

Celestial bodies as WIMPs detectors

Stefano Scopel



Based on:

S. Kang, A. Kar, S.S., "*Halo-independent bounds on the non-relativistic effective theory of WIMP-nucleon scattering from direct detection and neutrino observations*", JCAP 03 (2023), 011 (2212.05774)

S. Kang, A. Kar, S.S., "*Halo-independent bounds on Inelastic Dark Matter*", JCAP 11 (2023), 077 (2308.13203)

A. Biswas, A. Kar, H. Kim, S.S., L. Velasco-Sevilla, "*Improved white dwarves constraints on inelastic dark matter and left-right symmetric models*", Phys.Rev.D 106 of (2022) 8, 083012 (2206.06667)

A. Kar, H. Kim, S. P. Kim, S.S., "*WIMP constraints from black hole low--mass X-ray binaries*", JCAP 03 (2024) 030 (2311.16539)

K. Choi, I. Jeong, S.Kang, A. Kar and S.S., "*Sensitivity WIMP bounds on the velocity distribution in the limit of a massless mediator*", JCAP 01 (2025) 007 (2408.09658)



2025 CAU-IBS Beyond the Standard Model Workshop

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Chung-Ang University

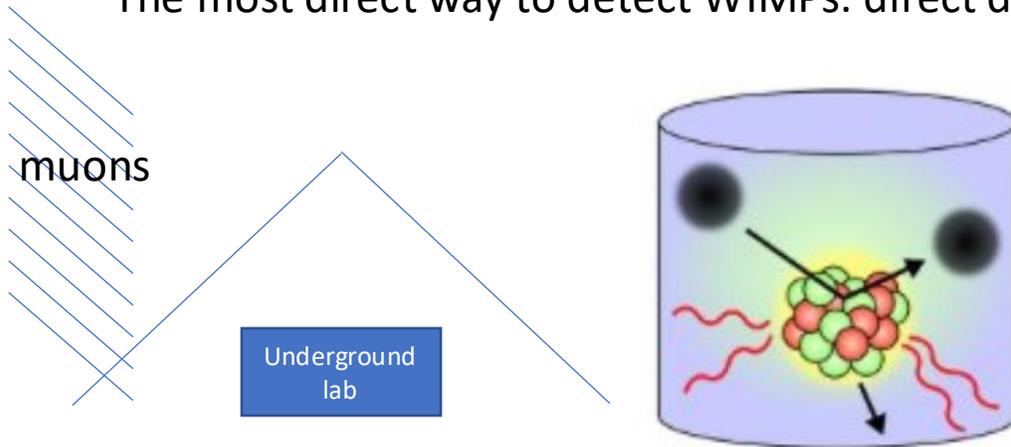
The visible part of Galaxies (including ours) is strongly believed to be embedded in a halo of invisible Dark Matter particles (the only alternative: modify gravity)

WIMPS (Weakly Interacting Massive Particles) are the most popular Dark Matter candidates (but many other possibilities...):

- $\text{few GeV} < \text{WIMP mass} < \text{few TeV}$
- No electric charge, no colour
- Weak-type interactions with ordinary matter keep WIMPS in thermal equilibrium in the early Universe and can provide the correct relic abundance through thermal decoupling (“WIMP miracle”)



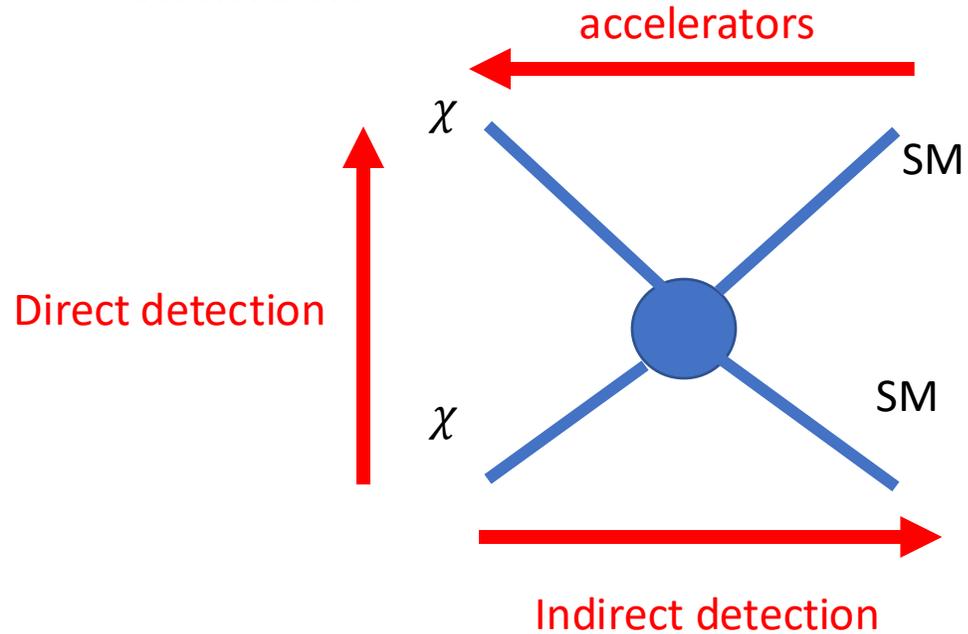
The most direct way to detect WIMPs: direct detection of its interaction with ordinary matter (it's all in the name!)



Measure nuclear recoil ($\sim \text{keV}$ range) from WIMP-nucleus elastic scattering in ionizator, scintillator, bolometer, bubble chamber, etc.

WIMP searches:

- Direct detection
- Indirect detection
- accelerators

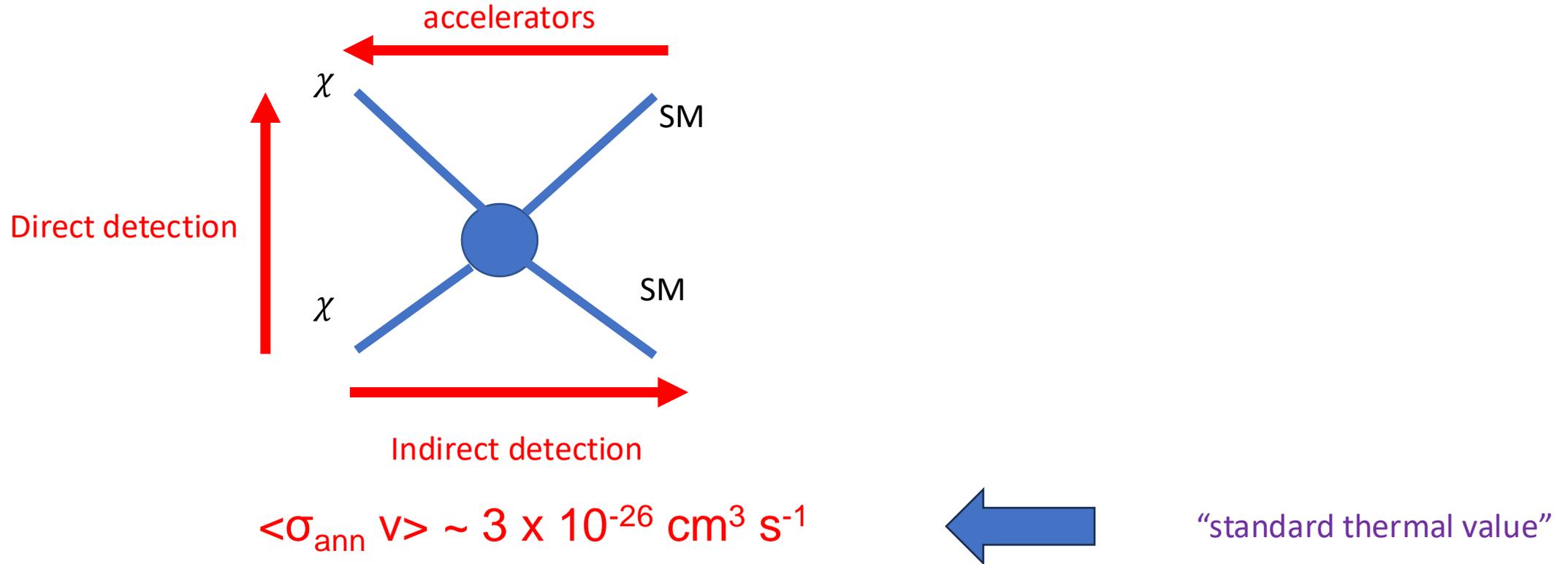


Indirect detection:

- WIMP annihilation to photons/neutrinos/antiprotons/positrons in the halo of our Galaxy
- Enhanced wherever the DM density is large (e.g. Galactic Center)
- Celestial bodies can accumulate WIMPs in their interior through their gravitational potential

WIMP searches:

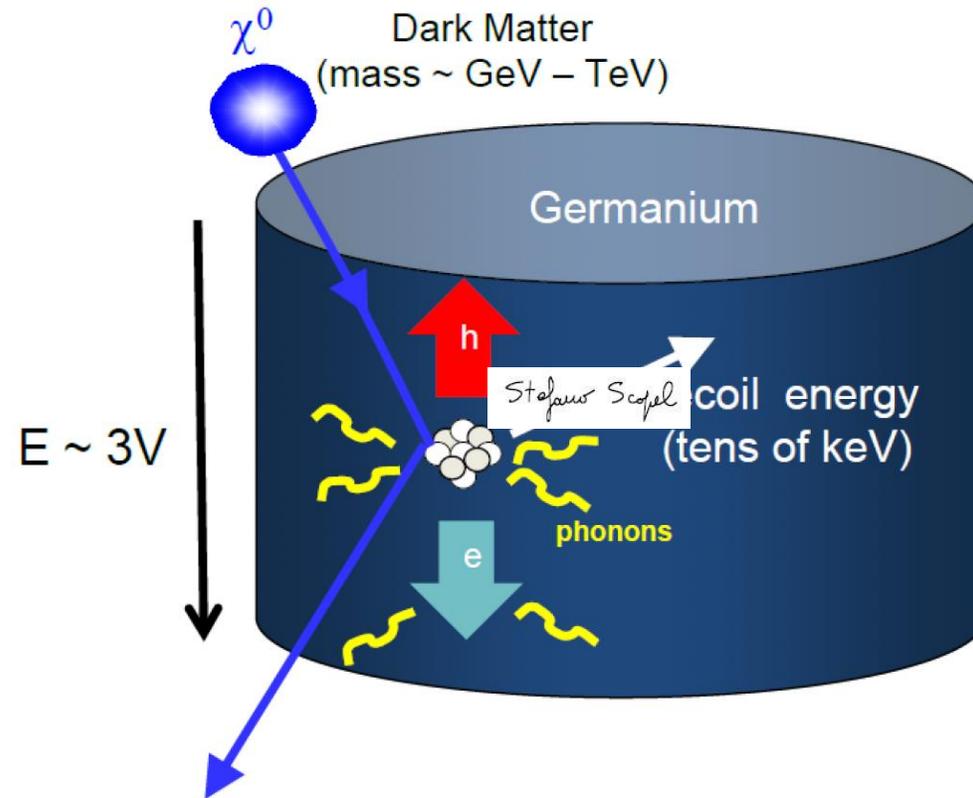
- Direct detection
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Indirect detection:

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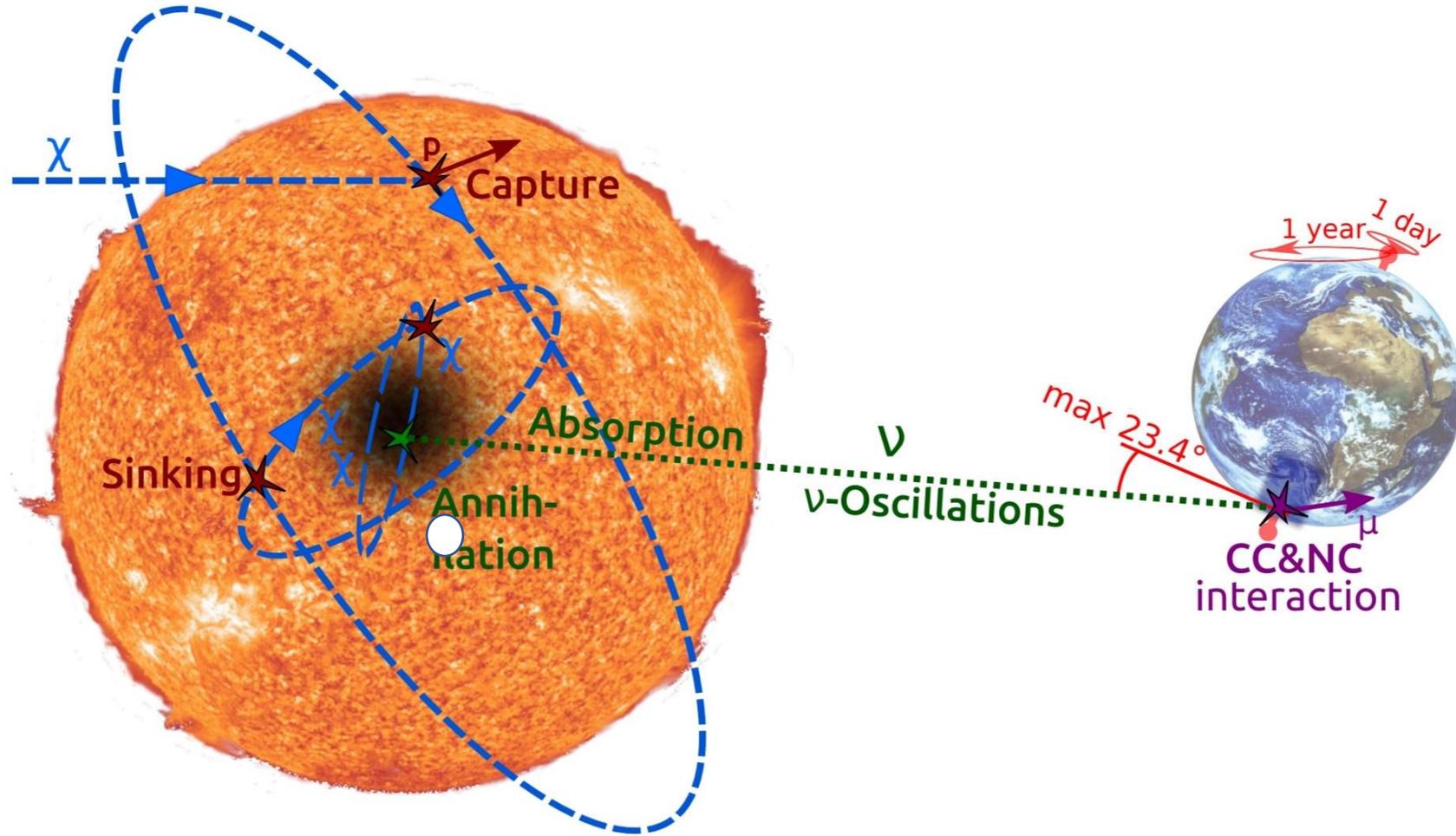
WIMP direct detection



Incoming WIMP non-relativistic ($v \sim 10^{-3} c$) \rightarrow nuclear recoil energy in the keV range

Indirect detection: enhanced wherever the density is high

EXAMPLE: WIMP capture in the Sun

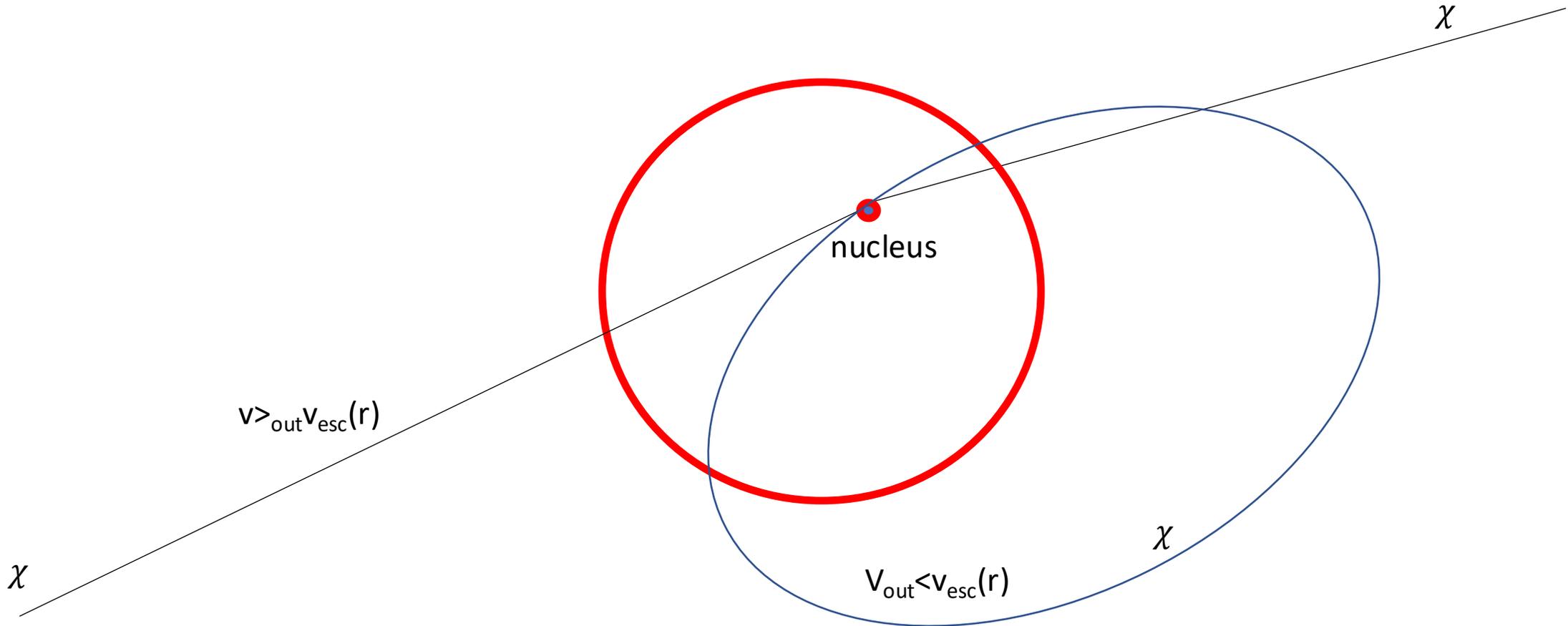


Only neutrinos can escape -> up-going muons detected on Earth by Cherenkov detectors (Super-K, IceCube)

NB: same WIMP-nucleus scattering process entering direct detection

Capture mechanism:

- WIMP scatters off nucleus at distance r inside celestial body (same interaction probed by Direct Detection)
- If its outgoing speed v_{out} is below the escape velocity $v_{\text{esc}}(r)$ gets locked into gravitationally bound orbit
- Keeps scattering again and again until it settles down in the stellar core



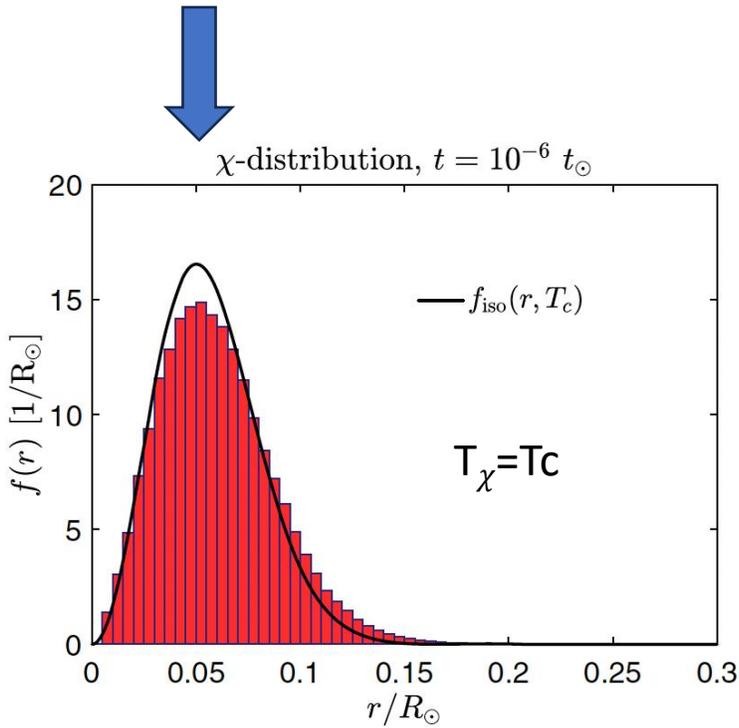
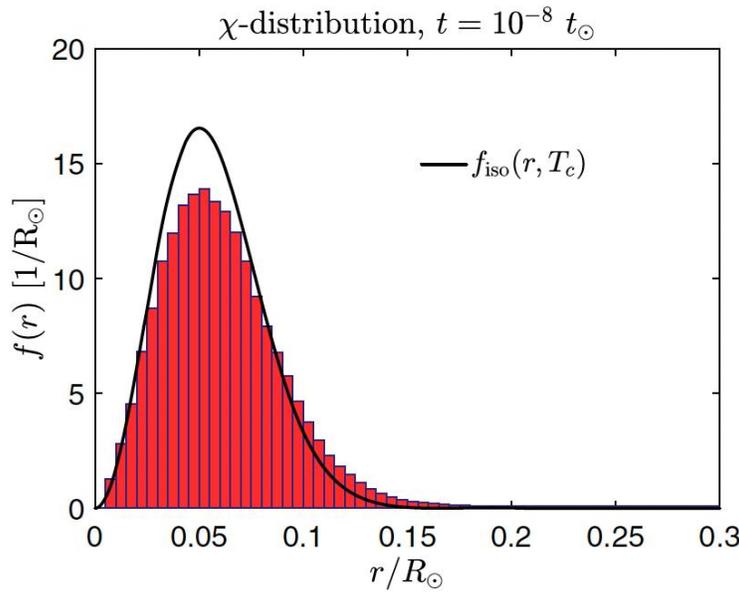
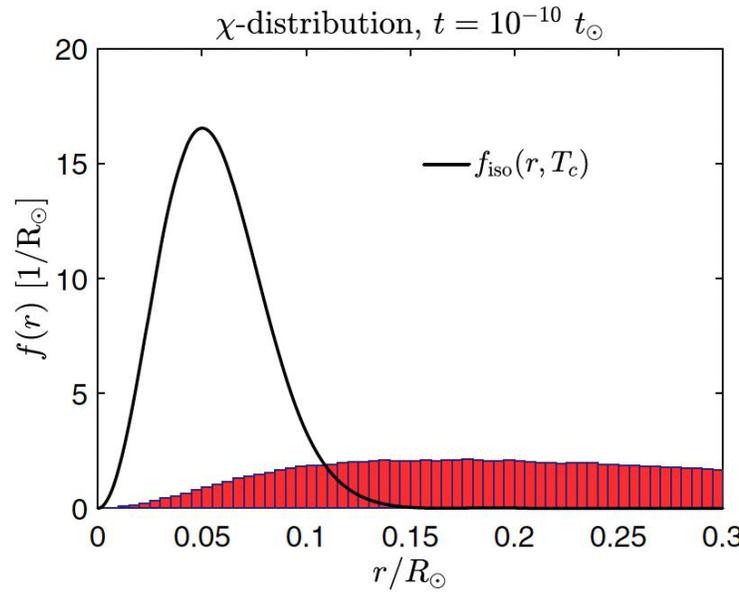
Thermalization of Dark Matter within the Sun: confirmed by numerical simulations

$$n_{\chi}(r) = n_0 e^{-m_{\chi} \phi(r) / T_c}$$

T_c = central Sun temperature

WIMP distribution at central temperature of the Sun

N.B. : WIMP-nuclei elastic scattering



M. Blenow, S. Clementz, J. Herrero-Garcia, Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78, arXiv:1802.06880

very high density of WIMPs localized at the center of the Sun → enhanced annihilation signal

Halo-independent bounds

The WIMP direct detection signal can be written in the form:

$$R_{\text{DD}} = \int_0^{u_{\text{max}}} du f(u) H_{\text{DD}}(u)$$

velocity distribution  response function

if:

$$H_{\text{DD}}(u) = c^2 \tilde{H}_{\text{DD}}(u)$$

is it possible to get a bound on the coupling for any velocity distribution $f(u)$ with the only condition:

$$\int_{u=0}^{\infty} f(u) du = 1 \quad ?$$

NO

Due to the energy threshold **WIMP direct detection alone does not probe the full velocity range of the velocity distribution** → combine with capture in the Sun (F. Ferrer, A. Ibarra, S. Wild, JCAP 09 (2015), 052, [1506.03386])

Also in this case:

$$C_{\odot} = \int_0^{\infty} du f(u) H_C(u) \quad H_C(u) = c^2 \tilde{H}_C(u)$$

The velocity range probed by capture is complementary to direct detection

writing:

$$H(c_i^2, u) = c_i^2 H(c_i = 1, u)$$

an experimental upper bound implies:

$$R(c_i^2) = \int_0^{u_{\max}} du f(u) \frac{c_i^2}{c_{i \max}^2(u)} H(c_{i \max}^2(u), u) = \int_0^{u_{\max}} du f(u) \frac{c_i^2}{c_{i \max}^2(u)} R_{\max} \leq R_{\max}$$

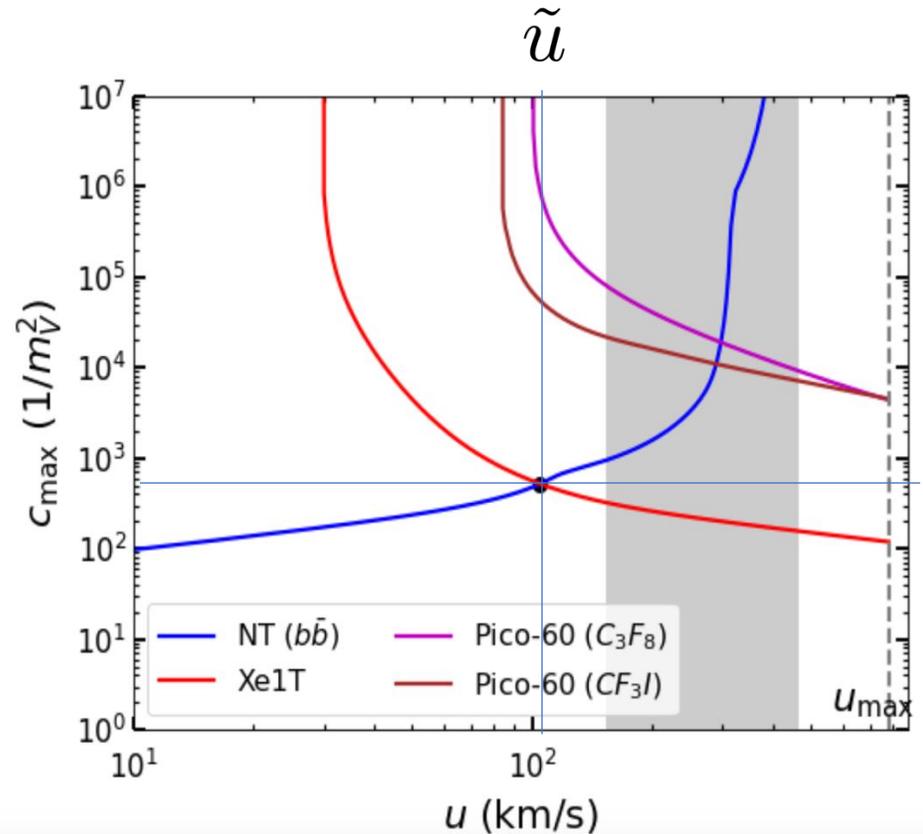
with:

$$H(c_{i \max}^2(u), u) = c_{i \max}^2(u) H(c_i = 1, u) = R_{\max}$$

one gets the upper bound on c_i^2 :

$$c_i^2 \leq \left[\int_0^{u_{\max}} du \frac{f(u)}{c_{i \max}^2(u)} \right]^{-1}$$

$c_{i \max}(u)$ is a function of u that can be bounded combining DD and Capture in the sun:



$$c_{i \max}(u) \leq c_*$$

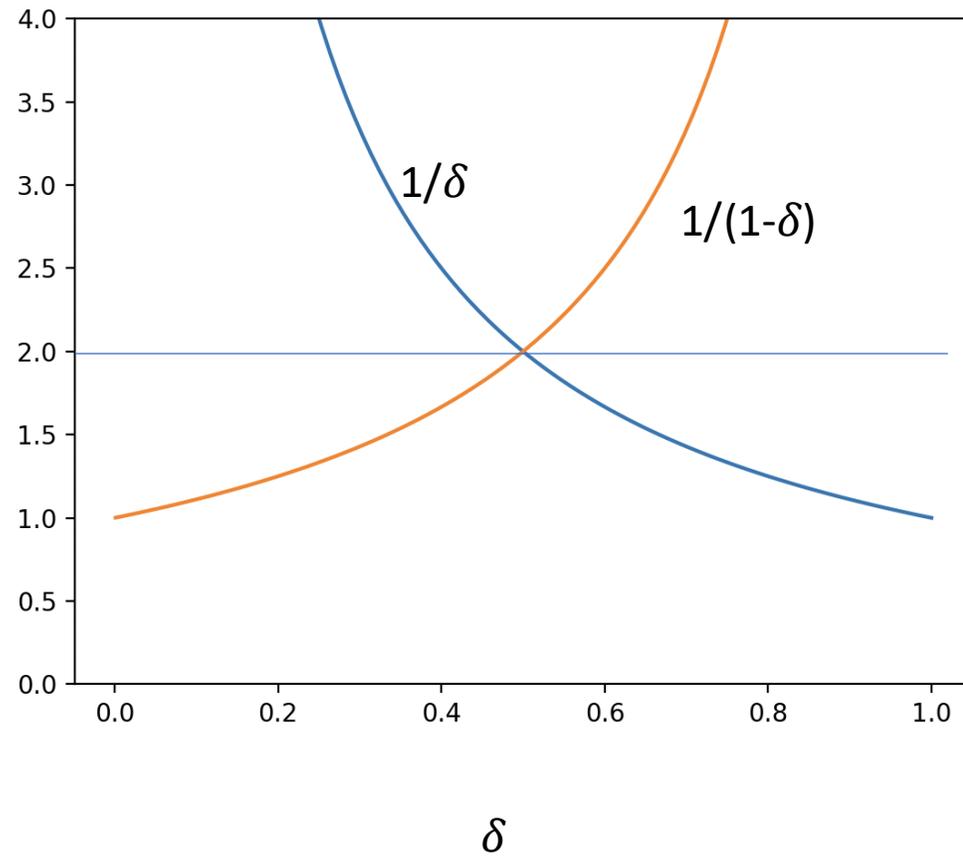
now c^* can be pulled out from the rate formula:

$$c^2 \leq c_*^2 \left[\int_0^{\tilde{u}} du f(u) \right]^{-1} = \frac{c_*^2}{\delta},$$

$$c^2 \leq c_*^2 \left[\int_{\tilde{u}}^{u_{\max}} du f(u) \right]^{-1} = \frac{c_*^2}{1 - \delta}.$$

with

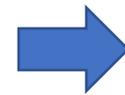
$$\delta \equiv \int_0^{\tilde{u}} f(u) du$$



$$\max(1/\delta, 1/(1-\delta))=2$$

$$c^2 \leq c_*^2 \left[\int_0^{\tilde{u}} du f(u) \right]^{-1} = \frac{c_*^2}{\delta},$$

$$c^2 \leq c_*^2 \left[\int_{\tilde{u}}^{u_{\max}} du f(u) \right]^{-1} = \frac{c_*^2}{1-\delta}.$$



$$c \leq 2c_*$$

Sensitivity of WIMP bounds on the
velocity distribution in the limit of a
massless mediator

(K. Choi, I. Jeong, S.Kang, A. Kar and S.S., JCAP 01
(2025) 007, 2408.09658)

Assume effective Hamiltonian for Spin Independent and Spin Dependent interactions + a massless mediator

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\tau=0,1} \left(\frac{\alpha_{\text{SI}}^{\tau}}{q^2 + M_0^2} 1_{\chi} 1_N t^{\tau} + \frac{\alpha_{\text{SD}}^{\tau}}{q^2 + M_0^2} \vec{S}_{\chi} \cdot \vec{S}_N t^{\tau} \right) \quad \begin{aligned} \alpha_j^0 &= \alpha_j^p + \alpha_j^n \\ \alpha_j^1 &= \alpha_j^p - \alpha_j^n \end{aligned}$$

The usual case is recovered when $M_0 \gg q$:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{M_0 \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha_{\text{SI}}^{\tau}}{q^2 + M_0^2} &\rightarrow \frac{\alpha_{\text{SI}}^{\tau}}{M_0^2} \equiv c_{\text{SI}}^{\tau} \\ \lim_{M_0 \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha_{\text{SD}}^{\tau}}{q^2 + M_0^2} &\rightarrow \frac{\alpha_{\text{SD}}^{\tau}}{M_0^2} \equiv c_{\text{SD}}^{\tau} \end{aligned}$$

WIMP-nucleus cross section in the limit $M_0 \rightarrow 0$:

$$\frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_R}(q^2) = \frac{2m_T}{4\pi w^2} \left[\frac{1}{2j_{\chi} + 1} \frac{1}{2j_T + 1} |\mathcal{M}_T(q^2)|^2 \right]$$

with scattering amplitude:

$$\frac{1}{2j_{\chi} + 1} \frac{1}{2j_T + 1} |\mathcal{M}_T(q^2)|^2 = \frac{4\pi}{2j_T + 1} \sum_{\tau, \tau'=0,1} \left\{ \frac{\alpha_{\text{SI}}^{\tau} \alpha_{\text{SI}}^{\tau'}}{q^4} W_{TM}^{\tau\tau'}(q) + \frac{j_{\chi}(j_{\chi} + 1)}{12} \frac{\alpha_{\text{SD}}^{\tau} \alpha_{\text{SD}}^{\tau'}}{q^4} \left[W_{T\Sigma'}^{\tau\tau'}(q) + W_{T\Sigma''}^{\tau\tau'}(q) \right] \right\}$$

Problem: scattering amplitude diverges for $q \rightarrow 0$ (effective model requires ultraviolet completion to restore Unitarity!)

For Direct Detection signals the infrared divergence is not a problem, thanks to the energy threshold

$$R_{\text{DD}} = M_{\text{exp}} \tau_{\text{exp}} \left(\frac{\rho_{\odot}}{m_{\chi}} \right) \sum_T N_T \int du f(u) u \int_0^{E_R^{\text{max}}} dE_R \zeta_T(E_R, E'_1, E'_2) \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE_R}$$

Window function specifying the energy bin and including convolution with experimental efficiency/acceptance:

$$\zeta_T = \int_{E'_1}^{E'_2} dE' \mathcal{G}_T [E', Q(E_R) E_R] \epsilon(E') \rightarrow \epsilon(E_R) \Theta(E_{R,2} - E_R) \Theta(E_R - E_{R,1})$$



lower cut-off in momentum integration due to the energy threshold E_t^{th} for nuclear target T:

$$q_T^{\text{th}} = \sqrt{2m_T E_T^{\text{th}}}$$

Instead, for Capture in the Sun the momentum integration extends to $q \rightarrow 0$

At face value the capture rate diverges

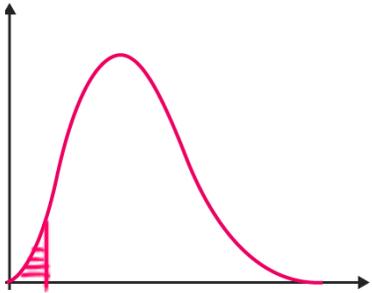
$$C_{\odot} = \left(\frac{\rho_{\odot}}{m_{\chi}} \right) \int du f(u) \frac{1}{u} \int_0^{R_{\odot}} dr 4\pi r^2 w^2 \sum_T \eta_T(r) \Theta(E_{\max}^C - E_{\min}^C) \int_{E_{\min}^C}^{E_{\max}^C} dE \frac{d\sigma_T}{dE}$$

$$E_{\max}^C = 2\mu_{\chi T}^2 w^2 / m_T = 2\mu_{\chi T}^2 (u^2 + v_{\text{esc}}^2(r)) / m_T$$

$$E_{\min}^C = \frac{1}{2} m_{\chi} u^2$$

For $u \rightarrow 0$ the capture rate diverges

Actually, the capture rate is totally dominated by the low-speed tail of the velocity distribution!

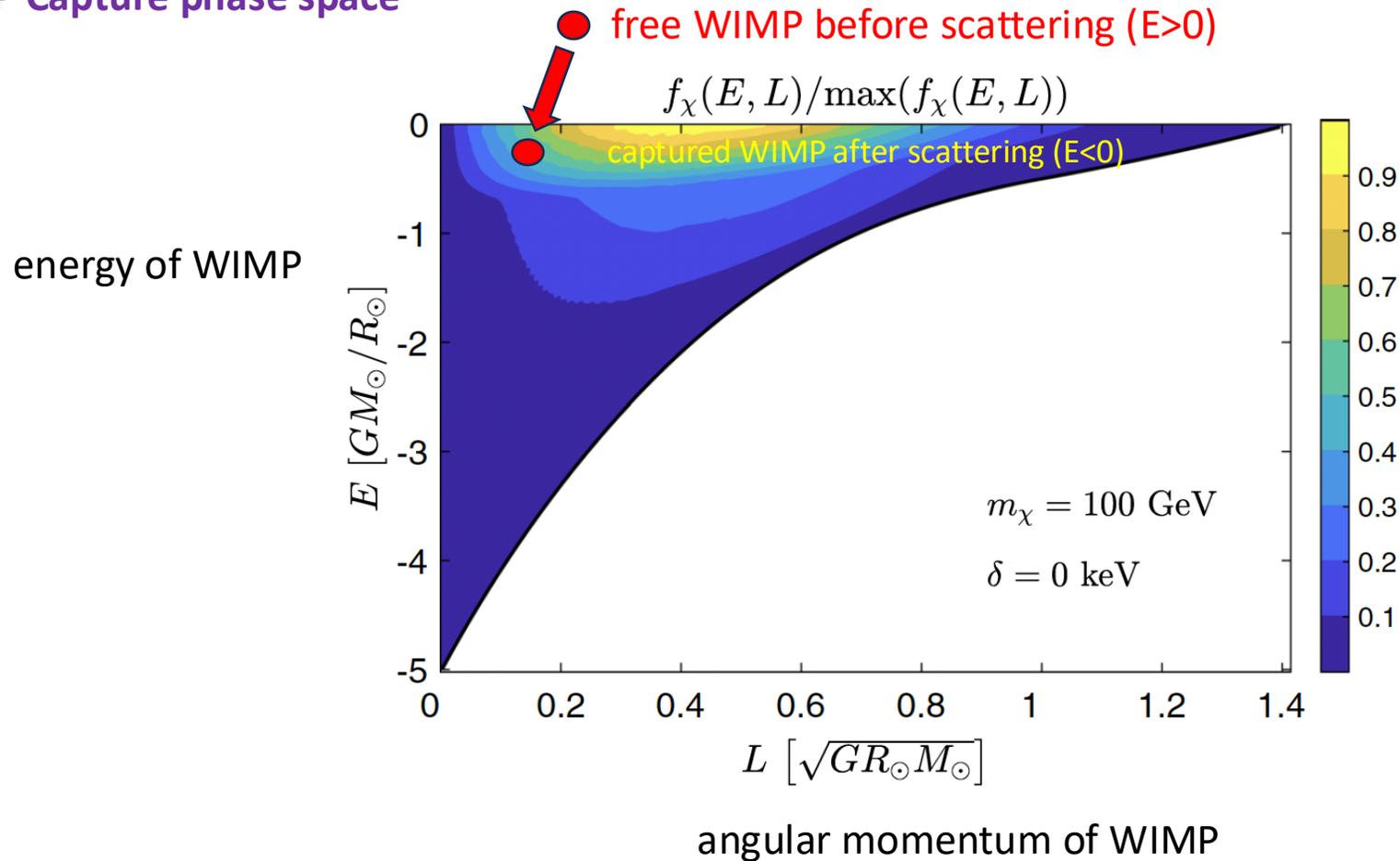


- in the Sun reference frame, they are WIMPs corotating with the Sun
- dark streams or a dark disk may be suggested by recent data from Gaia

for a massless mediator the WIMP Capture rate in the Sun is extremely sensitive to a poorly known component of the dark halo

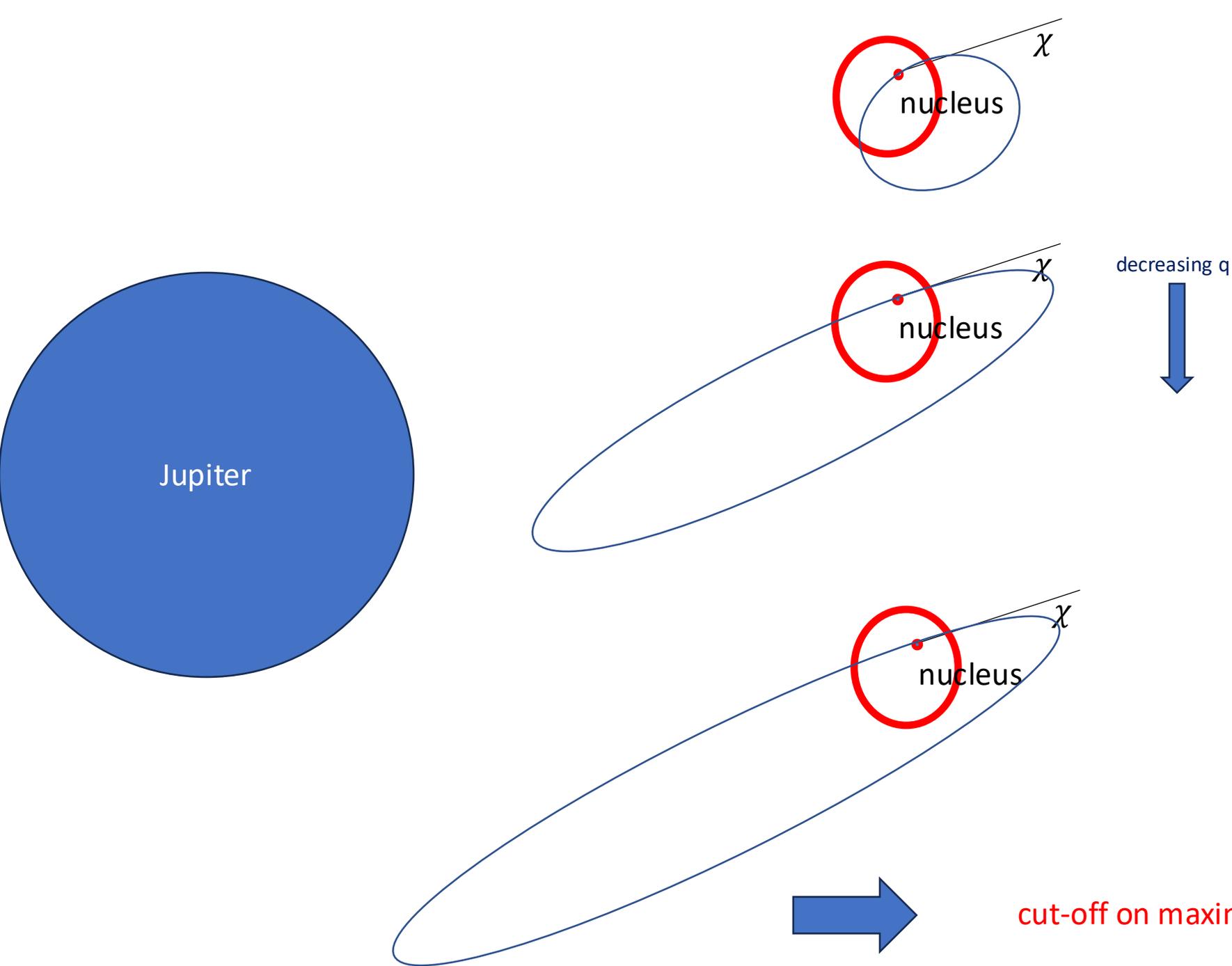
A closer look to the Capture rate divergence

WIMP Capture phase space



WIMPs with very small positive energy ($u \rightarrow 0$) can be captured (driven to negative energies) by arbitrarily small momentum transfer ($q \rightarrow 0$). Not a problem for a contact interaction, but for a massless mediator the cross section for these events dominates the total capture rate

However, on the boundary ($|E| \rightarrow 0$ with $E < 0$) the aphelion of the captured WIMP orbit diverges (the WIMP is *barely* captured)



- as $q \rightarrow 0$ the WIMP trajectory eventually reaches other planets, and eventually the boundary of the Solar System!
- after being locked into a bound orbit by a first scattering event, the WIMP is assumed to scatter again many times during the age of the Solar System and to eventually thermalize at the center of the Sun
- this picture assumes that the WIMP-Sun system is isolated, and breaks down in presence of external disturbances that can drive the WIMP away from the Sun

cut-off on maximal size of the orbit

The Jupiter cut

in the Literature a cut is assumed on the maximal distance r_0 of the WIMP bound trajectory in order to assume that it is captured

- usual assumption: a WIMP is captured if the outgoing speed after scattering is below the escape velocity:

$$v_{\text{out}} < v_{\text{esc}}(r) \quad (r = \text{position of nucleus inside the Sun})$$

- Jupiter cut: a WIMP needs a minimal speed:

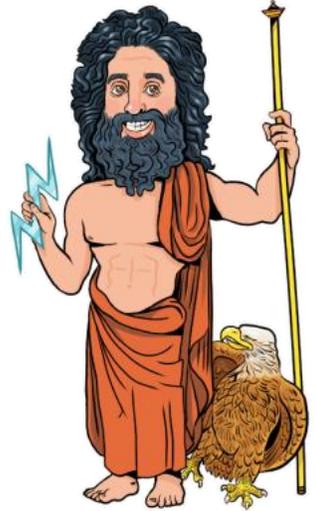
$$v_e(r)^2 = v_{\text{esc}}(r)^2 - v_{\text{esc}}(r_0)^2$$

in order to reach the maximal distance r_0

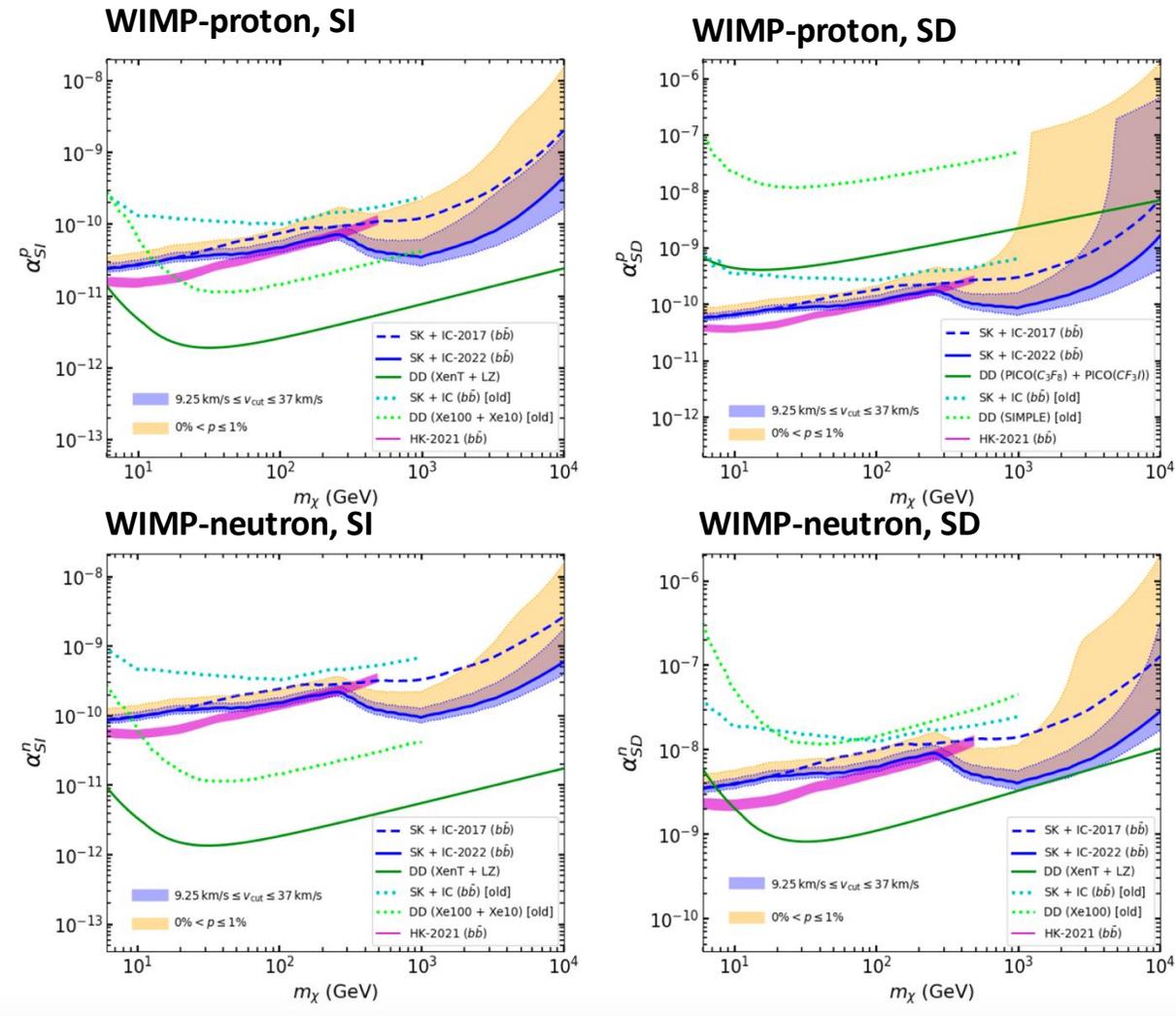
since $v_e(r) < v_{\text{esc}}(r)$ this is a stronger condition for Capture \rightarrow corresponds to assuming that all WIMPs with bound trajectories reaching Jupiter are lost. For the Sun-Jupiter distance:

$$v_{\text{esc}}(r_0) = v_{\text{cut}} \simeq 18.5 \text{ km/s}$$

In this way the capture rate no longer diverges, but the procedure appears *arbitrary* and does not really remove the sensitivity of the rate on the low-speed tail of the velocity distribution \rightarrow **halo-independent approach!**



Long-range interaction: Maxwellian bounds

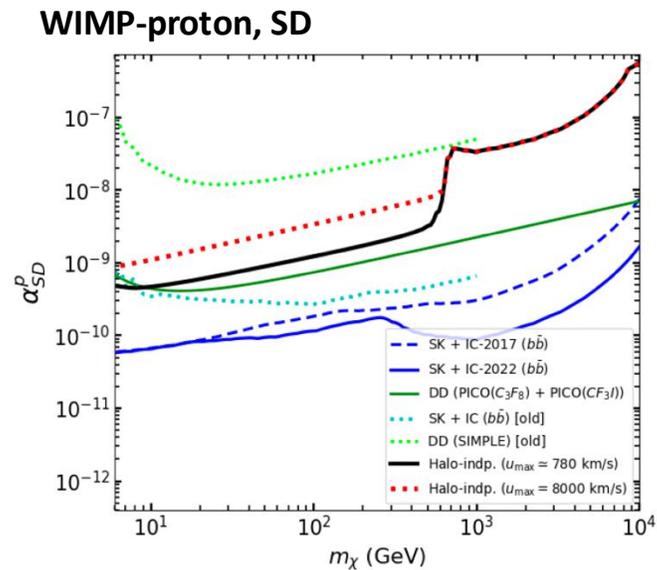
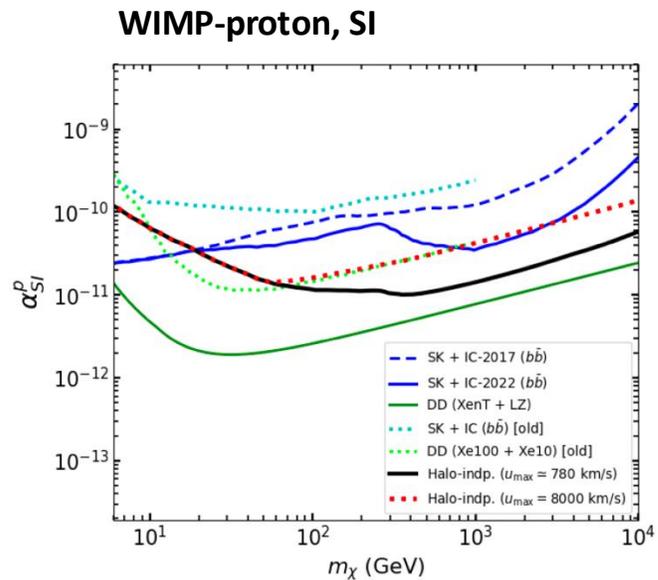


uncertainty due to Jupiter's bound

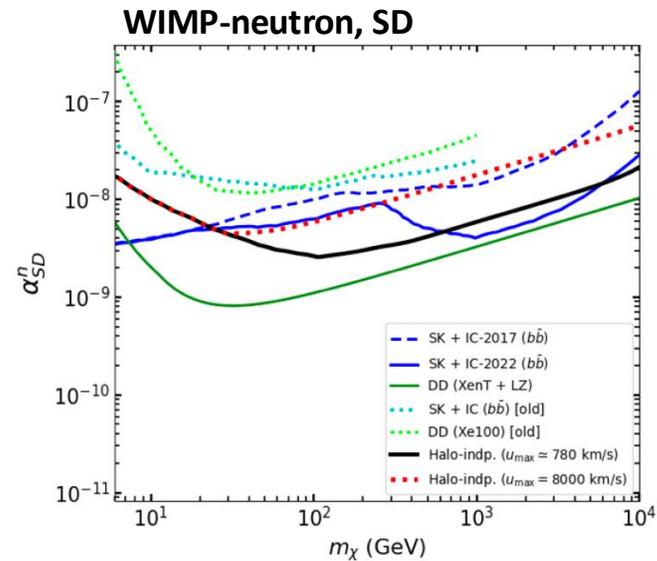
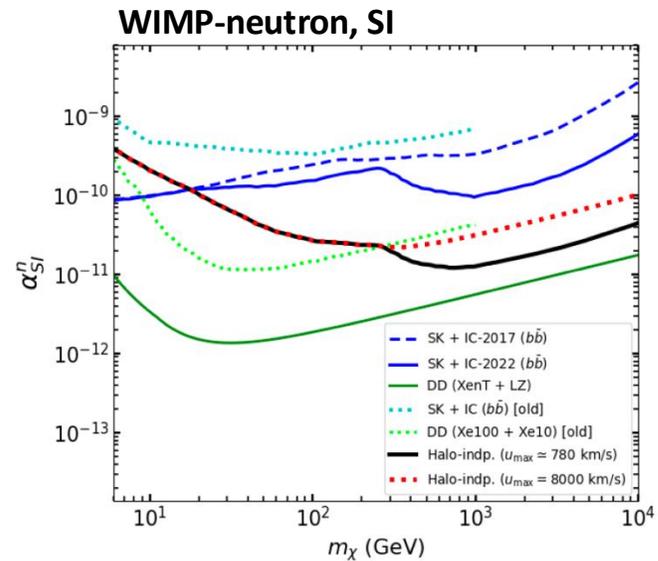
sensitivity to <1% low speed tail of Maxwellian distribution

In all cases the bounds are driven by direct detection

Long-range interaction: Halo-independent bounds



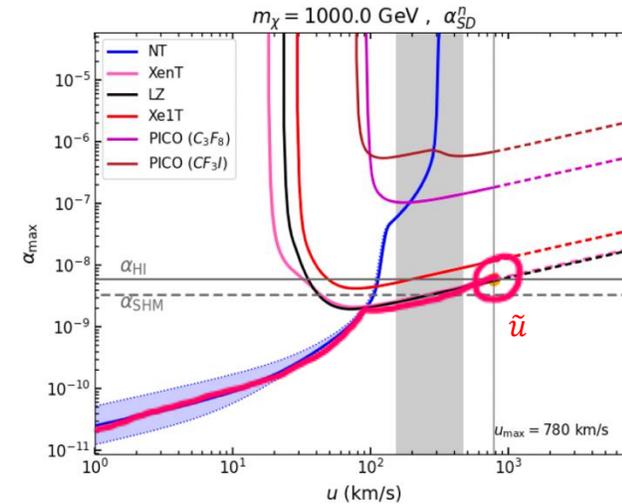
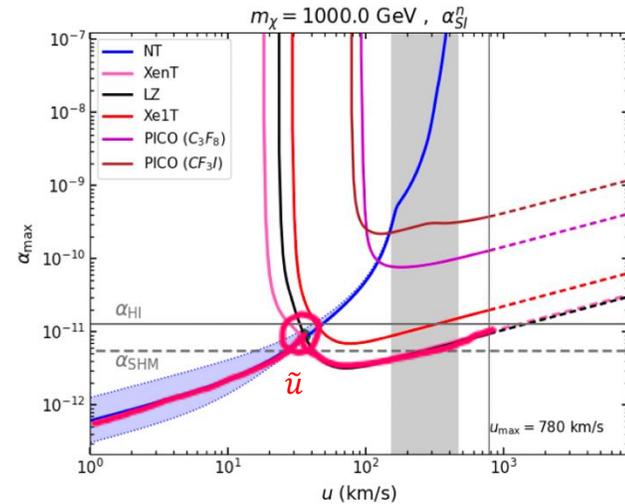
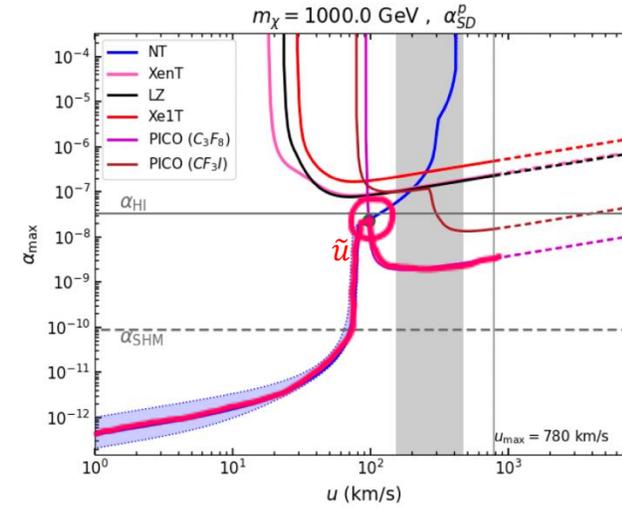
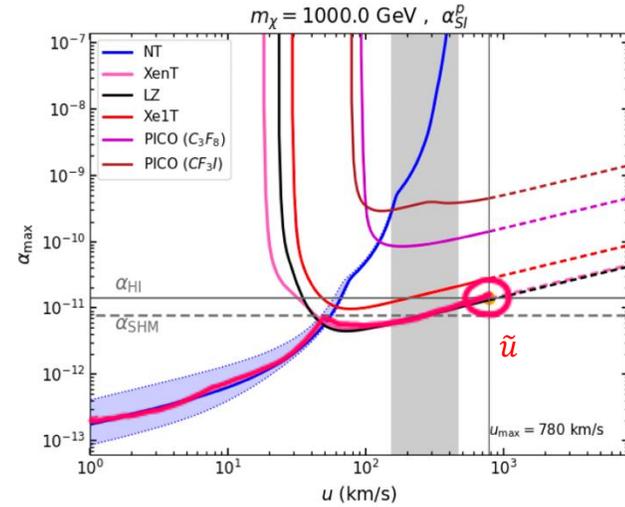
— halo-independent bound



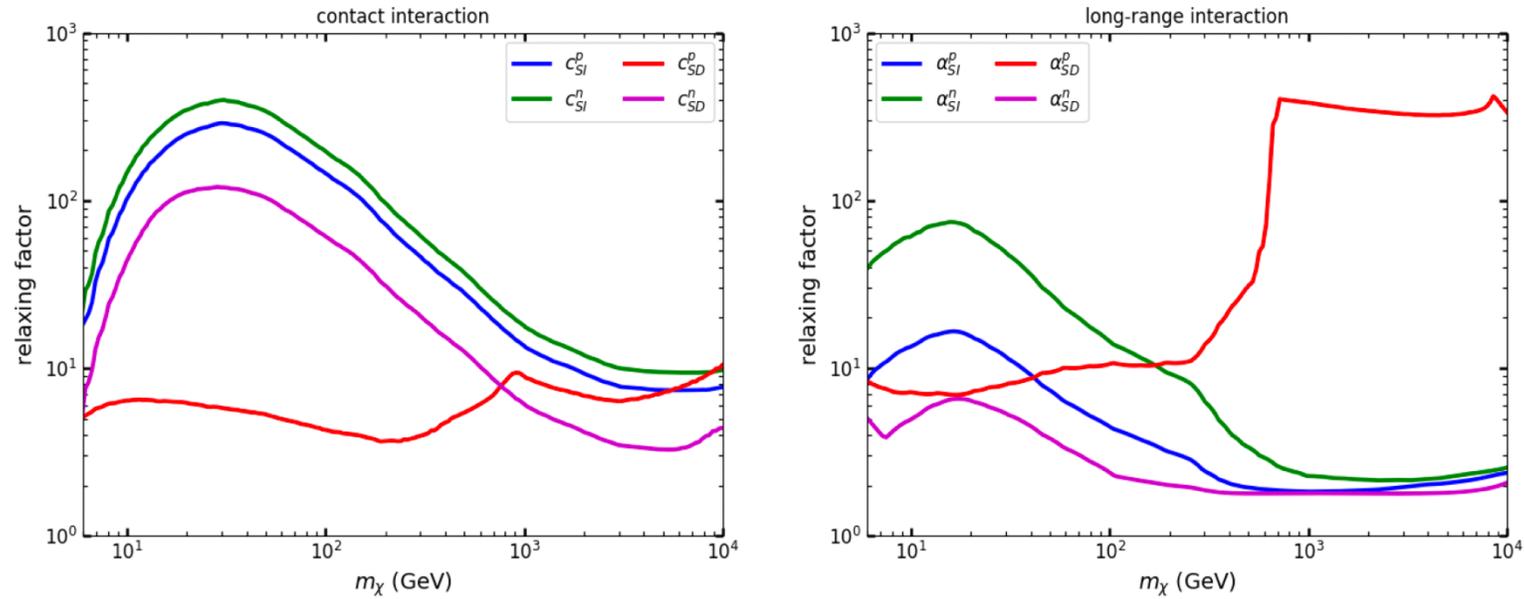
Long-range interaction: Halo-independent bounds

N.B. the halo-independent bound is determined by the largest value of the function $\alpha_{\max}(u)$ in the full range of incoming WIMP speeds. Such maximum occurs at a speed value \tilde{u} which is far from the velocity range affected by the Jupiter cut uncertainty

→ the halo-independent bound does not depend on the Jupiter cut



Long-range interaction: relaxing factor



of the same order of contact interaction, with the exception of α_{SD}^p that is extremely sensitive to Hydrogen in the Sun. At large WIMP masses capture on Hydrogen is kinematically not accessible and the signal drops by orders of magnitude.

*Searching for WIMPs with solar-mass
black holes in low--mass X-ray
binaries (LMXB)*

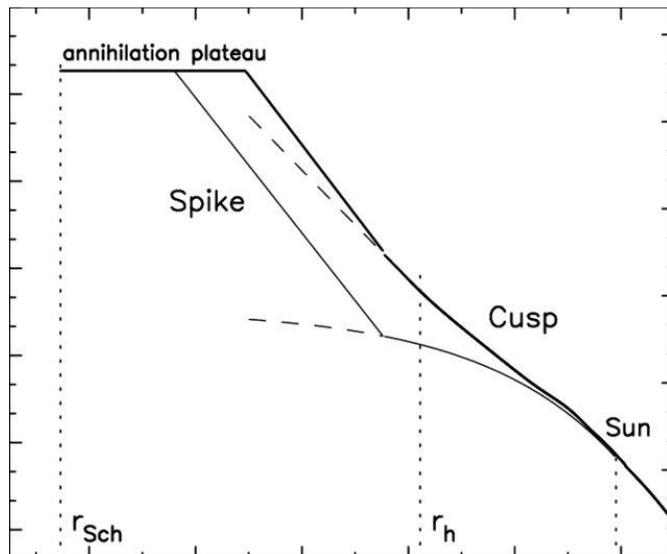
(A. Kar, H. Kim, S. P. Kim, S.S., *JCAP* 03 (2024) 030, 2311.16539)

Dark Matter density profile at the Center of Galaxies

In cosmological simulations of cold and collisionless dark matter, a dark matter halo has a density profile that rises toward the center with a power index of -1 to $-1.5 \rightarrow$ cusp

This is not observed (cusp-core problem) but simulations do not include the effect of baryons.

Supermassive black hole (SMBH) with mass $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 3 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$ located very close to the dynamical center of the Galaxy, and most likely associated to the compact radio source labeled Sgr A



The dark matter at the galactic center can be redistributed by the black hole into a cusp with density profile $r^{\gamma_{\text{sp}}}$ and $1.5 \lesssim \gamma_{\text{sp}} \lesssim 2.5$ (adiabatic compression, Gondolo, Silk, PRL83(1999)1719)

\rightarrow strong enhancement of the WIMP annihilation signal very sensitive on the cusp index γ_{sp}

Dark Matter Spike density profile

$$\rho_{\text{DM}}(r) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } r \leq 2R_s, \\ \frac{\rho_{\text{sp}}(r) \rho_{\text{sat}}}{\rho_{\text{sp}}(r) + \rho_{\text{sat}}} & \text{for } 2R_s < r \leq r_{\text{sp}}, \\ \rho_0 & \text{for } r > r_{\text{sp}}, \end{cases}$$

with:

$$\rho_{\text{sp}}(r) = \rho_0 \left(\frac{r}{r_{\text{sp}}} \right)^{-\gamma_{\text{sp}}} \quad \leftarrow \text{spike index}$$

and

$$\rho_{\text{sat}} = \frac{m_\chi}{\langle \sigma v \rangle t_{\text{BH}}} \quad \leftarrow \text{constant value of the annihilation plateau}$$

WIMP annihilation signals are extremely sensitive to the spike index γ_{sp} .

What is the value of the spike index γ_{sp} ?

horizon radius:

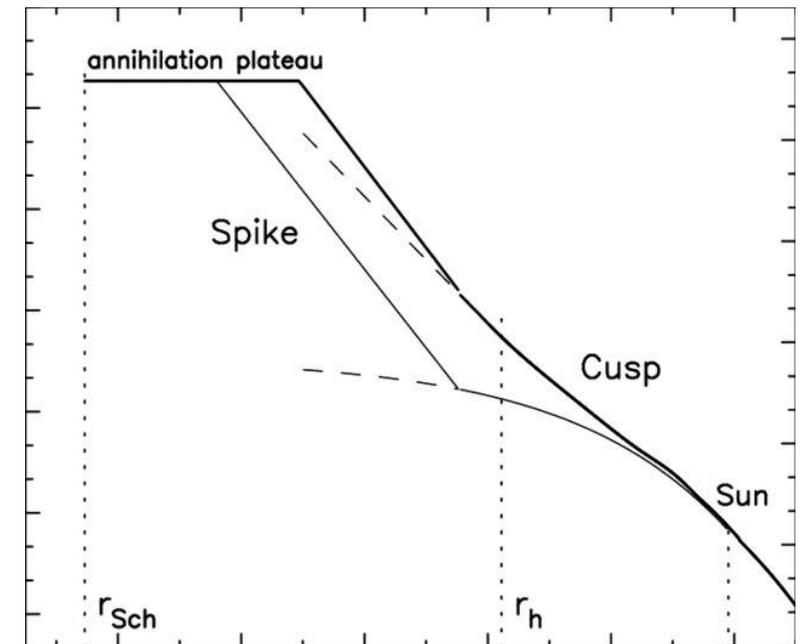
$$R_s = 2GM_{\text{BH}}/c^2$$

spike radius:

$$r_{\text{sp}} = 0.2 r_{\text{in}}$$

radius of influence r_{in} defined by the relation:

$$M_{\text{DM}}(r \leq r_{\text{in}}) = \int_0^{r_{\text{in}}} dr 4\pi r^2 \rho_{\text{DM}} = 2 M_{\text{BH}}$$



Adiabatic contraction of the spike (Gondolo, Silk, PRL83(1999)1719)

Beyond the influx of the Black Hole the DM density profile is predicted by models of Galaxy formation (NFW, Moore, Einasto, etc). Suppose that:

$$\rho(r) = \rho_0 \left(\frac{r}{r_0} \right)^{-\gamma} \quad 0 < \gamma < 2$$

corresponding to the phase distribution $f(E,L)$ (E =energy, L =angular momentum)

Locally, the presence of the BH redistributes the DM density as:

$$\rho'(r) = \int_{E'_m}^0 dE' \int_{L'_c}^{L'_m} dL' \frac{4\pi L'}{r^2 v_r} f'(E', L')$$

with

$$v_r = \left[2 \left(E' + \frac{GM}{r} - \frac{L'^2}{2r^2} \right) \right]^{1/2},$$

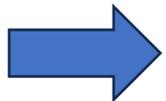
$$E'_m = -\frac{GM}{r} \left(1 - \frac{4R_S}{r} \right),$$

$$L'_c = 2cR_S,$$

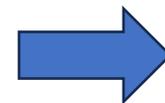
$$L'_m = \left[2r^2 \left(E' + \frac{GM}{r} \right) \right]^{1/2}.$$

(all particles with $L < L'_c$ are captured by the BH)

Adiabatic assumption: $f'=f$, $L'=L$, $E=E'$



$$\gamma_{sp} = \frac{9 - 2\gamma}{4 - \gamma}$$

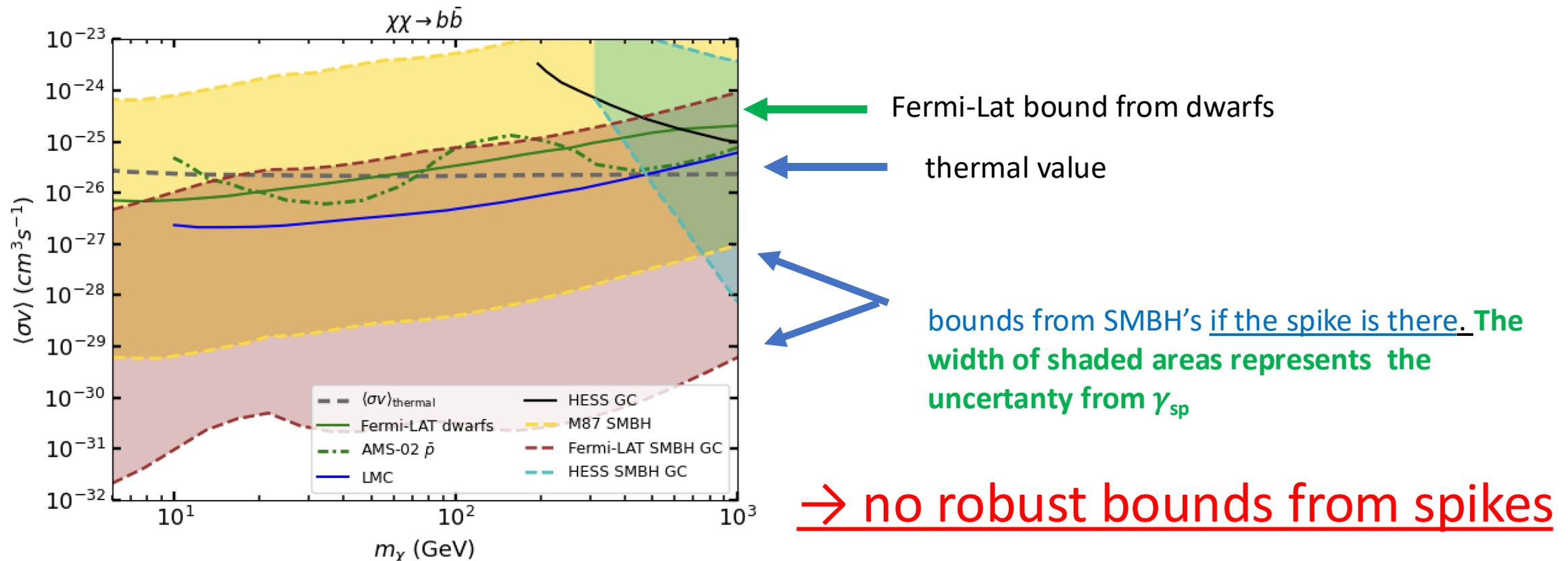


$$2.25 < \gamma_{sp} < 2.5$$

Very uncertain.

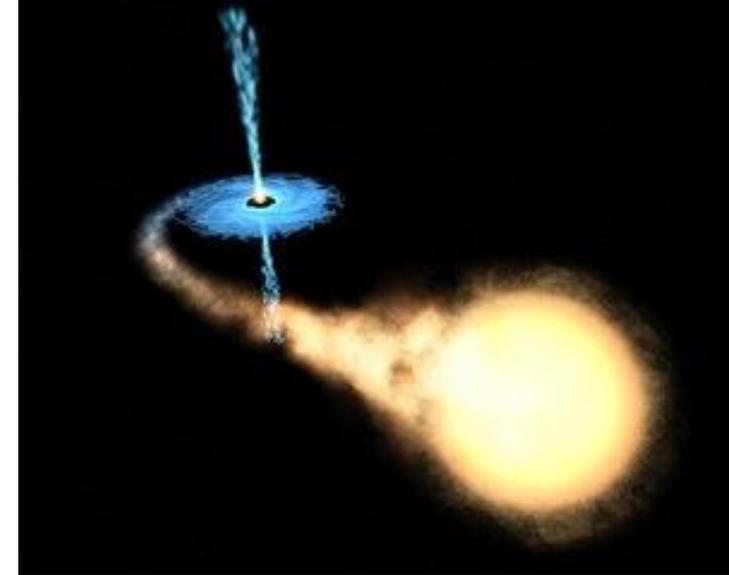
1. No cusp \rightarrow no spike
2. Even if the cusp is there, the spike could not have been formed (BH or hosting galaxy experienced a non-adiabatic merger, or BH not exactly at the center)
3. Even if the spike is initially formed, it can be smoothed out by DM scattering off stars

In the literature, very strong bounds on $\langle\sigma v\rangle$ have been published from the Super Massive Black Holes at the center of our Galaxy, or of the Large Magellanic Cloud, when the existence of the cusp is assumed, but they don't even reach the thermal value $\langle\sigma v\rangle_{\text{thermal}} \sim 2.2 \times 10^{26} \text{ cm}^3\text{s}^{-1}$ when the the uncertainty on δ_{sp} is taken into account



XTE J1118+480: a low-mass X-ray binary in the constellation Ursa Major. Made of a Black Hole and a rotating star.

The study of the motion of the visible star allows an accurate measurement of the parameters of the system

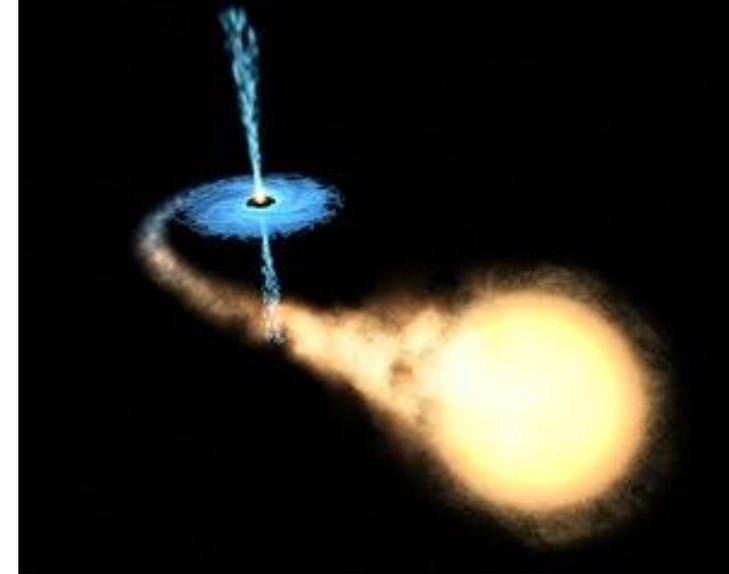


| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| M_{BH} | $7.46^{+0.34}_{-0.69} M_{\odot}$ (Gonzalez Hernandez et al. 2014) |
| $q = m_{\text{star}}/M_{\text{BH}}$ | 0.024 ± 0.009 (Khargharia et al. 2013) |
| K (km s ⁻¹) | 708.8 ± 1.4 (Khargharia et al. 2013) |
| i | $73.^{\circ}5 \pm 5.^{\circ}5$ (Khargharia et al. 2013) |
| P (day) | 0.16993404(5) (Gonzalez Hernandez et al. 2014) |
| \dot{P} (ms yr ⁻¹) | -1.90 ± 0.57 (Gonzalez Hernandez et al. 2014) |
| d (kpc) | 1.70 ± 0.10 (Gonzalez Hernandez et al. 2011) |

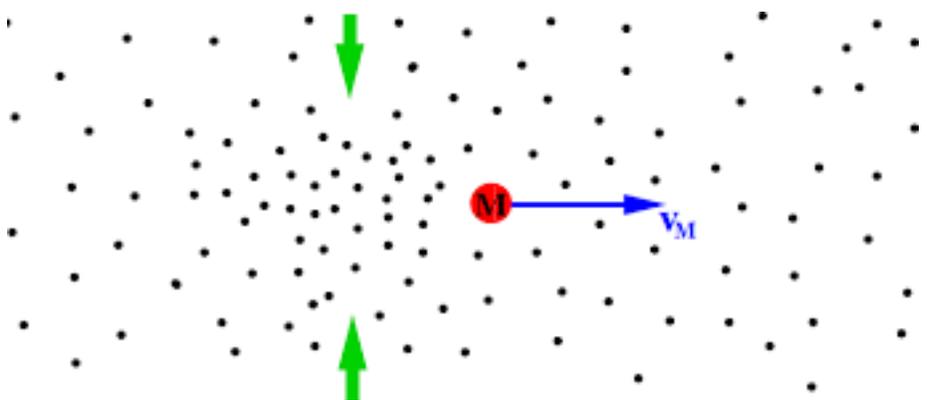
low-mass black hole (few solar masses) + visible star ~2% of that

Change of rotational period abnormally high: -1.9 ms/year

- Difficult to explain $\dot{P} = -1.9$ ms/year in XTE J1118+480, **2 orders of magnitude larger** than the one expected with gravitational-wave radiation
- Two possible explanations:
 - ❑ orbital period reduced by coupling between the magnetic field and the winds from the companion star through tidal torques. However, there should be a significant mass loss from the binary system, which has not been observed
 - ❑ the tidal torque between the circumbinary disk and the binary can efficiently extract the orbital angular momentum from the binary to cause the orbital decay. However, simulations show that the predicted mass transfer rate and the circumbinary disk mass should be much greater than the inferred values from observations



Alternative explanation: the star is slowed down by the dynamical friction with a steep dark matter density spike close to the Black Hole



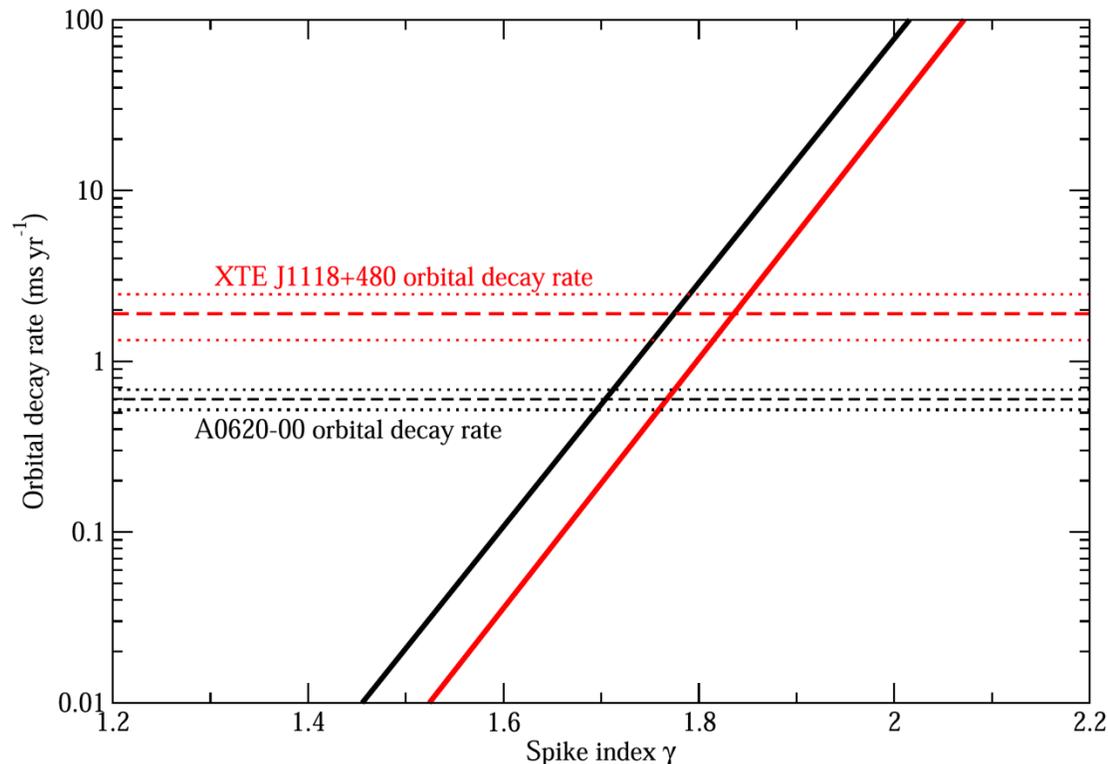
Dynamical friction: if the star is crossing a very dense spike of DM particles, a concentration of DM particles develops behind the rotating star, slowing it down

Orbital decay due to dynamical friction between DM and the star

$$\dot{P} = - \frac{12\pi q G P \ln \Lambda}{(1+q)^2 (K/\sin i)} \left[\frac{GM_{\text{BH}}(1+q)P^2}{4\pi^2} \right]^{1/3} \rho_{\text{DM}}$$

depends on the observed parameters of the BH–LMXB and the spike density. The only free parameter is the spike index γ_{sp} → **can determine γ_{sp} from observation**

M.H.Chan and C.M.Lee, *Astrophys. J. Lett.* 943, no.2, L11 (2023)



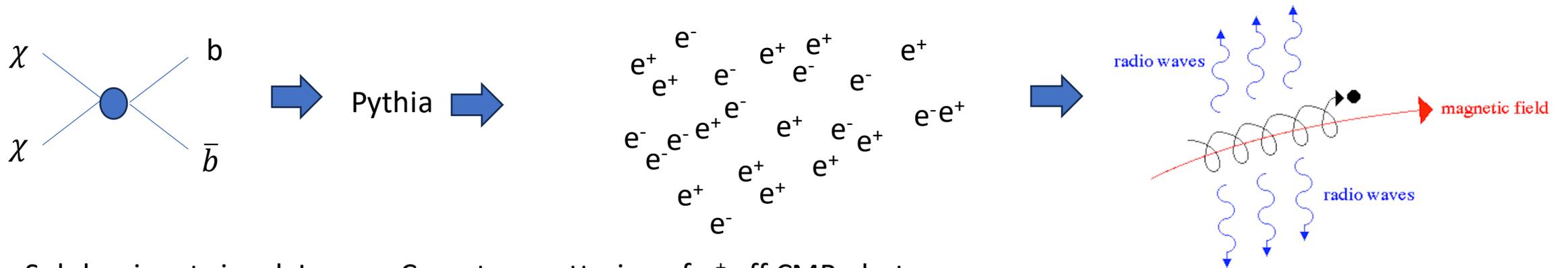
using observed value of \dot{P} :

$$\gamma_{\text{sp}} = 1.85 \pm 0.04 \text{ for XTE J1118+480}$$

at variance with SMBH in the Galactic Center, or in LMC
 very small uncertainty → **much smaller uncertainty in the calculation of DM signals**

DM signal from XTE J1118+480

Main source of signal: synchrotron radiation from e^\pm produced from DM annihilation in BH magnetic field



Subdominant signal: Inverse Compton scattering of e^\pm off CMB photons

Solve diffusion equation (f=density of e^\pm assumed in equilibrium) :

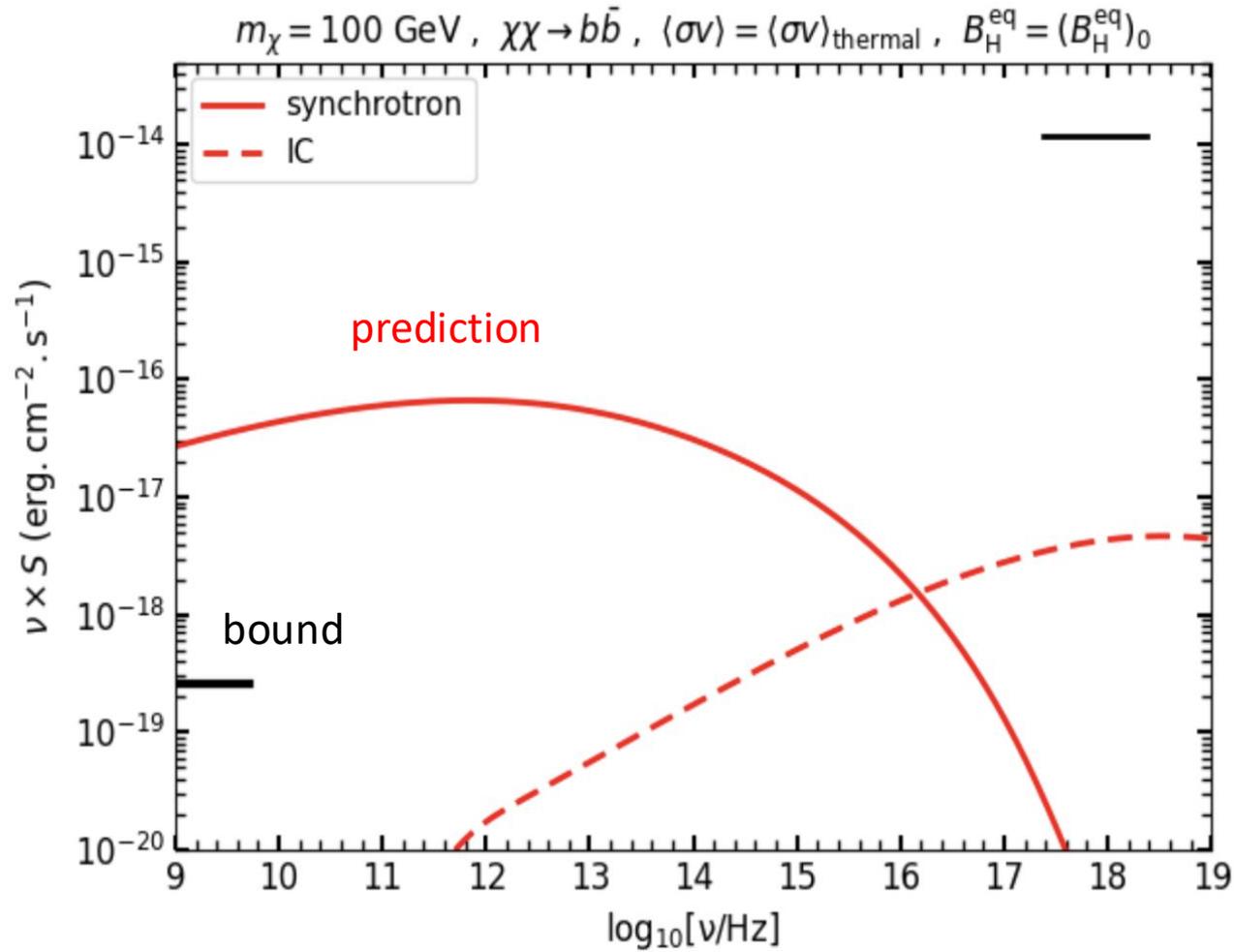
$$-\frac{1}{r^2} \left[r^2 D \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right] + \frac{1}{p^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} (\dot{p} p^2 f) = q(r, p)$$

diffusion coefficient

source from DM annihilation

$D(r,p)=(1/3) r_g v_e$ with $r_g=E/(eB)$ (the e^\pm gyroradius and $v_e \sim c$ the electron velocity (assuming Bohm diffusion, i.e. that the coherence length of the magnetic field is comparable or greater than r_g))

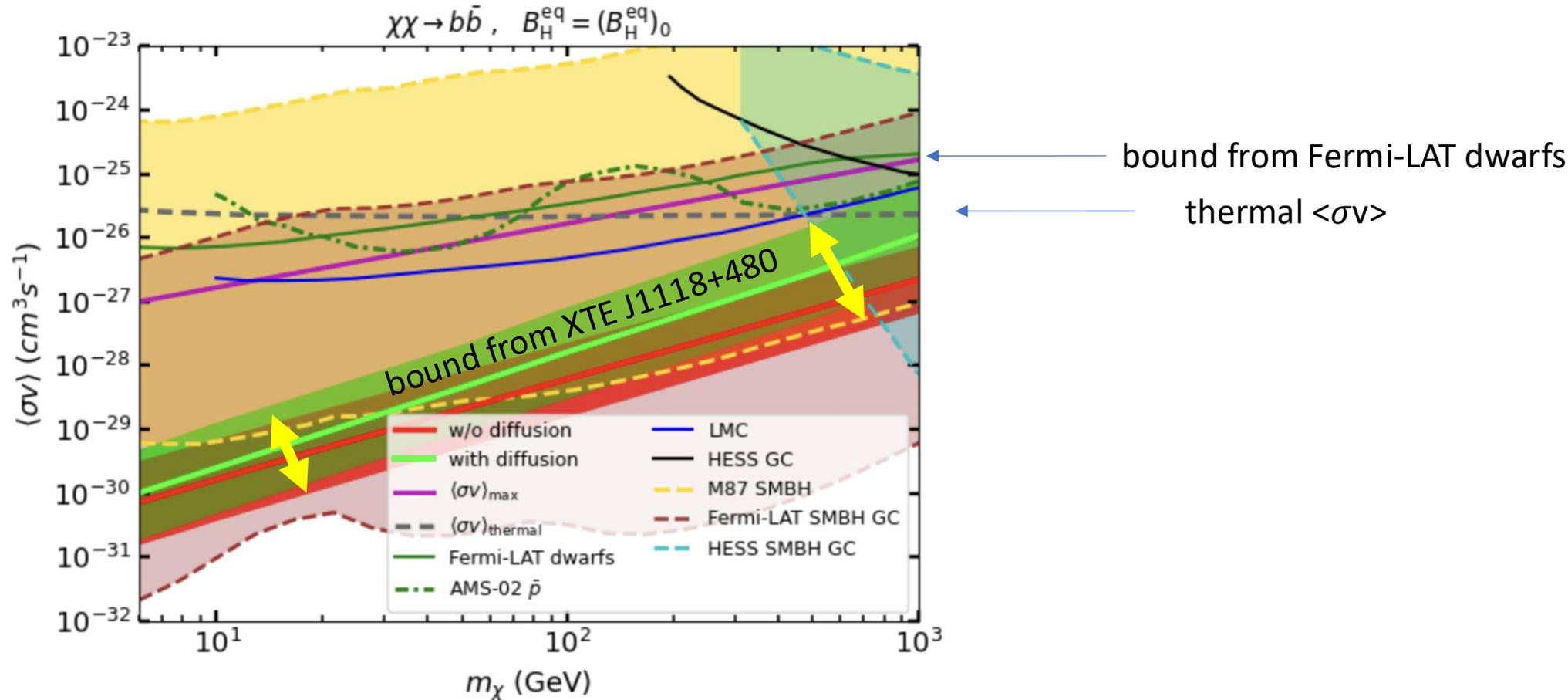
DM signal from XTE J1118+480



strong constraint!

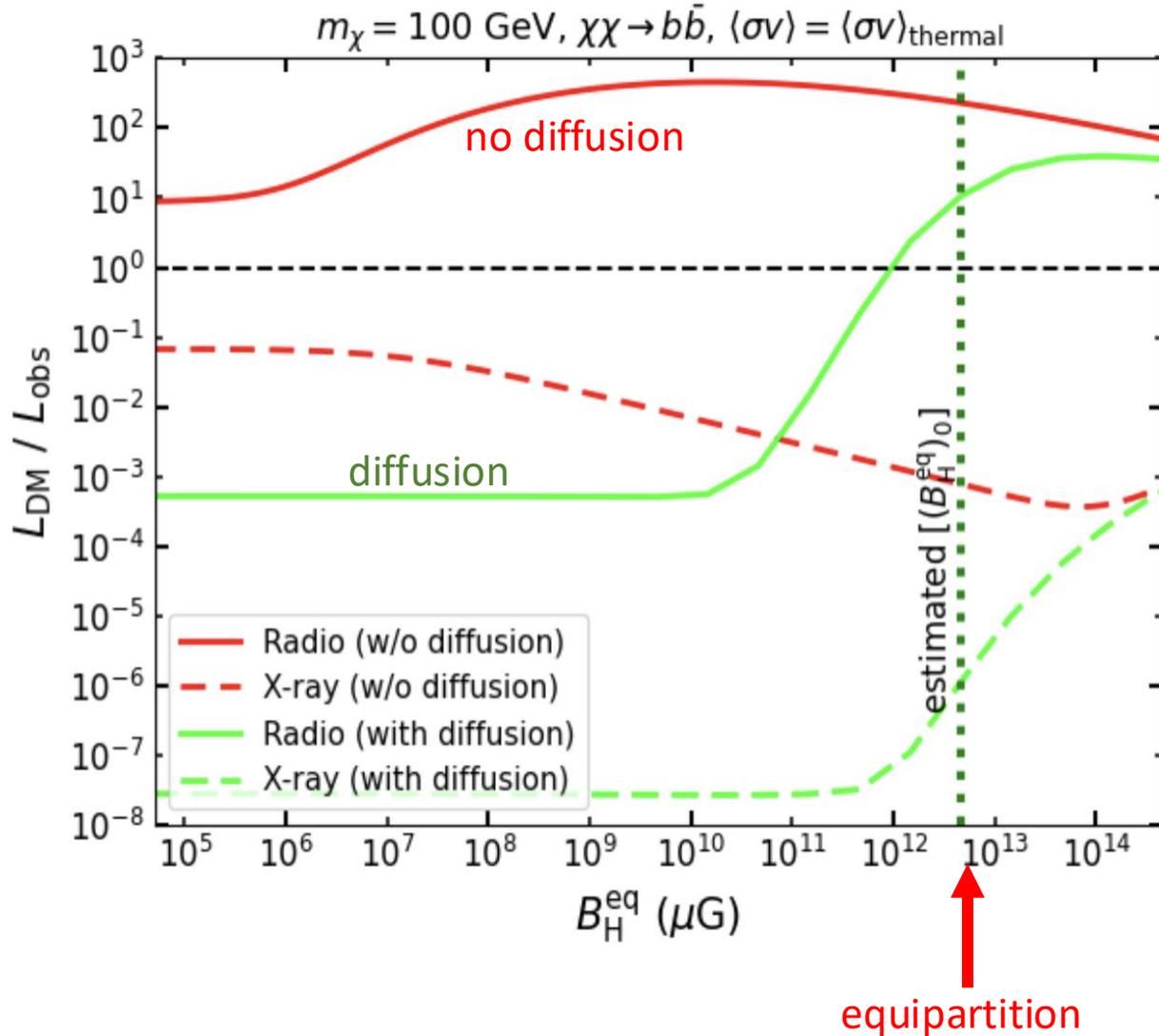
A. Kar, H. Kim, Sang Pyo Kim, S.S, JCAP 03 (2024) 030

DM signal from XTE J1118+480



strong constraint, small uncertainty!

uncertainty in the DM signal calculation from the magnetic field



$$B(r) = \begin{cases} B^{\text{eq}}(r) & \text{for } r_{\text{H}} \leq r < r_{\text{acc}} \\ B^{\text{eq}}(r_{\text{acc}}) \left(\frac{r}{r_{\text{acc}}}\right)^{-2} & \text{for } r \geq r_{\text{acc}}, \end{cases}$$

$$B^{\text{eq}}(r) = B_{\text{H}}^{\text{eq}} \left(\frac{r}{r_{\text{H}}}\right)^{-5/4},$$

No direct access to B_{H}^{eq} parameter. Assuming equipartition of energy:

$$B_{\text{H}}^{\text{eq}} \simeq 4 \times 10^{14} \dot{m}^{1/2} \left(\frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{10M_{\odot}}\right)^{-1/2} [\mu\text{G}].$$

with $\dot{m} \sim 10^{-4}$

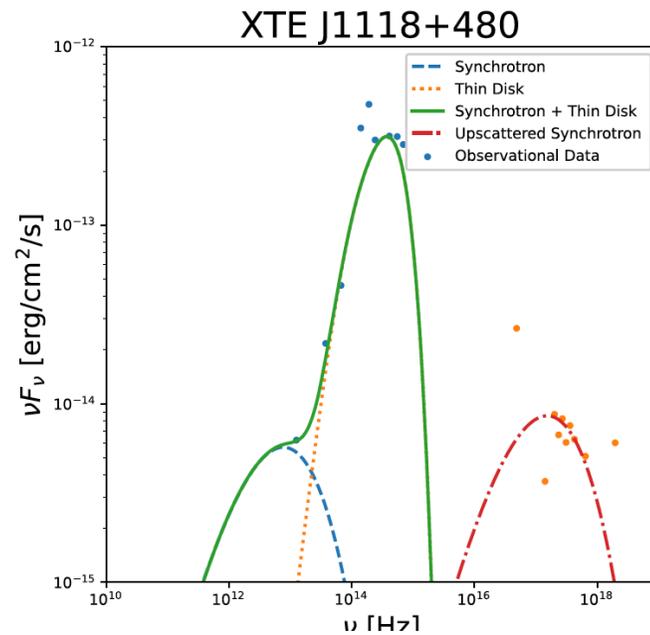
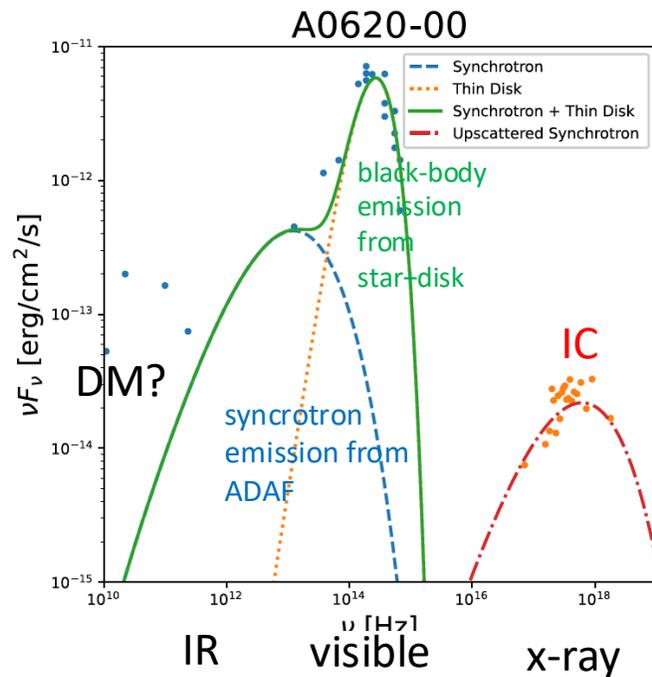
On general grounds $B \sim 10^{10} \mu\text{G}$ for supermassive black hole ($M_{\text{BH}} \simeq 10^9 M_{\odot}$) and $B \sim 10^{14} \mu\text{G}$ for a stellar mass one (as in XTE J1118+480)

predictions are sensitive to the intensity of the magnetic field when the effect of diffusion is included

the bottom line: we have traded the uncertainty on the spike profile index for another one: the intensity of the magnetic field....

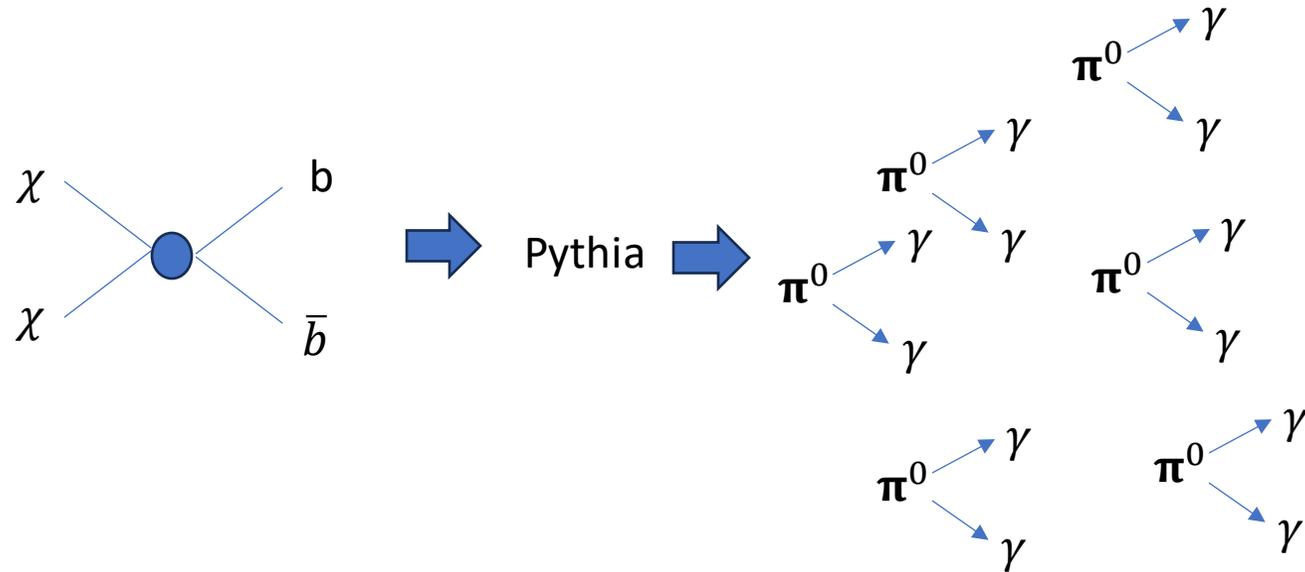
can we better estimate the magnetic field from the data? work in progress...

(spoiler: need a comprehensive fit where the DM spike is added to the other components, i.e. including emissions from accretion disk + companion star emission + DM spike



comment: looking directly for a signal in the gamma spectrum (\sim tens of GeV) would be the simplest way to look for DM

- no dependence on the accretion disk details
- including no dependence on the magnetic field
- present bounds very weak (astronomers do not allocate telescope time to this part of the spectrum!)



continuum spectrum, up to $E=m_{\text{DM}}$

Conclusions

- Combining WIMP direct detection and capture in the Sun it is possible to obtain bounds that do not depend on the WIMP velocity distribution (different cases: elastic, inelastic, long-range)
- The Dark Matter cusp in Low-Mass X-ray binaries can potentially put constraints on the WIMP annihilation cross section times velocity $\langle\sigma v\rangle$ that exceed existing ones by several orders of magnitude (but we need to better understand the intensity and coherence of the magnetic field)