

**Gran Sasso Science Institute**  
**13/02/2019**

# **The 21-cm signal seen by EDGES**

**PAOLO PANCI**



Based on G. D'Amico, PP, A. Strumia [arXiv:1803.03629](https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.03629)  
Published on Phys.Rev.Lett. **121** (2018) no.1, 011103

# Plan of the Talk

What EDGES has observed

Quick physics of the 21-cm line

A short history of the IGM properties

Bounds on Dark Matter properties

Outlook & Discussions

## LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature25792

### An absorption profile centred at 78 megahertz in the sky-averaged spectrum

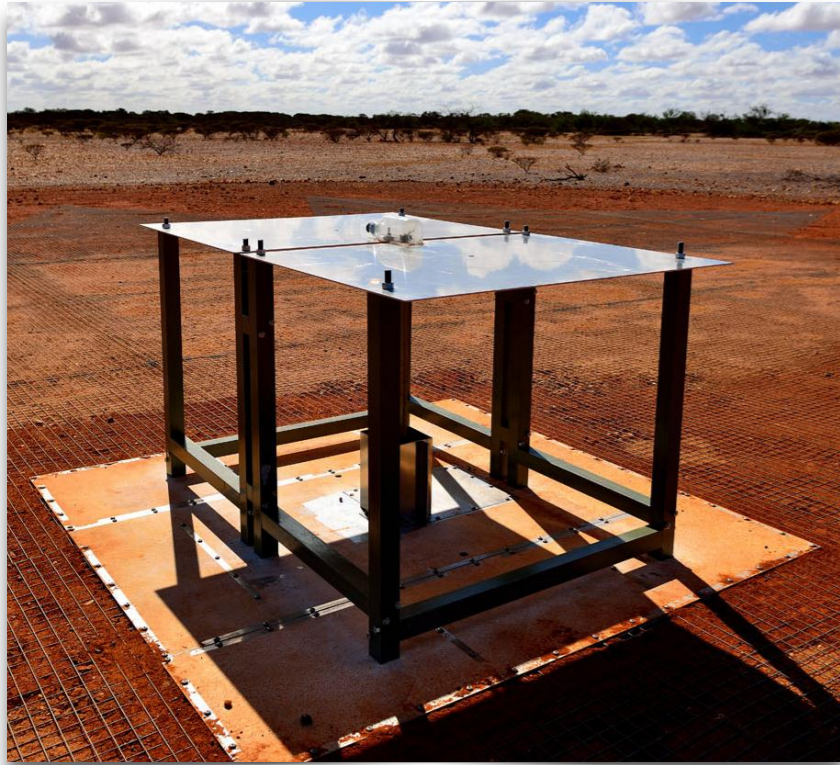
Judd D. Bowman<sup>1</sup>, Alan E. E. Rogers<sup>2</sup>, Raul A. Monsalve<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Thomas J. Mozdzen<sup>1</sup> & Nivedita Mahesh<sup>1</sup>

A **21-cm signal** in *absorption*

Between redshifts **~20 and 15**

Amplitude *twice* as large as predicted (**~500 mK** vs. ~200mK)

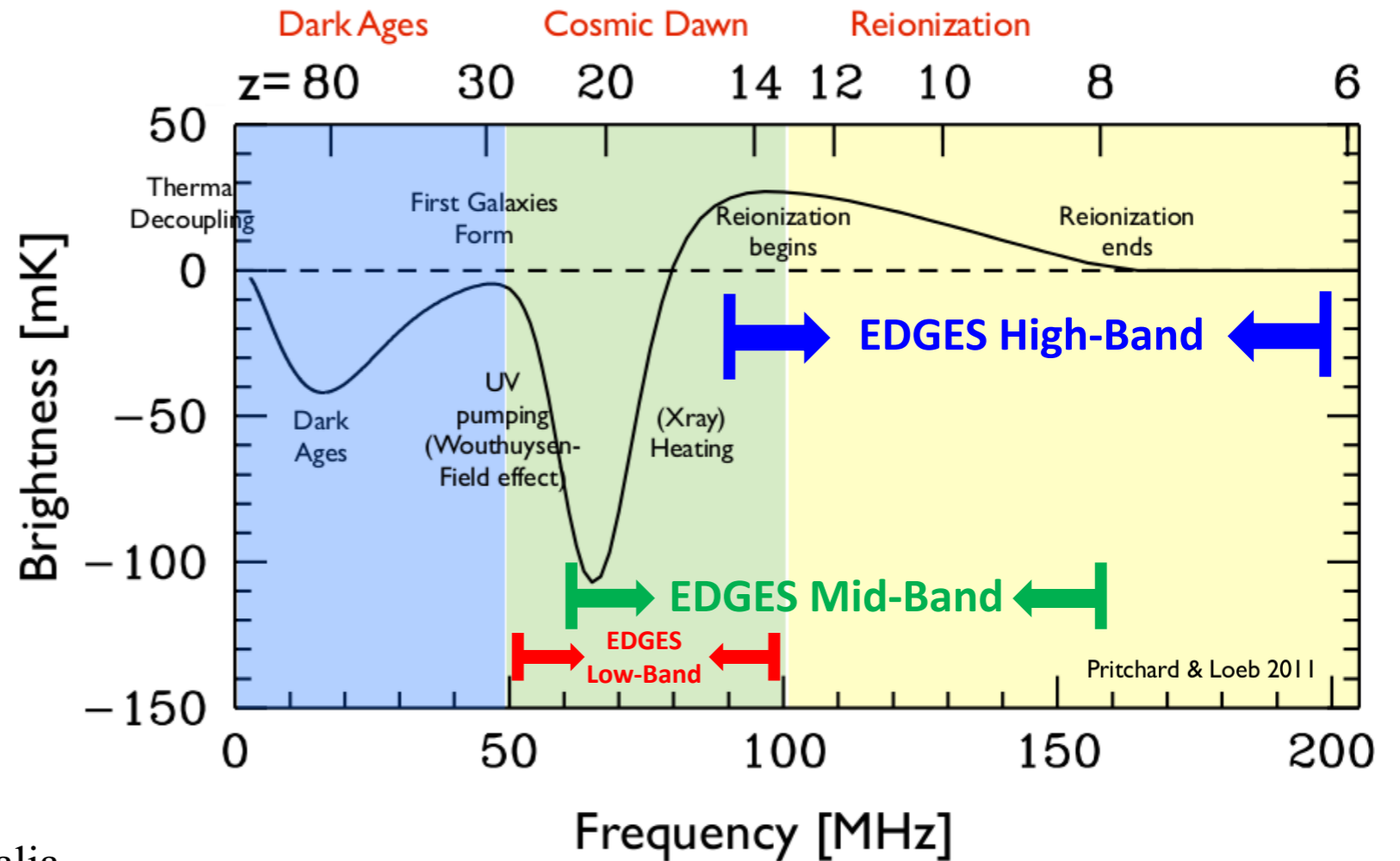
# The EDGES experiment



**Antenna size:** 2m long and 1m meter high

**Location:** radio quiet zone in western Australia

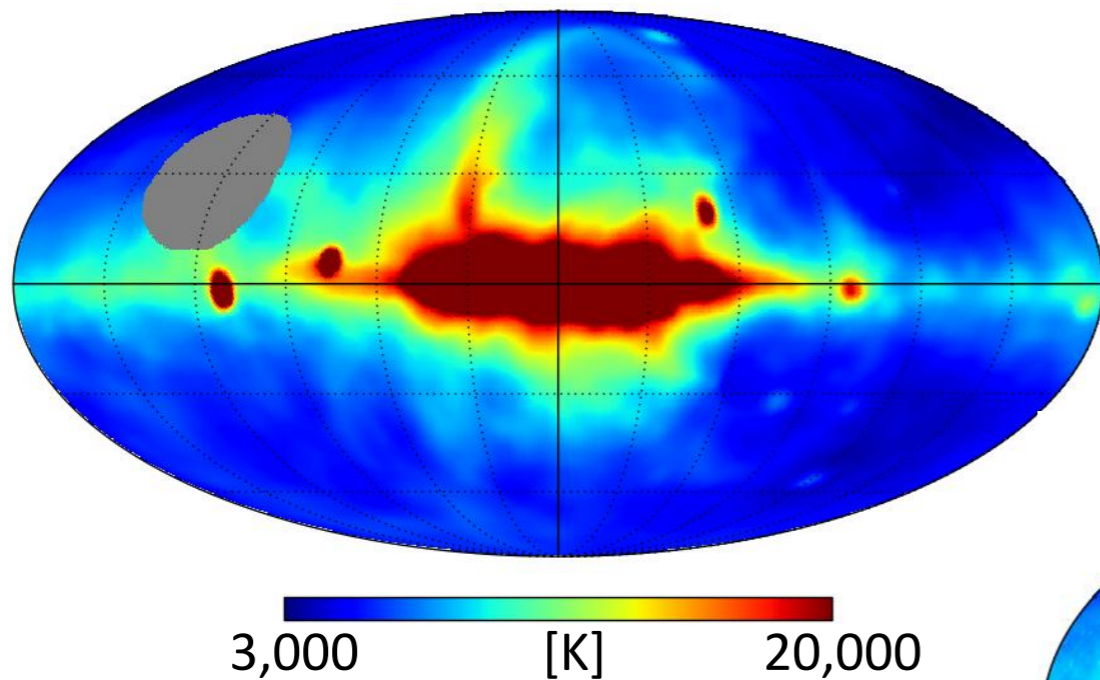
**Energy range:** from 50 to 150 Mhz



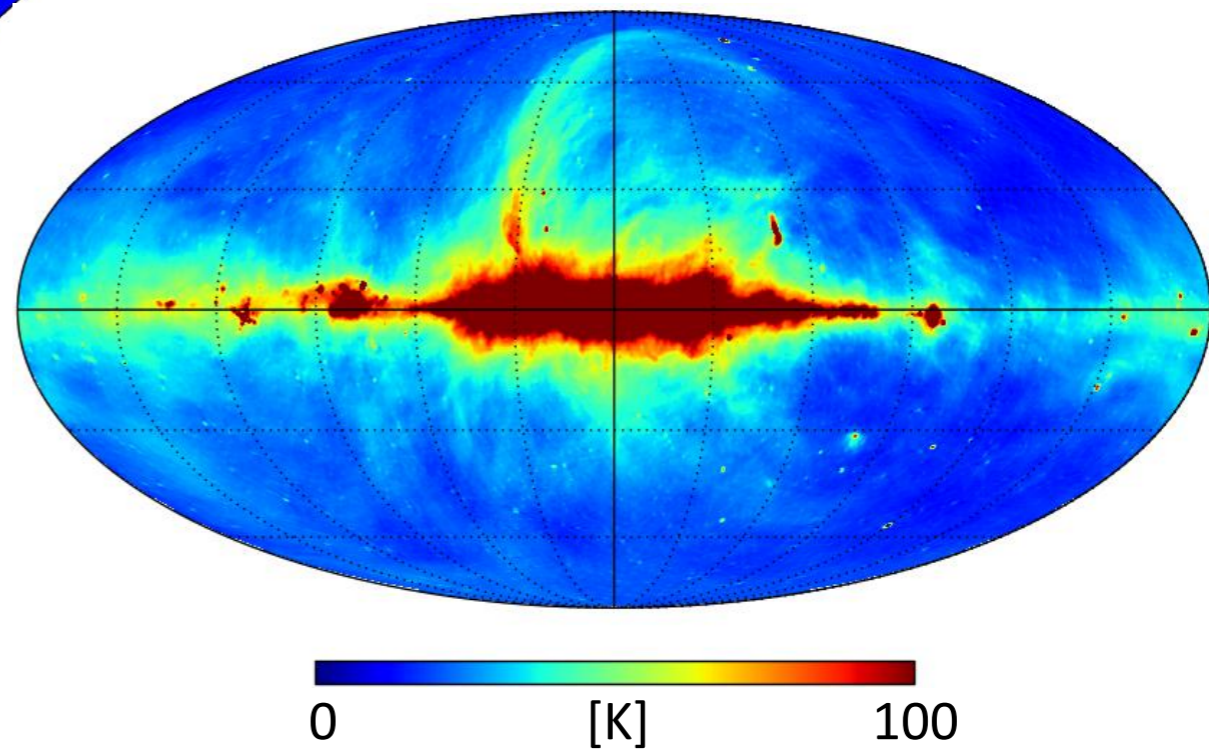
**Low-band antenna:** Designed to observe a spectral distortion in the 21-cm energy band at  $z \sim 20$  due to the absorption of CMB photons by the IGM

## Diffuse Foregrounds

45-MHz Map  
Guzmán et al. (2011)



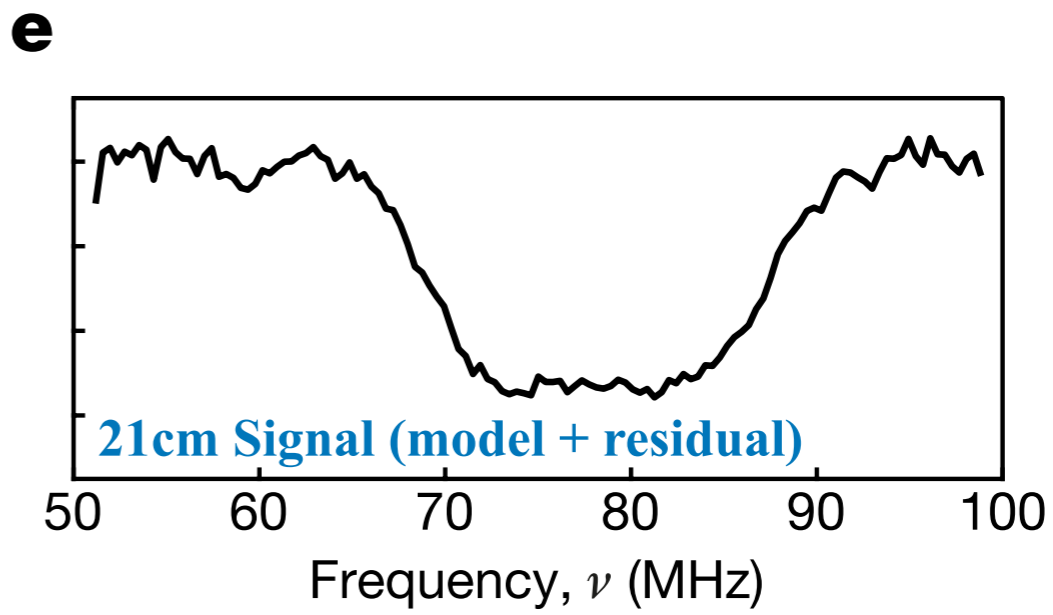
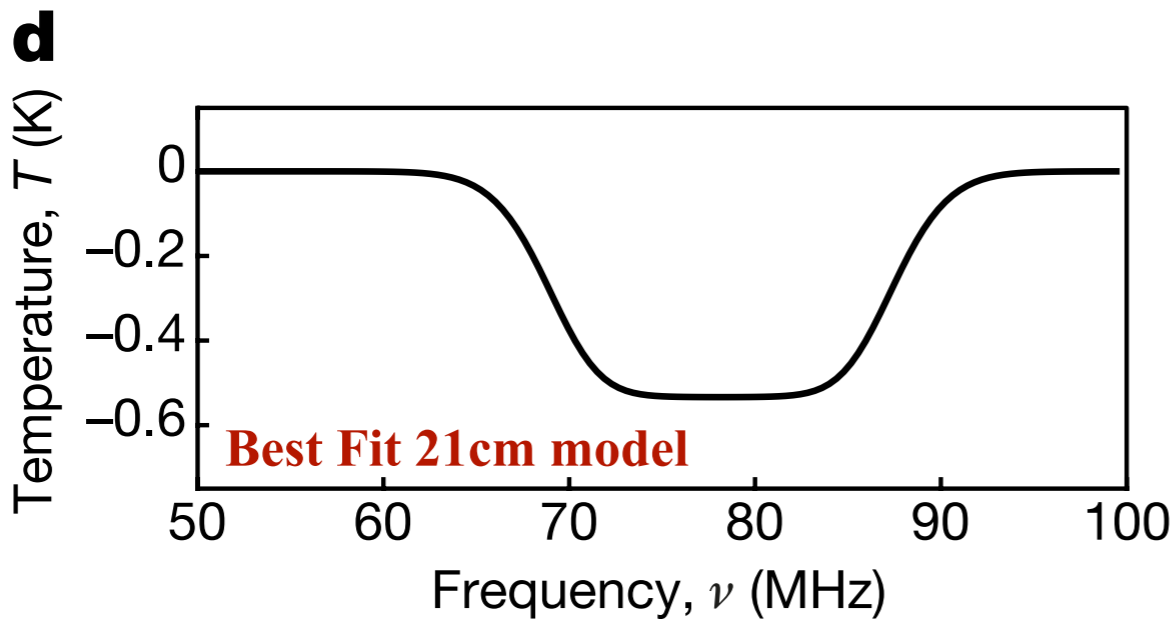
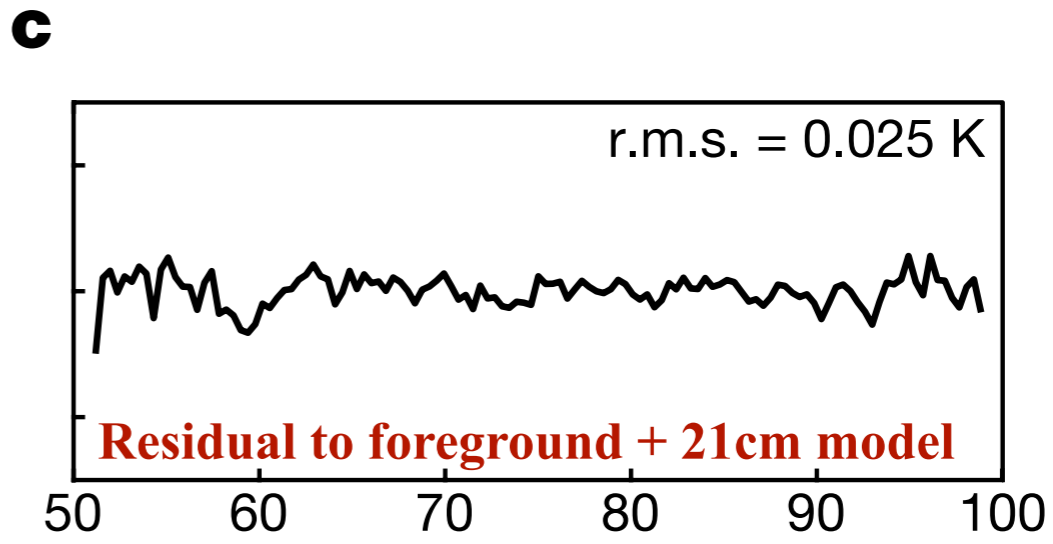
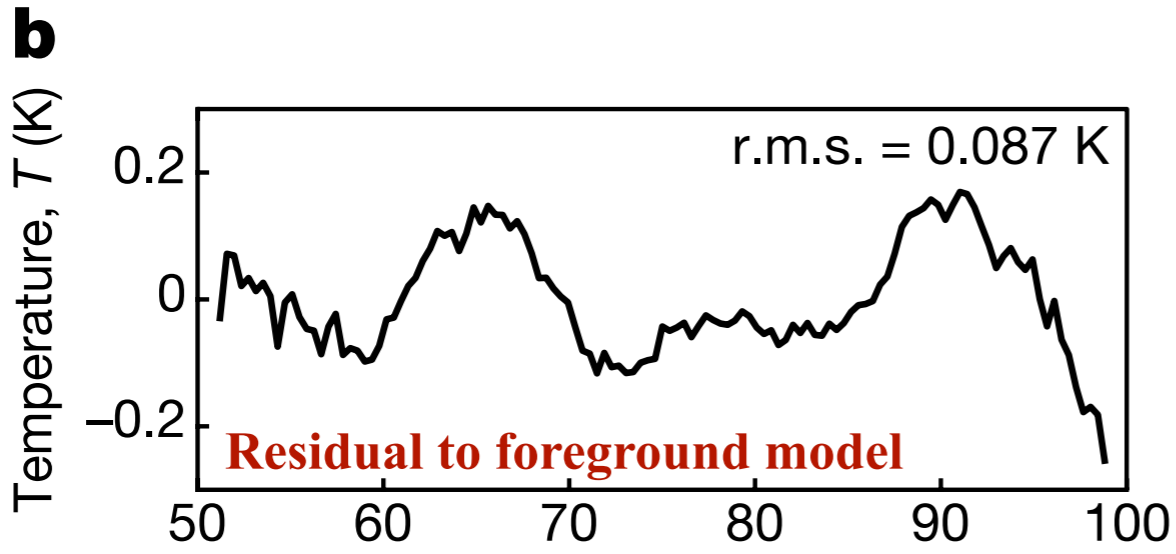
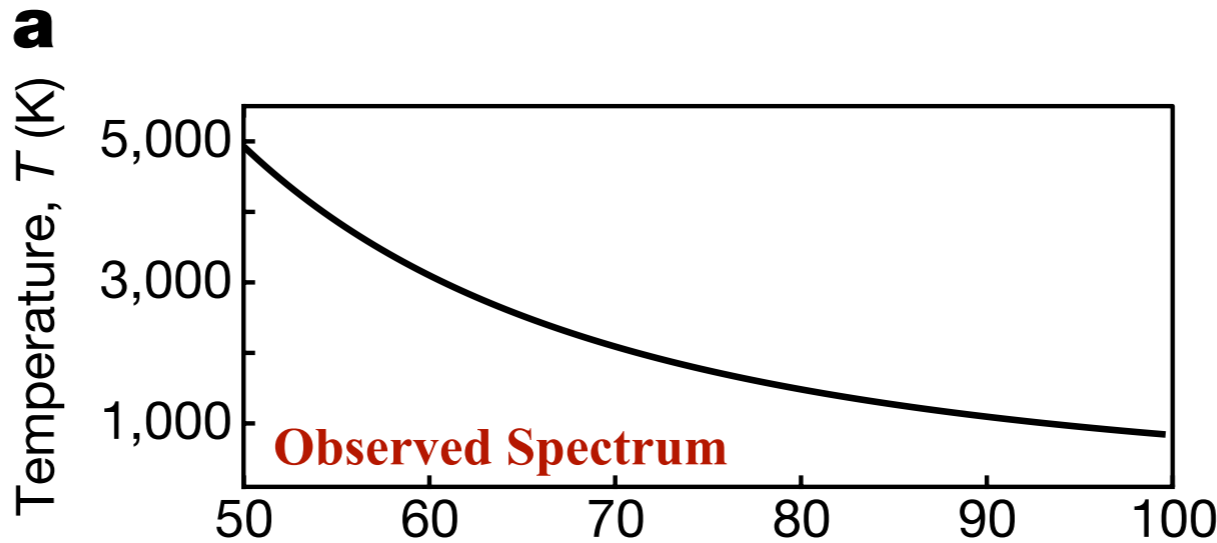
408-MHz Map  
Haslam et al. (1982)



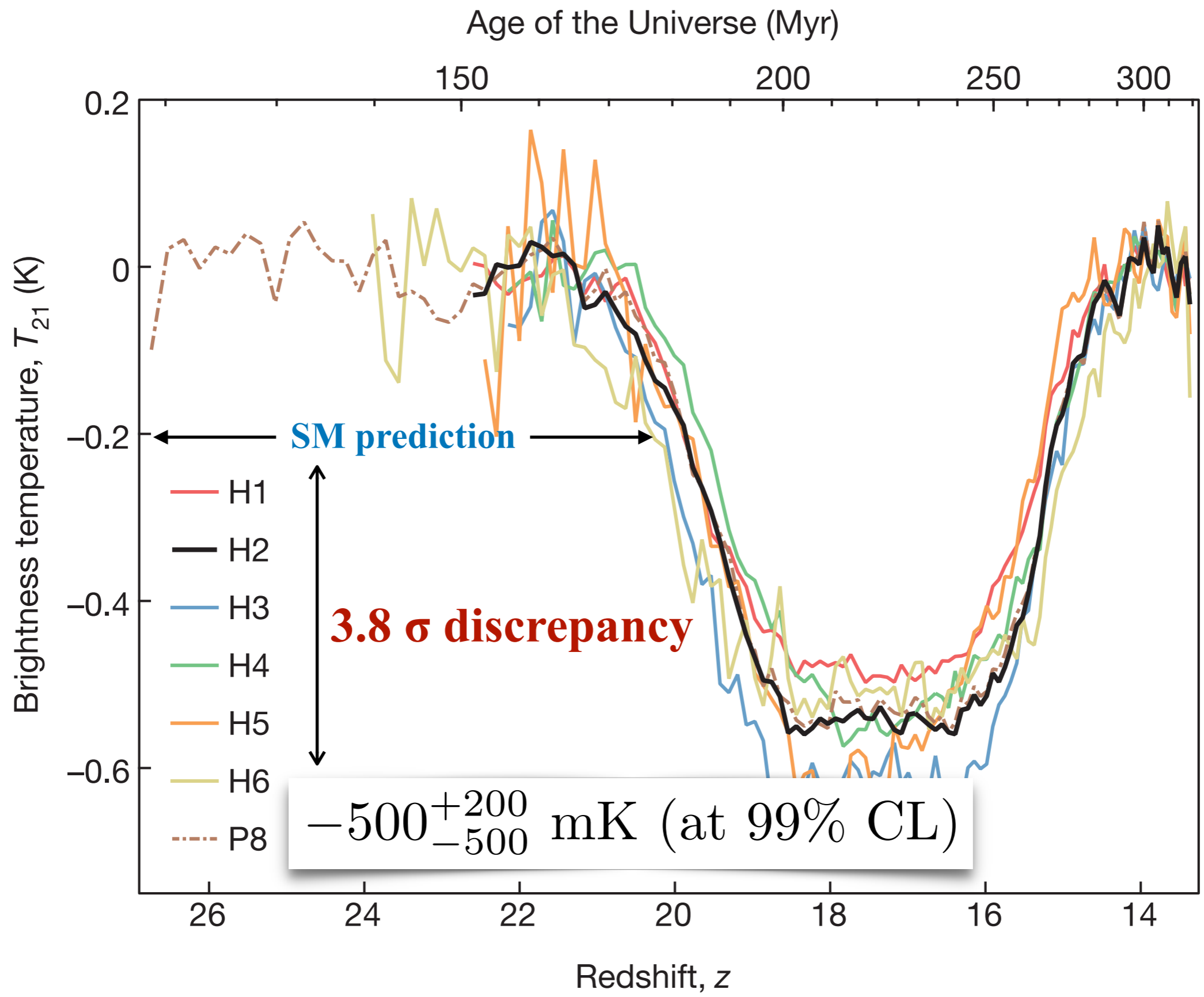
### Main features of the Diffuse Foregrounds:

- 1) **Brightness temperature:** always more than 100 K
- 2) **Spectrally smooth** but might need **several terms** to model (see e.g. Bernardi et al. 2015)
- 3) **Large spatial gradient** (in particular close to the GC)

# What did EDGES see?



# Some analysis of systematics

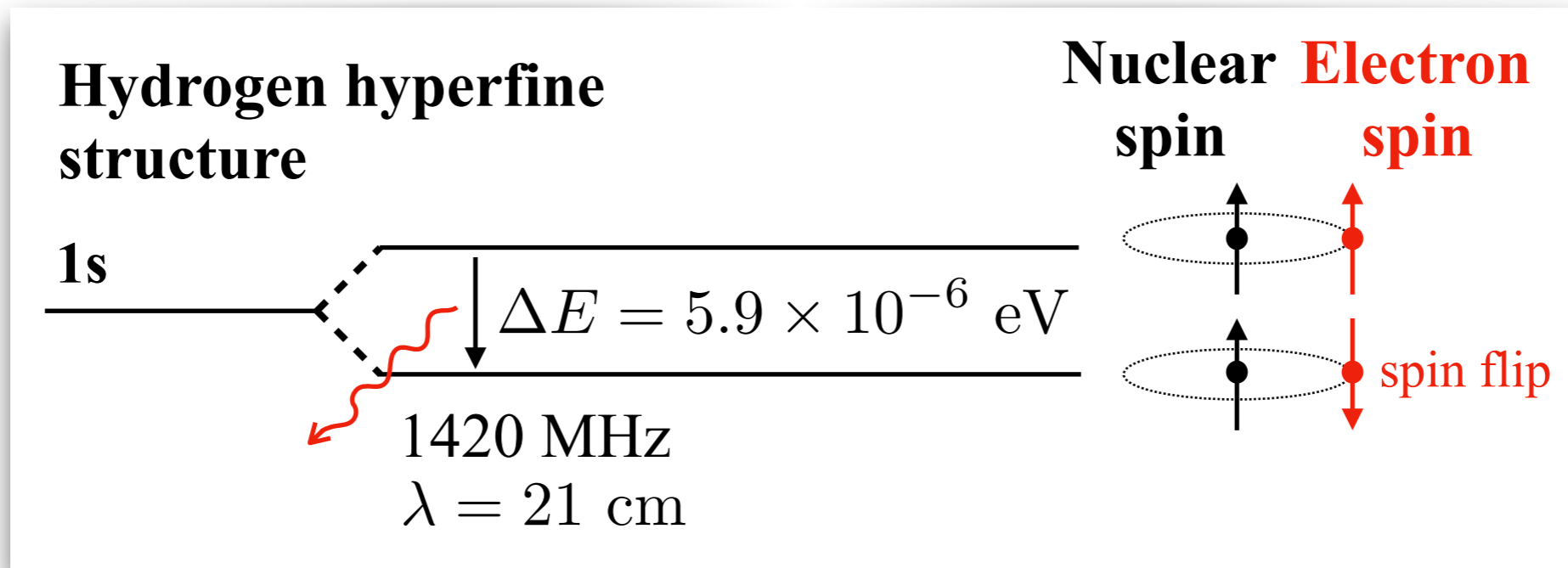


# II PART

## *Physics of the 21-cm line*



# What is the 21-cm line?



Triplet-to-singlet transition of the atomic hydrogen 1s level

Define the **Spin temperature** by

$$\frac{n_{\uparrow\uparrow}}{n_{\uparrow\downarrow}} \equiv 3 e^{-\Delta E/T_S}$$

What sets the relative occupation?

# Excited by what?

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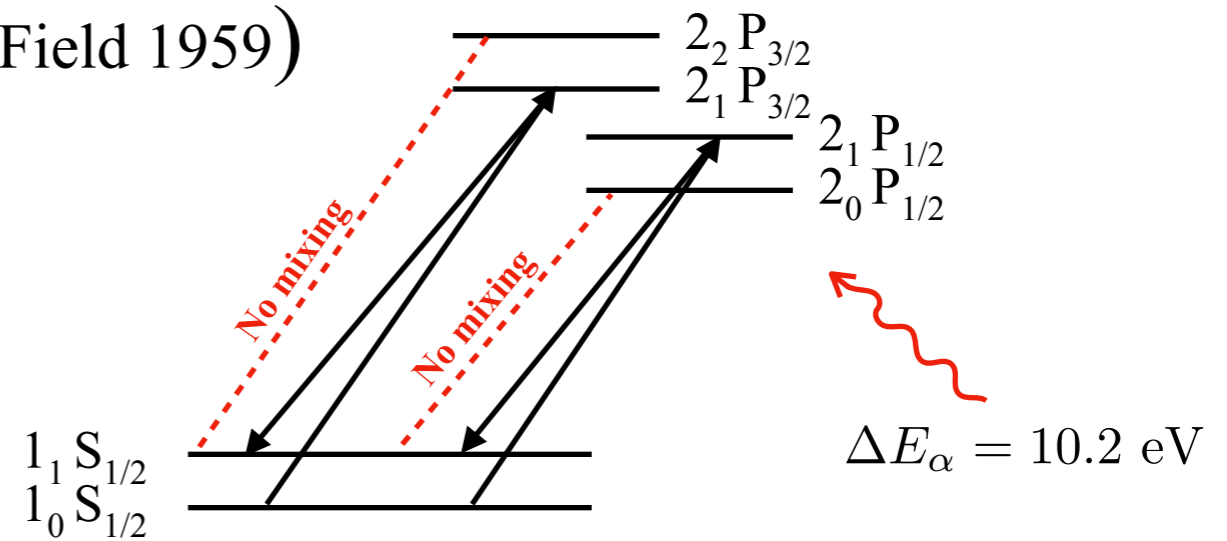
➔ **Absorption** of background CMB photon

# Excited by what?

- ➔ **Absorption** of background CMB photon
- ➔ **Collisions**: important when density is high

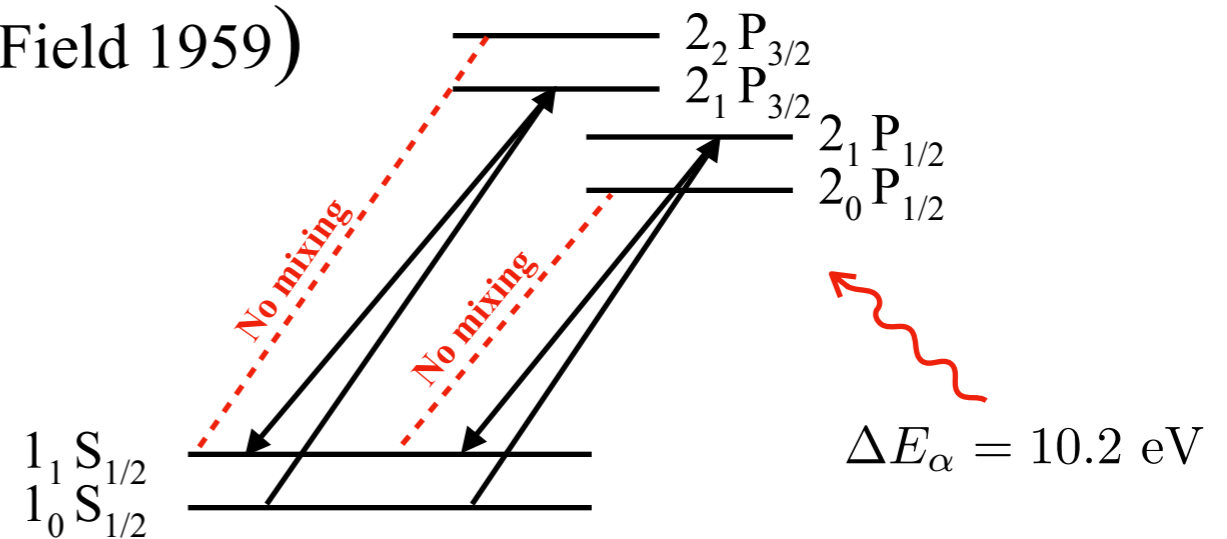
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Equilibrium implies:

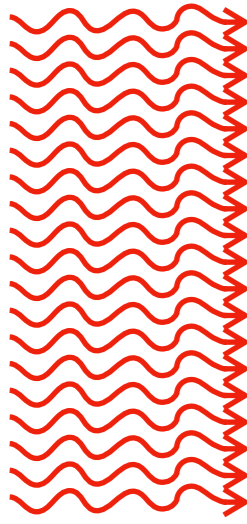
$$n_{\uparrow\uparrow}(\mathcal{C}_{10} + \mathcal{P}_{10} + \mathcal{A}_{10} + \mathcal{B}_{10}I_{\gamma}) = n_{\uparrow\downarrow}(\mathcal{C}_{01} + \mathcal{P}_{01} + \mathcal{B}_{01}I_{\gamma})$$

In terms of temperature:

$$T_S^{-1} = \frac{T_{\text{CMB}}^{-1} + y_C T_{\text{gas}}^{-1} + y_{\alpha} T_{\alpha}^{-1}}{1 + y_C + y_{\alpha}}$$

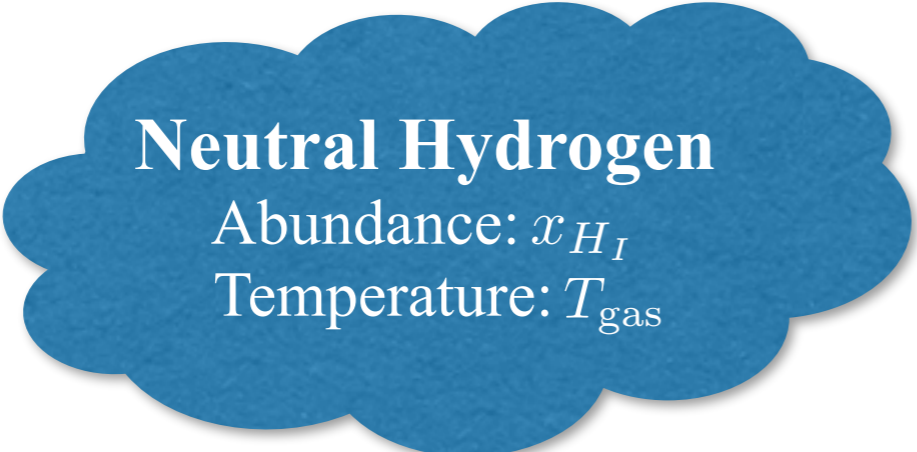
# What we see

CMB



$$I_\gamma$$

Cloud of Hydrogen

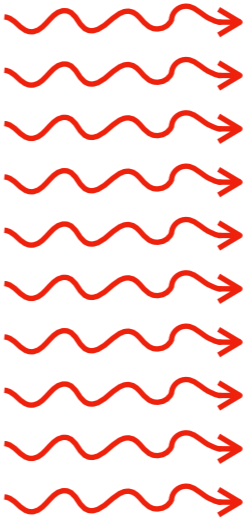


Neutral Hydrogen

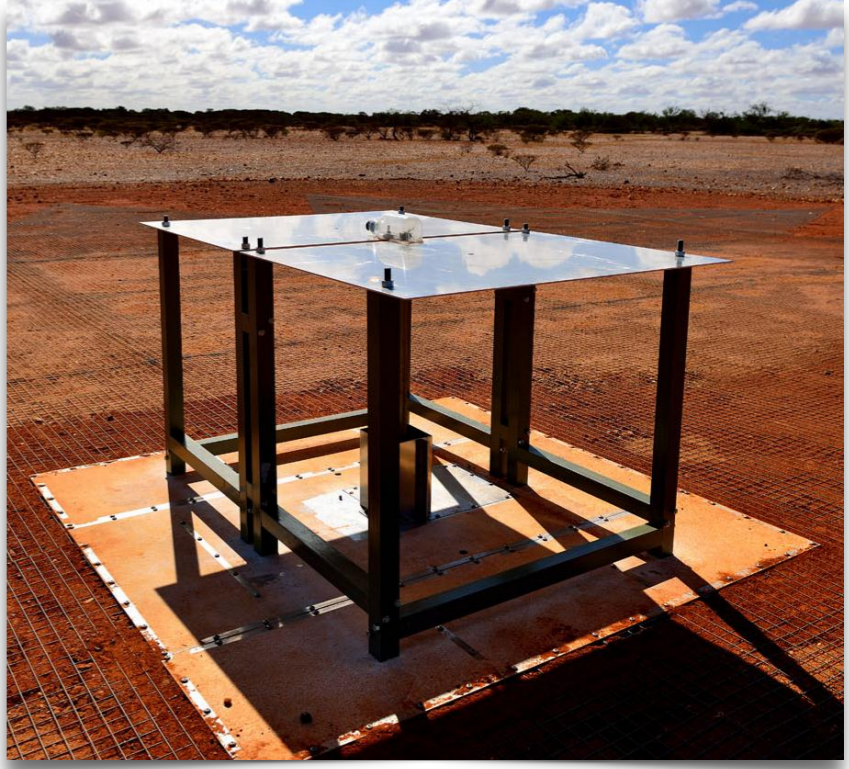
Abundance:  $x_{H_I}$

Temperature:  $T_{\text{gas}}$

CMB

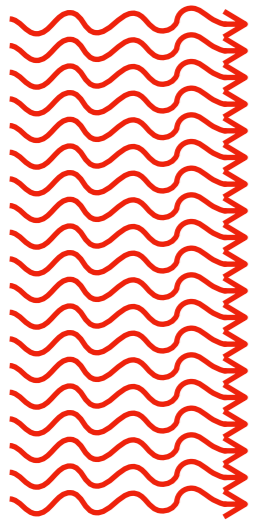


$$I_\gamma e^{-\tau}$$



$\tau \ll 1$ : The Universe is **mostly transparent** to 21-cm photons

CMB



$\mathcal{I}_\gamma$

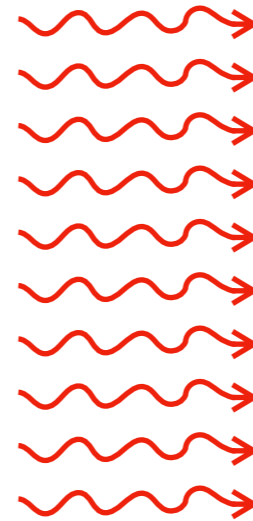
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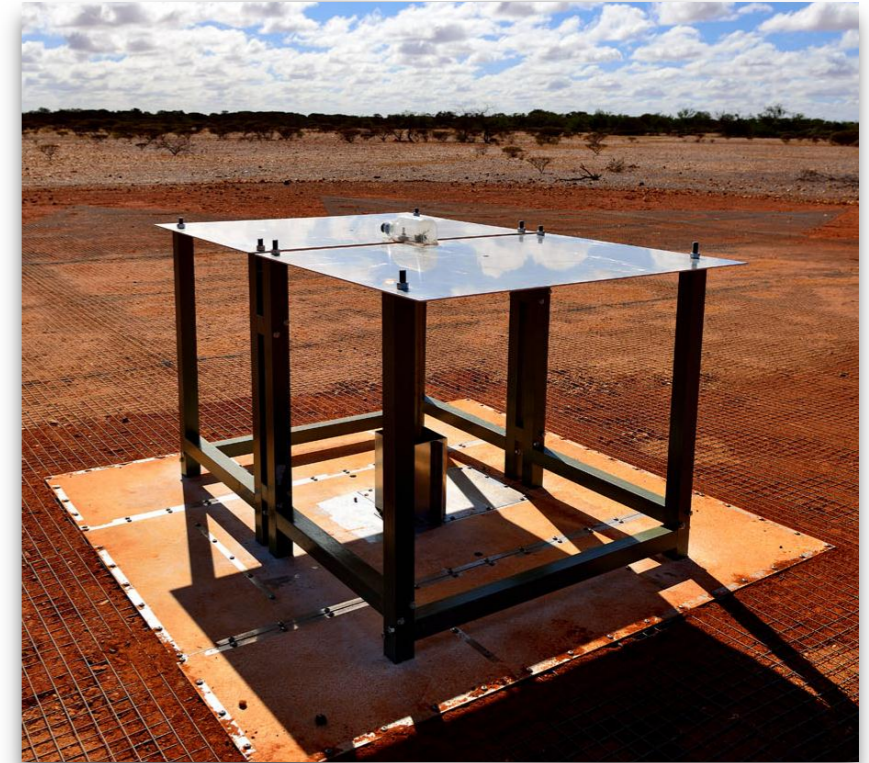
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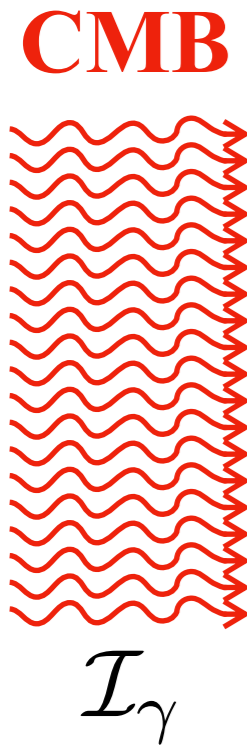
$$T_{21} \propto \mathcal{I}_\gamma (1 - e^{-\tau}) \approx \mathcal{I}_\gamma \tau \approx 21 \text{ mK } x_{H_I} \left( 1 - \frac{T_{\text{CMB}}}{T_S} \right) \sqrt{\frac{1+z}{10}}$$

$T_S = T_{\text{CMB}}$ : **NO** 21-cm signal

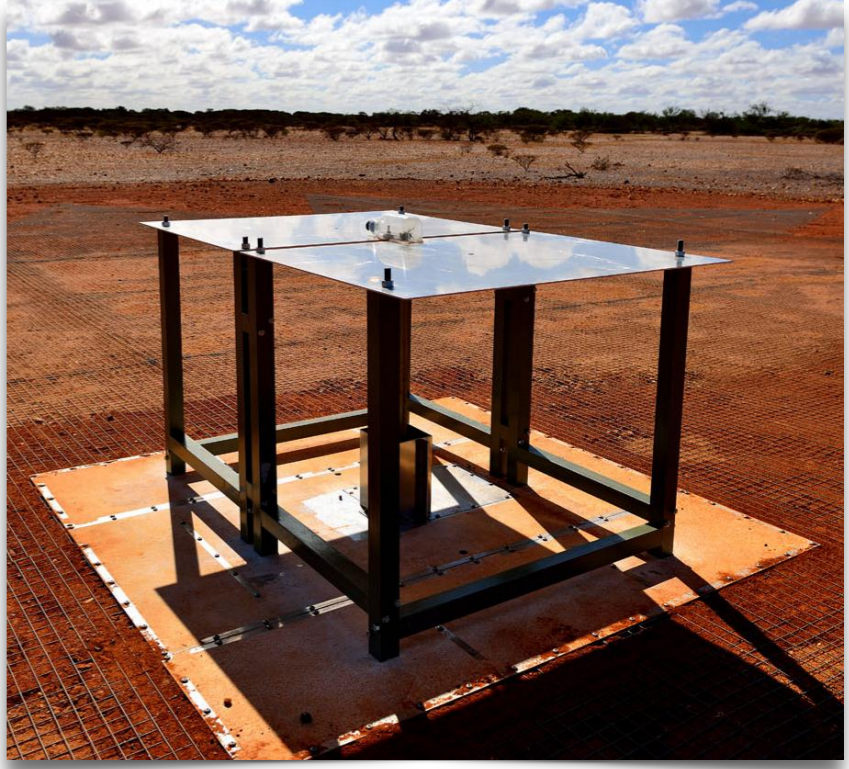
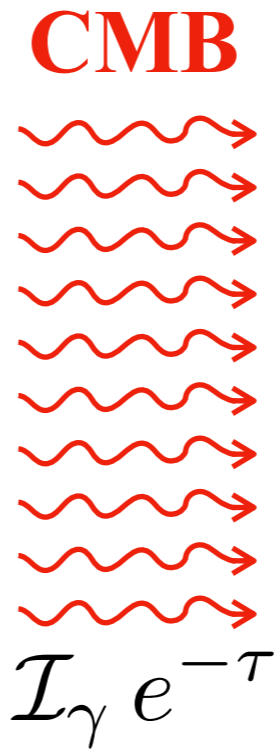
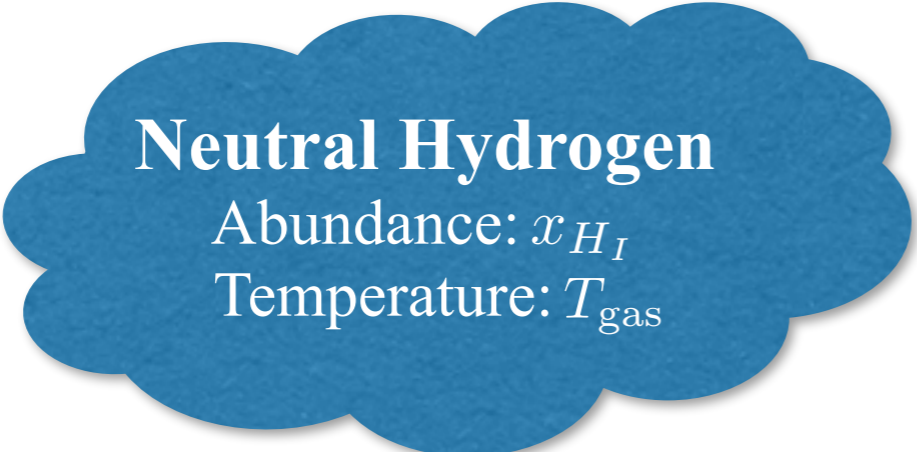
$T_S \neq T_{\text{CMB}}$ : 21-cm signal in absorption/emission



# What we see



## Cloud of Hydrogen

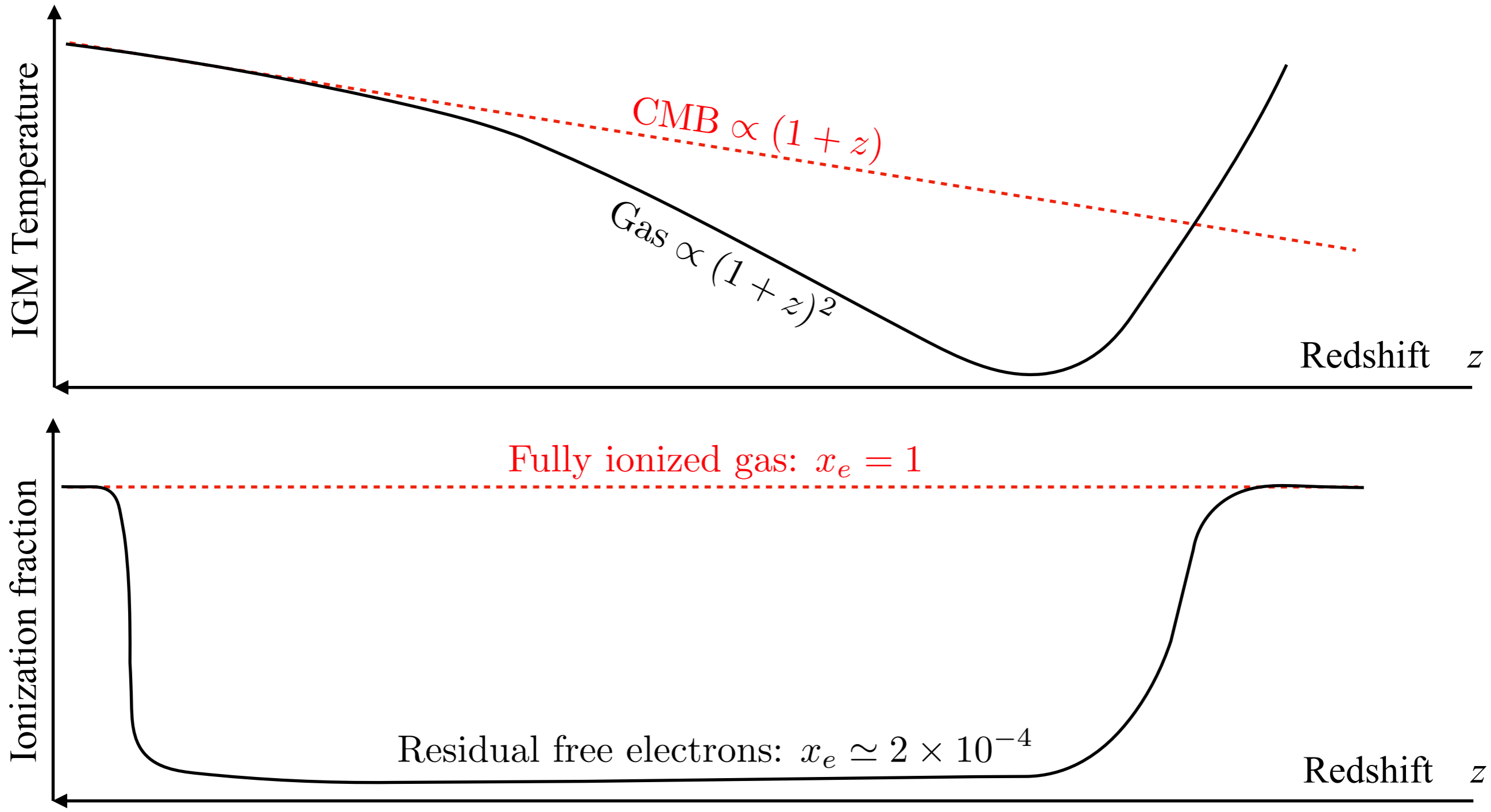


$\tau \ll 1$ : The Universe is **mostly transparent** to 21-cm photons

$$T_{21} \propto \mathcal{I}_\gamma (1 - e^{-\tau}) \approx \mathcal{I}_\gamma \tau \approx 21 \text{ mK } x_{H_I} \left( 1 - \frac{T_{\text{CMB}}}{T_S} \right) \sqrt{\frac{1+z}{10}}$$

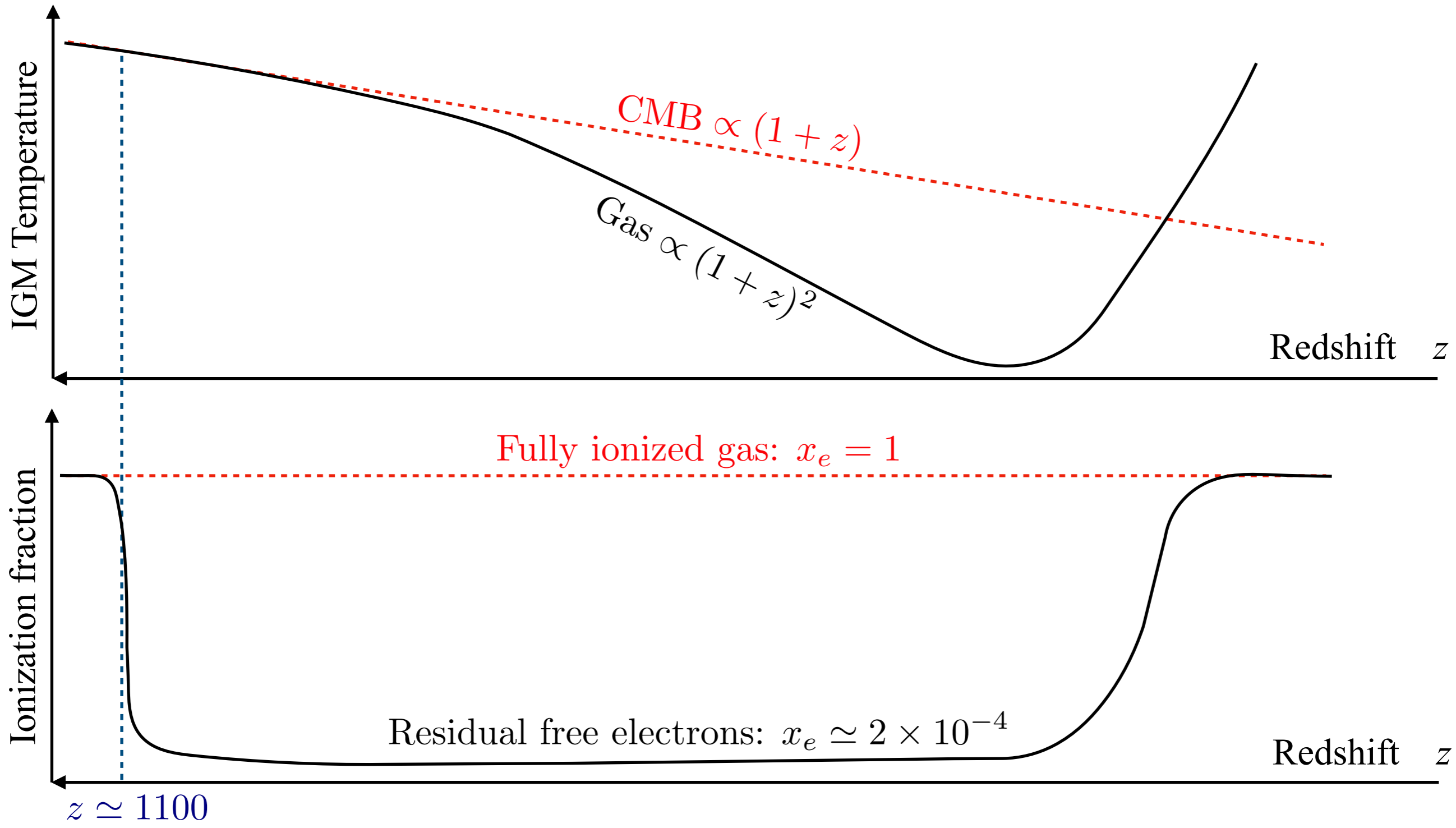
**EDGES measurement implies**  
 $T_{\text{CMB}}/T_S \simeq 19$  at  $z = 17$   
 $T_S \simeq 3 \text{ K}$

# A short history of the IGM



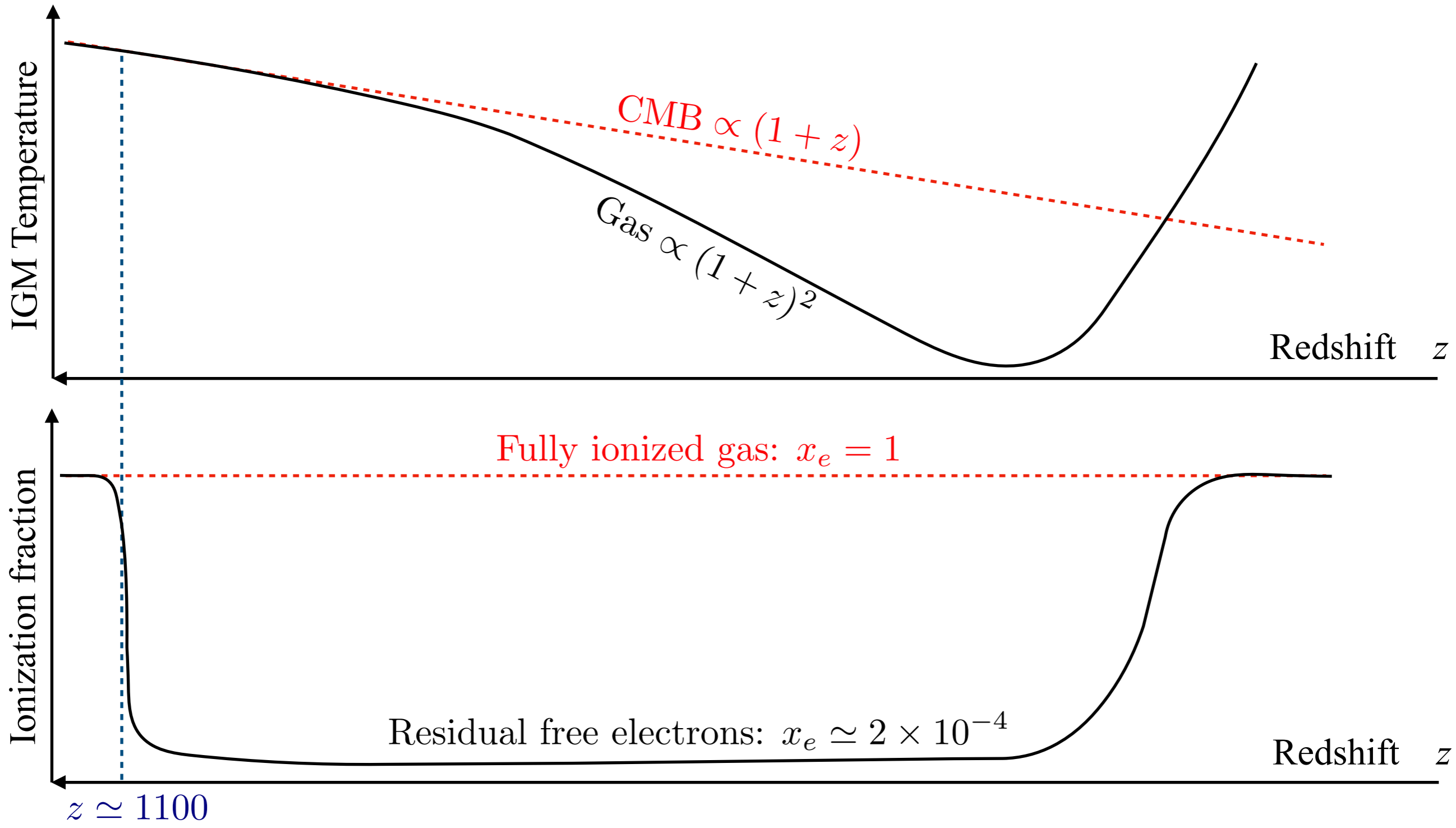
# A short history of the IGM

→ At  $z \sim 1100$ , CMB and IGM kinetically decouple:  
the Universe becomes neutral



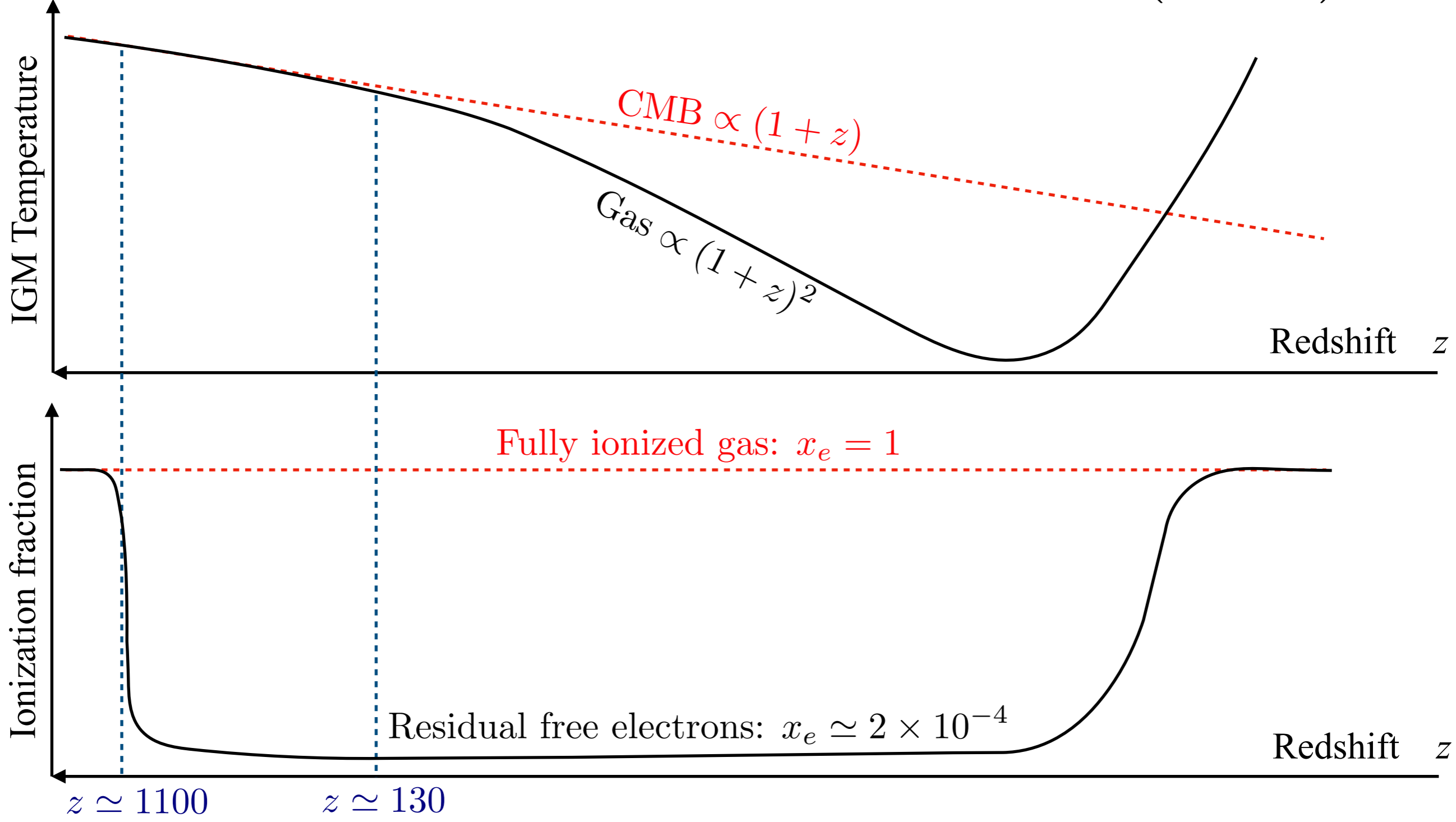
# A short history of the IGM

→ However, the gas & CMB temperatures are still the same, because of efficient Compton scattering



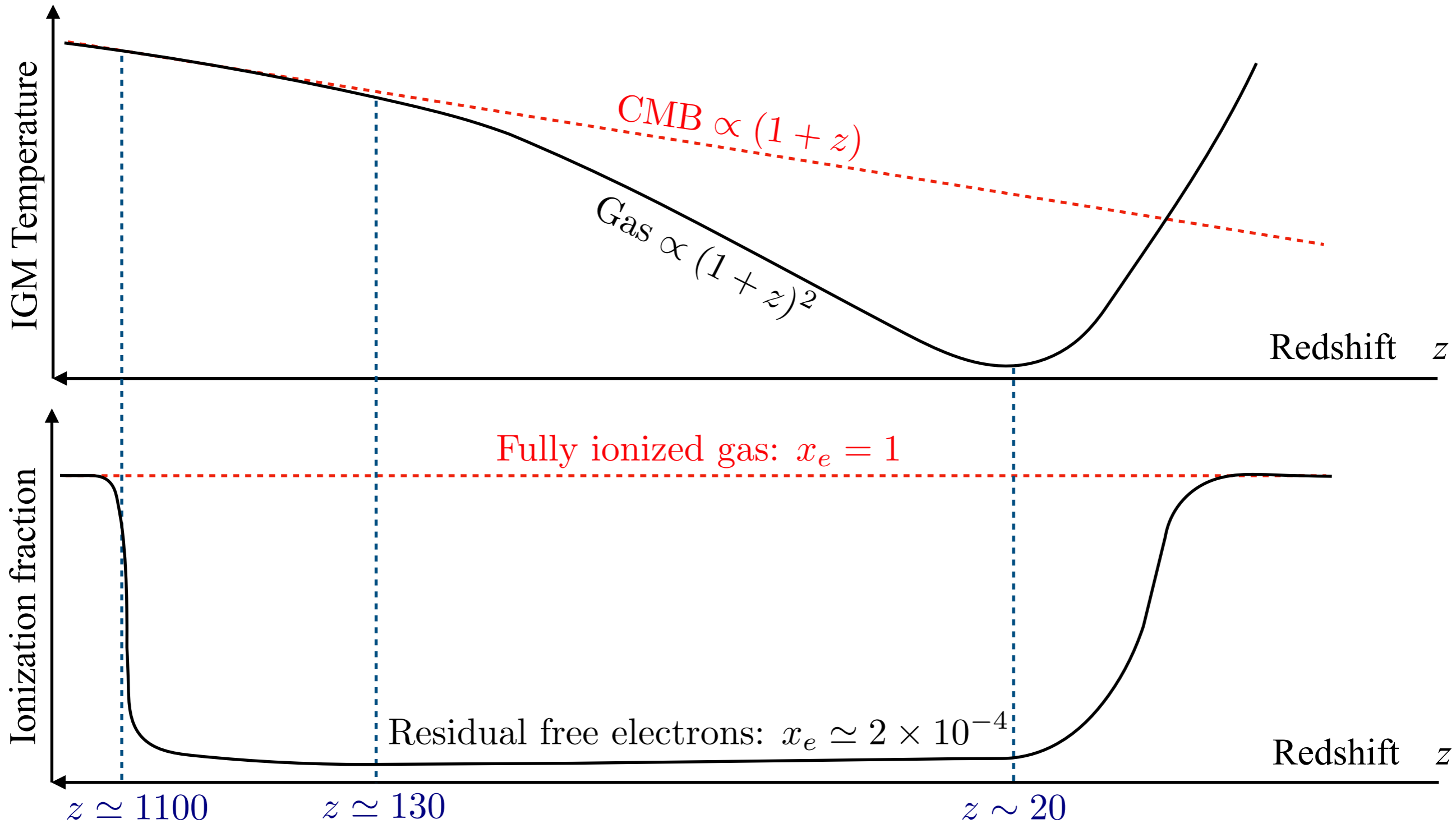
# A short history of the IGM

→ Finally, around  $z \sim 130$ , IGM thermally decouples:  
it thereafter cools down adiabatically as:  $T_{\text{gas}} \simeq T_{\text{CMB}}^{z=130} \left( \frac{1+z}{1+130} \right)^2$



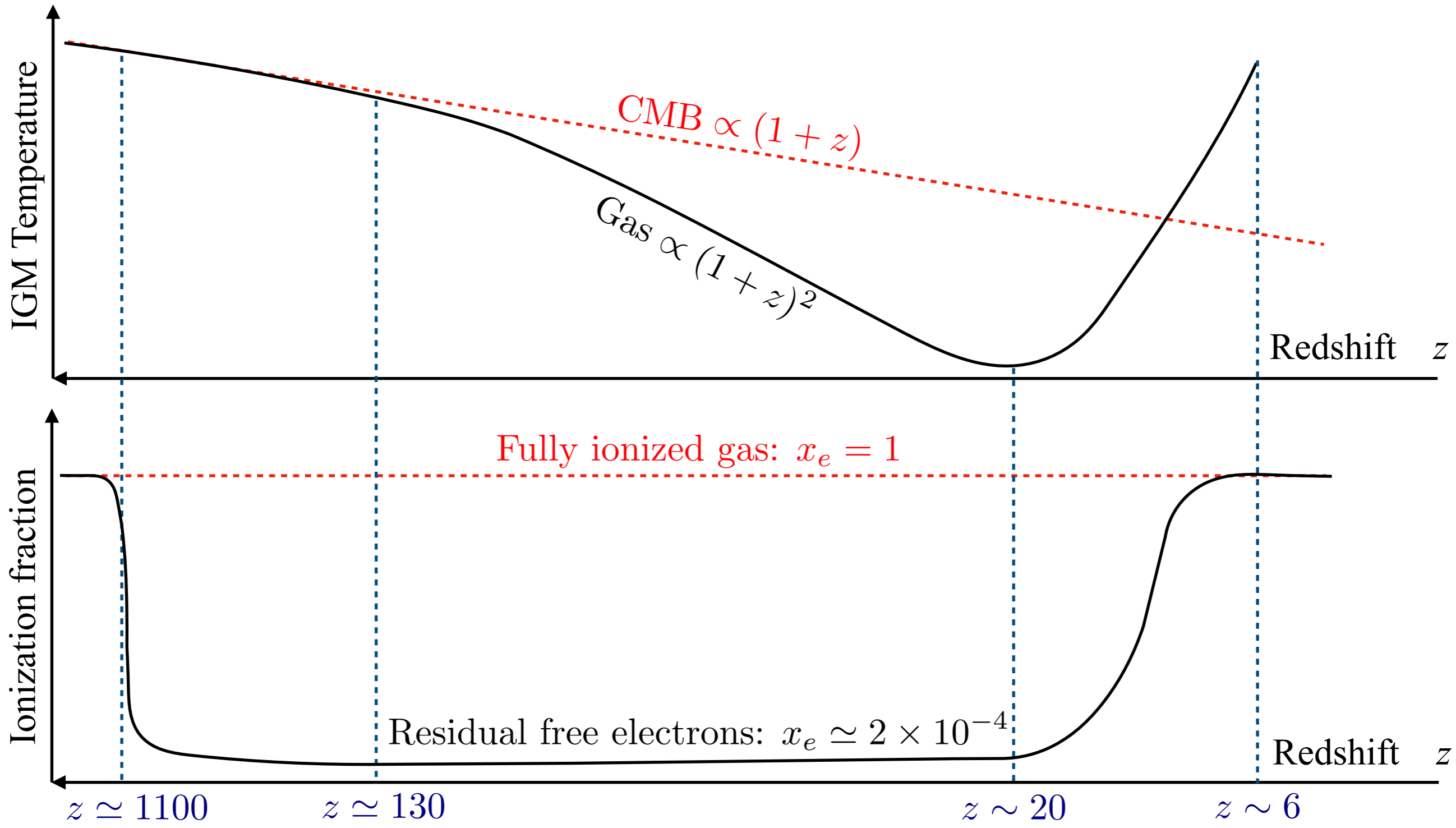
# A short history of the IGM

➔ At some point, lights turn on: X-rays and Ly- $\alpha$  photons go around the Universe, heat the IGM, finally reaching



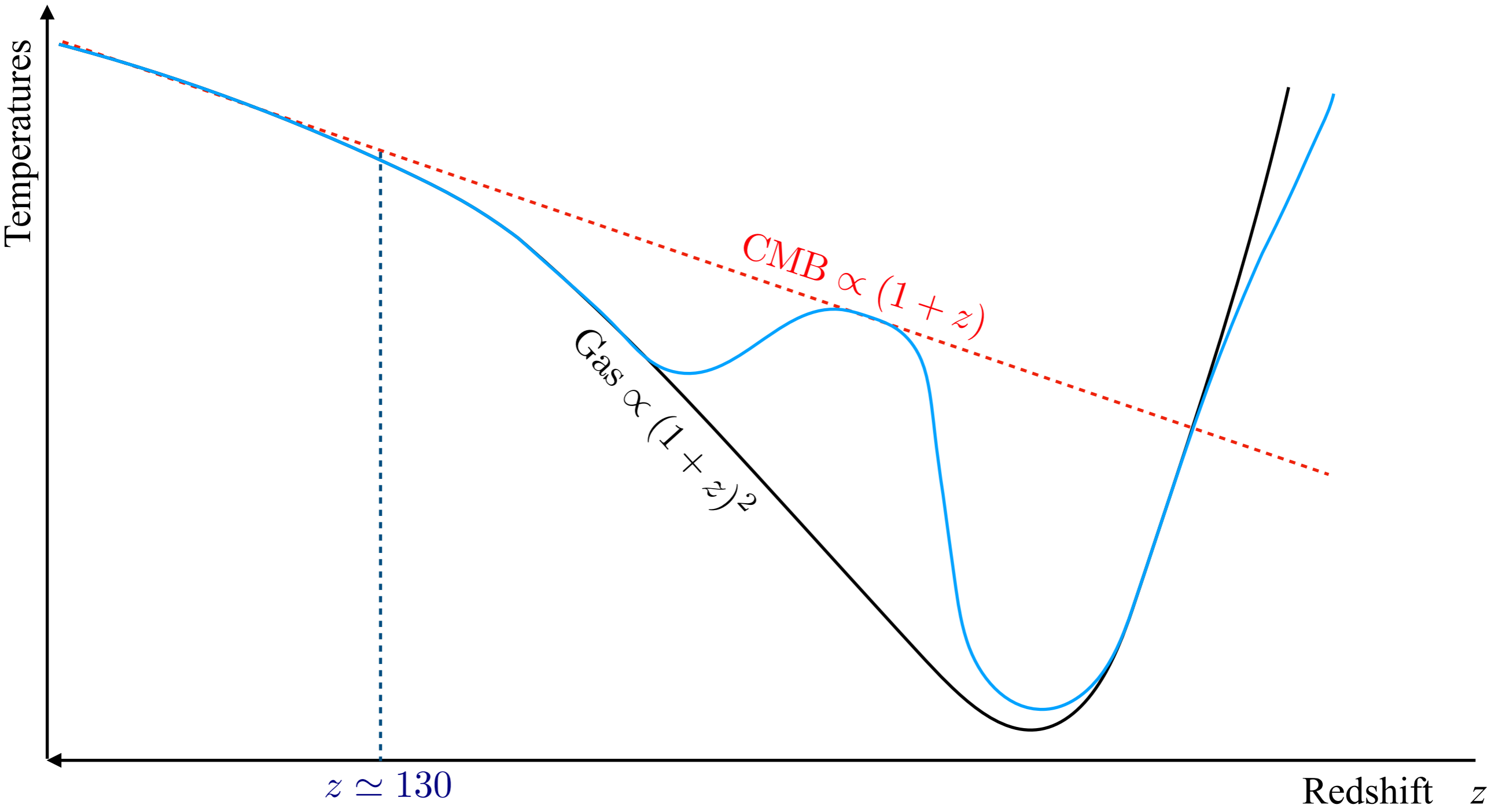
# A short history of the IGM

→ **Reionization**: the Universe becomes ionized again, no neutral atomic hydrogen anymore



# A short history of $T_S$

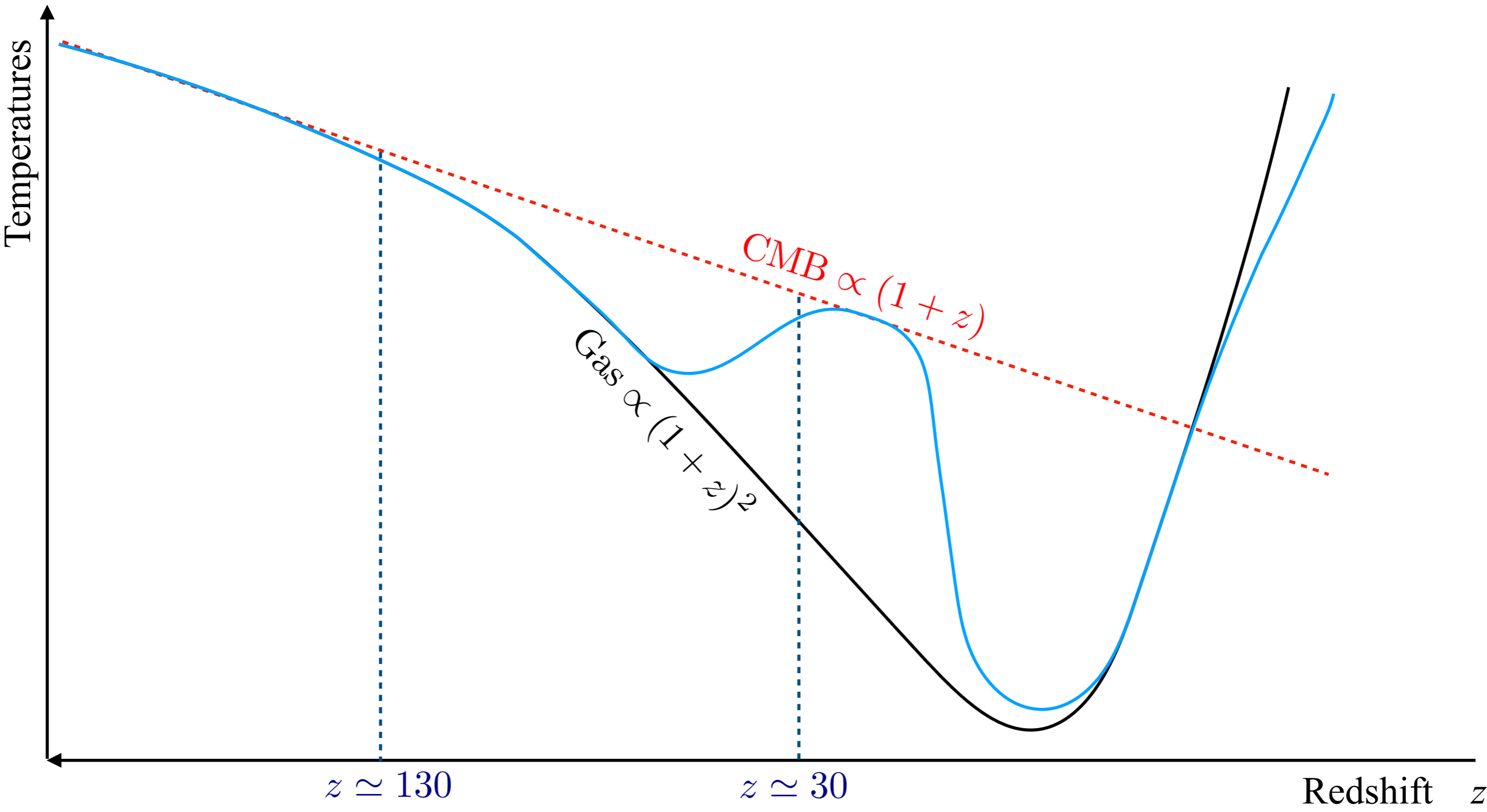
→ Nothing happens until IGM thermally decouple, temperatures are all the same, zero signal





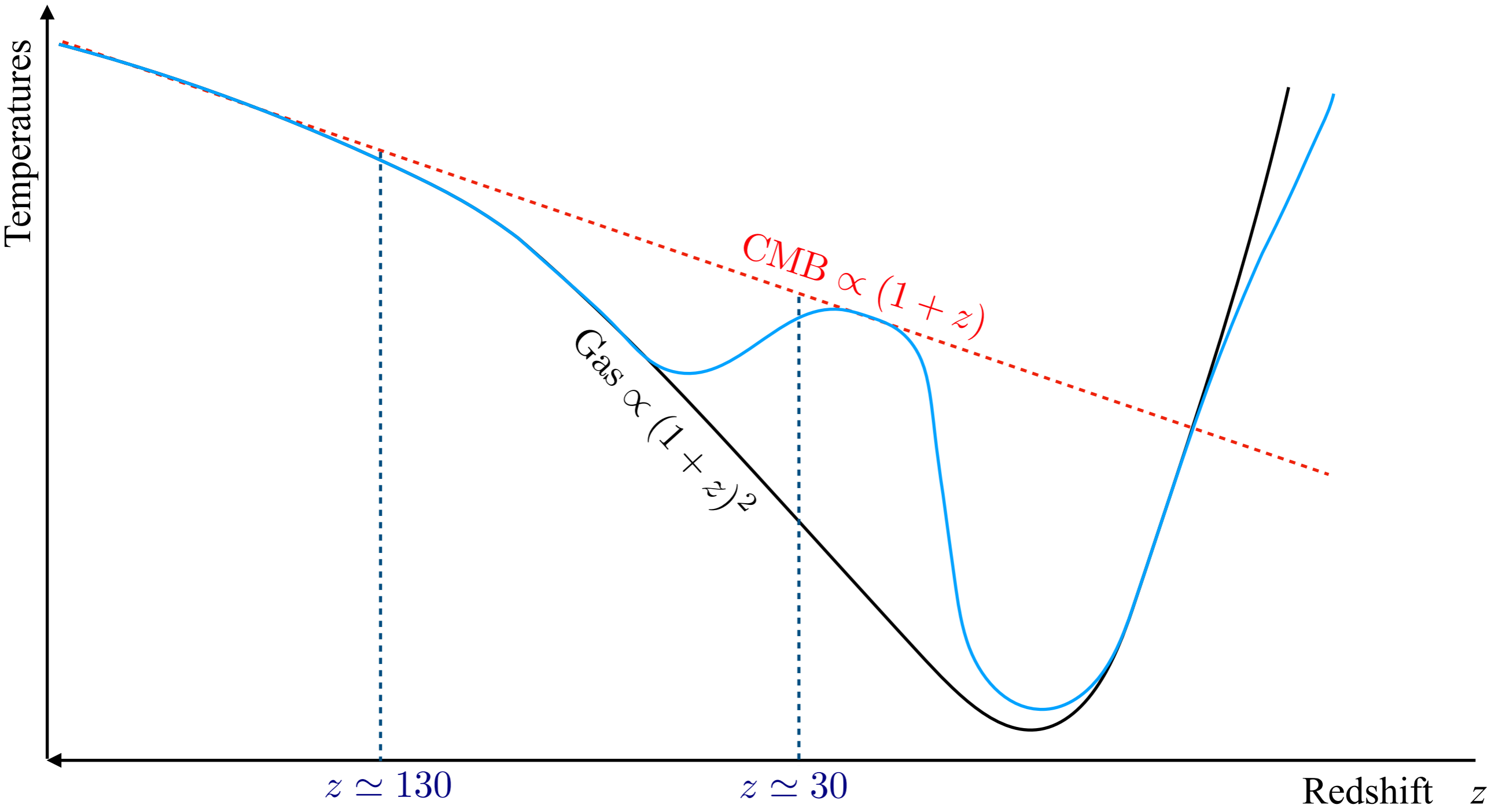
# A short history of $T_s$

➔ After  $z \sim 200$  until  $z \sim 30$ , collisions keep since the IGM is colder, I have a signal *in absorption*



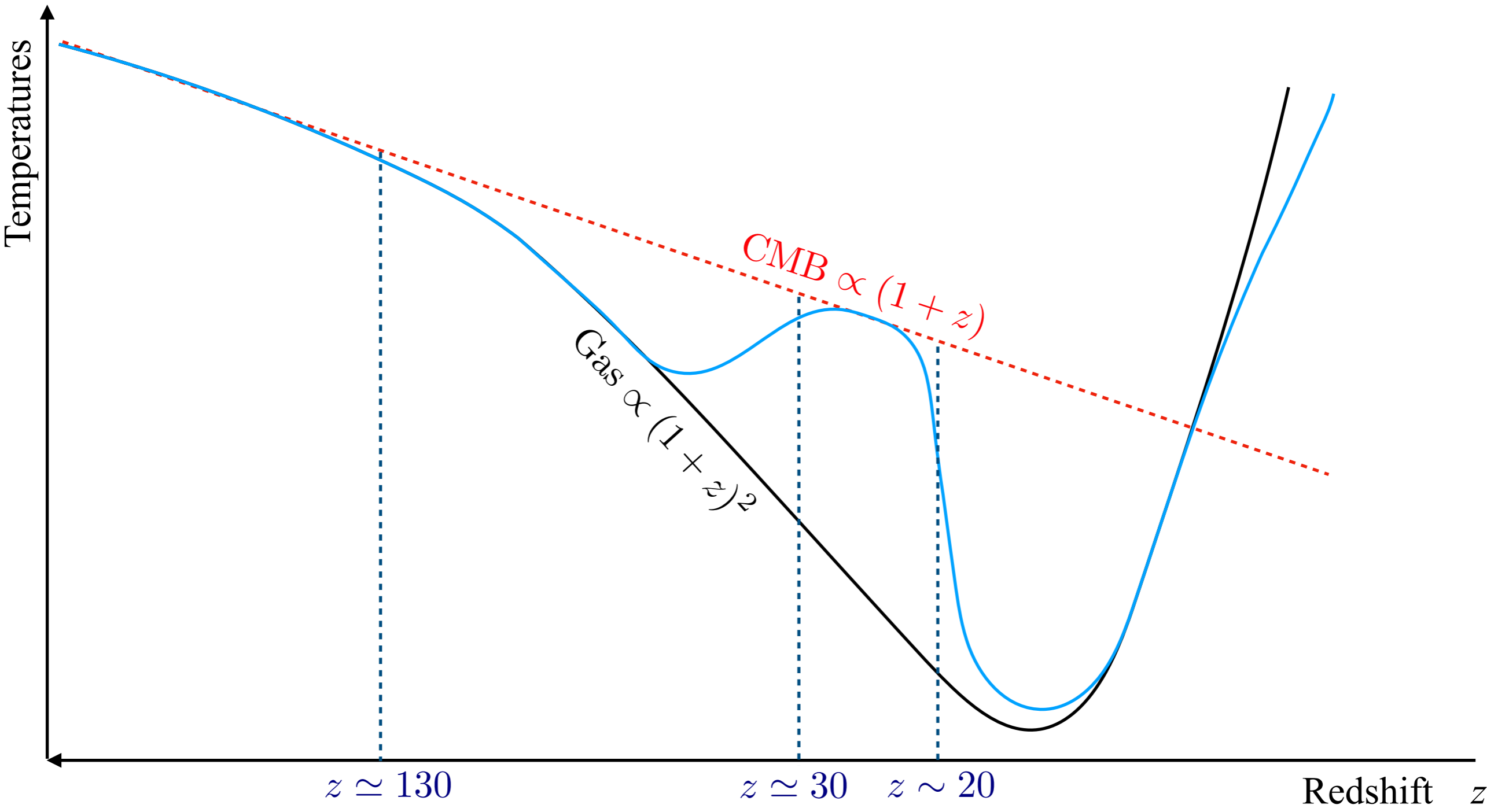
# A short history of $T_s$

➔ After, no collisions, no other radiation:  
and I have zero signal



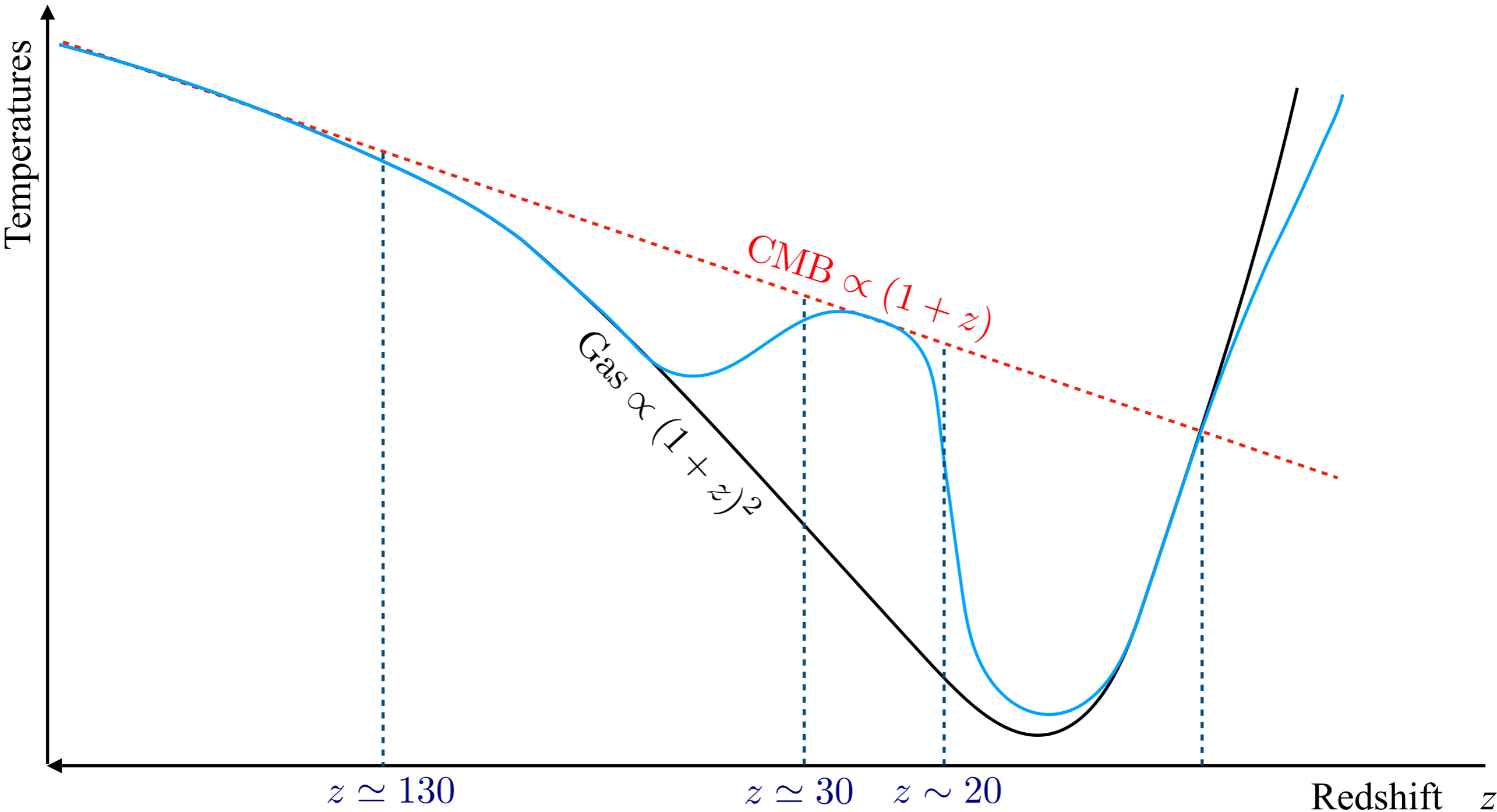
# A short history of $T_s$

➔ And then? **At some point, Ly- $\alpha$  photons recouple,** so I start decreasing and I get absorption

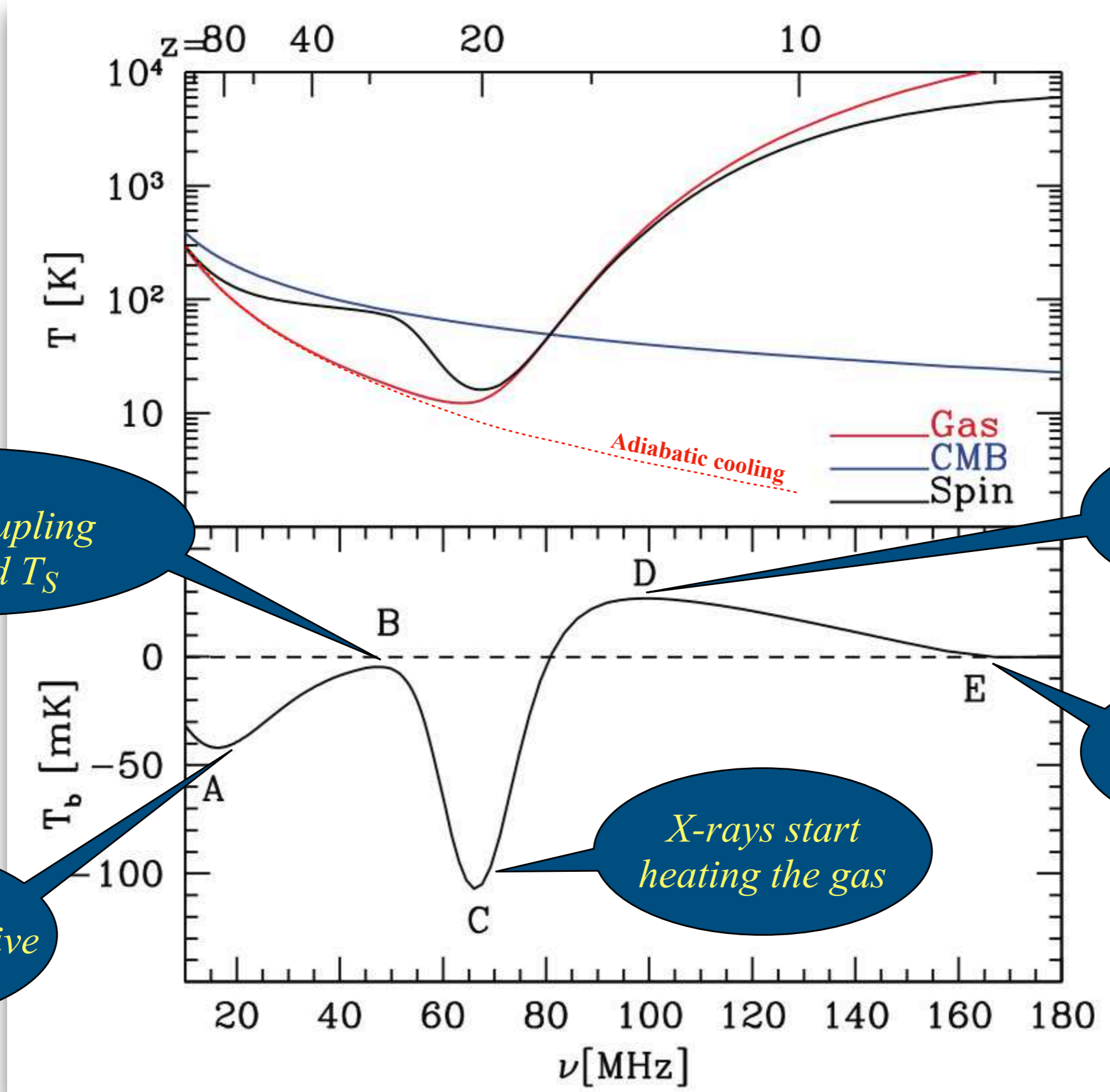


# A short history of $T_S$

→ Finally, as goes up, I increase and get an emission until 21-cm signal dies after full reionization



# 21-cm signal history



*Lya* start recoupling  $T_{gas}$  and  $T_S$

*From absorption to emission*

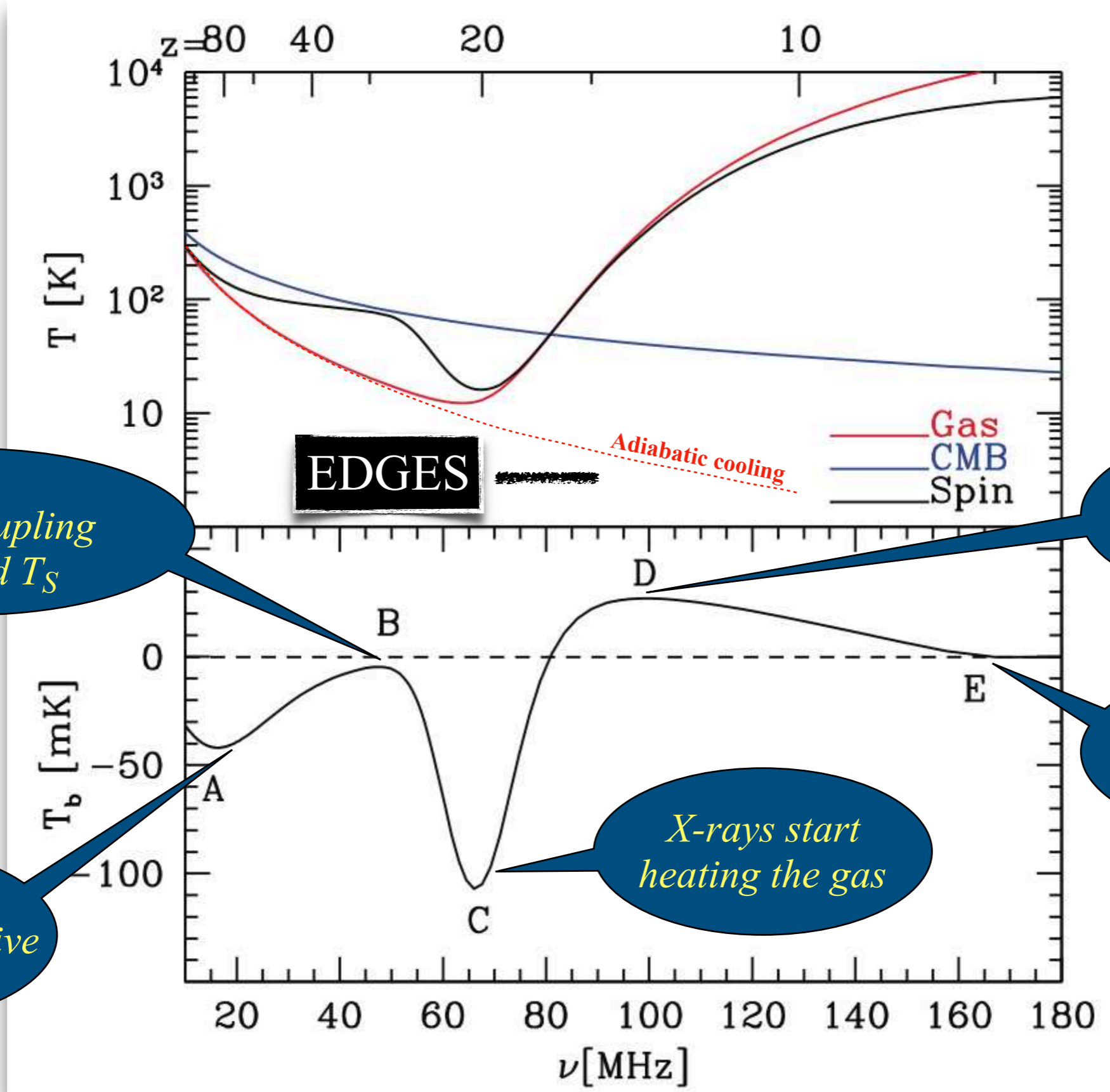
*Collisions become ineffective*

*Reionization kills the signal*

*X-rays start heating the gas*

Taylor et al. 2012  
(1206.6733)

# 21-cm signal history



*Lya* start recoupling  $T_{gas}$  and  $T_S$

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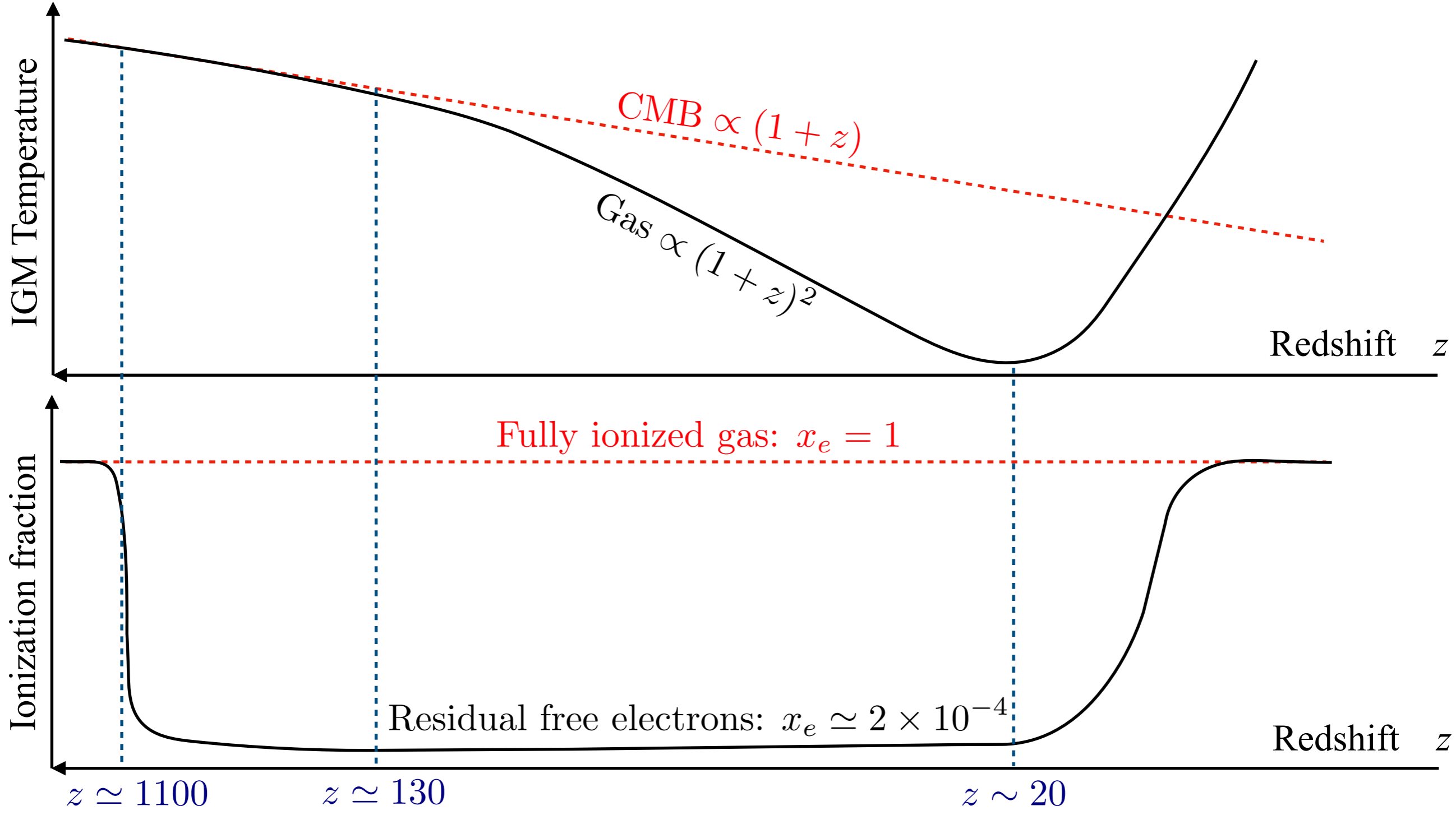
# III PART

## *Constraints on DM annihilations*

# Where does DM enter?

DM can (and will if thermal) annihilate into SM.

Will heat the IGM in 2 ways:

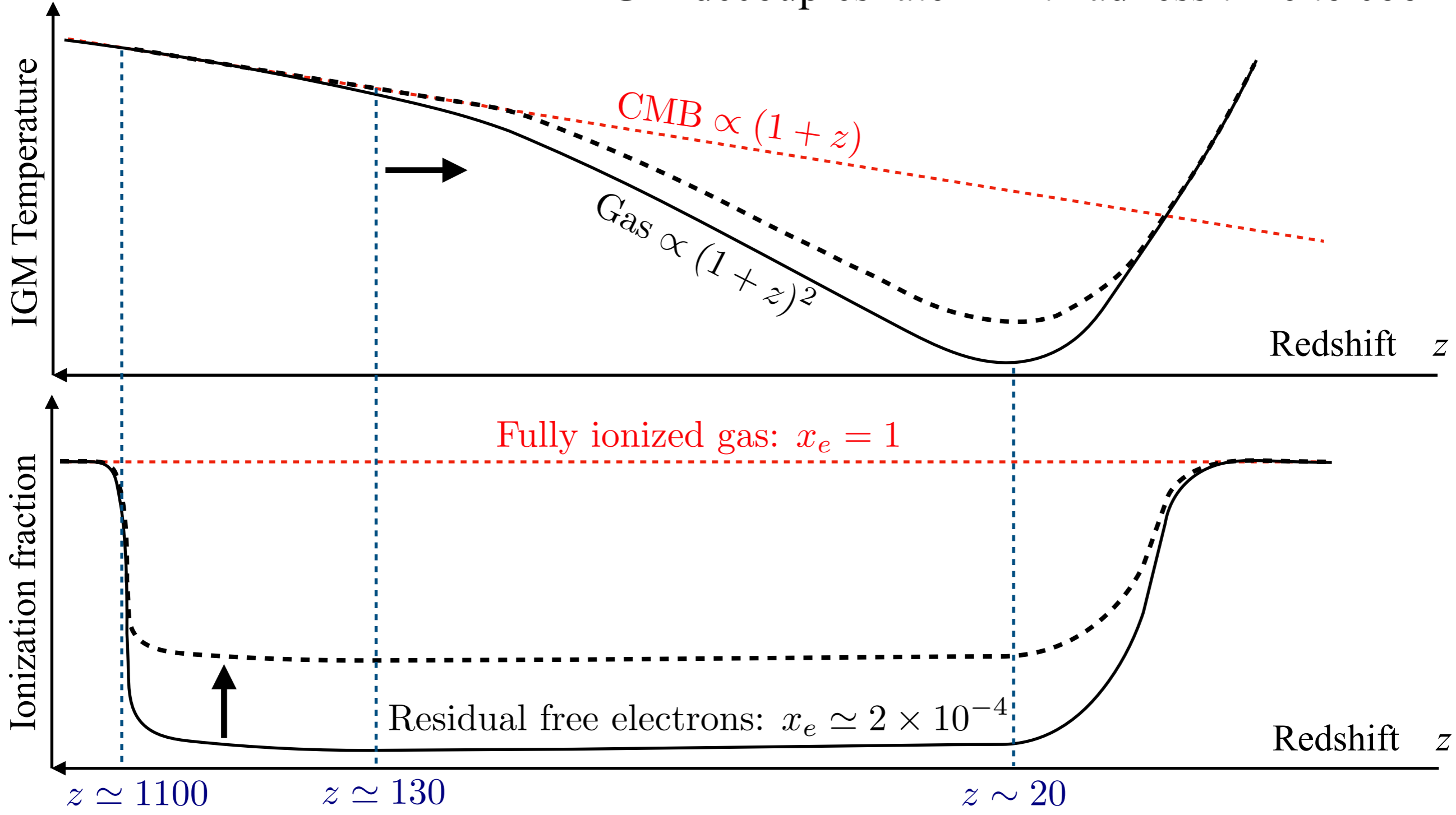




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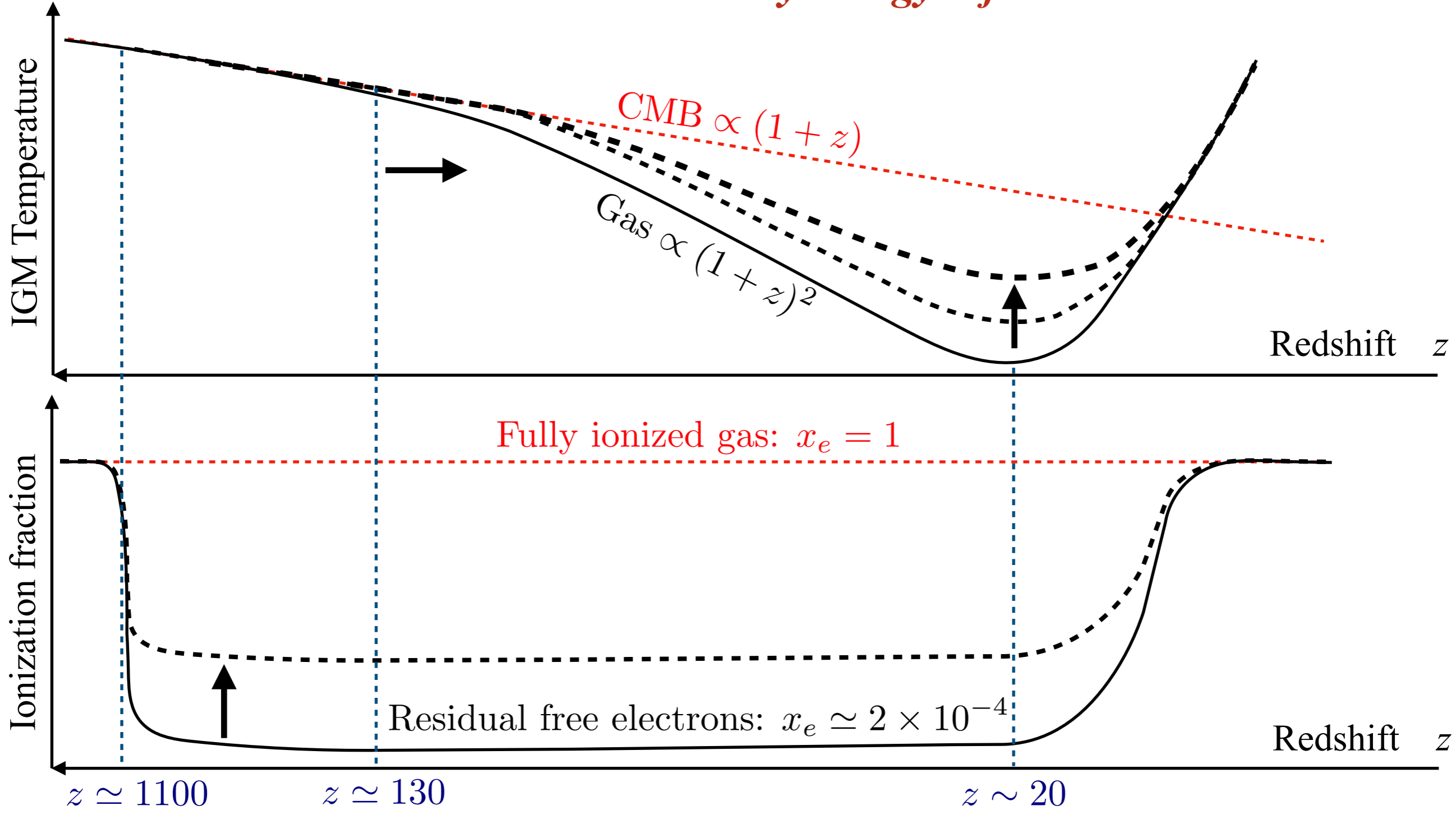
**Will heat the IGM** in 2 ways: → Annihilations *increase ionization fraction*  
IGM decouples later ⇒ it had less time to cool



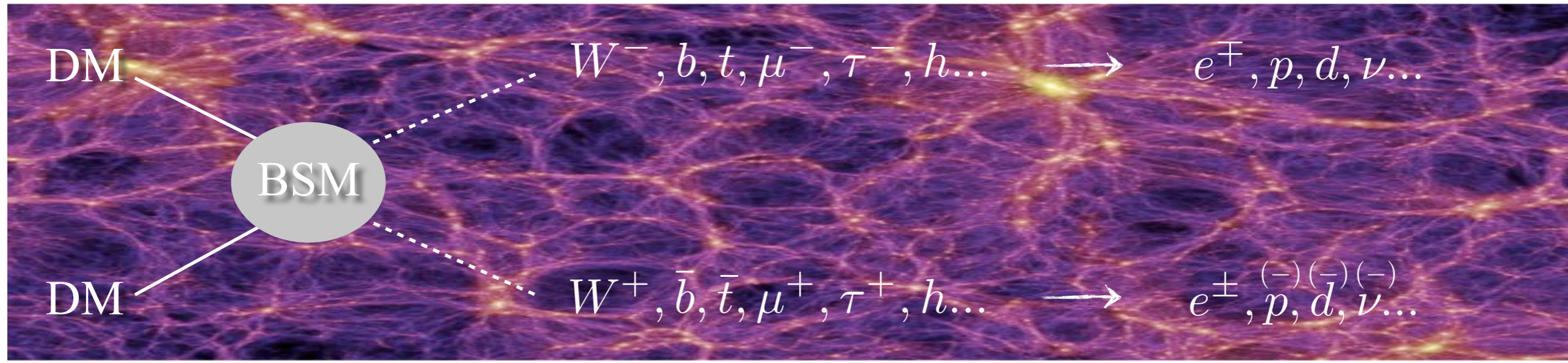
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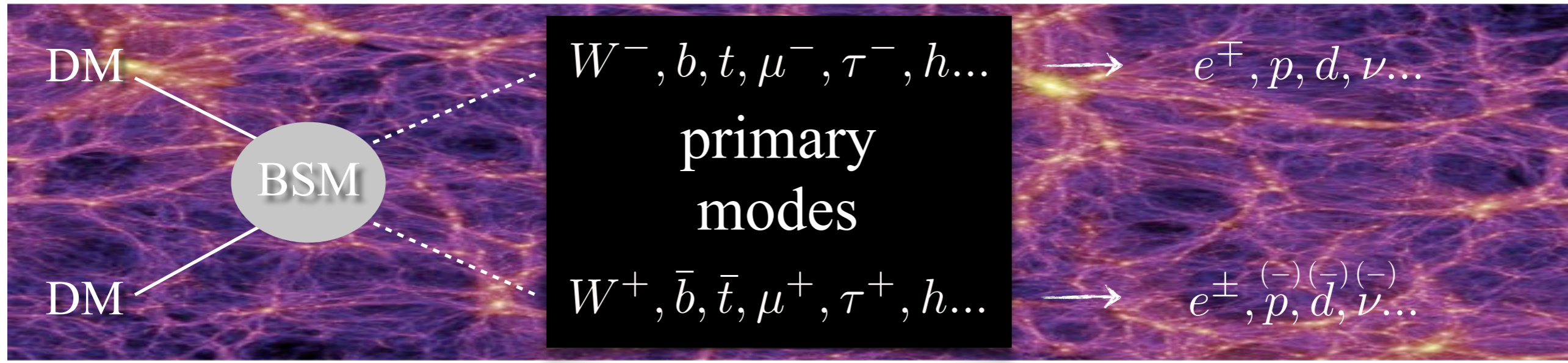
**Will heat the IGM** in 2 ways: → More importantly, annihilations directly heat the IGM *by energy injection*



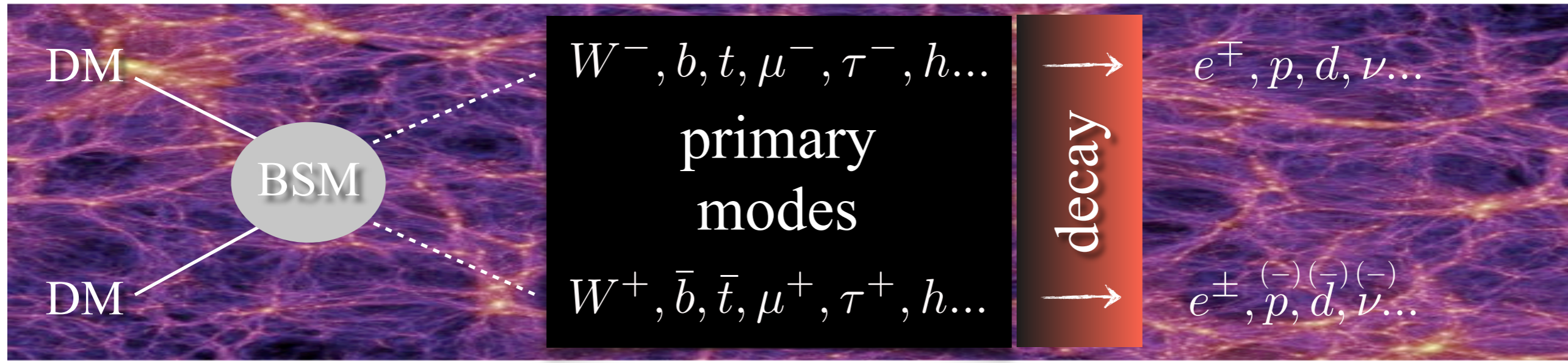
# DM Annihilation: Basics



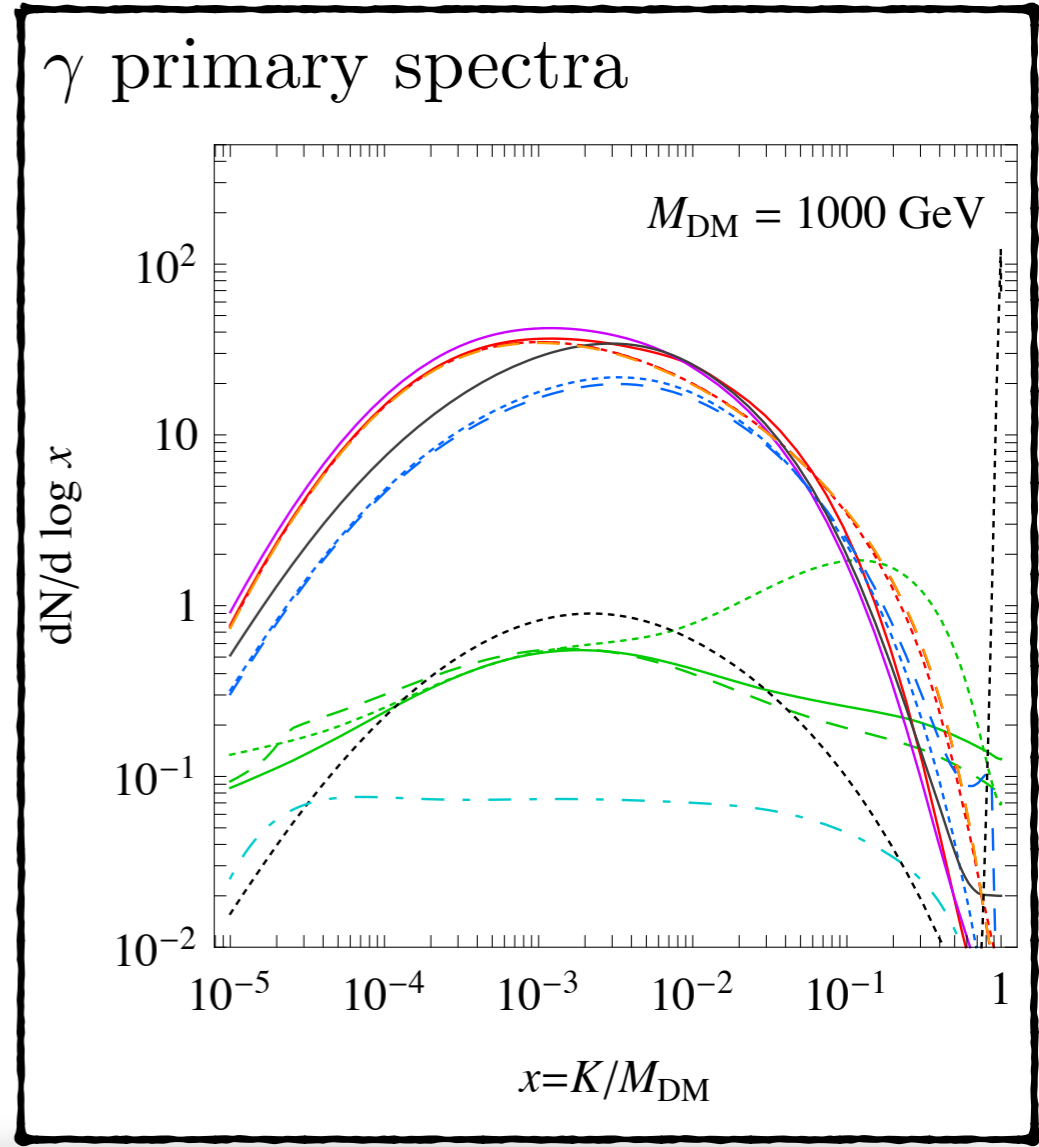
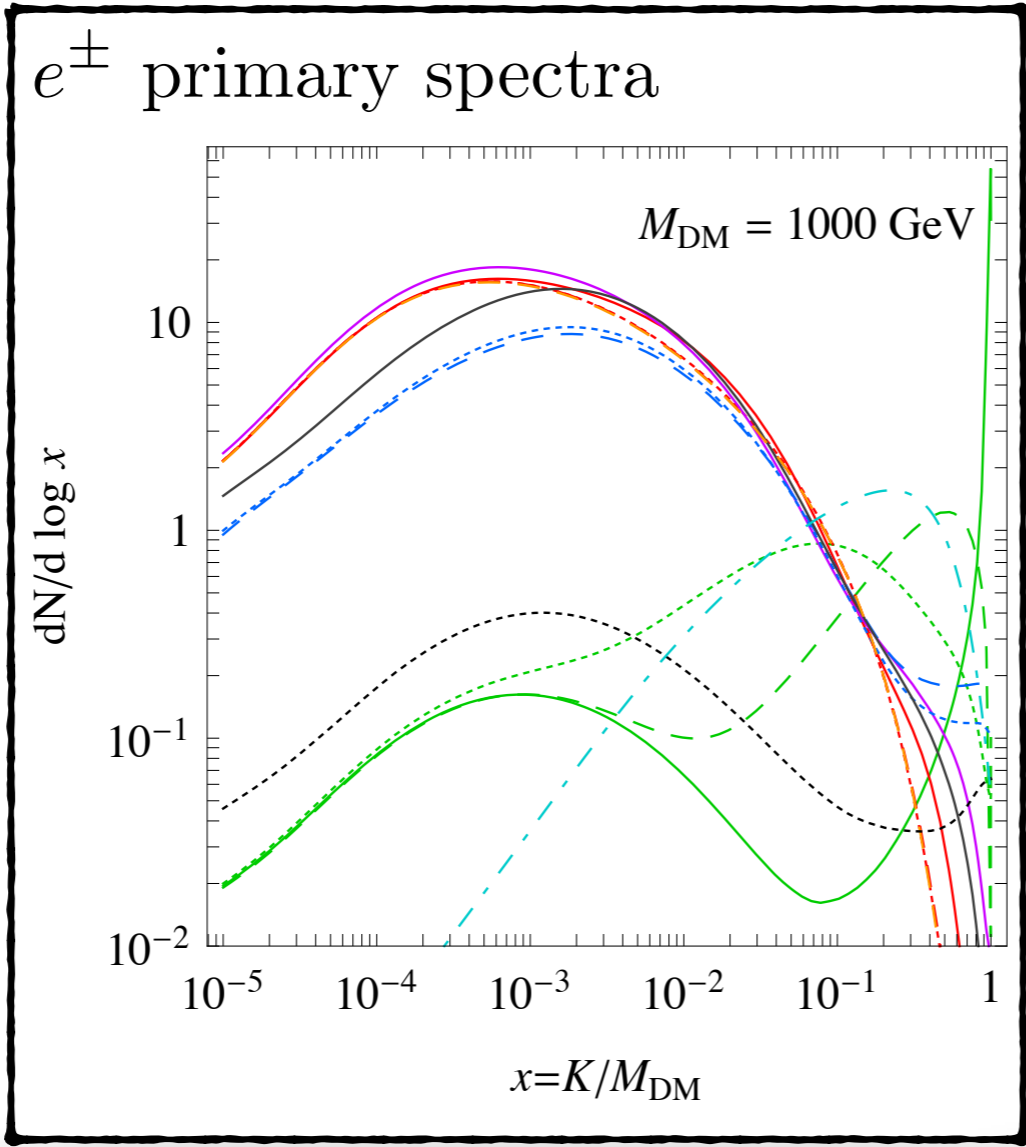
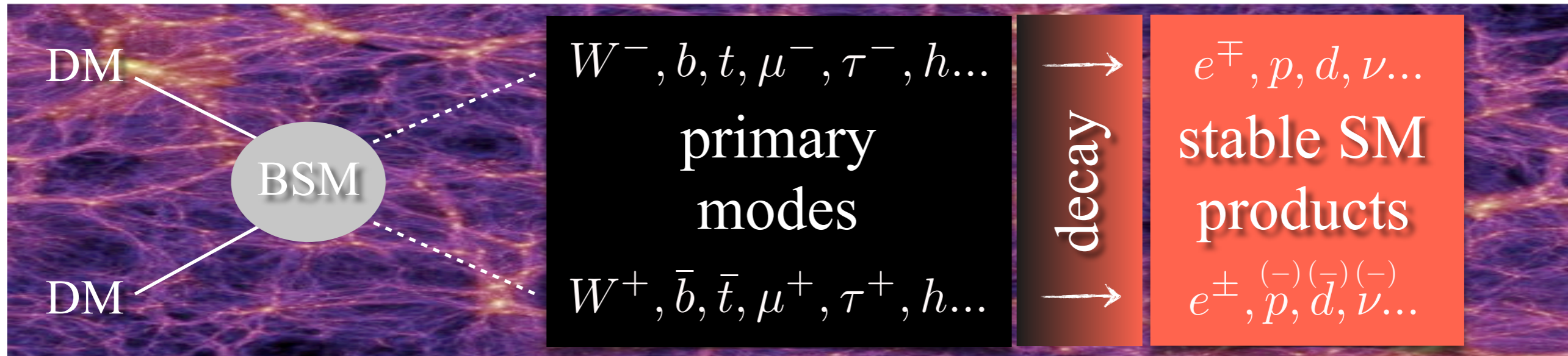
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# Energy injection

**Total number of stable SM products** per ( $dV$ ,  $dE$  and  $dt$ ) at a given  $z$ :

$$\frac{d\mathcal{N}}{dV dE_f dt} = \langle \rho_{\text{DM}}^2 \rangle \frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle}{M_{\text{DM}}^2} \frac{dN}{dE_f}$$

**Total Energy injected** into the IGM per ( $dV$  and  $dt$ ) at a given  $z$ :

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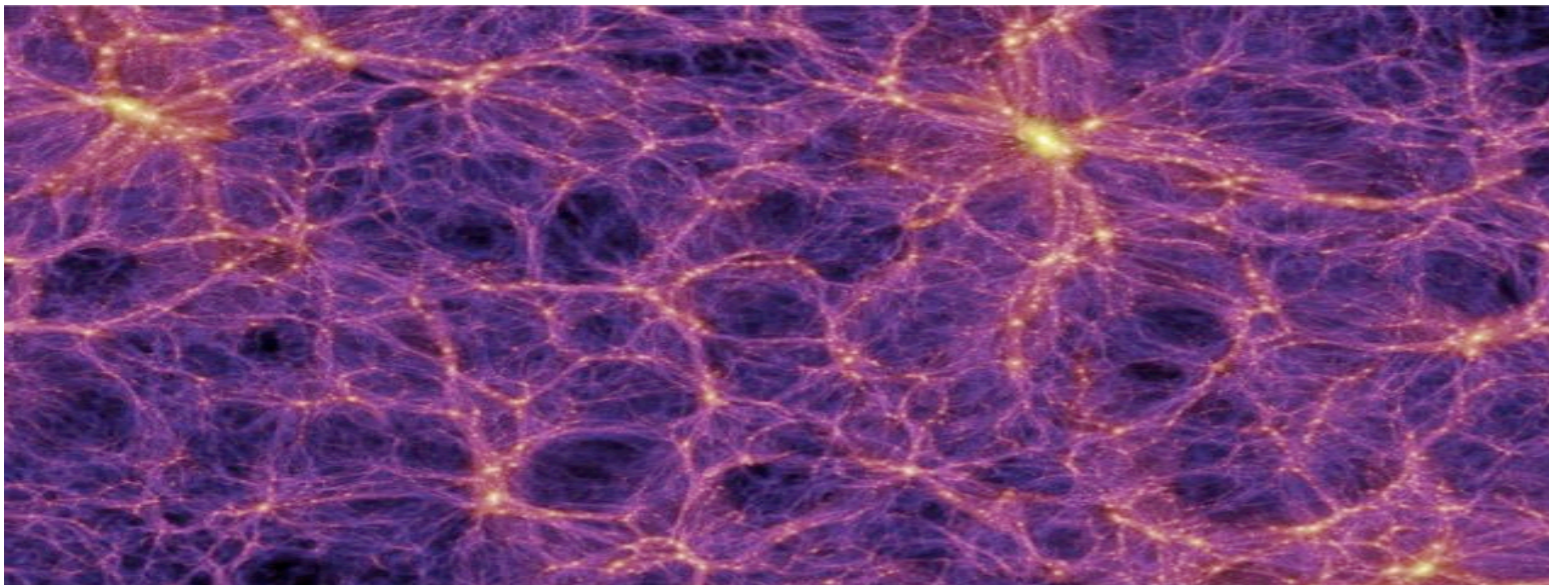
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**Boosted Annihilation** due to structure formation:

$$\langle \rho_{\text{DM}}^2 \rangle \equiv \langle \rho_{\text{DM}} \rangle^2 B(z) = \rho_c^2 \Omega_{\text{DM}}^2 (1+z)^6 B(z)$$





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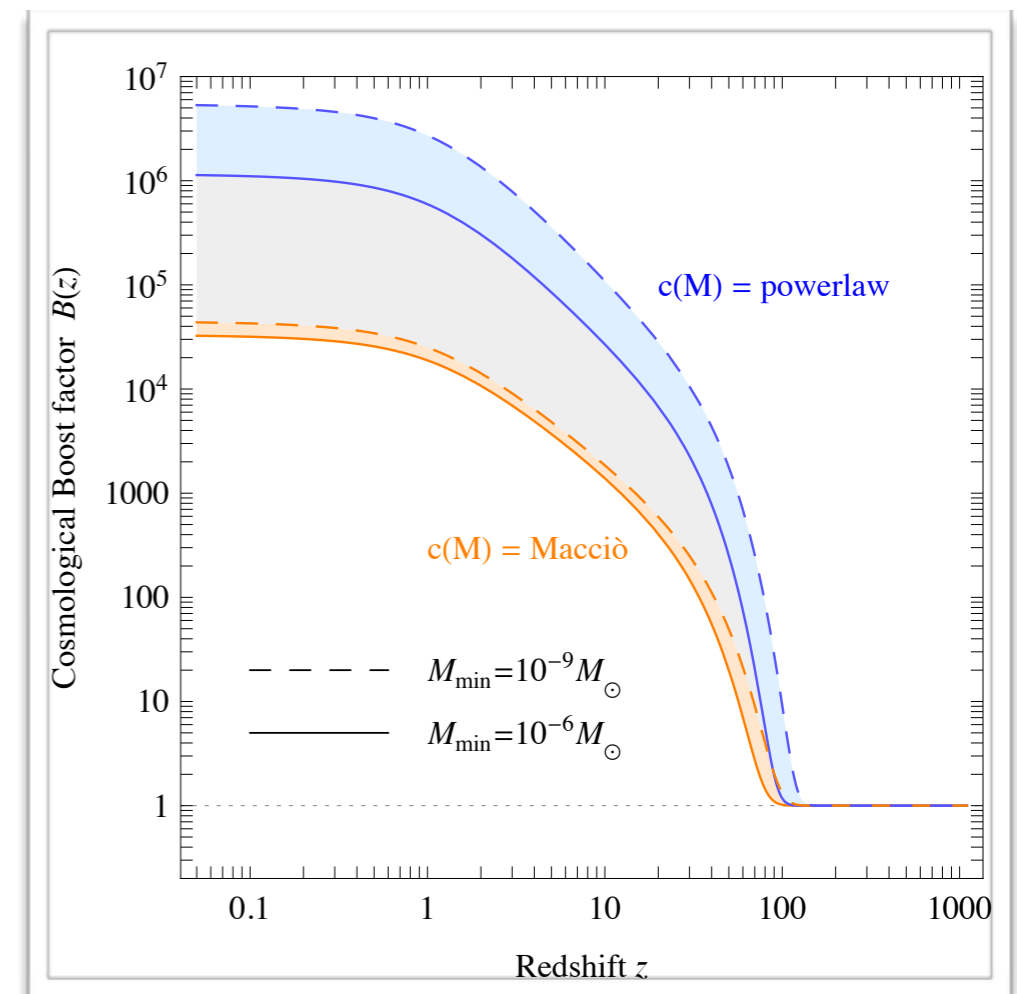
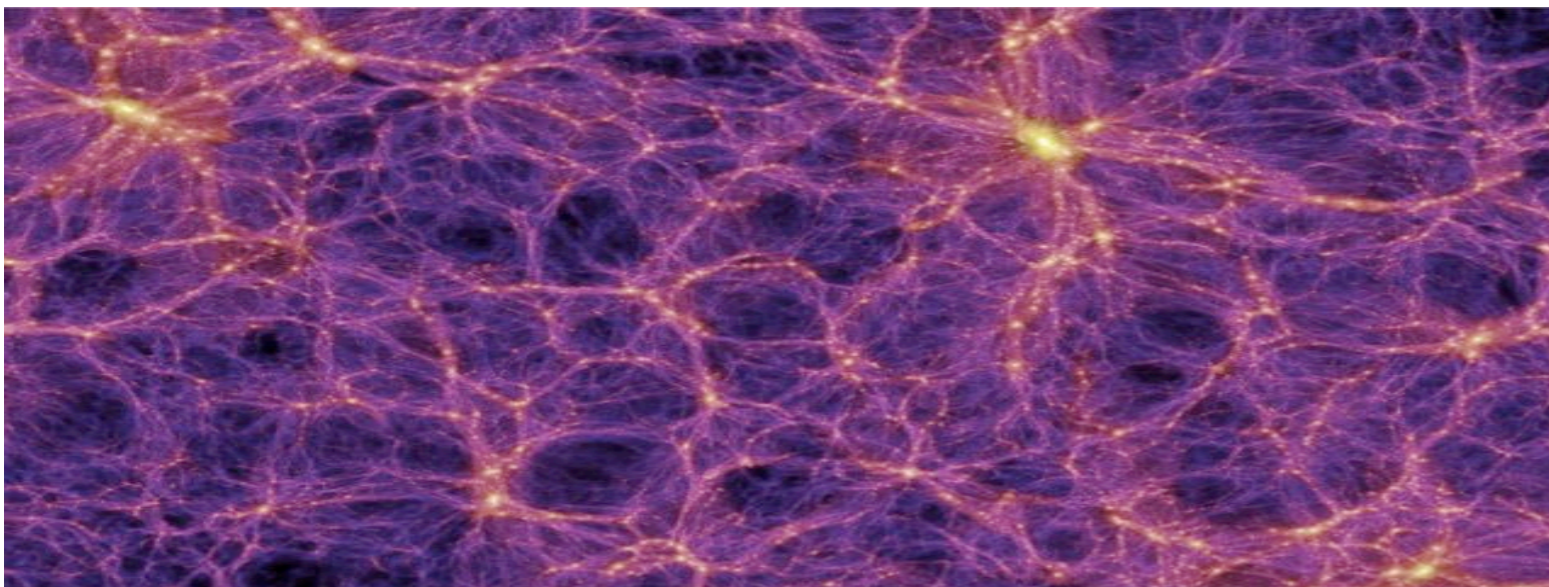
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# Energy deposition

Energy deposited into the IGM in *3 main channels*:

$$\left. \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{dep}} \equiv \left. \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{inj}} f_c(z) \begin{cases} \rightarrow \text{Ionize } H_{\text{I}} \\ \rightarrow \text{Excite } H_{\text{I}} \\ \rightarrow \text{Heat the IGM} \end{cases}$$

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**INSTANTANEOUS DEPOSITION:** only valid at high redshift

$$f_{\text{ion}}^{z \gtrsim 100} = f_{\text{exc}}^{z \gtrsim 100} = \frac{f_{\text{eff}}}{3} (1 - x_e), \quad f_{\text{heat}}^{z \gtrsim 100} = \frac{f_{\text{eff}}}{3} (1 + 2x_e)$$

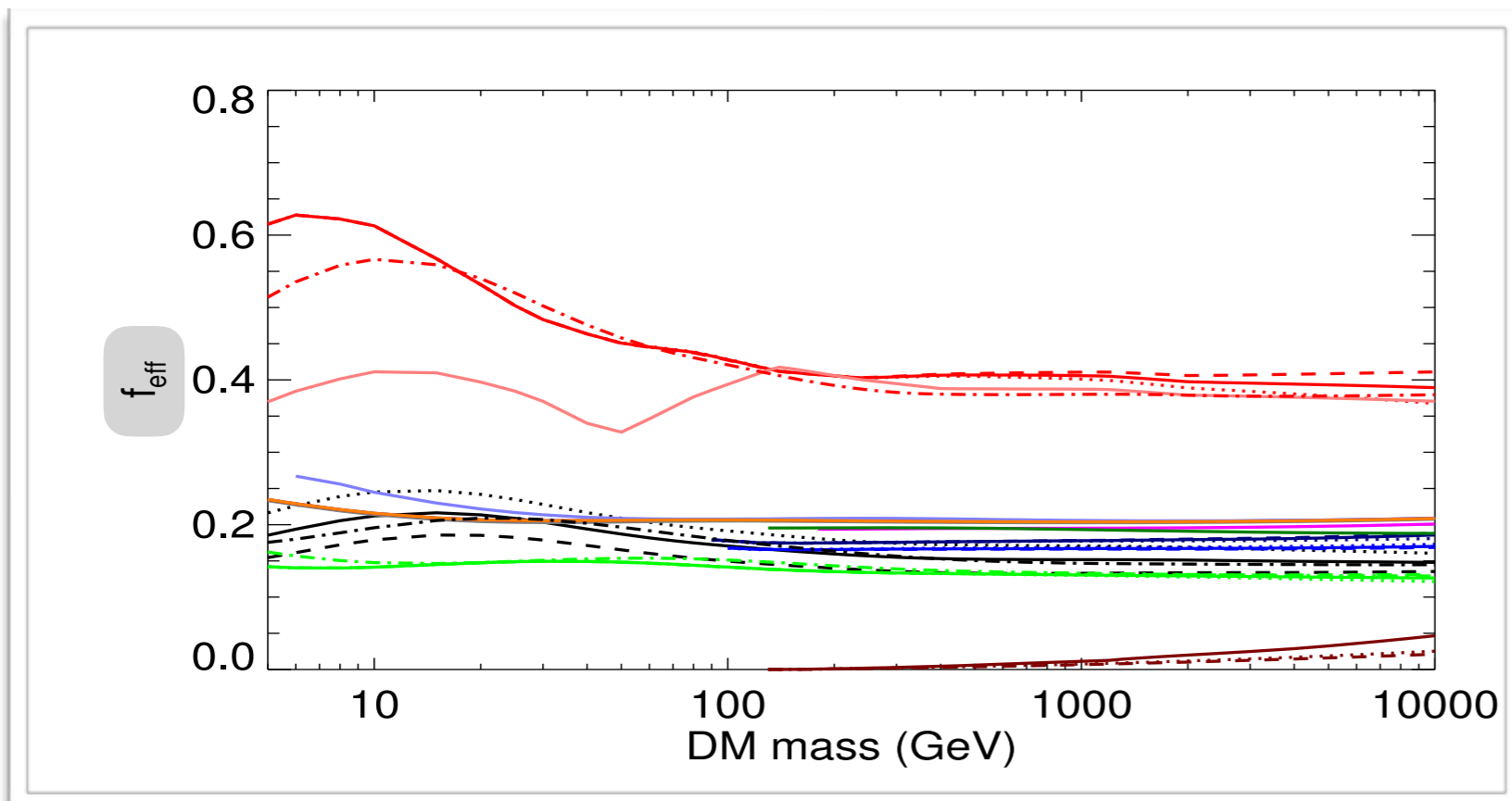
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Annihilation channels:	
.....	$W_L^+ W_L^-$
.....	$W_L^+ W_T^-$
.....	$W_T^+ W_T^-$
.....	$Z_L^+ Z_L^-$
.....	$Z_L^+ Z_T^-$
.....	$Z_T^+ Z_T^-$
.....	$Z^0 Z^0$
.....	$gg$
.....	$\gamma\gamma$
.....	$hh$
.....	$\nu_e \bar{\nu}_e$
.....	$\nu_\mu \bar{\nu}_\mu$
.....	$\nu_\tau \bar{\nu}_\tau$
.....	$VV \rightarrow 4e$
.....	$VV \rightarrow 4\mu$
.....	$VV \rightarrow 4\tau$
.....	$e_L^+ e_L^-$
.....	$e_R^+ e_R^-$
.....	$e^+ e^-$
.....	$\mu_L^+ \mu_L^-$
.....	$\mu_R^+ \mu_R^-$
.....	$\mu^+ \mu^-$
.....	$\tau_L^+ \tau_L^-$
.....	$\tau_R^+ \tau_R^-$
.....	$\tau^+ \tau^-$
.....	$q\bar{q}$
.....	$c\bar{c}$
.....	$b\bar{b}$
.....	$t\bar{t}$

Slatyer  
1506.03811,  
1506.03812

# Energy deposition

Energy deposited into the IGM in *3 main channels*:

$$\left. \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{dep}} \equiv \left. \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{inj}} f_c(z)$$

- Ionize  $H_I$
- Excite  $H_I$
- Heat the IGM

**DELAYED DEPOSITION:** important at low redshift (EDGES from 20 to 15)

$$f_c(z) = \frac{\int dz' \frac{H(z)(1+z)^3}{H(z')(1+z')^4} \int dE E \mathcal{T}_c(E, z, z') \frac{d\mathcal{N}}{dV dE dt}(E, z')}{\text{Hubble Rate} \times \left. \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{inj}} \times \text{Injection redshift}}$$

Deposition redshift

Hubble Rate

$\left. \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dV dt} \right|_{\text{inj}}$


Injection redshift

Accounts for EM shower

Slatyer  
1506.03811,  
1506.03812

Evolution of the **free electrons abundance**:


$$\frac{dx_e}{dz} = \frac{\mathcal{P}_2}{(1+z)H(z)} \left[ \alpha_H(T_{\text{gas}})n_H x_e^2 - \beta_H(T_{\text{gas}}) e^{-E_\alpha/T_{\text{gas}}} (1 - x_e) \right]$$



Recombination of  $H_I$                       Ionization of  $H_I$

Evolution of the **gas Temperature**:

$$\frac{dT_{\text{gas}}}{dz} = \frac{1}{1+z} \{ 2T_{\text{gas}}(z) - \gamma_C [T_{\text{CMB}}(z) - T_{\text{gas}}(z)] \}$$



Adiabatic cooling term                      Compton heating term

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$$- \frac{1}{(1+z)H(z)} \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dV dt} \Big|_{\text{inj}} \frac{1}{n_H} \left( \frac{f_{\text{ion}}(z)}{E_0} + \frac{(1 - \mathcal{P}_2)f_{\text{exc}}(z)}{E_\alpha} \right),$$

Energy deposited: **IONIZATION** and **EXCITATION**

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$$- \frac{1}{(1+z)H(z)} \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dV dt} \Big|_{\text{inj}} \frac{1}{n_H} \frac{2f_{\text{heat}}(z)}{3(1 + x_e + f_{\text{He}})}.$$

Energy deposited: **HEATING**

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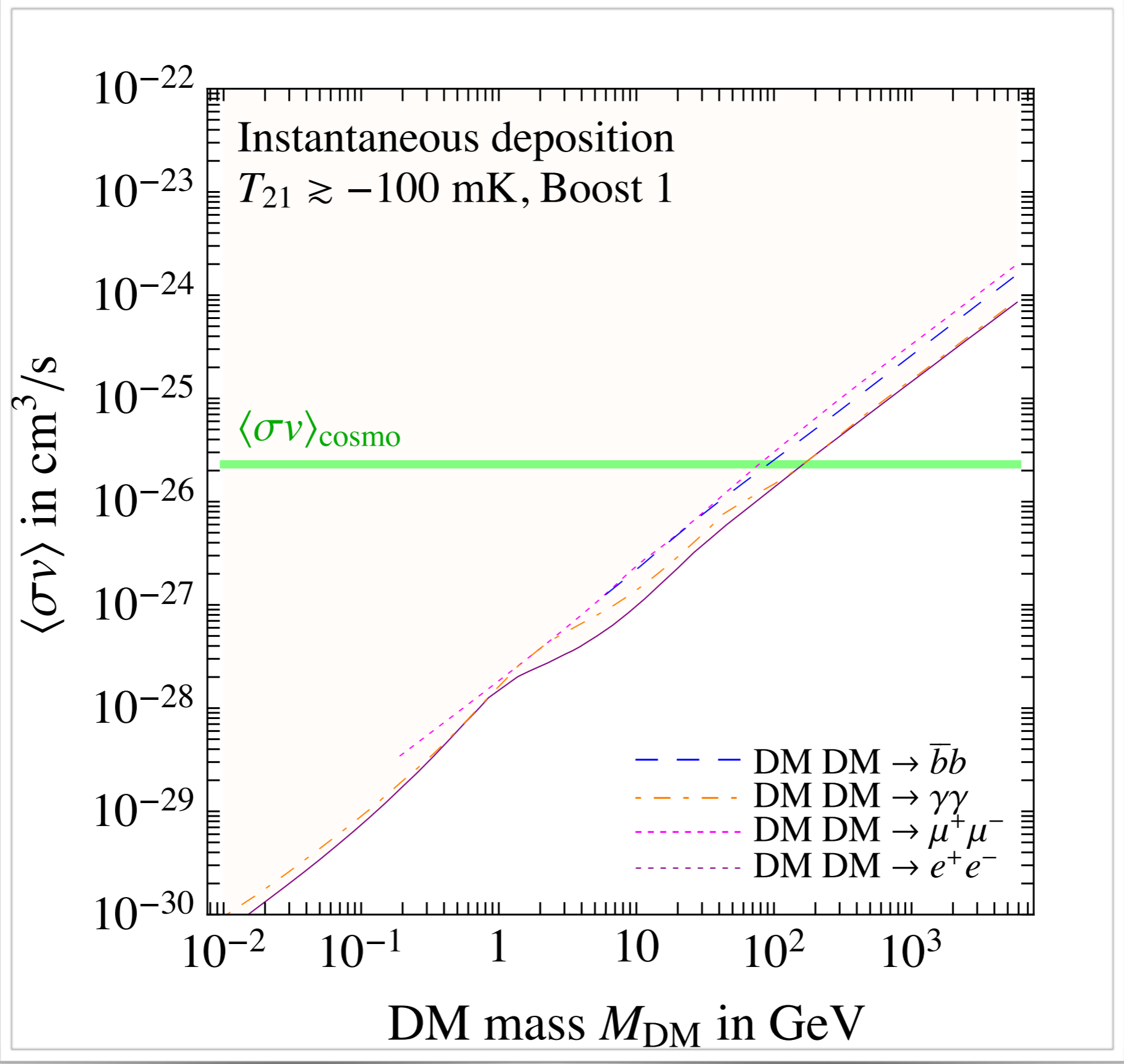
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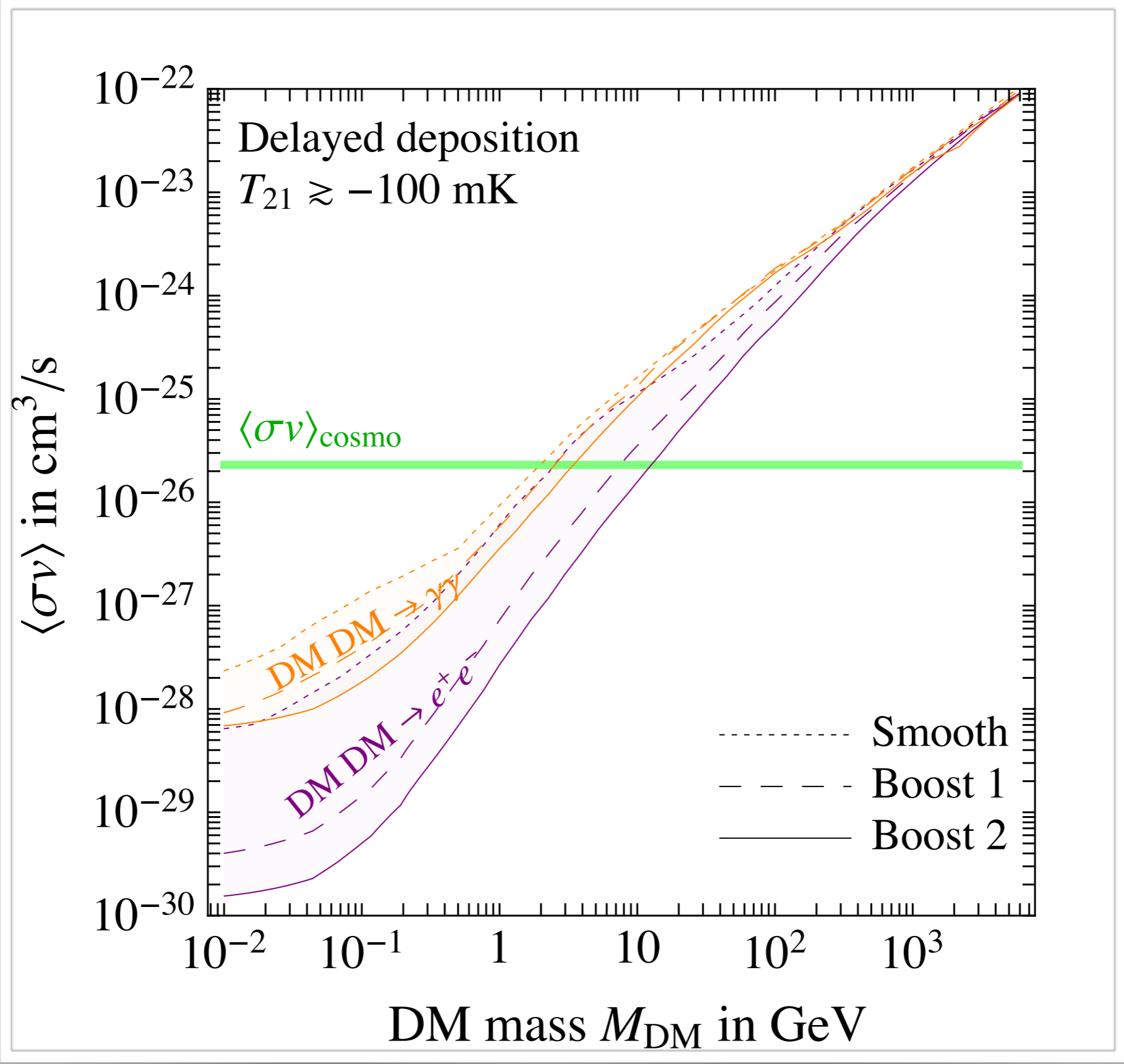
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- We require that DM annihilations do not erase the 21-cm signal above **-100 mK !!**

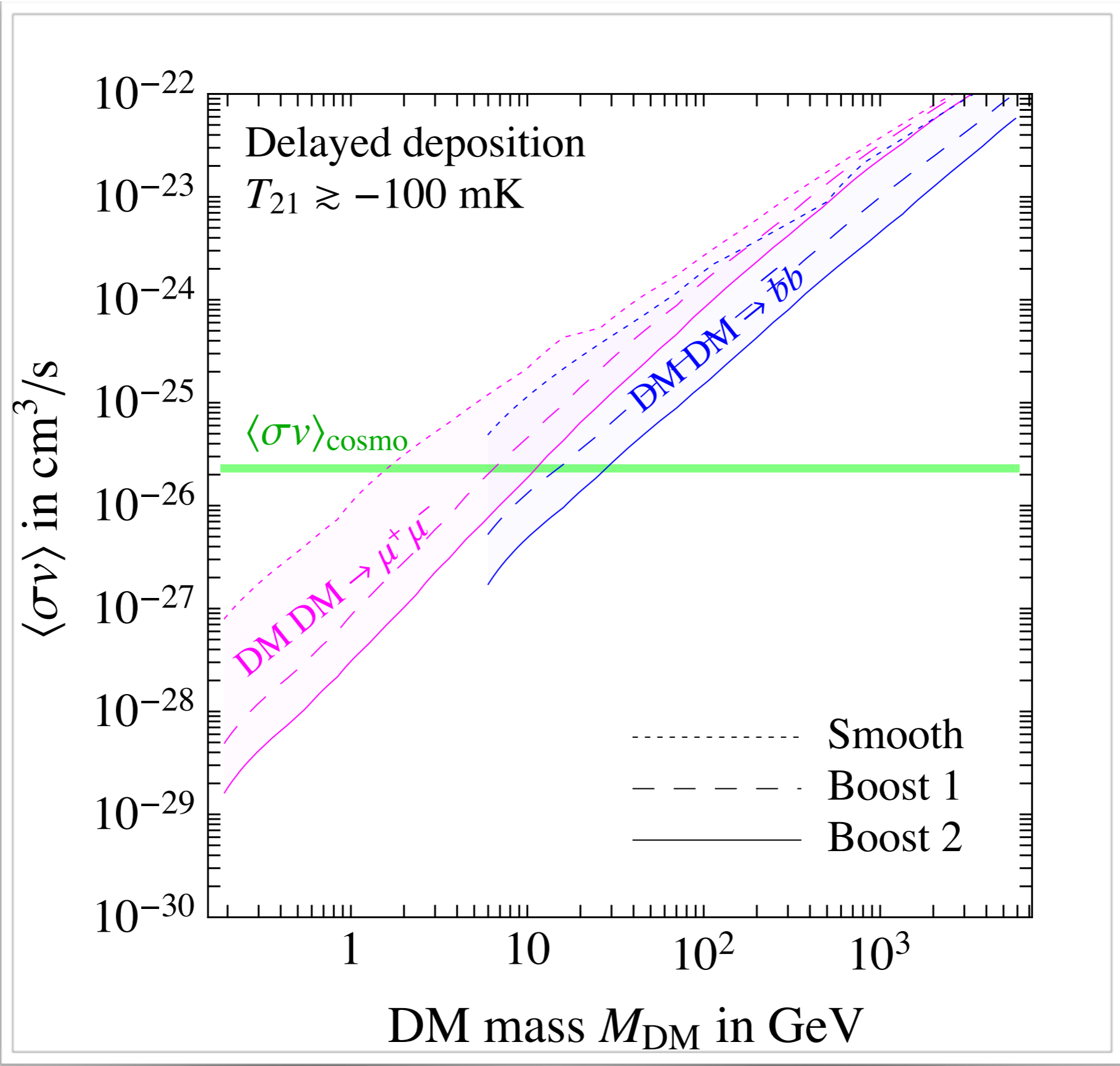
# Instantaneous deposition



# Some limits: $\gamma\gamma$ & $e^+e^-$

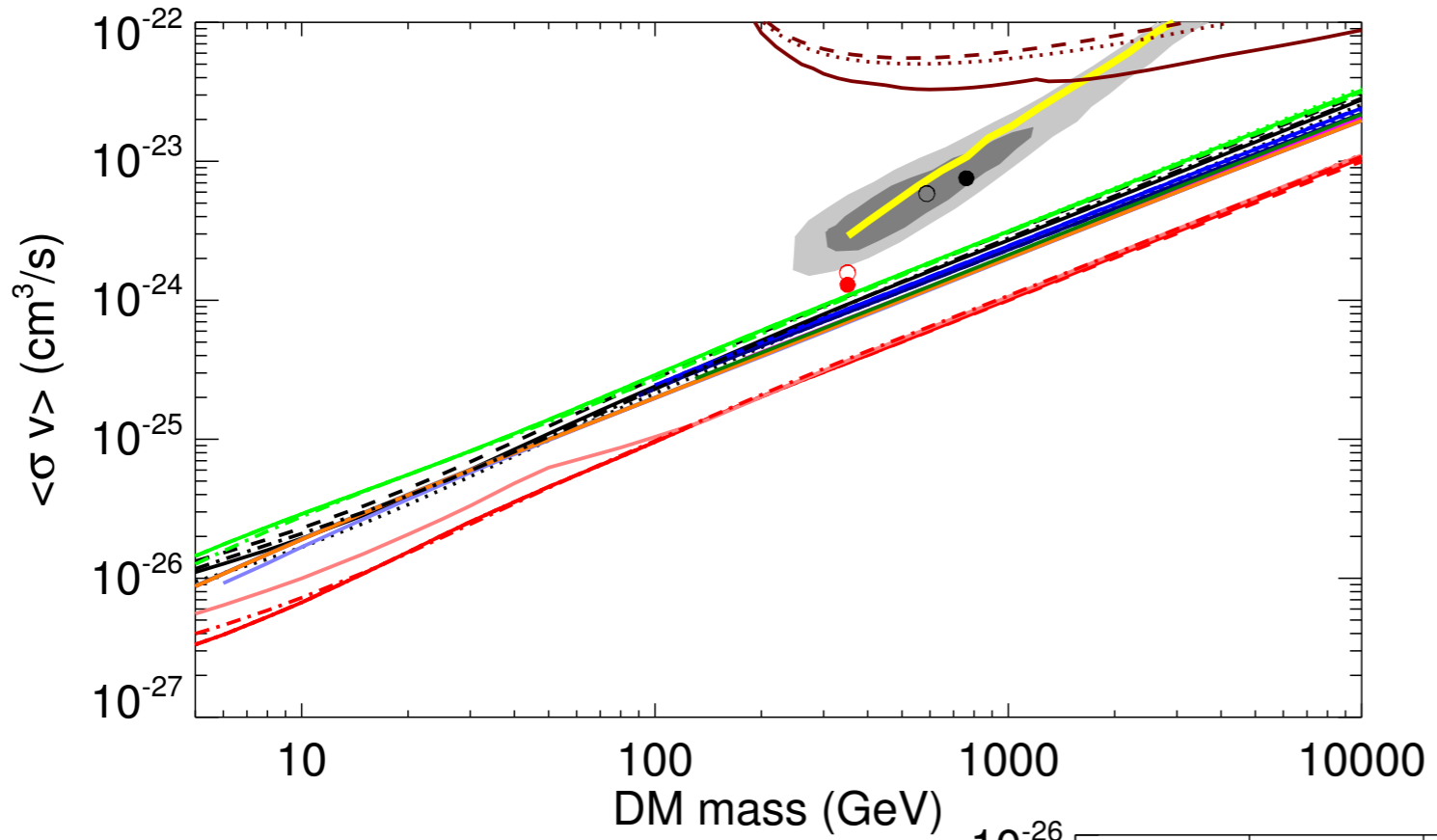


# Some limits: $b\bar{b}$ & $\mu^+\mu^-$





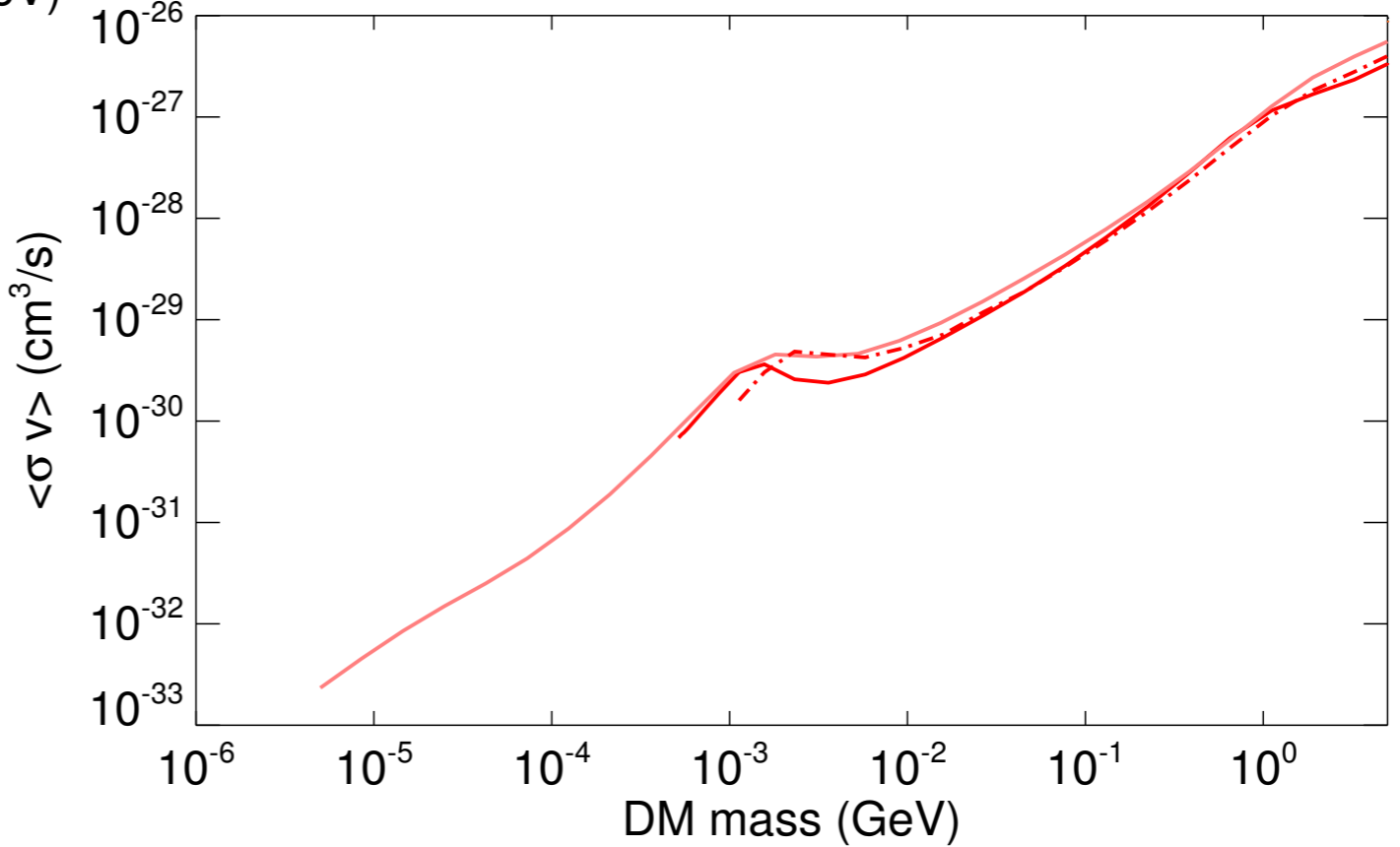
# Comparison: PLANCK



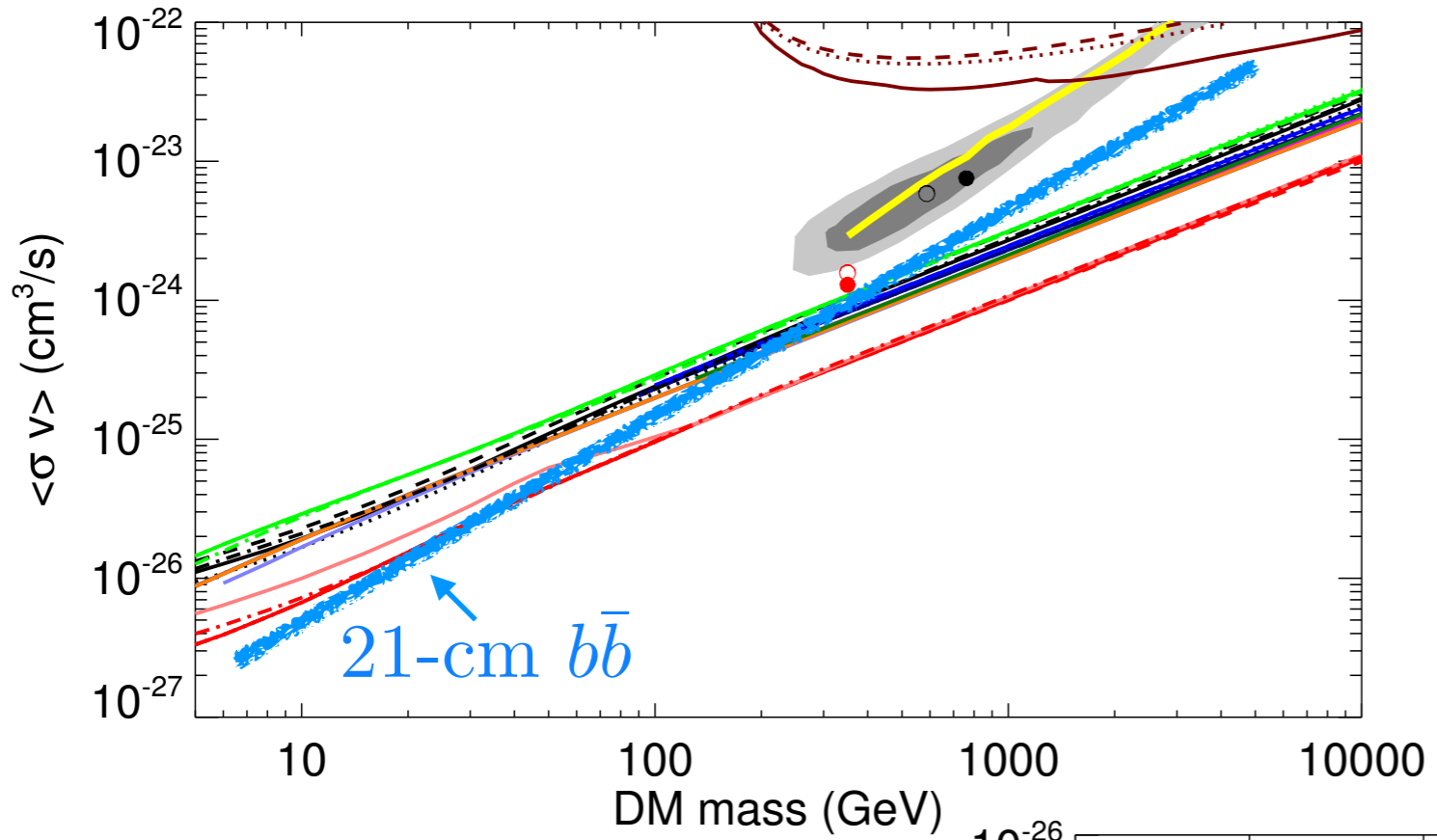
Annihilation channels:

$e_L^+ e_L^-$	$W_L^+ W_L^-$
$e_R^+ e_R^-$	$W_T^+ W_T^-$
$e^+ e^-$	$W^+ W^-$
$\mu_L^+ \mu_L^-$	$Z_L^+ Z_L^-$
$\mu_R^+ \mu_R^-$	$Z_T^+ Z_T^-$
$\mu^+ \mu^-$	$Z^0 Z^0$
$\tau_L^+ \tau_L^-$	$gg$
$\tau_R^+ \tau_R^-$	$\gamma \gamma$
$\tau^+ \tau^-$	$h h$
$q\bar{q}$	$\nu_e \bar{\nu}_e$
$c\bar{c}$	$\nu_\mu \bar{\nu}_\mu$
$b\bar{b}$	$\nu_\tau \bar{\nu}_\tau$
$t\bar{t}$	$VV \rightarrow 4e$
	$VV \rightarrow 4\mu$
	$VV \rightarrow 4\tau$

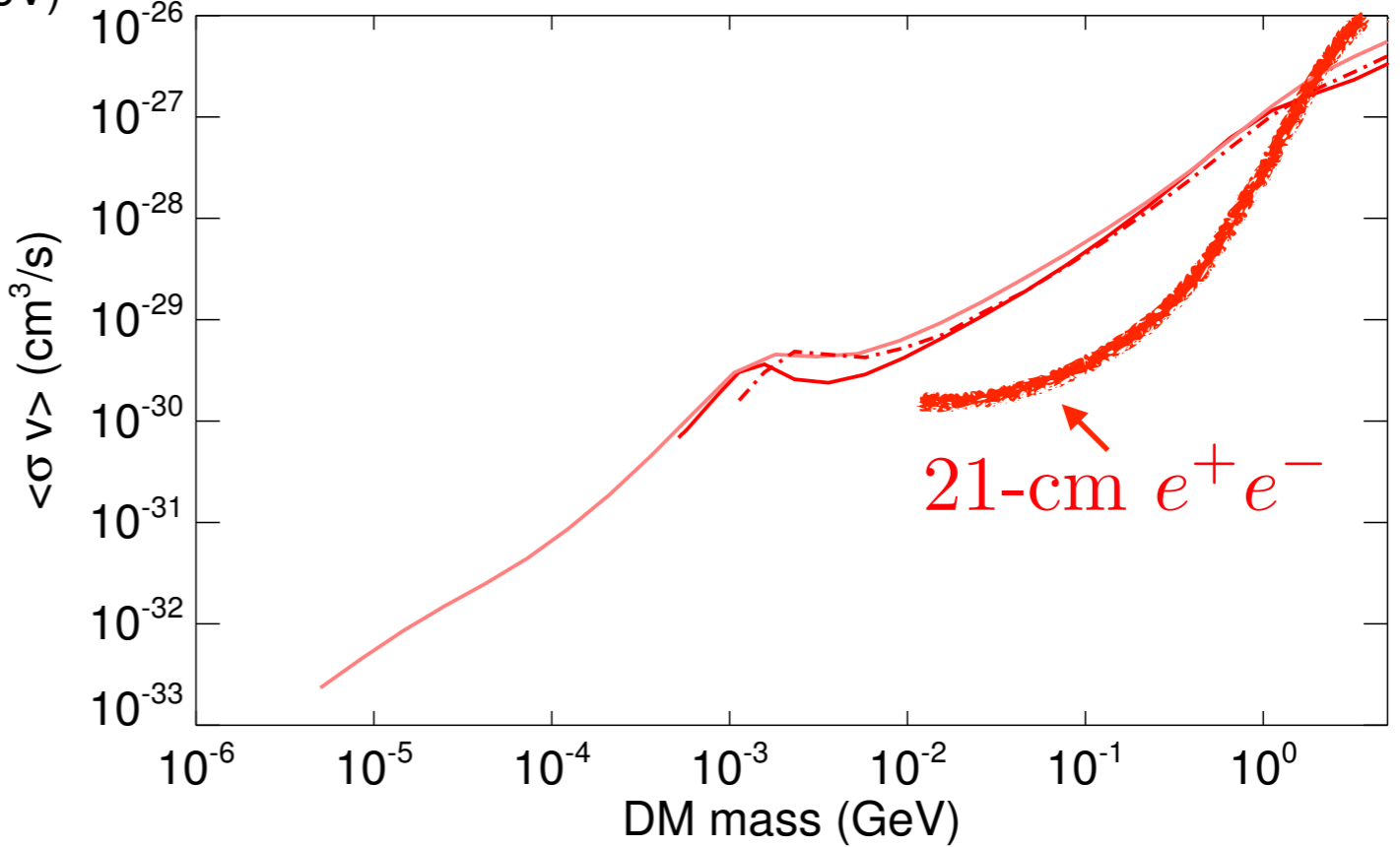
Slatyer 1506.03811



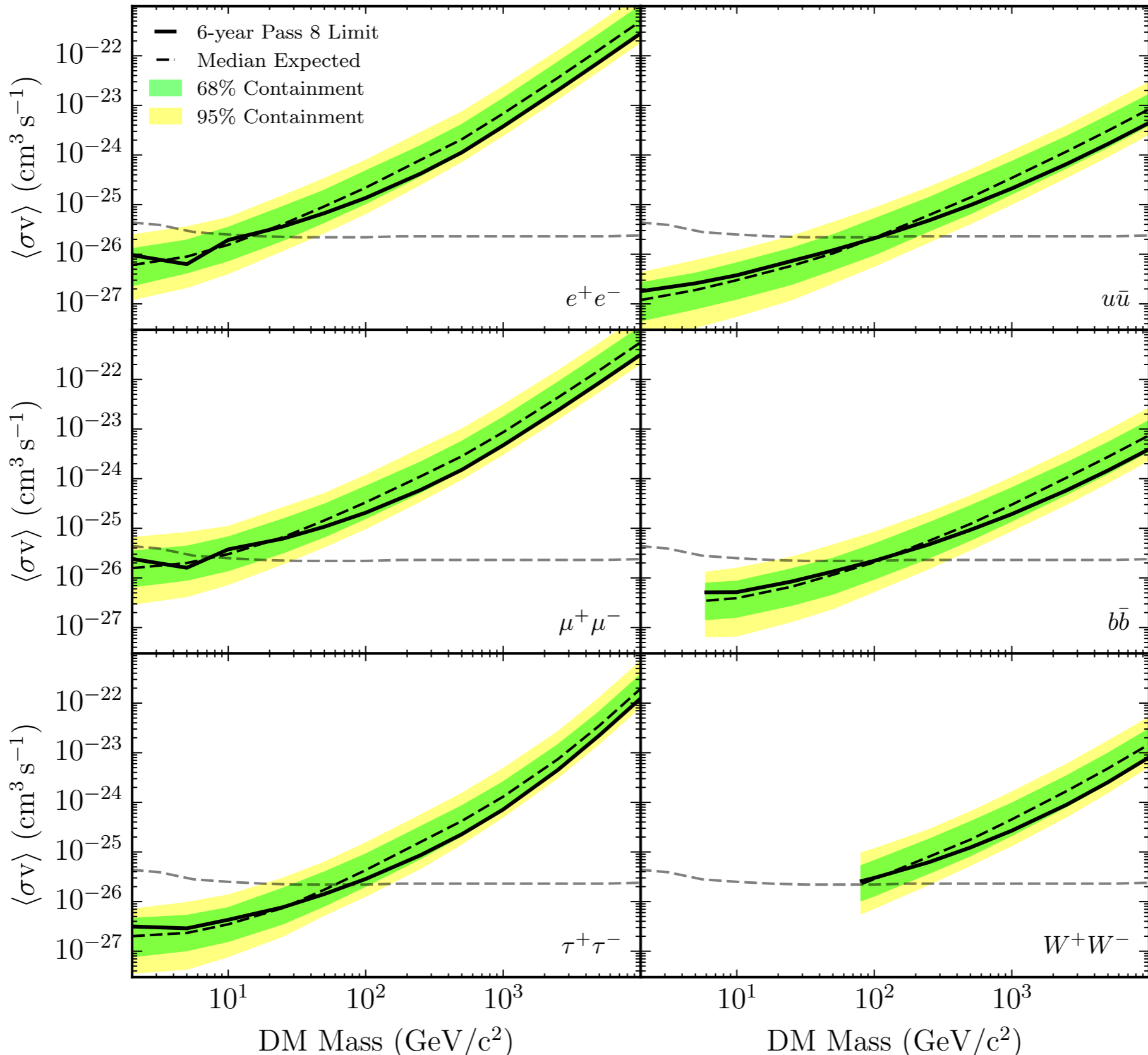
# Comparison: PLANCK



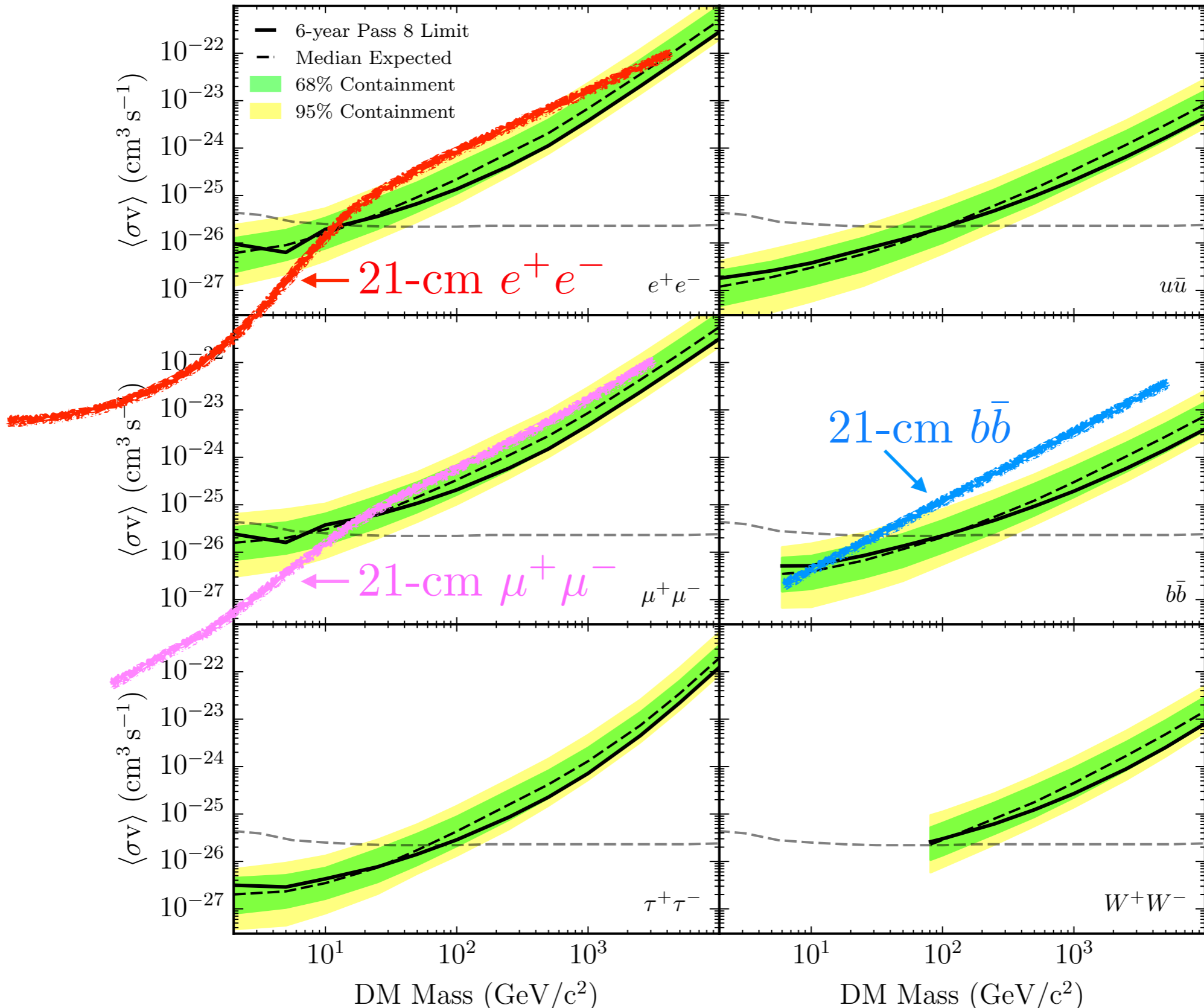
Slatyer 1506.03811



# Comparison: FERMI dSphs



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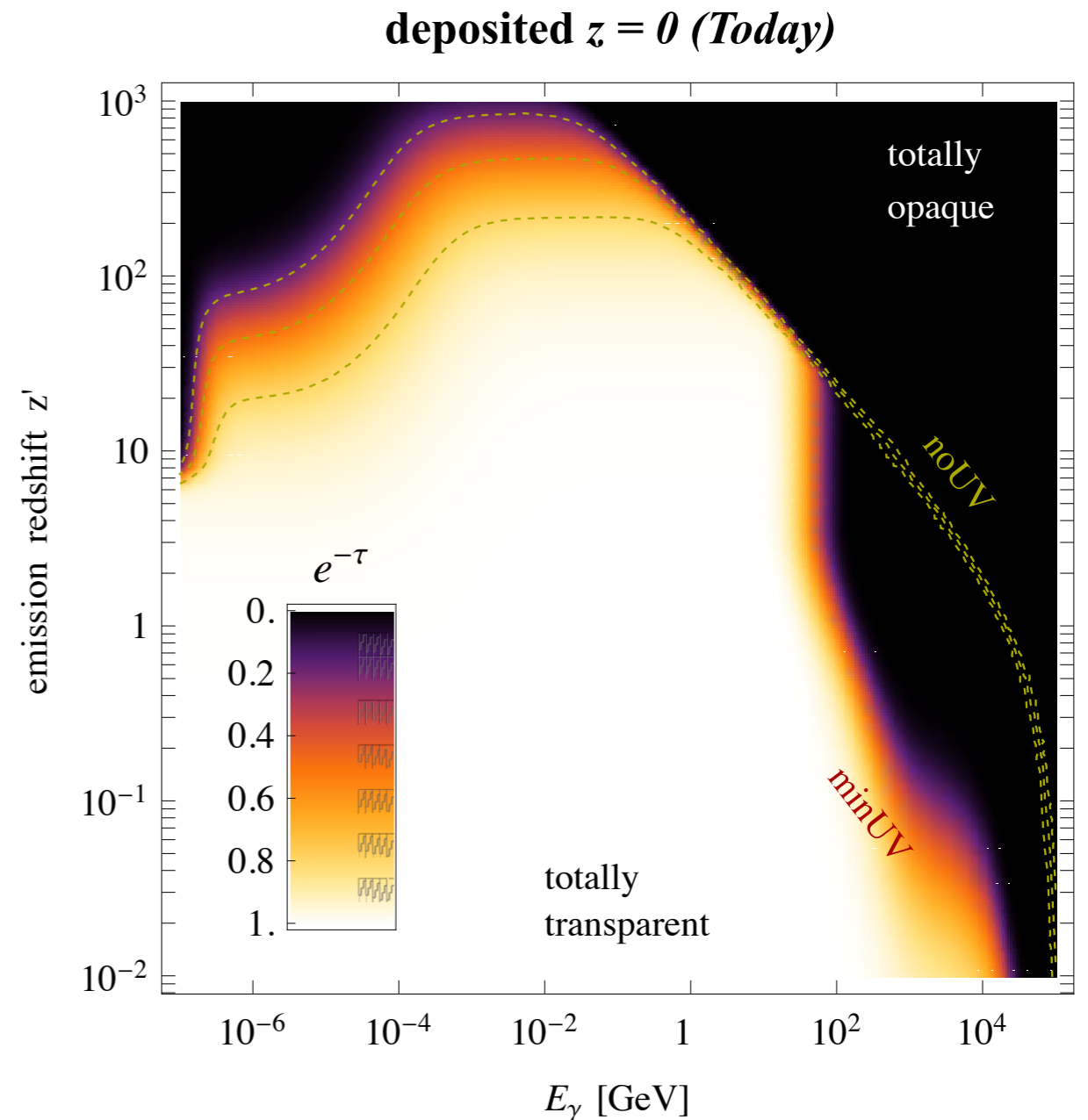
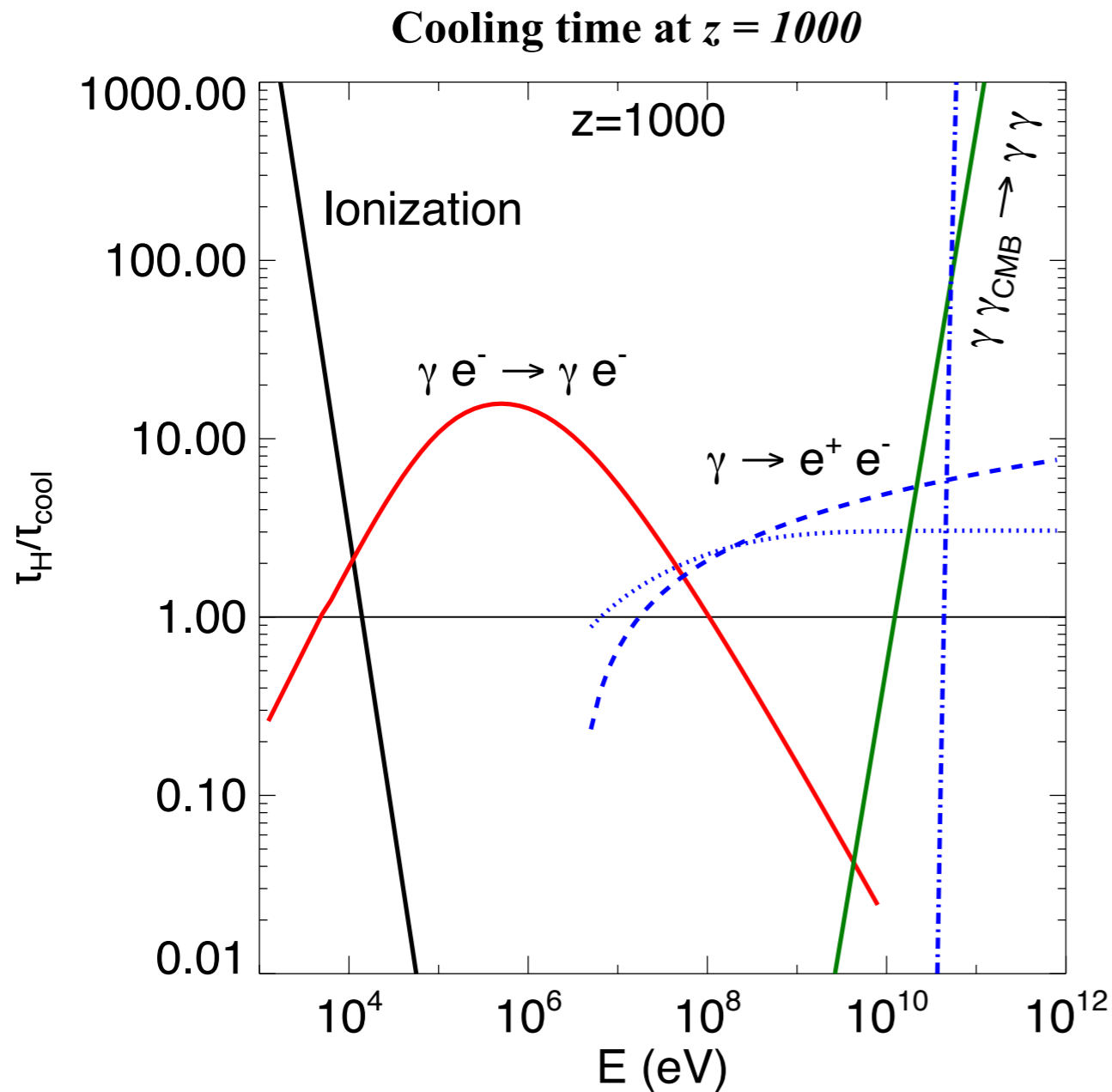
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- **The bounds on DM annihilations** are *competitive* and in some cases *more stringent* than any other limit in the literature
- This is just the beginning: Stay tuned for further developments!  
Can the monopole 21cm alone shed light on dark matter?

Backup slides

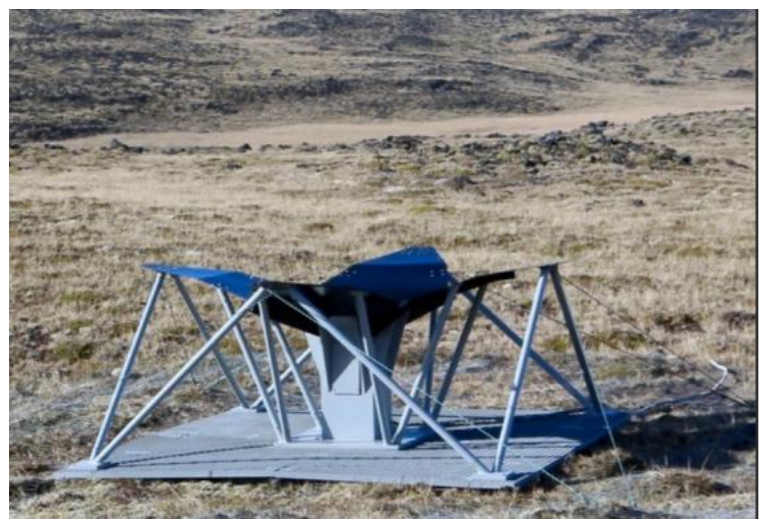
The *delayed transfer function* encodes the physics of the EM shower

- ★ Mean free path of the electrons/positrons at a given redshift  $z$
- ★ Absorption of photons in the IGM

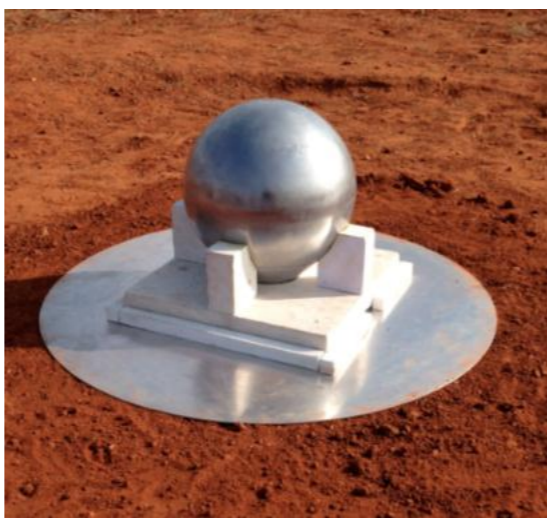


# World Wide 21cm

PRI<sup>Z</sup>M  
(Kwazulu-Natal, Sievers et al.)



SARAS 2  
(RRI, Subrahmanyan et al.)



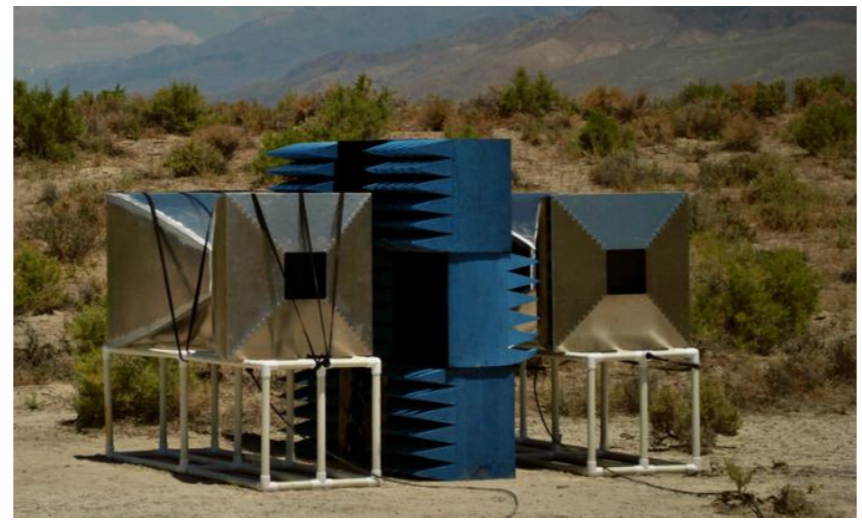
LEDA  
(Harvard, Greenhill et al.)



SCI-HI  
(Carnegie Mellon, Peterson et al.)



HYPERION  
(Berkeley, Parsons et al.)



CTP  
(NRAO, Bradley et al.)



# EDGES Fitting procedure

Linearized version of Physically-Motivated foreground model

$$m_{\text{fg}}(\mathbf{a}_i) = \mathbf{a}_0 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2.5} + \mathbf{a}_1 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2.5} \left[\log\left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)\right] + \mathbf{a}_2 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2.5} \left[\log\left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)\right]^2 \\ + \mathbf{a}_3 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-4.5} + \mathbf{a}_4 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2}$$

Alternative Polynomial Model

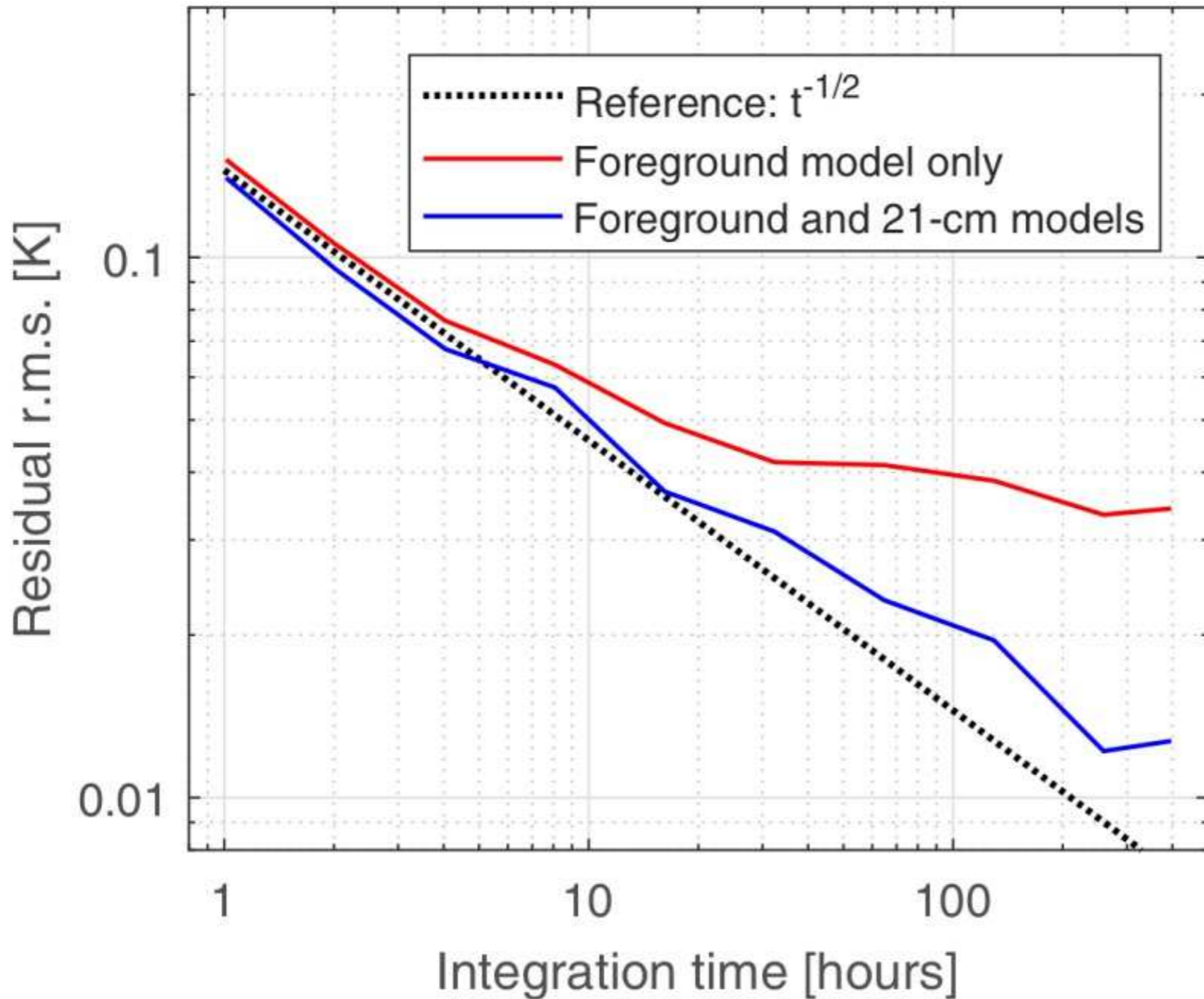
$$m_{\text{fg}}(\mathbf{a}_i) = \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^{-2.5} \sum_{i=0}^{N_{\text{fg}}-1} \mathbf{a}_i \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_n}\right)^i$$

**Smooth sets of basis functions** that model well, with few terms, the spectrum over wide frequency ranges.

Linear fit coefficients **not intended to be assigned physical interpretation**.

Slide from Monsalve's talk @ CERN

# EDGES Residuals r.m.s.



# Explain the Anomaly

Could DM do it? Yes, **BUT** it cannot be “normal” WIMP or axion with the interactions that are too weak !!

$$T_{21} \approx 21 \text{ mK } x_{H_I} \left( 1 - \frac{T_\gamma}{T_S} \right) \sqrt{\frac{1+z}{10}}$$

$T_\gamma > T_{\text{CMB}}$  : Increase the CMB Rayleigh-Jeans tail

$T_S \simeq T_{\text{gas}} < T_{\text{gas}}^{\text{ad}}$  : Cool the gas even more

- ➔ Approach 1: *Cool the baryonic kinetic temperature even more* (90% of attempts: see e.g. **Barkana et al.**; **Munoz, Loeb**; ....)
- ➔ Approach 2: *Make more photons* that can mediate the 21-cm transition prior  $z \sim 20$  (**Pospelov, Pradler, Ruderman, Urbano**)
- ➔ Approach 3: *Decouple protons from the CMB earlier* (**Falkowski & Petraki**)

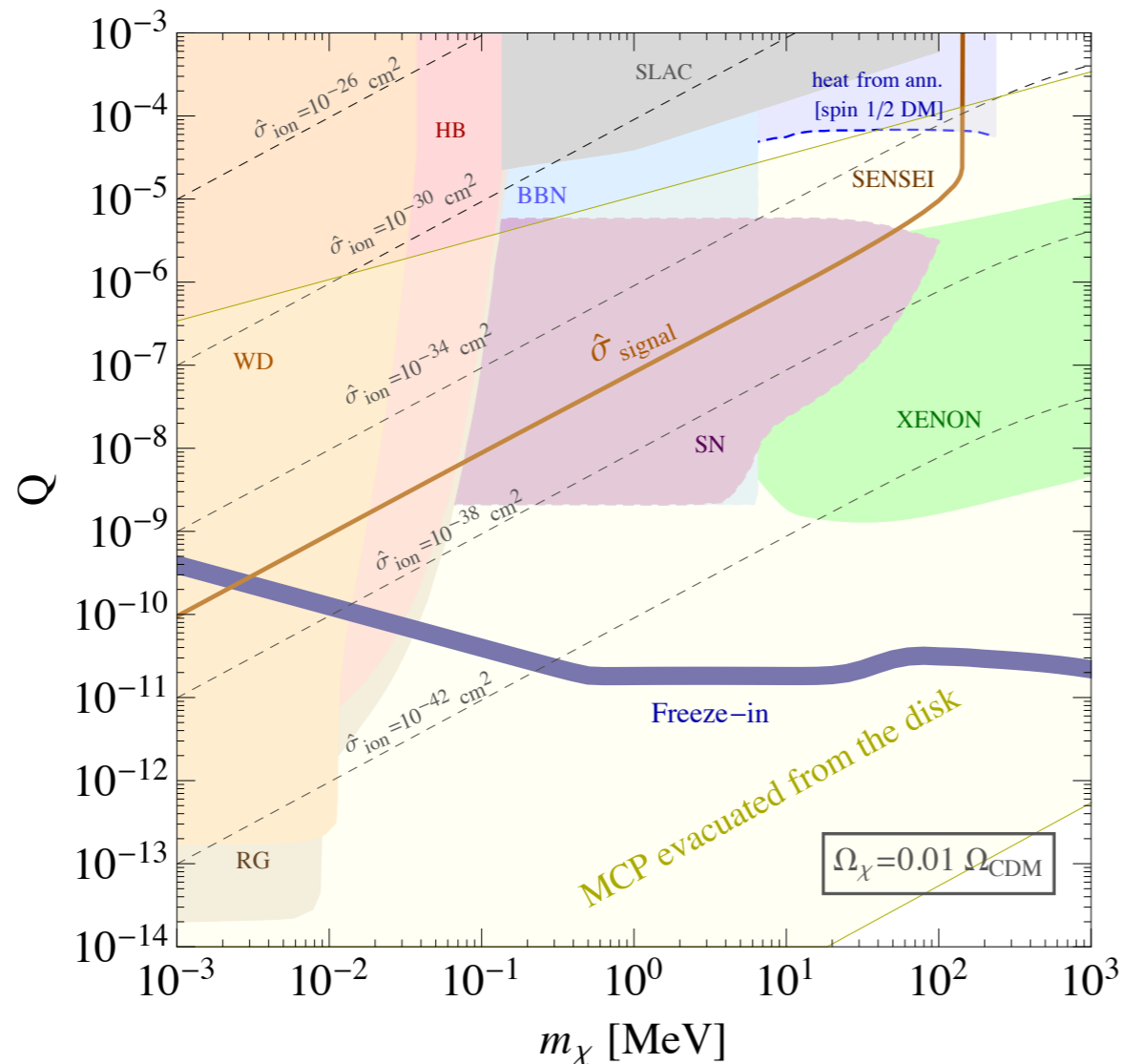


# 1: Cool the IGM even more

*Entropy transfer from the baryonic to the Dark sector*

**Milli-charged DM** could work: DM-atom cross section is enhanced as  $d\sigma/d\Omega \propto \sigma_0 v^{-4}$ , which is Coulomb-like dependence

**Implication:** a significant fraction of DM has a milli-charge  
*Not clear if the model survives all the constraints*



$$m_\chi \simeq (10 - 80) \text{ MeV} ,$$

$$Q \simeq (10^{-6} - 10^{-4}) ,$$

$$f_{\text{DM}} \simeq (0.1 - 2)\%$$

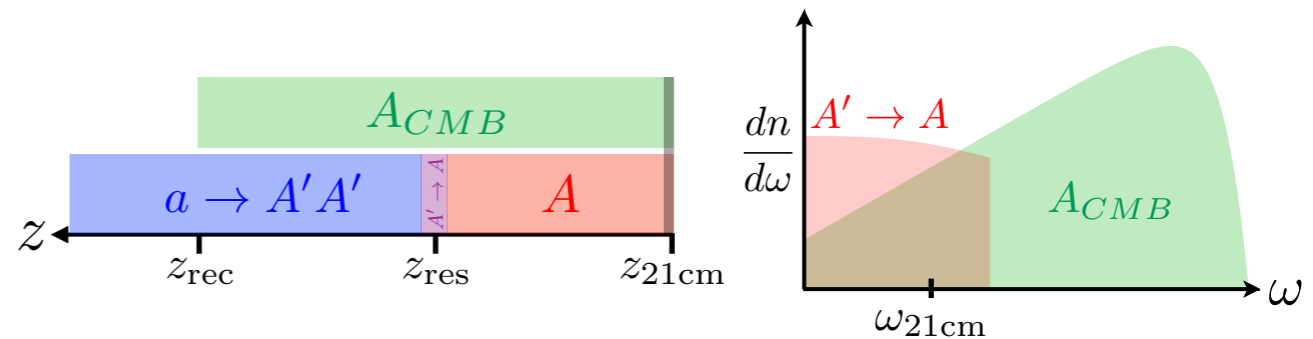
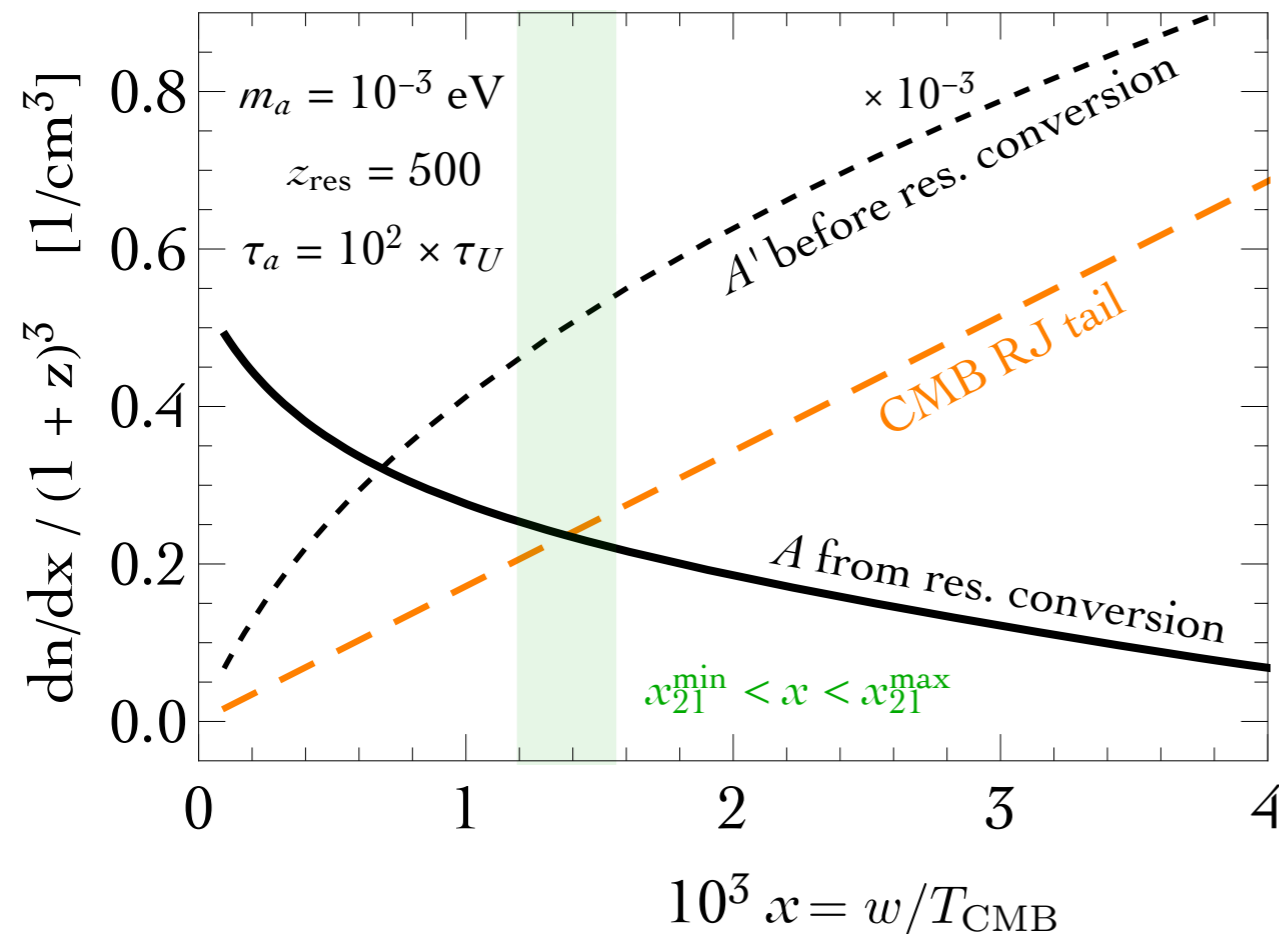
Barkana *et al.*  
1803.03091

# 2: Increase the CMB RJ tail

Early ( $z > 20$ ) decays (either DM or of DR species) create a non-thermal population of DR dark photon  $A'$ . Typical multiplicity is larger than  $n_{RJ}$

Dark photons can oscillate to normal photons. At some redshift  $z_{res}$  a resonant oscillation of  $A'$  into  $A$ . This happens when the plasma frequency is  $m_{A'}$

Enhanced number of RJ quanta are available in the  $z = (15-20)$  window, making a deeper than expected absorption signal



Pospelov *et al.*  
1803.07048

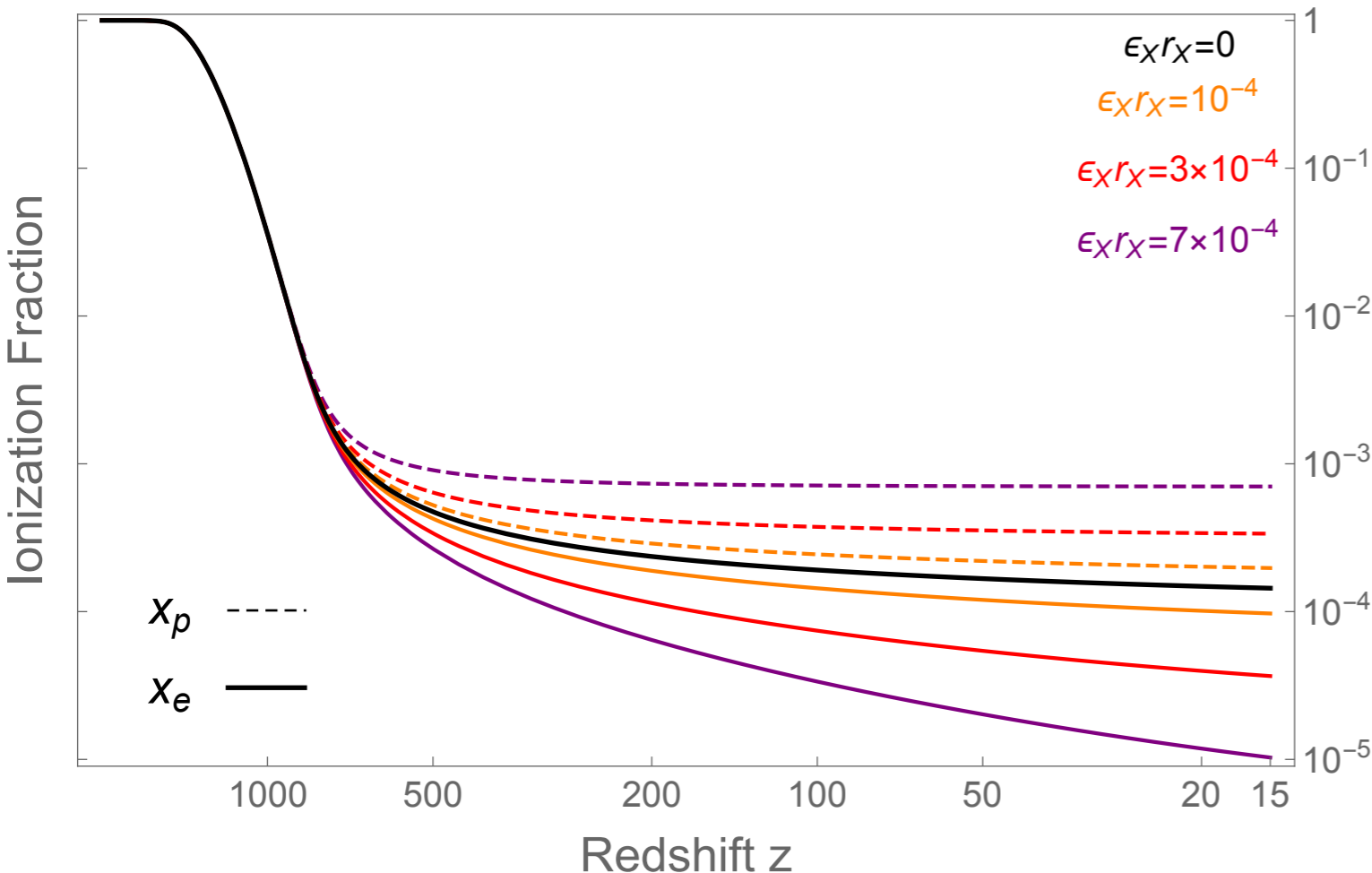
# 3: Charge sequestration

Postulate that there is a *mismatch between proton and electron numbers* in the Universe, such that  $n_e < n_p$

The Universe is not charge neutral: *A clear disaster!!*

Thus one can introduce a *stable particle with negative charge and non-zero abundance* in the Universe. **The Universe is neutral again!!**

Charge neutrality imposes the relation:  $x_p = x_e + \epsilon_\chi r_\chi$  with  $r_\chi = n_\chi/n_b$



Falkowski, Petraki  
1803.10096