



Introduction to dark
matter direct detection

sample text

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Introduction to direct dark matter detection

Today

Dark matter in the Solar System

Direct detection of particle-like dark matter

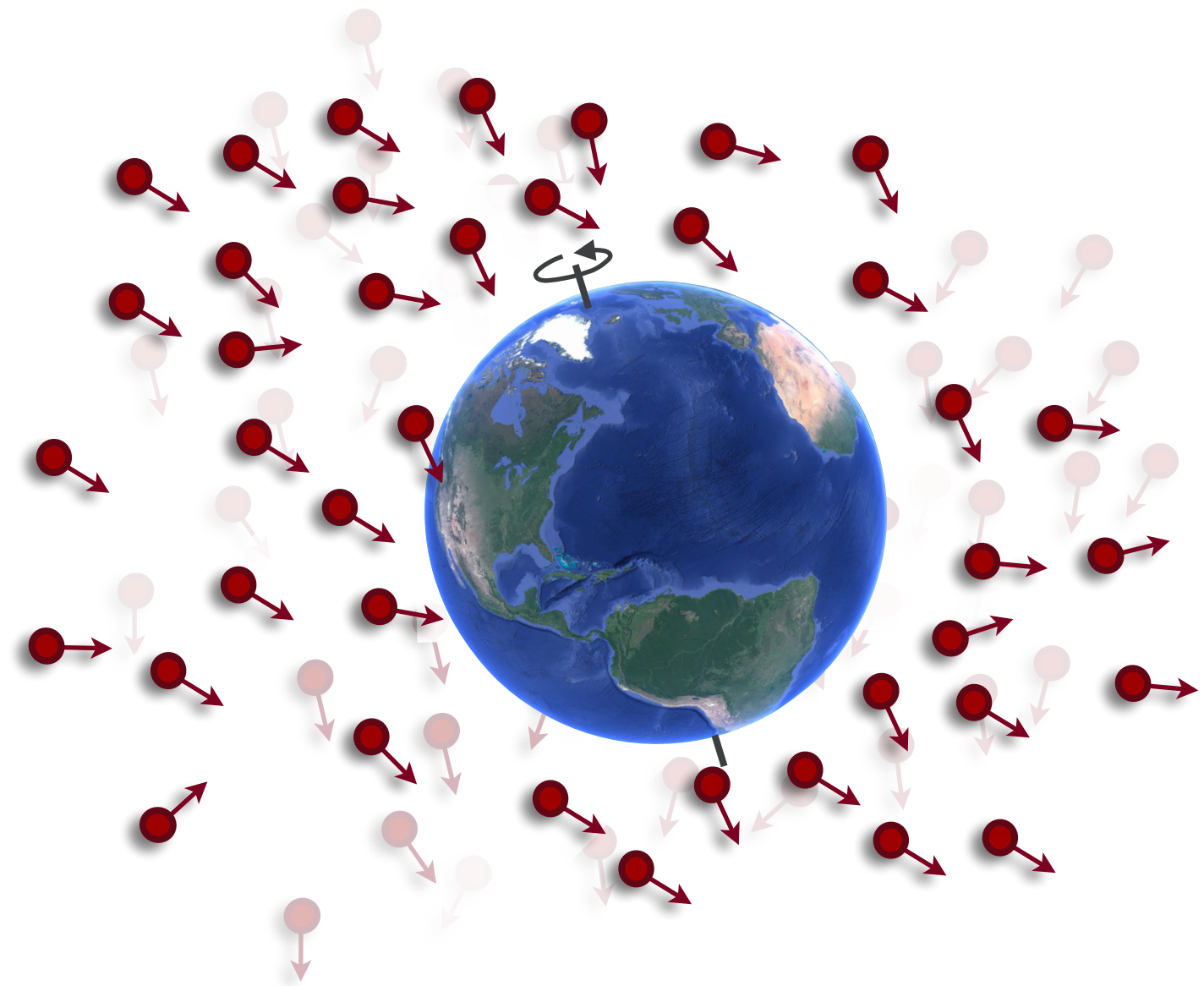
Tomorrow

Direct detection of wave-like dark matter

What is "direct detection"?

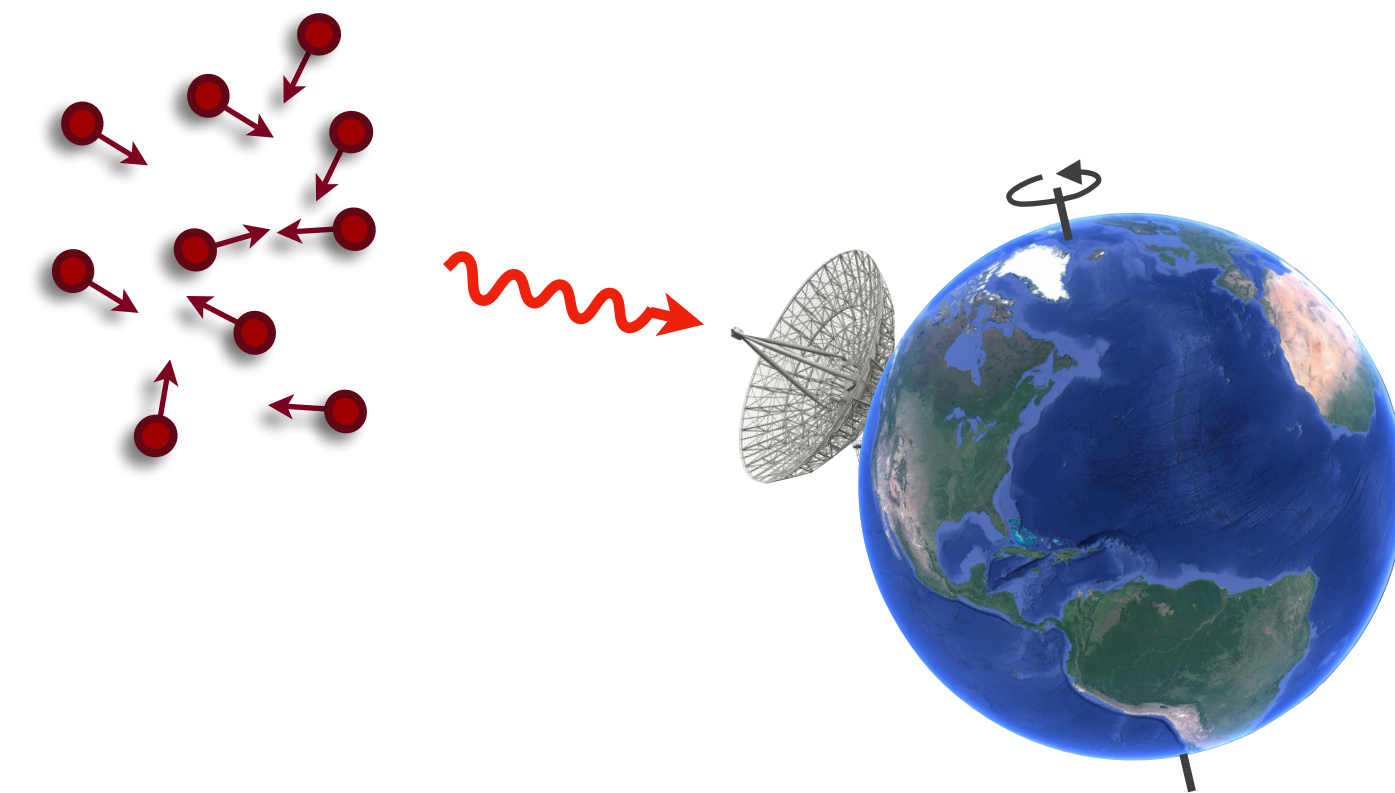
Direct detection

Dark matter comes in from galaxy, interacts inside laboratory experiment

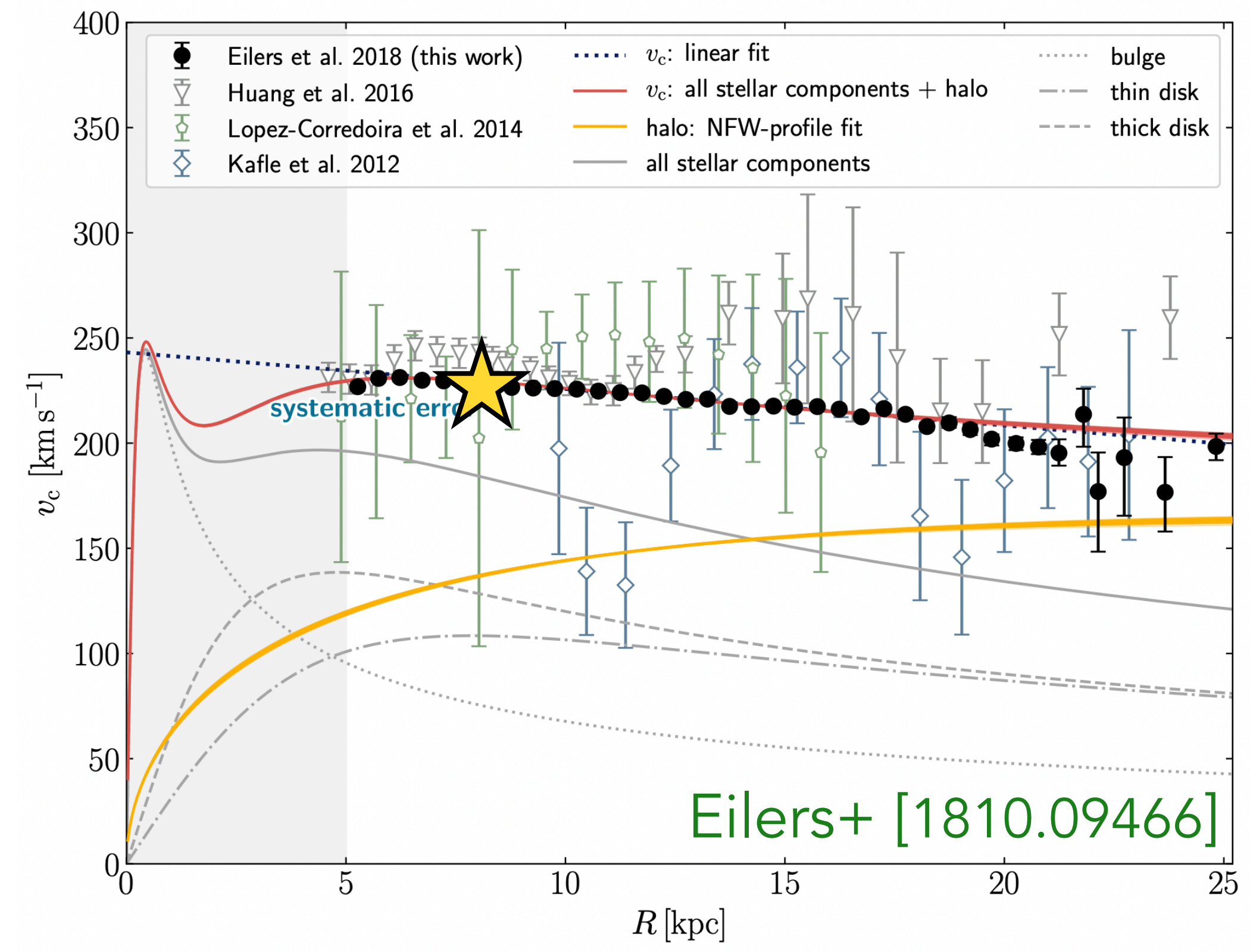


Indirect detection

Dark matter interacts with itself or with other stuff in space producing signals we detect in telescopes



Dark Matter Halo

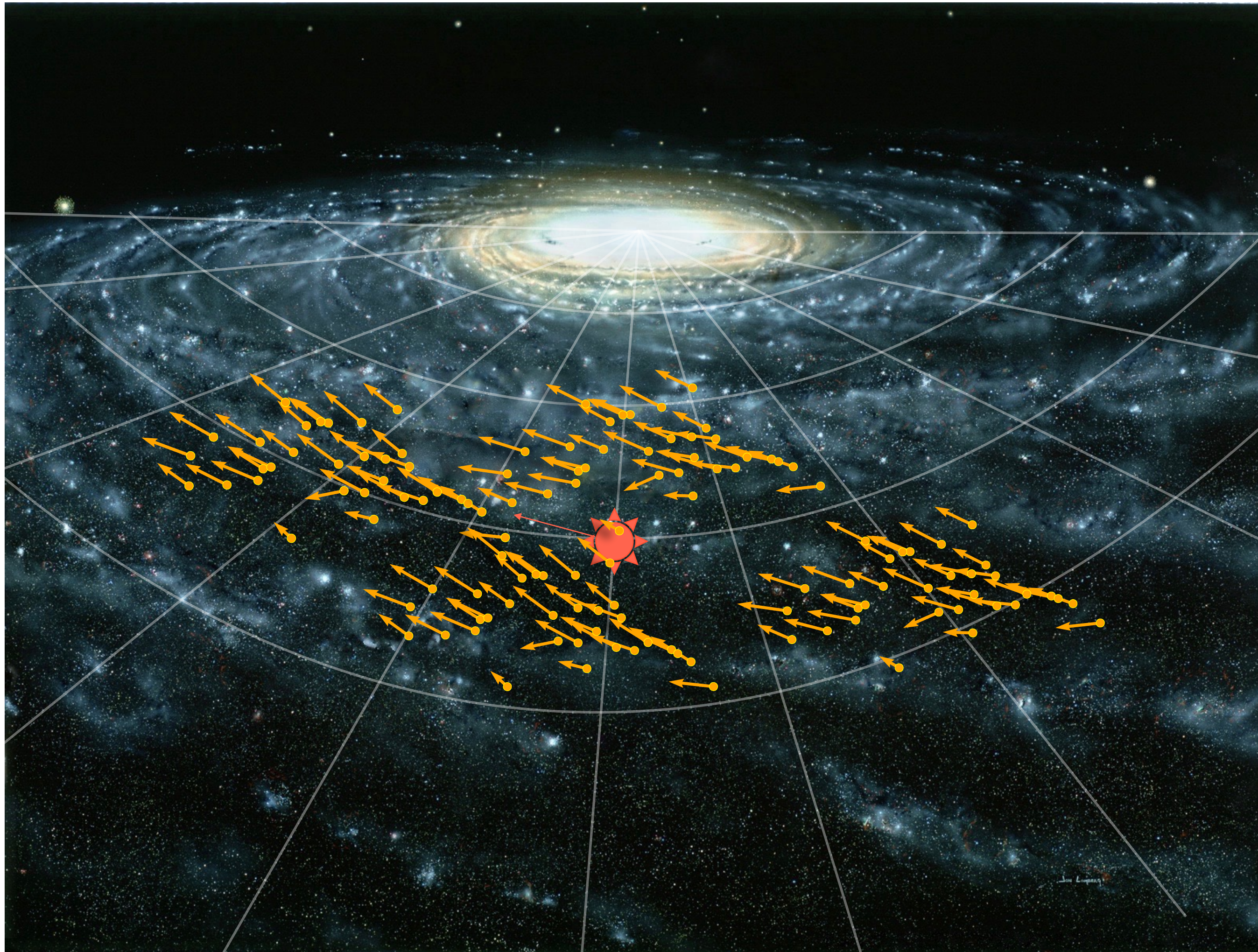


$$\rho(R = 8 \text{ kpc}) = 0.3 \pm 0.03 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$$



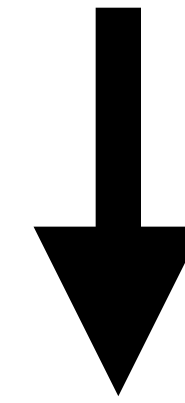
Dark matter in the Solar System

We can measure the dark matter locally because stellar motions trace the gravitational potential



Model

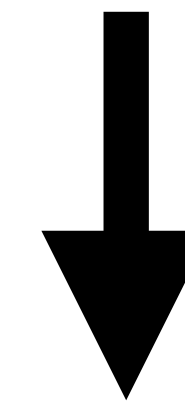
$$\Phi = \Phi_{\text{stars}} + \Phi_{\text{gas}} + \Phi_{\text{DM}}$$



(collisionless) Boltzmann eq.

Distribution function \rightarrow Grav. potential

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \nabla_x f \cdot \mathbf{v} - \nabla_v f \cdot \nabla_x \Phi = 0$$



Poisson eq.

Grav. potential \rightarrow matter density

$$\nabla_x^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho$$

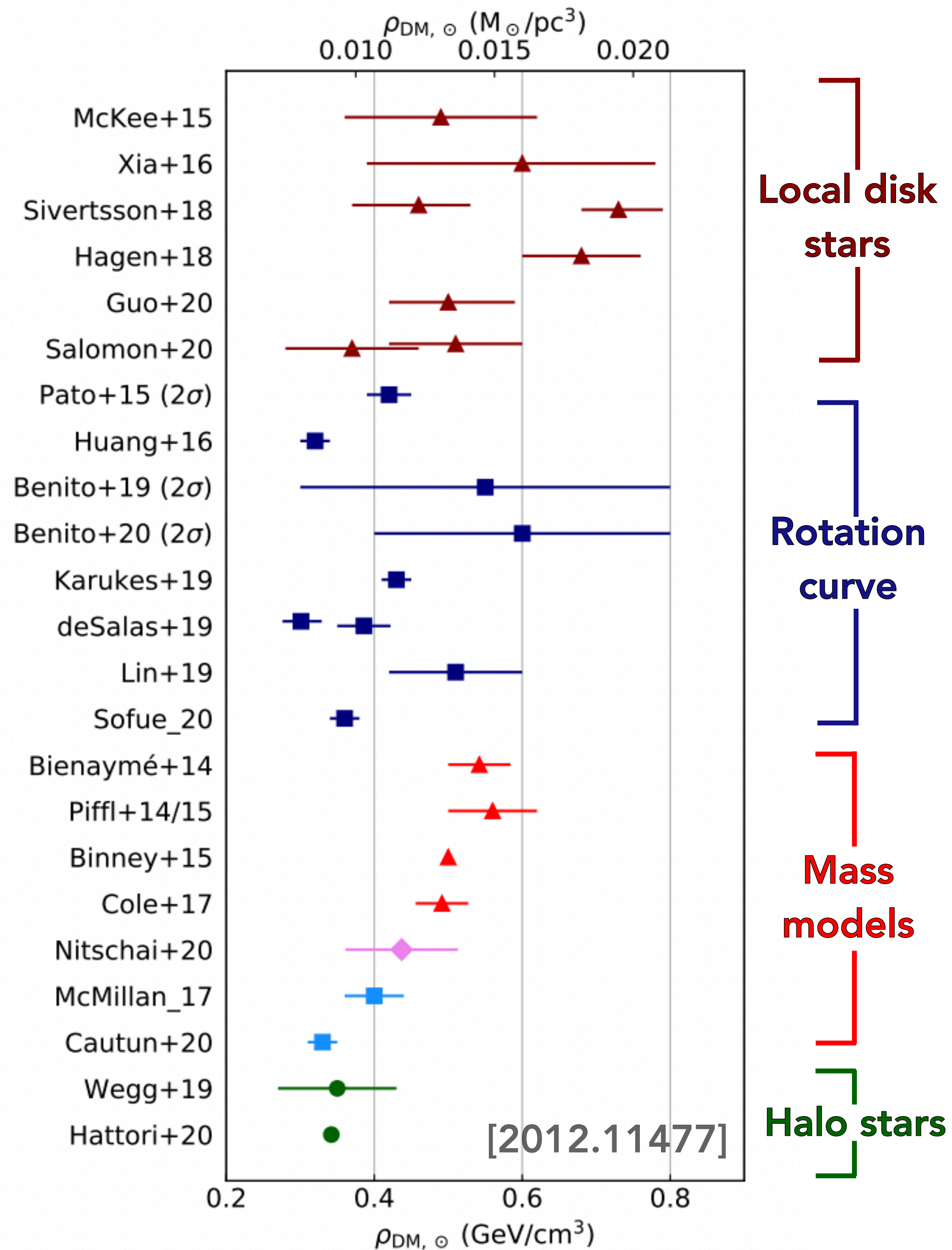
Long history of this

(Kapteyn 1922, Oort 1932)

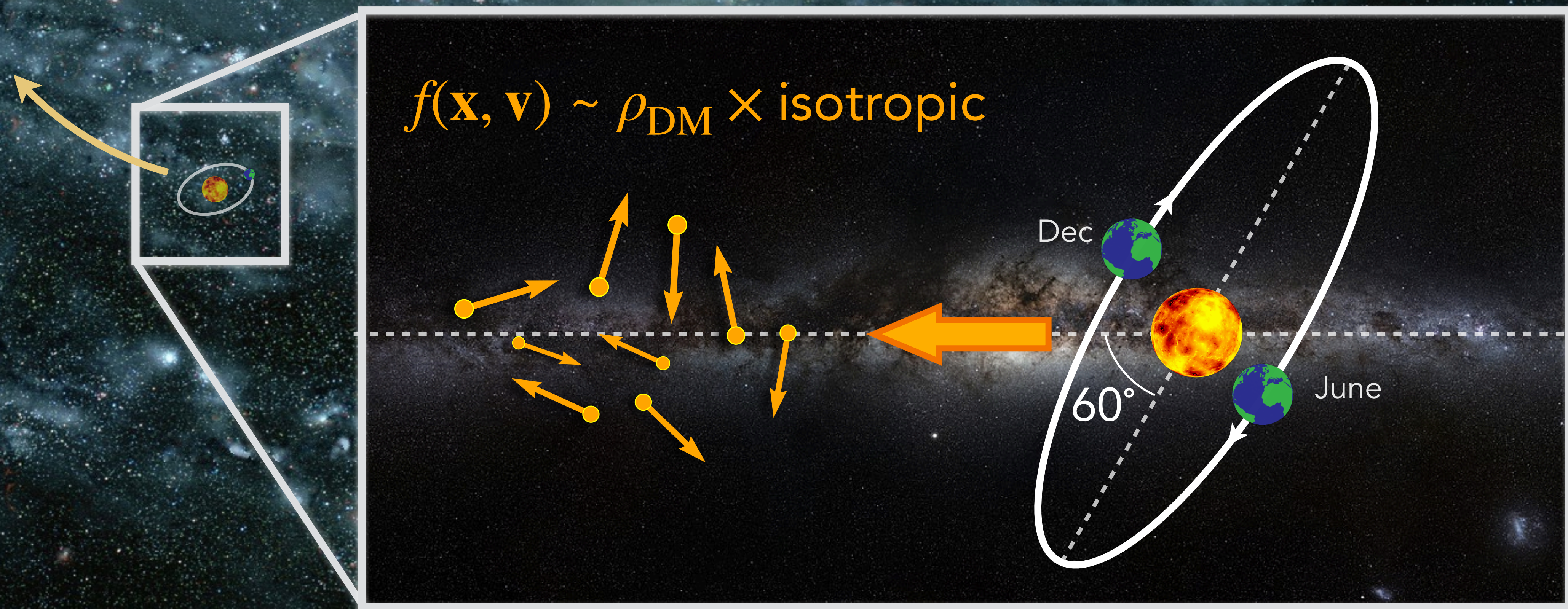
Current estimates span the range
 $0.3\text{--}0.7 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}$ depending on
the method and dataset used

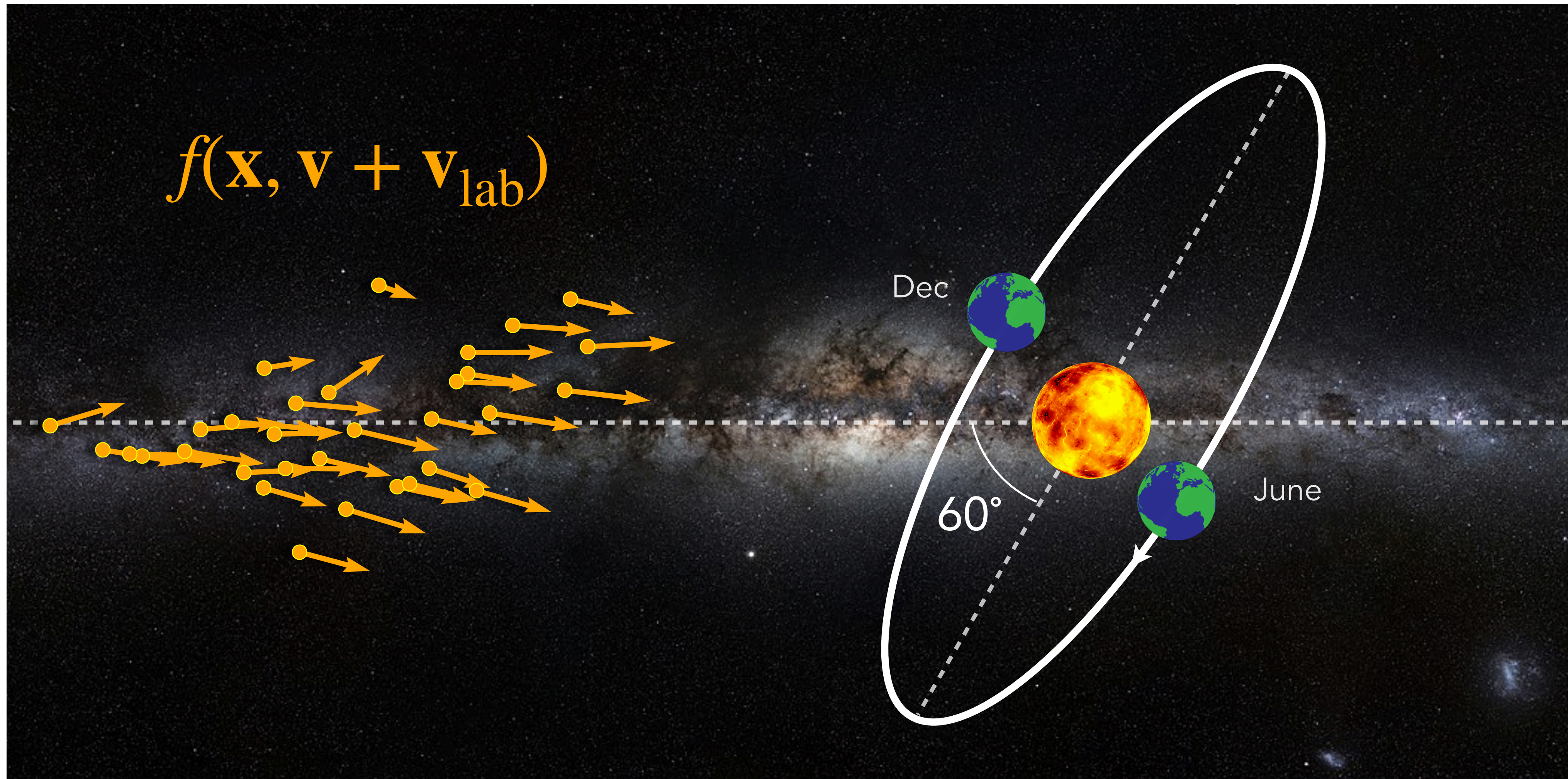
$\rho_{\text{DM}} = 0$ excluded at many σ

→ Post-*Gaia* there is no lack of data.
Fundamental problem is modelling,
disequilibrium, and uncertainty in
baryon density in the disk



Distribution function for dark matter in the Solar System





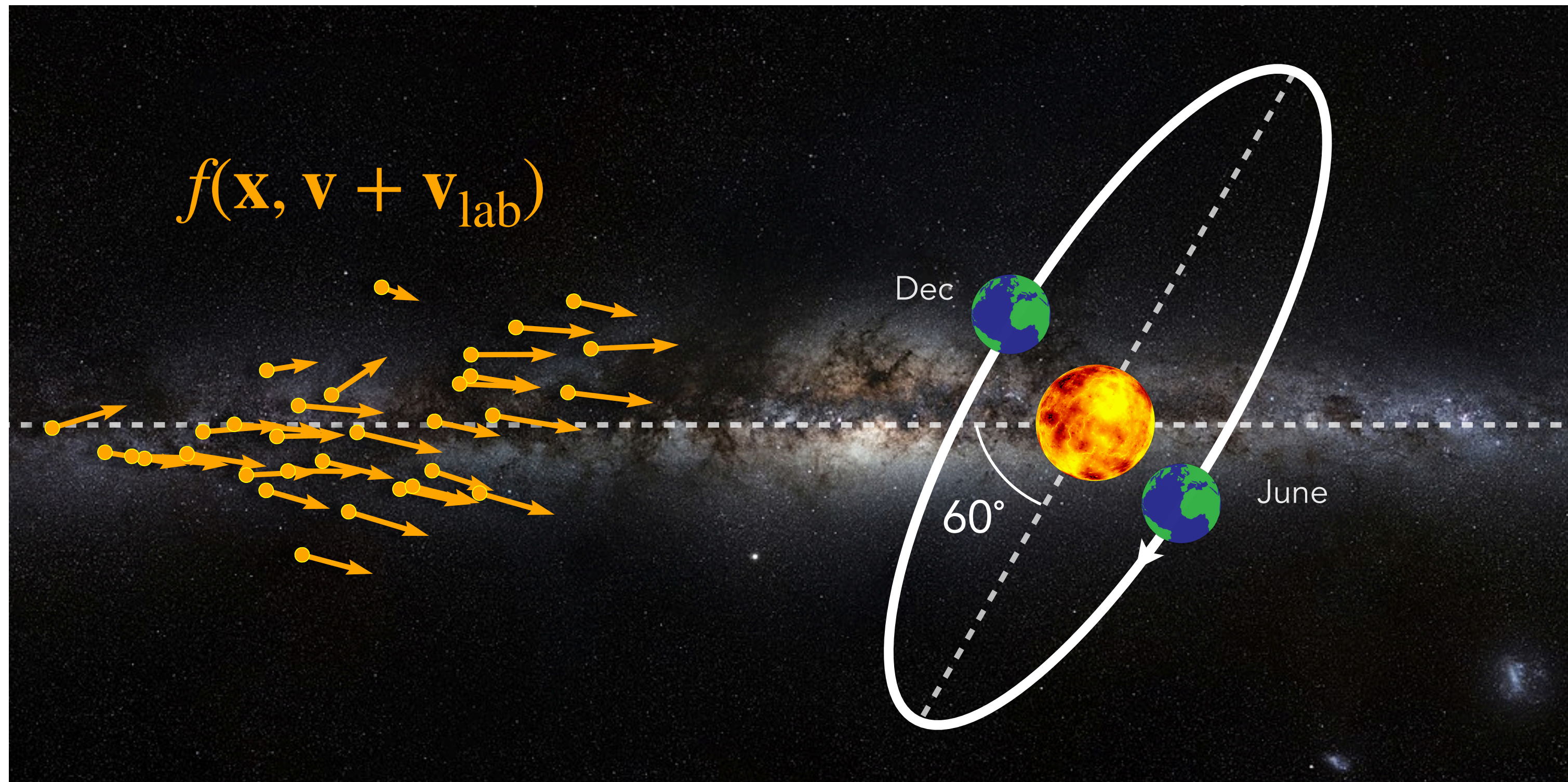
Assuming the dark matter does not co-rotate with the disk, most effects come about from our laboratory's motion **through** the dark matter: $v_{\text{lab}} \sim 300 \text{ km/s}$

Typical DM speed $v \sim 300$ km/s

DM density $\rho_{\text{DM}} \approx 0.4$ GeV/cc

→ Flux: $\Phi = n_{\text{DM}}v = \frac{\rho_{\text{DM}}}{m_{\text{DM}}}v$

Assuming O(m)-scale experiments, and O(year) running times, direct detection is reasonable to think about for DM masses up to the Planck-scale



Relative Sun/Earth motion can lead to some interesting signals that are independent of DM particle model

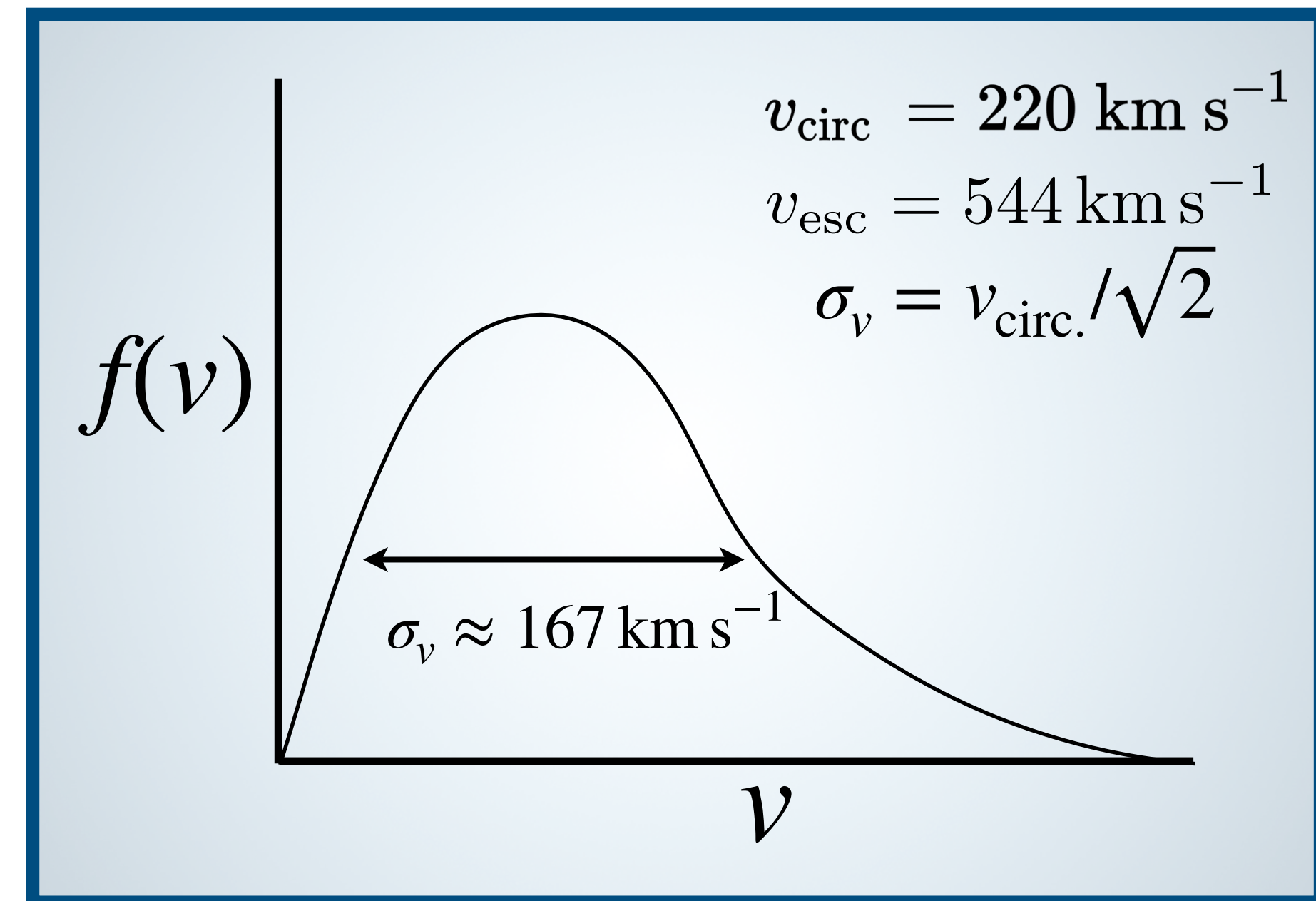
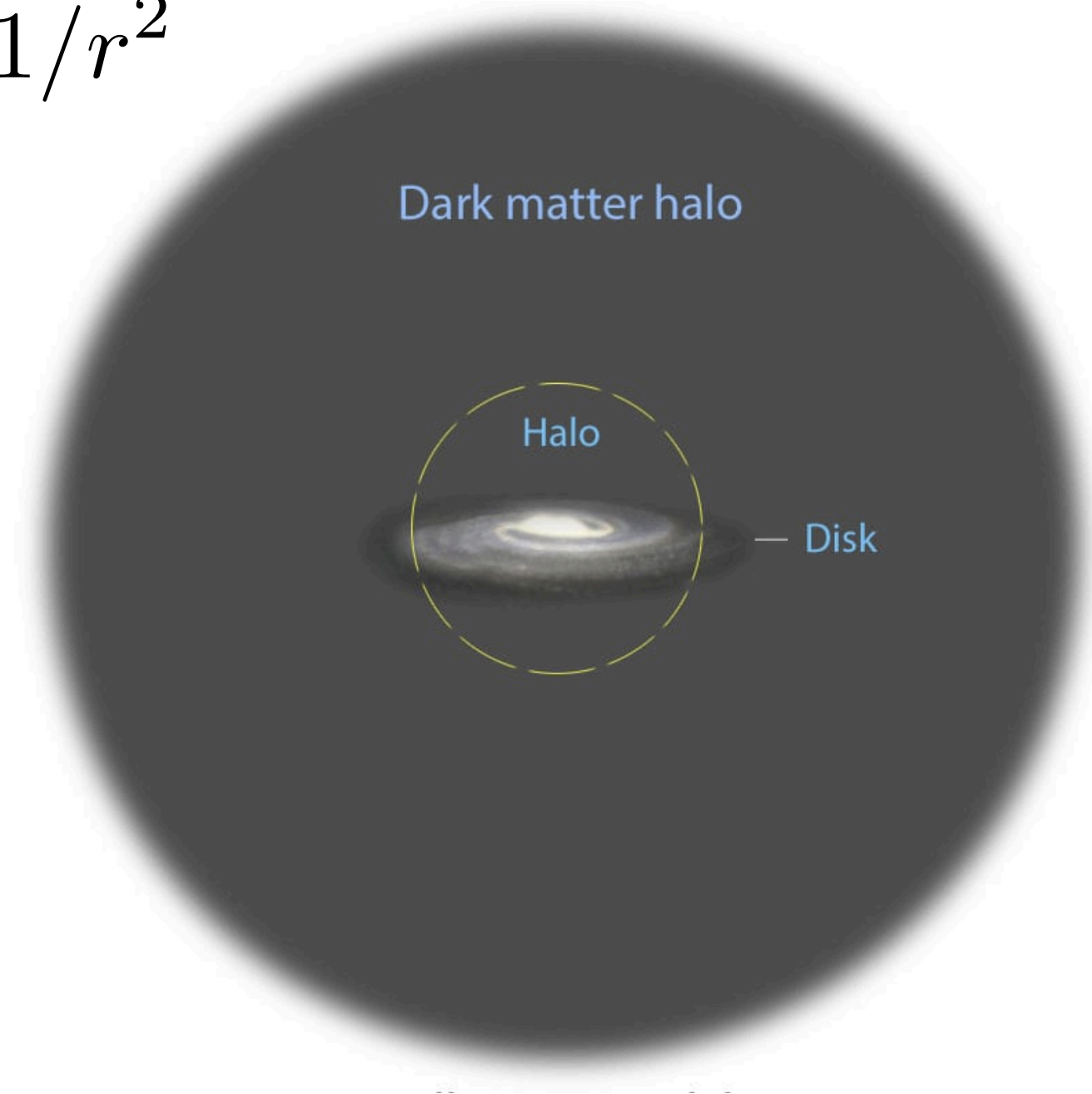
- Annual modulation
- Gravitational focusing by Sun
- Direction-dependence

$$\mathbf{v}_{\text{lab}} = \underbrace{\mathbf{v}_{\text{LSR}} + \mathbf{v}_{\text{pec}}}_{\text{Sun: 260 km/s}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{v}_{\oplus, \text{rev.}}(t)}_{\text{Earth: } \pm 15 \text{ km/s (left-right) } \pm 20 \text{ km/s (up-down)}}$$

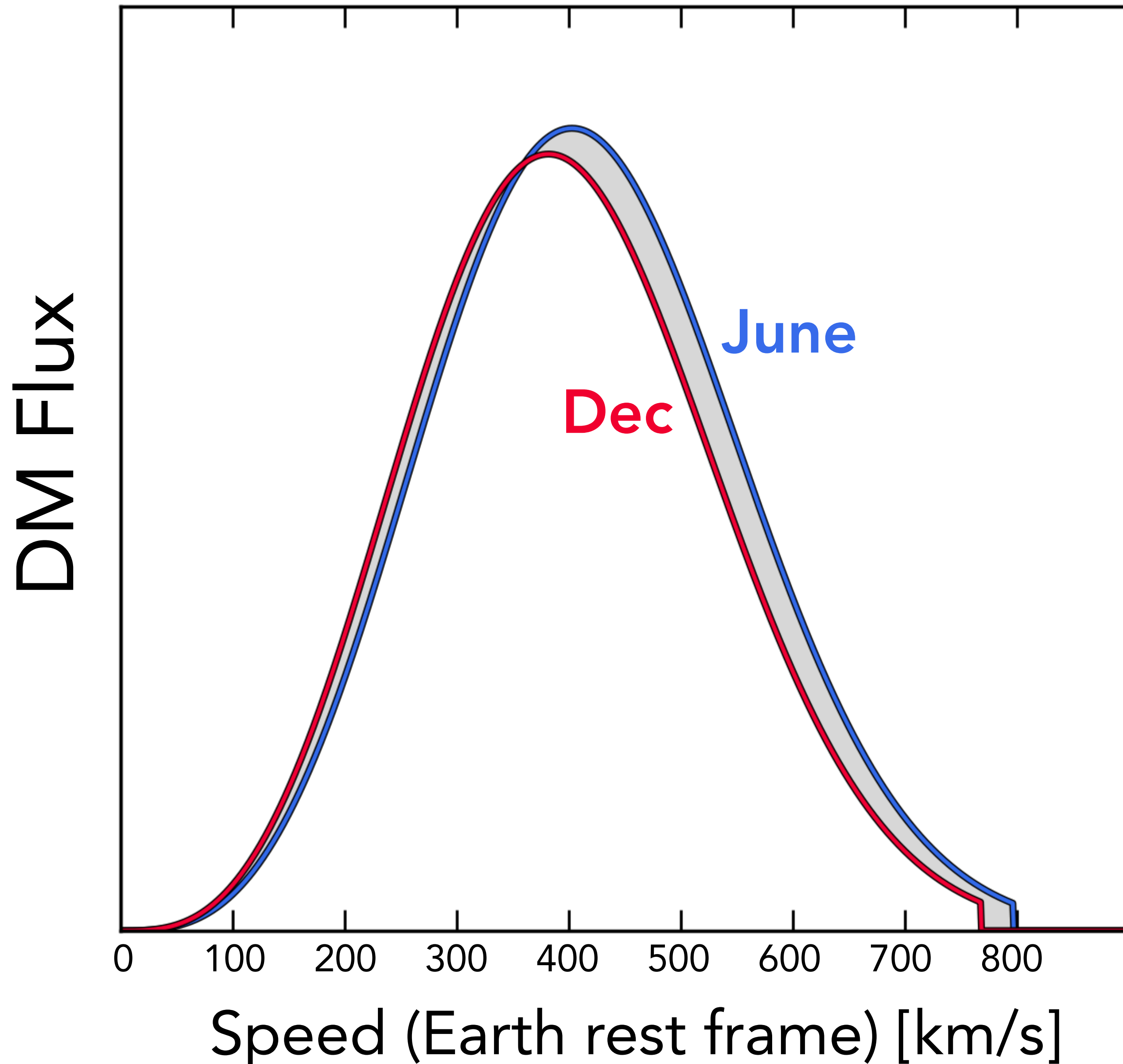
The usual assumption for $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v})$: the Standard Halo Model (SHM)

- Infinite isothermal sphere \rightarrow Simplest halo model that gives a flat asymptotic rotation curve
- Truncate at $v > v_{\text{esc}}$ so as to not include unbound particles

$$\rho \sim 1/r^2$$



1. Annual modulation

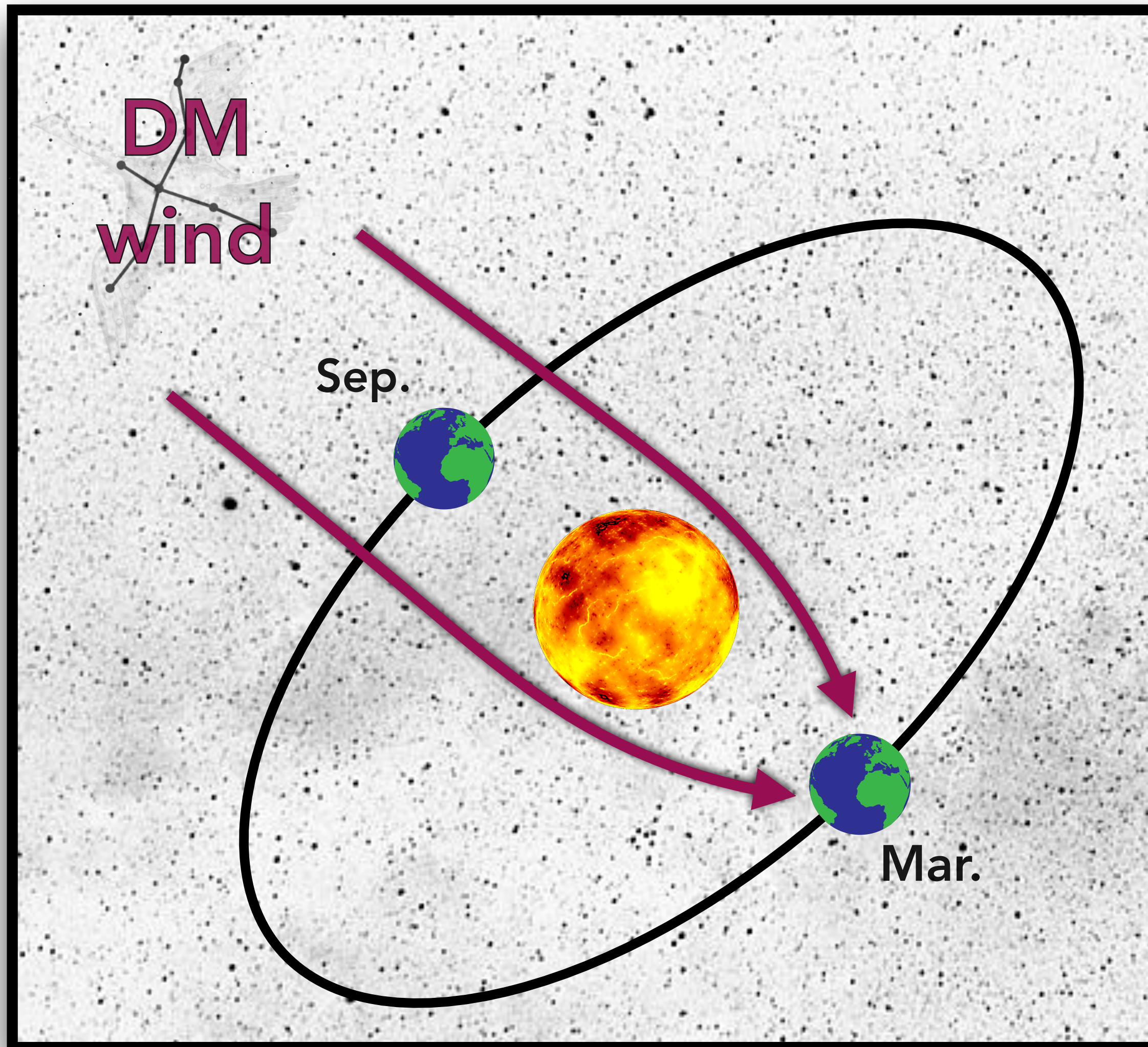


$$\mathbf{v}_{\text{lab}} = \mathbf{v}_{\text{LSR}} + \mathbf{v}_{\text{pec}} + \mathbf{v}_{\oplus, \text{rev.}}(t)$$

$$\text{DM Flux} \propto v f(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v}_{\text{lab}})$$

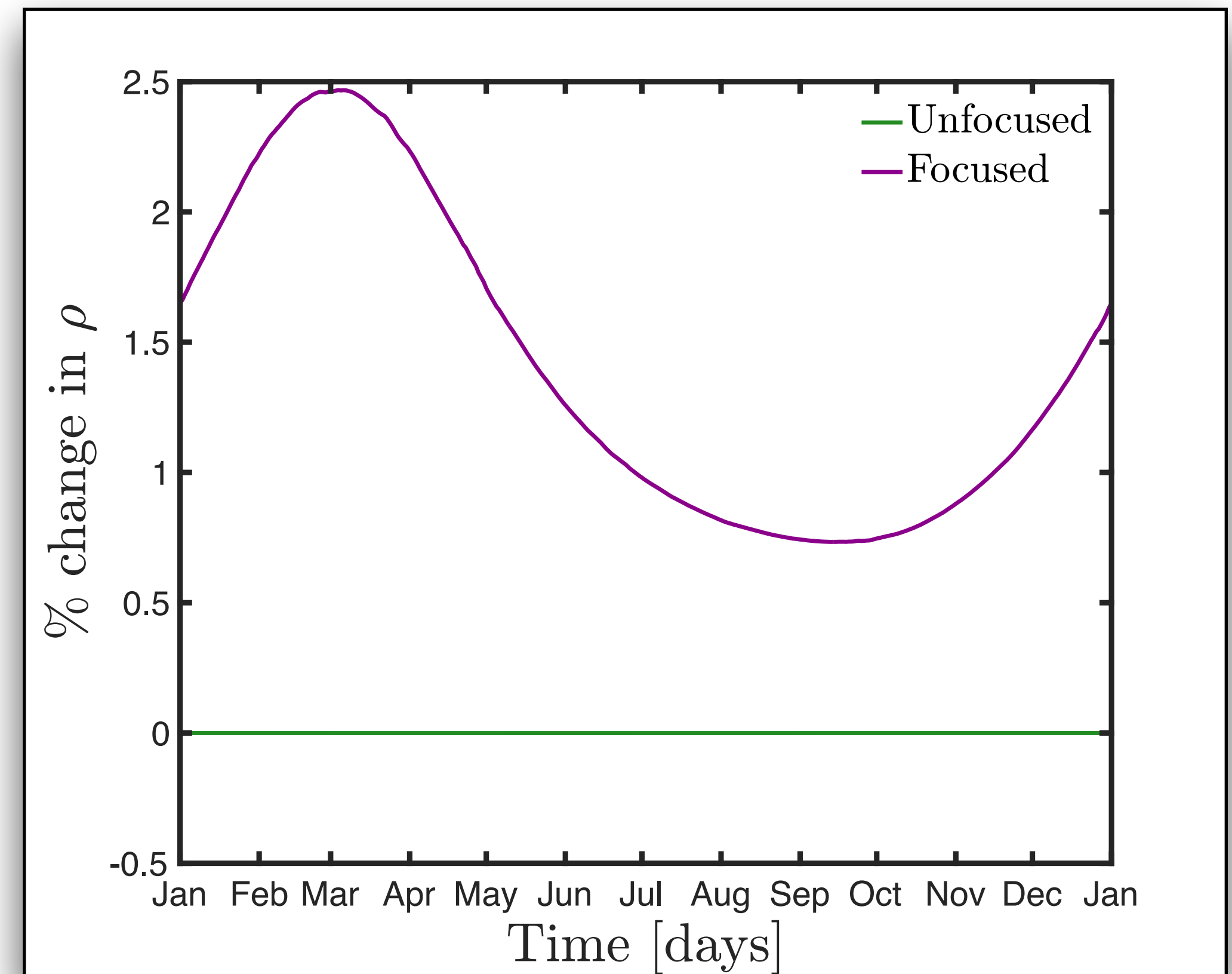
- Integrated flux is maximum during June and minimum in December (few % modulation)
- If sampling over distribution at lower-speeds only, phase is flipped (maximum in Dec.)

2. Gravitational focusing

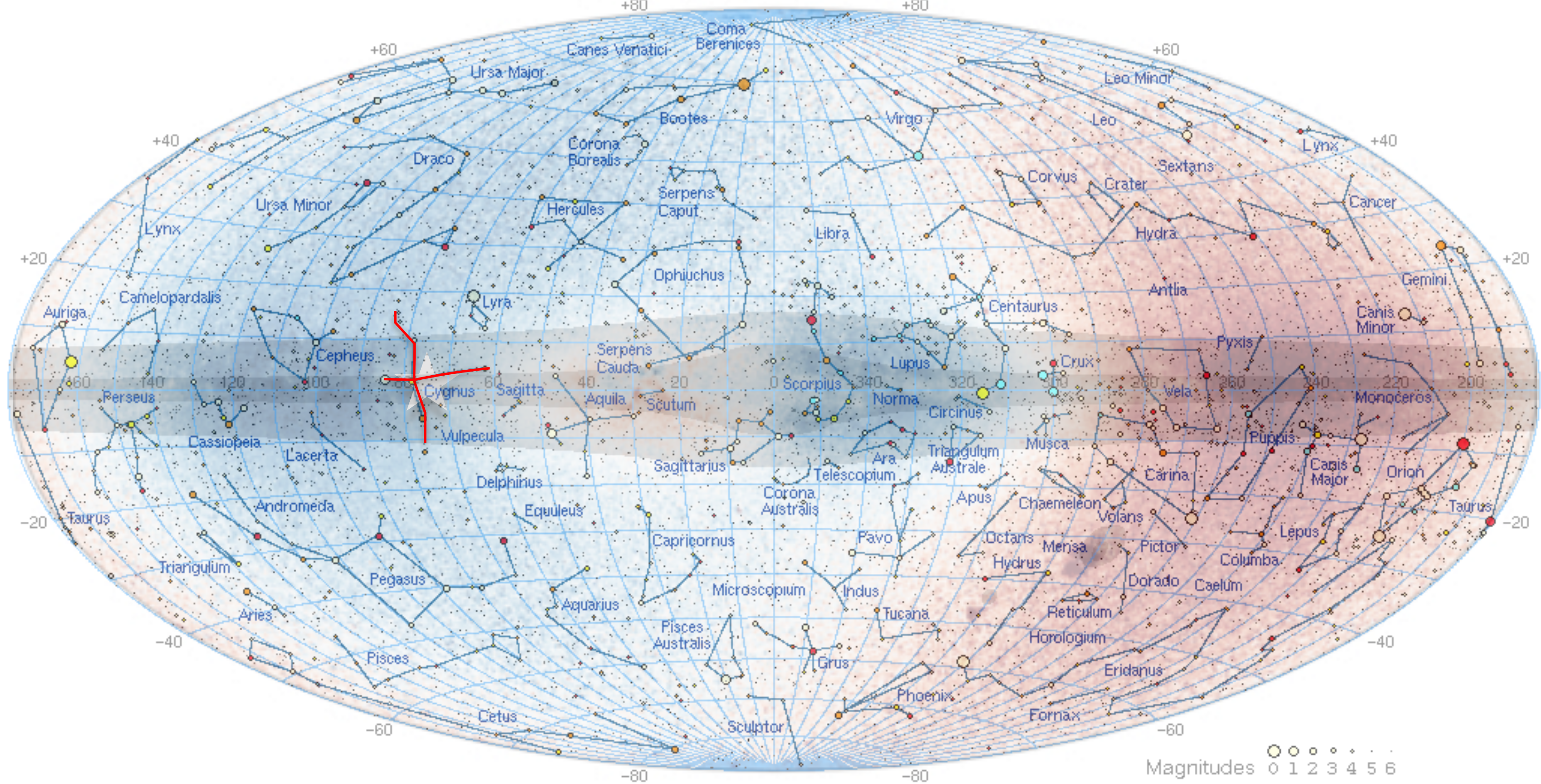


- Additional $\sim 2\%$ modulation in DM **density**
- Distortion to $f(v)$ at small speeds:

$$v < v_{\text{esc}} = \sqrt{2GM_{\odot}/r} \approx 40 \text{ km/s}$$



3. Directionality

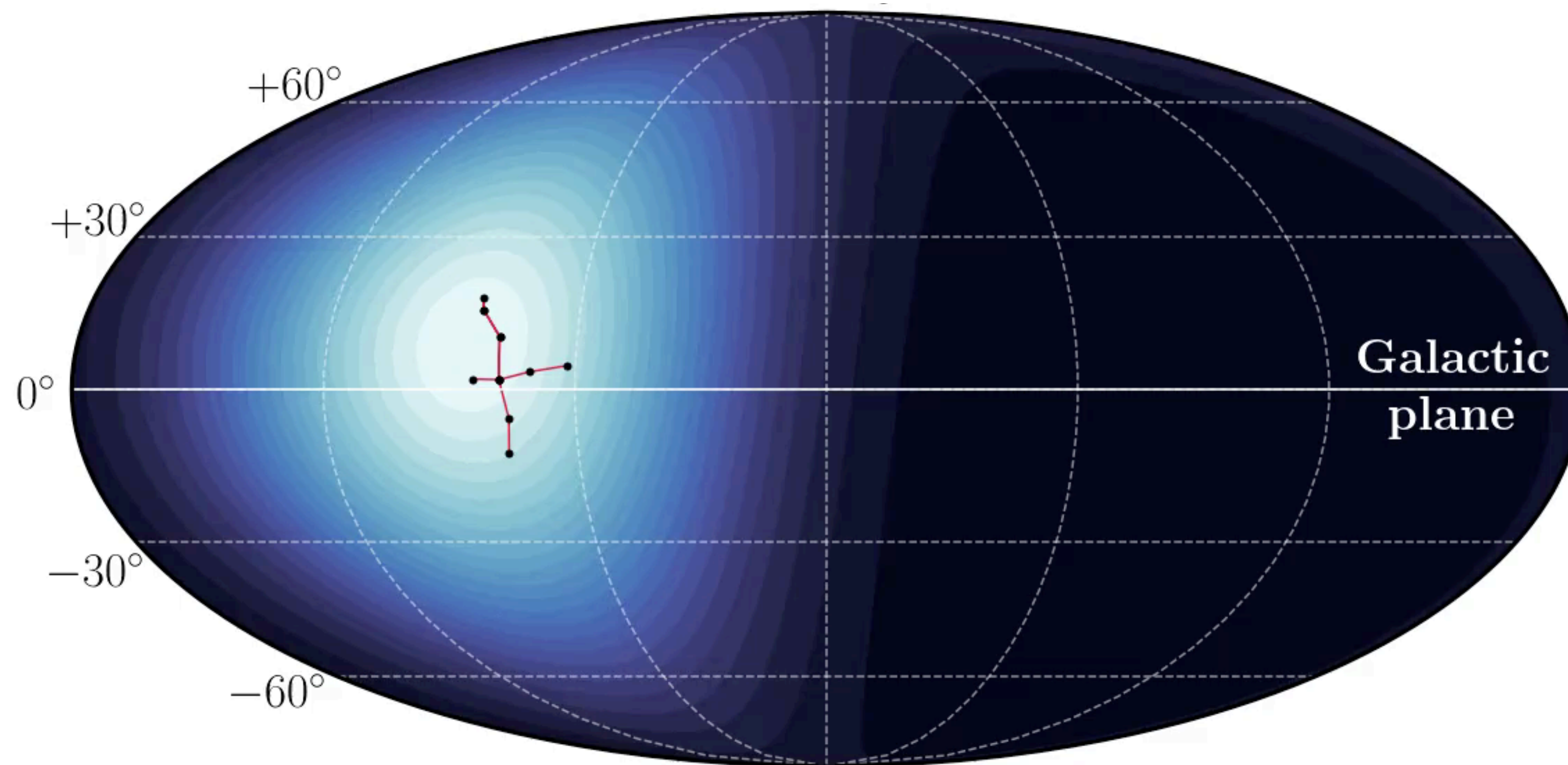


Gaia RVS galactic coordinates skymap of stellar line-of-sight velocities

Blue = moving towards us

Red = moving away from us

3. Directionality



The dark matter flux on Earth is highly anisotropic towards constellation of Cygnus

$$\Phi_{\text{forward}}/\Phi_{\text{backward}} \sim O(10)$$

These are supposedly generic model-independent expectations for signals in the Solar System

How much do we trust them?

Is the DM halo spherical?



No

Is the DM speed distribution Maxwellian?



Probably not

Is the DM halo rotating?



A bit probably, not much

Han+ [2208.04327]
 Naidu+[2103.03251]
 (H3 survey)

Iorio & Belokurov
 [1804.11347] (RR Lyraes)

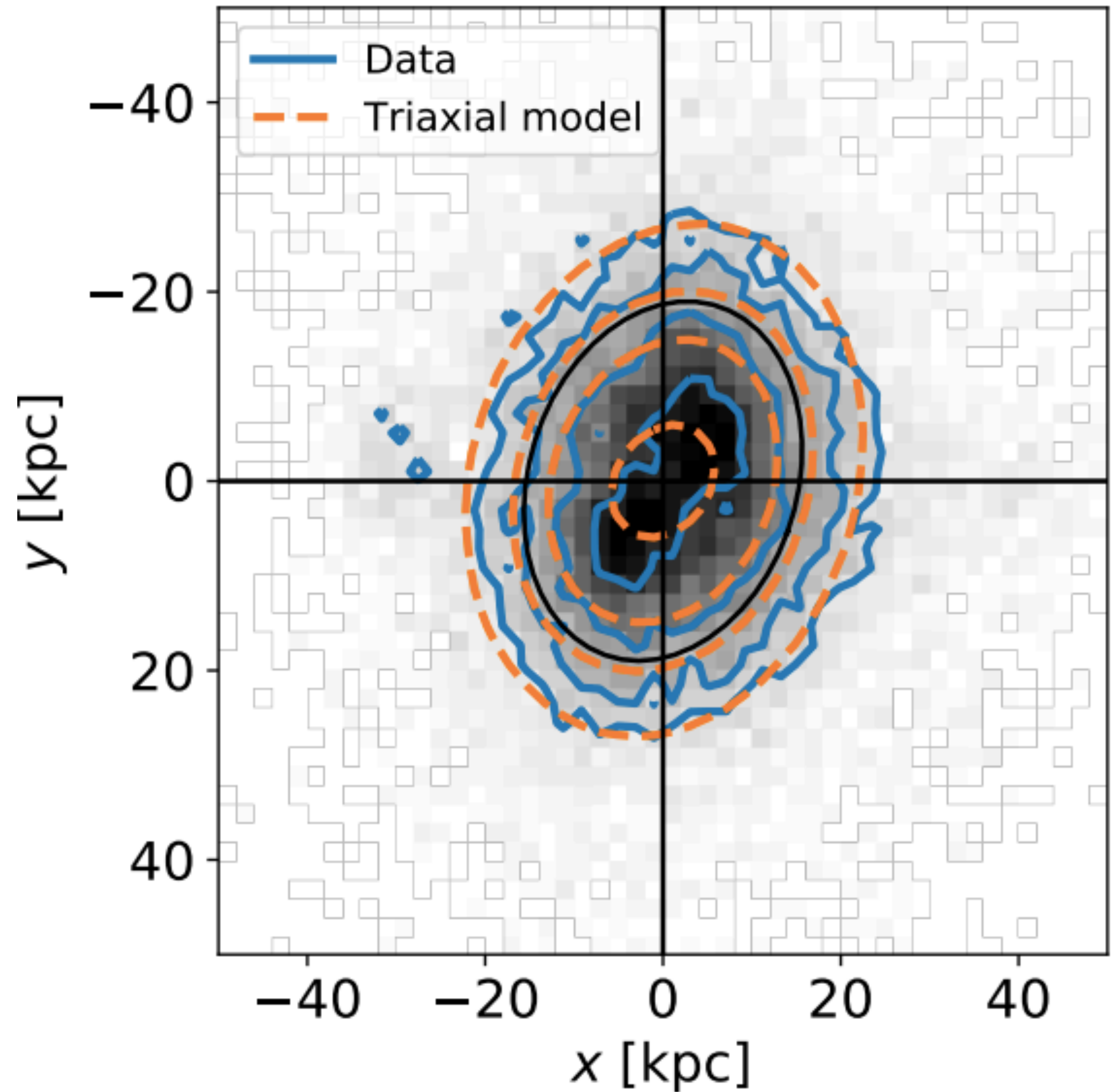
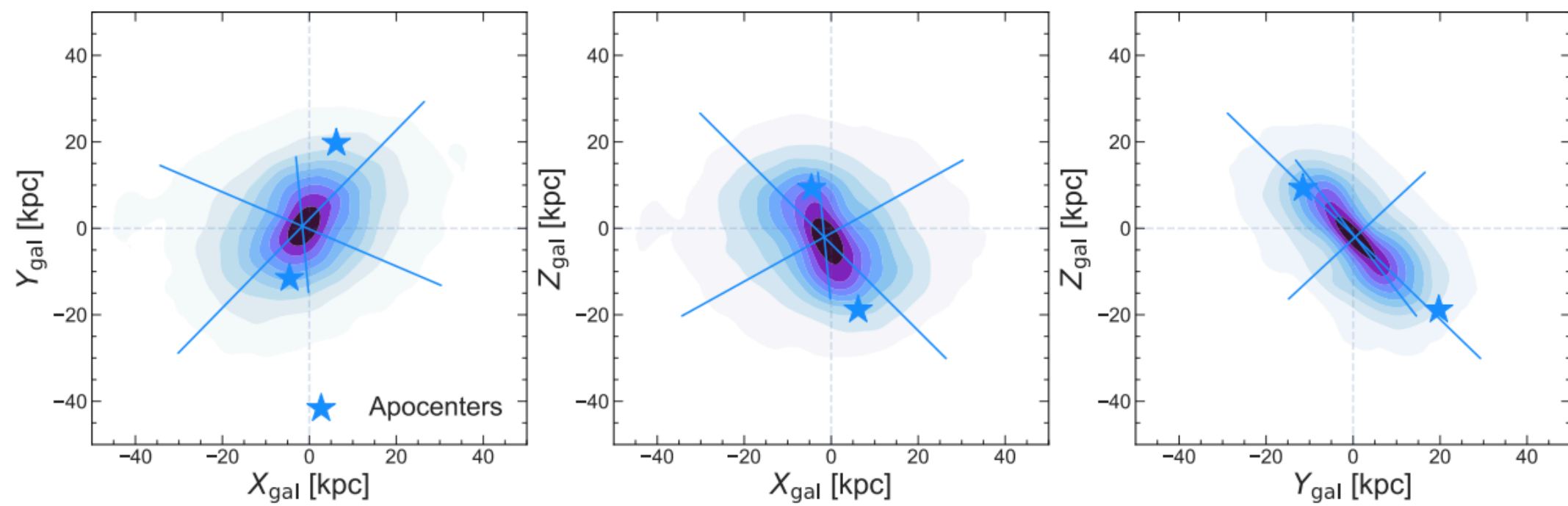
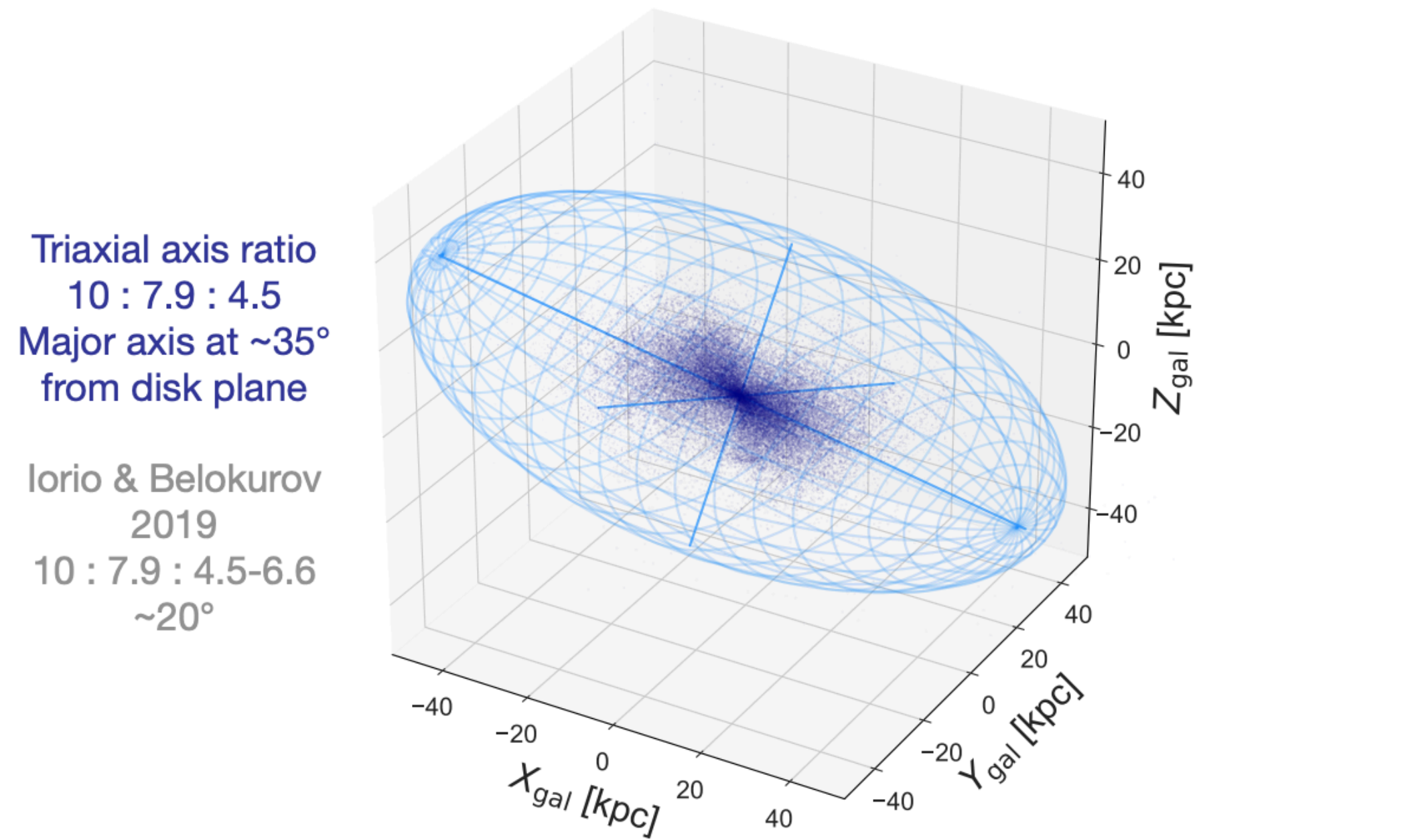


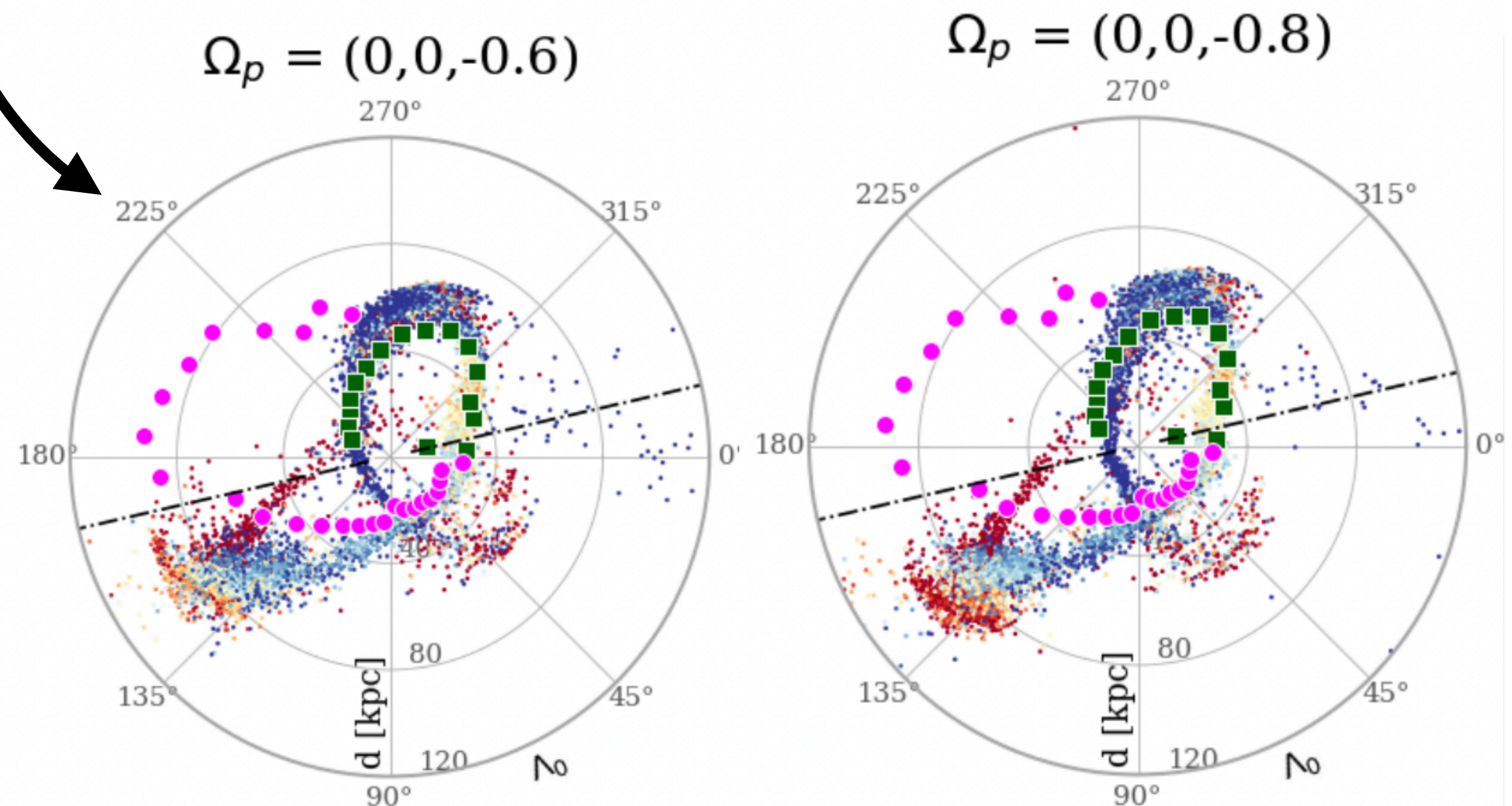
Figure rotation of DM halo

Simulations find typical pattern speeds for triaxial halos in the range

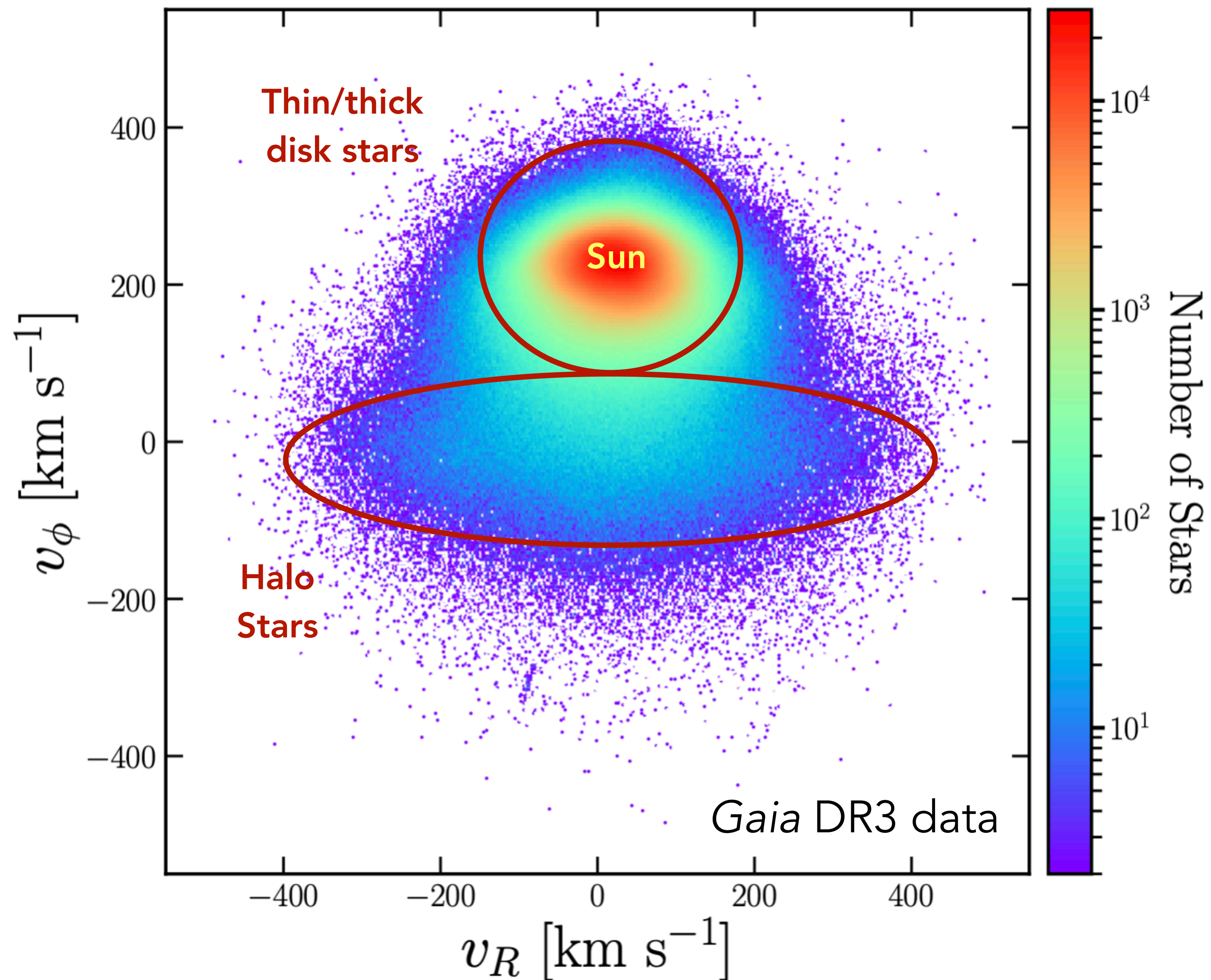
$$\Omega_p \sim 0.15 - 0.6 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-1} \sim 9^\circ - 35^\circ \text{ Gyr}^{-1}$$

→ MW spin cannot be anomalously large or the Sagittarius stream would look measurably different from the way it does (Valluri et al. 2009.09004)

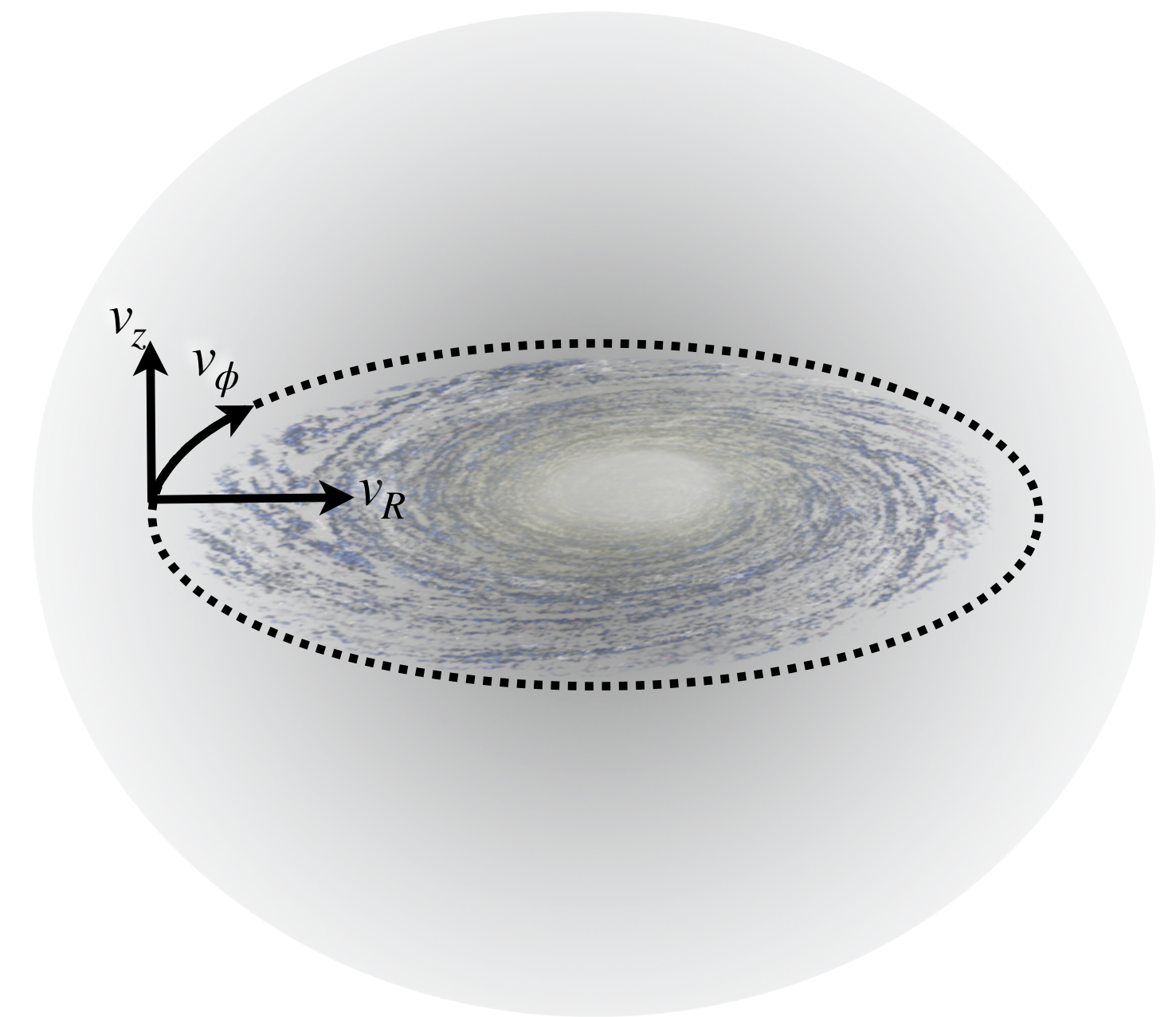
Even extreme figure rotation would not reduce anisotropy of DM flux in Solar System

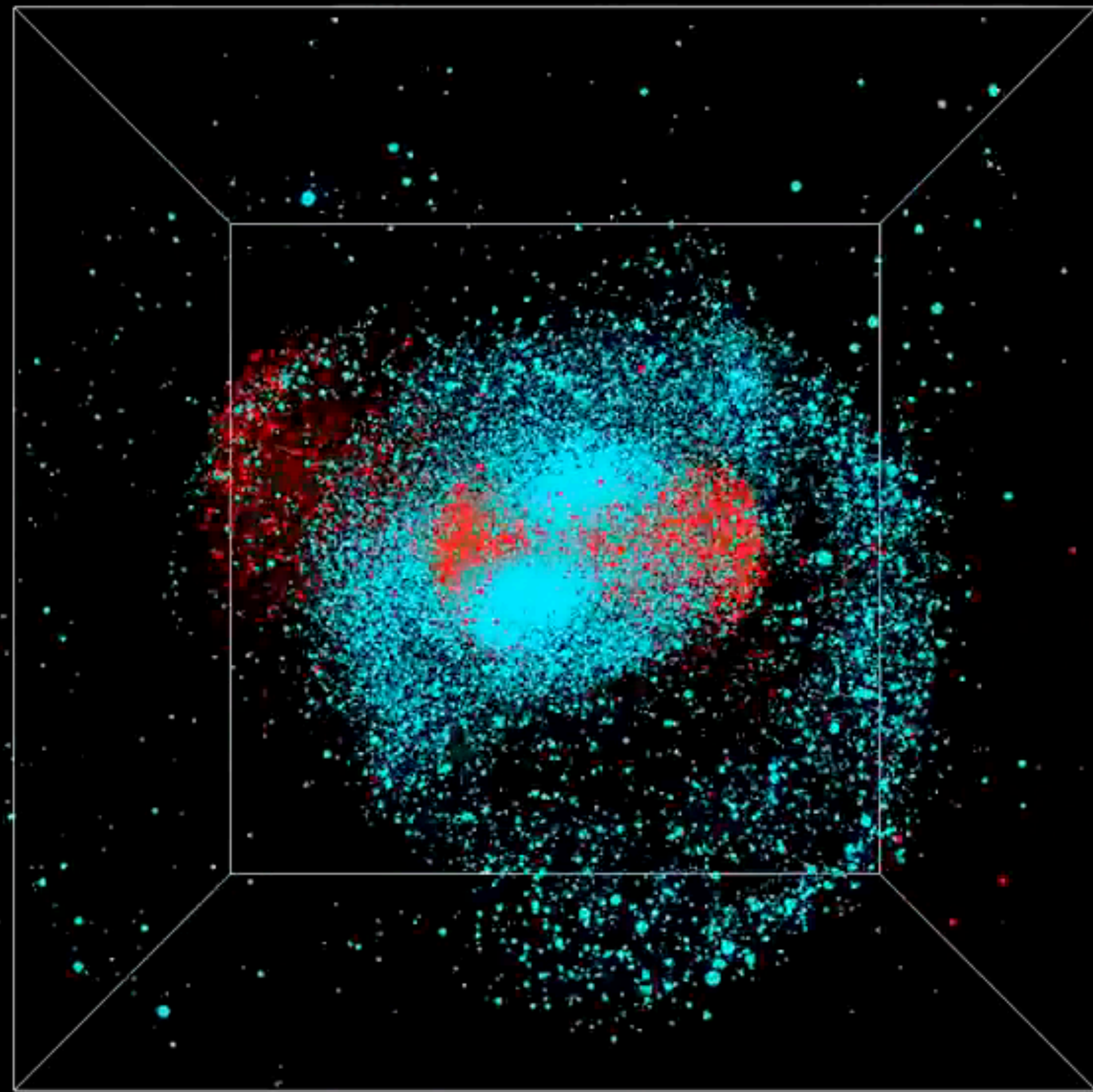


Velocity distribution of the MW halo



Substantial evidence for recent merger event with a dwarf galaxy filling much of the inner halo
→ **The Gaia-Sausage-Enceladus (GSE)**

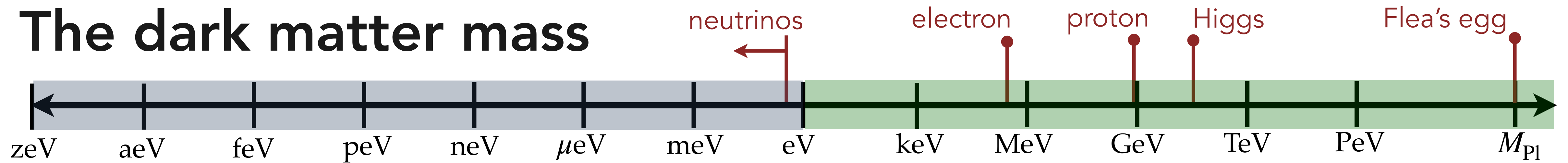




The GSE Merger:
Stars+DM brought in on **highly radial orbits** by a merger with a $10^{9-10} M_{\odot}$ stellar mass galaxy, 8-10 billion years ago

Direct detection

The dark matter mass



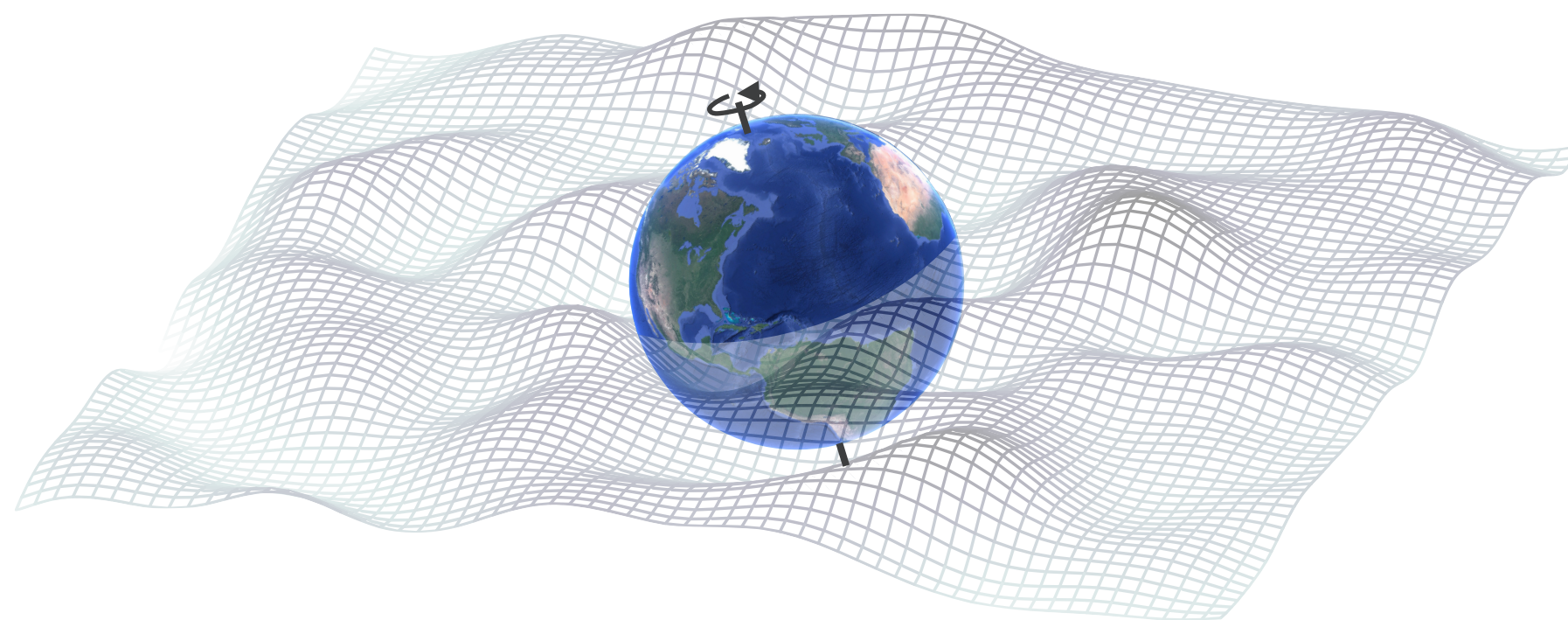
We know the local mass density of DM ($\rho_{DM} \approx 0.4 \text{ GeV/cc}$), but not the *number* density

Number of particles per de Broglie volume: $\mathcal{N} \approx (\rho_{DM}/m) \times \lambda_{dB}^3$

$\mathcal{N} \gg 1 \longleftarrow \longrightarrow \mathcal{N} \ll 1$

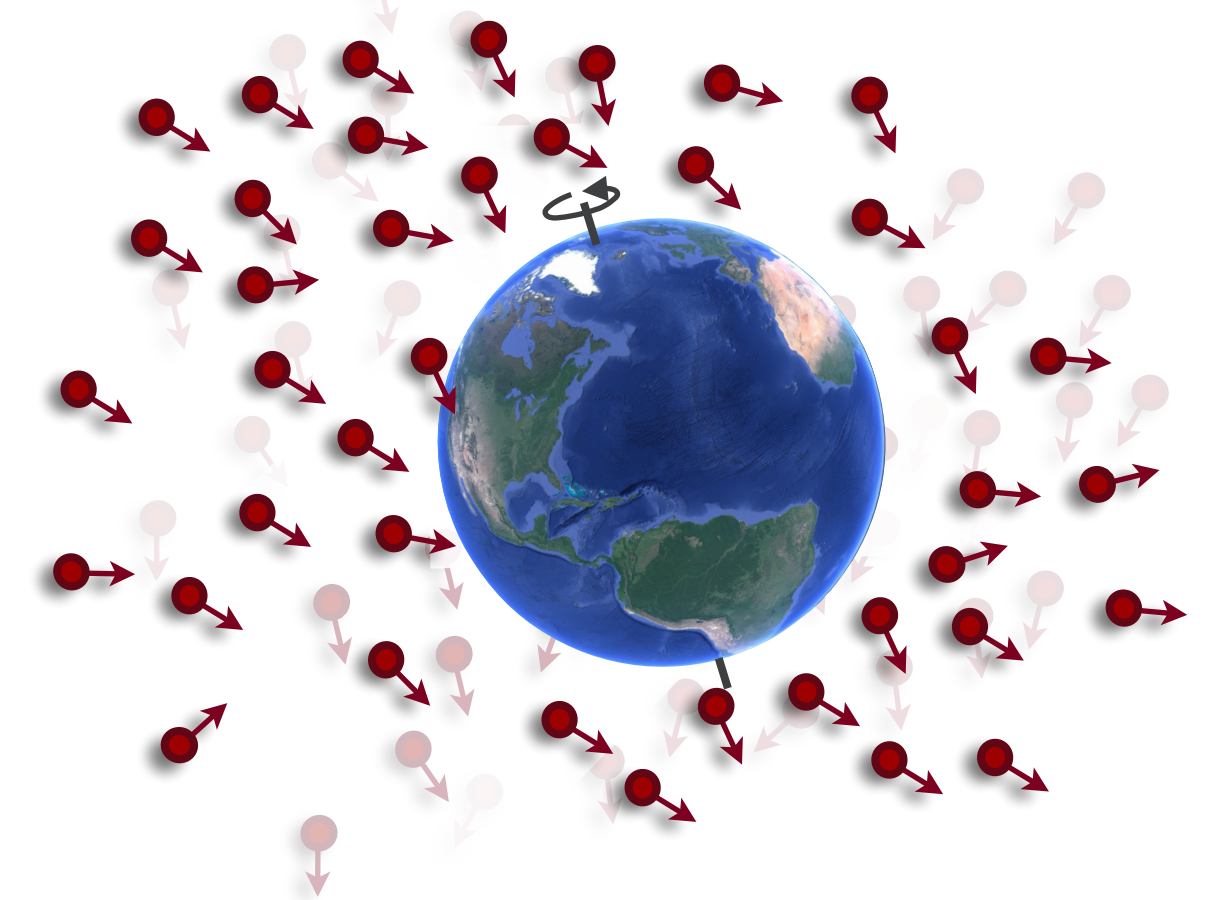
Wave-like dark matter

(Must be a boson due to Pauli exclusion principle)



Particle-like dark matter

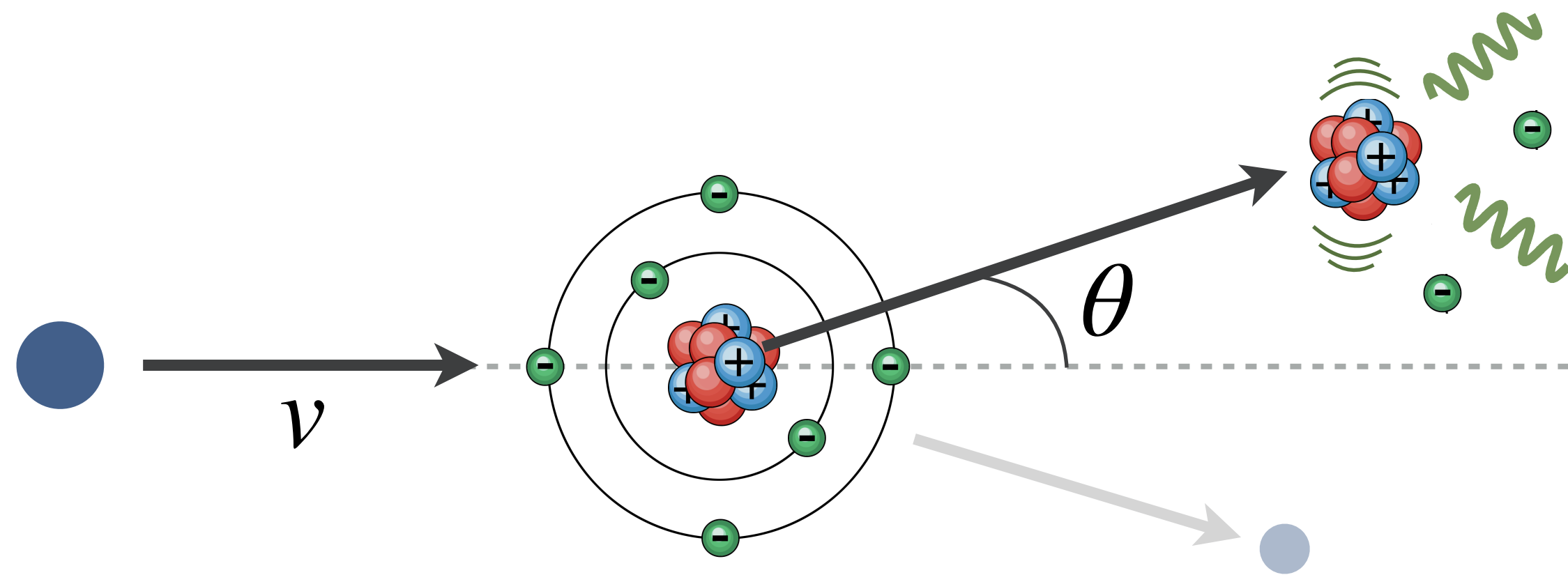
(Can be fermions, bosons or even composite particles like dark nuclei)



Direct detection of particle-like dark matter

Main signals are non-relativistic scattering events producing **recoils**

→ could be electrons or nuclei

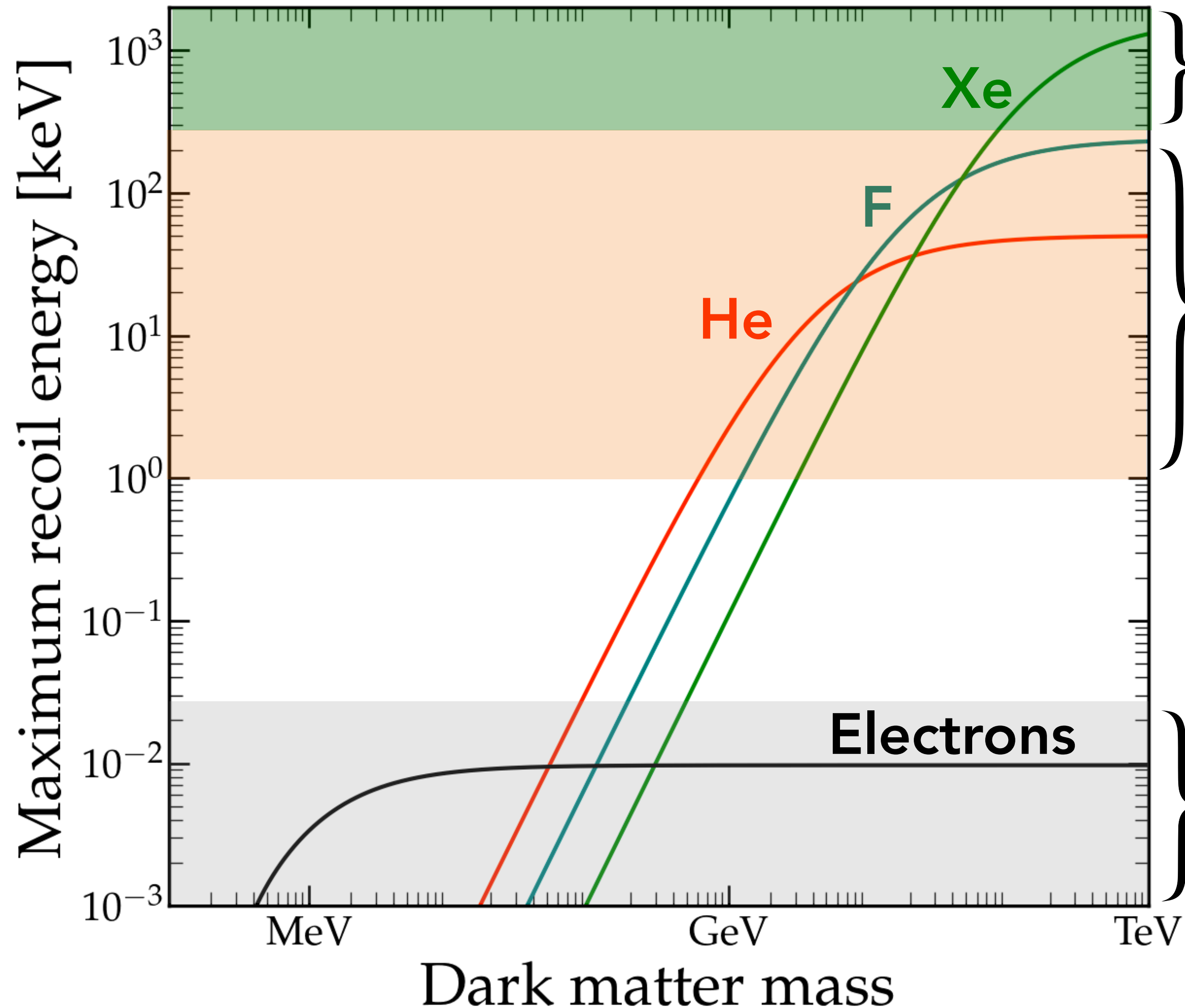


DM-target
reduced mass:

$$\mu = \frac{m_T m_\chi}{m_T + m_\chi}$$

$$E_r = \frac{2\mu^2 v^2}{m_T} \cos^2 \theta$$

Recoil energies



$$\lambda_{dB} = \frac{2\pi}{q} = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{2m_N E}} < 10^{-14} \text{ m}$$

Interaction resolves nuclear structure, i.e. cannot assume coherent scattering

Nuclear recoils

$$E_r \sim 1\text{--}200 \text{ keV}$$

→ TPCs, scintillators etc.

Electron recoils (assuming $v_e \approx \alpha$)

$$E_r \sim 1\text{--}10 \text{ eV}$$

→ bandgap of semiconductors

Event rate for some interaction cross section with nuclei, σ , given the DM flux, Φ

$$R = N_T \Phi \sigma = \frac{M}{m_N} \Phi \sigma$$
$$\approx 1 \text{ year}^{-1} \left(\frac{10 \text{ GeV}}{m_\chi} \right) \left(\frac{M}{1 \text{ ton}} \right) \left(\frac{m_{\text{Xe}}}{m_N} \right) \left(\frac{10^{-43} \text{ cm}^2}{\sigma} \right)$$

Given the fact that the DM flux is a function of velocity $\Phi(\mathbf{v})$ and the cross-section may also depend on velocity, we usually prefer to express this as a *differential* rate as a function of recoil energy E_r

$$\frac{dR}{dE_r} = \frac{M \rho_{\text{DM}}}{m_N m_\chi} \int_{v > v_{\text{min}}}^{\infty} \Phi(\mathbf{v}) \frac{d\sigma(v)}{dE_r} d^3 \mathbf{v}$$

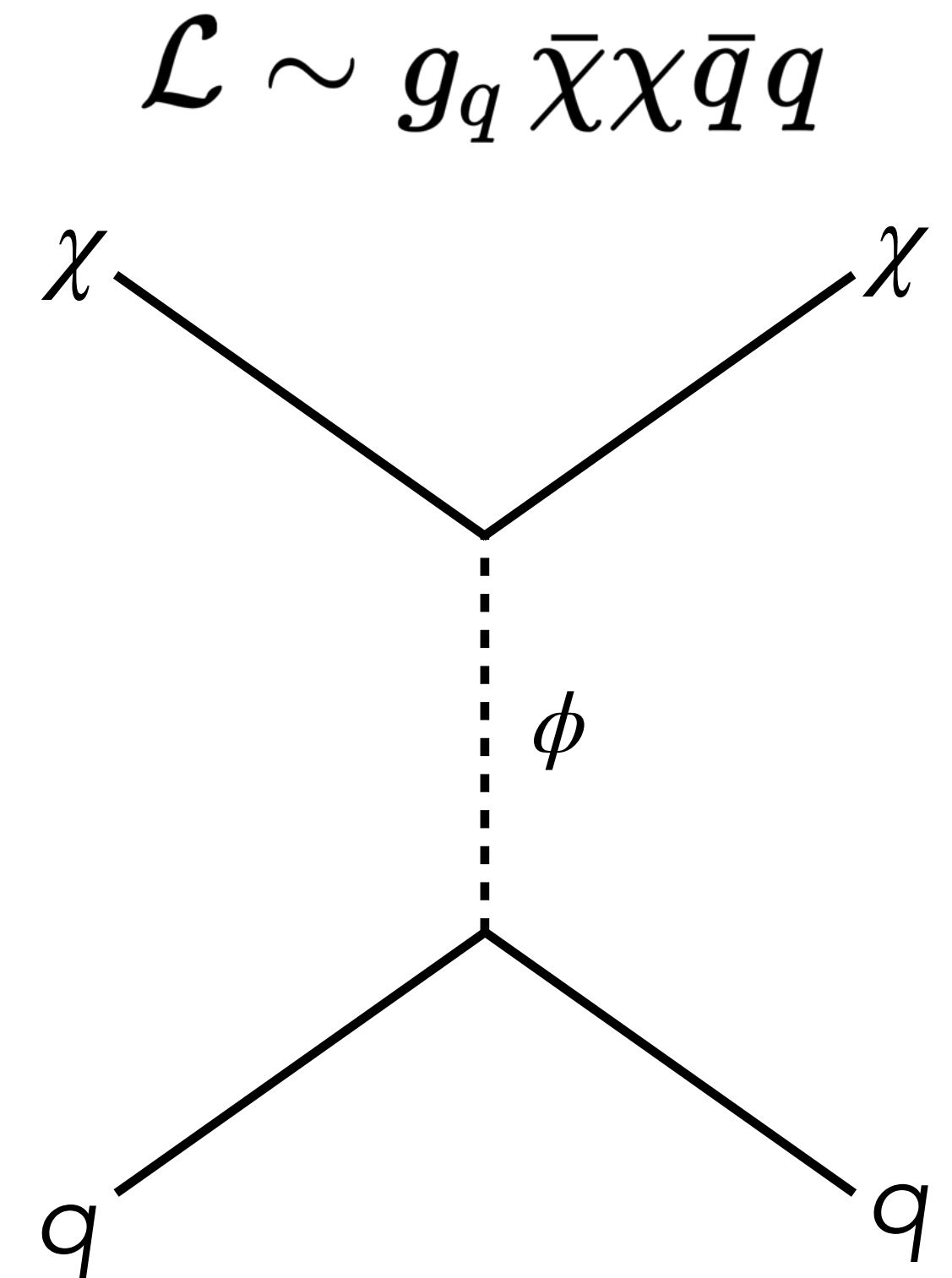
Event rate for some interaction cross section with nuclei, σ

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE_r} = \frac{1}{32\pi m_N m_\chi^2 v^2} |\mathcal{M}|^2$$

Take the simplest case of the exchange of a scalar

$$\mathcal{M} = \langle \psi'_\chi | \bar{\chi}\chi | \psi_\chi \rangle \left(\langle \psi'_N | \sum_{\text{proton}} g_q \bar{q}q + \sum_{\text{neutron}} g_q \bar{q}q | \psi_N \rangle \right)$$

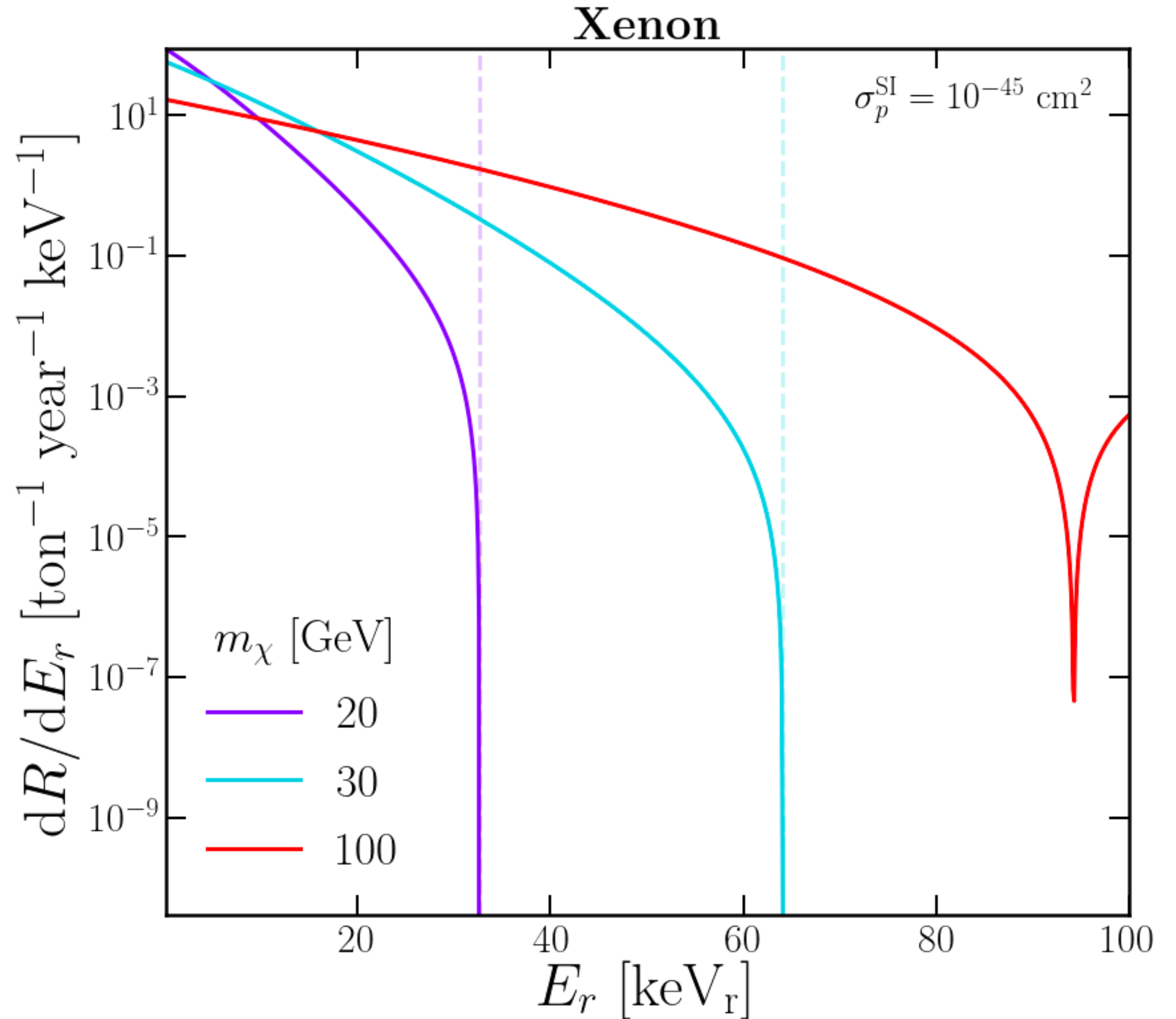
$$= \underbrace{4m_\chi m_N (f_p N_{\text{protons}} + f_n N_{\text{neutrons}})}_{\text{Coherent scattering limit}} \underbrace{F(E_r)}_{\text{Nuclear structure}}$$



Nuclear recoils

Exponentially falling with sharp cutoff at maximum energy set by escape speed

Interference features appear at high momentum-transfer when nuclear structure is resolved



Non-relativistic effective field theory

- Attempt to capture a fully general set of DM-nucleon operators that satisfy basic non-relativistic requirements & symmetries, e.g. Galilean and rotational invariance, Hermitian
- Expressed in basis of momentum, transverse velocity and DM/nuclear spins:

$$i \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N}, \quad \vec{v}^\perp \equiv \vec{v} + \frac{\vec{q}}{2\mu}, \quad \vec{S}_\chi, \quad \vec{S}_N$$

$$\mathcal{O}_1 = 1_\chi 1_N$$

$$\mathcal{O}_3 = i \vec{S}_N \cdot \left[\frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \times \vec{v}^\perp \right]$$

$$\mathcal{O}_4 = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{S}_N$$

$$\mathcal{O}_5 = i \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \left[\frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \times \vec{v}^\perp \right]$$

$$\mathcal{O}_6 = \left[\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right] \left[\vec{S}_N \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{O}_7 = \vec{S}_N \cdot \vec{v}^\perp$$

$$\mathcal{O}_8 = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{v}^\perp$$

$$\mathcal{O}_9 = i \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \left[\vec{S}_N \times \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{10} = i \vec{S}_N \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{11} = i \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{12} = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \left[\vec{S}_N \times \vec{v}^\perp \right]$$

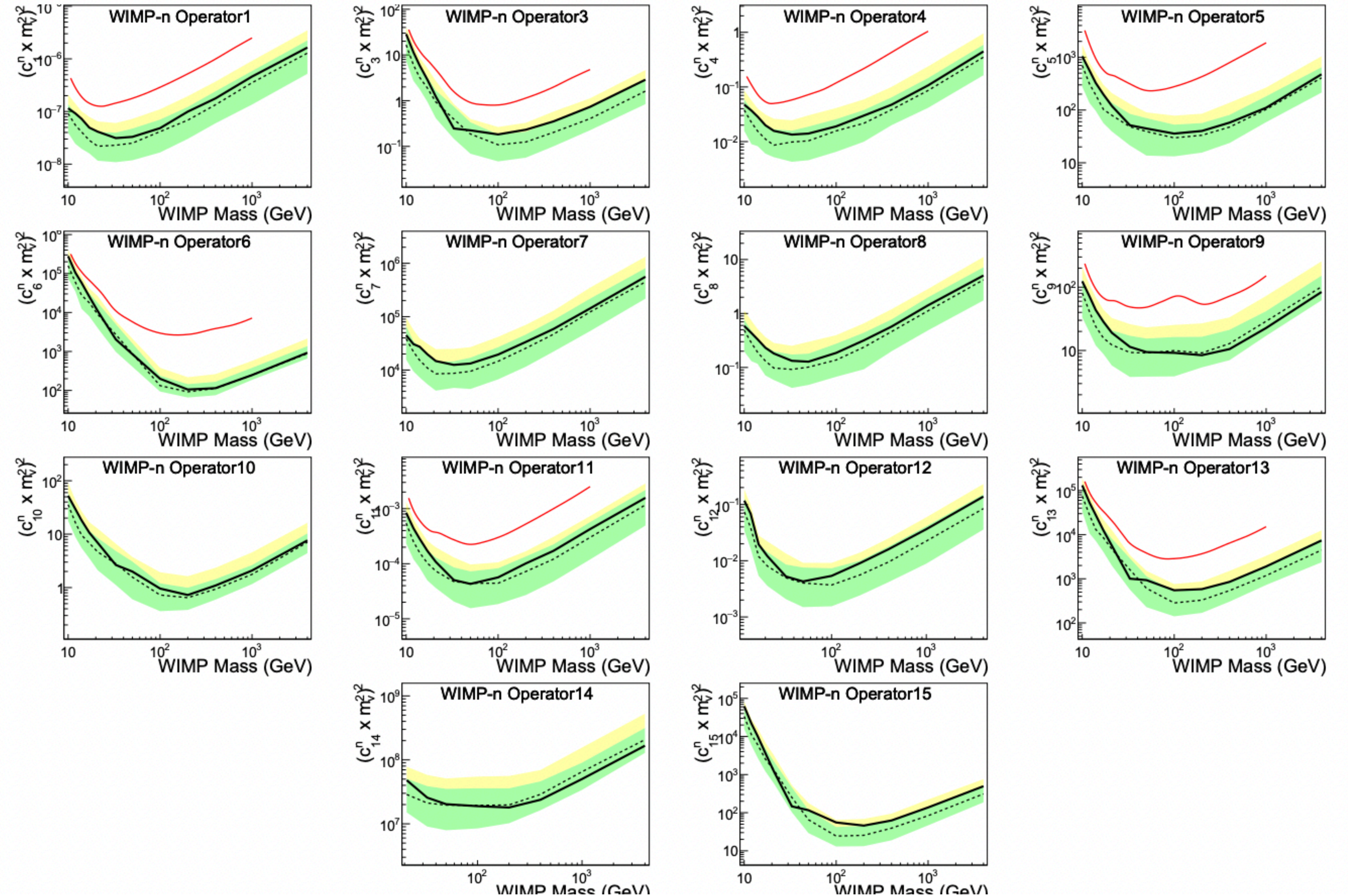
$$\mathcal{O}_{13} = i \left[\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{v}^\perp \right] \left[\vec{S}_N \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{14} = i \left[\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right] \left[\vec{S}_N \cdot \vec{v}^\perp \right]$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{15} = - \left[\vec{S}_\chi \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right] \left[\left(\vec{S}_N \times \vec{v}^\perp \right) \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right]$$

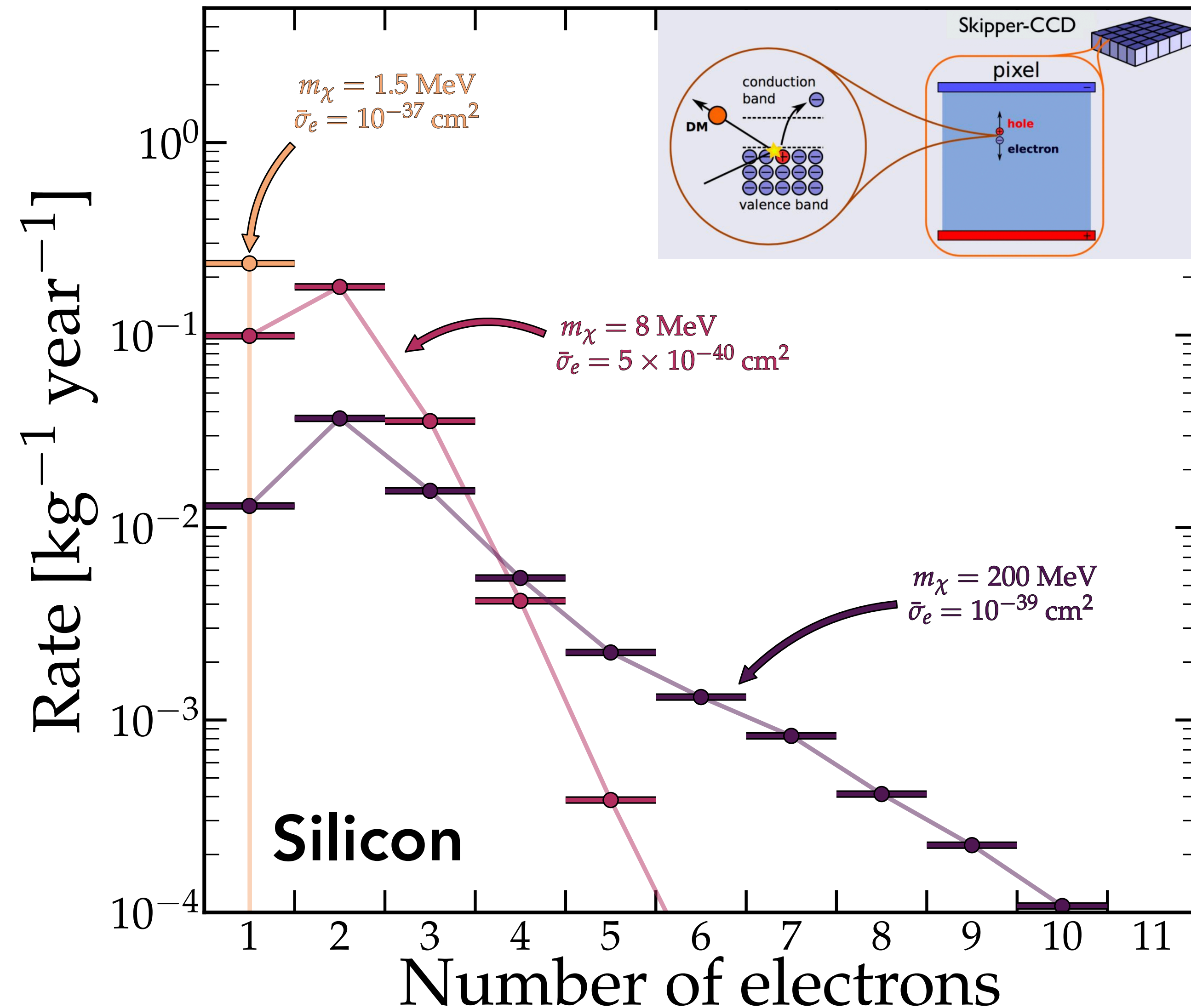
Non-relativistic effective field theory

- Common to see papers doing scans over all possible coupling constants.
e.g. LUX [2102.06998]



Electron recoils

Need to fold in atomic structure



Some reference cross section for a free-electron scattering with momentum transfer $q = \alpha m_e$

$$\frac{dR}{dE_e} = \frac{\bar{\sigma}_e \rho_{\text{DM}}}{8\mu_e^2 E_e m_N m_\chi} \sum_{\text{orbitals}} \int_{q_-}^{q_+} q dq |f_{\text{ion}}^{i \rightarrow f}|^2 g(v_{\text{min}})$$

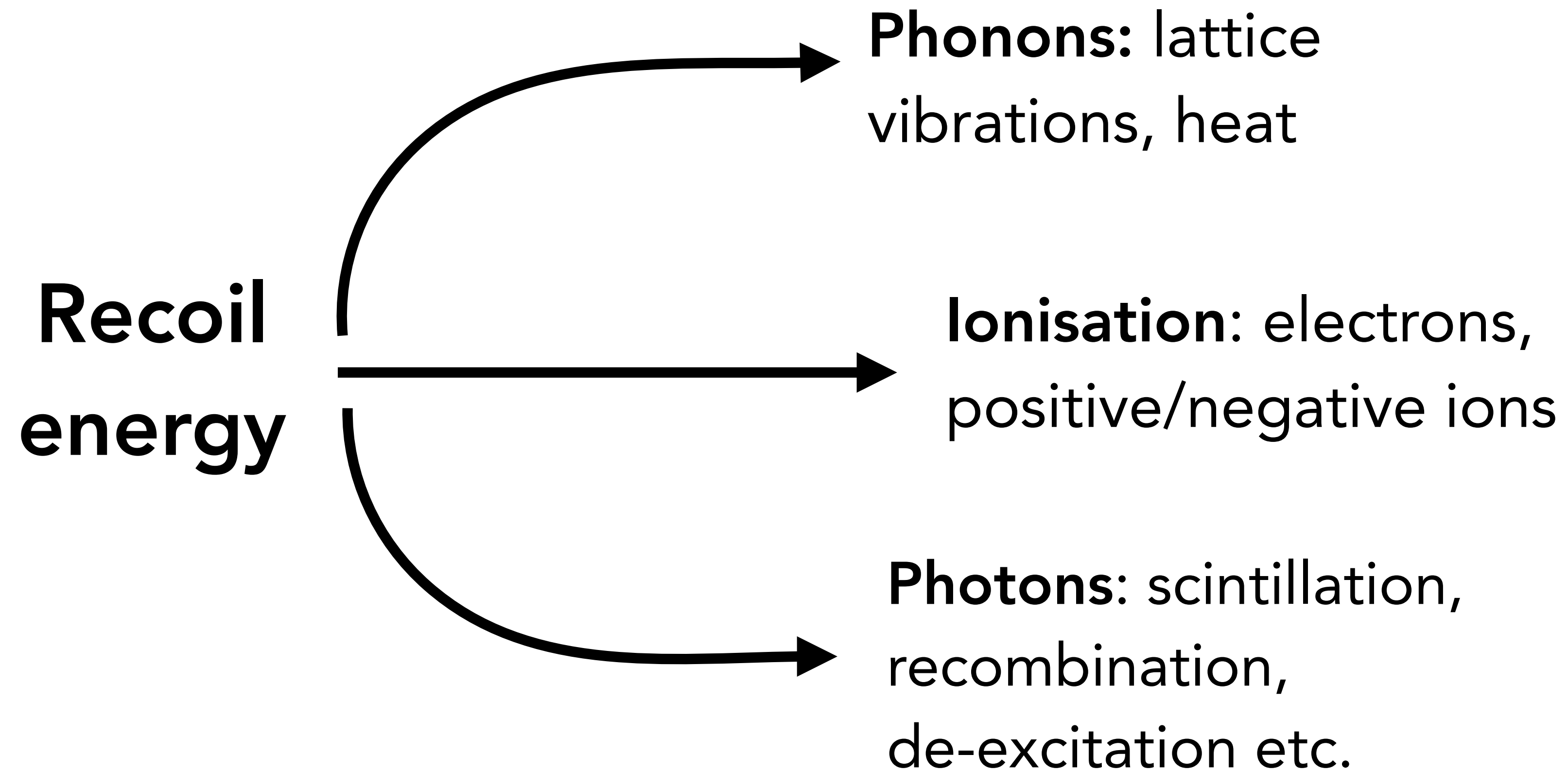
Related to $f(v)$

"Ionisation form factor"

$$|f_{\text{ion}}^{i \rightarrow f}|^2 = \left\langle \int d\Omega_{k_e} \frac{2k_e^3}{8\pi^3} \left| \int d^3x \psi_f^*(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}_e) e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \psi_i(\mathbf{x}) \right|^2 \right\rangle$$

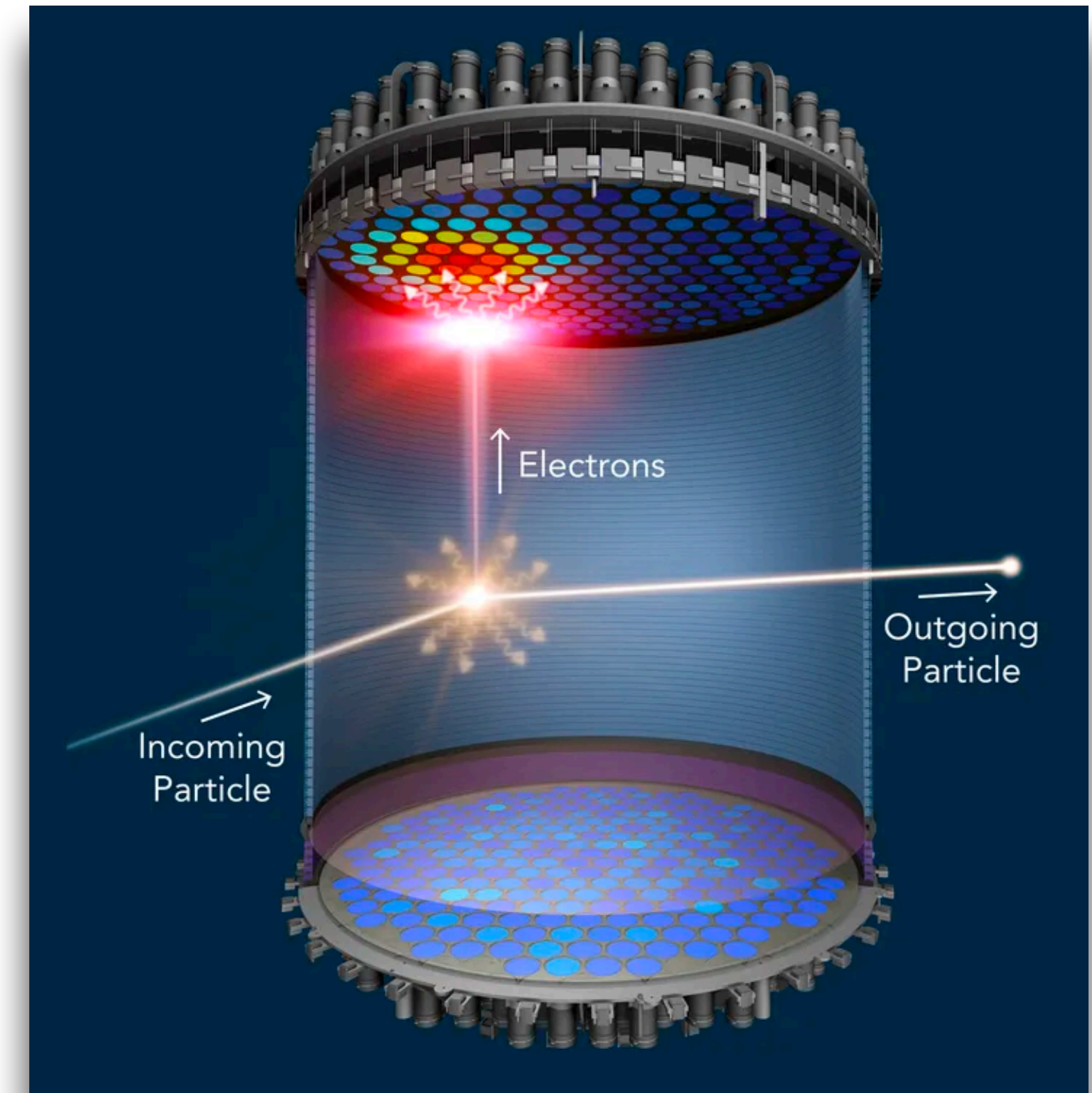
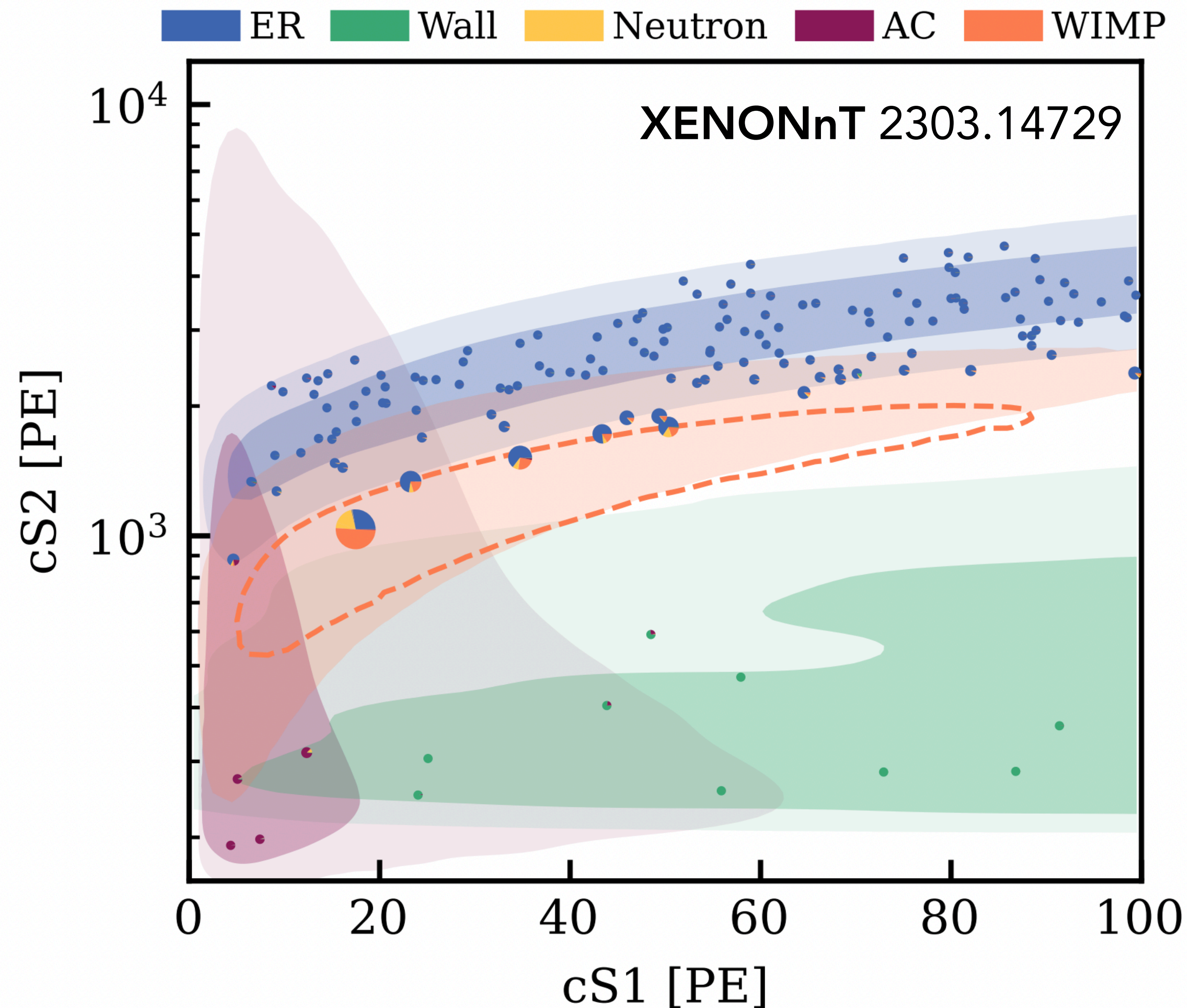
Related to transition probability for a bound state ψ_i to go to some unbound state ψ_f after gaining momentum \mathbf{q}

Detection of a recoil energy deposited in a medium



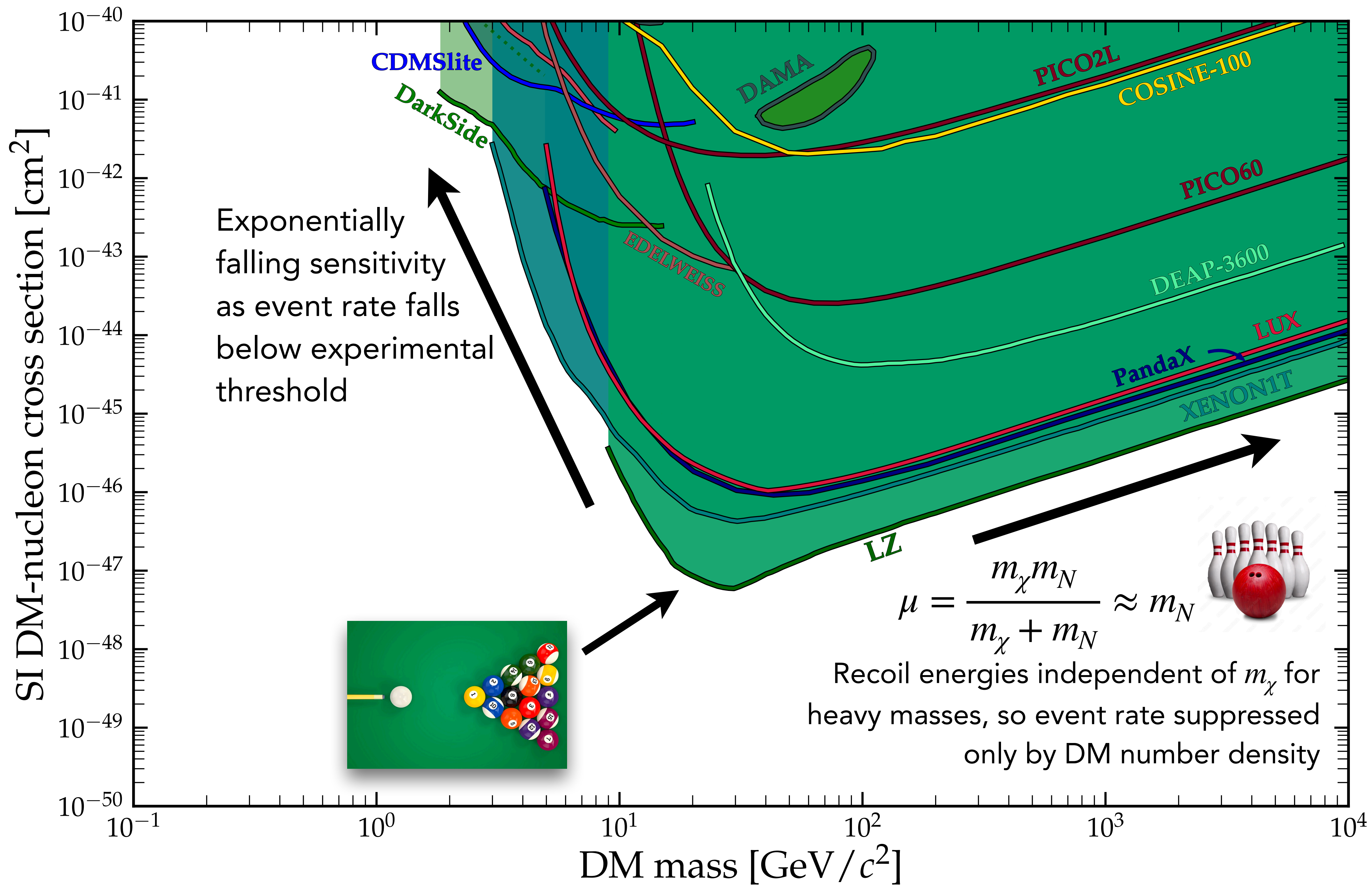
Ratios of deposit going into each channel depends on energy and particle type
→ ideal experiment measures each event via multiple channels

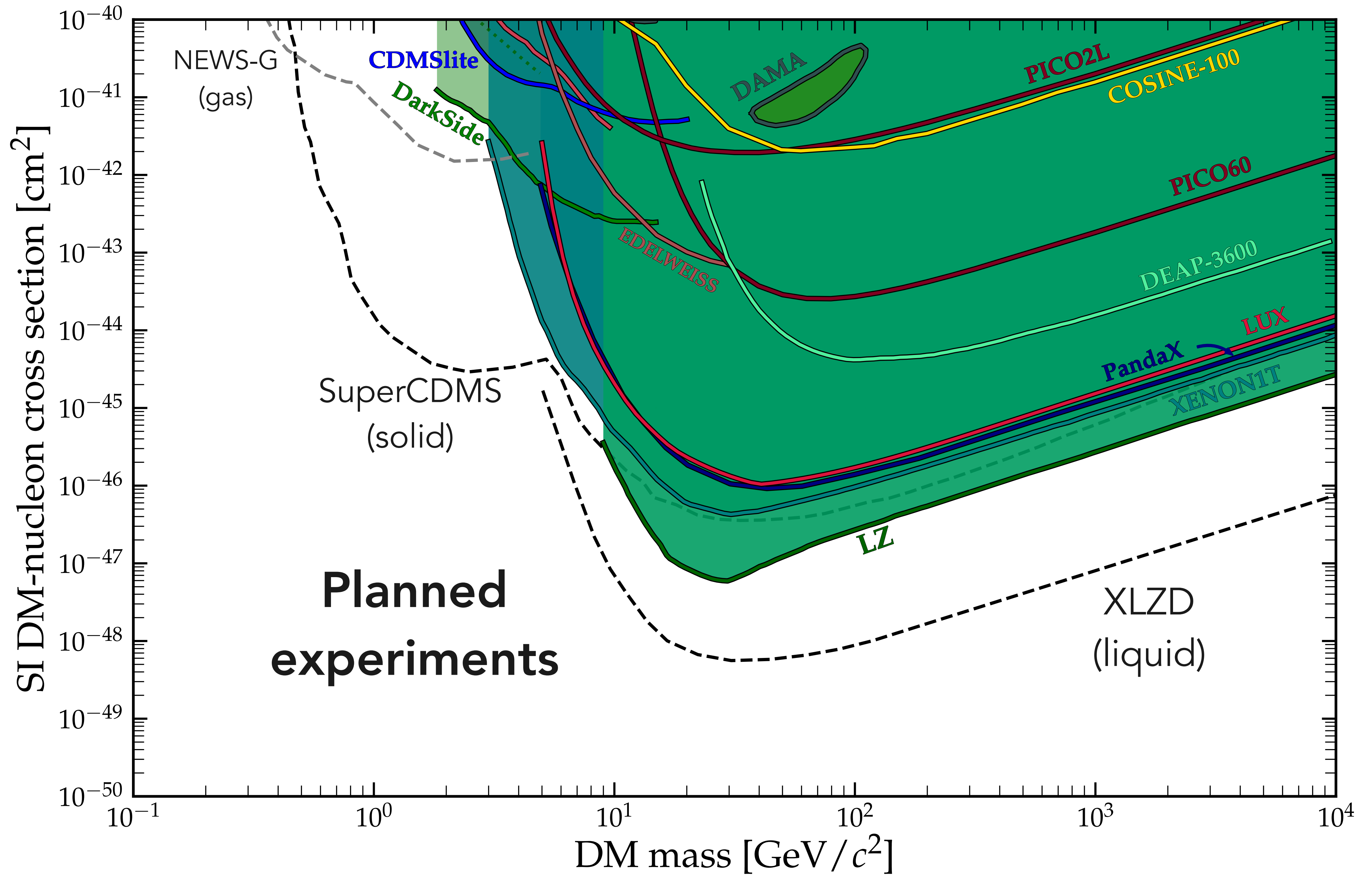
Example: LXe time-projection chamber

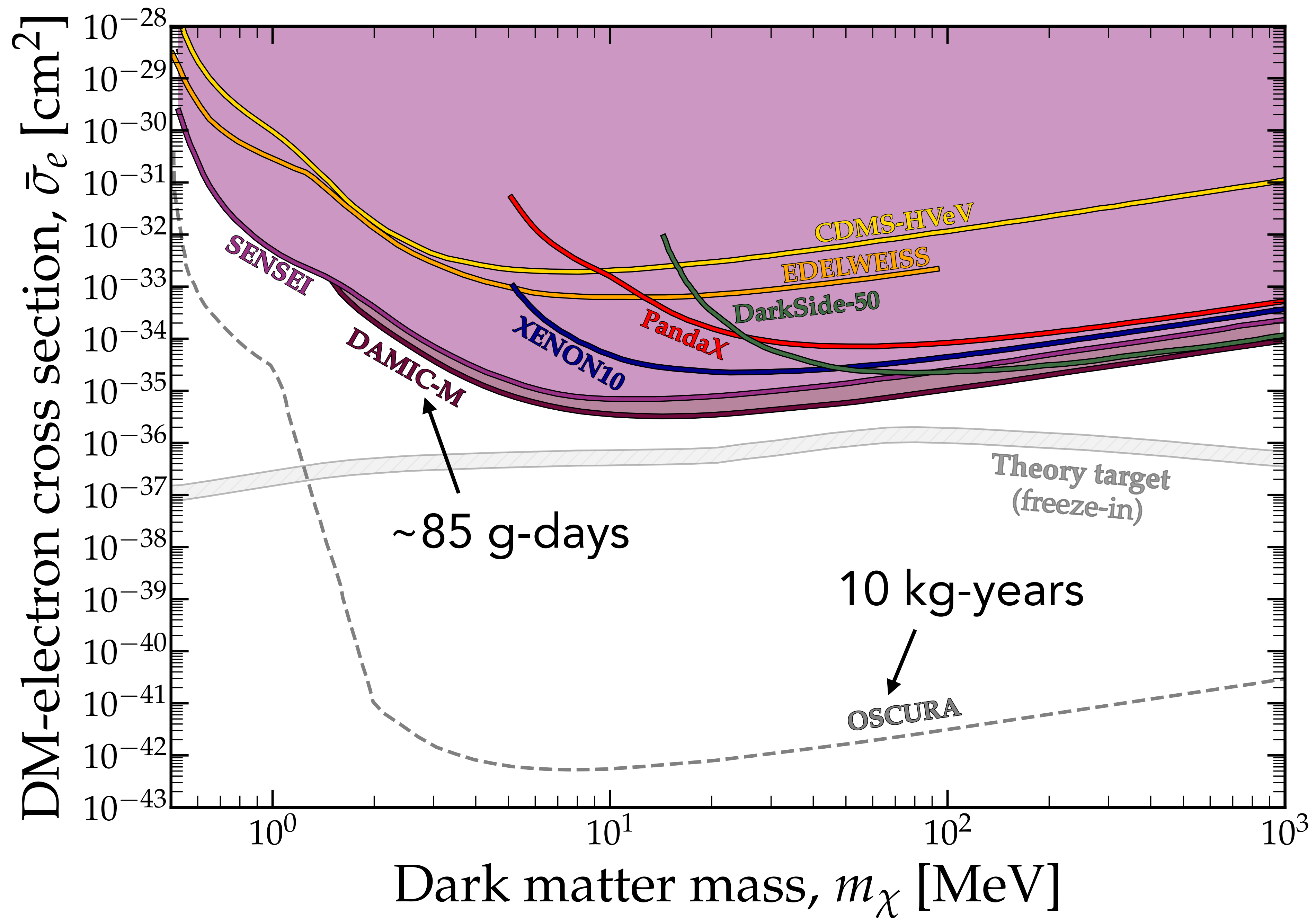


S1: prompt scintillation light from recoil event

S2: secondary scintillation from drifted ionisation arriving at gas phase

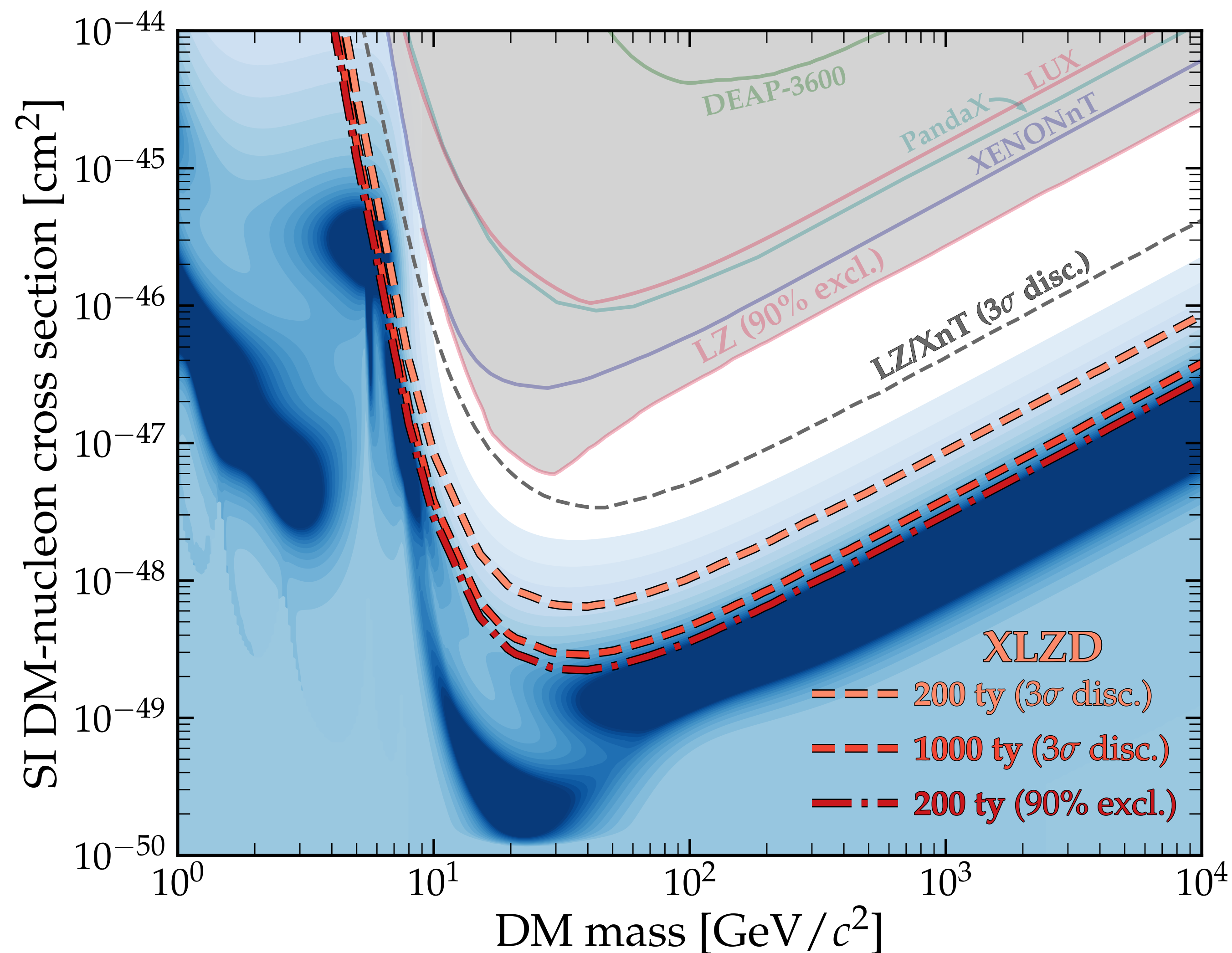








The Ultimate liquid xenon detector: XLZD



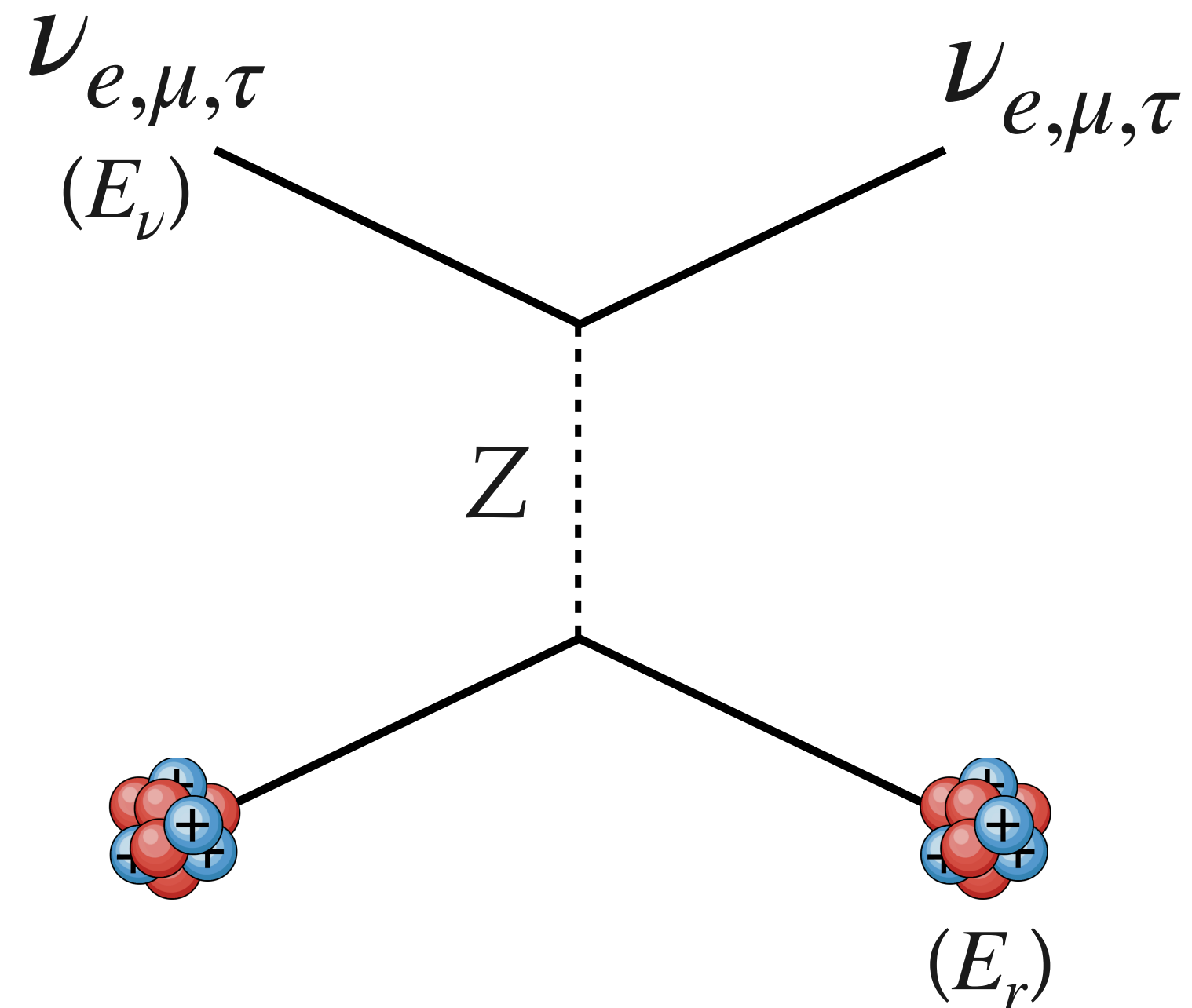
Aims for final exposure approaching ~ 1000 ton-year scale. In an ideal world, ultimately limited by neutrino backgrounds

Feasibility of such an experiment still under discussions

See Xenon white paper:
Aalbers et al. [[2203.02309](#)]

Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering (CEvNS)

Freedman (1974), detected by COHERENT [2003.10630]



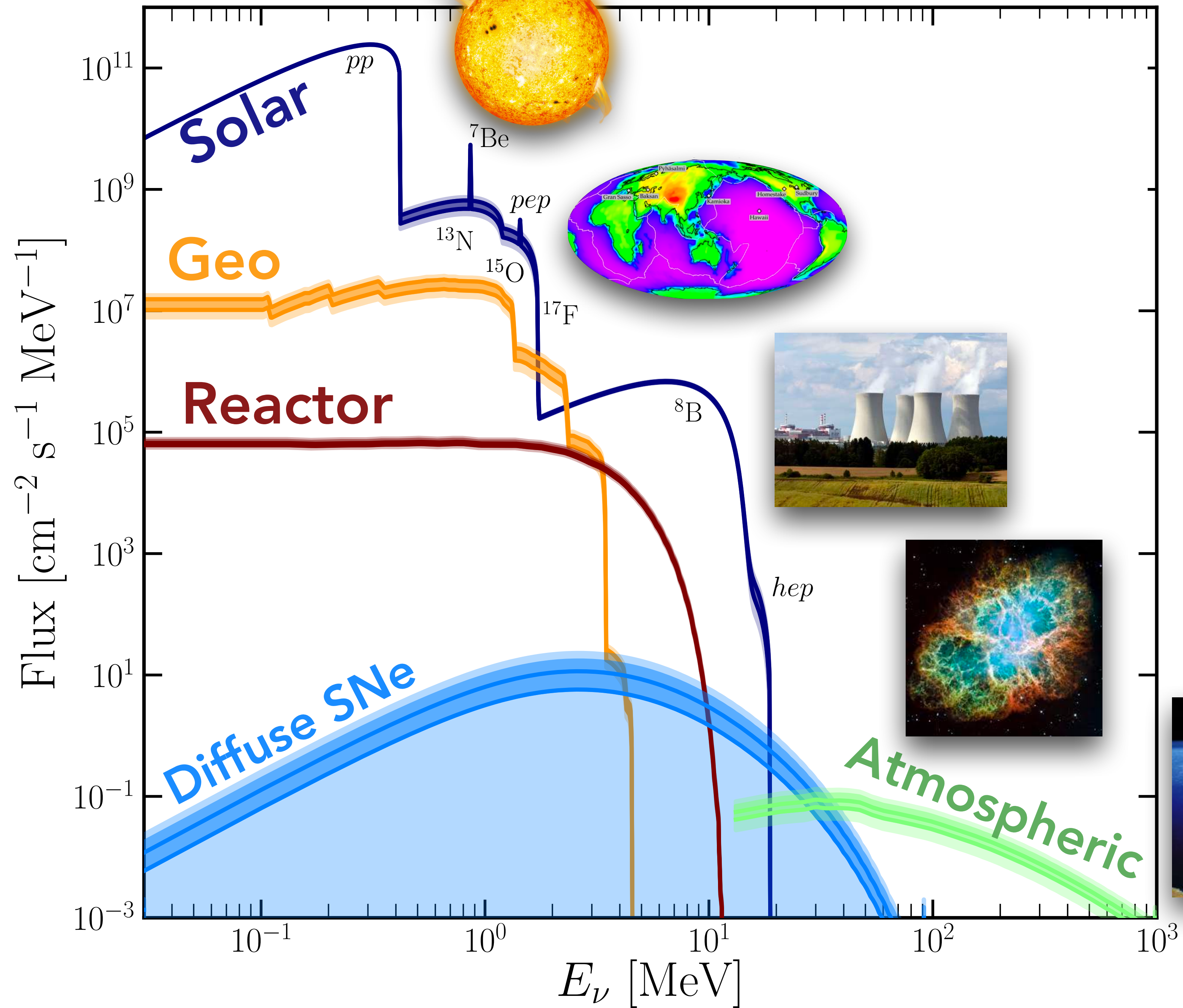
Neutral current
→ flavour blind

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE_r} = \frac{G_F^2}{4\pi} \underbrace{Q_W^2}_{\text{Weak nuclear hypercharge}} m_N \left(1 - \frac{m_N E_r}{2E_\nu^2} \right) \underbrace{F^2(E_r)}_{\text{Form factor}}$$

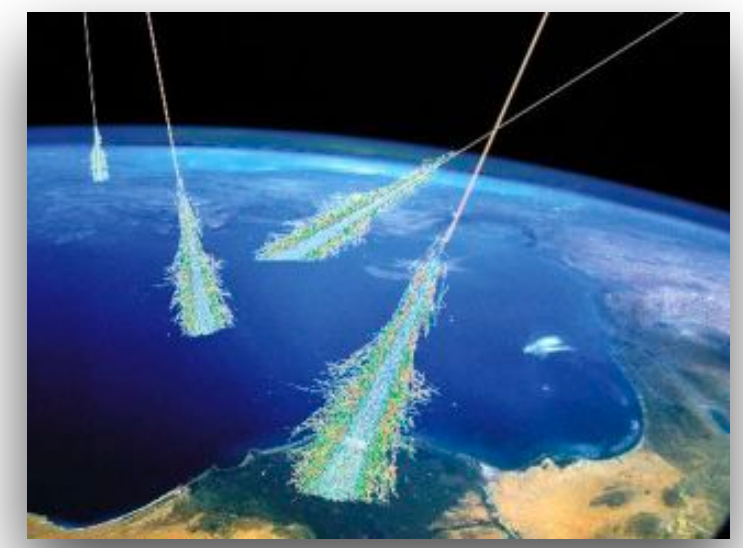
$$E_r \approx \mathcal{O}(10 \text{ keV}) \Rightarrow E_\nu \lesssim \sqrt{\frac{m_N E_r}{2}} \approx 10 \text{ MeV}$$

⇒

>10 MeV neutrinos will give a nuclear recoil background in a similar energy range to $m_\chi \gtrsim \text{GeV}$ dark matter



Neutrino fluxes relevant for dark matter searches



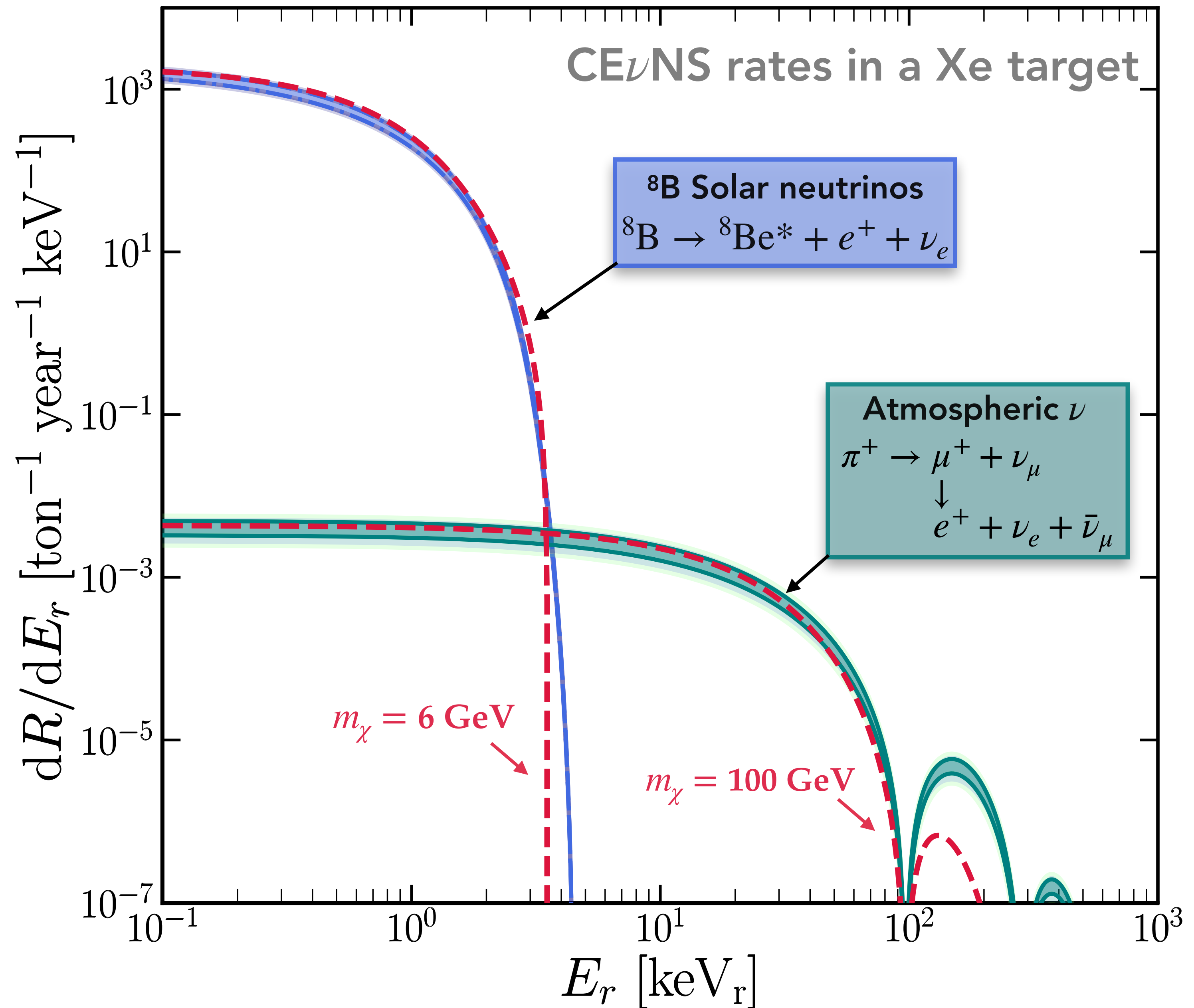
Two major neutrino backgrounds for DM searches

High-energy flux: Atmospheric neutrinos from cosmic-ray-induced pions

Low-energy flux: ^8B and other solar neutrinos

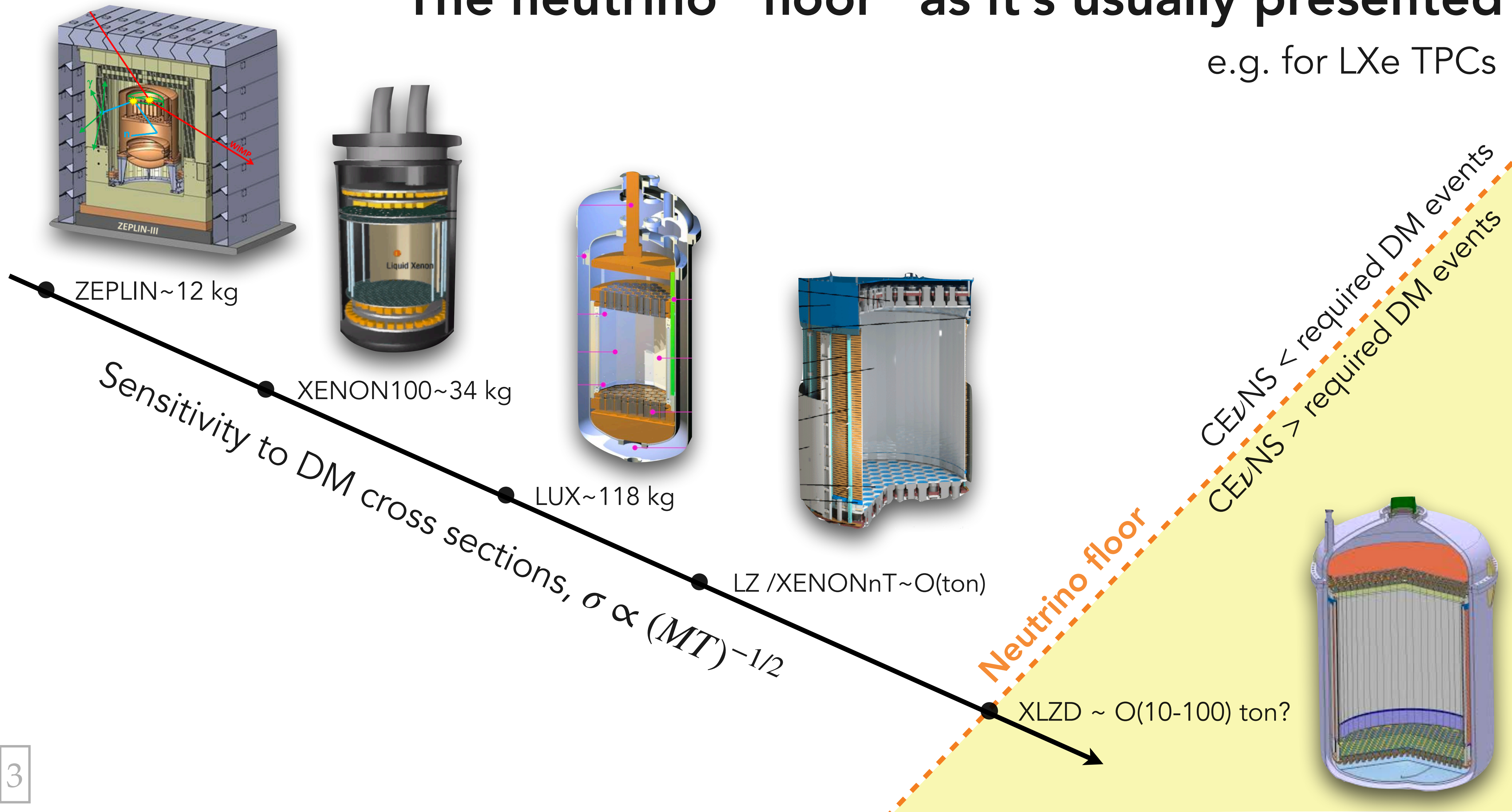
→ CE ν NS event rates & energy spectrum look just like low mass ($\sim\text{GeV}$) and high mass ($\sim 100\text{ GeV}$)

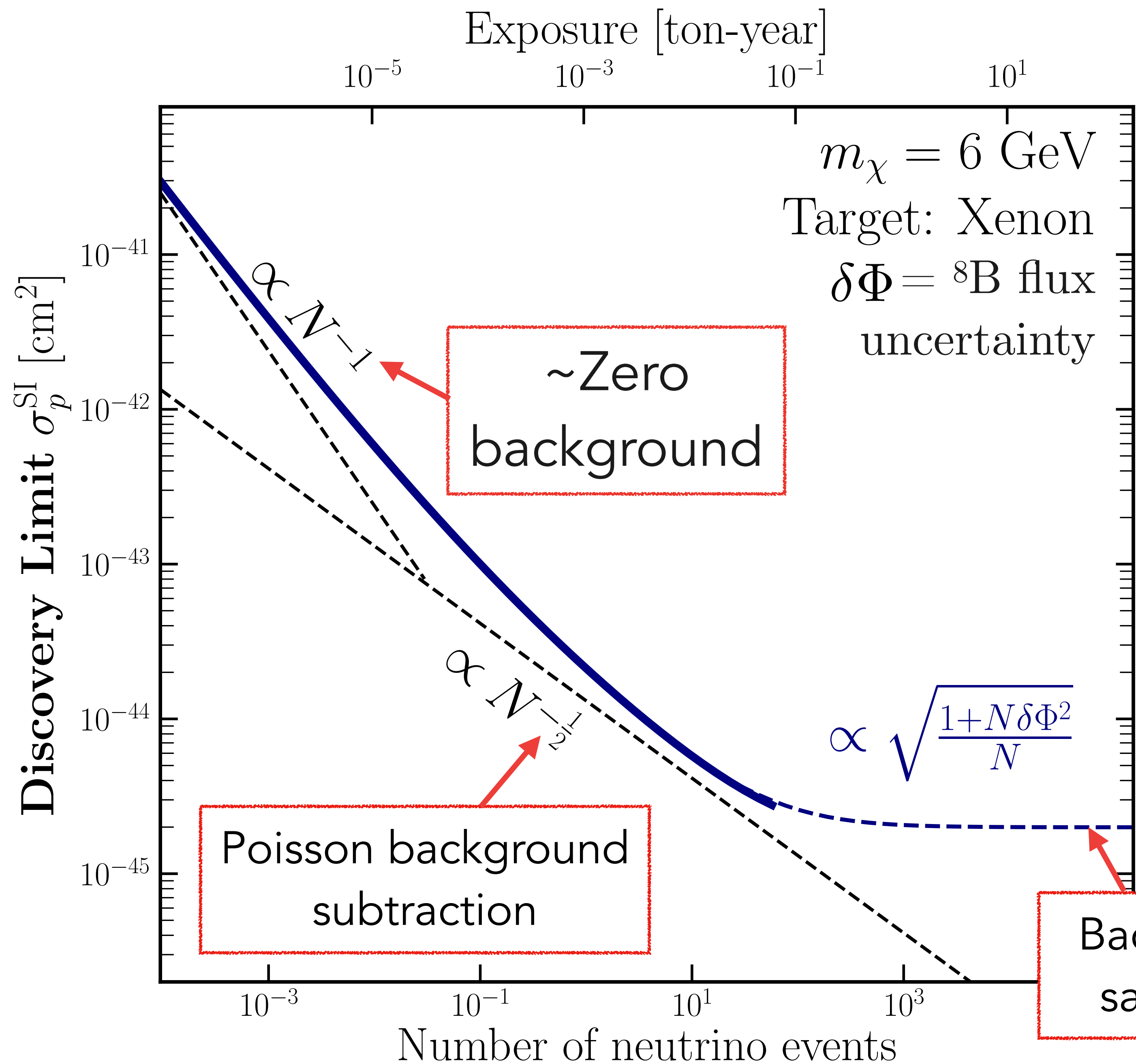
DM signals respectively



The neutrino "floor" as it's usually presented

e.g. for LXe TPCs

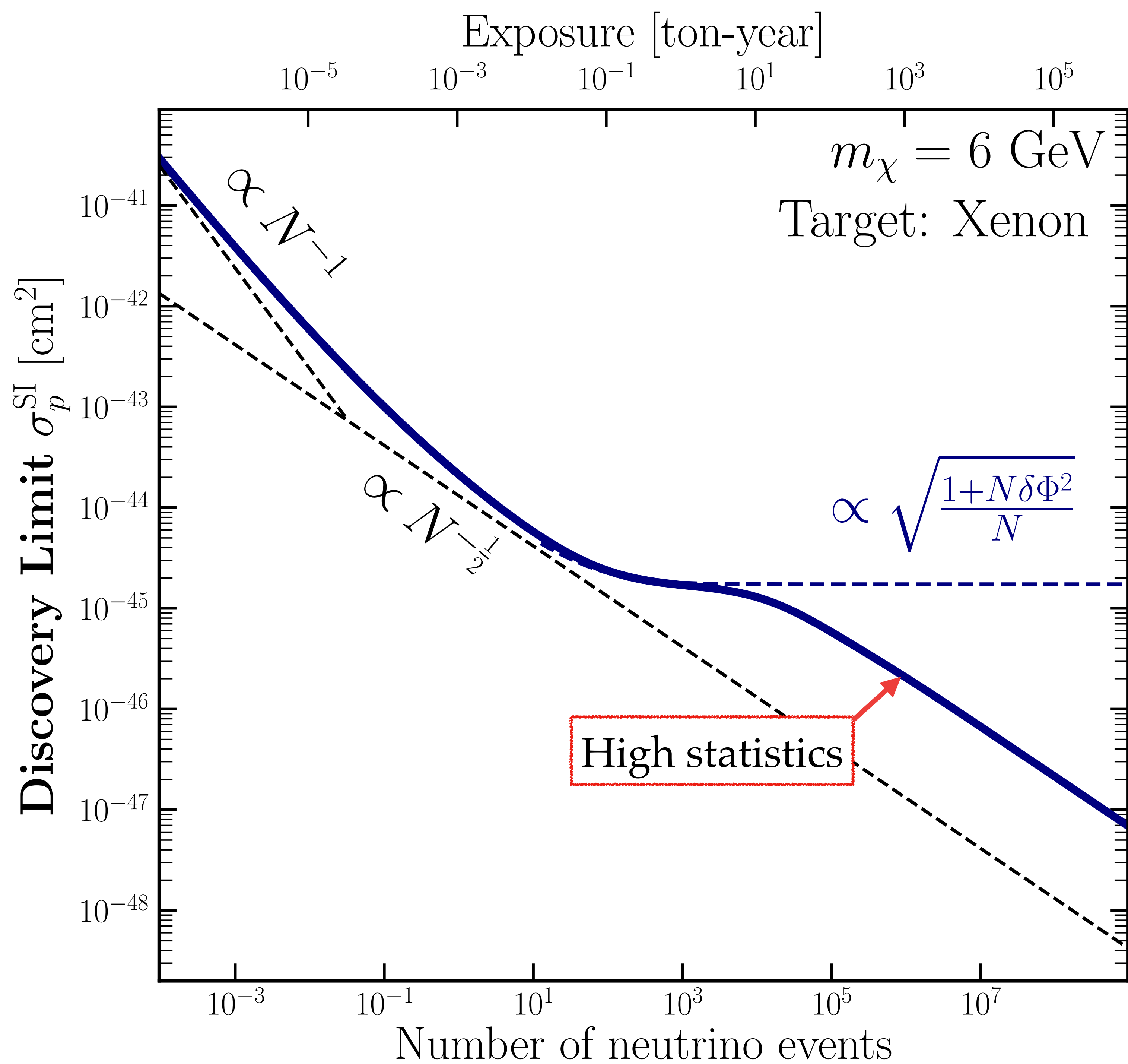




The neutrino "floor"

← Scaling of a DM discovery limit for increasing exposure

→ Experiment can't probe cross sections smaller than those that generate an excess in events below the level of expected background fluctuations



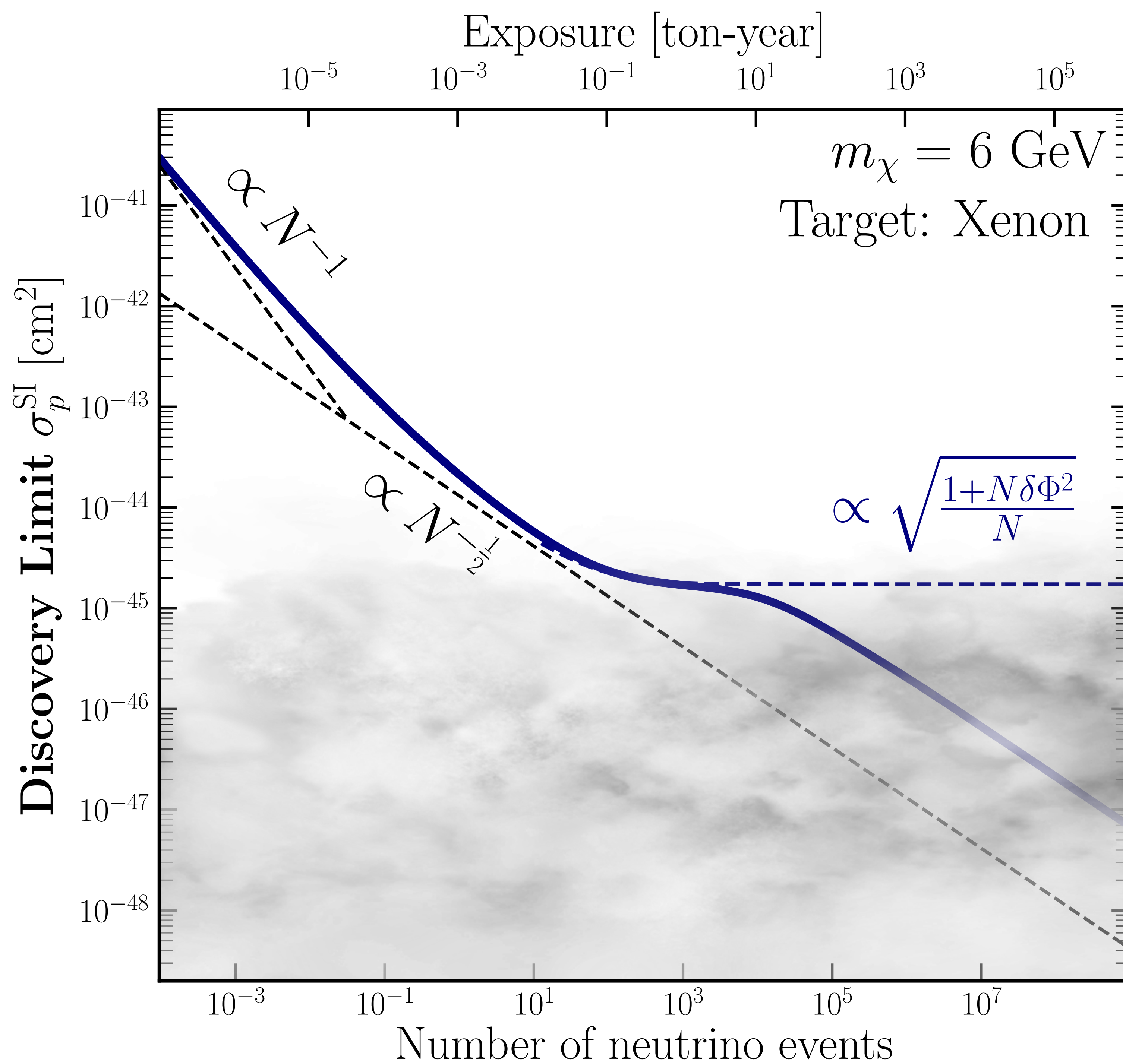
The full story:

There is no neutrino "floor"

DM/CEvNS signals not **identical**

→ with high statistics, an experiment can bootstrap itself through the background uncertainty using spectral information

→ **Required exposures are large, but there can never be a hard sensitivity floor unless the signal and background are *identical***

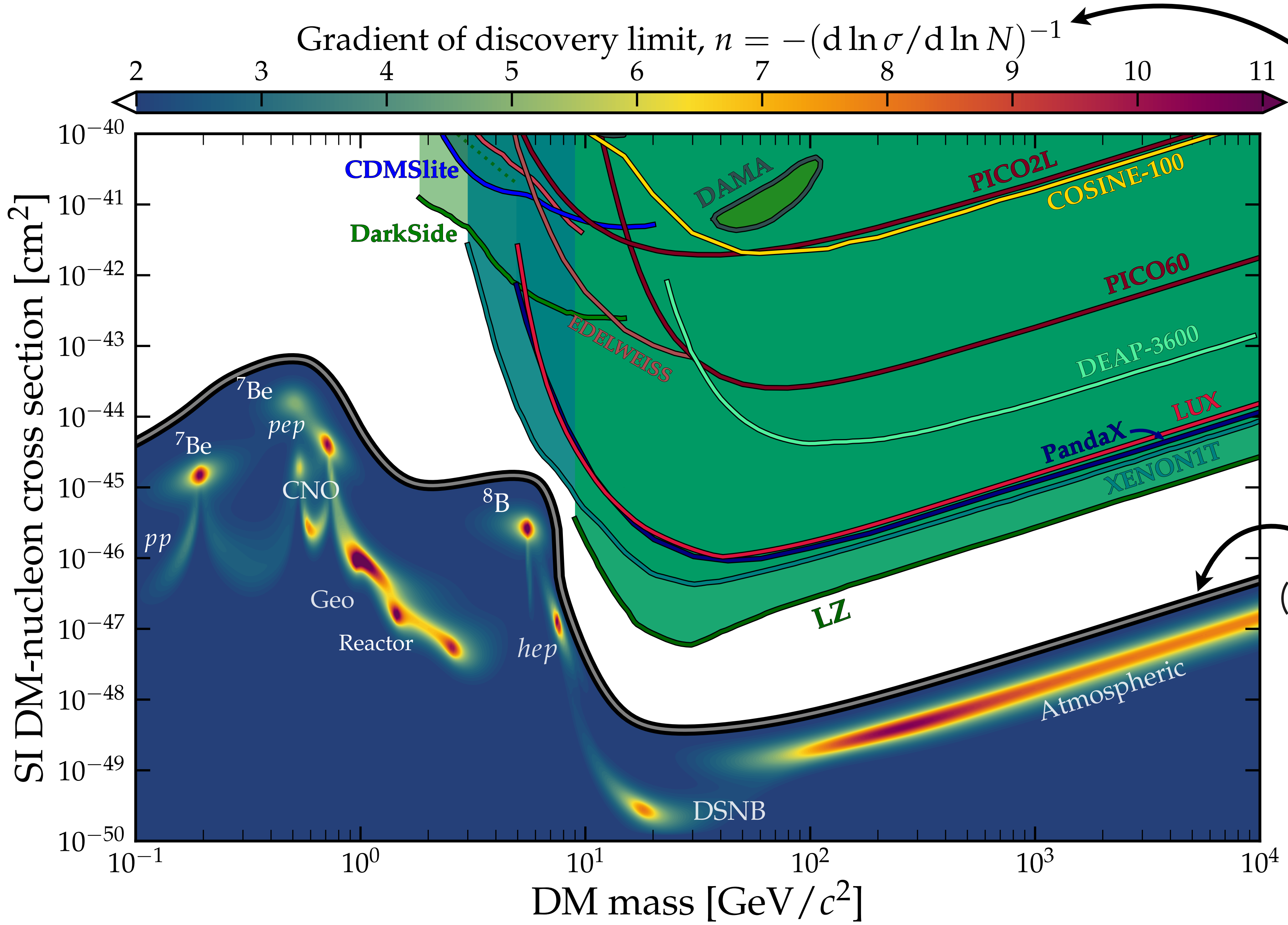


There is no “floor”, but we can quantify the neutrino “fog” by looking at the scaling

Define:

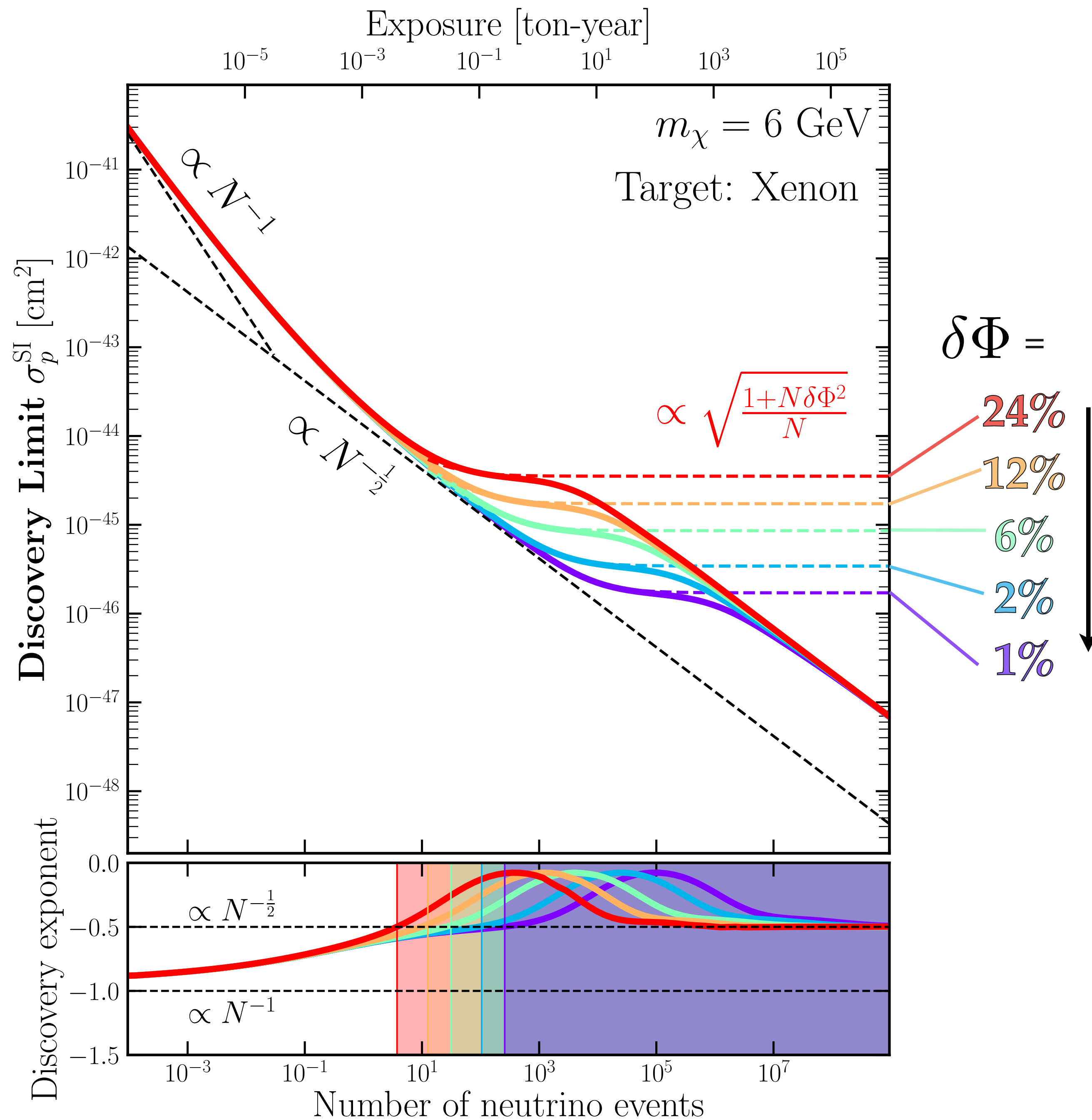
$$n = -\left(\frac{d \ln \sigma}{d \ln N}\right)^{-1}$$

So $n = 2$ for Poissonian background subtraction and $n > 2$ for worse than Poissonian



n parameterises the "fogginess" of the neutrino fog
 → note that it's not uniformly foggy everywhere

The "edge" of the fog ($n > 2$), once you get past it, you can never do better than Poissonian again.



Flux uncertainties

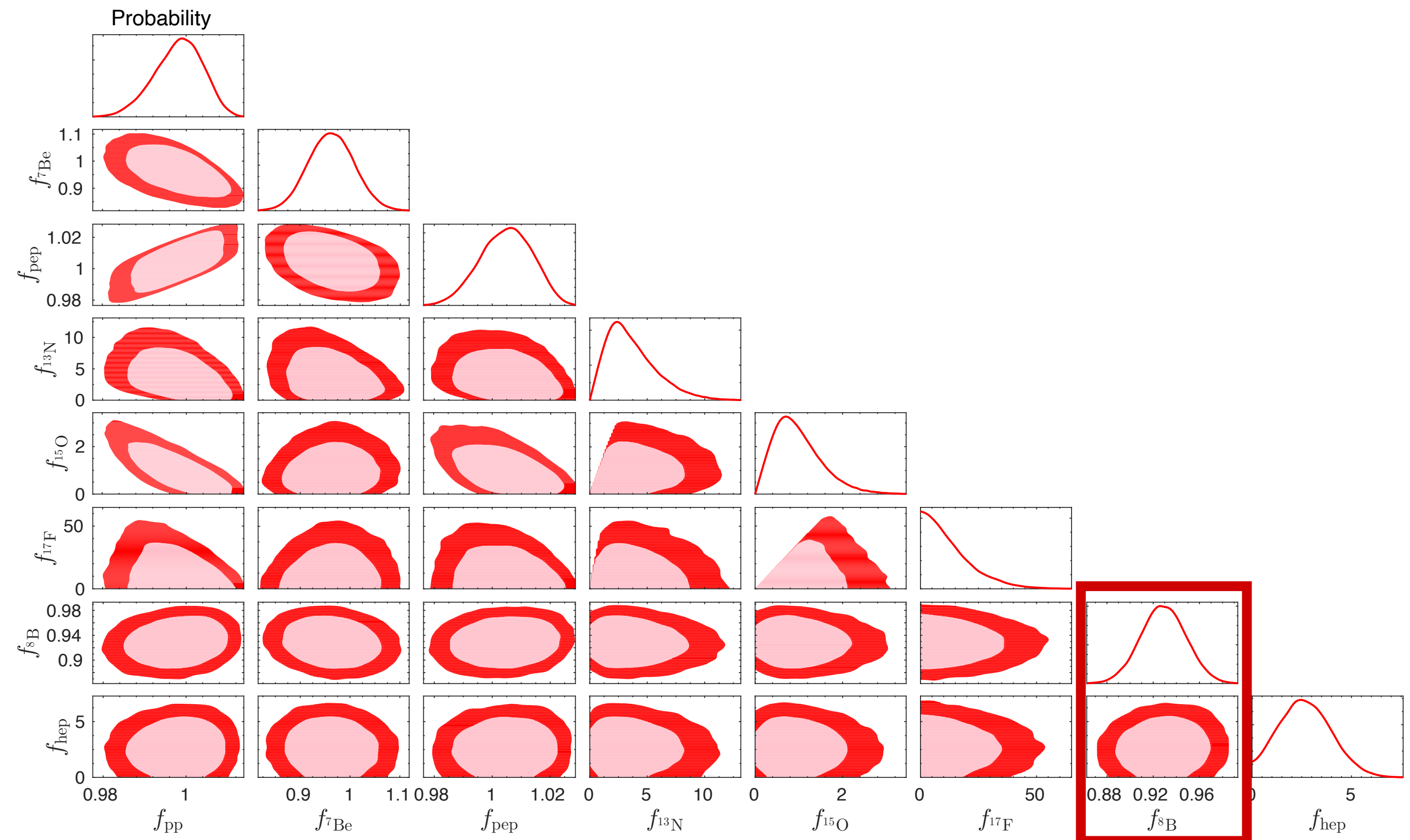
With a smaller neutrino flux uncertainty, the onset of the neutrino fog is pushed to lower cross sections

i.e. if you go in with a better prior knowledge of the background, you can tolerate more of it before it starts to impact sensitivity

Flux uncertainties

^8B flux at $\sim 2\%$ (from global fit 1601.00972), so already well-measured. Could improve further with experiments like DUNE, JUNO, Hyper-K

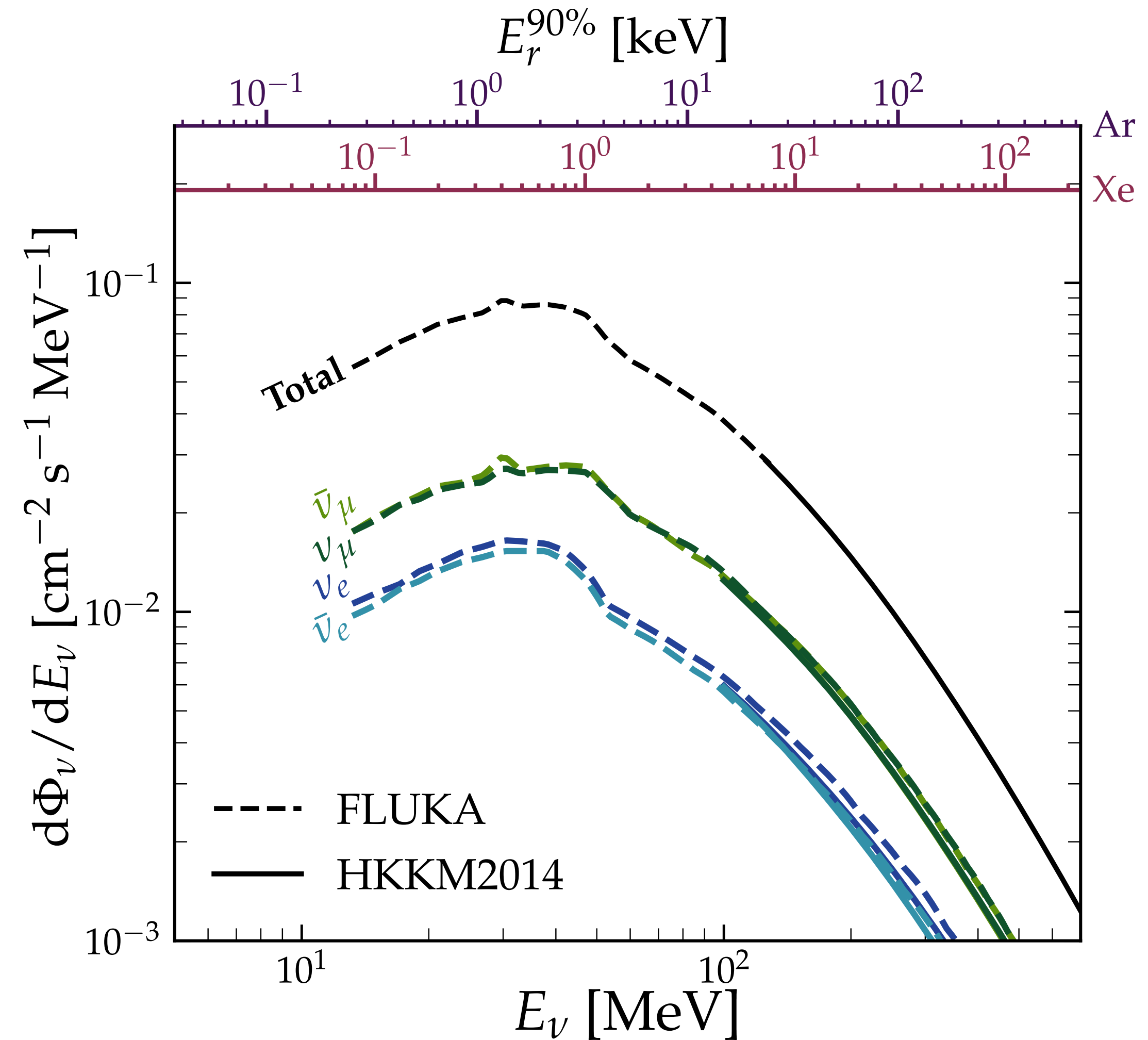
ν type	$\Phi(1 \pm \delta\Phi/\Phi)$	$\times 10^n$	
	[cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$]		
Solar	pp	5.98 (1 \pm 0.006)	10 10
	pep	1.44 (1 \pm 0.01)	10 8
	hep	7.98 (1 \pm 0.30)	10 3
	^7Be	4.93 (1 \pm 0.06)	10 8
	^7Be	4.50 (1 \pm 0.06)	10 9
	^8B	5.16 (1 \pm 0.02)	106
	^{13}N	2.78 (1 \pm 0.15)	10 8
^{15}O	2.05 (1 \pm 0.17)	10 8	
^{17}F	5.29 (1 \pm 0.20)	10 6	
Geo.	U	4.34(1 \pm 0.20)	10 6
	Th	4.23(1 \pm 0.25)	10 6
	K	2.05(1 \pm 0.17)	10 7
Reactor	3.06(1 \pm 0.08)	10 6	
DSNB	8.57(1 \pm 0.50)	10 1	
Atmospheric	1.07(1 \pm 0.25)	10 1	



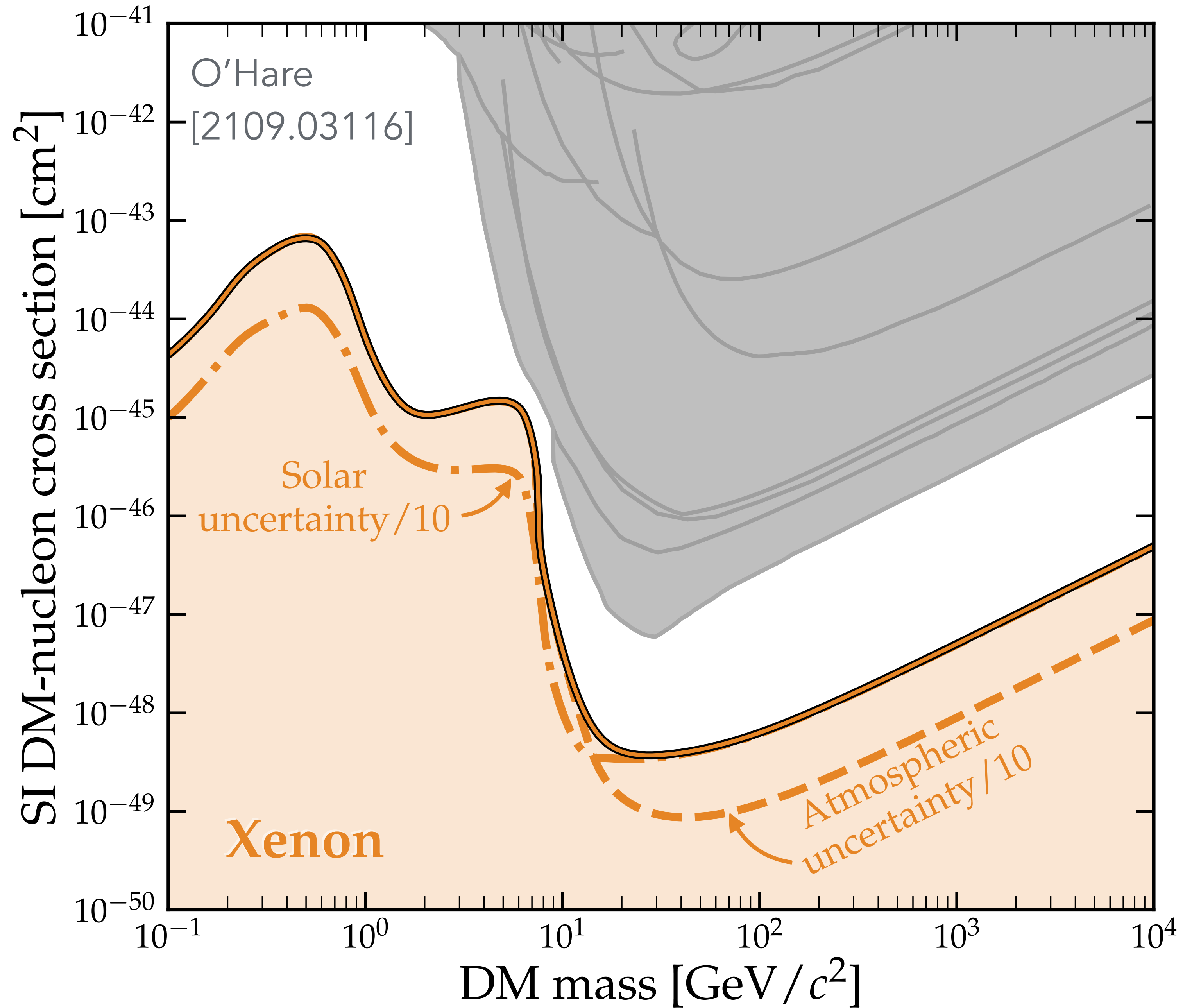
Flux uncertainties

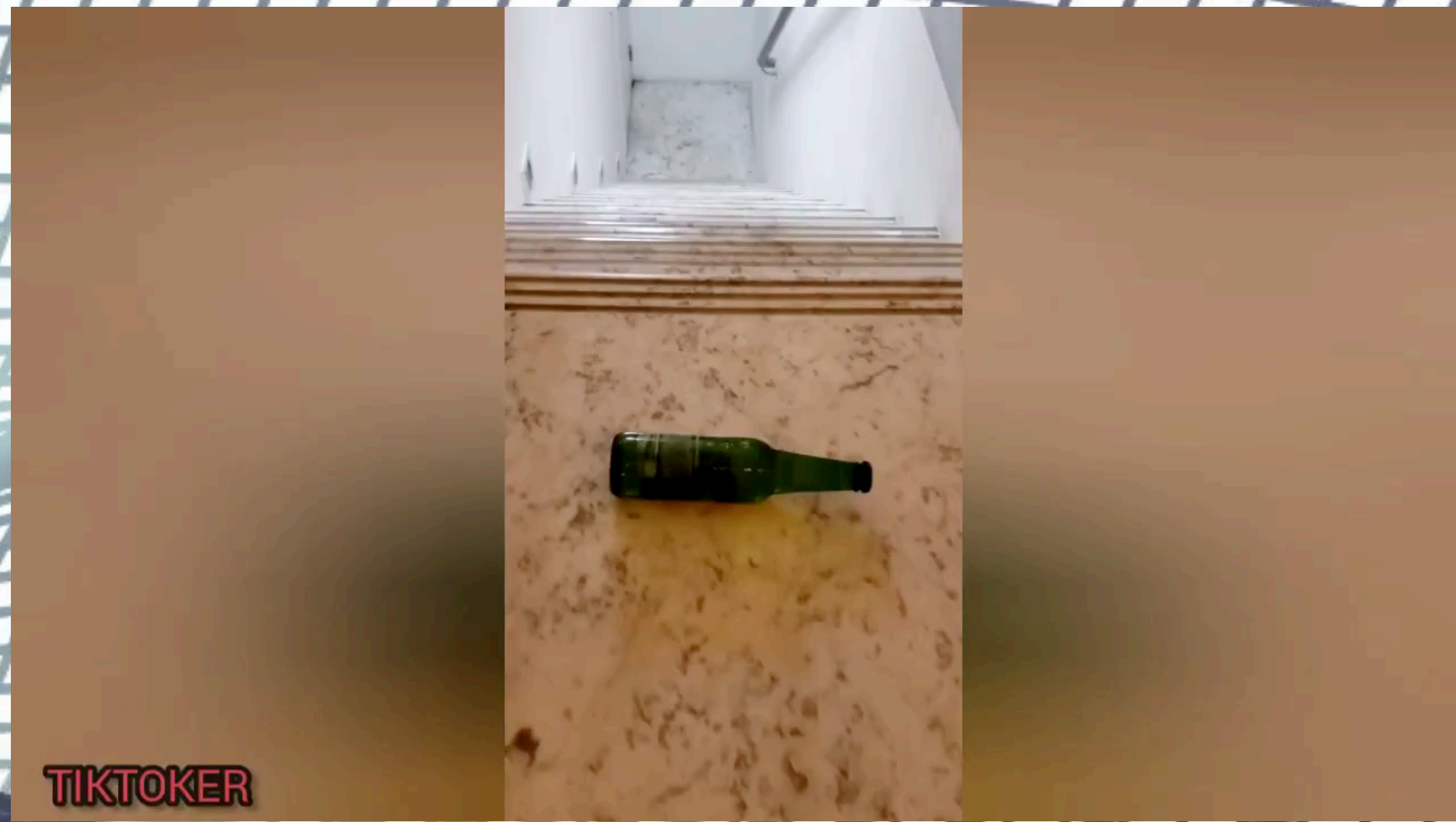
ν type	$\Phi(1 \pm \delta\Phi/\Phi)$	$\times 10^n$ [cm ⁻² s ⁻¹]	
Solar	<i>pp</i>	5.98 (1 ± 0.006)	10 ¹⁰
	<i>pep</i>	1.44 (1 ± 0.01)	10 ⁸
	<i>hep</i>	7.98 (1 ± 0.30)	10 ³
	⁷ Be	4.93 (1 ± 0.06)	10 ⁸
	⁷ Be	4.50 (1 ± 0.06)	10 ⁹
	⁸ B	5.16 (1 ± 0.02)	10 ⁶
	¹³ N	2.78 (1 ± 0.15)	10 ⁸
	¹⁵ O	2.05 (1 ± 0.17)	10 ⁸
	¹⁷ F	5.29 (1 ± 0.20)	10 ⁶
Geo.	U	4.34(1 ± 0.20)	10 ⁶
	Th	4.23(1 ± 0.25)	10 ⁶
	K	2.05(1 ± 0.17)	10 ⁷
Reactor	3.06(1 ± 0.08)	10 ⁶	
DSNB	8.57(1 ± 0.50)	10 ¹	
Atmospheric	1.07(1 ± 0.25)	10 ¹	

Low-E tail of **atmospheric flux** not yet measured at the relevant energies—25% uncertainty is pessimistic

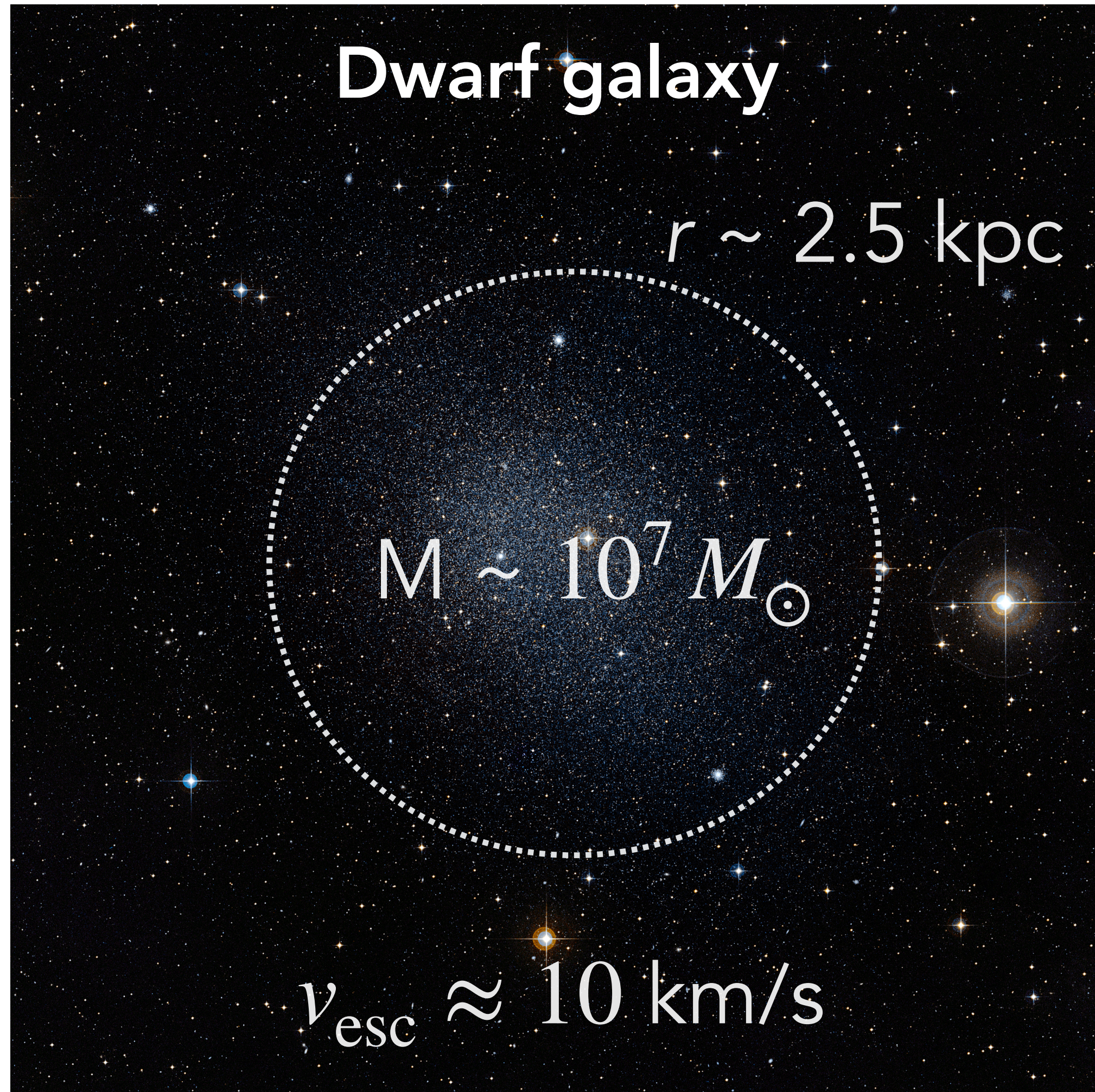


Effect of reducing flux uncertainties on the neutrino fog

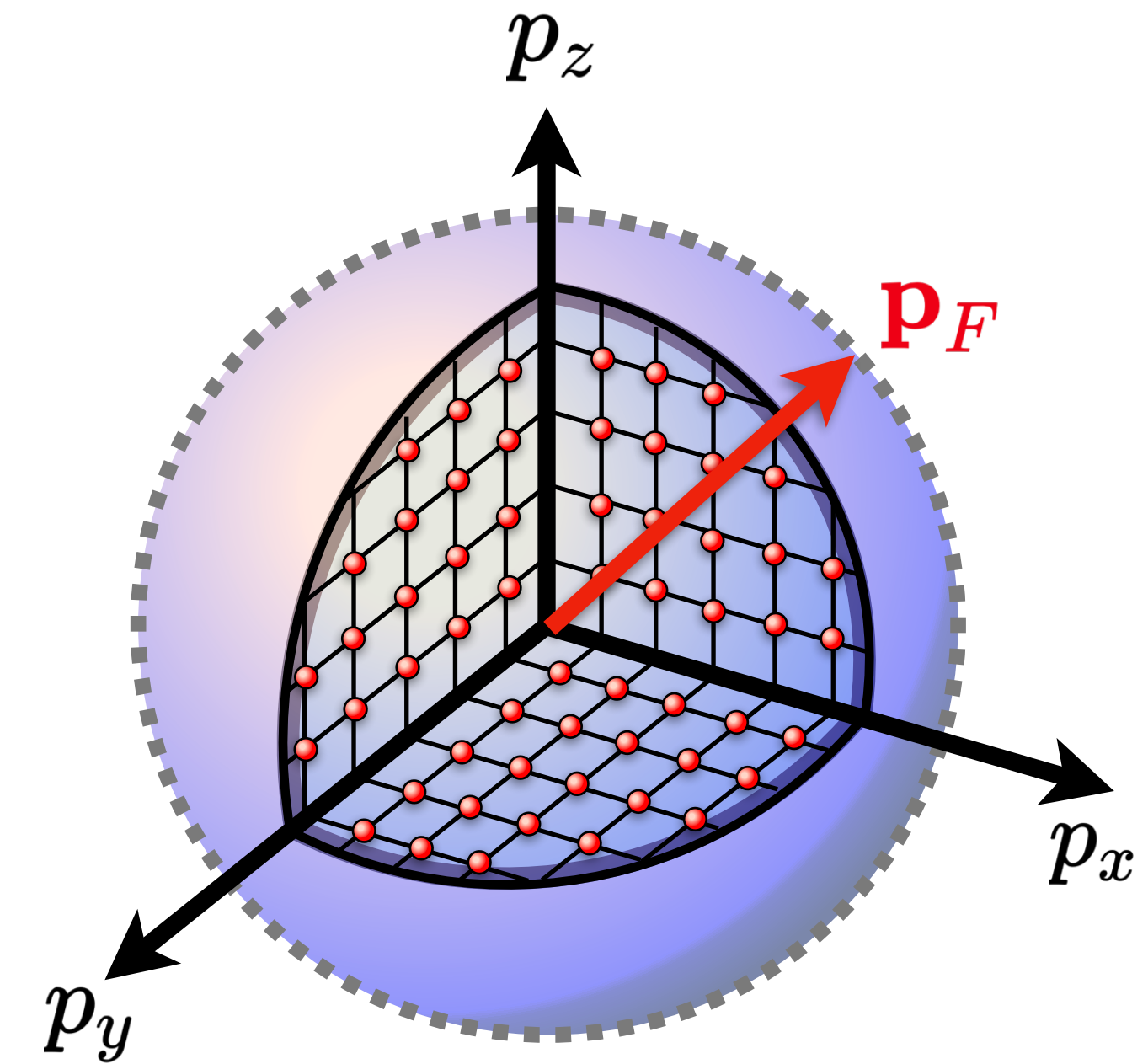




How light can dark matter be if it is made of fermions?



Sphere of degenerate fermions



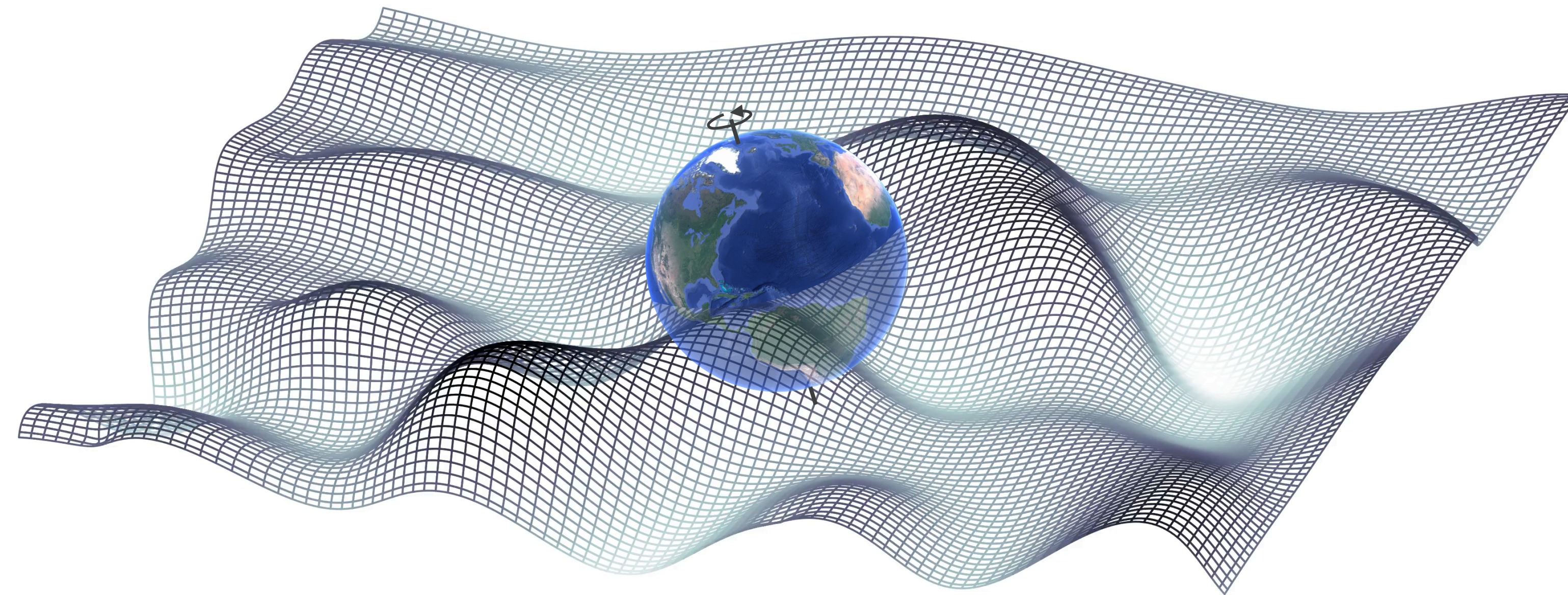
$$v_F < v_{\text{esc}}$$

$$\Rightarrow m_{\chi} \gtrsim 100 \text{ eV}$$

“Tremaine-Gunn bound”: Pauli exclusion principle prevents you from cramming fermions lighter than $\sim 100 \text{ eV}$ into dwarf galaxies

Wave-like dark matter

DM in the regime of *macroscopic* occupancy numbers \rightarrow classical field description



$$\phi(t) \approx A \cos \omega t$$

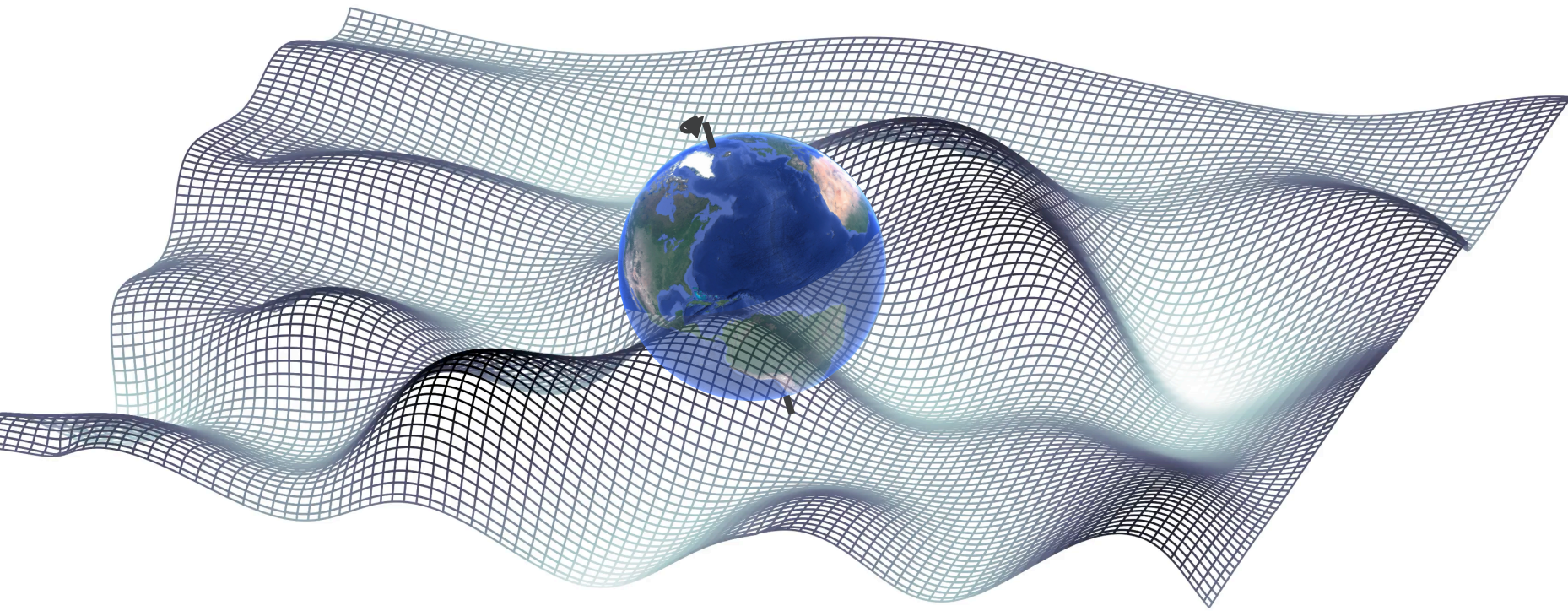
$$\text{Amplitude: } A = \frac{\sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}}}{m}$$

$$\text{Frequency: } \omega = m + \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$
$$\approx m \underbrace{\left(1 + 10^{-6}\right)}$$

Oscillation remains
coherent for 10^6 cycles

No discrete particle-scattering events, instead we imagine coupling to the field in some way and extracting energy from it via these characteristic oscillations

Wave-like dark matter properly



Superposition of plane waves in some box of volume, V

$$\phi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{V} \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \phi(\mathbf{p}) e^{-i(\omega t - \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \beta(\mathbf{p}))}$$

Only when we measure over some **short enough** time/length scale do we have:

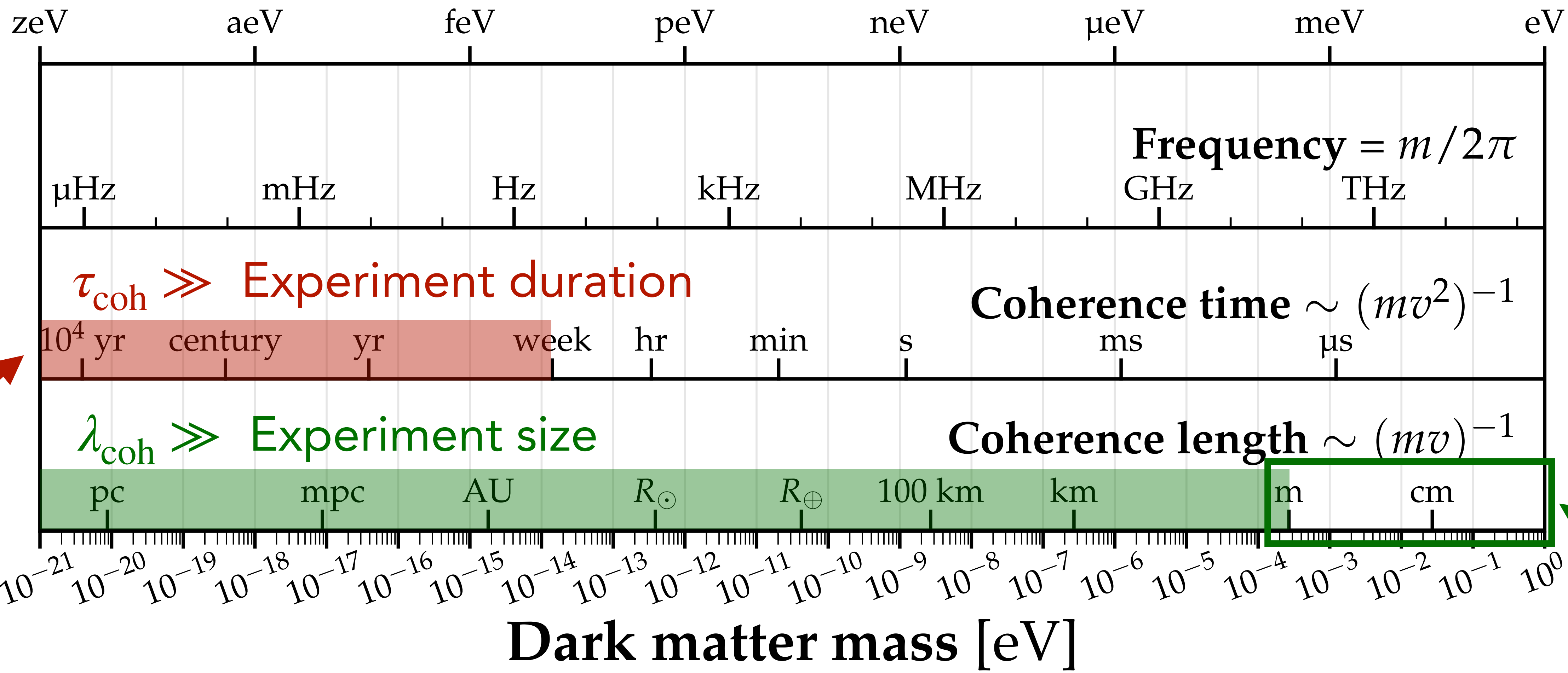
$$\phi = \phi_0 \cos(\omega t - \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \beta)$$

Random amplitude Random draw from the velocity distribution Arbitrary phase

What is considered short?

< Coherence length and coherence time
→ The length/timescale over which field will be out of phase with itself

$$\lambda_{\text{coh}} \sim \frac{2\pi}{mv} \quad \tau_{\text{coh}} \sim \frac{2\pi}{mv^2}$$

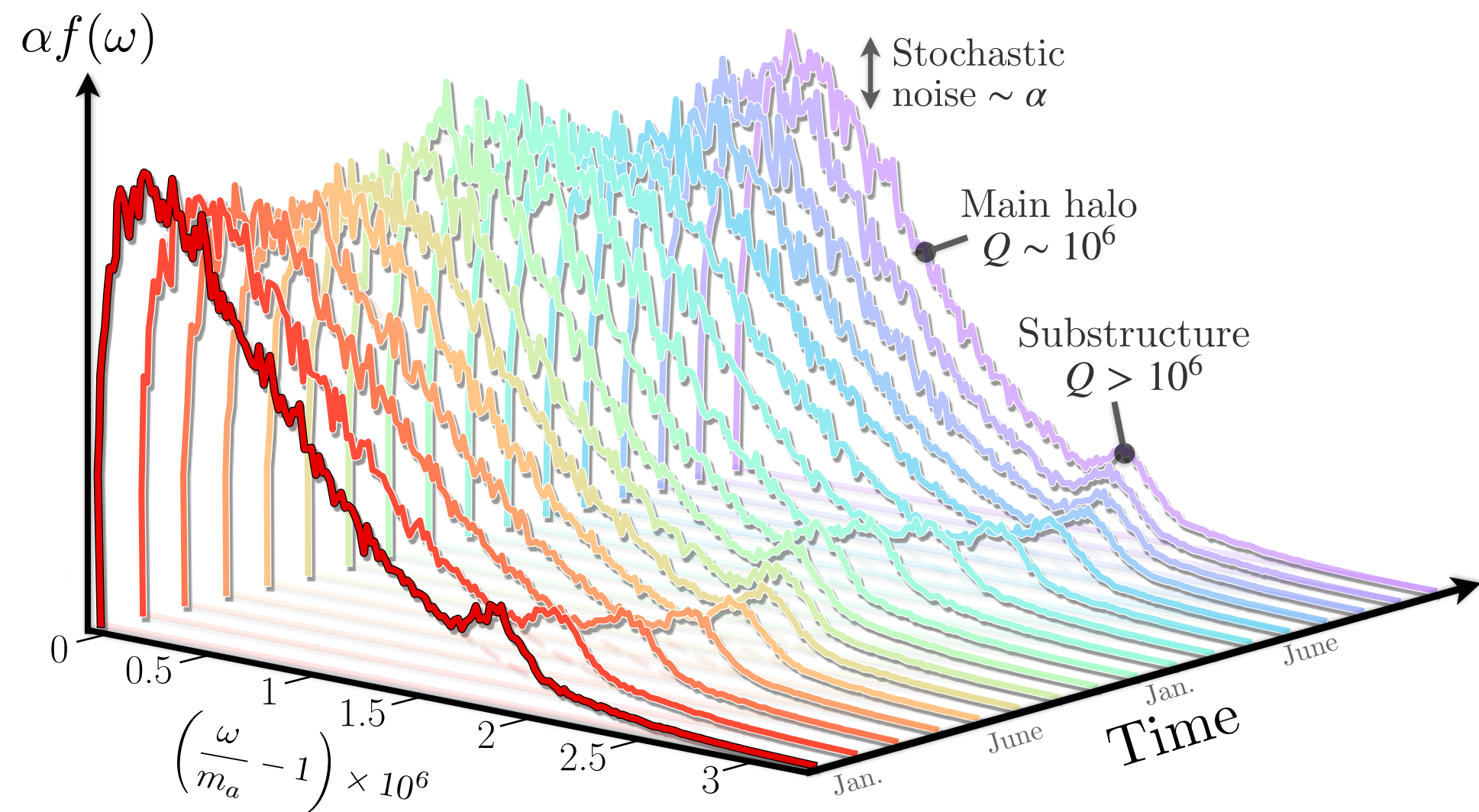


~week-long integration will observe almost perfectly monochromatic signal (Worry instead about random amplitude)

Field oscillations are out of phase in different parts of <math>< m</math>-scale experiment

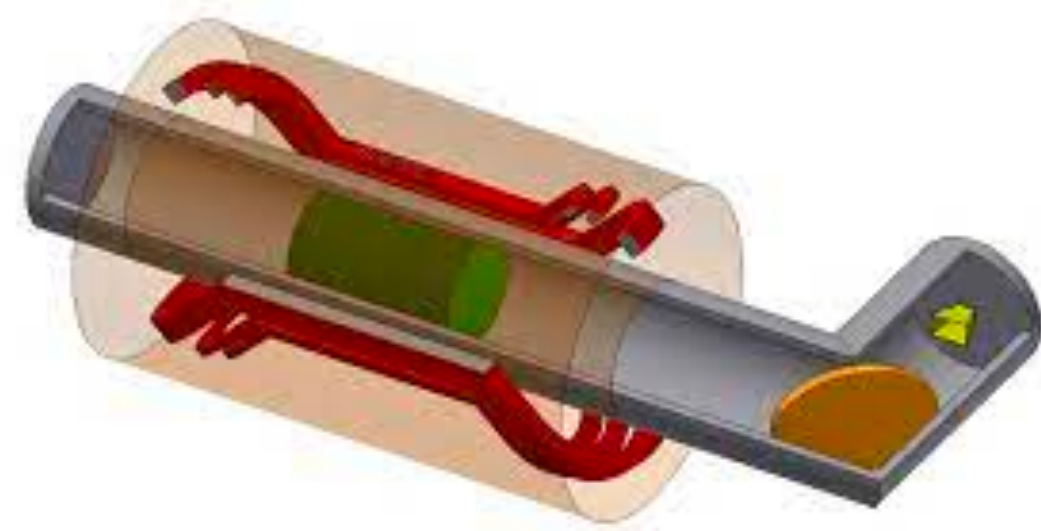
Wave-like dark matter

How do the speed distribution, annual modulation, directionality manifest in the wave-like case?

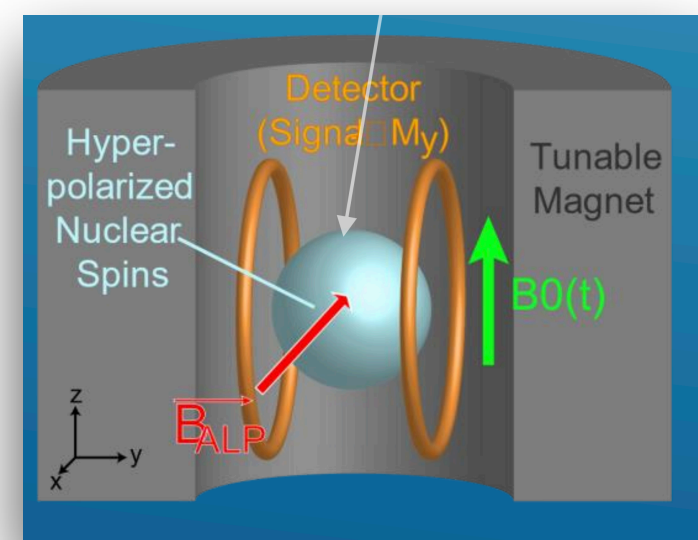


→ Speed distribution leads to a distinctive “lineshape” in frequency that will modulate over the year

$$f(\omega, t) = f(v, t) \frac{dv}{d\omega}$$



MADMAX



CASPER-Gradient

→ Directionality could appear in two forms:

→ Experiments that are larger than coherence length

→ Experiments that measure the field-gradient:

$$\nabla \phi = \sqrt{2\rho} \mathbf{v} \sin(\omega t - m_a \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \beta)$$

Specific model: the axion

Minimal working definition: New light pseudoscalar, with coupling to photons and/or derivative couplings to fermions

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{axion}} \supset \overset{\substack{\text{Axion-gluon} \\ \text{(QCD axion only)}}}{\frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \frac{a}{f_a} G \tilde{G}} + \overset{\text{Axion-Photon}}{\frac{1}{4} g_{a\gamma} a F \tilde{F}} + \overset{\text{Axion-Fermion}}{\partial_\mu a \sum_\psi g_{a\psi} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \psi}$$

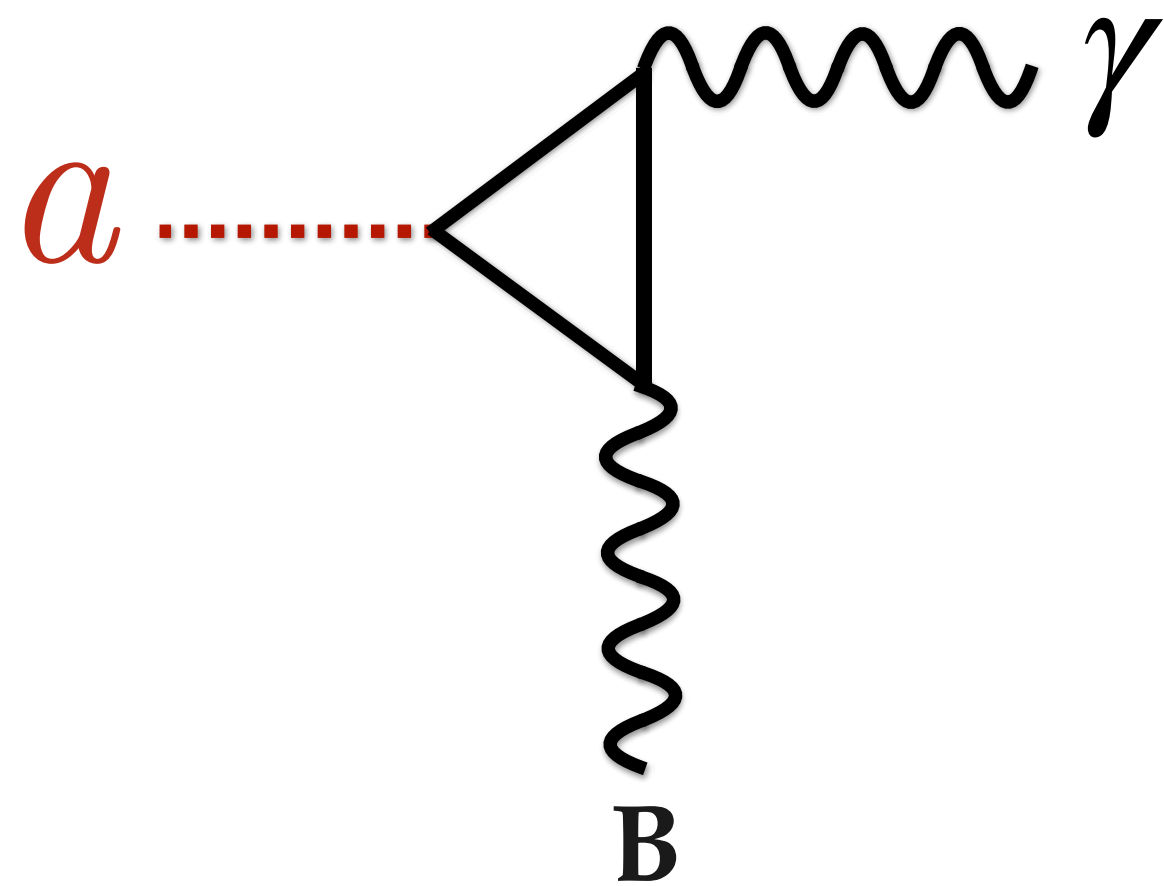
+ a few model-dependent assumptions

- Usually pseudo-Goldstone boson of spontaneously broken U(1)
- Could solve strong CP problem (= **QCD axion**)
- Could be DM

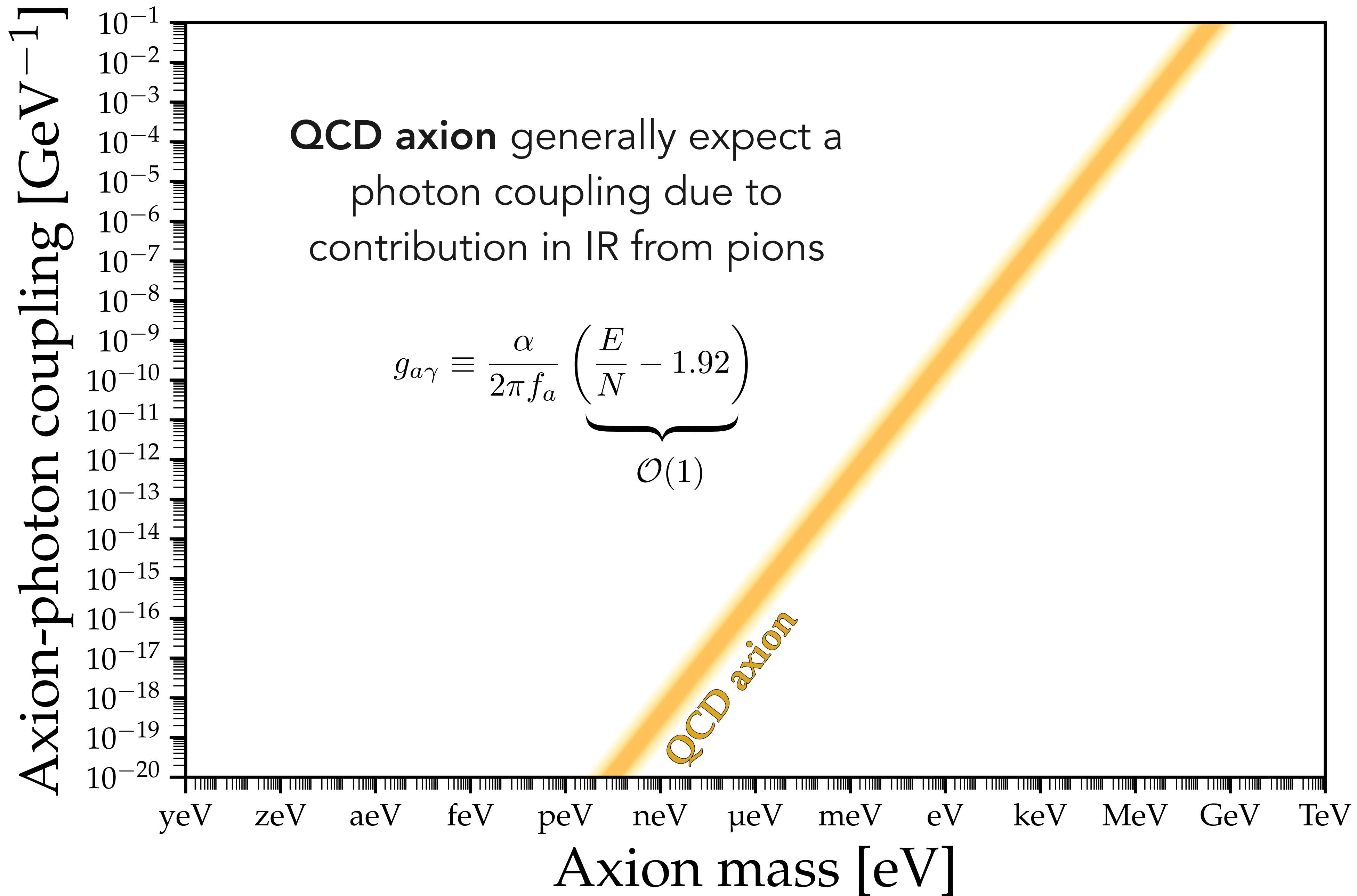
Axion-photon interaction

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}g_{a\gamma}a(\mathbf{x}, t)F_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} = g_{a\gamma}a(\mathbf{x}, t)\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$

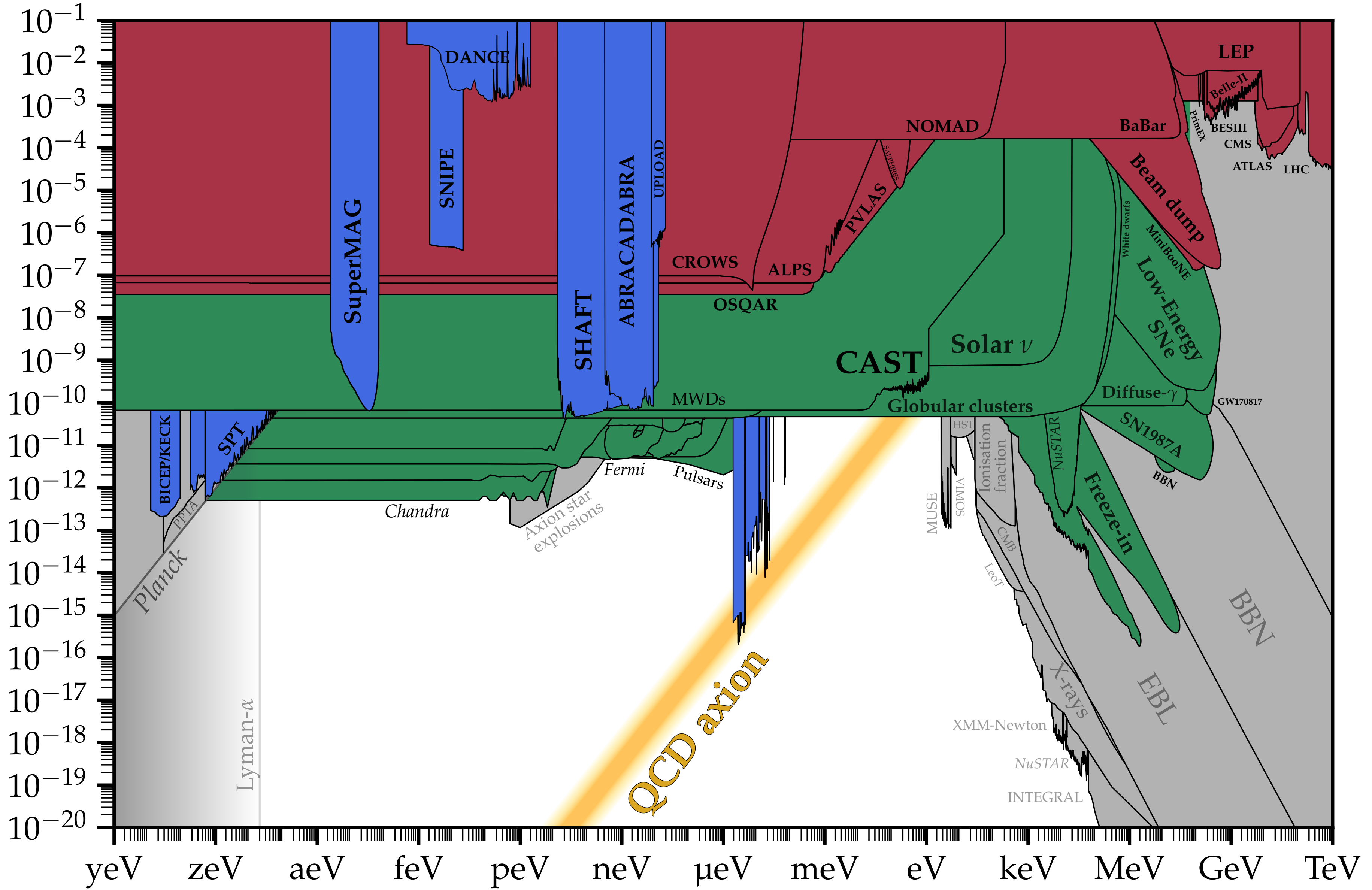
DM axion → Photon



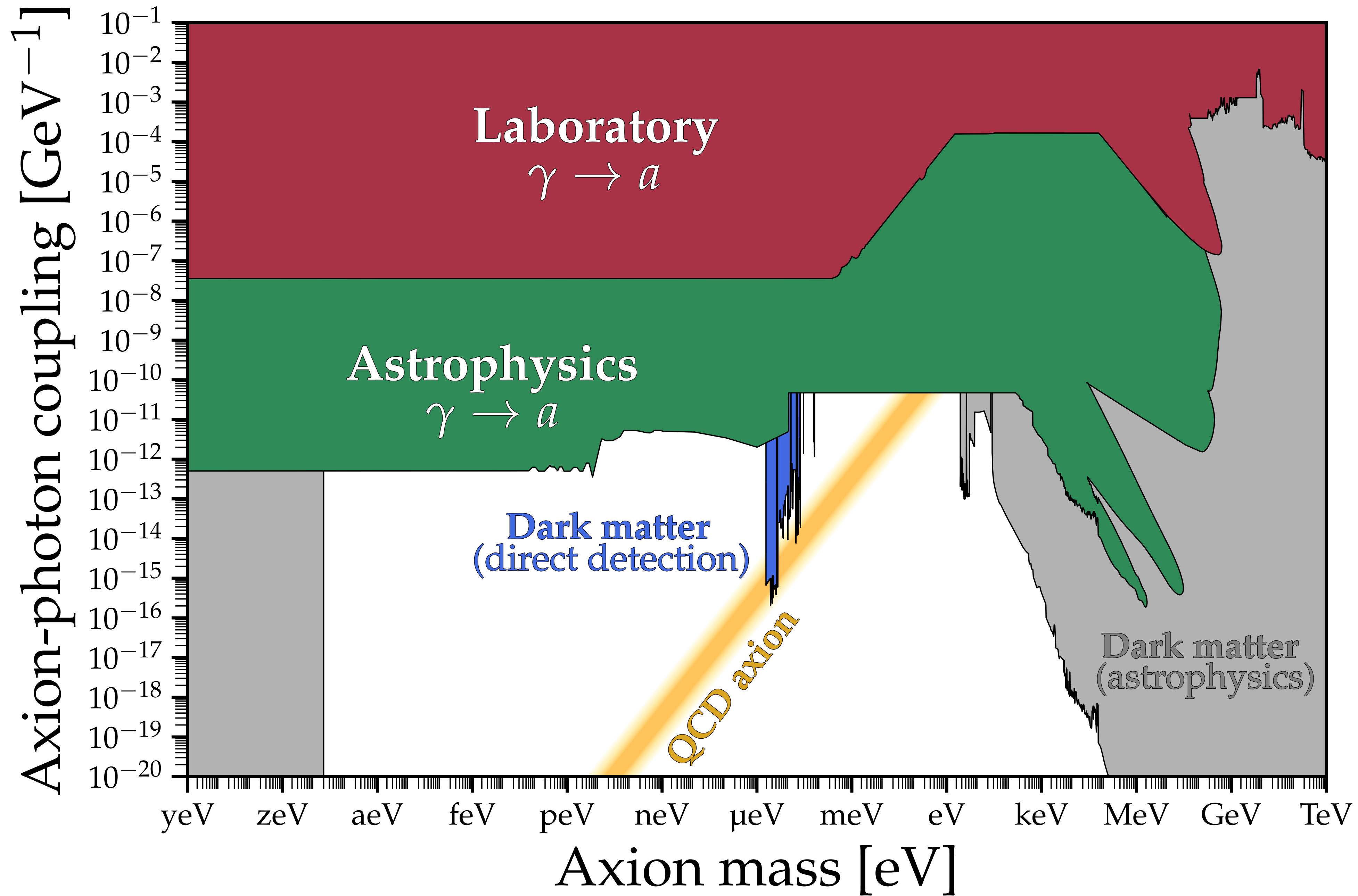
- **DM axions** source photons with energy = m_a in the presence of an EM-field
- Could use E-field or B-field to supply EM-background, but in practice only B-fields are used
- Axion mixes only with component of photon parallel to an B-field, can lead to some interesting polarisation signals like birefringence



Axion-photon coupling $[\text{GeV}^{-1}]$



Axion mass $[\text{eV}]$



Axion electrodynamics

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{\mu\nu} &= \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu \\
 \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} F_{\alpha\beta} \\
 \mathbf{E} &= -\nabla A_0 - \dot{\mathbf{A}} \\
 \mathbf{B} &= \nabla \times \mathbf{A}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - J^\mu A_\mu - \frac{g_{a\gamma}}{4} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} a$$

- E-L equation for A_μ shows we can interpret axion as the source of an effective current:

$$\partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} = J^\mu - \underbrace{g_{a\gamma} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}}_{\downarrow} \partial_\nu a$$

$$J_a^\mu = g_{a\gamma} (-\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla a, -\mathbf{E} \times \nabla a + \partial_t a \mathbf{B})$$

- Rewrite Maxwell's equations with $J \rightarrow J + J_a$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= \rho \\
 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0 \\
 \nabla \times \mathbf{E} &= -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \\
 \nabla \times \mathbf{B} &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{J}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \cancel{\mathbf{J}} - g_{a\gamma} \left(\cancel{\mathbf{E} \times \nabla a} - \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} \mathbf{B} \right)$$

Usually not important unless experiment larger than

$$\lambda_{\text{coh}} \sim (\nabla a)^{-1} \sim (m_a \mathbf{v})^{-1} \sim 10^3 \lambda_{\text{Compton}}$$

(Most experiments are actually around $\lambda_{\text{Compton}} \sim 1/m_a$)

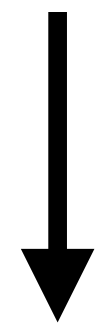
**Combine
Ampere & Faraday**

$$\ddot{\mathbf{E}} - \nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = -g_{a\gamma} \mathbf{B} \ddot{a}(t)$$

Driven harmonic oscillator

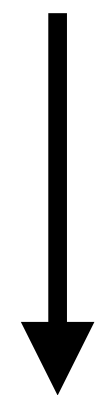
Cavity haloscope (1D example)

$$E_n(x, t) = E(t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$



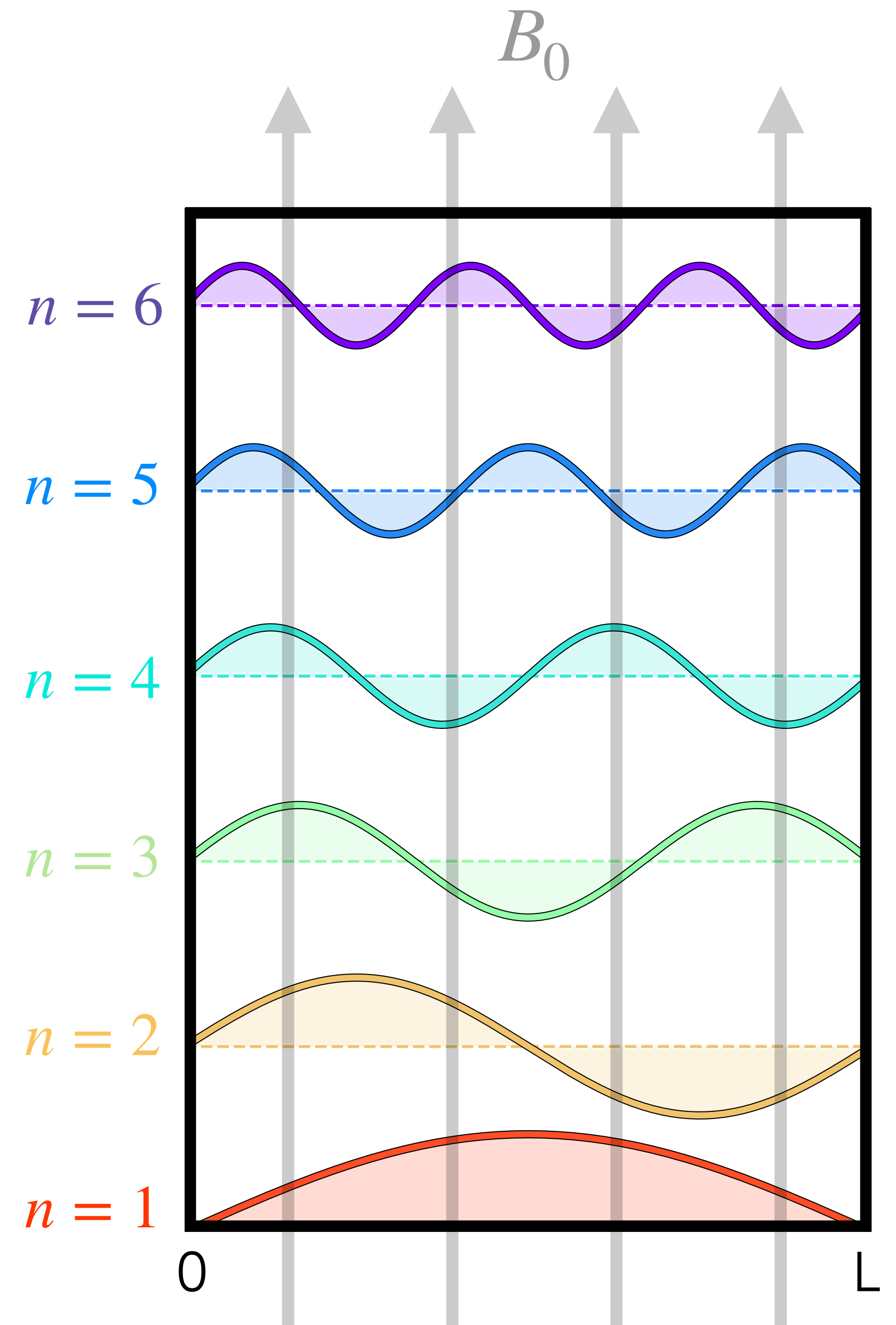
$$\ddot{\mathbf{E}} - \nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = -g_{a\gamma} \mathbf{B} \ddot{a}(t)$$

$a(t) \sim \cos(m_a t)$



Axion excites mode and drives resonance at

$$m_a = \frac{n\pi}{L}$$



Cavity haloscope

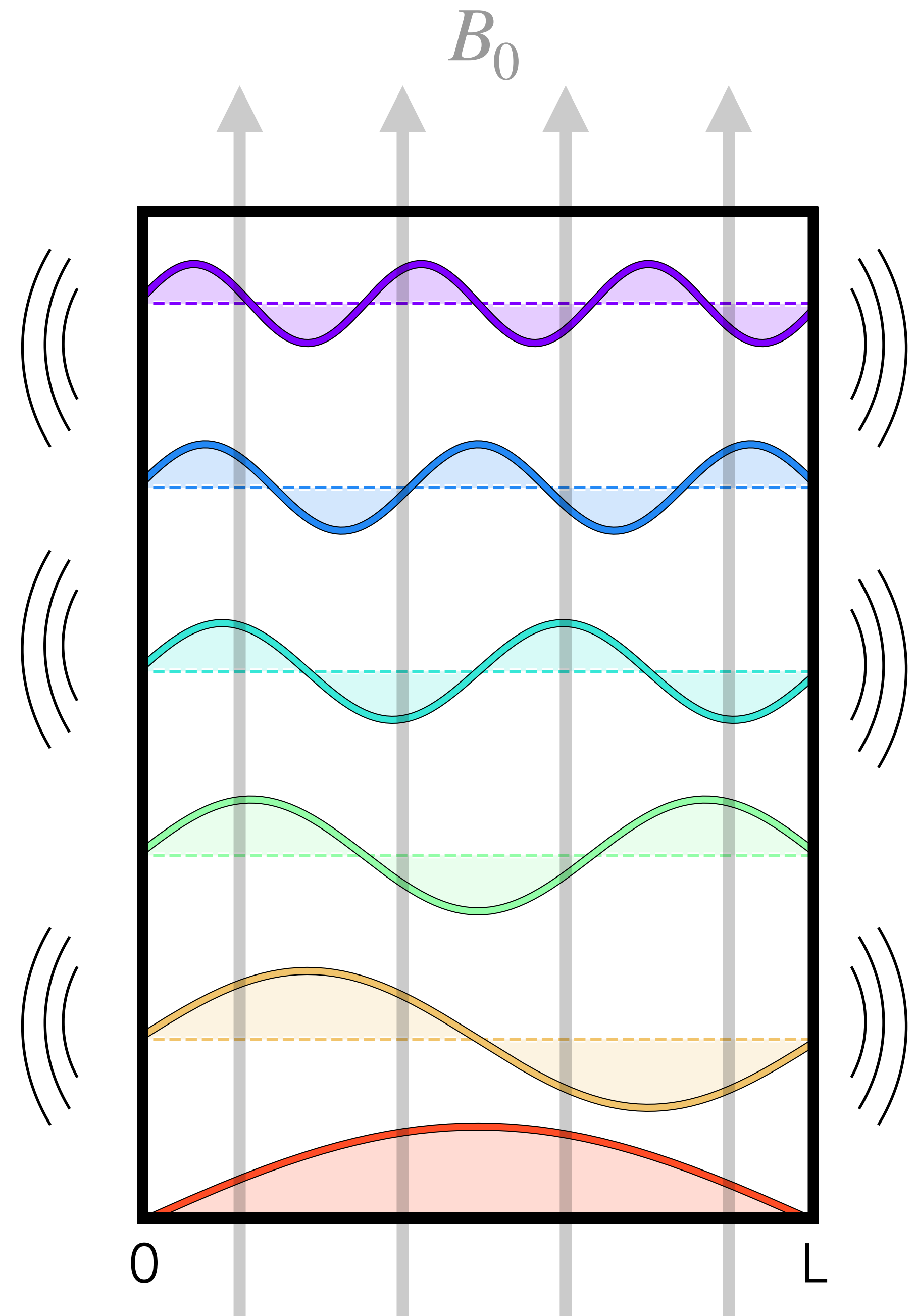
Power lost from the cavity quantified in terms of the "quality factor"

Q = energy stored/energy lost per oscillation period

$$P = \frac{\omega_n}{Q} U_{\text{stored}} = \frac{\omega_n}{Q} \times \frac{1}{2} |E|^2 V$$

When on-resonance ($\omega_n = m_a$):

$$|E| = Q(g_{a\gamma} B) \frac{\sqrt{2\rho}}{m_a}$$



Cavity haloscope

More detailed calculation for a cylindrical cavity:

$$P_a = 6.3 \times 10^{-22} \text{ W} \left(\frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{10^{-15} \text{ GeV}^{-1}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{V}{2201} \right) \left(\frac{B}{8 \text{ T}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{C_{nlm}}{0.69} \right) \left(\frac{\rho_a}{0.3 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}} \right) \left(\frac{3 \mu\text{eV}}{m_a} \right) \left(\frac{Q}{7 \times 10^4} \right)$$

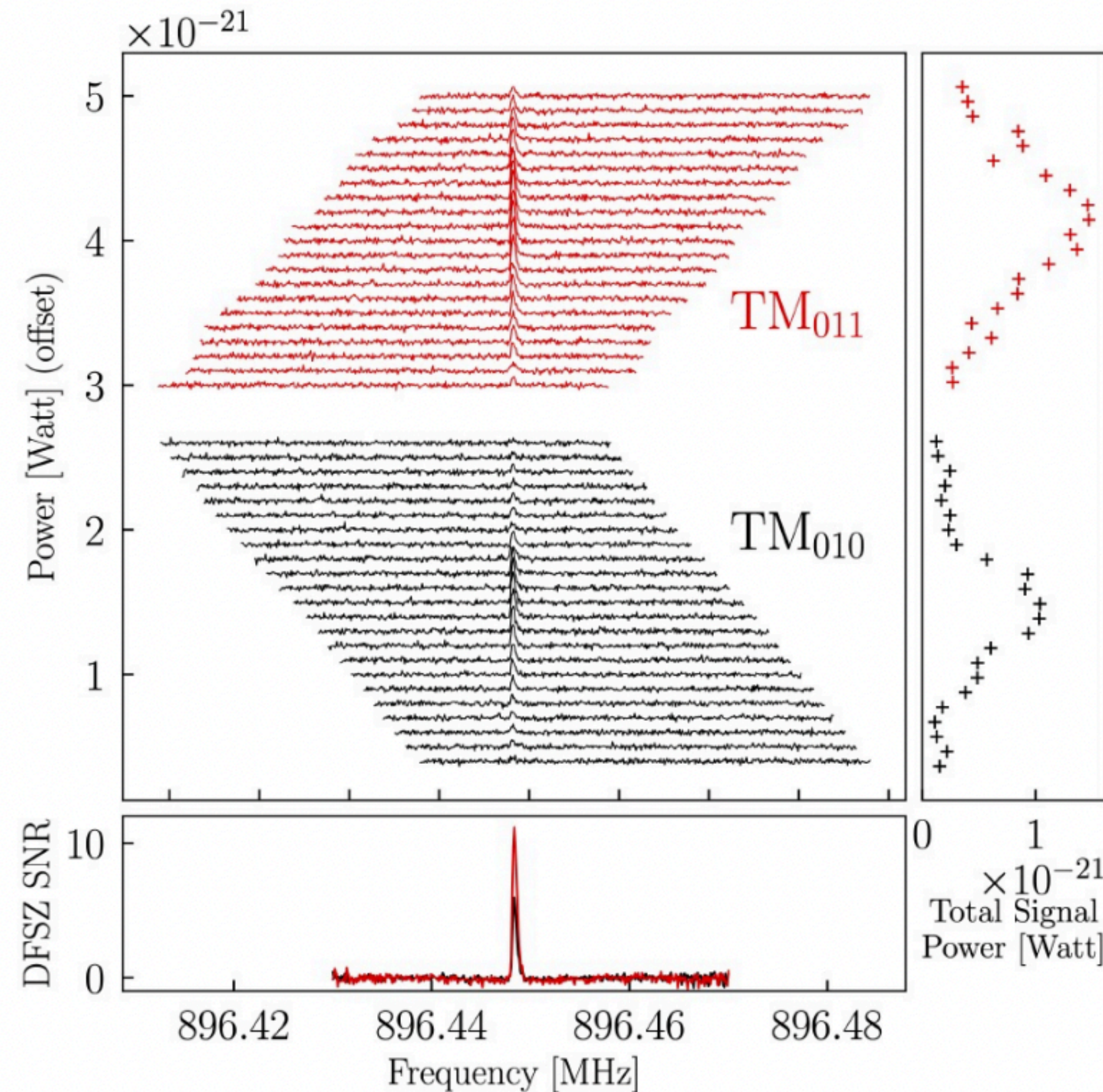
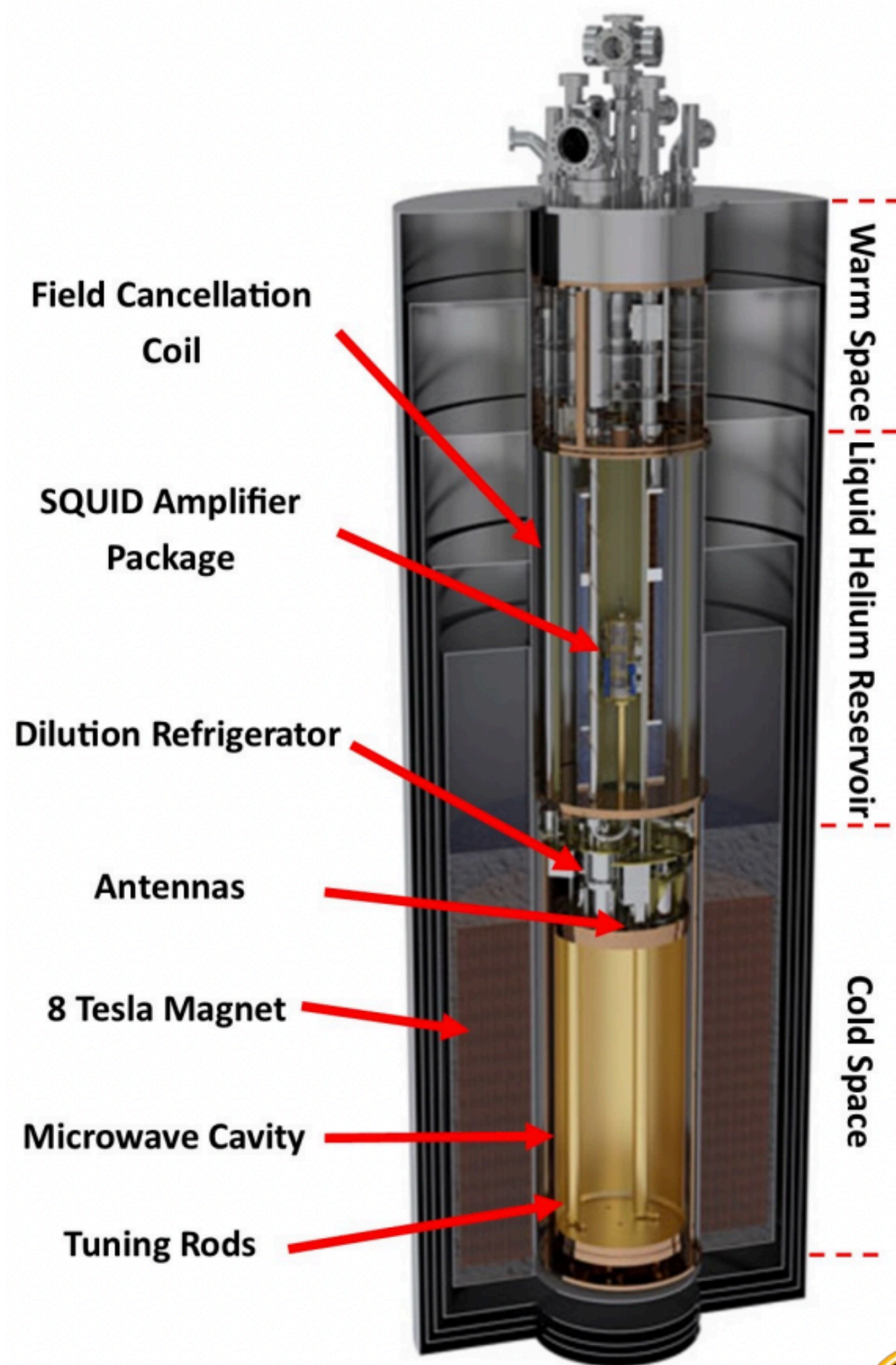
Axion coupling
Volume
B-field
Geometric factor
DM density
Axion mass
Quality factor

Volume fixed by resonant frequency

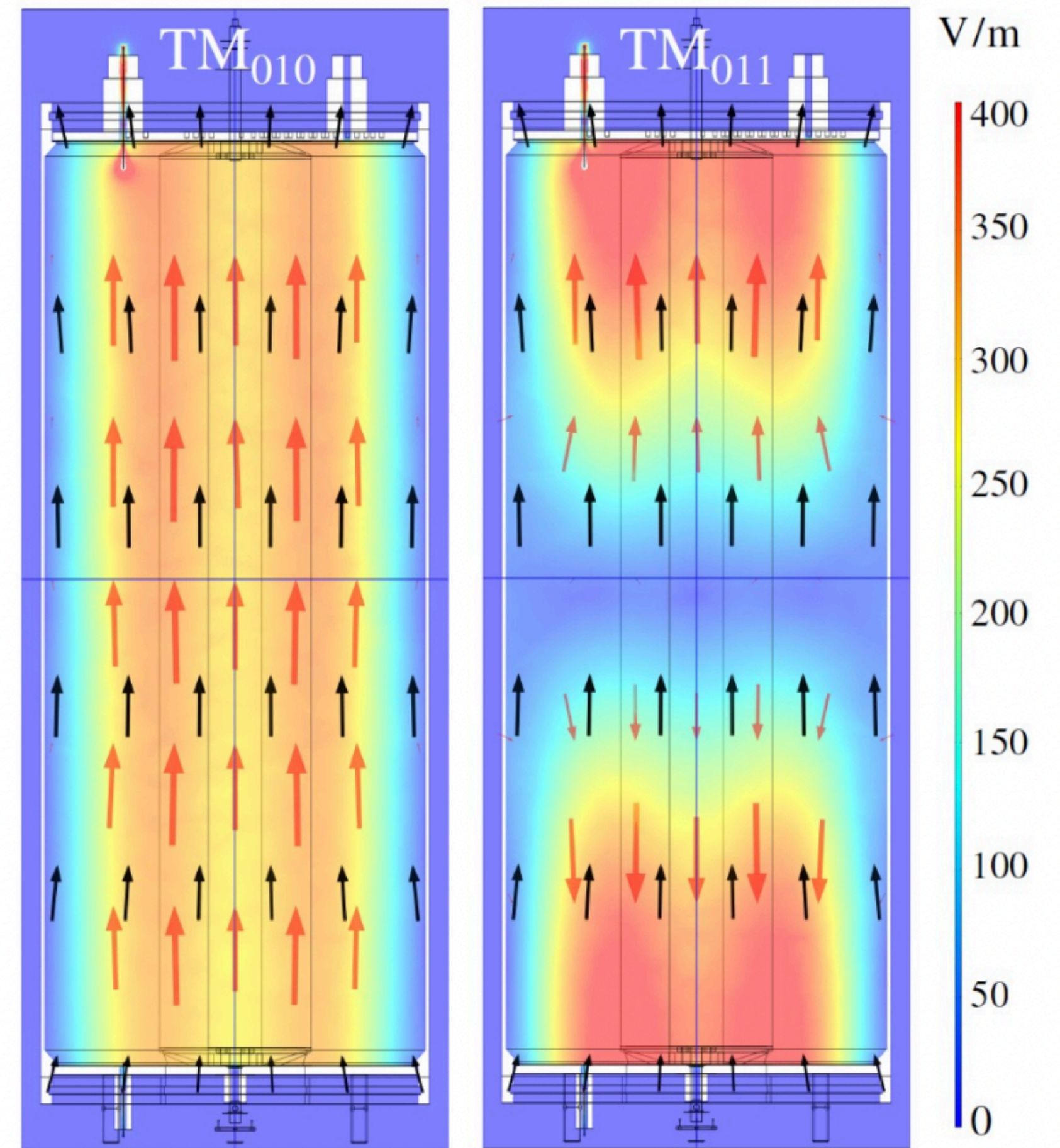
Search @ higher masses? → Forced to use smaller V → Power suppressed $\propto V$

Search @ lower masses? → Forced to use larger V → Impractical while maintaining large B

Achieve sensitivity across a band of axion masses by tuning resonance by making small adjustments to the internal geometry



**Signal had line-shape consistent with axion!
Power went away off resonance (not RFI)!**



**Seen in TM_{011} mode as well
Fake axion from Blind Injection team**



Frequency scan rate

→ Signal-to-Noise:
(Dicke Radiometer Eq.)

$$\frac{S}{N} = \frac{P_{\text{sig}}}{k_B T} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{t_{\text{int}}}{\Delta\nu}}$$

T = Noise temp.
 t_{int} = integration time
 $\Delta\nu$ = bandwidth

→ **figure of merit** given by how fast the experiment must scan in order to rule out a section of the QCD band (i.e. fixed value of $C_{a\gamma}$)

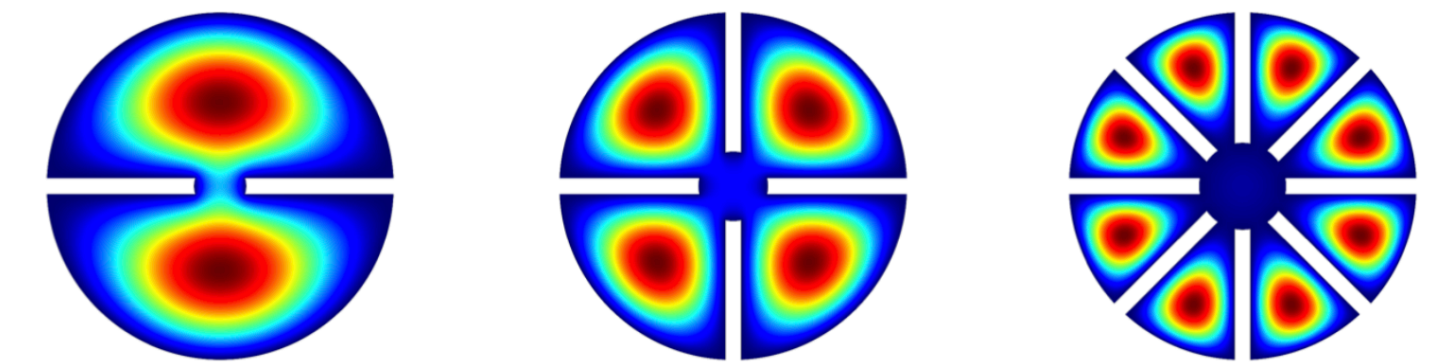
$$\frac{dm}{dt} \propto C_{a\gamma}^4 \cdot m_a^2 \cdot \rho^2 \cdot \left(\frac{S}{N}\right)^2 \cdot B^4 \cdot V^2 \cdot Q \cdot C_{nlm}^2 \cdot T_{\text{sys}}^{-2}$$

e.g. $C_{a\gamma} = 1.92$ for KSVZ axion

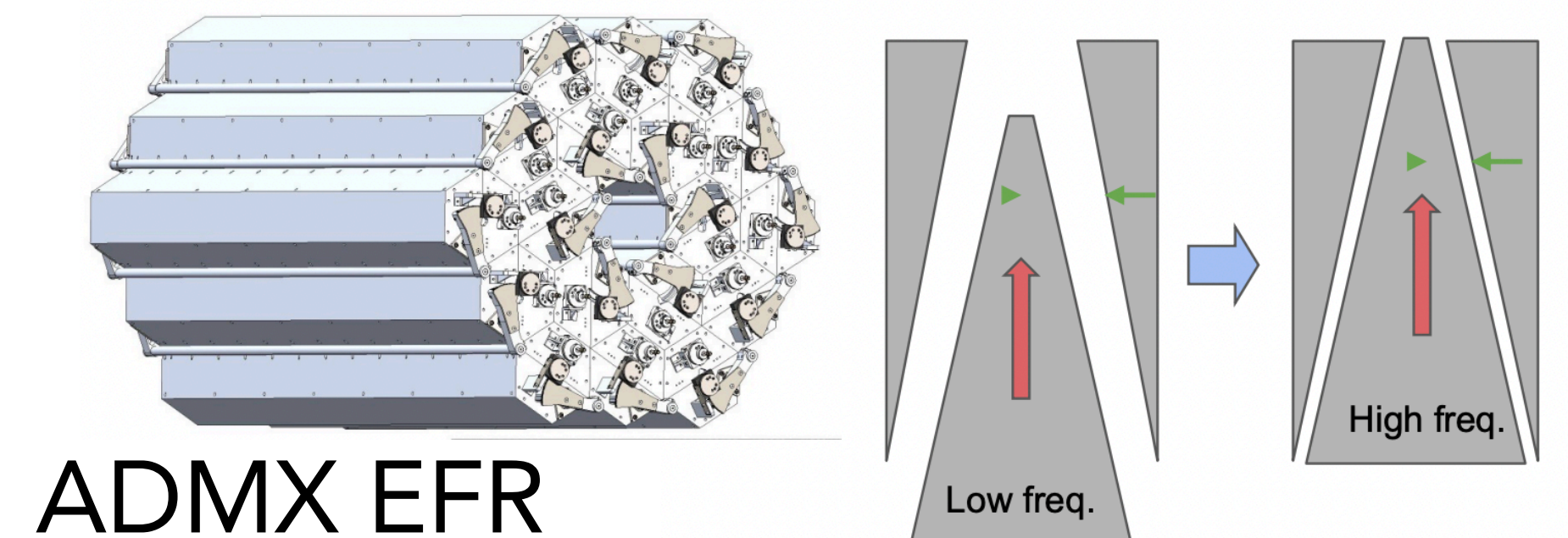
Actually m_a^{-6}

How to advance in sensitivity:

- Decouple V and $1/m_a$ (complicate the geometry)
- Lower noise (including sub-quantum-limit noise)

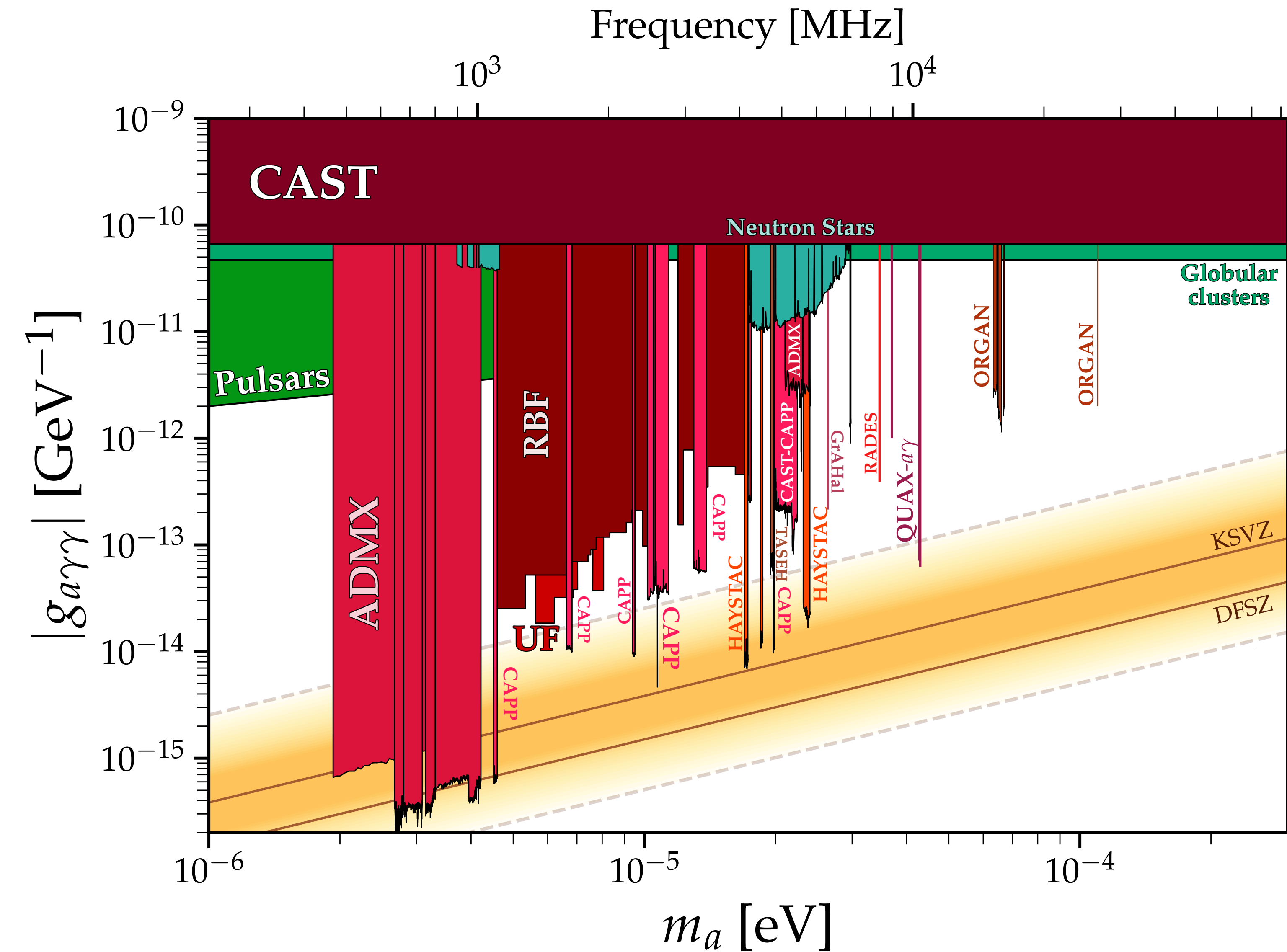


CAPP "Pizza cavity"



ADMX EFR

ADMX Wedge design

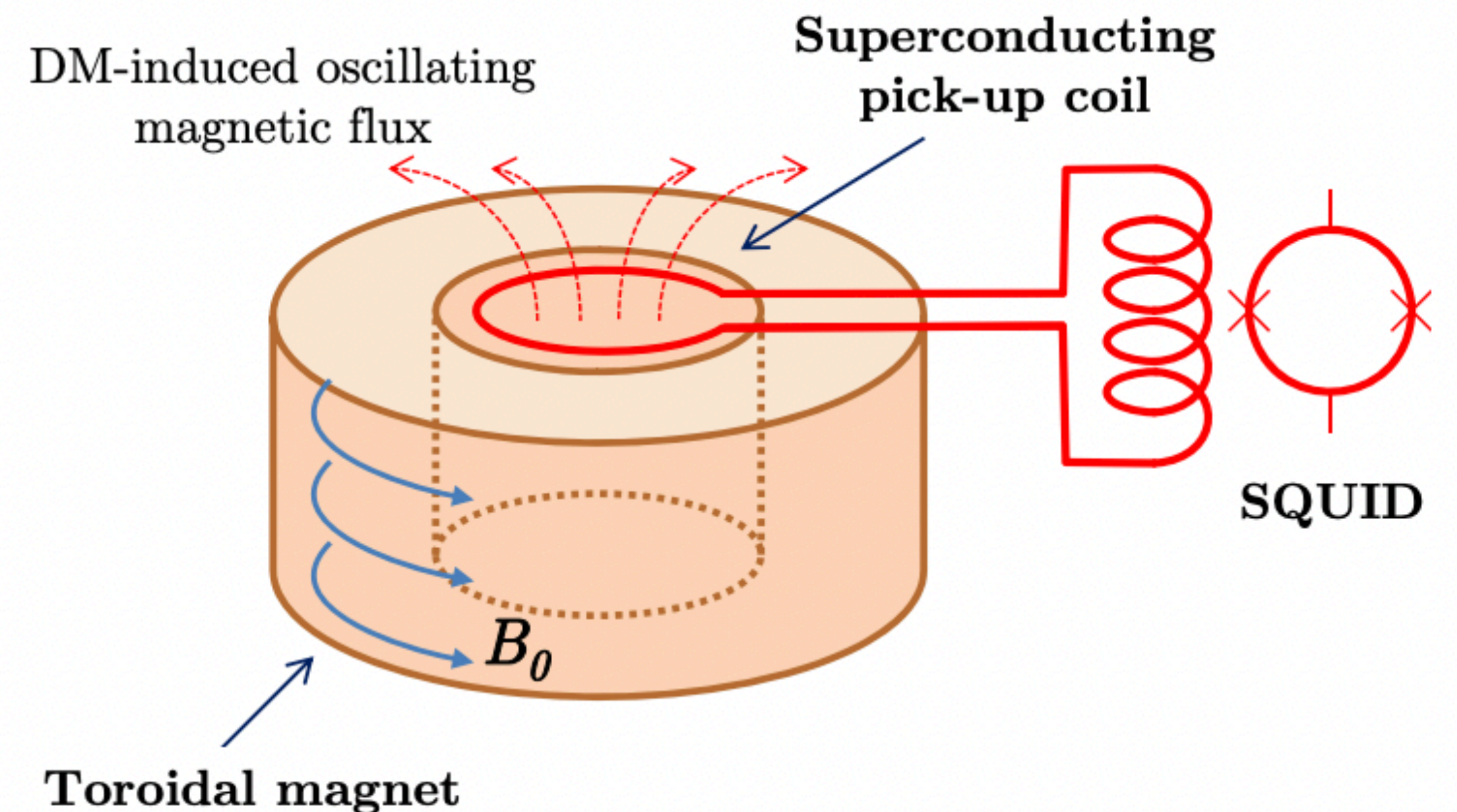


Low-mass approach — “Lumped element detectors”

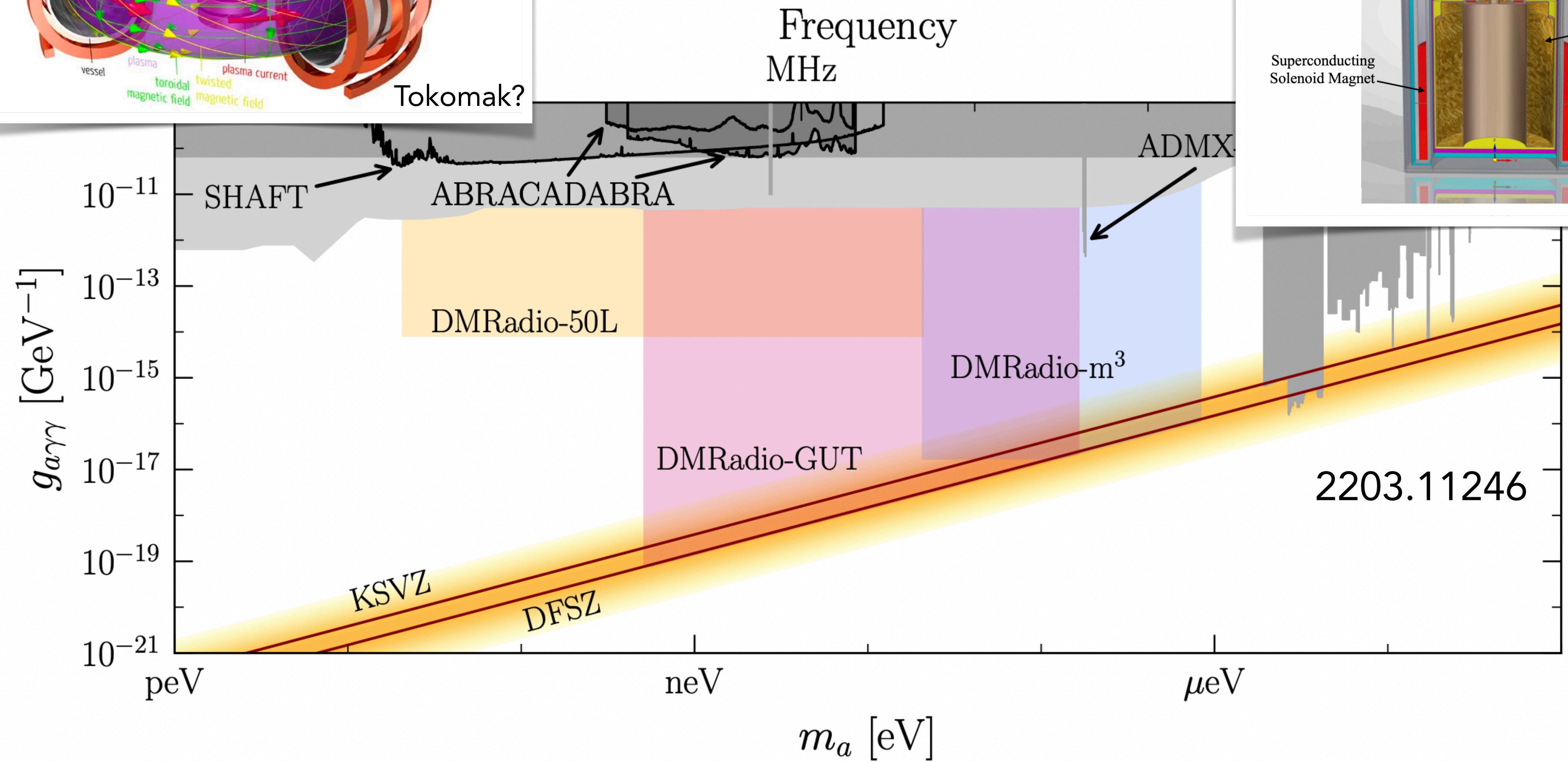
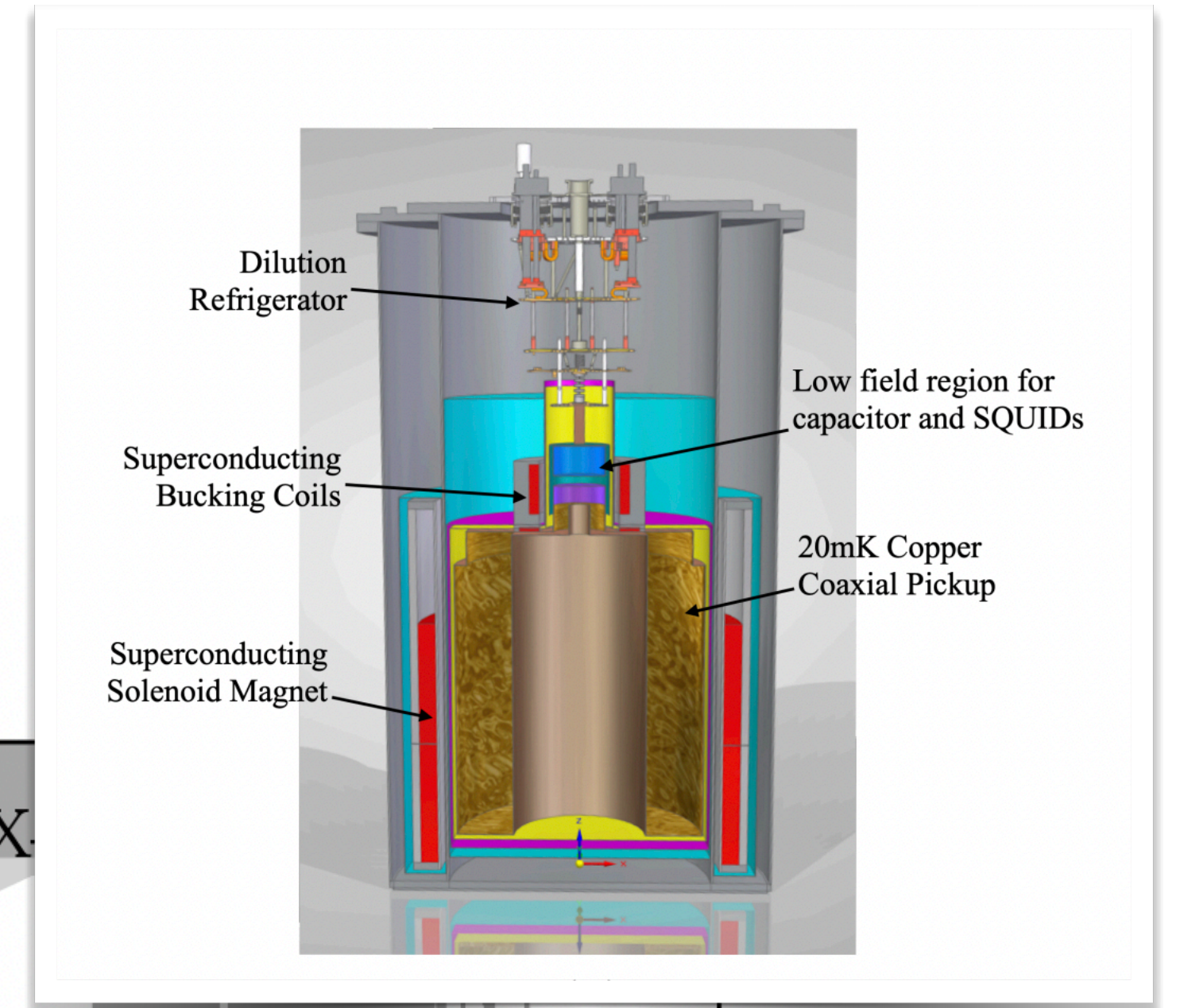
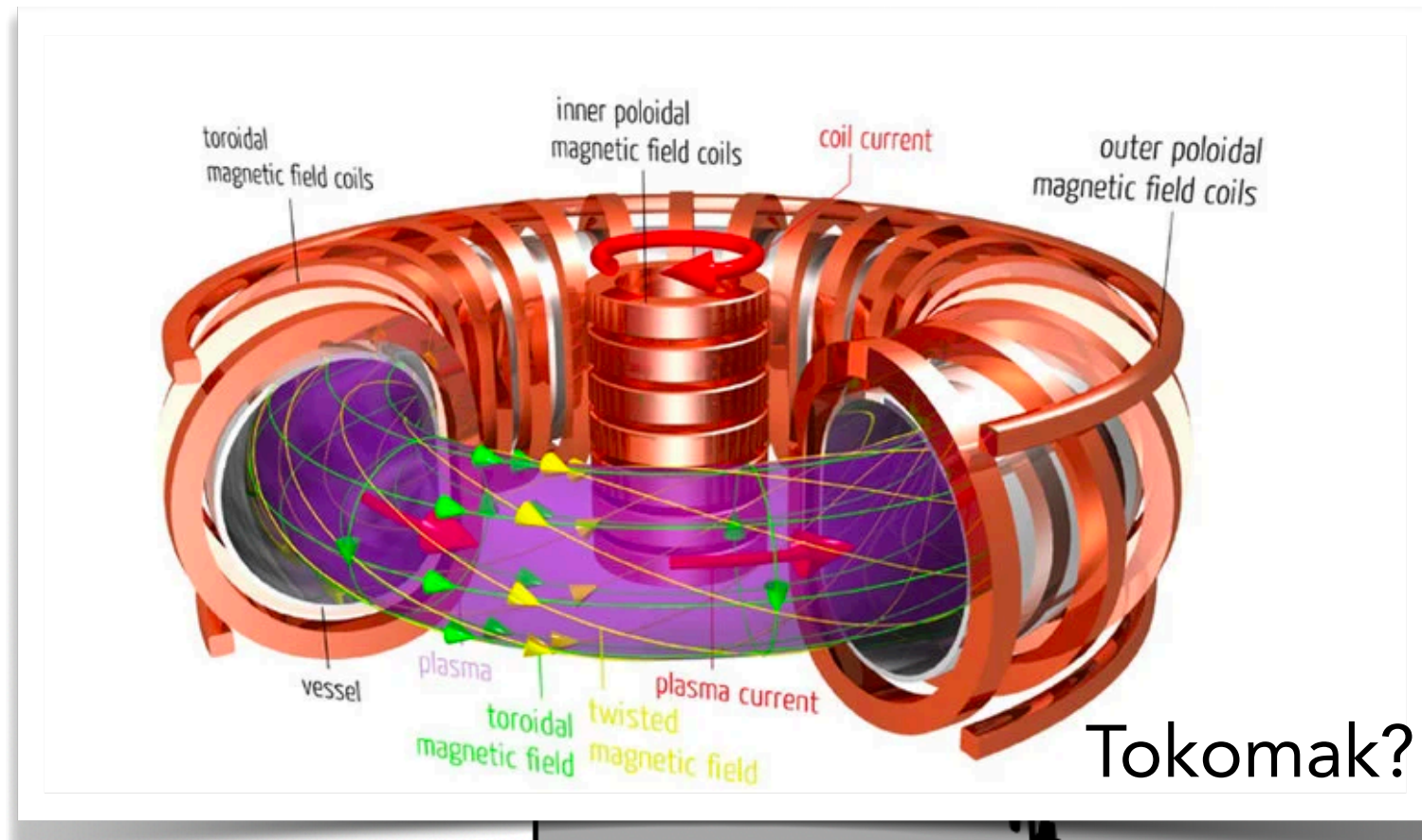
e.g. SHAFT, ABRACADABRA, DMRadio, WISPLC

- Need to decouple the experiment size (V) from the Compton wavelength ($1/m_a$)
- Don't couple to axion effective current directly, instead look for secondary B-field induced by axion current
- **Measured B-field** can be enhanced geometrically by size of instrument

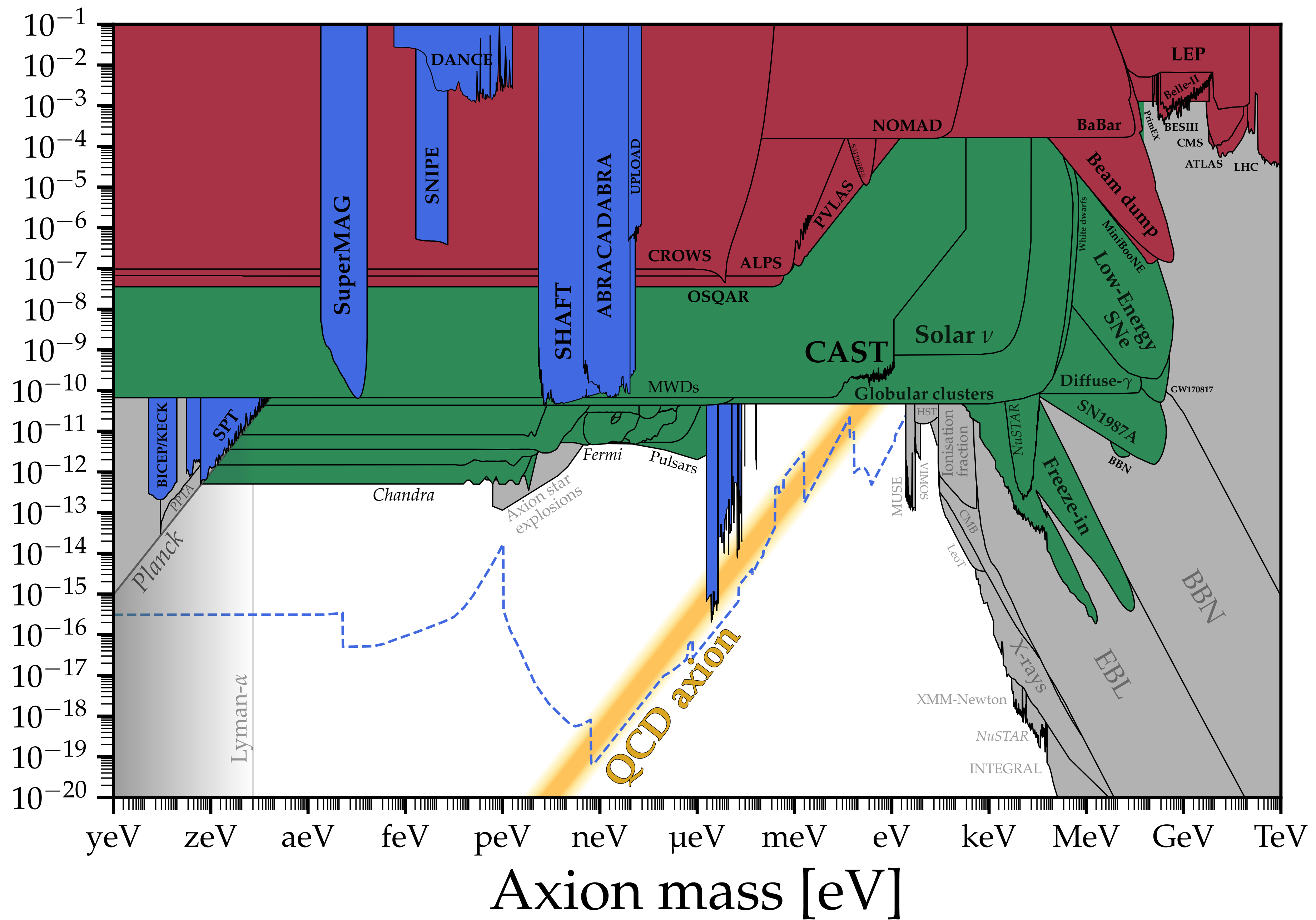
$$B_a \sim g_{a\gamma} B_0 (\partial_t a) \times R$$
$$\sim 10^{-15} \text{ T} \left(\frac{g_{a\gamma}}{10^{-11} \text{ GeV}^{-1}} \right) \left(\frac{R}{1 \text{ m}} \right) \left(\frac{B_0}{10 \text{ T}} \right)$$



DMRadio



Axion-photon coupling $[GeV^{-1}]$



Axion-nucleon coupling

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{g_{an}}{2m_\eta} \partial_\mu a \bar{n} \gamma^5 \gamma^\mu n$$

Non-relativistic Hamiltonian
for axion-nucleus interaction

$$H \supset \frac{g_{an}}{2m_\eta} \nabla a \cdot \mathbf{S}_N$$

Axion field
gradient $\propto \sqrt{\rho} \mathbf{v}$

Nuclear
spin

Hamiltonian
for a nucleus in a B-field

$$H \supset \gamma \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{S}_N$$

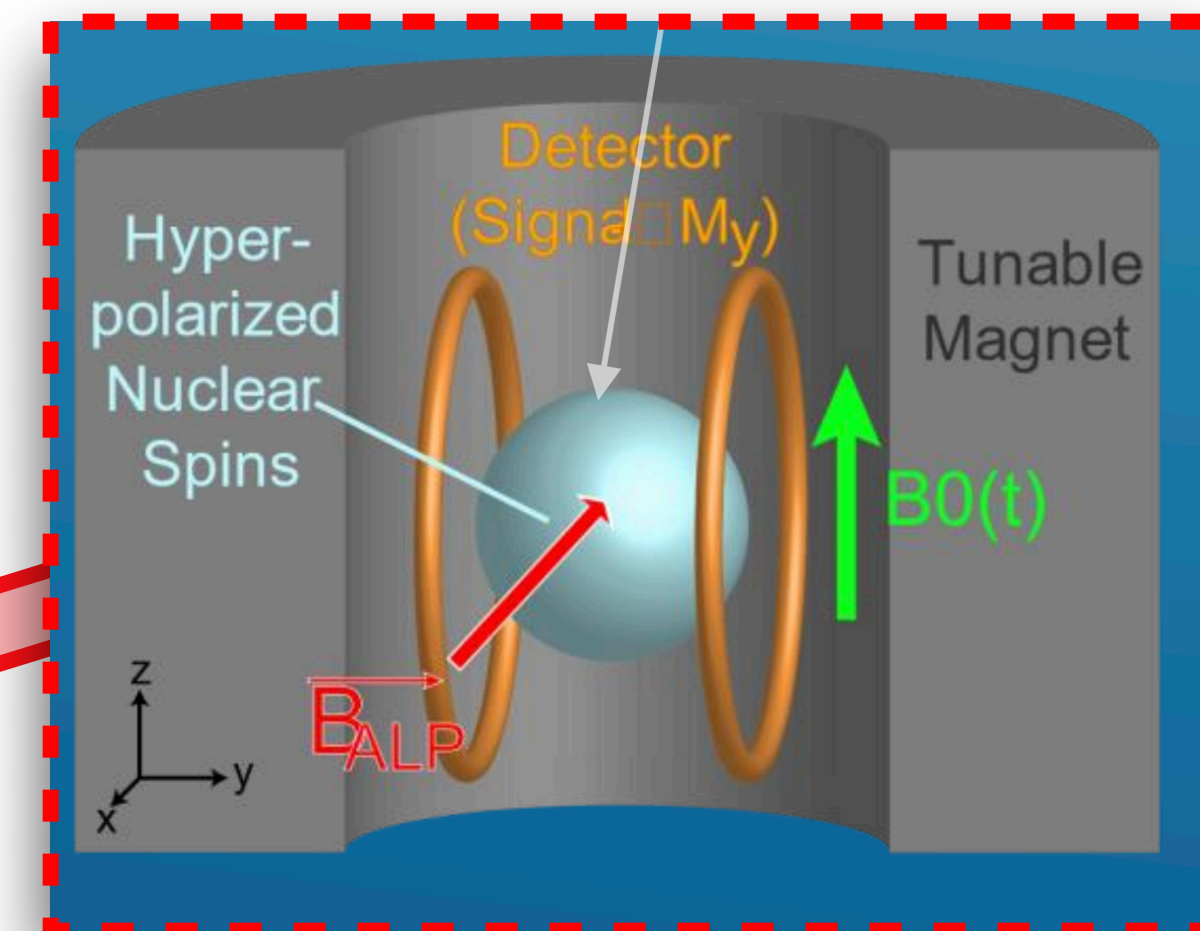
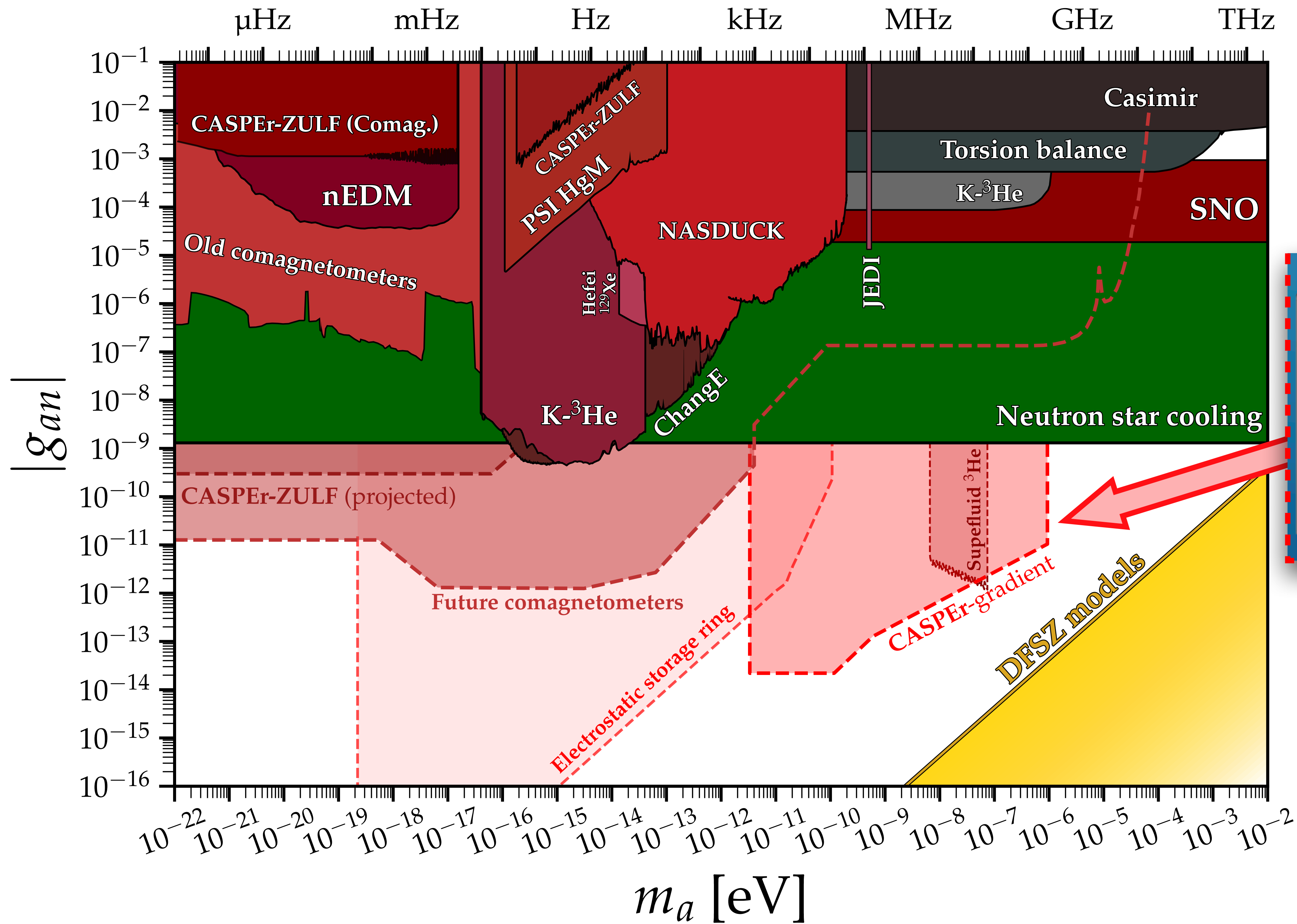
"Gyromagnetic
ratio"

The axion acts on nuclear spins as if it were a magnetic field of strength:

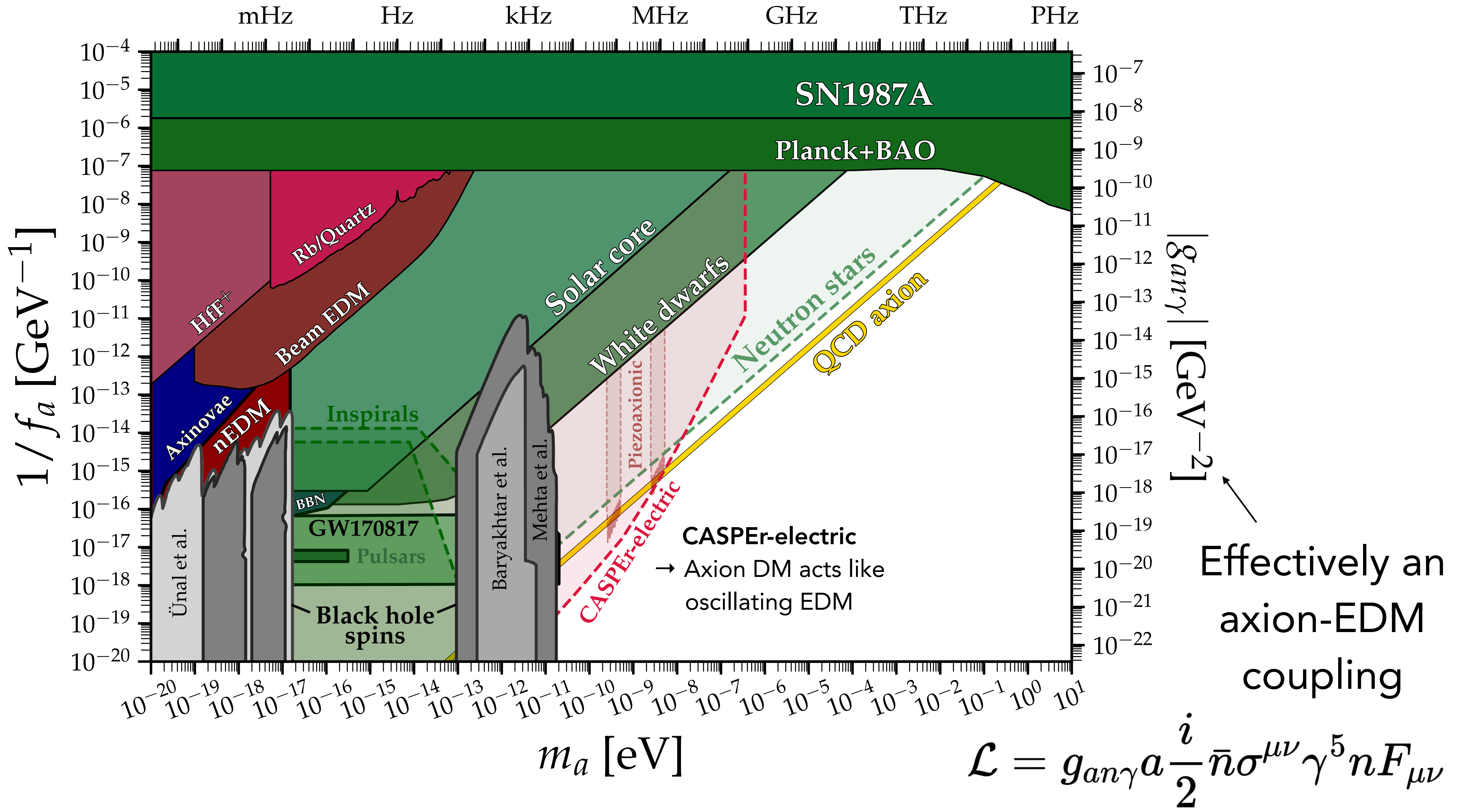
$$\mathbf{B}_a = \frac{g_{an} \sqrt{2\rho}}{2m_n \gamma} \mathbf{v} \sin(m_a t)$$
$$\approx 2 \times 10^{-17} \text{ T} \left(\frac{g_{an}}{10^{-9}} \right) \left(\frac{\gamma(^{129}\text{Xe})}{\gamma} \right) \rightarrow \text{For sensitivity competitive against astrophysical bounds}$$

How to measure tiny magnetic fields with nuclei?

- Comagnetometers
- Nuclear magnetic resonance



Larmor freq.
 tuned to scan
 across axion
 mass



Vector wave-dark matter: Dark photons

Extend SM gauge group: $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \times U(1)'$ with some gauge boson X^μ

Below
EW $\rightarrow \mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{\chi}{2} F_{\mu\nu} X^{\mu\nu}$

“Kinetic mixing”
with SM photon
 $\chi \ll 1$

Need a mass-generation mechanism, but that's it, very minimal model

Various bases one can choose to remove the kinetic mixing, e.g the "interaction basis", i.e. where A is the only thing that interacts with charges

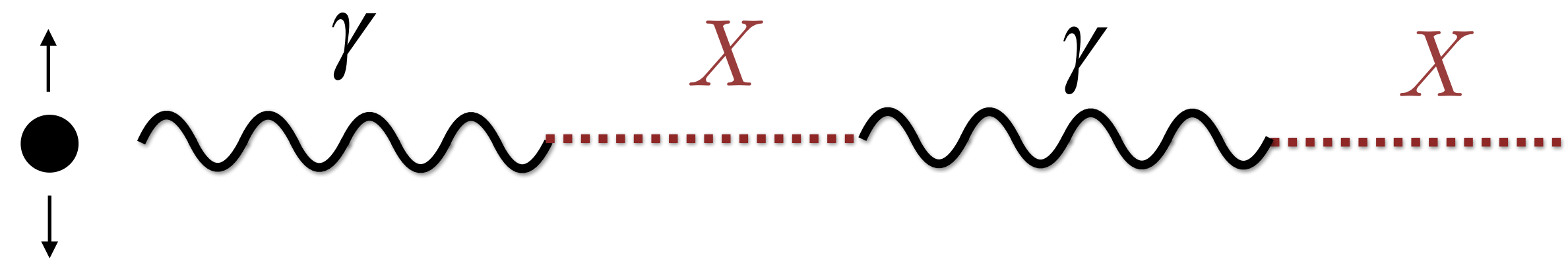
$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}X_{\mu\nu}X^{\mu\nu} + \frac{m_X^2}{2}X_\mu X^\mu - \chi m_X^2 A_\mu X^\mu + J^\mu A_\mu$$

However a field redefinition can give you a form with a diagonal mass matrix, the "propagation basis", which reveals the states that actually propagate through vacuum

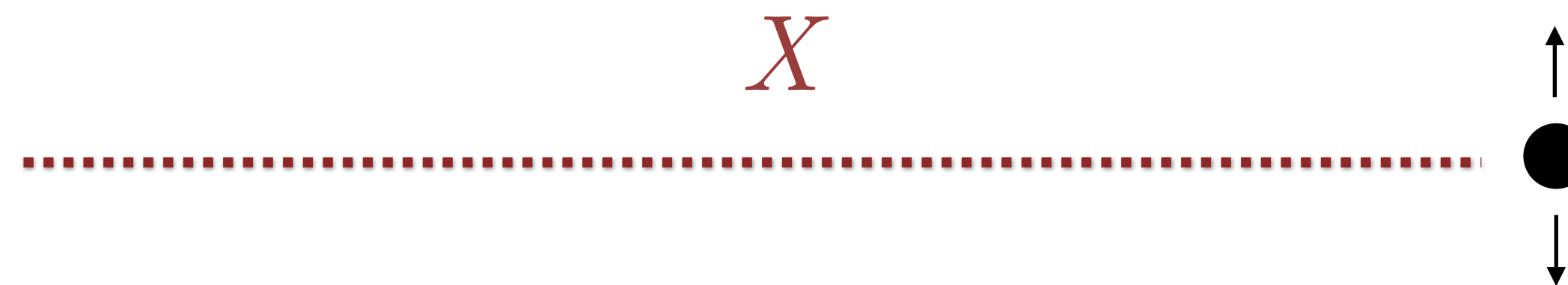
$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}X_{\mu\nu}X^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}m_X^2 X_\mu X^\mu - J^\mu [A_\mu + \chi X_\mu]$$

However the thing that interacts with electric charges is now $A + \chi X$

The resolution to these two pictures is this: when you move electric charges you produce the “active” interaction state (the SM photon), however this active state is superposition of the two propagation states with different masses, and so they will start to oscillate

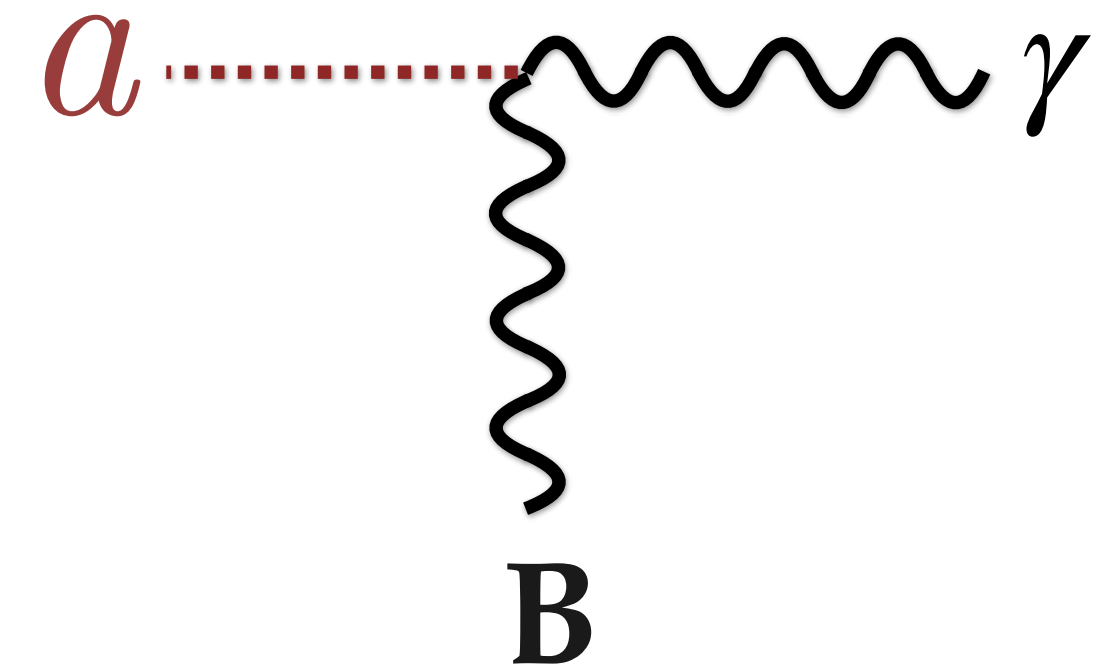
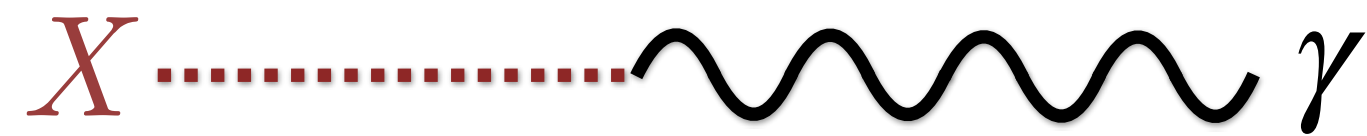


In the case of dark matter we imagine a condensate in the massive propagation state, however this state couples to J_μ so **it can move electric charges.**



Dark photon electrodynamics

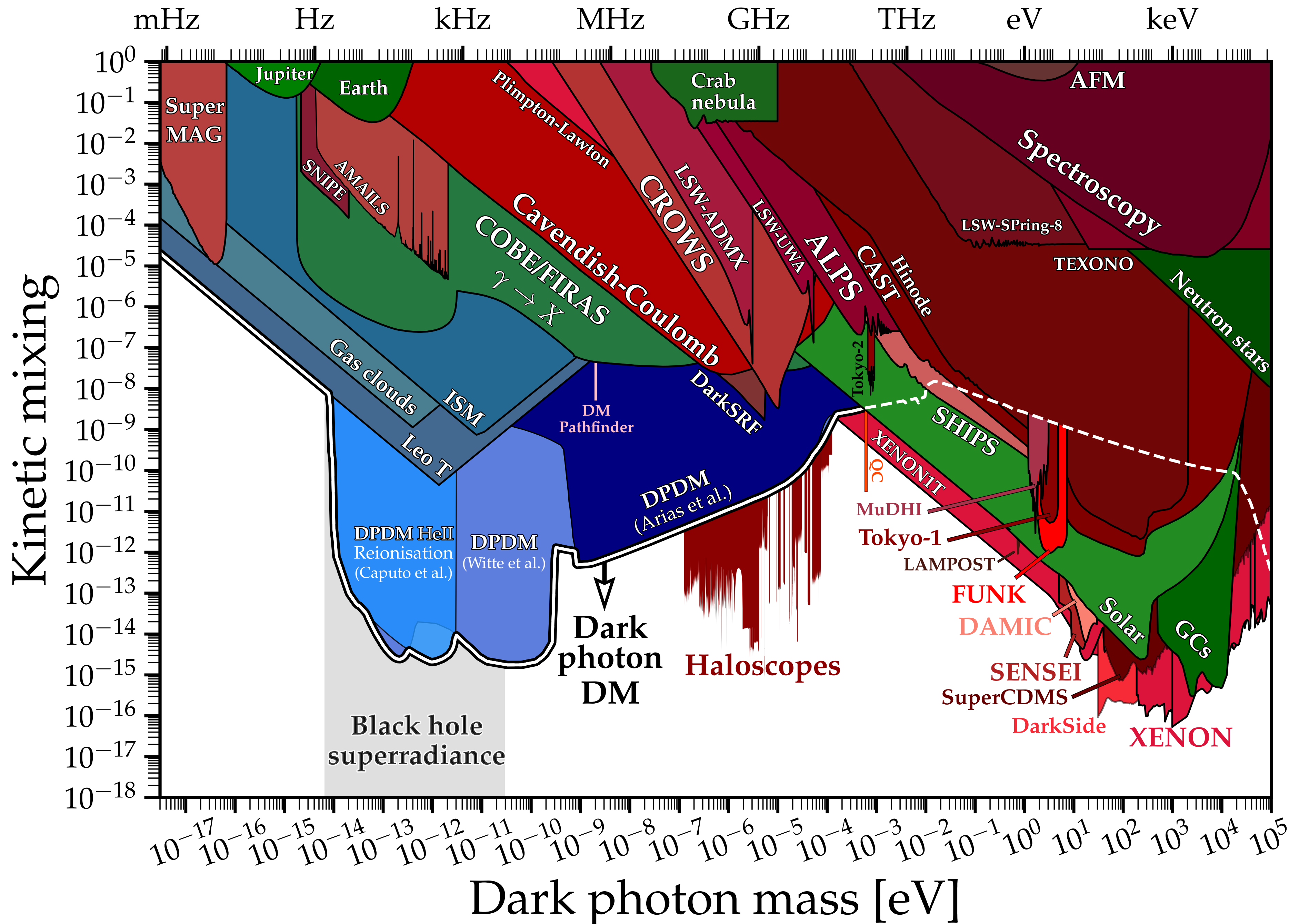
DPs act in a similar way to the axion, only they do not require a B-field for the coupling to E&M to be switched on. (Easiest to see by writing down the effective current in each case)

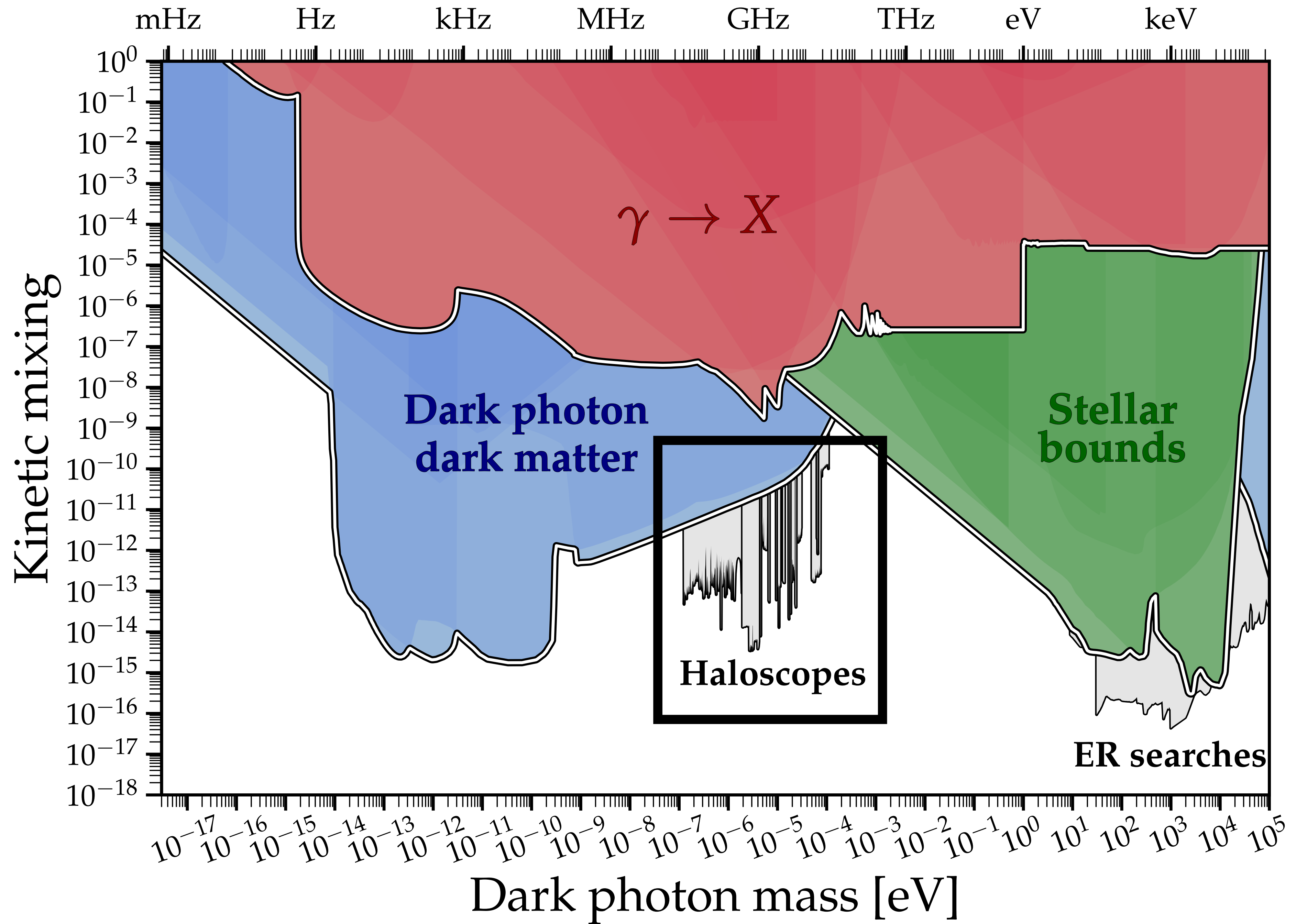


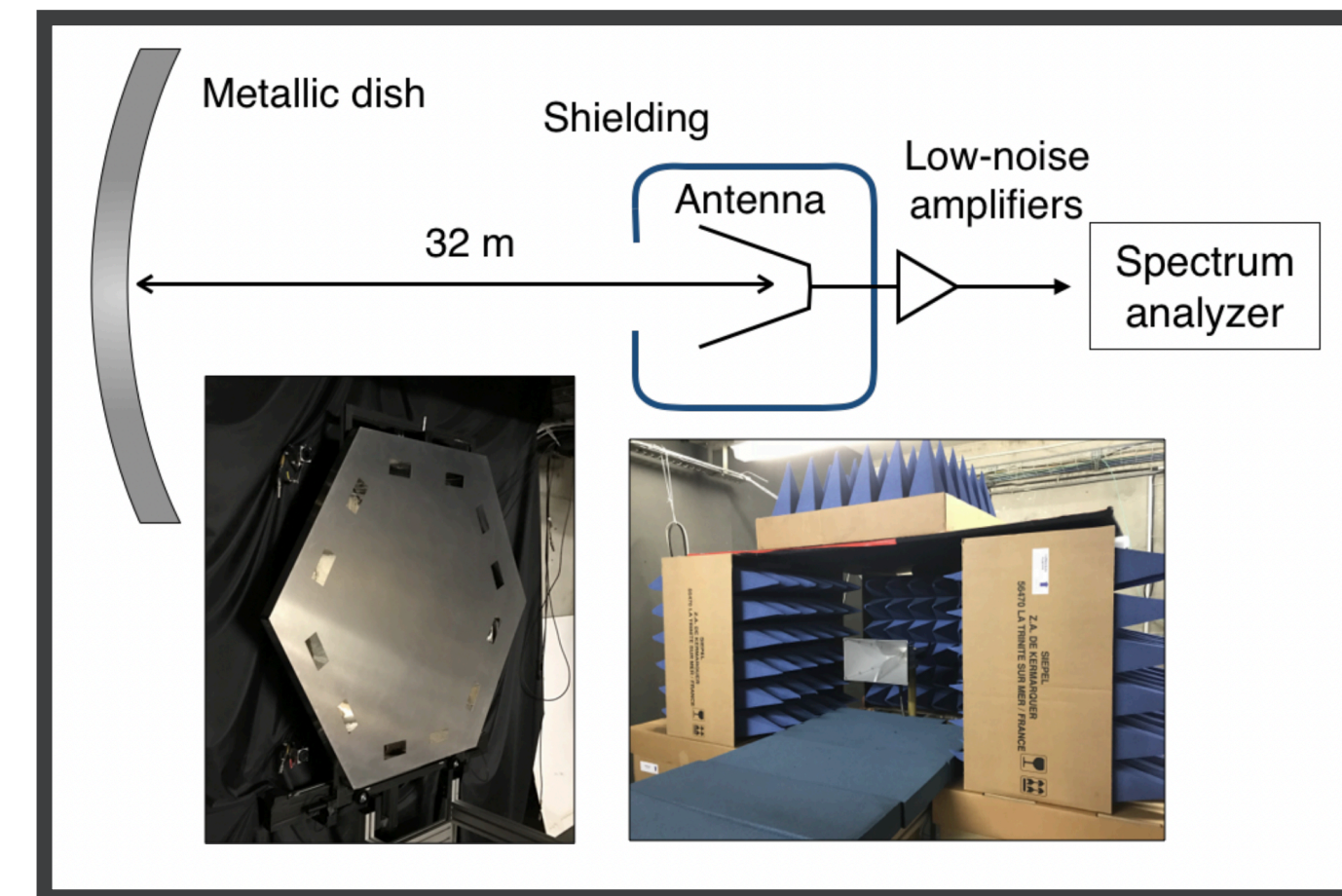
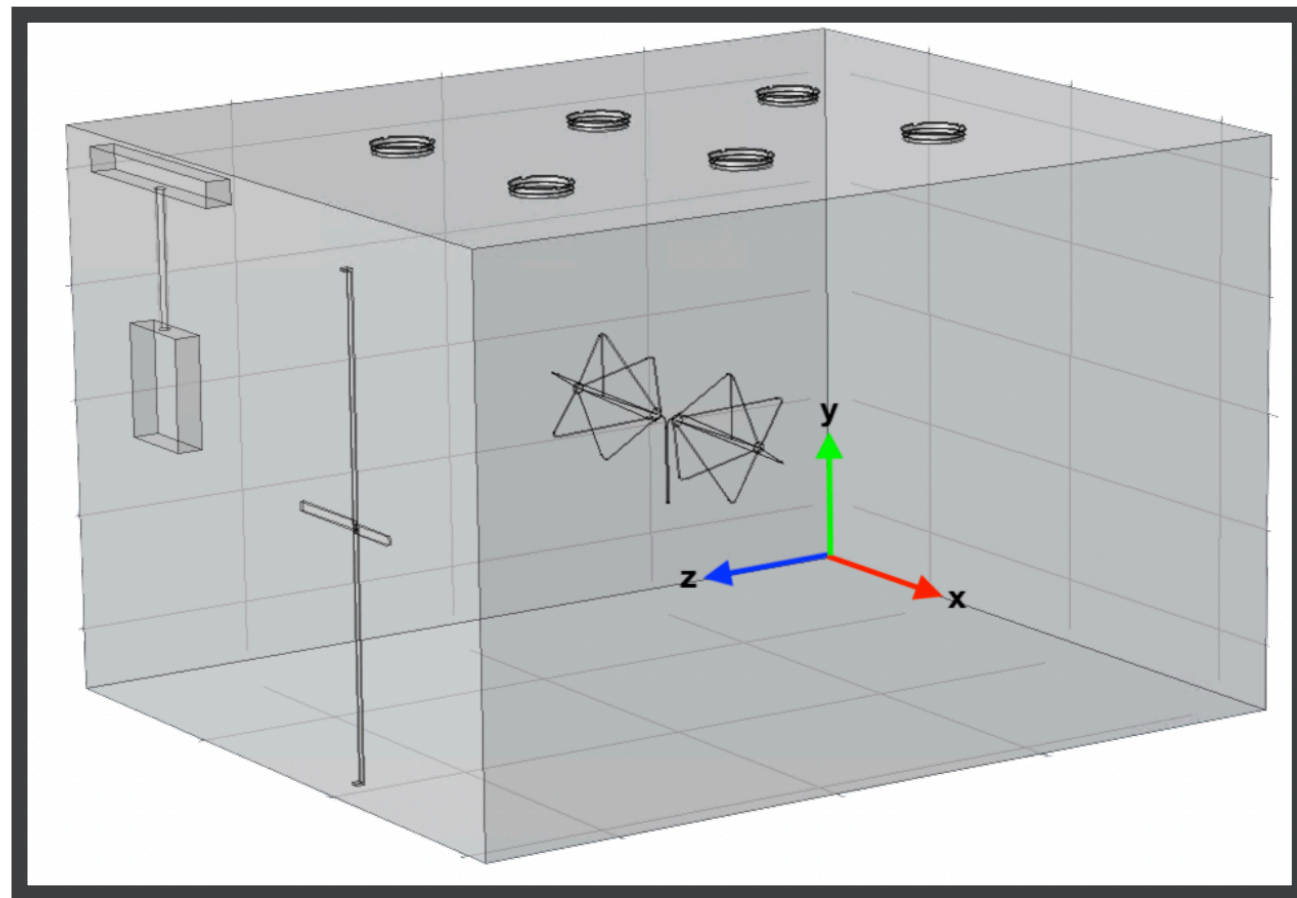
Dark
photons

$$\chi m_X \leftrightarrow g_{a\gamma} B$$

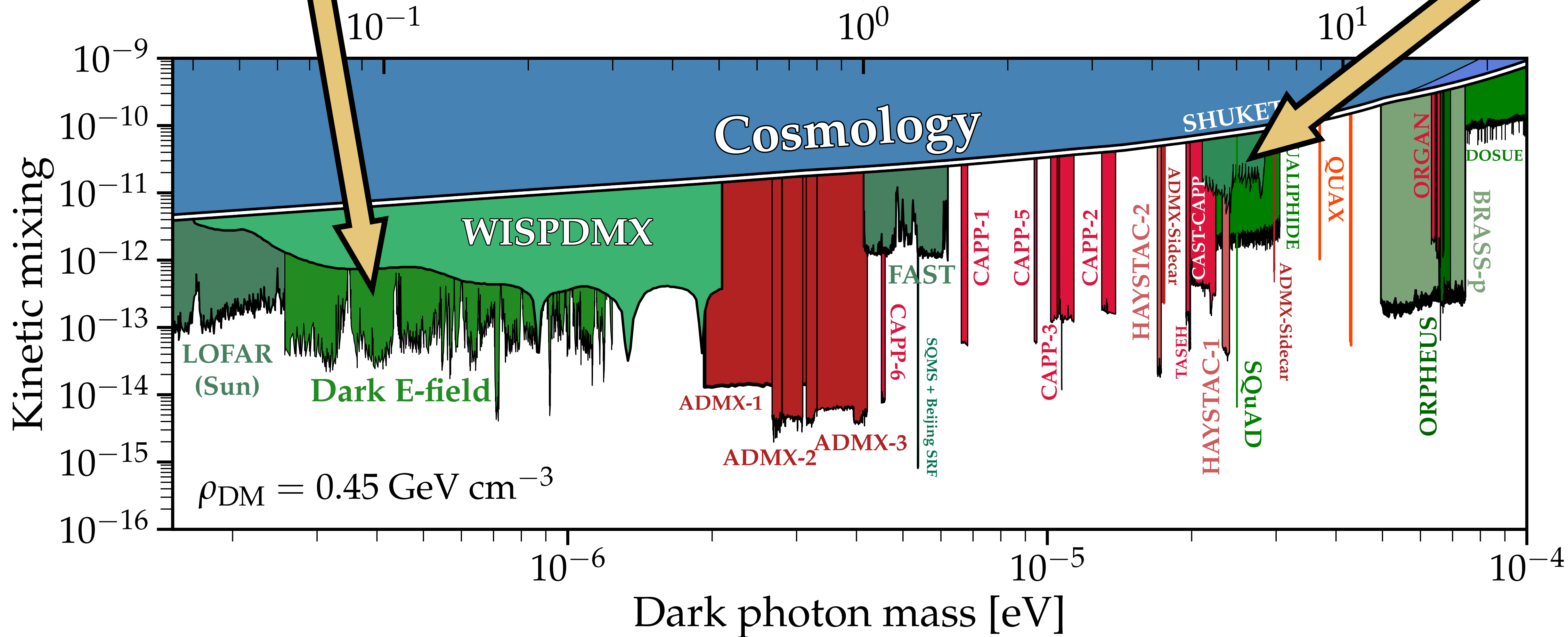
Axions





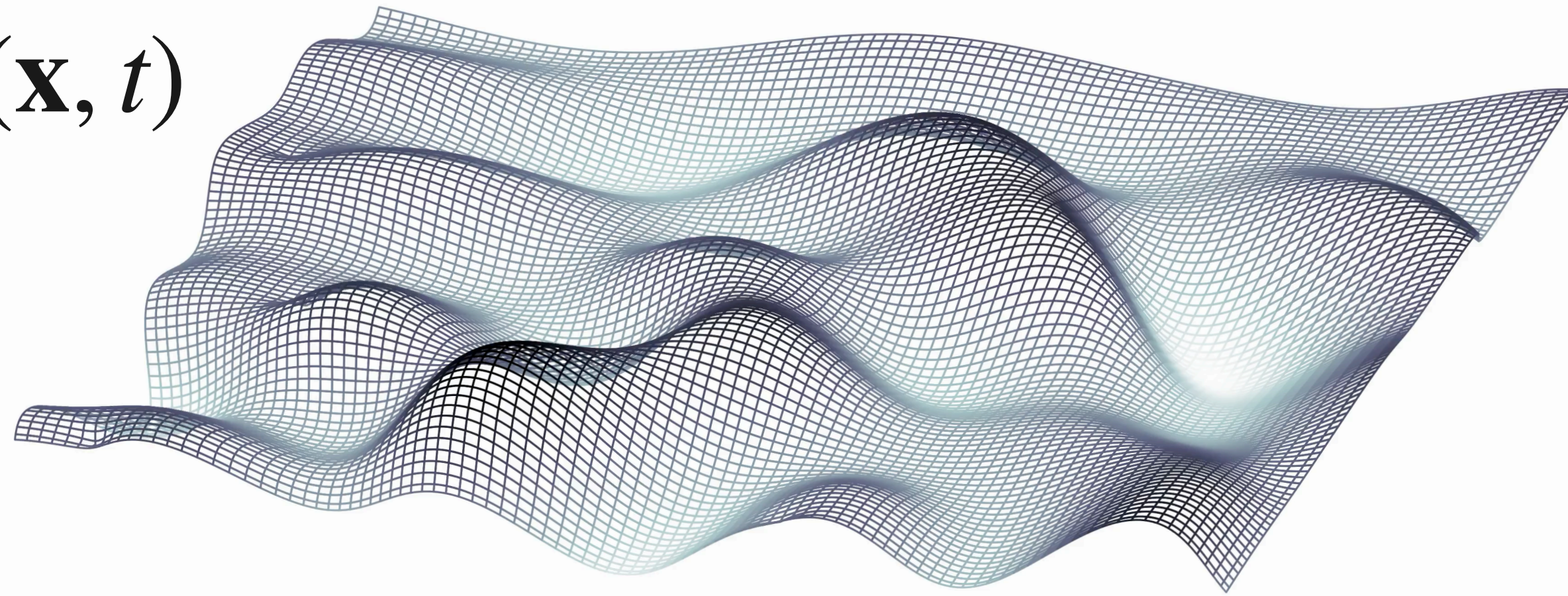


Frequency [GHz]



Scalar dark matter

$\phi(\mathbf{x}, t)$



$$\mathcal{L} = \dots + \frac{1}{4} g_\gamma \phi(\mathbf{x}, t) F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - g_\psi \phi(\mathbf{x}, t) \bar{\psi} \psi$$

Interaction looks like a mass term

→ e.g. time-varying electron mass

Scalar dark matter coupled to electron

