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# Looking forward to new physics and neutrinos at the LHC and beyond

Sebastian Trojanowski (AstroCeNT, CAMK PAN & NCBJ)

**High Energy Physics seminar**  
Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw  
May 20, 2022

**ASTROCENT**



NICOLAUS COPERNICUS  
ASTRONOMICAL CENTER  
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European  
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Foundation for  
Polish Science

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# INTRODUCTION

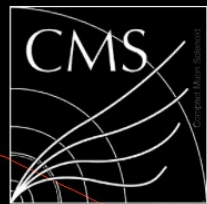
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# HIGH $p_T$ AND LOW $p_T$ SEARCHES

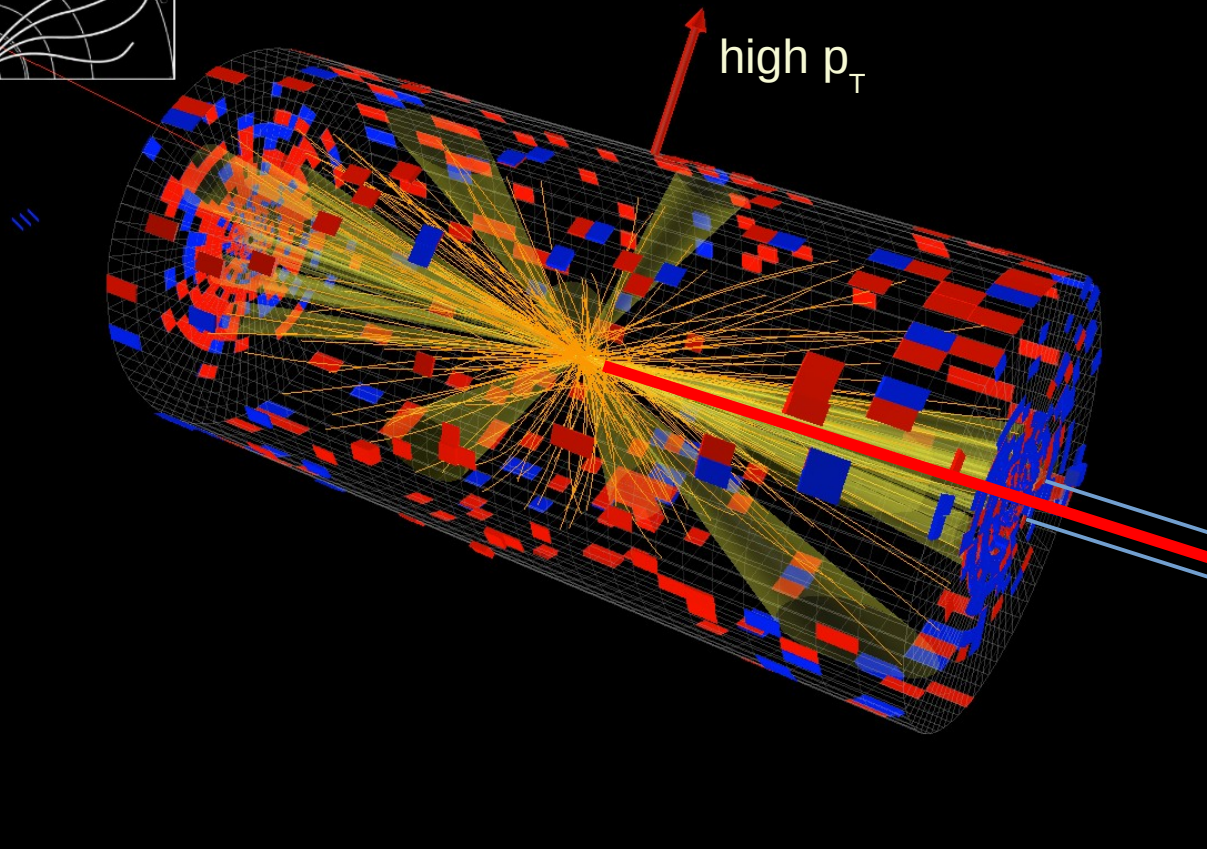
Heavy new physics preferentially searched for in the high  $p_T$  region, but...

LHC is also a factory of light particles

(e.g. light mesons, mostly dismissed as not interesting)



CMS Experiment at LHC, CERN  
Data recorded: Thu Apr 5 01:18:00 2012 CEST  
Run/Event: 190389 / 107592030  
Lumi section: 138



$$\sigma_{\text{inel}} \sim 75 \text{ mb},$$

$$\text{e.g., } N_{\pi} \sim 10^{18} \text{ at } 3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$$

(for comparison  $\sigma \sim \text{fb} - \text{pb}$   
and  $N_H \sim 10^8$  Higgs bosons  
at  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  in high- $p_T$  searches)

# (NEAR-)FORWARD SEARCHES AT THE LHC



September 3 2015

CERN-PH-LPCC-2015-001

SLAC-PUB-16364

DESY 15-167

- Active area of interest from basically the beginning of the LHC

1611.05079 [hep-ph]

- Experiments: ATLAS-ALFA, AFP, LHCf, (CMS-)TOTEM,... but also measurements at ALICE, ATLAS, CMS, LHCb

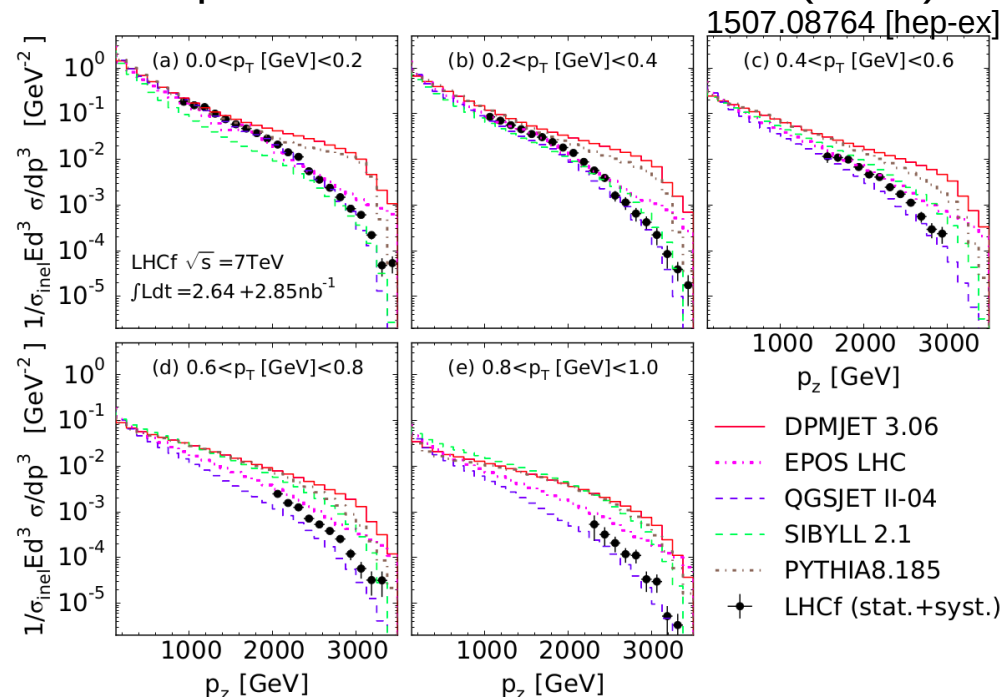
LHC Forward Physics

(184 authors)

Editors: N. Cartiglia, C. Royon  
The LHC Forward Physics Working Group

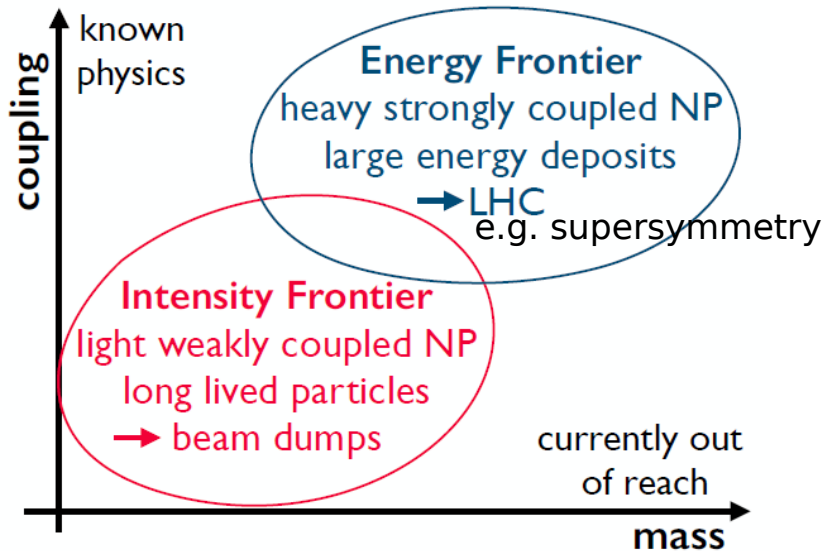
- Physics case:
  - measurement of the composition of the total pp cross section in terms of elastic, diffractive and inelastic contributions
  - distributions of forward products ( $\pi^0, n$ )
- Impact on:
  - cosmic-ray physics (data to improve modeling, MC tools)
  - QCD in the low-x regime
  - heavy ion physics, PDFs,...

## Neutral pion momentum distribution (LHCf)



# MOTIVATION TO GO FAR FORWARD

## LIGHT NEW PHYSICS



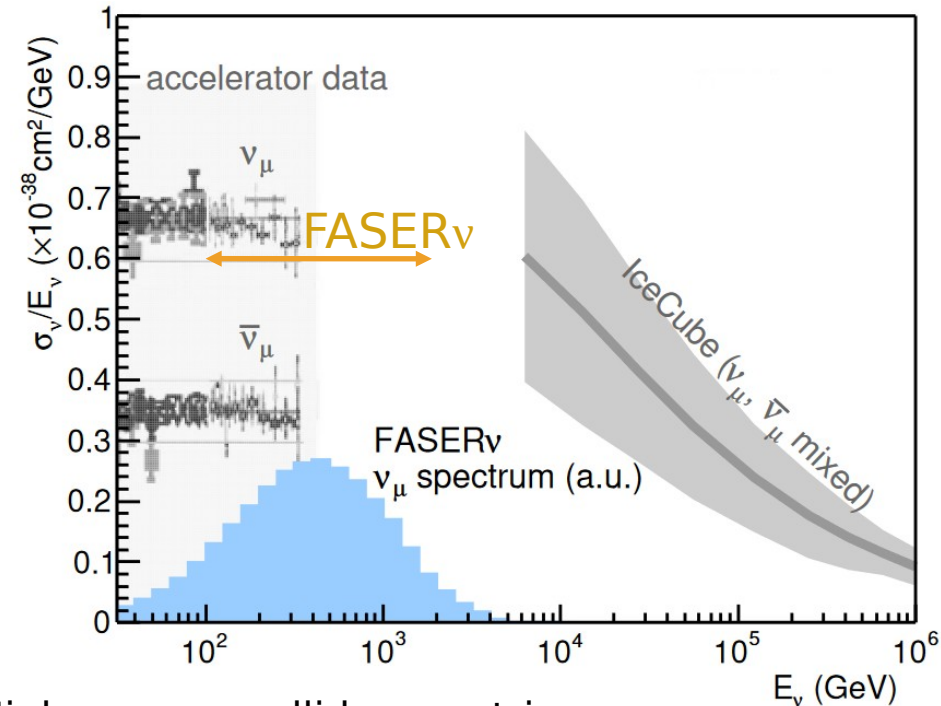
-- "leave no stone unturned"

-- cosmology  
(dark matter, inflation,  
baryogenesis,...)

-- neutrino masses  
(GeV-scale heavy neutral leptons)

-- anomalies

## LIGHT „KNOWN” PHYSICS

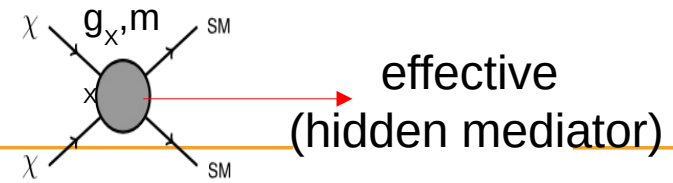


High-energy collider neutrinos:

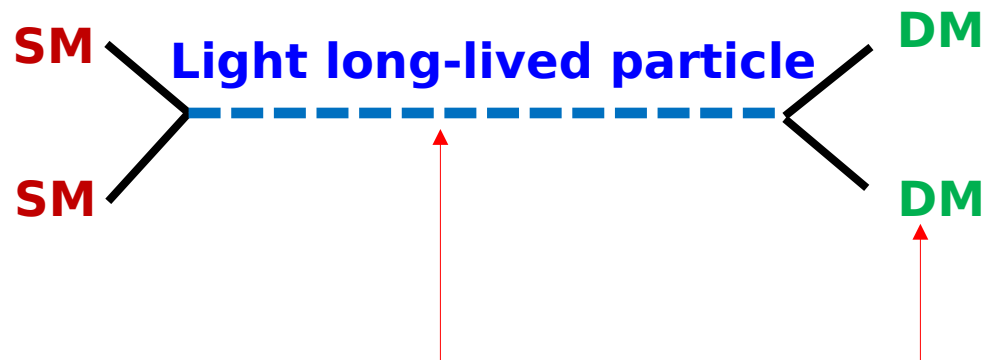
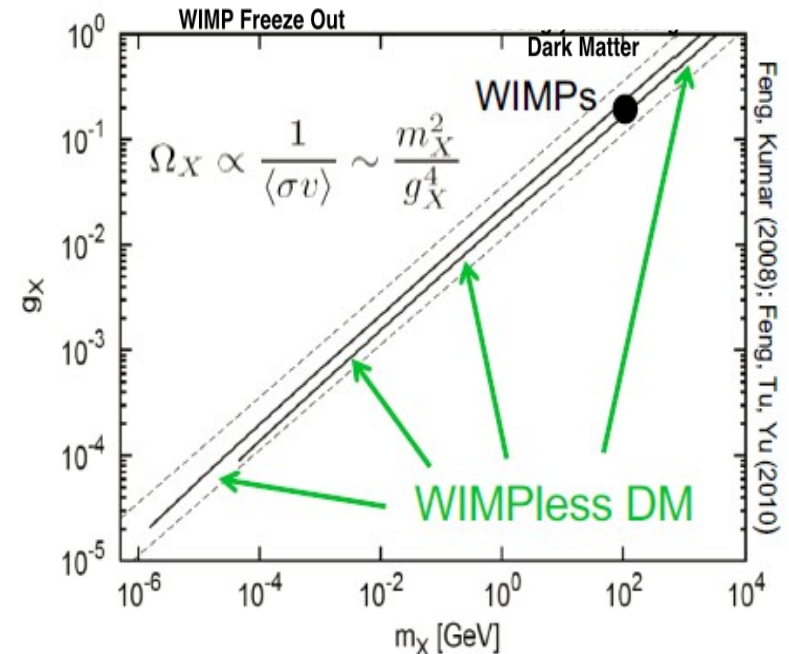
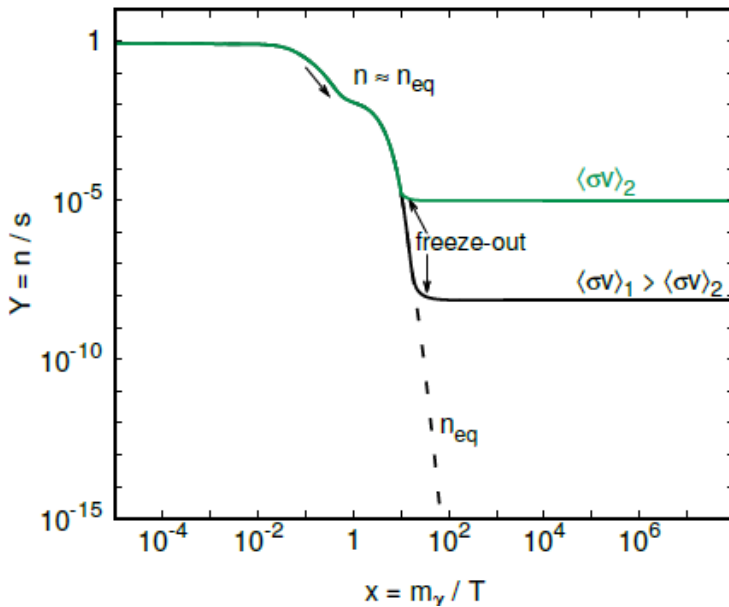
-- first neutrino measurements at the LHC  
(candidate events) FASER collaboration: 2105.06197

-- TeV-energy neutrinos remain less explored  
-- any new tau neutrinos  $\nu_\tau$  highly welcome  
-- other possibilities: charm-associated  
 $\nu$  interactions, new physics

# Example: WIMPless miracle



L. Roszkowski, E.M. Sessolo, ST, 1707.06277



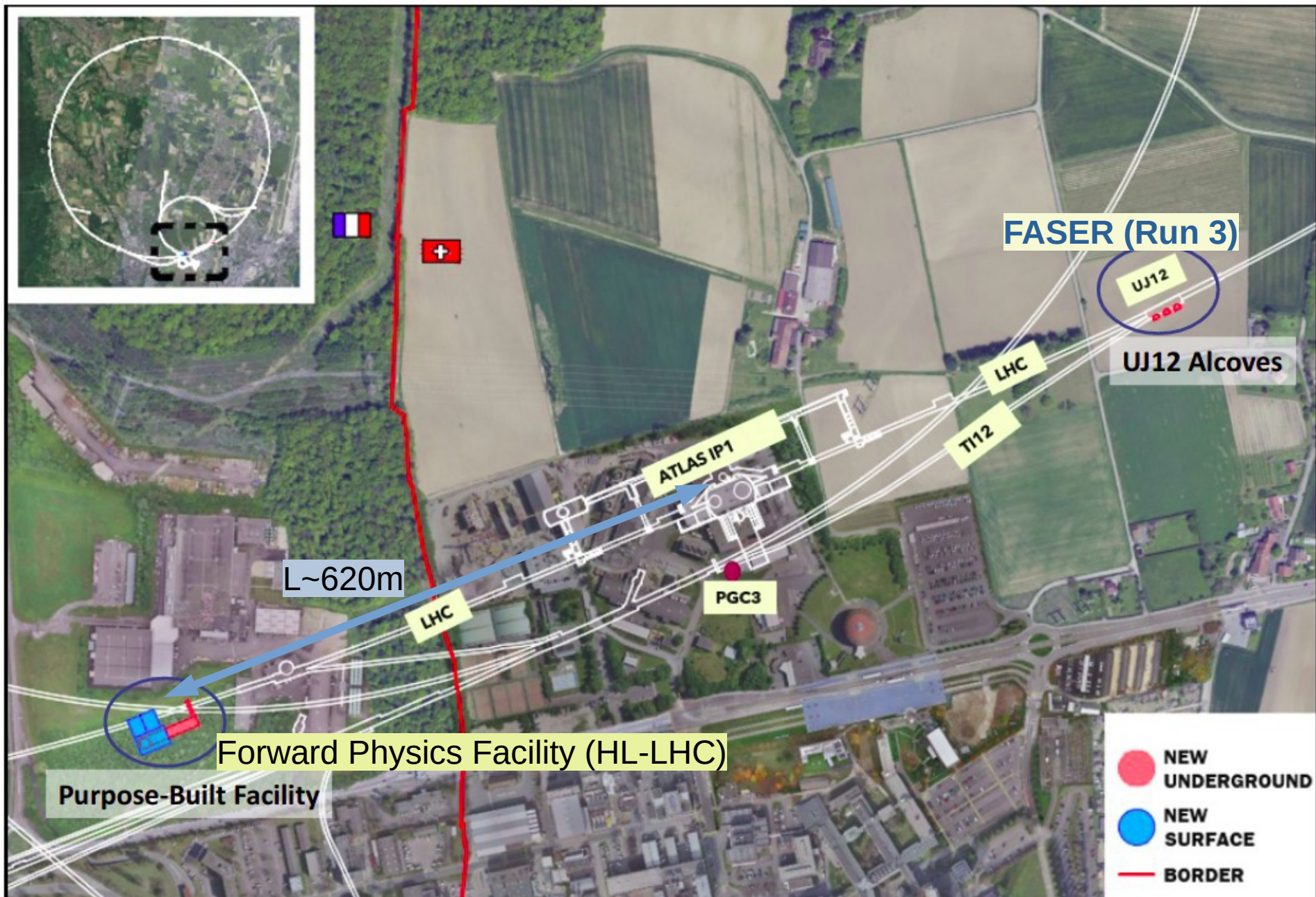
Search strategies: 1) search for light mediators, 2) search for light DM

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# **FAR-FORWARD FACILITIES**

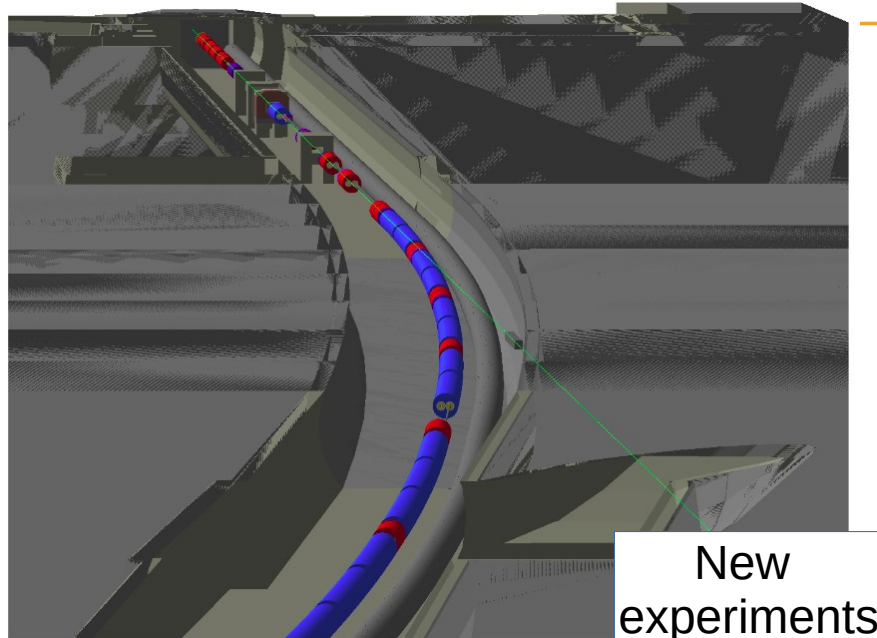
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## Far-forward searches at the LHC in a bird's eye view





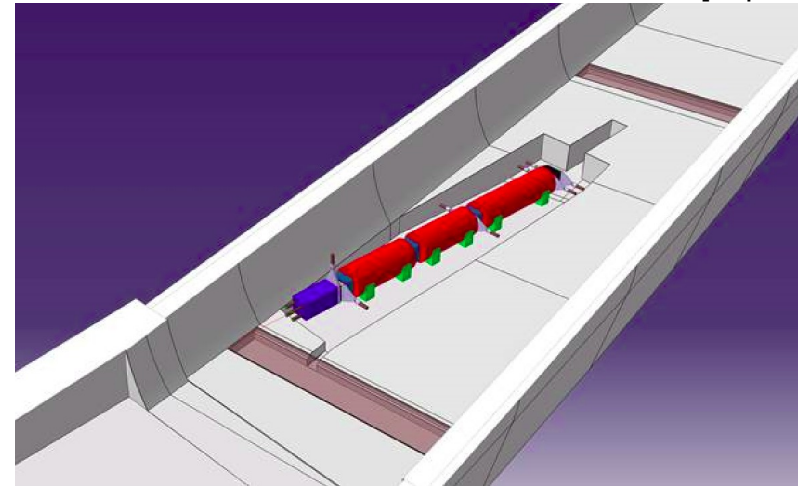
## Far-forward searches at the LHC zoomed in



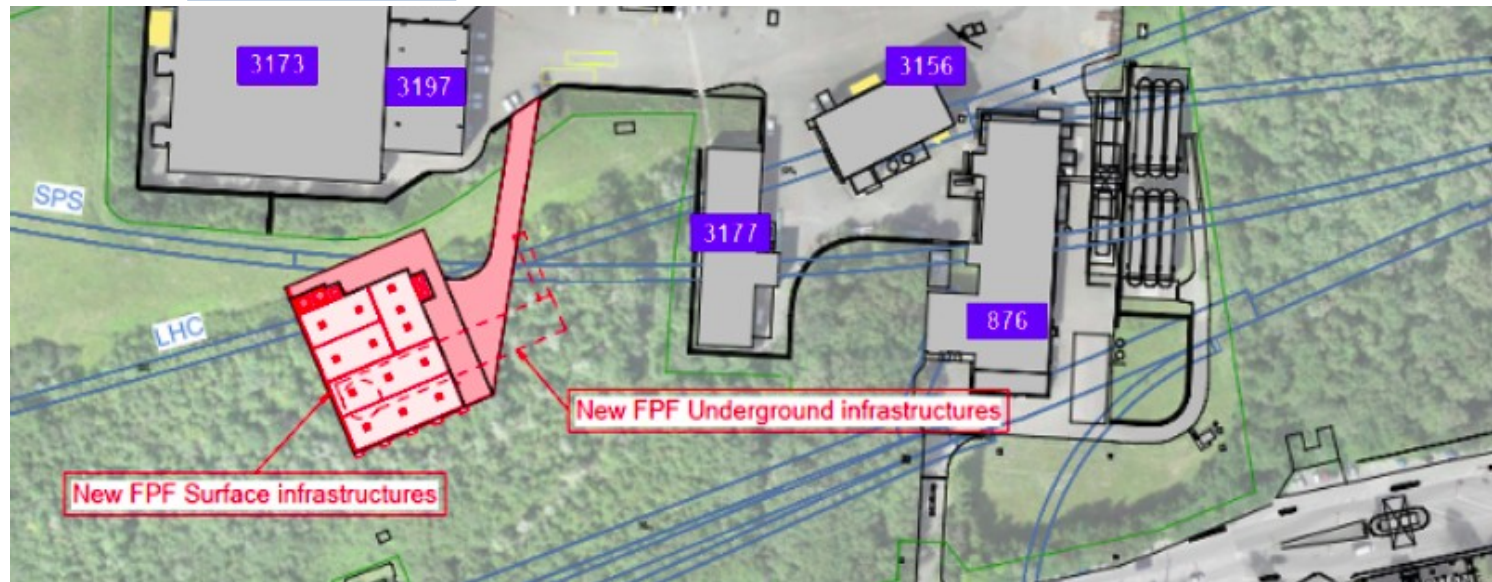
New  
experiments

## 1) FASER experiment (Run 3) (&amp; SND@LHC experiment)

1812.09139 [hep-ex]



## 2) Forward Physics Facility (FPF) proposed for HL-LHC



2109.10905 [hep-ph]  
2203.05090 [hep-ex]

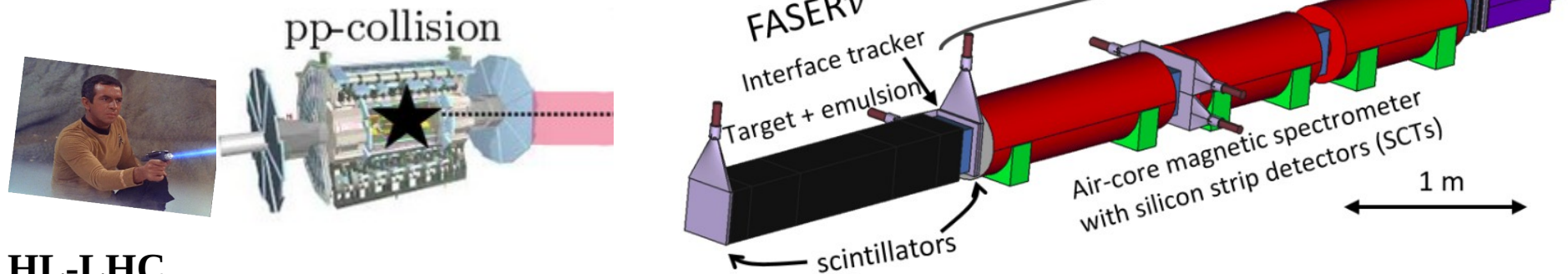
FASER Lol & TP: 1811.10243, 1812.09139  
 FASERv Lol & TP: 1908.02310, 2001.03073

# RUN 3 & HL-LHC PLANS

## Run 3

**main FASER -- cylindrical detector (& SND@LHC):**

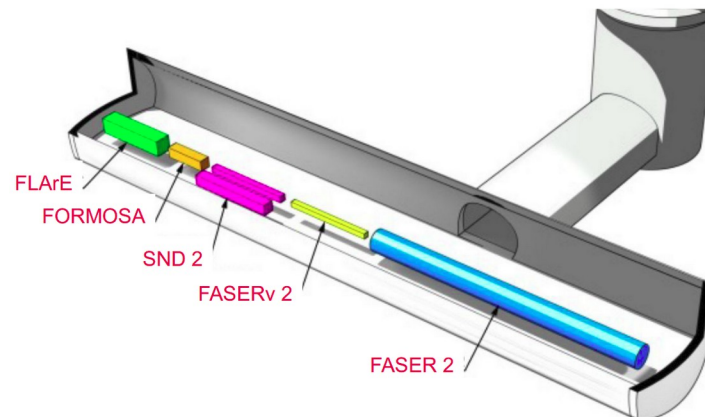
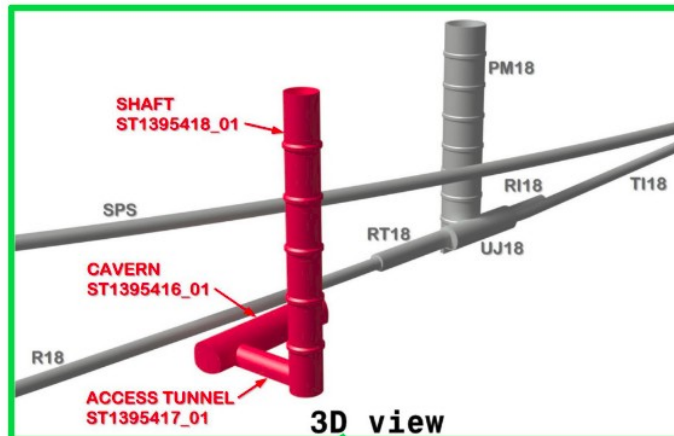
$L = 1.5 \text{ m}$ ,  $R = 10 \text{ cm}$ ,  $V = 0.05 \text{ m}^3$ ,  $150 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  (Run 3)



## HL-LHC

**(possible upgrade) FASER 2:  $L = 5 \text{ m}$  ( $\rightarrow 20 \text{ m}$ ),  $R = 1 \text{ m}$ ,  $V = 16 \text{ m}^3$ ,  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  (HL-LHC)**

**Forward Physics Facility** 2109.10905 [hep-ph]  
 2203.05090 [hep-ex]

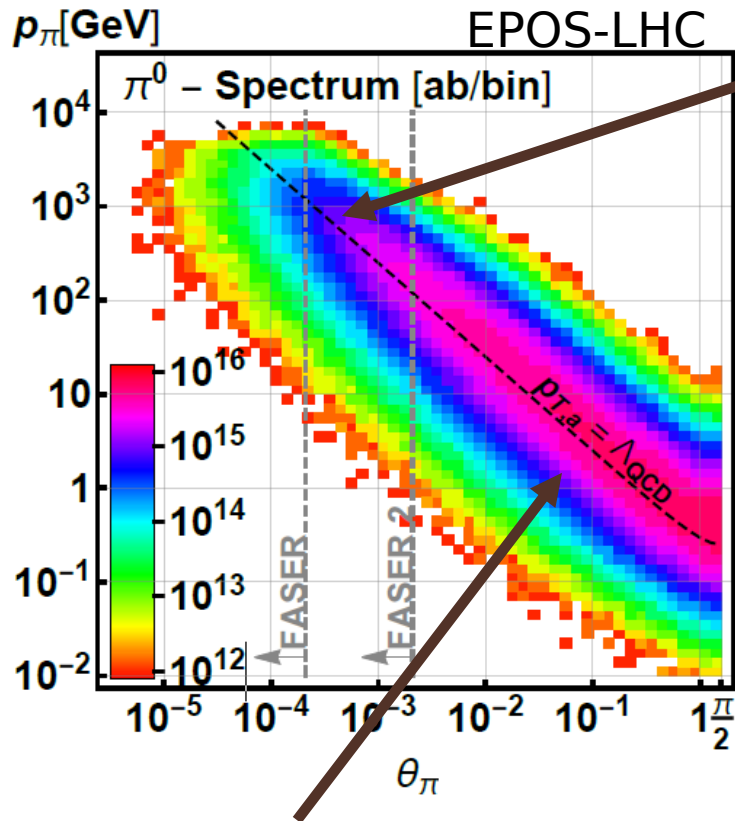


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# SEARCH FOR DECAYS

# NEW PHYSICS FROM PION DECAYS

J.L. Feng, I. Galon, F. Kling, ST, 1708.09389

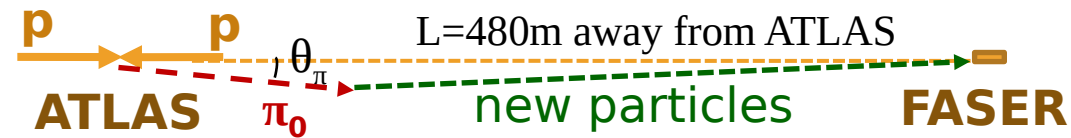


Hard pions highly collimated along the beam axis since their  $p_{\text{T}} \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$  e.g. for  $E_{\pi^0} \geq 10$  GeV

- $\sim 1.7\%$  of  $\pi_0$ s go towards **FASER (10cm radius)**
- $\sim 24\%$  of  $\pi_0$ s go towards **FASER 2 (1m radius)**

This can be compared to the angular size of both detectors with respect to the total solid angle of the forward hemisphere ( $2\pi$ ):

- $\sim (2 \times 10^{-6})\%$  for **FASER**
- $\sim (2 \times 10^{-4})\%$  for **FASER 2**



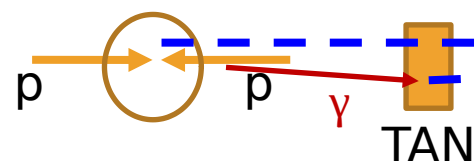
Soft pions going towards high- $p_{\text{T}}$  detectors:

- produced LLPs would be too soft for triggers
- large SM backgrounds

# SEARCH FOR HIGHLY DISPLACED DECAYS

## Production (ATLAS IP, ...)

Coupling: the larger the better



## Decay

too large not good (too early decays)

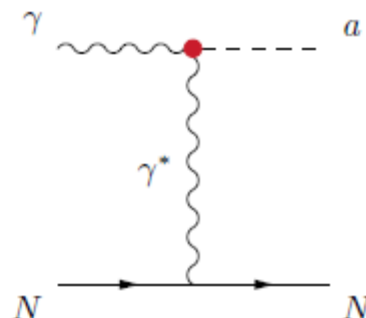
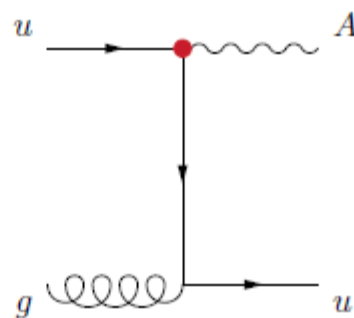
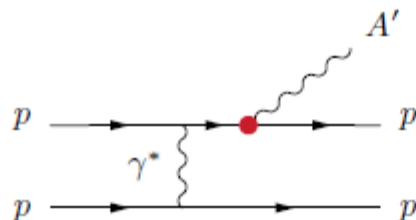
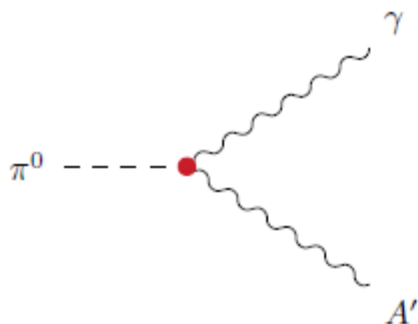
LLP

SM

SM

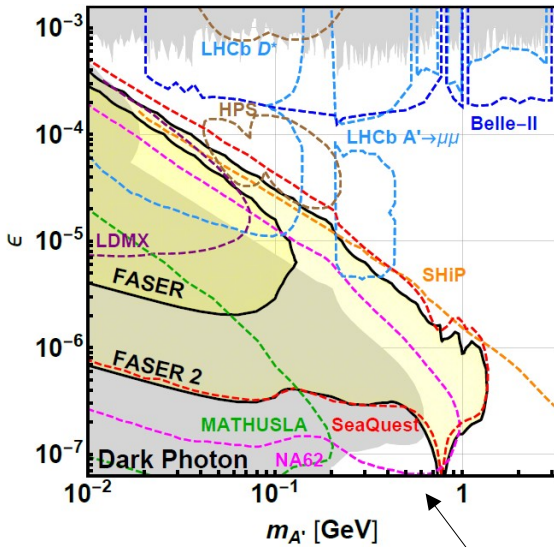
- Various production mechanisms:
- meson decays (light & heavy)
  - bremsstrahlung
  - hard-scatterings,...

$$N_{\text{sig}} \propto \begin{cases} \mathcal{L}^{\text{int}} \epsilon^2 e^{-L_{\text{min}}/\bar{d}} & \text{for } \bar{d} \ll L_{\text{min}} \\ \mathcal{L}^{\text{int}} \epsilon^2 \frac{L_{\text{max}} - L_{\text{min}}}{d} & \text{for } \bar{d} \gg L_{\text{min}} \end{cases}$$

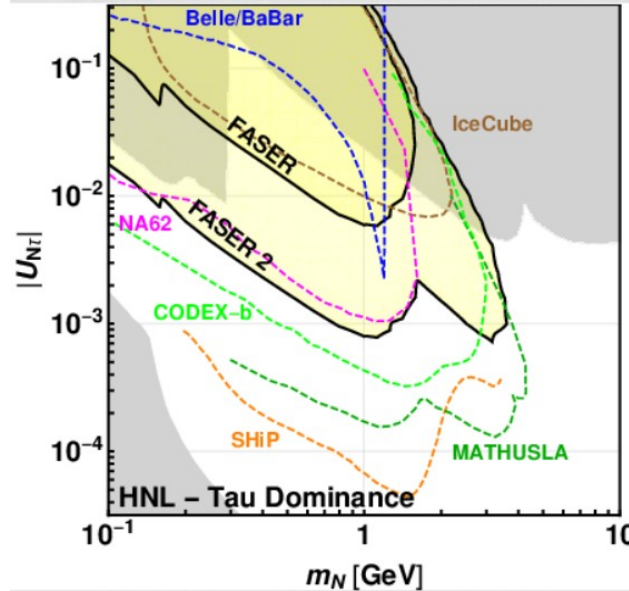


# SELECTED SENSITIVITY REACH PLOTS

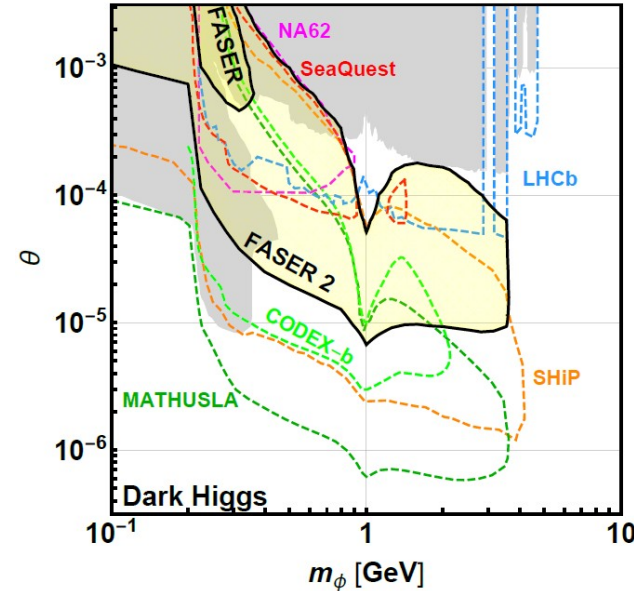
## DARK PHOTON



## HEAVY NEUTRAL LEPTON (TAU)

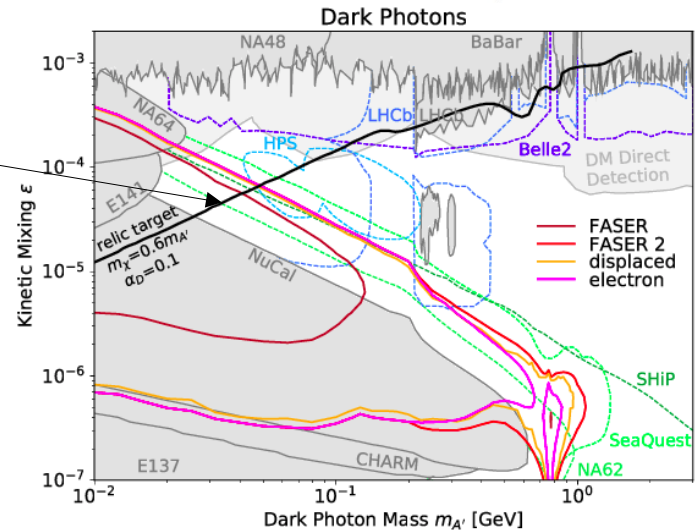


## DARK HIGGS BOSON



complementarity  
DM direct detection searches  
complex scalar DM with  $A'$

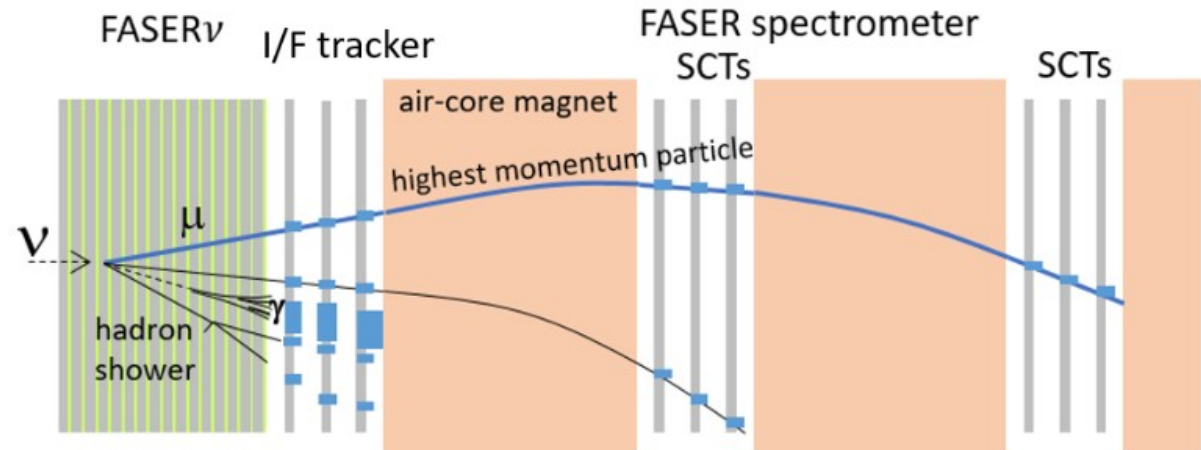
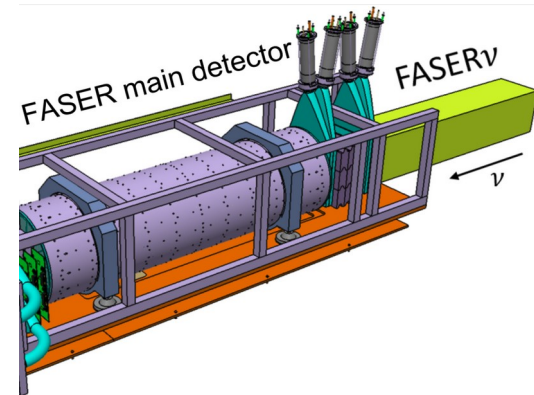
$$\mathcal{L}_D \supset (D^\mu \chi)^* (D_\mu \chi) - m_\chi^2 \chi^* \chi,$$



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# SEARCH FOR SCATTERINGS

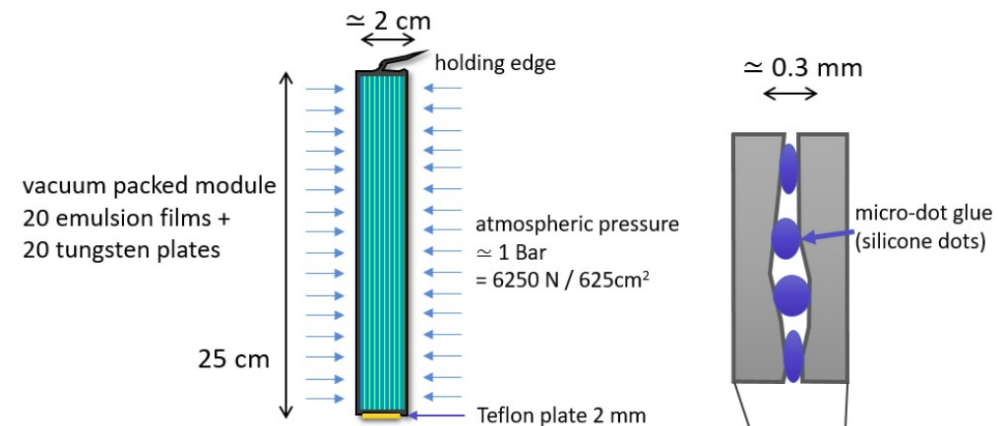
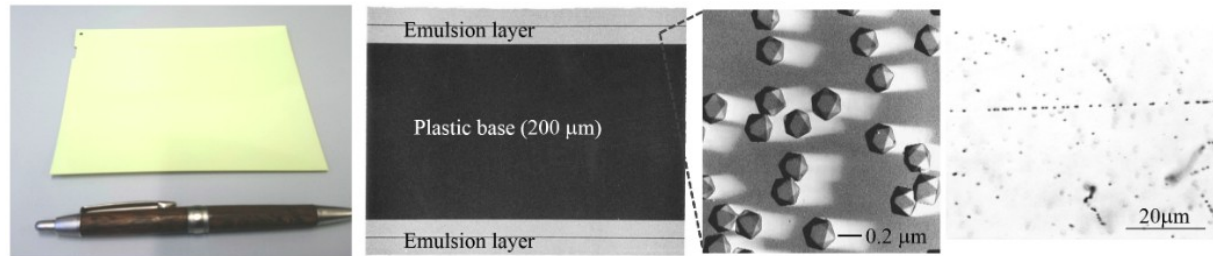
# FASER $\nu$ -- NEUTRINO SUBDETECTOR (RUN 3)



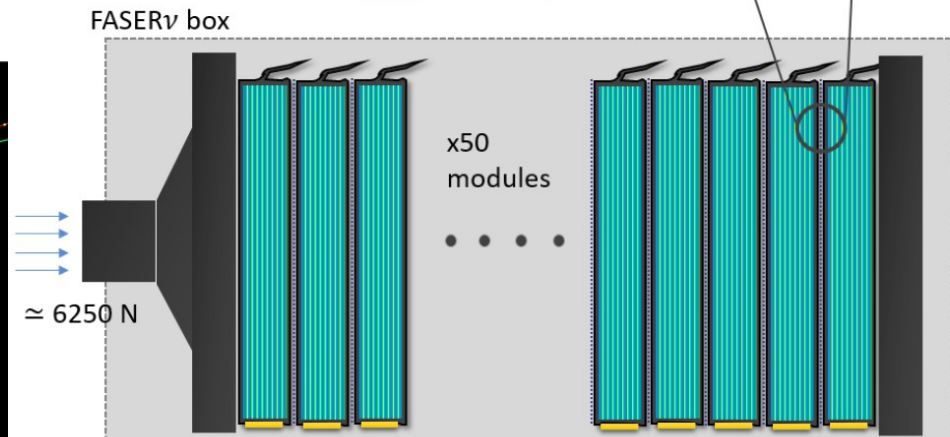
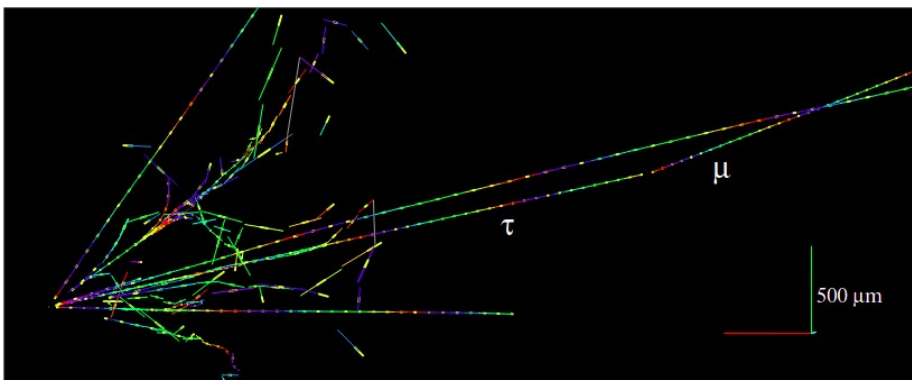
- FASER $\nu$  (1908.02310, 2001.03073) and SND@LHC (2002.08722) emulsion detectors
- Excellent spatial resolution (even 50nm),
- Can deal with high track density (up to  $10^6$  tracks/cm<sup>2</sup>),
- Study neutrino interaction vertices at TeV energies in great details
- Interface tracker - charge measurement disentangling  $\nu$  and  $\bar{\nu}$



# EMULSION DETECTOR (FASER $\nu$ )



$\nu_\tau$  CC scattering event display

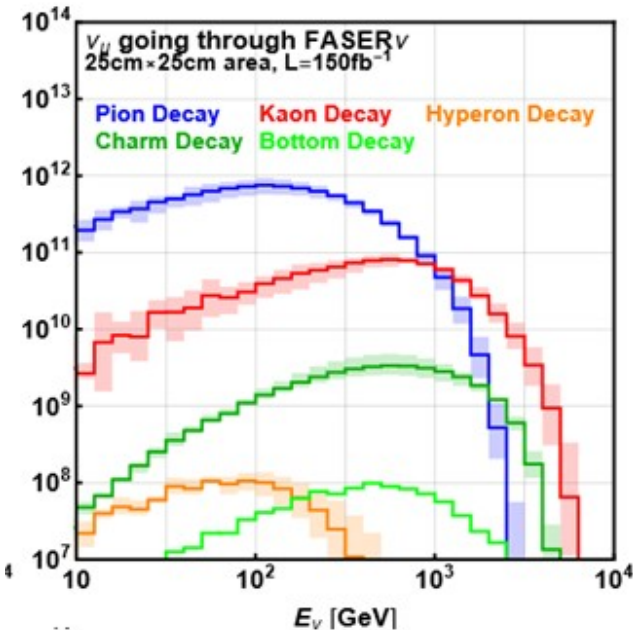


# FAR-FORWARD NEUTRINOS

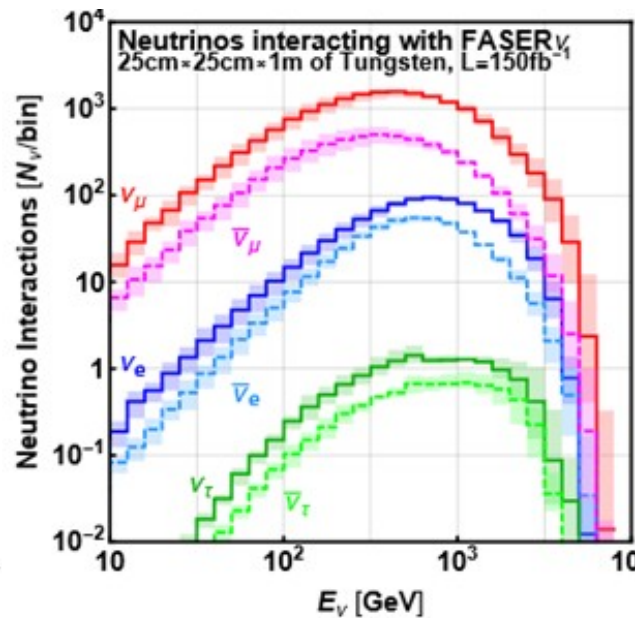
- LHC: lots of forward-going neutrinos from meson decays
- Measurement of the neutrino scattering cross section for  $E_\nu \sim \text{TeV}$  (currently poorly explored regime)
- Possible detection of 10-20 high-energy tau neutrino events

## LHC Run 3

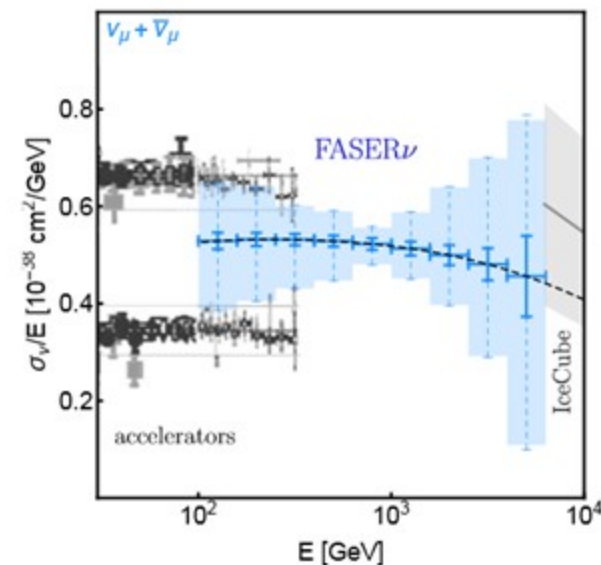
### Going-through



### Interacting



### Scattering cross section



# EXTREMELY POWERFUL DETECTION METHOD

- First neutrino candidate events has been observed already during Run 2...

FASER Collaboration, 2105.06197

- ...with two handy boxes (10cm x 10cm x 12.5cm)

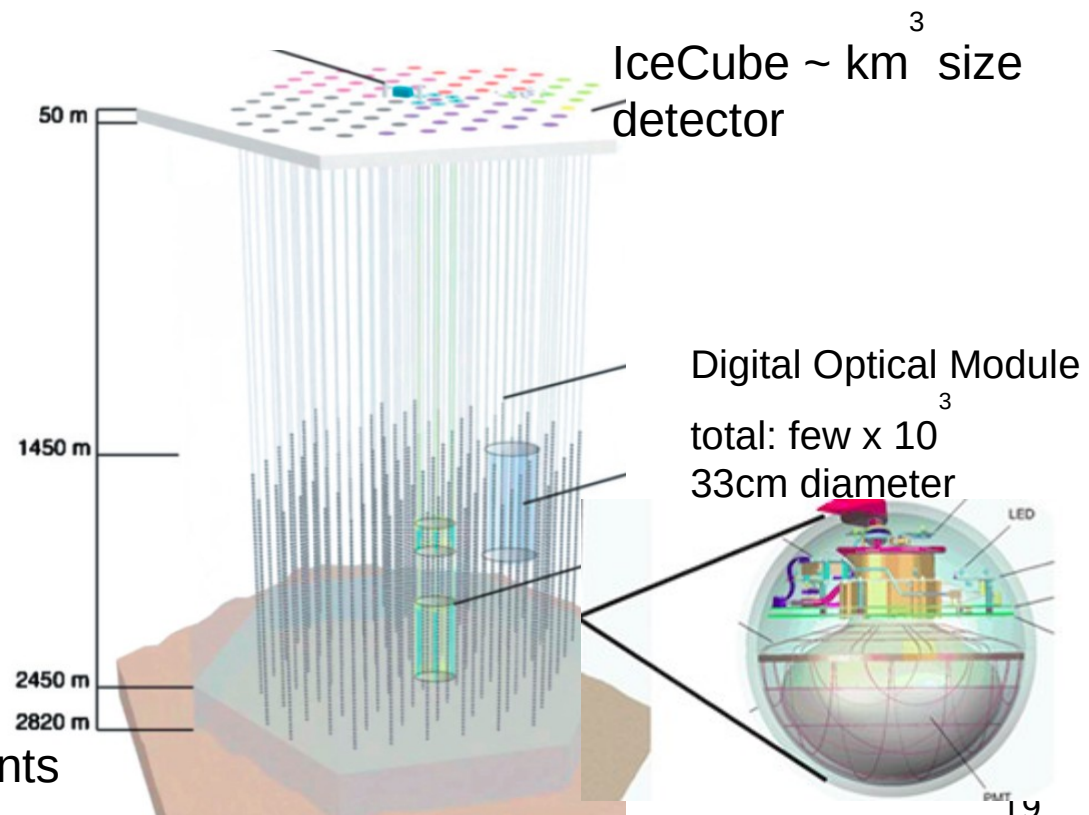
left in the far-forward place (480m) for 4 weeks ( $12.5 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )



- several neutrino-like events ( $2.7\sigma$  over expected BG)

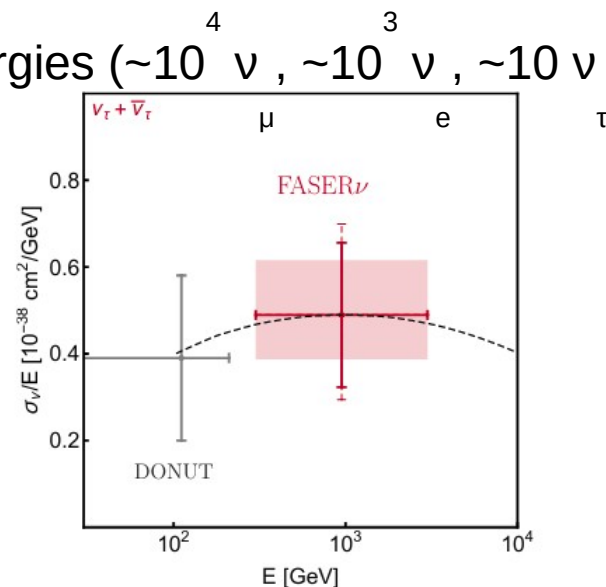
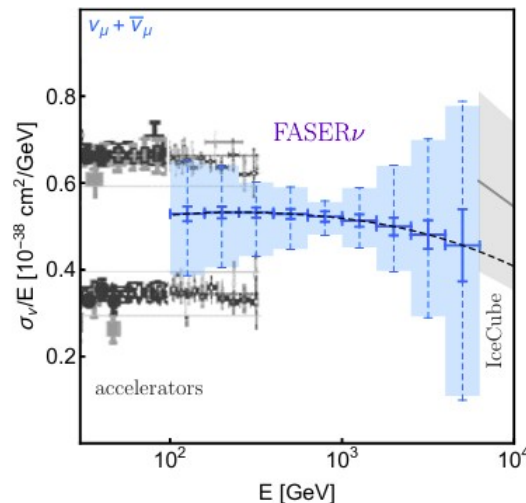
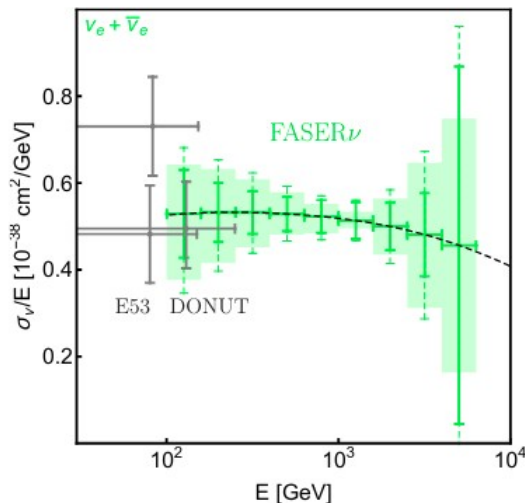
- proof-of-principle of detection strategy

- during Run 3  $\sim 10^4$  expected events

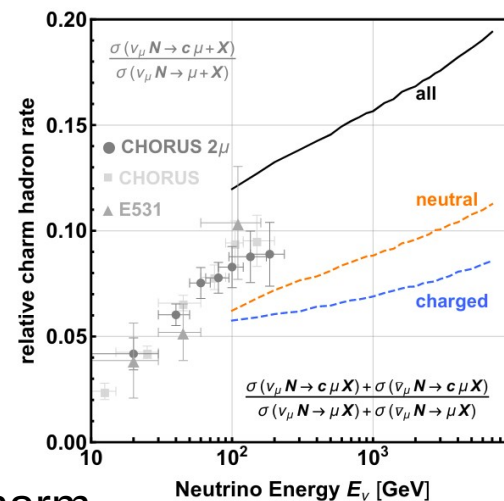


# PROSPECTS FOR RUN 3

- Inclusive CC cross section measurements at TeV energies ( $\sim 10^4 \nu$ ,  $\sim 10^3 \nu$ ,  $\sim 10^2 \nu$ )

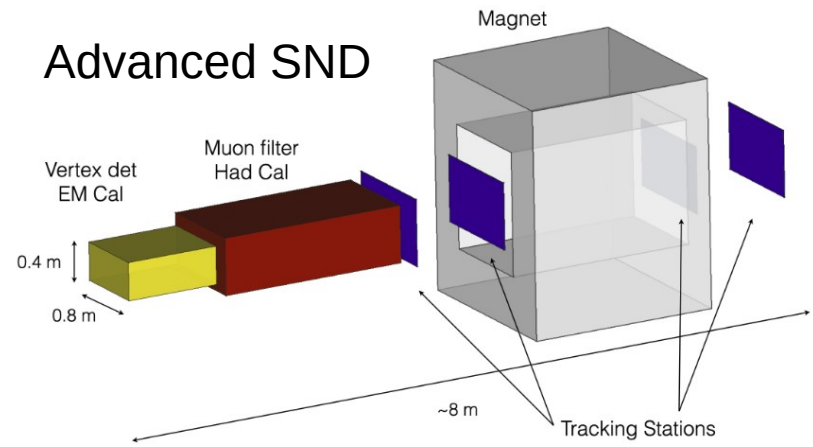
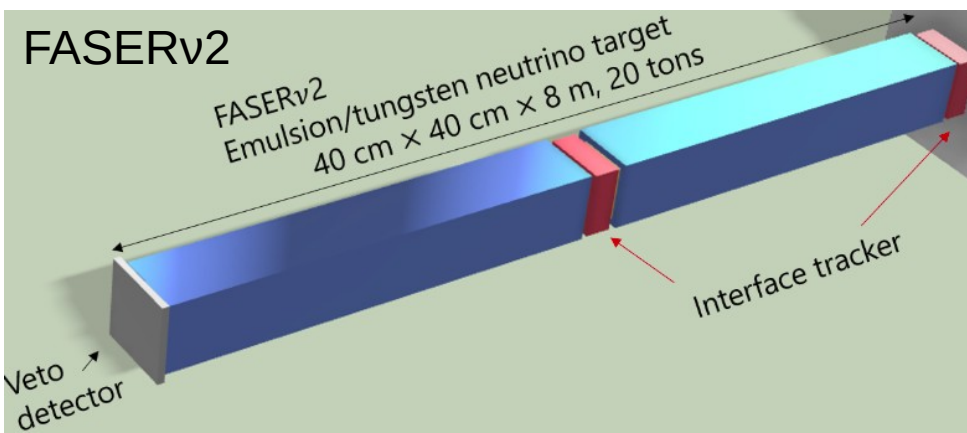
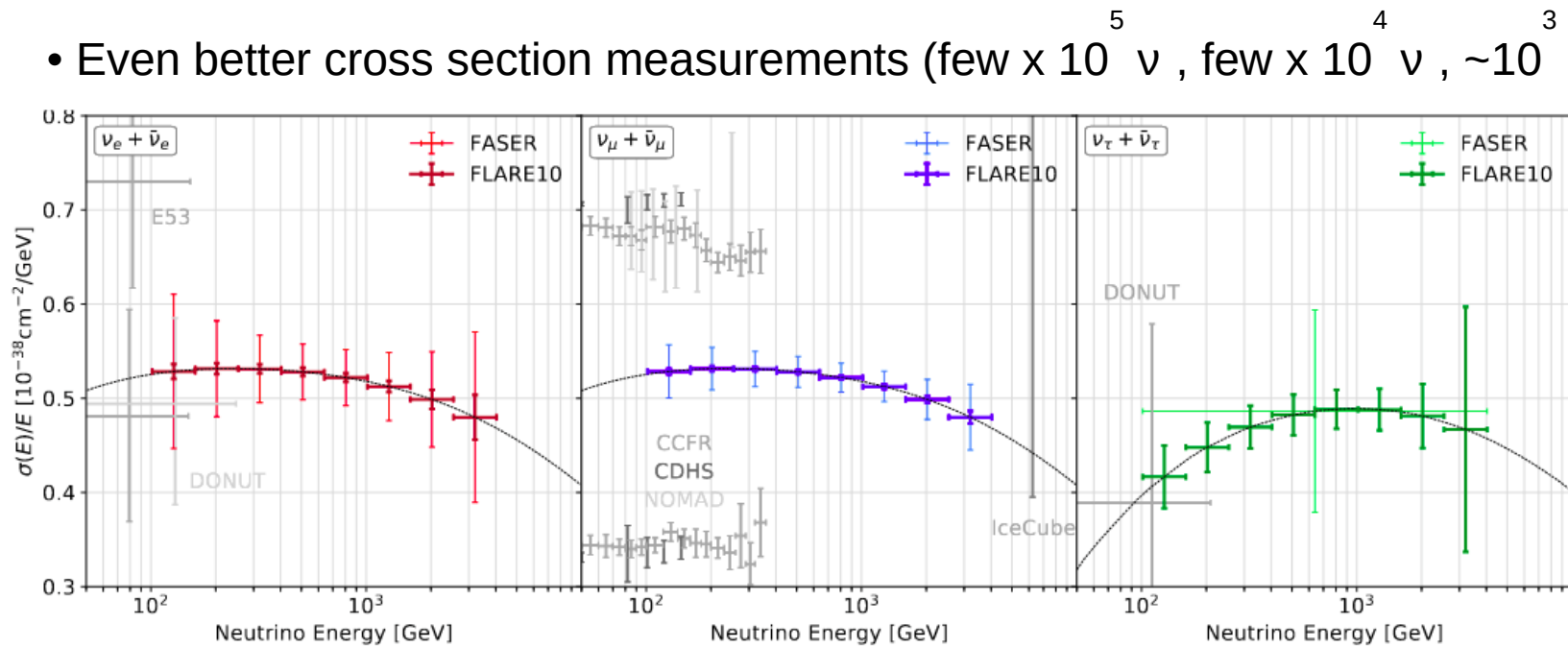


- NC cross section measurements  
(A. Ismail, R.M. Abraham, F. Kling, 2012.10500)
- specific neutrino interaction processes, e.g.,  
 $\nu$ -induced charm production
- Forward  $\nu_e$  flux and spectrum:  
forward charm prod., gluon PDFs ( $gg \rightarrow cc$ ), intrinsic charm



# PROSPECTS FOR HL-LHC

- 10-tonne detector on beam collision axis
- Even better cross section measurements (few  $\times 10^5 \nu$ , few  $\times 10^4 \nu$ ,  $\sim 10^3 \nu$ )

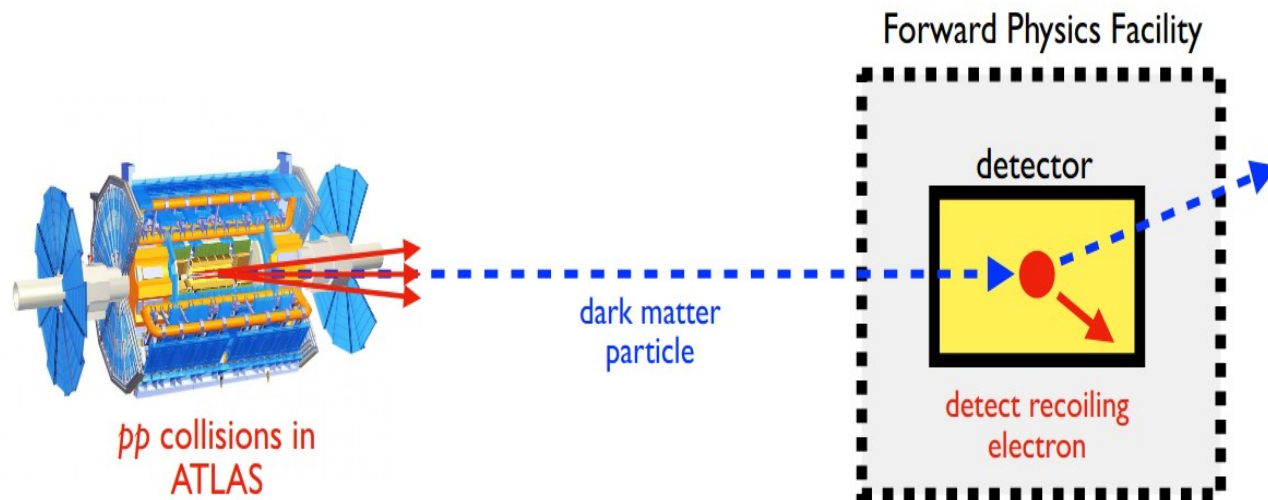


B. Batell, J. L. Feng, ST, 2101.10338

B. Batell, J.L. Feng, A. Ismail, F. Kling, R.M.Abraham, ST, 2107.00666

# DM DIRECT DETECTION AT THE LHC

- Light DM particles can be efficiently produced in the far-forward region of the LHC & scatter in a distance detector



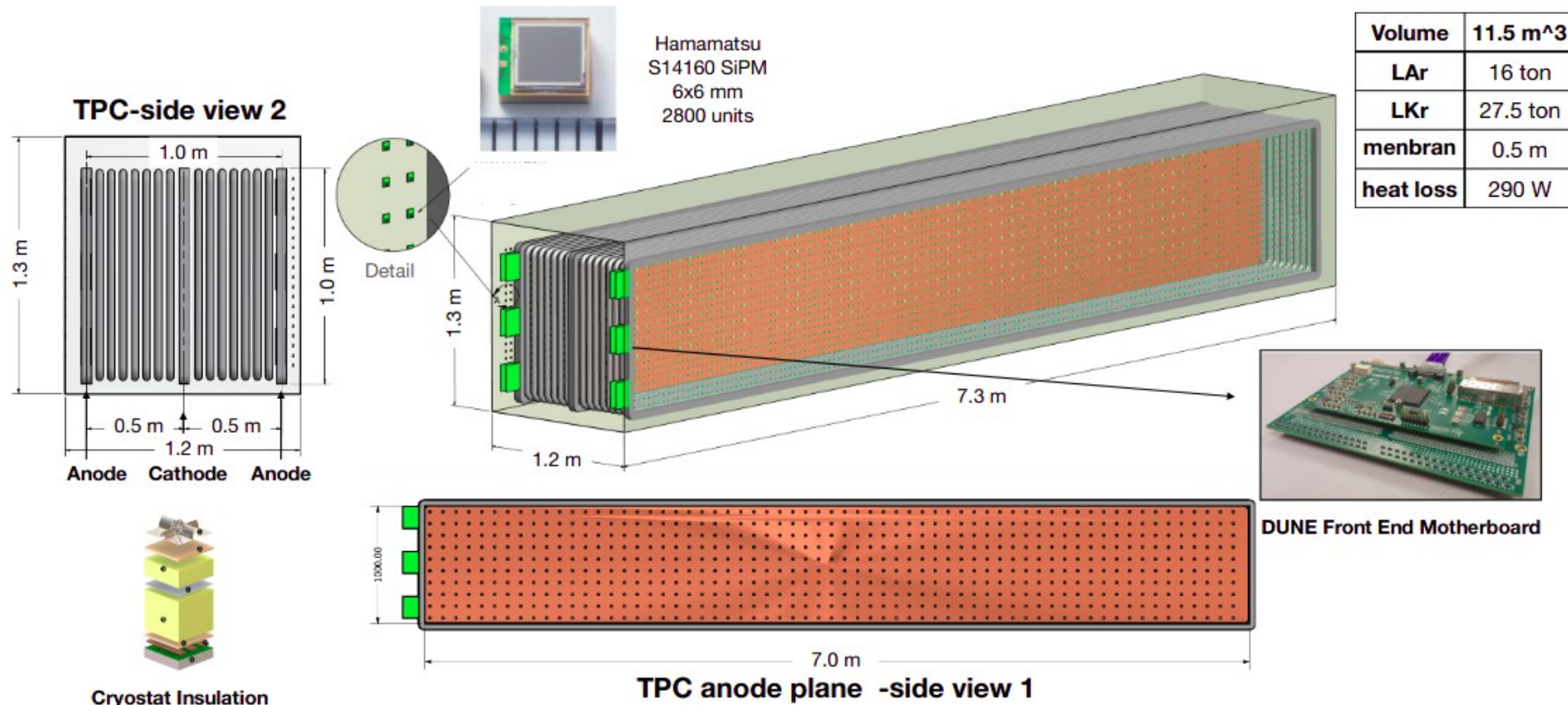
- This search is highly complementary to the traditional DM direct detection searches:
  - probe of relativistic interaction rates of LDM (DM energy  $\sim$  a few hundred GeV)  
[collider-boosted DM]
  - the search is not sensitive to the precise abundance of  $\chi$  DM component  
(possible variations in cosmological scenario)  
[collider-produced DM]

# FORWARD LIQUID ARGON EXPERIMENT

- LAr TPC detector (sensitivity to even low-energy signals, dynamical info)
- possible additional light collection system (triggering, helps with BG rejection, event rec.)
- also for neutrino physics



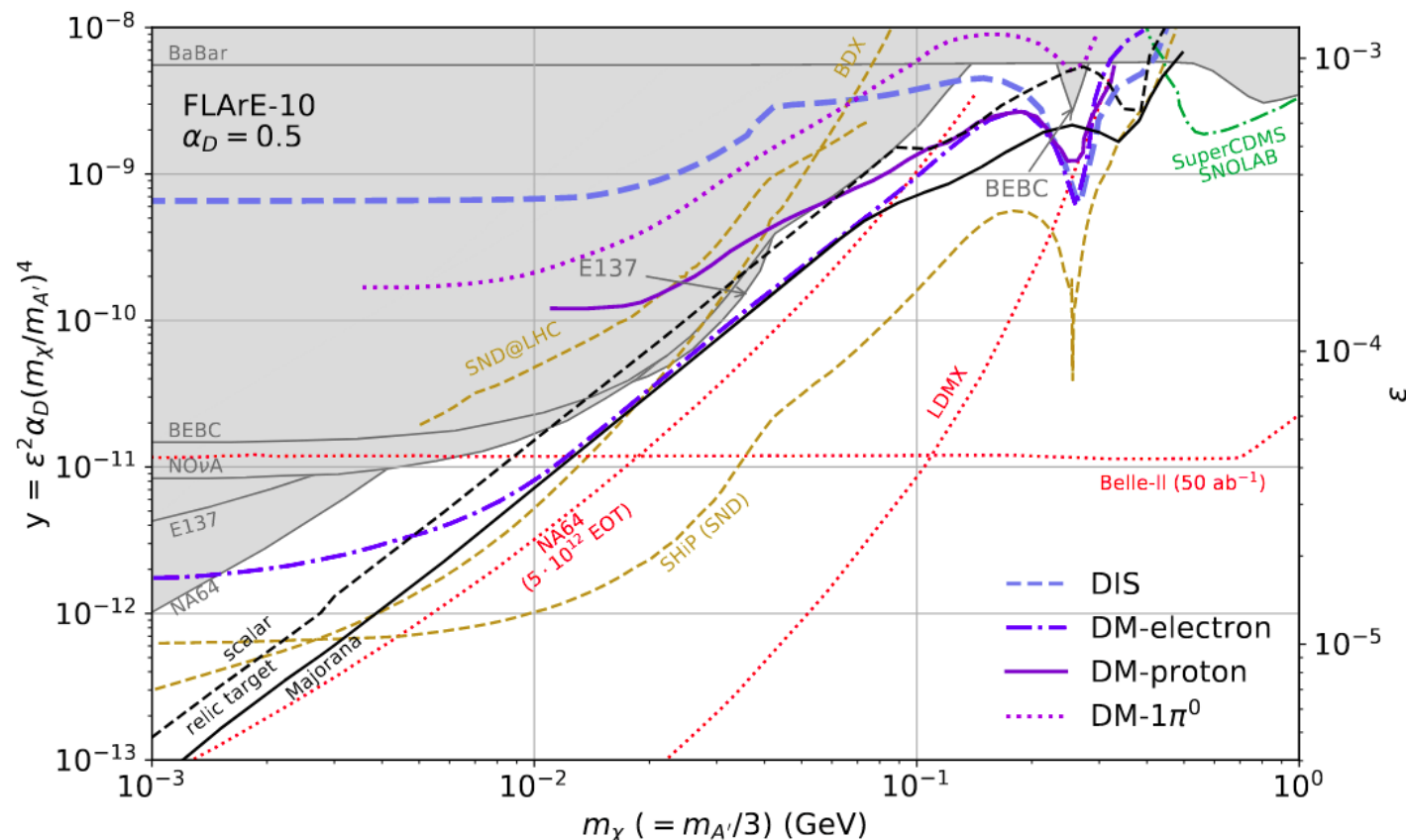
## FLArE Detector Preliminary Sketch



# EXAMPLE DM REACH PLOTS

- Useful for probing DM models with suppressed non-relativistic scattering rates
- Examples: dark photon mediator & Majorana or (inelastic) complex scalar DM

$$\mathcal{L} \supset A'_\mu (\epsilon e J_{EM}^\mu + g_D J_D^\mu) \quad \mathcal{L} \supset \begin{cases} |\partial_\mu \chi|^2 - m_\chi^2 |\chi|^2 & (\text{complex scalar DM}) \\ \frac{1}{2} \bar{\chi} i \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \chi - \frac{1}{2} m_\chi \bar{\chi} \chi & (\text{Majorana fermion DM}) \end{cases} \quad J_D^\mu = \begin{cases} i \chi^* \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \chi & (\text{complex scalar DM}) \\ \frac{1}{2} \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi & (\text{Majorana fermion DM}) \end{cases}$$





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# SCINTILLATION SIGNAL

# MILLICHARGED PARTICLES

*Quantised Singularities in the Electromagnetic Field.*

By P. A. M. DIRAC, F.R.S., St. John's College, Cambridge.

(Received May 29, 1931.)

a) important experimental test of charge quantization

Search for particles with a very small electric charge,  $\varepsilon \equiv q/e \ll 1$ .

b) motivated by GUT and string theories

c) also arise when SM is extended with a massless gauge boson (dark photon)  
kinetically mixed with the SM photon

d) rich literature: also dedicated detector at the LHC (milliQan)

e) one of the benchmark scenarios typically considered in light new physics searches  
(e.g. PBC,...)

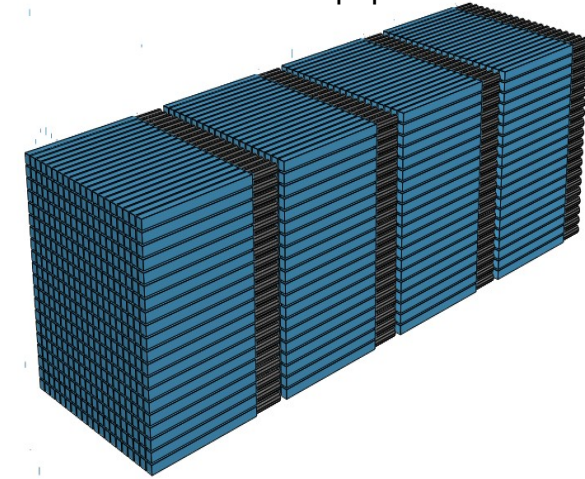
# FORMOSA - FORWARD MICROCHARGE SEARCH

S. Foroughi-Abari, F. Kling, Y.-D. Tsai, FORMOSA 2010.07941  
FPF whitepaper 2109.10905

- milliQan-like detector placed in the FPF

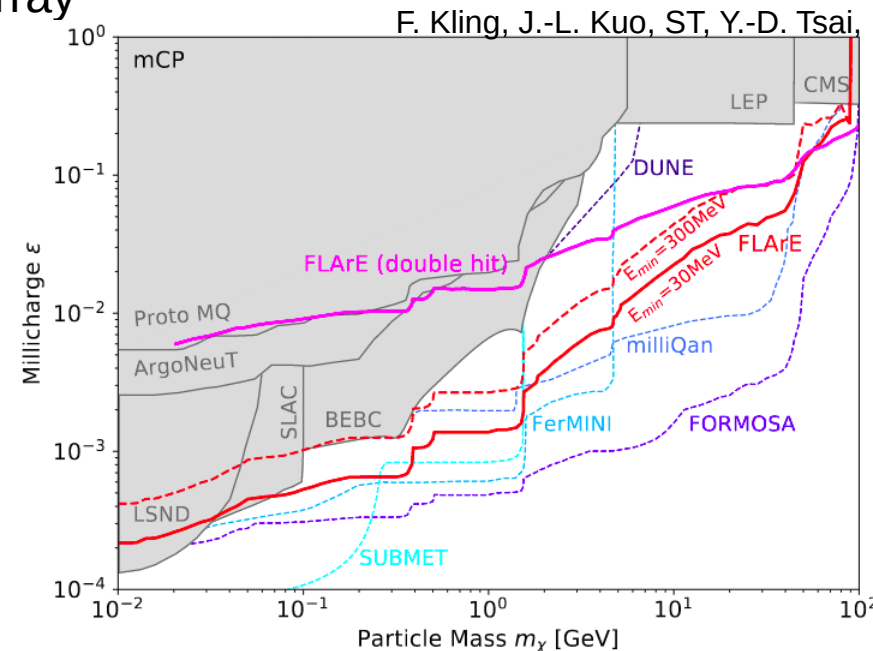
Sensitive to small energy depositions  $dE/dx$  of a particle with  $Q < 0.1 e$ ; plastic scintillator for detection

- size: 1m x 1m x 5m  
segmented into 4 longitudinal “layers”  
each layer contains 100 scintillator bars  
(5cm x 5cm x 1m) organized in a 10 x 10 array



- signature ( $\sim eV$ ):  
4 time-coincident hits ( $N_{PE} > 1$ )

- complementary signature at FLArE  
( $> \sim 30 MeV$ )  
scattering a-la-DM

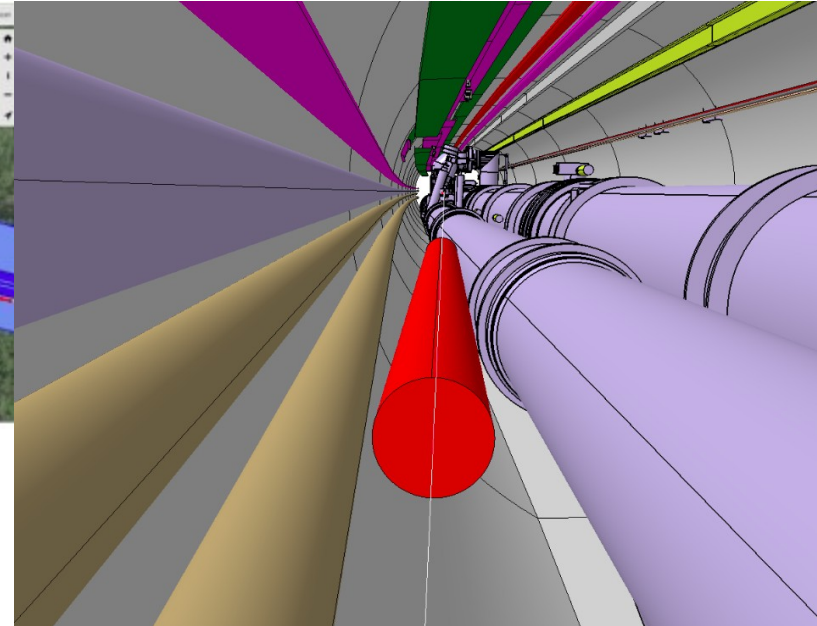
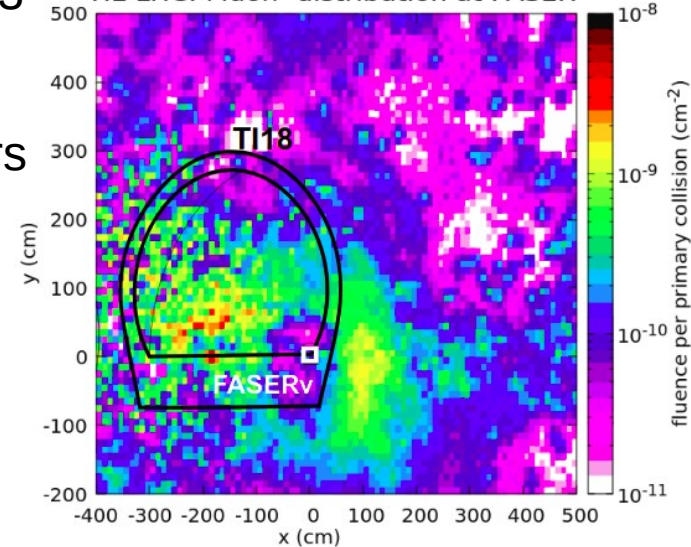


# MUON BACKGROUNDS AND SWEEPER MAGNET

- High-energy muons from the ATLAS IP & collisions inside the beam-pipe can reach far-forward Detectors
- Run 3: (Fortunate) Impact of the LHC magnets
- HL-LHC: Idea to place a dedicated sweeper magnet in the LHC tunnel to deflect away forward muons

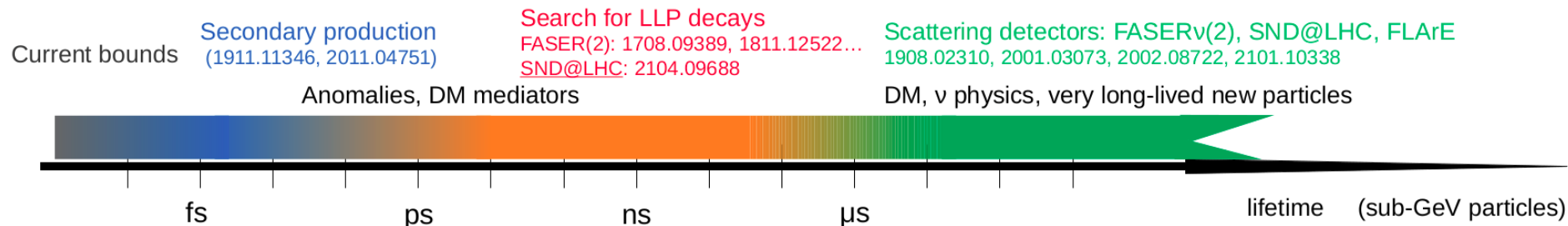
Run 3

HL-LHC: Muon- distribution at FASER



# SUMMARY OF FAR-FORWARD LHC PHYSICS PROGRAM

## (VERY) SCHEMATIC FAR-FORWARD DETECTOR CAPABILITIES



- For BSM and neutrino physics, the program starts at Run 3 **FASER(v), SND@LHC**
- For HL-LHC: proposed dedicated **Forward Physics Facility** (add light DM, mCPs,...)
- Decays: Search for highly-displaced decays of light new particles  
(boosted decay lengths  $d \sim 100-1000$  m)  
**FASER (2)**
- Scatterings: neutrinos (high-energy), light DM (low-energy)  
**FASERv(2), FLArE, AdvSND@LHC**
- Scintillation: millicharged particles (mCPs) **FORMOSA**
- Best reach for masses  $< \text{GeV}$ , but even  $\sim 100$  GeV new particles can be probed
- Further (B)SM opportunities: non-DIS & rare  $\nu$  scat., neutrino NSI, oscillations, quirks,...
- Tool for BSM simulations: FORESEE F. Kling, ST, 2105.07077

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**BACKUP**

# HIDDEN SECTOR PORTALS

- new „hidden” particles are SM singlets (but gauged  $U(1)_{B-L}$  etc. are also considered)
- interactions between the SM and „hidden” sector arise due to mixing through some SM portal

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{portal}} = \sum O_{\text{SM}} \times O_{\text{DS}}$$

B. Patt, F. Wilczek, 0605188

B. Batell, M. Pospelov, A. Ritz, 0906.5614

## Renormalizable

Portal	Coupling
Dark Photon, $A_\mu$	$-\frac{\epsilon}{2 \cos \theta_W} F'_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$
Dark Higgs, $S$	$(\mu S + \lambda S^2) H^\dagger H$
Axion, $a$	$\frac{a}{f_a} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}, \frac{a}{f_a} G_{i,\mu\nu} \tilde{G}_i^{\mu\nu}, \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \psi$
Sterile Neutrino, $N$	$y_N L H N$

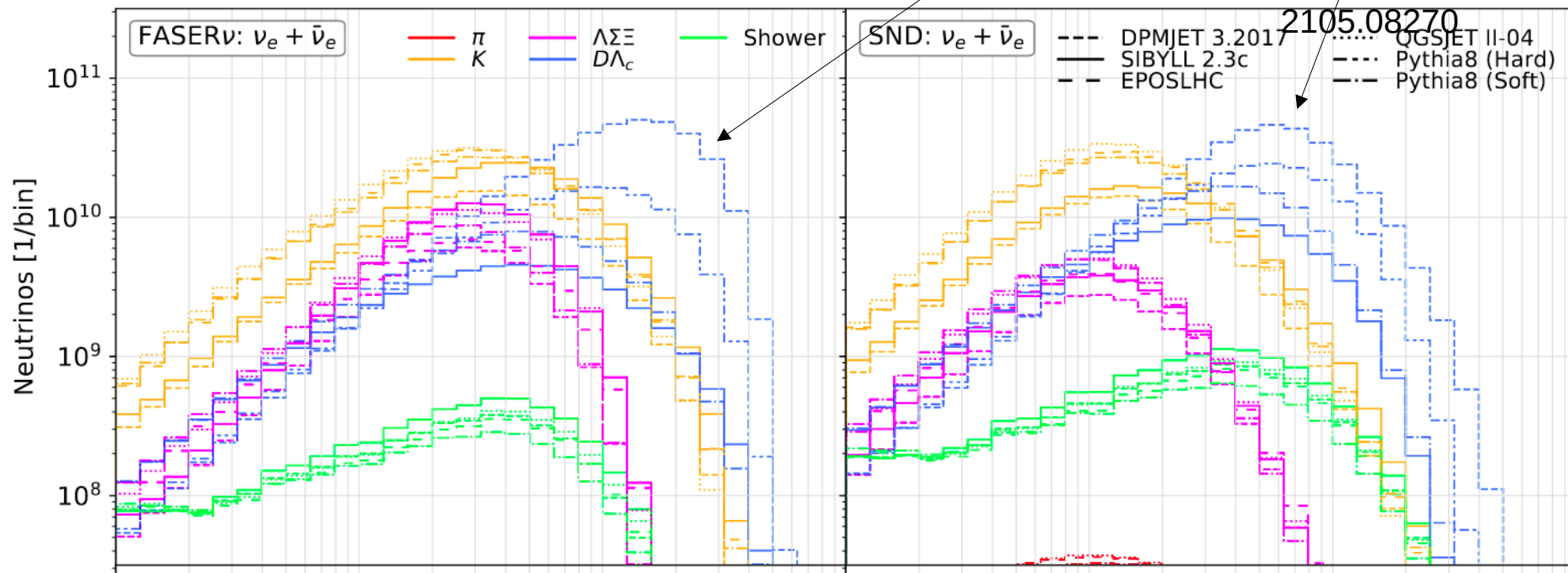
PBC report, 1901.09966

# QCD – FORWARD CHARM

- Measuring neutrino flux and spectrum: further tuning of forward MC tools
- Large differences in electron neutrino spectrum at high energies from charm decays
- $\nu_e$  main production at high energies:  $gg \rightarrow cc, D \rightarrow K | \nu$
- probe of gluon PDFs at low x, intrinsic charm, ...

F. Kling,

2105.08270





# COSMIC RAYS AND MORE

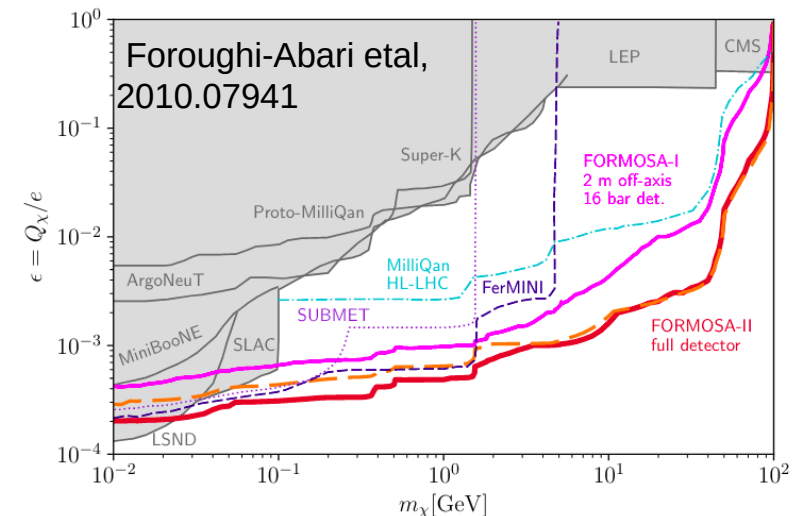
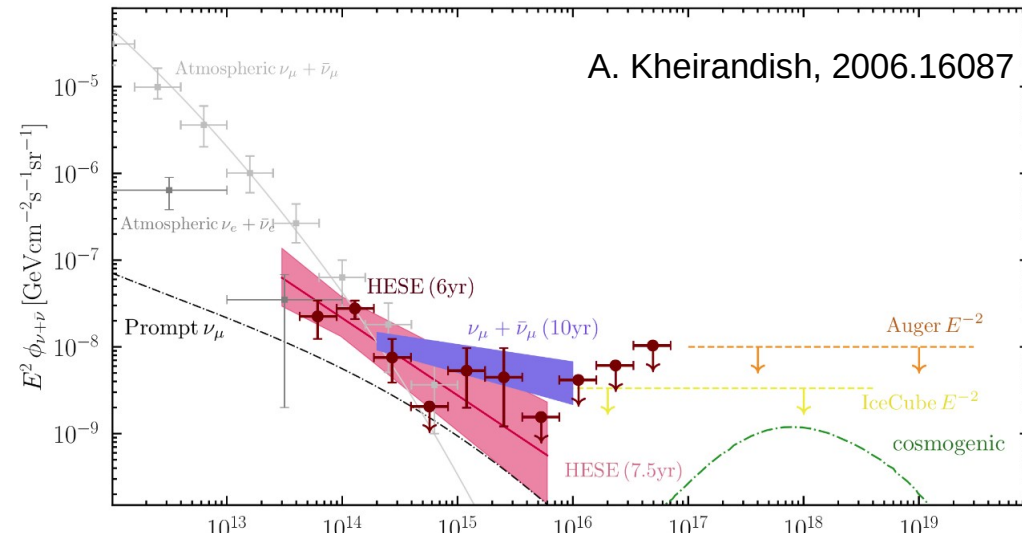
- Forward charm production  $\rightarrow$  constrain “prompt” atmospheric neutrino flux

(relevant for measurements of the astrophysical neutrino flux at IceCube)

- Cosmic-ray muon problem (observed excess of high-energy muons, better high-energy forward kaon production measurement remains essential here)

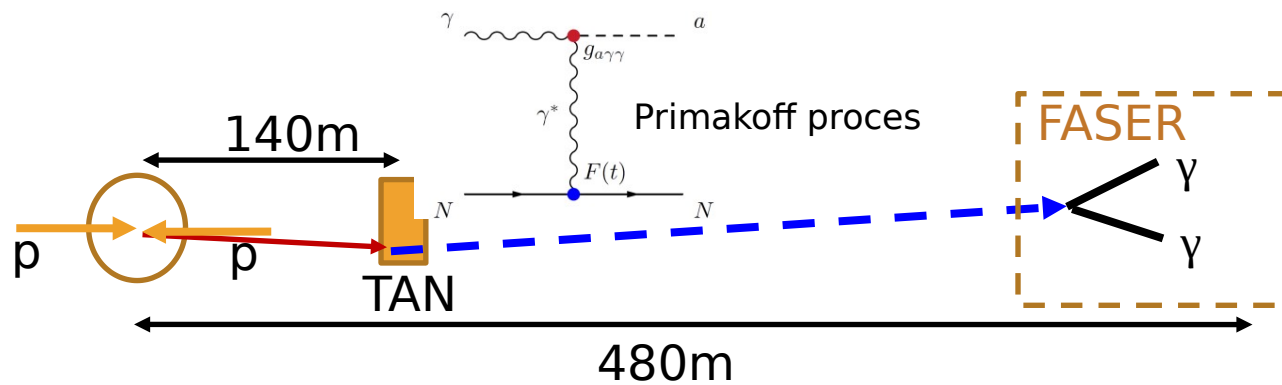
- Opportunities in muon physics (SM measurements, new physics)

- millicharged particles
  - tests of charge quantization
  - motivations from GUTs, strings, massless  $A'$ ,

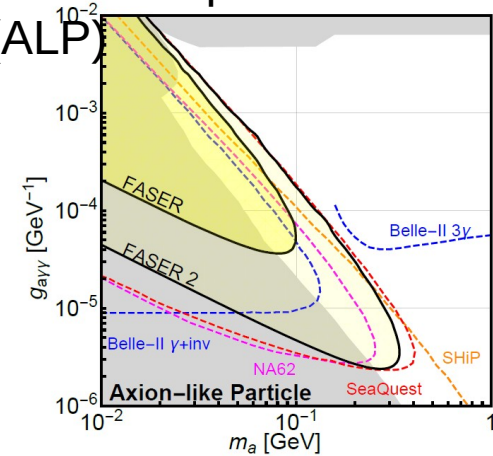


# NOT ONLY ATLAS IP

## LHC as a high-energy photon beam-dump

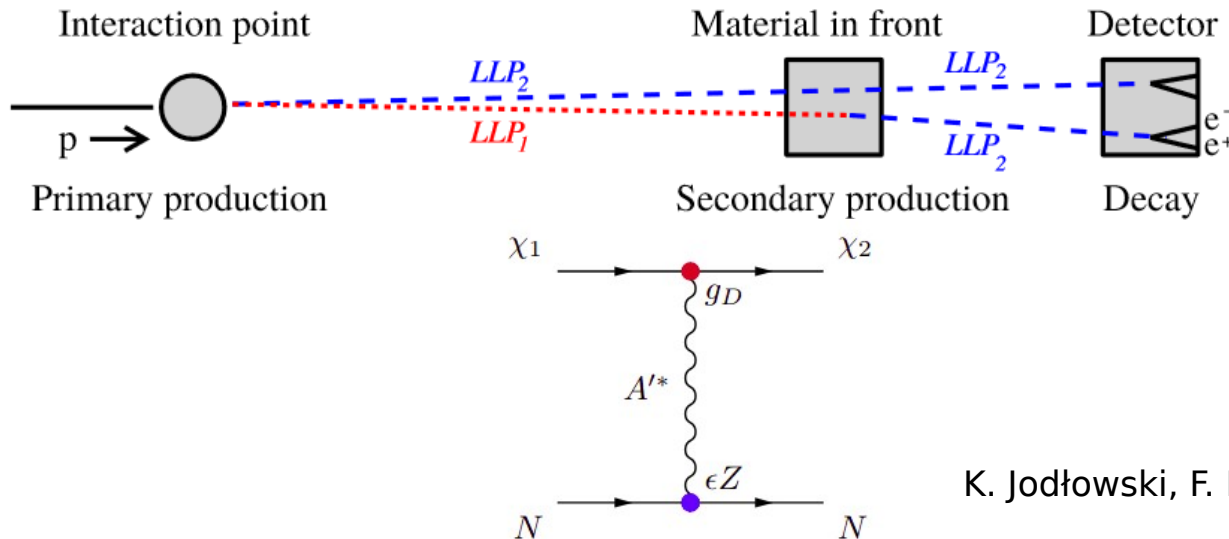


## Axion-like particle (ALP)

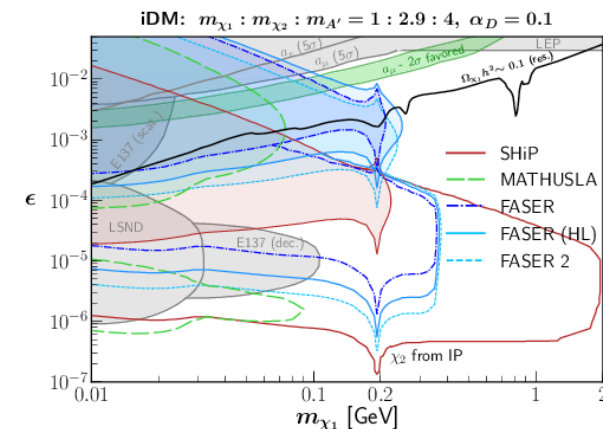


J. L. Feng, I. Galon, F. Kling, ST, 1806.02348

## Secondary production in front of the detector



## Inelastic DM



K. Jodłowski, F. Kling, L. Roszkowski, ST, 1911.11346

# NEW PHYSICS & NEUTRINO INTERACTIONS

- Neutrino oscillations into sterile neutrinos direct probes at larger mass differences than typical neutrino experiments

$$\Delta m^2 \sim 1000 \text{ eV}^2$$

(also e.g. Gallium anomaly)

- Non-standard neutrino interactions

Example: dipole portal to heavy neutral leptons

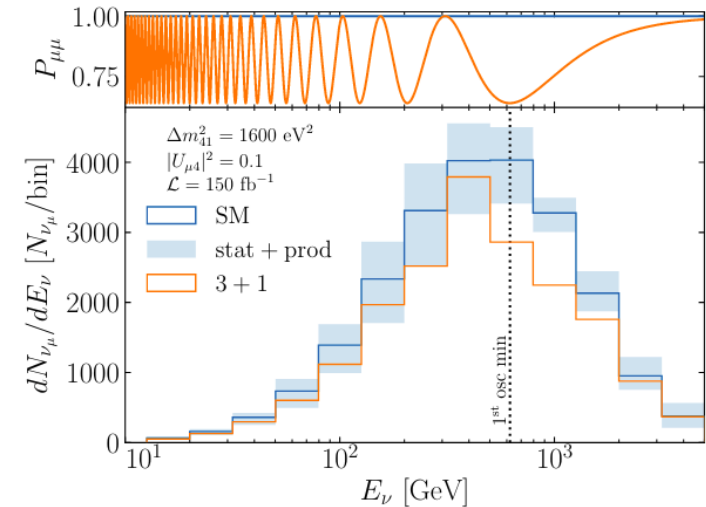
Magill et al,  
1803.03262

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \mu_N \bar{\nu}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_R F^{\mu\nu} + h.c.,$$

Transition magnetic moments of neutrinos Before EWSB

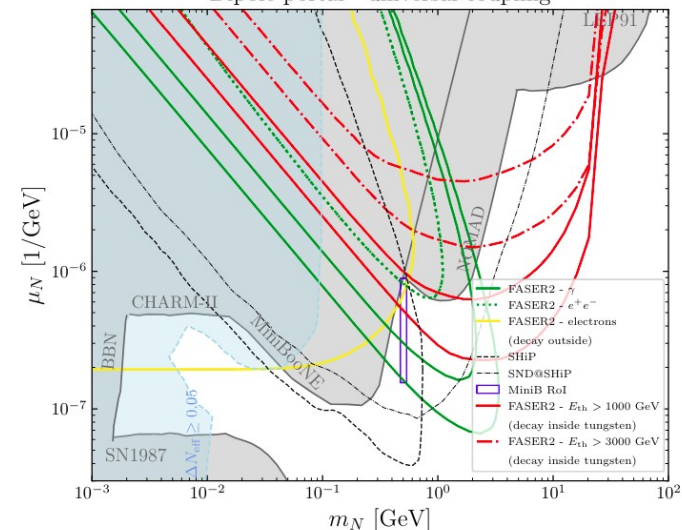
$$\mathcal{L} \supset \bar{L} (d_W \mathcal{W}_{\mu\nu}^a \tau^a + d_B B_{\mu\nu}) \tilde{H} \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_D + h.c.$$

FASER Collaboration, 1908.02310



K. Jodłowski, ST, 2011.04751

Dipole portal - universal coupling

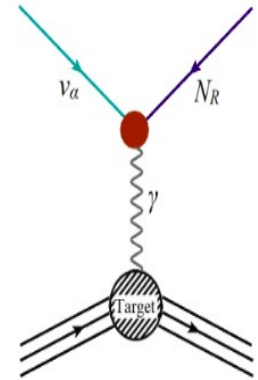


## Other interesting ideas (possibly different signatures)

### a) Neutrino up-scattering into heavy neutral lepton

Possible subsequent decay (double-bang):  $N_R \rightarrow \nu\gamma$

K. Jodłowski, ST, 2011.04751  
A. Ismail, S. Jana, S.M. Abraham,  
2109.05032

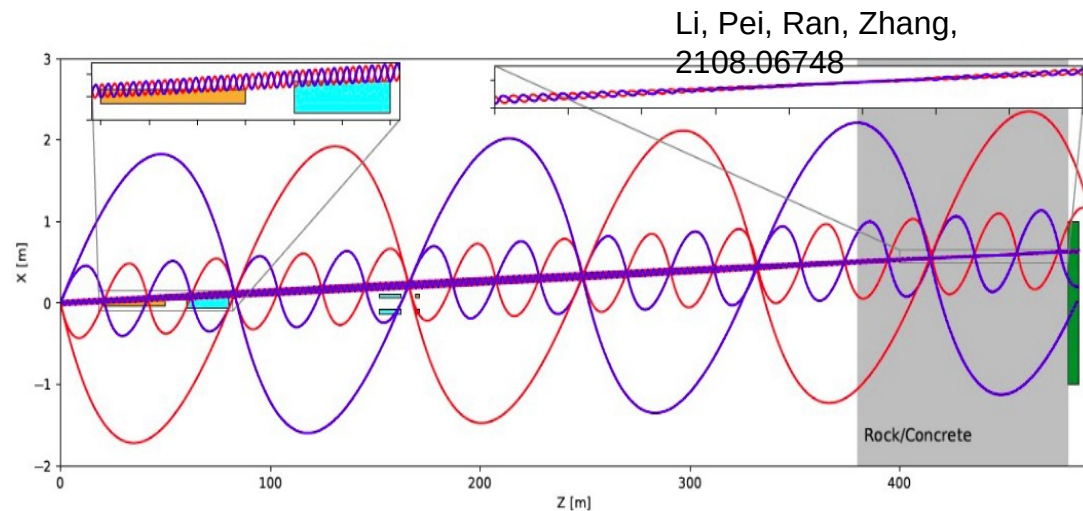


### b) Quirks (J. Kang, M.A. Luty, 0805.4642)

Postulated particles charged under a hidden strong force

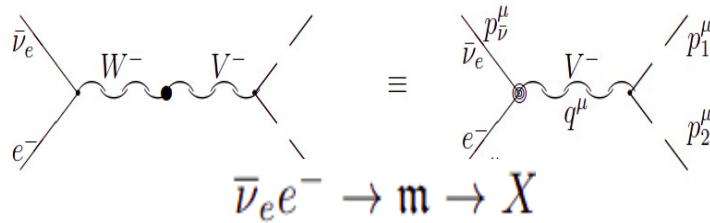
If their mass exceeds the hidden scale  $m \gg \Lambda_{\text{hidden}}$ , they do not hadronize

Instead, they are pair produced and remain bounded  $\Rightarrow$  they leave very strange tracks

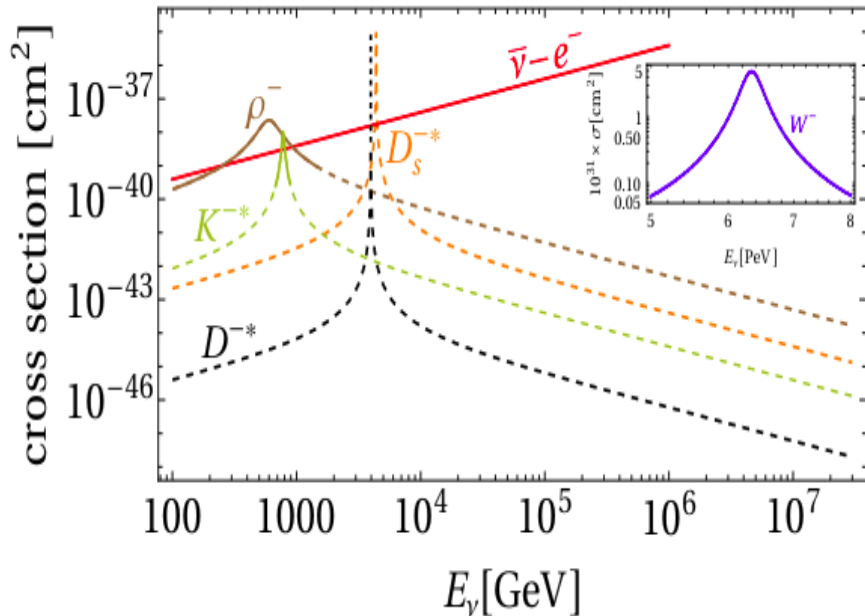


# Other interesting ideas (possibly different signatures) (2)

c) Rare neutrino scattering process in the SM

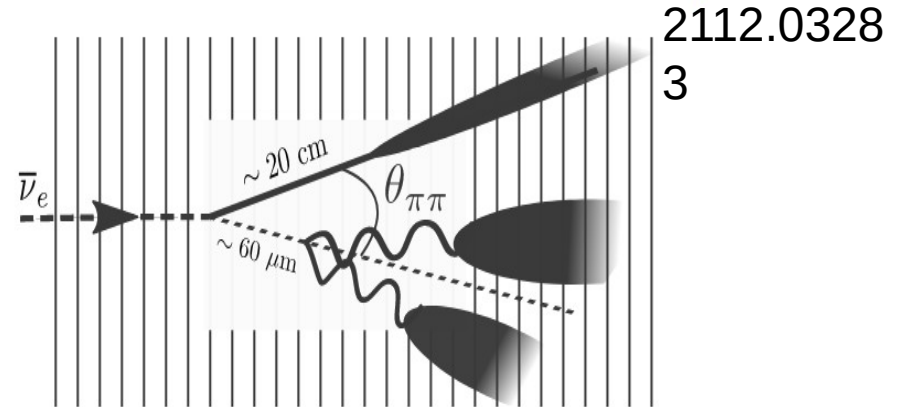


Total absorption of the electron anti-neutrino



## Resonances in $\bar{\nu}_e - e^-$ scattering below a TeV

Vedran Brdar, André de Gouvêa, Pedro A. N. Machado, Ryan Plestid



Most promising channel:  $\rho^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0$

Overlapping forward charged pion and  $\gamma\gamma$  EM shower

Experiment	$\rho^-, \pm\Gamma/2$	$\rho^-, \pm 2\Gamma$	$K^{*-}, \pm\Gamma/2$	$K^{*-}, \pm 2\Gamma$
FASER $\nu$	0.3	0.5	–	–
FASER $\nu 2$	23	37	0.7	3
FLArE-10	11	19	0.3	2
FLArE-100	63	103	2	8
DeepCore	3 (1)	5 (2)	–	–
IceCube	8 (40)	(17, 83)	–	–

# Other interesting ideas (possibly different signatures)

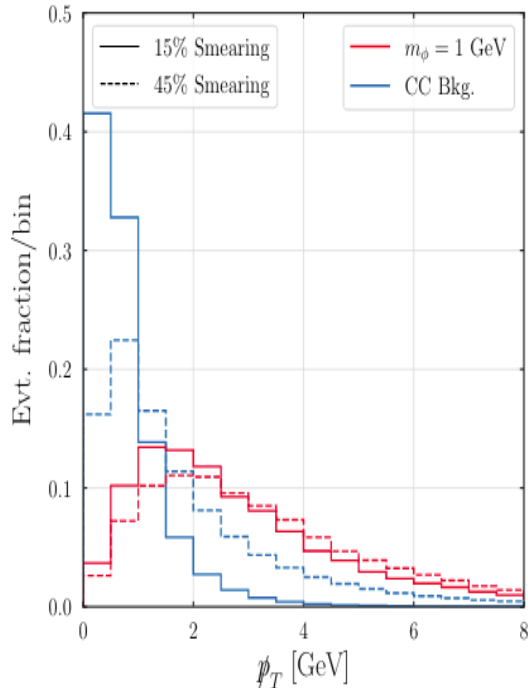
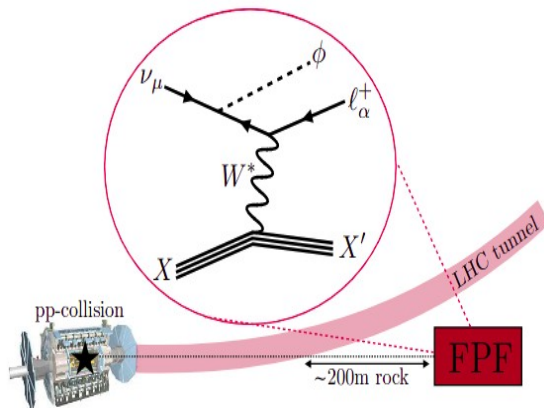
(3)

d) Neutrino-philic DM – neutrino CC scatterings with

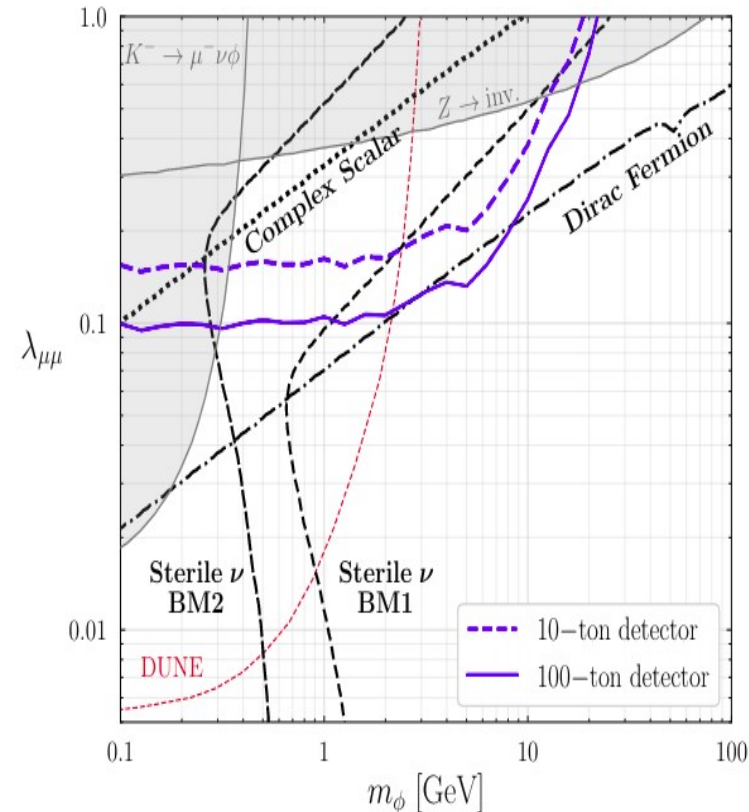
2111.0586

Probing Neutrino-Portal Dark Matter at the Forward Physics Facility

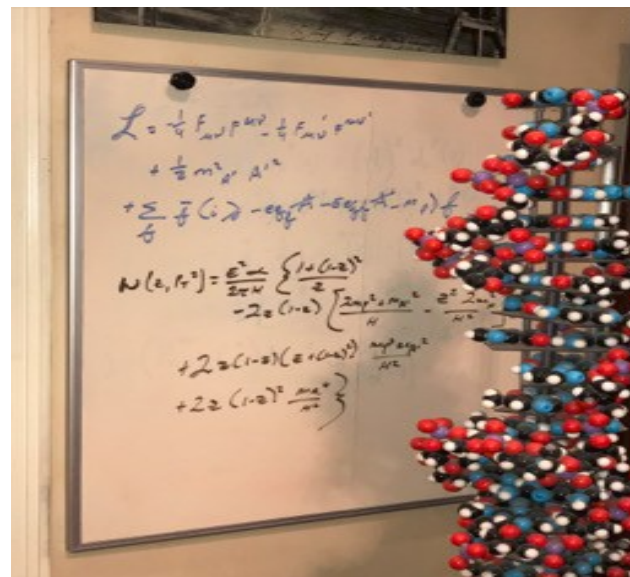
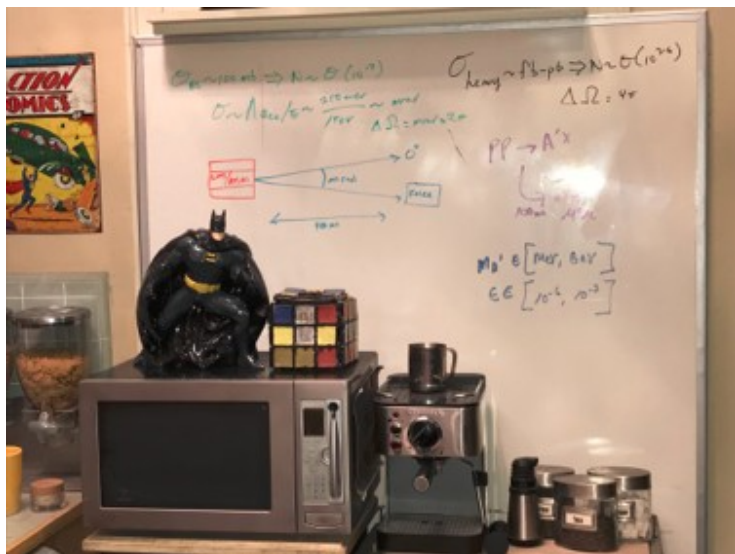
Kevin J. Kelly,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Felix Kling,<sup>3,4,†</sup> Douglas Tuckler,<sup>5,‡</sup> and Yue Zhang<sup>5,§</sup>



$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{\alpha\beta} \nu_{\alpha} \nu_{\beta} \phi + \text{h.c.},$$



# FASER IN POPULAR CULTURE



related article

