

# A COMPOSITE SOLUTION TO THE EDGES ANOMALY

Harikrishnan Ramani  
Stanford Institute for Theoretical Physics



arXiv: 2102.11284 Anubhav Mathur, Surjeet Rajendran, HR



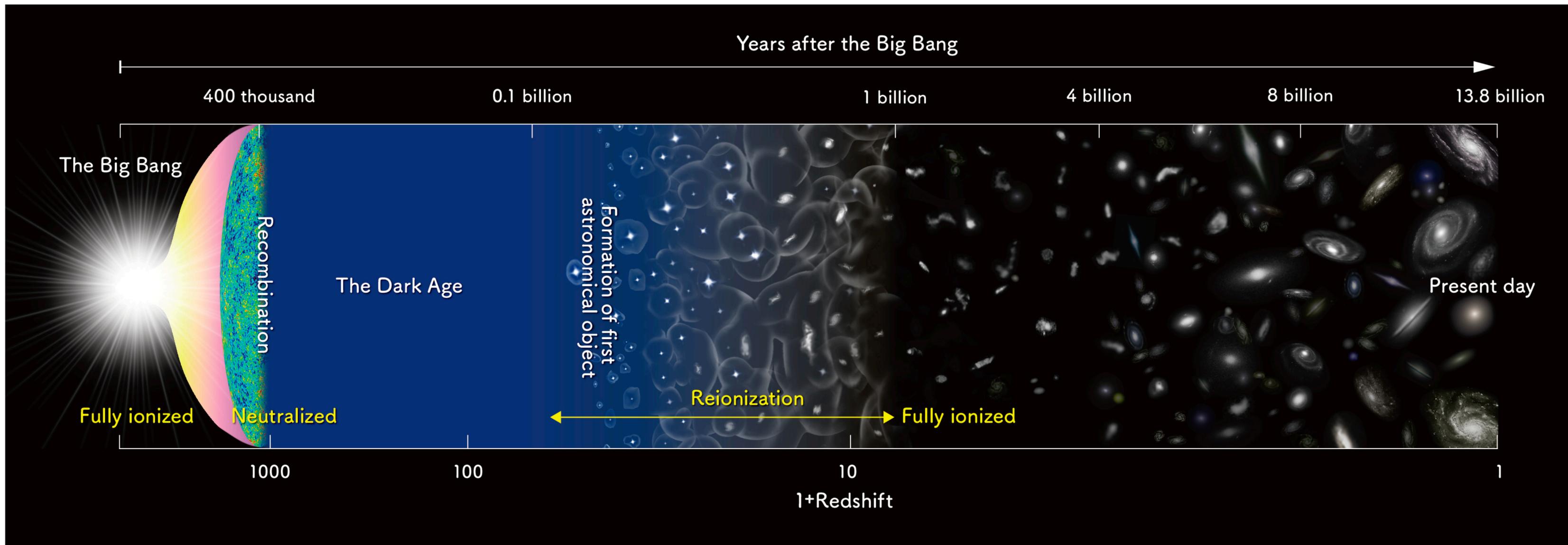
—Banksy

# OUTLINE

- ◆ EDGES anomaly & Milli-charge solution
- ◆ Milli-charge Nuclei
- ◆ Results & Detection prospects

# DARK AGES

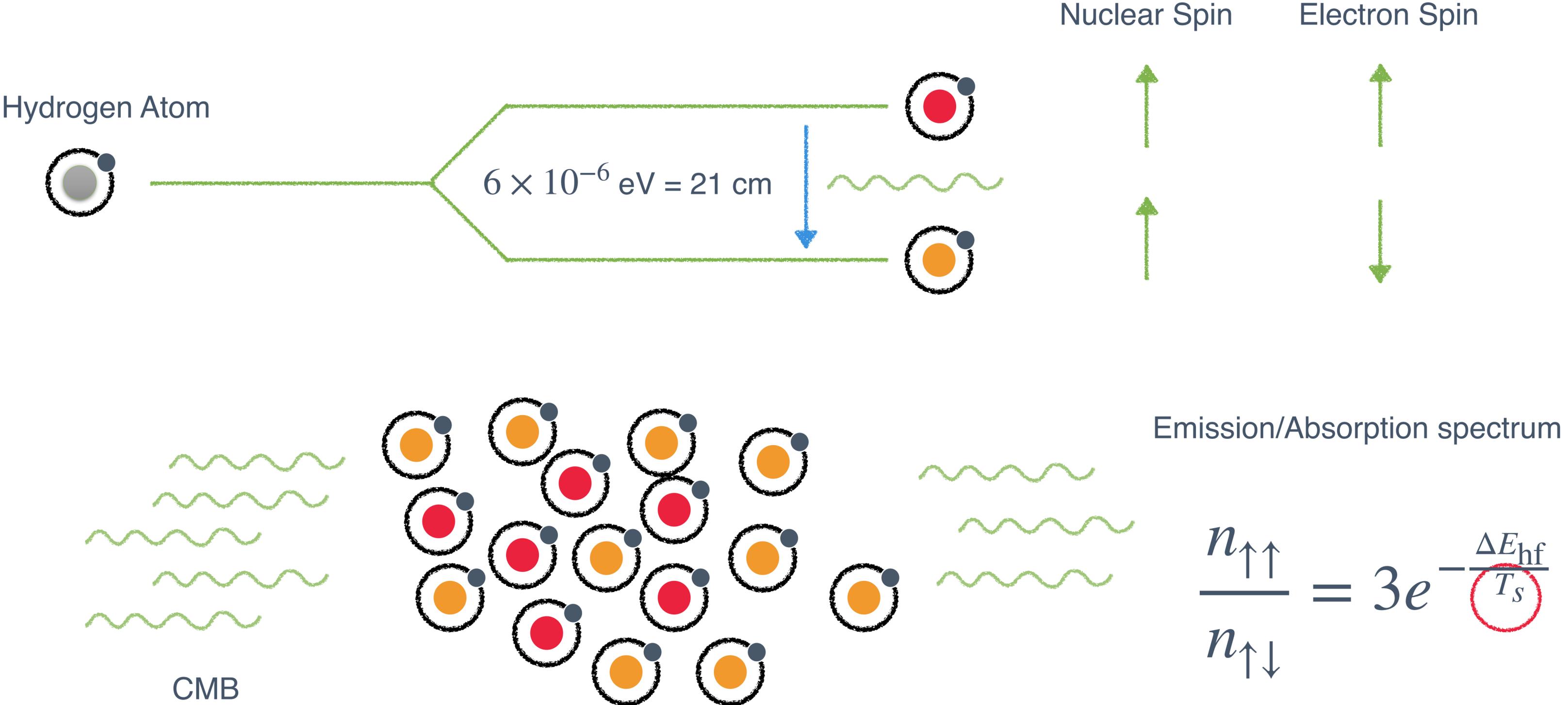
◆  $1000 > z > 15$



# DARK AGES

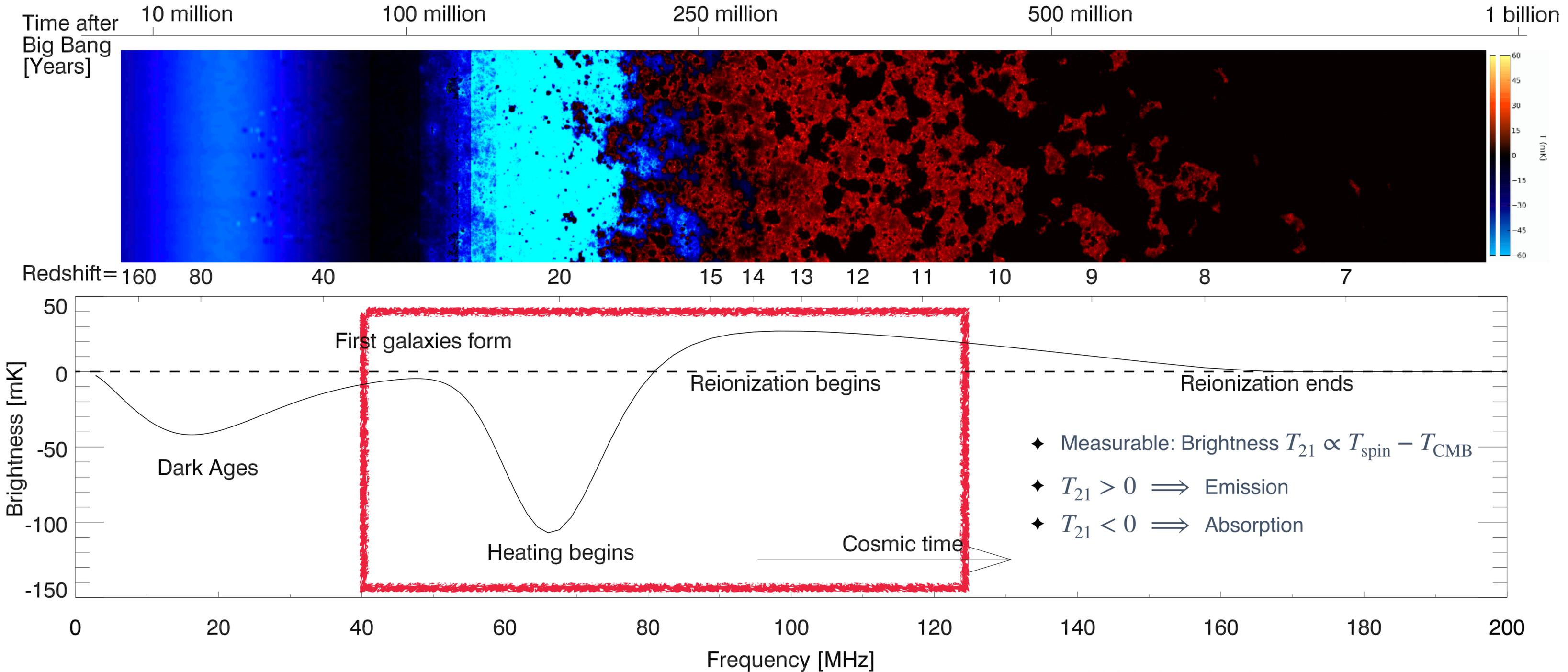
- ◆  $1000 > z > 15$
- ◆ Cold Epoch between recombination & reionization
- ◆ New test of  $\Lambda$ CDM
- ◆ Main way to probe : 21 cm physics

# HYPERFINE



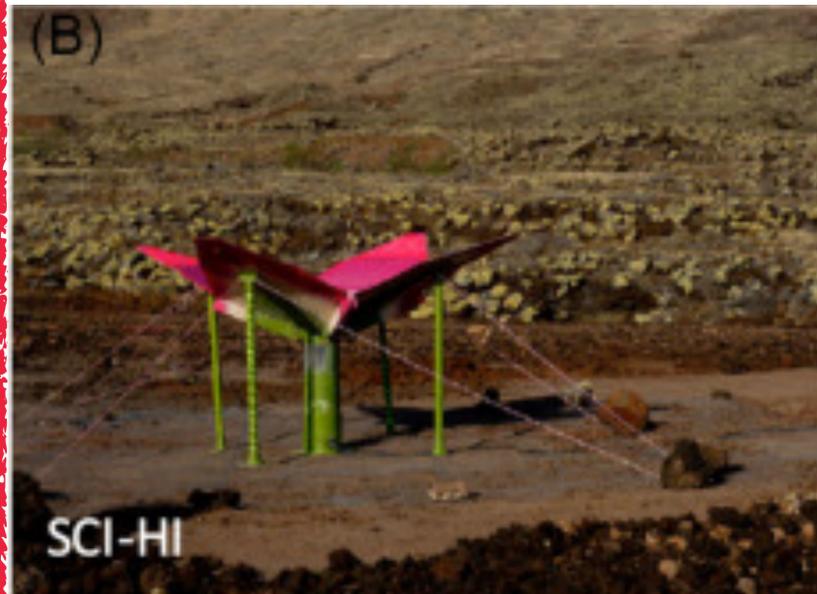
\*Art inspired by Hongwan Liu's slides @ TeVPA

# 21 cm SIGNAL

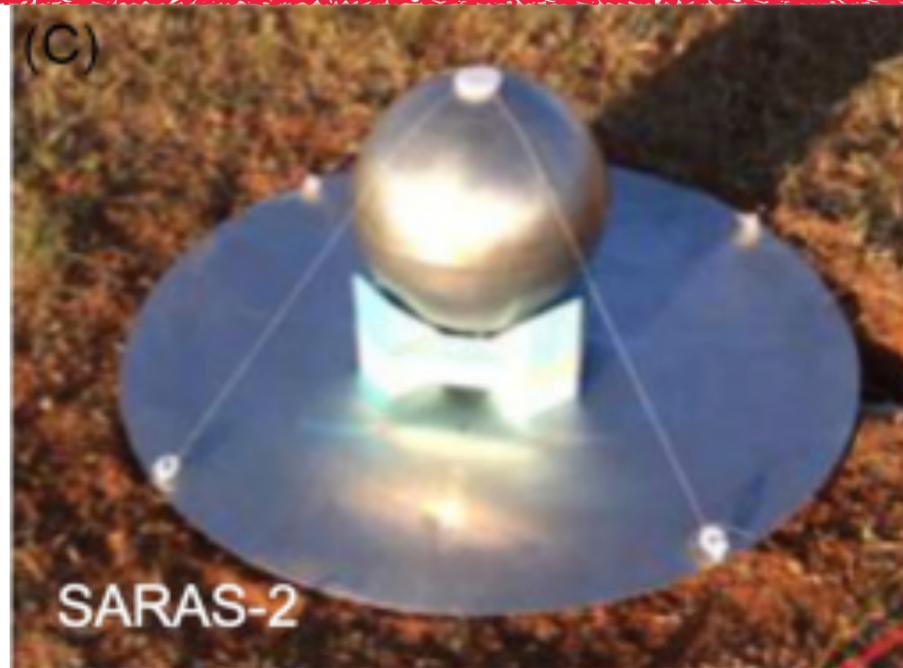


# GLOBAL SPECTRUM

Bowman *et. al.*  
Nature **555**, 67 (2018)



60-90 MHz  
1311.0014

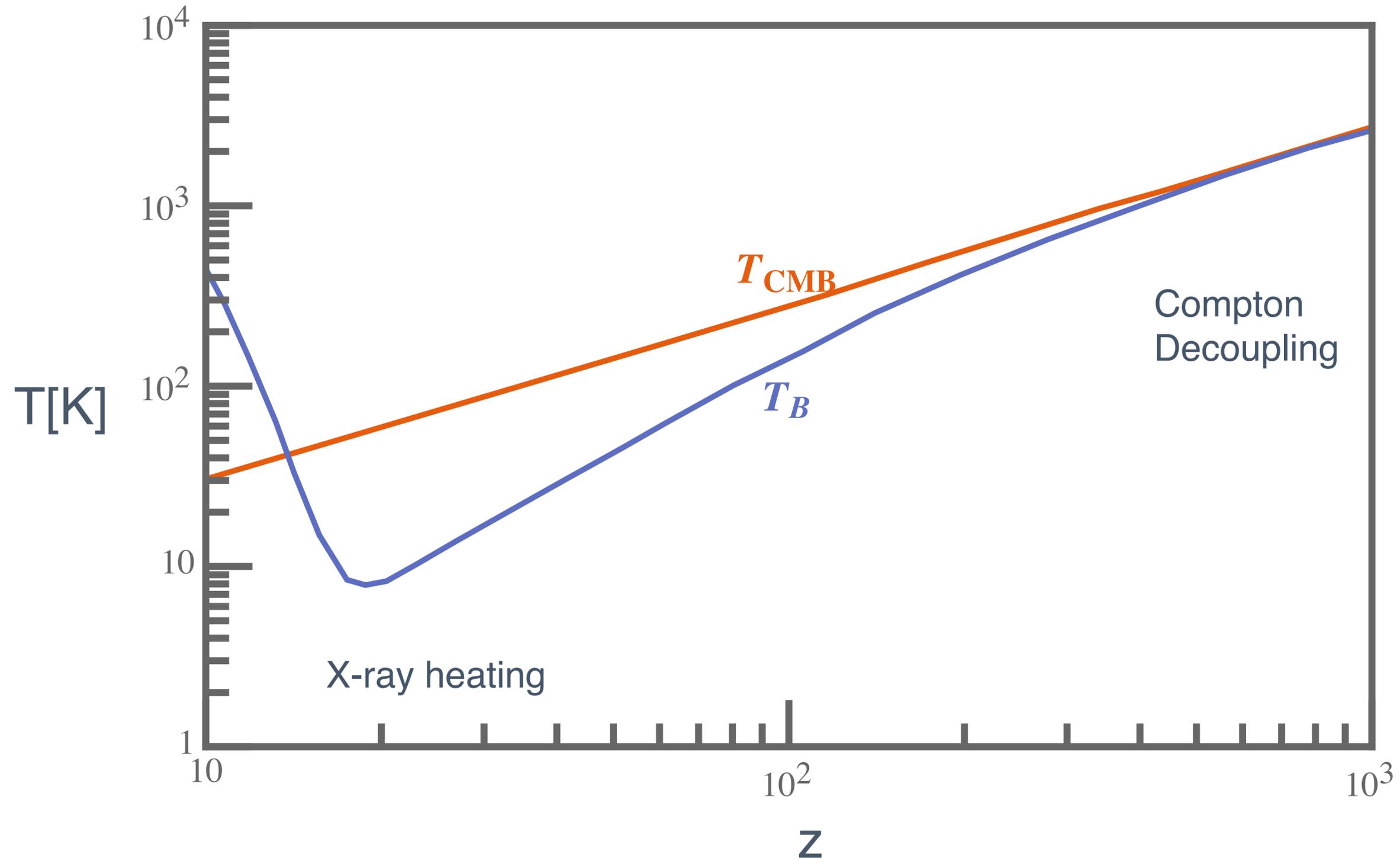


87.5-175 MHz  
1710.01101

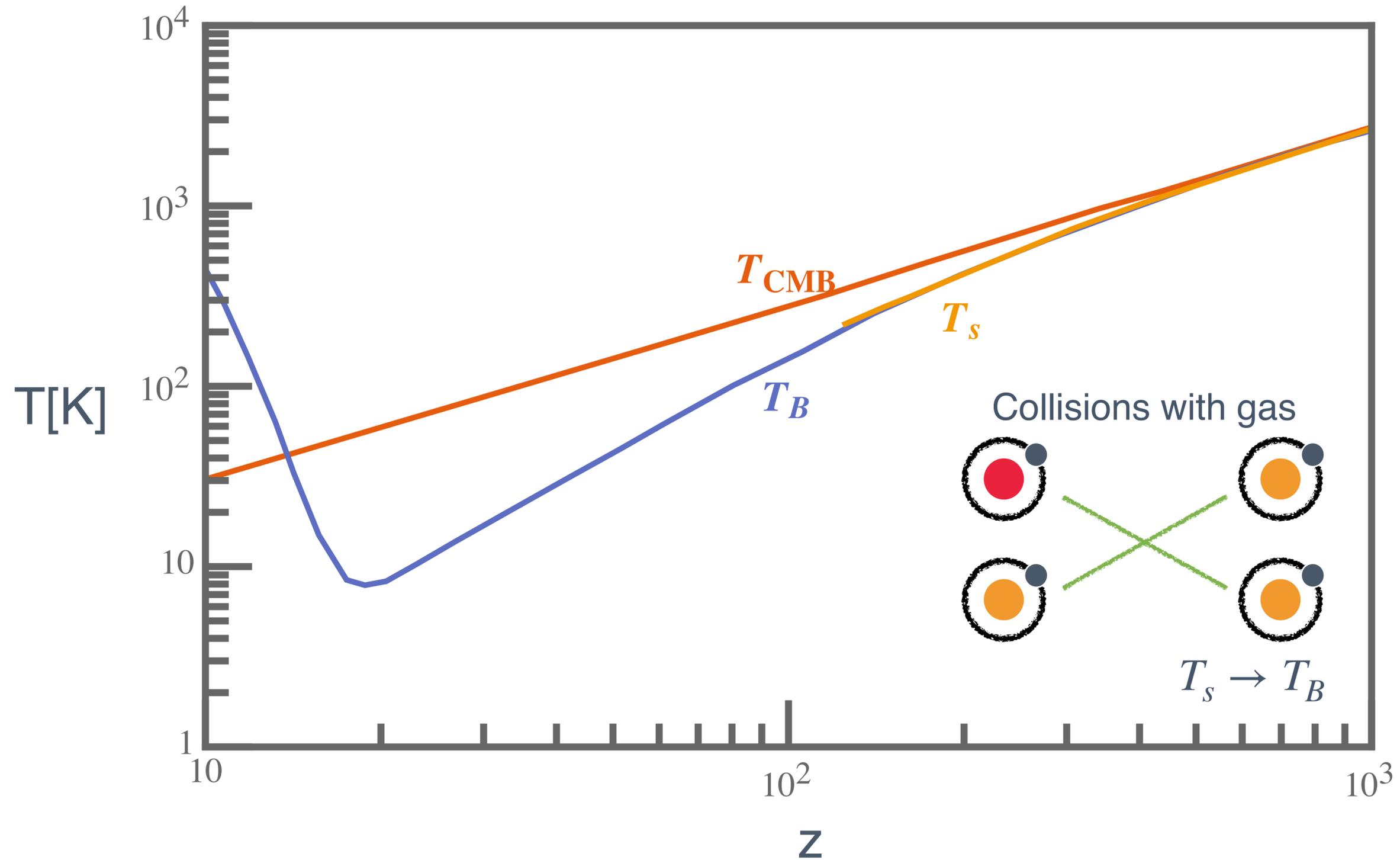


50-130 MHz  
1806.09531

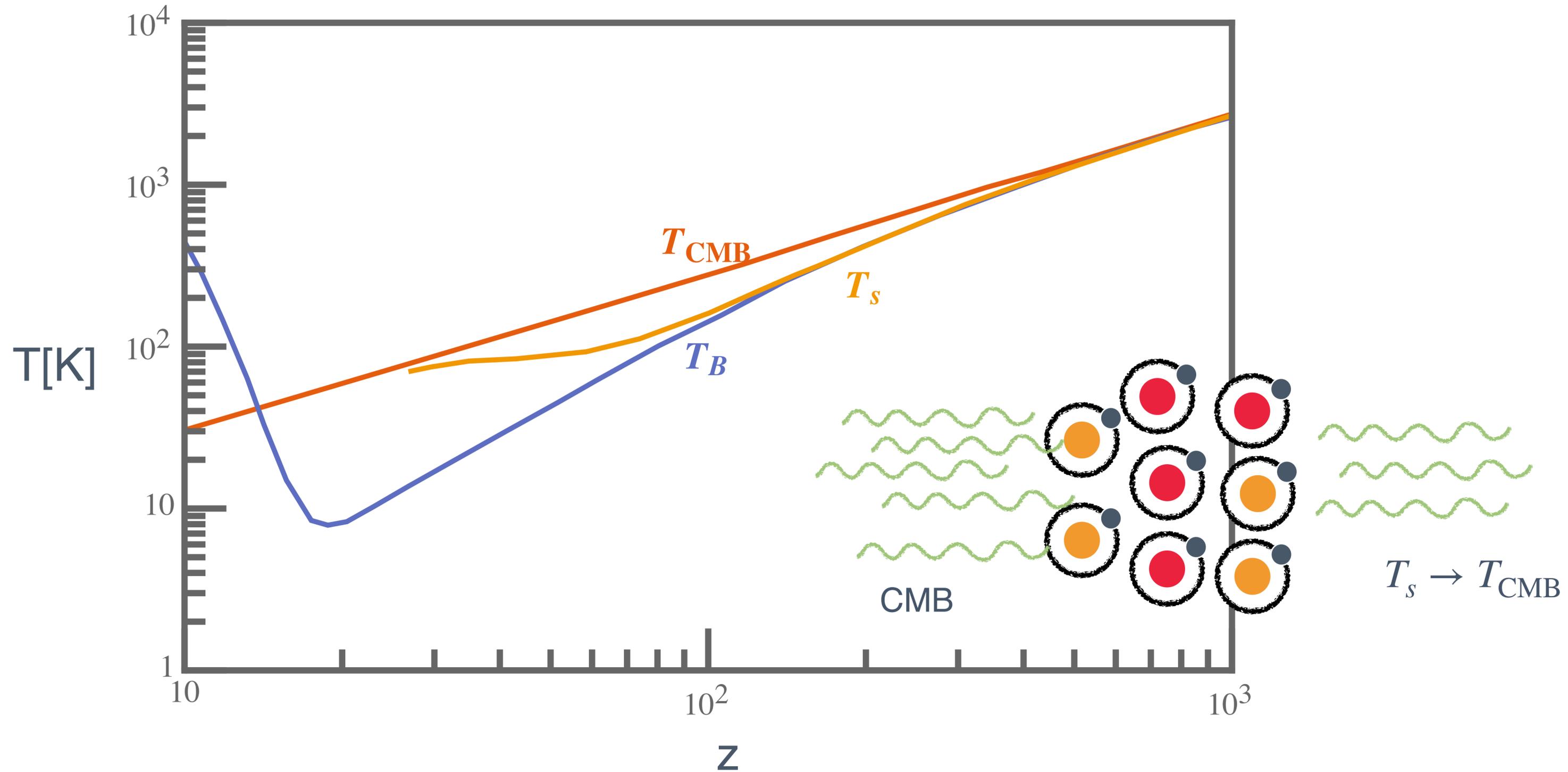
# TEMPERATURE EVOLUTION



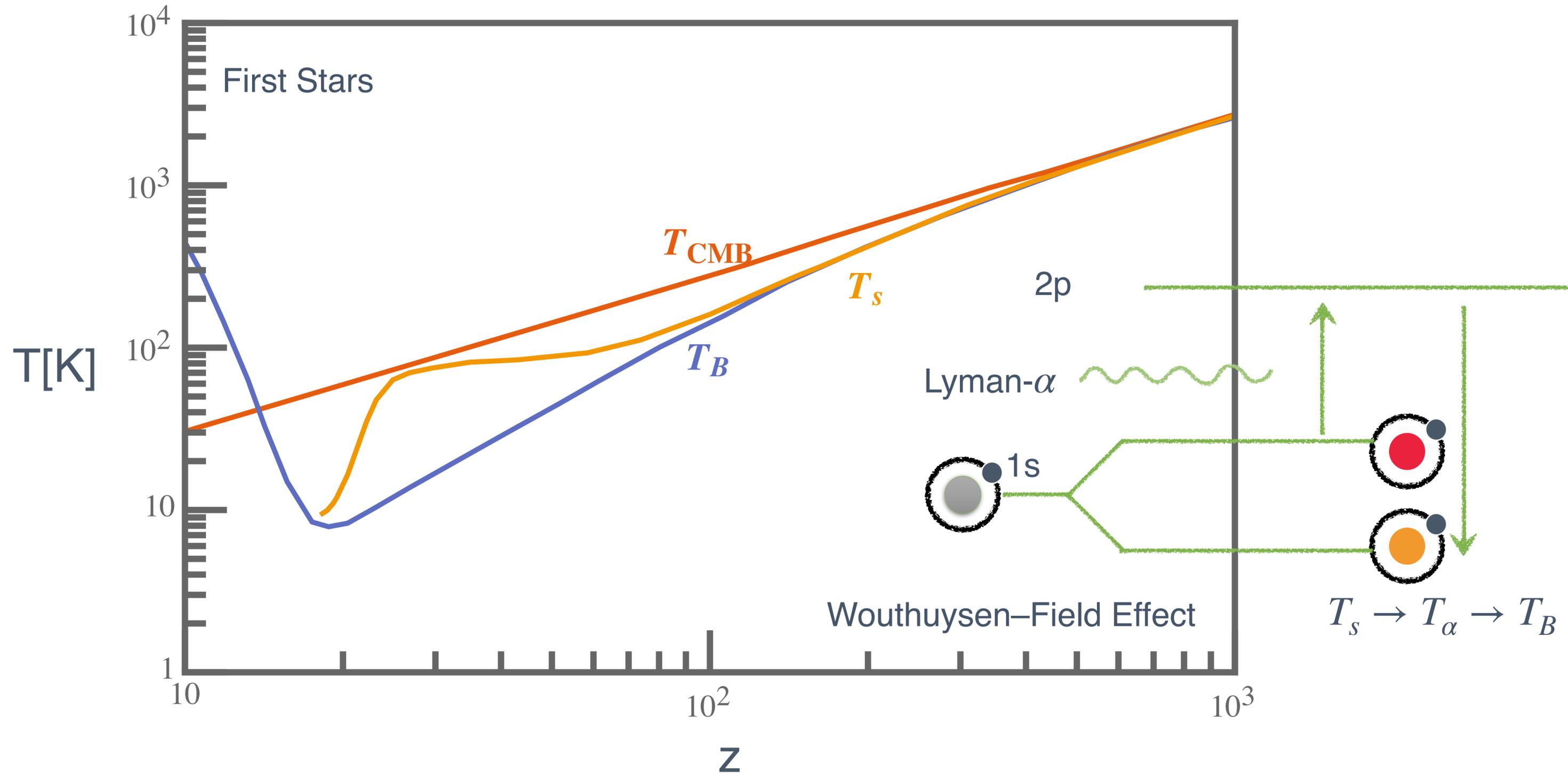
# TEMPERATURE EVOLUTION



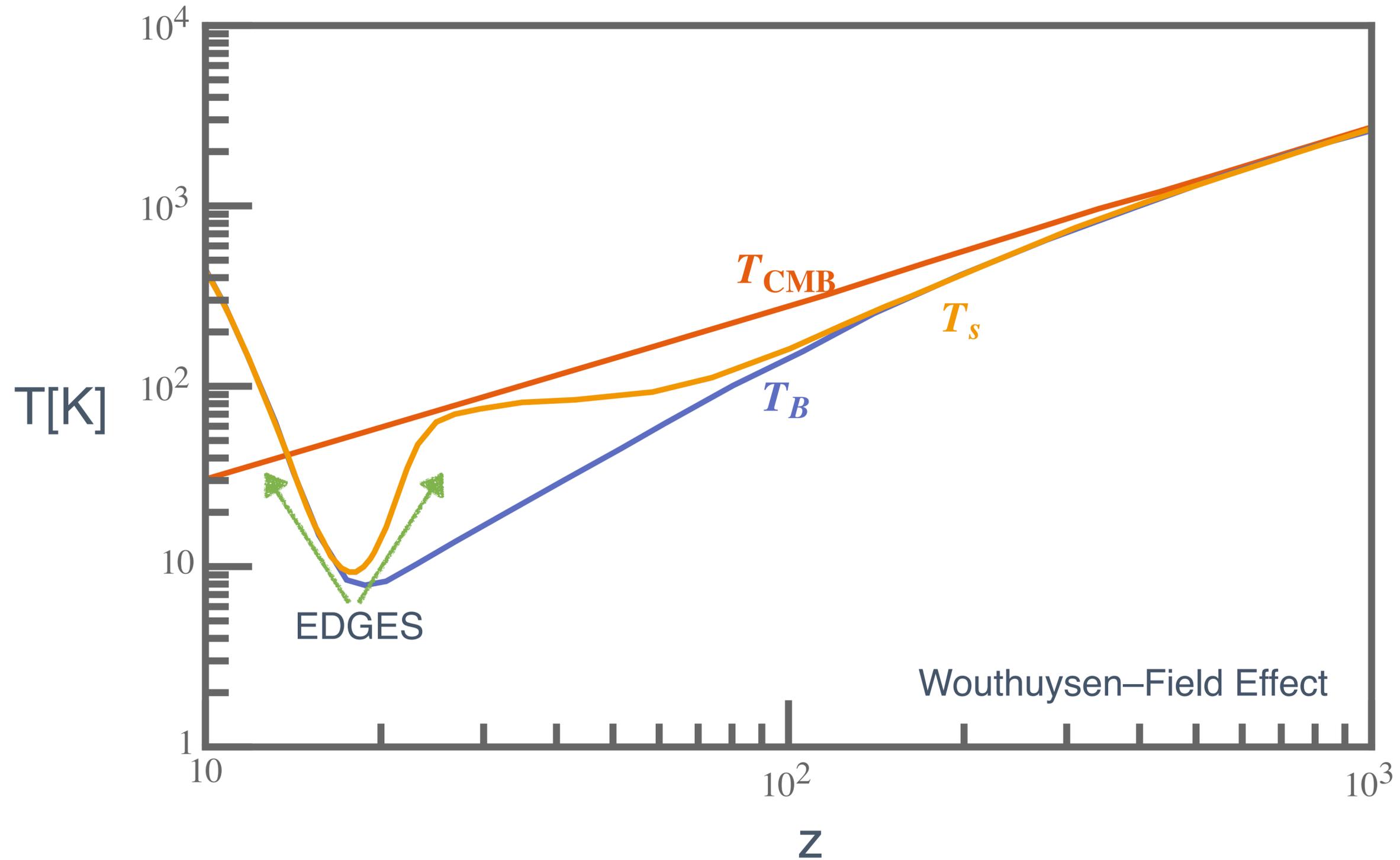
# TEMPERATURE EVOLUTION



# TEMPERATURE EVOLUTION



# TEMPERATURE EVOLUTION

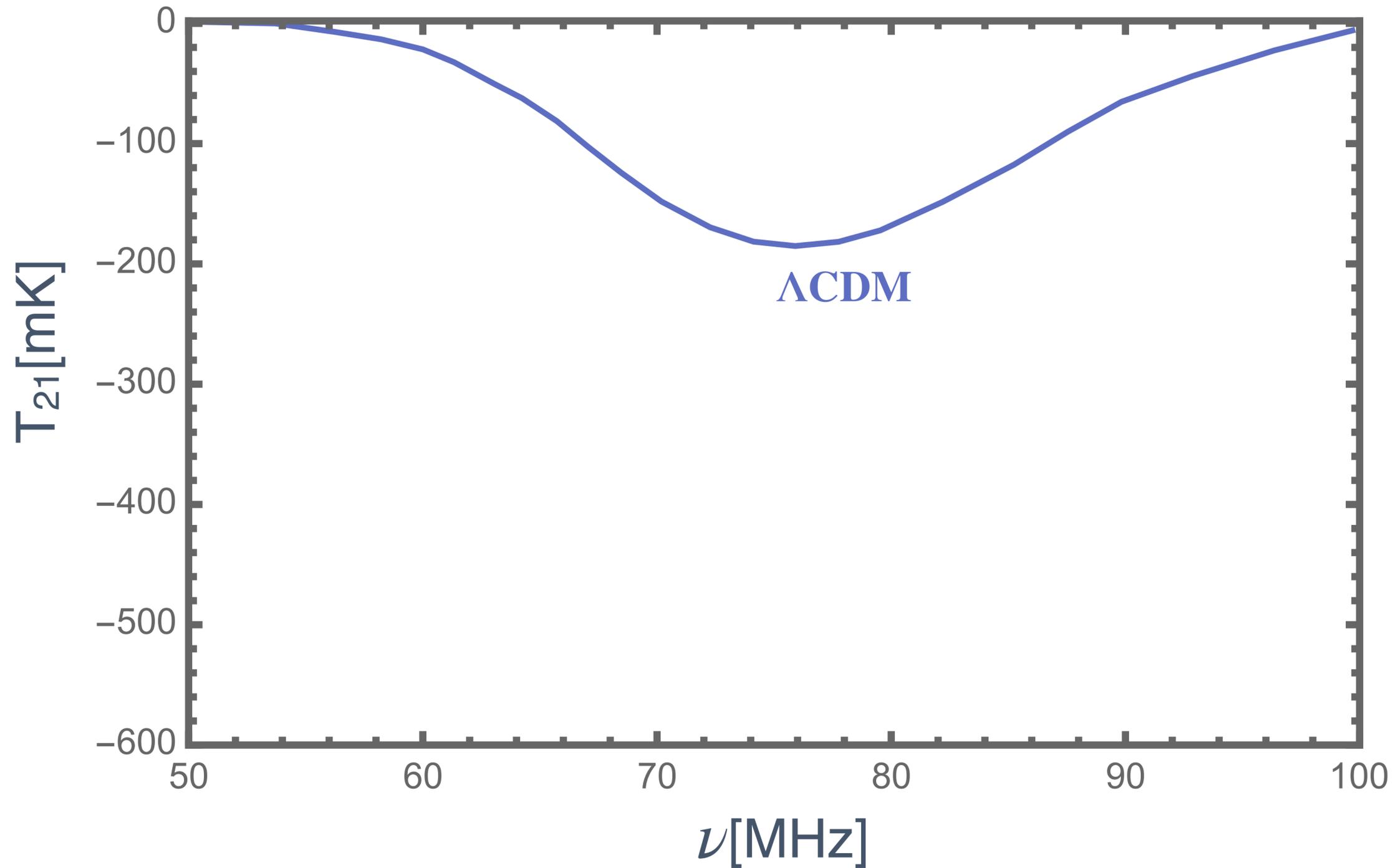


# EDGES EXPERIMENT

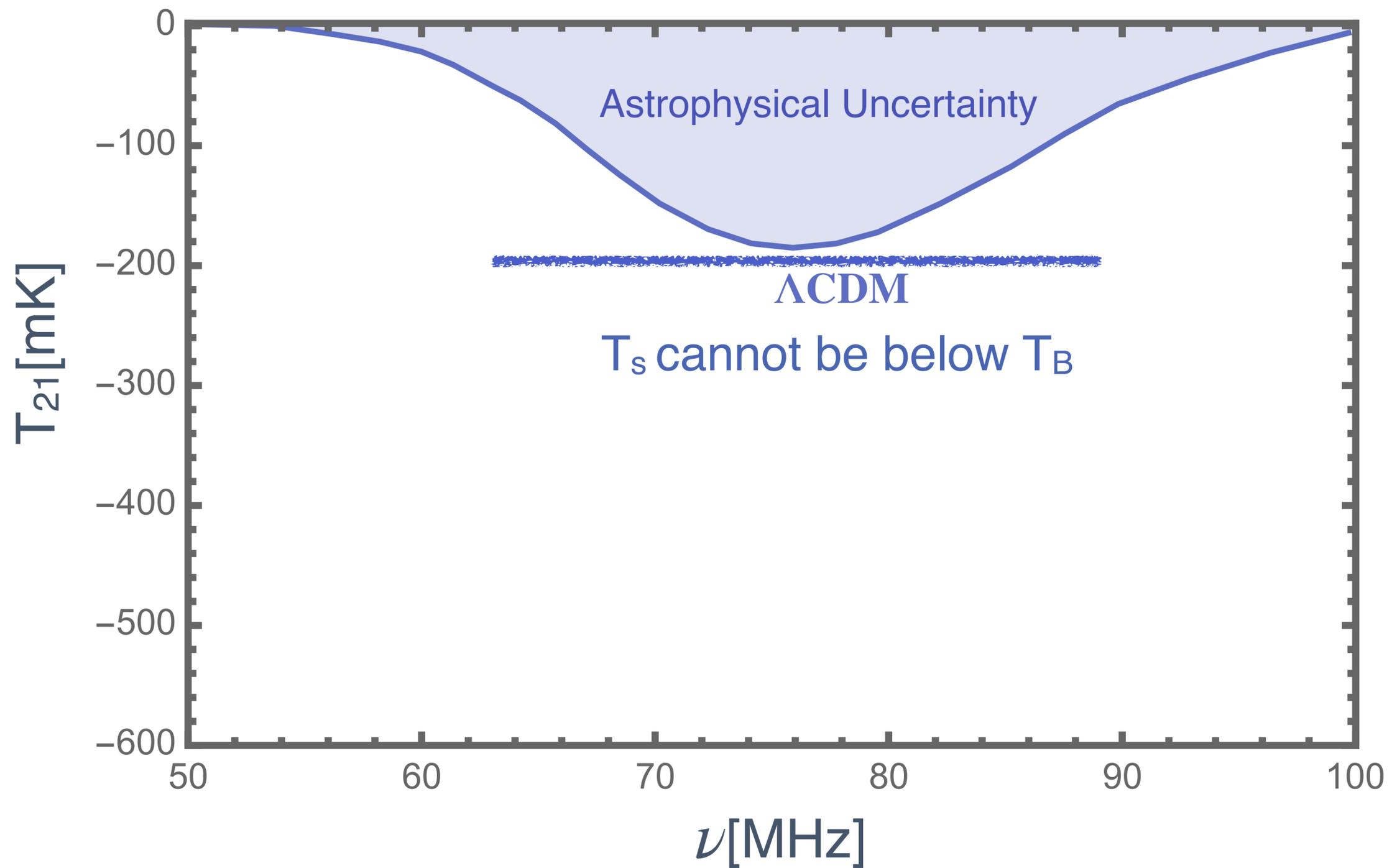


MIT-Arizona Haystack collaboration  
Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory

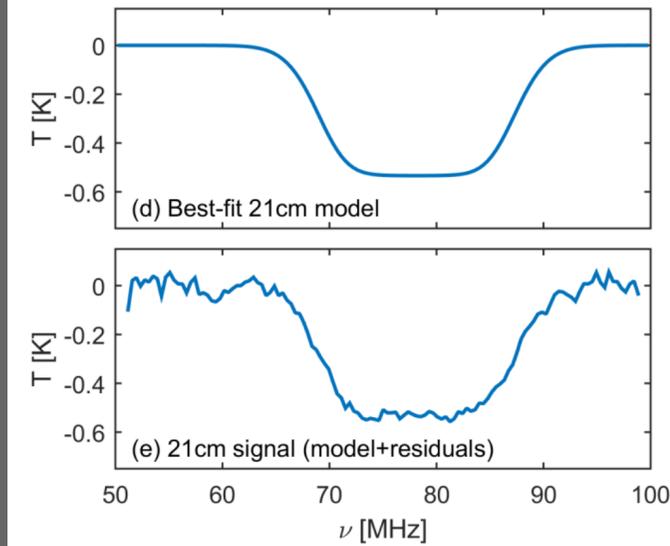
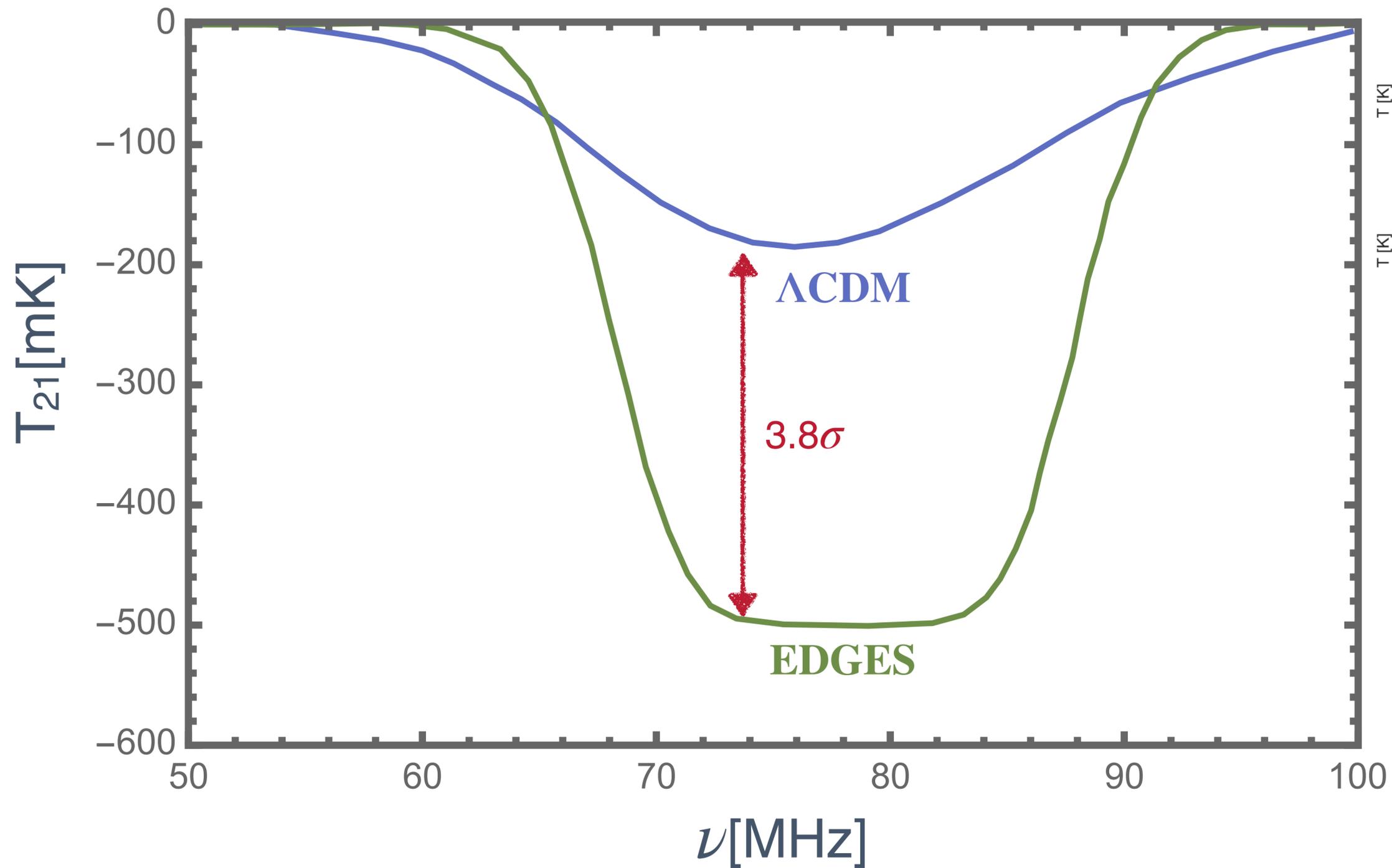
# EDGES RESULT



# EDGES RESULT



# EDGES RESULT



Bowman *et. al.*  
Nature **555**, 67 (2018)

# DARK MATTER EXPLANATION

- ◆ Suggests lower  $T_B = 3.26$  K ( $\Lambda$ CDM predicts 8 K)
- ◆ Only colder fluid - Dark Matter
- ◆ Large x-sections required
- ◆ Long range interactions (coldest epoch)
- ◆ Milli-charge [fractionally charged] dark matter

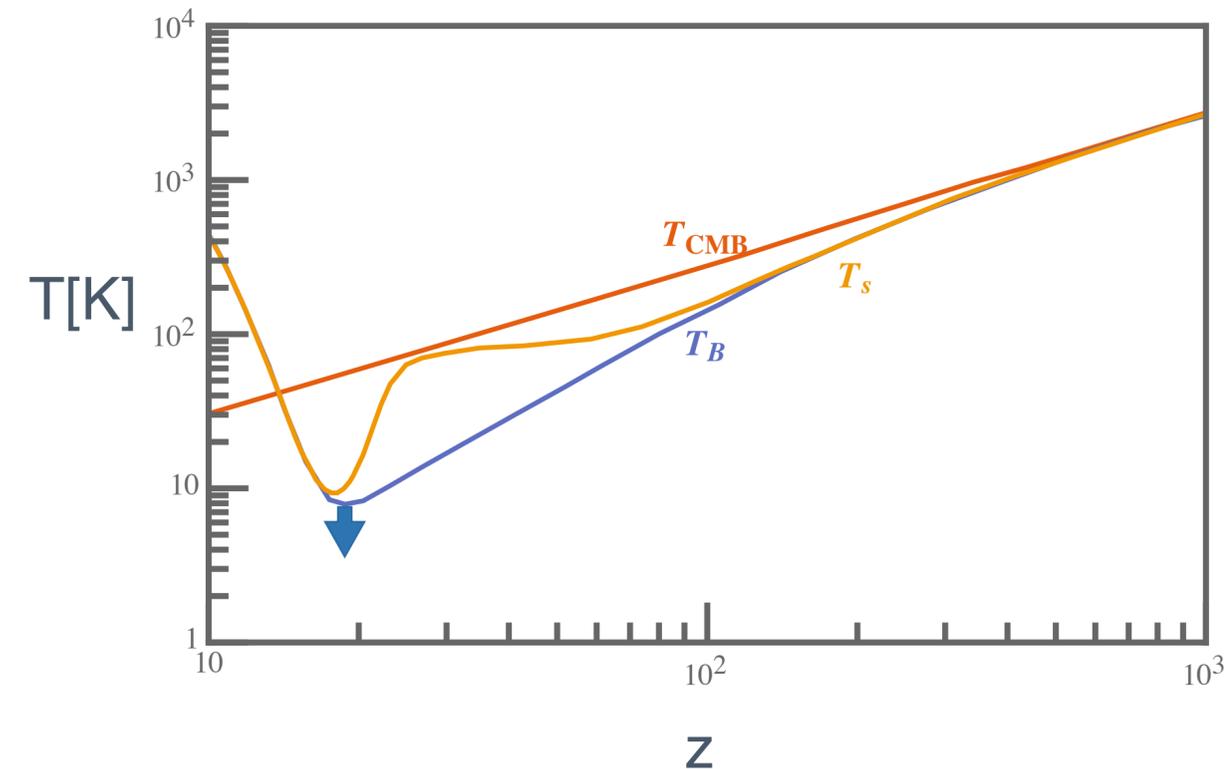
1802.10094 Munoz, Loeb

1803.03091 Barkana et. al.

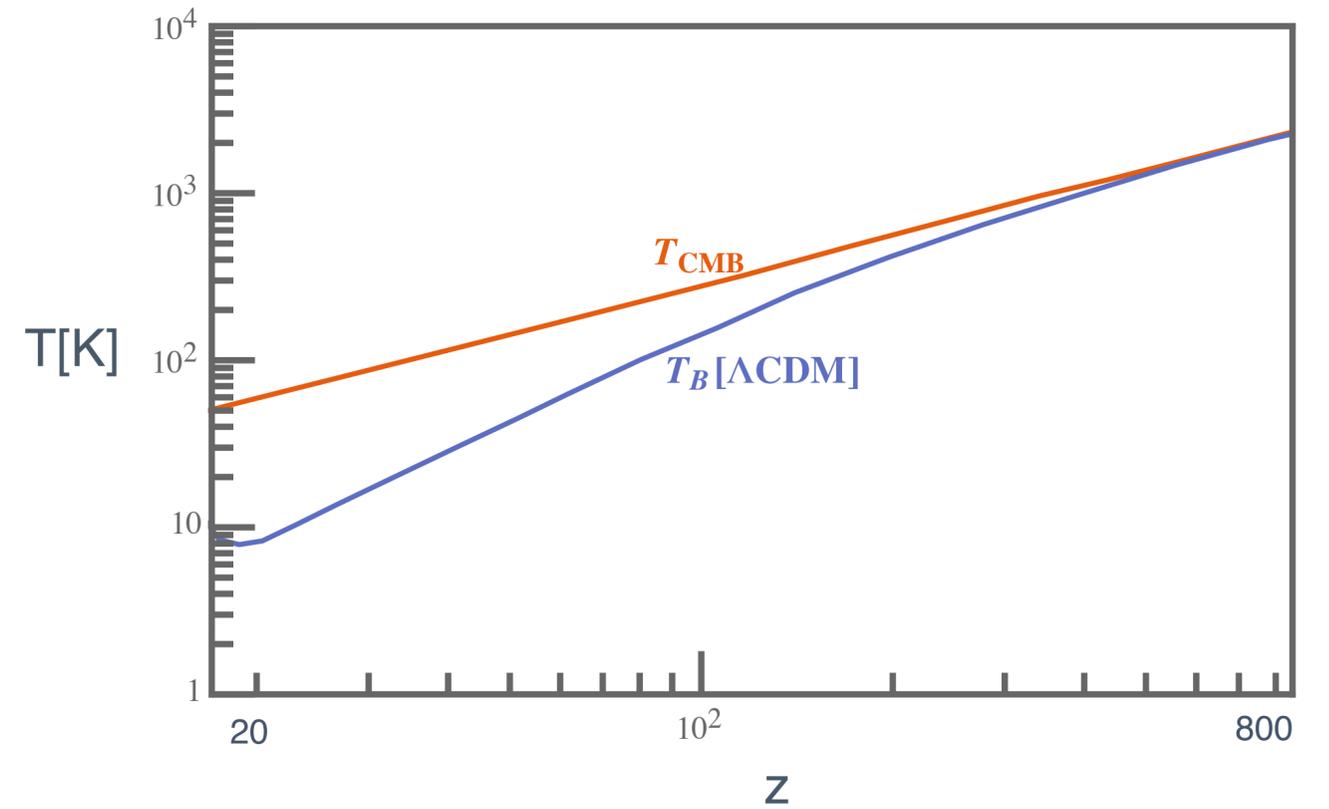
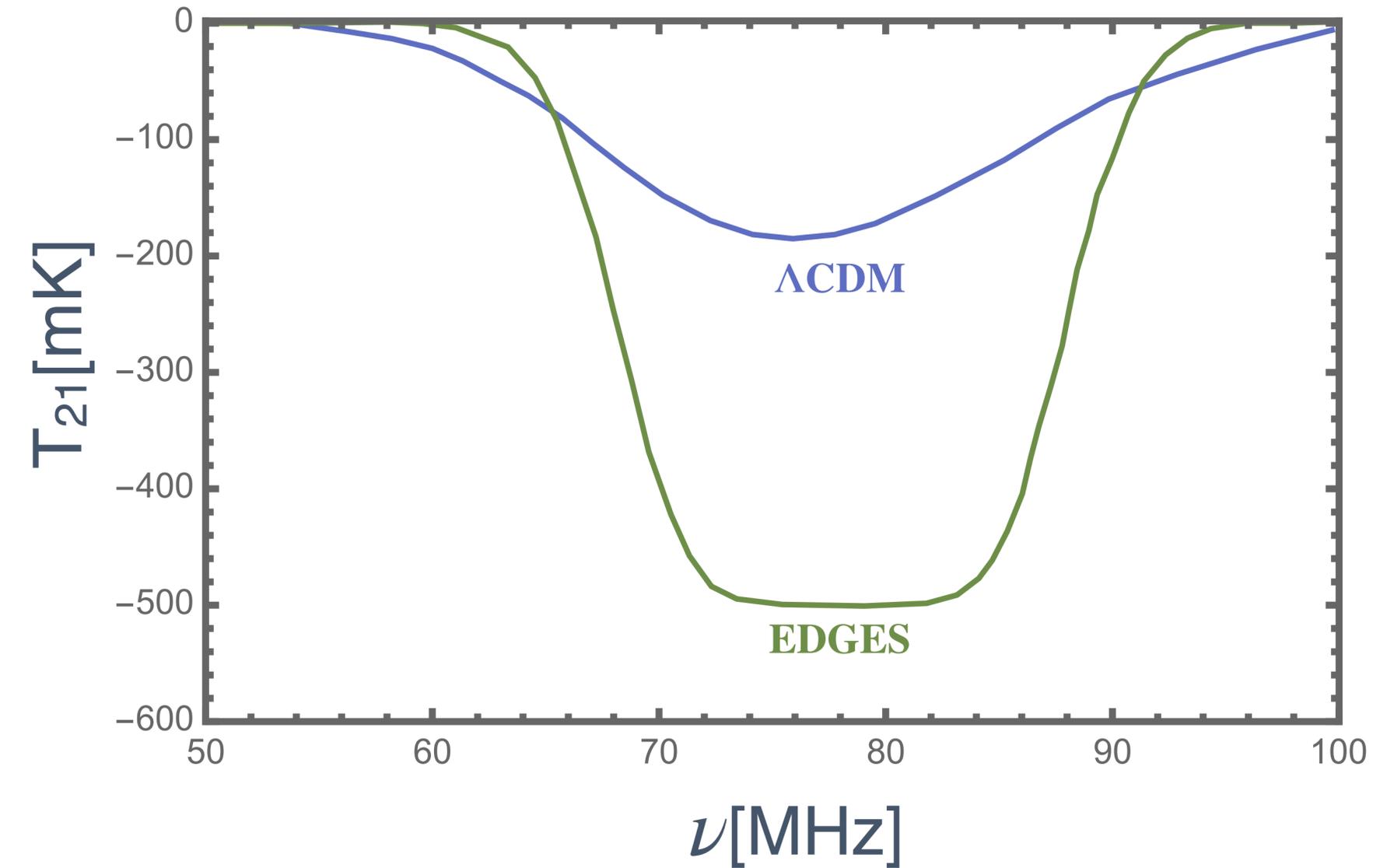
1803.02804 Berlin et. al.

1807.11482 Kovetz et. al.

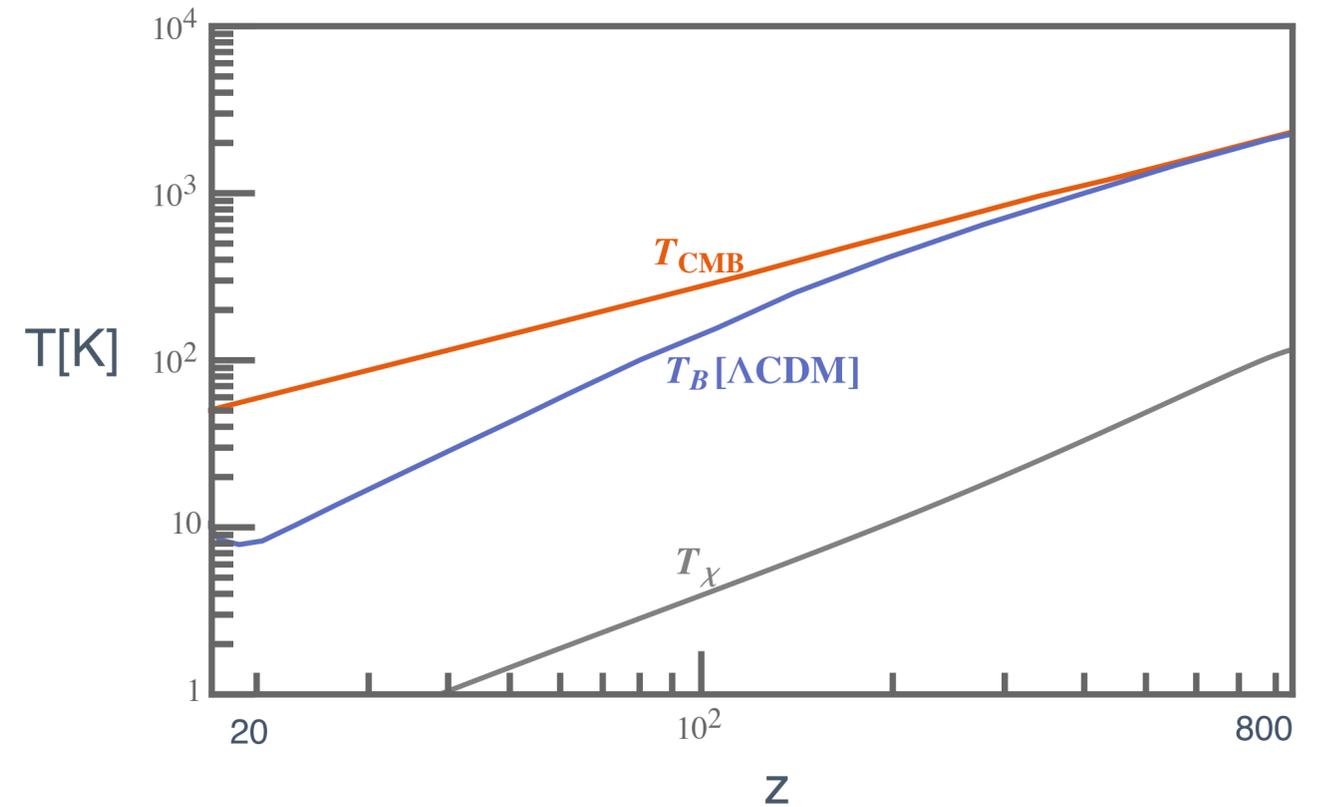
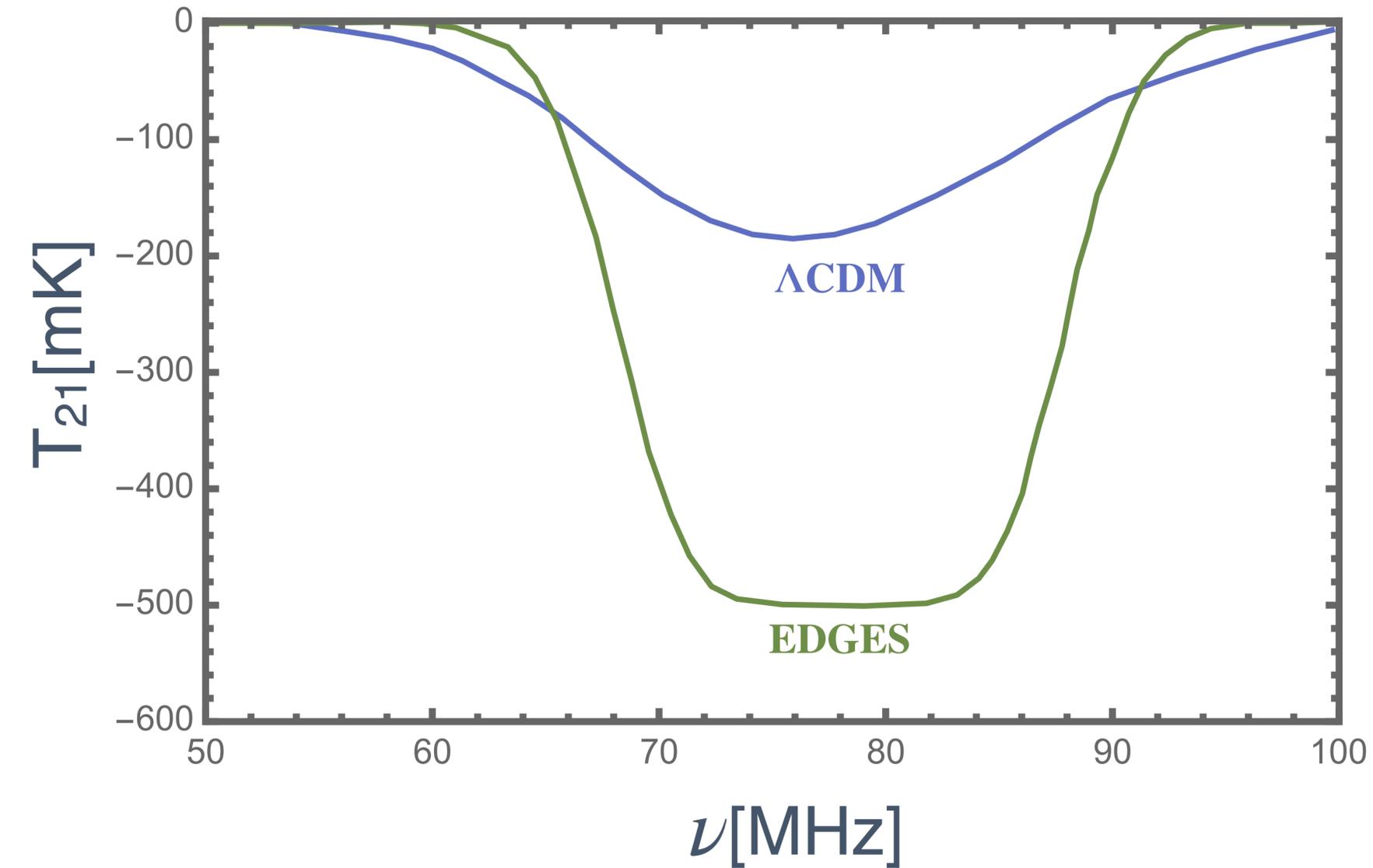
1903.09154 Creque-Sarbinowski et. al.



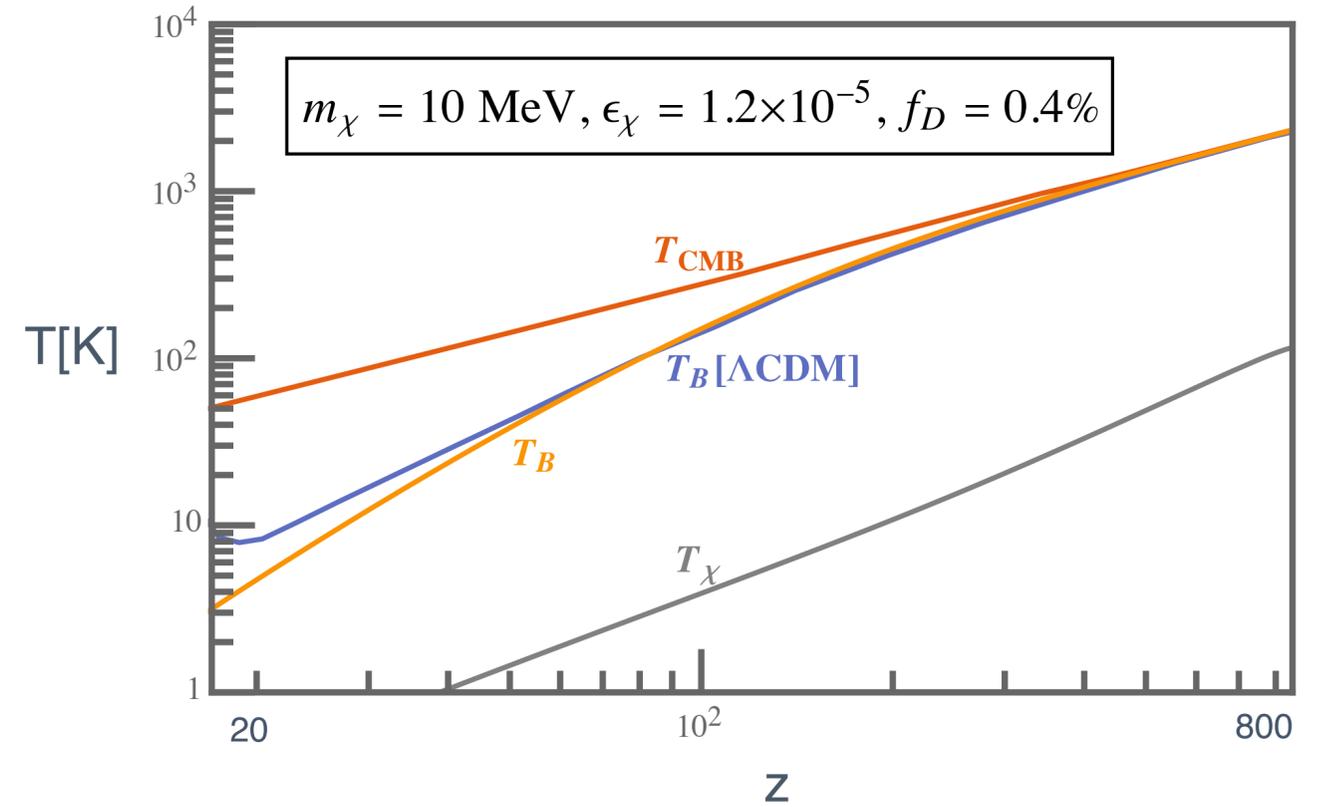
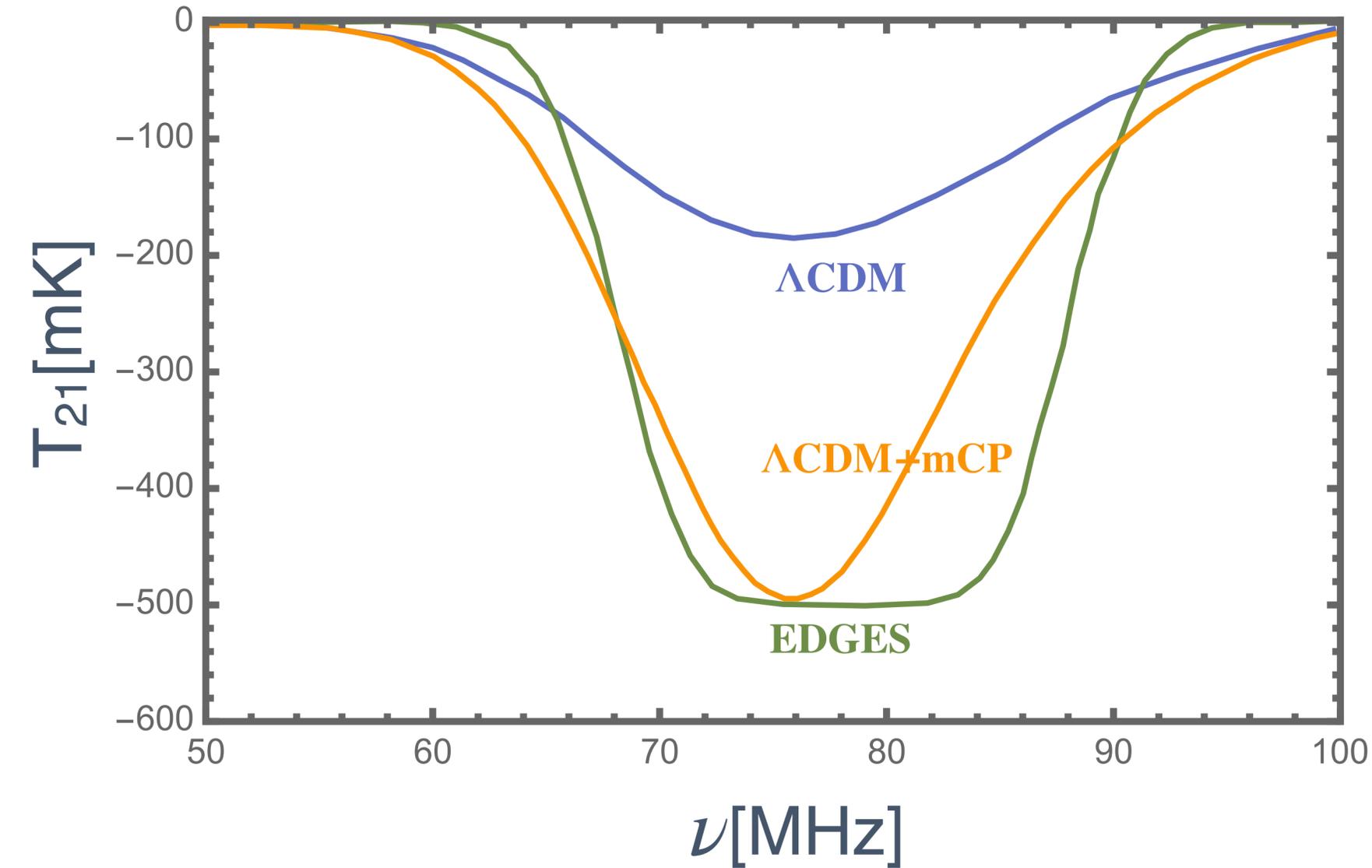
# MILLI-CHARGE EXPLANATION



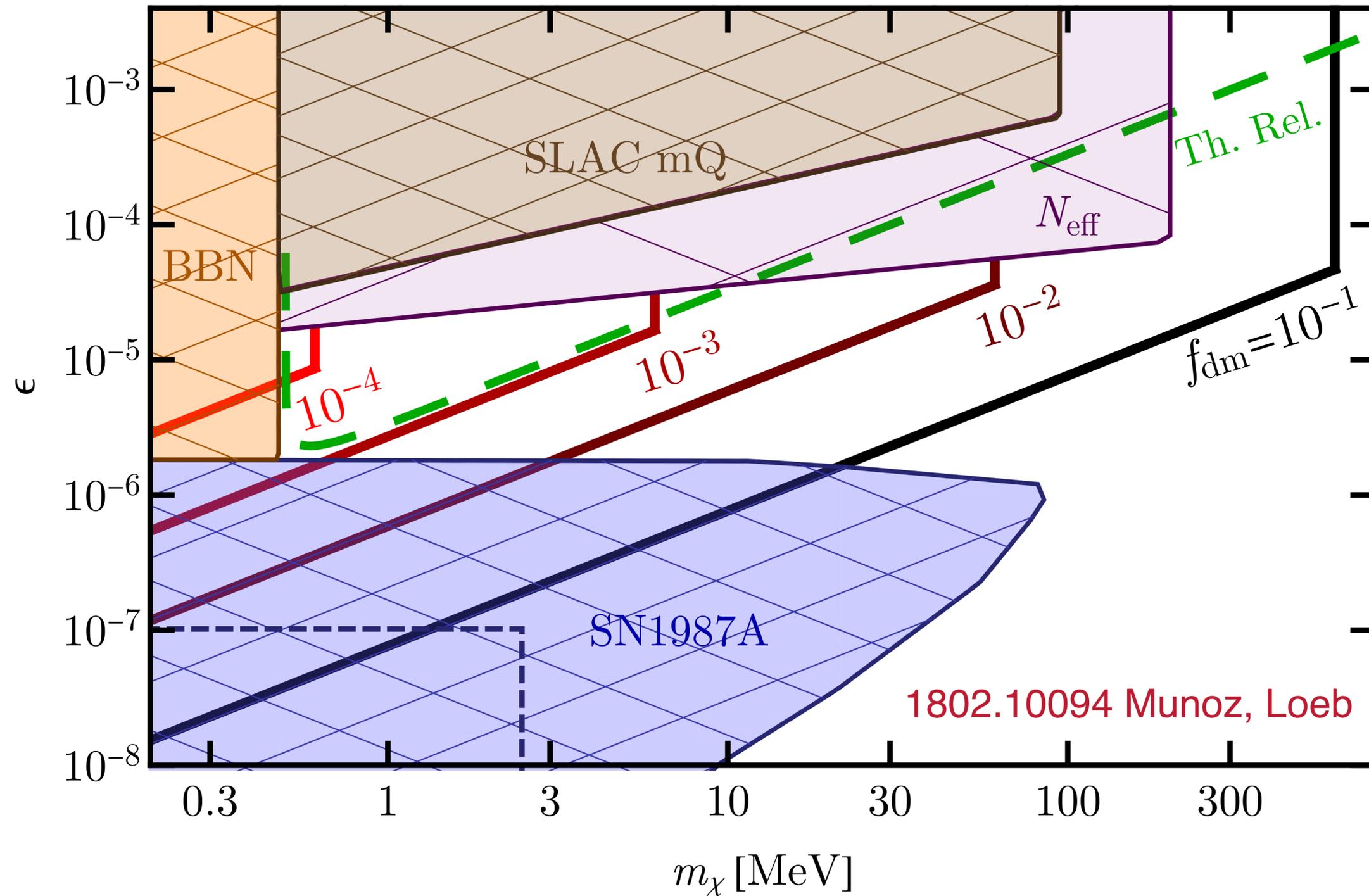
# MILLI-CHARGE EXPLANATION



# MILLI-CHARGE EXPLANATION

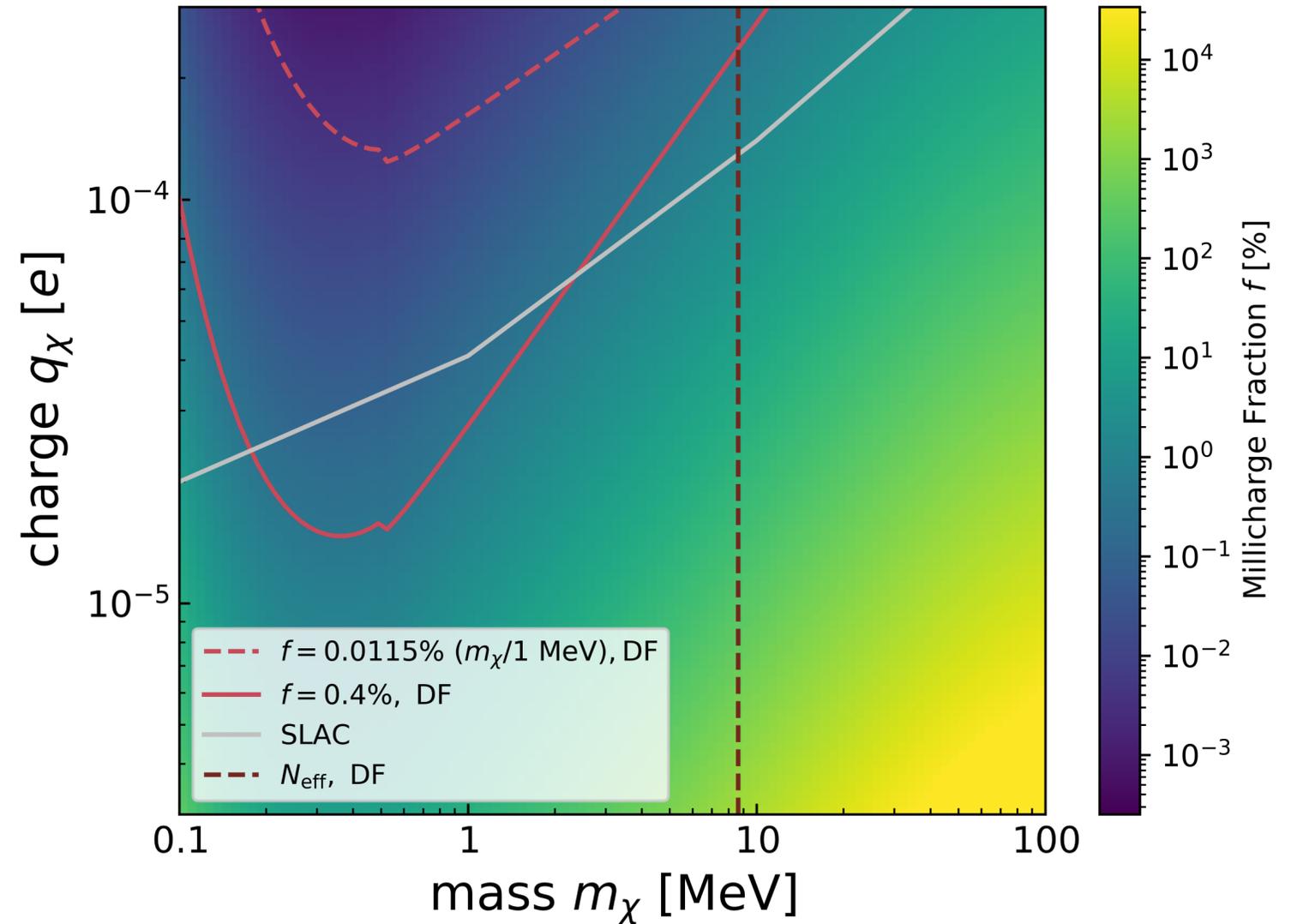
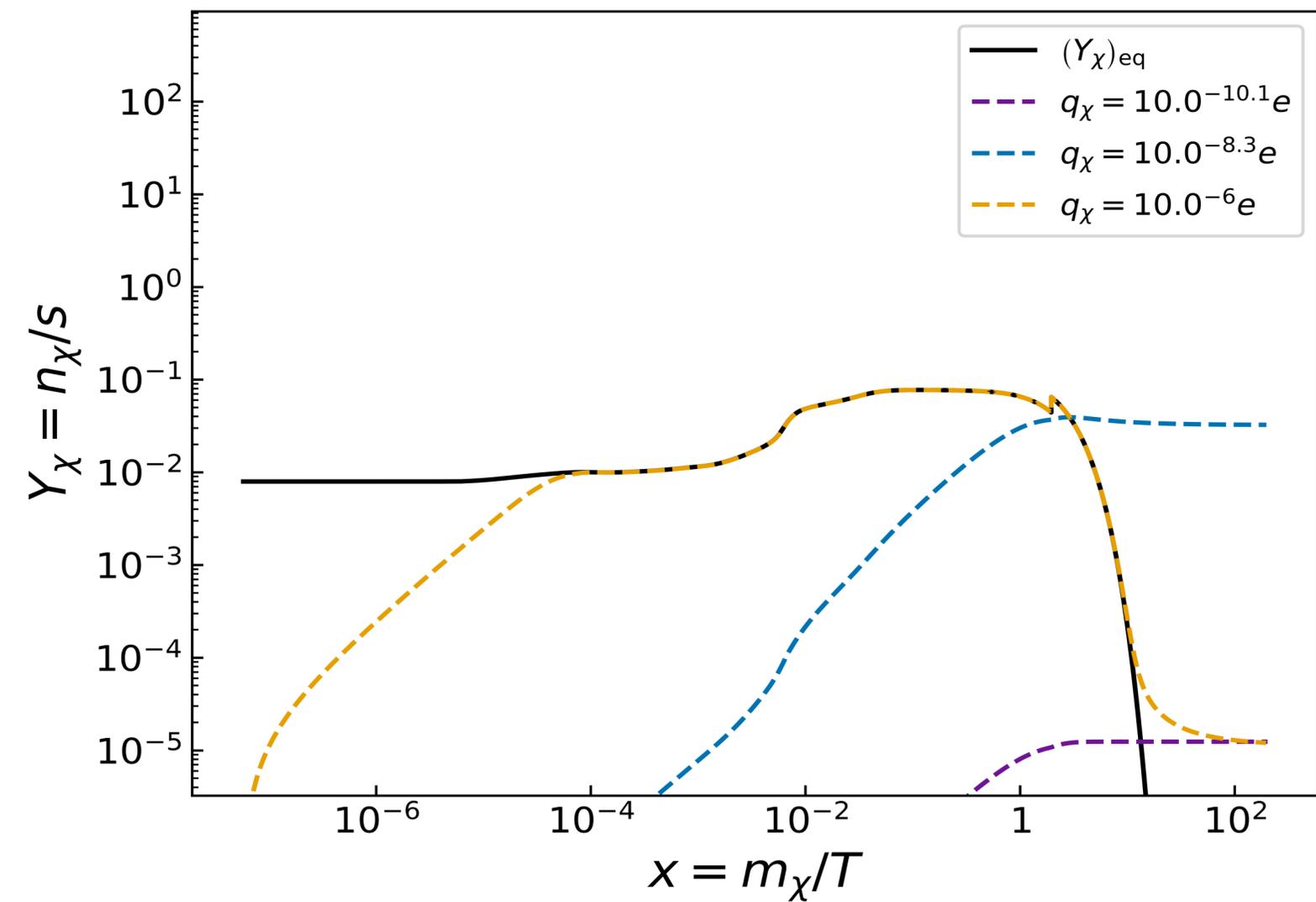


# CONSTRAINTS



# $N_{\text{eff}}$

1903.09154 Creque-Sarbinowski et. al.



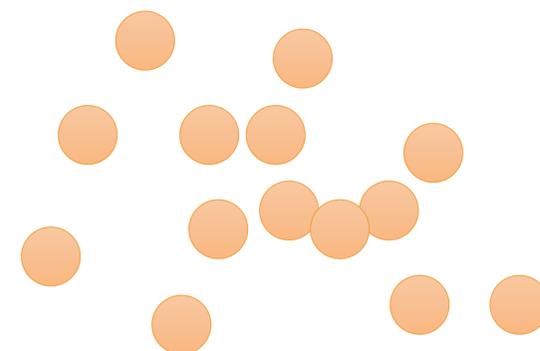
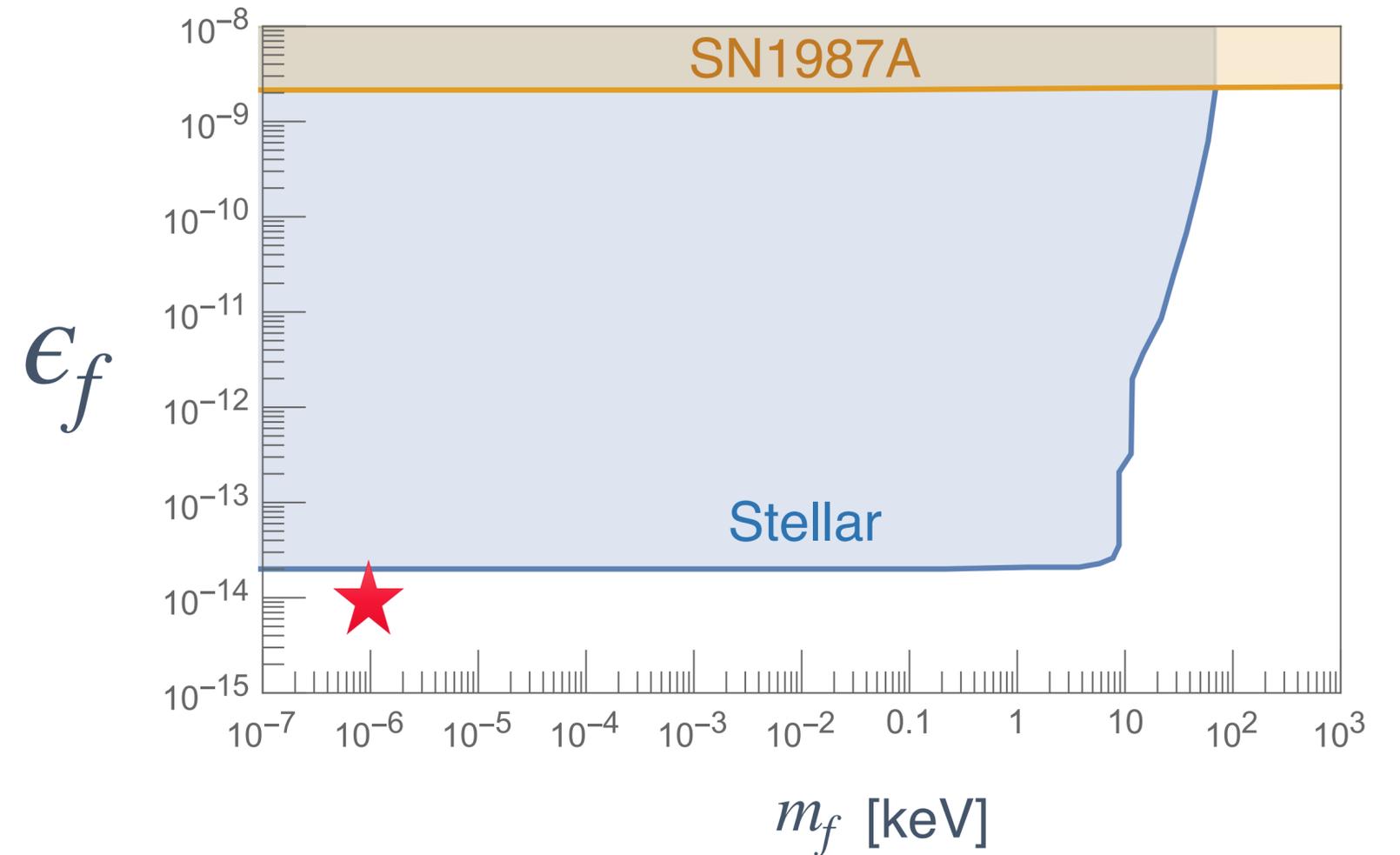
$$\frac{q_\chi}{e} \gtrsim 10^{-8.5} \left( \frac{g_\rho(m_\chi)}{10} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \left( \frac{g_s(m_\chi)}{g_c(m_\chi)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{m_\chi}{1 \text{ MeV}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

# WAY OUT

- ◆ For elementary mCP the same particle is the relevant DoF in
  - Colliders / Beam dumps
  - Stars/SN
  - Early Universe
- ◆ mCP are large nuclei?

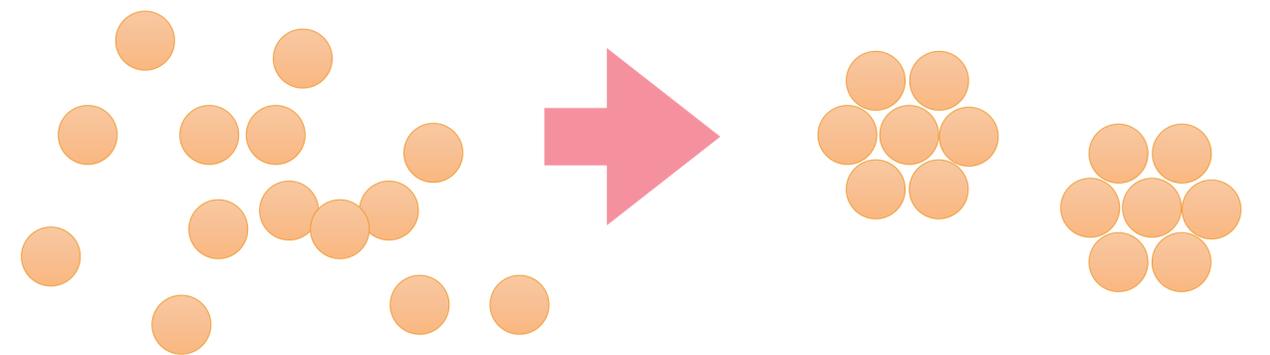
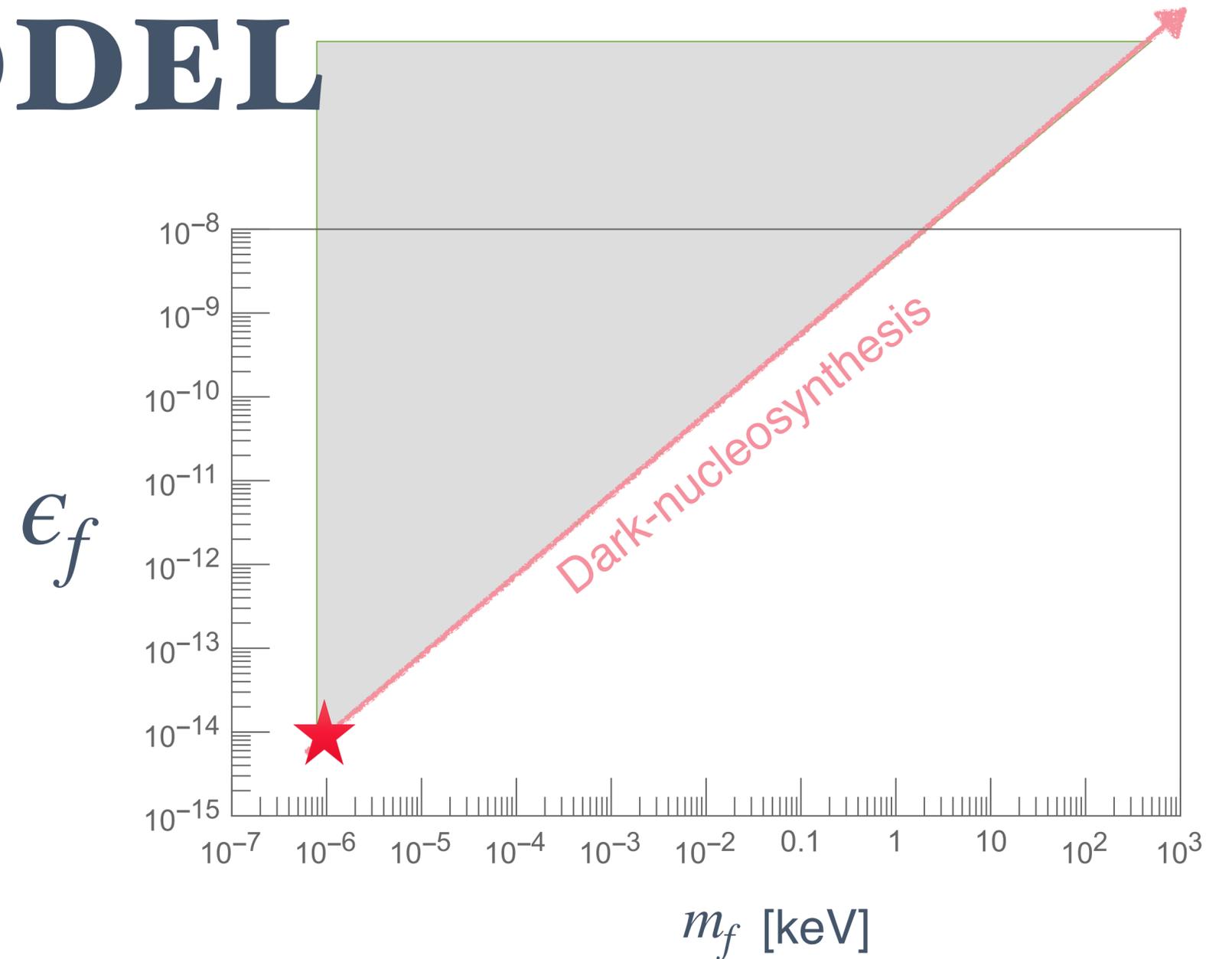
# MODEL

- ◆ mCP  $f$
- ◆ With mass  $m_f \approx \text{meV}$
- ◆ Charge  $\epsilon_f \lesssim 10^{-14}$  evades
  - Stellar constraints
  - No chemical equilibrium
- ◆  $f$  has charge  $g_f$  under dark photon



# MODEL

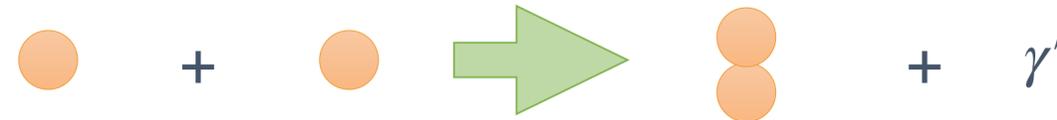
- ◆  $f$  are dark nucleons [asymmetric]
- ◆ Confine and form at  $\Lambda_D \lesssim m_f$
- ◆ Form large nuclei:  $m_\chi = Am_f$  & charge  $\epsilon_\chi = A\epsilon_f$
- ◆  $\chi$  nuclei poorly constrained & explain EDGES



# DARK NUCLEOSYNTHESIS

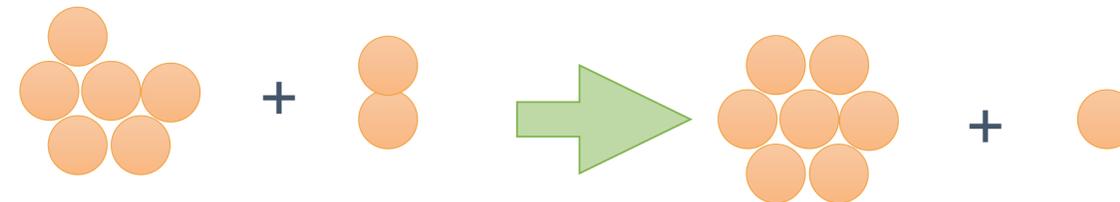
◆ When  $T_D \leq \Lambda_D$ , dark nucleosynthesis can begin

◆ Start with:  ${}^1\chi + {}^1\chi \rightarrow {}^2\chi + \gamma'$   
 ${}^1\chi = f$

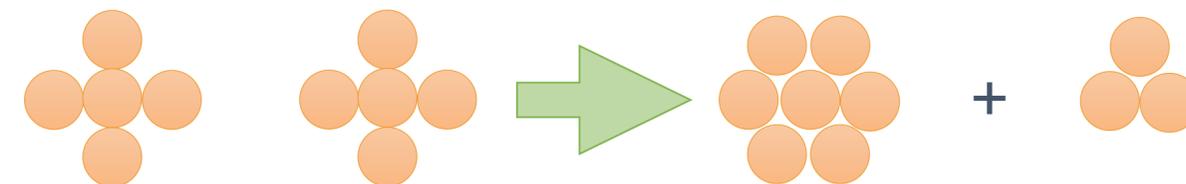


◆ Further fusion can go through

◆  ${}^A\chi + {}^2\chi \rightarrow {}^{A+1}\chi + {}^1\chi$



◆  ${}^A\chi + {}^B\chi \rightarrow {}^{A+B-r}\chi + {}^r\chi$



# FUSION RATE

- ◆ Fusion always dominates Hubble : Immediate

$$\diamond \frac{n\sigma_{\text{fusion}}v}{H} \approx 10^{32} \left( \frac{f_D z^{\frac{3}{2}} (10\text{K})^3}{A^{\frac{3}{2}} \Lambda_D^2 \sqrt{m_f^3 / T_D}} \right)$$

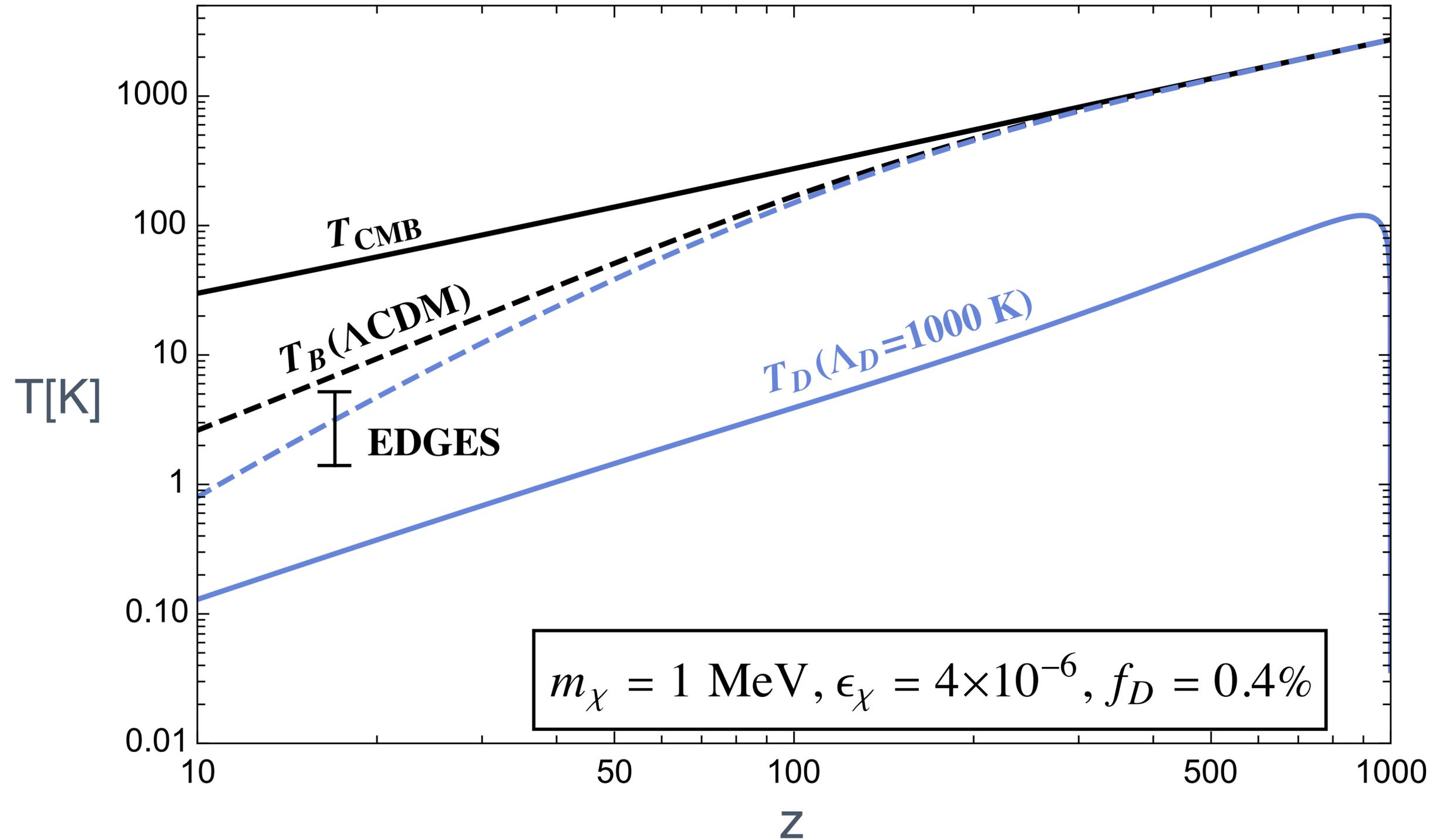
Geometric x-section assumed

$$\frac{1}{\text{meV}^2} \approx 4 \times 10^{-4} \text{cm}^2$$

K = kelvin  
 $1 \text{ K} \approx 10^{-4} \text{eV}$

- ◆ Coulomb barrier important for large nuclei
- ◆ Gamow limit for small-large :  $A_{\text{gamow}}^{\text{lim}} \approx g_D^{-2}$  [Stronger than stability]
- ◆ Rapid growth into nuclei upto this size
- ◆ Fix  $g_D$  to make  $A_{\text{gamow}}^{\text{lim}} = \frac{\epsilon_{\text{EDGES}}}{\epsilon_f}$

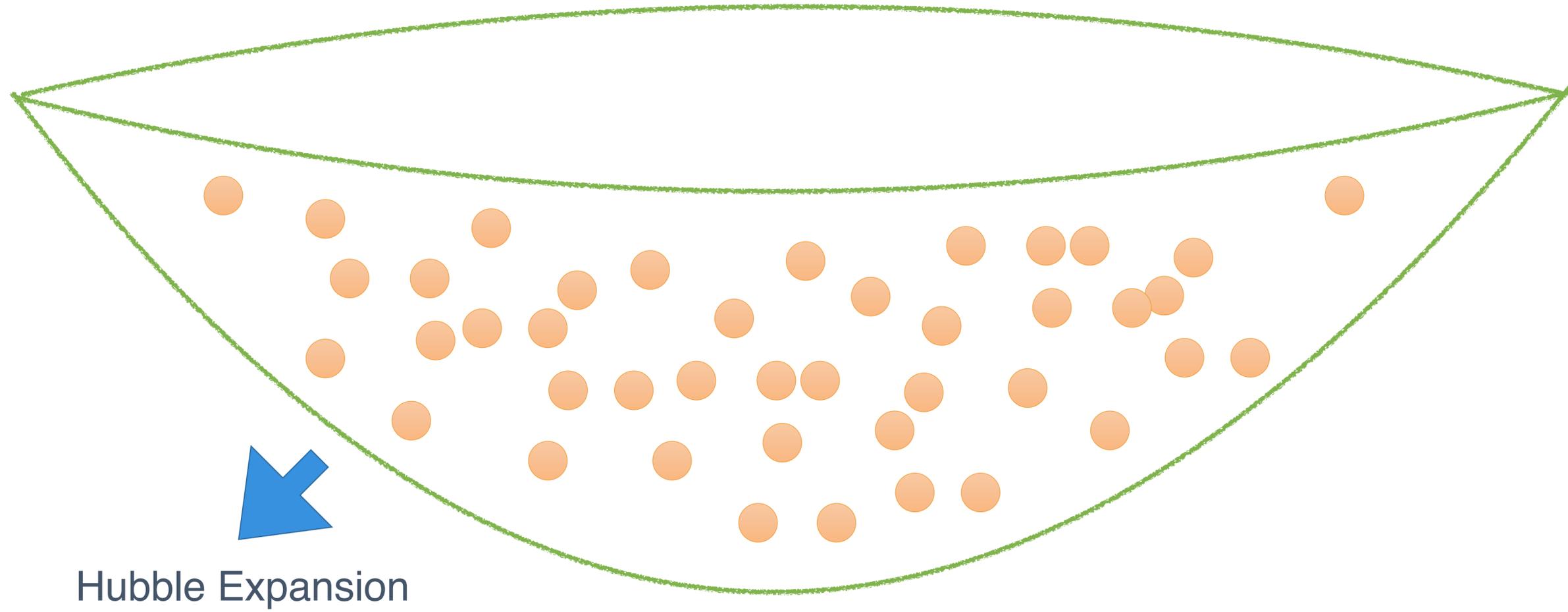
# SNEAK PEAK



# HEATING VS HUBBLE

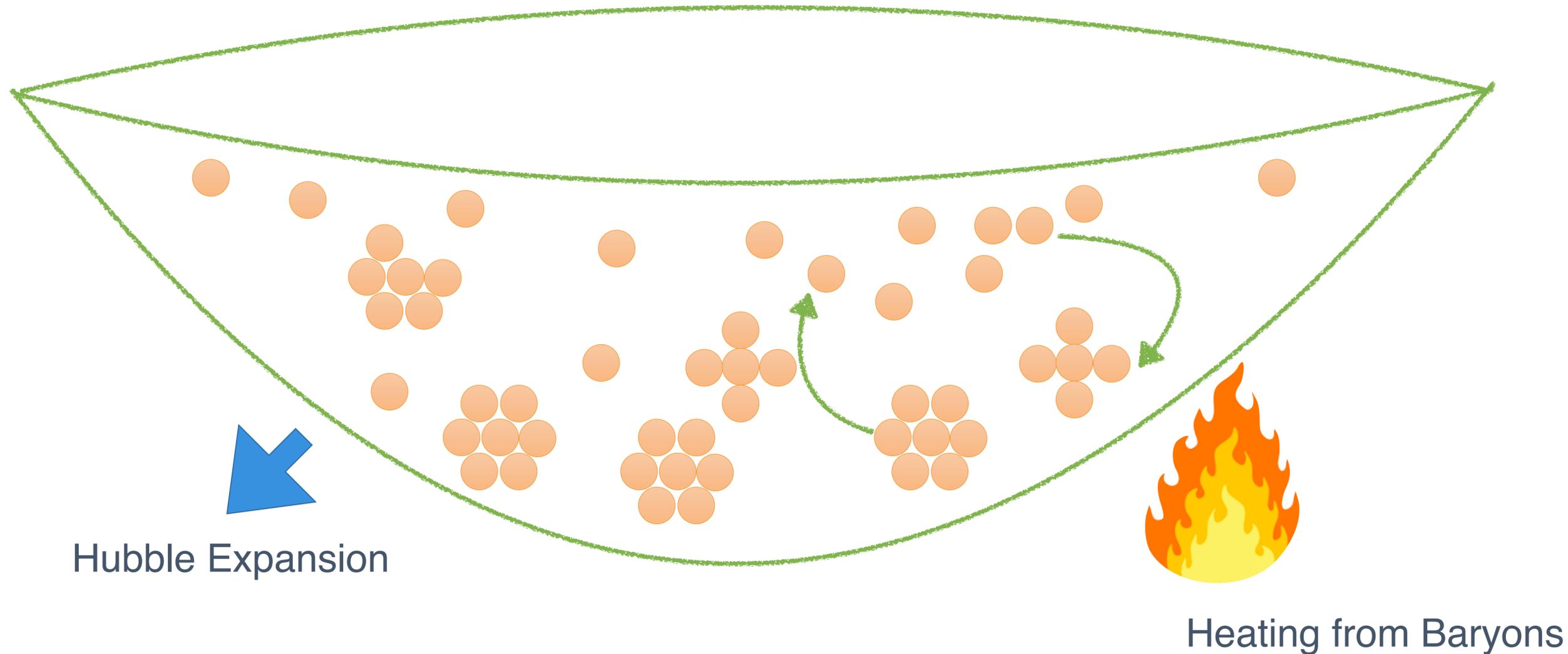
- ◆ Transfer cross-section:  $\sigma_T \propto \frac{\epsilon^2}{\mu^2 v^4} \propto \frac{\epsilon^2}{T_D^2}$
- ◆ Scattering rate with ambient baryons
- ◆  $\frac{n_b \sigma_T v_{\text{rel}}}{H} \approx 10^{-18} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{10^{-14}} \right)^2 z^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( \frac{10\text{K}}{T_D} \right)^2$
- ◆  $\epsilon_f \approx 10^{-14}$ : negligible thermal contact with baryons
- ◆  $\epsilon_\chi \approx 10^{-5}$  : can be heated up by baryons

# HEATING VS HUBBLE



◆  $f$  bath cools, forms nuclei  $\chi$

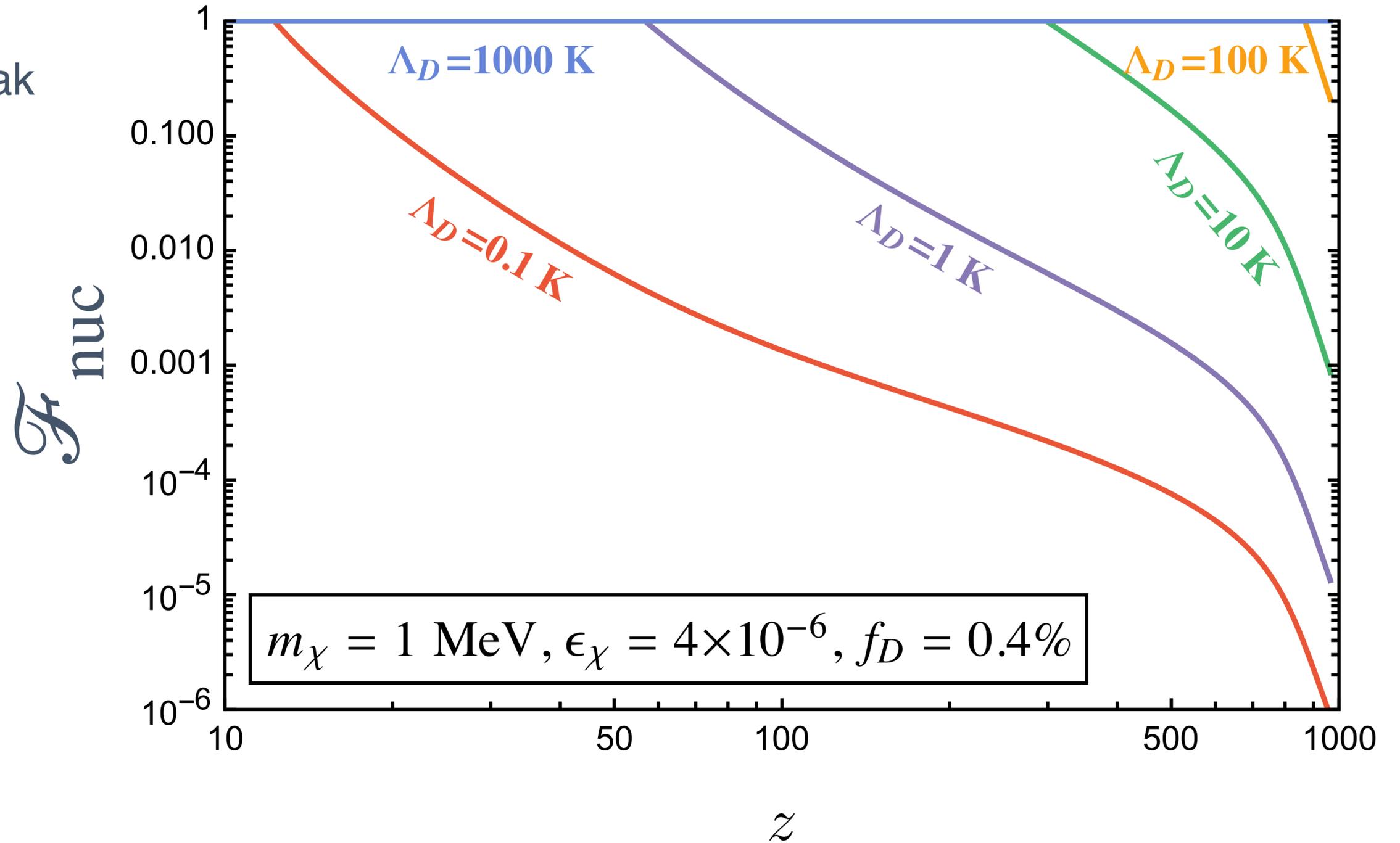
# HEATING VS HUBBLE



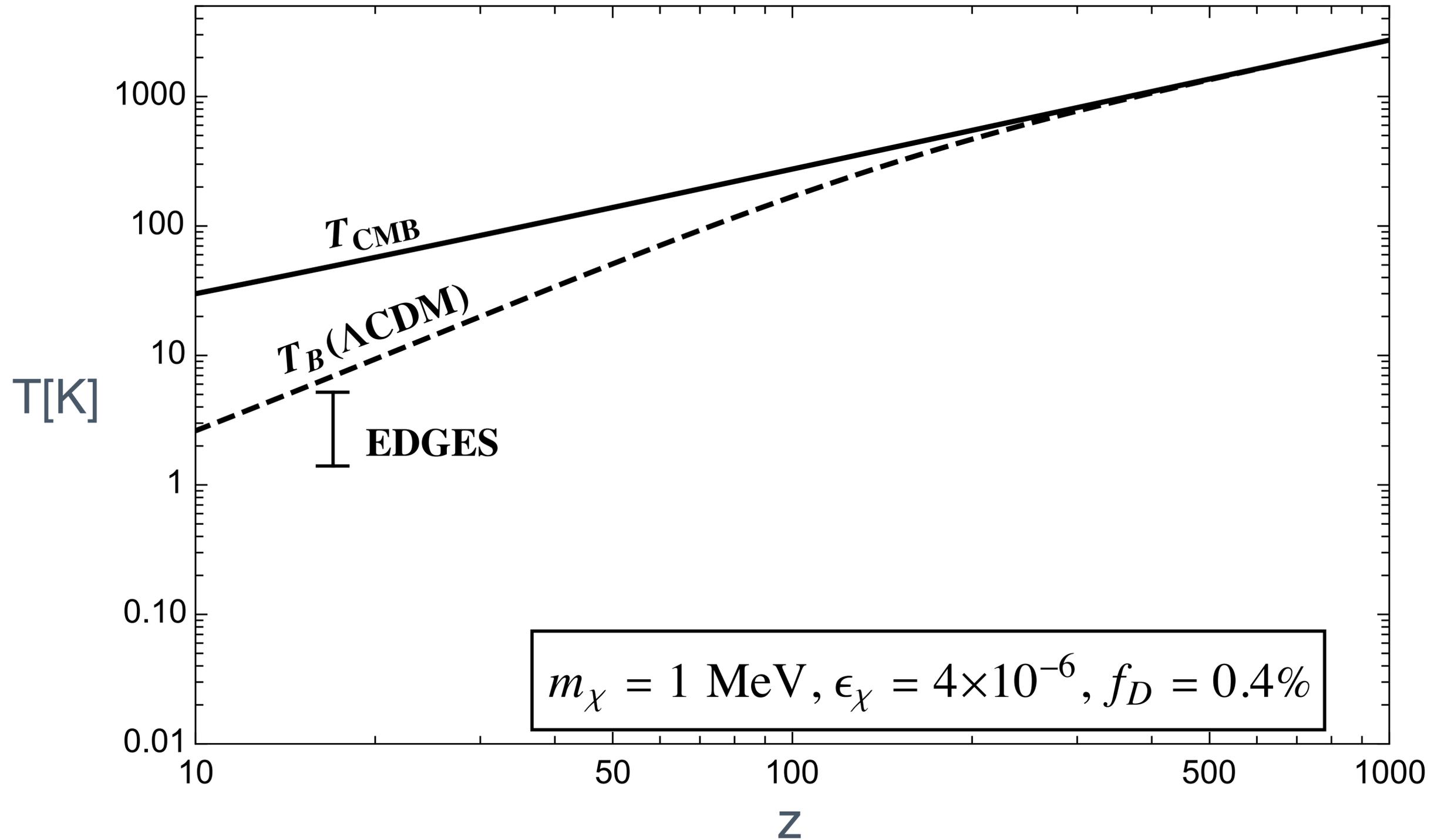
- ◆  $\chi$  Nuclei heat up due to the SM, breaks down back to  $f$
- ◆ Balance between Hubble and SM heating, with  $T_D \approx \Lambda_D$
- ◆ Only a fraction  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{nuc}}$  in nuclei

# NUCLEATED FRACTION

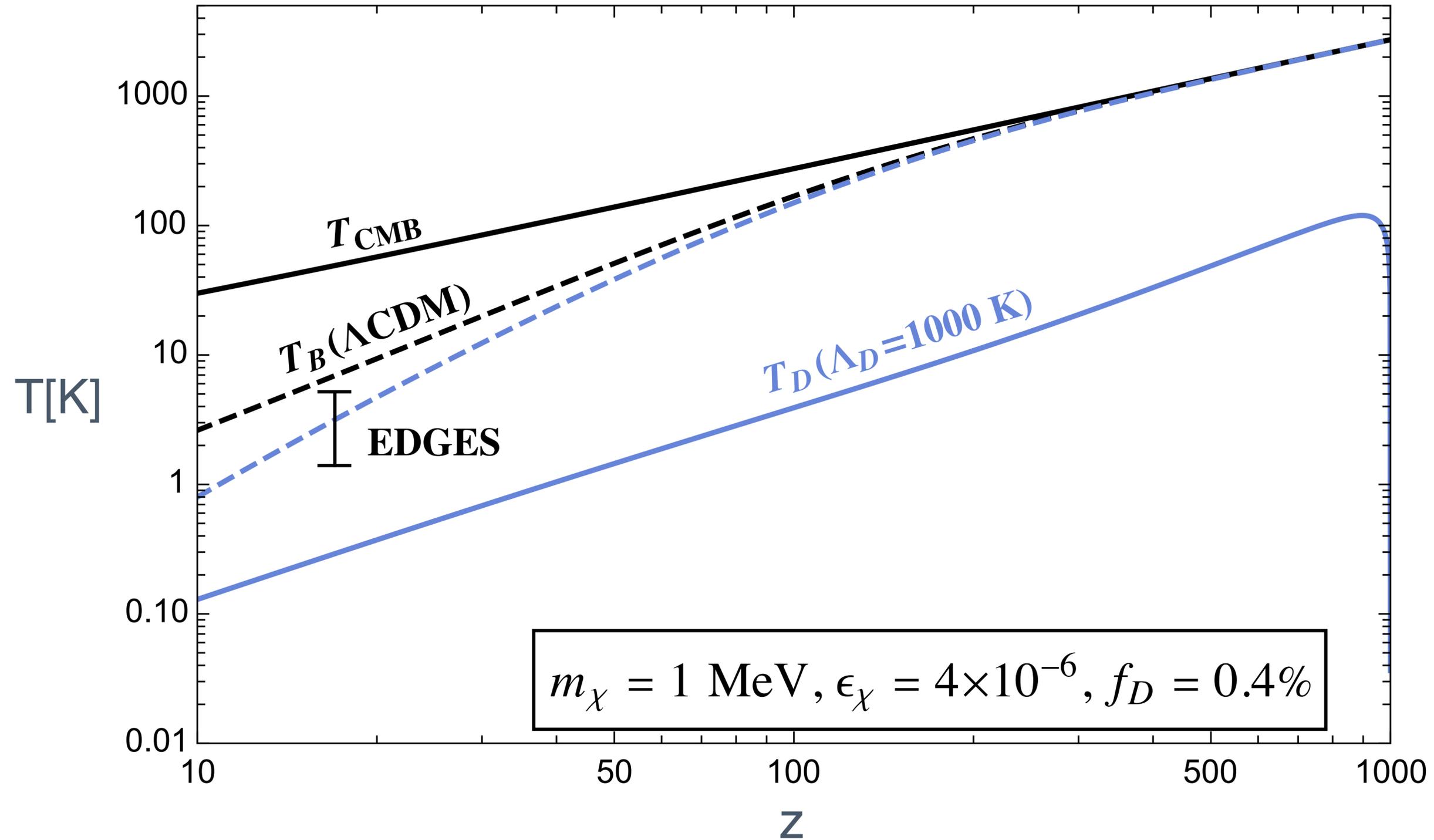
- ◆ Smaller  $\Lambda_D$ , easier to break
- ◆ Fusion delayed for longer
- ◆  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{nuc}} \ll 1$  for longer



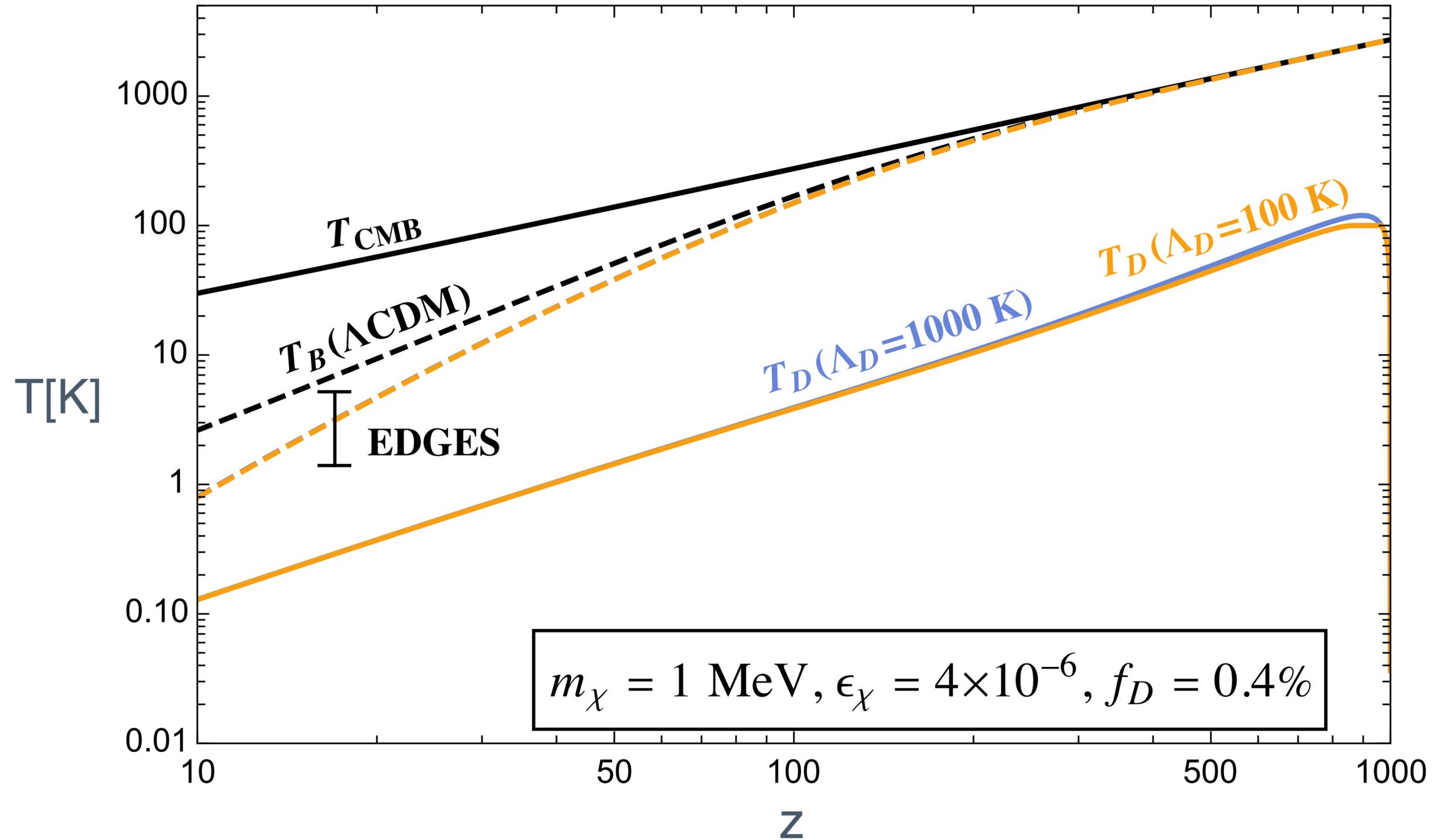
# TEMP EVOLUTION



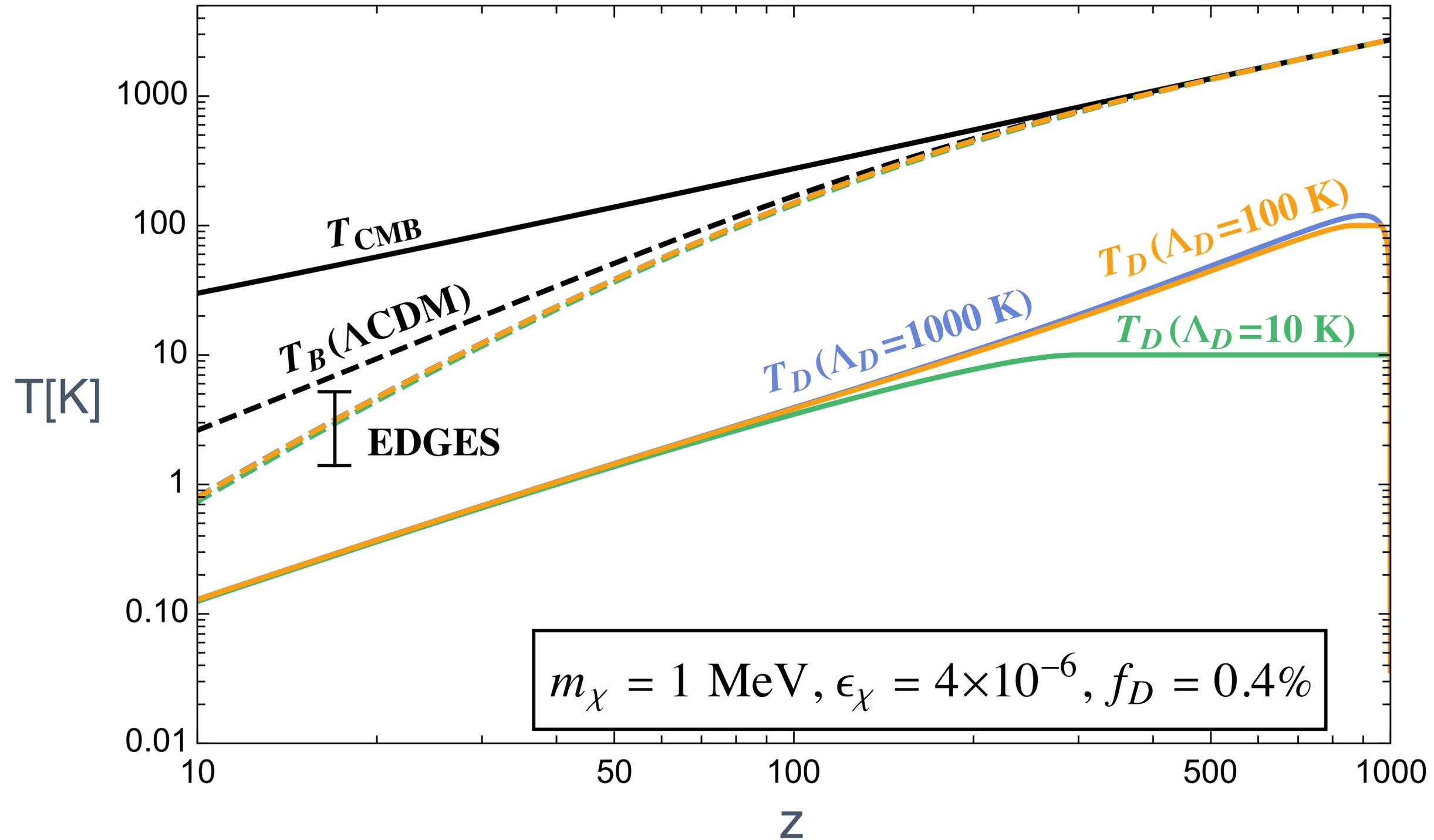
# TEMP EVOLUTION



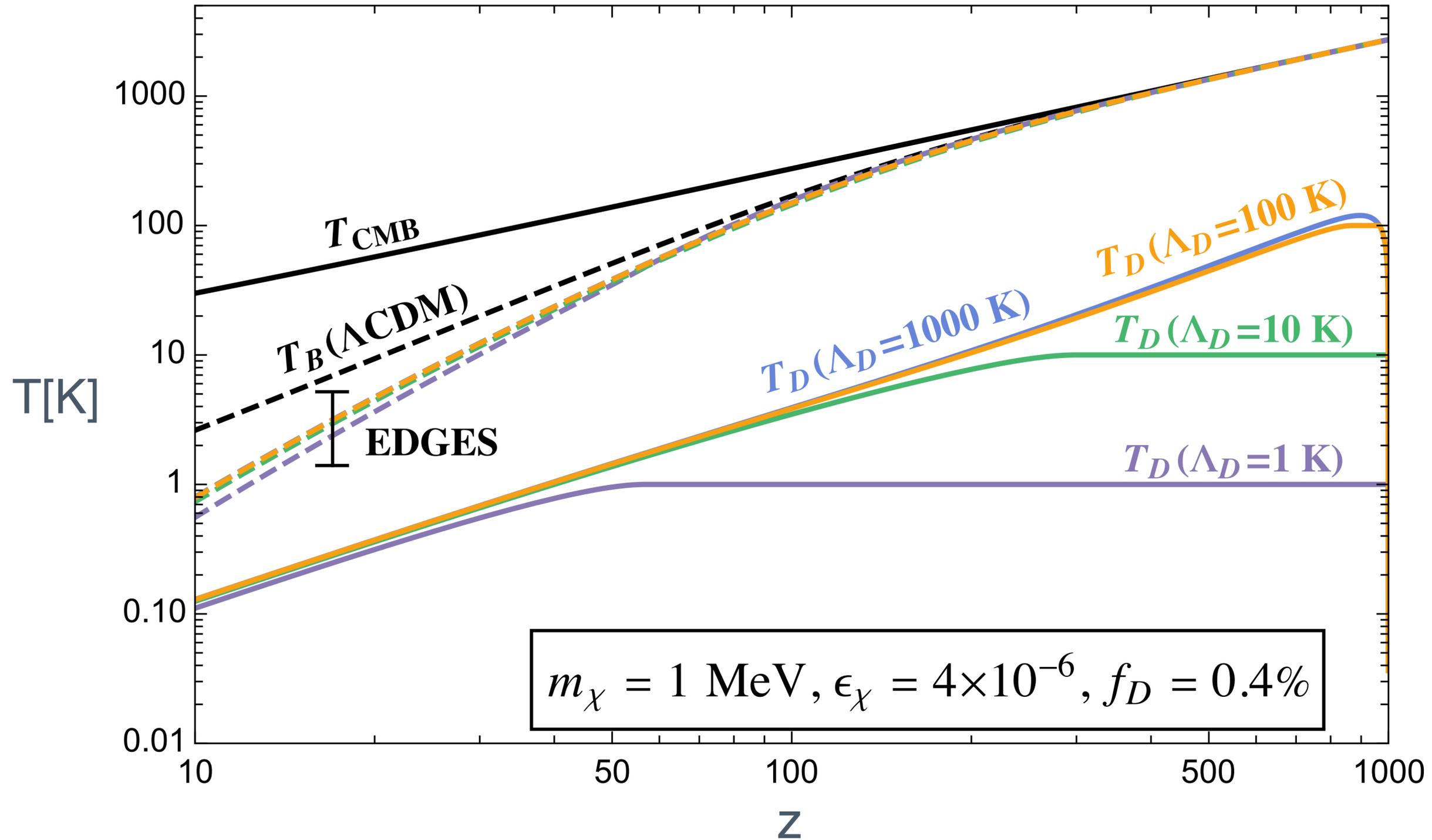
# TEMP EVOLUTION



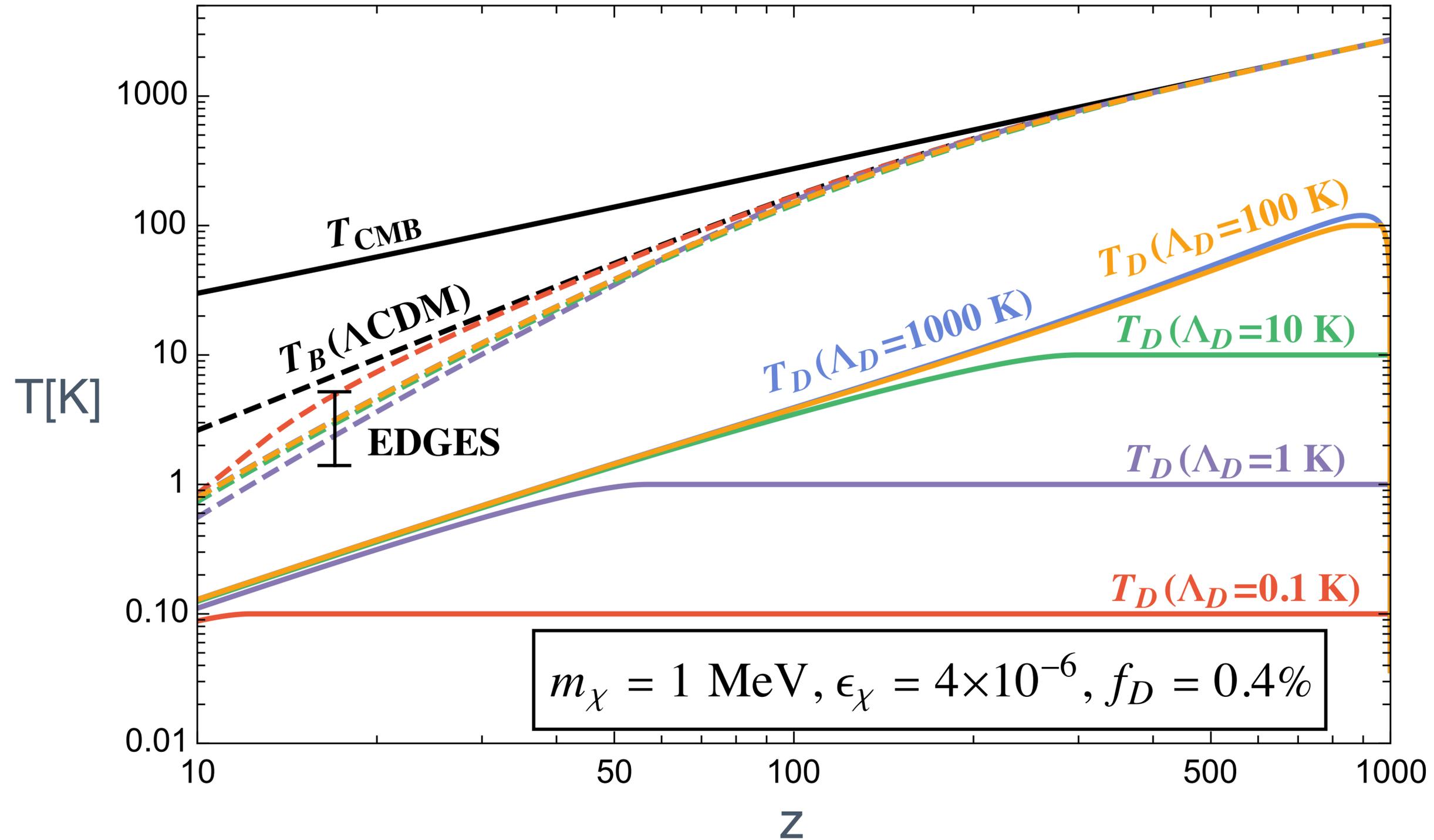
# TEMP EVOLUTION



# TEMP EVOLUTION

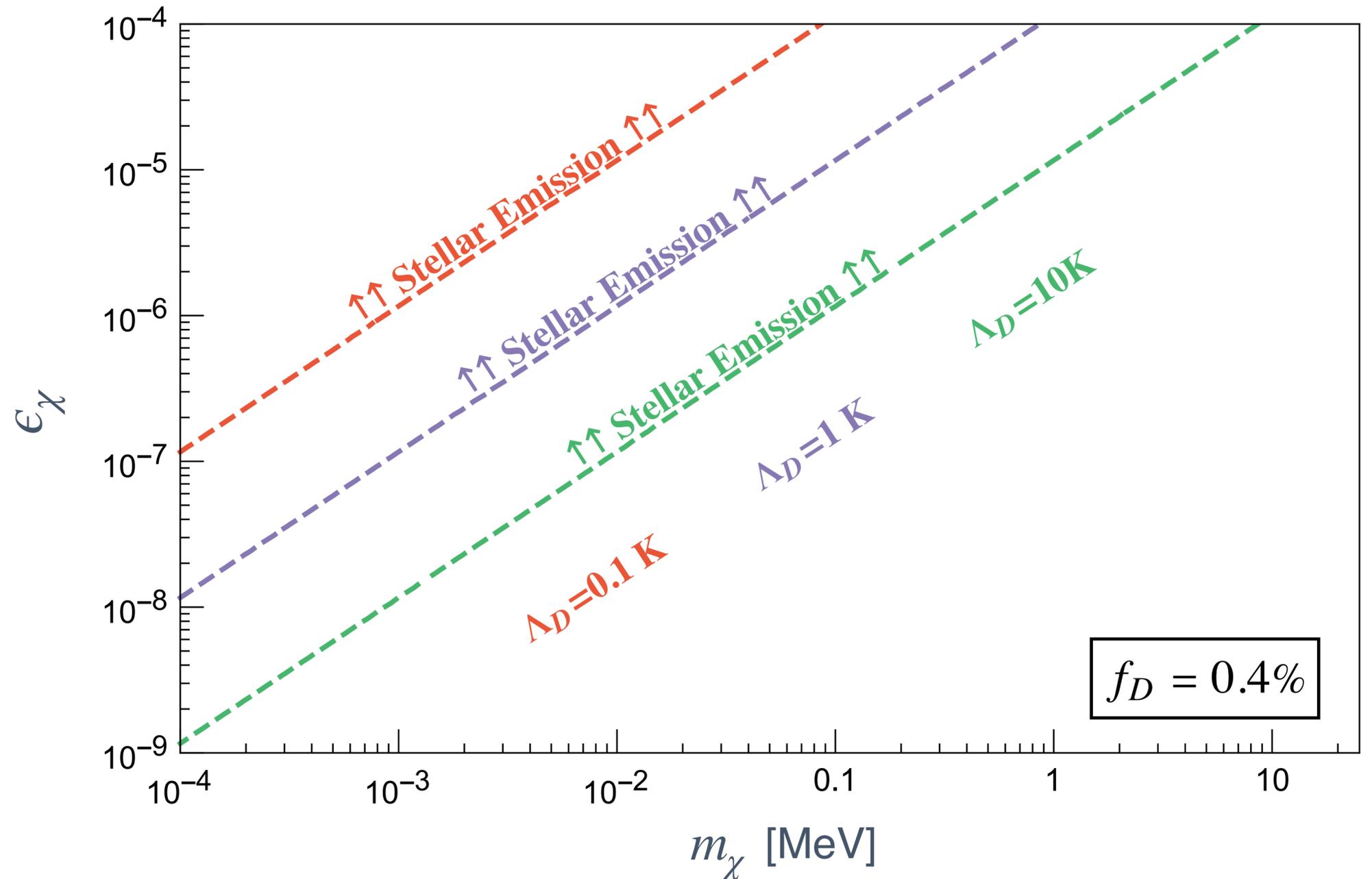


# TEMP EVOLUTION

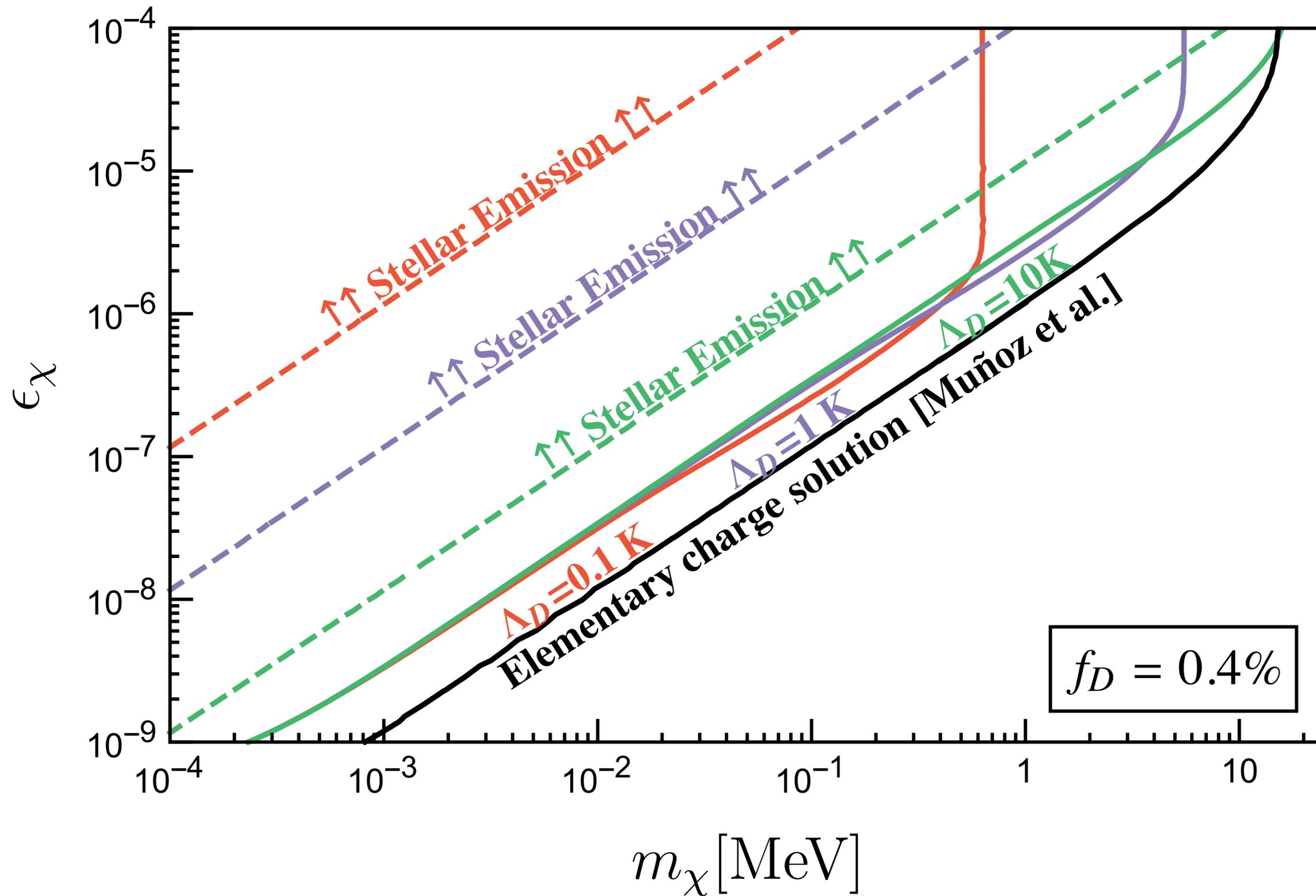


# PARAMETER SPACE

- ◆ Stellar constraints on  $f$
- ◆  $\epsilon_f \leq 10^{-14}$
- ◆ Sets indirect constraint on  $\epsilon_\chi$
- ◆  $\epsilon_\chi \leq 10^{-14} \frac{m_\chi}{\Lambda_D}$



# PARAMETER SPACE



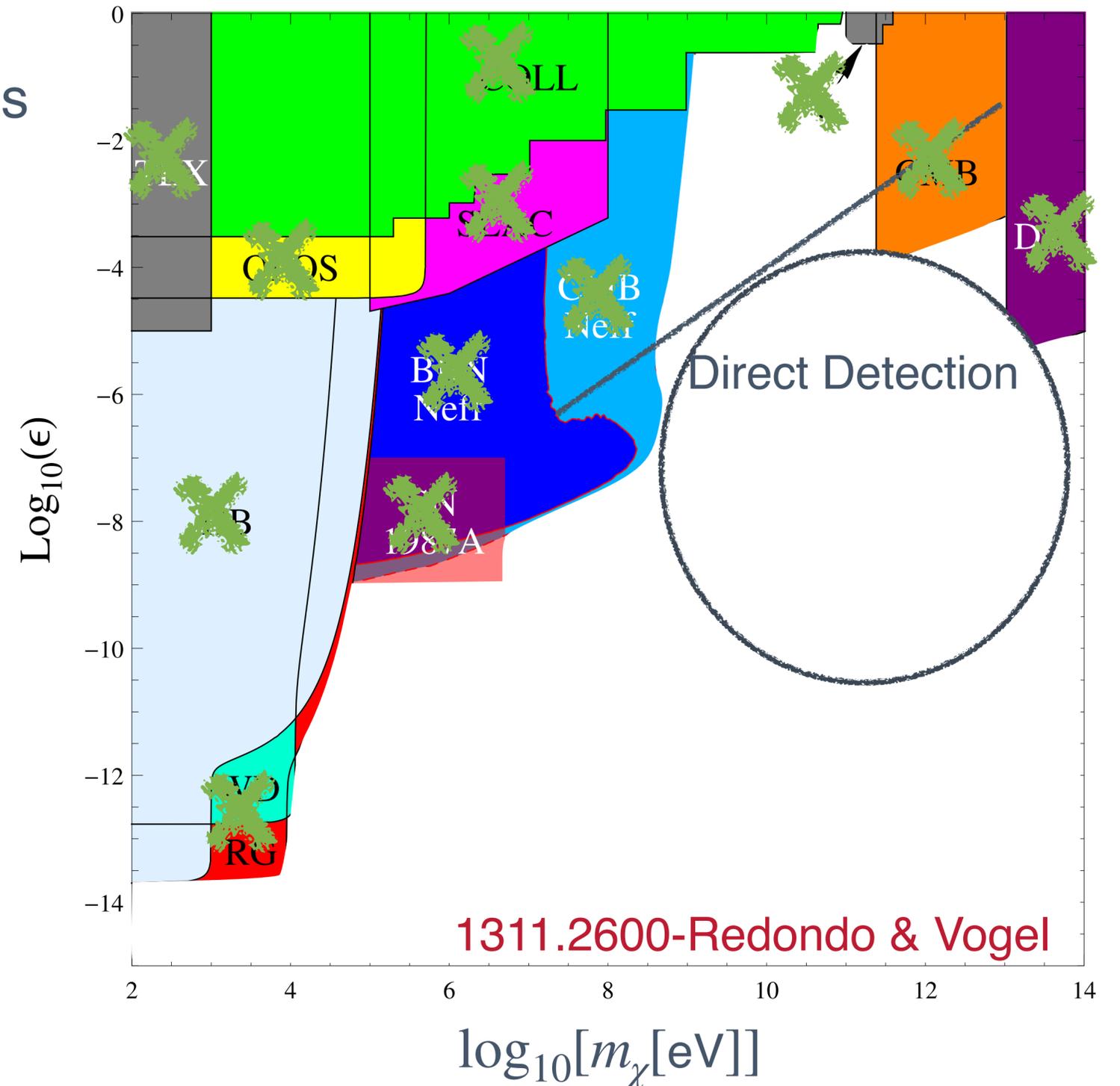
# CONSEQUENCES

- ◆ No direct Collider, Beam Dump, Stellar constraints
- ◆ Enlarged Parameter space for milli-charge DM
- ◆ In galaxies

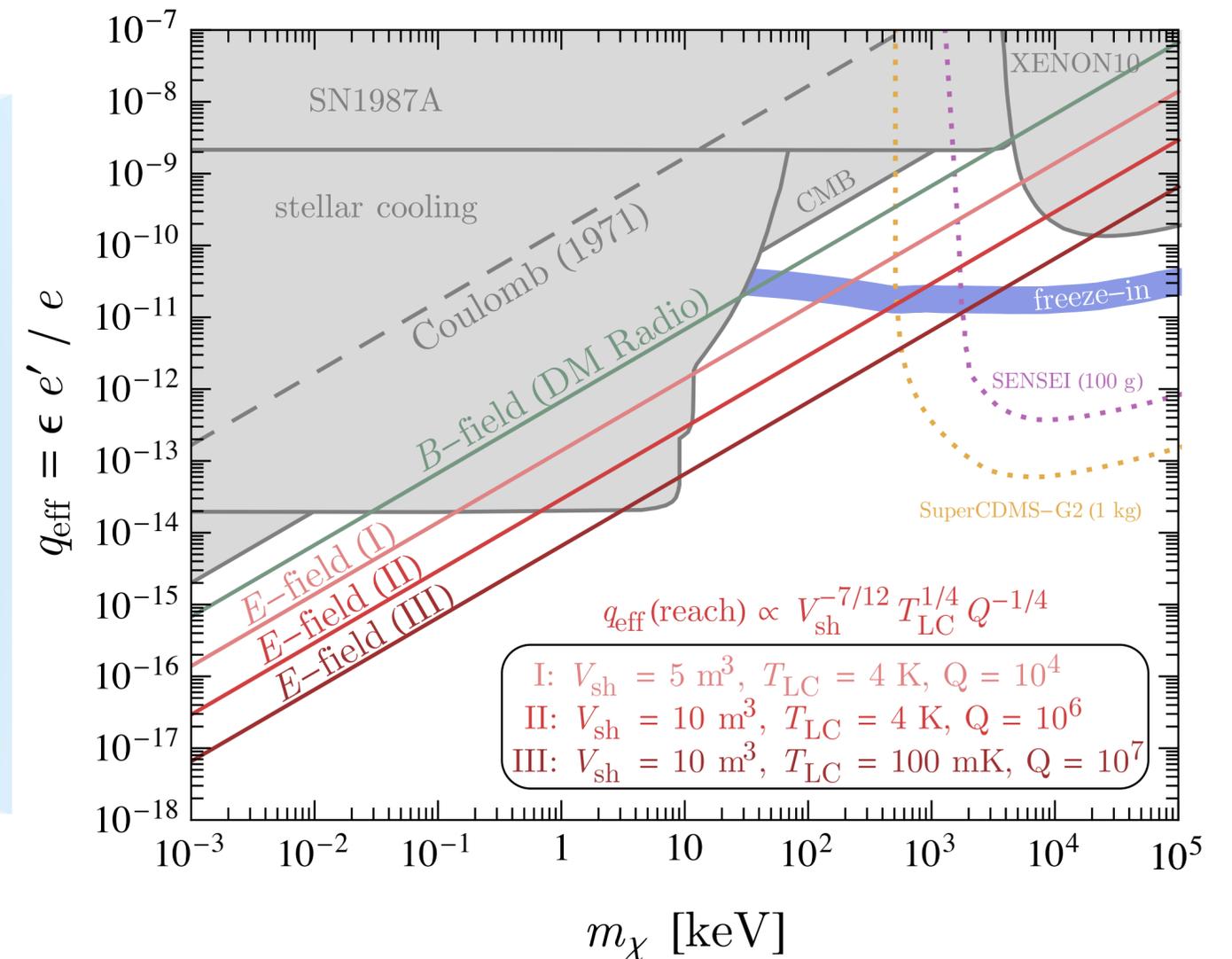
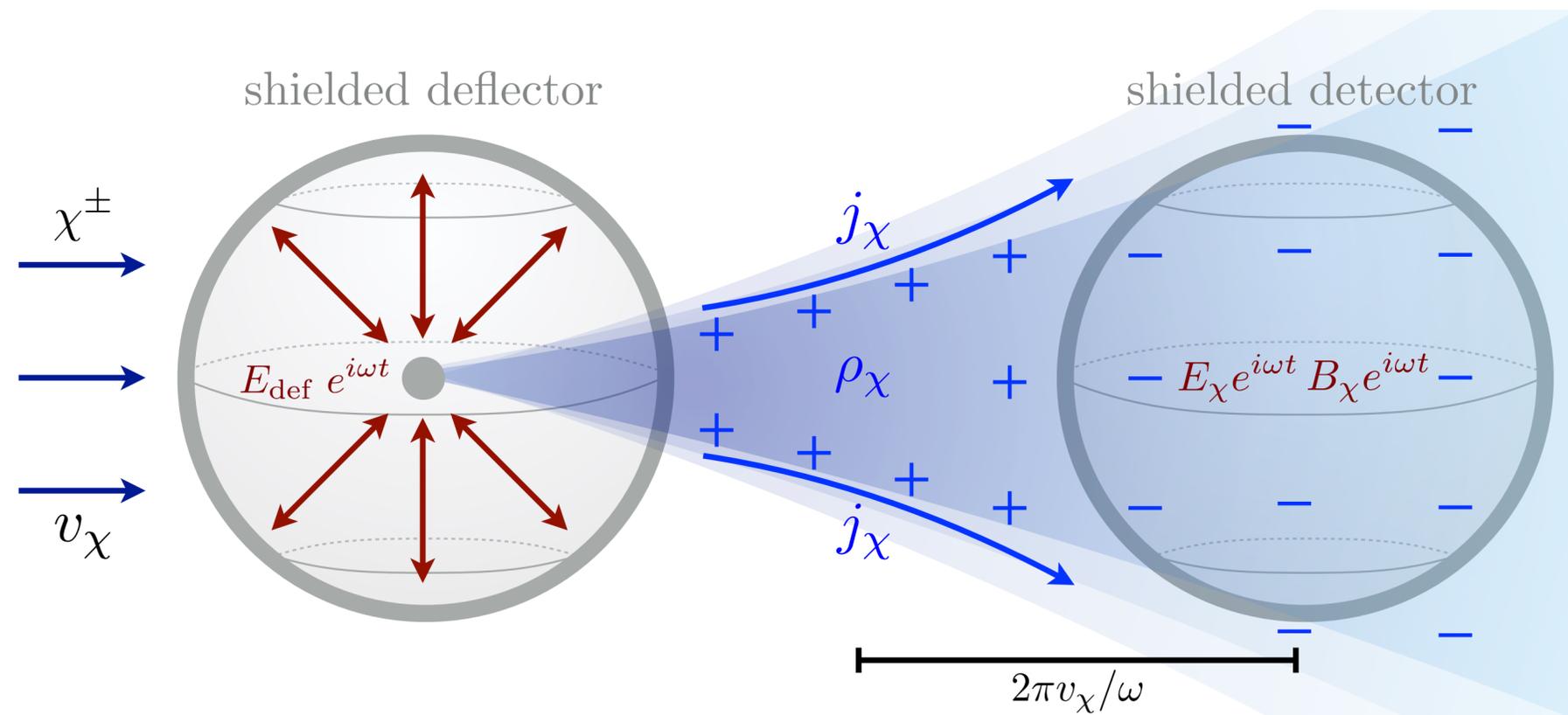
$$\frac{1}{2}m_\chi v_{\text{vir}}^2 \leq \Lambda_D \implies m_\chi^{\text{gal}} \leq 86 \text{ eV} \frac{\Lambda_D}{1\text{K}}$$

- ◆ Coherent enhancement only when

$$q \leq R_\chi^{-1} \approx \Lambda_D / A^{\frac{1}{3}}$$



# LOW $q$ DIRECT DETECTION



1908.06982: Berlin, D'Agnolo, Ellis, Schuster, Toro

# SUMMARY

- ◆ Exciting anomaly in 21cm physics
- ◆ Elementary mCPs solve anomaly but in severe tension with cosmology
- ◆ mCP nuclei of similar charge and mass evade most constraints and explain EDGES
- ◆ “Thermostat” phase around  $T_D \approx \Lambda_D$
- ◆ Expanded parameter space for viable DM albeit at low momentum