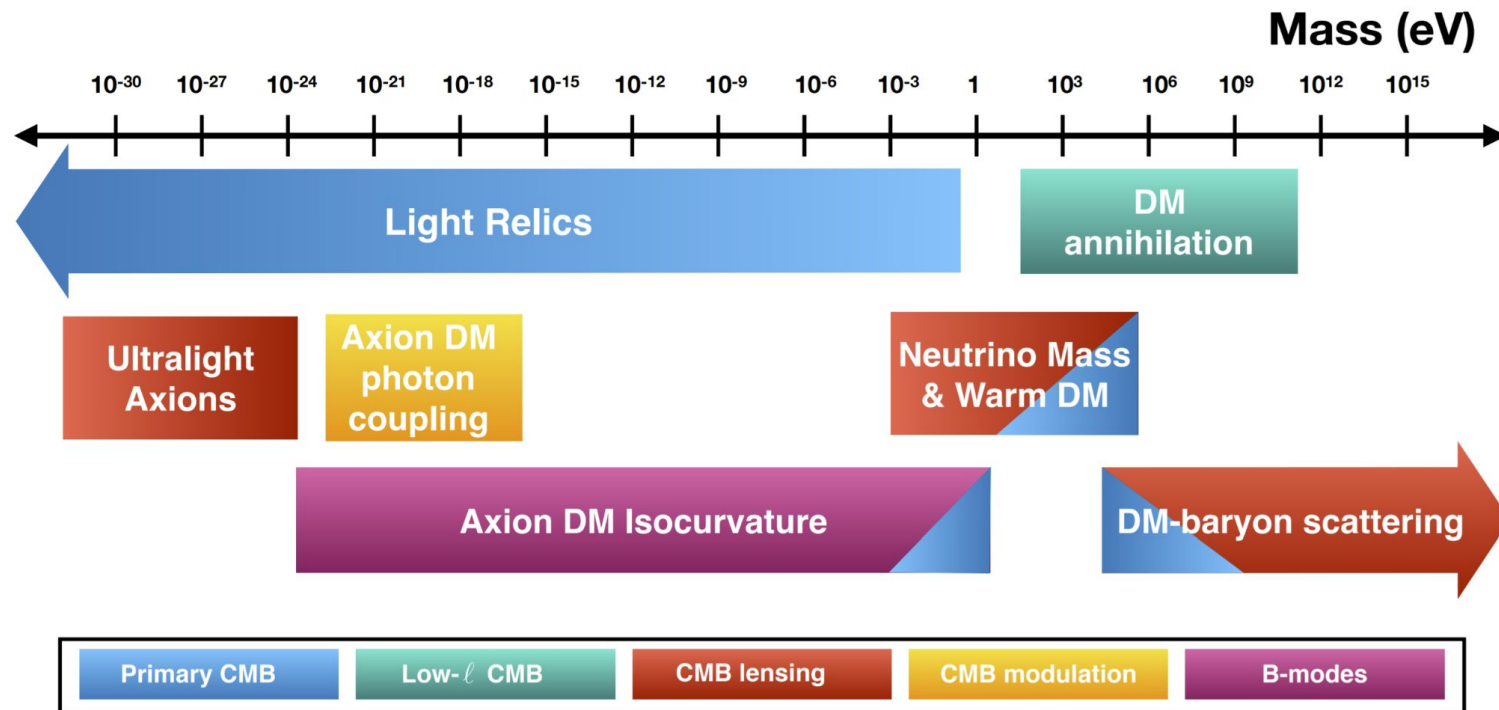


# Messengers from the Early Universe with CMB-S4

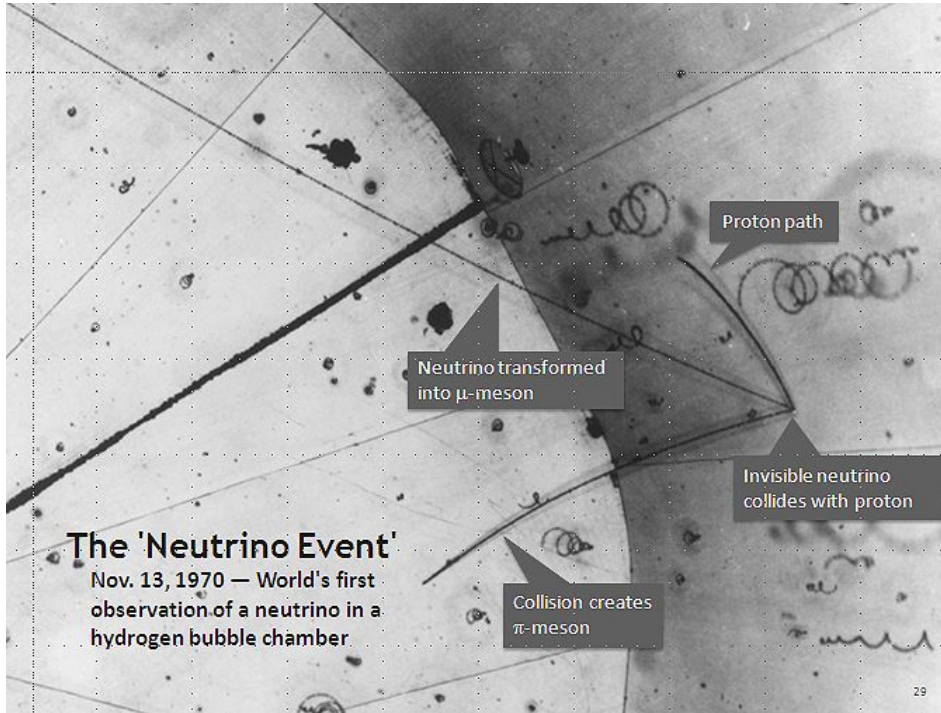
Joel Meyers  
SMU

CMB-S4 Collaboration Meeting  
August 10, 2021

# CMB Probes of the Dark Sector



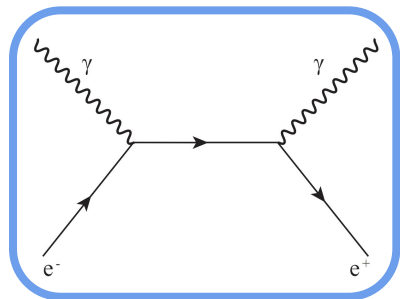
# Early Universe Messengers in the Standard Model: Cosmic Neutrinos



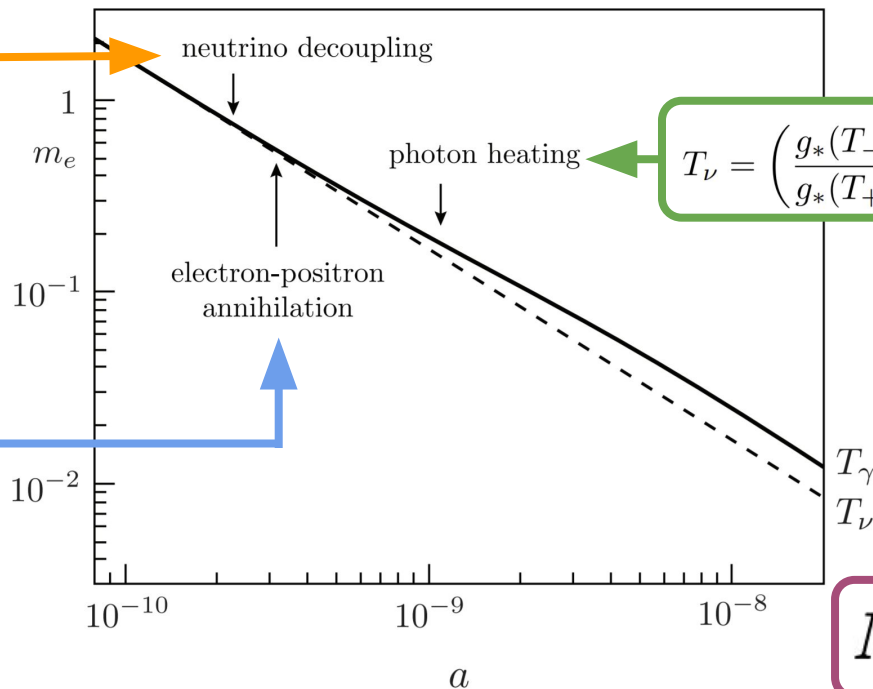
# Cosmic Neutrino Decoupling

$$\sigma \sim \left| \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \\ \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \right|^2 \sim G_F^2 T^2$$

$$\frac{\Gamma}{H} \sim \frac{\alpha^2 M_{\text{pl}} T^3}{M_W^4} \sim \left( \frac{T}{1 \text{ MeV}} \right)^3$$



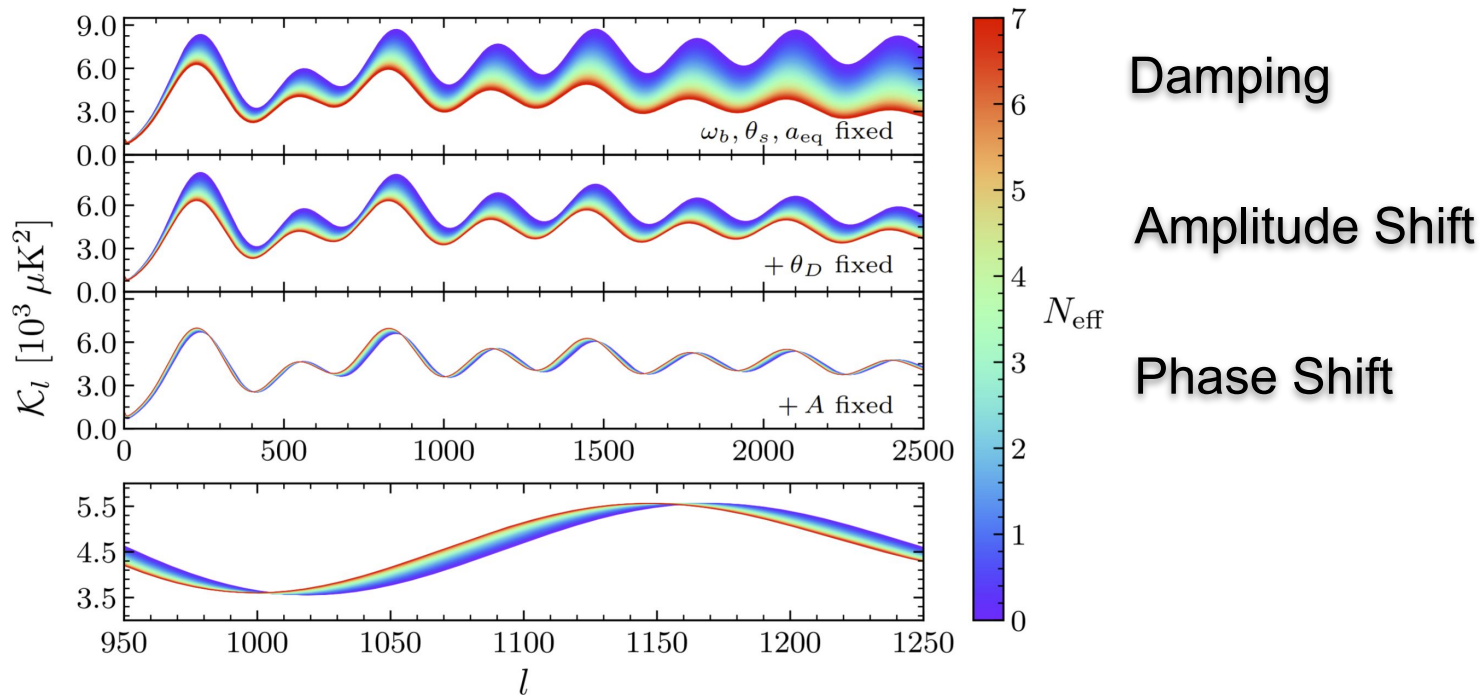
$$\frac{T}{\text{MeV}}$$



$$T_\nu = \left( \frac{g_*(T_-)}{g_*(T_+)} \right)^{1/3} T_\gamma = \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{1/3} T_\gamma$$

$$N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} = 3.044$$

# Effects of Light Relics on the CMB Power Spectrum



# Constraints on the Light Relic Density

Current  
Constraint

$$N_{\text{eff}} = 2.92^{+0.36}_{-0.37}$$

(95 %, *Planck* TT,TE,EE+lowE)

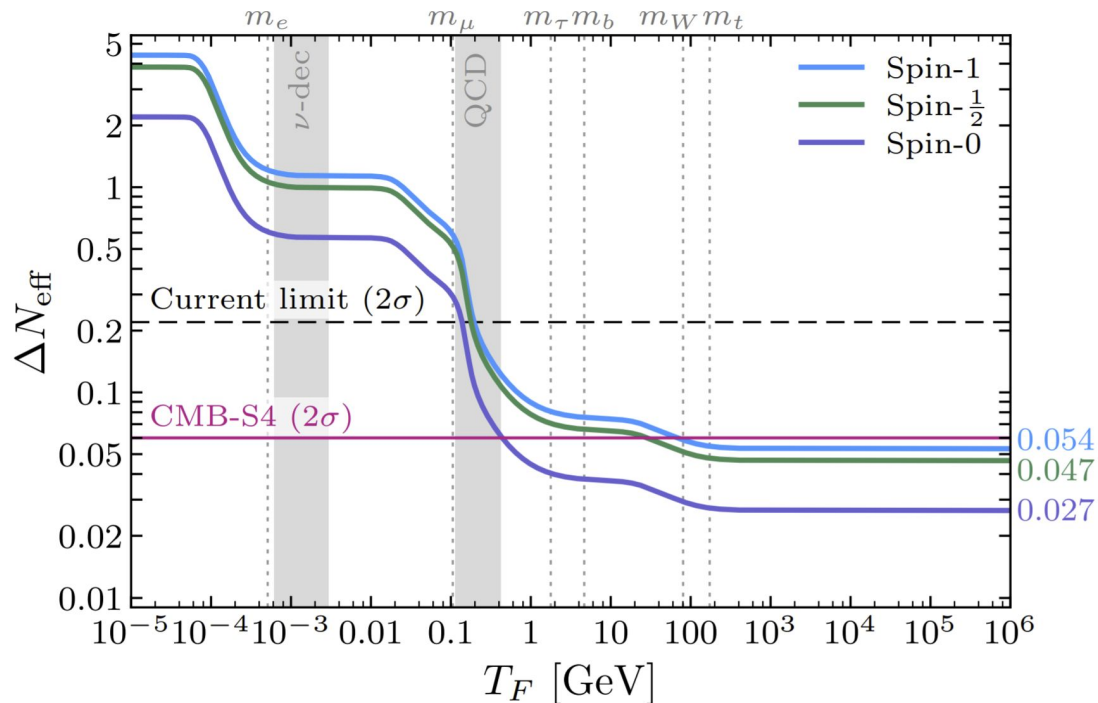


CMB-S4  
Target

$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \leq 0.060 \text{ (95\%)}$$



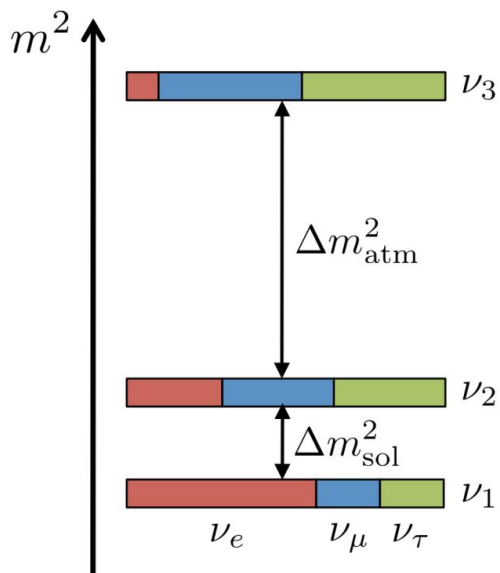
# Thermal Relic Freezeout



$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{4}{7} g_s \left( \frac{43/4}{g_*(T_F)} \right)^{4/3}$$

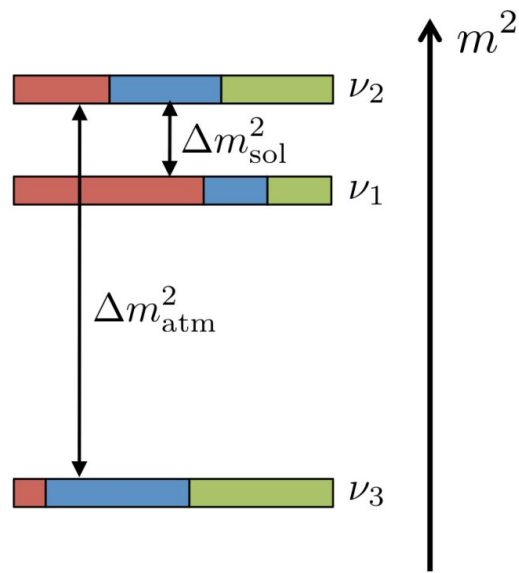
# Neutrino Mass

normal hierarchy (NH)



$$\sum m_\nu \gtrsim 58 \text{ meV}$$

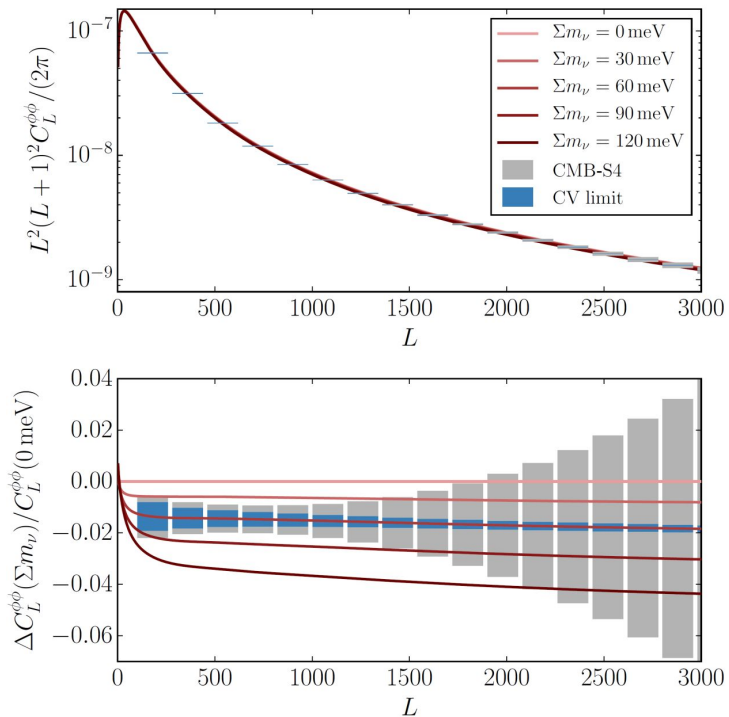
inverted hierarchy (IH)



$$\sum m_\nu \gtrsim 105 \text{ meV}$$



# Effect of Neutrino Mass on CMB Lensing



CMB-S4  
Forecast

$$\sigma\left(\sum m_\nu\right) \simeq 20 \text{ meV}$$

Limited by  
Optical Depth  
Degeneracy

# Summary

- CMB-S4 will measure the primary CMB spectra and the CMB lensing spectrum at exquisite precision allowing for broad insights into dark sector physics
- Cosmic neutrinos provide a useful example of early universe relics within the Standard Model
- Any particles with sufficiently strong coupling to Standard Model particles are abundantly produced in the early universe and leave observable imprints on the CMB due to gravitational effects
- Join parallel session for a broader discussion of CMB probes of the dark sector!

# Parallel Session Agenda

- Cosmological Constraints on Light (but Massive Relics) - [Linda Xu](#)
- CMB-S4 Gatekeeper of Dark Complexity - [David Curtin](#)
- CMB and BBN Constraints on Light Thermally Coupled WIMPS - [Rui An](#)
- Modulating Fields and the CMB - [JiJi Fan](#)
- Probing Axion Couplings to Matter with  $N_{\text{eff}}$  Measurements - [Benjamin Wallisch](#)
- The Cosmic Axion Background - [Nicholas Rodd](#)

[Plus lots of time for discussion](#)