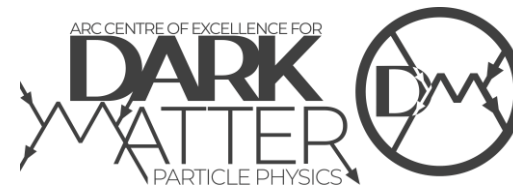


# Dark Matter

Nicole Bell

The University of Melbourne



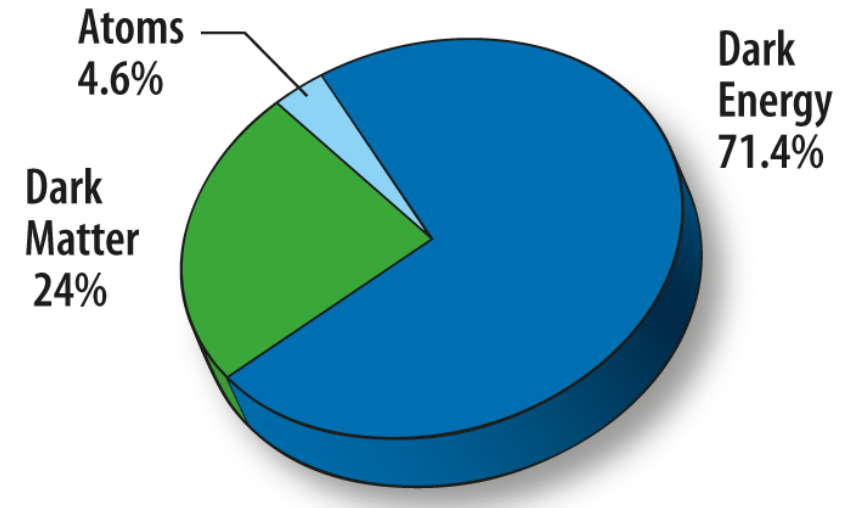
# Outline for these lectures

- Evidence for dark matter
- Dark matter freezeout and relic density
- Dark matter candidates (WIMPs, asymmetric DM, sterile neutrinos, axions....)
- Indirect Detection
- Dark matter searches at colliders
- Direct Detection
- Dark matter in stars

# Dark Matter Lecture #1

# Dark matter properties

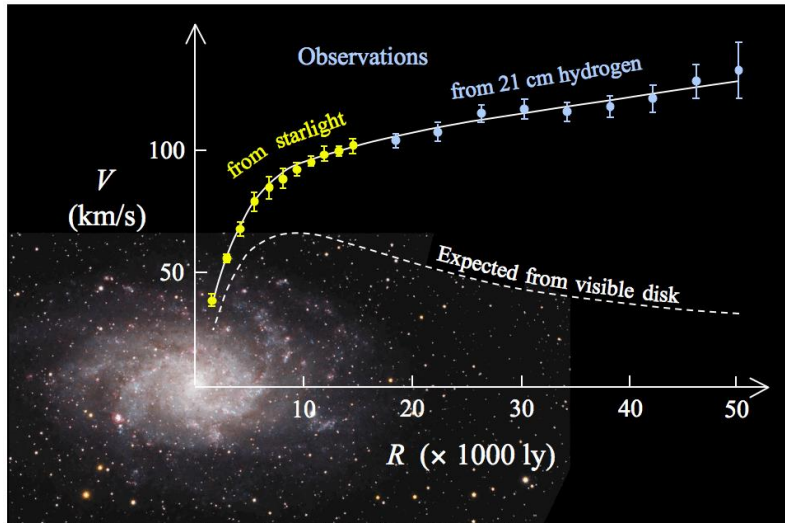
- 24% of the energy-density of the universe (about 84% of the total matter)
- Dark = does not radiate/absorb/scatter light  
→ electrically neutral (at least to a good approximation)
- Cold = non-relativistic by the era of cosmological structure formation
- Matter = gravitates/redshifts like matter. Behaves cosmologically like pressureless dust.
- Forms the scaffolding for the growth of structure in the universe. Present as halos around galaxies and clusters.
- Non-gravitational interactions are sufficiently weak that they have not yet been detected.



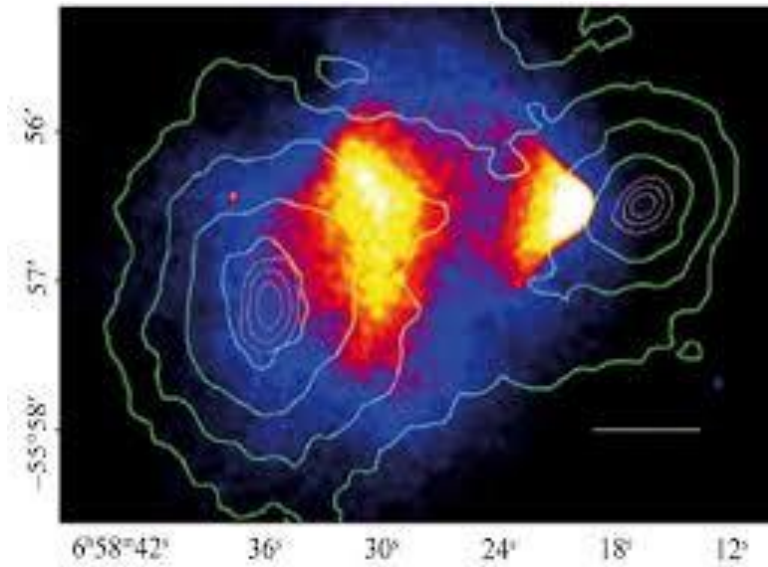


# Evidence for dark matter

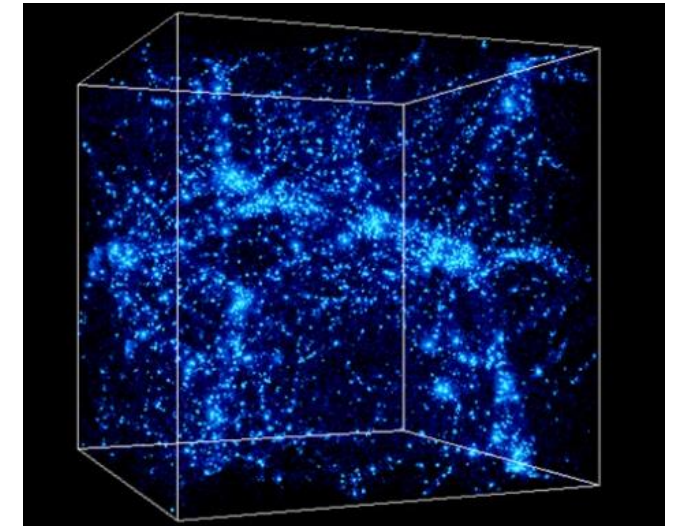
Astrophysical observations, on all scales, consistently point to the need for dark matter



Galaxy rotation curves

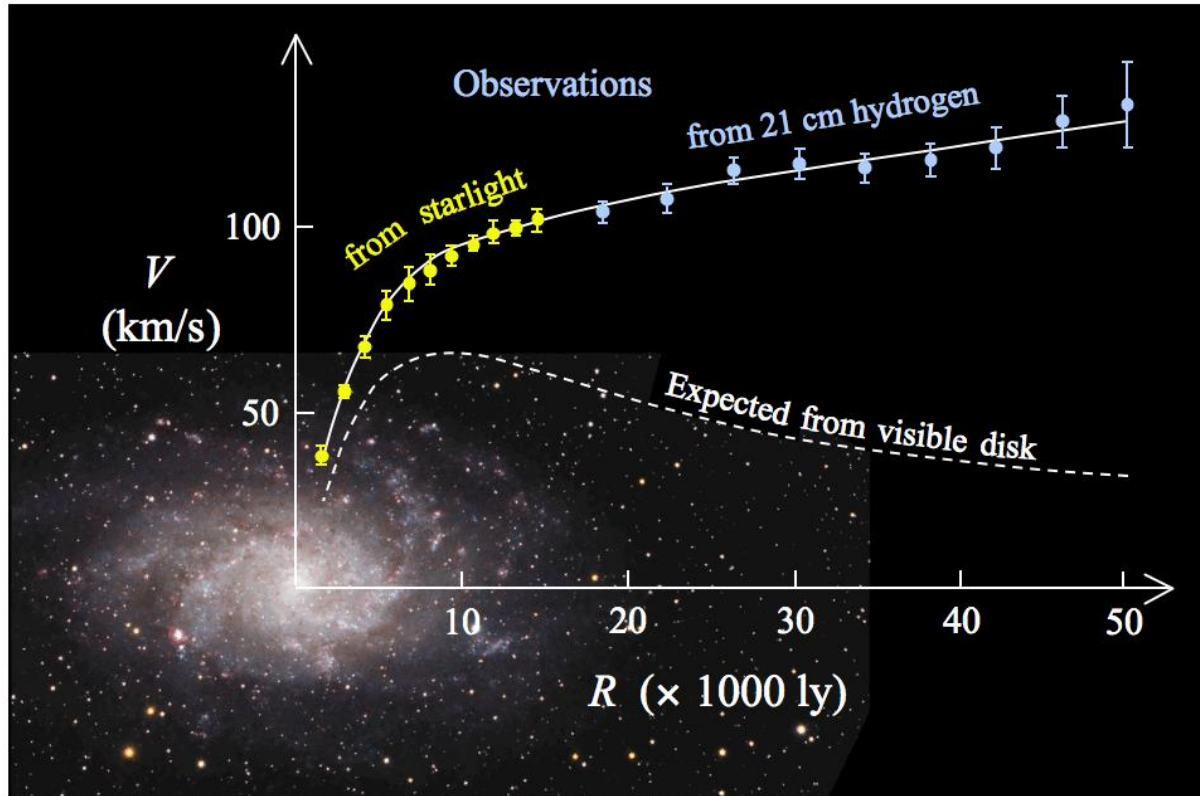


Clusters of galaxies

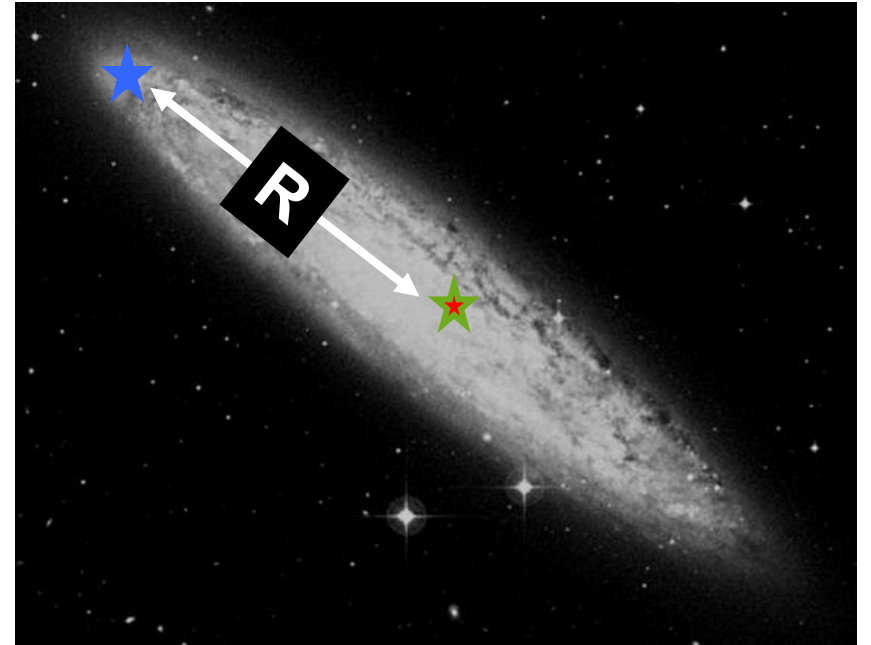


Large Scale Structure

# Galaxy rotation curves

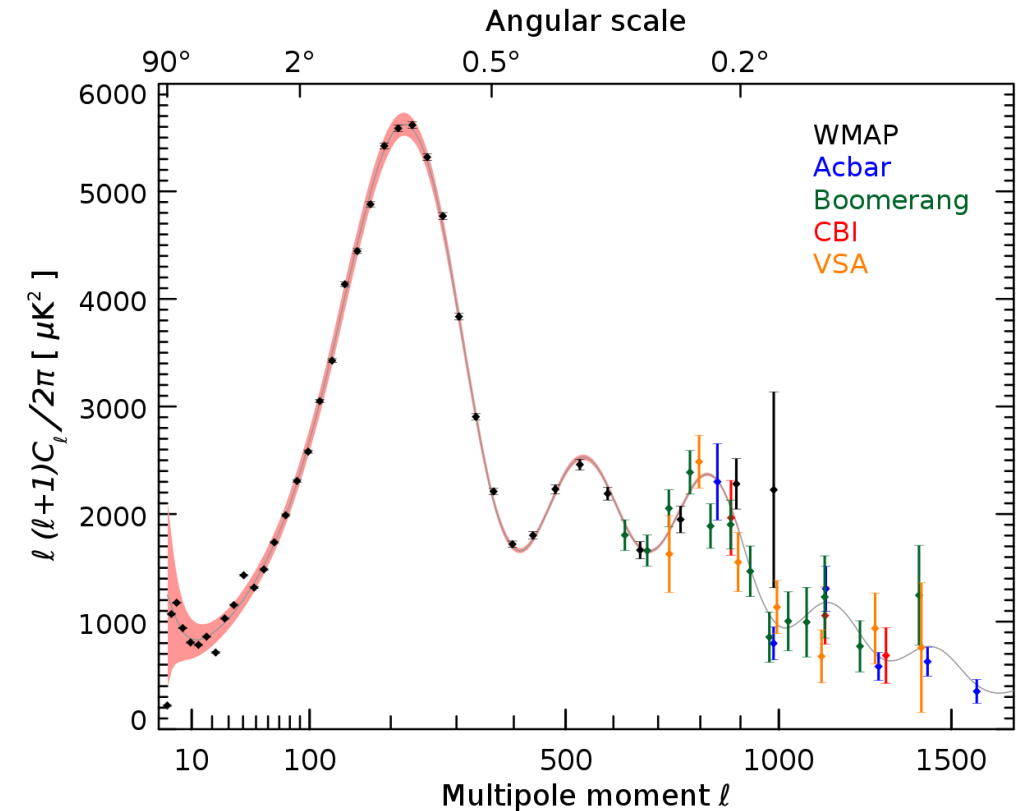
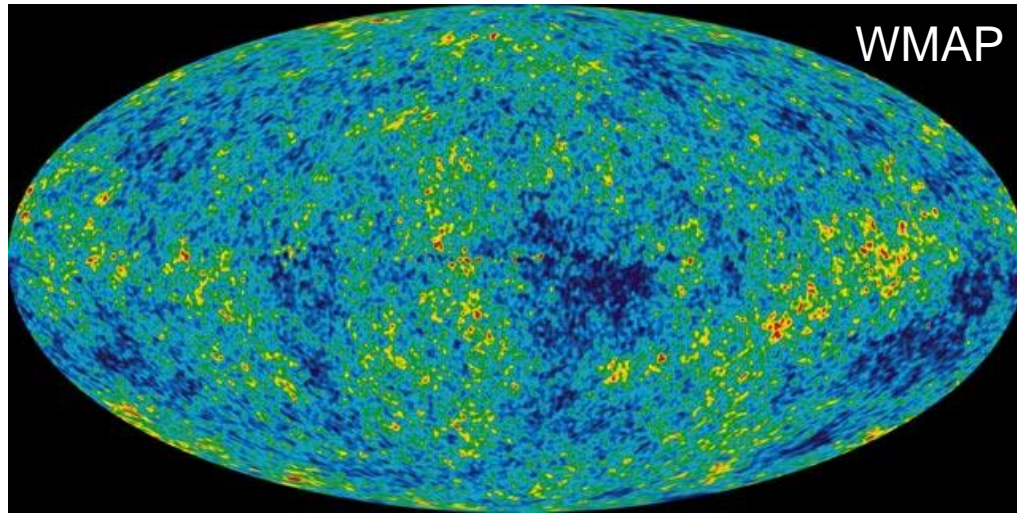


$$\frac{v^2}{R} = \frac{GM_{galaxy}}{R^2}$$



Galaxy rotation curves  $\rightarrow$  there is more matter in galaxies than accounted for by stars/gas.

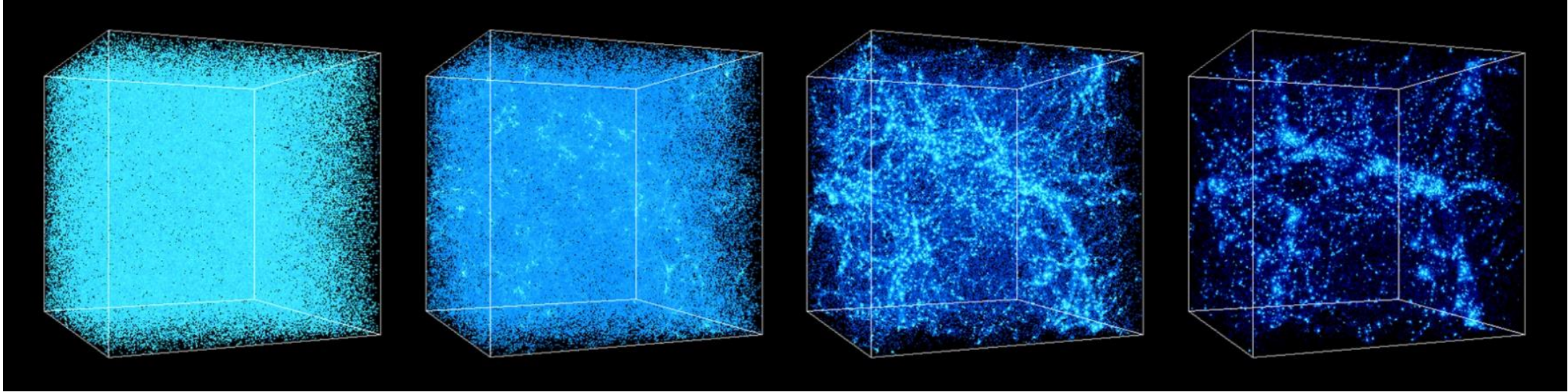
# Cosmic microwave background



The CMB spectrum allow a precision determination of the baryonic matter and dark matter abundance of the universe.



# Growth of Structure



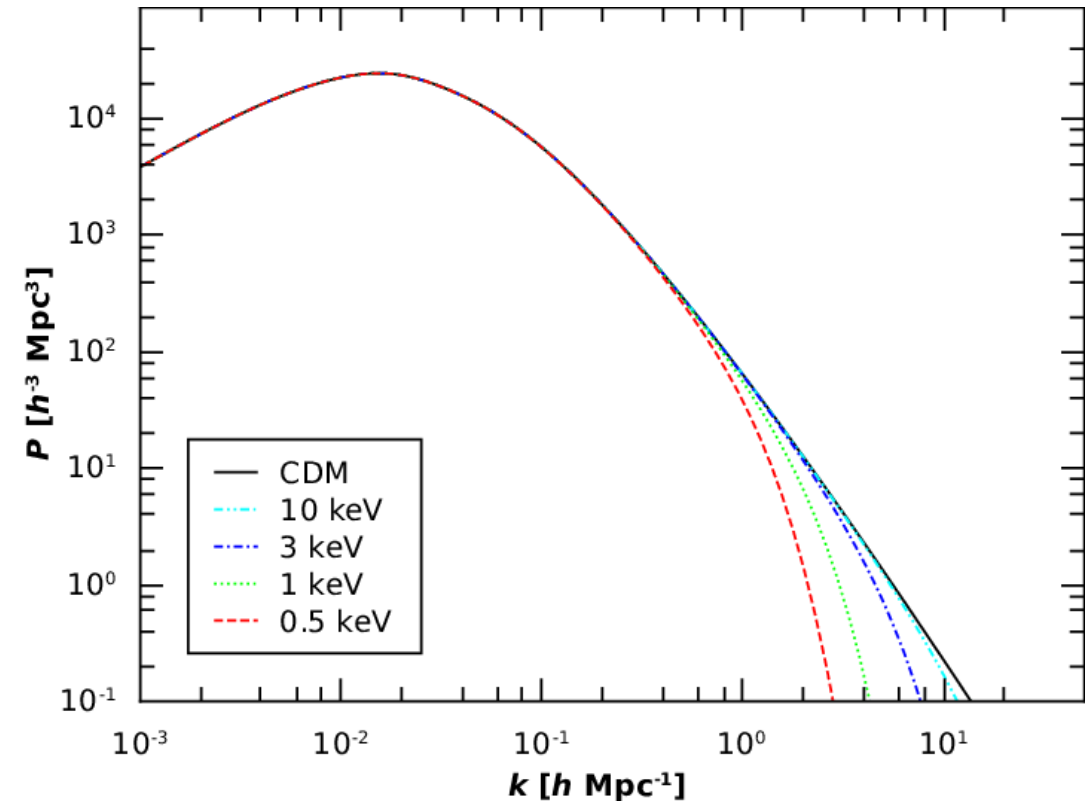
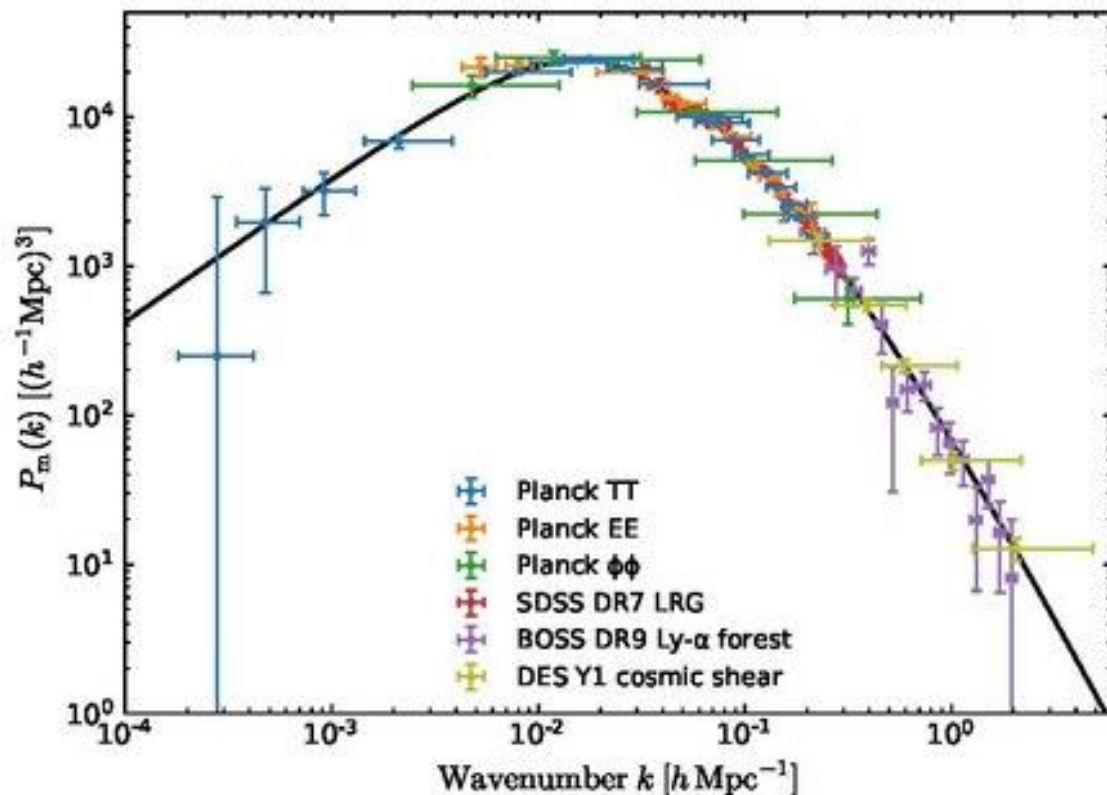
Anatoly Klypin and Andrey Kravtsov, <http://cosmicweb.uchicago.edu/filaments.html>

All viable model of structure formation are dominated by cold dark matter.

Structure formation begins with the formation of small structures, which merge to form larger structure.

# Cold dark matter

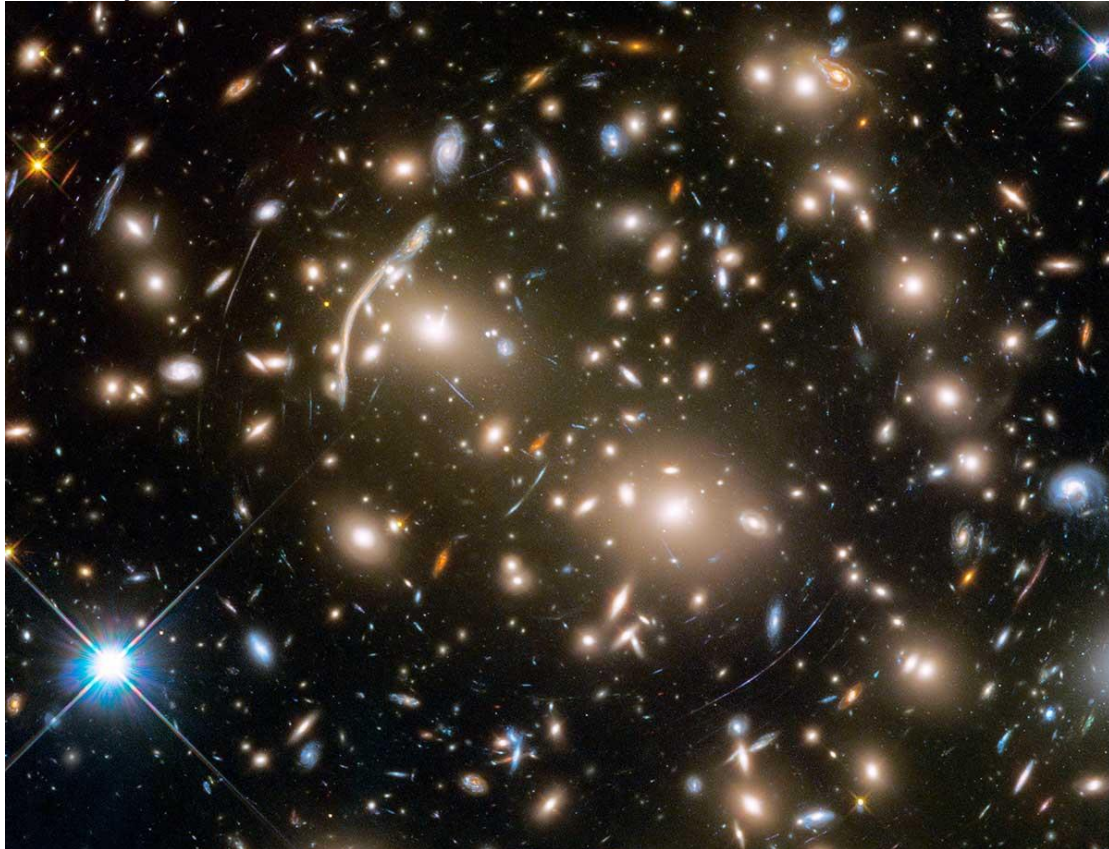
Dark matter is (at least approximately) “cold” = non-rel. by the era of structure formation  
→ dark matter cannot be neutrinos (or other light relativistic particles) because they would “free-stream” from overdense regions, damping the growth of structure



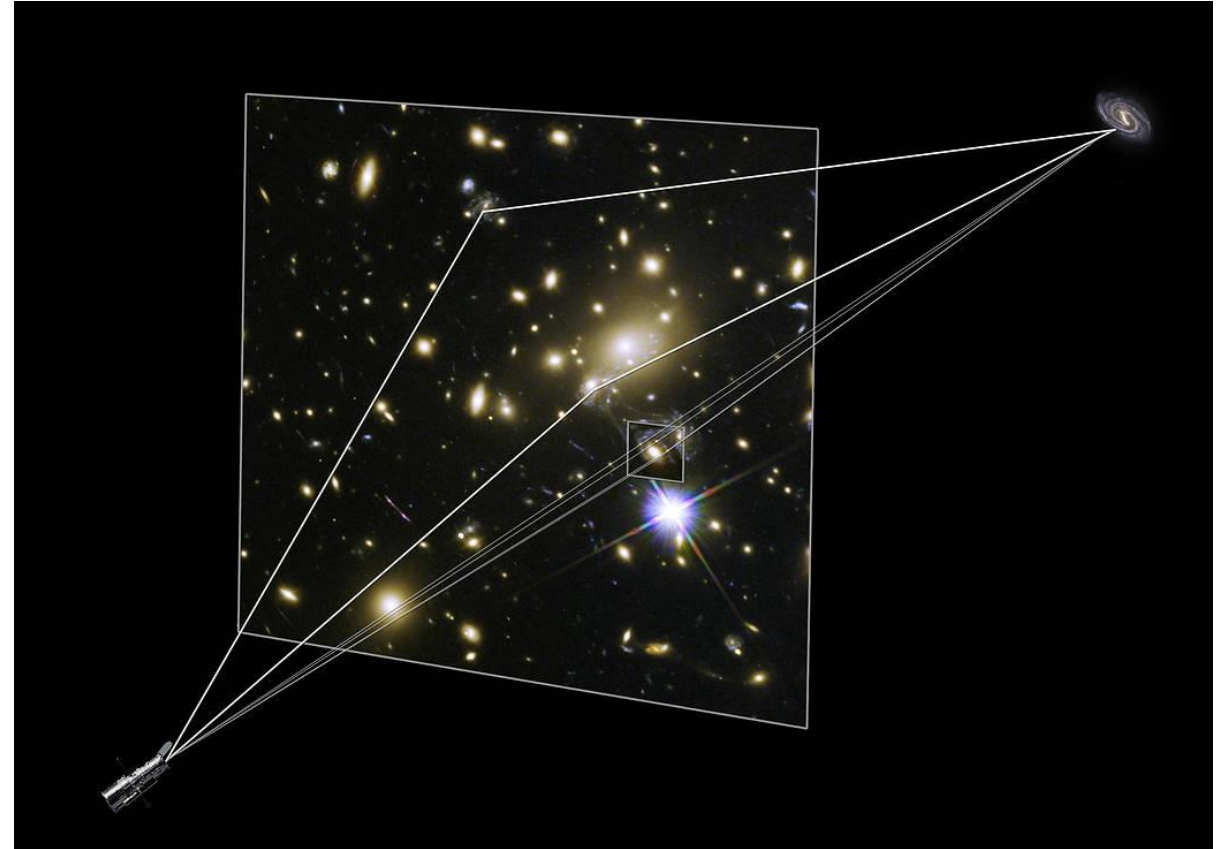


# Gravitational Lensing

*Galaxy cluster Abell 370*



*Image Credit: NASA/ESA*



The lensed images act as probes of the matter distribution in the galaxy cluster

# Bullet cluster



Red

→ X-rays trace the ordinary matter

Blue

→ inferred dark matter distribution

Implies that dark matter particles are non-interacting.

# What is Dark Matter?

- Could it be dark clumps of ordinary (baryonic) matter? No, because:
  - BBN & CMB measure the baryonic matter abundance very well
  - MACHOs (Massive Compact Halo Objects) disfavoured by gravitational lensing
- Maybe we don't understand gravity very well?
  - Proposals such as MOND (Modified Newtonian Dynamics) fail to eliminate the need for dark matter on all astrophysical scales.
- Neutrinos or other known particles? → No
- Primordial black holes → possible over a narrow black hole mass range. But, difficult to obtain the right PBH abundance from models of inflation.
- **A new type of particle or particles** → the favoured explanation



# Well motivated particle candidates:

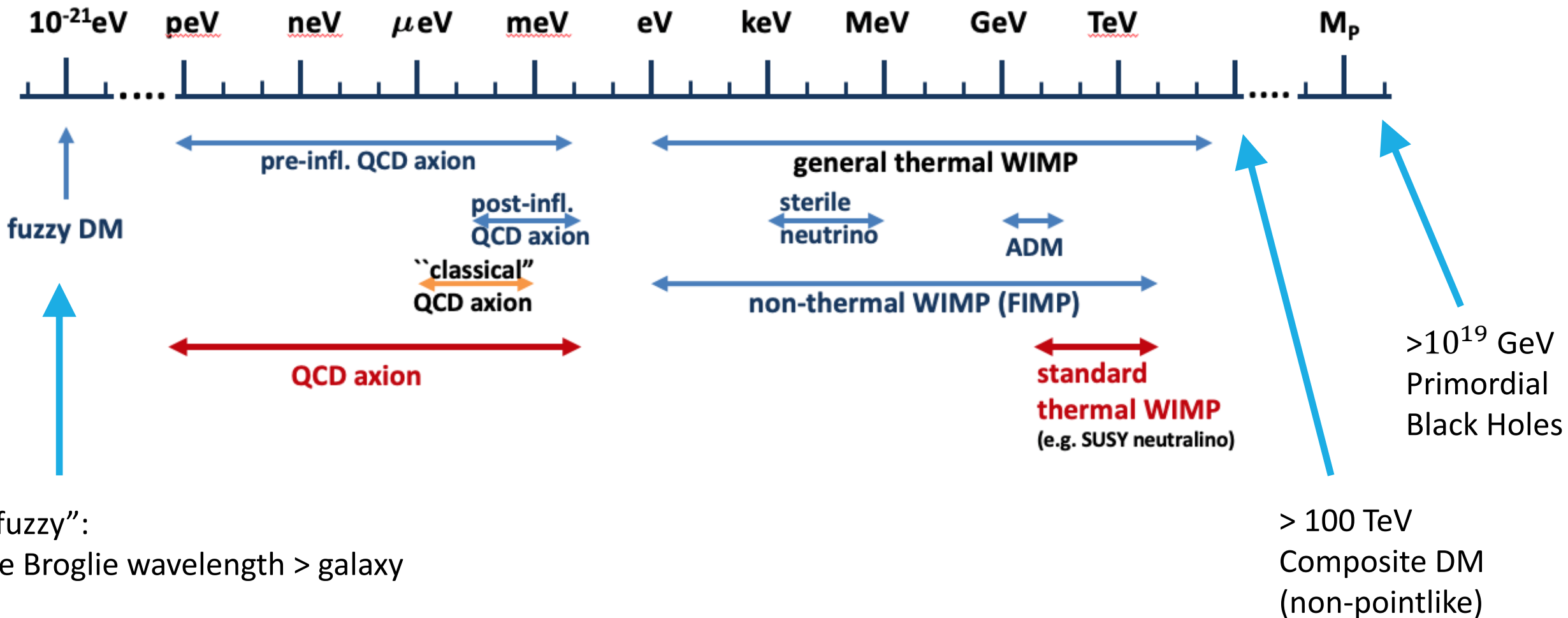
Dark matter density  $\sim 5$  x ordinary matter density

Similar abundances seem highly unlikely, unless the dark and visible sectors were coupled in some way  $\rightarrow$  prospects for detection of particle interactions.

Some of the most plausible particle models:

- WIMPs (Weakly Interacting Massive Particles) – connected to new GeV-TeV scale physics
- Axions – motivated by the Strong CP problem
- Sterile neutrinos – new physics is required in the neutrino sector
- Asymmetric dark matter – connection between dark matter and baryon asymmetry

# Dark Matter mass



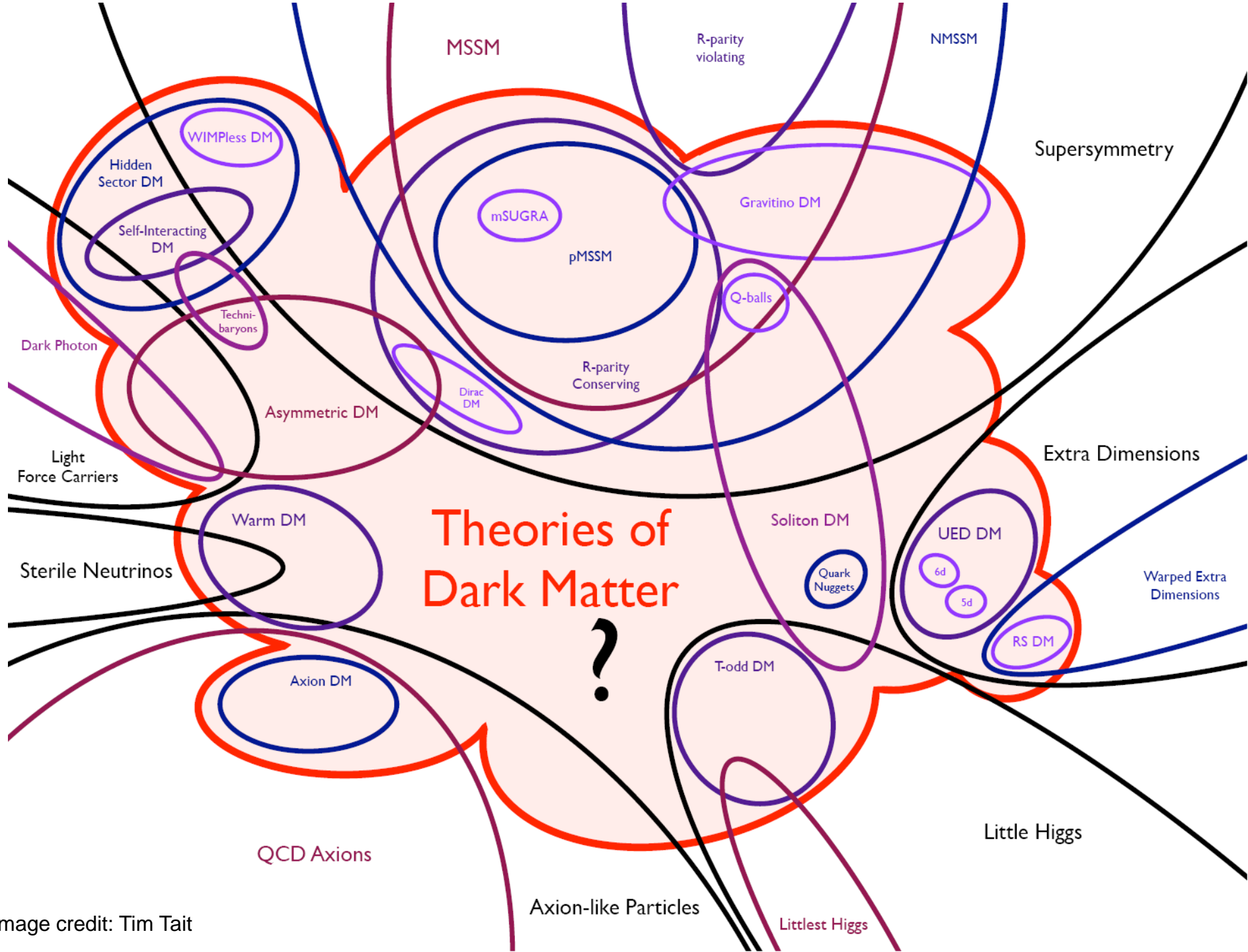


Image credit: Tim Tait

# Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs)

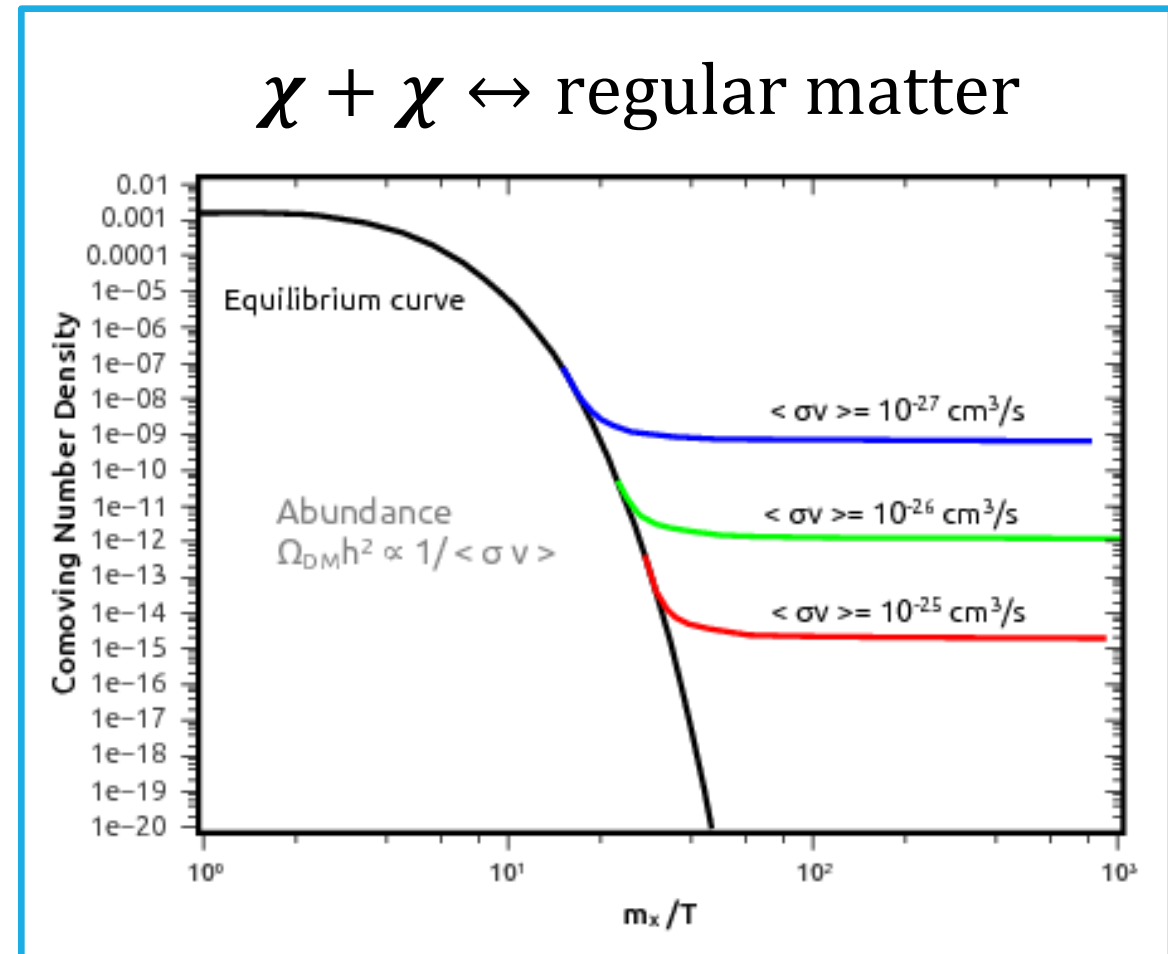
Dark matter freeze-out abundance:

$$\Omega_\chi \propto \frac{1}{\langle \sigma_A v \rangle} \sim \frac{m_\chi^2}{g_\chi^4}$$

“WIMP Miracle”:

Correct relic density via thermal freezeout:

$$g \sim g_{weak} \text{ and } m_\chi \sim \text{GeV-TeV}$$



# Freezeout and relic density

(1) Dark matter initially in thermal equilib:



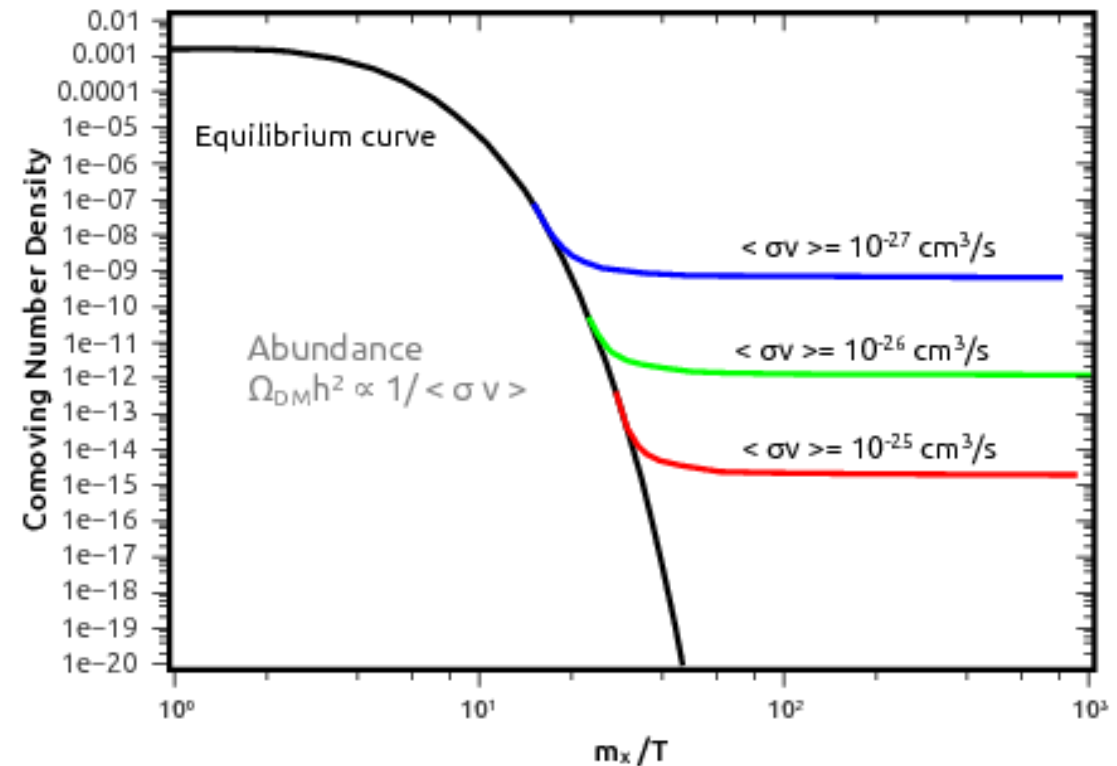
(2) Universe cools and the non-relativistic DM is Boltzmann suppressed:

$$N \sim (mT)^{3/2} e^{-m/T}$$

(3) “Freeze out” at  $m/T \approx 20$ .

$$N = \text{constant} \propto \frac{1}{\langle \sigma_A v \rangle}$$

→ Dark matter relic abundance proportional to inverse of the annihilation cross section.



# Computing the DM relic density

Consider DM particles  $\chi$  self annihilating with SM fermions as:  $\chi\chi \leftrightarrow f\bar{f}$

(Up to factors of 2, the calculation is the same for  $\chi\bar{\chi}$  particle-antiparticle annihilation, assuming particle-antiparticle asymmetry,  $n_\chi = n_{\bar{\chi}} = n$ )

Boltzmann for the particle number density,  $n$ :

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = -3Hn \langle \sigma_A v \rangle (n^2 - n_{eq}^2)$$

where  $H =$  Hubble expansion parameter  $= \frac{\dot{a}}{a}$ , where  $a =$  scale factor of the Universe  
 $v =$  relative velocity of annihilating DM,  
 $\langle \sigma_A v \rangle =$  thermally averaged annihilation cross section

# Computing the DM relic density

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = -3Hn \langle \sigma v \rangle (n^2 - n_{eq}^2)$$

where number density of DM particles is related to phase space distribution as:

$$n = g \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} f(p)$$

and the thermally averaged annihilation cross section is

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \frac{g^2}{n_{eq}^2} \int \frac{d^3 p_1}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d^3 p_2}{(2\pi)^3} v \sigma_{\chi\chi \rightarrow f\bar{f}} f_{eq}(p_1) f_{eq}(p_2)$$

Introduce new variable:  $Y = \frac{n}{s}$  where  $s = \text{entropy density} = \frac{p+\rho}{T} = \frac{2\pi^2}{45} g_{*s} T^3$   
 $T = \text{temperature}$ ,  $g_{*s} = \text{entropy degrees of freedom}$

and change variables from  $t$  to  $x = \frac{m}{T}$

The Boltzmann eqn now becomes:

$$\frac{x}{Y_{eq}} \frac{dY}{dx} = - \frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle n_{eq}}{H} \left( \frac{Y^2}{Y_{eq}^2} - 1 \right)$$

$Y$  becomes constant when  $\langle \sigma v \rangle n_{eq} = H$   
 i.e. when annihilation rate = expansion rate

Now integrate numerically (or do analytic approximation) to find:

$$\Omega_\chi h^2 \approx \frac{3 \times 10^{-27} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}}{\langle \sigma v \rangle}$$

$$\Omega_\chi h^2 \approx 0.1 \text{ therefore } \langle \sigma v \rangle \approx 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$$



# WIMPs and WIMP-like miracles

Thermal freezeout suggests the electroweak-scale since:  $\langle\sigma v\rangle \sim \frac{\alpha_{\text{weak}}^2}{(100 \text{ GeV})^2} \sim 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$

→ A compelling benchmark, esp. given other motivation for new physics at the GeV-TeV scale.

But, in fact, any parameters that satisfy  $\Omega_\chi \propto \frac{1}{\langle\sigma v\rangle} \sim \frac{m_\chi^2}{g_\chi^4}$  would work (“WIMPless” miracle)

However, the mass range for WIMP-like DM is well-defined:

- < 100 TeV (to avoid the Unitarity limit)
- > 1 MeV (to avoid problems with big bang nucleosynthesis)

# s-wave vs p-wave

It is useful to expand the annihilation cross section in terms of velocity,  $v$ :

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = a + bv^2 + O(v^4)$$

$a$  term: s-wave ( $l=0$ ) annihilation

$b$  term: p-wave ( $l=1$ ) annihilation

To obtain this result, expanding the cross section in terms of partial waves ( $l$  eigenstates).

- $l^{\text{th}}$  partial wave contribution to the amplitude  $\sim k^l$ , where  $k$  is the CoM 3-momentum
- In the non-rel limit  $k^2 = E^2 - m_\chi^2 = \frac{m_\chi^2 v^2}{(4-v^2)} \simeq \frac{m_\chi^2 v^2}{4}$
- $v \approx 10^{-3}c$  in the galaxy, so only the s-wave contribution is significant for indirect detection.
- In the early universe (at DM freezeout)  $v$  is bigger, so both terms important.

# Unitarity limit – upper limit on thermal WIMP mass

Starting from the optical theorem:  $\int d\beta (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_\alpha - p_\beta) |A_{\beta\alpha}|^2 = 2\text{Im} A_{\alpha\alpha}$   
(which follow from unitarity of the scattering matrix).

One can derive an upper limit on the total inelastic cross section, for each partial wave contribution:

$$\langle \sigma v_{rel} \rangle_{total}^J < \langle \sigma v_{rel} \rangle_{max}^J = \frac{4\pi(2J+1)}{m_\chi^2 v_{rel}} \quad \text{Griest \& Kamionkowski}$$

Taking the s-wave term, and setting :  $\langle \sigma v \rangle_{thermal} \sim 3 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s} < \langle \sigma v \rangle_{max}$

We obtain an upper limit on the mass of thermal relic DM:  $m_\chi < 100 \text{ TeV}$

# BBN – lower limit on thermal WIMP mass

Big Bang Nucleosynthesis (BBN) production of light elements constrains the particle content of the Universe at a temperature of order keV-MeV.

Number of relativistic degrees of freedom usually parameterized in terms of an effective number of neutrino species:

$$N_{\text{eff}}^{\nu} = 3.046 \text{ (in the Standard Model)}$$

$$N_{\text{eff}}^{\nu} < 3.3 - 4 \text{ from BBN}$$

$$\rho = \rho_{\gamma} \left[ 1 + \frac{7}{8} \left( \frac{4}{11} \right)^{4/3} N_{\text{eff}} \right]$$

For dark matter contribution to  $N_{\text{eff}}^{\nu}$  to be consistent with BBN, need  $m_{\text{DM}} > O(\text{MeV})$

# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis

Temperature of Universe  $\sim$  MeV

The universe is **radiation dominated** (photons, neutrinos), plus electrons, positrons, and a small amount of baryons and dark matter.

Neutron to proton ratio set by weak interaction the processes like:

$$\begin{aligned} n + e^+ &\leftrightarrow p + \bar{\nu}_e \\ n &\leftrightarrow p + \bar{\nu}_e + e^- \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{n}{p} \approx \exp\left(\frac{-(m_n - m_p)}{T}\right)$$

If there were extra radiation

→ The universe would expand faster

→ Weak interaction rates which convert neutrons to protons would freeze-out earlier

→ Larger neutron/proton ratio → more Helium

# Chemical vs thermal decoupling

- ❖ The DM relic density ceases to track the equilibrium density when the number changing processes ( $\chi\chi \leftrightarrow f\bar{f}$ ) become ineffective. This is chemical decoupling. The annihilation rate is proportional to  $n_\chi^2 \sim \left(e^{-\frac{m}{T}}\right)^2$ , i.e. doubly Boltzmann-suppressed.

For a non-relativistic WIMP, we have:  $x_{cd} = \frac{m_\chi}{T_{cd}} \approx 20$

- ❖ However, the WIMPs stay in thermal contact until much later, because scattering processes ( $\chi f \leftrightarrow \chi f$ ) are more frequent. This process has only a single Boltzmann suppression.

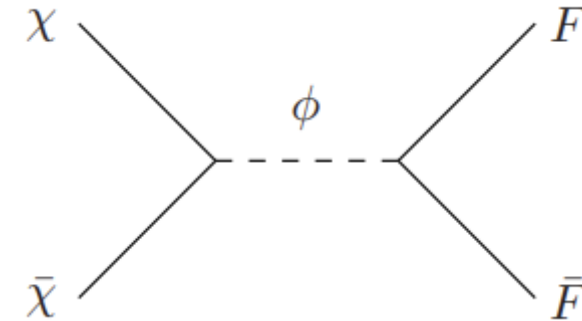
Thermal or kinetic decoupling occurs at  $x_{kd} = \frac{m}{T_{cd}} \simeq 200 - 10^5$  (large range)

# Important exceptions to the standard freeze-out calc

## 1. Co-annihilation

## 2. Annihilation near a resonance

$$\sigma v = \left(\frac{g^2}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{s}{\left(M_\phi^2 - s\right)^2 - M_\phi^2 \Gamma_\phi^2}$$



→ need to be careful with thermal average near the pole

## 3. Sub-threshold annihilation.

Annihilation  $\chi\chi \leftrightarrow f\bar{f}$ , with  $f$  heavier than  $\chi$ .

(Possible for the higher energy component of the  $\chi$  distribution, provided the mass splitting is not too large mass.)

# Including co-annihilations

If there are other dark-sector particles close in mass to the stable dark matter candidate, the standard calculation can fail.

Consider  $N$  particles,  $\chi_i$ , with  $i = 1, \dots, N$

Relic density controlled by (co)-annihilations of  $\chi_i$  and  $\chi_j$

Write down a set of coupled Boltzmann eqns:

$$\frac{dn_i}{dt} = -3Hn_i - \sum_{j=1}^N \langle \sigma_{ij} v_{ij} \rangle (n_i n_j - n_i^{eq} n_j^{eq}) + i \leftrightarrow j \text{ scattering terms}$$

$\sigma(\chi_i \chi_j \rightarrow X_{SM})$  is the total rate for  $\chi_i \chi_j$  (co)-annihilation to SM particles



Ultimately, we will be interested in only the total number density:

$$n \equiv \sum_{i=1}^N n_i$$

because the heavier particles will eventually decay to the lightest.  
(*i. e.*  $\chi_{2,3,4,\dots}$  all decay down to  $\chi_1$  with lifetime  $\ll$  age of universe)

The total number density satisfies the standard Boltzmann eqn:

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = -3Hn - \langle \sigma_{eff} v \rangle (n^2 - n_{eq}^2)$$

with an effective annihilation rate given by:

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

E.g., assume two dark particles,  $\chi_1$  and  $\chi_2$ ,  
 $m_1 < m_2$  and  $\Delta = m_2 - m_1$

$$\sigma_{eff} = \sigma_{11} + e^{-\Delta m/T} (1 + \Delta m / m)^{3/2} \sigma_{12} + e^{-2\Delta m/T} (1 + \Delta m / m)^3 \sigma_{22}$$

The processes involving the heavier particle are suppressed (larger Boltzmann suppression of number densities  $N_i \sim (m_i T)^{3/2} e^{-m_i/T}$ )

But, they are important if  $\Delta = m_2 - m_1$  is small and/or the  $\chi_1 \chi_1$  self-annihilation happens to be suppressed.

Suppose the relic density is determined by the co-annihilation process  $\chi_1\chi_2 \rightarrow X_{SM}$ , with  $\chi_1$  self-annihilation cross section very small.

Indirect detection: very suppressed

- no  $\chi_2$  left in universe today to annihilate

Direct detection: very suppressed

- $\chi_1 + N \rightarrow \chi_1 + N$  rate very small
- $\chi_1 + N \rightarrow \chi_2 + N$  kinematically forbidden unless  $\chi_2 - \chi_1$  mass gap is tiny

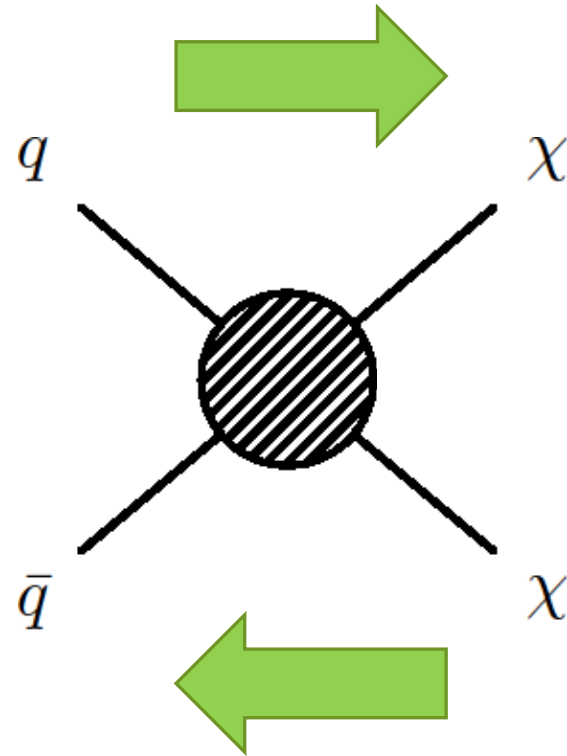
Collider production

- unsuppressed

# Dark Matter Lecture #2

# Detecting WIMPs

Collider searches (production)

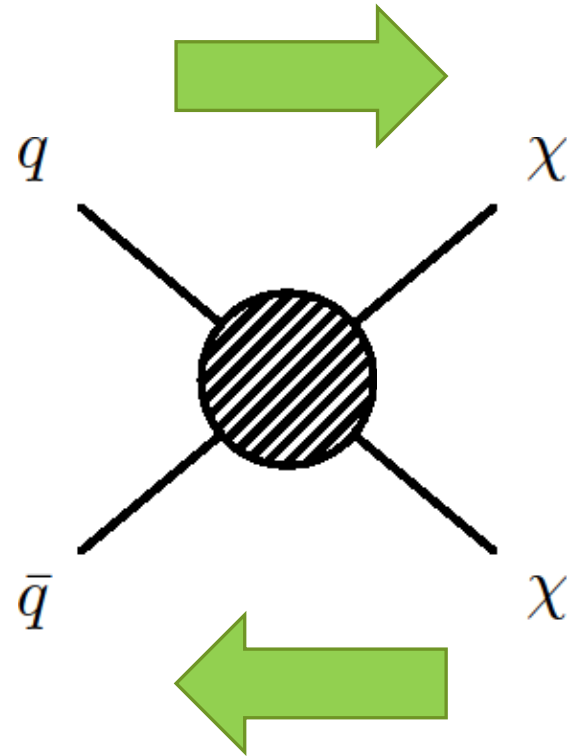


direct detection  
(scattering)

Indirect detection (annihilation)

# Detecting WIMPs

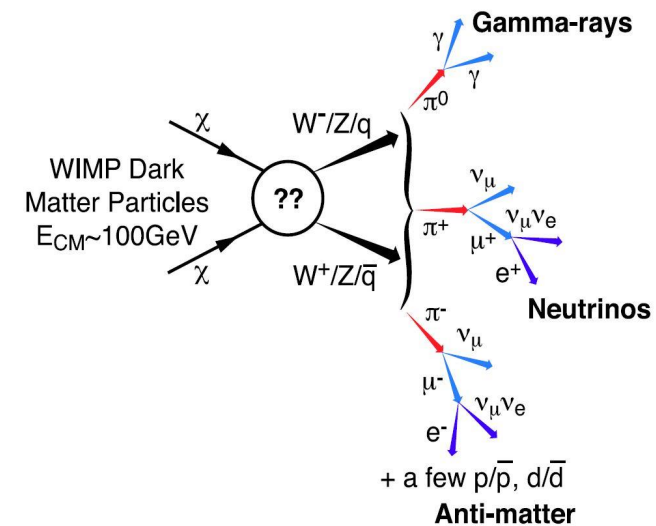
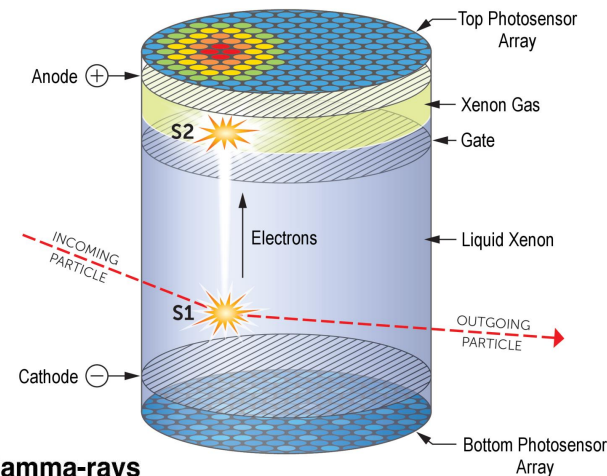
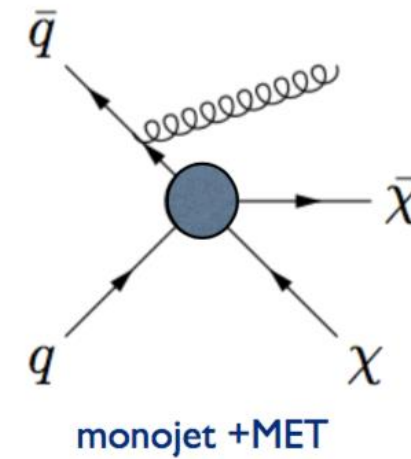
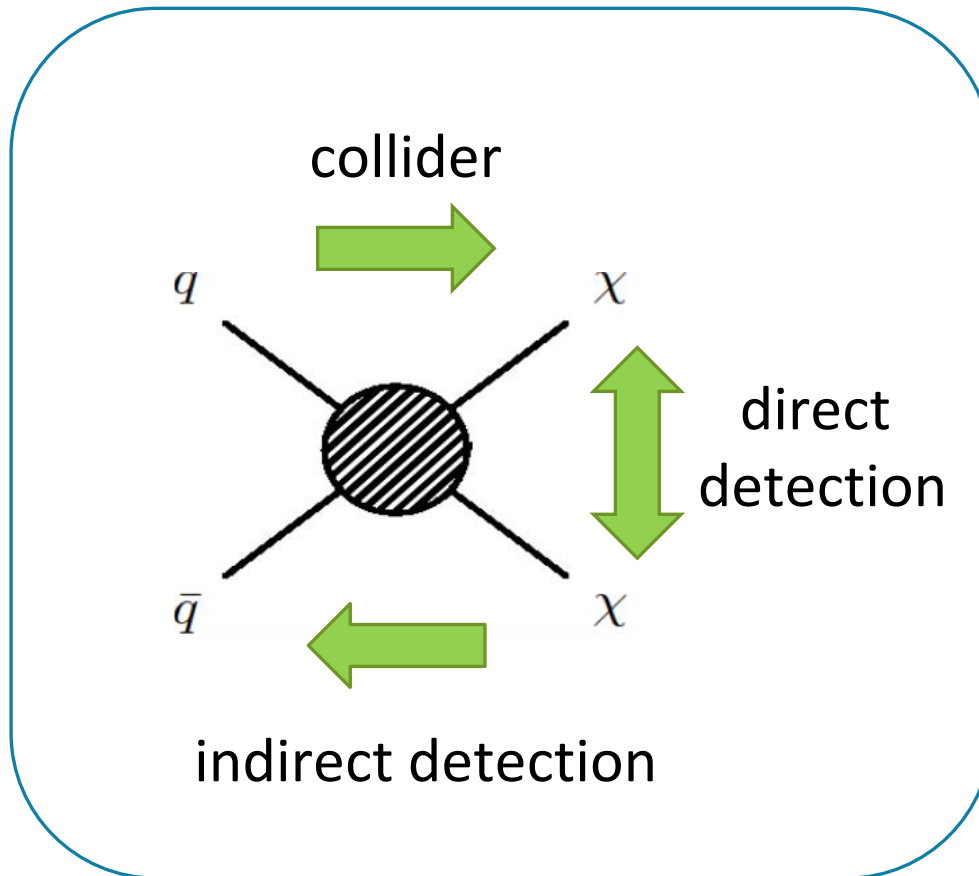
Collider searches ( **make it** )



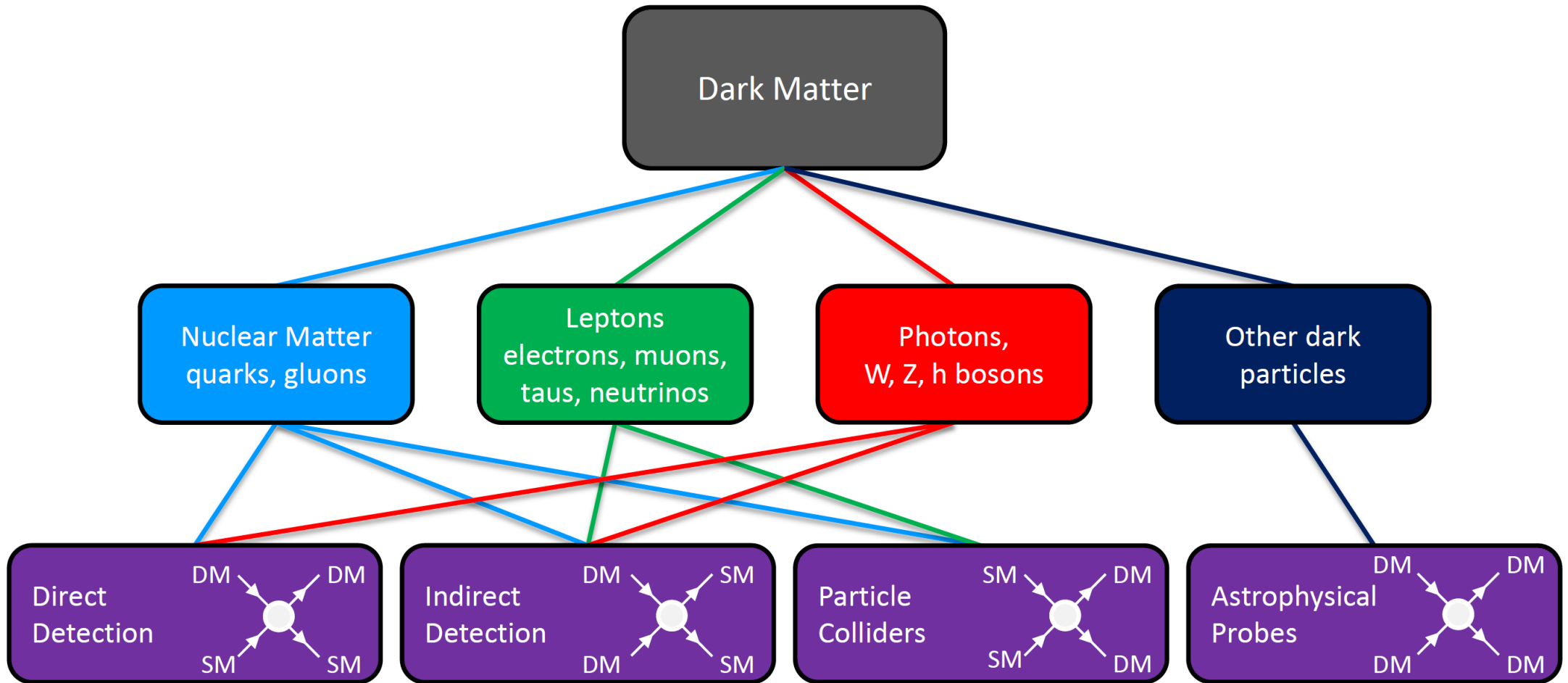
direct detection  
( **shake it** )

Indirect detection ( **break it** )

# Detecting WIMPs



# Complementary probes of (non-gravitational) DM interactions





# Dark matter self interactions

❖ Dark matter should not strongly self interact.

- The Bullet Cluster

- Halo shapes (self interactions make galaxies too spherical)

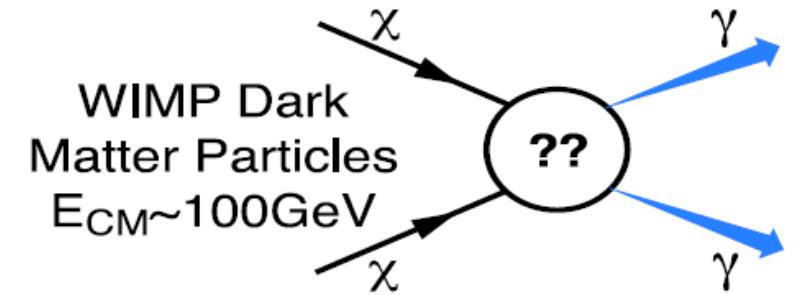
❖ But some amount of self interaction is usually expected. (Typically at tree-level, but certainly at loop level).

This is ok, and maybe even be desired:

→ helps to alleviate the CDM problem of too much structure on small scales.

However, there are other solutions to this problem, including warm dark matter, decaying dark matter, ...

# Dark Matter Indirect Detection



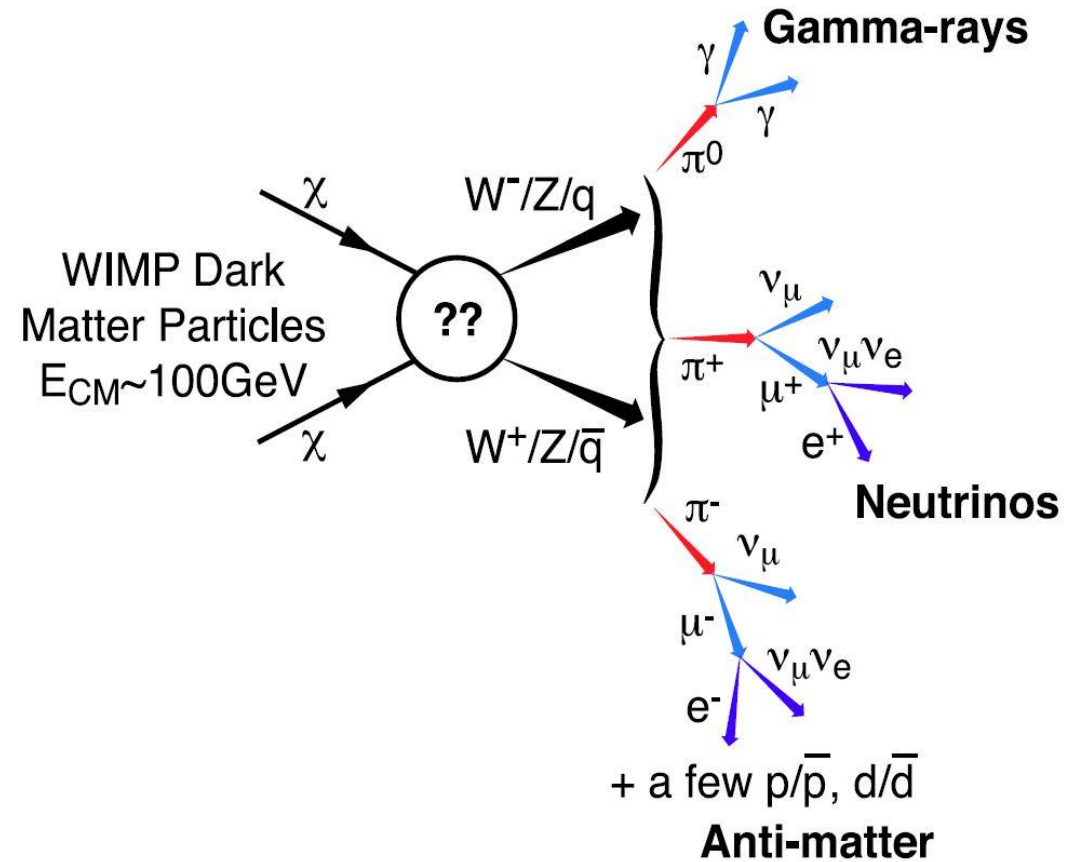
Search for DM annihilation or decay products from regions where the DM density is high and (ideally) astrophysical backgrounds are low.

# Indirect detection

– Detecting dark matter annihilation

Indirect detection probes the dark matter annihilation cross-section

→ The most direct detect test of the **thermal-relic WIMP paradigm**



# Indirect detection – Detecting dark matter annihilation

Suitable sources for indirect detection signals:

- The galactic centre (of our Milky Way galaxy)
- Dwarf galaxies
- Clusters

Also:

- Diffuse extra-galactic flux
- Dark matter annihilation in the Sun/Earth/planets

# s-wave vs p-wave

It is useful to expand the annihilation cross section in terms of velocity,  $v$ :

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = a + bv^2 + O(v^4)$$

$a$  term: s-wave ( $l=0$ ) annihilation

$b$  term: p-wave ( $l=1$ ) annihilation

- $v \approx 10^{-3}c$  in the galaxy, so only the s-wave contribution is significant for indirect detection.
- In the early universe (at DM freezeout)  $v$  is bigger, so both terms important.

→ s-wave typically assumed when comparing indirect detection and freezeout.

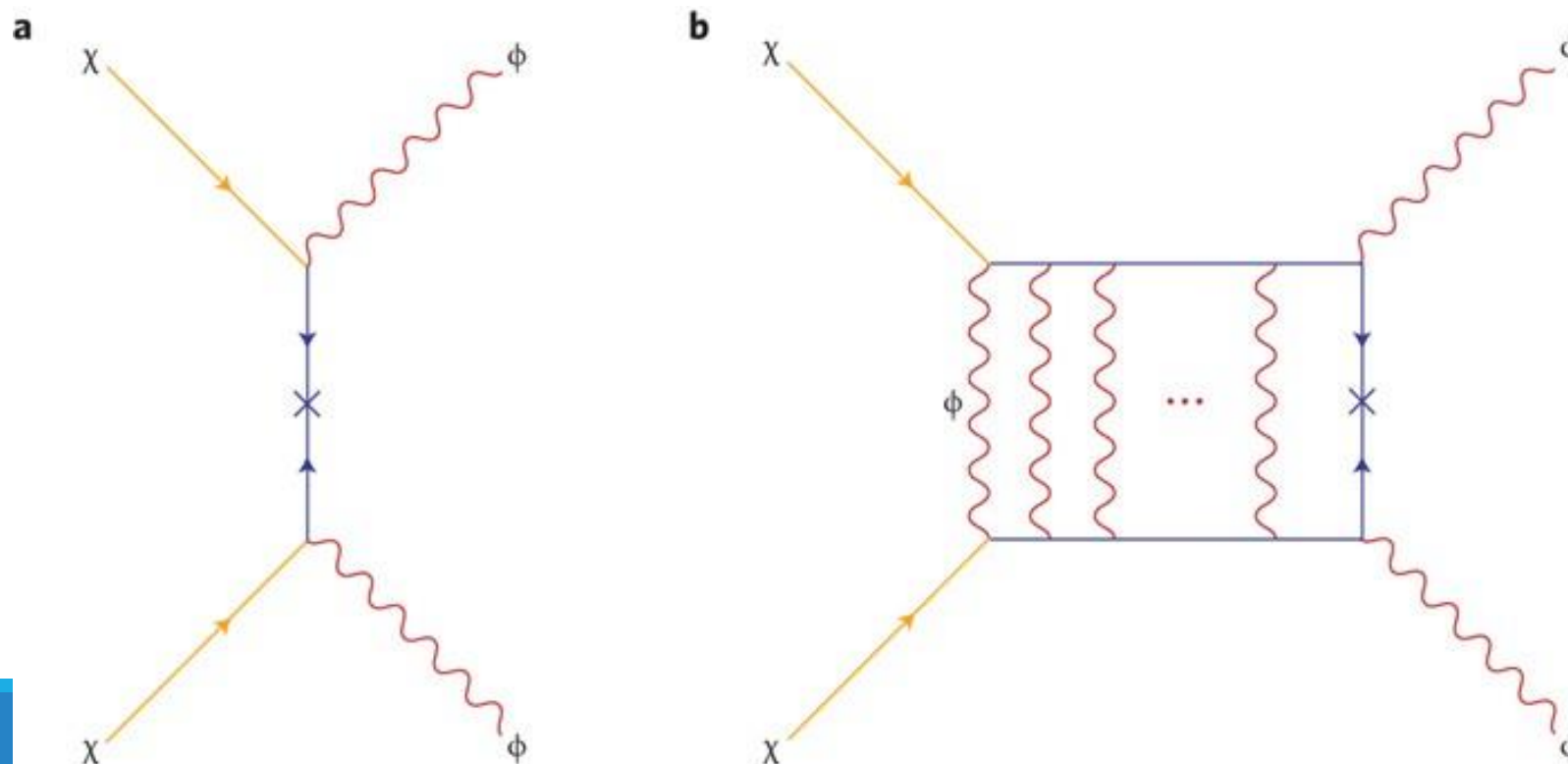
→ p-wave would give very suppressed indirect signal.

# Sommerfeld enhanced annihilation

We usually calculate cross section using perturbation theory.

But, this approach breaks down in the presence of long range forces and low velocity.

In this limit, Born approximation breaks down, as the particle wavefunctions are not well approximated by plane waves. Deformation of wavefunction for coulomb-like potential.



Equivalent to formation of short-lived bound states

# Sommerfeld enhanced annihilation

Assume DM interacts with a light force carrier  $\phi$  with fine structure constant:  $\alpha_\chi = \frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi}$

For  $m_\phi = 0$ , annihilation cross section is enhanced by the “Sommerfeld factor”:

$$S = \frac{\pi\alpha_\chi/v_{rel}}{1 - e^{-\pi\alpha_\chi/v_{rel}}}$$

For  $m_\phi \neq 0$ , the enhancement typically cut off at a value  $\alpha = \alpha_\chi m_\chi / m_\phi$ .  
(There are also resonance regions for particular (tuned) values of  $\alpha_\chi, m_\chi$  &  $m_\phi$ .)

Note the  $1/v$  dependence of the Sommerfeld enhanced cross section.

DM at freezeout:  $v \sim 1/3$       DM in the galaxy now:  $v \sim 10^{-3}$

→ Mechanism for boosting present day annihilation w.r.t. freezeout cross section

# Dark matter annihilation signal

$$\frac{d\Phi_{\Delta\Omega}}{dE} = \langle\sigma v\rangle \frac{J_{\Delta\Omega}}{8\pi m_{DM}^2} \frac{dN}{dE}$$

Annihilation cross section



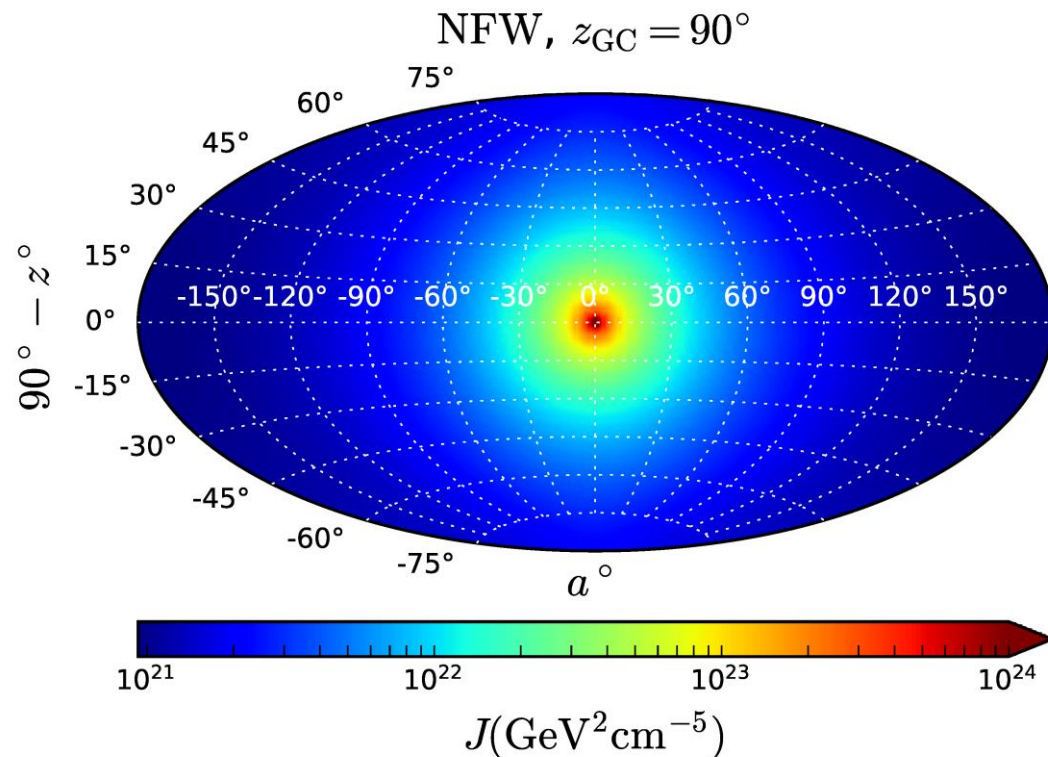
Integral of (density)<sup>2</sup> along line of sight



Spectrum per annihilation

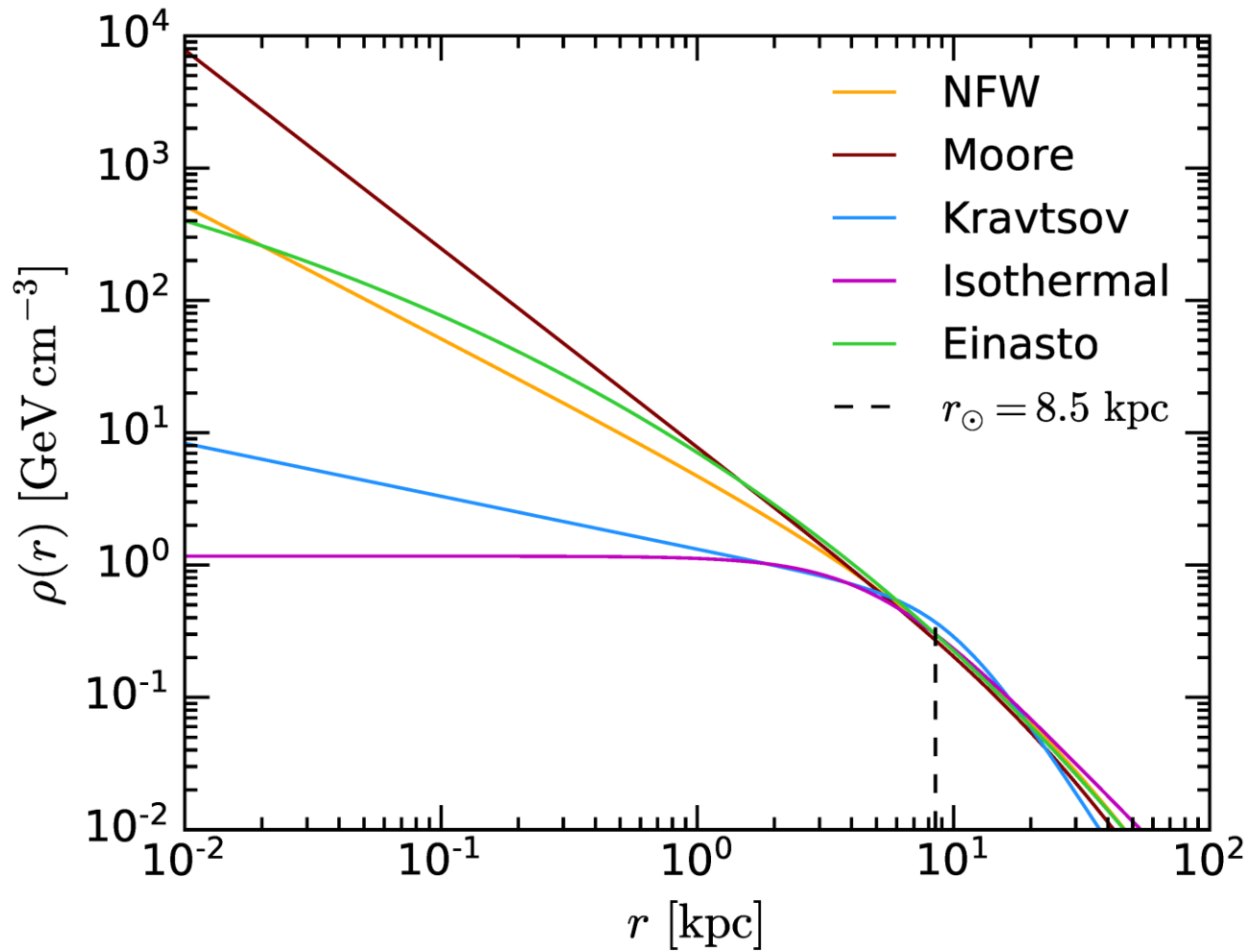


e.g. For  $\chi\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ , we have  $\frac{dN_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} = 2\delta(m_\chi - E_\gamma)$





# Galactic density profile



(Relatively) small uncertainty in DM density near the Earth.

DM density in the galactic centre highly dependent on the halo profile assumed.

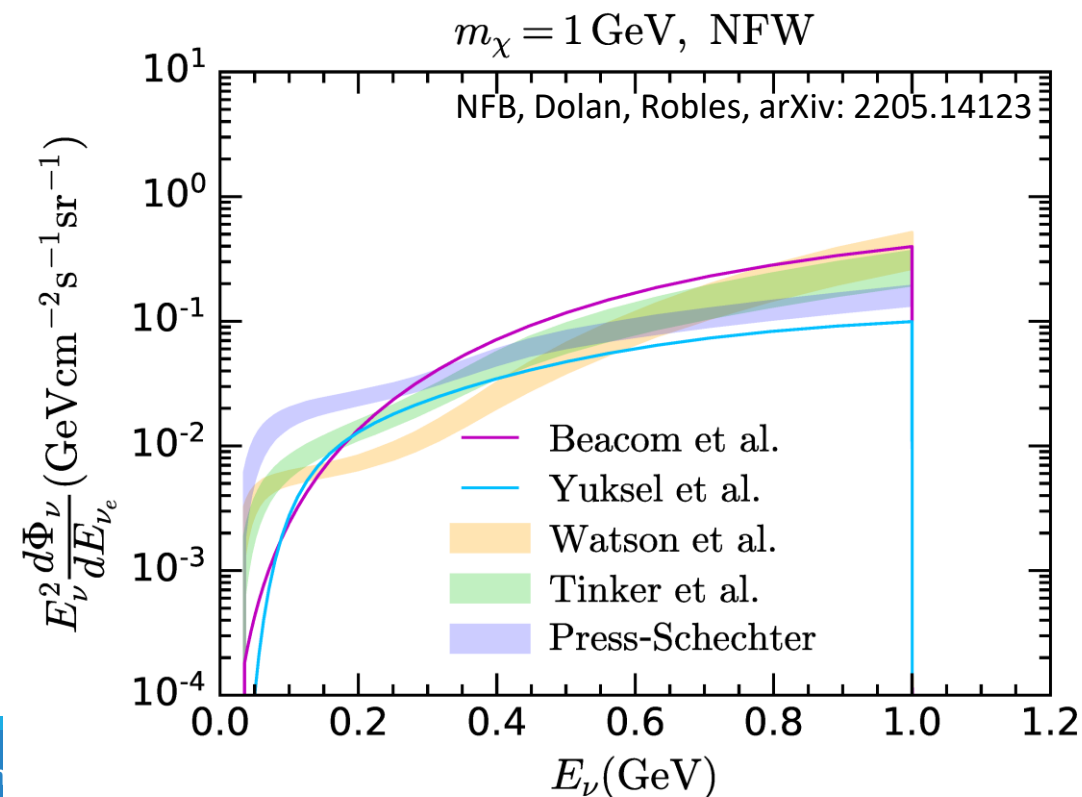
# Indirect detection – extra galactic flux

$$\frac{d\Phi_\nu}{dE_\nu} = \frac{\langle\sigma v\rangle}{2} \frac{c}{4\pi H_0} \frac{\Omega_{DM}^2 \rho_c^2}{m_{DM}^2} \int_0^{z_{up}} dz \frac{\Delta^2}{h(z)} \frac{dN_\nu(E'_\nu)}{dE'_\nu}$$

Flux produced at energy  $E'$  redshifted to  $E = \frac{E'}{1+z}$ :

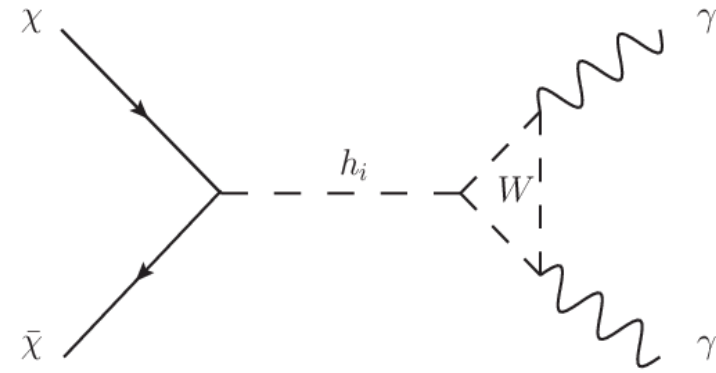
$$h(z) = \sqrt{\Omega_{m,0}(1+z) + \Omega_{\Lambda,0}}$$

$\Delta^2$  parametrises dependence on the choice of the Halo clustering factor.



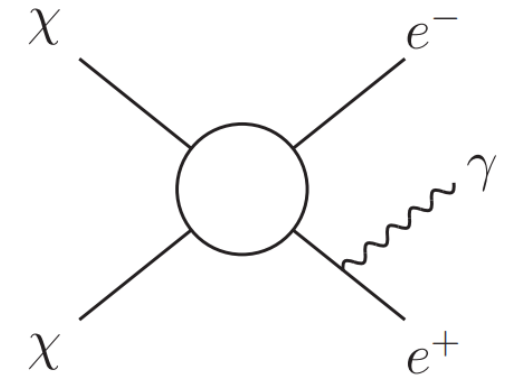
# Annihilation modes:

- $\chi\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  → should be loop suppressed



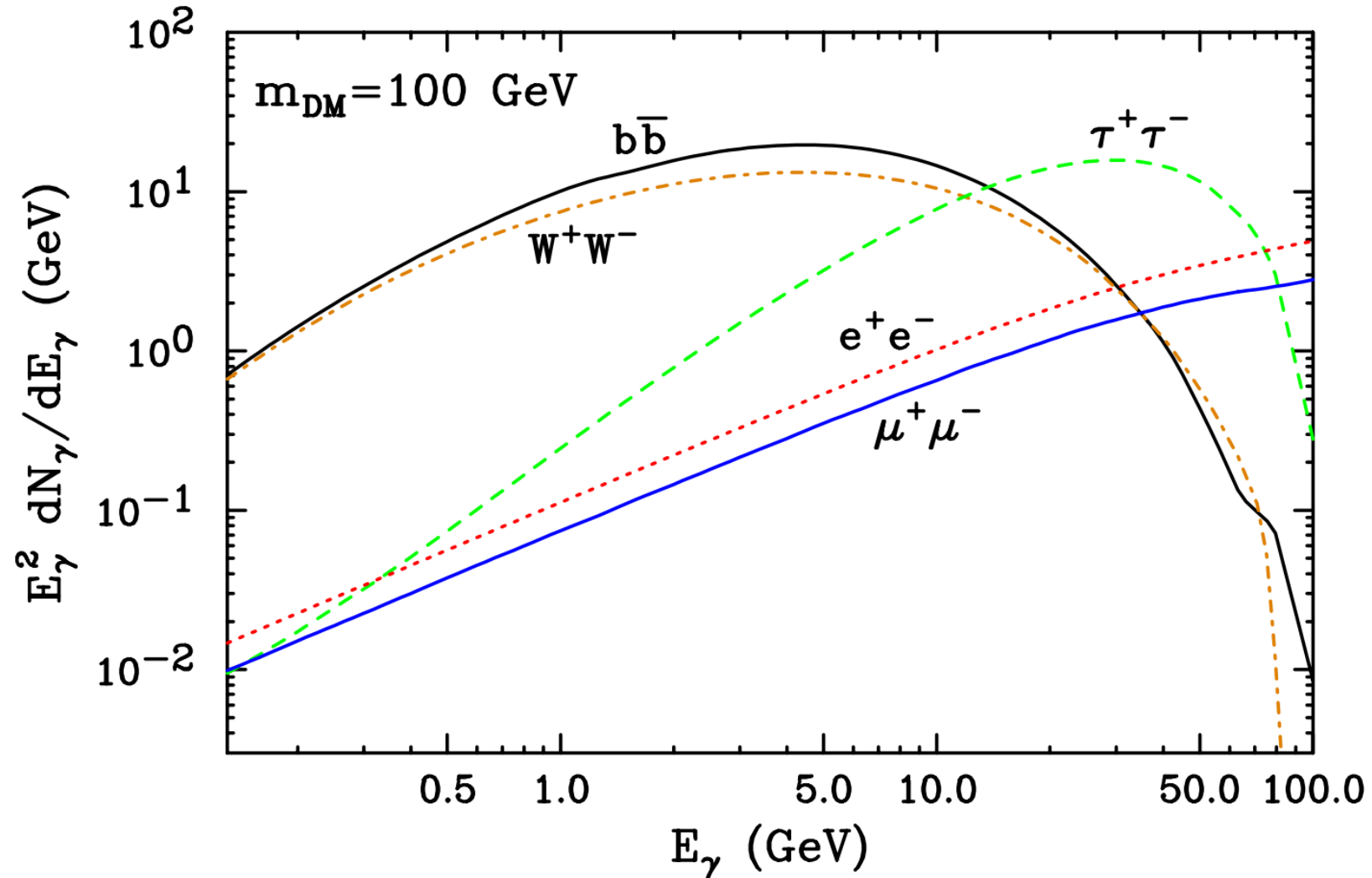
- $\chi\chi \rightarrow e^+e^-$  → detect electrons/positrons or, gamma rays from bremsstrahlung & inverse Compton scattering

Note:  $\chi\chi \rightarrow e^+e^-$  necessarily accompanied by  $\chi\chi \rightarrow e^+e^-\gamma$  “internal bremsstrahlung”



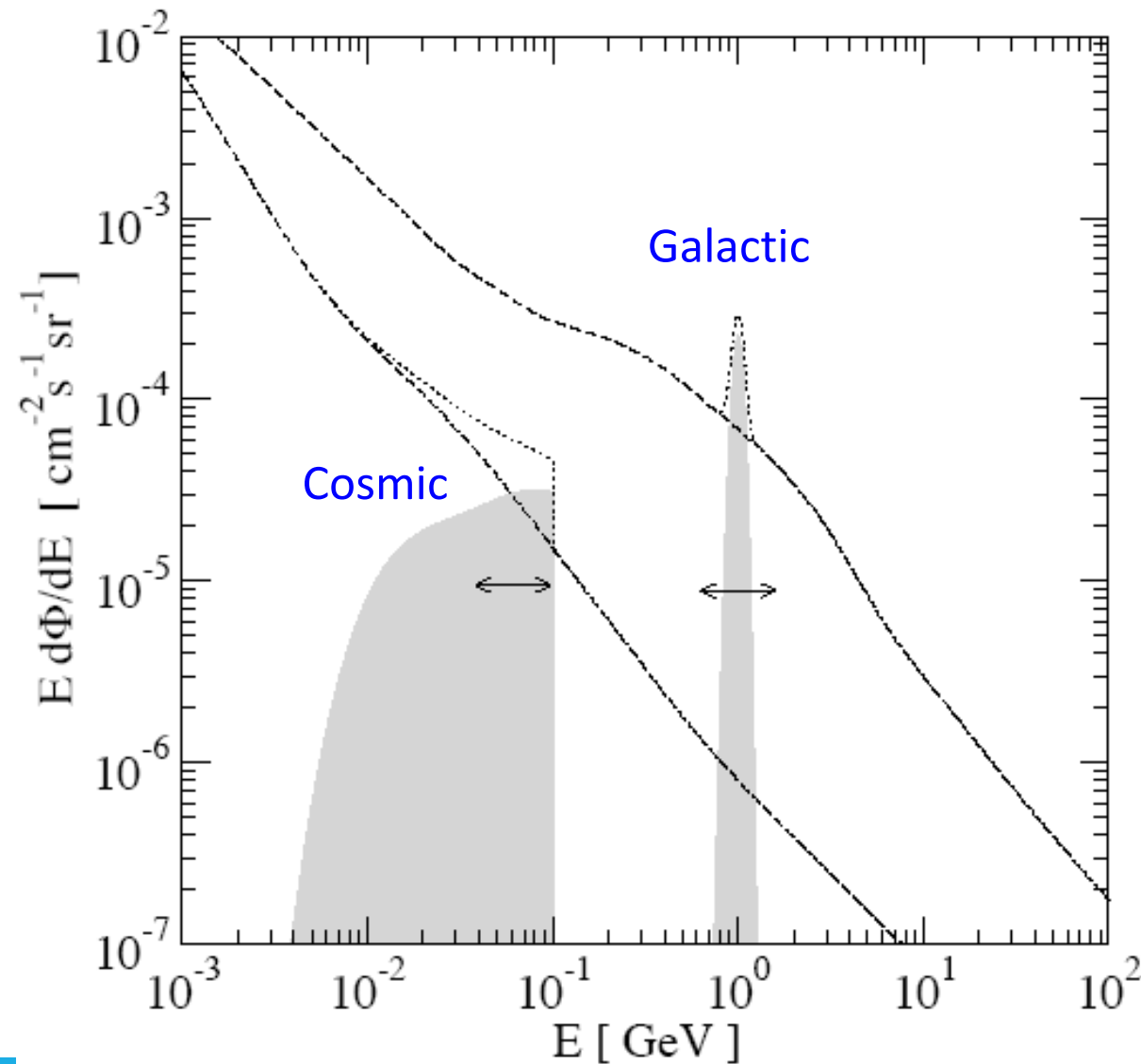
- $\chi\chi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$  → less internal brem than electrons (lighter particles radiate more)
- $\chi\chi \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$  → hadronic decays modes produce broad spectrum of photons
- $\chi\chi \rightarrow \bar{b}b$  → hadronic decays modes produce broad spectrum of photons

# Annihilation spectra ( $\gamma$ -rays):



Buckley & Hooper  
arXiv:1004.1644

# Dark matter annihilation to $\gamma$ -rays - signal & background



Mack, Jacques, Beacom, NFB,  
Yuksel, arXiv:0803.0157

# Indirect detection with Milky Way dwarfs

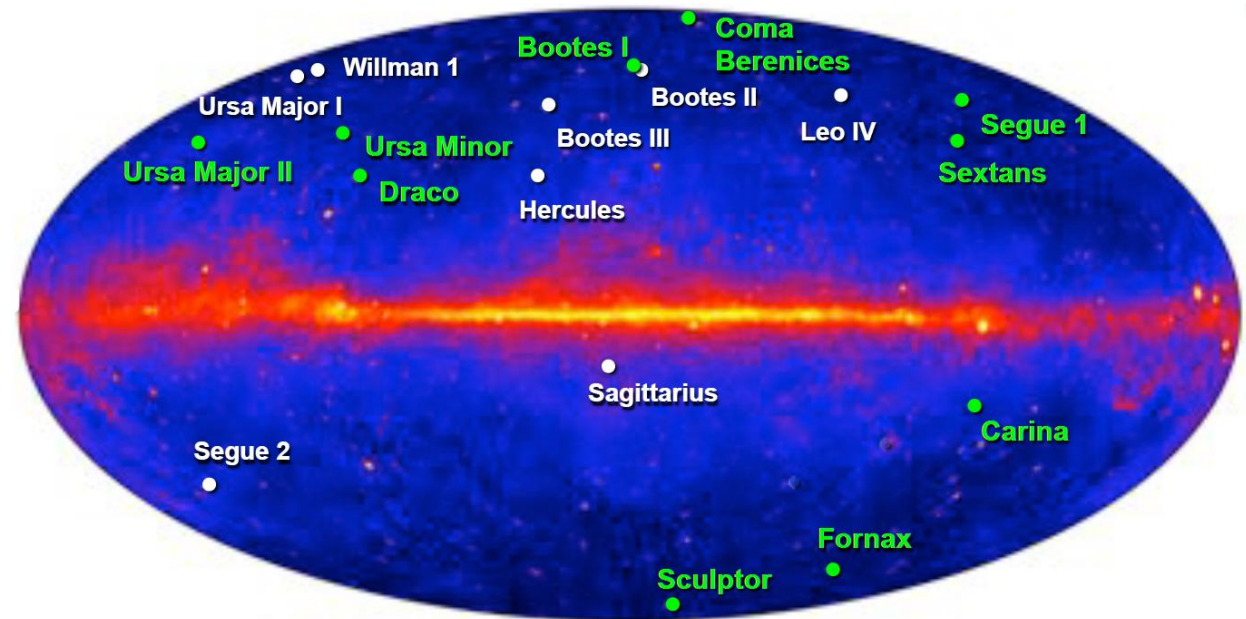


## Dwarf spheroidal galaxies



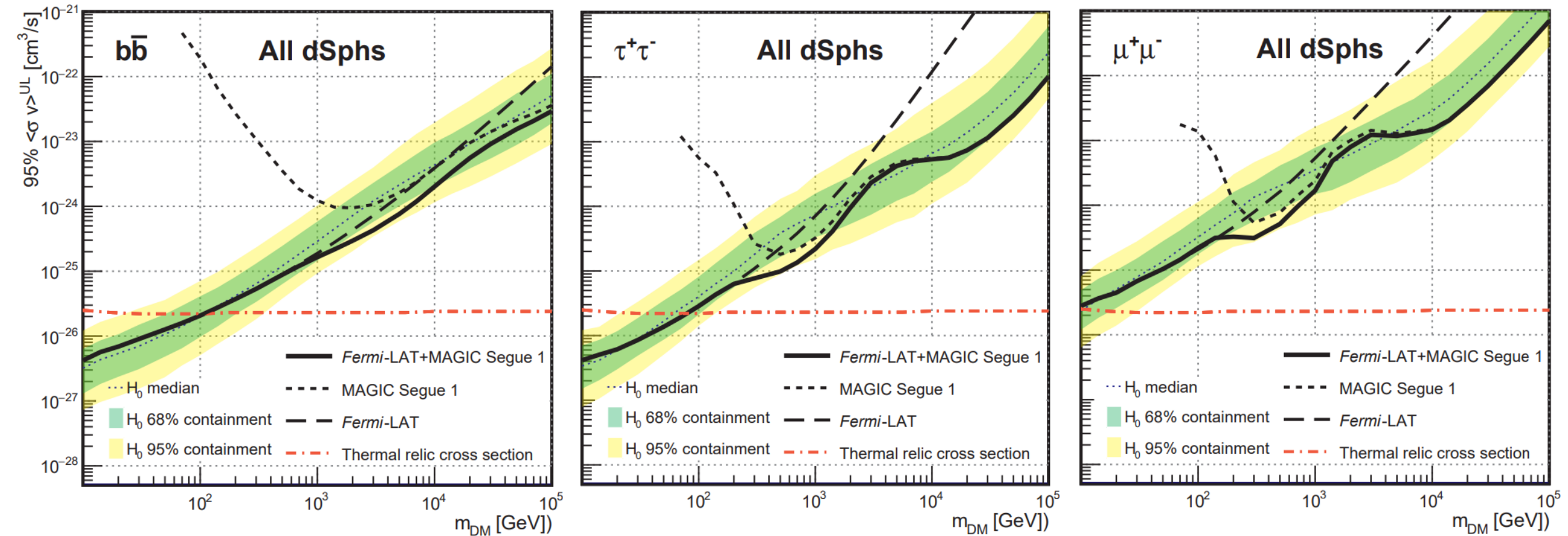
- ✓ dSphs are DM dominated systems (they have very high M/L ratios).
- ✓ Many dSphs are closer than 100 kpc to the Galactic Centre.
- ✓ Low background

Negligible astrophysical backgrounds  
→ robust limits



# Indirect detection with Milky Way dwarfs

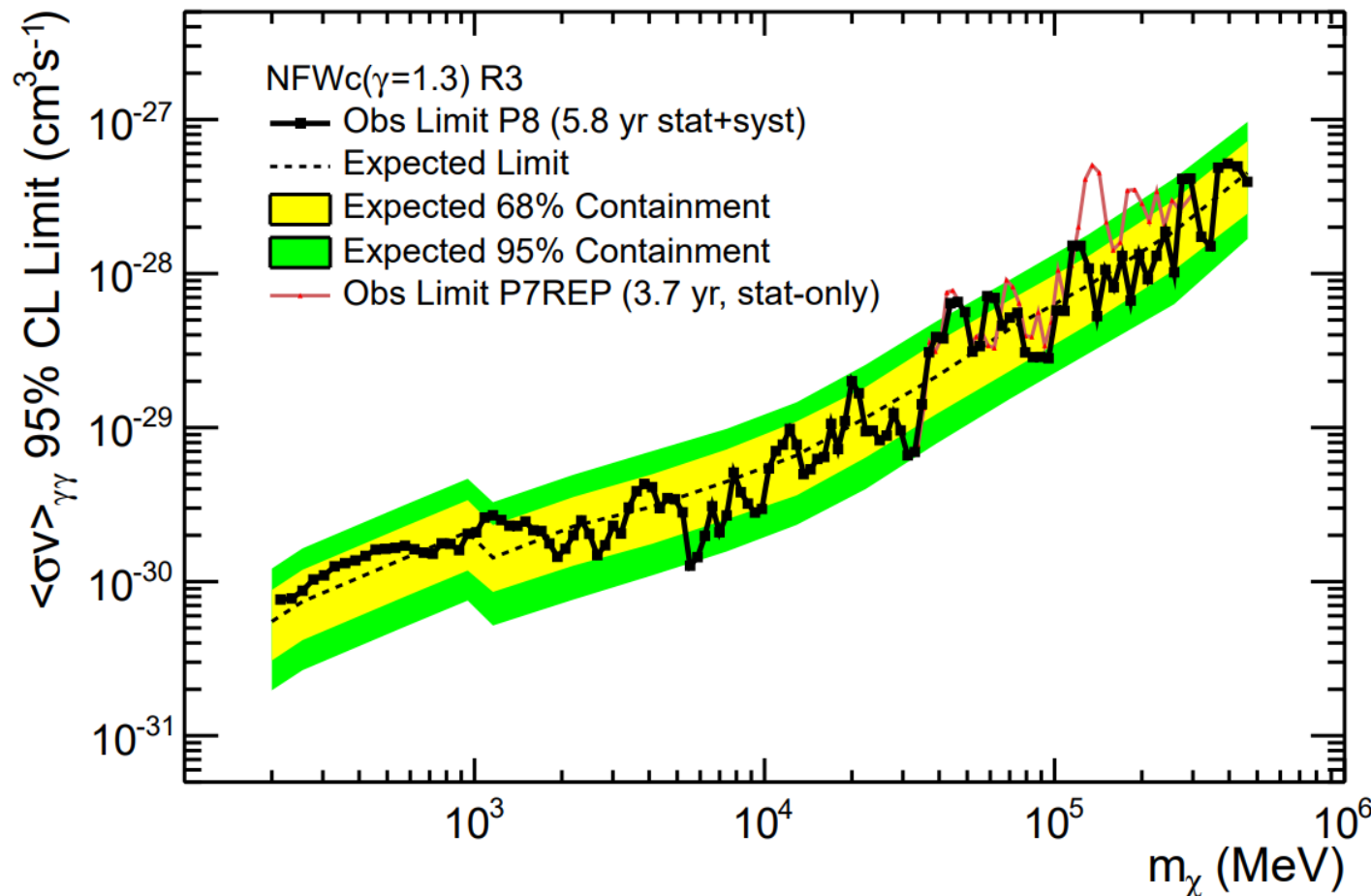
arXiv:1601.06590





# Gamma ray lines – the smoking gun...

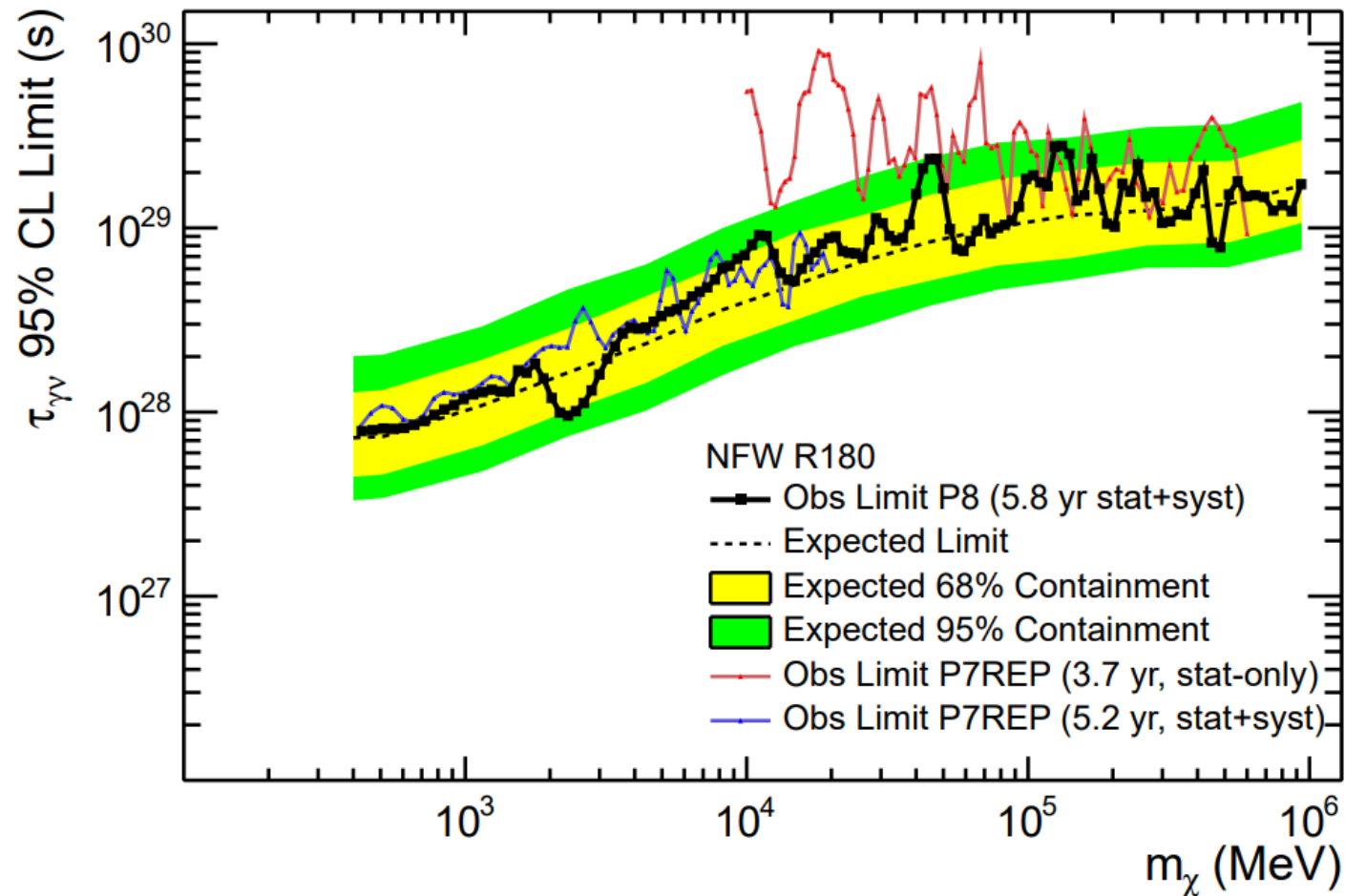
Fermi Gamma ray line search from 200 MeV – 500 GeV  
No globally significant line signal. arXiv:1506.00013



Note: gamma ray lines should be loop suppressed, thus subdominant to continuum gammas.



# Gamma ray lines – DM decay



$\tau \gg$  age of Universe  $\sim 10^{17}$  s

# CMB limits on DM annihilation

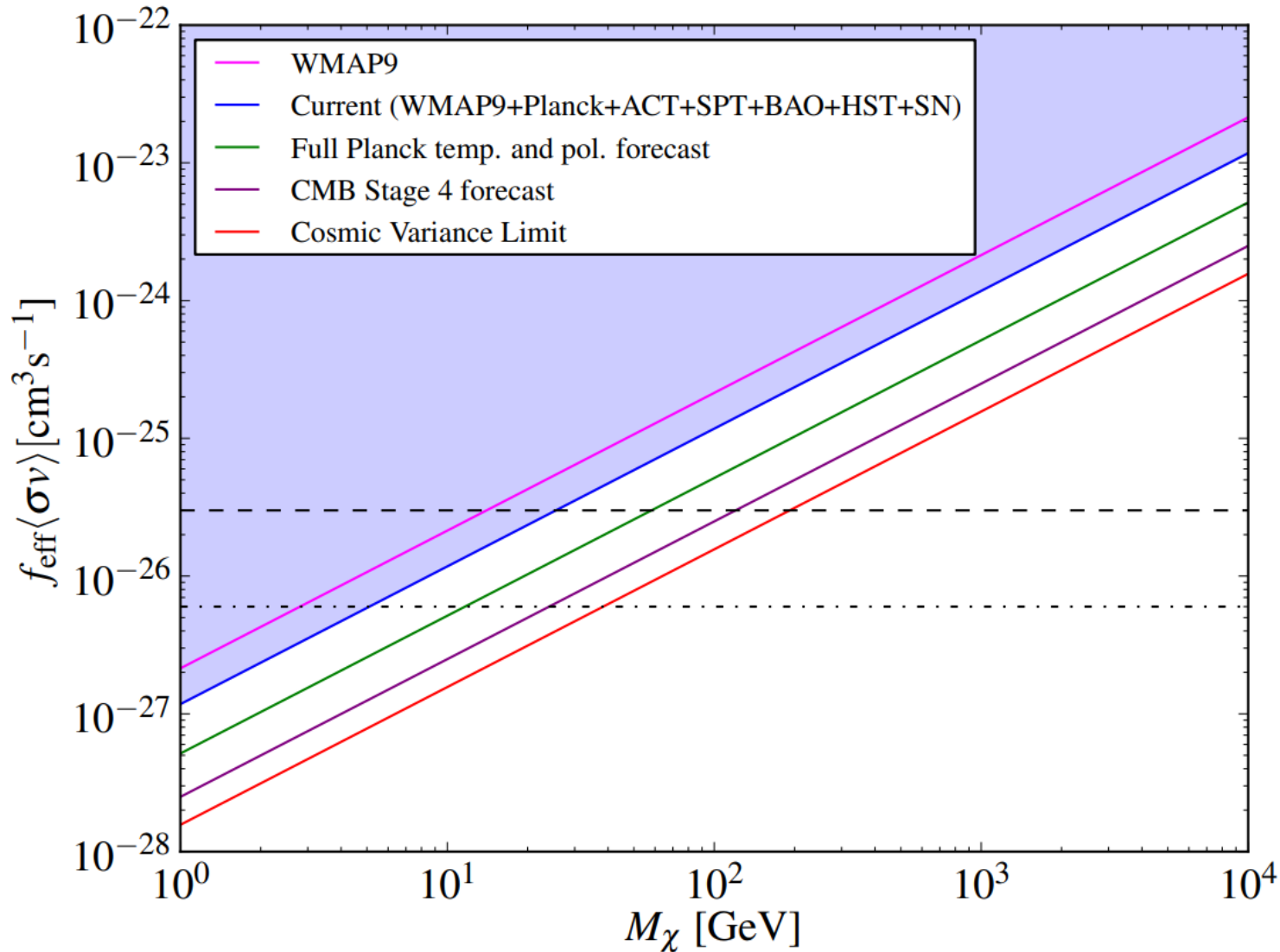
Recombination history of the universe could be modified if DM annihilations inject energy into the photon-baryon plasma.

Limits depend on:

- the fraction of the DM energy absorbed by the plasma  
→ typical value  $f=0.2$  (larger for annihilation to electrons)
- Velocity dependence of the cross section  
→ If p-wave suppressed, annihilation rate is very small

Currently exclude thermal relics with  $m < 5$  GeV

# CMB limits on DM annihilation



$f_{\text{eff}}$  = fraction of energy absorbed by the CMB plasma

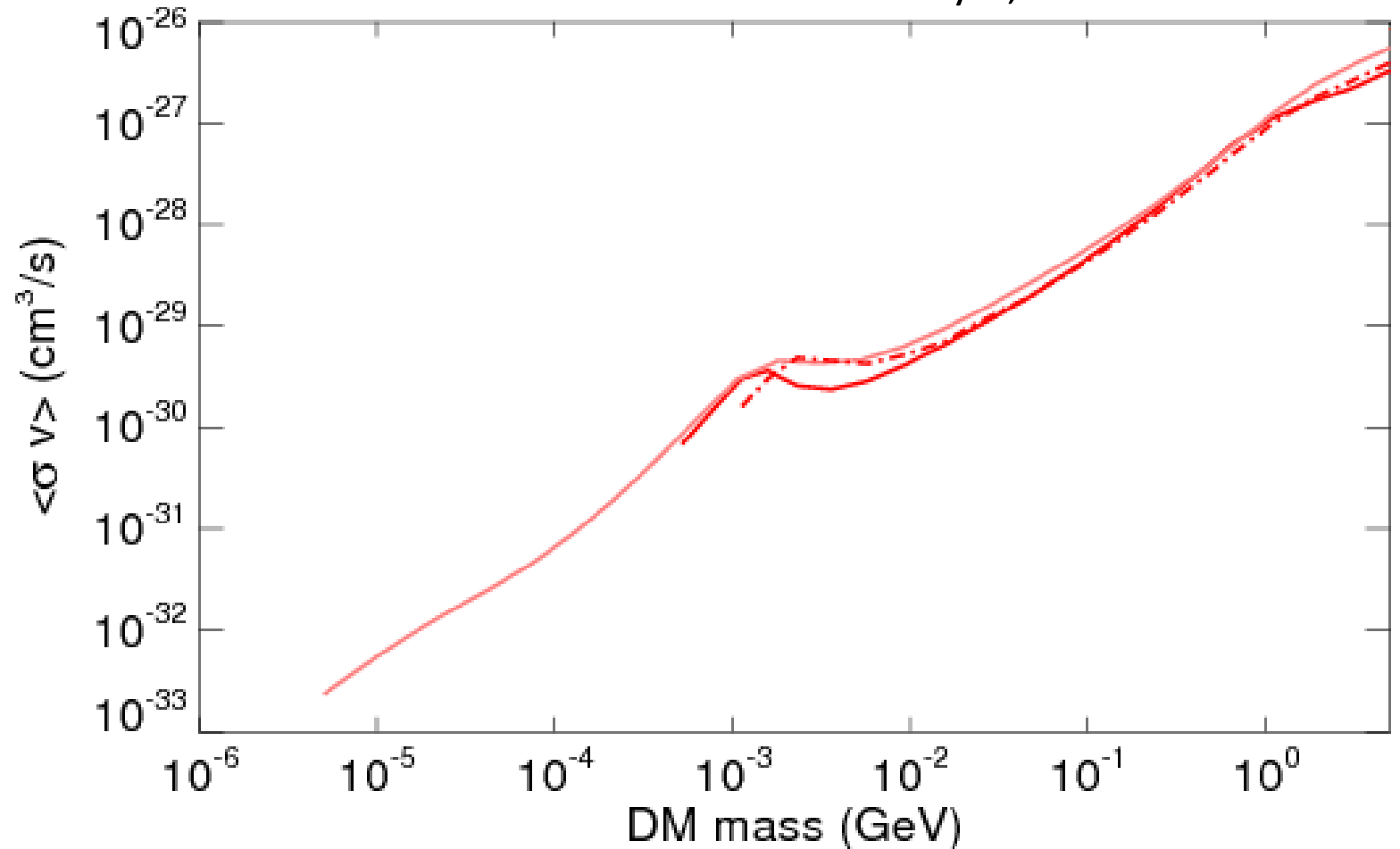
$f_{\text{eff}} \sim 0.2$  for most annihilation channels (larger for annihilation to  $e^+e^-$ )

Madhavacheril, Sehgal & Slatyer,  
arXiv:1310.3815

# CMB limits on DM annihilation

Very strong limits  
on annihilation of  
light dark matter to  
electrons or photons

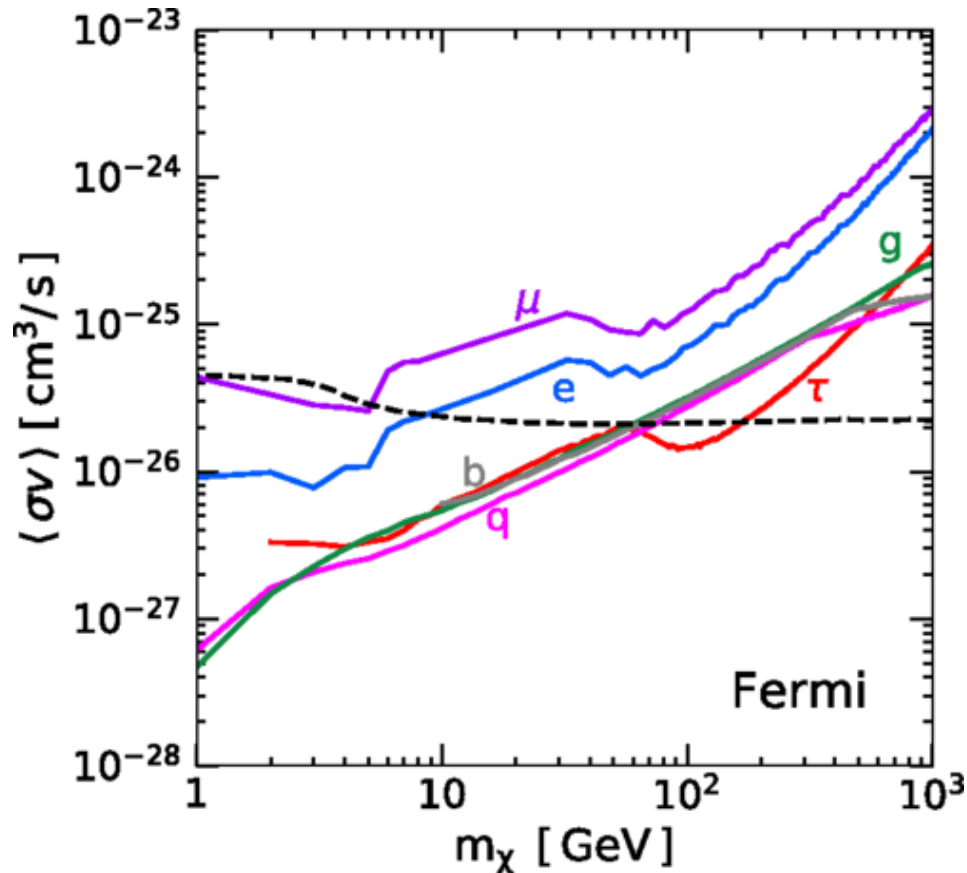
T. Slatyer, arXiv: 1506.03811



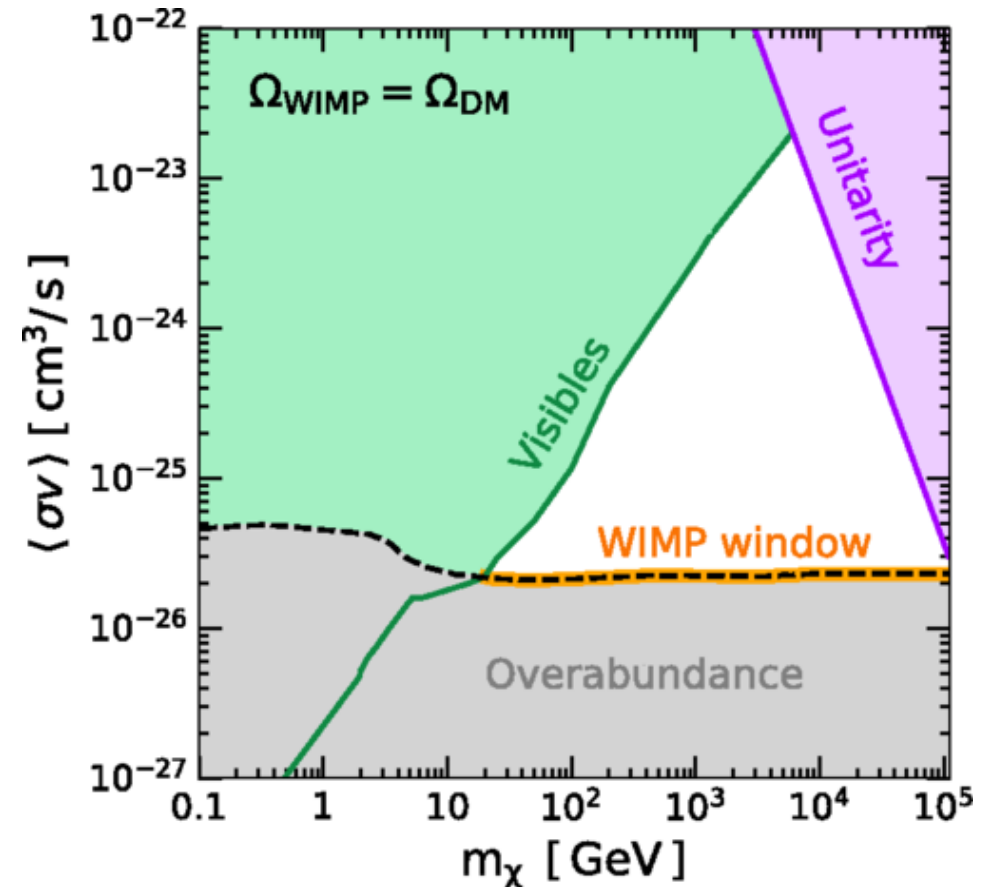
# Indirect detection constraints

R. Leane, et al., arXiv:1805.10305

## Fermi dSph limits

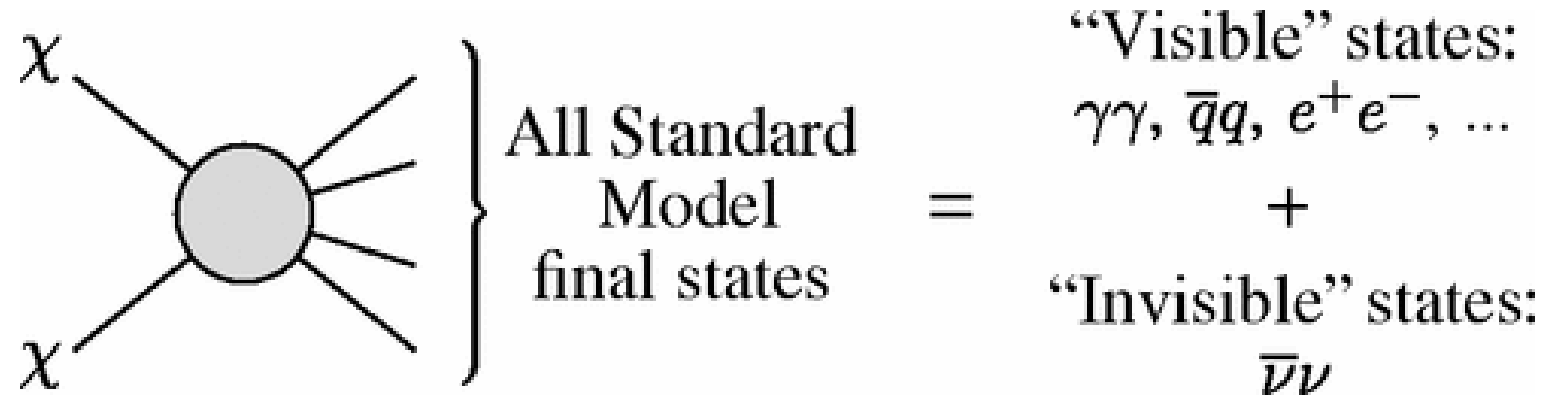


## Annihilation to “visible” SM states



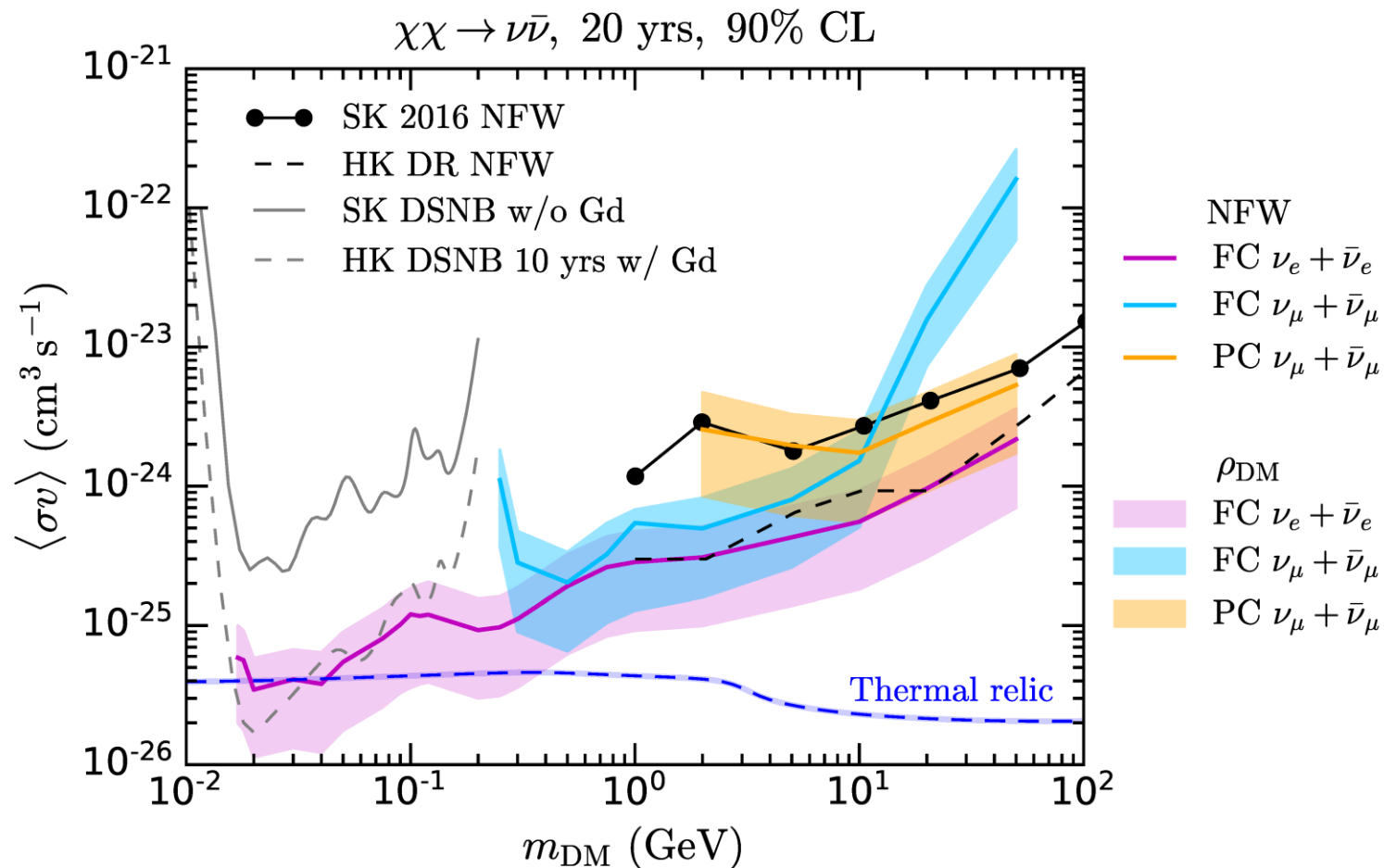
# Annihilation to neutrinos

- Indirect detection limits – typically neglect the possibility that dark matter may annihilate to “invisible” or hard-to-detect final states.



- Can DM annihilate to neutrinos without producing charged fermions?
  - Yes, e.g., “neutrino portal” models
- **Annihilation to neutrinos – can we probe thermal-relic cross sections?**

# Annihilation cross section limits: $\chi\chi \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$

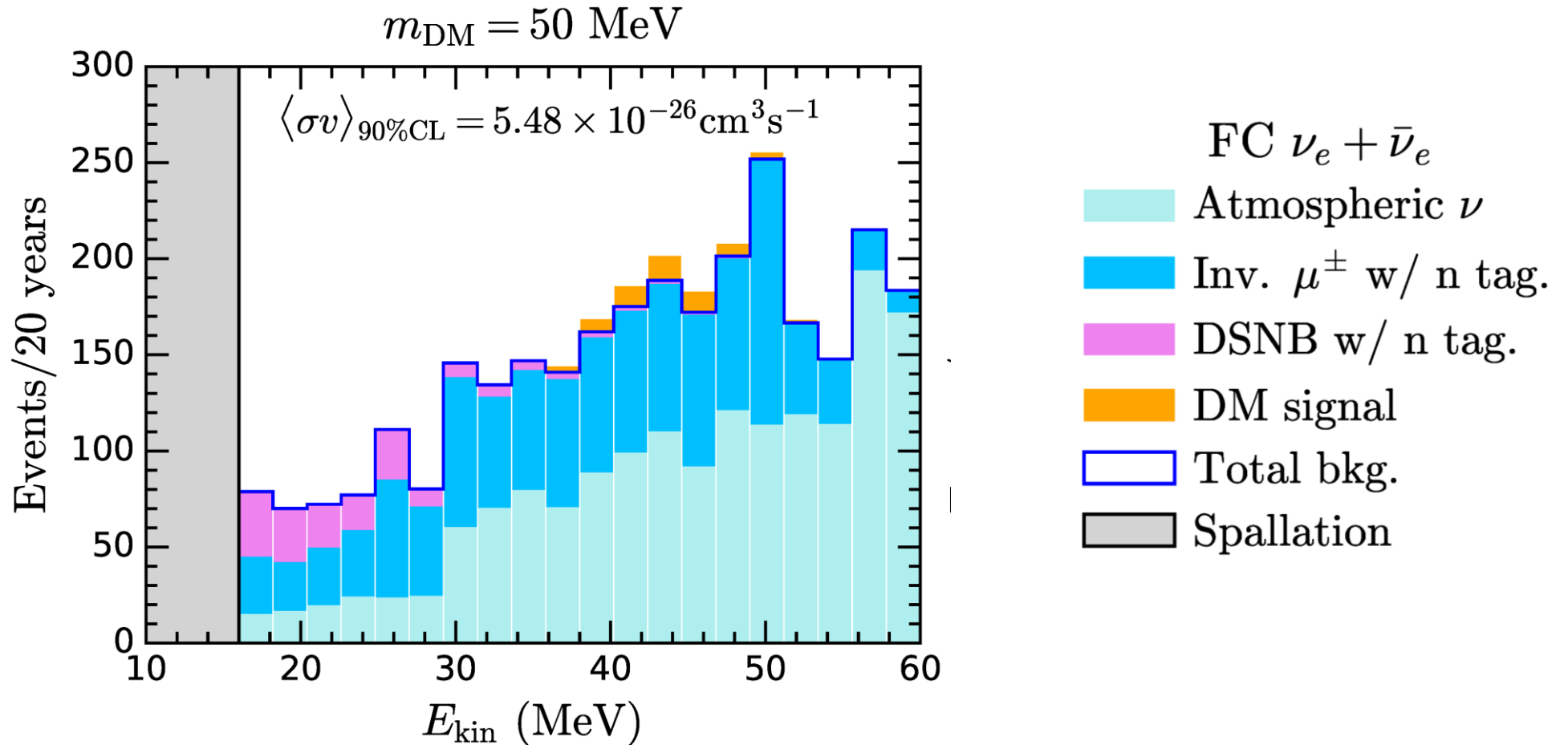


Thermal relic sensitivity for  
DM mass of  $\sim 30$  MeV

NFW – central lines  
Isothermal – upper  
Moore - lower

NFB, Dolan, Robles, arXiv: 2005.01950

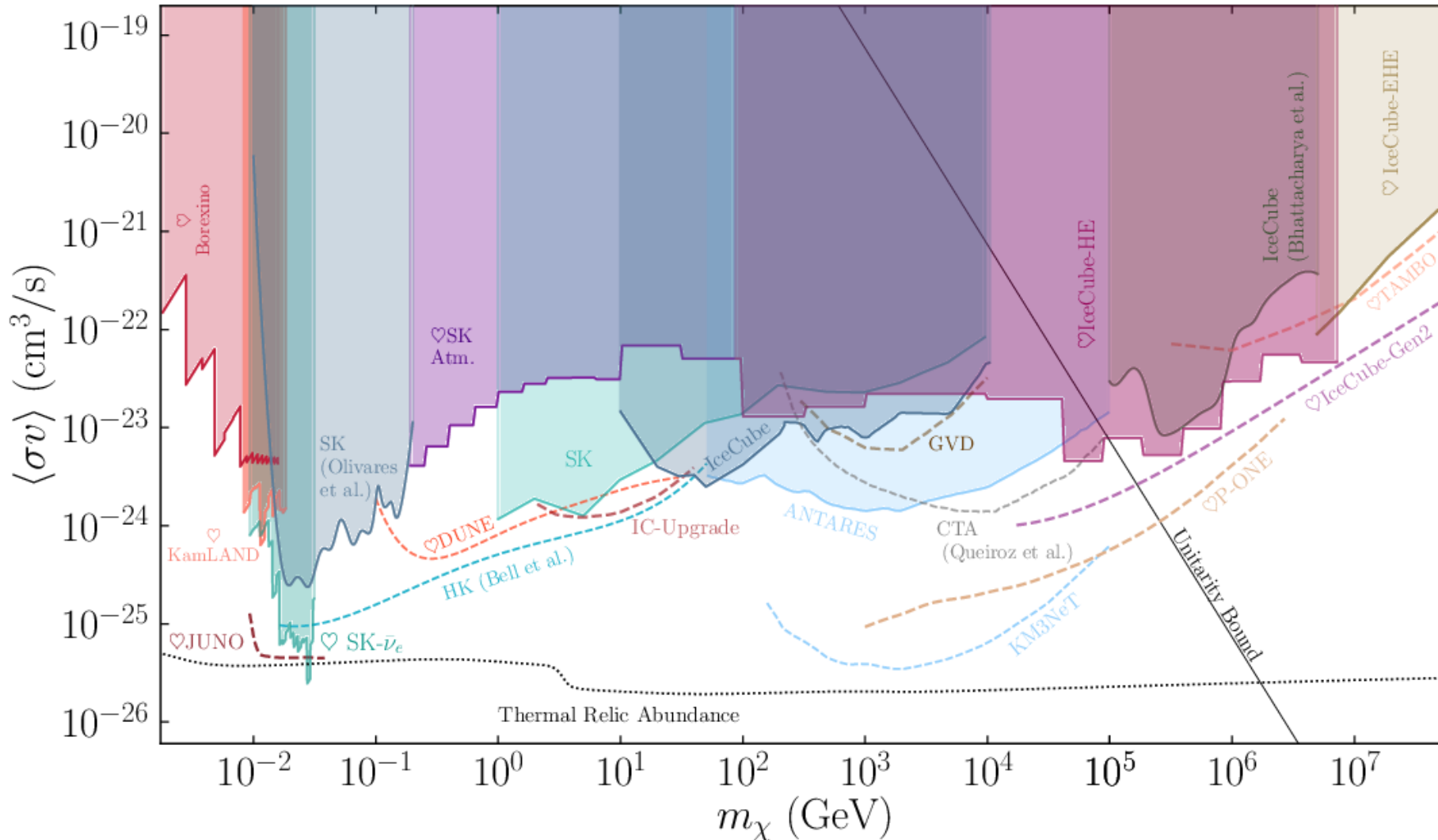
# DM annihilation to neutrinos - signal & backgrounds



NFB, Dolan, Robles, arXiv: 2005.01950



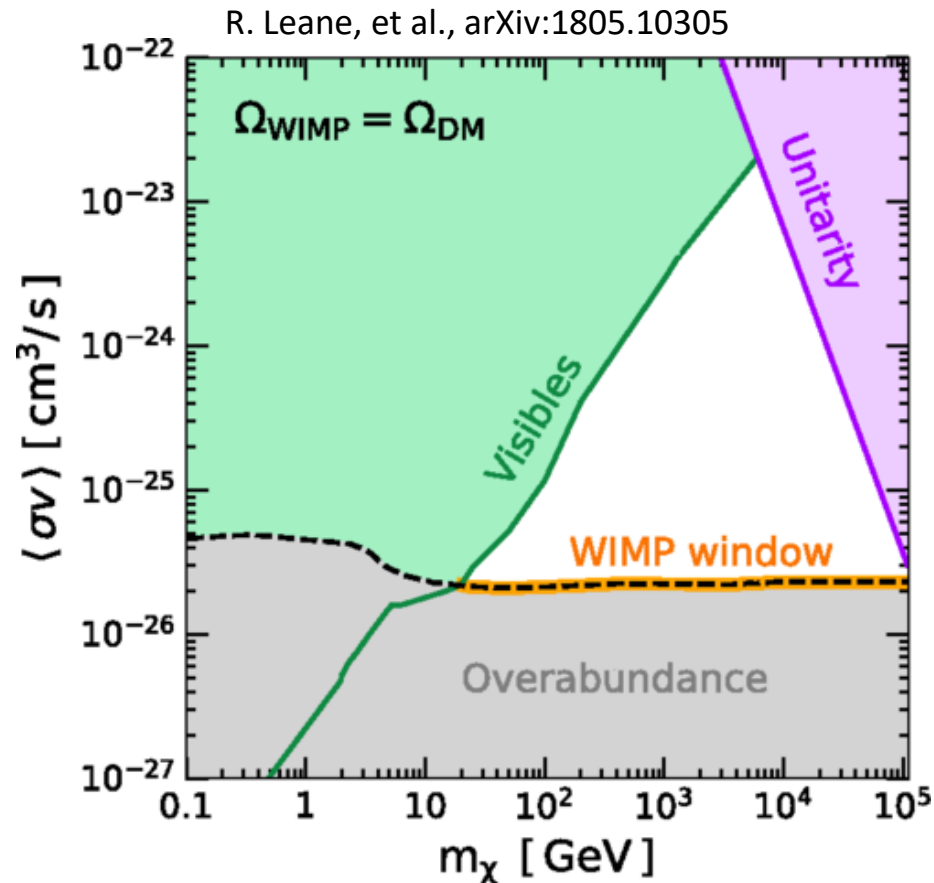
# Annihilation cross section limits: $\chi\chi \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$



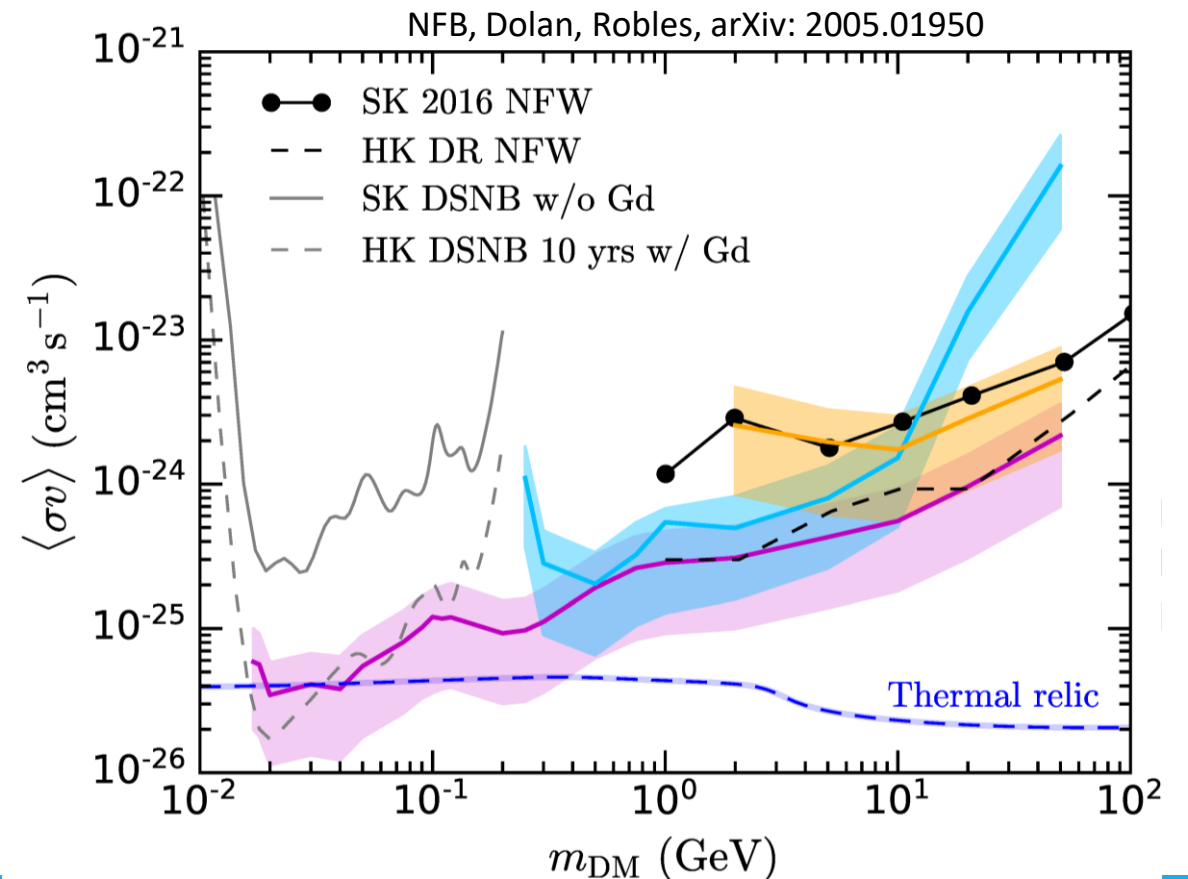
Arguelles  
arXiv: 2005.01950

# Indirect detection → much of the WIMP window yet to be tested

## Annihilation to “visible” SM states

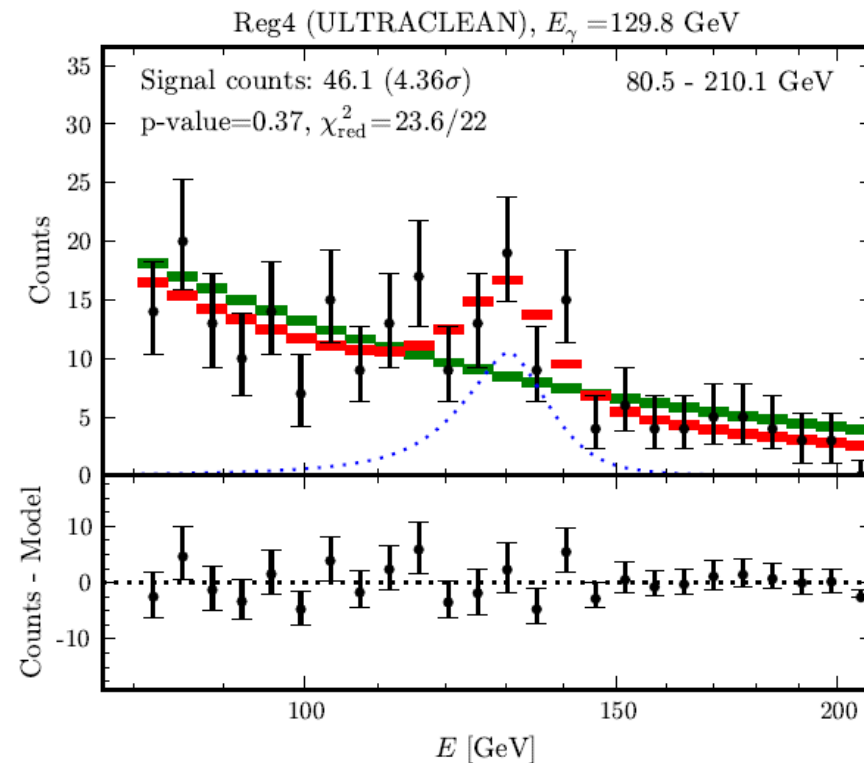
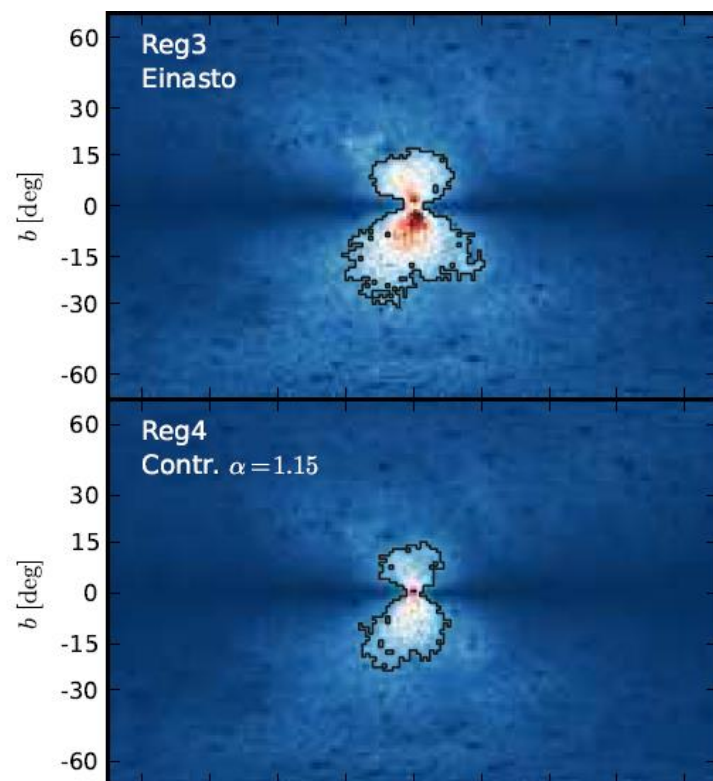


## Annihilation to “invisible” SM states



# Claimed indirect detection signals:

Fermi gamma ray line at  $\sim 130$  GeV?



Weniger 1204.2797, and several other groups.

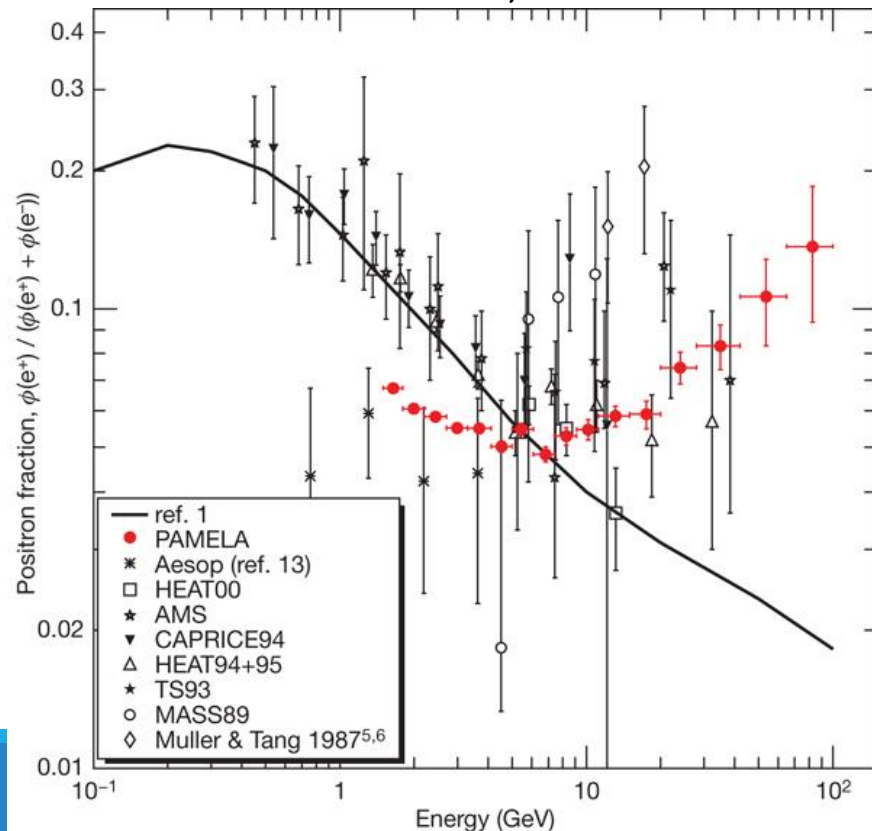
A surprise! Remember, gamma ray lines are loop suppressed.

Official Fermi-LAT analysis with more data found a lower significance.

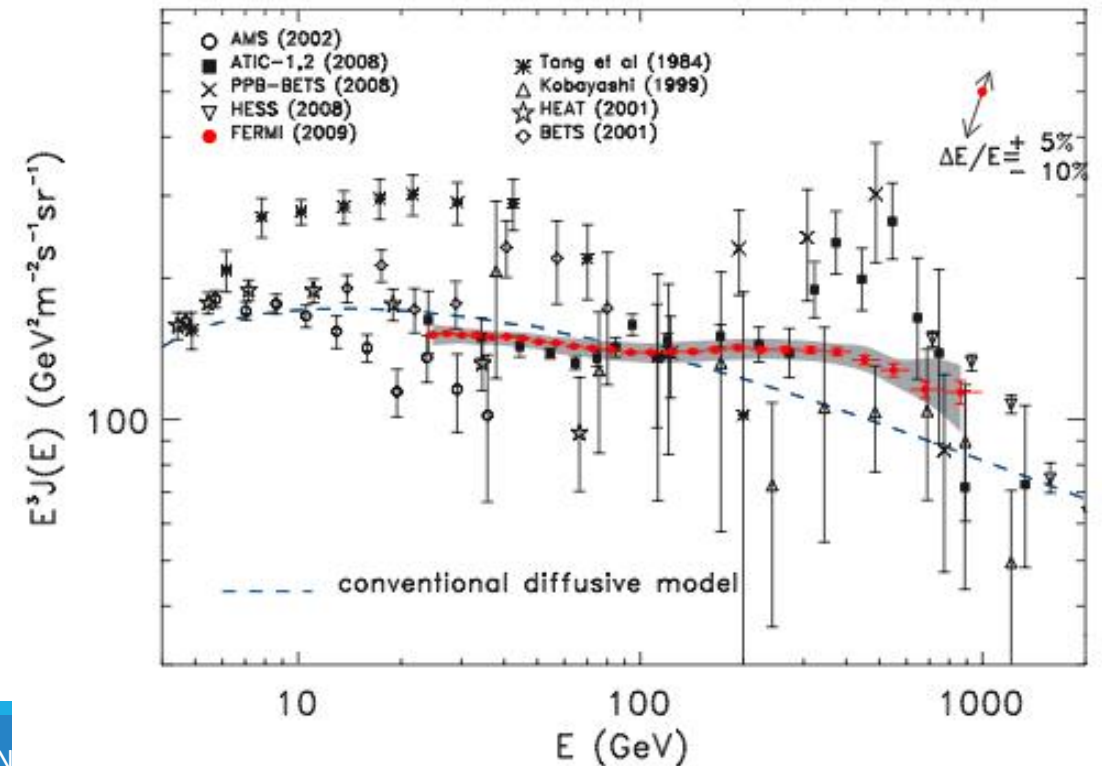
# Claimed indirect detection signals: *Positrons*

DM annihilation signal? Or maybe pulsars?

PAMELA  $e^+$  excess  
Nature 458, 607-609

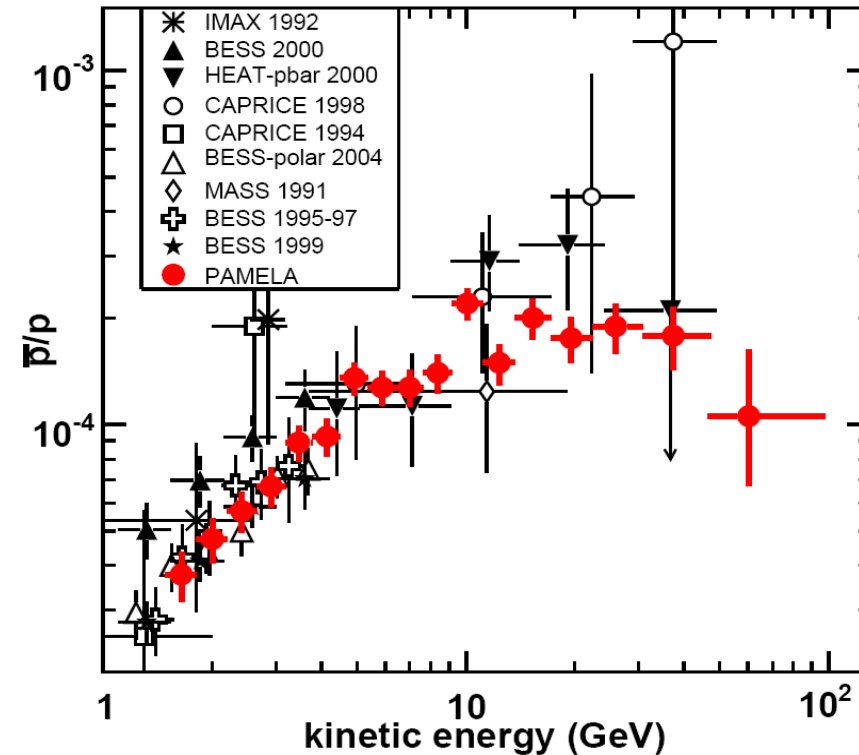
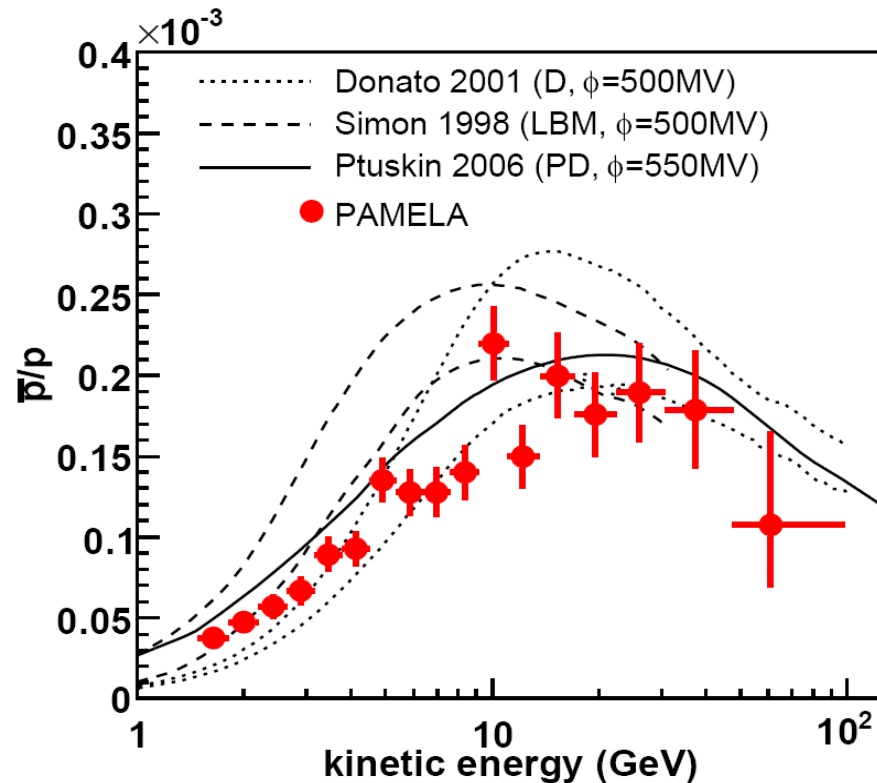


Fermi  $e^+e^-$  excess  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 181101 (2009)



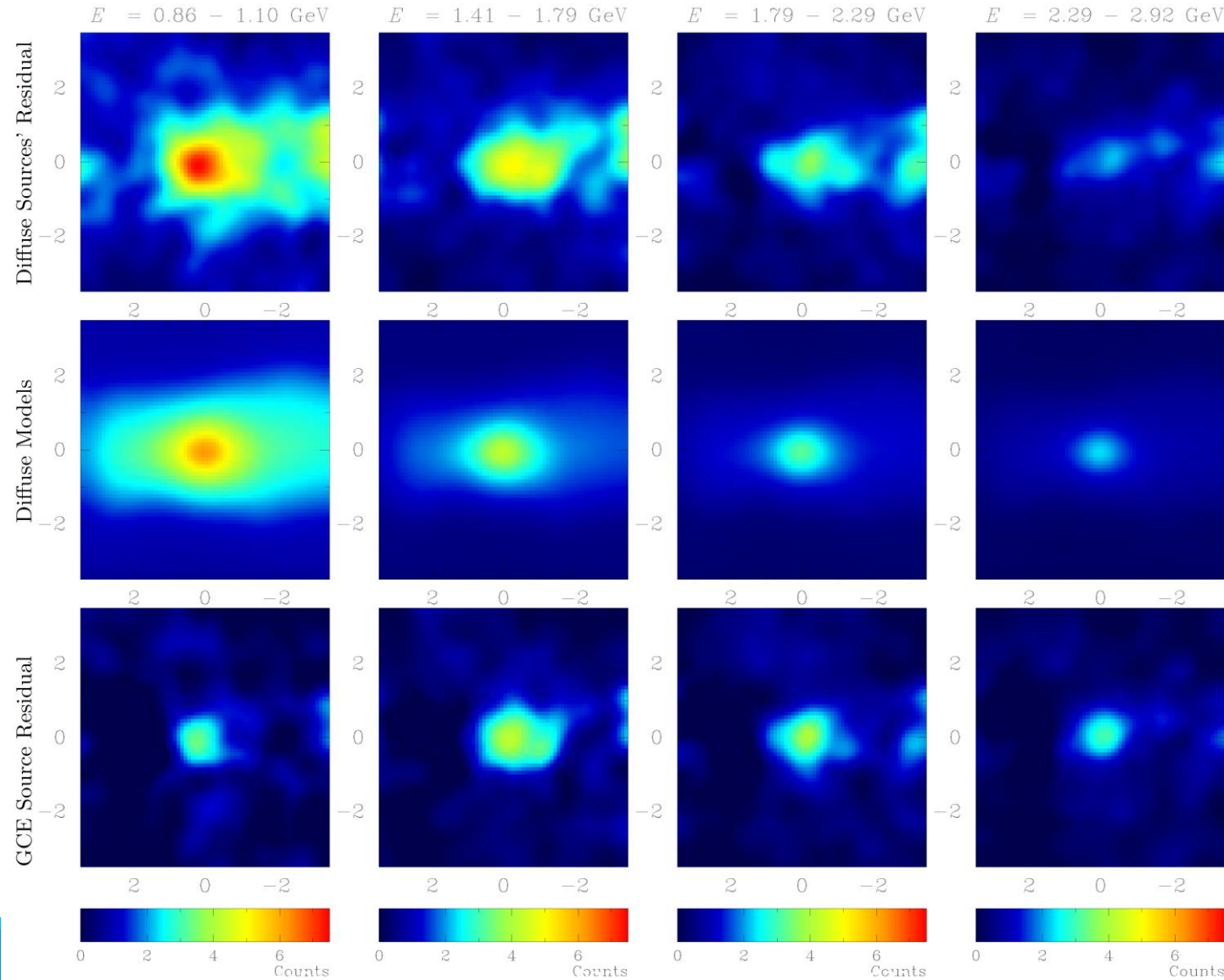
# Antiprotons

*(In principle, annihilation to antiparticles is a good indirect detection channel, given the low antimatter abundance in local universe.)*



Antiproton data consistent with theory expectation (for secondary production of antiprotons via cosmic ray propagation in the Galaxy).

# Claimed indirect detection signal: *Galactic Centre Excess*



Abazajian et al,  
arXiv:1402.4090



# Galactic Centre Excess

Extended source of 1-3 GeV gamma ray emission within  $\sim 1.5$  kpc of the Galactic Centre, seen in Fermi-LAT data.

Spatial distribution consistent with DM distribution

Can be fit by annihilation to (for example):

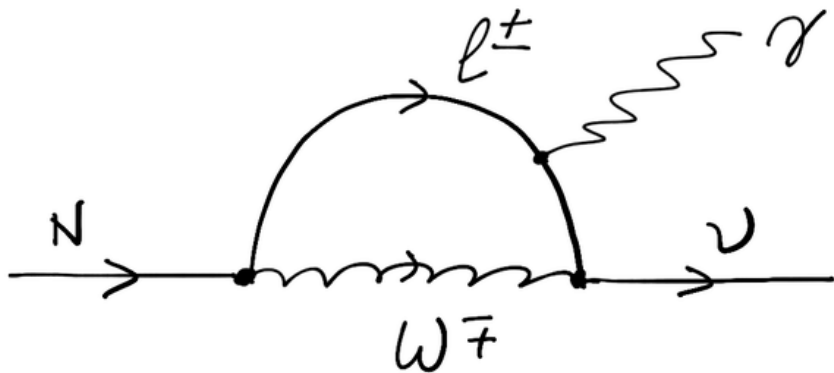
- $b\bar{b}$  with 40 GeV DM mass
- $\tau^+\tau^-$  with 10 GeV DM mass

with a cross section roughly consistent with a thermal relic.

BUT, unresolved point sources (e.g. millisecond pulsars) can mimic this signal.

# Sterile neutrino dark matter

- “Sterile” (right handed) neutrinos are a viable DM candidate.
- Produced in early universe via active-sterile oscillations
- Pauli exclusion principle prevents arbitrary high number density  
→ dense galaxies set lower limit on mass (Tremaine–Gunn bound)
- Heavy neutrinos can decay radiatively via a loop diagram, to produce a photon line:



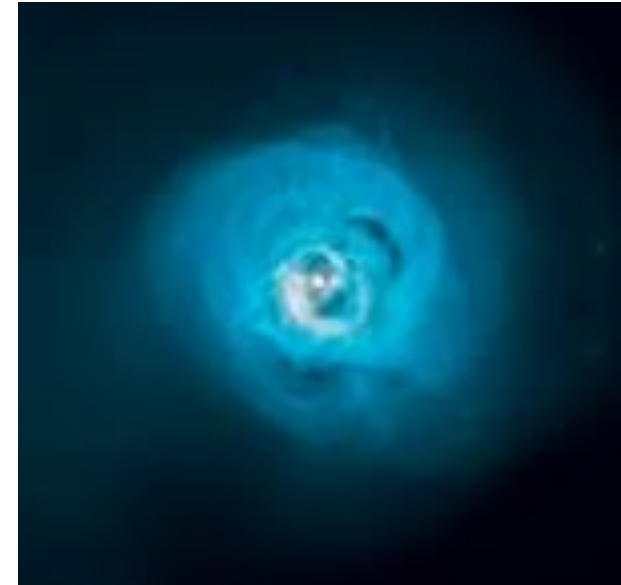
$$\Gamma_\gamma(m_s, \theta) = 1.38 \times 10^{-29} \text{ s}^{-1} \left( \frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{10^{-7}} \right) \left( \frac{m_s}{1 \text{ keV}} \right)^5$$



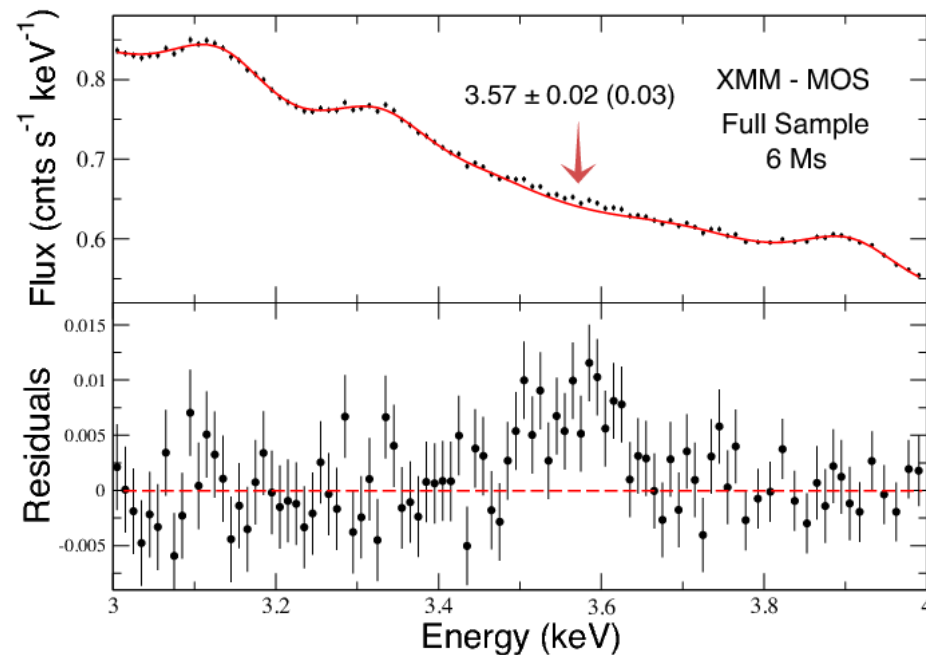
# 3.5 keV Xray line - decay of sterile neutrino DM?

Excess of 3.5 keV Xrays seen in Perseus, Andromeda and other nearby clusters (Caution many nearby atomic transition lines...)

$$E = 3.57 \text{ keV} \Rightarrow m = 7 \text{ eV}$$



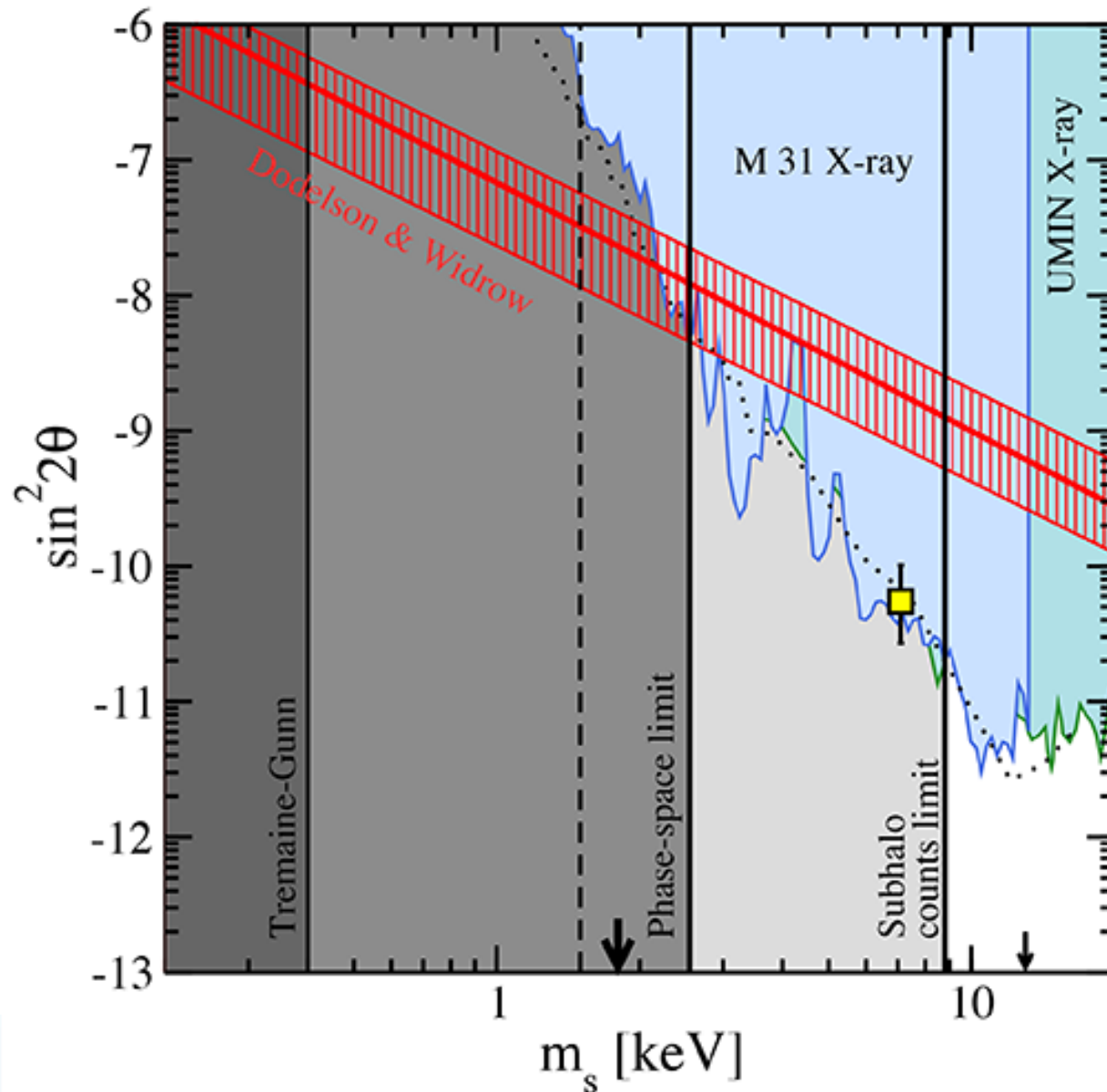
Bulbul et al 1402.2301, ApJ



However, no signal seen in Milky Way.

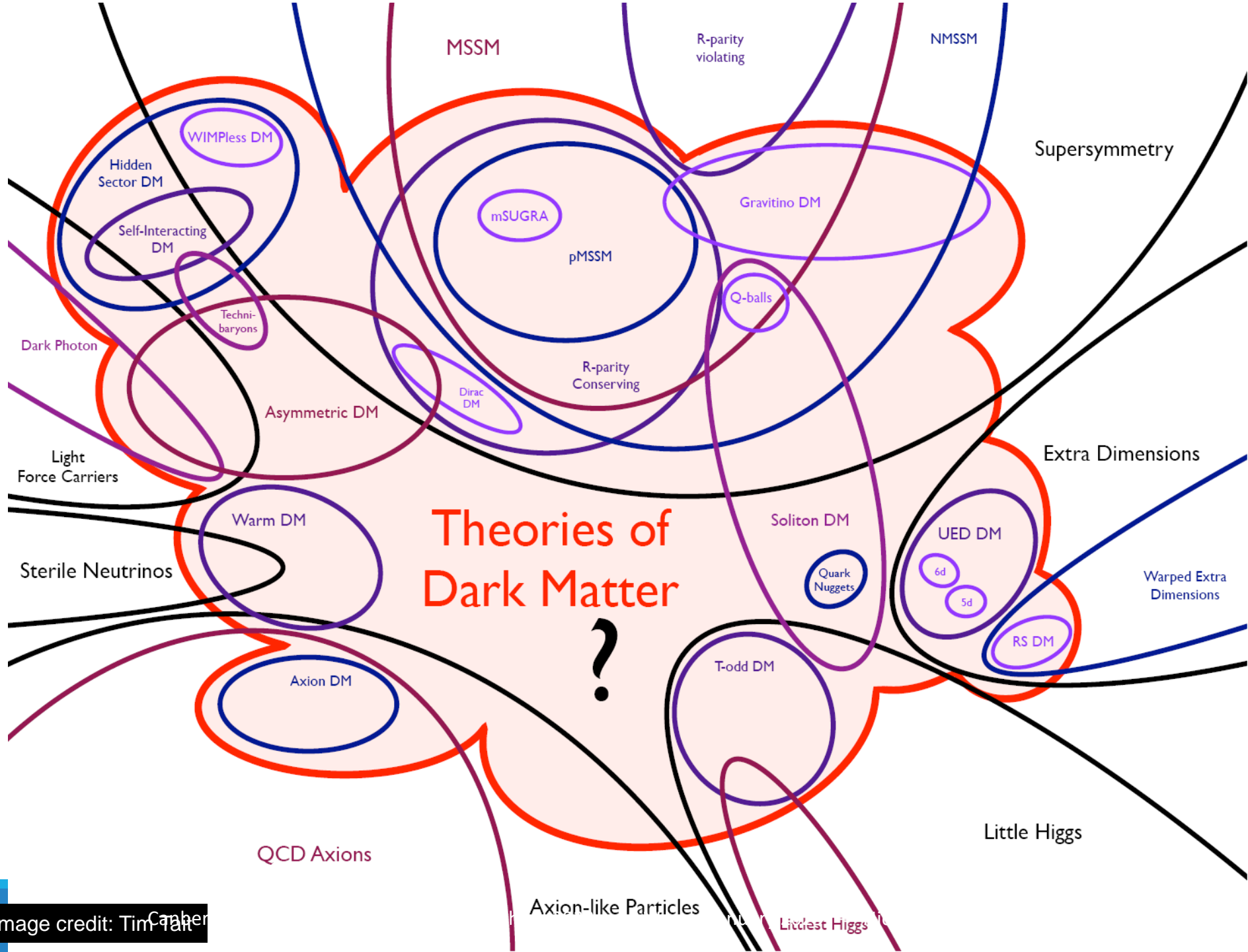
Note 7 keV dark matter would be “warm”  
→ impact on small scale structure.

# Sterile neutrino dark matter parameter space



Horiuchi et al, 1311.0282

# Dark Matter Lecture #3



# Asymmetric dark matter

The density of ordinary matter and dark matter are similar:  $\Omega_{dark} \simeq 5\Omega_{baryon}$   
Is the same physics responsible for both?

- $\Omega_{baryon}$  is determined by the size of the matter-antimatter asymmetry;

$$\eta = \frac{n_B}{n_\gamma} \simeq \frac{n_B - n_{\bar{B}}}{n_\gamma} \sim 10^{-10}$$

- Suppose there were a DM-antiDM asymmetry of similar size.

→ Then we need  $m_{dark} \simeq 5m_{proton} \simeq 5 \text{ GeV}$  ( → a “dark QCD”??)

- (Have replaced the question of “why similar density?” with “why similar mass?”)

# Asymmetric dark matter

## Requirements:

- Mechanism to simultaneously create B(visible) and B(dark) asymmetries, or create an asymmetry in one sector and communicate it to the other.
- Sufficiently large DM annihilation cross section to annihilate the symmetric part (to leave only particles and no antiparticles).

## Implications:

- Light DM.
- Suppressed indirect detection (nothing to annihilate with)
- The physics that connects the dark and visible sectors may or may not be at an experimentally accessible energy scale.
- Large annihilation cross section means either sizeable couplings with SM particles, or else new light (dark) degrees of freedom.

Define:  $B_V =$  baryon number  
 $B_D =$  dark baryon number

Asymmetric dark matter realized by :

- breaking  $B$  in one sector, creating an asymmetry (requires the Sakharov conditions to be fulfilled), communicating the asymmetry to the other sector.

or

- Breaking some linear combination of  $B_V$  and  $B_D$ :

$$B_{broken} = B_V - B_D$$

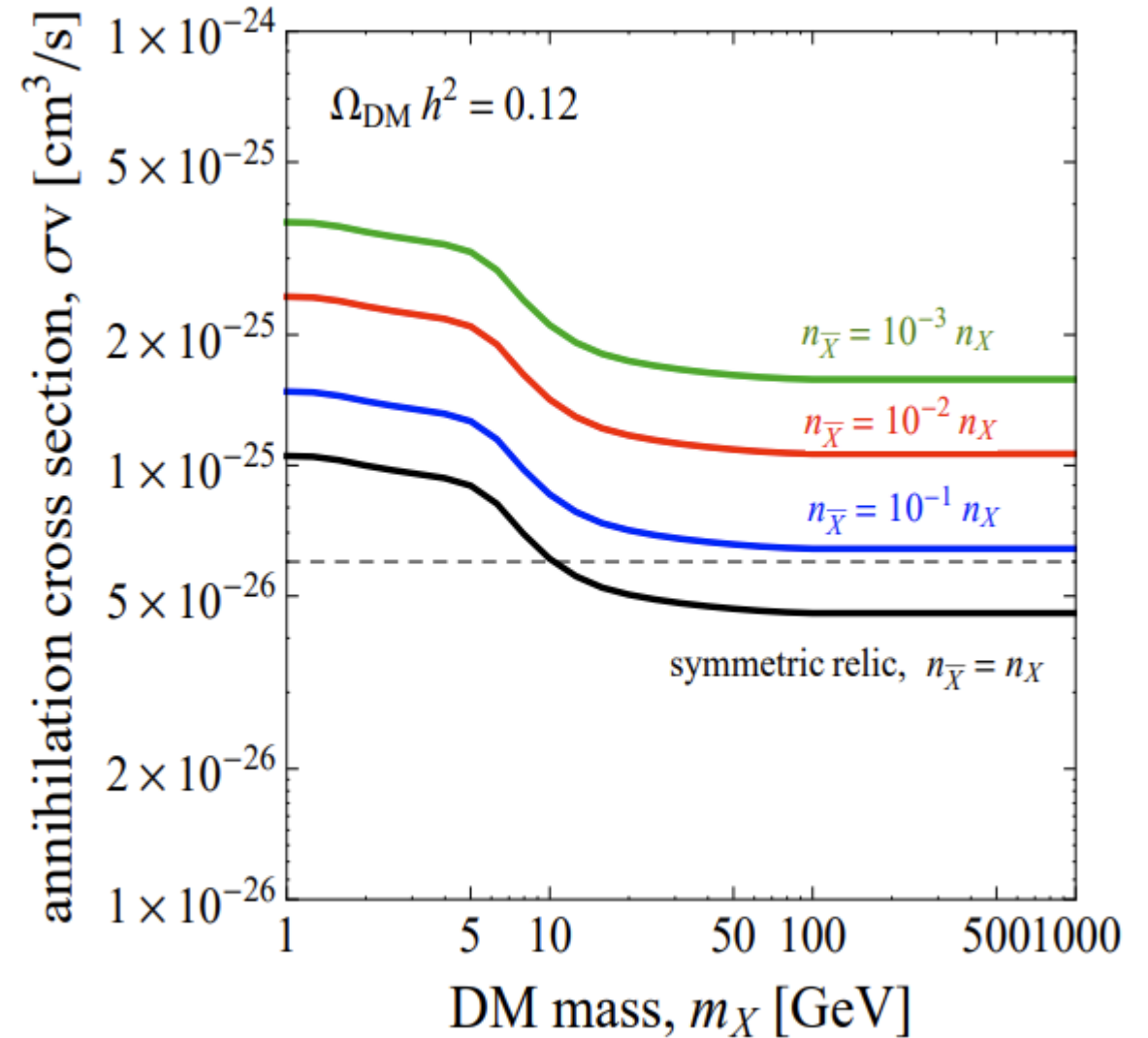
$$B_{conserved} = B_V + B_D$$

→ creation of equal and opposite asymmetries in the dark and visible sectors.  
Perhaps the most elegant version of this scenario.

In the visible sector, all the baryons annihilate with all the antibaryons, leaving only the small asymmetric component.

Similarly, asymmetric dark matter require a sufficiently big dark matter annihilation cross section to annihilate away the symmetric component, leaving the small asymmetry.

- Need an annihilation cross section larger than those for standard WIMPs
- Hence large interaction rates → detection prospects.

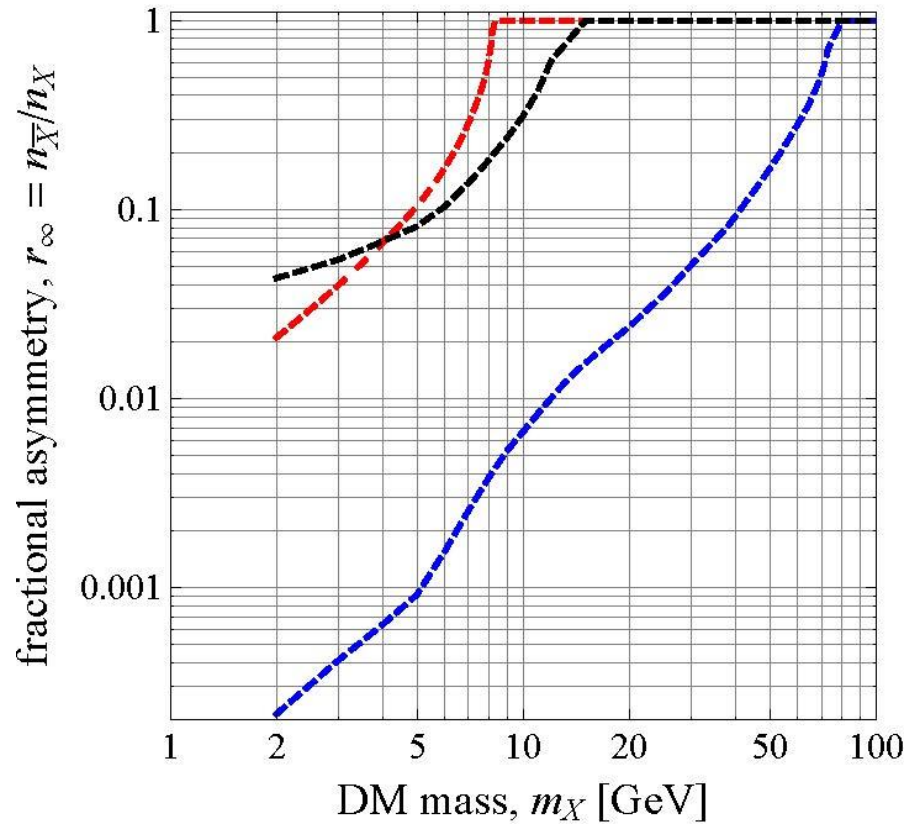




# ADM – indirect detection limits

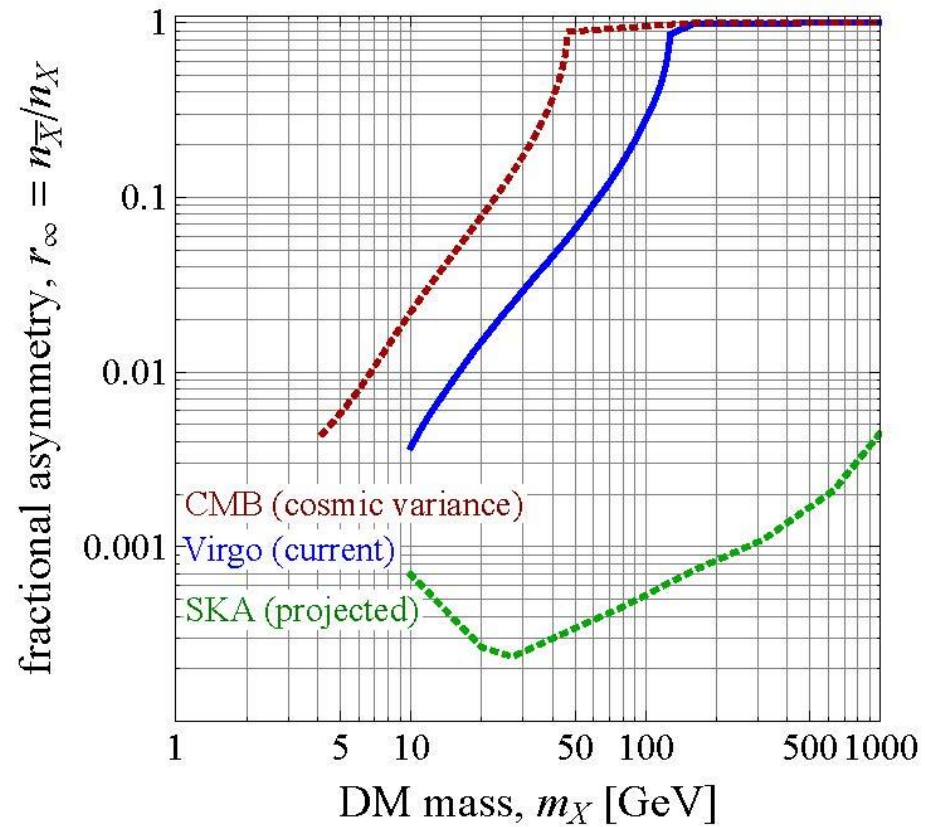
Current limits,

$$XX \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$$



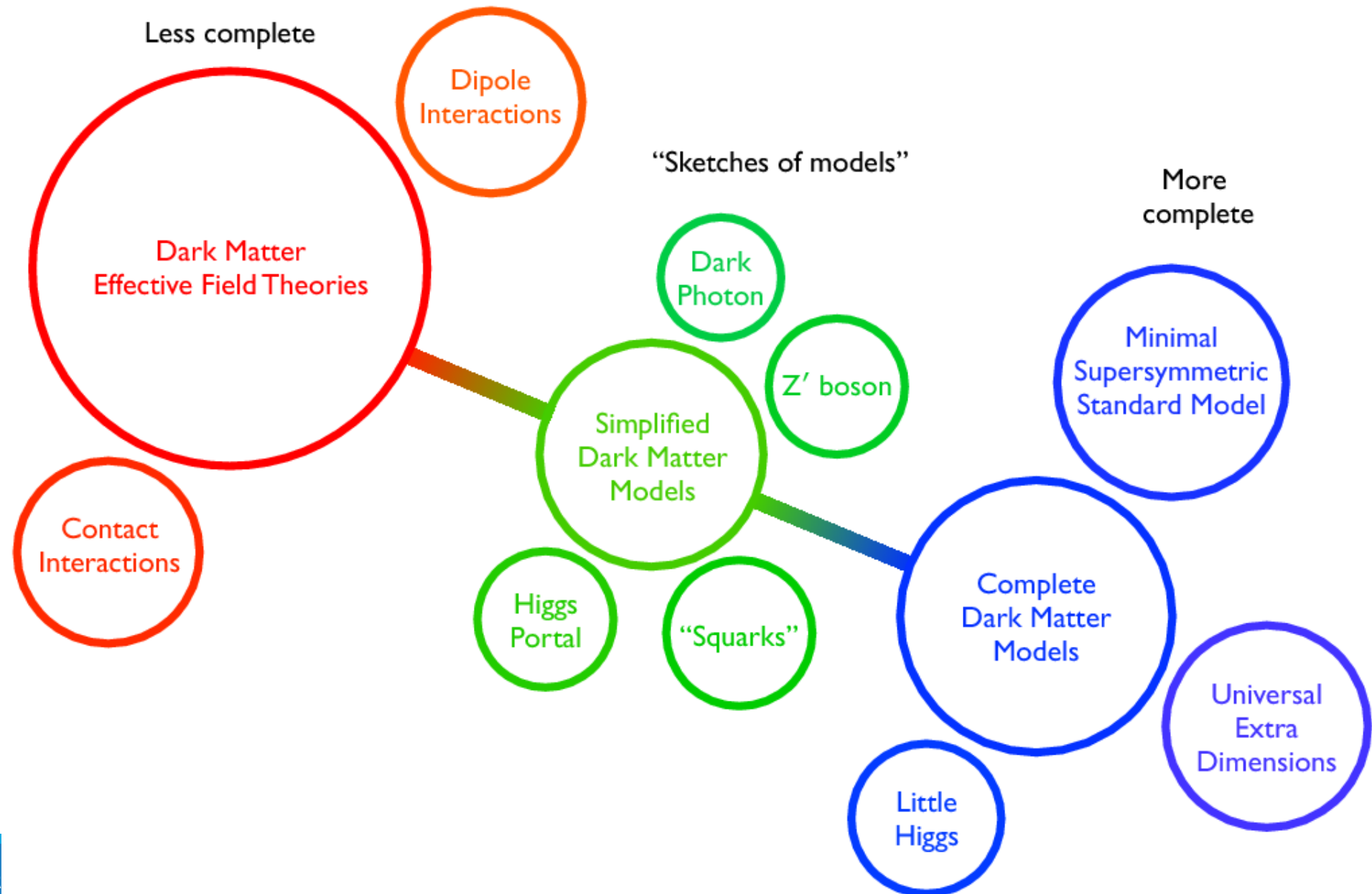
Future limits

$$\bar{X}X \rightarrow \bar{b}b$$

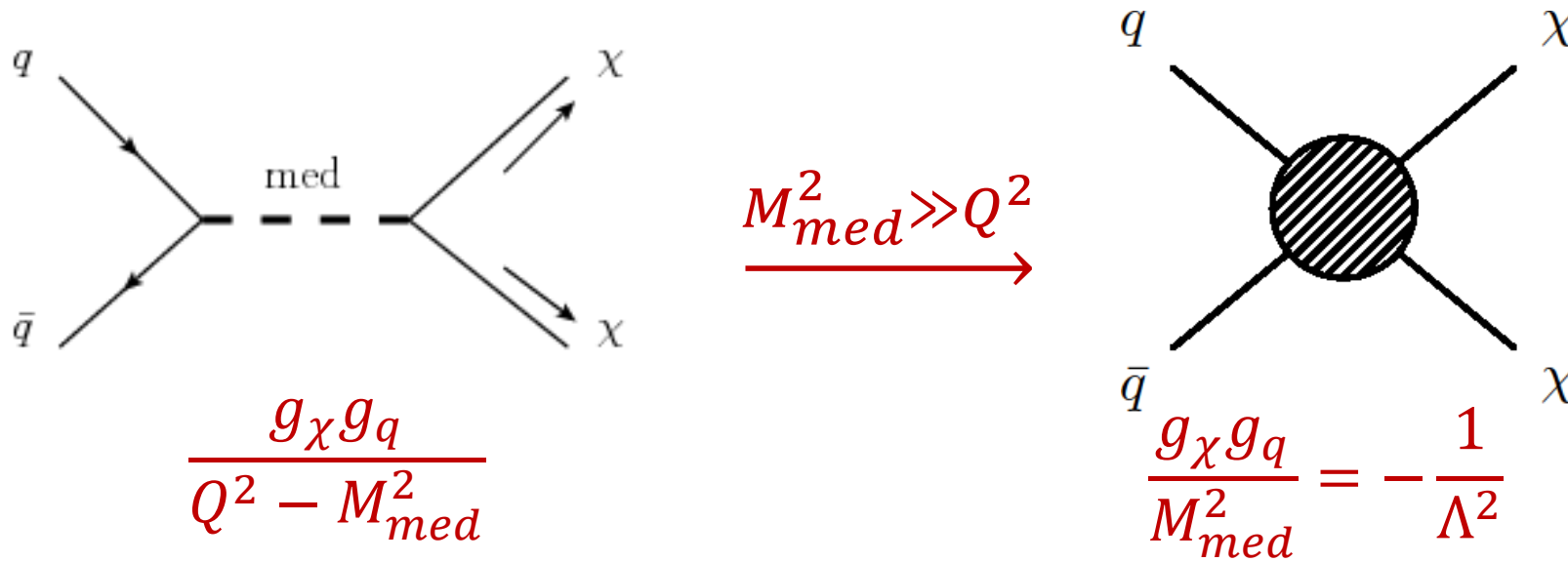


NFB, Horiuchi & Shoemaker, arXiv:1408.5142

# Dark matter models



# Effective Field Theory (EFT) operators

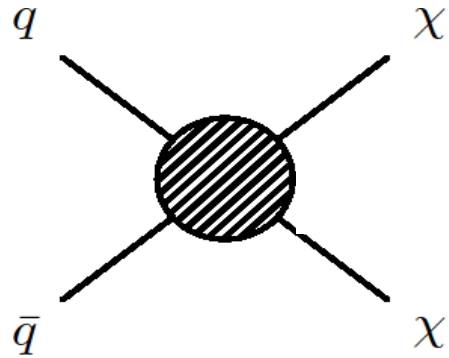


So we have a contact interaction:  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} = \frac{1}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} \bar{q} q \bar{\chi} \chi$

**Advantages:** - simple, model-independent description

**Disadvantages:** - breaks down if  $Q^2$  is large or mediator is light;  
- a given UV-complete model might lead to multiple EFT operators

# Effective operators for fermionic dark matter



Contact interaction of fermionic DM with SM quarks or leptons:

$$L_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} (\bar{\chi} \Gamma_{\chi} \chi) (\bar{f} \Gamma_f f)$$

$$\Gamma_{\chi, f} \in \{1, \gamma^5, \gamma^\mu, \gamma^\mu \gamma^5, \sigma^{\mu\nu}\}$$

Name	Operator	Coefficient	DD
D1	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][\bar{f}f]$	$m_f \Lambda^{-3}$	SI
D2	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}f]$	$im_f \Lambda^{-3}$	–
D3	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][\bar{f}\gamma^5 f]$	$im_f \Lambda^{-3}$	–
D4	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}\gamma^5 f]$	$m_f \Lambda^{-3}$	–
D5	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi][\bar{f}\gamma_\mu f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	SI
D6	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}\gamma_\mu f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	–
D7	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi][\bar{f}\gamma_\mu\gamma^5 f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	–
D8	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}\gamma_\mu\gamma^5 f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	SD
D9	$[\bar{\chi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\chi][\bar{f}\sigma_{\mu\nu} f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	SD
D10	$[\bar{\chi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}\sigma_{\mu\nu} f]$	$i\Lambda^{-2}$	–
D11	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}]$	$\alpha_S \Lambda^{-3}$	SI
D12	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}]$	$i\alpha_S \Lambda^{-3}$	–
D13	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}]$	$i\alpha_S \Lambda^{-3}$	–
D14	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}]$	$\alpha_S \Lambda^{-3}$	–

Name	Interaction Structure	$\sigma_{\text{SI}}$ suppression	$\sigma_{\text{SD}}$ suppression	$s$ -wave?
F1	$\bar{X} X \bar{q} q$	1	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM)	No
F2	$\bar{X} \gamma^5 X \bar{q} q$	$q^2$ (DM)	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM); $q^2$ (DM)	Yes
F3	$\bar{X} X \bar{q} \gamma^5 q$	0	$q^2$ (SM)	No
F4	$\bar{X} \gamma^5 X \bar{q} \gamma^5 q$	0	$q^2$ (SM); $q^2$ (DM)	Yes
F5	$\bar{X} \gamma^\mu X \bar{q} \gamma_\mu q$ (vanishes for Majorana $X$ )	1	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM) $q^2$ (SM); $q^2$ or $v^{\perp 2}$ (DM)	Yes
F6	$\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 X \bar{q} \gamma_\mu q$	$v^{\perp 2}$ (SM or DM)	$q^2$ (SM)	No
F7	$\bar{X} \gamma^\mu X \bar{q} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 q$ (vanishes for Majorana $X$ )	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM); $q^2$ (DM)	$v^{\perp 2}$ (SM) $v^{\perp 2}$ or $q^2$ (DM)	Yes
F8	$\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 X \bar{q} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 q$	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM)	1	$\propto m_f^2 / m_X^2$
F9	$\bar{X} \sigma^{\mu\nu} X \bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q$ (vanishes for Majorana $X$ )	$q^2$ (SM); $q^2$ or $v^{\perp 2}$ (DM) $q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM)	1	Yes
F10	$\bar{X} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^5 X \bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q$ (vanishes for Majorana $X$ )	$q^2$ (SM)	$v^{\perp 2}$ (SM) $q^2$ or $v^{\perp 2}$ (DM)	Yes

# Effective operators for scalar dark matter

Complex scalar DM

Name	Operator	Coefficient	DD
C1	$[\chi^* \chi][\bar{f} f]$	$m_f \Lambda^{-2}$	SI
C2	$[\chi^* \chi][\bar{f} \gamma^5 f]$	$i m_f \Lambda^{-2}$	–
C3	$[\chi^* \partial_\mu \chi][\bar{f} \gamma^\mu f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	SI
C4	$[\chi^* \partial_\mu \chi][\bar{f} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	–
C5	$[\chi^* \chi][G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}]$	$\alpha_S \Lambda^{-2}$	SI
C6	$[\chi^* \chi][G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}]$	$i \alpha_S \Lambda^{-2}$	–
R1	$[\chi \chi][\bar{f} f]$	$m_f \Lambda^{-2}$	SI
R2	$[\chi \chi][\bar{f} \gamma^5 f]$	$i m_f \Lambda^{-2}$	–
R3	$[\chi \chi][G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}]$	$\alpha_S \Lambda^{-2}$	SI
R4	$[\chi \chi][G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}]$	$i \alpha_S \Lambda^{-2}$	–

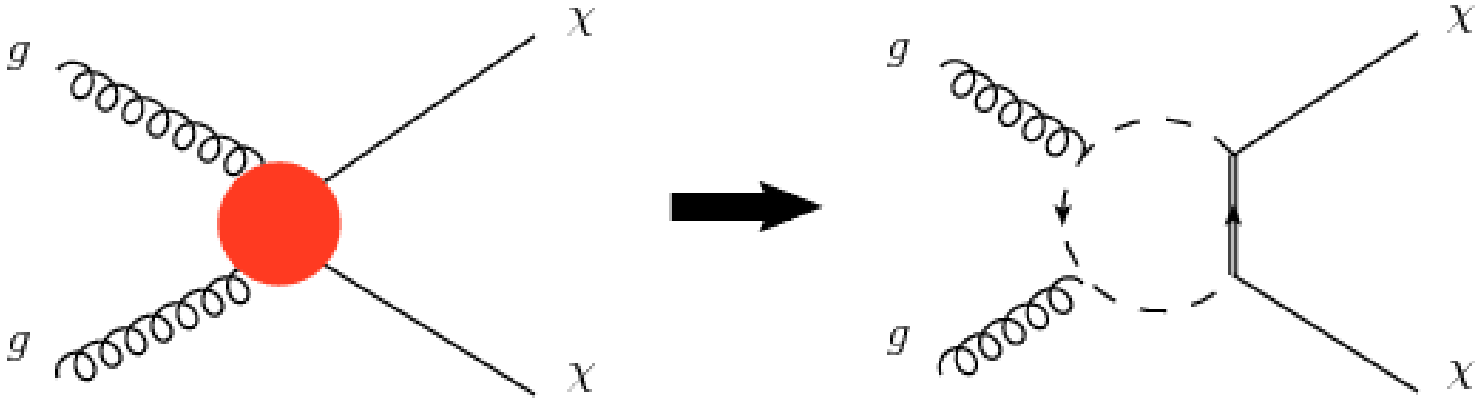
Real scalar DM

Can also write down EFTs to describe DM interactions with SM gauge bosons or the Higgs boson

# Models with gluon couplings

- Mono-jets place strong limits
- No tree-level UV completion is possible

D11	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}]$	$\alpha_S\Lambda^{-3}$	SI
D12	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}]$	$i\alpha_S\Lambda^{-3}$	–
D13	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}]$	$i\alpha_S\Lambda^{-3}$	–
D14	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}]$	$\alpha_S\Lambda^{-3}$	–



Abdallah et al  
1409.2893



# Constraining WIMP models

## ❖ Relic density

→ lower limit on  $\frac{g_\chi^4}{m_\chi^2}$  (upper limit on  $\Lambda_{\text{eff}}$ ) to prevent over-closure

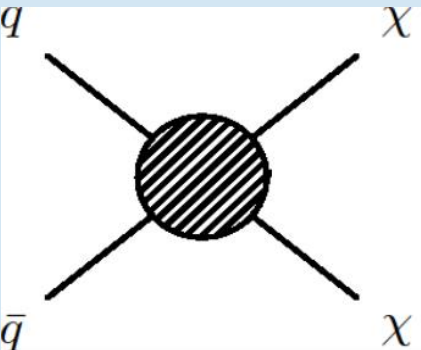
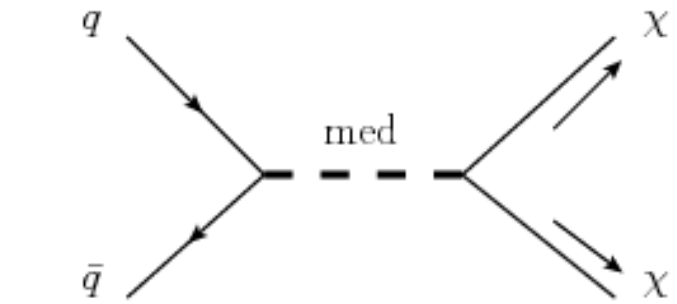
## ❖ Direct detection, collider, and indirect detection

→ upper limits on  $\frac{g_\chi^4}{m_\chi^2}$  (lower limit on  $\Lambda_{\text{eff}}$ ) to be consistent with null observations

In some cases, these limits are approaching. But, it is easy for a WIMP to hide: Velocity suppressed cross sections, annihilation to dark states; light mediators; non-trivial flavour structure of DM couplings; leptophilic DM; multiple thermal relics, non-standard expansion history, etc.

There is much work to do to fully test the WIMP parameter space.



<p>Effective Field Theories (EFTs)</p>	 $\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} = \frac{g_\chi g_q}{M_{med}^2}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple</li> <li>• EFTs break down if momentum transfer is <math>\geq M_{med}</math></li> </ul>
<p>Simplified Models</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explicit introduction of a mediator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unitarity issues if they break gauge invariance in the standard model or dark sector.</li> </ul>
<p>Self-consistent Simplified Models</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May require multiple mediators  <math>\rightarrow</math> Physics not adequately captured by a single EFT operator or a single-mediator simplified model.</li> </ul>	

# Effective Operators for DM interactions

Violate  $SU(2)_L$

Don't necessarily violate  $SU(2)_L$   
(but can be chosen to do so)

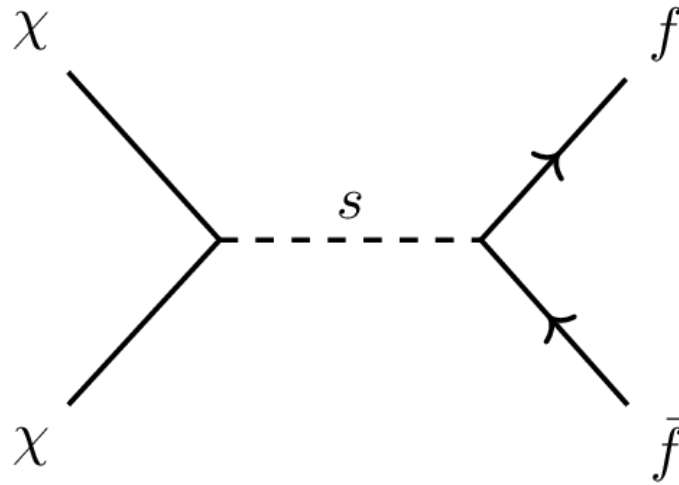
Violate  $SU(2)_L$

Name	Operator	Coefficient	DD
D1	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][\bar{f}f]$	$m_f\Lambda^{-3}$	SI
D2	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}f]$	$im_f\Lambda^{-3}$	–
D3	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][\bar{f}\gamma^5f]$	$im_f\Lambda^{-3}$	–
D4	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}\gamma^5f]$	$m_f\Lambda^{-3}$	–
D5	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi][\bar{f}\gamma_\mu f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	SI
D6	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}\gamma_\mu f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	–
D7	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi][\bar{f}\gamma_\mu\gamma^5f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	–
D8	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}\gamma_\mu\gamma^5f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	SD
D9	$[\bar{\chi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\chi][\bar{f}\sigma_{\mu\nu}f]$	$\Lambda^{-2}$	SD
D10	$[\bar{\chi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\gamma^5\chi][\bar{f}\sigma_{\mu\nu}f]$	$i\Lambda^{-2}$	–
D11	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}]$	$\alpha_S\Lambda^{-3}$	SI
D12	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}]$	$i\alpha_S\Lambda^{-3}$	–
D13	$[\bar{\chi}\chi][G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}]$	$i\alpha_S\Lambda^{-3}$	–
D14	$[\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi][G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}]$	$\alpha_S\Lambda^{-3}$	–

*Be careful using this framework at energy larger or comparable to the electroweak scale!*

# Unitarity and Simplified Models – scalar interaction

Consider a scalar (or pseudo scalar) mediator:



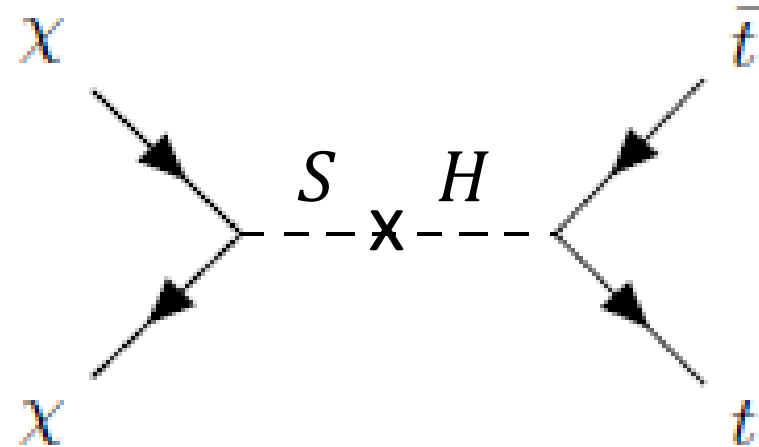
This model is clearly **not** gauge invariant under  $SU(2)_L$  because:

- dark matter can couple only to a singlet scalar
- quarks couple only to SM Higgs (or other scalar with the same quantum numbers as the Higgs)

# Scalar mediator must mix with the Higgs

Higgs portal:  $\frac{1}{2} \lambda_{HS} H^\dagger H S^2$

- SM Higgs field  $H$  couples to quarks
- Singlet scalar  $S$  couples to DM



After symmetry breaking, we have mixing of the two mass eigenstate scalars,  $h$  and  $s$ , which both mediate quark-DM interactions

$$L = - \sum_f \frac{m_f}{v} \bar{f}_i f_i (h \cos \epsilon - s \sin \epsilon) - y_{DM} \bar{\chi} \chi (s \cos \epsilon + h \sin \epsilon)$$

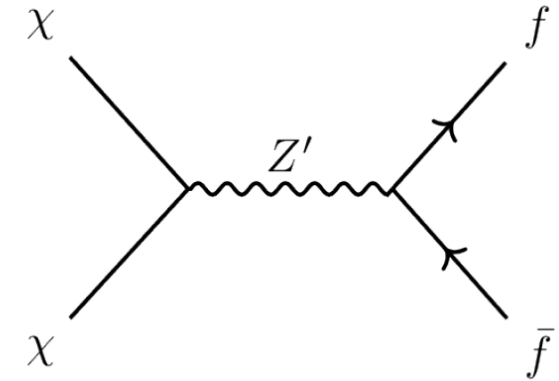
→ *Interference effects*

→ **Destructive interference of  $h$  and  $s$  occurs when  $m_s \sim m_h$  → Blind spot for direct detection**

# Unitarity and Simplified Models – axialvector interaction

Consider a model where DM couples to SM fermions via a spin-1 mediator,  $Z'$

*where  $Z'$  is the gauge boson of a new  $U(1)$  symmetry*



Axial vector couplings  $\rightarrow$  unitarity is violated at high energy

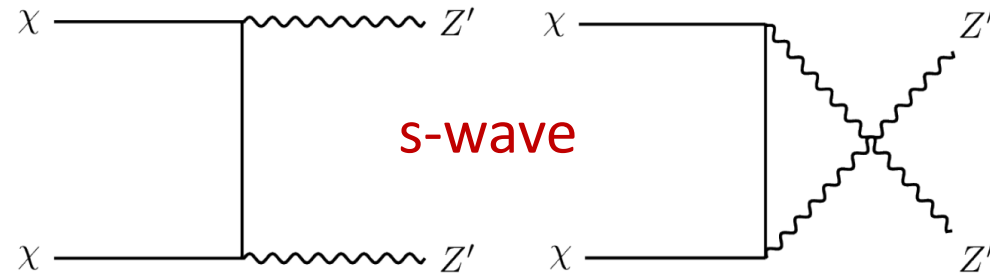
**The problem is that the masses break dark-sector gauge invariance.**

**$\rightarrow$  Need a Higgs mechanism in the dark sector!**

$\rightarrow$  Introduction of further dark sector particles (beyond the DM candidate and mediator)

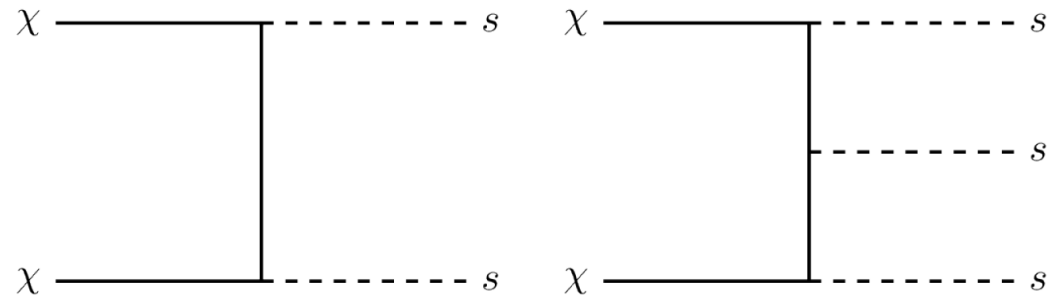
# Annihilation to individual mediators

Simplified Model  
with vector mediator



Badly behaved at  
high energy

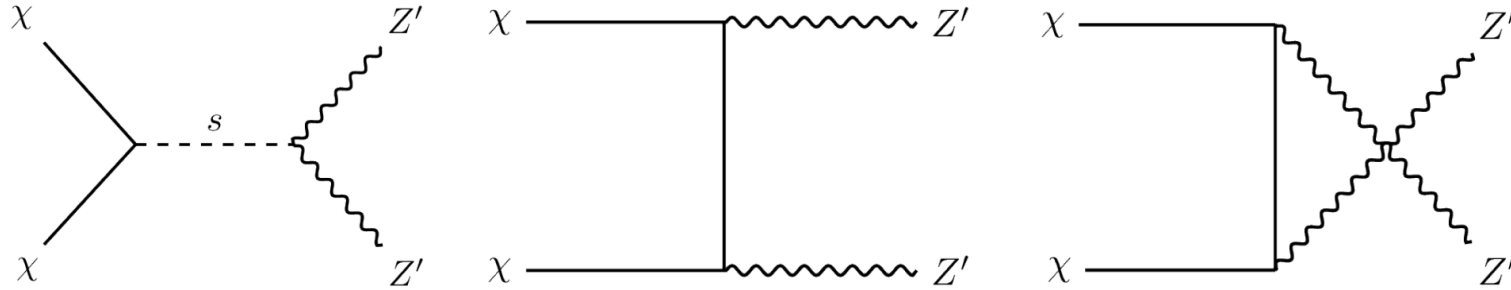
Simplified Model  
with scalar mediator



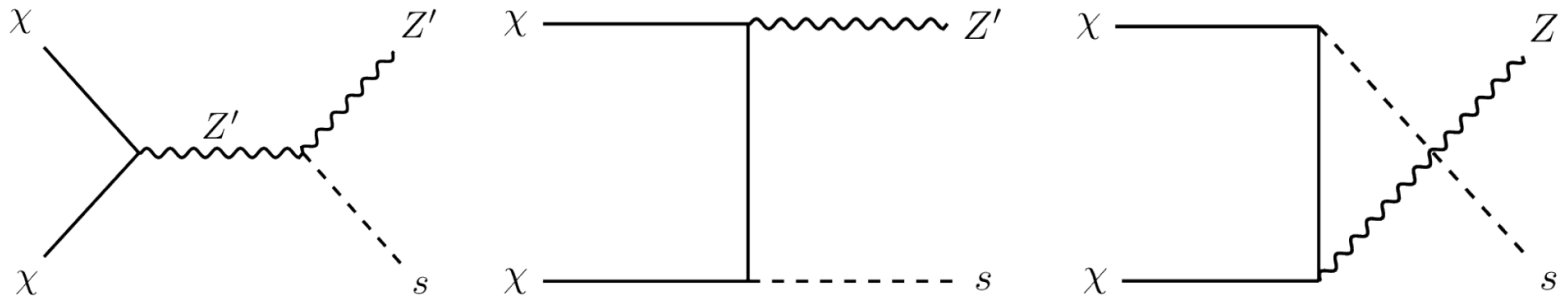
p-wave  
suppressed

s-wave,  
phase space suppressed

# Including both mediators



**New contribution to  $\chi\chi \rightarrow Z'Z'$  (prevents unphysical high energy behaviour)**

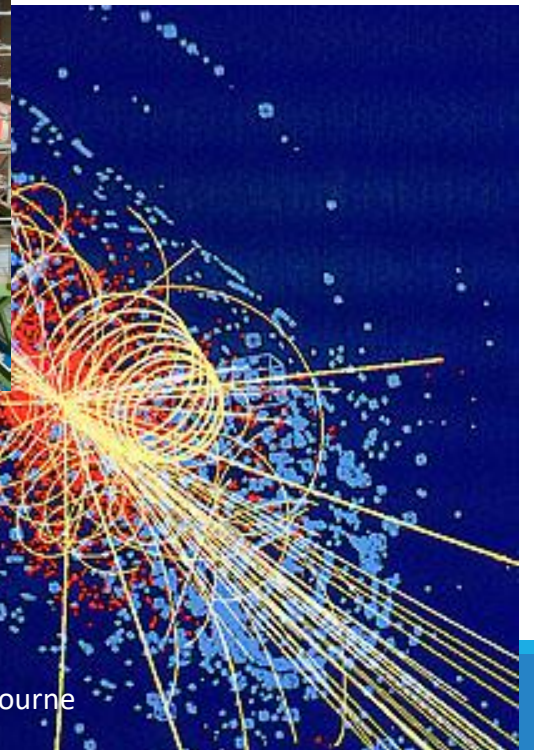
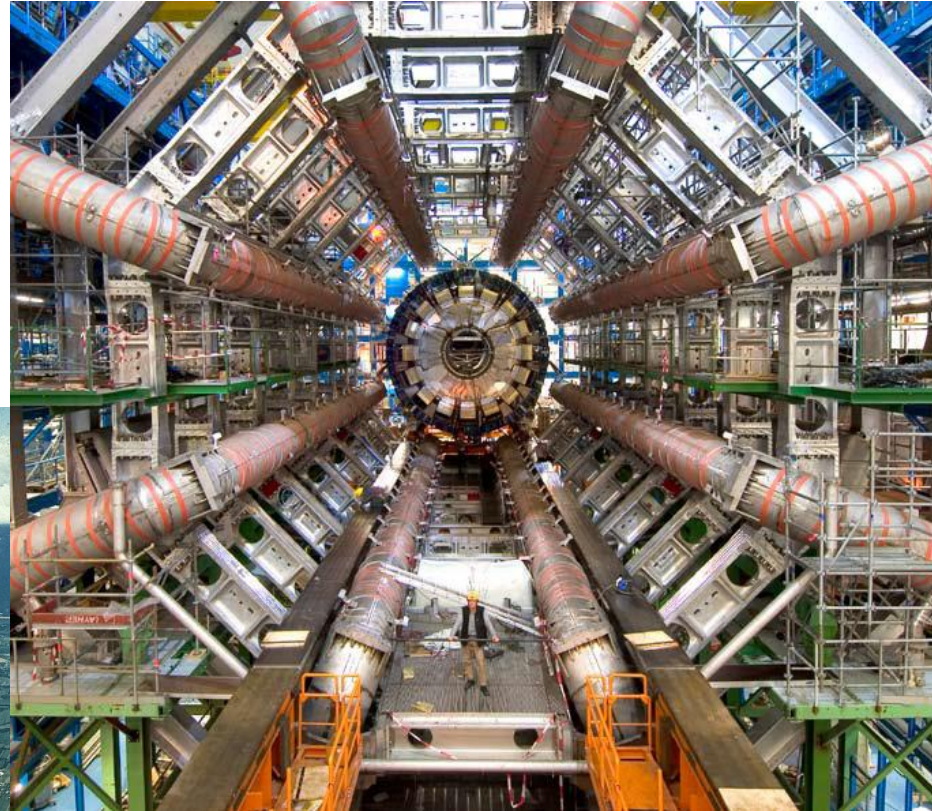


**New, dominant, s-wave annihilation process  $\chi\chi \rightarrow sZ'$**

NFB, Cai & Leane, arXiv:1605.09382



# Dark Matter at the collider experiments





# Mono-X signal at colliders

- The dominant DM production process is invisible (DM stable, weakly interacting) :

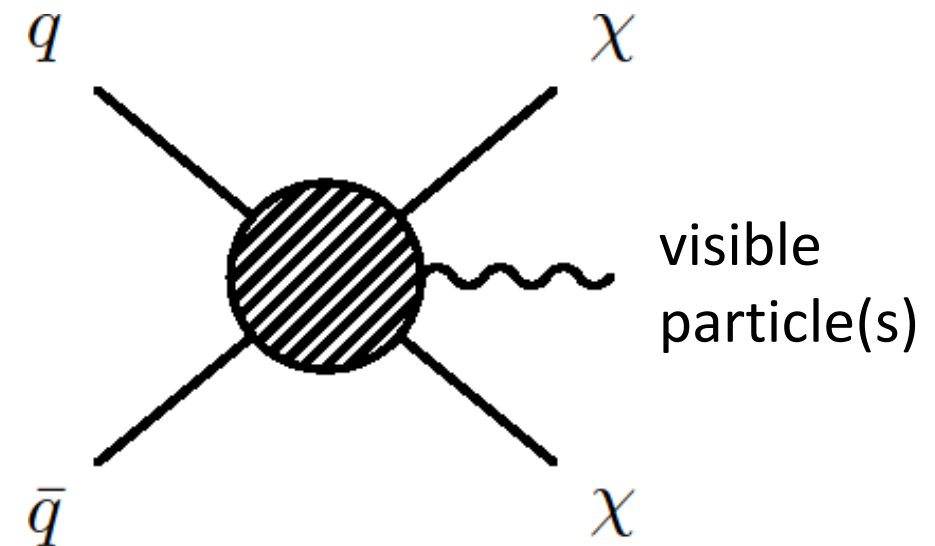
$$\bar{q}q \rightarrow \chi\chi$$

- Need visible particles in the final state, to recoil against missing transverse energy

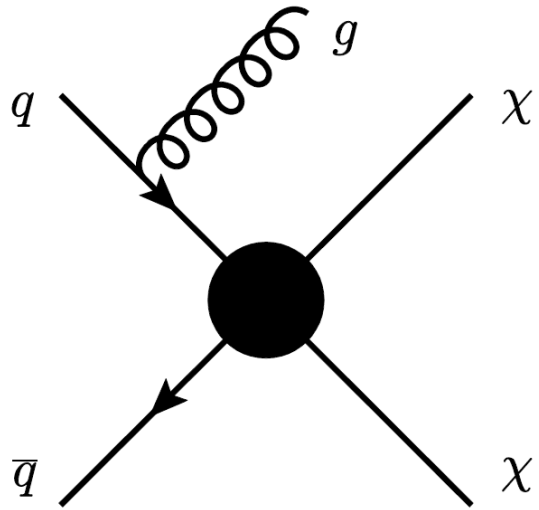
$$\bar{q}q \rightarrow \chi\chi + \text{SM particle}$$

Mono-X process in which DM is visible as a high  $p_T$  state + missing  $E_T$

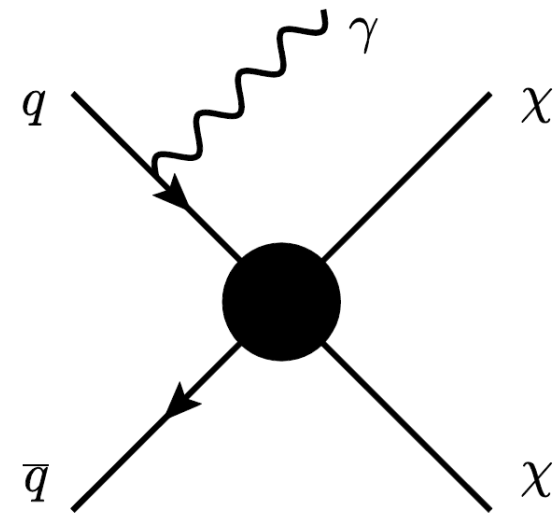
→ Mono-jet, mono-photon, mono-Z, mono-W, mono-Higgs



## Mono-jet

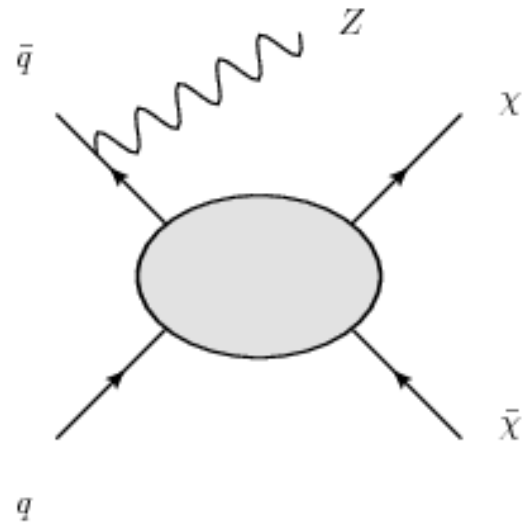


## Mono-photon

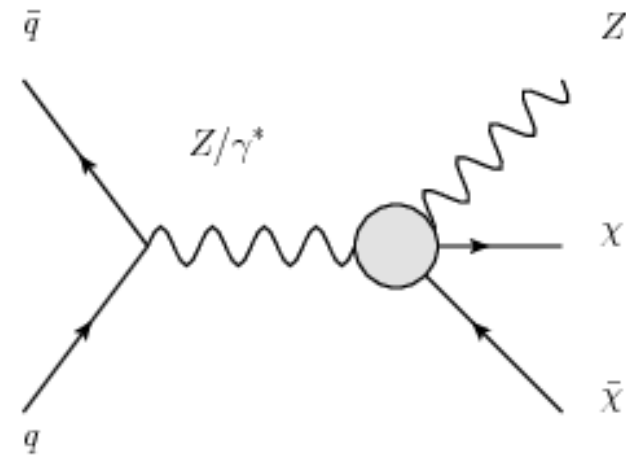


# Other mono-X processes

Mono-Z , initial state radiation

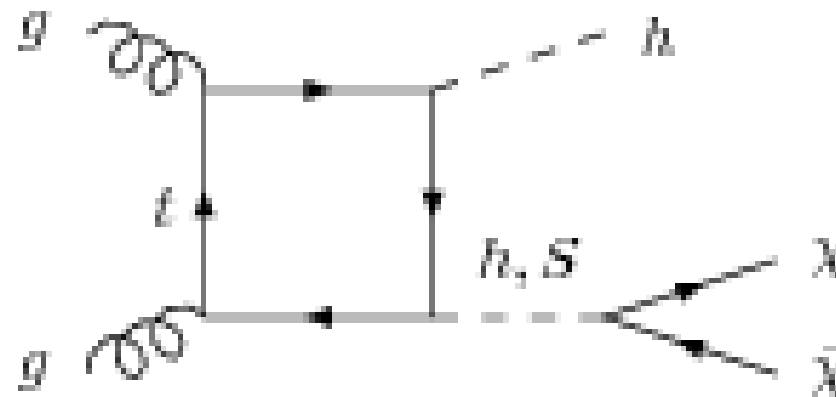


Mono-Z from DM interacting directly with Z bosons



L. Carpenter et al

Mono-Higgs



# Higgs Portal DM

Take the EFT approach and consider interactions of the form:

$$\frac{1}{\Lambda^n} O_{DM} O_{SM}$$

where  $O_{DM}$  = dark matter operator

$O_{SM}$  = standard model operator

and with  $O_{DM}$  &  $O_{SM}$  both singlets under the SM gauge group

The lowest dimension SM operator is the Higgs bilinear:  $H^\dagger H$

→ Form “Higgs portal” operators of the form:  $\frac{1}{\Lambda^n} O_{DM} (H^\dagger H)$

# Types of Higgs portals

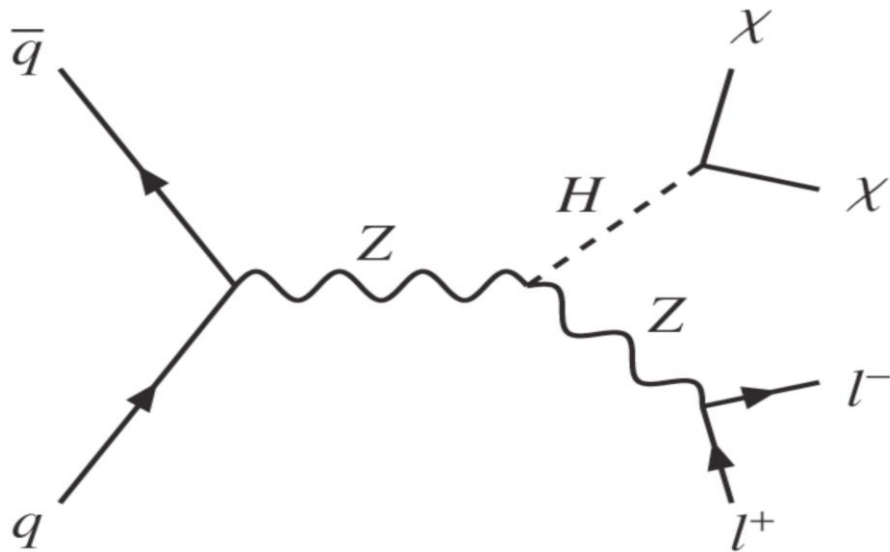
- Scalar Higgs portal:  $\lambda_s S^2 (H^\dagger H)$
- Vector Higgs portal:  $\lambda_V V^\mu V_\mu (H^\dagger H)$
- Fermionic Higgs portal:  $\frac{1}{\Lambda} (\bar{\chi}\chi)(H^\dagger H)$

# Higgs Portal & Higgs invisible width

$$\text{If } m_{DM} < \frac{m_{\text{higgs}}}{2}$$

→ Higgs width increased by decay to dark matter,  $H \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$

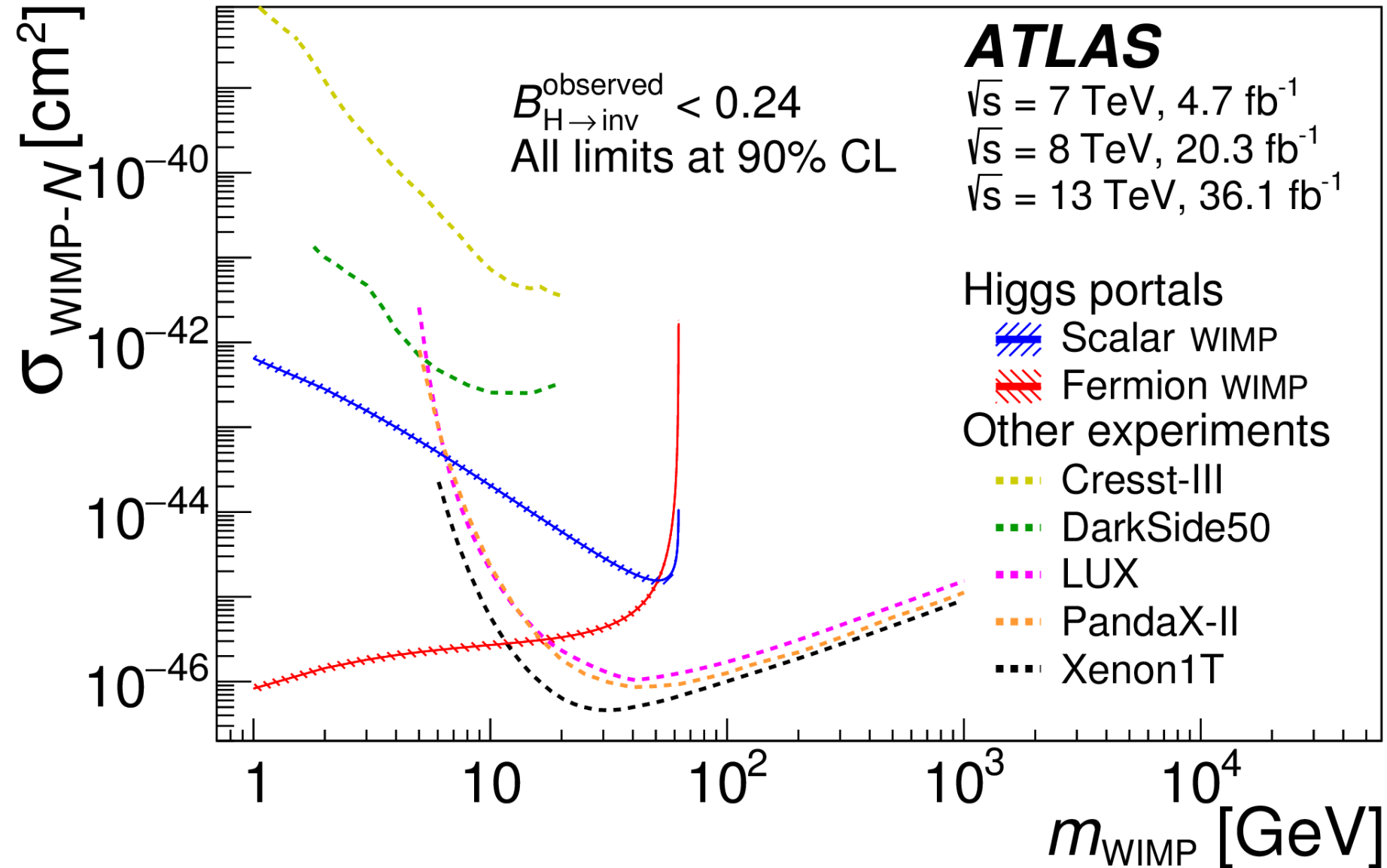
→ Constraints from LHC determinations of Higgs invisible width

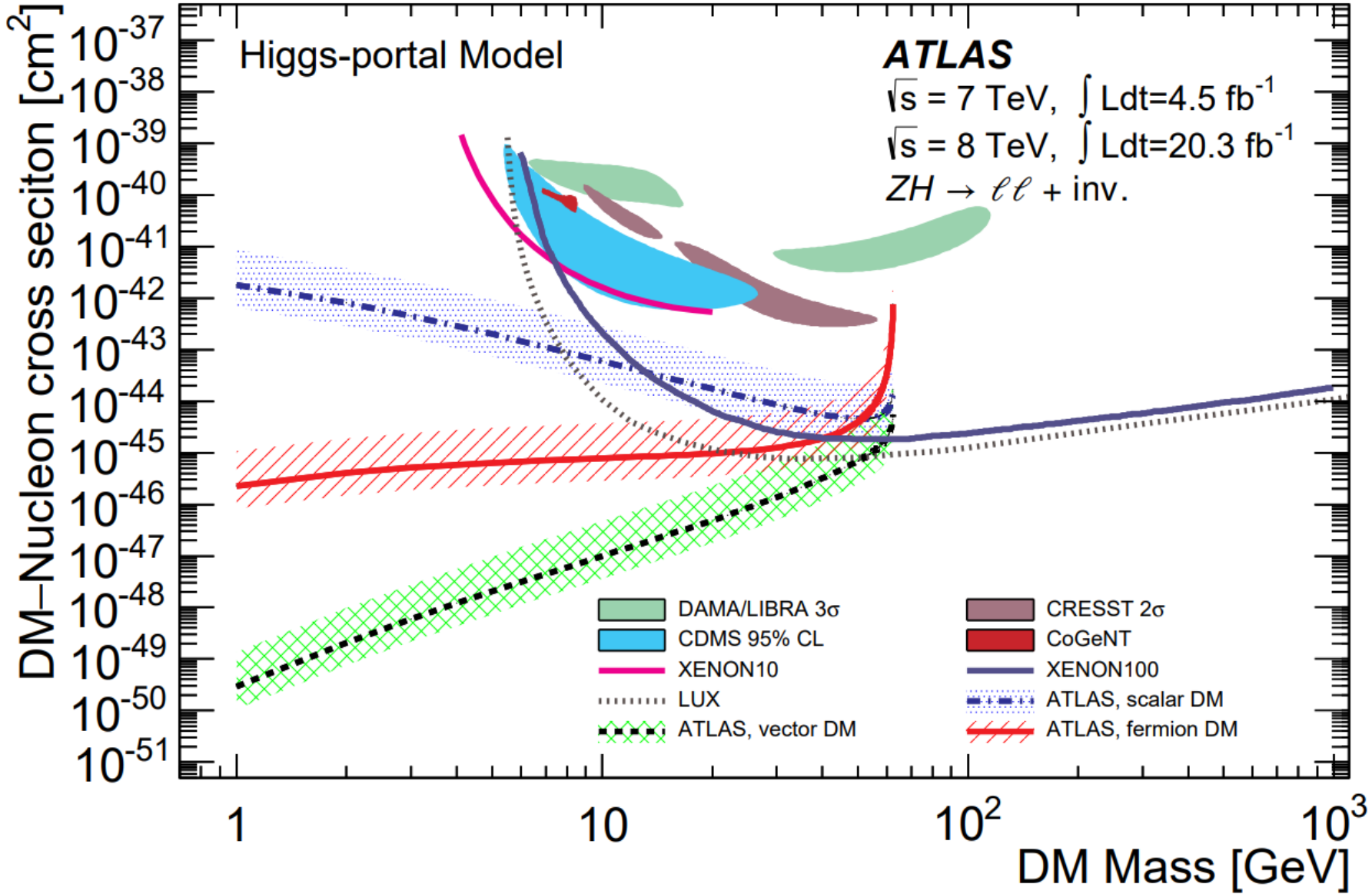


$$\text{Br(inv)} < 0.24$$

ATLAS, arXiv:1904.05105

Because the SM Higgs width is so small (about 4 MeV), even modest limits on  $\text{B(inv)}$  place strong limits on Higgs portal models.







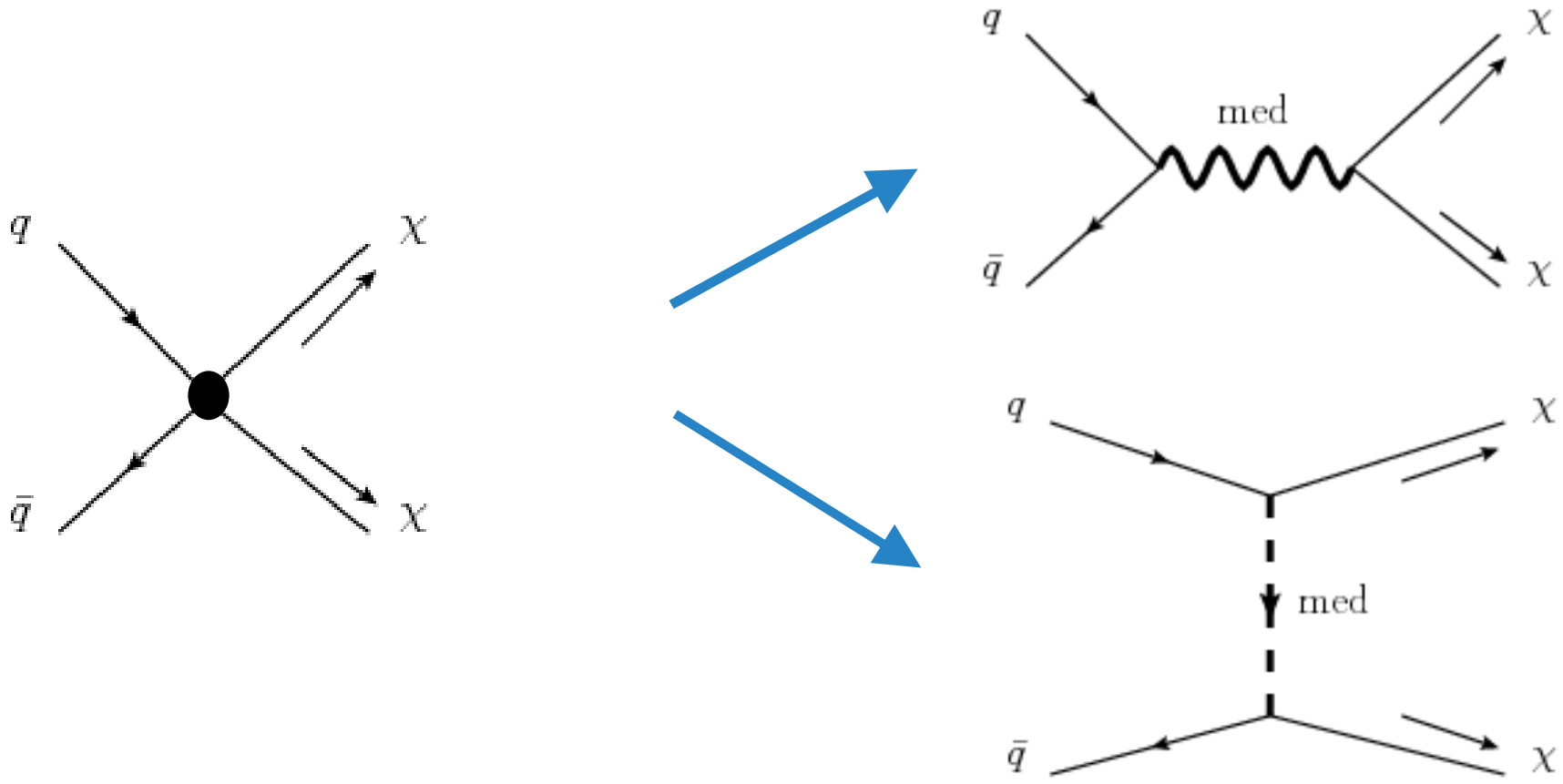
# EFT: Useful, but have limitations

- ❑ For an EFT description to be valid, need:  $\Lambda = \frac{M_{med}}{\sqrt{g_q g_\chi}} > \frac{m_{dm}}{4\pi}$

This does NOT hold for all the parameter space relevant for LHC searches ([G.Busoni et al](#))

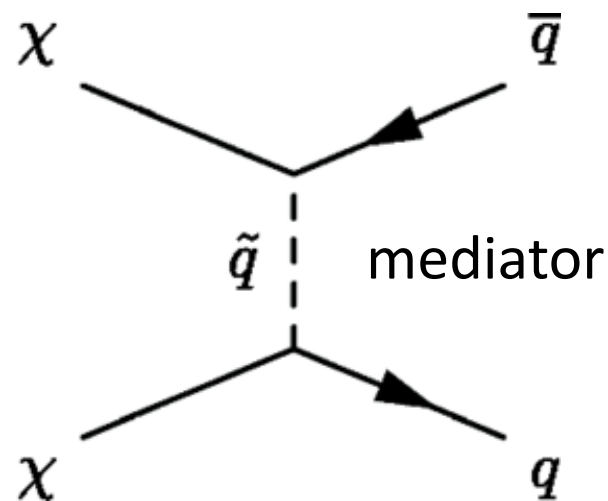
- ❑ EFT bounds can [over-estimate or under-estimate](#) constraints on a given model
- ❑ Unitarity issues due to lack of gauge invariance ...
- ❑ Importantly: in many UV complete theories, there exist [other dark sector particles at energy scales accessible to the LHC](#).  
Particles with SM quantum numbers, or a  $Z'$  gauge boson, ... etc.

# Beyond an EFT $\rightarrow$ Simplified Models



A given EFT maps to multiple simplified models

# t-channel mediator



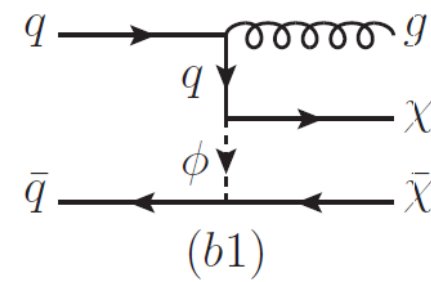
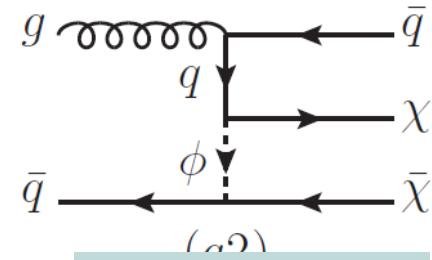
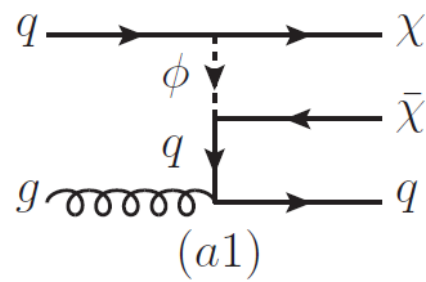
The mediator:

- If  $\chi$  stabilized by a symmetry  $\rightarrow$  the mediator also carries this symmetry.
- Carries SM quantum numbers  $\rightarrow$  can be pair produced at colliders
- Is heavier than the DM (so the DM does not decay to the mediator)

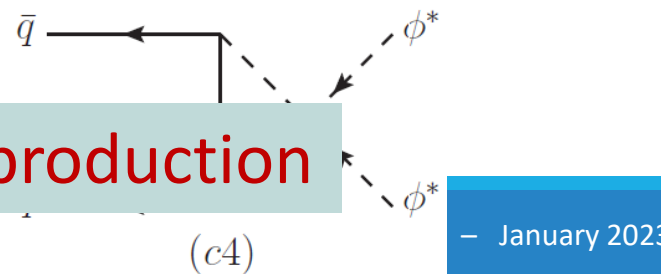
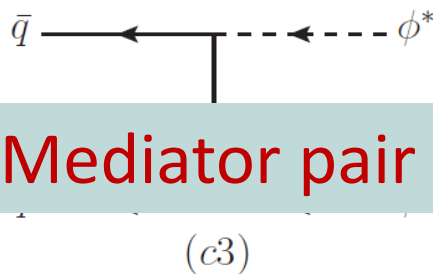
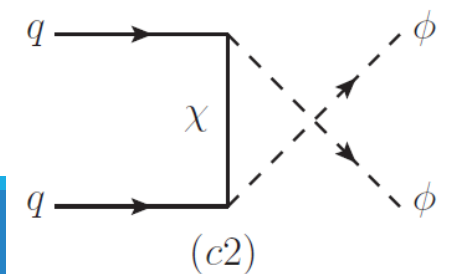
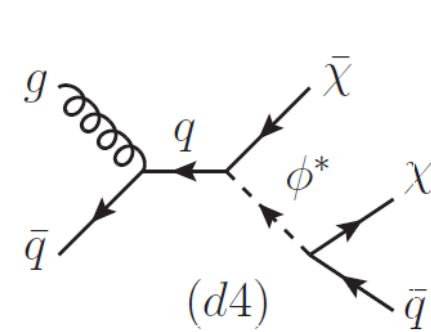
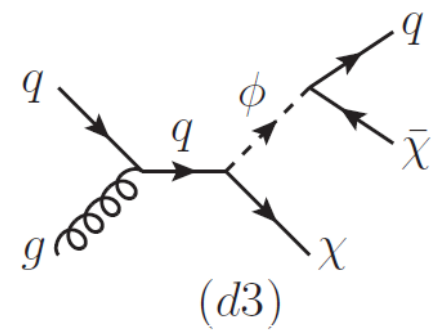
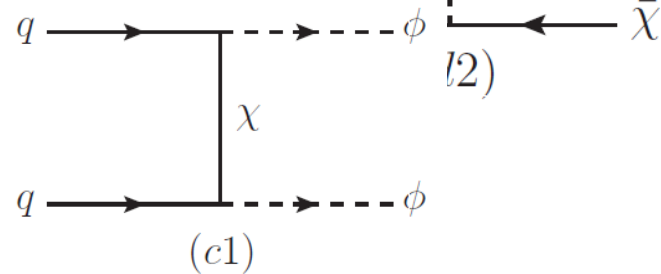
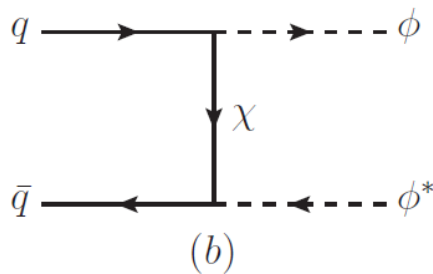
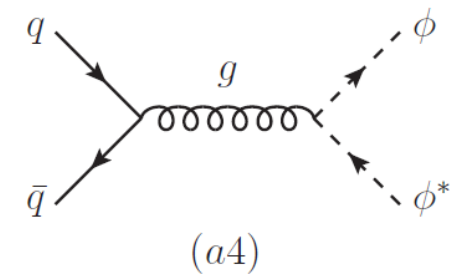
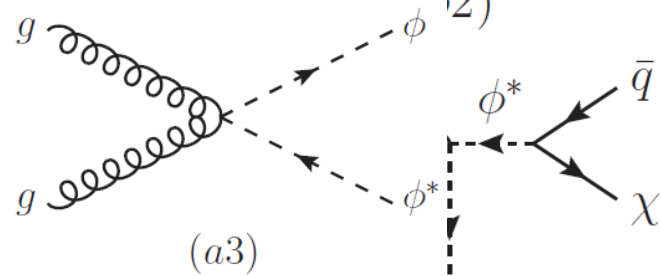
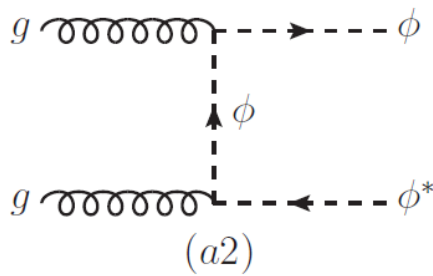
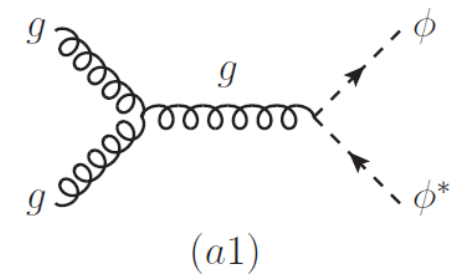
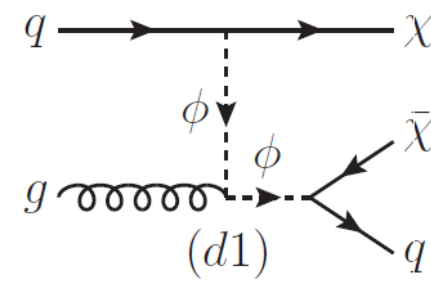
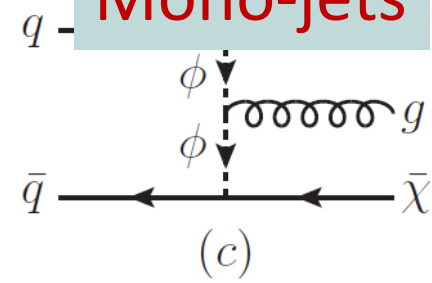
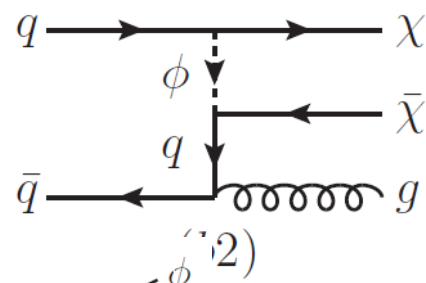
e.g. mediator = squark (DM = neutralino of SUSY models)

# Beyond an EFT:

## t-channel scalar mediator



**Mono-jets**



**Mediator pair production**

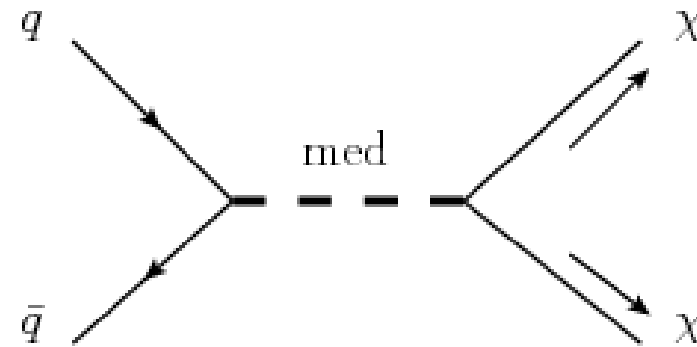
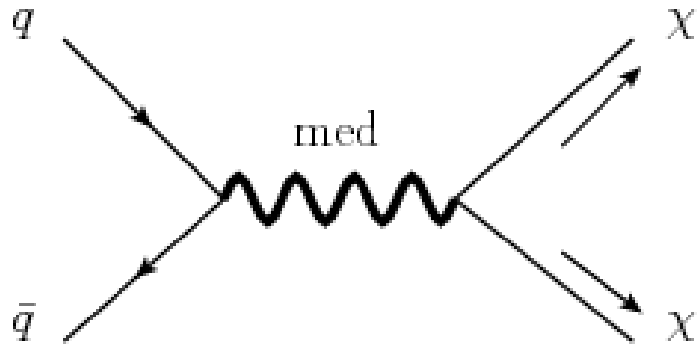
H.An et al, 1308.0592

See also: Chang et al. , 1307.8120

Bai & Berger, 1308.0612

DiFranzo et al., 1308.2679

# s-channel mediator



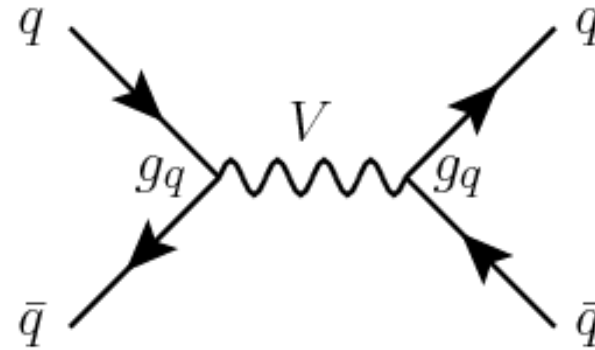
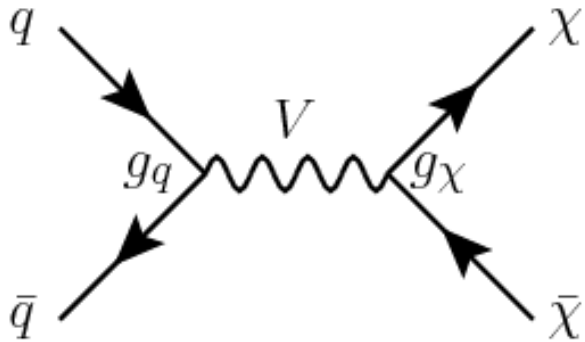
The mediator:

- Directly couples to the SM  $\rightarrow$  can produce mediator at colliders
- Can be lighter or heavier than the DM
- Mass and width are important

# s-channel vector mediator

$$\mathcal{L} = V_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu (g_\chi^V - g_\chi^A \gamma_5) \chi + \sum_{f=q,l,\nu} V_\mu \bar{f} \gamma^\mu (g_f^V - g_f^A \gamma_5) f$$

$V_\mu$  = new dark-sector mediator, such as a  $Z'$ , with vector and/or axialvector couplings

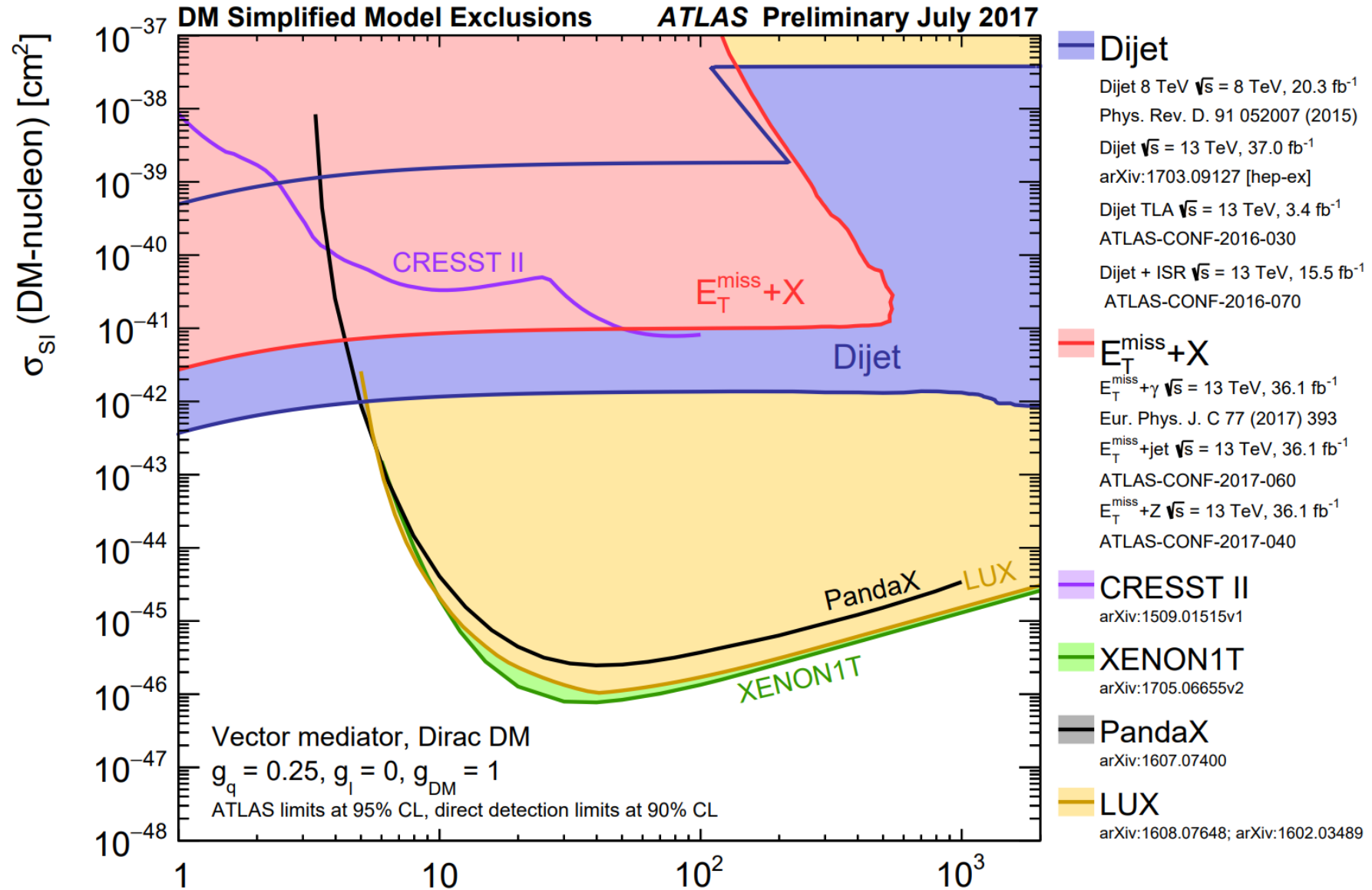


Search for:

- Dark matter production  $\rightarrow$  Mono-jets + missing ET
- Mediator resonances  $\rightarrow$  Dijet resonance (“bump hunting for an on-shell mediator
- Non-standard contributions to  $\bar{q}q\bar{q}q$  contact interactions (at very high mediator mass)

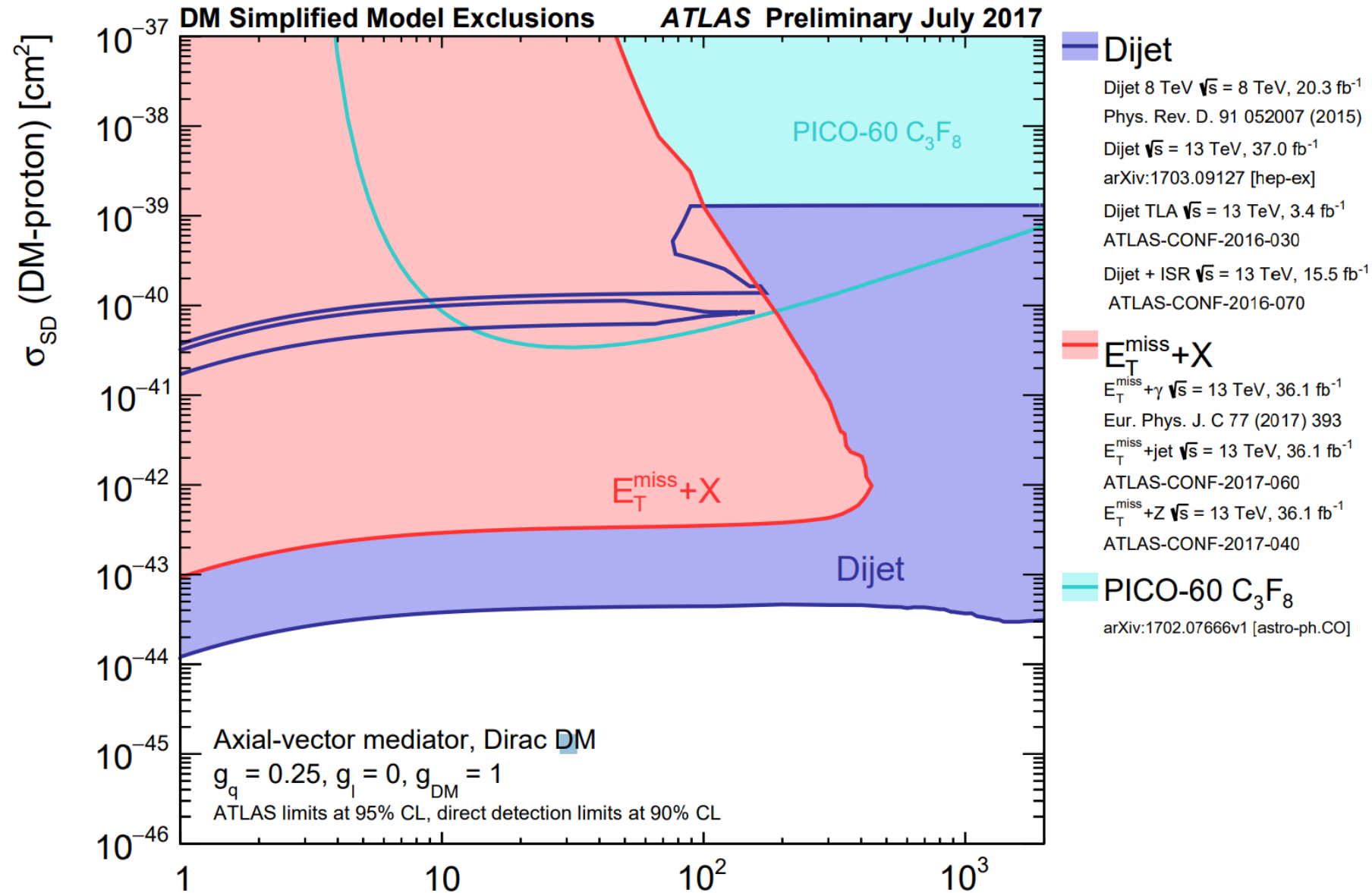
# s-channel vector mediator

## Collider vs direct detection (spin-independent)



# s-channel vector mediator

## Collider vs direct detection (spin-dependent)





# Complementarity of collider/direct/indirect

If we see a missing  $E_T$  (DM candidate) signal at a collider, **we won't know if it's really the dark matter without other information.**

## ❖ Is it stable?

→ DM must be stable on a timescale of order **10 Gyr**. Colliders will tell us about stability on only **nanosecond** timescales (long enough to escape the detector).

## ❖ Does it contribute all the relic density?

→ Need to measure couplings to *all* SM particles to infer the total annihilation rate.

## ❖ Indirect detection

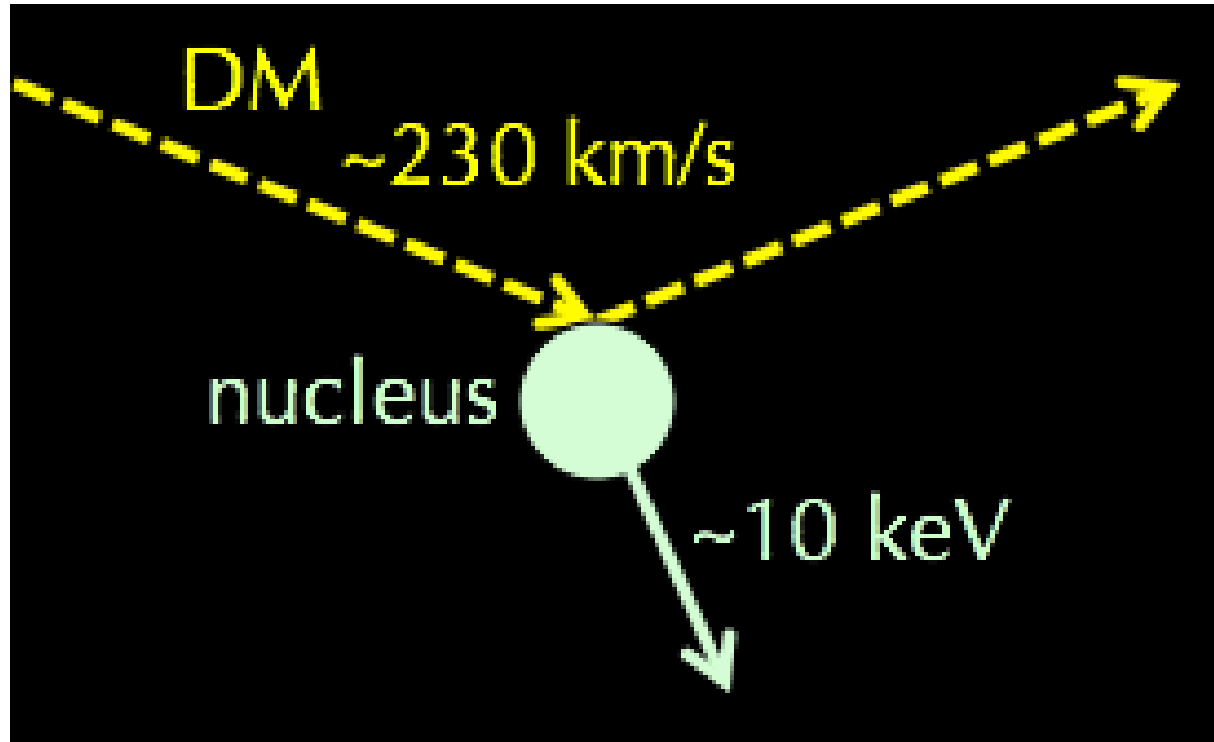
→ Most direct test of the annihilation cross section and hence the WIMP paradigm.

## ❖ Direct detection.

→ Detection of actual relic particles.

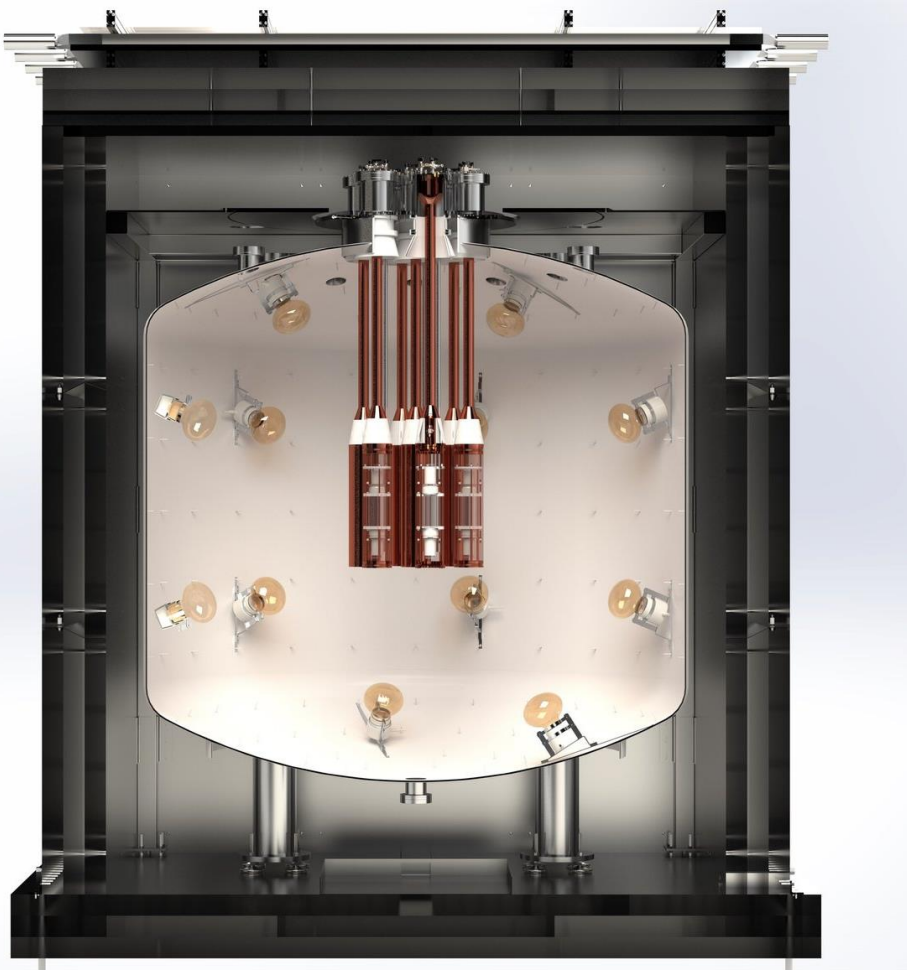
# Dark Matter Lecture #4

# Dark Matter Direct Detection



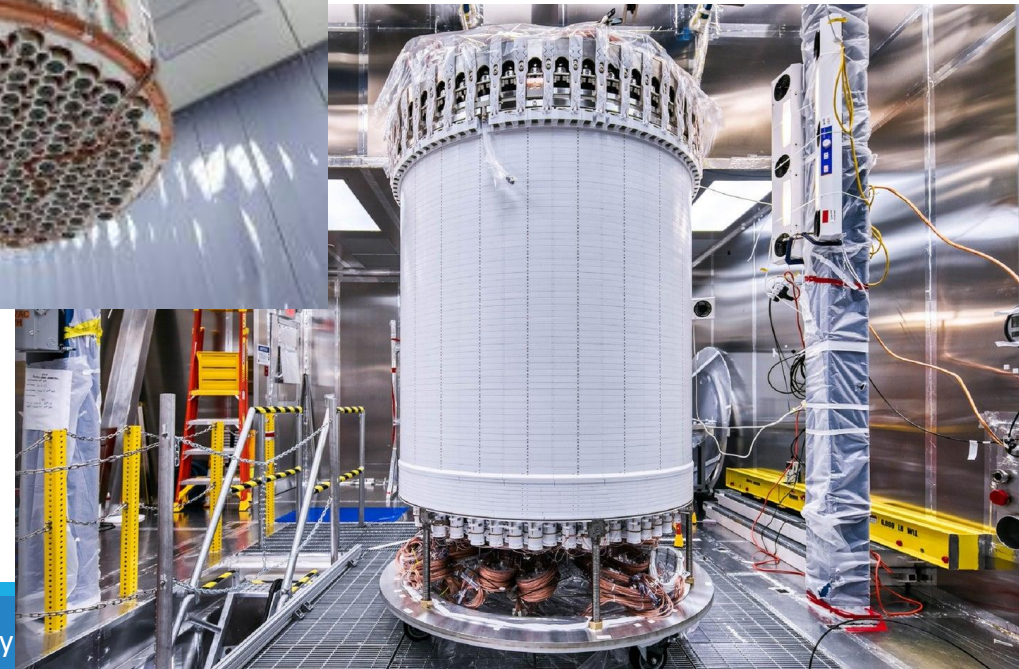
# Dark Matter Direct Detection

**SABRE experiment  
(to go to SUPL lab in Australia)**



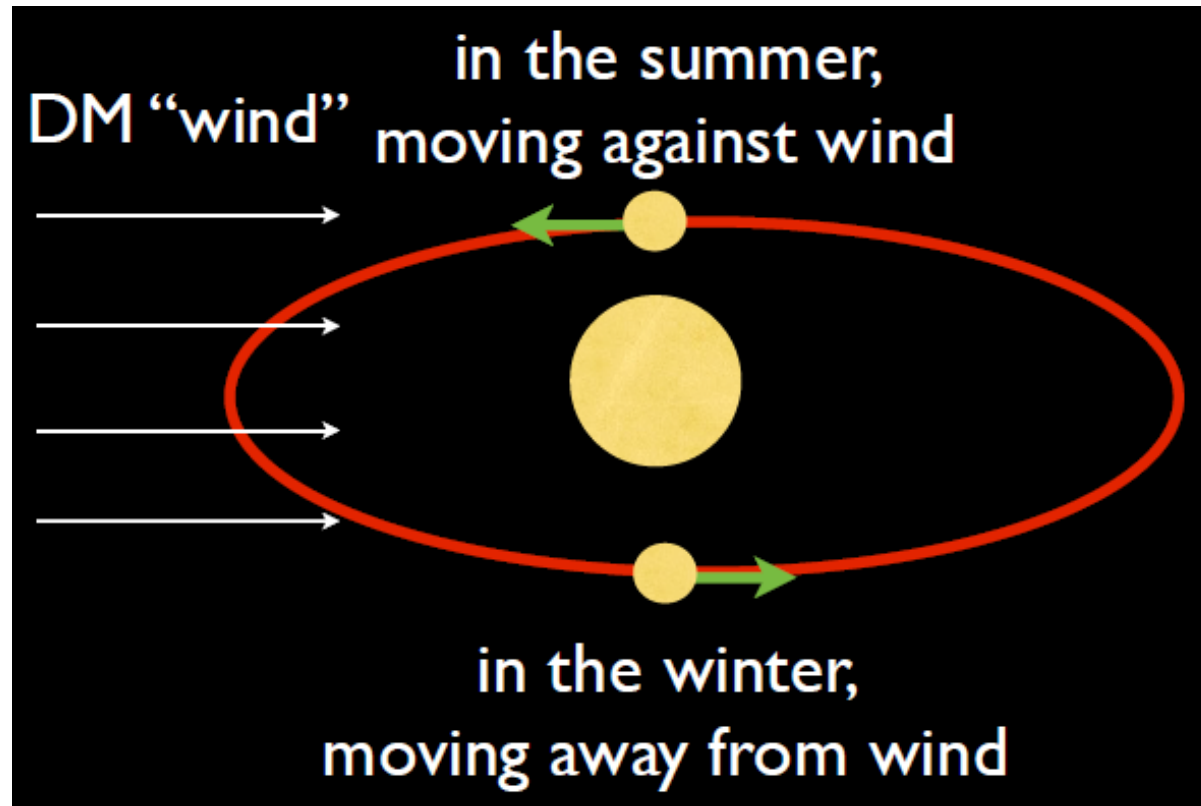
**XENON1T**

**LUX-ZEPLIN (LZ)**



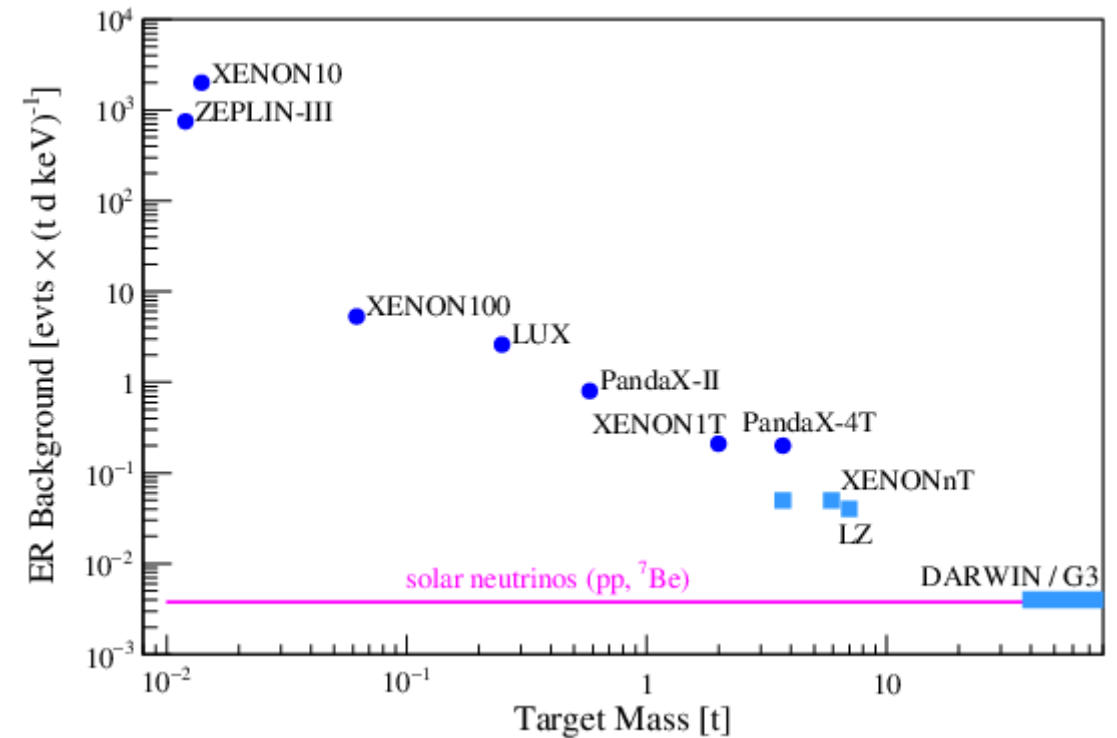
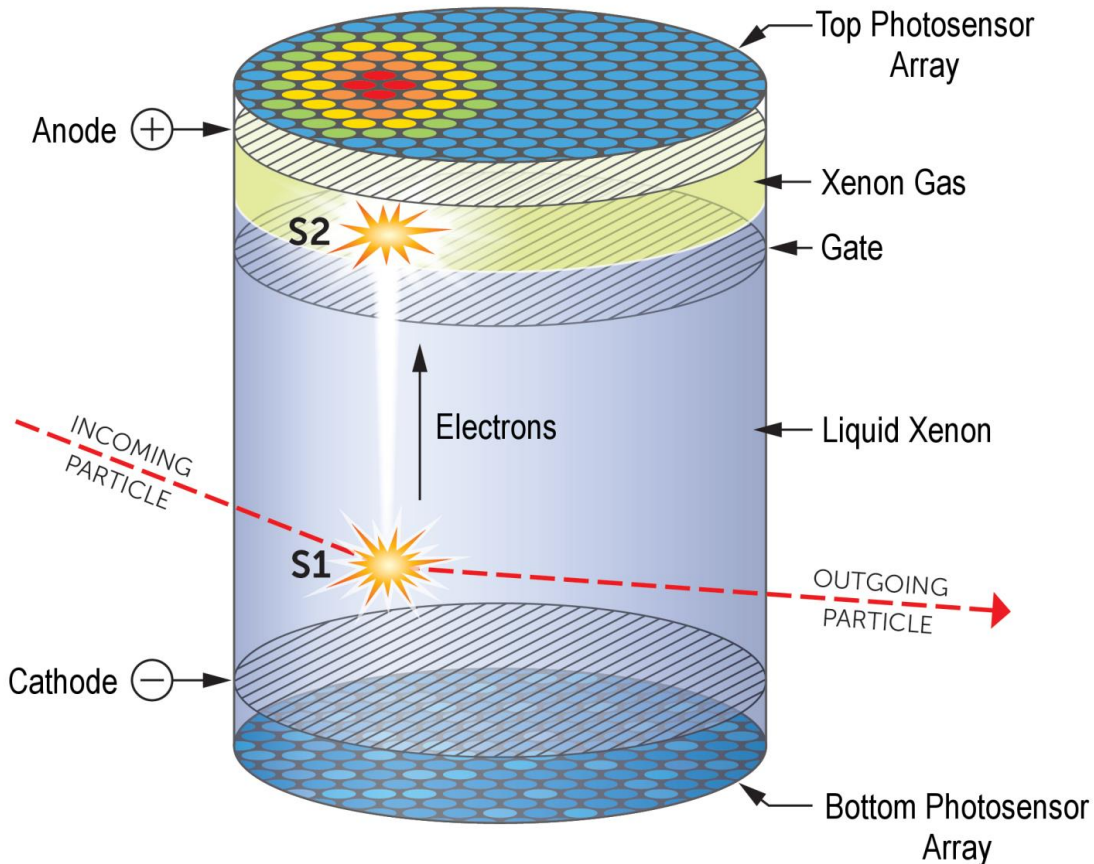
# Direct Detection

Search for nuclear recoil (or electron recoil) arising from the scattering of dark matter particles with nuclei (electrons).



# Direct Detection Experiments

Nuclear recoil experiments search for the occasional collision of dark matter particles with nuclei in a detector



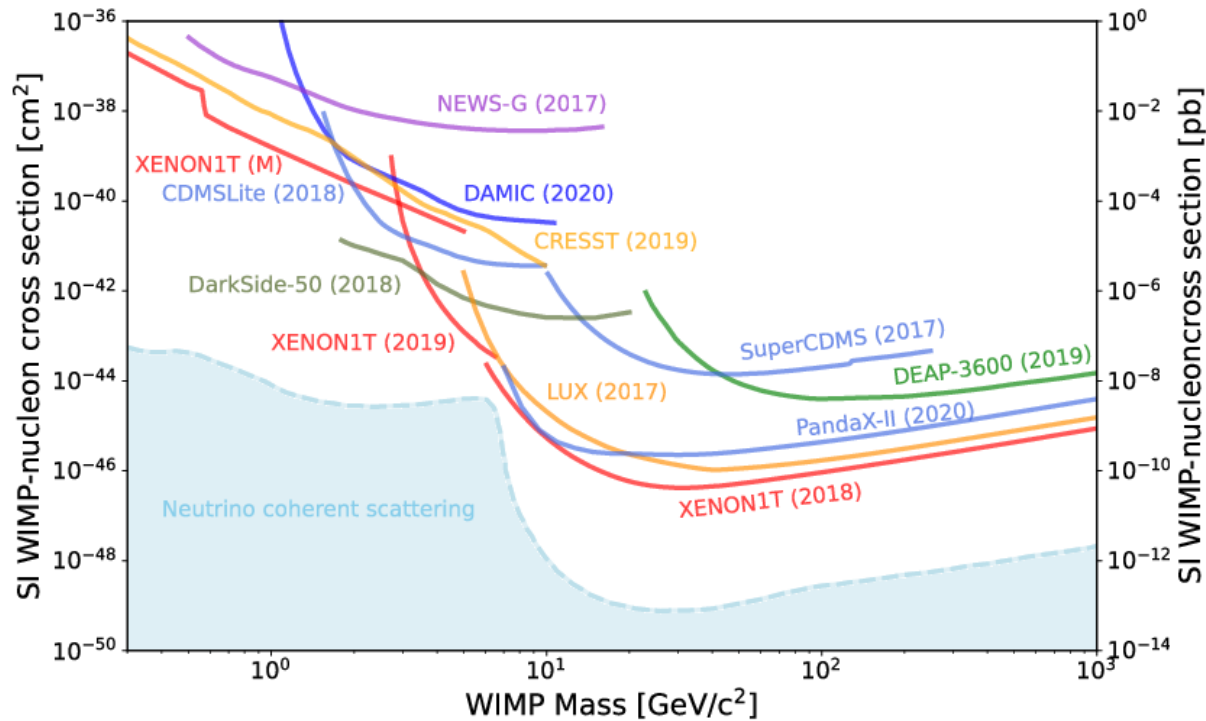
Images from: [arXiv:2203.02309](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.02309)



# Direct Detection limits

## Spin-independent (SI) interactions

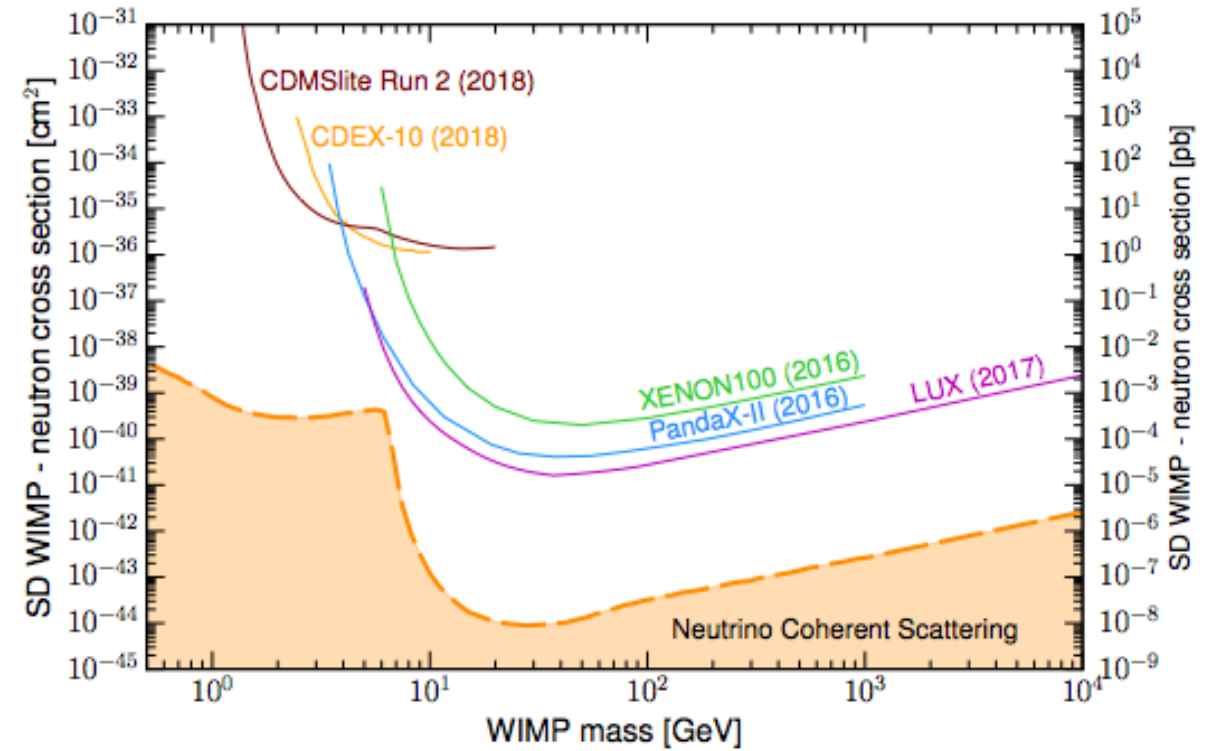
→ strong bounds due to coherent enhancement



J. Aalbers et al. arXiv:2203.02309

## Spin-dependent (SD) interactions

→ weaker bounds



S. Robles

# Spin-independent vs Spin-dependent

- **Spin dependent** - DM interacts coherently with whole nucleus, with  $A^2$  enhancement
- **Spin dependent** – DM couples to spin of nucleus.
- In addition, some interactions are suppressed by velocity or momentum transfer.

Name	Interaction Structure	$\sigma_{\text{SI}}$ suppression	$\sigma_{\text{SD}}$ suppression	$s$ -wave?
F1	$\bar{X} X \bar{q} q$	1	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM)	No
F2	$\bar{X} \gamma^5 X \bar{q} q$	$q^2$ (DM)	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM); $q^2$ (DM)	Yes
F3	$\bar{X} X \bar{q} \gamma^5 q$	0	$q^2$ (SM)	No
F4	$\bar{X} \gamma^5 X \bar{q} \gamma^5 q$	0	$q^2$ (SM); $q^2$ (DM)	Yes
F5	$\bar{X} \gamma^\mu X \bar{q} \gamma_\mu q$ (vanishes for Majorana $X$ )	1	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM) $q^2$ (SM); $q^2$ or $v^{\perp 2}$ (DM)	Yes
F6	$\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 X \bar{q} \gamma_\mu q$	$v^{\perp 2}$ (SM or DM)	$q^2$ (SM)	No
F7	$\bar{X} \gamma^\mu X \bar{q} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 q$ (vanishes for Majorana $X$ )	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM); $q^2$ (DM)	$v^{\perp 2}$ (SM) $v^{\perp 2}$ or $q^2$ (DM)	Yes
F8	$\bar{X} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 X \bar{q} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 q$	$q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM)	1	$\propto m_f^2/m_X^2$
F9	$\bar{X} \sigma^{\mu\nu} X \bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q$ (vanishes for Majorana $X$ )	$q^2$ (SM); $q^2$ or $v^{\perp 2}$ (DM) $q^2 v^{\perp 2}$ (SM)	1	Yes
F10	$\bar{X} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^5 X \bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q$ (vanishes for Majorana $X$ )	$q^2$ (SM)	$v^{\perp 2}$ (SM) $q^2$ or $v^{\perp 2}$ (DM)	Yes



# Direct Detection rates

Differential rate for WIMP scattering: 
$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = \frac{\rho_0}{m_\chi m_N} \int_{v_{min}}^{v_{max}} v f(v) \frac{d\sigma}{E_R} d^3v$$

where:  $m_N$  = nucleus mass

$v_{min}$  minimum DM velocity to produce detectable event at energy  $E$

$v_{max}$  is galactic escape velocity

$$v_{min} = \sqrt{m_N E / (2\mu^2)}$$

where  $\mu = m_\chi m_N / (m_\chi + m_N)$  = reduced mass

Direct detection experiments most sensitive for  $m_\chi \sim m_N$

# Cross section

Differential cross section: 
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} = \frac{m_N}{2\mu^2 v^2} (\sigma_0^{SI} F_{SI}^2(q) + \sigma_0^{SD} F_{SD}^2(q))$$

where  $F_{SI}^2(q)$  and where  $F_{SD}^2(q)$  are form factors.

For spin-independent scattering: 
$$\sigma_0^{SI} = \sigma_p \cdot \frac{\mu_A^2}{\mu_p^2} \cdot [Z \cdot f^p + (A - Z) \cdot f^n]^2$$

Usually  $f_n = f_p$  is assumed (i.e. DM couples with same strength to neutrons and protons)

Then we have:  $\sigma_0^{SI} \propto A^2$  where A is the nucleon number.

# Direct Detection rates

Ball-park numbers:

$$R \sim 0.13 \frac{\text{events}}{\text{kg year}} \left[ \frac{A}{100} \times \frac{\sigma_{WN}}{10^{-38} \text{ cm}^2} \times \frac{\langle v \rangle}{220 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \times \frac{\rho_0}{0.3 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}} \right]$$

$$E_R = \frac{p^2}{2m_N} = \frac{m_r^2 v^2}{m_N} (1 - \cos \theta) \sim 30 \text{ keV}$$

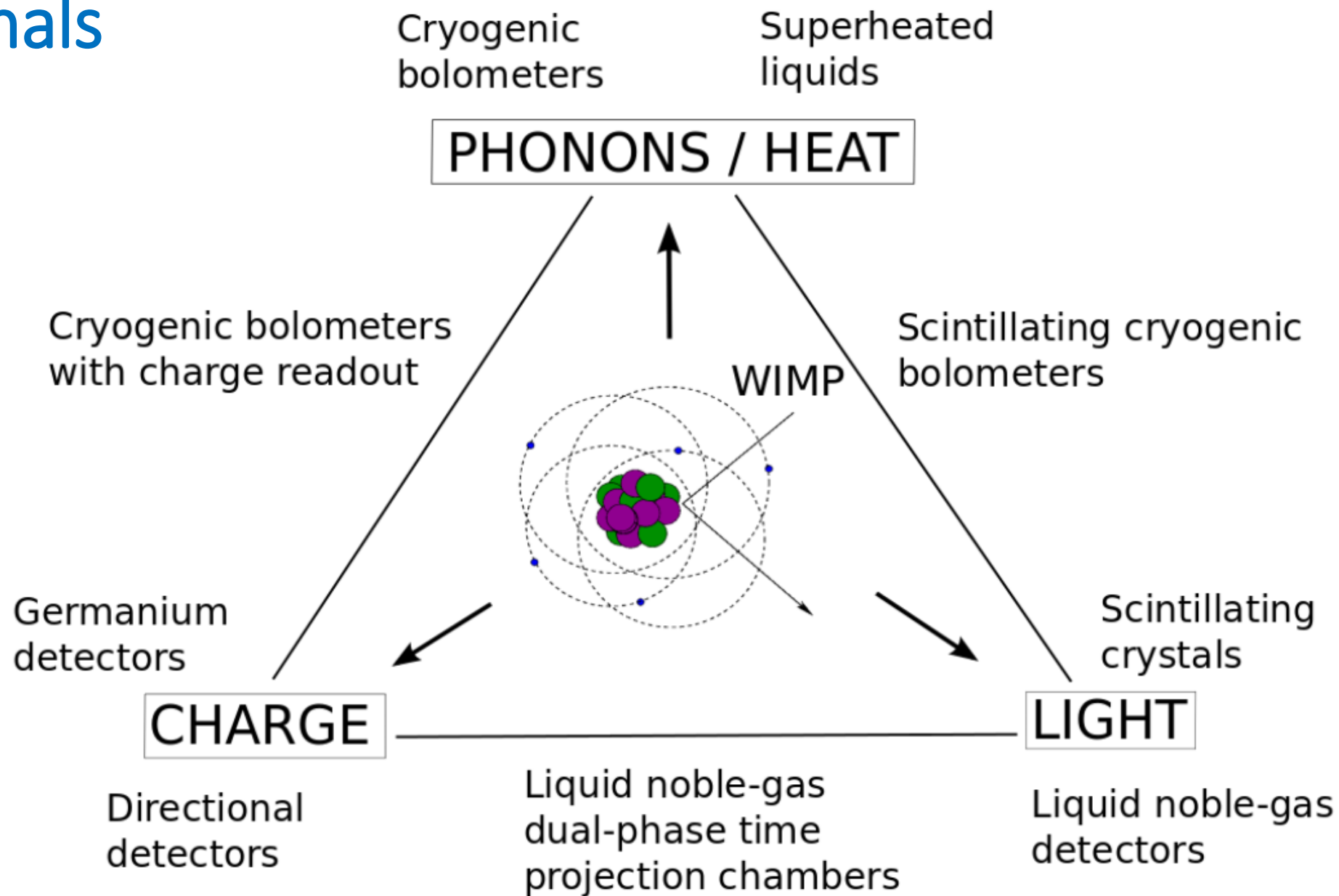
# Approaches to Direct Detection

All experiments located underground to shield against backgrounds.

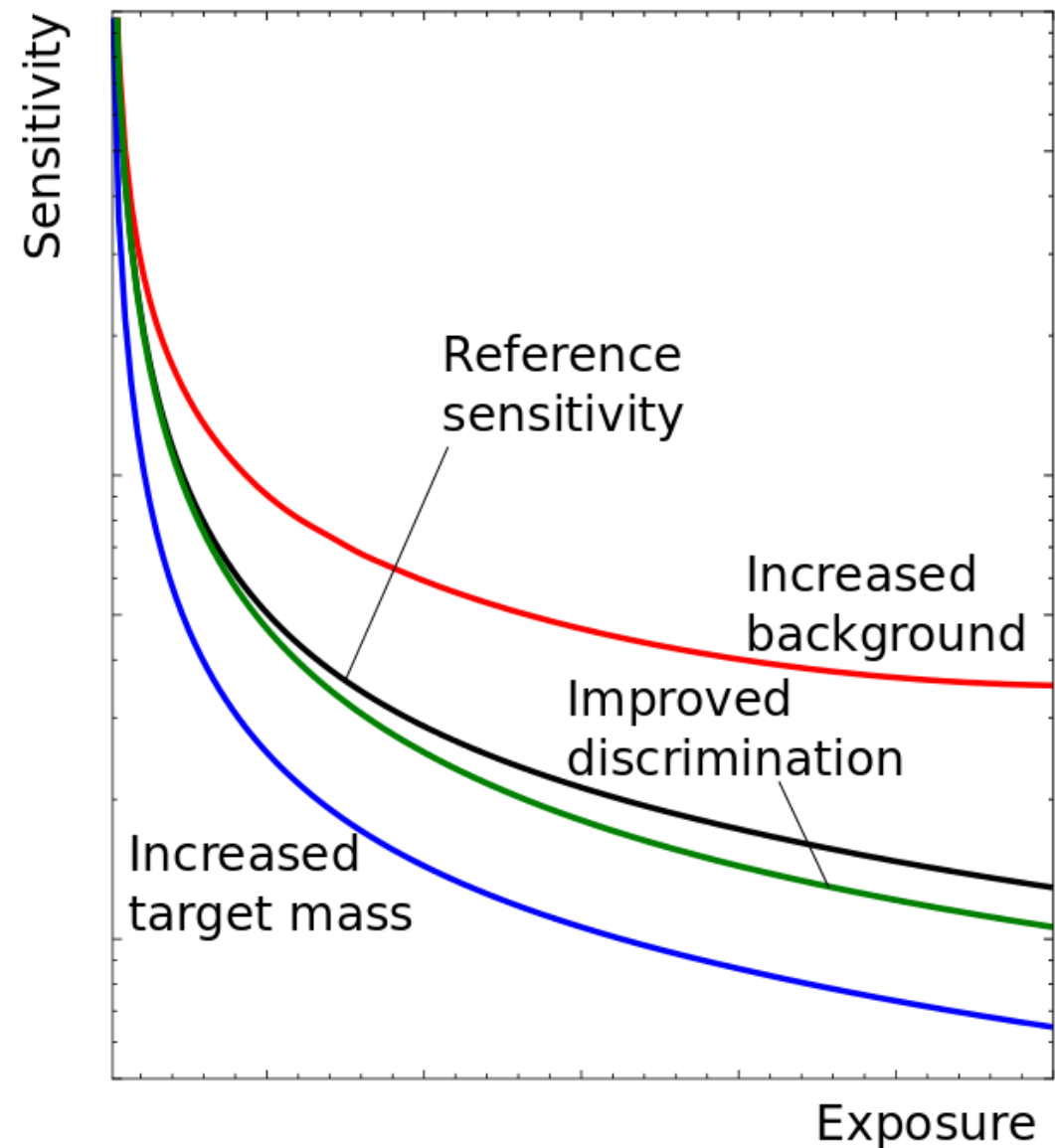
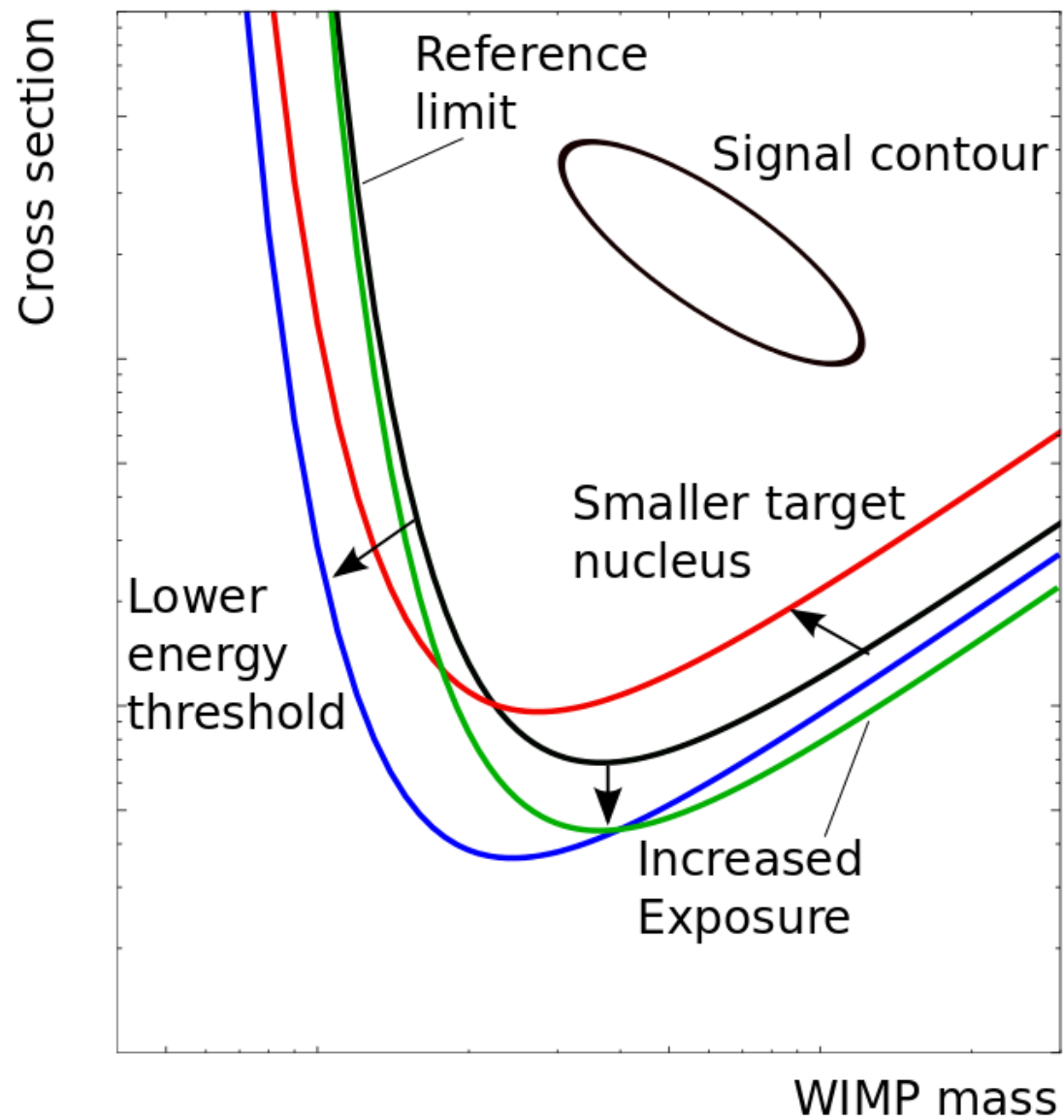
Two approaches:

- ❑ Very low background experiment  
→ where you aim to select only DM events (LZ, Xenon, etc)
  
- ❑ Annual modulation signal  
→ look for annual modulation on top of a large background (DAMA/Libra)

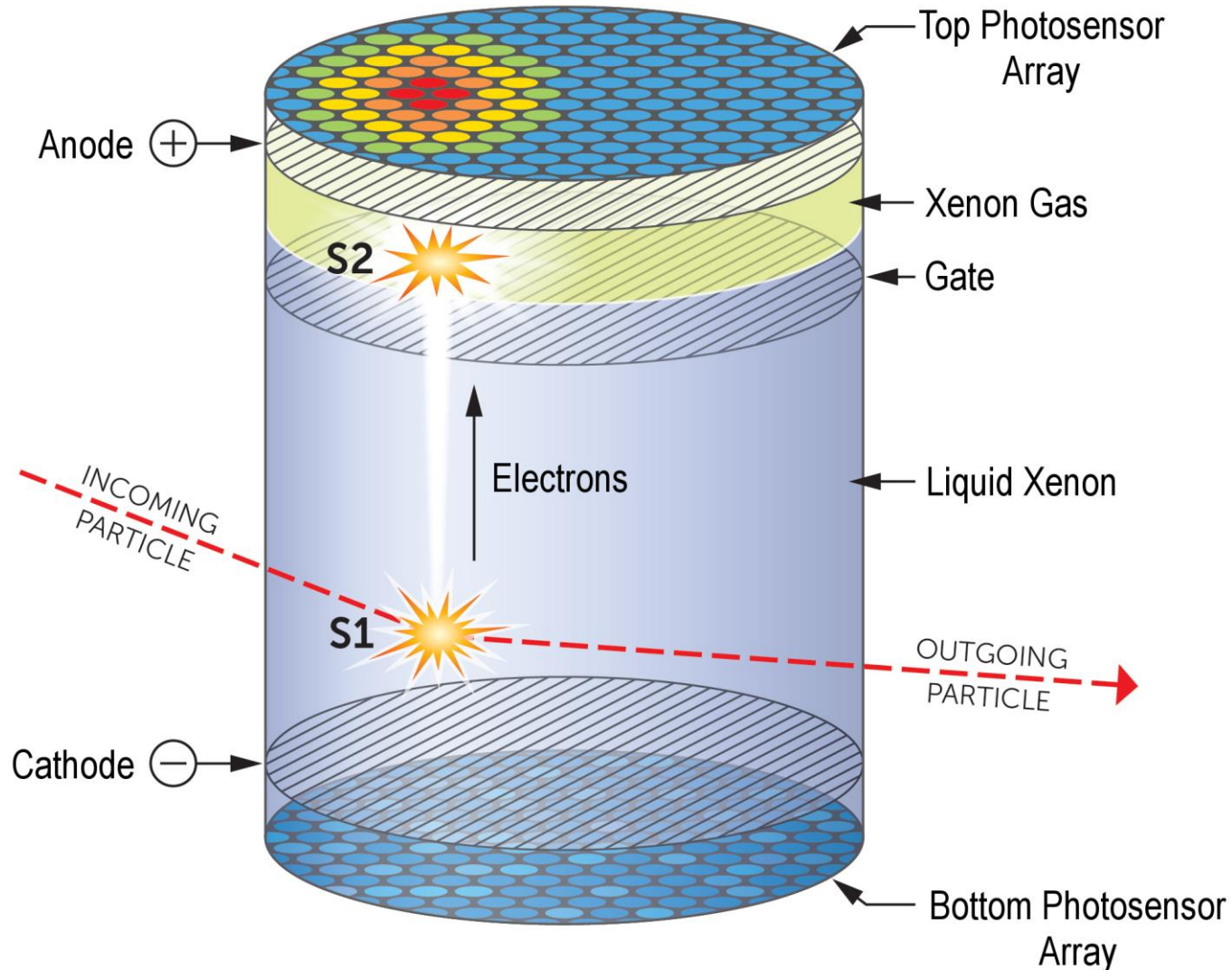
# Types of signals



arXiv:1509.08767



# Dual-phase liquid noble gas TPCs

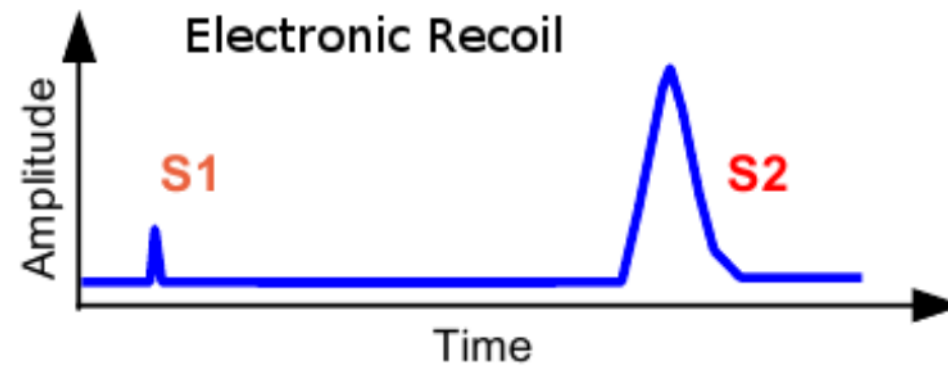
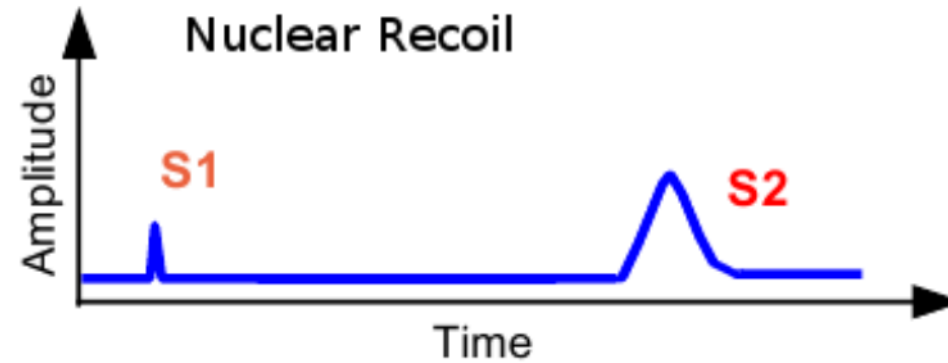
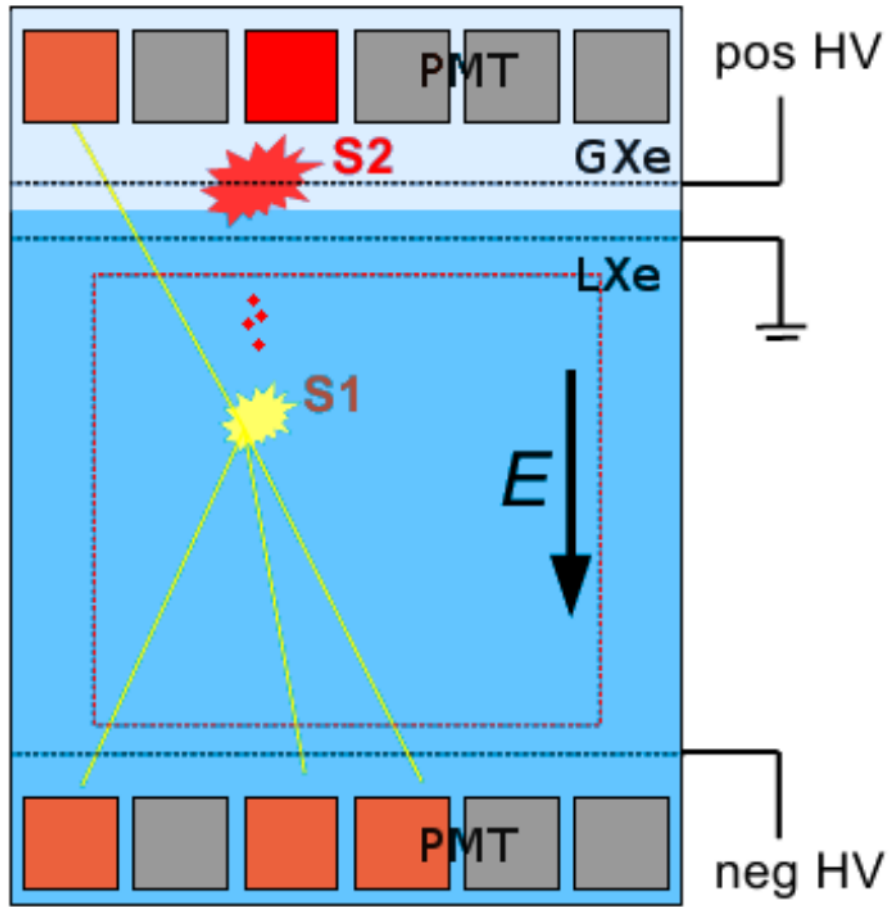


- Electrons drifted upward in electric field  $\rightarrow$  secondary scintillation signal in the gas phase (S2)

- Excitation  $\rightarrow$  scintillation light (S1)
- Ionisation

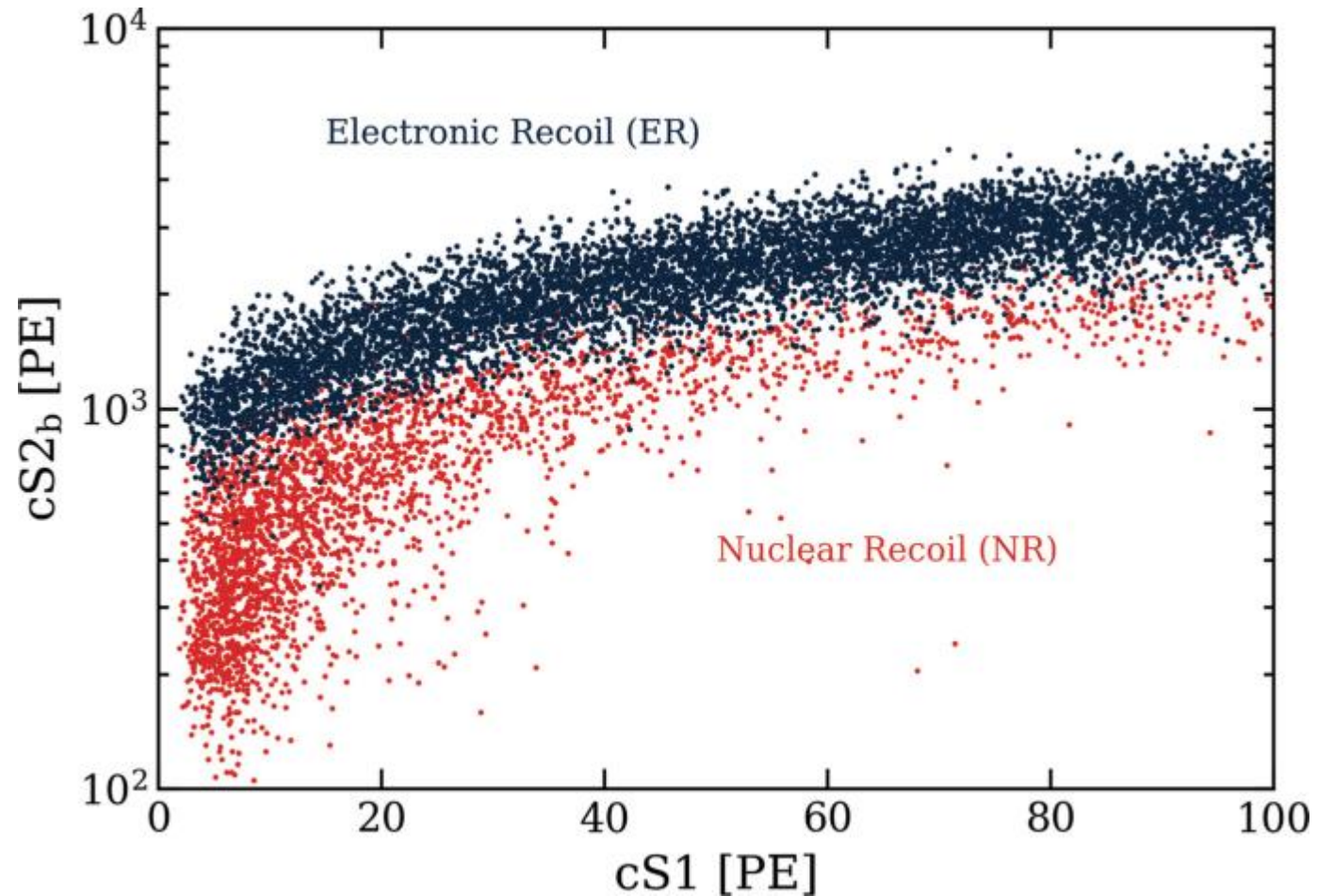
# Nuclear vs electron recoil discrimination:

arXiv:1405.7600





# Nuclear vs electron recoil discrimination:



# Annual modulation signal

$$\frac{dR}{dE}(E, t) \approx S_0(E) + S_m(E) \cdot \cos\left(\frac{2\pi(t - t_0)}{T}\right)$$

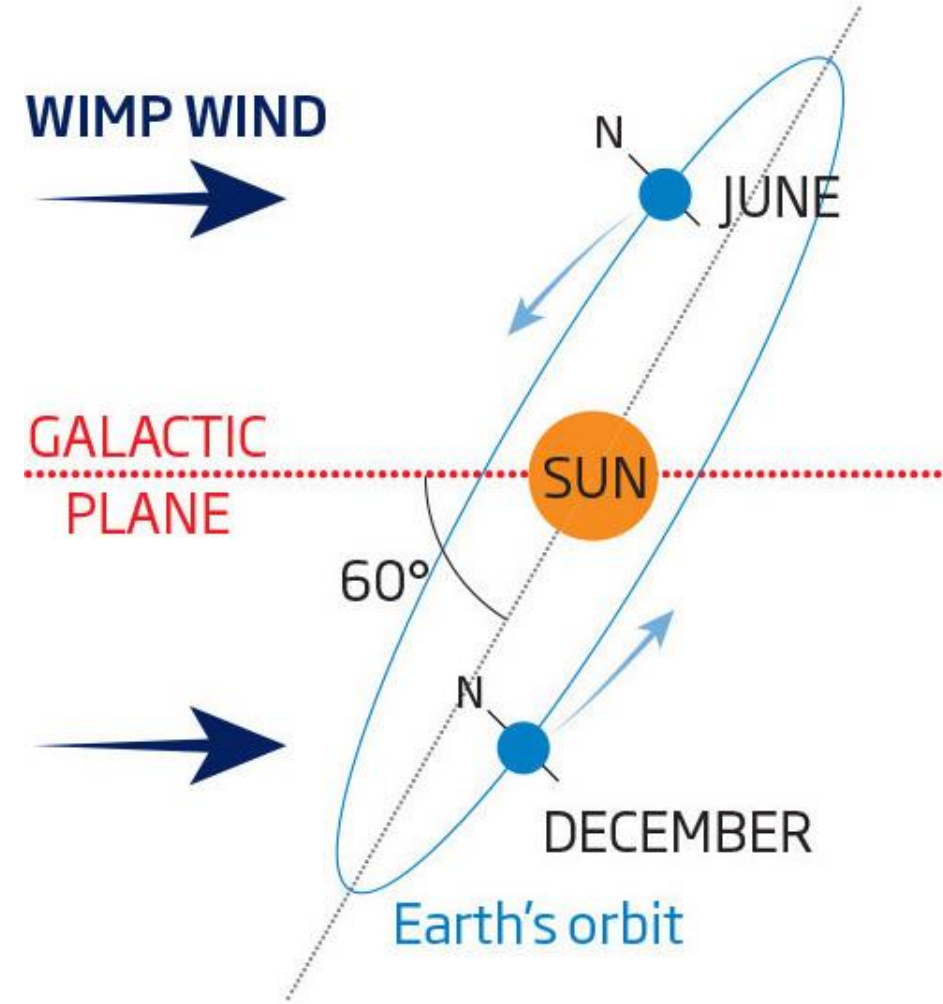
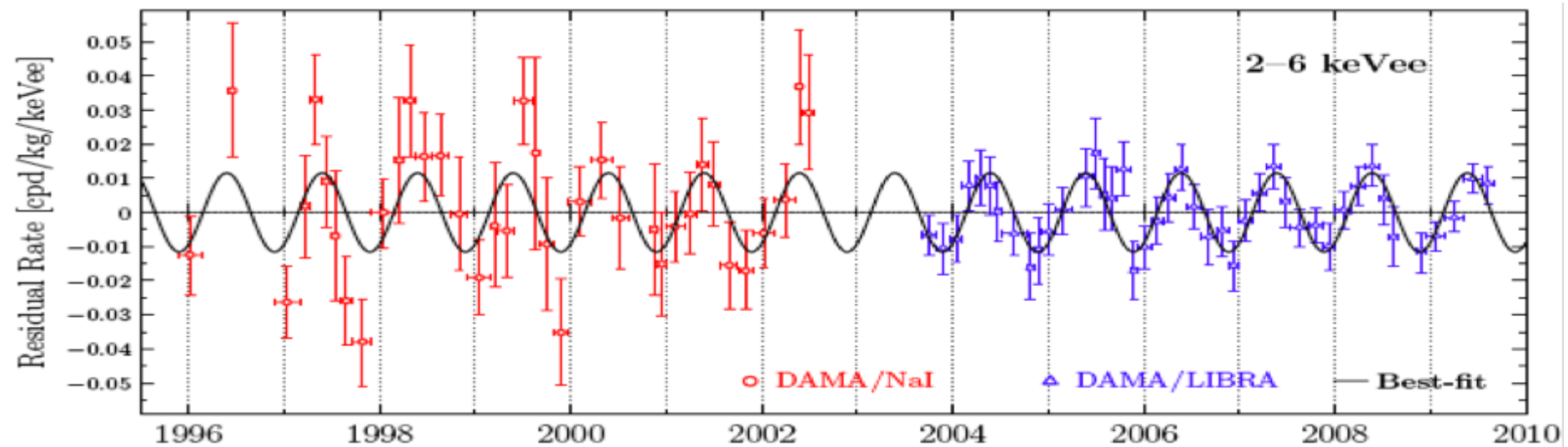


Image credit: New Scientist

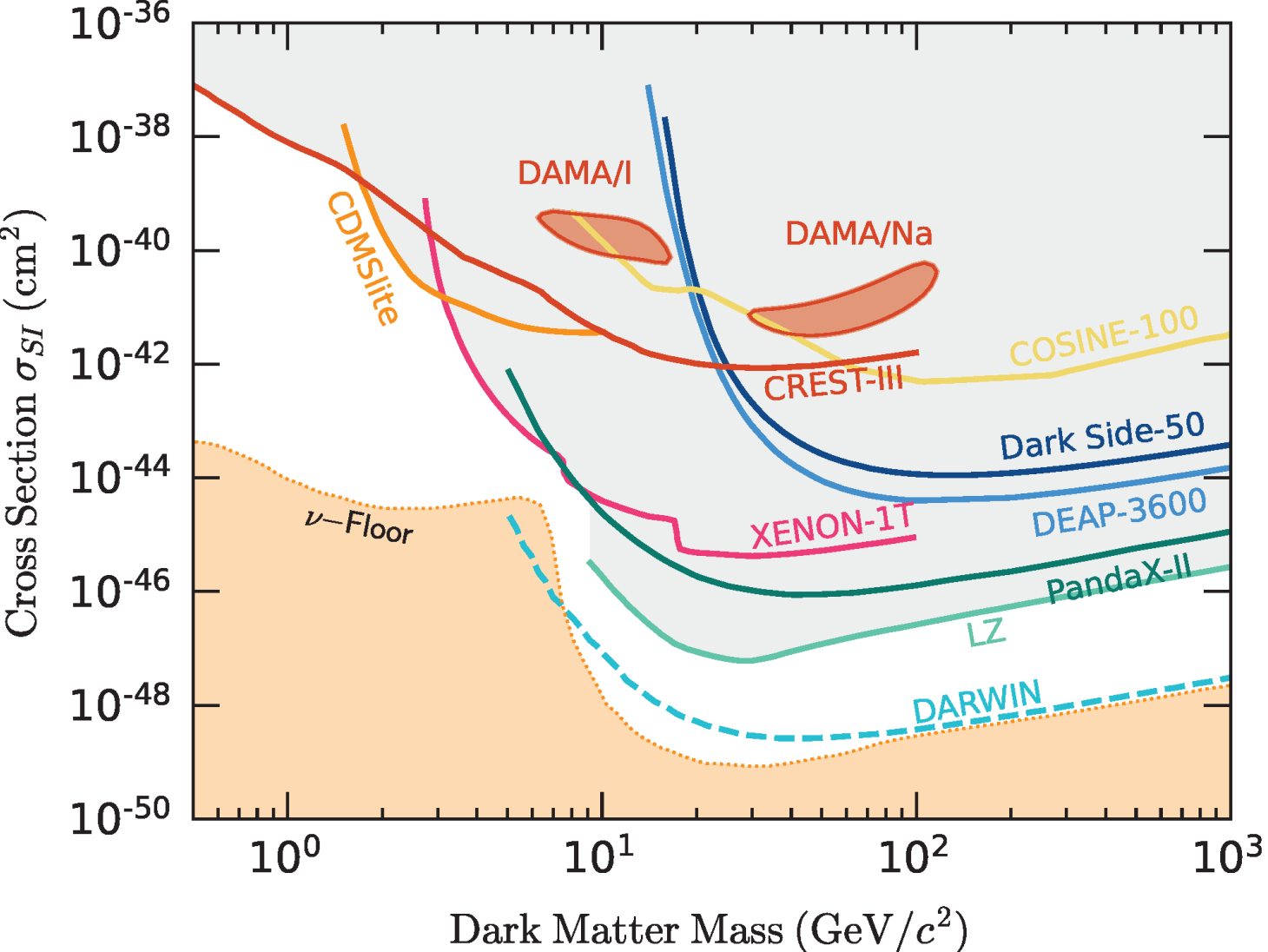
# DAMA/LIBRA annual modulation

R. Bernabei et al. (DAMA-LIBRA), EPJ C (2013) 73:2648



Now over  $13\sigma$  confidence level

# Comparison of DAMA signal with exclusion limits from other experiments



# → repeat the experiment in Southern Hemisphere!

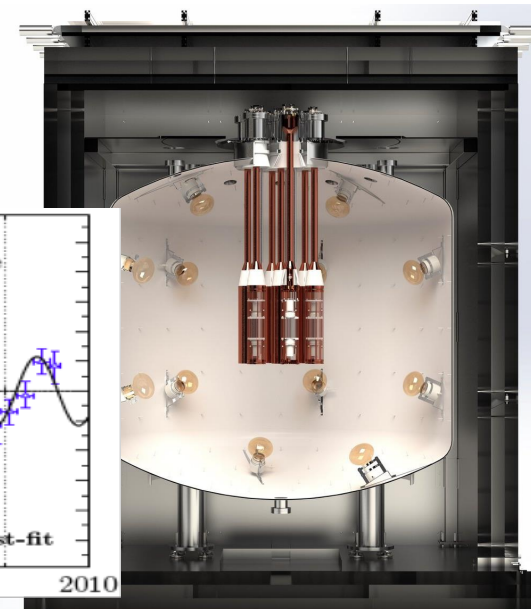
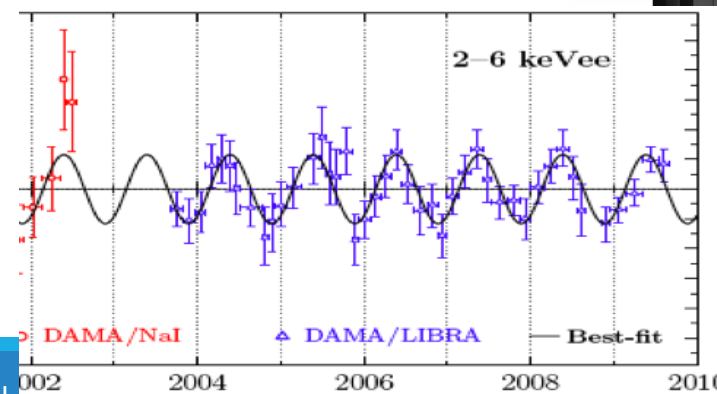
Dark matter, or a non-understood background?

**Something** is modulated. Strong motivation to check the systematics with an experiment in the southern hemisphere.

→ The phase of a background modulation could be expected to change with location (seasonal variation of atmosphere, etc).

→ A genuine dark matter signal will look the same anywhere on Earth.

→ SABRE experiment in the SUPL lab in Australia will test/resolve this question



# Inelastic dark matter

Two *almost degenerate* dark matter states:



Called inelastic because the  $\chi_1\chi_1$  coupling is absent and hence the dominant interaction is

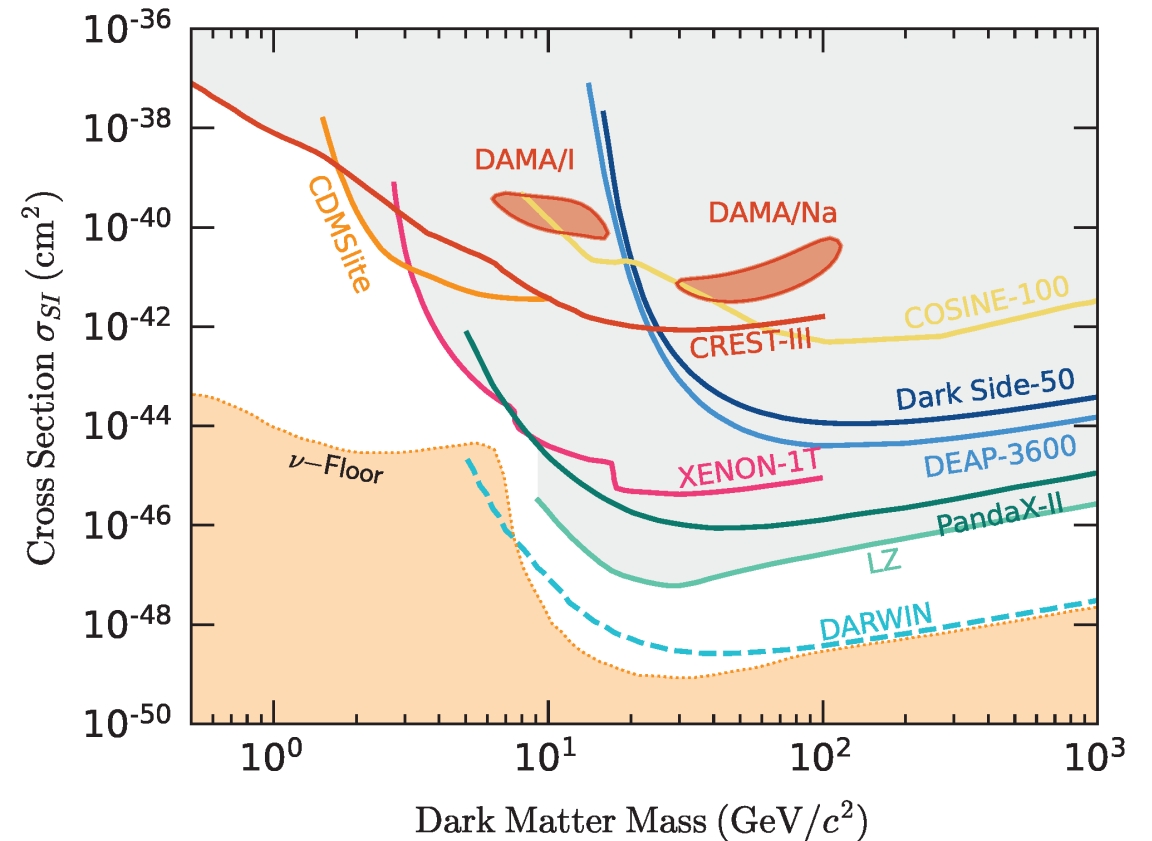
$$\chi_1 n \rightarrow \chi_2 n$$

Kinematically forbidden unless mass splitting is small,  $\delta m \ll m$

- Direct detection experiments restricted to keV mass splittings, e.g.,  $\delta < 180$  keV for Xenon
- Bigger mass splittings accessible if DM is quasi-relativistic (some astrophysics scenarios)

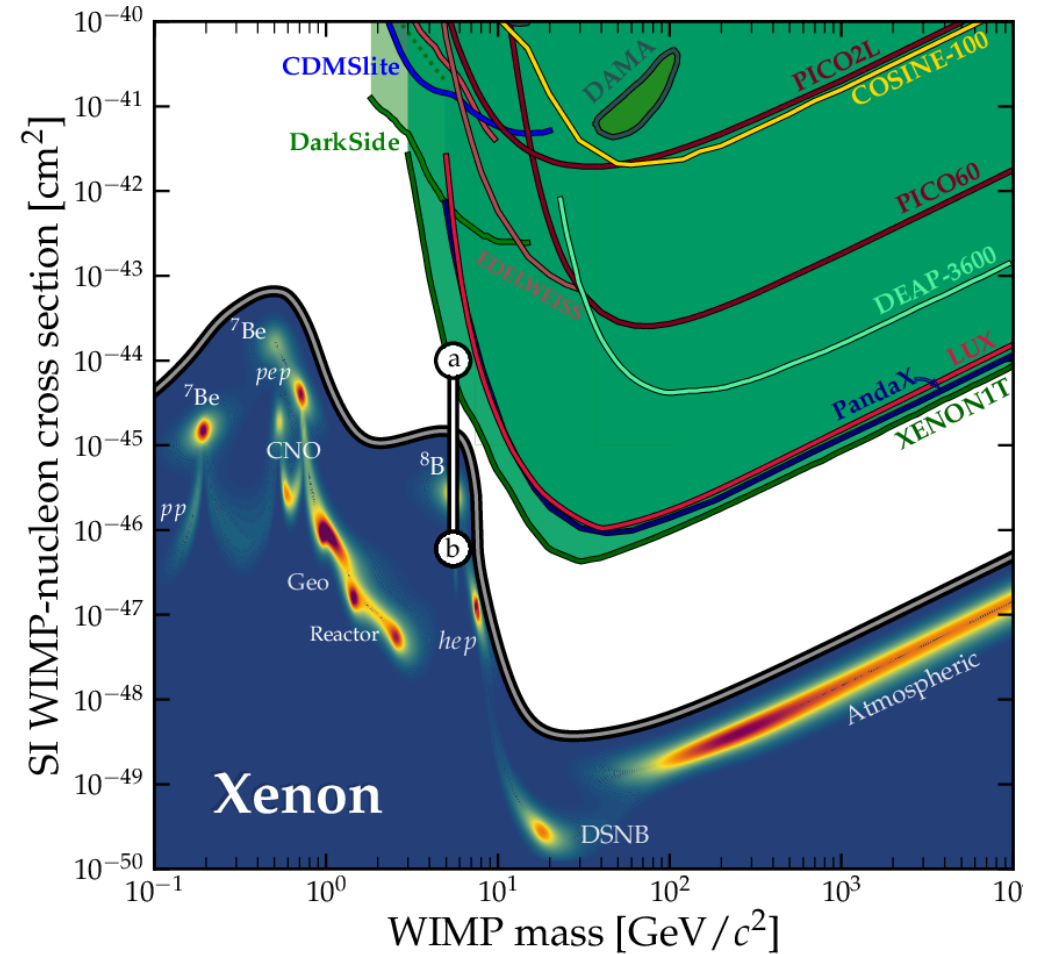
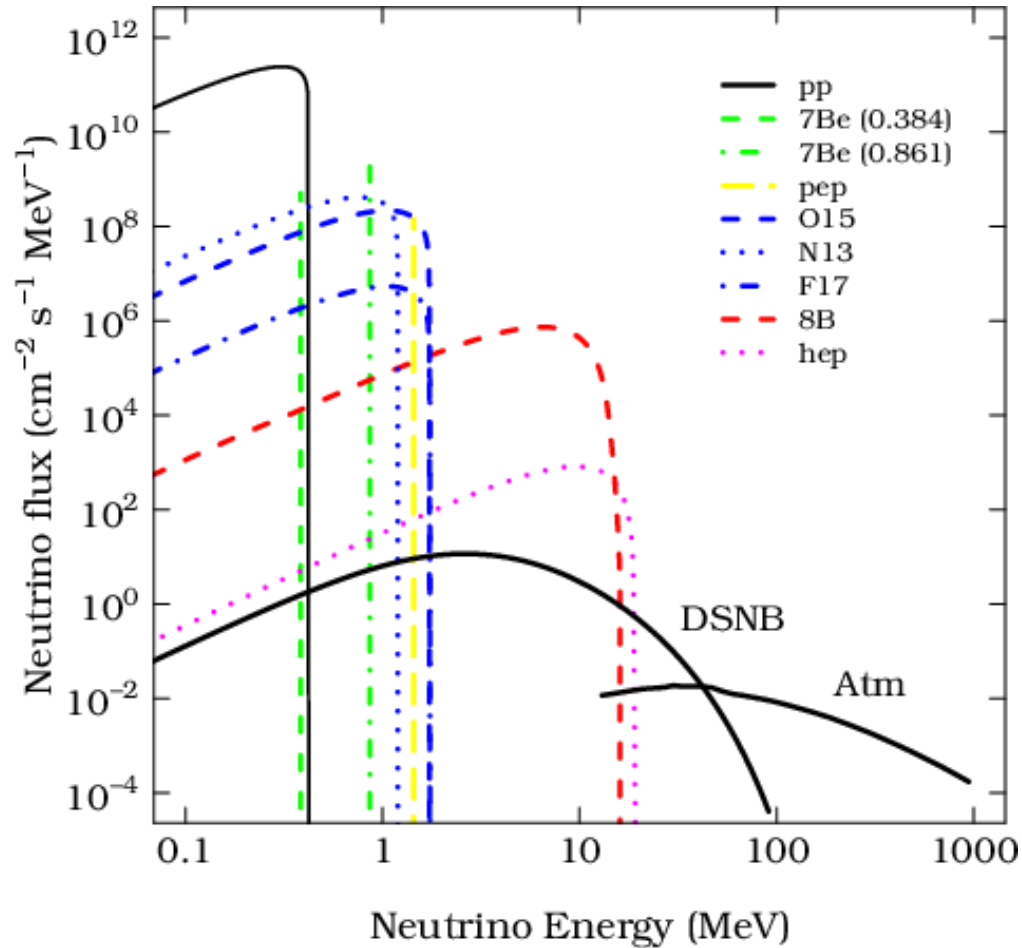
# Direct detection challenges: neutrino floor

- Next generation experiments will approach the “neutrino floor”, where solar, atmospheric and relic supernova neutrinos become an important background
- Development of directional detection
- Australian involvement in CYGNUS, a directional detection experiment





# Direct detection challenges: neutrino floor

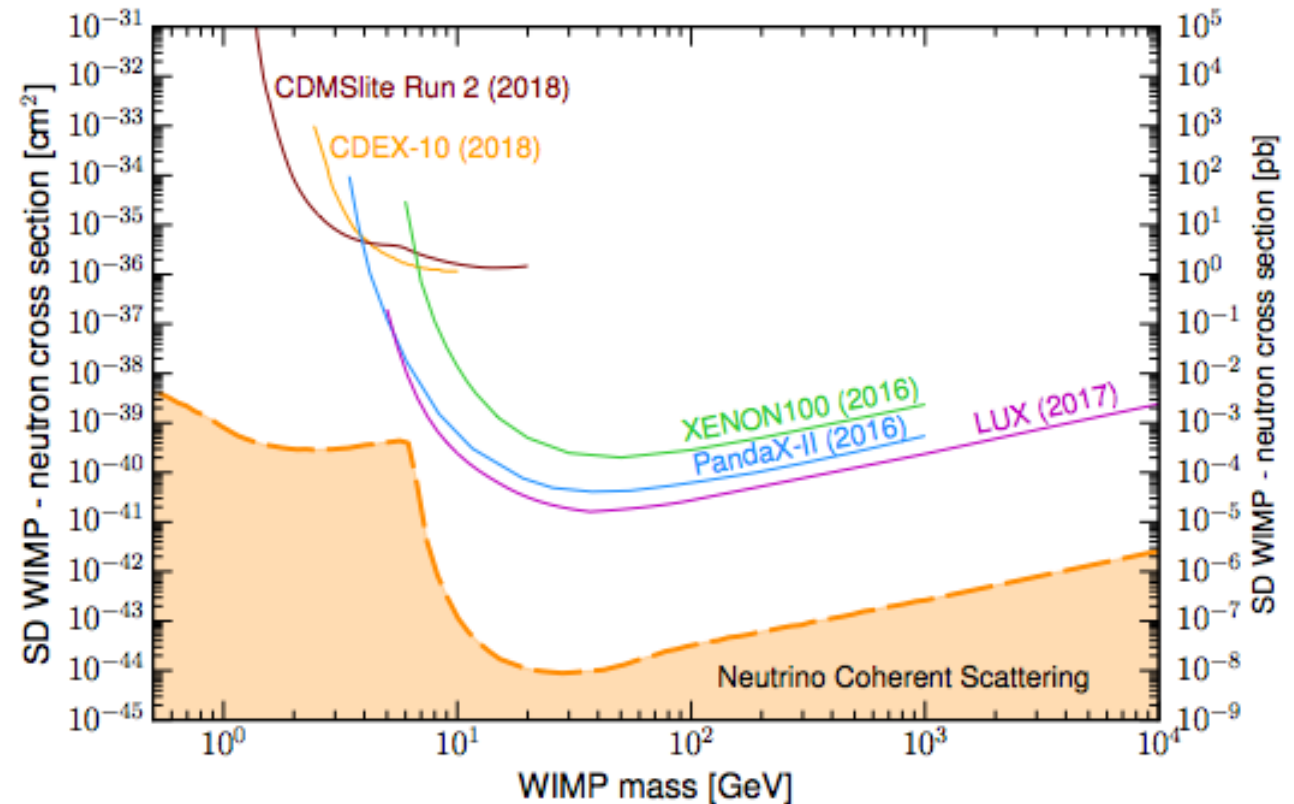


Ciaran O'Hare



# Direct detection challenges: low-mass dark matter

- Low-mass dark matter gives very low-energy recoil signals  
-- below experimental thresholds
- New detection technologies, to achieve lower thresholds
- New analyses to probe lower mass dark matter using existing detectors



# Migdal effect

The ionization of an atom following a nuclear recoil

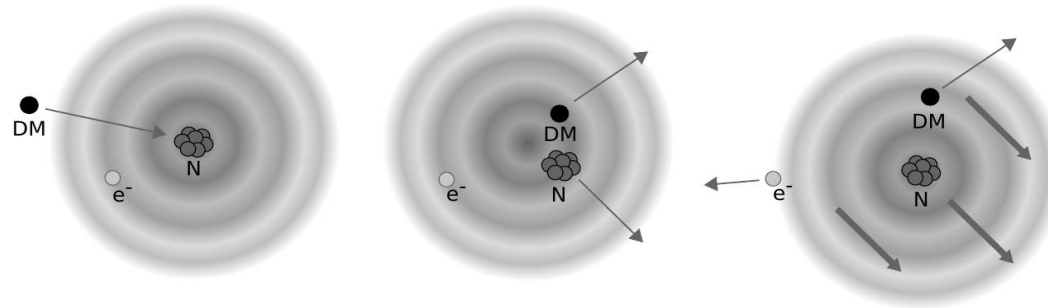


Image: M. Dolan et al.

→ Useful in cases where the nuclear recoil is below threshold (i.e., low mass dark matter) and we can instead detect the ionization signal

$$\text{Nuclear recoil: } E_{R,max} = \frac{2\mu_T^2}{m_T} v_{max}^2$$

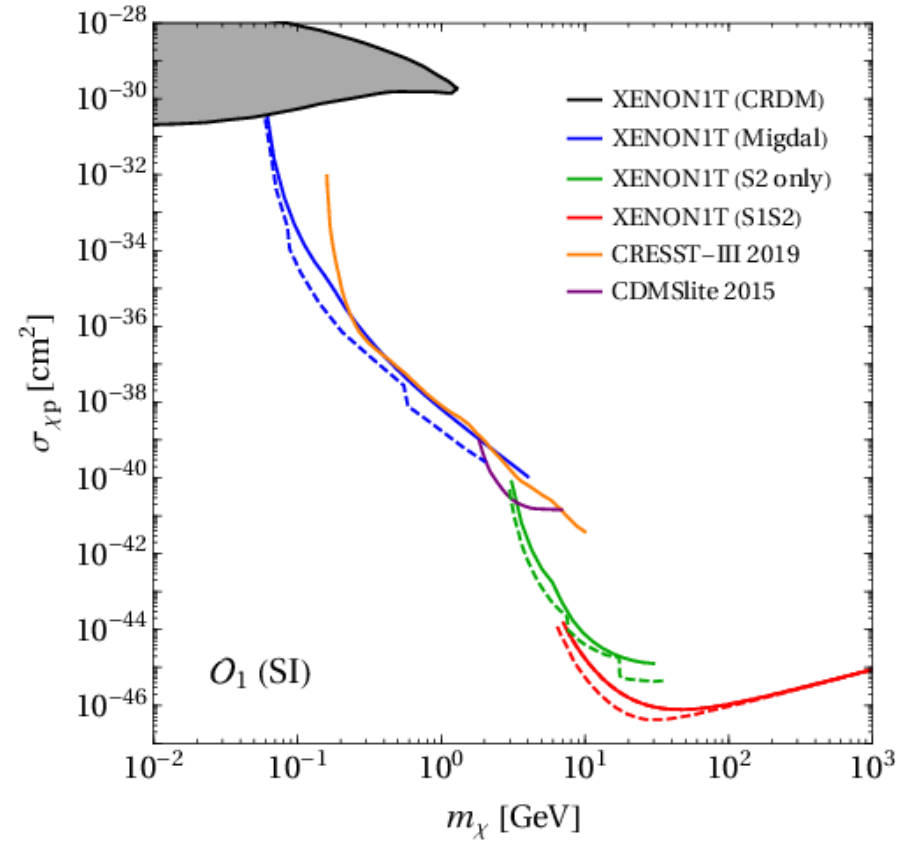
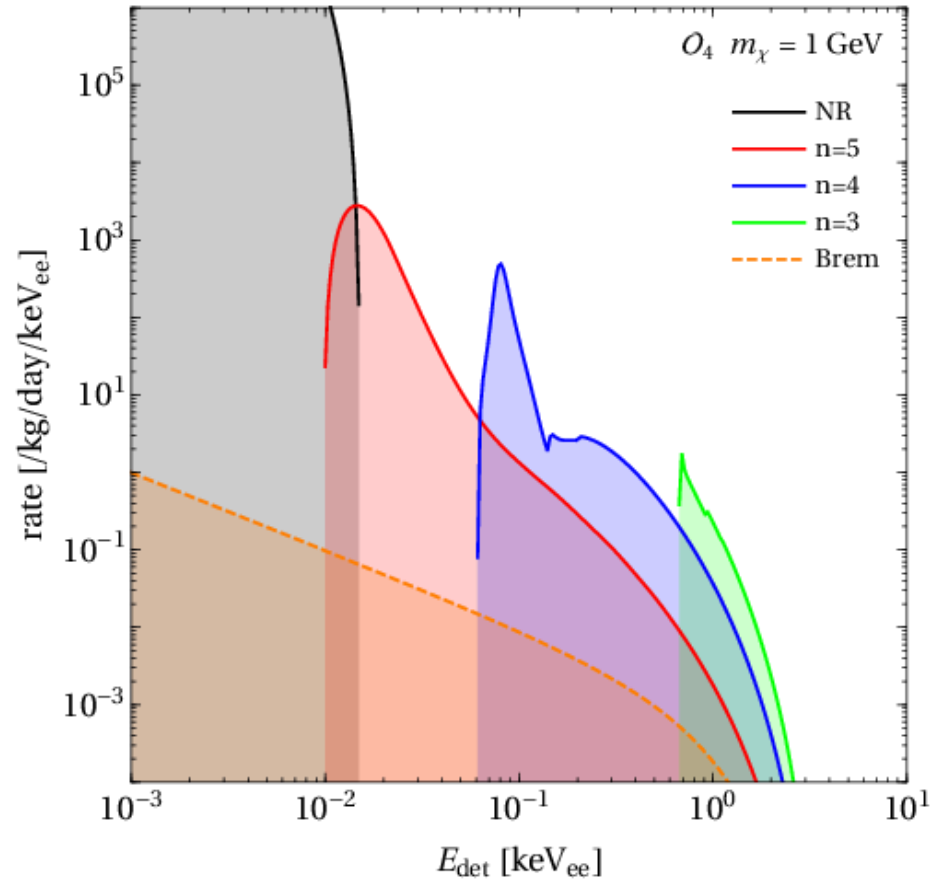
$$\text{Migdal electrons: } E_{EM,max} = \frac{\mu_T}{2} v_{max}^2$$

$m_T$  = Target mass

$\mu_T$  = DM-nucleon reduced mass

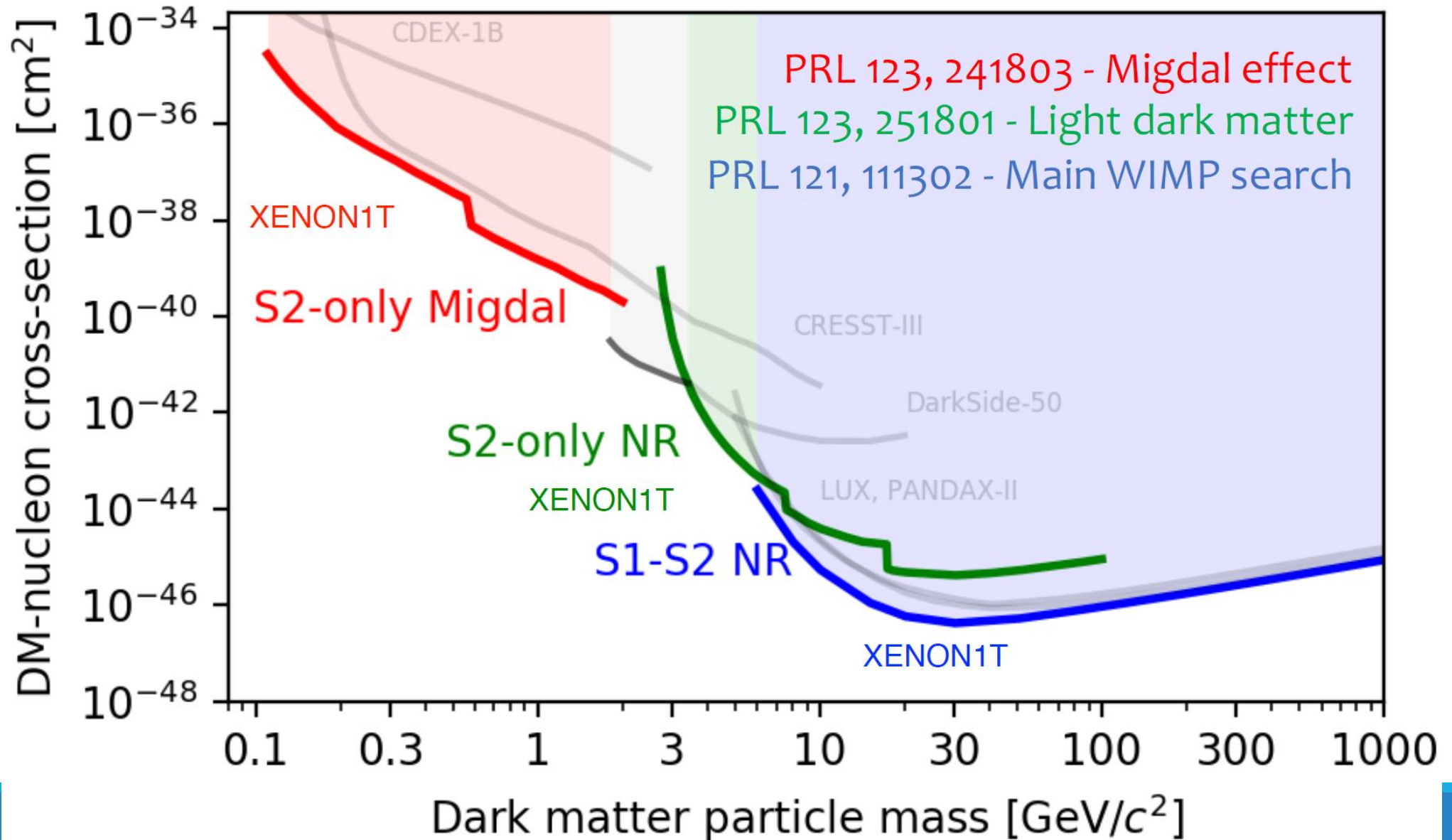
# Migdal effect

Xenon



NFB, Dent, Newstead, Sabharwal & Weiler, PRD, arXiv:1905.00046

# Xenon1T limits



# Boosted Dark Matter

Halo dark matter

→ highly nonrelativistic

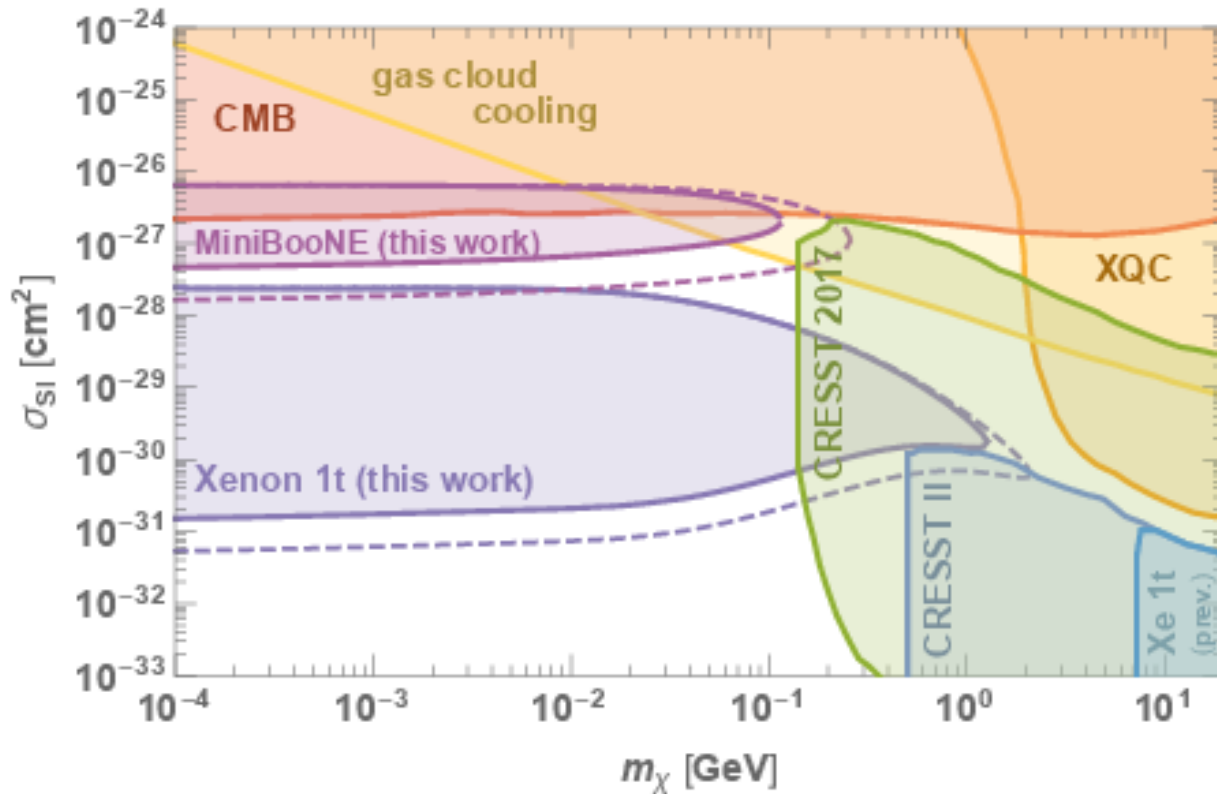
→ low energy nuclear recoils in direct detection experiments

## Could there be a population of higher-energy dark matter?

- Boosted DM produced from decay/annihilation of heavier dark states
- **Cosmic-ray upscattered dark matter** (“inverse direct detection”)
- DM produced in cosmic ray interactions in the atmosphere (“CR beam dump”)
- Solar reflected dark matter
- Supernova dark matter (light dark matter produced in galactic supernova)

# Cosmic ray up-scattered dark matter

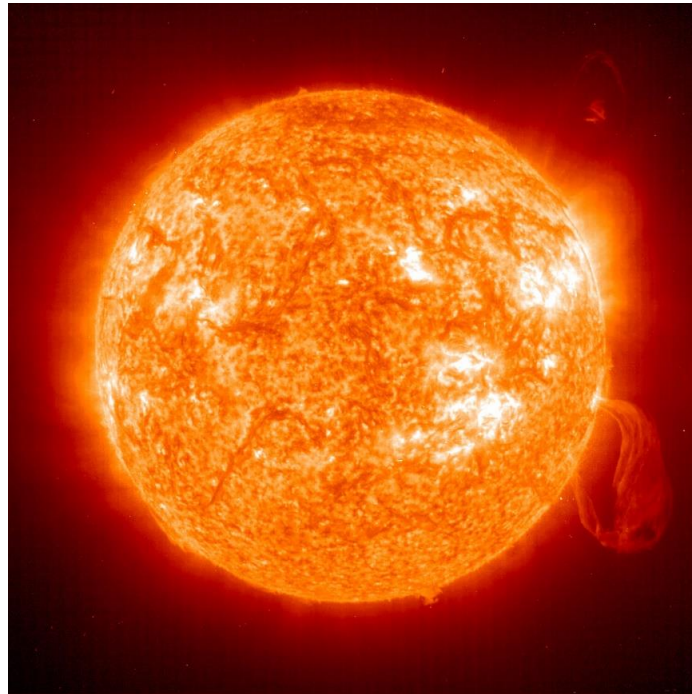
Bringmann & Pospelov, PRL 2019



Allows light dark to be constrained using existing experiments.

Note that dark matter absorption in the earth imposes upper limit on the cross sections that can be constrained.

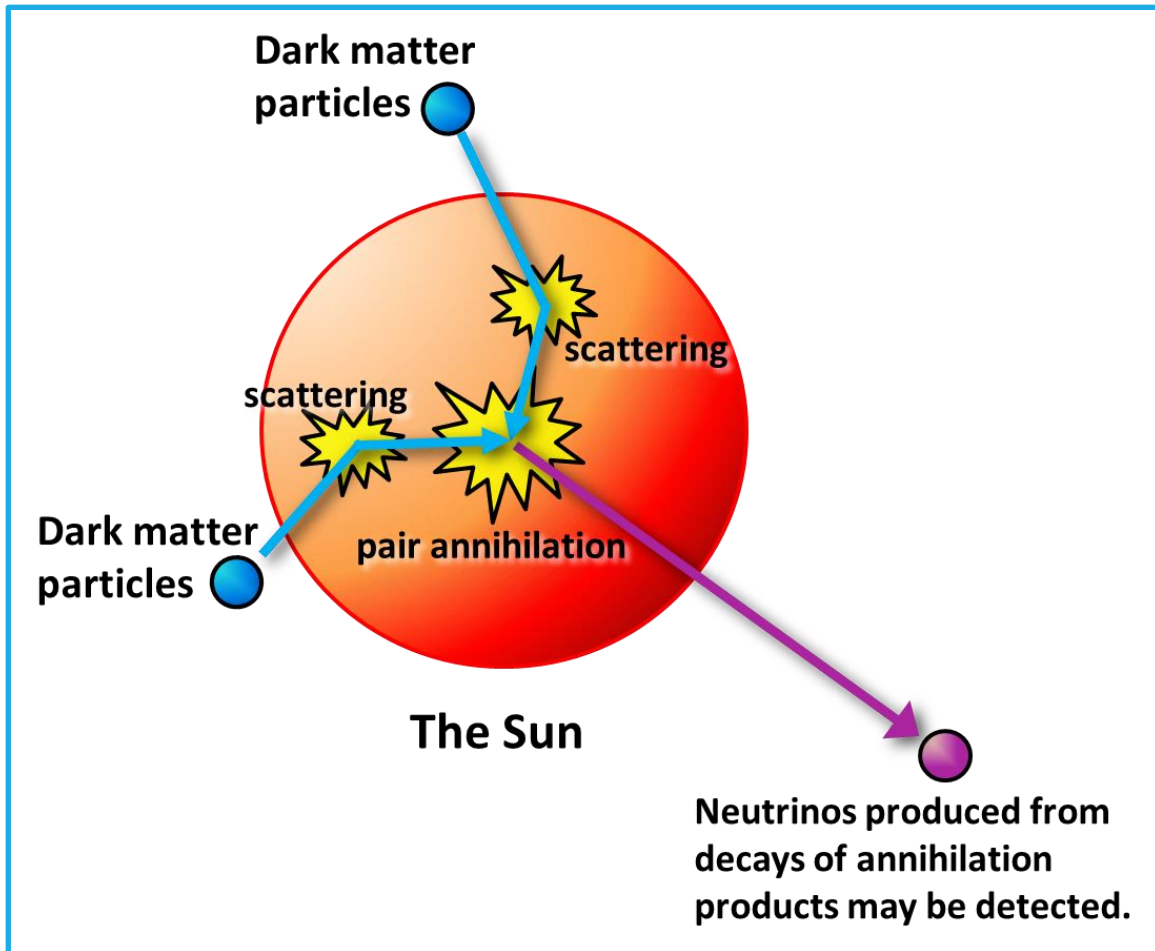
# Dark Matter Capture in Stars





# Dark Matter Capture in Stars

→ an alternative approach to Dark Matter Direct Detection experiments



- Dark matter scatters, loses energy, becomes gravitationally bound to star
- Accumulates and annihilates in centre of the star → neutrinos escape

In equilibrium:

**Annihilation rate = Capture rate**

- controlled by DM-nucleon scattering cross section
- **probes the same quantity as dark matter direct detection experiments**



# Capture, annihilation, evaporation

DM number density depends on Capture, Annihilation & Evaporation rates:

$$\frac{dN_\chi}{dt} = C - AN_\chi^2 - EN_\chi$$

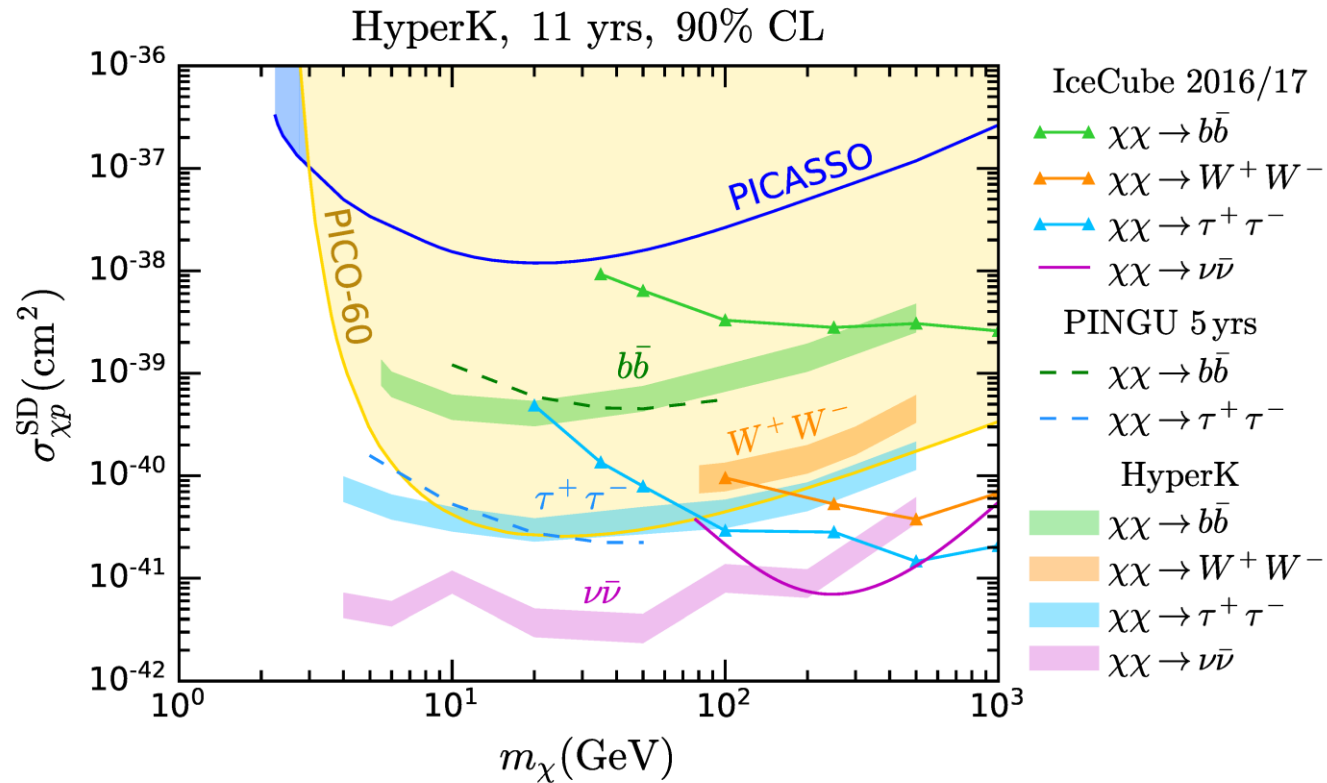
Neglecting evaporation (negligible in the Sun for  $m_\chi > 4$  GeV) we have

$$\rightarrow N_\chi(t) = \sqrt{\frac{C}{A}} \tanh\left(\frac{t}{\tau_{eq}}\right) \quad \text{where} \quad \tau_{eq} = 1/\sqrt{CA}$$

Capture-annihilation equilibrium when  $t \gg \tau_{eq}$ :  $\Gamma_{ann} = \frac{1}{2}AN_\chi^2 = \frac{1}{2}C$

# Dark matter annihilation in the Sun

## Spin-Dependent (SD)



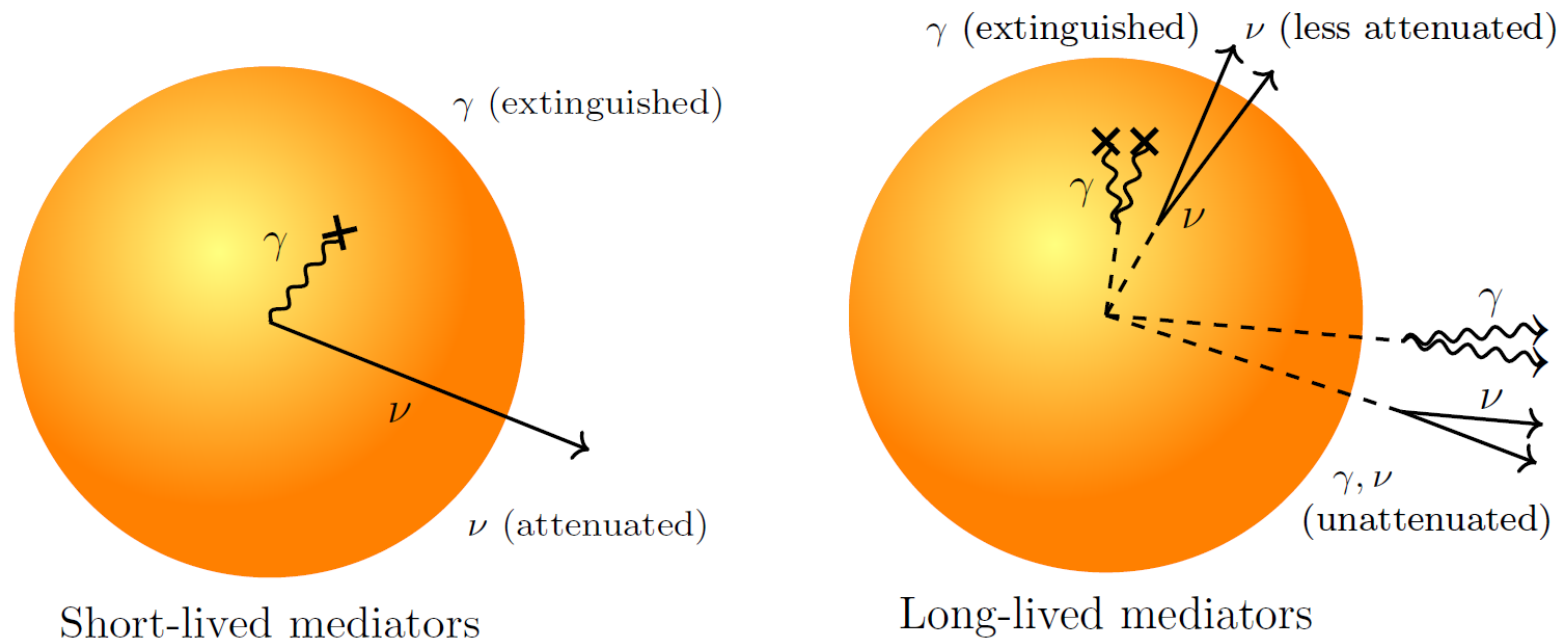
Spin-dependent (SD) interactions:  
 - solar DM searches competitive or better than direct detection experiments

Spin-independent (SI) interactions:  
 - direct detection experiments win.

# Gamma Rays from the Sun → long lived dark-sector particles

If captured DM annihilates to a light, long-lived mediator (e.g. a dark photon):

- Annihilation products can escape the Sun
- Decay beyond solar core → less attenuation of neutrino signal (NFB & Petraki, JCAP 2011)
- Decay between Sun and Earth → solar gamma rays or cosmic rays



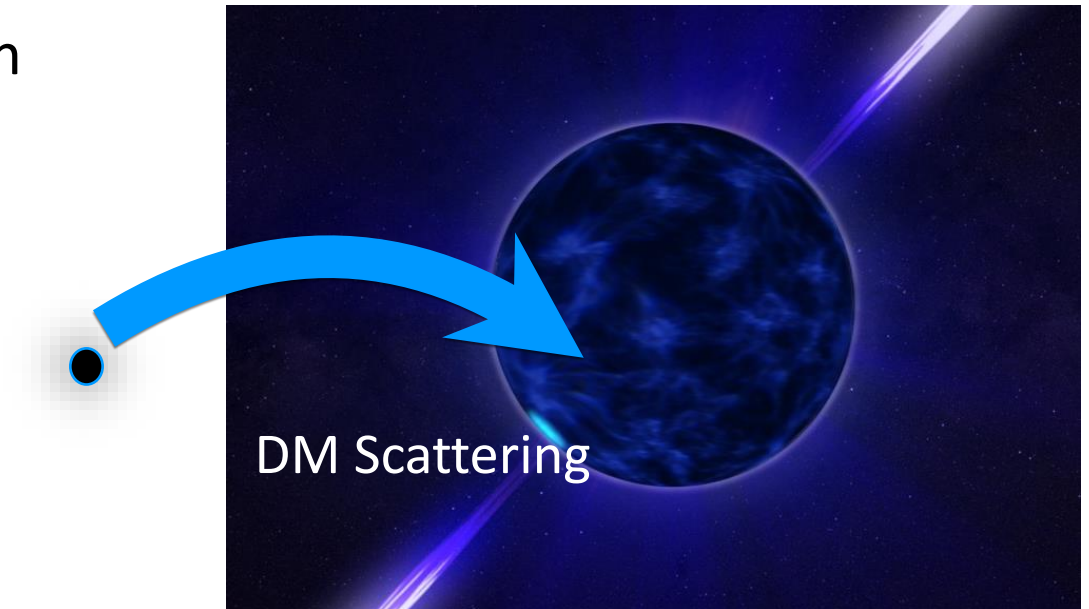
Leane, Ng & Beacom,  
arXiv:1703.04629

# Neutron Stars

Due to their extreme density, *neutron stars* capture dark matter *very* efficiently.

Capture probability saturates at order unity when the cross section satisfies the **geometric limit**

$$\sigma_{th} \sim \pi R^2 \frac{m_n}{M_*} \sim 10^{-45} \text{cm}^2$$



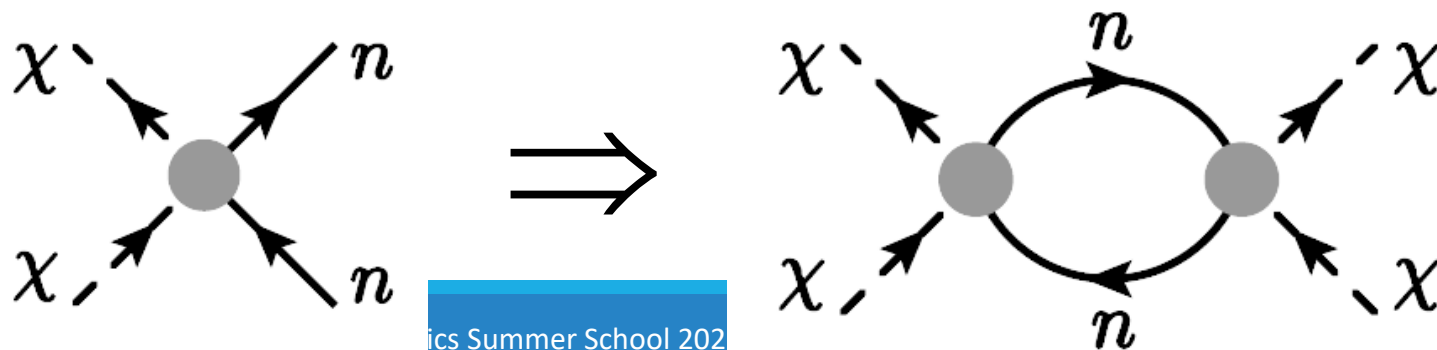
# Dark Matter in Neutron Stars → Black holes?

Kouvaris; Kouvaris & Tinyakov; McDermott, Yu & Zurek; Bramante, Fukushima & Kumar; NFB, Petraki & Melatos; Bertone, Nelson & Reddy; and others.

- Due to their density, neutron stars capture dark matter very efficiently
  - Can neutron stars accumulate so much dark matter that they would collapse to black holes? Yes, but typically only if:
    - No annihilation (e.g. asymmetric DM)
    - DM is bosonic (and condenses to a small self gravitating BEC), or
    - DM is fermionic with attractive self-interactions, and
    - No repulsive-self interactions that prevent collapse (even very very tiny self-interaction is enough) [NFB, Petraki & Melatos, PRD 2013](#)
- **Black hole formation possible but quite unlikely for *typical* WIMP-like dark matter**

# Evolution of DM in a neutron star

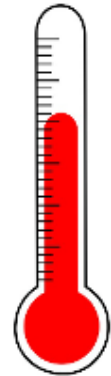
- Capture - DM-nucleus scattering
- Thermalisation – scattering, energy loss, DM accumulates in a small thermal sphere.
- Self gravitation (and possible BEC formation) – occurs when enough DM has accumulated to overwhelm the NS gravity (in the small thermal sphere).
- Collapse ? – if self gravitating DM exceeds the Chandrasekhar limit.
  - black hole grows by accretion or evaporates
- Self-interactions prevent collapse. Not that if DM scatters from nucleons, a self-interaction term must be present, at least at loop level.



# Neutron star heating

→ from dark matter scattering plus annihilation

- **Capture** (plus subsequent energy loss)  
→ DM *kinetic energy* heats neutron star ~ **1700K** (Baryakhtar et al)
- **Annihilation** of thermalised dark matter  
→ DM *rest mass energy* heats neutron star ~ **additional 700K**

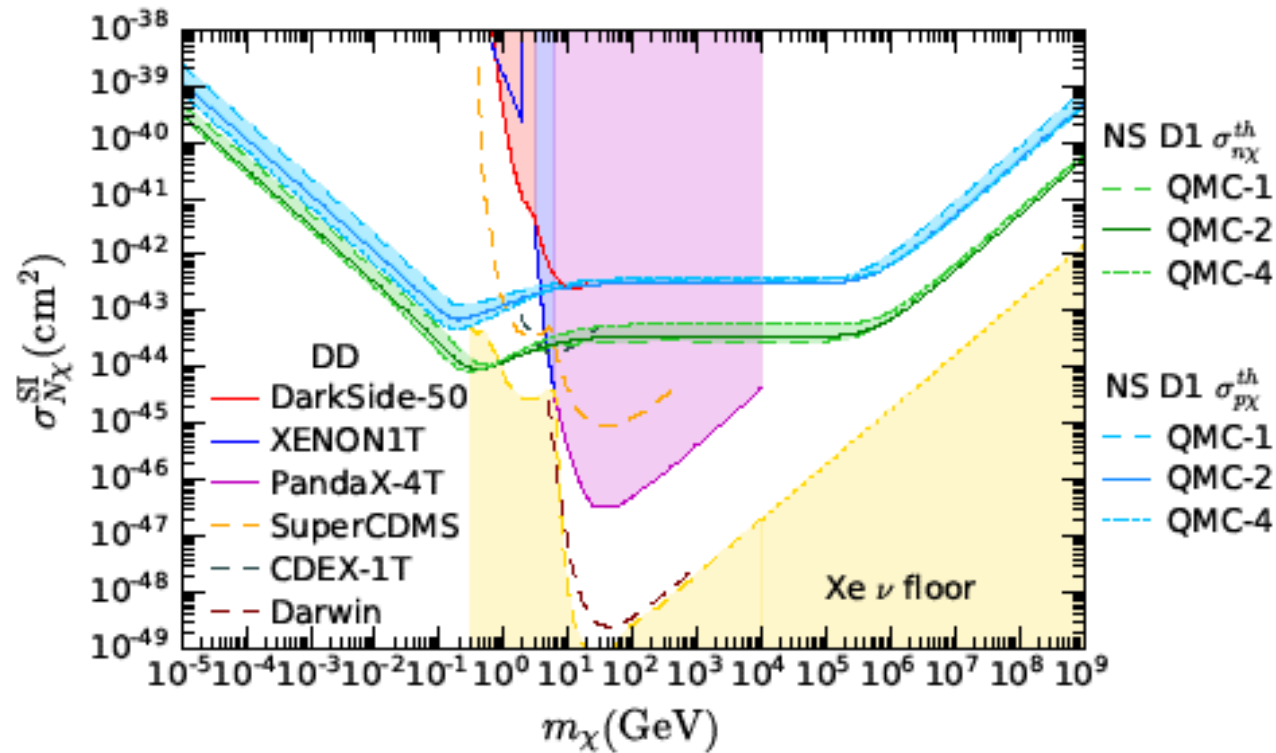


Coollest known neutron star (PSR J2144-3933) has a temperature of  $\sim 4.2 \times 10^4$  K.

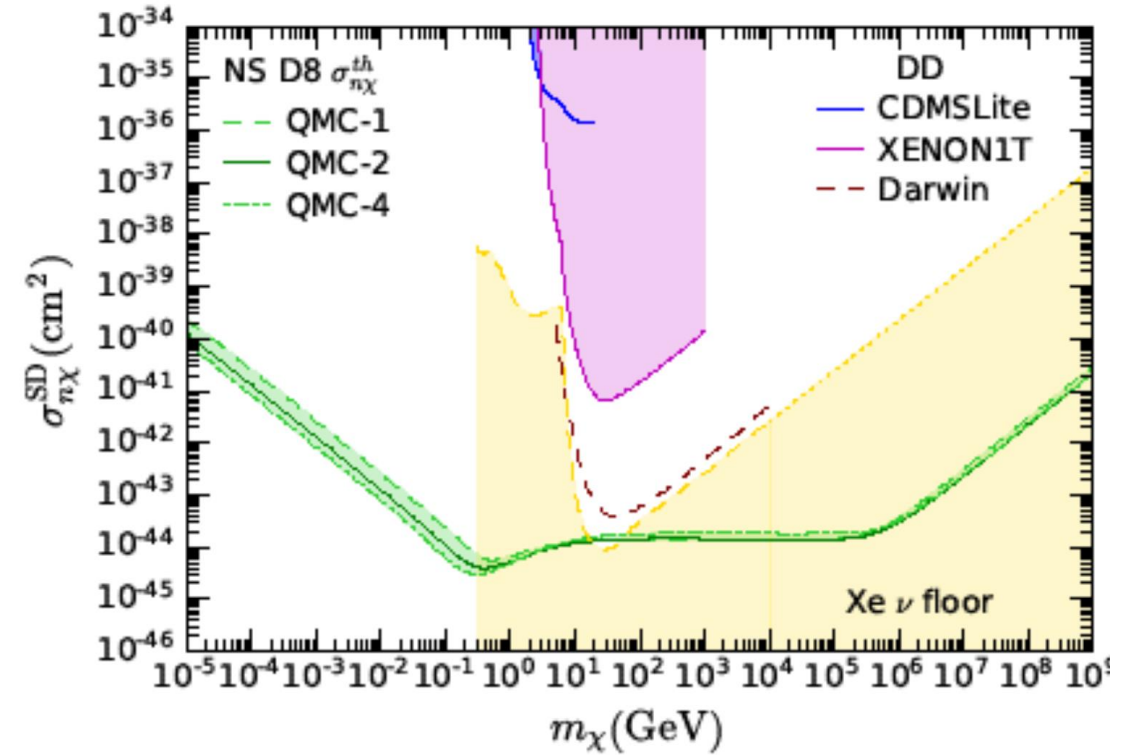
Old isolated neutron stars should cool to: 1000 K after  $\sim 10$  Myr  
100 K after  $\sim 1$  Gyr

# Kinetic Heating Sensitivity: nucleon scattering

## Spin-Independent (SI)



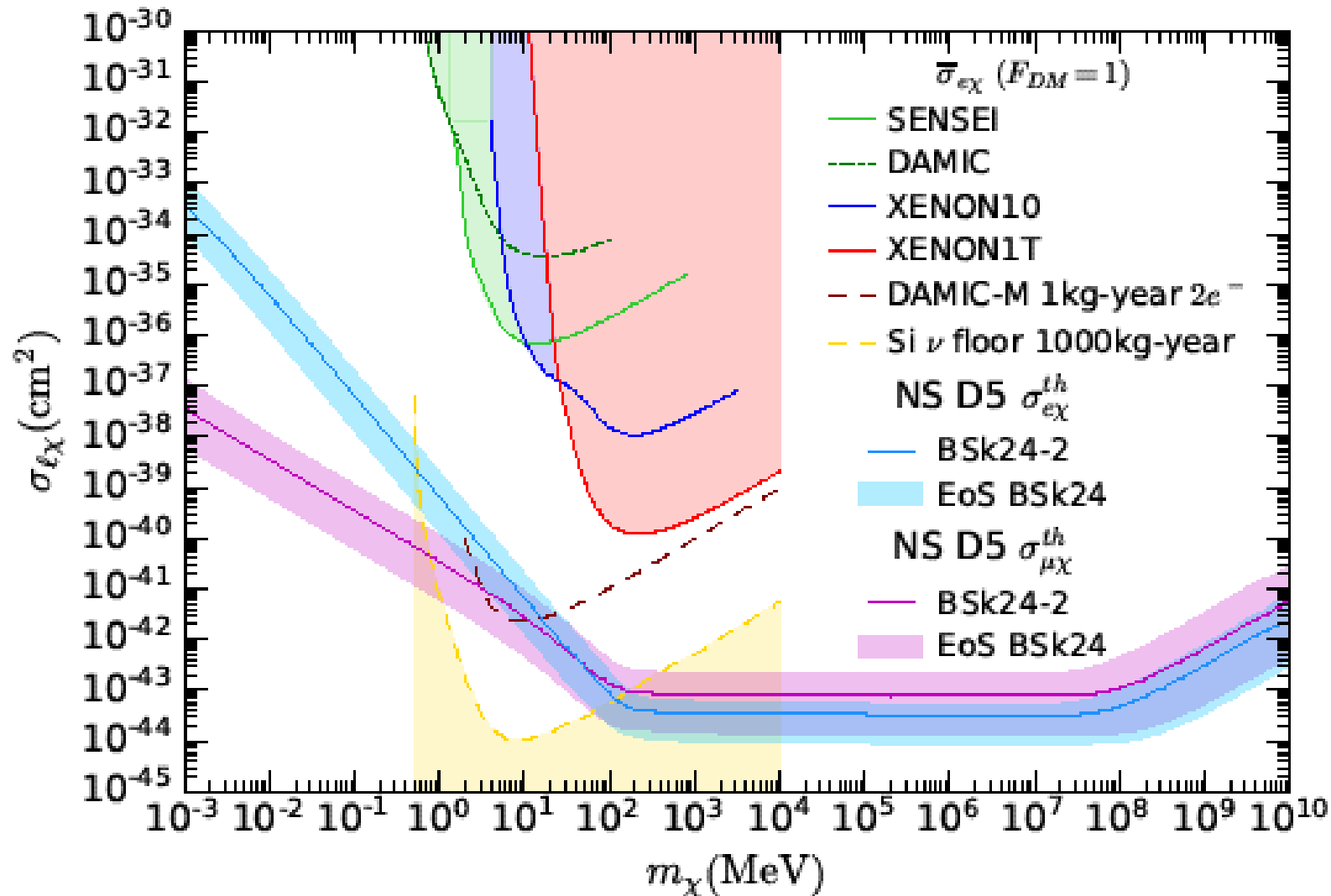
## Spin-Dependent (SD)



Anzuni, NFB, Busoni, Motta, Robles, Thomas and Virgato, arXiv:2108.02525



# Kinetic Heating Sensitivity: lepton scattering



NFB, Busoni, Robles & Virgato arXiv:2010.13257

← Muon scattering

← Electron scattering

# Useful references

## Freezeout:

- Kolb and Turner, “The Early Universe”

## Review papers:

- Bertone, Hooper, Silk, Physics Reports 405, 279, 2005 [arXiv:hep-ph/040417]
- Feng, Ann. Rev. Astron. Astrophys. 48: 495, 2010 [arXiv:1003.0904]

## Direct detection:

- Undagoitia and Rauch, J. Phys. G43, 1, 013001, 2016 [arXiv:1509.08767]
- Aalbers et al, J.Phys.G 50, 1, 013001 2023 [arXiv:2203.02309 ]