



Discussion: Are WIMPs dead?

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KITP CDM
April 30, 2018

Physicists Look Beyond WIMPs For Dark Matter

After top dark matter candidate fizzles out, physicists look to more exotic realms

MOTHERBOARD

More Negative Results in Hunt for Dark Matter WIMPs

But the search continues 2,500 meters underground at China's PandaX experiment.

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PHYSICS

In the Dark about Dark Matter

Recent disappointments have physicists looking beyond WIMPs for dark matter particles

By Lee Billings on October 1, 2016

DARK MATTER

Dark Matter Recipe Calls for One Part Superfluid

17 |

A different kind of dark matter could help to resolve an old celestial conundrum.

Meetings: WIMP Alternatives Come Out of the Shadows

May 14, 2018 • Physics 11, 48

At an annual physics meeting in the Alps, WIMPs appeared to lose their foothold as the favored dark matter candidate, making room for a slew of new ideas.

The **Rencontres de Moriond** (Moriond Conferences) have been a fixture of European high-energy physics for over half a century. These meetings—typically held at an Alpine ski resort—have been the site of many big announcements, such as the first public talk on the top quark discovery in 1995 and important Higgs updates in 2013. One day, perhaps, a dark matter detection will headline at Moriond. For now, physicists wait. But they've gotten a bit anxious, as their shoo-in candidate, the WIMP, has yet to make an appearance—despite several ongoing searches. At this year's Moriond, held this past March in La Thuile, Italy, some of the limelight passed to other dark matter candidates, such as axions, black holes, superfluids, and more.

THIS WEEK 28 May 2014

It's crunch time for dark matter: WIMPs don't show

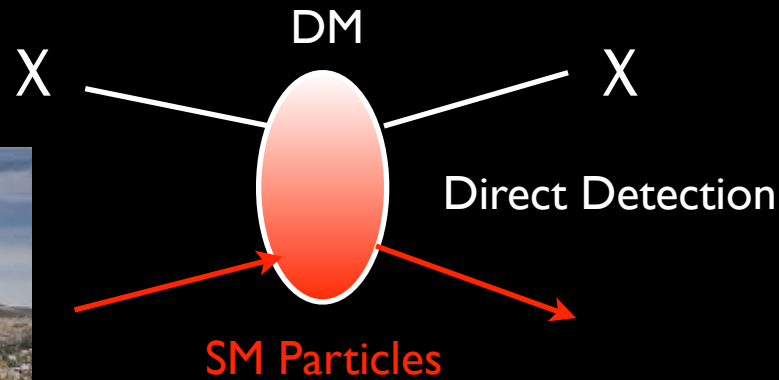
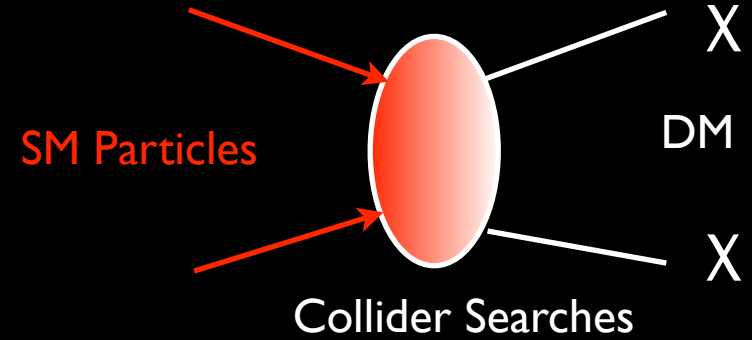
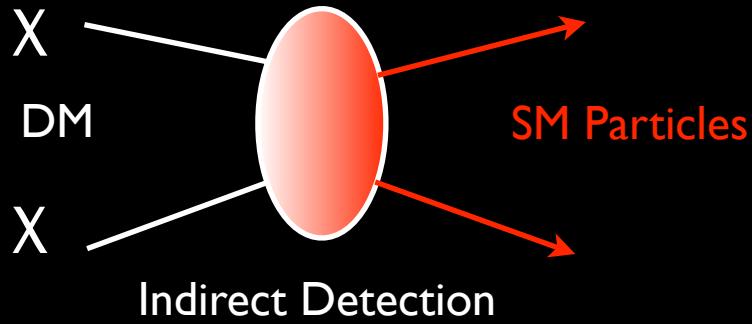
If dark matter isn't made of WIMPs, could neutrinos or axions fit the bill? Or is there no particle at all but a strange modification of gravity?

By Lisa Grossman

Fake News?

What is behind this
Question?

WIMP Searches



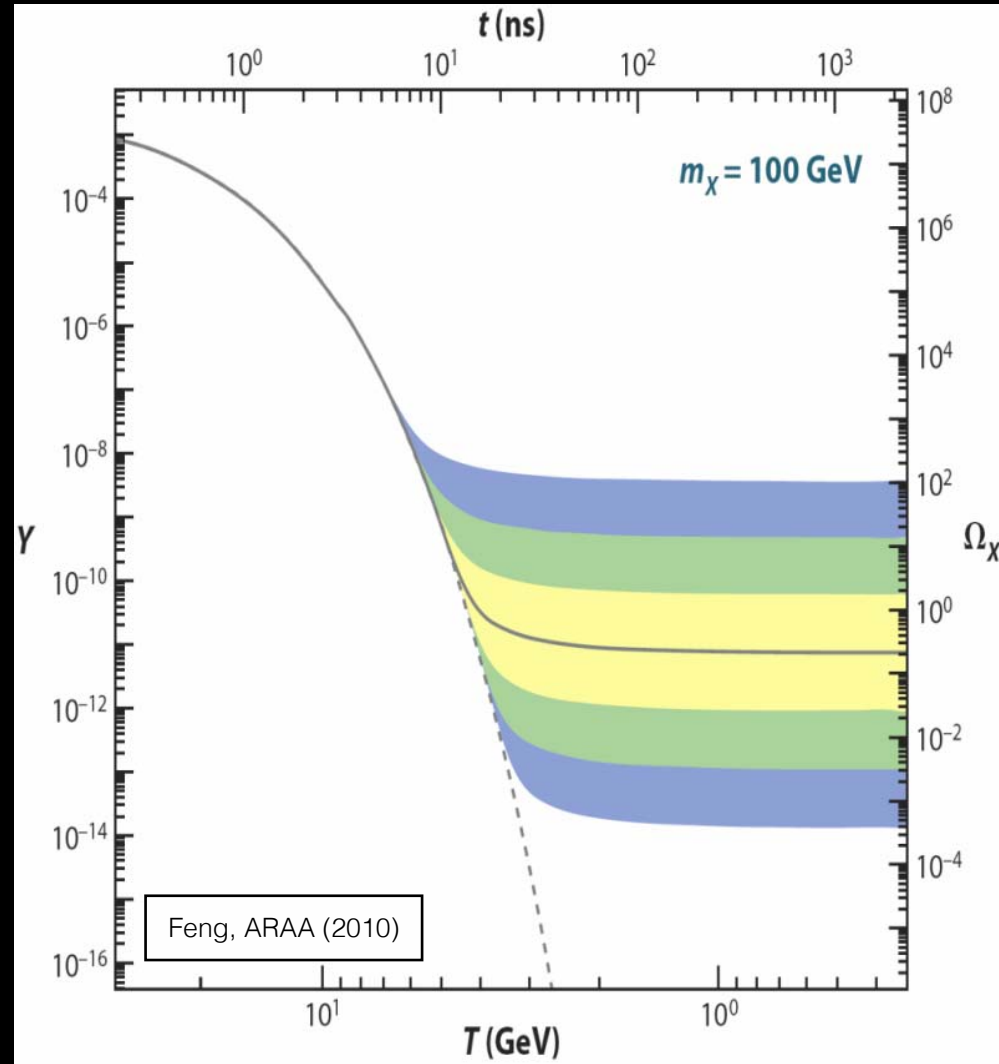
Relic Density

- The basic picture is:
 - We start out with dark matter in equilibrium with the SM plasma.
 - As the temperature falls, the number of WIMPs does too.
 - We track the equilibrium density until freeze-out:

$$n_{eq} \langle \sigma v \rangle \sim H$$

$$(mT)^{3/2} e^{-m/T} \frac{g^4}{m^2} \sim \frac{T^2}{M_{Pl}^2}$$

$$\frac{m}{T} \sim \log \left[\frac{M_{Pl}}{m} \right] \quad m \sim 100 \text{ GeV} : \frac{m}{T} \sim 40$$



...which determines how many WIMPs are left over.

What IS a WIMP?

Weakly-interacting

Massive

Particle

What IS a WIMP?

Weakly-interacting



Electroweak interaction

$SU(2) \times U(1)$

Z, W,

Higgs?

Massive

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Symmetries?

Mediator particles?

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$g < \text{around } 1$

Freeze-out relic?

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> 10 keV?
> 1 GeV?
~ 100 GeV
< 100 TeV?

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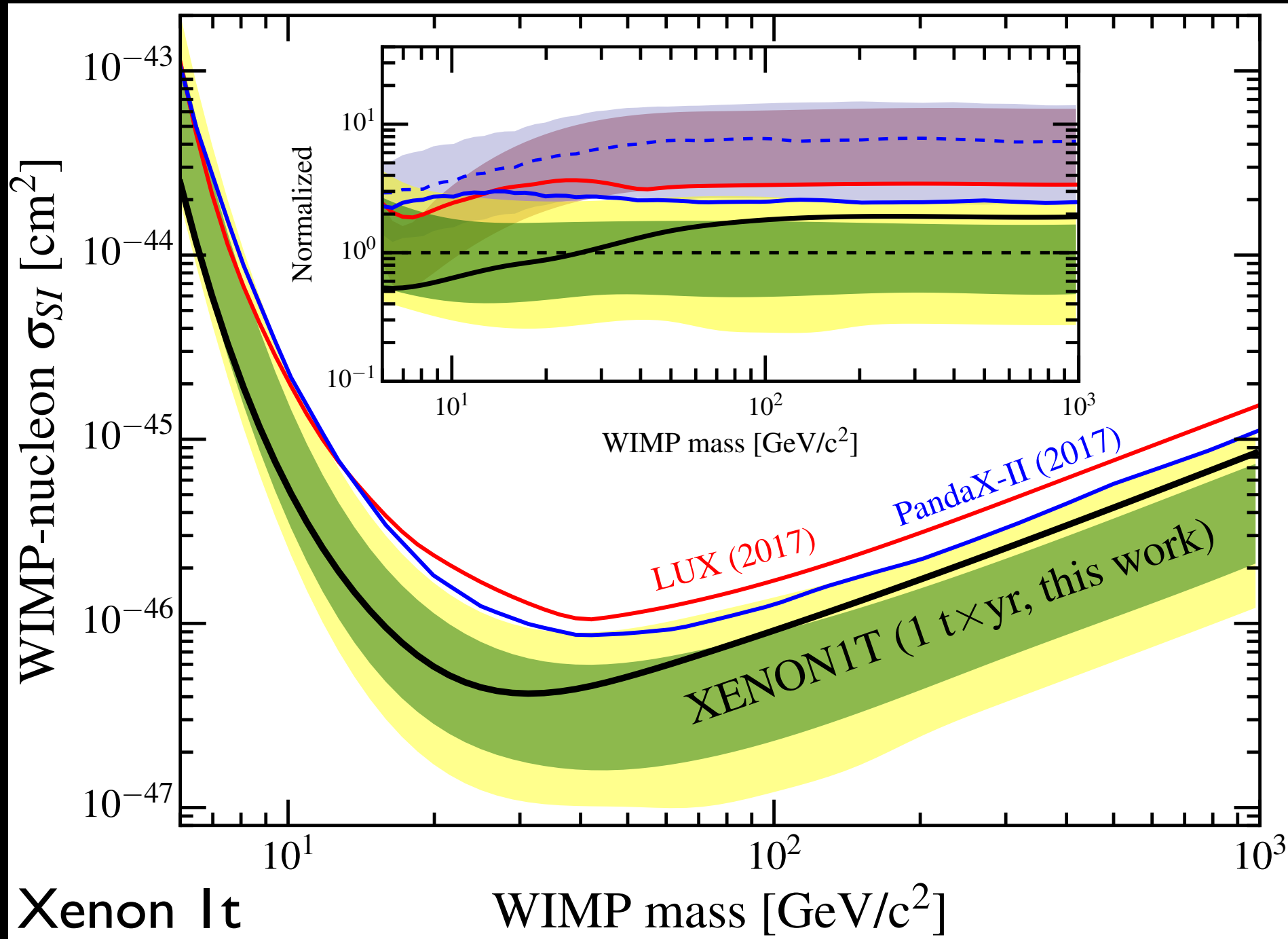
$g < \text{around } 1$

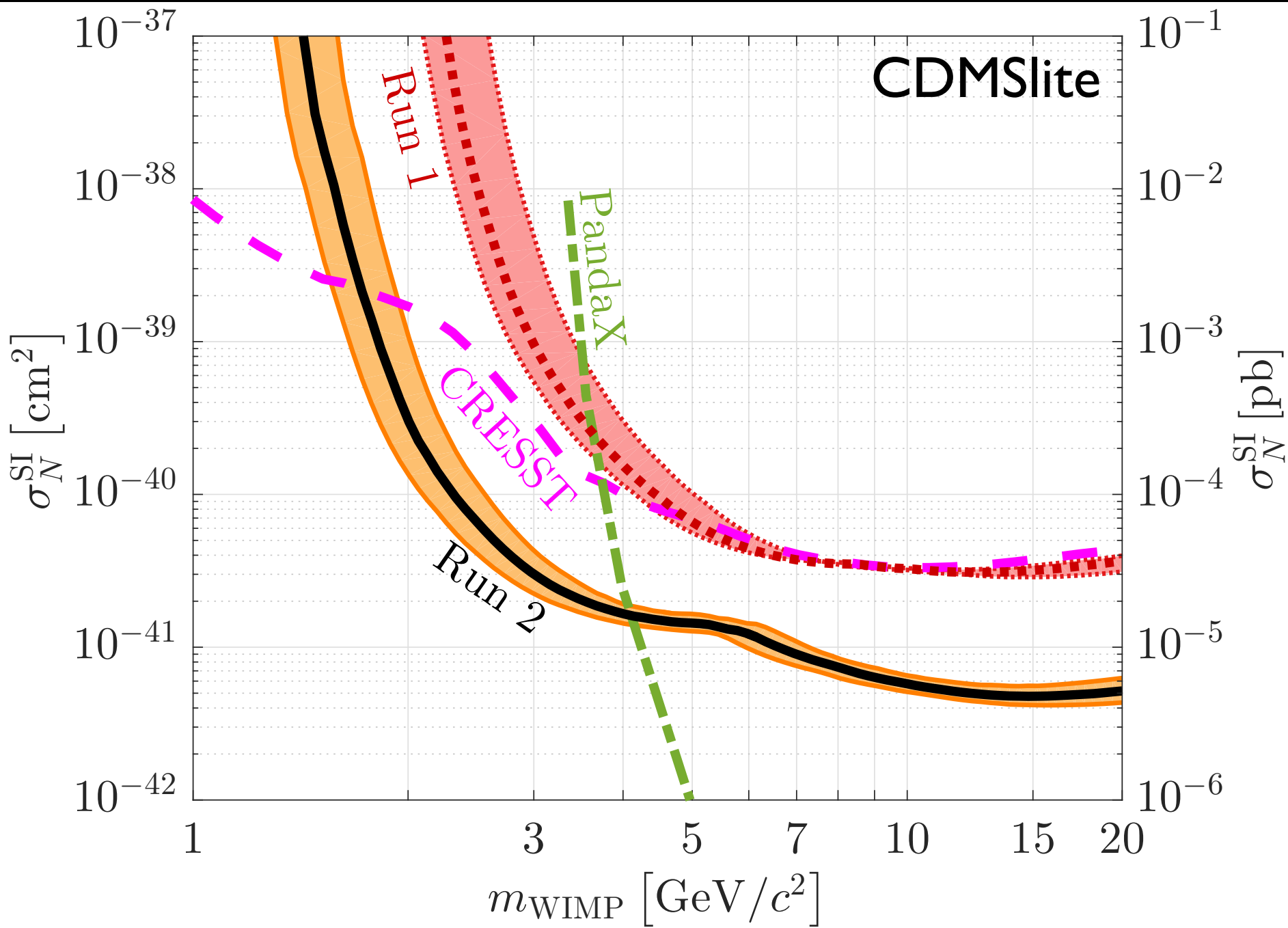
Freeze-out relic?

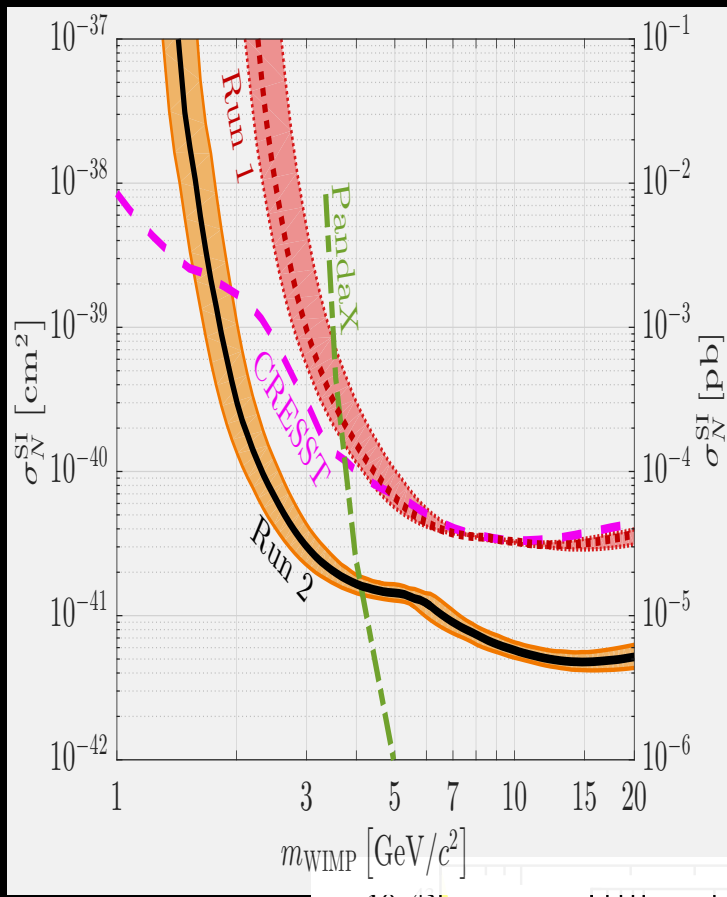
Particle

Yes?

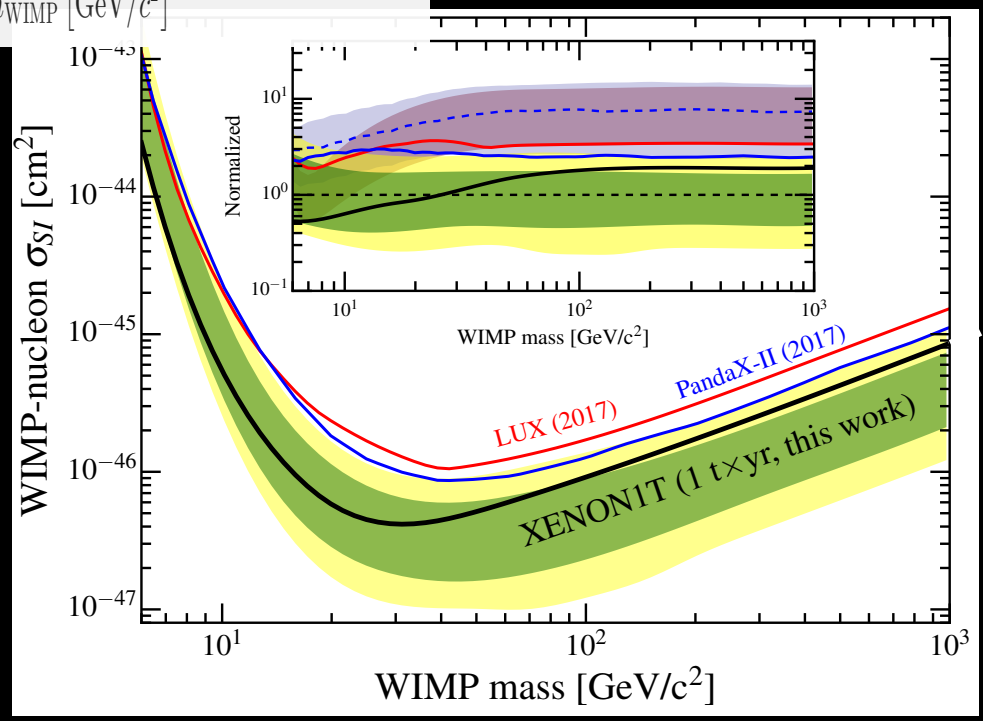
Fields? Fuzzy? Superfluid?!



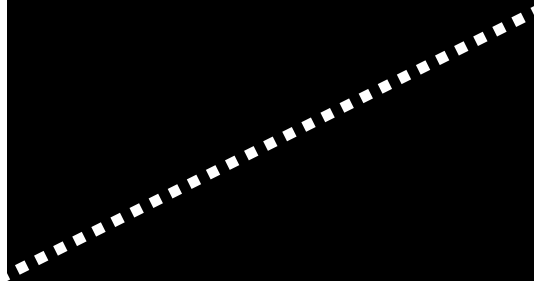


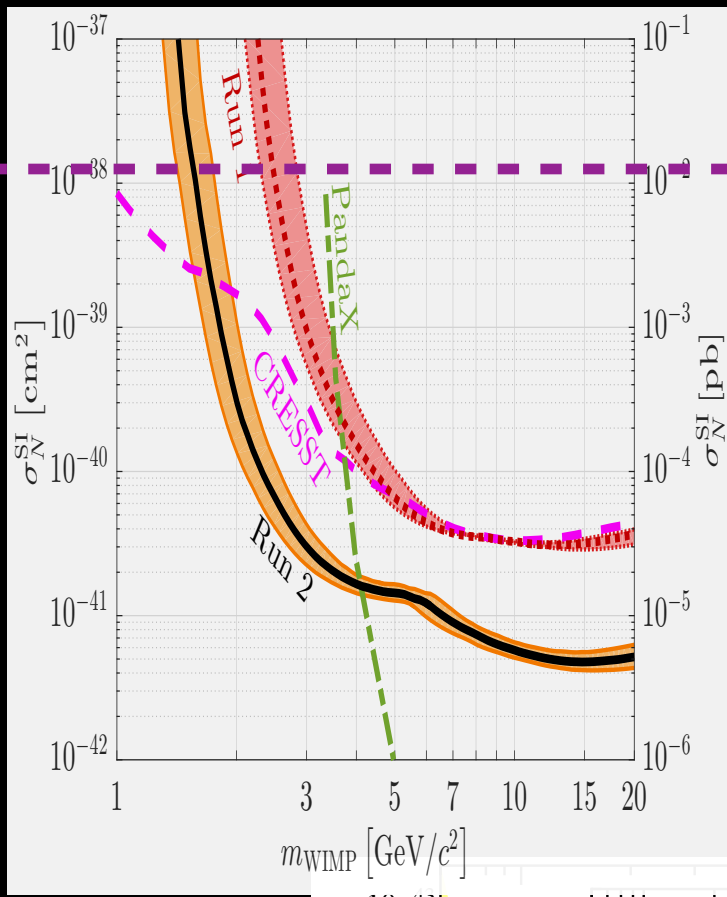


Ceiling:
 These limits become
 ineffective around 10^{-33}
 cm^2



Freeze-out σ is
 model-dependent in
 this parameter space

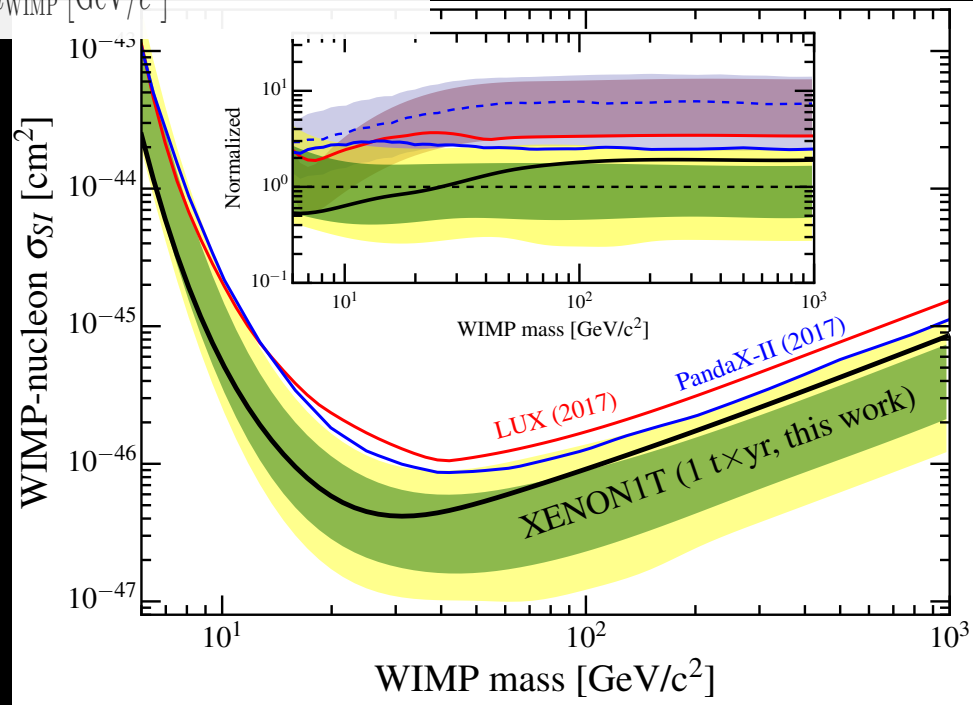
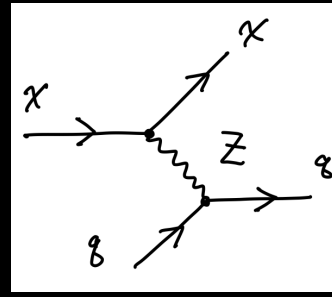




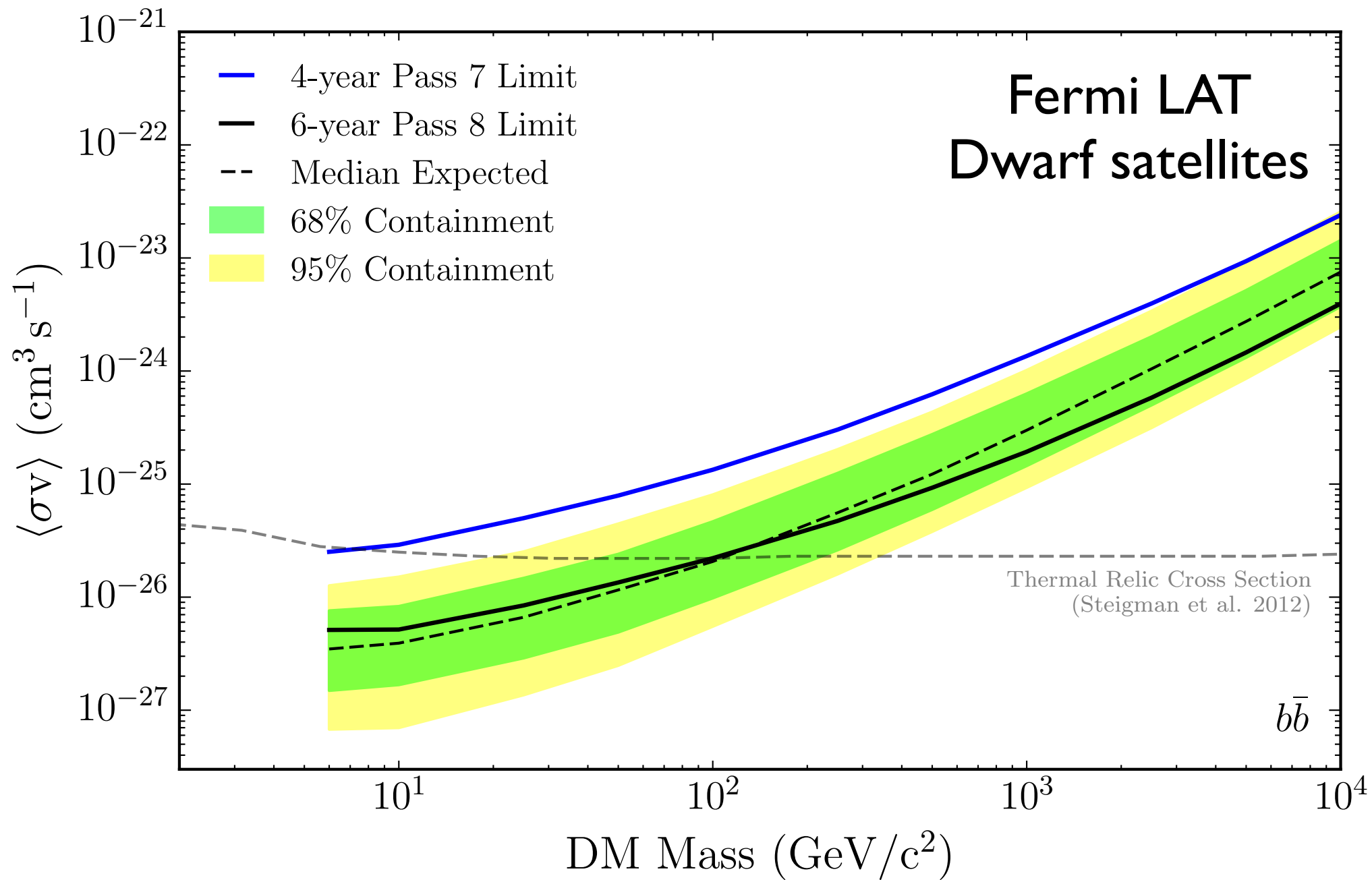
“Electroweak” Cross section

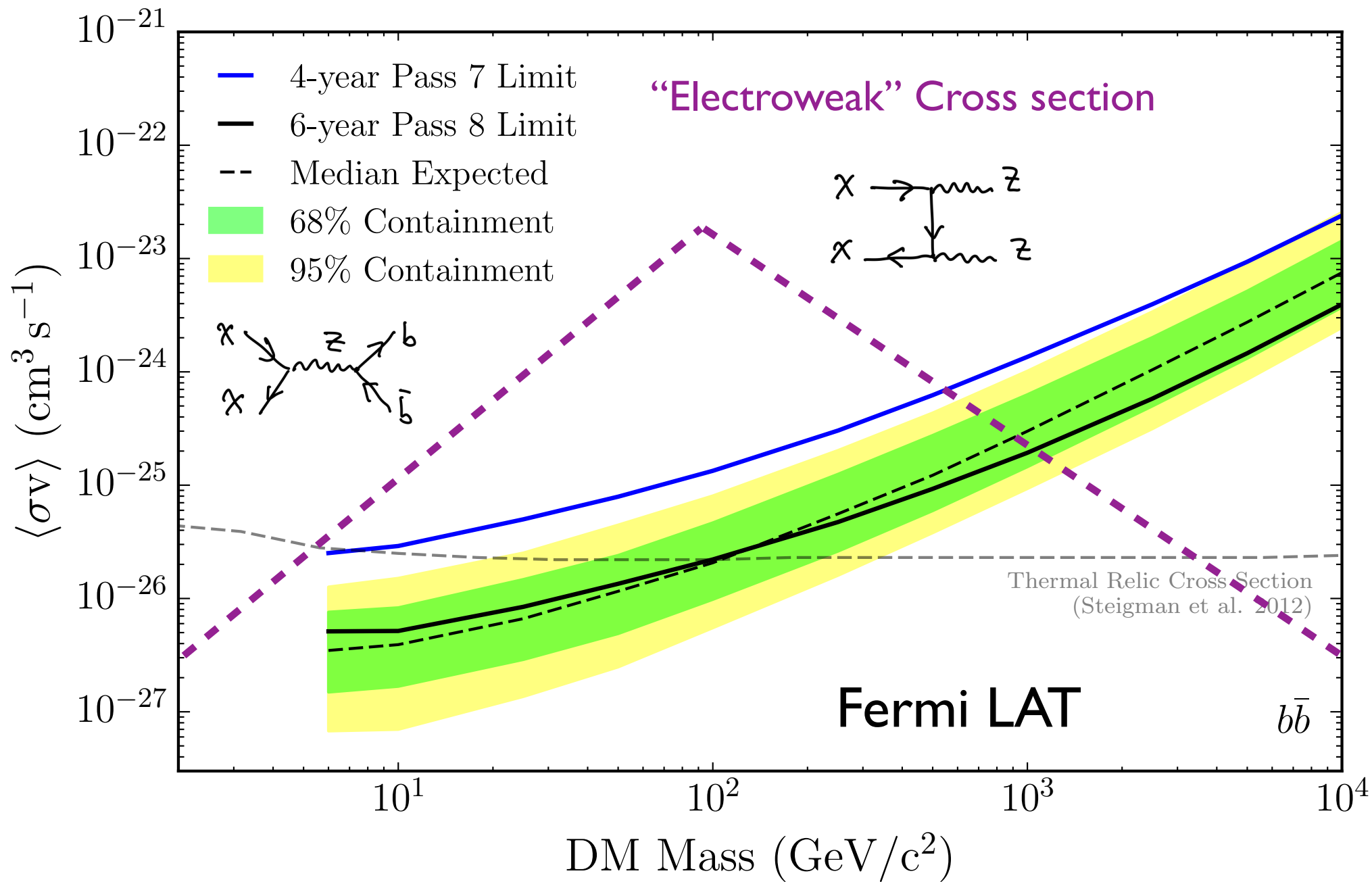
(excluded by CDMS ~2000 for a wide range of masses)

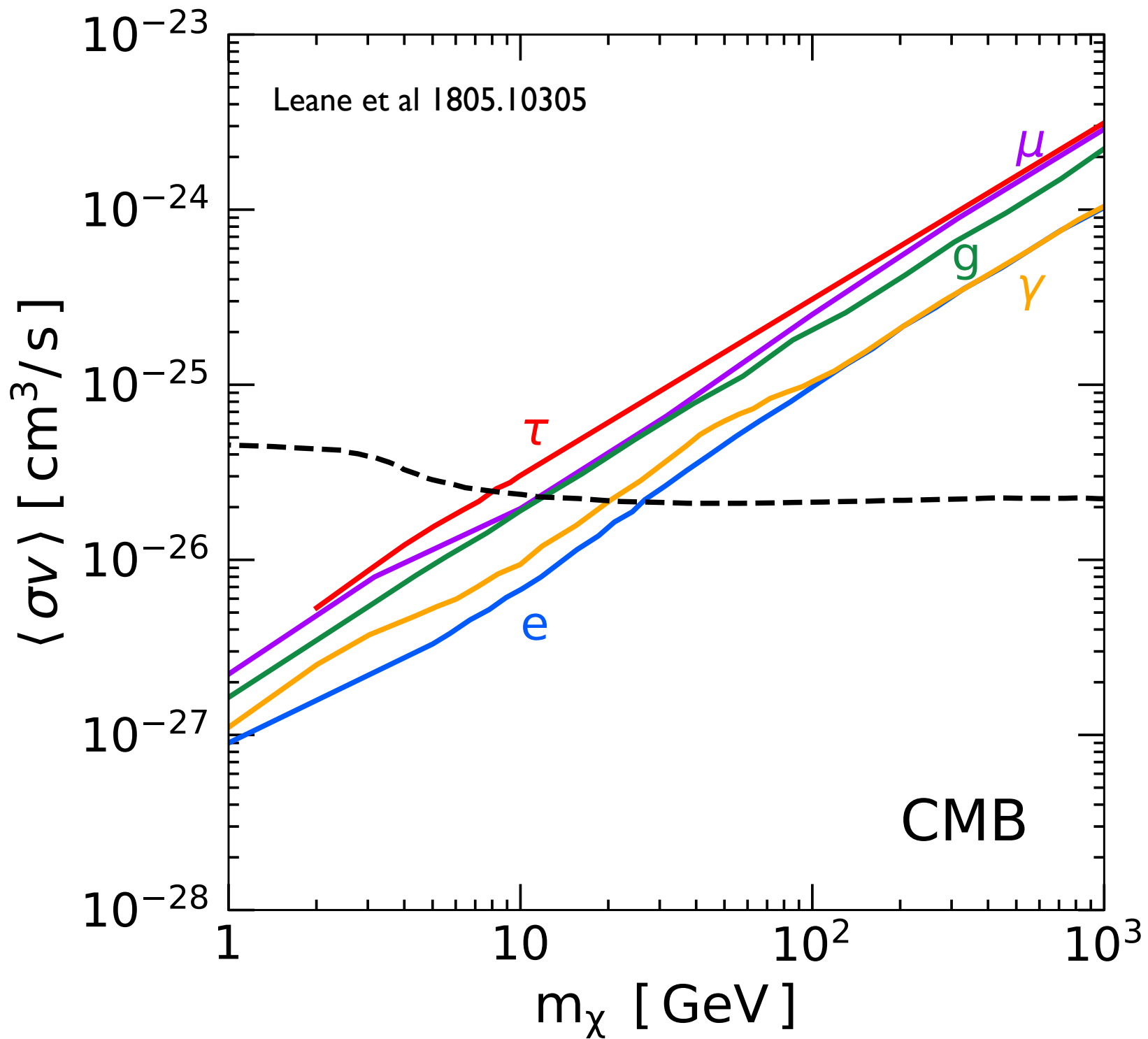
Now: 2 GeV to ~10⁷ GeV



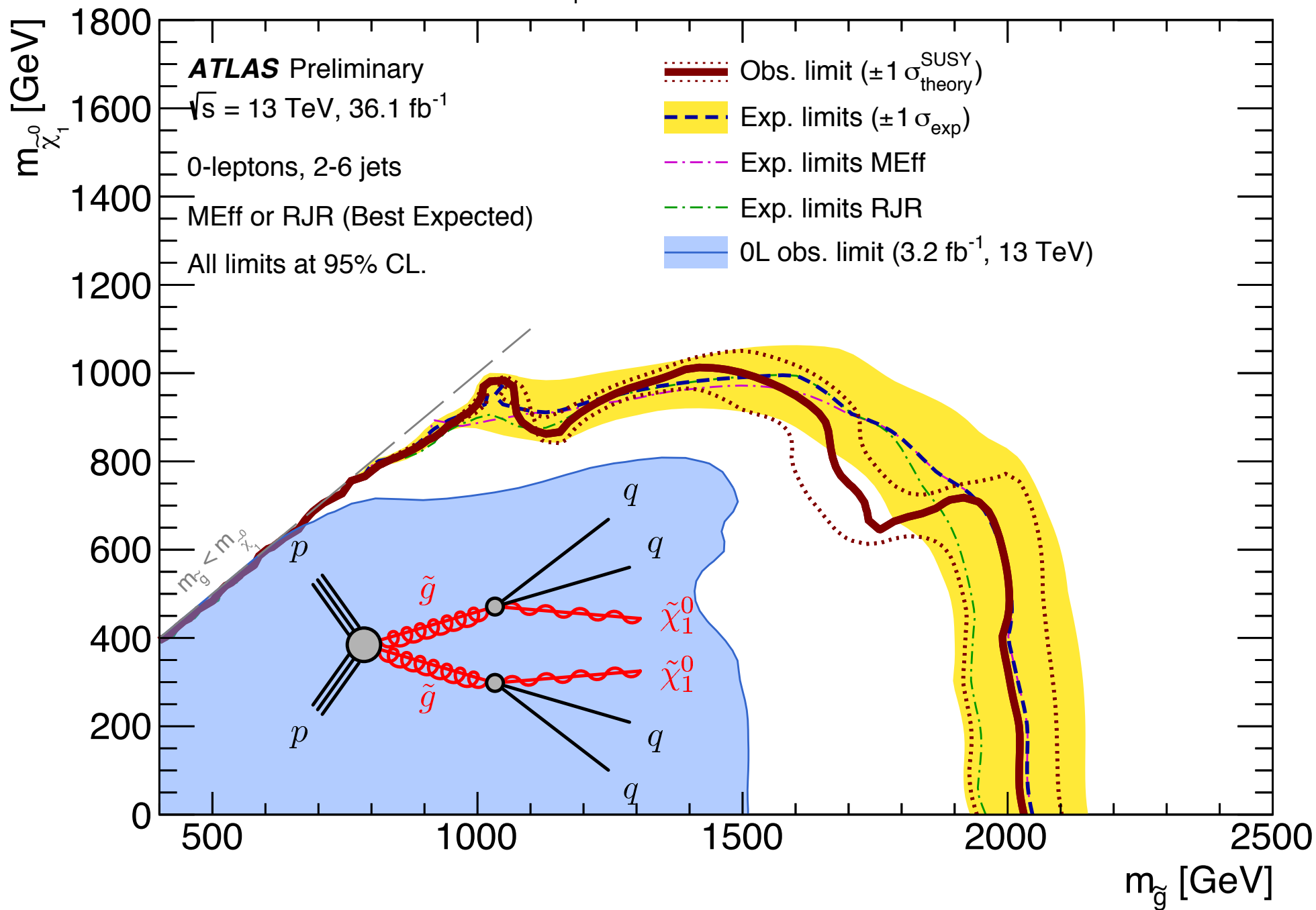
Warning:
Lots of “back of the envelope”
estimates in these slides







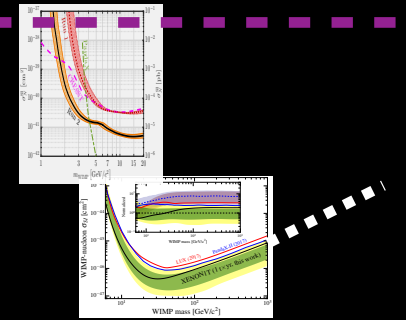
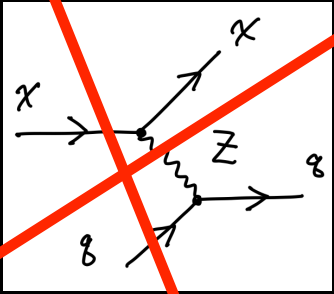
$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}$ production, $B(\tilde{g} \rightarrow qq \tilde{\chi}_1^0)=100\%$



So what does this mean for
WIMPs?

Electroweakly Interacting Massive Particles

Z Interactions



$$\frac{e}{S_W C_W} \left(T_3 - \cancel{Q} S_W^2 \right)$$

Dark Matter

A Feynman diagram showing a fermion (line with arrow) interacting with a Z boson (wavy line) and another fermion (line with arrow). The diagram is part of a larger equation block.

To be EW-charged, but avoid full strength Z interactions, DM could have $T_3=0$.

This happens for odd-dimensional representations (triplet, quintuplet, ...)
It doesn't work for doublets, quadruplets, etc..

Another way to say it: Dark Matter should not carry hypercharge ($Q=T_3+Y$).

This implies EW-charged dark matter comes with electrically charged EW siblings whose masses differ by $O(\langle H \rangle \sim 100 \text{ GeV})$.

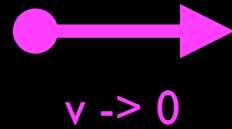
EFTs

(For illustration: just quarks and gluons)

Relativistic EFT

Name	Operator	Coefficient
D1	$\bar{\chi}\chi\bar{q}q$	m_q/M_*^3
D2	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}q$	im_q/M_*^3
D3	$\bar{\chi}\chi\bar{q}\gamma^5q$	im_q/M_*^3
D4	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\gamma^5q$	m_q/M_*^3
D5	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu q$	$1/M_*^2$
D6	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu q$	$1/M_*^2$
D7	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu\gamma^5q$	$1/M_*^2$
D8	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu\gamma^5q$	$1/M_*^2$
D9	$\bar{\chi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\chi\bar{q}\sigma_{\mu\nu}q$	$1/M_*^2$
D10	$\bar{\chi}\sigma_{\mu\nu}\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\sigma_{\alpha\beta}q$	i/M_*^2
D11	$\bar{\chi}\chi G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}$	$\alpha_s/4M_*^3$
D12	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}$	$i\alpha_s/4M_*^3$
D13	$\bar{\chi}\chi G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$	$i\alpha_s/4M_*^3$
D14	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$	$\alpha_s/4M_*^3$

More Realistic



Nonrelativistic EFT

1. P-even, S_χ -independent

$$\mathcal{O}_1 = \mathbf{1}, \quad \mathcal{O}_2 = (v^\perp)^2, \quad \mathcal{O}_3 = i\vec{S}_N \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{v}^\perp),$$

2. P-even, S_χ -dependent

$$\mathcal{O}_4 = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{S}_N, \quad \mathcal{O}_5 = i\vec{S}_\chi \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{v}^\perp), \quad \mathcal{O}_6 = (\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{q})(\vec{S}_N \cdot \vec{q}),$$

3. P-odd, S_χ -independent

$$\mathcal{O}_7 = \vec{S}_N \cdot \vec{v}^\perp,$$

4. P-odd, S_χ -dependent

$$\mathcal{O}_8 = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{v}^\perp, \quad \mathcal{O}_9 = i\vec{S}_\chi \cdot (\vec{S}_N \times \vec{q})$$

5. P-odd, S_χ -independent:

$$\mathcal{O}_{10} = i\vec{S}_N \cdot \vec{q},$$

6. P-odd, S_χ -dependent

$$\mathcal{O}_{11} = i\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{q}.$$

More general

Fitzpatrick et al, 1203.3542

Goodman et al, 1008.1783

This description knows that physics respects special relativity.

This description is the natural language for the scattering problem.

EFTs

Relativistic EFT

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D1	$\bar{\chi}\chi\bar{q}q$	m_q/M_*^3
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D3	$\bar{\chi}\chi\bar{q}\gamma^5q$	im_q/M_*^3
D4	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\gamma^5q$	m_q/M_*^3
D5	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu q$	$1/M_*^2$
D6	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\gamma^5\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu q$	$1/M_*^2$
D7	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^\mu\chi\bar{q}\gamma_\mu\gamma^5q$	$1/M_*^2$
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D13	$\bar{\chi}\chi G_{\mu\nu}\tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$	$i\alpha_s/4M_*^3$
D14	$\bar{\chi}\gamma^5\chi G_{\mu\nu}G^{\mu\nu}$	$\alpha_s/4M_*^3$



Nonrelativistic EFT

1. P-even, S_χ -independent

$$\mathcal{O}_1 = \mathbf{1}, \quad \mathcal{O}_2 = (v^\perp)^2, \quad \mathcal{O}_3 = i\vec{S}_N \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{v}^\perp),$$

Spin Independent

2. P-even, S_χ -dependent

$$\mathcal{O}_4 = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{S}_N, \quad \mathcal{O}_5 = i\vec{S}_\chi \cdot (\vec{q} \times \vec{v}^\perp), \quad \mathcal{O}_6 = (\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{q})(\vec{S}_N \cdot \vec{q}),$$

Spin Dependent

3. P-odd, S_χ -independent

$$\mathcal{O}_7 = \vec{S}_N \cdot \vec{v}^\perp,$$

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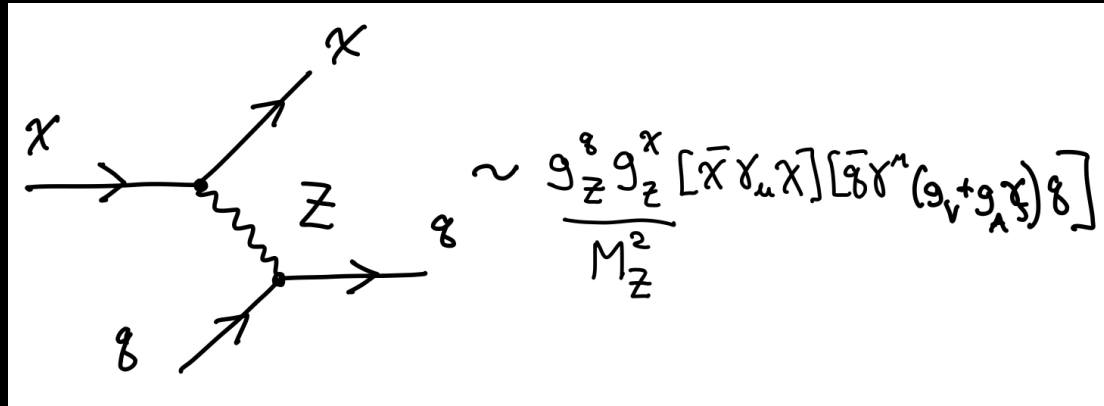
$$\mathcal{O}_{11} = i\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{q}.$$

Fitzpatrick et al, 1203.3542

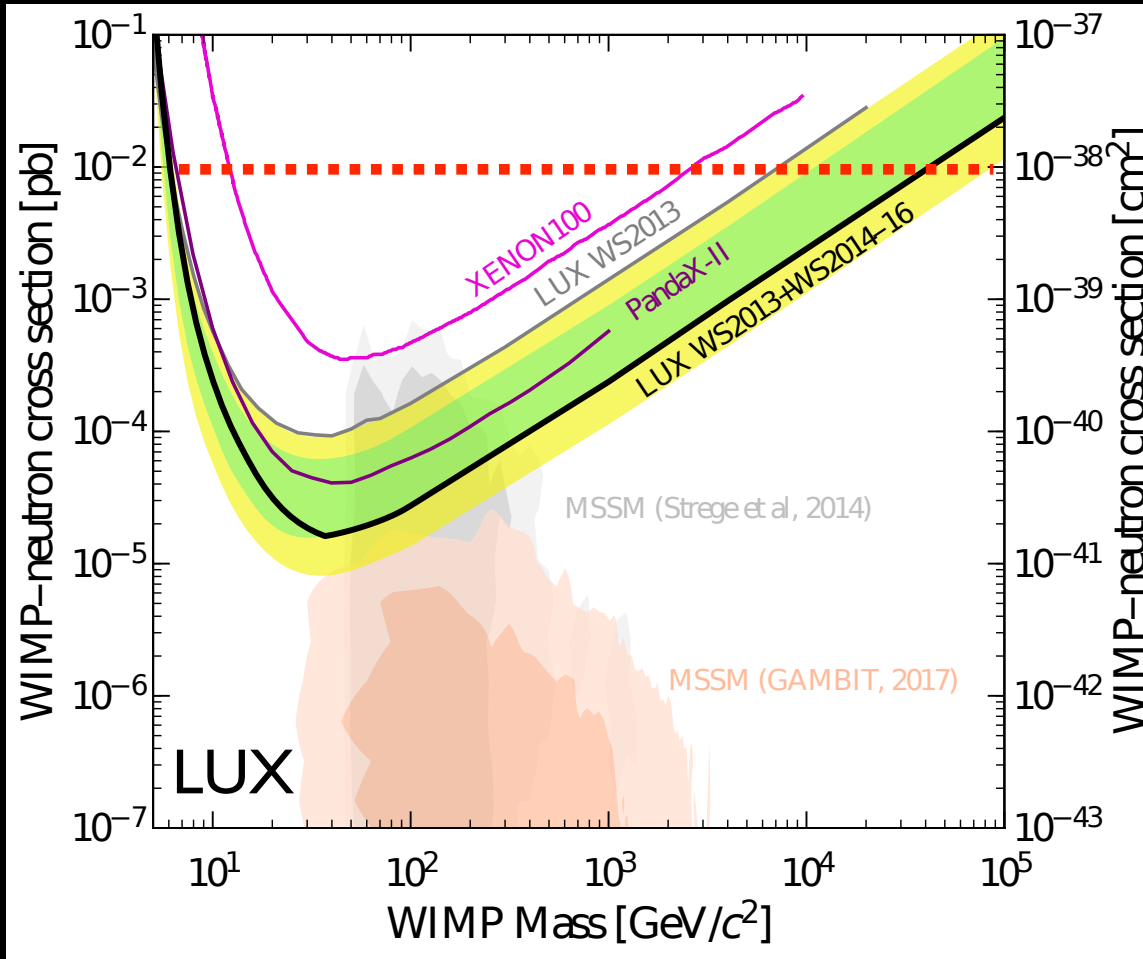
Goodman et al, 1008.1783

The Z boson is a problem because it switches on relativistic operator D5 which maps to \mathcal{O}_1 (SI).

Majorana DM



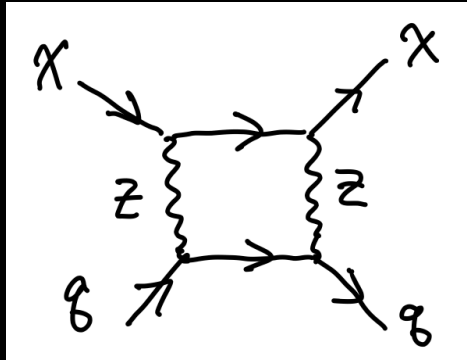
The vector interaction vanishes (identically) for a Majorana particle. That leaves behind spin-dependent (and v-suppressed) terms.



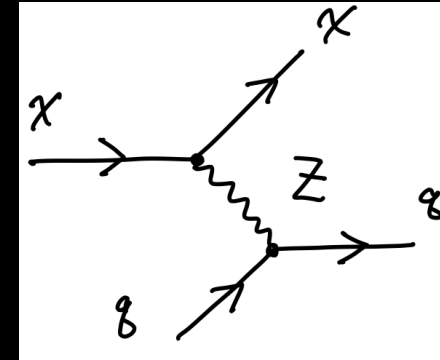
That suggests another strategy for EW-charged WIMPs:
Majorana particles are less constrained than Dirac, even if they carry hypercharge.

...this is not really enough at this point...

SD vs SI



vs



But...at loop level, what was spin-dependent at tree level can turn out to be spin-independent.

At weakly coupled loop costs $\sim 10^{-3}$.

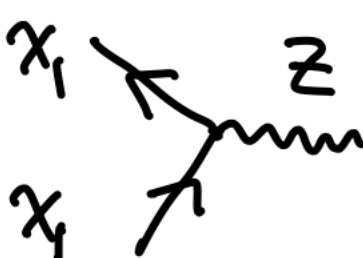
At maximum sensitivity, the Xe limits on SI scattering are something like $A^2 \sim 10^5$ better than SD.

Mixed DM

Another strategy is to construct a dark matter which is a mixed state of more than one EW-charged object.

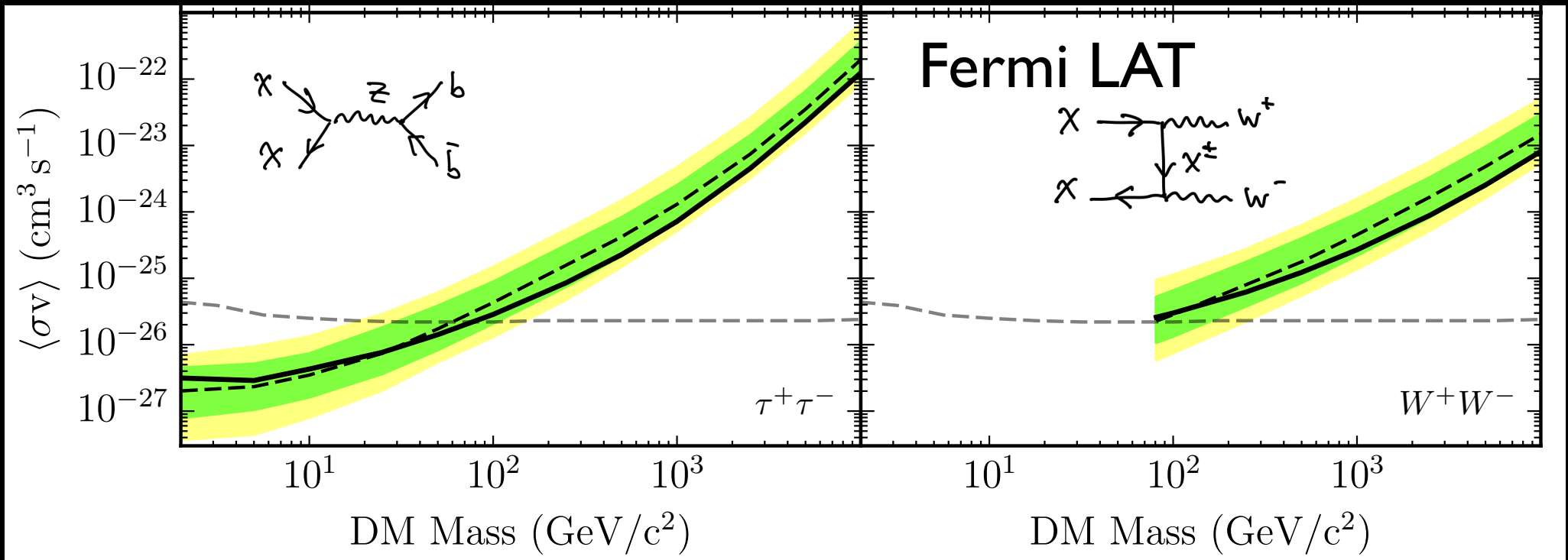
There can be cancellations between the different contributions to the the coupling (though this may not be generic).

I don't know of any theory where this is the dominant scheme to avoid constraints, though the MSSM benefits from it to some degree. Mostly, the MSSM survives by having a large component **without** EW charge.

$$\hat{\chi}_1 = N_{11} S_1 + N_{12} S_2 + N_{13} S_3 + \dots$$

$$N_{11} T_3^{(1)} + N_{12} T_3^{(2)} + N_{13} T_3^{(3)} + \dots$$

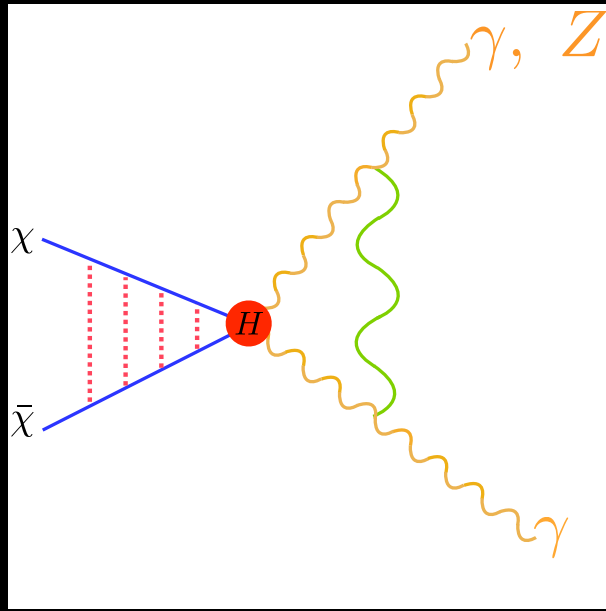
Indirect Constraints

It isn't enough to engineer away scattering with nuclei. There are also important constraints from indirect detection too.

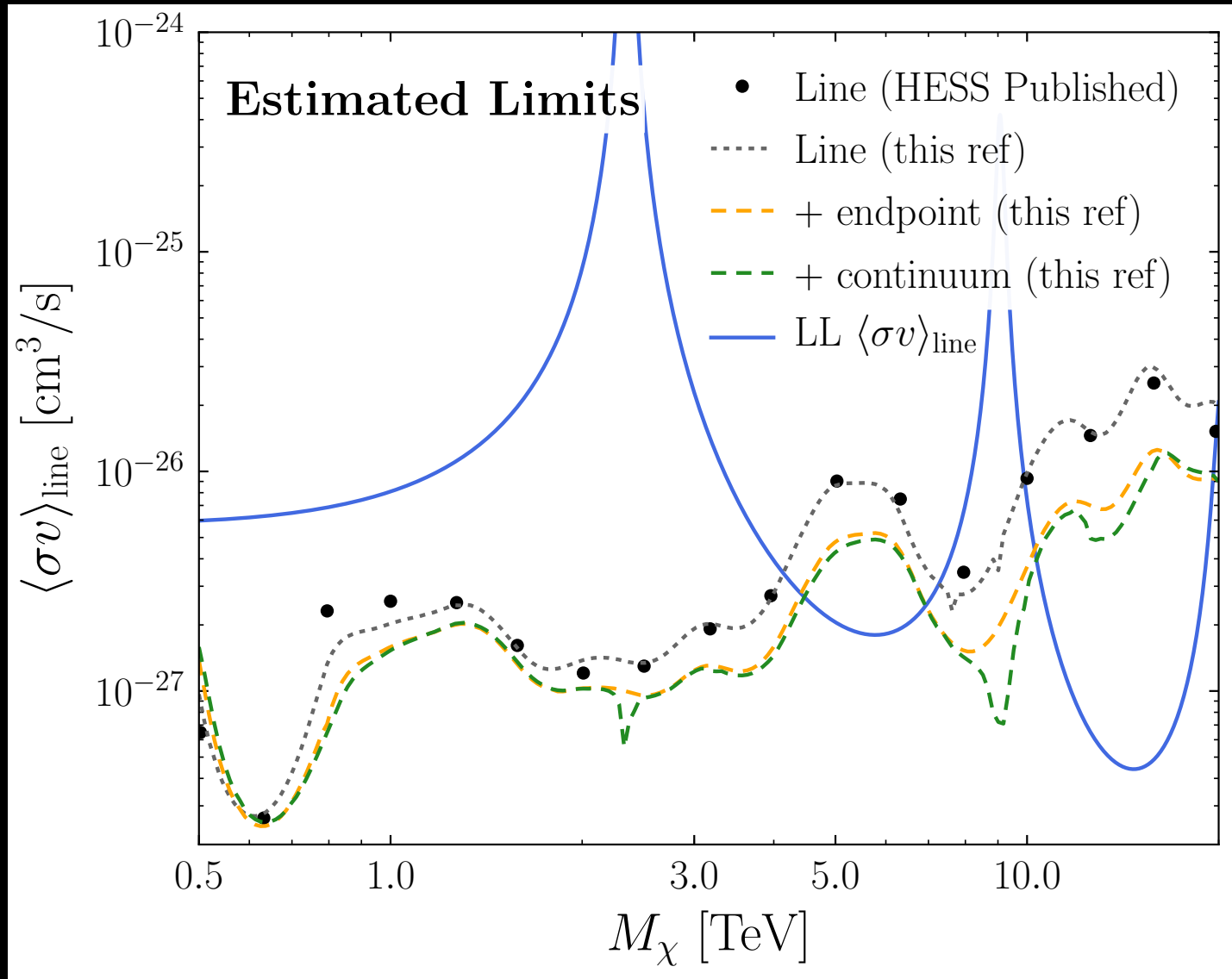
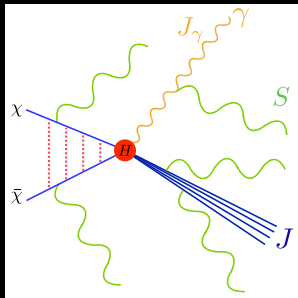
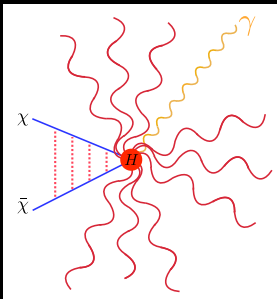


The Majorana and $T_3=0$ options work here as well, **below the threshold for ZZ and WW annihilation**. Z-exchange is suppressed by either the velocity or the mass of the final fermions.

Heavy EW WIMPs



Baumgart, Cohen, Mouilt, Rodd, Slatyer, Solon, Stewart, Vaidya. 1712.07656



Dirac EW-Charged WIMP Scorecard

Gamma Rays

CMB

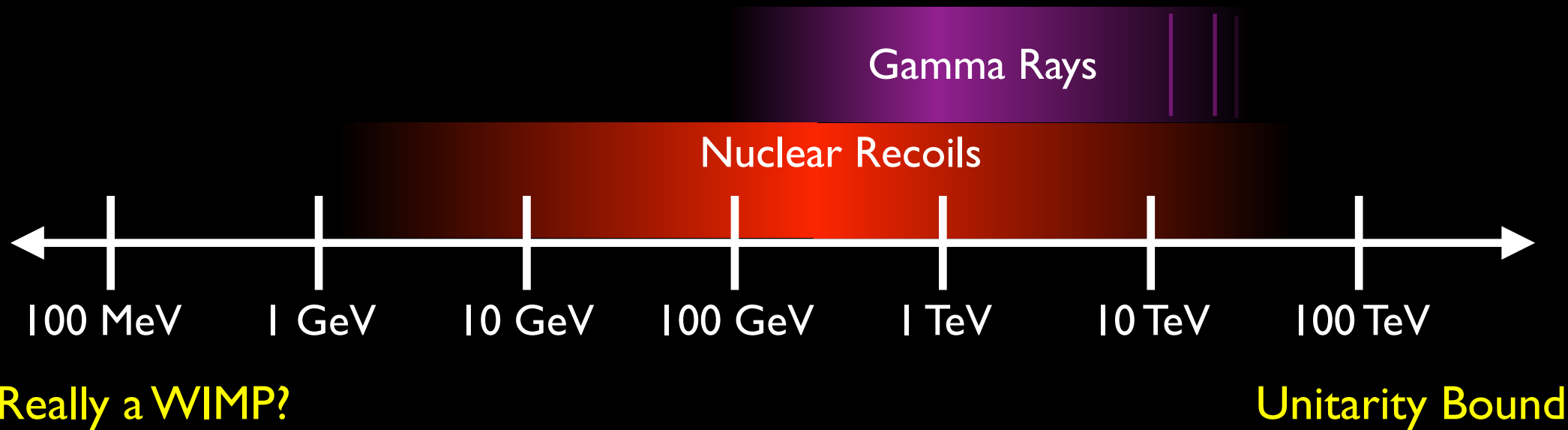
Nuclear Recoils



Really a WIMP?

Unitarity Bound

Majorana EW-Charged WIMP Scorecard



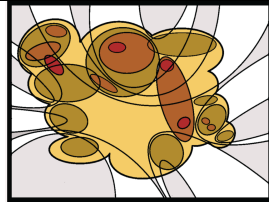
“Kinda-weakly” Interacting Massive Particles

Non-EW Mediators

Without the weak interaction itself to provide a scale, focus shifts to the relic density through freeze-out.

Though the couplings are typically free parameters, a general issue remains. The constraints from direct detection are very strong. Unless something mitigates them, they often rule out the cross sections necessary for freeze-in.

Things become much more model-dependent. Let's just consider a few strategies one can use to engineer viable models.



Supersymmetry

MSSM

R-parity violating

NMSSM

Theories of Dark Matter ?

WIMPless DM

Hidden Sector DM

Self-Interacting DM

Techni-baryons

Dark Photon

Light Force Carriers

Sterile Neutrinos

Warm DM

Axion DM

QCD Axions

Axion-like Particles

mSUGRA

pMSSM

R-parity Conserving

Dirac DM

Asymmetric DM

Gravitino DM

Q-balls

Solitonic DM

Quark Nuggets

T-odd DM

Littlest Higgs

Dynamical DM

UED DM

6d

5d

RS DM

Extra Dimensions

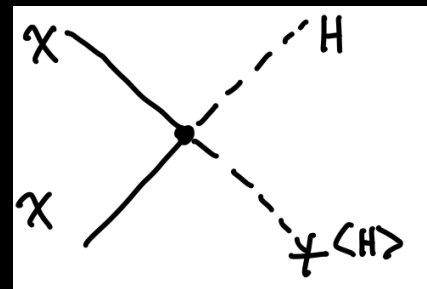
Warped Extra Dimensions

Little Higgs

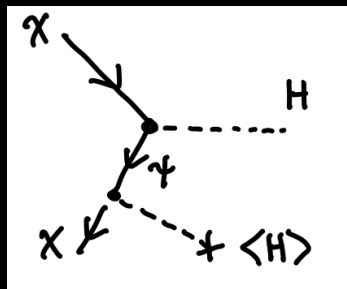
Higgs

Unlike the weak bosons, the Higgs coupling to dark matter is not specified in terms of parameters we've already measured.

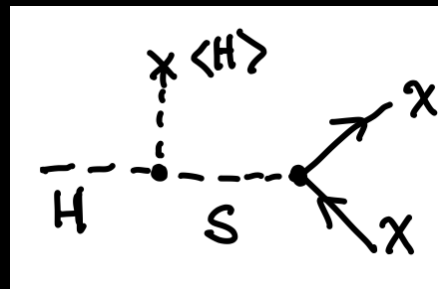
It is very unlikely that the Higgs is the source of mass for the dark matter in the same way that it is for the SM particles.



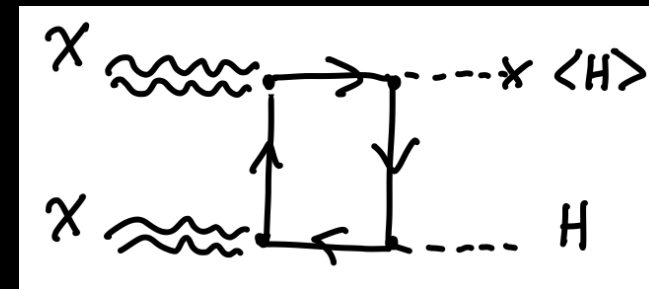
Classic Scalar DM
Higgs portal



Mixed fermions
(MSSM-like)



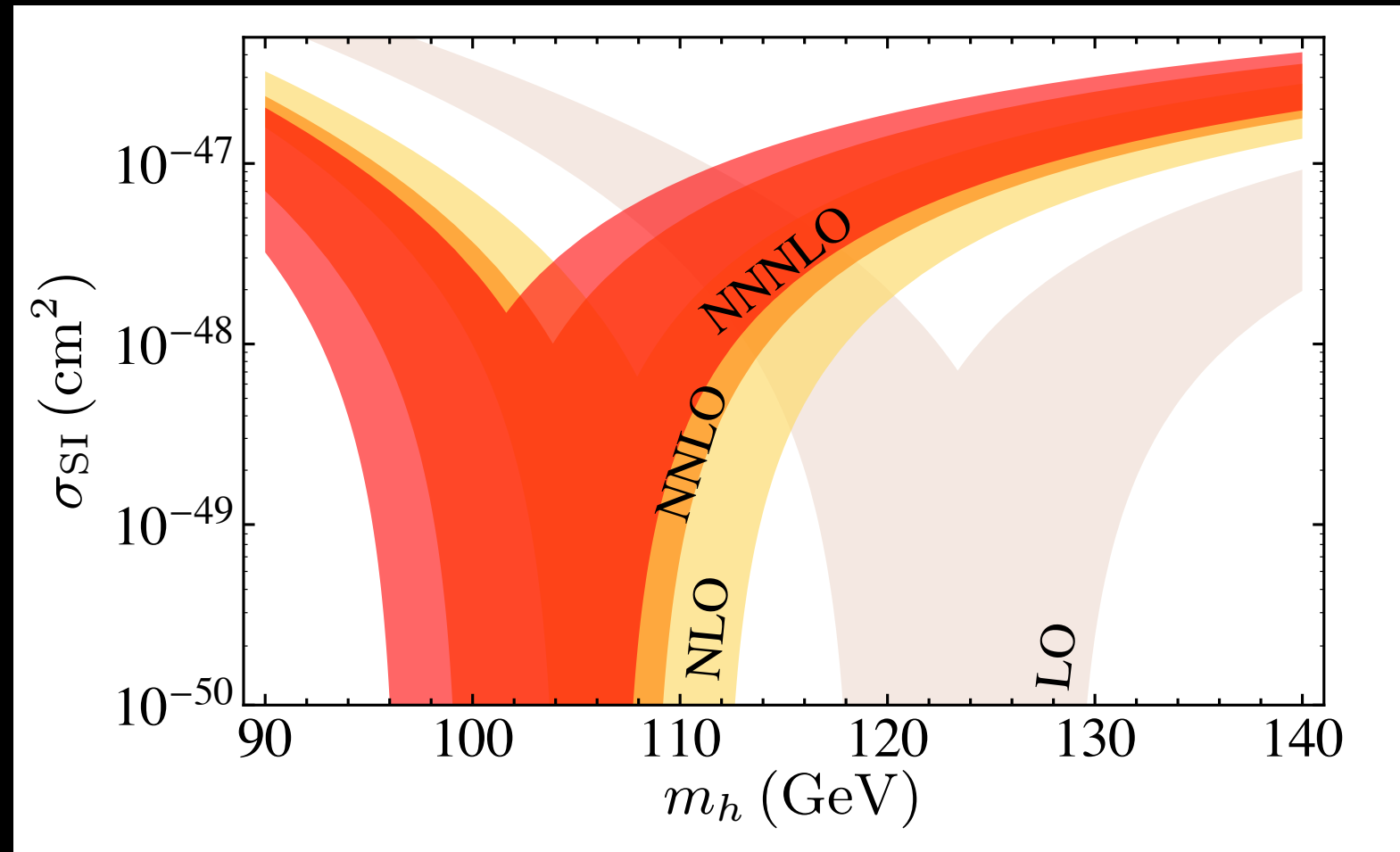
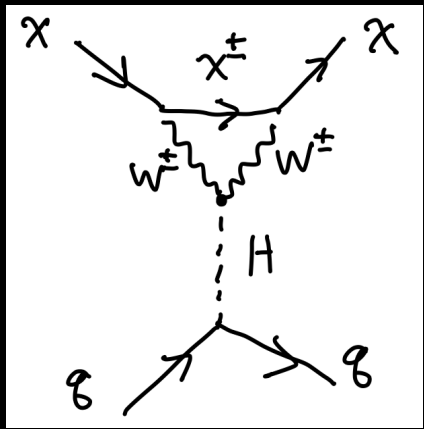
Mixed scalar
mediator



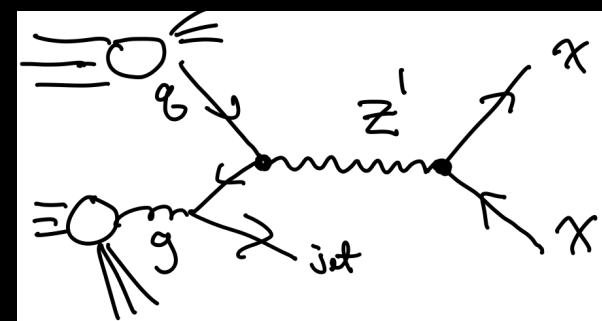
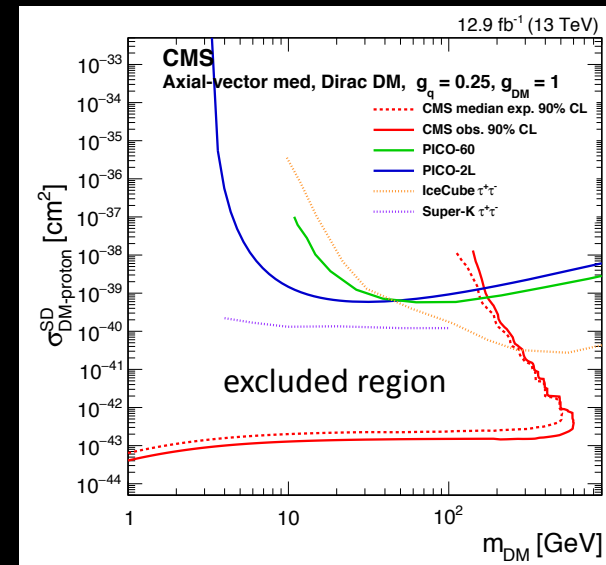
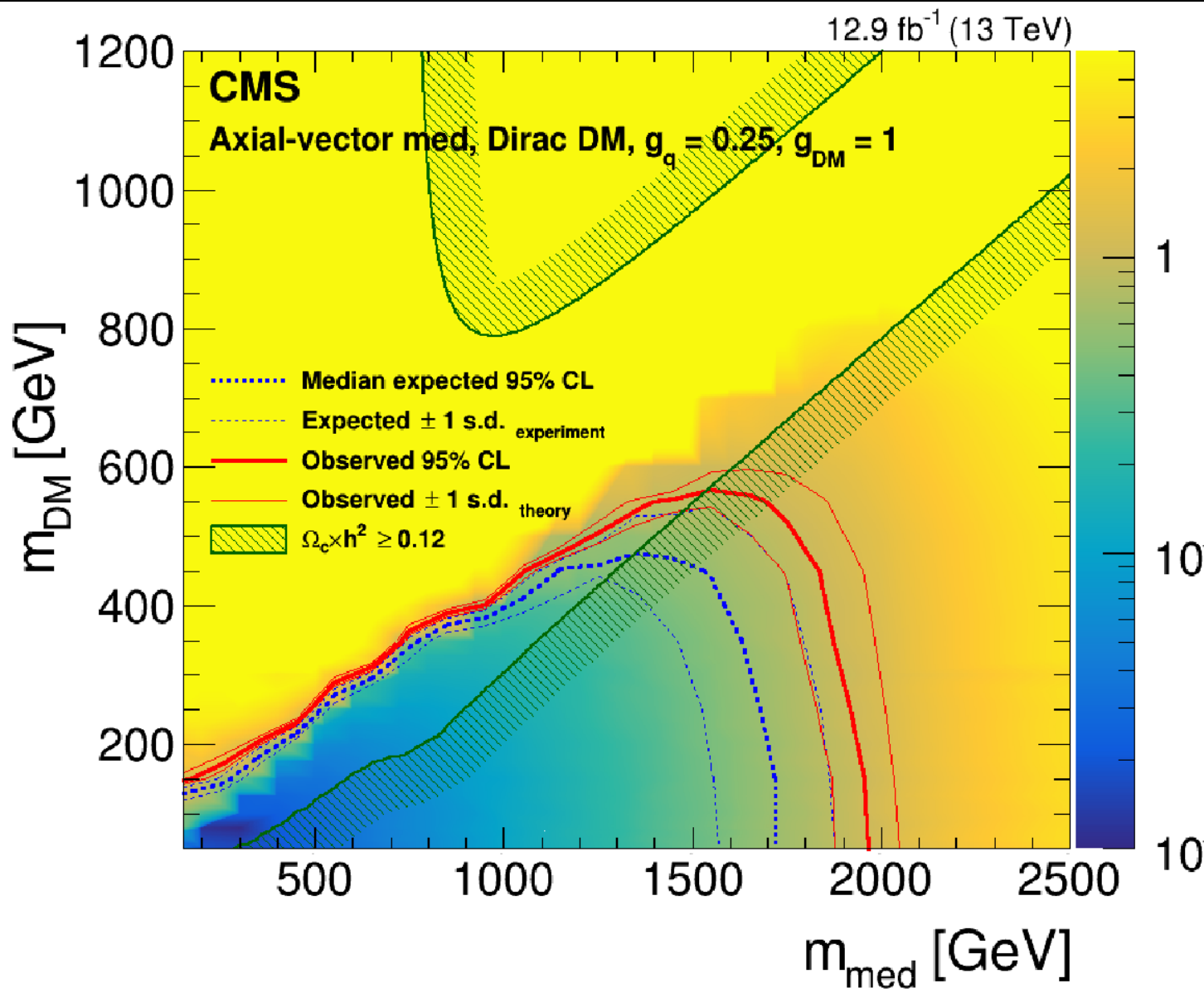
Vector dark matter,
radiative portal

EW Higgs Exchange

Hill, Solon 1309.4092



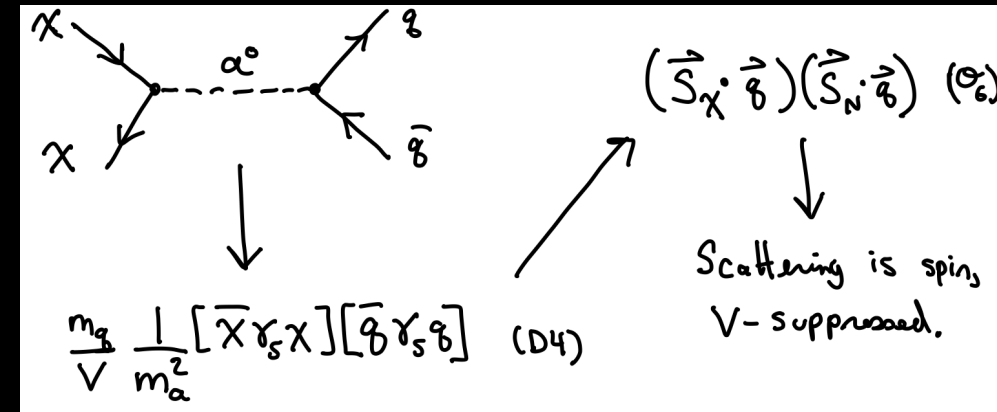
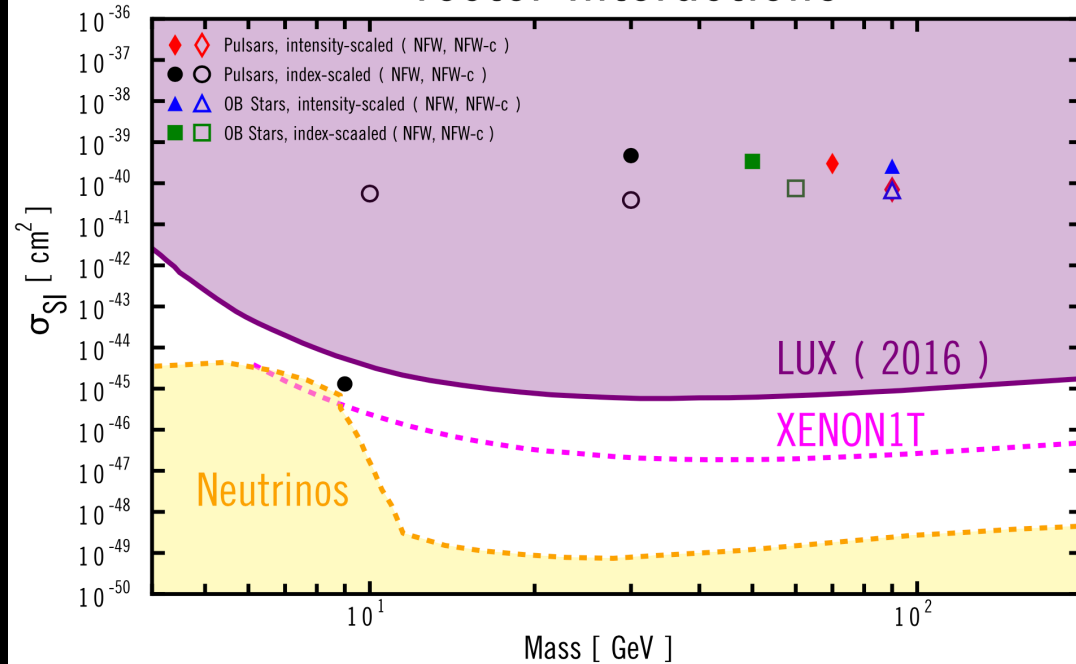
Even without a tree level coupling to the Higgs, an EW-charged WIMP picks up a coupling at one loop.



Axial vector — SD at tree level.
 Note the choice of DM and quark couplings.

Pseudo-scalar Mediator

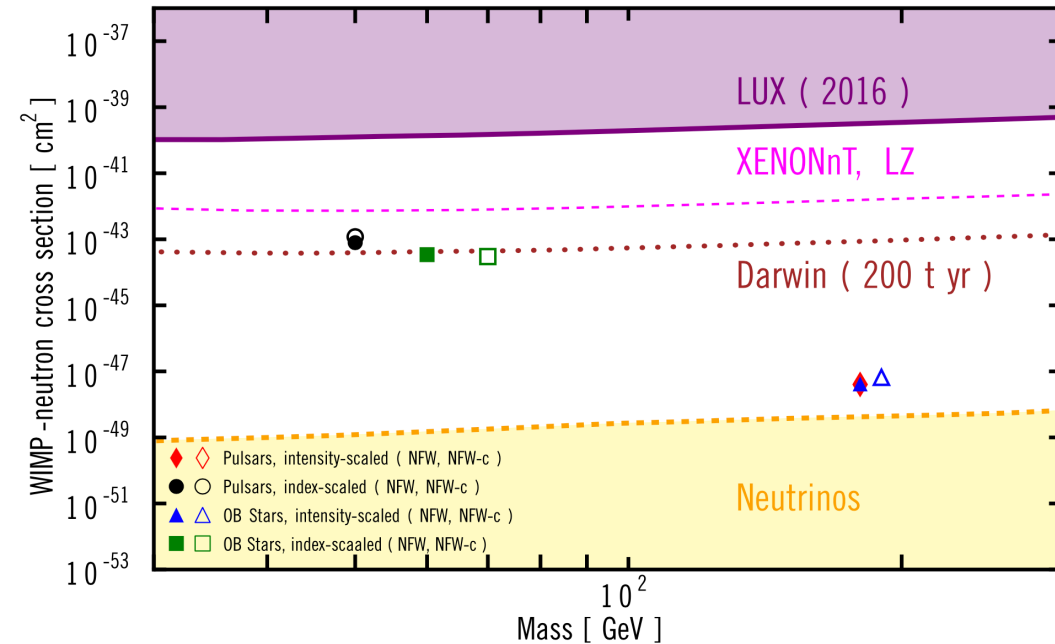
Vector Interactions



Karwin et al 1612.05687

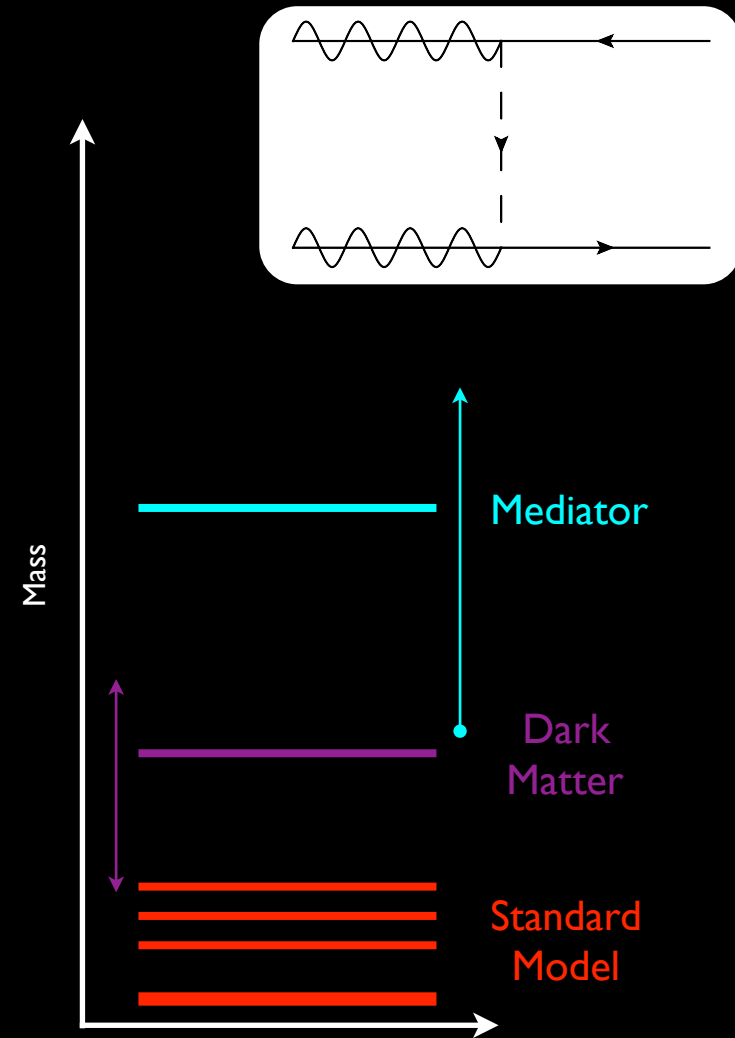
A pseudo-scalar mediator leads to scattering which is both SD and v -suppressed, but annihilation is not suppressed.

Pseudoscalar Interactions



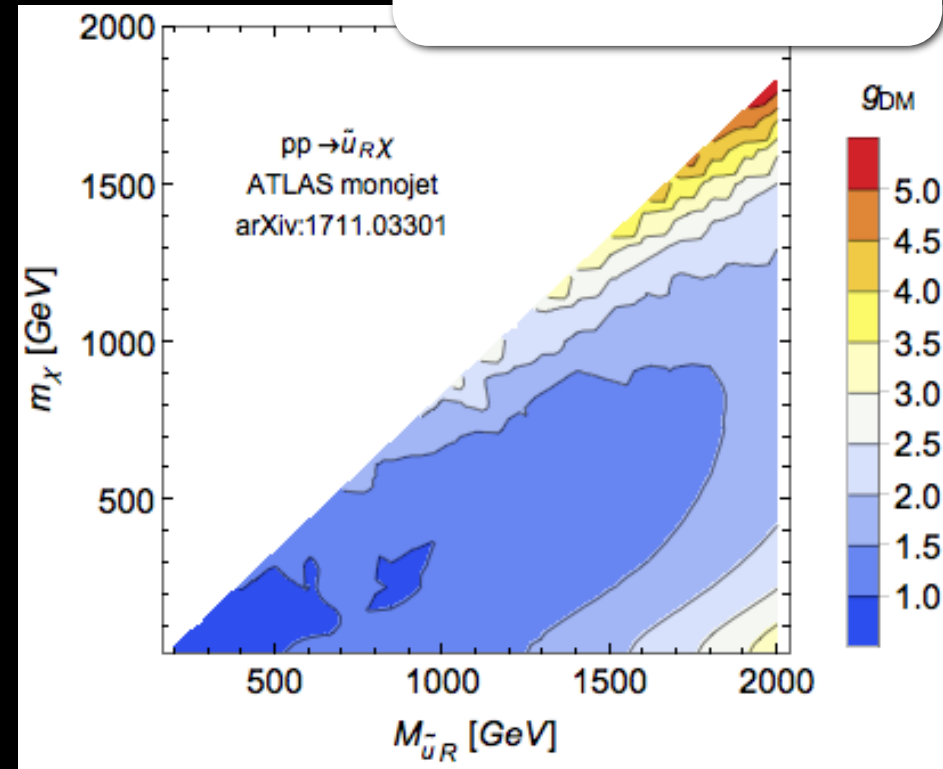
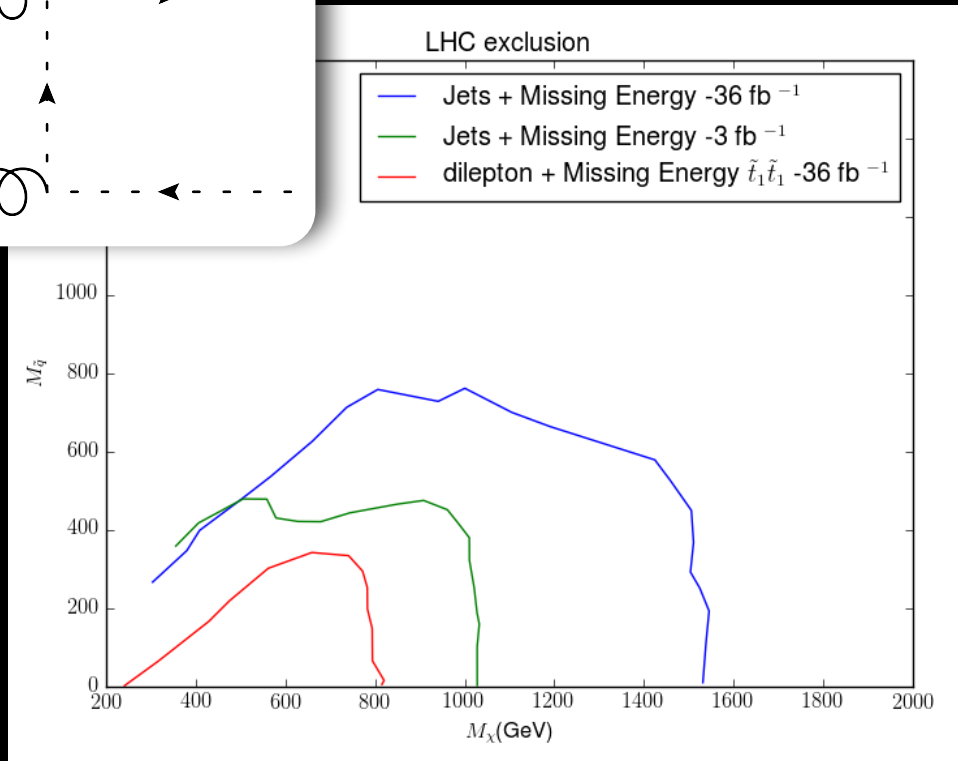
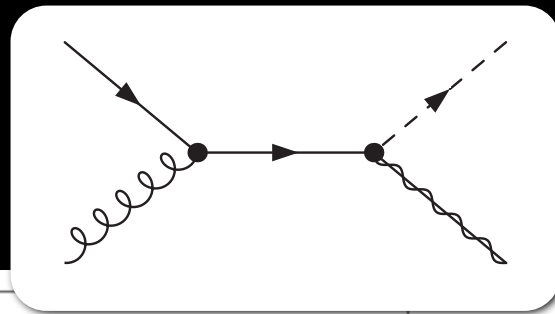
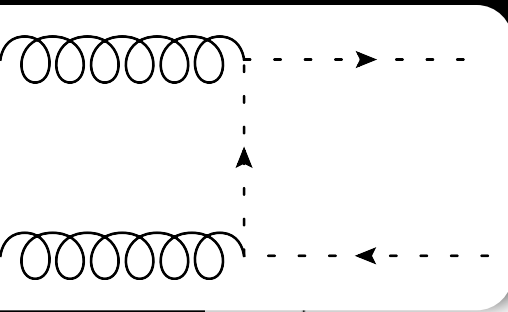
Colored Scalar

- Another construction has dark matter interacting with quarks via a colored scalar mediator.
- Minimal flavor violation suggests we consider mediators with a flavor index corresponding to $\{u_R, c_R, t_R\}$, $\{d_R, s_R, b_R\}$, $\{Q_1, Q_2, Q_3\}$ and/or combinations.
- This theory looks kind of like a little part of a SUSY model, but has more freedom in terms of choosing couplings, masses, etc.
- There are basically three parameters to this model: the mass of the dark matter, the mass of the mediator, and the coupling strength with quarks.



Chang, Edezhath, Hutchinson, Luty | 307.8120
An, Wang, Zhang | 308.0592
Berger, Bai | 308.0612
Di Franco, Nagao, Rajaraman, TMPT | 308.2679

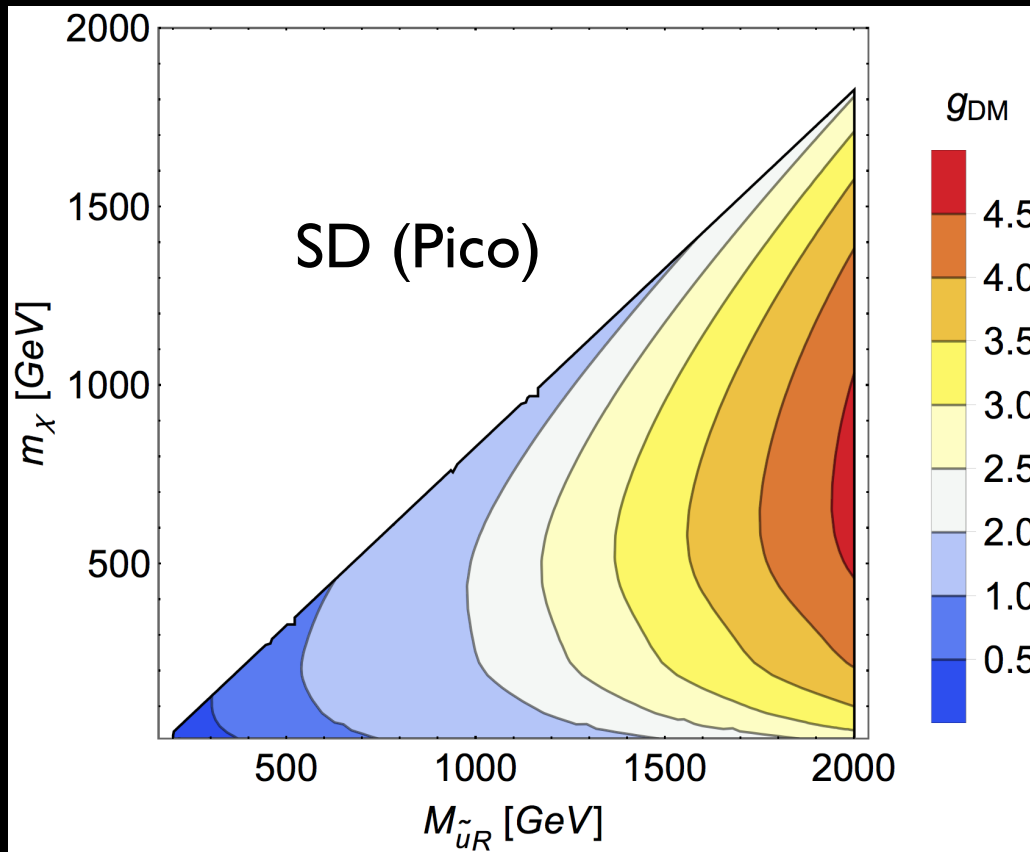
\tilde{u}_R Model



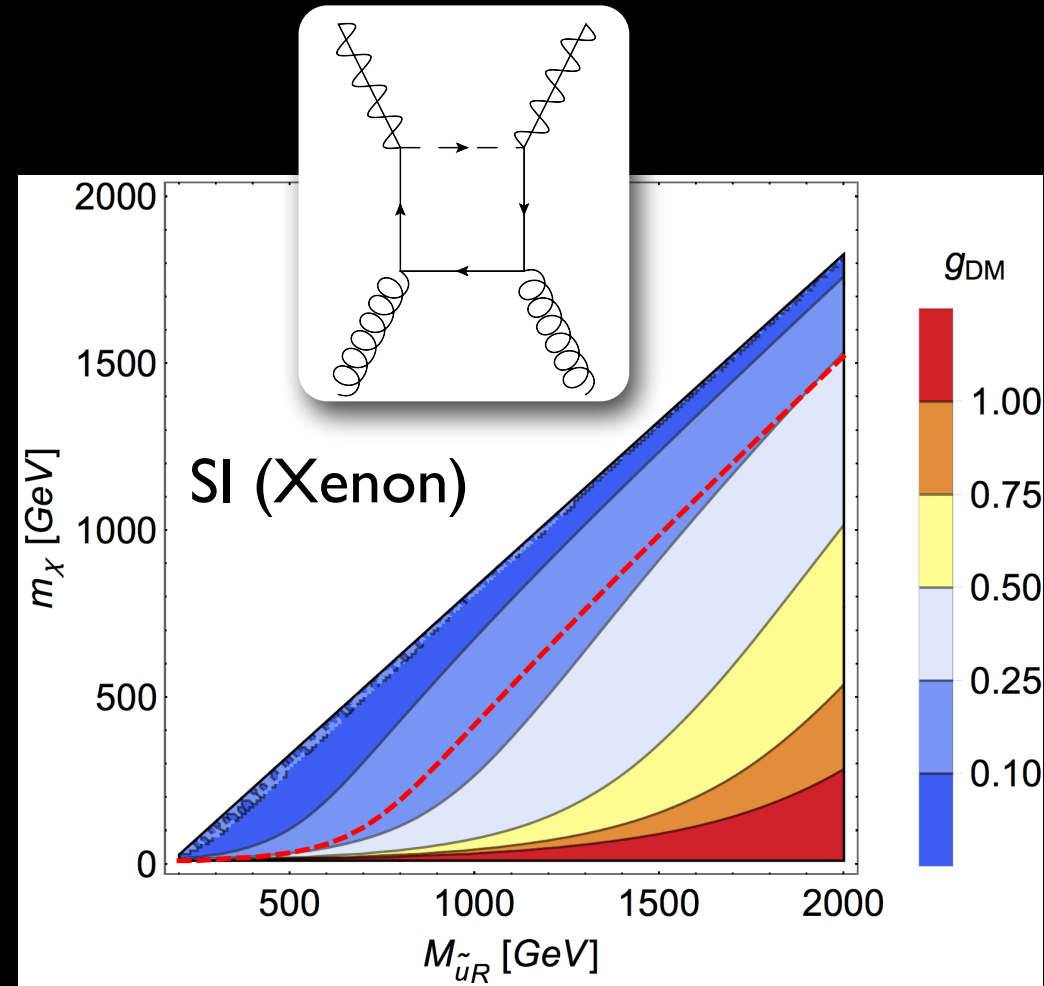
Mohan, Sengupta, TMPT, Yan, Yuan in progress

- For example, we can look at a model where a Majorana DM particle couples to right-handed up-type quarks.
- At colliders, the fact that the mediator is colored implies we can produce it at the LHC using the strong nuclear force or through the interaction with quarks.
- Once produced, the mediator will decay into an ordinary quark and a dark matter particle.

Direct Detection



Mohan, Sengupta, TMPT, Yan, Yuan in progress



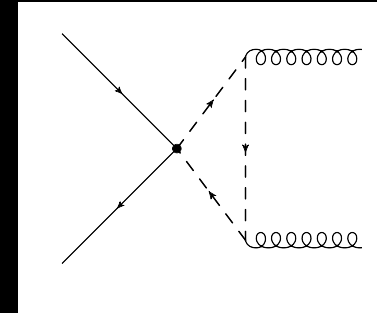
- At tree level, the fact that Majorana particles have vanishing vector current implies that the scattering with nuclei is spin-dependent..
- But at one loop, the scattering is spin-independent, and these are the dominant constraint- the smaller rate is compensated by the stronger experimental bounds.

Dark Matter Coupled to Gluons

Godbole, Mendiratta, TMPT 1506.01408 & JHEP
+Shivaji 1605.04756 & JHEP
Bai, Osborne 1506.07110 & JHEP

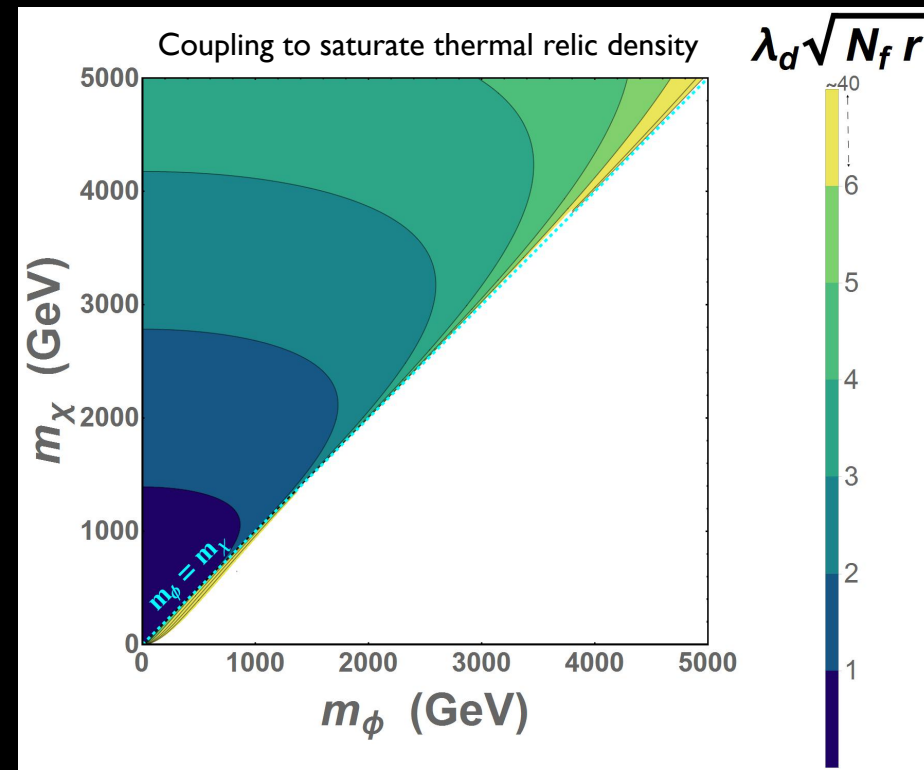
- Another possibility is to engineer the coupling to the SM to occur at loop level.
- In that case, a quartic interaction can connect the two.

$$\lambda_d |\chi|^2 |\phi|^2$$



The dominant coupling to the SM is at one loop to gluons!

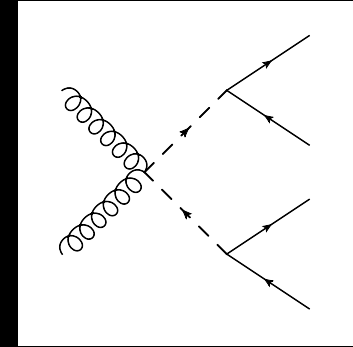
- This interaction does not require the scalar to be Z_2 -stabilized, and (given an appropriate choice of EW charges) it can decay into a number of quarks, looking (in some cases) more like an R-parity violating squark.
- The color and flavor representations (r, N_f) of the mediator are free to choose.
- For perturbative λ , a thermal relic actually favors $m_\phi < m_\chi$ so annihilation into $\phi\phi^*$ is open.



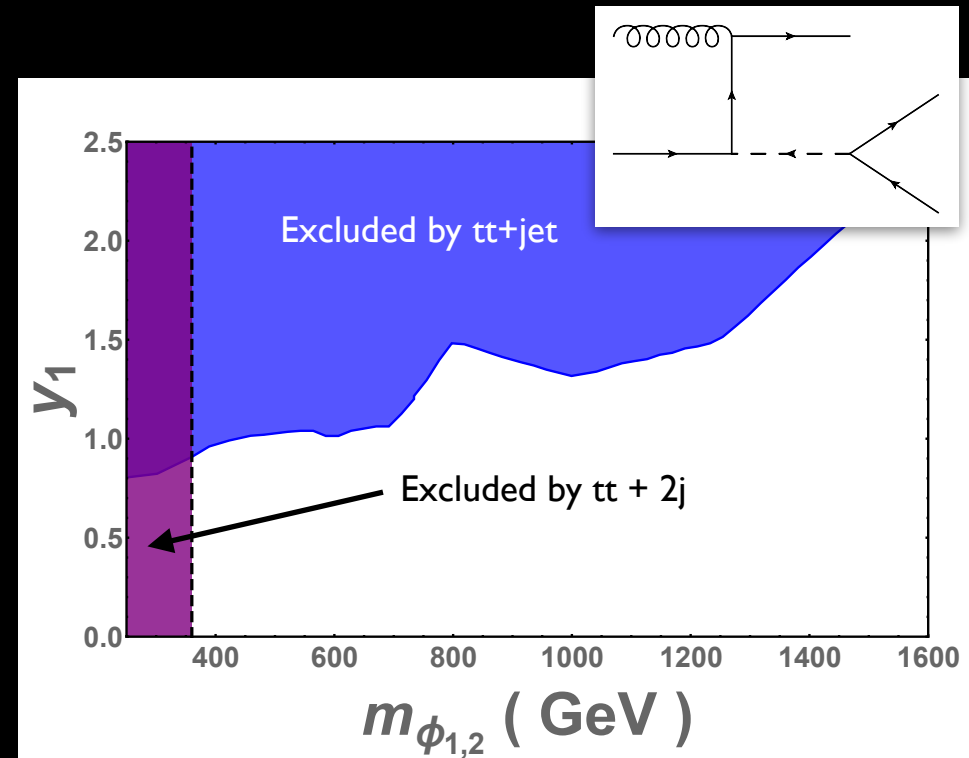
Mediator Searches

- The physics of the mediators is model-dependent, depending on the color and EW representation.
- As a starting point, we considered mediators of charge 4/3 coupling to 2 uR quarks.
- In this case, a MFV theory can be obtained by coupling anti-symmetrically in flavor indices:

$$y\epsilon^{ijk}\phi_i\bar{u}_j u_k^c + h.c.$$
- There are interesting searches for pairs of dijet resonances and also potential impacts on top quark physics.
- All of these constraints are rather weak.

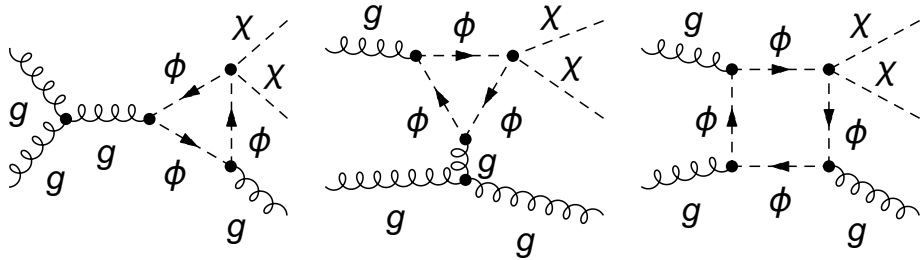


Decays into unflavored jets are bounded by $m_\phi > 350$ GeV.

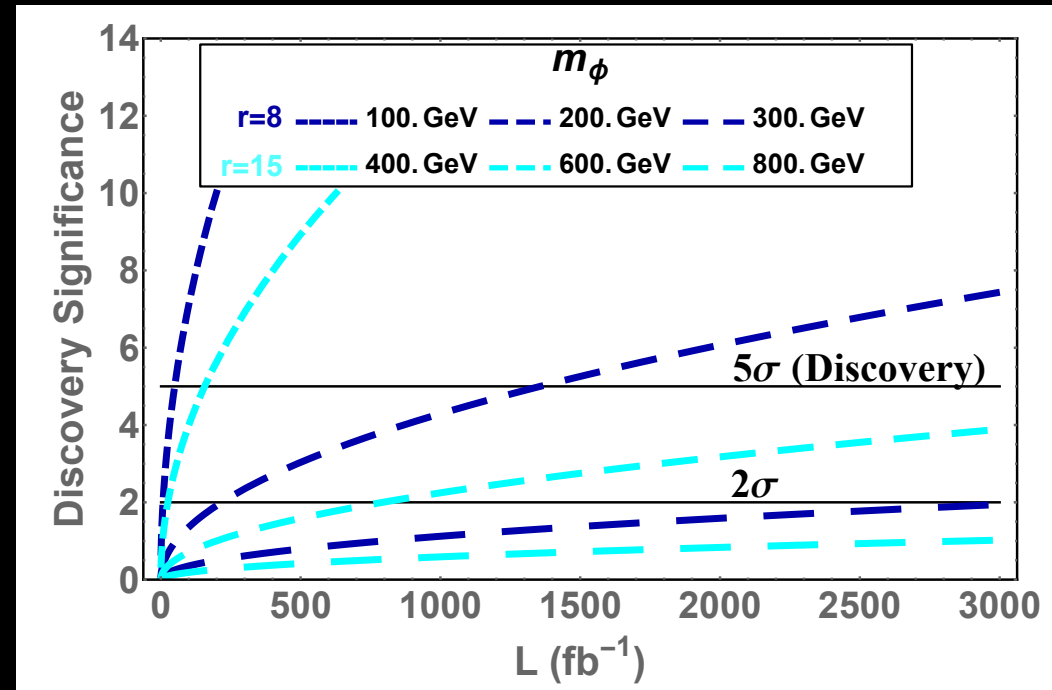
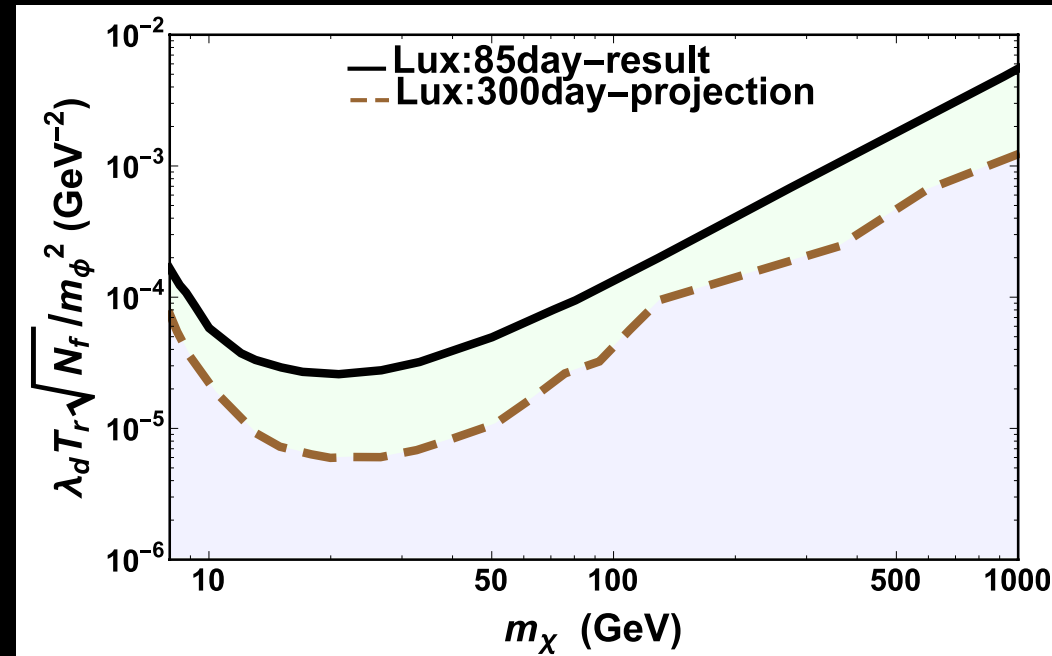


DM Searches

- Direct detection generally provides a strong bound unless the dark matter mass is particularly small.
- At a hadron collider, the mono-jet signature occurs at one loop.

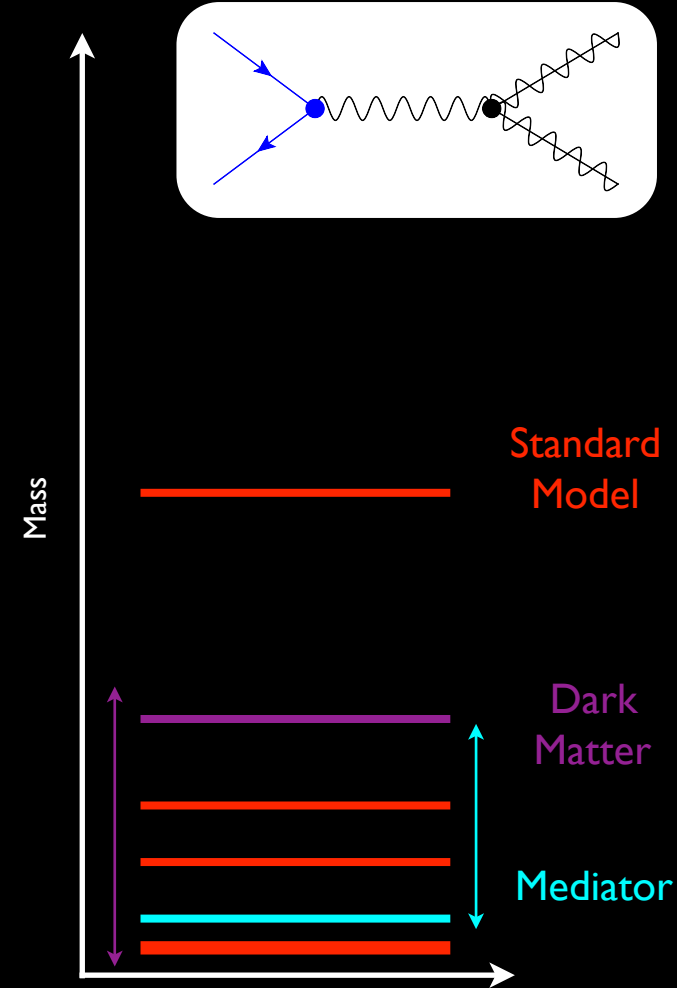


- As a result, prospects at the LHC are not particularly hopeful, though for large enough r and λ , it is possible to see something with a very large data set.
- A 100 TeV pp collider would do better...



Light Dark Matter

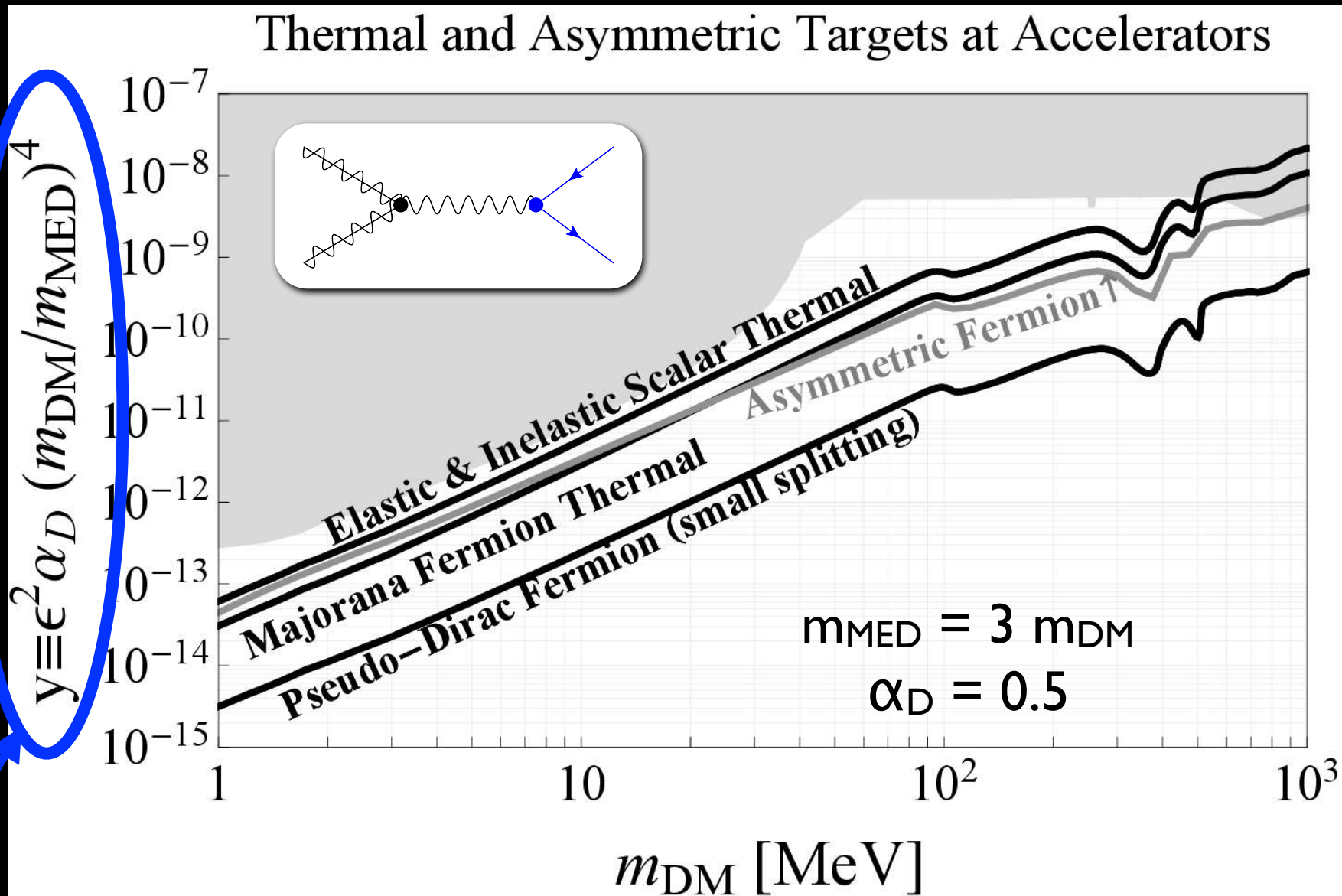
- One can construct theories where the DM is light enough that direct bounds become rather weak.
- This typically requires light mediators as well.
- A nice picture is a light vector boson whose coupling to the SM comes from kinetic mixing with $U(1)_Y$.
- In this limit, the couplings of the mediator to the SM look like photon couplings scaled down by ϵ . The mediator in this case is often referred to as a “dark photon”.
- There are other variations with scalars, pseudo-scalars, or vectors with chiral interactions.



γ_D Parameters:

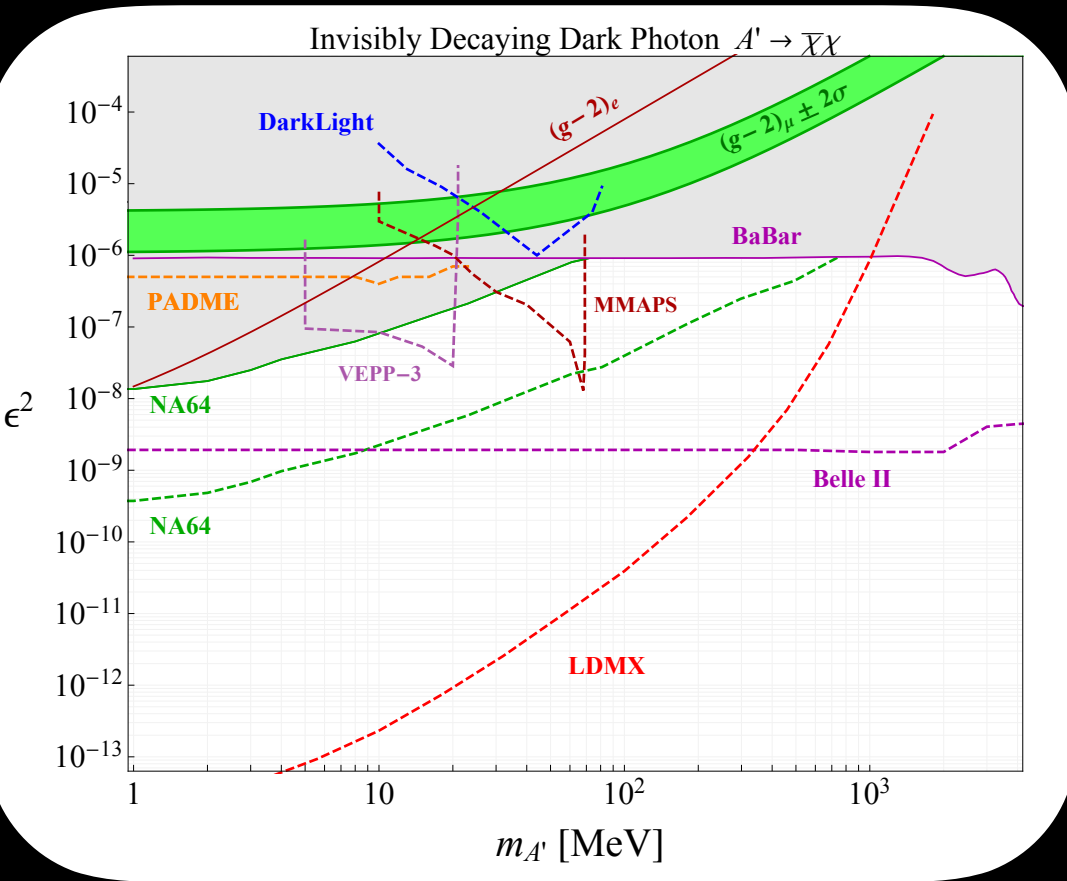
$$\{m_\chi, m_{A'}, \alpha_D, \epsilon\}$$

MeV Relic Dark Matter



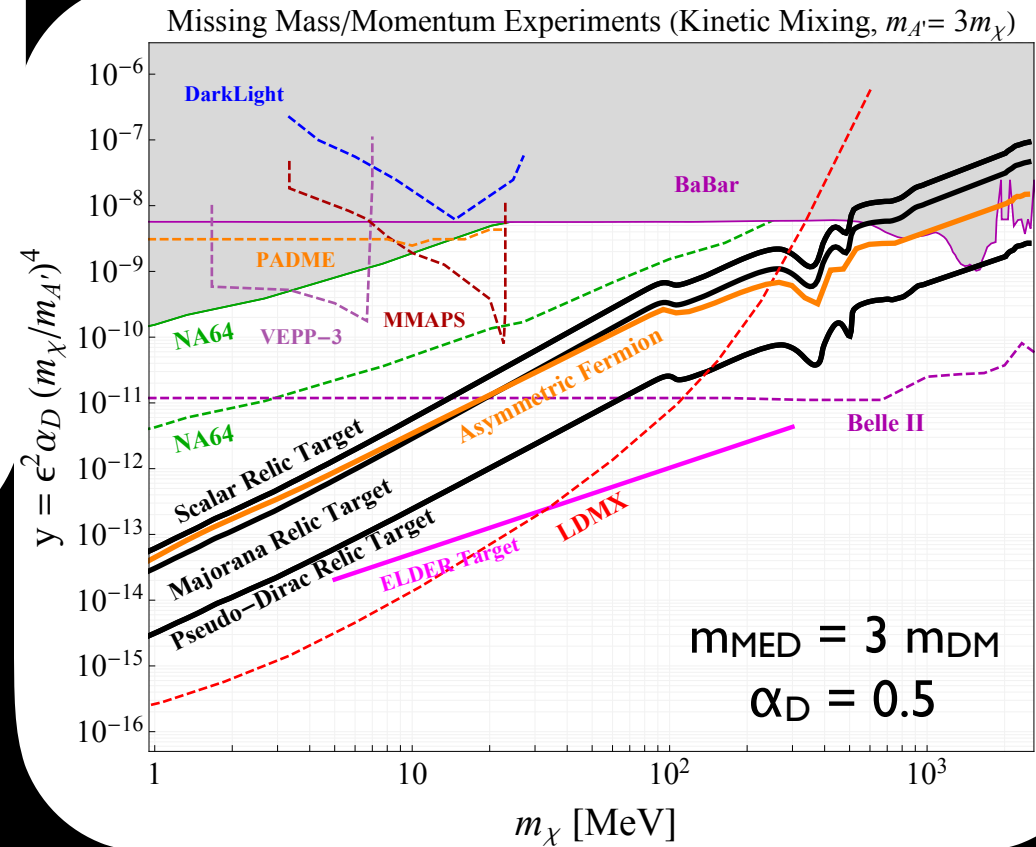
The y parameter is the combination that controls the relic density in this regime.

Invisible Searches



$\sim 100\%$ BR into invisible channels.

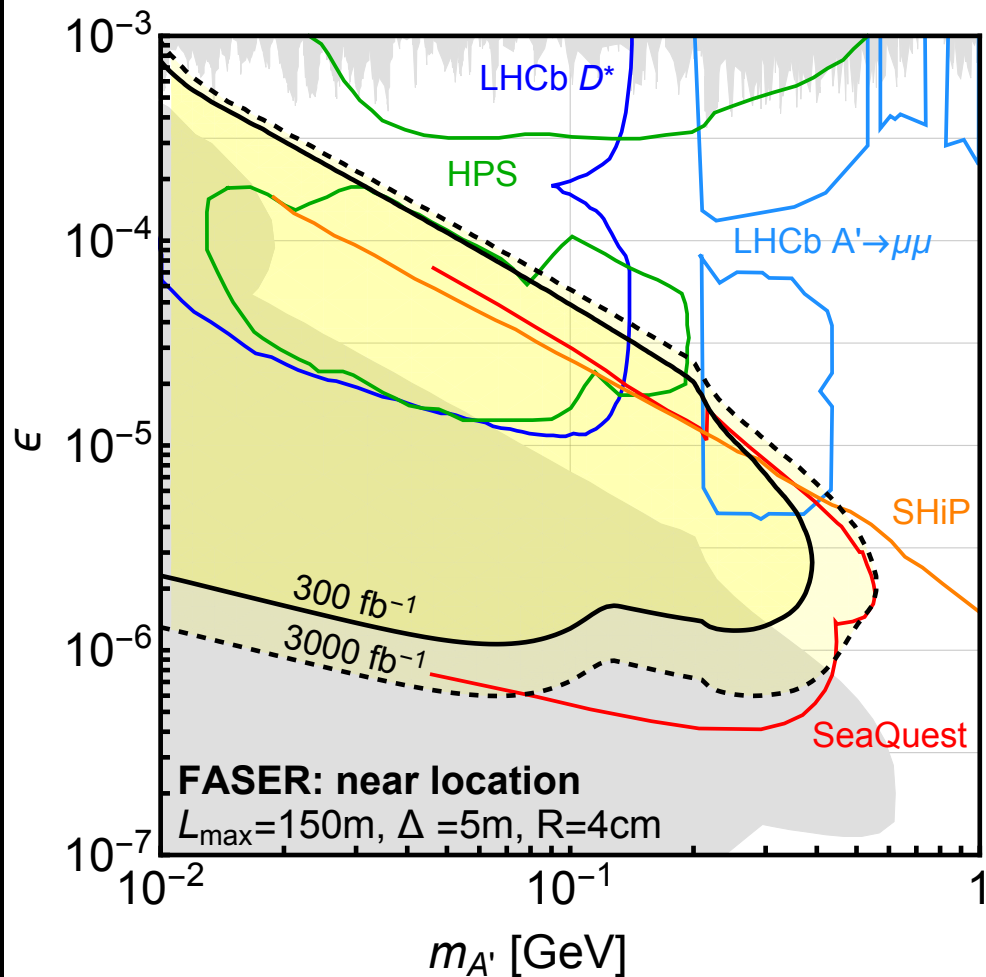
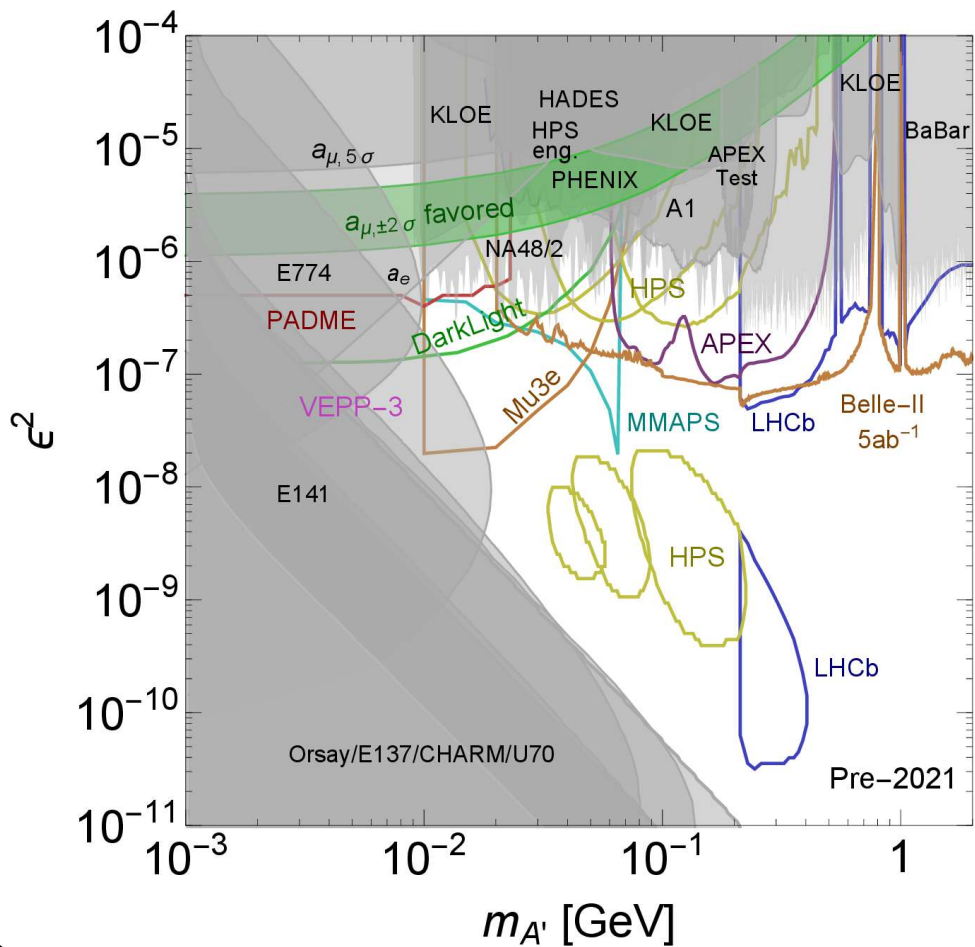
US Cosmic Visions Report
arXiv:1707.04591



Many projects both underway and proposed can search for mediators decaying (dominantly) invisibly.

Visible Searches

When the dark matter is too heavy, the mediator largely decays visibly into SM states.

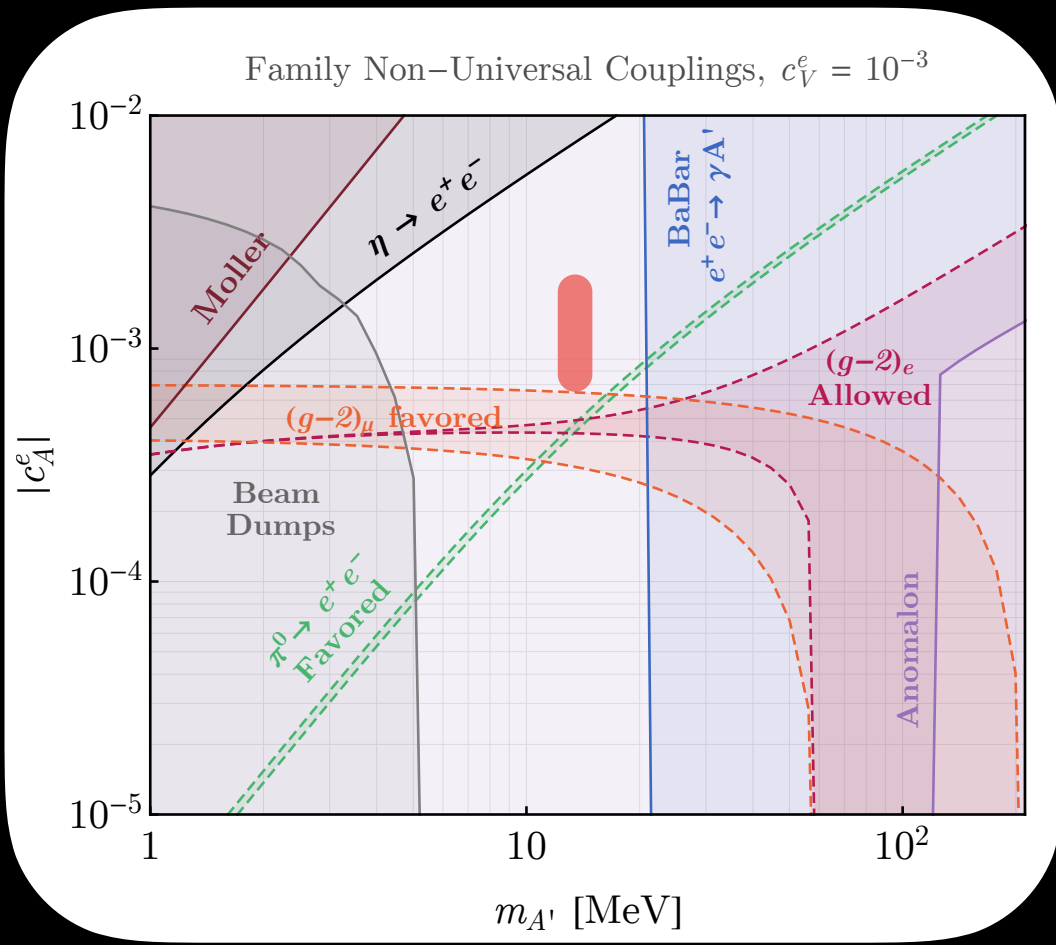
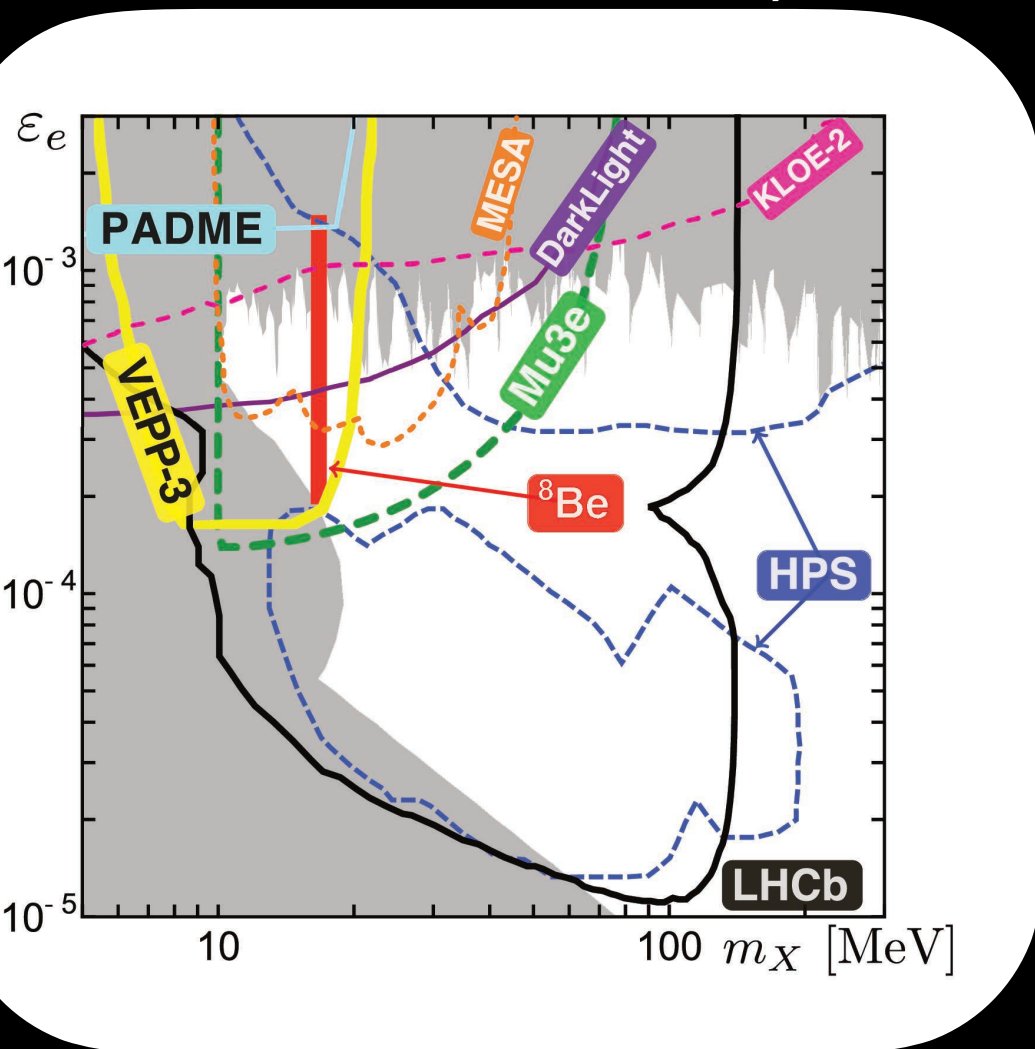


US Cosmic Visions Report
arXiv:1707.04591

Feng, Galon, Kling, Trojanowski
arXiv:1707.04591

Beyond Dark Photons

Proto-phobic vector couplings to address the Be-8 anomaly.



Vector particle with chiral interactions

Kahn, Krnjaic, Mishra-Sharma, TMPT
arXiv:1609.09072

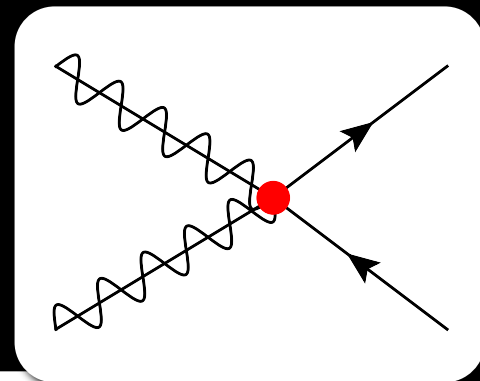
Feng, Fornal, Galon, Gardner, Smolinsky,
Tanedo, TMPT arXiv:1707.04591

Outlook

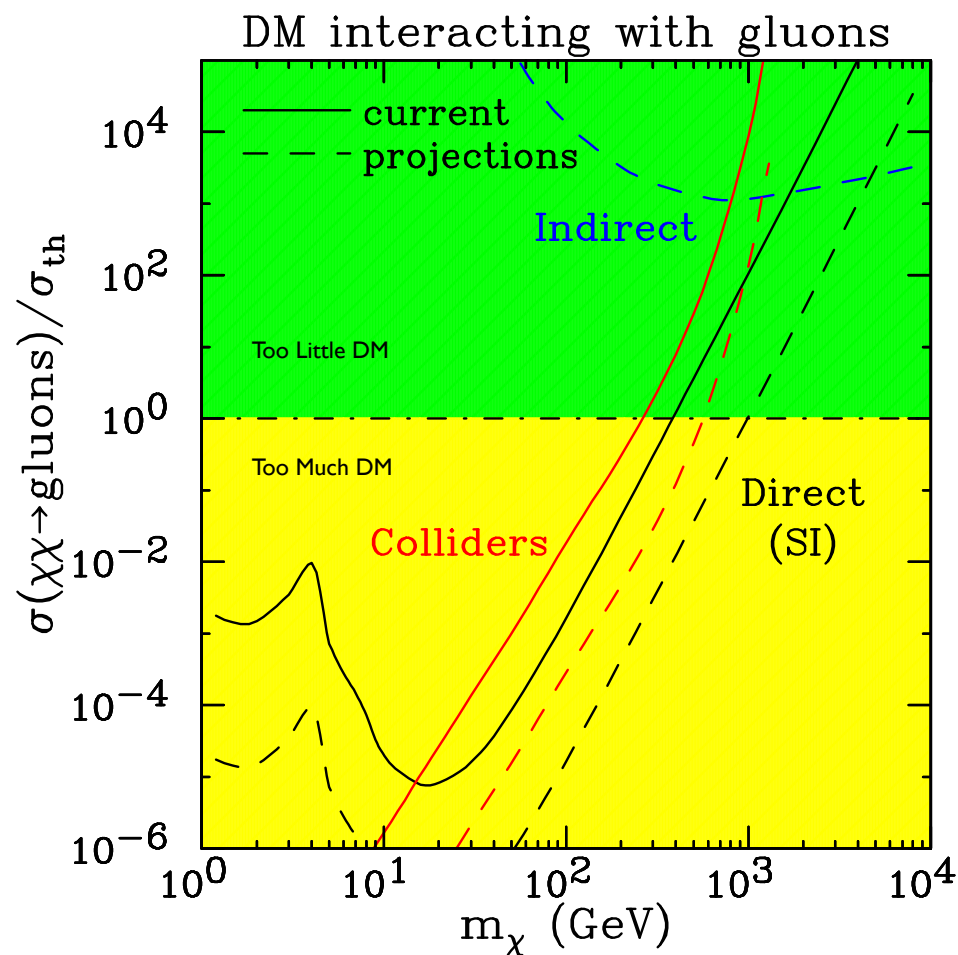
- Are WIMPs dead?
 - The answer really depends on how you frame the question.
 - Some are...
 - Electroweakly charged particles are rather constrained.
 - Some options survive by making choices of EW representation / spin.
 - Others not so much.
 - Freeze-out relics can exist for a wide variety of masses.
 - Engineering may be required on the theory side, but this could just be how nature works.
- I think the only argument I can take away is that we need to keep looking everywhere we can.

Bonus Material

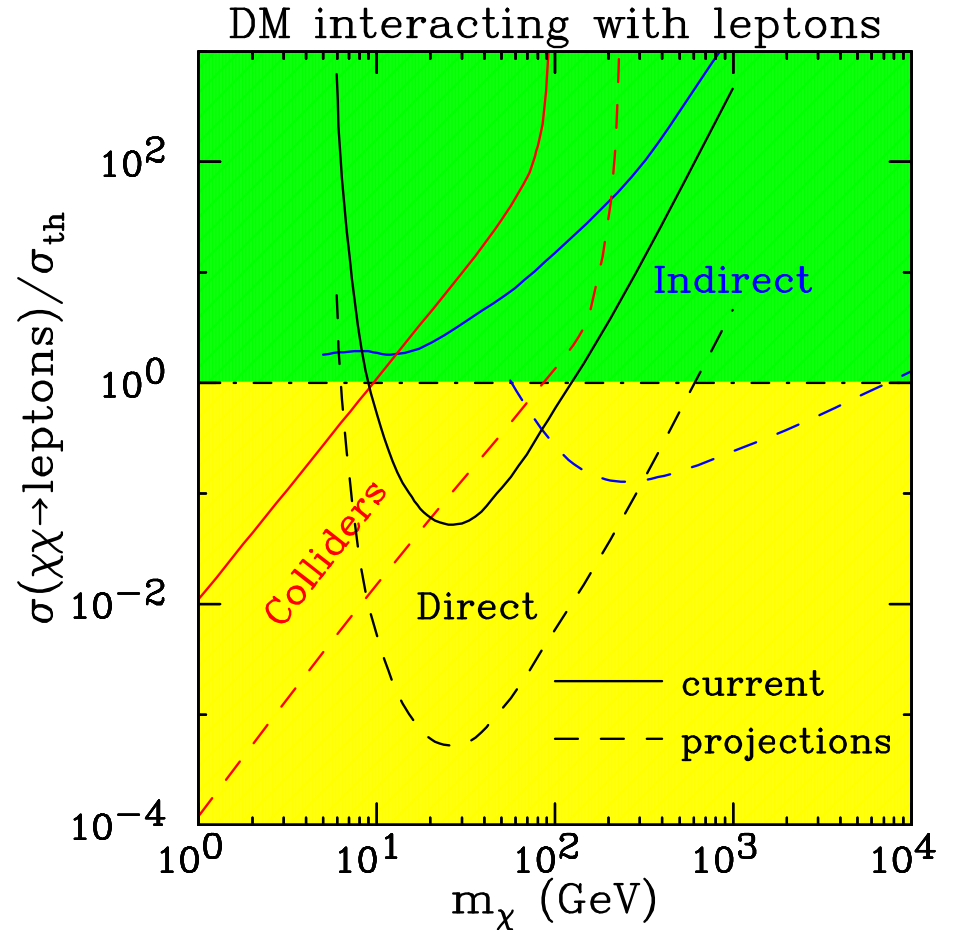
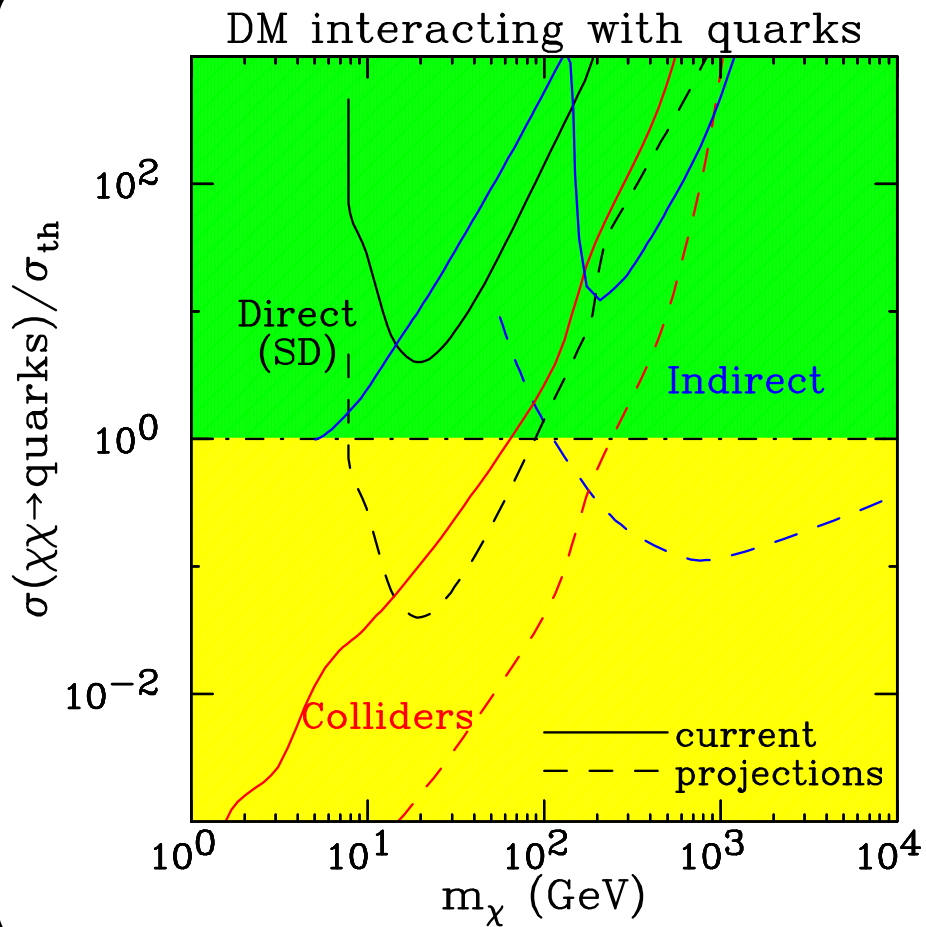
Annihilation



- We can also map interactions into predictions for WIMPs annihilating.
- This allows us to compare with cross sections leading to a thermal relic density through freeze out.
- This example is for dark matter interacting with gluons. The cross section has been normalized to the thermal cross section for a thermal relic at a given mass.
- The LHC does better for lighter WIMPs or p-wave annihilations whereas direct detection is more sensitive for heavy WIMPs.

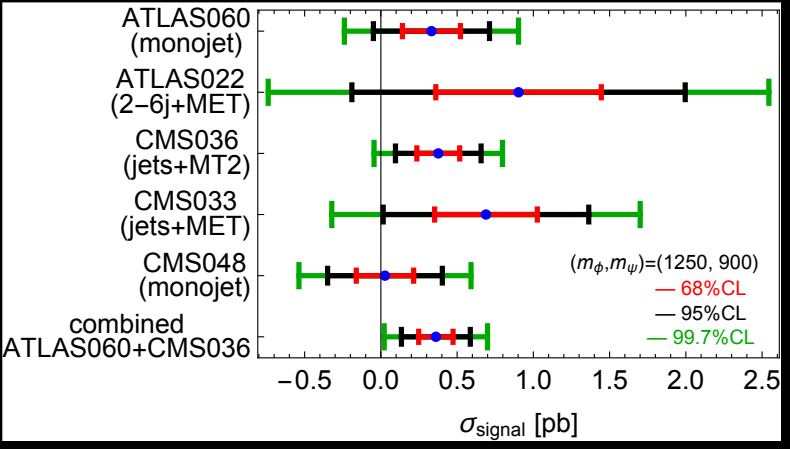
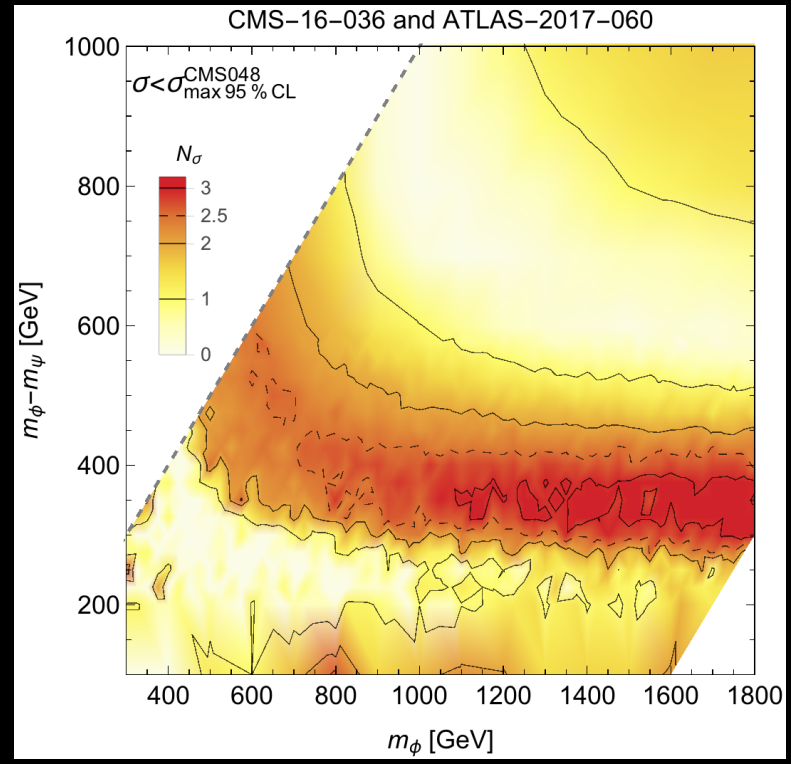
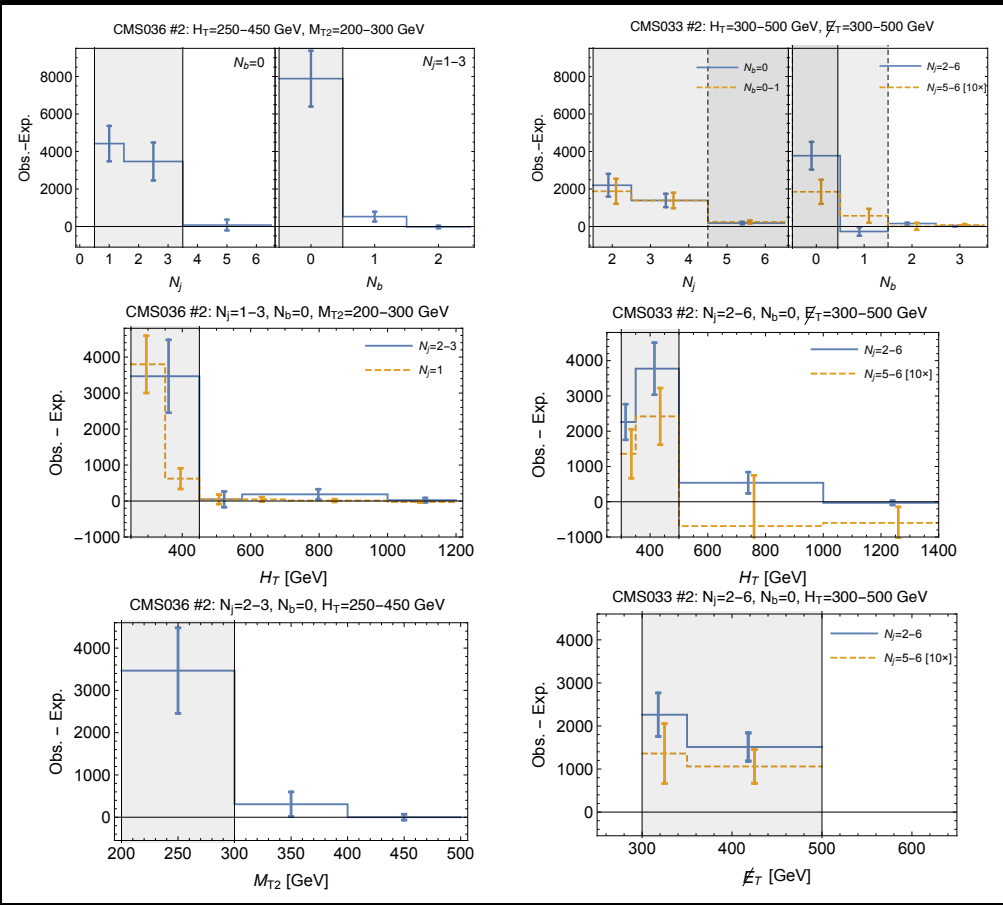
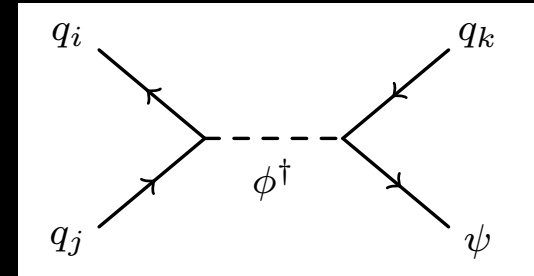


Quarks & Leptons



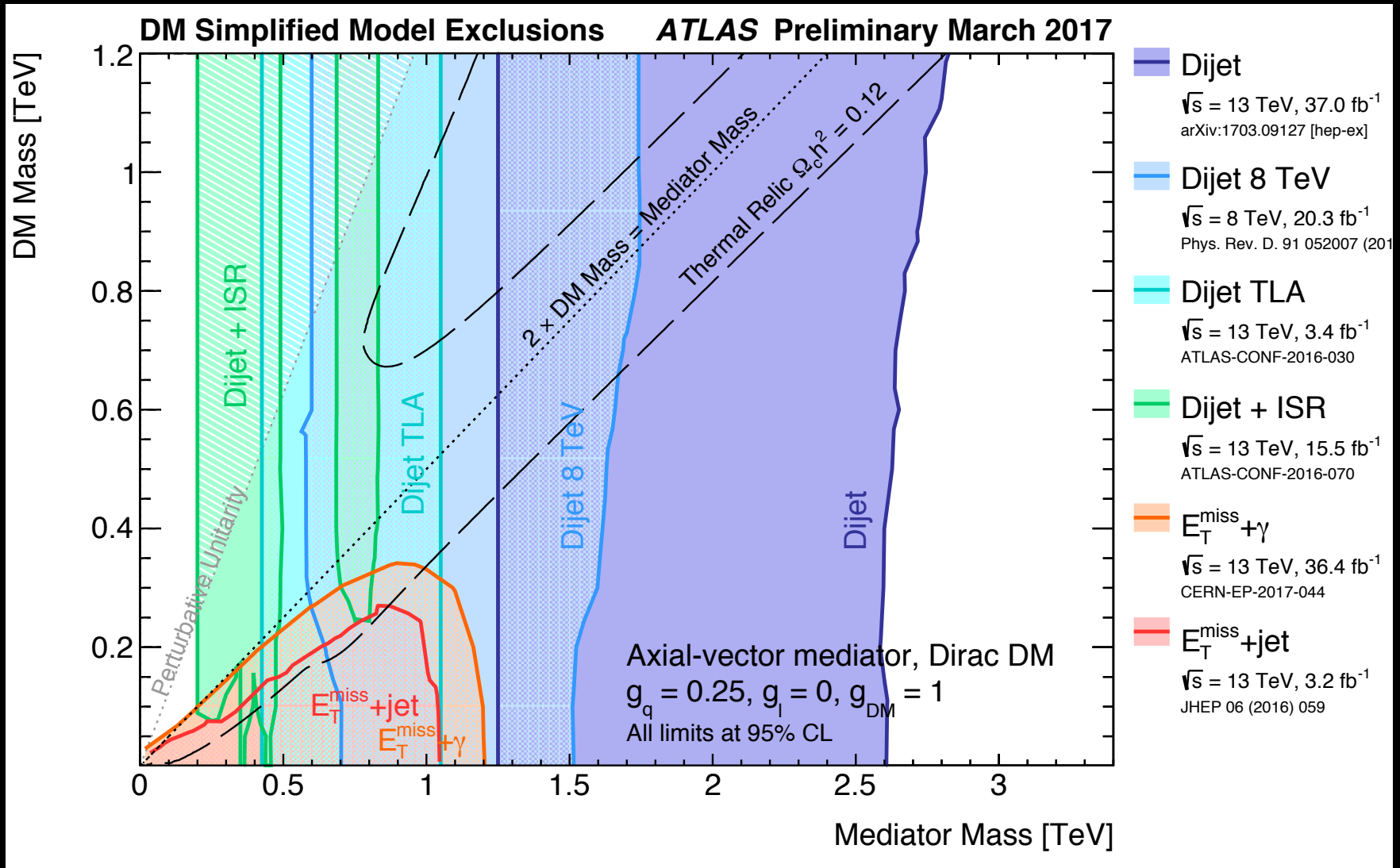
Excess?

Asadi, Buckley, DiFranzo,
Monteux, Shih
arXiv:1707.05783
&1712.04939



There is a theoretical recast of the jets + MET data that indicates $\sim 2.5\sigma$ excesses over backgrounds.

Dijet Searches



GEORGE BUSH

Fighting the 'Wimp Factor'

