



# Axion Search via Neutrino Experiments

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May, 11 @ Qingdao

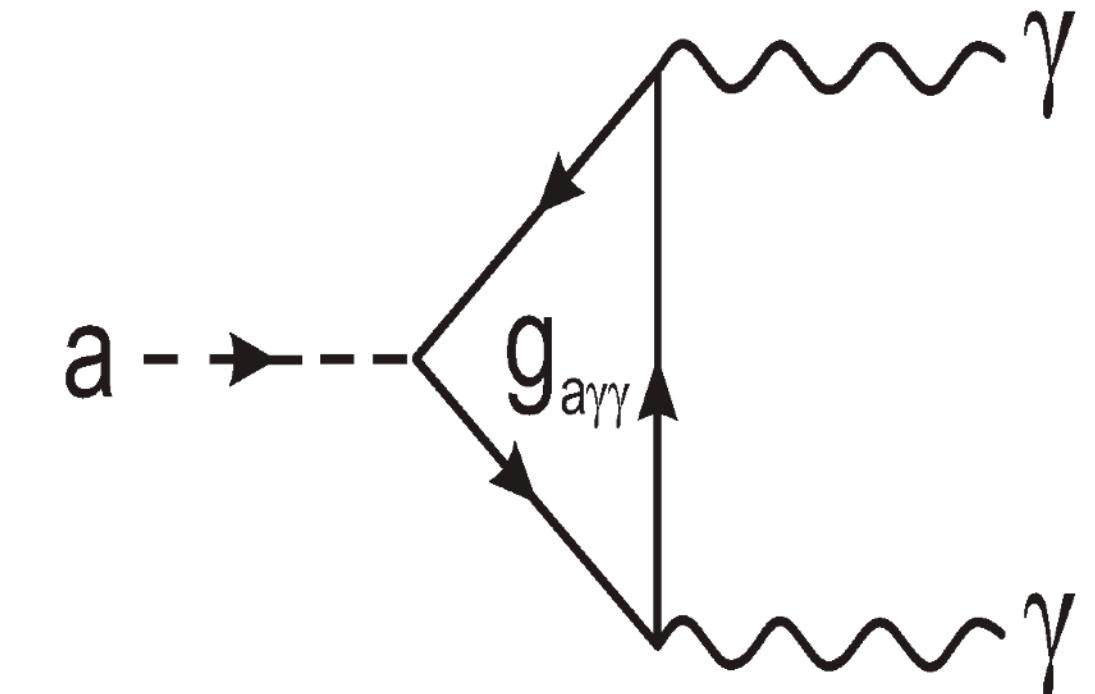
Base On: Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024) 3, 035037[arXiv:2405.02084]  
RELICS Collaboration



# Axion and New Physics

- Particle Physics Motivation

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{\bar{\theta} g_s^2}{32\pi^2} G\tilde{G} \rightarrow \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} \left( \bar{\theta} + \frac{a}{f_a} \right) G\tilde{G}$$



- Axion Interactions

$$\mathcal{L}_a^{\text{int}} \supset \frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \frac{C_{a\gamma}}{f_a} a F \tilde{F} + C_{af} \frac{\partial_\mu a}{2f_a} \bar{f} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 f + \frac{C_{a\pi}}{f_a f_\pi} \partial_\mu a [\partial \pi \pi \pi]^\mu - \frac{i}{2} \frac{C_{a n \gamma}}{m_n} \frac{a}{f_a} \bar{n} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 n F^{\mu\nu}$$

Coupling to photon

Coupling to fermions

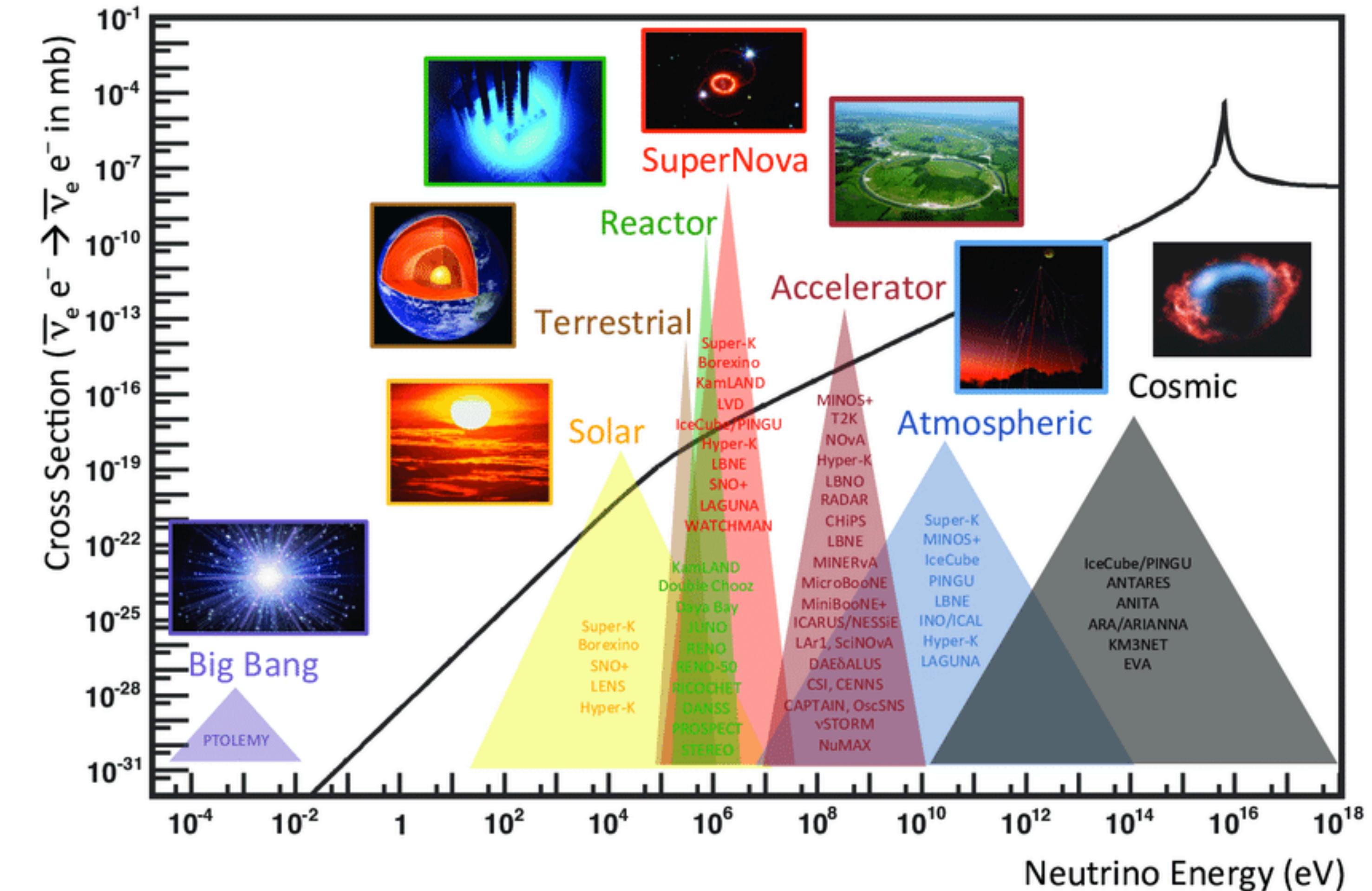
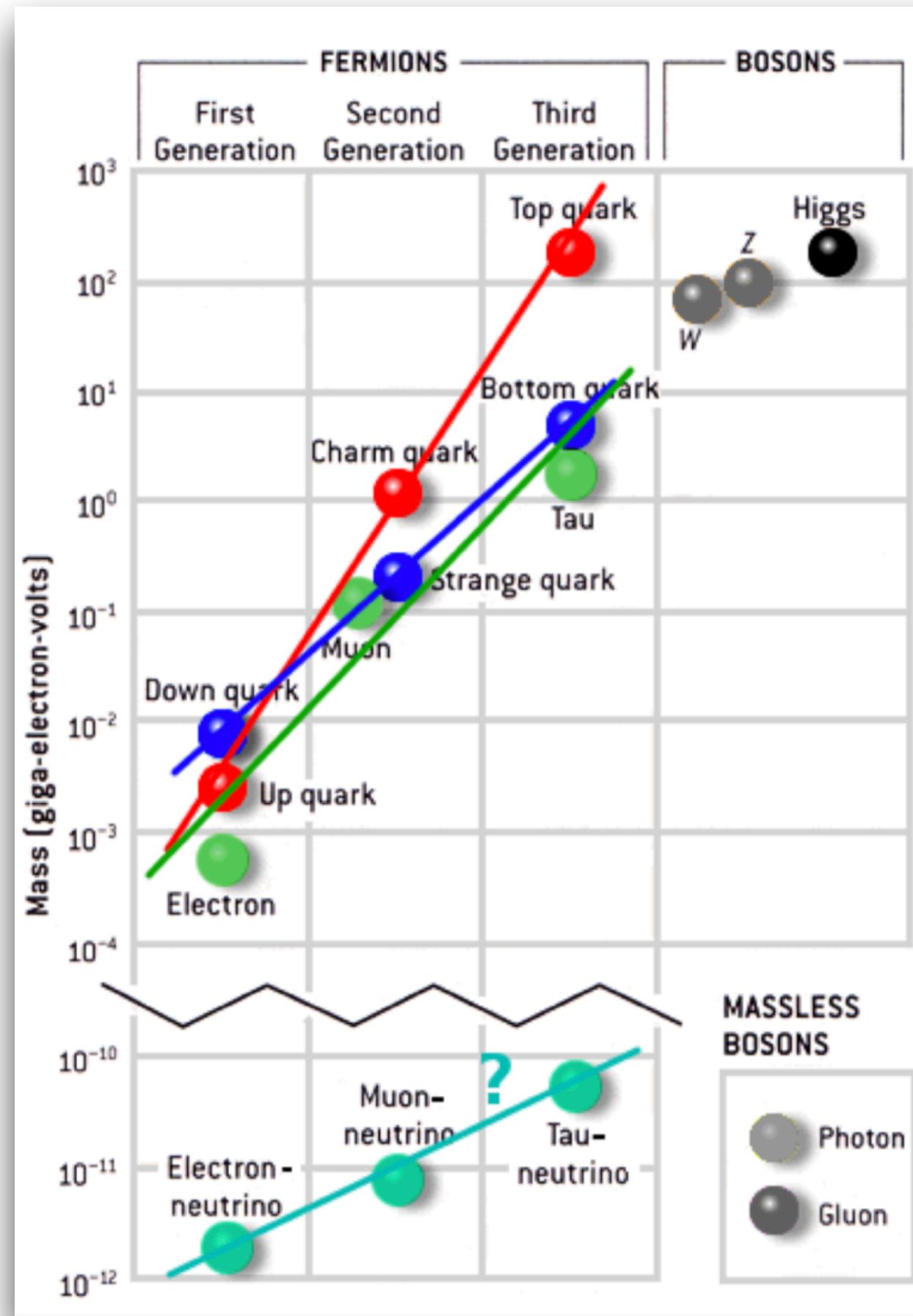
Coupling to mesons

Coupling to neutron eDM



# Neutrino Physics and Experiments

- Neutrino Physics related to New Physics





# Outline

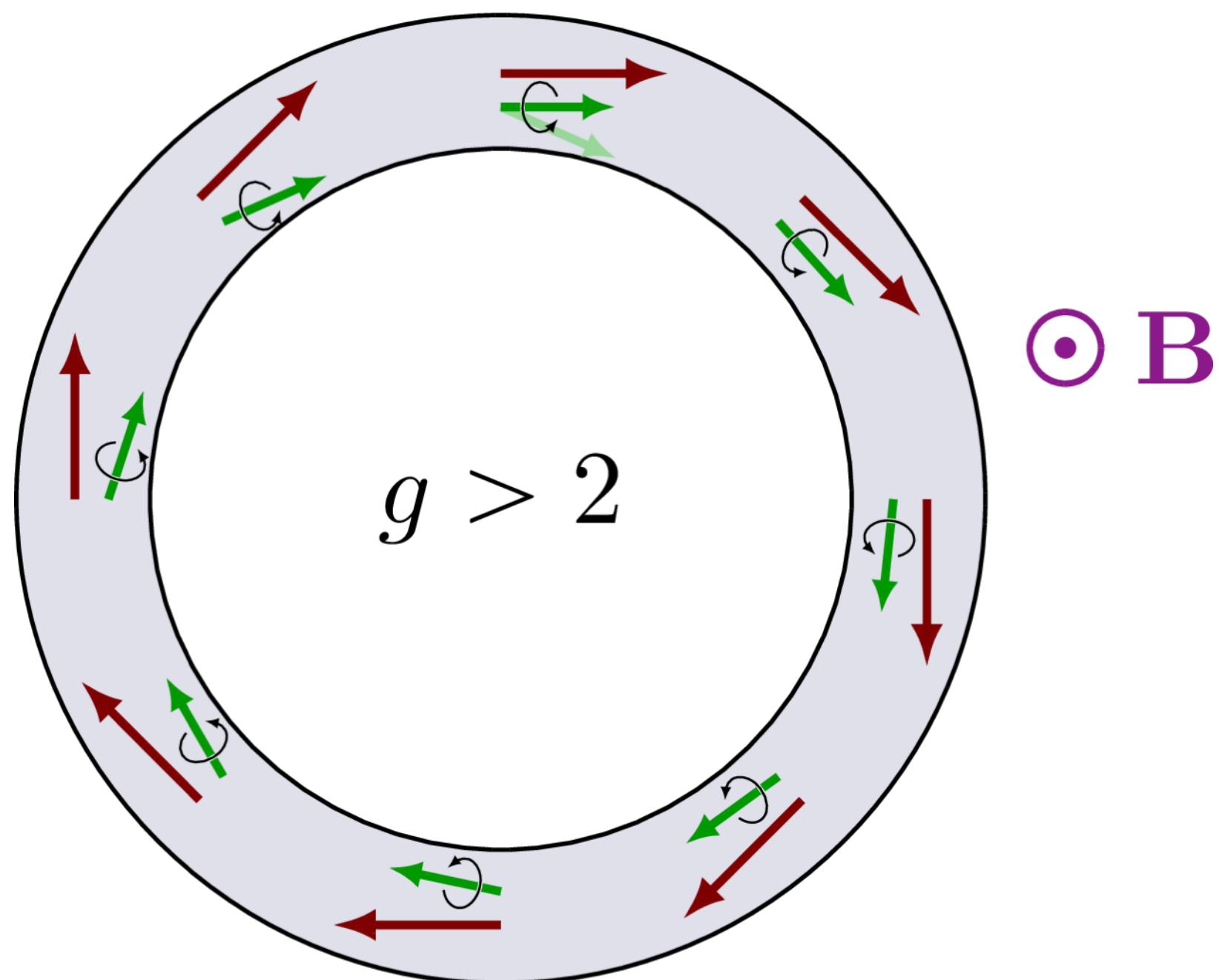
- Search long-range axion- $\nu$  coupling by  $\nu$  experiments
- Search non- $\nu$  axion couplings by reactor  $\nu$  experiment RELICS



# ALP related to muon g-2

- Positive value and a  $4.2\sigma$  (Fermilab + Brookhaven)

$$\Delta a_\mu = a_\mu^{\text{exp}} - a_\mu^{\text{th}} = (25.1 \pm 5.9) \times 10^{-10}$$

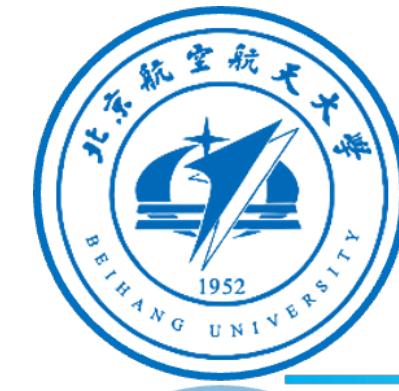


$\omega_c$ : cyclotron frequency

$\omega_s$ : spin precession frequency

$\omega_c = \omega_s$  if  $g = 2$ ,

measure  $g - 2$  by measuring  $\omega_s - \omega_c$



# Ultra-light ALP for Muon g-2

- The Lagrangian for ALP is

P. Agrawal, et al. PRD 108 (2023), 015017  
H. Davoudiasl, et al. PRL 130 (2023), 181802

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = g_a \partial_\alpha a \bar{\psi} \gamma^\alpha \gamma^5 \psi + g_s a \bar{N} N$$

Non relativistic limit

$$H = -g_a \vec{\nabla} a \cdot \hat{\vec{\sigma}}$$

Earth as source

$$\frac{da(r)}{dr} = -\frac{g_s}{r^2} \int_0^r n_N(\ell) \ell^2 d\ell$$

$$\frac{d\vec{S}}{dt} = \vec{\omega} \times \vec{S}, \quad \frac{d\hat{S}_i}{dt} = i [H, \hat{S}_i]$$

Muon rest frame

$$\delta\omega_j = -2g_a \partial_j a,$$

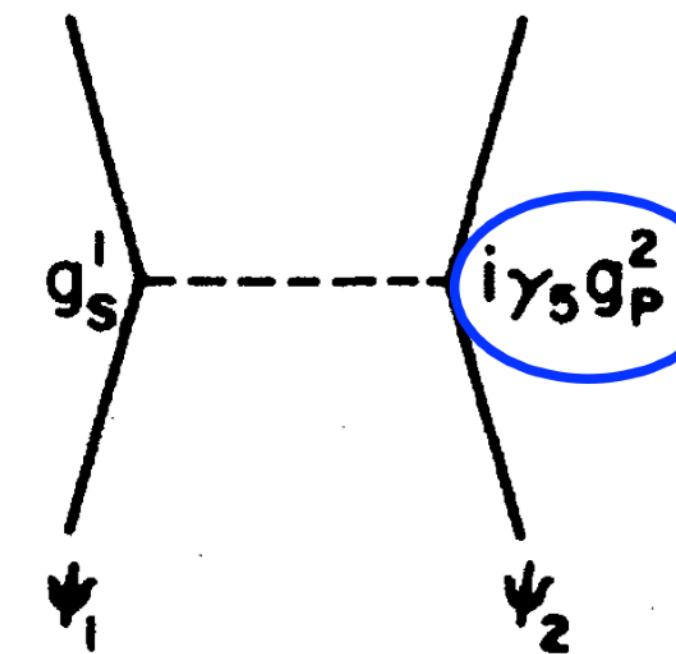
In lab frame:

$$\delta\omega = \frac{g_s g_a N_E}{2\pi\gamma r_E^2}$$

$g_a g_s \in [4.6 \times 10^{-29}, 1.7 \times 10^{-28}] \text{ GeV}^{-1}$   
H. Davoudiasl, et al. PRL 130 (2023), 181802



# Spin dependent Scalar Force



CP violating coupling

$$\mathcal{L} = \partial_\mu a \left( \bar{\nu}_L^i \kappa_\nu^{ij} \nu_L^j + \bar{e}_L^i \kappa_L^{ij} e_L^j + \bar{e}_R^i \kappa_R^{ij} e_R^j \right) + g_s a \bar{N} N$$

$$\kappa_\nu = \kappa_L = -\kappa_R$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = g_a \partial_\alpha a \bar{\ell} \gamma^\alpha \gamma^5 \ell + g_s a \bar{N} N$$

Weak  
Symmetry

- This leads to a gradient interaction between neutrinos and matter

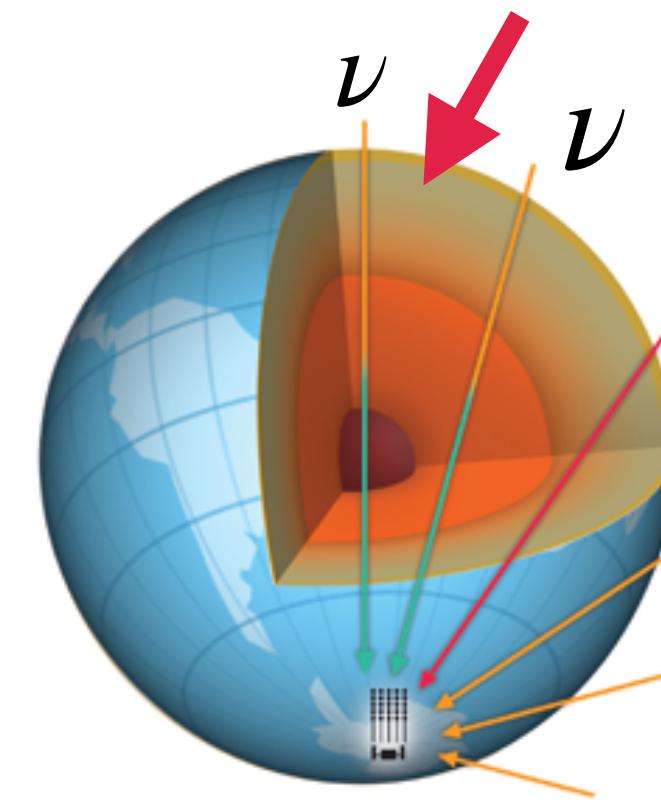
$$\Delta H = \kappa_\nu \nabla a \cdot \vec{p} / |\vec{p}|$$

The potential for the matter source (Sun/ Earth)

$$\frac{da(r)}{dr} = -\frac{g_s}{r} \int_0^r n_N(\ell) \ell^2 d\ell$$



# Atmospheric Neutrino



$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \quad \dots \quad N \\ \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\ A_1 = e^{-i\mathcal{H}_1 L_1} \quad \dots \quad A_N = e^{-i\mathcal{H}_N L_N} \end{array}$$

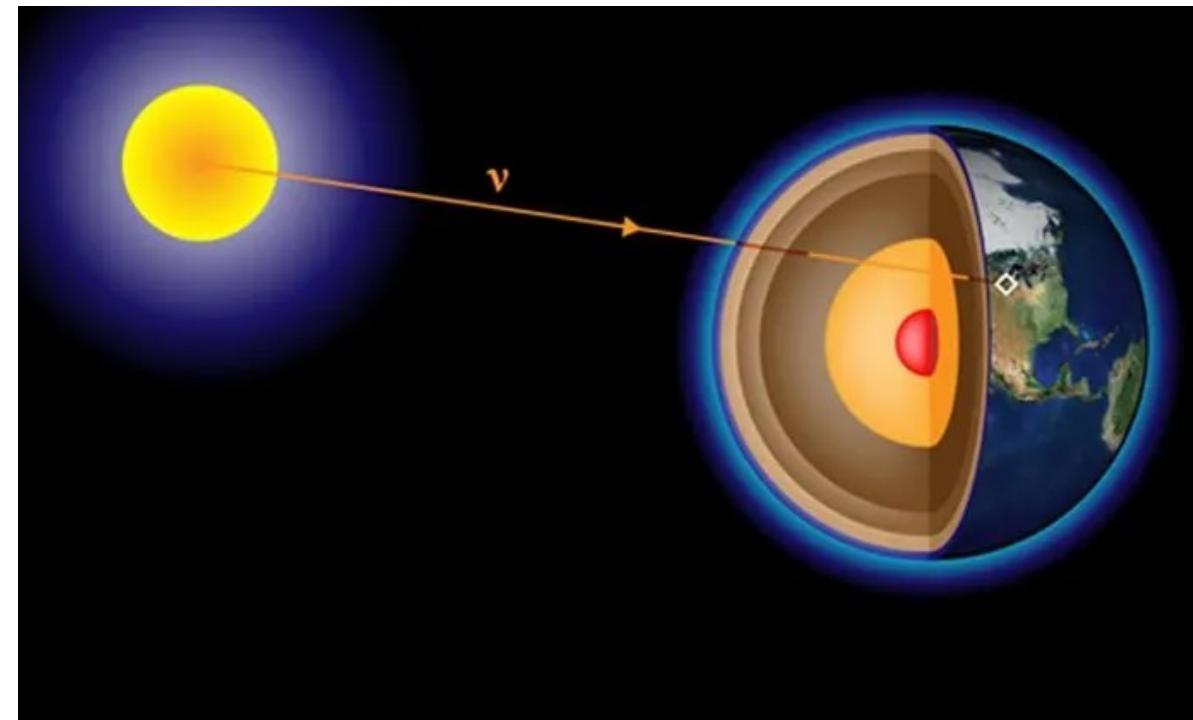
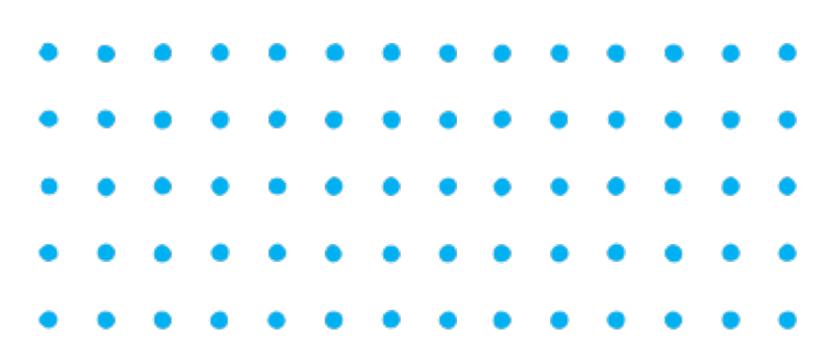
- **Total time evolution:**  $A = A_N \cdots A_1$

- **Oscillation probability:**  $P_{\alpha\beta} = |A_{\alpha\beta}^T|^2$

Preliminary reference Earth model (PREM)  
Adam M. Dziewonski, et al.



# Solar Neutrino

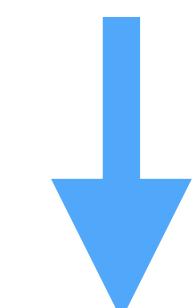


Inside Sun: adiabaticity approximation  
each eigenstate evolves independently.

$$i \frac{d\nu_j}{dx} \approx \mathcal{H}^{\text{diag}} \nu_j$$

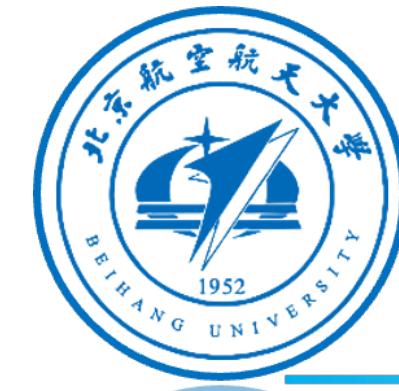
- **From Sun to Earth: very long propagation length**

$$P_{\alpha\beta} \approx \sum_{j=1}^3 \left| U_{\alpha j}^m(r_0) \right|^2 \left| U_{\beta j} \right|^2$$

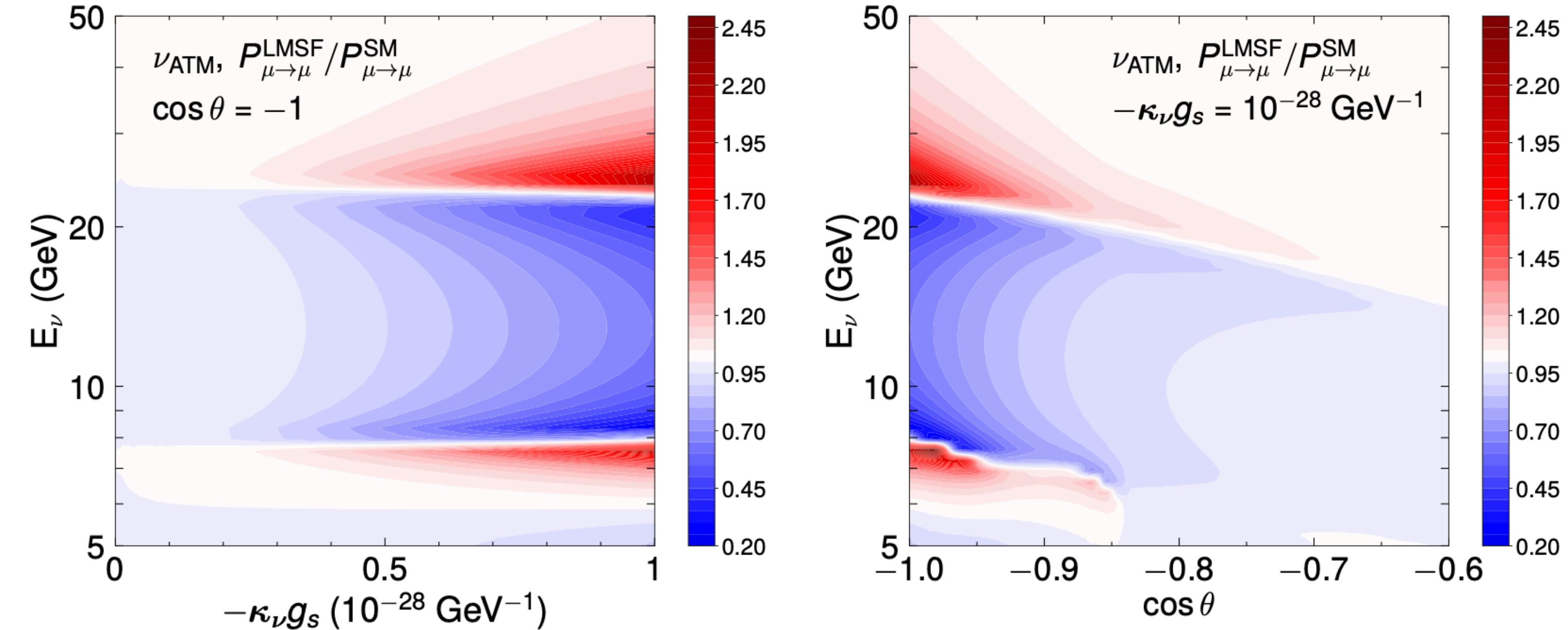


( $U^m$ : the matrix diagonalizes the total Hamiltonian)

Only depends on production position



# The oscillation probability



- $\chi^2$  method for the atmospheric neutrino data

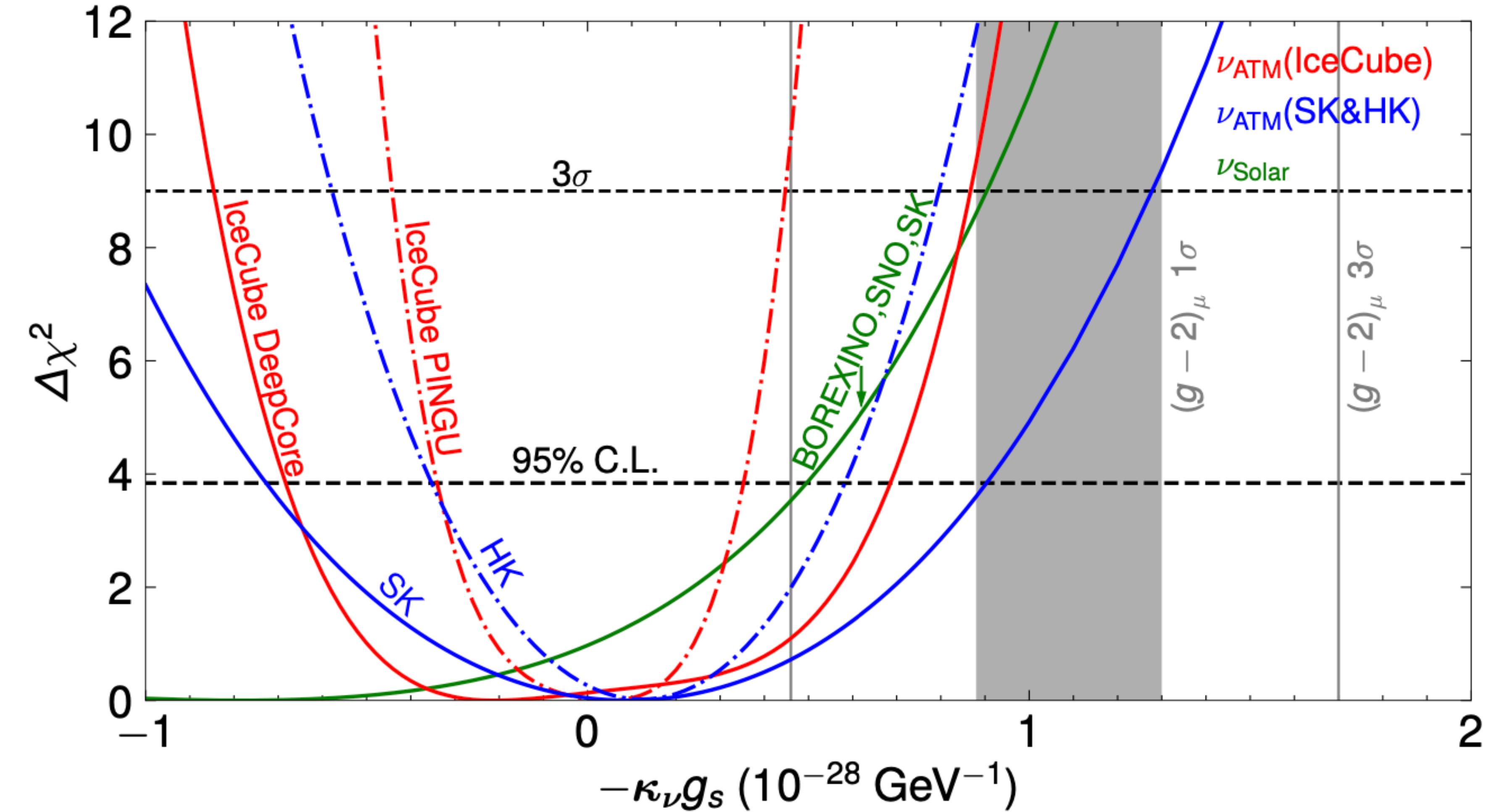
$$\chi^2(N, O) = 2 \sum_{ija} \left( N_{ija} - O_{ija} + O_{ija} \ln \frac{O_{ija}}{N_{ija}} \right)$$

i and j refer to the bin indices for neutrino energy  $E_\nu$  and incoming angle  $\cos\theta$



# Final Results for the Axion- $\nu$ Coupling

- The 95% constraints from neutrino experiments



- Solar/ATM  $\nu$  experiments exclude the 5th force solution to muon g-2 at  $1\sigma$



# Outline

- Search long-range axion- $\nu$  coupling by  $\nu$  experiments
- Search non- $\nu$  axion couplings by reactor  $\nu$  experiment RELICS



# RELICS Collaboration

- 6 Institutes, ~40 members.

**REL $\Sigma$ CS**  
REactor neutrino LIquid xenon  
Coherent elastic Scattering

## RELICS合作组2024-2025年会

2024.12.21 @中山大学



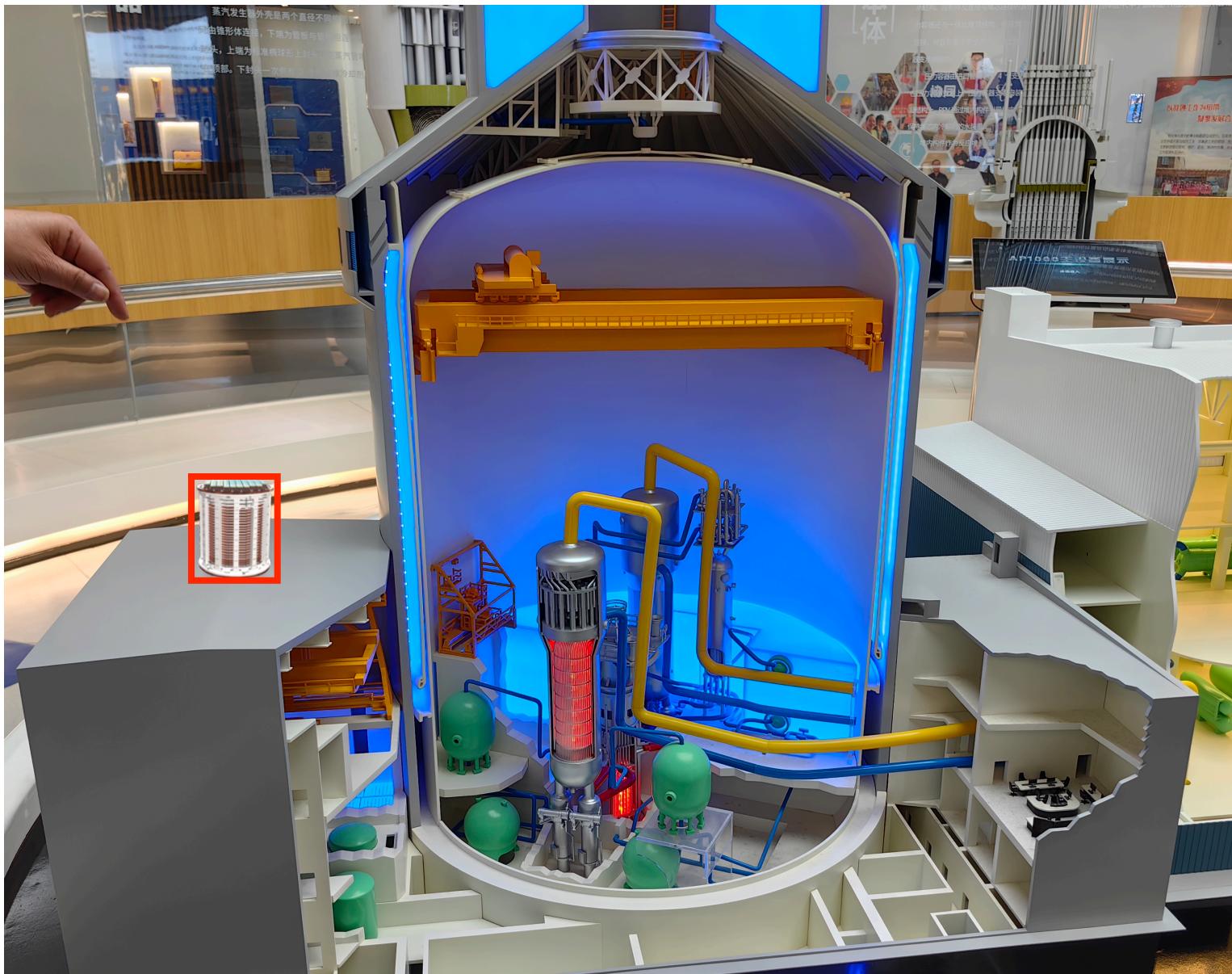
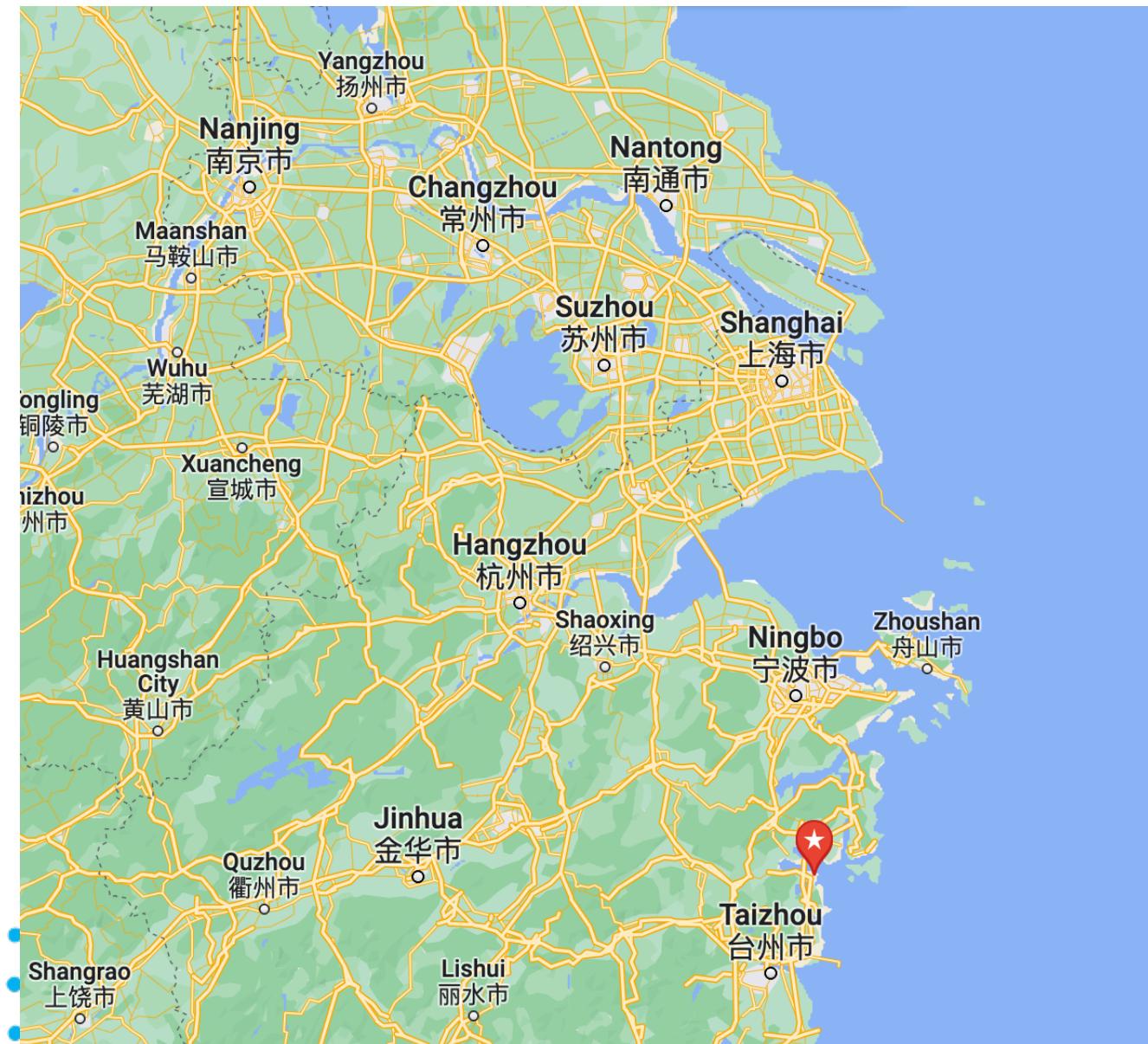
香港中文大學(深圳)  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen





# RELICS Experiment

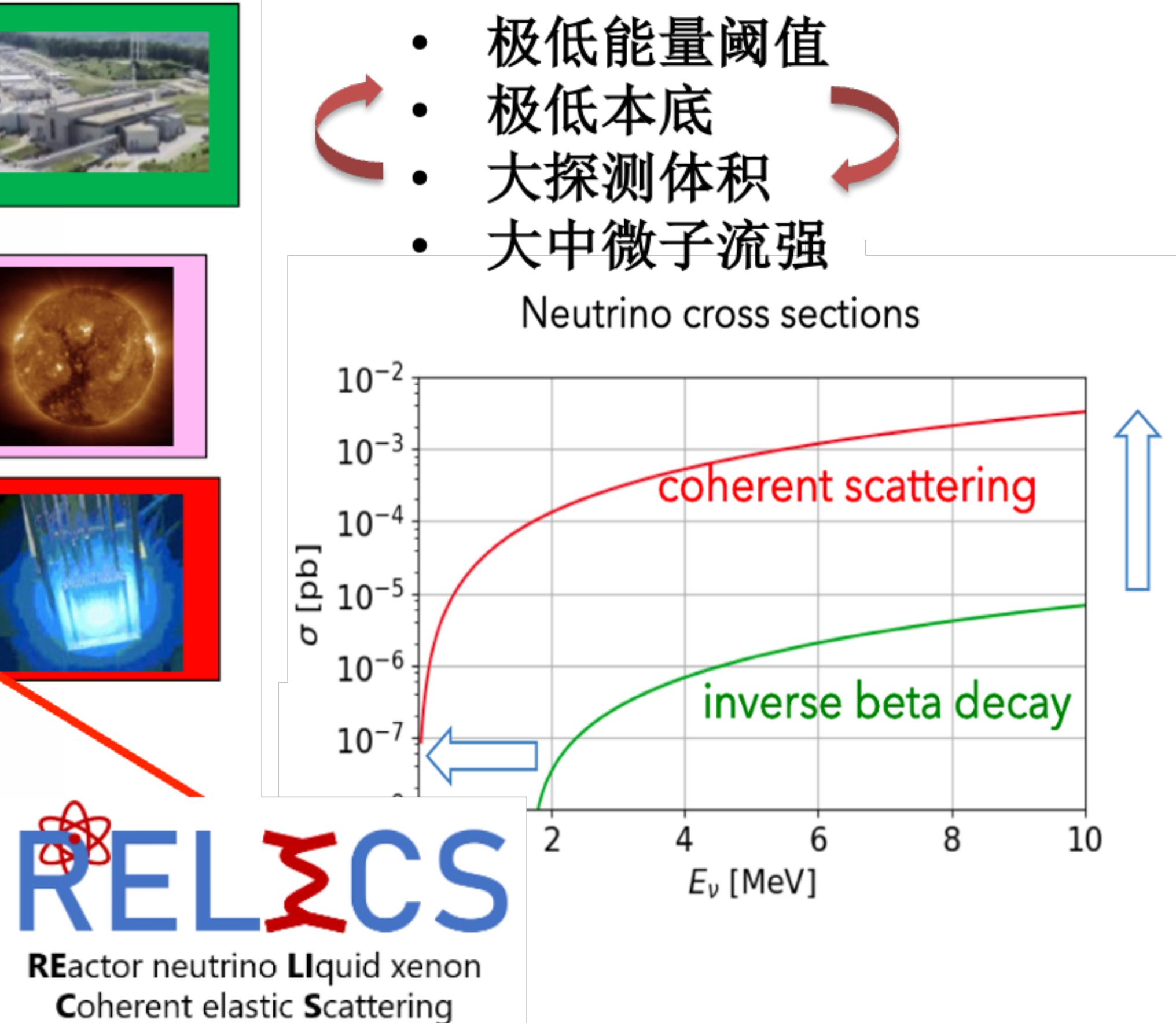
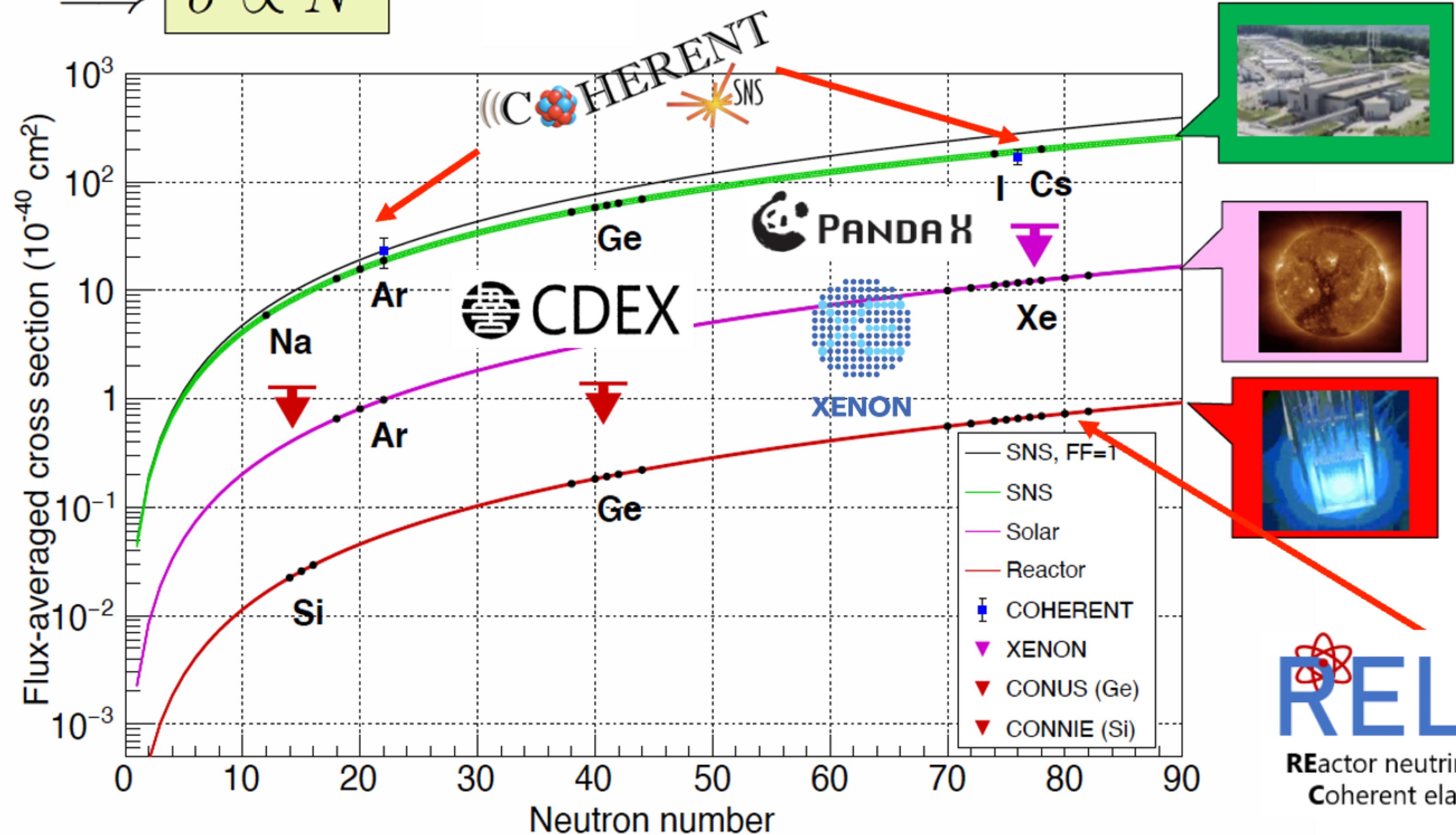
- Sanmen Nuclear Power Plant, Zhejiang Province
- Thermal Power ~3.4GW, baseline ~22m
- Neutrino flux ~ $1e14 \nu/cm^2/s$





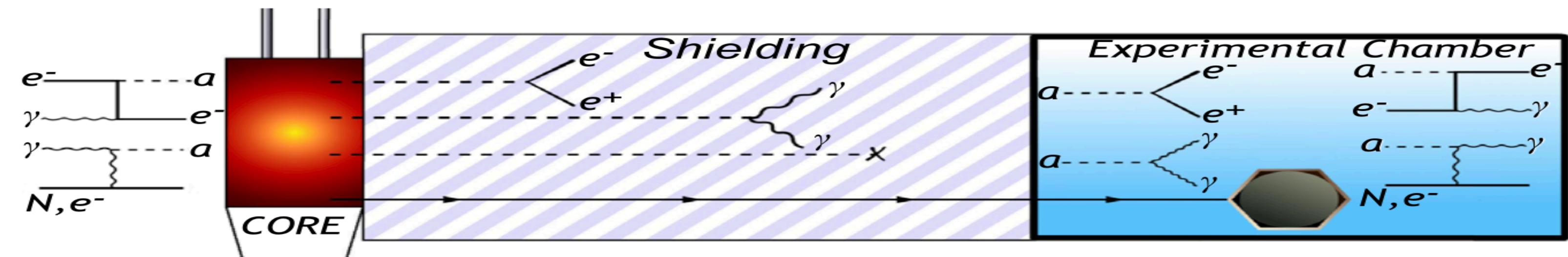
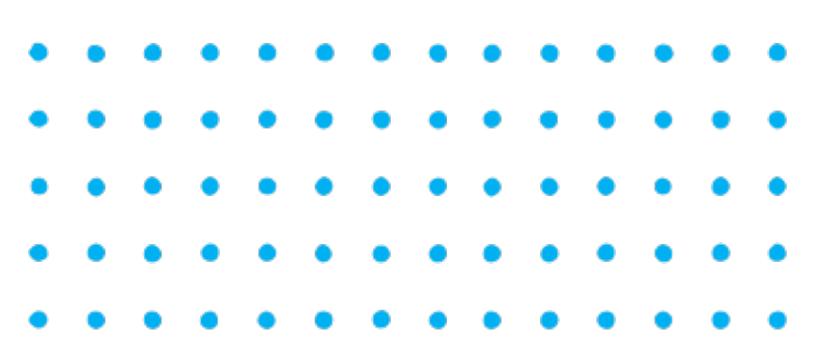
# RELICS Experiment

$$\sigma \propto Q_W^2 \propto (N - (1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W)Z)^2$$
$$\implies \sigma \propto N^2$$

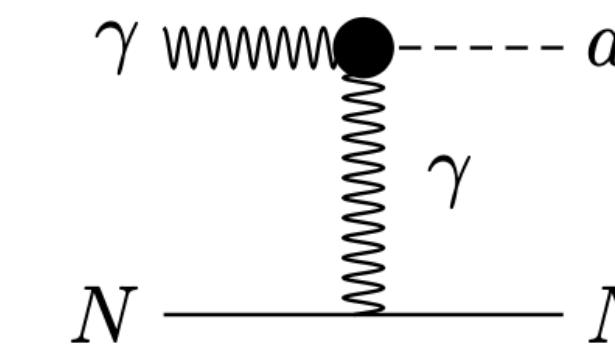




# Axion Production from Reactor

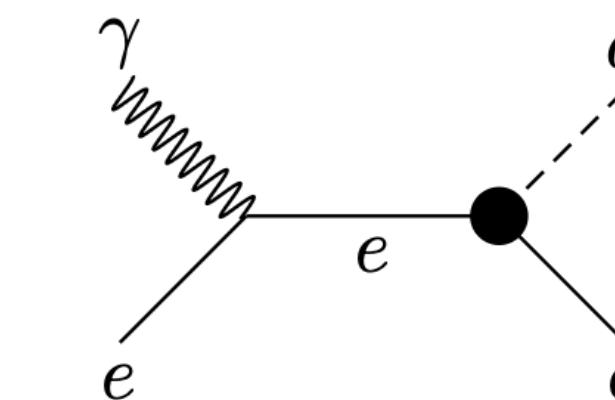


Primakoff

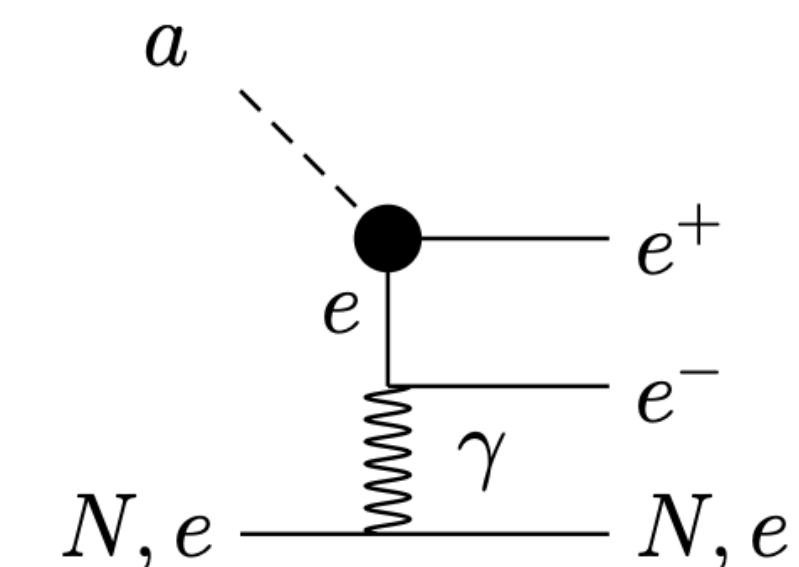
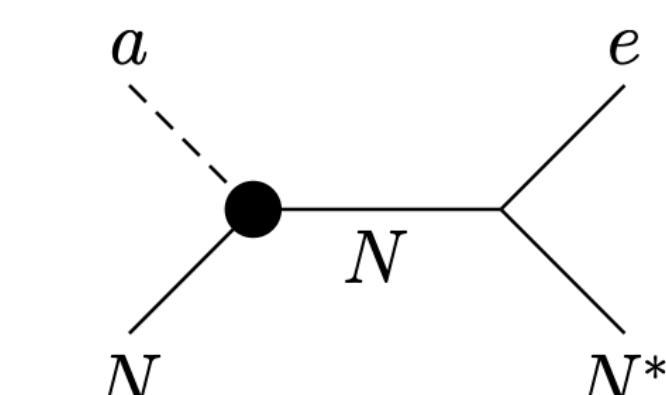
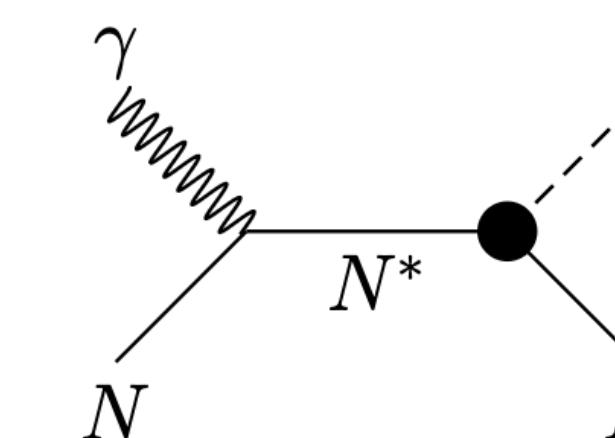


**Inverse Primakoff**  
**Inverse Compton-like**  
**Nuclear excitation**

Compton-like

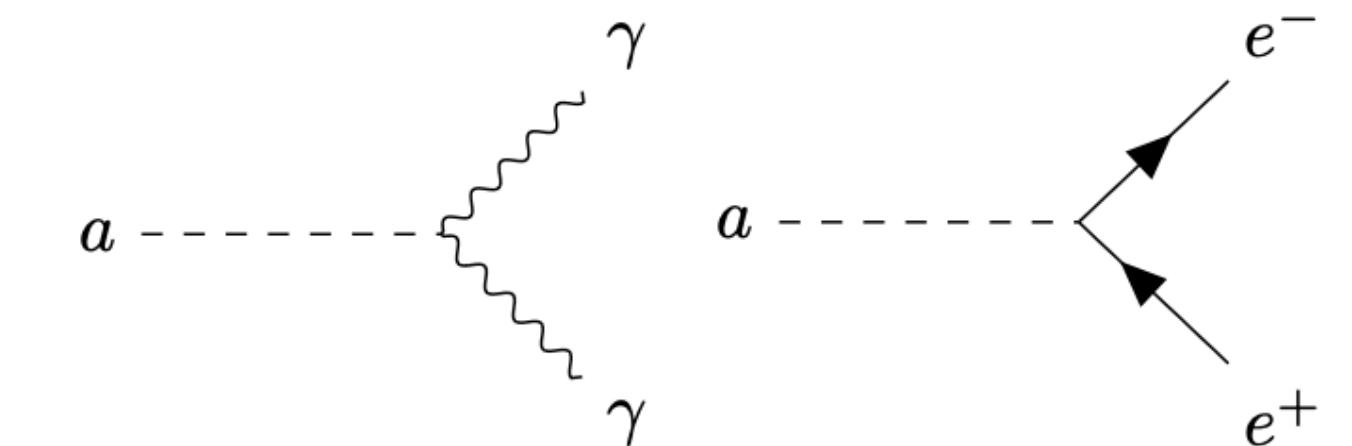
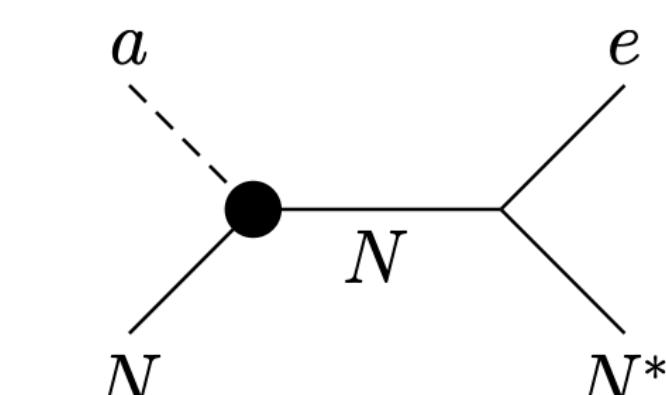


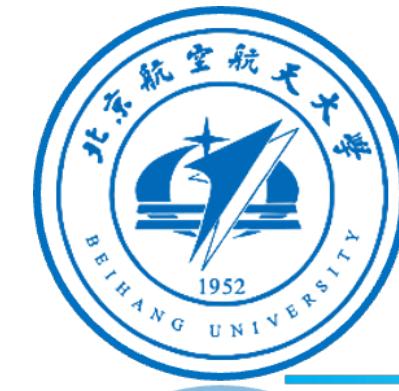
Axio-electric process



Axion decay

Nuclear de-excitation





# Reactor ALP flux at detector

- Photon from fission:

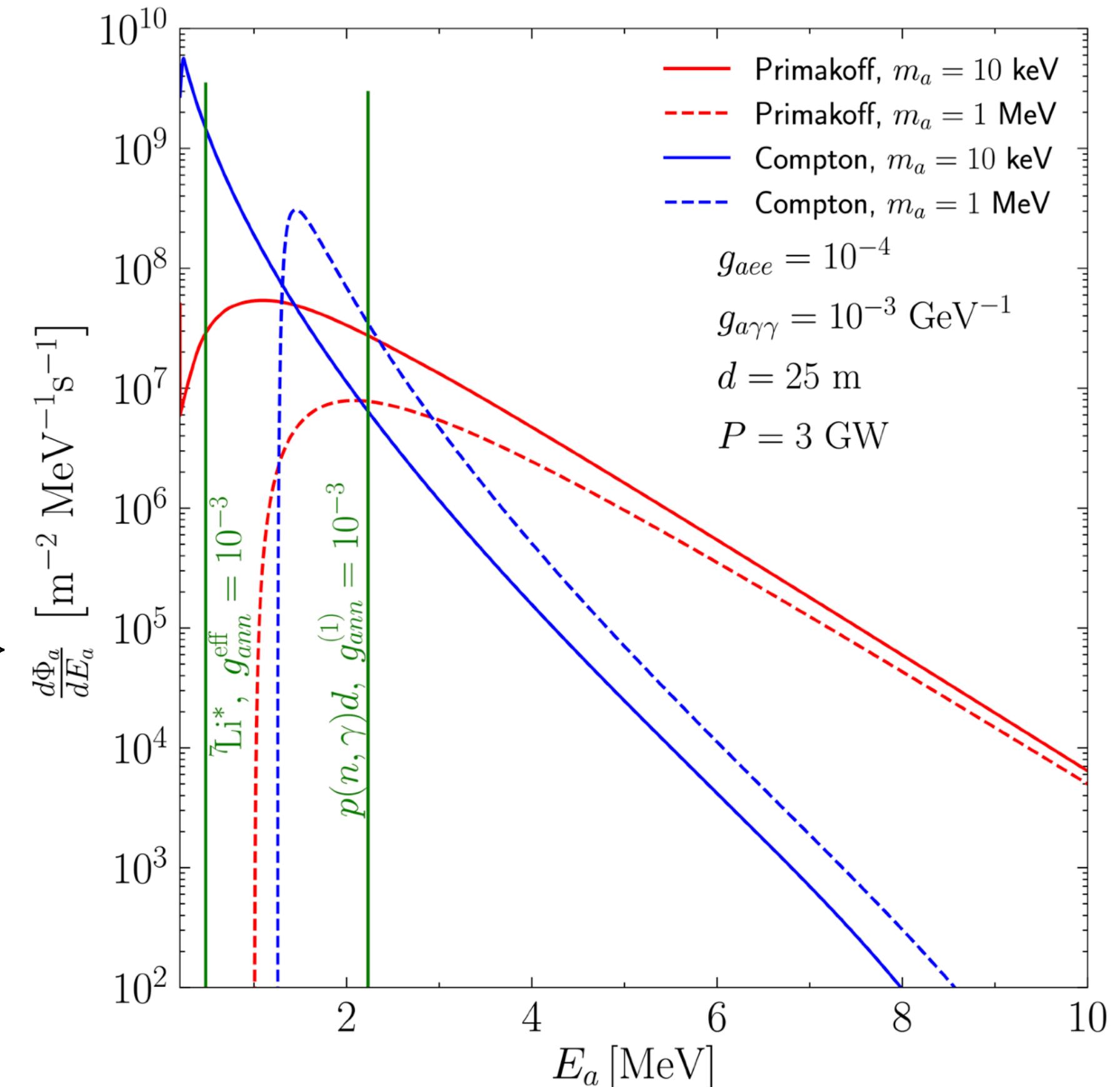
$$\frac{d\Phi_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} = \frac{5.8 \times 10^{17}}{\text{MeV sec}} \left( \frac{P}{\text{MW}} \right) e^{-\frac{E_\gamma}{0.91 \text{ MeV}}}$$

- ALP from Photon

$$\frac{d\sigma_P^P}{dt} = 2\alpha Z^2 F^2(t) g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 \frac{M_N^4}{t^2 (M_N^2 - s)^2 (t - 4M_N^2)^2} \left\{ m_a^2 t (M_N^2 + s) - m_a^4 M_N^2 - t [(M_N^2 - s)^2 + st] \right\}$$

- ALP from Electron

$$\frac{d\sigma_P^C}{dE_a} = \frac{Z\pi g_{aee}^2 \alpha x}{4\pi(s - m_e^2)(1 - x)E_\gamma'} \left[ x - \frac{2m_a^2 s}{(s - m_e^2)^2} + \frac{2m_a^2}{(s - m_e^2)^2} \left( \frac{m_e^2}{1 - x} + \frac{m_a^2}{x} \right) \right]$$

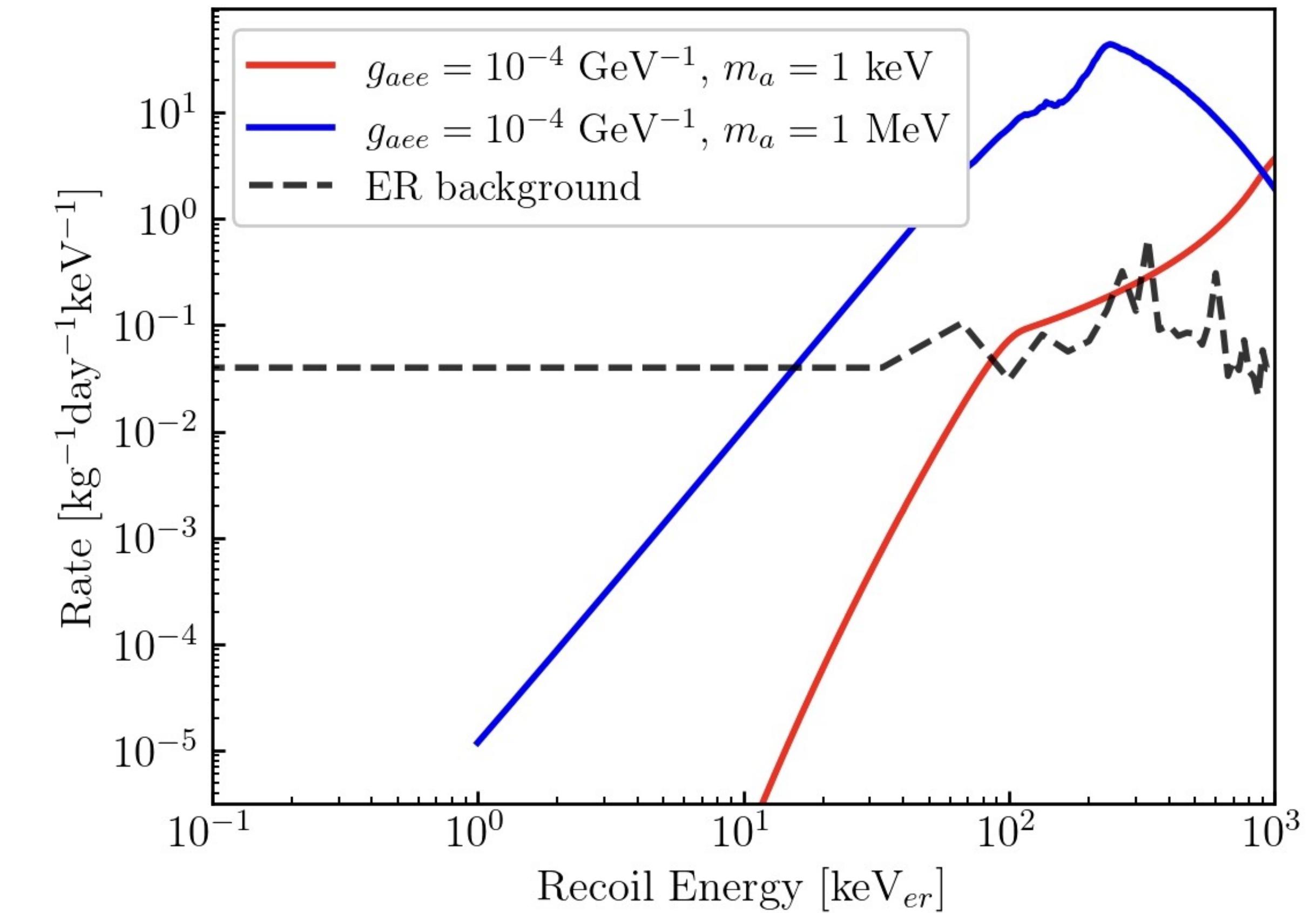
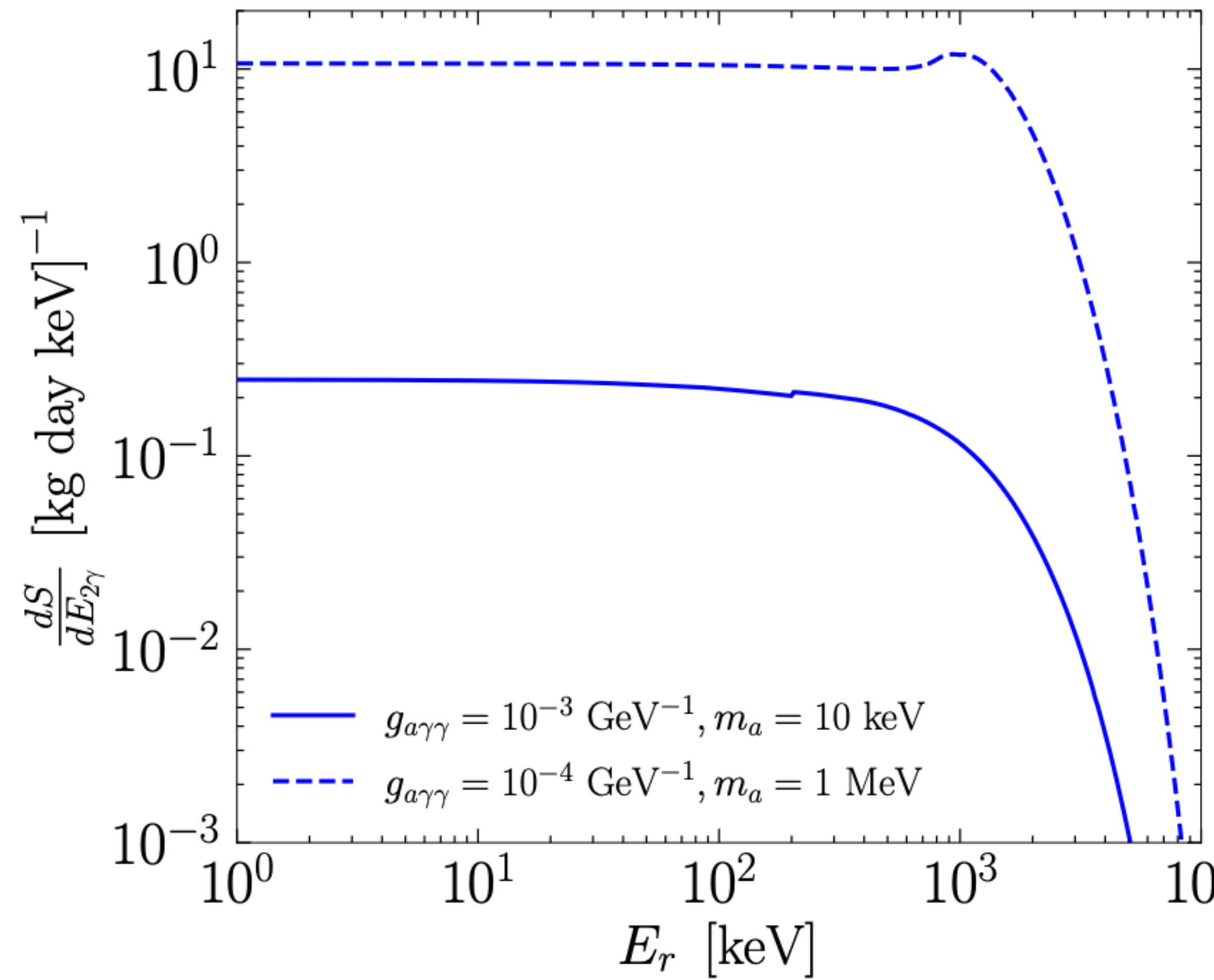




# Electronic recoil energy spectrum

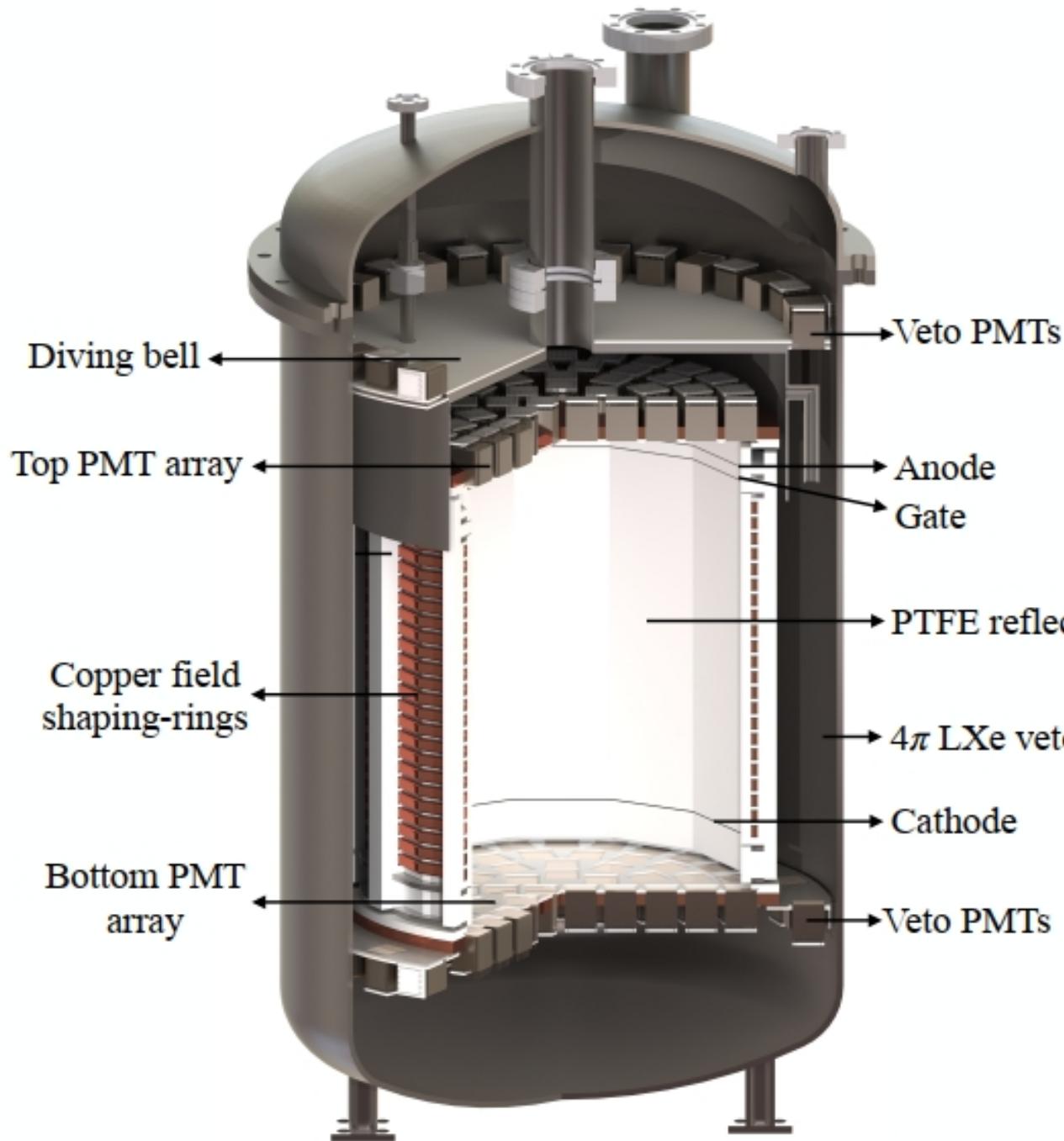
- The energy spectrum for signal is

$$\frac{dS}{dE_f} = TN_t \frac{1}{4\pi R^2} \int dE_a \frac{1}{L_D^2} \frac{d\Gamma_a}{\Gamma_a dE_f} \mathcal{P}_a \frac{d\Phi_a}{dE_a} \Theta(E_r - E_r^{\min}(E_a)) \Theta(E_r^{\max}(E_a) - E_r)$$

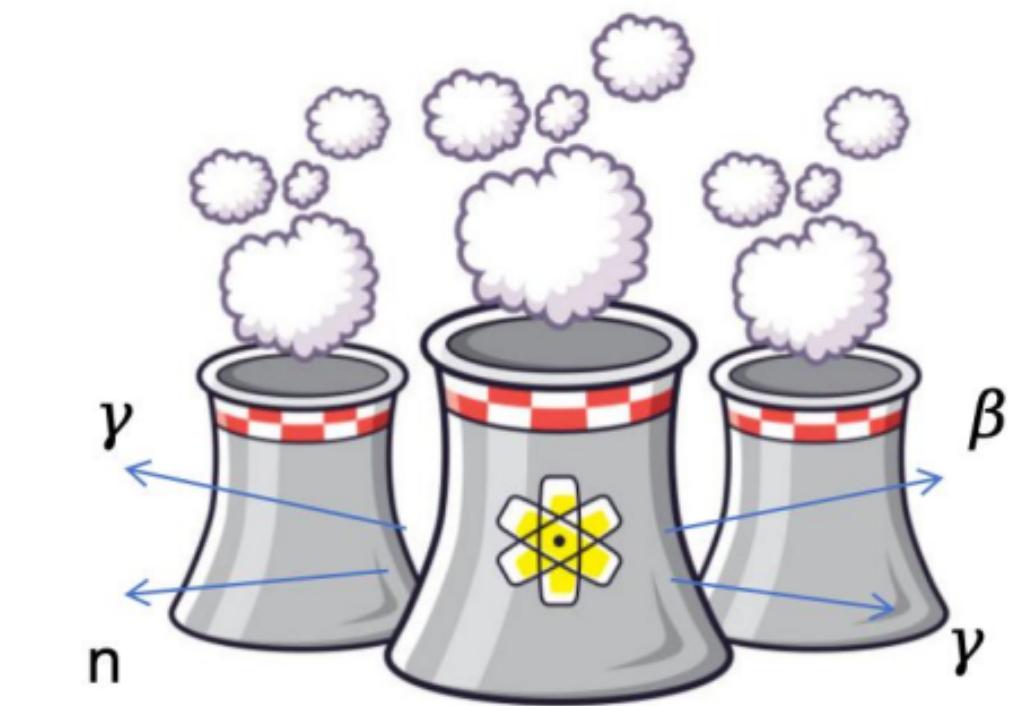
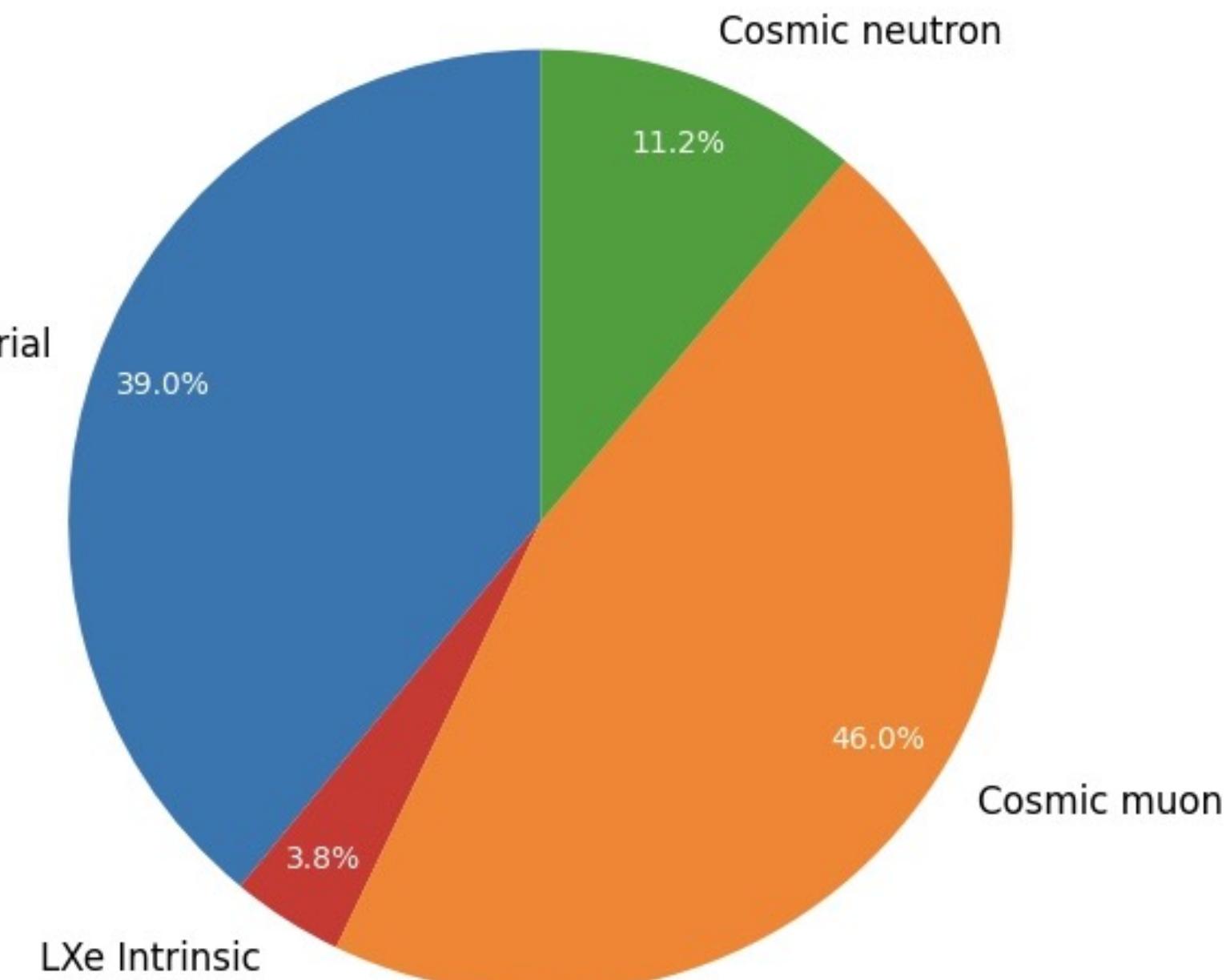




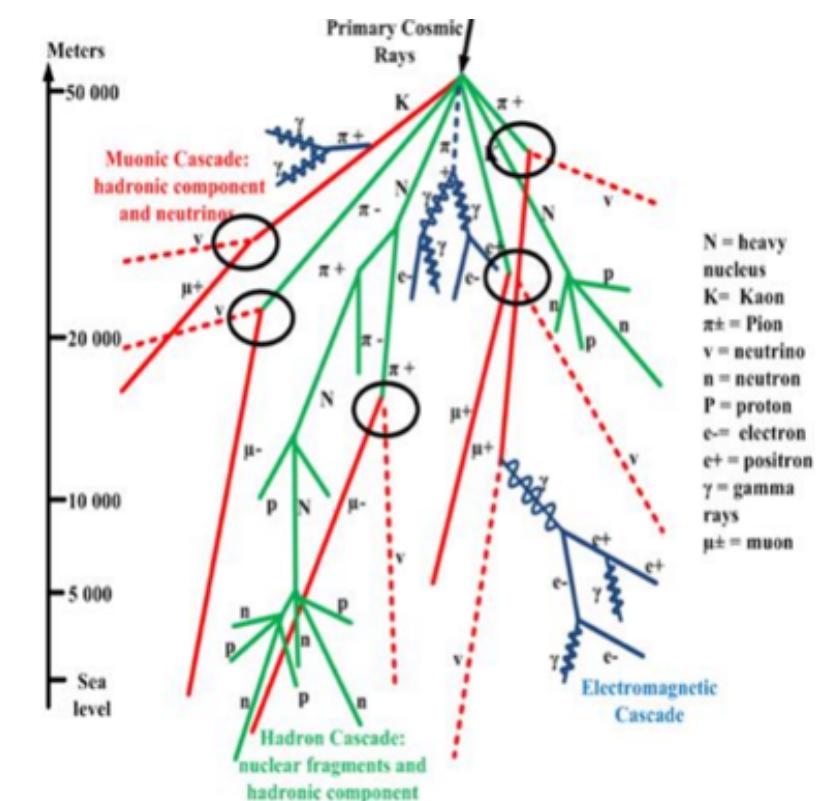
# RELICS background



neutron,  $\gamma$  from  
detector materials



neutron,  $\gamma$  from  
Reactor, environment

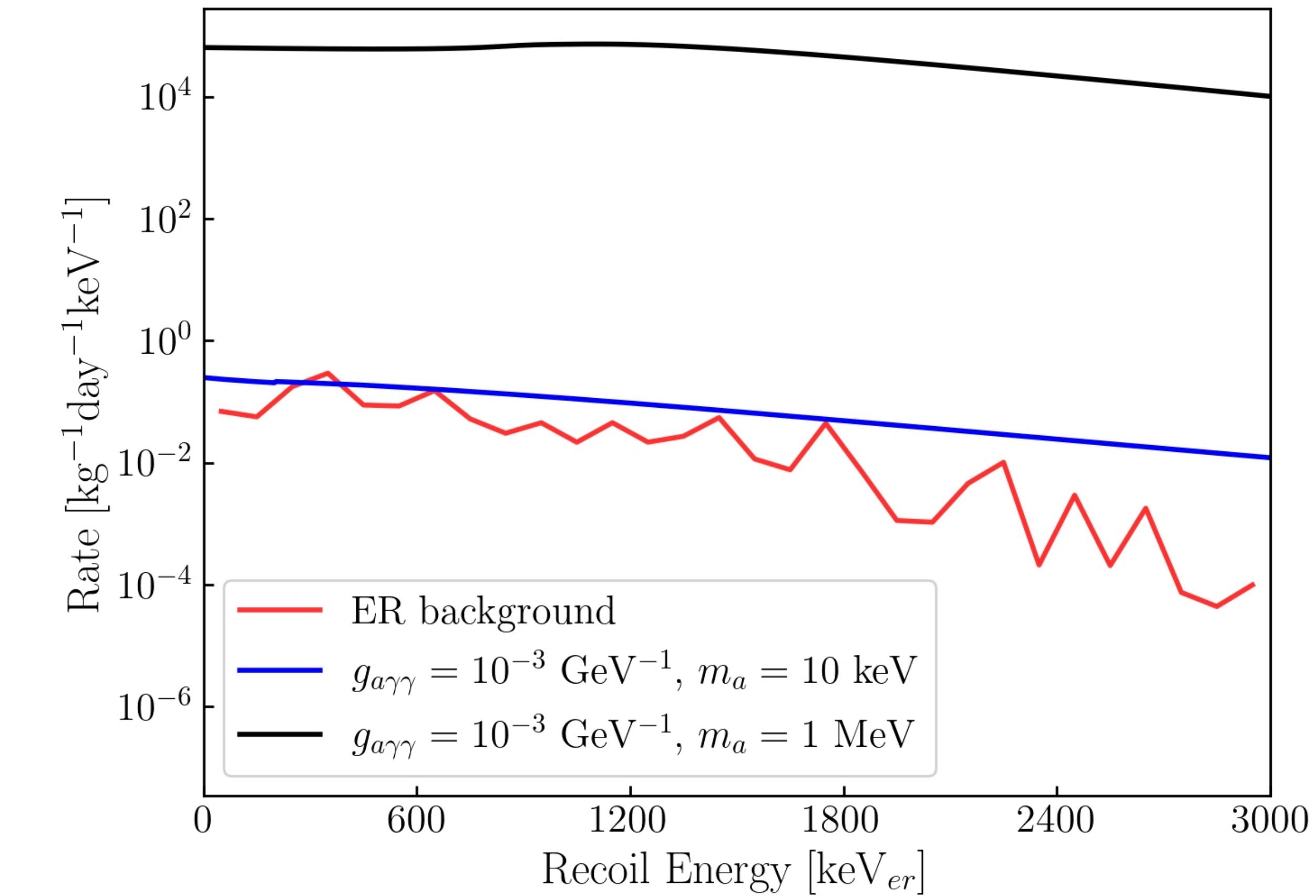
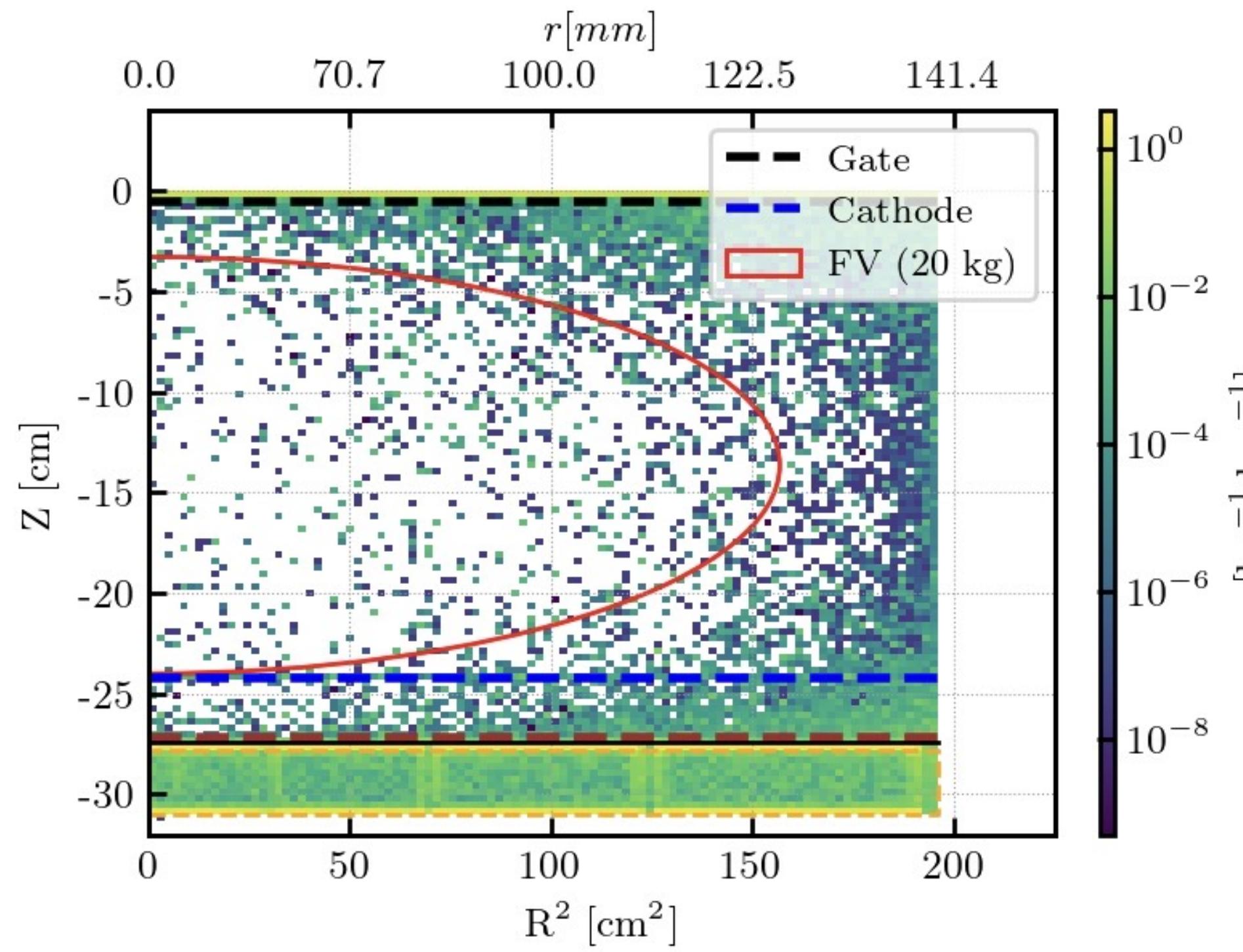


Cosmic muons  
Cosmic neutrons



# RELICS background

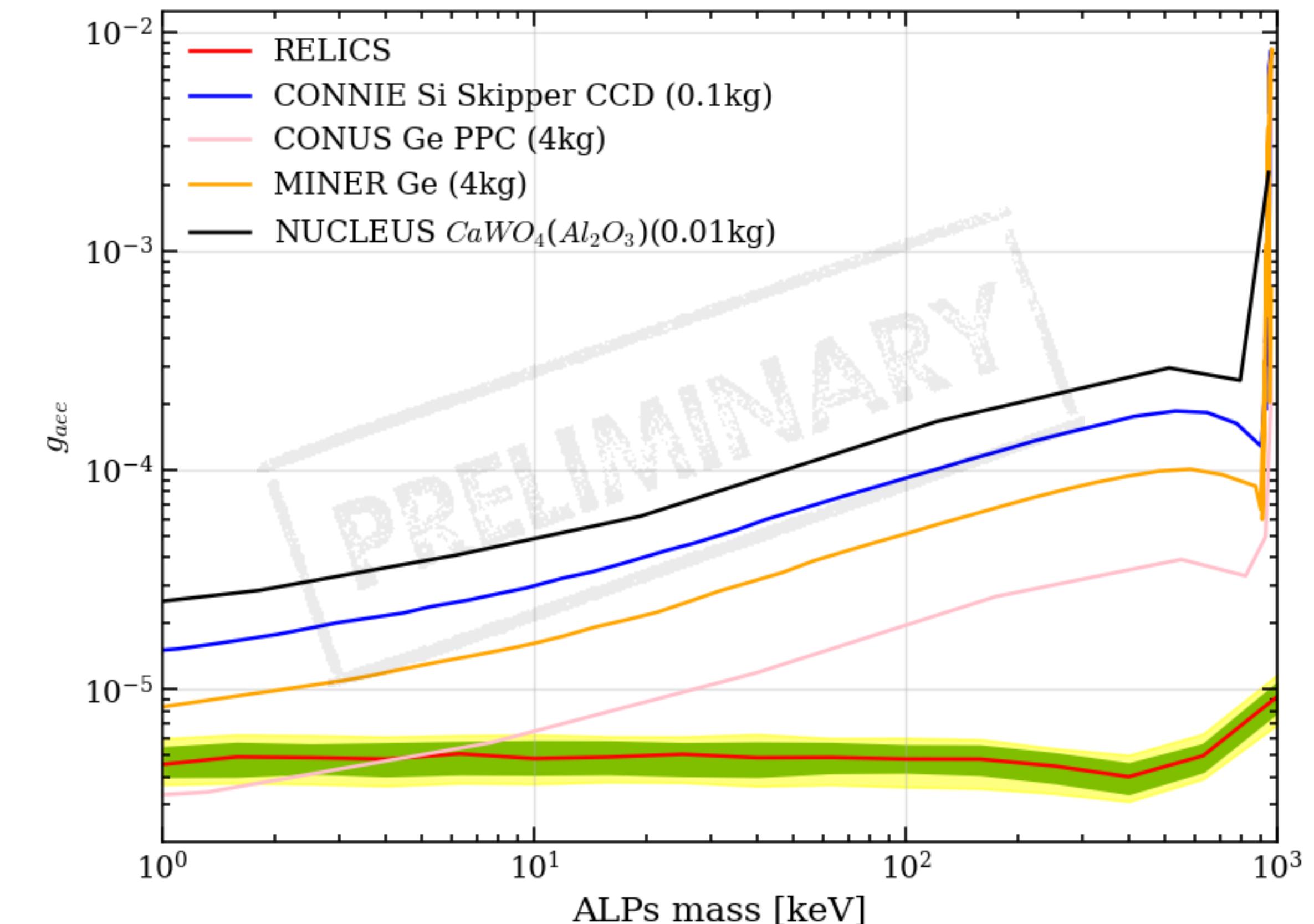
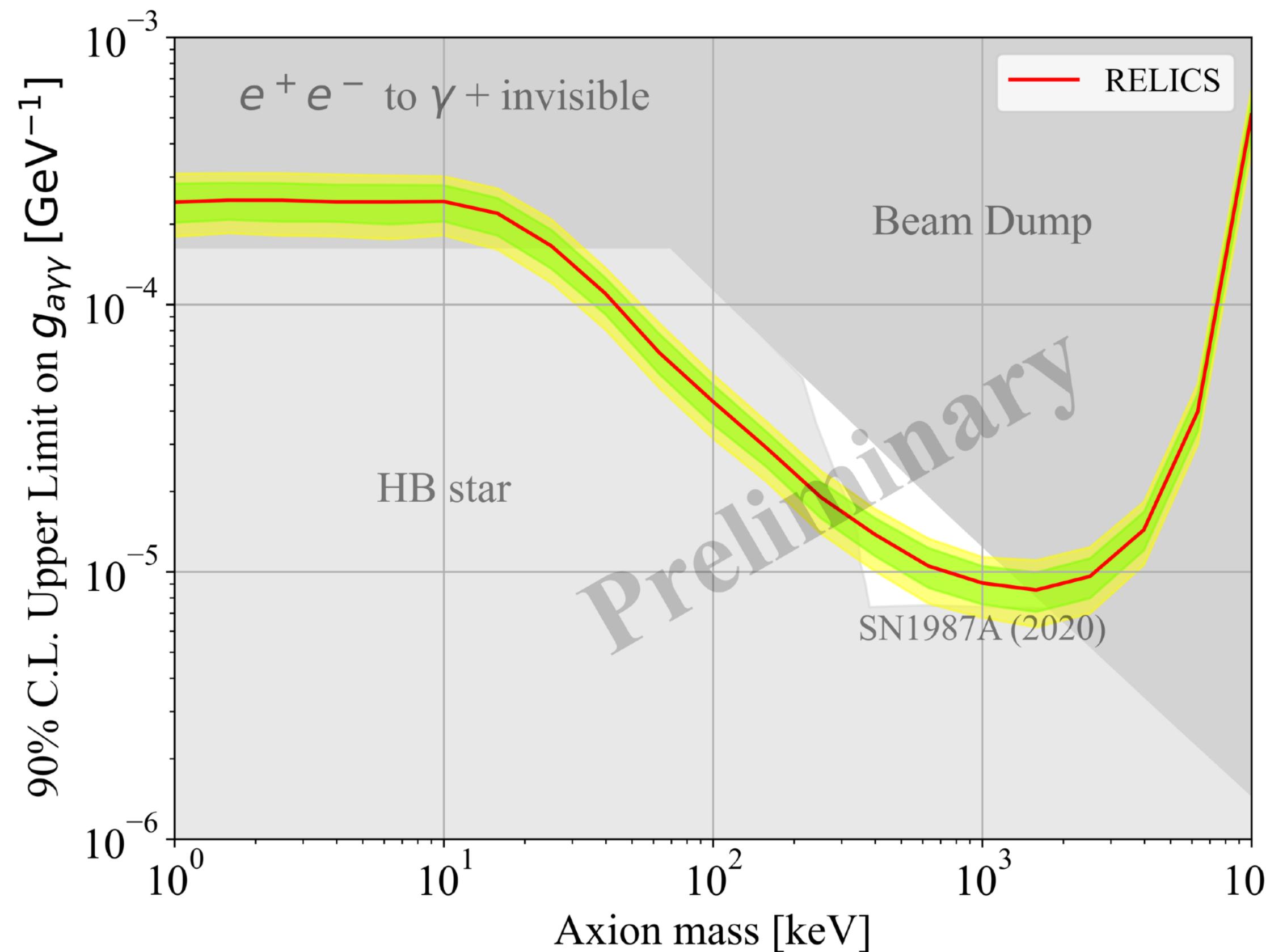
- We use Geant4 simulations for the background





# RELICS Sensitivity

- RELICS sensitivity on ALP coupling with 20 kg·year exposure





# Summary

- Axion have the potential to solve strong CP problem.
- Neutrino oscillation experiments can be used to detect long-range muon spin force via ALP which can explain muon g-2.
- RELICS has rich physics, competitive in the search for axions, which can explore or close the Cosmological Triangle.

**Thank you!**