

# Direct detection of freeze-in dark matter

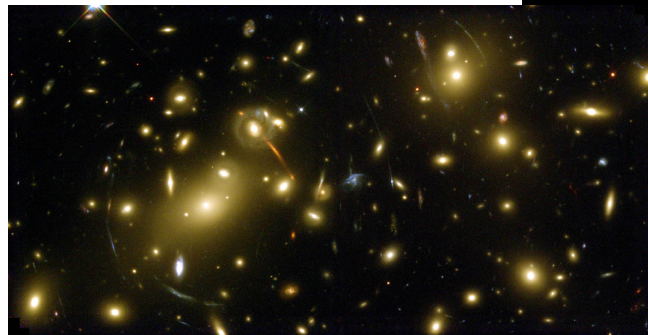
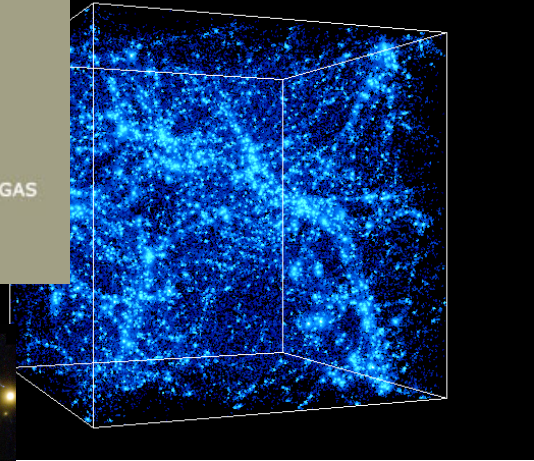
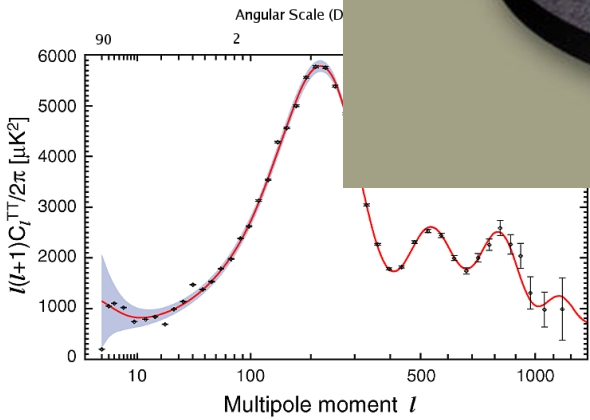
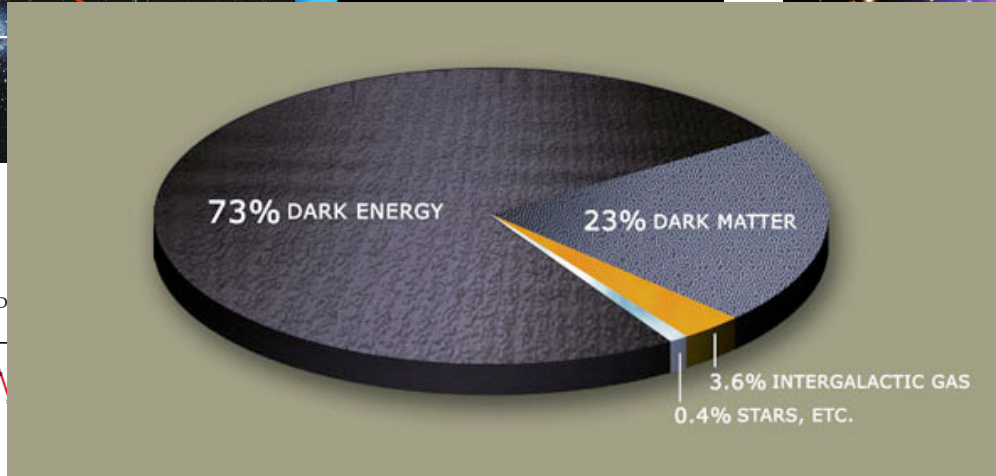
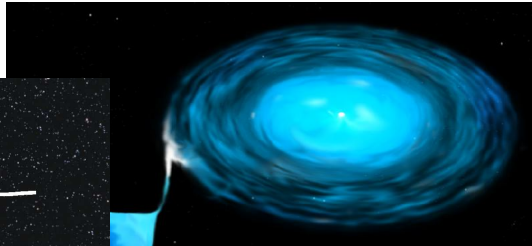
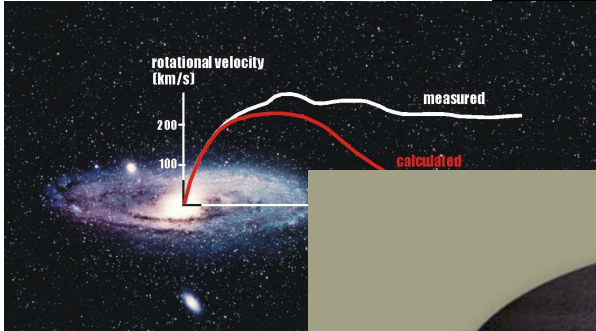
Haipeng An (Tsinghua University)

Low Energy Recoils from Deep Underground

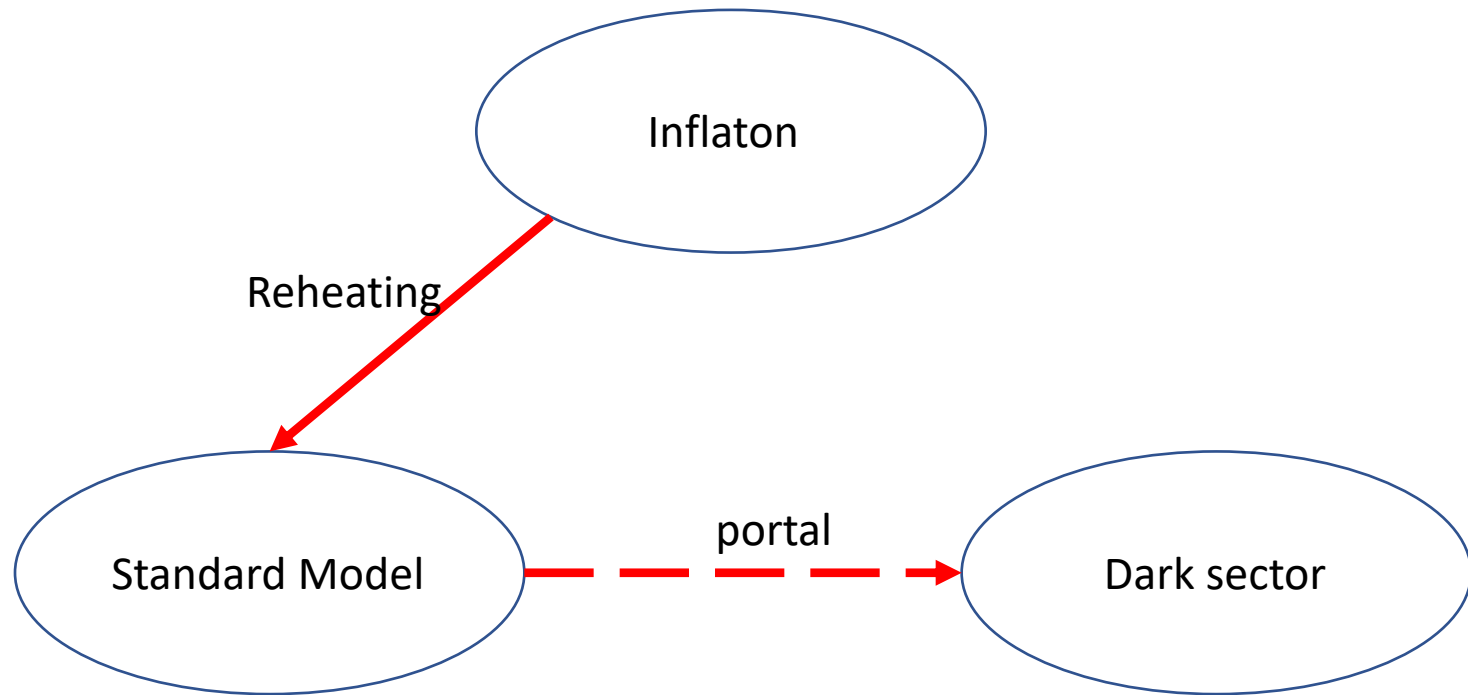
@PKU, Sep 26, 2020

In collaboration with Daneng Yang  
arXiv: 2006.15672

# Concordant universe

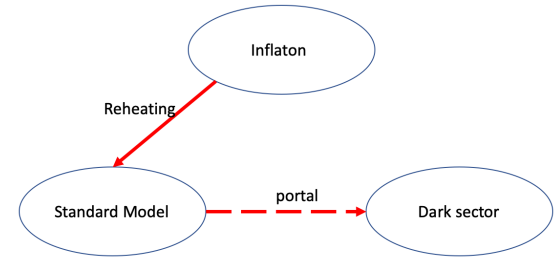


# Freeze-in model



Hall, Jedamzik, March-Russell, West, 0911.1120

# Estimation of production rate and relic abundance



Boltzmann equations:

$$\frac{dn_D}{dt} + 3Hn_D = \Gamma n_{SM}$$

$$\frac{1}{T} \frac{dT}{dt} \approx -H$$

conversion  
rate

Number density of certain  
SM particles

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{n_D}{T^3} \right) = \frac{n_{SM}\Gamma}{T^3} \sim \Gamma$$

# Where to start with?

- The relic abundance is the only number we know about dark matter

$$5 \approx \frac{\Omega_D}{\Omega_B} = \frac{n_D m_D}{n_B m_B} = \frac{n_D m_D}{\eta_\gamma n_\gamma m_B} \sim \left( \frac{m_D}{\eta_\gamma m_B} \right) \left( \frac{n_D}{T^3} \right)$$

$$\frac{n_D}{T^3} \Big|_{t_0} \sim \int_{t_{\text{initial}}}^{t_0} \Gamma(t) dt \sim \int_{T_0}^{T_{\text{initial}}} \Gamma(T) \frac{dT}{HT}$$

# IR freeze-in

$$\frac{n_D}{T^3} \Big|_{t_0} \sim \int_{t_{\text{initial}}}^{t_0} \Gamma(t) dt \sim \int_{T_0}^{T_{\text{initial}}} \Gamma(T) \frac{dT}{HT}$$

$$[\Gamma] = 1 \qquad H \sim \frac{T^2}{m_{\text{pl}}}$$

Assuming marginal interactions:  $\Gamma(T) \sim \alpha^n T$

$$\frac{n_D}{T^3} \Big|_{t_0} \sim \alpha^n \int_{T_0} \frac{m_{\text{pl}} dT}{T^2} \qquad \text{IR divergence}$$

Whichever regularizes the IR determines the size of freeze-in.

# IR freeze-in

$$\frac{n_D}{T^3} \Big|_{t_0} \sim \alpha^n \int_{T_0} \frac{dT}{T^2}$$

Possible cut-offs:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} m_D \\ m_e \\ m_V \end{array} \right.$$

In the case  $m_D \gg m_V, m_e$

$$\frac{n_D}{T^3} \Big|_{t_0} \sim \alpha^n \int_{T_0} \frac{m_{\text{pl}} dT}{T^2} \sim \frac{\alpha^n m_{\text{pl}}}{m_D}$$

$$5 \approx \frac{\Omega_D}{\Omega_B} = \frac{n_D m_D}{n_B m_B} = \frac{n_D m_D}{\eta_\gamma n_\gamma m_B} \sim \left( \frac{m_D}{\eta_\gamma m_B} \right) \left( \frac{n_D}{T^3} \right)$$

$$\alpha^n \sim \frac{\eta_\gamma m_B}{m_{\text{pl}}} \sim 10^{-28}$$

# Motivation

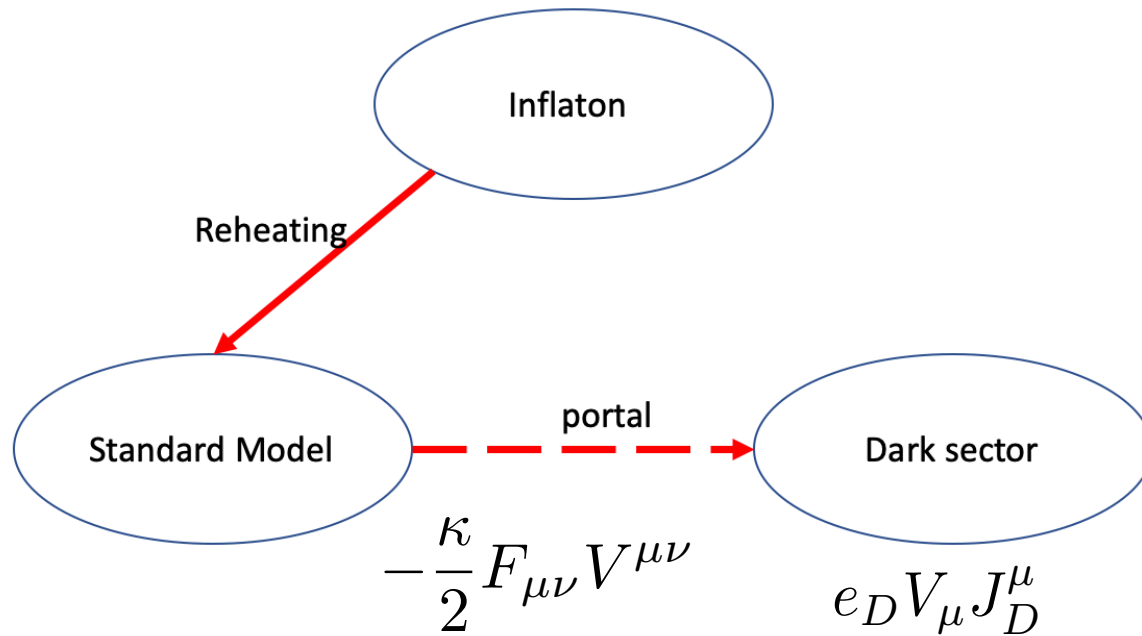
- Can we test this kind of models with direct detection experiment?

$$\alpha^n \sim \frac{\eta_\gamma m_B}{m_{\text{pl}}} \sim 10^{-28}$$

- The direct detection cross section is also proportional to this number.



# Vector portal models as examples



# Production rate

Focus on the regime  $2m_e < m_V < 2m_D$

$V$  decays back to the SM sector, or the rate of dark matter production can go through on-shell  $V$ , and  $\kappa$  will become even smaller.

In this specific regime:  $\kappa e_D \sim 10^{-11} - 10^{-12}$

# Rate for direct detection

$$2m_e < m_V < 2m_D$$

$$\sigma \sim \frac{4\sqrt{2}\kappa^2 e_D^2 \alpha_{\text{em}} \mu^2}{m_V^4}$$

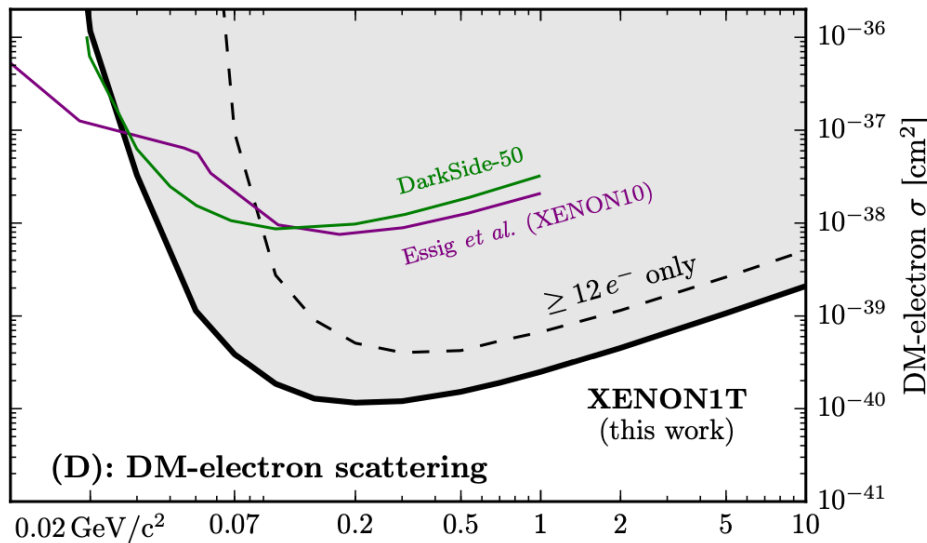
$$N_{\text{obs}} \sim \sigma \langle v \rangle n_D \times N_e^{\text{tot}} \times T_{\text{live}} \sim 10$$

$$T_{\text{live}} = 1 \text{ year}, N_e^{\text{tot}} = 1 \text{ tot}/m_p, m_D = 1 \text{ MeV}$$

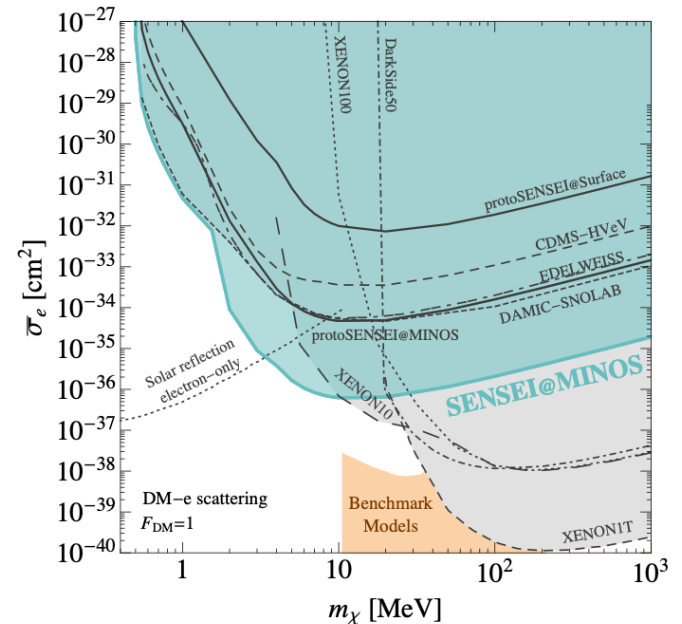
This is the best we can have, increase  $m_D$  will only make signal smaller.

# Direct detection

- The rate is ok.  $N_{\text{obs}} \sim \sigma \langle v \rangle n_D \times N_e^{\text{tot}} \times T_{\text{live}} \sim 10$
- What about the recoild energy?



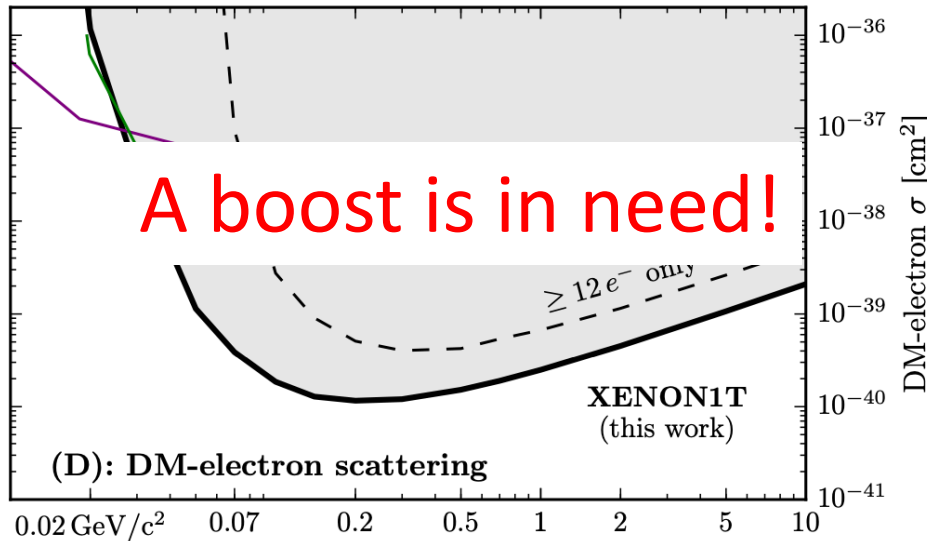
XENON1T:1907.11485



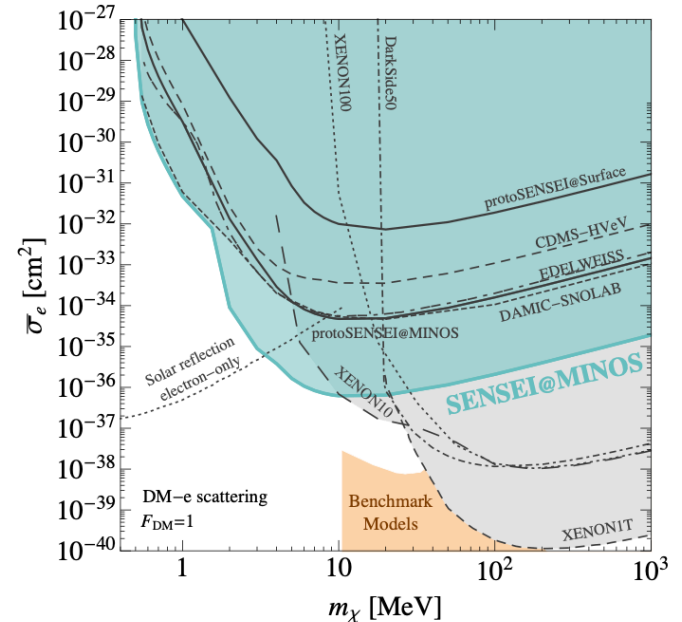
SENSEI: 2004.11378

# Direct detection

- The rate is ok.  $N_{\text{obs}} \sim \sigma \langle v \rangle n_D \times N_e^{\text{tot}} \times T_{\text{live}} \sim 10$
- What about the recoild energy?

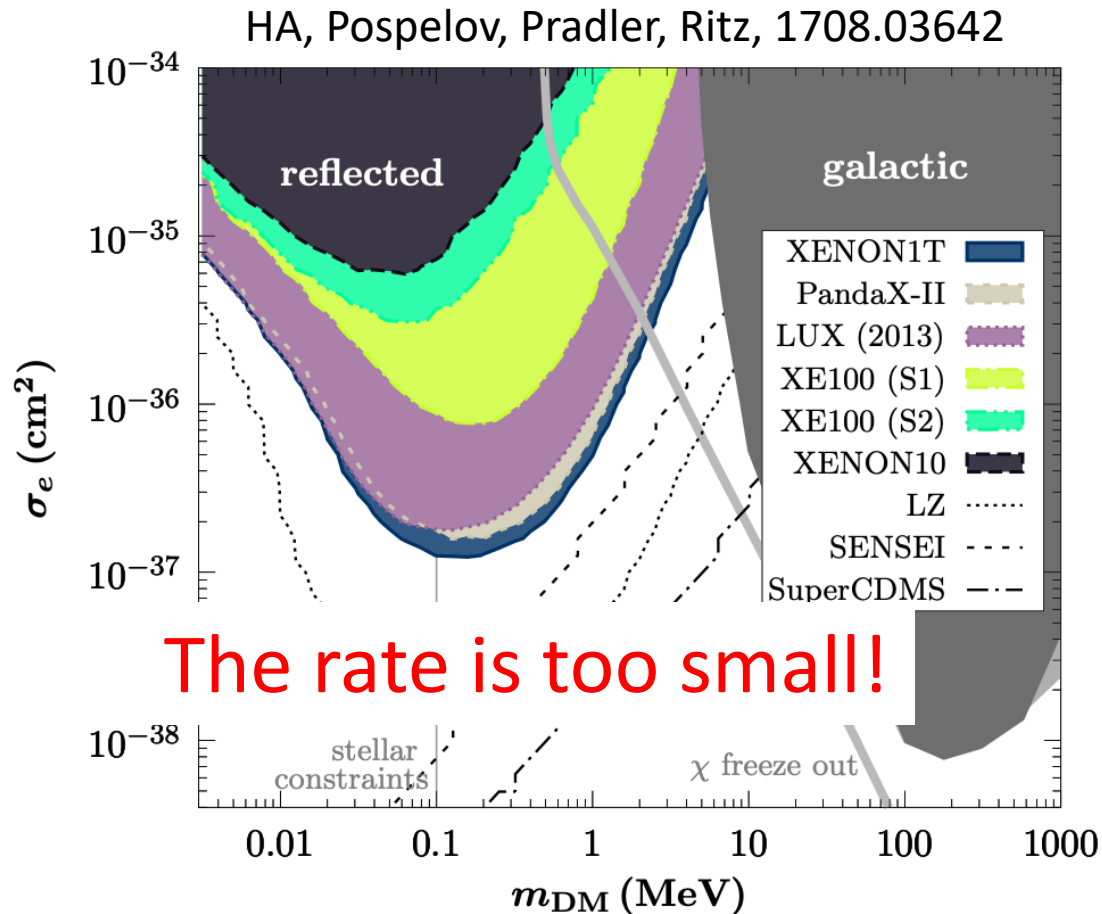


XENON1T:1907.11485



SENSEI: 2004.11378

# Can the Sun help us this time?



# Boost with down-scattering

- Introduce the a small splitting of DM  $\chi \rightarrow \chi_1, \chi_2$

- In scalar model:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}^{sc} = & \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\chi_1\partial^\mu\chi_1 + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\chi_2\partial^\mu\chi_2 - \frac{1}{2}m_1^2\chi_1^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_2^2\chi_2^2 \\ & - e_D V^\mu(\chi_1\partial_\mu\chi_2 - \chi_2\partial_\mu\chi_1) + \frac{1}{2}e_D^2 V_\mu V^\mu(\chi_1^2 + \chi_2^2)\end{aligned}$$

- In spinor model:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}^{sp} = & \chi_1^\dagger i\sigma^\mu\partial_\mu\chi_1 + \chi_2^\dagger i\sigma^\mu\partial_\mu\chi_2 - \frac{1}{2}(m_1\chi_1\chi_1 + m_2\chi_2\chi_2 \\ & + h.c.) + e_D V^\mu(\chi_1^\dagger\sigma_\mu\chi_2 - \chi_2^\dagger\sigma_\mu\chi_1) .\end{aligned}$$

Determine  $f_2 = n_{\chi_2}/n_D$

- It must be cosmologically stable.

$$2m_e > \Delta m \equiv (m_{\chi_2} - m_{\chi_1})$$

- The self-annihilation process must be small enough.

$$\chi_2\chi_2 \rightarrow \chi_1\chi_1 \quad e_D \text{ must be small.}$$



Determine  $f_2 = n_{\chi_2}/n_D$

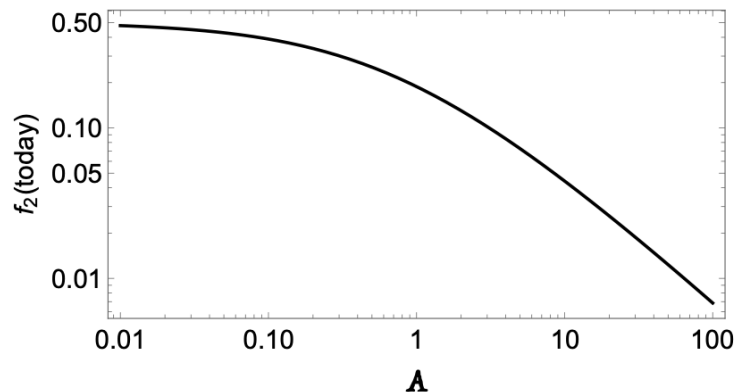
- Solving the Boltzmann equation

$$\frac{df_2}{dx} = -\mathcal{A}x^{-1}K_1(x) [f_2^2(x)e^x - (1 - f_2)^2e^{-x}]$$

$$T_D = \eta T^2 / m_D$$

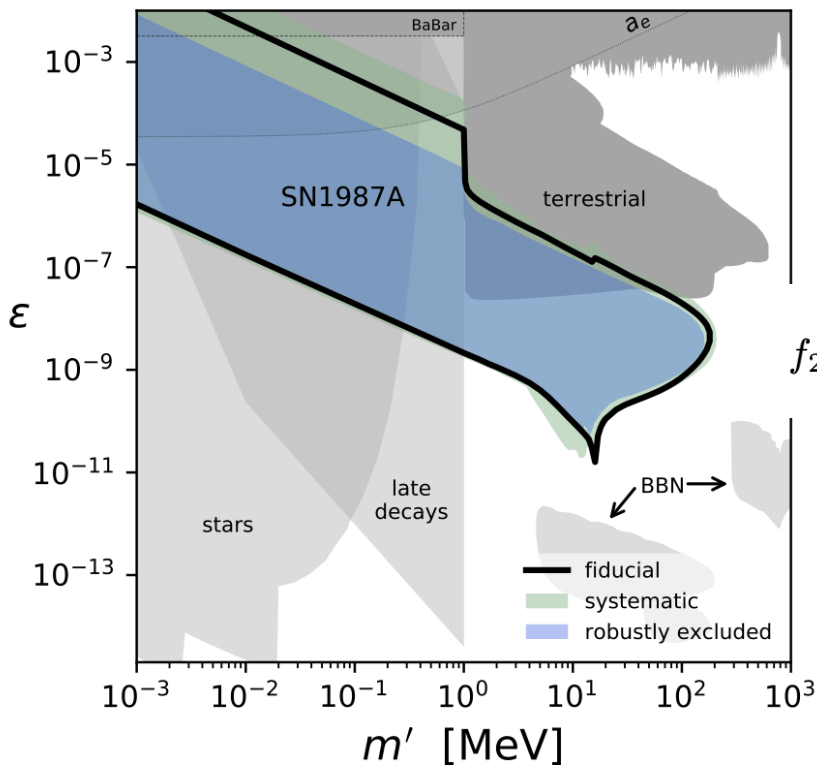
$$\mathcal{A} = \left( \frac{9\sqrt{5} m_{\text{pl}}^3 H_0^2 \Omega_D}{16\pi^4 g_\star^{1/2} T_{\text{CMB}}^3} \right) \left( \frac{e_D^4 m_D \Delta}{m_V^4 \eta^{1/2}} \right)$$

$$\approx \frac{0.37}{\eta^{1/2}} \left( \frac{e_D}{10^{-3}} \right)^4 \left( \frac{m_V}{1.5\text{MeV}} \right)^{-4} \frac{m_D}{0.9\text{MeV}} \frac{\Delta}{4\text{keV}}$$



# Stellar constraint

- But  $\kappa \cdot e_D$  is fixed. Small  $e_D$  means a relatively large  $\kappa$ . The stellar constraint becomes important.



Chang, Essig, McDermott, 1611.03864

$$\kappa < 2.5 \times 10^{-9} (1 \text{ MeV}/m_V)^2$$

$$f_2 \lesssim 2.8 \times 10^{-3} \left(\frac{m_V}{1.1 \text{ MeV}}\right)^4 \left(\frac{m_D}{0.6 \text{ MeV}}\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{\Delta}{0.5 \text{ keV}}\right)^{-1}$$

# The XENON anomaly

- Excess about 50 events/ton/year at 2-3 keVee.
- We'd better be able to fit it.

$$\frac{d\langle\sigma_{\text{ion}}^{nl}v\rangle}{d\ln E_r} = \frac{\kappa^2 e_D^2 \alpha_{\text{em}}}{2m_V^4} \int q dq \left\langle \frac{1}{v} \theta(v - v_{\text{min}}) \right\rangle \\ \times \frac{k^3}{(2\pi)^3} \int d\Omega_k \left| \int d^3x e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x} - i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{x}} \psi_{nlm} \right|$$

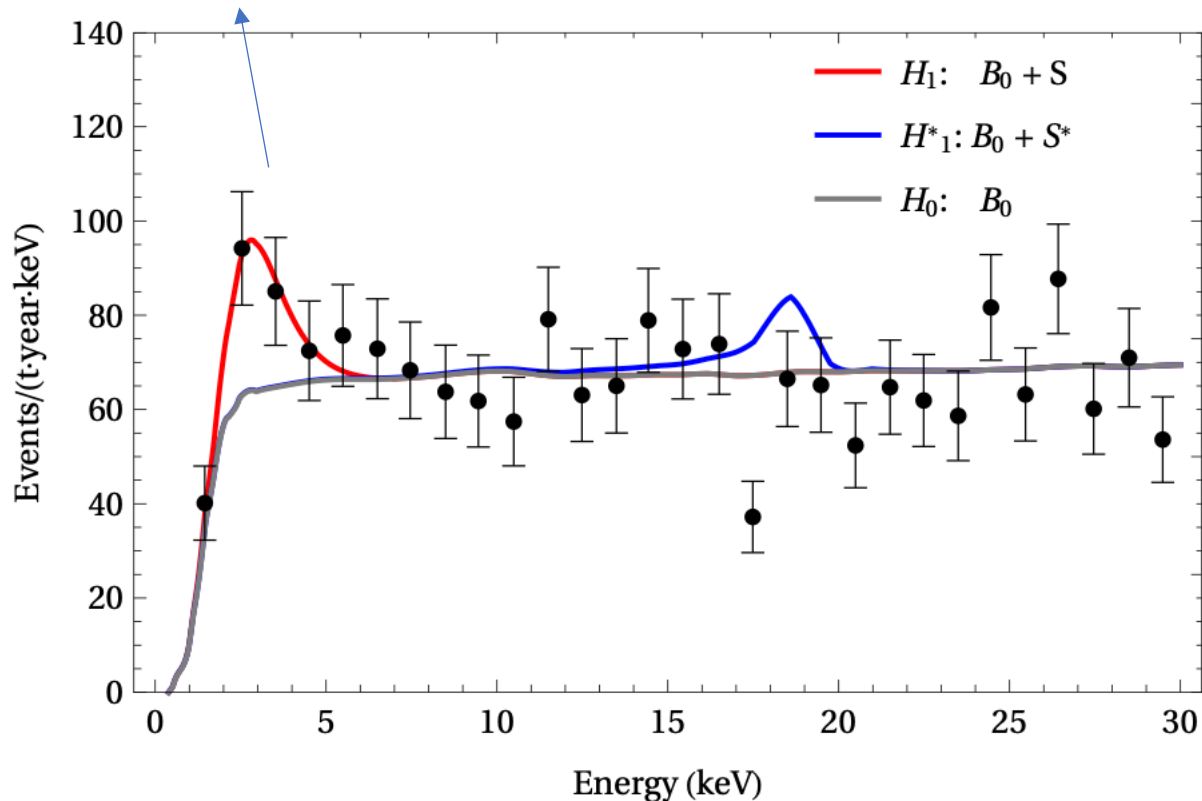
$$e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} \rightarrow e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}} - \int d^3y e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{y}} \psi_{nlm}^*(y) \psi_{nlm}(x)$$

$$v_{\text{min}} = \left| \frac{E_k}{q} + \frac{q}{2m_D} + \frac{E_B - \Delta}{q} \right|$$

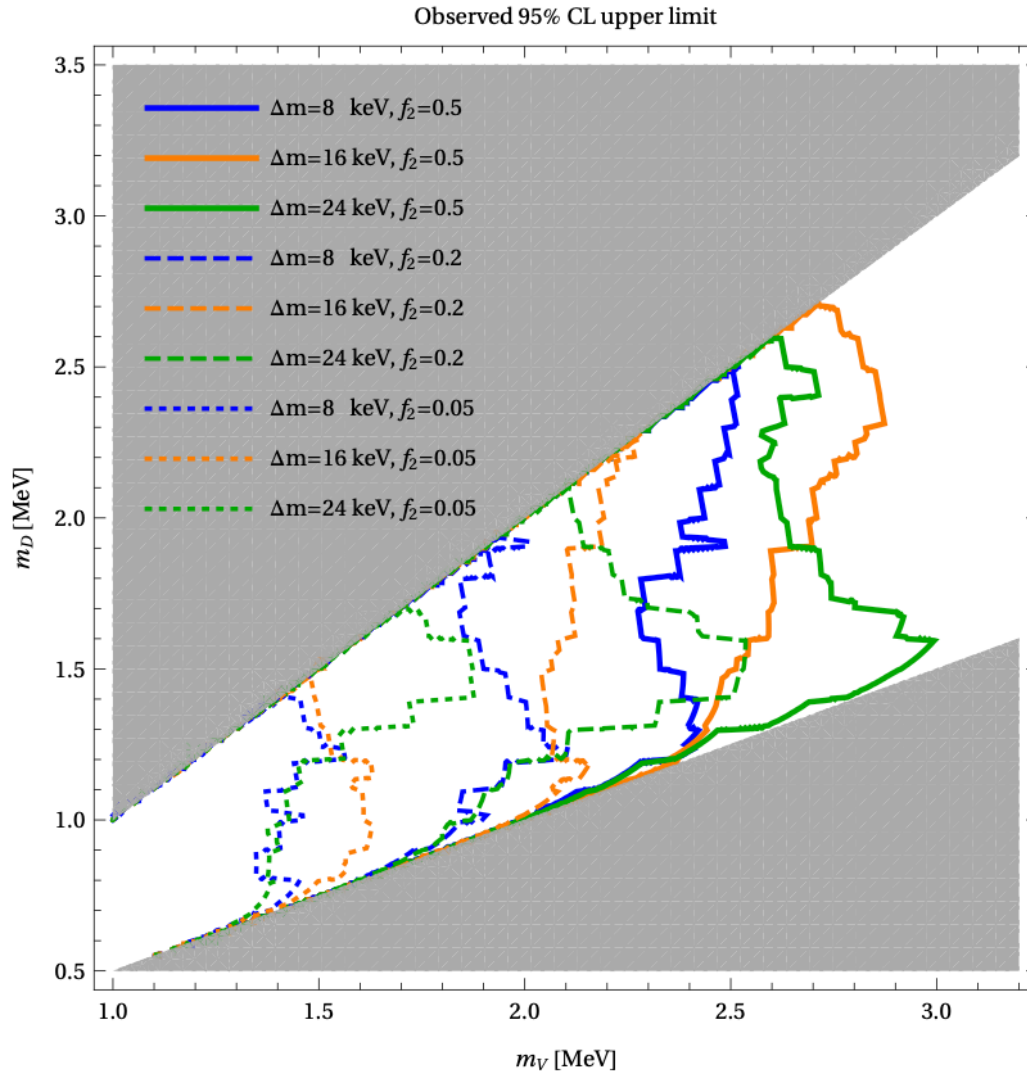
# Fitting the XENON1T anomaly

$$\Delta = 5 \text{ keV}, m_D = 0.8 \text{ MeV}$$

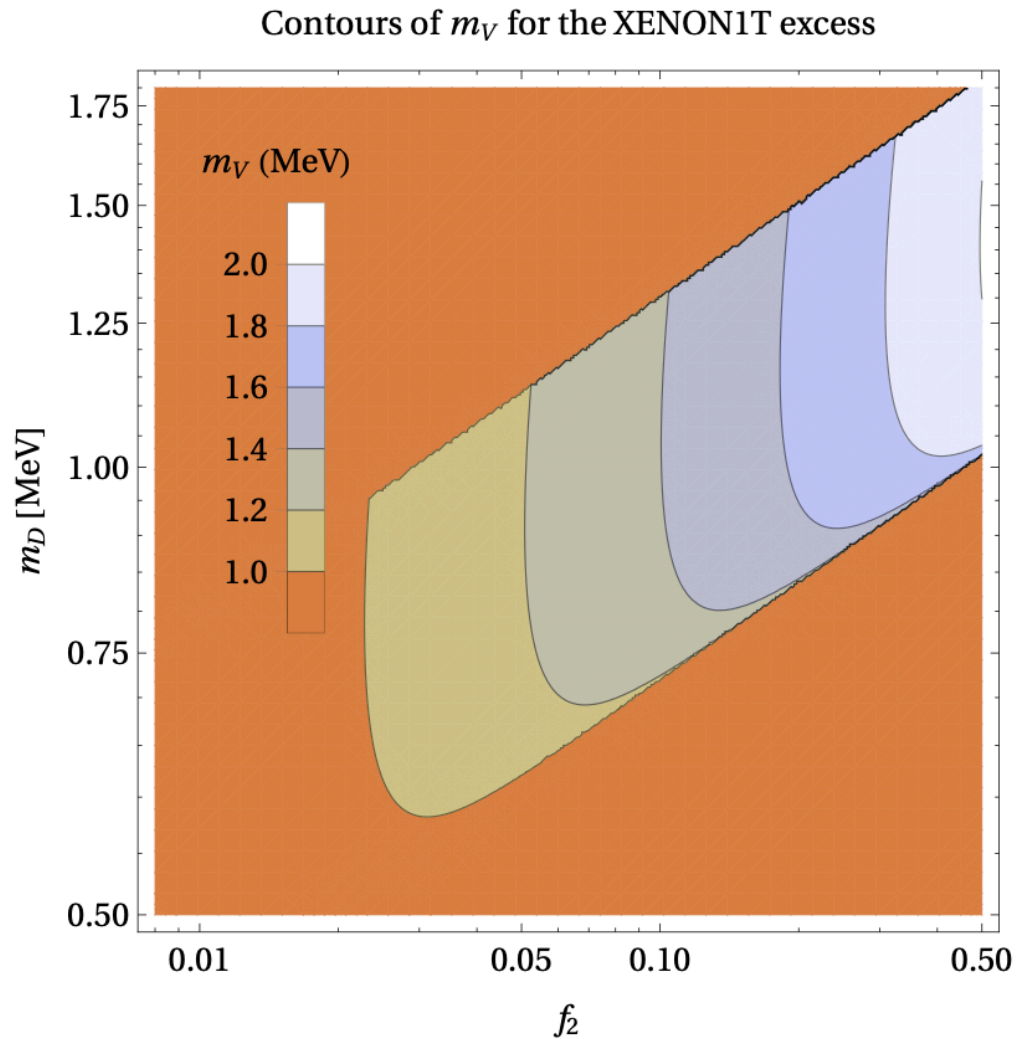
$$\kappa e_D = 1.29 \times 10^{-11}, f_2 = 0.063$$



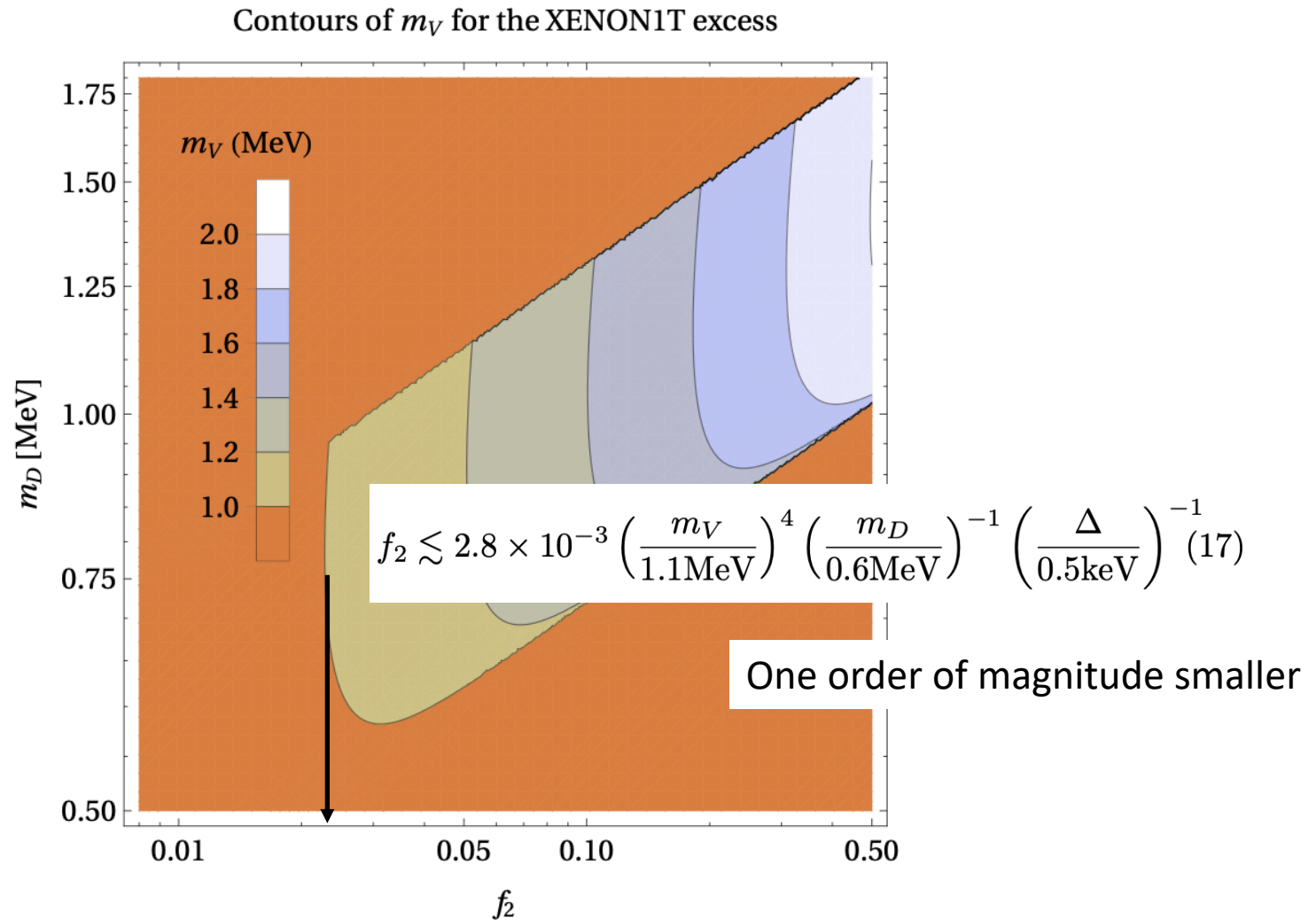
# Constraint on parameter space



# Fitting the XENON anomaly



# Tension with the stellar constraint




# Re-examine the model (scalar case)

$$\mathcal{L}^{sc} = \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\chi_1\partial^\mu\chi_1 + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\chi_2\partial^\mu\chi_2 - \frac{1}{2}m_1^2\chi_1^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_2^2\chi_2^2 \\ - e_D V^\mu(\chi_1\partial_\mu\chi_2 - \chi_2\partial_\mu\chi_1) + \frac{1}{2}e_D^2 V_\mu V^\mu(\chi_1^2 + \chi_2^2)$$

Additional term is always there!

Should be positive!

$$-\frac{\lambda}{2}(|\chi|^2)^2 \rightarrow -\lambda\chi_1^2\chi_2^2$$

$$|\mathcal{M}|_{\chi_2\chi_2\rightarrow\chi_1\chi_1}^2 = \left| \frac{8e_D^2 m_D^2}{m_V^2} - \lambda \right|^2$$


Fitting the XENON1T anomaly needs about 60% of cancelation.




# Re-examine the model (spinor case)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}^{sc} = & \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\chi_1\partial^\mu\chi_1 + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu\chi_2\partial^\mu\chi_2 - \frac{1}{2}m_1^2\chi_1^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_2^2\chi_2^2 \\ & - e_D V^\mu(\chi_1\partial_\mu\chi_2 - \chi_2\partial_\mu\chi_1) + \frac{1}{2}e_D^2 V_\mu V^\mu(\chi_1^2 + \chi_2^2)\end{aligned}$$

Additional term is always there!

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$$-\frac{\lambda}{2}(|\chi|^2)^2 \rightarrow -\lambda\chi_1^2\chi_2^2$$

$$|\mathcal{M}|_{\chi_2\chi_2\rightarrow\chi_1\chi_1}^2 = \left| \frac{8e_D^2 m_D^2}{m_V^2} - \lambda \right|^2$$


Fitting the XENON1T anomaly needs about 60% of cancelation.

# Future work

$$\mathcal{L}^{sp} = \chi_1^\dagger i\sigma^\mu \partial_\mu \chi_1 + \chi_2^\dagger i\sigma^\mu \partial_\mu \chi_2 - \frac{1}{2}(m_1 \chi_1 \chi_1 + m_2 \chi_2 \chi_2 + h.c.) + e_D V^\mu (\chi_1^\dagger \sigma_\mu \chi_2 - \chi_2^\dagger \sigma_\mu \chi_1) .$$

- We need to introduce new particles in the dark sector to have the cancelation effect.

# Summary and outlook

- Direct detection experiments start to be sensitive to inelastic scenarios of freeze-in models.
- We can even find parameter space to fit the XENON1T anomaly.
- To have the cancelation in the scalar model  $\lambda \sim e_D^2$   
Isn't this a hint for SUSY?