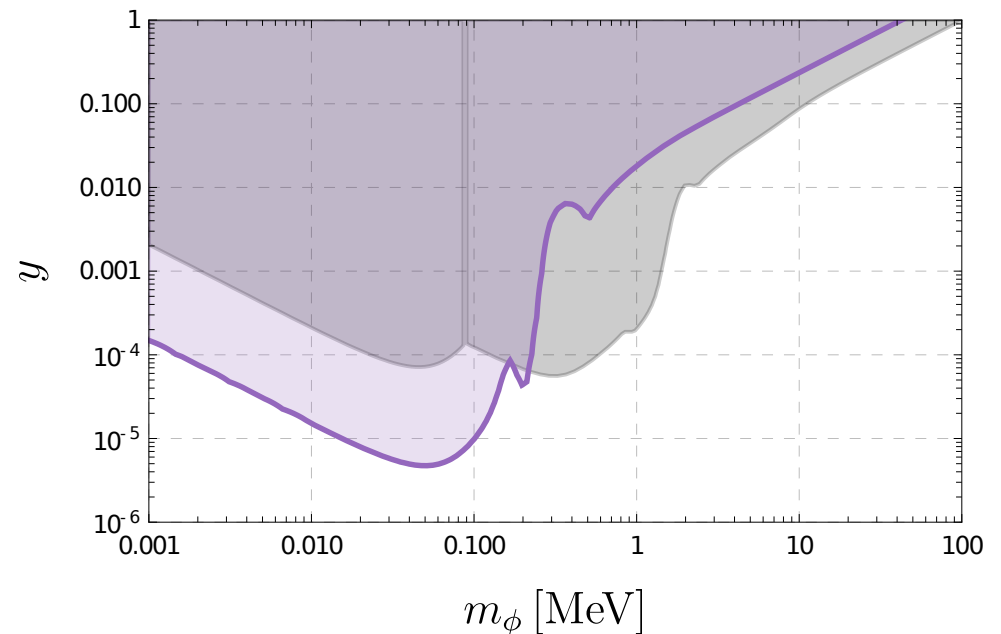
Facts:

Distance: 1.8 Gpc
Flux: $\hat{\Phi}_0 \approx \hat{\Phi}_{0, \text{NGC 1068}}$
Spectral index: $\gamma = 3.5$
Energy: $[E_{\text{min}}, E_{\text{max}}]_{\text{NGC 1068}}$

Non-relativistic today



Relativistic today



Conclusion

- Neutrinos from astrophysical point sources have been measured by IceCube and are great messengers for astro- and particlephysics
- New physics (e.g. a scalar) can lead to interactions with the CNUB and thus turn the Universe opaque for Neutrinos
- Using the two observed sources TXS 0506+056 and NGC 1068 we put new estimated constraints on light scalar masses and neutrino coupling
- Two cases: lightest neutrino relativistic vs non-relativistic today
- Only estimate: the original neutrino emission at the source is not known
- More sources and higher energetic neutrinos could improve the constraints as well as a better understanding of the original neutrino luminosity of these sources

THANK YOU !

BACKUP

Crosssection

Flavor universal neutrino scattering cross section

$$\sigma_{\nu\nu}(s) = \frac{y^4}{32\pi((m_\phi^2 - s)^2 + m_\phi^2\Gamma_\phi^2)s^2} \left(\frac{s(5m_\phi^6 - 9m_\phi^4s + 6s^3)}{m_\phi^2 + s} + \frac{2(5m_\phi^8 - 9m_\phi^6s + 4m_\phi^2s^3) \log\left(\frac{m_\phi^2}{m_\phi^2 + s}\right)}{2m_\phi^2 + s} \right)$$

ϕ -pair production $E_{\text{CM}} \geq m_\phi$

$$\sigma_{\phi\phi}(s) = \frac{y^4}{64\pi s^2} \left(\frac{s^2 - 4m_\phi^2s + 6m_\phi^4}{s - 2m_\phi^2} \log \left[\left(\frac{(s(s - 4m_\phi^2))^{1/2} + s - 2m_\phi^2}{(s(s - 4m_\phi^2))^{1/2} - s + 2m_\phi^2} \right)^2 \right] - 6(s(s - 4m_\phi^2))^{1/2} \right)$$

See also [arXiv:2107.13568](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.13568)

Massless Neutrino

Rate approximations in different limit cases:

Heavy mediator mass:

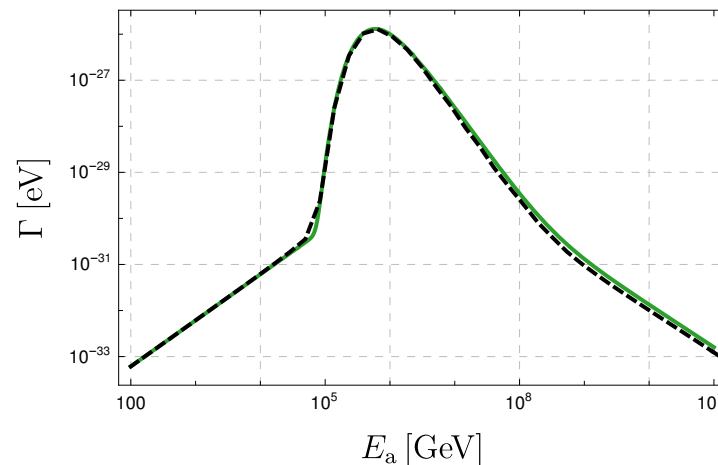
$$\Gamma_{\text{heavy}} \approx \frac{7\pi^3 y^4}{2592 \zeta(3)} \frac{E_a T_\nu}{m_\phi^4} n_{\nu_1}$$

Small mediator mass:

$$\Gamma_{\text{light}} \approx \frac{\pi y^4}{192 \zeta(3)} \frac{1}{E_a T_\nu} n_{\nu_1}$$

Resonance:

$$\Gamma_{\text{NWA}} \approx \frac{y^4}{384 \zeta(3)} \frac{m_\phi^3}{E_\nu^2 T_\nu^2 \Gamma_\phi} \log\left[1 + e^{-\frac{m_\phi^2}{4E_\nu T_\nu}}\right] n_{\nu_1}$$



Dashed-Black: Analytical Approximation
Green: Numerical Result

Redshift broadening

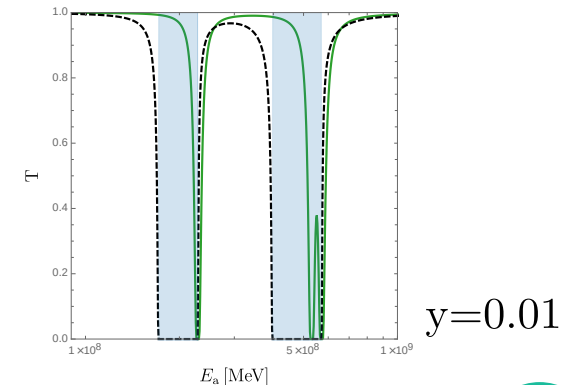
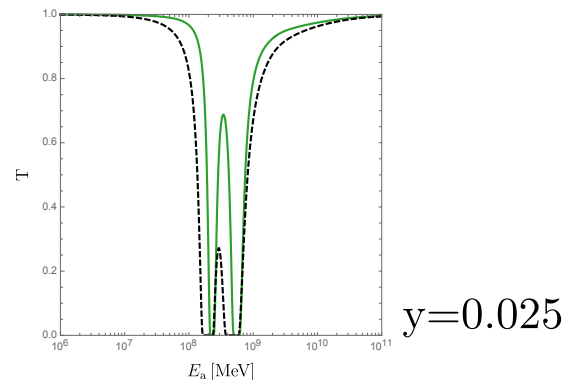
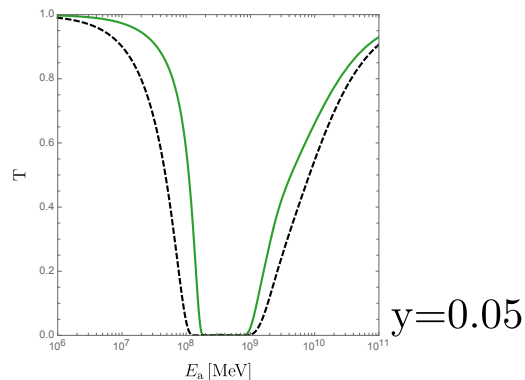
In expanding Universe: Flux evolves according to transport equation

$$\frac{\partial \Phi(t, E_a)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial E_a} [H(t) E_a \Phi(t, E_a)] - \Phi(t, E_a) \Gamma(E_a, t)$$

Which becomes $\frac{\partial Z(z, E_a)}{\partial z} = \frac{Z(z, E_a) \Gamma(E_a, z)}{H(z)(1+z)}$ with $Z(z, E_a) := (1+z)\Phi(z, E_a[1+z])$

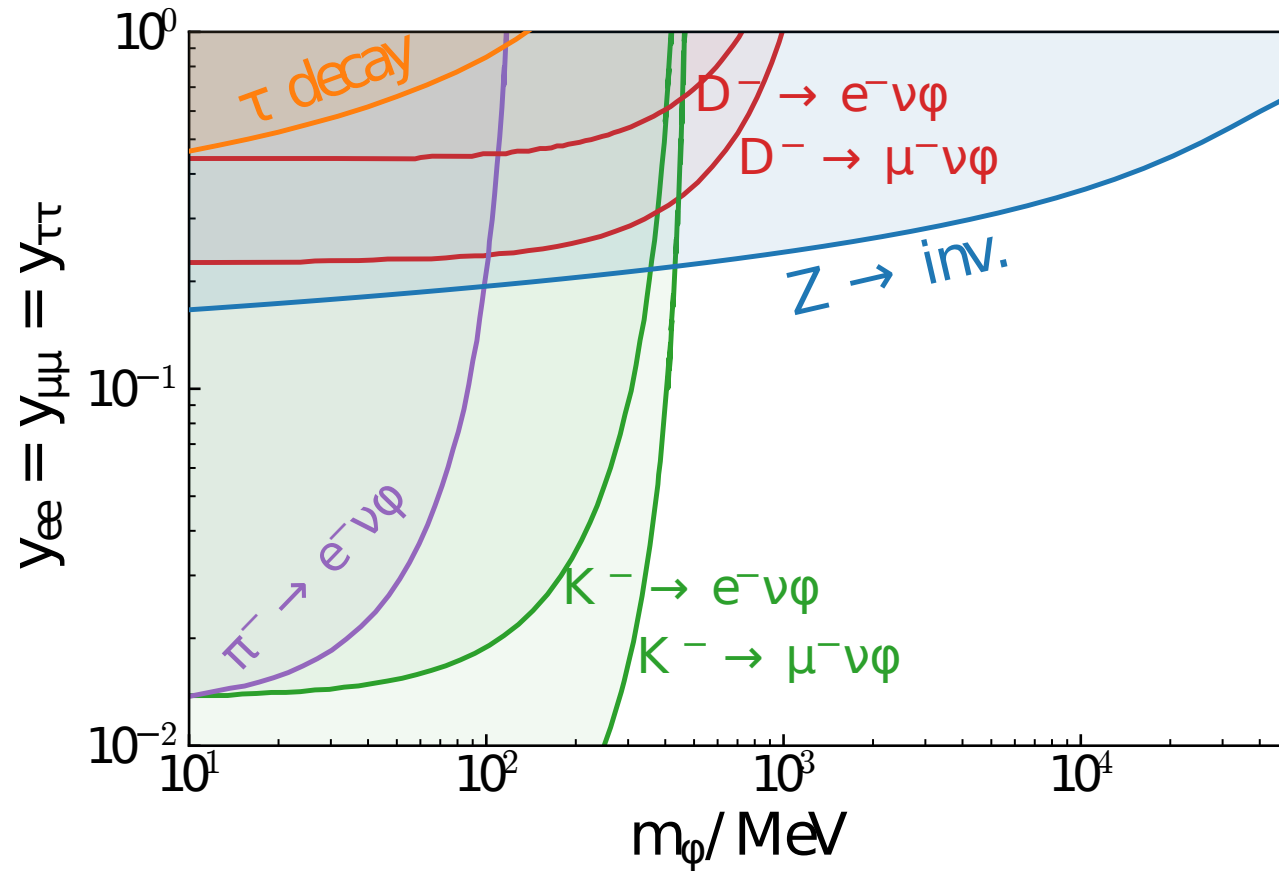
The redshift dependent rate is: $\Gamma_i(E_a, z) = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} (1+z)^3 f_i(\vec{p}(1+z)) v_{M\phi l} \sigma_{\nu\nu}(s(E_a(1+z), \vec{p}(1+z)))$

Transmittance: $T = \frac{Z(0, E_\nu)}{Z(z, E_\nu)} = \text{Exp} \left[- \int_0^z \frac{1}{H(z')(1+z')} \Gamma(E_\nu, z') dz' \right]$



See also [arXiv:2107.13568](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.13568)

Labconstraints



See:

[arXiv:1802.00009](https://arxiv.org/abs/1802.00009)

[arXiv:2003.05339](https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.05339)

Scalar mediated Nu-Nu Interactions

Details on: Tauphilic Coupling vs Flavor-Universal Coupling

Relation between observed flux and source flux:

$$\phi_{obs} = \sum_i \exp(-\tau_i) \frac{\phi_{source}}{3}$$

Case I: Flavor-Universal Coupling:

$$\phi_{obs} = \exp\left(-d \sum_j \sigma_u n_j\right) \phi_{source}$$

Attention: depend also on neutrino-mass m_j !!!

Case II: Flavor-Spezifical Coupling:

$$\phi_{obs} = \sum_i \exp\left(-d \sum_j \sigma_{ij} n_j\right) \frac{\phi_{source}}{3}$$

Comparison:

$$\exp\left(d \sum_j \sigma_u n_j\right) = \frac{1}{3} \sum_i \exp\left(-d |U_{\tau i}|^2 \sum_j |U_{j,\tau}|^2 \sigma_\tau n_j\right)$$

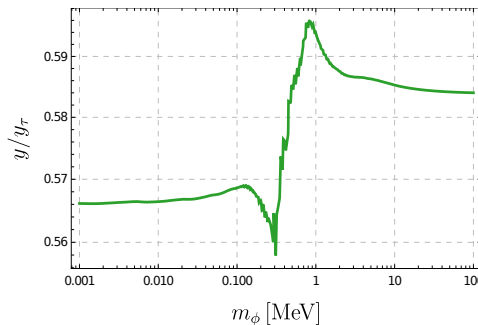
Approximation: small couplings

$$\sum_j \sigma_u n_j = \frac{1}{3} \sum_j |U_{\tau j}|^2 \sigma_\tau n_j$$

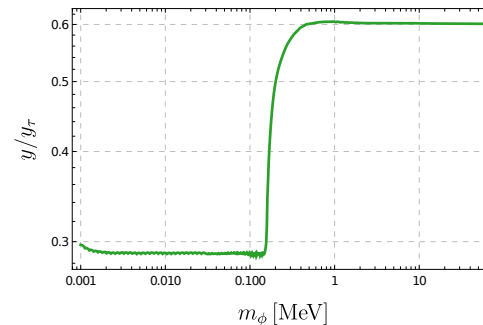
Relation of couplings:

Tails: $\sigma \propto y^4 \Rightarrow \frac{y_u}{y_\tau} \approx \left(\frac{|U_{\tau j}|^2}{3}\right)^{1/4} \approx 0.58$

Resonance: $\sigma \propto y^2 \Rightarrow \frac{y_u}{y_\tau} \approx \sqrt{\frac{|U_{\tau j}|^2}{3}} \approx 0.28$



Non-relativistic today



Relativistic today