

# New dark matter search channels at electron colliders

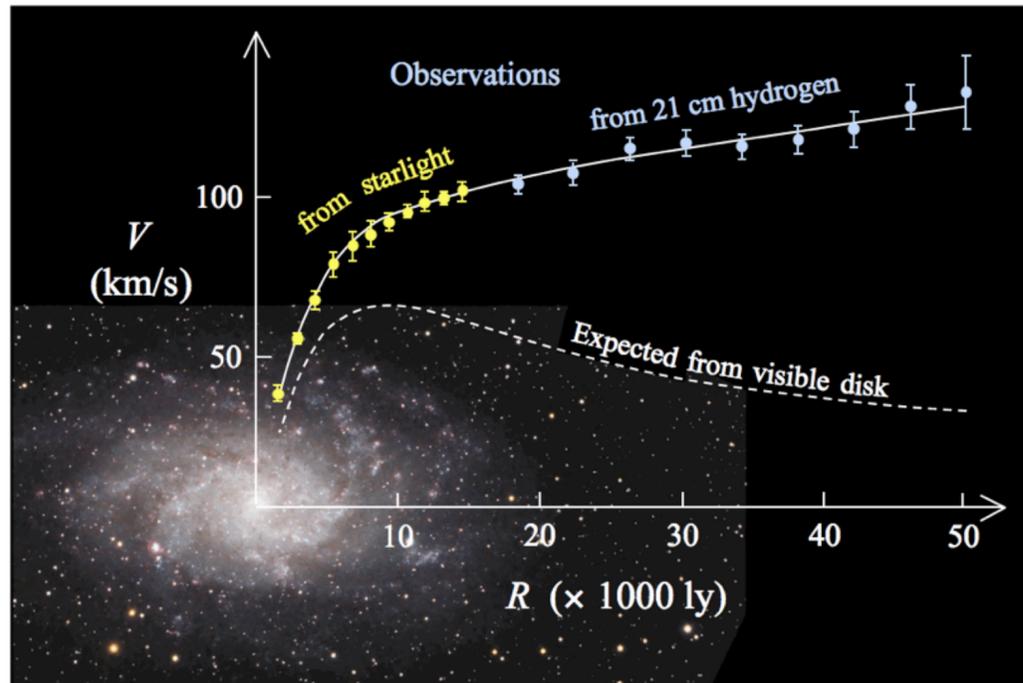
刘佐伟 (南京大学)

BESIII实验物理研讨会

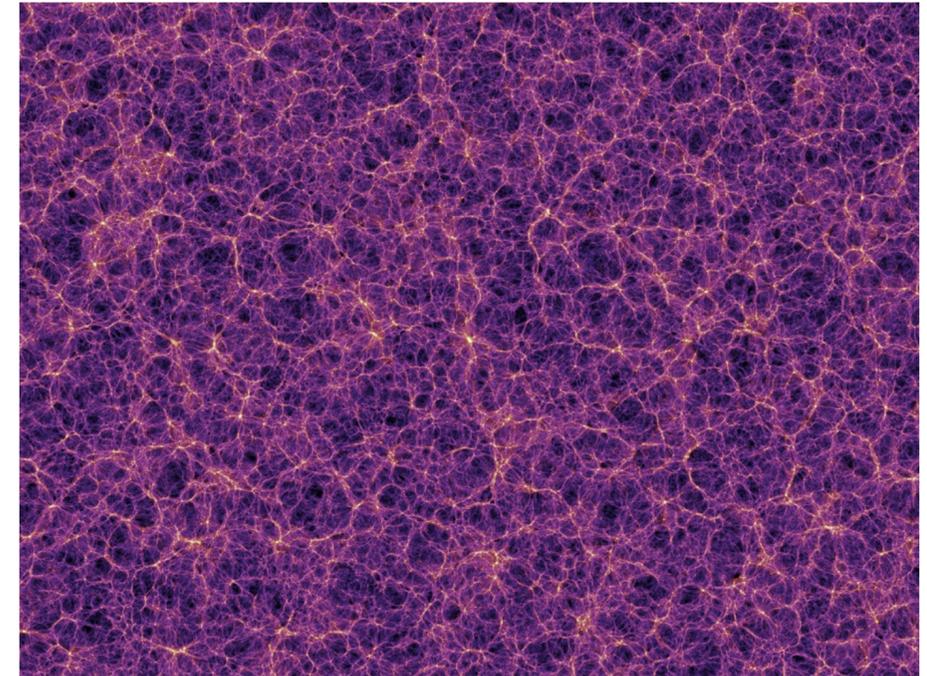
Feb 5-9, 2026, Beijing

# Evidence of dark matter

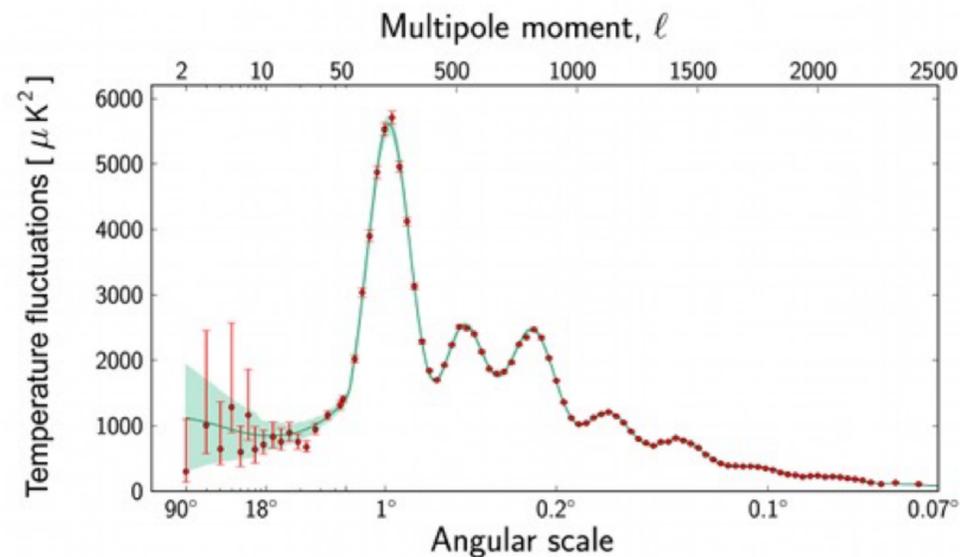
galaxy rotation curve



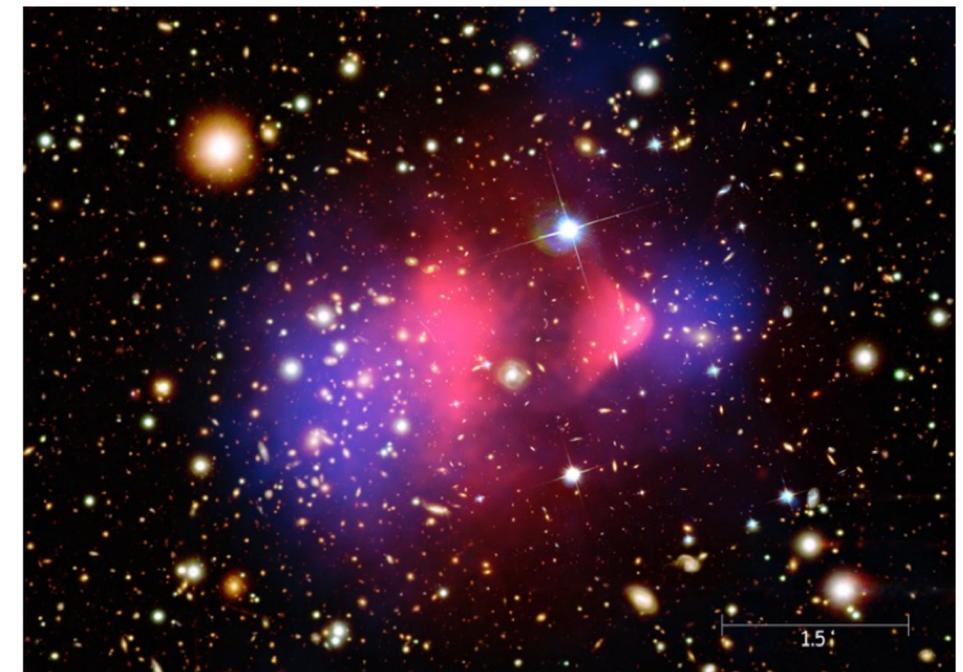
large scale structure



cosmic microwave background

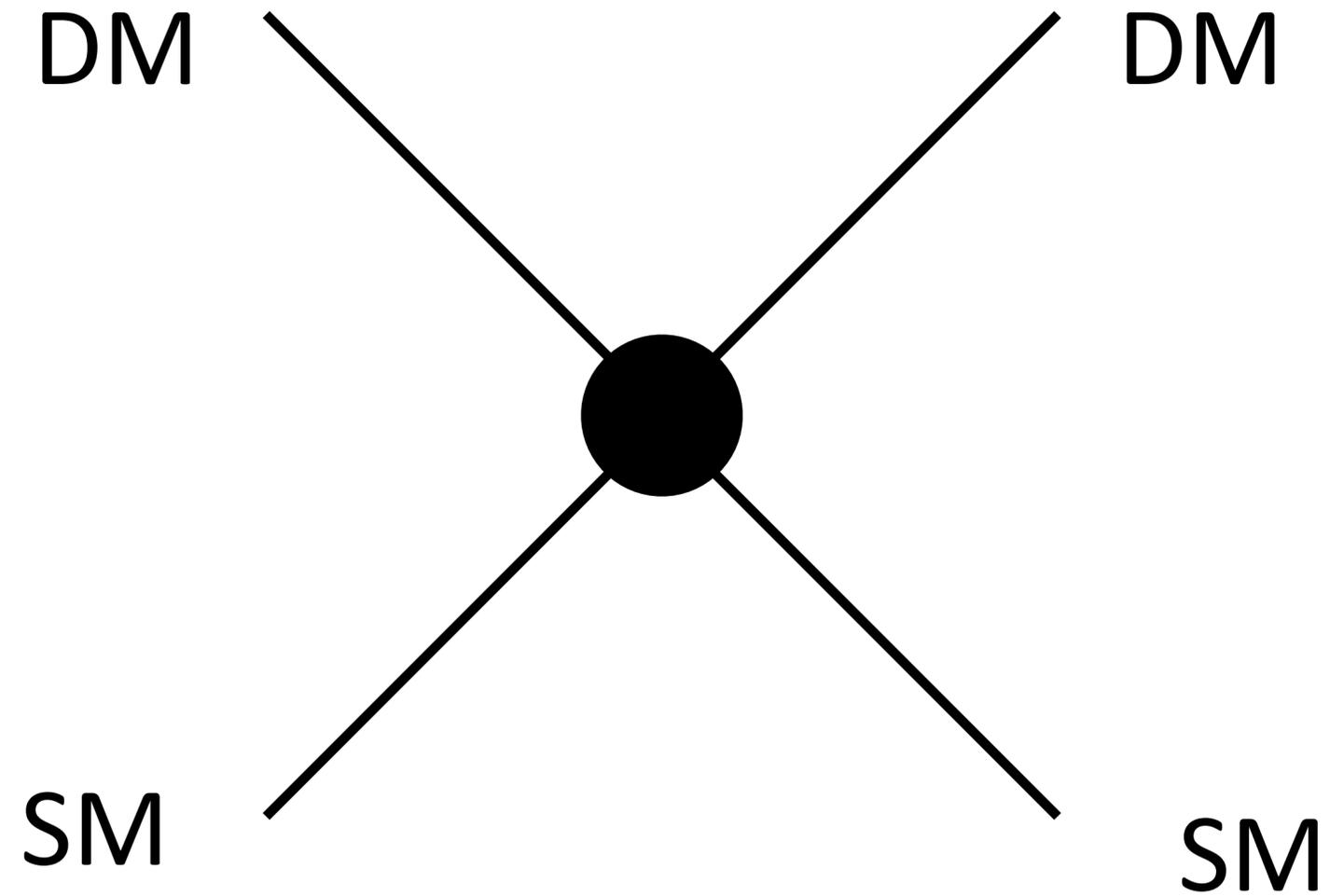


gravity lensing

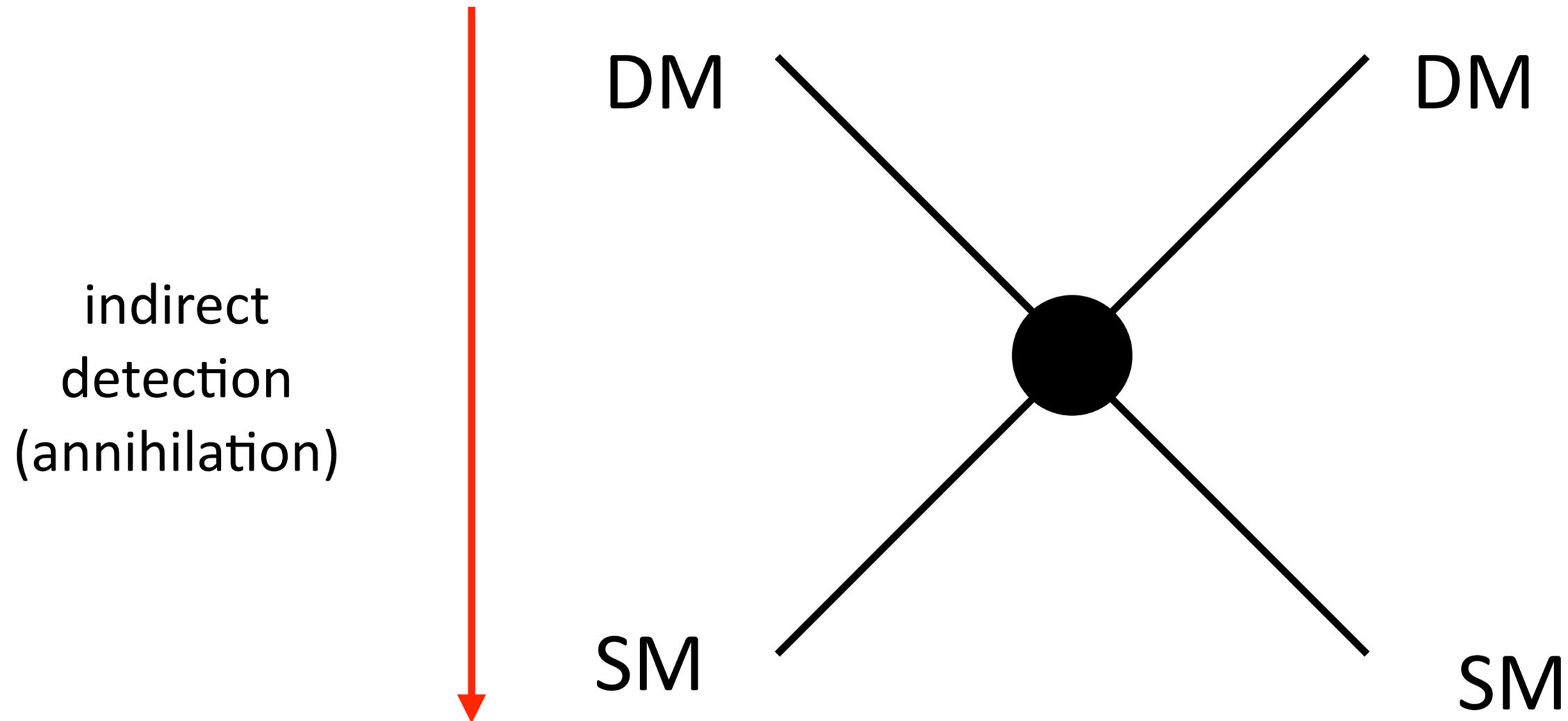


# Searches for particle dark matter in experiments

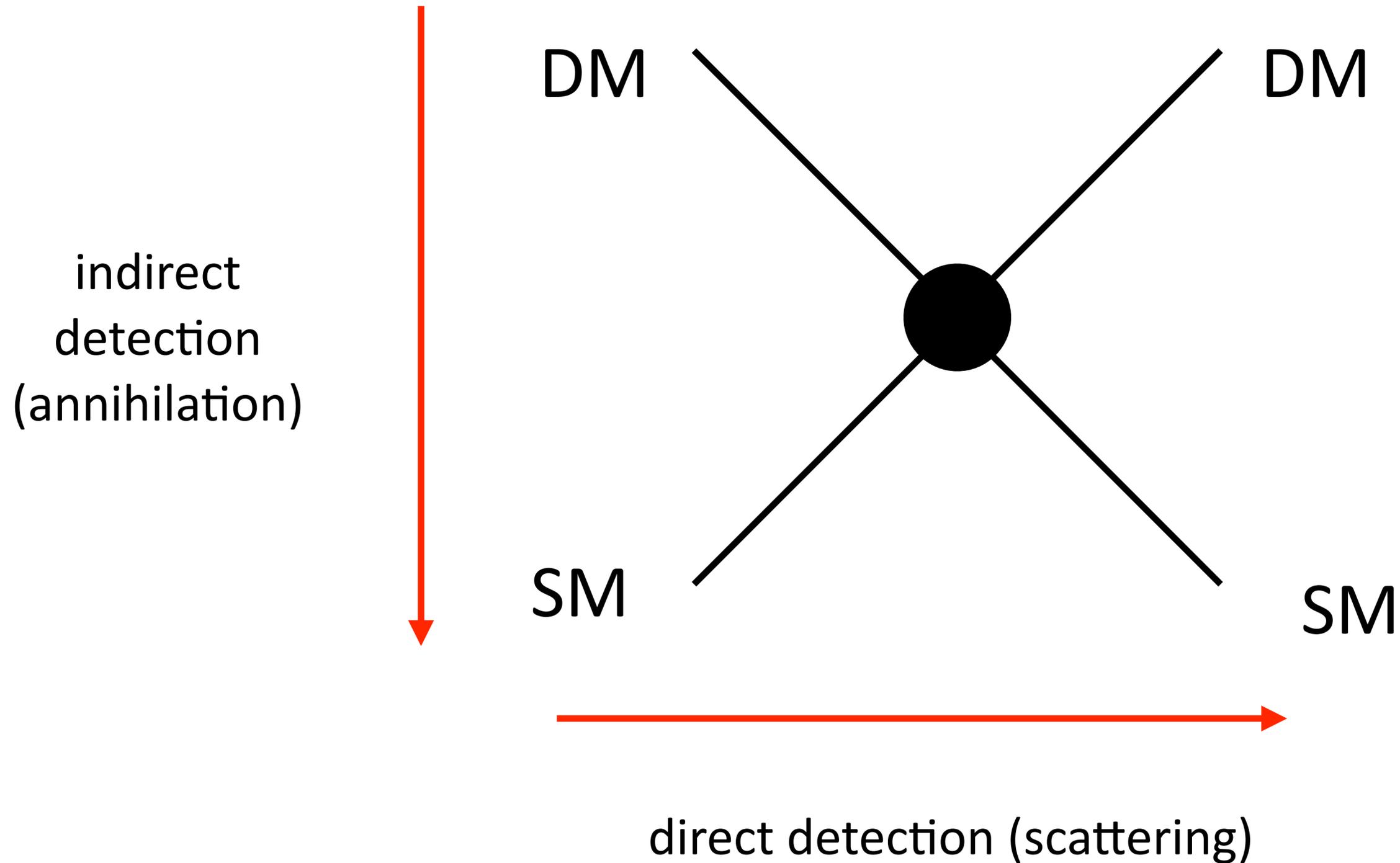
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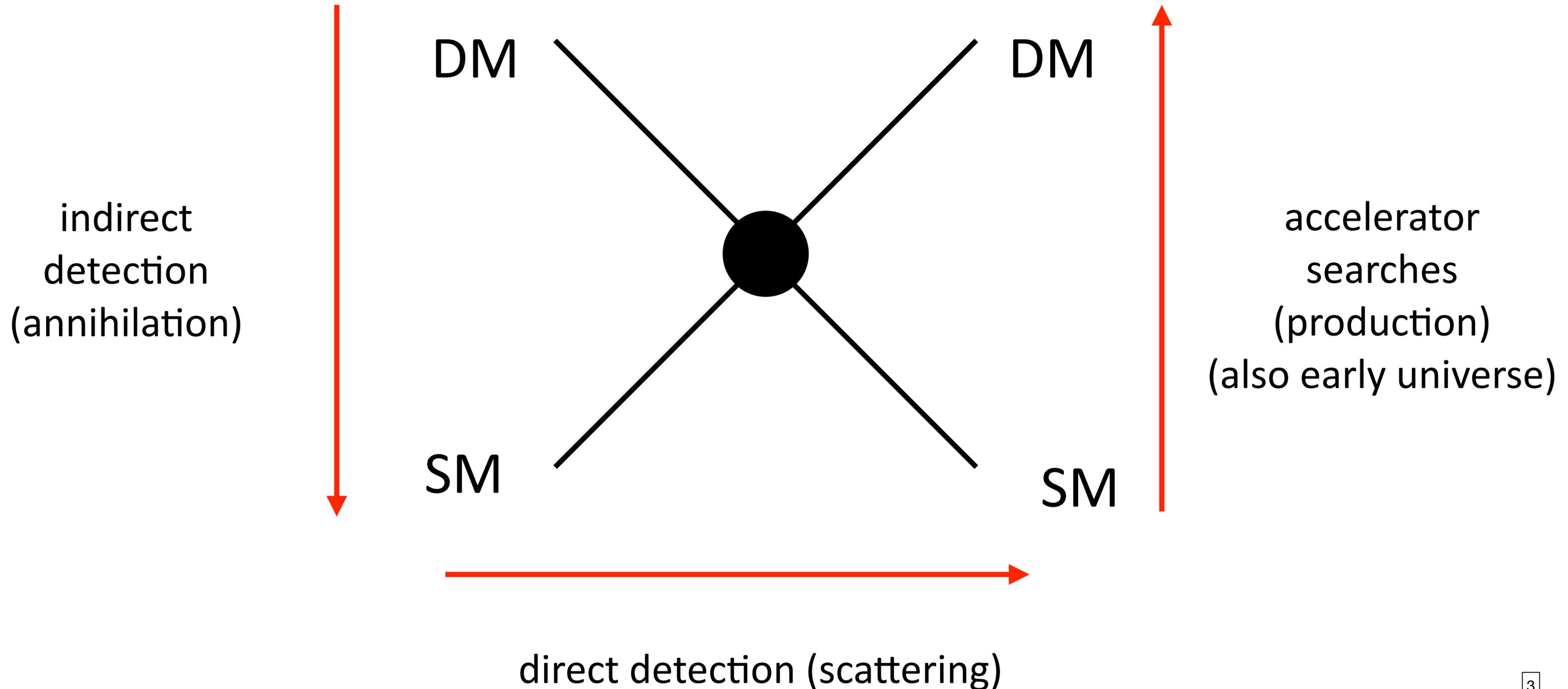
# Searches for particle dark matter in experiments



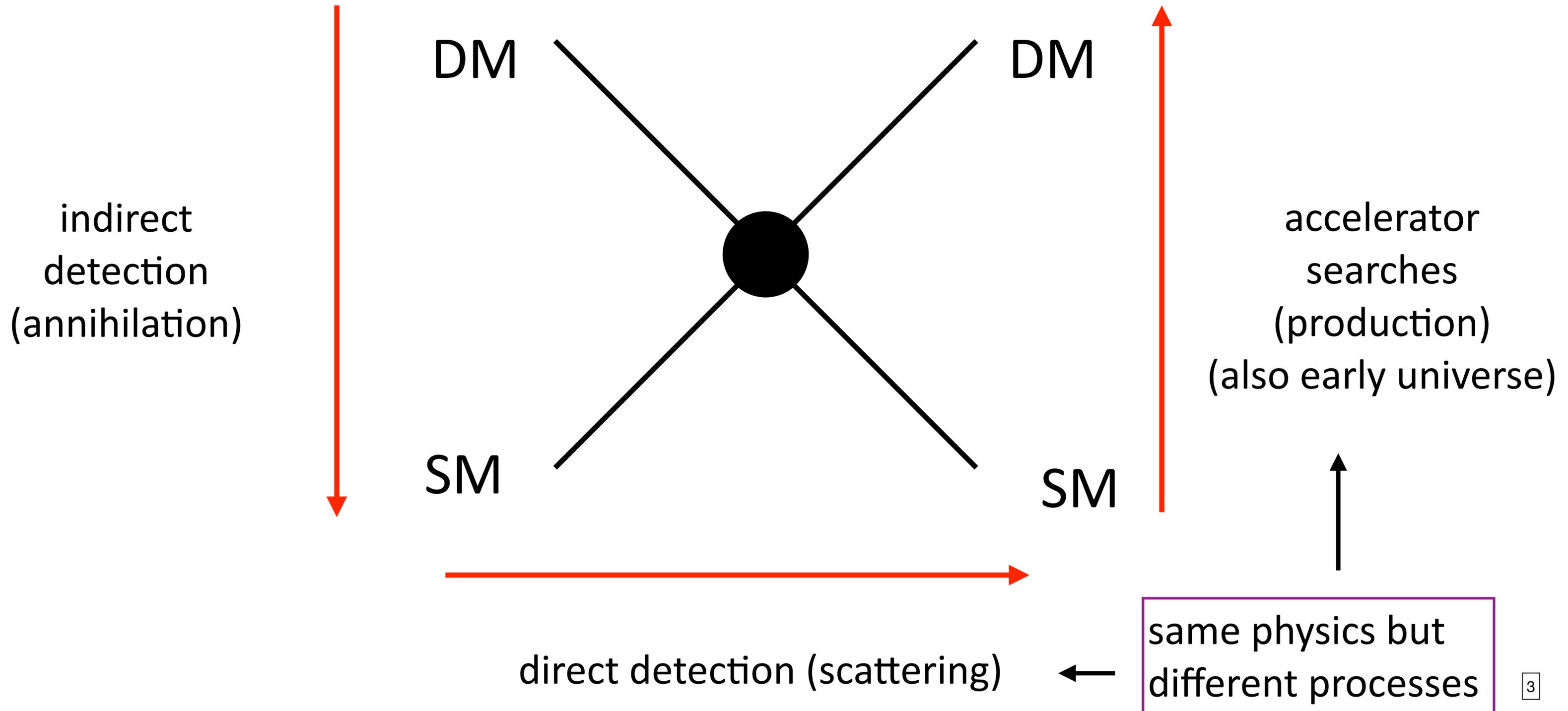
# Searches for particle dark matter in experiments



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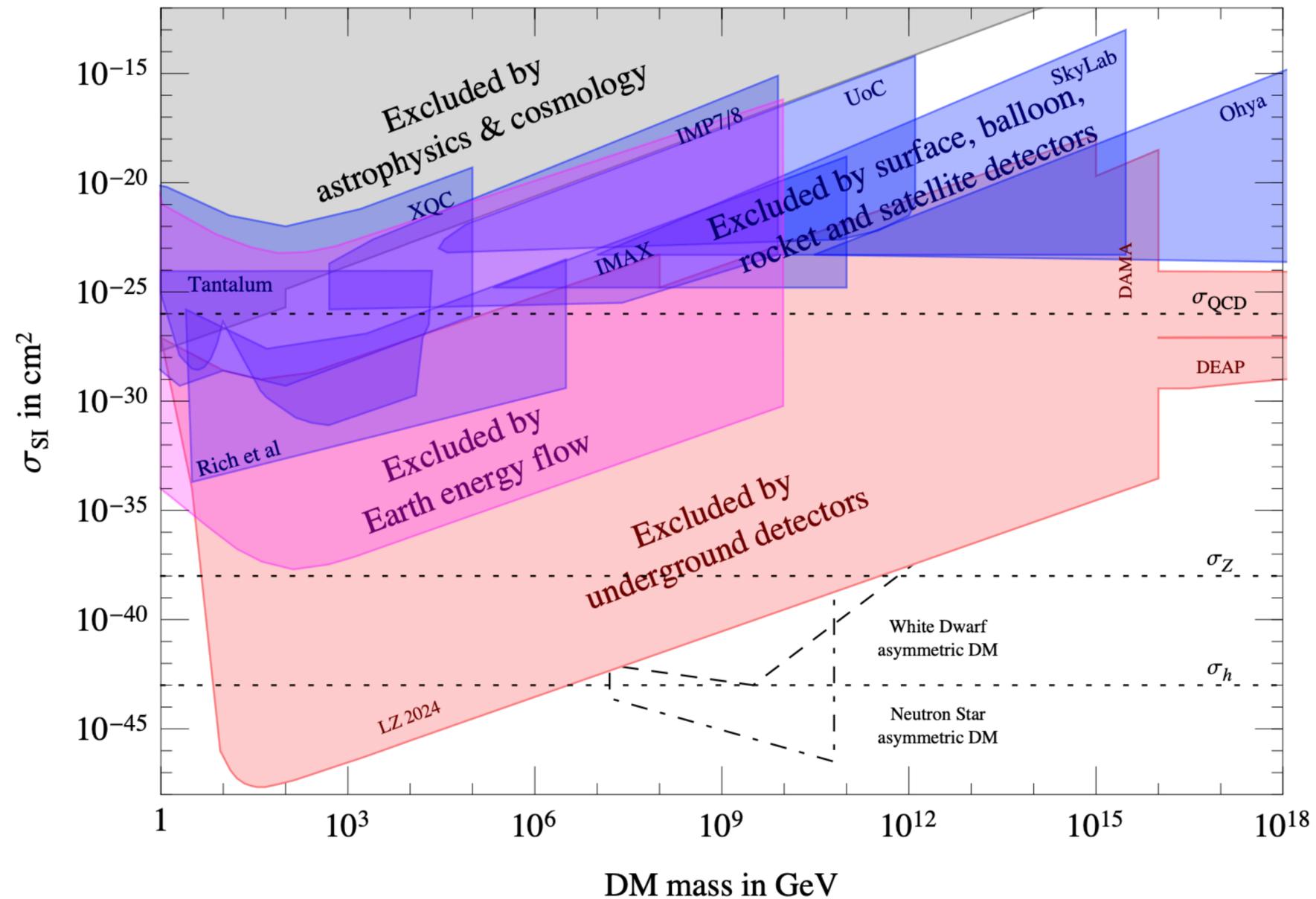


# dark matter detection

[Cirelli, Strumia, Zupan, 2406.01705v3]

Spin-independent DM detection

New DMDD limits, see also  
2507.11930 (PandaX-4T)  
2510.21458 (CDEX)



# dark matter detection

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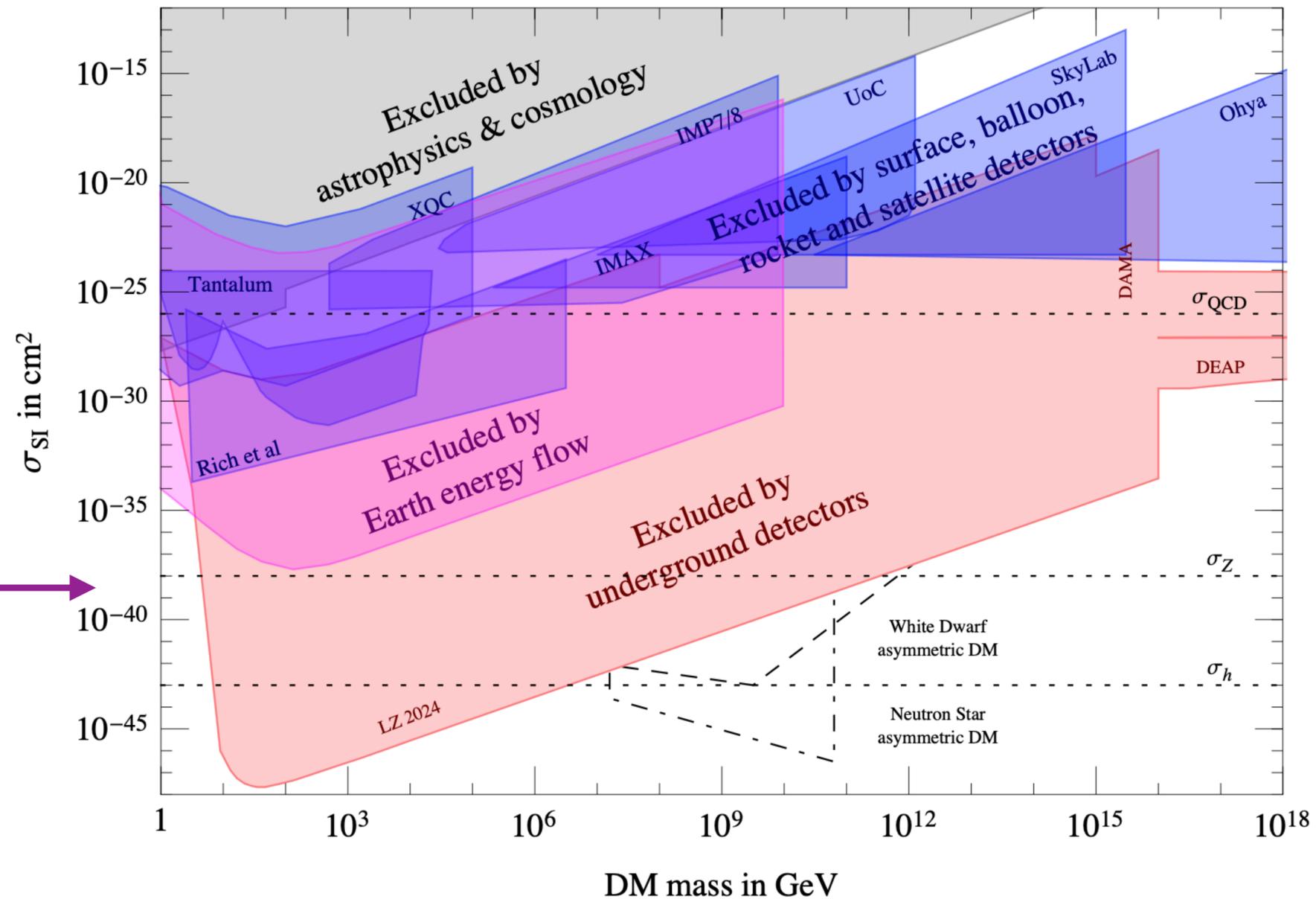
Spin-independent DM detection

New DMDD limits, see also  
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probe below DMDD

NR threshold

ER or Migdal



# dark matter detection

[Cirelli, Strumia, Zupan, 2406.01705v3]

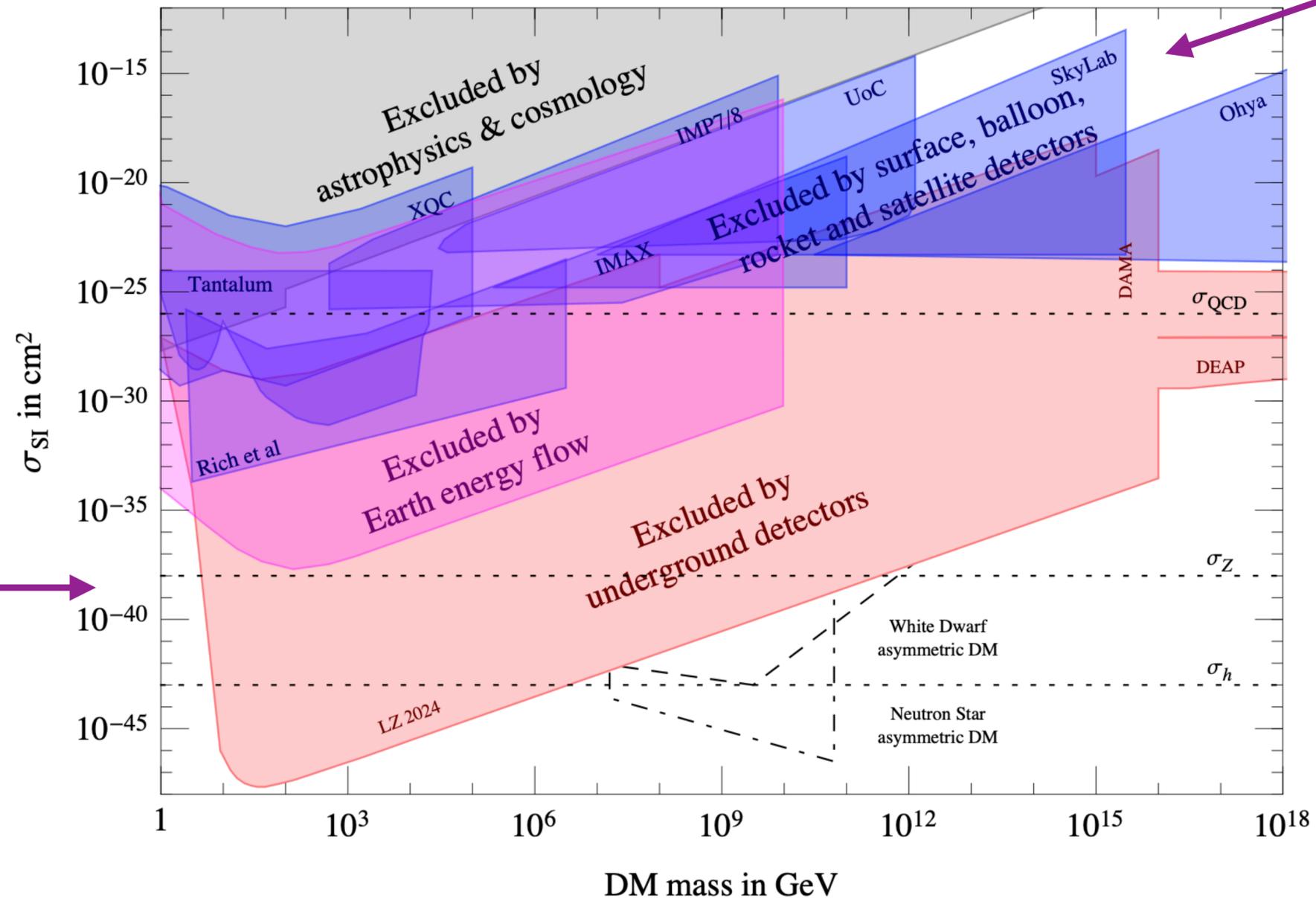
Spin-independent DM detection

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 2510.21458 (CDEX)

probe below DMDD

NR threshold

ER or Migdal



probe above DMDD

shielding effects due to rocks above underground labs

# Outline

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1 Probing diff DM via mono-photon @ electron colliders

[ZL, Zhang, 1808.00983]

[Liang, ZL, Ma, Zhang, 1909.06847]

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2111.15533]

2 New dark matter channel @ Belle II

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2212.04252] [Ge, Liang, ZL, Min, 2505.10302]

3 Belle II probes of strongly-interacting dark matter

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2312.08970]

# Outline

## 1 Probing diff DM via mono-photon @ electron colliders

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below & above DMDD

## 2 New dark matter channel @ Belle II

below DMDD

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2212.04252] [Ge, Liang, ZL, Min, 2505.10302]

## 3 Belle II probes of strongly-interacting dark matter

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above DMDD

1

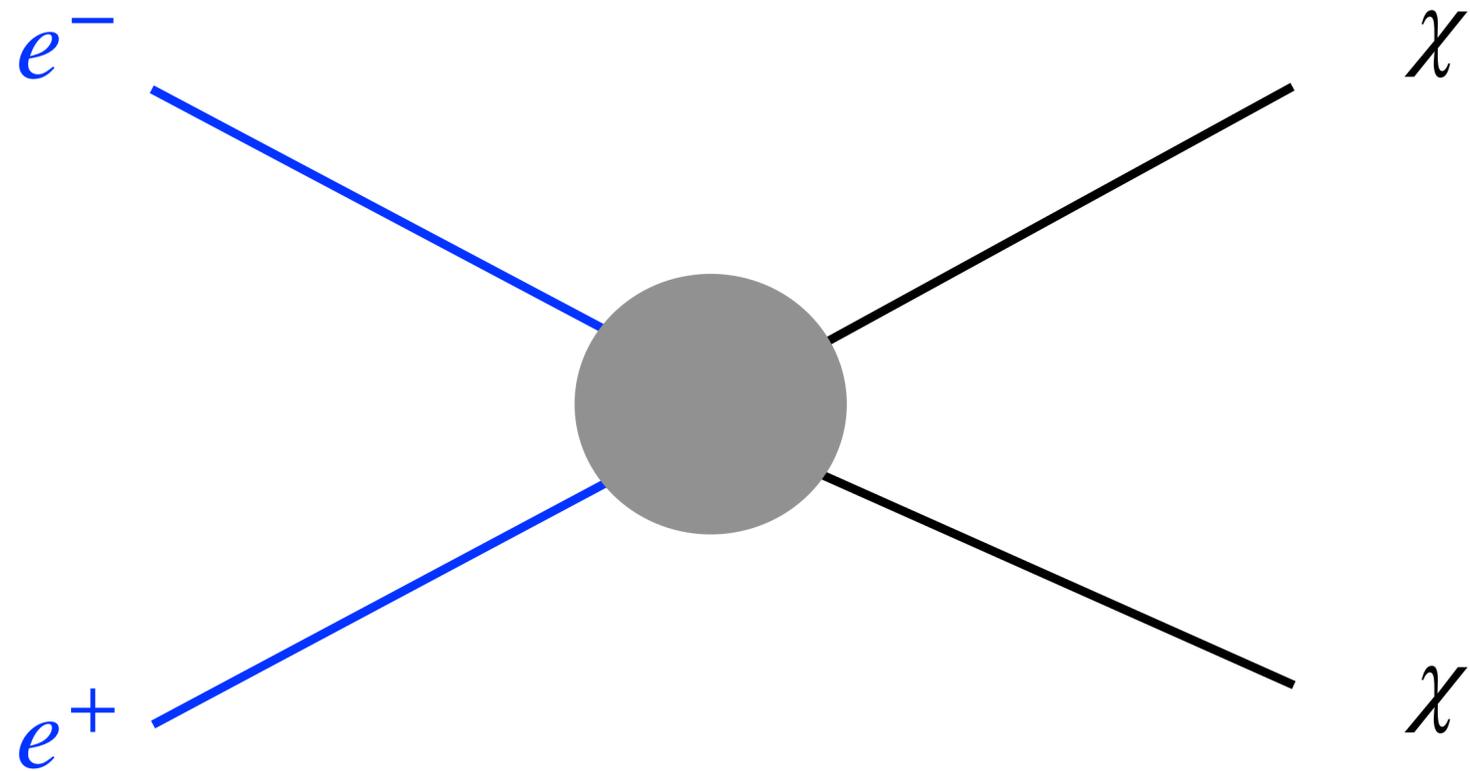
# Probing different DM models via mono-photon @ electron colliders

[ZL, Zhang, 1808.00983]

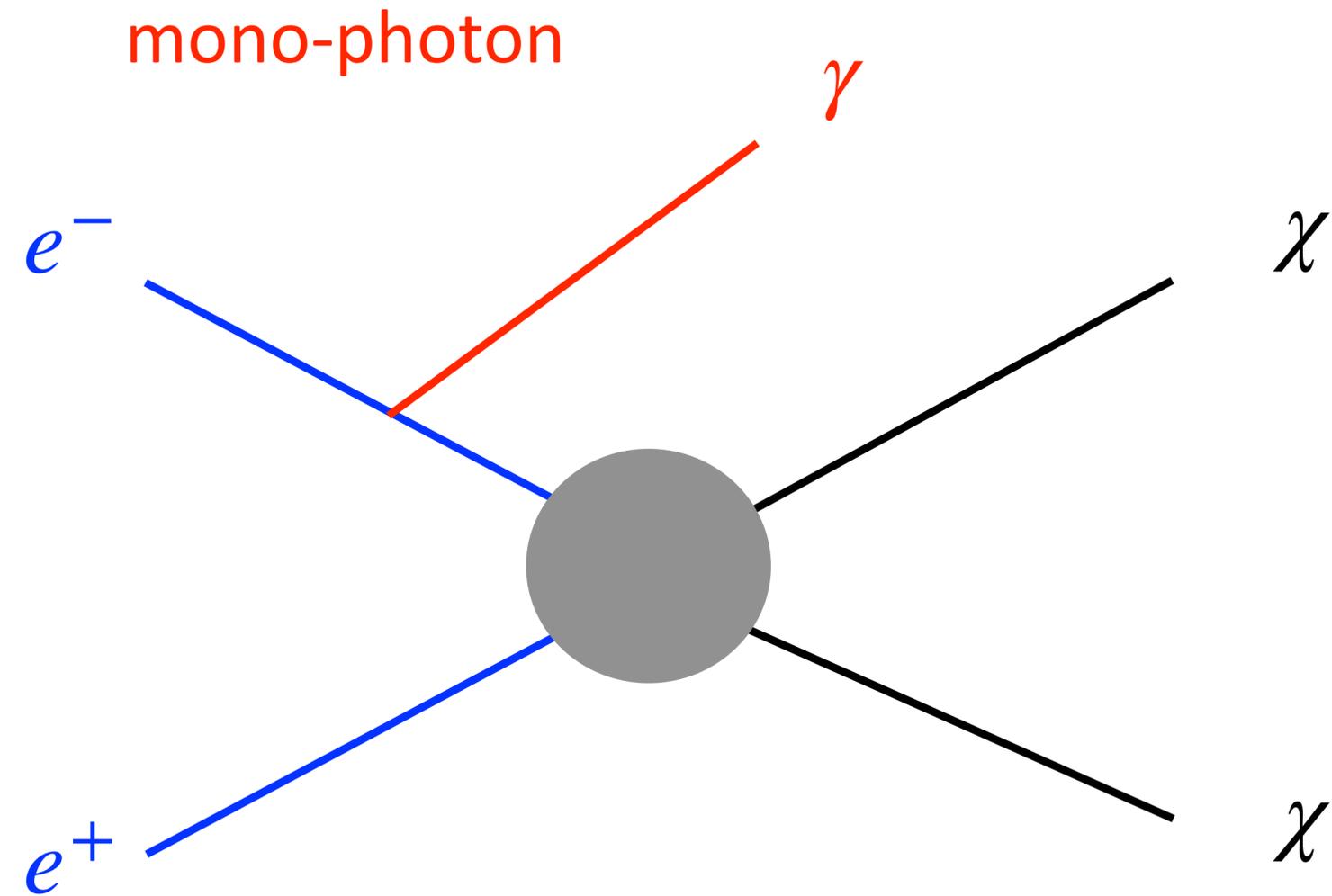
[Liang, ZL, Ma, Zhang, 1909.06847]

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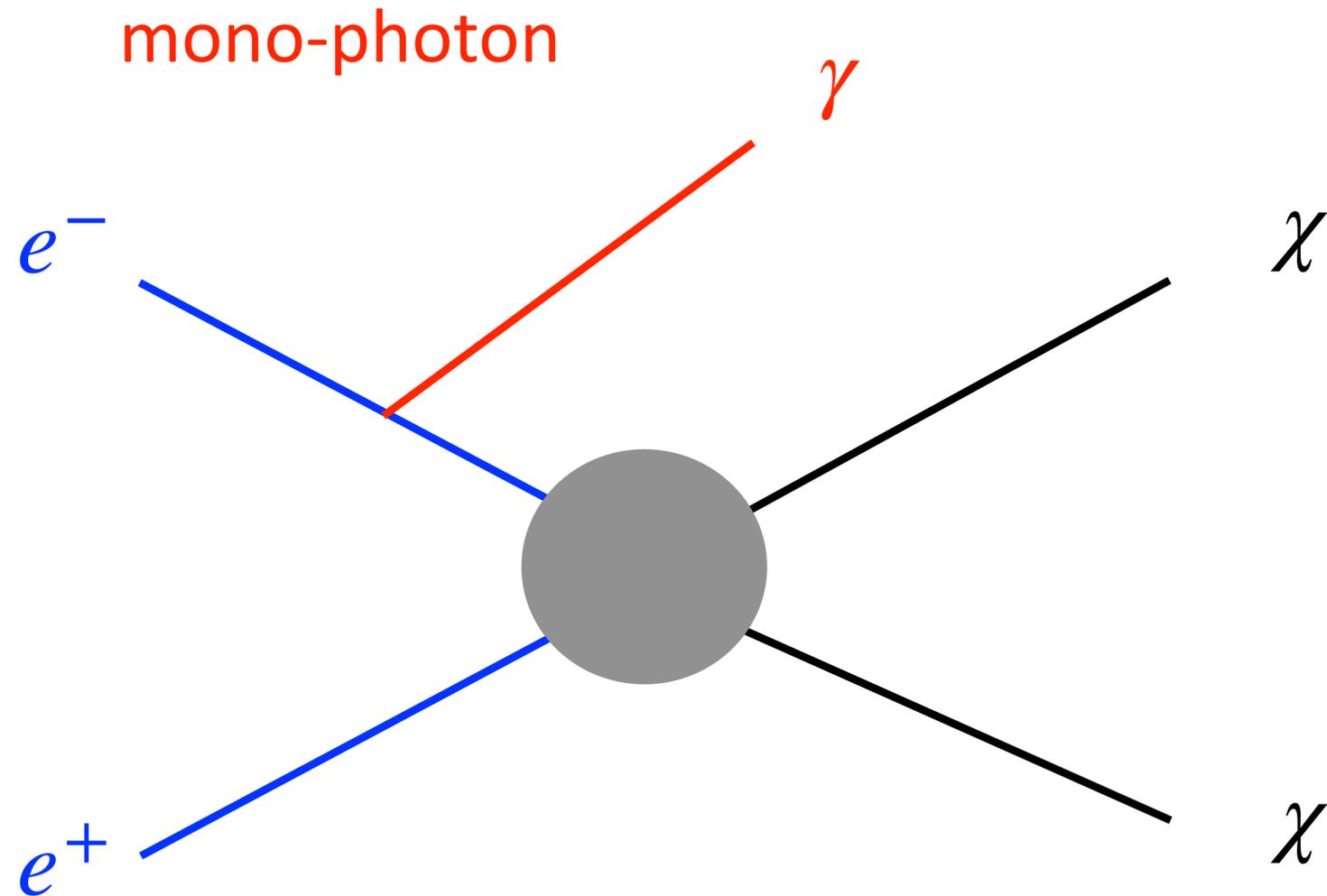
# Mono-photon signature at electron colliders



# Mono-photon signature at electron colliders

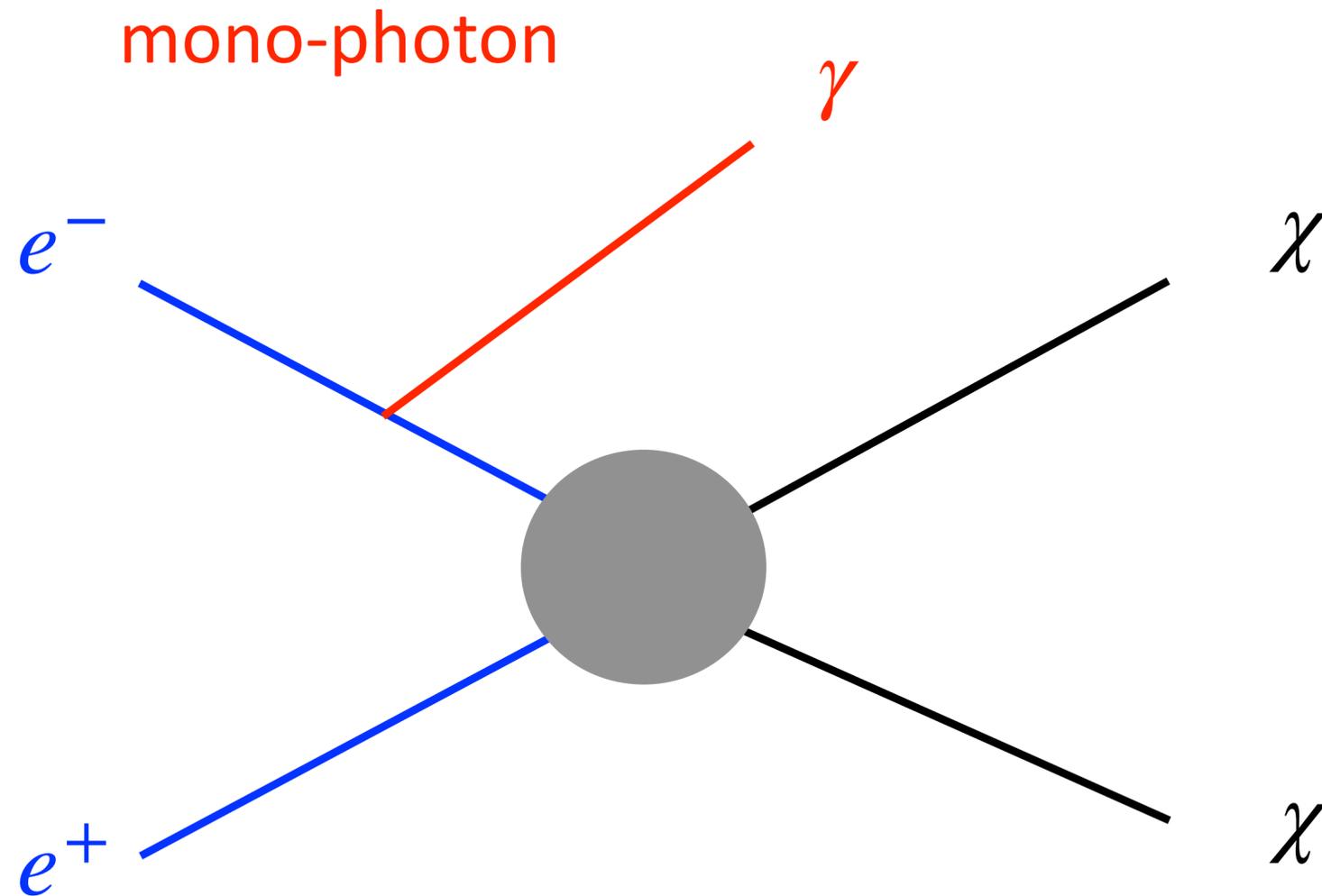


# Mono-photon signature at electron colliders



- millicharged particles
- light mediator DM
- EFT DM

# Mono-photon signature at electron colliders

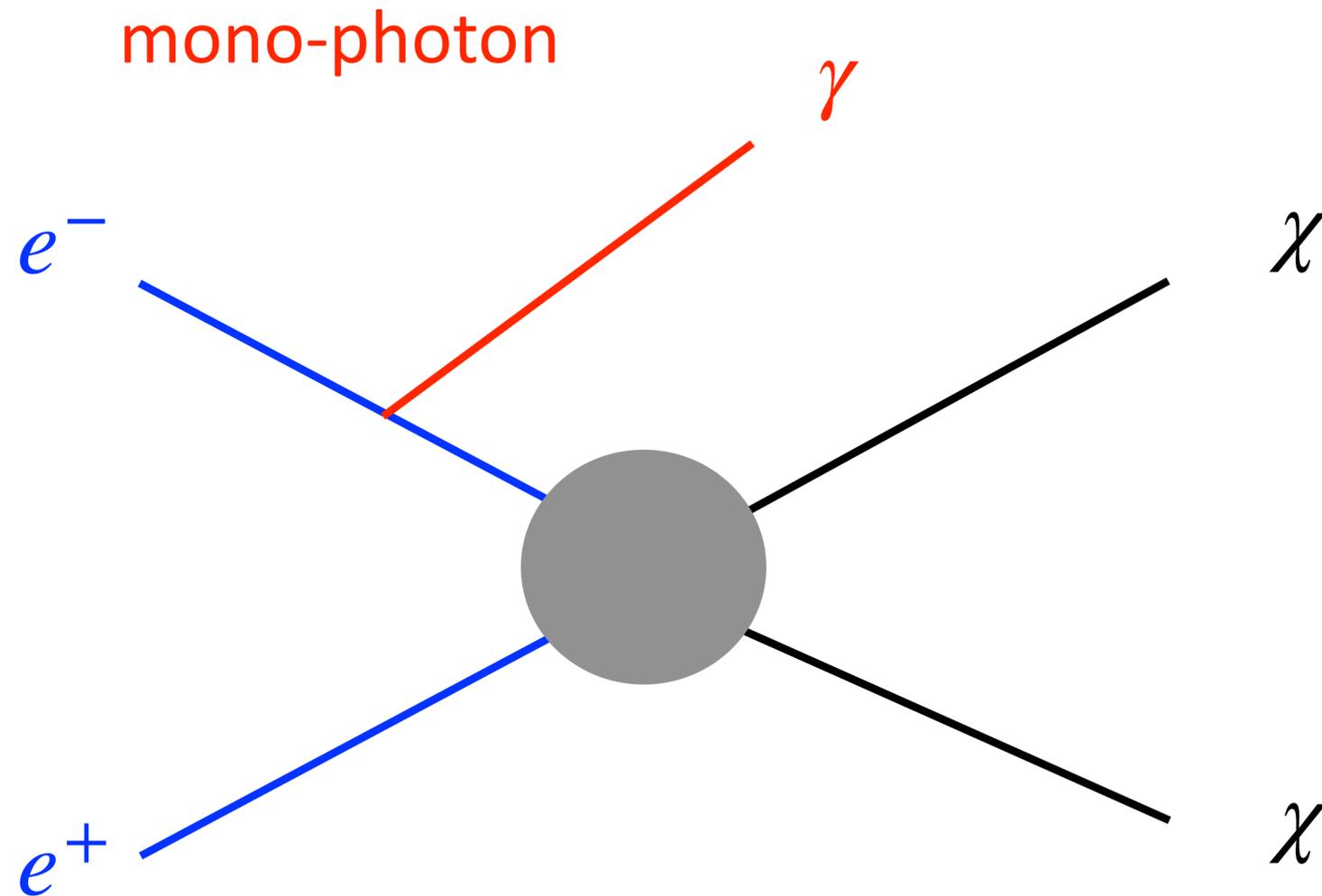


massless mediator

- millicharged particles
- light mediator DM
- EFT DM

heavy mediator

# Mono-photon signature at electron colliders



massless mediator

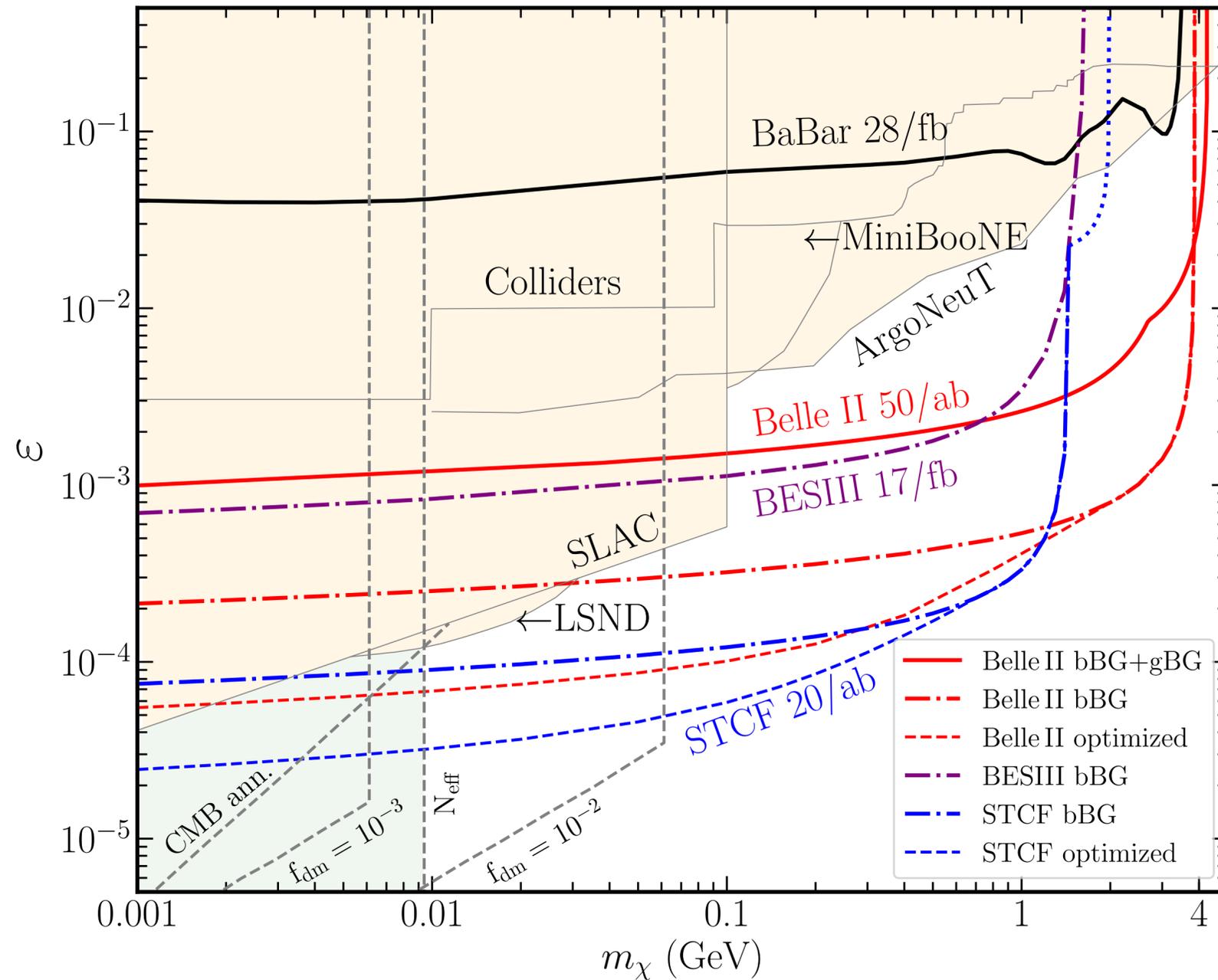
- millicharged particles
- light mediator DM
- EFT DM

heavy mediator

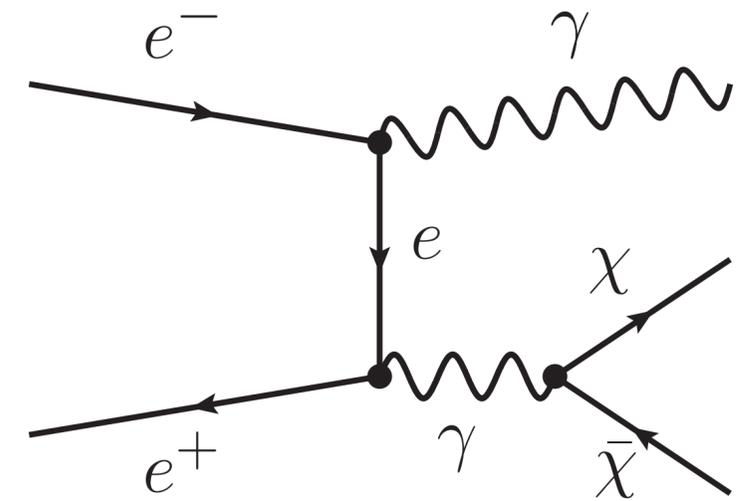
electron colliders' sensitivities on DMDD xsec are very sensitive to the mediator mass!

millicharged particles  
(massless mediator)

# Millicharged particles probed by electron colliders



$$e e A_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi$$



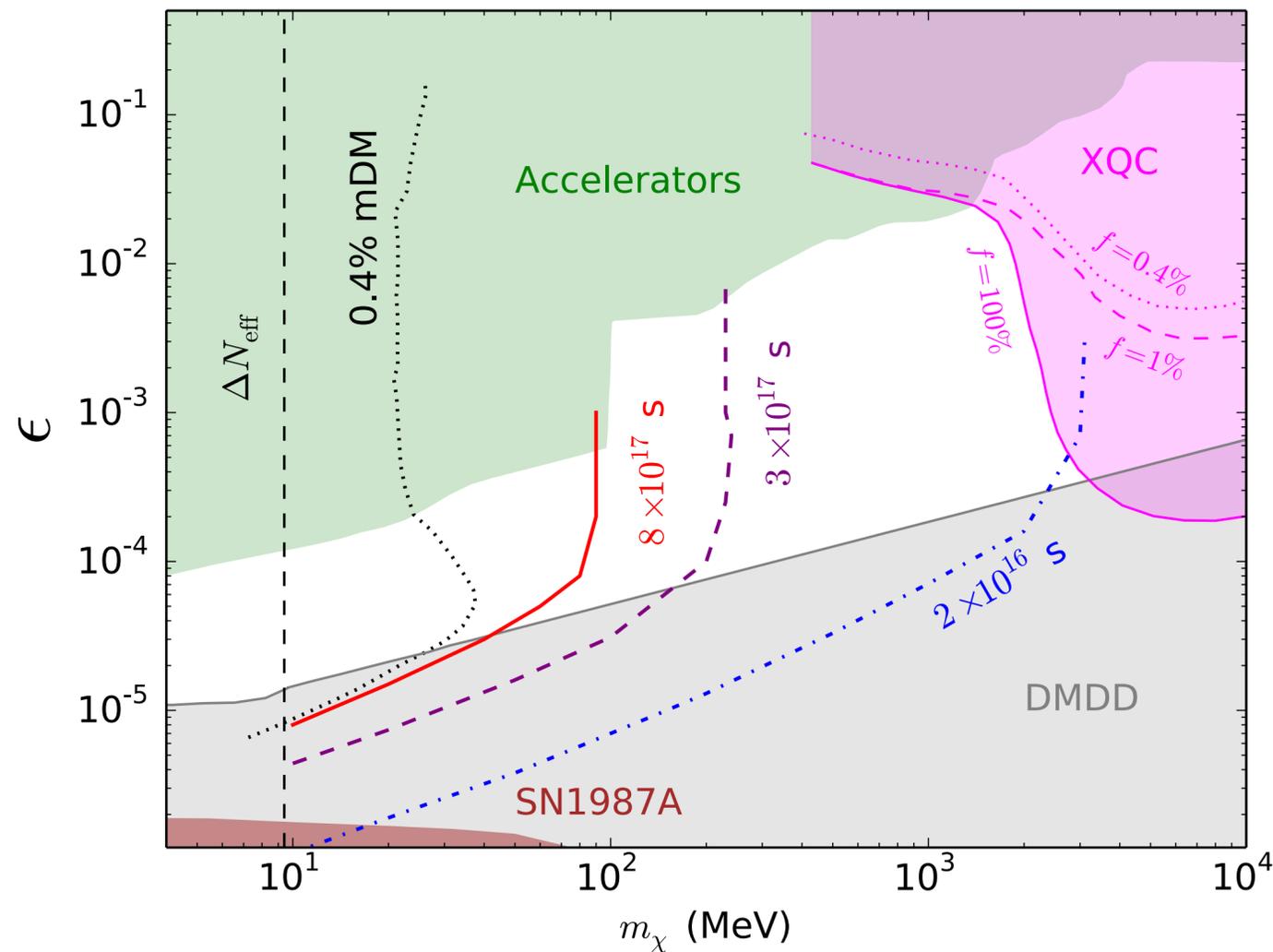
electron colliders probe  
new parameter space

above DMDD ceiling

[ZL, Zhang, 1808.00983]

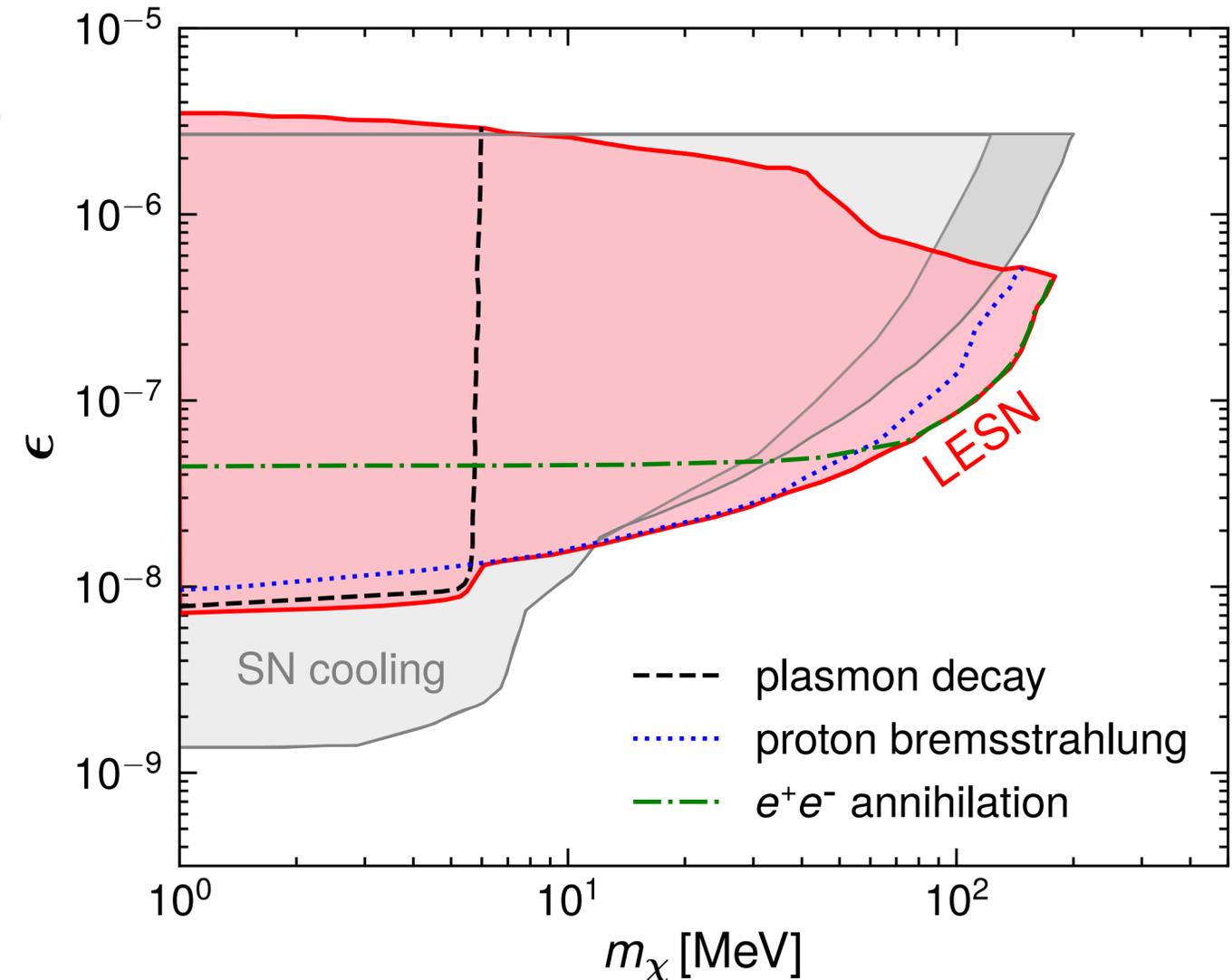
[Liang, ZL, Ma, Zhang, 1909.06847]

# Different experiments probing millicharged particles



- Accelerator
- XQC
- DMDD
- Supernova

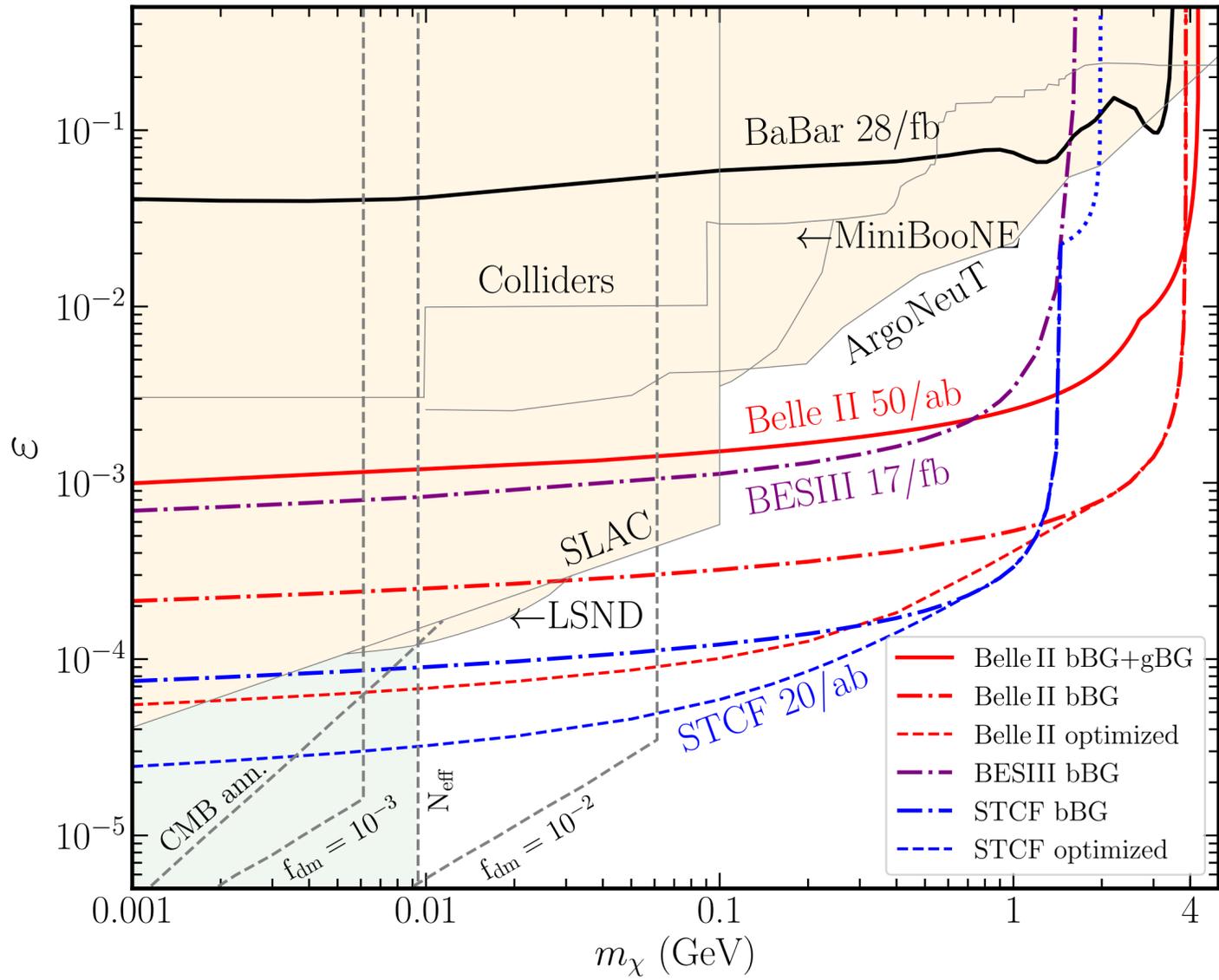
[Li, ZL, 2110.14996]



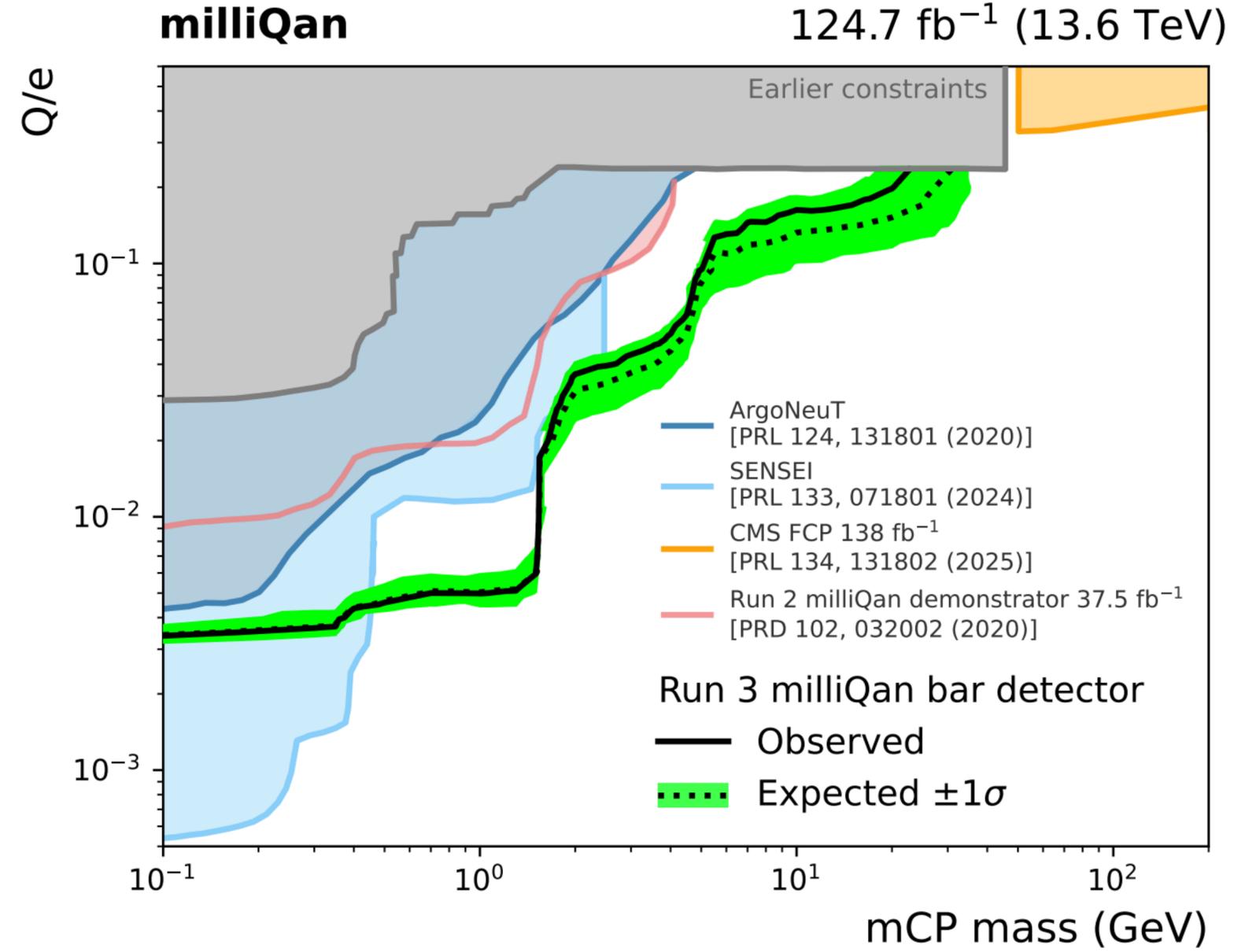
[Li, ZL, Lu, Ye, 2408.04953]

(XQC & DMDD are applicable only to DM)

# Electron colliders can outperform milliQan



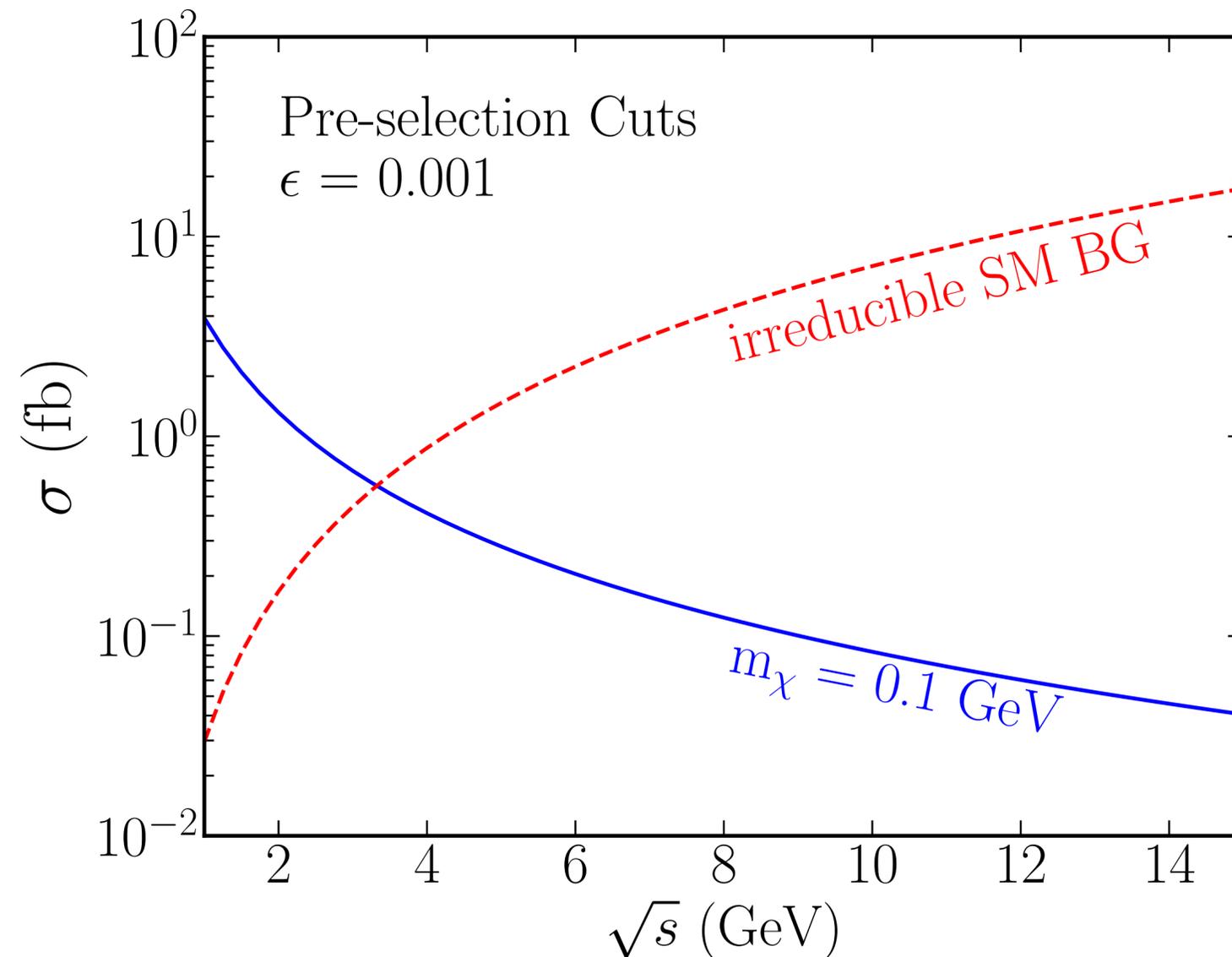
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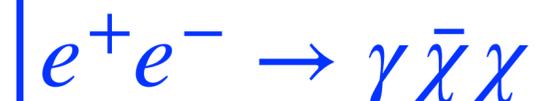
[2506.02251]

# Low colliding energy is better to probe MCPs

considering only irreducible BG

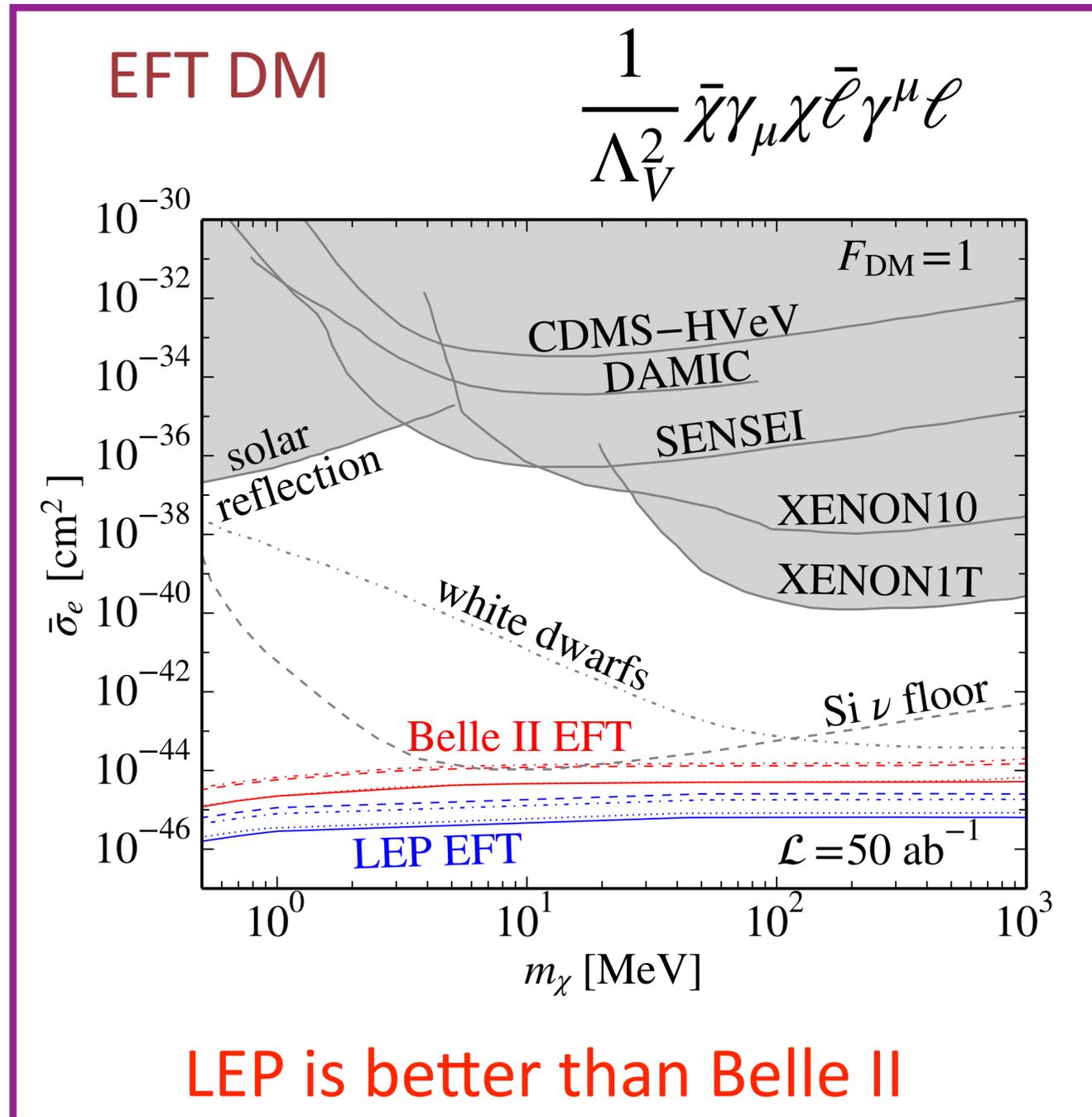


BESIII/STCF is better than Belle II in probing MCPs

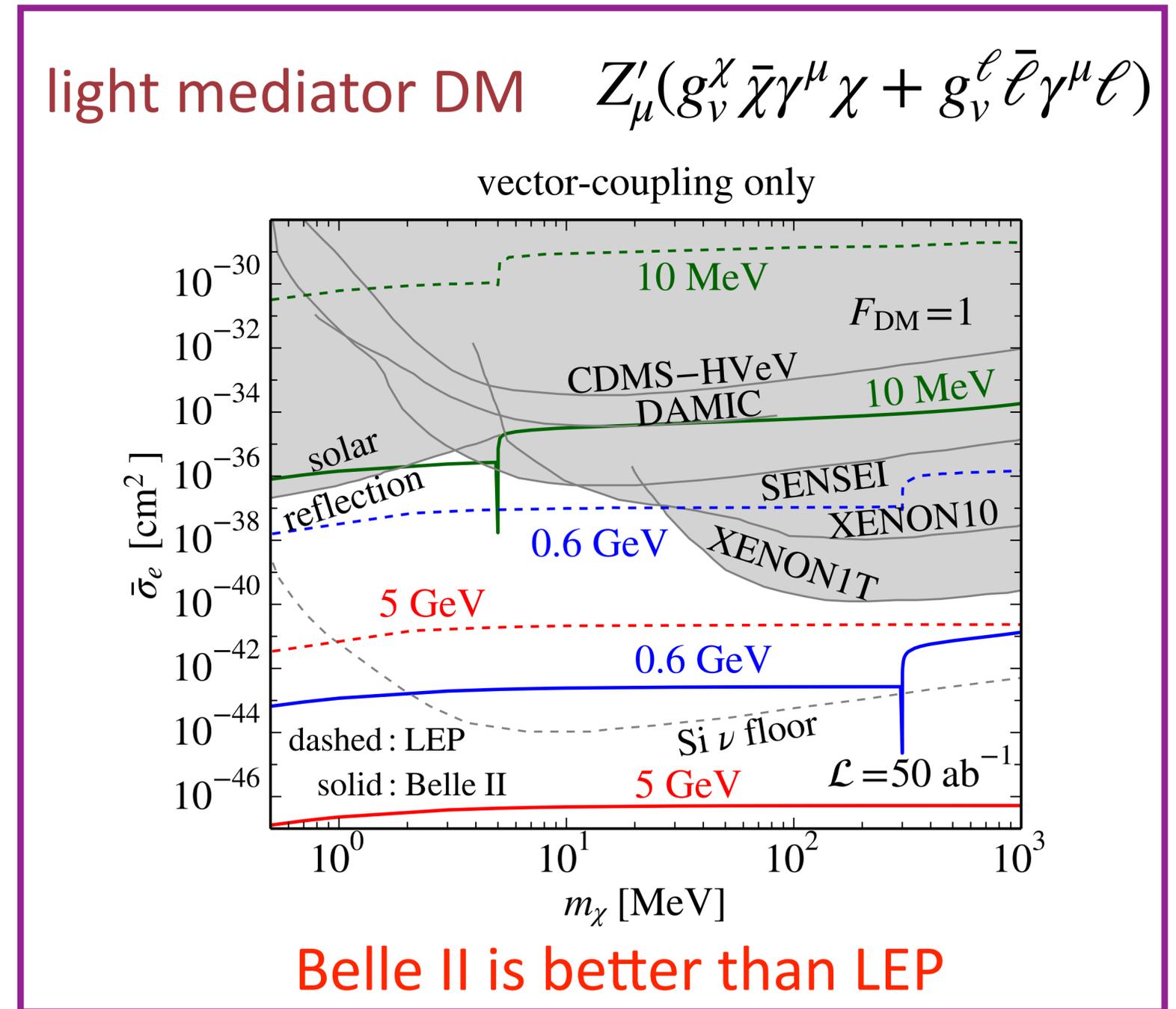


# EFT DM (high-mediator) & light-mediator DM

# Belle II/BESIII can probe new para space beyond DMDD



[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2111.15533]



$M_{Z'} = 5 \text{ GeV}, 0.6 \text{ GeV}, 10 \text{ MeV}$

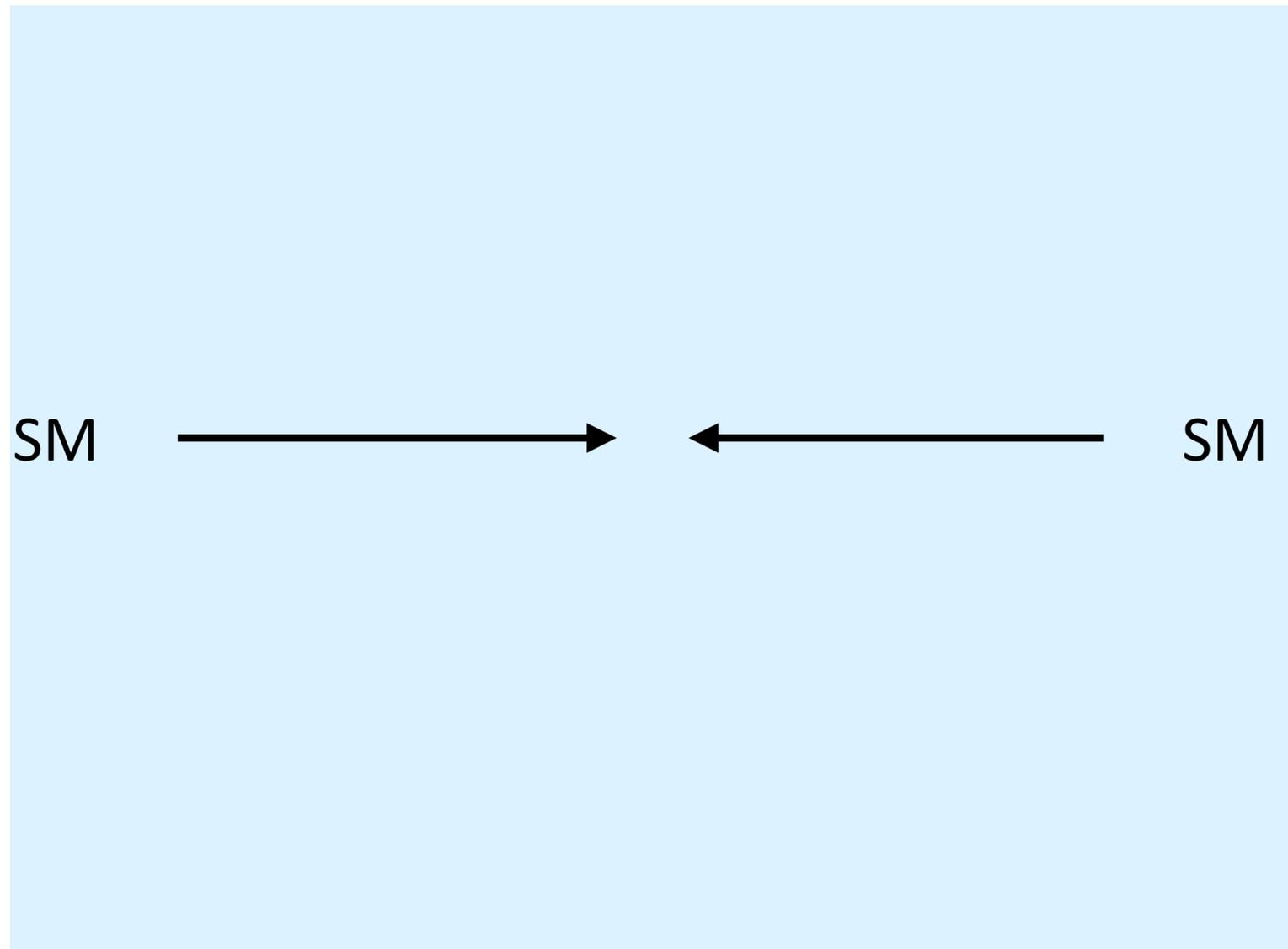
2

# New dark matter channel @ Belle II

[Liang, ZL, Yang, JHEP, arXiv:2212.04252]

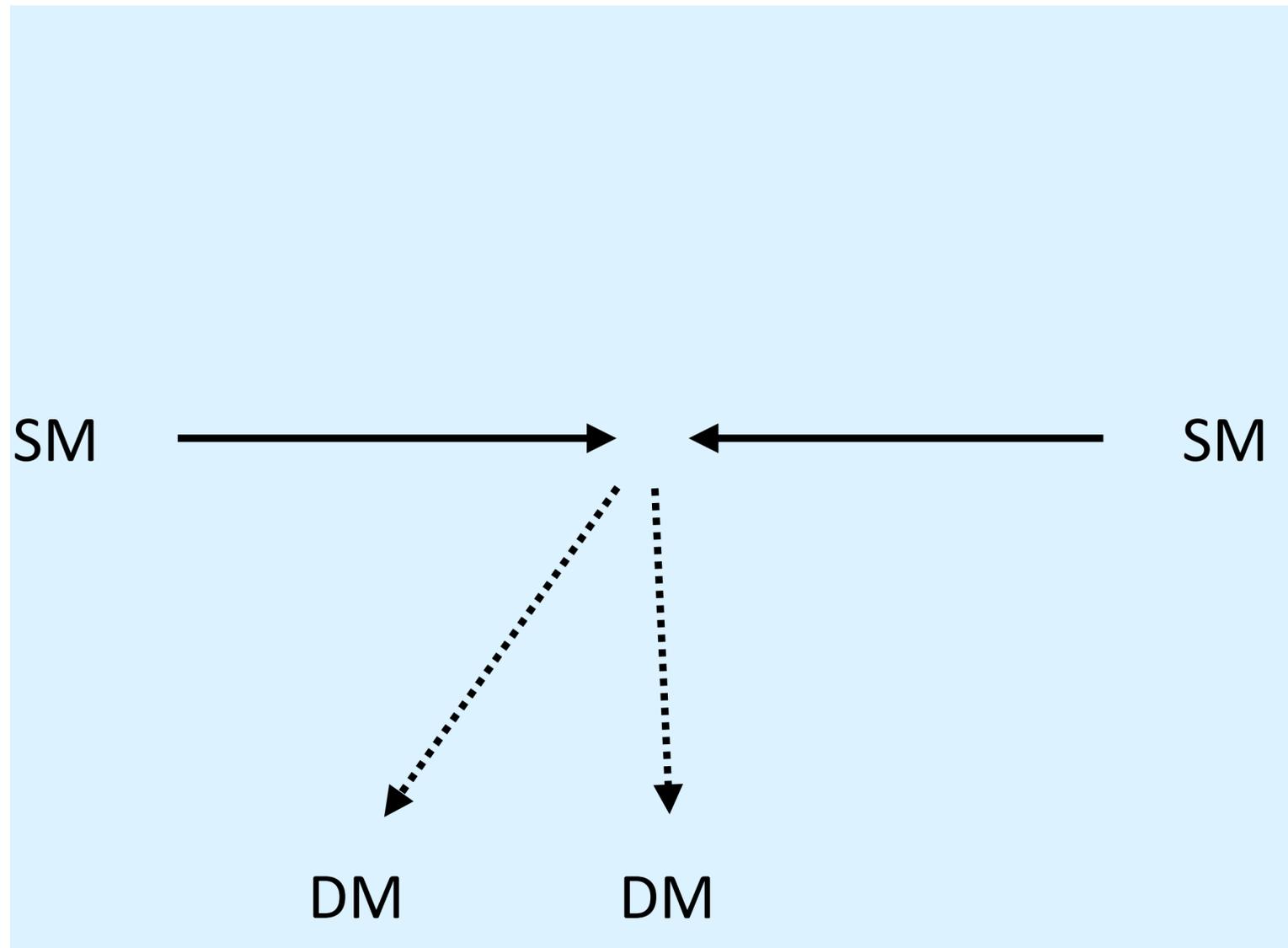
# Previous dark matter detection channels at colliders

Most studies focus on mono-X channel with SM X produced at the primary vertex



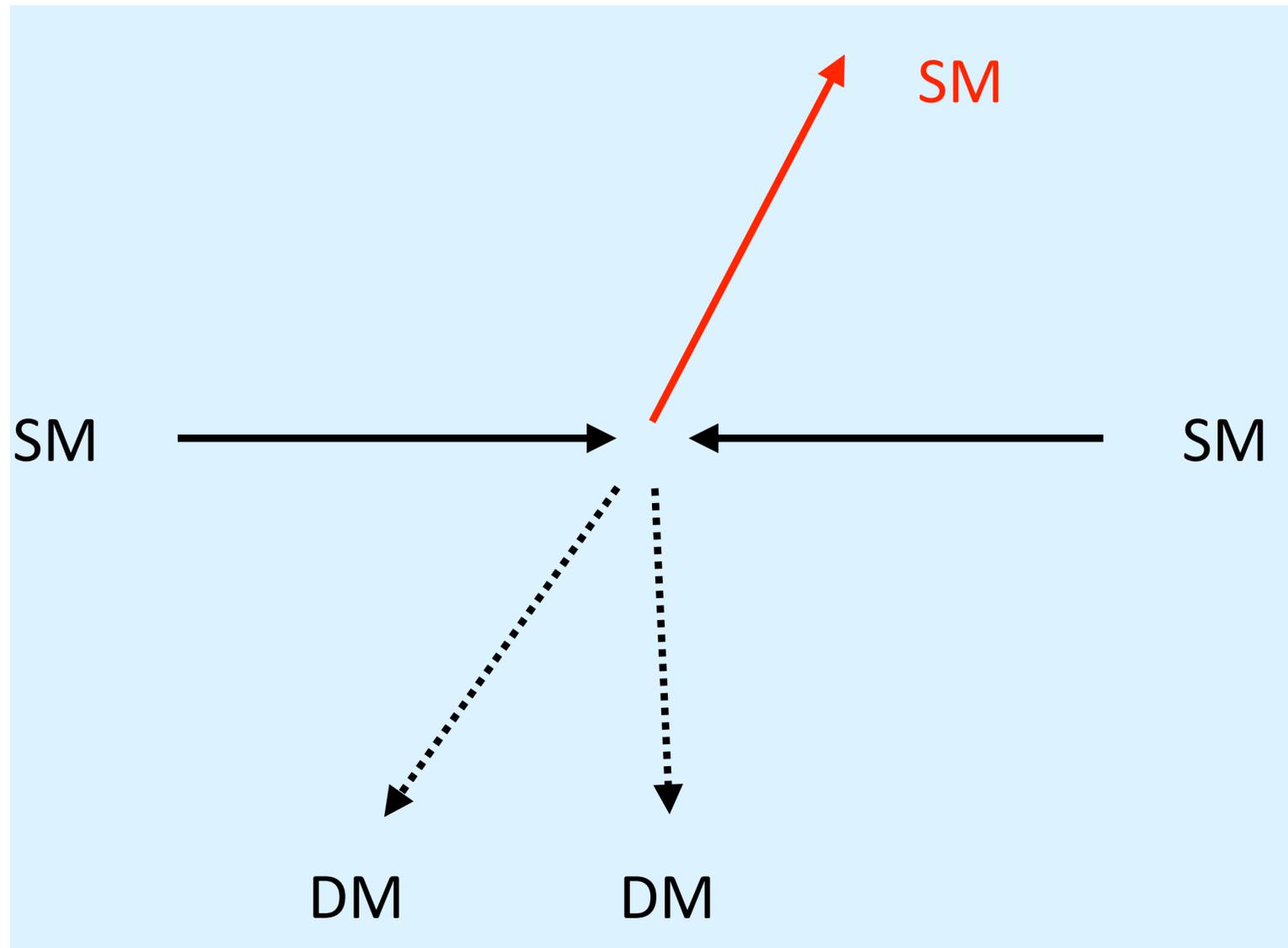
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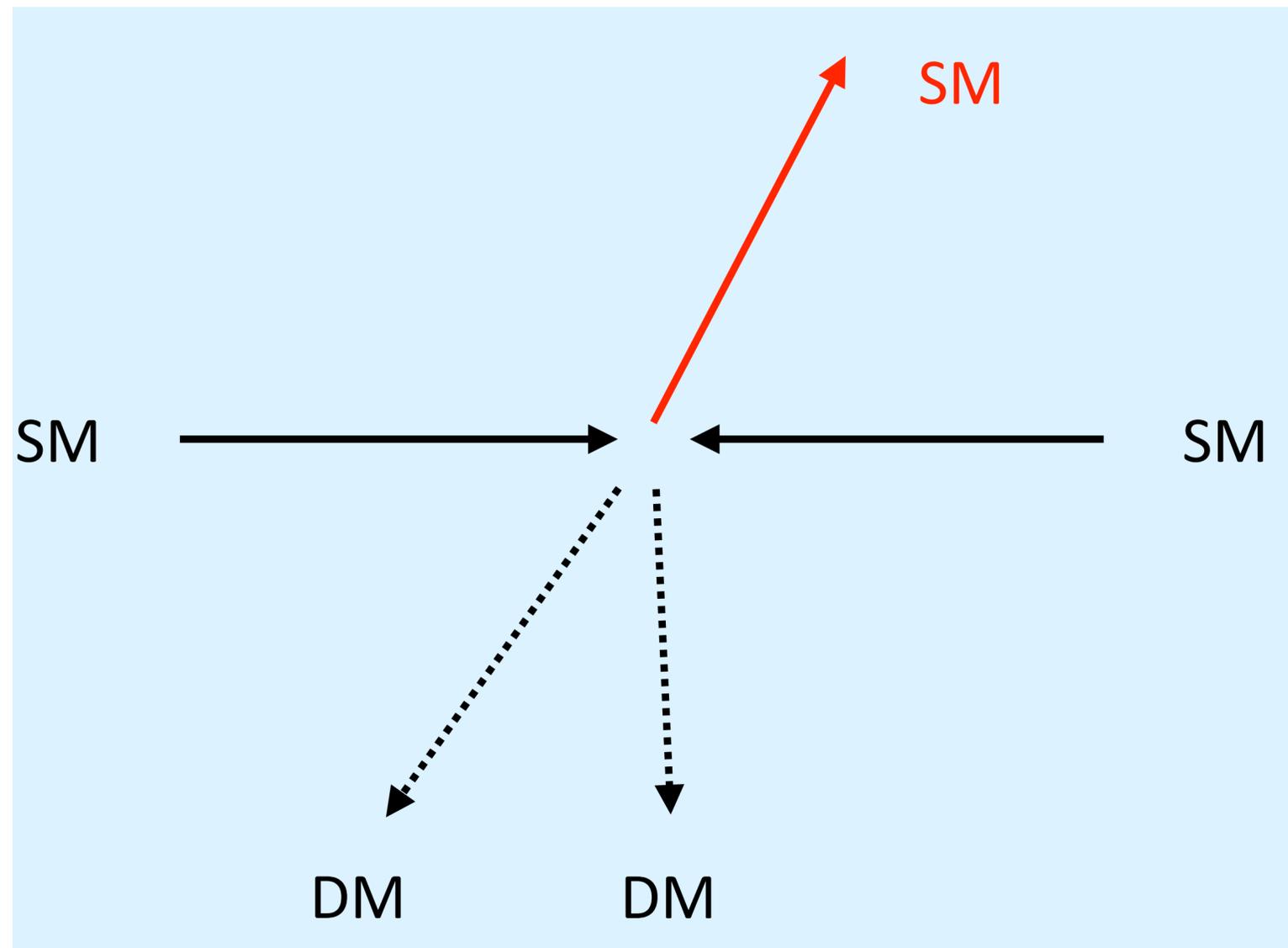
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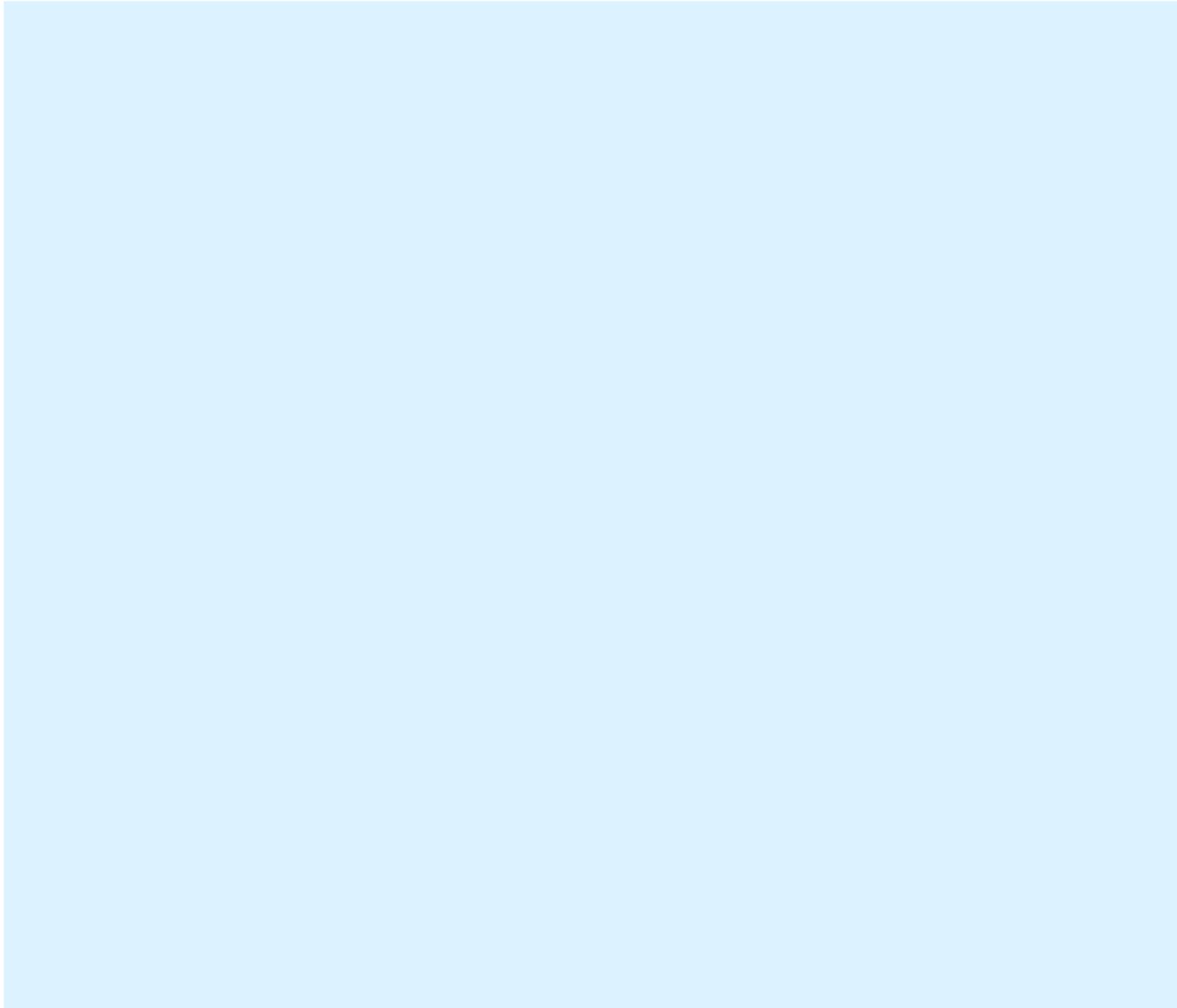


## Different mono-X channels

- mono-photon
- mono-jet
- mono-Higgs
- mono-Z
- mono-top

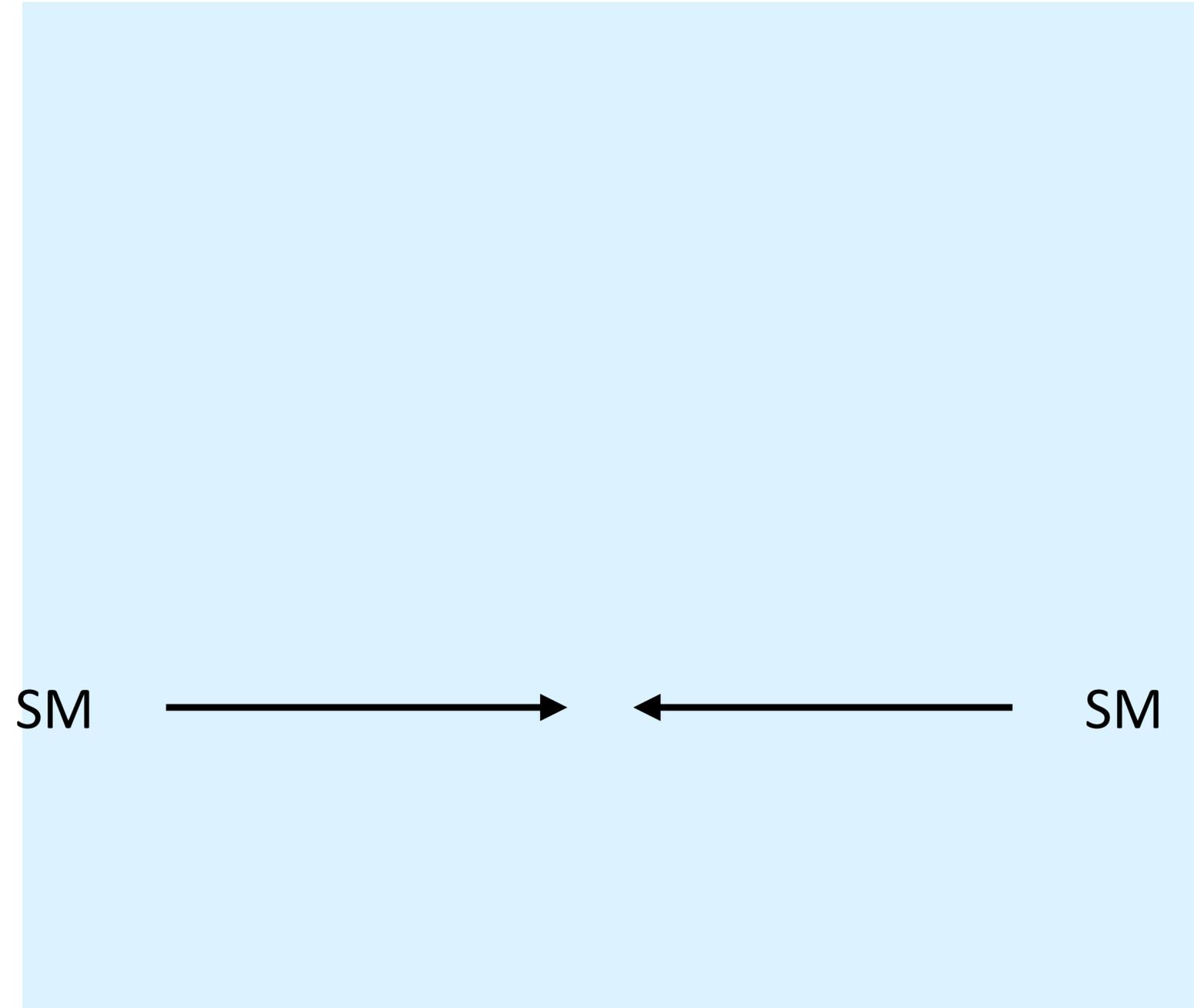
# We propose a new dark matter channel at colliders

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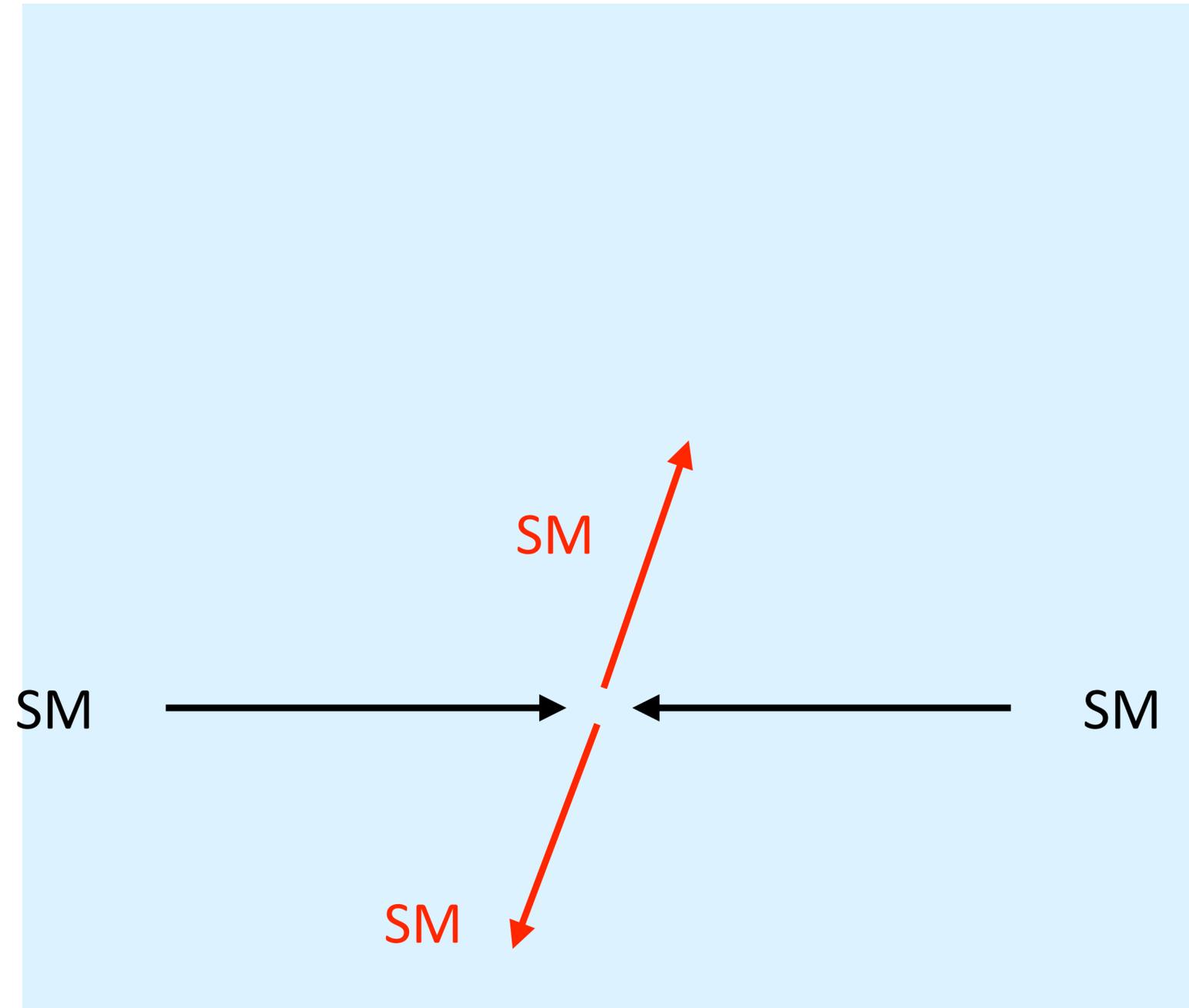


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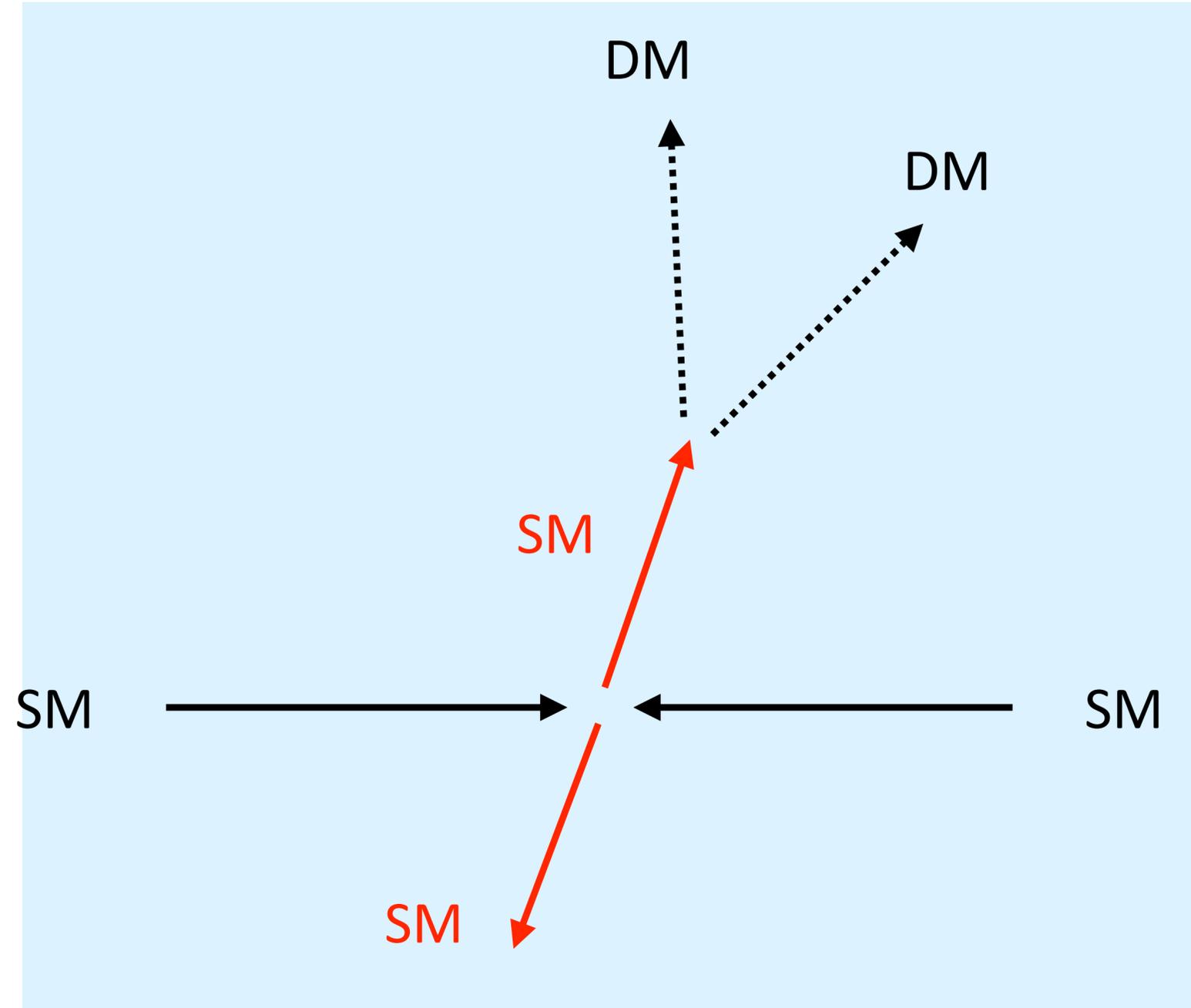


# We propose a new dark matter channel at colliders



A pair of SM particles  
produced at the primary vertex

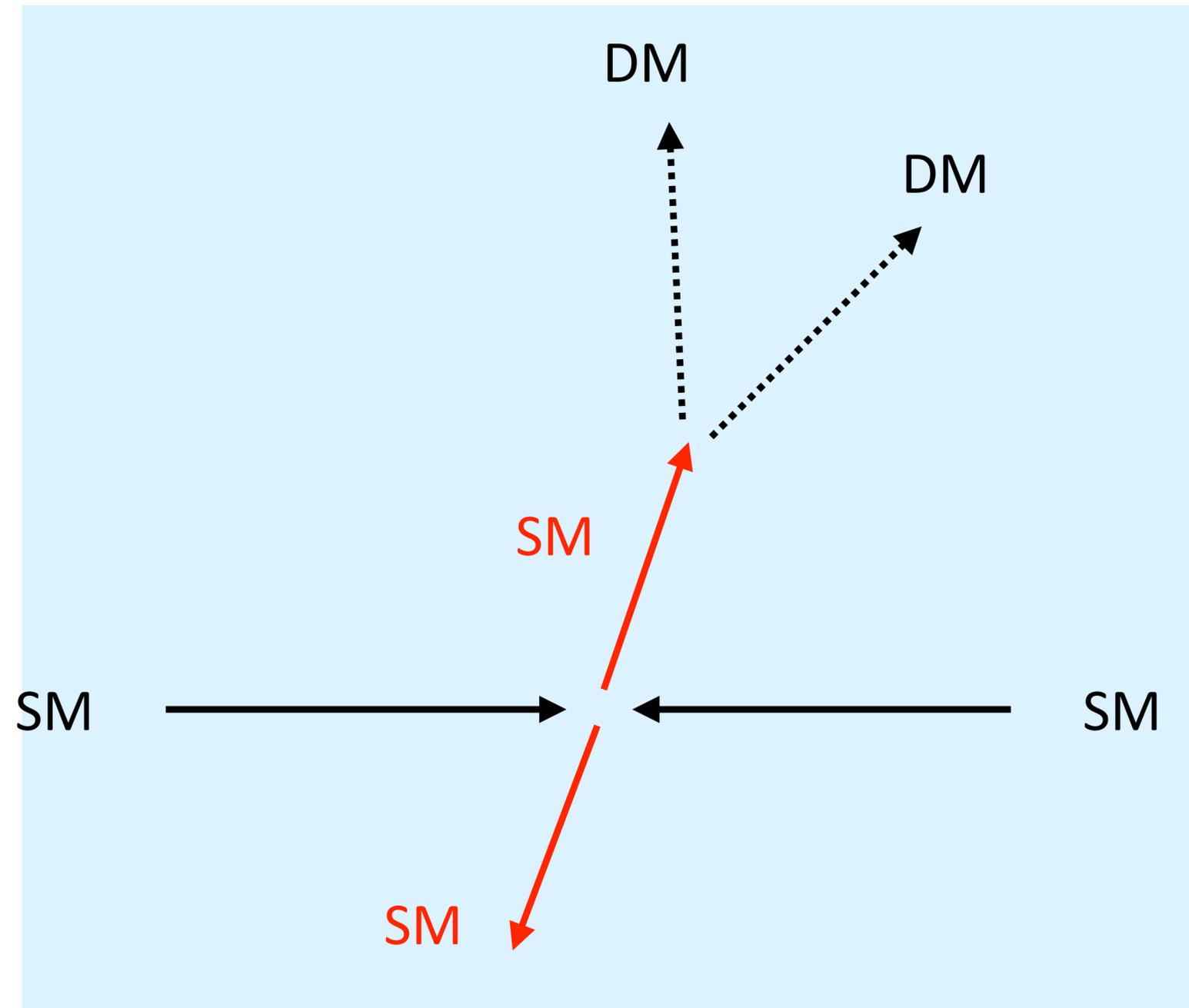
# We propose a new dark matter channel at colliders



One SM particle interacts with the detector to produce a pair of DM particles

A pair of SM particles produced at the primary vertex

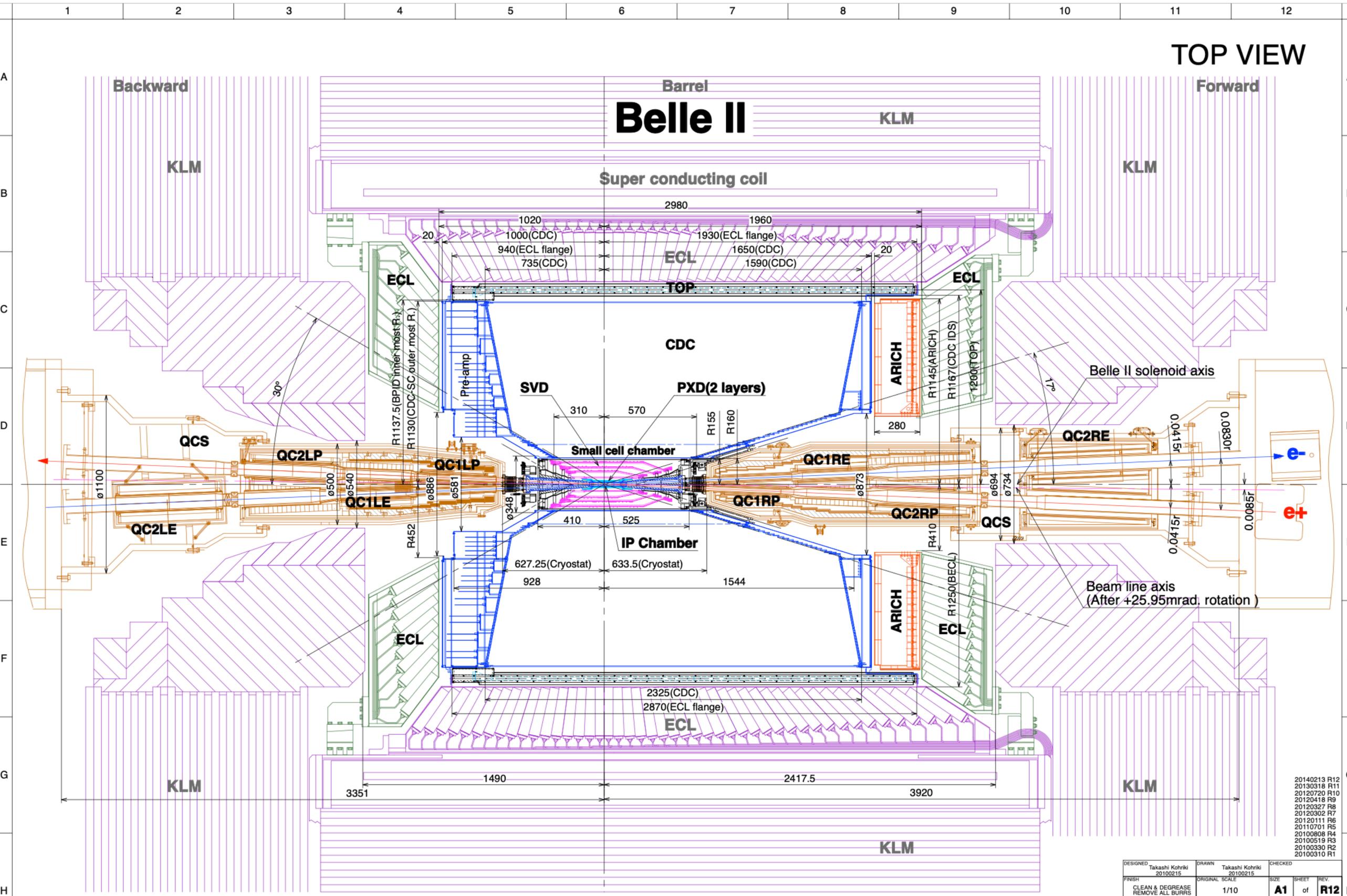
# We propose a new dark matter channel at colliders



One SM particle interacts with the detector to produce a pair of DM particles

A pair of SM particles produced at the primary vertex

**fixed target in collider**

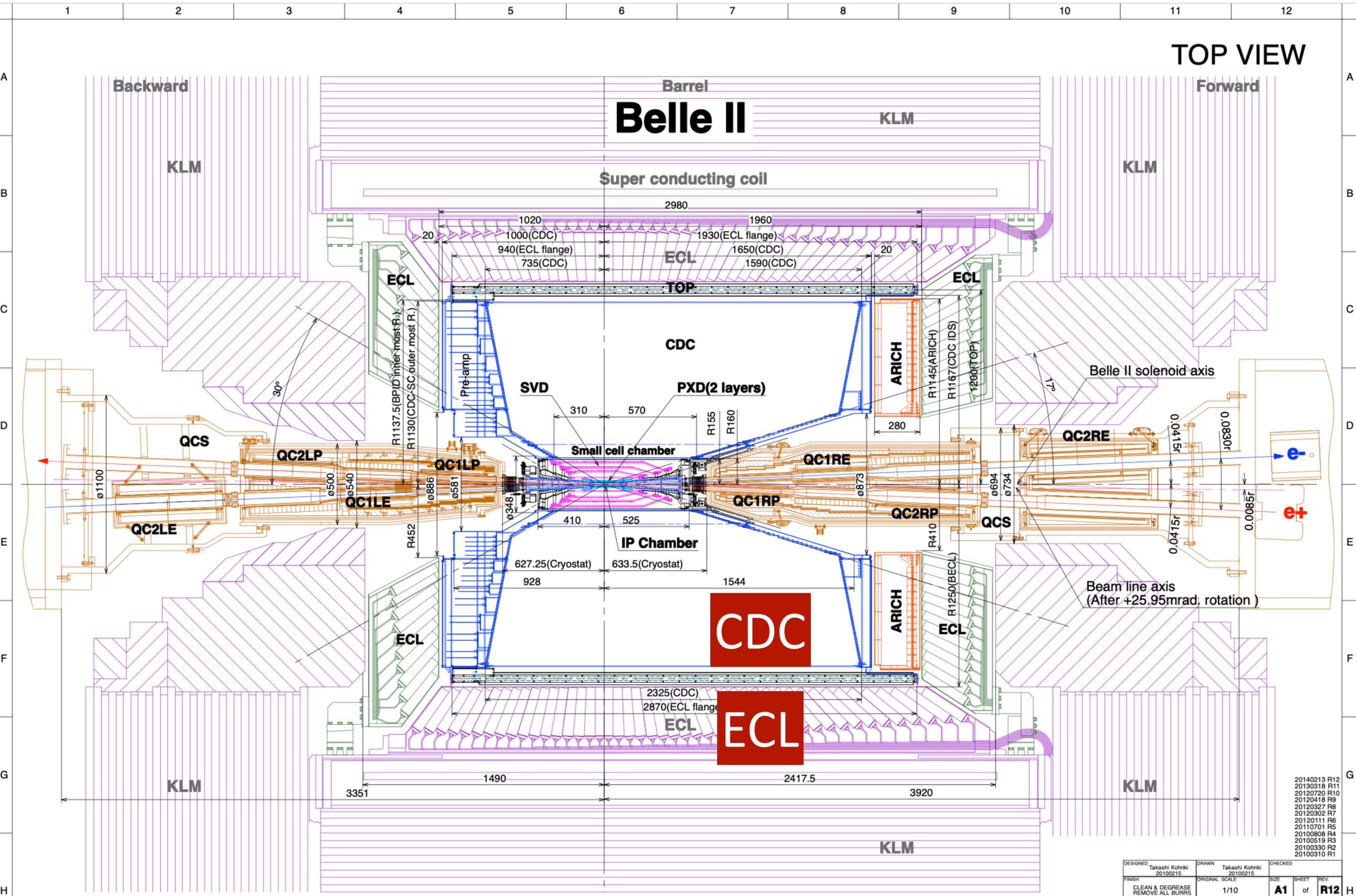


- 20140213 R12
- 20130318 R11
- 20120720 R10
- 20120418 R9
- 20120327 R8
- 20120302 R7
- 20120111 R6
- 20110701 R5
- 20100808 R4
- 20100519 R3
- 20100330 R2
- 20100310 R1

20140213 R12  
 -QCS20131203  
 -CDC covers  
 -B&FWD new pole pieces

DESIGNED Takashi Kohriki 20100215	DRAWN Takashi Kohriki 20100215	CHECKED
FINISH CLEAN & DEGREASE REMOVE ALL BURRS	ORIGINAL SCALE 1/10	SIZE SHEET REV. <b>A1</b> of <b>R12</b>
TITLE <b>Belle-II(Nano beam)</b> <b>IR=±41.5 mrad.(Top view A)</b>		DRAWING NO. Belle-IITopview±41.5.vwx
PROJECT MECHANICAL ENGINEERING GROUP INSTITUTE FOR PARTICLE AND NUCLEAR STUDIES HIGH ENERGY ACCELERATOR RESEARCH ORGANIZATION CHO 1-1, TSUKUBA, IBARAKI 305-0801, JAPAN		PROJECTION Belle II





**TOP VIEW**

Barrel  
**Belle II**  
KLM

Super conducting coil

2980  
1020  
1960

1000(CDC)  
940(ECL flange)  
735(CDC)  
ECL  
TOP  
ECL  
1930(ECL flange)  
1650(CDC)  
1590(CDC)

CDC

SVD

PXD(2 layers)

ARICH  
R1145(ARICH)  
R1167(CDC IDS)  
1200(TOP)

Belle II solenoid axis

QCS

QC2LP

QC1LP

Small cell chamber

QC1RE

QC2RE

QC2LE

QC1LE

IP Chamber

QC1RP

QC2RP

QCS

Beam line axis  
(After +25.95mrad. rotation)

**CDC**

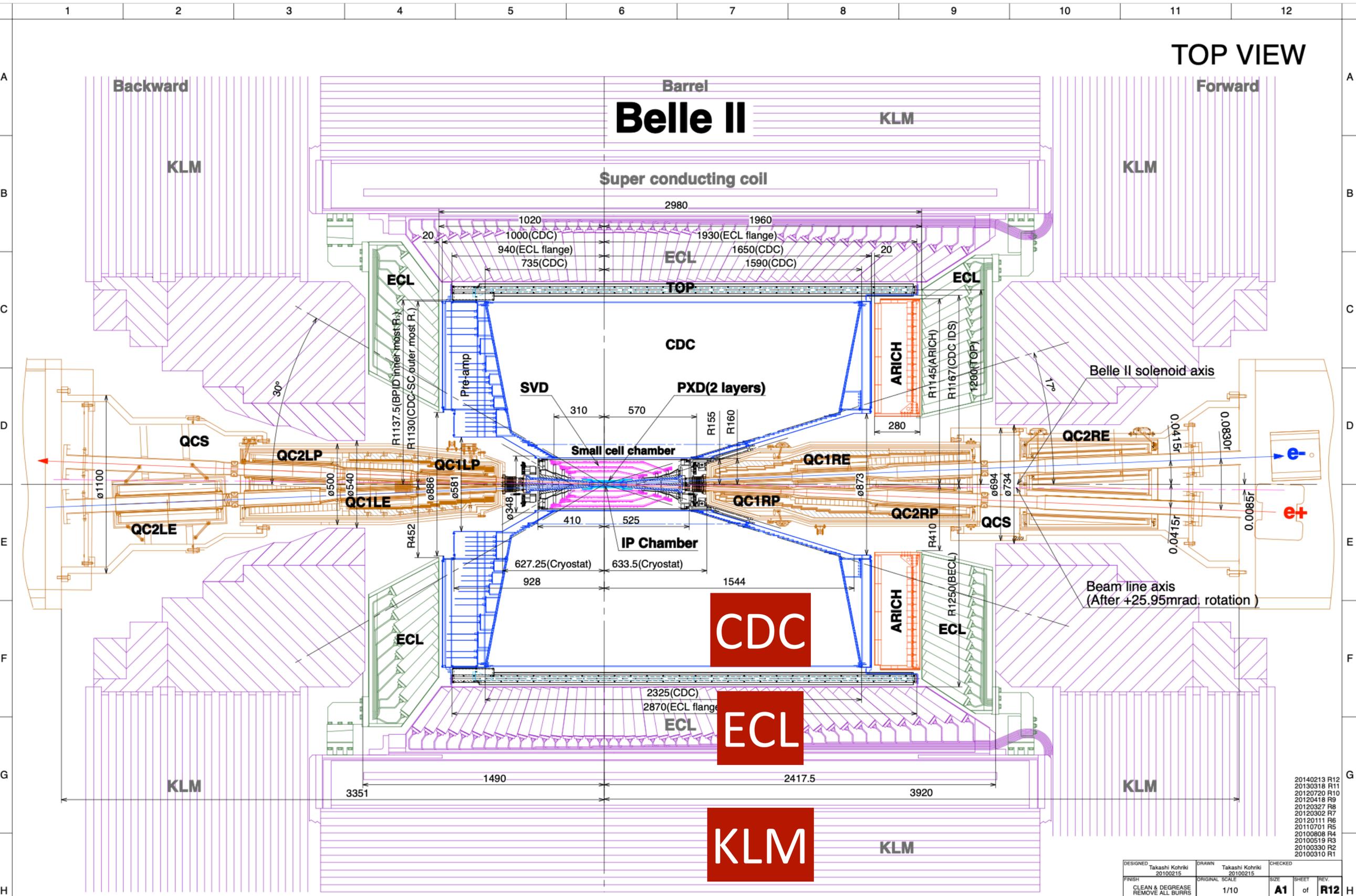
**ECL**

2325(CDC)  
2870(ECL flange)  
ECL

- 20140213 R12
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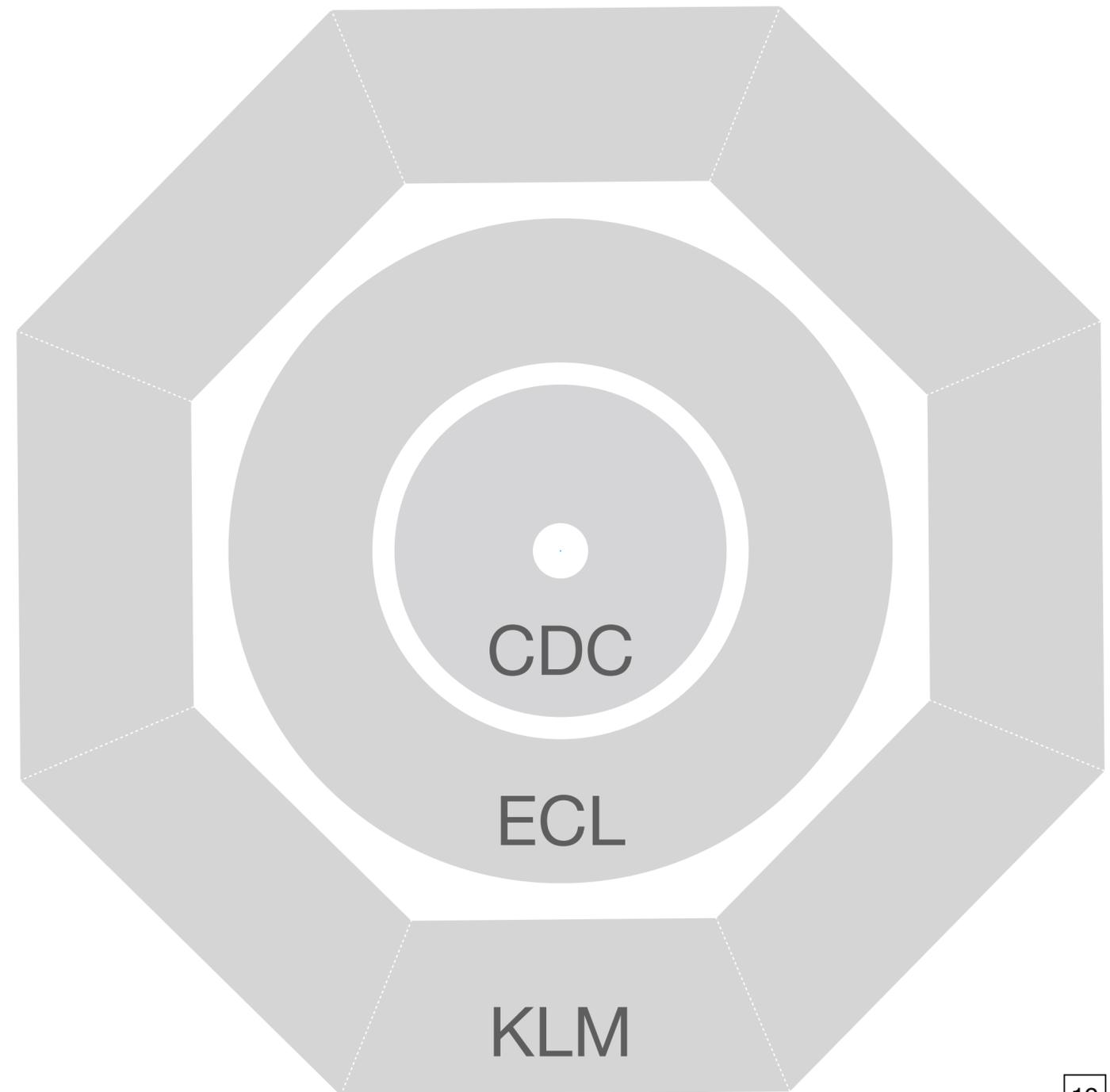


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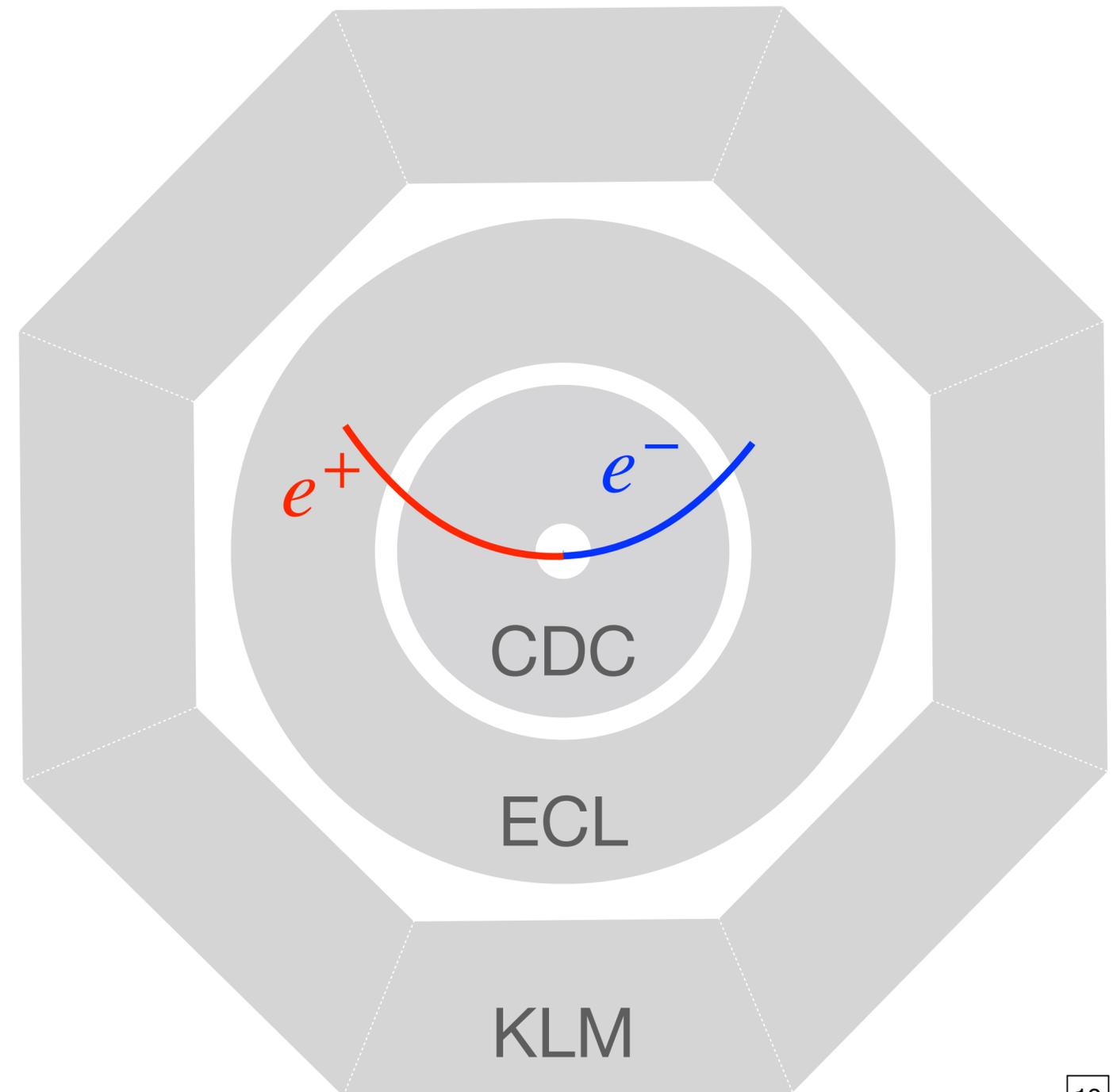
# New DM channel @ Belle II (x-y plane)



# New DM channel @ Belle II (x-y plane)

Bhabha scattering

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$$

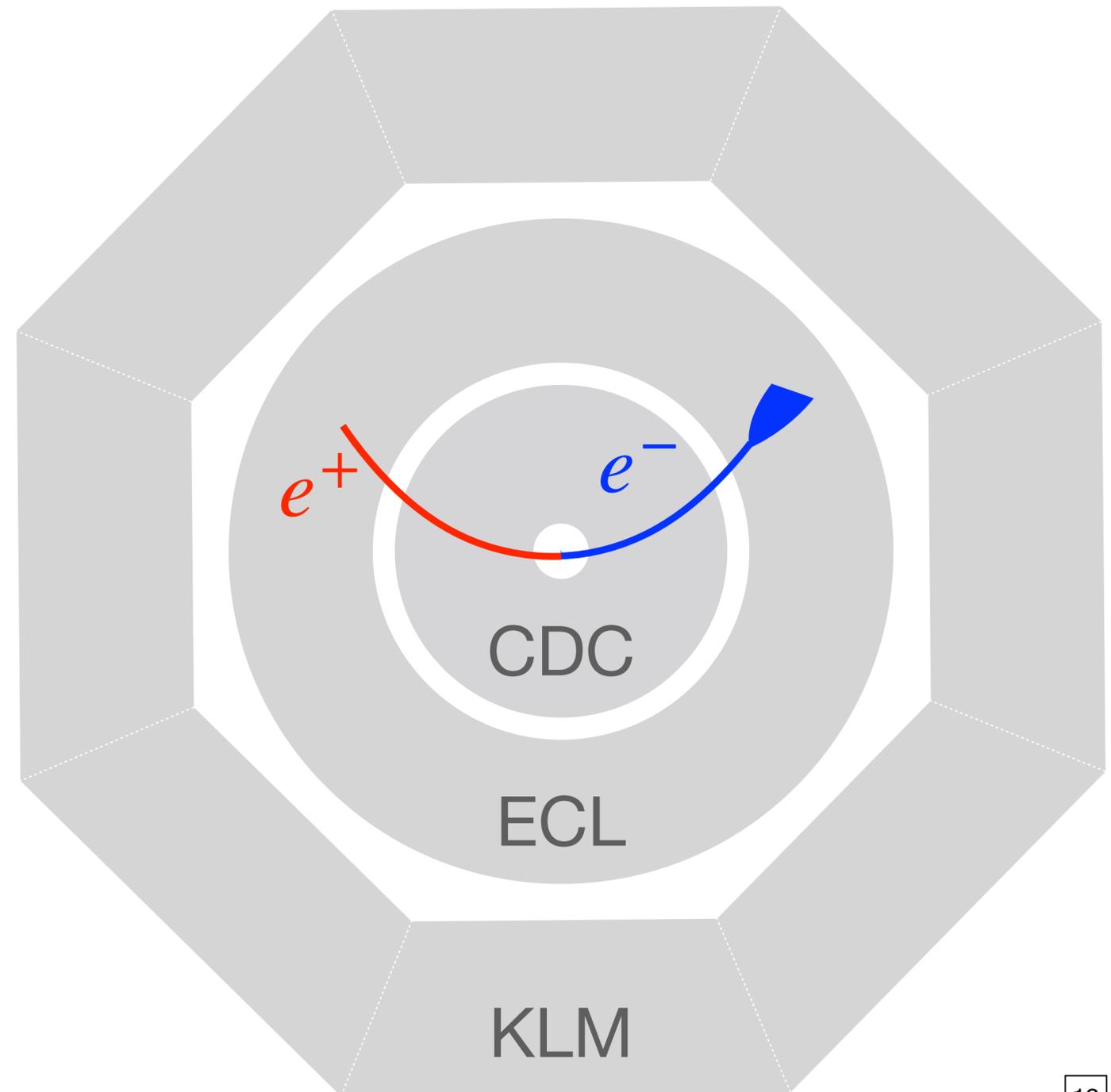


# New DM channel @ Belle II (x-y plane)

Bhabha scattering

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$$

- $e^-$  deposit energy in ECL

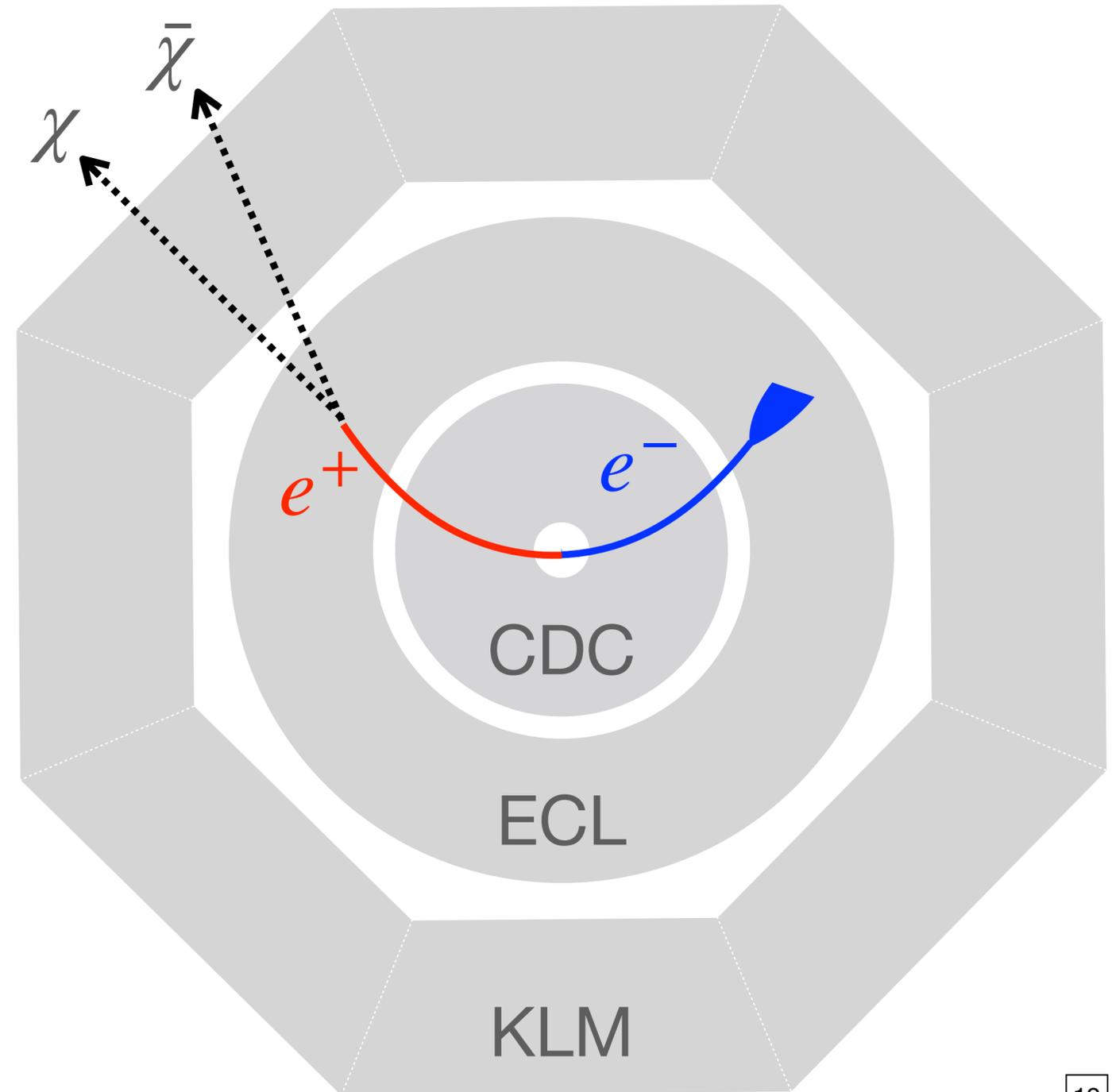


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$$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$$

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- $e^+$  interact with ECL to produce DM



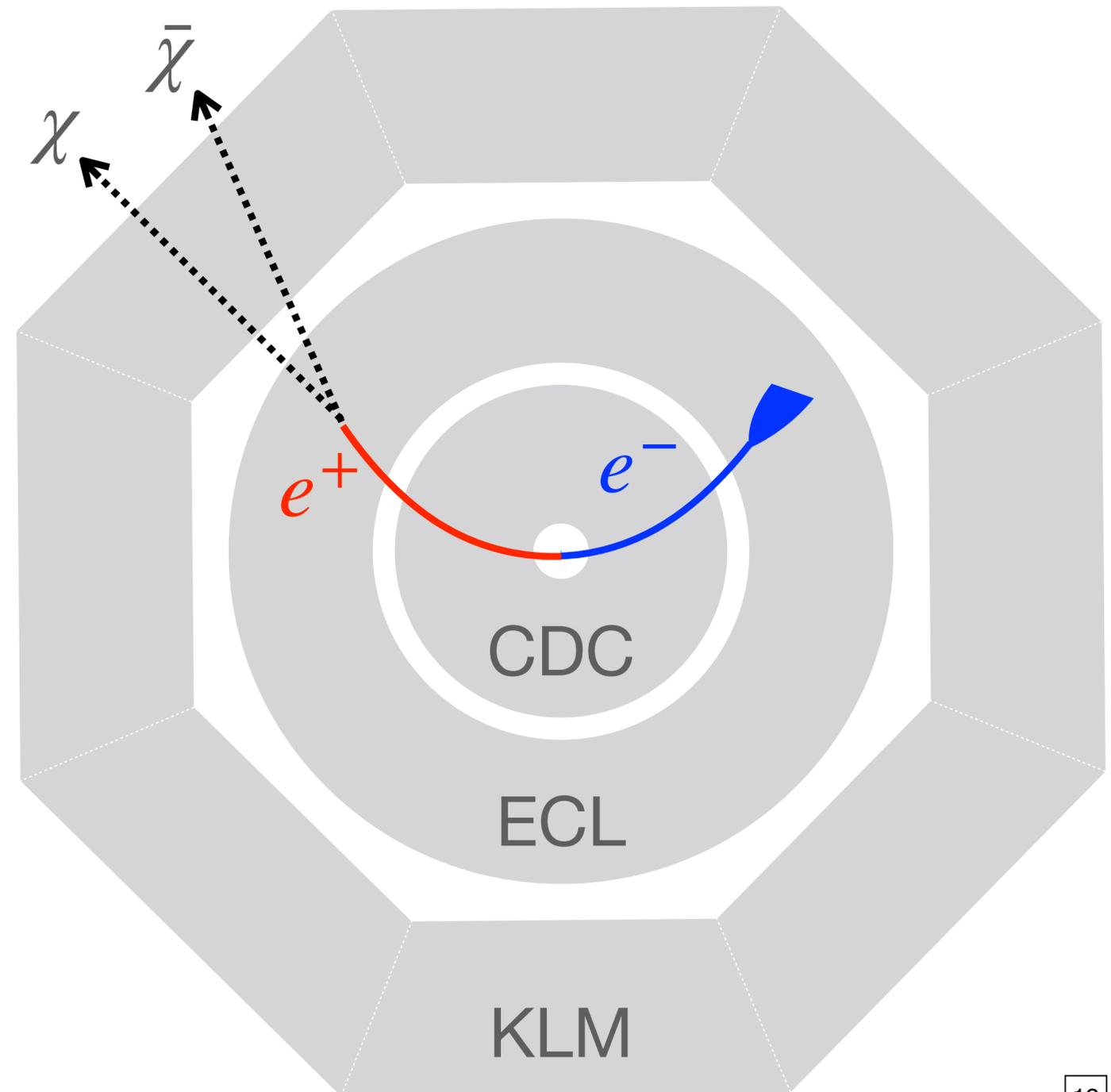
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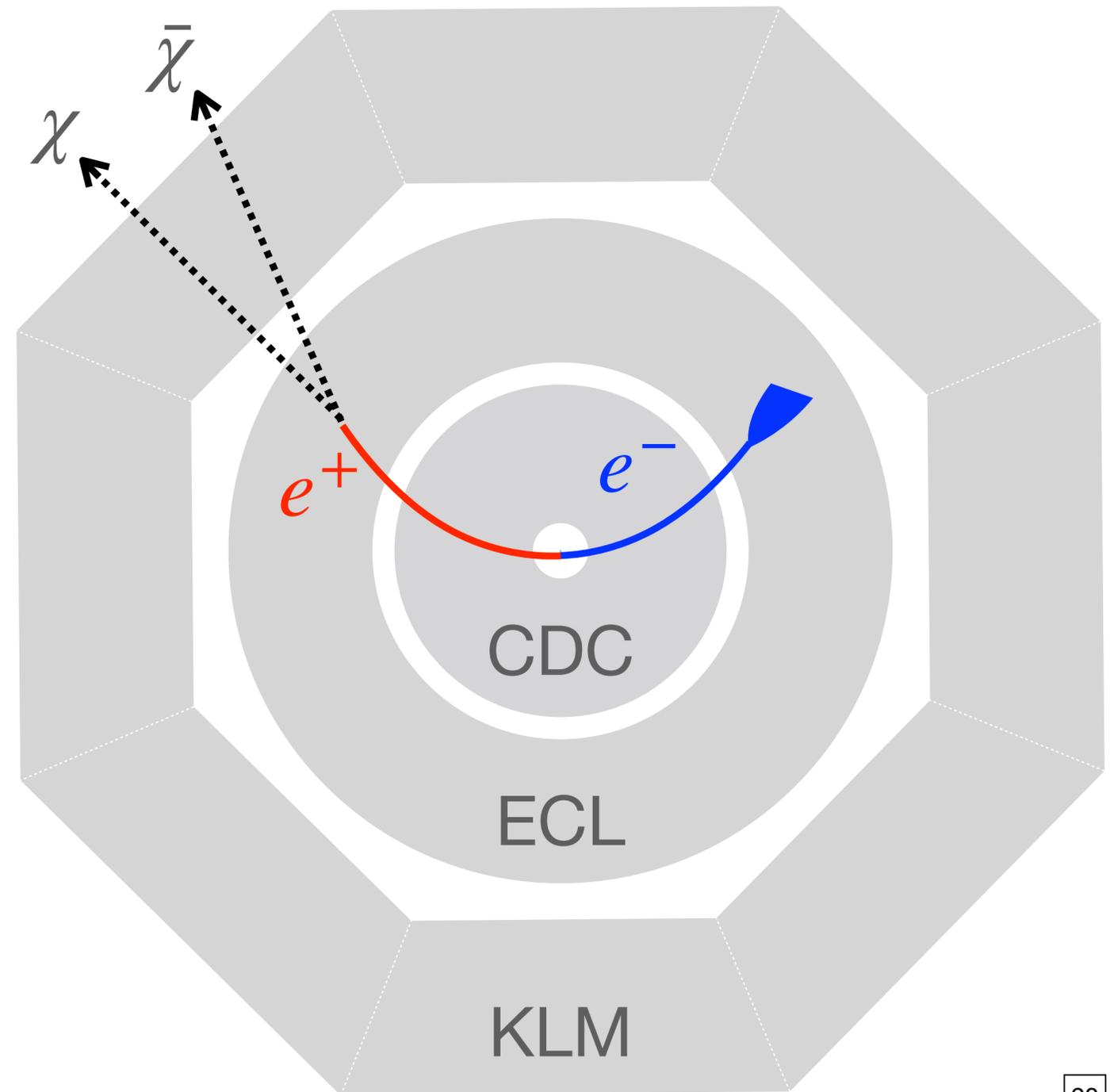
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$$

- $e^-$  deposit energy in ECL
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**disappearing positron track**



# “disappearing positron track” signature

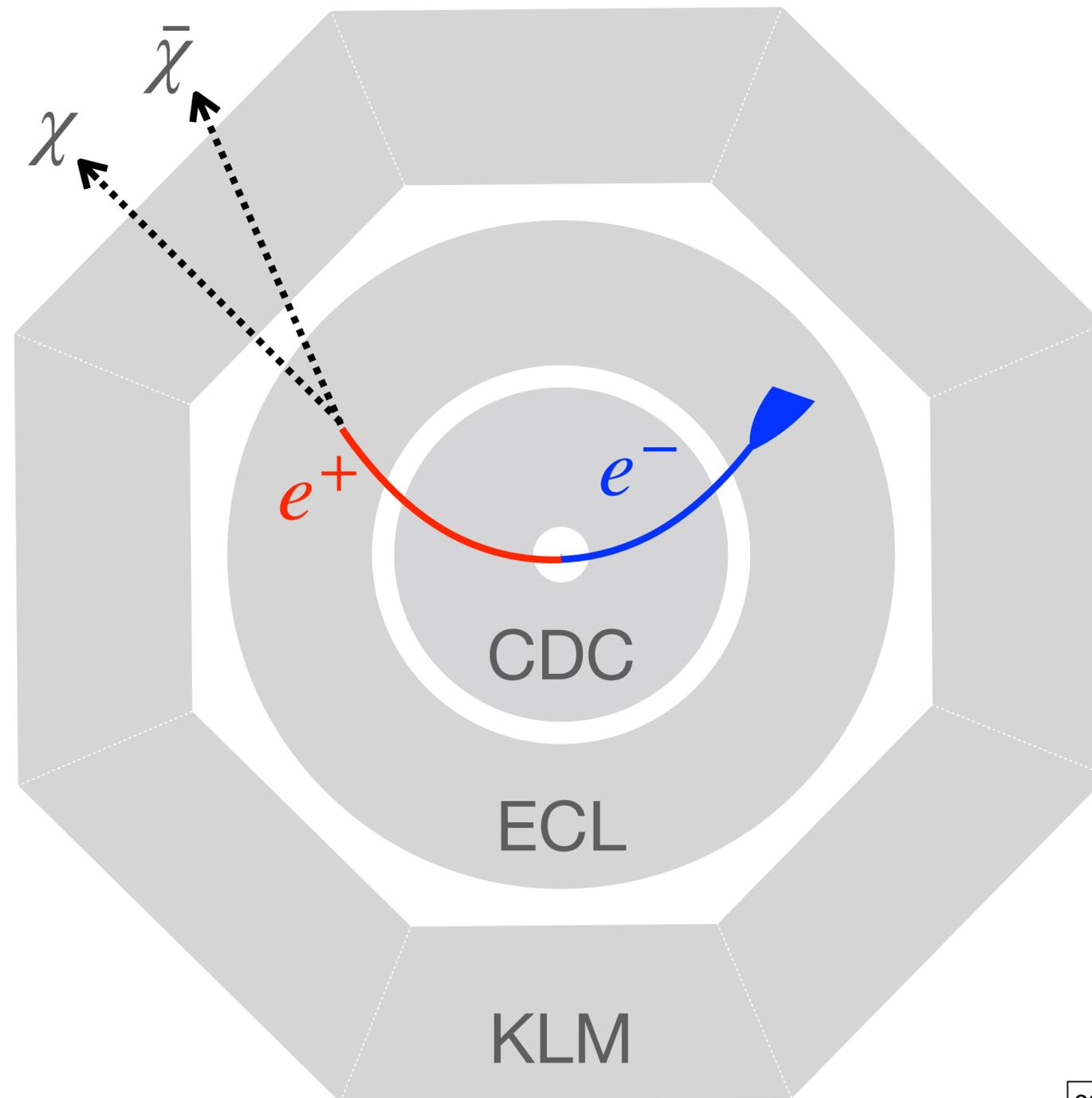


# “disappearing positron track” signature

- CDC:  $e^-$  &  $e^+$

$$\text{CDC: } \frac{\delta p_T}{p_T} \simeq 0.4 \% \text{ for } p_T \simeq 3 \text{ GeV}$$

Equal & opposite momenta  
for  $e^-$  &  $e^+$  in the CM frame



# “disappearing positron track” signature

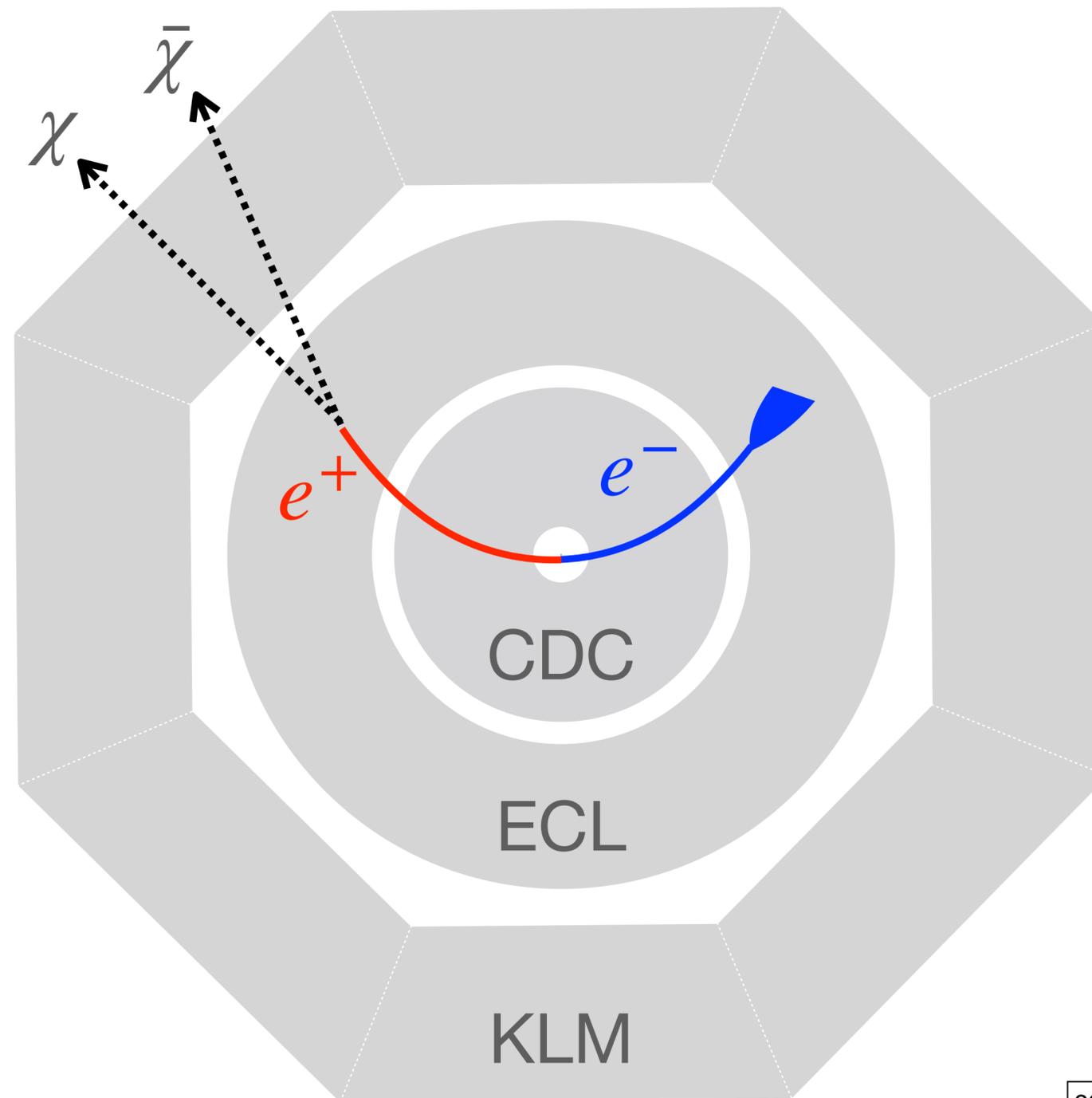
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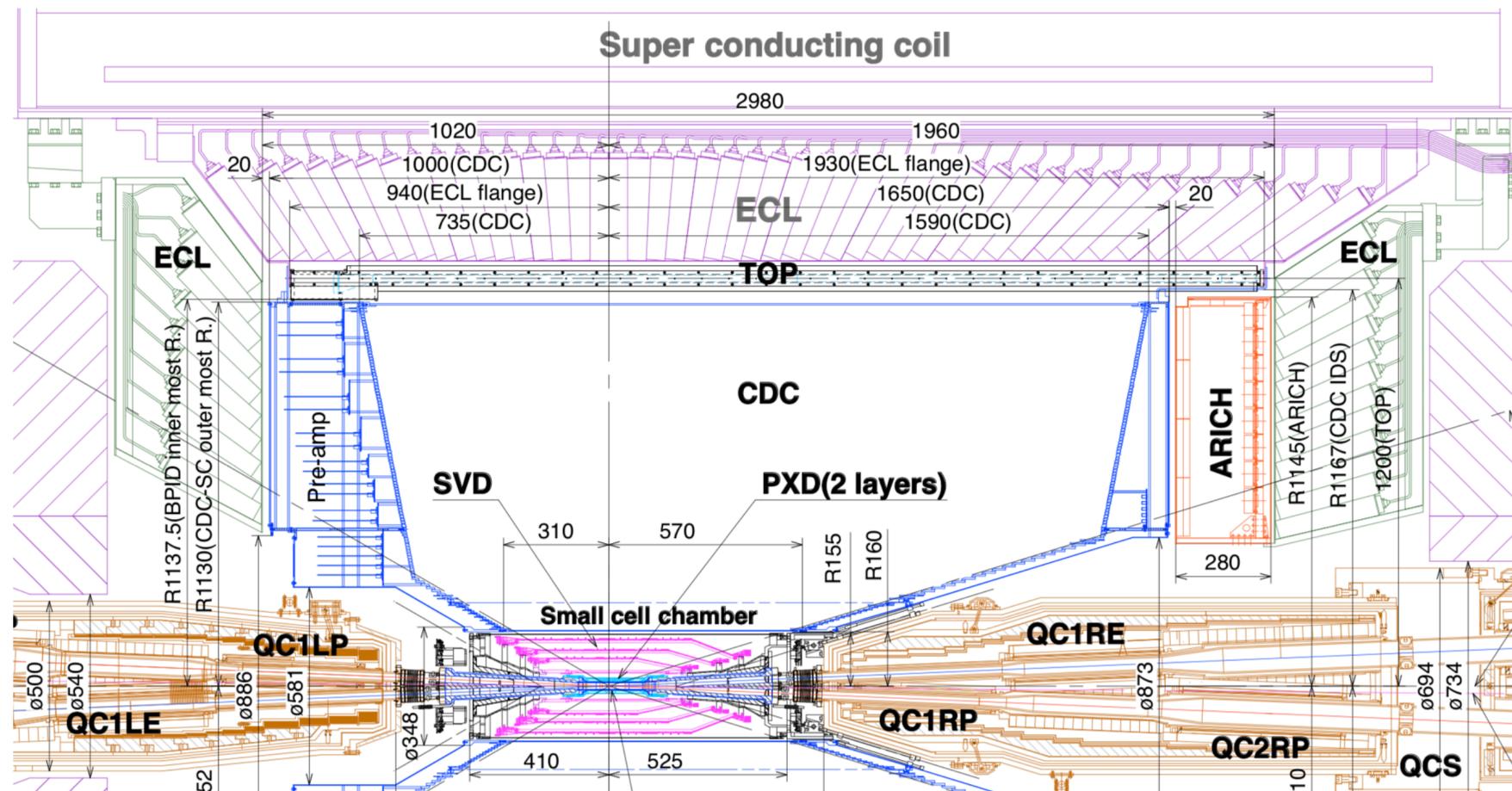
- ECL:  $e^-$  &  $e^+$

missing energy:  $<5\%$   $e^+$  energy in ECL



# Use the ECL barrel region as the fixed target

ECL barrel:  $32.2^\circ < \theta < 128.7^\circ$



- Better hermiticity (non-projective gaps between ECL crystals)
- Less non-instrumented setups (e.g., magnetic wires) between ECL & KLM
- More beam BG in endcaps

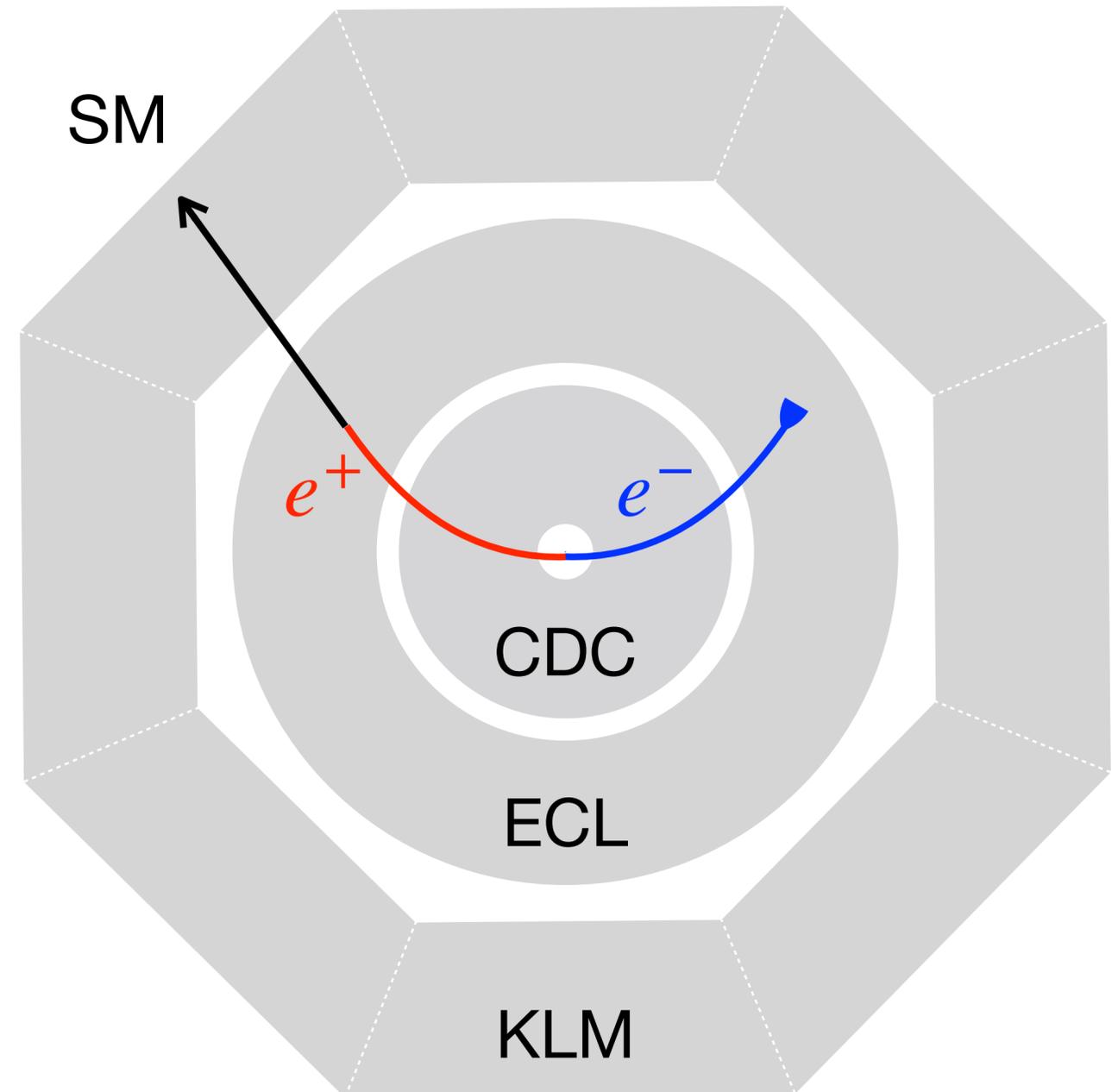
$6 \times 10^{11} e^+e^-$  events from Bhabha scattering in the barrel region with 50/ab

# Standard model backgrounds

# Standard model backgrounds

BG:  $e^+ + \text{ECL} \rightarrow \text{SM}$

SM particles escape detection

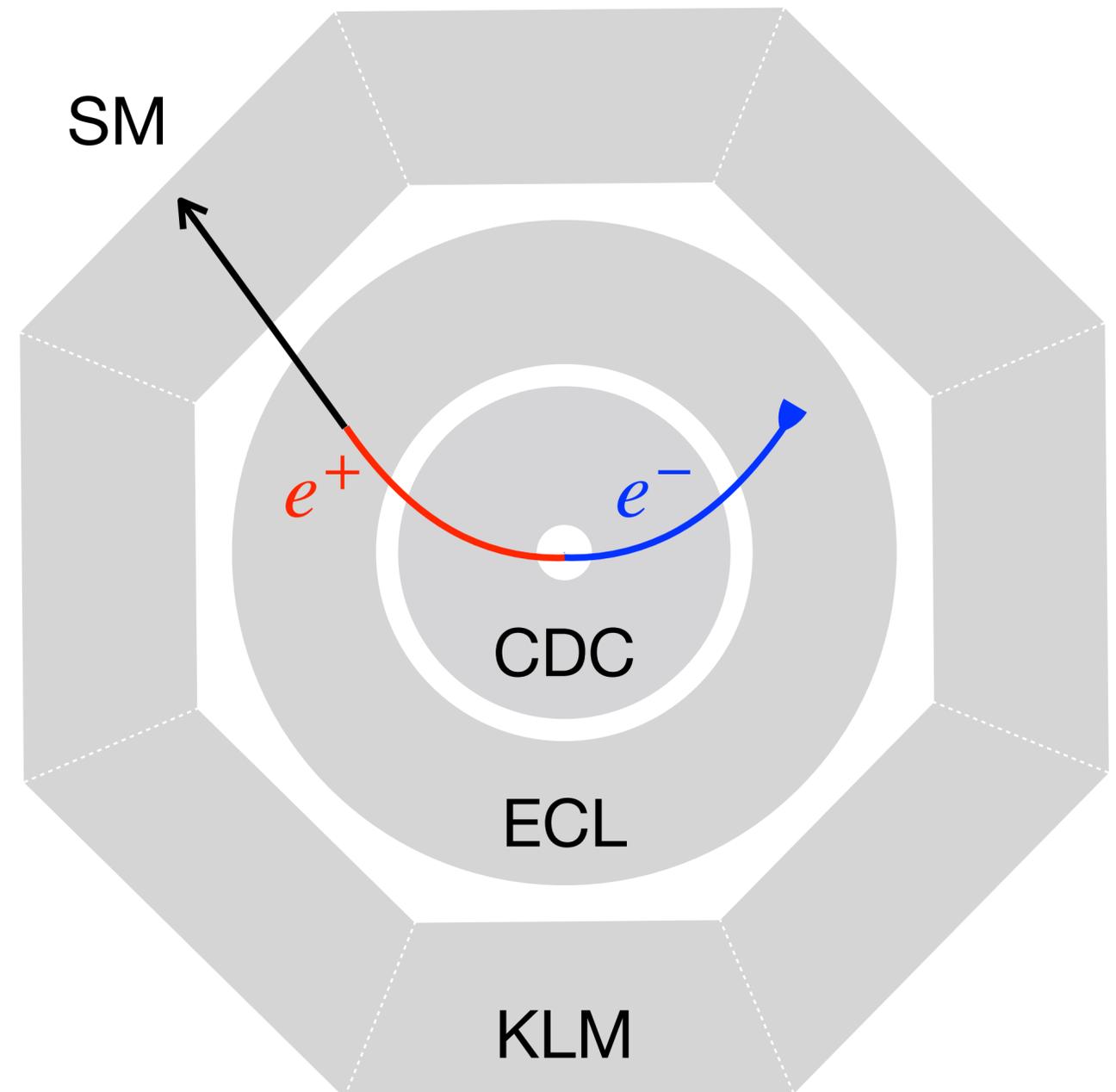


# Standard model backgrounds

BG:  $e^+ + \text{ECL} \rightarrow \text{SM}$

SM particles escape detection

- Charged particles ( $e, \mu, \pi^\pm$ ): unlikely to contribute
- Neutral particles ( $n, \gamma, \nu$ ): neutrino BG is small  
main BG are due to  $n$  &  $\gamma$



# Photon-induced BG: high-E photons escape ECL

Photon spectrum ( $e^+$  in matter) [Tsai & Whitis 1966]

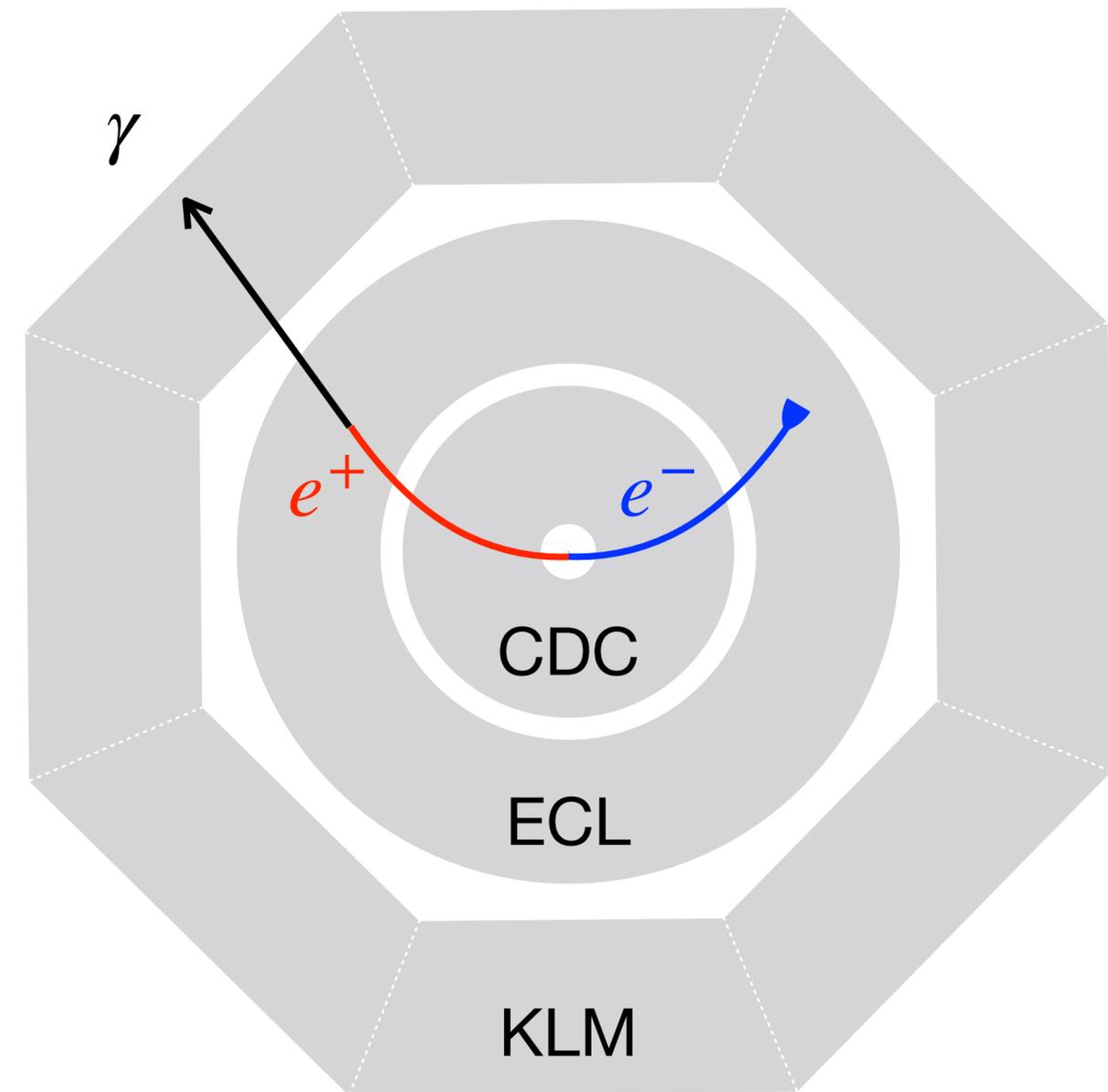
$$\frac{dN_\gamma}{dx_\gamma}(t, x_\gamma) \simeq \frac{1}{x_\gamma} \frac{(1 - x_\gamma)^{(4/3)t} - e^{-(7/9)t}}{7/9 + (4/3)\ln(1 - x_\gamma)}$$

$$x_\gamma = E_\gamma/E_e \quad t = \# \text{ of } X_0$$

$$\text{prob of high-E } \gamma = \int_{0.95}^1 dx_\gamma \frac{dN_\gamma}{dx_\gamma}(16, x_\gamma) \simeq 4.7 \times 10^{-8}$$

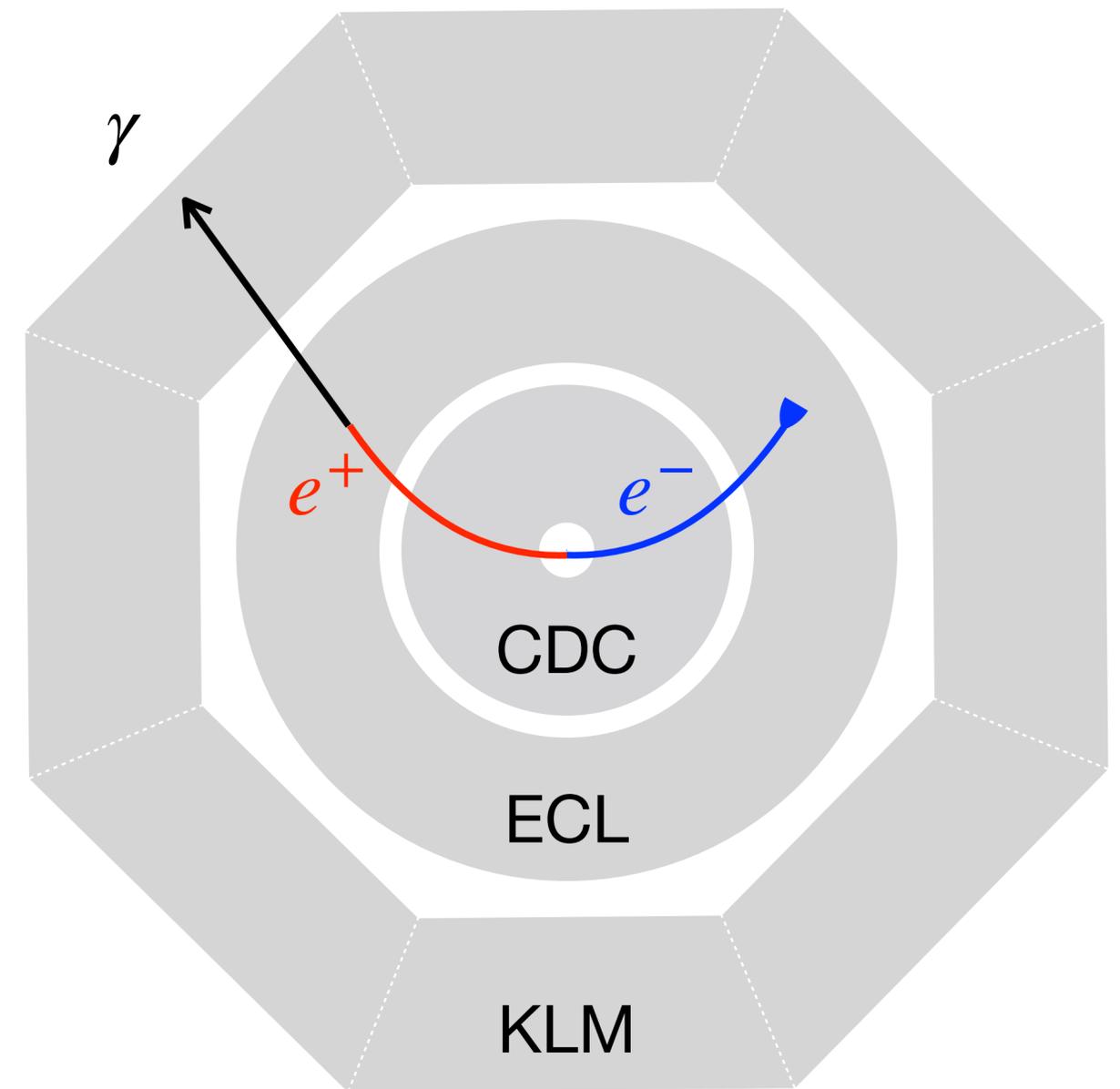
$6 \times 10^{11} e^+$  hit ECL which has  $16-X_0$  CsI crystals

# of high-E  $\gamma \sim 2.8 \times 10^4$  after ECL



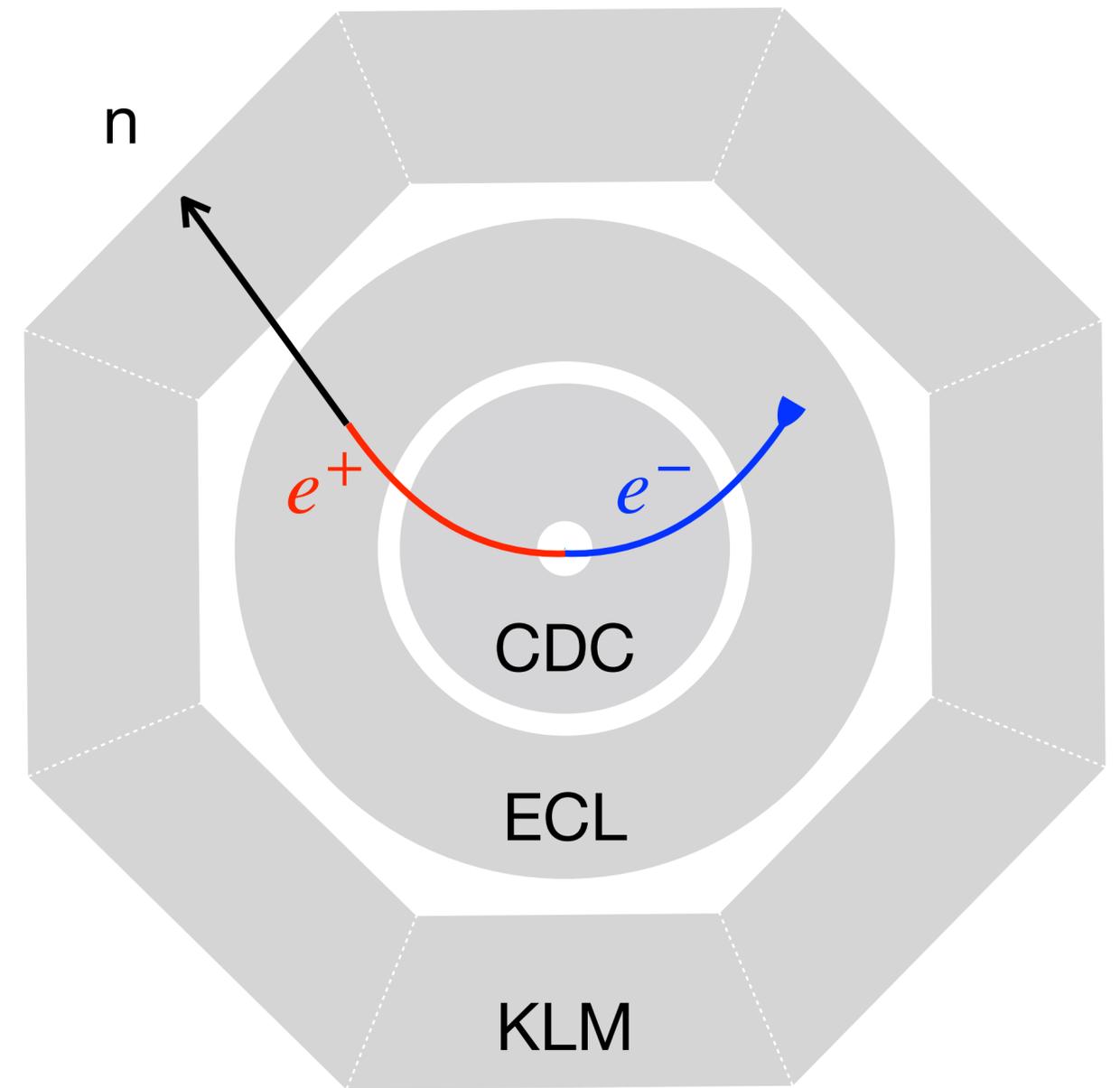
# KLM veto capability on photon

- KLM = alternating layers of 4.7-cm iron plates & active detectors  $\implies$  difficult for GeV  $\gamma$  to penetrate
- However,  $\gamma$  can be absorbed by non-instrumented setups (e.g., magnet coil)
- KLM veto efficiency =  $4.5 \times 10^{-4}$  (IFR @ BaBar)  
 $\implies$  13 photon BG (for  $6 \times 10^{11}$  incident  $e^+$ )



# Neutron-induced backgrounds: GEANT4 simulations

- GEANT4 simulation:  $10^9 e^+$  with a CsI target with  $1 X_0$
- Neutrons with significant energy are produced in the first  $X_0$  (confirmed with  $2-X_0$  simulations)
- Require at least one neutron with  $E > 3 \text{ GeV}$



# Probability for a neutron to penetrate ECL & KLM

Prob to penetrate a target with length  $L$

$$P = \exp(-L/\lambda_0)$$

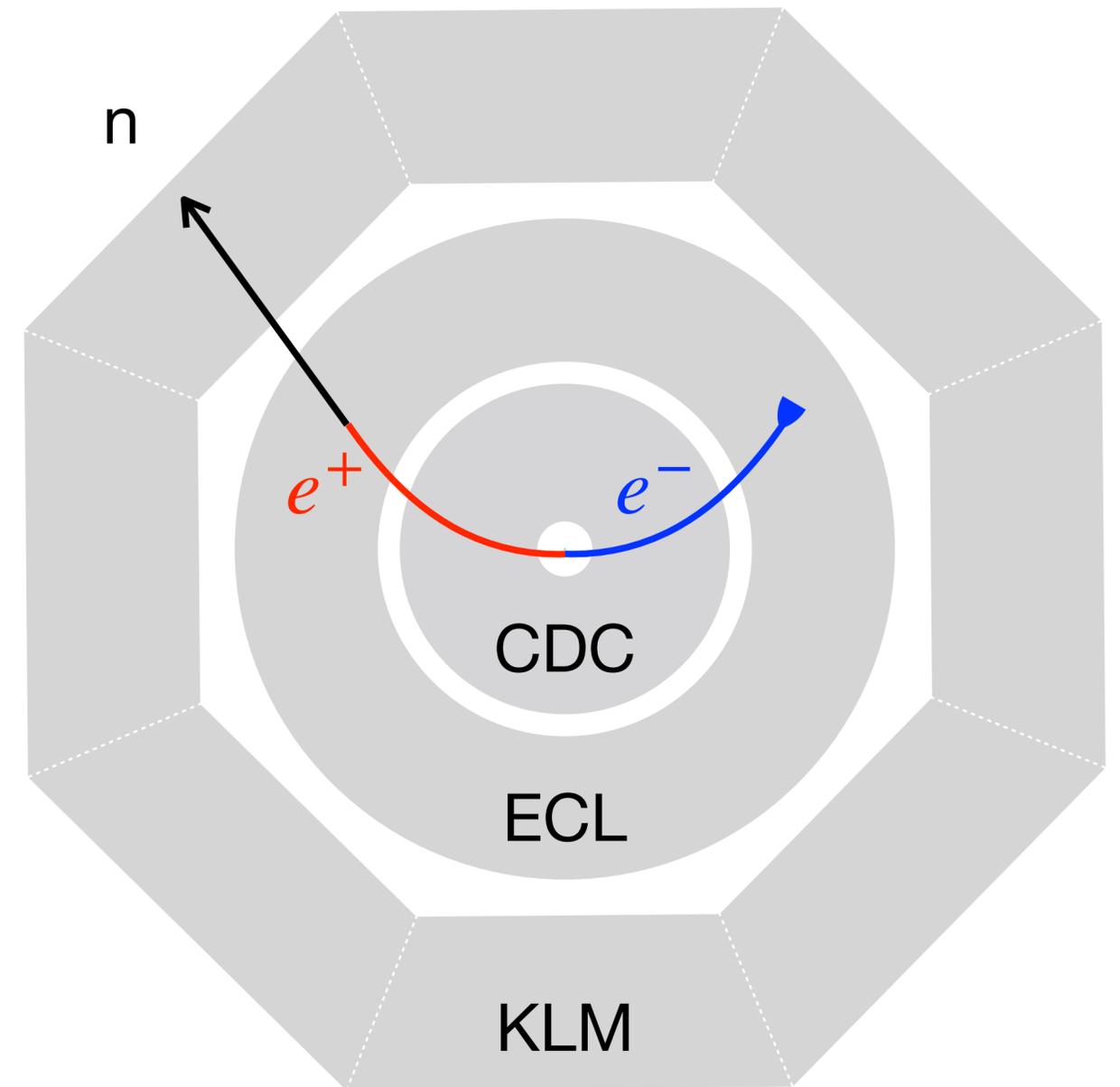
$\lambda_0$  = hadronic interaction length

$$\text{KLM} \sim 3.9 \lambda_0 \quad \text{ECL} \sim 0.8 \lambda_0$$

Prob to penetrate ECL & KLM  $\sim 1\%$

Neutron-induced BG  $\sim 81$

Both photon & neutron-induced BG  $\sim 94$



# Sensitivity on invisible dark photon

# Invisible dark photon

$$\delta B_{\mu\nu} X^{\mu\nu} \text{ or } m^2 \epsilon B_\mu X^\mu$$

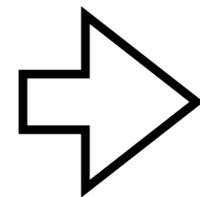


$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = A'_\mu (e Q_f \epsilon \bar{f} \gamma^\mu f + g_\chi \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi)$$

dark photon  $A'_\mu$

couplings:  $g_\chi \gg e\epsilon$

$$m_{A'} = 3m_\chi$$



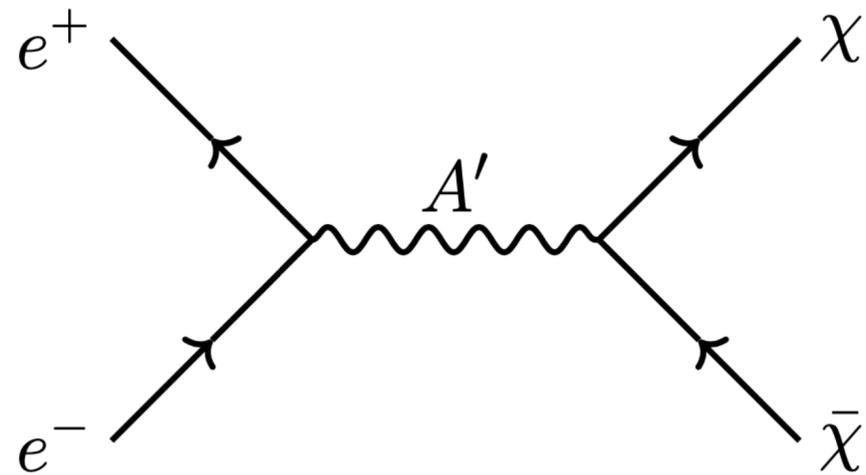
invisible decay dominates

[Holdom 1986]

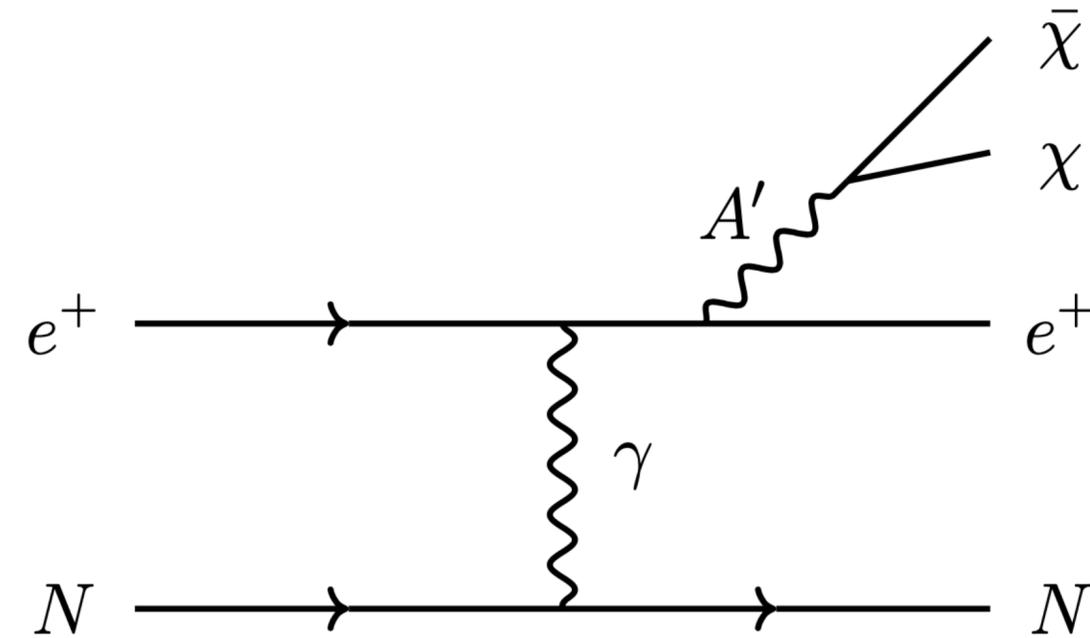
[Foot & He 1991]

[Feldman, ZL, Nath, [hep-ph/0702123](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0702123), 437 cites]

# Positron interaction with ECL



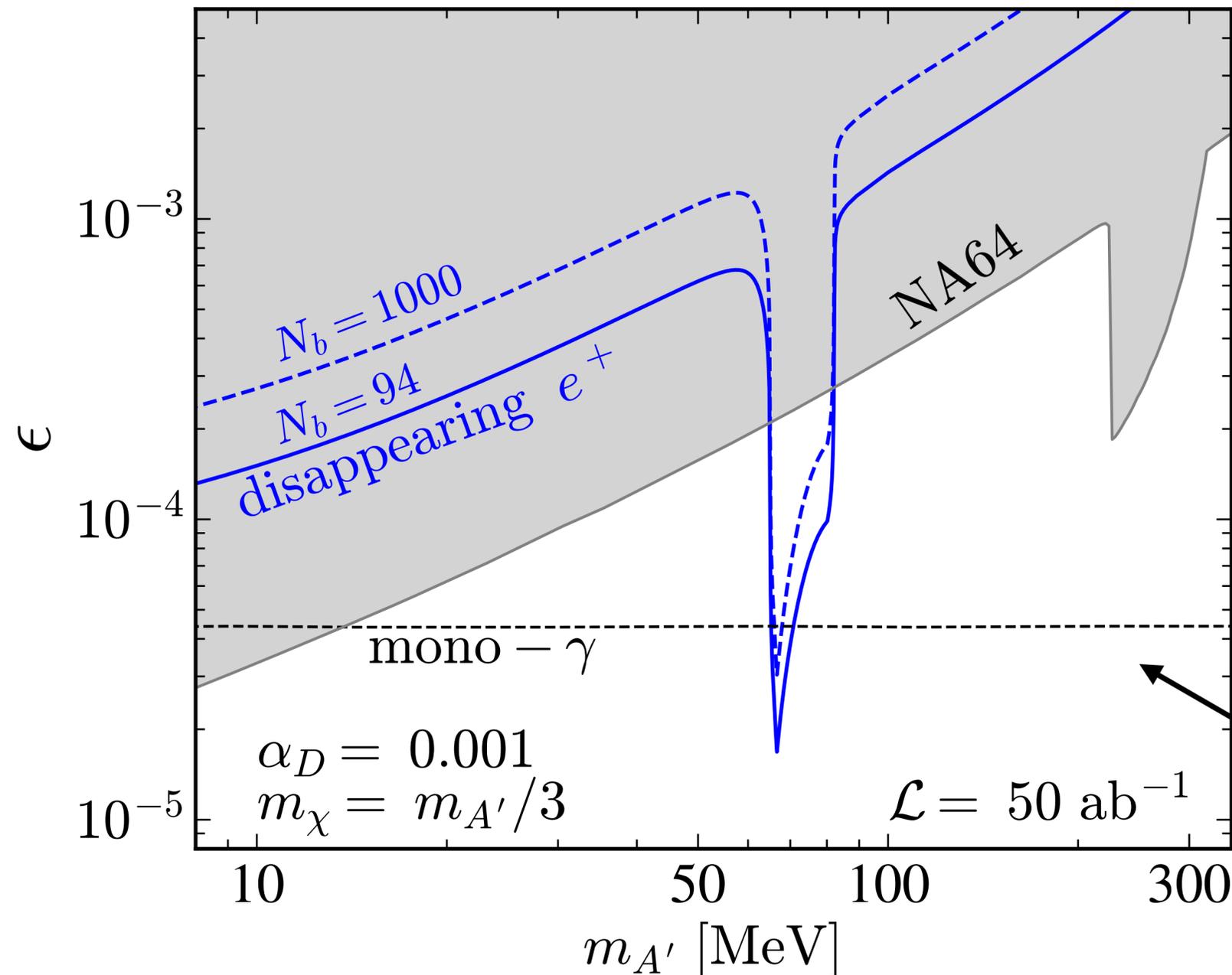
annihilation w/  
atomic electrons



bremsstrahlung w/  
target nucleus

# Belle II sensitivity on invisible dark photon

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2212.04252]



probing new parameter space  
beyond mono-photon and NA64

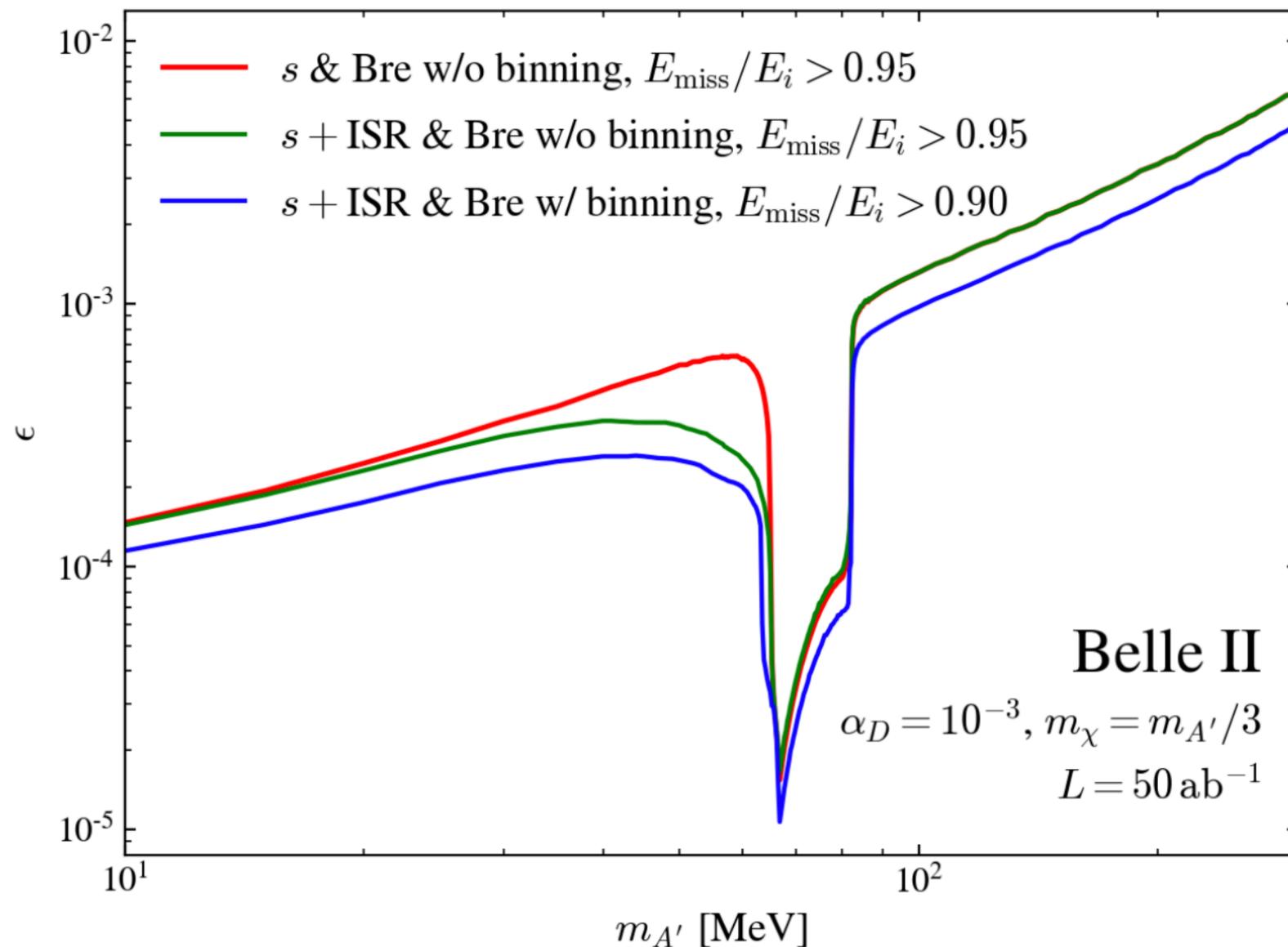
best-probed region  $\sim 66 \text{ MeV}$ :

- annihilation with atomic electrons
- $m_{A'} \sim \sqrt{2m_e E_{e^+}}$  depends on energy

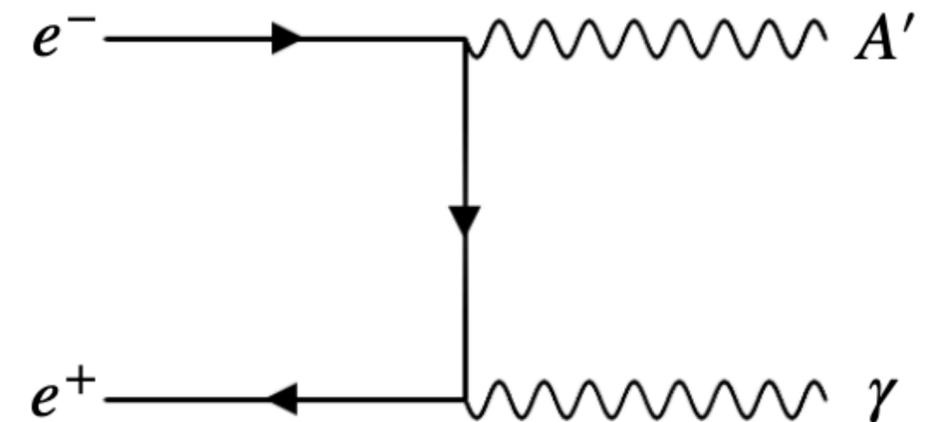
mono-photon projections subject to  
potential CRBG for DP  $m < 2 \text{ GeV}$   
[2207.06307, Belle II, Snowmass]

# Belle II sensitivity with ISR included

[Shao-Feng Ge, Jinhua Liang, ZL, Ui Min, 2505.10302]



also consider binning  
on photon energy



improved sensitivity  
(more significantly for  
low masses)

3

# Belle II probes of strongly-interacting dark matter

[Liang, ZL, Yang, PRD, 2312.08970]

# Strongly-interacting dark matter

# Strongly interacting dark matter

DM is usually assumed to have a **weak** interaction w/ SM, e.g., WIMPs

However, **strongly-interacting** DM w/ a small abundance are allowed

& are interesting because they can get **boosted** by various astro sources

- cosmic ray [Cappiello+, 1810.07705] [Bringmann+, 1810.10543][Ema+, 1811.00520]
- diffuse supernova neutrino [Das+, 2104.00027]
- blazars [Wang+, 2111.13644]

# Detection of strongly interacting DM can be difficult

strongly-interacting DM can be difficult to detect

- strong interaction xsec
- small abundance (because the strong interaction xsec )

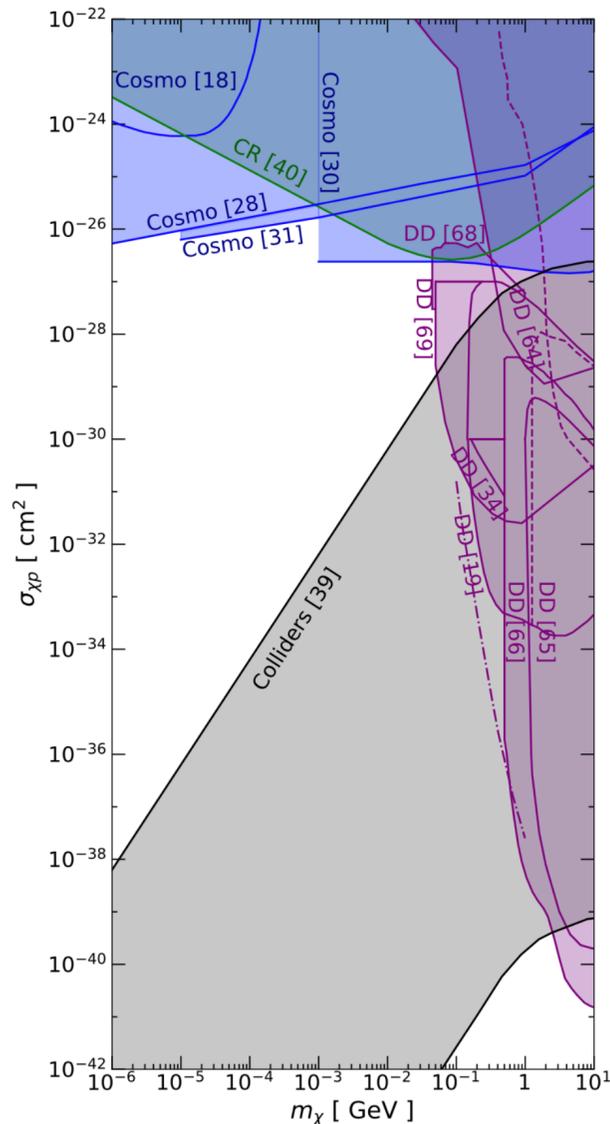
- **DMID**: suppressed by small abundance
- **DMDD**: suppressed by small abundance & shielded by rock/air (like CR)
- **CMB**: unconstrained if the abundance is  $<0.4\%$  [Boddy +, 1808.00001]

Colliders are ideal probes of such DM, unconstrained by these two factors

# Ceiling of collider searches

strongly-interacting DM starts to interact w/ detectors  $\Rightarrow$  no more mono-X

[Cappiello+ 1810.07705]



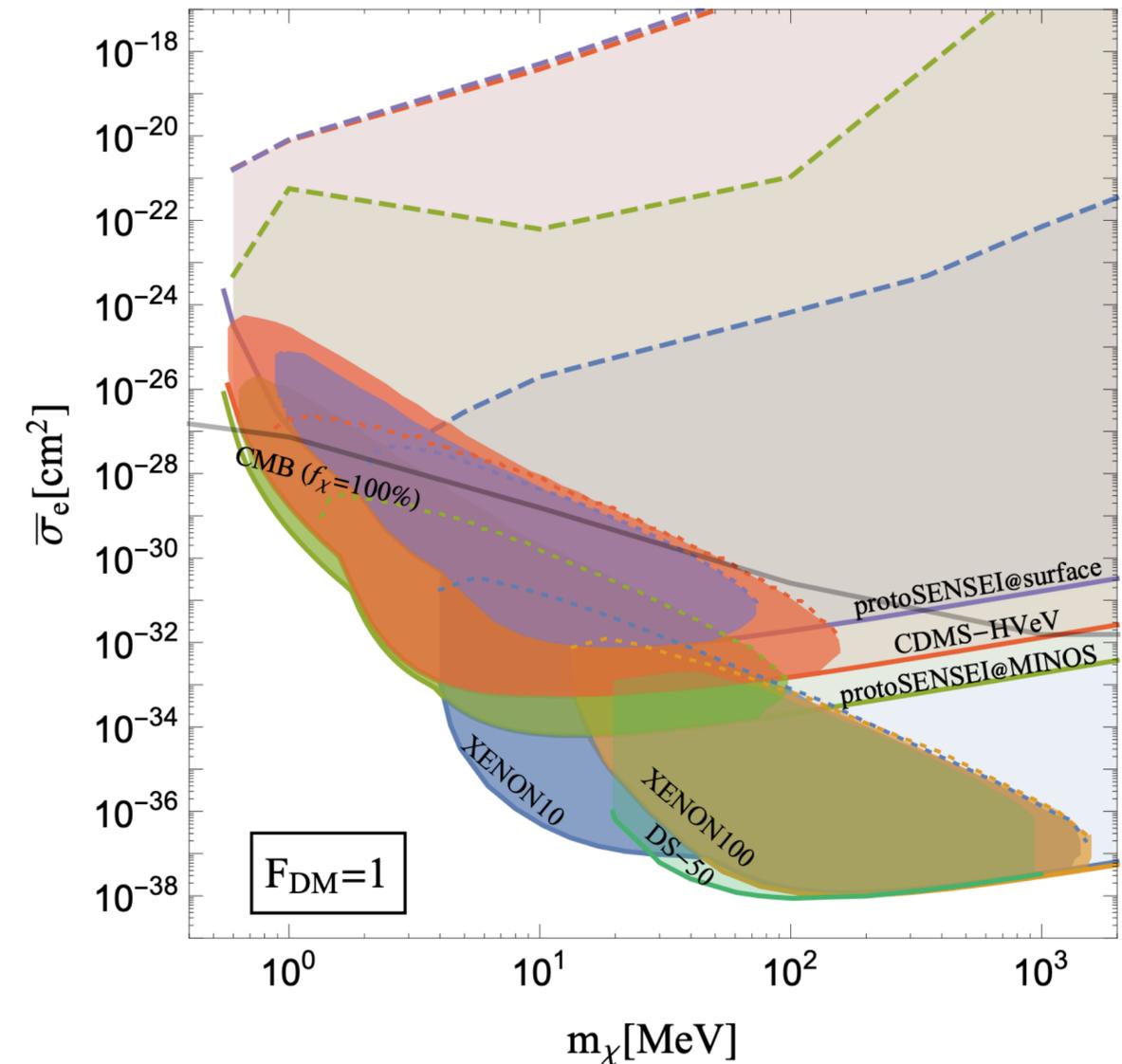
DM interactions with  
LHC detectors

[Bai & Rajaraman 1109.6009]

[Daci et al., 1503.05505]

[Bauer et al., 2005.13551]

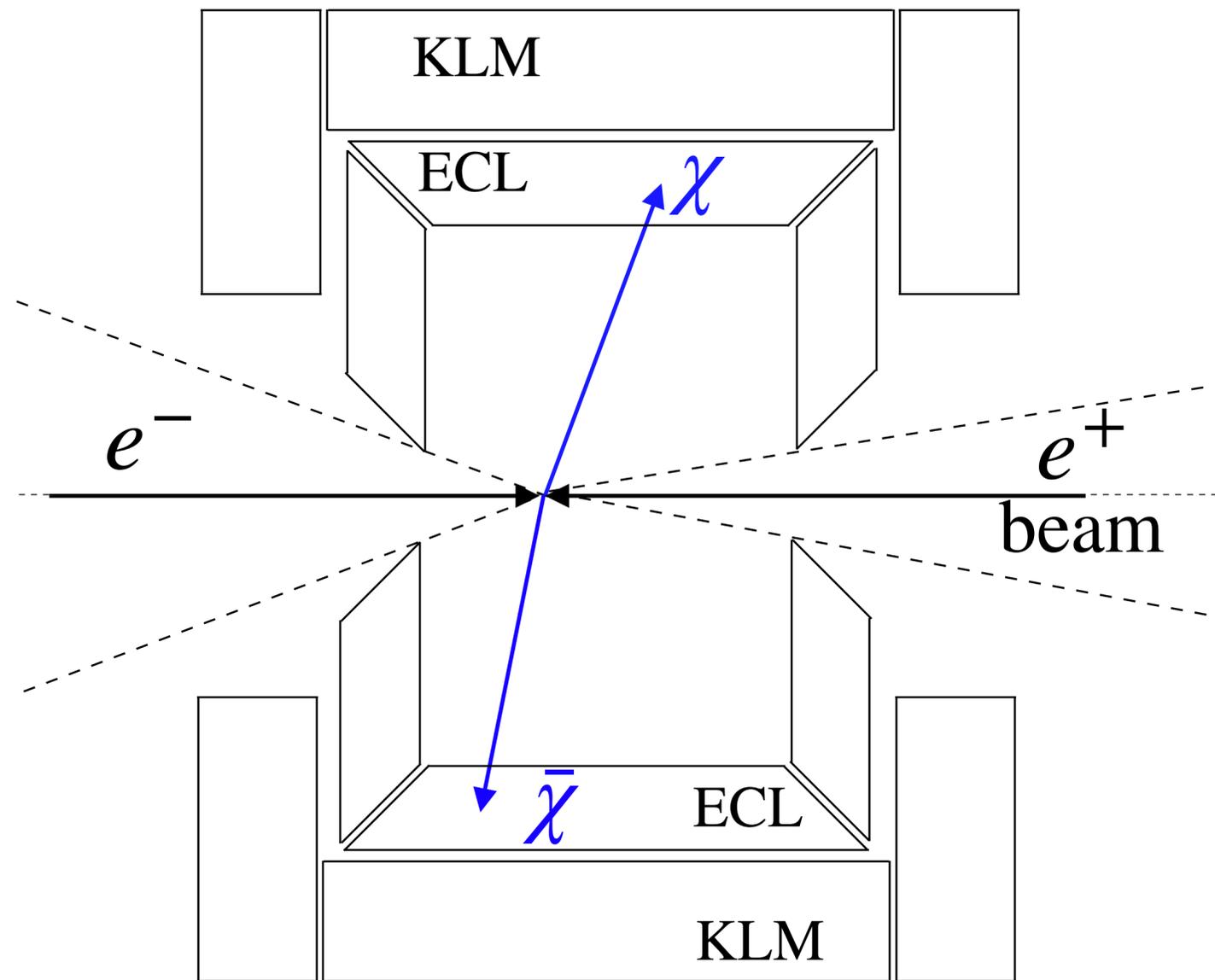
[Emken+ 1905.06348]



# Probing strongly-interacting DM at electron colliders

# DM scattering w/ ECL @ Belle II

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2312.08970]



DM interacts strongly w detector  $\Rightarrow$  multiple electron recoils (generates a DM-induced ECL “cluster”)

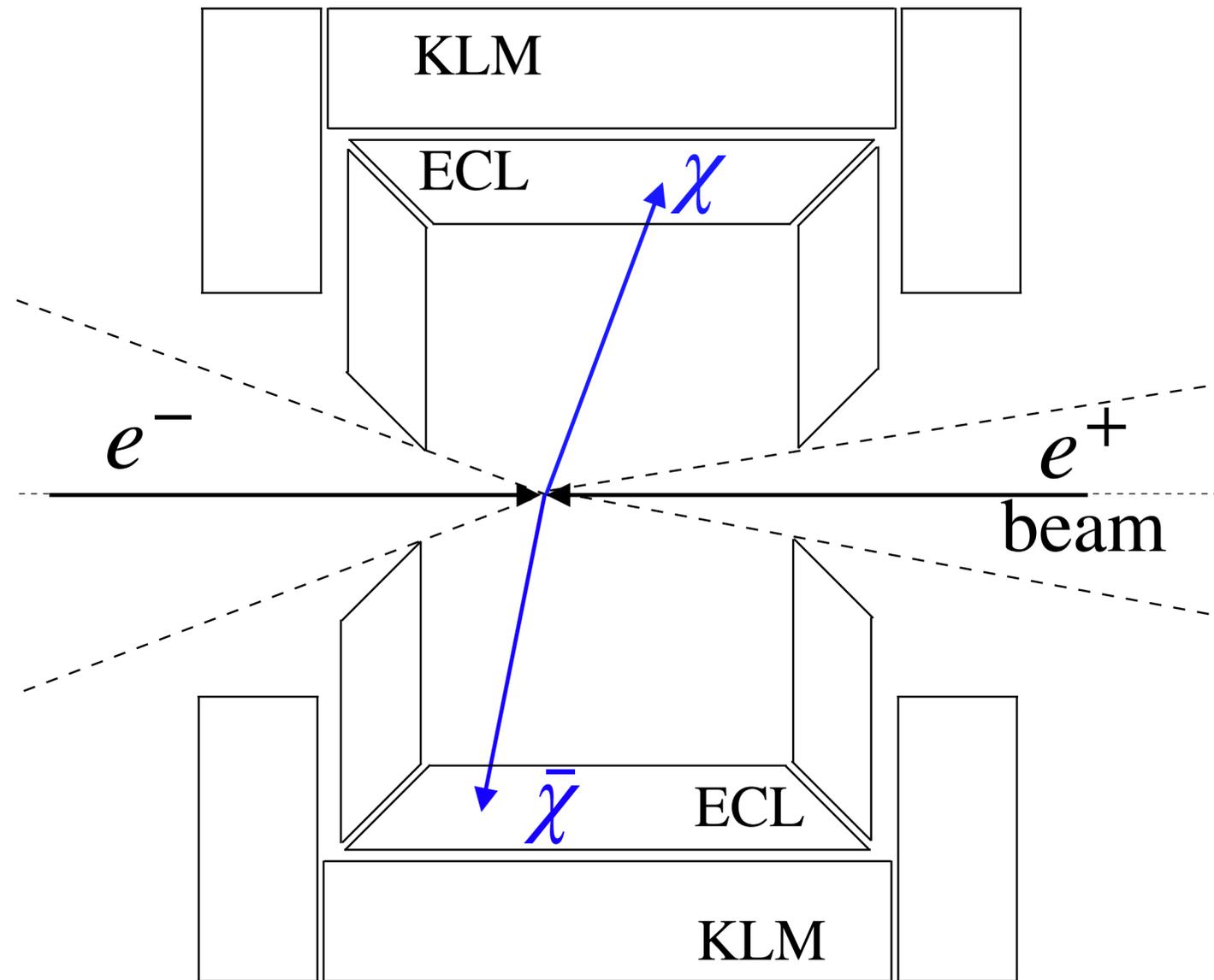
this is similar to photon signals at Belle II

- mono-cluster (from one DM)
- di-cluster (from both DM)

$E_{\text{cluster}} \leq E_{\chi} - m_{\chi}$  for DM-induced ECL cluster

# DM scattering w/ ECL @ Belle II

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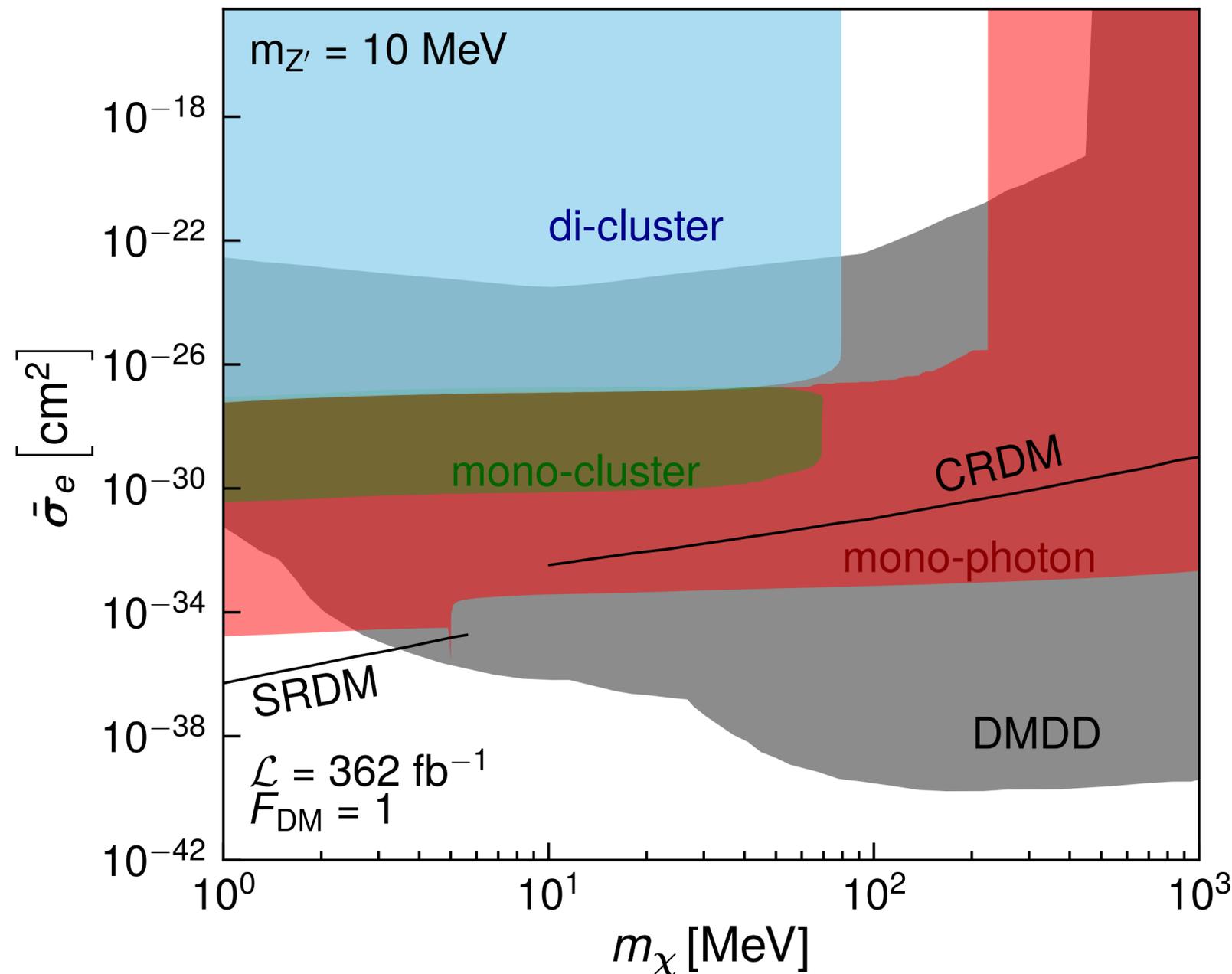
this is similar to photon signals at Belle II

- mono-cluster (from one DM)
- di-cluster (from both DM)

$E_{\text{cluster}} \leq E_{\chi} - m_{\chi}$  for DM-induced ECL cluster

## DMDD in collider

# Belle II vs DMDD (10 MeV Z' w only vector couplings)



[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2312.08970]

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^V = Z'_\mu (g_\chi^V \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi + g_e^V \bar{e} \gamma^\mu e)$$

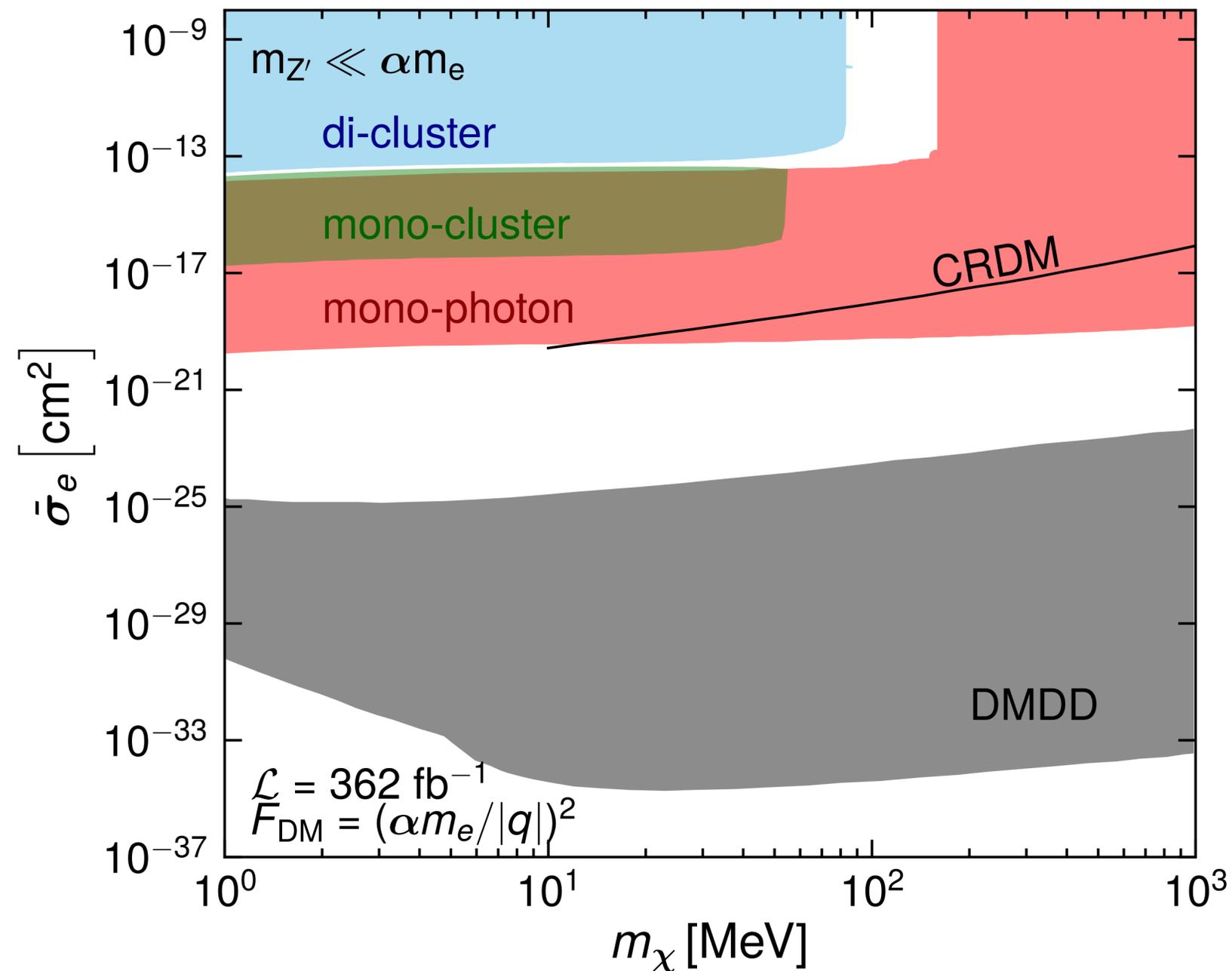
para space above DMDD ceiling  
probed by electron colliders

- mono-photon (very small xsec)
- mono-cluster (small xsec)
- di-cluster (large xsec)

DMDD xsec @  $|q| = \alpha m_e$

FF = 1 (heavy mediator in DMDD)

# Belle II sensitivity versus DMDD (ultralight Z')



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^V = Z'_\mu (g_\chi^V \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi + g_e^V \bar{e} \gamma^\mu e)$$

$$\text{FF} \propto |q|^{-2} \text{ (ultralight mediator in DMDD)}$$

large xsec region probed by colliders

allowed para space between  
colliders & DMDD

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2312.08970]

# Summary

- **Mono-photon** channel at electron colliders can probe new parameter space for **millicharged particles, light-mediator dark matter (DM), EFT DM**. Electron colliders can outperform **DMDD** and **DMID** experiments in probing these DMs. **[ZL, Zhang, 1808.00983]** **[Liang, ZL, Ma, Zhang, 1909.06847]** **[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2111.15533]**
- We propose a new DM search channel at Belle II in which **ECL** acts both as the **fixed target** and as the detector. This new channel can probe new parameter space of **invisible dark photon**, surpassing **mono-photon at Belle II** & the missing momentum search at **NA64**. **[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2212.04252]** **[Ge, Liang, ZL, Min, 2505.10302]**
- We study electron collider constraints on **strongly-interacting DM** by analyzing the visible signatures (**mono-cluster & di-cluster**). We find that current Belle II data can probe the parameter space w/ a large DMDD cross section, which is difficult to probe in **DMDD & DMID** experiments. **[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2312.08970]**

backup slides

# Strong DM-electron interaction via a light mediator

spin-1 (vector)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^V = Z'_\mu (g_\chi^V \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi + g_e^V \bar{e} \gamma^\mu e)$$

spin-1 (axial-vector)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^A = Z'_\mu (g_\chi^A \bar{\chi} \gamma^5 \gamma^\mu \chi + g_e^A \bar{e} \gamma^5 \gamma^\mu e)$$

spin-0 (scalar)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^S = \phi (g_\chi^S \bar{\chi} \chi + g_e^S \bar{e} e)$$

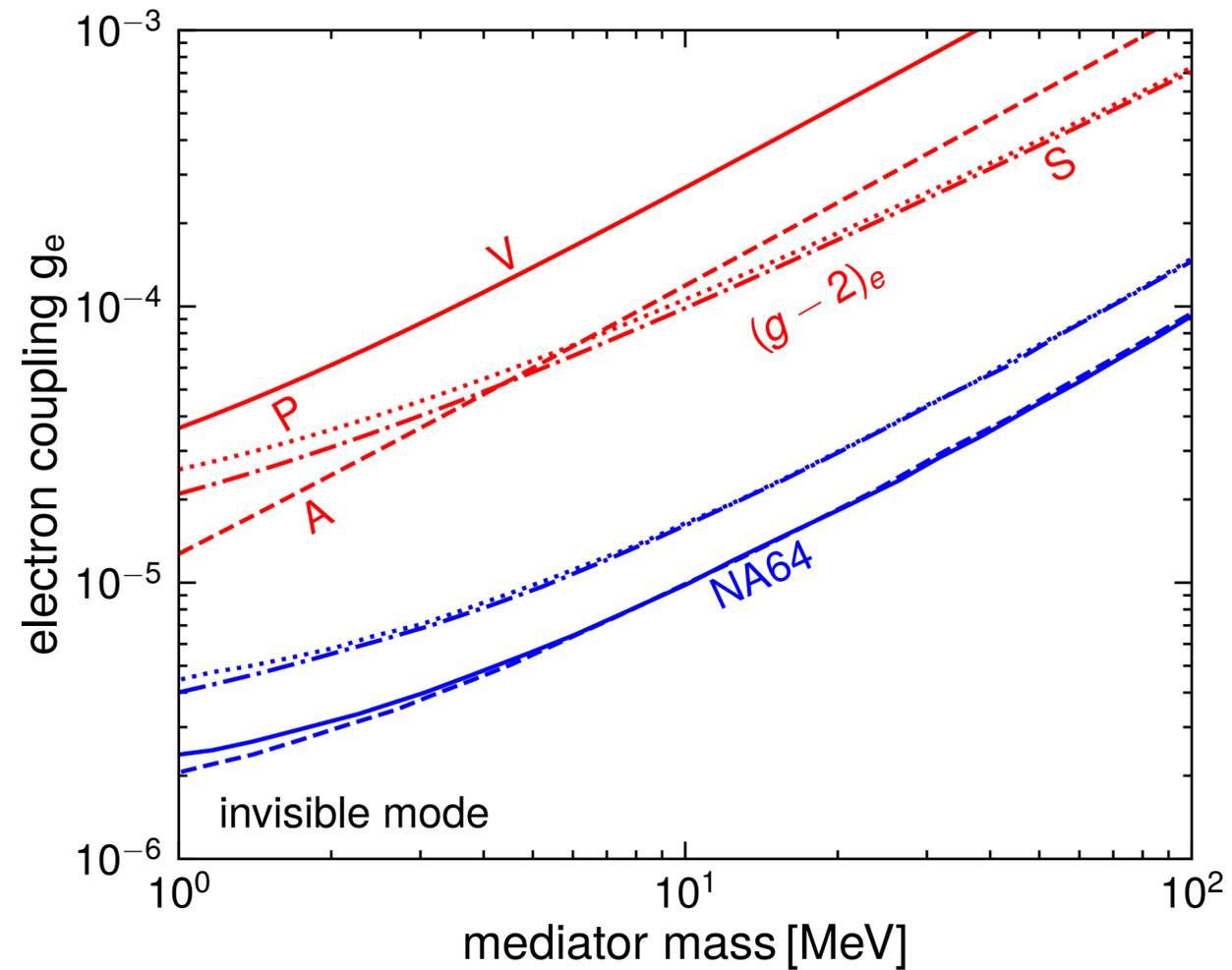
spin-0 (pseudo-scalar)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^P = \phi (ig_\chi^P \bar{\chi} \gamma^5 \chi + ig_e^P \bar{e} \gamma^5 e)$$

a light mediator is needed to generate a large DMDD xsec

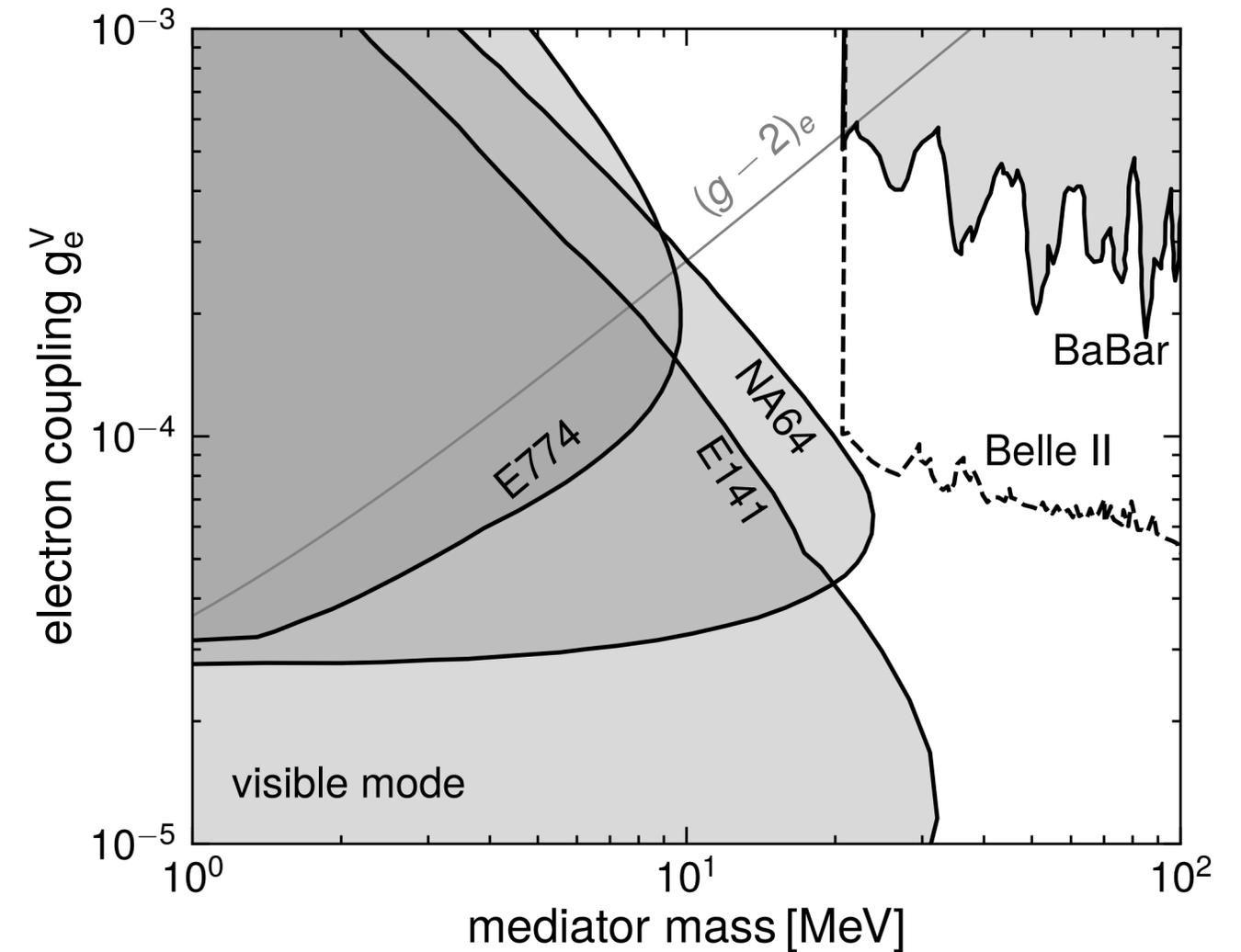
# Experimental constraints on mediators

electron  $g-2$  & NA64



invisible scenario

electron beam-dump & collider



visible scenario

# Kinetic mixing & mass mixing

$$SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \times U(1)_X$$

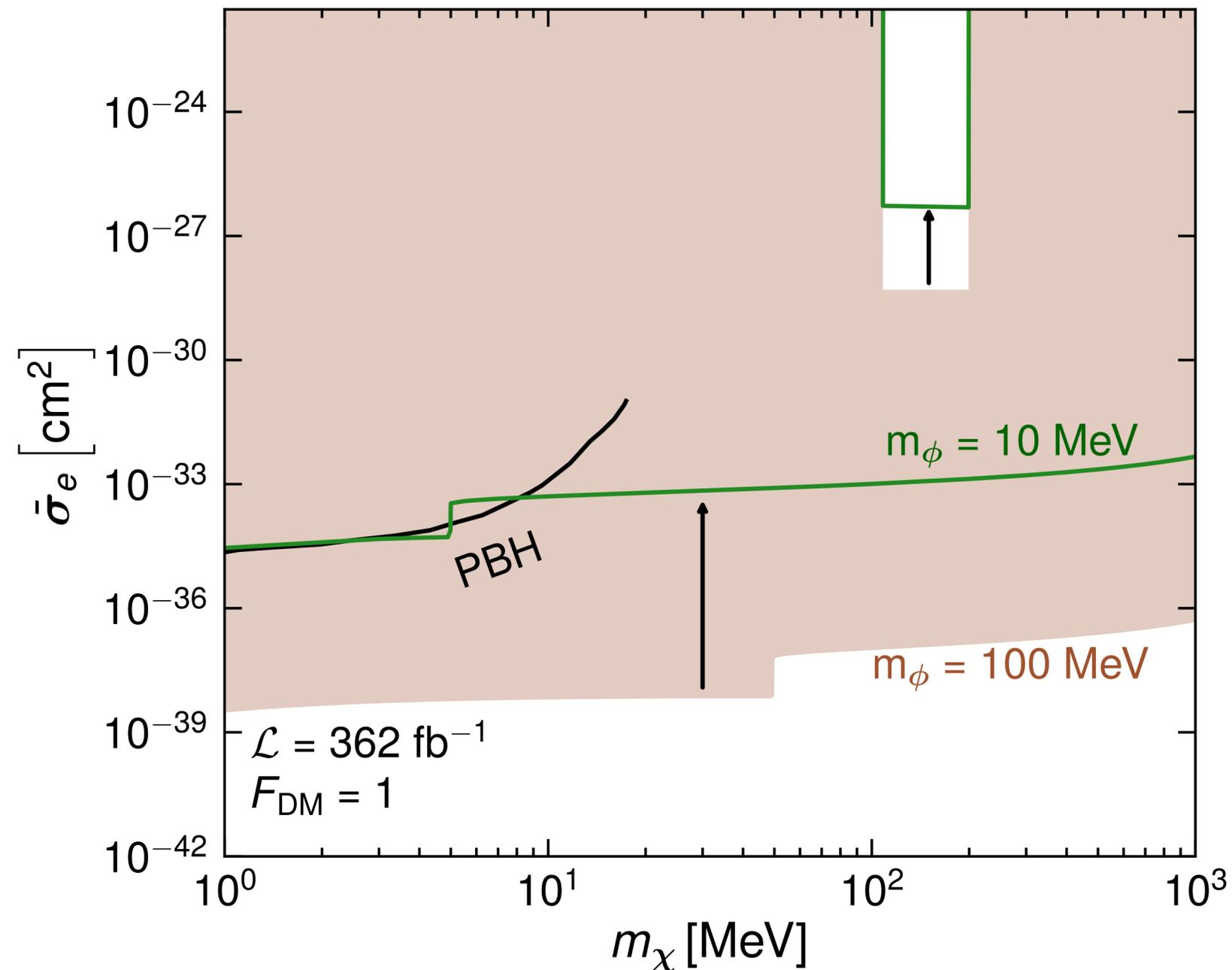
[Feldman, ZL, Nath, [hep-ph/0702123](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0702123), 437 cites]

$$\mathcal{L} = \underbrace{-\frac{1}{4}B_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu}}_{\downarrow} \underbrace{-\frac{1}{4}X_{\mu\nu}X^{\mu\nu} + g_D X_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi}_{\downarrow} - \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{2} \underbrace{B_{\mu\nu}}_{\uparrow} \underbrace{X^{\mu\nu}}_{\uparrow} - \frac{M_1^2}{2} \underbrace{(\partial_\mu \sigma + X_\mu + \tilde{\epsilon} B_\mu)^2}_{\uparrow}$$

kinetic mixing mass mixing

kinetic mixing  $\tilde{\delta}$  & mass mixing  $\tilde{\epsilon}$  are **degenerate** (w/o  $\chi$ ): only  $\epsilon \sim (\tilde{\epsilon} - \tilde{\delta})$  is physical

# Comparison with primordial black hole



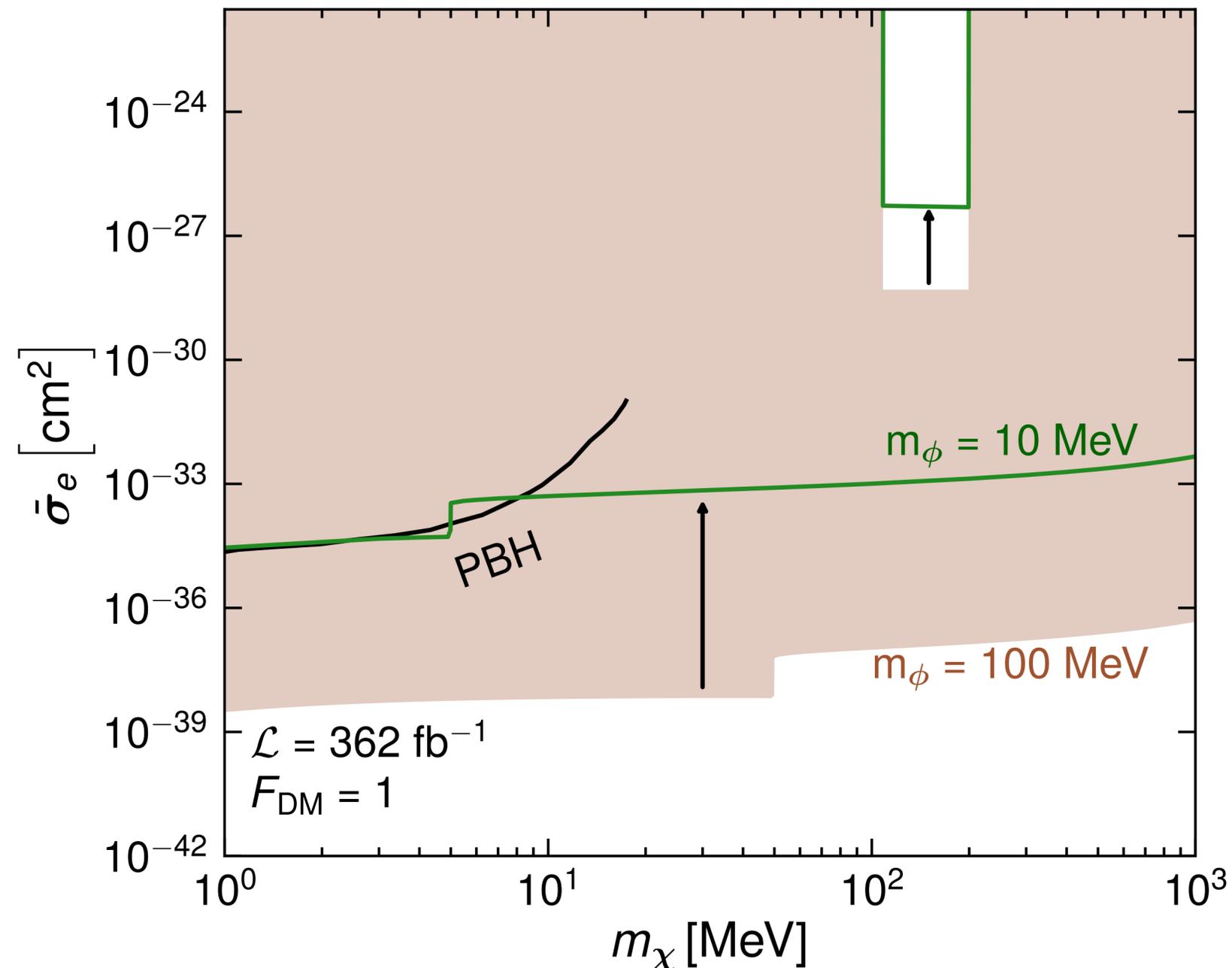
BSM particle w/ mass below  
Hawking temperature can be  
produced in PBH  $\Rightarrow$  ER @ SK

PBH  $E = 10$  MeV

detection via  $\bar{\chi}\chi e\bar{e}/\Lambda^2$

[Calabrese+, 2203.17093]

# Comparison with primordial black hole



BSM particle w/ mass below Hawking temperature can be produced in PBH  $\Rightarrow$  ER @ SK

PBH  $E = 10$  MeV

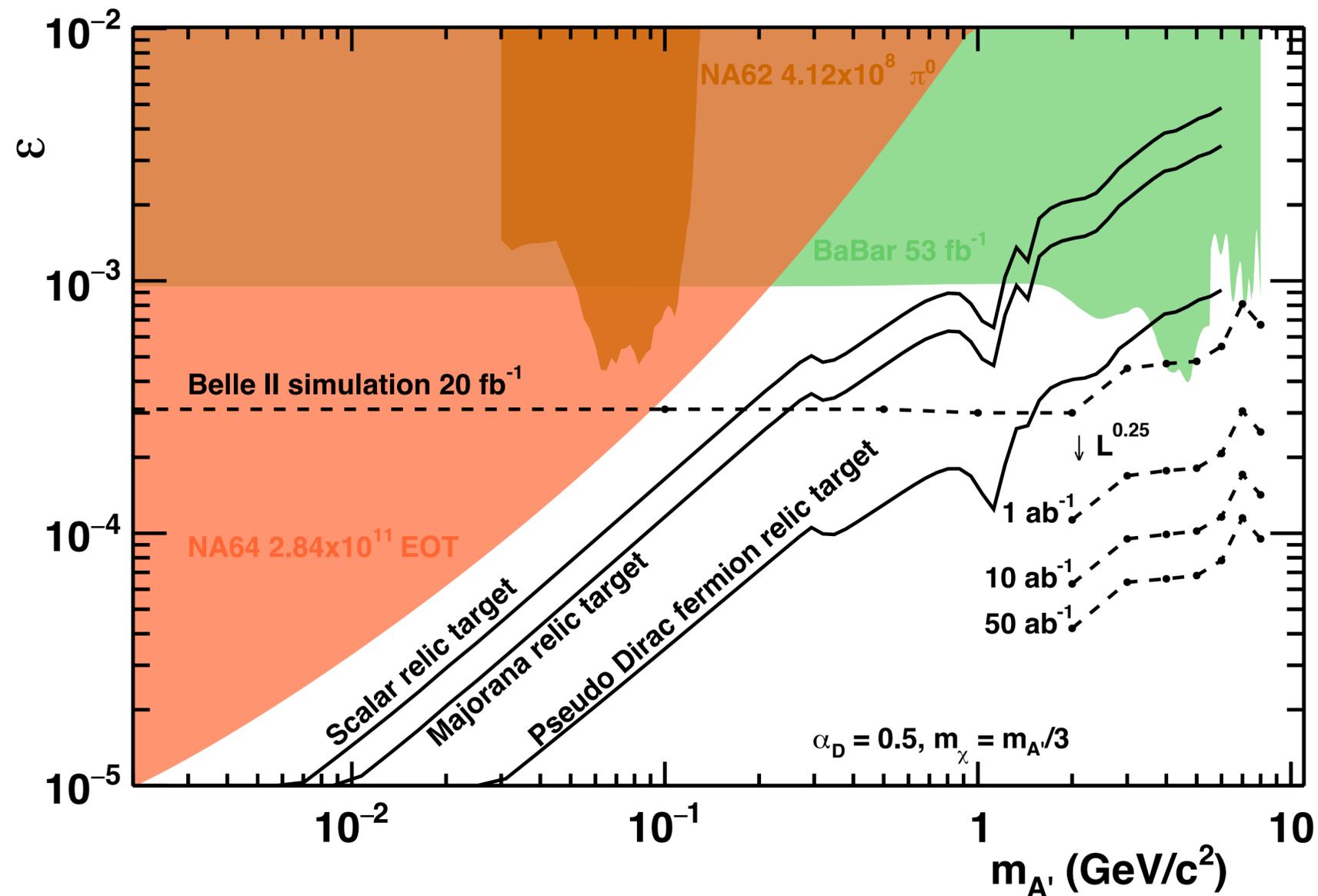
detection via  $\bar{\chi}\chi\bar{e}e/\Lambda^2$

[Calabrese+, 2203.17093]

Belle II limits for the scalar mediator

- $10^4$  times better w/  $m = 100$  MeV
- similar to PBH w/  $m = 10$  MeV

# CRBG for DP $m < 2$ GeV



potential CRBG for DP  $m < 2$  GeV  
[2207.06307]

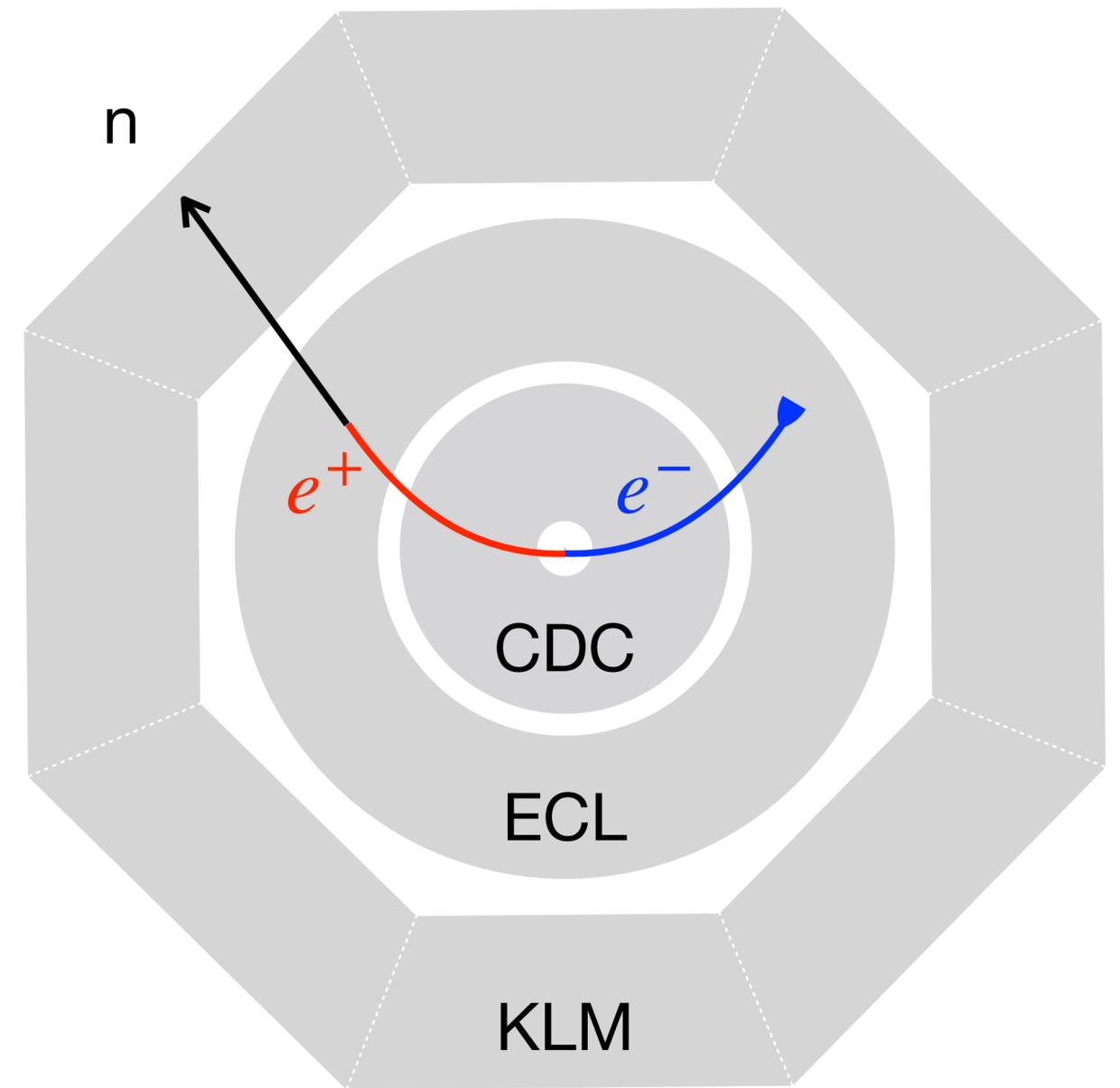
# Selection in GEANT4 simulations

At least 1 neutron with energy  $> 3$  GeV

Energy deposition in ECL  $< 5\%$

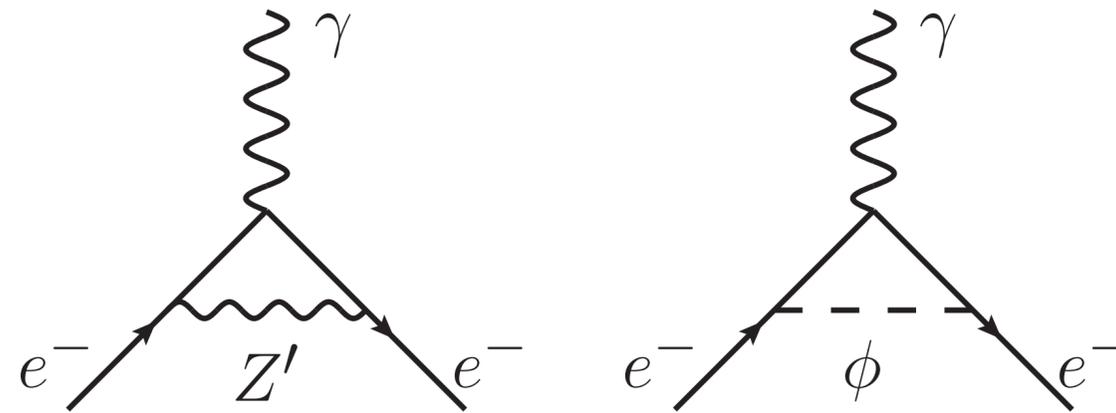
Veto  $p/\pi^\pm$  with momentum  $> 0.6$  GeV (either deposit energy in ECL or produce tracks in KLM)

Count # of neutrons with K.E.  $> 280$  MeV  
(hadronic shower threshold)

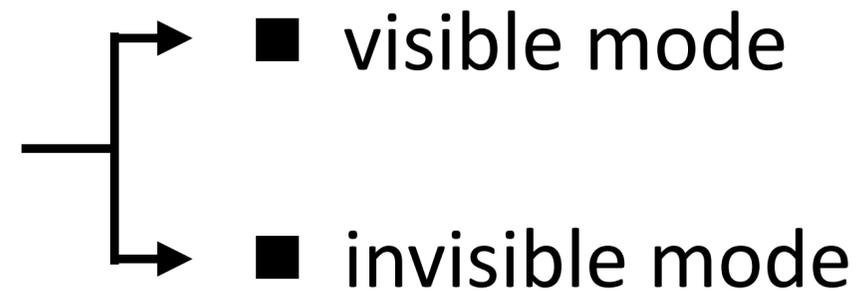


# Experimental constraints on light mediators

- Electron  $g-2$



- Electron beam dump & BaBar



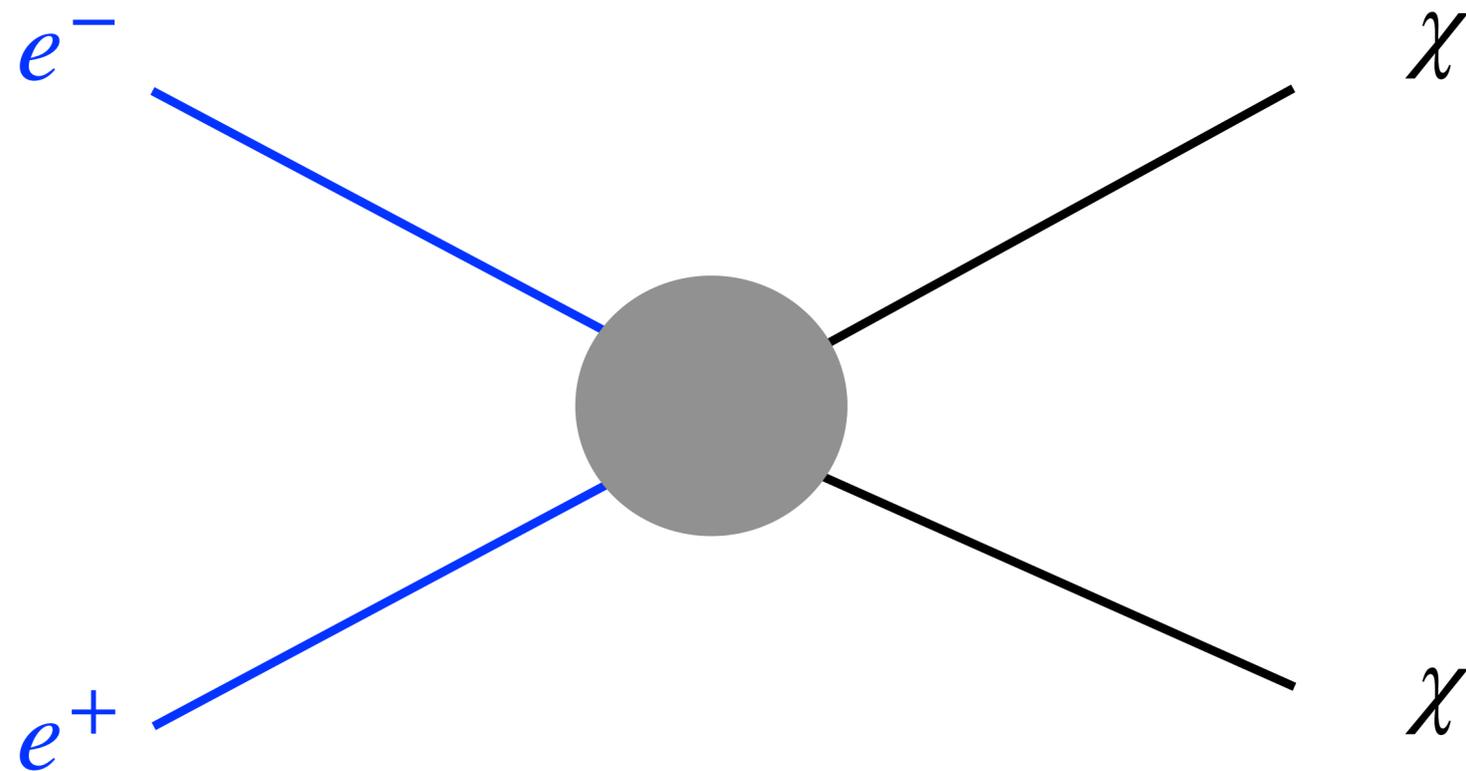
- Moller scattering (SLAC E158)

$$|g_e^V g_e^A| \lesssim 10^{-8}$$

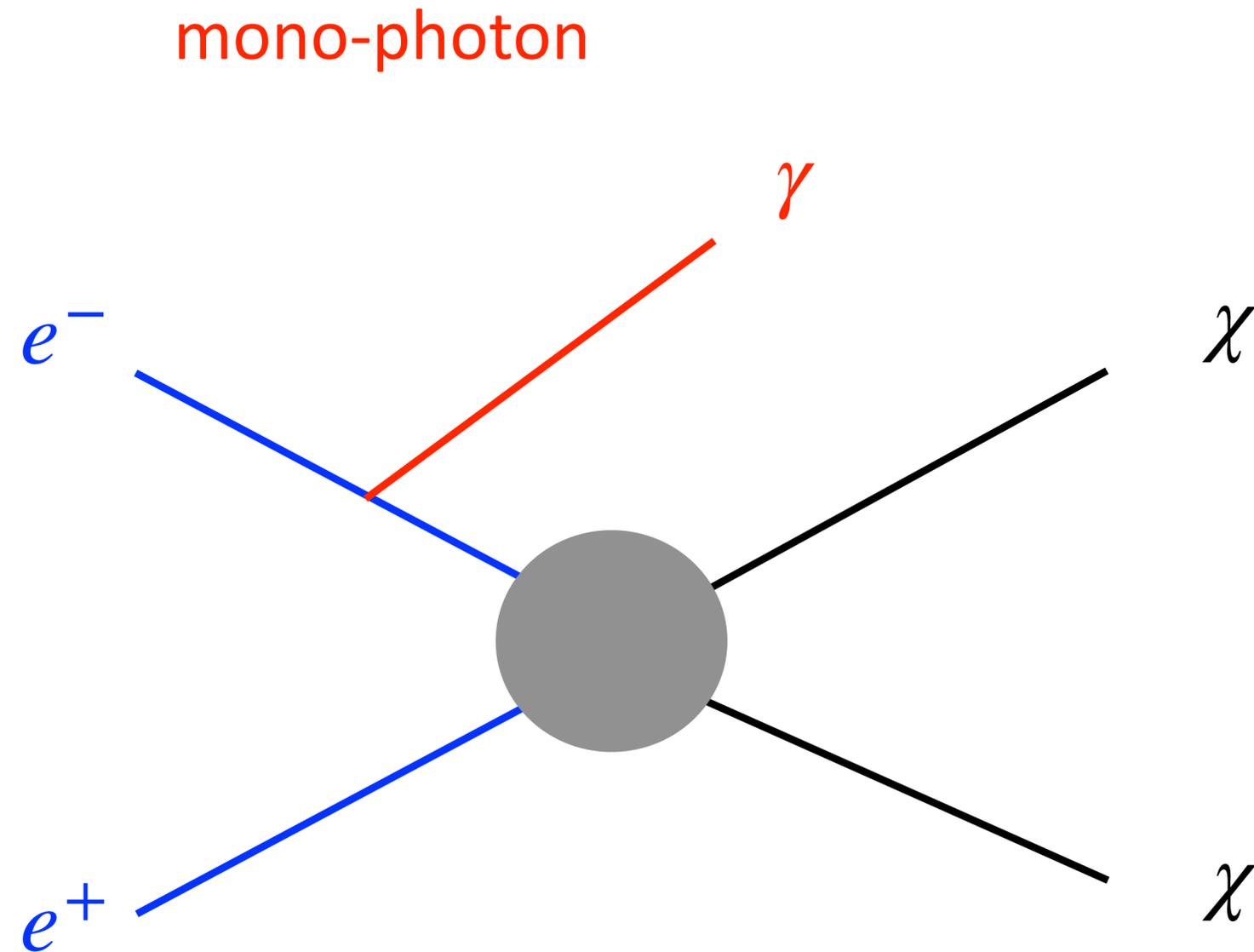
**dark matter & millicharged particles**

# Mono-photon signature at electron colliders

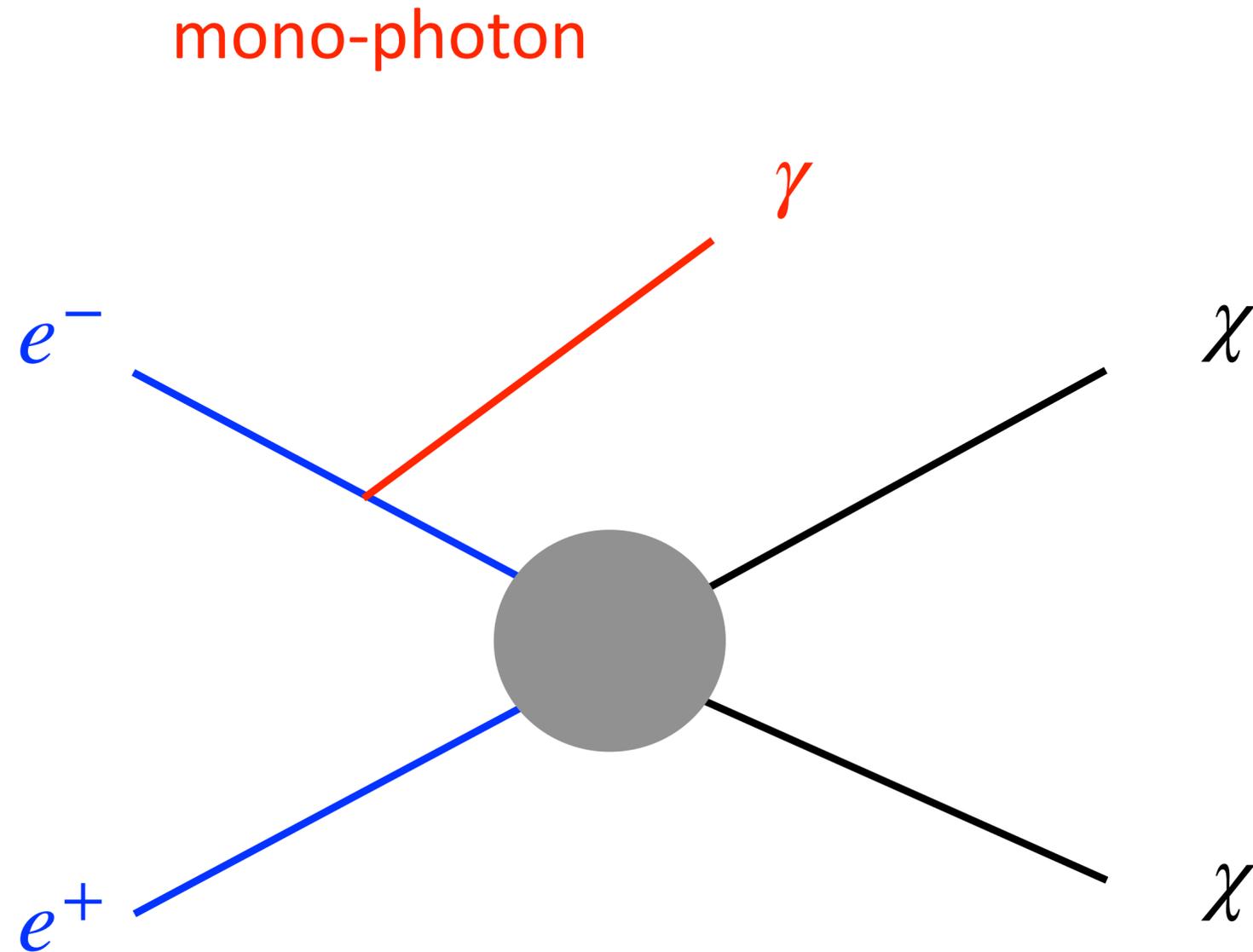
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# Mono-photon signature at electron colliders



# Mono-photon signature at electron colliders



probe a variety of models:

- EFT DM
- light mediator DM
- millicharged particles  
(undetectable ionization)
- invisible dark photon

# Different sub-GeV DM models (diff mediator mass)

EFT DM	$\frac{1}{\Lambda_V^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \chi \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \ell$	$\frac{1}{\Lambda_A^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \chi \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \ell$	$\frac{1}{\Lambda_S^2} \bar{\chi} \chi \bar{\ell} \ell$	$\frac{1}{\Lambda_t^2} \bar{\chi} \ell \bar{\ell} \chi$
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[ZL, Zhang, 1808.00983]

[Liang, ZL, Ma, Zhang, 1909.06847]

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2111.15533]

# Different sub-GeV DM models (diff mediator mass)

$$\text{EFT DM} \quad \frac{1}{\Lambda_V^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \chi \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \ell \quad \frac{1}{\Lambda_A^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \chi \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \ell \quad \frac{1}{\Lambda_S^2} \bar{\chi} \chi \bar{\ell} \ell \quad \frac{1}{\Lambda_t^2} \bar{\chi} \ell \bar{\ell} \chi$$

$$\text{Light mediator DM} \quad Z'_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu (g_v^\chi - g_a^\chi \gamma_5) \chi + Z'_\mu \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu (g_v^\ell - g_a^\ell \gamma_5) \ell$$

[ZL, Zhang, 1808.00983]

[Liang, ZL, Ma, Zhang, 1909.06847]

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2111.15533]

# Different sub-GeV DM models (diff mediator mass)

EFT DM

$$\frac{1}{\Lambda_V^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \chi \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \ell \quad \frac{1}{\Lambda_A^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \chi \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \ell \quad \frac{1}{\Lambda_S^2} \bar{\chi} \chi \bar{\ell} \ell \quad \frac{1}{\Lambda_t^2} \bar{\chi} \ell \bar{\ell} \chi$$

Light mediator DM

$$Z'_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu (g_v^\chi - g_a^\chi \gamma_5) \chi + Z'_\mu \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu (g_v^\ell - g_a^\ell \gamma_5) \ell$$

Millicharged particles

$$e e A_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi$$

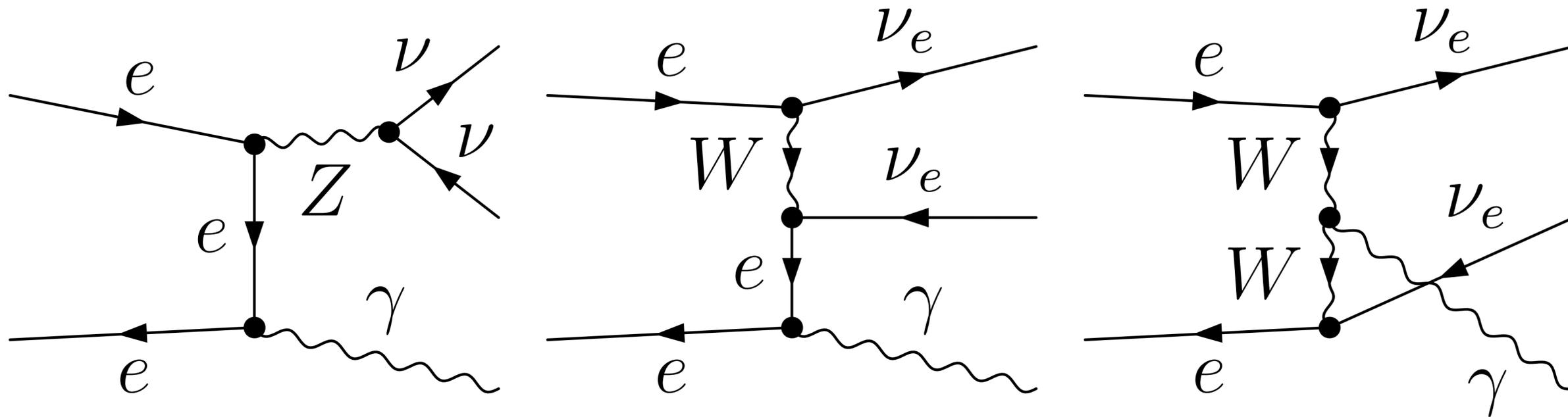
[ZL, Zhang, 1808.00983]

[Liang, ZL, Ma, Zhang, 1909.06847]

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2111.15533]

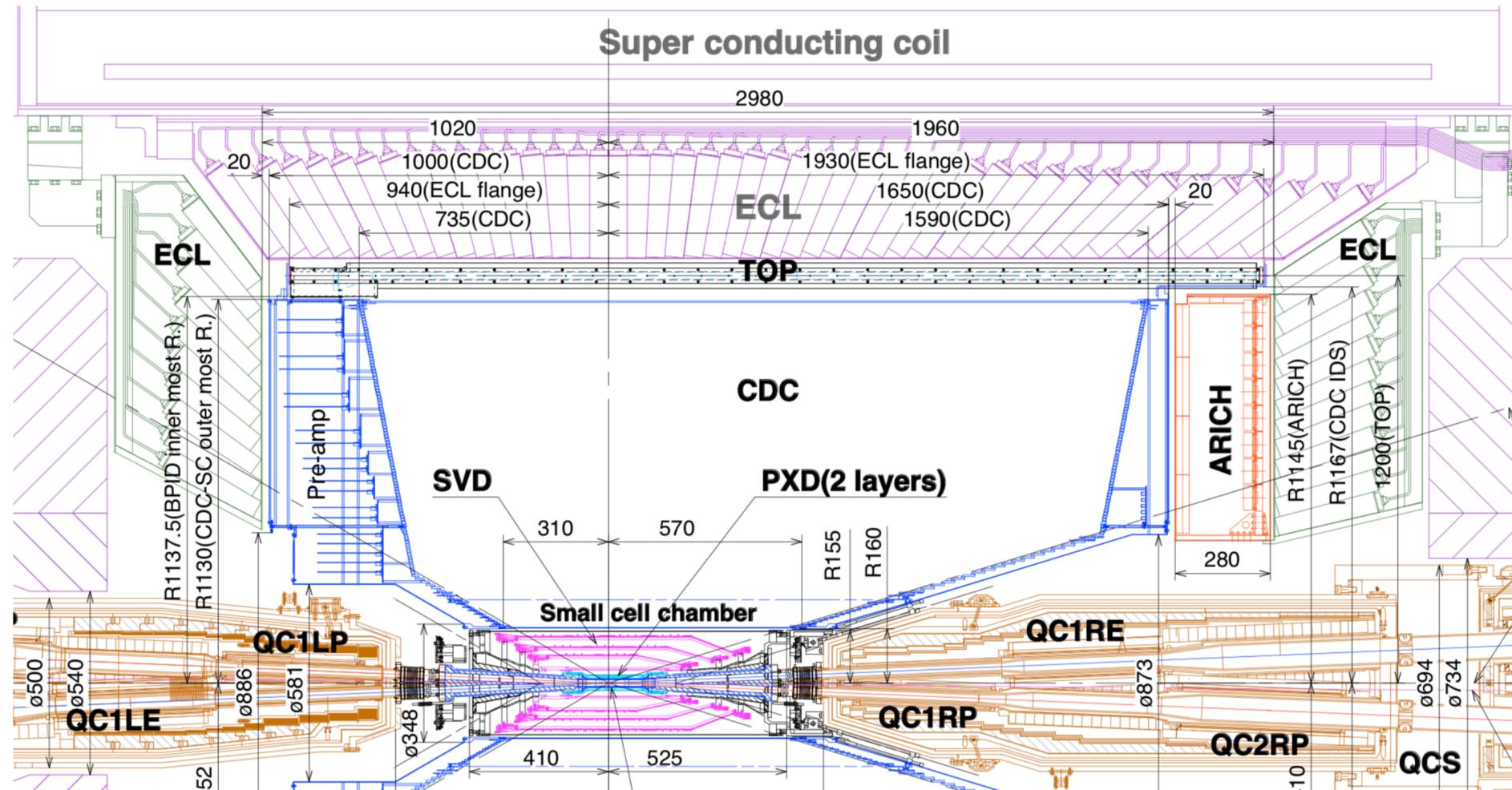
# Irreducible background for mono-photon

Irreducible BG:  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\nu\nu$



more challenging: reducible BG (due to limitations of the detectors)

# Reducible background @ Belle II



# Reducible background @ Belle II

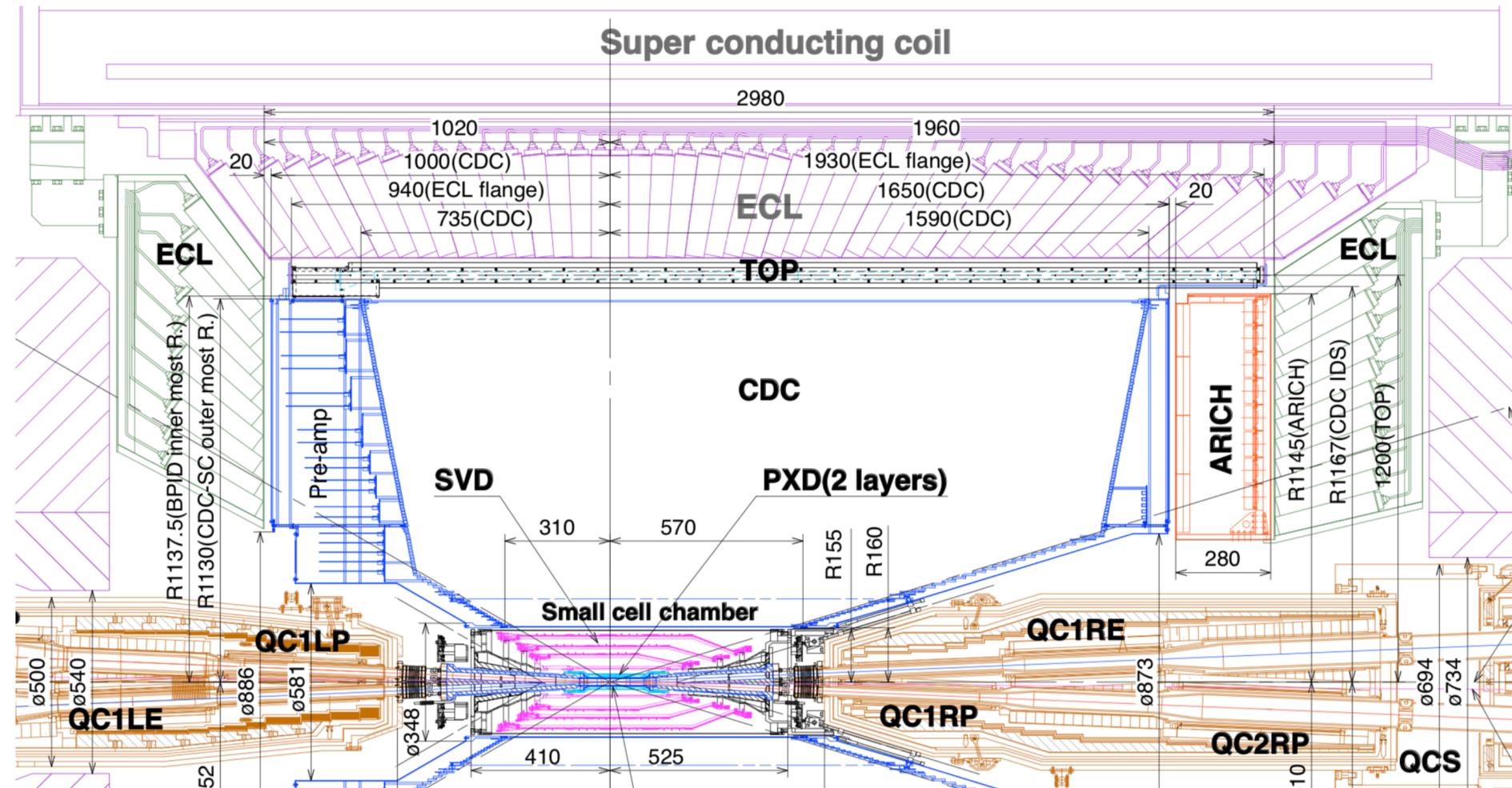
ECL angles  
(lab frame)

$$12.4^\circ < \theta < 31.4^\circ$$

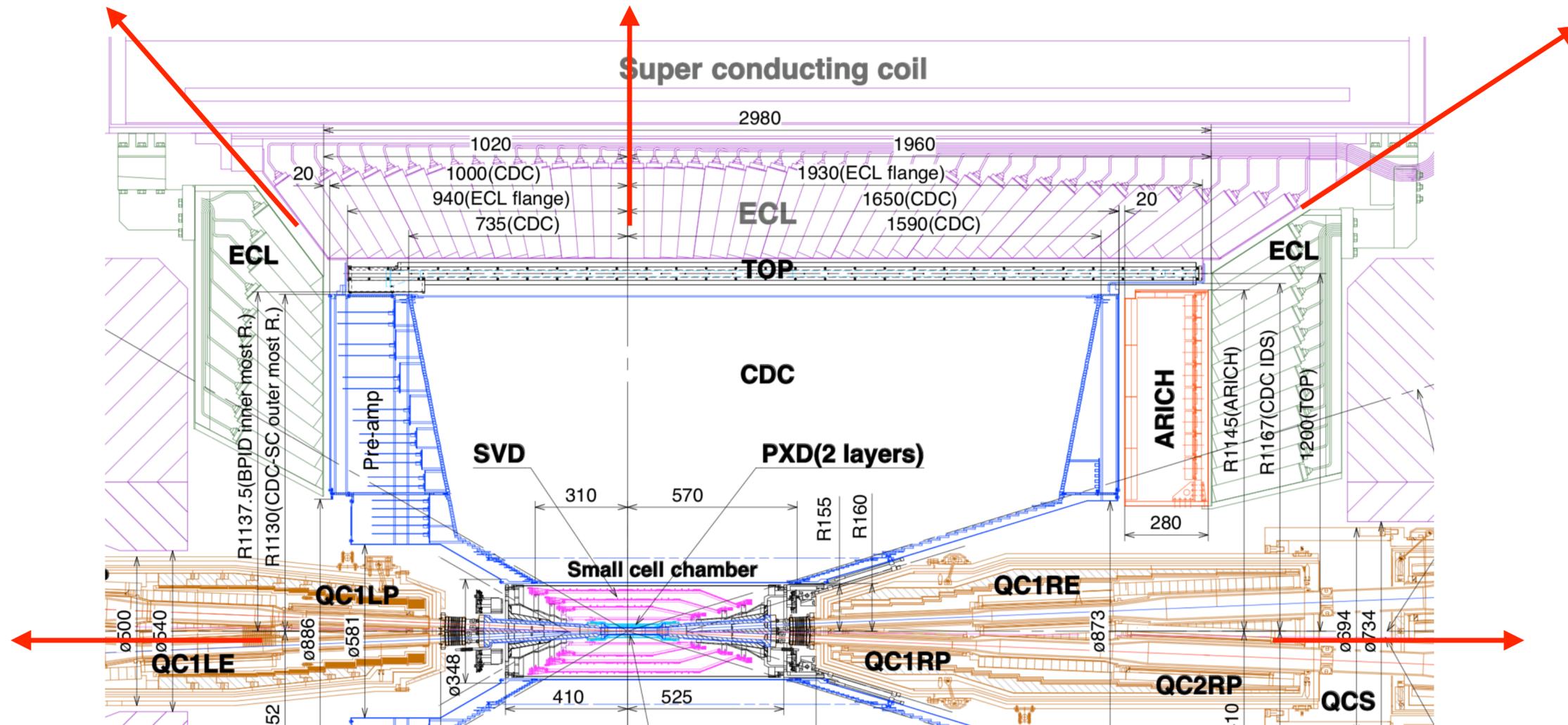
$$32.2^\circ < \theta < 128.7^\circ$$

$$130.7^\circ < \theta < 155.1^\circ$$

[Belle II 1808.10567]



# Reducible background @ Belle II



ECL angles  
(lab frame)

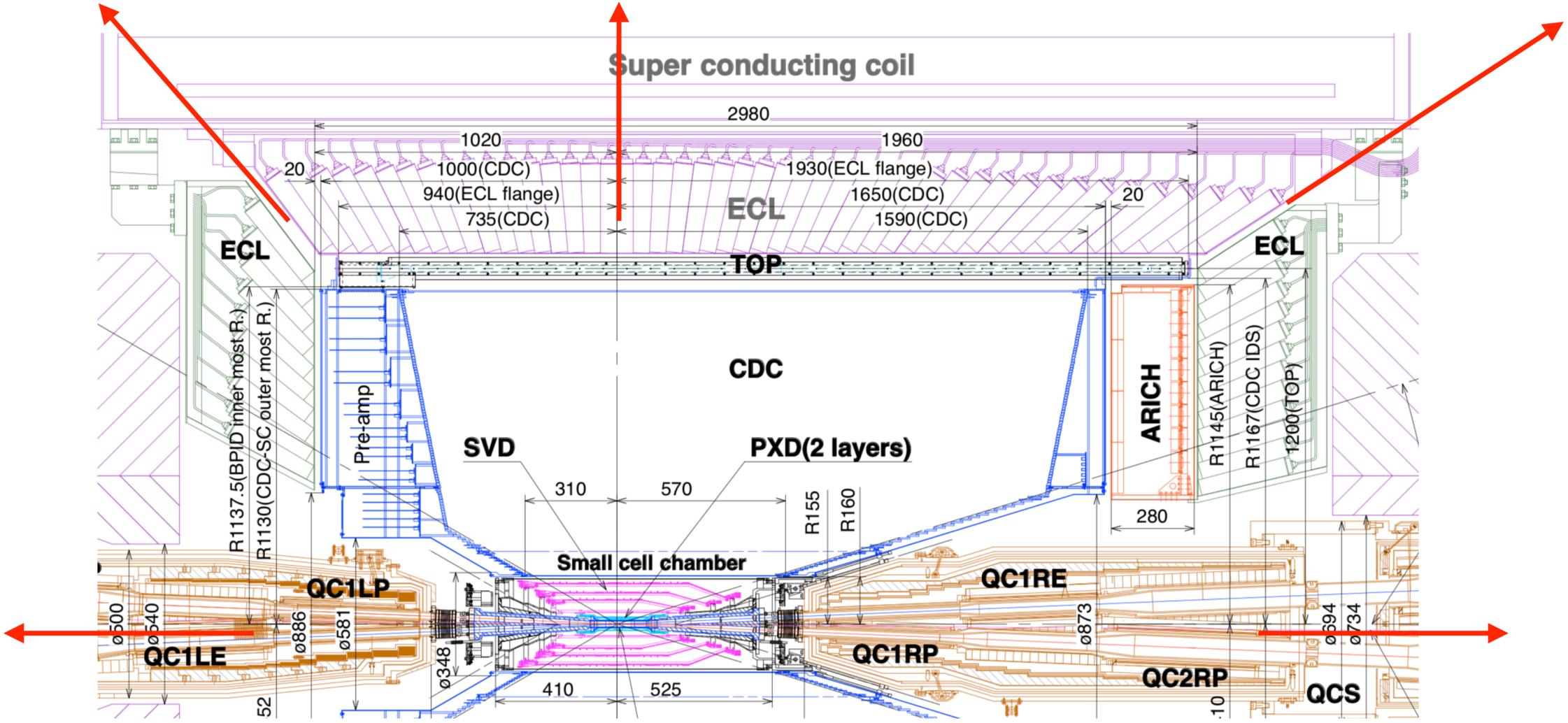
$$12.4^\circ < \theta < 31.4^\circ$$

$$32.2^\circ < \theta < 128.7^\circ$$

$$130.7^\circ < \theta < 155.1^\circ$$

[Belle II 1808.10567]

# Reducible background @ Belle II



ECL angles  
(lab frame)

$$12.4^\circ < \theta < 31.4^\circ$$

$$32.2^\circ < \theta < 128.7^\circ$$

$$130.7^\circ < \theta < 155.1^\circ$$

[Belle II 1808.10567]

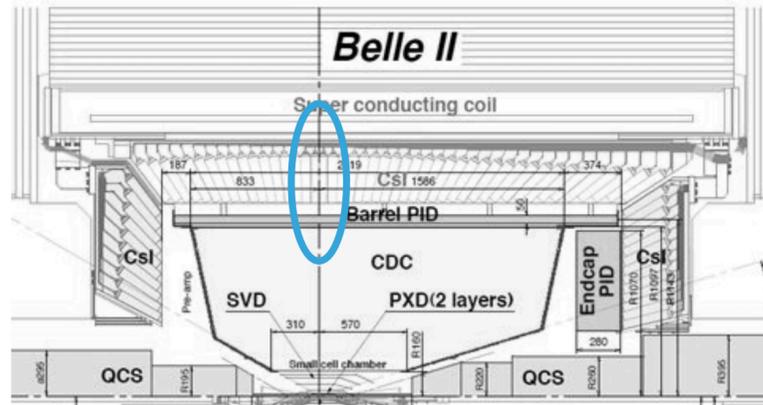
**reducible BG**

BG due to ECL gaps (gBG)

BG due to beam (bBG)

# B: Invisible Dark Photon searches

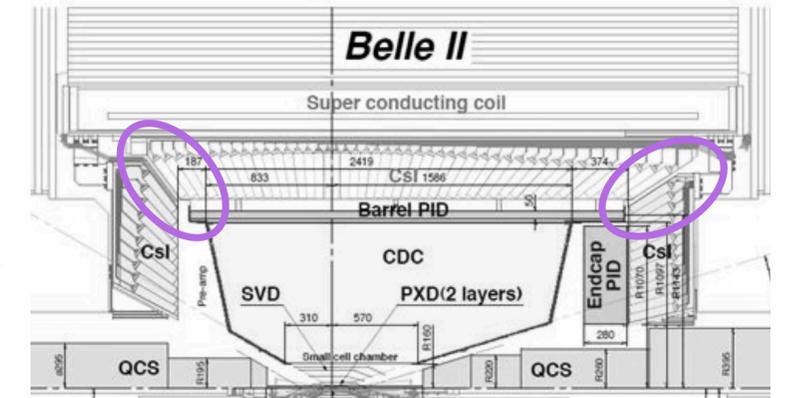
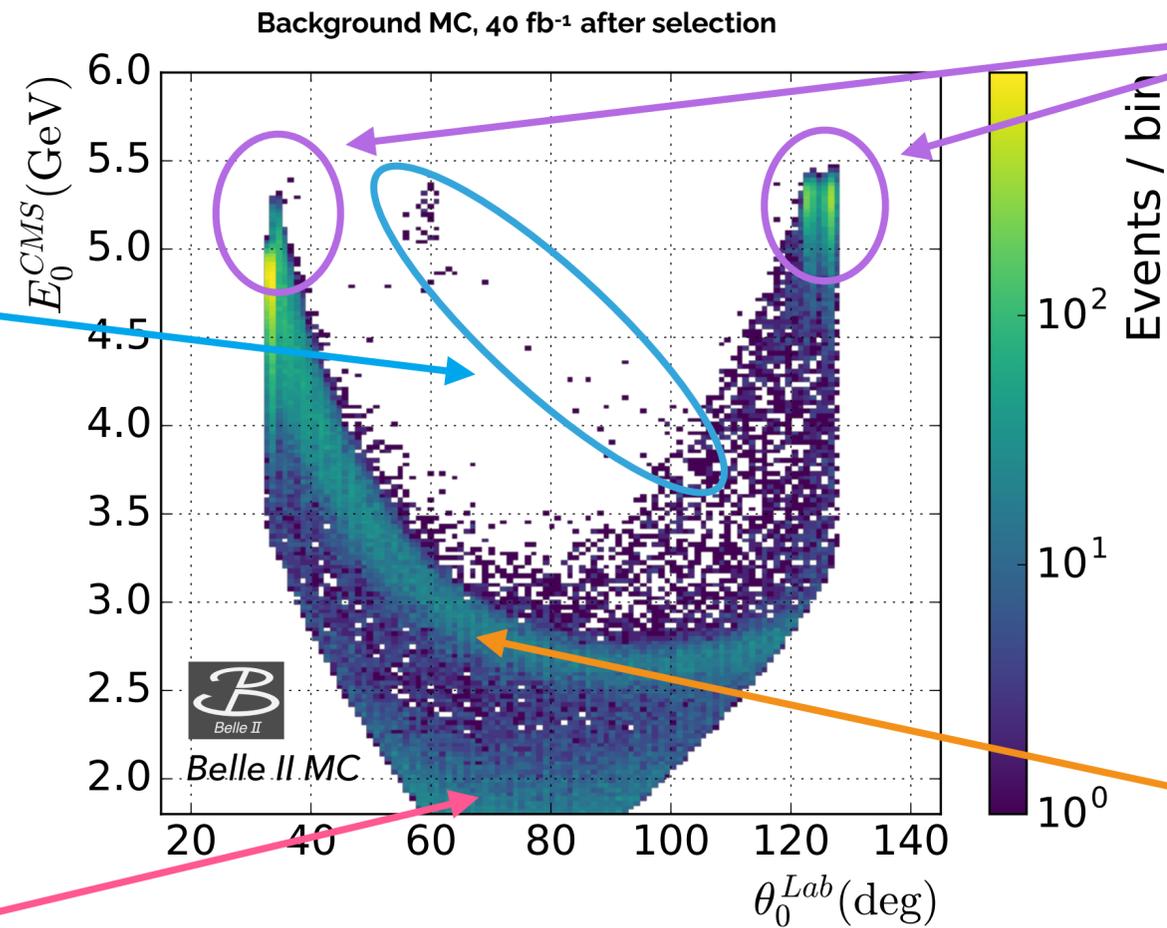
[from Ferber's talk]



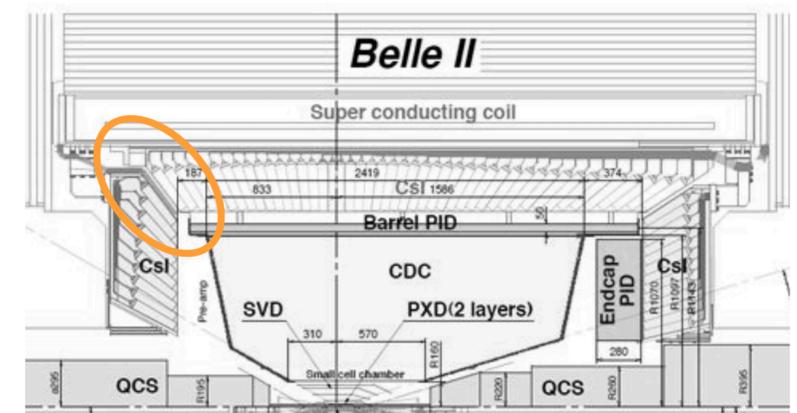
**$ee \rightarrow 2\gamma$  and  $3\gamma$**   
 1 $\gamma$  in ECL 90° gap  
 1 $\gamma$  out of ECL acceptance

$$E_y = \frac{s - M_{A'}^2}{2\sqrt{s}}$$

**$ee \rightarrow eey$**   
 both electrons  
 out of tracking acceptance



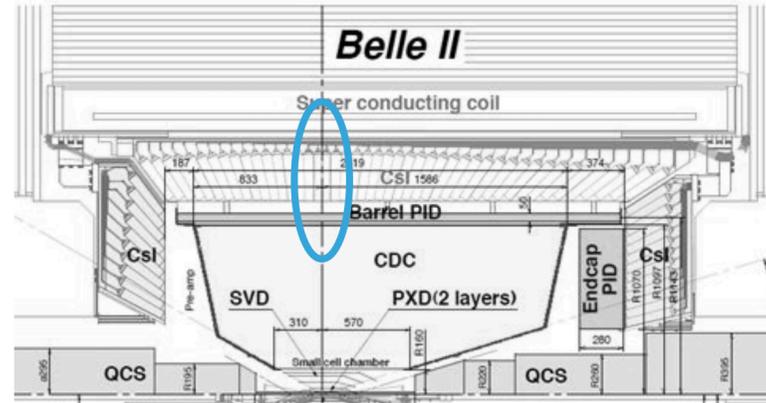
**$ee \rightarrow 2\gamma$**   
 1 $\gamma$  in ECL BWD or FWD gap



**$ee \rightarrow 3\gamma$**   
 1 $\gamma$  in ECL BWD gap  
 1 $\gamma$  out of ECL acceptance

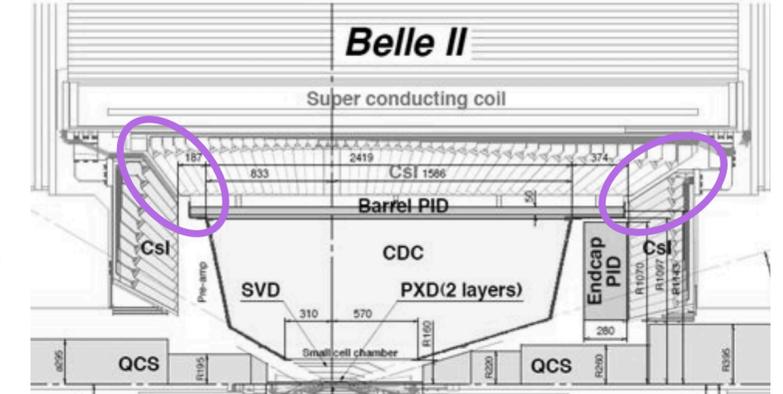
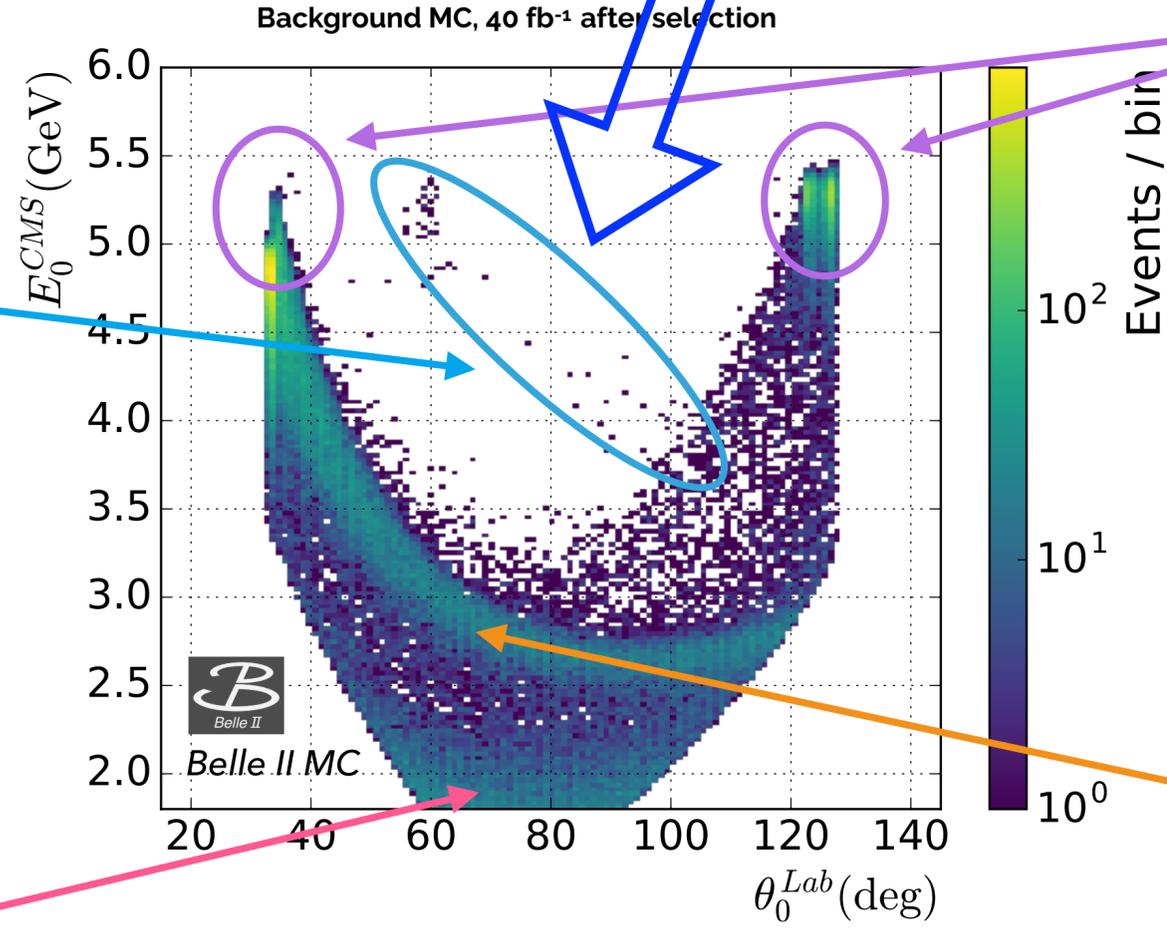
# B: Invisible Dark Photon searches

[from Ferber's talk]

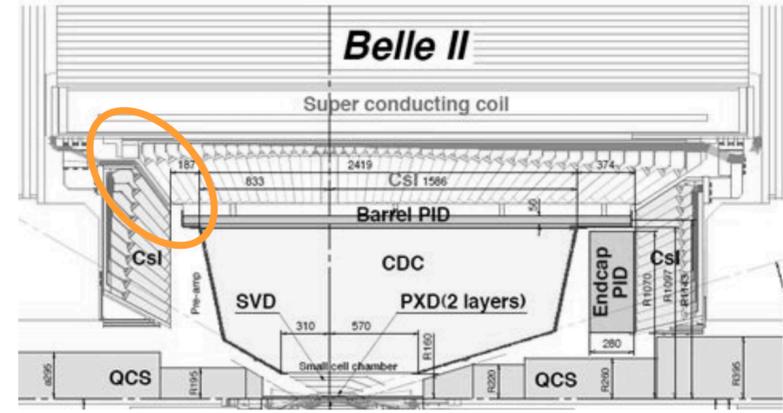


**ee → 2γ and 3γ**  
 1γ in ECL 90° gap  
 1γ out of ECL acceptance

$$E_y = \frac{s - M_{A'}^2}{2\sqrt{s}}$$



**ee → 2γ**  
 1γ in ECL BWD or FWD gap



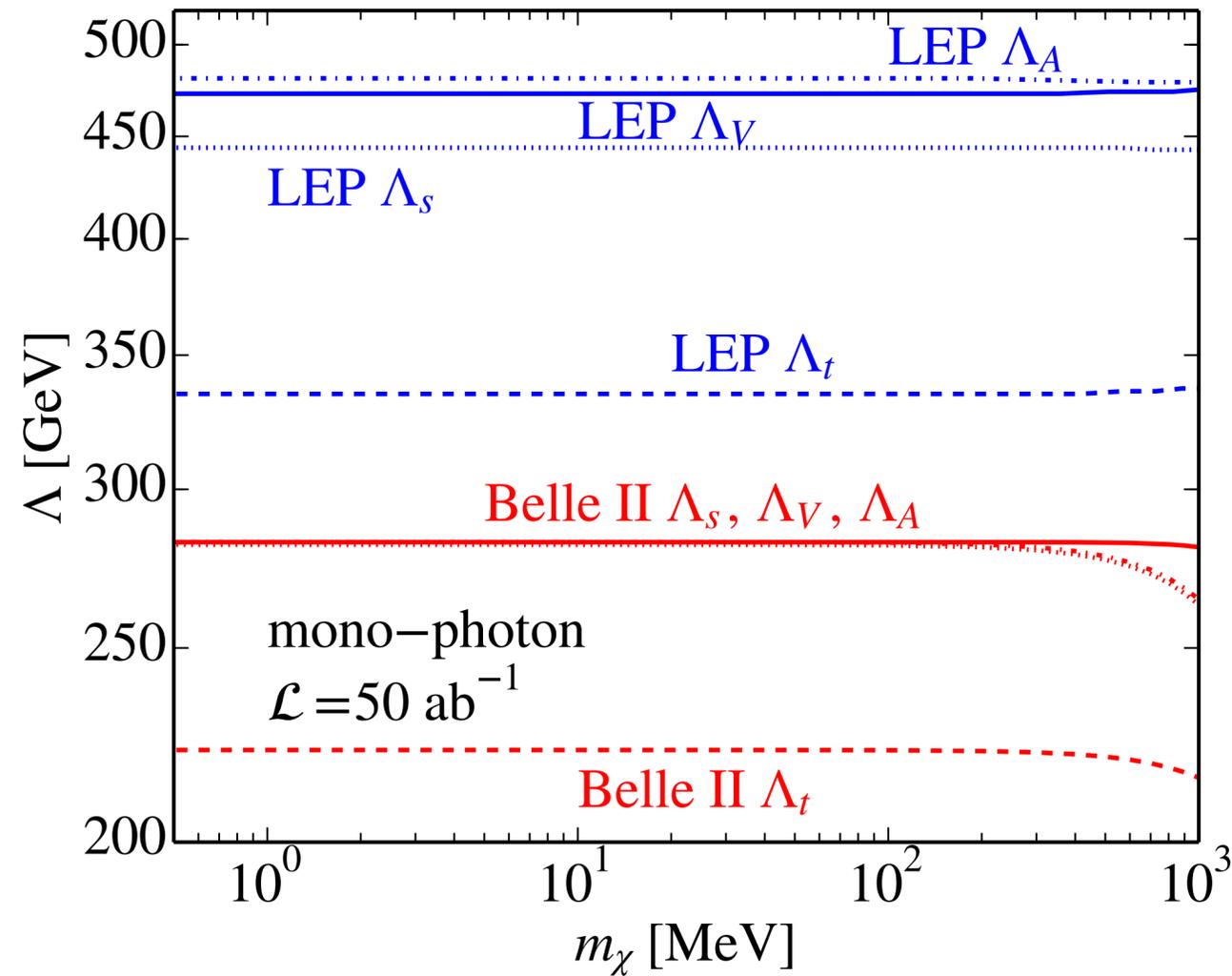
**ee → 3γ**  
 1γ in ECL BWD gap  
 1γ out of ECL acceptance

**ee → eey**  
 both electrons  
 out of tracking acceptance

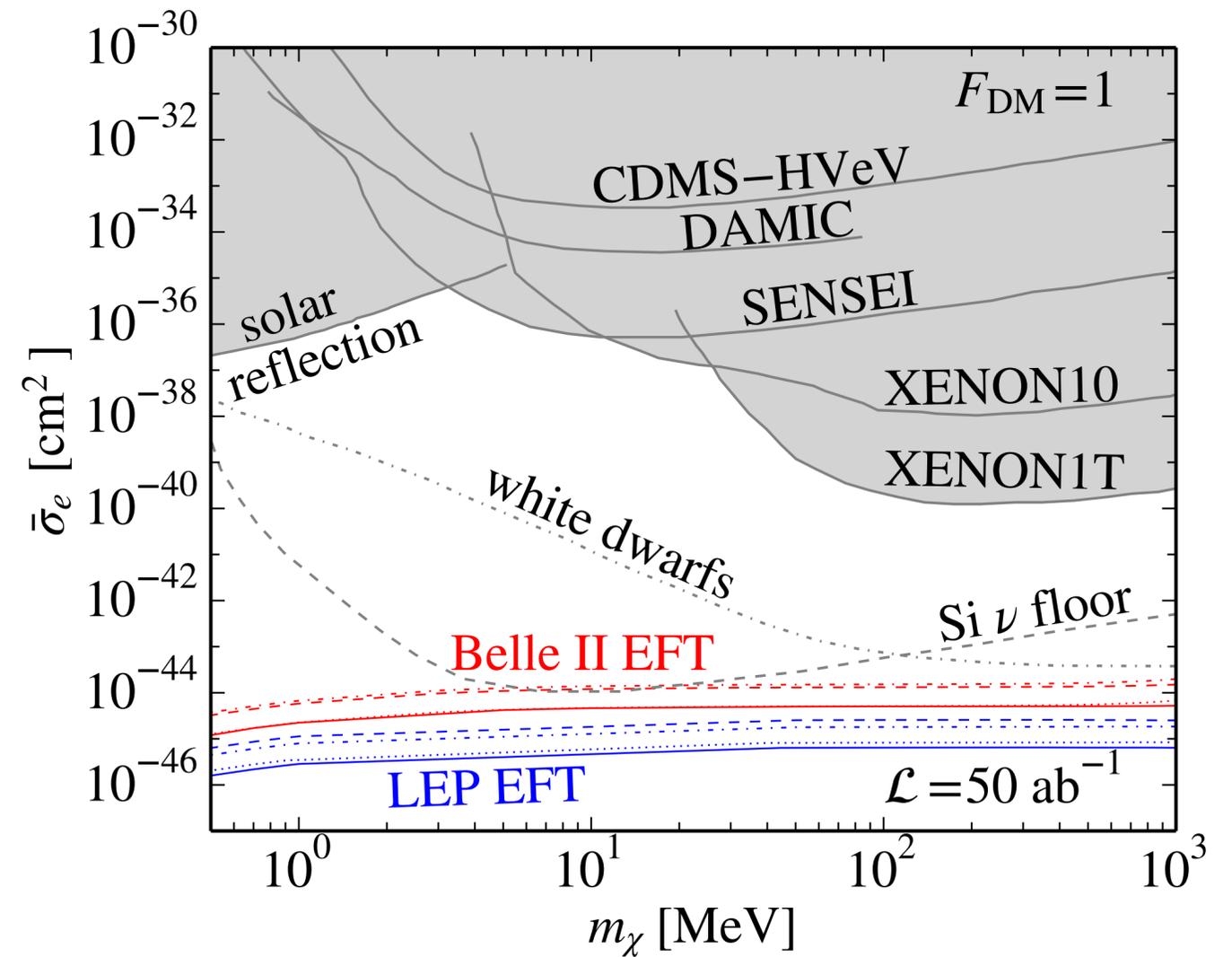
# EFT DM probed by Belle II (50/ab)

[Liang, ZL, Yang, 2111.15533]

LEP is better than Belle II for EFT-DM



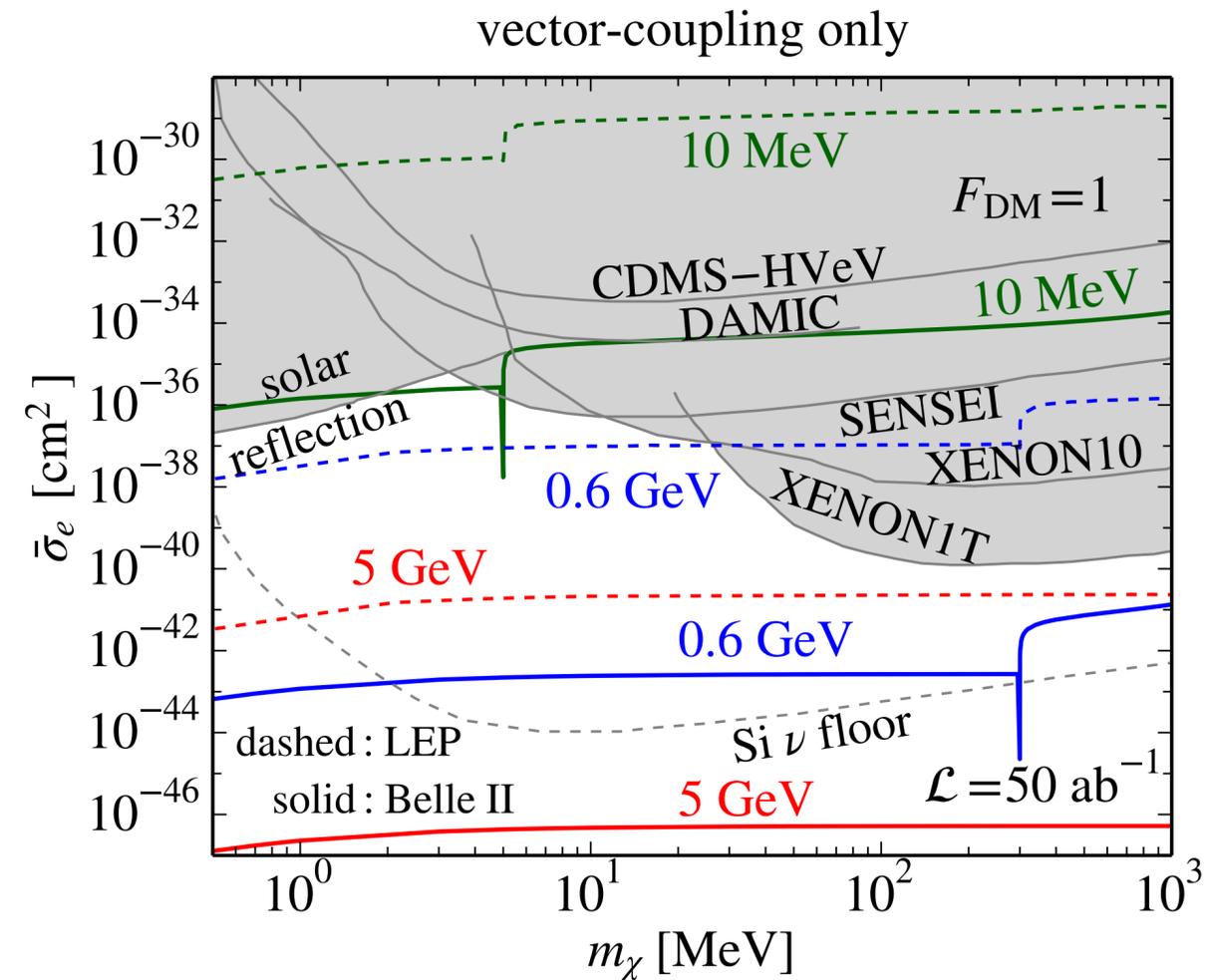
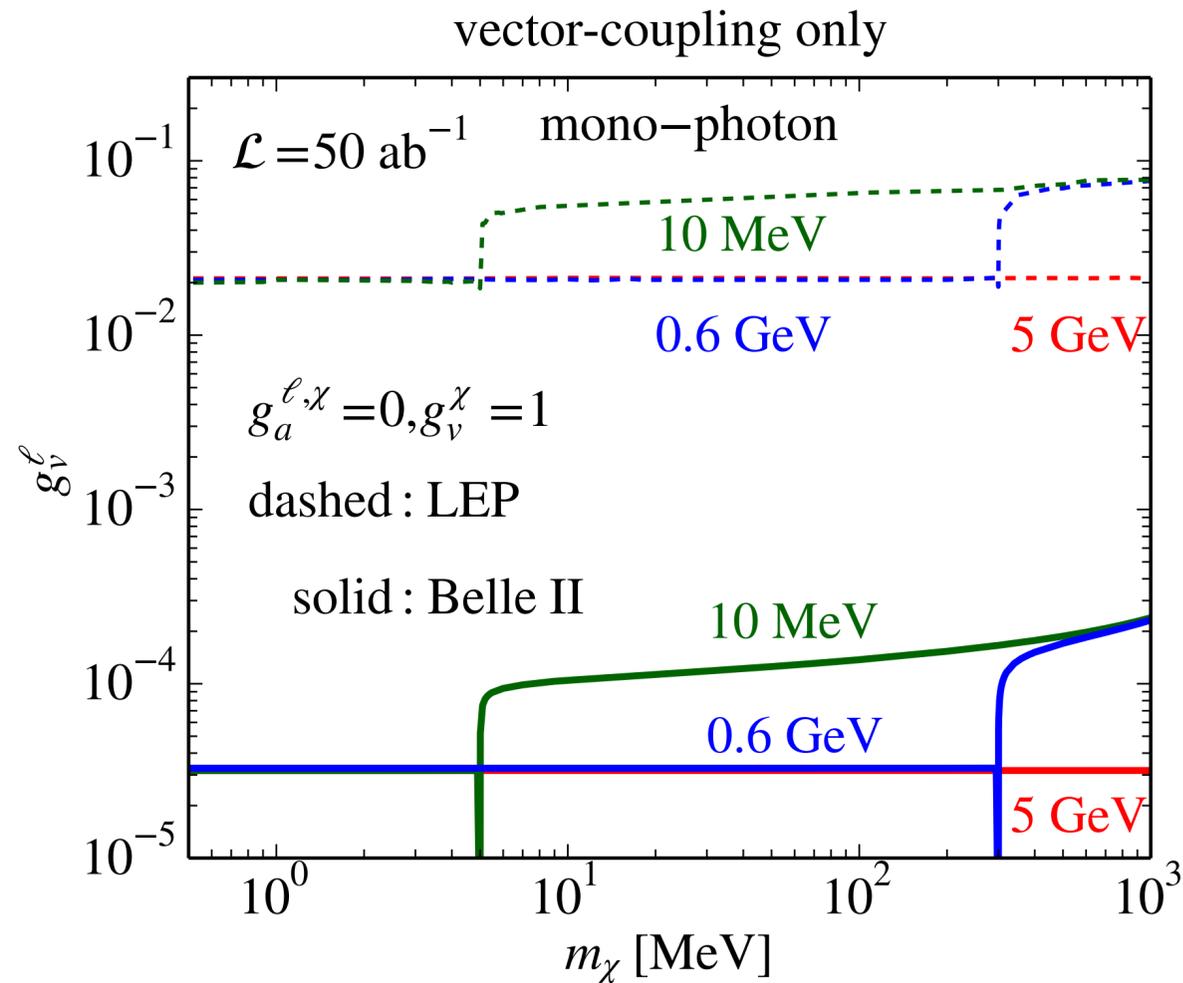
Electron colliders are better than DMDD



$$\frac{1}{\Lambda_V^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \chi \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu \ell$$

# Light mediator DM probed by Belle II (50/ab) [2111.15533]

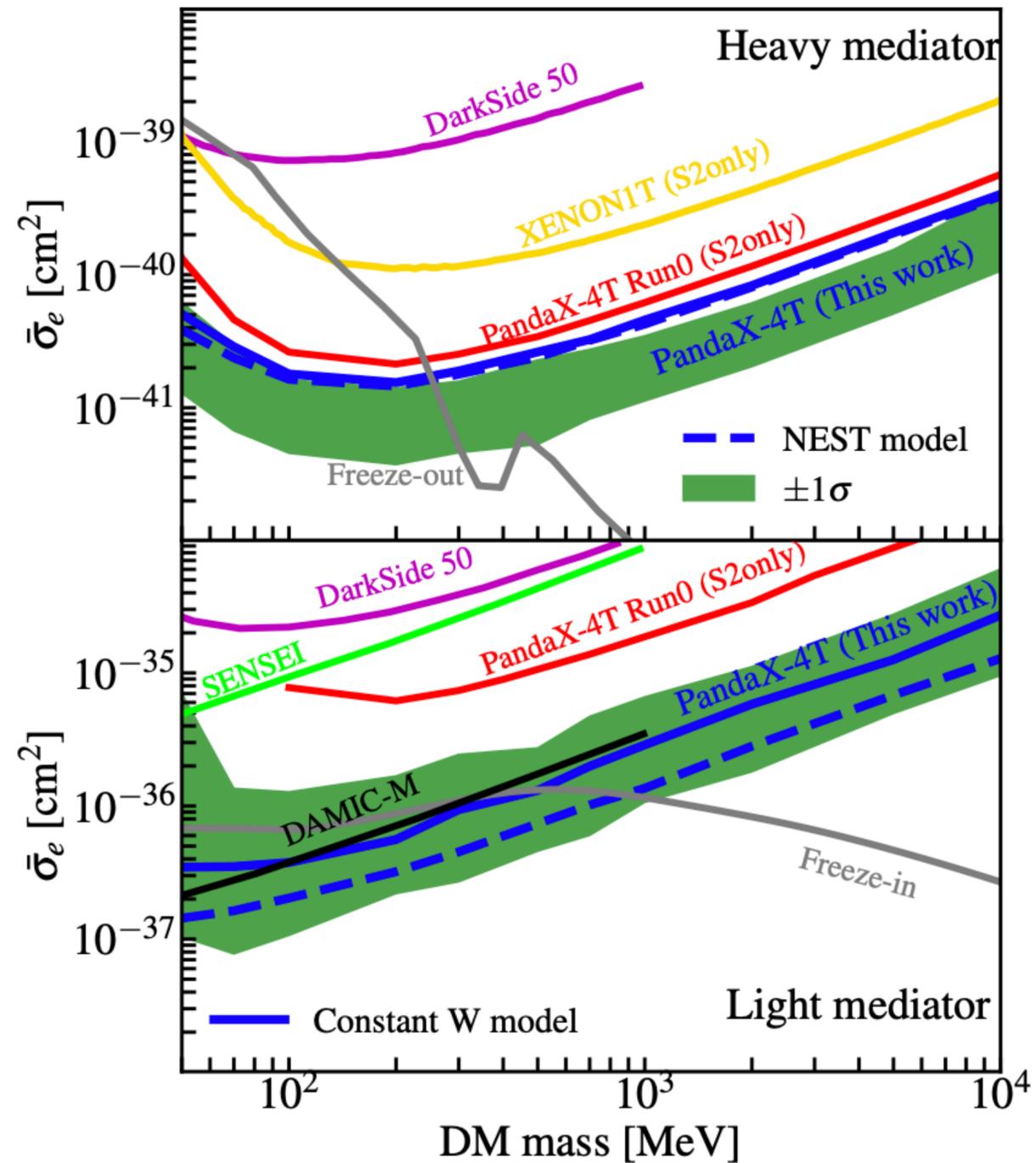
Belle II is better than LEP for light mediator DM    Electron colliders can be better than DMDD



$$Z'_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu (g_v^\chi - g_a^\chi \gamma_5) \chi + Z'_\mu \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu (g_v^\ell - g_a^\ell \gamma_5) \ell$$

$$M_{Z'} = 5 \text{ GeV}, 0.6 \text{ GeV}, 10 \text{ MeV}$$

# PandaX-4T limits on light DM

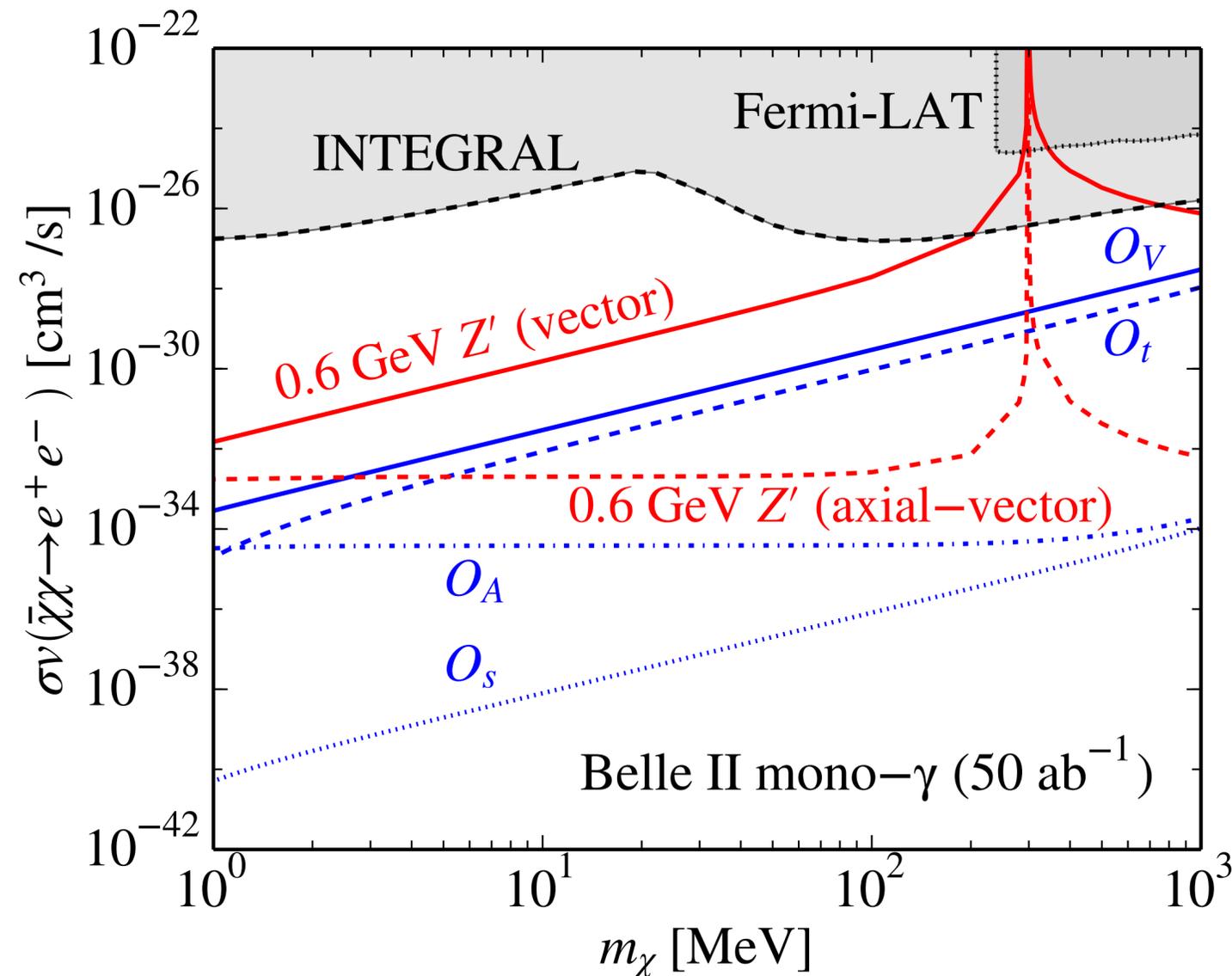


Search for Light Dark Matter with 259 Days of Data in PandaX-4T

[PandaX-4T, 2507.11930]

# Belle II vs dark matter indirect detection experiments

Electron colliders can be better than DMID



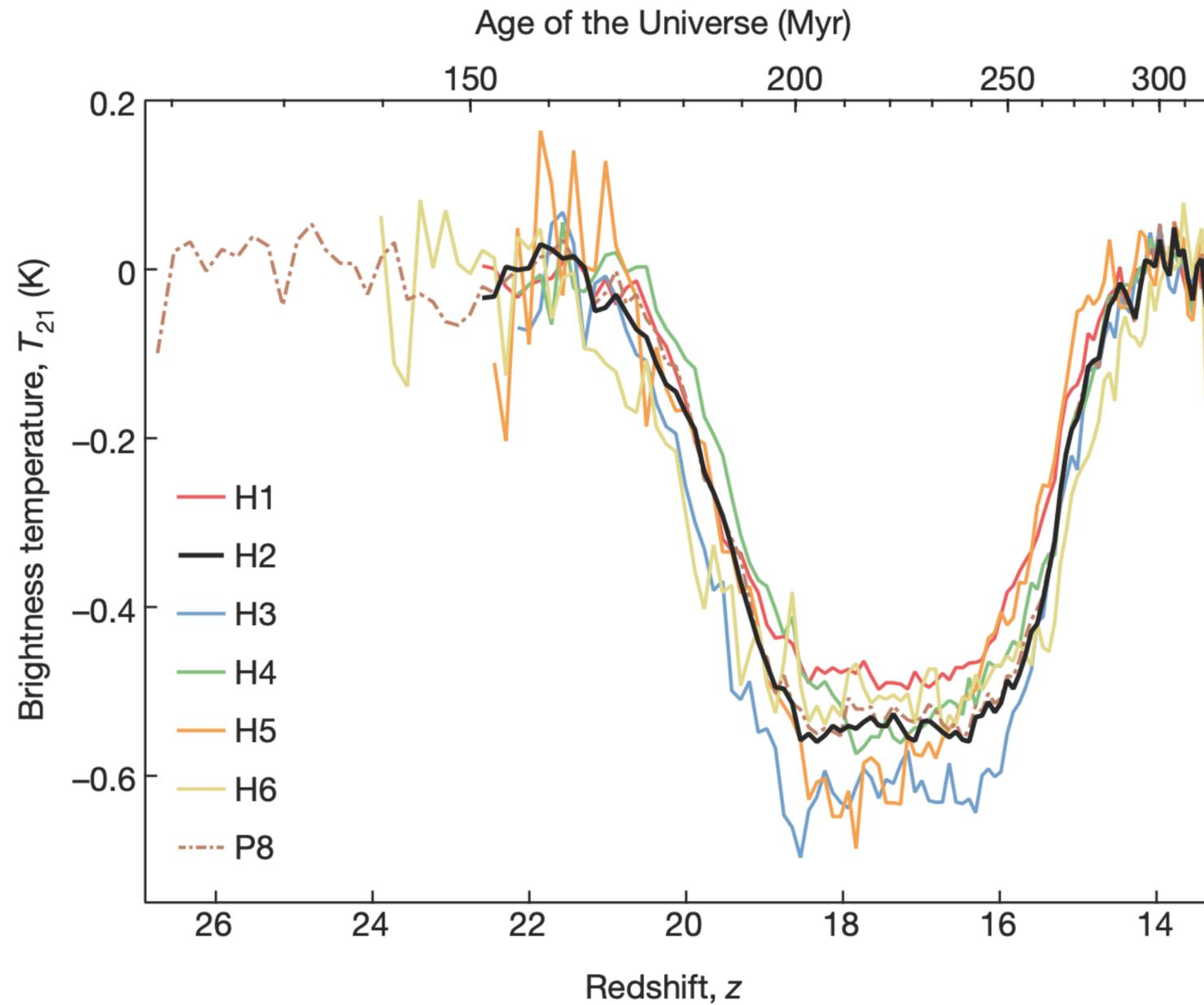
Photons from DM annihilation

INTEGRAL

Fermi-LAT

**millicharged particles**

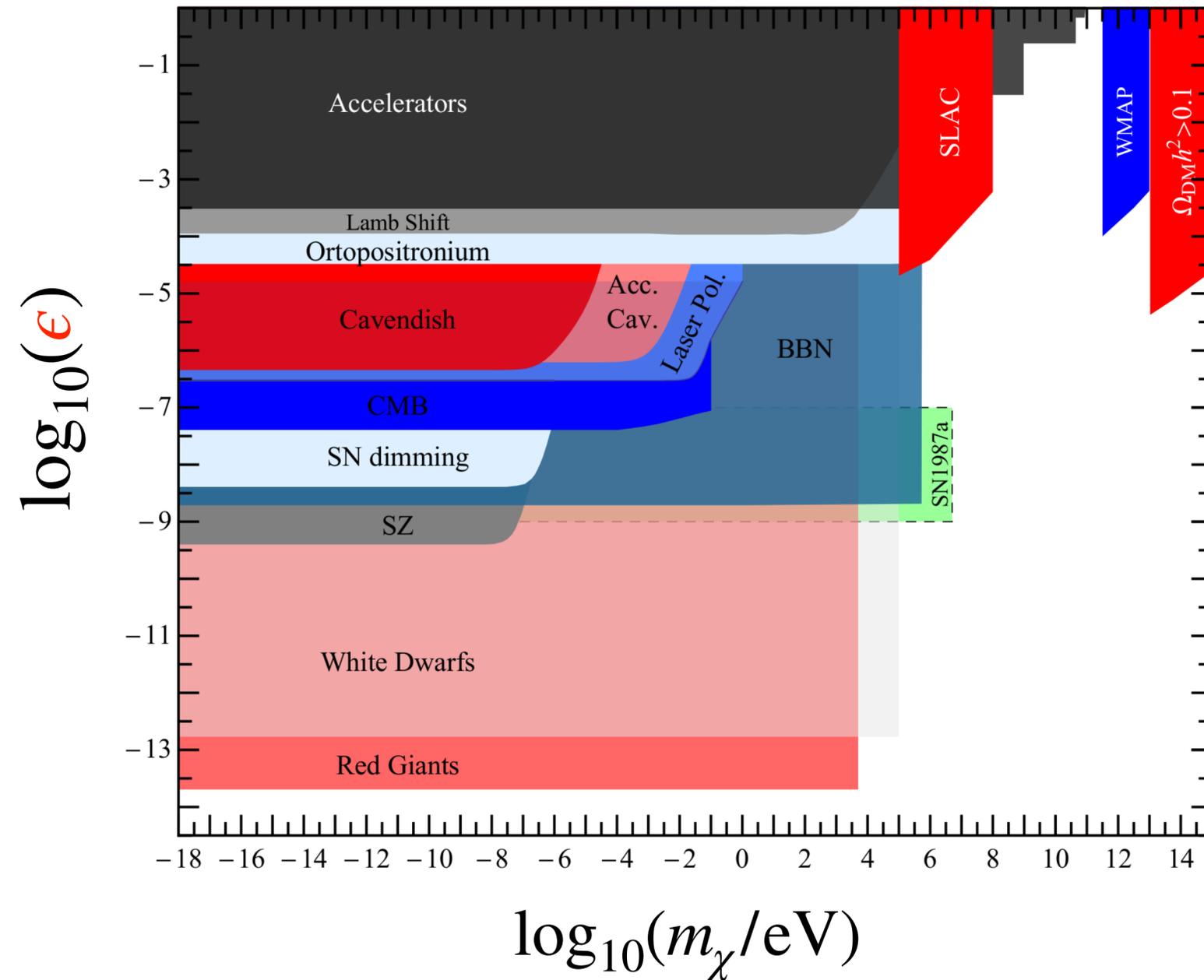
# Millicharged dark matter can explain EDGES 21 cm anomaly



[Bowman et al., Nature 555 (2018) 67–70]

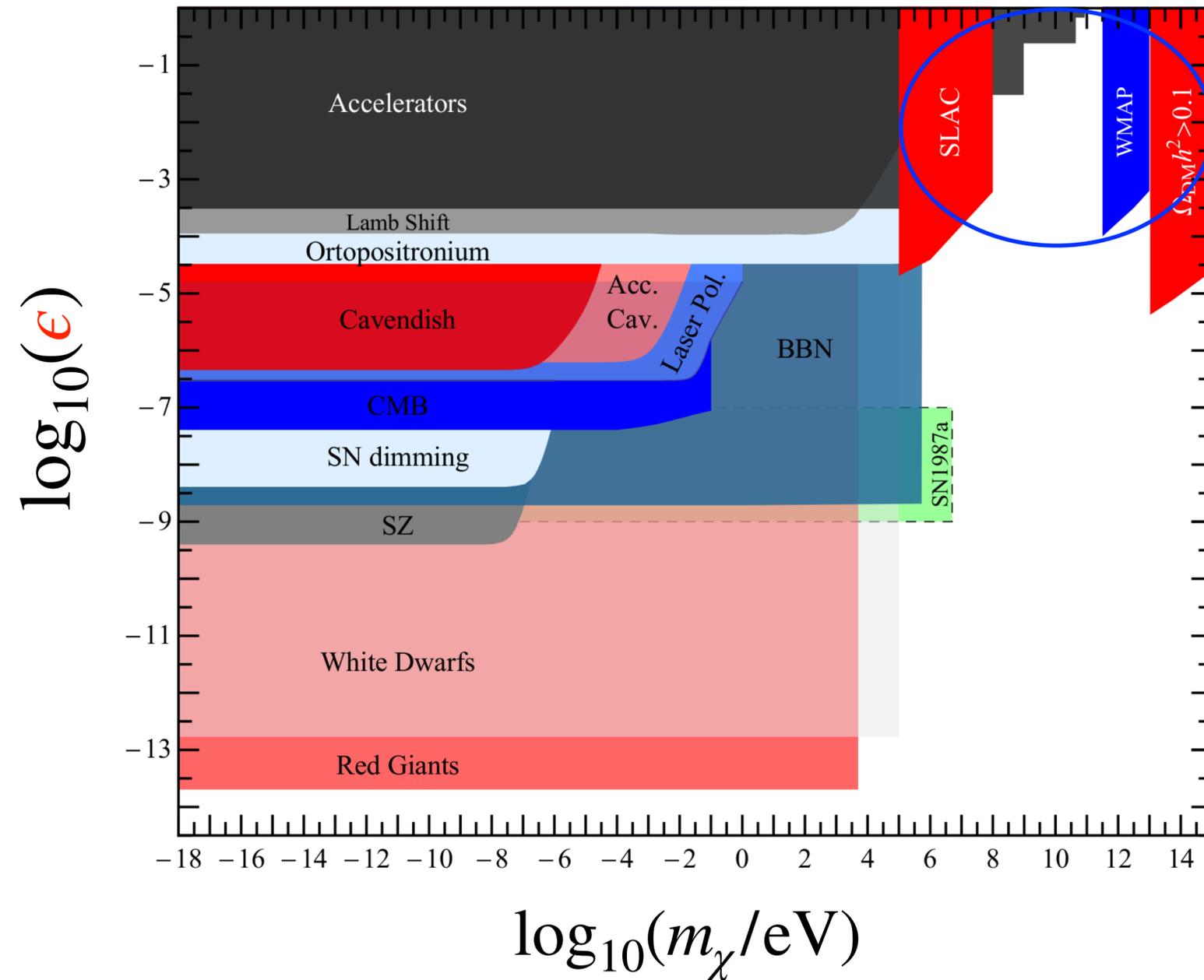
[Munoz & Loeb, Nature 557 (2018) 684]

# Millicharge in BSM can be quite “large”



[Jaeckel, Ringwald, 1002.0329]

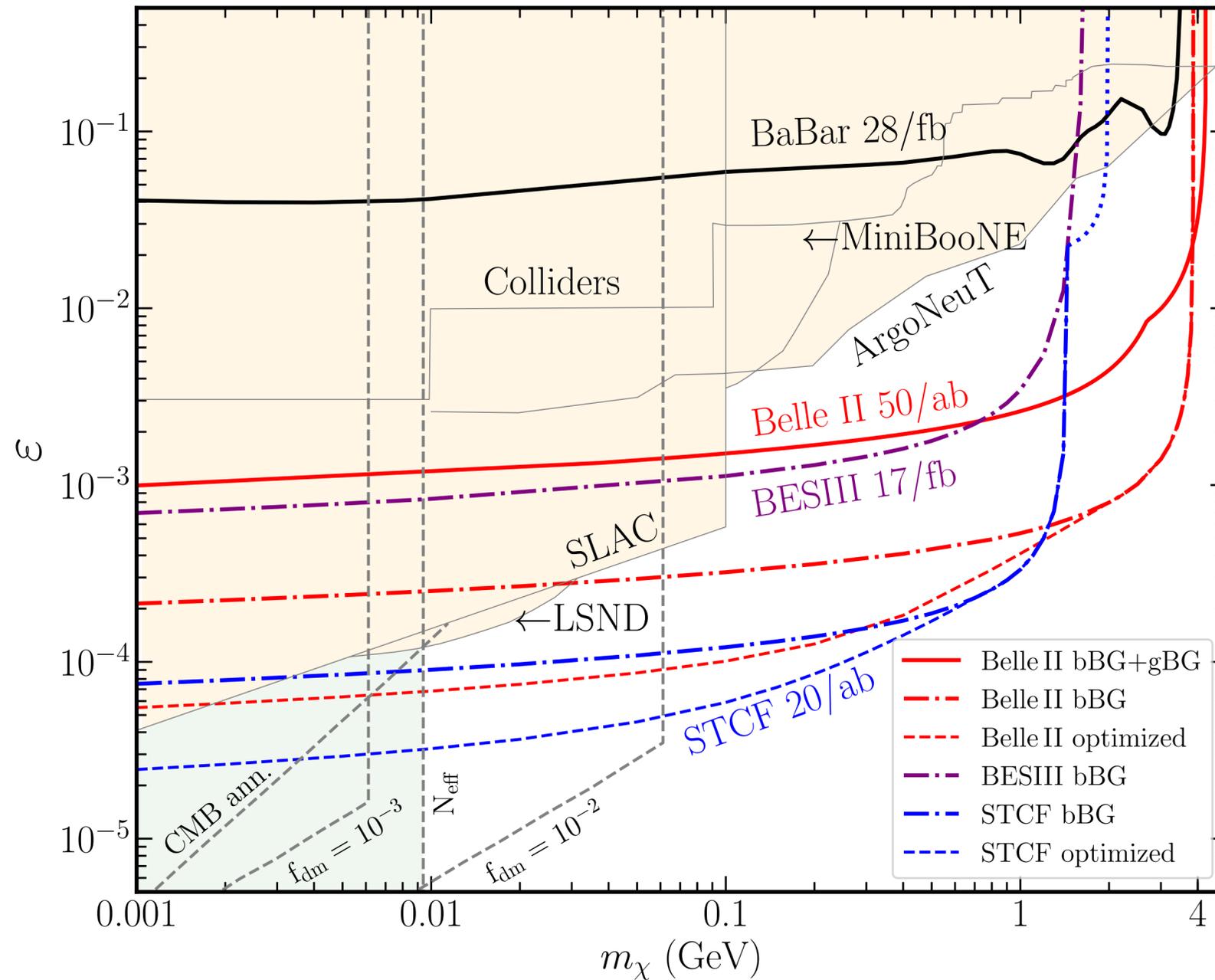
# Millicharge in BSM can be quite “large”



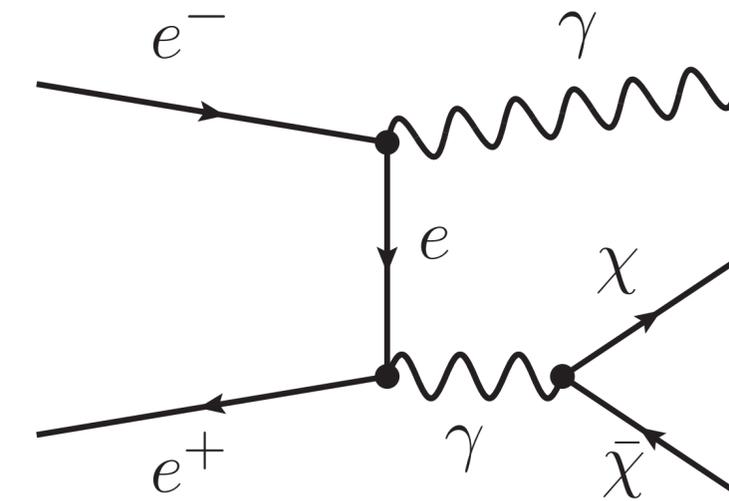
← probed by  $e^+e^-$  colliders

[Jaeckel, Ringwald, 1002.0329]

# Millicharged particles probed by electron colliders



mono-photon

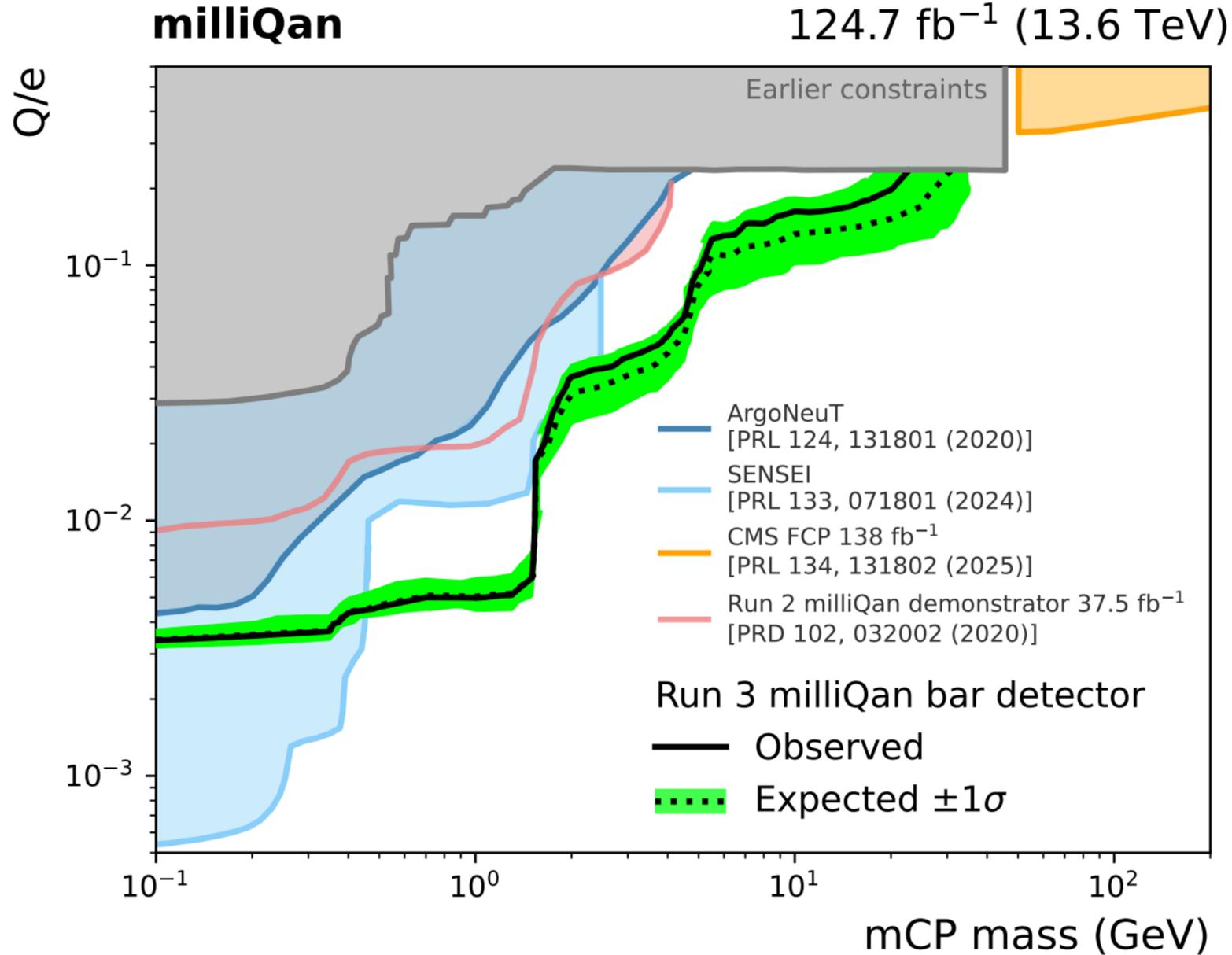


electron collider can probe new parameter space

[ZL, Zhang, 1808.00983]

[Liang, ZL, Ma, Zhang, 1909.06847]

# Run 3 milliQan bar detector

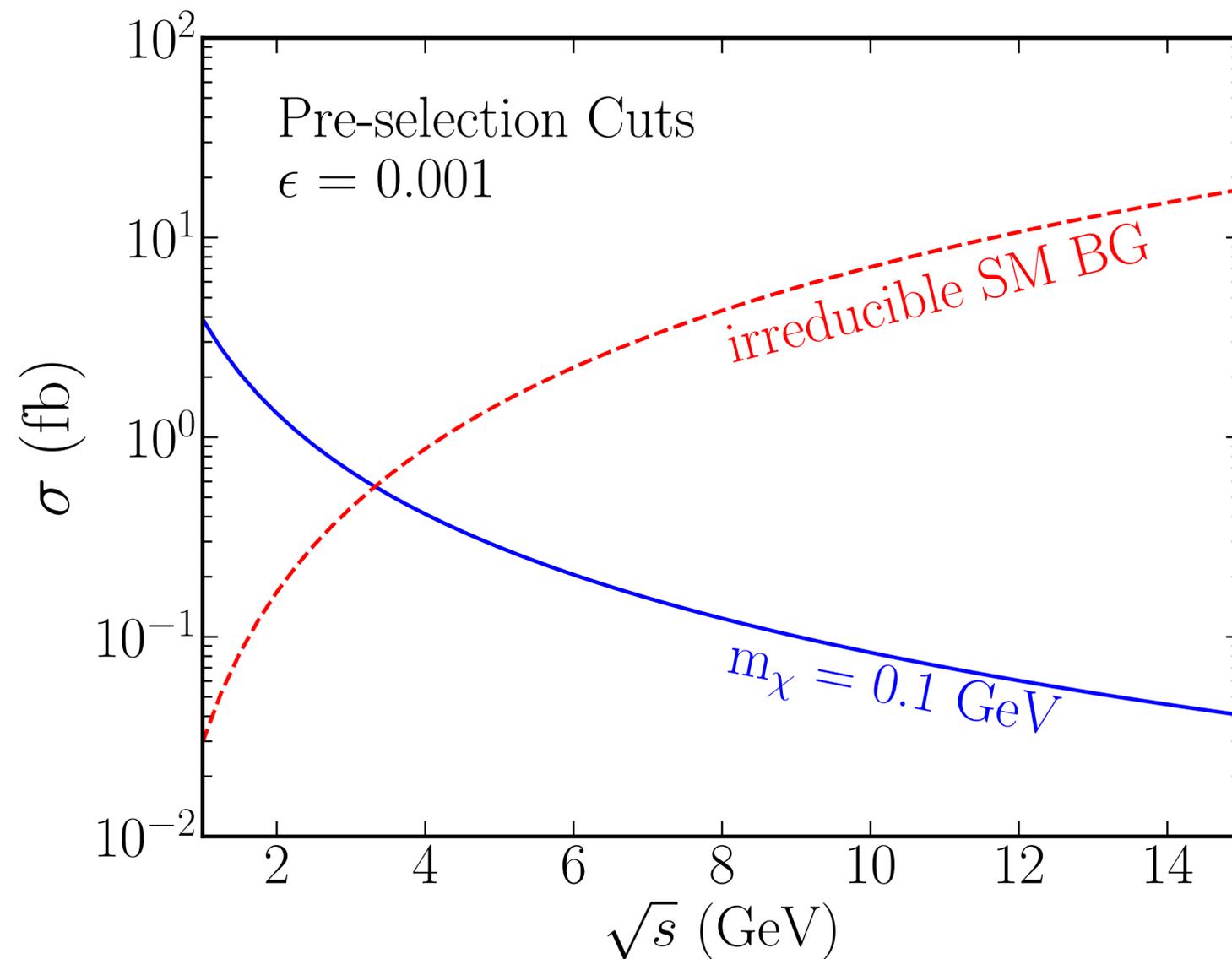


[2506.02251]

# Low colliding energy is better to probe MCPs

if irreducible BG is the only important BG

BESIII/STCF vs Belle II



$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma \bar{\nu} \nu$$

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma \bar{\chi} \chi$$

# A wish list of an ignorant theorist

- Better hermicity of ECL (less or no gaps?)
- More angular coverage
- More powerful KLM-kind detector (veto)
- Place another detector when there is a gap?

