

Overview of the theory landscape for dark QCD models with focus on viable DM candidates

Suchita Kulkarni (she/her)

Junior group leader

suchita.kulkarni@uni-graz.at

 @suchi_kulkarni

DMWG meeting



NAWI Graz
Natural Sciences

FWF

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.



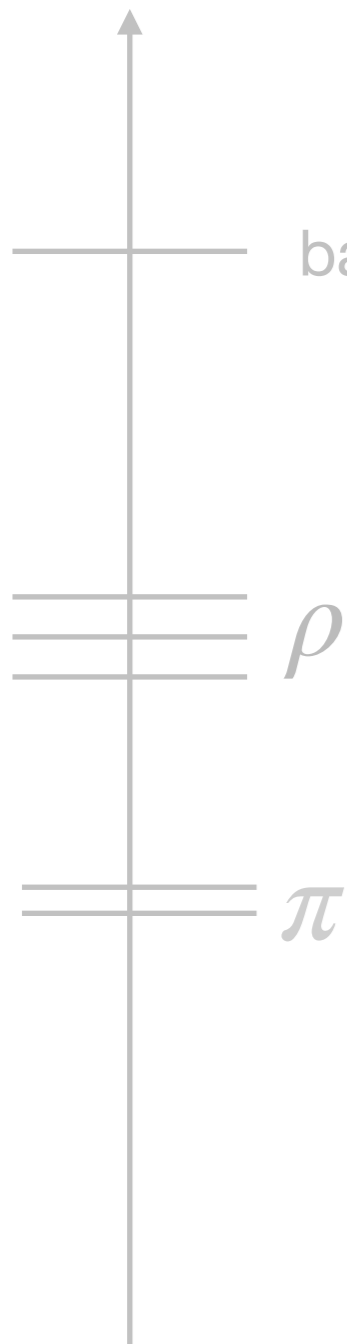
Dark matter: composite dark matter

What if dark matter is result of non-Abelian dynamics in dark sector?

Important theory considerations

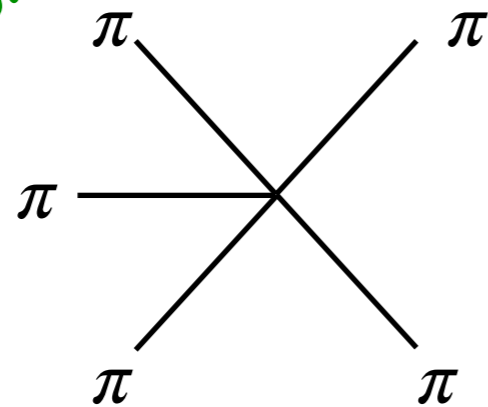
- What is the UV realisation of non-Abelian theory?
- What is the resulting IR dynamics?
- What is the DM - SM mediator mechanism?
- What stabilises DM?

Spectrum

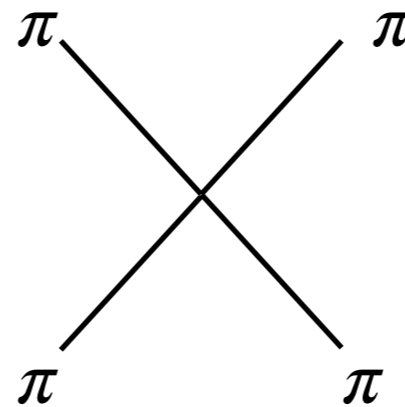


DM stability: (Mostly) For free!

For free!

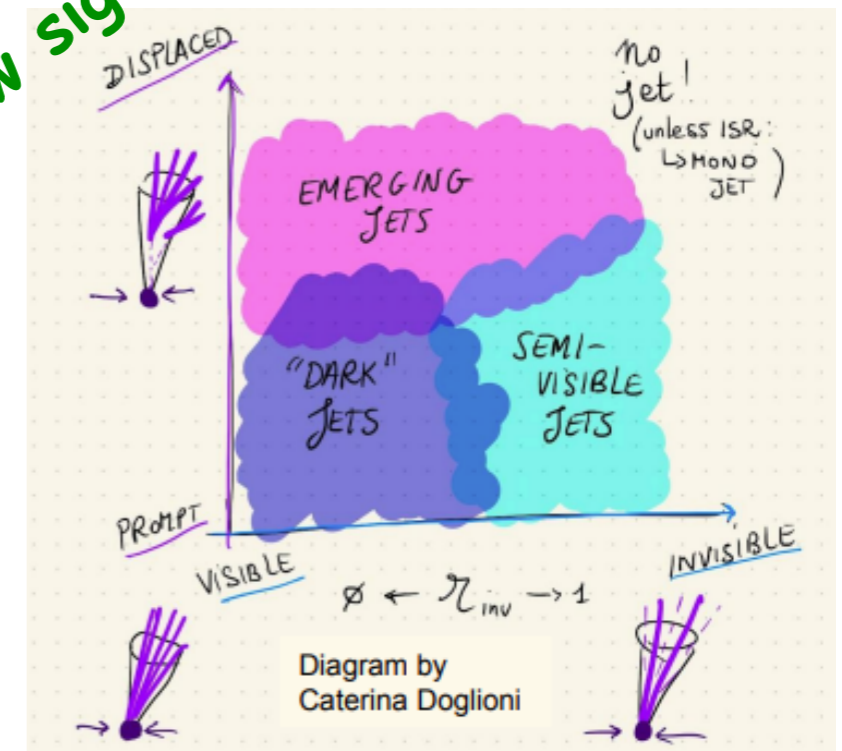


3 → 2 annihilations



Self-interactions

New signatures!

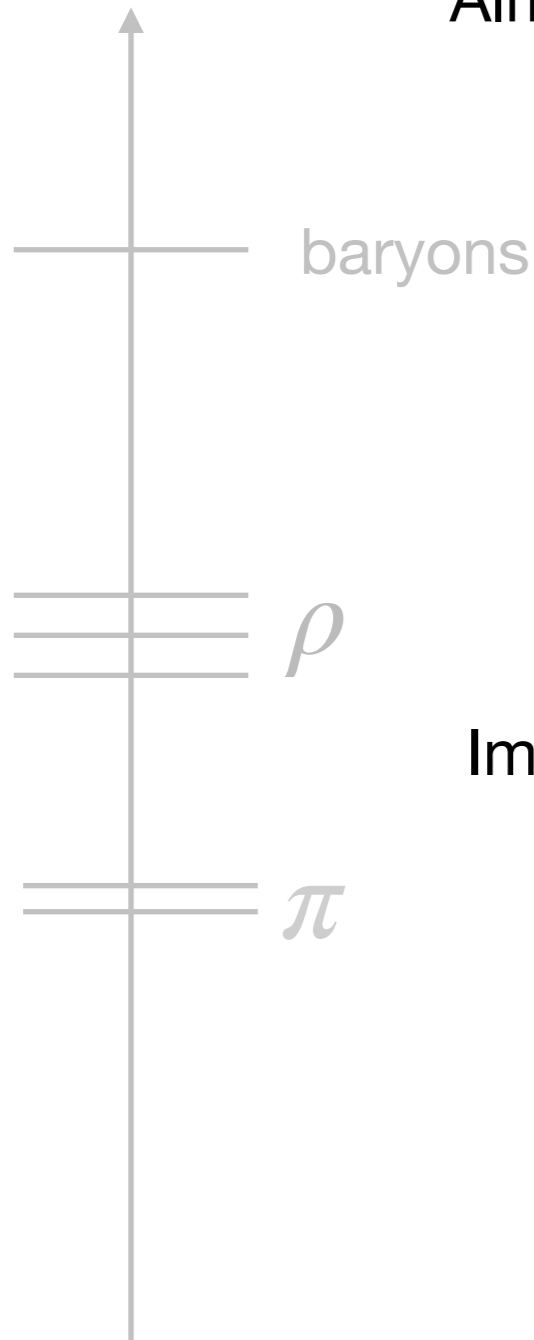


Composite dark matter: candidates

Candidates are stable if they are the lightest particles with nothing to decay to OR they are part of (unbroken) multiplets i.e. symmetry protected

Almost all candidates can lead to self-interactions in the right mass range

Spectrum



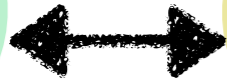
- Dark glueballs: unavoidable if $m_{q_D} \gg \Lambda_D$, simplest non-abelian theory realisation, stability tricky
- Dark mesons: dark pions famous, stability tricky
- Dark baryons: stability guaranteed
- Dark atoms: stability for free

Important dark sector considerations:

- Stability, longevity (no-trivial)
- Relic density generation (not always WIMP)
- Cosmological constraints (important for light DM)

Glueballs dark matter

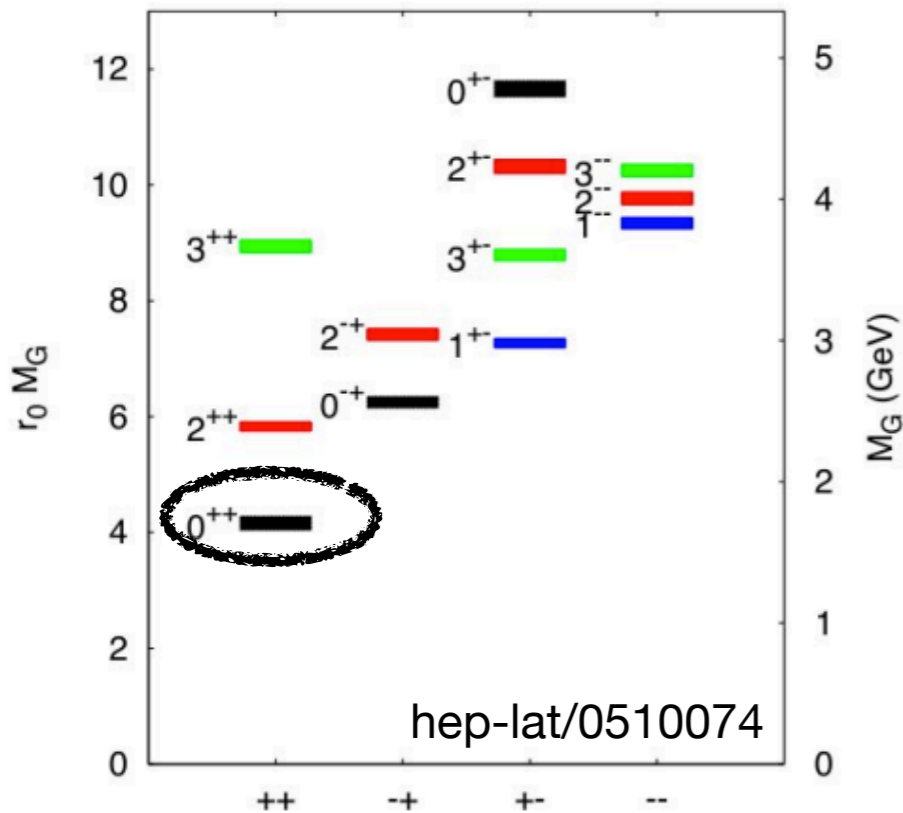
New non-Abelian theory



SM

Unavoidable in:

- Non-Abelian theory with no matter fields
- Theory with $m_{qD} \sim 7\Lambda_D$
- 0^{++} lightest state unstable if SM - DS mediator present



arXiv:2108.10314

$$\mathcal{O} = \frac{1}{M^3} G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu} \bar{f} f$$

$$\langle f\bar{f} | \mathcal{O} | \phi \rangle \sim \frac{\Lambda_D^4}{M^3}$$

$$\langle f\bar{f} | \mathcal{O} | \phi\phi \rangle \sim \frac{\Lambda_D^3}{M^3}$$

$$\Gamma \sim \frac{\Lambda_D^7}{M^6} \sim 3 \times 10^{26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$$

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \sim \frac{\Lambda_D^4}{M^6} > \frac{1}{\tau_{universe}}$$

$$M \sim 1 \text{ keV}$$

$$\Lambda_D \sim 0.01 \text{ eV}$$

LHC and indirect detection phenomenology currently very restricted

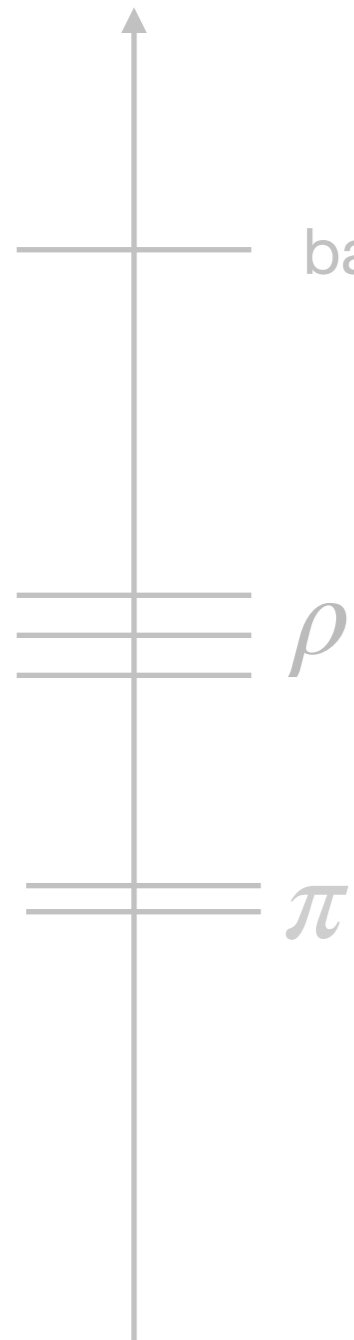
Needs more understanding and simulation tools here

Typical early Universe phenomenology for non-thermal glueballs

Composite dark matter: candidates

Almost all candidates can lead to self-interactions in the right mass range

Spectrum



- Dark glueballs: unavoidable if $m_{q_D} \gg \Lambda_D$, simplest non-abelian theory realisation

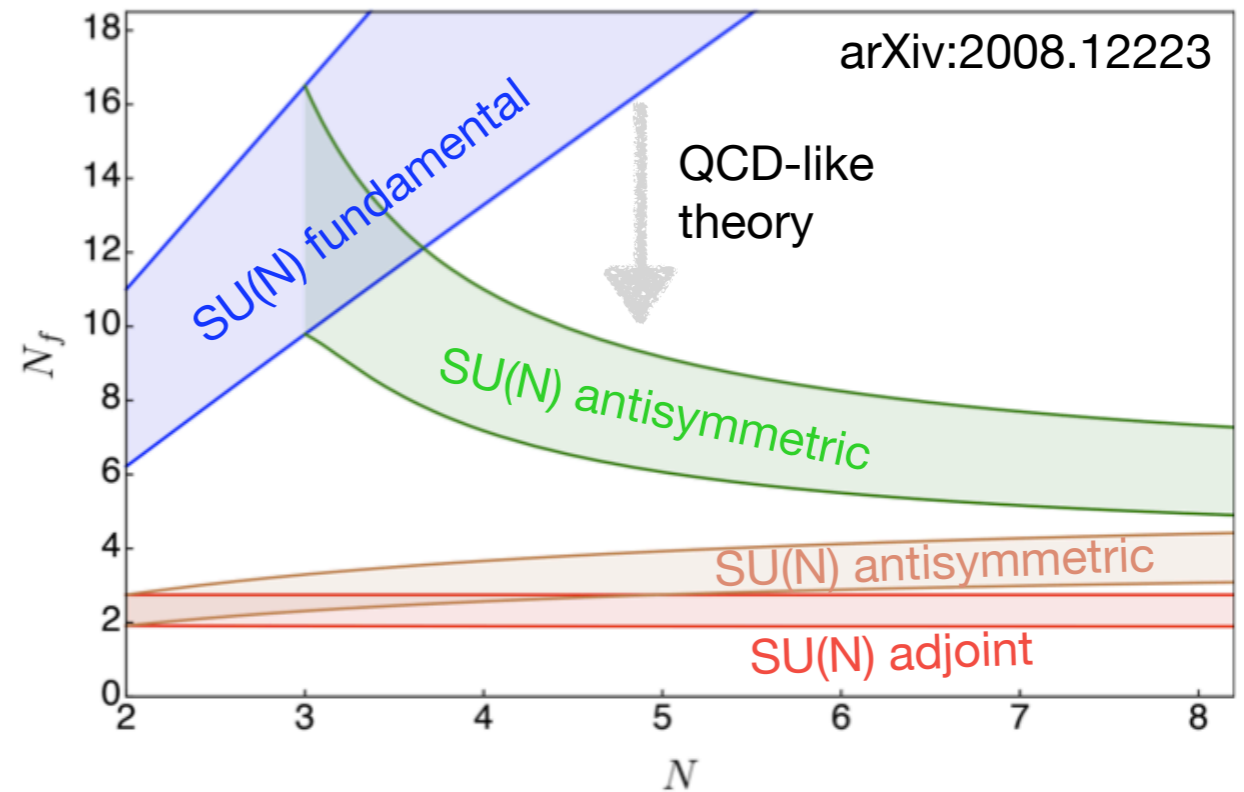
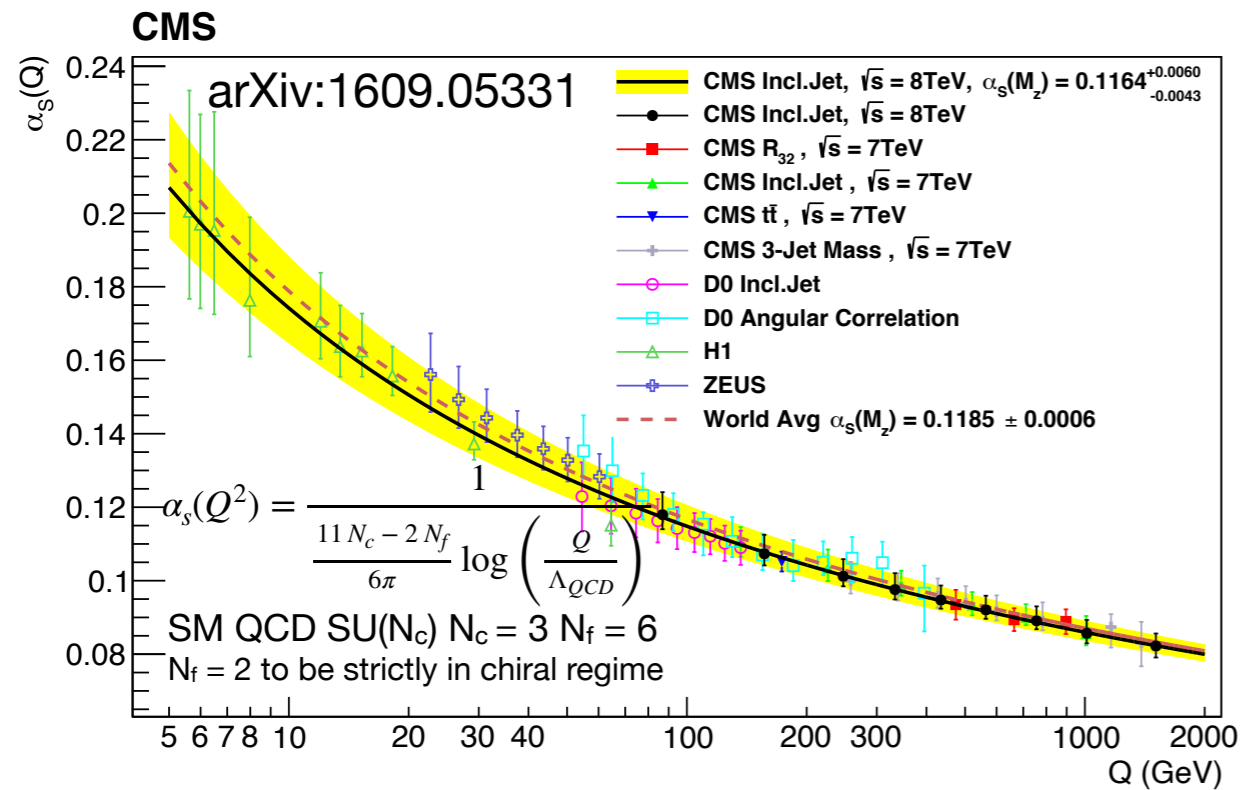
- Dark mesons: dark pions famous, stability tricky
- Dark baryons: stability guaranteed
- Dark atoms: stability for free

Theories with matter fields

Important dark sector considerations:

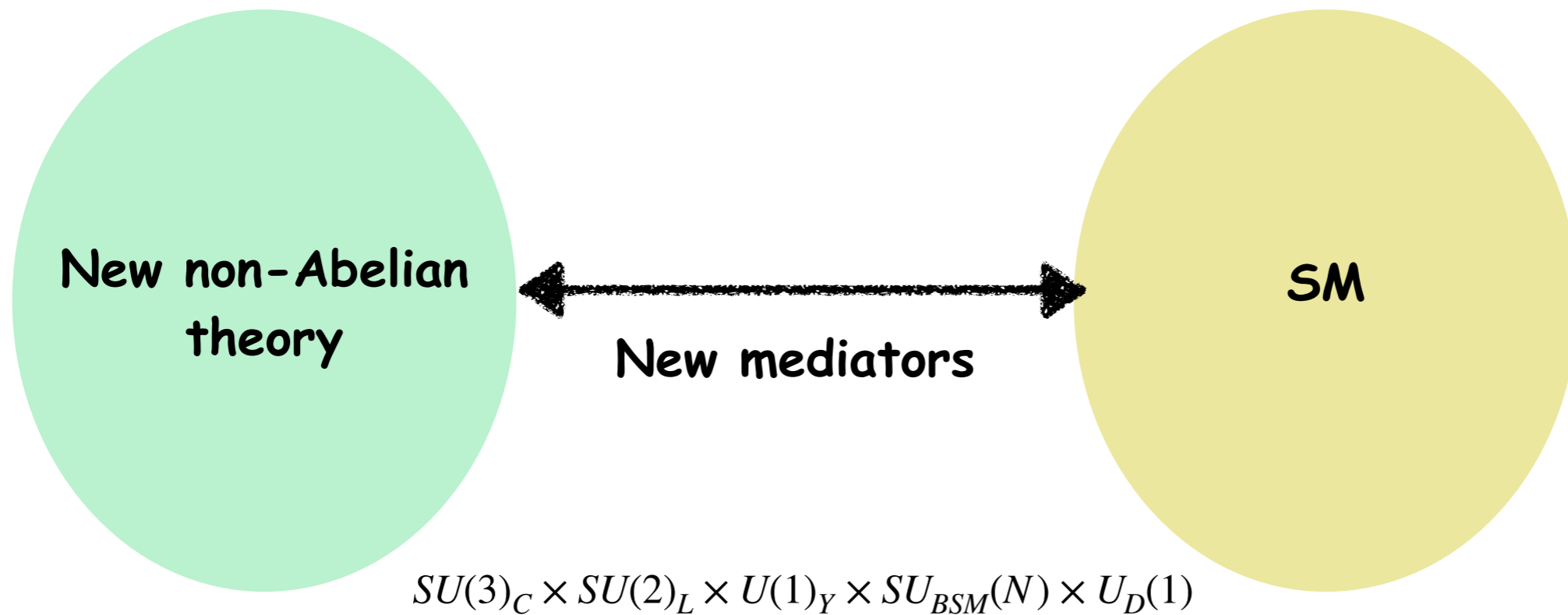
- Stability, longevity (no-trivial)
- Relic density generation (not always WIMP)
- Cosmological constraints (important for light DM)

Strongly interacting theories: QCD-like



- This talk: QCD-like theories only, only Dirac fermion mass degenerate matter fields in fundamental representation
- QCD like theories: asymptotically free theories and are in chirally broken phase
- As a side note: the confinement scale Λ_{QCD} is free, fixed only by measuring coupling constant, conversely coupling constant is NOT a free parameter of the theory
- For such theories low energy calculations are done using chiral perturbation theory

Model parameter space



New non-Abelian sectors could also be $SO(N)$, $Sp(N)$ theories
Only concentrate on $SU(N)$ theories

Strongly interacting theories: scales

Chiral $m_q \ll \Lambda$

SM QCD $N_f = 2$ (u, d)

$$m_\pi \propto \mu$$

Correction from small quark mass

Comparable scale: $m_q \sim \Lambda$

Is leading order χ PT valid?

Quarkonia-like: $m_q \gg \Lambda$

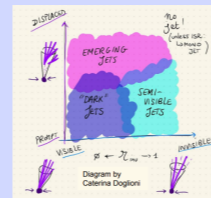
SM QCD with charm, bottoms $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$

$$m_\pi \propto 2m_q$$

Glue-balls live here

$$\sqrt{s} \gg m_q, \Lambda$$

Jetty physics



arXiv:1503.00009
arXiv:1502.05409

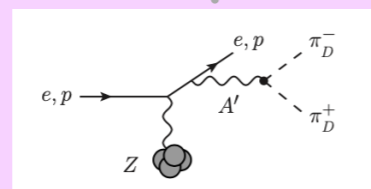
Glueballs

Snowmass
darkshowers
project

For a some issues related to jetty physics see M. Strassler's talk at LLP-X workshop

$$\sqrt{s} \sim m_q, \Lambda$$

Hadronic resonances



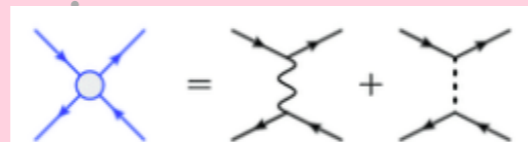
arXiv:1809.10183, 1801.05805, 1512.07917

EFT e.g
SMEFT,
Glueballs

For a review c.f.
arXiv:1604.04627

$$\sqrt{s} \ll m_q, \Lambda$$

EFT e.g
SMEFT



Glueballs

N.B.: things like SUEP are not strictly signatures of QCD-like theories

$$m_q \ll \Lambda$$

$$m_q \sim \Lambda$$

$$m_q \gg \Lambda$$

Strongly interacting theories: scales

Chiral $m_q \ll \Lambda$

SM QCD $N_f = 2$ (u, d)

$$m_\pi \propto \mu$$

Correction from small quark mass

Comparable scale: $m_q \sim \Lambda$

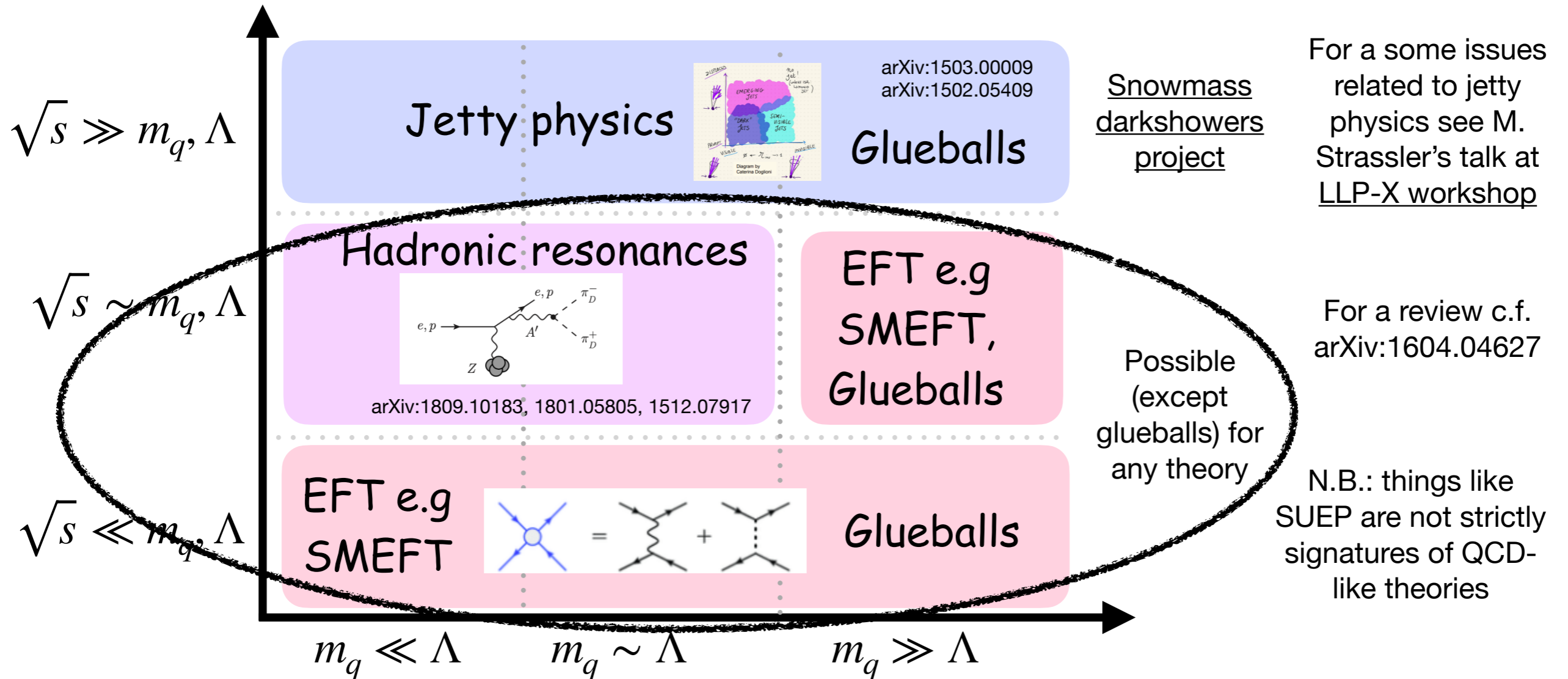
Is leading order χ PT valid?

Quarkonia-like: $m_q \gg \Lambda$

SM QCD with charm, bottoms $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$

$$m_\pi \propto 2m_q$$

Glue-balls live here



Strongly interacting theories: scales

Chiral $m_q \ll \Lambda$

SM QCD $N_f = 2$ (u, d)

$$m_\pi \propto \mu$$

Correction from small quark mass

Comparable scale: $m_q \sim \Lambda$

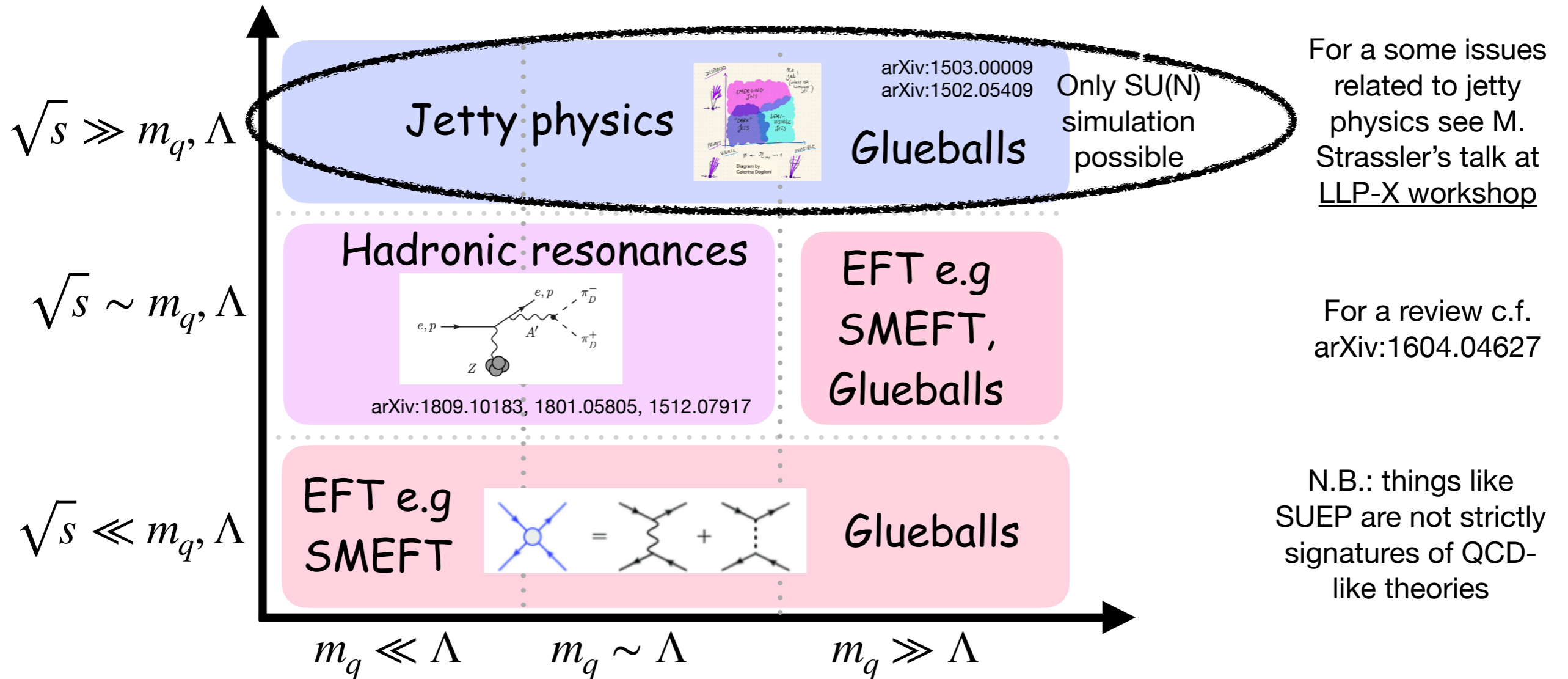
Is leading order χ PT valid?

Quarkonia-like: $m_q \gg \Lambda$

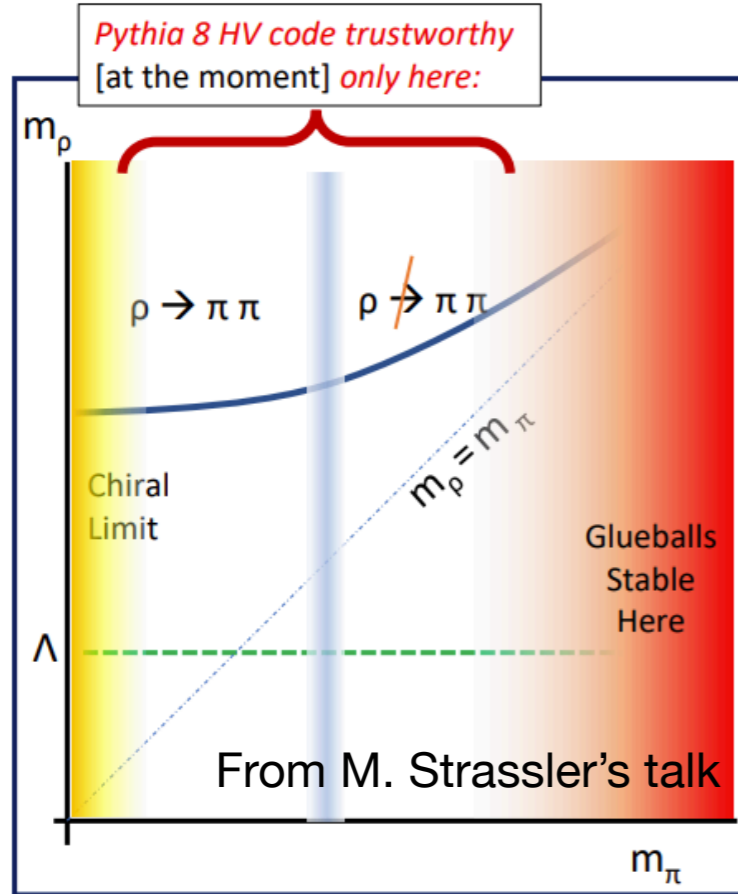
SM QCD with charm, bottoms $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$

$$m_\pi \propto 2m_q$$

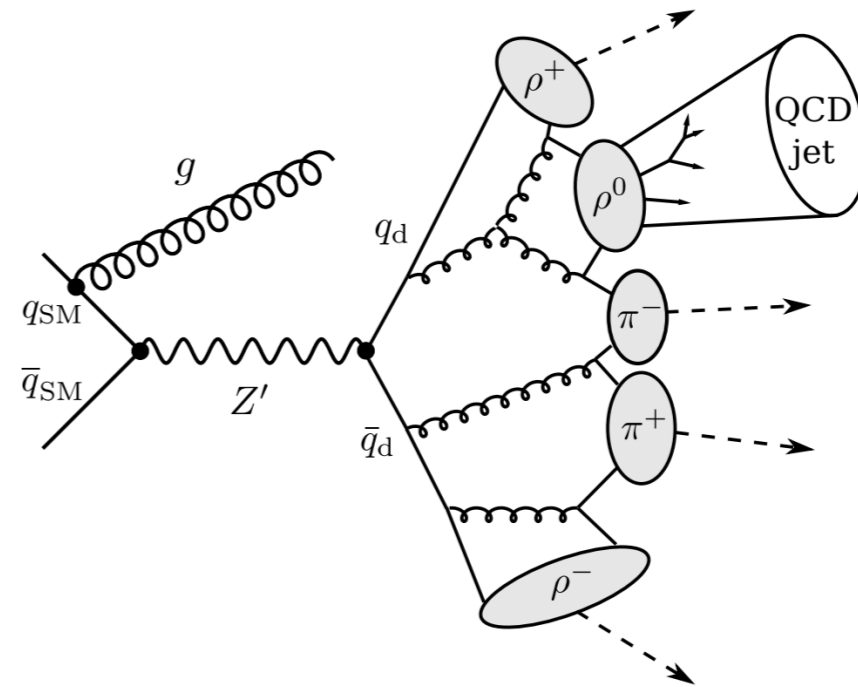
Glue-balls live here



Jetty physics: too much ado about nothing?



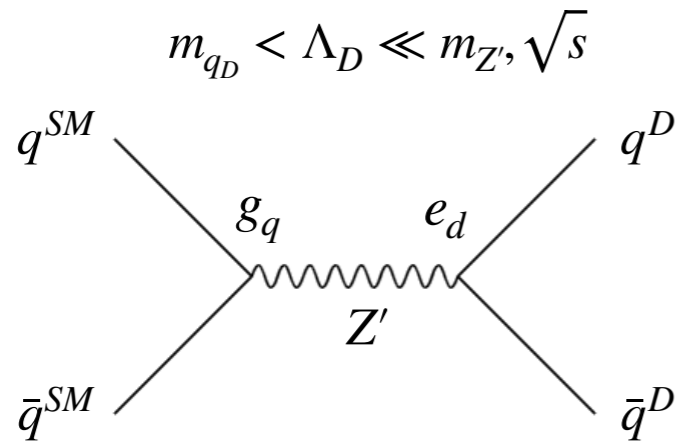
arXiv:1907.04346



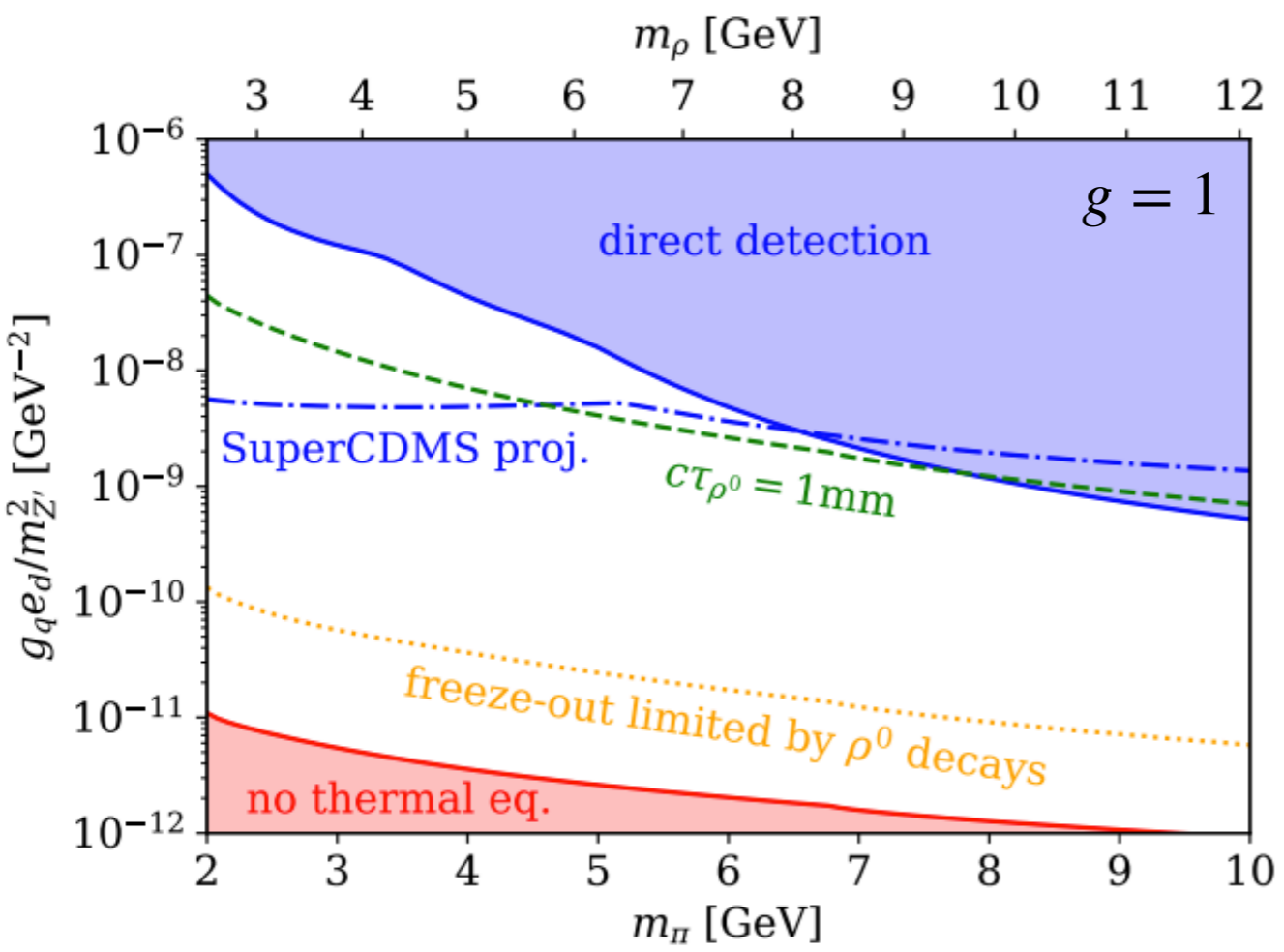
- LHC in jetty regime \rightarrow sensitive to the UV physics \rightarrow dark quark masses, Λ_D matter
- Due to high energies, LHC can be sensitive to higher excitations in the spectrum
- Theory has only four free parameters $N_c, N_f, m_\pi/\Lambda, \Lambda$ they need to be chosen carefully for chiral PT to be valid, for simulation tools to be valid
- Mediator mechanisms need to be constructed carefully for pions to remain stable
- Typically relic density driven by IR parameters, LHC phenomenology both UV and IR

Dark pions dark matter

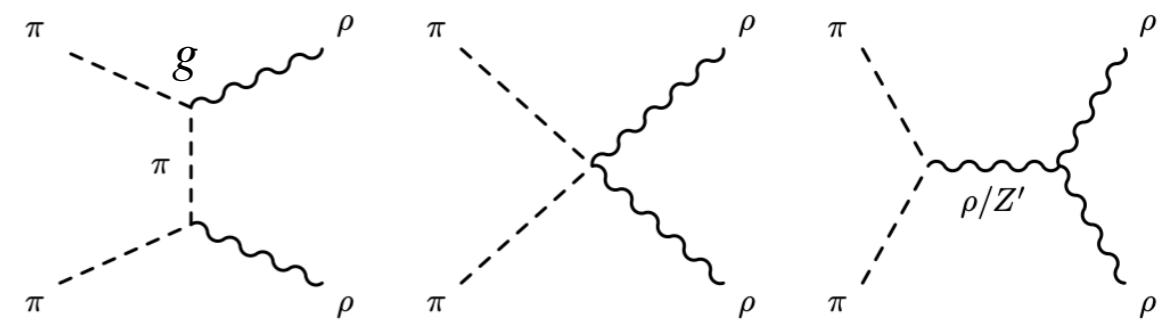
arXiv:1907.04346



Sector	Particles	Parameters
$SU(3)$	$q_{d,i}$ ($i = 1, 2$), A_d (dark gluon)	m_q, Λ_d
Chiral EFT	$\pi^\pm, \pi^0, \rho^\pm, \rho^0$	m_π, m_ρ, g
$U(1)'$	Z'	$m_{Z'}, e_d, g_q$



ρ mass chosen in order to satisfy relic



- Relic driven by hidden sector parameters

$$\dot{n}_\pi + 3Hn_\pi = -\langle\sigma_{\pi\pi\rightarrow\rho\rho\nu}\rangle n_\pi^2 + \langle\sigma_{\rho\rho\rightarrow\pi\pi\nu}\rangle (n_\rho^{\text{eq}})^2$$

$$\left(\frac{n_\rho^{\text{eq}}}{n_\pi^{\text{eq}}}\right)^2 \sim \exp(-2\Delta x) \quad \langle\sigma\nu\rangle \sim \frac{g^4}{m_\pi^2}$$

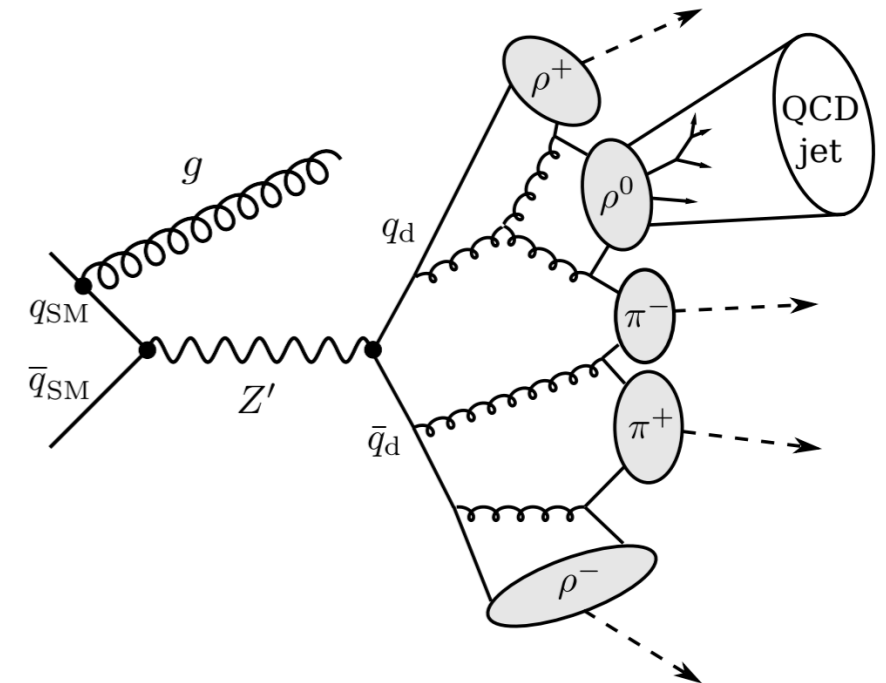
- GeV pions lead to too small self-interactions

$$\frac{\sigma_{\text{self}}}{m_\pi} = \frac{m_\pi}{4\pi f_\pi^4} \sim 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^2/g \left(\frac{m_\pi}{1 \text{ GeV}}\right)^{-3} \left(\frac{g}{\sqrt{4\pi}}\right)^4$$

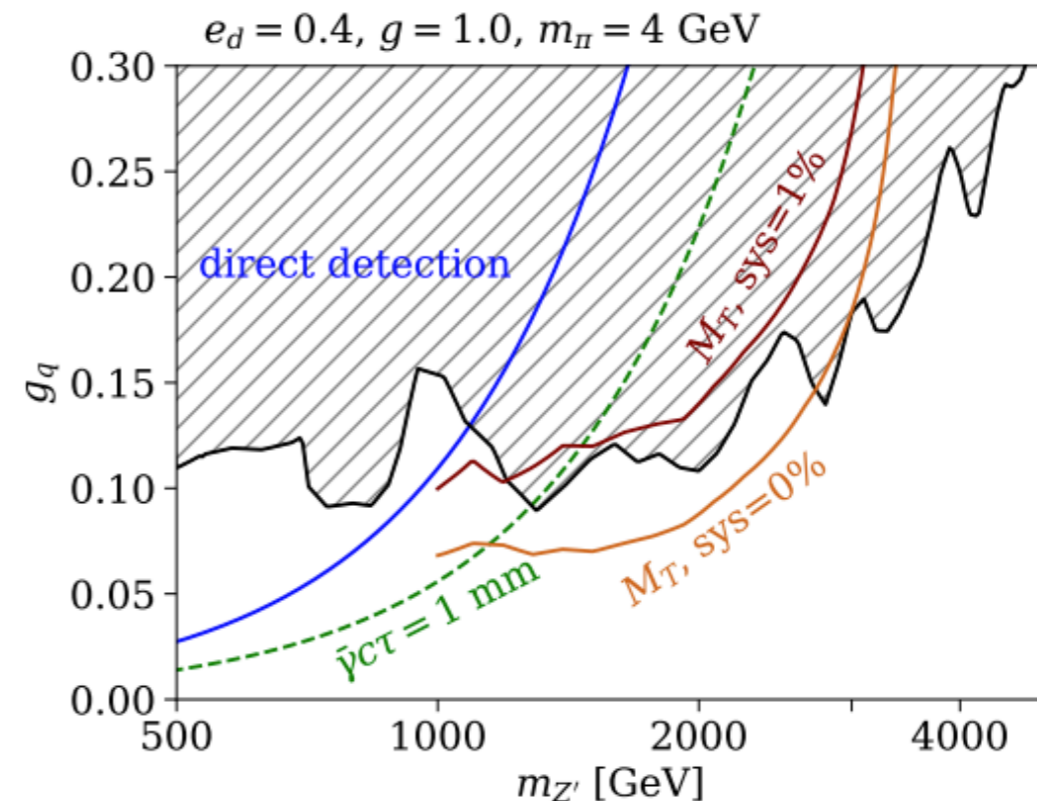
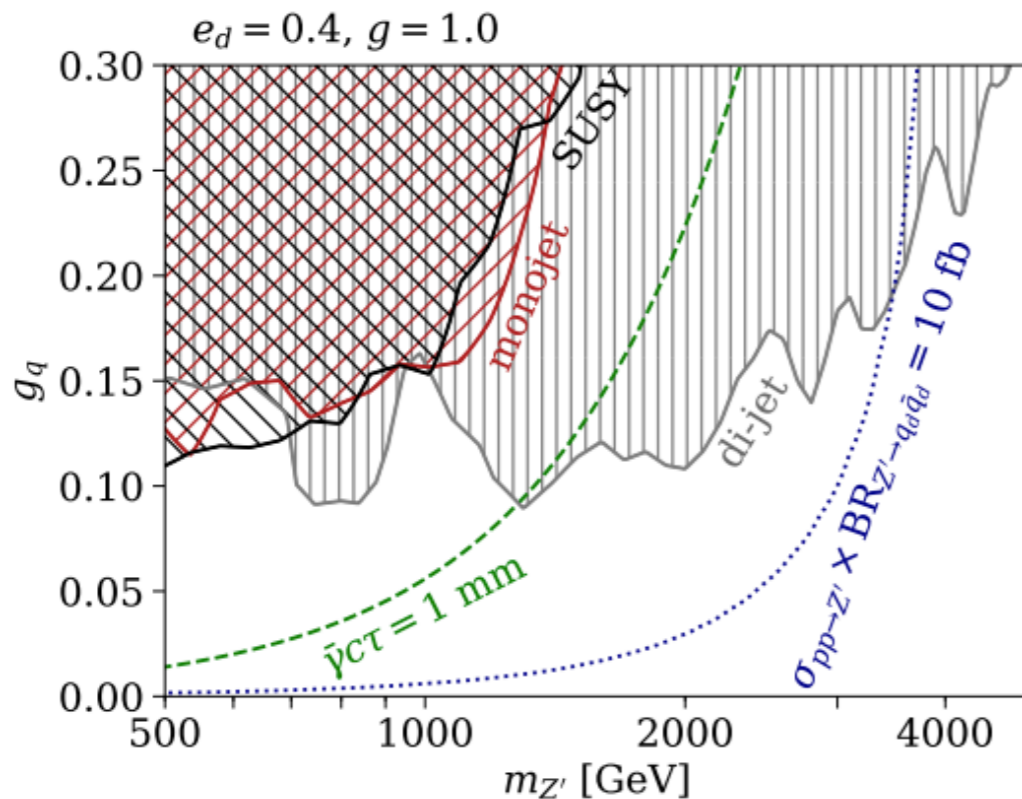
Dark pions dark matter

- At colliders the ρ^0 lifetime matters

$$\Gamma(\rho^0 \rightarrow q_{SM} \bar{q}_{SM}) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{g_q^2 e_d^2}{g^2} m_\rho \left(\frac{m_\rho}{m_{Z'}} \right)^4 \left(1 - 4 \frac{m_{q_{SM}}^2}{m_\rho^2} \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + 2 \frac{m_{q_{SM}}^2}{m_\rho^2} \right)$$

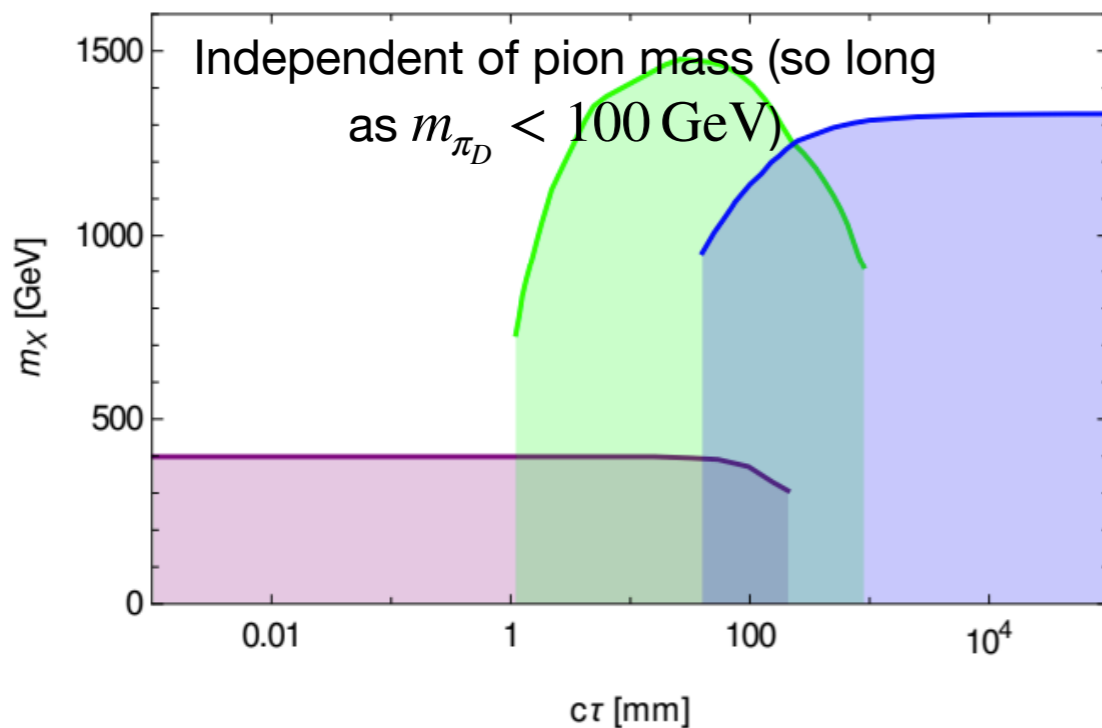


- At colliders production cross-section controlled by UV parameters

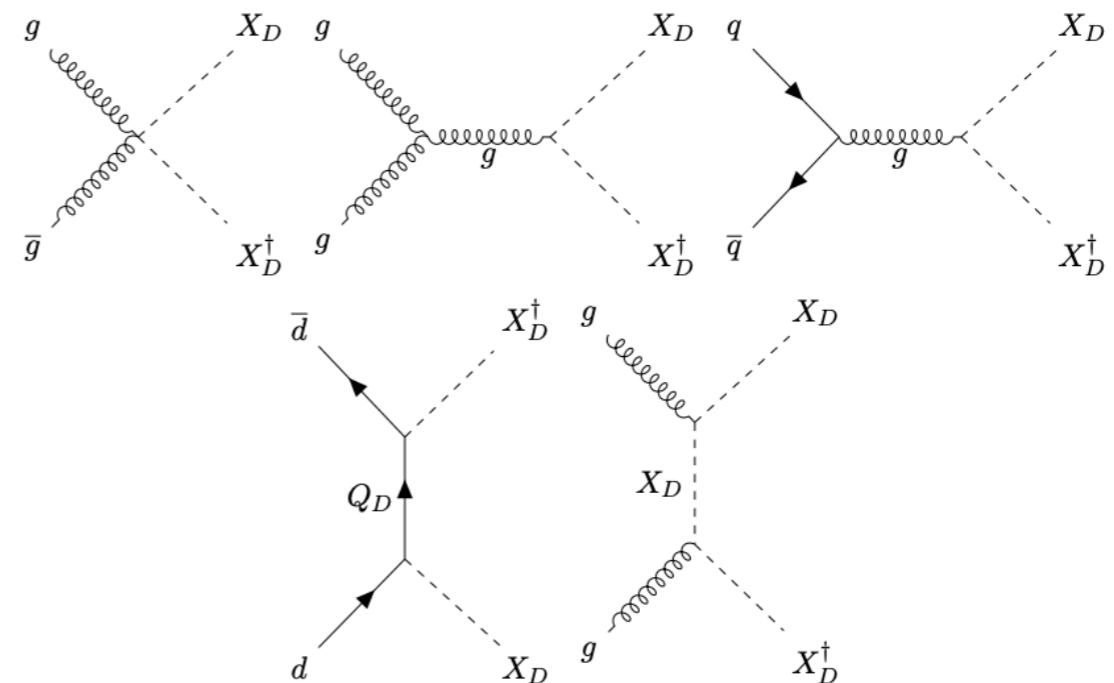


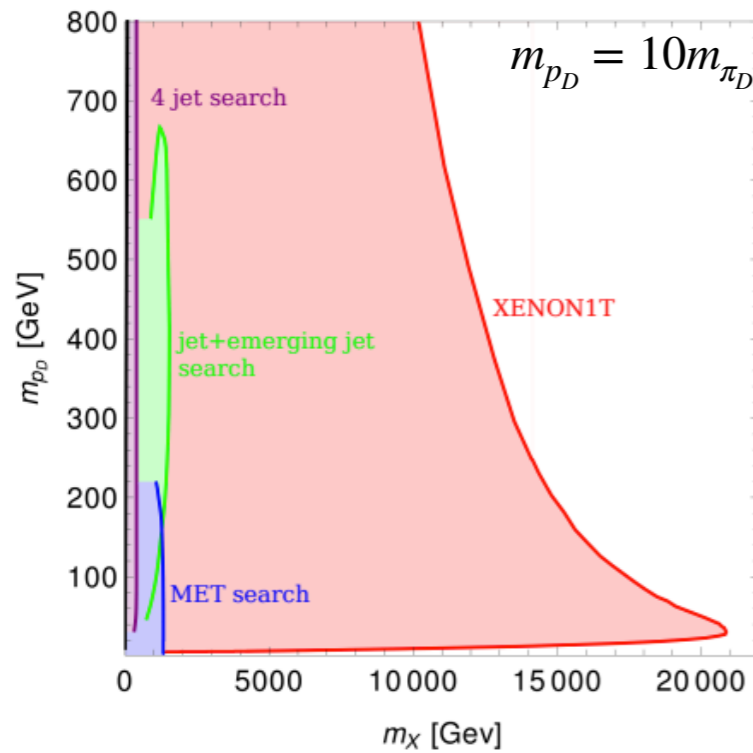
- Need SU(N), $N > 2$, with $N_f > 1$ (number of flavours needed is a bit dependent on gauge group)
- Stability is guaranteed by baryon number (if conserved)
- Computing properties (e.g. masses and interactions) potentially more non-trivial (chi PT techniques may not be sufficient)
- Usually heavier than pions and rho \rightarrow collider production typically suppressed; collider (LHC) potential reliant on ability to probe rho and pion state
- Advantage: pions decay allowed \rightarrow possible to construct t-channel models

$$\mathcal{L}_{Yuk} = -\kappa_{ij} \bar{d}_{Rj} Q_{DLi} X_D + h.c.$$

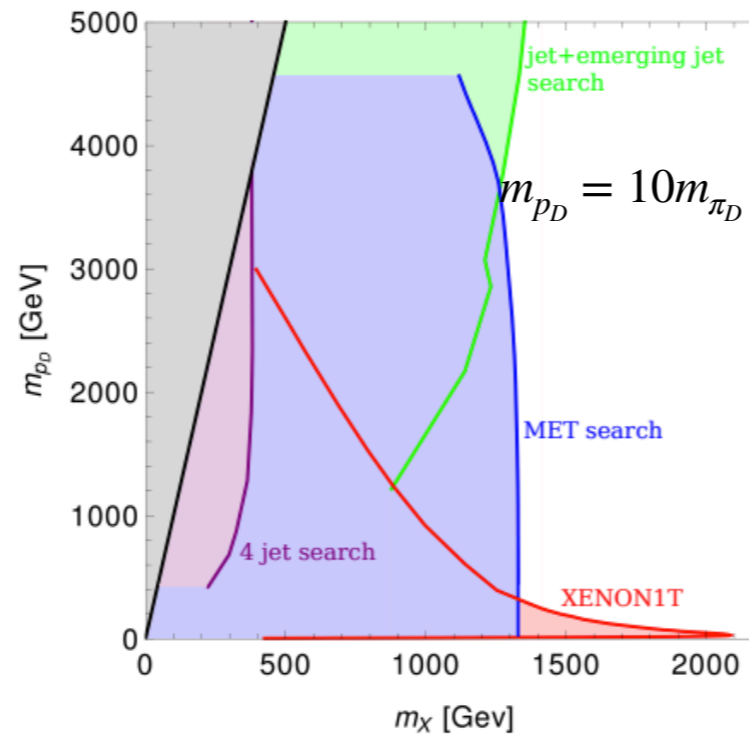


— MET search — jet+emerging jet search — 4 jet search

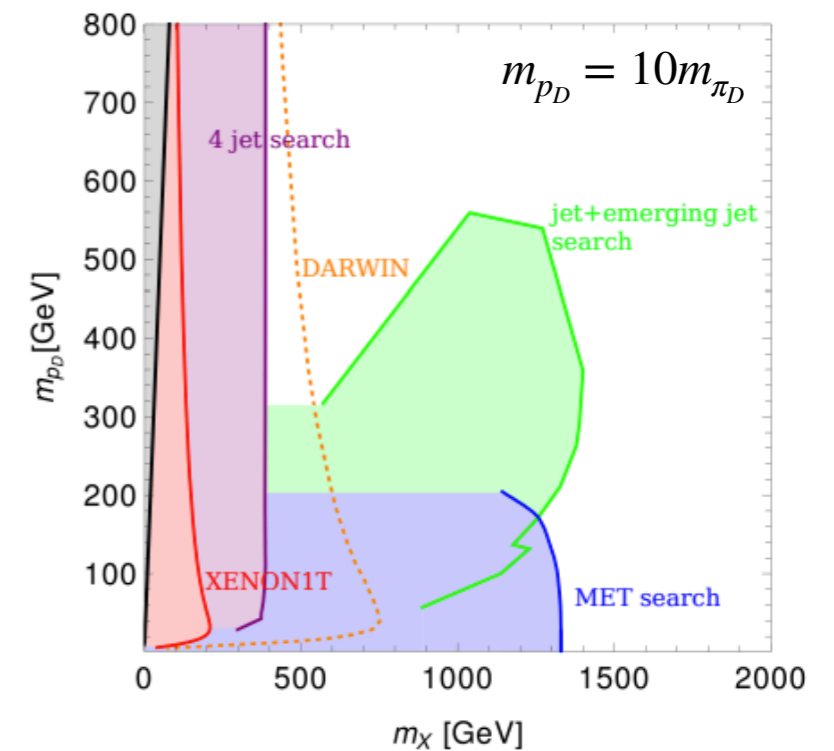




(a) $\kappa_0 = 1$



(b) $\kappa_0 = 0.1$



(c) $\kappa_0 = 1, \kappa_{11} = \frac{\kappa_0}{100}$

DD constraints strongest

DD constraints weaker

Note: $m_{\pi_D} > 100 \text{ GeV}$

Suppressed couplings to light quarks, weaker DD constraints

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{N-D}^{SI} &= \frac{1}{A} \sum_a \frac{(J_{Da}^0)^2 |\kappa_{\alpha 1}^4 \mu_{n-D}^2|}{32\pi m_X^4} (J_n^0 (A-Z) + J_p^0 Z)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{A} \sum_a \frac{|\kappa_{\alpha 1}^4 \mu_{n-D}^2|}{32\pi m_X^4} (2(A-Z) + Z)^2, \end{aligned}$$

DD scattering amplitudes assuming point-like dark proton

No statement on relic mechanisms

I did not talk about...

- Theories with split quark masses
- Dark resonances at LHC ($m_{q_D}, \Lambda_D \sim \sqrt{s}$)
- Non - SU(N) gauge theories
- Theories with composite Higgs and dark matter (theories where dark sector is charged under SM)
- Dark atom dark matter theories
- Connections to lattice
- ...

Conclusions

- Strongly interacting dark matter theories is a young field (despite some very early works)
- Can lead to dark matter candidates which are automatically stable, are stabilised by external symmetries in form of composite baryons, atoms or mesons
- Huge interplay with cosmology but detailed understanding very much model dependent
- Relic density mostly a result of dynamics within dark sector than SM - DS mechanisms
- Cosmology independent of UV parameters most of the times i.e. deals directly with IR physics
- Collider (LHC) phenomenology depends on UV physics in jetty regime
- Direct detection phenomenology may involve computing dark form factors, exact effect currently unknown
- Still some understanding necessary to setup a generic mechanism for consistent top down theory treatment or for simplified model analysis
 - Involves understanding validity of assumptions on chirality
 - Involves understanding of hadronization procedures

Thanks for listening
Questions?