



李政道研究所  
TSUNG-DAO LEE INSTITUTE

# The DarkSHINE Experiment R&D Status

*Searching for dark photon to light dark matter invisible decay*

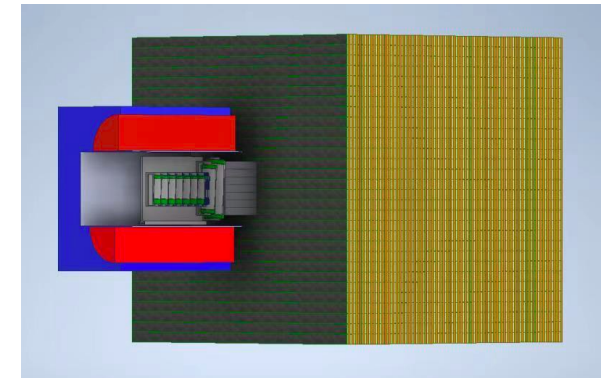
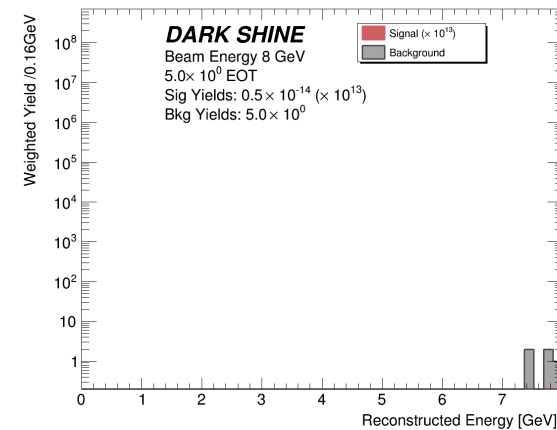
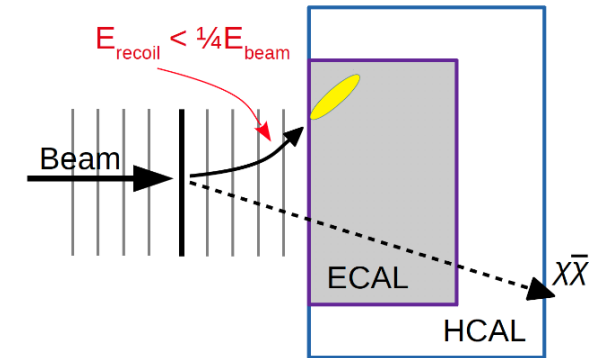
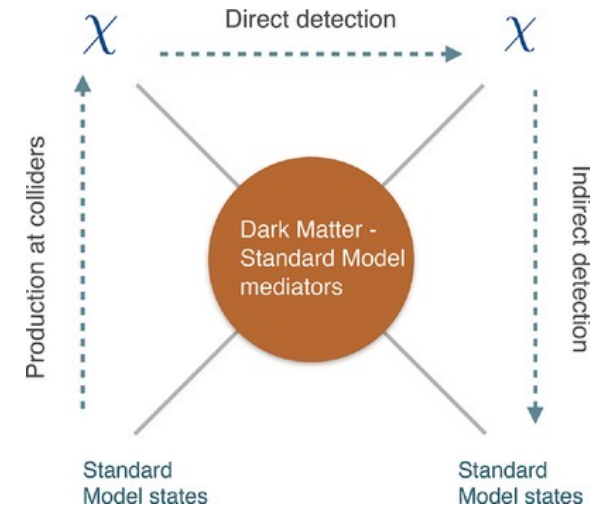
刘坤

李政道研究所，物理与天文学院  
上海交通大学

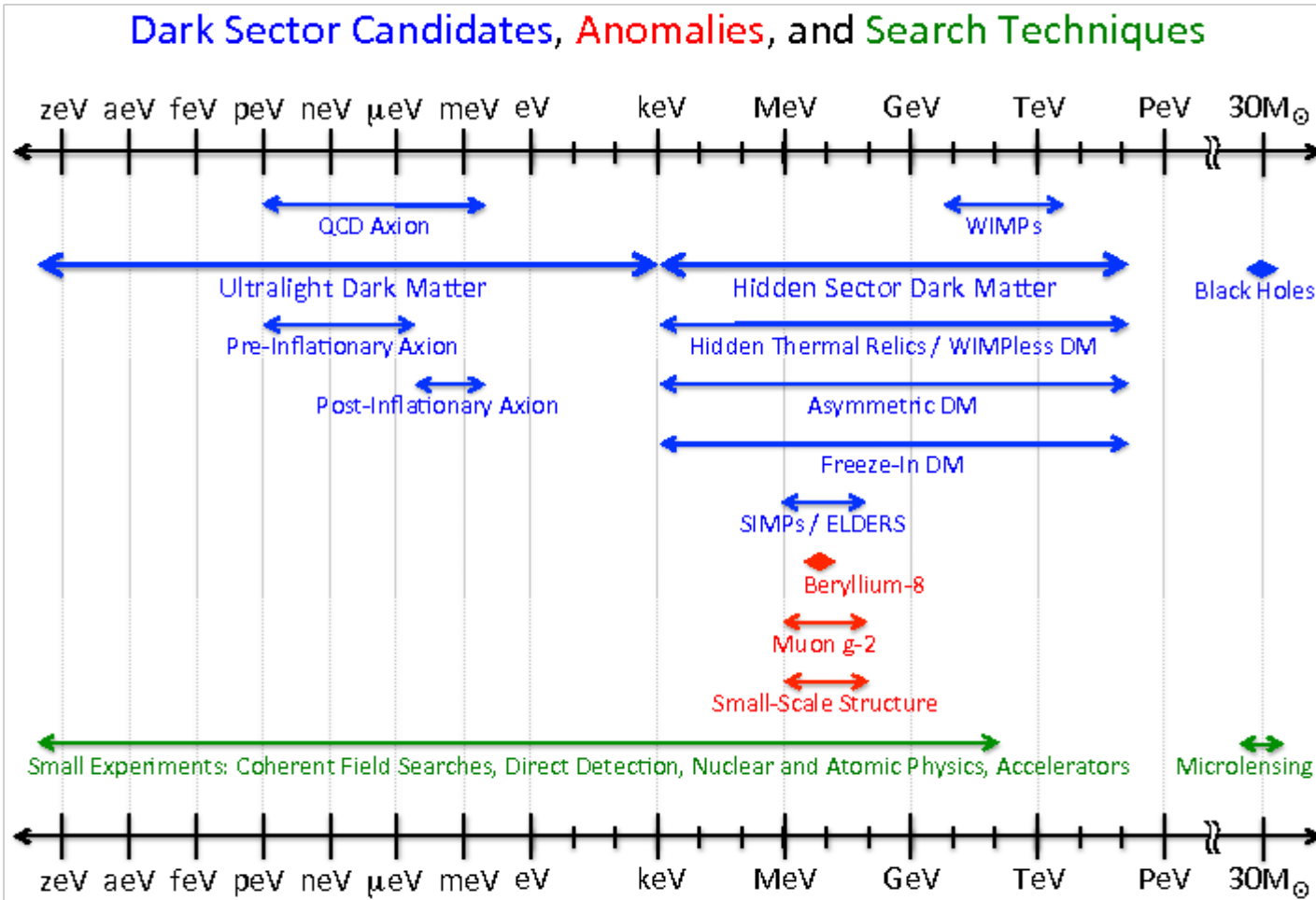
Seminar at IHEP, Beijing  
2024.04.29



- Physics motivation
- The SHINE facility introduction
- The detector conceptual design
- Prospective studies in simulation
- Detector R&D status
- Summary

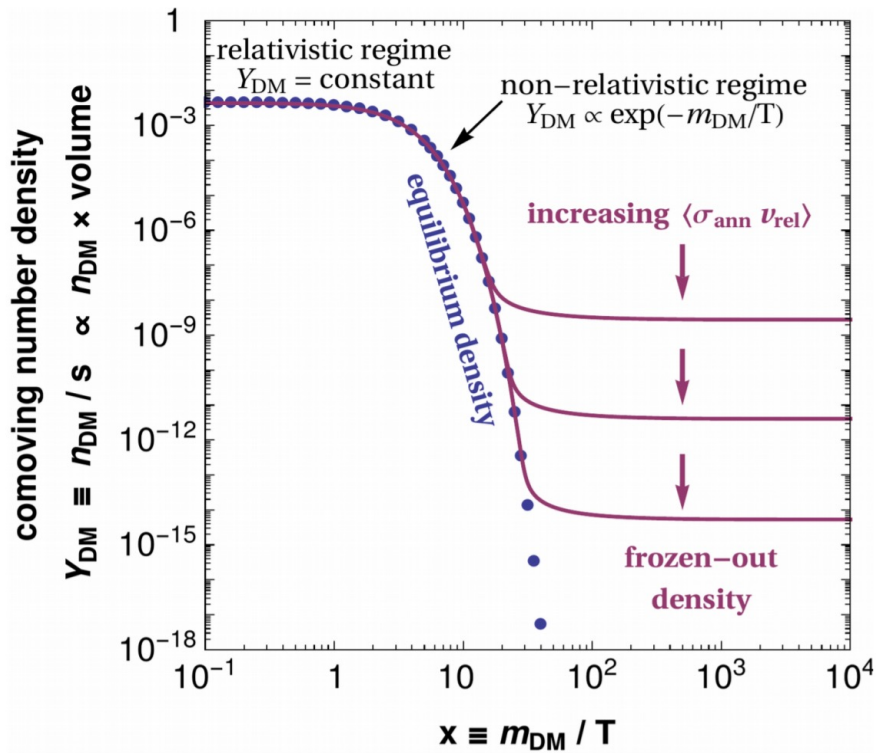


- Dark Matter can exist in wide mass range, from Ultralight “Fuzzy DM” to Primordial Black Holes.

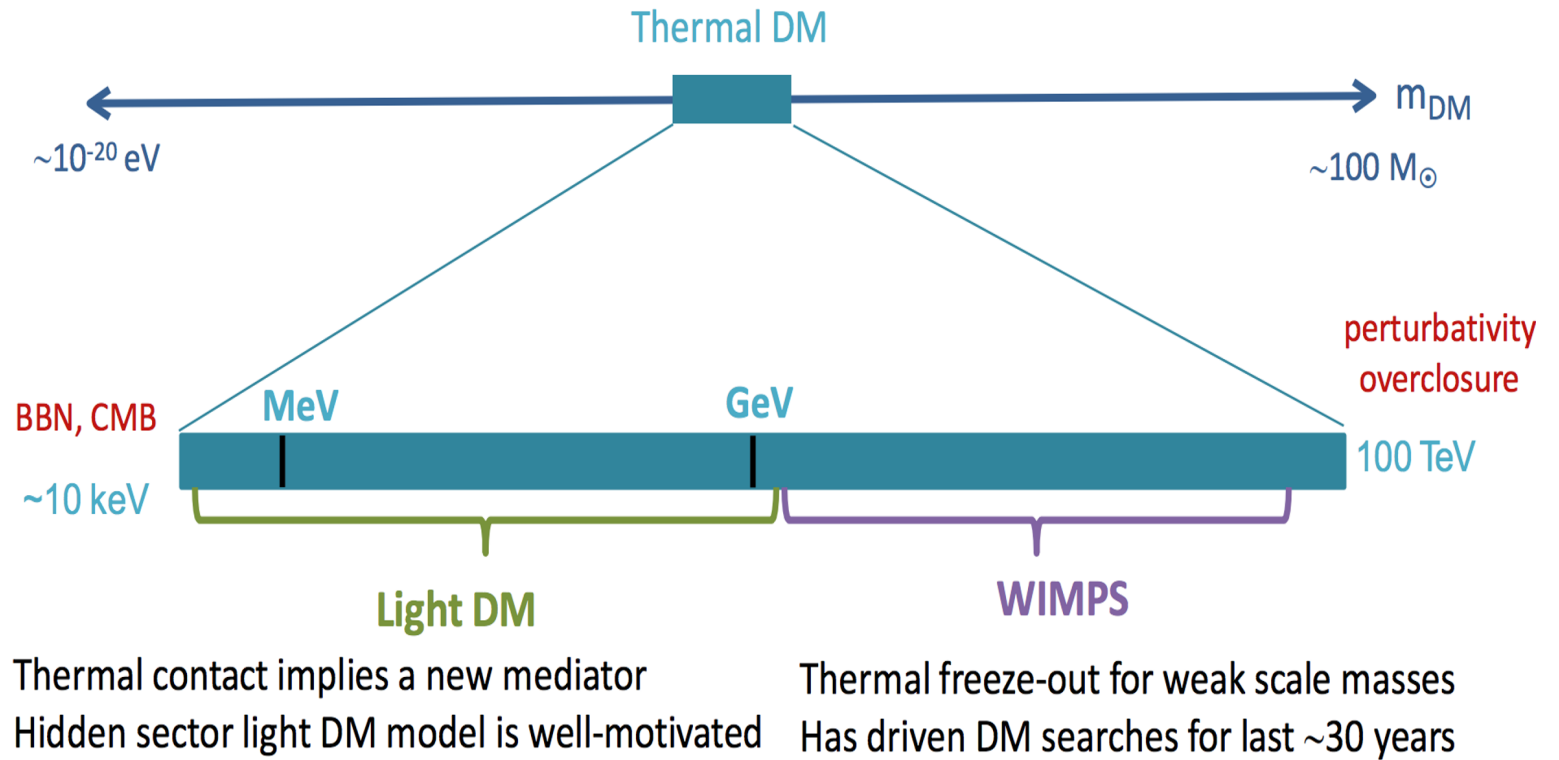


*arXiv: 1707.04591; arXiv:1810.01668*

# Physics Motivation – search for light dark matter

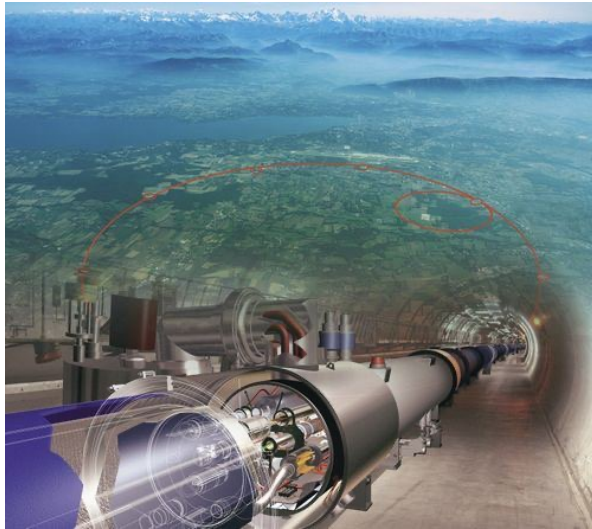
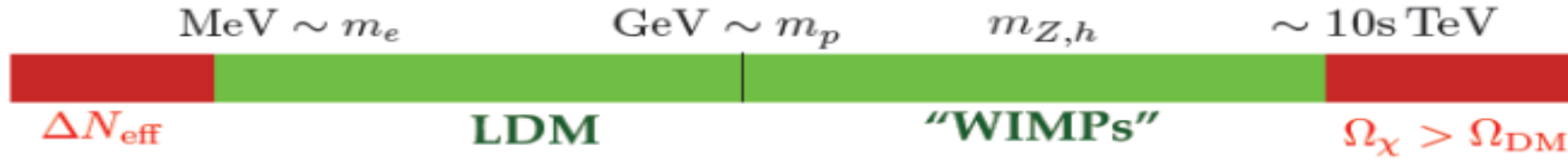


time →



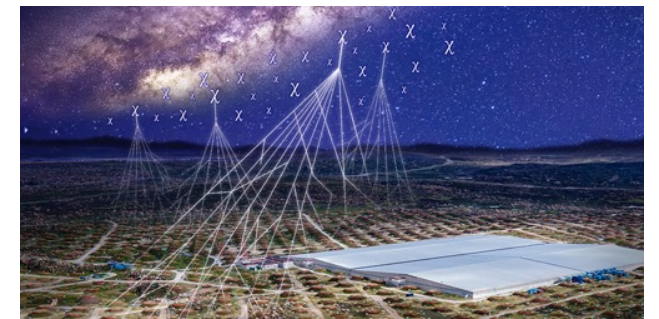
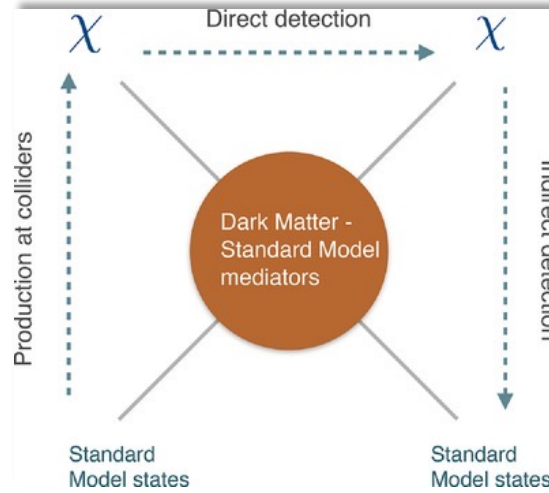
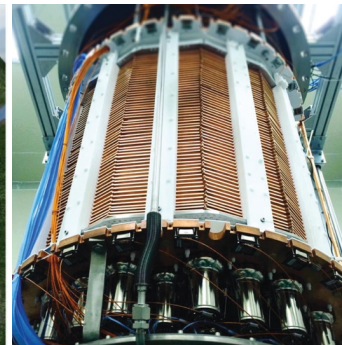
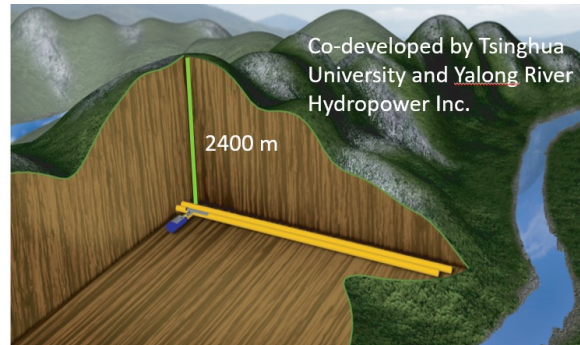
- In order to explain the presence of Dark Matter constituting ~ 27% of the energy content of the universe, the “Freeze-out” mechanism allows mass range of Dark Matter: **MeV ~ 10s TeV.**

# Physics Motivation – search general strategy



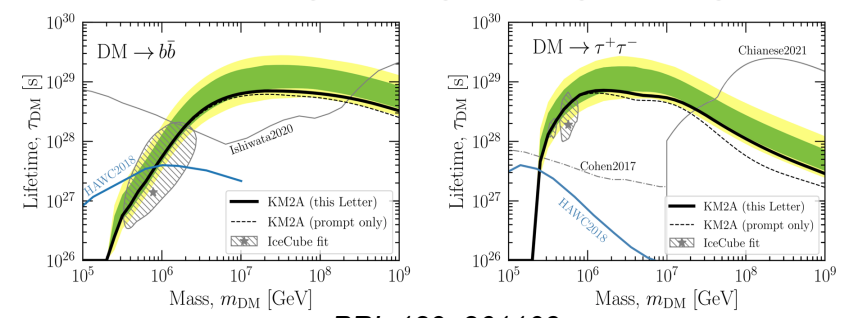
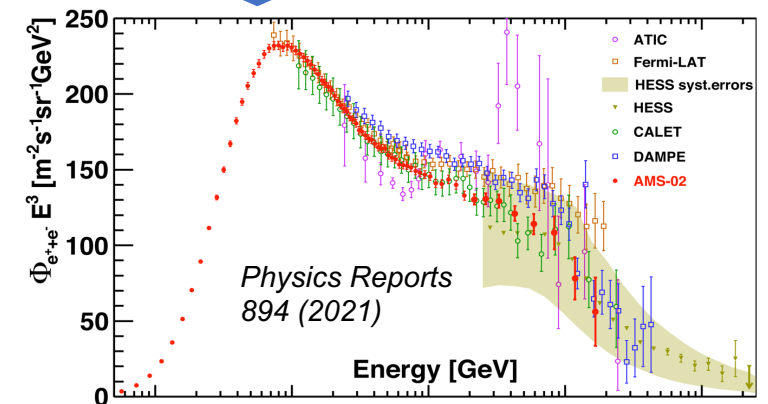
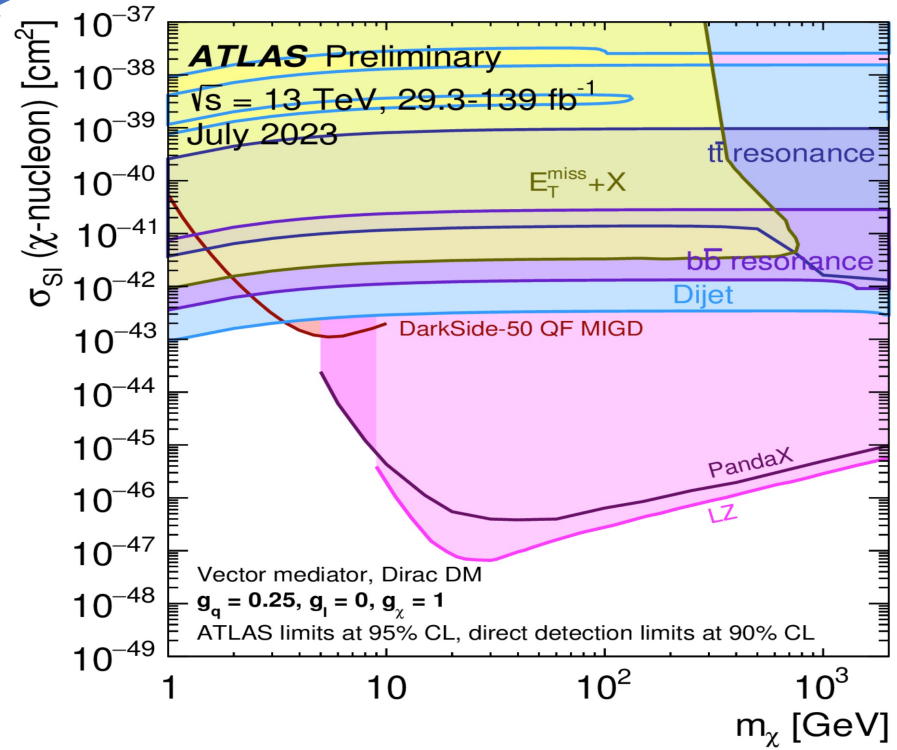
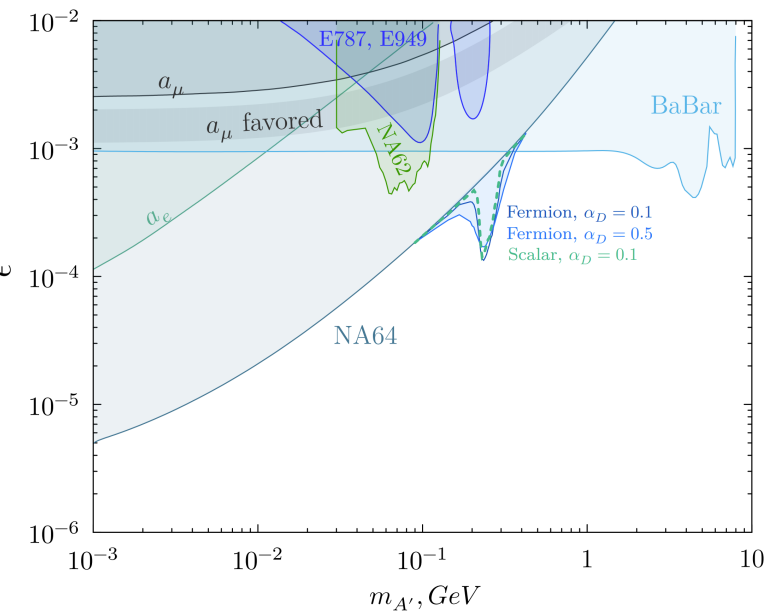
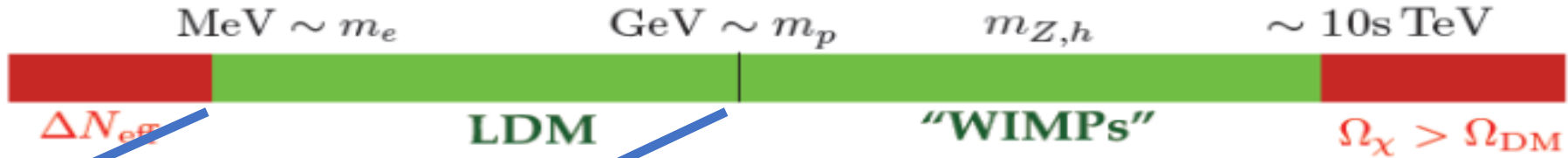
**Collider experiments**  
(LHC, BELLE-II, BESIII etc.)

**Underground experiments**  
(CDEX, PandaX, Xenon etc.)



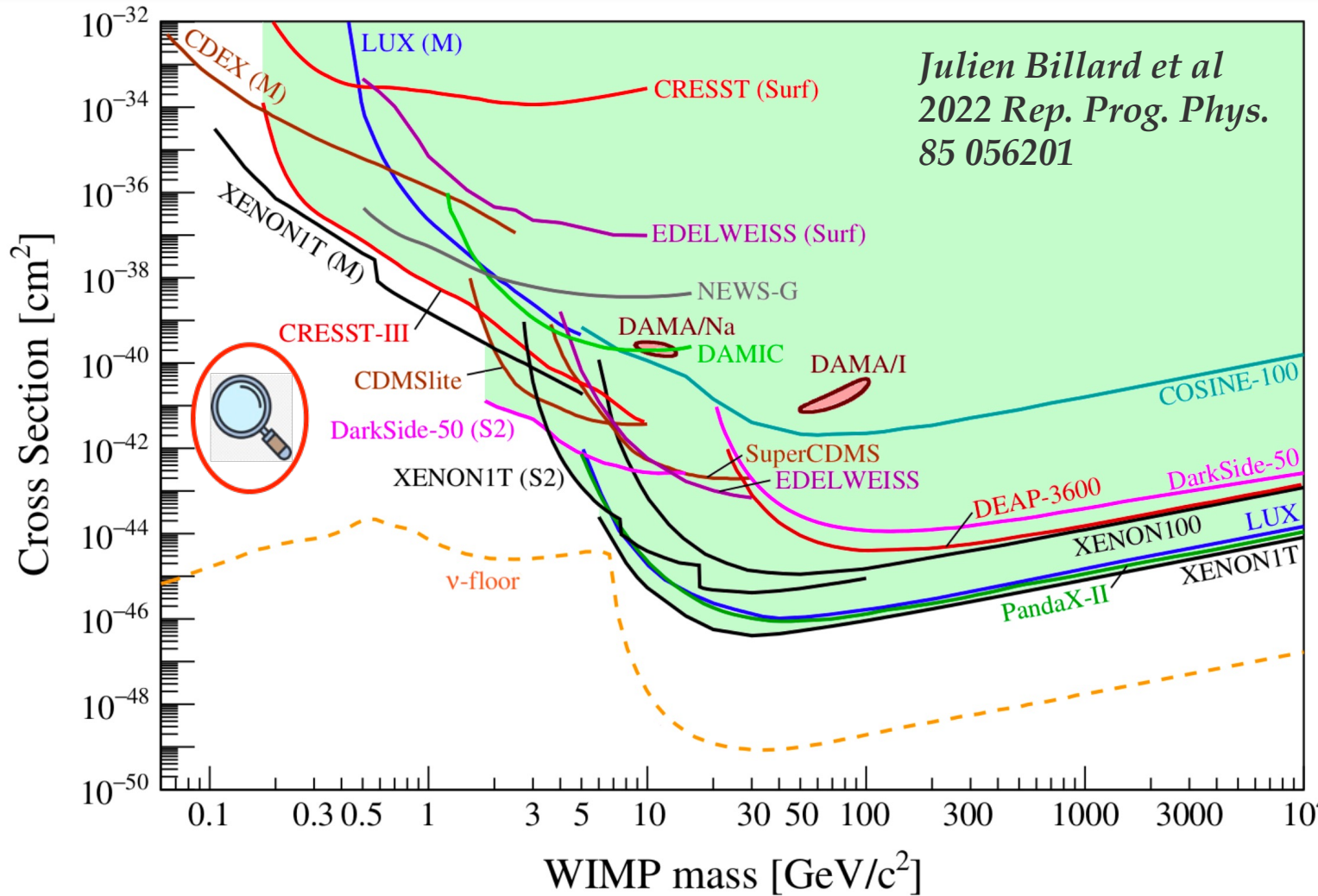
**Space experiments**  
(DAMPE, AMS etc.)  
and **LHAASO etc.**

# Physics Motivation – experimental search results



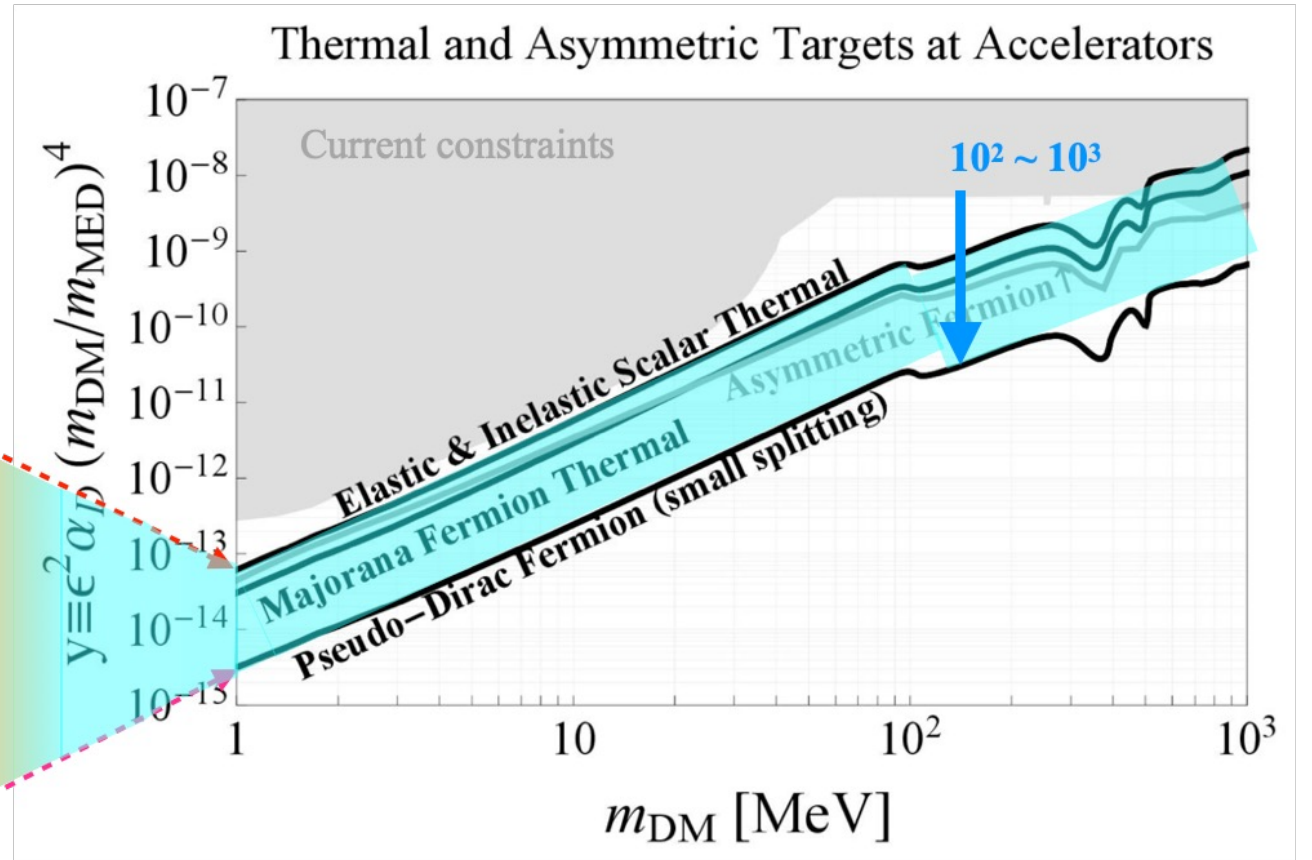
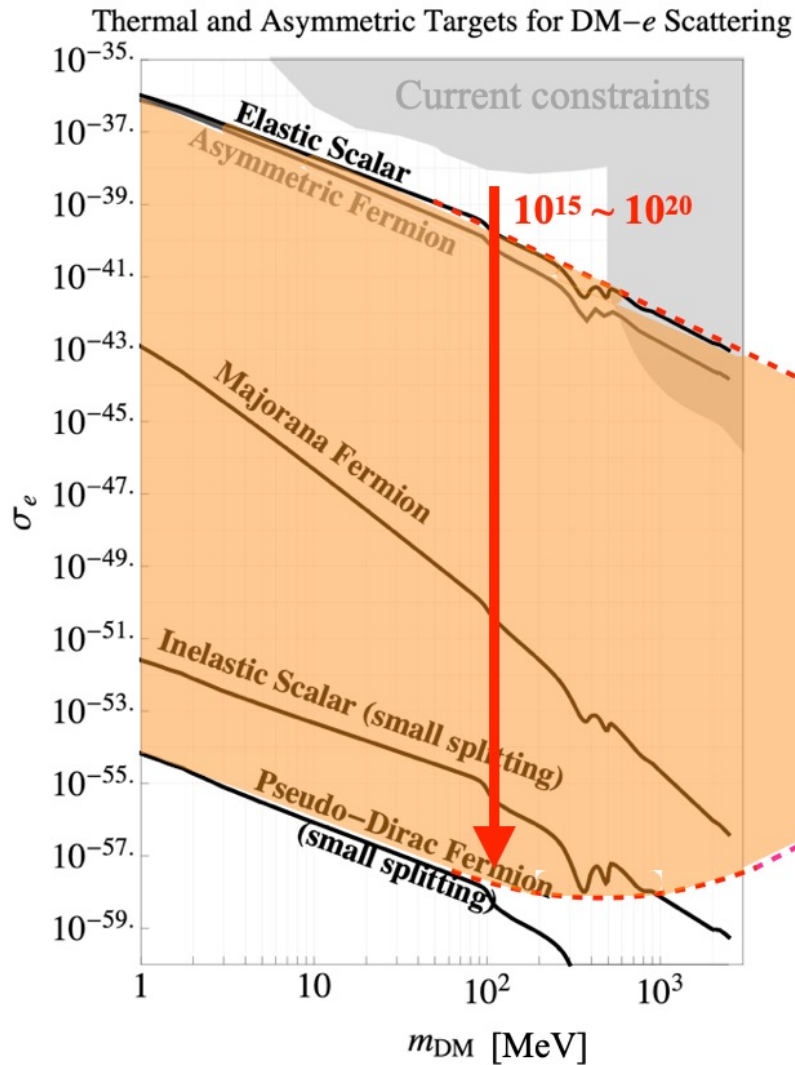
PRL 129, 261103

# Physics Motivation – search for light dark matter



- Competitive experiments worldwide have been hunting for dark matter candidates from GeV to 10s TeV mass range.
- Sub-GeV regime less explored by direct search experiments.
- Alternative approaches have been proposed at this regime.

# Physics Motivation – search for light dark matter



- In accelerator-based experiments, this difference can be reduced to  $10^2 \sim 10^3$  orders of magnitudes, due to the fact of insensitive to DM's mass and spin in its production.

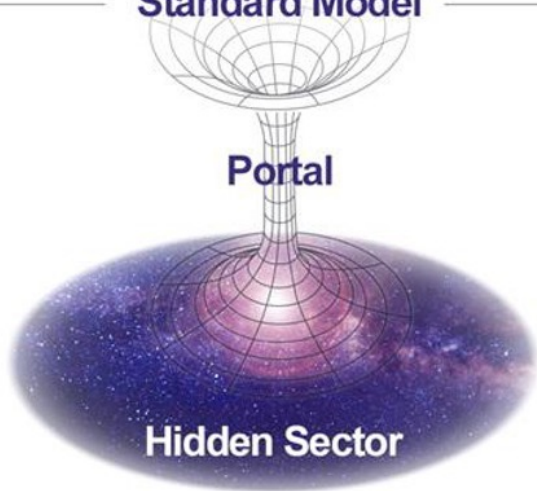


# Physics Motivation – search for light dark matter



mass → charge → spin →	$+2.3 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 2/3 1/2 <b>u</b> up	$+1.275 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 2/3 1/2 <b>c</b> charm	$+173.07 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 2/3 1/2 <b>t</b> top	0 0 1 <b>g</b> gluon	$+126 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 0 0 <b>H</b> Higgs boson
<b>QUARKS</b>	$+4.8 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ -1/3 1/2 <b>d</b> down	$+95 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ -1/3 1/2 <b>s</b> strange	$+4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ -1/3 1/2 <b>b</b> bottom	0 0 1 <b>γ</b> photon	
	$0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ -1 1/2 <b>e</b> electron	$105.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ -1 1/2 <b>μ</b> muon	$1.777 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ -1 1/2 <b>τ</b> tau	0 0 1 <b>Z</b> Z boson	
<b>LEPTONS</b>	$<2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$ 0 1/2 <b>ν<sub>e</sub></b> electron neutrino	$<0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 0 1/2 <b>ν<sub>μ</sub></b> muon neutrino	$<15.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 0 1/2 <b>ν<sub>τ</sub></b> tau neutrino	0 0 1 <b>W</b> W boson	<b>GAUGE BOSONS</b>

Standard Model

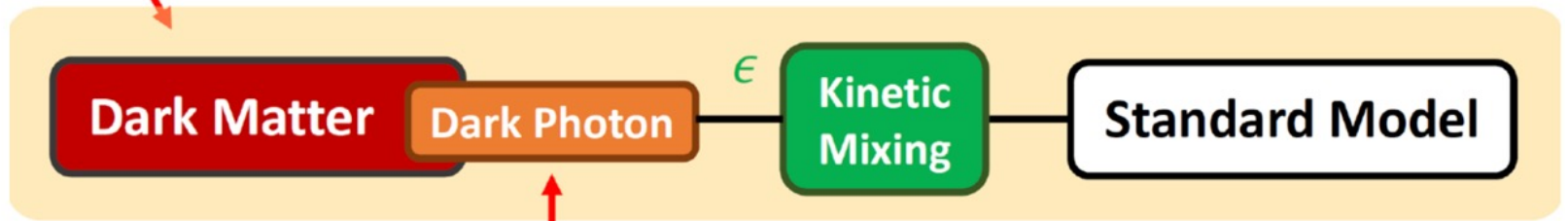


## How Dark Matter may interact with Ordinary Matter?



### 4 Renormalizable “Portals”

- Axion**  $\frac{1}{f_a} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} a$  Axion/ALP
- Higgs**  $\lambda H^2 S^2 + \mu H^2 S$  Exotic Higgs decay?
- Vector**  $\epsilon F^{Y,\mu\nu} F'_{\mu\nu}$  Dark photon
- Neutrino**  $\kappa (HL)N$  Sterile neutrino?



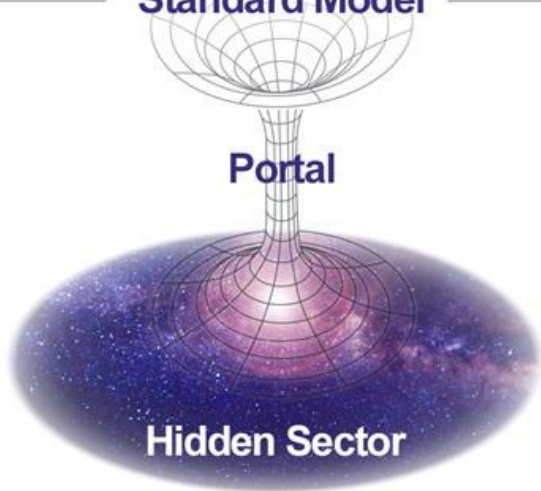
New force carried by massive vector boson: dark photon

# Physics Motivation – search for dark photon



mass → charge → spin →	u up 2/3 1/2	c charm 2/3 1/2	t top 2/3 1/2	g gluon 0 1	H Higgs boson 0 0
QUARKS	d down -1/3 1/2	s strange -1/3 1/2	b bottom -1/3 1/2	γ photon 0 1	
	e electron -1 1/2	μ muon -1 1/2	τ tau -1 1/2	Z Z boson 0 1	
LEPTONS	ν <sub>e</sub> electron neutrino 0 1/2	ν <sub>μ</sub> muon neutrino 0 1/2	ν <sub>τ</sub> tau neutrino 0 1/2	W W boson ±1 1	GAUGE BOSONS

Standard Model

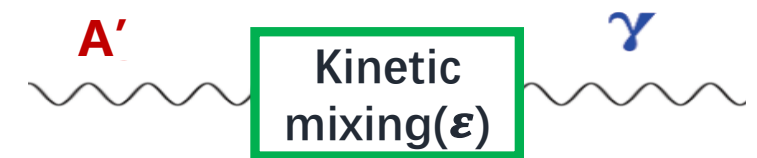


- Search for the mediator, like dark photon, opens an alternative way to shed light on the dark world.
- The dark photon can be predicted by introducing extra  $U(1)_x$  gauge group  $\rightarrow$  new gauge field  $X \rightarrow$  dark photon  $A'$ .

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + A_\mu j_{em}^\mu - \frac{1}{4} X_{\mu\nu} X^{\mu\nu} + X_\mu j_X^\mu$$

## The SM $\gamma$ terms

Interactions between the photon and dark photon via kinetic mixing.



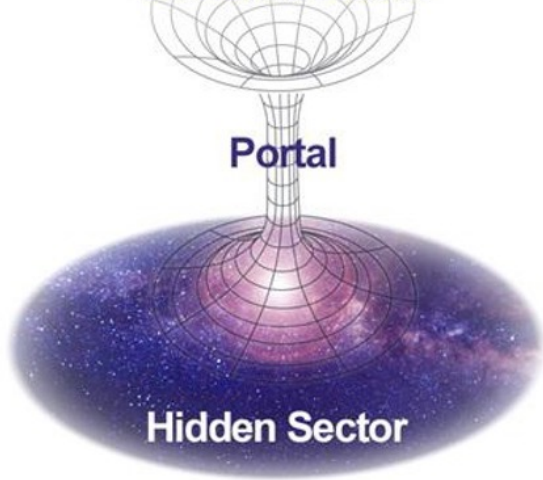
B. Holdom, Phys. Lett. B 166, 196 (1986)  
R. Foot & X.-G. He, Phys. Lett. B 267, 509 (1991)

# Physics Motivation – search for dark photon

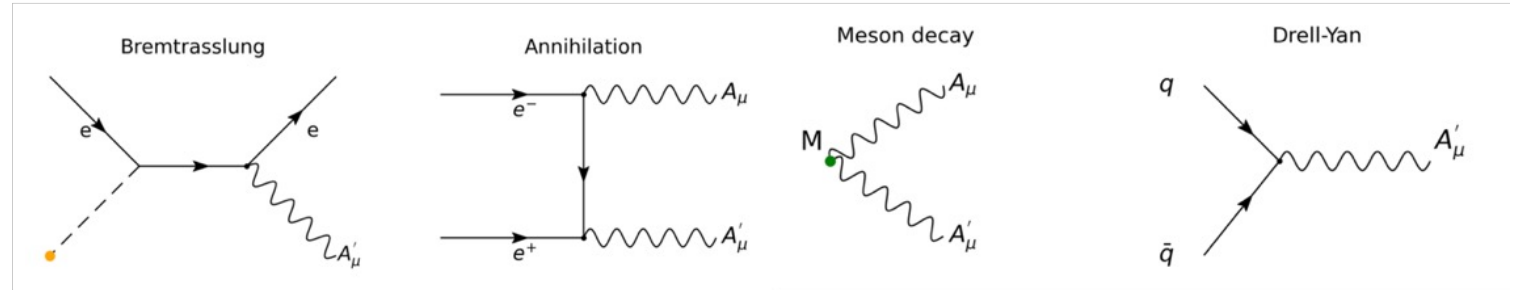


mass → charge → spin →	$\approx 2.3 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ 2/3 1/2 <b>u</b> up	$\approx 1.275 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 2/3 1/2 <b>c</b> charm	$\approx 173.07 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 2/3 1/2 <b>t</b> top	0 1 1 <b>g</b> gluon	$\approx 126 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 0 0 <b>H</b> Higgs boson
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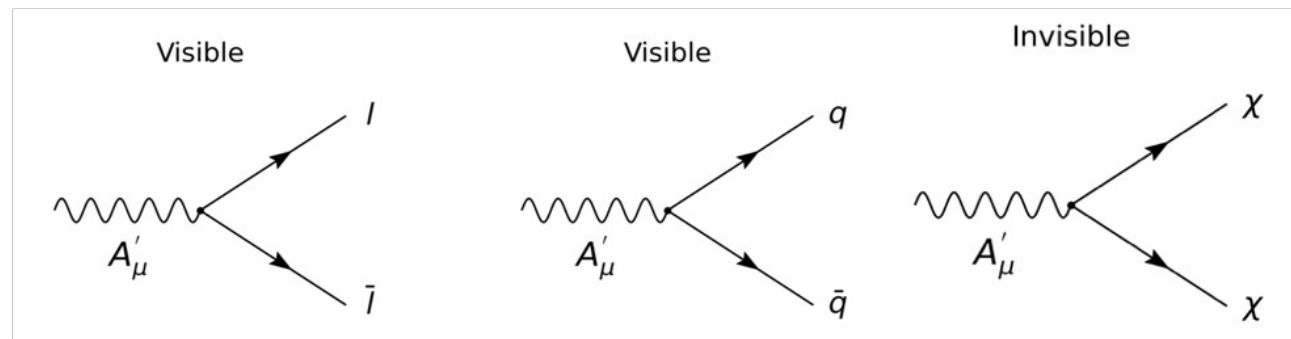
Standard Model



- Dark photon production modes: Bremsstrahlung, Annihilation, Meson decay and Drell-Yan process



- Dark photon decay channels: visible and invisible decays



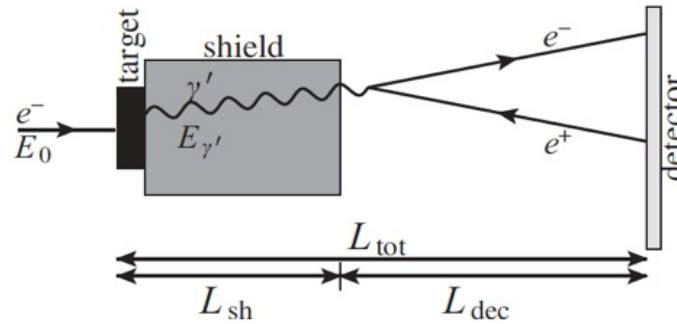
# Physics Motivation – search for dark photon



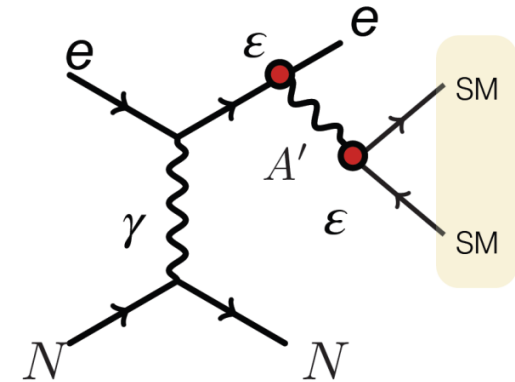
- Dark photon can be produced via electron-nuclei interaction (electron-on-target).
- Two ways of detection, via its

- **Visible decay**

Having two interaction vertices  $\rightarrow$  production rate highly suppressed



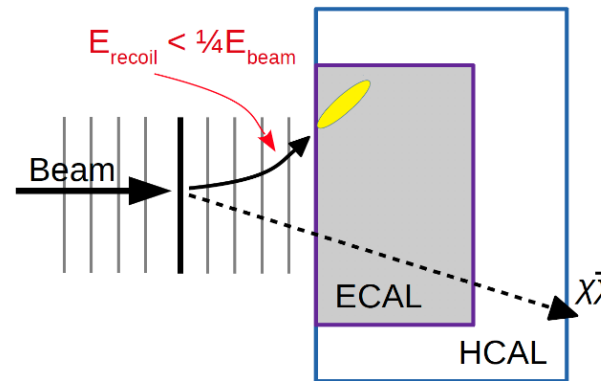
VISIBLE DECAY MODE  $m'_A < 2m_X$



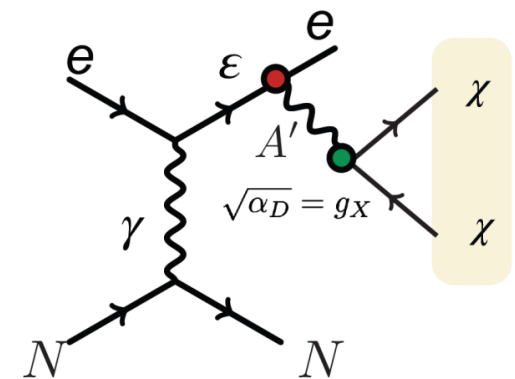
$$N \propto \epsilon^4 \ll N \propto \epsilon^2(1 - \epsilon^2) \approx \epsilon^2$$

- **Invisible decay**

Interaction probability could be enhanced  $\rightarrow$  better sensitivity!



INVISIBLE DECAY MODE  $m'_A > 2m_X$

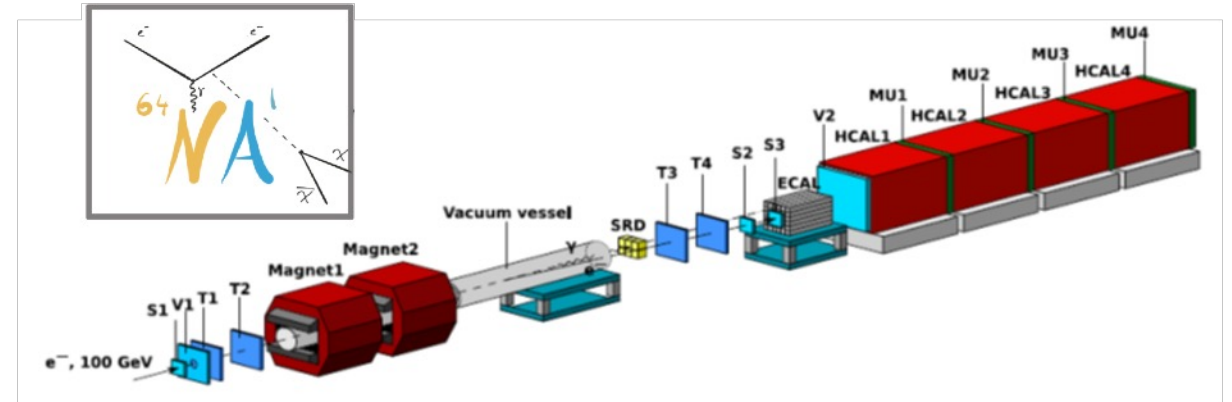


# Searching for Dark Photon Invisible Decay



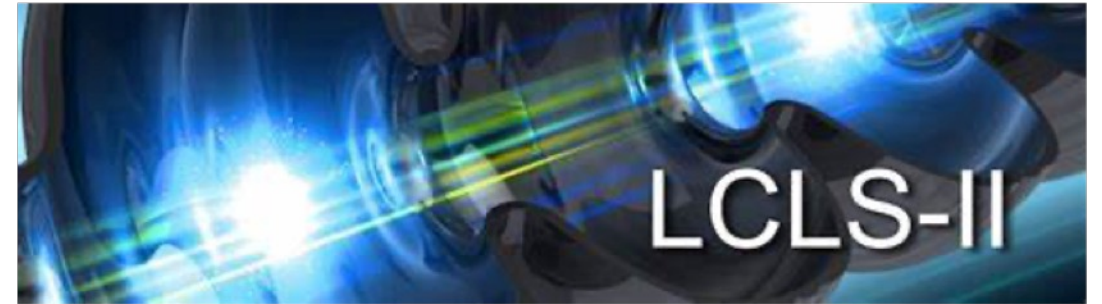
- **Searches at collider and beam-dump experiment:**

- Missing mass (BESIII, Belle-II etc.)
- Missing energy (NA64)



- **A new approach looking at missing momentum**

- Single electron on target
- High frequency electron beam
- “Missing momentum” information



arXiv: 1912.05535

➔ Light Dark Matter eXperiment (LDMX) at LCLS-II SLAC (R&D)

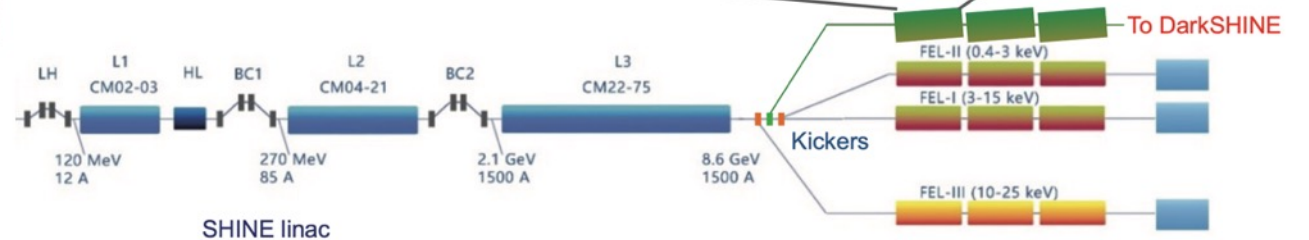
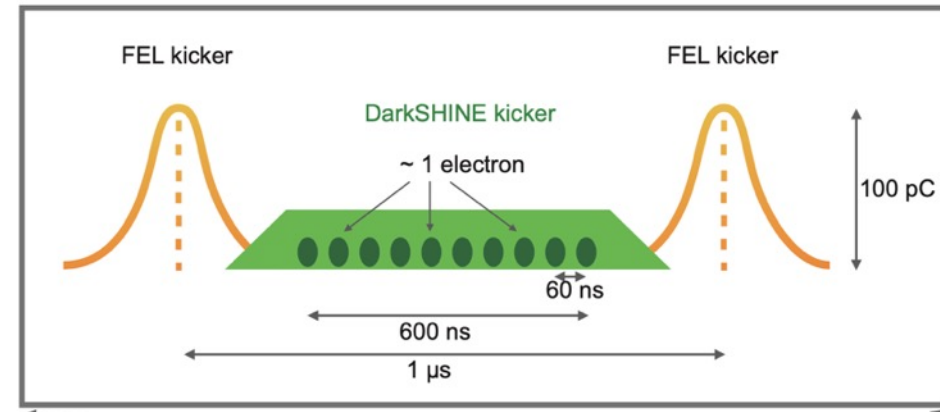
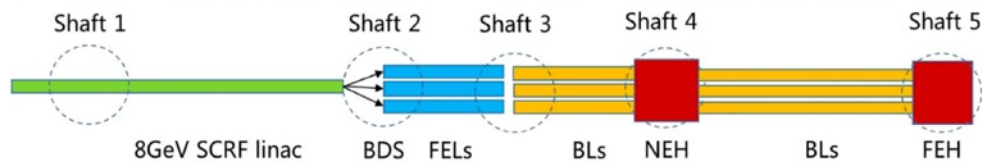
➔ DarkSHINE experiment at SHINE facility, Shanghai (R&D)

# The SHINE Facility Introduction

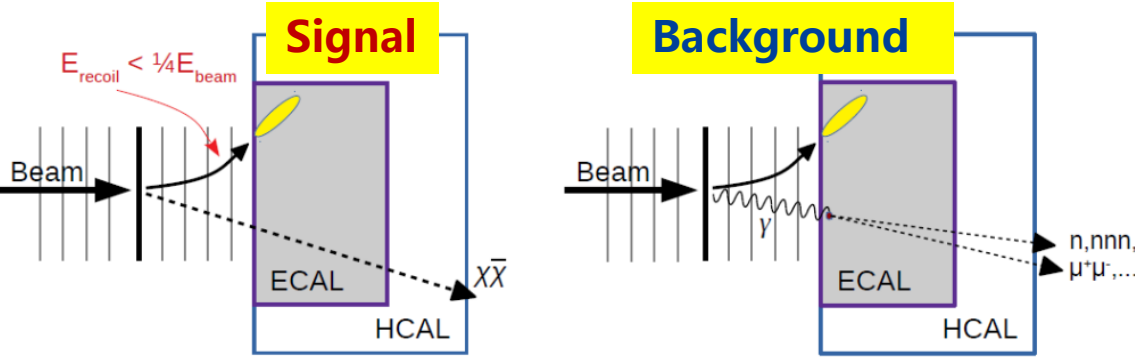


Shanghai High Repetition-Rate XFEL and Extreme Light Facility (SHINE) can provide **high frequency electron beams** → single electron with dedicated kicker.

- Electron energy: 8 GeV, Frequency: 1MHz
- Beam intensity: 100pC (6.25E8 electrons/bunch)
- ~3x10<sup>14</sup> electrons-on-target (EOT) per year.
- Under construction in Zhangjiang area (2018-2026)
- Beam techniques: SARI,CAS / Shanghai Tech.
- Detector R&D: SJTU / FDU / SIC, CAS.



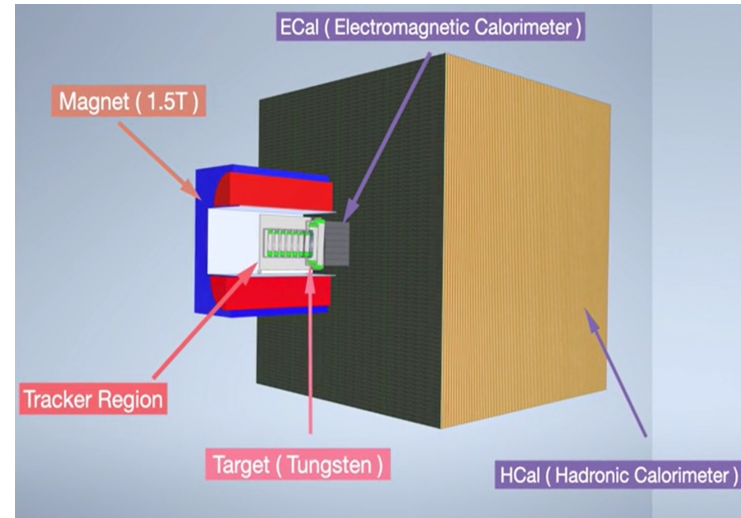
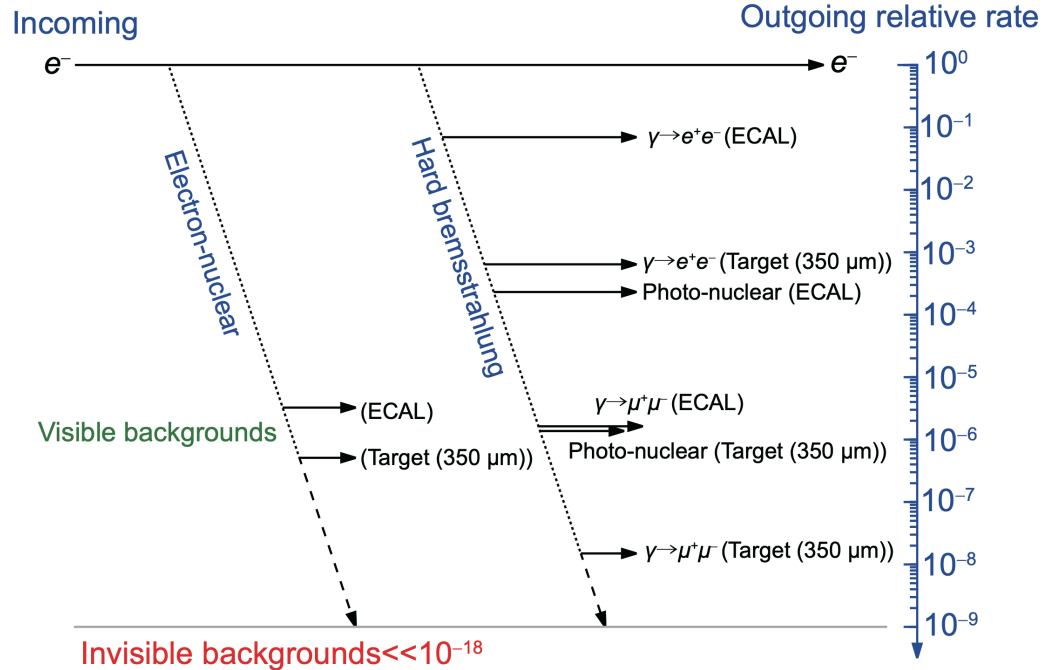
# The DarkSHINE Detector Conceptual Design



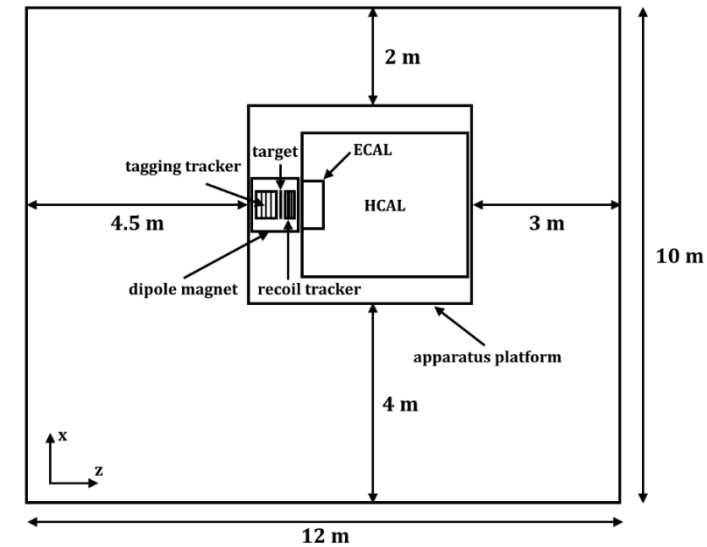
## The DarkSHINE detector conceptual design:

- **Silicon tracker:** incident and recoil electrons
- **EM Calo.:** electron and photon energy reco.
- **Hadron Calo.:** veto muon and hadron bkg.
- Readout electronics, trigger system, TDAQ etc.

## Main processes produced in electron-on-target

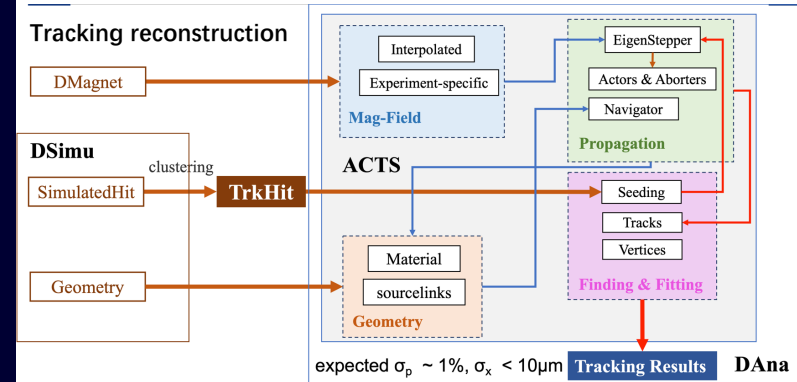
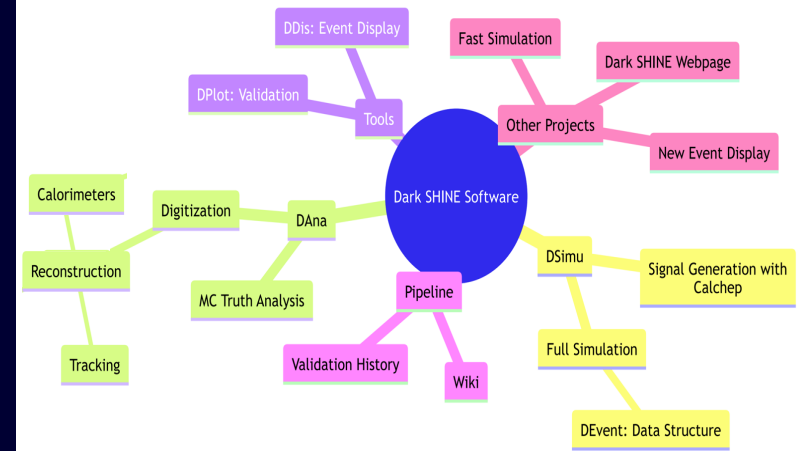
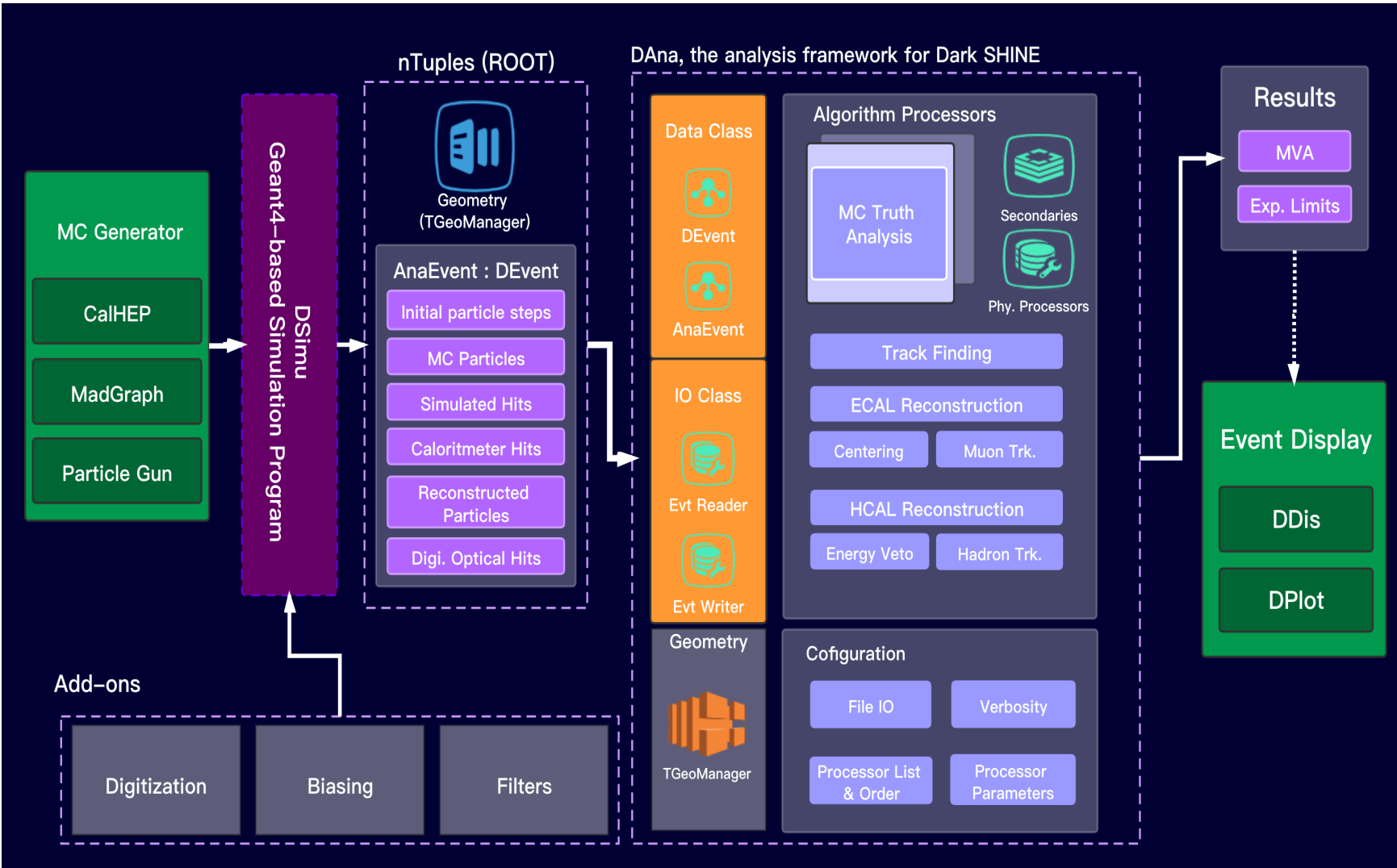


The DarkSHINE detector design



Experiment hall design

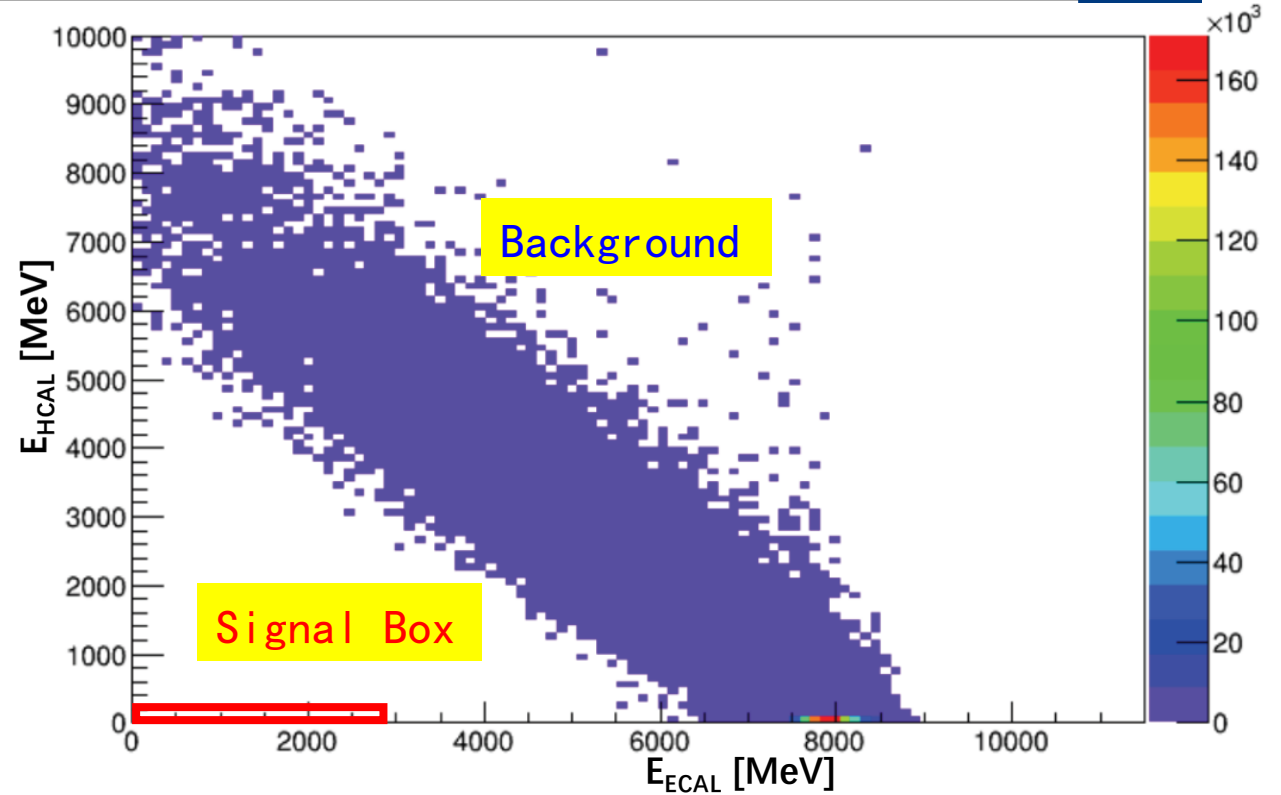
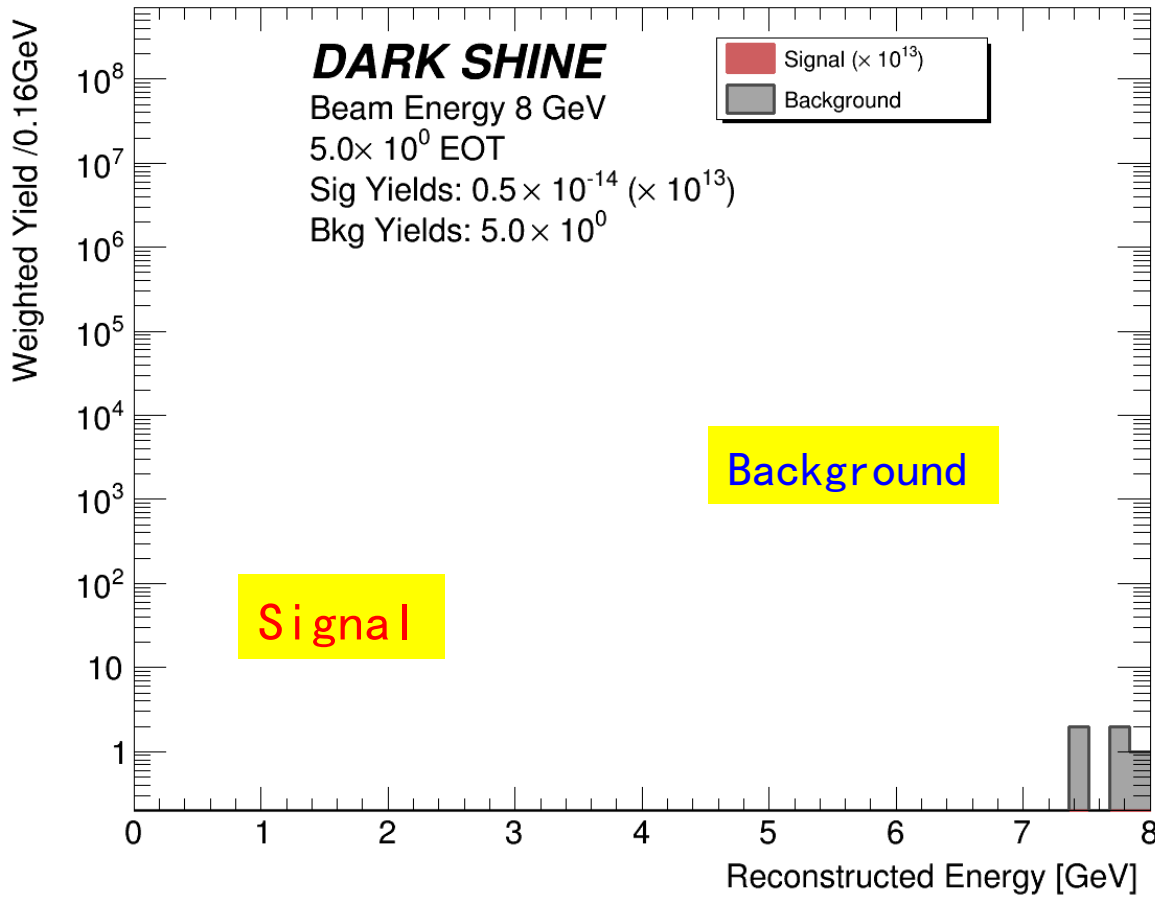
# The DarkSHINE Simulation Framework







# The DarkSHINE Experiment Simulation



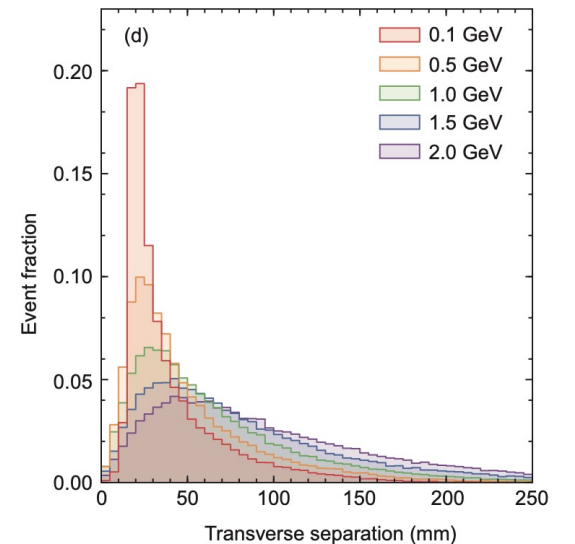
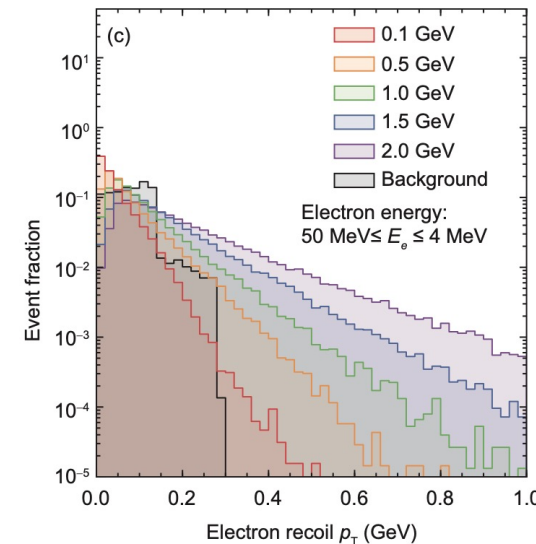
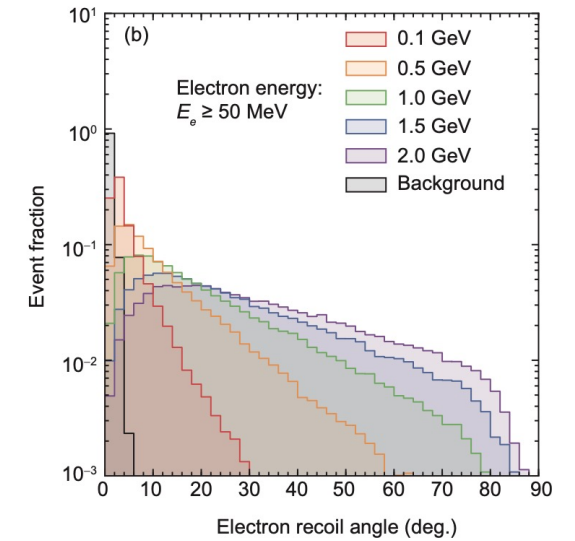
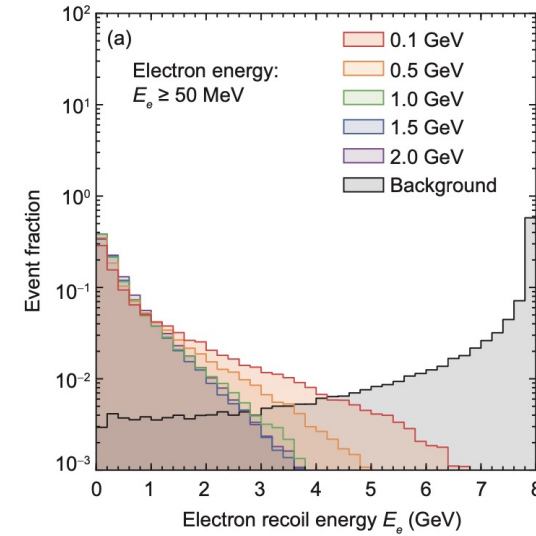
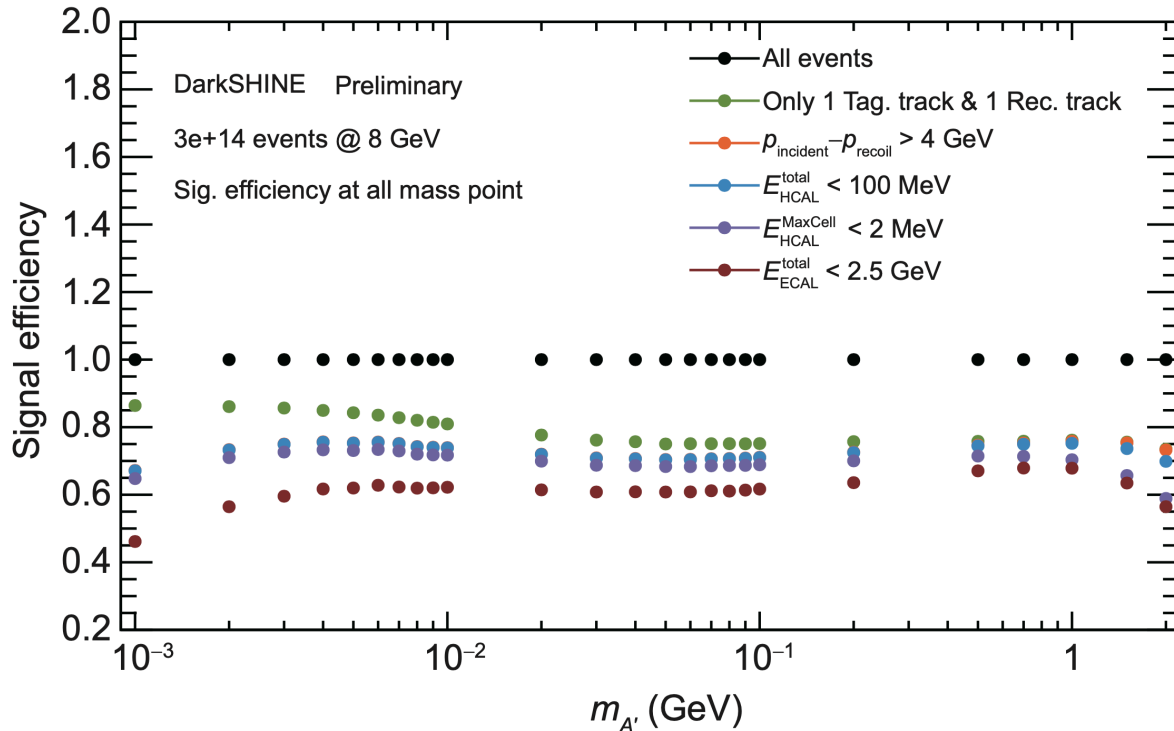
- **Signal region definition (preliminary):**

1. Exact one track in tagging and recoil tracker
2. Momentum of  $p_{\text{incident}} - p_{\text{recoil}} > 4 \text{ GeV}$
3. ECAL deposited total energy  $< 2.5 \text{ GeV}$
4. HCAL deposited total energy  $< 100 \text{ MeV}$
5. HCAL max cell energy  $< 2 \text{ MeV}$ .

# The DarkSHINE Simulation



- Kinematic distributions of the signal and inclusive background (right) and signal acceptance efficiency:



# The DarkSHINE Simulation



- **Simulated background statistics**
  - Cost a lot computer time
  - Biasing techniques to produce rare process
- **Cut-flow of each background process**



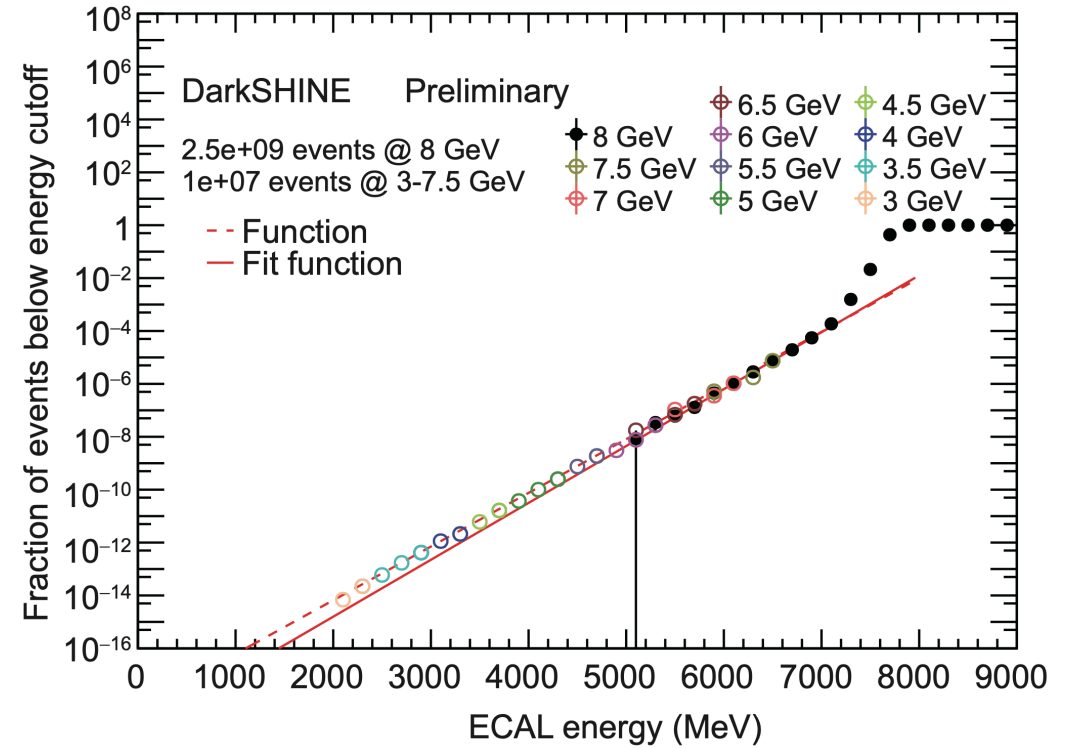
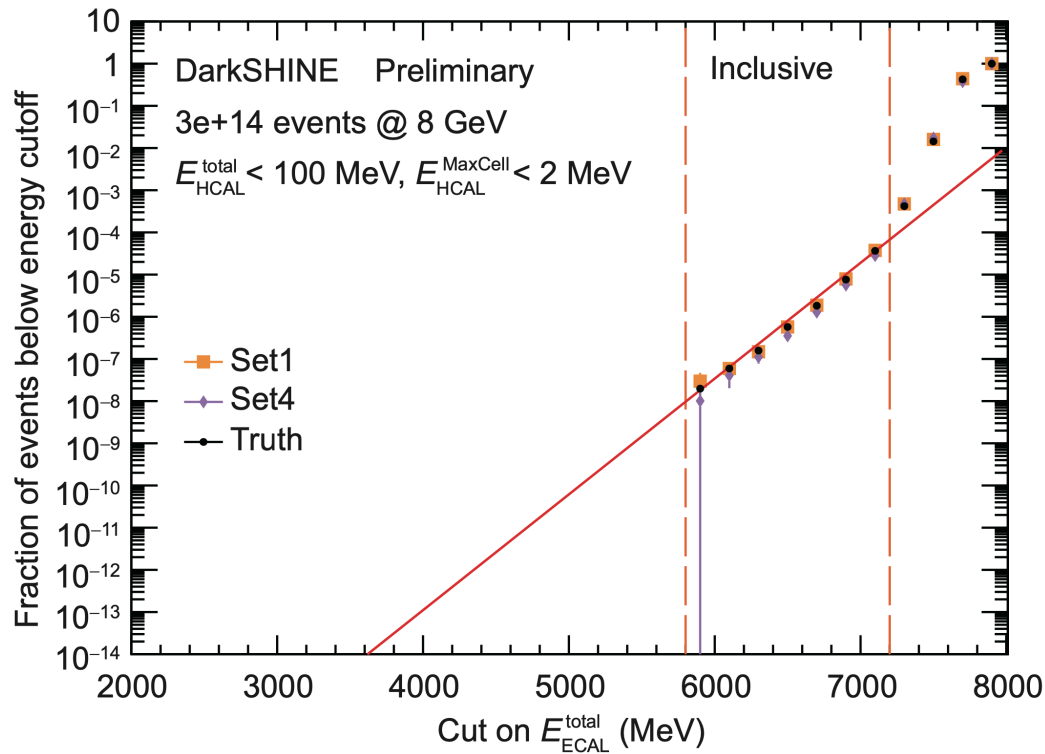
Process	Generate events	Branching ratio	EOTs
Inclusive	$2.5 \times 10^9$	1.0	$2.5 \times 10^9$
Bremsstrahlung	$1 \times 10^7$	$6.70 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.5 \times 10^8$
GMM_target	$1 \times 10^7$	$1.5(\pm 0.5) \times 10^{-8}$	$4.3 \times 10^{14}$
GMM_ECAL	$1 \times 10^7$	$1.63(\pm 0.06) \times 10^{-6}$	$6.0 \times 10^{12}$
PN_target	$1 \times 10^7$	$1.37(\pm 0.05) \times 10^{-6}$	$4.0 \times 10^{12}$
PN_ECAL	$1 \times 10^8$	$2.31(\pm 0.01) \times 10^{-4}$	$4.4 \times 10^{11}$
EN_target	$1 \times 10^8$	$5.1(\pm 0.3) \times 10^{-7}$	$1.6 \times 10^{12}$
EN_ECAL	$1 \times 10^7$	$3.25(\pm 0.08) \times 10^{-6}$	$1.8 \times 10^{12}$

	EN_ECAL	PN_ECAL	GMM_ECAL	EN_target	PN_target	GMM_target	Hard_brem	Inclusive
Total events	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Only 1 track	58.87	70.48	87.36	5.85	5.88	$< 10^{-3}$	78.73	84.40
$p_{\text{tag}} - p_{\text{rec}} > 4 \text{ GeV}$	0.0044	0.0033	0.0041	5.58	5.46	$< 10^{-5}$	70.49	4.80
$E_{\text{HCAL}}^{\text{total}} < 100 \text{ MeV}$	$< 10^{-3}$	$< 10^{-3}$	0	0.30	0.72	0	69.61	4.76
$E_{\text{HCAL}}^{\text{MaxCell}} < 10 \text{ MeV}$	$< 10^{-3}$	$< 10^{-3}$	0	0.13	0.27	0	65.00	4.48
$E_{\text{HCAL}}^{\text{MaxCell}} < 2 \text{ MeV}$	$< 10^{-3}$	$< 10^{-3}$	0	0.058	0.095	0	58.14	4.04
$E_{\text{ECAL}}^{\text{total}} < 2.5 \text{ GeV}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

# The DarkSHINE Background Estimates



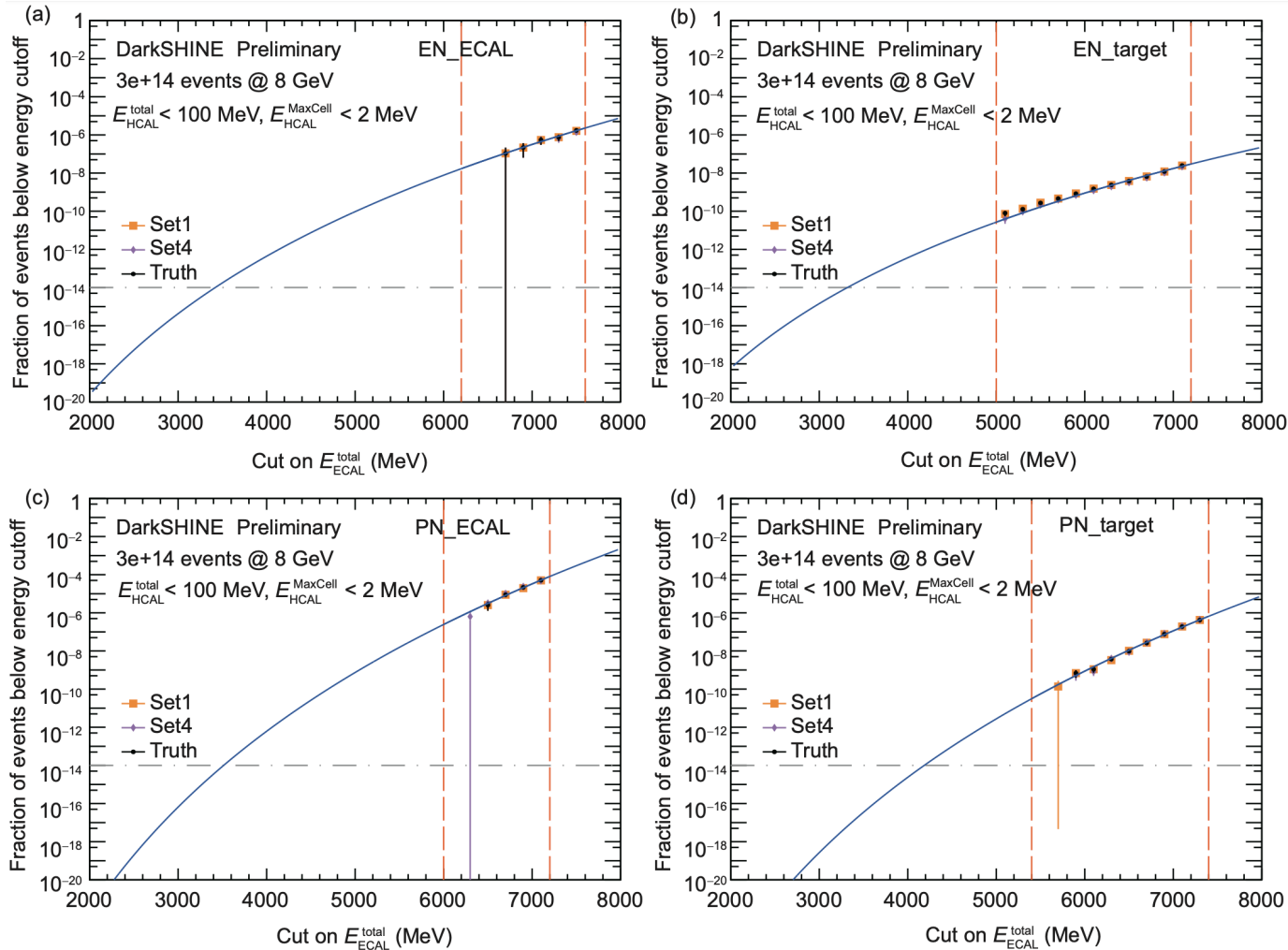
- To estimate background yields in  $3 \times 10^{14}$  EOTs, extrapolation method is used
  - Left: fit from inclusive background process
  - Right: extrapolation from low energy electron-fixed-target samples



# The DarkSHINE Background Estimates



- To estimate background yields in  $3 \times 10^{14}$  EOTs, fit from each rare process



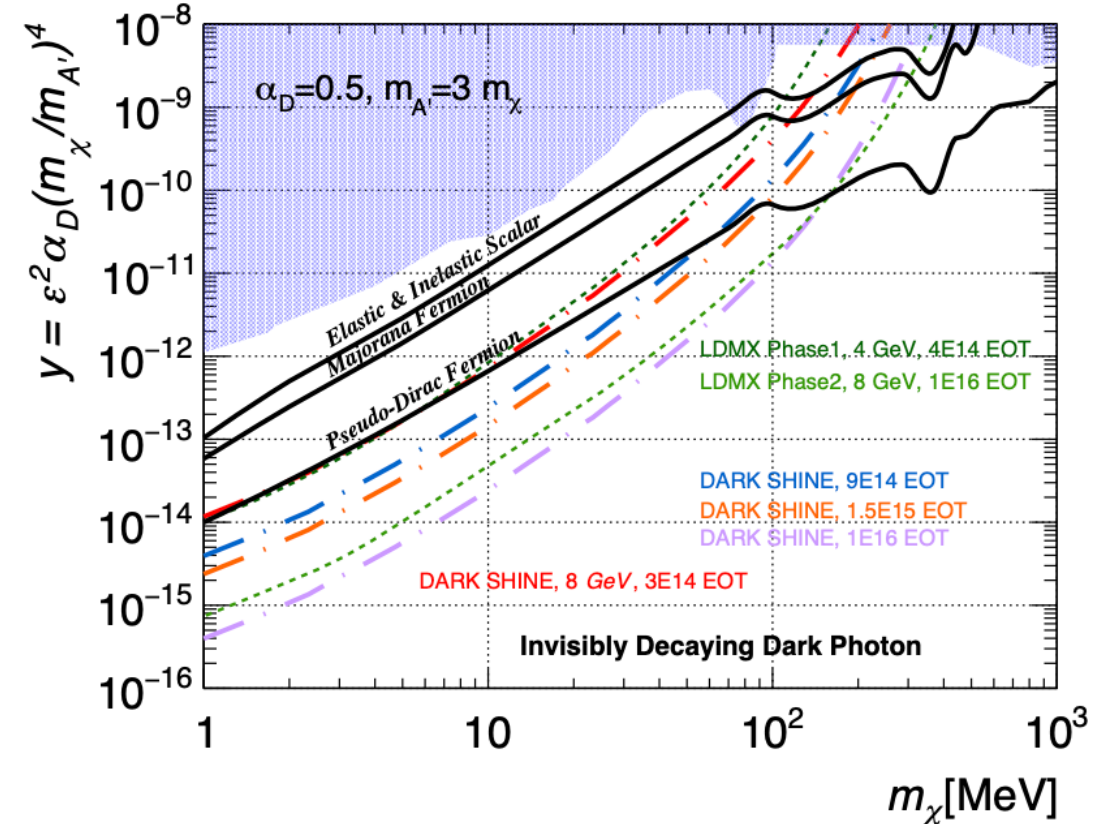
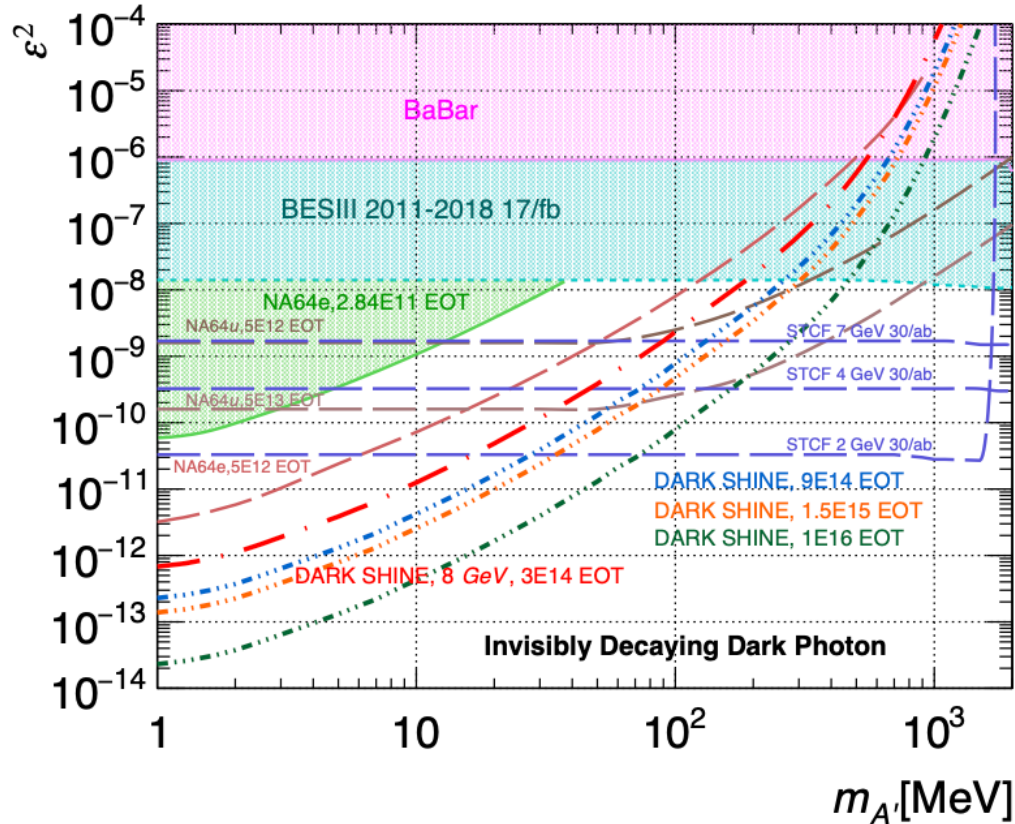
## Background w.r.t $3 \times 10^{14}$ EOT:

Method	Expectation in signal region
Cut flow	0
Inclusive fit	$9.23 \times 10^{-3}$
Low energy extrapolation	$2.53 \times 10^{-3}$
Rare processes fit	$1.5 \times 10^{-2}$

# The DarkSHINE Projected Sensitivity



Sci. China-Phy. Mech. Astron., 66(1):211062 (2023)



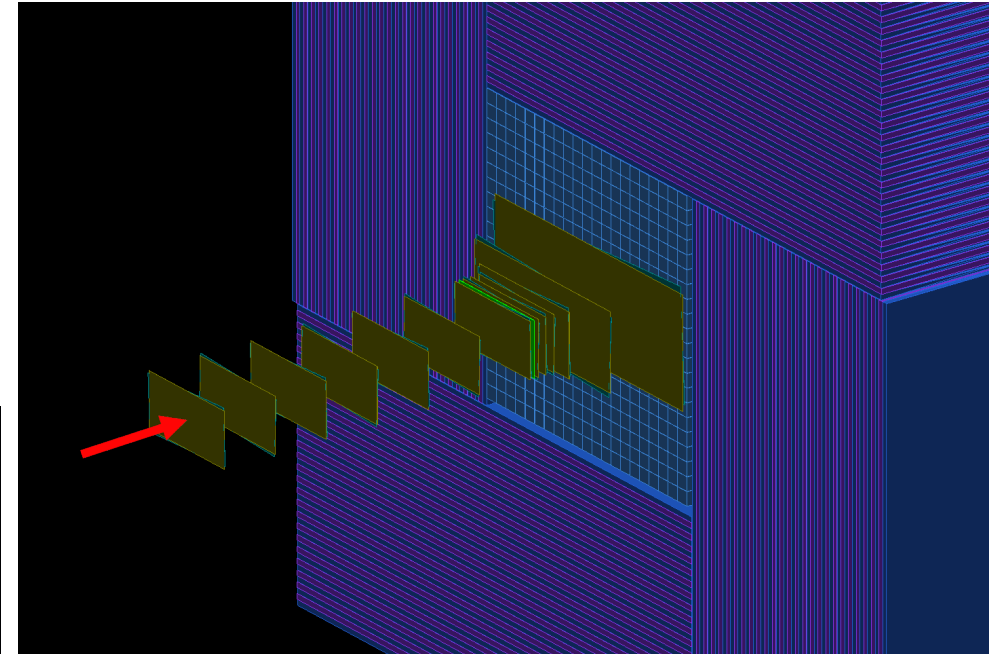
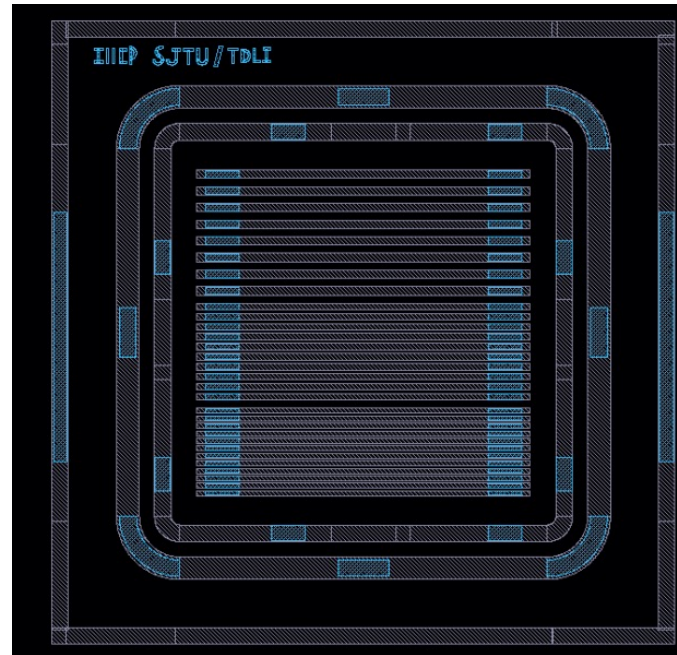
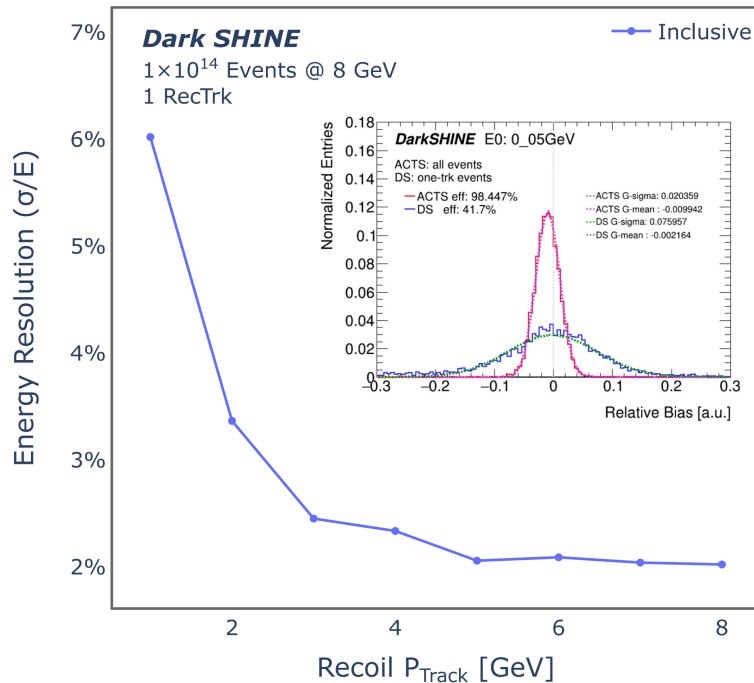
- The DarkSHINE experiment can provide competitive results which will be sensitive to most of phase space predicted by models, with  $9 \times 10^{14}$  EOTs (running  $\sim 3$  years).

# The DarkSHINE Detector R&D



## • Tracker:

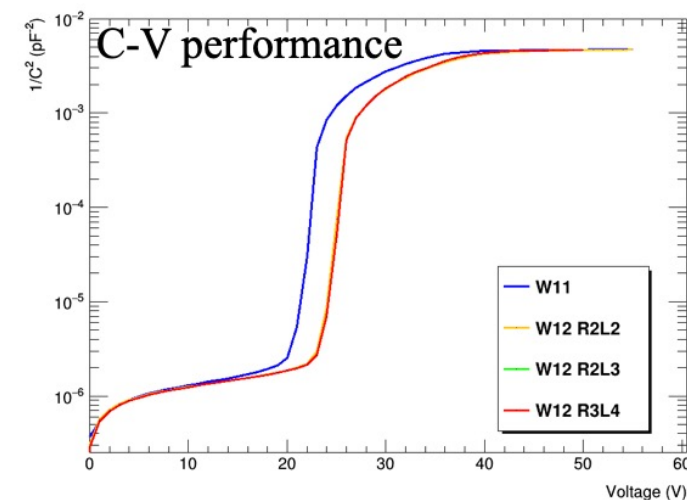
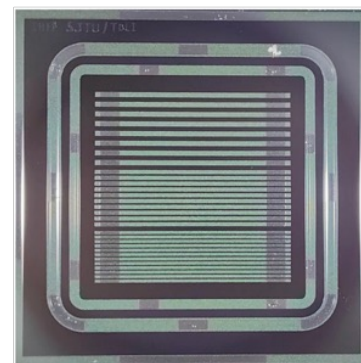
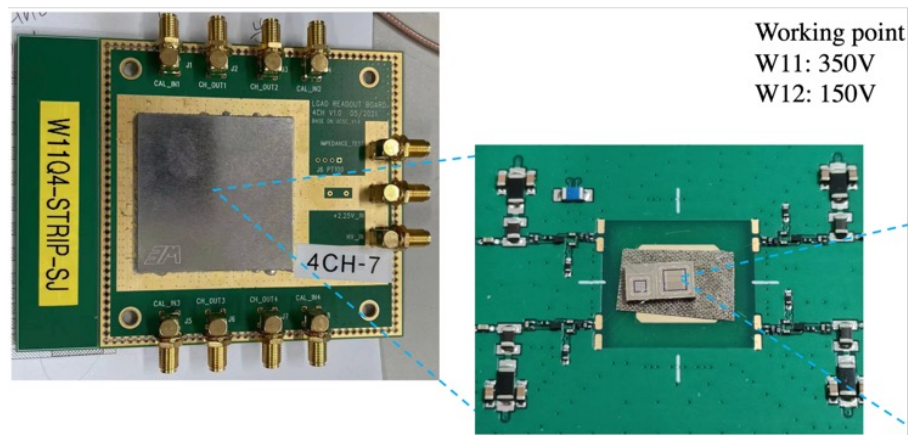
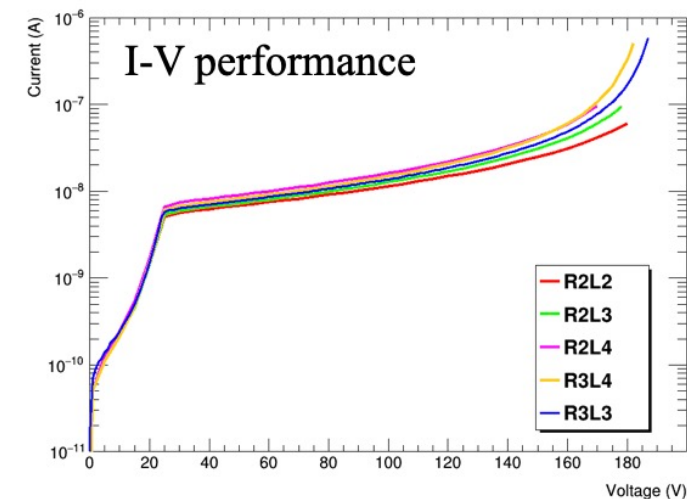
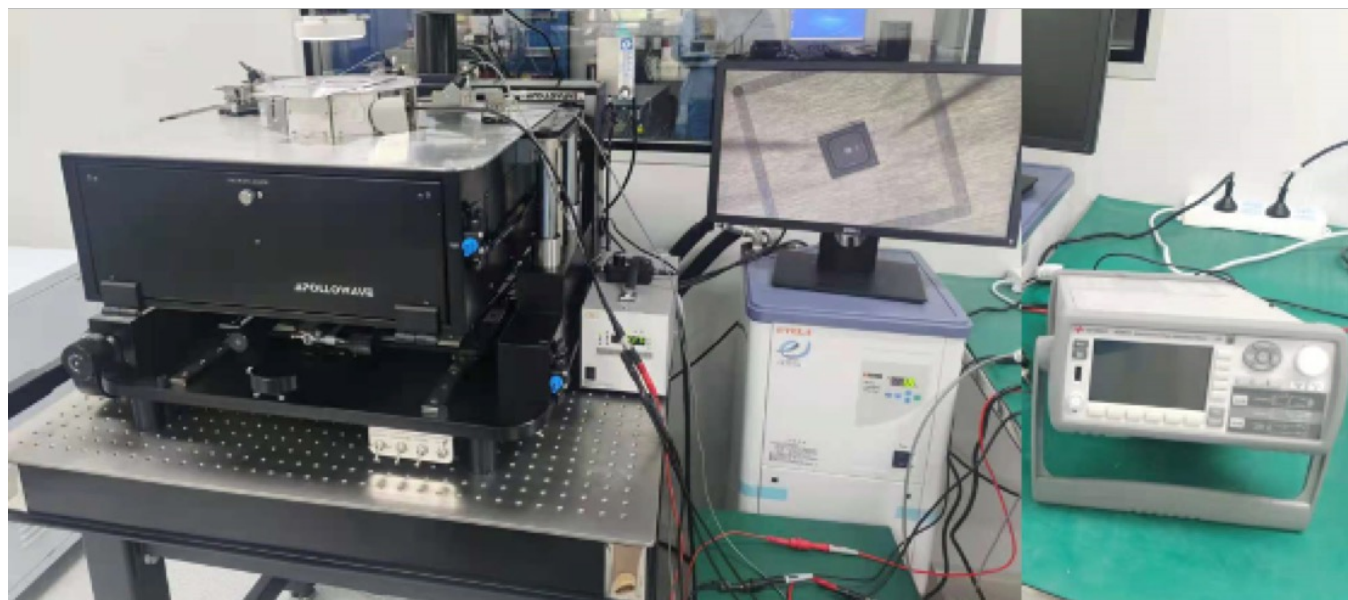
- Tagging tracker (7 layers) + recoil tracker (6 layers)
- Incident and recoil electron tracks
- Two silicon strip sensors w/ a small angle (0.1rad)
- Resolution:  $10\ \mu\text{m}$ (horizontal),  $60\ \mu\text{m}$ (vertical)



AC-LGAD silicon strip sensor  $1 \times 1\ \text{mm}^2$   
designed, in collaboration with Prof. Zhijun  
Liang and Prof. Mei Zhao from IHEP.



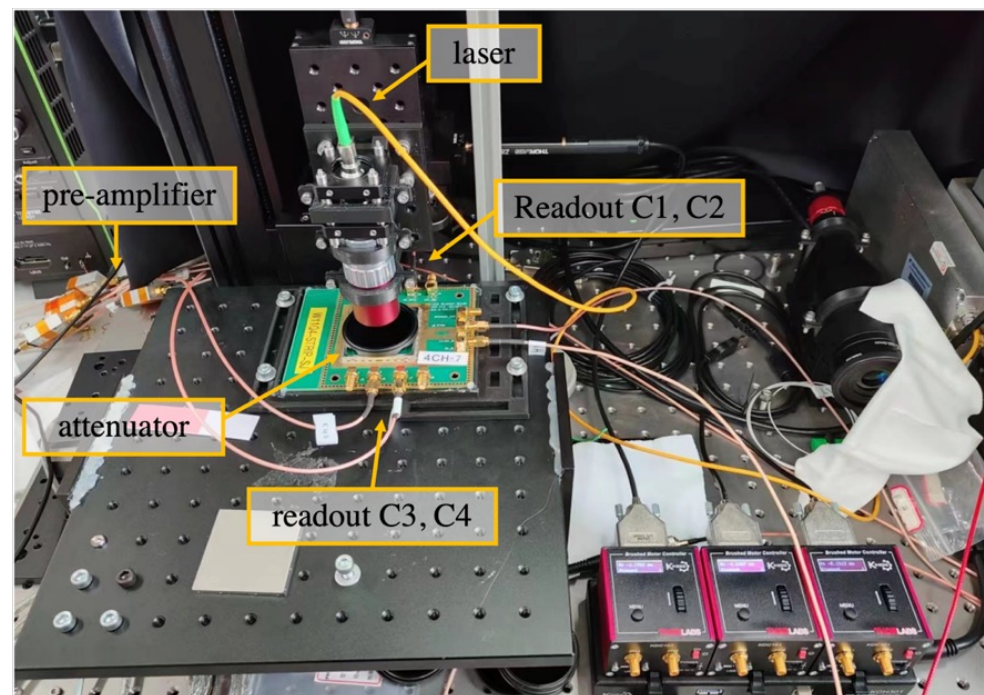
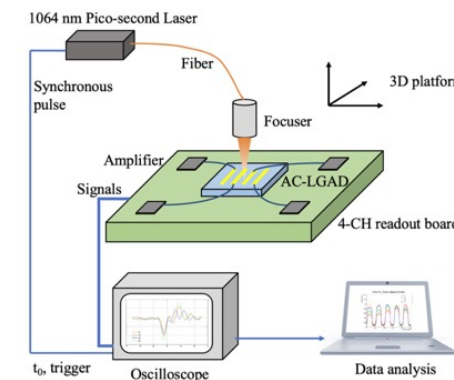
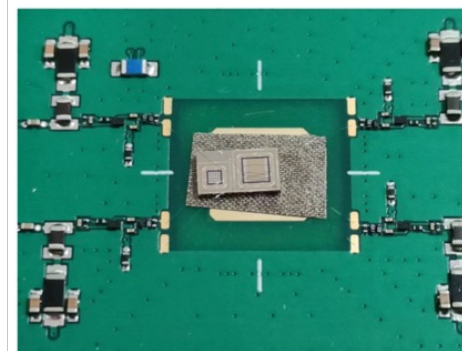
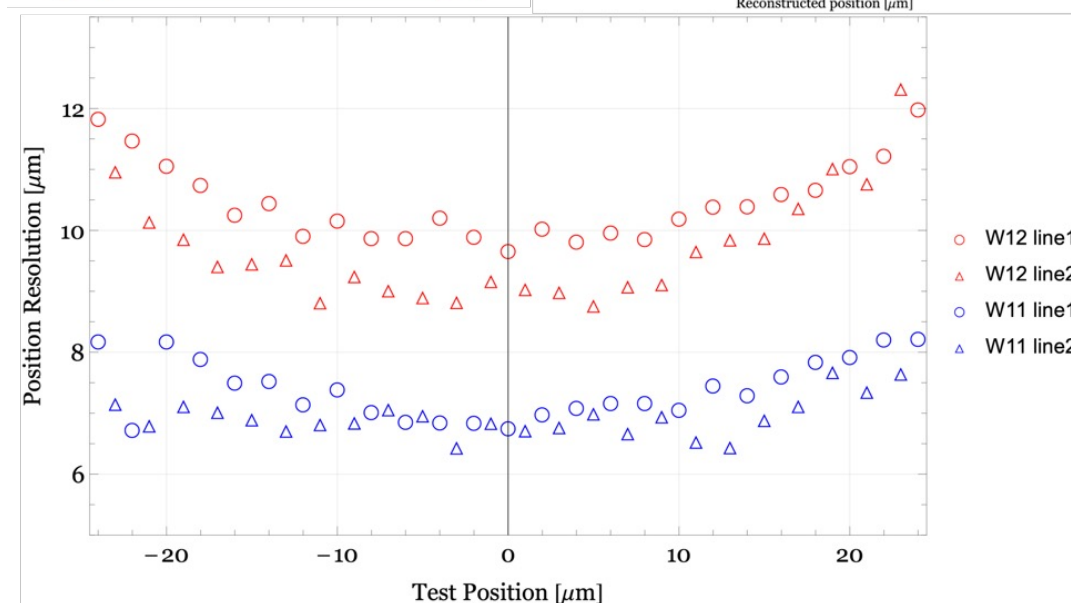
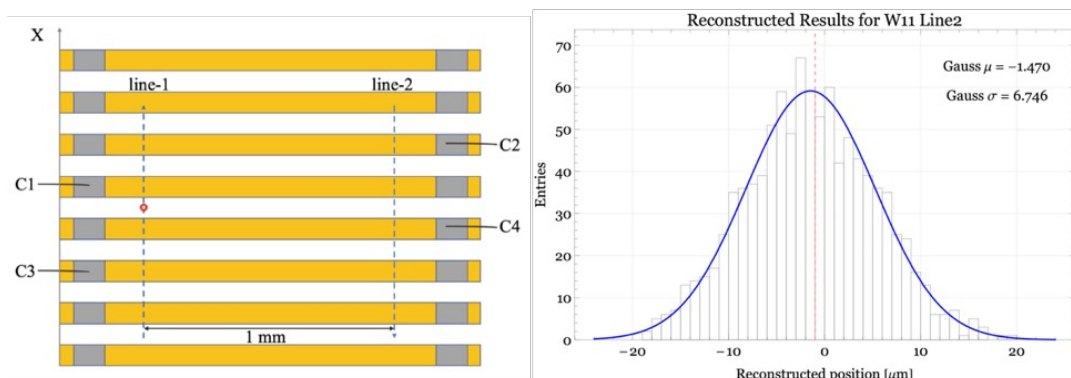
# The DarkSHINE Detector R&D



# The DarkSHINE Detector R&D



- Position resolution can reach to  $7 \sim 12 \mu\text{m}$ .



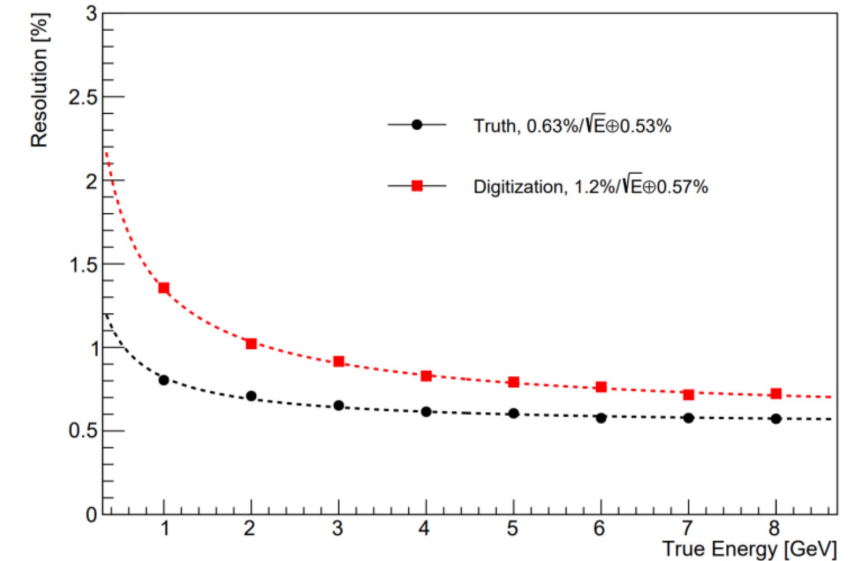
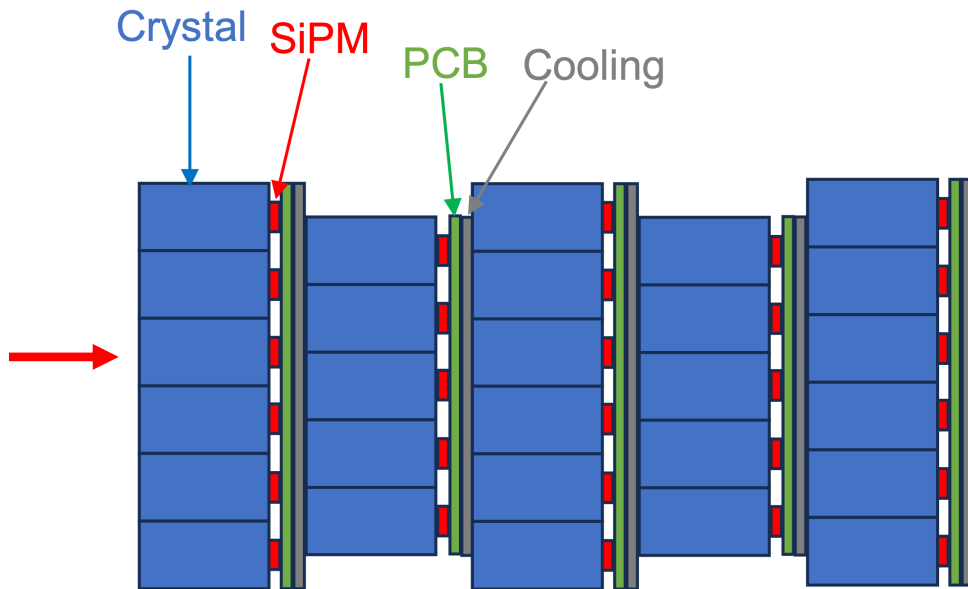
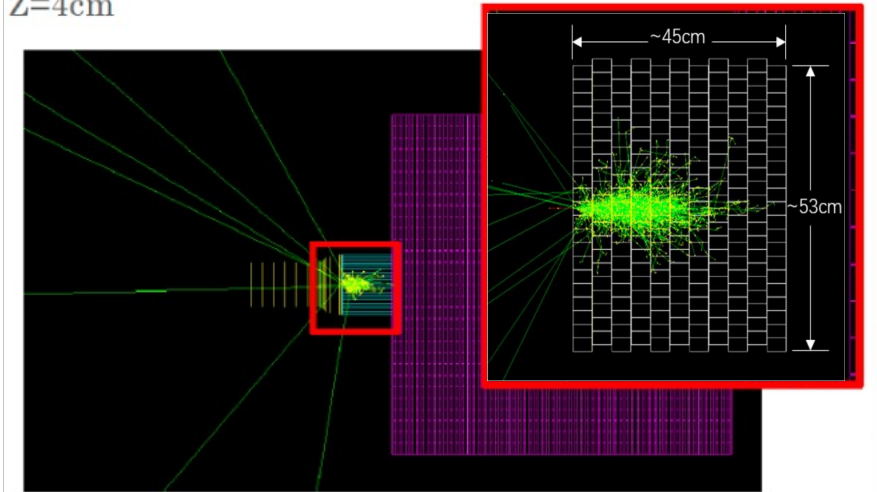
# The DarkSHINE Detector R&D



## Electromagnetic Calorimeter:

- Designed resolution: better energy resolution than 5%.
- LYSO crystal ( $Lu_{(1-x-y)}Y_{2y}Ce_{2x}SiO_5$ ):
  - high light yield (30000 p.e./MeV) with good linearity
  - short decay time (40 ns)
- **21×21×11 crystals, 2.5cm×2.5cm×4cm**
- Readout with SiPM and waveform sampling
- More intrinsic radiation and radioactive source tests.

Z=4cm



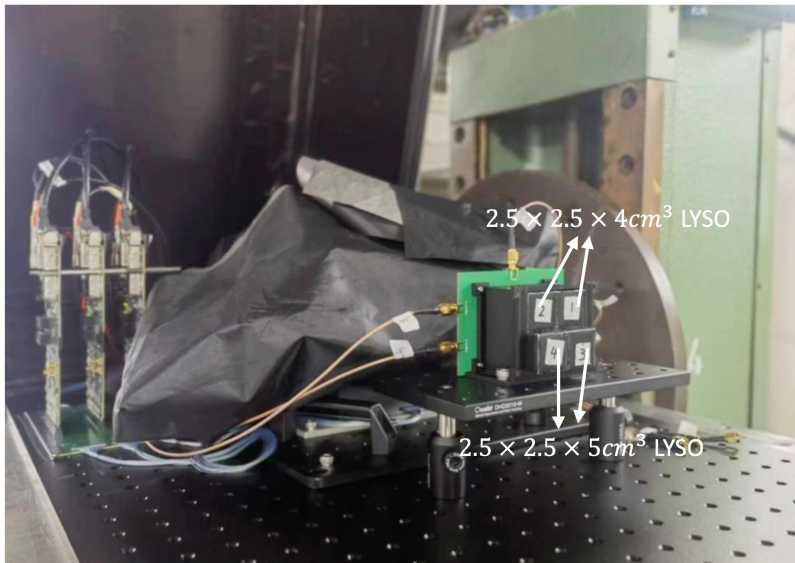
# The DarkSHINE Detector R&D



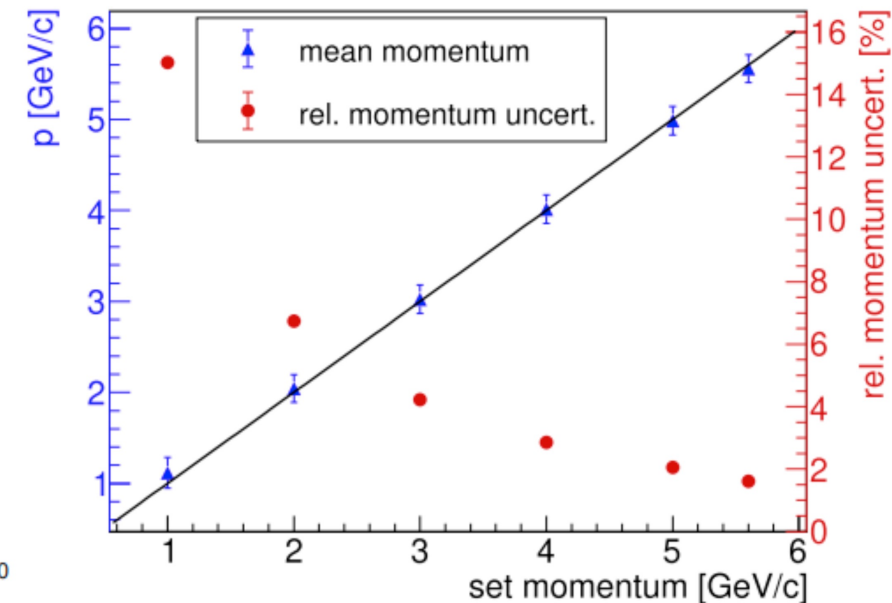
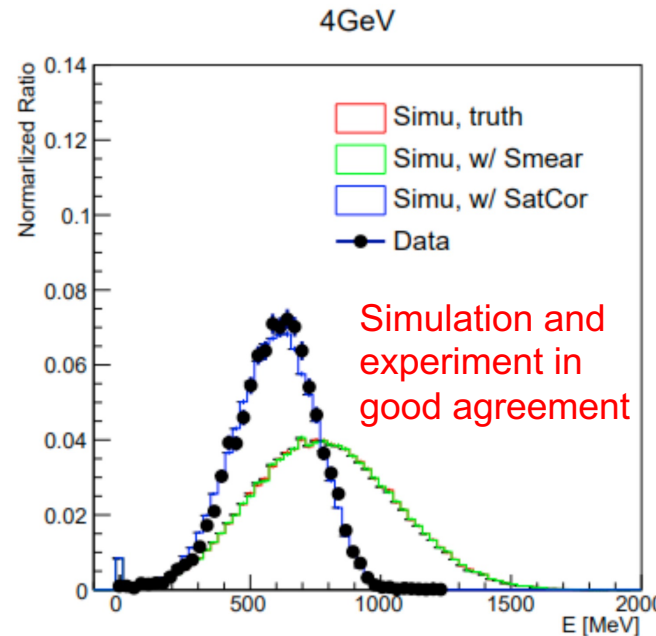
- **Motivation:**

- Performance study under high energy and high repetition beam.
- Technical validation for the whole detector system
- Prototype conceptual design: hybrid materials with LYSO as core scintillator, and PWO as outer scintillator
- **1<sup>st</sup> prototype module for beam test (2x2 LYSO) at DESY**
- **Energy resolution is better than 3% (244ch). Very low energy leakage below 2.5 GeV.**

Many thanks to CEPC  
Calorimeter group!



DESY TB22 Oct. 2023

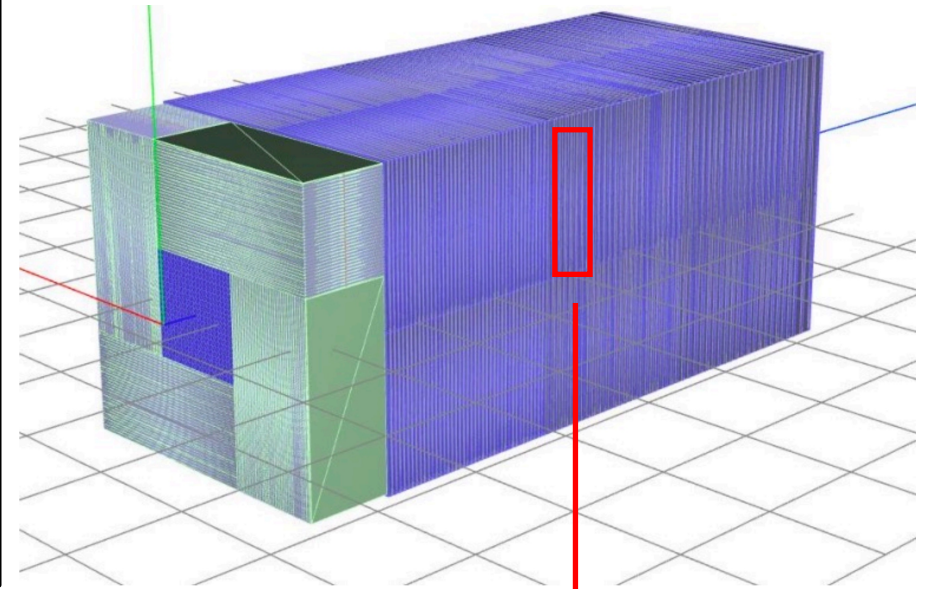


# The DarkSHINE Detector R&D



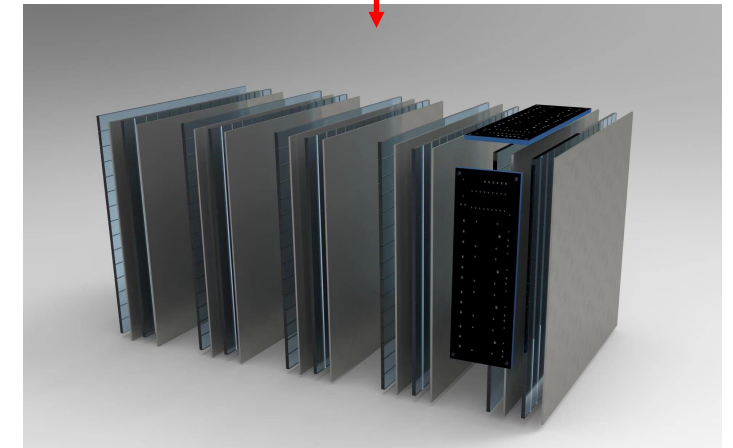
## Hadronic Calorimeter:

- Veto backgrounds with same behavior as signal in ECAL
- 1.5 m x 1.5m x 2.5 m (perpendicular to the beam)
  - Split to 4 modules: 75 cm x 75 cm each
  - Plastic scintillator
    - 10 mm thick, 75cm x 5cm, 15 bars per module
    - 90 degree rotation between 2 adjacent layers
    - Wavelength shift fiber + SiPM
  - Iron absorber: 10 mm/ 50 mm thick, 75cm x 75cm
- Side-HCAL: encircling the ECAL



## Veto inefficiency on hadrons

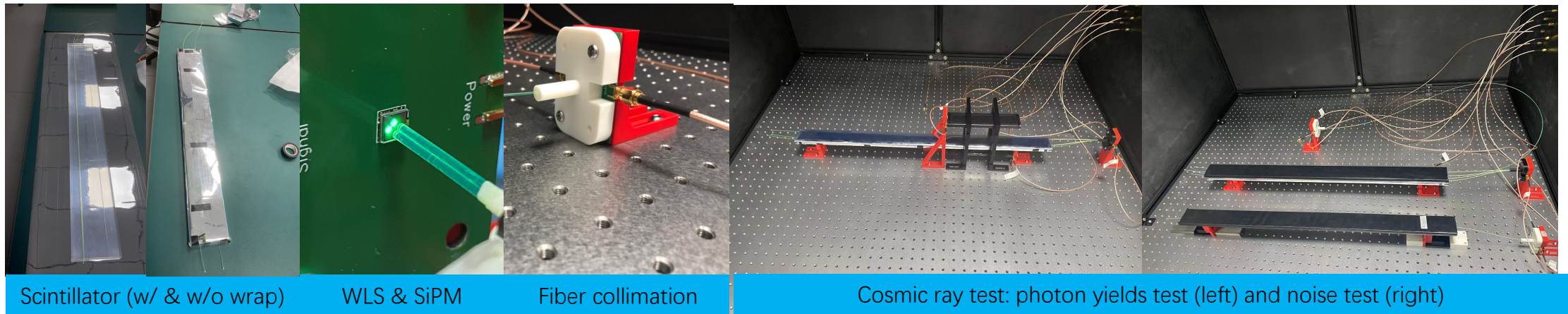
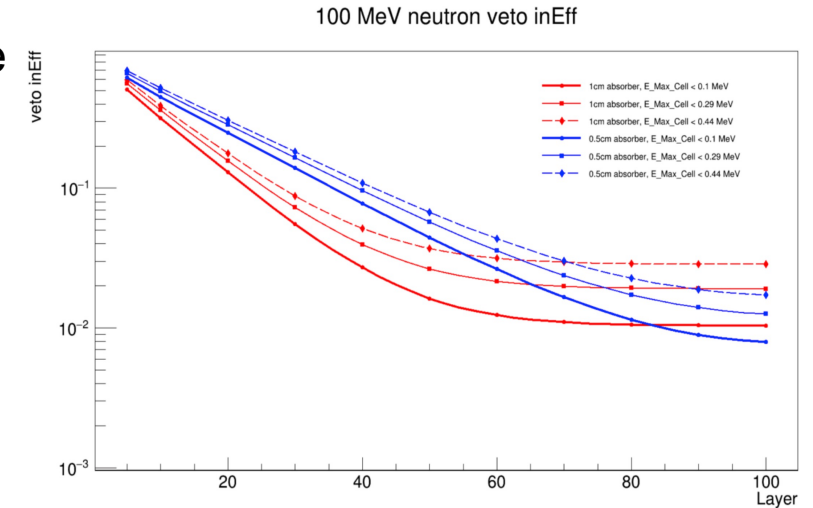
Energy[MeV] \ Particle	n	$k^0$	$\pi^0$	p
100	1.17E-03	3.16E-02	7.30E-06	3.07E-02
500	1.84E-05	3.30E-06	1.00E-07	8.04E-06
1000	3.70E-06	4.30E-06	1.00E-07	1.00E-07
2000	2.70E-06	1.15E-05	1.00E-07	1.00E-07



# The DarkSHINE Detector R&D



- **Scintillator test at TDLI lab**
  - SiPMs performance are studied first, both size, gain and noise are considered, and picked one type (Hamamatsu S13360-3050, gain  $1.7e6$ ) for the rest tests
- **Radioactive source test for uniformity:** good uniformity with 75 cm
- **Cosmic ray test for photon yields**
  - Various types of scintillator are tested: : sizes, number of fiber grooves/used, manufacturer/composition (on-going)



- The DarkSHINE: a fixed-target experiment searching for dark photon to light dark matter
- **The DarkSHINE will be almost background free experiment**
  - Expected 0.02 background in  $3 \times 10^{14}$  electron-on-target (w.r.t 1 year. running)
  - Above 50% dark photon signal acceptance efficiency
- **The DarkSHINE has competitive sensitivity** ([Sci. China-Pay. Mech. Astron., 66\(1\):211062 \(2023\)](#))
  - Sensitive to most of phase space predicted by models with 3 years running
- Detector key technology R&D has been sponsored by NSFC "原创探索计划项目".



Thanks so much for your support  
to the DarkSHINE Experiment!

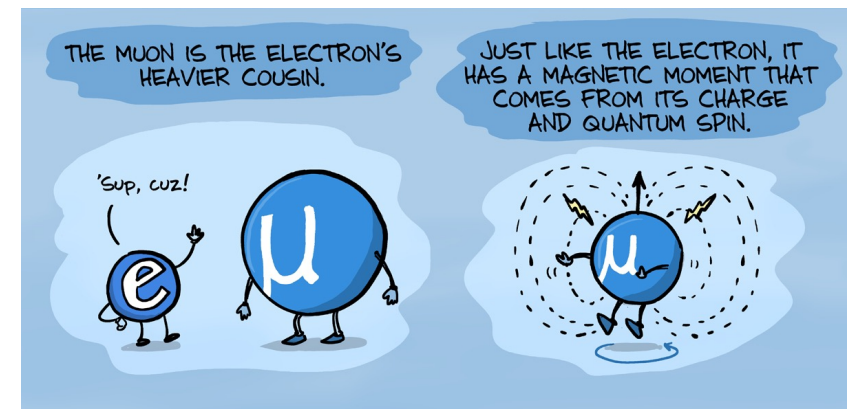
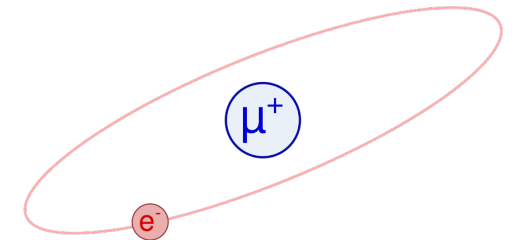
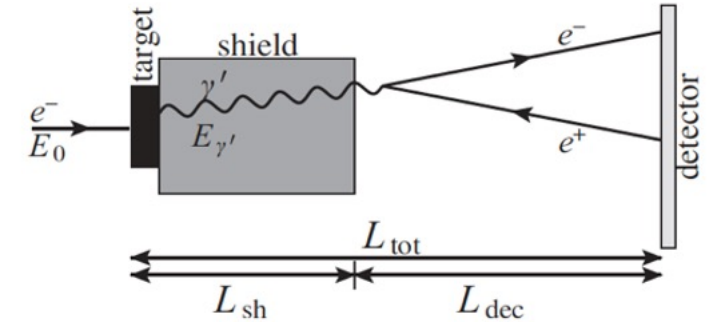




# More physics opportunities at the DarkSHINE



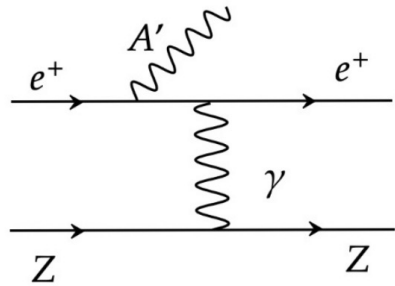
- Searching for dark photon in visible decay channels
- Probing invisible vector meson decays
  - [Phys. Rev. D 105, 035036 \(2022\)](#)
- Millicharges, Axion-like particles, Minimal U(1) gauge bosons, light new leptophilic scalar particles
  - [Phys. Rev. D 99, 075001 \(2019\)](#)
- Searching for “true muonium”(缪子偶素)  $\mu^+\mu^-$  bound state
- The DarkSHINE can be a compact muon source
  - 150,000  $\mu^+\mu^-$  pairs per bunch at 10 MHz
- ...



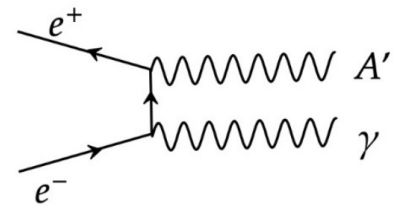
# More physics opportunities at the DarkSHINE



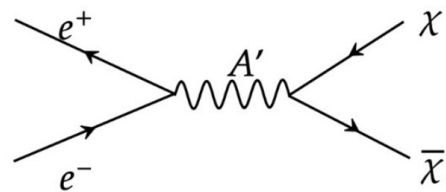
- Positron on fixed-target experiment has great sensitivity at dedicated mass:



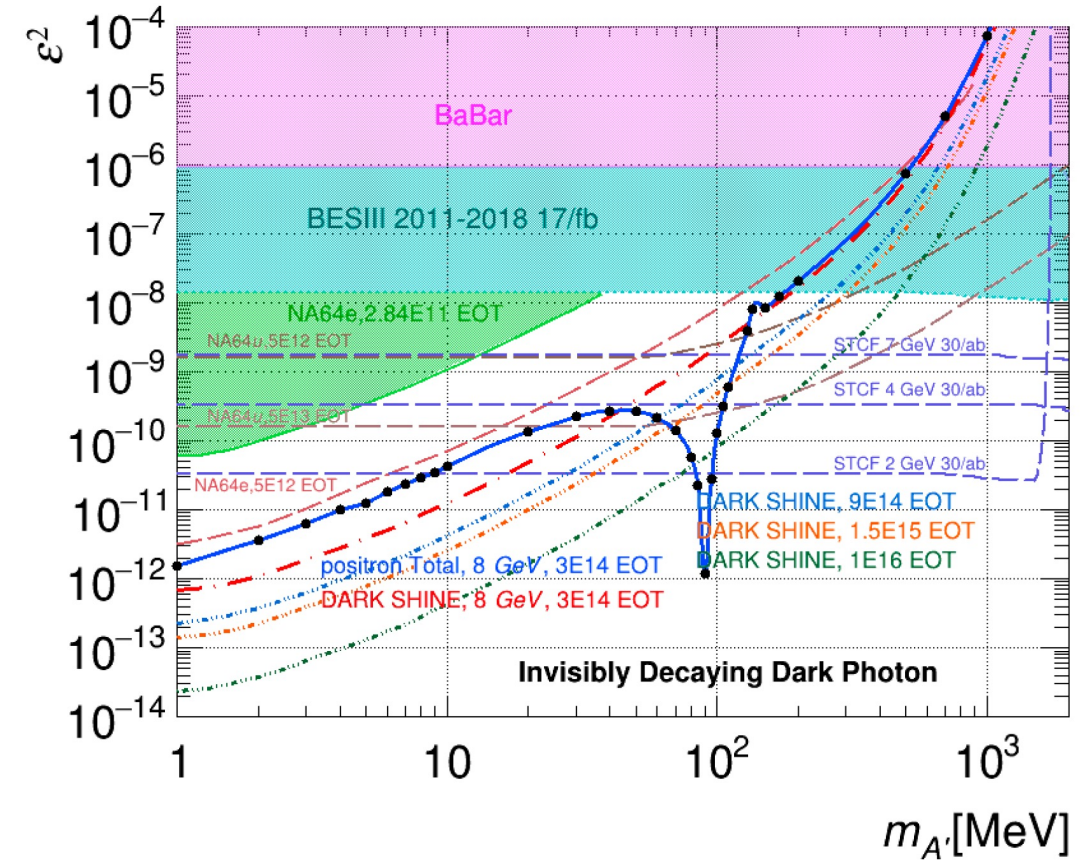
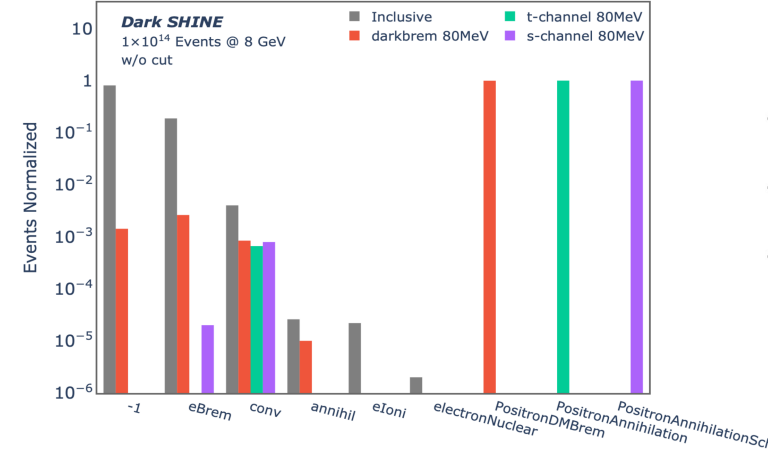
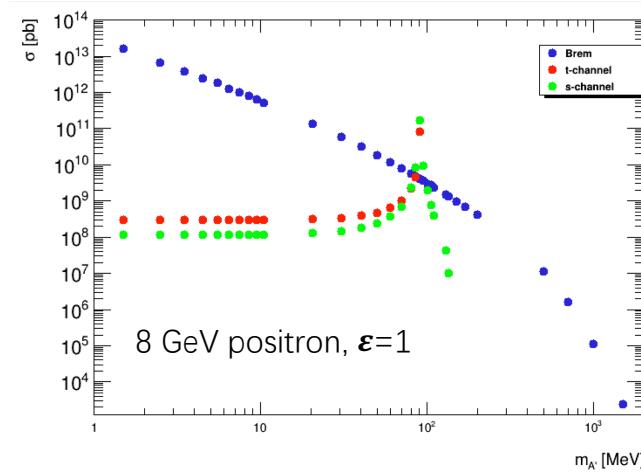
(a) bremsstrahlung



(b) t-channel annihilation



(c) s-channel annihilation



# Alternative beam energy and target at DarkSHINE



- Left: dark photon production cross sections with different target materials
- Right: projected sensitivity with 4 GeV electron beam (very preliminary)

