

## Neutrinos in direct detection experiments: obstacle or aid to new physics?

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IDM 2022

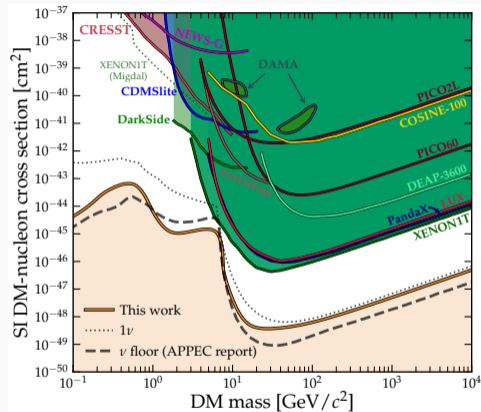
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**Based on:** arXiv:2104.03297 (*Eur.Phys.J.C*) and arXiv:2209.xxxx

July 21, 2022

# The Neutrino Floor and Direct Detection

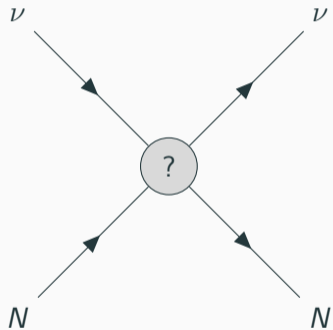
- As direct detection experiments get more sensitive, they will start to observe solar neutrinos.
- This signal is very similar to dark matter signal, makes up an irreducible background known as the neutrino floor or fog.
- Work on annual modulation and directional detection needed to move past this.



arXiv:2109.03116 + C. O'Hare's talk

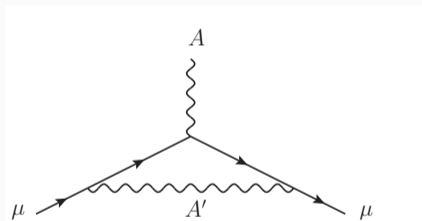
## Direct detection as a neutrino detector

- For dark matter physics,  $\nu$  signal is a pesky background.
- In our work, we try to determine what can be learnt about neutrino physics from direct dark matter detection experiments.
- In **arXiv:2104.03297** we do this in the context of a specific model.
- Currently finalising a more general study with Non-Standard neutrino Interactions (NSI's).



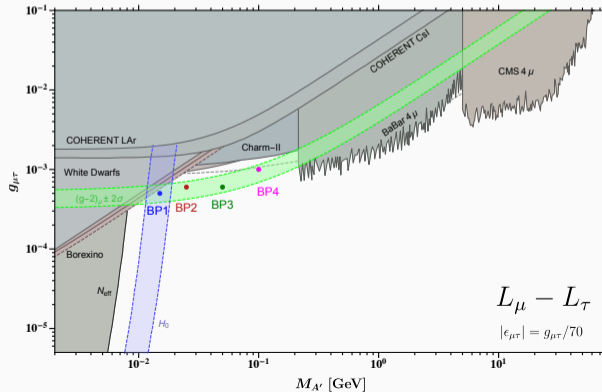
## Direct detection testing a solution to $(g - 2)_\mu$

- The measurement of the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon is in tension with the Standard Model theoretical expectation.
- A simple solution is to invoke the existence of new light gauge boson,  $A'$ .
- We note that only the  $\mu - A'$  interaction contributes.



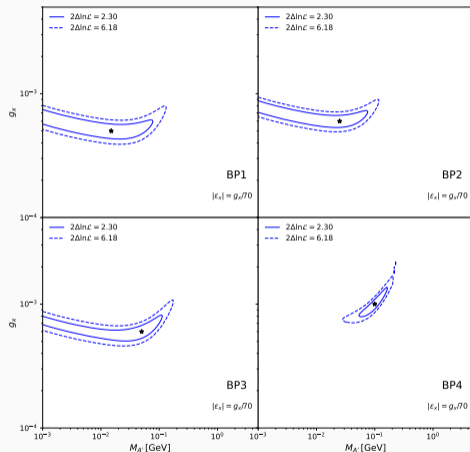
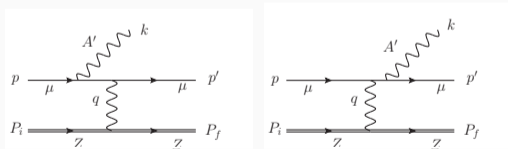
# An anomaly free solution requires $\tau$ interactions

- In order to cancel anomalies in the gauge theory, one needs additional interactions to the  $\mu - A'$ .
- The  $U(1)_{L_\mu - L_\tau}$  interaction is a viable solution and evades existing constraints.



# Muon fixed targets and $U(1)_{L_\mu-L_\tau}$

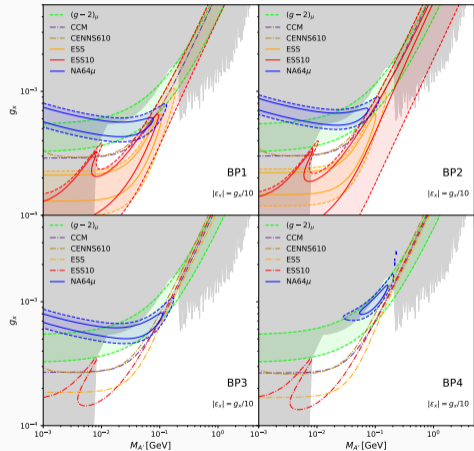
- Muon fixed target experiments like  $M^3$  and  $NA64_\mu$  will be able to probe  $U(1)_{L_\mu-L_\tau}$  by searching for invisible decays.
- Only a test of muon interaction.



- Measuring coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering (CE $\nu$ NS) at spallation sources allows one to measure the kinetic mixing parameter  $\epsilon$ .

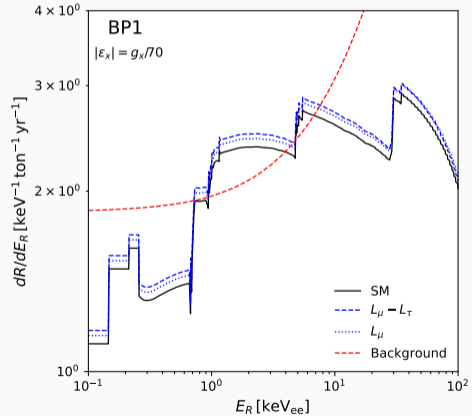
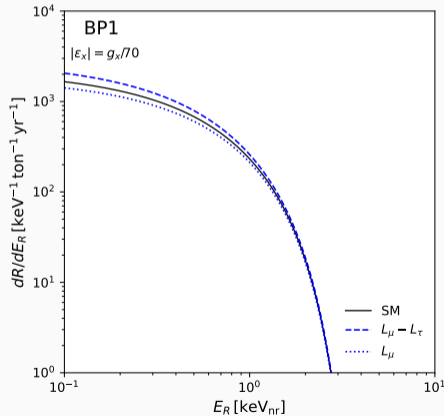
$$\epsilon_{\mu\tau} \approx \frac{e g_{\mu\tau}}{6\pi^2} \log\left(\frac{m_\mu}{m_\tau}\right) \approx -\frac{g_{\mu\tau}}{70}$$

- Also makes neutrino and DM-coupled mediator models distinguishable.



# Direct detection would measure the $\nu_\tau$ interactions

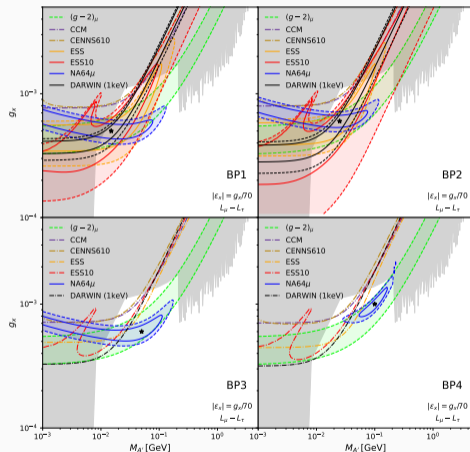
- The flux of  $\nu_\tau$ 's from the sun will provide an important differentiator between direct detection and CE $\nu$ NS.





# Confirmation of the $U(1)_{L_\mu-L_\tau}$

- Direct detection could provide confirmation of the  $U(1)_{L_\mu-L_\tau}$  solution to  $(g-2)_\mu$ .
- The lighter  $m_{A'}$  solutions would be observed in DARWIN for example.
- There is a high degree of complementarity across the searches.



# Non Standard Neutrino Interactions and Direct Detection

- A general way to parameterize neutrino interactions beyond the Standard Model is by using an effective description

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NSI}} = -2\sqrt{2} G_F \sum_{\substack{f=e,u,d \\ \alpha,\beta=e,\mu,\tau}} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fP} [\bar{\nu}_\alpha \gamma_\rho P_L \nu_\beta] [\bar{f} \gamma^\rho P f]$$

- Consider only  $f = e, u, d$  because we consider neutrino interactions with matter.

- When using oscillation experiments to constrain the  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fP}$  one often assumes  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{eP} = 0$ .
- This is because oscillations through neutral matter are effected by the sum of charged interactions

$$(\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^e + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^p) + Y_n(x) \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^n$$

- where  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^p = 2\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^u + \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^d$  and  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^n = \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^u + 2\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^d$ .
- This has the benefit of leaving the  $\sigma_{\nu e}$  unchanged.
- Can reparameterise  $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{fP} = \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta}^{\eta,\varphi} \xi^{fP}$  with

$$\xi^p = \sqrt{5} \cos \eta,$$

$$\xi^n = \sqrt{5} \sin \eta$$

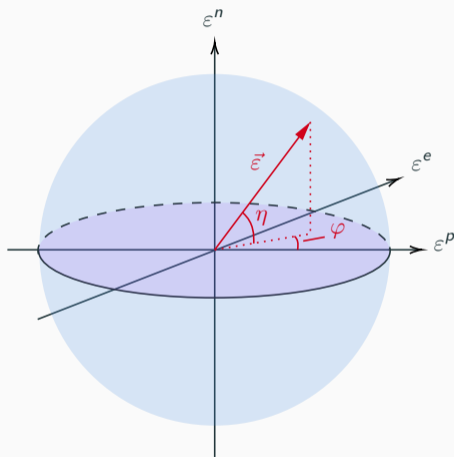
## Extended NSI Parameterisation

- Because direct detection experiments will simultaneously be able to probe nuclear and recoil scatterings, we propose an extension of the NSI parameterisation.

$$\xi^e = \sqrt{5} \cos \eta \sin \varphi ,$$

$$\xi^p = \sqrt{5} \cos \eta \cos \varphi ,$$

$$\xi^n = \sqrt{5} \sin \eta .$$



## Calculating the recoil rate from solar neutrinos

A modification is required in the rate calculation

- For flavour diagonal neutrino interactions

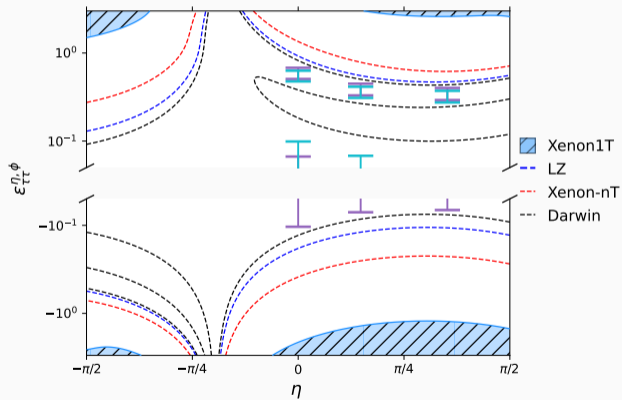
$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = n_T \sum_{\nu_\alpha} \int_{E_\nu^{\min}} \frac{d\phi_{\nu_e}}{dE_\nu} P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_\alpha) \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} dE_\nu,$$

- In general, ( $\varepsilon_{\alpha\beta} \neq 0$  when  $\alpha \neq \beta$ )

$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = n_T \int_{E_\nu^{\min}} \frac{d\phi_\nu}{dE_\nu} \text{Tr} \left[ \rho \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} \right] dE_\nu$$

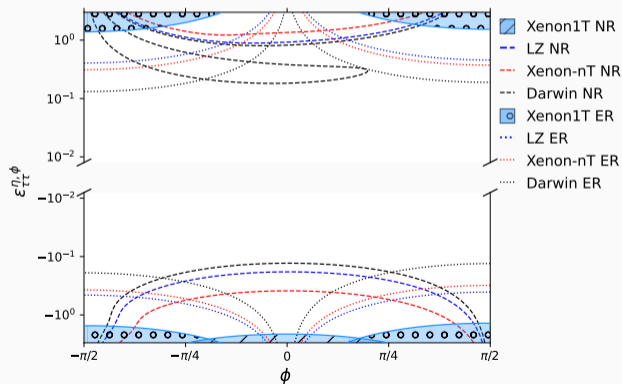
# Projections for Nuclear recoils

- Here we show  $\phi = 0$ , i.e. completely in the proton-neutron plane.



# Direct Detection will have Electronic and Nuclear Recoils

- When  $\phi \neq 0$  electronic and nuclear recoils will be observable at direct detection experiments.





# Conclusions

- Direct detection experiments will soon be probing the solar neutrino background.
- There are interesting new physics studies that can be done with this signal.
- We show that for the  $U(1)_{L_\mu-L_\tau}$  solution to  $(g-2)_\mu$ , direct detection will provide important information.
- Current work is ongoing for calculating the projections for direct detection with non-standard neutrino interactions.
- Keep an eye on the arXiv!



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