



The status of light dark matter

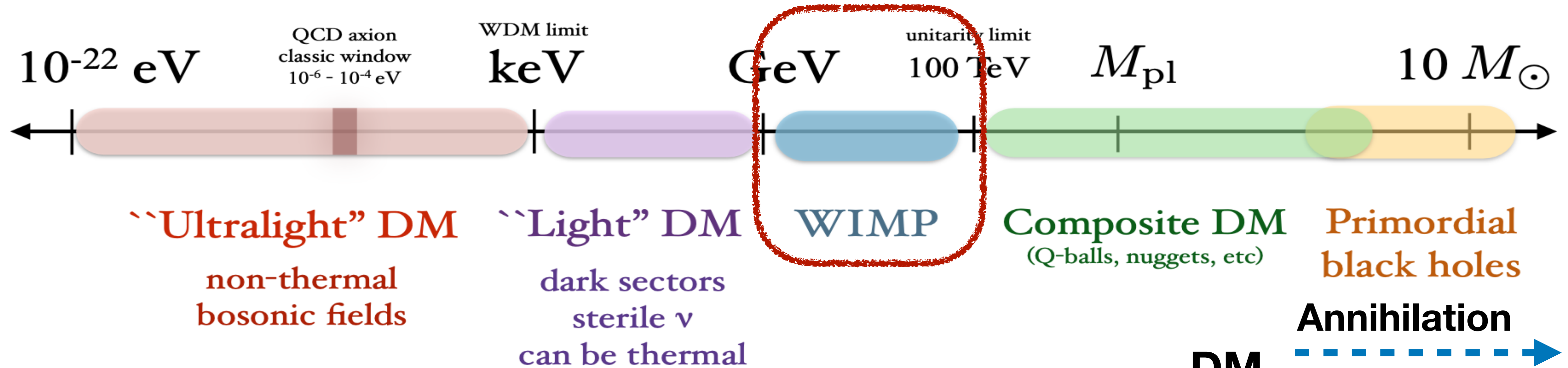
Jia Liu (刘佳)
Peking University

第十七届TeV物理工作组学术研讨会@南京
2023-12-17

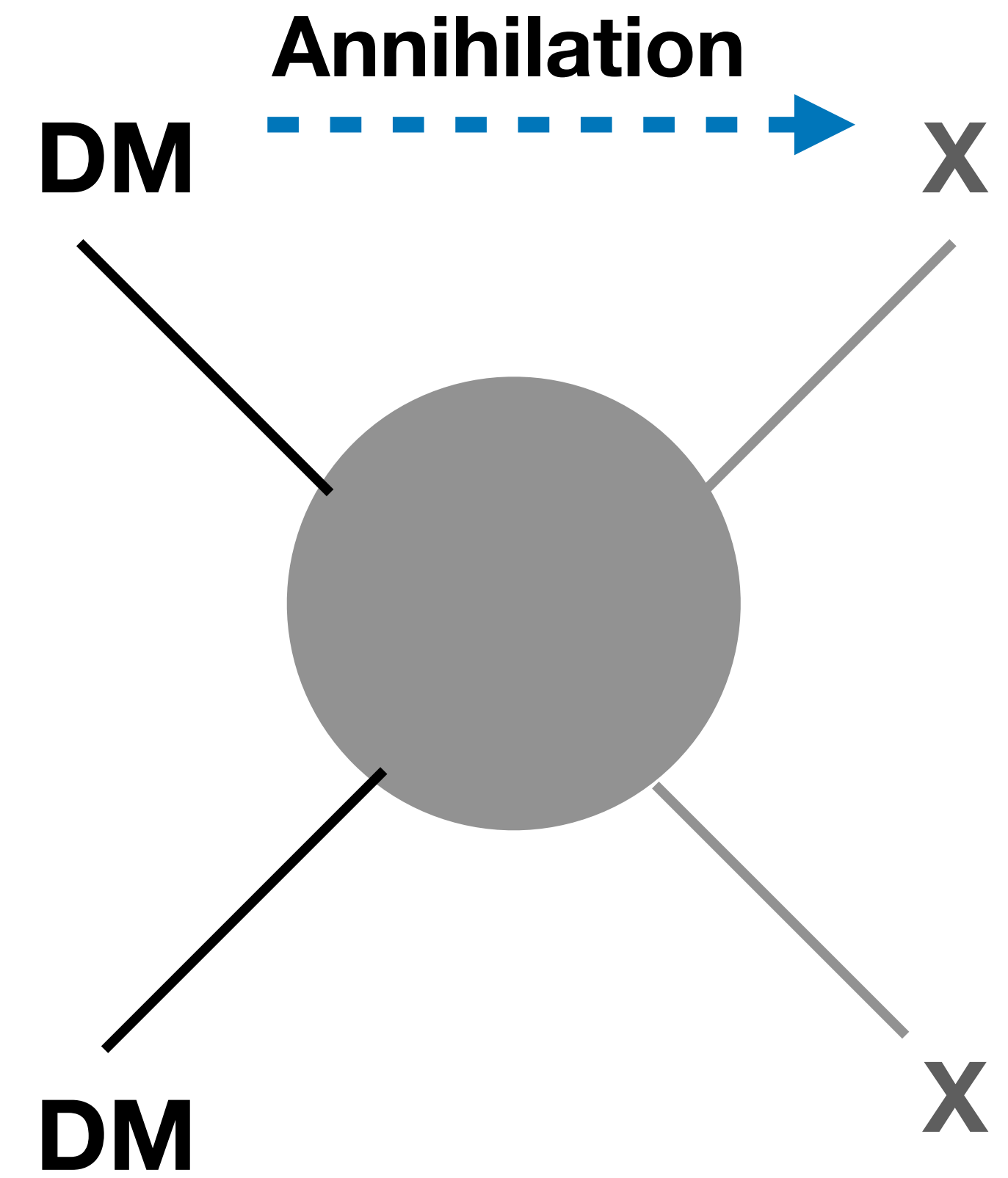
Outline

- Models
 - Production
 - Interactions
- Detection
 - Direct Detection
 - Intensity Frontier detection
 - Astrophysics detection

Start with Weakly Interacting Massive Particles



- WIMP DM is a massive elementary particle
- WIMP has an electroweak-scale coupling
- WIMP starts with thermal distribution
- Relic abundance is determined by freeze-out mechanism



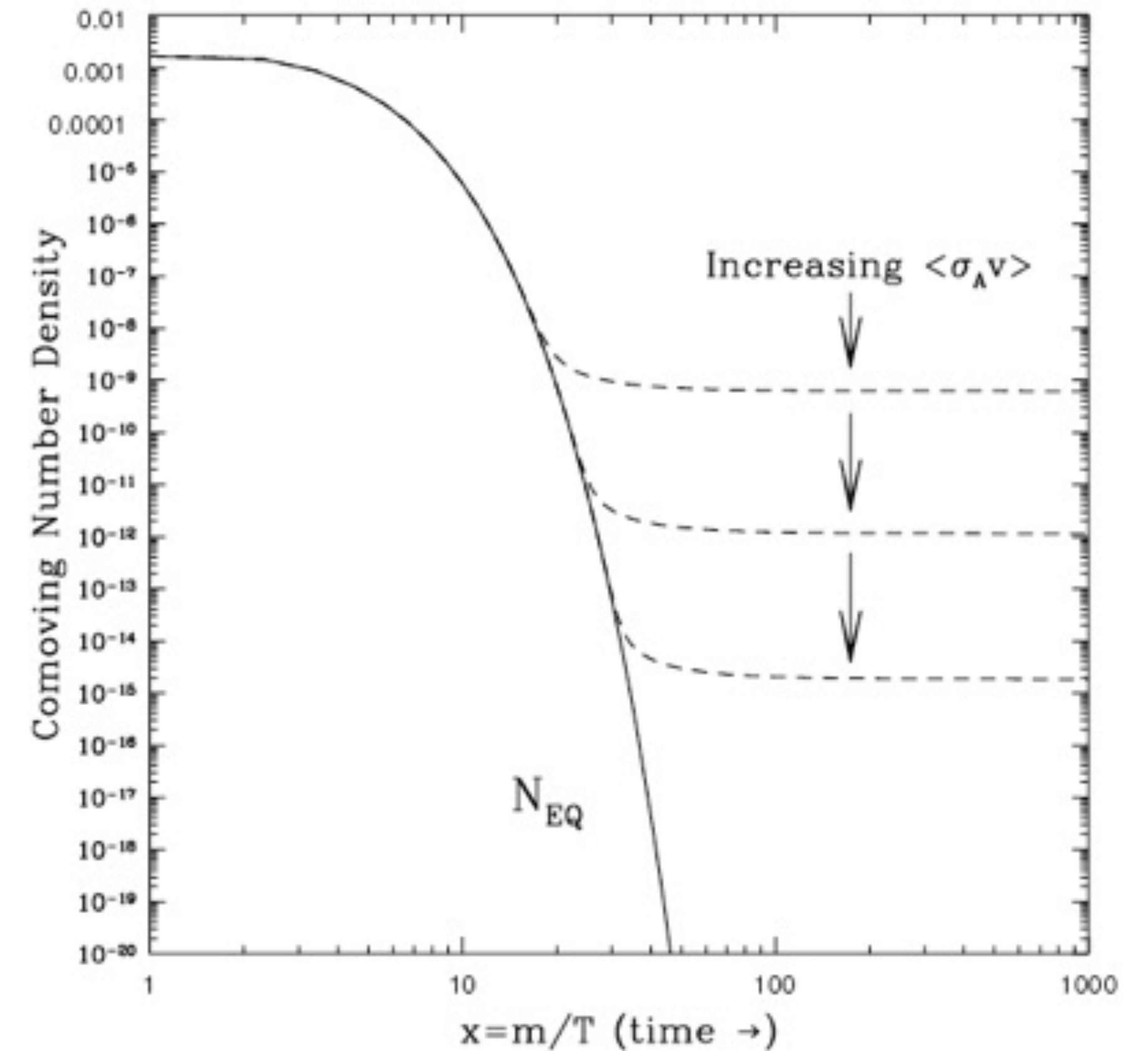
The freeze-out of WIMP DM

- Thermal cross-section

$$\langle\sigma v\rangle\sim\frac{\alpha^2}{m_W^2}\sim 3\times 10^{-26}\text{cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$$

- DM Annihilation cross-section

$$\langle\sigma v\rangle\sim\frac{g^4}{m_{\text{DM}}^2}\Rightarrow g\sim\sqrt{\frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{10\text{TeV}}}$$



Jungman *et al* hep-ph/9506380

This is called WIMP miracle!

The freeze-out of WIMP DM

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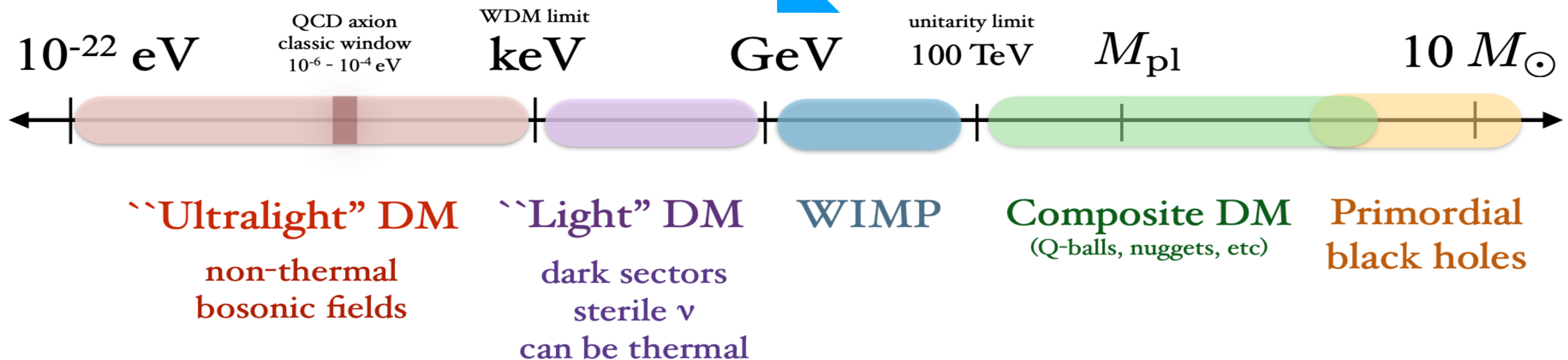
$$\langle\sigma v\rangle\sim\frac{g^4}{m_{\text{DM}}^2}\Rightarrow g\sim\sqrt{\frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{10\text{TeV}}}$$

- WIMP lower mass bound at GeV

- Heavy neutral lepton L_0 , annihilate through Z/W mediation

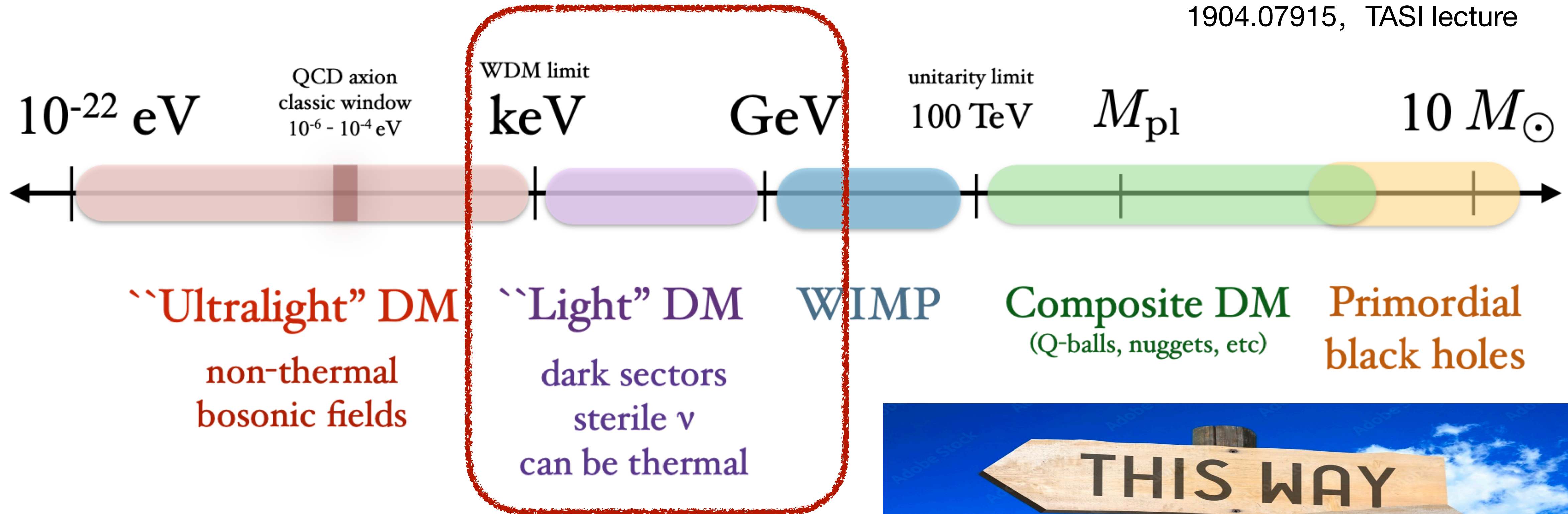
$$\langle\sigma v\rangle\sim\mathcal{O}(1)\times G_F^2 m_{\text{DM}}^2$$

B. W. Lee and S. Weinberg, Phys. Rev. Lett. 39, 165 (1977)



The dark matter candidate models

1904.07915, TASI lecture



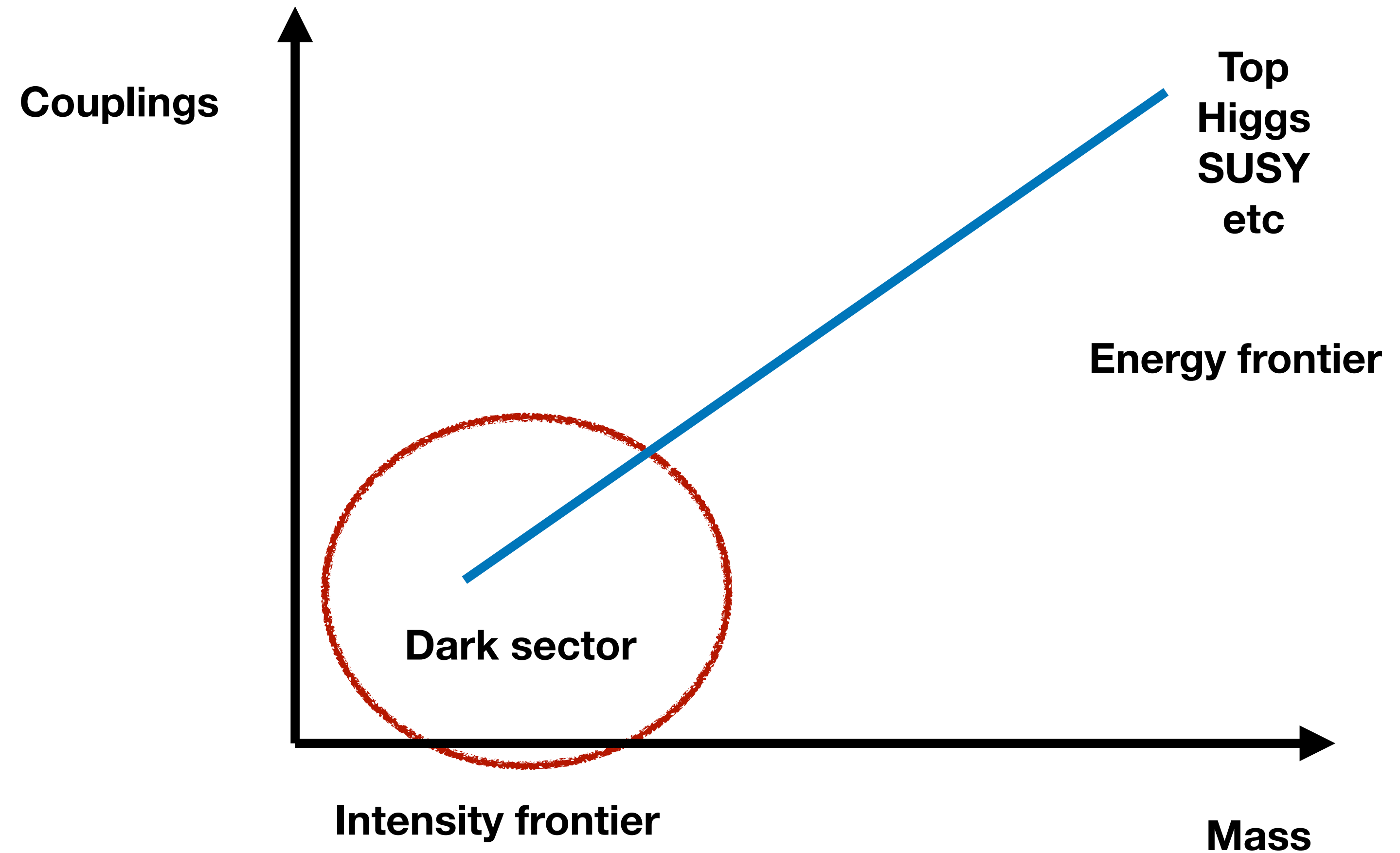
- The light DM and mediators
- PAMELA 2008 anomaly
- Light DM to escape Direct detection



HEP at a cross-road: explore all directions!

Dark Sector

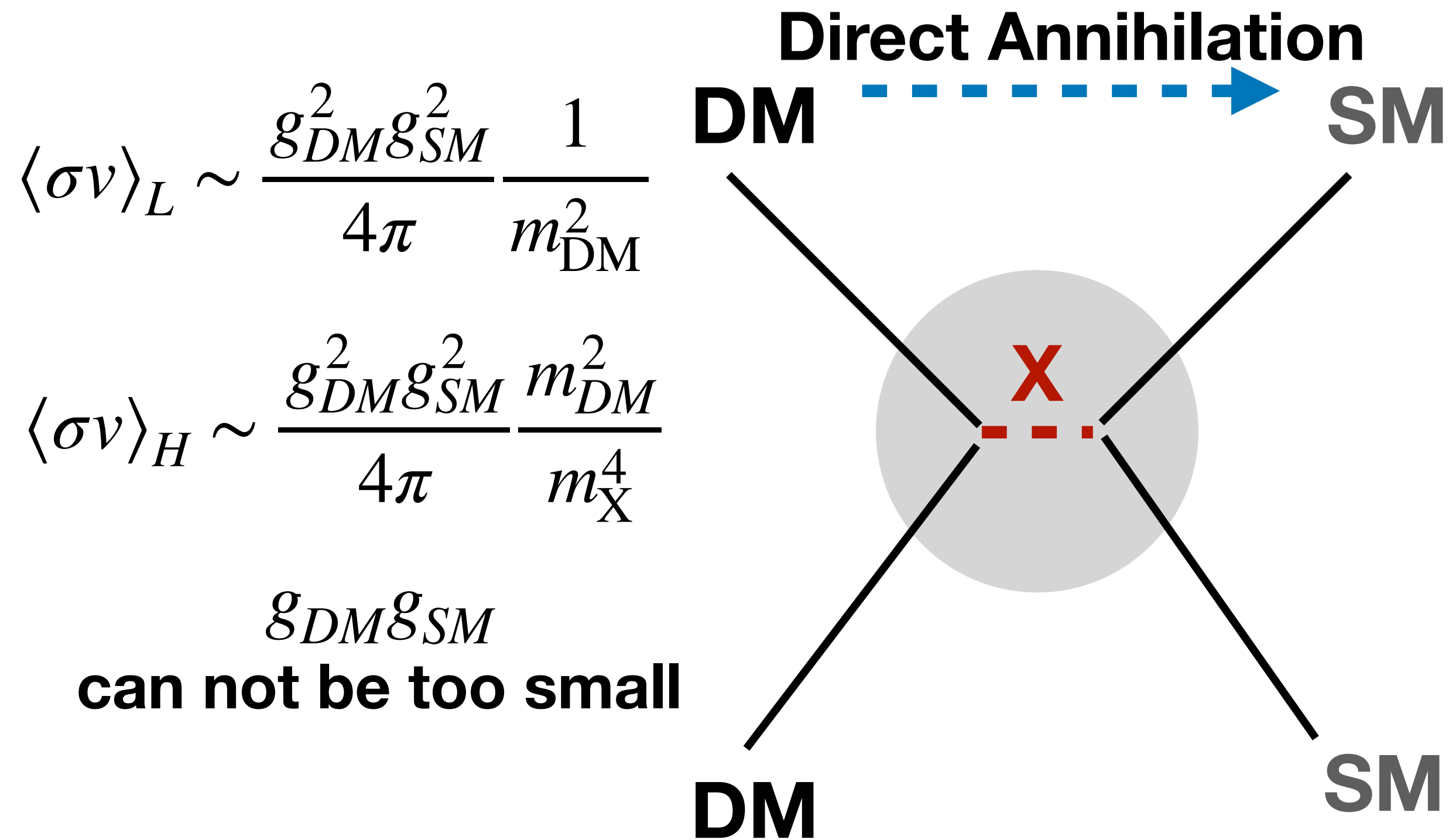
- Dark sector particles
 - New light weakly coupled particles
 - Do not interact with the known strong, weak, or electromagnetic forces
- In this section, we focus on the light dark sector particles, including DM



Light dark matter models

- Needs **light mediator/portal particles: X**
- X: dark photon, dark scalar,

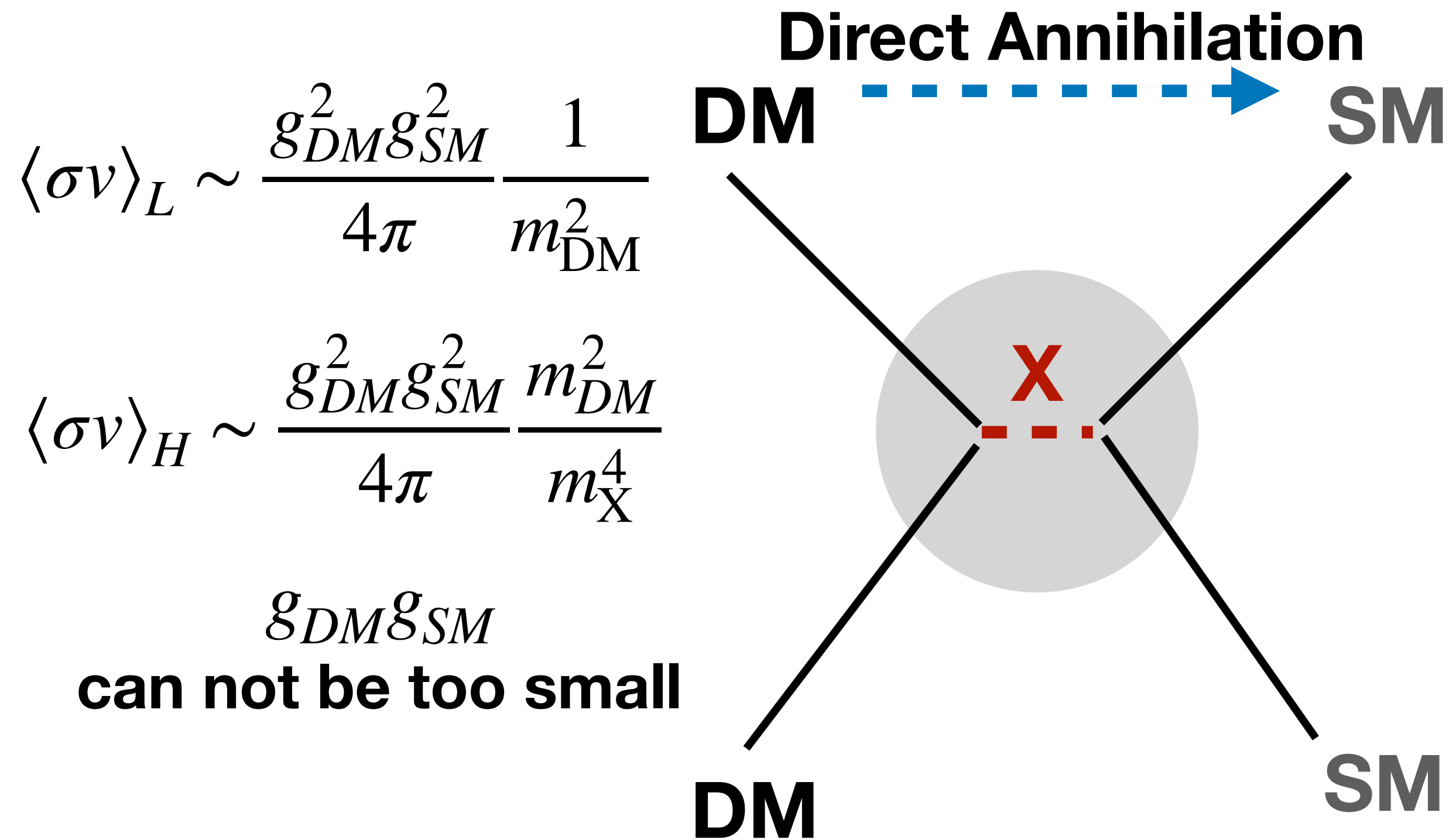
Boehm and Fayet [hep-ph/0305261]
 Pospelov et al [0711.4866]



Light dark matter models

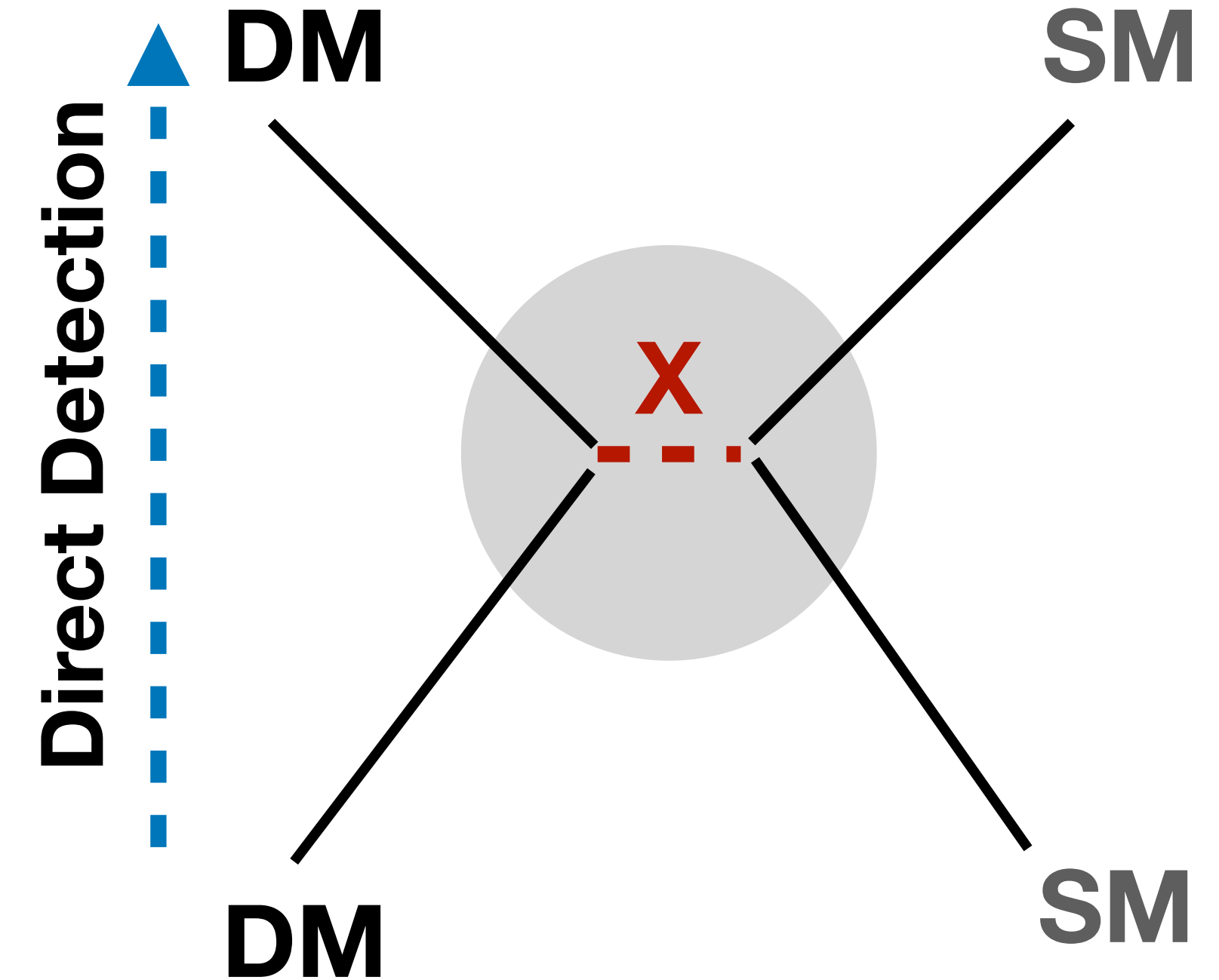
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Boehm and Fayet [hep-ph/0305261]
Pospelov et al [0711.4866]



$$F_L \sim \frac{1}{q^2}$$

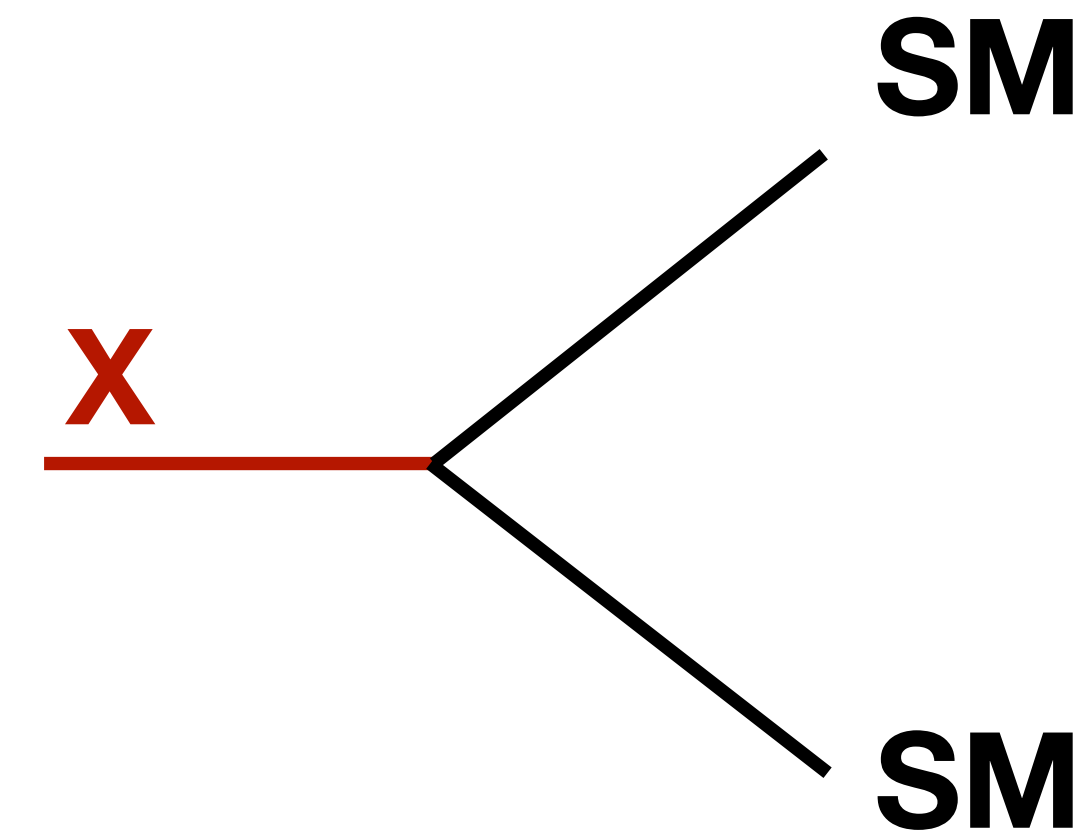
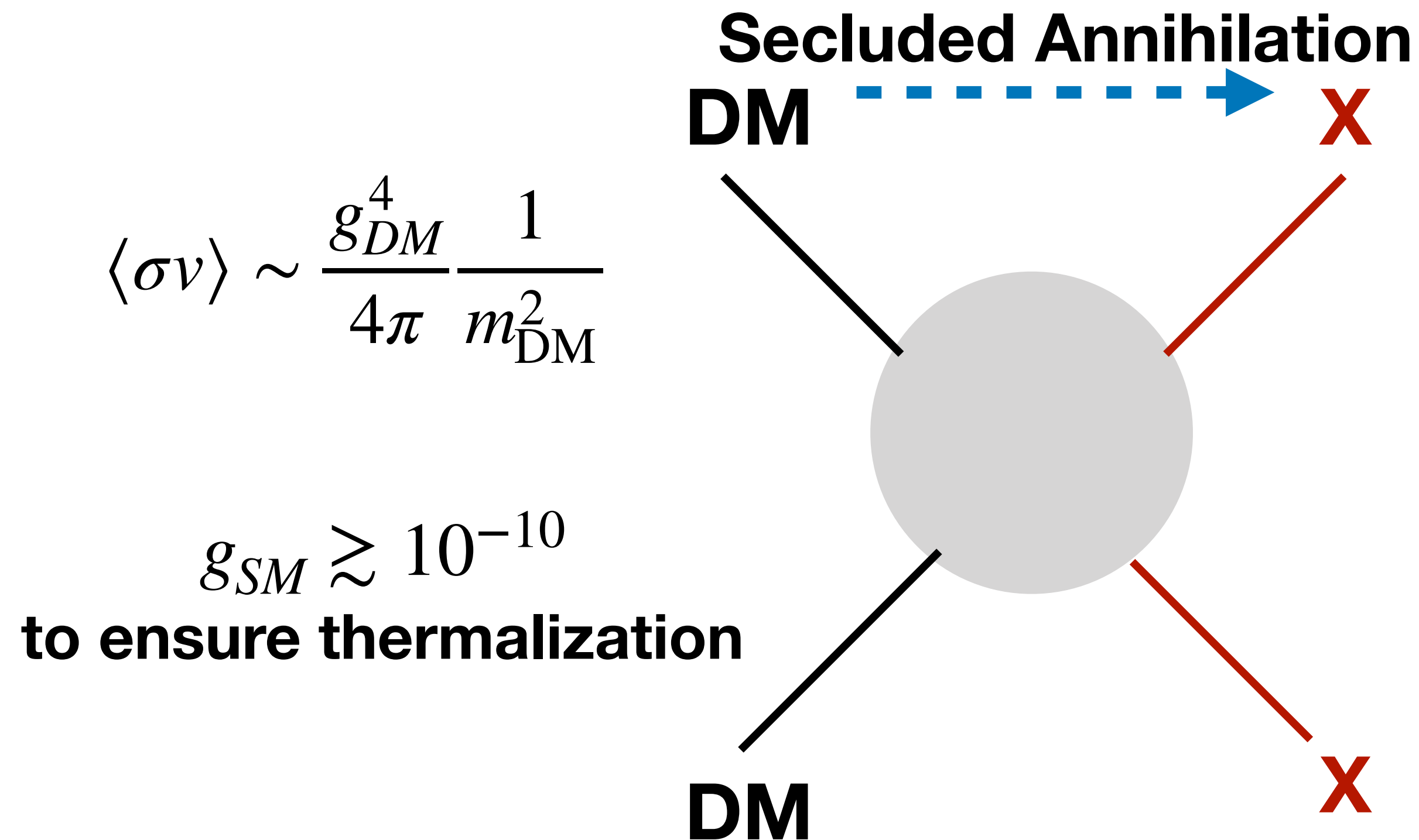
$$F_H \sim 1$$



Light dark matter models

- Needs **light mediator/portal particles: X**
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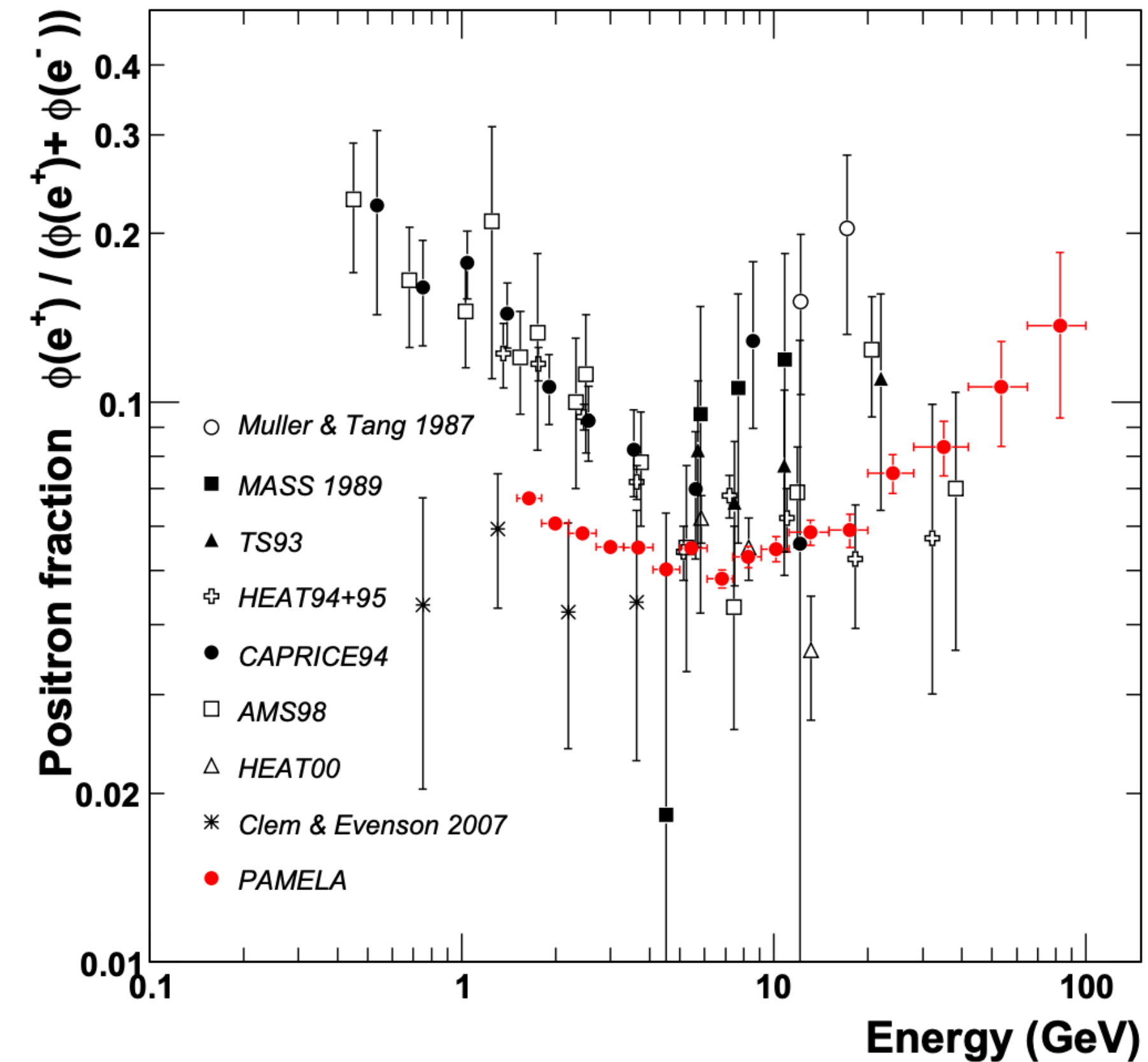
Boehm and Fayet [hep-ph/0305261]
Pospelov et al [0711.4866]



Search for X mediator directly
Long-lived particle X searches

Historic view: why light DM and dark sector?

- PAMELA found anomalous positron flux
- Followed by ATIC experiment, kink at 750 GeV
- Suggesting annihilation from ~ 750 GeV DM
- But the annihilation cross-section is much higher than thermal cross-section??



An anomalous positron abundance in cosmic rays with energies 1.5–100 GeV

#3

PAMELA Collaboration • Oscar Adriani (Florence U. and INFN, Florence) et al. (Oct, 2008)

Published in: *Nature* 458 (2009) 607–609 • e-Print: [0810.4995](https://arxiv.org/abs/0810.4995) [astro-ph]

Historic view: why light DM and dark sector?

Non-perturbative effect on dark matter annihilation and gamma ray signature from galactic center #1

Junji Hisano (Tokyo U., ICRR), Shigeki. Matsumoto (Tokyo U., ICRR), Mihoko M. Nojiri (Kyoto U., Yukawa Inst., Kyoto), Osamu Saito (Tokyo U., ICRR) (Dec, 2004)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.D* 71 (2005) 063528 • e-Print: [hep-ph/0412403](#) [hep-ph]

[pdf](#) [DOI](#) [cite](#) [claim](#)

[reference search](#) [591 citations](#)

Sommerfeld enhancement for 3 TeV wino DM

Secluded Dark Sector

Secluded WIMP Dark Matter #6

Maxim Pospelov (Victoria U. and Perimeter Inst. Theor. Phys.), Adam Ritz (Victoria U.), Mikhail B. Voloshin (Minnesota U., Theor. Phys. Inst. and Moscow, ITEP) (Nov, 2007)

Published in: *Phys.Lett.B* 662 (2008) 53-61 • e-Print: [0711.4866](#) [hep-ph]

[pdf](#) [DOI](#) [cite](#) [claim](#)

[reference search](#) [1,070 citations](#)

An anomalous positron abundance in cosmic rays with energies 1.5-100 GeV #3

PAMELA Collaboration • Oscar Adriani (Florence U. and INFN, Florence) et al. (Oct, 2008)

Published in: *Nature* 458 (2009) 607-609 • e-Print: [0810.4995](#) [astro-ph]

[pdf](#) [DOI](#) [cite](#)

[reference search](#) [2,489 citations](#)

Experiment Hints for TeV DM
TeV 新物理

A Theory of Dark Matter

集大成者: DM with a light secluded unstable mediator, decaying to e^+e^- U(1)' light A' , kinetic mixing to SM #2

Nima Arkani-Hamed (Princeton, Inst. Advanced Study), Douglas P. Finkbeiner (Harvard-Smithsonian Ctr. Astrophys.), Tracy R. Slatyer (Harvard U., Phys. Dept.), Neal Weiner (New York U., CCPP) (Oct, 2008)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.D* 79 (2009) 015014 • e-Print: [0810.0713](#) [hep-ph]

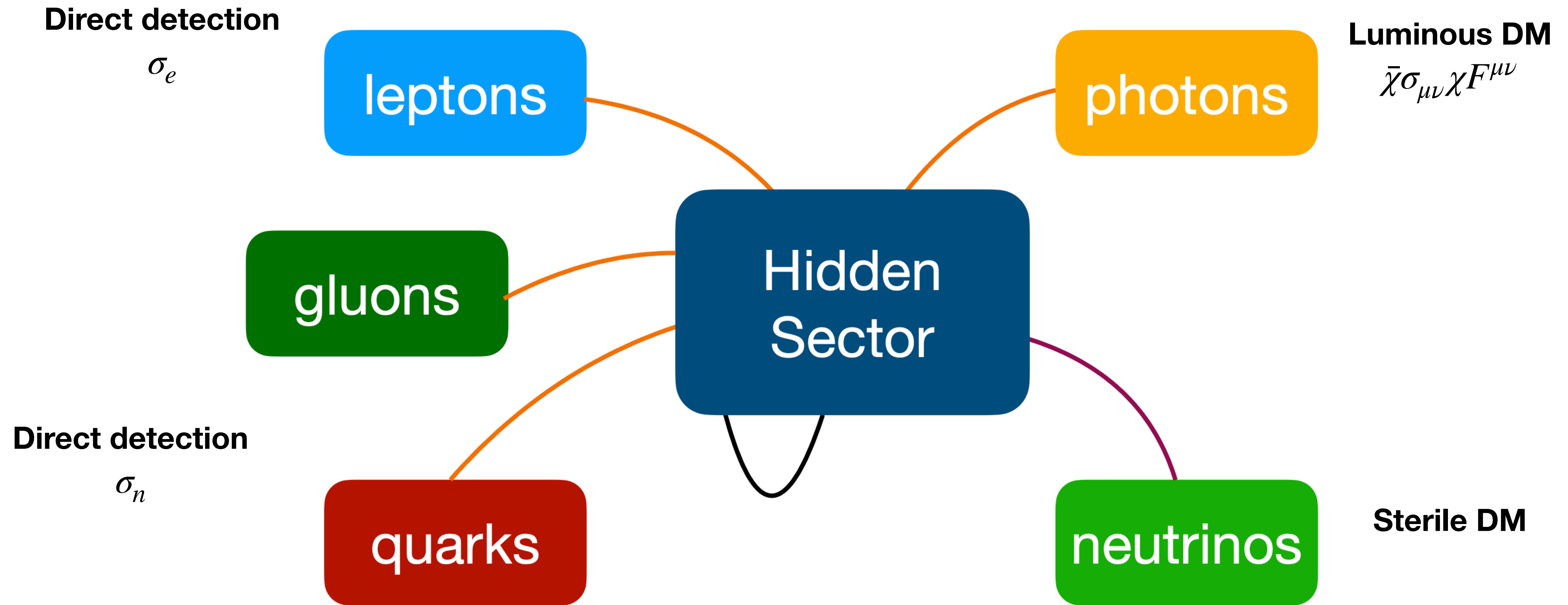
[pdf](#) [DOI](#) [cite](#) [claim](#)

[reference search](#) [1,809 citations](#)

Light dark matter models

- Other models: asymmetric, freeze-in, SIMP, ELDER, co-annihilation, non-thermal...
- Other cosmic production: non-minimal misalignment, cosmic strings, inflationary fluctuations
- Dark scalar, dark photon dark matter
- Direct detection of DM absorption

Light dark matter interactions

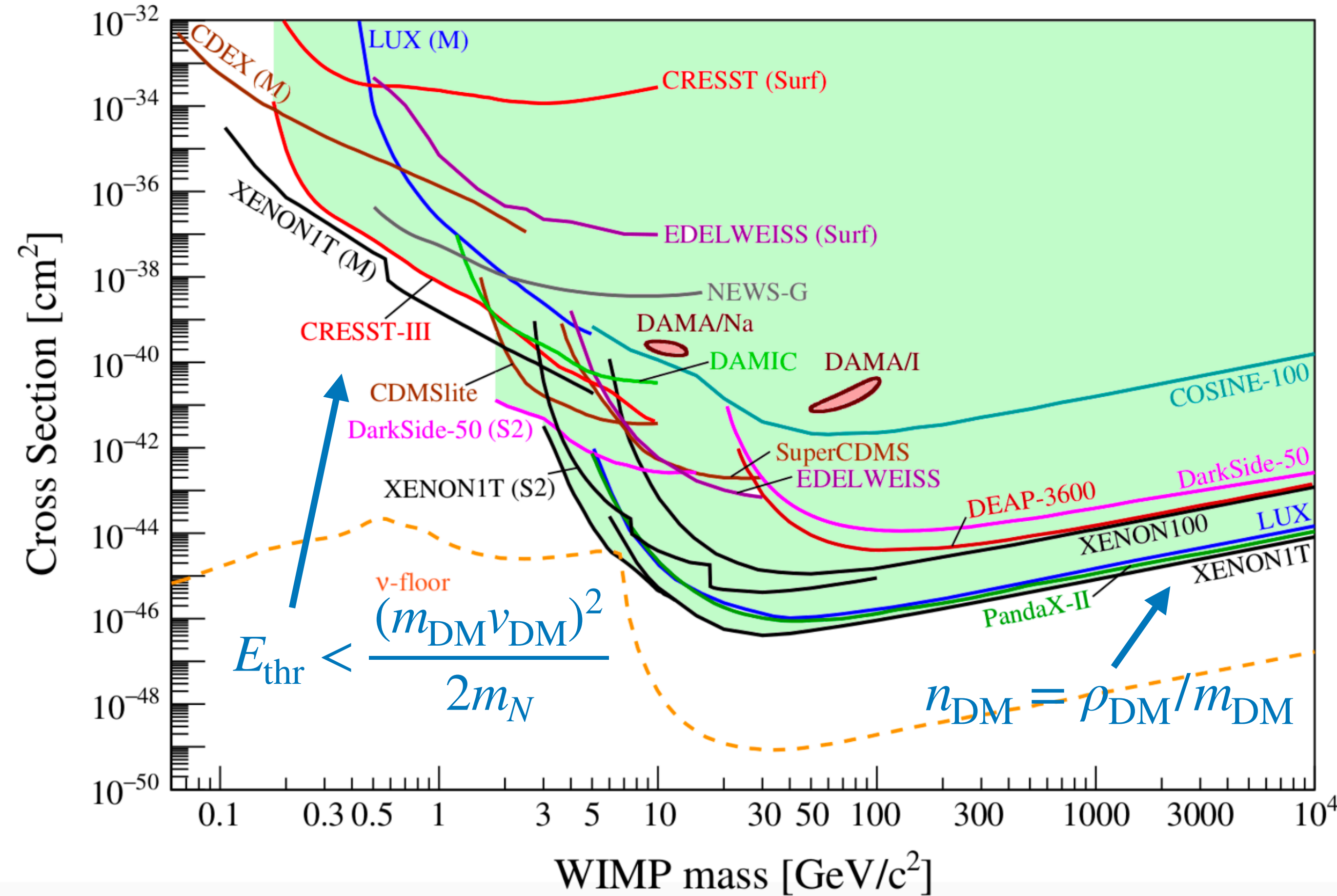
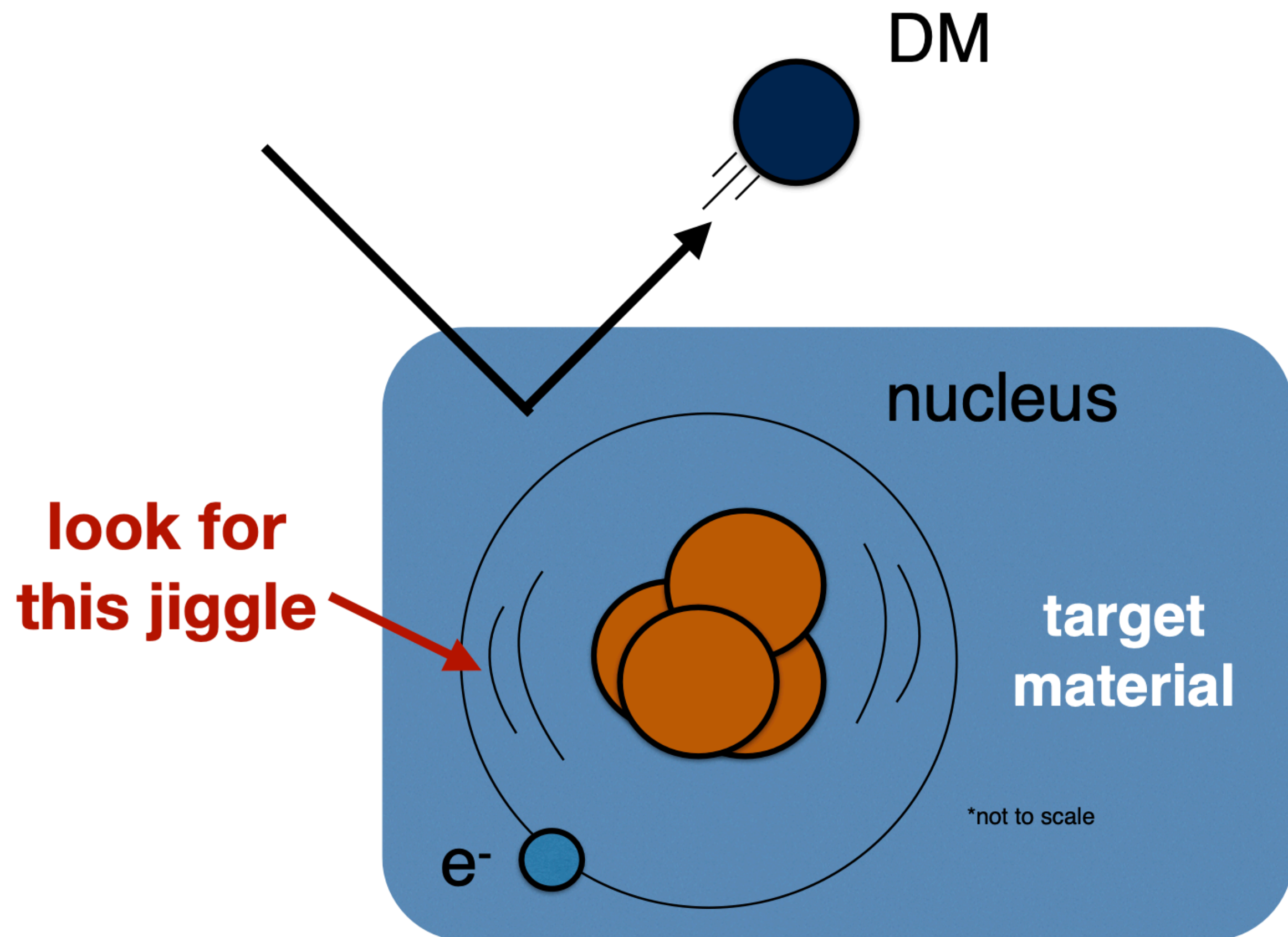


The detection of light dark matter

- Direct Detection: lowering the EXP energy threshold
 - Deep underground particle physics experiments
 - Condensed Matter quasi-particle related experiments
 - AMO experiments
- Intensity frontier: enough energy
 - collider/beam-dump experiments
- Astrophysics: increase the DM energy
 - indirect constraints

Direct Detection with Nuclear elastic Scattering

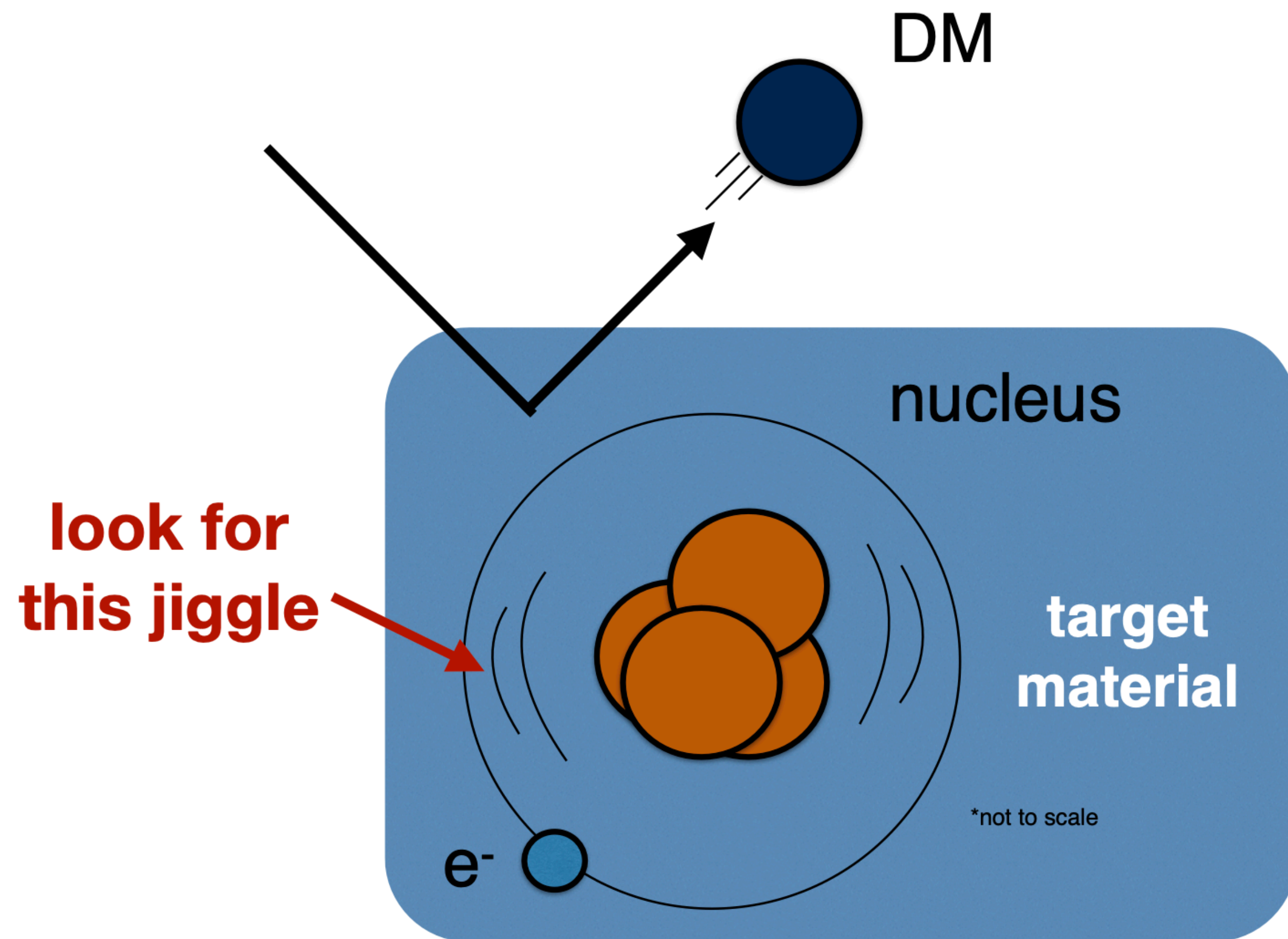
Elastic nuclear scattering



APPEC Committee Report: 2104.07634

Direct Detection with Nuclear elastic Scattering

Elastic nuclear scattering



- DM energy:

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2} m_{\text{DM}} v_{\text{DM}}^2 \sim \text{keV} \frac{m_{\text{DM}}}{1 \text{GeV}}$$

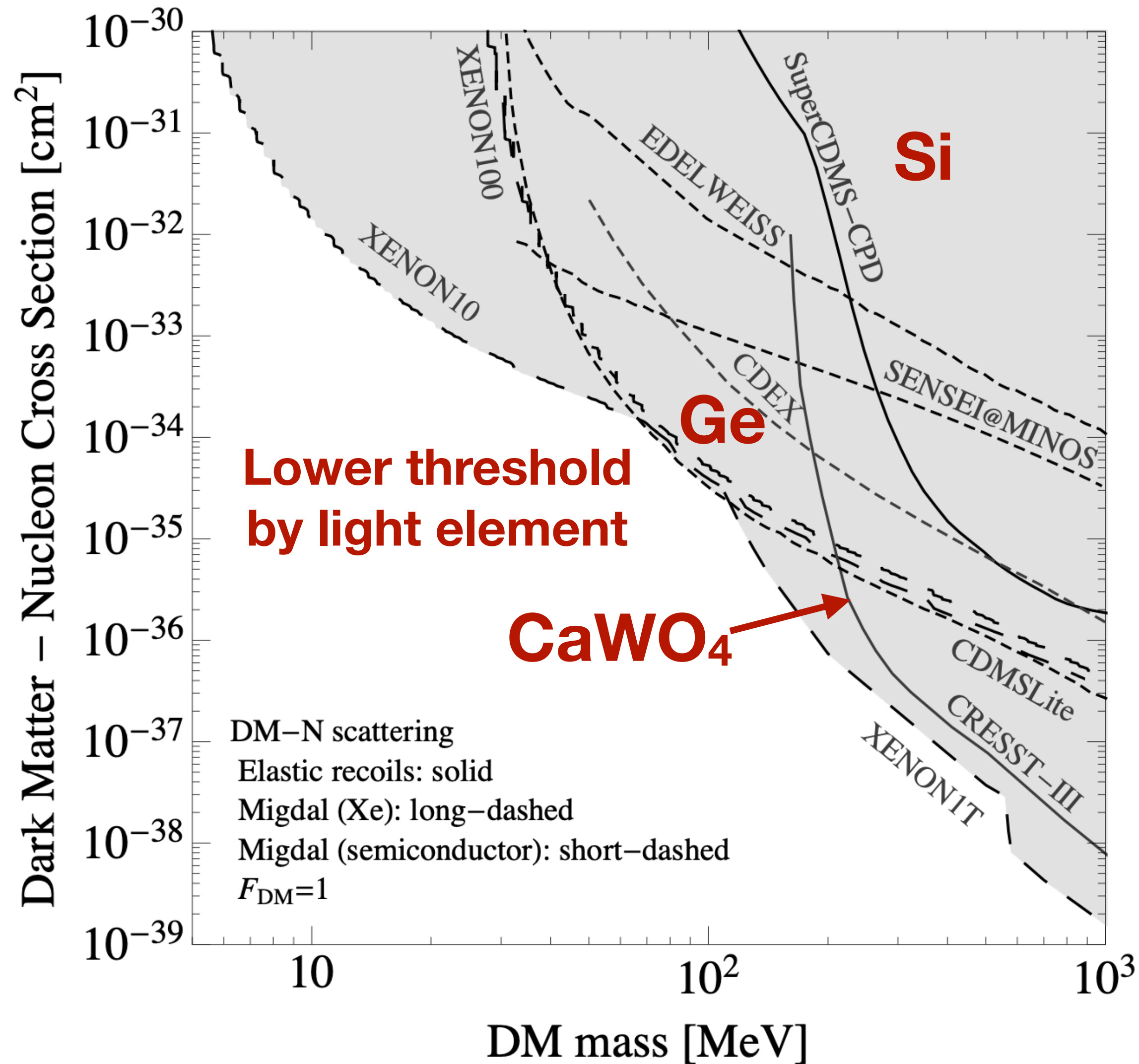
- Energy transfer to nucleus

$$E_r \approx \frac{(m_{\text{DM}} v_{\text{DM}})^2}{2m_N} \approx \frac{(\text{MeV})^2}{2m_N} \frac{m_{\text{DM}}^2}{\text{GeV}^2}$$

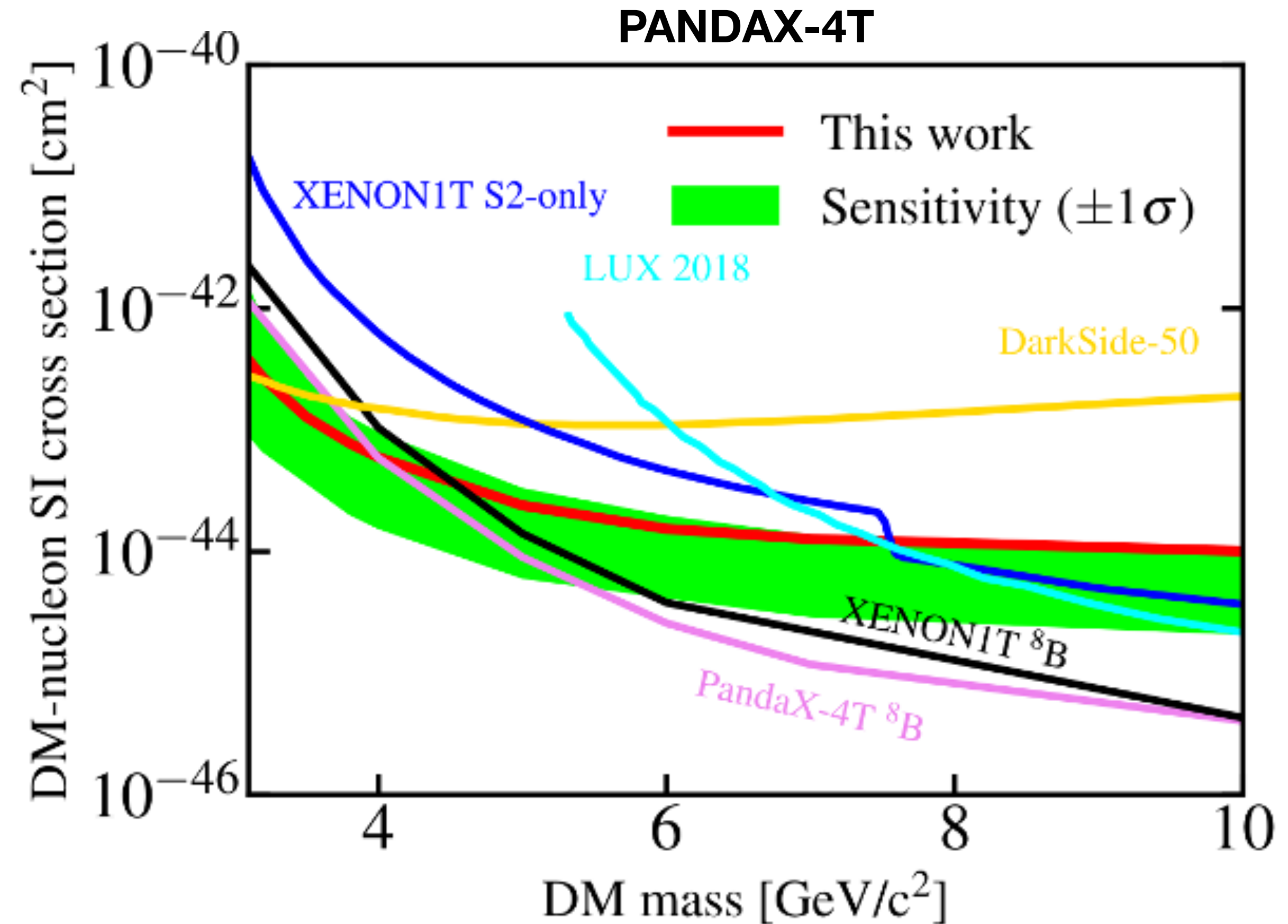
- Lighter element is better
He, O, Si, Ge, Ar

- Lower experiment threshold S2

Direct Detection with Nuclear elastic Scattering



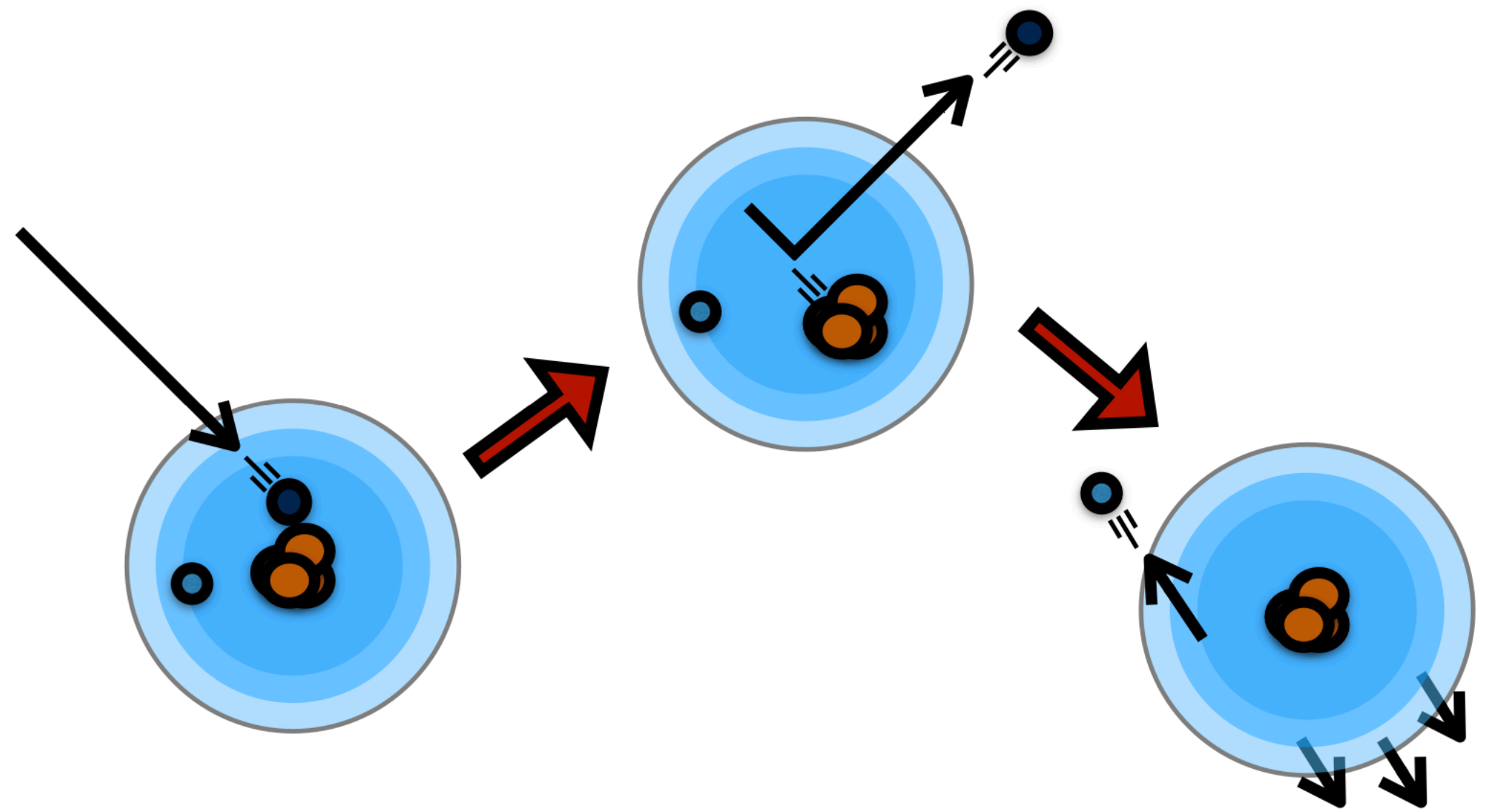
Snowmass 2021: 2203.08297



For liquid xenon TPC, use S2-only channel to reduce the energy threshold

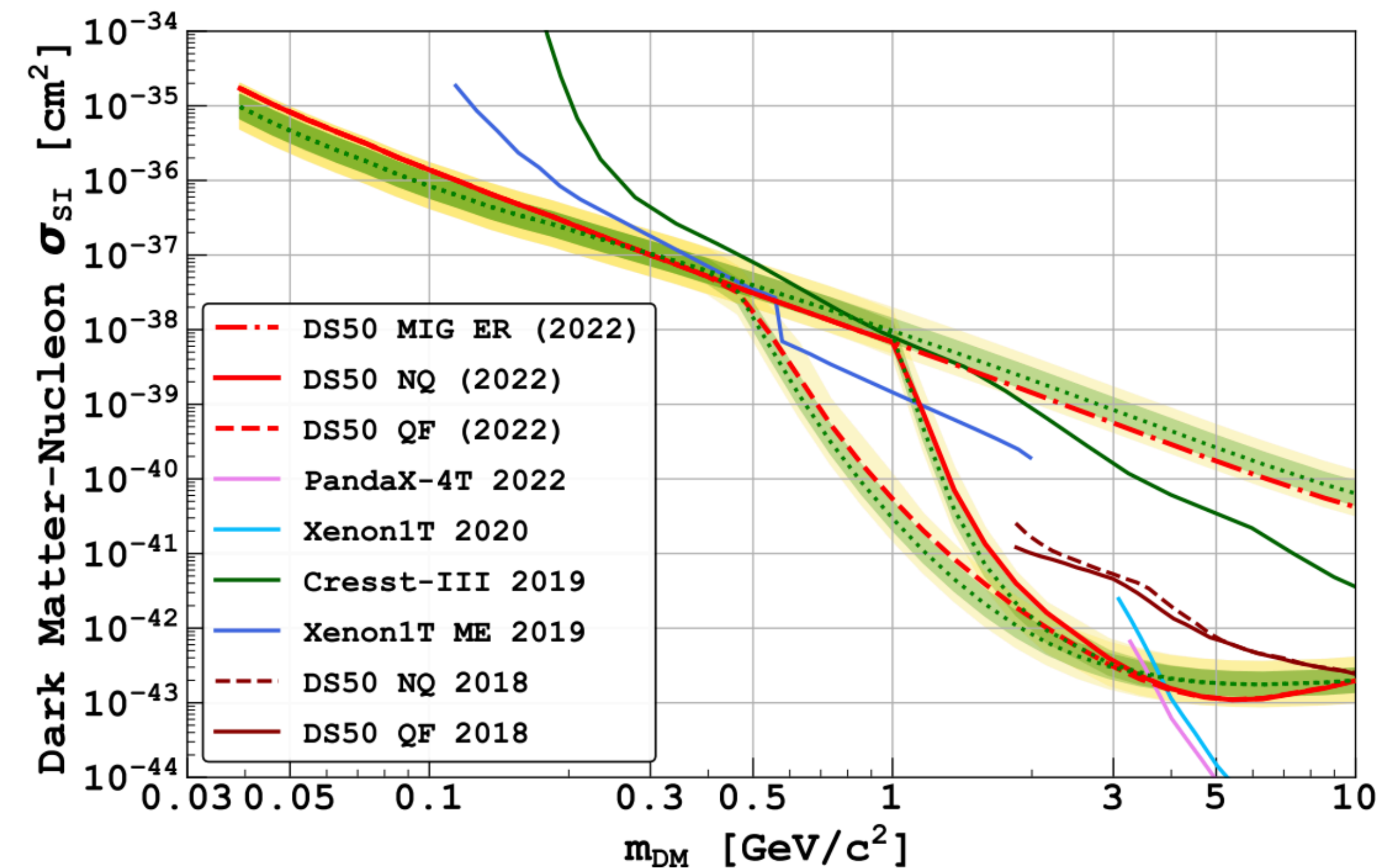
Direct Detection with Nuclear elastic Scattering

Migdal effect



dark matter-nucleus scattering
(Migdal)

Lower threshold via transferring
to electronic events



DarkSide-50
With Migdal effect

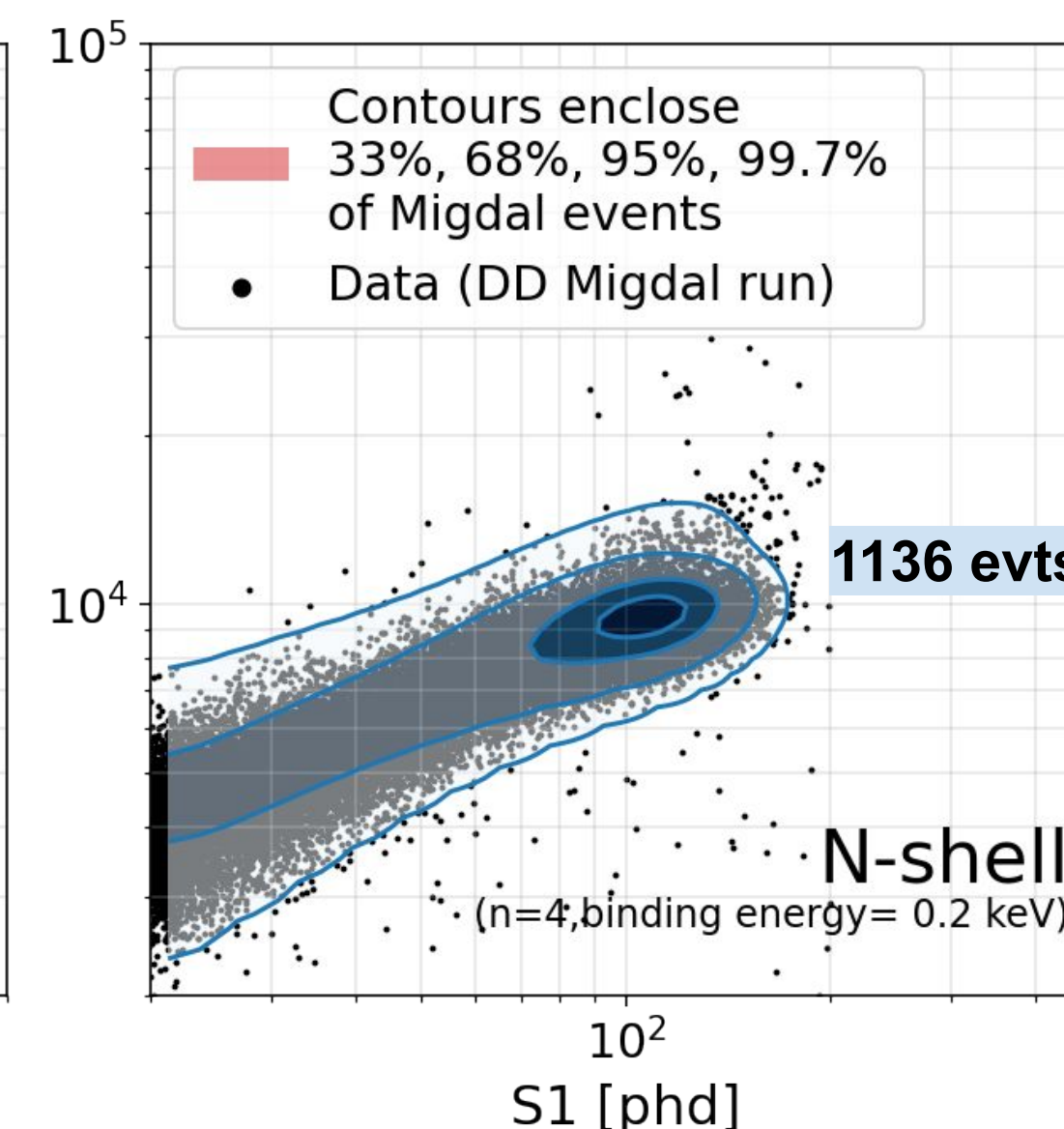
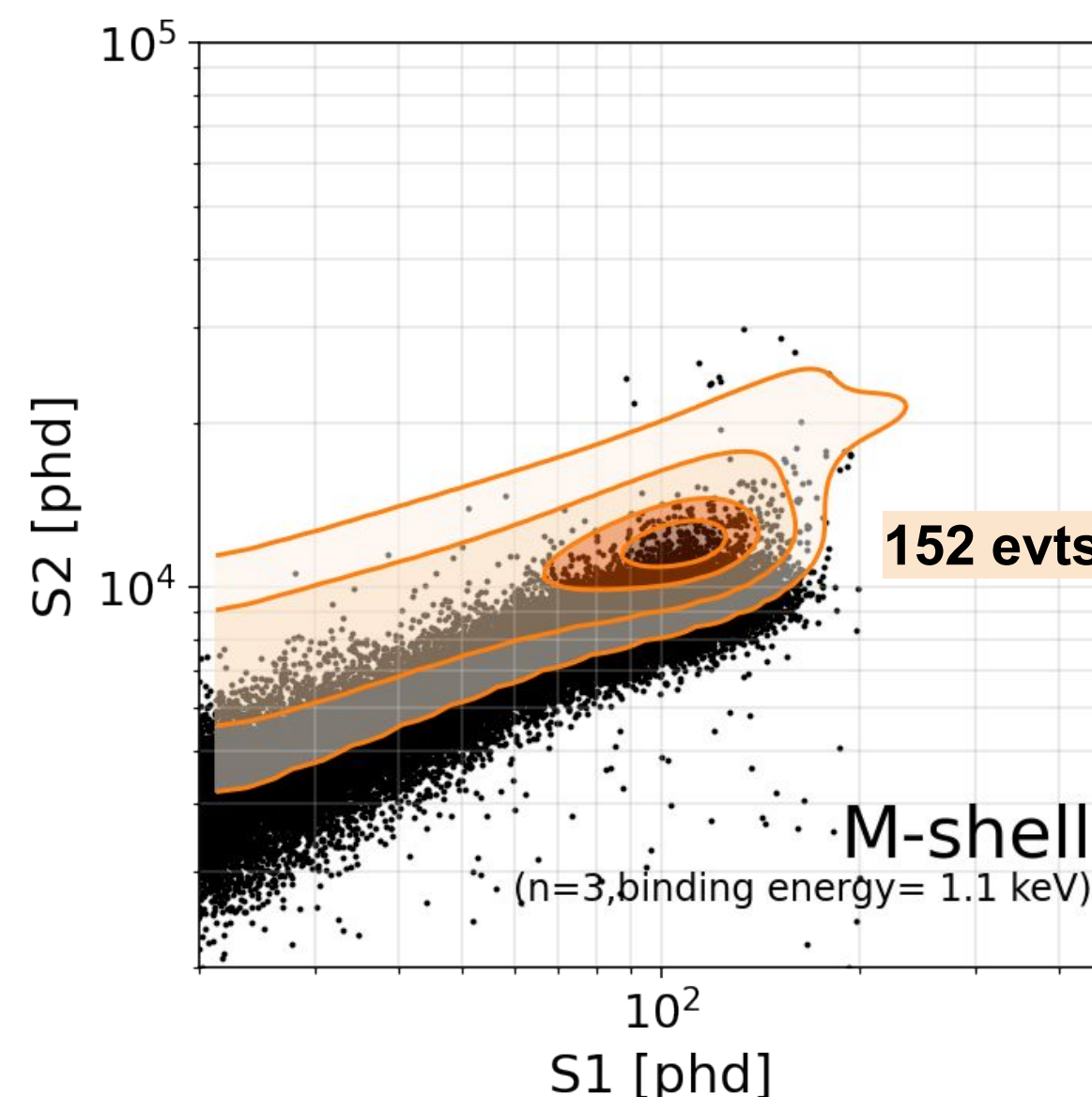
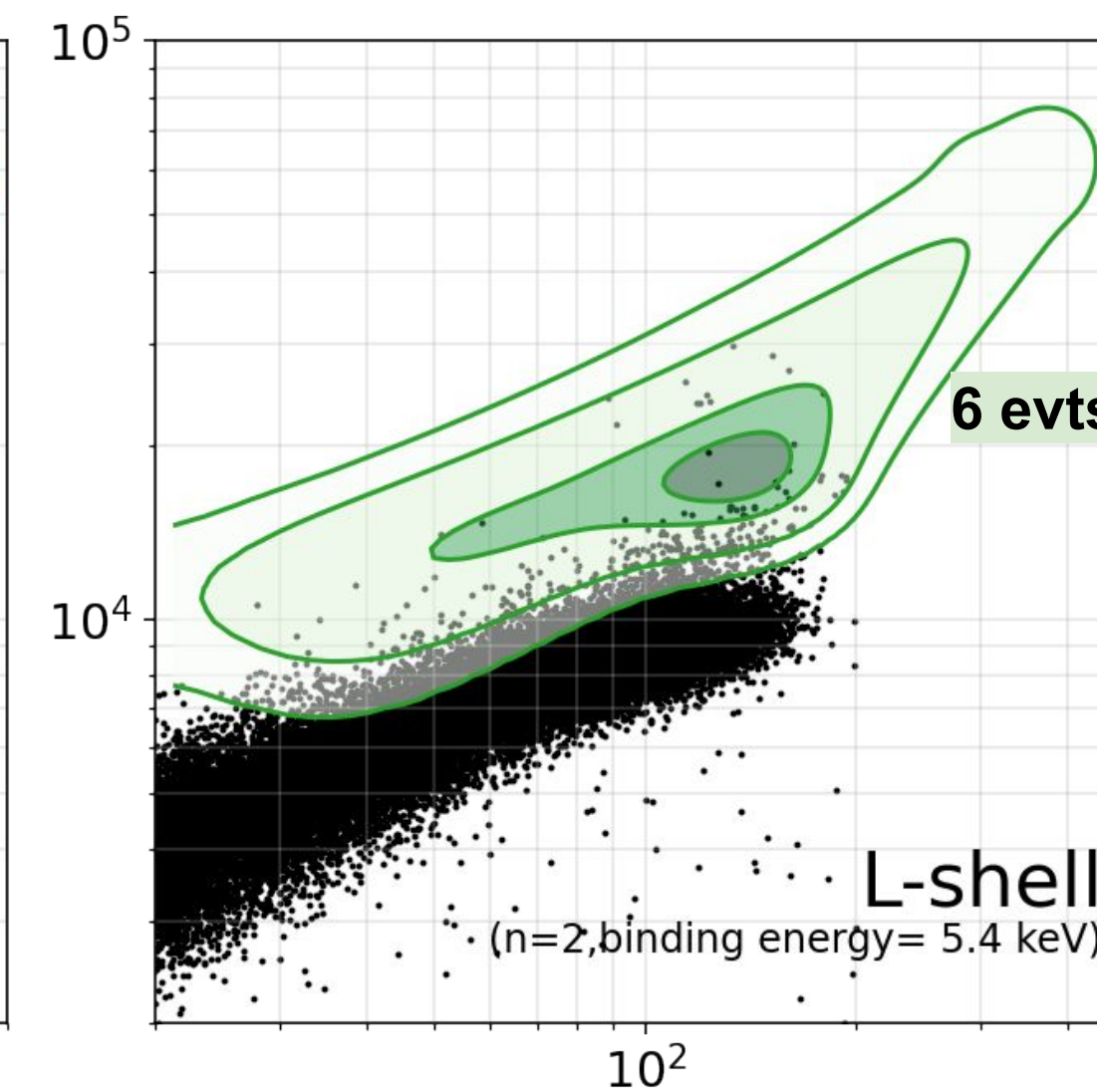
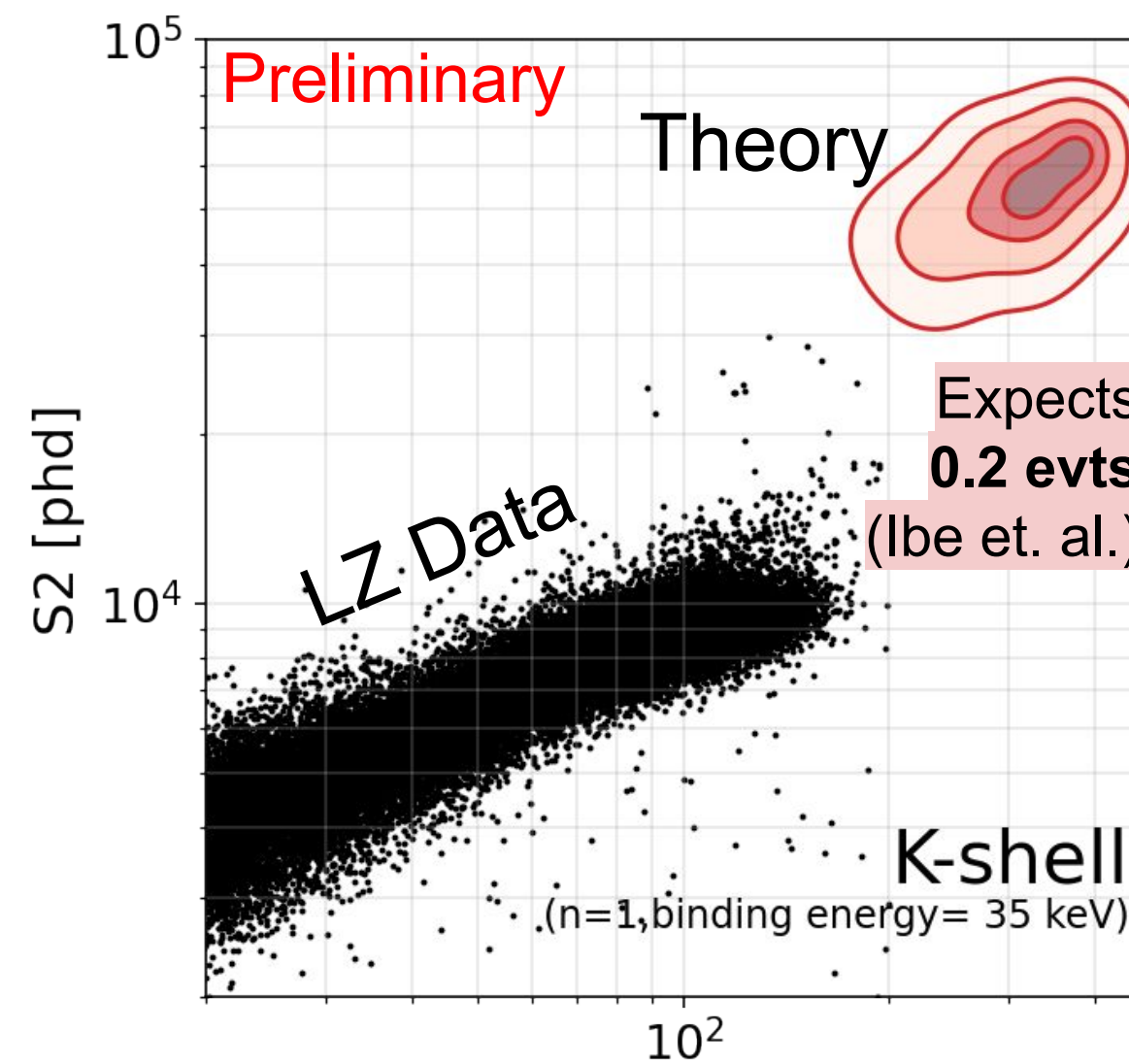
Direct Detection with Nuclear elastic Scattering

Migdal Signal Calculation

- Migdal rate and deposited energy are predicted based on Ibe et al.
 - Calculated Number of Migdal Events for 36k SS above threshold ($E_{\text{Recoil}} > 20$ keVnr) is shown in the plots ([JHEP03\(2018\)194](#))
 - Cox et al. ([Phys. Rev. D 107, 035032](#)) reported 1.2x higher rate due to multiple ionization in Xe

Our analysis focuses on:

- **L-shell Migdal**
 - Expect 6 events, with +5 keVee
- **M-shell Migdal**
 - Expect 152 events, with +1 keVee
- Other shells are ...
 - K shell Migdal is too few
 - N shell Migdal is too similar to NR



Contours enclose
 33%, 68%, 95%, 99.7%
 of Migdal events
 • Data (DD Migdal run)

**LZ results
 UCLA DM 2023
 3.4 σ excess**

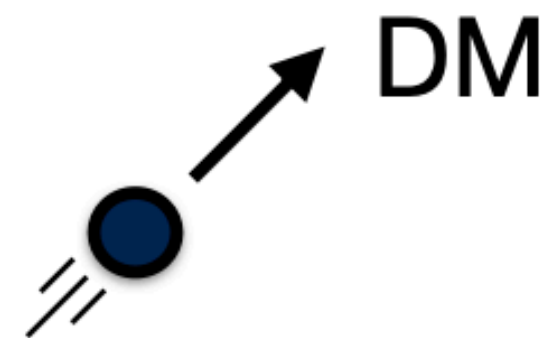
**Check for
 different results
 from Jingke's
 study**

Stay tuned!

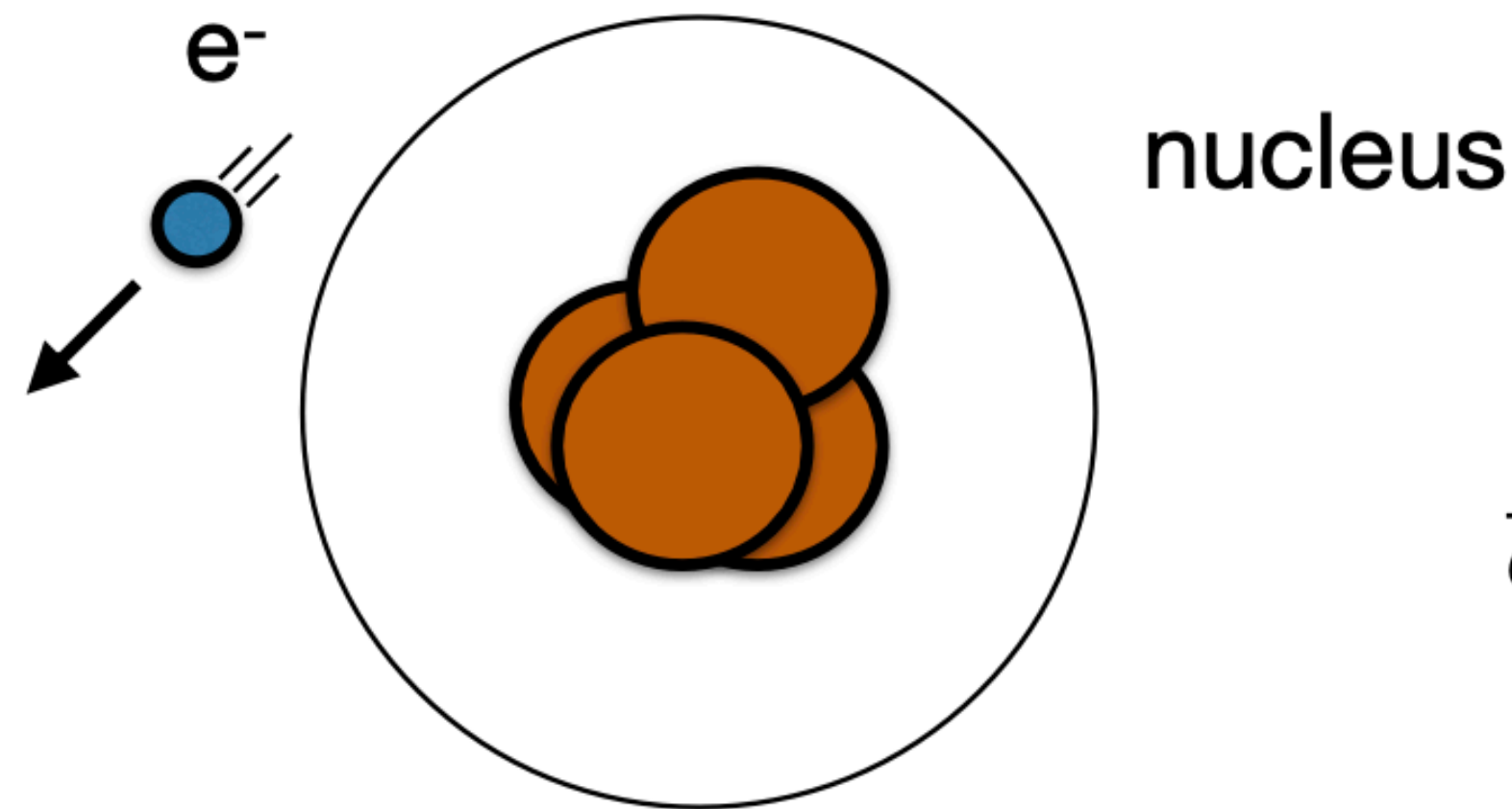
Direct Detection with Electron Scattering

Electron scattering:
excitation/ionization

CDEX-10
2206.04128 [PRL]

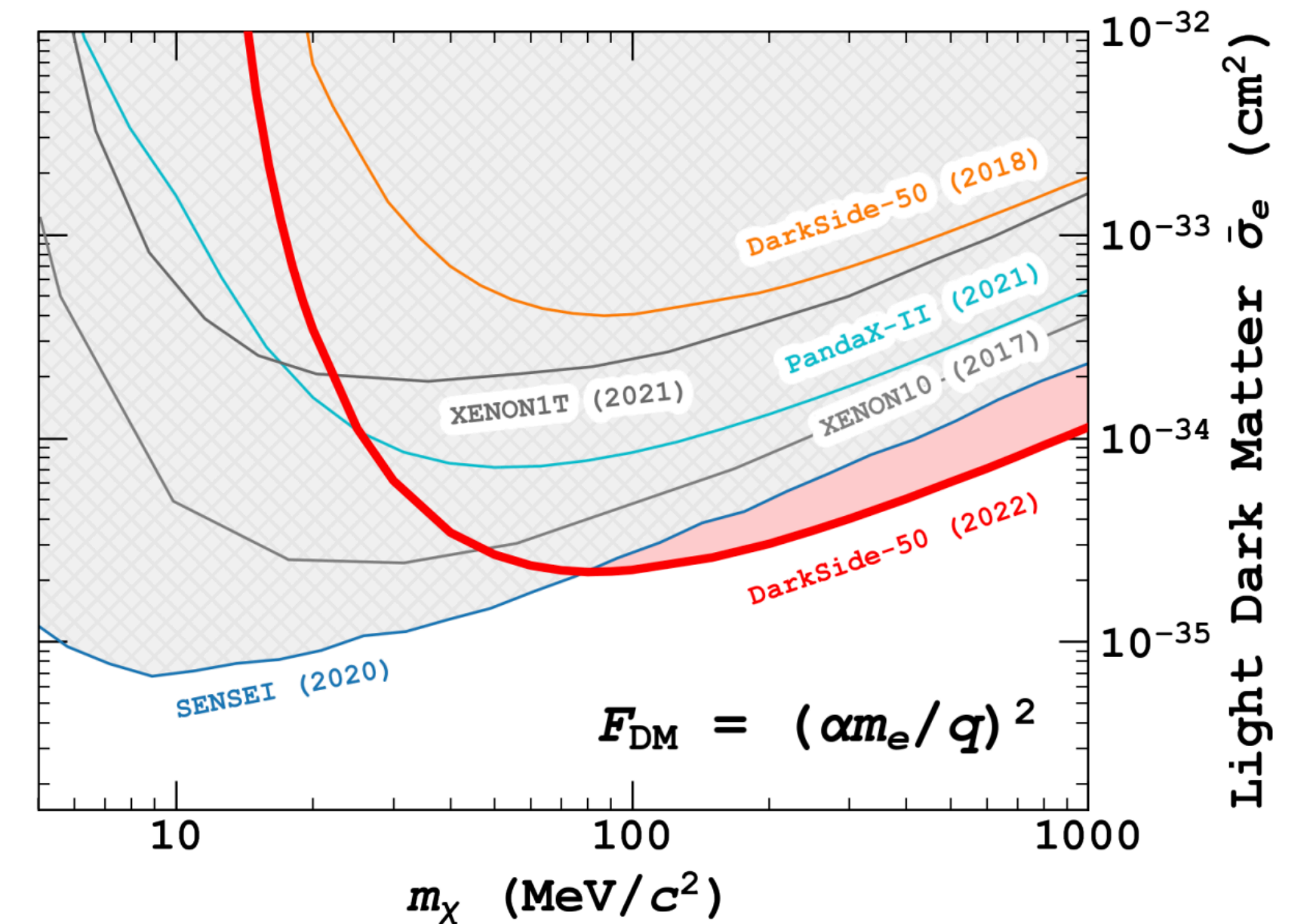
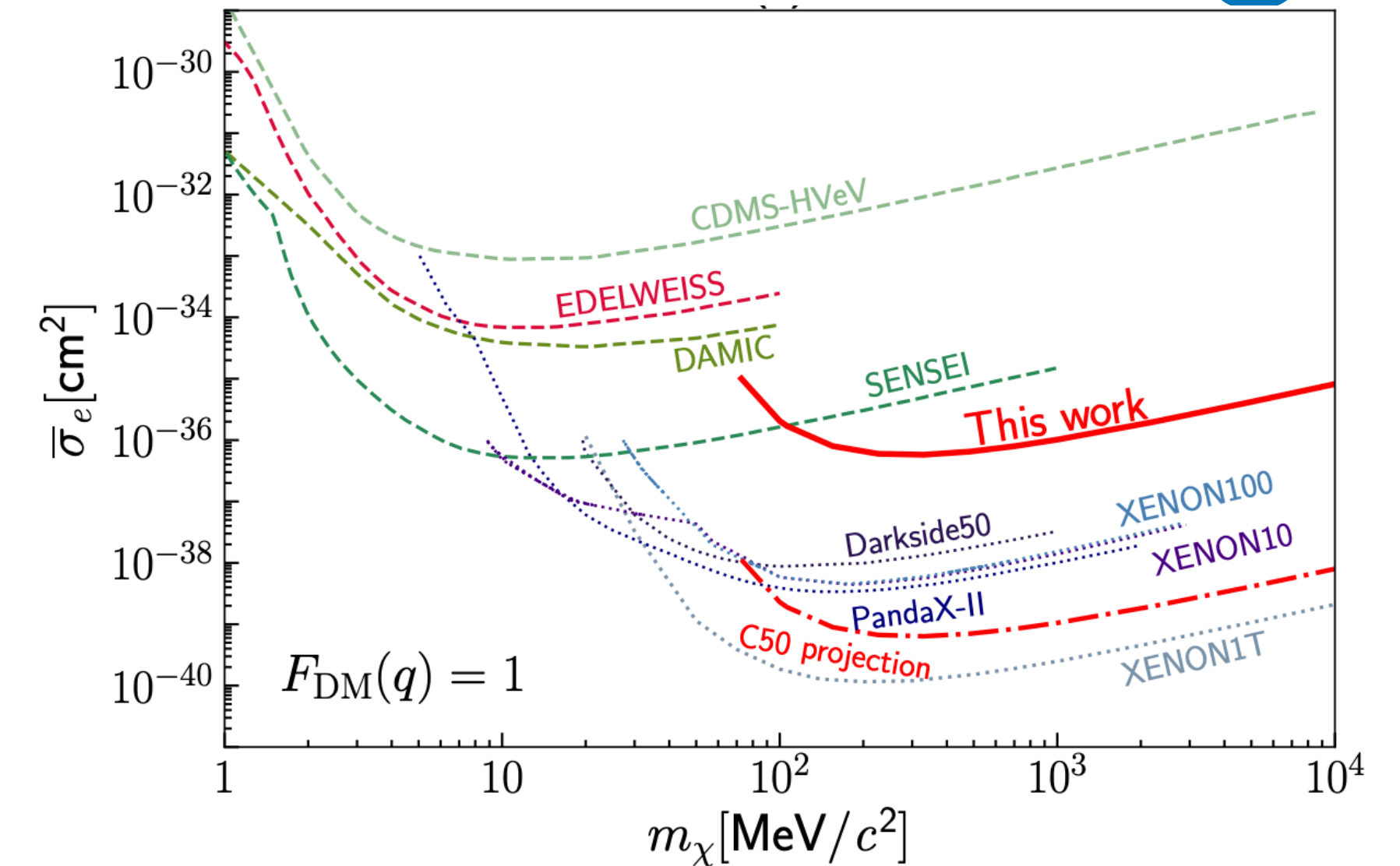


DM-electron
scattering



$$\bar{\sigma}_e \sim 4\pi\alpha_D\epsilon^2\alpha\frac{\mu_{\chi,e}^2}{q^4}$$

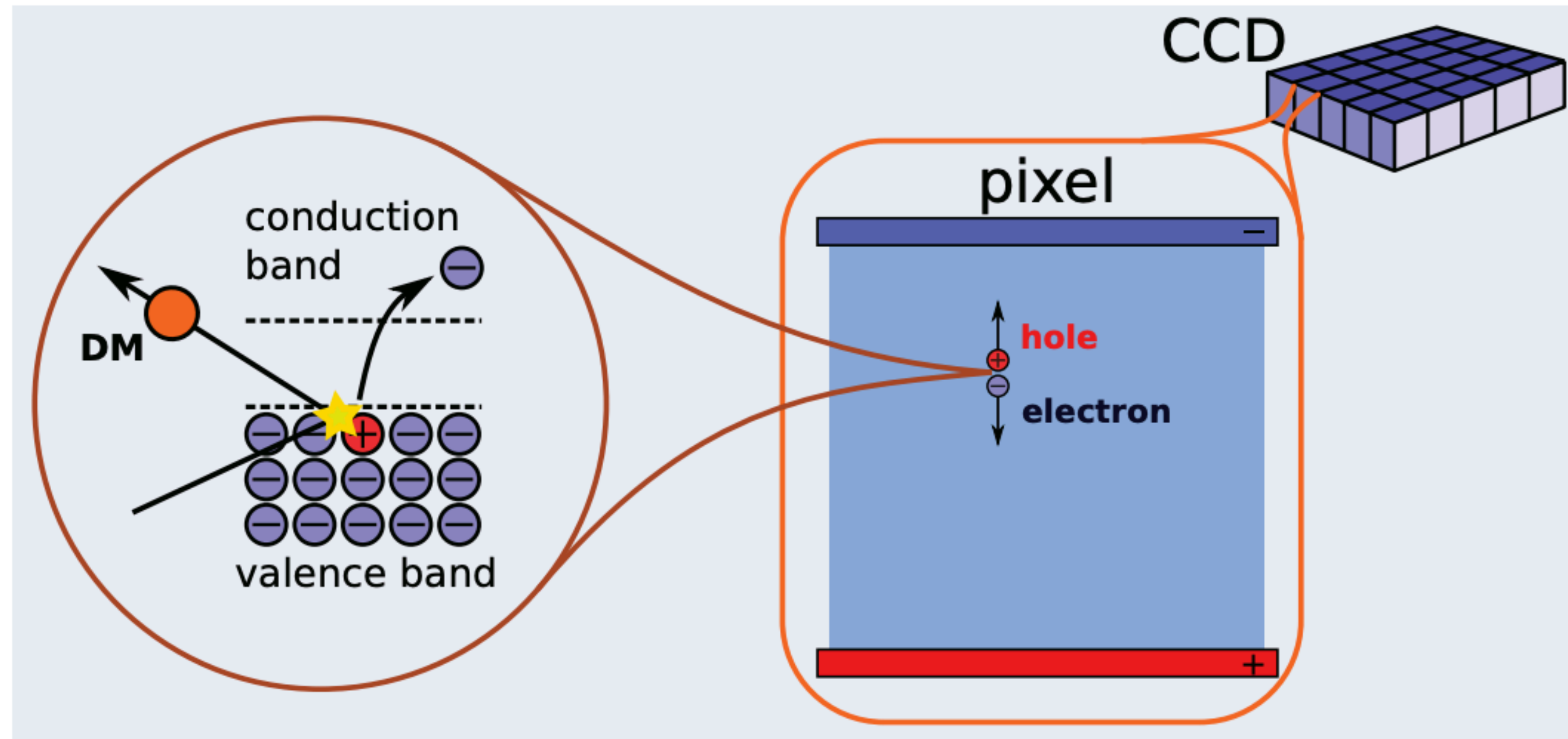
DarkSide-50
2207.11968 [PRL]



Direct Detection with Electron Scattering

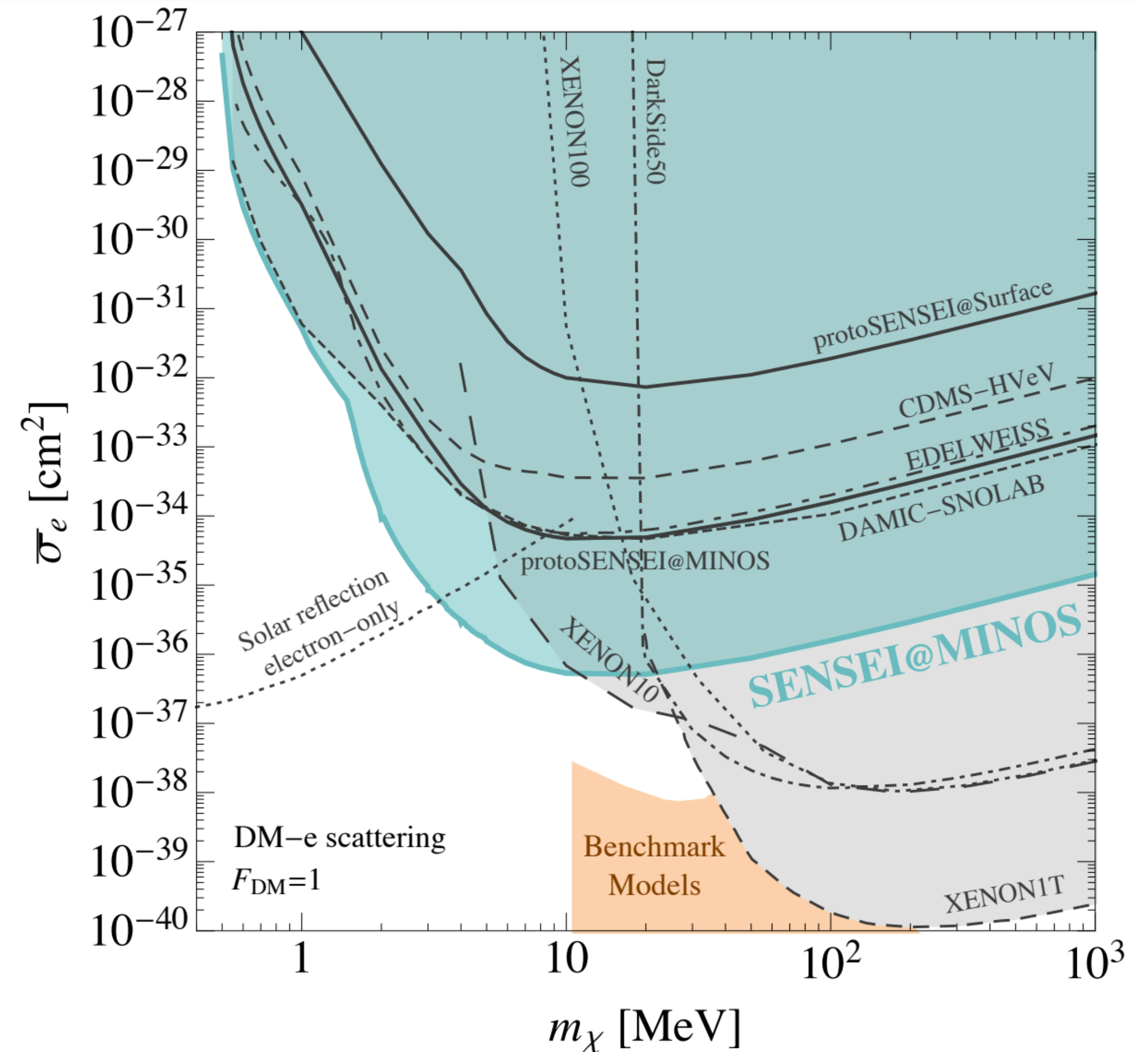
- Skipper CCD:

- single electron detection
- Detection threshold 28 eV
- Multiple measurements trade resolution with speed
- $N = 300$ (13 ms/pixel), noise $0.14 e^-$



Direct Detection with electron scattering

- Skipper CCD:
 - single electron detection
 - Detection threshold 28 eV
 - Multiple measurements trade resolution with speed
 - $N = 300$ (13 ms/pixel), noise $0.14 e^-$

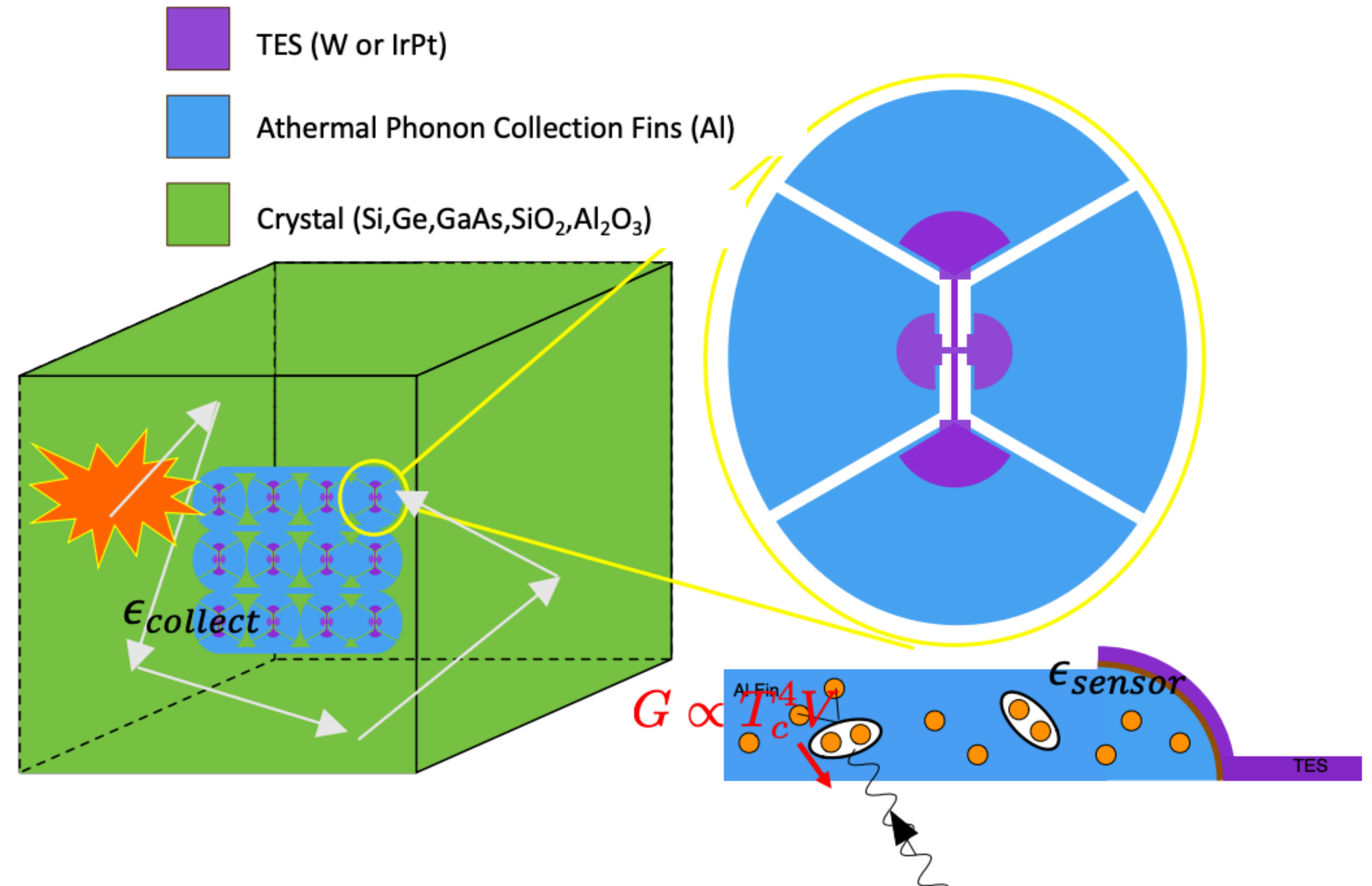


The detection of light dark matter

- Direct Detection: lowering the EXP energy threshold
 - Deep underground particle physics experiments
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Direct Detection with quasi-particle excitation

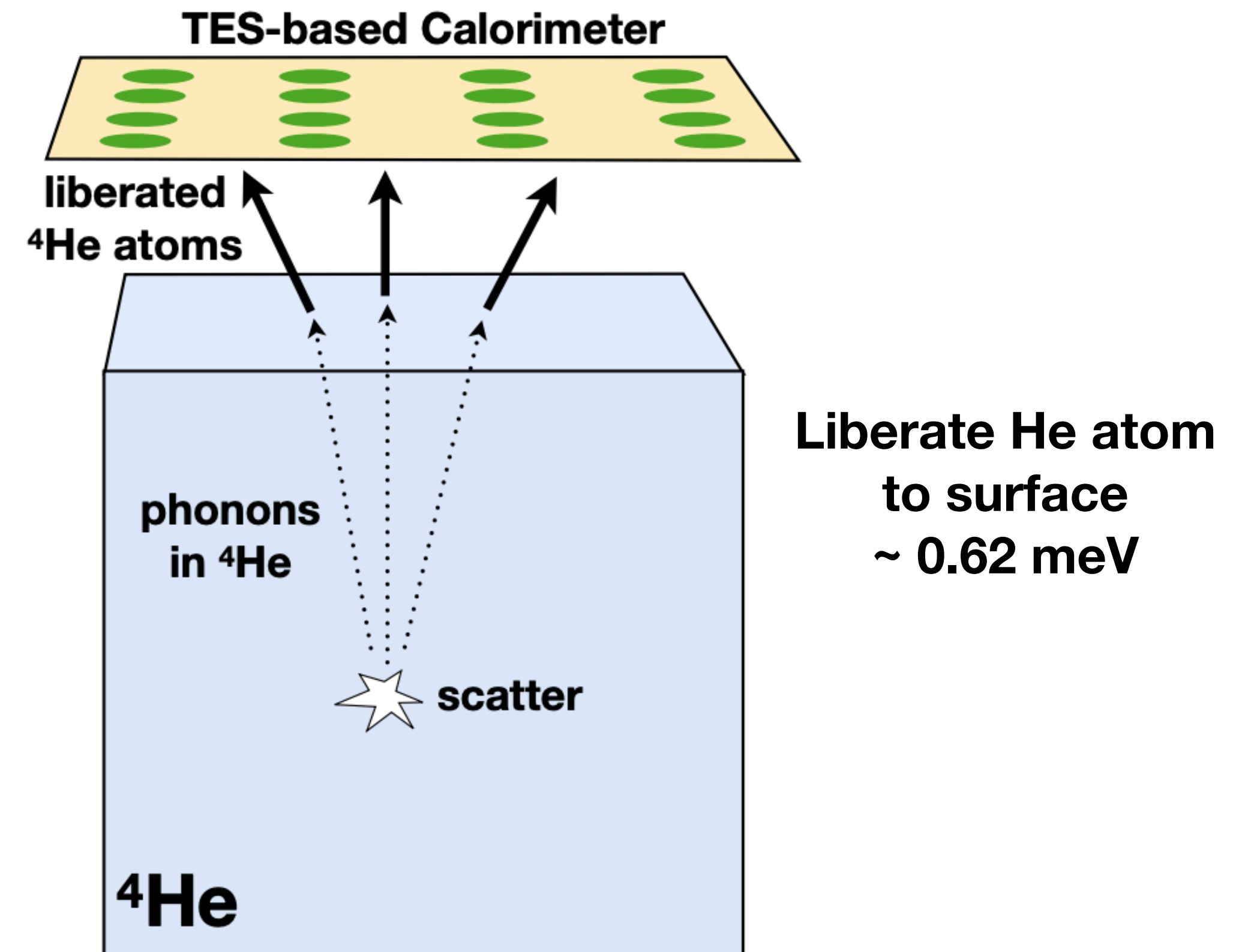
- Condensed matter quasi-particle related
 - Photon and roton excitations has low energy threshold sub-eV
 - K. Zurek, Z.K Zhang, W. Xue ...
 - Experiment status TESSERACT Dark Matter Project
 - Al_2O_3 , GaAs, LHe



Snowmass2021 Letter of Interest
TESSERACT Dark Matter

Direct Detection with quasi-particle excitation

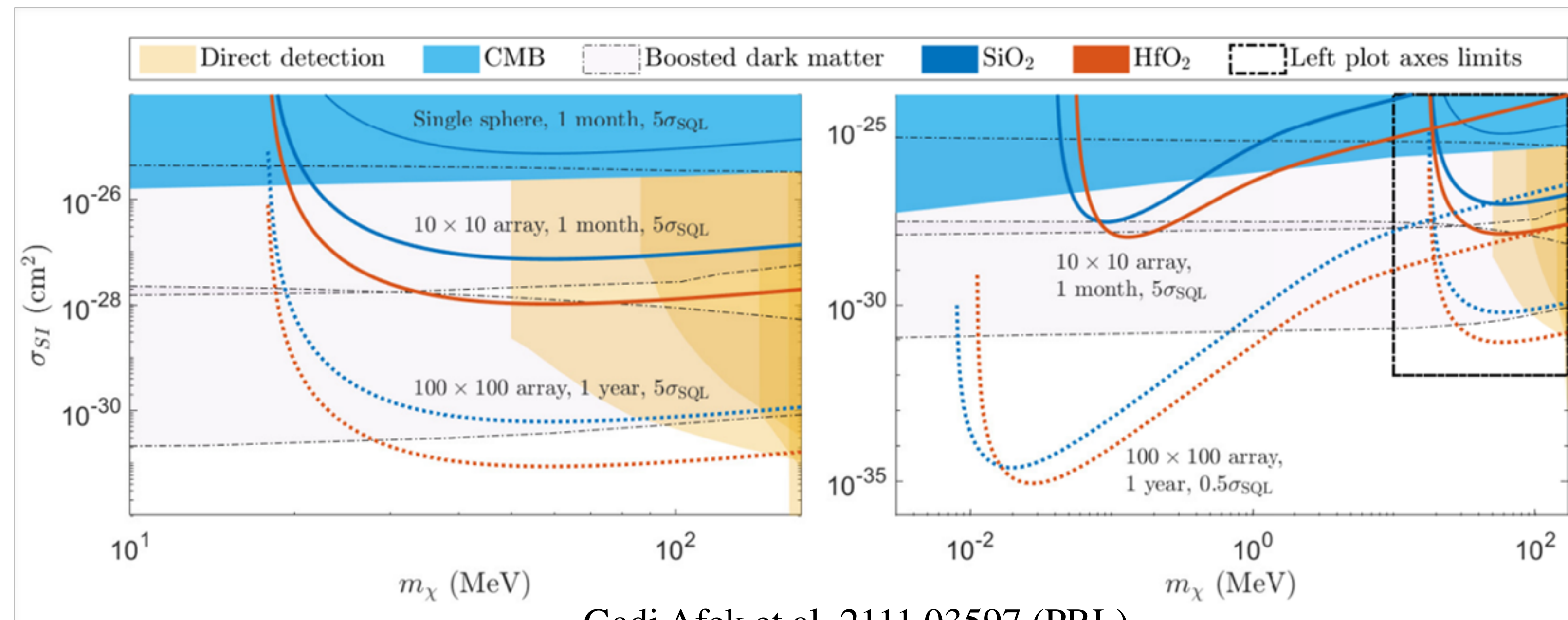
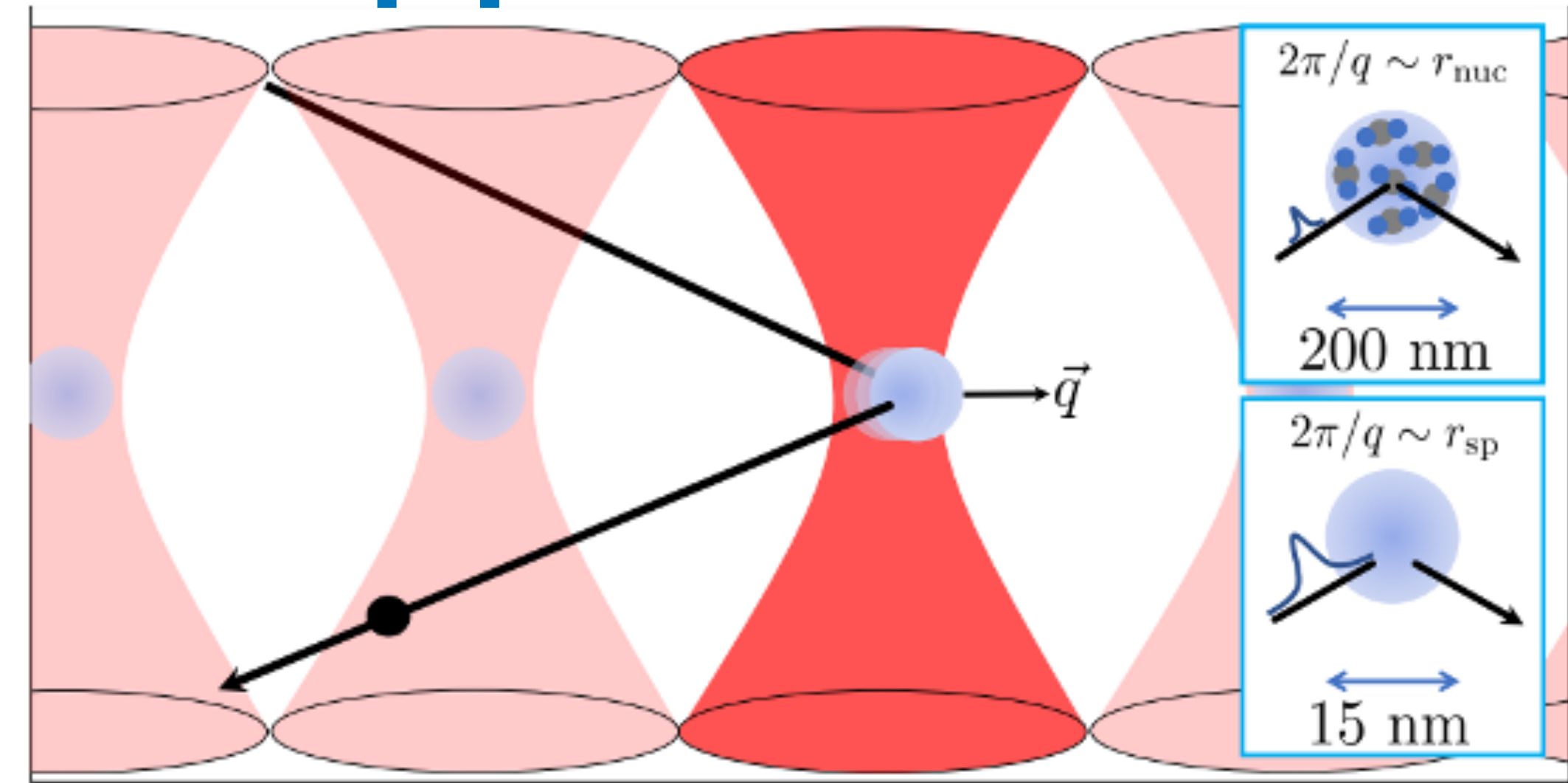
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HeRALD superfluid He4
TESSERACT Dark Matter

Direct Detection with AMO trapped sensors

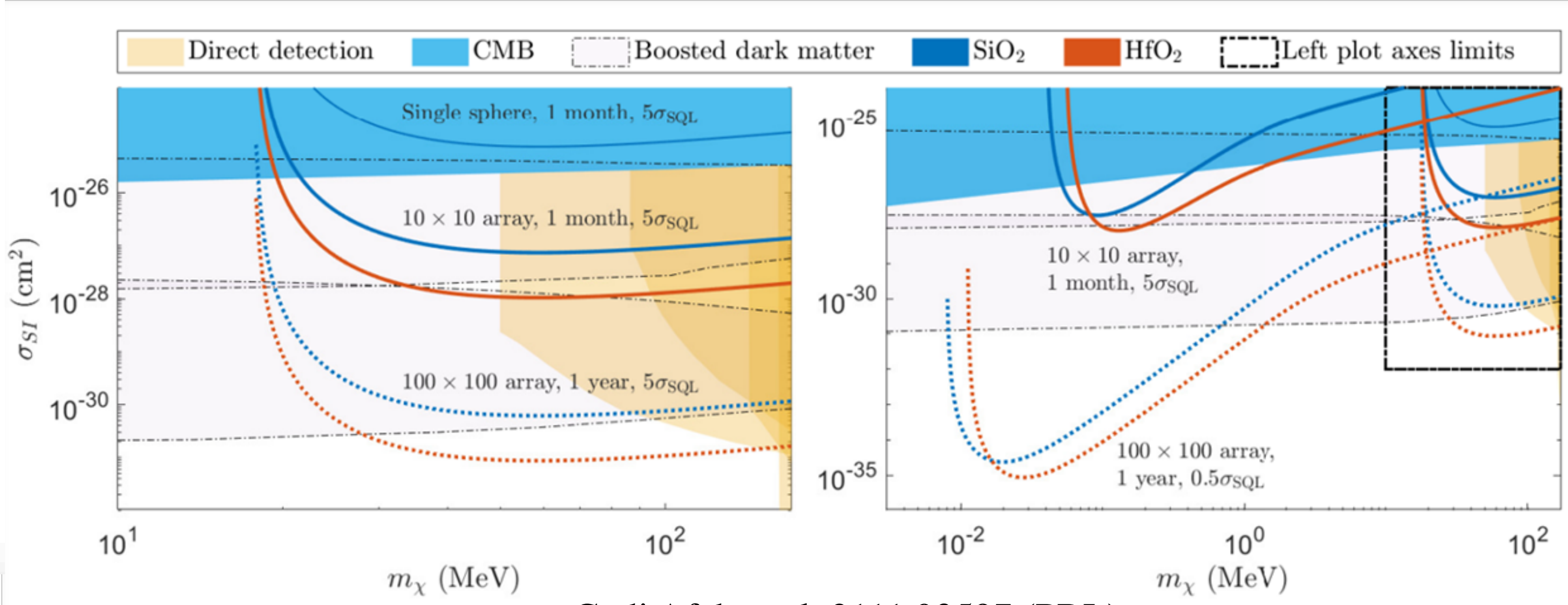
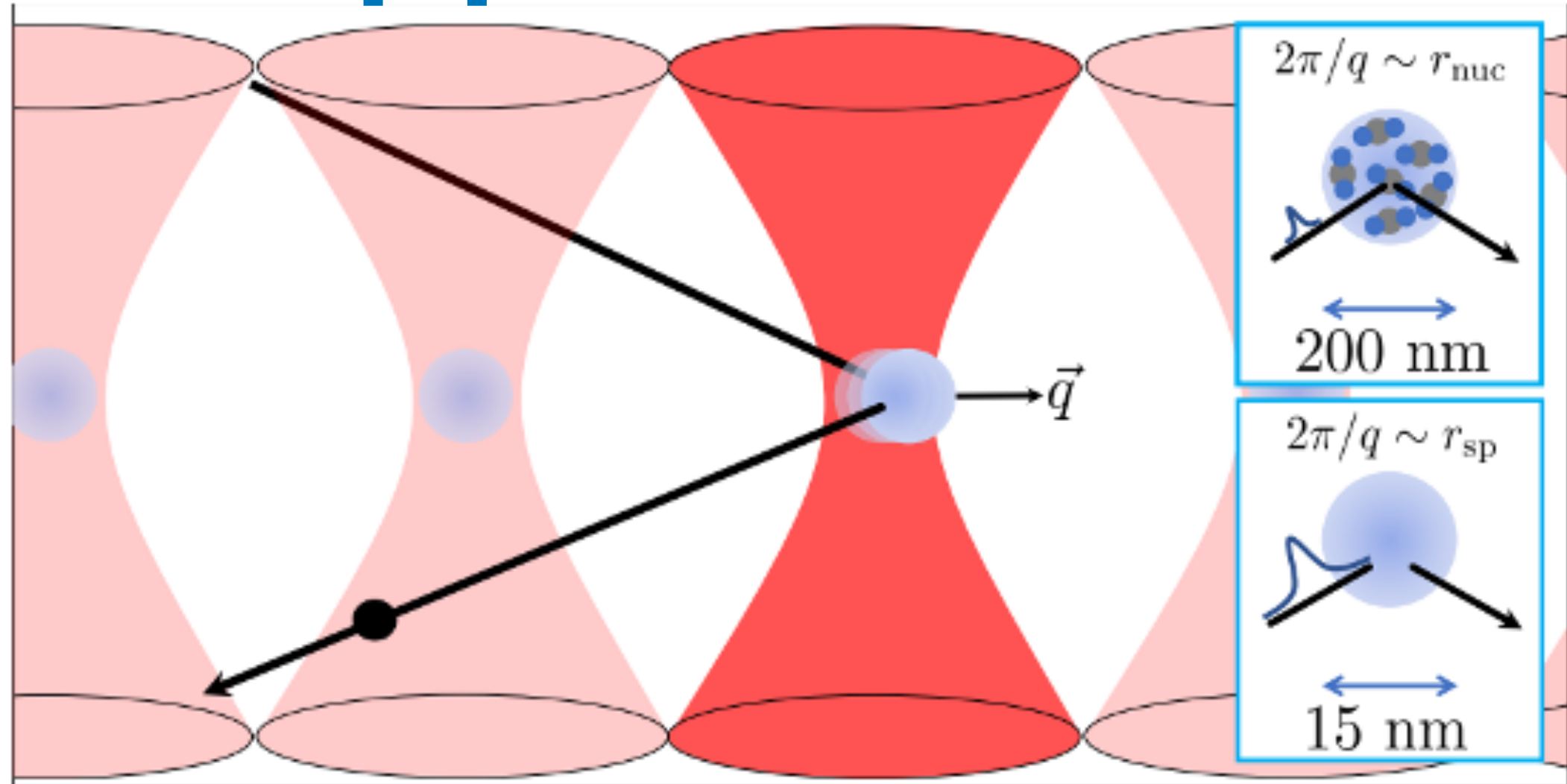
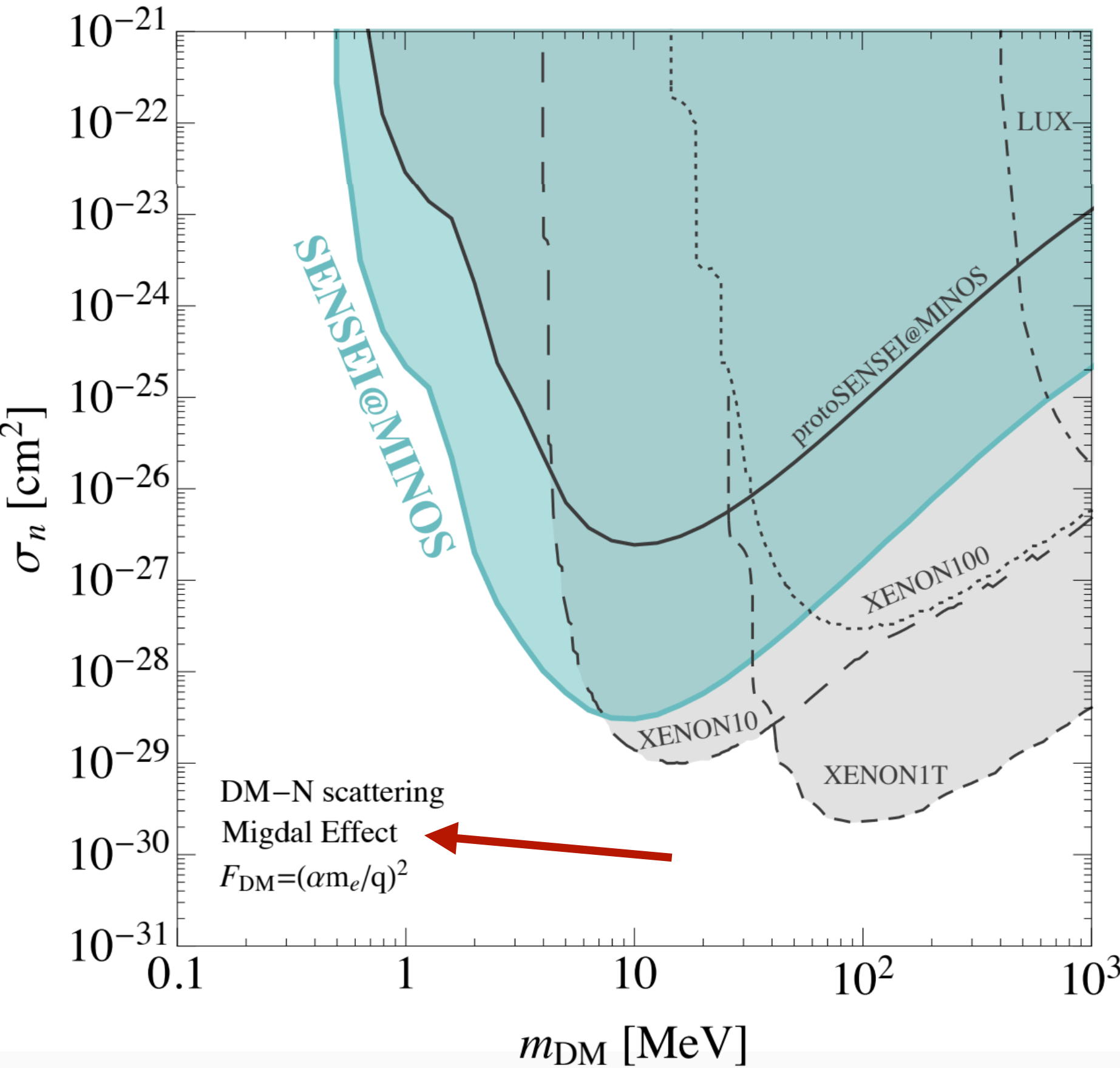
- Nanosphere in optical trap sensors
- Low mass DM coherent scattering with macroscopic nanosphere
- “Large”, 200 nm-diameter spheres, DM interacts coherently with individual.
- “Small”, 15 nm-diameter spheres, where the interaction is coherent over the entire sensor.



Gadi Afek et al, 2111.03597 (PRL)

Direct Detection with AMO trapped sensors

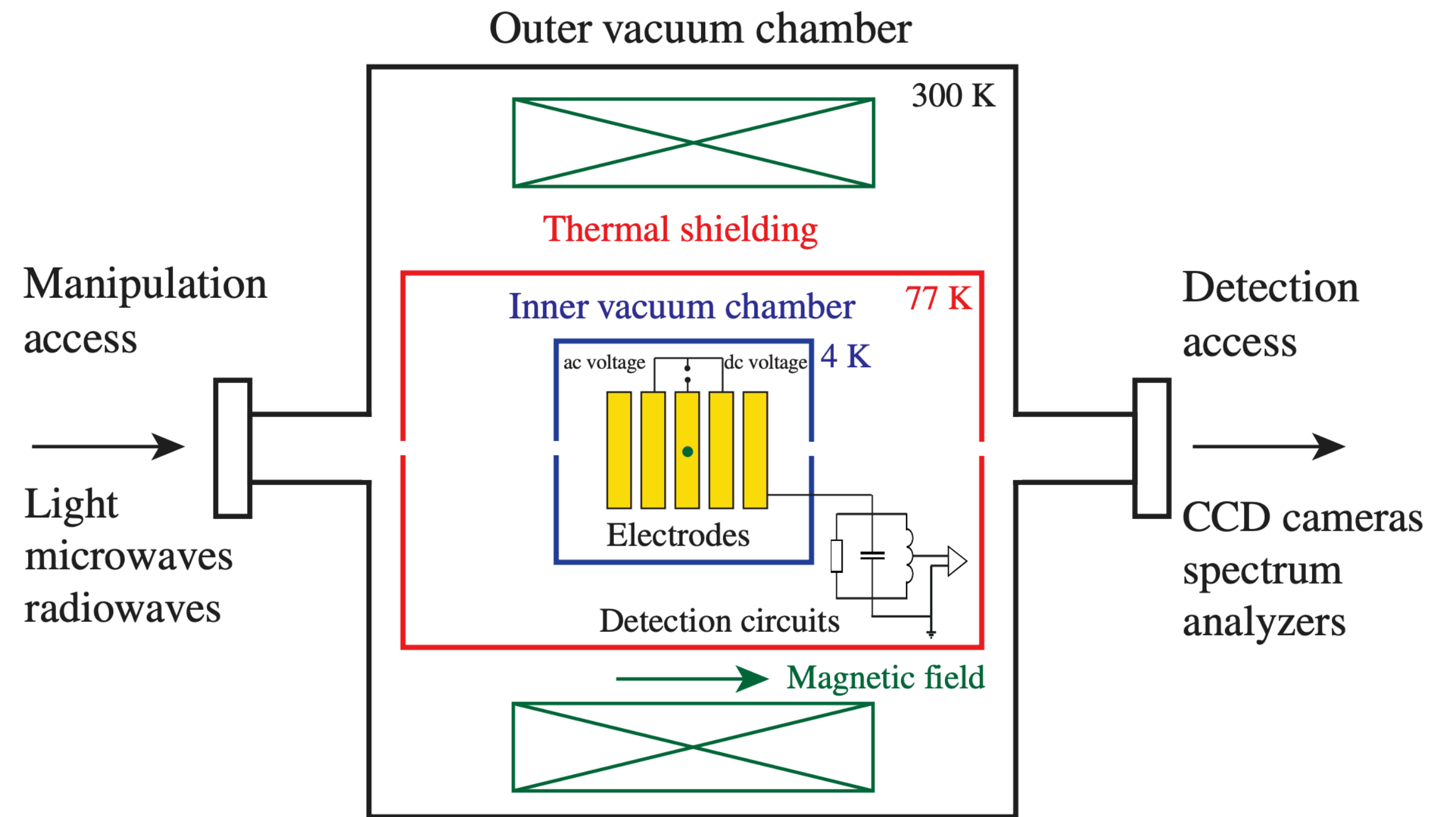
- Direct measuring σ_n



Gadi Afek et al, 2111.03597 (PRL)

Direct Detection with AMO trapped sensors

- Ion trap sensors
- Millicharged DM with thermalization with surface
- Large n_{DM} and small V_{DM}
- Energy threshold neV

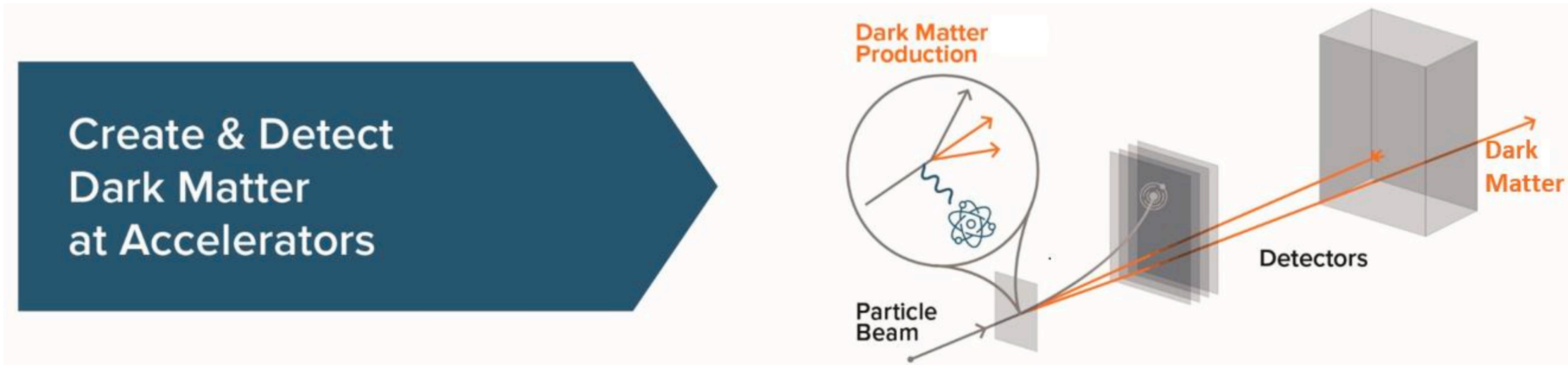


Experiment	Type	Ion	V_z	T_{wall}	ω_p (neV)	T_{ion} (neV)	Heating rate (neV/s)
Hite <i>et al.</i> [46]	Paul	${}^9\text{Be}^+$	0.1 V	300 K	$\omega_z = 14.8$	14.8	640 ± 30
Goodwin <i>et al.</i> [50]	Penning	${}^{40}\text{Ca}^+$	175 V	300 K	$\omega_z = 1.24$	1.24	0.37 ± 0.25
Borchert <i>et al.</i> [52]	Penning	\bar{p}	0.633 V	5.6 K	$\omega_+ = 77.4$ $\omega_- = 0.050$	7240	0.012 ± 0.019

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Intensity frontier: collider/beam-dump experiment



Dark Matter Small Projects New Initiative 2018

- Using energetic beam to produce DM and detect DM via missing energy or secondary particles

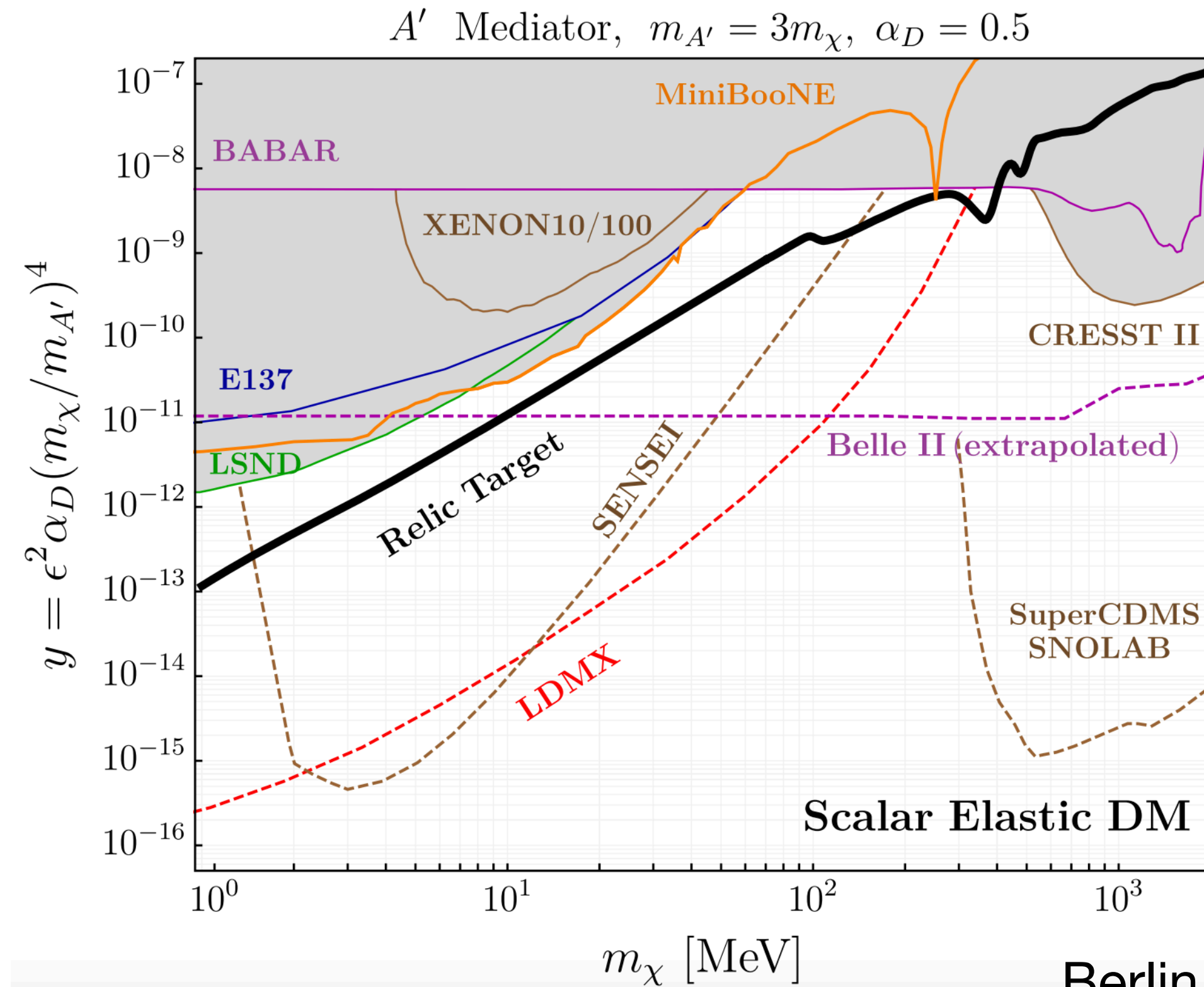
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{\epsilon}{2 \cos \theta_W} F'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m_{A'}^2 A'_\mu A'^\mu$$

- Kinetic mixing dark photon/dark scalar mediator

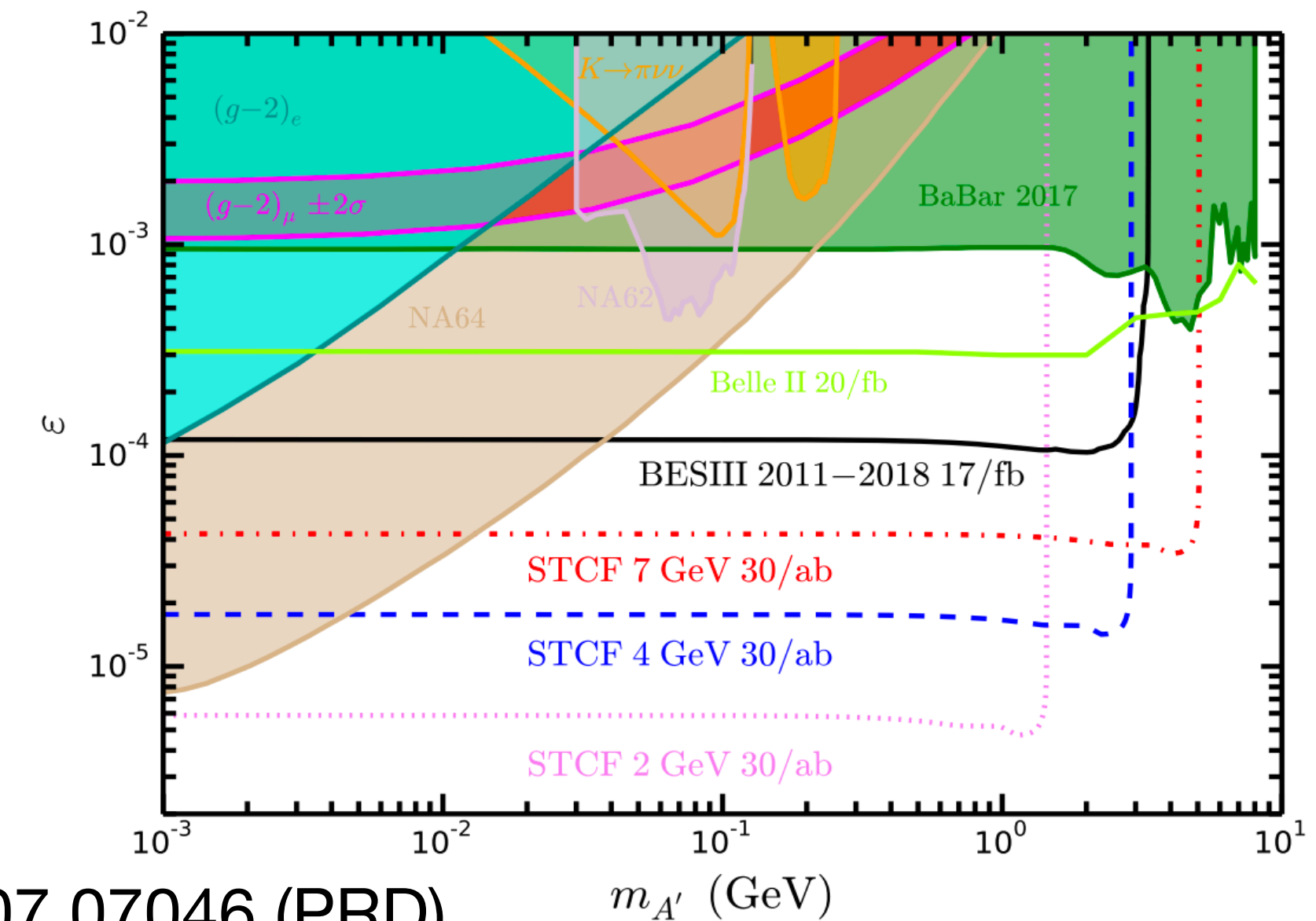
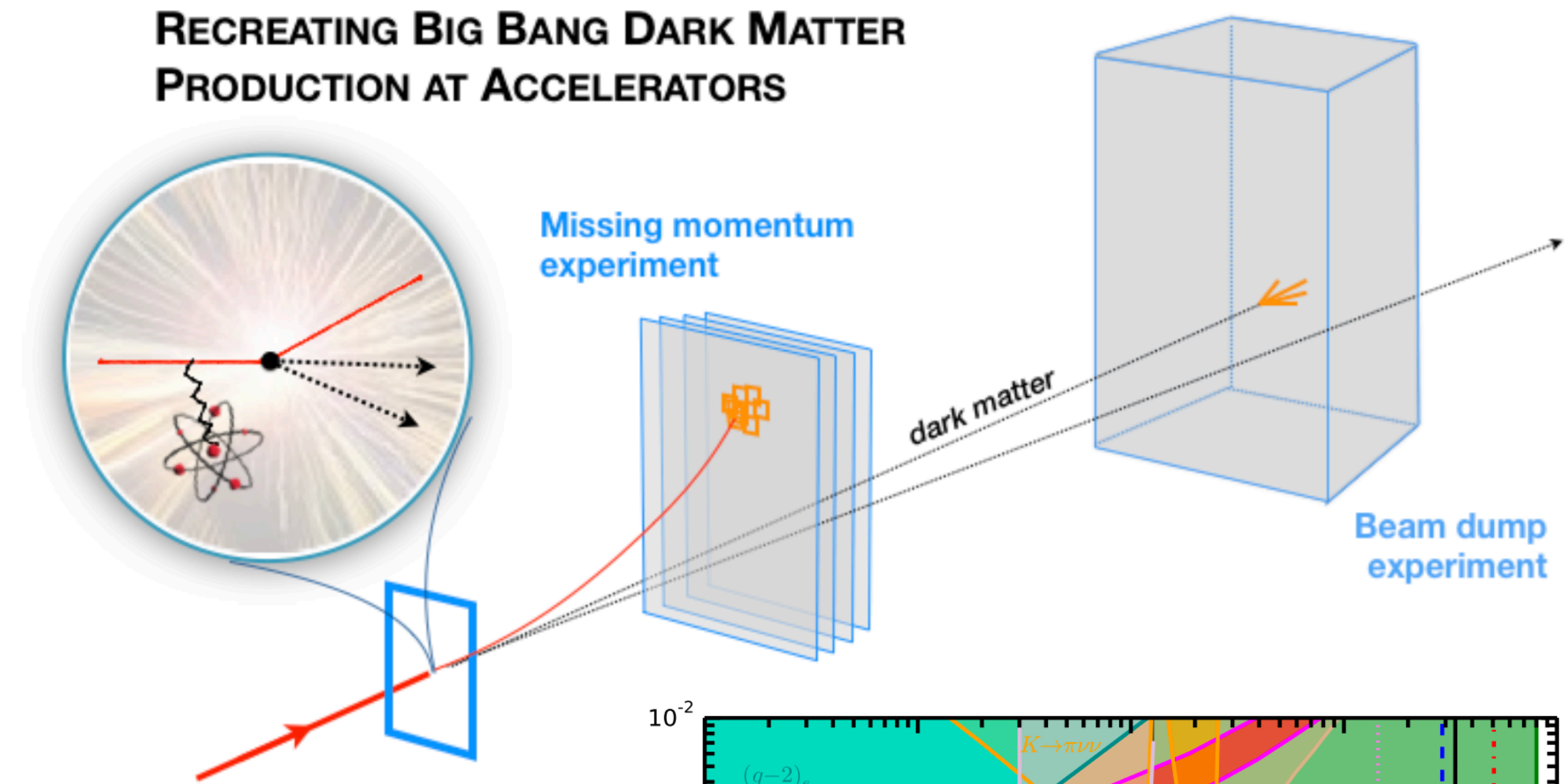
- Elastic or inelastic dark matter

$$-\mathcal{L} \supset A'_\mu (\epsilon e J_{\text{EM}}^\mu + g_D J_D^\mu)$$

Intensity frontier: collider/beam-dump experiment



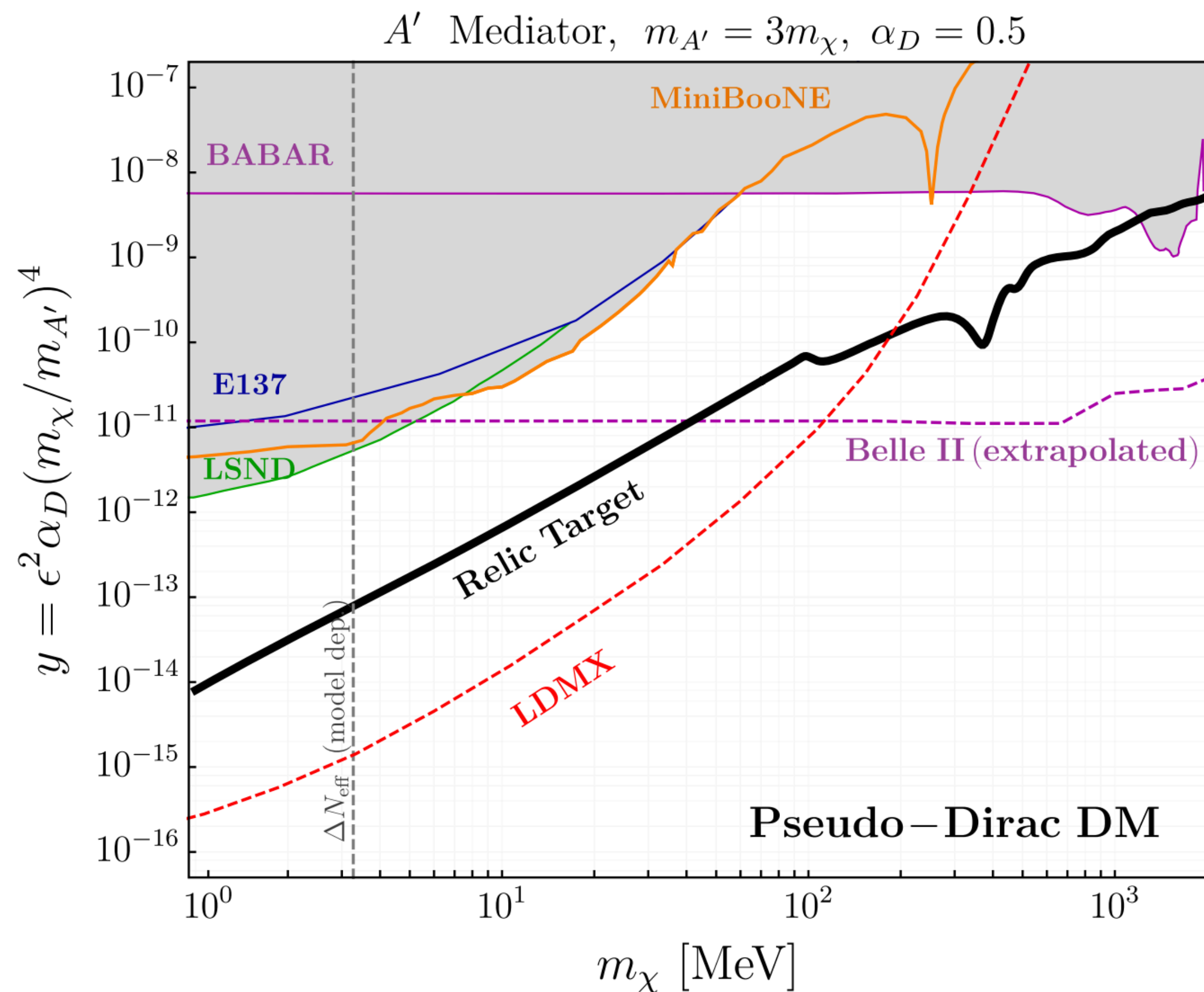
Berlin et al, 1807.01730 (PRD)



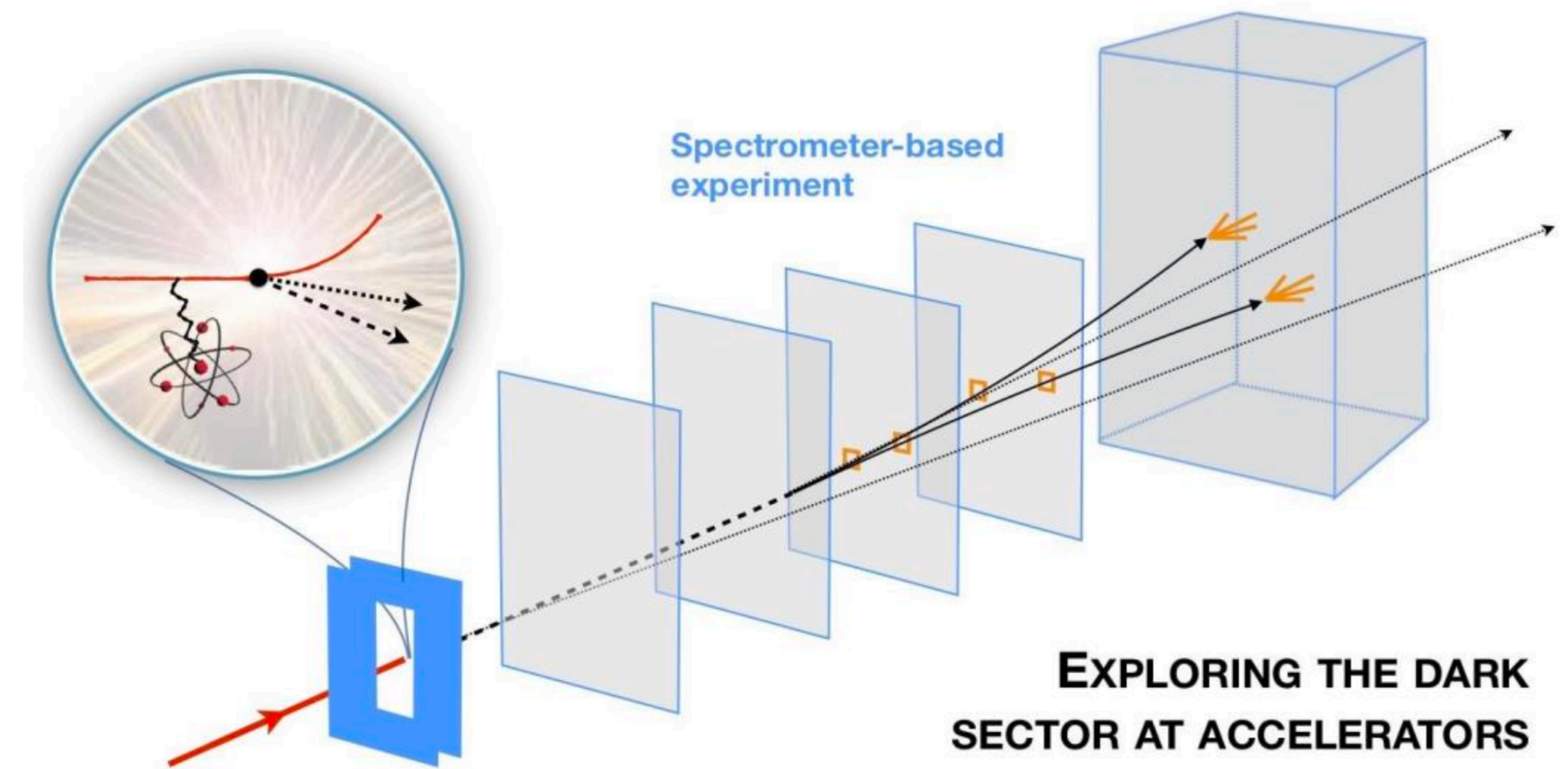
BESIII: 1907.07046 (PRD)

- Searching for missing energy
 - ee Collider: BESIII/Belle II
 - Beam-dump: NA64

Intensity frontier: collider/beam-dump experiment



Berlin et al, 1807.01730 (PRD)



- Searching for secondary particles
 - Light dark sector particle decays: long-lived signature
 - Inelastic DM searches
- Unique to intensity frontier study

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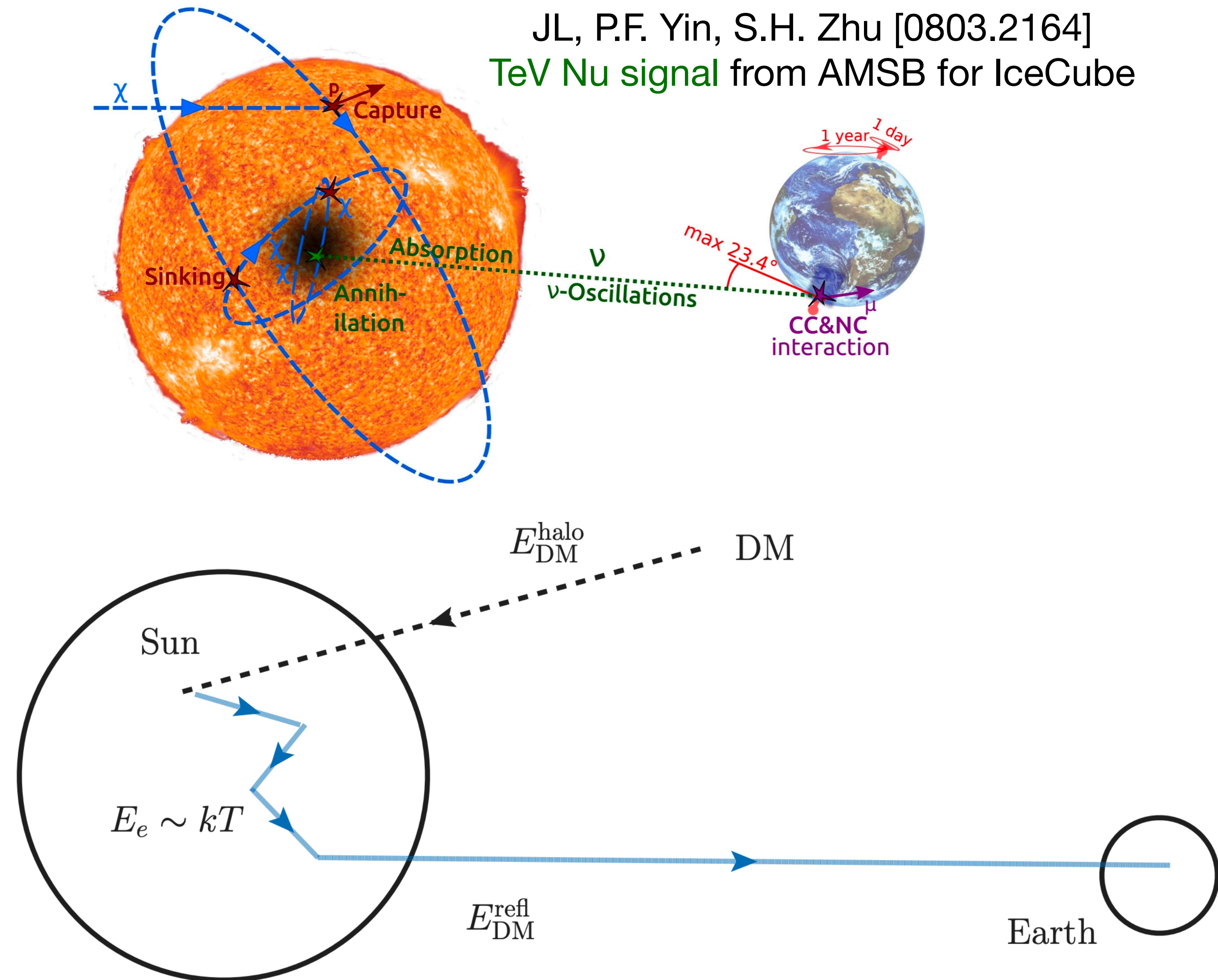
Astrophysics: increase the DM energy

- **Solar reflected DM**

- DM evaporation when $<$ GeV for DM annihilation in Sun, looking for high energy neutrino from Sun

- Reflected light DM obtain extra energy via scattering with Sun

JL, P.F. Yin, S.H. Zhu [0803.2164]
 TeV Nu signal from AMSB for IceCube

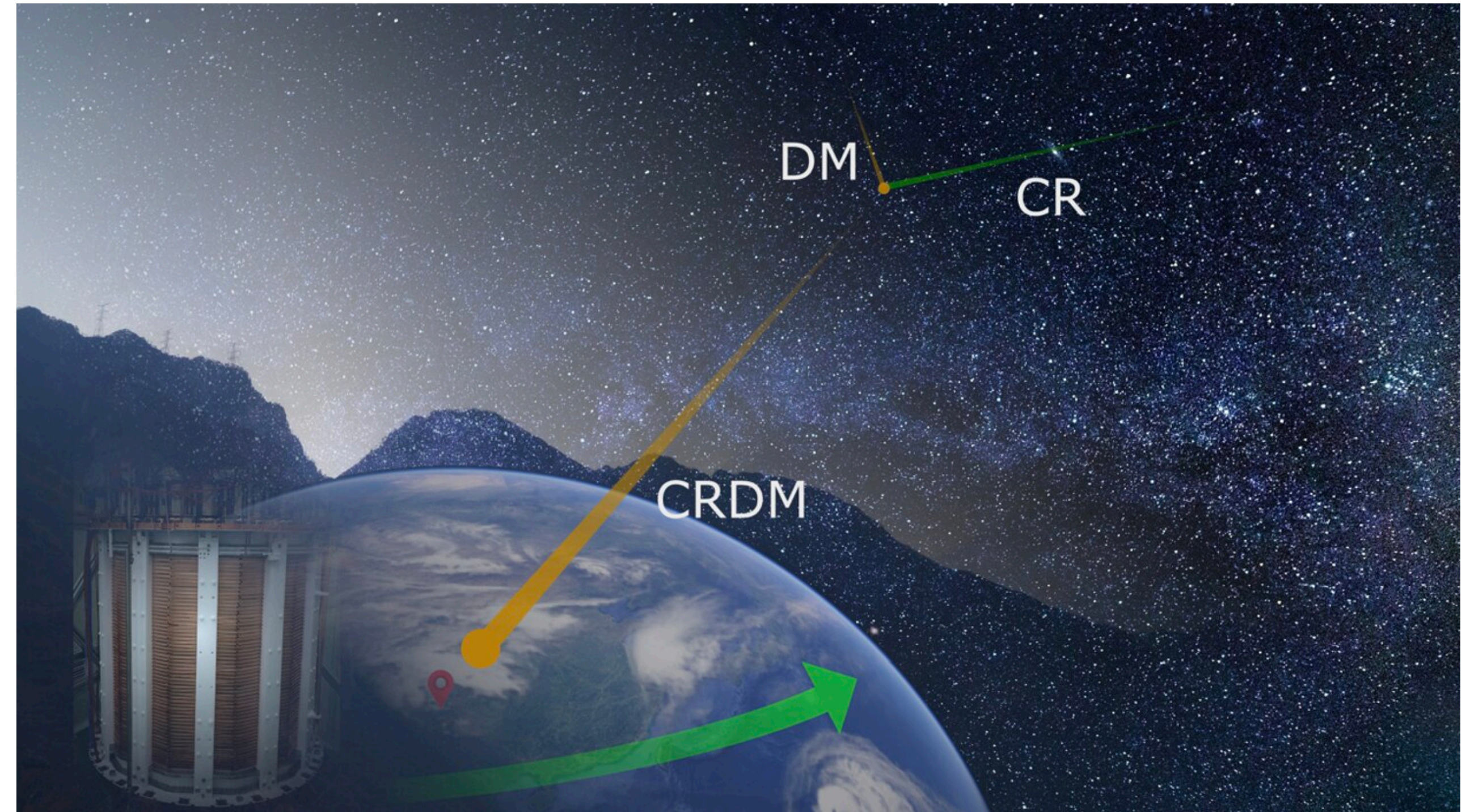
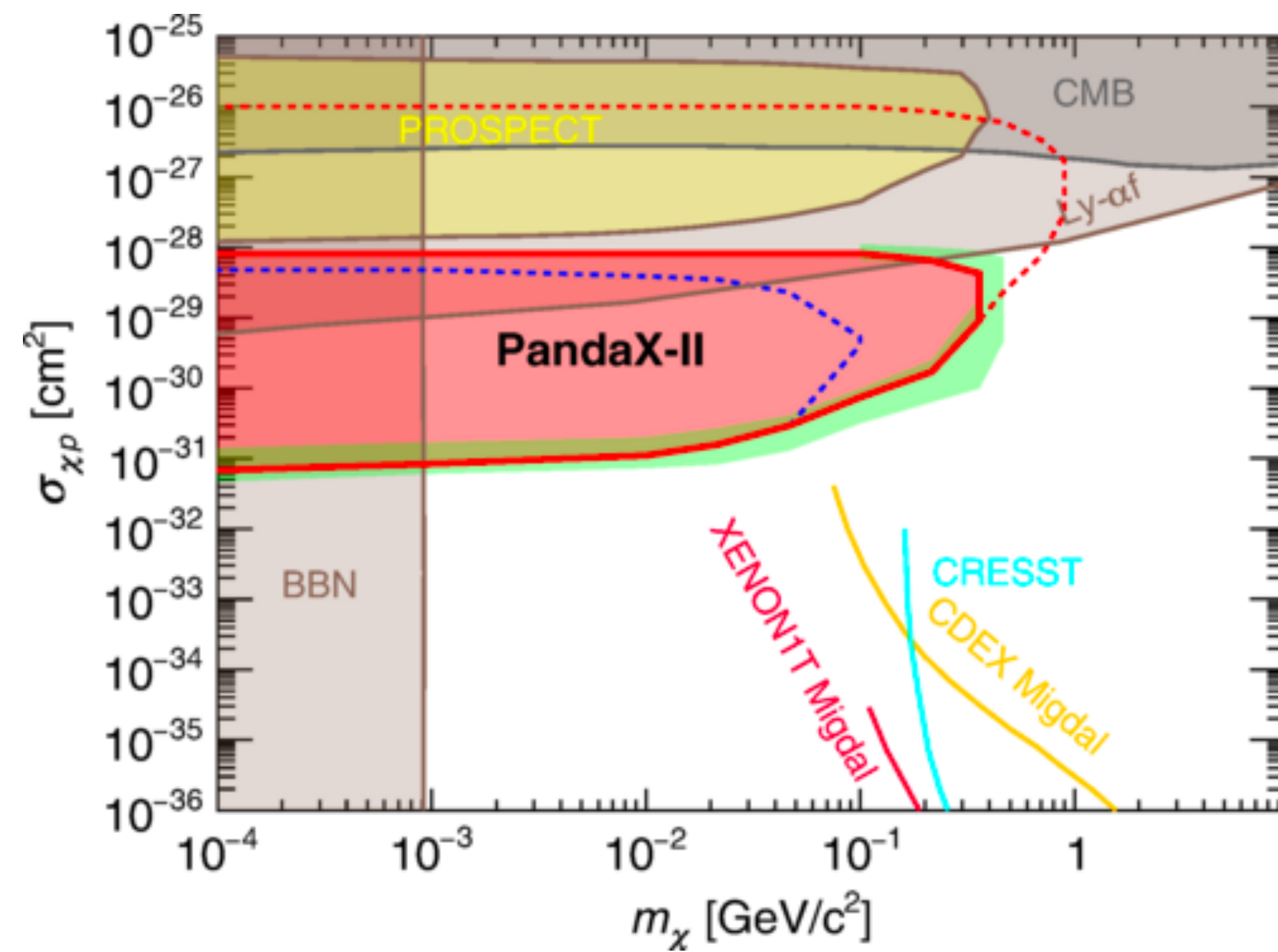


Haipeng An et al, 1708.03642 (PRL); 2108.10332 (PRD)

Astrophysics: increase the DM energy

- Cosmic-ray boosted DM

- Light DM particles get boosted via cosmic ray collision
- Collision and detection via nucleon scattering σ_n



phys.org report on PANDAX results

Pospelov 1810.10543 (PRL)

Yanhao Xu, Xianwei Kang, Yufeng Zhou, Lei Wu, Shaofeng Ge,
Qiang Yuan, Ning Zhou, Jianglai Liu, CDEX, PANDAX

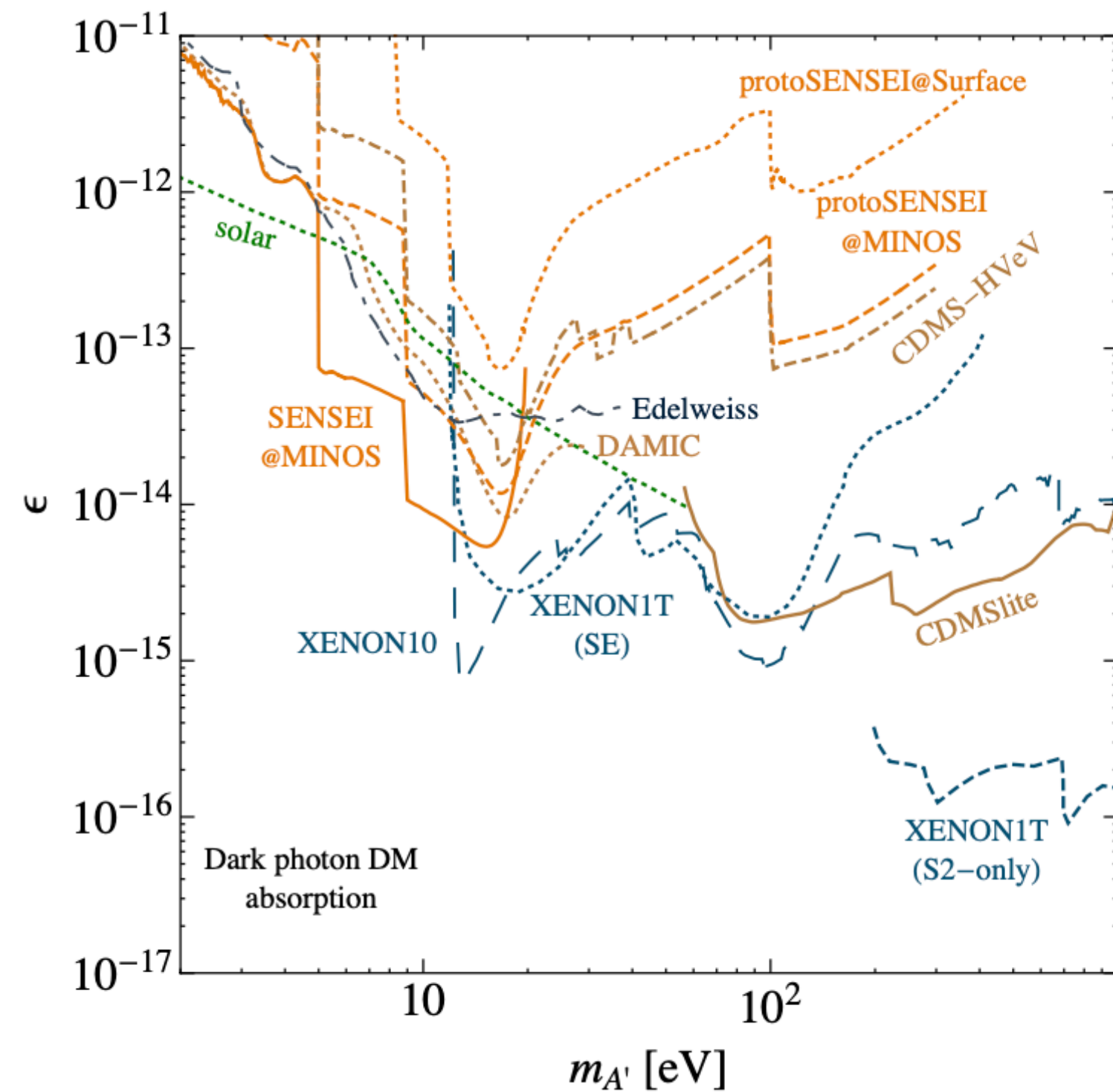
Astrophysics: increase the translated energy

- Dark matter absorption/transition
- Bosonic DM as dark photon (scalar) can be absorbed in Direct Detection

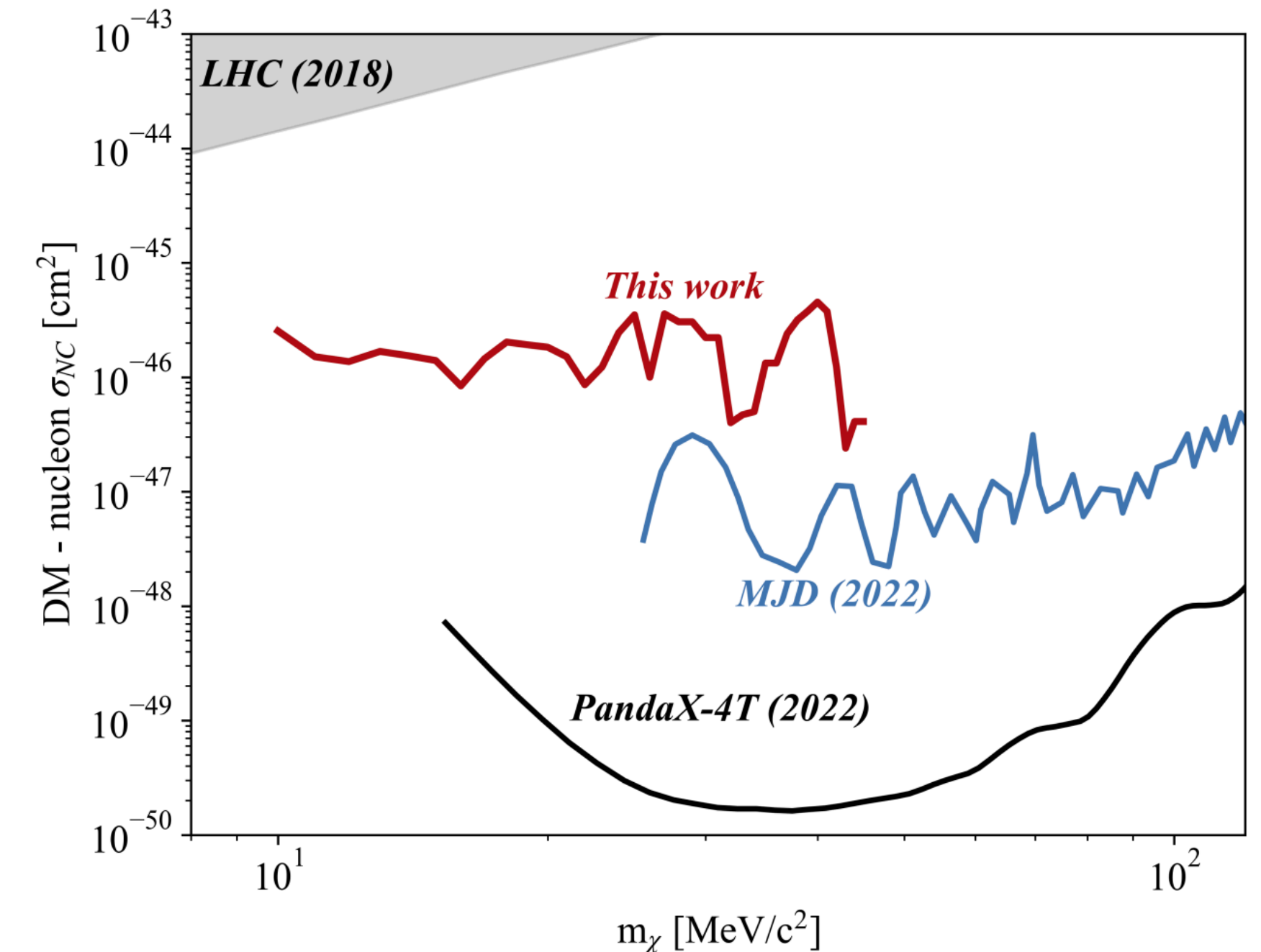
- (Fermionic) DM translate into low mass state in inelastic down-scattering

$$\chi_2 q \rightarrow \chi_1 q, \text{ long-lived } \chi_2 \rightarrow \chi_1 \gamma$$

$$\chi e \rightarrow \nu e$$



Snowmass 2021: 2203.08297



Shaofeng Ge et al, 2201.11497 (JHEP)
 PANDAX 2206.02339 (PRL)
 CDEX 2209.00861(PRL)

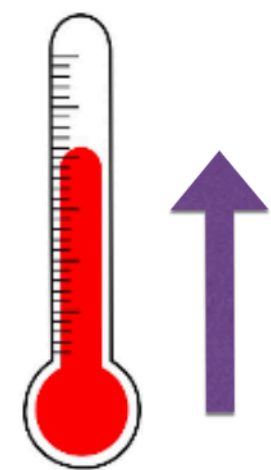
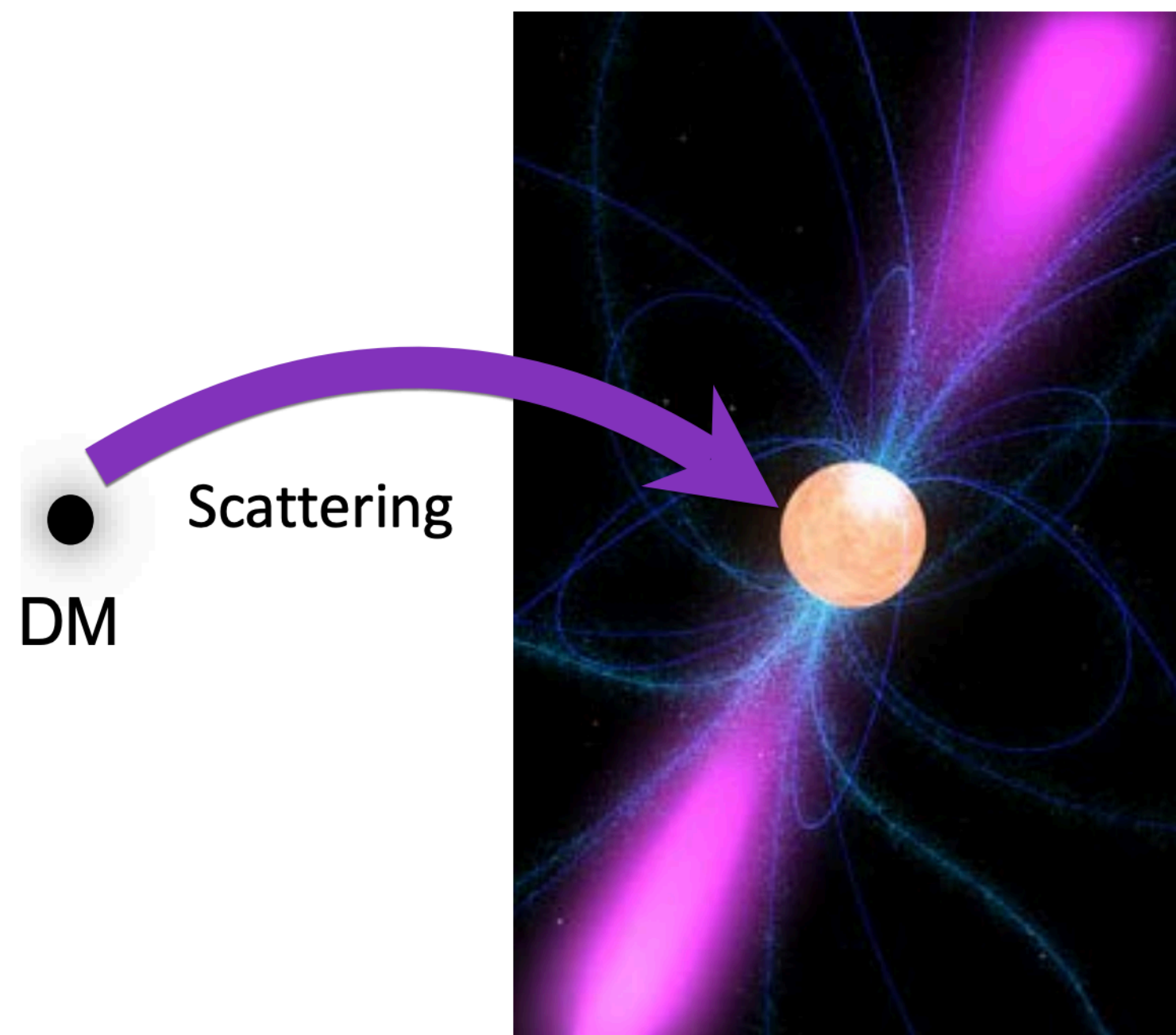
Astrophysics: DM heating celestial body

- Dark matter collides with stars and increases its temperature

- Heating the neutron star M. Baryakhtar et al. 1704.01577 (PRL)

- Light dark matter/DD suppressed with velocity/q

- Detection with infrared telescopes, James Webb Space Telescope etc



$T_{NS} \sim 1700 \text{ K}$

1 - 2 μm
near IR

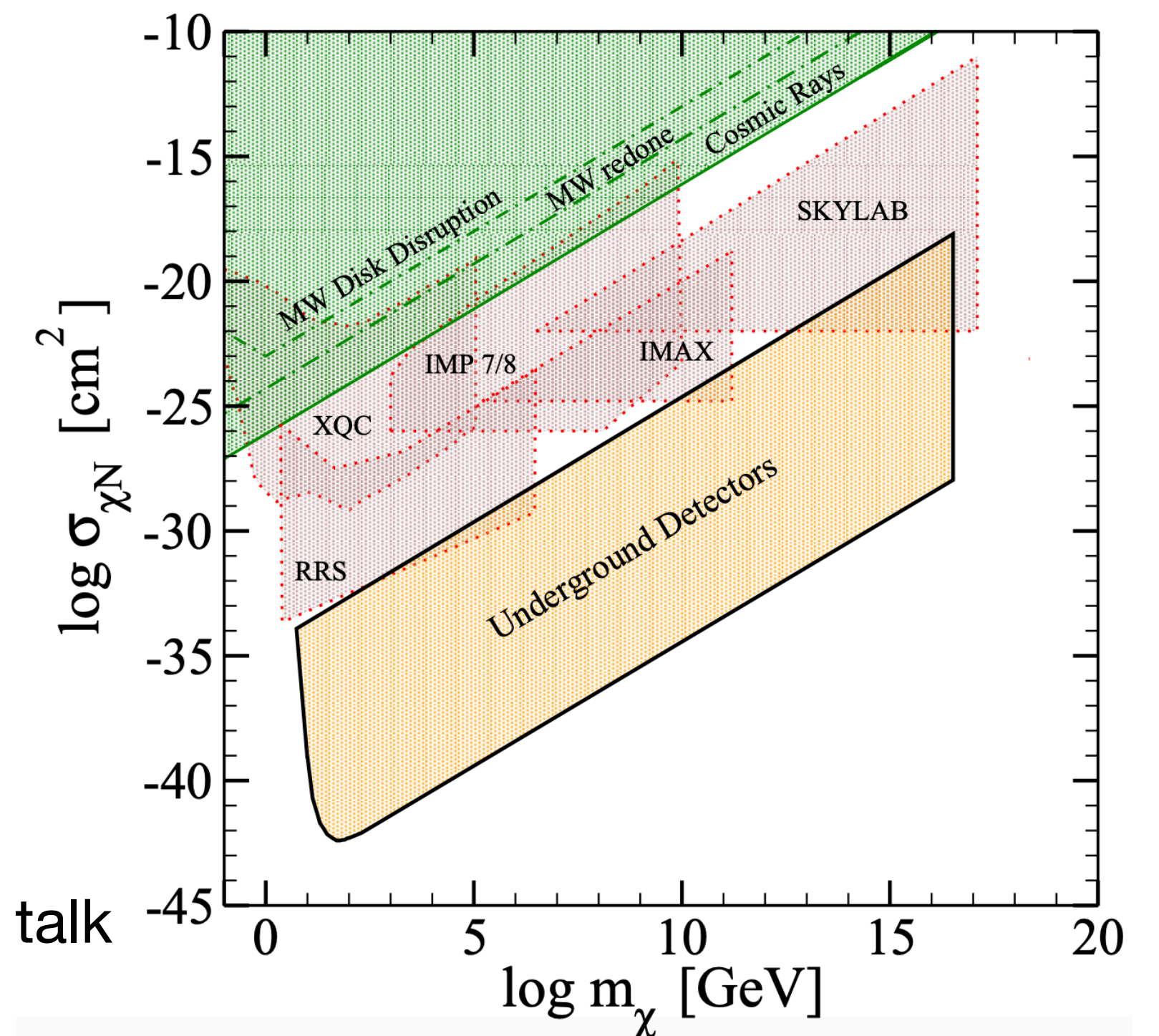
See Ningqiang Song's talk

- Captured DM annihilation in the celestial body

- Heating the Earth

- Detect with high-altitude balloons, rockets, or satellites

J. Beacom et al. 0705.4298 (PRD)



Summary

- Light dark matter arises from null result of WIMP DD searches
- Dark sector motivated light dark matter model
- Various detection methods/ideas:
 - Direct Detection: lowering threshold with different materials
 - Intensity frontier: enough energy, important and complementary
 - Astrophysics: increasing DM energy or energy transfer, many new ideas

Thank you!

Summary

- Light dark matter arises from null result of WIMP DD searches
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- Various detection methods/ideas:
 - Direct Detection: lowering threshold with different materials
 - Intensity frontier: enough energy, important and complementary
 - Astrophysics: increasing DM energy or energy transfer, many new ideas
- TeV NP+ (by Xianyu ZhongZhi, Cosmological Collider)
(NP- by JL, Light Dark Sector)

