Massachusetts Institute of Technology

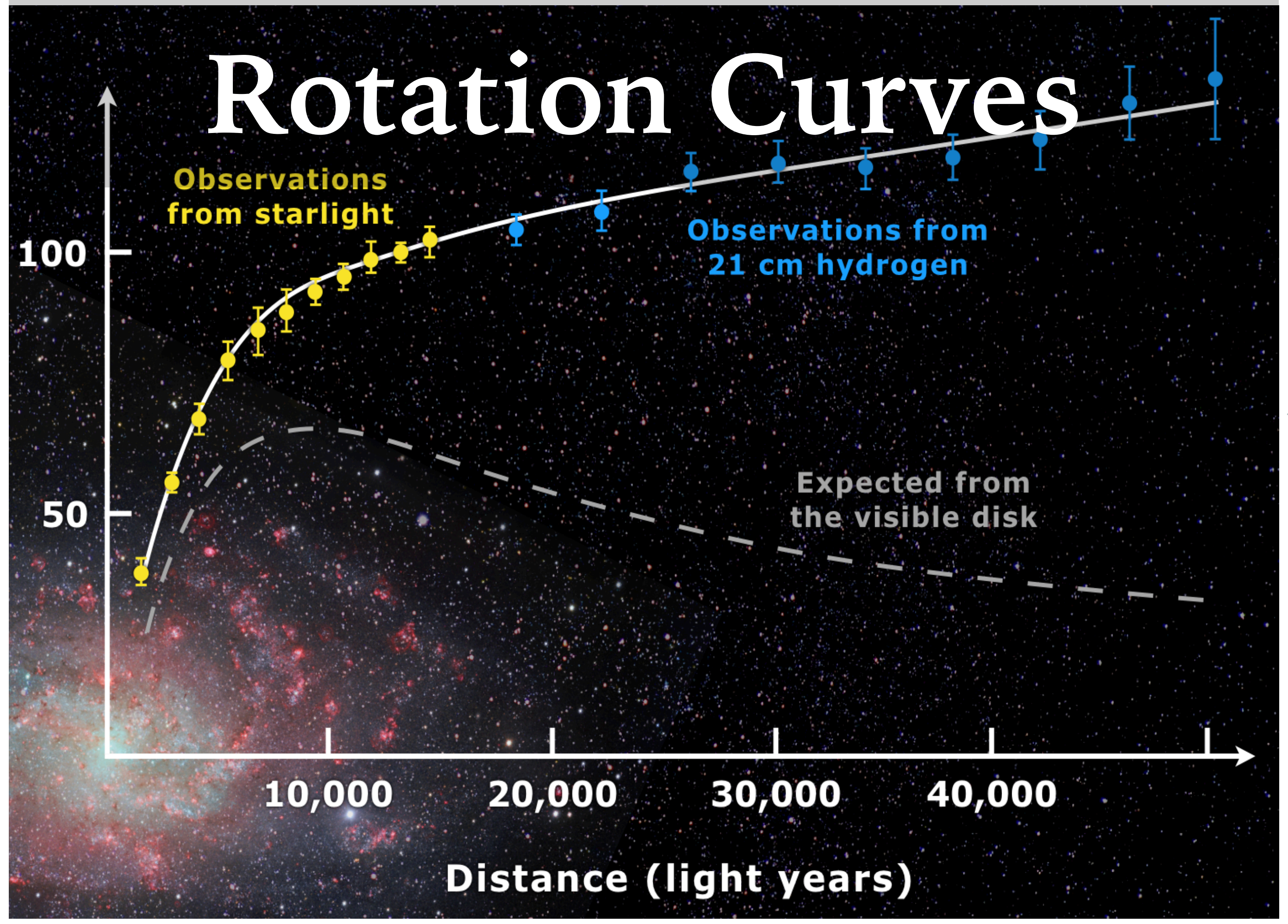
THERE IS NO 3.5 KEV LINE

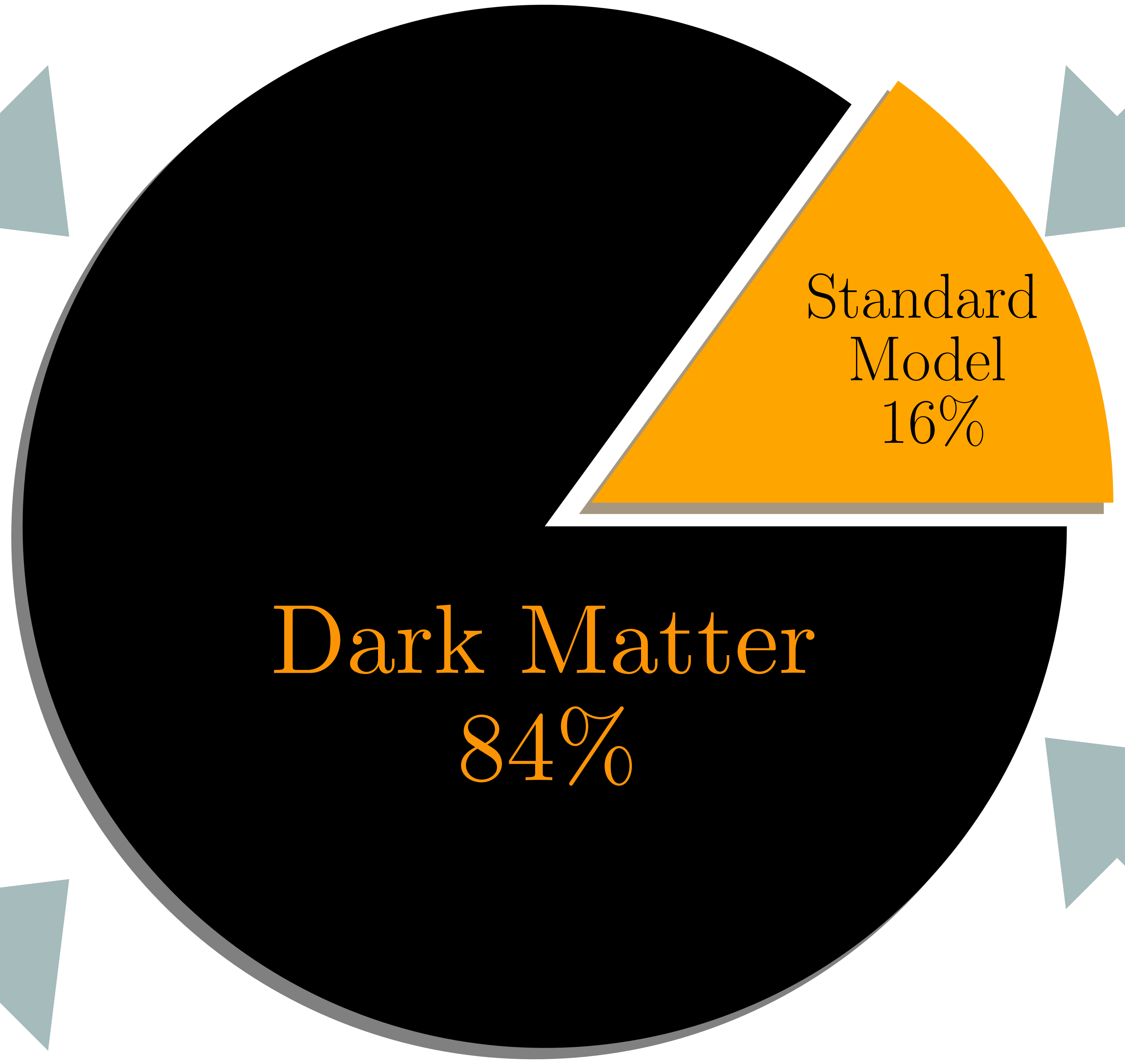
AND OTHER X-RAY SEARCHES FOR DARK MATTER

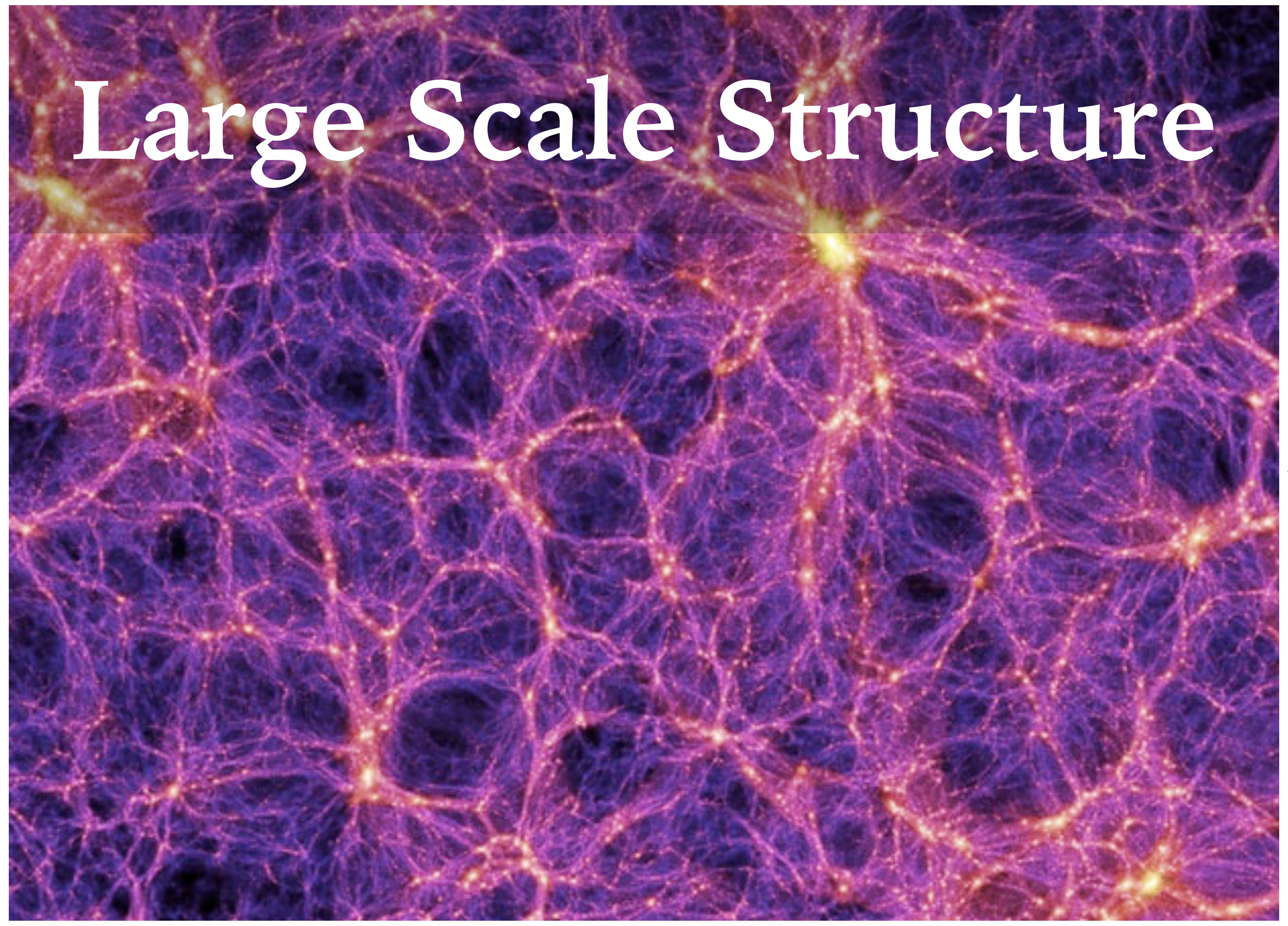
Joshua W. Foster

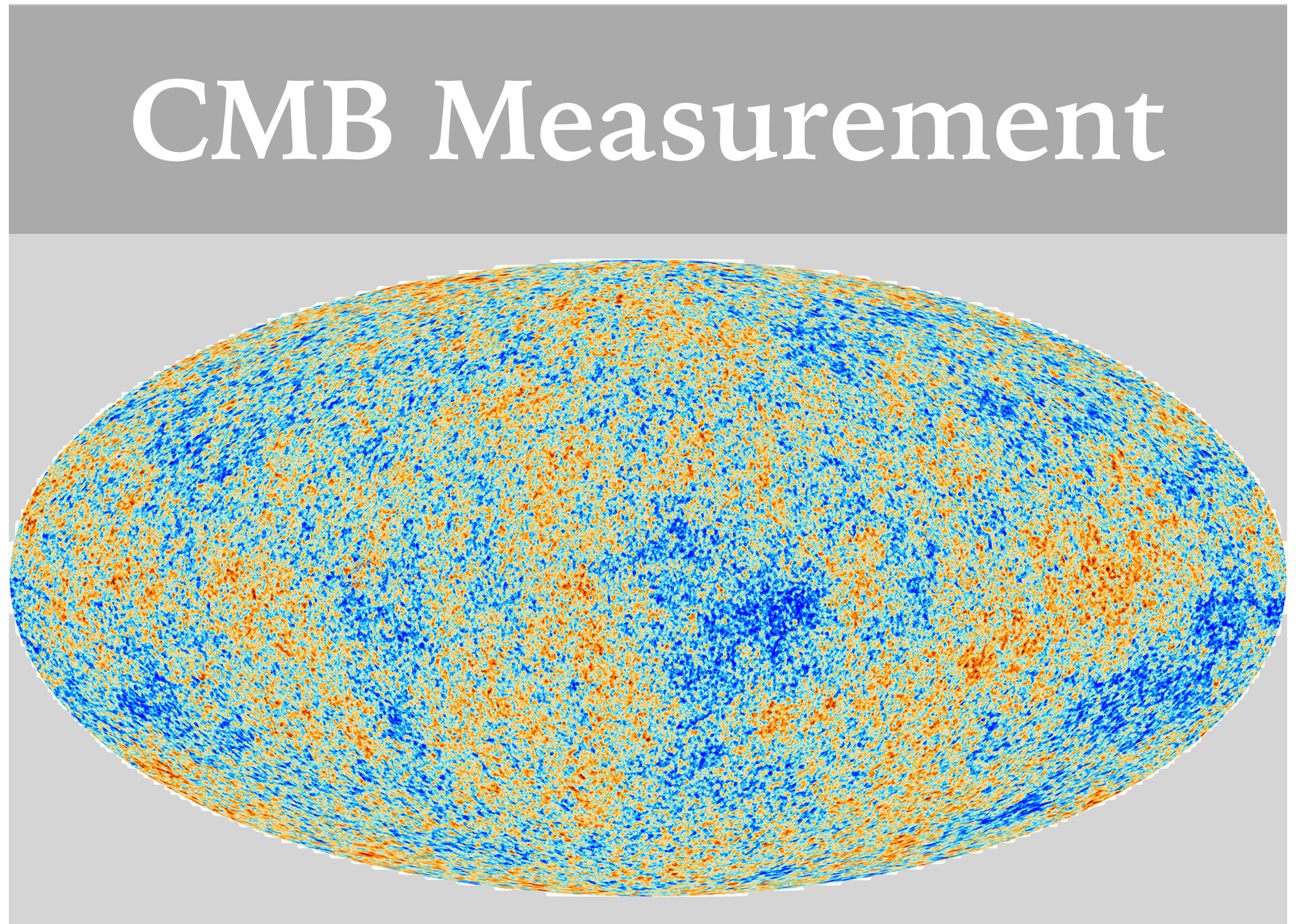
THE 2022 CERN-CKC WORKSHOP

THE DARK MATTER MYSTERY



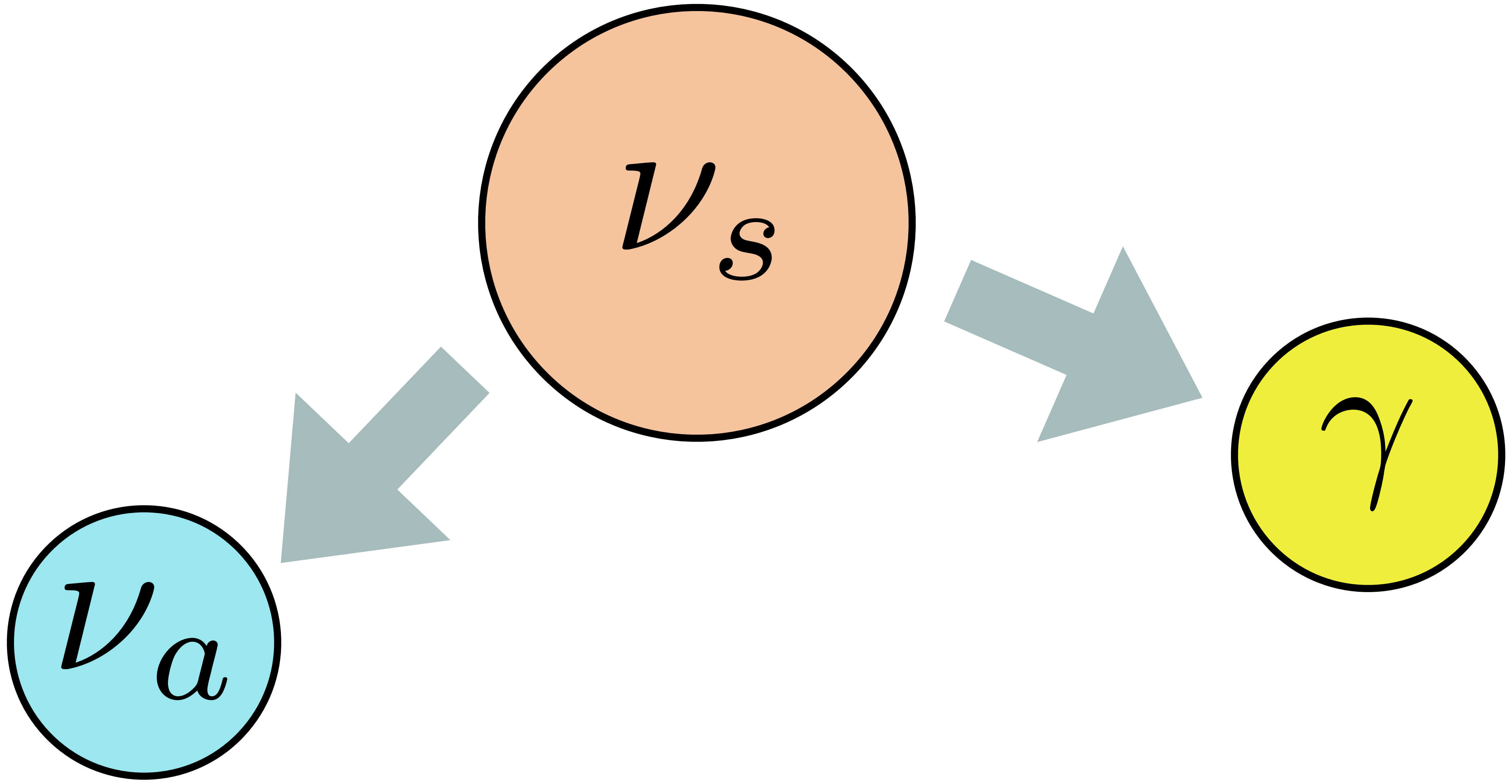






STERILE NEUTRINOS AS THE DARK MATTER

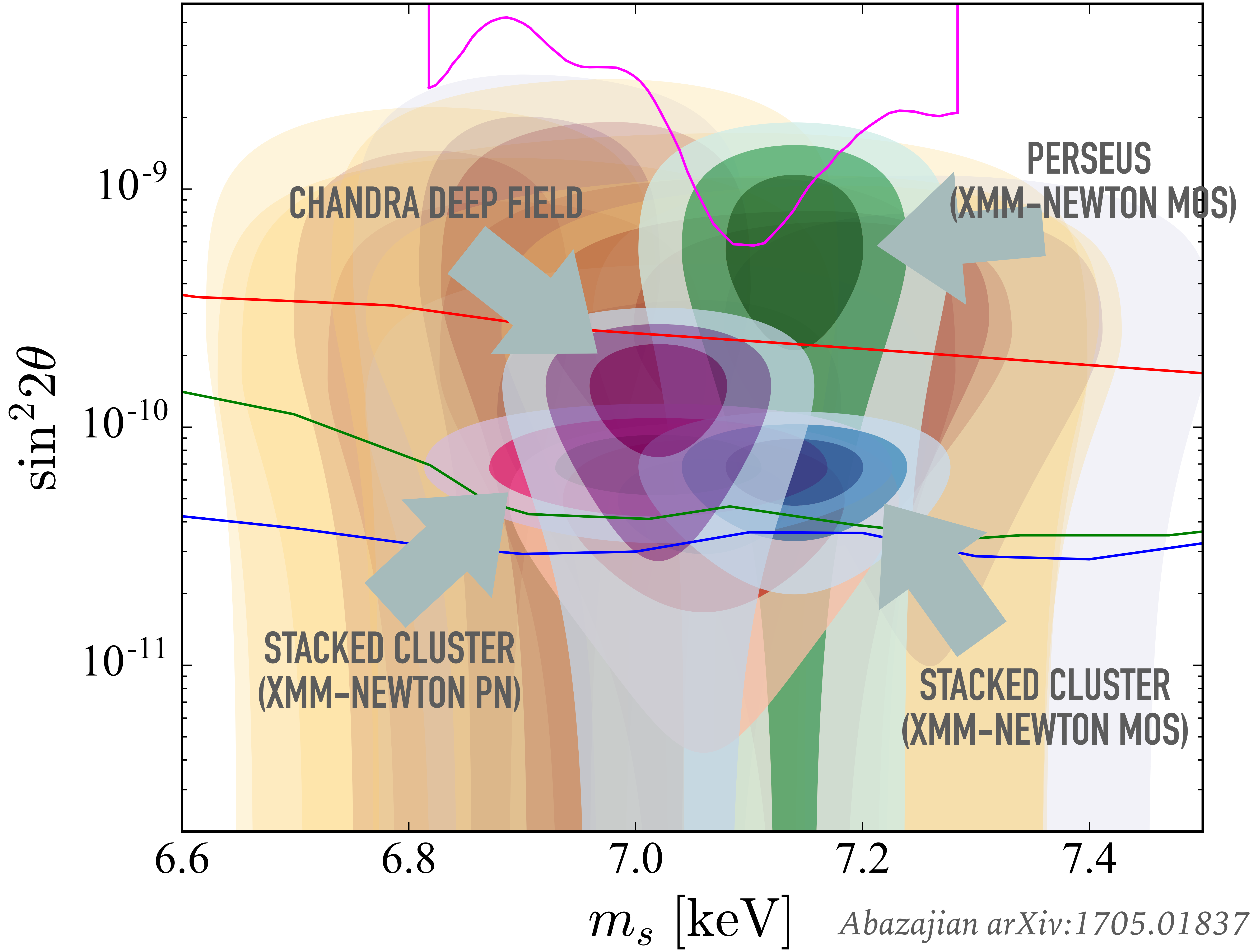
- Sterile neutrinos can provide a keV-scale relic that comprises the DM
  - Dodelson-Widrow, Shi-Fuller
- Radiative decay of sterile can produce detectable *X*-ray lines
- Other avenues of constraint
  - LSS/gravitational lensing
  - HUNTER experiment
- More generally, motivation for looking at keV-scale observables



$$\Phi \approx 0.26\,\mathrm{photons/cm^2/s/sr} \quad \times \left(\frac{m_\chi}{7.0\,\mathrm{keV}}\right)^4 \left(\frac{D}{10^{29}\,\mathrm{keV/cm^2}}\right)\left(\frac{\sin^2(2\theta)}{10^{-10}}\right)$$

SEARCHES FOR THE 3.5 KEV LINE CIRCA 2017

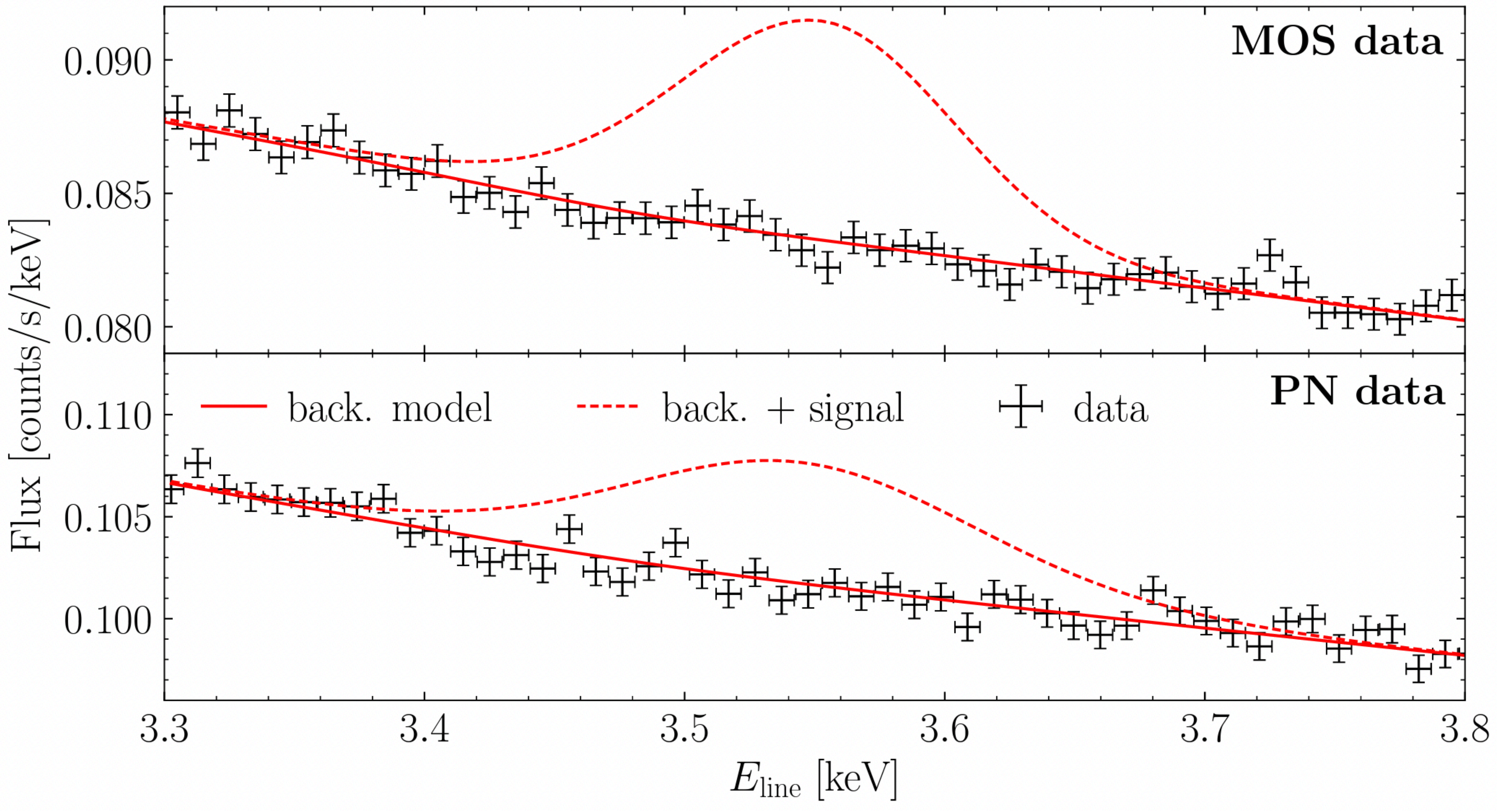
- Mixed evidence for 3.5 keV line
- Some high significance detections
  - Claimed 4.5σ evidence from galaxy clusters observed with XMM-Newton
  - Claimed 3.5σ evidence from Chandra Deep Field
- Marginal significance detection in Perseus with Suzaku
  - Potential tension with expected morphology
- No detection in stacked clusters analysis with Suzaku
- Tension with constraints from dwarf galaxies, M31

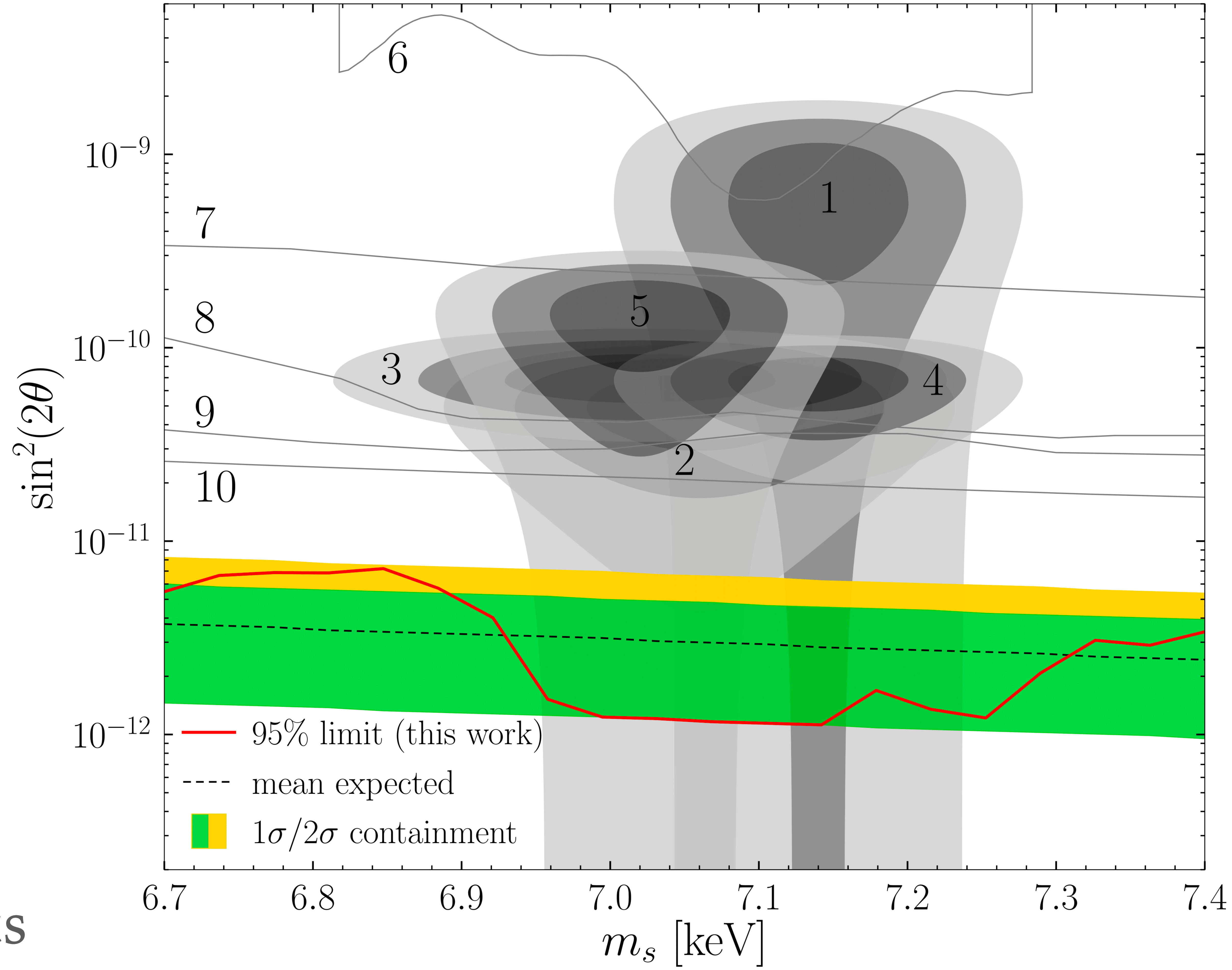


Abazajian arXiv:1705.01837

CONSTRAINING THE 3.5 KEV LINE WITH BLANK SKY DATA

C. Dessert, B. Safdi and **N. Rodd**. Science 2018





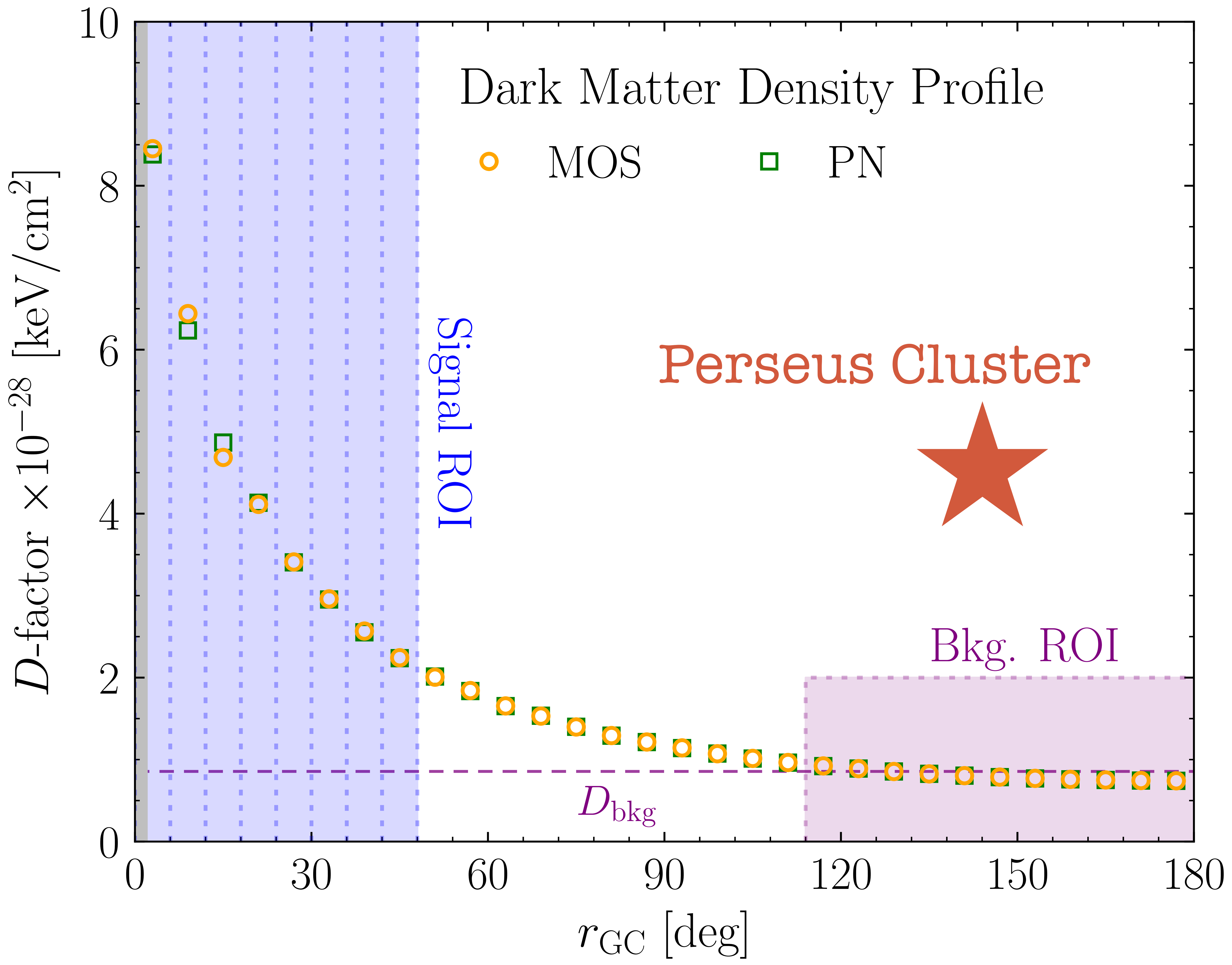
- Controversy generated by blank sky constraints
  - Technical responses: Boyarsky et al. 2004.06601, Abazajian 2004.06170, Dessert et al. 2006.03974
- **Complaints**: windowed analysis, background lines, continuum modeling, density profile, etc.

BLANK SKY SEARCHES WITH GAUSSIAN PROCESS MODELING

J.F. et al. 2102.02207 [astro-ph.CO]. PRL

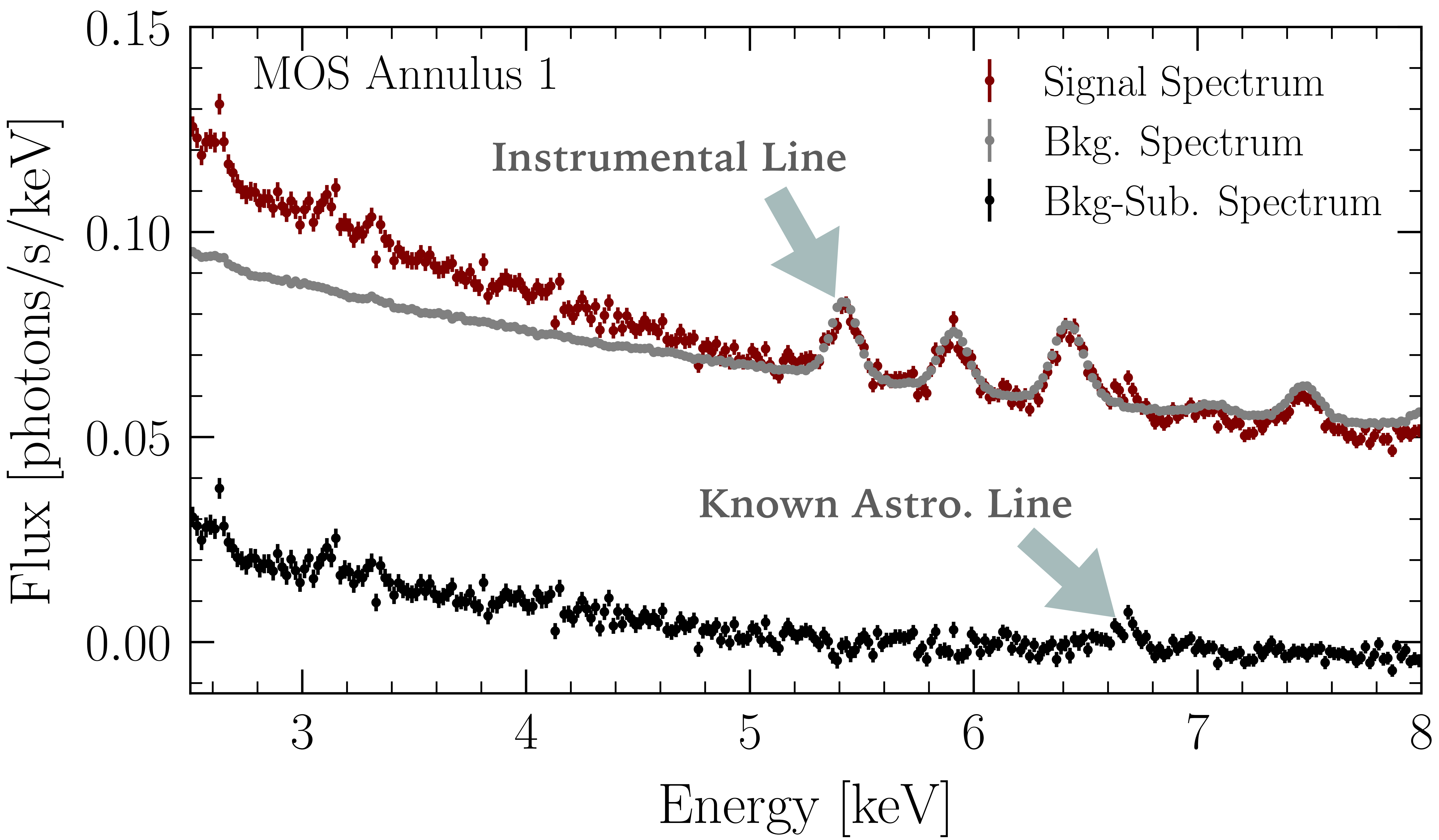
BLANK SKY SEARCHES FOR DECAYING DARK MATTER

- Milky Way halo bright in DM decay compared to Perseus cluster
  - Less but closer DM
- Cleaner backgrounds in blank sky data
  - 5000 seconds blank sky data ~ 300,000 seconds of Perseus cluster data
- Any observation could be a blank sky observation
- Motivates using all data collected by XMM-Newton
  - 20 years of data
  - Quality cuts, about 50% data acceptance

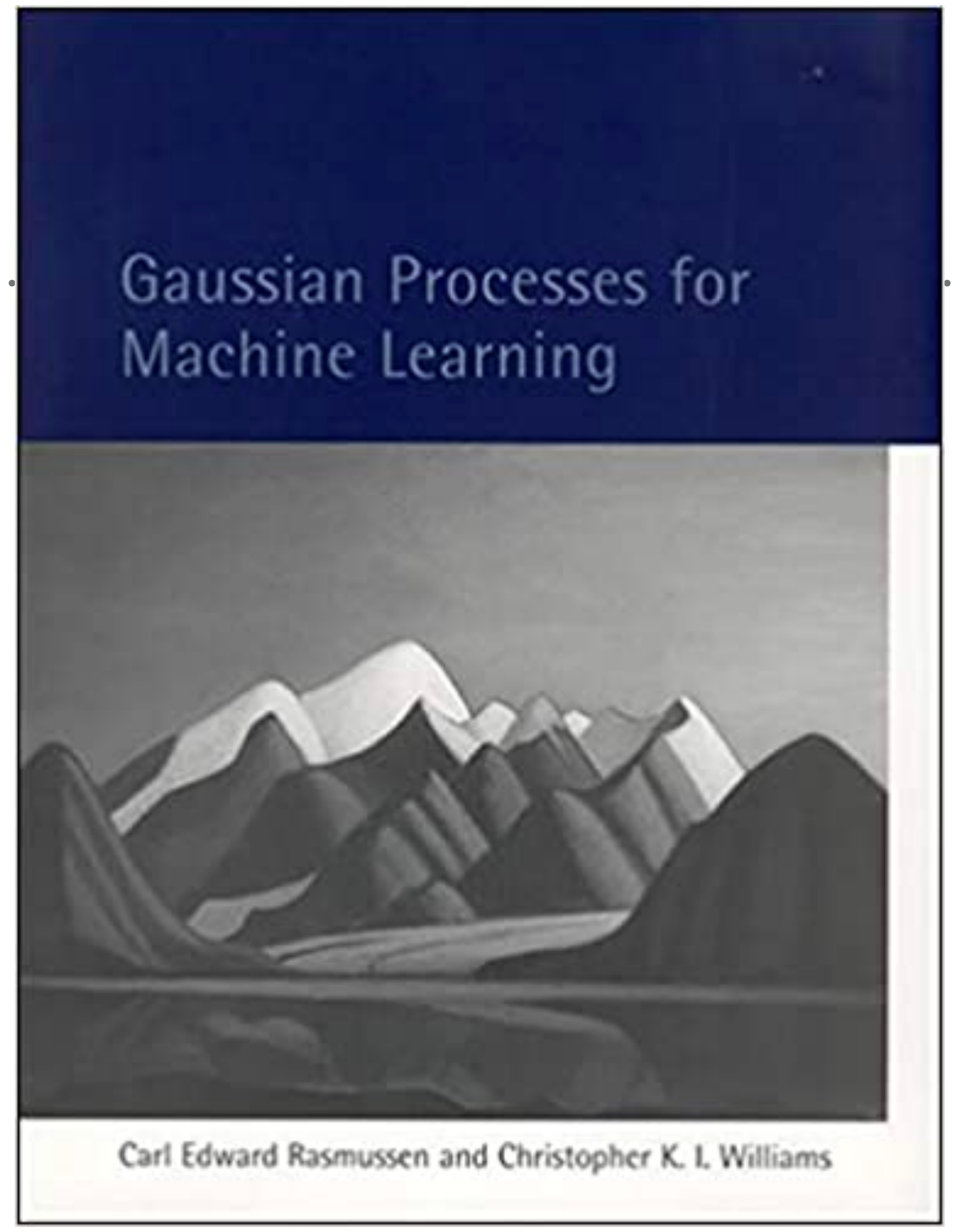


AN IMPROVED BLANK SKY ANALYSIS

- Large statistics, small errors
  - Good: more constraining power
  - Challenge: need high-performining background models
- Even the “background regions” of our analysis are messy
  - Instrumental lines
  - Spectral distortions, miscalibration
- Combine nonparametric GP with gaussian line models to model data



NONPARAMETRIC INFERENCE WITH GAUSSIAN PROCESSES



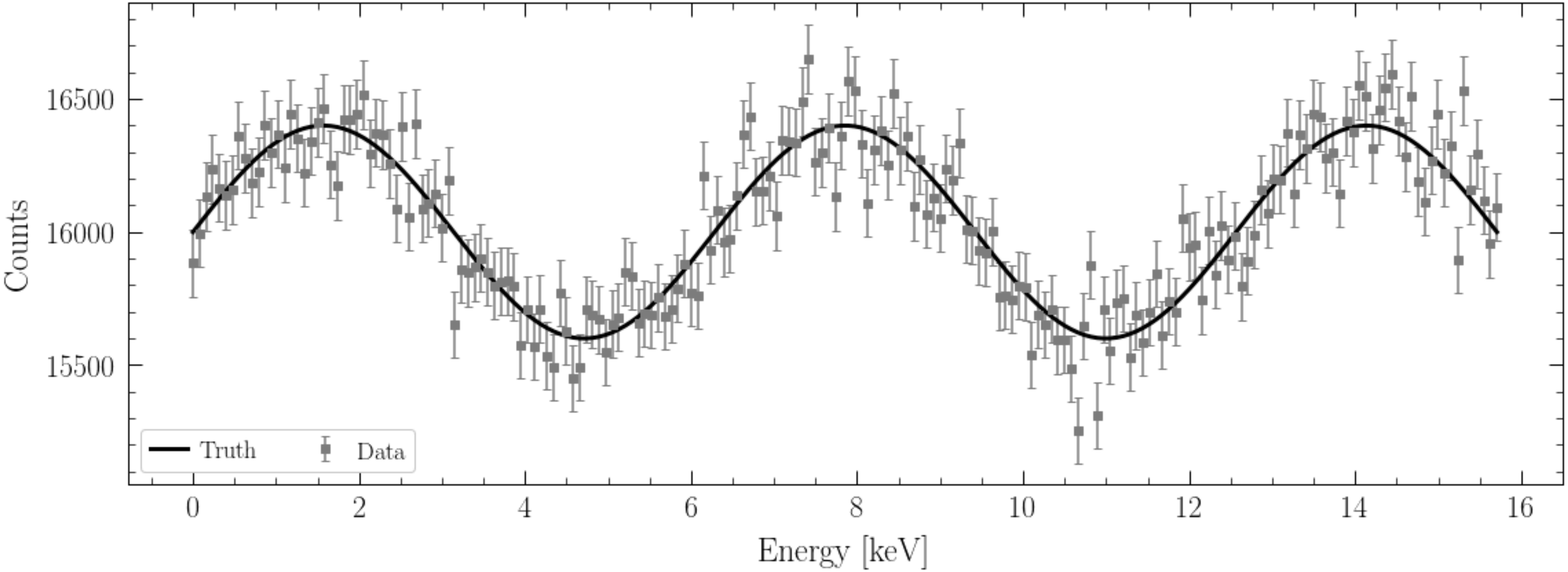
- Start with a series of (gaussian) data

$$\{x_i, y_i\}$$

"Location" *"Value"*

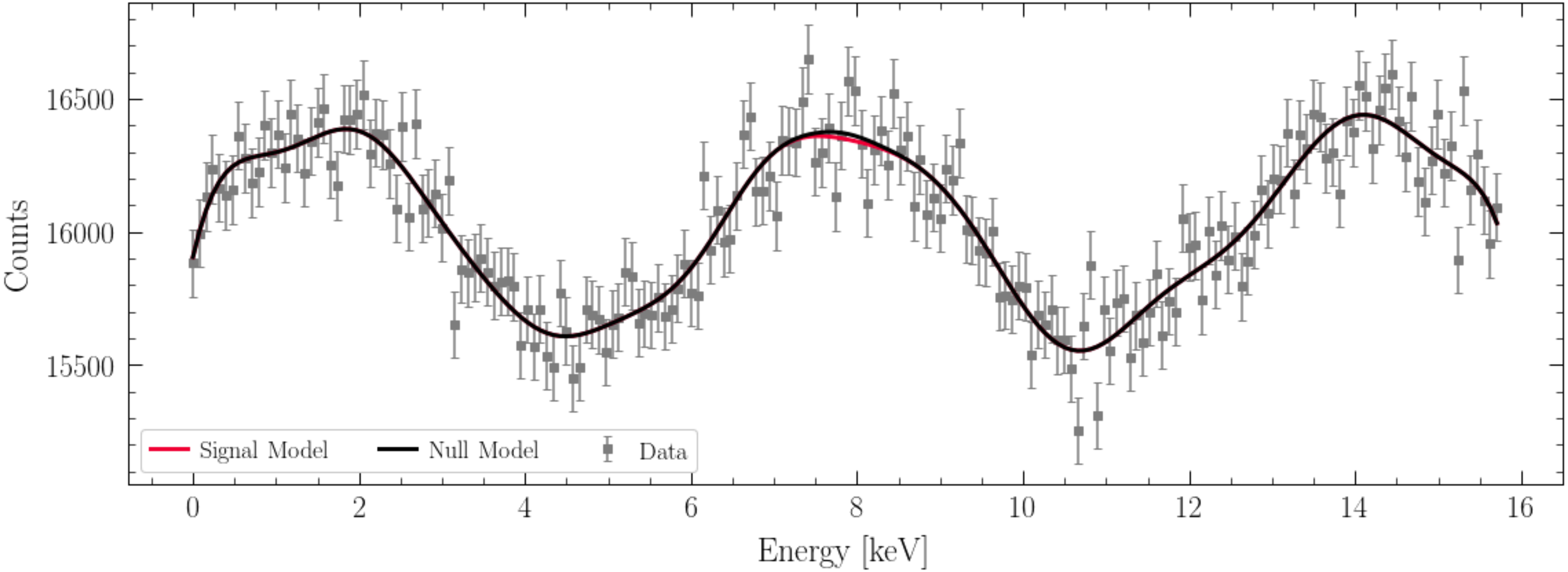
- Describe the data as a single realization of a multivariate Gaussian distribution
  - Specified by a mean (take to be zero for simplicity) and a covariance matrix
- Simplest case: covariance matrix is diagonal.
  - Each value is statistically independent
- Less trivial: endow the data with some covariance based on their "location"

NONPARAMETRIC INFERENCE WITH GAUSSIAN PROCESSES



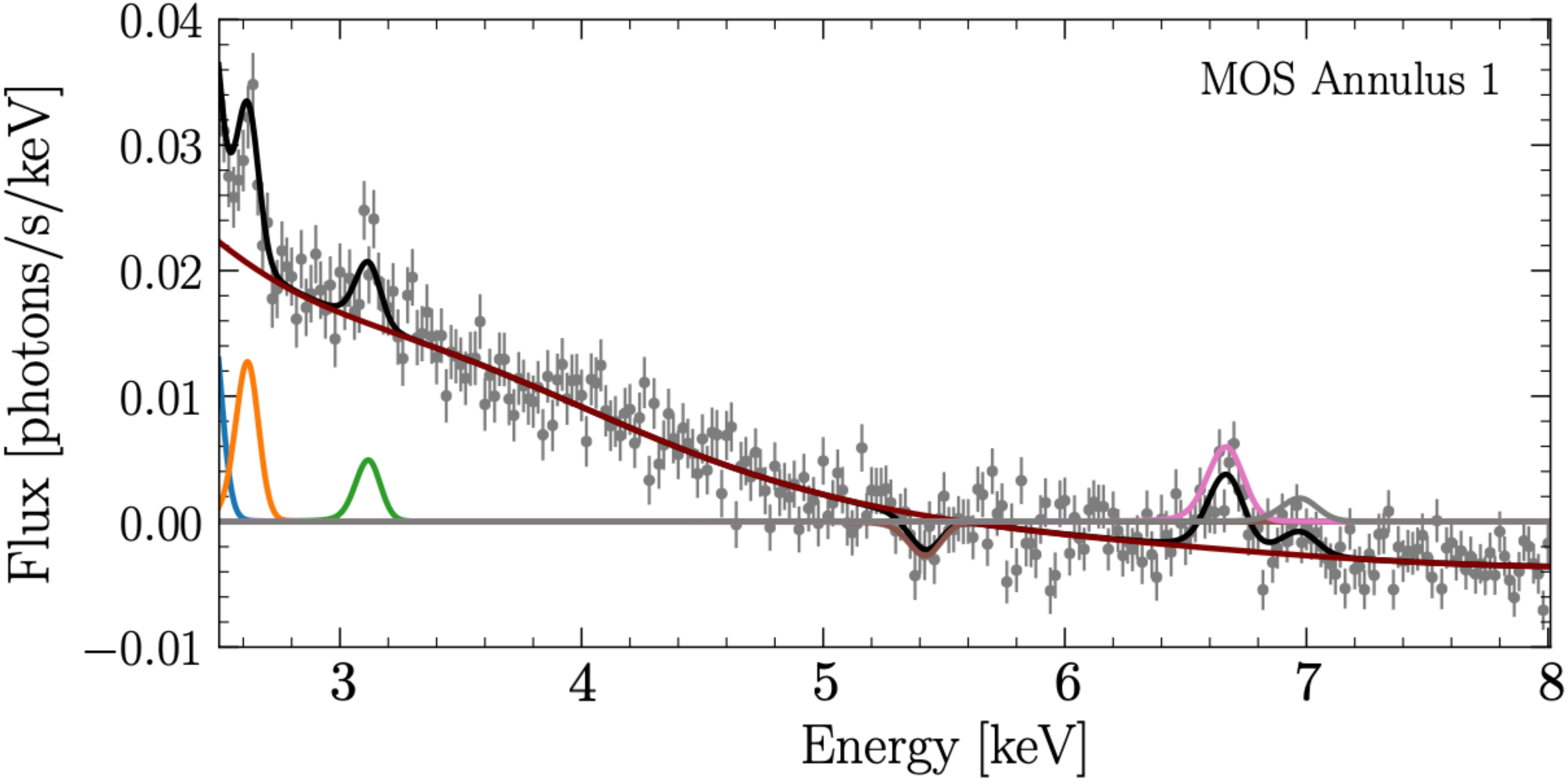
- Nontrivial covariance matrix allows for nontrivial fluctuations in the "model"
- Simplest kernel: double exponential kernel $\mathrm{Cov}(x_i, x_j) = -A_{GP}\exp\left[-\frac{x_i x_j}{2\sigma^2}\right]$

NONPARAMETRIC INFERENCE WITH GAUSSIAN PROCESSES

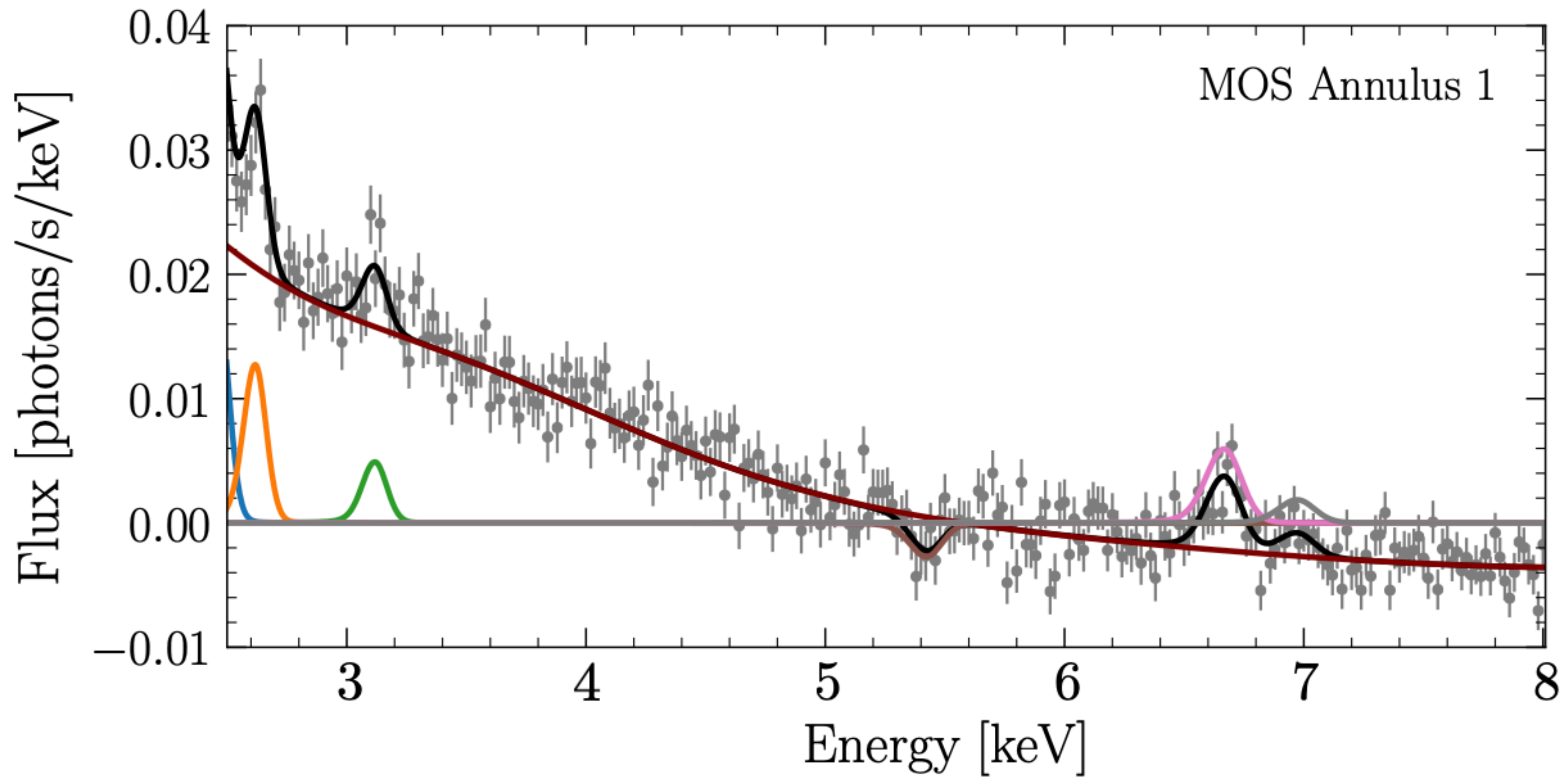


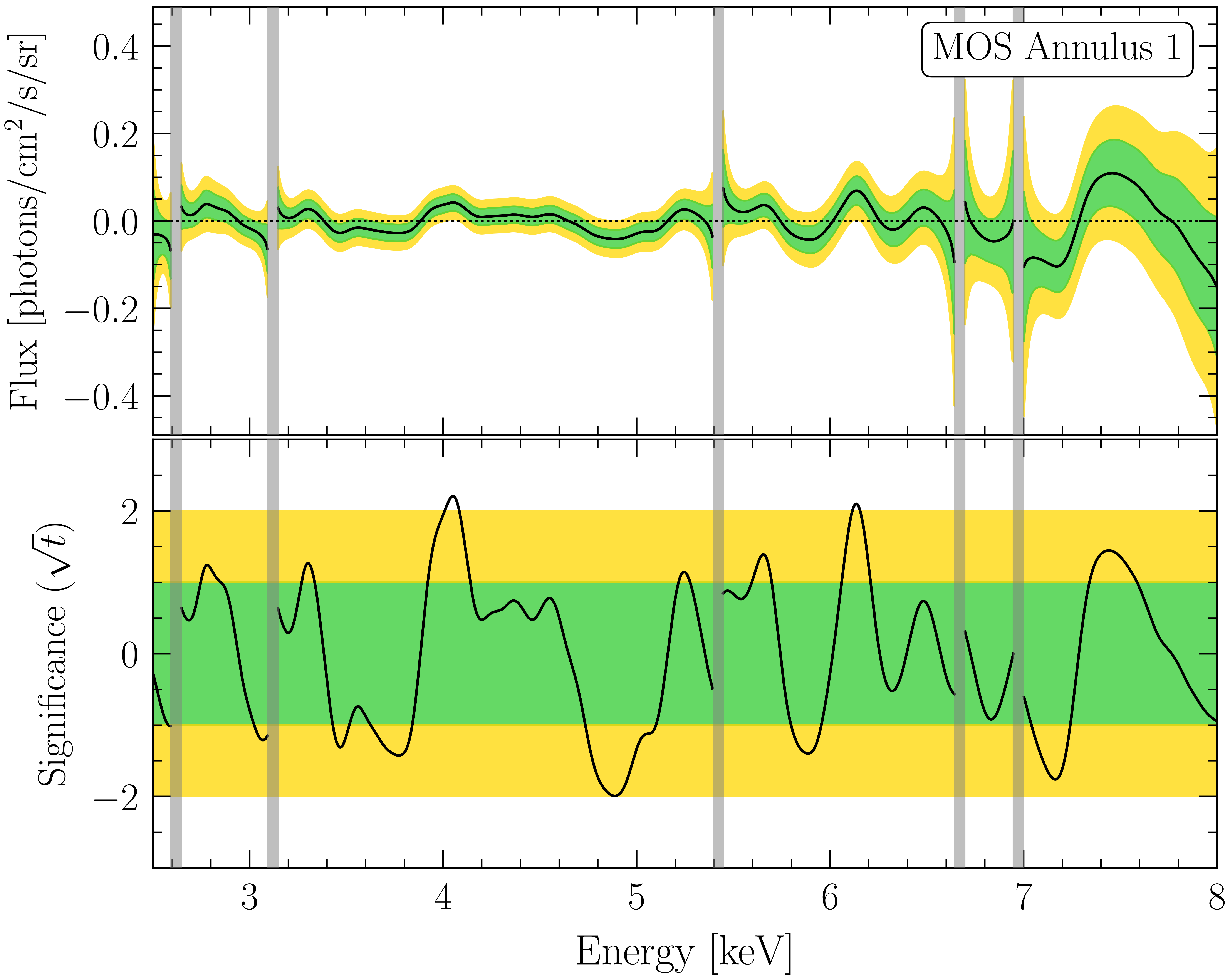
- Quality of fit depends on choice of kernel and hyperparameters
- Danger: small-scale kernel might reduce discovery power

ANALYZING THE BACKGROUND-SUBTRACTED BLANK SKY



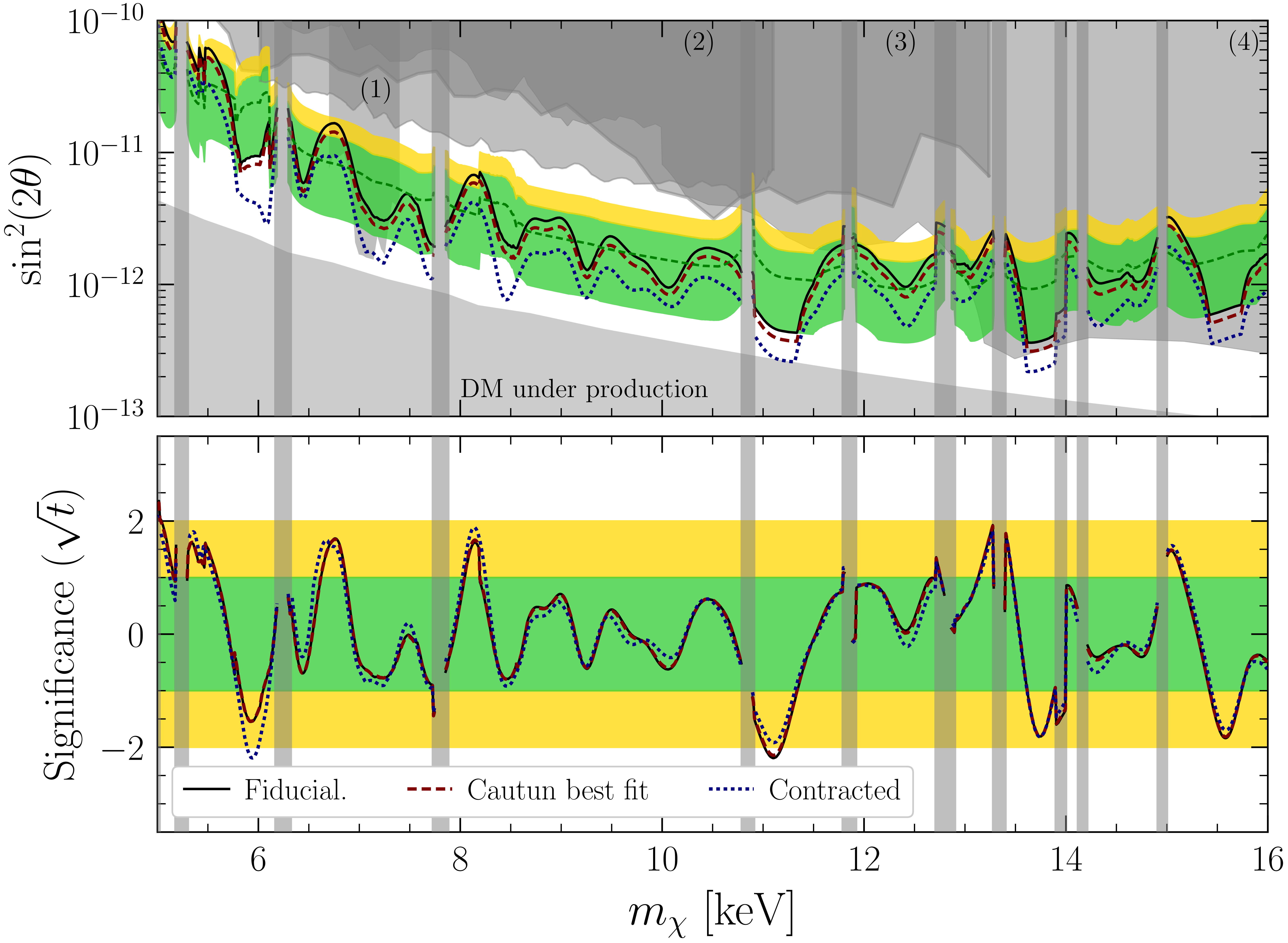
ANALYZING THE BACKGROUND-SUBTRACTED BLANK SKY





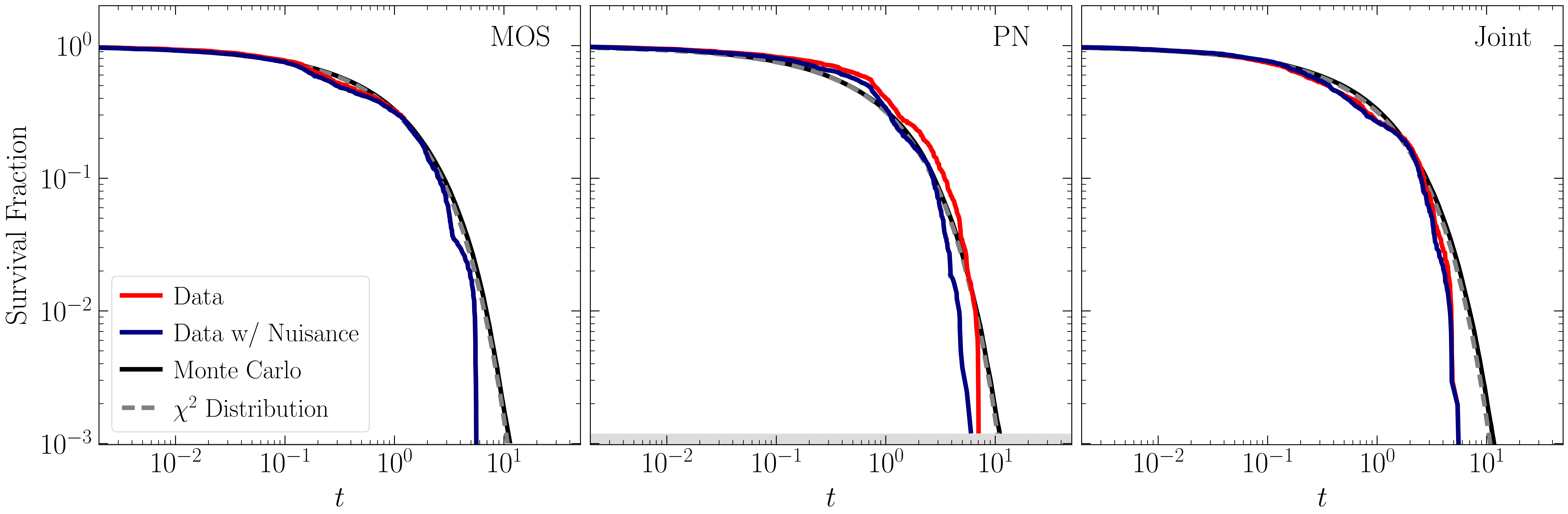
- Analyze each annulus in each instrumental independently
- Determine evidence/limits for a UXL at every energy

RESULTS



10^{-10}
10^{-11}
10^{-12}
10^{-13}
$\sin^2(2\theta)$
(1)
(2)
(3)
(4)
DM under production
Significance ($\sqrt{t}$)
2
0
−2
Fiducial.
Cautun best fit
Contracted
6
8
10
12
14
16
m_χ [keV]

RESULTS



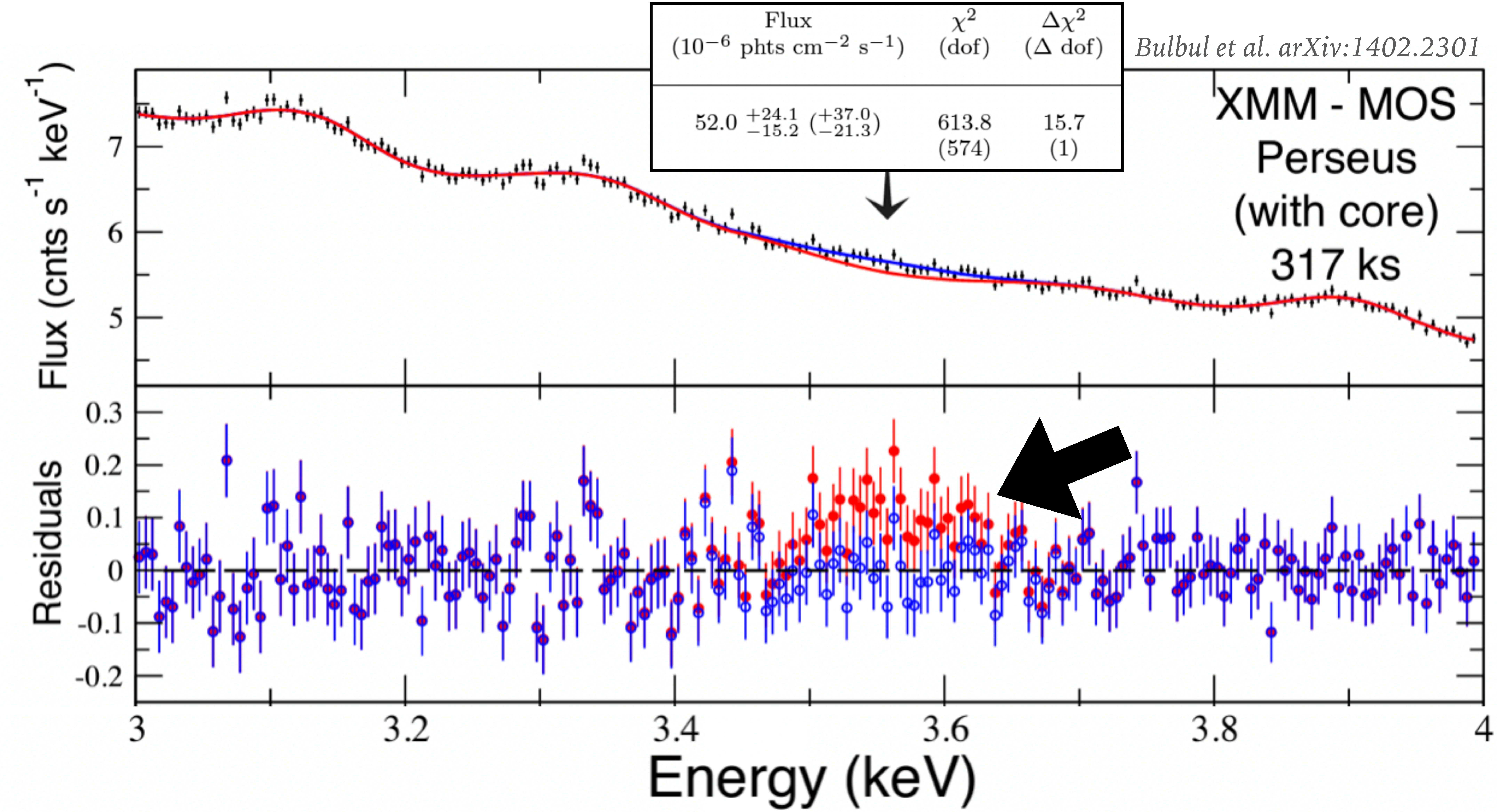
- Survival functions for each instrument (and joint) are consistent with null
- No evidence for decaying DM

A RE-ANALYSIS OF 3.5 KEV DISCOVERY

To appear with C. Dessert, Y. Park, and B. Safdi

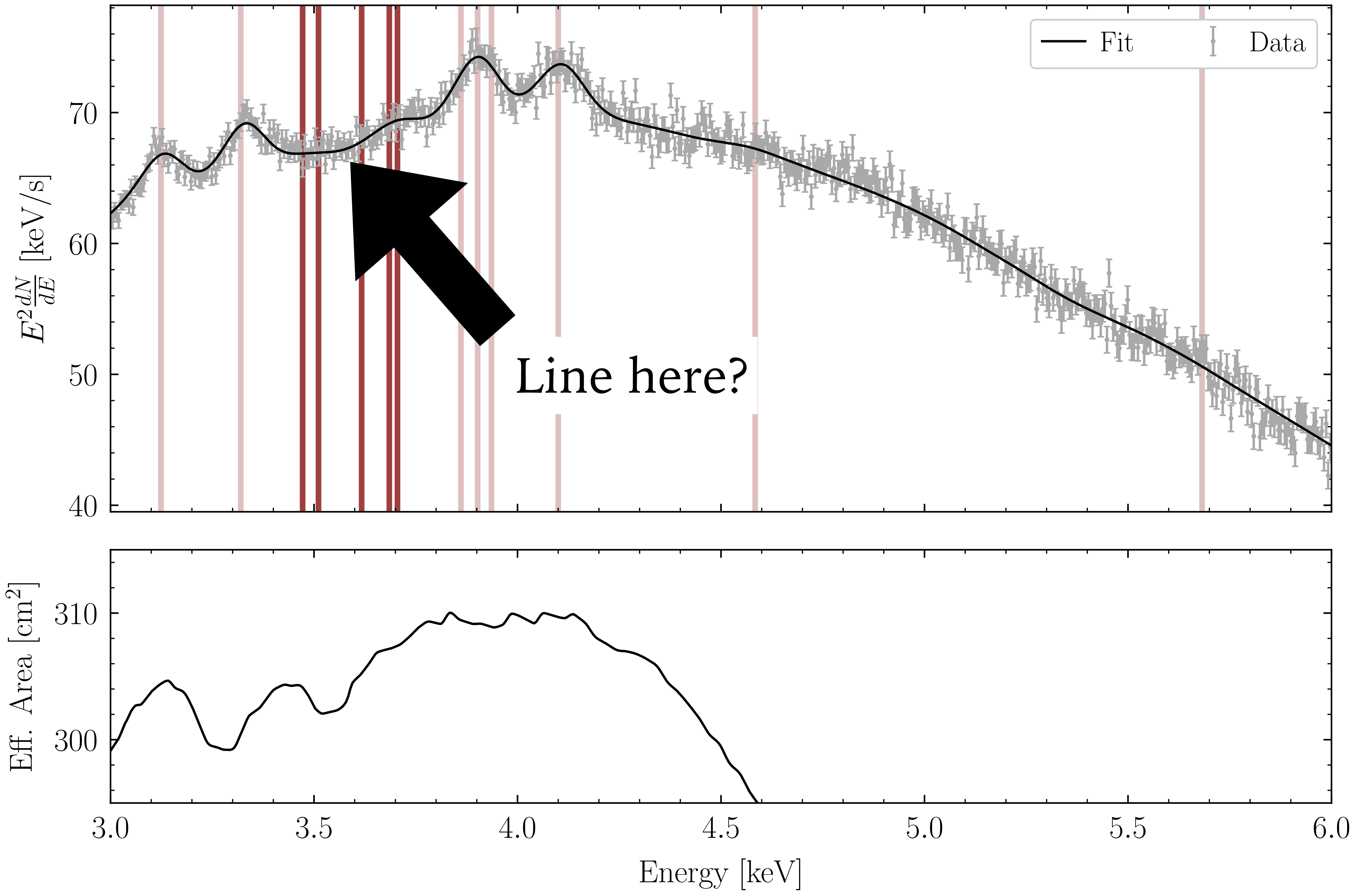
A CLOSER LOOK AT CLAIMED DETECTIONS OF THE 3.5 KEV LINE

Bulbul et al. arXiv:1402.2301

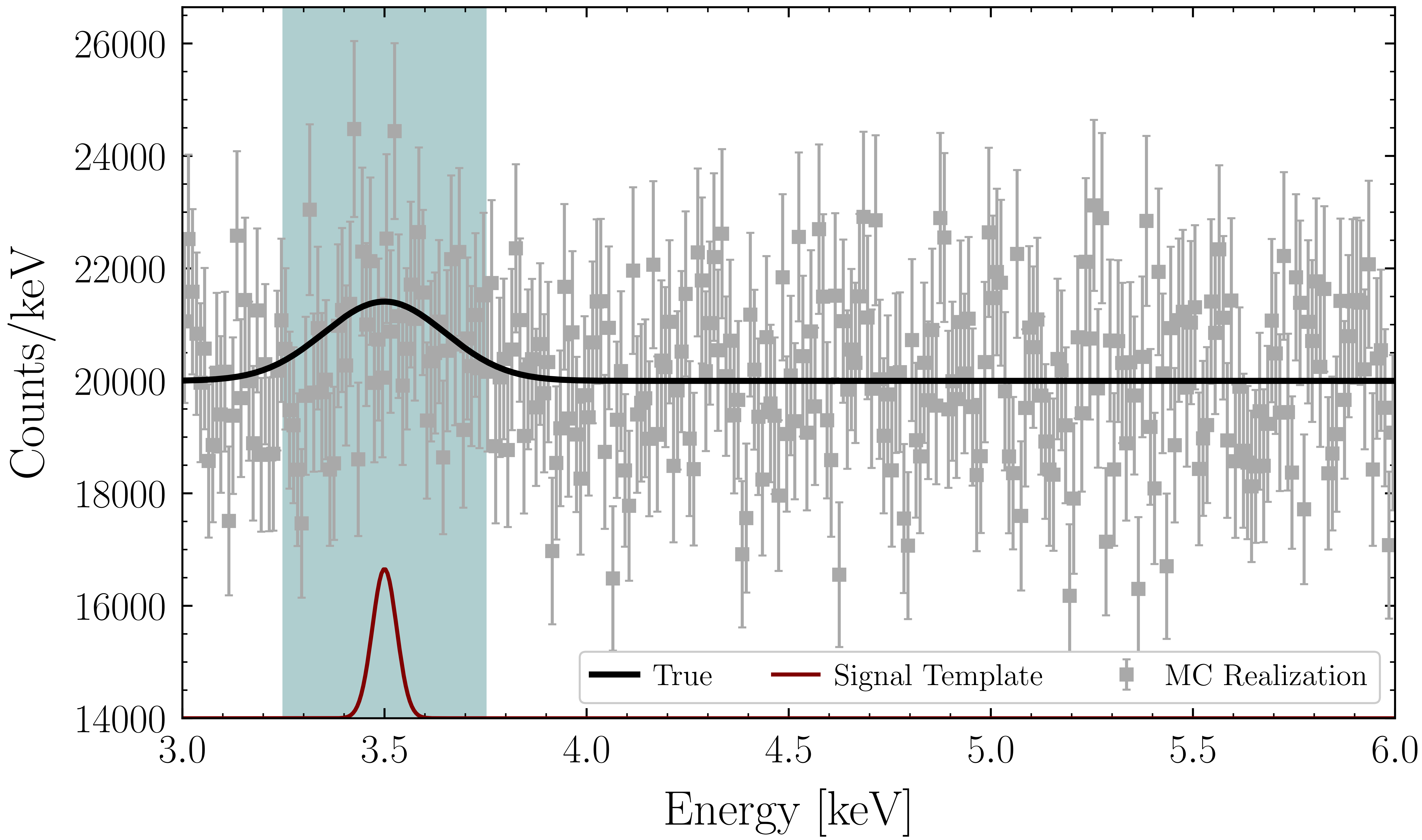


A CLOSER LOOK AT CLAIMED DETECTIONS OF THE 3.5 KEV LINE

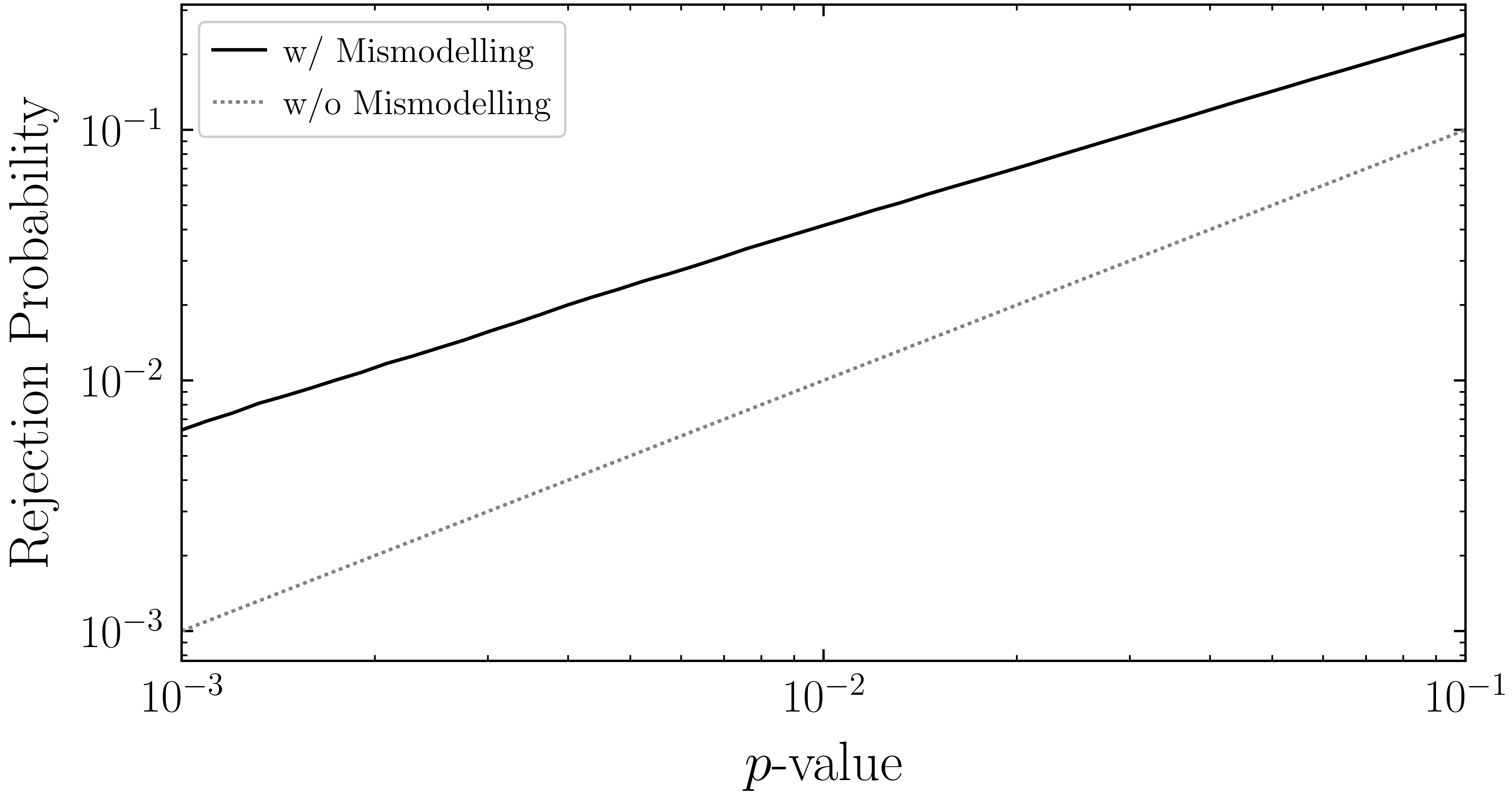
- Ambitious modeling of the background contributions
  - Instrumental+Cosmic+**Cluster**
  - 6 continuum model components, 15 parameters
  - 14 background line components, 42 model parameters
- Large analysis range, danger of systematics
  - Effective area/gain variations?
- Optimization challenges:
  - Local vs global minima
  - Discontinuous modeling, challenges for gradient-based minimization
  - Curse of dimensionality



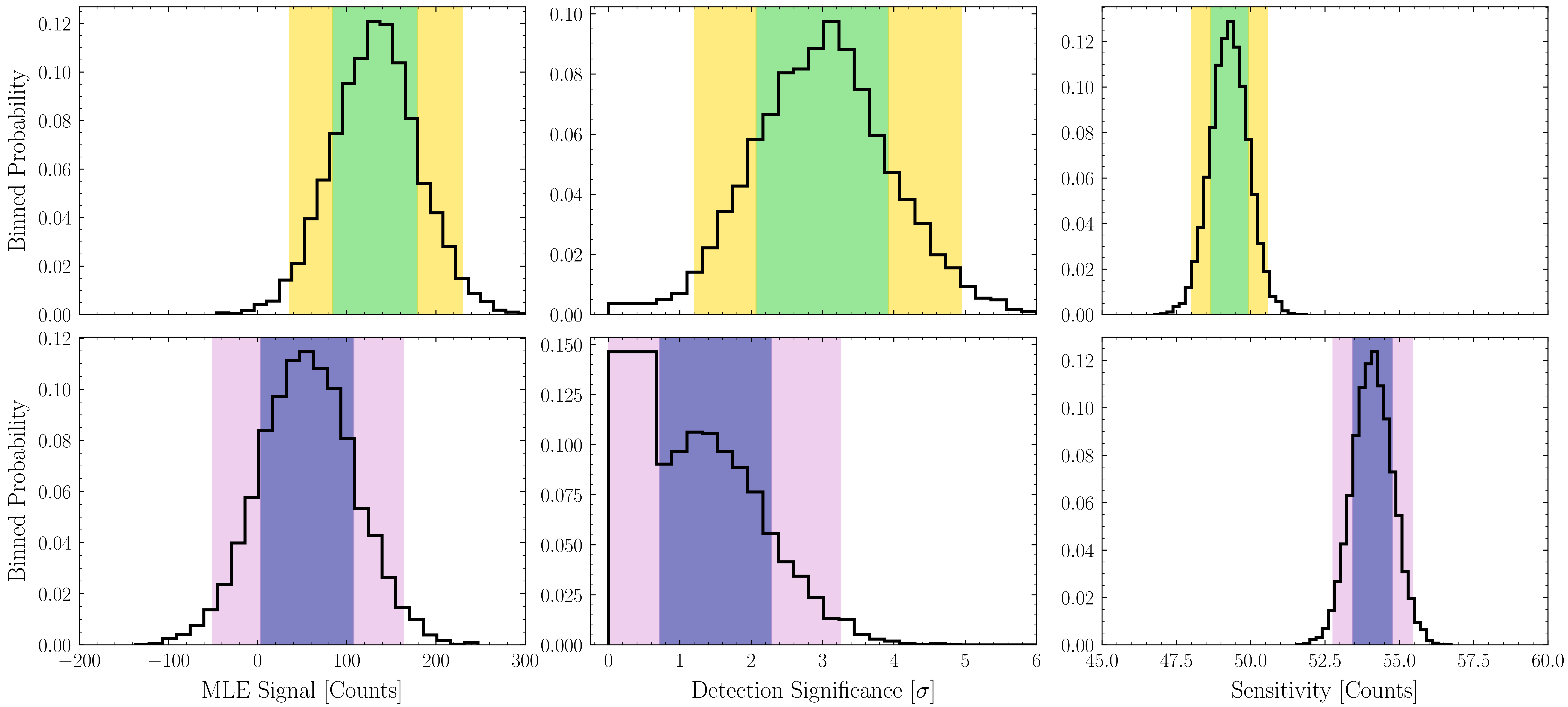
TOY MODELS FOR SYSTEMATIC MISMODELING



TOY MODELS FOR SYSTEMATIC MISMODELING



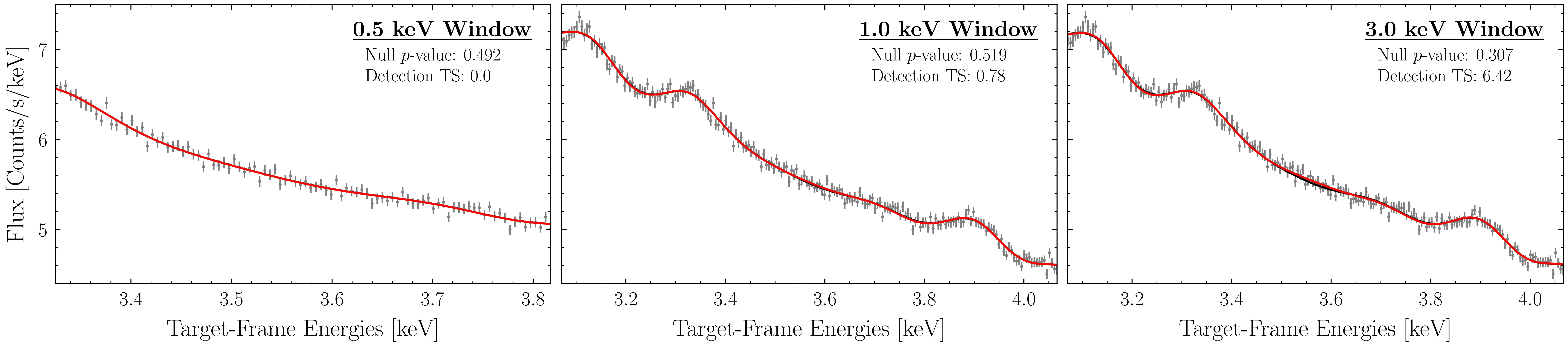
TOY MODELS FOR SYSTEMATIC MISMODELING



Bulbul et al. arXiv:1402.2301

Boyarsky et al. arXiv:1402.4119

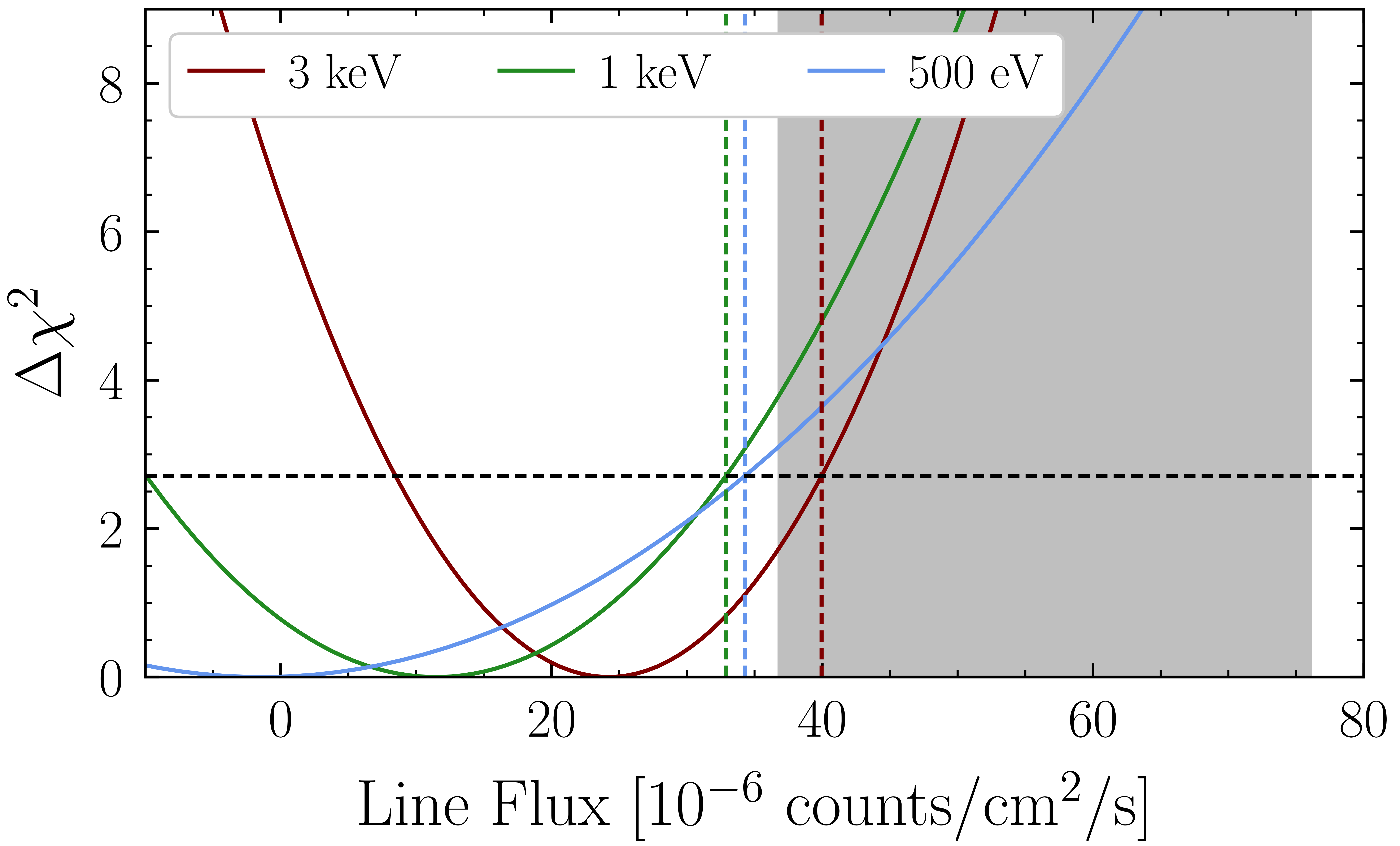
PERSEUS CLUSTER REANALYSIS



- Repeating prior analysis for 3.5 keV, find improved null model fit, no evidence for 3.5 keV line
- Caveat: updated observatory calibration, stochastic data reduction
- Reducing analysis region simplifies frequentist analysis procedure

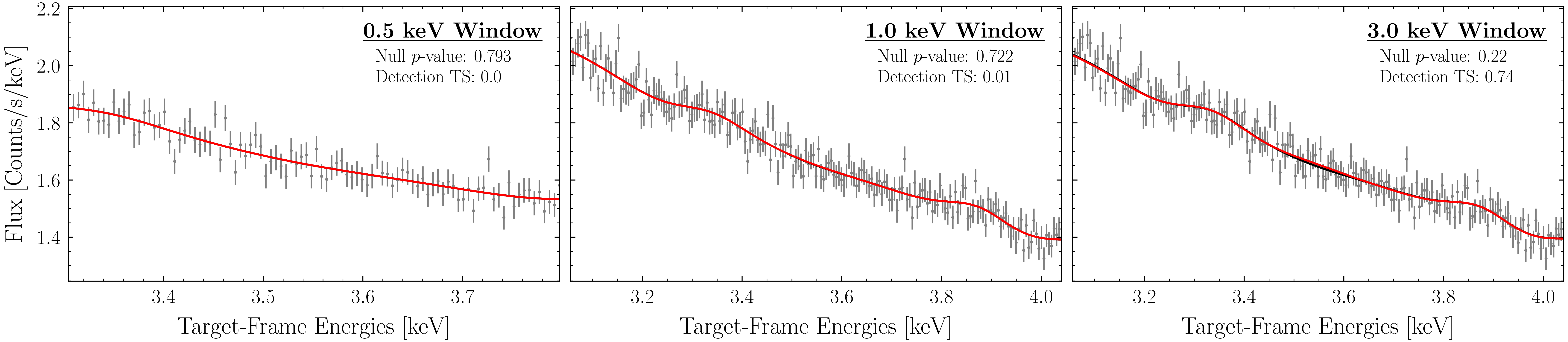
PERSEUS CLUSTER REANALYSIS

Bulbul et al. arXiv:1402.2301
Boyarsky et al. arXiv:1402.4119

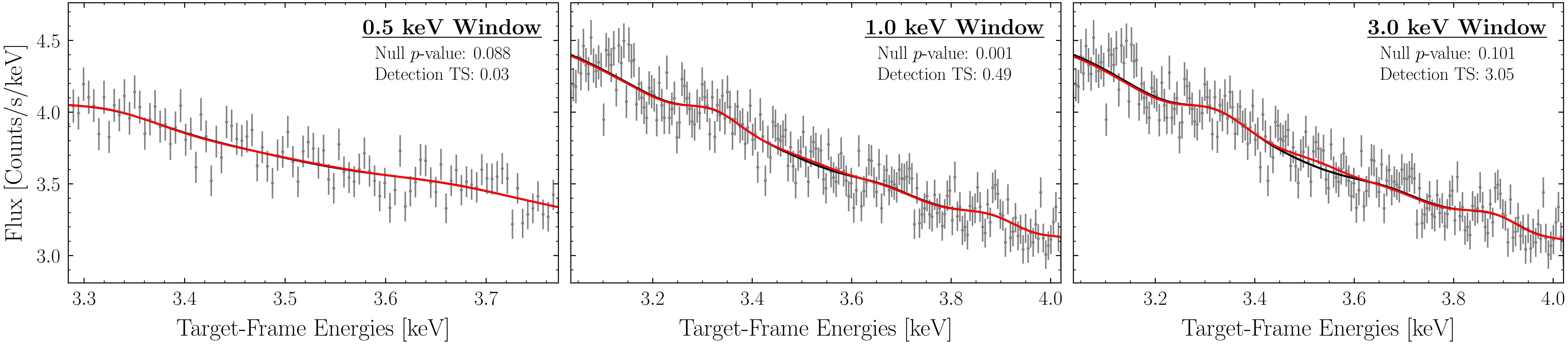


OTHER GALAXY CLUSTERS

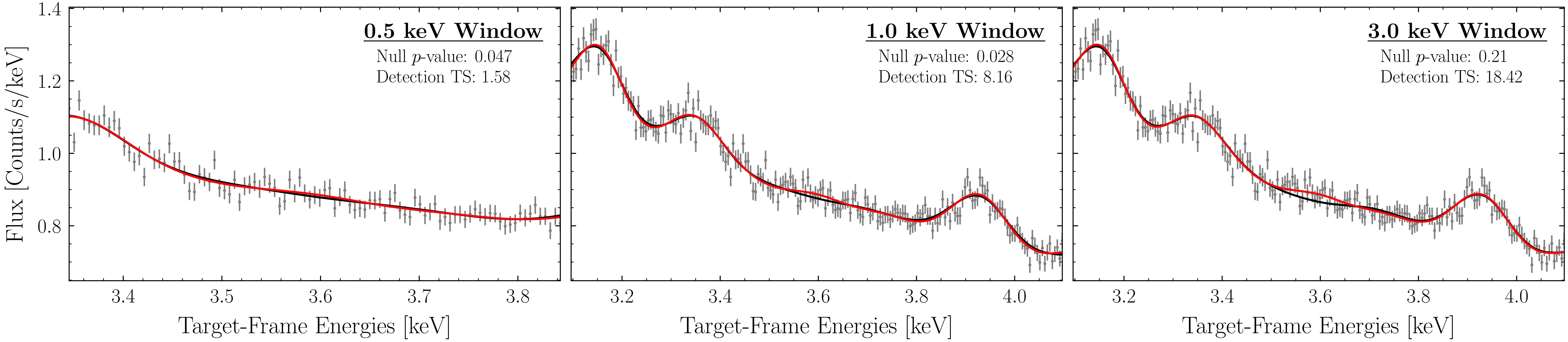
Coma Cluster



Ophiuchus Cluster

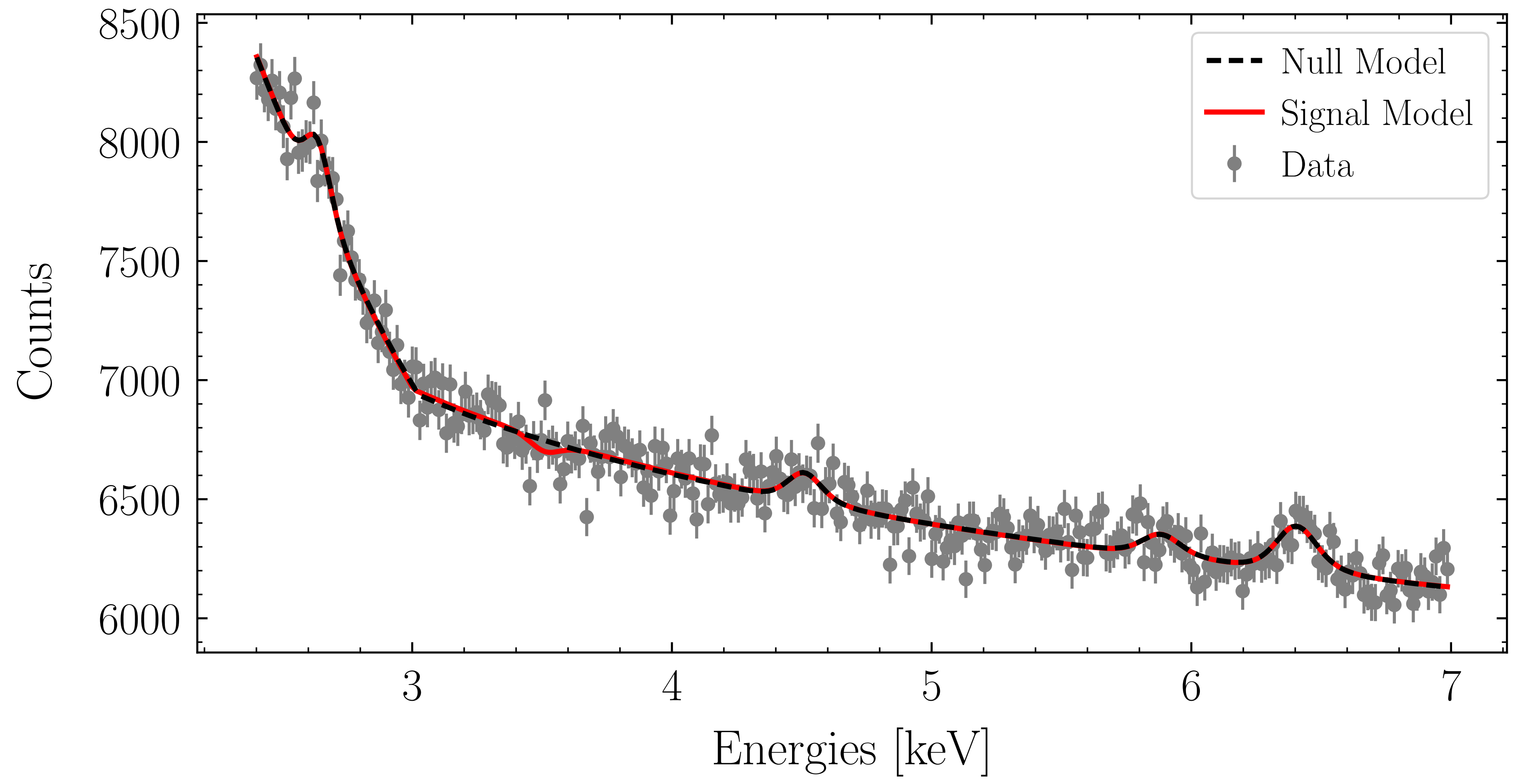


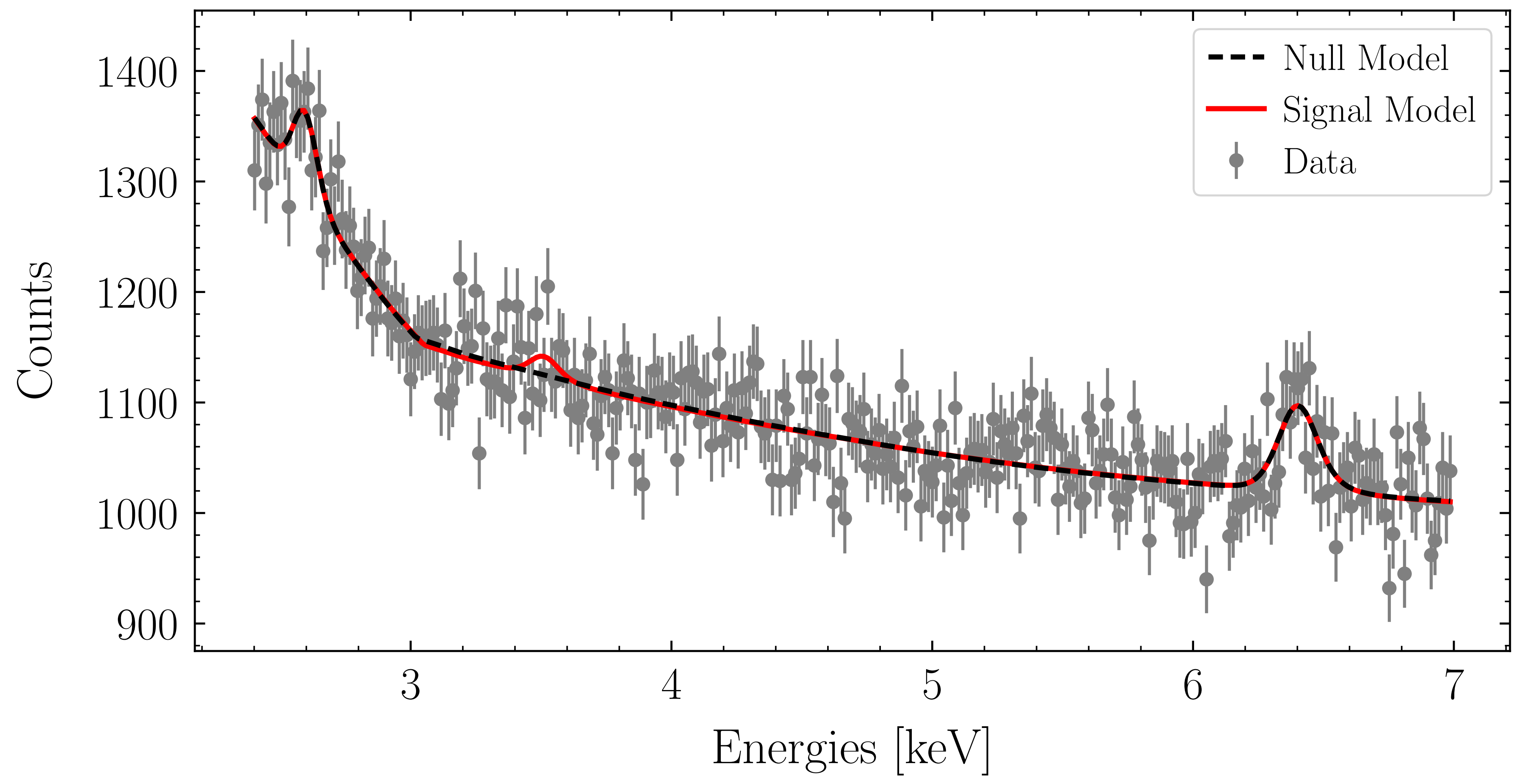
DETECTION IN THE CENTAURUS CLUSTER?

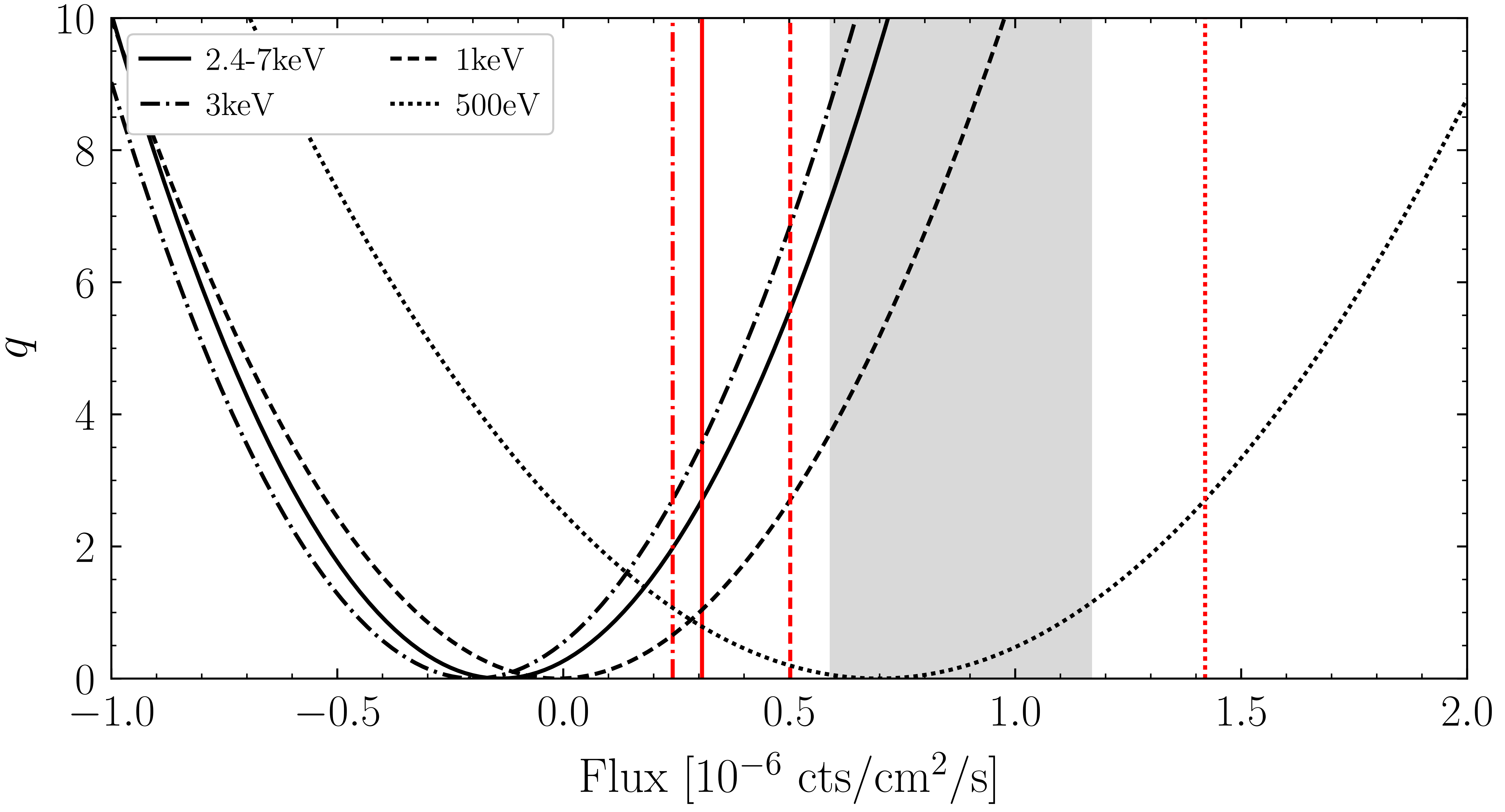


- Relatively high significance evidence for a UXL in the wide window analysis for Centaurus
- In fact, strong demonstration of relevance of narrowly windowed analysis

RE-ANALYSIS OF THE CHANDRA DEEP FIELD



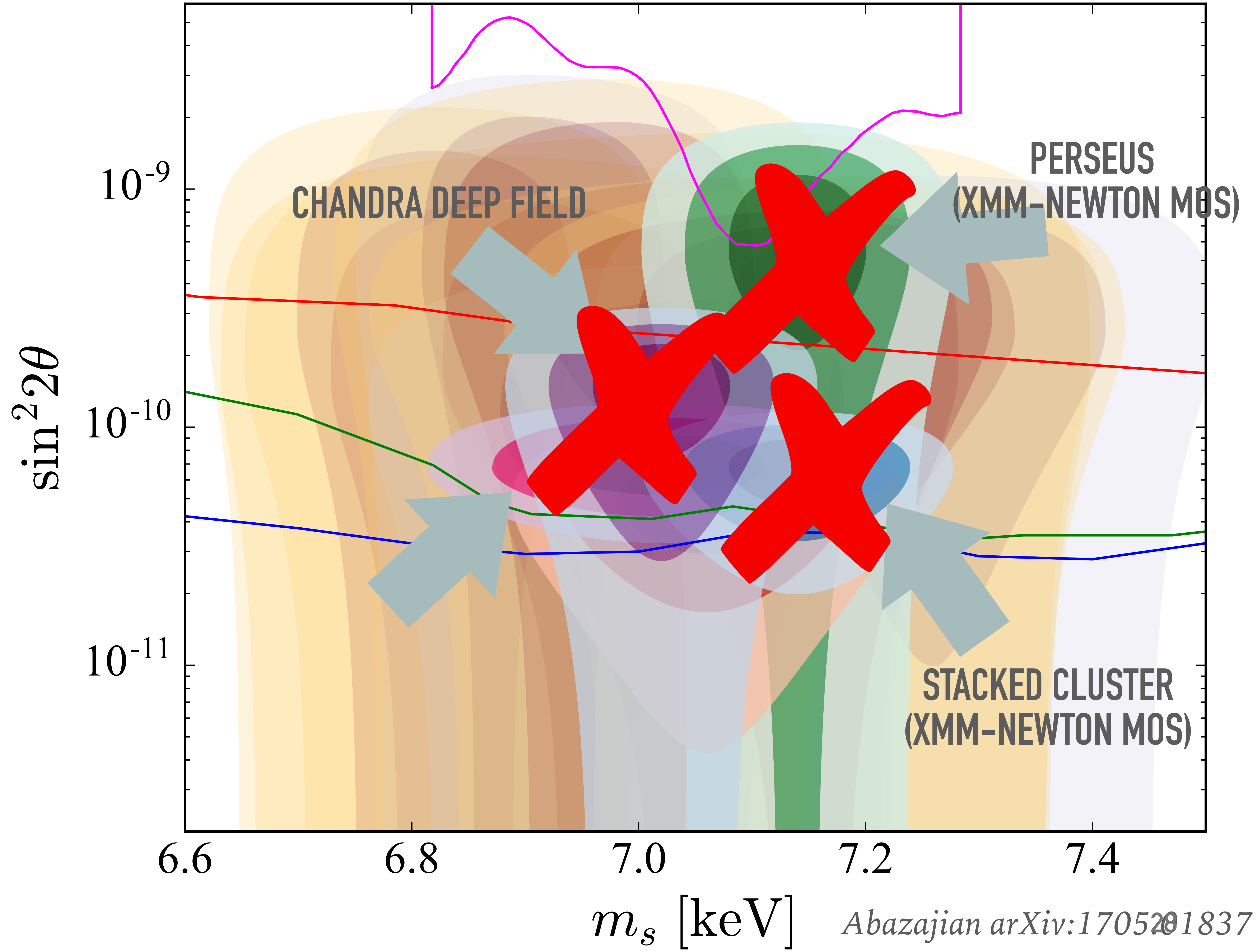




RE-ANALYSIS OF M31

REMARKS ON THE 3.5 KEV LINE

- No single explanation for why 3.5 keV line was “discovered”
- Future X-ray telescopes will help
  - Improved effective area
  - Improved spectral resolution
- Still need optimal observation and analysis strategies



Abazajian arXiv:1705.01837

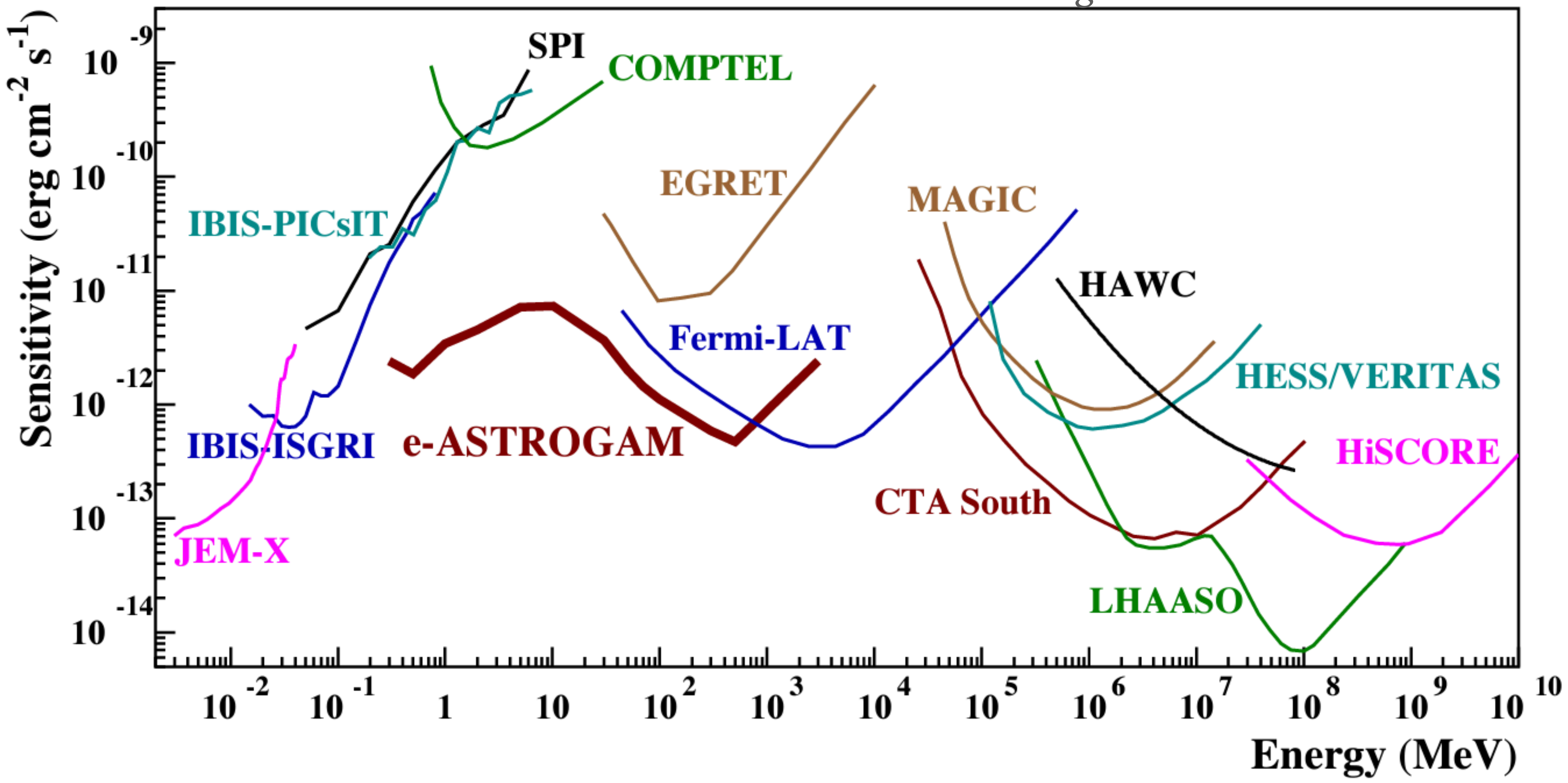
PROSPECTS AND MODELS FOR KEV/MEV DM

To appear with S. Kumar, B. Safdi, and Y. Soreq

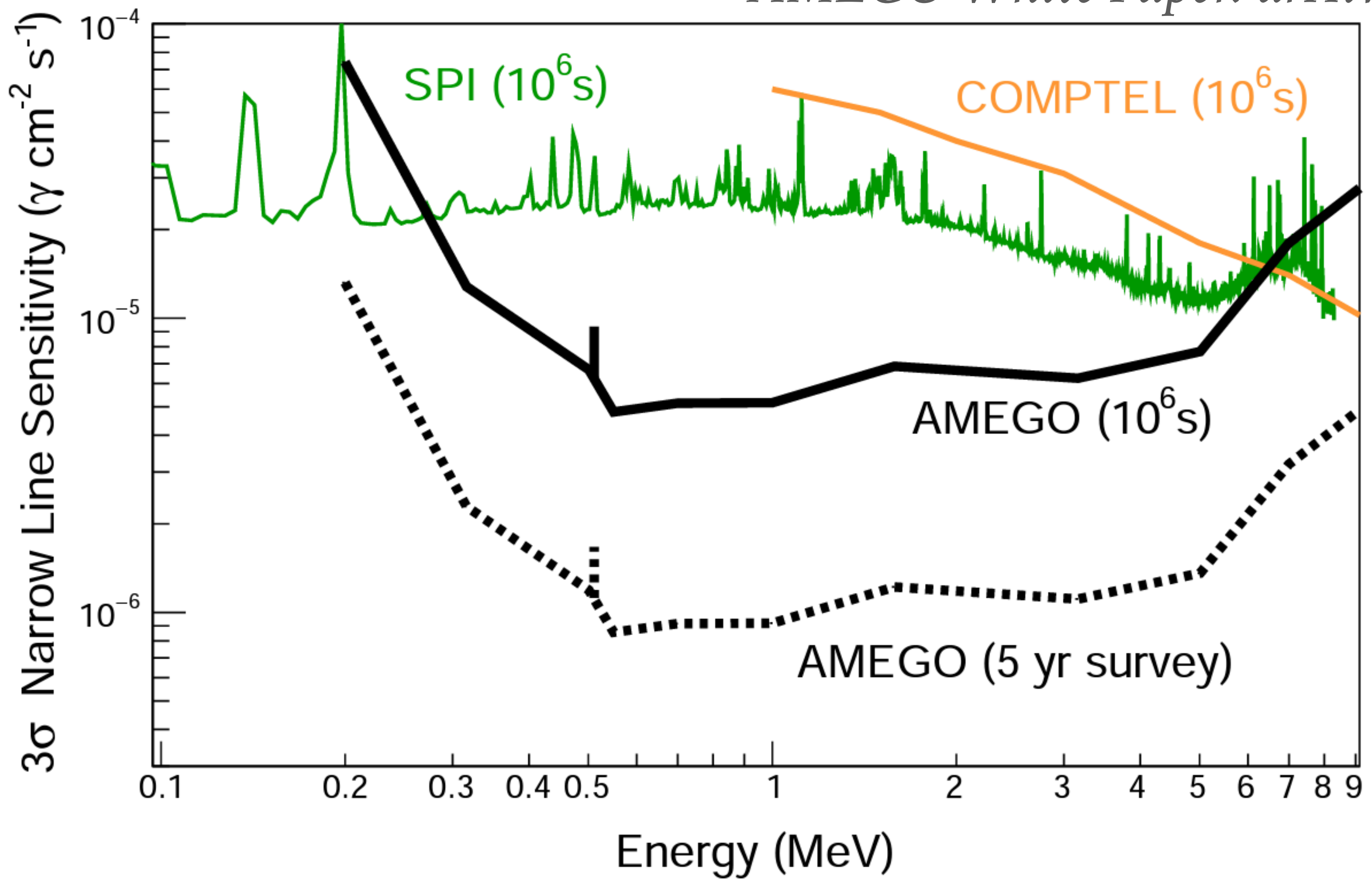
FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR INDIRECT DETECTION

- Workhorse telescopes are aging
  - XMM-Newton (Hard X-Ray): 22 years
  - Nustar (Very Hard X-Ray): 10 years
  - Comptel (Soft Gamma Ray): 10 years
  - Integral (Soft Gamma Ray): 20 years
  - Fermi LAT (Gamma Ray): 14 years
- Other operational challenges
- Upcoming and proposed telescopes
  - **XRISM (Hard X-Ray): 2023**
  - **Cherenkov Telescope (Gamma Ray): 2026**
  - **HERD (Gamma Ray): 2027**
  - ATHENA (Hard X-Ray): 2030s
  - AMEGO/e-Astrogram (Very Hard X-Ray, Soft Gamma Ray): 2030s

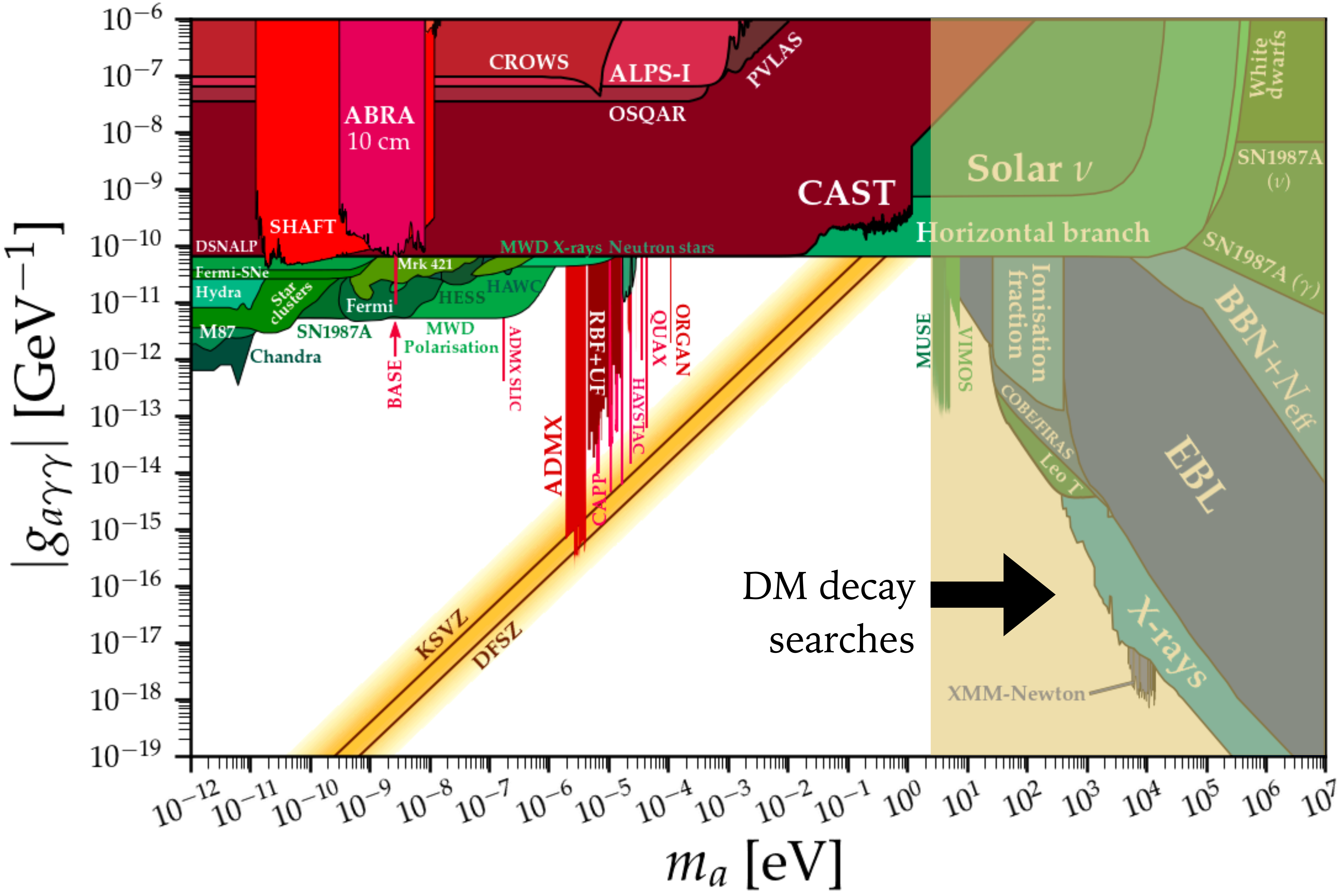
Science with e-Astrogram. arXiv: 1711.01265

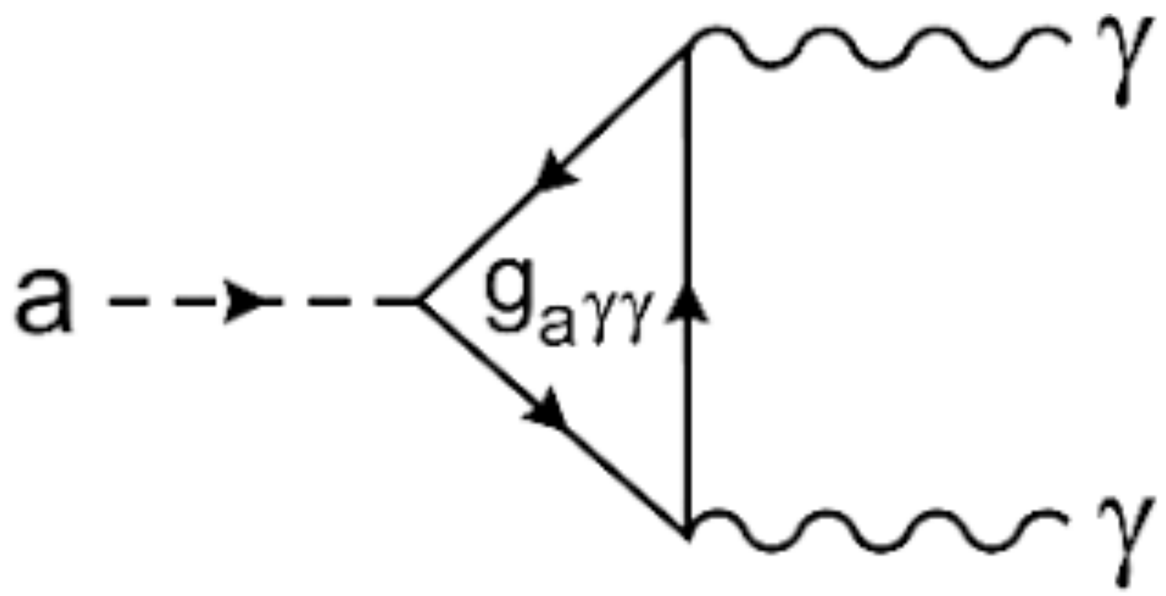


AMEGO White Paper. arXiv: 1907.07558



AXIONS AS DECAYING DARK MATTER





$$\Gamma_a = \frac{m_a^3 g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2}{64\pi}$$

HEAVY AXIONS FROM DARK NONABELIAN GAUGES

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{a}{8\pi f_a}\left[\alpha_D C_{aDD}\mathrm{Tr}(G_D\tilde{G}_D) + \alpha_{\mathrm{EM}} C_{a\gamma\gamma} F\tilde{F}\right]$$

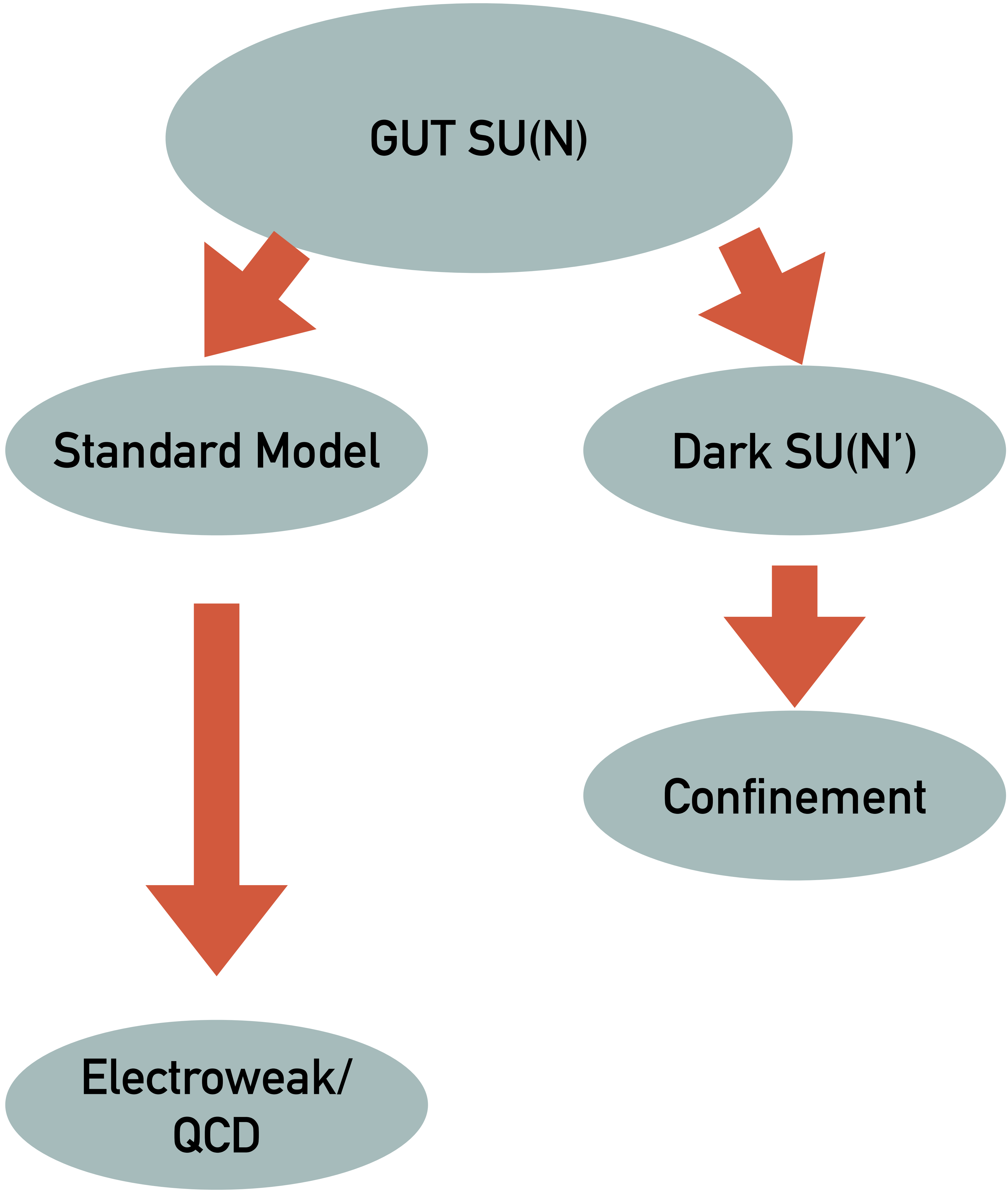
- Axion coupled to dark non-abelian gauge G and E&M

$$\Lambda_D = \Lambda_{\mathrm{UV}} \exp\left[-18\pi/33\alpha_{\mathrm{UV}} C_2\right]$$

- Dark gauge confines at low energies, axion acquires a mass from confinement

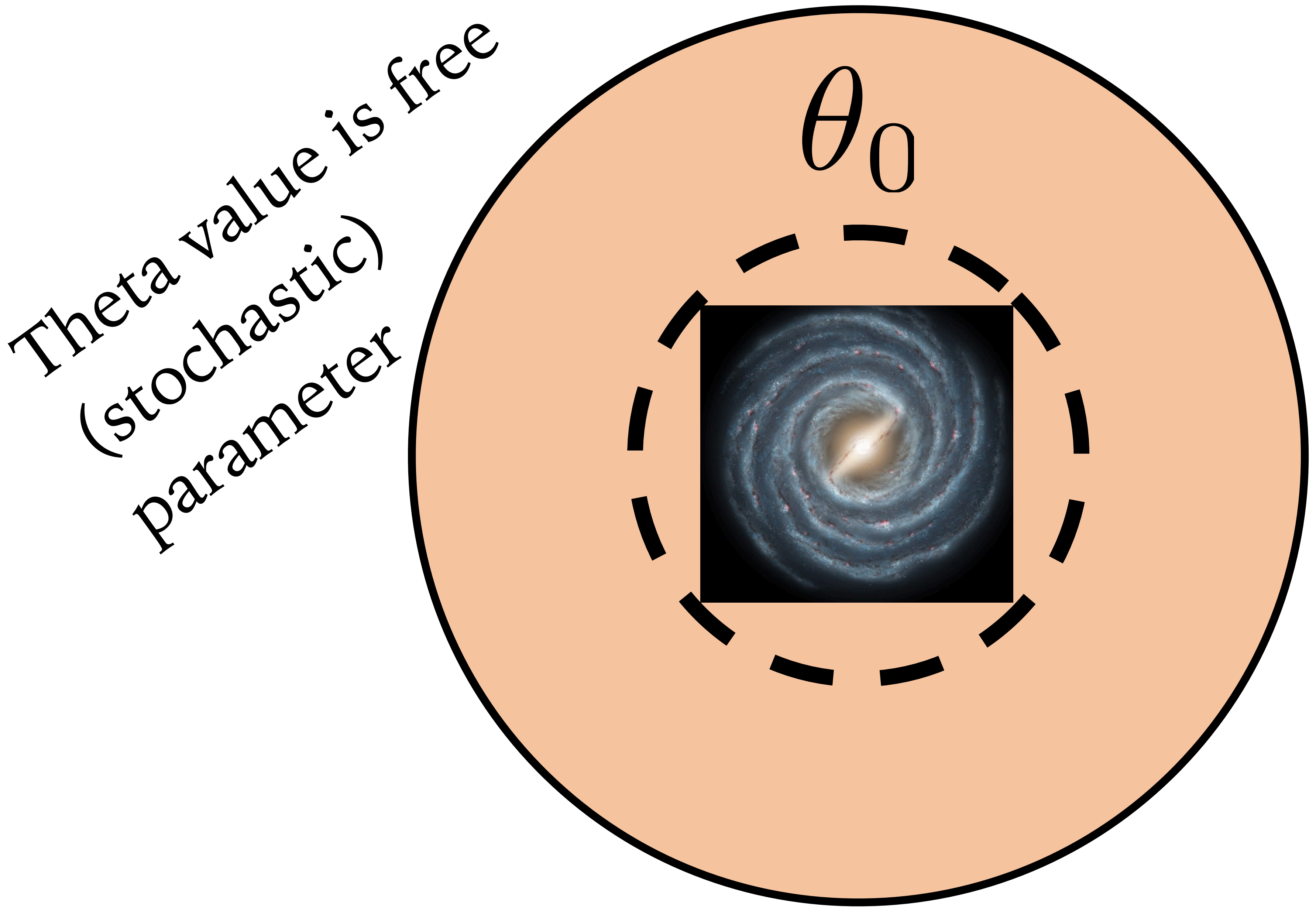
$$m_a \approx \frac{\Lambda_D^2}{f_a} \approx 1\ \mathrm{MeV}\left(\frac{\Lambda_D}{10^6\ \mathrm{GeV}}\right)^2\left(\frac{10^{15}\ \mathrm{GeV}}{f_a}\right)$$

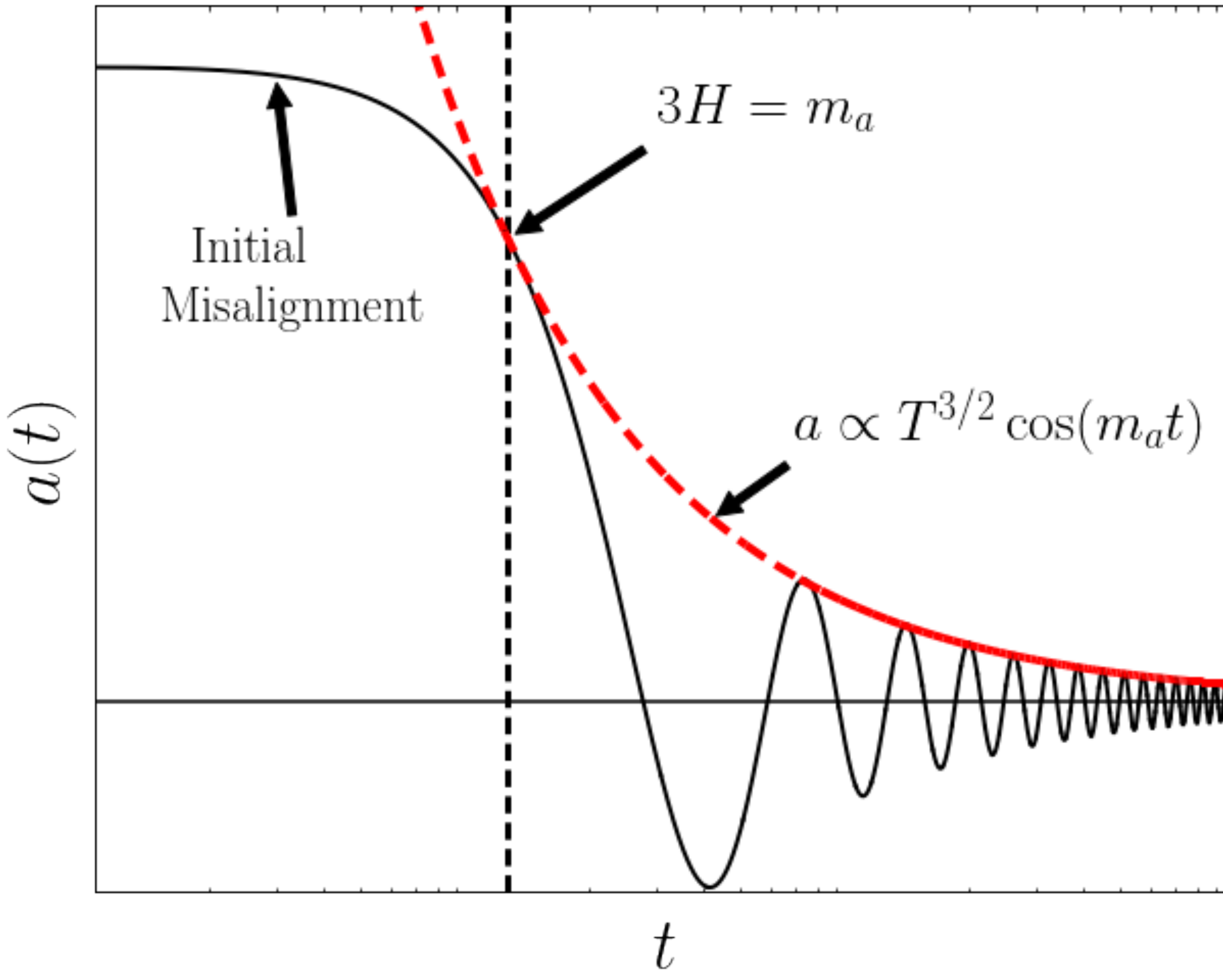
- Model benchmarks: Dark SU(2) at the GUT scale leads to $\sim$10 PeV confinement scale, $\sim$10-100 keV axion mass



MISALIGNMENT IN A RADIATION DOMINATED COSMOLOGY

- ➤Axion produced before inflation, homogeneous initial conditions





$$\Omega_a h^2|_{\rm RD} \approx 0.12 \left(\frac{\theta_i f_a}{2\times 10^{13}\ {\rm GeV}}\right)^2 \times \left(\frac{m_a}{1\ \mu{\rm eV}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{90}{g_{S*}(T_{\rm osc})}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

Huge DM overproduction in benchmark scenario

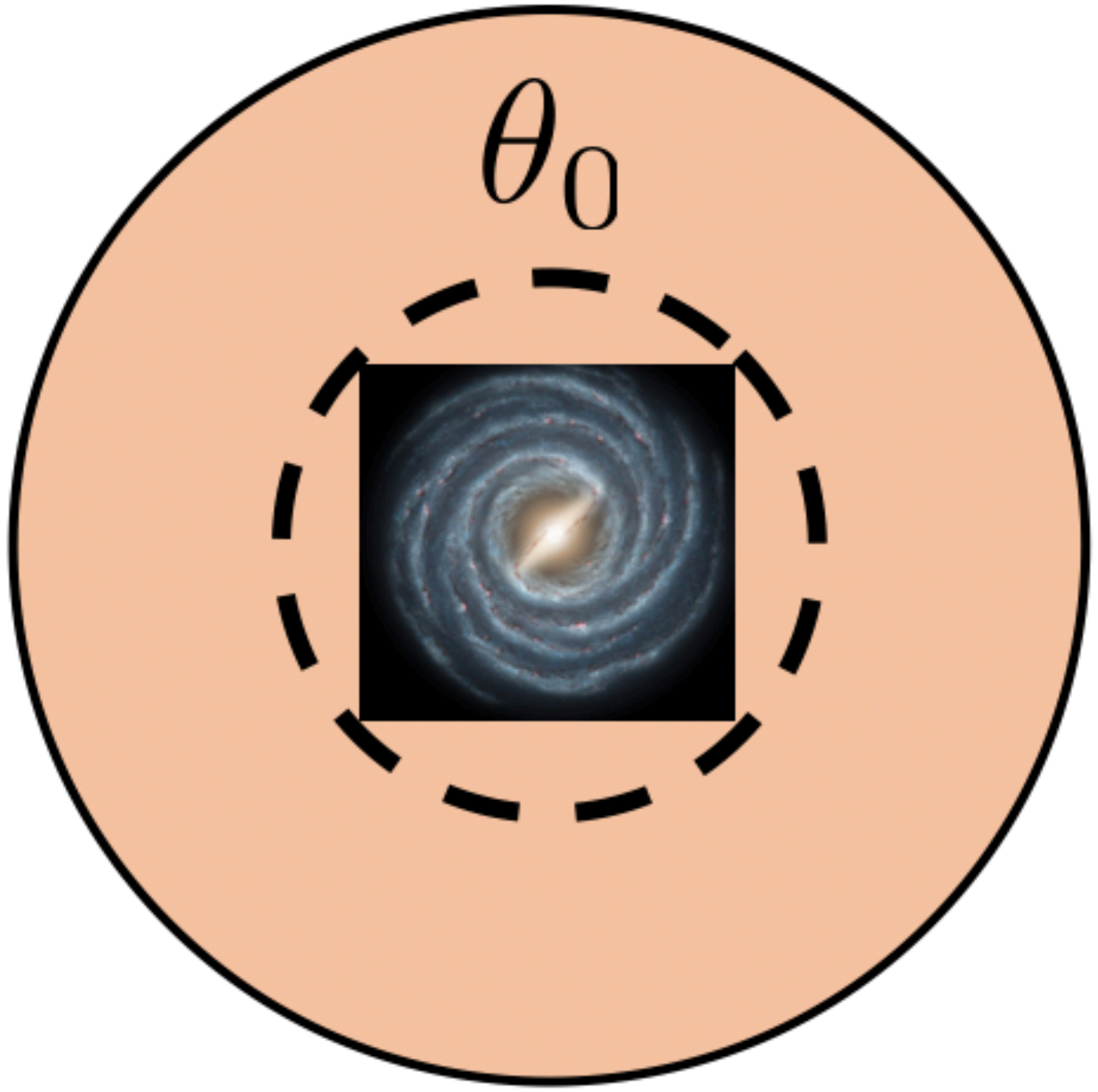
MISALIGNMENT WITH AN EARLY MATTER DOMINATED ERA

$$\Omega_a = \frac{1}{2}\frac{m_a^2 f_a^2 \theta_i^2}{\rho_c}\left(\frac{R_{\rm osc}}{R_{\rm RH}}\right)^3\left(\frac{T_0}{T_{\rm RH}}\right)^3\frac{g_{*S}(T_0)}{g_{*S}(T_{\rm RH})}$$

Constant axion mass,

Oscillations beginning during EMDE

Instantaneous reheating and RD onset



$$\Omega_a h^2\big|_{\rm EMD} \approx 0.12\left(\frac{\theta_i f_a}{10^{15}\ {\rm GeV}}\right)^2\left(\frac{T_{\rm RH}}{10\ {\rm MeV}}\right)$$

Blinov et al. arXiv: 1905.06952

AXION PRODUCTION THROUGH MISALIGNMENT WITH A GLUEBALL EMDE

- Confinement gives me glueballs, use these to generate EMDE

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{c_6 \alpha_D}{4\pi} G^{a}_{d\,\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}_{d\,a} \frac{H^\dagger H}{\Lambda^2}$$

- Need glueballs to decay, couple to SM Higgs

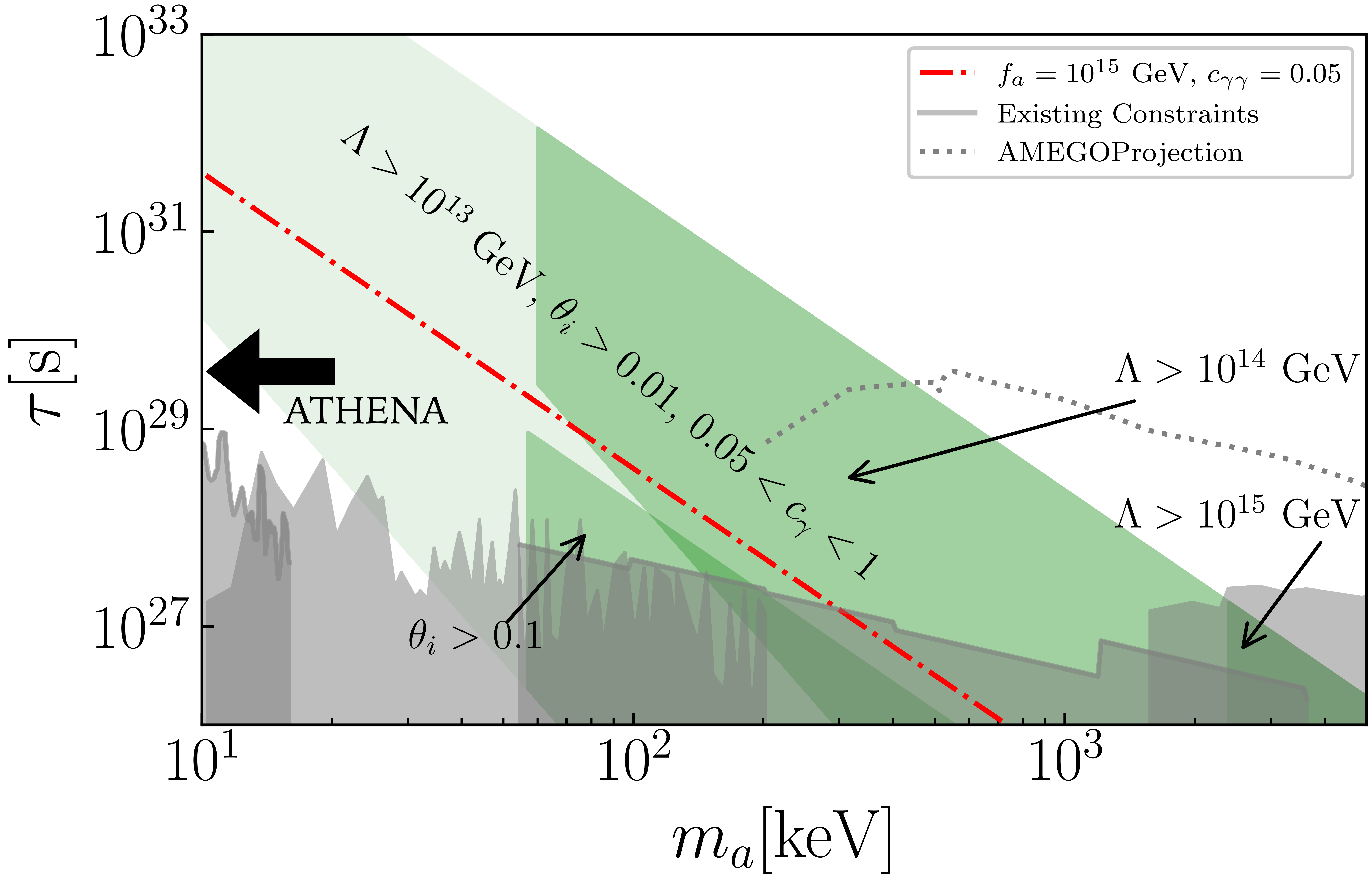
$$\Gamma_{0^{++}\to \mathrm{SM}} \approx 9 \times 10^{-2}\ \mathrm{s}^{-1} c_6^2 \left(\frac{m_{0^+}}{10^7\ \mathrm{GeV}}\right)^5 \times \left(\frac{10^{14}\ \mathrm{GeV}}{\Lambda}\right)^4$$

- Glueball decays reheat universe, must be compatible with BBN

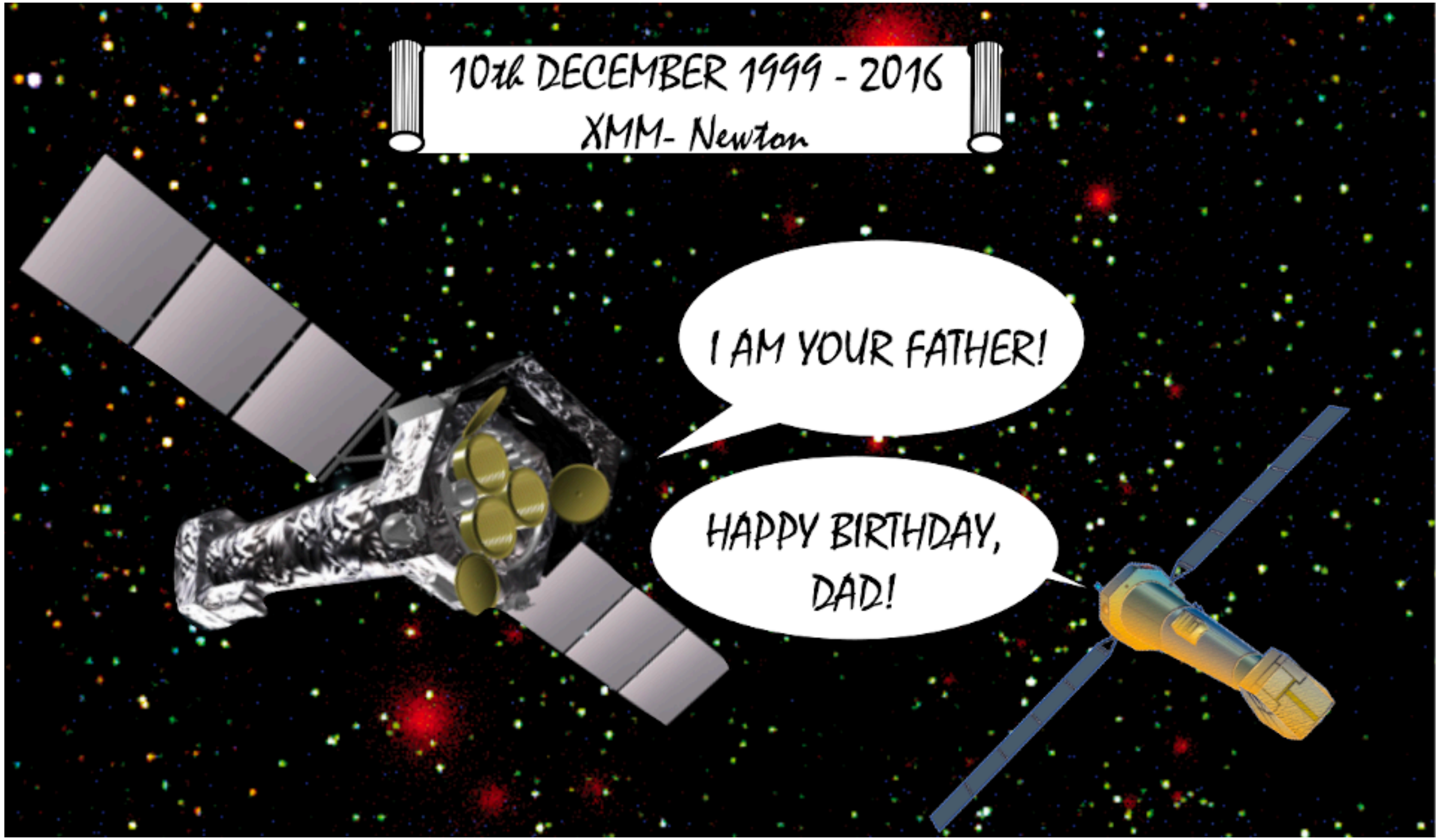
$$T_{\mathrm{RH}} \approx 5\ \mathrm{MeV} \left(\frac{10.8}{g_*(T_{\mathrm{RH}})}\right)^{1/4} c_6 \times \left(\frac{m_{0^+}}{3.1 \times 10^7\ \mathrm{GeV}}\right)^{5/2} \left(\frac{10^{14}\ \mathrm{GeV}}{\Lambda}\right)^2 .$$

See also T .Slatyer et al. 2203.15813 for application to thermal squeezeout dark matter

HEAVY ALP PARAMETER SPACE



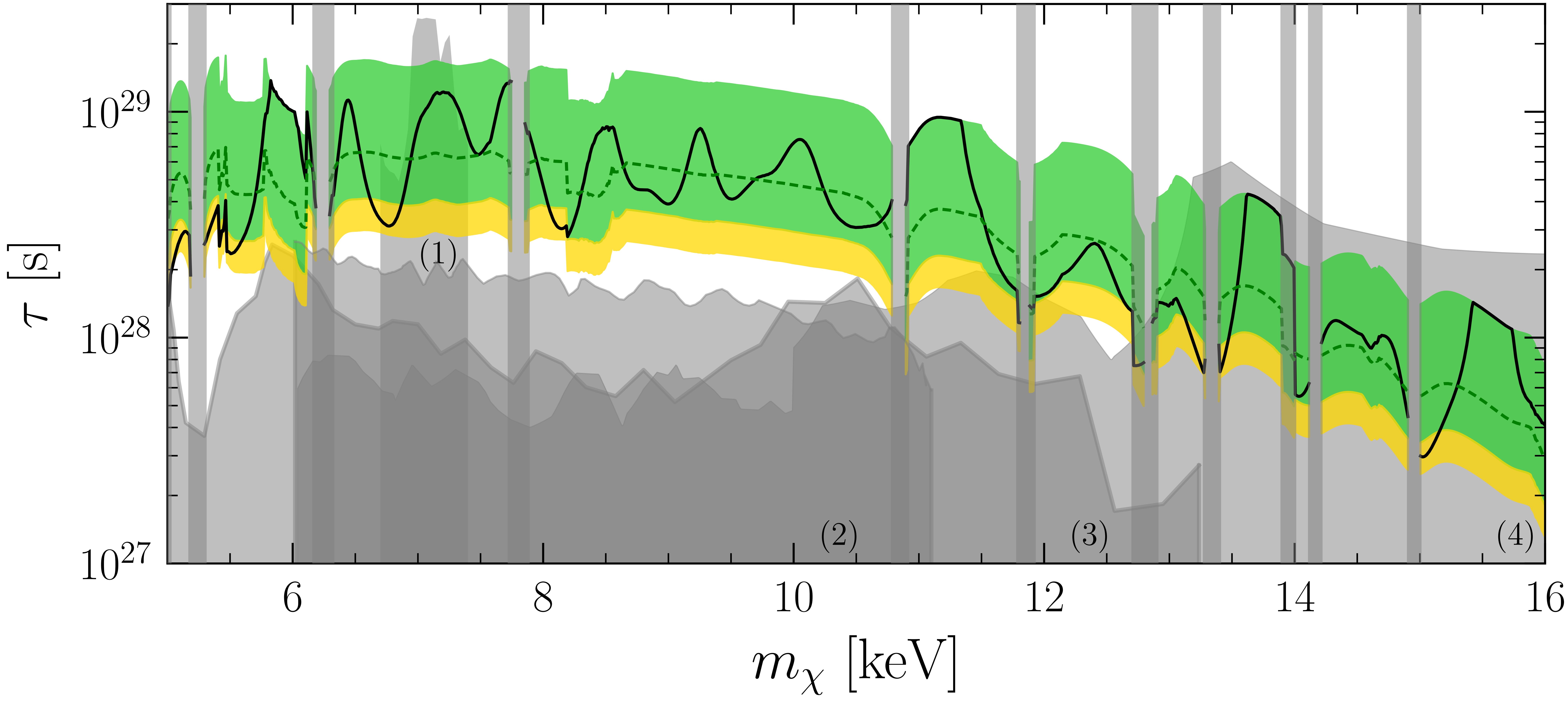
CONCLUSION



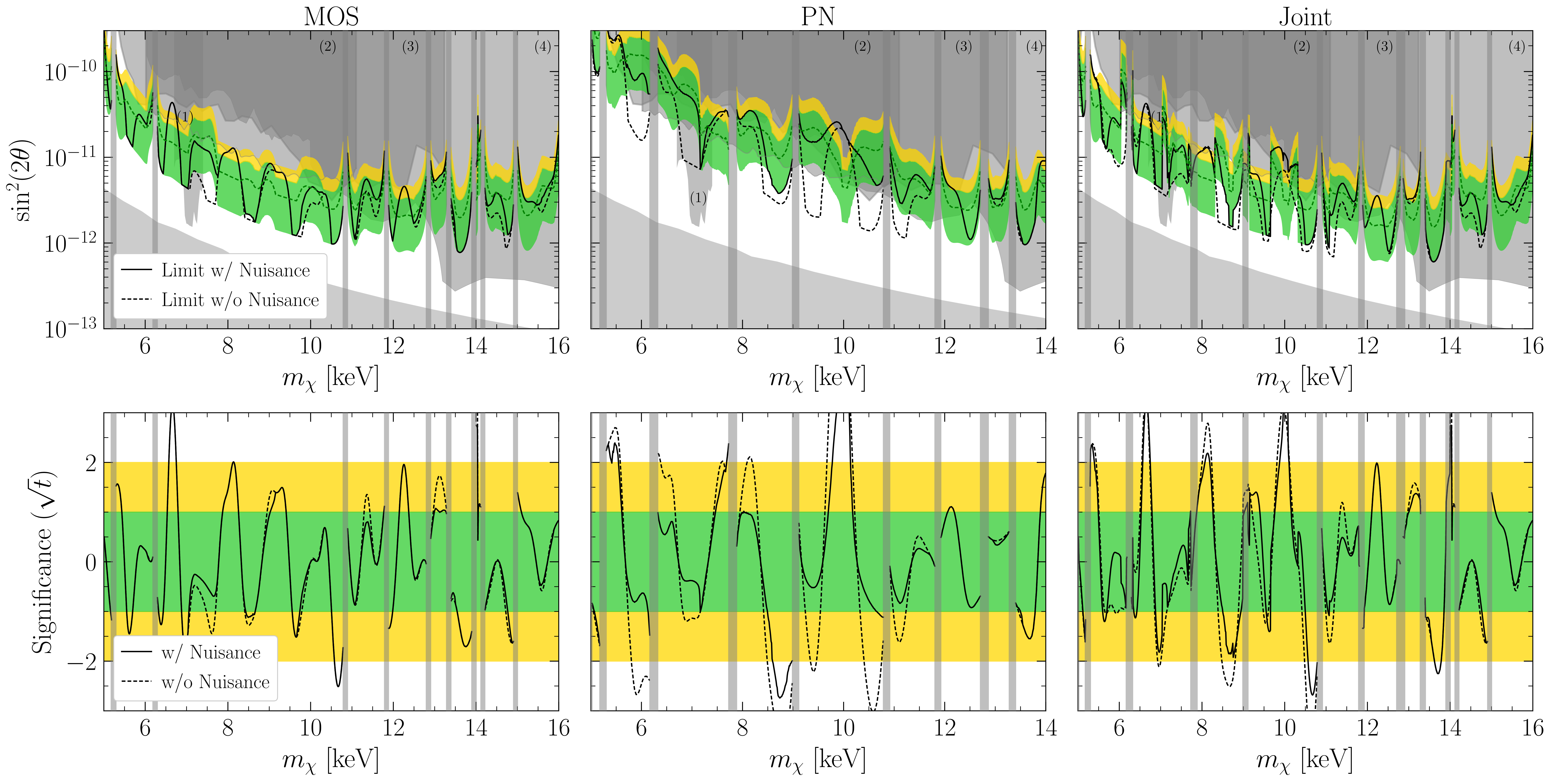
Athena X-Ray Observatory Community Support Portal

BACKUP SLIDES

DM LIFETIME LIMITS



UNSUBTRACTED ANALYSIS



ALTERNATE GP KERNEL: STATIONARY KERNEL AT 1KEV