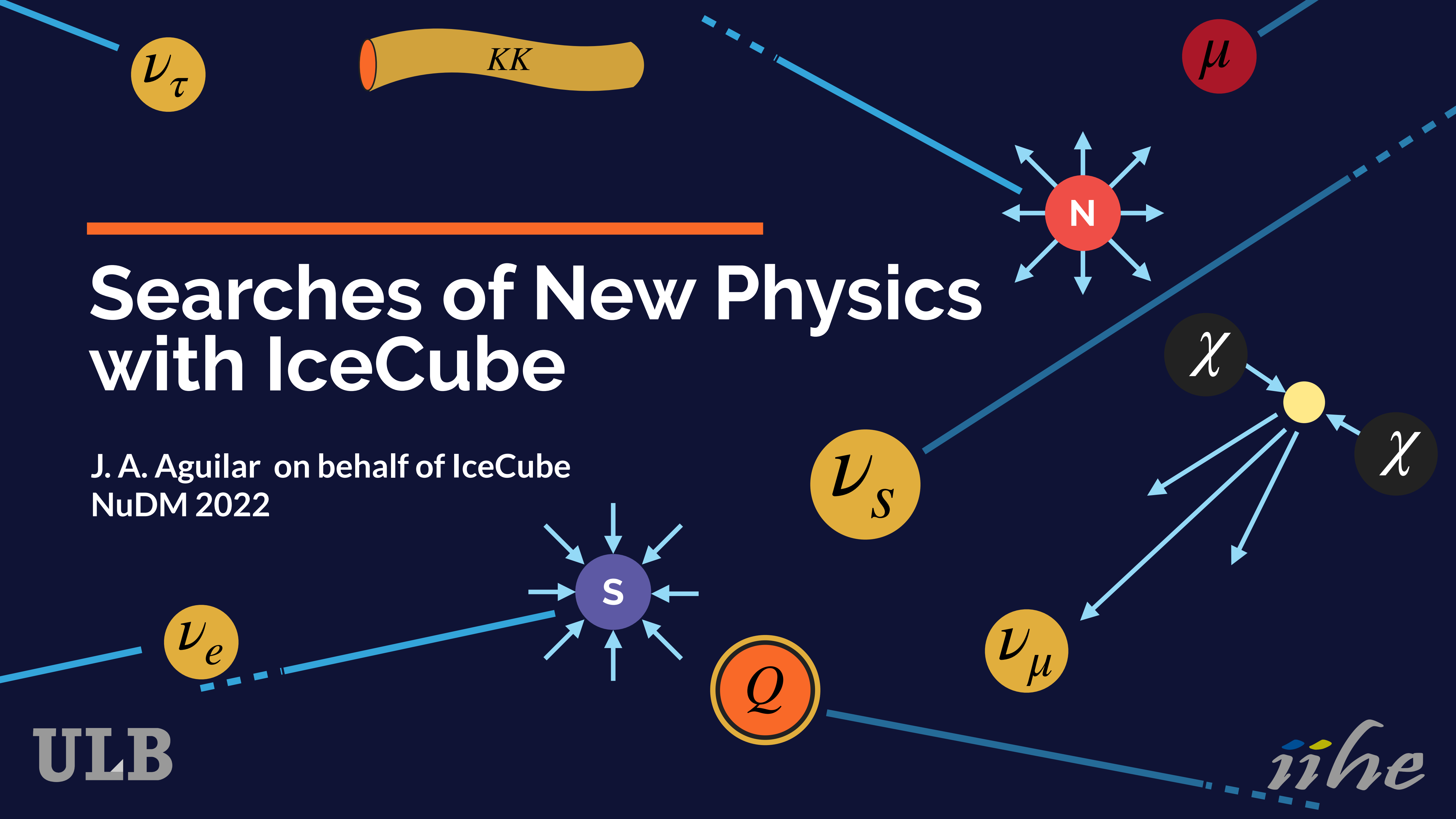


# Searches of New Physics with IceCube

J. A. Aguilar on behalf of IceCube  
NuDM 2022



- The IceCube Neutrino Telescope
- BSM searches with IceCube:
  - Dark Matter
  - Neutrinos
  - Exotics
- The Future

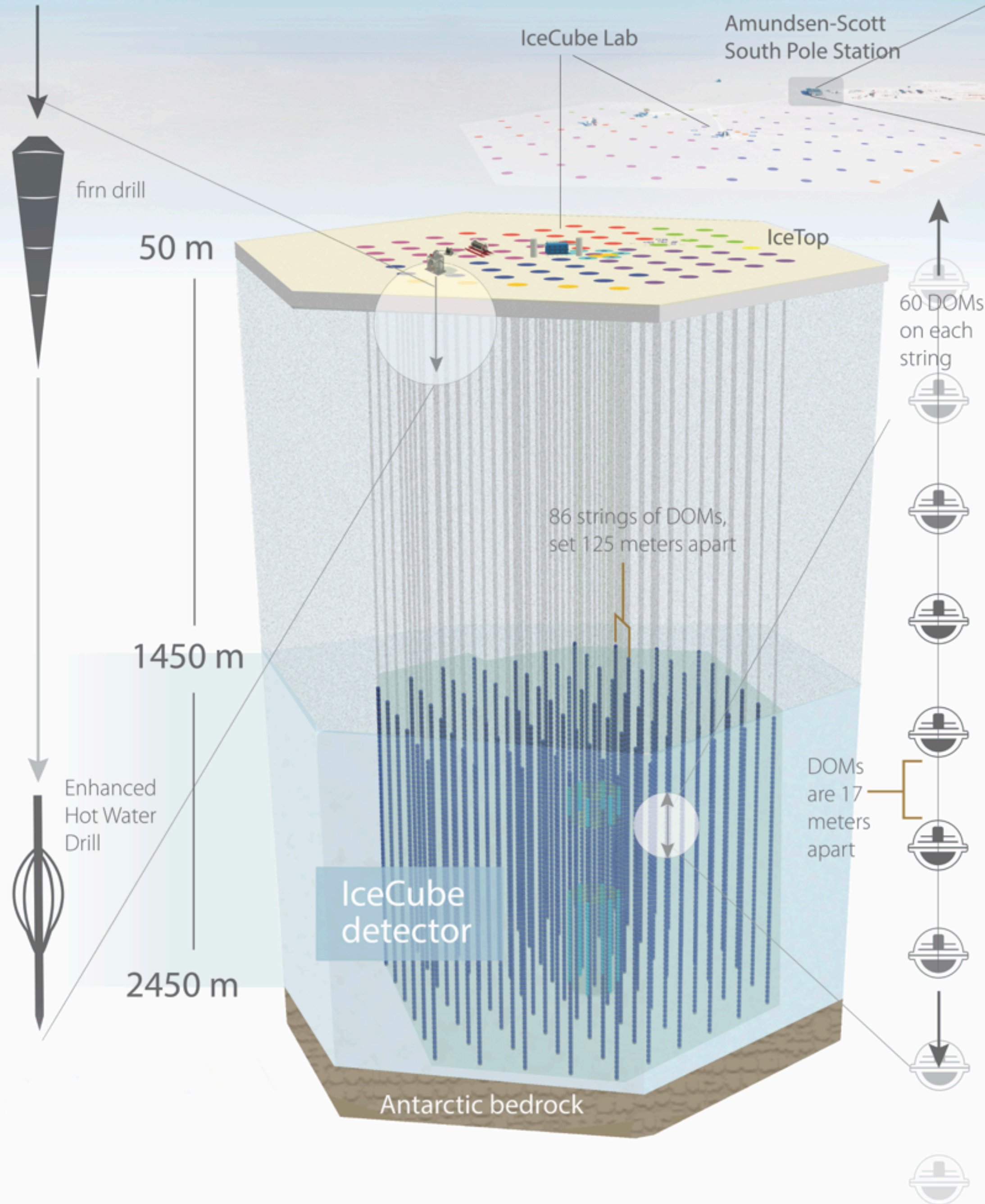


- The IceCube Neutrino Telescope
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- The Future

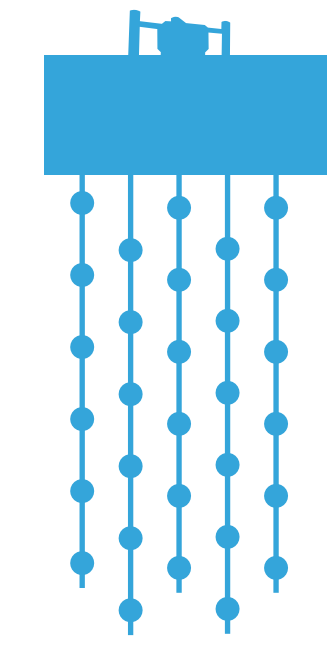


**Disclaimer: I will focus mostly on Dark Matter searches**

# IceCube Neutrino Observatory



5,160 Digital Optical Modules (DOMs)



86 string with 60 DOMs each  
6 denser strings called **DeepCore**



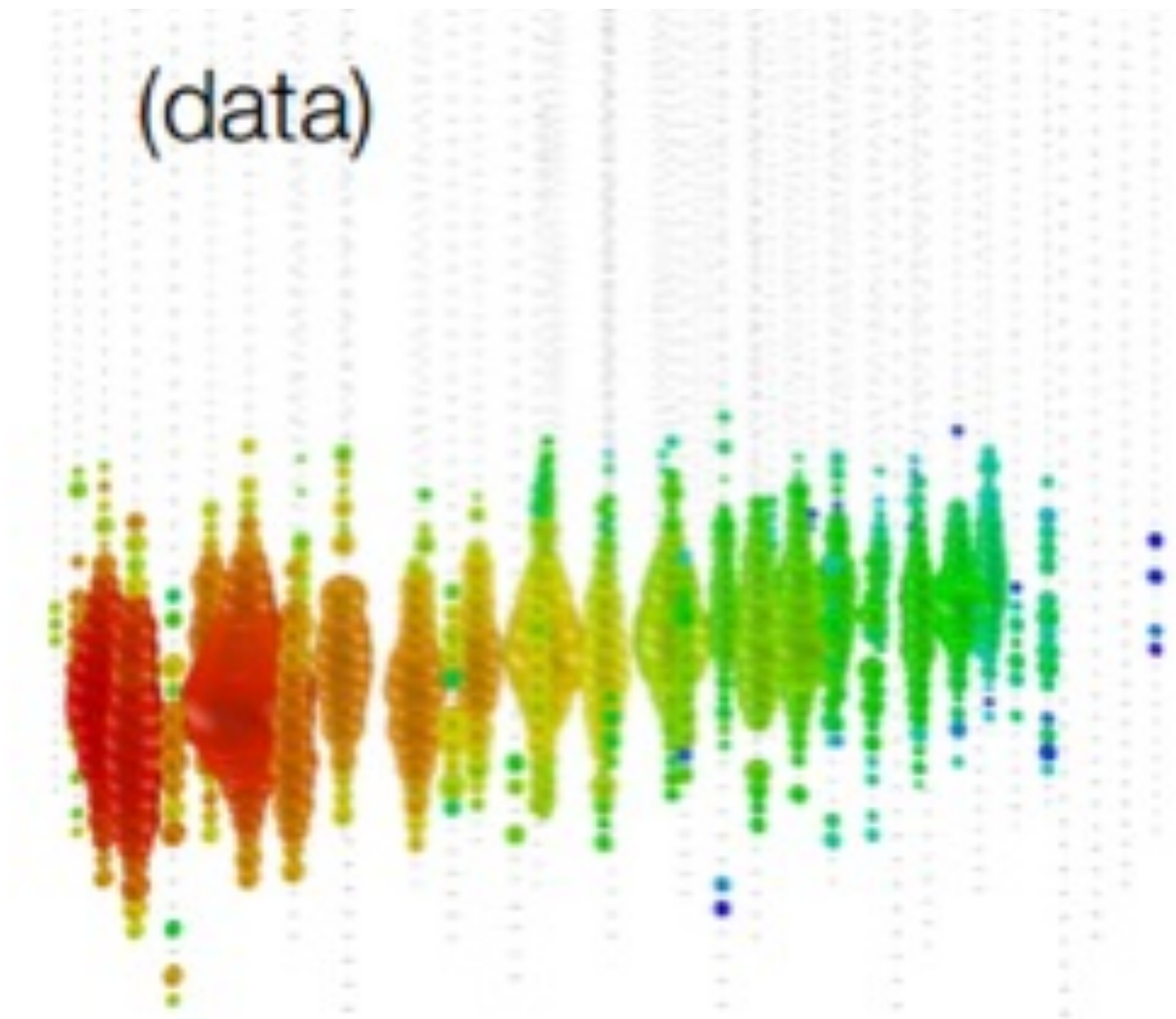
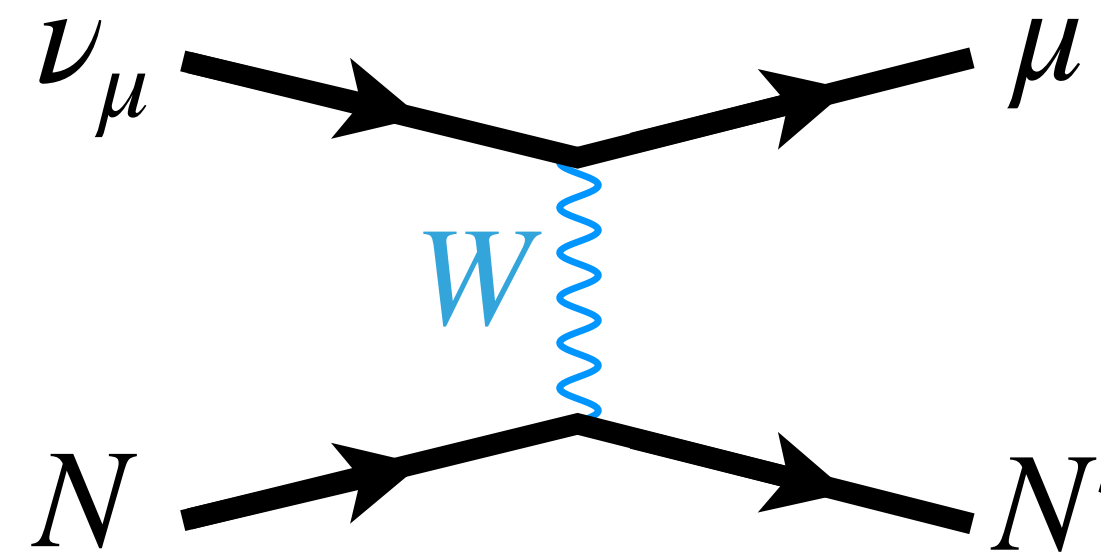
1 km<sup>2</sup> surface array with 324 DOMs: **IceTop**



**Completion in December 2010**

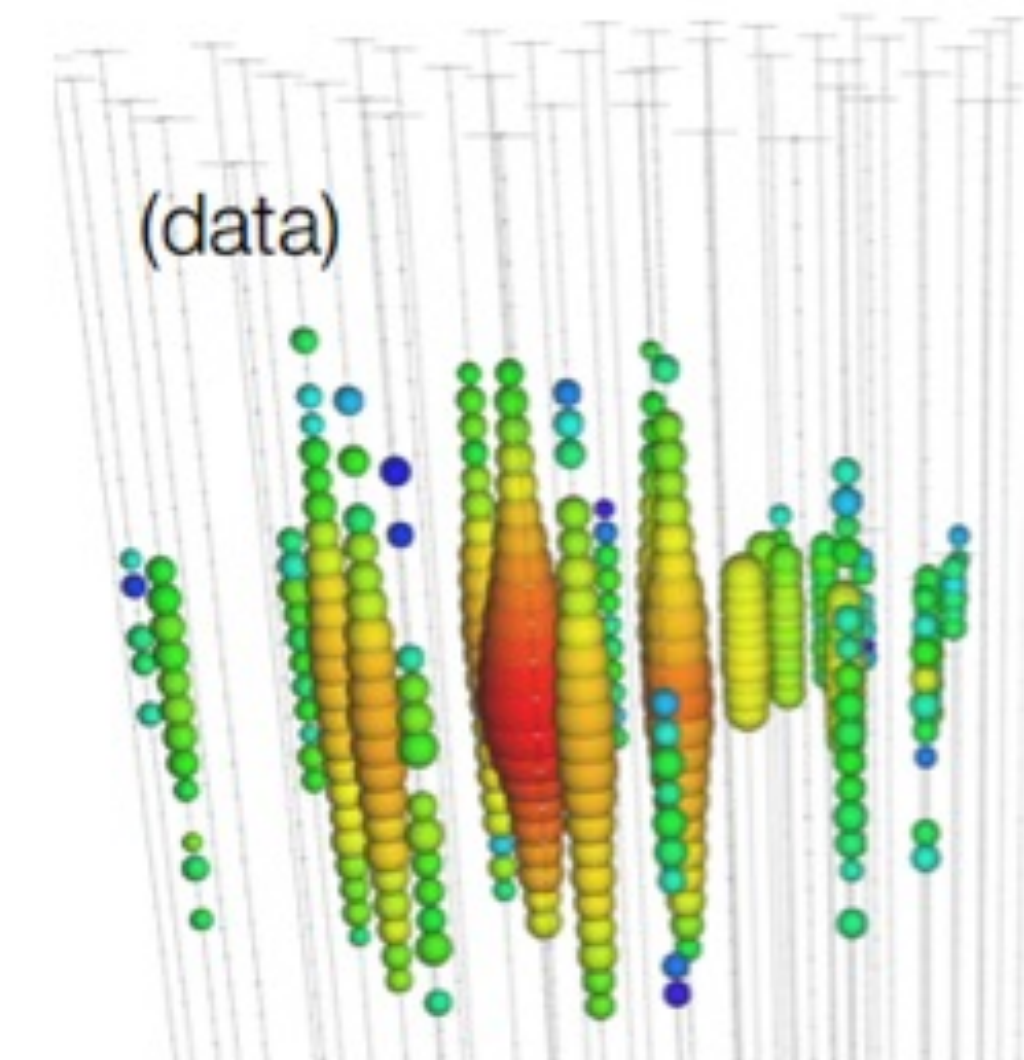
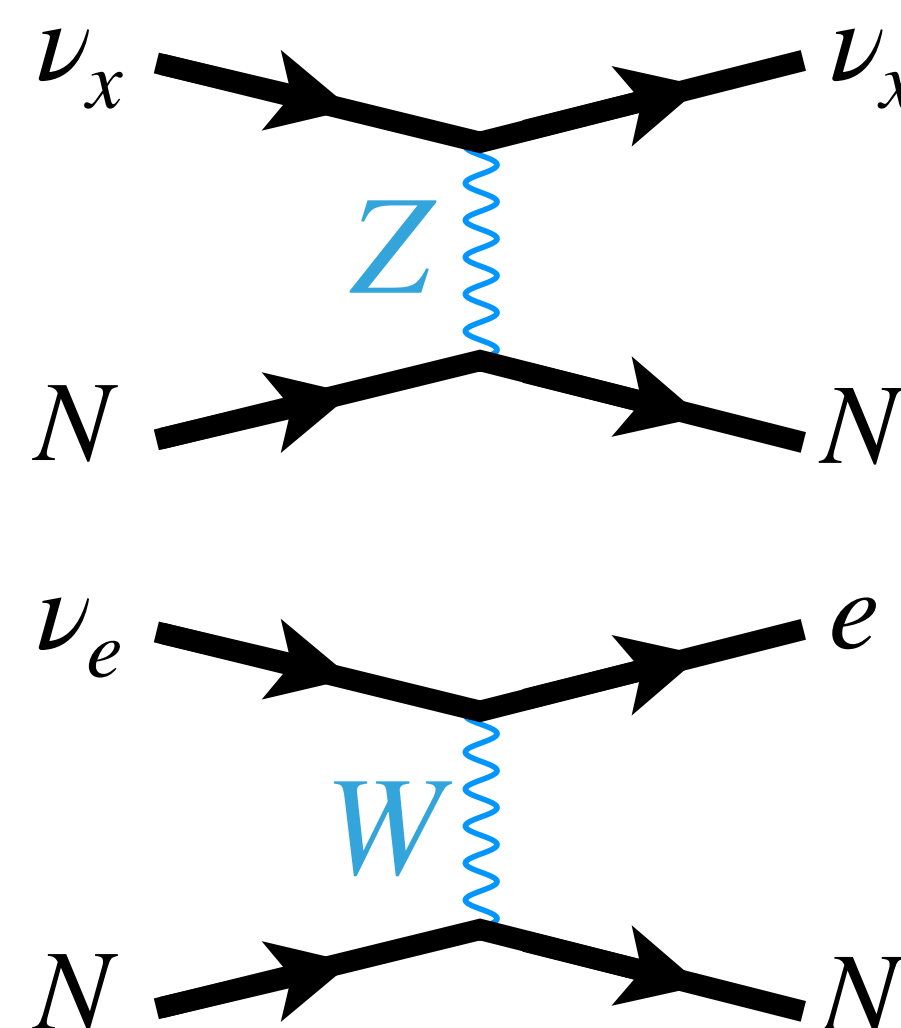
## Track topology

- Good angular resolution  $0.1^\circ - 1^\circ$ :
  - **Neutrino Astronomy**
- Vertex can be outside the detector:
  - **Increased effective volume**
- Stochastic energy losses:
  - **Challenging energy estimation.**

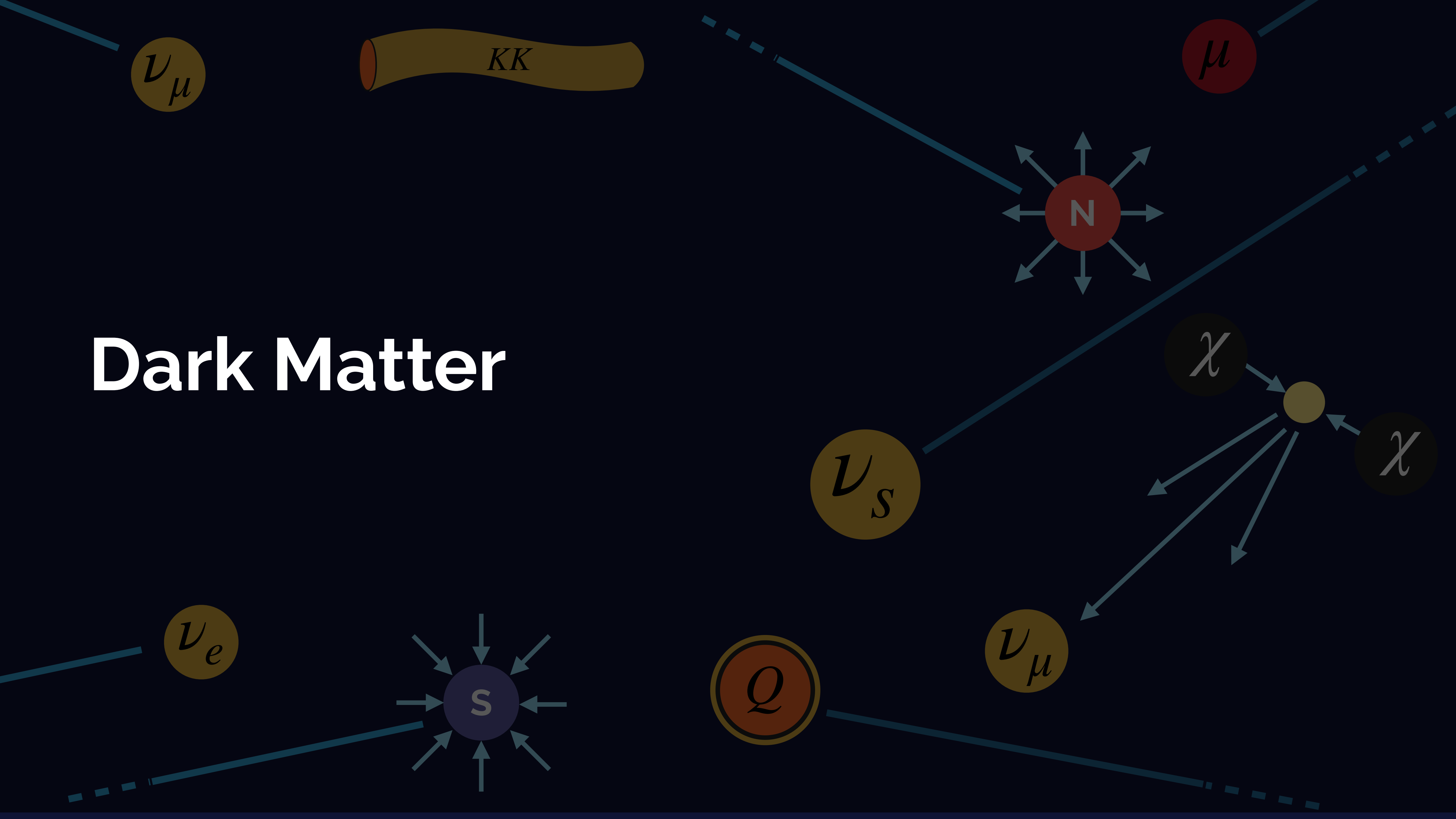


## Cascade topology

- All flavors
- Fully active calorimeter:
  - **Energy resolution  $\pm 15\%$**
- Angular reconstruction possible:
  - **$\sim 10^\circ$  @  $E > 100$  TeV**



# Dark Matter

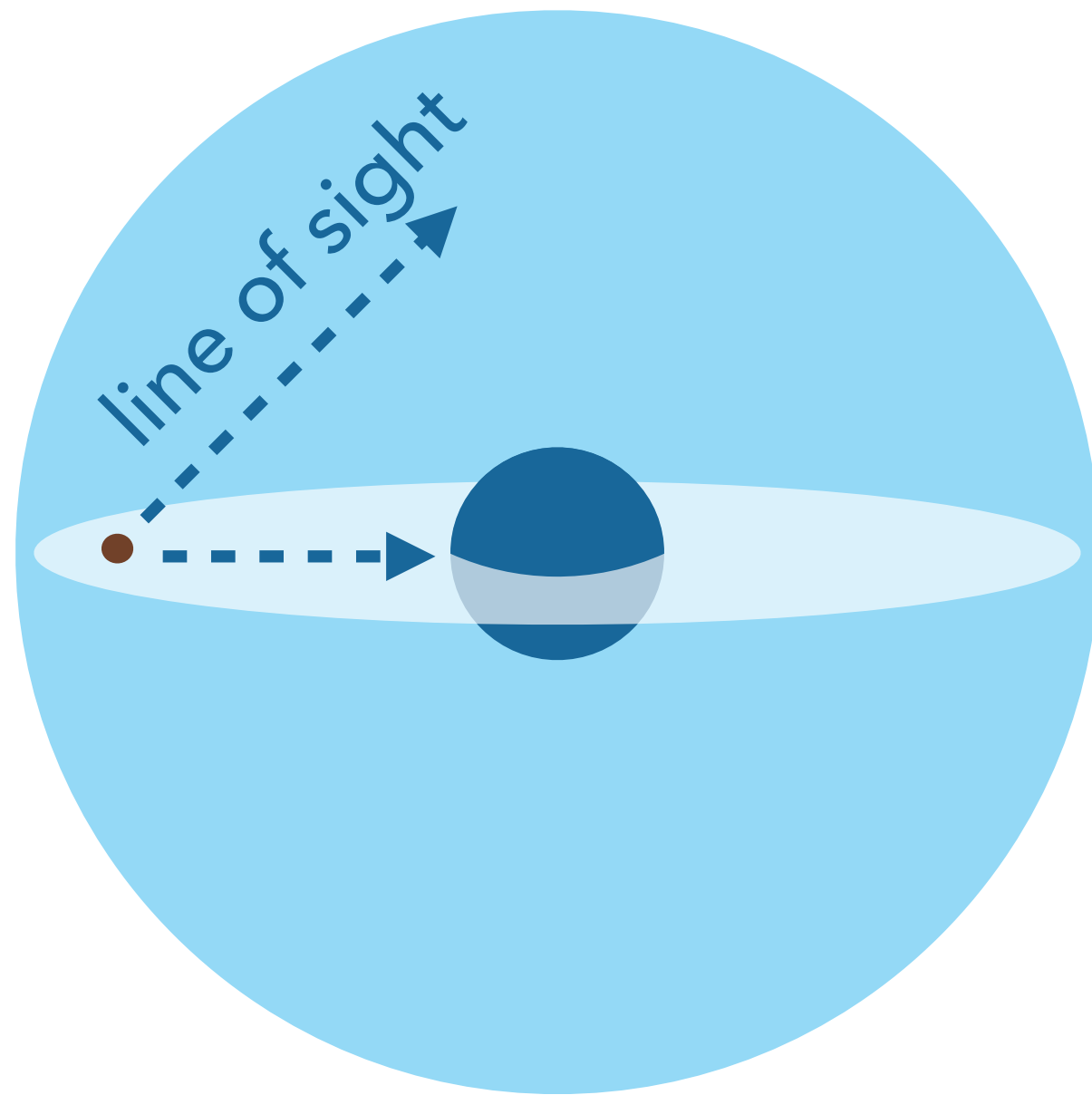


Flux from annihilation (very similar for decay):

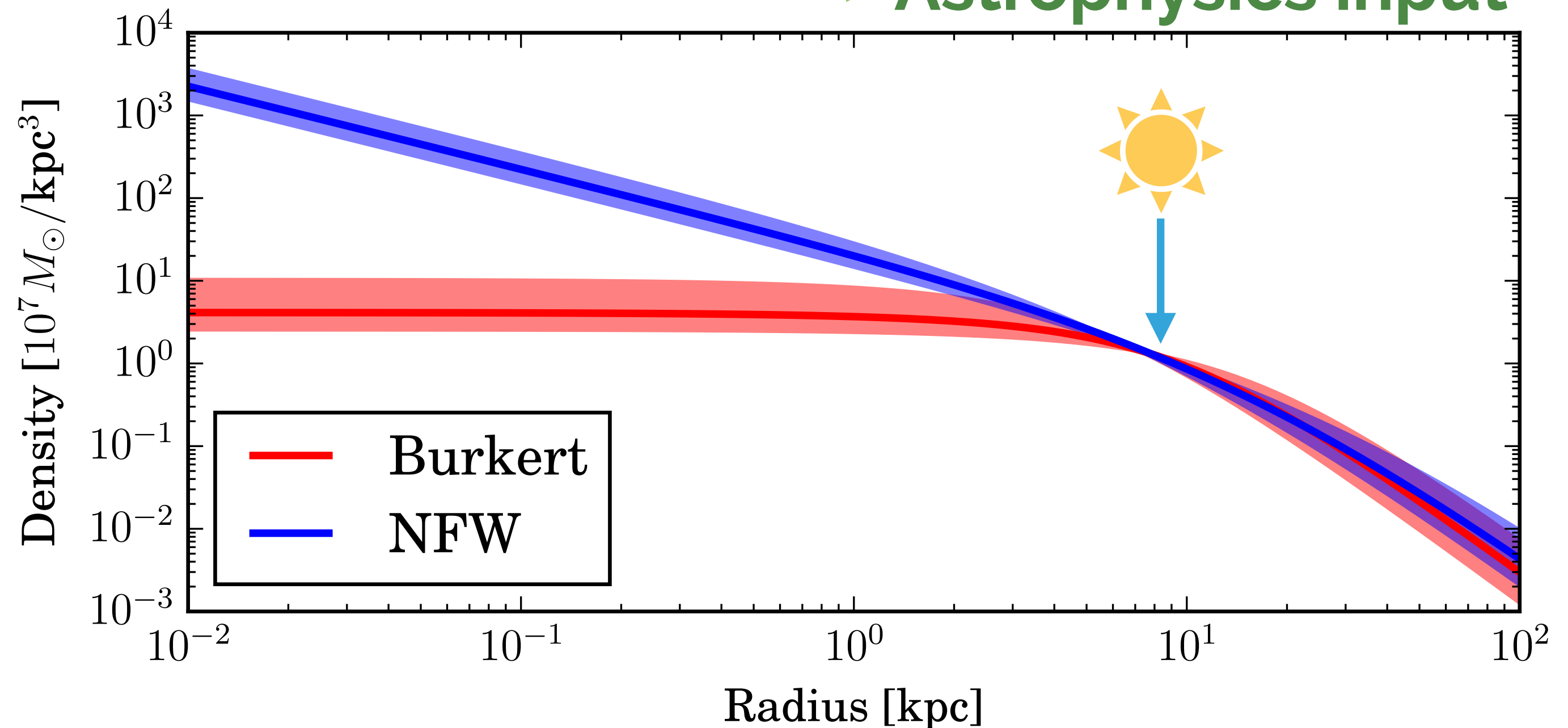
$$\frac{d\Phi_\nu}{dE_\nu} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\langle \sigma_A v \rangle}{2m_\chi^2} \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_\nu} \int_0^{\Delta\Omega} d\Omega \int_{l.o.s.} \rho_\chi^2(r(s, \Psi, \theta)) ds$$

Flux from annihilation (very similar for decay):

$$\frac{d\Phi_\nu}{dE_\nu} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\langle \sigma_A v \rangle}{2m_\chi^2} \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_\nu} \int_0^{\Delta\Omega} d\Omega \int_{l.o.s.} \rho_\chi^2(r(s, \Psi, \theta)) ds$$



Astrophysics input



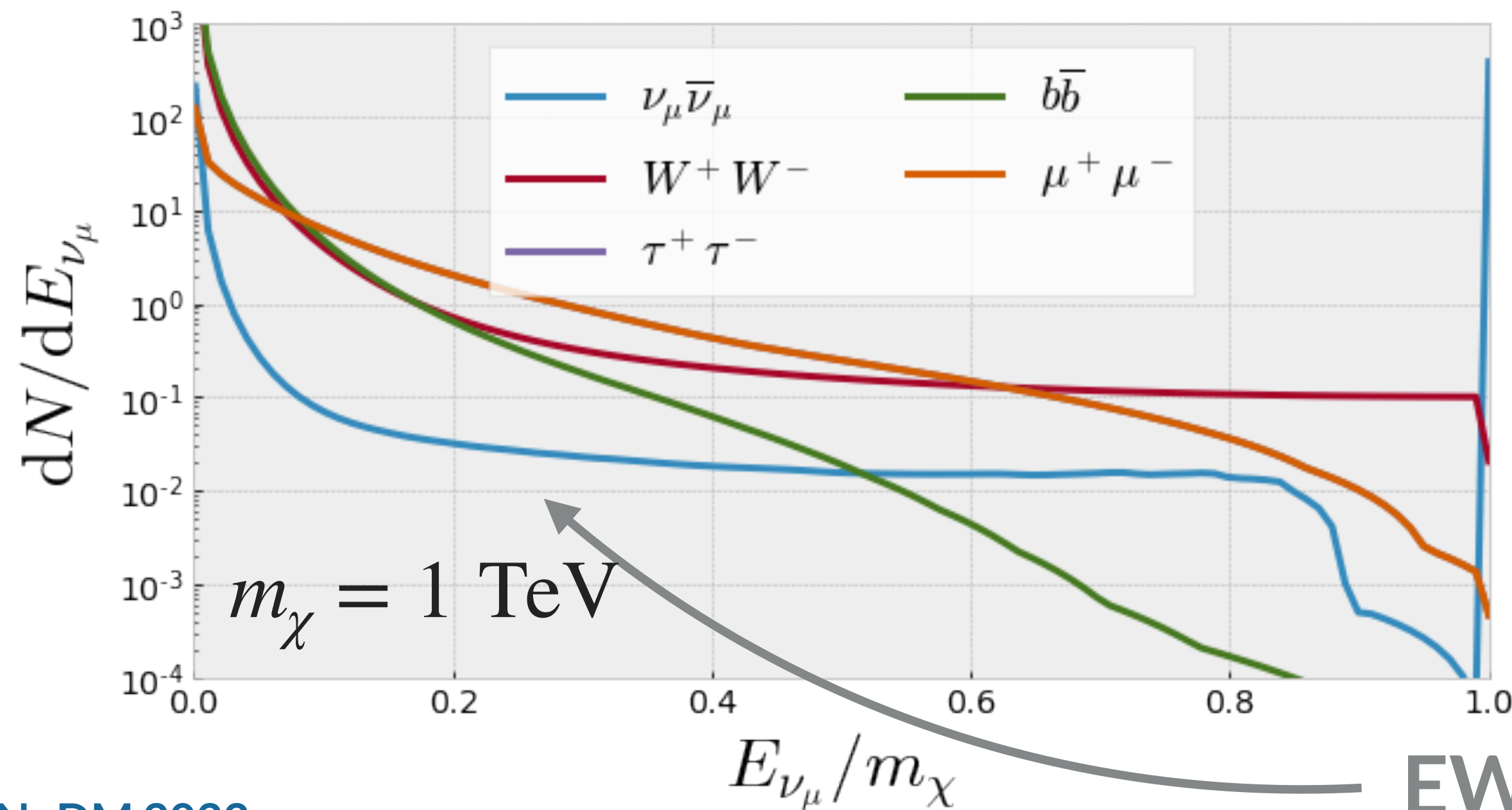
The central cusps in dark matter halos: fact or fiction?  
[arXiv:1808.03088v2]



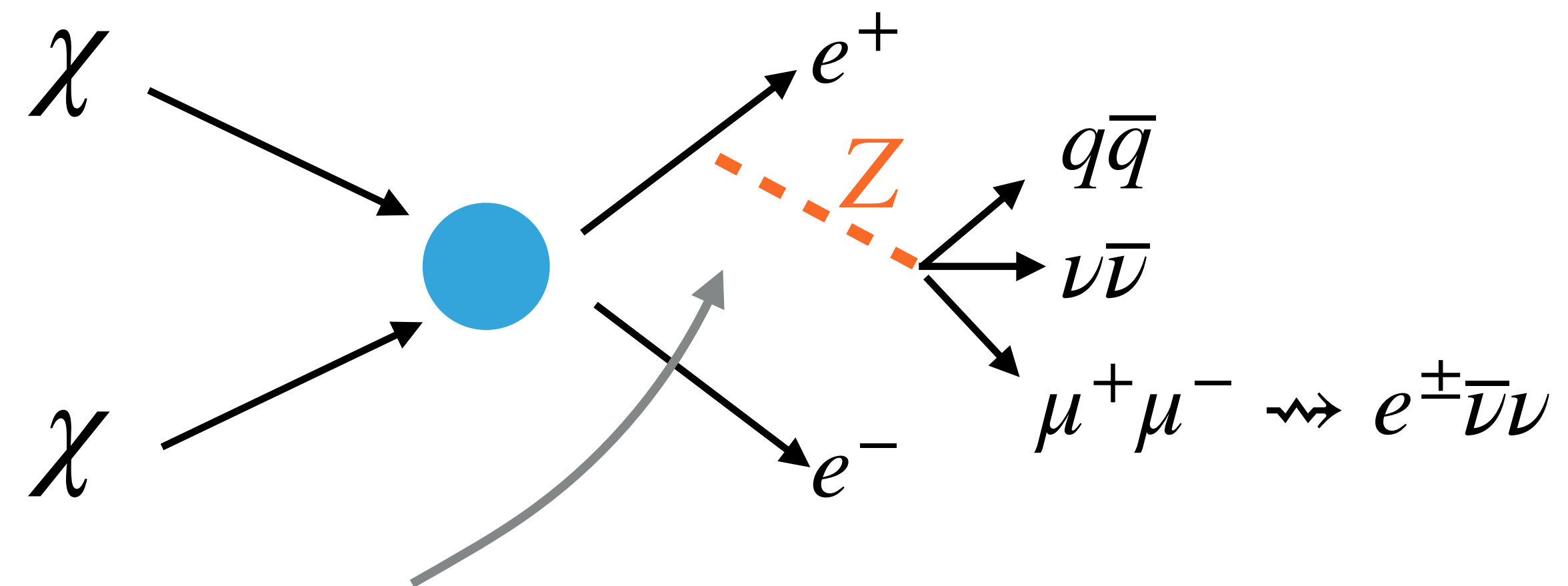
Flux from annihilation (very similar for decay):

$$\frac{d\Phi_\nu}{dE_\nu} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\langle \sigma_A v \rangle}{2m_\chi^2} \frac{dN_\nu}{dE_\nu} \int_0^{\Delta\Omega} d\Omega \int_{l.o.s.} \rho_\chi^2(r(s, \Psi, \theta)) ds$$

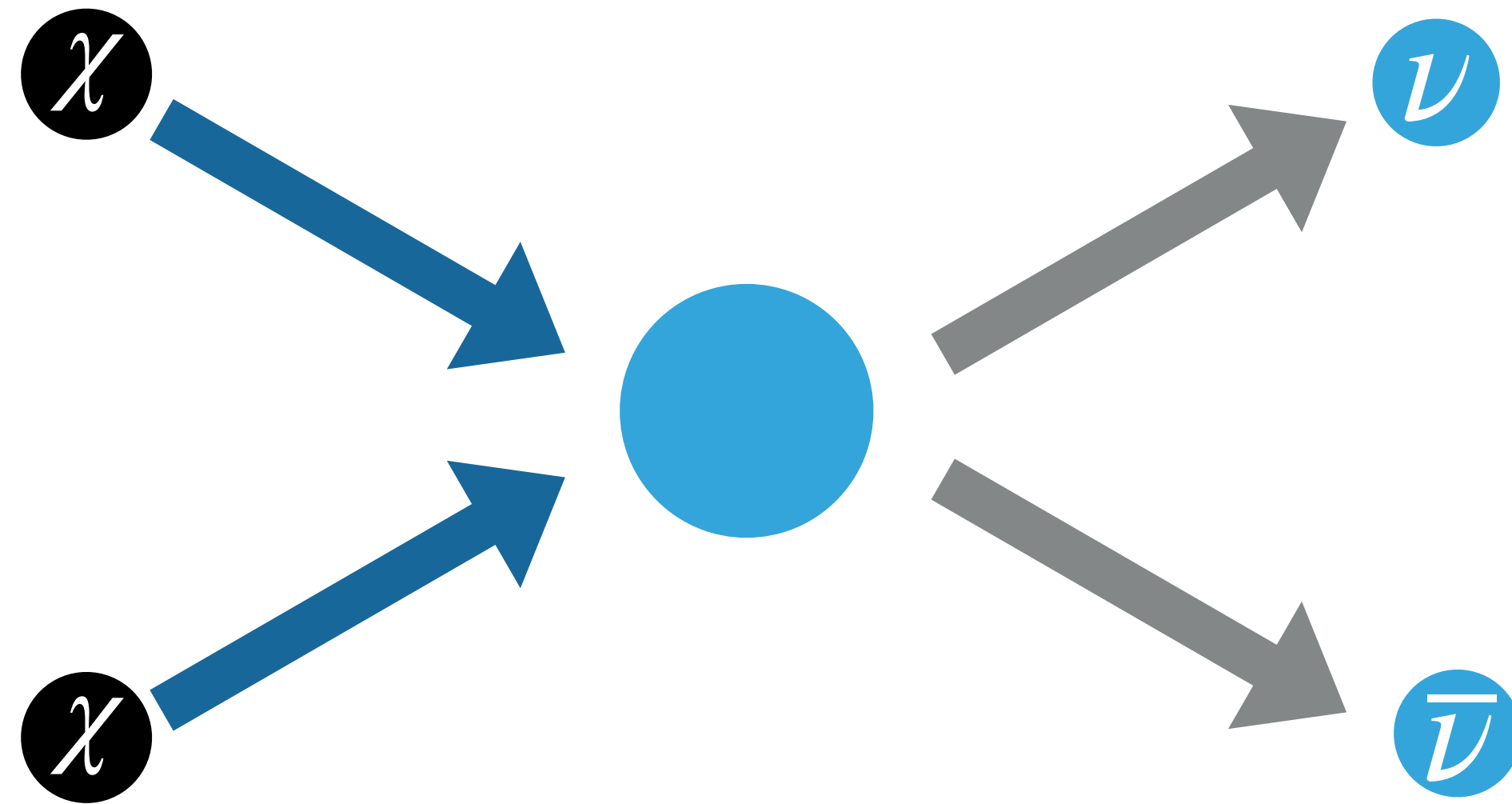
Particle Physics input



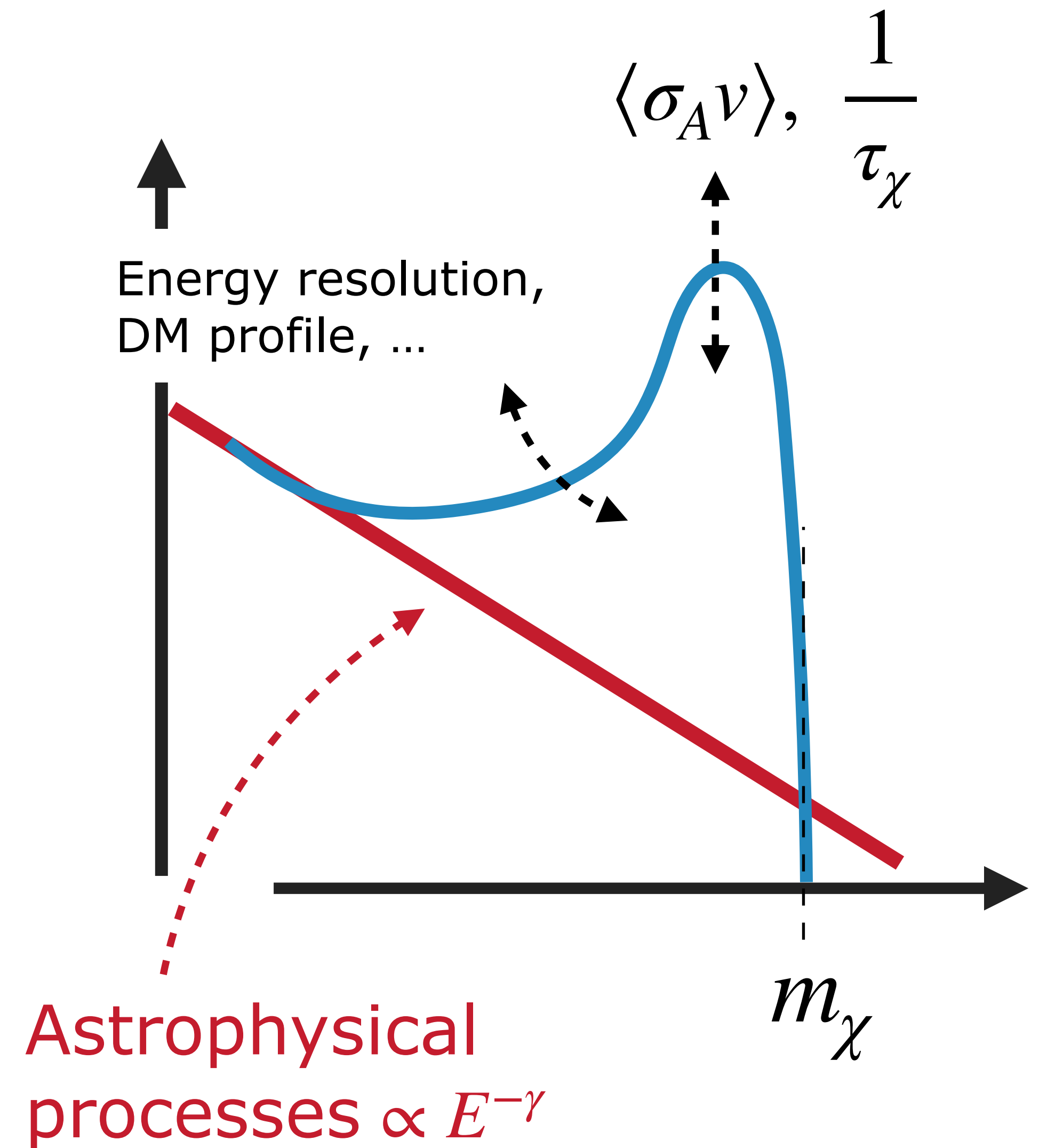
[arXiv:2007.15010, arXiv:1012.4515, arXiv:2007.1500]



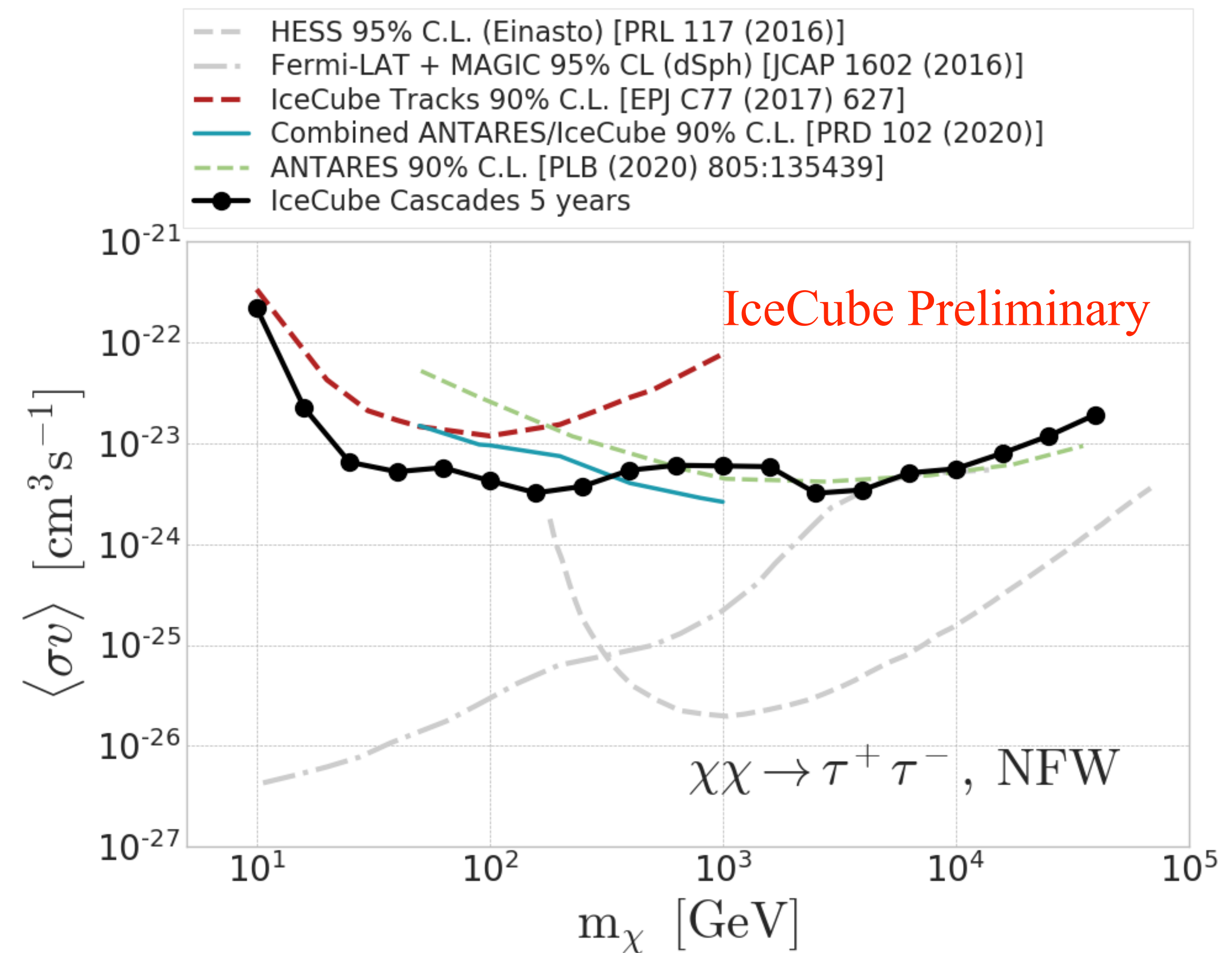
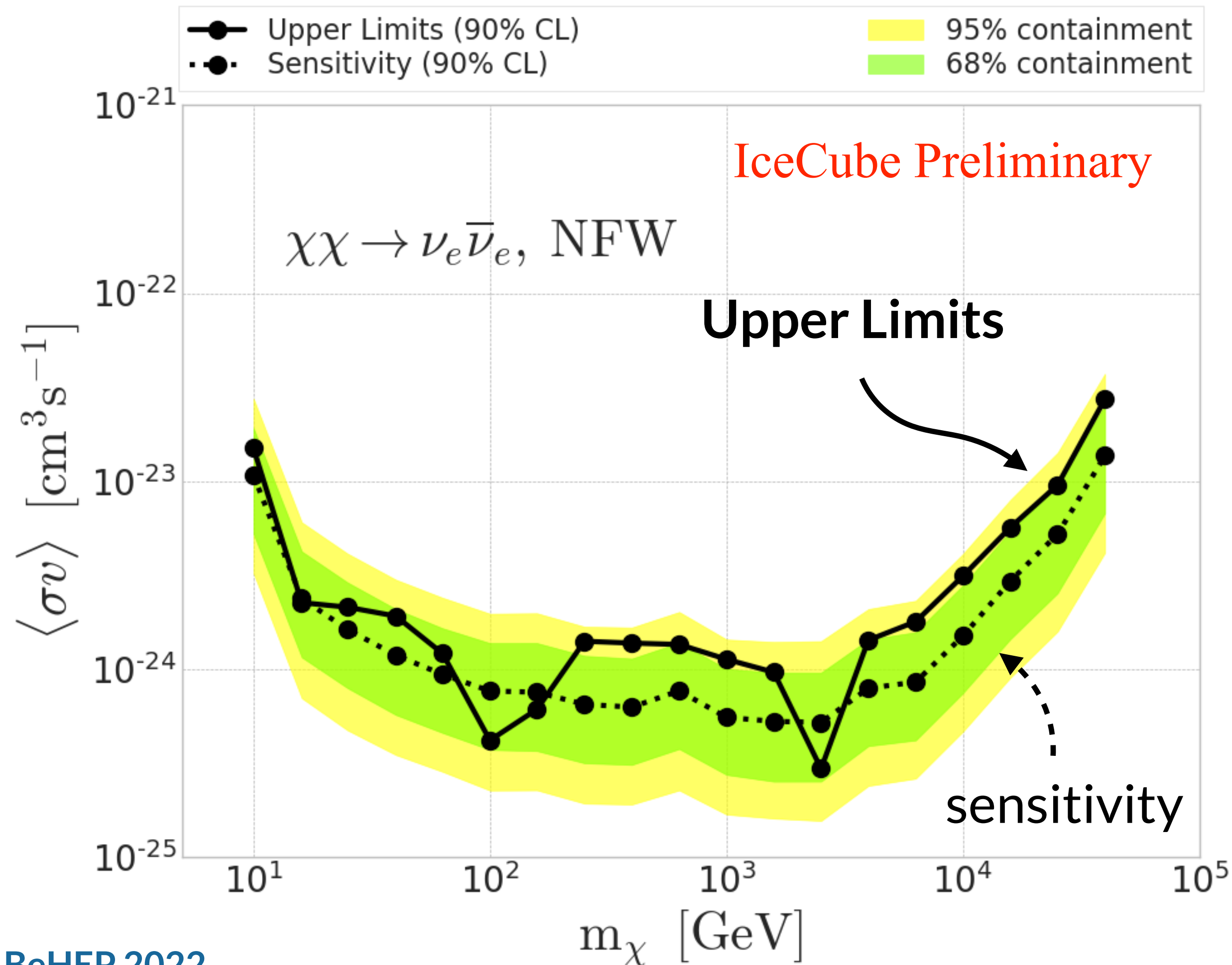
EW corrections are important

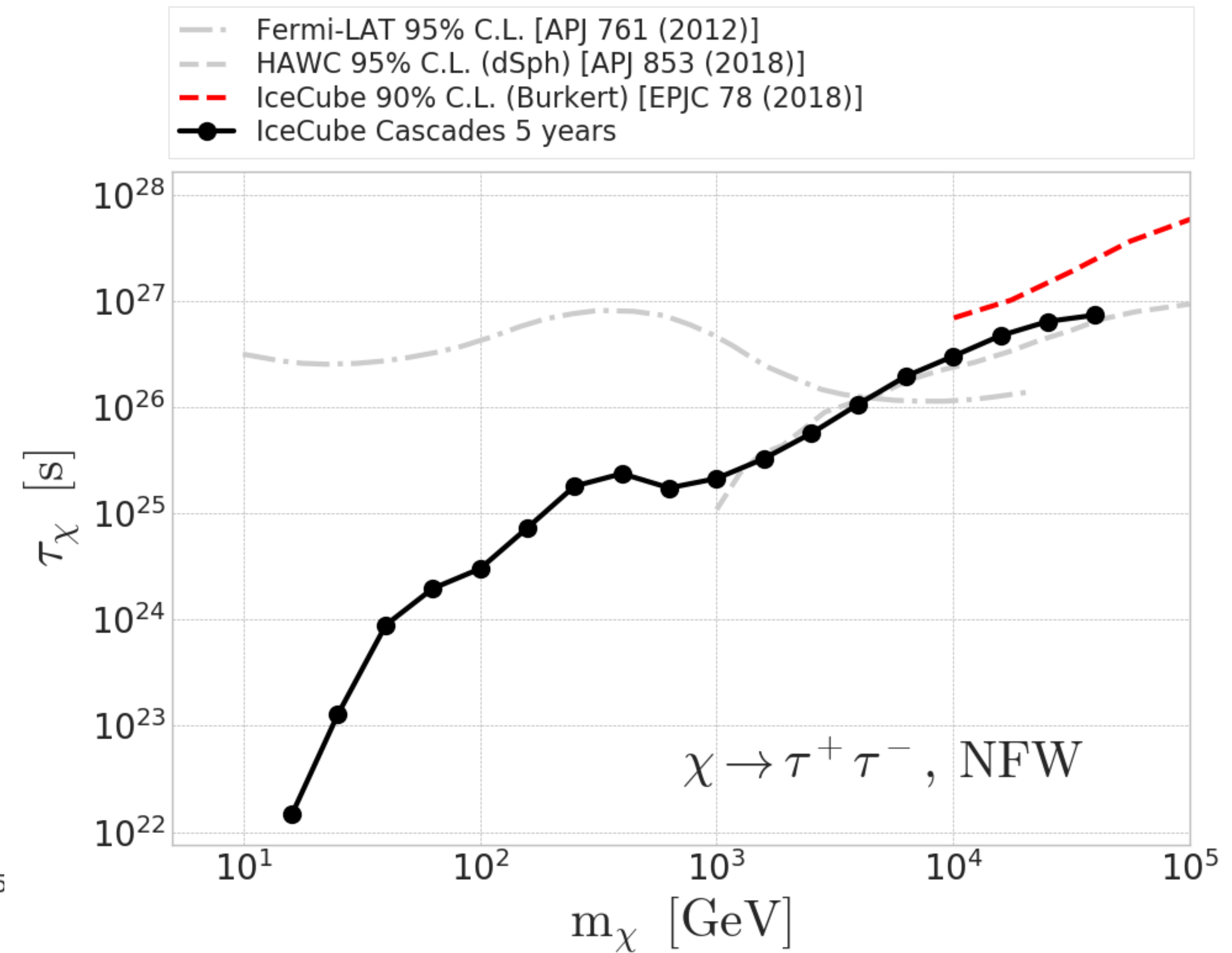
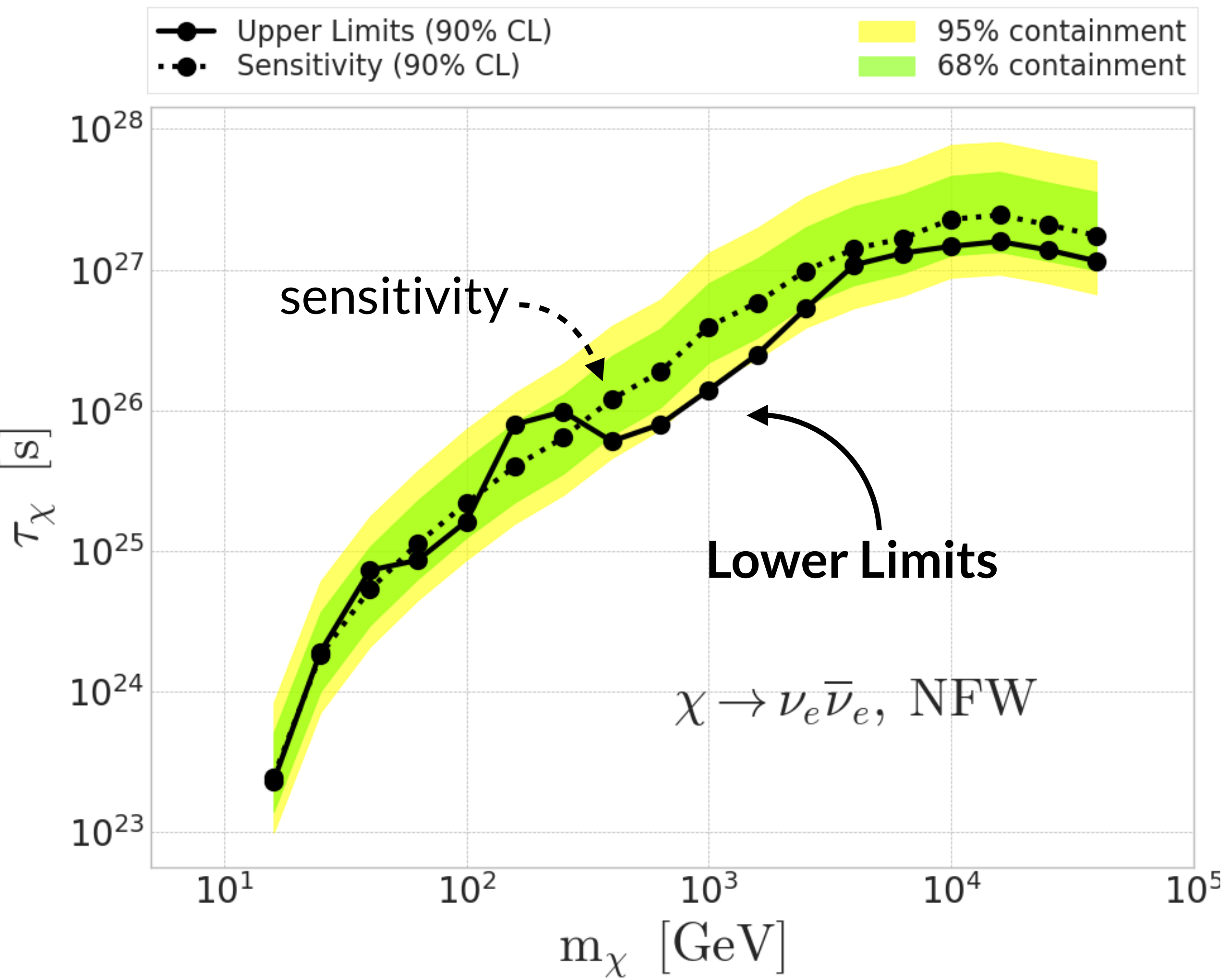


- Focusing on direct annihilation/decay to neutrinos.
- No astrophysical background:  
**smoking gun signature of dark matter.**



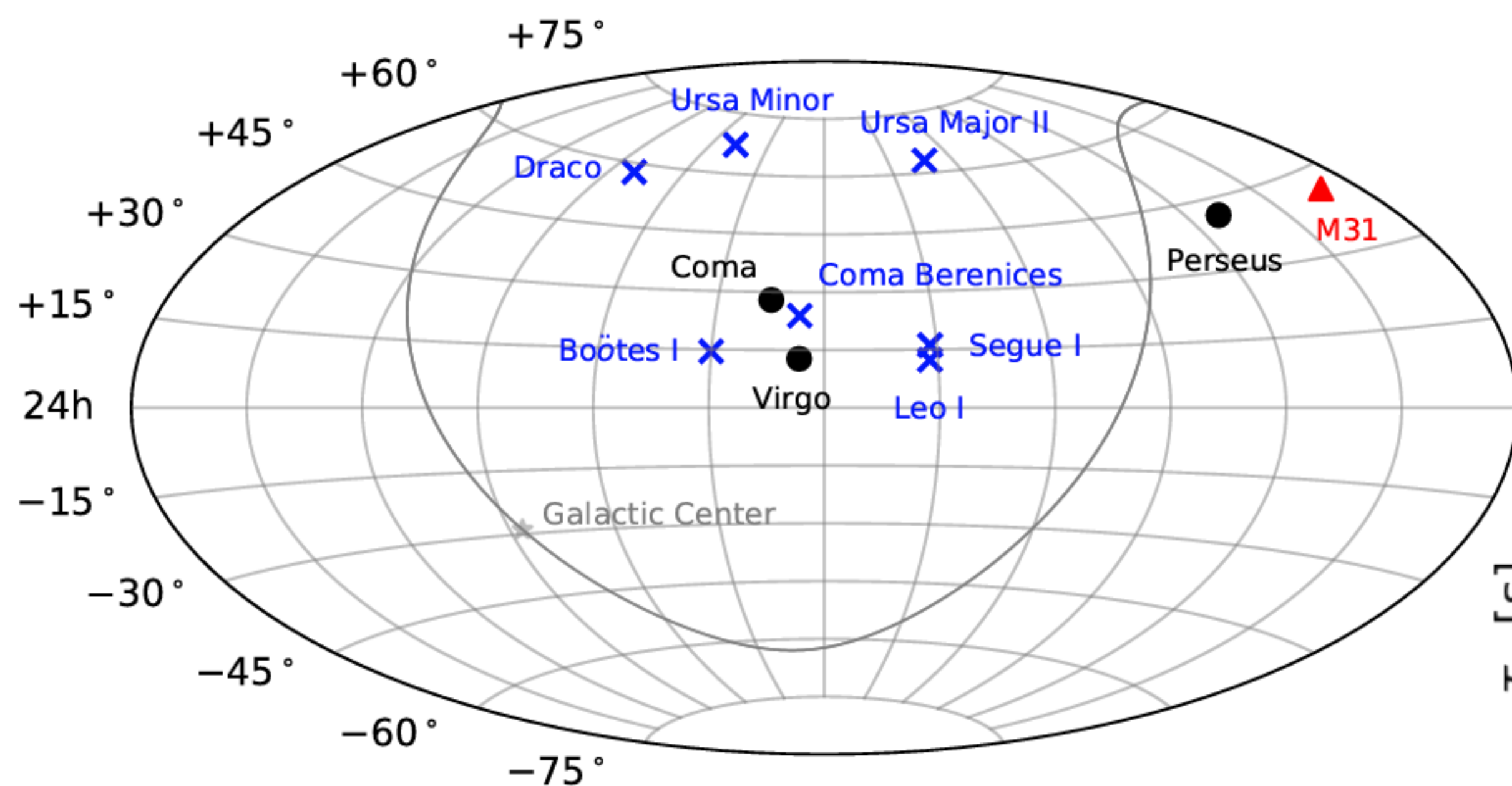
- 5 years of IceCube data: 2012 to 2016
- **DeepCore** data focusing on cascade events: Energy resolution  $\sigma_{\log_{10} E_\nu} \sim 12\%$



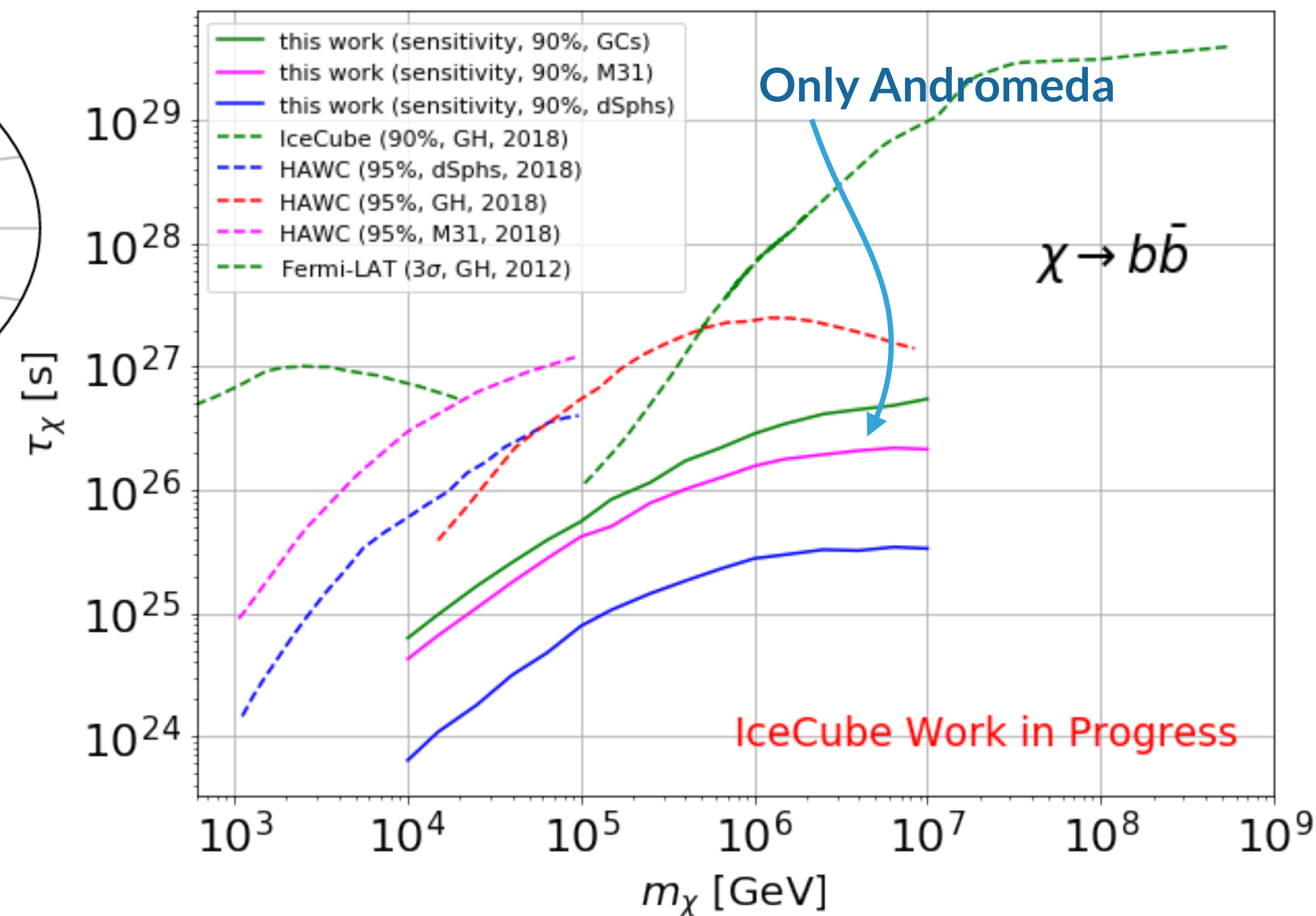


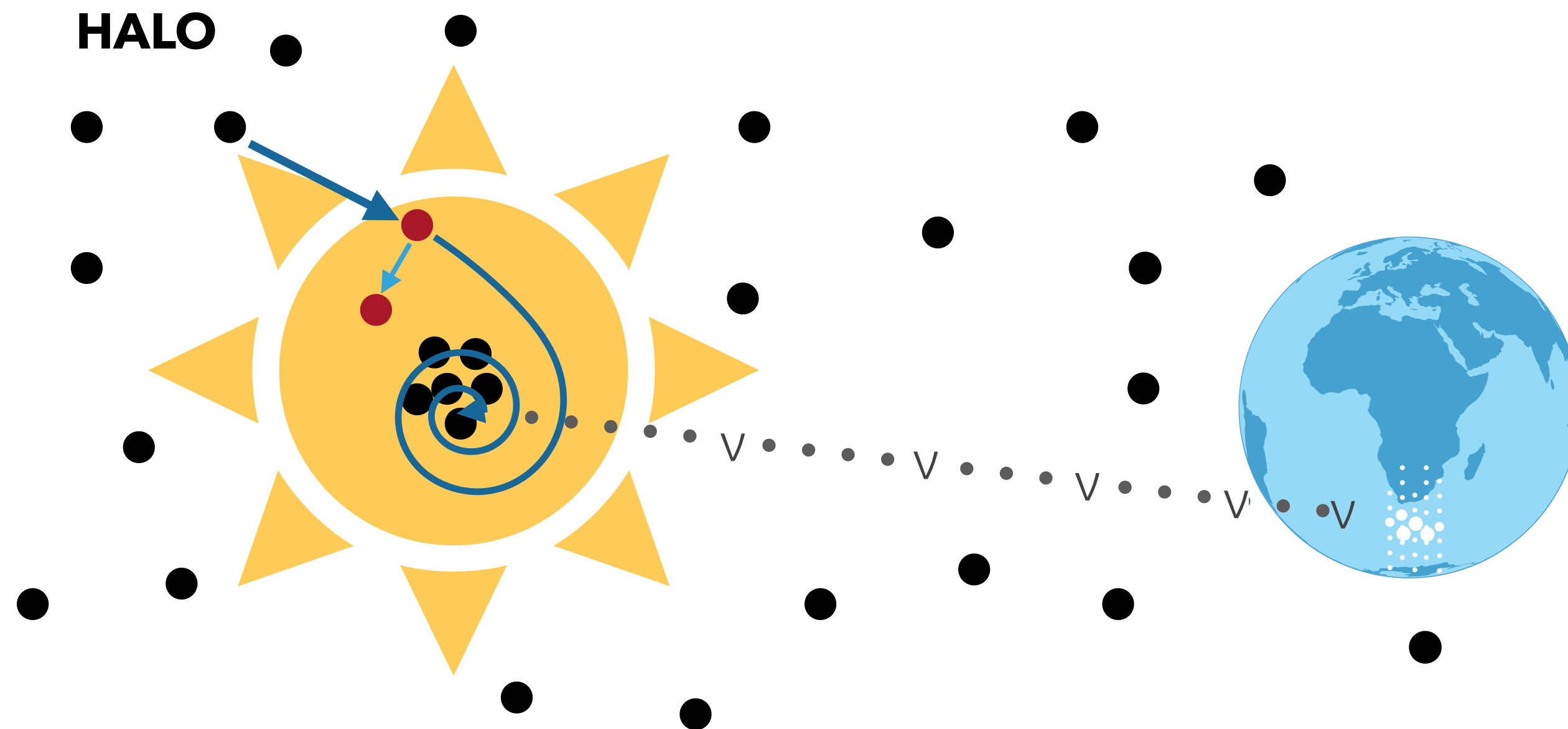
[publication in preparation]

[PoS(ICRC2021)506]



- Stacking analysis on all main **Galaxy Clusters and Dwarf spheroidal galaxies** using a muon track selection (*à la point-source*).
- Targeting **heavy decaying dark matter**.





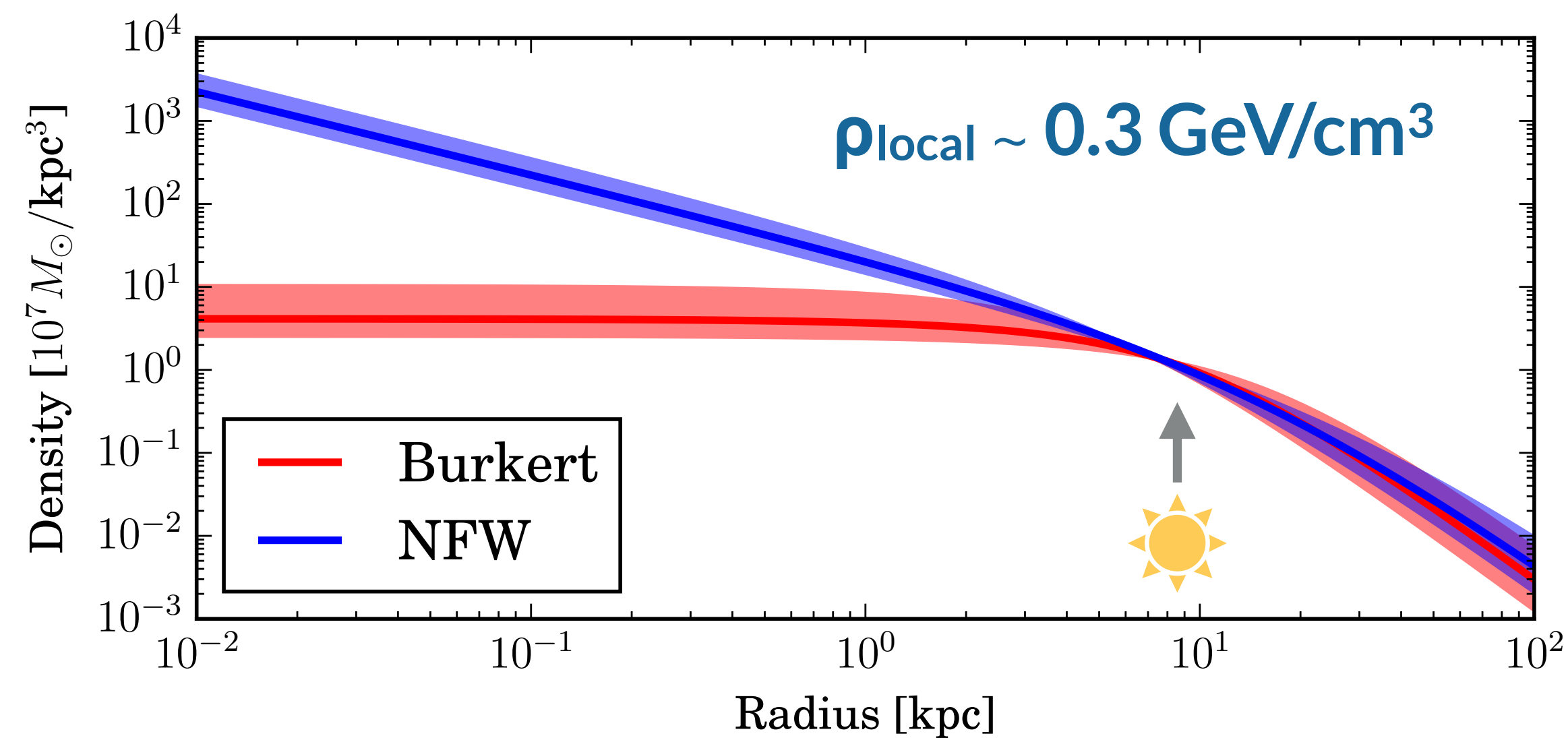
- Dark Matter can be **gravitationally trapped inside celestial bodies**
- Signal cannot be mis-interpreted as an astrophysical source (except for solar atm. neutrinos).
- Halo models agree in the Solar System.

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = C_c - C_A N^2 - C_E N$$

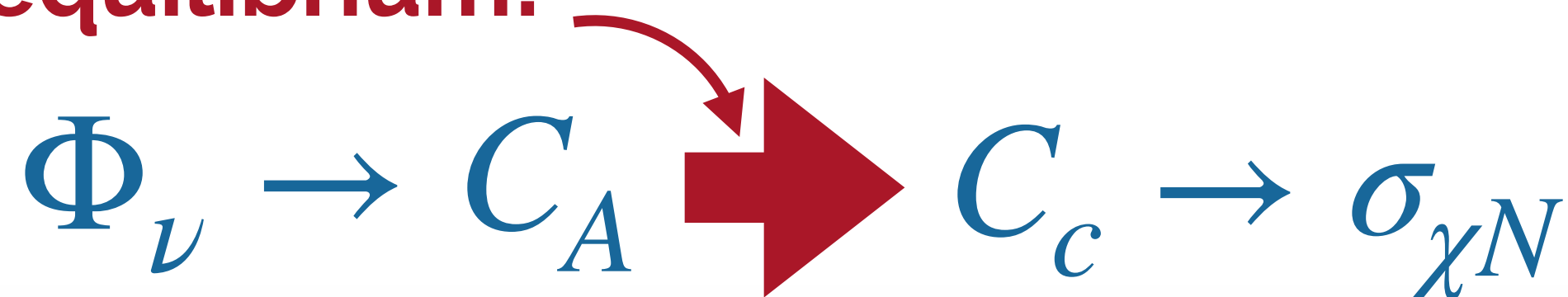
capture  $\sigma_{\chi-N}$

annihilation  $\sigma_A$

"evaporation"



equilibrium!



—  $b\bar{b}$    
 —  $W^+W^-$    
 —  $\tau^+\tau^-$    
 —  $\nu\bar{\nu}$

## LE Analysis

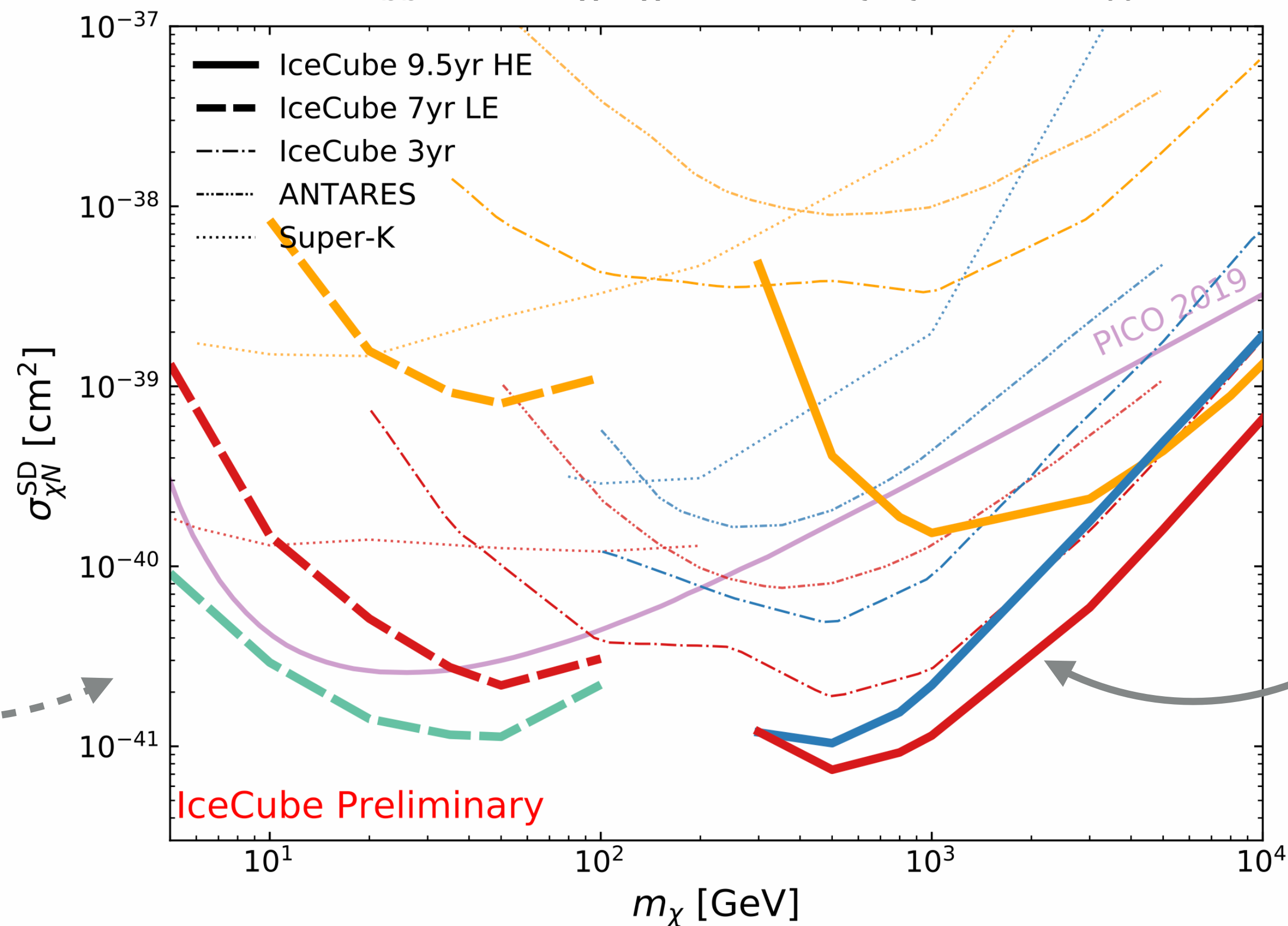
[Phys. Rev. D 105, 062004]

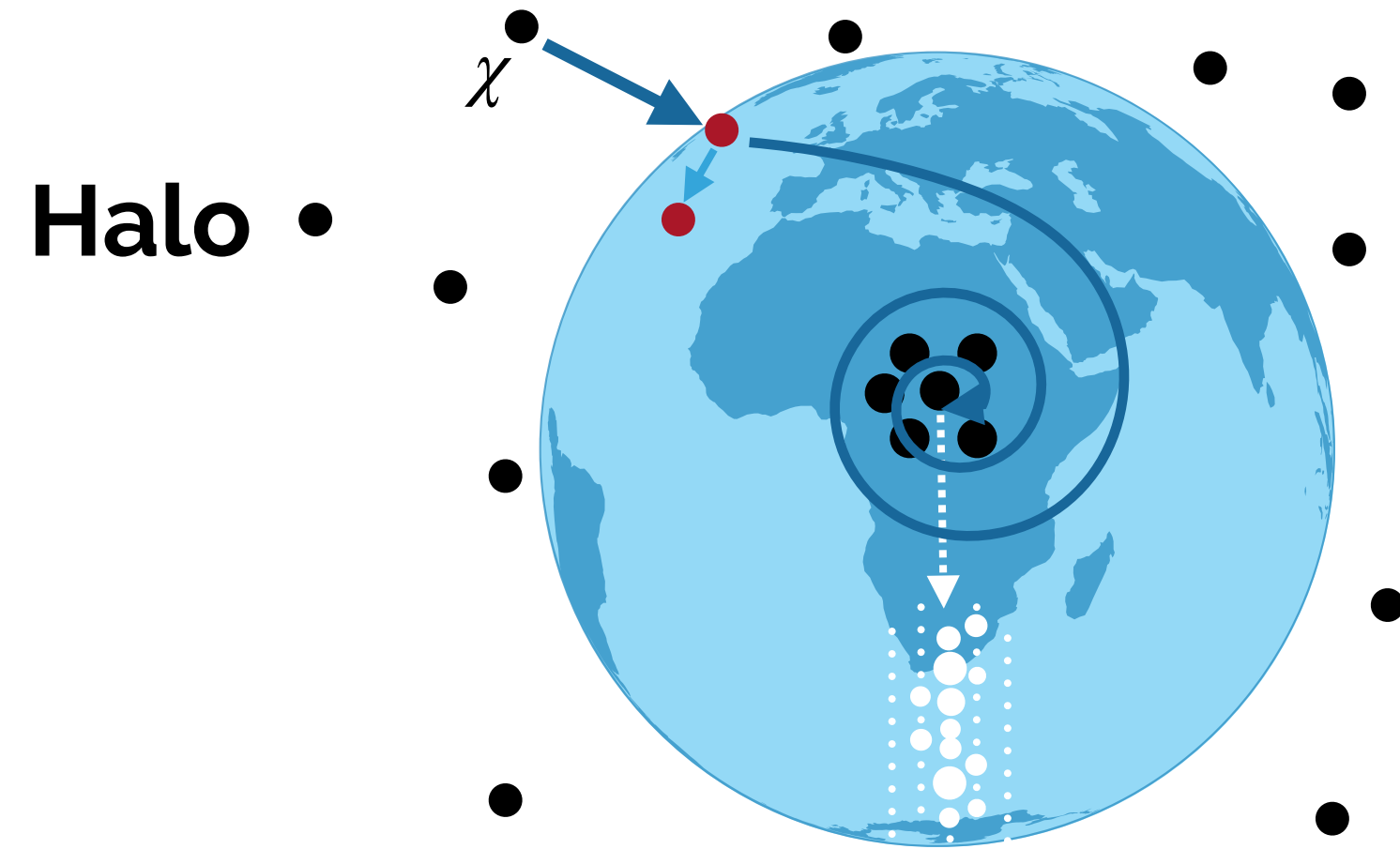
- 7 years of IceCube-DeepCore data (mostly cascades)

## HE Analysis

[PoS(ICRC2021)020]

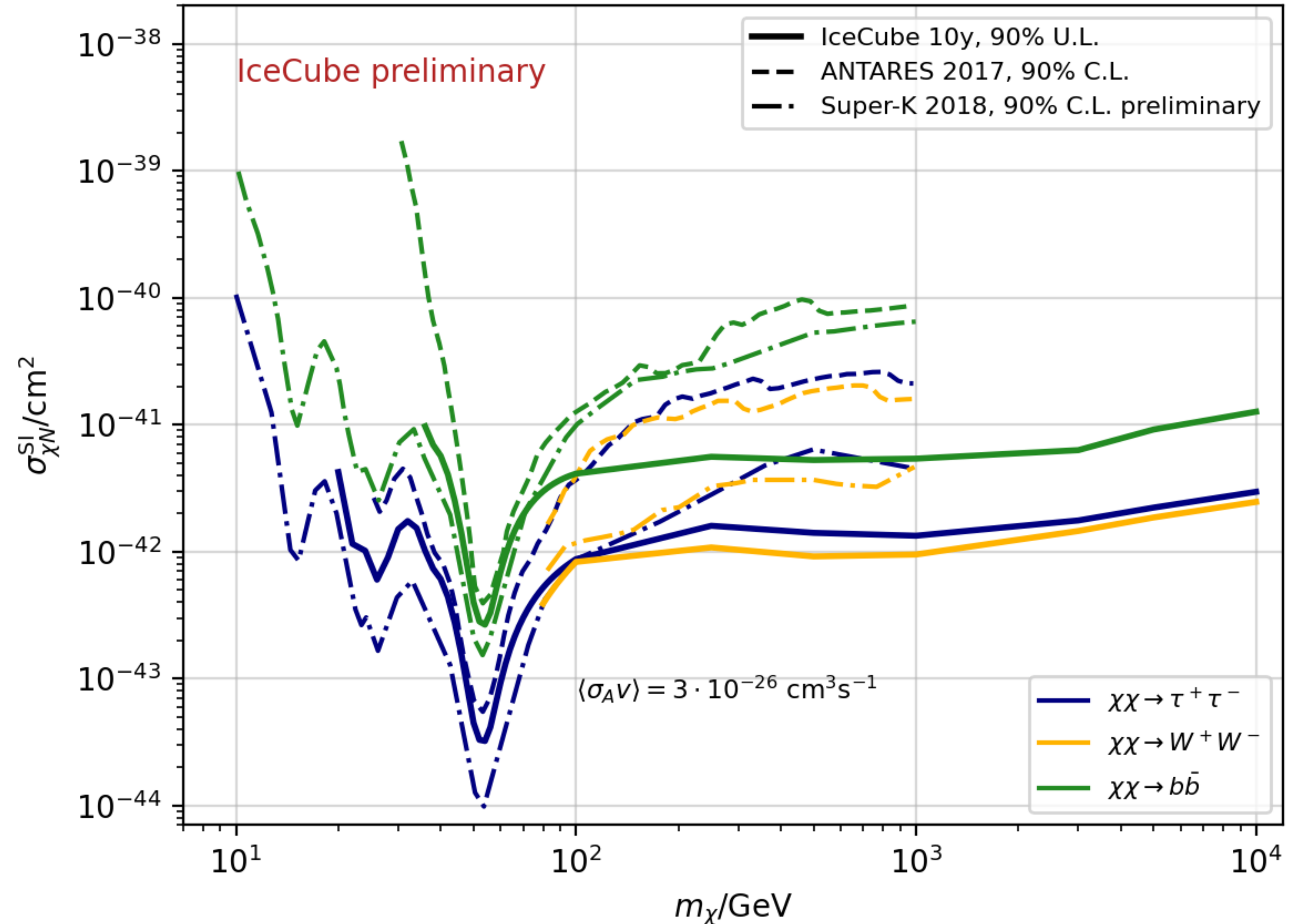
- 9 years of muon track data (HE)





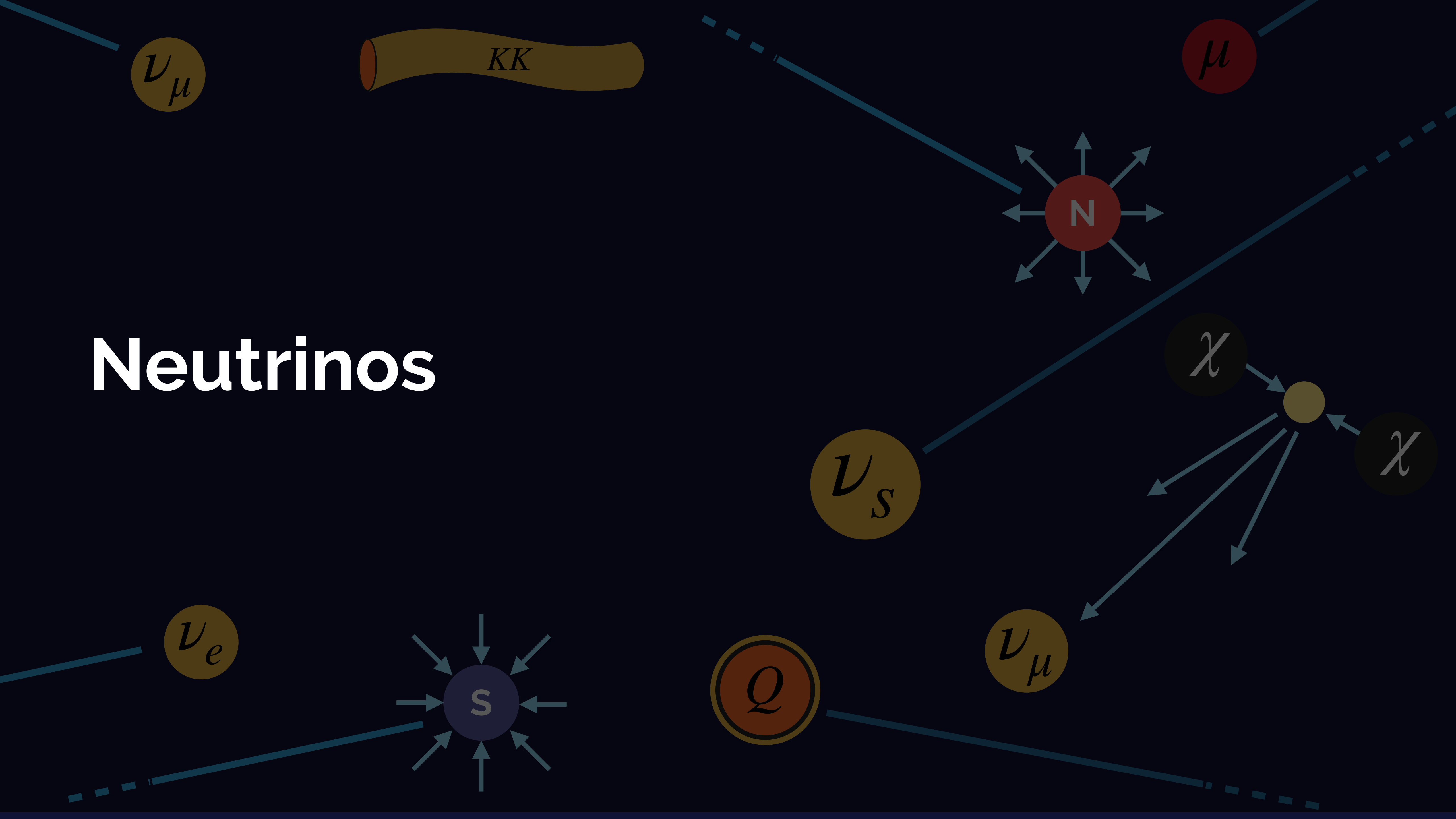
- Analysis very sensitive to astrophysical uncertainties (dark disc, velocity distribution)
- Unique direction in the sky / control of systematics.
- **No thermal equilibrium**

Spin Independent WIMP-nucleon cross section

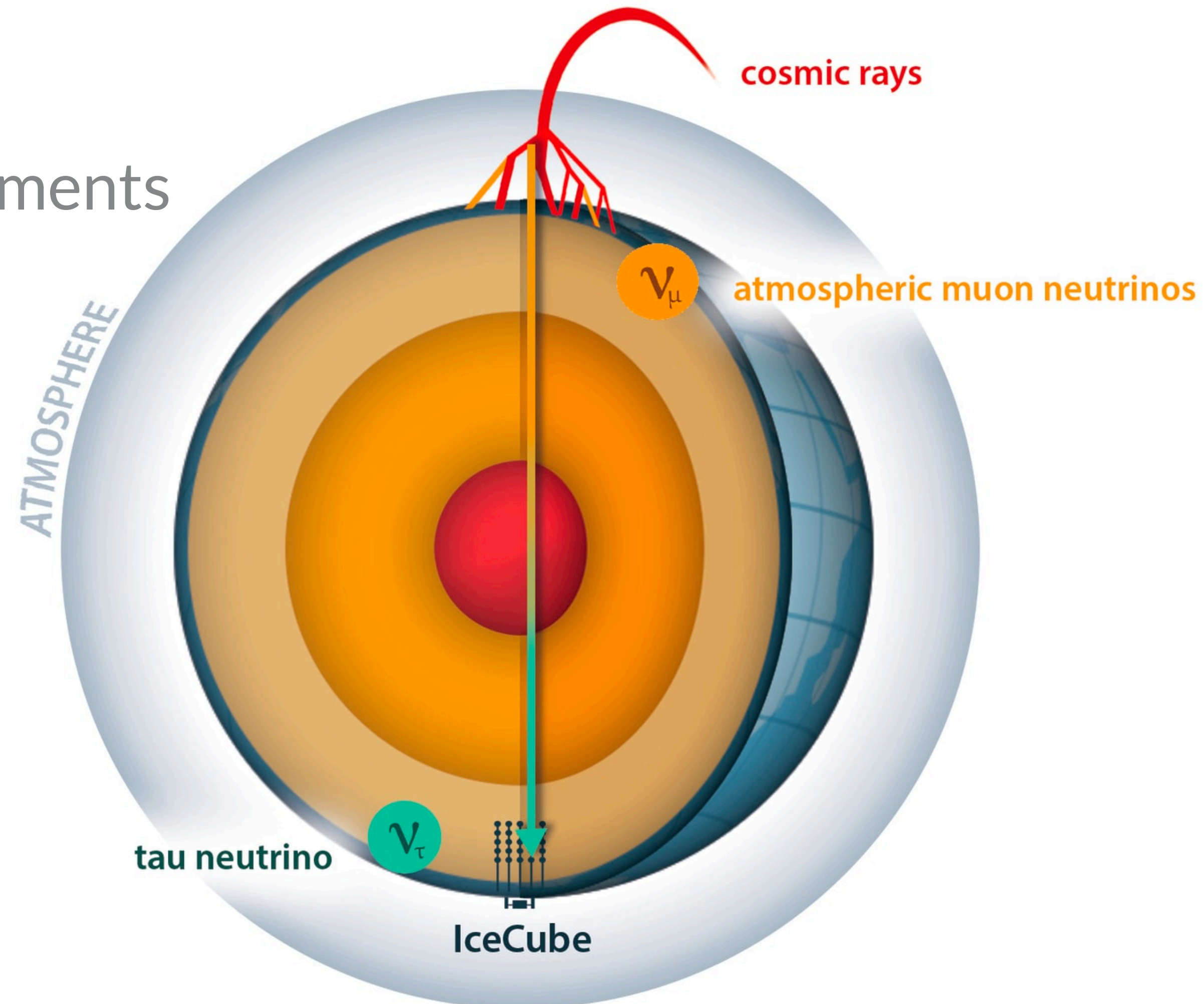
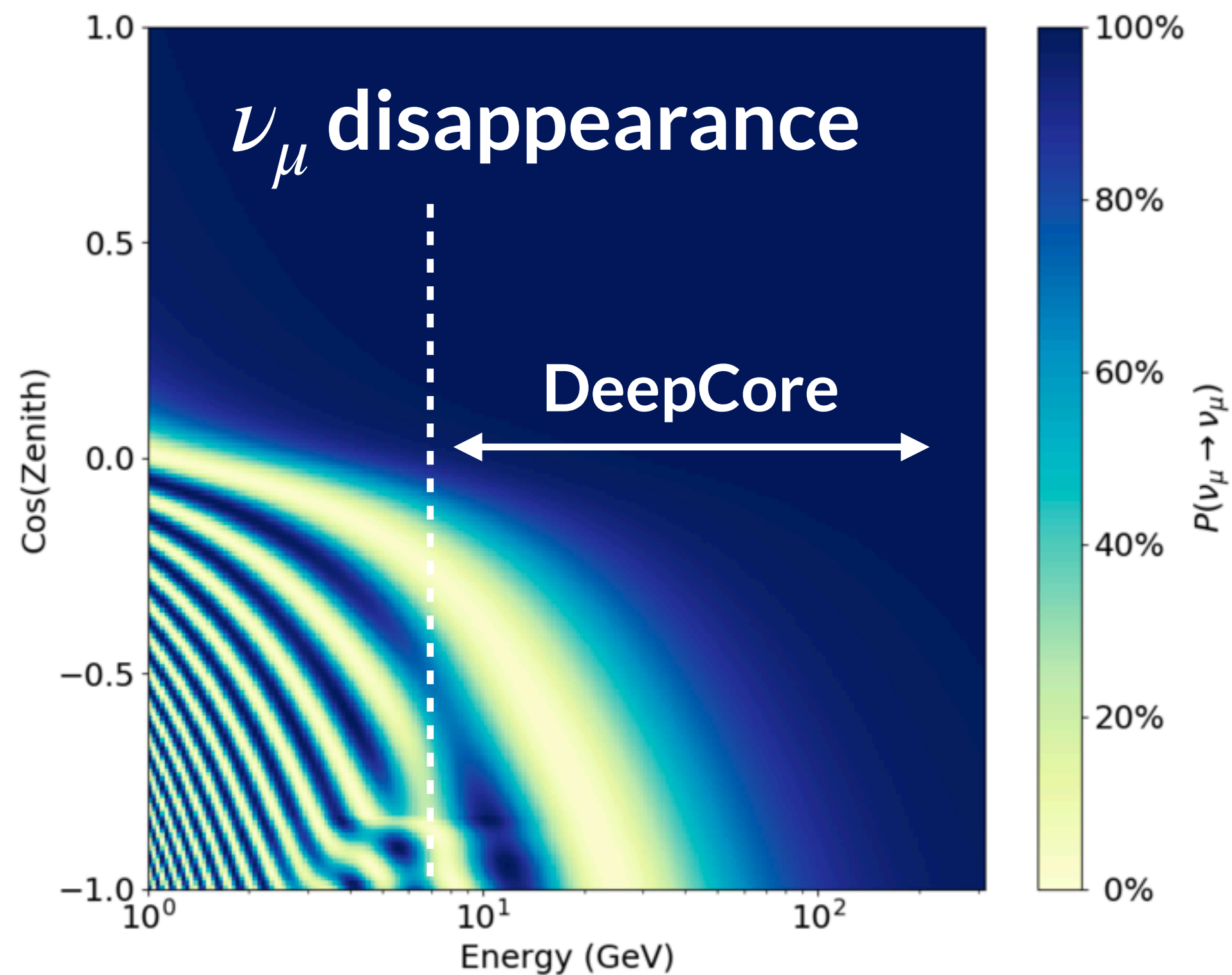


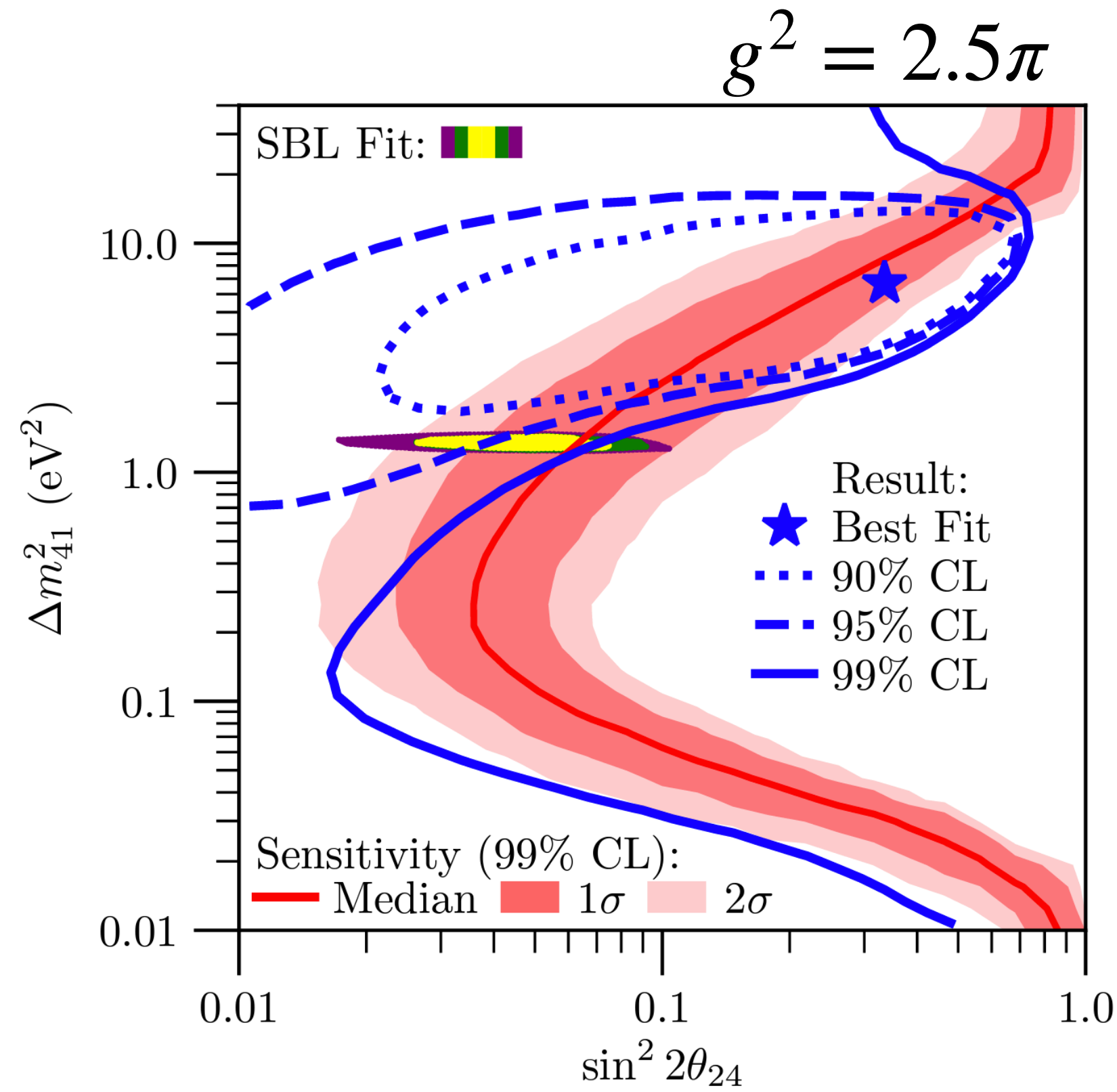
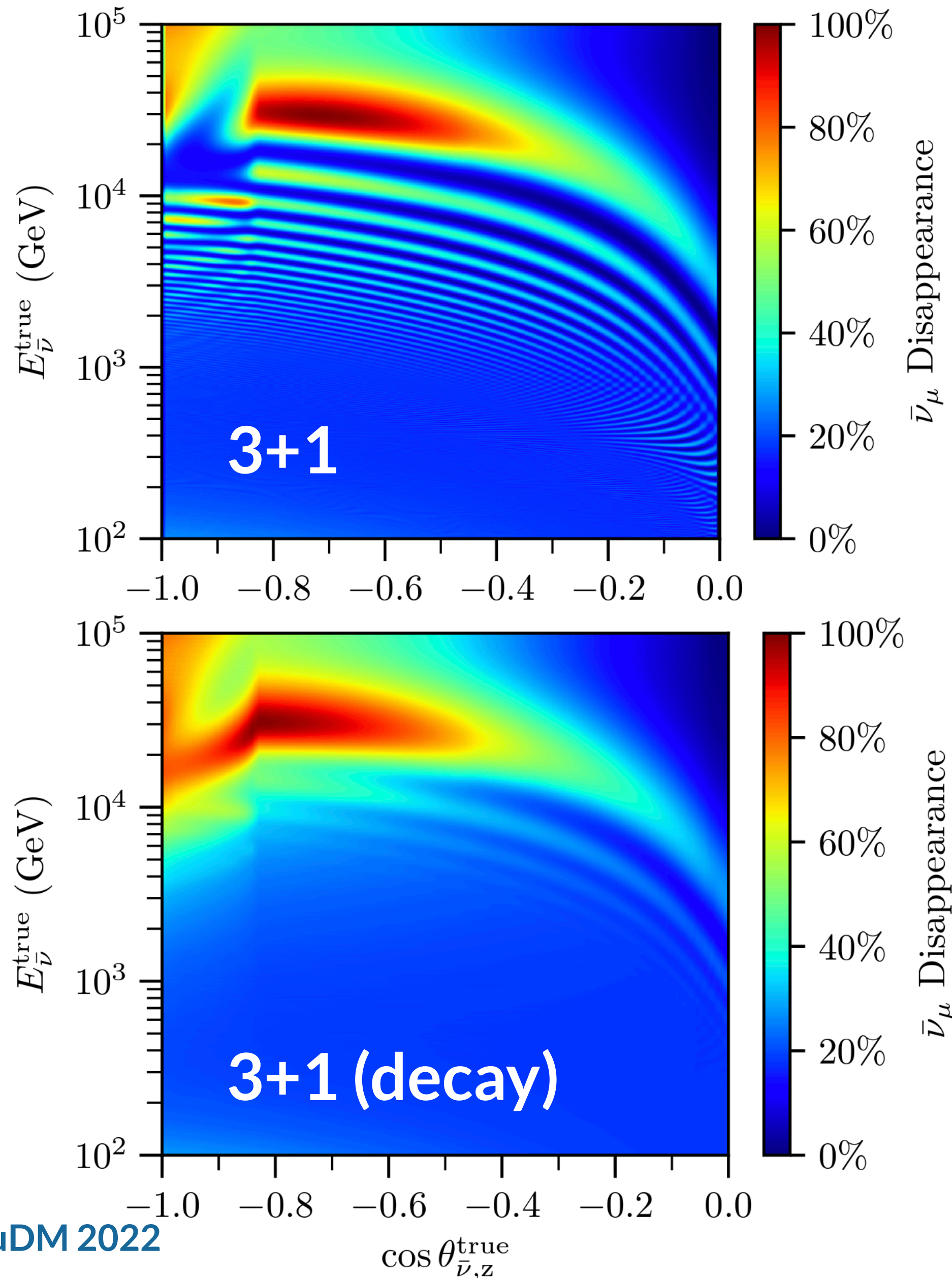


# Neutrinos



- Use of atmospheric  $\nu_\mu$  to study oscillations.
  - Zenith angle defines the baseline,  $L$
  - DeepCore access same  $L/E$  as LBL experiments





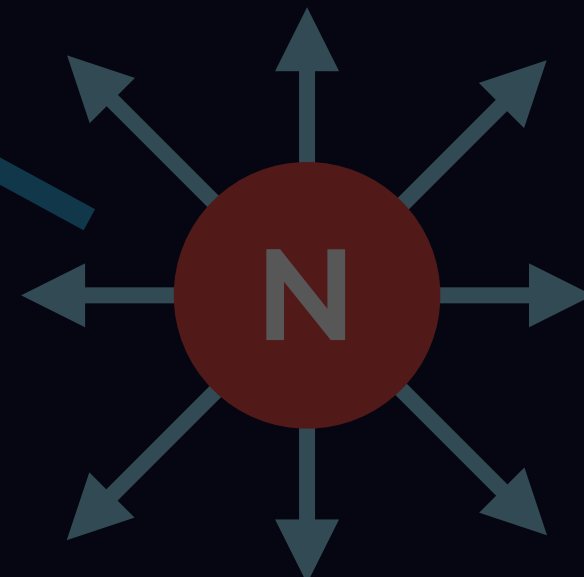
- Looking for eV-scale unstable sterile neutrino.
- Decay reduces the tension in 3+1 global fits.
- Both 3+1 and non-sterile model are disfavored w.r.t. to the 3+1 decay. But p-value of 3% is compatible with  $3\nu$  hypothesis.

[arxiv:2204.00612 accepted in PRL]

$\nu_\mu$



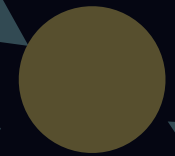
$\mu$



# Exotics

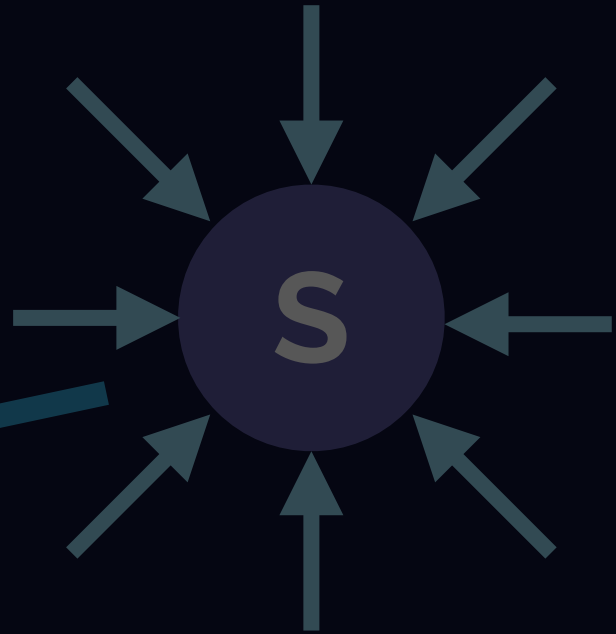
$\nu_s$

$\chi$



$\chi$

$\nu_e$



$Q$

$\nu_\mu$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 4\pi\rho_M$$

$$-\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} + \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j}_m$$

- Dirac monopoles can explain quantification of charge

$$g = \frac{2\pi\hbar}{\mu_0 e} n$$

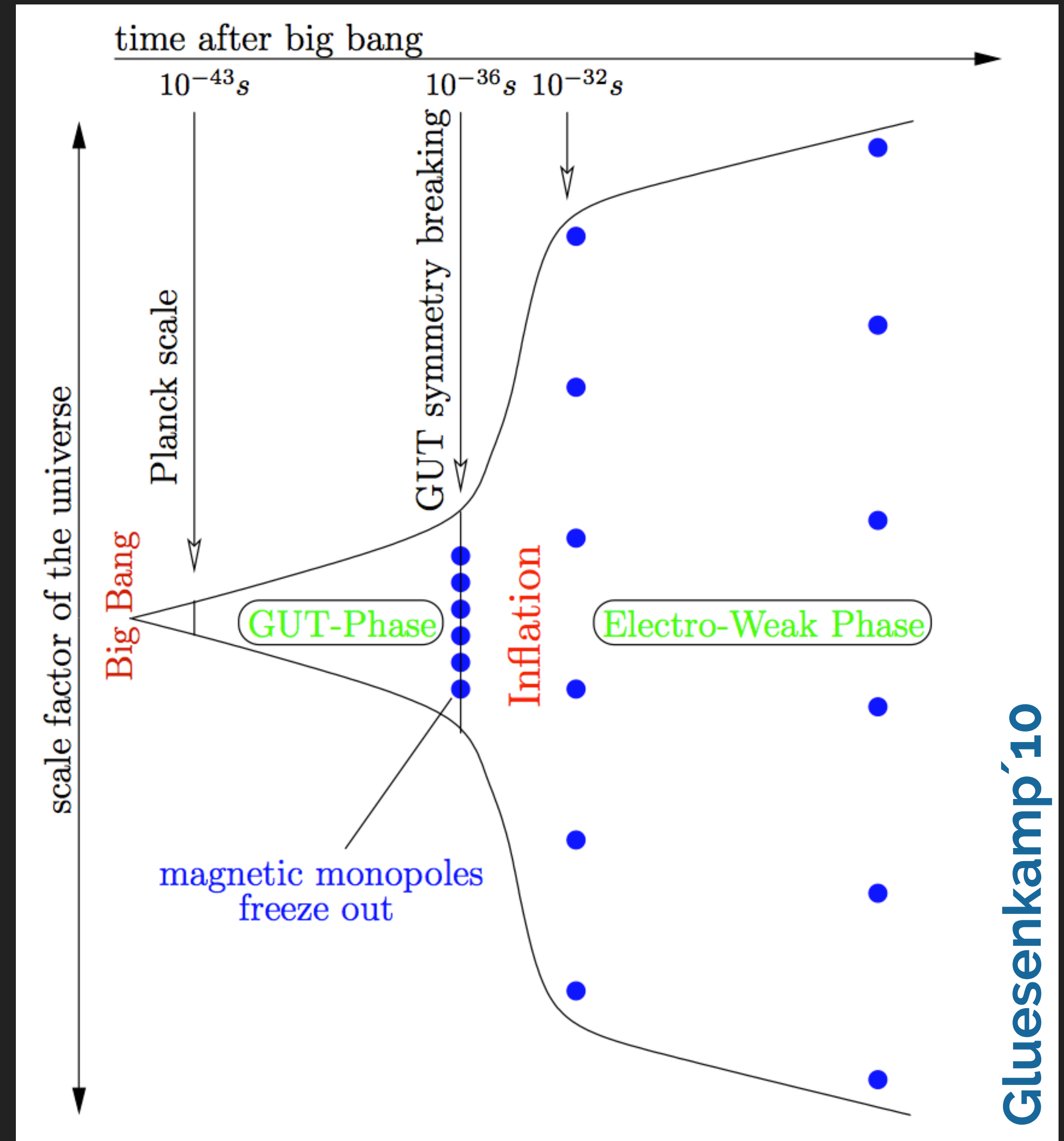
- GUT monopoles give a mass range:

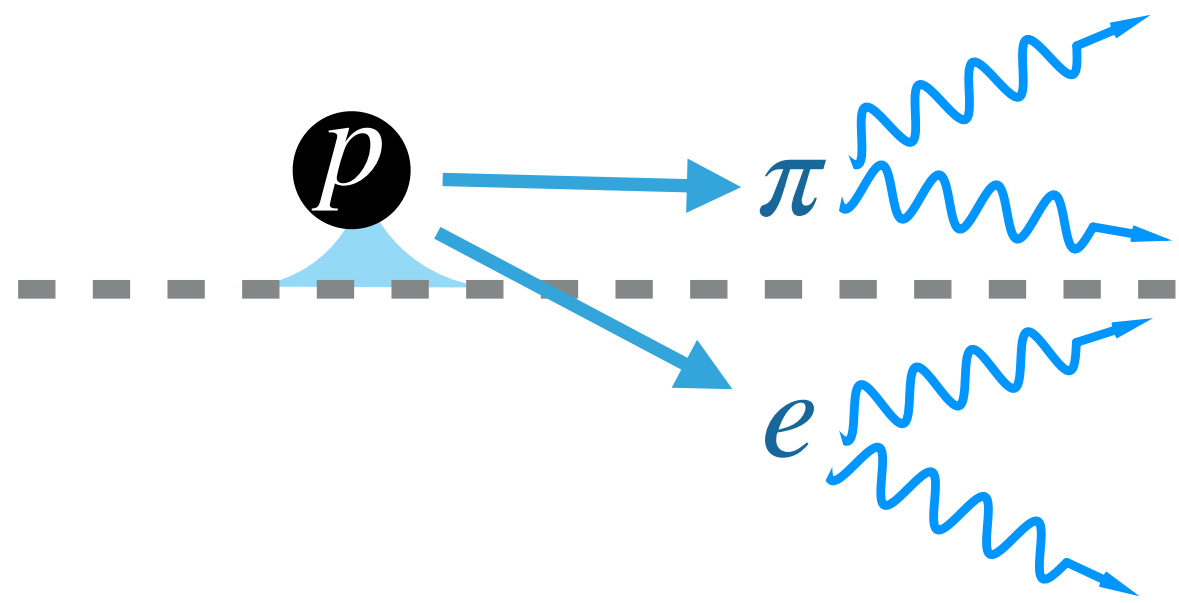
$$10^{13} \text{ GeV} < M_{MM} < 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$$

- GUT monopoles created before inflation and they are stable

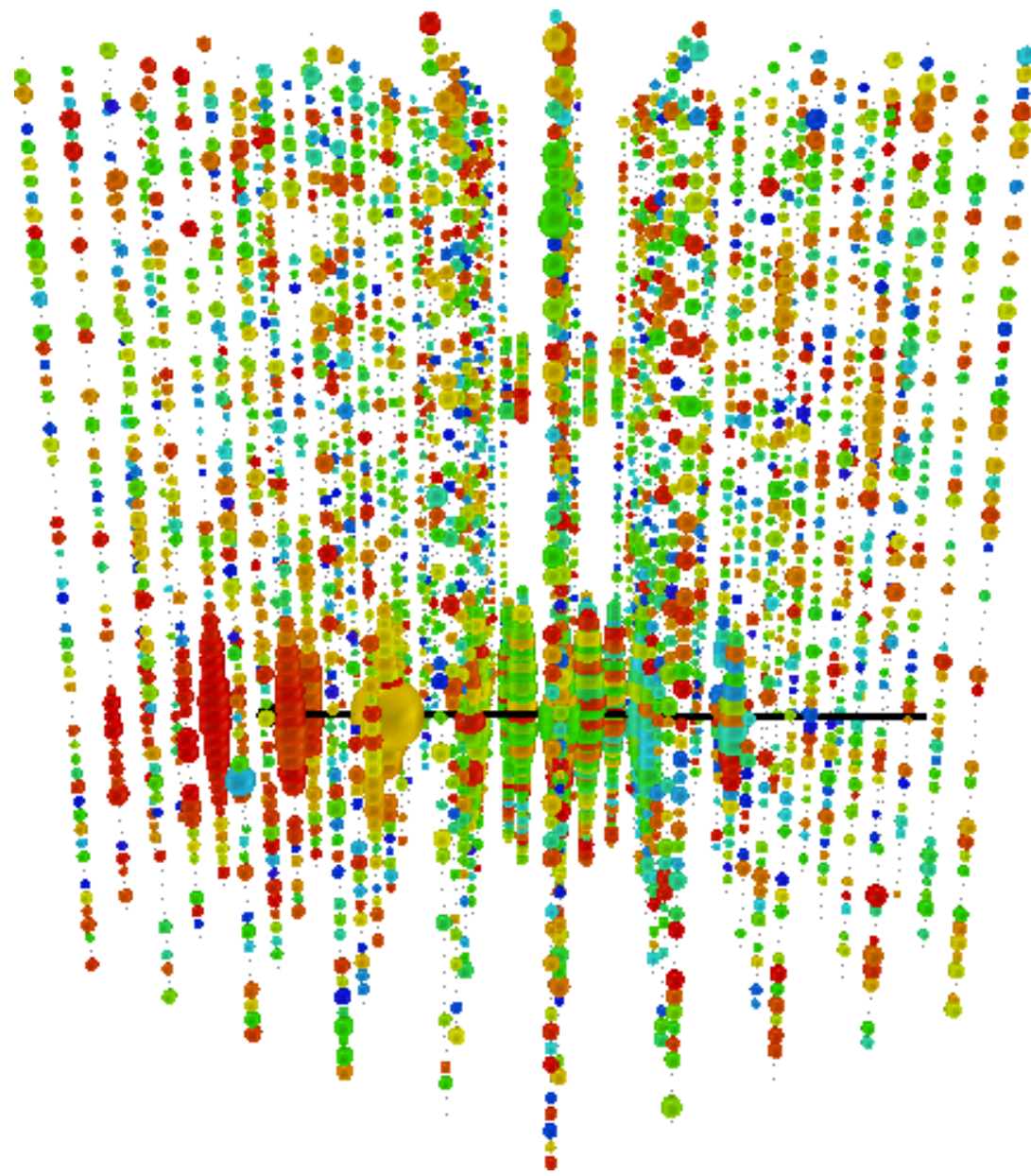
- They are easily accelerated

$$E_{kin} < 10^{15} \text{ GeV} (M_{MM} < 10^{14} \text{ GeV})$$

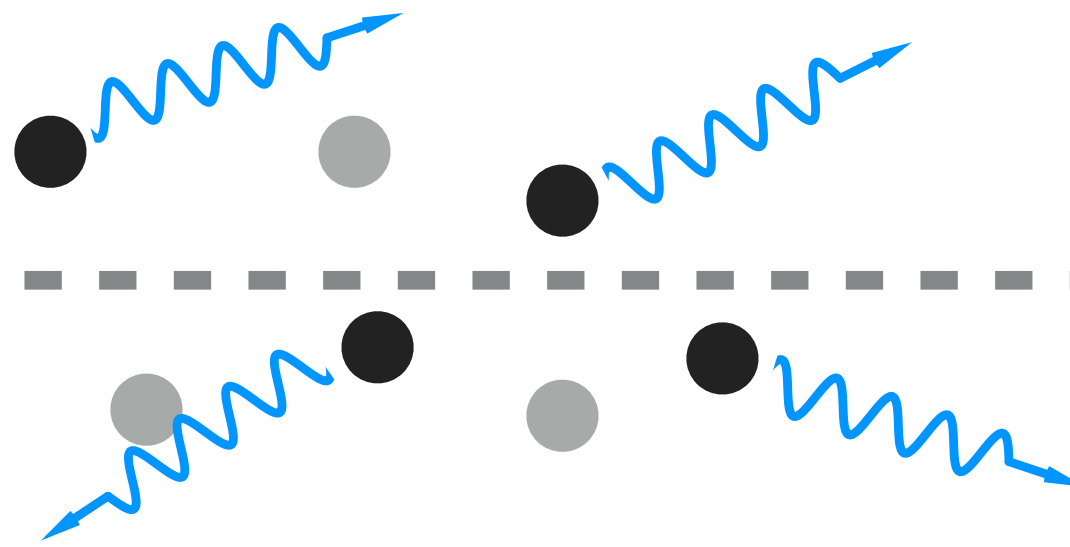




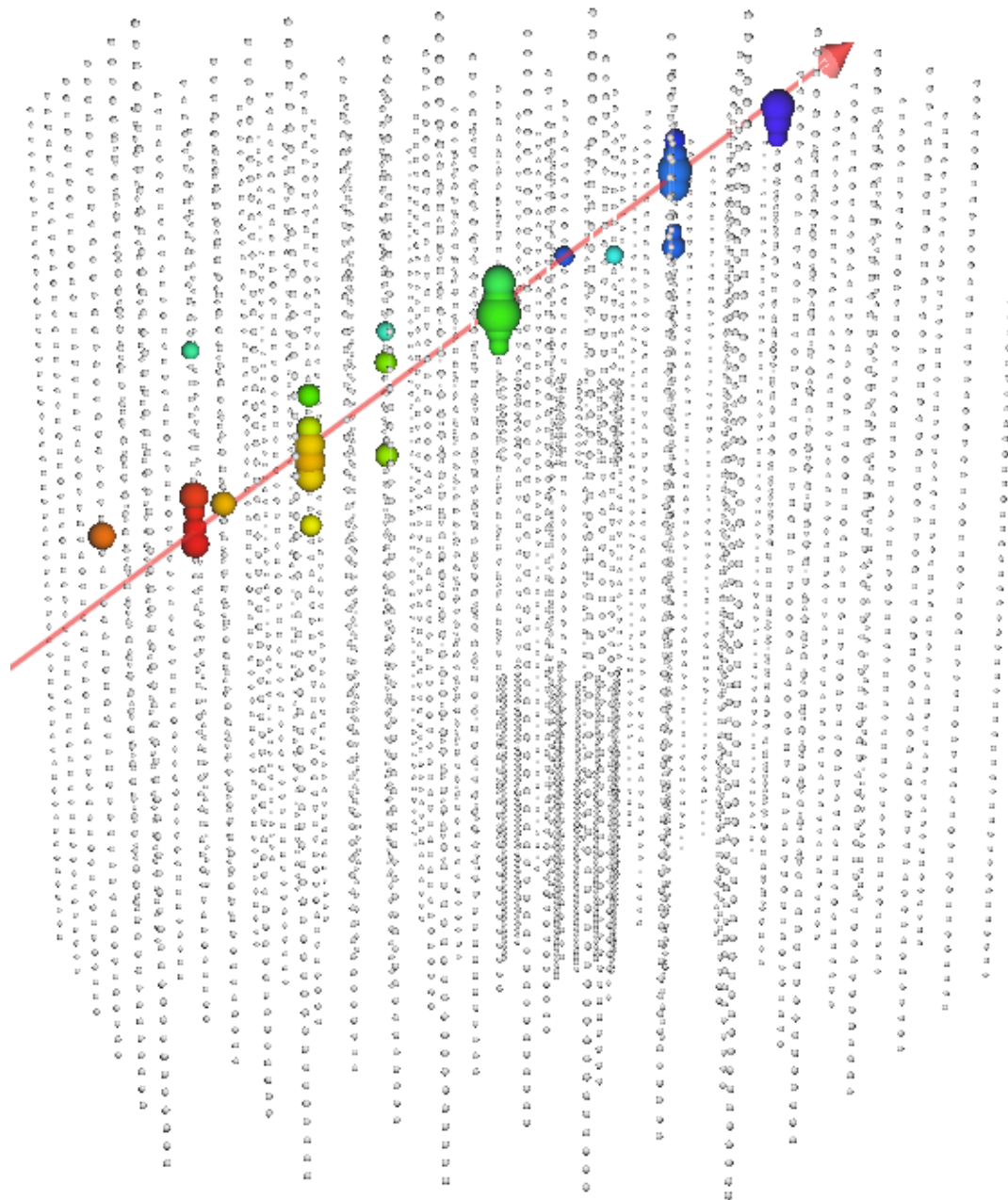
Catalysis of proton decay



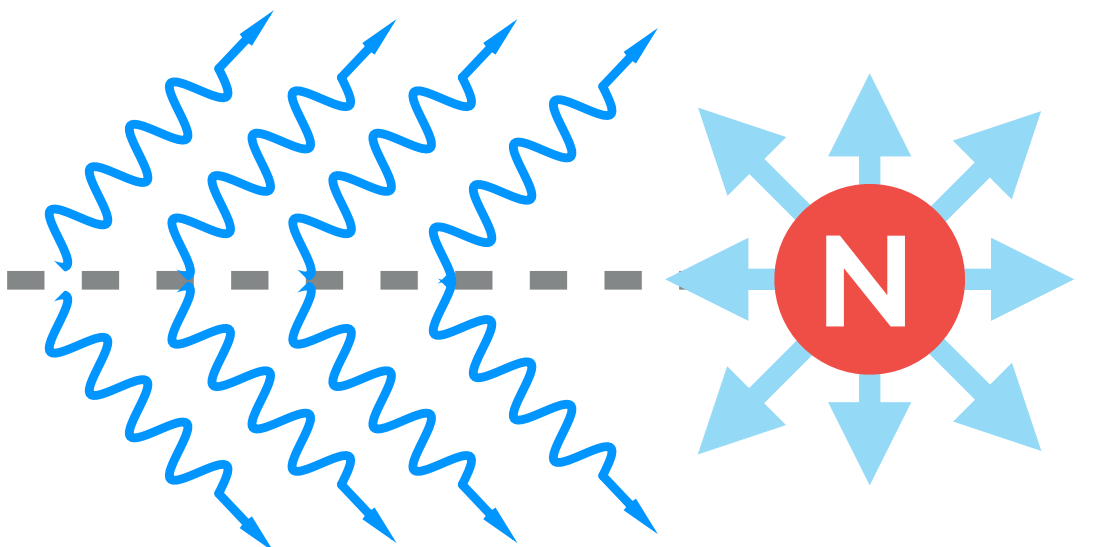
SLOW  $\beta < 0.1$



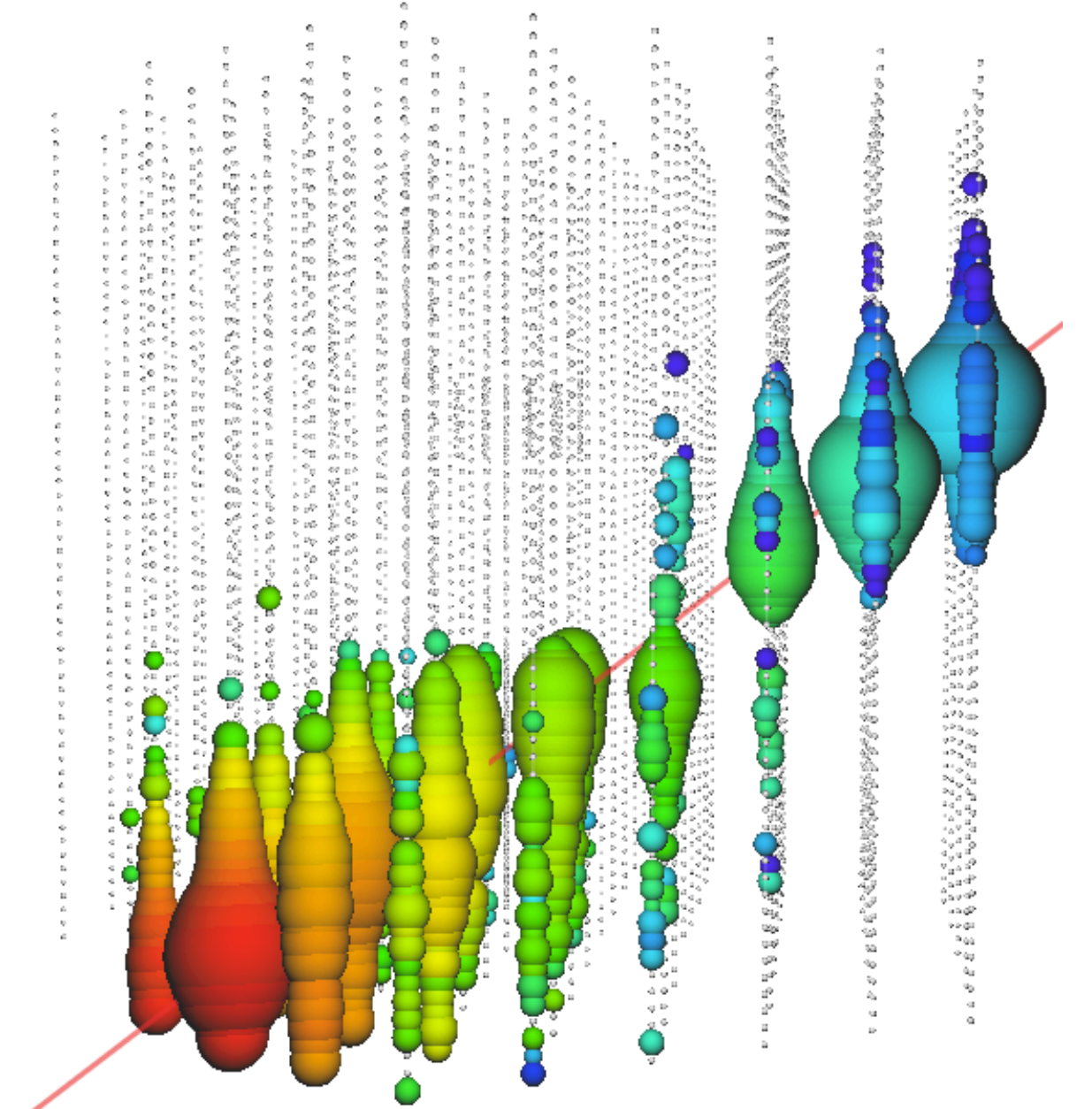
Luminescence



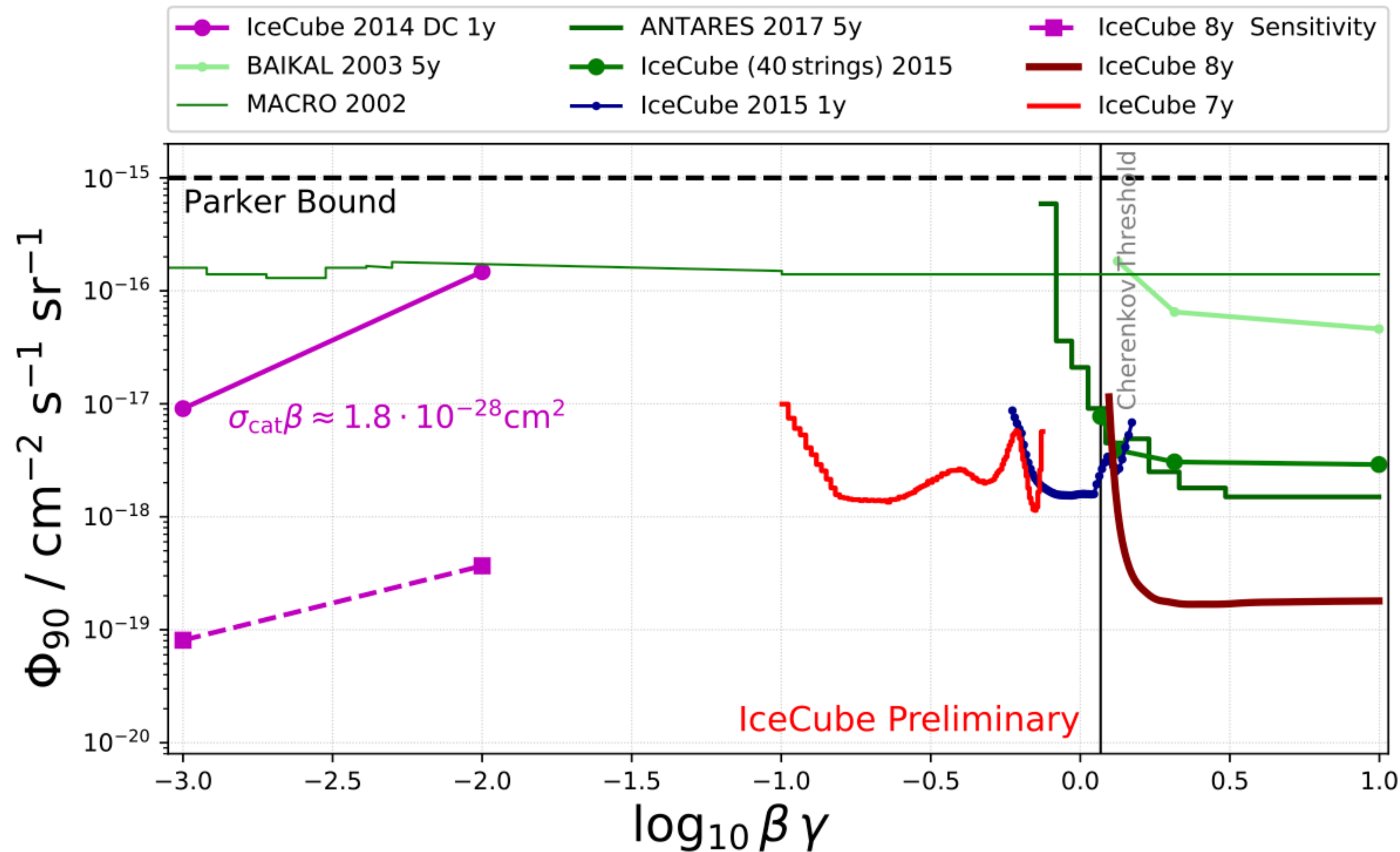
FAST  $0.1 < \beta < 0.5$



Direct/indirect Cherenkov



RELATIVISTIC  $\beta > 0.5$

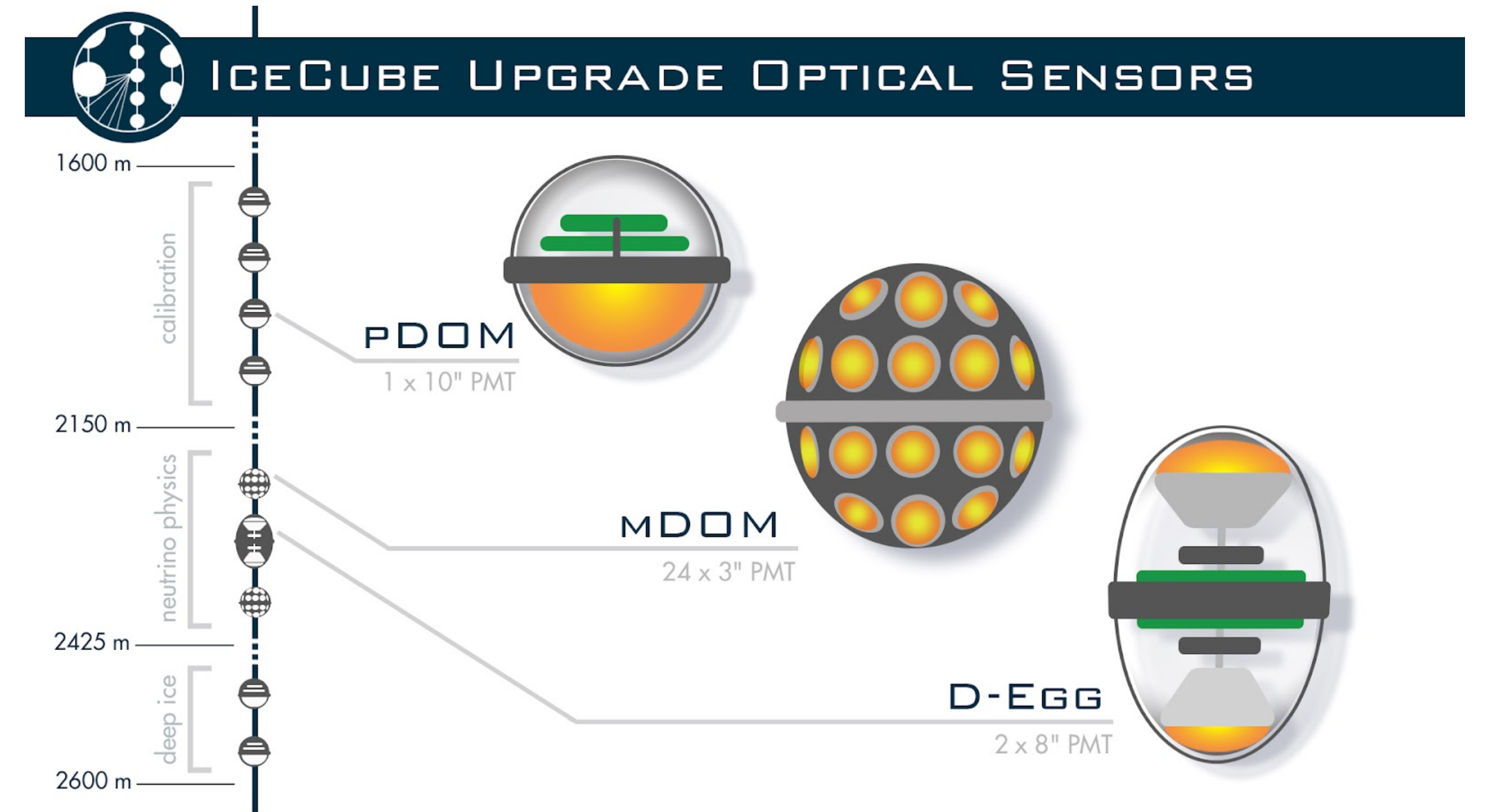
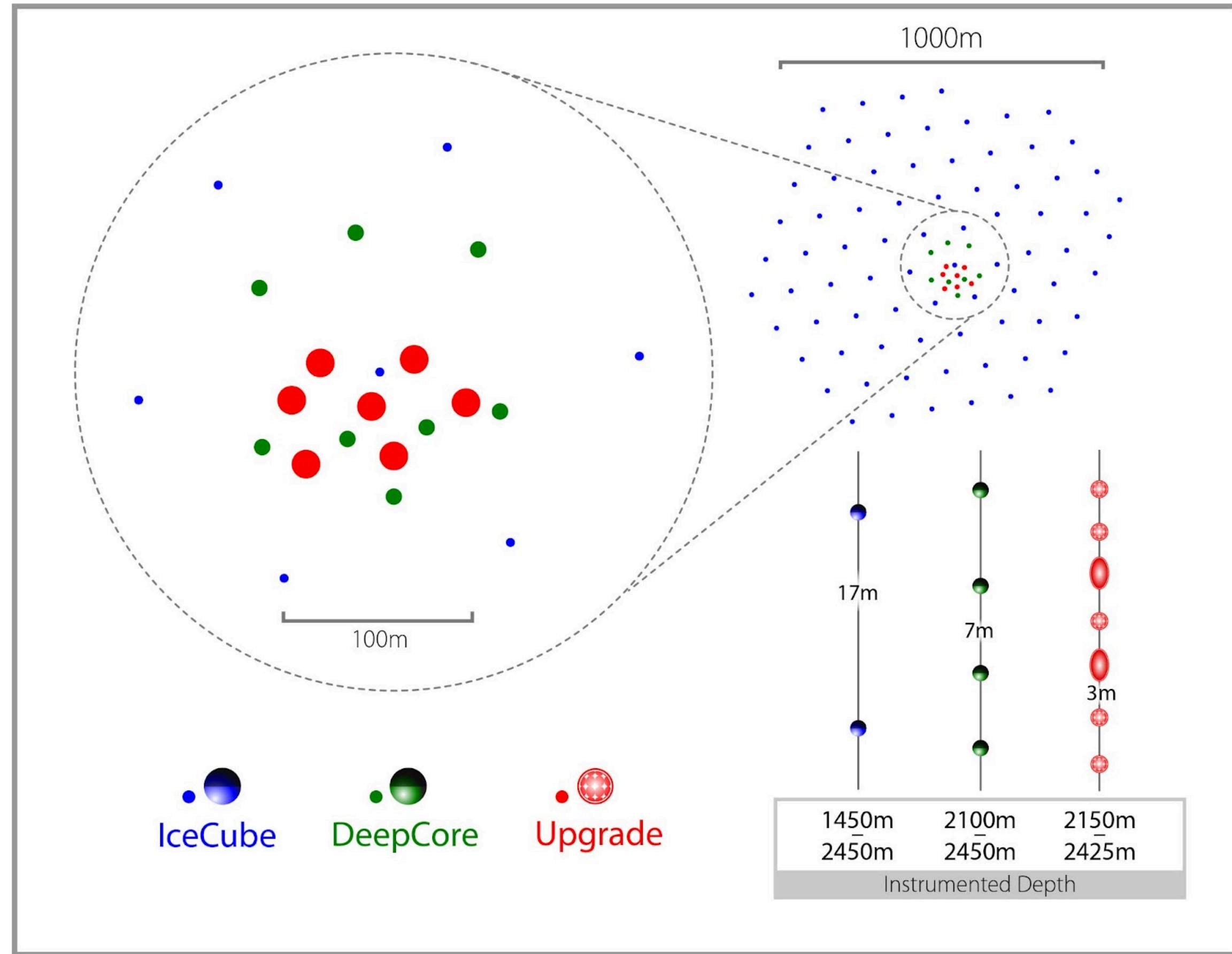


[Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 051101 (2022)]

Catalysis

Luminescence

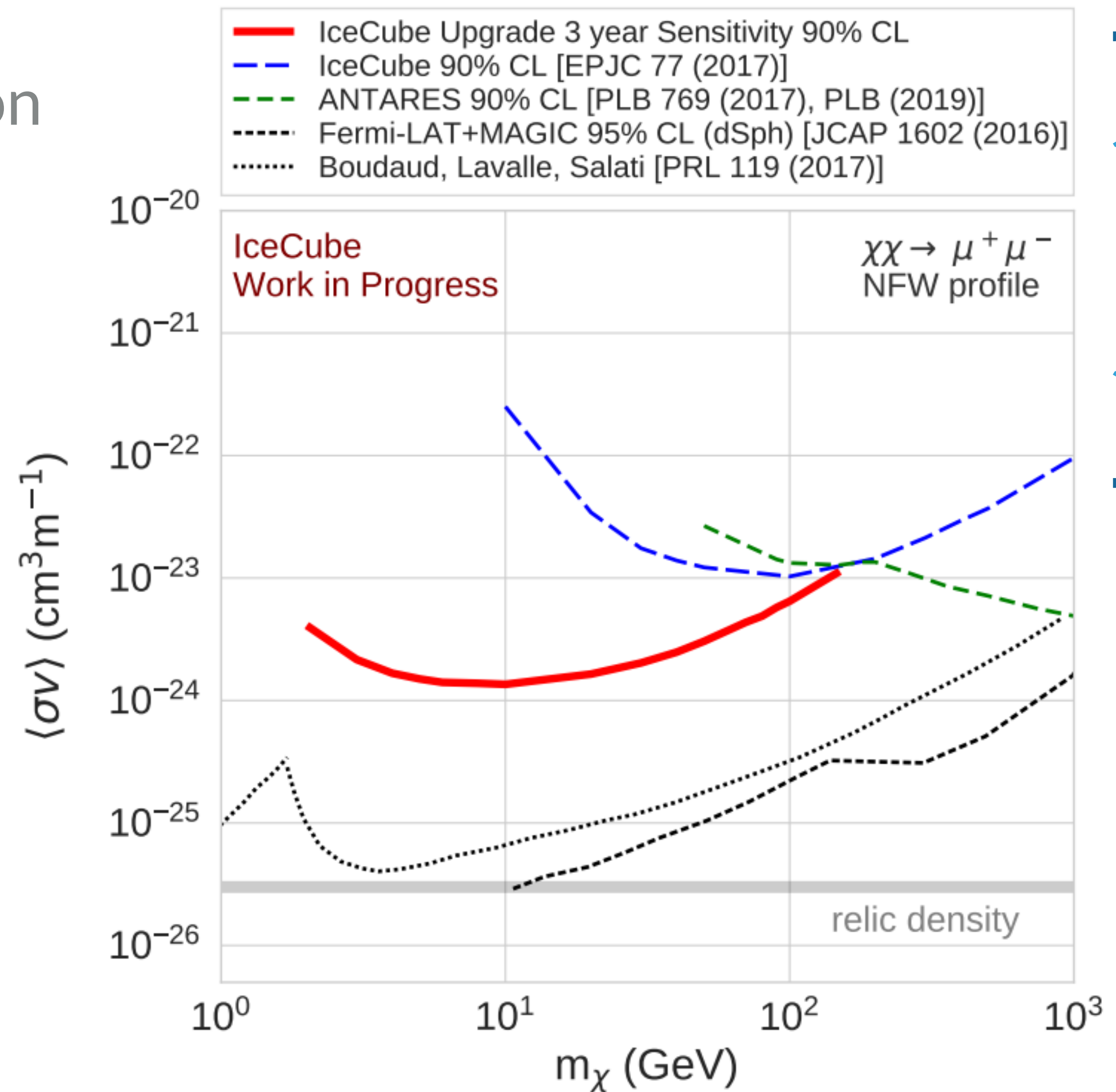
Cherenkov light



- Seven new in-filled strings
- Better efficiency and reconstruction at low energies
- Delayed due to Covid-19: deployment in 2025/26 season.



- Better efficiency and reconstruction at low energies
- Detailed calibration of ice properties.
- Unprecedented sensitivity to atmospheric **neutrino mixing parameters and neutrino mass ordering**
- Expanding beyond the WIMP paradigm (**GeV dark matter**)

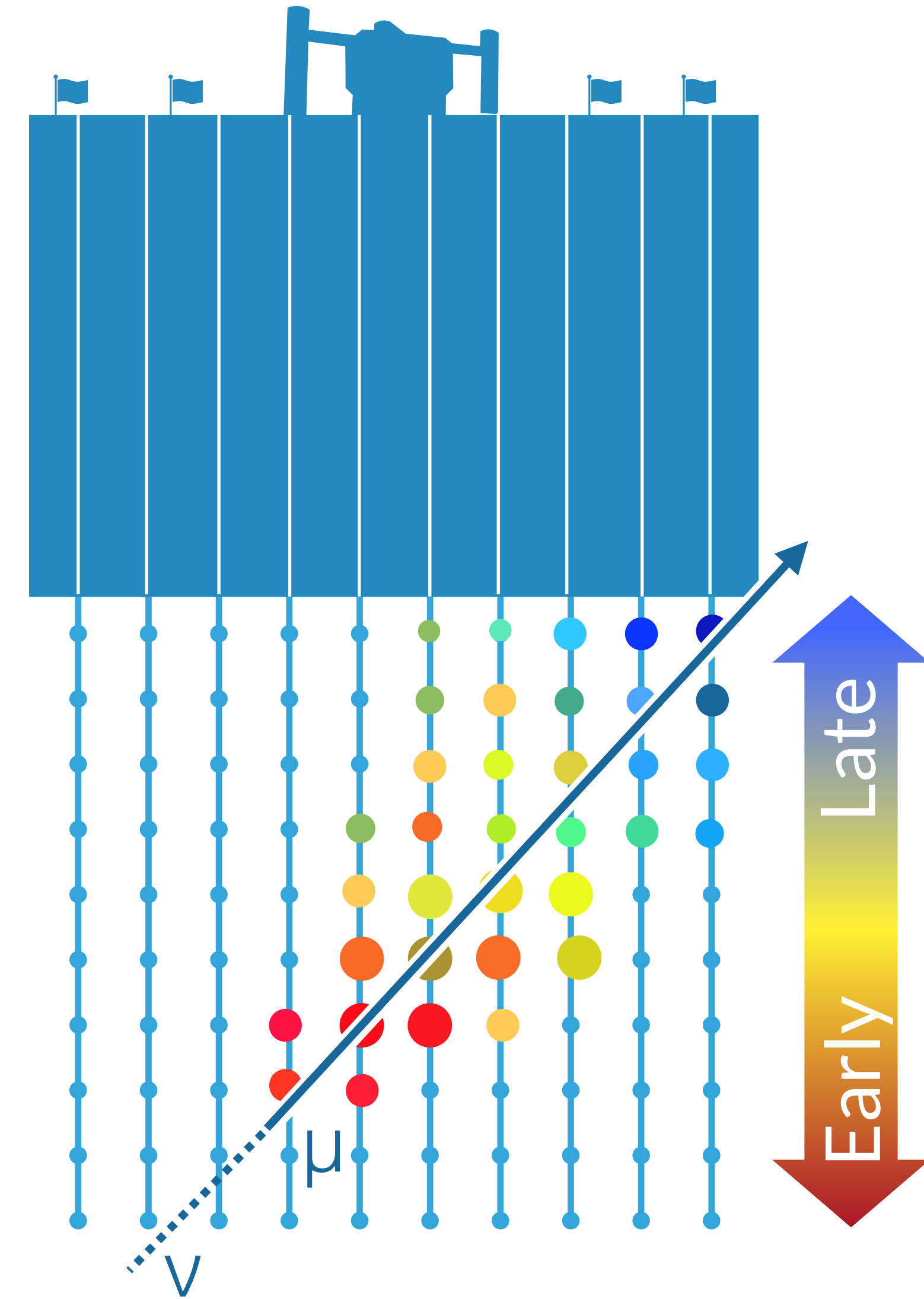
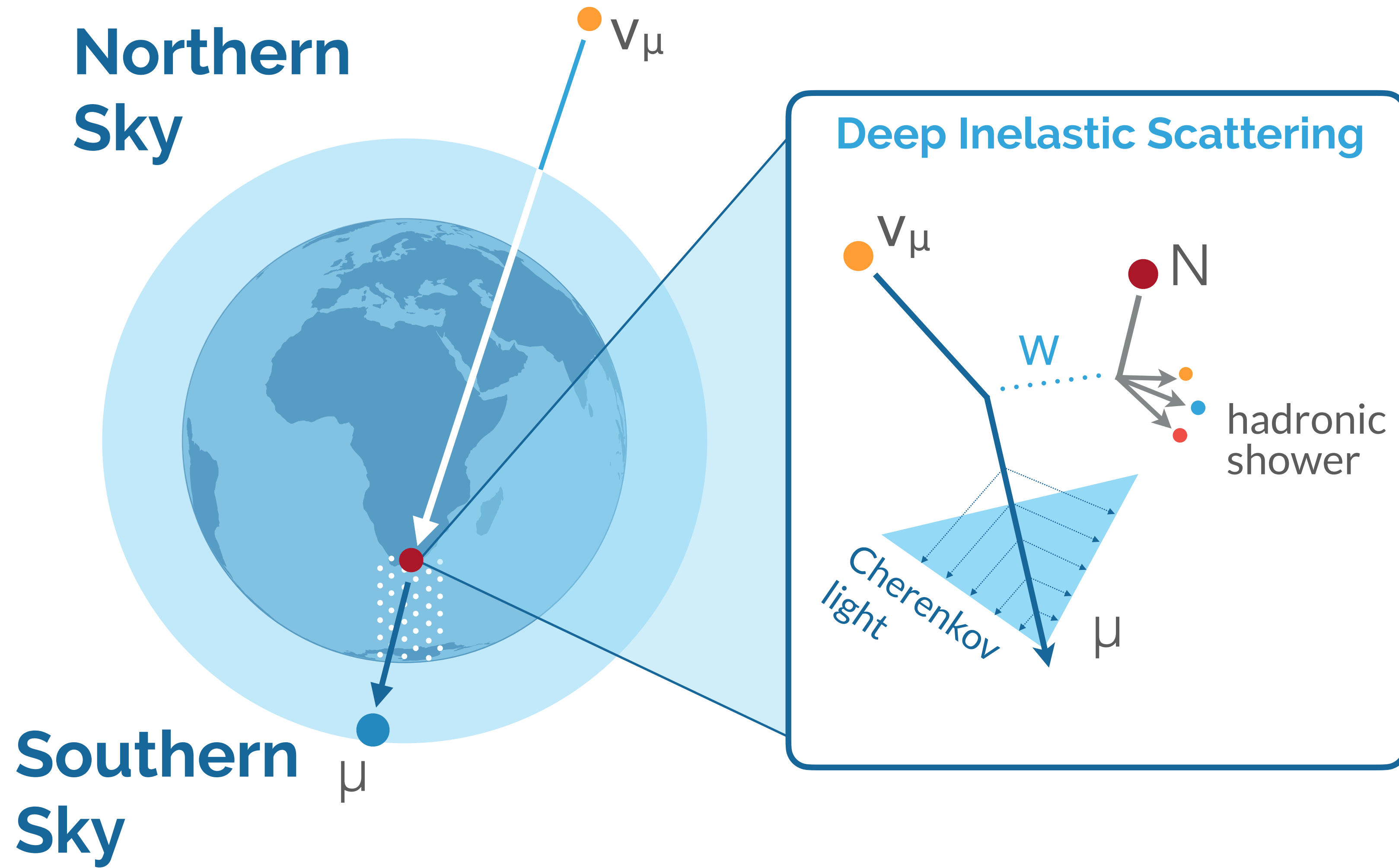


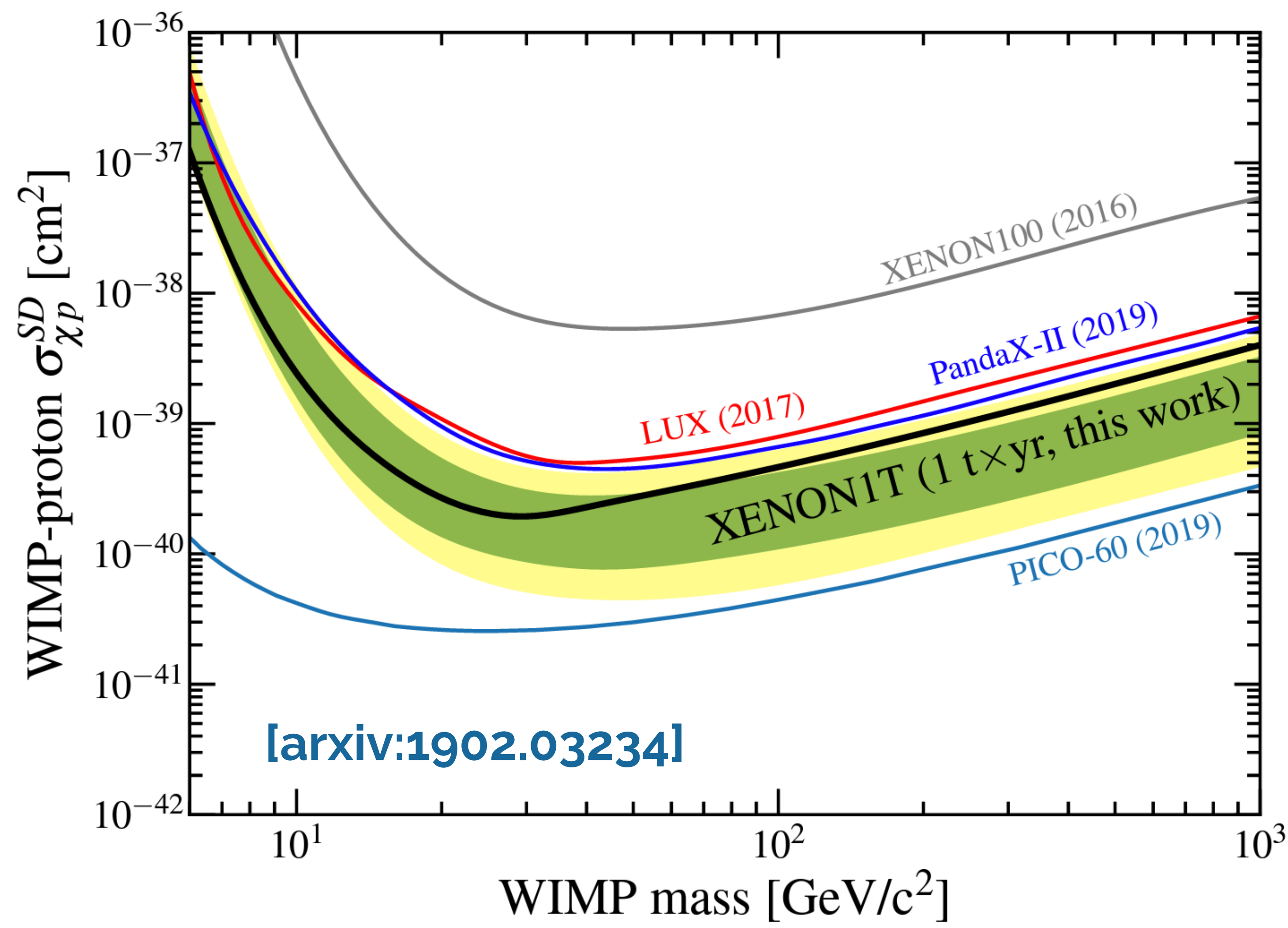
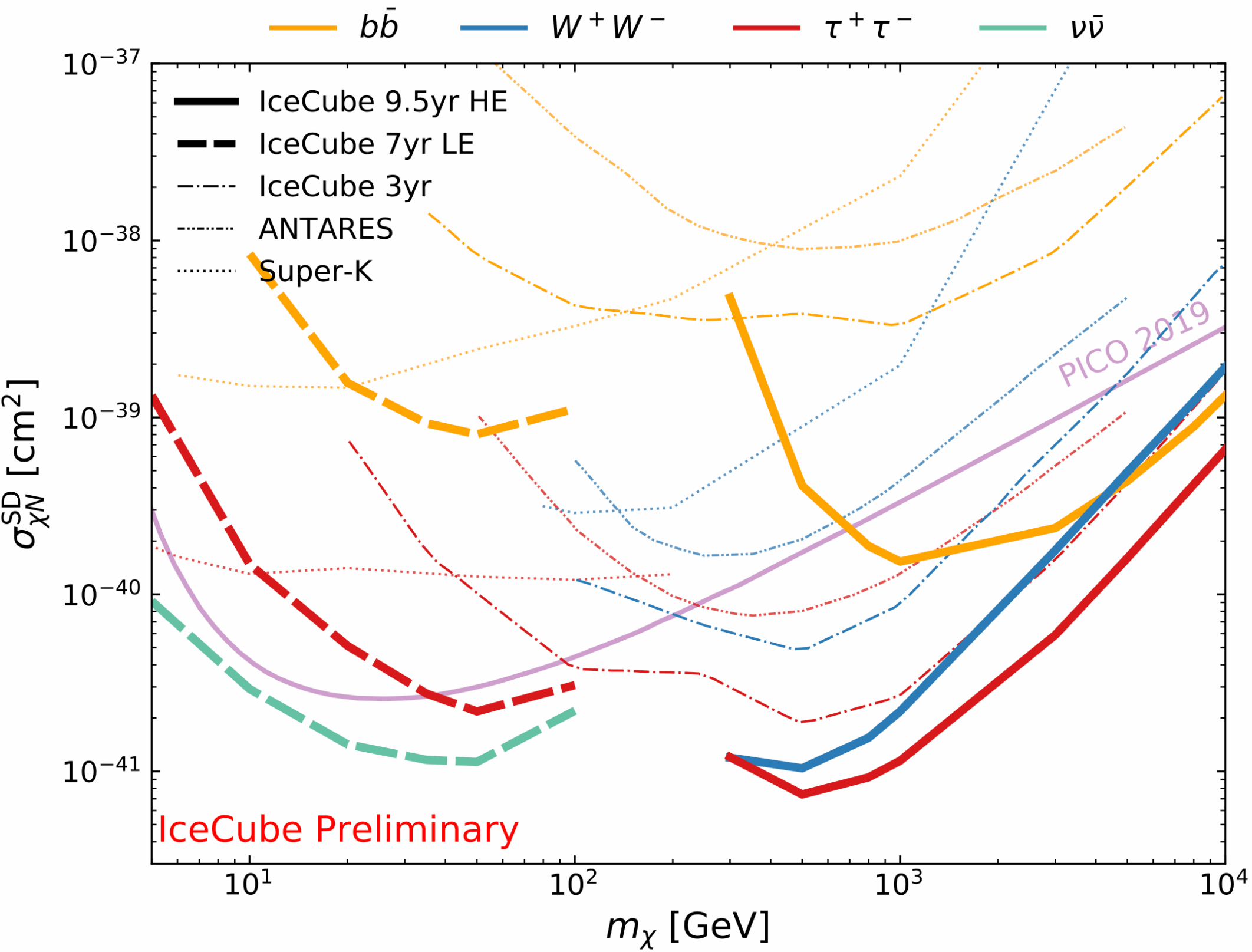
[Pos (ICRC2019) 506]

- The IceCube Neutrino Observatory is a **multipurpose experiment** with a rich program on **BSM and Dark Matter searches**:
- Indirect detection of Dark Matter with neutrino telescopes provides complementarity to other techniques due to different backgrounds and systematics.
- Atmospheric neutrinos fluxes can help to search for new physics in the oscillation patterns.
- Neutrino telescopes can also provide a unique way to search for monopoles and exotic particles such as Q-balls.

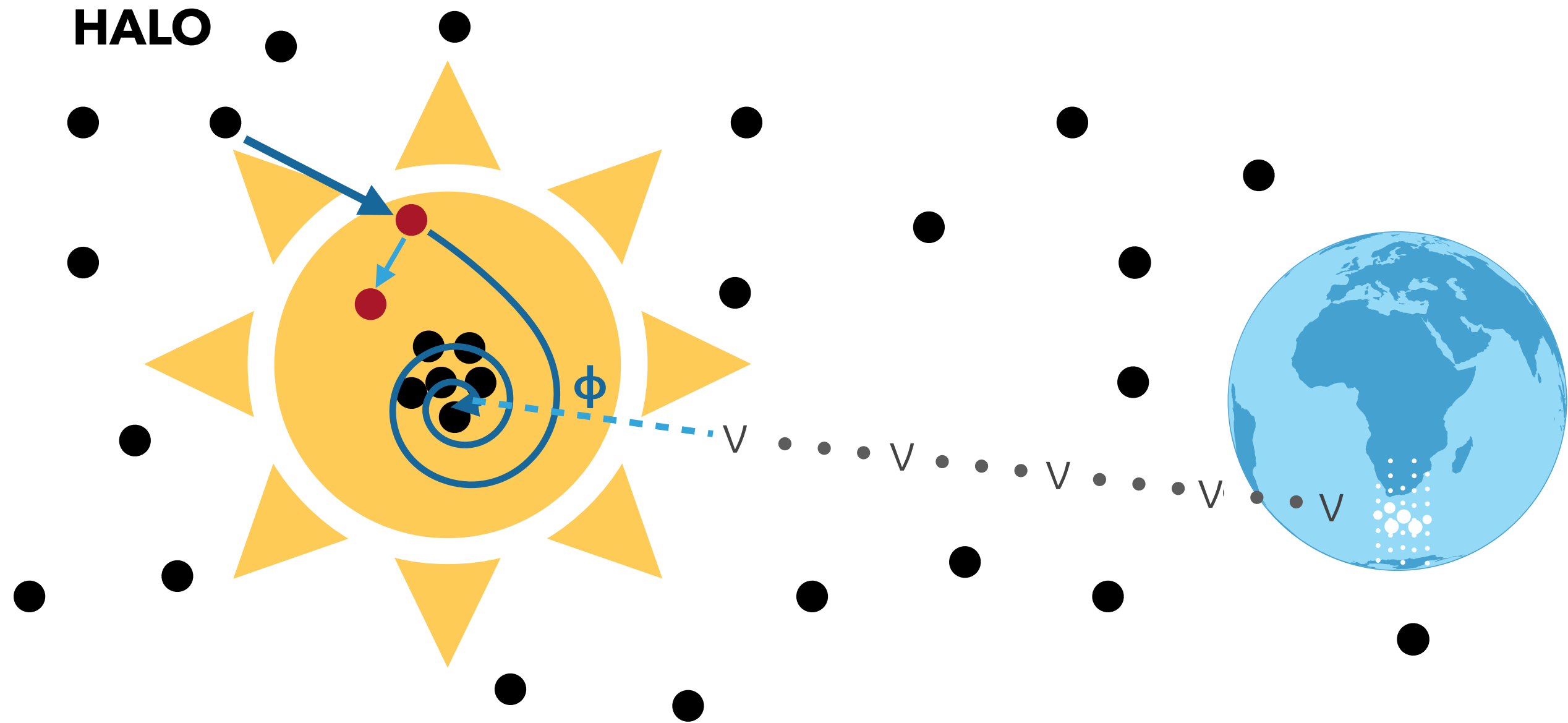
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**backups**

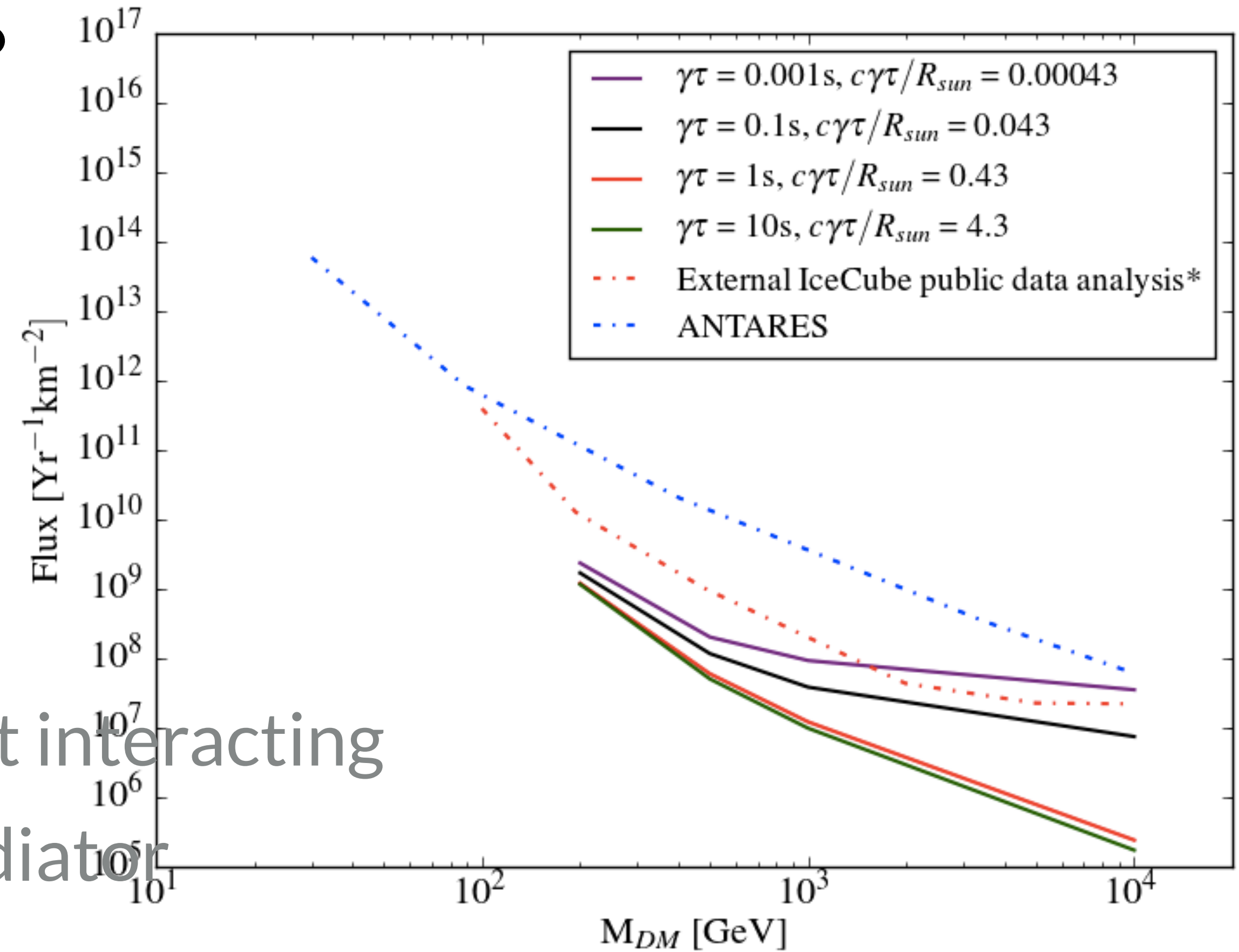


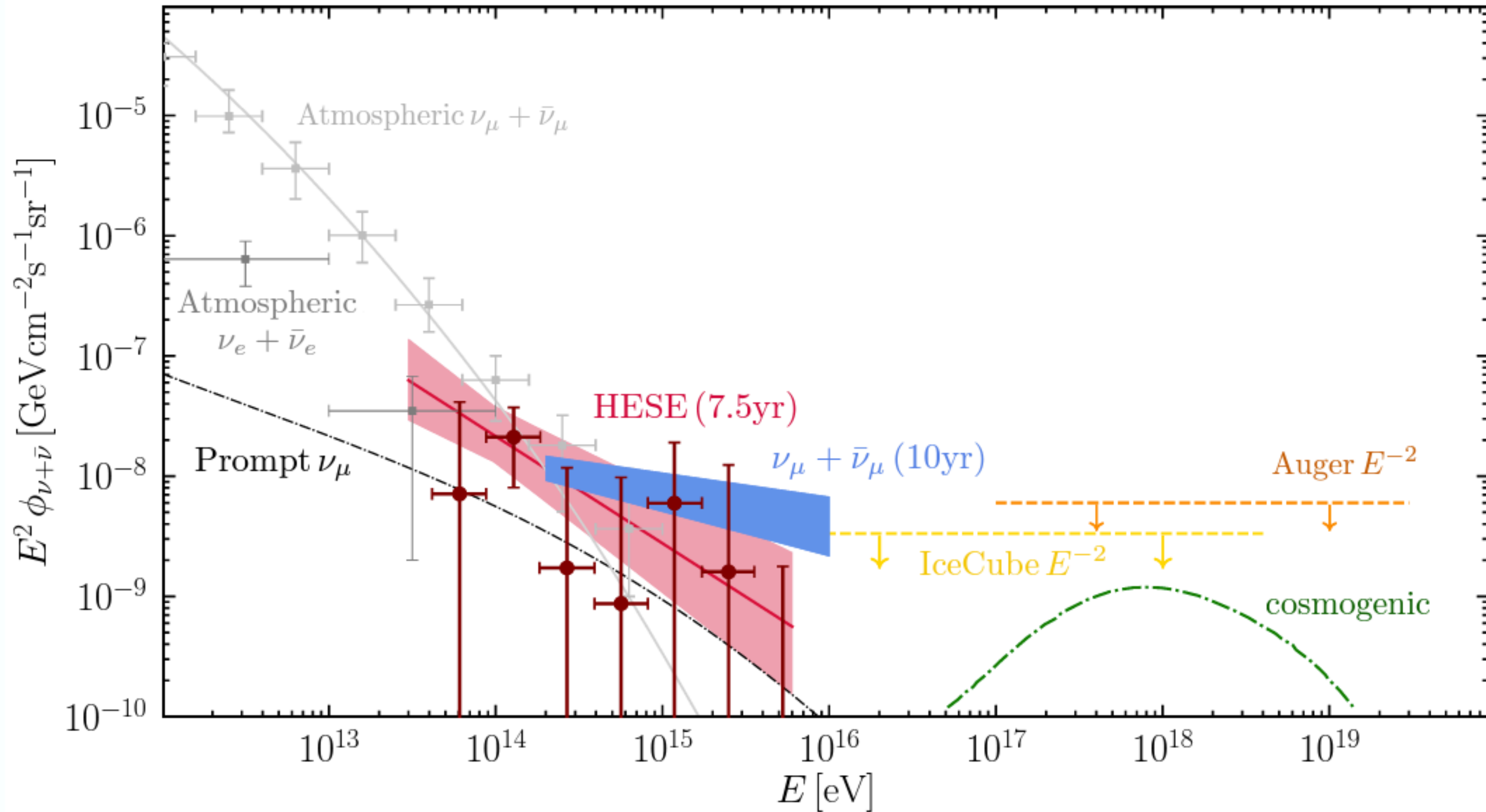


## Strongest limits on the spin-dependent cross section



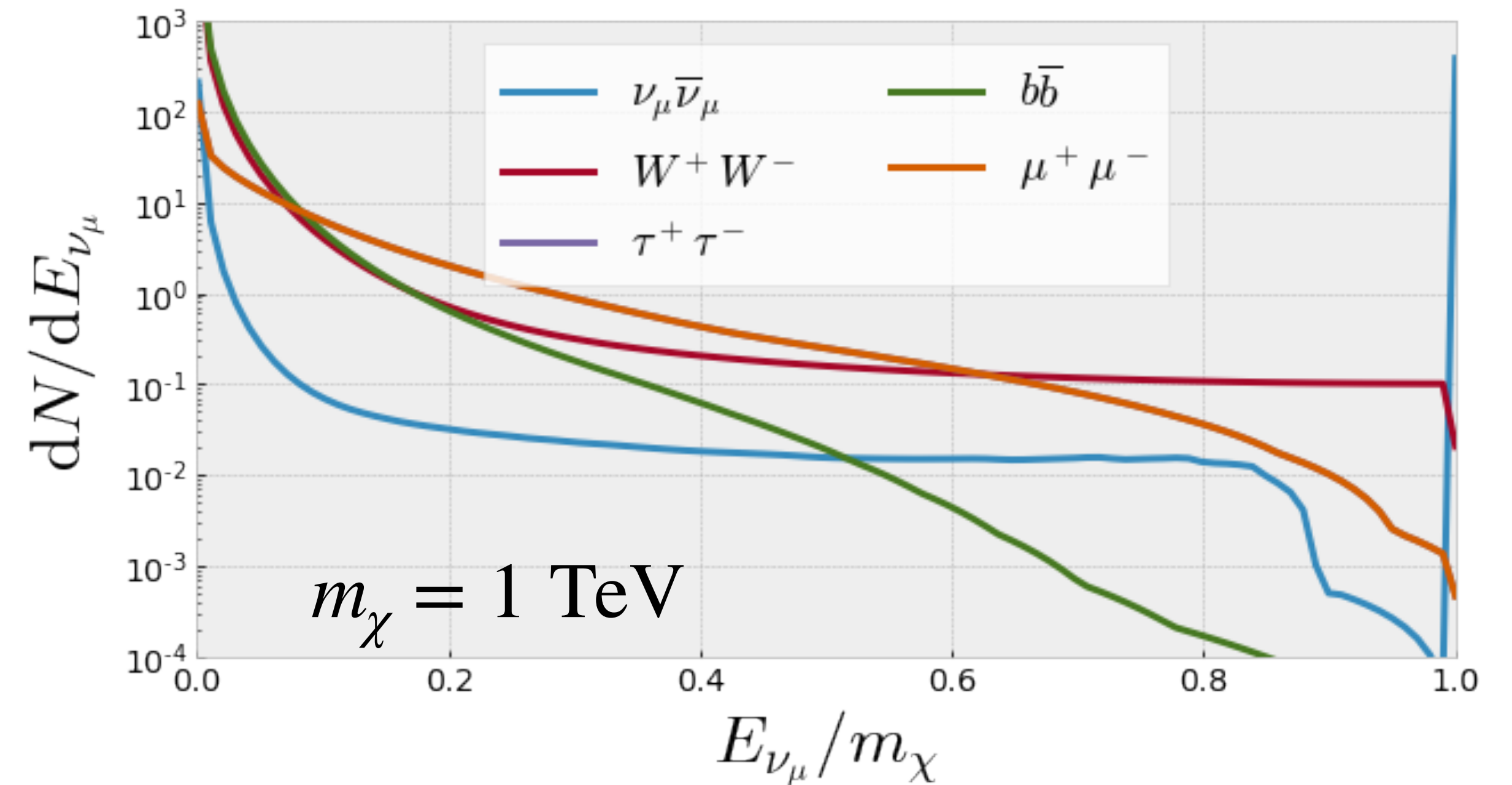
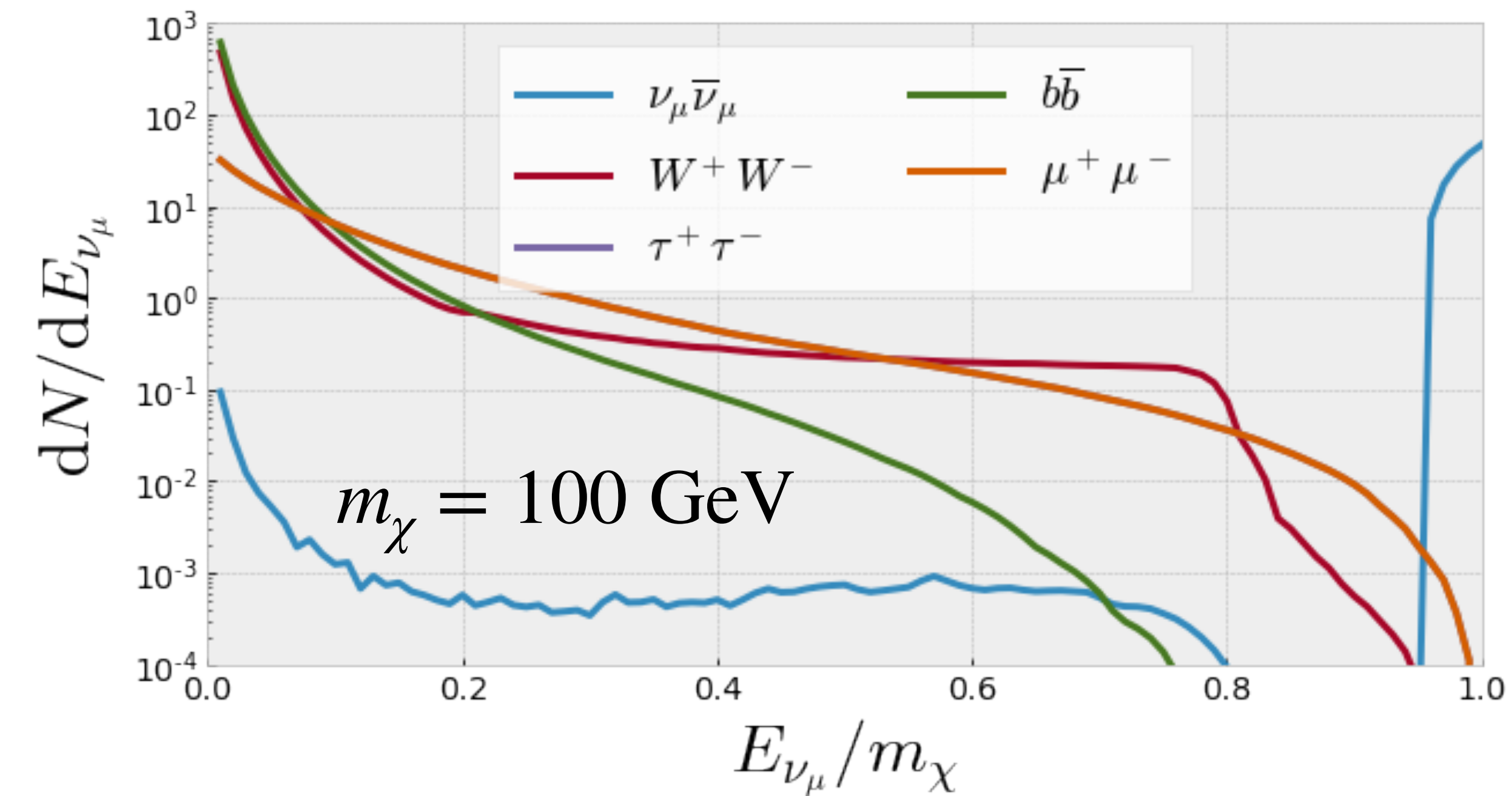
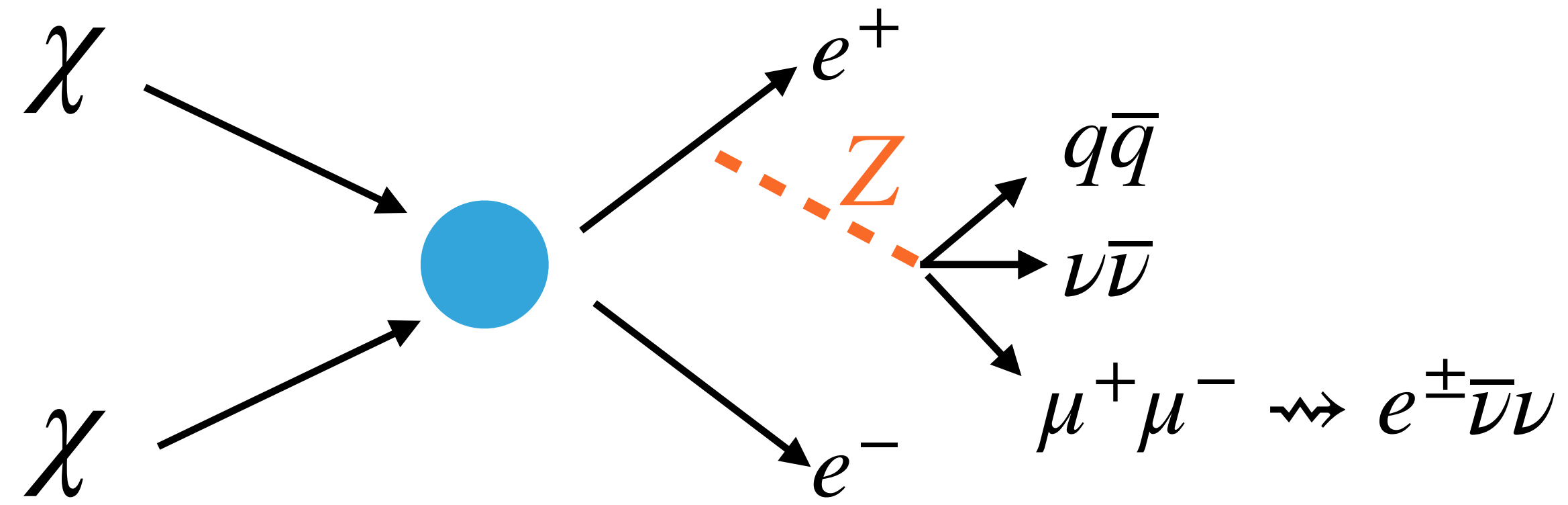
- Dark matter annihilates in 2 mediators
- The mediator can escape the Sun without interacting
- Signal depends on the lifetime of the mediator





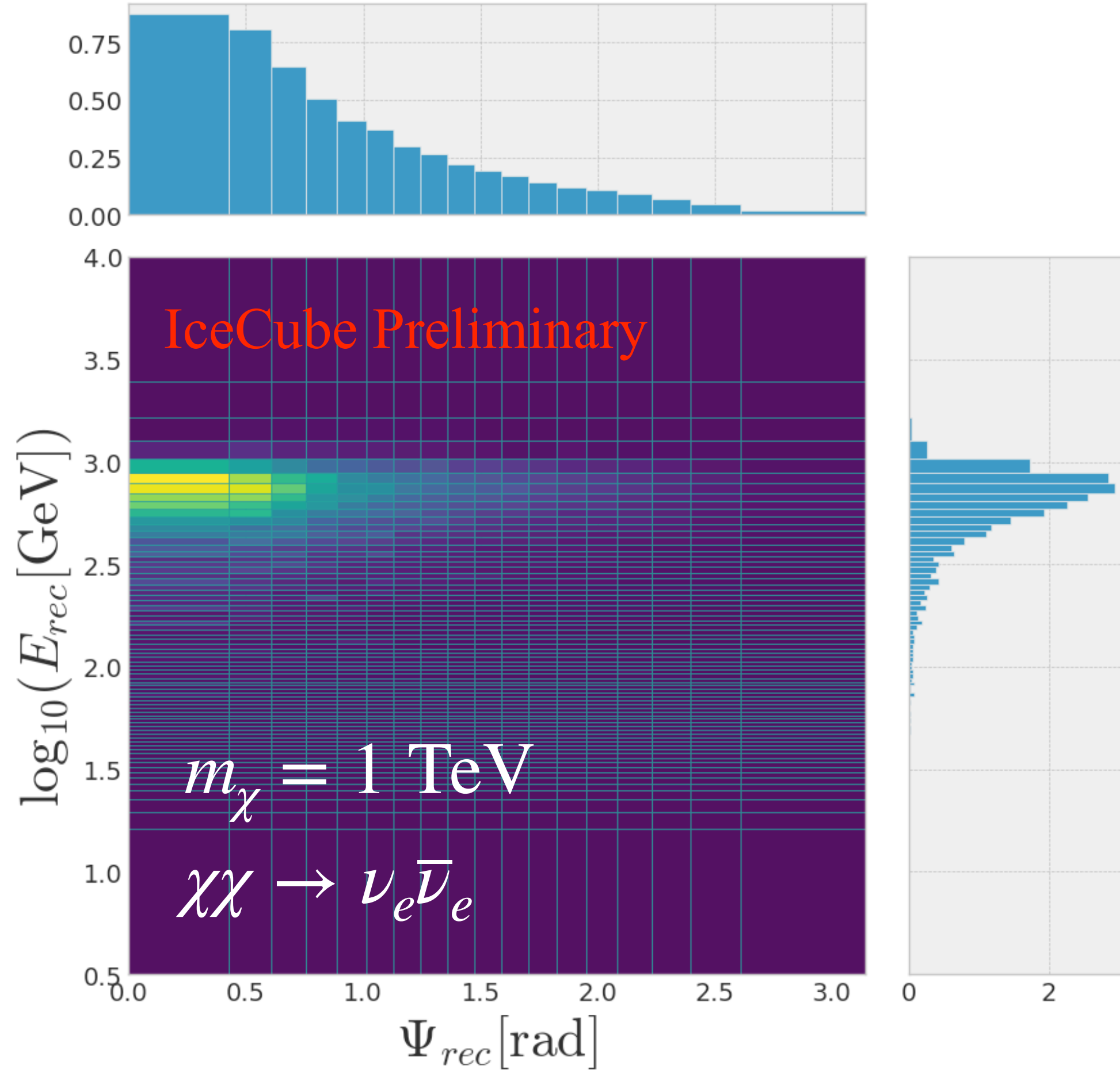
- Neutrino Spectra from primary (neutrino lines) and secondary production ( $W^+W^-$ ,  $\tau^+\tau^-$ , ...)

\*<https://arxiv.org/abs/1012.4515>

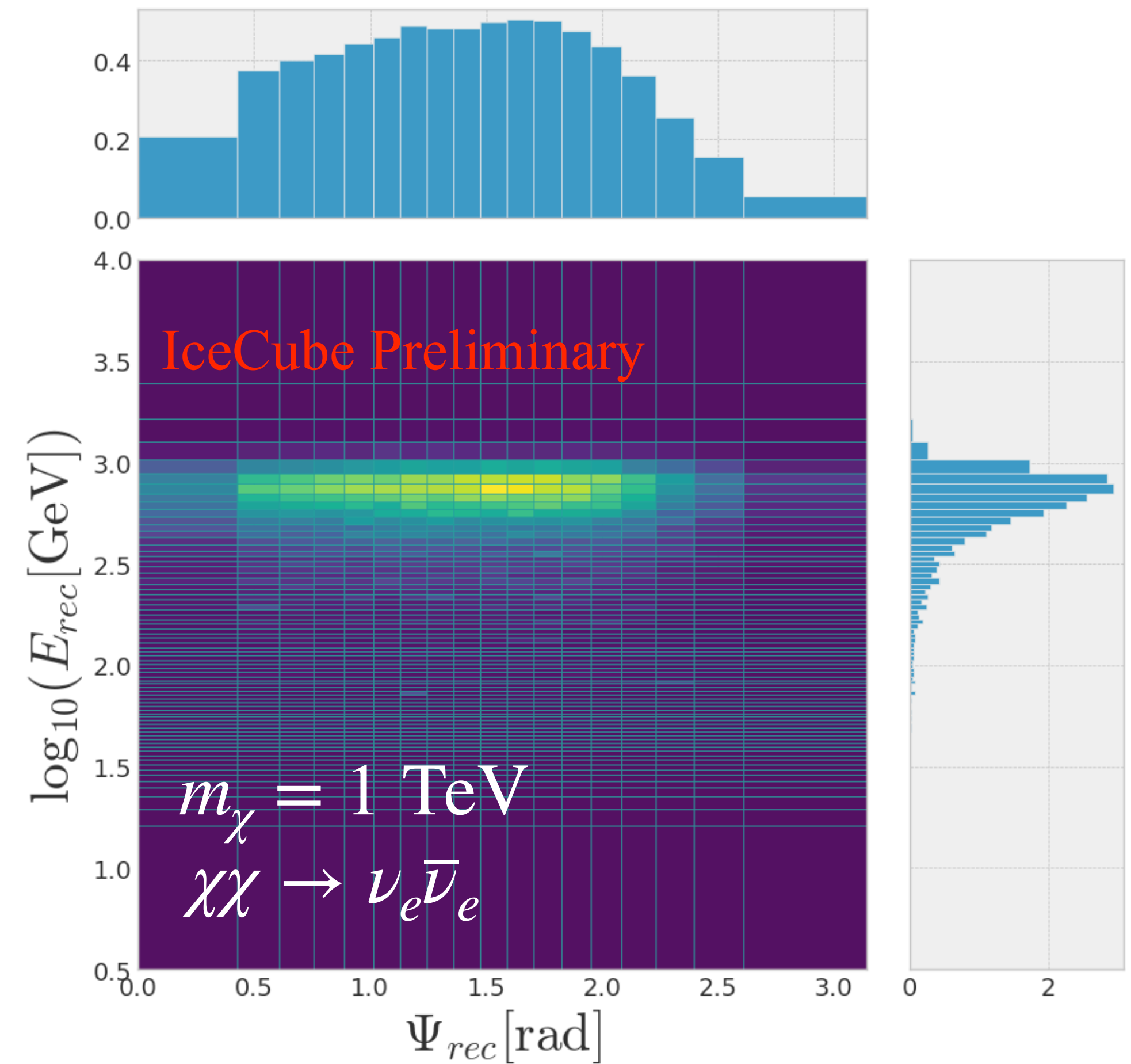




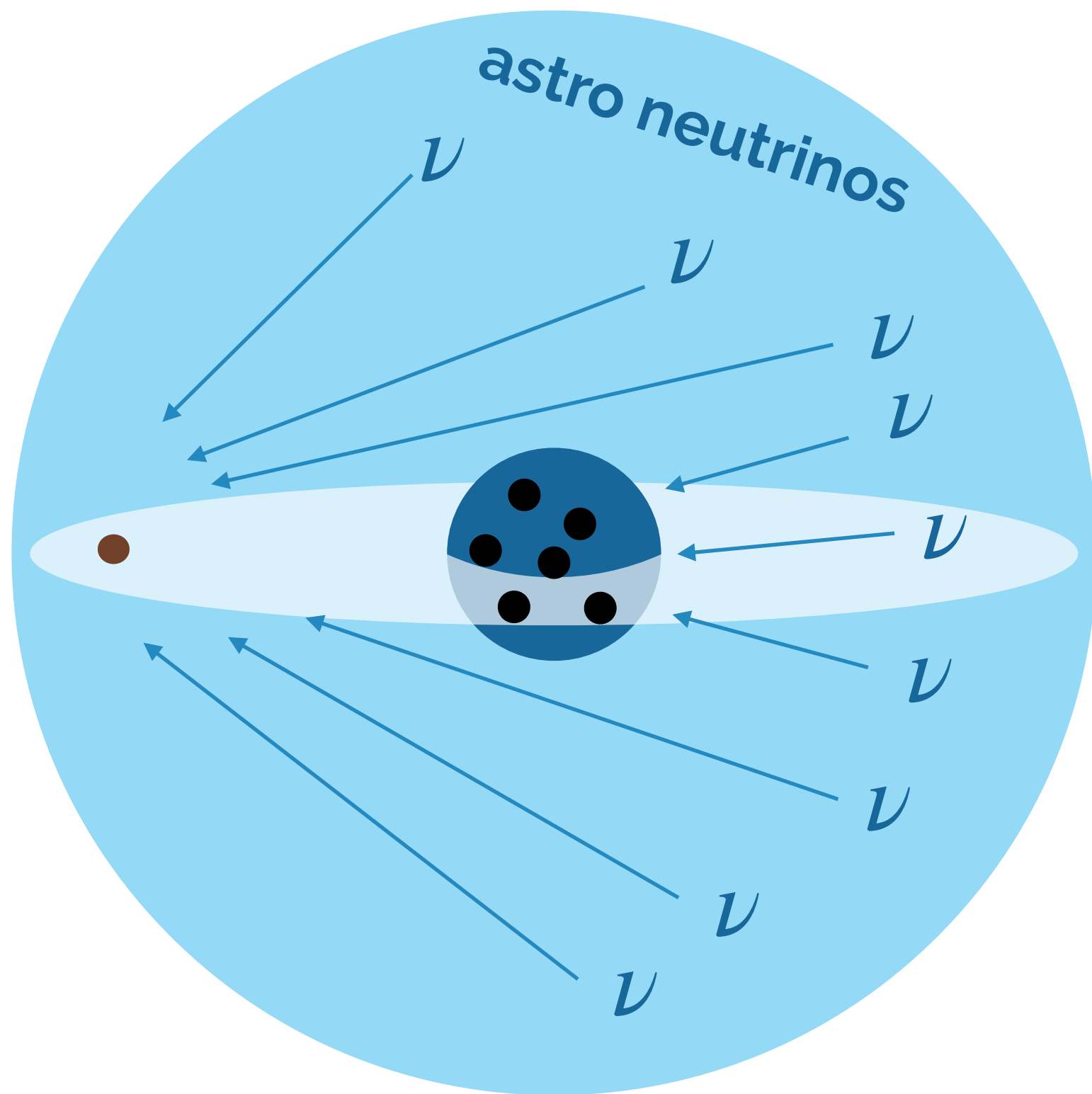
## Signal (HE sample)



## Scrambled Signal (HE sample)



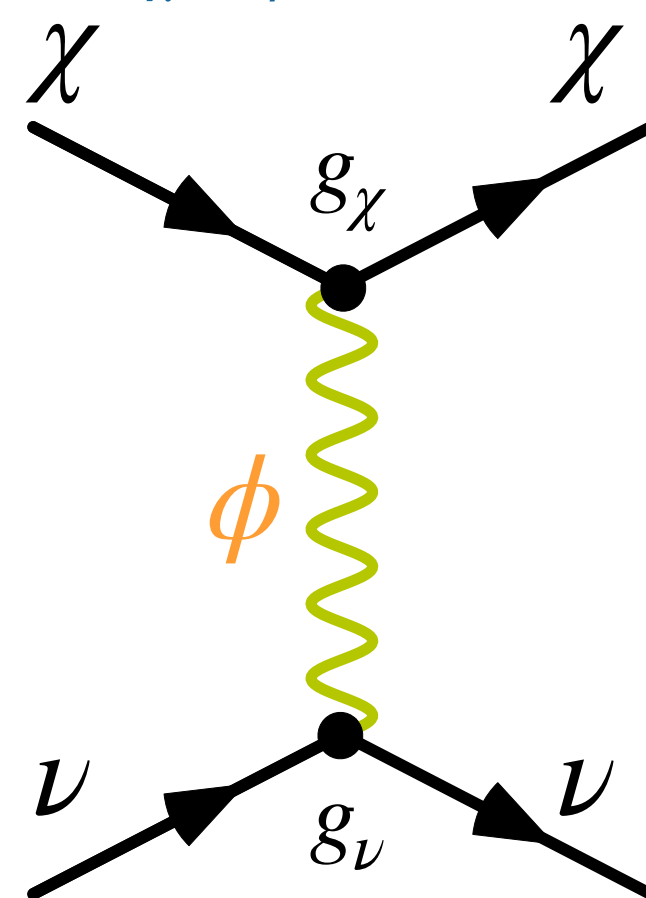
- Binning follows the same binning as the background PDF.



- Astrophysical neutrinos assumed to be extra-Galactic:
  - **Isotropic distribution of arrival directions.**
- Scattering of high energy cosmic neutrinos on DM:
  - **Deficit in the direction of Galactic Center**
- Two simplified models tested:

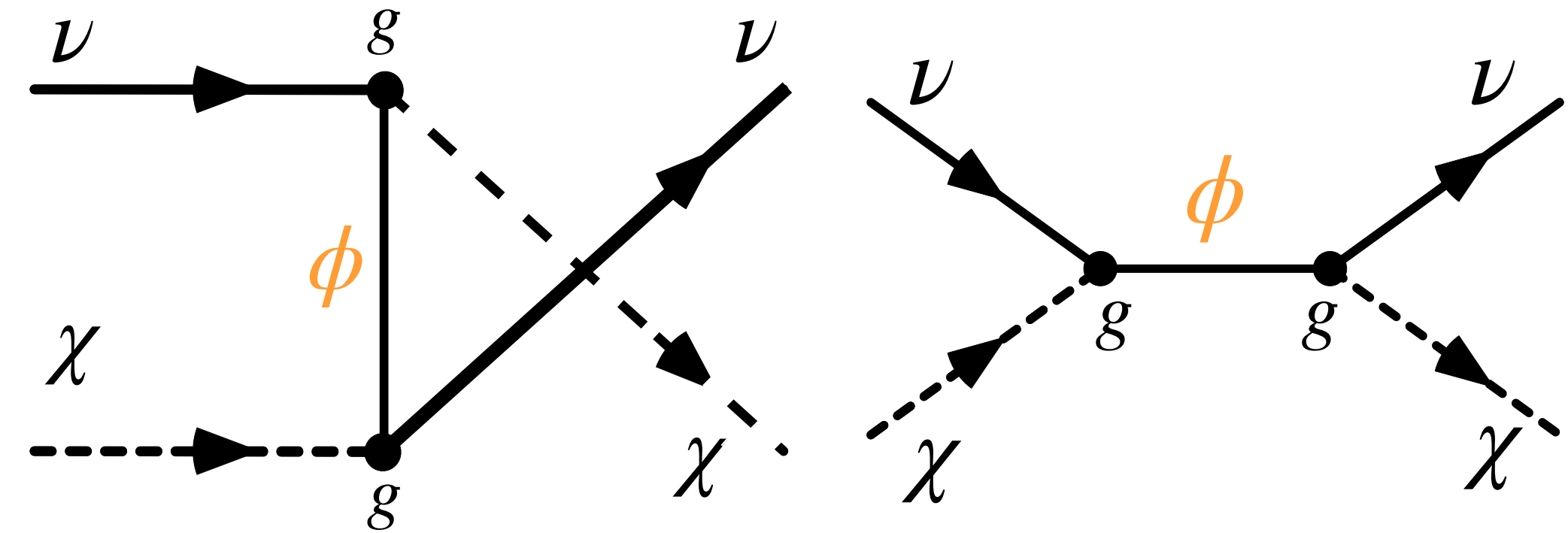
### Fermion—vector

$$(S_\chi, S_\phi) = (1/2, 1)$$

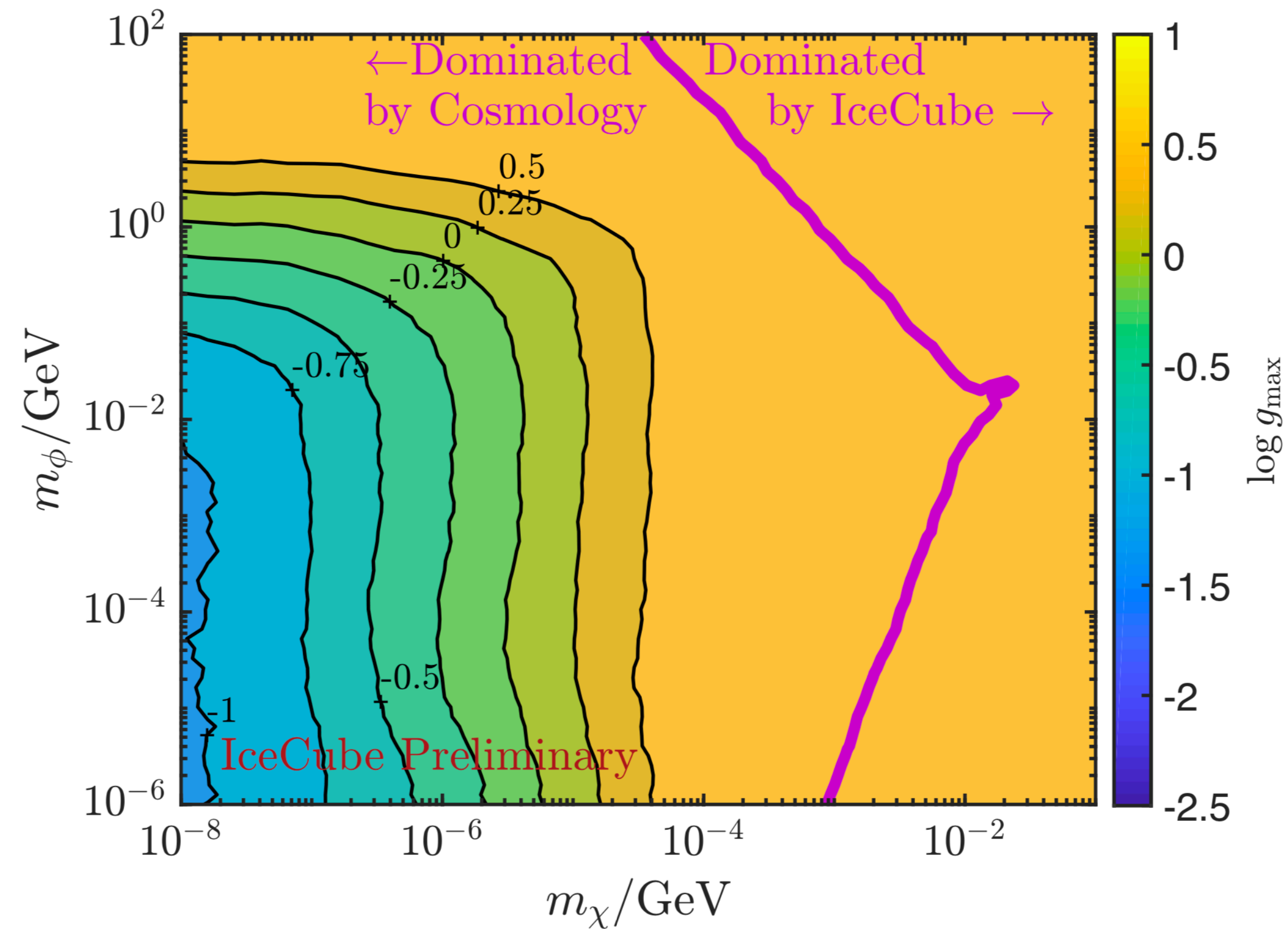


### Scalar—Fermion

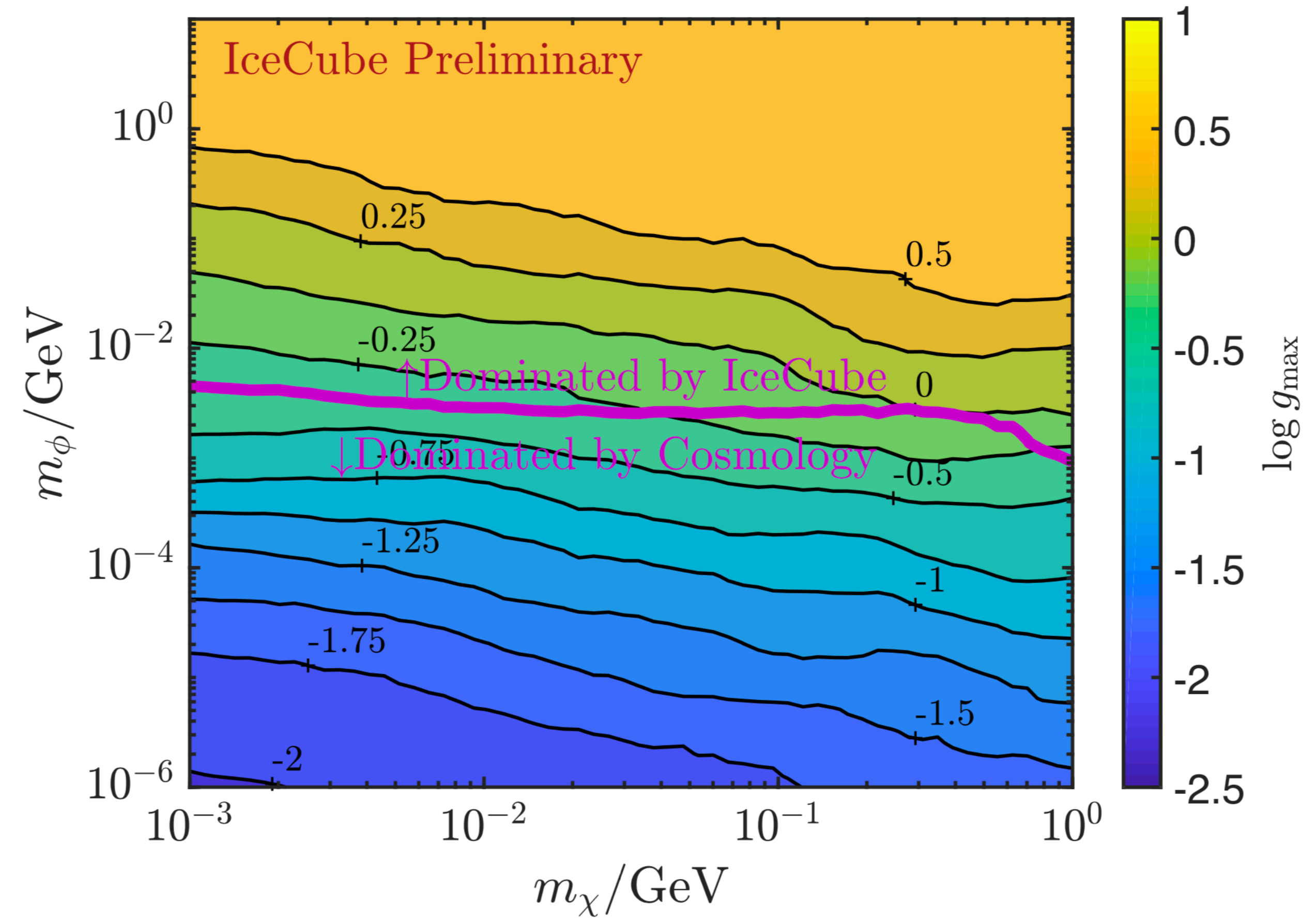
$$(S_\chi, S_\phi) = (0, 1/2)$$



## Scalar—Fermion

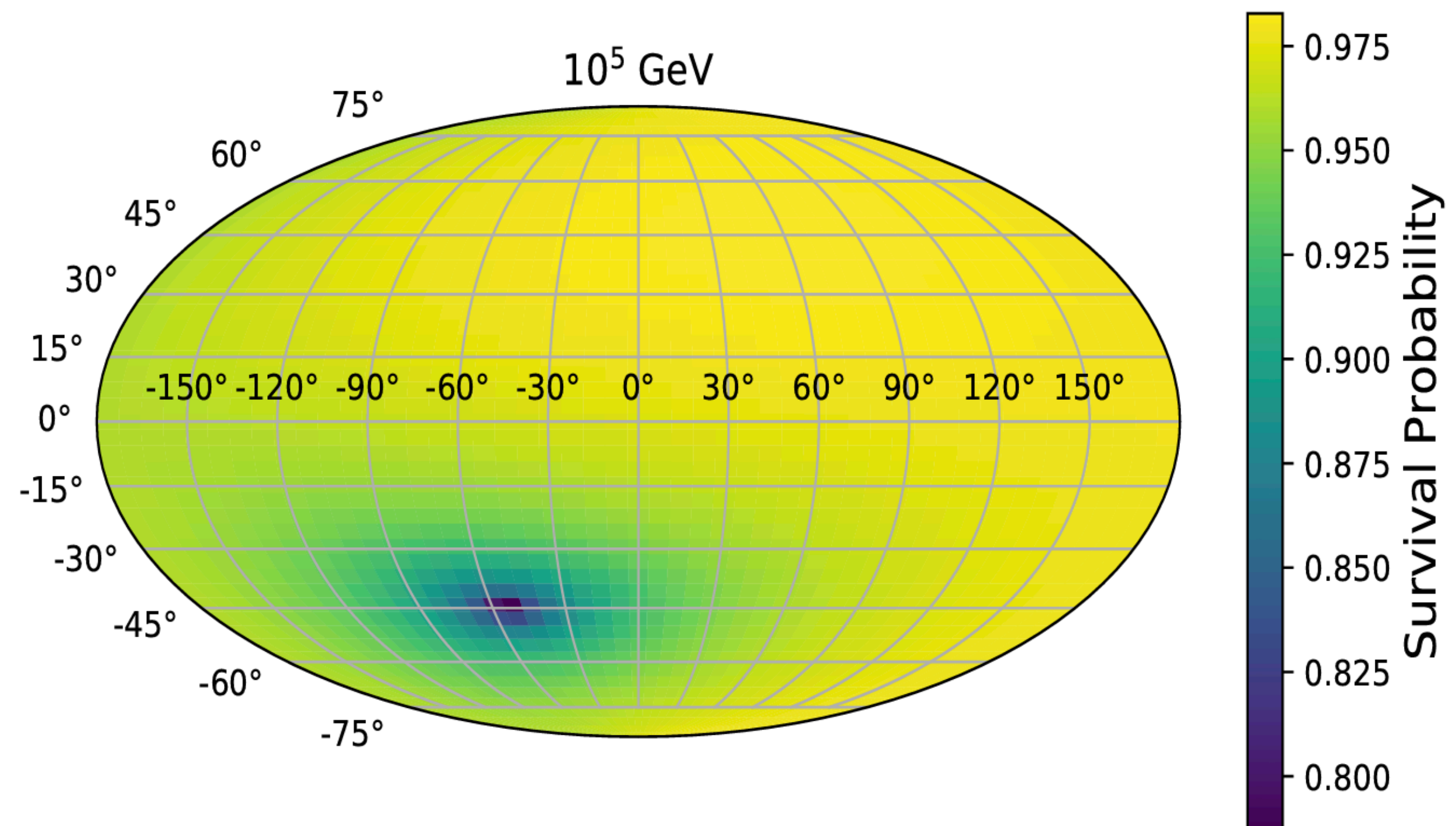
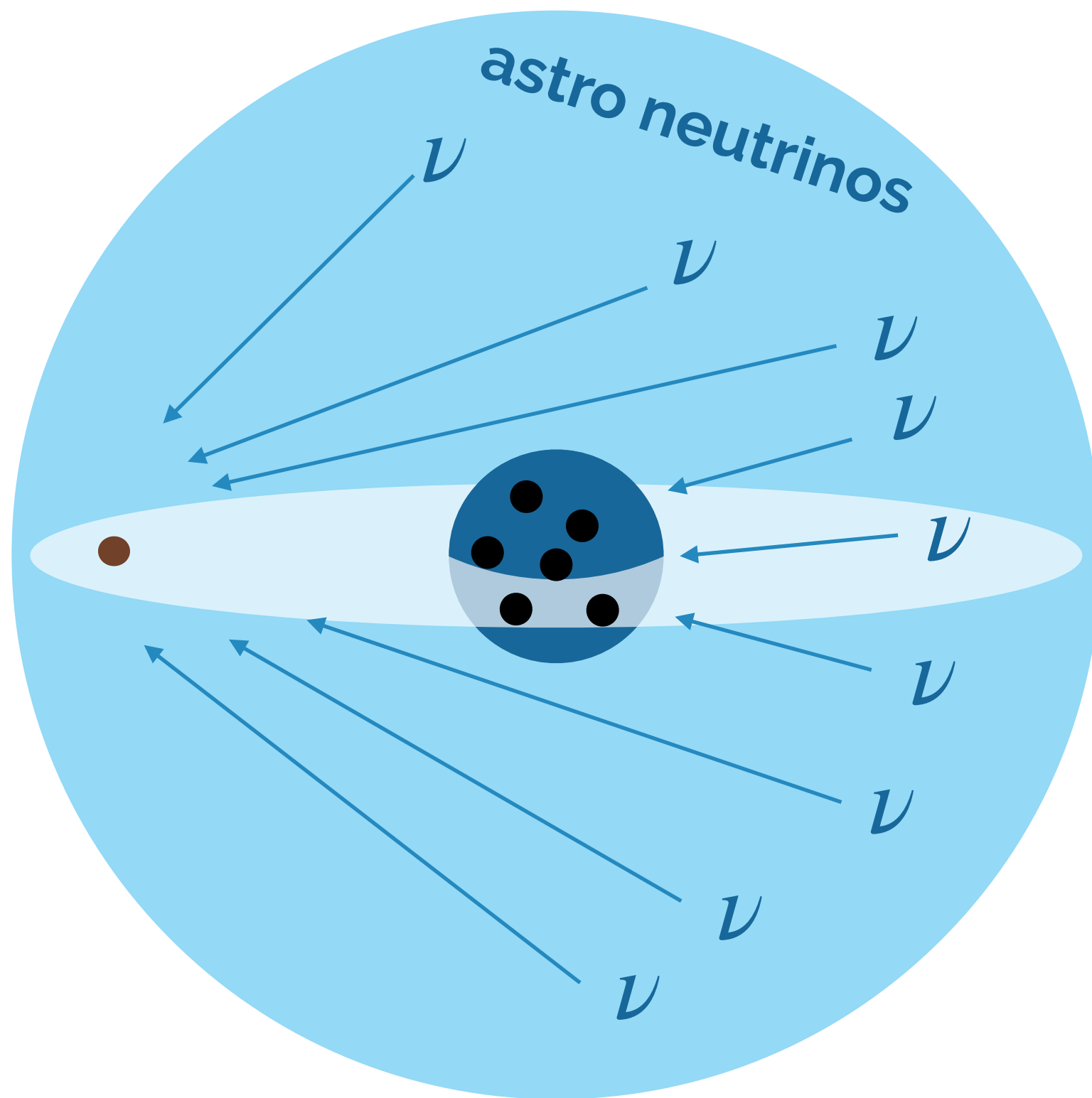


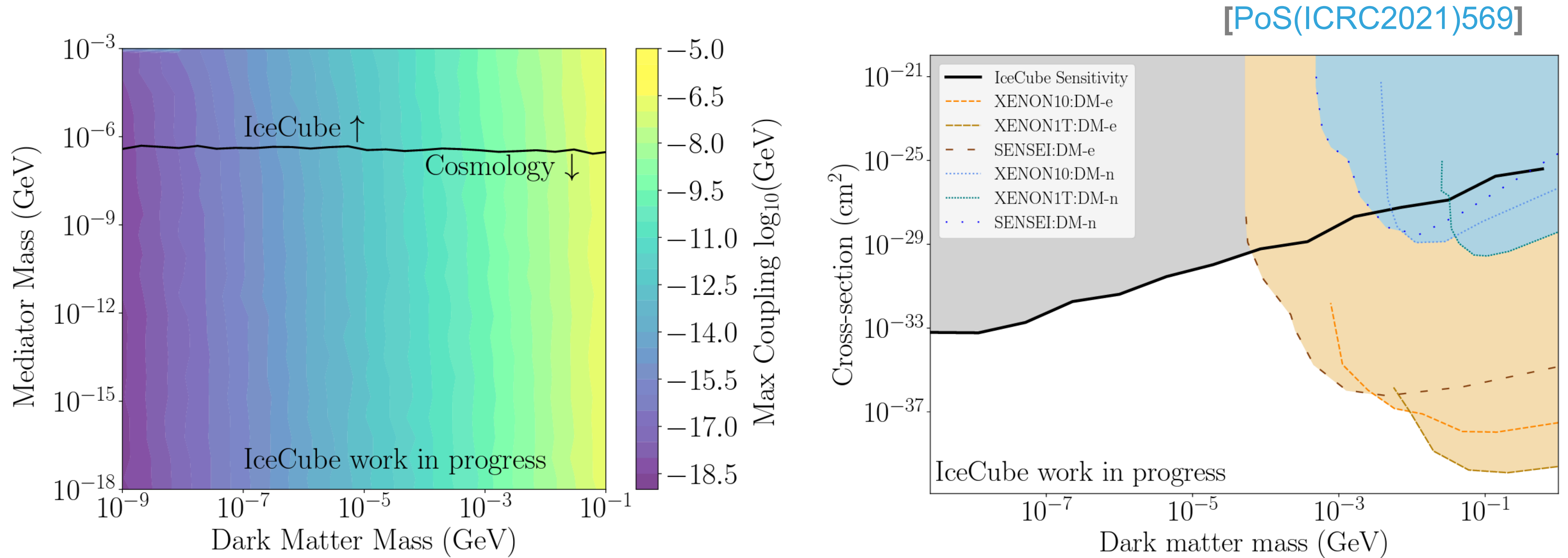
## Fermion—vector



[Neutrino 2012, doi:10.5281/zenodo.1300506]

- Astrophysical neutrinos assumed to be extra-Galactic:
  - **Isotropic distribution of arrival directions.**
- Scattering of high energy cosmic neutrinos on DM:
  - **Deficit in the direction of Galactic Center**



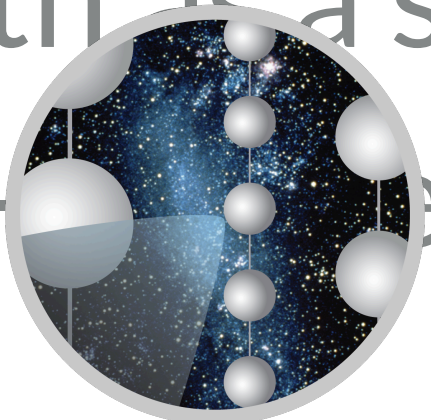
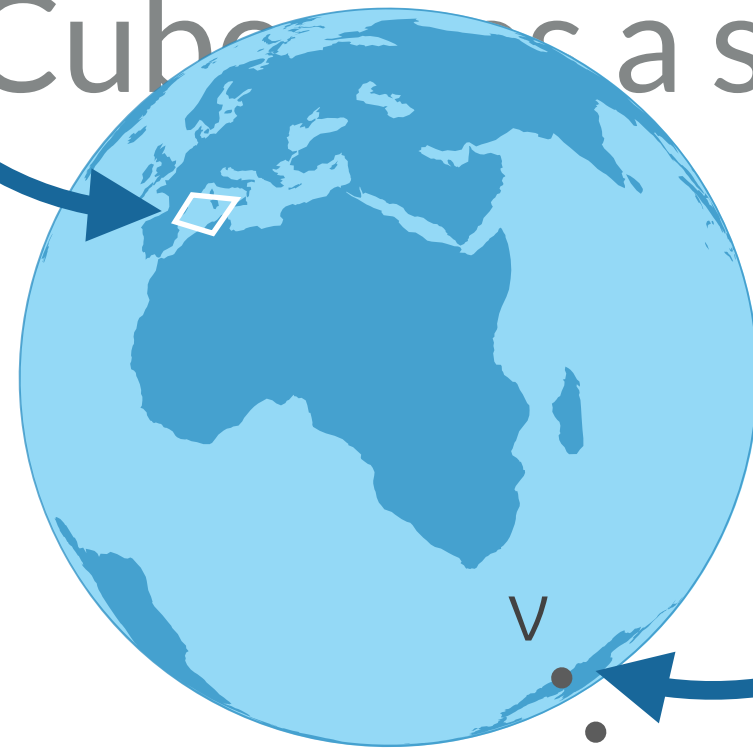




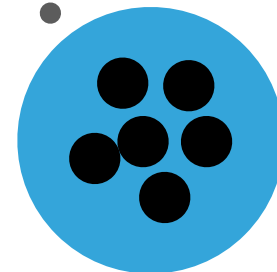
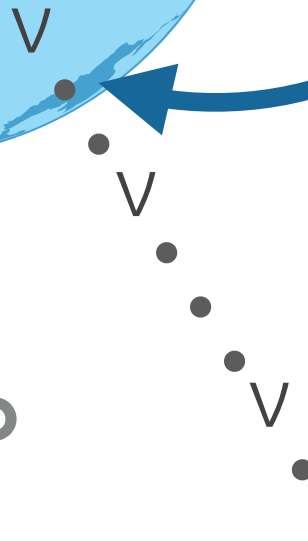
Current best limits in neutrinos by ANTARES and IceCube

ANTARES uses Earth as a shield/**higher masses**

- IceCube uses a self-shielding technique/**lower masses**

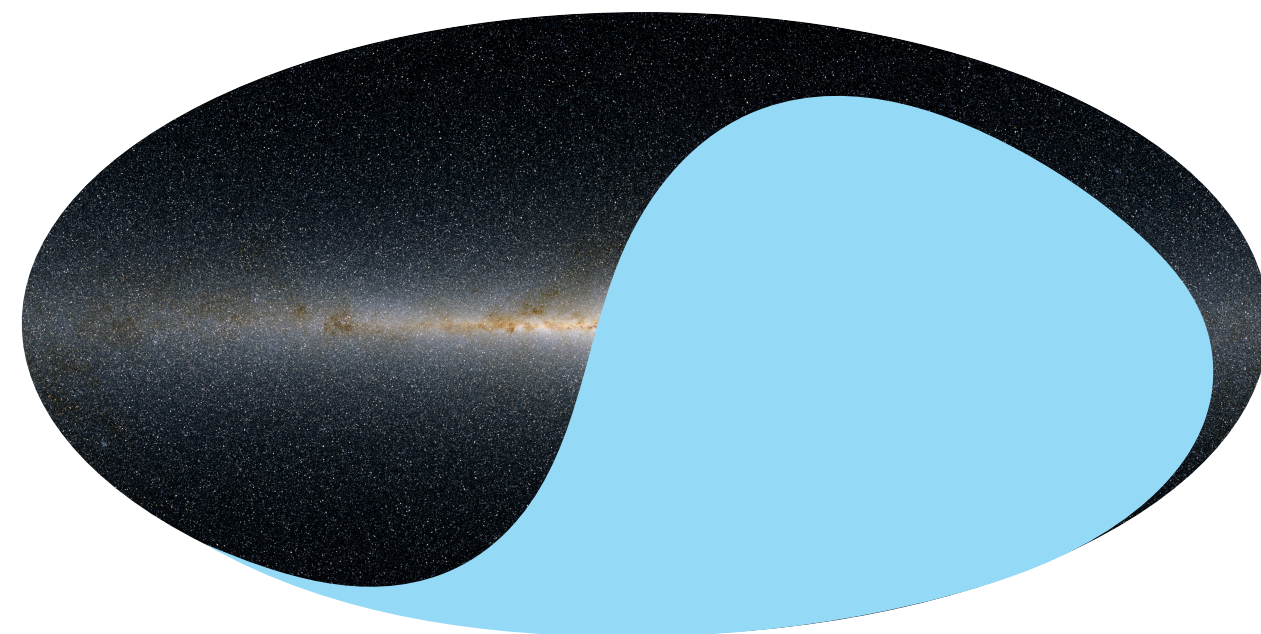


ICECUBE

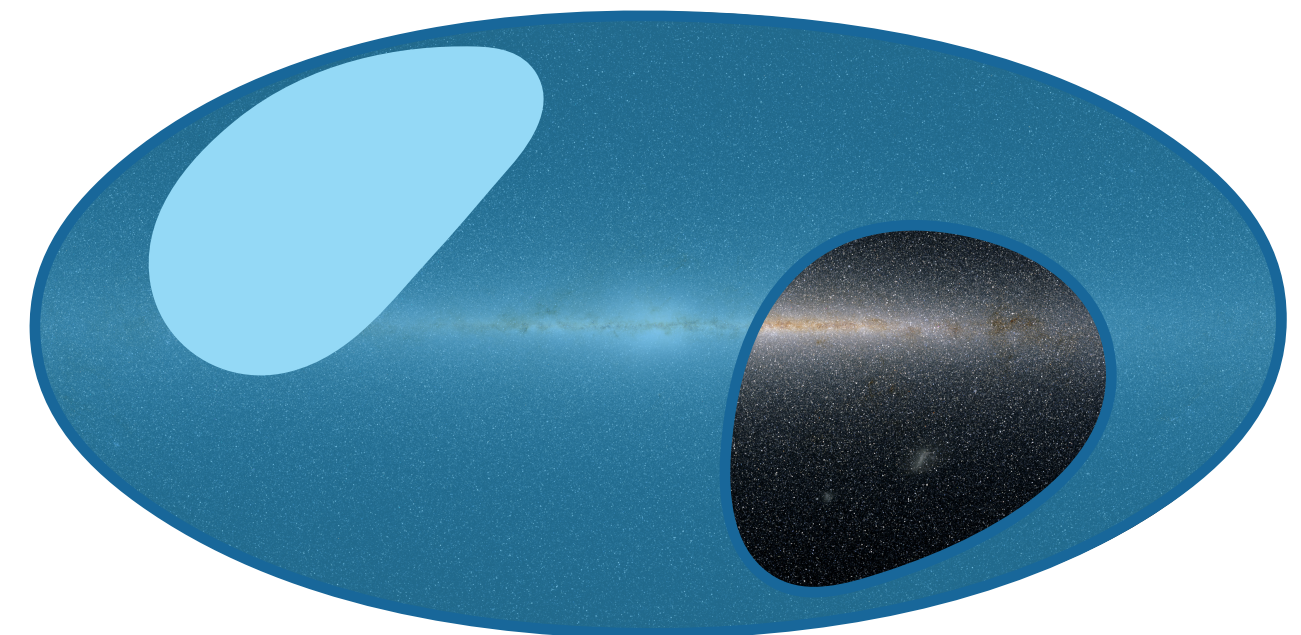


Galactic Center

IceCube FoV



ANTARES FoV



Galactic Center 30° above the horizon in IceCube field of view

# The Astrophysical Input: J-factors, D-factors

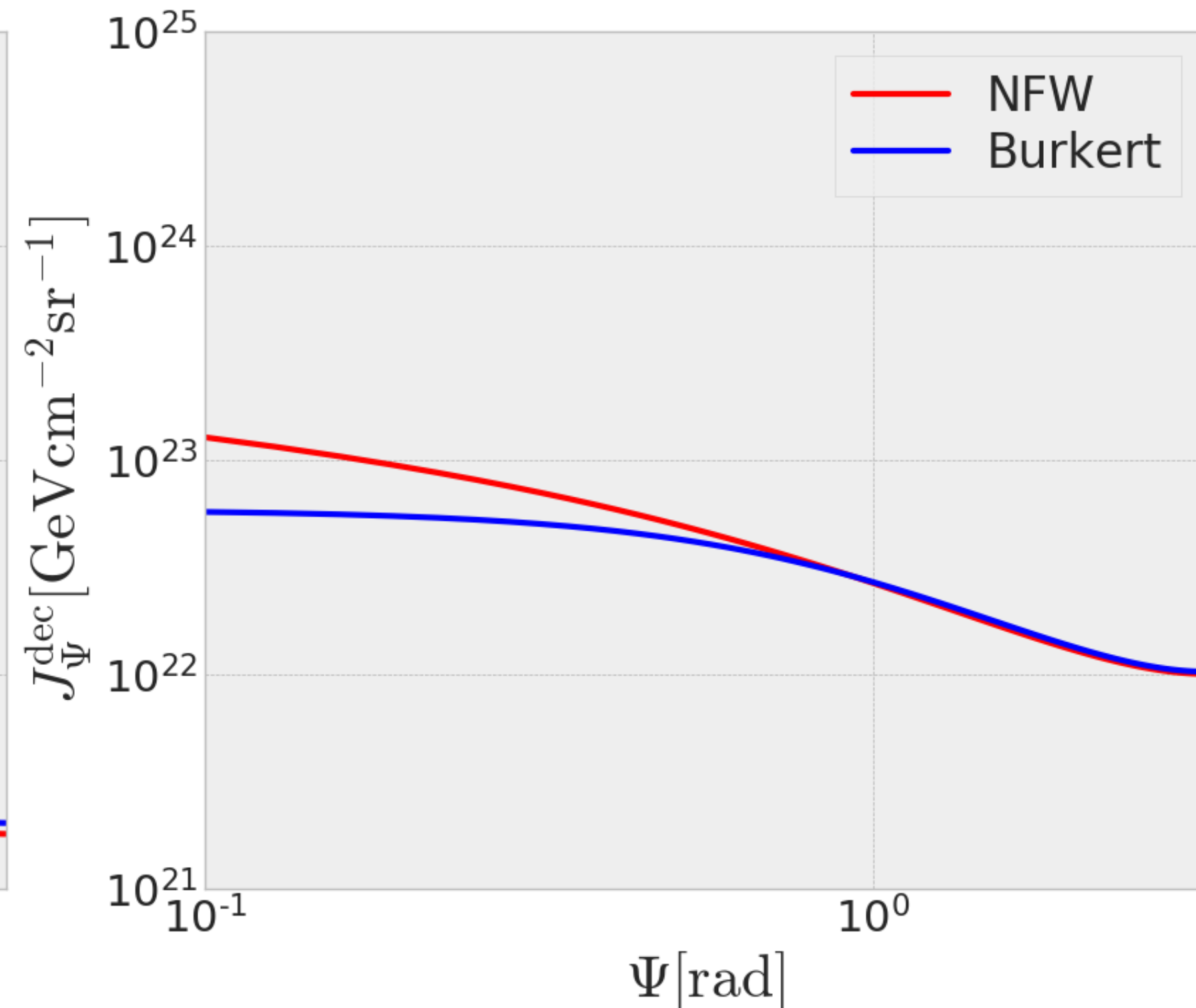
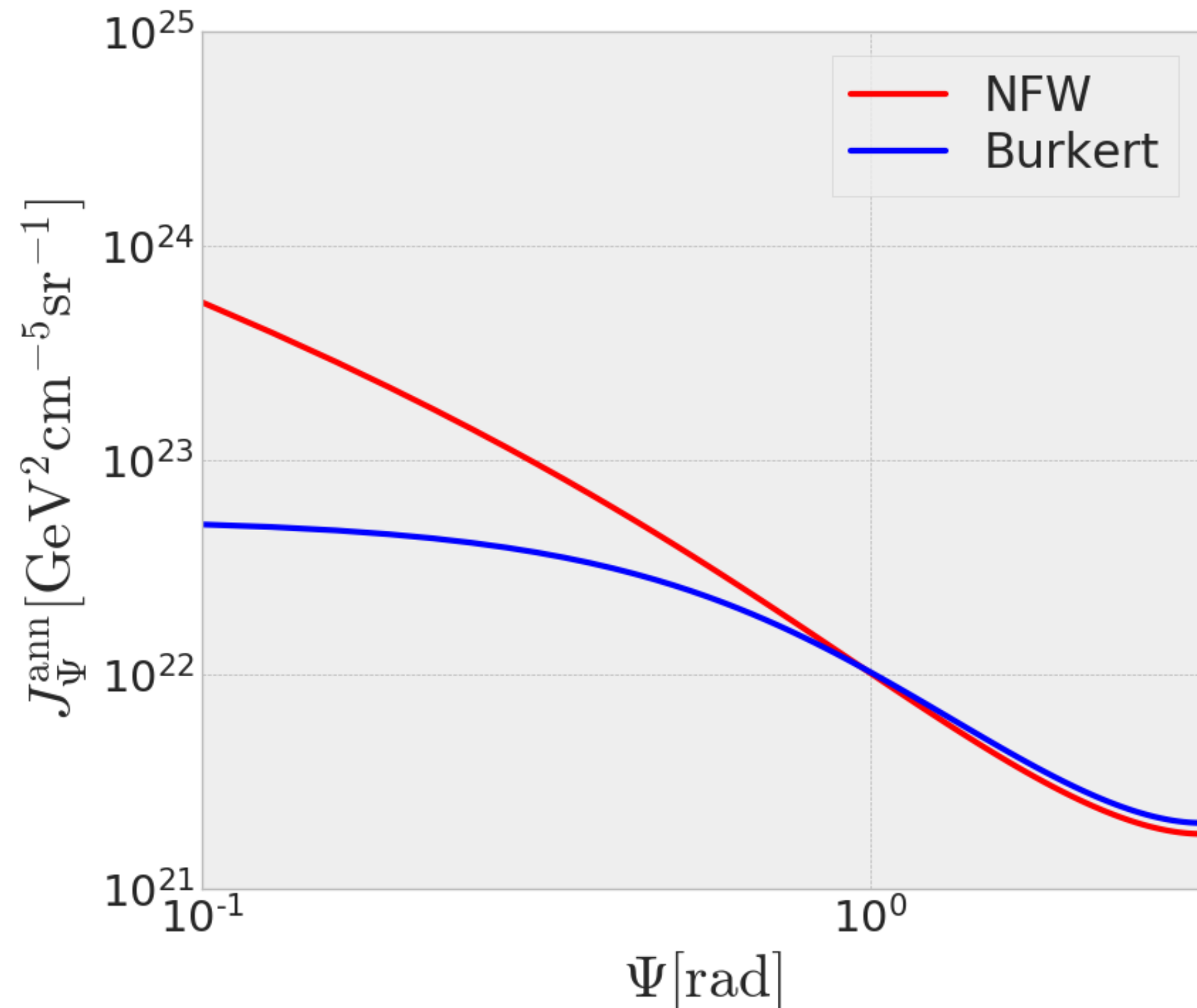
- Two archetypical density profile tested: NFW and Burkert

$$\rho_{Burkert}(r) = \frac{\rho_s}{(1 + r/r_s)(1 + (r/r_s)^2)}$$

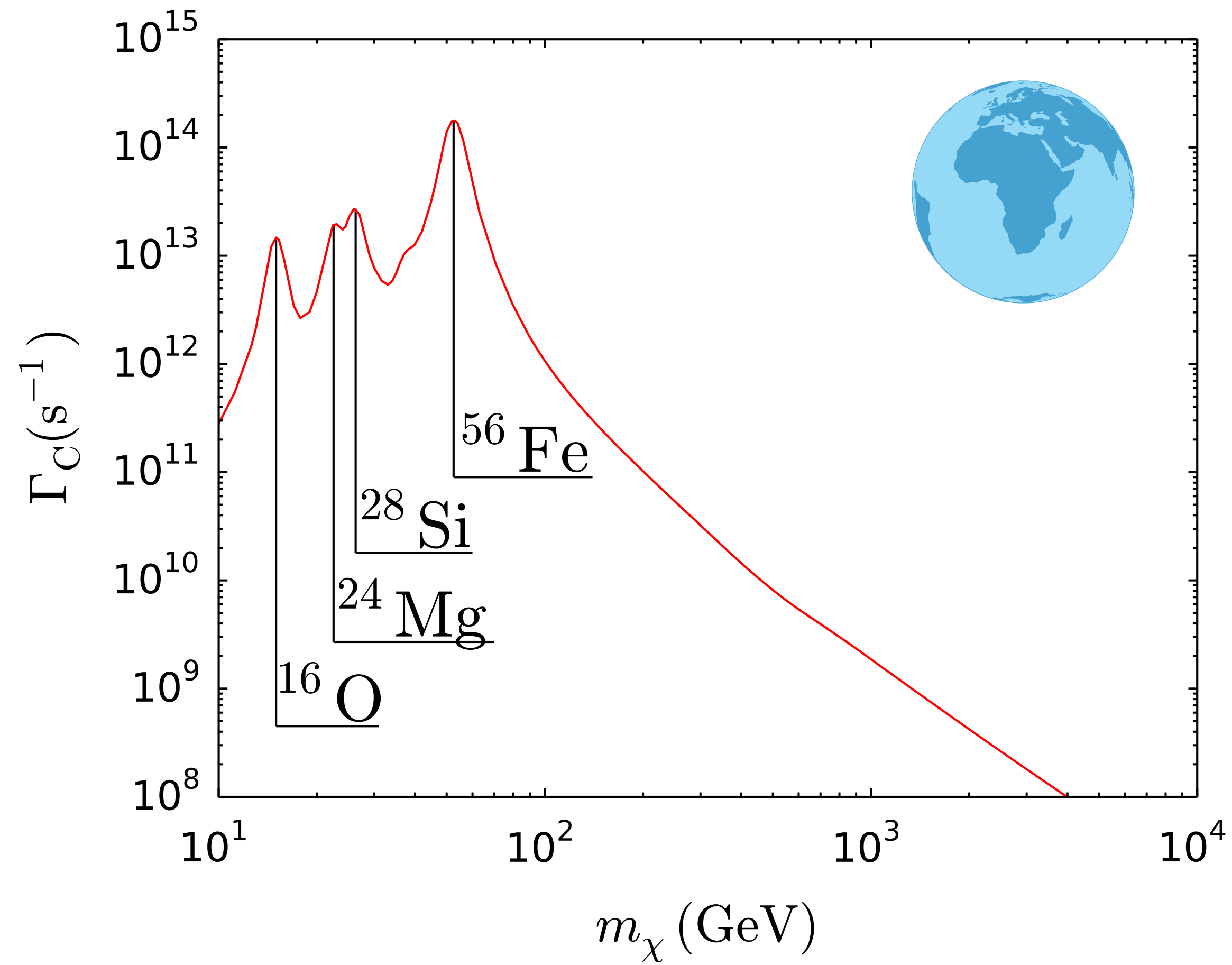
$$\rho_{NFW}(r) = \rho_s \frac{r_s}{r} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{r_s} \right)$$

Parameter	Units	Navarro-Frenk-White (NFW)	Burkert
$\rho_0$	$10^7 M_\odot / kpc^3$	$1.40^{+2.9}_{-0.93}$	$4.13^{+6.2}_{-1.6}$
$r_s$	$kpc$	$16.1^{+17}_{-7.8}$	$9.26^{+5.6}_{-4.2}$

\*values taken from arxiv:1304.5127

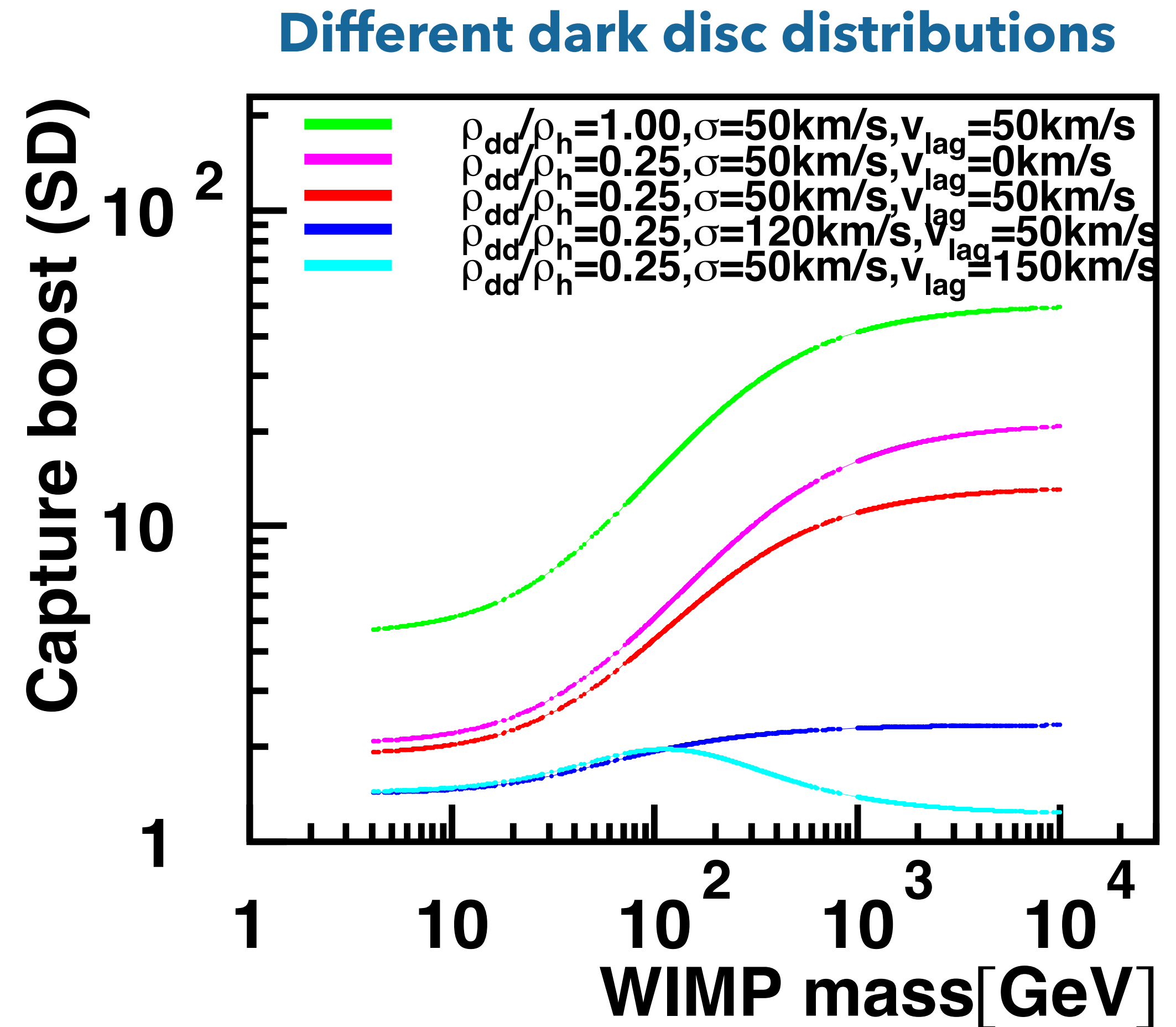
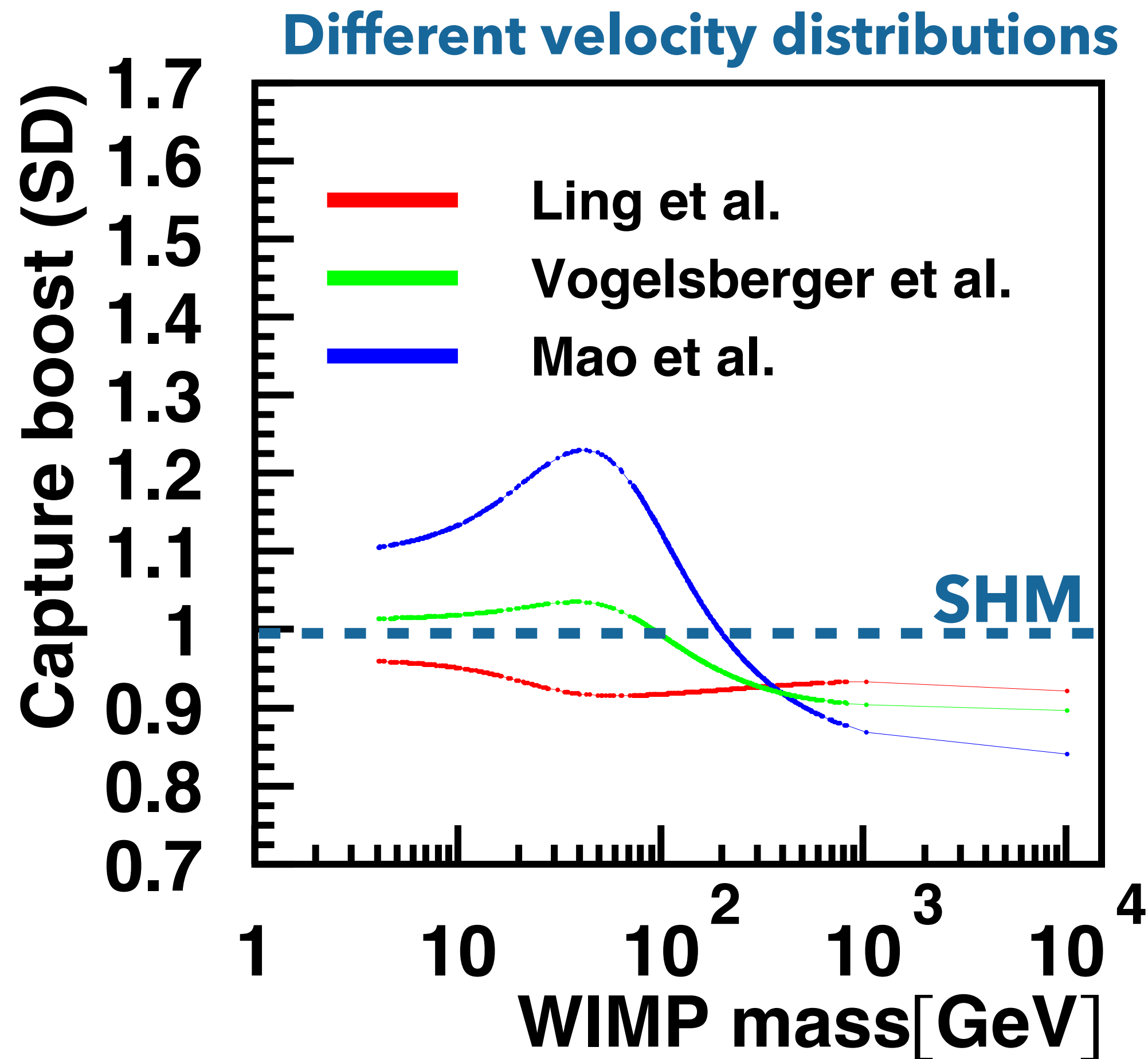


Local clumps not considered

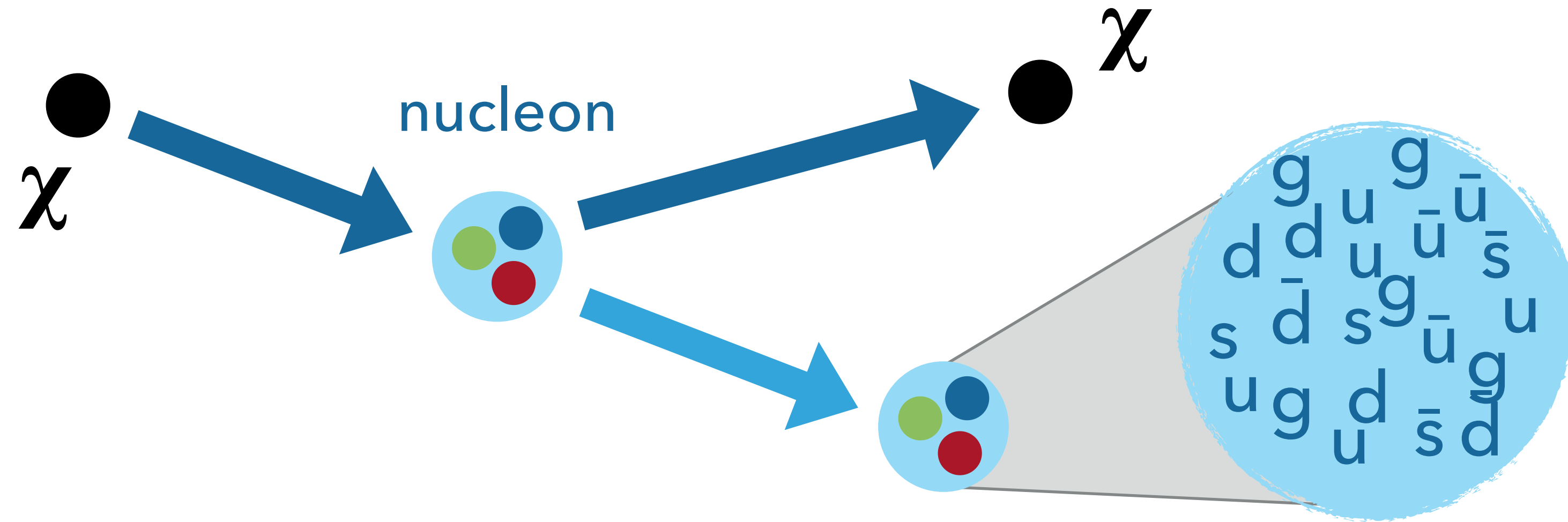




A **dark matter disc** will have a significant (good) impact on the capture rate for the Sun/Earth



Choi, Rott, Ito arXiv:1312.0273



Both direct detection and indirect detection (gravitational capture) depend on the WIMP-nucleon cross-section.

$$\sigma_{SI} \propto A^2$$

**Spin independent**

**Use heavy nuclei as target: Direct detection**

$$\sigma_{SD} \propto (a_p \langle S_p \rangle + a_n \langle S_n \rangle) \frac{J + 1}{J} \frac{S(|\vec{q}|)}{S(0)}$$

**Spin dependent**

**Sun is full of protons: Indirect detection**

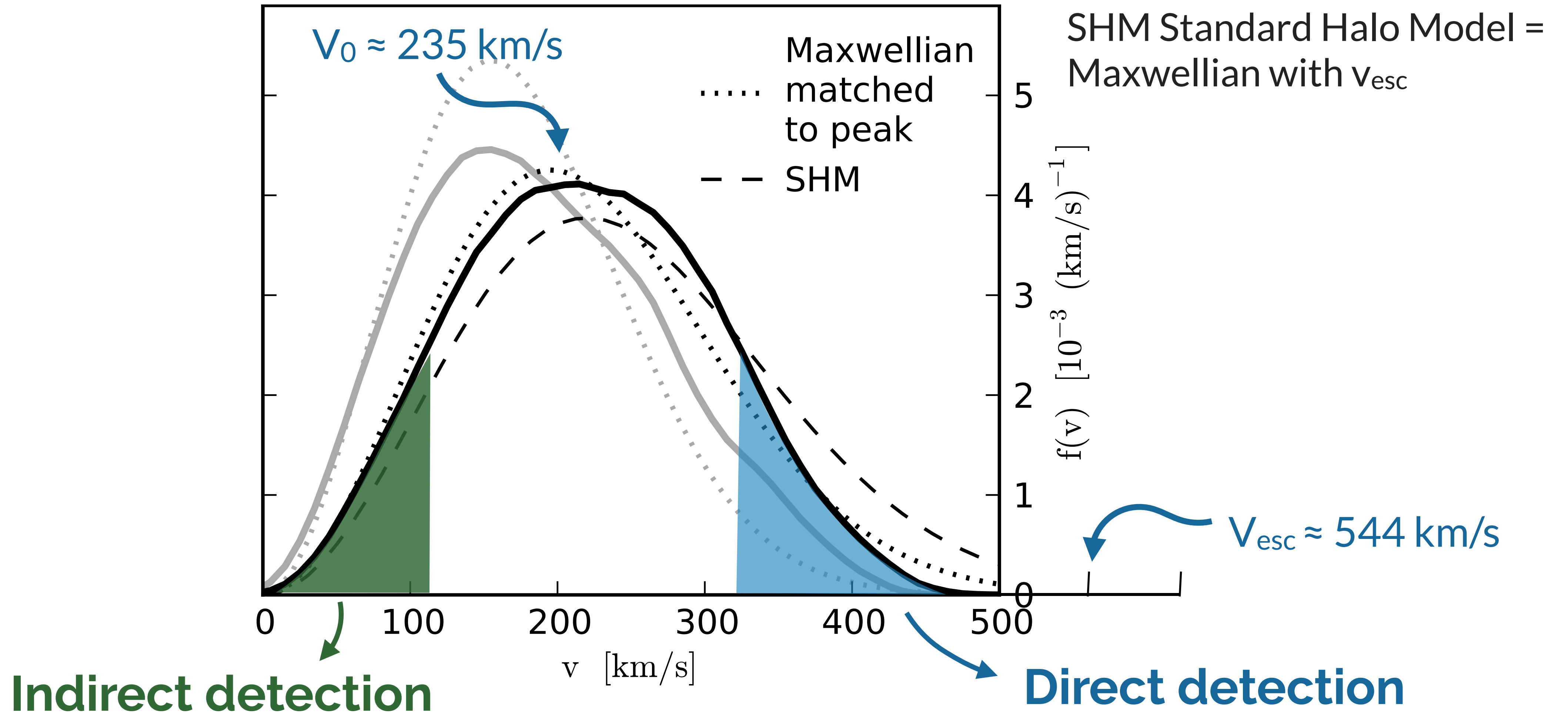
## The nucleon structure plays an essential role in calculating observables

But it seems to affect more  $\sigma^{SI}$  than  $\sigma^{SD}$

R. Ruiz, C. de los Heros arXiv:1307.6668

Heavy dark matter particles can only be captured at low velocities

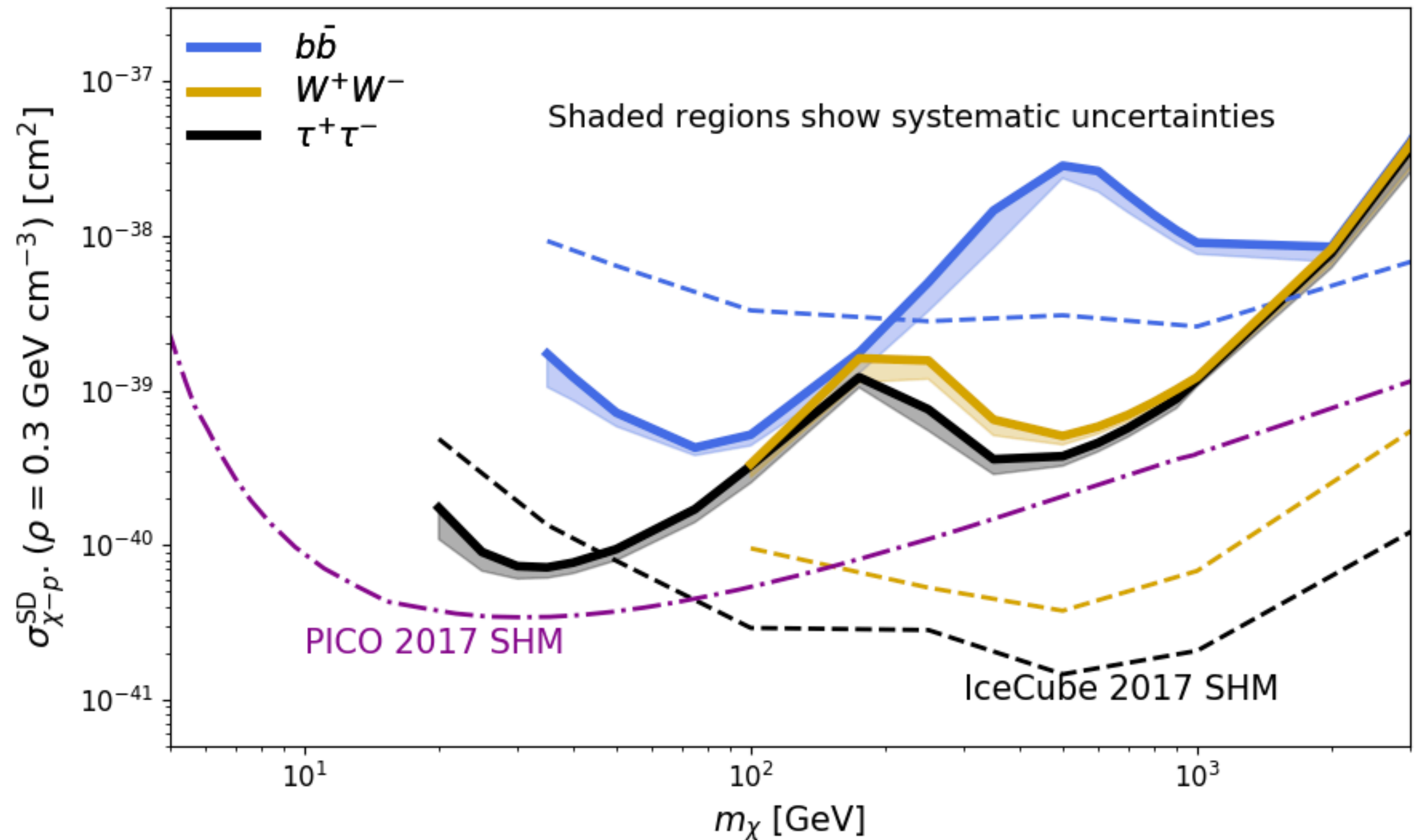
[arxiv:1308.1703]



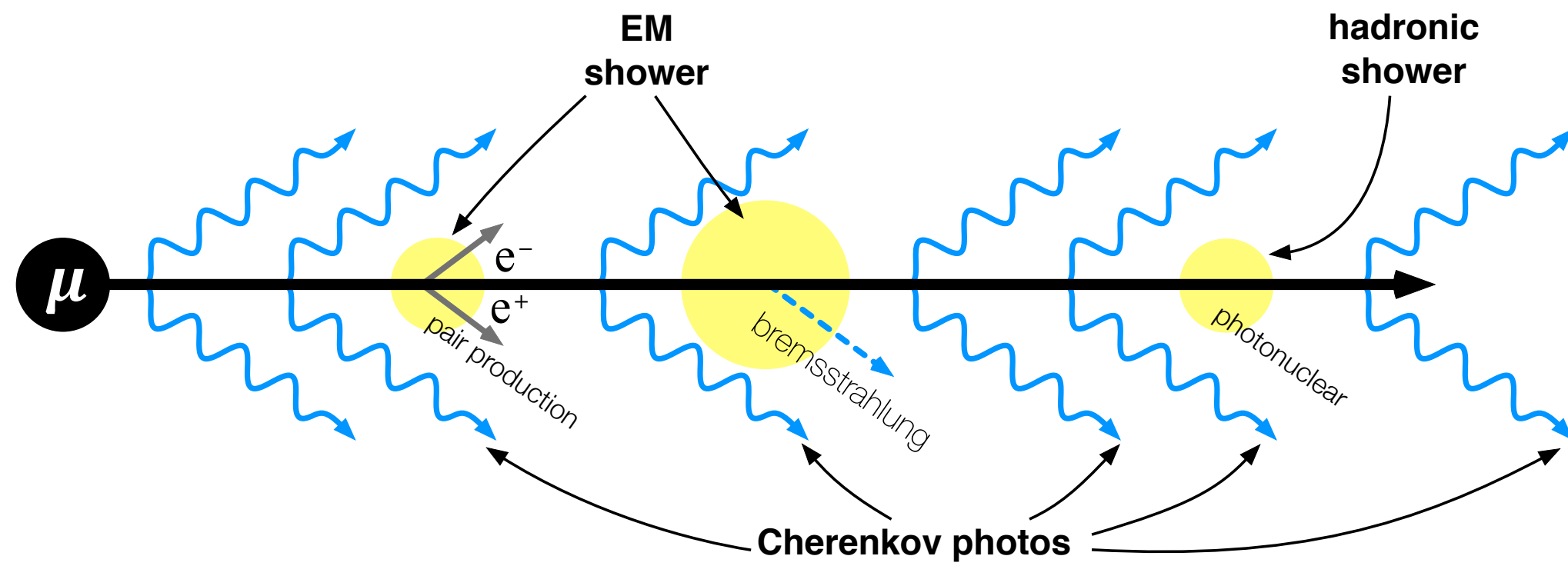
- IceCube has **best limits in**  $\sigma_{SD}^{\chi-N}$  at  $m_\chi > 10^2$  GeV / assuming a velocity distribution
- Combined limits with PICO assuming superposition of **streams with fixed velocity.**
- Only the velocity stream with the highest allowed scattering cross-section is selected / **Conservative limits**

equilibrium!

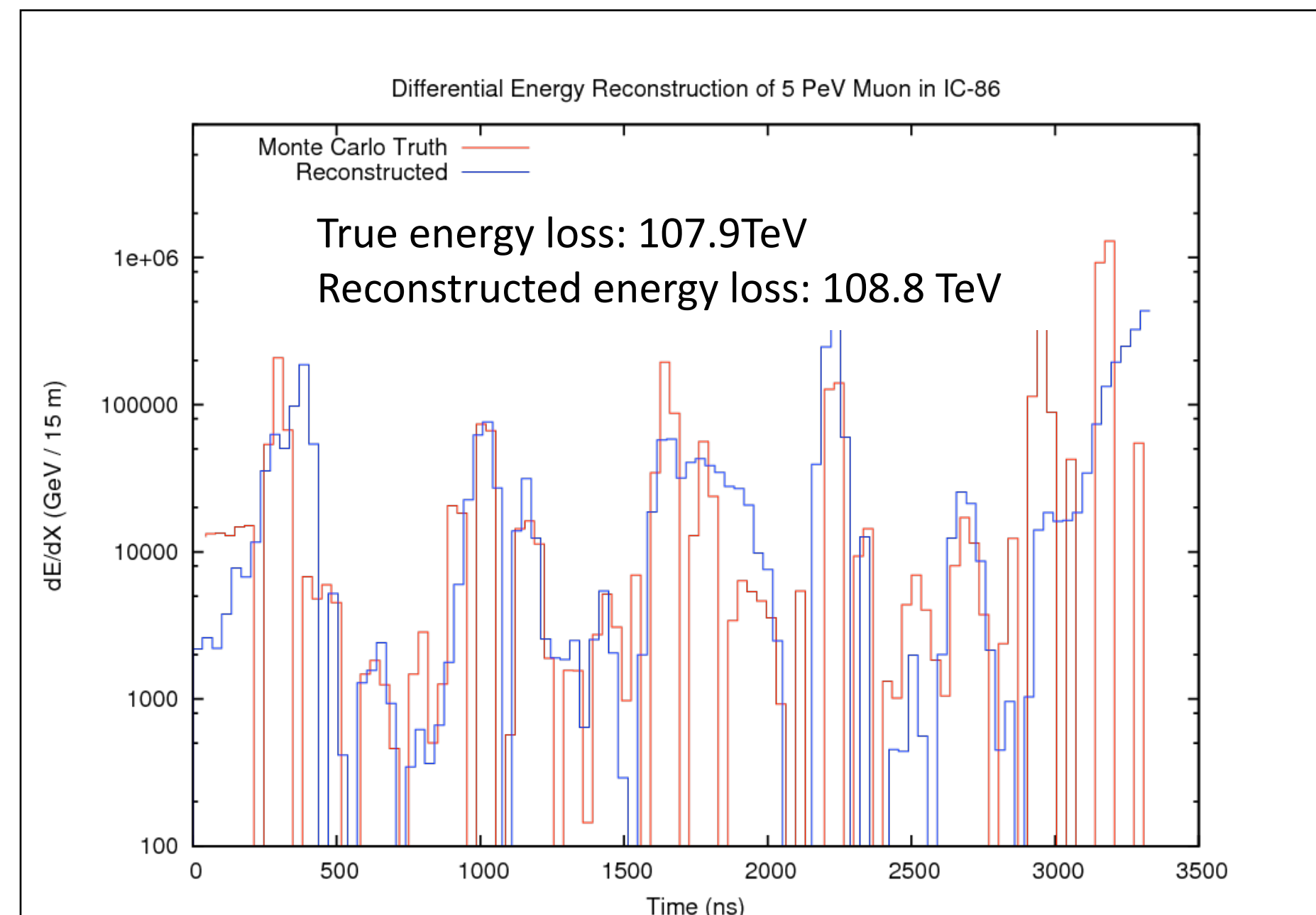
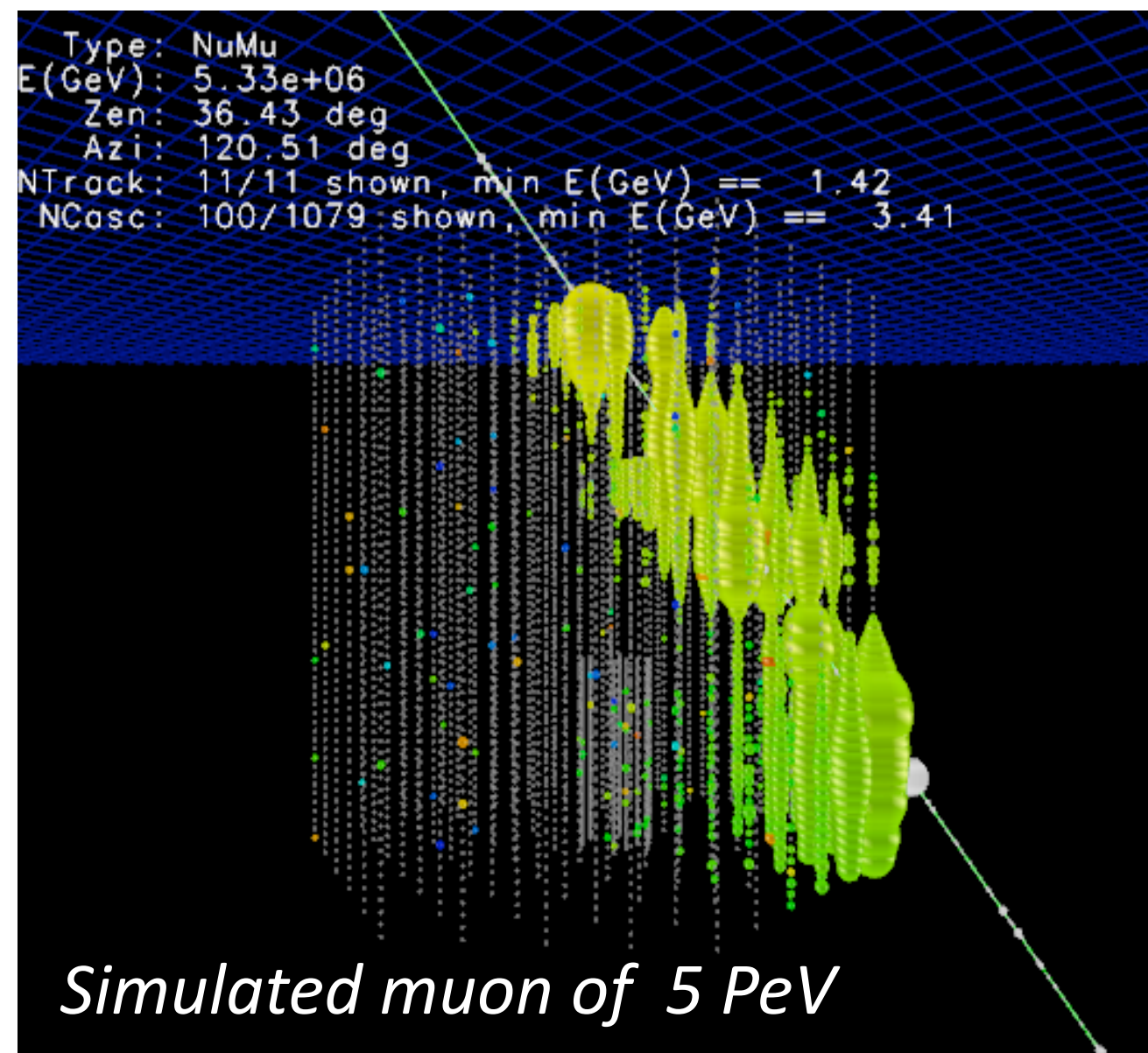
$$\Phi_\nu \rightarrow C_A \rightarrow C_c \rightarrow \sigma_{\chi N}$$

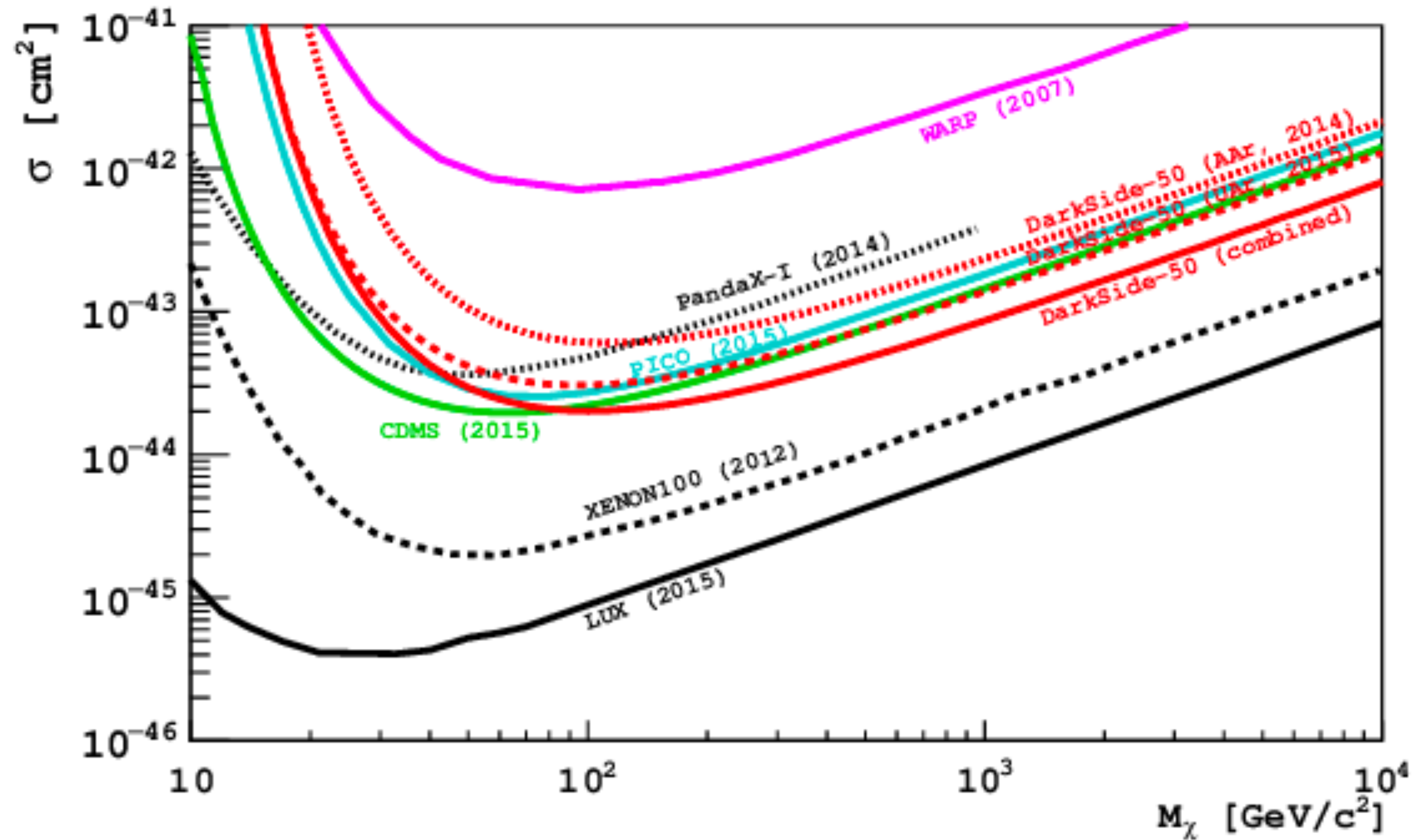


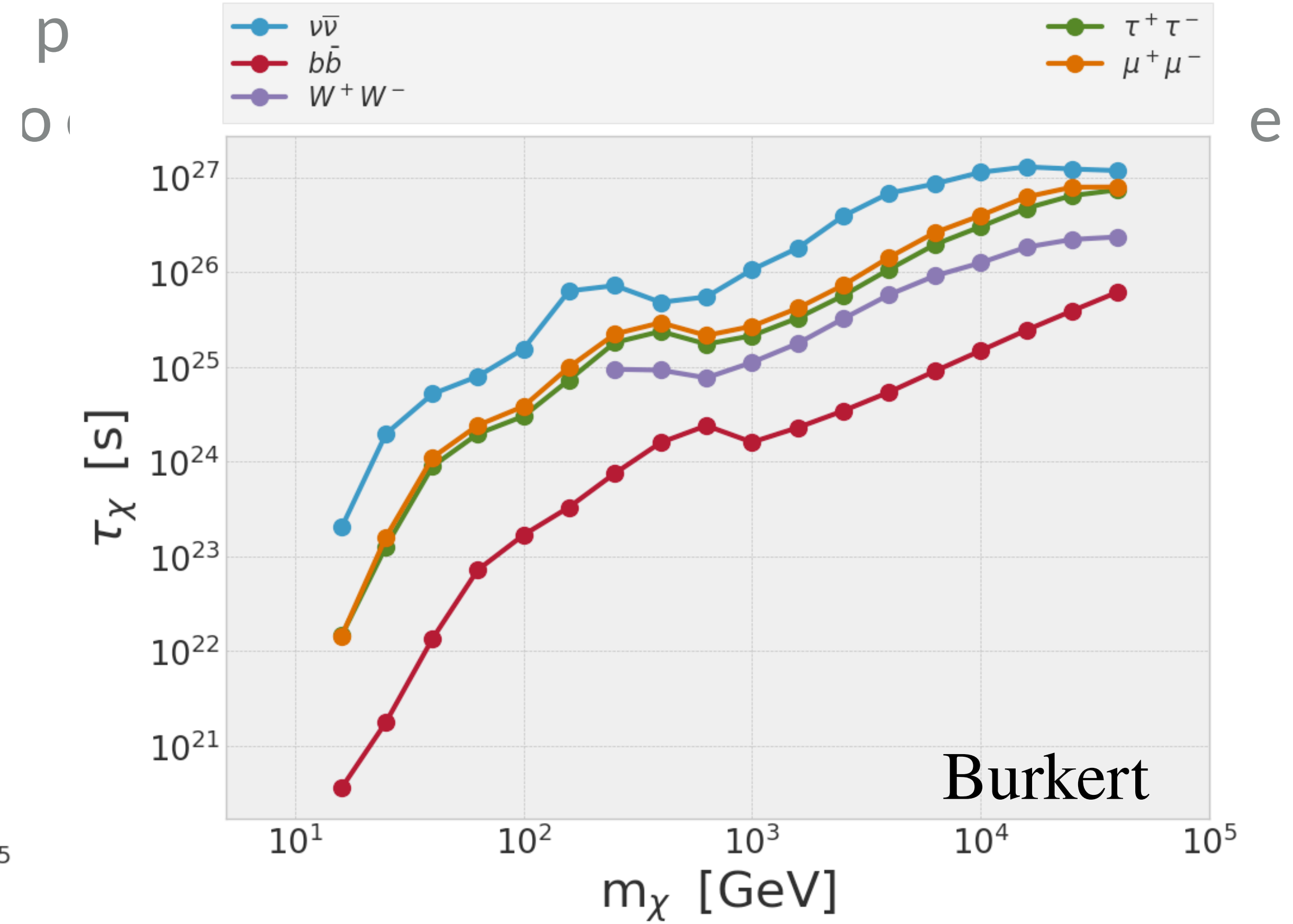
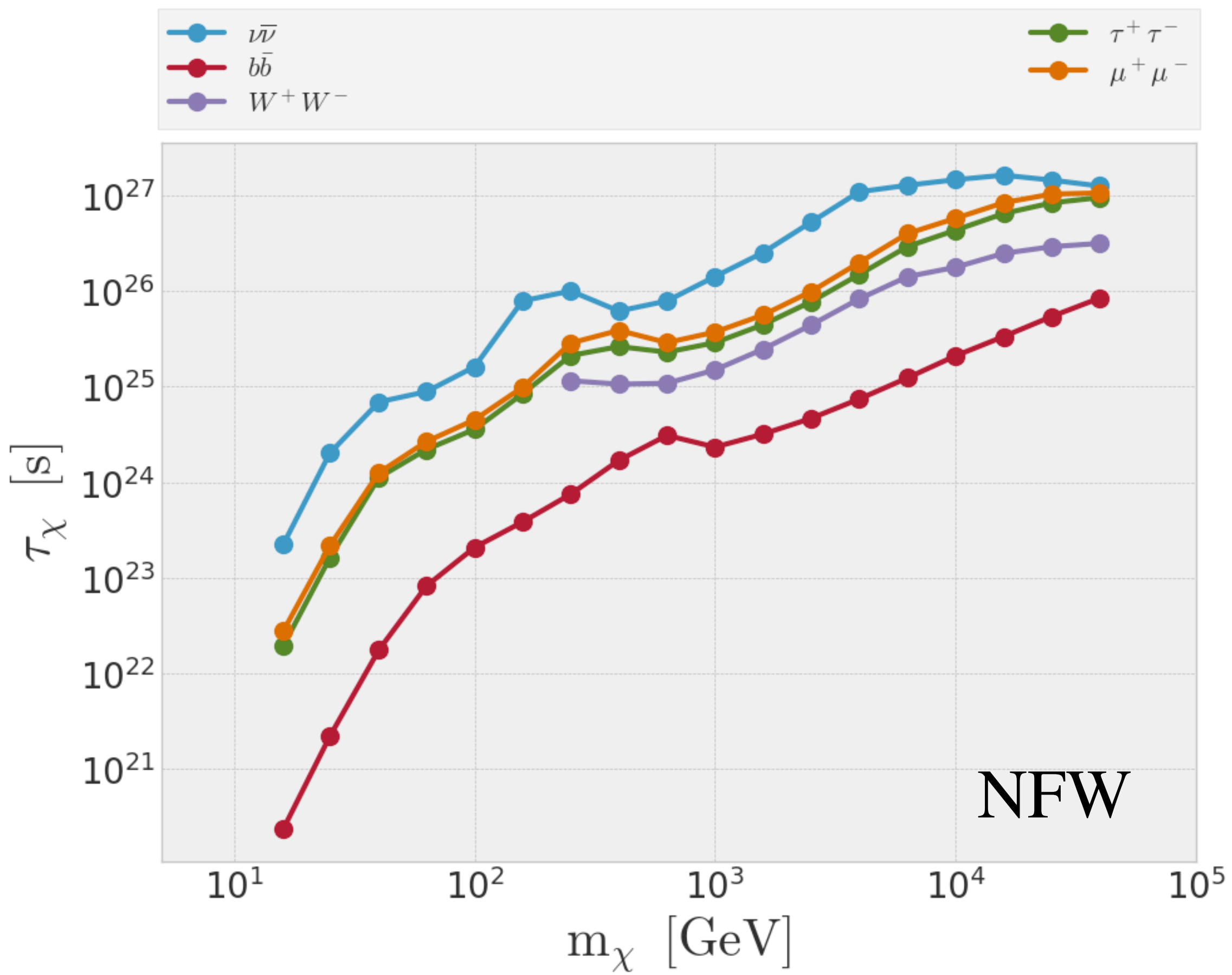
[Submitted to Eur. Phys. J. C, arXiv:1907.12509]



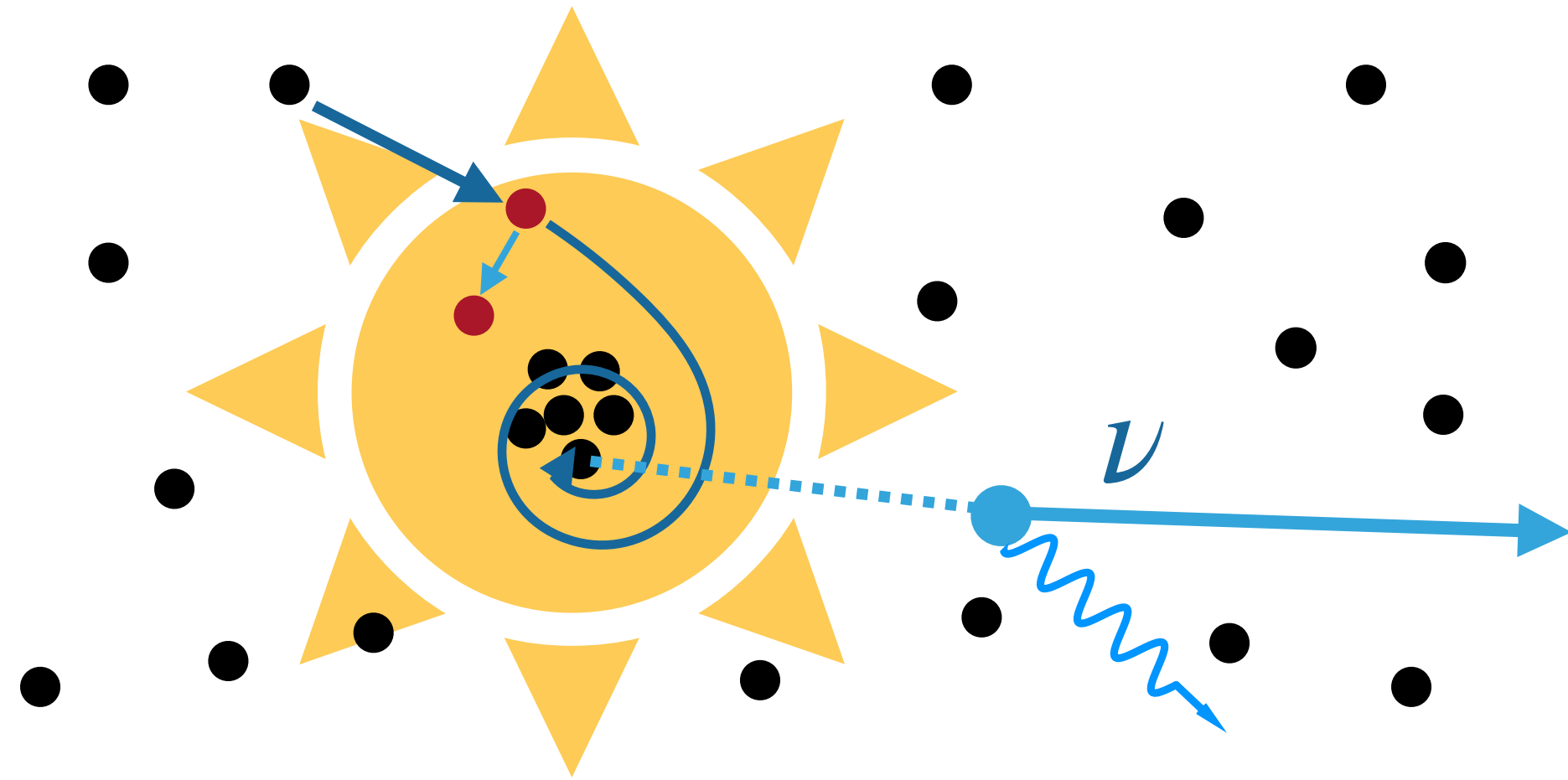
- ▶ Improved tools to resolve stochastic energy losses along the km long tracks.
- ▶ Energy deposited is a lower-bound of true energy.
- ▶ Muon energy resolution:
  - rms of  $\log_{10} E$ :  $\sim(30 - 25) \%$  ( $> 100$  TeV)
- ▶ Limited by fluctuations in energy deposition.



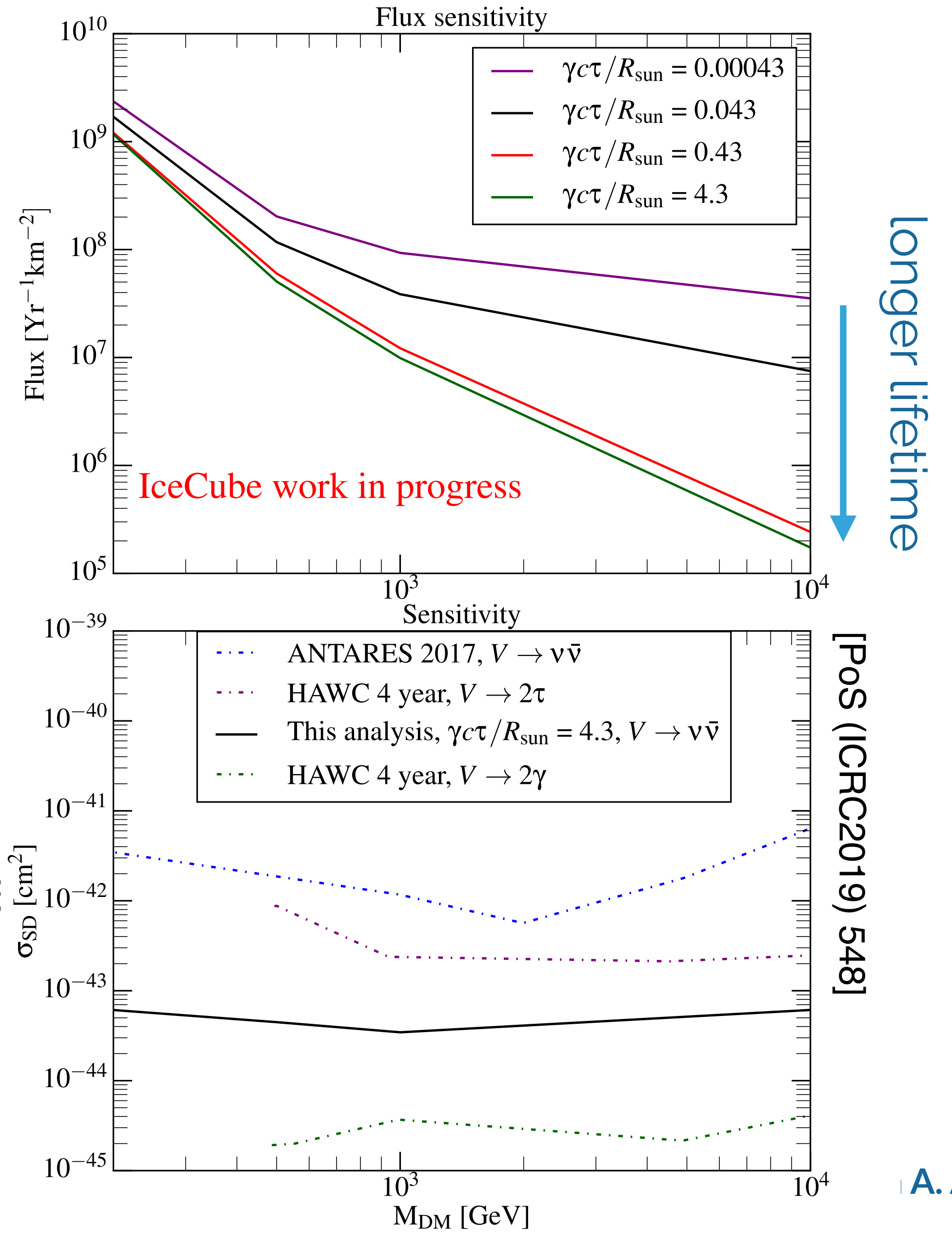




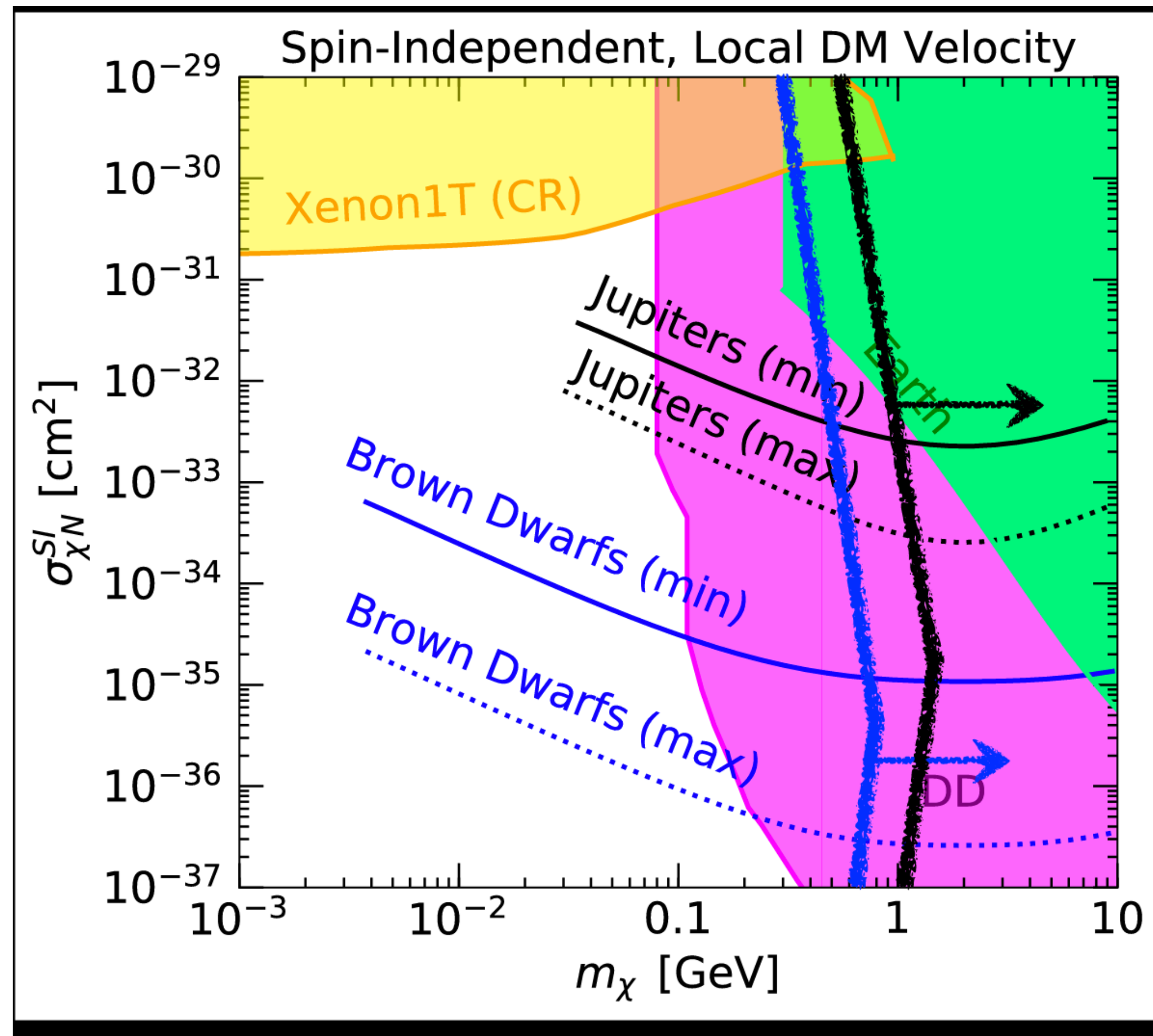
## HALO



- Dark matter annihilates in a mediator outside
- Sensitivities depend on the mediator lifetime.
- Mediator mass and lifetime are additional free





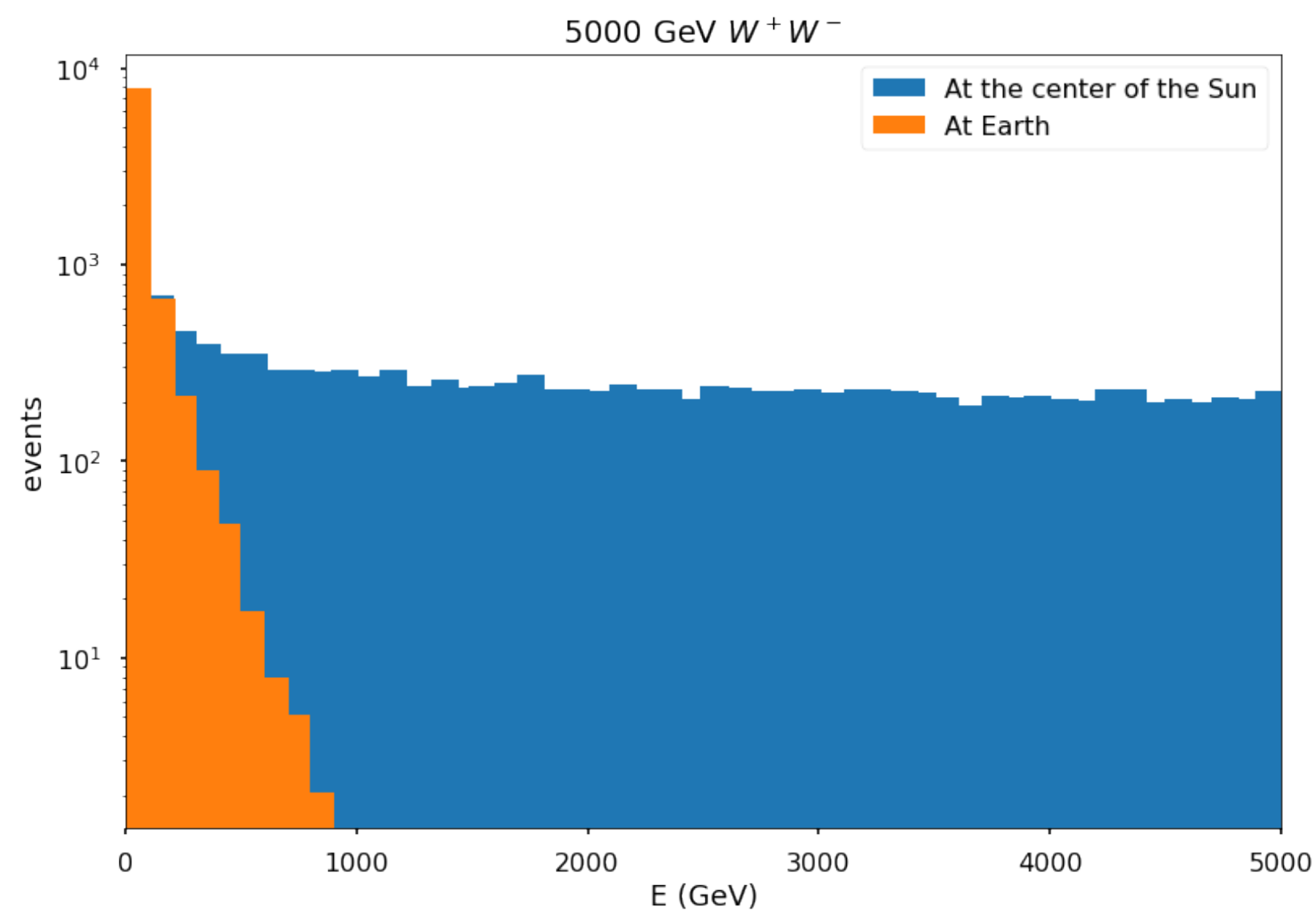


R. K. Leane and J. Smirnov, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126:161101, 2021

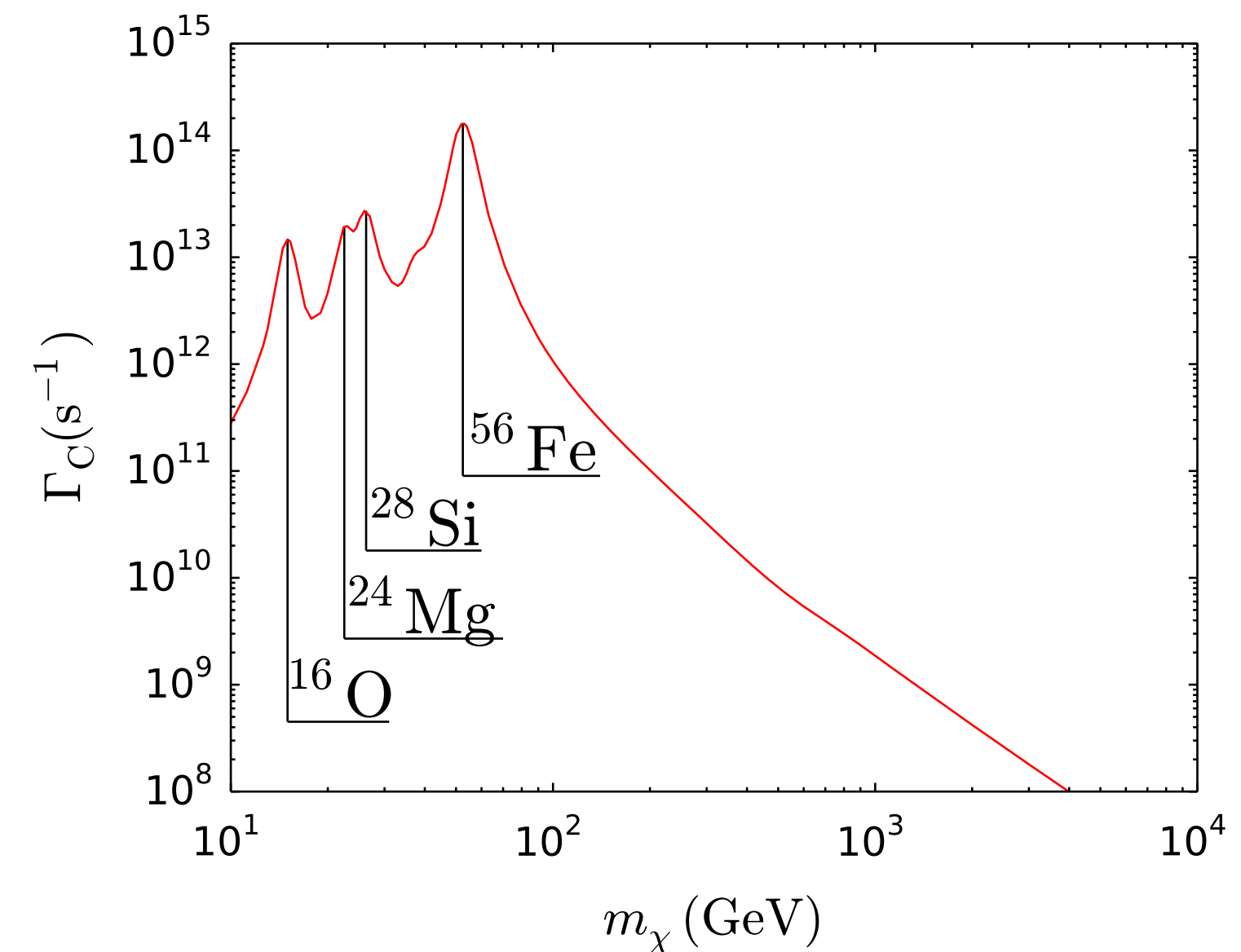


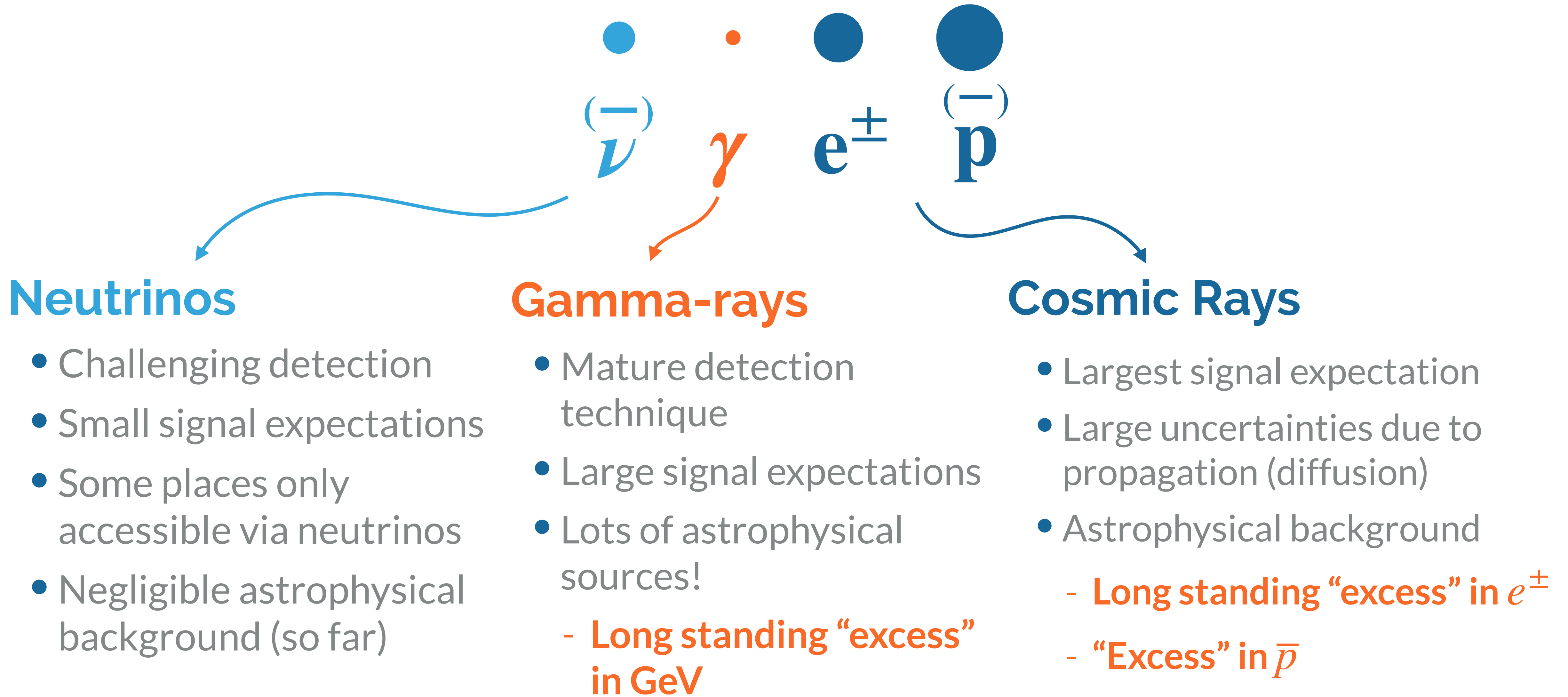
## Differences between the Sun and the Earth

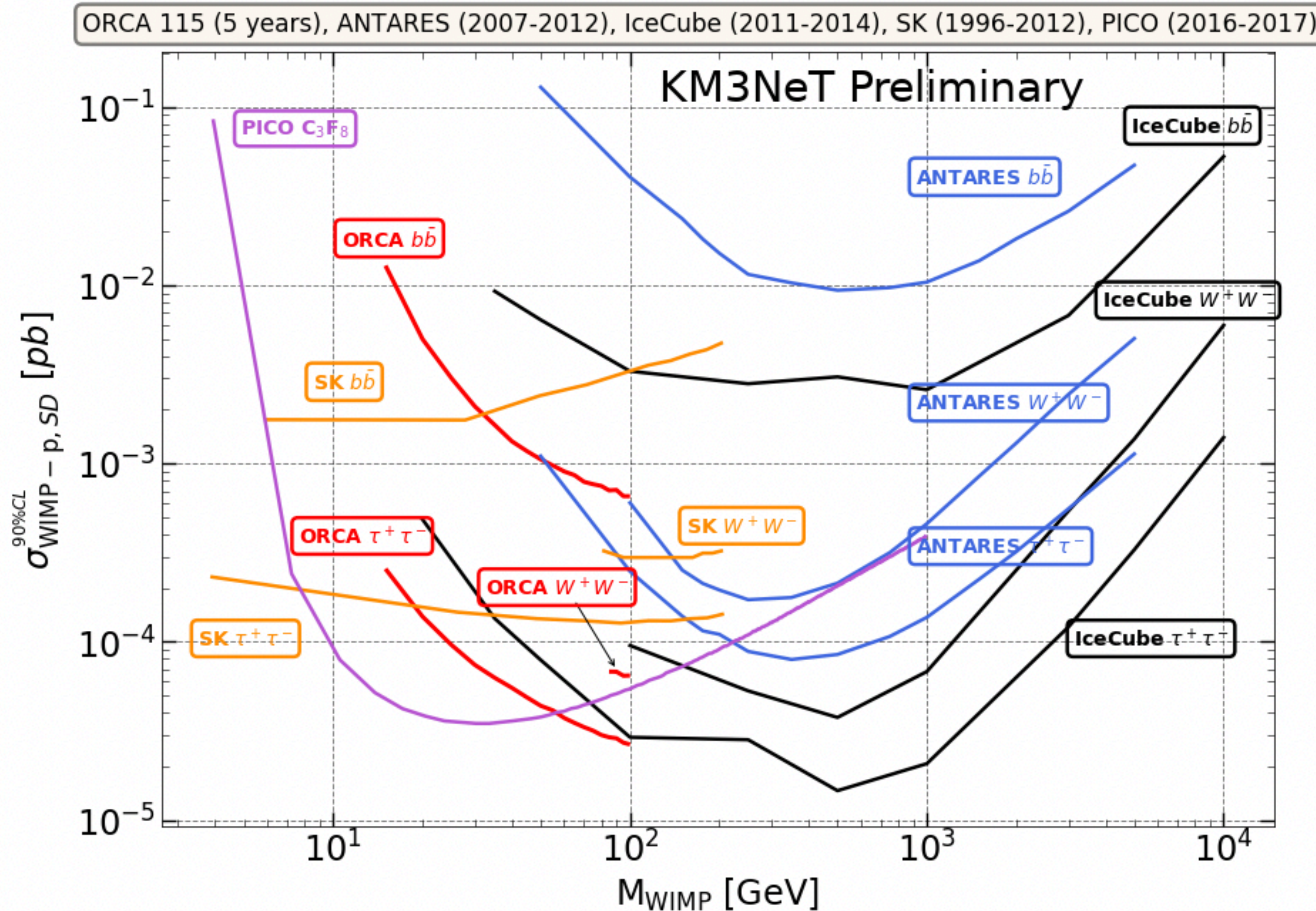
- Made of hydrogen!
  - **Capture rate driven by  $\sigma_{SD}$**
- Very old and massive:
  - **Process in equilibrium  $\frac{dN}{dt} = 0$**
- Very dense
  - **Only low energy neutrinos escape!**



- Small escape velocity:
  - **Not in equilibrium!**
- Only vertical up-going events:
  - **Need control of systematics.**
- Capture rate depends Earth abundance:
  - **Sensitivity driven by  $\sigma_{SI}$**



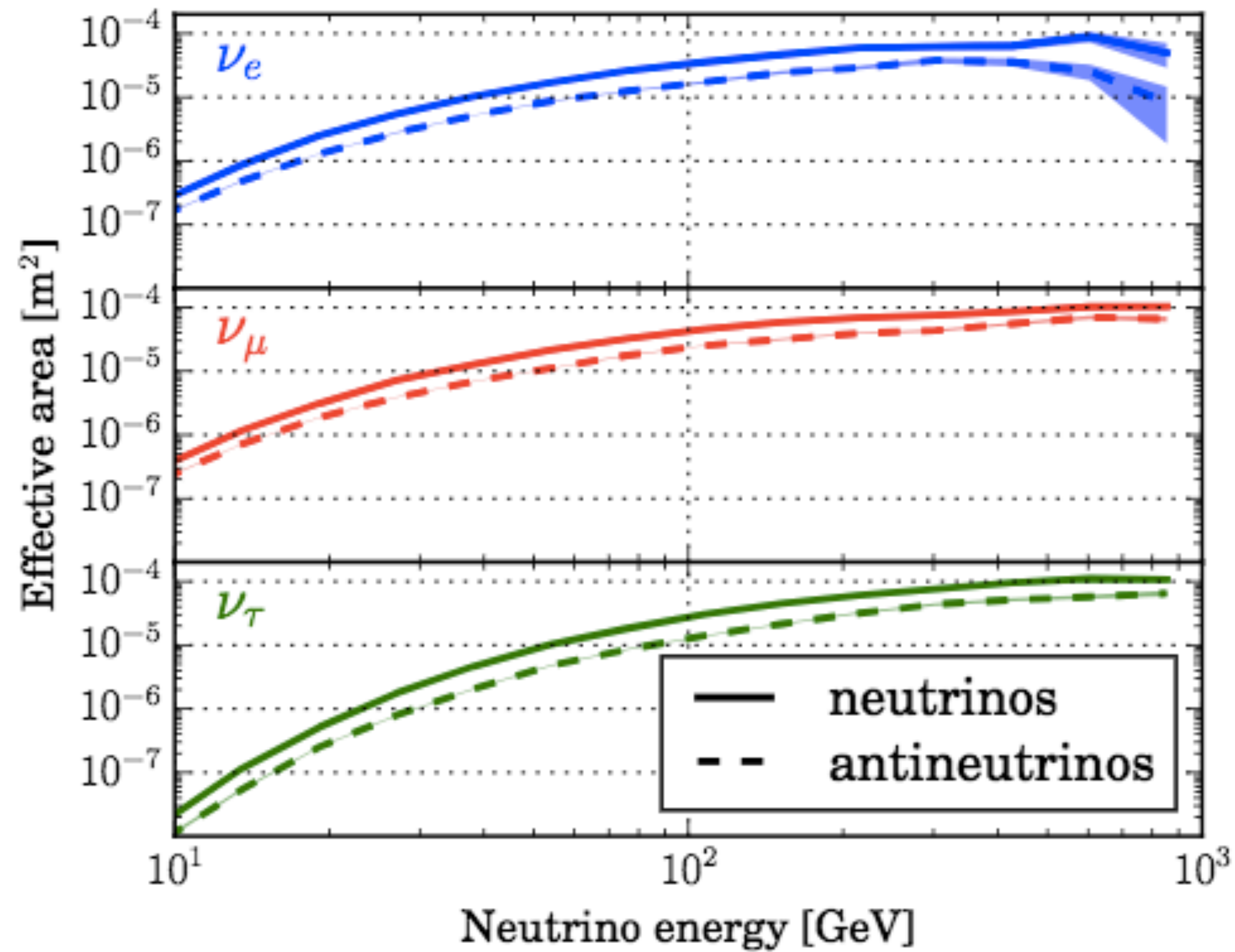




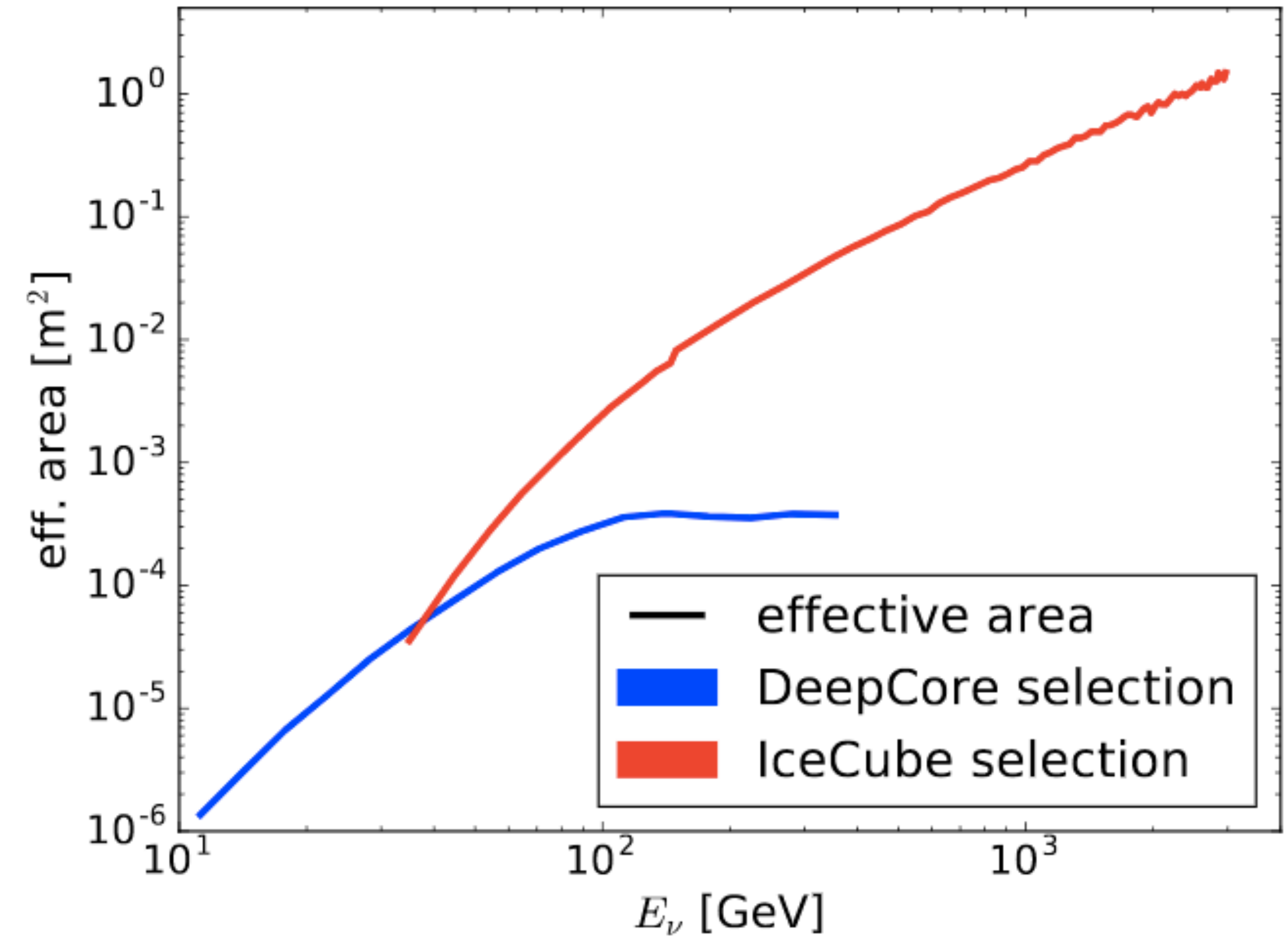
- **Red lines** are 5 years of ORCA simulated data
- Improve sensitivity below  $m_\chi < 10^2$  GeV

PoS(ICRC2019)536

## Galactic Center Aeff



## Sun Aeff



- ANtarctic Impulsive Transient Antenna balloon-borne radio antenna, 4 one-month flights >2006
- Two very energetic ( $\sim 0.5$  EeV) upgoing air showers consistent with  $\tau$  decay (type 4 above) from a CC of a  $\nu_\tau$  neutrino

event, flight	3985267, ANITA-I	15717147, ANITA-III
date, time	2006-12-28,00:33:20UTC	2014-12-20,08:33:22.5UTC
Lat., Lon. <sup>(1)</sup>	-82.6559, 17.2842	-81.39856, 129.01626
Altitude	2.56 km	2.75 km
Ice depth	3.53 km	3.22 km
El., Az.	$-27.4 \pm 0.3^\circ, 159.62 \pm 0.7^\circ$	$-35.0 \pm 0.3^\circ, 61.41 \pm 0.7^\circ$
RA, Dec <sup>(2)</sup>	282.14064, +20.33043	50.78203, +38.65498
$E_{shower}^{(3)}$	$0.6 \pm 0.4$ EeV	$0.56_{-0.2}^{+0.3}$ EeV

<sup>1</sup> Latitude, Longitude of the estimated ground position of the event.

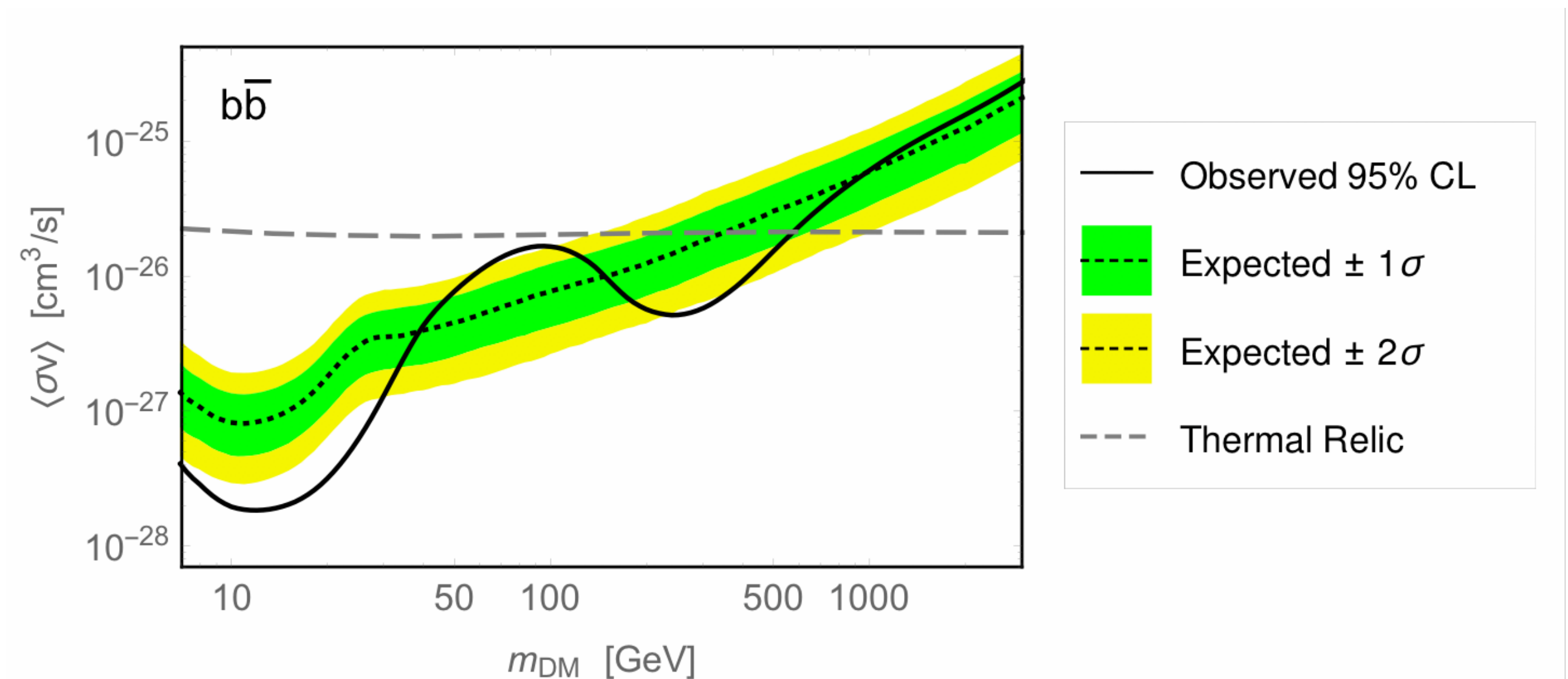
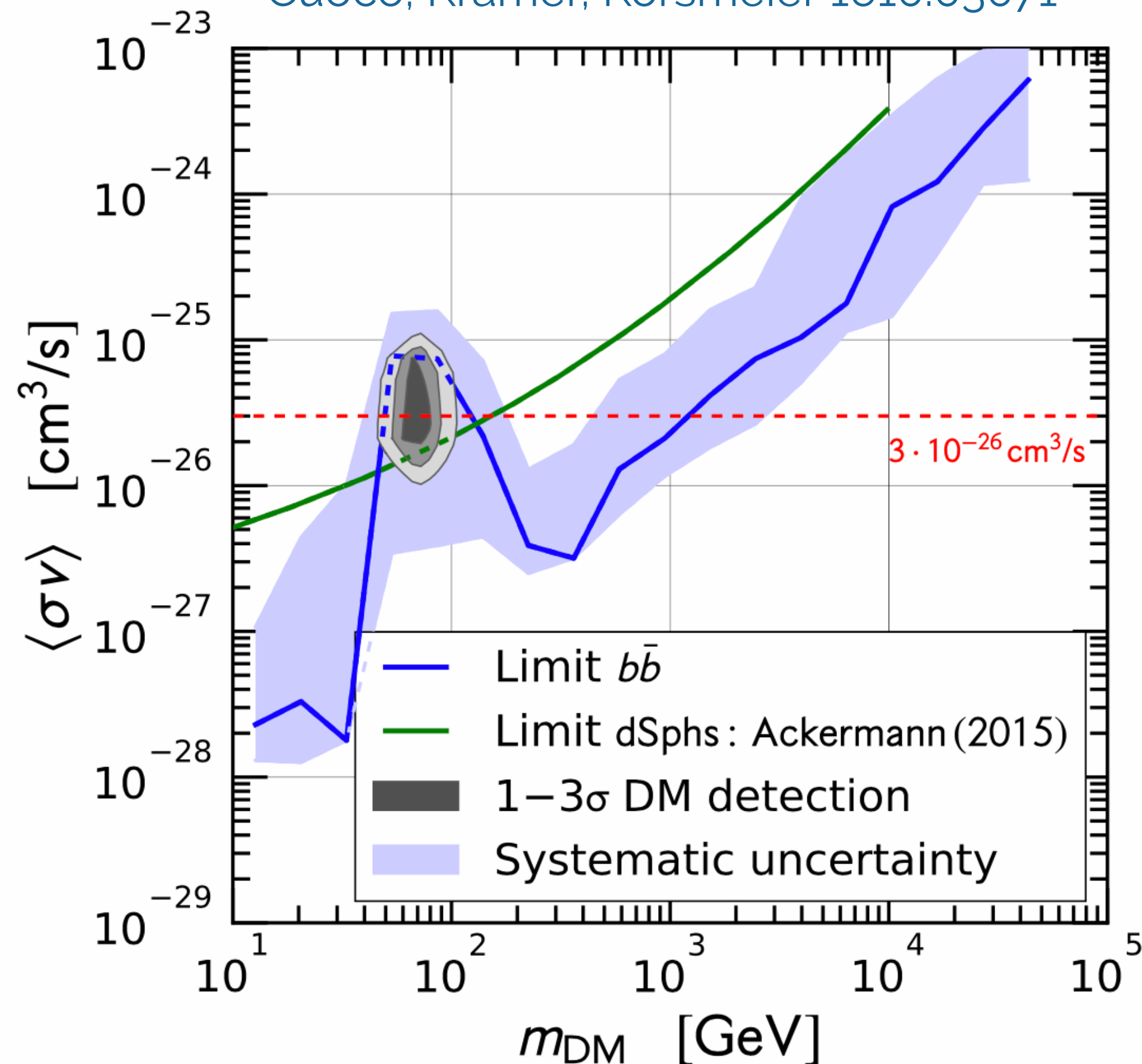
<sup>2</sup> Sky coordinates projected from event arrival angles at ANITA.

<sup>3</sup> For upward shower initiation at or near ice surface.

- ANtarctic Impulsive Transient Antenna balloon-borne radio antenna, 4 one-month flights >2006
- Two very energetic ( $\sim 0.5$  EeV) upgoing air showers consistent with  $\tau$  decay (type 4 above) from a CC of a  $\nu_\tau$  neutrino
- But EeV  $\nu_\tau$  cannot cross the Earth (even with  $\tau$ -regeneration). Also if astrophysical, they should more TeV neutrinos in from the same direction (IceCube saw 0).
- So? Dark Matter
- Or? Mis-qualified background ( [arXiv:1905.02846v1](https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.02846v1), [arXiv:1903.08750](https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.08750) )

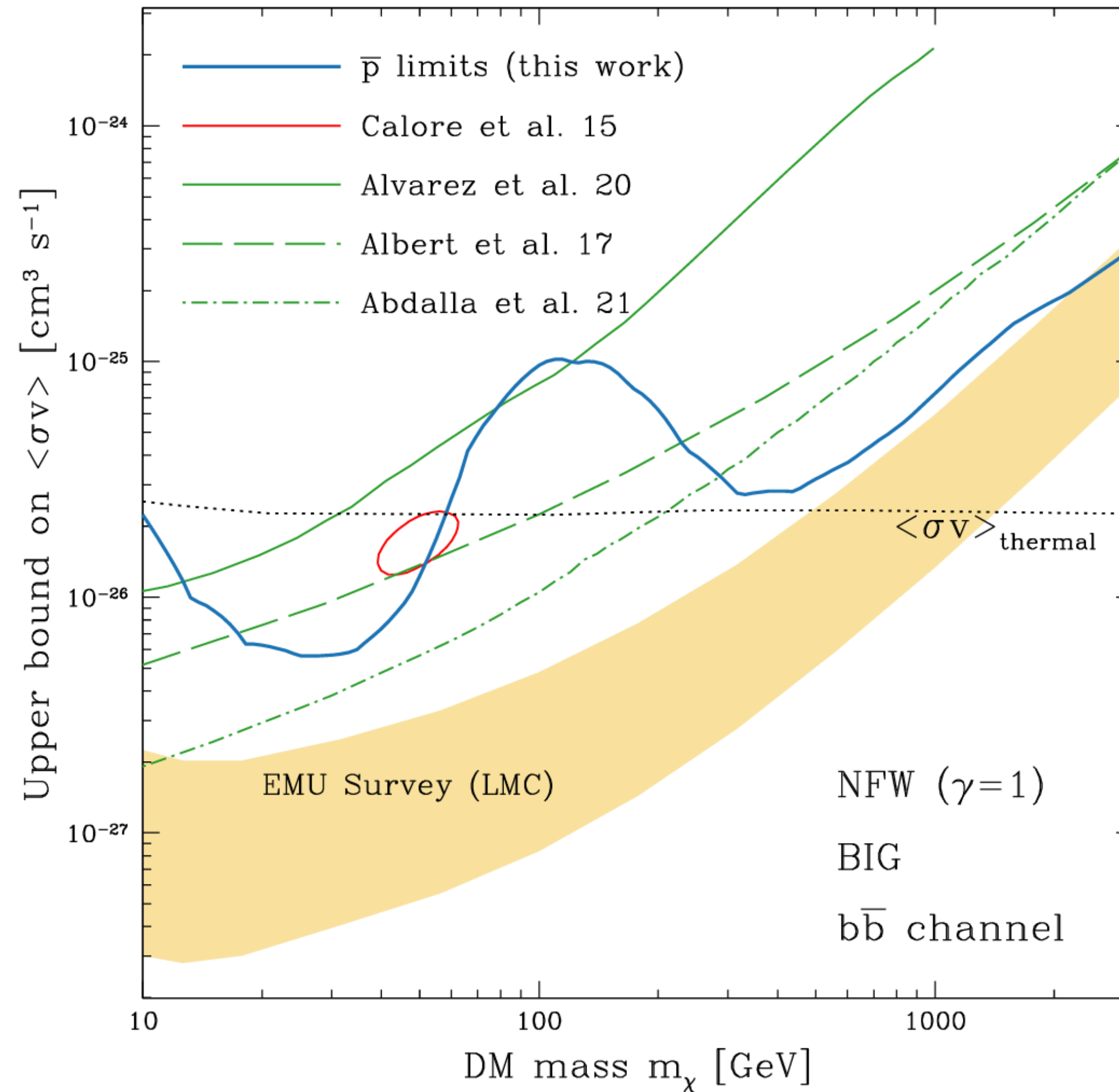
- “Excess” in anti-protons still there ( $m_\chi = 80 \text{ GeV}, b\bar{b}$ ) at the level of thermal cross-section (but significance  $4.5\sigma \rightarrow \sim 1\sigma$ )

Cuoco, Krämer, Korsmeier 1610.03071



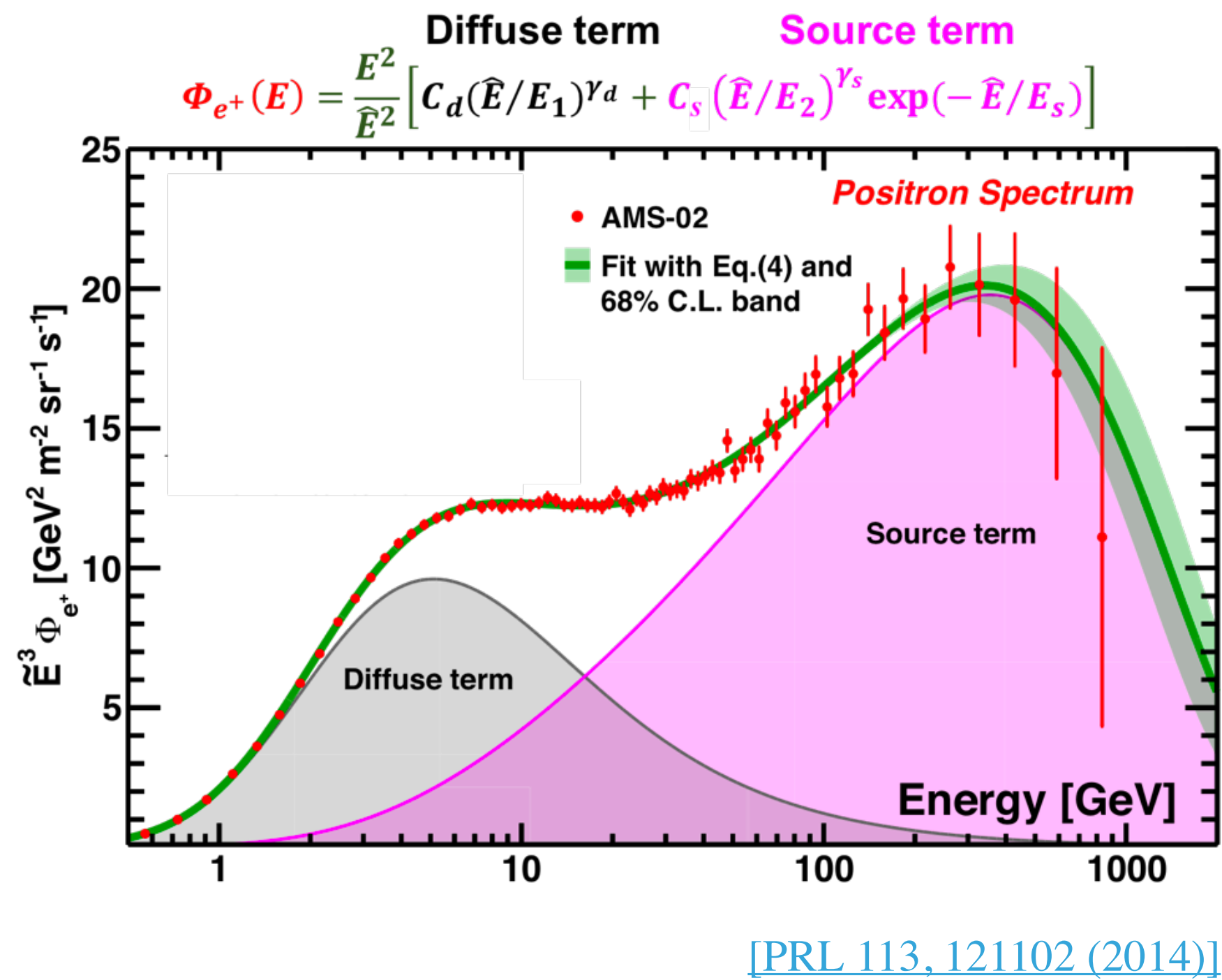
Reinert, Winkler 1712.00002





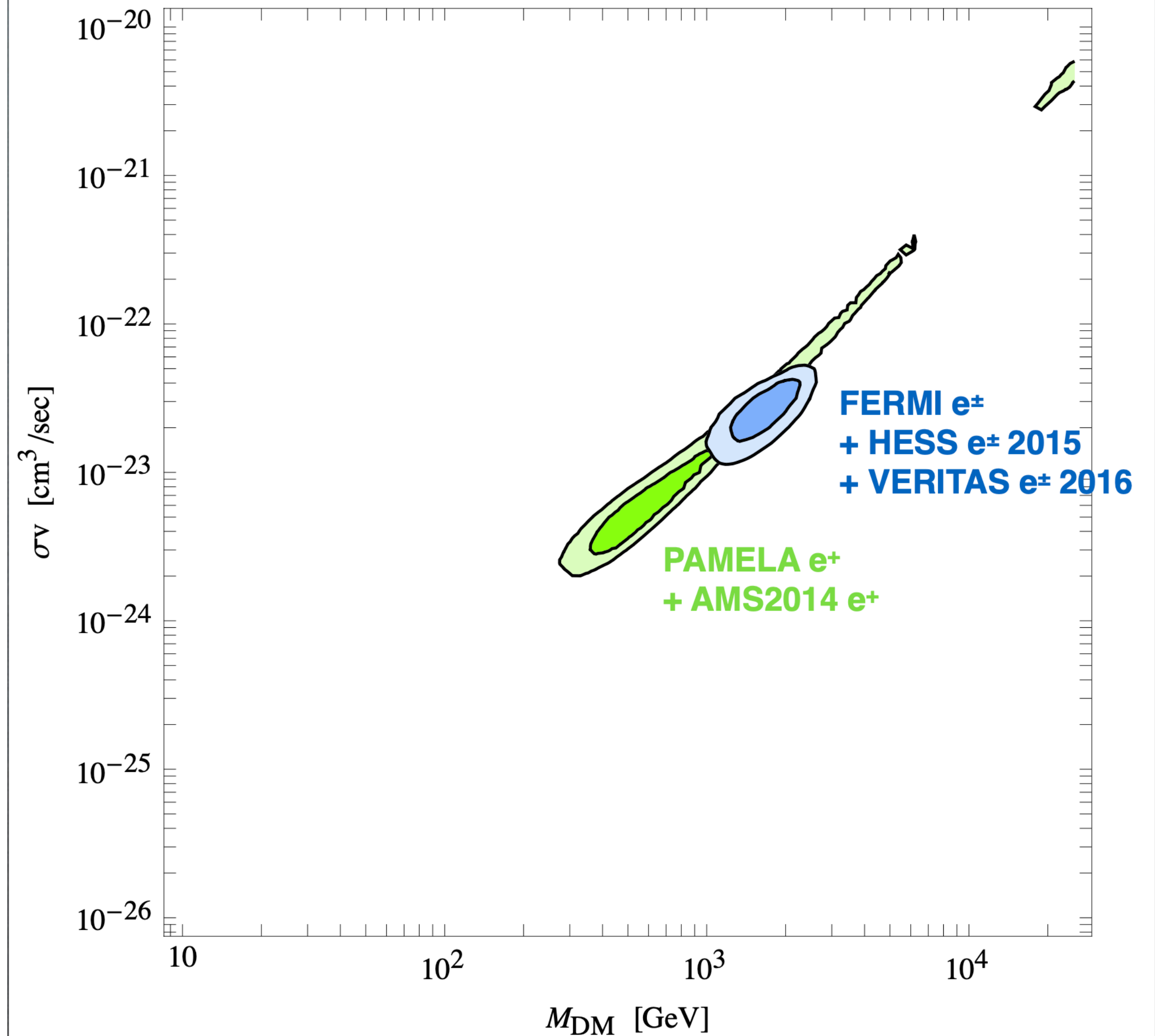
[arXiv:2202.03076v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.03076v2)

- Using latest data from AMS
- Limits are weaker due to the “excess”.
- Excess still there but not so significant.

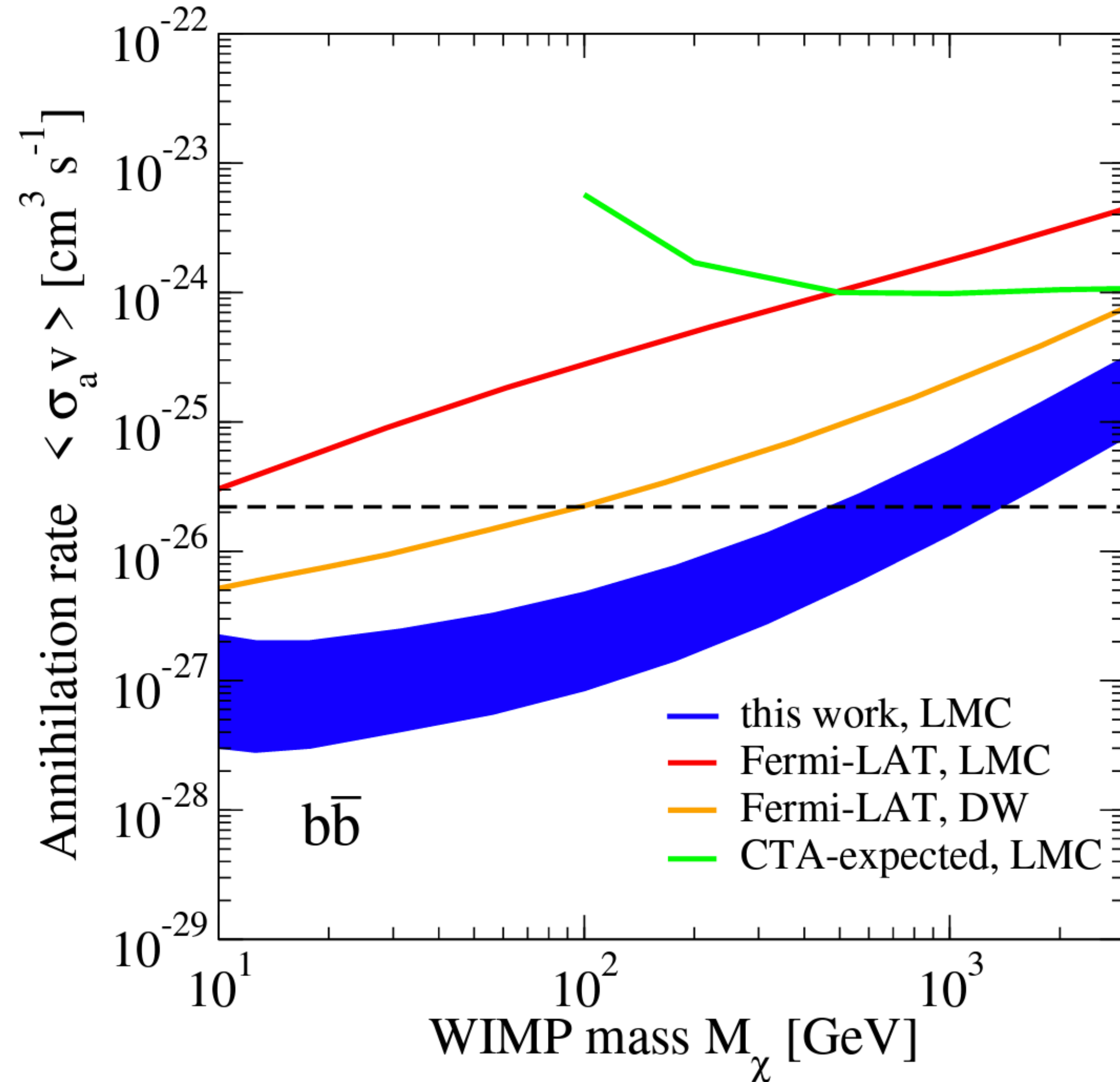


- Leptophilic
- $m_\chi \sim 1$  TeV
- Annihilation cross-section  $\gg$  thermal one
- Limits in tension with Gamma-rays limits, CMB etc.

DM DM  $\rightarrow \mu\mu$ , NFW profile

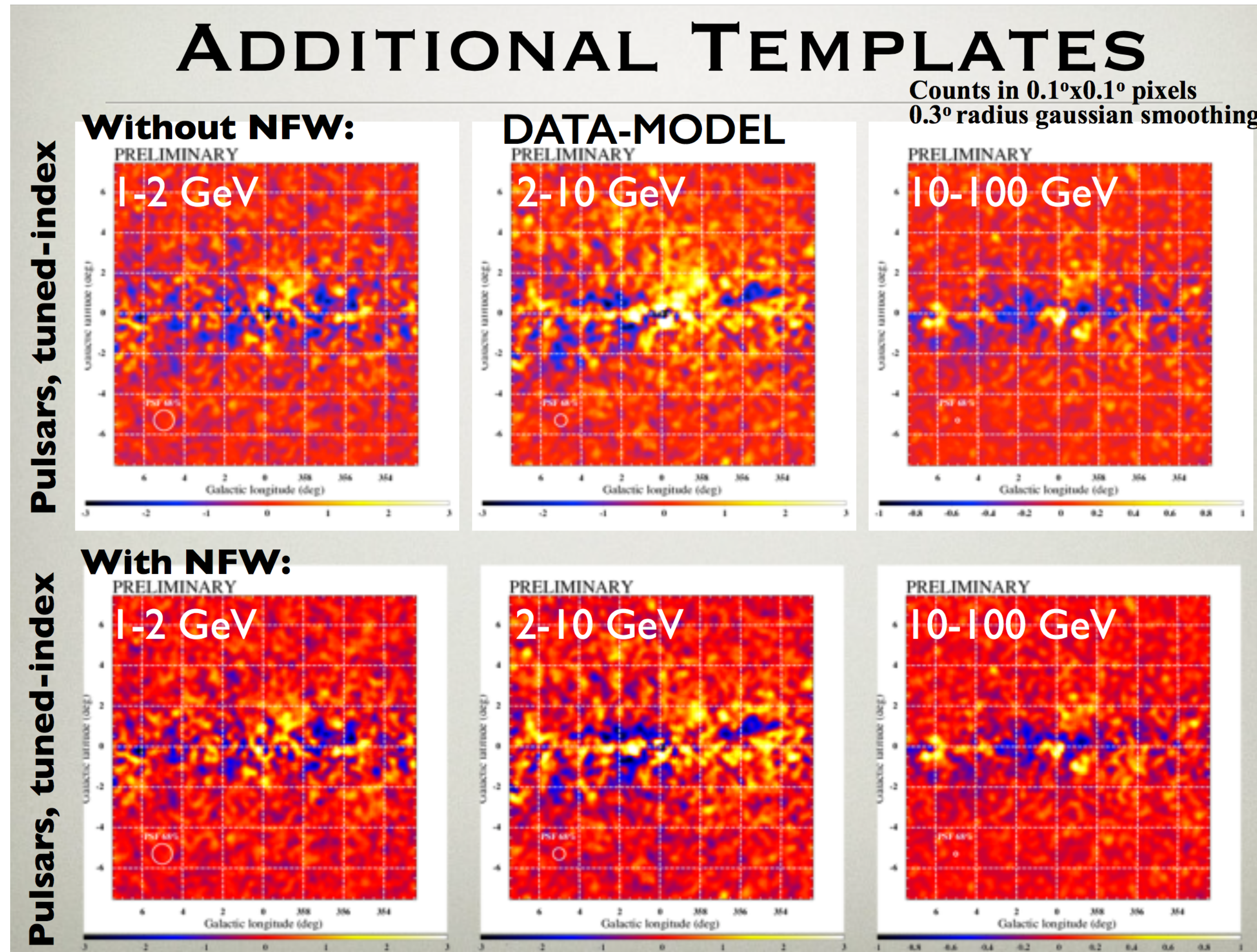


- Synchrotron emission can prove dark matter annihilation.
- Large Magellanic Cloud has high B-field and J-factor.
- Best limits for annihilation into quarks.

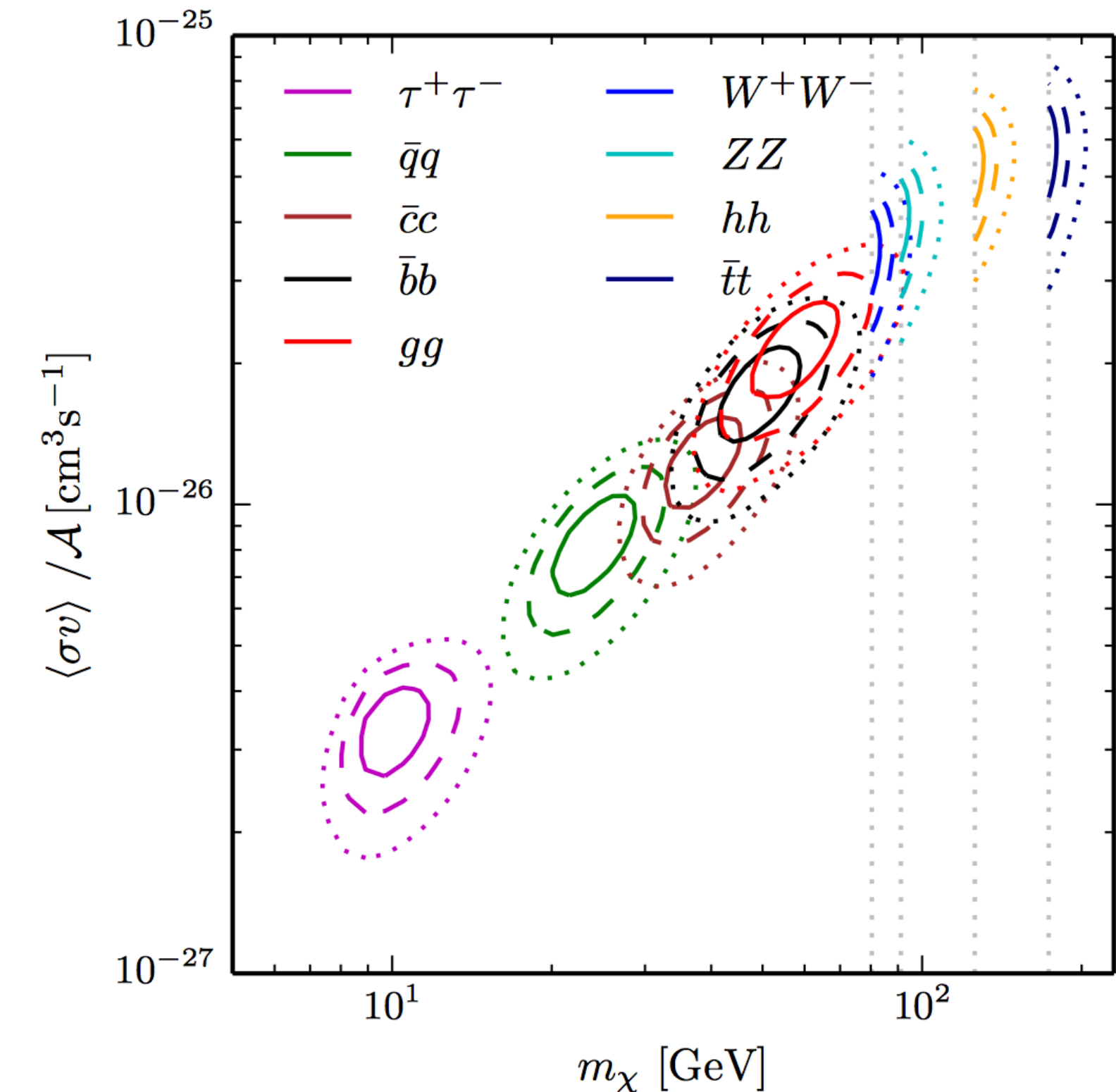


[arXiv:2106.08025v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.08025v2)

- Persistent “excess” in GeV



S. Murgia for FERMI-LAT - ICRC 2015 T.  
Porter for FERMI-LAT - ICRC 2015 #815  
Fermi coll. 1511.02938



F. Calore et al. 1411.4647