

# Maximizing Direct Detection with HYPER Dark Matter

Robert McGehee

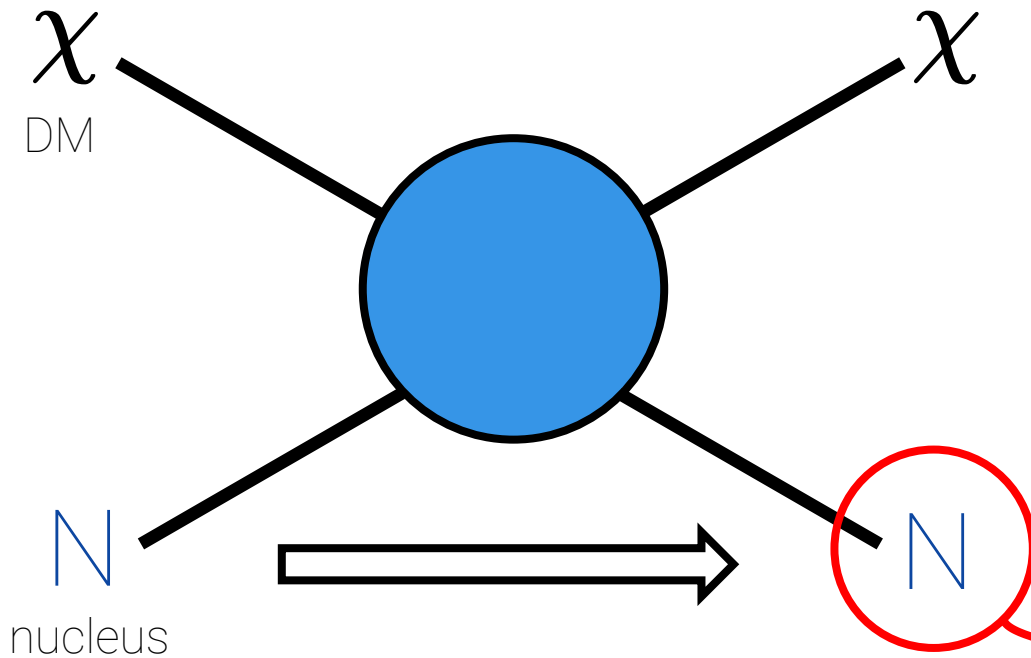


2112.03920

w/ Gilly Elor & Aaron Pierce

PIKIMO 12 @ Notre Dame, 4/30/22

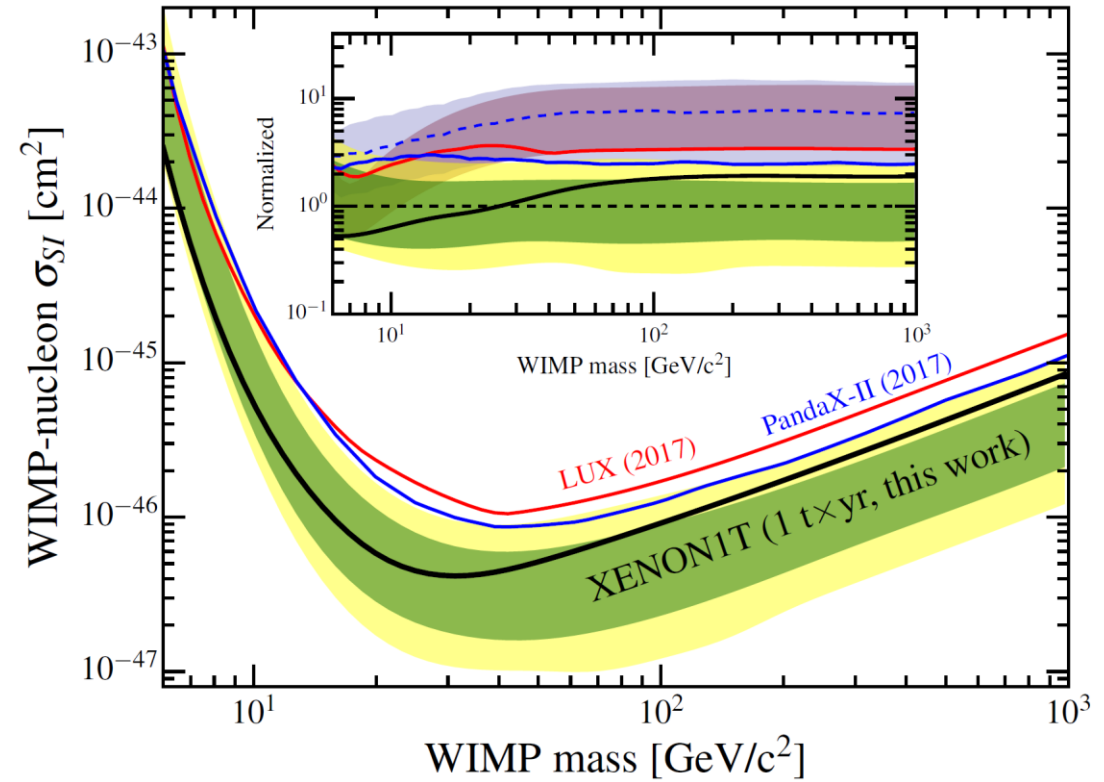
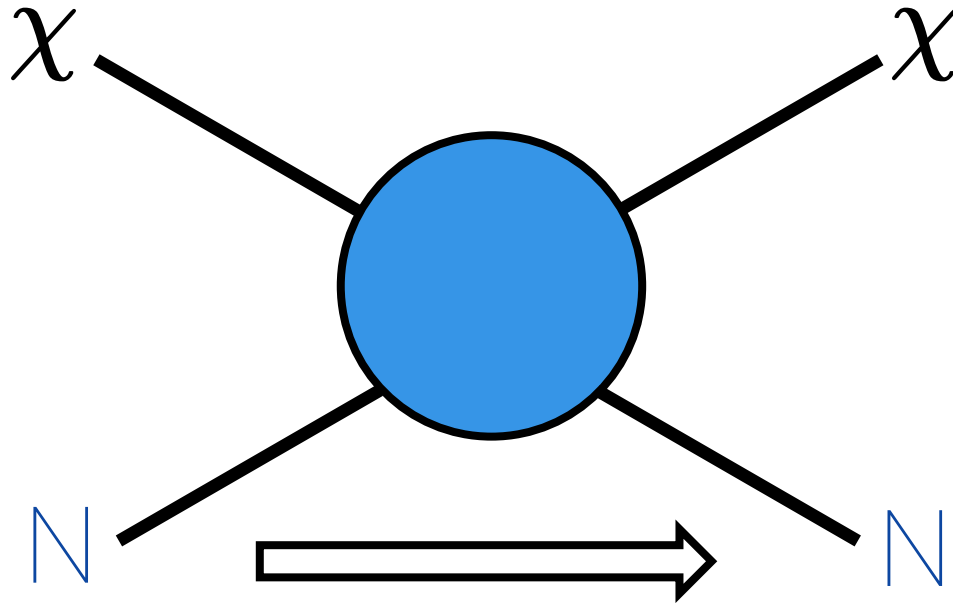
# Direct Detection Refresher



Credit: The XENON Experiment



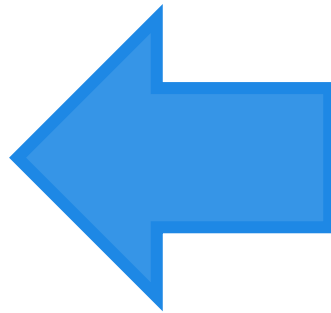
# Direct Detection Refresher



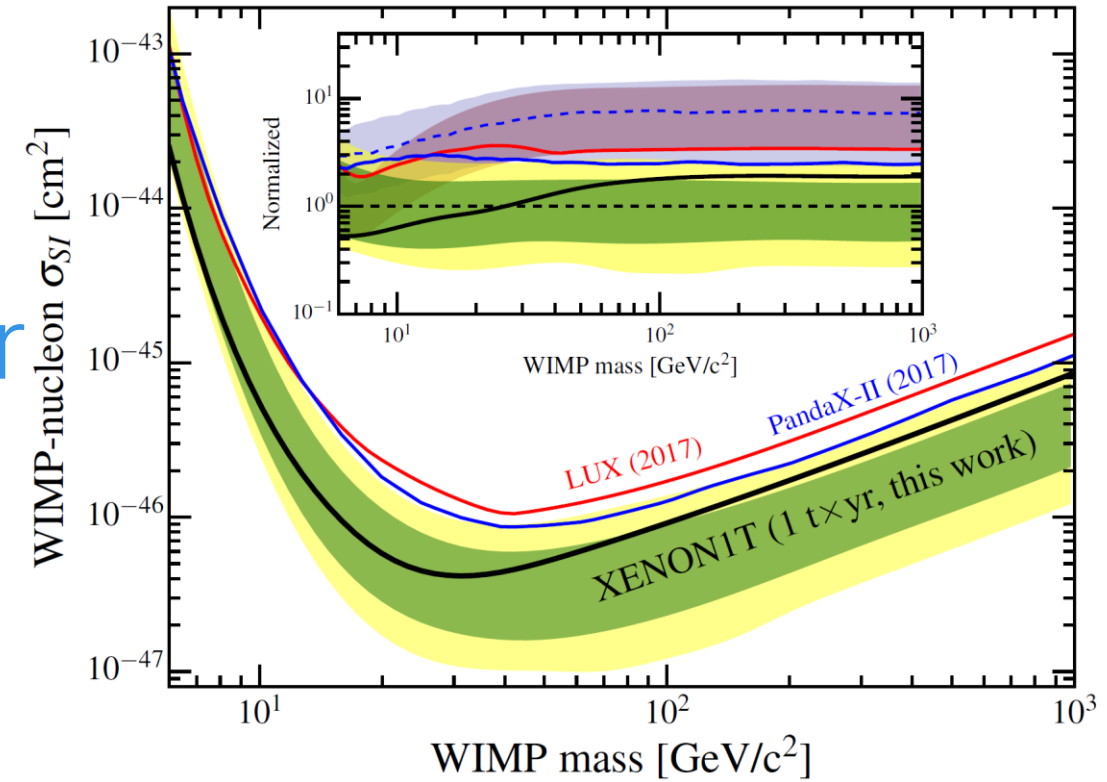
XENON Collaboration [1805.12562]

# Direct Detection Future

Go higher?

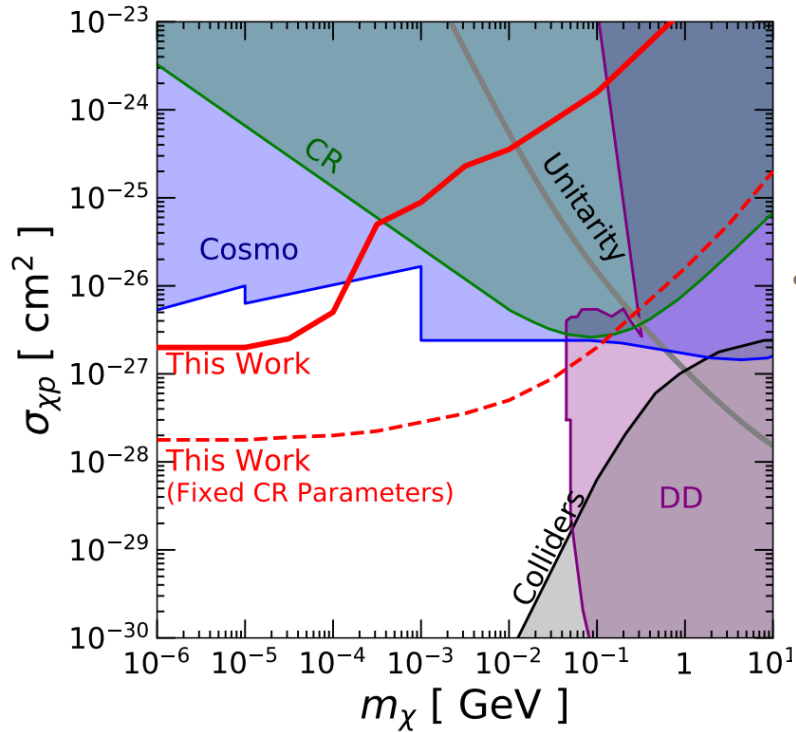


Go lighter

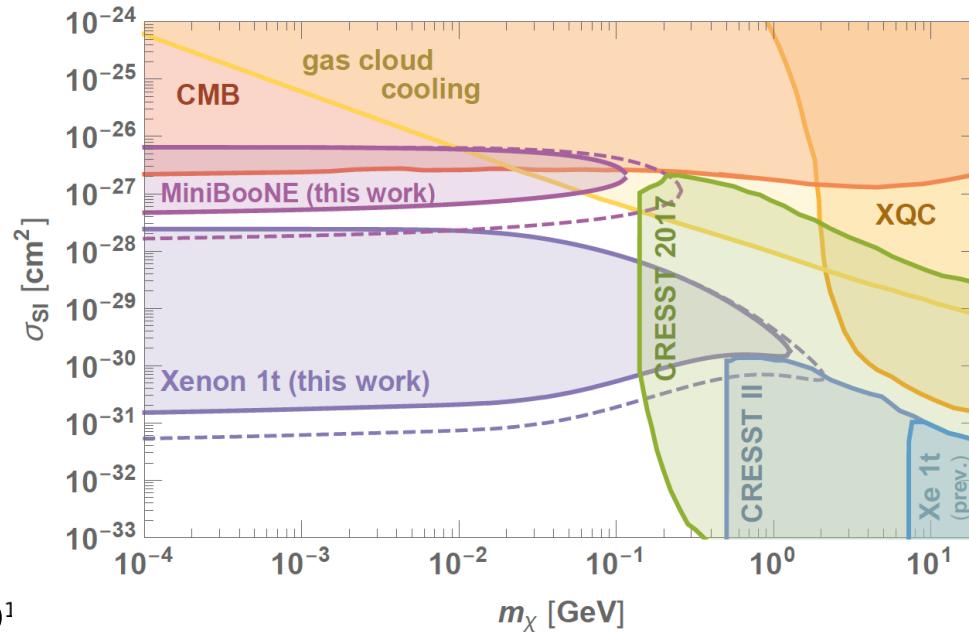


Go lower

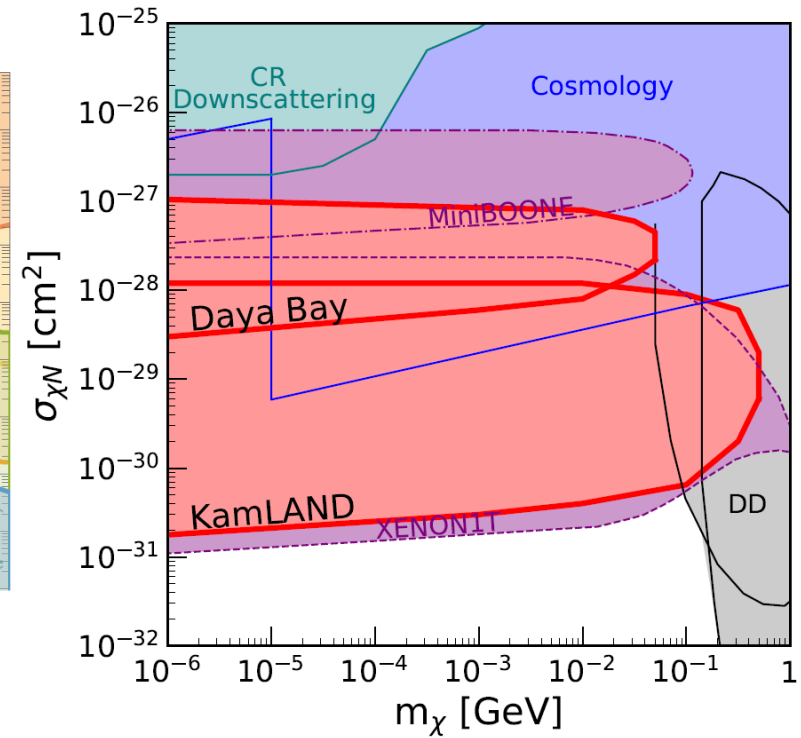
# Bounds from Cosmic Ray Scattering



C. Cappiello, K. Ng, J. Beacom  
[1810.07705]

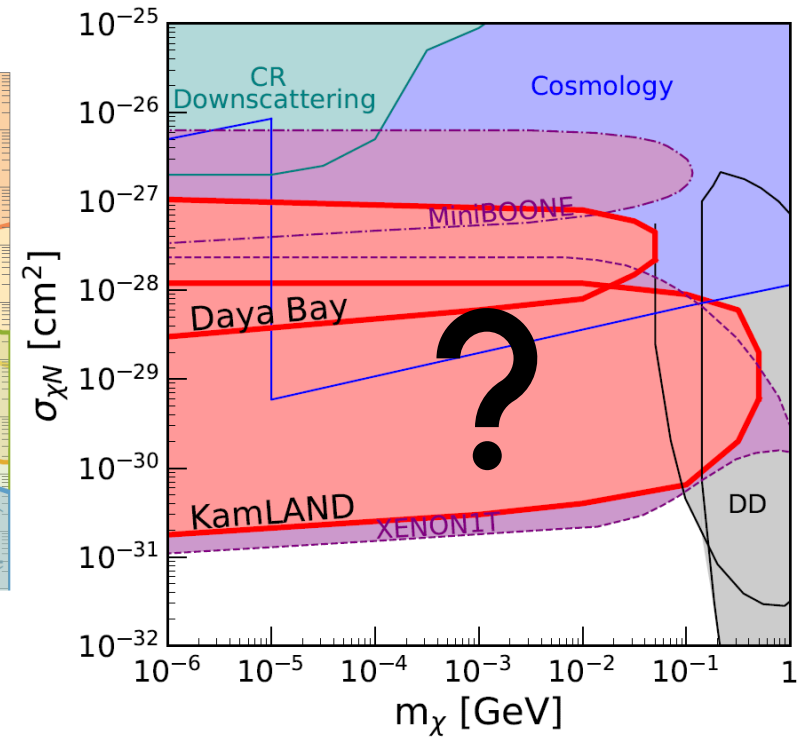
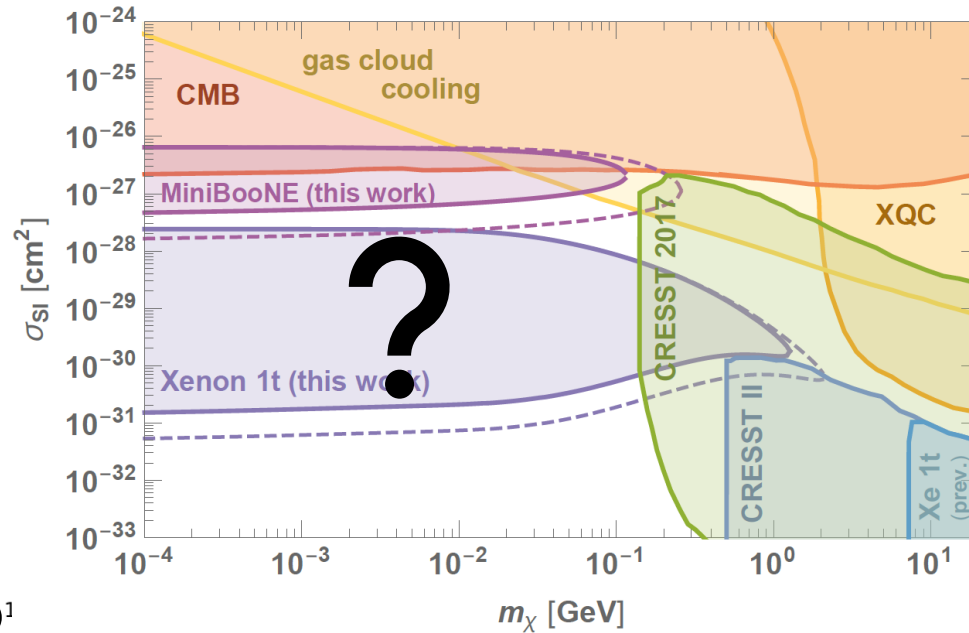
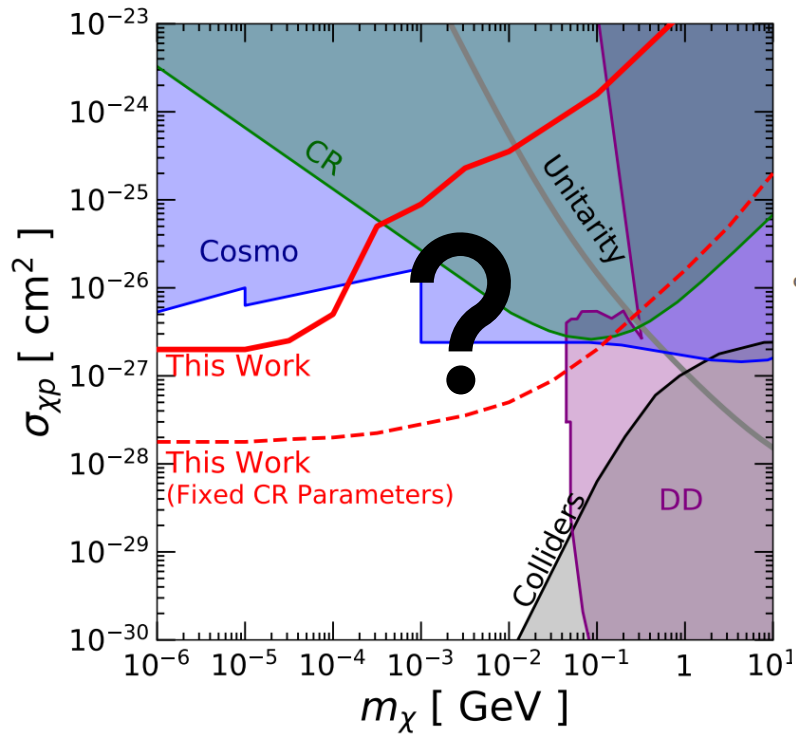


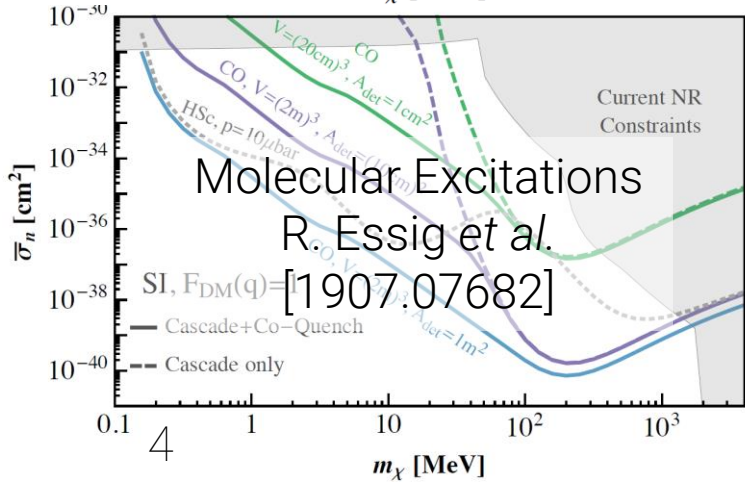
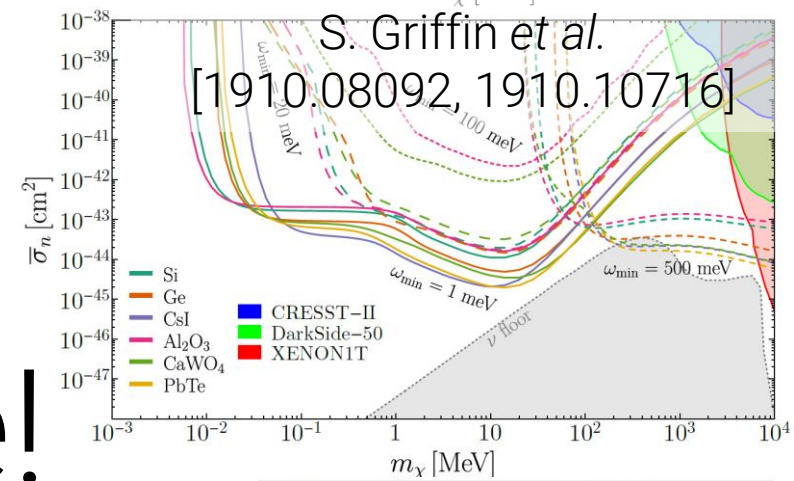
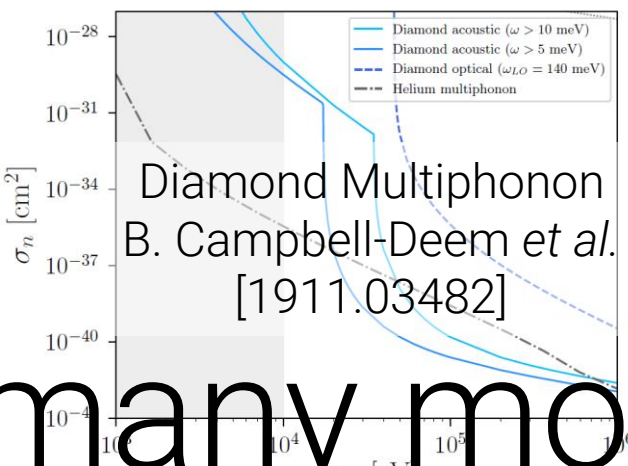
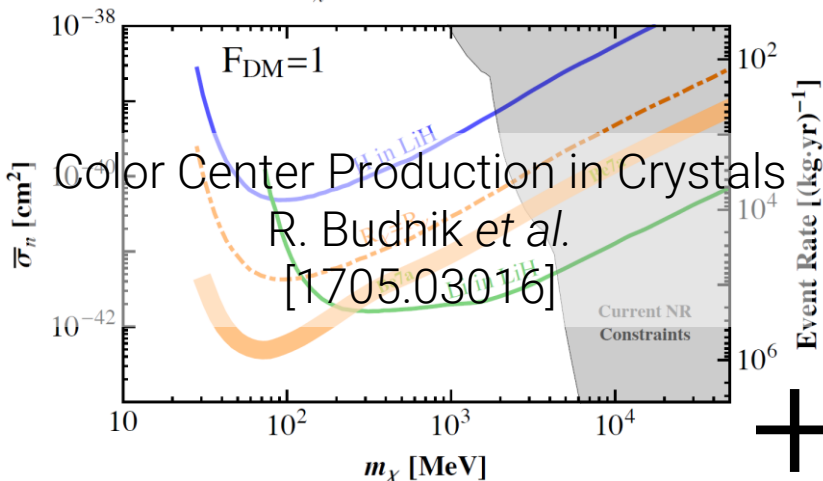
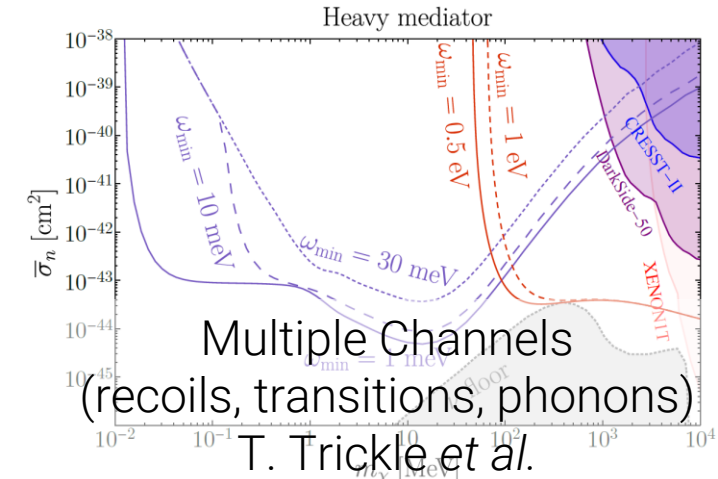
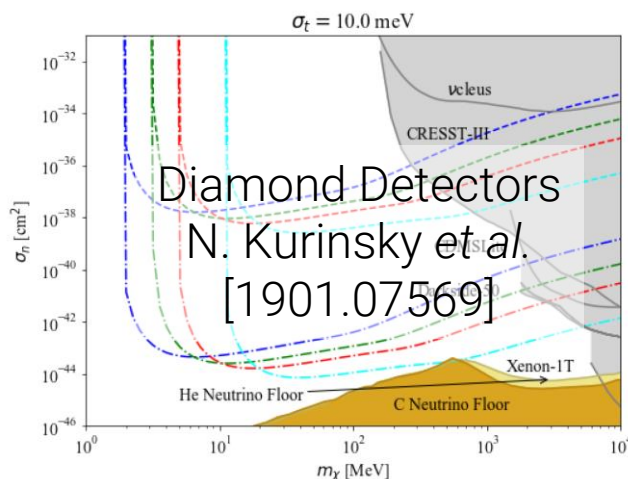
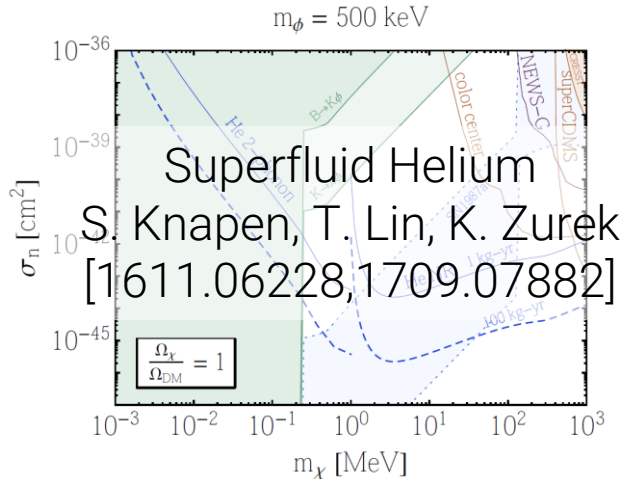
T. Bringmann, M. Pospelov  
[1810.10543]



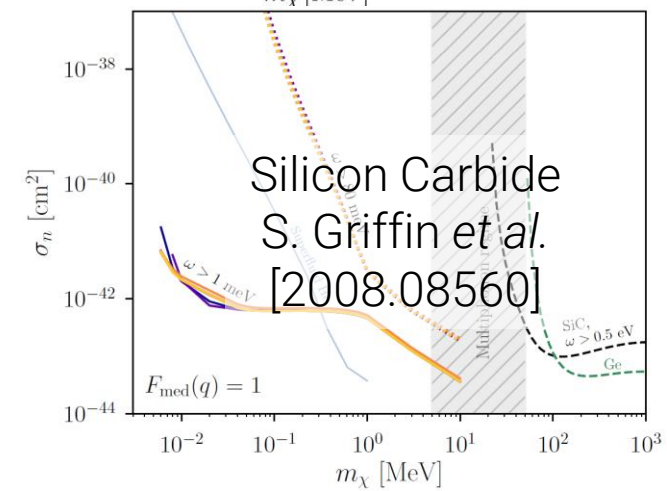
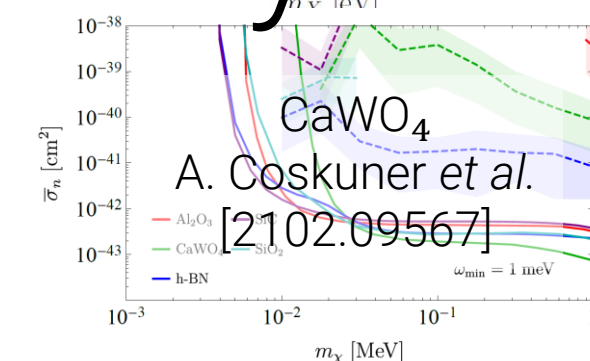
C. Cappiello, J. Beacom  
[1906.11283]

# Is Dark Matter here?

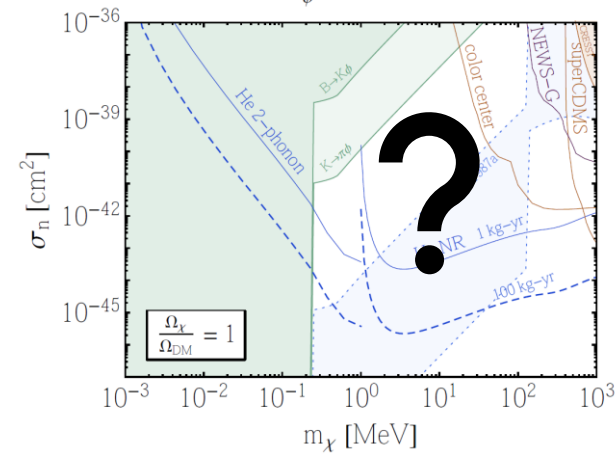




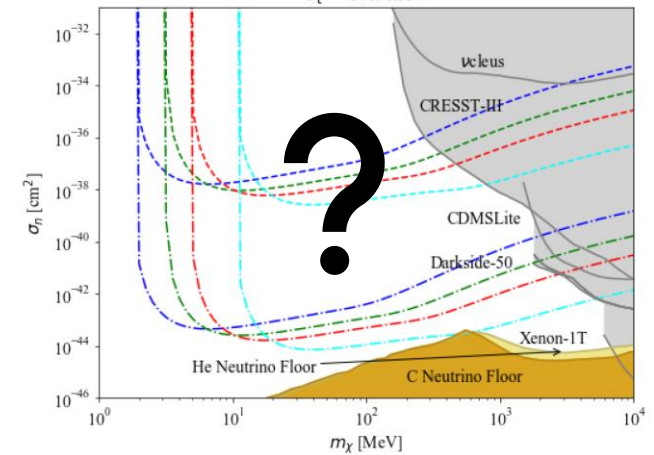
+ many more!



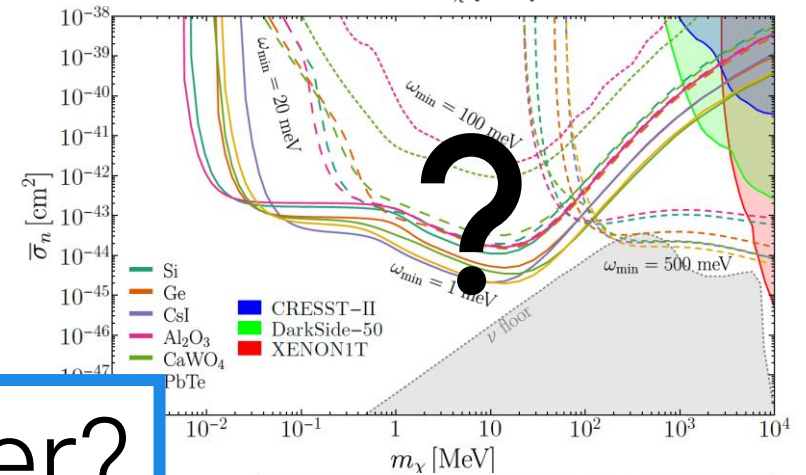
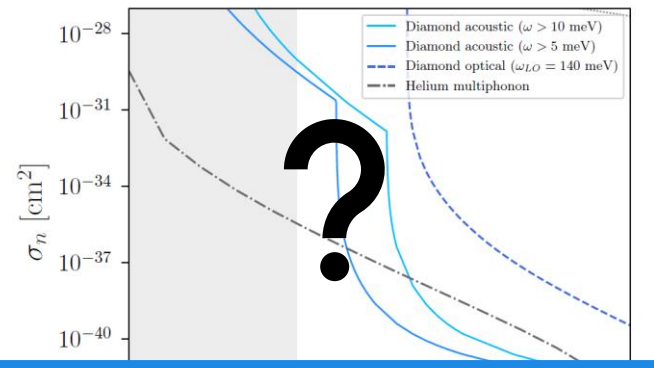
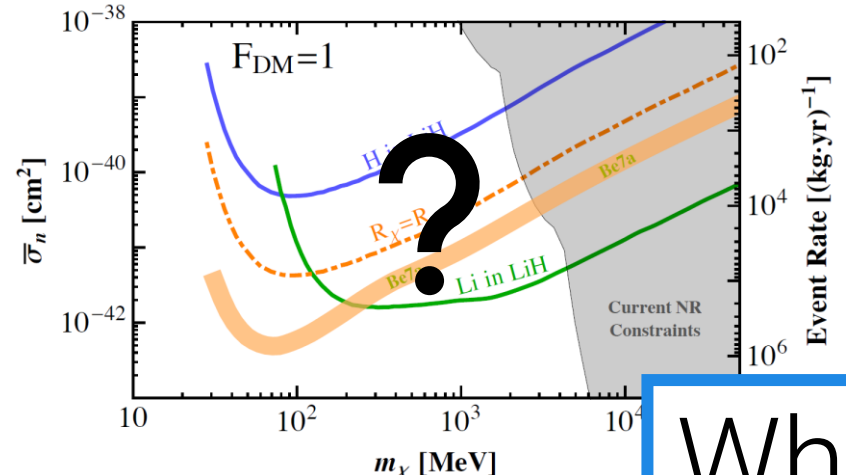
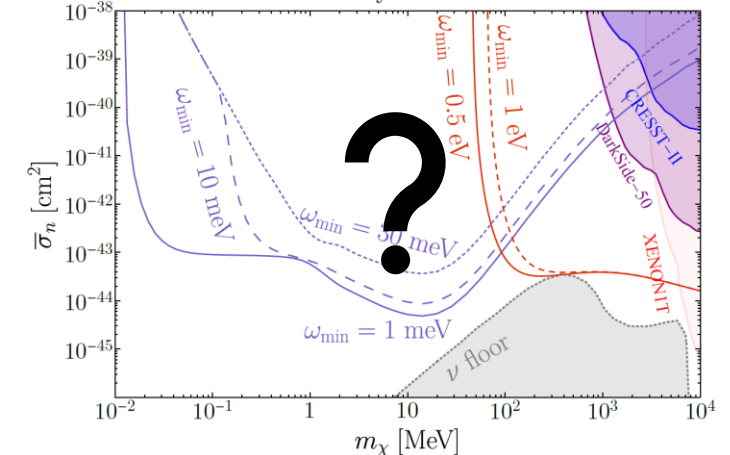
$m_\phi = 500 \text{ keV}$



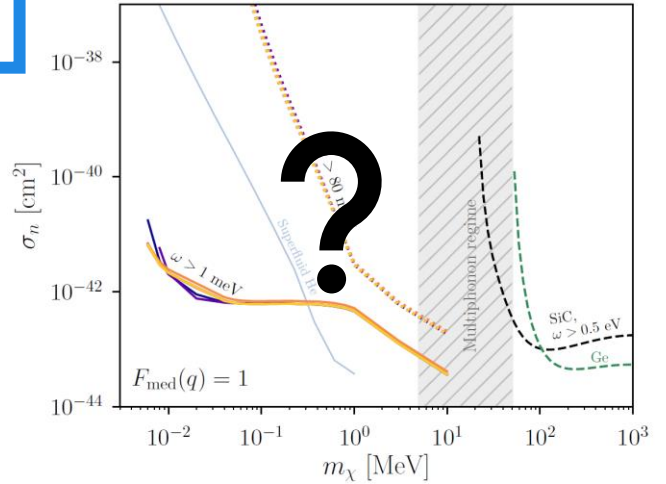
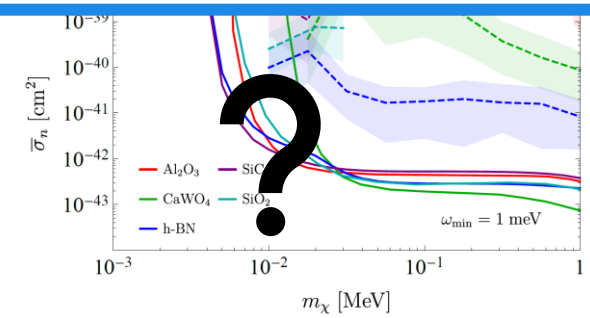
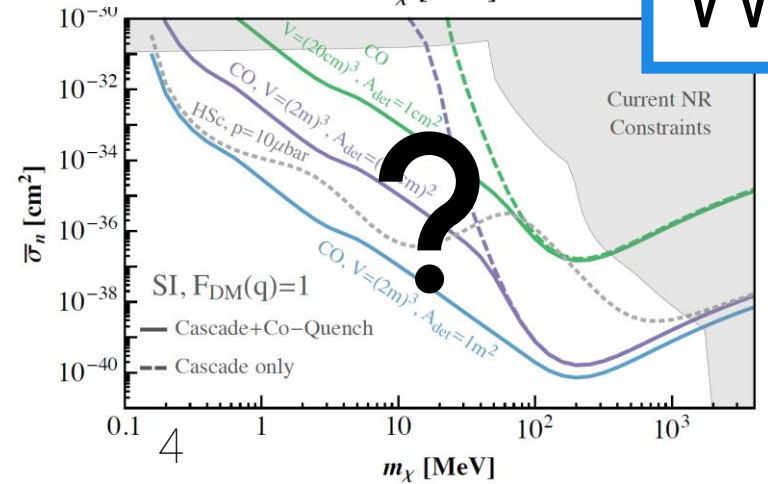
$\sigma_t = 10.0 \text{ meV}$



Heavy mediator



# Where is Dark Matter?





# Outline

Is Dark Matter here?

↳ What is the **max cross section** of sub-GeV DM scattering off nucleons?

Where is the Dark Matter?

↳ Is there a sub-GeV DM candidate which

1. may be **detected at proposed experiments?**
2. may **approach** such a **max cross section?**

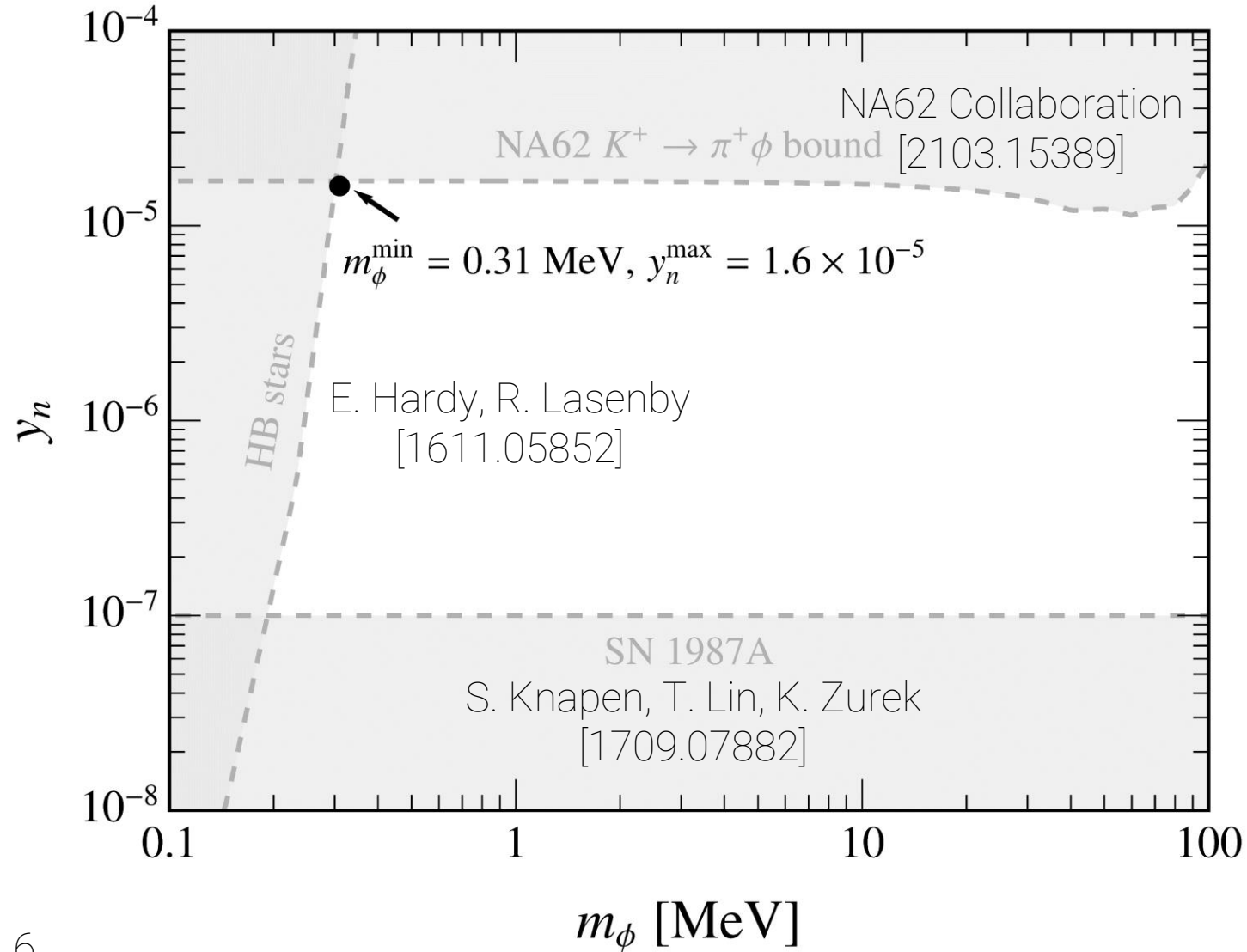
What is the **max cross section** of sub-GeV DM scattering off nucleons?

# The Basics

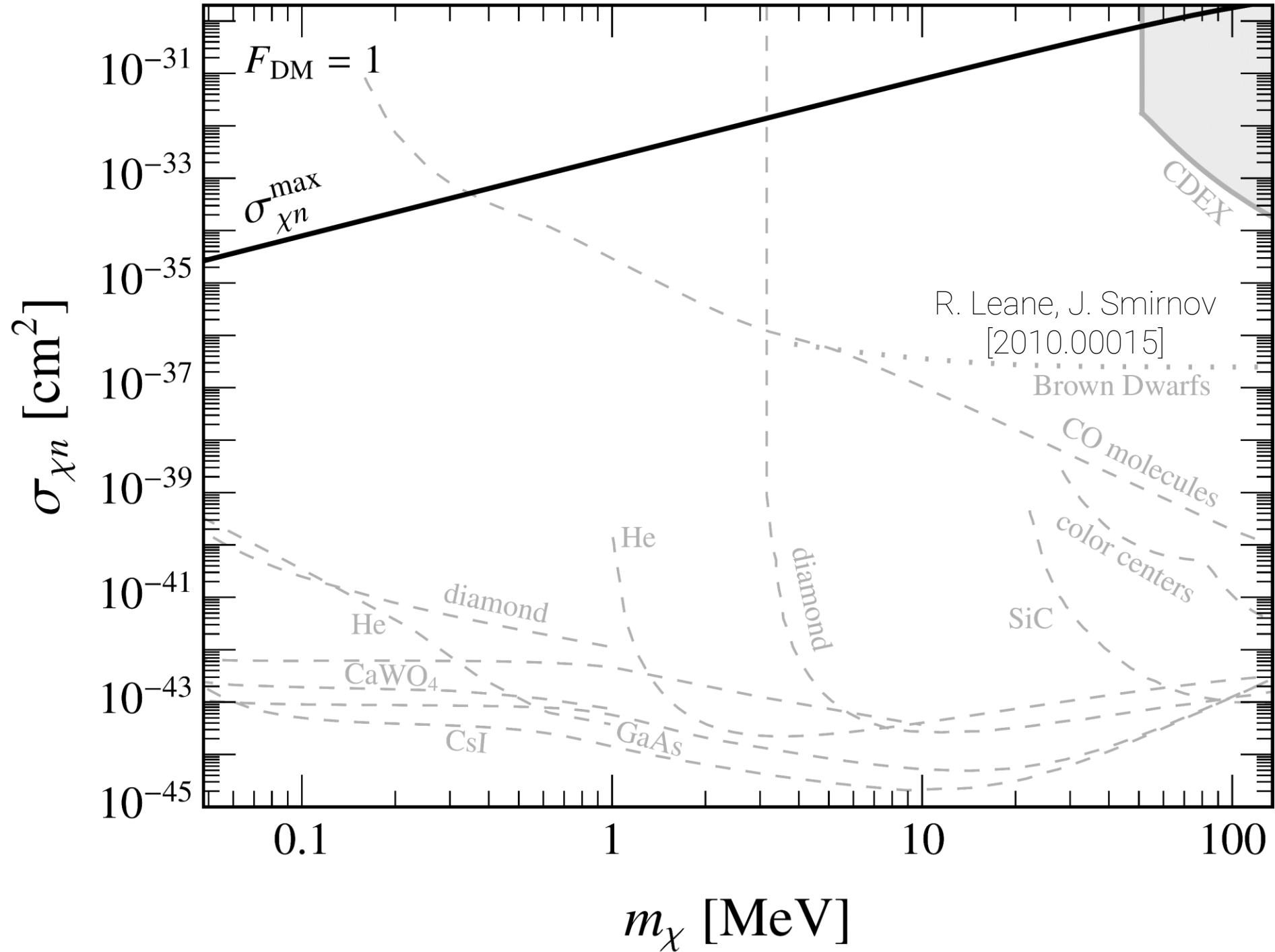
$$\mathcal{L} \supset -m_\chi \bar{\chi} \chi - y_n \phi \bar{n} n - y_\chi \phi \bar{\chi} \chi$$

$$\sigma_{\chi n}^{\max} \equiv \frac{(y_n^{\max} y_\chi^{\max})^2}{4\pi} \frac{\mu_{\chi n}^2}{\left[ \left( m_\phi^{\min} \right)^2 + v_{\text{DM}}^2 m_\chi^2 \right]^2}$$

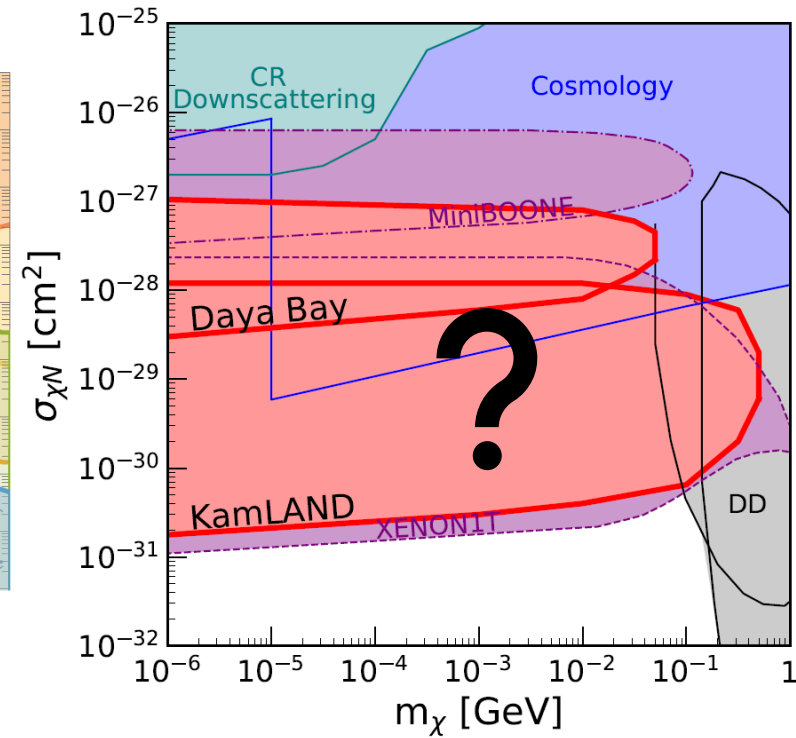
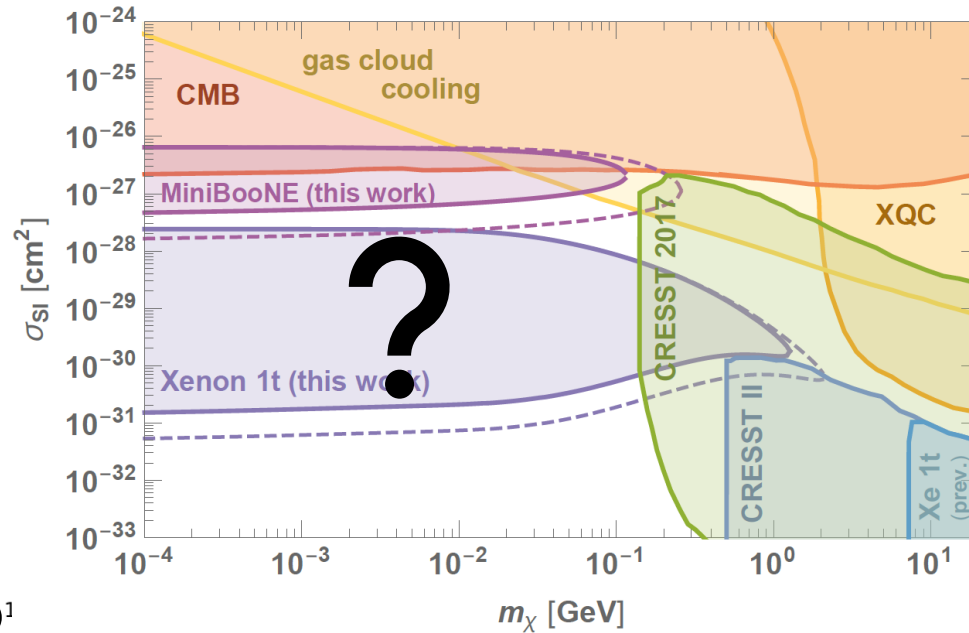
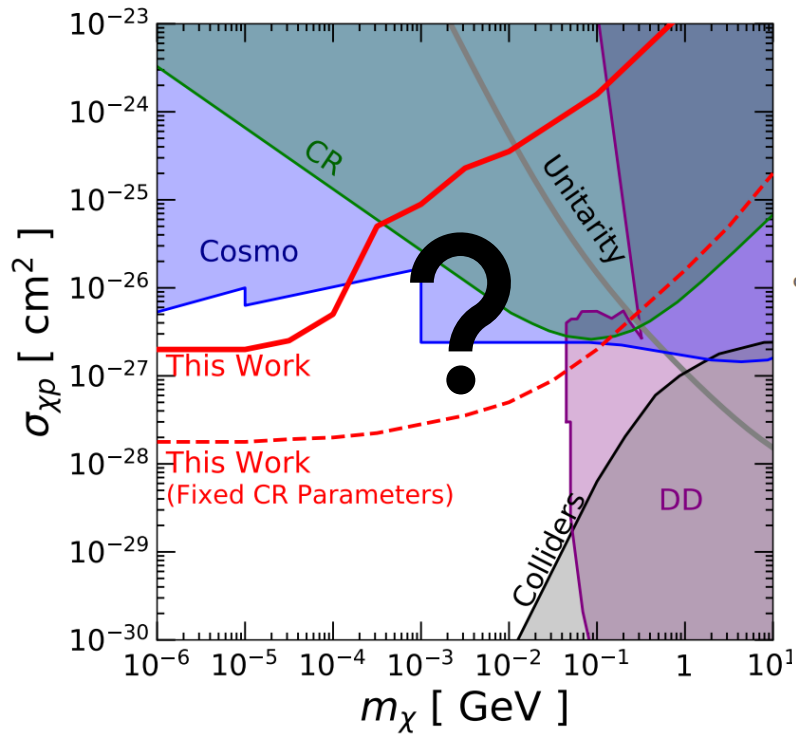
# The Basics



$$\sigma_{\chi\chi}/m_\chi \lesssim 1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g} \text{ at } v \sim 10^{-3}$$

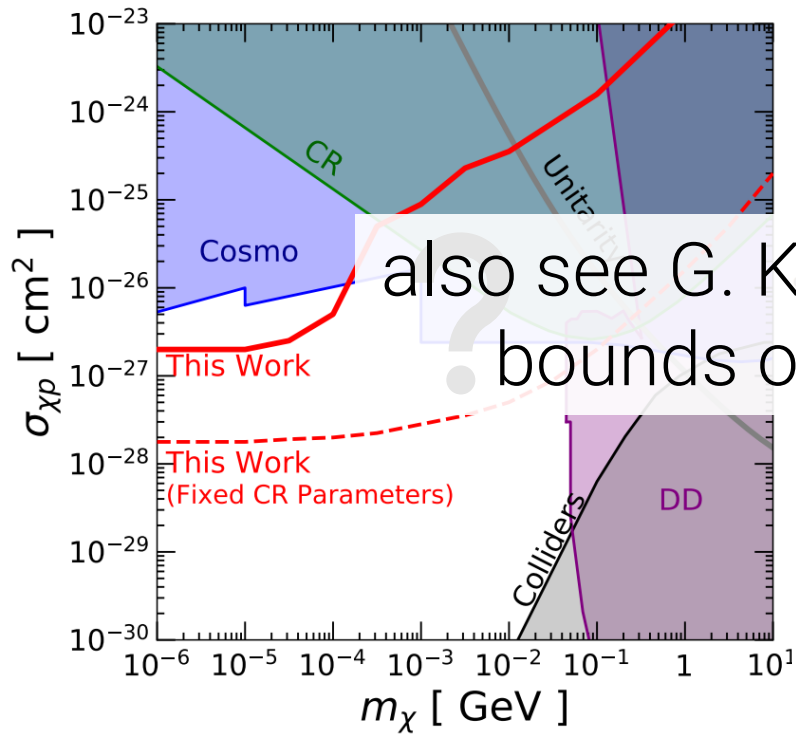


# Is Dark Matter here?

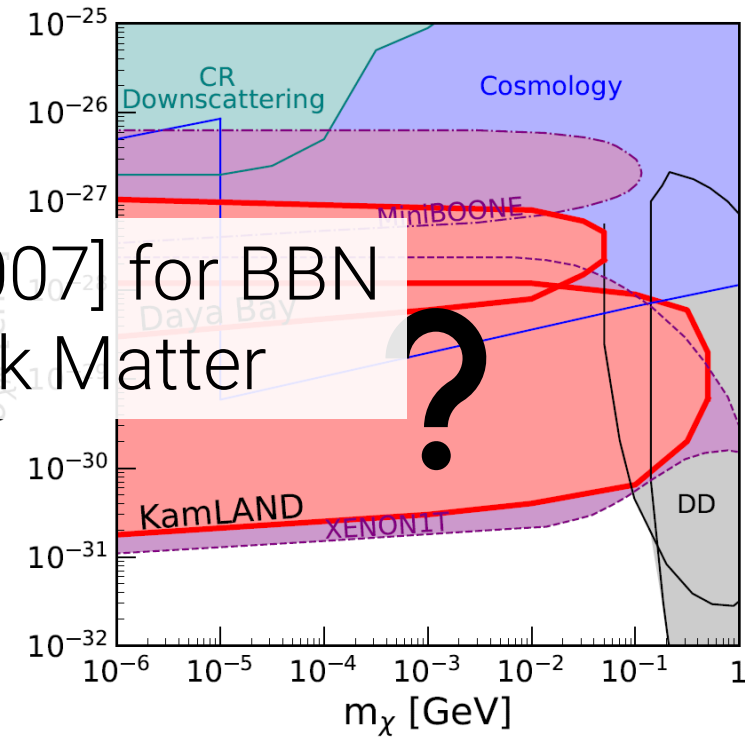
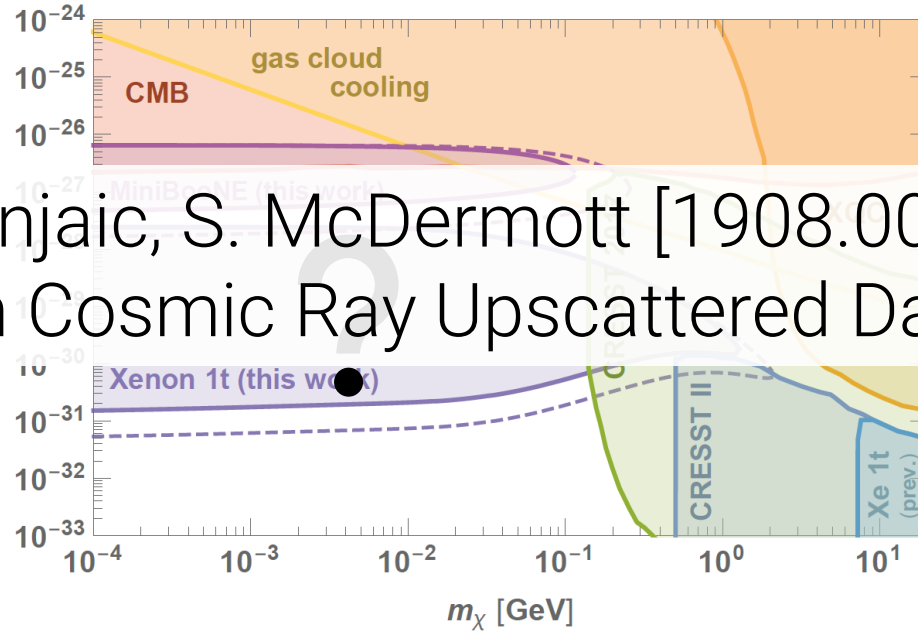


# Is Dark Matter here?

## Probably not.



also see G. Krnjaic, S. McDermott [1908.00007] for BBN bounds on Cosmic Ray Upscattered Dark Matter



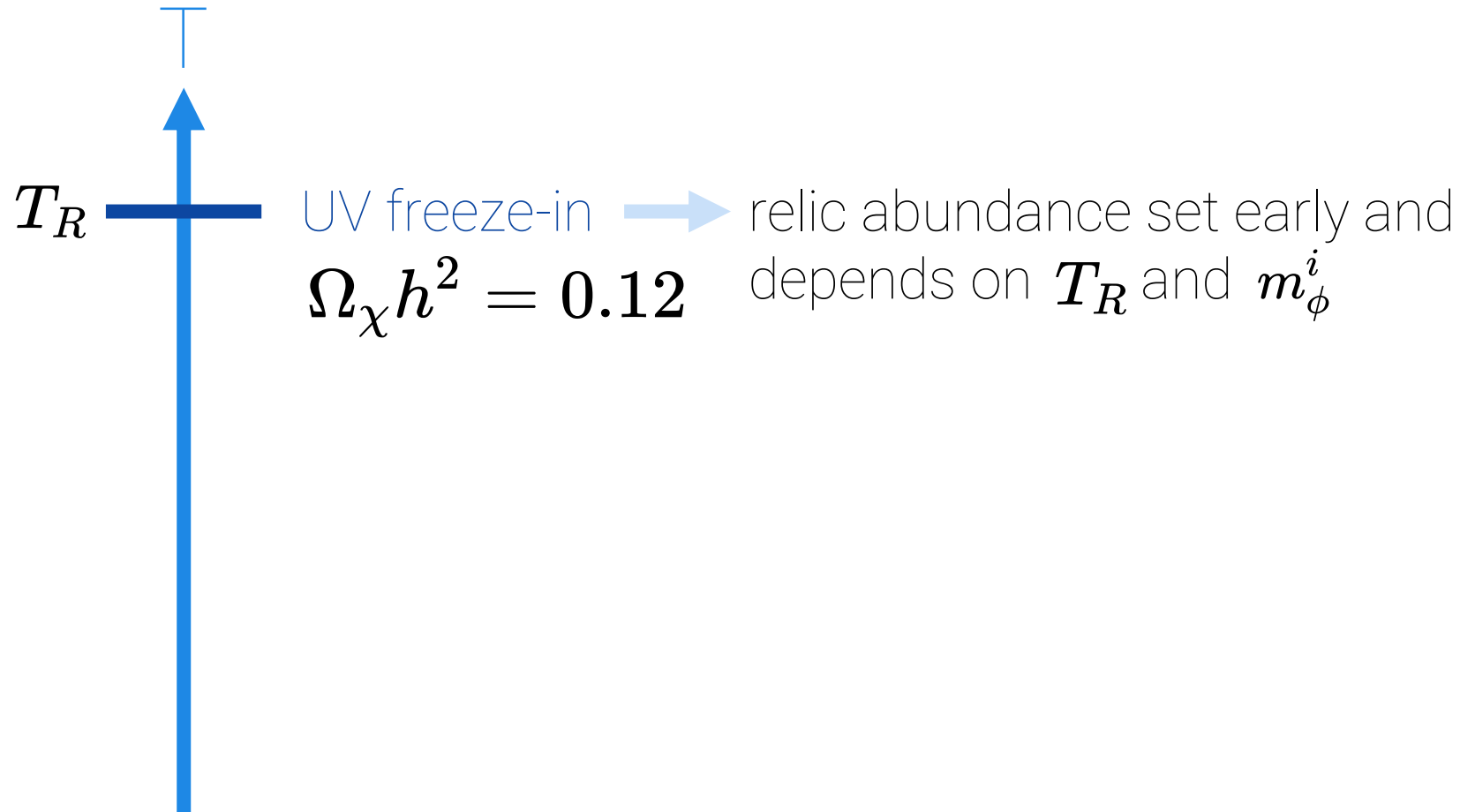
Is there a sub-GeV DM candidate which

1. may be detected at proposed experiments?
2. may approach such a max cross section?

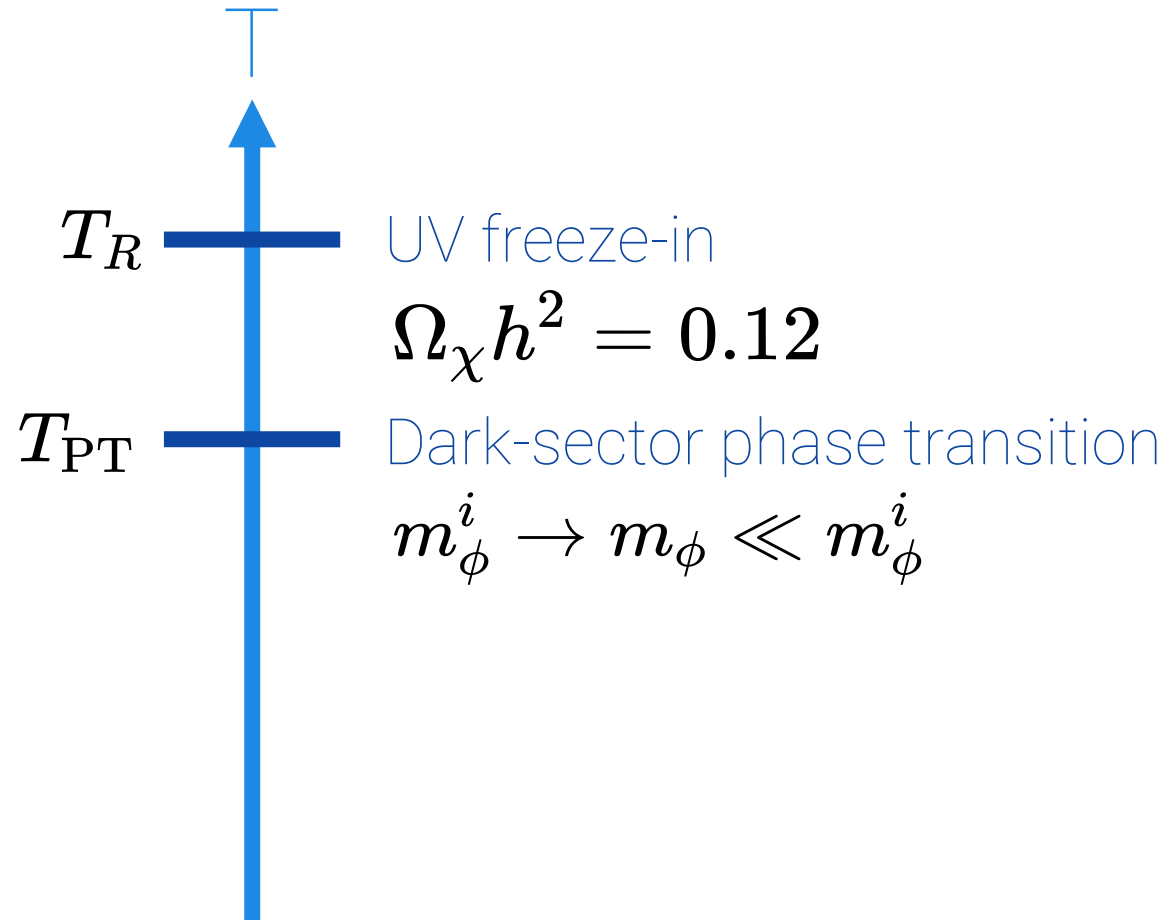


Highly interactive  
Particle Relics (HYPERs)

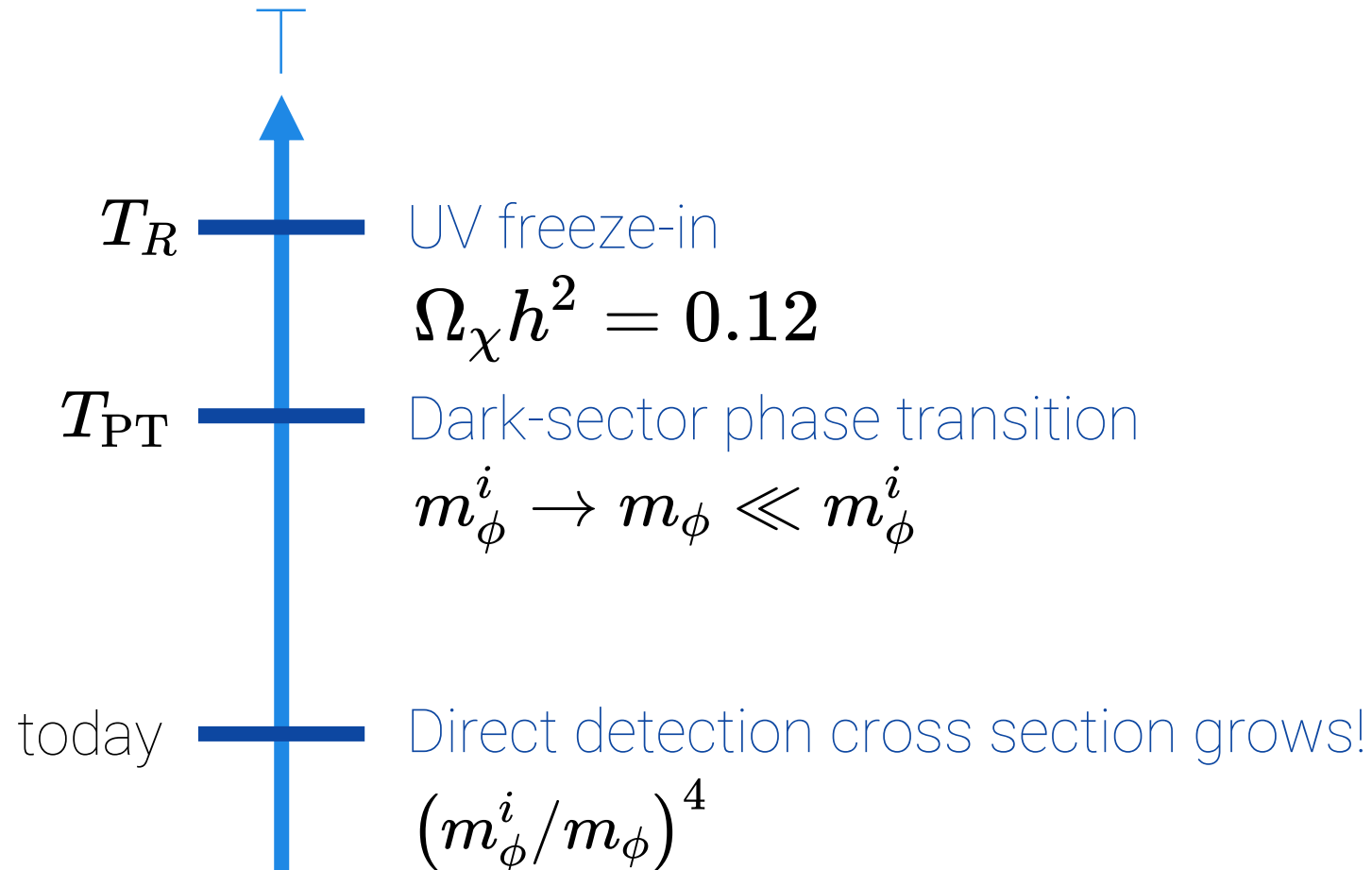
# HYPER History



# HYPER History



# HYPER History

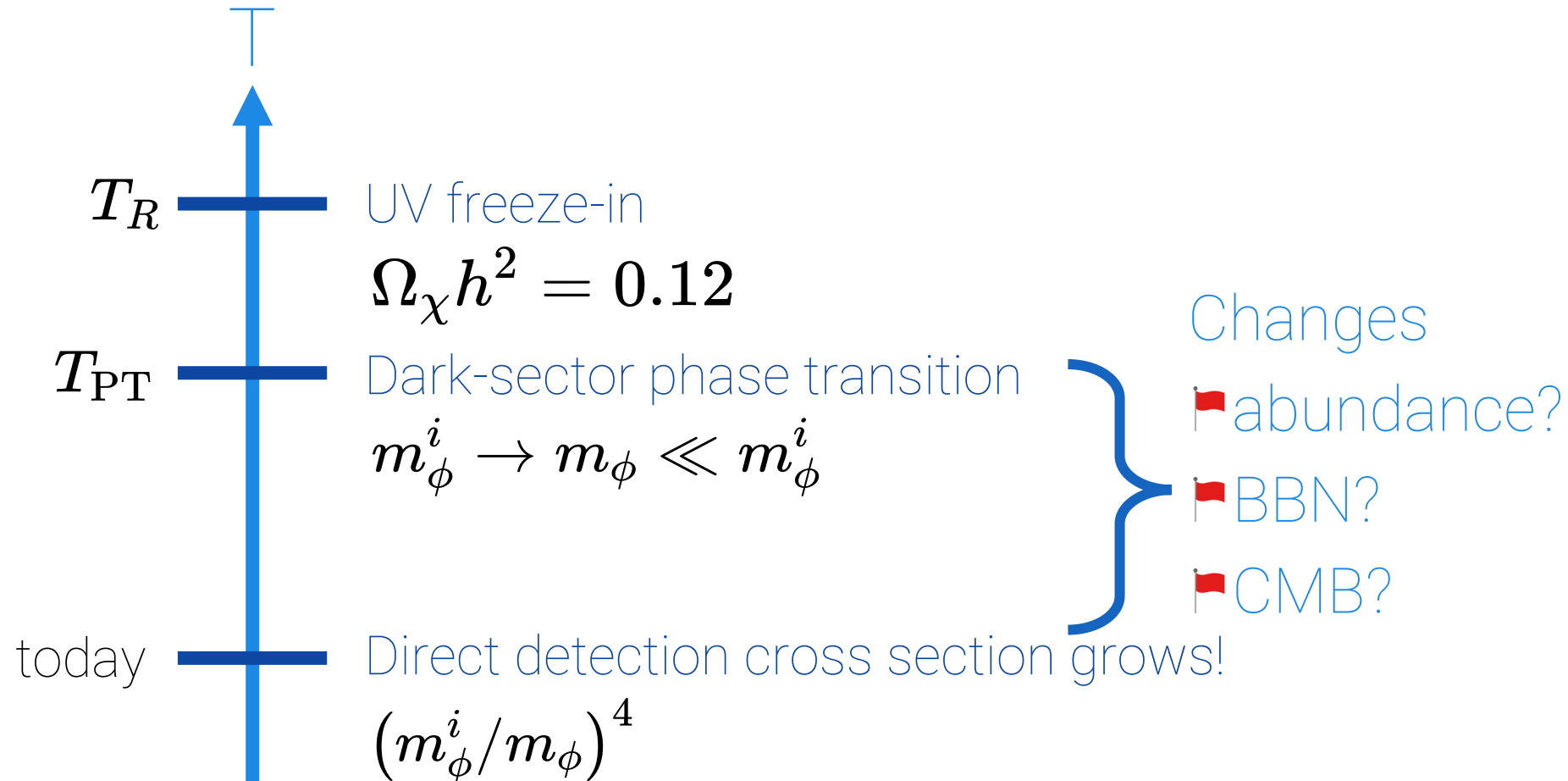


K. Boddy, S. Carroll, M. Trodden  
[1208.4376]

Interactions much stronger today than when relic abundance was set

R McGehee

# HYPER History



🚩 Changes relic abundance?

$$m_\chi < m_{\pi^0} \longrightarrow \cancel{\bar{\chi}\chi} \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$$

$$T_{\text{PT}} \ll m_{\pi^0} \longrightarrow \text{hadrons} \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$$
$$\longrightarrow \cancel{\gamma\gamma} \rightarrow \cancel{\phi(\phi)}$$

🚩 Changes relic abundance?

$$m_\chi < m_{\pi^0} \longrightarrow \cancel{\bar{\chi}\chi} \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$$

$$T_{\text{PT}} \ll m_{\pi^0} \longrightarrow \cancel{\text{hadrons}} \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$$
$$\longrightarrow \cancel{\gamma\gamma} \rightarrow \phi(\phi)$$

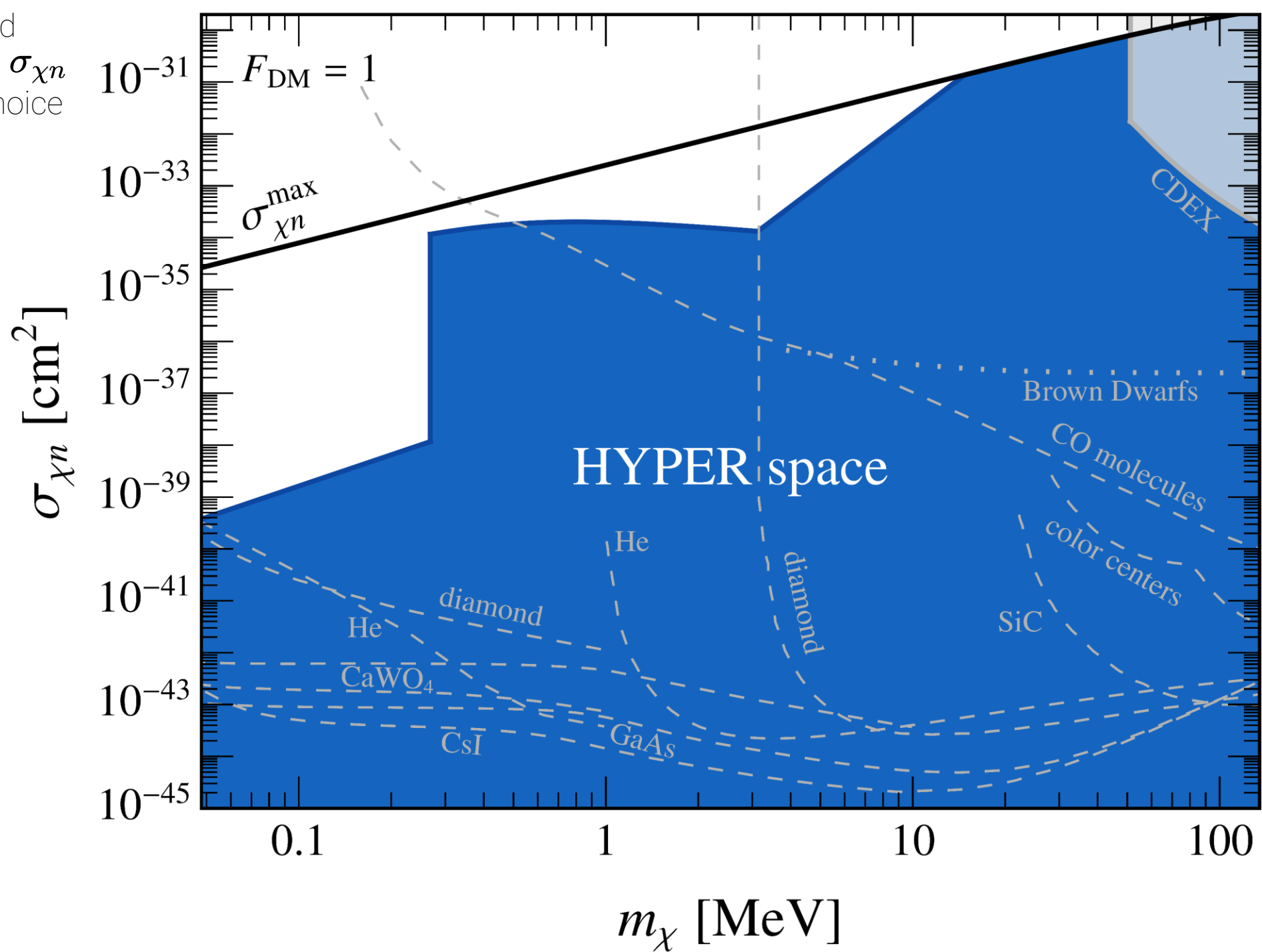


$$\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \phi\phi$$

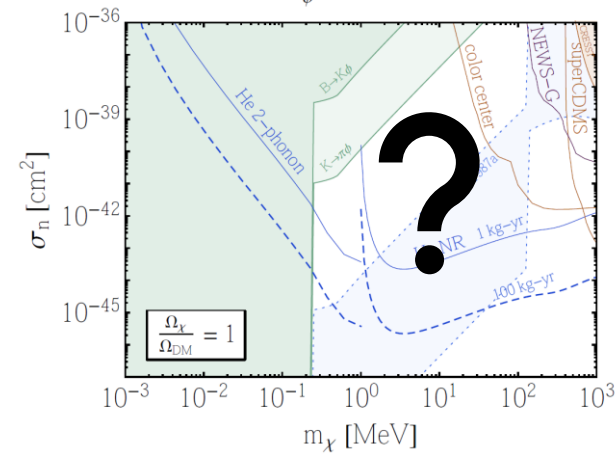
# Results



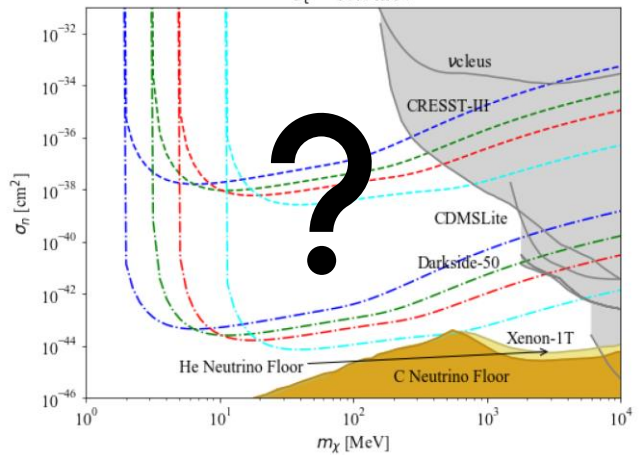
Boundary found  
by maximizing  $\sigma_{\chi n}$   
via judicious choice  
of  $(m_\phi, y_\chi)$



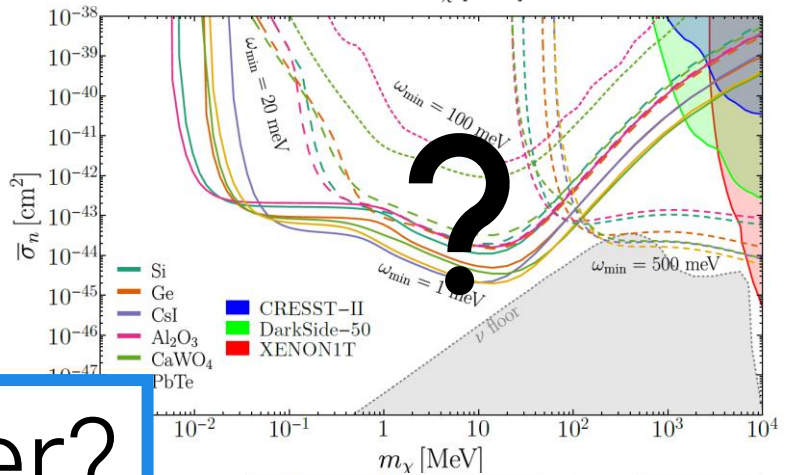
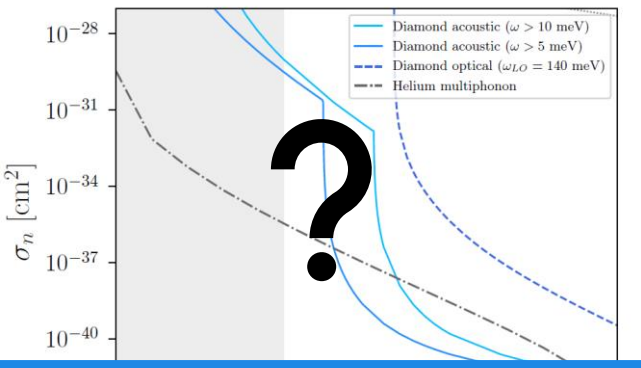
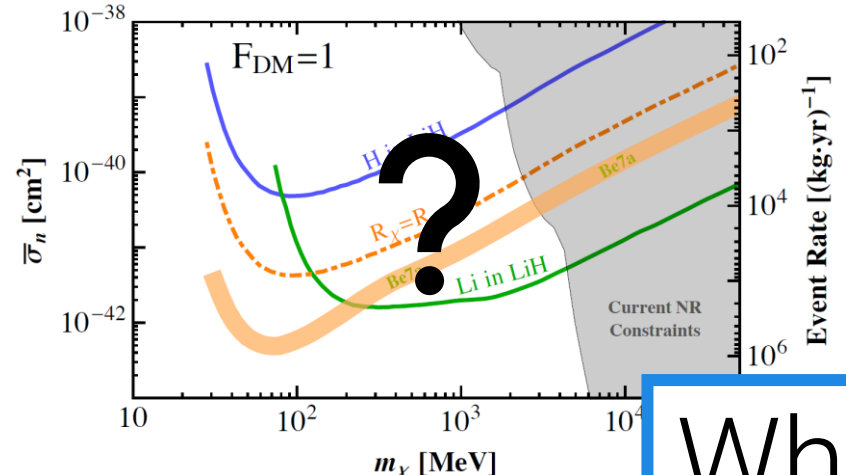
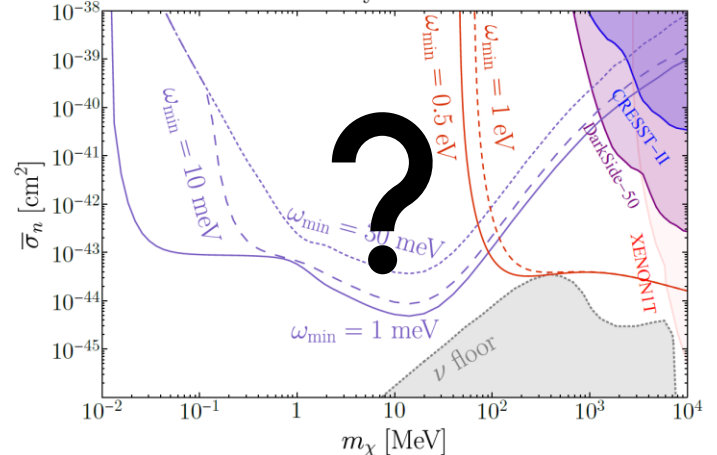
$m_\phi = 500 \text{ keV}$



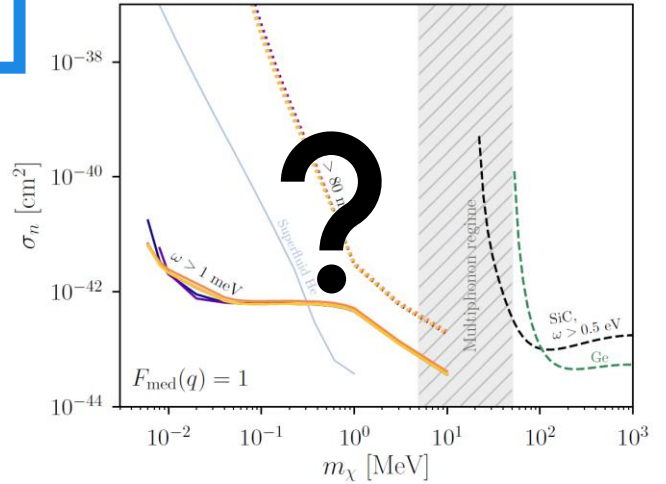
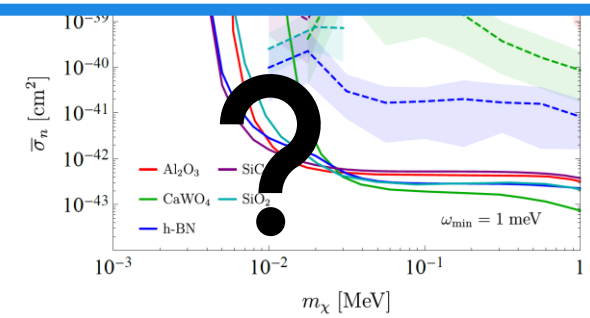
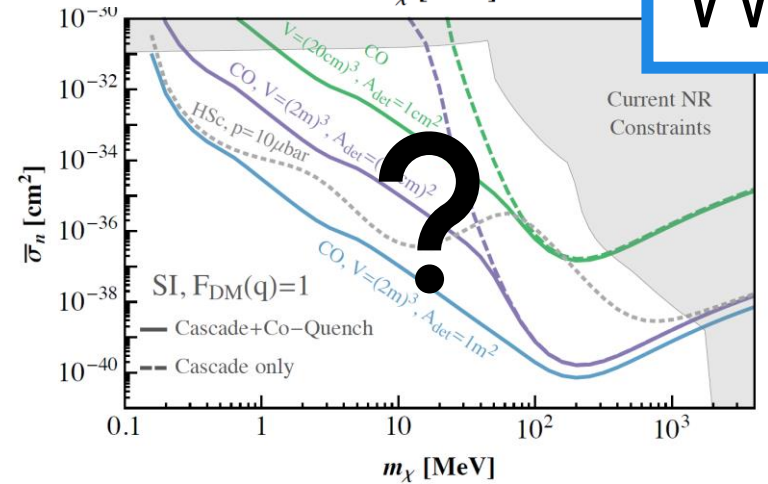
$\sigma_t = 10.0 \text{ meV}$



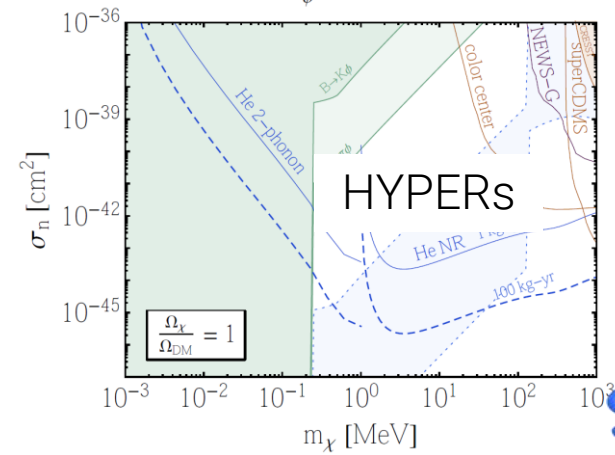
Heavy mediator



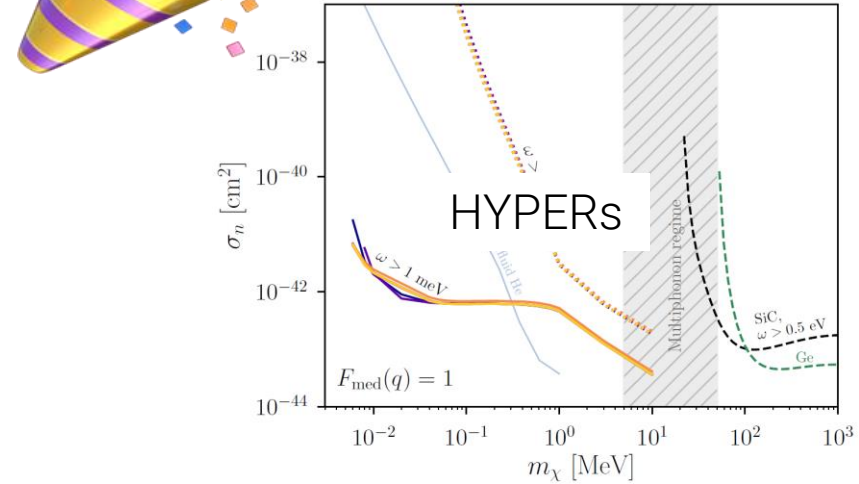
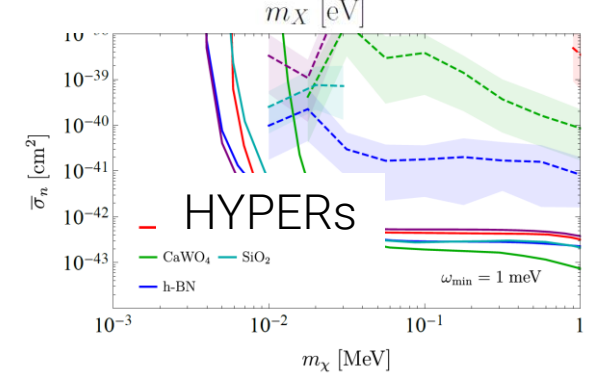
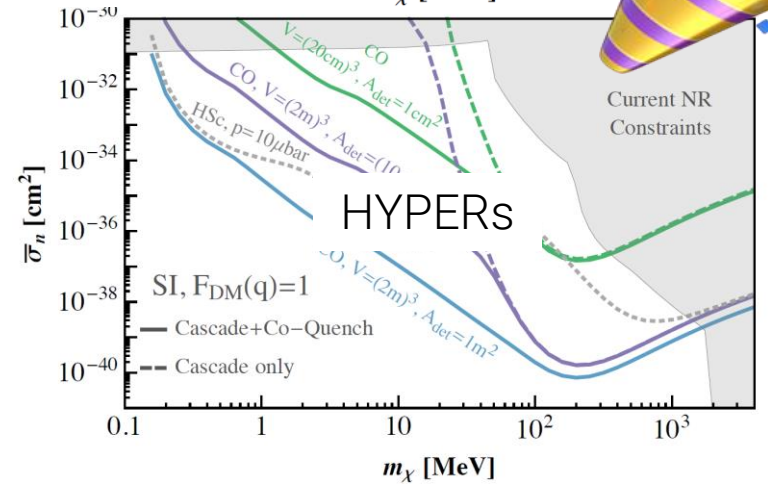
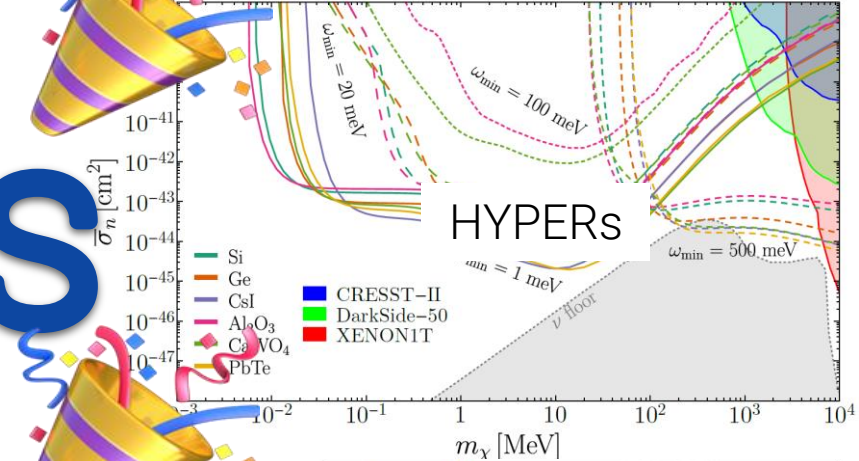
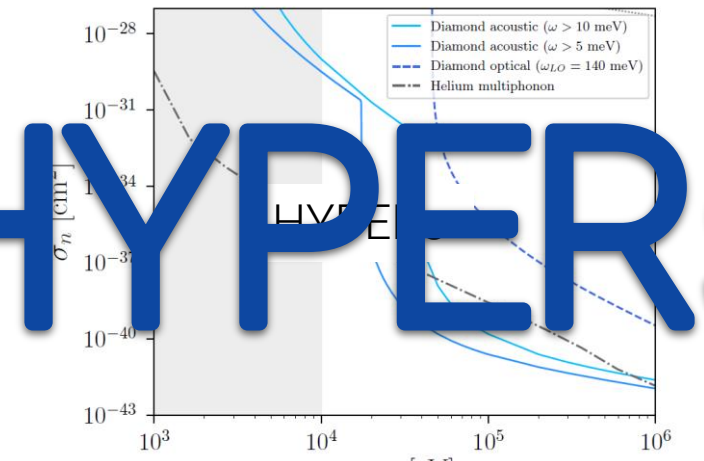
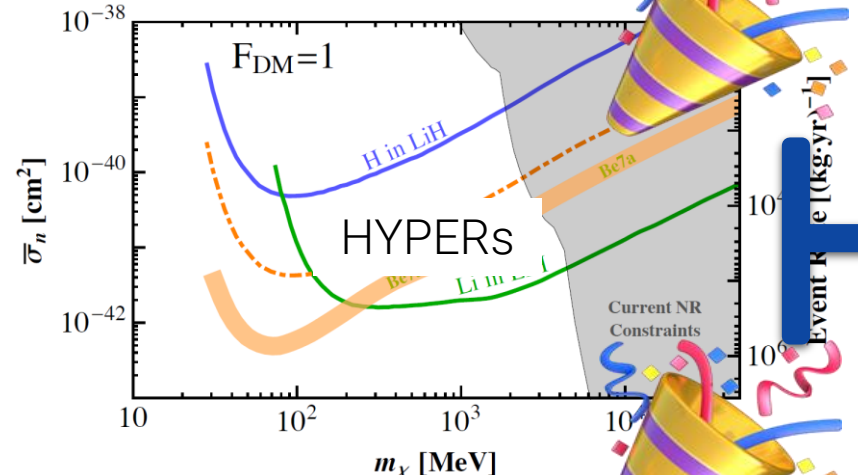
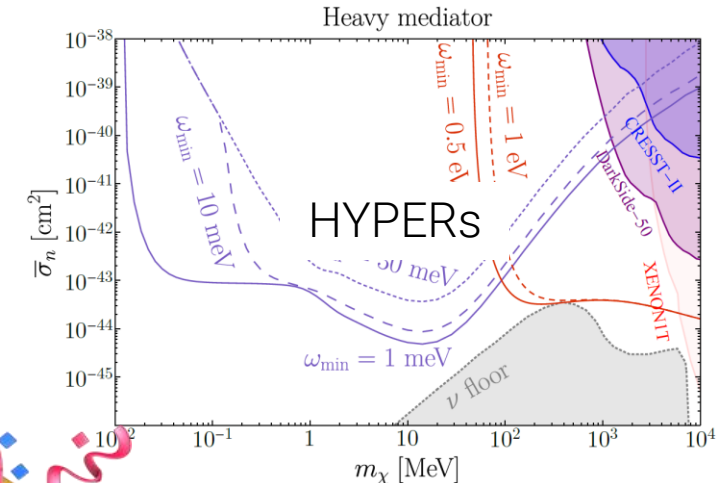
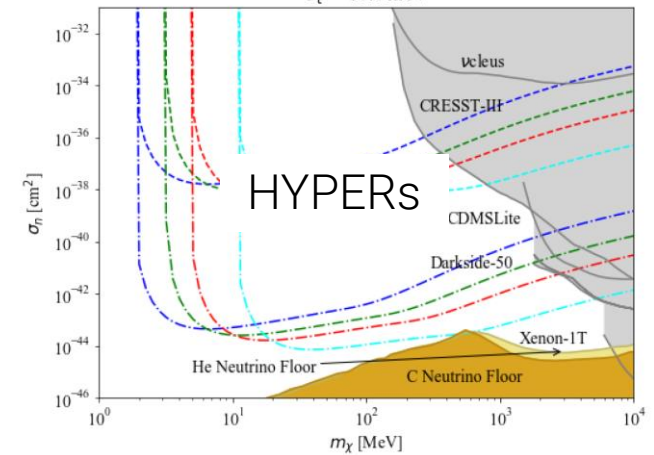
# Where is Dark Matter?



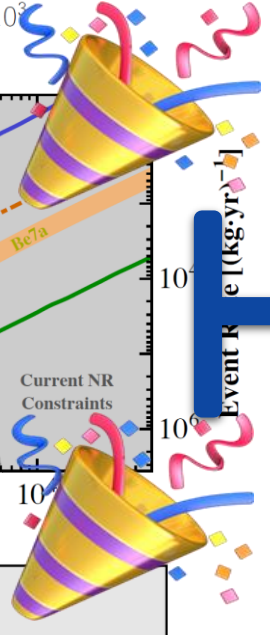
$m_\phi = 500 \text{ keV}$



$\sigma_t = 10.0 \text{ meV}$



# HYPERS



Is Dark Matter here?

↳ What is the **max cross section** of sub-GeV DM scattering off nucleons?

Where is the Dark Matter?

↳ Is there a sub-GeV DM candidate which

1. may be **detected at proposed experiments?**
2. may **approach** such a **max cross section?**

Is Dark Matter here?

↳ What is the **max cross section** of sub-GeV DM scattering off nucleons? **A: Not that big. Good to know.**

Where is the Dark Matter?

↳ Is there a sub-GeV DM candidate which

1. may be **detected at proposed experiments?**
2. may **approach** such a **max cross section?**

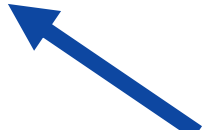
**A: HYPERs**

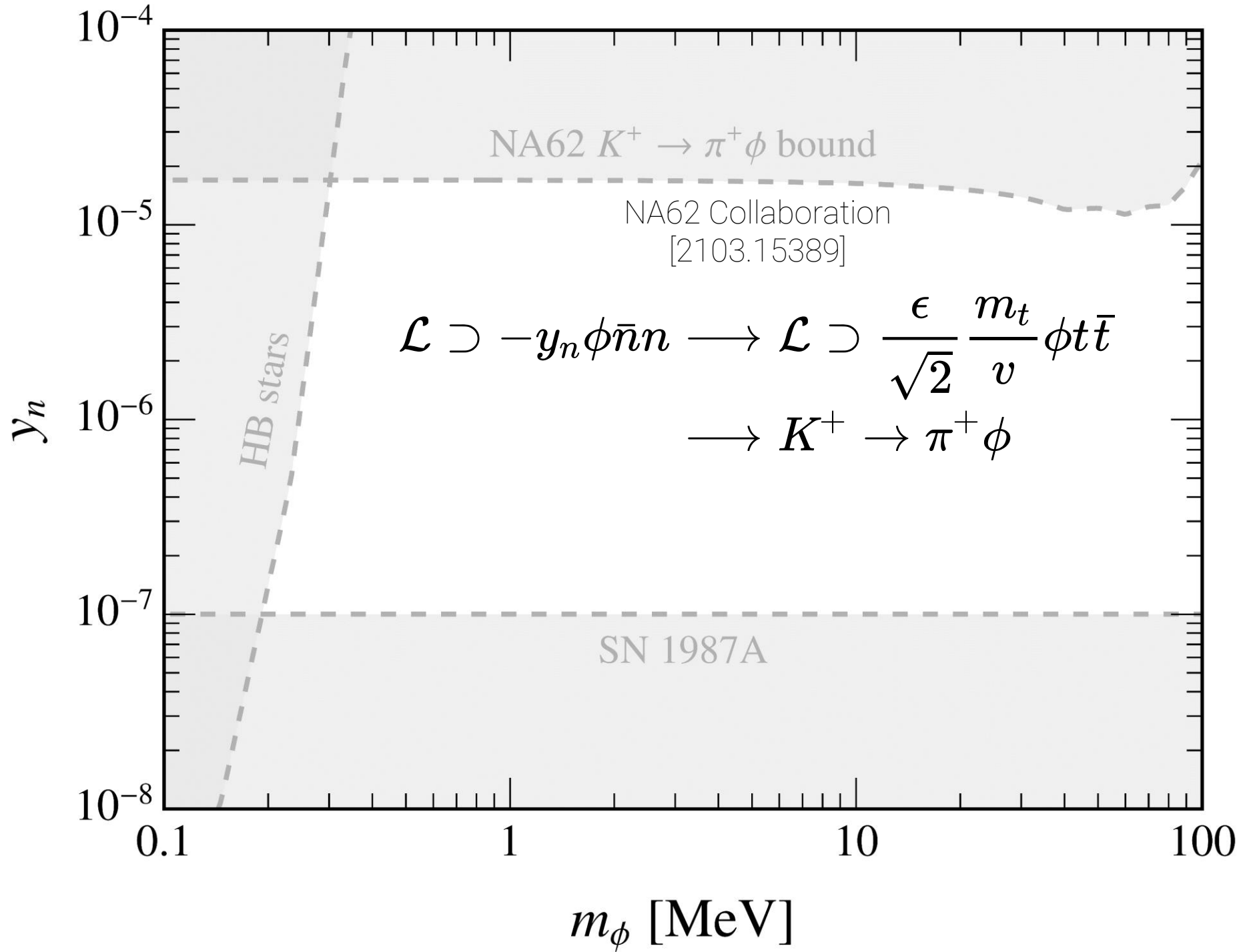
Backup Slides

# The Basics

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -m_\chi \bar{\chi} \chi - y_n \phi \bar{n} n - y_\chi \phi \bar{\chi} \chi$$

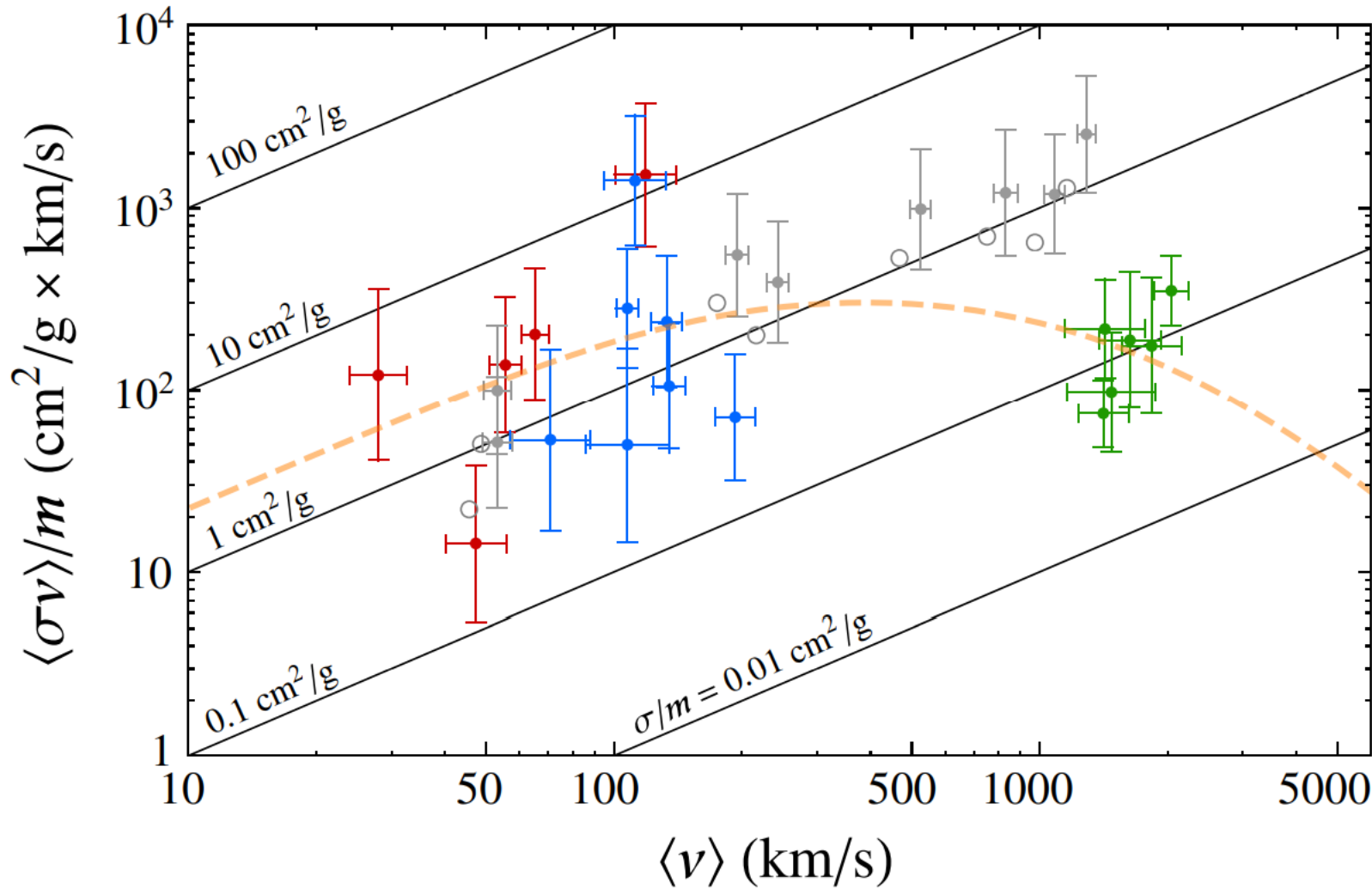
S. Knapen, T. Lin, K. Zurek  
[1709.07882]

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \lambda \phi \bar{\psi} \psi \longrightarrow \frac{\alpha_s}{4\Lambda} \phi G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu}$$






# DM Self Interactions



M. Kaplinghat, S. Tulin, H. Yu  
[1508.03339]

**Dwarf**, **LSB**,  
SIDM *N*-body,  
**cluster** data

$$\sigma_{xx}/m_x \lesssim 1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g} \\ \text{at } v \sim 10^{-3}$$

# Robustness of the Estimate

- ✓ Chose “best” UV completion of nucleon coupling
  - ✓ Coupling directly to tops gives a larger bound
  - ✓ Coupling directly to lighter quarks does too
- ✓ Vector mediator? dark photon bounds much more stringent

Fine tuning the top coupling can reduce meson decay bounds

Large composite states of asymmetric DM may have a larger cross section  
C. Coskuner et al. [1812.07573]

# Indirect Detection

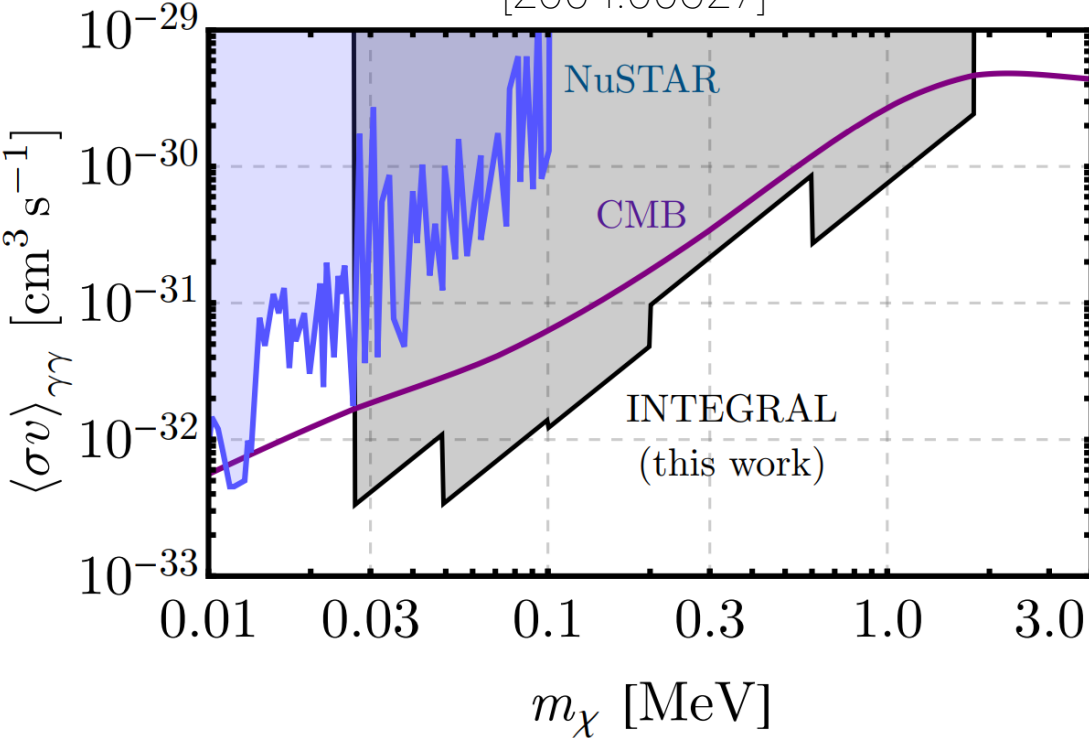
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{\alpha y_n}{6\pi m_p} \phi F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$



$$\sigma v_{\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \gamma\gamma} = \frac{1}{8\pi} \left( \frac{\alpha y_n^{\max} y_\chi^{\max}}{3\pi m_p} \right)^2 \frac{s(s - 4m_\chi^2)}{[s - (m_\phi^{\min})^2]^2}$$

$\sim 10^{-44} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$

R. Laha, J. Muñoz, T. Slatyer  
[2004.00627]



# Challenges for Achieving $\sigma_{\chi n}^{\max}$

A **light  $\phi$**  with **sizable couplings** to DM and nuclei

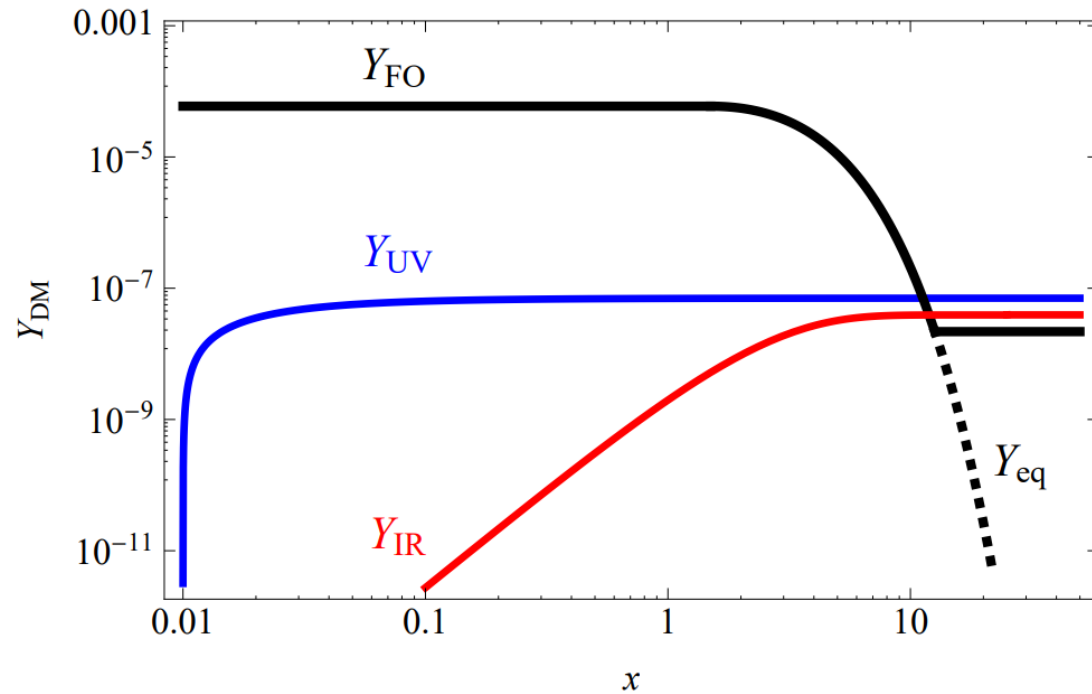
Large  $\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \phi\phi$

**fast annihilations** deplete relic abundance

constrained by **indirect detection**

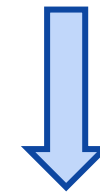
**Thermalization** of  $\phi$  increases  $N_{\text{eff}}$

# UV Freeze-In



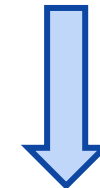
F. Elahi, C. Kolda, J. Unwin [1410.6157]

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \lambda \phi \bar{\psi} \psi \longrightarrow \frac{\alpha_s}{4\Lambda} \phi G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu}$$



heavy  $\phi$

$$\frac{\alpha_s y_\chi y_n}{2.6 m_n (m_\phi^i)^2} \bar{\chi} \chi G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu}$$



$$10 \text{ GeV} \lesssim T_R \lesssim 300 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Gamma_{K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \phi} &= \frac{|C_{ds}|^2 f_0(m_\phi)^2}{16\pi m_{K^+}^3} \left( \frac{m_{K^+}^2 - m_{\pi^+}^2}{m_s - m_d} \right)^2 \\
&\quad \times \sqrt{(m_{K^+}^2 - m_{\pi^+}^2 - m_\phi^2)^2 - 4m_{\pi^+}^2 m_\phi^2} \\
C_{ds} &= \frac{3m_s m_t^2 V_{td}^* V_{ts}}{16\pi^2 v^3} \epsilon
\end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma_{\chi\chi} \approx \frac{y_{\chi}^4}{2\pi m_{\chi}^2 v_{\text{DM}}^4} \left[ \log(1 + R^2) - \frac{R^2}{1 + R^2} \right]$$

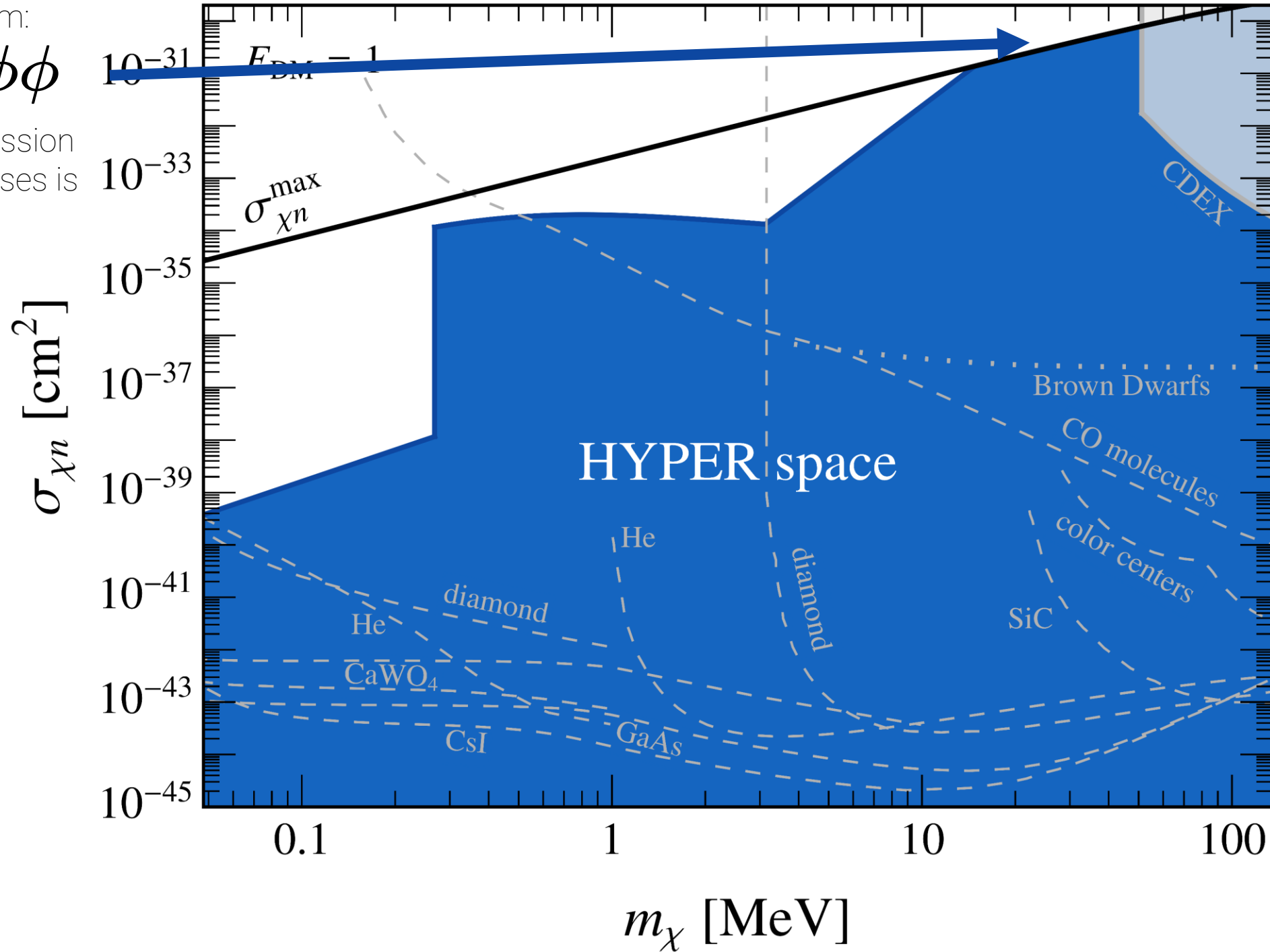
Biggest Problem:

$$\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \phi\phi$$

P-wave suppression  
at heavier masses is  
sufficient

$$m_\phi = m_\phi^{\min}$$

$$y_\chi = y_\chi^{\max}$$



R McGee



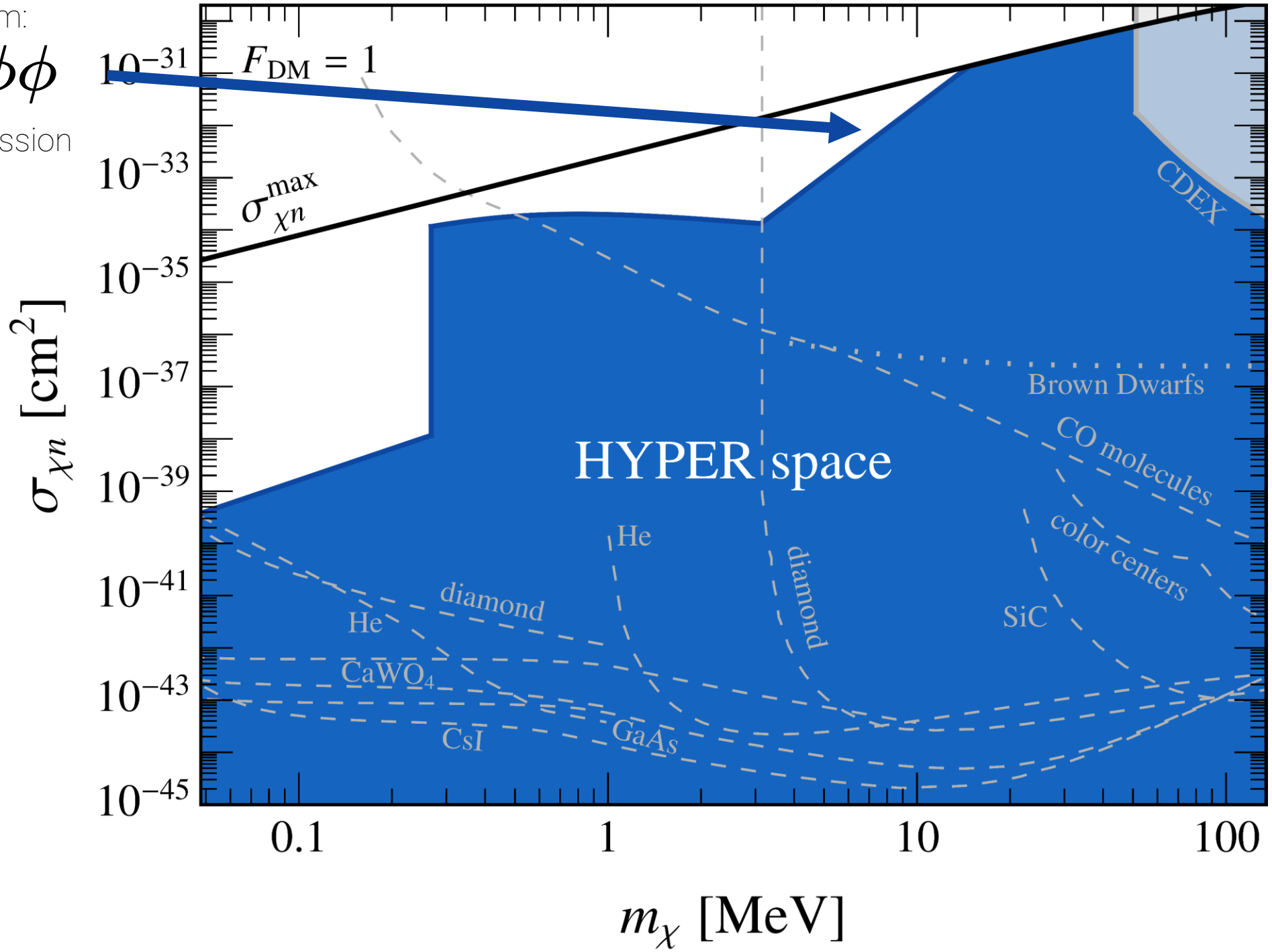
Biggest Problem:

$$\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \phi\phi$$

P-wave suppression  
insufficient

$$m_\phi = m_\phi^{\min}$$

$$y_\chi < y_\chi^{\max}$$



R McGehee

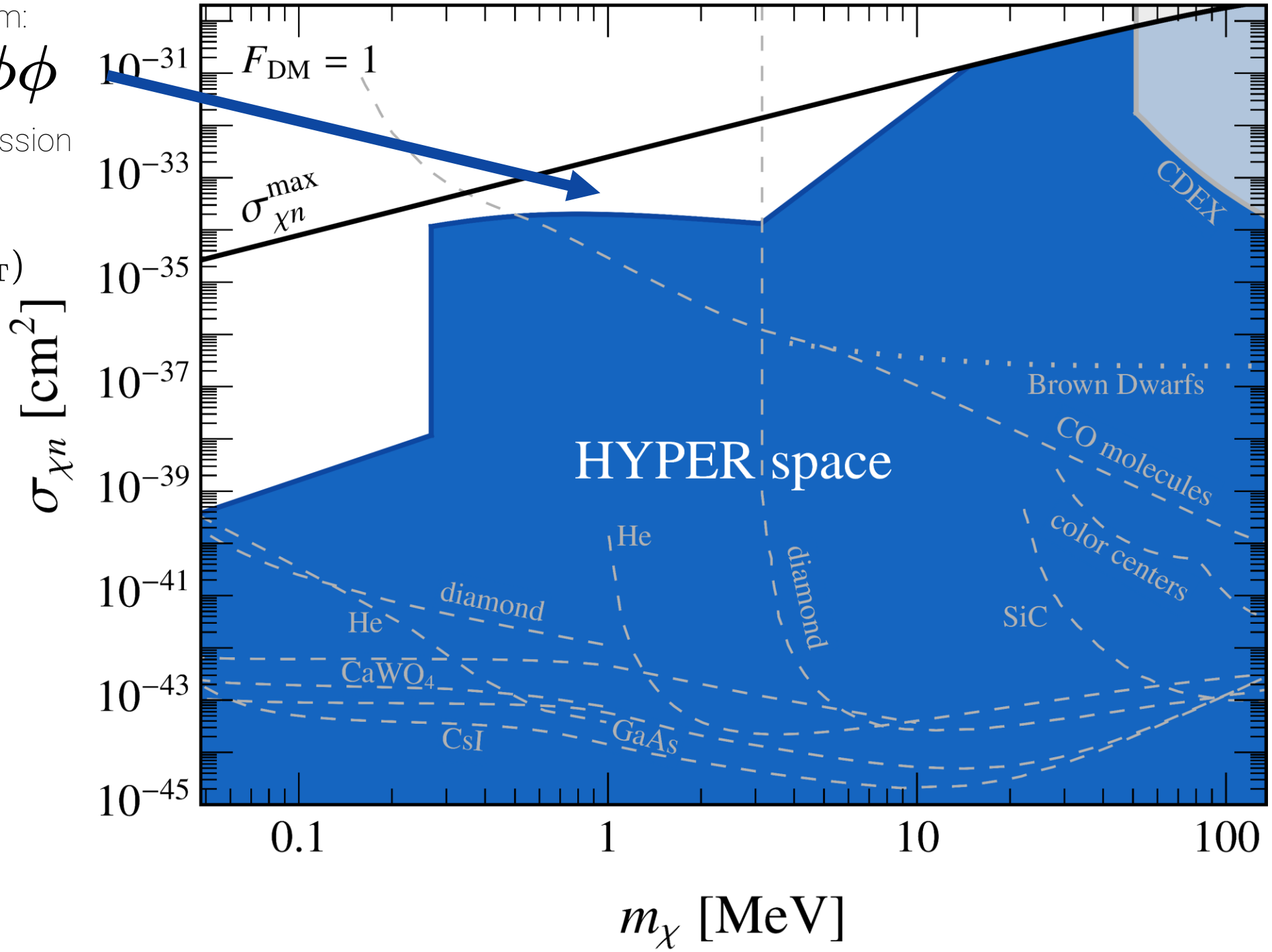
Biggest Problem:

$$\bar{\chi}\chi \rightarrow \phi\phi$$

P-wave suppression  
insufficient

$$m_\phi = E_\chi(T_{\text{PT}})$$

$$y_\chi = y_\chi^{\text{max}}$$



R McGehee

Biggest Problem:

$$\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \phi$$

Setting

$$m_\phi = E_\chi(T_{\text{PT}})$$

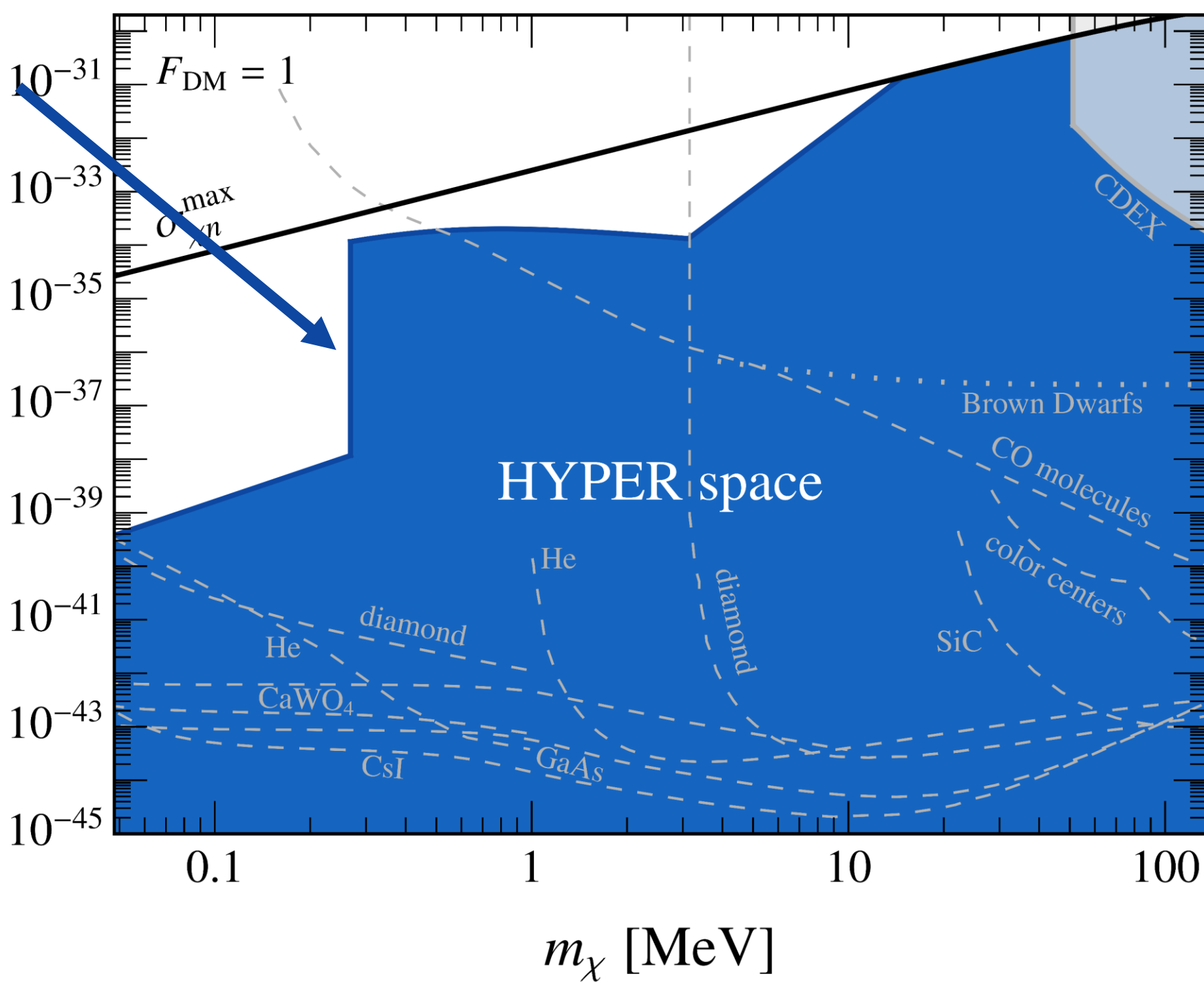
makes

$$m_\phi \geq 2m_\chi$$

Boltzmann  
suppress via

$$m_\phi = 21 \text{ MeV}$$

$\sigma_{\chi n} [\text{cm}^2]$



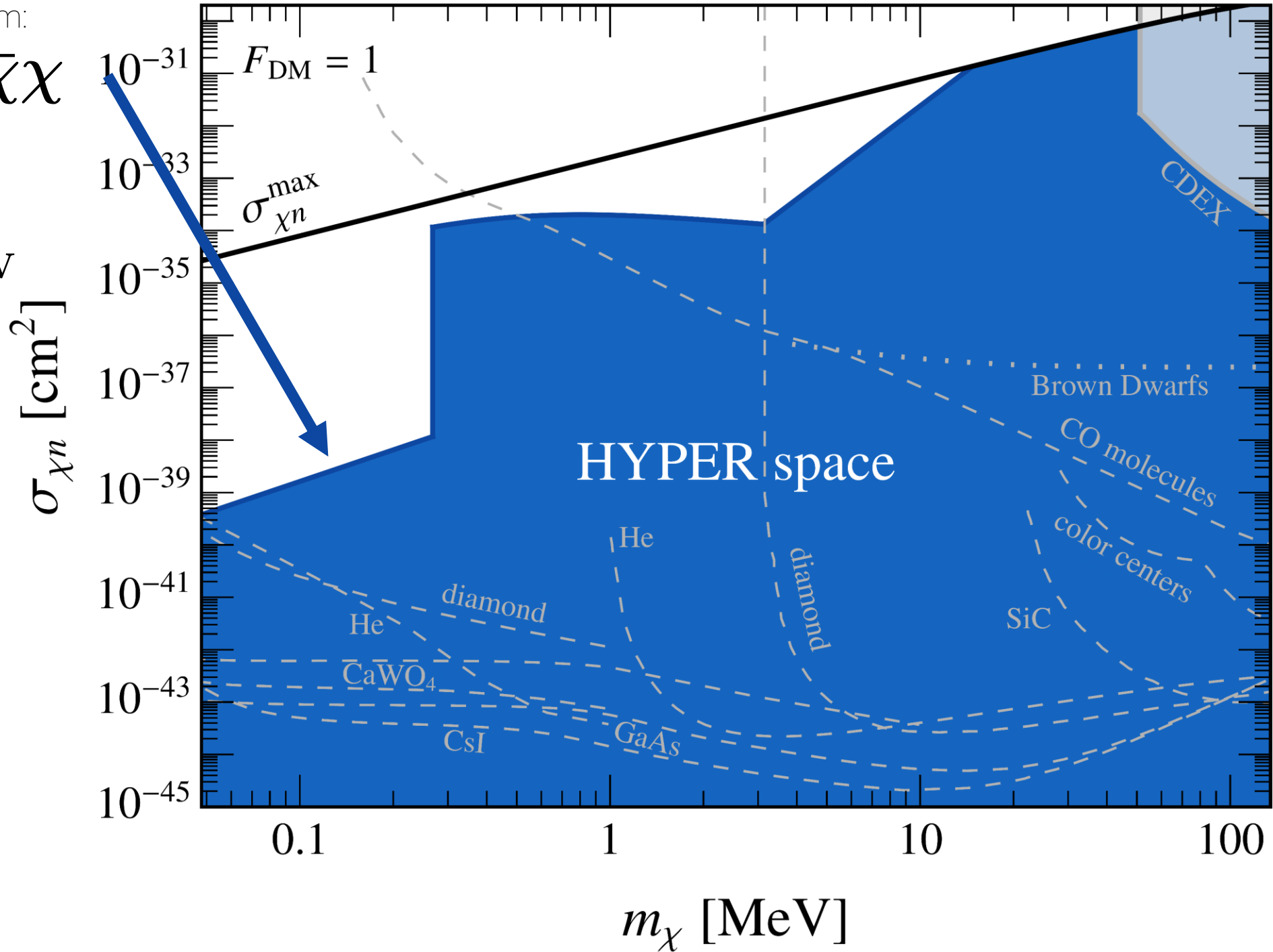
R McGehee

Biggest Problem:

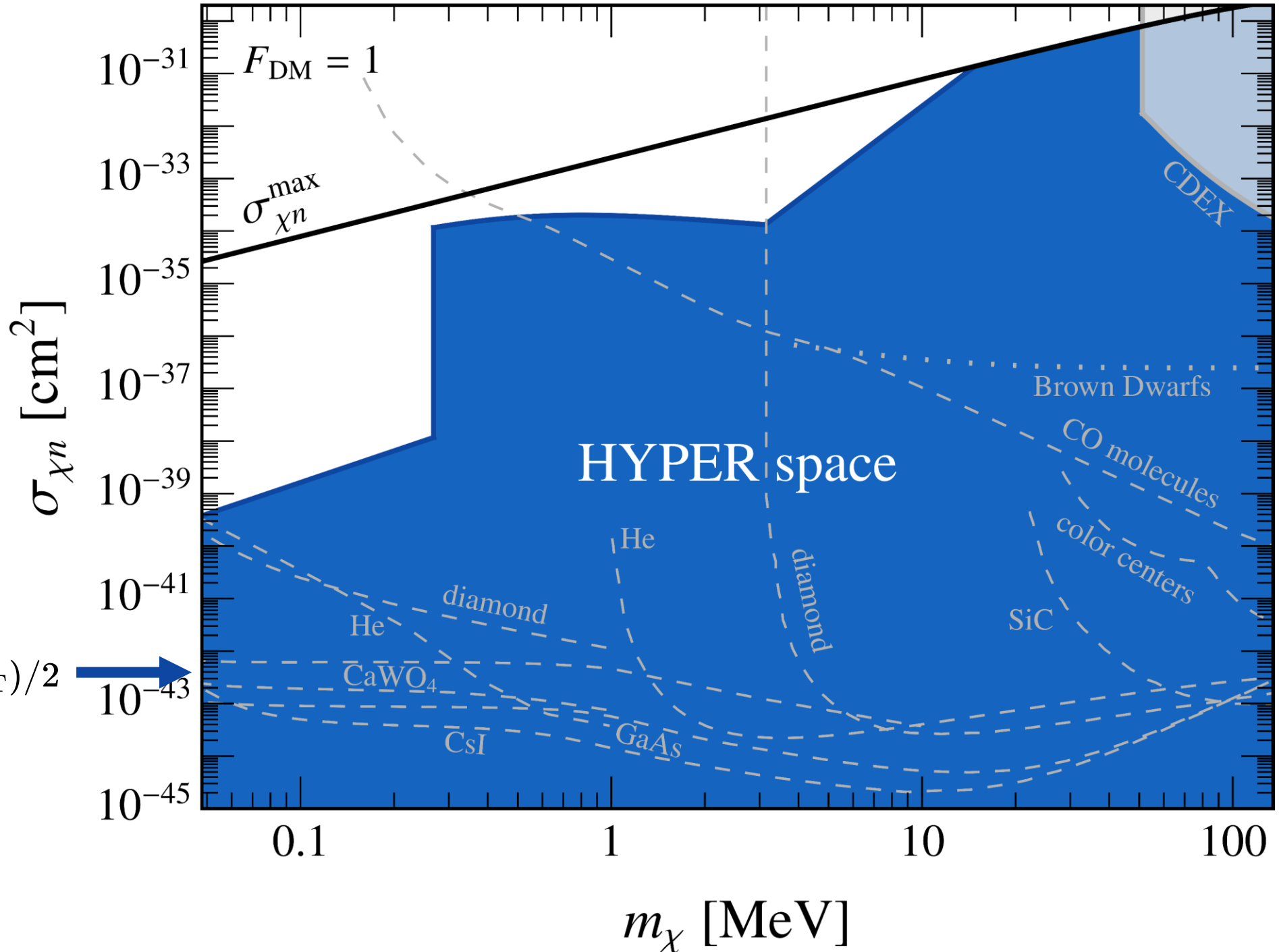
$$\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$$

$$m_\phi = 21 \text{ MeV}$$

$$y_\chi < y_\chi^{\text{max}}$$



R McGehee



$m_\chi = \omega_p(T_{\text{PT}})/2$  →

Longitudinal plasmons may decay

$\gamma^* \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$

[1902.08623]

R McGehee


# Earlier Phase Transition?

More problematic processes after PT

$$\pi\pi \rightarrow \phi\phi, \pi^+\pi^- \rightarrow \phi\gamma,$$

$$\pi^\pm\gamma \rightarrow \pi^\pm\phi, \pi^\pm\gamma \rightarrow \pi^\pm\phi\gamma, \dots$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{y_n}{2\pi m_n} \left( \frac{2}{3} \phi |D^\mu \pi^+|^2 - m_\pi^2 \phi \pi \pi \right)$$


$$\phi^{(*)} \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$$

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When do these start to matter?

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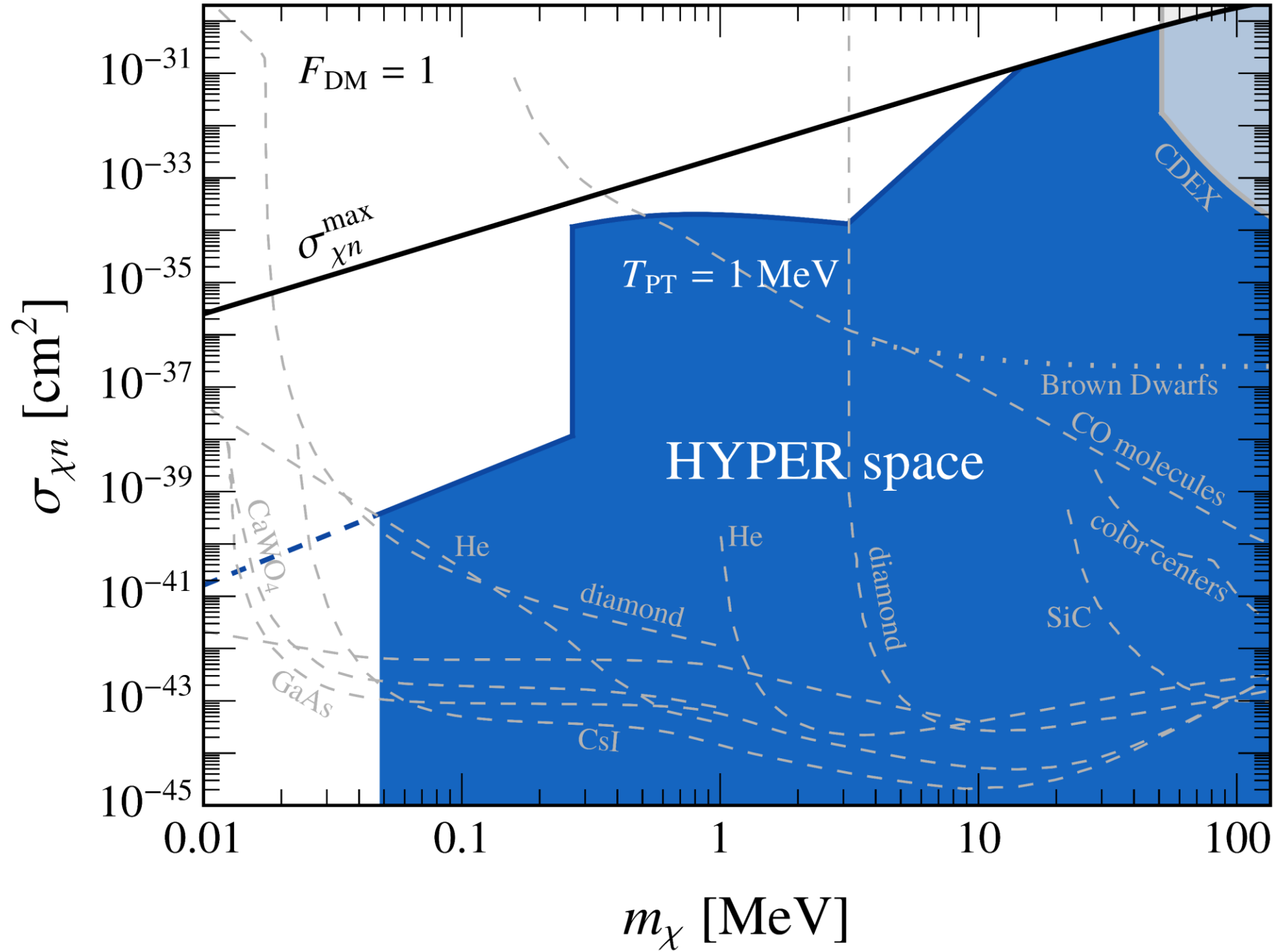
$$2\sigma v_{\pi^+\gamma \rightarrow \pi^+\phi} n_\gamma^{\text{eq}} n_{\pi^+}^{\text{eq}} \lesssim 0.15 H n_\chi$$

$$T_{\text{PT}} \lesssim 6.7 \text{ MeV}$$

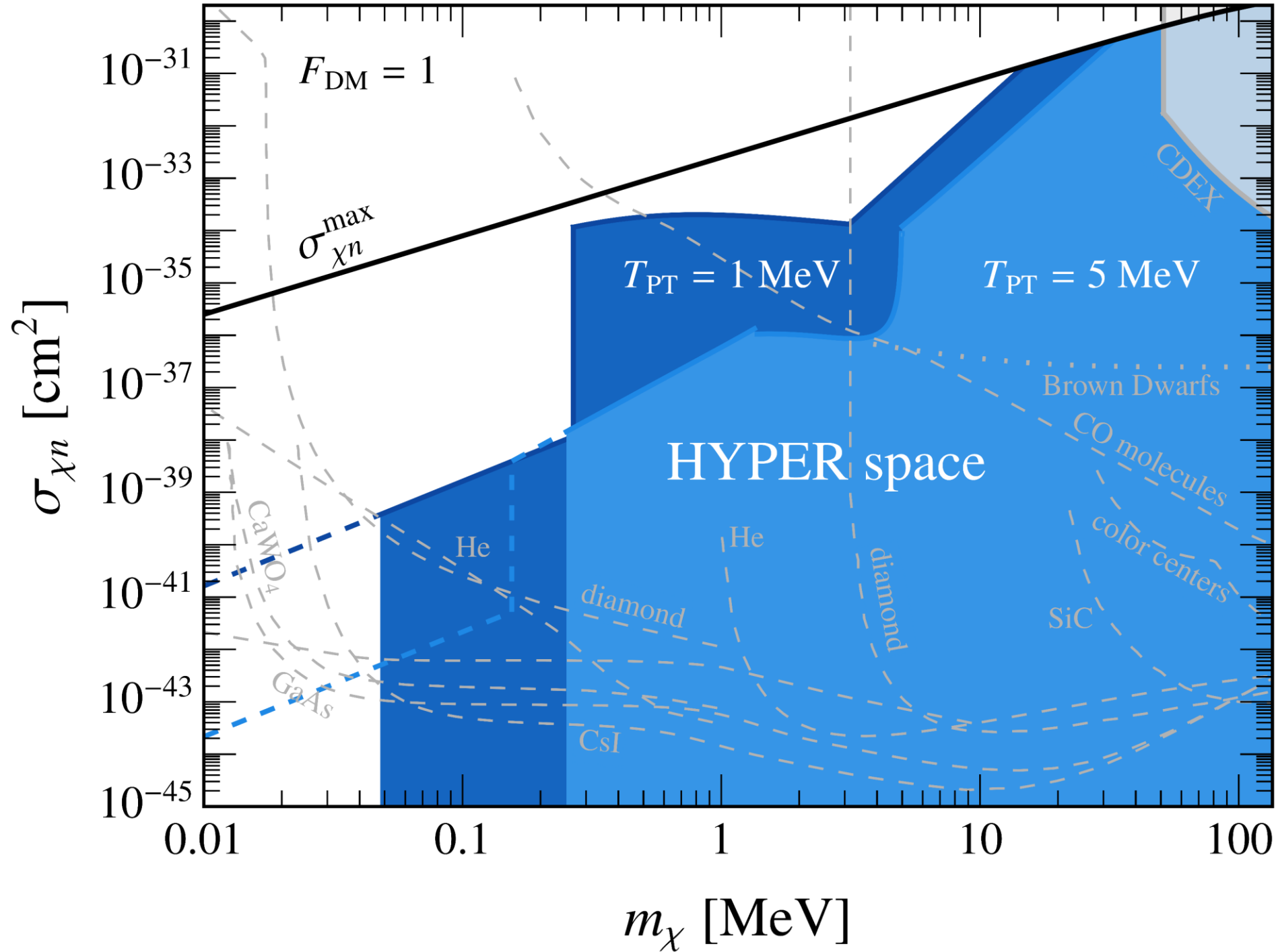
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$$\phi^{(*)} \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\chi$$





R McGehee



R McGehee

# Future Directions

Repeat for **electron scattering**; lower PT = interesting

Fully explore hadrophilic HYPER space  
(e.g. **vector mediator** models)

Flesh out the **dark sector PT**

Many more!