

# BEYOND THE STANDARD MODEL OPPORTUNITIES IN P-A COLLISIONS AT THE LHC

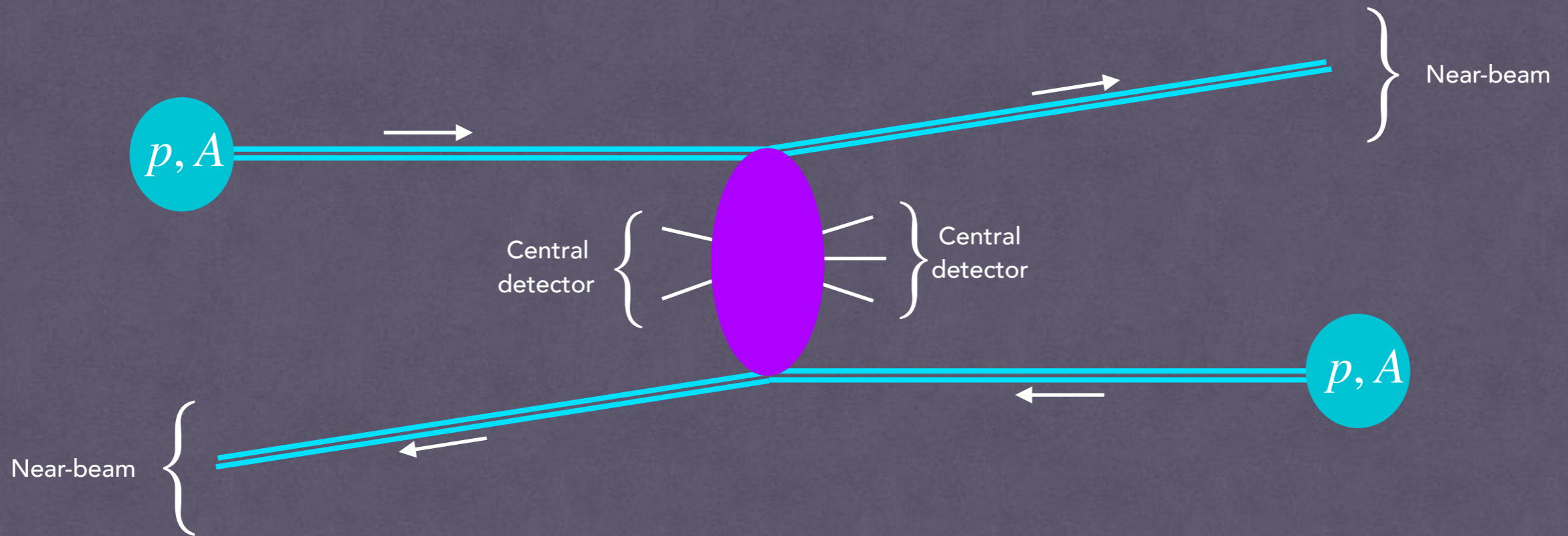
SYLVAIN FICHET

UFABC, SAO PAULO

## GOAL OF THIS TALK:

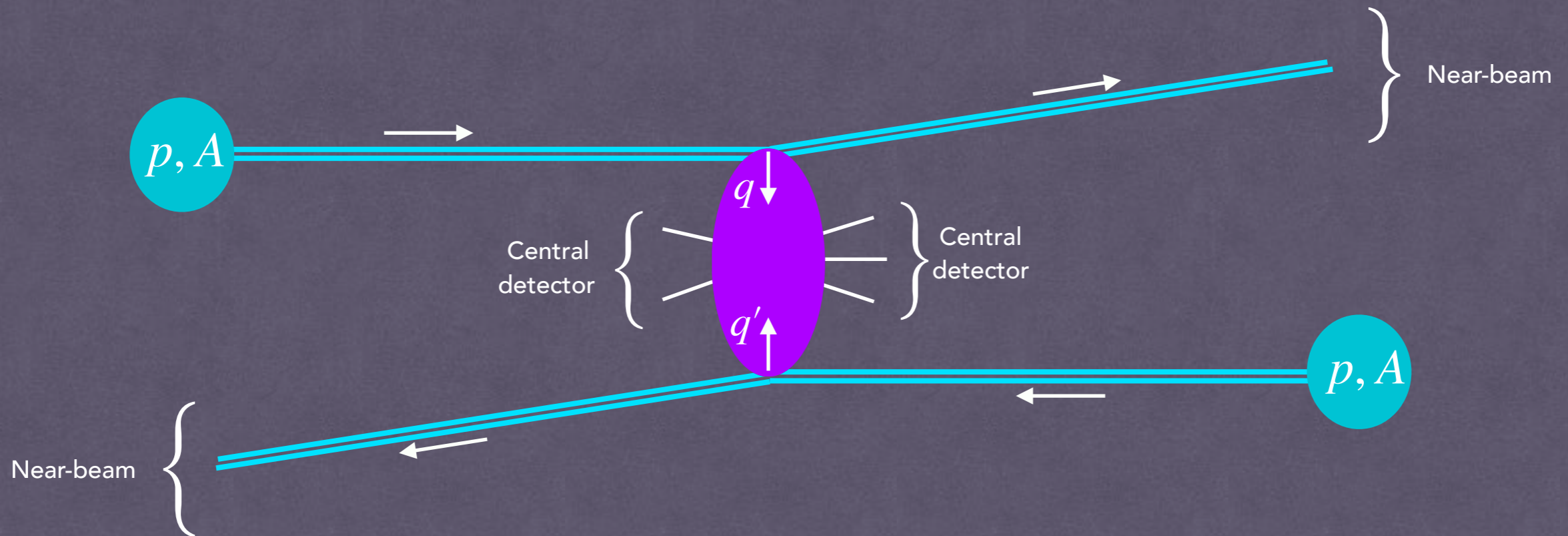
COMPARE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE P-A MODE  
WITH RESPECT TO P-P AND A-A MODES IN BSM SEARCHES

# ULTRAPERIPHERAL COLLISIONS



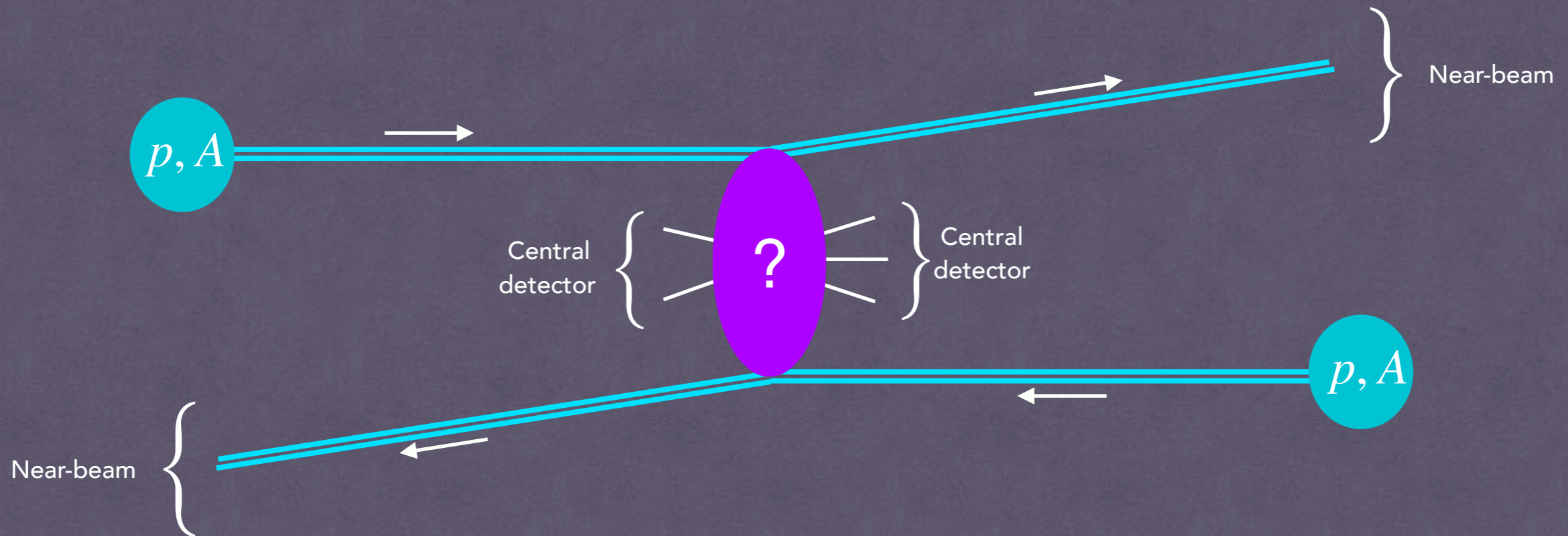


# ULTRAPERIPHERAL COLLISIONS



Outgoing protons/nuclei can remain intact if  $-q^2 \lesssim \frac{1}{R_{p,A}^2}$   
(a "shallow" inelastic scattering process)

# ULTRAPERIPHERAL COLLISIONS

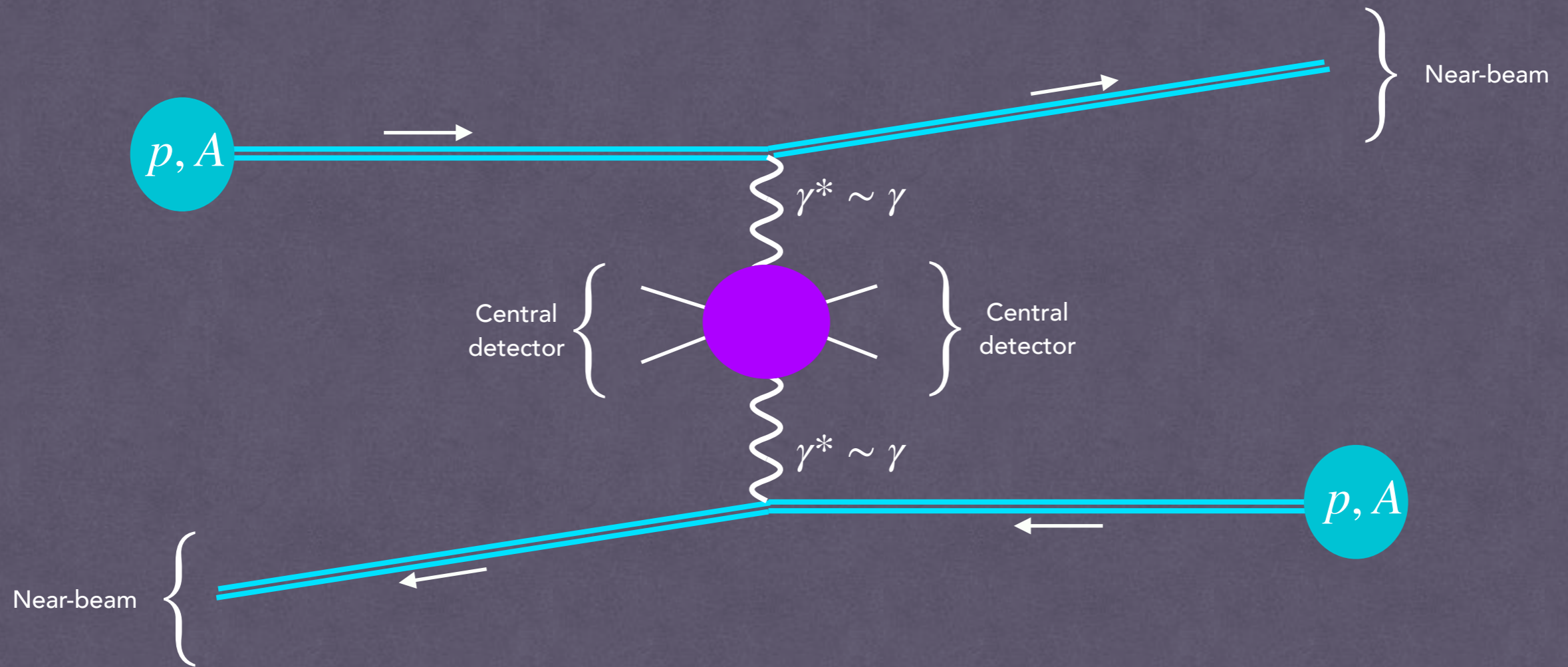


UPCs are a great place to search for physics Beyond the Standard Model (BSM):

- Little underlying activity
- Possibility of tagging the intact protons
- Huge coherent fluxes from heavy nuclei

[See talks from Michael Pitt,  
Lucian Harland-Lang,... ]

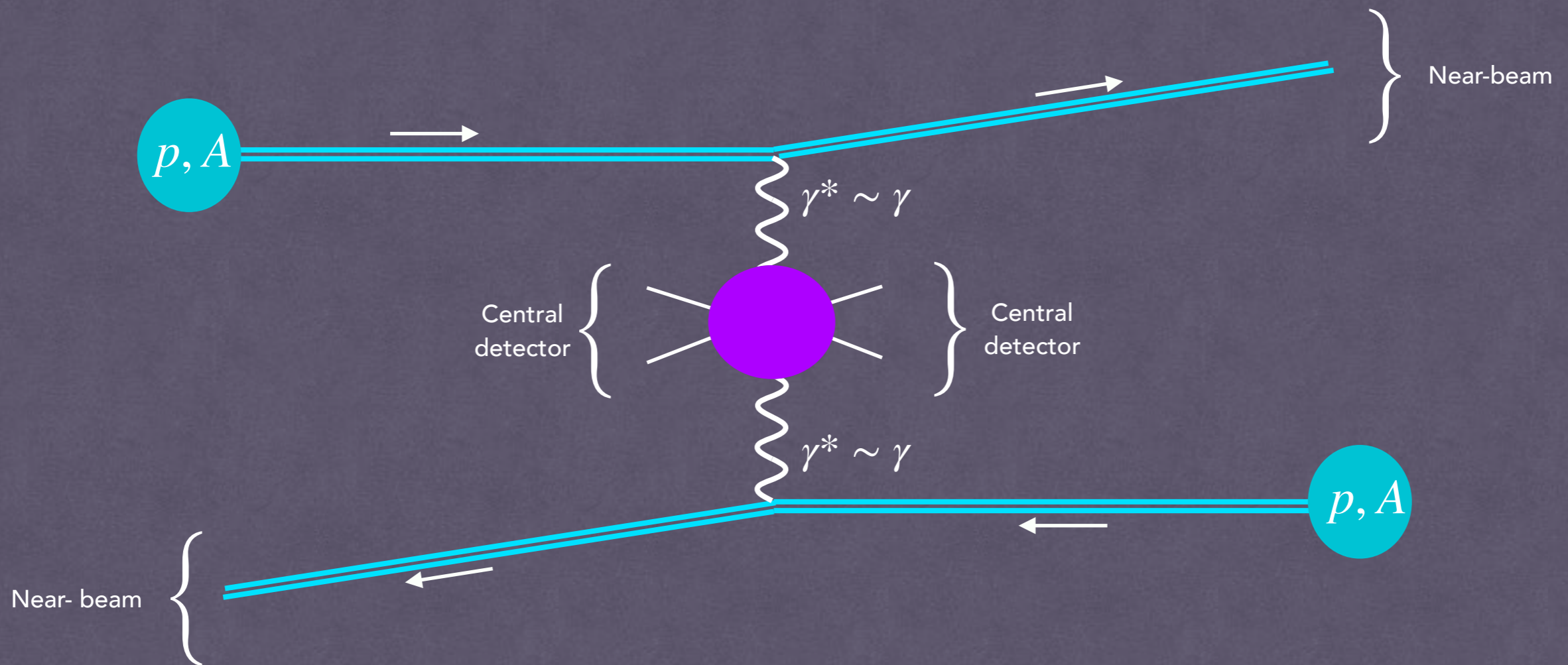
# PHOTON COLLISIONS



Scalings for two identical source nuclei "A" with atomic mass  $A$  and atomic charge  $Z$ :



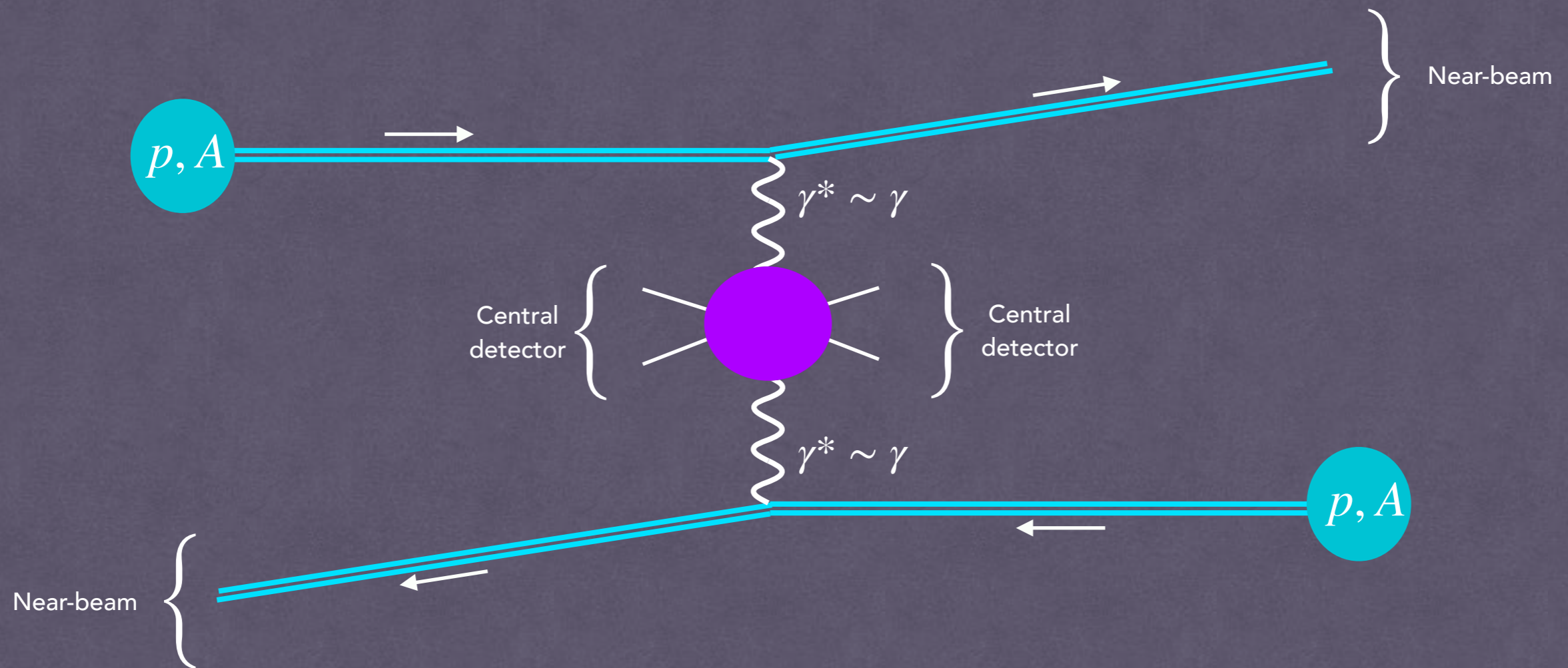
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- Photon flux :  $f_{\gamma|A} \propto Z^2$  hence  $\sigma(AA \rightarrow AA + \dots) \propto Z^4$

- C.o.m. energy :  $\sqrt{s_{\gamma\gamma}^{\max}} \sim \frac{\sqrt{s}}{m_p R} \approx \frac{\sqrt{s}}{5.5A^{1/3}}$



# COMPARISON OF COLLISION MODES

(focusing on A=Pb from now on)

| System                                 | p – p                                  | Pb – Pb                                |
|--|--|--|
| $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$                        | 14 TeV                                 | 5.5 TeV                                |
| $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}$             | 10 fb <sup>-1</sup> ( <i>1 month</i> ) | 10 nb <sup>-1</sup> ( <i>1 month</i> ) |
| $\sqrt{s_{\gamma\gamma}^{\text{max}}}$ | 4.5 TeV                                | 160 GeV                                |
| $\langle N_{\text{pile-up}} \rangle$   | 25                                     | $5 \cdot 10^{-4}$                      |
| p- tagging                             | Yes                                    | No                                     |

The p-p and Pb-Pb modes are complementary.

# COMPARISON OF COLLISION MODES

| System                                 | p – p                         | p – Pb                         | Pb – Pb                       |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$                        | 14 TeV                        | 8.8 TeV                        | 5.5 TeV                       |
| $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}$             | 10 fb <sup>-1</sup> (1 month) | 1 pb <sup>-1</sup> (1 month)   | 10 nb <sup>-1</sup> (1 month) |
| $\sqrt{s_{\gamma\gamma}^{\text{max}}}$ | 4.5 TeV                       | 2.6 TeV                        | 160 GeV                       |
| $\langle N_{\text{pile-up}} \rangle$   | 25                            | 0.05                           | $5 \cdot 10^{-4}$             |
| p- tagging                             | Yes                           | Doable<br>[See Michael's talk] | No                            |

The p-p and Pb-Pb modes are complementary.

The p-Pb mode seems to draw advantages from both. Let us try to quantify that, In the context of BSM searches via UPCs.





# COMPARISON OF COLLISION MODES

How to conveniently compare the BSM cross sections  $\sigma_{\gamma\gamma} = \sigma\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \text{---} \right) ?$

A simple ansatz:  $\sigma_{\gamma\gamma, n}(s) \propto \frac{1}{s} \frac{s^n}{\Lambda^{2n}}$

- Classification:
- $n = 0$   $\supset$  SM-like ( $\sqrt{s} \gg m$ )  
[SF/Gersdorff '12, SF/Gersdorff/Lenzi/Royon/Saimpert '12]
  - $n = 1$   $\supset$  Resonant EFTs ( $\sqrt{s} \gg m$ )  
[SF/Gersdorff '15, ...]
  - $n = 2$
  - $n = 3$
  - $n = 4$
- ) Non-resonant EFTs  
Ex:  $F^4$  operators, continuum EFTs, etc  
[SF/Megias/Quiros '22, ...]

# COMPARISON OF COLLISION MODES

| System                                 | p – p                     | p – Pb                   | Pb – Pb                   |    |   |      |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----|---|------|
| $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$                        | 14 TeV                    | 8.8 TeV                  | 5.5 TeV                   |    |   |      |
| $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}$             | 10 fb <sup>-1</sup> (1m.) | 1 pb <sup>-1</sup> (1m.) | 10 nb <sup>-1</sup> (1m.) |    |   |      |
| $\sqrt{s_{\gamma\gamma}^{\text{max}}}$ | 4.5 TeV                   | 2.6 TeV                  | 160 GeV                   |    |   |      |
| $\langle N_{\text{pile-up}} \rangle$   | 25                        | 0.05                     | $5 \cdot 10^{-4}$         |    |   |      |
| p- tagging                             | Yes                       | Doable                   | No                        |    |   |      |
| $N_{\text{events}}$                    | $n = 0$                   | 1                        | :                         | 1  | : | 1300 |
|  | $n = 1$                   | 2                        | :                         | 1  | : | 67   |
|  | $n = 2$                   | 3                        | :                         | 1  | : | 4    |
|  | $n = 3$                   | 17                       | :                         | 4  | : | 1    |
|  | $n = 4$                   | 490                      | :                         | 64 | : | 1    |

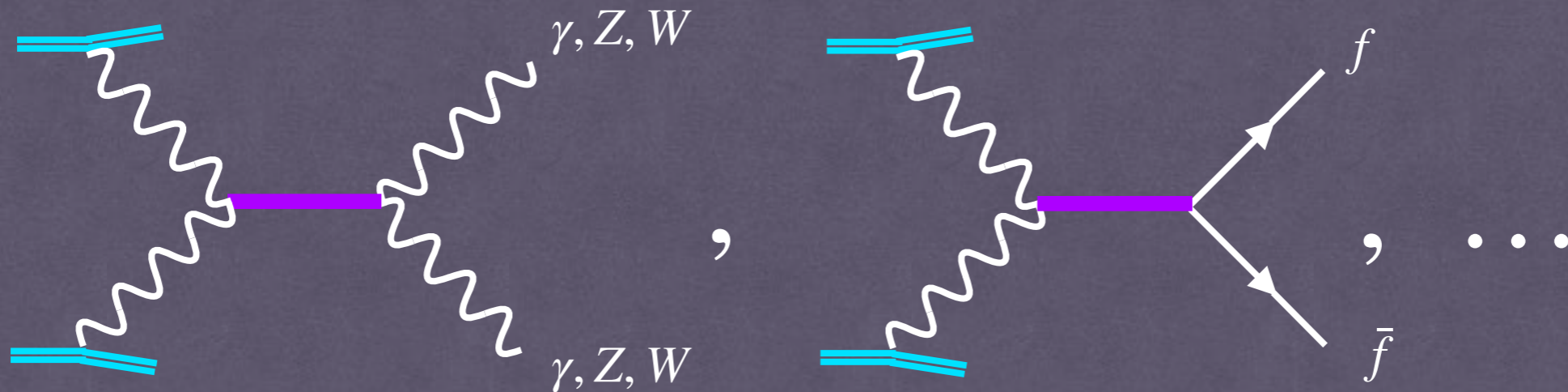
) SM-like  
 ) Resonant EFTs  
 ) Non-resonant EFTs

$$\sigma_{\gamma\gamma,n}(s) \propto \frac{1}{s} \frac{s^n}{\Lambda^{2n}}$$

# 1) RESONANCES



# RESONANT EFTS

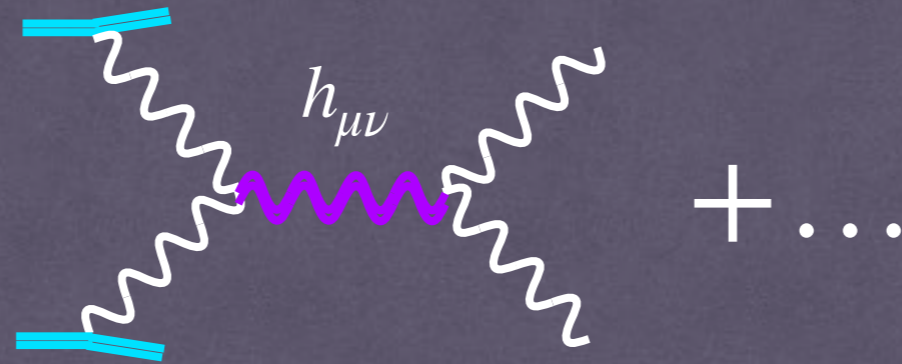


EFTs of particles linearly coupled to the SM:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{CP-even} & \text{CP-odd} & & \text{Spin 2} \\
 & \text{Spin 0} & \text{Spin 0} & & \\
 \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\gamma\gamma} = & \frac{1}{f_{0+}^{\gamma\gamma}} \varphi (F_{\mu\nu})^2 & + & \frac{1}{f_{0-}^{\gamma\gamma}} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} & + & \frac{1}{f_2^{\gamma\gamma}} h^{\mu\nu} \left( -F_{\mu\rho} F_{\nu}^{\rho} + \frac{1}{4} \eta_{\mu\nu} (F_{\rho\sigma})^2 \right) \\
 \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\bar{t}t} = & \frac{m_t}{f_{0+}^{\bar{t}t}} \varphi \bar{t}t & + & i \frac{m_t}{f_{0-}^{\bar{t}t}} a \bar{t} \gamma_5 t & + & i \frac{1}{f_2^{\bar{t}t}} h^{\mu\nu} \bar{t} \gamma_{\mu} D_{\nu} t
 \end{aligned}$$

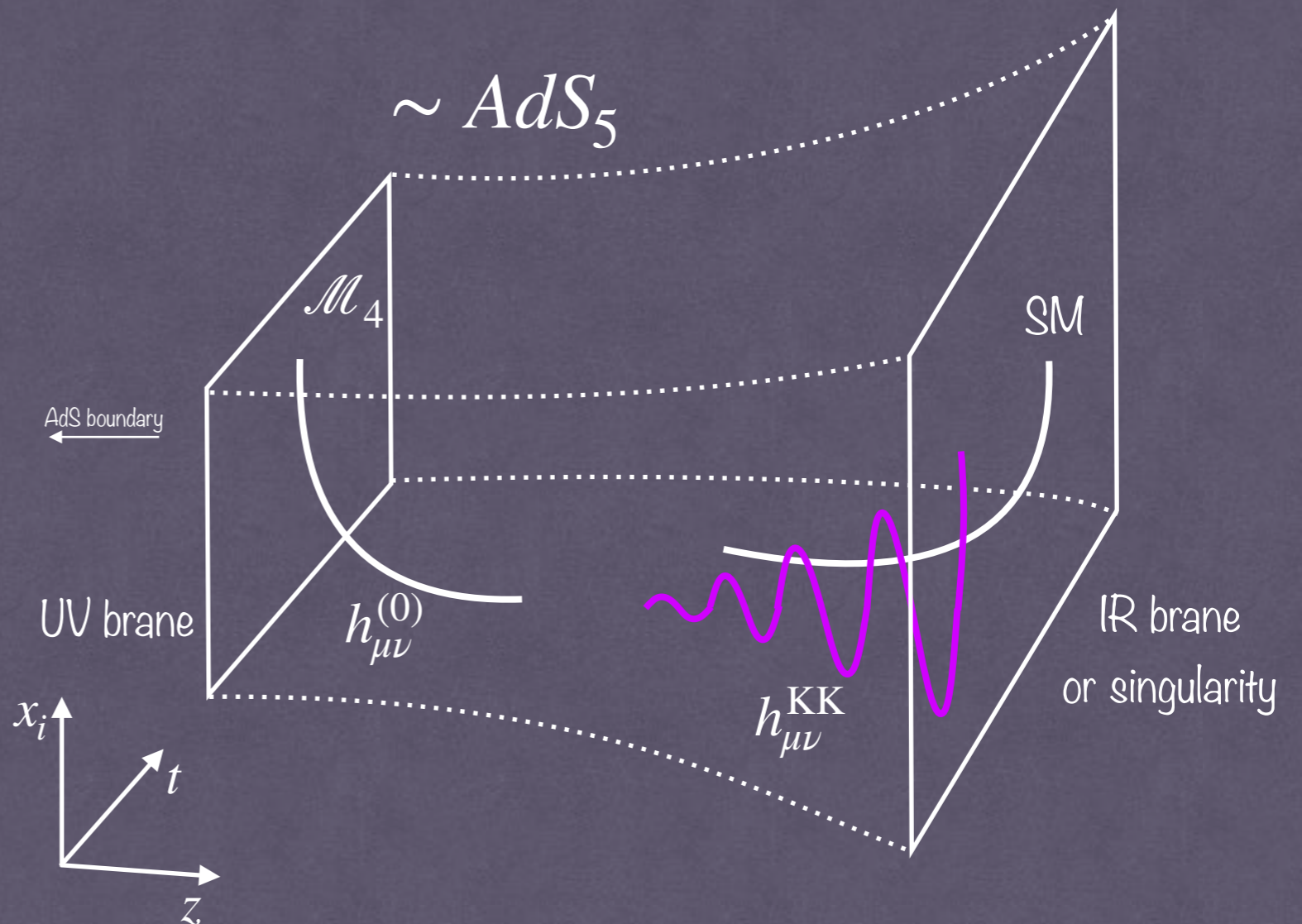
[Baldenegro/Bellora/SF/Gersdorff/Royon/Pitt '22,...]

# SPIN 2 EXAMPLE: A KK GRAVITON



## Warped extra dimensions

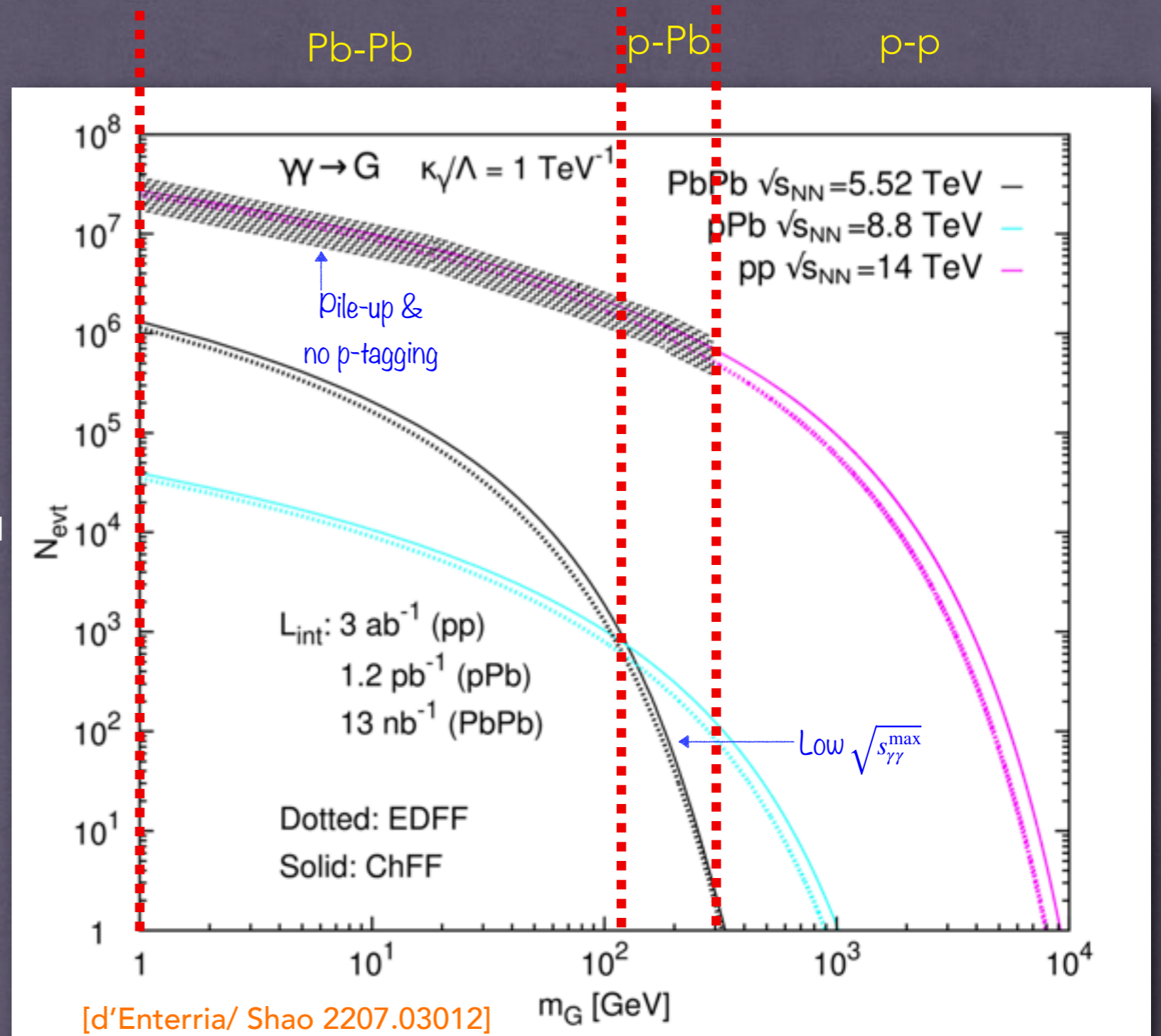
[Randall/Sundrum '99,  
Csaki '04 (review),  
Gherghetta '10 (review),  
Cabrer/Gersdorff/Quiros '09,  
and many many more, see e.g.  
Agashe, Pomarol, ... ]





# SPIN 2 PRODUCTION IN UPCS

Highest rate  
at equal running time:



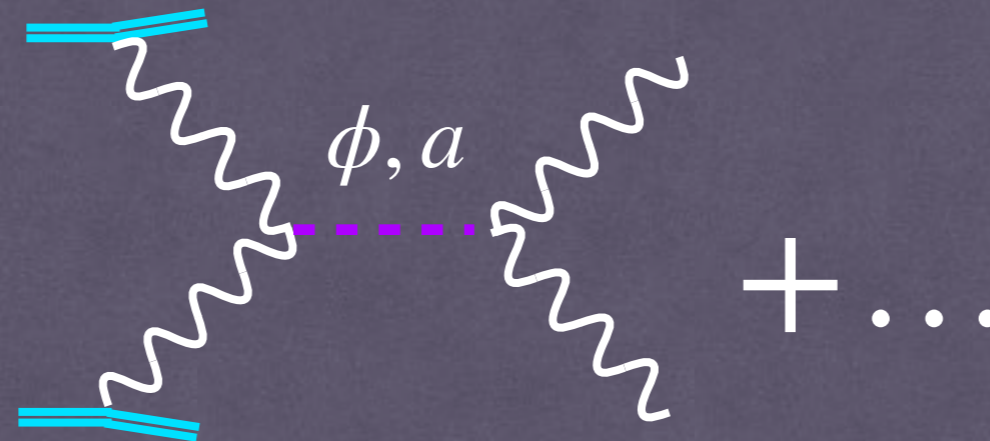
p-Pb is competitive in the  
 $m_G \sim (100 - 300) \text{ GeV}$  range



At lower mass, Pb-Pb performs  
better by a factor  $\sim 30$



# SPIN-0 EXAMPLES



Many UV motivations:

CP-odd

PQ Axion [Peccei/Quinn '77, ...]

GBs from Composite Higgs models [Kaplan/Georgi/Dimopoulos '84, ...]

String Landscape [Svrcek/Witten '06, Arvanitaki/Dimopoulos/Dubovsky/Kaloper/March-Russell '10, ...]

CP-even

Radion from Extra Dimensions [Csaki/Hubisz/Lee '07, Randall/Sundrum '99, ...]

Dilaton [Conlon '06, Goldberger/Grinstein/Skiba '08, ...]

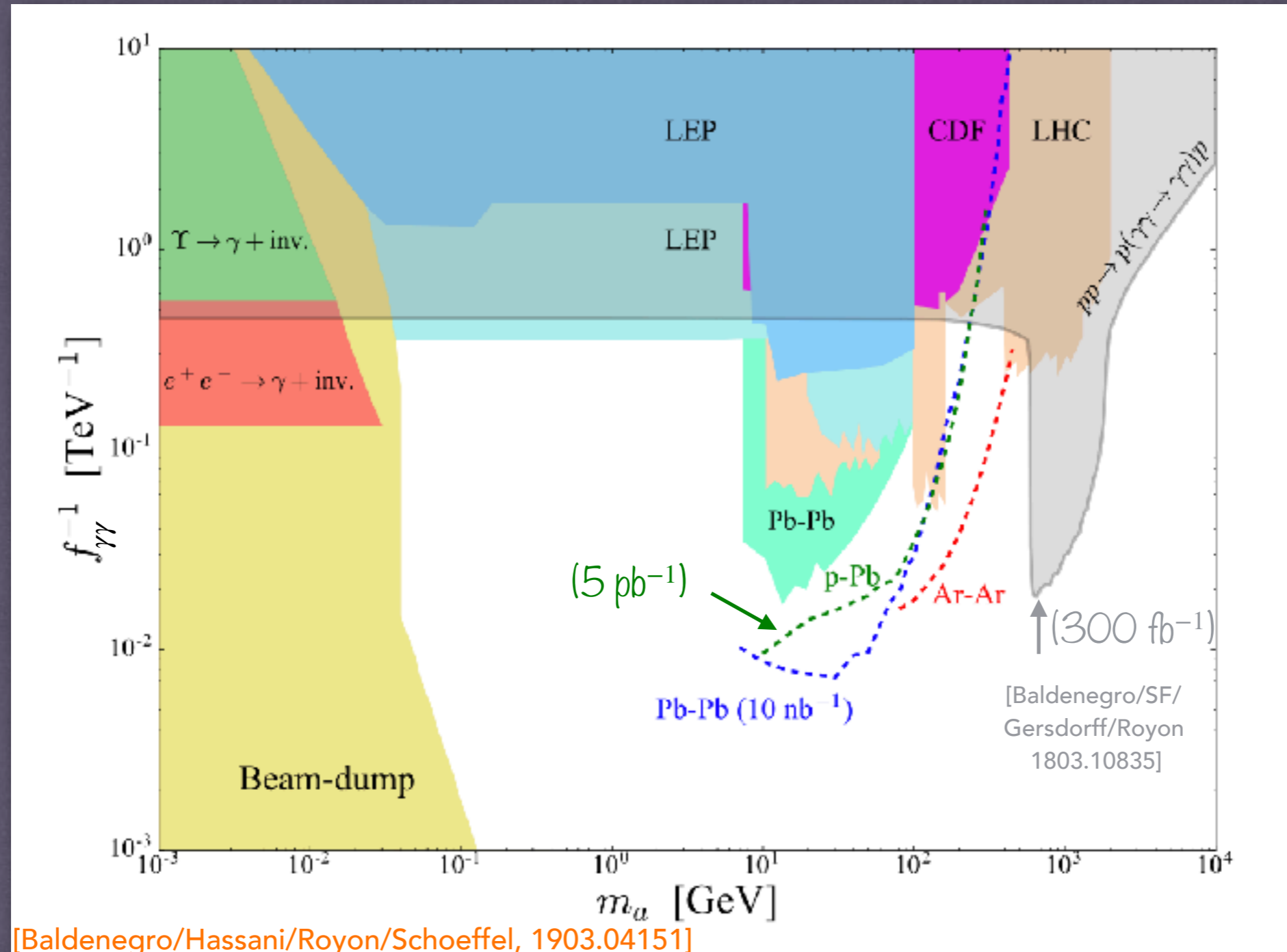
Radial Mode in Composite Higgs models [SF/Gersdorff/Pontón/Rosenfeld '16, ...]

Extension of Higgs Sector [Lee, Fayet, Flores/Sher, ...]

Higgs Portal [Schabinger/Wells '05, ...]

⋮

# AXION PRODUCTION IN UPCS

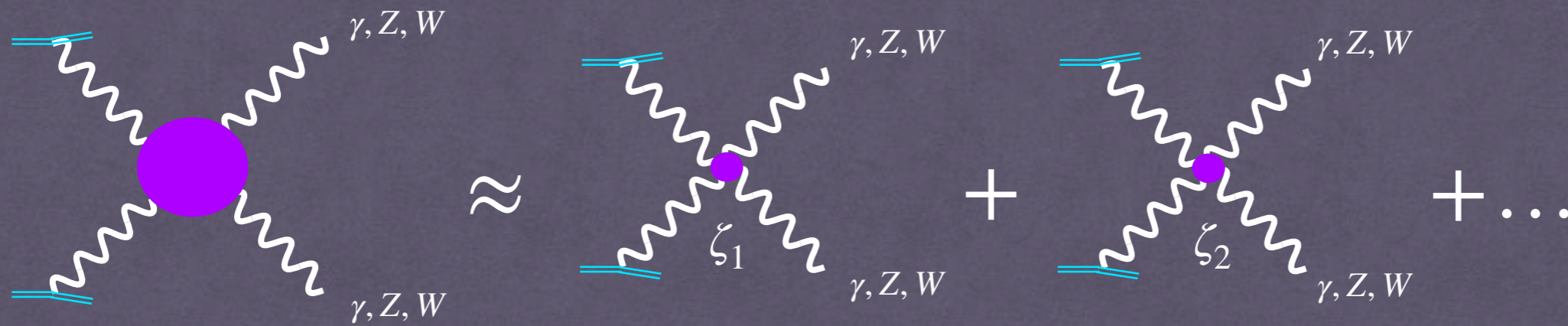


➔ p-Pb performs below Pb-Pb by a factor 2-4 in  $f_{\gamma\gamma}$

## 2) NON-RESONANT EFTS



# $F^4$ EFT ( $n = 4$ )



Many UV motivations:

Linear coupling to SM (• All heavy neutral particles shown before [SF/Gersdorff '12, SF/Gersdorff/Lenzi/Royon/Saimpert '12])

Quadratic coupling to SM

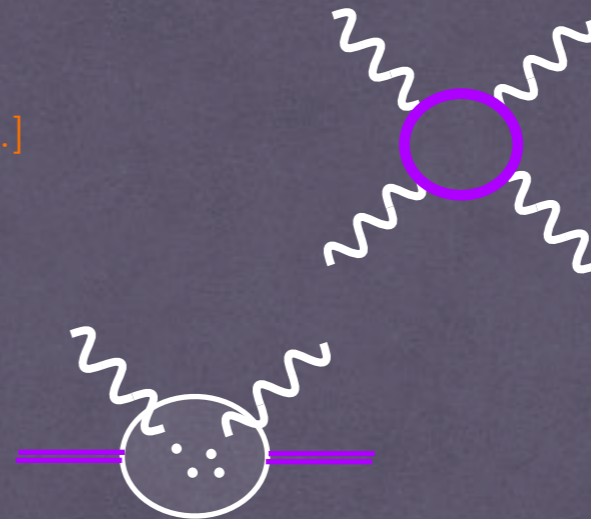
• Charged particles [SF/Gersdorff '12, ...]

• Polarizable dark particles [SF '16]

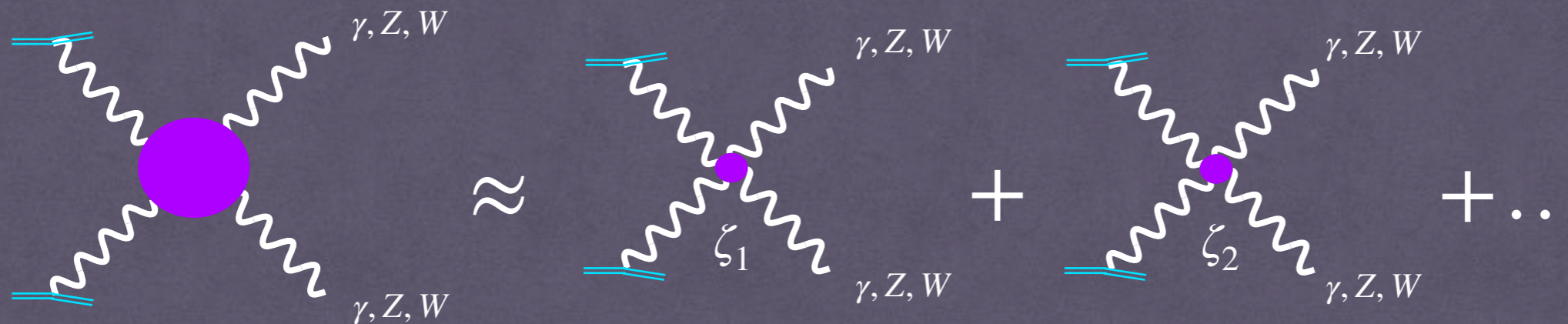
String-motivated

• Born-Infeld QED [Fradkin/Tseytlin '85 ...]

⋮



# $F^4$ EFT ( $n = 4$ )



Cross section goes as  $\sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(s) \propto \frac{s^3}{\Lambda^8}$ .

At equal running time,  $\frac{N_{pp}}{N_{pPb}} = O(10)$ .

Other characteristics do not produce a clear favorite:

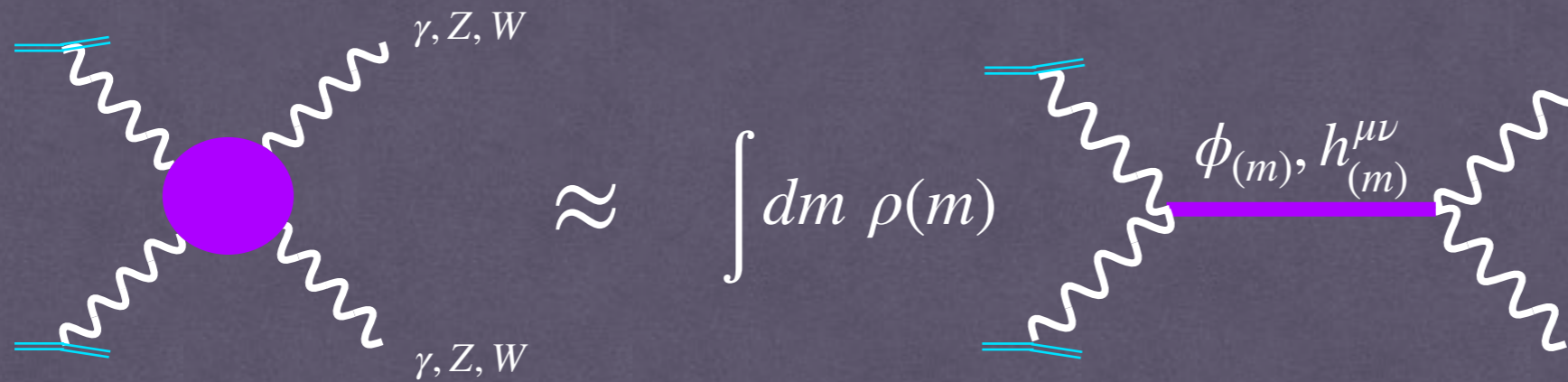
|                                      |     |        |
|--------------------------------------|-----|--------|
| $\langle N_{\text{pile-up}} \rangle$ | 25  | 0.05   |
| p- tagging                           | Yes | Doable |

➔ p-Pb performance for  $F^4$  operators search may be close to p-p.

A detailed analysis would be welcome!



# CONTINUUM EFT



Examples:

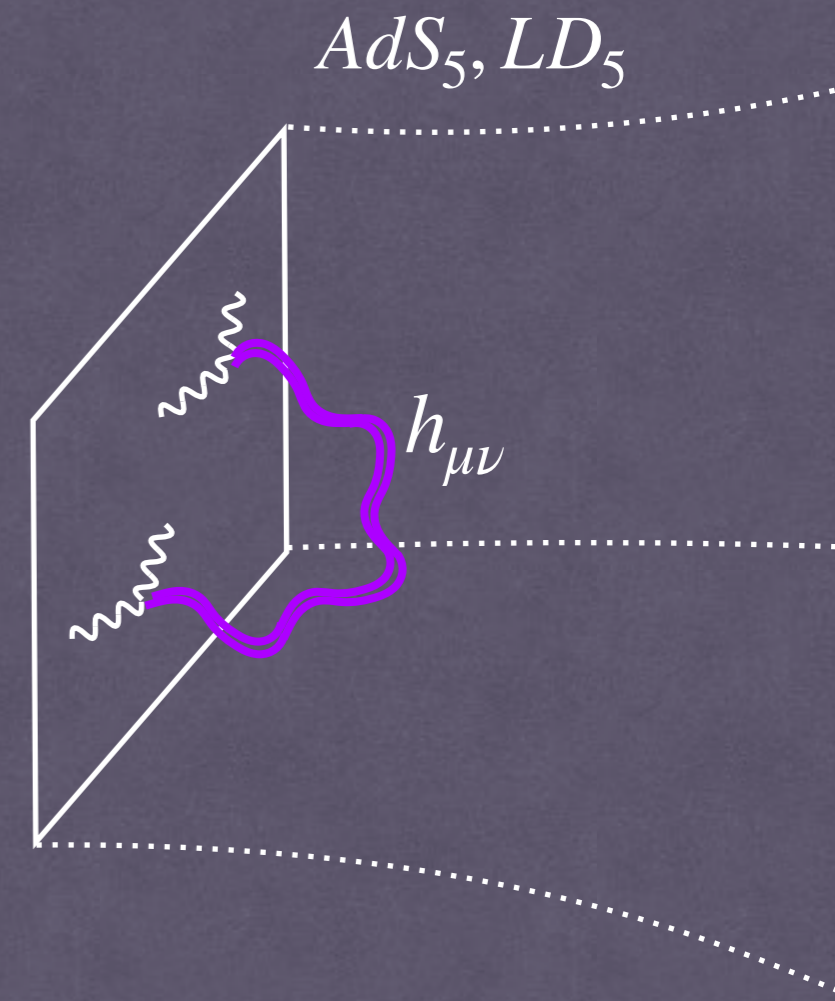
- Graviton continuum from [AdS braneworld](#):

$$\sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(s) \propto \frac{s^3}{\Lambda^8} \quad (n=4) \quad [\text{Brax/SF/Tanedo '19, ...}]$$

- Graviton continuum from [linear dilaton braneworld](#):

$$\sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(s) \propto \frac{s^2}{\Lambda^6} \quad (n=3) \quad [\text{SF/Megias/Quiros '22, ...}]$$

At equal running time,  $\frac{N_{\text{pp}}}{N_{\text{pPb}}} = \mathcal{O}(1)$ .





# SUMMARY

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**Low-mass resonances:** The p-Pb mode competes with Pb-Pb mode.

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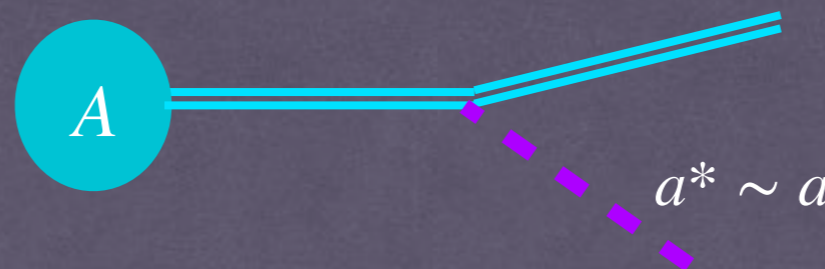
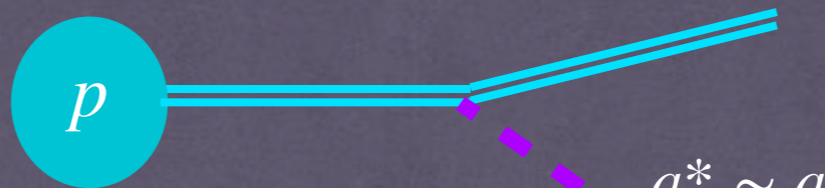
**Idea to take away:**

From the viewpoint of BSM searches, the p-Pb mode is relatively competitive with **BOTH** p-p and Pb-Pb modes. Hence, in the context of BSM searches, assuming no prior on the type of BSM scenario, it could make sense to extend the duration of the p-Pb run.

**THE END**

# AXION FLUXES (PRELIMINARY) [da Silveira/SF/Machado/...]

$$\mathcal{L}_a \supset \frac{a}{f_{NN}} \bar{N} i \gamma_5 N$$



$$\propto \frac{A^2}{\gamma^2}$$

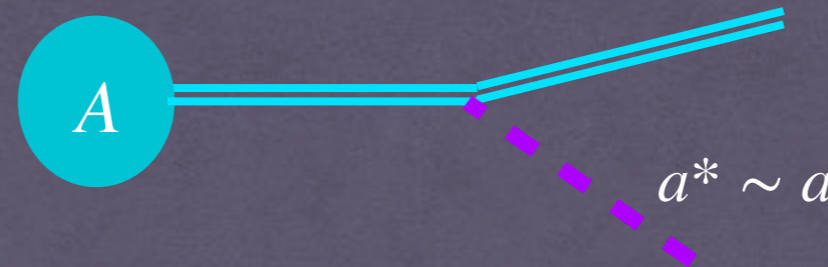
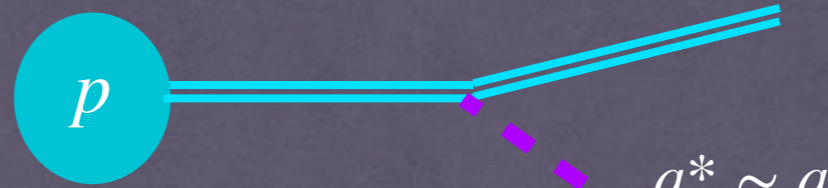
Very  
suppressed



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[da Silveira/SF/Machado/...]

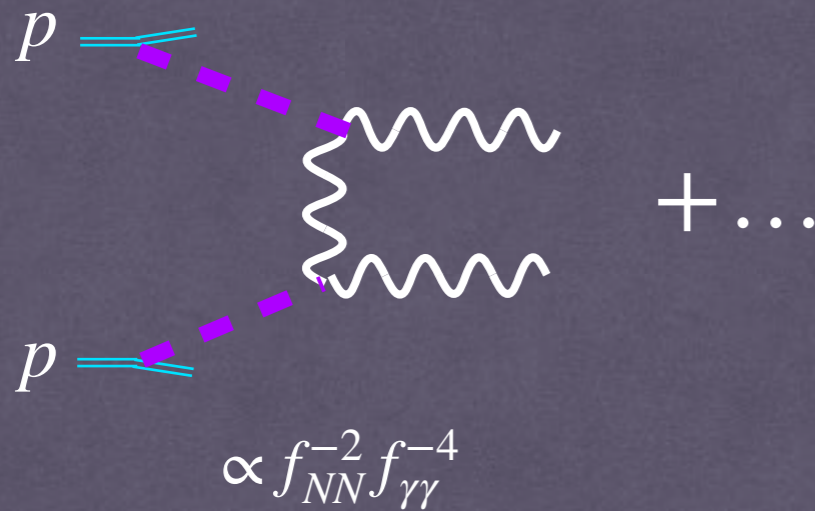
$$\mathcal{L}_a \supset \frac{a}{f_{NN}} \bar{N} i \gamma_5 N$$



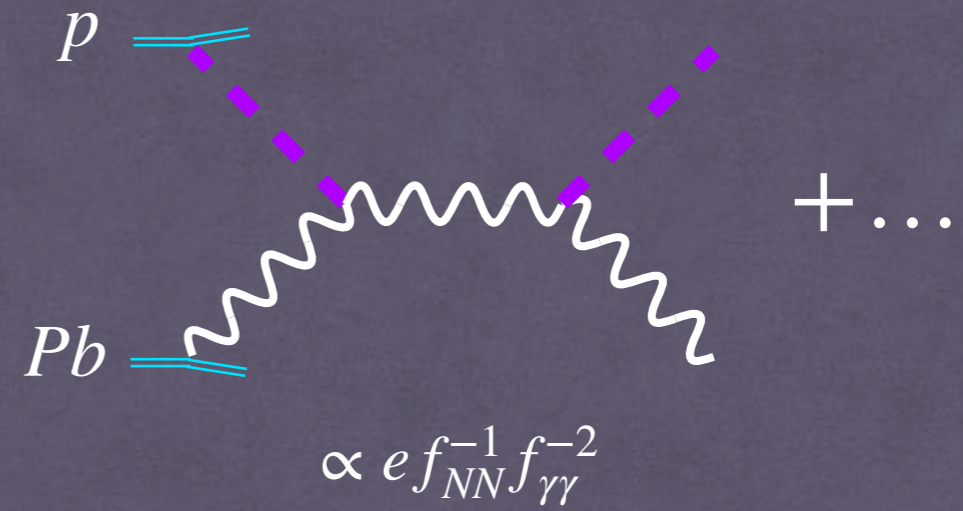
$$\propto \frac{A^2}{\gamma^2}$$

Very suppressed

Some processes:

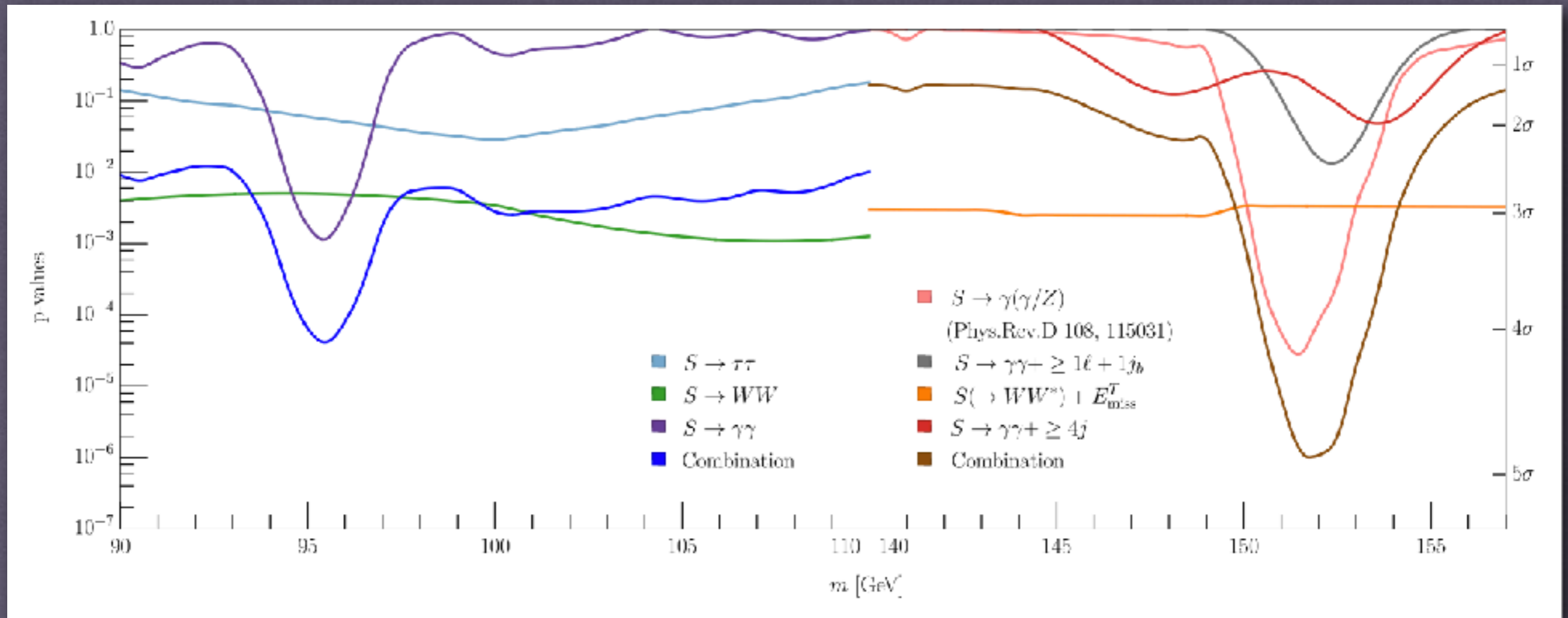


[Currently under analysis]



[Less suppressed, benefits from p tagging]

# A MOTIVATION FROM DATA ?



Taken from [Crivellin 2405.15933]. None of these excesses are statistically significant.