

MeV neutrino dark matter: relic density, lepton flavour violation and electron recoil

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C. Weinheimer, S. Zeinstra

[JHEP 11 \(2019\) 129](#)

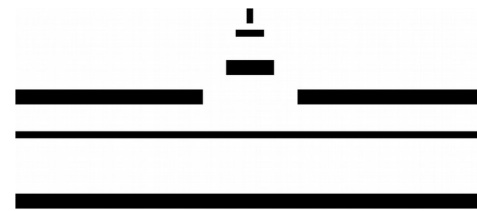
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ON HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS

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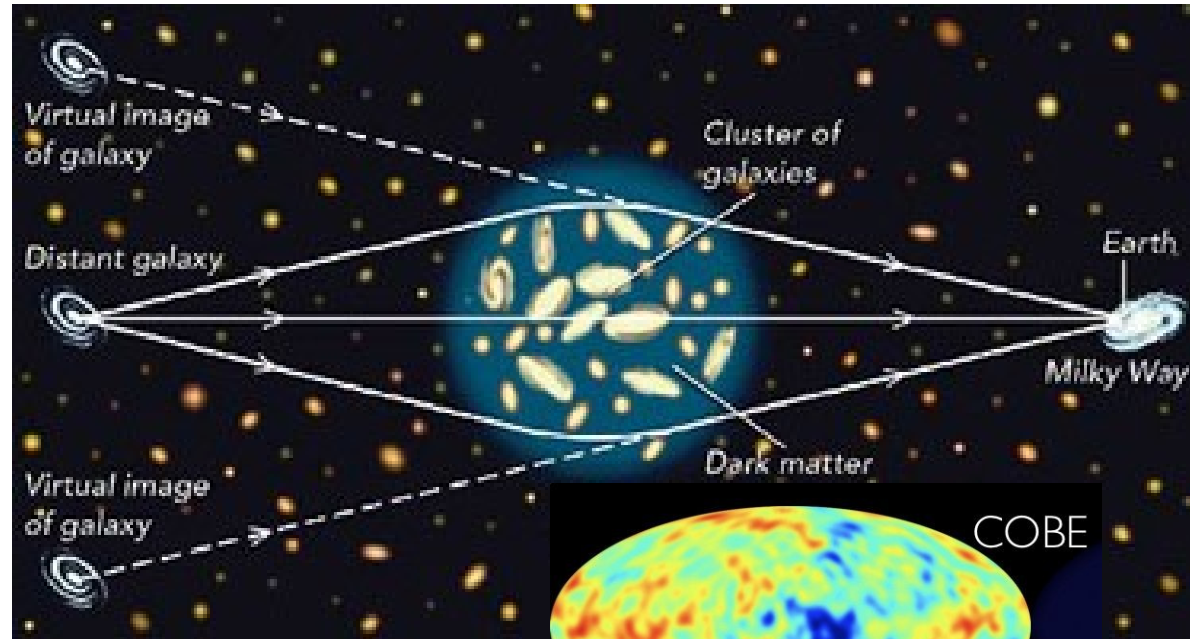
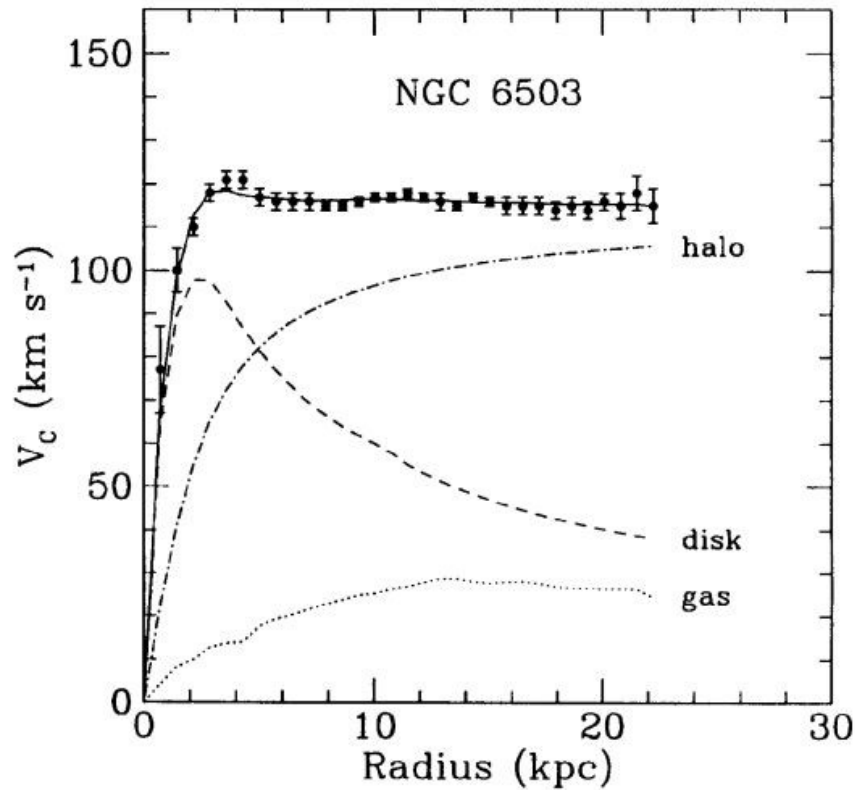
Topics of this talk

- **SLIM model with MeV neutrino DM:**
 - Motivations
 - Theory
 - Pheno
- **Current experimental tests:**
 - Collider
 - Cosmological
 - Neutrino
 - Lepton Flavour Violation
- **Electron recoil in Direct Detection Xenon1T**
- **Conclusions**

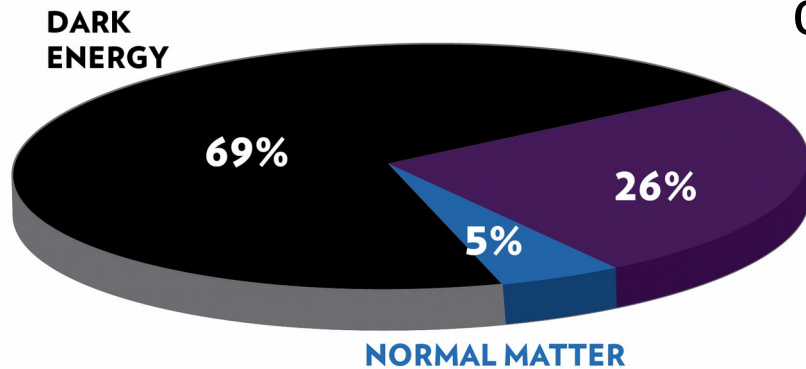
SLIM model

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Evidences for Dark Matter

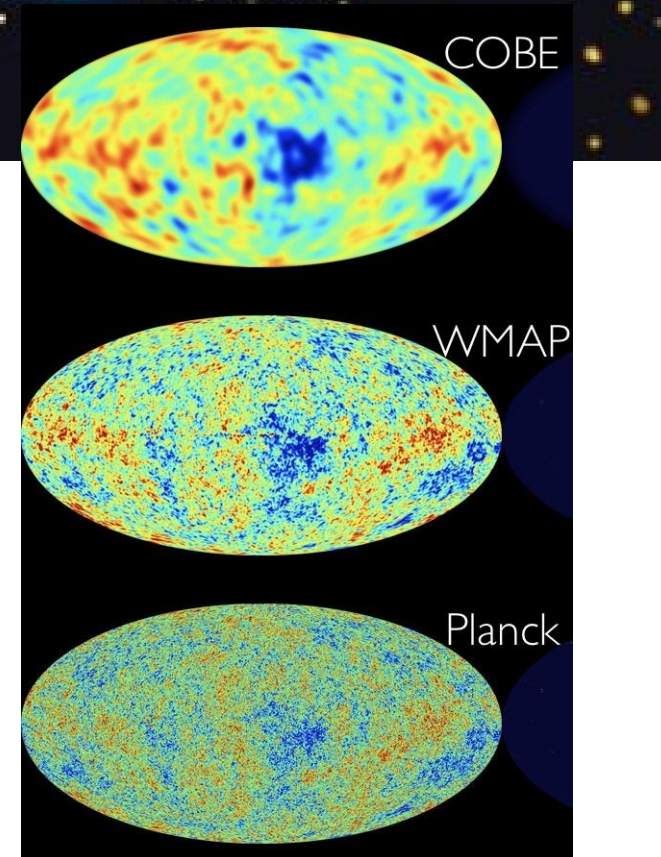
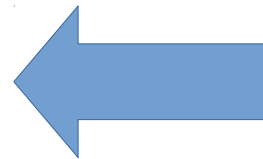


ENERGY DISTRIBUTION
OF THE UNIVERSE

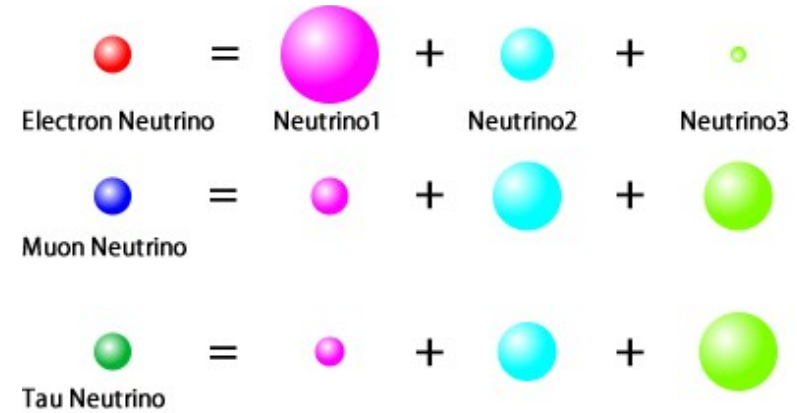
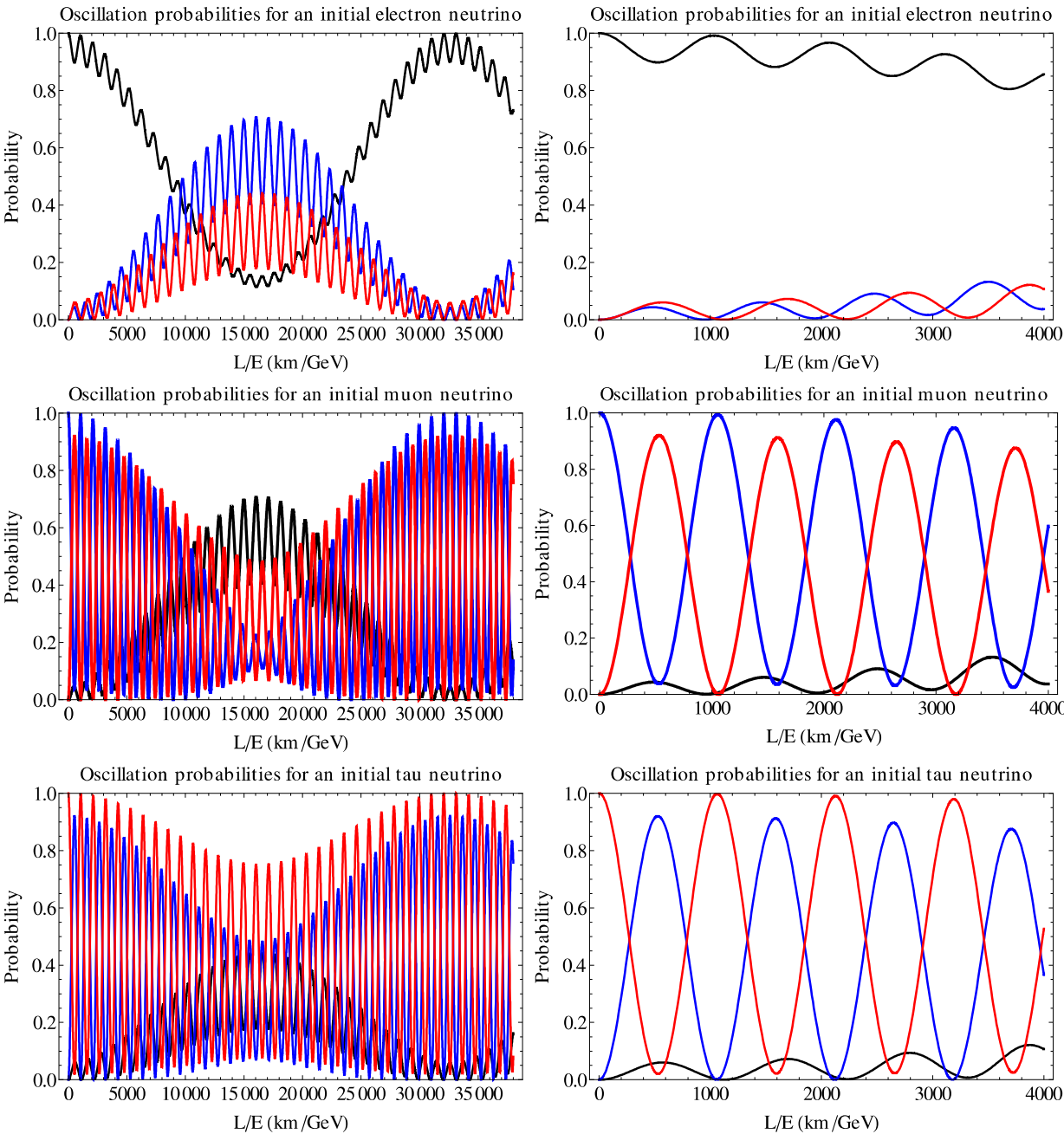


Λ CDM
cosmological model

DARK
MATTER



Evidences for neutrino masses



The interpretation is:
Neutrinos have mass

Minimal models

Can we address both issues with a single BSM theory?
(A real pleasure for theorists)

Minimal DM models with radiative neutrino masses

Introduce the least possible amount of BSM fields

- ≤ 4 new scalar / fermion multiplets
- $SU(3)$ color singlets
 $SU(2)$ singlets, doublets, triplets
- Additional stabilising discrete Z_2 symmetry

Minimal models with these features have been classified according to the topology of the diagram generating the neutrino masses:

Examples:

[D. Restrepo, O. Zapata, C. E. Yaguna: JHEP 1311 \(2013\) 011](#)

“Scotogenic model” : [E. Ma: Phys.Rev. D73 \(2006\) 077301](#)

T1-3-A ($\alpha = 0$) : [S. Esch, M. Klasen, D. R. Lamprea, C. E. Yaguna: Eur.Phys.J. C78 \(2018\) no.2, 88](#)

T1-2-A ($\alpha = 0$) : [S. Esch, M. Klasen, C. E. Yaguna: JHEP 1810 \(2018\) 055](#)

T1-3-B ($\alpha = 0$) : [J. Fiaschi, M. Klasen, S. May: JHEP 05 \(2019\) 015](#)

Why MeV Dark Matter?

Explanations for the large scale structure of the Universe favours the GeV to TeV cold DM regime.

However, **warm DM** seems to account better for:

- Missing satellite galaxies
the number of dwarf satellite galaxies is much lower than the one expected from simulations.
- Too-big-to-fail problem
the unobserved missing satellite galaxies would be still too big to have had their visible stars stripped from them.
- Cusp-core problem of inner DM density profile
DM density appears flat at small radii (especially in low-mass galaxies) while simulations would predict a steeply increasing density at their core.

In this talk we present our study of the **SLIM** (Scalar as Light as MeV) model, in which the SM is augmented by:

- one complex scalar singlet: $\rho = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\rho_R + i\rho_I)$
- (at least) two generations of singlet right-handed neutrinos: N_i
- one complex scalar doublet: $\eta = \begin{pmatrix} \eta^+ \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\eta_R + i\eta_I) \end{pmatrix}$

The SLIM model - Theory

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & -m_1^2 \Phi^\dagger \Phi - m_2^2 \eta^\dagger \eta - m_3^2 \rho^* \rho - \frac{1}{2} m_4^2 (\rho^2 + (\rho^*)^2) - \mu (\eta^\dagger \Phi \rho + h.c.) - \frac{1}{2} m_{N_i} \overline{N_i^c} N_i \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_1 (\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_2 (\eta^\dagger \eta)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_3 (\rho^* \rho)^2 - \lambda_4 (\eta^\dagger \eta) (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) - \lambda_5 (\eta^\dagger \Phi) (\Phi^\dagger \eta) \\ & - \lambda_6 (\rho^* \rho) (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) - \lambda_7 (\rho^* \rho) (\eta^\dagger \eta) - \underbrace{(\lambda_8)_{ij} (\overline{N_i^c} \eta^\dagger L_j + h.c.)}_{\text{green underline}}.\end{aligned}$$

Right-handed Majorana neutrinos

- They allow for neutrino mass generation through different variants of seesaw mechanism
- Help to restore parity at higher energy.
- If the seesaw mechanism is instead realised at one loop, we can connect DM and neutrino sectors.

Soft breaking of global U(1) symmetry to discrete Z_2 . Implies small m_4 .

- Forbids decay of lightest Z_2 odd particle, which becomes a viable DM candidate.

Model is leptophilic

- Novel study of the electron recoil signal in direct detection experiments (XENON1T)

The SLIM model - Pheno

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & -m_1^2 \Phi^\dagger \Phi - m_2^2 \eta^\dagger \eta - m_3^2 \rho^* \rho - \frac{1}{2} m_4^2 (\rho^2 + (\rho^*)^2) - \mu (\eta^\dagger \Phi \rho + h.c.) - \frac{1}{2} m_{N_i} \overline{N_i^c} N_i \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_1 (\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_2 (\eta^\dagger \eta)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_3 (\rho^* \rho)^2 - \lambda_4 (\eta^\dagger \eta) (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) - \lambda_5 (\eta^\dagger \Phi) (\Phi^\dagger \eta) \\ & - \lambda_6 (\rho^* \rho) (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) - \lambda_7 (\rho^* \rho) (\eta^\dagger \eta) - (\lambda_8)_{ij} (\overline{N_i^c} \eta^\dagger L_j + h.c.). \end{aligned}$$

After EWSB:

Charged scalar mass eigenstates: $m_{\eta^\pm}^2 = m_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_4 v^2$

Neutral components of complex singlet and doublet mix through the trilinear coupling μ : $M_{R,I}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} m_2^2 + (\lambda_4 + \lambda_5) \frac{v^2}{2} & \mu \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \mu \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} & m_3^2 + \lambda_6 \frac{v^2}{2} \pm m_4^2 \end{pmatrix} =: \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ B & C_{R,I} \end{pmatrix}$

The small m_4 parameter leads to almost degeneracy of real and imaginary scalar masses eigenstates: $m_{R,I}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(A + C_{R,I} \pm \sqrt{(A - C_{R,I})^2 + 4B^2} \right)$

We parametrize the small splitting with the parameter ε : $AC_{R,I} - B^2 =: \varepsilon(A + C_{R,I})$

A small value of ε will allow for two MeV neutral scalar mass eigenvalues, while the other two will remain as heavy as their charged counterpart.

Experimental tests

- **SLIM model with MeV neutrino DM:**
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- **Current experimental tests:**
 - Collider
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- **Conclusions**

Collider constrains

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & -m_1^2 \Phi^\dagger \Phi - m_2^2 \eta^\dagger \eta - m_3^2 \rho^* \rho - \frac{1}{2} m_4^2 (\rho^2 + (\rho^*)^2) - \mu (\eta^\dagger \Phi \rho + h.c.) - \frac{1}{2} m_{N_i} \overline{N_i^c} N_i \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_1 (\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_2 (\eta^\dagger \eta)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_3 (\rho^* \rho)^2 - \lambda_4 (\eta^\dagger \eta) (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) - \lambda_5 (\eta^\dagger \Phi) (\Phi^\dagger \eta) \\ & - \lambda_6 (\rho^* \rho) (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) - \lambda_7 (\rho^* \rho) (\eta^\dagger \eta) - (\lambda_8)_{ij} (\overline{N_i^c} \eta^\dagger L_j + h.c.). \end{aligned}$$

m_1 and λ_1 are fixed by Higgs potential.

For negligible m_4 the coupling between scalars reads:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ \rho \end{pmatrix}^\dagger \begin{pmatrix} (\lambda_4 + \lambda_5)v & \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{2}} & \lambda_6 v \end{pmatrix} \Phi \begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ \rho \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus we identify: $m_2^2 = (\lambda_4 + \lambda_5) \frac{v^2}{2}$ and $m_3^2 = \lambda_6 \frac{v^2}{2}$

The masses of charged scalar particles are constrained by model independent limits from LEP.

[OPAL collaboration: Phys.Lett. B 572 \(2003\) 8](#)

The coupling between the Higgs and the charged scalars is constrained by the experimental measurements on the BR of Higgs into two photons.

$$R_{\gamma\gamma} = 1.20_{-0.14}^{+0.18}$$

[CMS collaboration: Eur.Phys.J. C 79 \(2019\) 421](#)

Both constrains are satisfied setting: $\lambda_{4,5} \approx 0.1$

(larger values are allowed but would lead to smaller electron recoil cross sections and lepton flavour violation)

Cosmological constraints

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & -m_1^2 \Phi^\dagger \Phi - m_2^2 \eta^\dagger \eta - m_3^2 \rho^* \rho - \frac{1}{2} m_4^2 (\rho^2 + (\rho^*)^2) - \mu (\eta^\dagger \Phi \rho + h.c.) - \frac{1}{2} m_{N_i} \overline{N_i^c} N_i \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_1 (\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_2 (\eta^\dagger \eta)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_3 (\rho^* \rho)^2 - \lambda_4 (\eta^\dagger \eta) (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) - \lambda_5 (\eta^\dagger \Phi) (\Phi^\dagger \eta) \\ & - \lambda_6 (\rho^* \rho) (\Phi^\dagger \Phi) - \lambda_7 (\rho^* \rho) (\eta^\dagger \eta) - (\lambda_8)_{ij} (\overline{N_i^c} \eta^\dagger L_j + h.c.). \end{aligned}$$

Missing satellite galaxies, cusp-core and too-big-to-fail problems can be solved by MeV neutrino DM, provided that it scatters off the active neutrinos in the early Universe by exchanging only slightly heavier scalars.



Singled and doublet masses have to be close to each other

$\lambda_{2,3,7}$ only concern processes of conversion of scalar particles (small phenomenological impact):



$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_2 &= 0.12, \\ \lambda_3 &= 0.13, \\ \lambda_7 &= 0.17 \end{aligned}$$

m_3 should be not much larger than ν , (i.e. $\lambda_6 \leq 3$):



Fix $\lambda_2 = 2.3$, vary ε

In order not to erase primordial DM fluctuation, for MeV DM and weak DM self-interactions, we need a small mass difference between MeV neutrino DM and the lightest scalar:



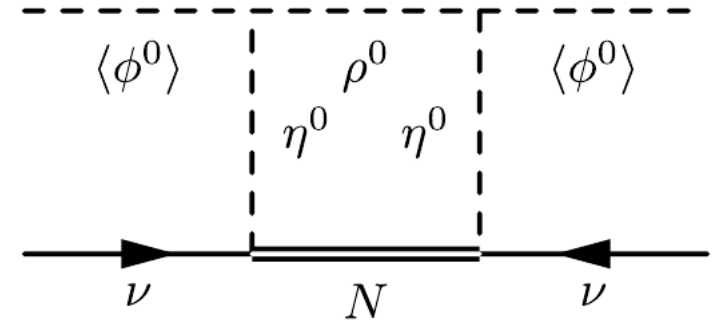
Ratio of N_1 mass over lightest scalar mass in the range [0.1, 0.98]

Neutrino constrains

Z_2 symmetry forbids tree level see-saw mechanism.

Neutrino masses are generated radiatively:

(In the aforementioned classification of minimal models, the SLIM model corresponds to model T1-1-A with hypercharge parameters $\alpha = 0$)



Neutrino masses are given by: $(M_\nu)_{ij} = \sum_k \frac{(\lambda_8)_{ik}(\lambda_8)_{jk}}{16\pi^2} m_{N_k} \left[\frac{\cos^2 \theta_R m_{1R}^2}{m_{1R}^2 - m_{N_k}^2} \ln \frac{m_{1R}^2}{m_{N_k}^2} + \frac{\sin^2 \theta_R m_{2R}^2}{m_{2R}^2 - m_{N_k}^2} \ln \frac{m_{2R}^2}{m_{N_k}^2} - \frac{\cos^2 \theta_I m_{1I}^2}{m_{1I}^2 - m_{N_k}^2} \ln \frac{m_{1I}^2}{m_{N_k}^2} - \frac{\sin^2 \theta_I m_{2I}^2}{m_{2I}^2 - m_{N_k}^2} \ln \frac{m_{2I}^2}{m_{N_k}^2} \right]$

We take the experimental constrains from neutrino measurements into account by fixing the coupling λ_8 by means of the Casas-Ibarra parametrization:

[J.A. Casa, A. Ibarra: Nucl.Phys. B 618 \(2001\) 171](#)

$$\lambda_8 = M^{-1/2} R D_\nu^{1/2} U_\nu^\dagger$$

With $M_\nu = \lambda_8^T M \lambda_8$ $R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ 0 & -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$ $D_\nu = U_\nu^\dagger M_\nu U_\nu = \text{diag}(0, m_{\nu 2}, m_{\nu 3})$

And U_ν being the PMNS neutrino mixing matrix

Parameter scan range

CHAIN OF TOOLS:

1) MINIMAL-LAGRANGIANS
(in-house tool for generating input Lagrangian for SLIM model)

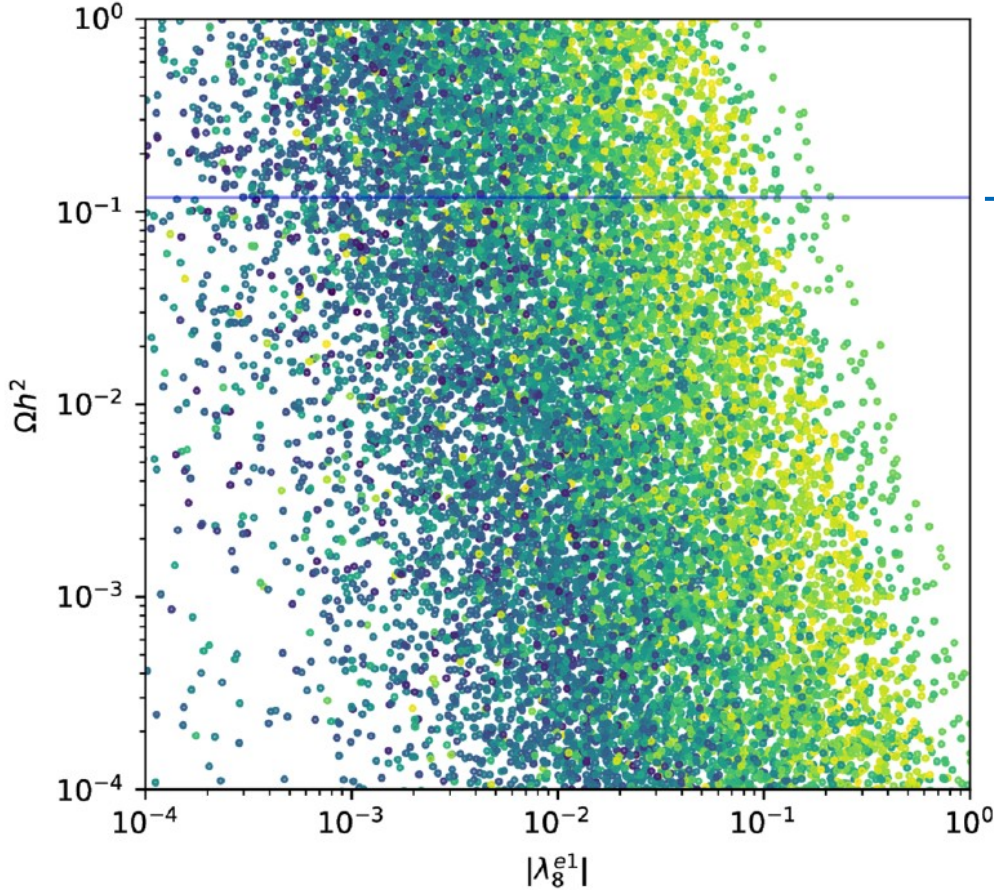
2) SARAH 4.14.2
(for generating Feynman rules and compilable SPheno and MICRomegas models and main files)

3) SPheno 4.0.3
(for generating the spectrum of each parameter space point, for collider and low energy observables as lepton flavour violation)

4) MICRomegas 4.3.5
(for calculating the relic density at each parameter space point)

Parameter	Value	Range	Phenomenological impact
m_1^2	$-(89 \text{ GeV})^2$	–	Fixed by v and m_h
m_2	83 GeV	–	Fixed by v , λ_4 and λ_5
m_3	264 GeV	–	Fixed by v and λ_6
m_4	–	10 keV ... 10 MeV	Induces soft U(1) breaking
μ	–	251 GeV ... 252 GeV	Fixed by v and ϵ
ϵ	–	$(10^{-5} \dots 6.1 \cdot 10^1) \text{ GeV}^2$	Induces MeV masses
m_{N_1}	–	$(0.1 \dots 0.98) \cdot m_{\zeta_2}$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{MeV})$ DM candidate
m_{N_2}	–	10 GeV ... 200 GeV	$\mathcal{O}(\text{GeV})$ sterile neutrino
λ_1	0.26	–	Fixed by v and m_h
λ_2	0.12	–	Induces only scalar conversions
λ_3	0.13	–	Induces only scalar conversions
λ_4	0.097	–	Fixed by v , $m_{\eta^\pm} = 99 \text{ GeV}$, $R_{\gamma\gamma}$
λ_5	0.13	–	Fixed by v , $m_{\eta^\pm} = 99 \text{ GeV}$, $R_{\gamma\gamma}$
λ_6	2.3	–	Induces MeV masses
λ_7	0.17	–	Induces only scalar conversions
λ_8	–	$10^{-6} \dots 10^2$	Fixed by Casas-Ibarra parametr.

Relic density constrains

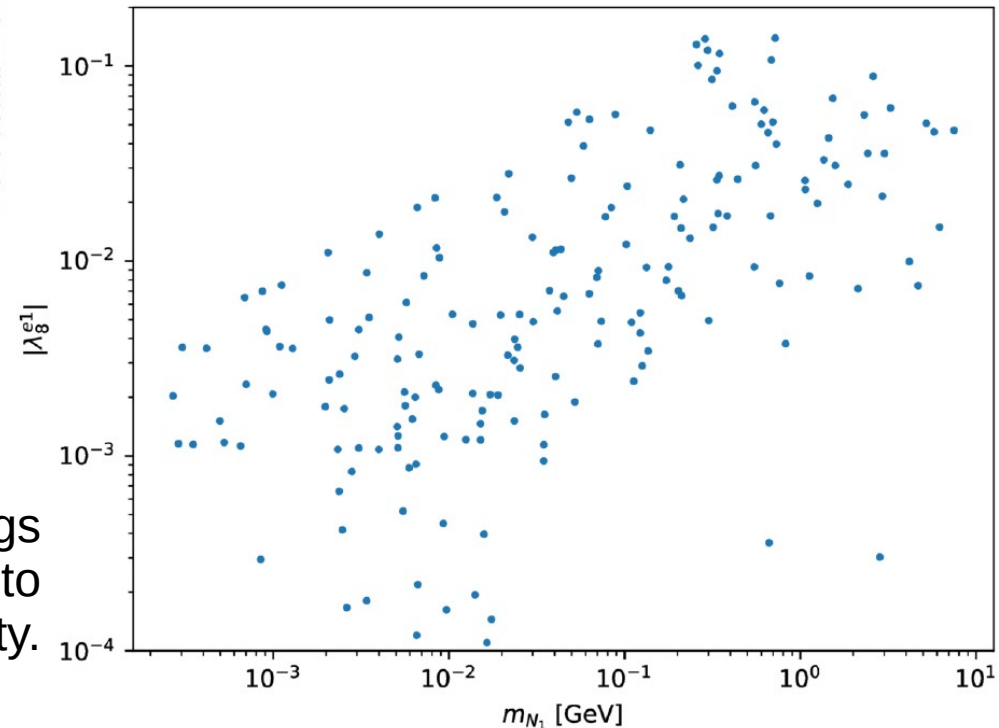


Planck measurements
on the DM relic density:

$$\Omega h^2 = 0.1186 \pm 0.0020$$

PLANCK collaboration: [arxiv:1807.06209](https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.06209)

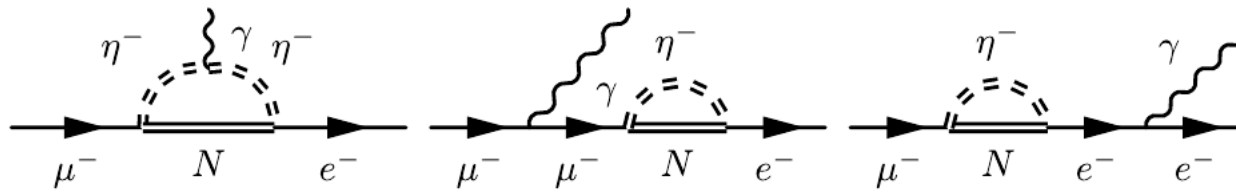
projection over the correct relic density



Relic density dropping quickly when
increasing the lepton coupling.

Heavier DM mass implies larger couplings
to leptons (enhanced DM annihilation)
to obtain the correct relic density.

Lepton flavour violation constrains



Diagrams contributing to LFV

$$\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$$

(most sensitive process, though other experiments will reach similar sensitivity in the future such as $\mu \rightarrow 3e$ and $\mu\text{-Ti} \rightarrow e\text{-Ti}$)

Current measurements from MEG experiment set constraints on leptonic couplings:

[MEG collaboration:](#)

[Eur.Phys.J. C 76 \(2016\) 434](#)

$$|\lambda_8^{e\mu}| < 6 \times 10^{-3}$$

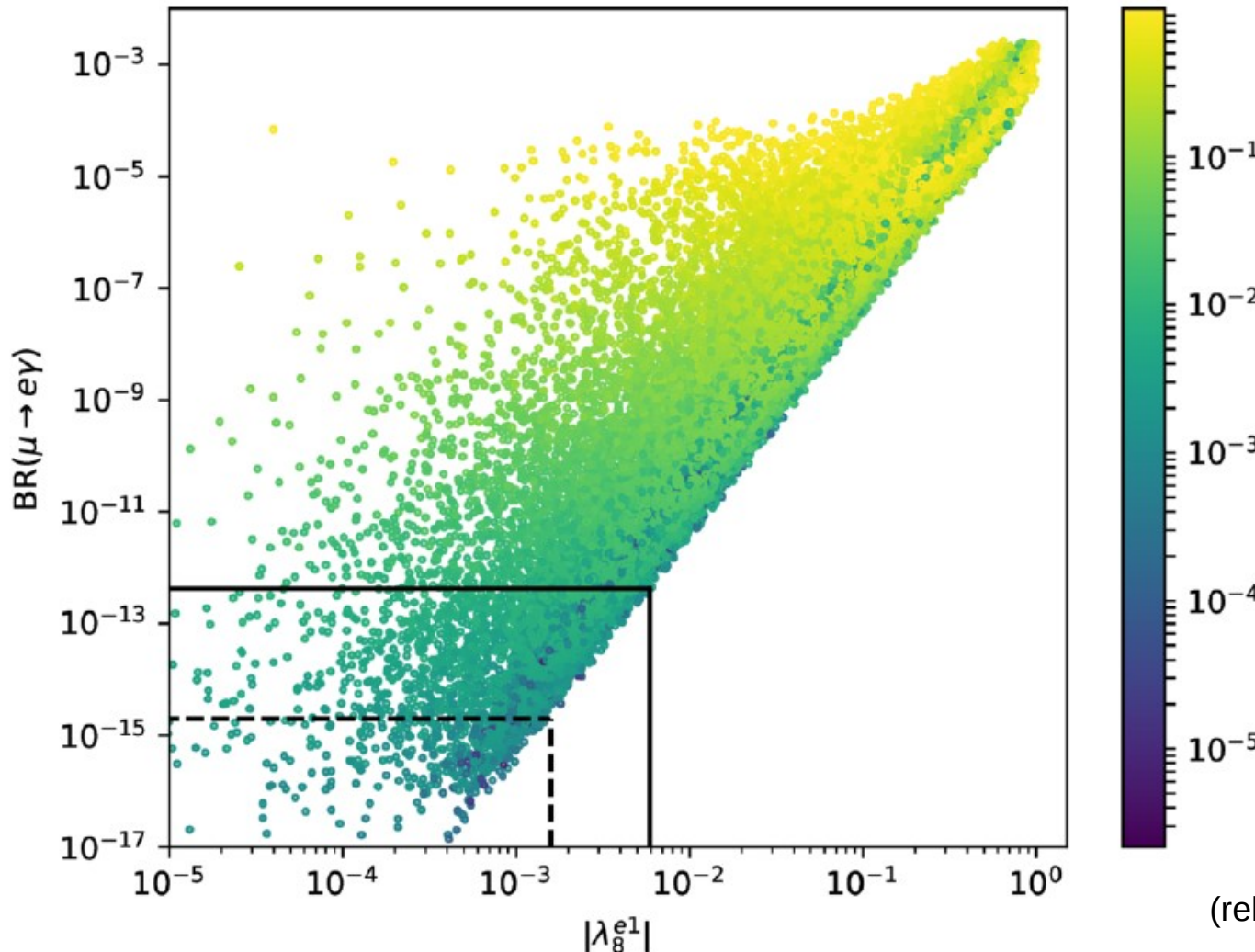
$$|\lambda_8^{\mu e}| < 10^{-2}$$

Future measurements would lower the limits on the couplings by about a factor of 4.

[F. Renga:](#)

[Hyperfine Interact. 239 \(2018\) 58](#)

(relic density constraints are not imposed here)



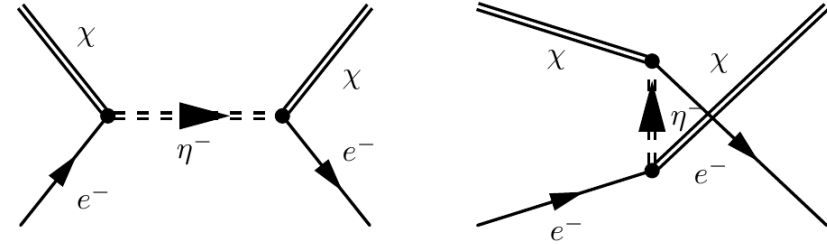
Electron recoil

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Electron recoil sensitivity study

LFV sets strong constraints on the couplings to leptons.

Nevertheless we expect some signal from electron recoil.



Ionization rate:

$$\frac{dR_{\text{ion}}}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}} = N_T \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \sum_{nl} \frac{d\langle \sigma_{\text{ion}}^{nl} v \rangle}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}}$$

N_T : # target nuclei per unit mass

$\rho_\chi = 0.4 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$: local DM density

[J.I. Read: J. Phys. G 41 \(2014\) 063101](#)

Thermally averaged differential cross section:

$$\frac{d\langle \sigma_{\text{ion}}^{nl} v \rangle}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}} = \frac{\bar{\sigma}_{\chi e}}{8\mu_{\chi e}^2} \int |f_{\text{ion}}^{nl}(k', q)|^2 F(k', Z_{\text{eff}}) |F_{\text{DM}}(q)|^2 \eta(v_{\text{min}}, t) q dq$$

Nuclear and atomic physics enters in:

- Ionization form factor
- Correction of wave function of escaping electron (Fermi function)

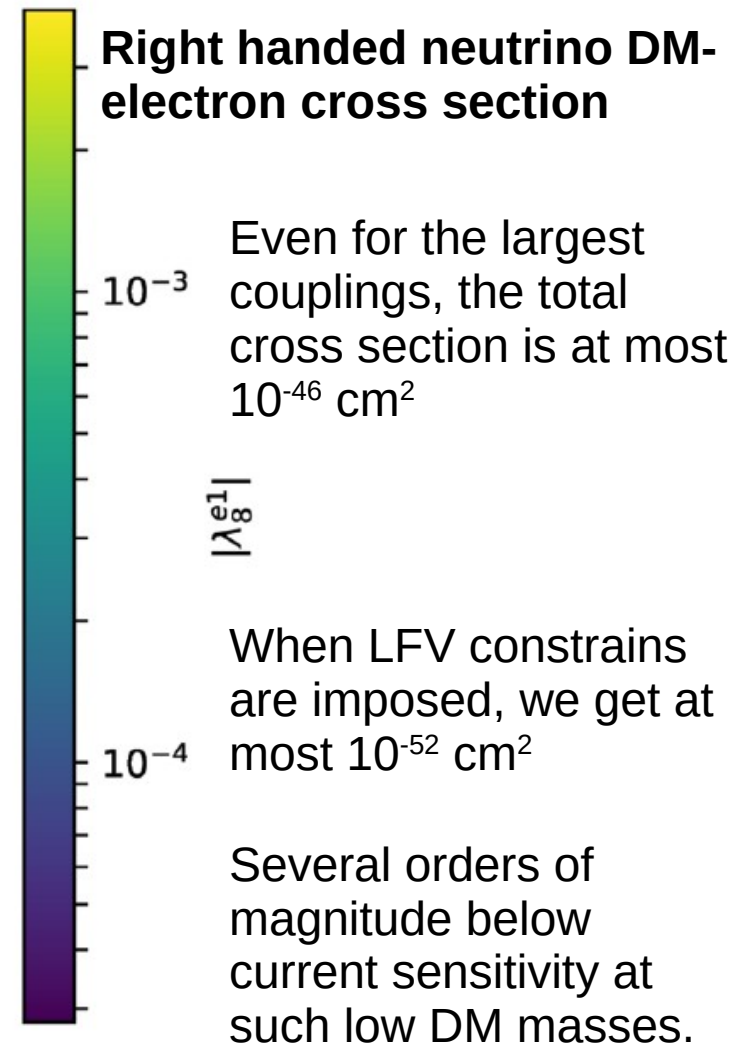
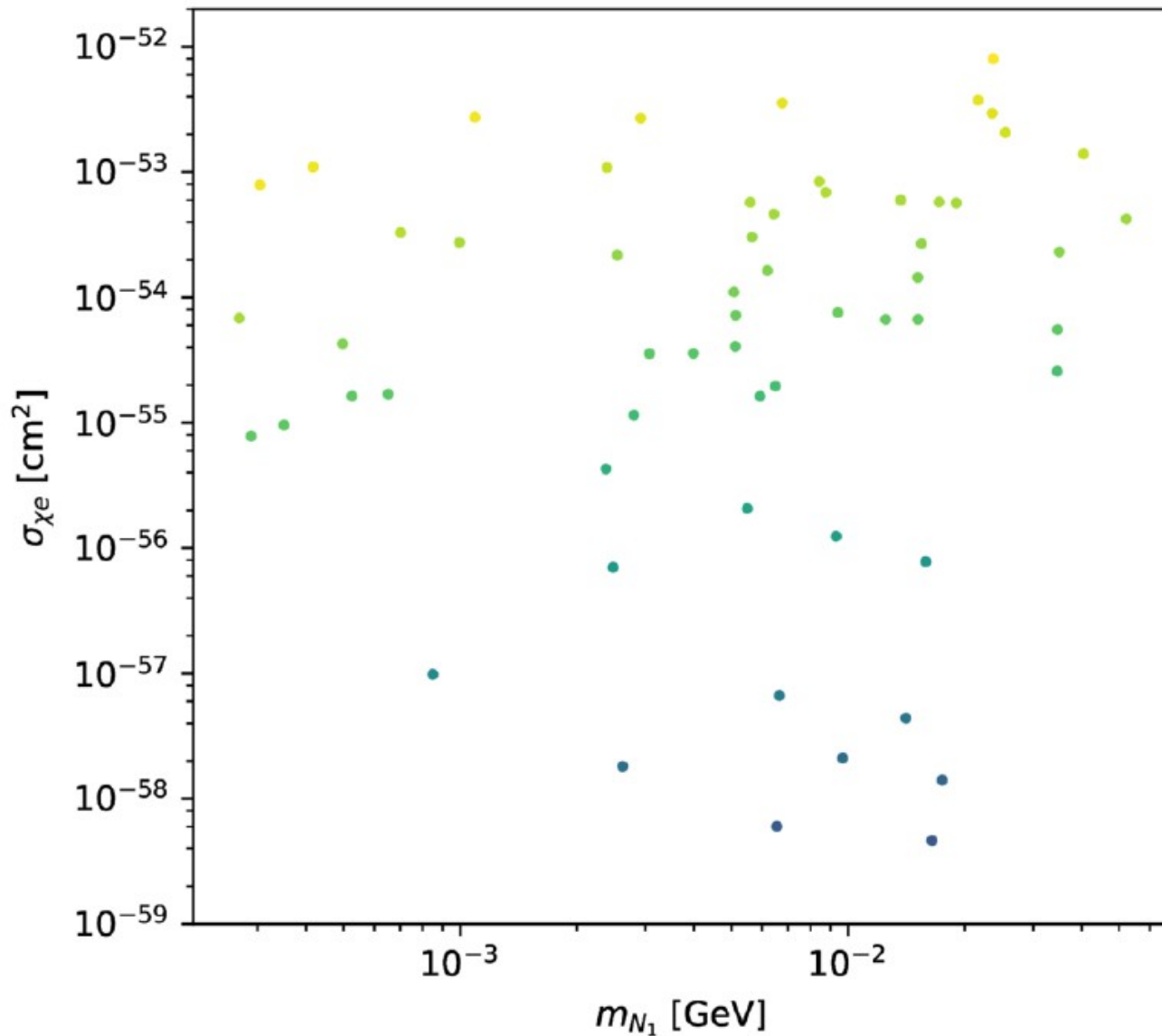
Astrophysics enters in:

- Mean inverse DM velocity (Standard Halo Model)

Particle physics enters in:

- DM-electron cross section (Form factor $F_{\text{DM}} = 1$ for heavy mediators)

Electron recoil sensitivity study



This is mainly driven by the large mass of the mediator η^\pm

Conclusions

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Conclusions

- We explored the constraints on the **SLIM** model, where the SM is augmented with right-handed neutrinos, a scalar (complex) singlet and a scalar (complex) doublet.
- The lightest right handed neutrinos with MeV to GeV masses can explain the observed DM abundance, and it can account for missing satellite, cusp-core and the too-big-to fail cosmological problems.
- The new scalars and their interactions with the right handed neutrinos provide a mechanism to generate the observed small neutrino masses at one-loop.
- We performed a scan over the parameter space of the model, selecting specific realizations that satisfy collider constraints, reproduce the observed SM neutrino mass differences and lead to the correct observed relic density.
- The viable points are predicted with relatively large couplings also with the SM charged leptons, thus we analysed the impact of current and future constraints from LFV experiments. Those turned out to strongly constrain further the parameter space of the model.
- We investigated the potential sensitivity on this model from electron recoil signals in direct detection experiments (XENON and others). Due to the heavy mediator mass and the constraints on the couplings to leptons from LFV experiments, the resulting DM-electron cross section turned out to be significantly smaller than current experimental sensitivity.

Thank you!



Casas-Ibarra parametrization

Factorize explicit dependence on the couplings from neutrino mass matrix:

$$M_\nu = \lambda_8^T M \lambda_8$$

Neutrino mass matrix can be diagonalized using PMNS matrix:

$$D_\nu = U_\nu^\dagger M_\nu U_\nu = \text{diag}(0, m_{\nu 2}, m_{\nu 3})$$

Combining this two expression we can write:

$$D_\nu = U_\nu^\dagger \lambda_8^T M \lambda_8 U_\nu$$

equivalently:

$$\text{diag}(0, 1, 1) = D_\nu^{-1/2} U_\nu^\dagger \lambda_8^T M \lambda_8 U_\nu D_\nu^{-1/2} \equiv R^\dagger R$$

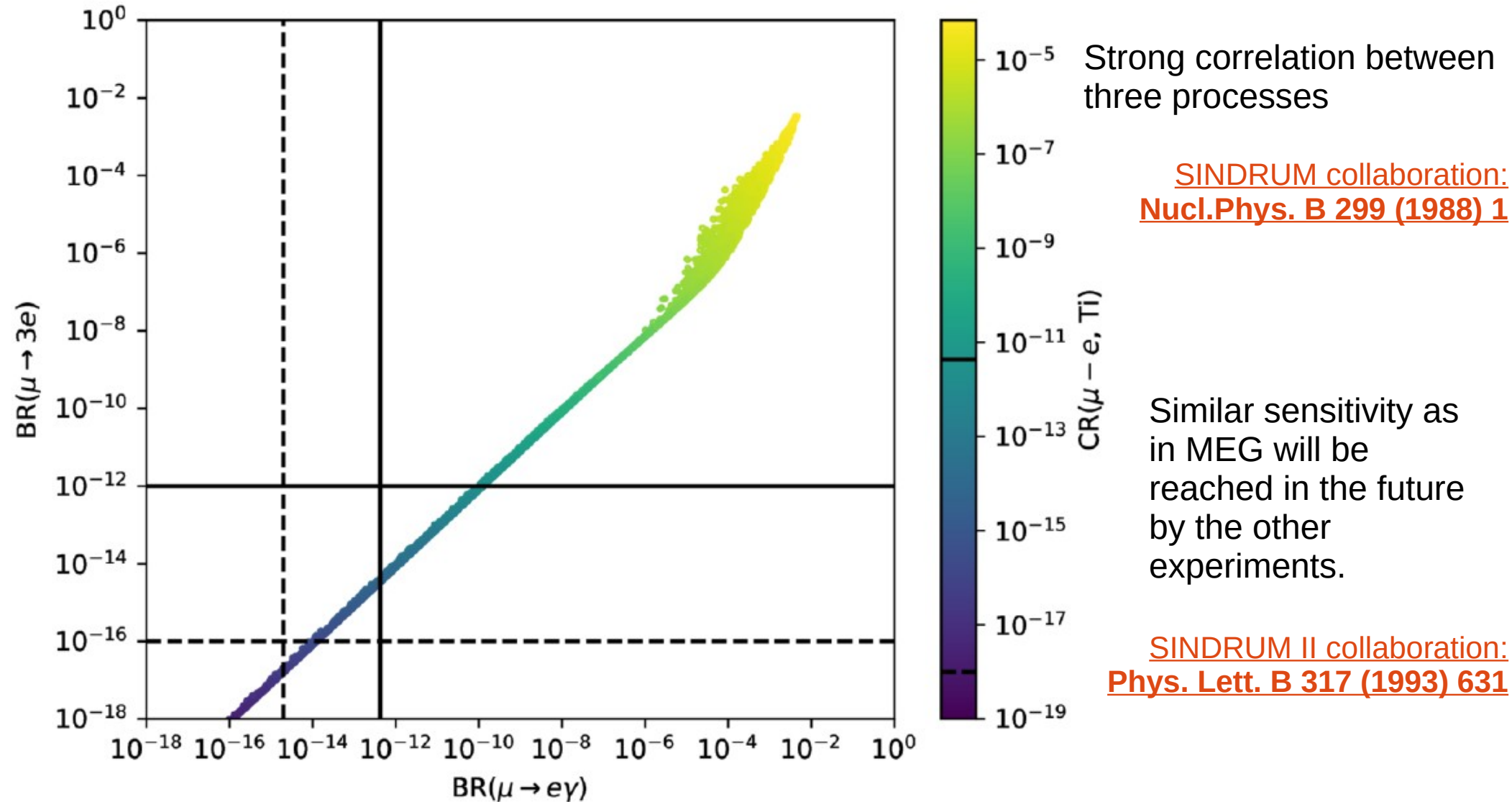
Left hand side can be written as **diag(0,1,1) = R[†]R** with R a rotation matrix:

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ 0 & -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad \longrightarrow \quad R = M^{1/2} \lambda_8 U_\nu D_\nu^{-1/2}$$

Inverting this relation we obtain an expression for the coupling in terms of the other quantities:

$$\lambda_8 = M^{-1/2} R D_\nu^{1/2} U_\nu^\dagger$$

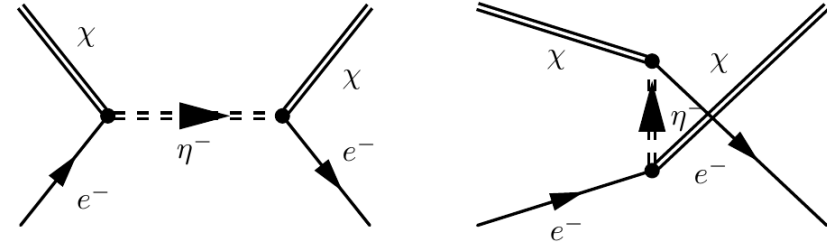
Lepton flavour violation constrains



Electron recoil sensitivity study

LFV sets strong constraints on the couplings to leptons.

Nevertheless we expect some signal from electron recoil.



Ionization rate:

$$\frac{dR_{\text{ion}}}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}} = N_{\text{T}} \frac{\rho_{\chi}}{m_{\chi}} \sum_{nl} \frac{d\langle \sigma_{\text{ion}}^{nl} v \rangle}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}}$$

N_{T} : # target nuclei per unit mass

$\rho_{\chi} = 0.4 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$: local DM density

[J.I. Read: J. Phys. G 41 \(2014\) 063101](#)

Thermally averaged differential cross section:

$$\frac{d\langle \sigma_{\text{ion}}^{nl} v \rangle}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}} = \frac{\bar{\sigma}_{\chi e}}{8\mu_{\chi e}^2} \int |f_{\text{ion}}^{nl}(k', q)|^2 F(k', Z_{\text{eff}}) |F_{\text{DM}}(q)|^2 \eta(v_{\text{min}}, t) q dq$$

$$|f_{\text{ion}}^{nl}(k', q)|^2 = \frac{(2\ell + 1)k'^2}{4\pi^3 q} \int |\chi_{nl}(k)|^2 k dk$$

$$F(k', Z_{\text{eff}}) = \frac{2\pi\nu}{1 - e^{-2\pi\nu}} \quad \text{with} \quad \nu = Z_{\text{eff}} \frac{\alpha m_e}{k'}$$

χ_{nl} : radial part of momentum space wave function of bound electron

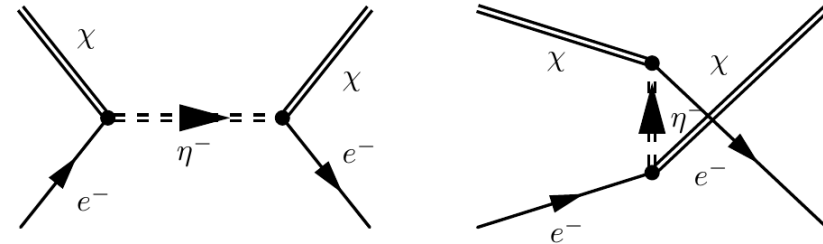
Z_{eff} : effective charge felt by the electron ($Z_{\text{eff}} = 1$)

(Assuming target electrons as single-particles states of isolated atoms, we can use numerically tabulated Roothaan-Hartree-Fock wave functions)

Electron recoil sensitivity study

LFV sets strong constraints on the couplings to leptons.

Nevertheless we expect some signal from electron recoil.



Ionization rate:

$$\frac{dR_{\text{ion}}}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}} = N_T \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \sum_{nl} \frac{d\langle \sigma_{\text{ion}}^{nl} v \rangle}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}}$$

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Thermally averaged differential cross section:

$$\frac{d\langle \sigma_{\text{ion}}^{nl} v \rangle}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}} = \frac{\bar{\sigma}_{\chi e}}{8\mu_{\chi e}^2} \int |f_{\text{ion}}^{nl}(k', q)|^2 F(k', Z_{\text{eff}}) |F_{\text{DM}}(q)|^2 \eta(v_{\text{min}}, t) q dq$$

$$\eta(v_{\text{min}}, t) = \int_{v_{\text{min}}}^{\infty} \frac{d^3v}{v} f(\mathbf{v}, t)$$

$$f_{\infty}(\mathbf{v}) = 1/N_{\text{esc}} (\pi v_0^2)^{-3/2} e^{-\mathbf{v}^2/v_0^2}, \quad \text{if } |\mathbf{v}| \leq v_{\text{esc}}$$

$$v_{\text{min}} = \frac{E_B^{nl} + E_{\text{er}}}{q} + \frac{q}{2m_\chi}$$

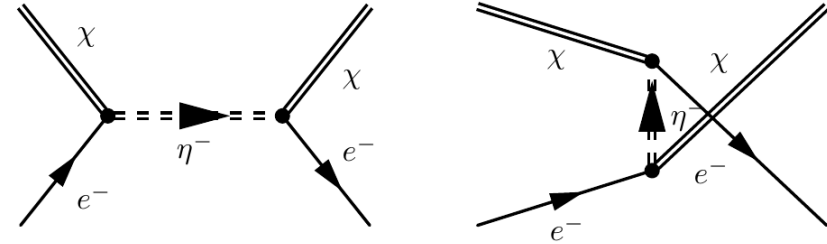
E_B : binding energy
 E_{er} : recoil energy

Local circular velocity : $v_0 = 220 \text{ km/s}$
 Escape velocity : $v_{\text{esc}} = 544 \text{ km/s}$

Electron recoil sensitivity study

LFV sets strong constraints on the couplings to leptons.

Nevertheless we expect some signal from electron recoil.



Ionization rate:

$$\frac{dR_{\text{ion}}}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}} = N_T \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \sum_{nl} \frac{d\langle \sigma_{\text{ion}}^{nl} v \rangle}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}}$$

N_T : # target nuclei per unit mass

$\rho_\chi = 0.4 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$: local DM density

[J.I. Read: J. Phys. G 41 \(2014\) 063101](#)

Thermally averaged differential cross section:

$$\frac{d\langle \sigma_{\text{ion}}^{nl} v \rangle}{d \ln E_{\text{er}}} = \frac{\bar{\sigma}_{\chi e}}{8\mu_{\chi e}^2} \int |f_{\text{ion}}^{nl}(k', q)|^2 F(k', Z_{\text{eff}}) |F_{\text{DM}}(q)|^2 \eta(v_{\text{min}}, t) q dq$$

$$\bar{\sigma}_{\chi e} = \frac{\mu_{\chi e}^2}{16\pi m_\chi^2 m_e^2} |\mathcal{M}_{e\chi}(q)|^2 \Big|_{q^2=\alpha^2 m_e^2}$$

Non-relativistic reference cross section at fixed momentum transfer

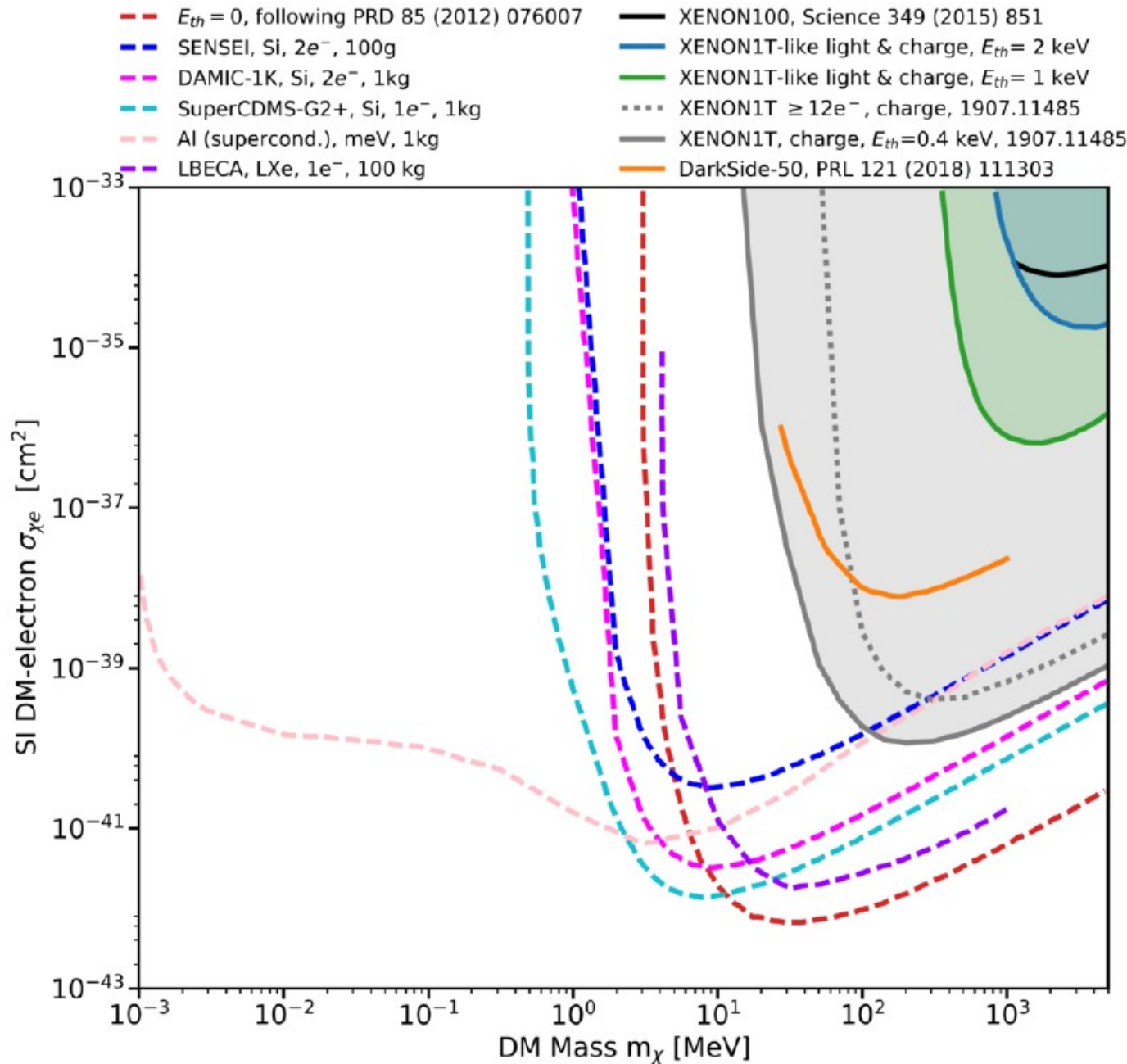
$$|F_{\text{DM}}(q)|^2 = |\mathcal{M}_{e\chi}(q)|^2 / |\mathcal{M}_{e\chi}(\alpha m_e)|^2$$

Form factor captures the q -dependence of the matrix element

$$\bar{\sigma}_{\chi e} = \frac{\mu_{\chi e}^2 (\lambda_8^{e1})^4}{\pi m_{\eta^\pm}^4}$$

For heavy mediators we can assume $F_{\text{DM}} = 1$ and integrate out the propagator

Electron recoil sensitivity study



XENON novel analysis exploiting only S2 signal with low energy threshold at most few times 10^{-41} cm^2

(several strong assumptions on detector threshold and background)