

# Looking for new physics with radio signatures

Andrea Caputo  
UNDARK kick-off meeting

hep-ph/2405.13882 with Carl Beadle and Sebastian Ellis



at some point in the future

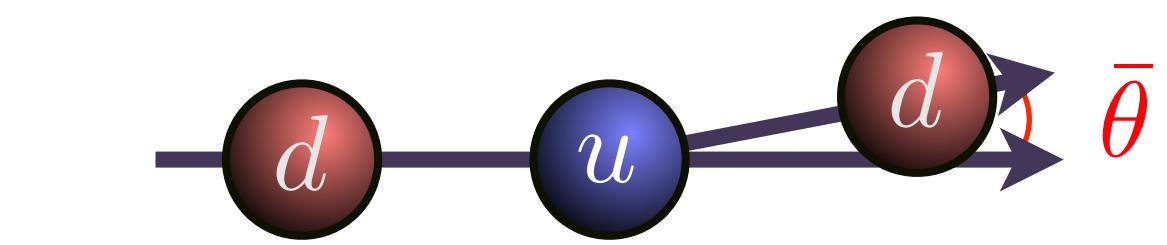


SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



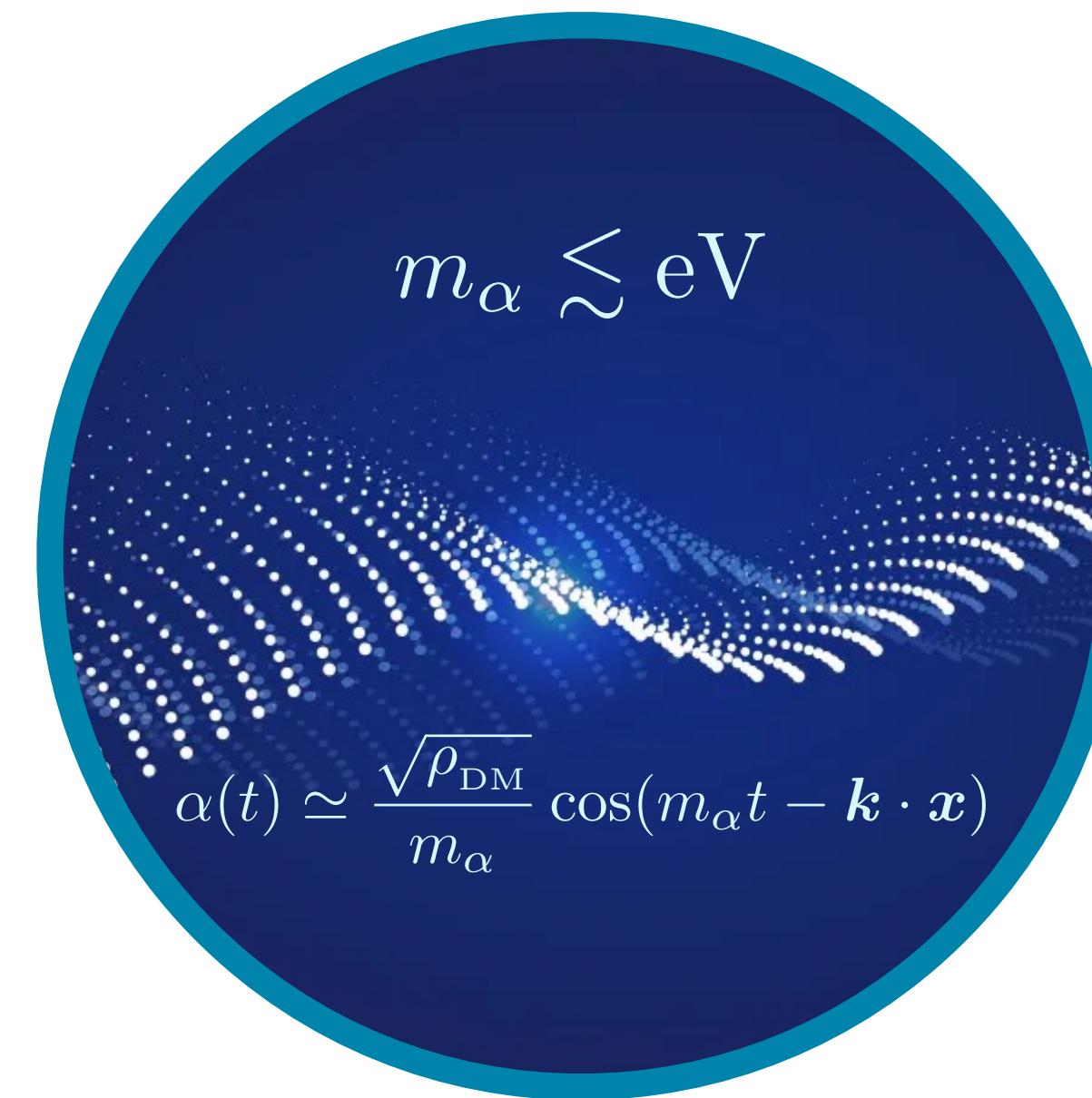
# Two different targets (with some similarities)

## Axions

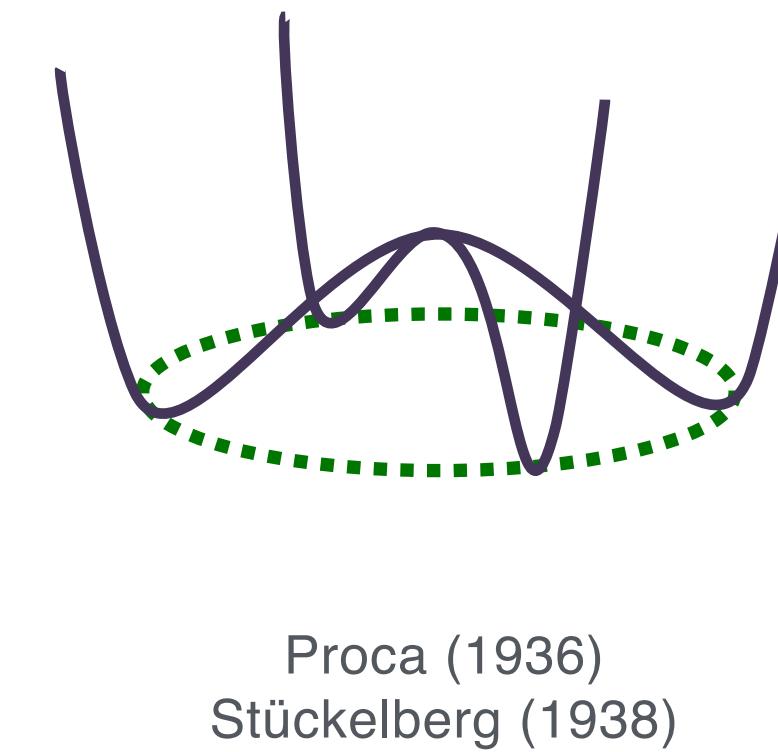


$$\mathcal{L} \supset \left( \frac{a}{f_a} + \bar{\theta} \right) \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu,a}$$

Peccei & Quinn (1977)  
Weinberg (1978)  
Wilczek (1978)



## Massive Dark Photons



- ▶ Misalignment
- ▶ Cosmic strings
- ▶ ...

Preskill et al, Abbott & Sikivie (1983)

Harari & Skive (1987), ..., Klaer & Moore (2017),  
Gorghetto, Hardy & Villadoro (2018), Buschmann, Foster & Safdi (2019),  
Gorghetto, Hardy & Villadoro (2020), Buschmann et al (2021)

- ▶ Misalignment
- ▶ Inflation
- ▶ ... e.g. Agrawal et al, Co et al, Dror et al, Bastero-Gil et al (all 2018)

Nelson & Scholtz (2011)

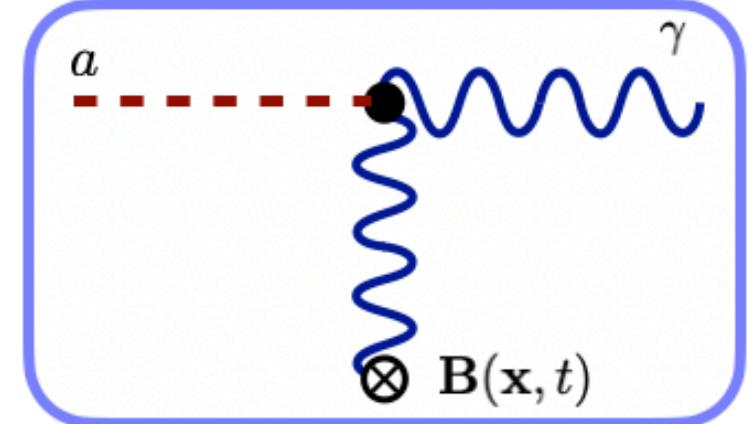
Graham, Mardon & Rajendran (2015)

# Two different targets (with some similarities)

**Dark Photon:**  $\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} (F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - 2\epsilon F'_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + F'_{\mu\nu} F'^{\mu\nu}) + \frac{1}{2} m_{A'}^2 A'_\mu A'^\mu - A_\mu \mathcal{J}^\mu$

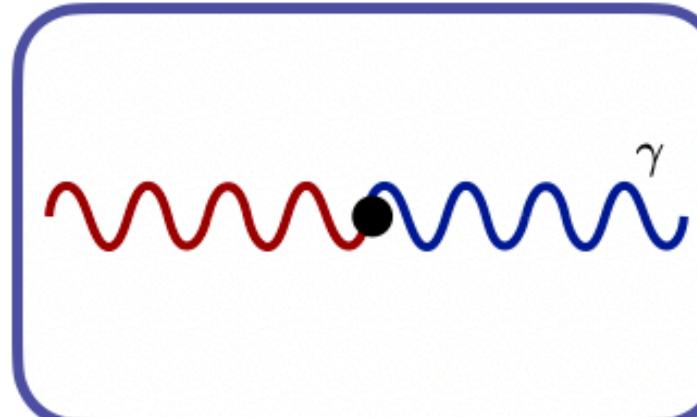
**Axion:**  $\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} (F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - 2 \partial_\mu a \partial^\mu a + g_{a\gamma\gamma} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}) - \frac{1}{2} m_a^2 a^2 - A_\mu \mathcal{J}^\mu$

Axion:



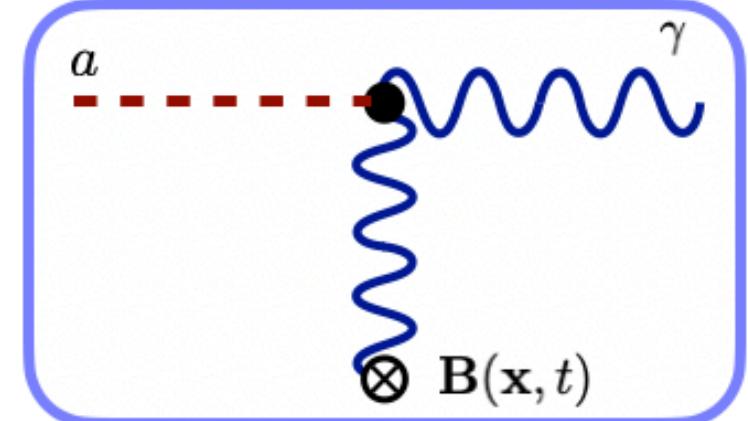
$$j_a \sim g_{a\gamma\gamma} (\partial a) F$$

Dark Photon:



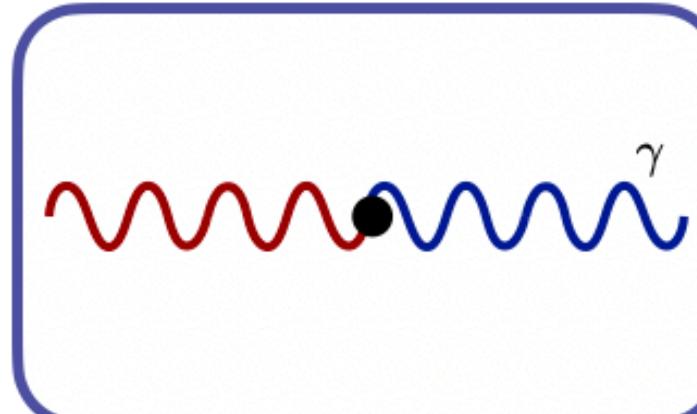
$$j_{A'} \sim -\epsilon m_{A'}^2 A'$$

Axion:



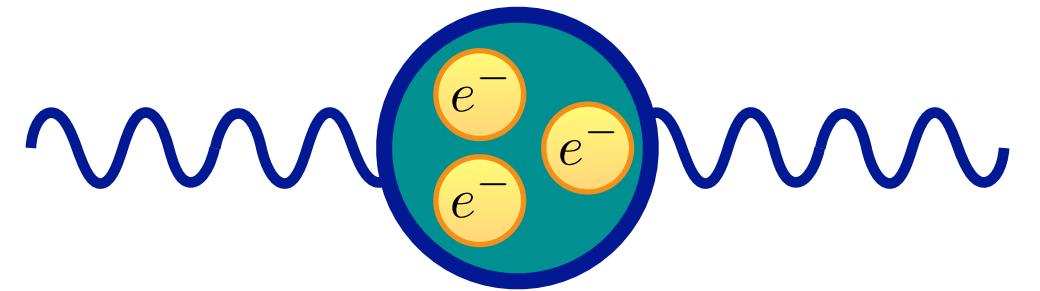
$$j_a \sim g_{a\gamma\gamma} (\partial a) F$$

Dark Photon:



$$j_{A'} \sim -\epsilon m_{A'}^2 A'$$

Free charges modify photon self-energy



$$\Pi^{\mu\nu} = \sum_p \Pi_p P^{\mu\nu}$$

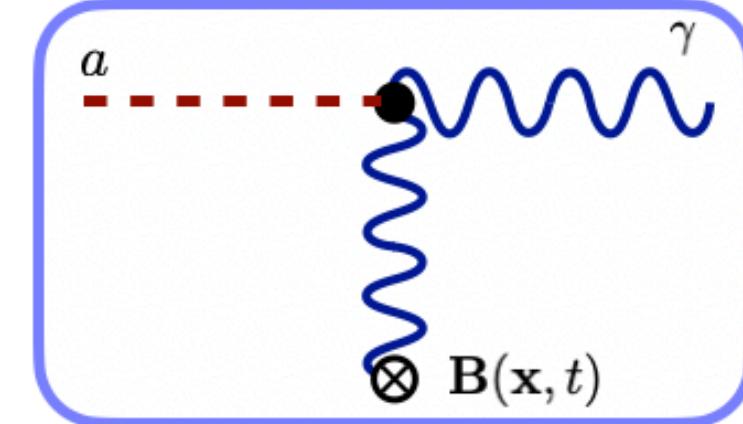
Transverse

$$\Pi_T \sim \omega_{\text{pl}}^2 \sim \frac{e^2 n_e}{m_e}$$

Longitudinal

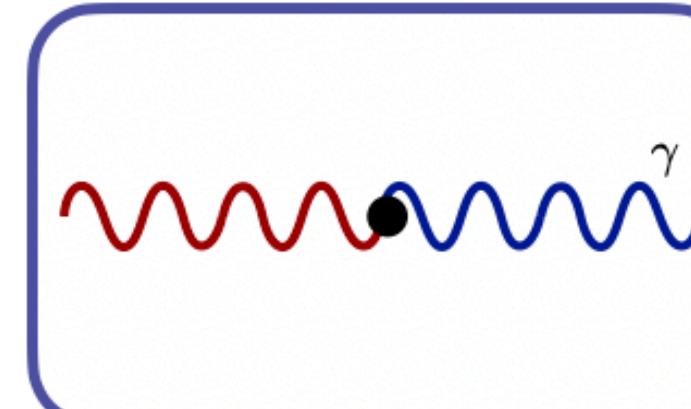
$$\Pi_L \sim \omega_{\text{pl}}^2 \left(1 - \frac{k^2}{\omega^2}\right)$$

Axion:



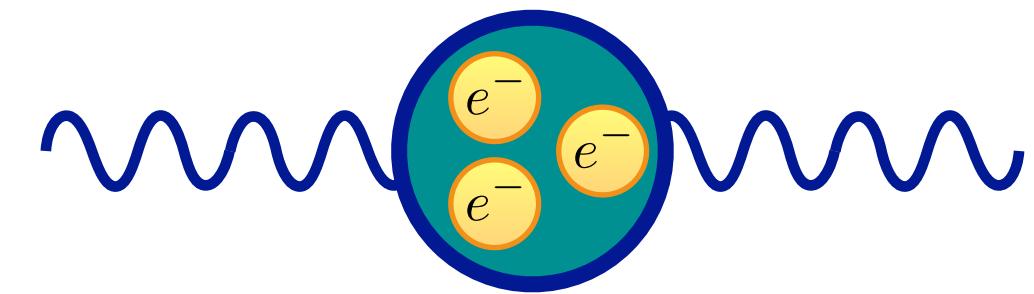
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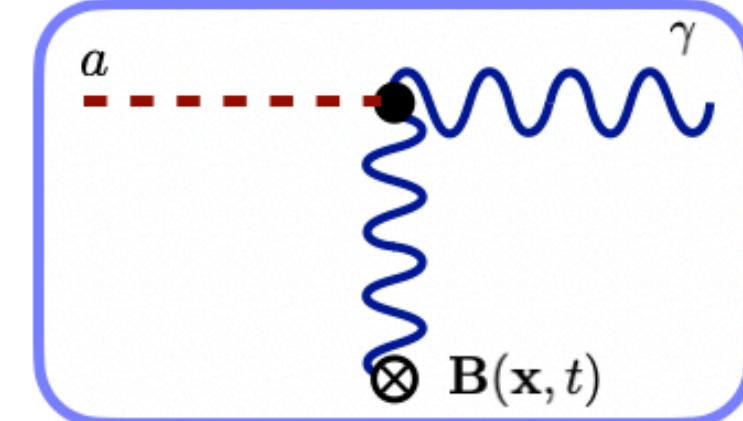
$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = \omega^2 - k^2$$

Free electron number density

SM Photon

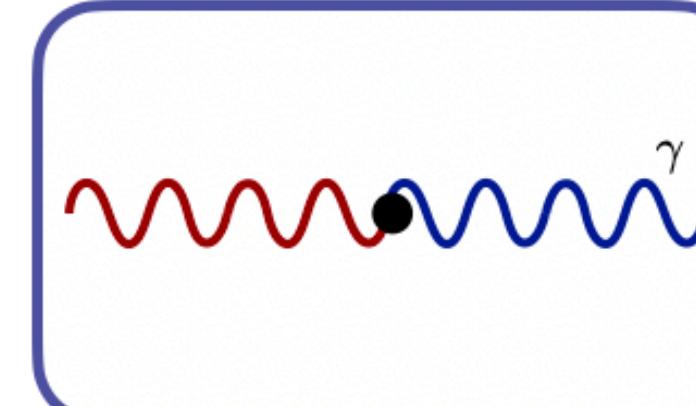
Dark Matter

Axion:



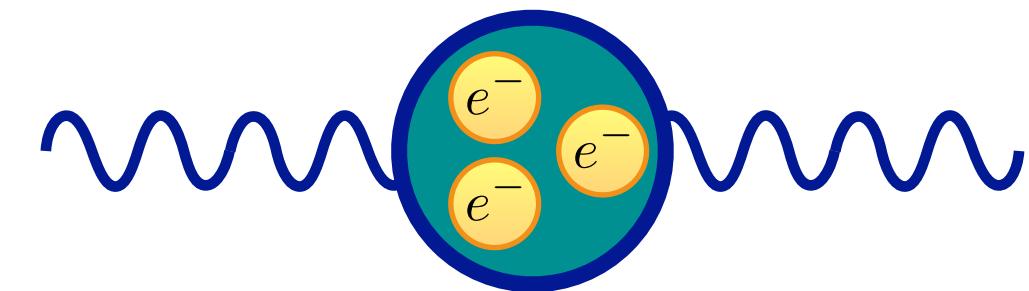
$$j_a \sim g_{a\gamma\gamma} (\partial a) F$$

Dark Photon:



$$j_{A'} \sim -\epsilon m_{A'}^2 A'$$

Free charges modify photon self-energy



$$\Pi^{\mu\nu} = \sum_p \Pi_p P^{\mu\nu}$$

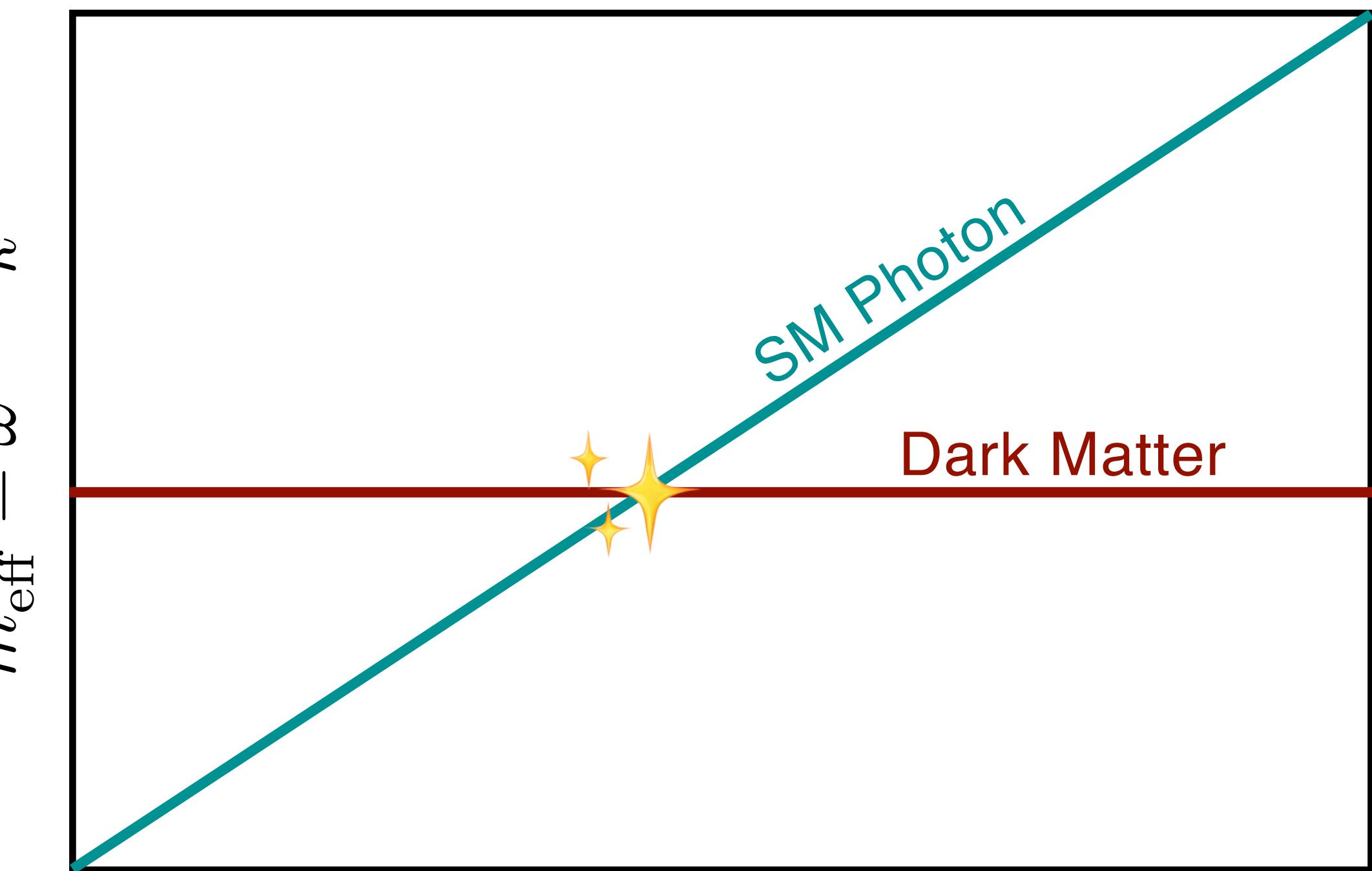
Transverse

$$\Pi_T \sim \omega_{\text{pl}}^2 \sim \frac{e^2 n_e}{m_e}$$

Longitudinal

$$\Pi_L \sim \omega_{\text{pl}}^2 \left(1 - \frac{k^2}{\omega^2}\right)$$

$$m_{\text{eff}}^2 = \omega^2 - k^2$$



**Resonance condition from  
two-level system**

# Resonant level crossing

Landau-Zener:  $P_{\alpha \rightarrow \gamma} \simeq \frac{f_{\text{pol}} \pi}{v_r} g_{\text{eff}}^2 m_\alpha \left| \frac{\partial \ln \omega_{\text{pl}}^2}{\partial r} \right|_{r_c}^{-1}$

Axion:  $g_{\text{eff}} \rightarrow \frac{g_{a\gamma} |B_T|}{m_a}$

Dark Photon:  $g_{\text{eff}} \rightarrow \epsilon$

# Resonant level crossing

Landau-Zener:  $P_{\alpha \rightarrow \gamma} \simeq \frac{f_{\text{pol}} \pi}{v_r} g_{\text{eff}}^2 m_\alpha \left| \frac{\partial \ln \omega_{\text{pl}}^2}{\partial r} \right|_{r_c}^{-1}$

Axion:  $g_{\text{eff}} \rightarrow \frac{g_{a\gamma} |\mathbf{B}_T|}{m_a}$   $\begin{pmatrix} \omega^2 + \nabla^2 - \begin{pmatrix} \Pi_{||} & -g_{a\gamma\gamma} B_T \omega \\ -g_{a\gamma\gamma} B_T \omega & m_a^2 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_{||} \\ a \end{pmatrix} = 0$

Dark Photon:  $g_{\text{eff}} \rightarrow \epsilon$   $\begin{pmatrix} \omega^2 + \nabla^2 - \begin{pmatrix} \Pi_T & \epsilon m_{A'}^2 \\ \epsilon m_{A'}^2 & m_{A'}^2 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}_T \\ \mathbf{A}'_T \end{pmatrix} = 0$

Couple system of equations, usually use WKB and solve linear PDE à la Raffelt-Stodolsky (1988)

# Two-level system

$$\text{WKB: } \omega^2 + \nabla^2 \simeq (\omega + k)(\omega - i\nabla)$$

valid for  $|\nabla^2 A| \ll k|\nabla A|, |\nabla^2 \alpha| \ll k|\nabla \alpha|$

$$\left( -i\nabla + \frac{1}{2k} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_{\text{pl}}^2 - m_\alpha^2 & \Pi_{A\alpha} \\ \Pi_{A\alpha} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \begin{pmatrix} A \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Good approximation for many astrophysical environments, e.g.:

- *axions near NSs* — Hook et al (2018), Foster et al (2020), Foster et al (2022)
  - *DPs near NSs* — Hardy & Song (2022)
  - *DPs in the Solar corona* — An et al (2020, 2023)
- +++

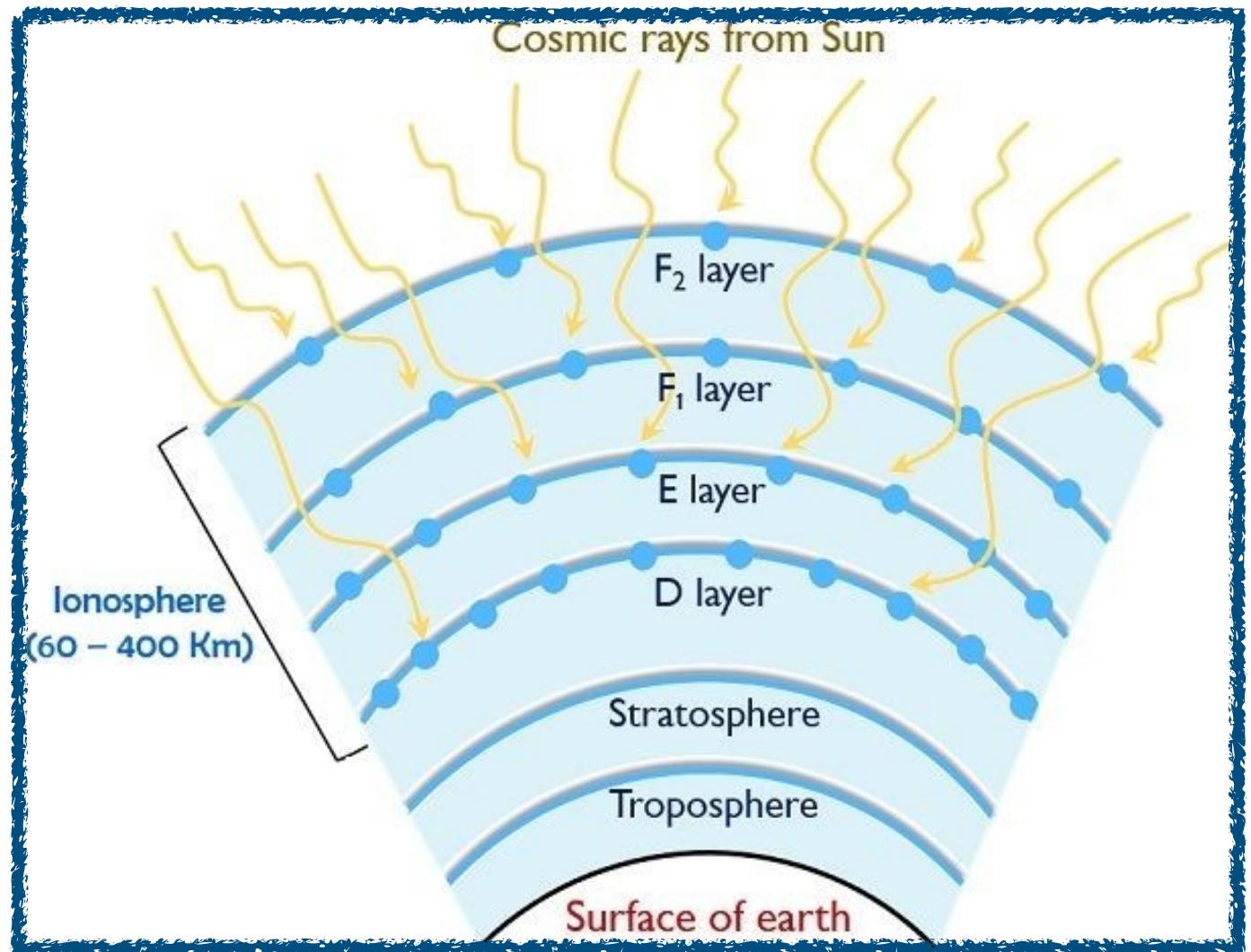
Probability of conversion:

$$P_{\alpha \rightarrow A} \simeq \left| \int_0^\infty dz \frac{\Pi_{A\alpha}}{2k} e^{-i \int_0^z dz' (m_\alpha^2 - \omega_{\text{pl}}^2)/2k} \right|$$

Yields the Landau-Zener formula

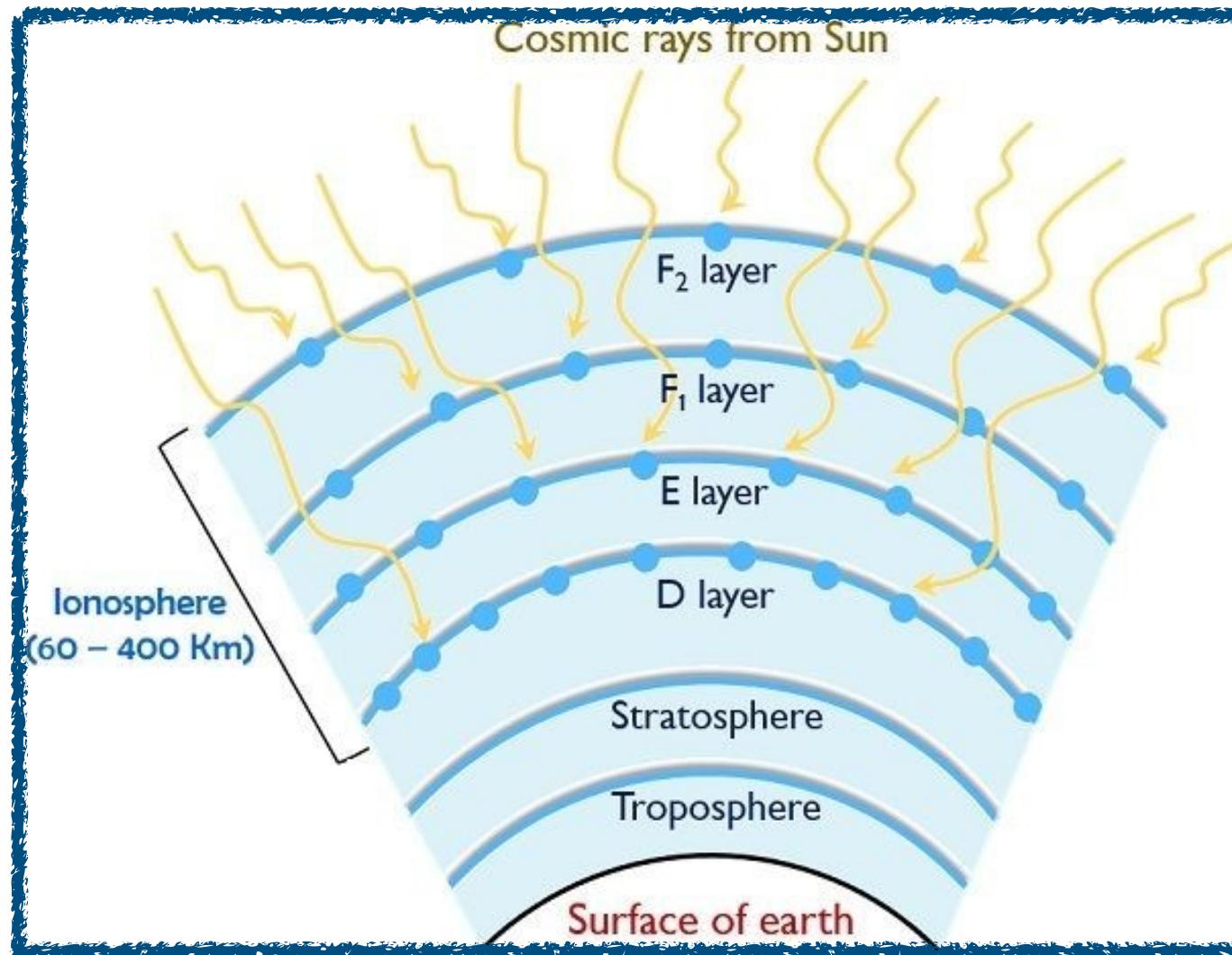
# The Ionosphere

Created by ionising UV & X-ray radiation.



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Created by ionising UV & X-ray radiation.

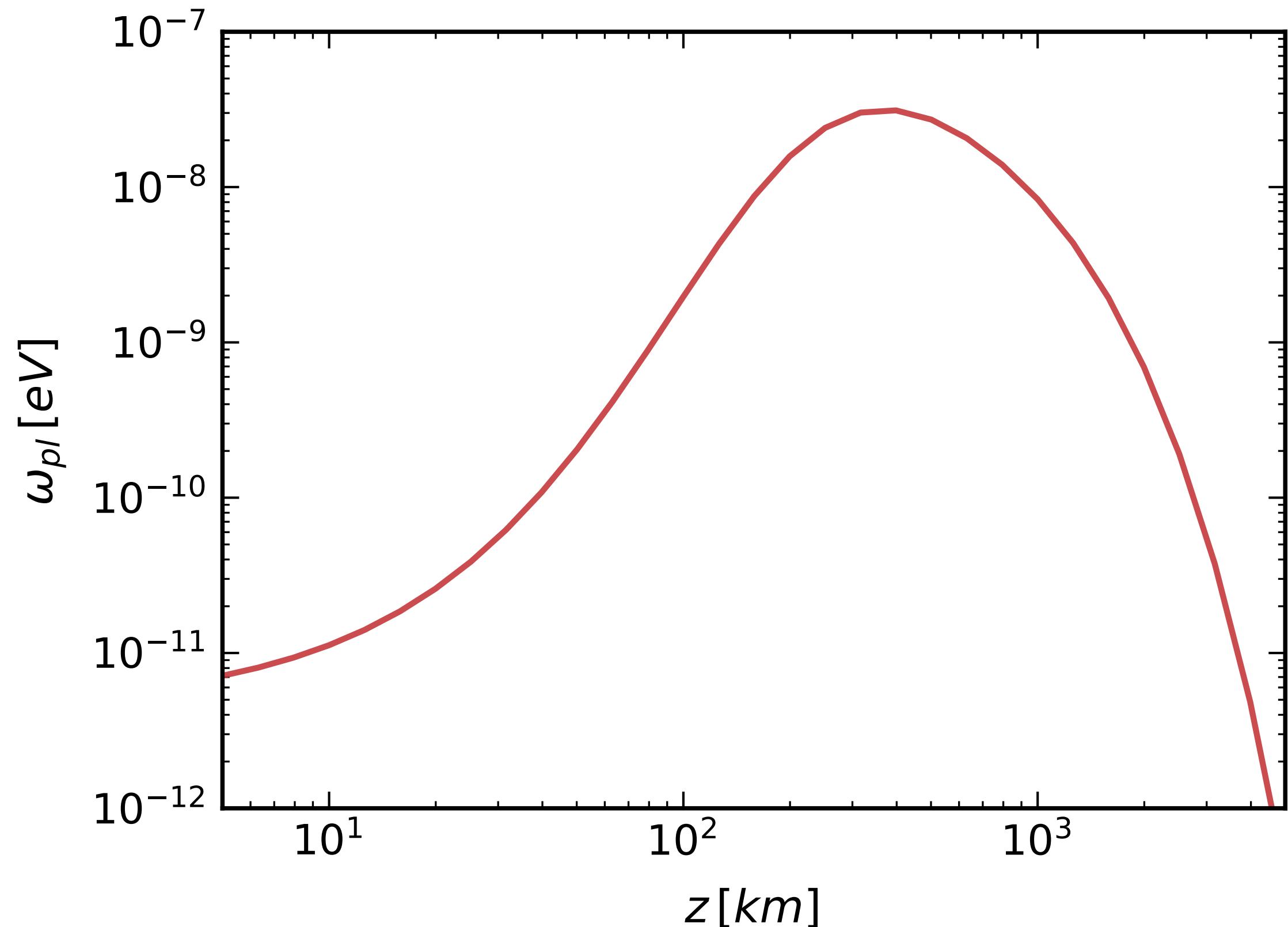


## Chapman model:

- Scale height  $H$
- Max. free electron  $n_e$
- Max. height  $r_{\max}$

Scale height sets variational length scale:

$$\left| \frac{\partial \ln \omega_{\text{pl}}^2}{\partial r} \right|_{r_c}^{-1} \gtrsim 2H$$

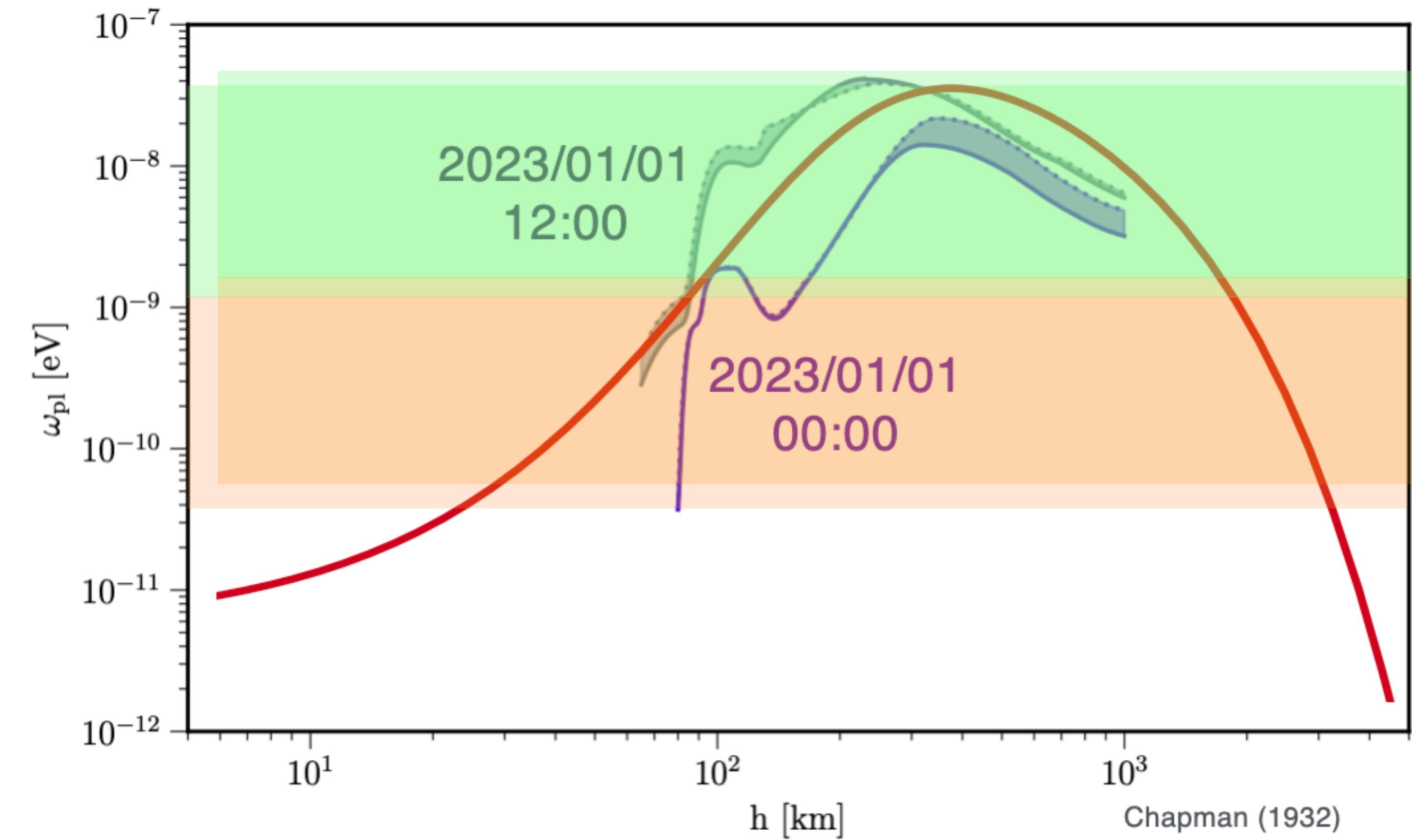


# The *real* ionosphere

For decade in mass, Chapman is a reasonable middle ground

Low masses, poor approximation

Real ionosphere *steeper*

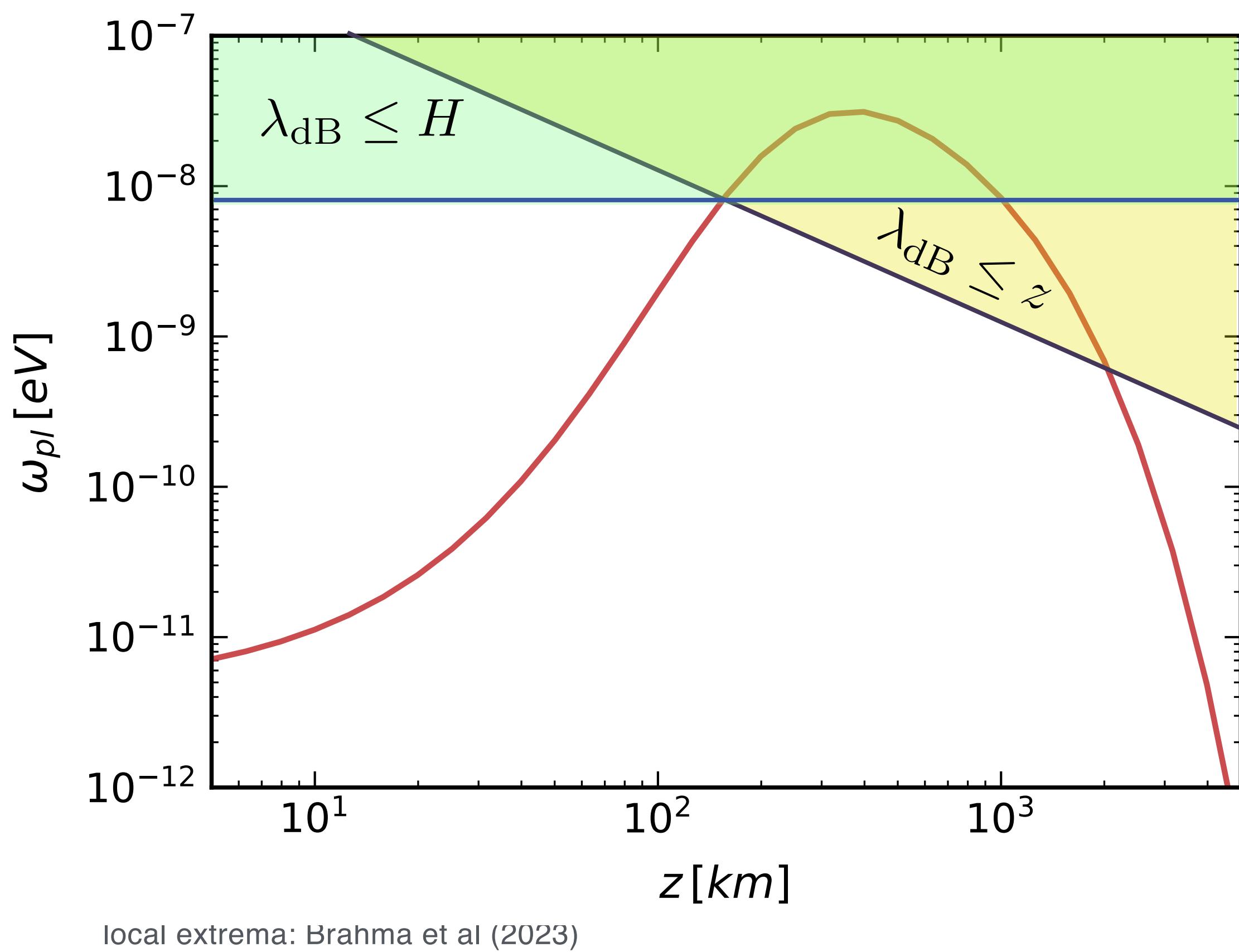


Data from International Ref. Ionosphere (IRI) <https://kauai.ccmc.gsfc.nasa.gov/instanrun/iri>

Chapman scale height  $H \sim 100$  km

Over most parameter space, WKB  
**not valid**

Presence of local maximum also problematic



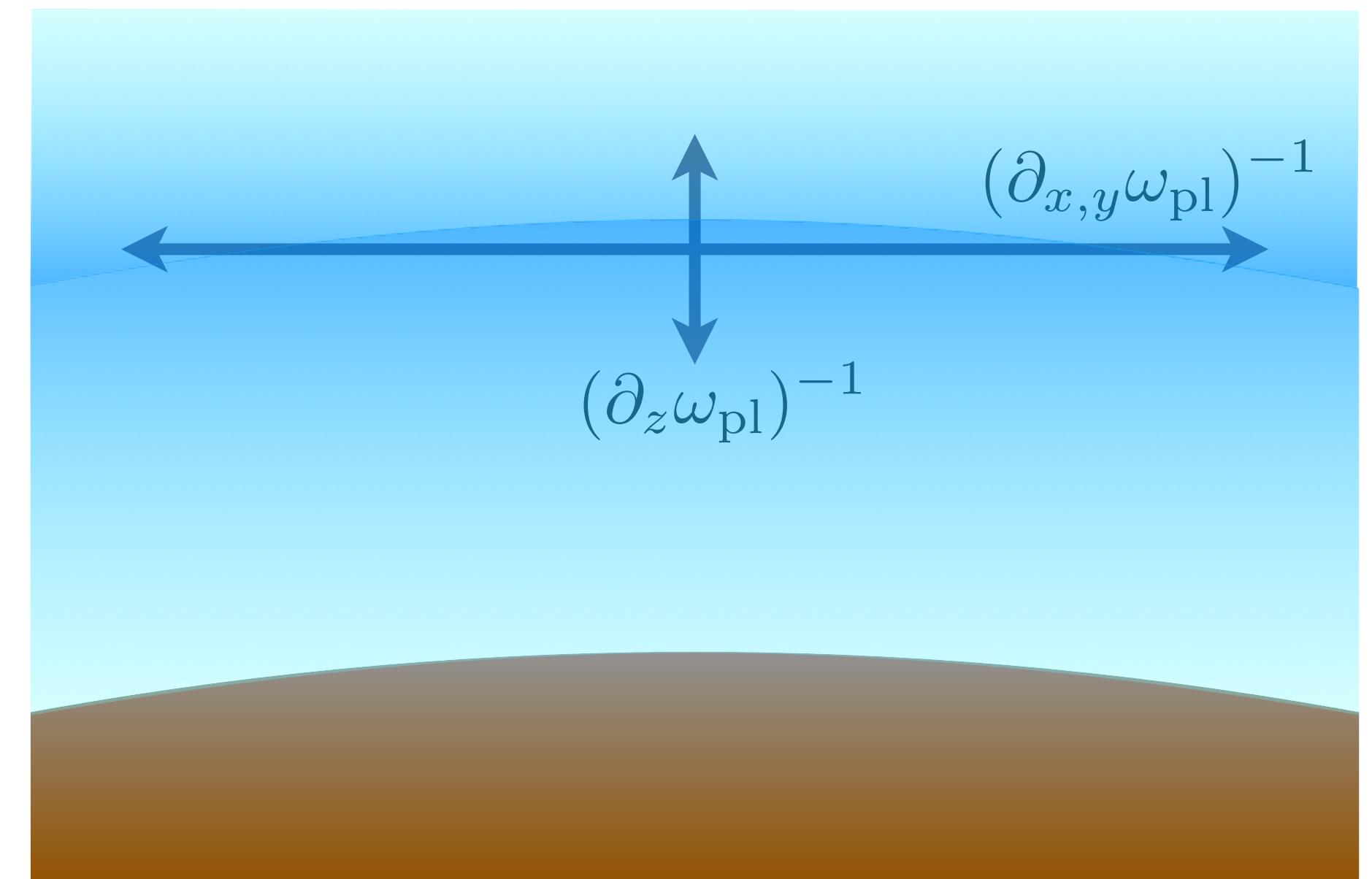
# Back to initial equations

Need to solve full 2nd order equation

$$\left( \omega^2 + \nabla^2 - \begin{pmatrix} \Pi_{AA} & \Pi_{A\alpha} \\ \Pi_{A\alpha} & m_\alpha^2 \end{pmatrix} \right) \begin{pmatrix} A \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Transverse variation length-scale long – model as 1D

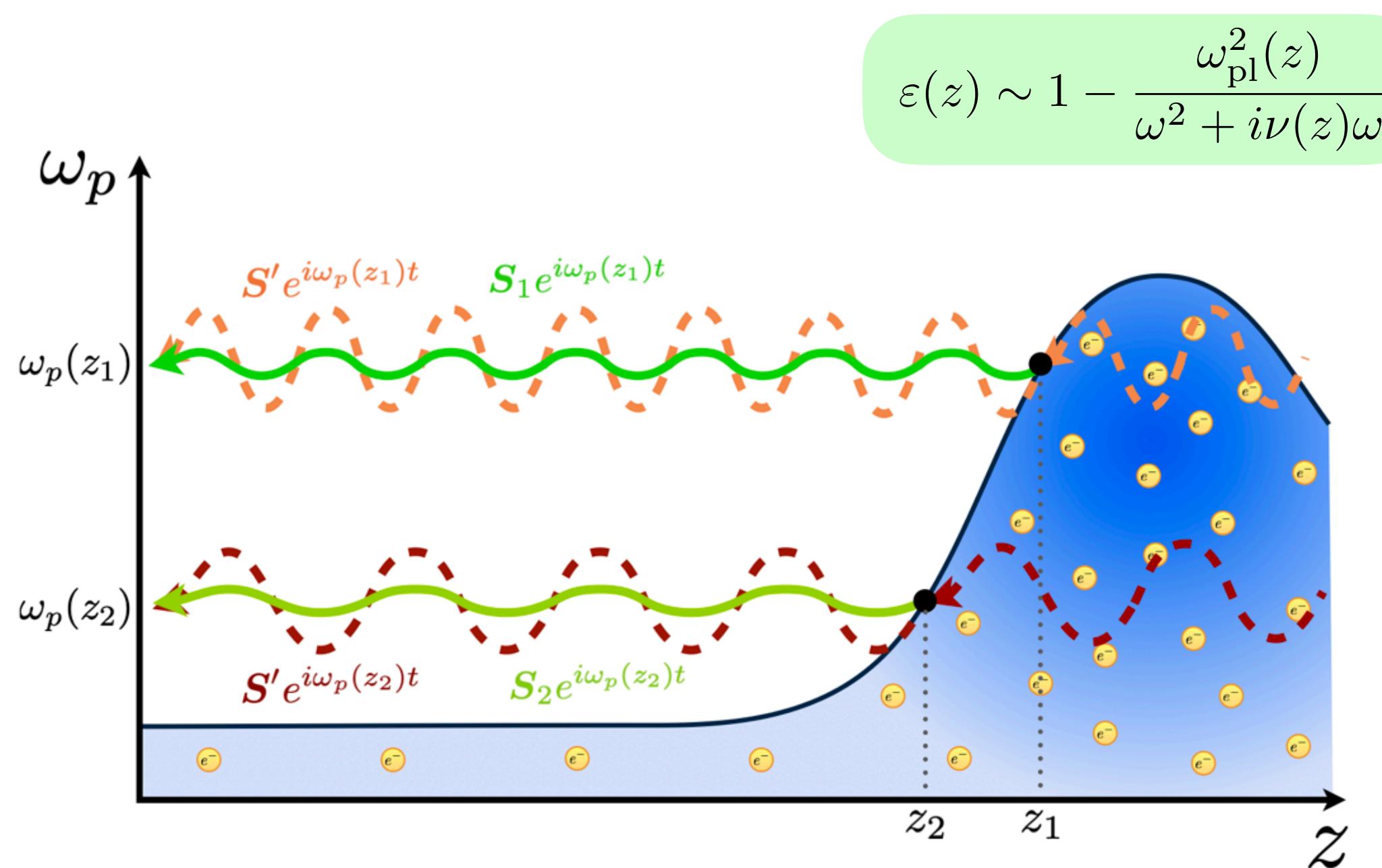
$$\left[ \partial_z^2 + \omega^2 - \frac{\omega^2}{\omega^2 + i\nu(z)\omega} \omega_{\text{pl}}^2(z) \right] \mathbf{E}_T(z) = \Pi_{A\alpha} \partial_t \alpha(z)$$



# Ionosphere as a driven cavity

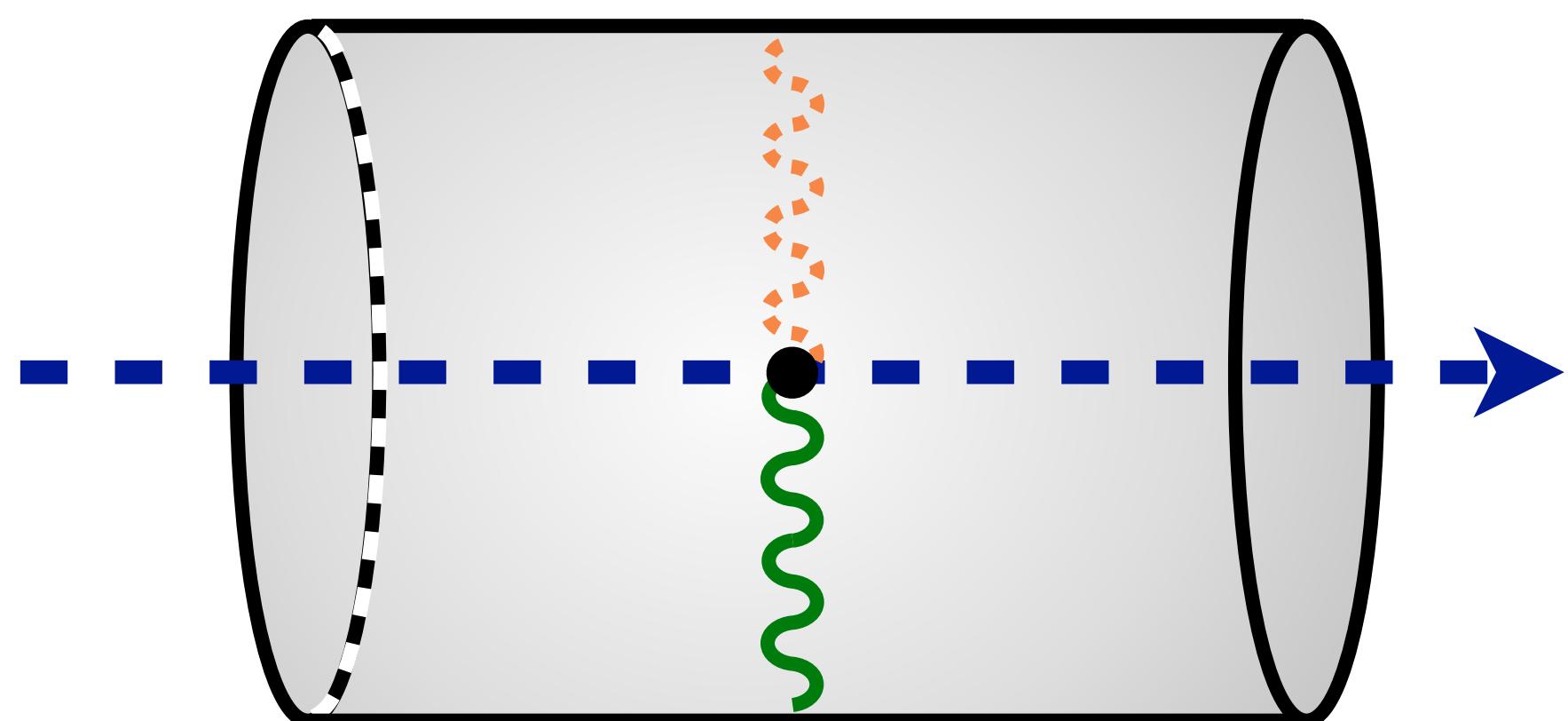
Ionosphere cavity:

$$\left[ \nabla^2 + \omega^2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\omega^2 + i\nu\omega} \omega_p^2 \right) \right] \mathbf{E}_T = i g_{\text{eff}} m_{\text{DM}}^2 \omega \mathbf{V}$$



Actual cavity:

$$(\nabla^2 - \mu\varepsilon\partial_t^2) \mathbf{E} = \mu\partial_t \mathbf{j}_\alpha$$



# Our signal

Numerical solution w/ Thomas  
Algorithm for tridiagonal matrix

```
def TDMASeolveNew(a, b, c, d):

    cprime = np.zeros(len(c), dtype = 'complex_')
    dprime = np.zeros(len(d), dtype = 'complex_')

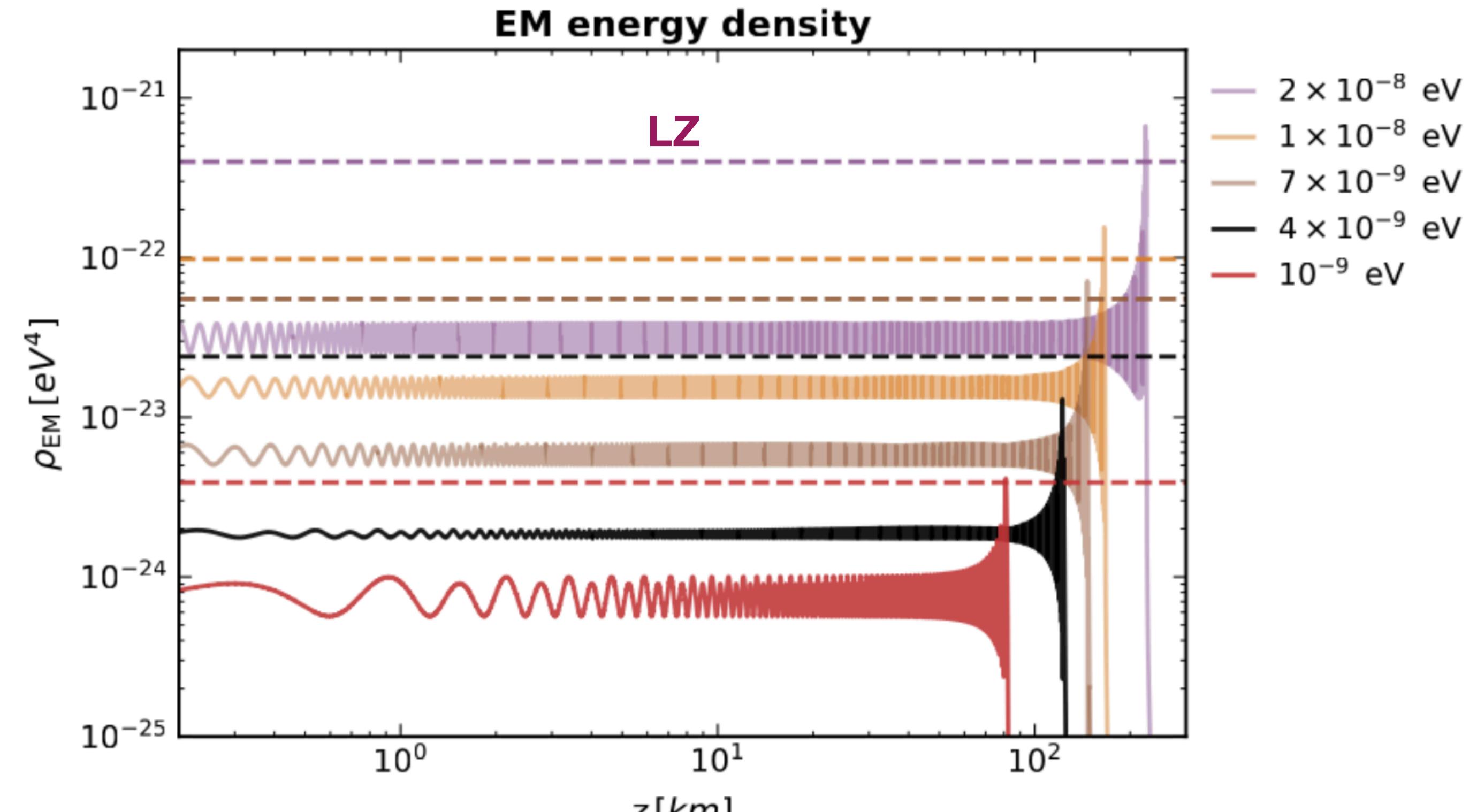
    for i in range(len(c)-1):
        if i == 0:
            cprime[i] = c[i]/b[i]
            dprime[i] = d[i]/b[i]
        else:
            cprime[i] = c[i]/(b[i]-a[i] * cprime[i-1])
            dprime[i] = (d[i]-a[i]*dprime[i-1]) / (b[i] - a[i]*cprime[i-1])

    Er = np.zeros(len(b), dtype = 'complex_')

    for i in reversed(range(len(c)-1)):

        if i == len(c)-1:
            Er[i] = 0#Er[i] = dprime[i]
        elif i == 0:
            Er[i] = 0
        else:
            Er[i] = dprime[i] - cprime[i] * Er[i+1]

    return Er
```



hep-ph/2405.13882 Carl Beadle, AC and Sebastian Ellis

$$\rho_{\text{EM}} \approx \frac{3 \times 10^{-23} \text{ eV}^4 \left( \frac{g_{\text{eff}}}{10^{-10}} \right)^2}{1 + \exp \left[ - \left( \frac{m_\alpha}{2.3 \times 10^{-9} \text{ eV}} - 3.8 \right) \right]}$$

# Our noise

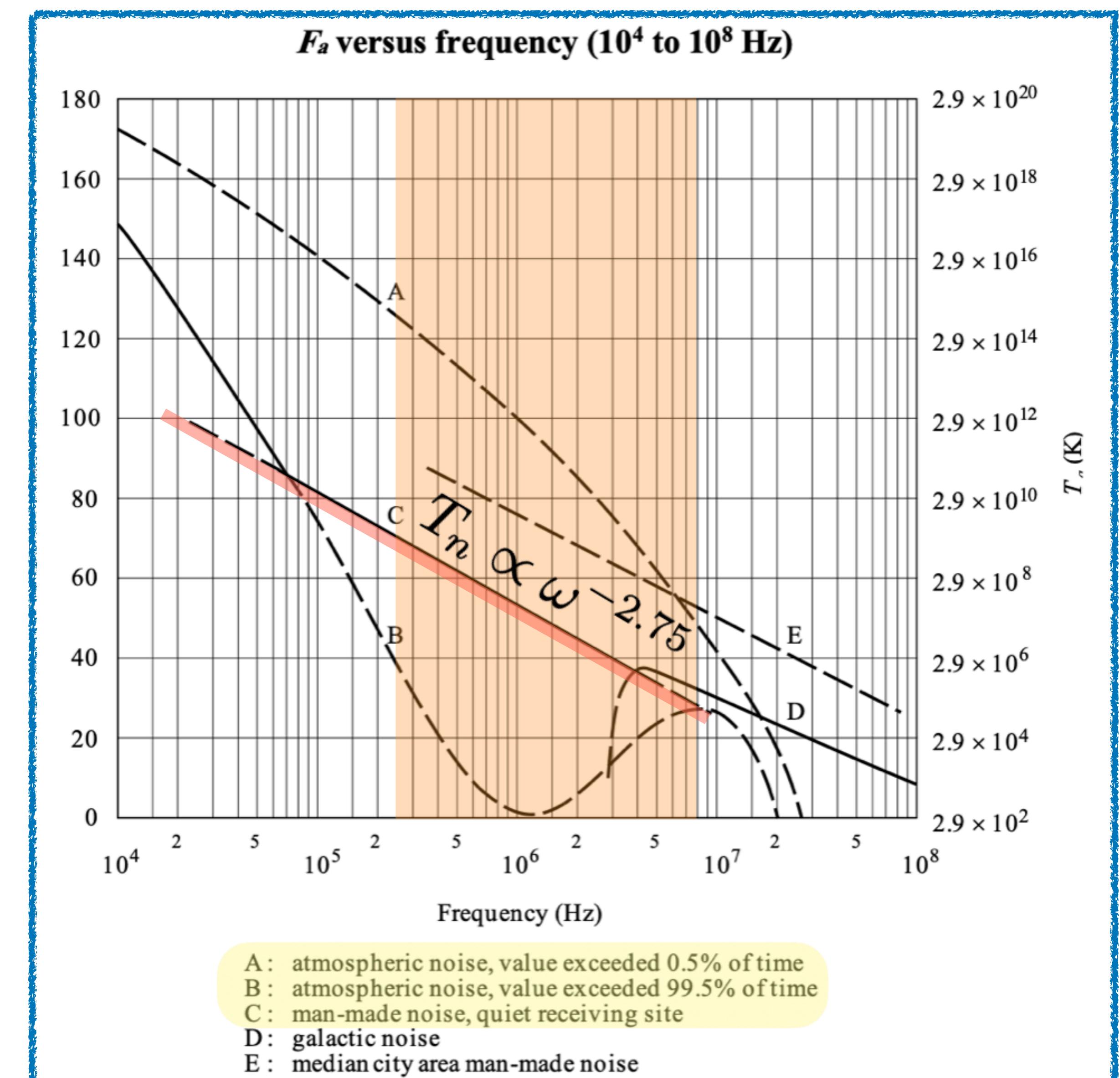


ITU provides us with estimates for our noise

$$10^5 \text{ K} \lesssim T_n \lesssim 10^9 \text{ K}$$

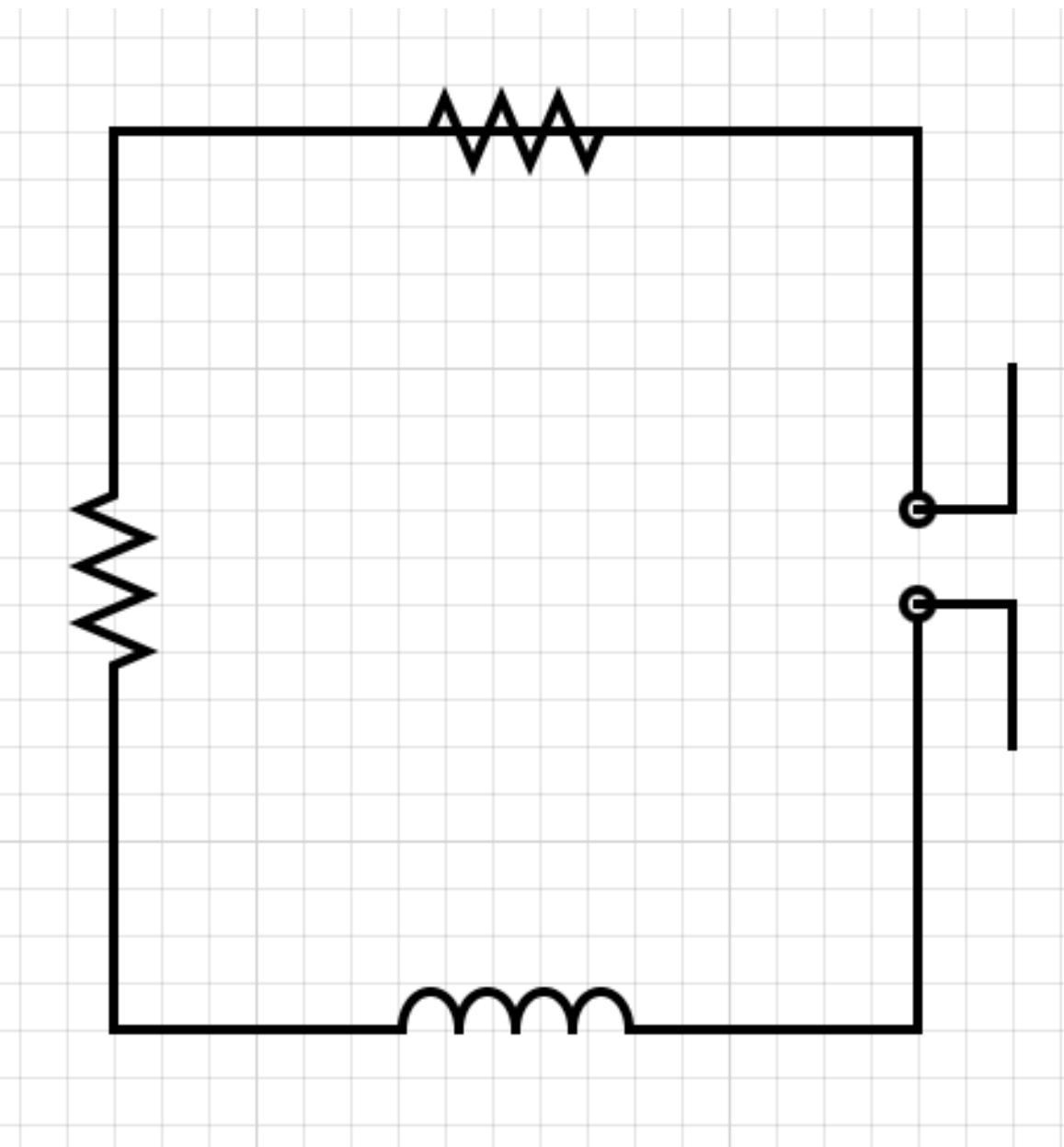
We can map from temperature to a noise PSD using:

$$S_n(\nu) \approx \frac{32}{3} \pi^2 \nu^2 T_n(\nu)$$



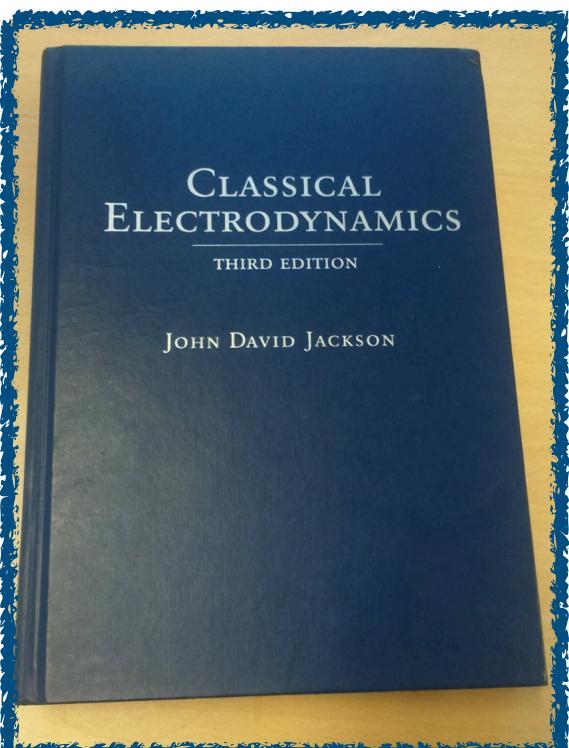
# Antenna

We model a prospective antenna and read-out as a simple RLC-circuit



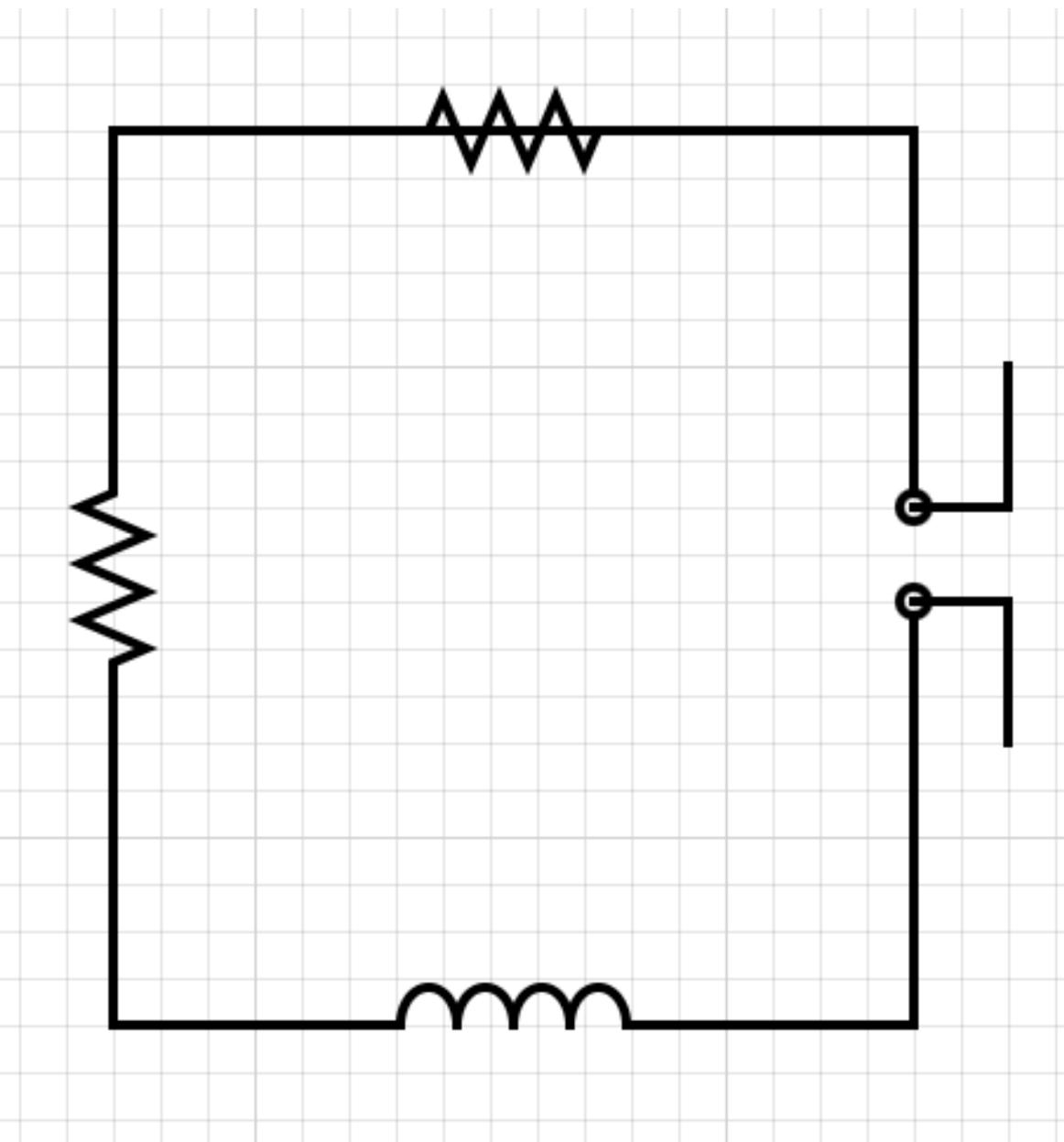
$$P_L = \int d\omega \frac{\omega^2 h^2}{R_L L^2 \left[ (\omega^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 + \omega^2 \Delta\nu^2 \right]} S_E(\omega)$$

$$\omega_0^2 \equiv \frac{1}{C_A L} \quad \Delta\nu \equiv \frac{R_A + R_L}{L}$$



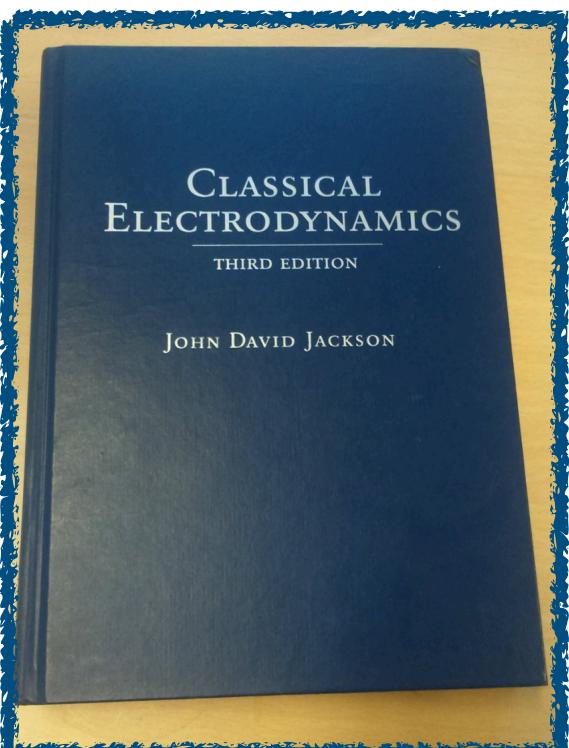
# Antenna

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$$P_L = \int d\omega \frac{\omega^2 h^2}{R_L L^2 \left[ (\omega^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 + \omega^2 \Delta\nu^2 \right]} S_E(\omega)$$

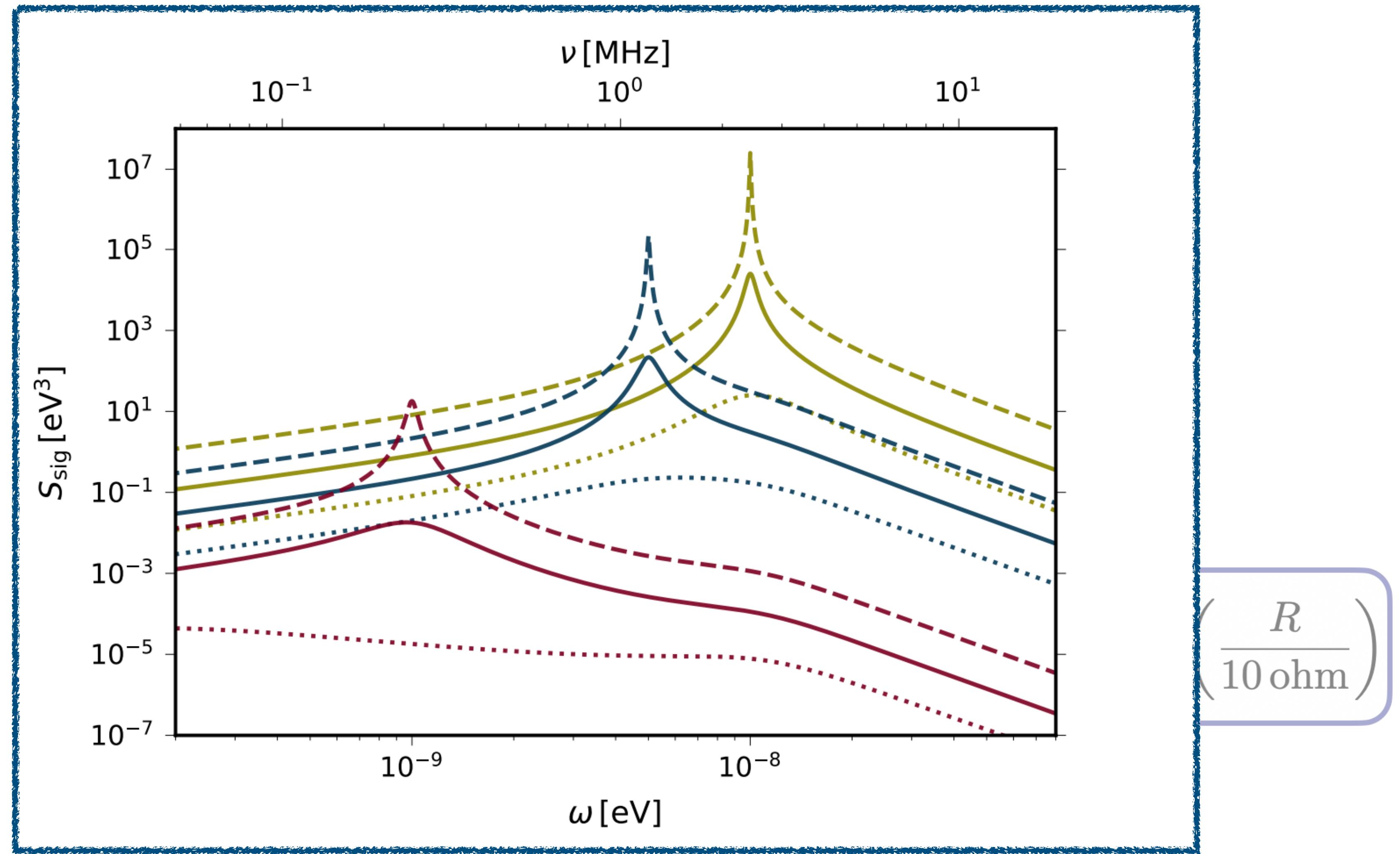
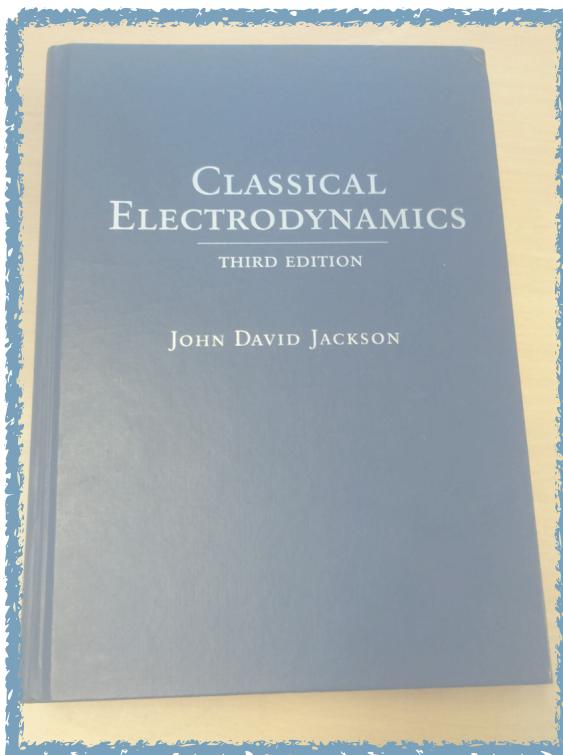
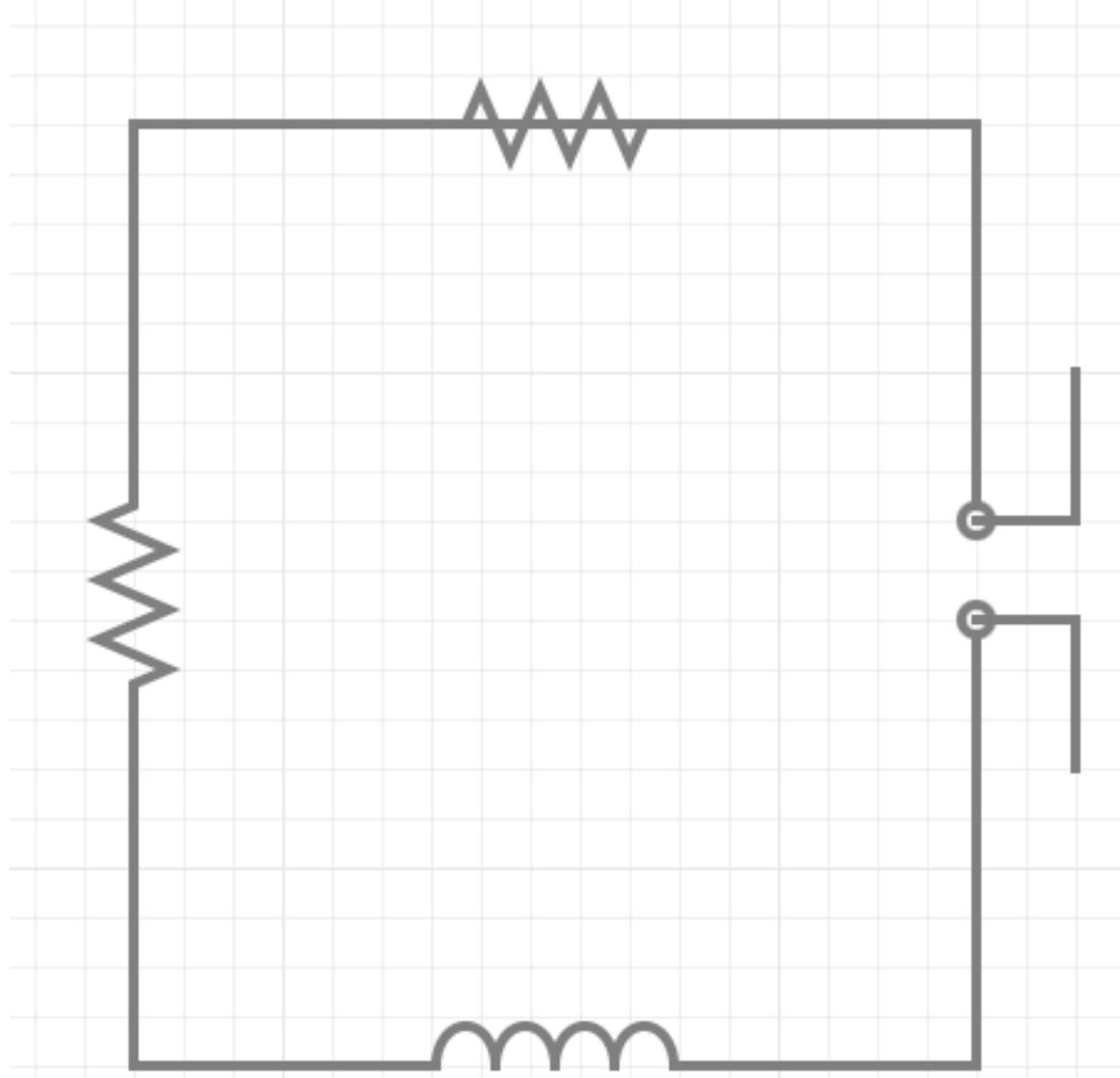
$$\omega_0^2 \equiv \frac{1}{C_A L} \quad \Delta\nu \equiv \frac{R_A + R_L}{L}$$



$$\Delta\nu \sim 10 \text{ kHz} \times \left( \frac{h}{1 \text{ m}} \right) \left( \frac{m_\alpha}{10^{-8}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{R}{10 \text{ ohm}} \right)$$

# Antenna

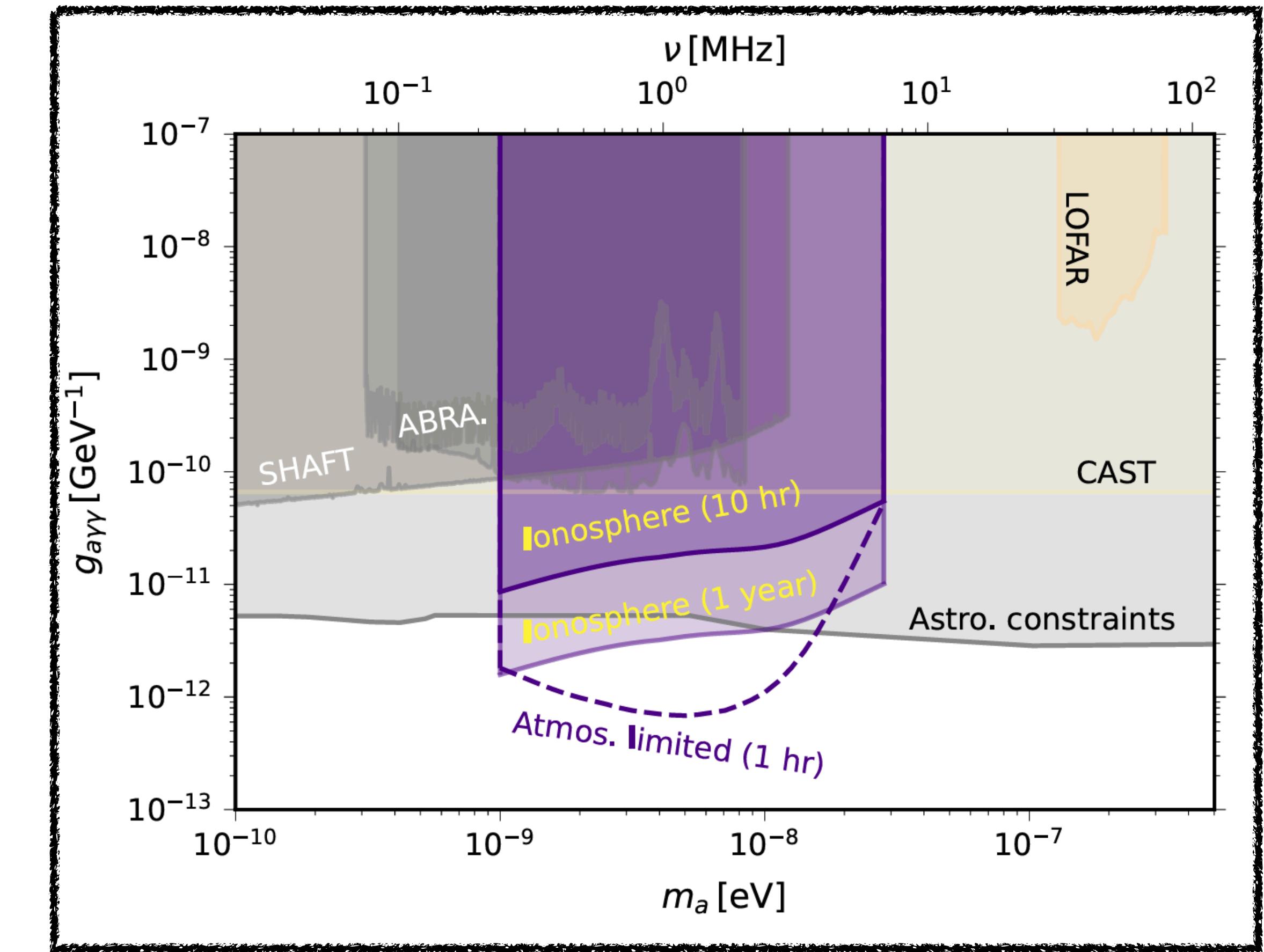
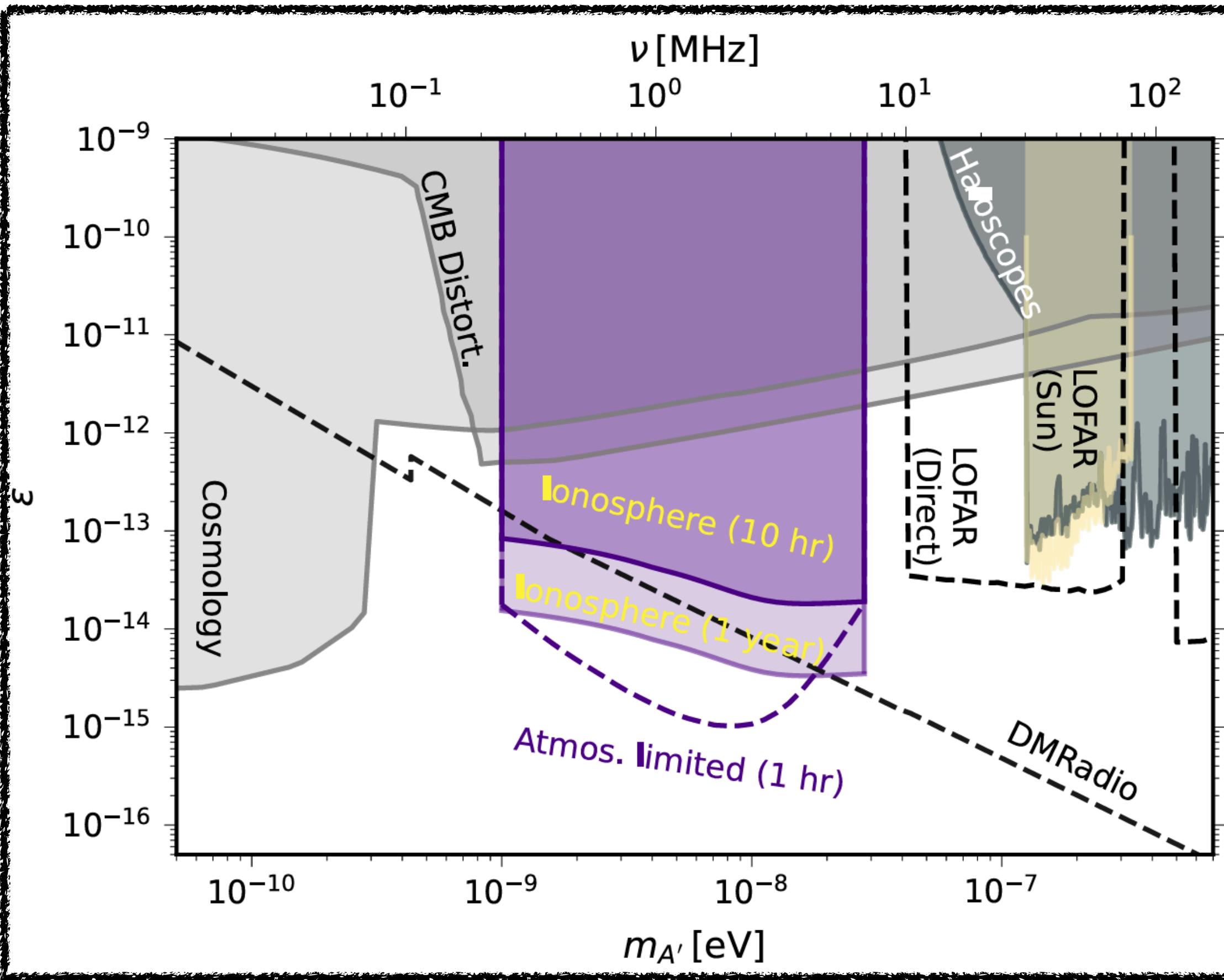
We model a prospective antenna and read-out as a simple RLC-circuit



# Our results

$$\text{SNR}^2 \simeq t_{\text{int}} \int_0^\infty d\nu \left( \frac{\mathcal{S}_{\text{sig}}(\omega)}{\mathcal{S}_n(\omega)} \right)^2$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{sig}}(\omega) \sim \rho_{\text{EM}} f(\omega)$$

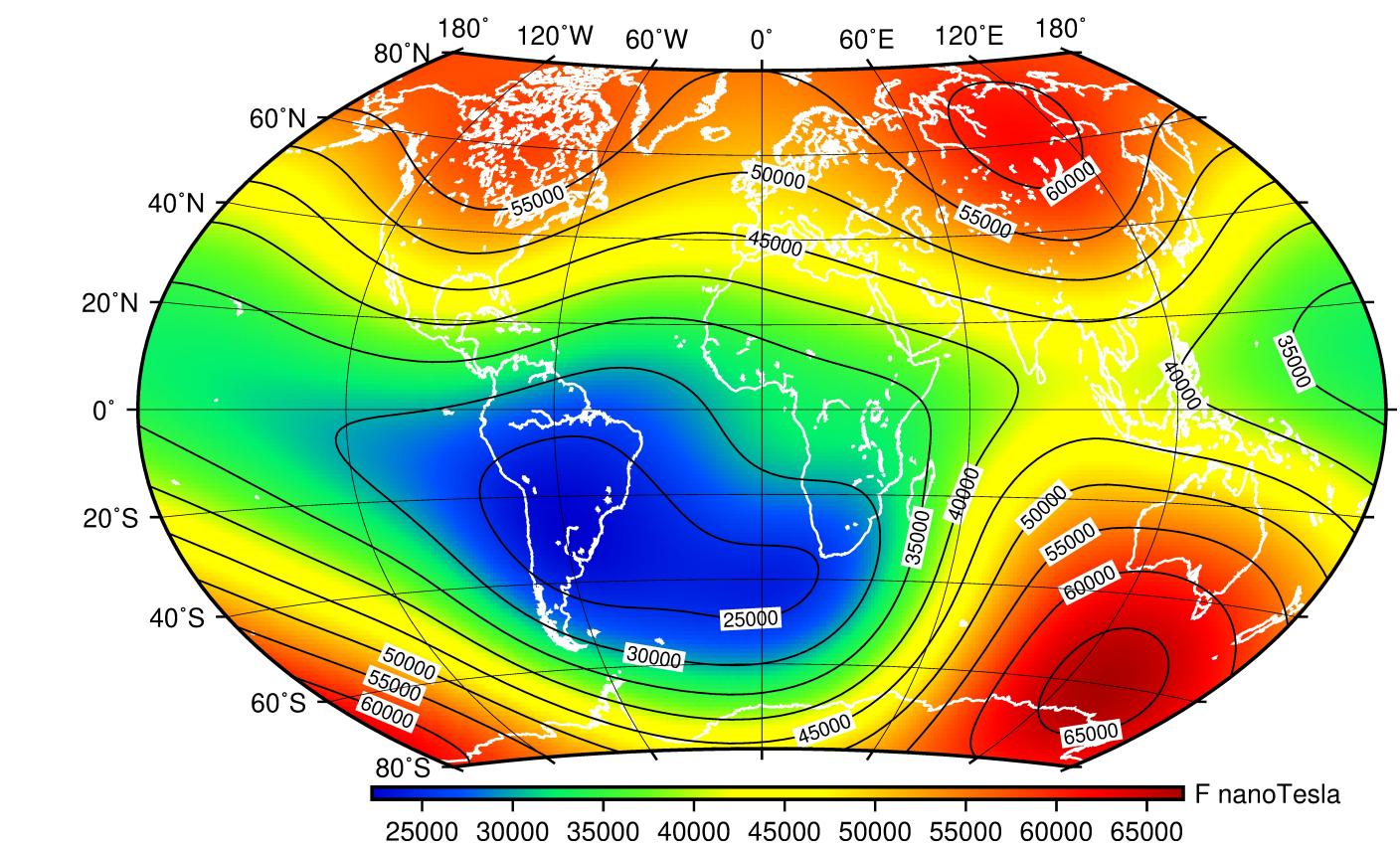
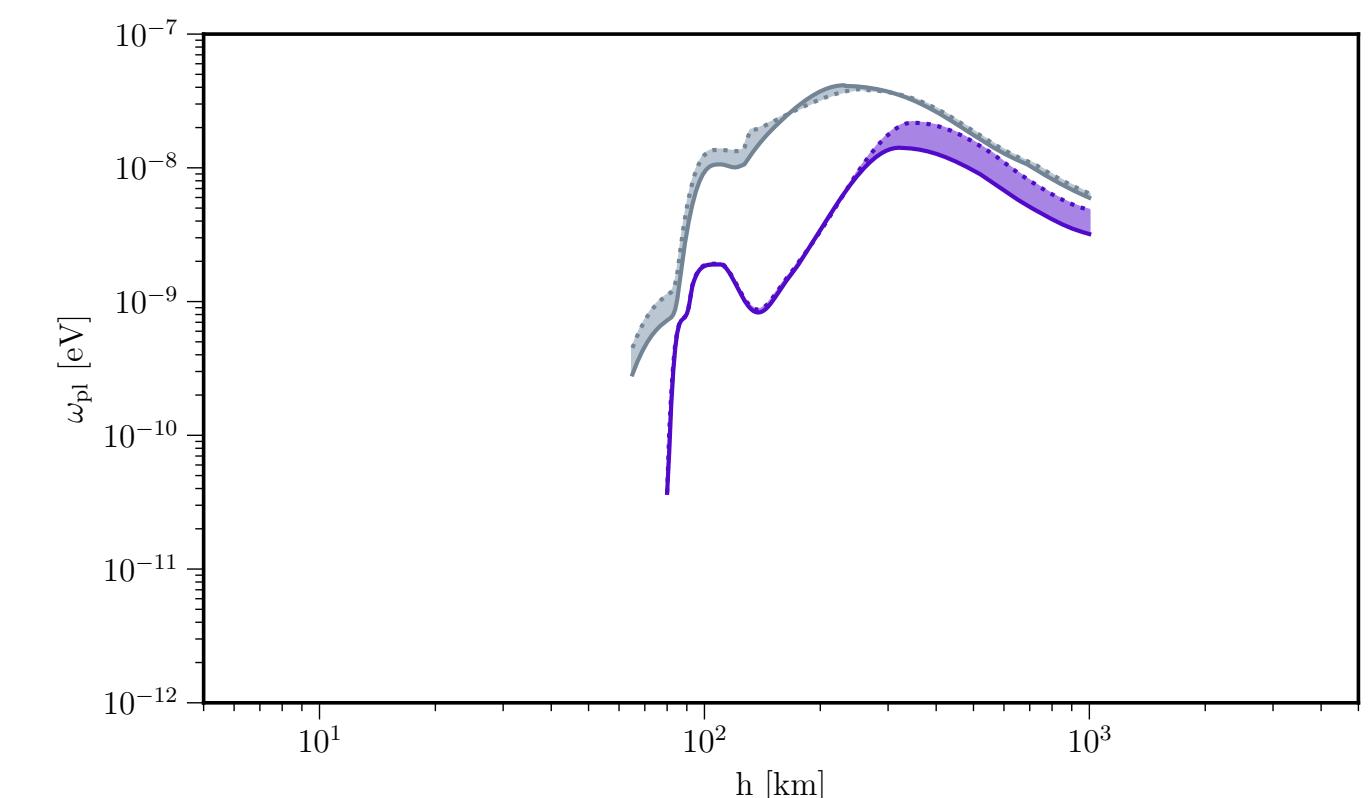


# Next steps

Chapman can be replaced with real ionosphere data

Magnetic field modelling

Accounting for diurnal variation in both plasma and  $\mathbf{B}$



<https://geomag.bgs.ac.uk/education/earthmag.html>

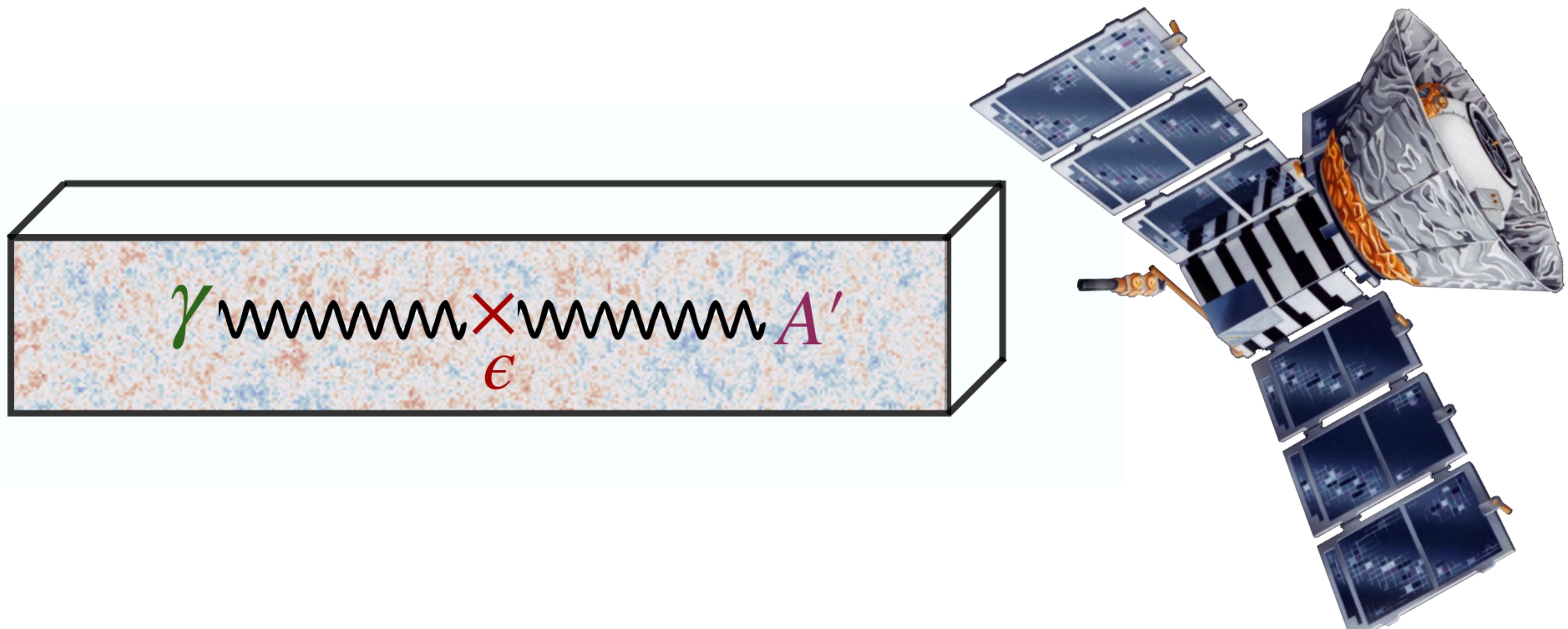
Move on to operate a prototype or use some existing data [McGill and Stanford groups interested]

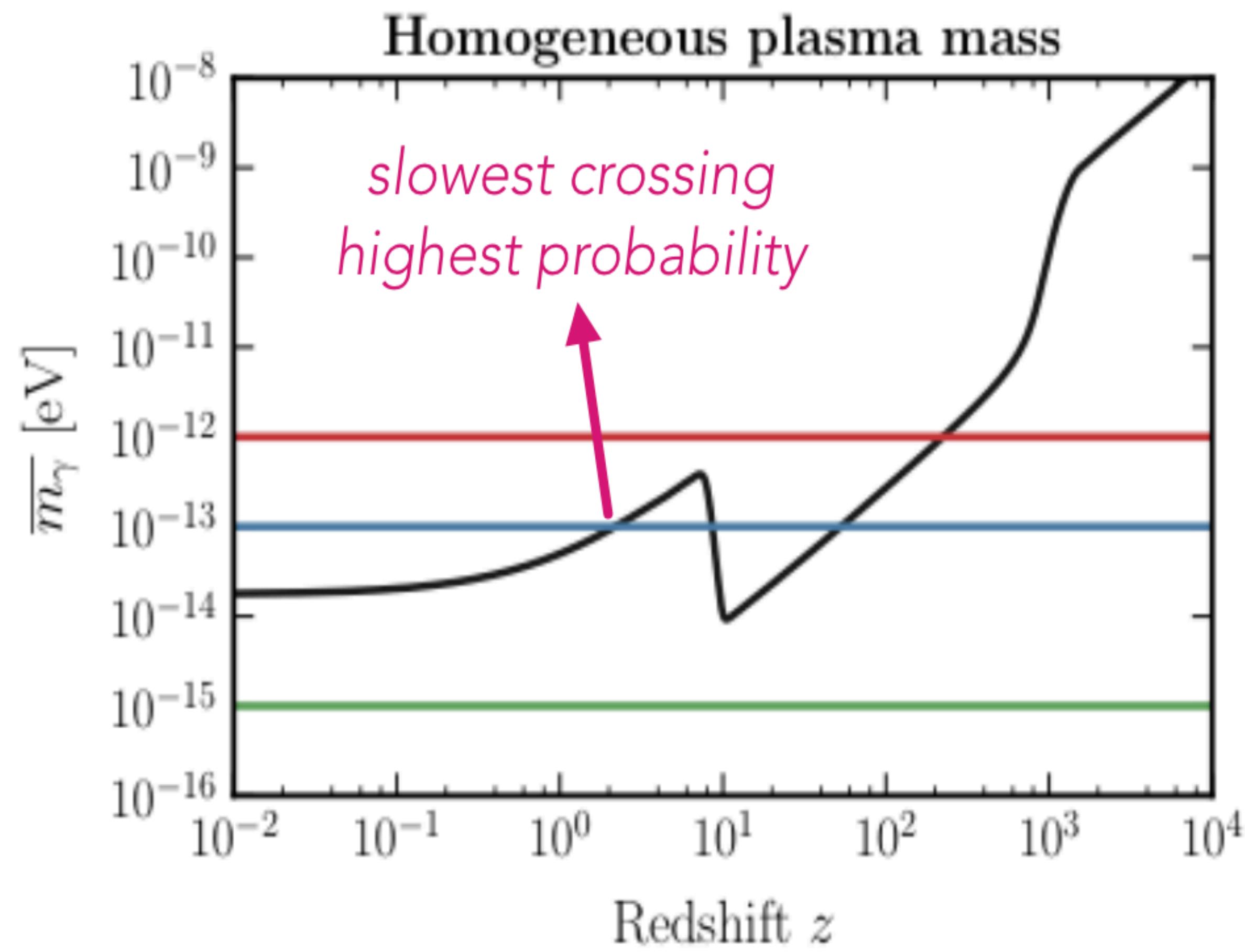
A wide-angle aerial photograph of a coastal town, likely in the Canary Islands. The town is built on a steep, rocky cliff overlooking a deep blue ocean. The buildings are white with colorful roofs, mostly red and orange. In the background, a range of dark, rugged mountains rises against a sky filled with large, white, billowing clouds.

**Gracias!**

**What if Dark Photons [or  
axions] are not dark matter?**

We can use the **inverse process**: instead of dark photons into photons, we can convert photons into dark photons [or axions]

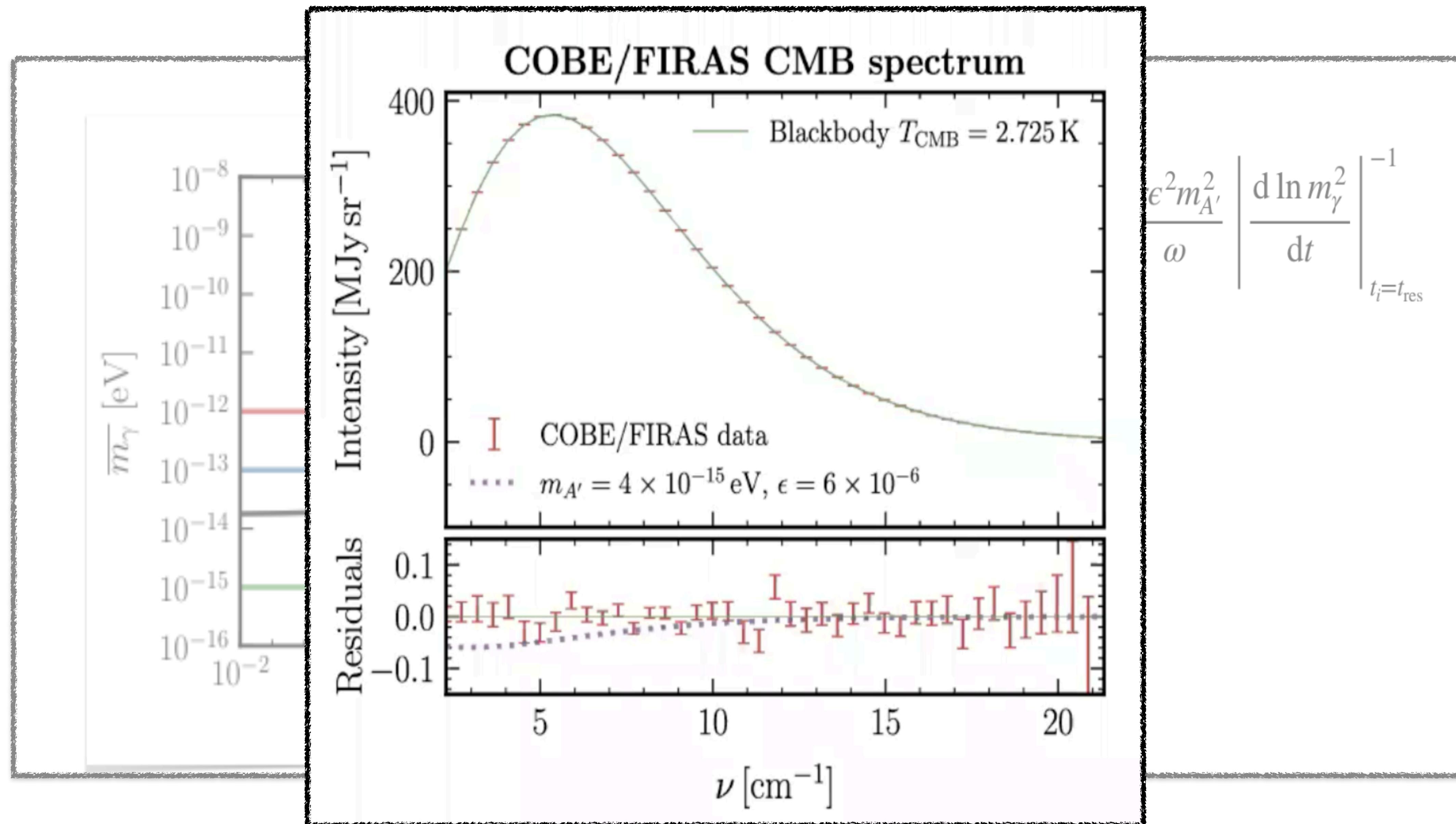




$$P_{\gamma \rightarrow A'} = \sum_i \frac{\pi \epsilon^2 m_{A'}^2}{\omega} \left| \frac{d \ln m_\gamma^2}{dt} \right|_{t_i=t_{\text{res}}}^{-1}$$

1 crossing  
3 crossings

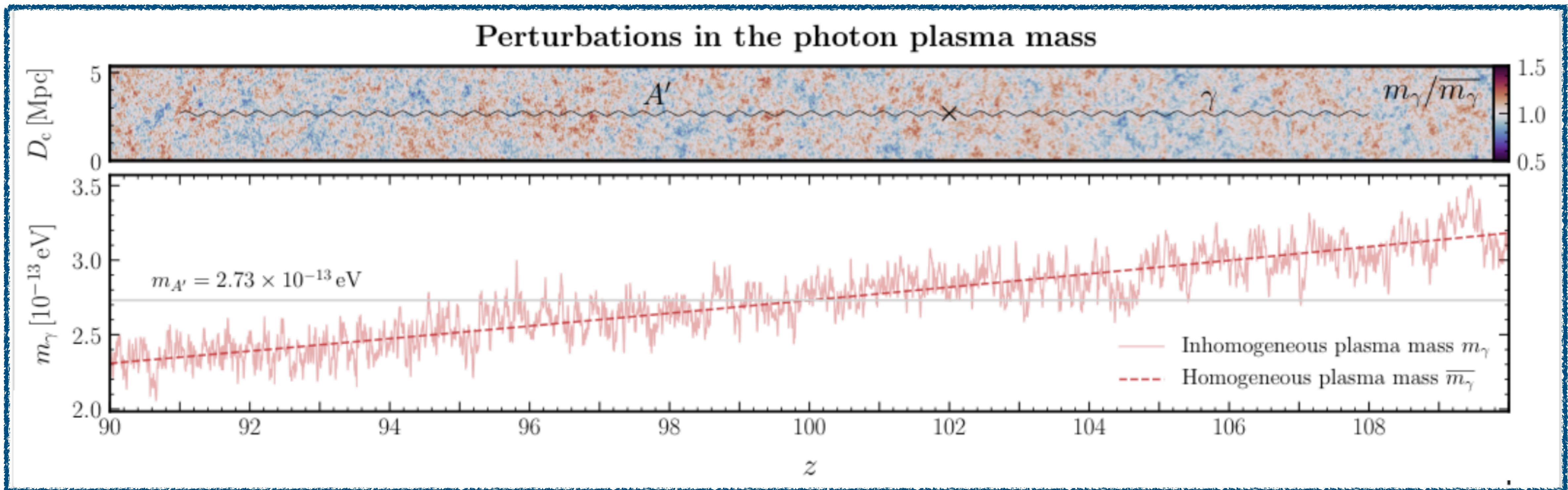
0 crossings



$$\left| \frac{\epsilon^2 m_{A'}^2}{\omega} \frac{d \ln m_\gamma^2}{dt} \right|_{t_i=t_{\text{res}}}^{-1}$$

Use precise spectral measurements to look for new physics!

# We developed a formalism to treat inhomogeneities in the plasma



AC, H. Liu, S. Mishra-Sharma & J. T. Ruderman

Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 (2020) 22, 221303

Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 10, 103533

$$\langle P_{\gamma \rightarrow A'} \rangle = \int dt f(m_\gamma^2 = m_{A'}^2; t) \frac{\pi \epsilon^2 m_{A'}^4}{\omega(t)}$$

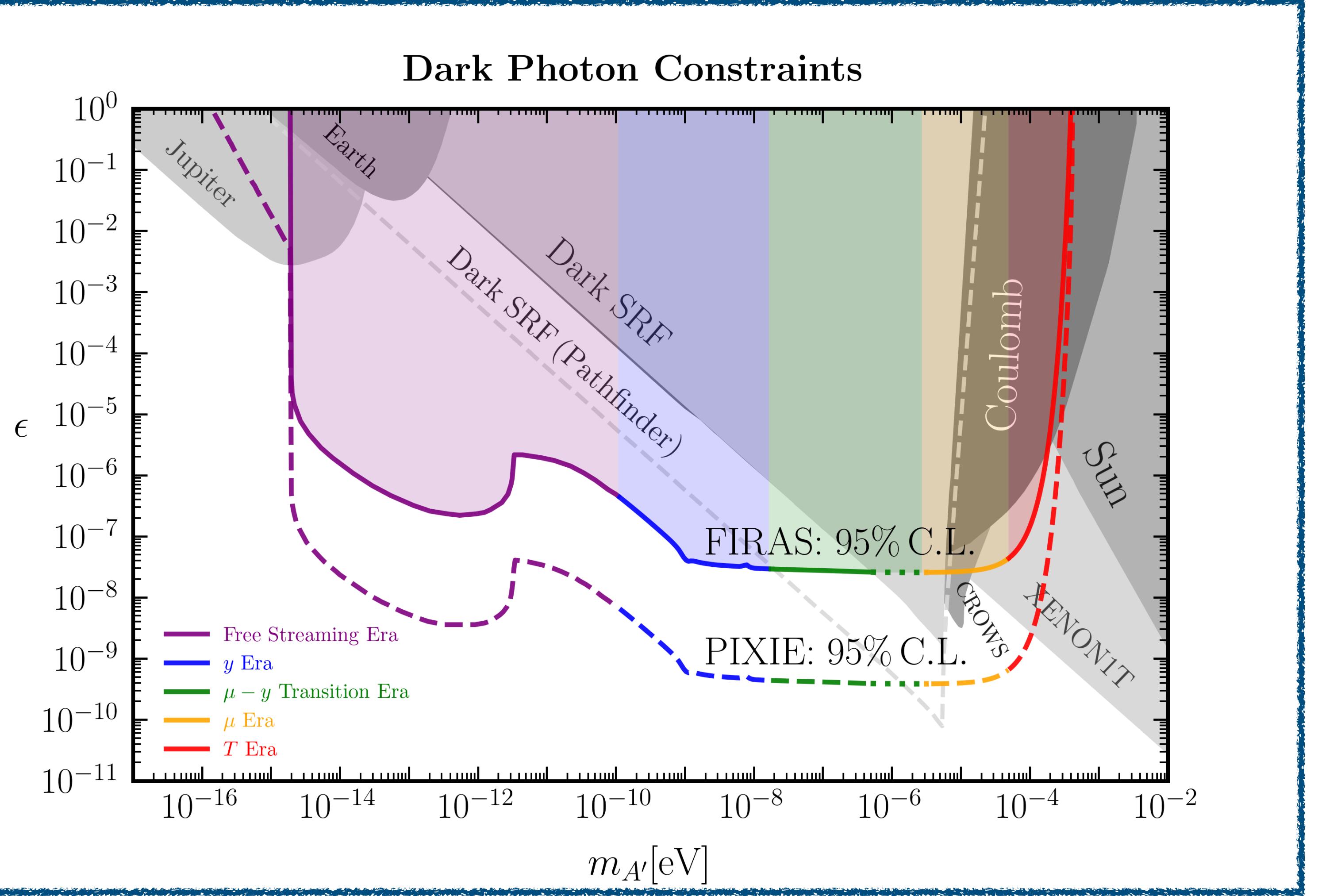
Rice's Formula (1944)

Mathematical Analysis of Random Noise

By S. O. RICE

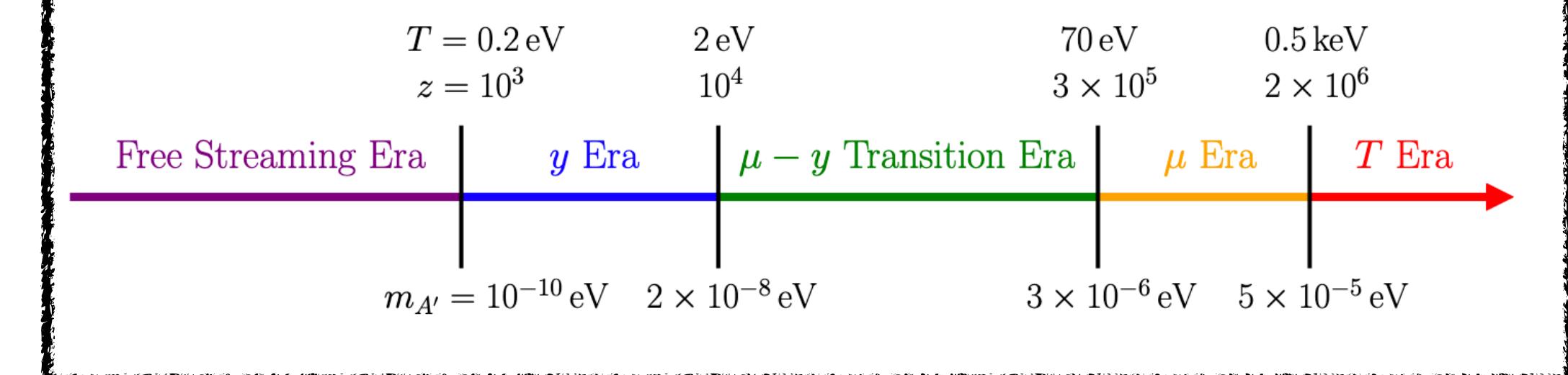
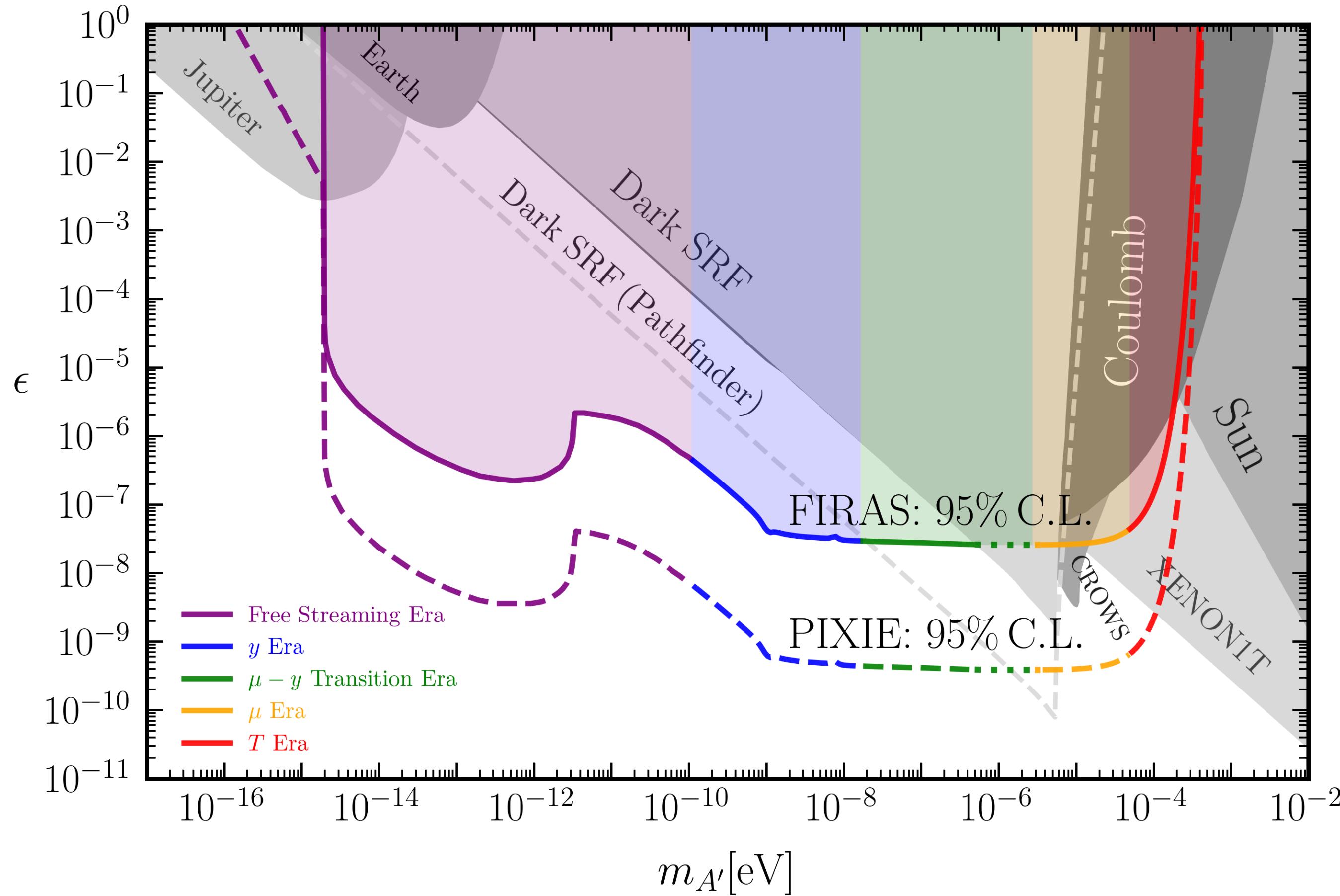
INTRODUCTION

THIS paper deals with the mathematical analysis of noise obtained by passing random noise through physical devices. The random noise



hep-ph/2405.XXXXX, Giorgi Arsenadze, [AC](#), Xucheng Gan,  
Hongwan Liu and Josh Ruderman

## Dark Photon Constraints



Compton Scattering (CS):  $e^- + \gamma \leftrightarrow e^- + \gamma,$

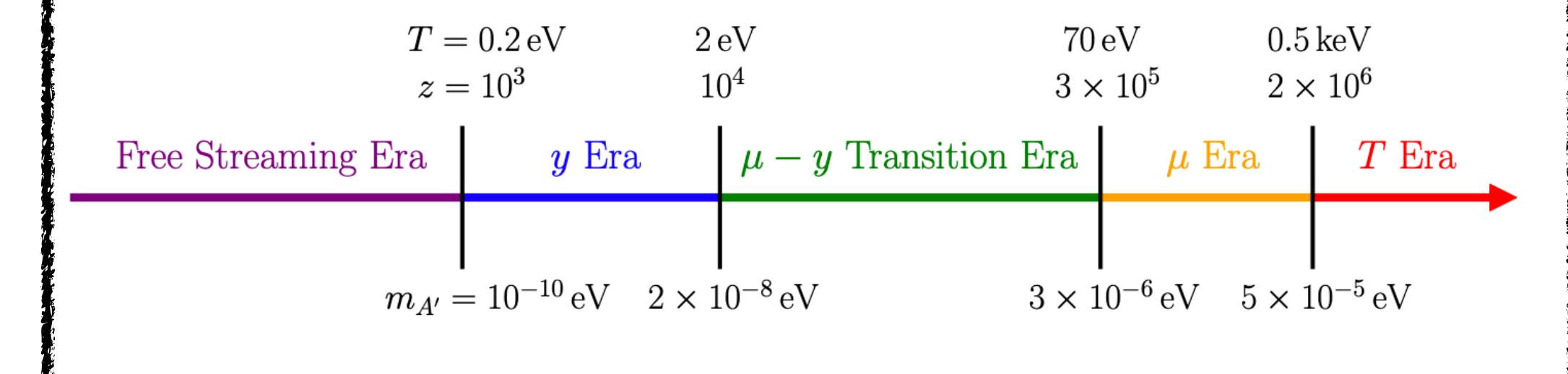
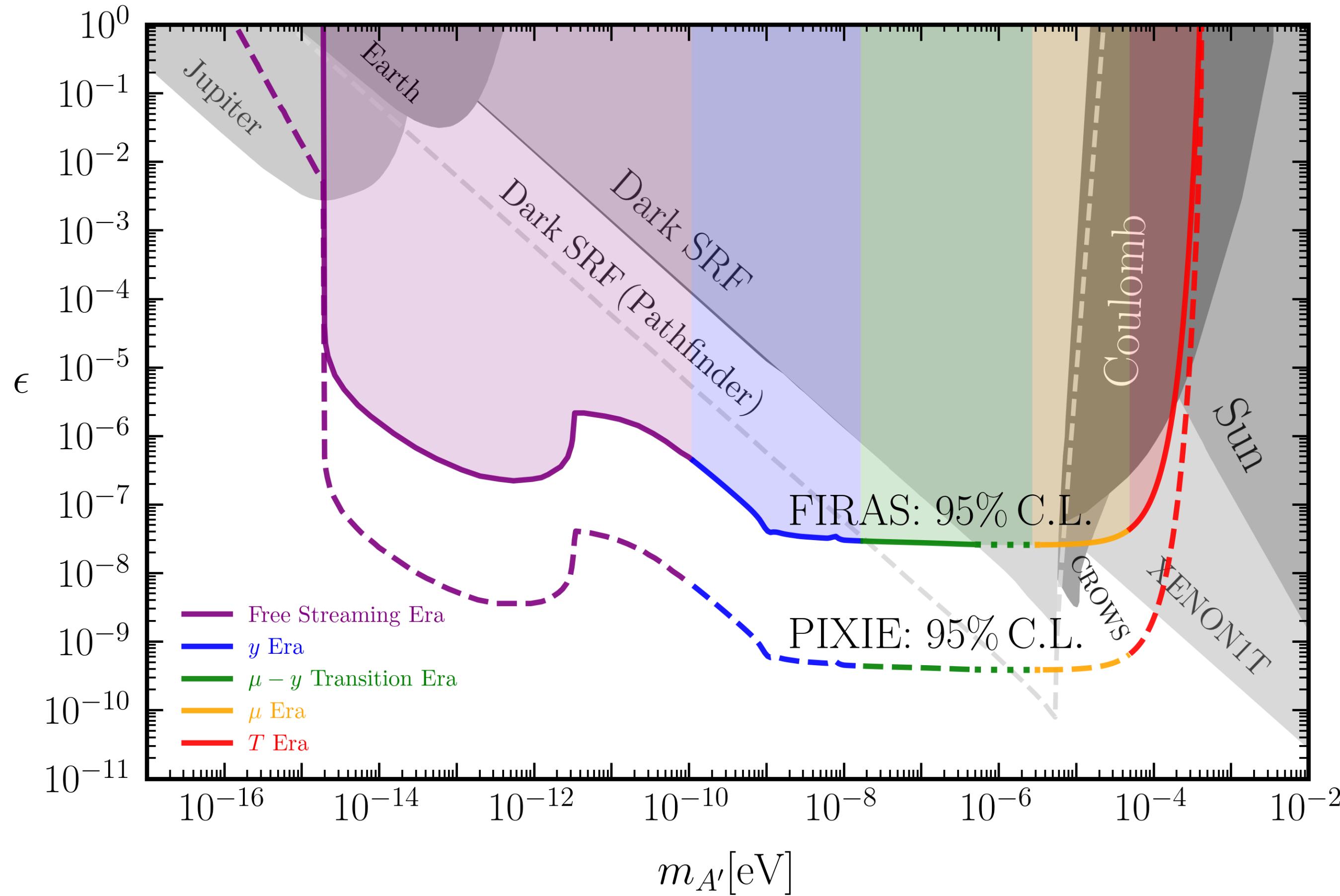
Double Compton Scattering (DCS):  $e^- + \gamma \leftrightarrow e^- + \gamma + \gamma,$

Bremsstrahlung (BR):  $e^- + X \leftrightarrow e^- + X + \gamma.$

The efficiency of these processes determine the type of distortions we can induce

$$f_\gamma(x) = \bar{f}_\gamma(x) + \Delta f_\gamma(x)$$

## Dark Photon Constraints



Compton Scattering (CS):  $e^- + \gamma \leftrightarrow e^- + \gamma,$

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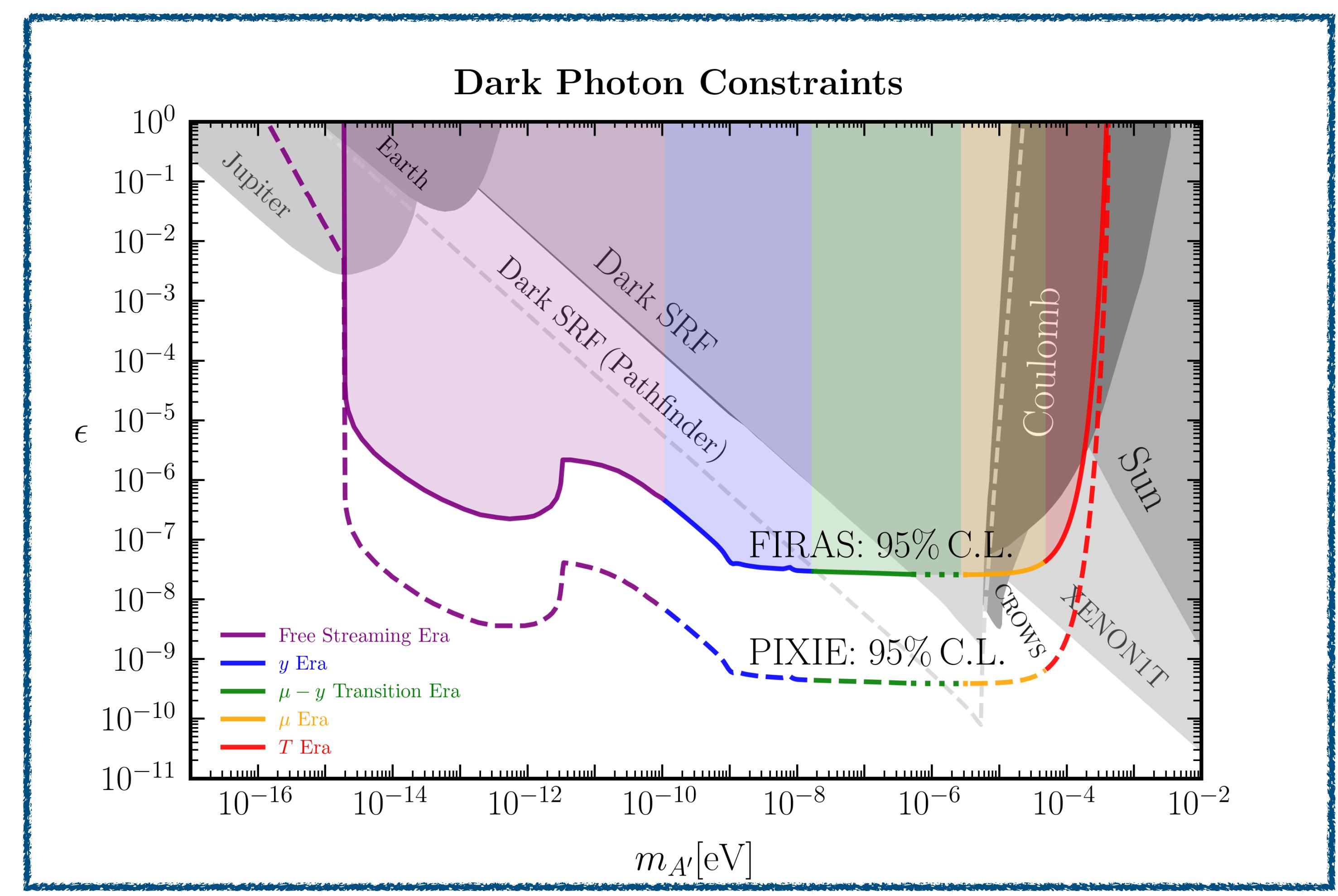
$$f_\gamma(x) = \bar{f}_\gamma(x) + \Delta f_\gamma(x)$$

hep-ph/2405.XXXXX, Giorgi Arsenadze, AC, Xucheng Gan,  
Honwan Liu and Josh Ruderman

**Green's function**

$$I_\gamma(\omega_0; T_0) = \frac{dP_\gamma}{dA d\Omega d\nu_0} = \frac{\omega_0^3}{2\pi^2} f_\gamma(\omega_0, T_0)$$

$$\Delta I_\gamma(x; T_0) = - \int dx' \frac{1}{\bar{n}_\gamma} \frac{d\bar{n}_\gamma}{dx'} P_{\gamma \rightarrow A'} G(x; x', z'_{\text{res}}; T_0)$$



With the intensity variation at hands, we can  
compare our predictions with data

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$$\log \mathcal{L}(\text{data}|m_{A'}, \epsilon) = \max_{T_0} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} [\Delta \mathbf{I}_\gamma(m_{A'}, \epsilon; T_0) - \mathbf{R}]^T \cdot \mathbf{C}^{-1} \cdot [\Delta \mathbf{I}_\gamma(m_{A'}, \epsilon; T_0) - \mathbf{R}] \right\}$$

$$\text{TS}(m_{A'}, \epsilon) = 2 \left[ \log \mathcal{L}(\text{data}|m_{A'}, \epsilon) - \min_\epsilon \log \mathcal{L}(\text{data}|m_{A'}, \epsilon) \right]$$

The Cosmic Microwave Background Spectrum from the Full  
*COBE\** FIRAS Data Set

D. J. Fixsen<sup>1</sup>, E. S. Cheng<sup>2</sup>, J. M. Gales<sup>1</sup>, J. C. Mather<sup>2</sup>, R. A. Shafer<sup>2</sup>, and E. L. Wright<sup>3</sup>

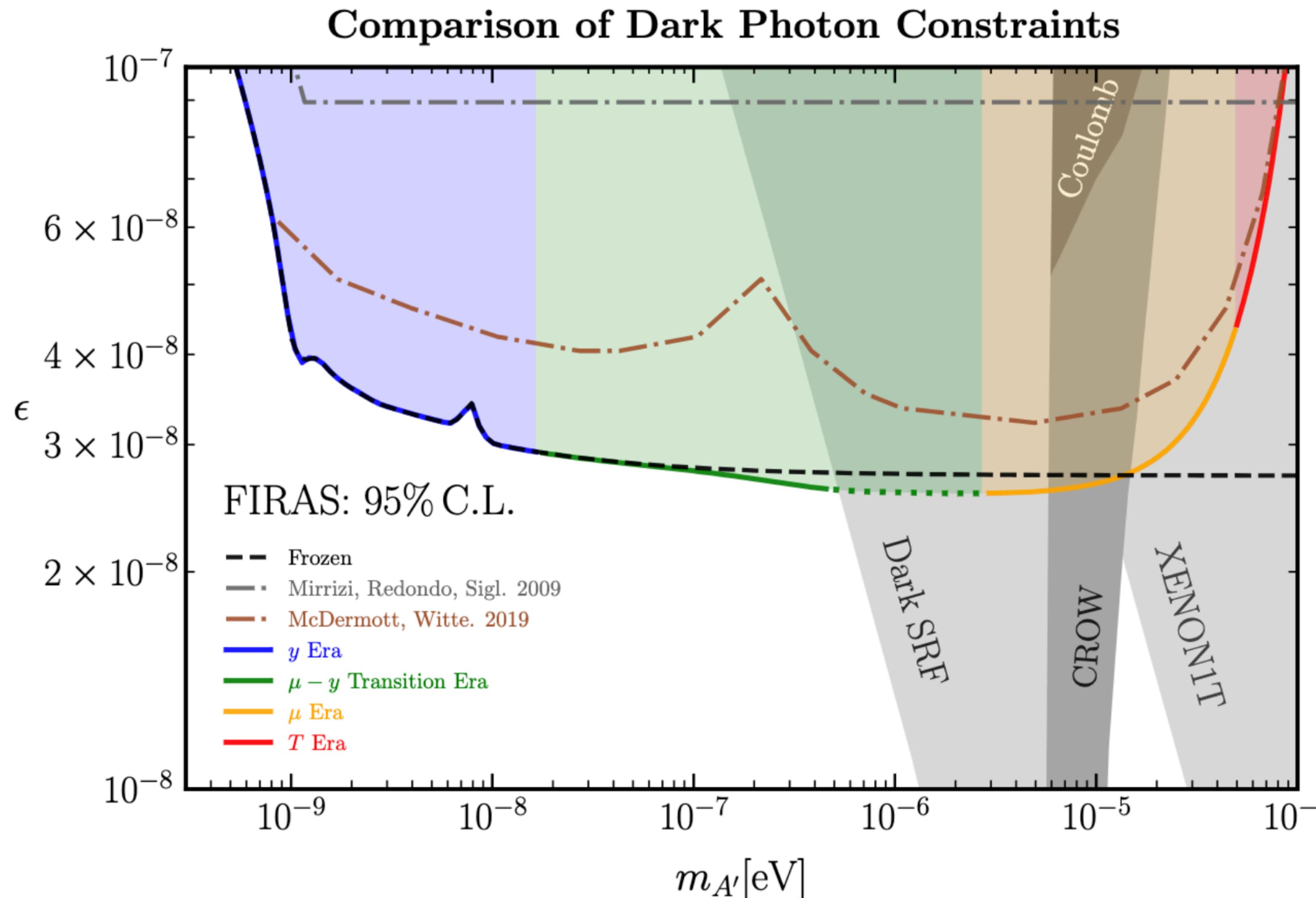
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[The Astrophysical Journal, Volume 473, Number 2](#)

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We are not the first ones to do this analysis, but  
the most accurate up to date



# Possible future directions

Axion case, modelling [possible] extra-galactic magnetic fields

Look at anisotropies and use cross-correlation with other maps  
[see also McCarthy et al. (2024), Pirvu et al. (2023)]

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