

BSM and dark sector: introduction

Stefania Gori
UC Santa Cruz

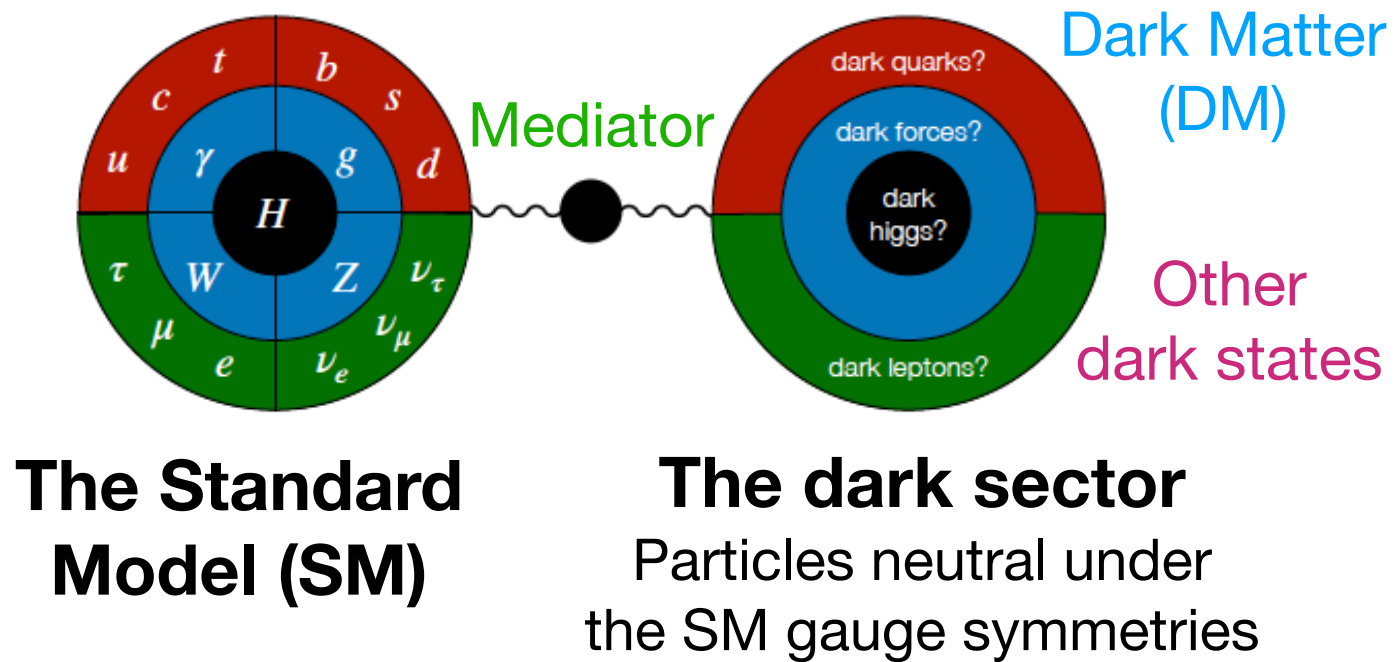


Vietnam Flavour Physics Conference 2022

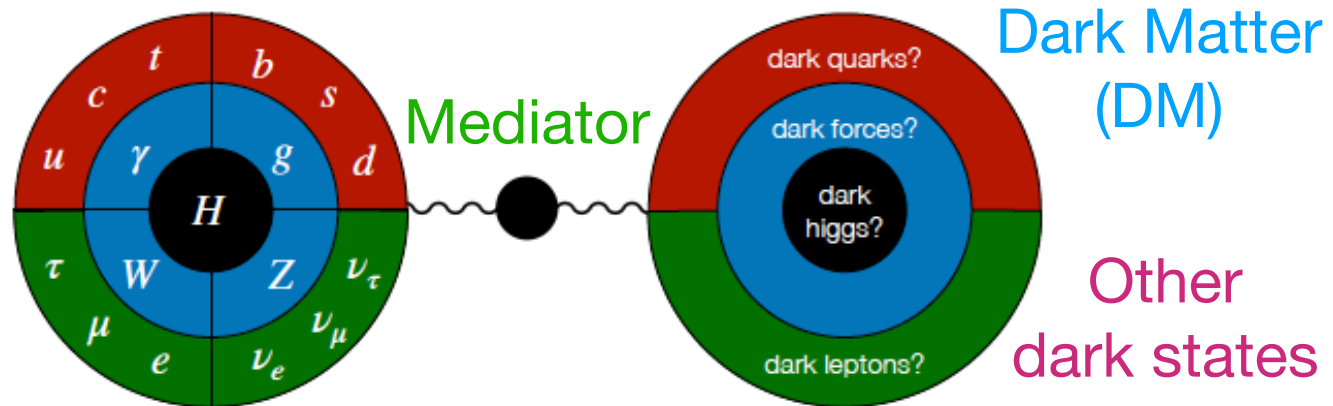
Quy Nhon

August 19, 2022

What's a dark sector?

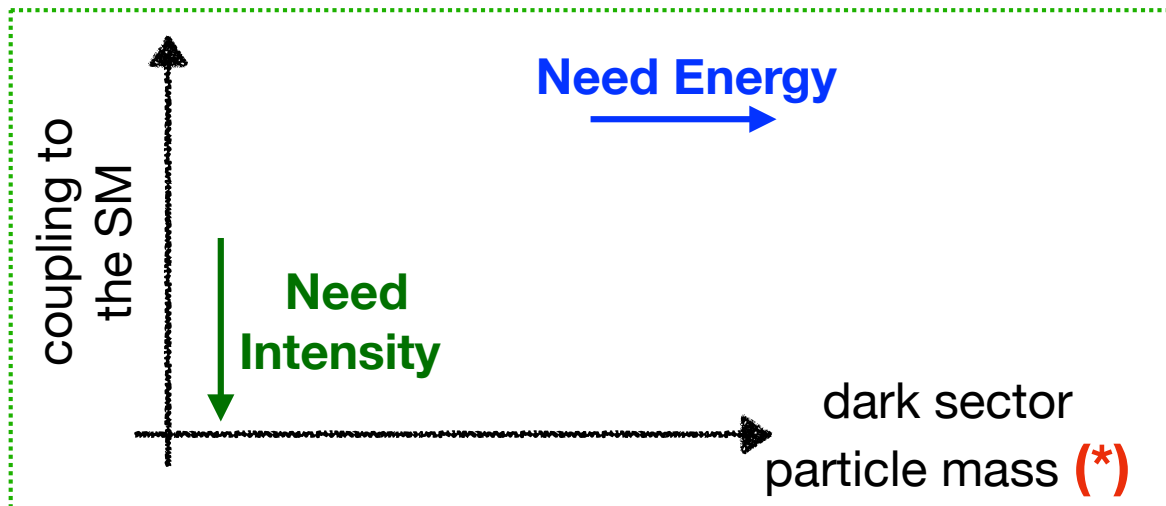


What's a dark sector?



The Standard Model (SM)

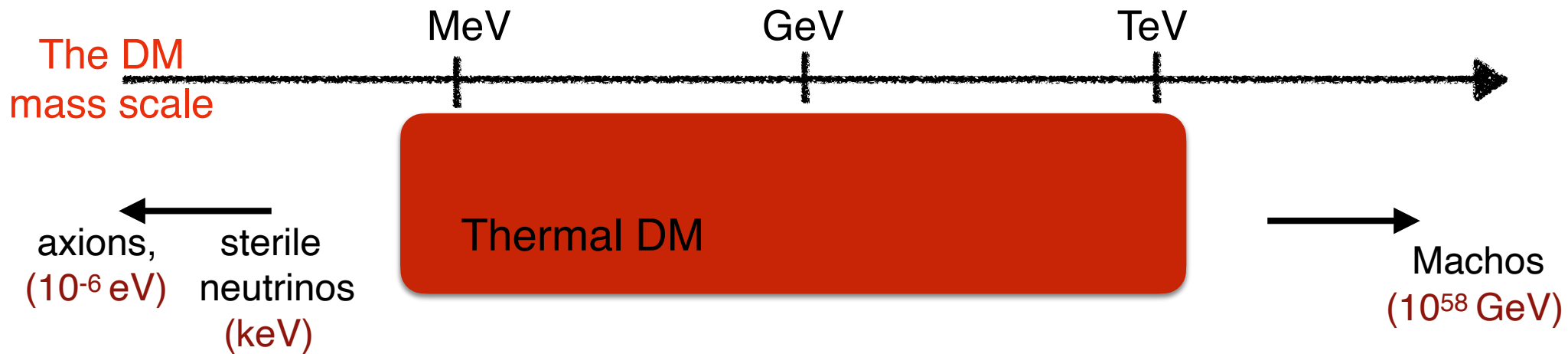
The dark sector
Particles neutral under the SM gauge symmetries



(*) It can be protected by an approximate symmetry

Why a dark sector?...

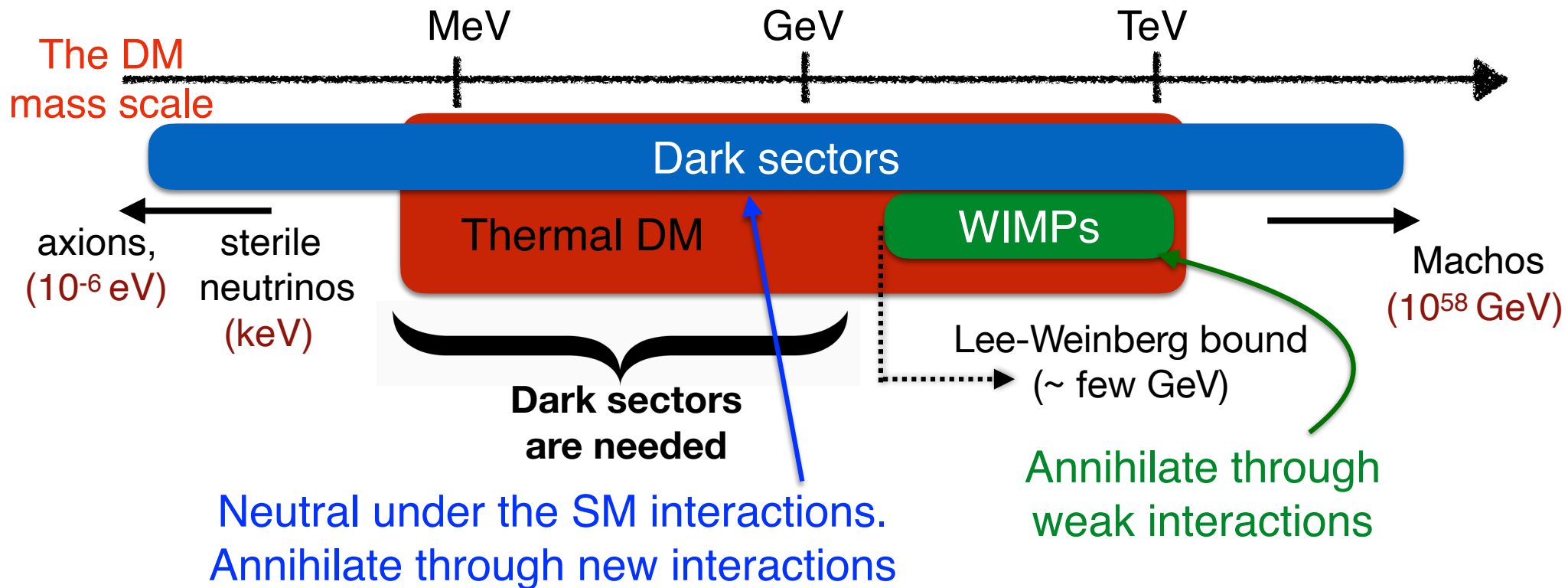
The Dark Matter scale



The dark matter scale is **unknown**.

Completely different search strategies depending on the mass of dark matter

The Dark Matter scale



The dark matter scale is **unknown**.

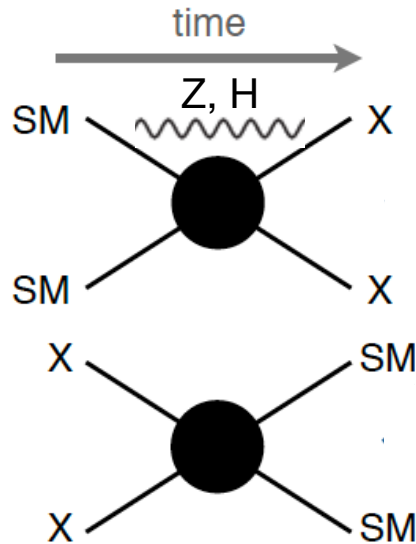
Completely different search strategies depending on the mass of dark matter

Today we will focus on dark matter with a mass in **~(MeV, GeV)**

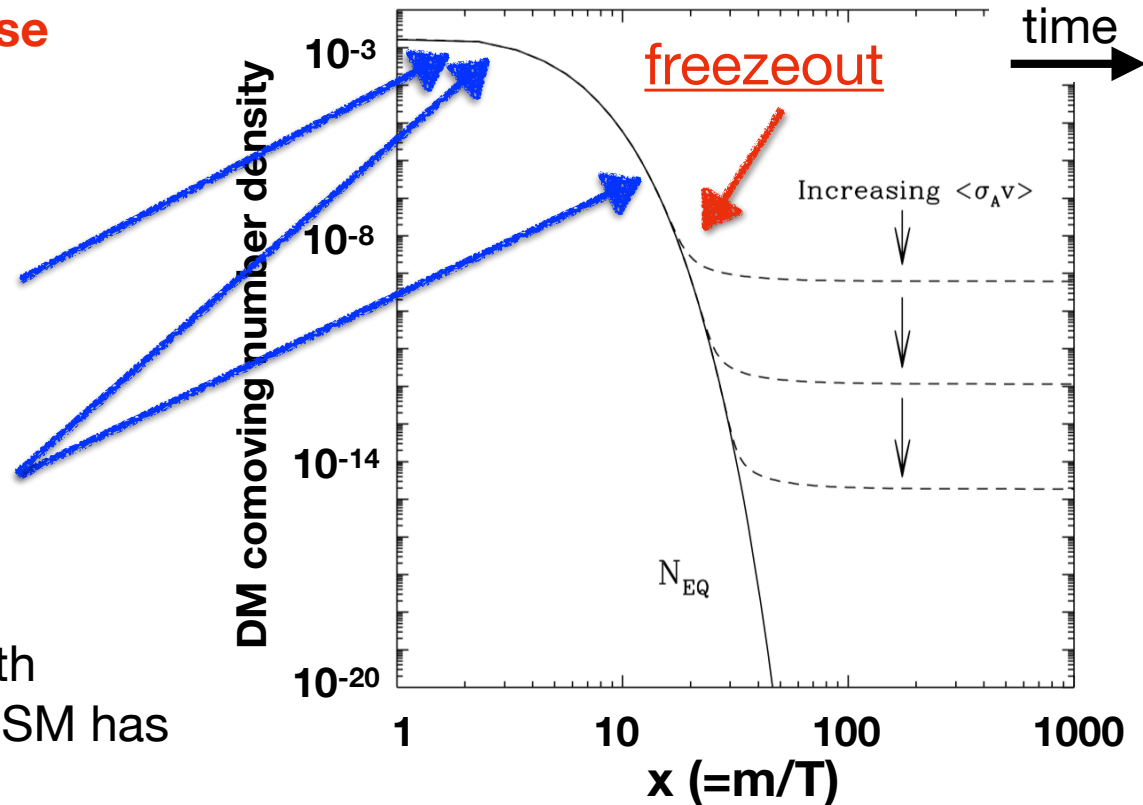
The WIMP miracle

(Weakly Interacting Massive Particles)

Thermal in the early universe



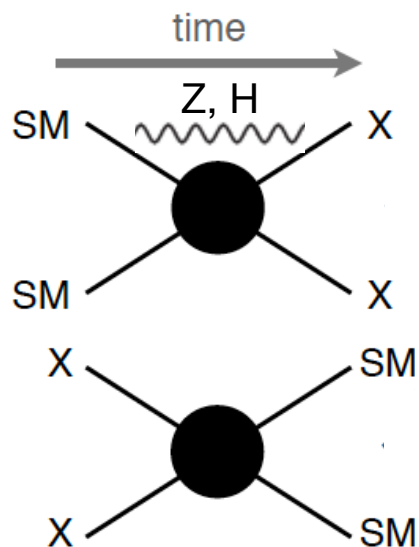
DM at \sim the electroweak scale with \sim electroweak couplings with the SM has the measured relic abundance



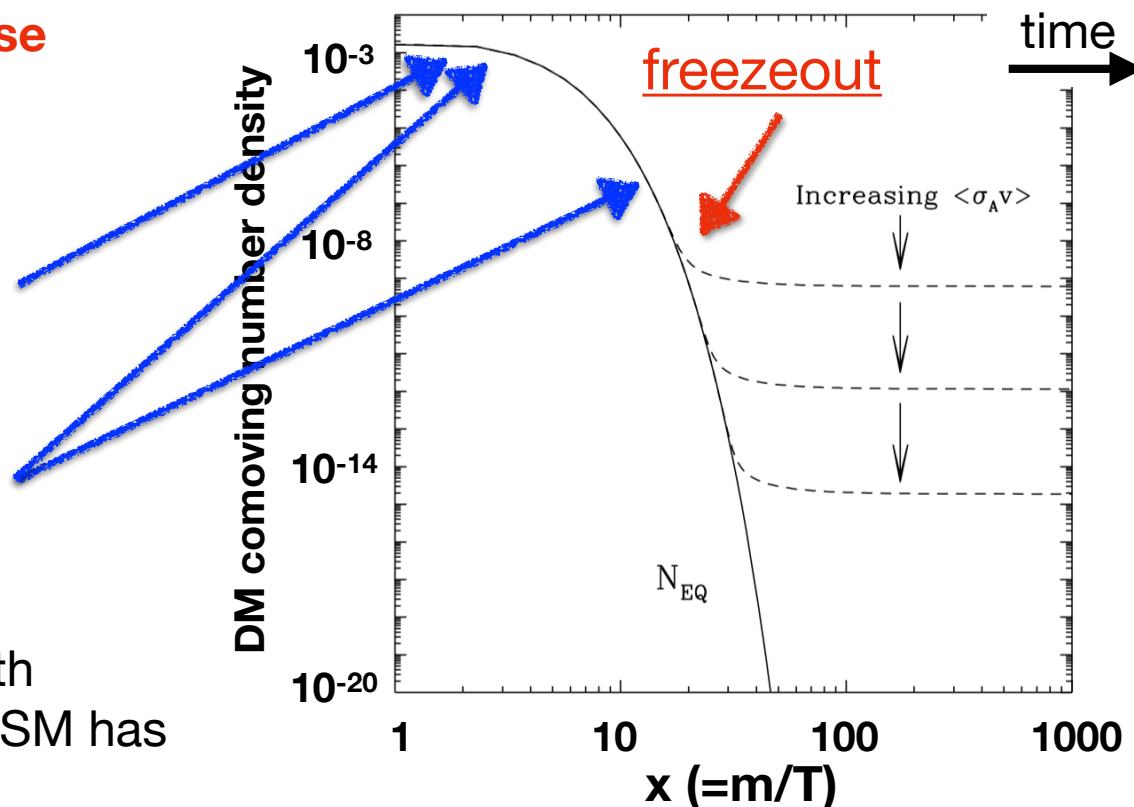
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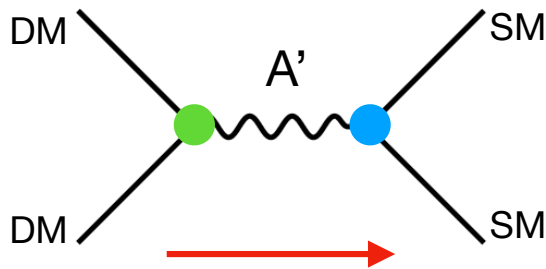
Generalization: freeze-out for DM particles with a mass below the few GeV scale.

Diagram illustrating the annihilation of two DM particles into two SM particles via a mediator A' . The diagram shows two DM lines entering a vertex (green dot), which connects to a wavy line labeled A' , which then connects to another vertex (blue dot) from which two SM lines emerge.

$$\sigma \propto \frac{y}{m_{DM}^2}, \quad y \equiv \epsilon^2 \alpha_D \left(\frac{m_{DM}}{m_{A'}} \right)^4$$

if $m_{A'} > 2m_{DM}$

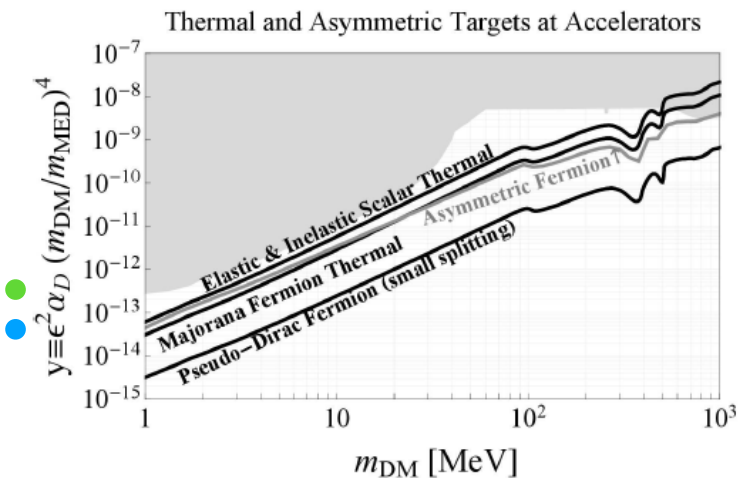
Probing DM at accelerators & at direct detection experiments



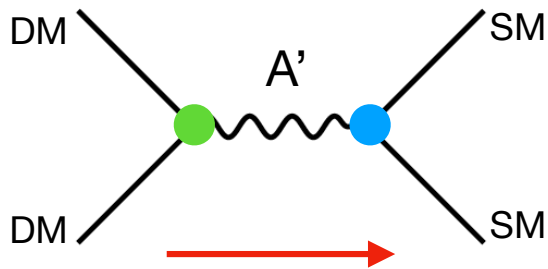
Sets the relic abundance

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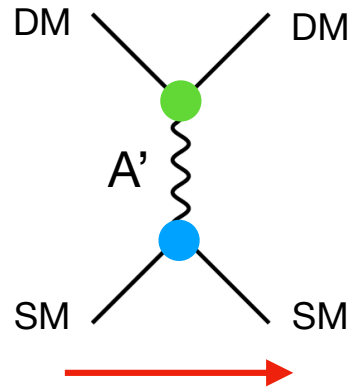
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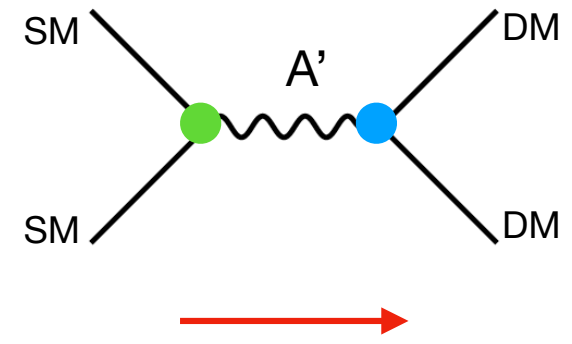
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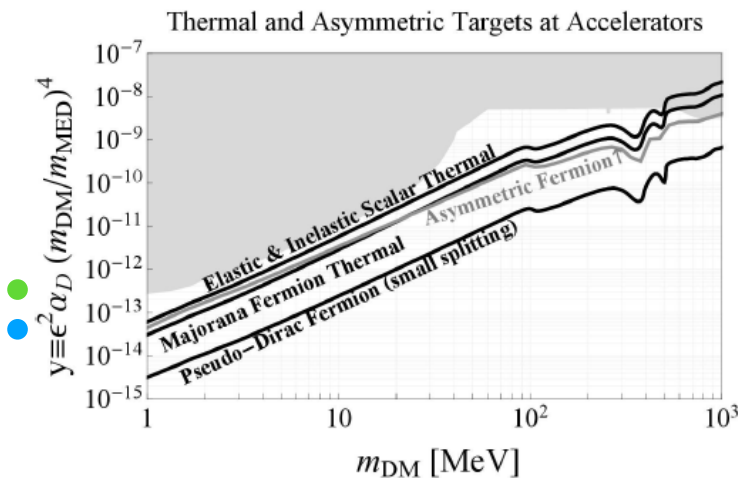
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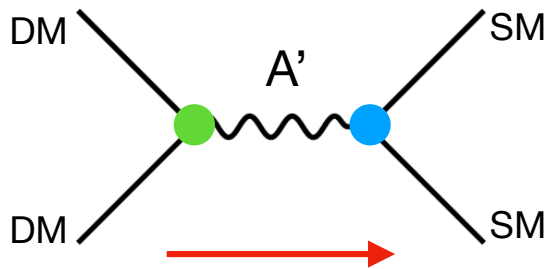
Direct detection
(see G. Blockinger talk today)



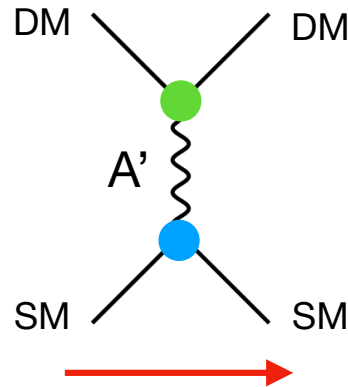
Production at accelerators



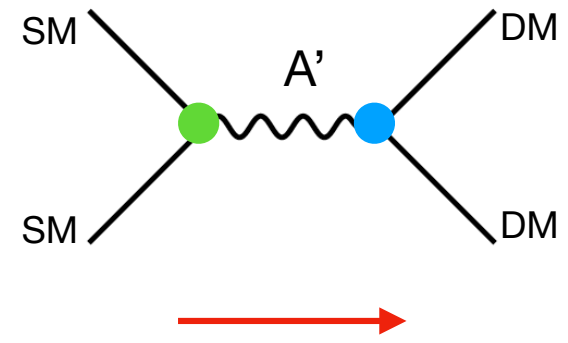
Probing DM at accelerators & at direct detection experiments



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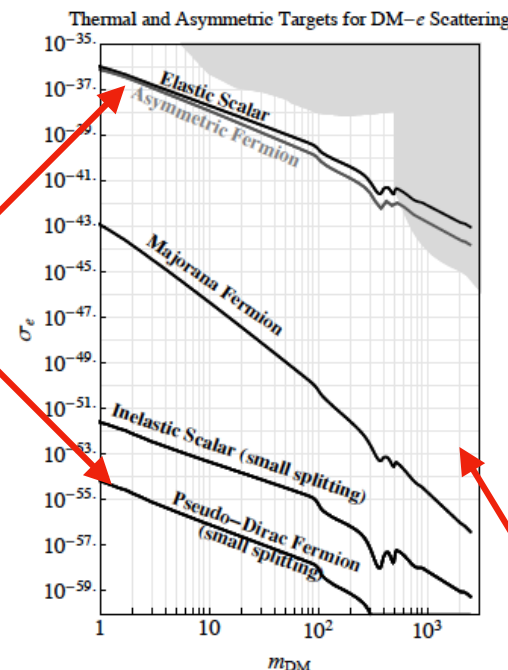
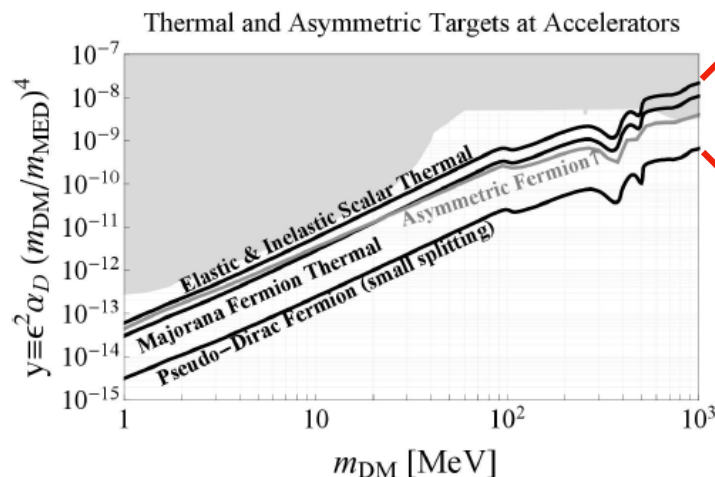
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Production at accelerators

$$\sigma \propto \frac{y}{m_{\text{DM}}^2},$$

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Accelerator production recreates the kinematic conditions of the early universe (**DM is relativistic**).

It is ~ unaffected by the nature of DM.

non-relativistic
scattering

Dark sectors: a generic feature of New Physics models

Beyond the Dark Matter motivation,
dark sectors arise in many theories beyond the Standard Model:

* Theories motivated by the hierarchy problem:

- Supersymmetric theories (Next-to-Minimal-Supersymmetric-Standard-Model)
- Neutral Naturalness
- Relaxion theories

* Theories that explain the baryon-antibaryon asymmetry

* Theories that address the strong CP problem

* Theories for the generation of neutrino masses

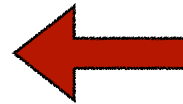
* Several **anomalies in data** can be addressed by dark sectors
(eg. $(g-2)_\mu$, B-physics anomalies, ...)

From a phenomenological point of view,
the signatures to search for are often similar

Exploring the dark sector

Symmetries of Standard Model provide a framework for the **systematic exploration of (weakly-coupled) dark sector physics**

- SM gauge-invariant
- Dark sector gauge-invariant
- Lorentz invariant
- Lowest dimensional operator first
- Minimal number of particles first (*)
- Flavor invariant operators first (*)



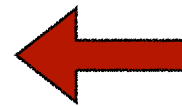
simple set
of requirements

(*) some studies go
beyond this assumption

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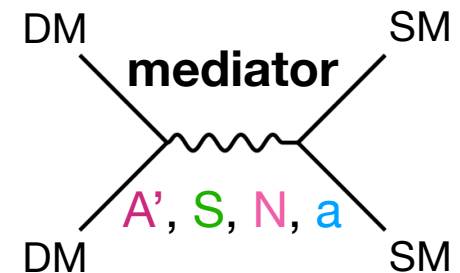
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Dark sector portals

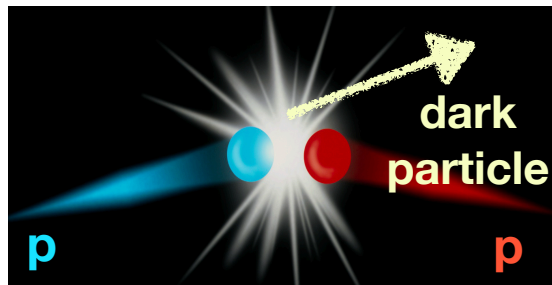
- * dark photon $\epsilon B^{\mu\nu} A'_{\mu\nu}$
- * dark scalar $\kappa |H|^2 |S|^2$
- * sterile neutrino $y H L N$
- * ALP $g_{a\gamma} a \tilde{F}_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$

- * Gauging an anomaly free SM symmetry: B-L, $L_\mu - L_\tau$, ...



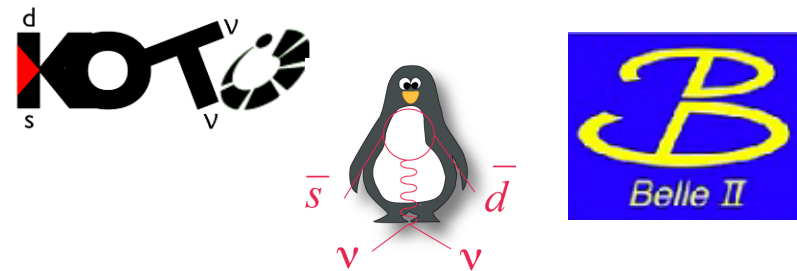
A broad program of searches at accelerator experiments

The LHC



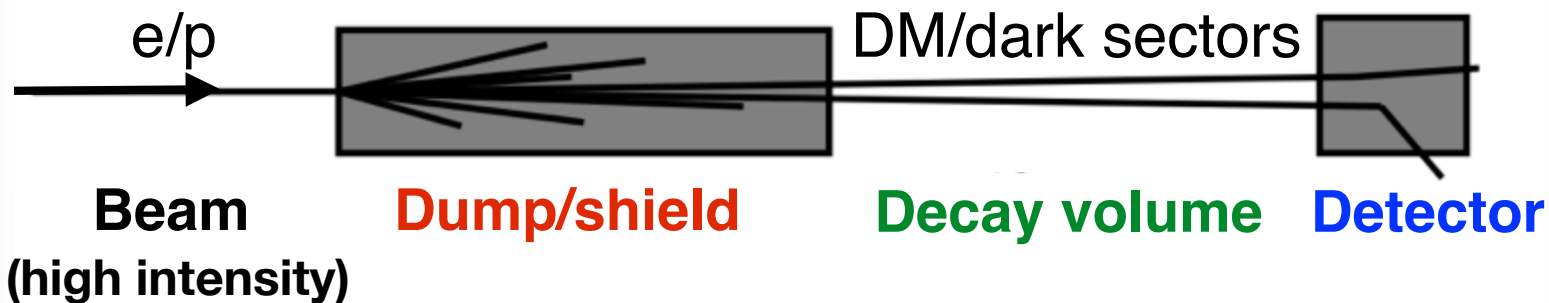
Novel search strategies are needed!
Important role covered by the Higgs

Flavor-factories



Unique access to dark sectors!

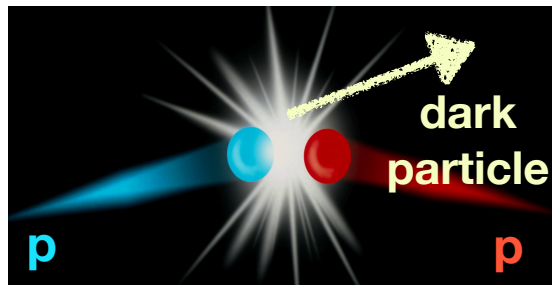
Fixed target experiments (including neutrino experiments)



Both **visible**
and **invisible**
searches

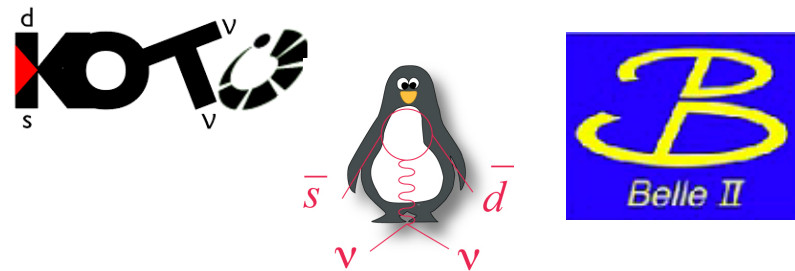
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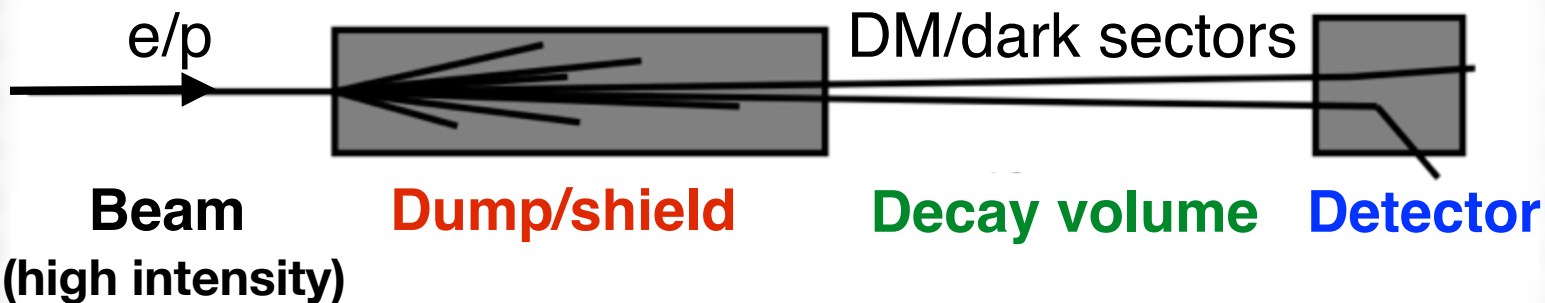
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Both **visible**
and **invisible**
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A large community effort

The worldwide search for Dark Sectors has involved hundreds of scientists, new models, many new analyses & experiments in last few years

**Vibrant
theory + experimental
community**

Cosmic Visions community
workshop 2017.

Community report:

[Battaglieri et al., 1707.04591](#)



Dark Interactions Workshop, BNL, 2014



Dark sectors workshop, SLAC, 2016



International effort:

* The Physics Beyond Colliders Study Group at CERN, <https://pbc.web.cern.ch>

* In the US, **Basic Research Needs (BRN) workshop 2018:**

DOE-charged panel with the goal of identifying priority science in Dark Matter scope, achievable with small US-based experiments. **DM Small projects New Initiatives (DMNI)**

https://science.osti.gov/-/media/hep/pdf/Reports/Dark_Matter_New_Initiatives_rpt.pdf

* In the US, **Snowmass process 2020-2022.**

Rare Frontier 6 topical group (SG, M. Williams, <https://snowmass21.org/rare/dark>)

Note on theory uncertainties

Several production and decay processes have large theoretical uncertainties

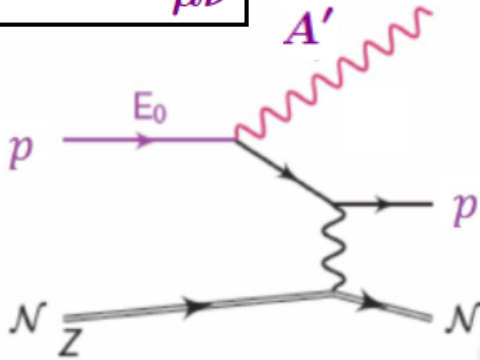
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A couple of examples:

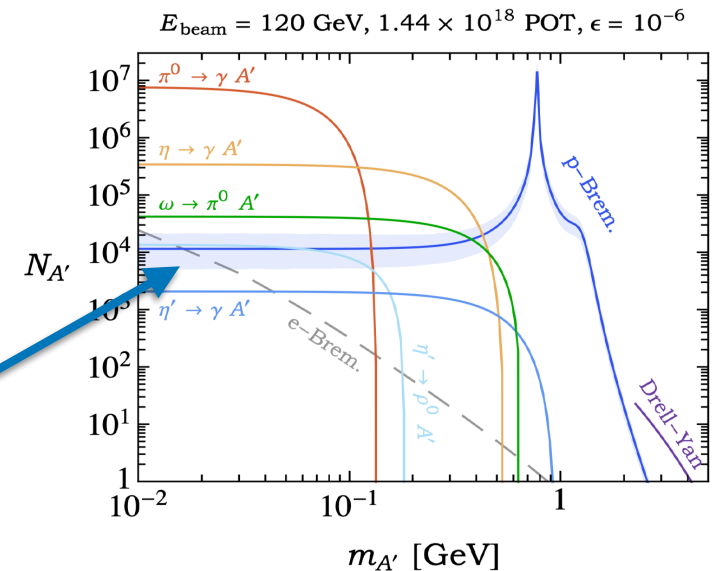
1. Bremsstrahlung production of a **dark photon** at fixed target experiments

$$\epsilon B^{\mu\nu} A'_{\mu\nu}$$



Weizsaecker-Williams approximation

Berlin, SG, Schuster, Toro, 1804.00661

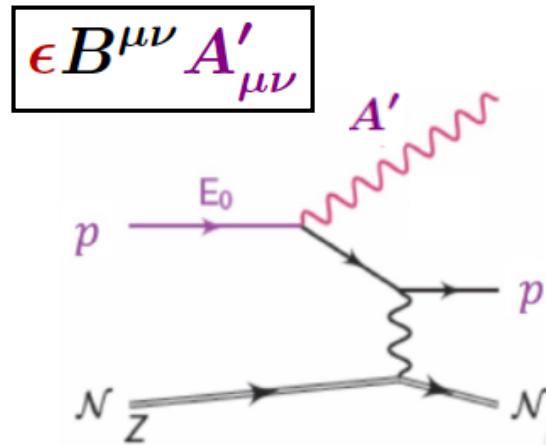


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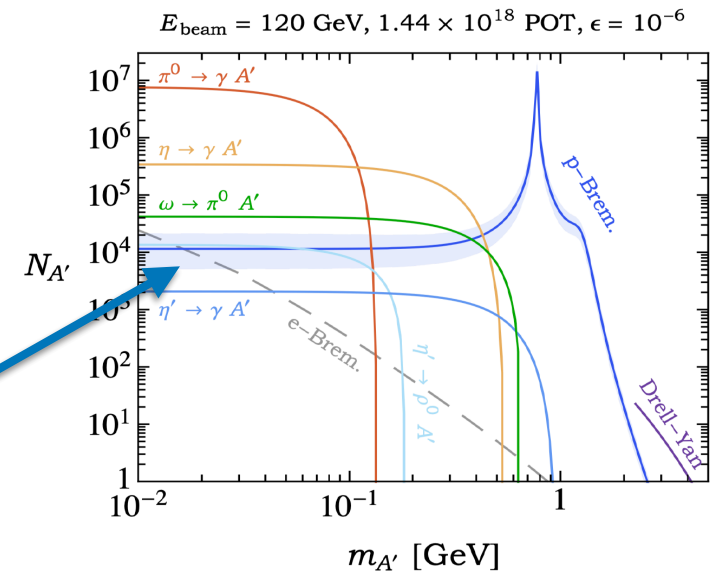
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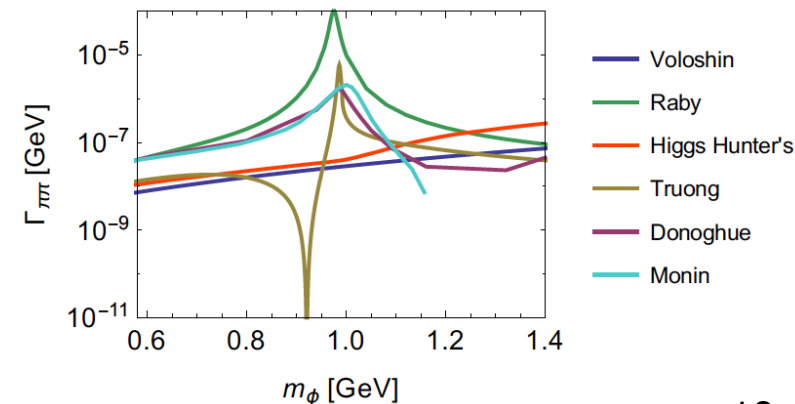


2. **Dark scalar** decays and life time

$$\kappa |H|^2 |S|^2 \quad \text{for example, the width into pions:}$$

$$S \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-, \pi^+ \pi^-, KK, \dots$$

Winkler, 1809.01876

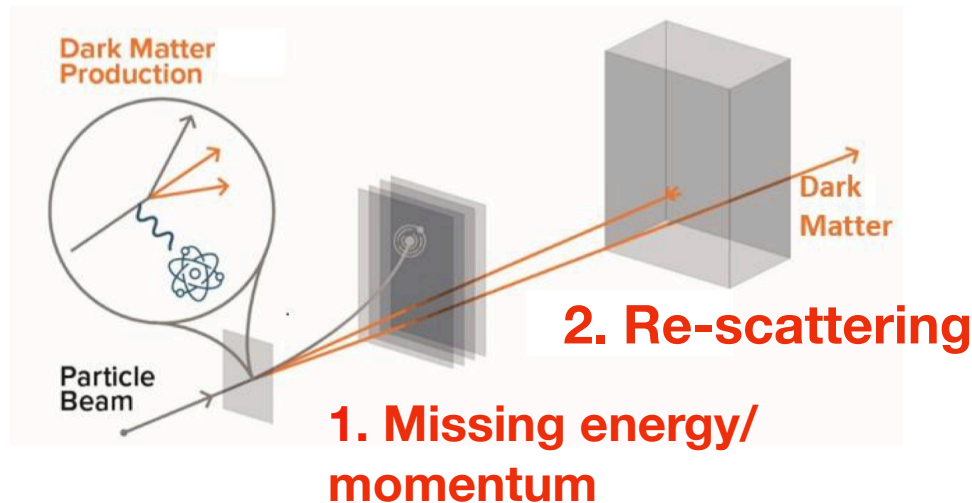


Dark sectors from colliding beam(s)



DM at fixed targets & B-factories

Fixed target



1. Present:

e^- beam for the **NA64** experiment,

Proposed:

e^- beam for the **LDMX** experiment,

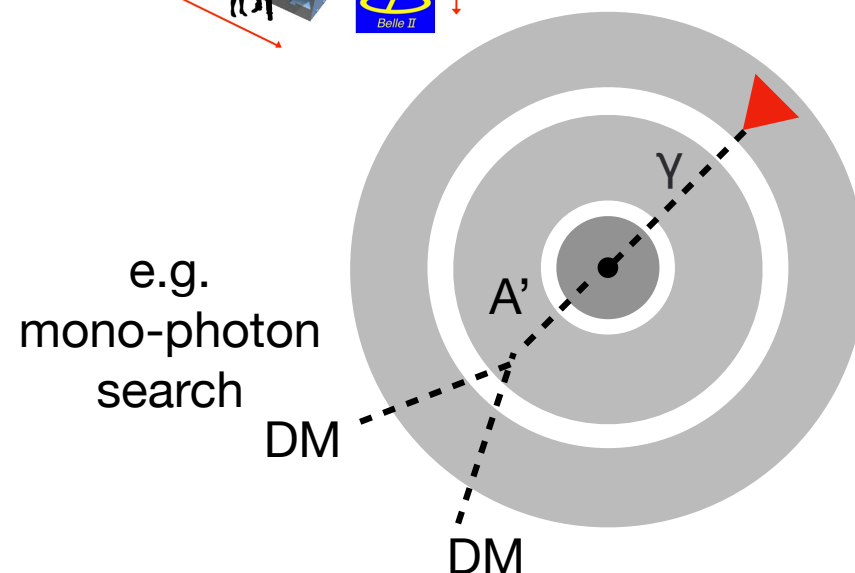
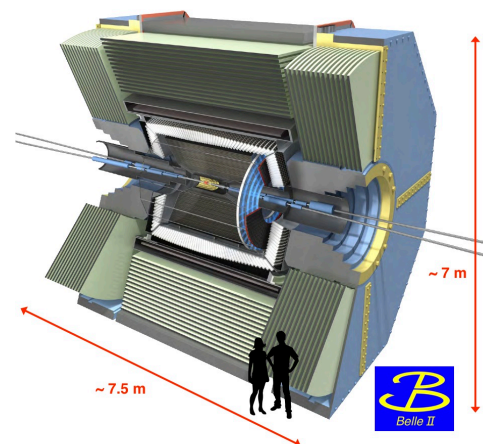
e^+ beam for the **POKER** experiment,

μ^- beam for the **M³** experiment

2. Neutrino experiments!

talk by A. de Roeck
on Thursday

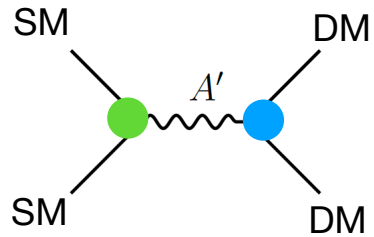
B-factories



Missing energy

DM at fixed targets & B-factories

$$\epsilon B^{\mu\nu} A'_{\mu\nu}$$
$$A' \rightarrow XX$$

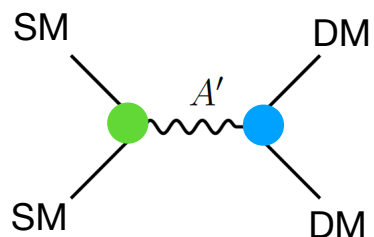


**Dark photon
mediated DM**

DM at fixed targets & B-factories

$$\epsilon B^{\mu\nu} A'_{\mu\nu}$$

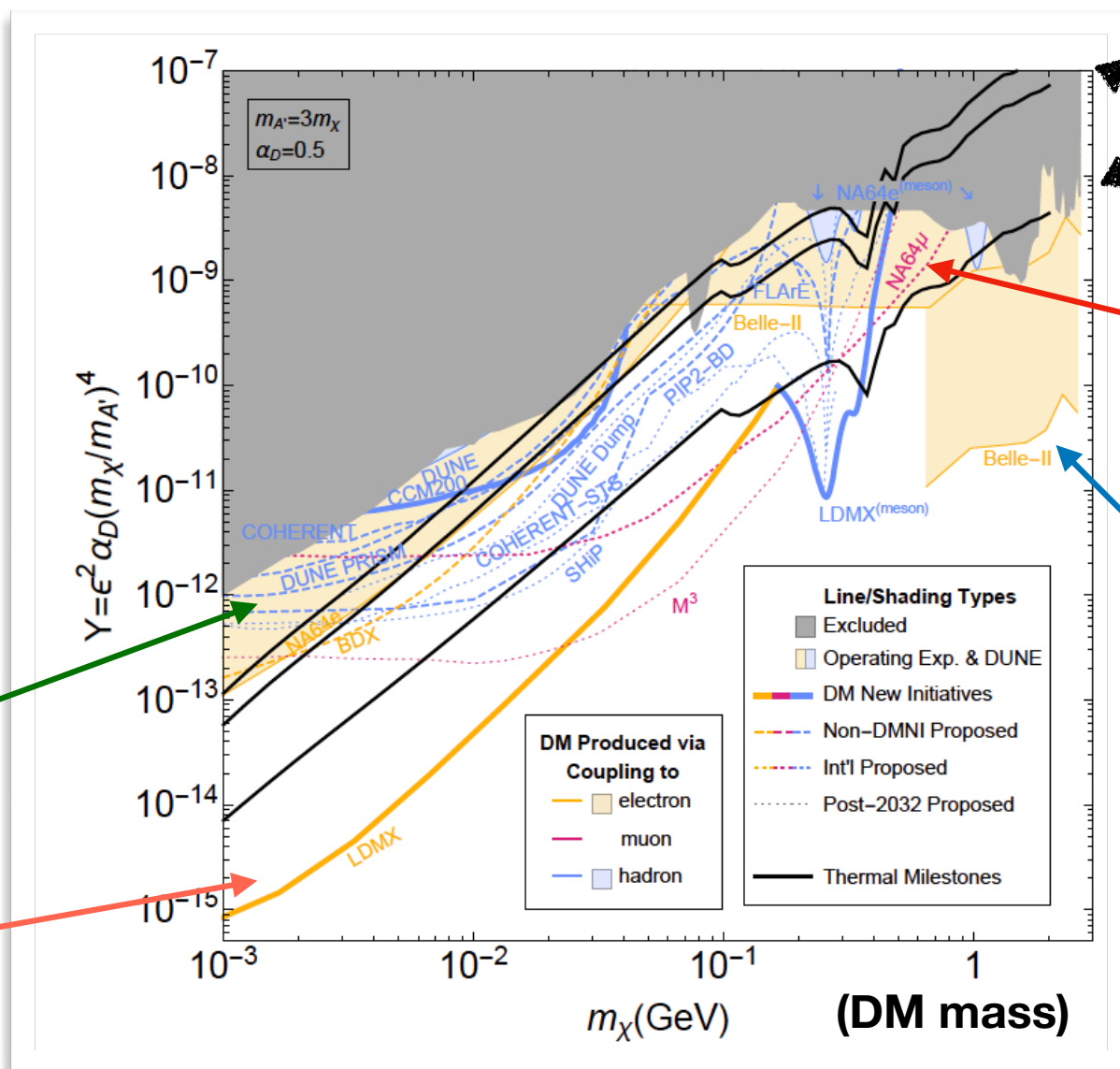
$$A' \rightarrow XX$$



Dark photon mediated DM

Re-scattering (neutrino experiments)

Missing momentum (fixed-target)



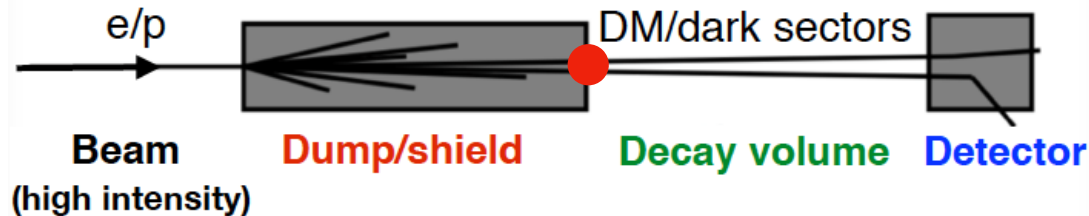
benchmarks for thermal DM

Missing energy (fixed-target)

mono-photon (B-factories)

RF6 Snowmass topical group, SG, M.Williams et al.

Visible dark sectors at fixed-targets & B-factories



Low background experiments
(depending on the size of the dump)

p beam for the SeaQuest/DarkQuest experiment at Fermilab

p beam for the NA62, KLEVER experiments at CERN

p beam for the SHiP experiments at CERN

e- beam for the HPS experiment at JLAB

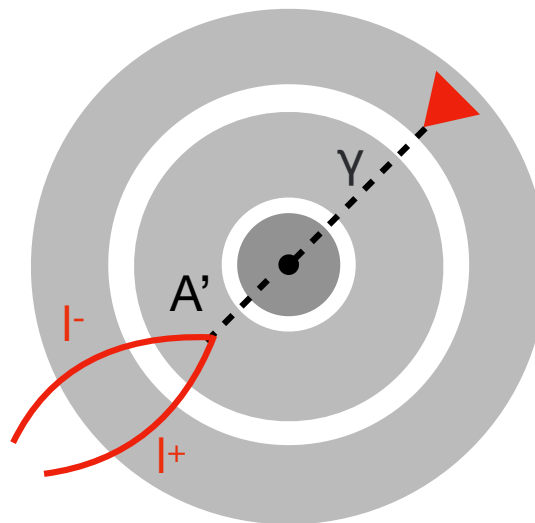
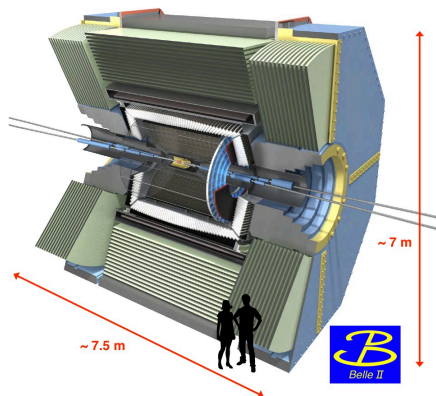
e- beam for the DarkLight experiment at TRIUMF

e-/e+ beams for future e⁺e⁻ colliders (ILC, CLIC, ...)

Running
experiments

Future
experiments

Initial
studies



Visible dark sectors at fixed-targets

$$\epsilon B^{\mu\nu} A'_{\mu\nu}$$

$$A' \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$$

Visible dark sectors at fixed-targets

$$\epsilon B^{\mu\nu} A'_{\mu\nu}$$

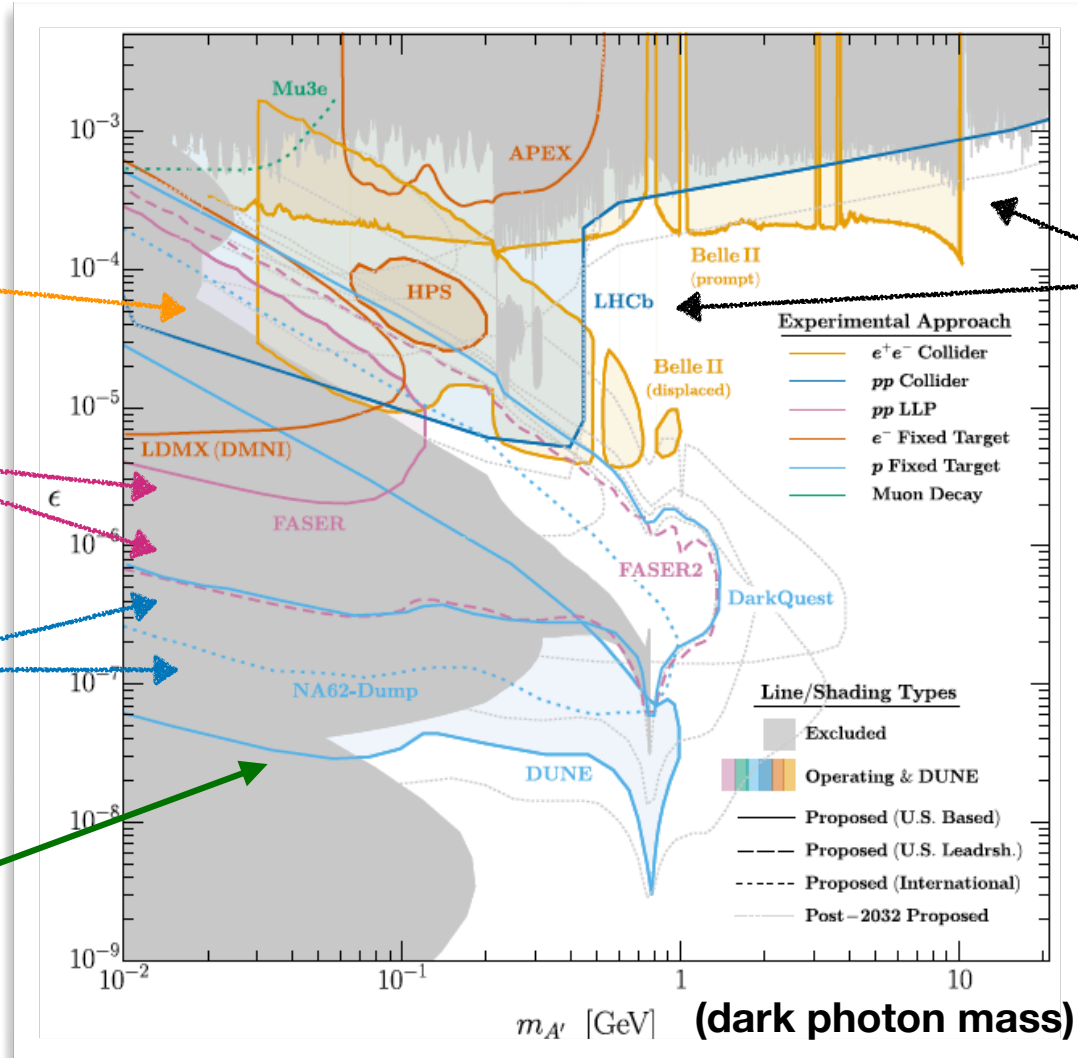
$$A' \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$$

electron
fixed-target

forward
detectors

proton
fixed-target

Neutrino
experiments



Colliders

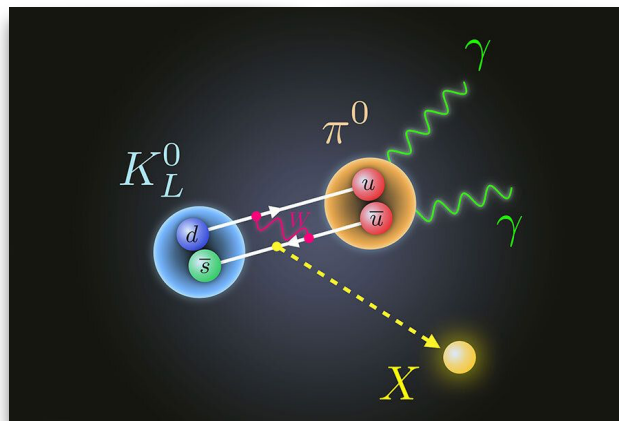
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma A' \rightarrow \gamma(\ell^+\ell^-)$$

$$pp \rightarrow X A' \rightarrow X(\mu^+\mu^-),$$

$$D^* \rightarrow D A' \rightarrow D(e^+e^-)$$

RF6 Snowmass
topical group,
SG, M.Williams et al.

Dark sectors from meson decays



Huge statistics of mesons at flavor factories

A big jump in luminosity is expected in the coming years

Past/Present

Future

Pion-factories

PIENU experiment at TRIUMF:
PIBETA experiment at PSI:
 $\sim 10^{11}$ π^+

PIONEER experiment at PSI
(phase 1 approved. Data in $\sim 2028(?)$):
 $\sim 10^{12}$ π^+

Kaon-factories

E949 at BNL: $\sim 10^{12}$ K^+
(decay at rest experiment);
E391 at KEK: $\sim 10^{12}$ K_L

NA62 at CERN: $\sim 10^{13}$ K^+
by the end of its run
(decay in flight experiment);
KOTO at JPARC: $\sim 10^{14}$ K_L
by the end of its run

Charm-factories

CLEO at Cornell: $\sim 10^7$ J/Psi

BESIII at BEPC II: $\sim 10^{10}$ J/Psi
talk by A. Pathak on Monday

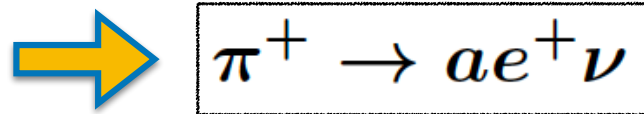
B-factories

LHCb: more than $\sim 10^{12}$ b quarks produced so far;
Belle: $\sim 10^9$ BB-pairs were produced.

LHCb: ~ 40 times more b quarks will be produced by the end of the LHC;
Belle-II: ~ 50 times more BB-pairs will be produced.
talk by L. Polat on Tuesday

ALPs at pion experiments

Generically, ALP models predict the ALP mixing with the SM π^0

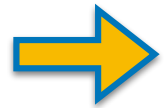


Recast previous pion experiments to probe the ALP parameter space:

[Altmannshofer, SG,
Robinson, 1909.00005](#)

ALPs at pion experiments

Generically, ALP models predict the ALP mixing with the SM π^0



$$\pi^+ \rightarrow a e^+ \nu$$

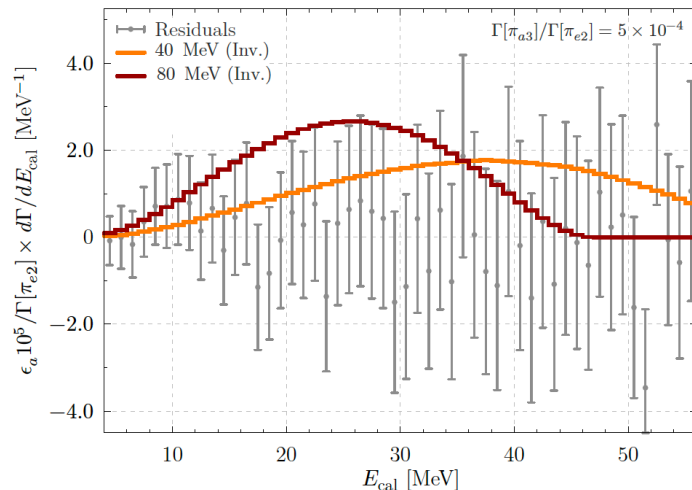
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PIENU

Most accurate measurement of $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu$

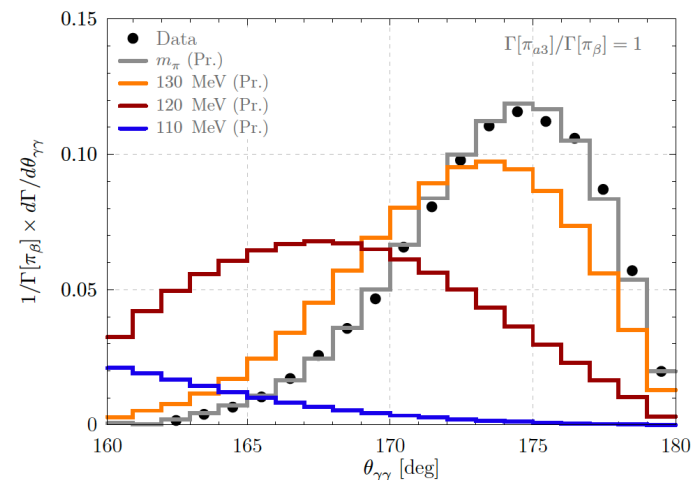
Measurement of the e^+ spectrum.
The spectrum is affected by the ALP:



PIBETA

Most accurate measurement of $\pi^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu$

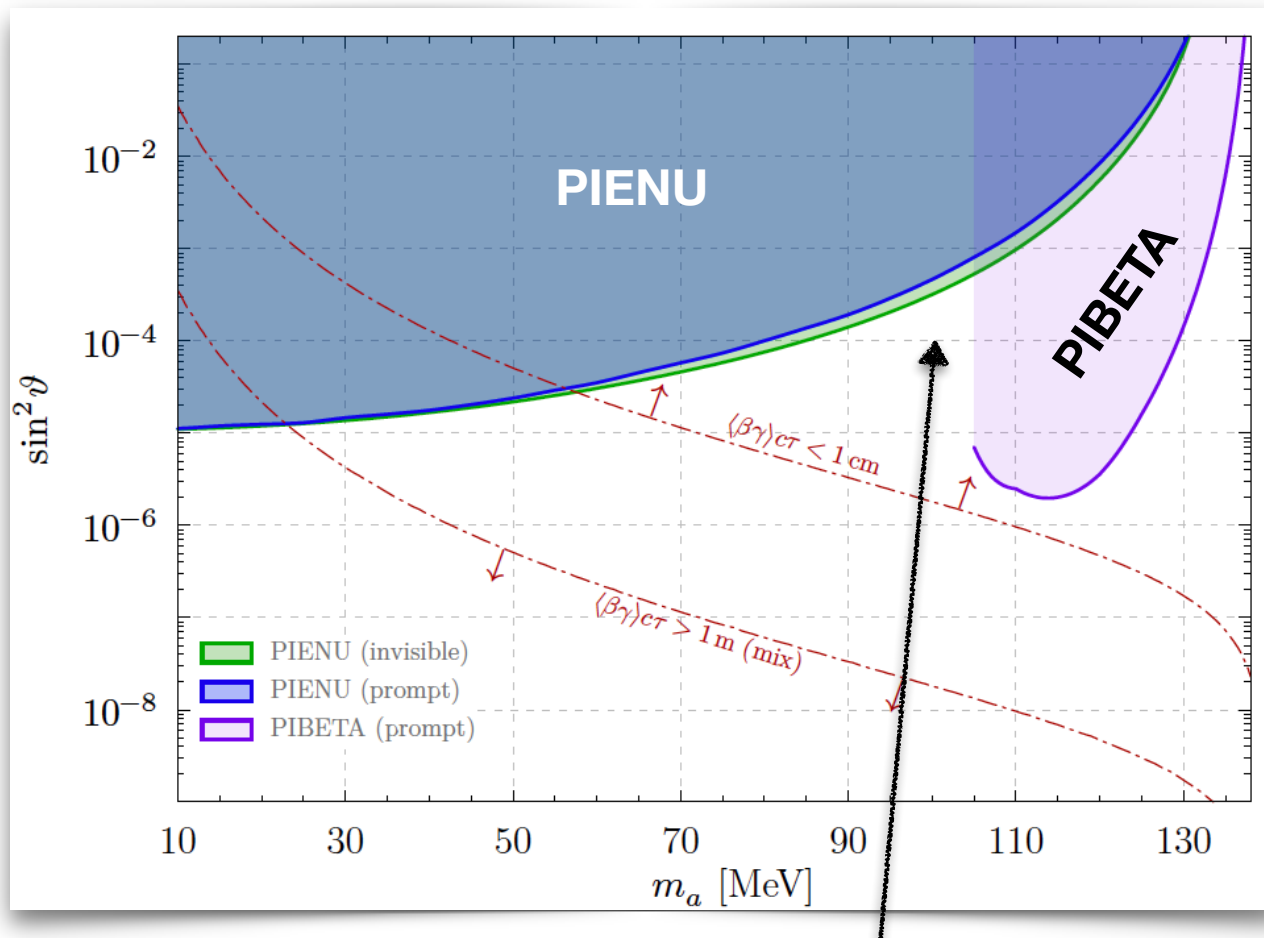
Measurement of the photon spectrum.
This spectrum is affected by the ALP



$$a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

Constraining ALP parameter space

Altmannshofer, SG, Robinson, 1909.00005

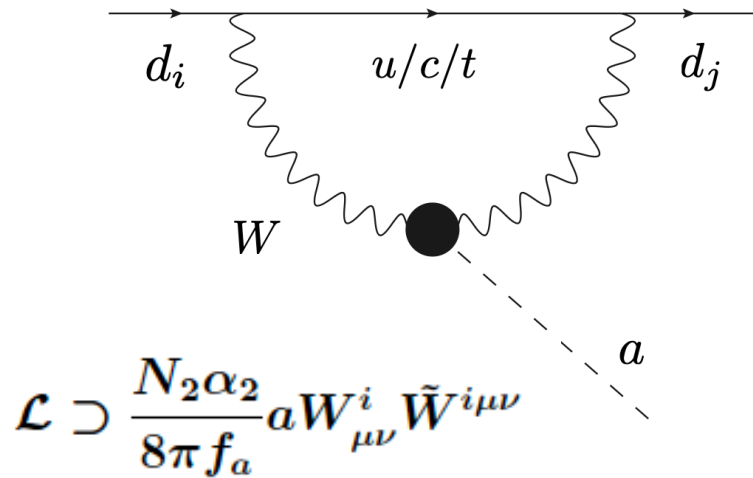


Possibility to go to lower masses
at future experiments
(data at smaller angles!)

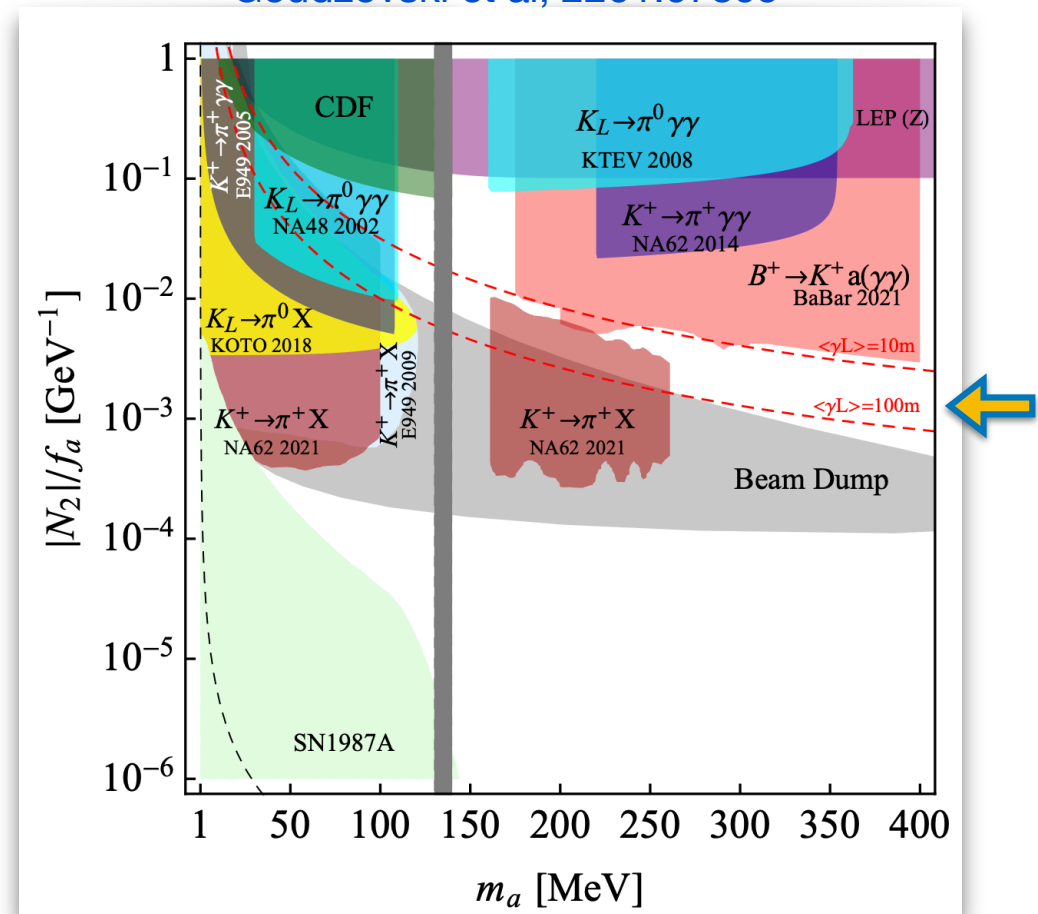
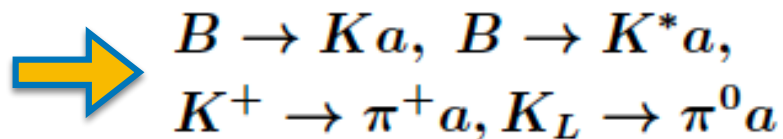
Reach at PIONEER?

ALPs from FCNC processes

Goudzovski et al, 2201.07805



Izaguirre et al., 1611.09355

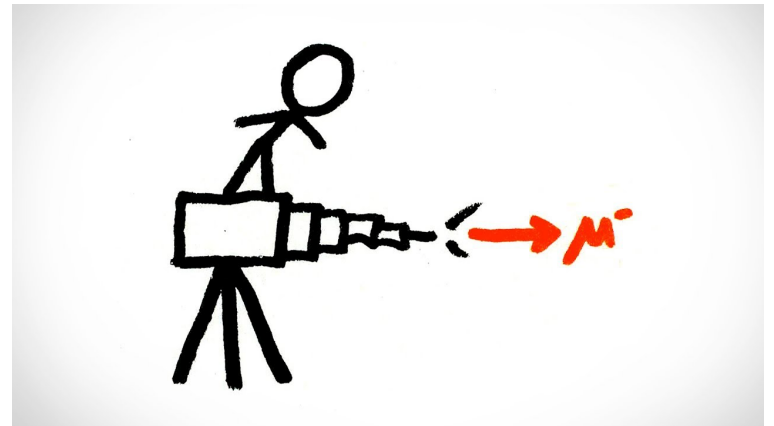


What about...

Belle II: $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}a, a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma,$
 $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}a, a \rightarrow \text{inv}$

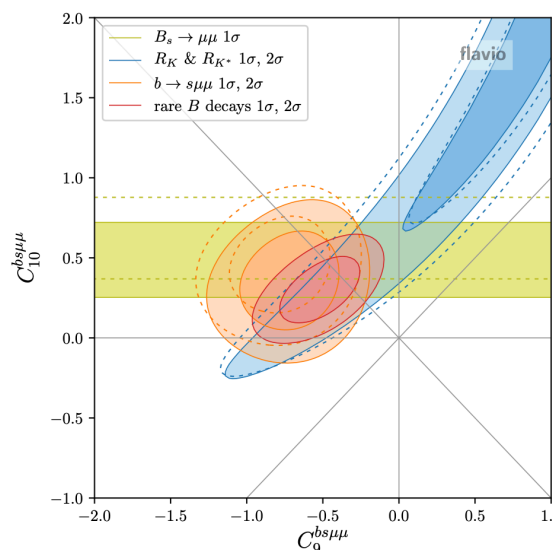
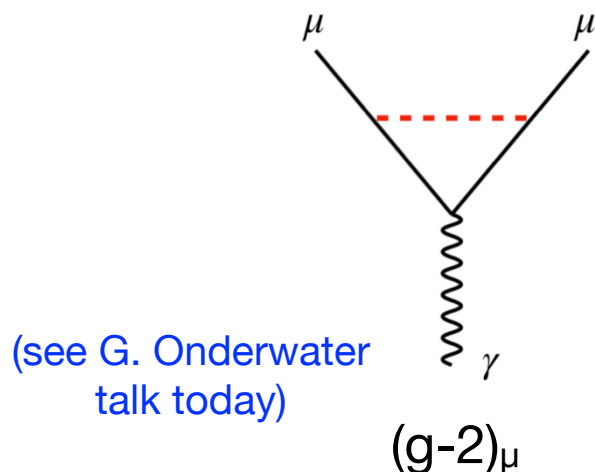
KOTO: $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0a, a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

Dark sectors from (secondary) muon beams



New Physics coupled mainly to muons?

Several anomalies in data can be addressed via New Physics coupled to muons:



$R_K, R_{K^*}, P_5', \dots$

Altmannshofer, Stangl,
2103.13370

- * Proton fixed-target experiments produce a large number of **muons** (secondary muon beams)

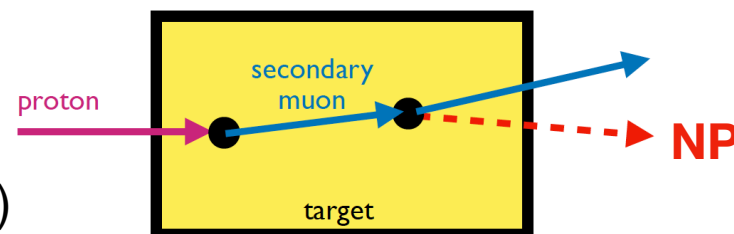
- * Many muons at B-factories

- * Low energy muon beams (PSI, Fermilab, JPARC)

- * Proposal for

- Fermilab muon fixed target experiments

- high energy muon colliders



Addressing anomalies in data, $(g - 2)_\mu$

Only a very small set of dark sector models can address the $(g - 2)_\mu$ anomaly.

All models based on **minimal portal interactions** have been already **fully probed** in the last few years.

Can we fully probe a light explanation of $(g - 2)_\mu$? Flavor specific models

Example

$$g_\mu S \bar{\mu} \mu + \text{h.c.}$$

Addressing anomalies in data, $(g - 2)_\mu$

Only a very small set of dark sector models can address the $(g - 2)_\mu$ anomaly.

All models based on **minimal portal interactions** have been already **fully probed** in the last few years.

Can we fully probe a light explanation of $(g - 2)_\mu$? Flavor specific models

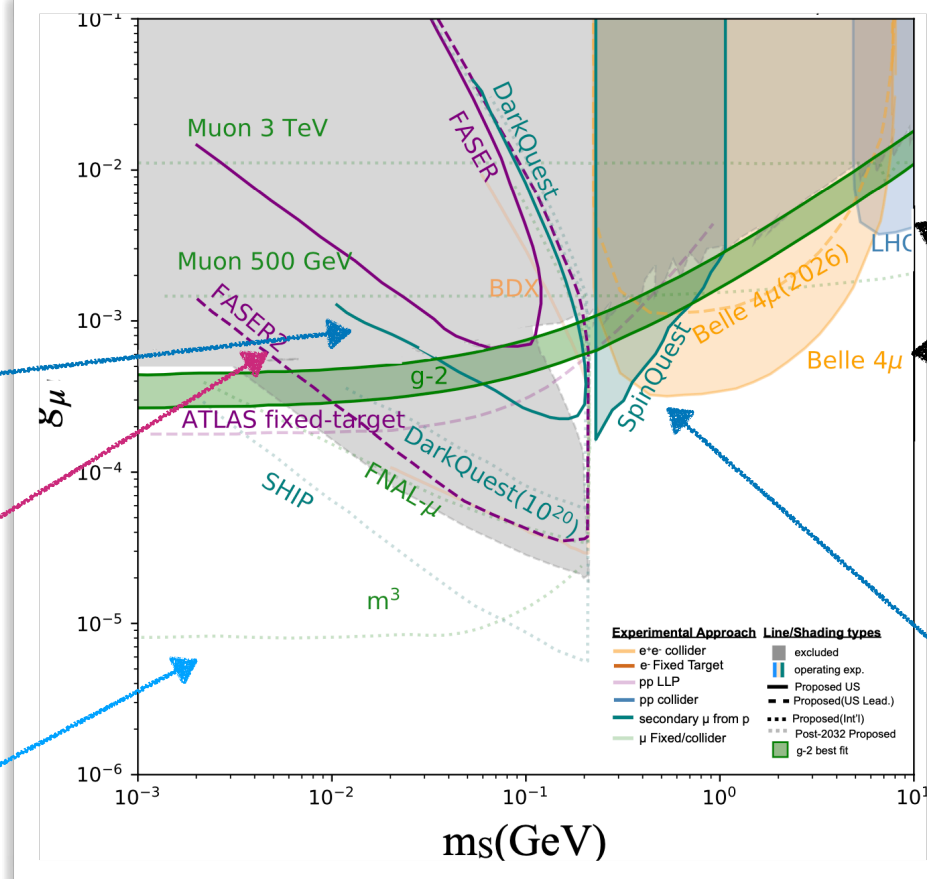
Example

$$g_\mu S \bar{\mu} \mu + \text{h.c.}$$

**proton
beam-dump**
(secondary muons)

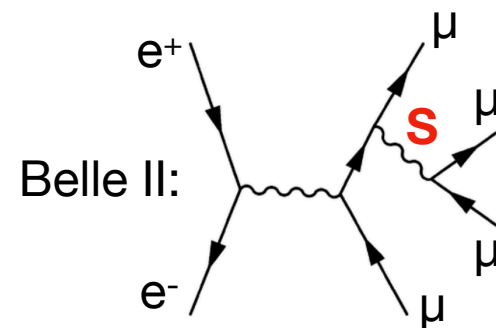
**LHC
auxiliary
detectors**

**muon
fixed-target**



**$(g - 2)_\mu$
region**

Colliders



**proton
beam-dump**
(secondary muons)



Take home messages

Dark sector particles in the MeV-GeV range naturally appear in DM models, as well as many well-motivated extensions of the Standard Model.

Unique role of **high-intensity experiments**

Complementarity of fixed target experiments and flavor factories (+ DM direct detection experiments).

Production of dark sector particles from

- colliding beam(s)
- meson decays

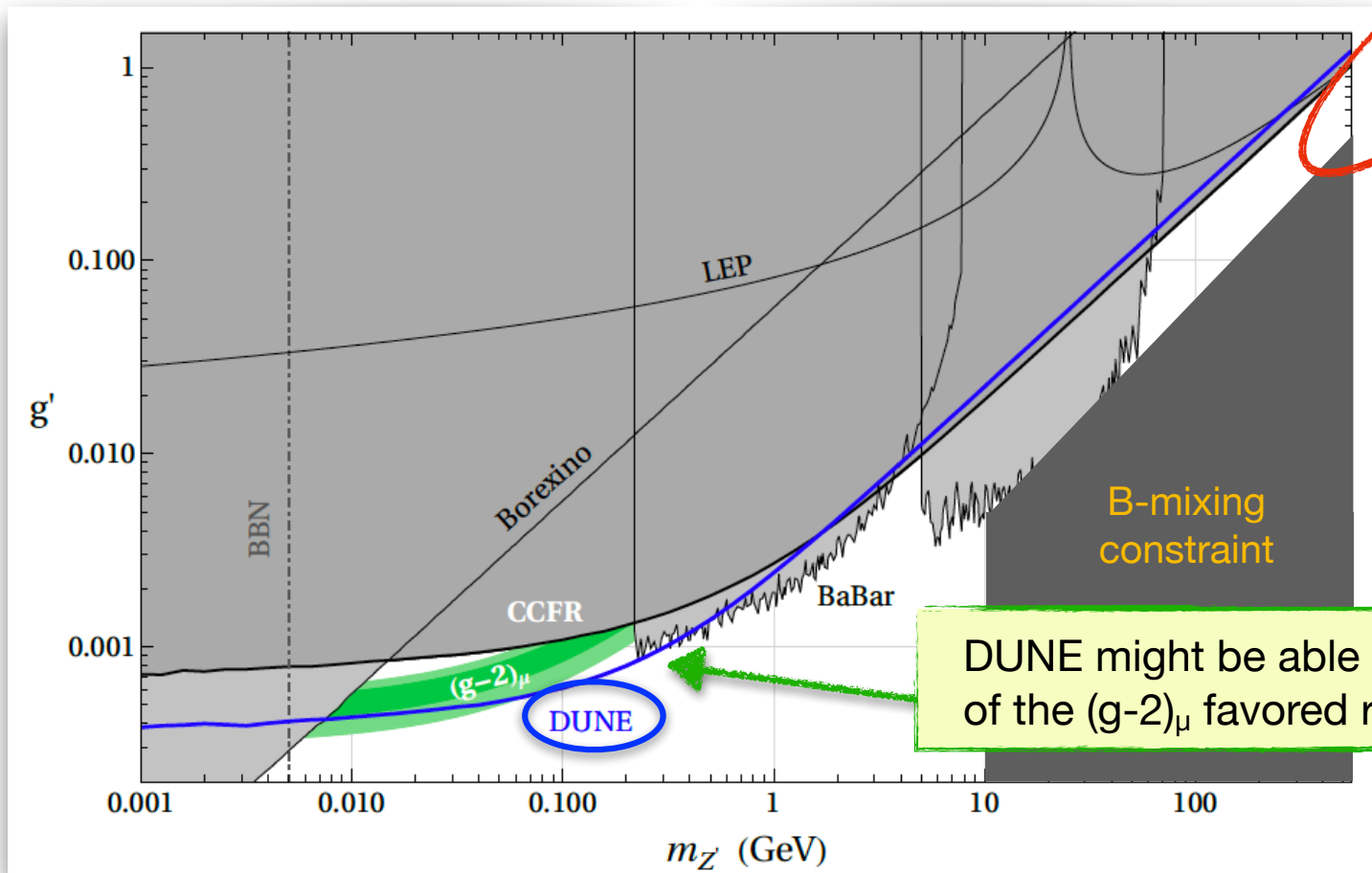
Opportunity of broadly probing thermal DM models and anomaly-motivated models in the coming years.

Flavor measurements can shed light on light New Physics (as well as New Physics above the TeV scale).

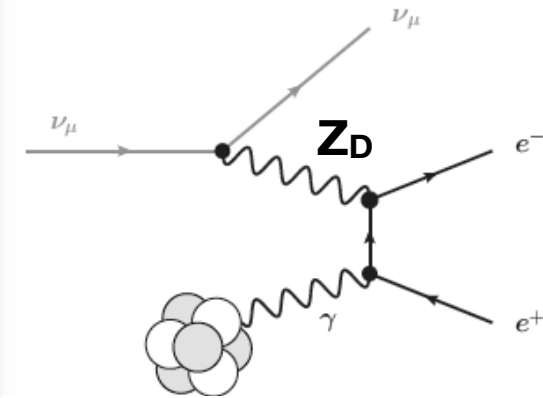
Backup

Trident production at neutrino experiments

$$L_\mu - L_\tau$$



can explain
B-anomalies



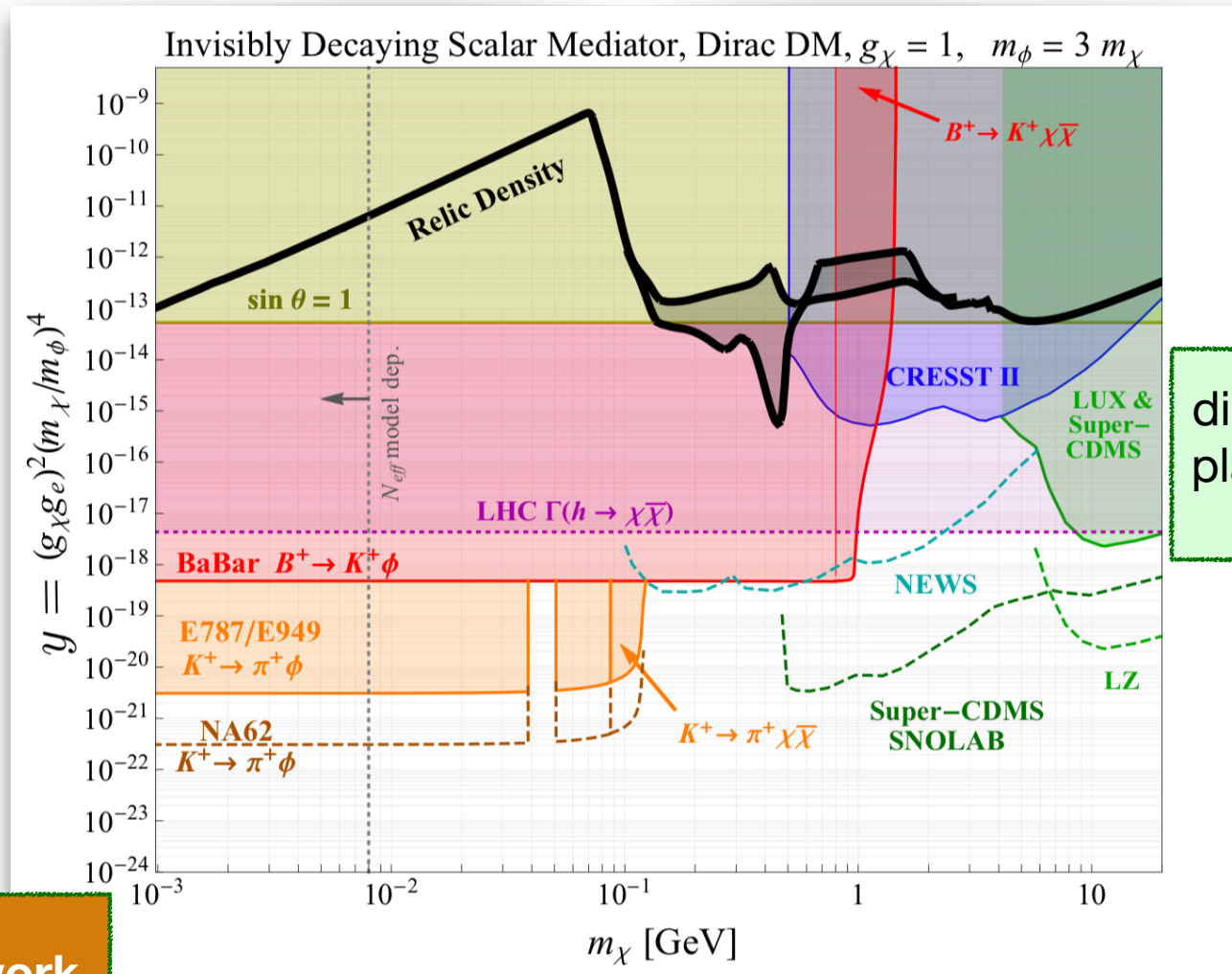
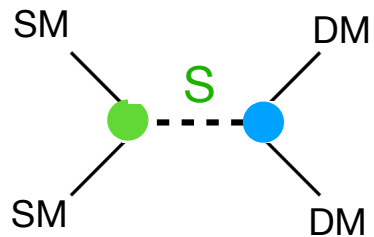
DUNE might be able to probe most of the $(g-2)_\mu$ favored region!

Altmannshofer, SG, Martin-Albo, Sousa, Wallbank 1902.06765

Milestones already achieved (in the last few years)

$$\kappa |H|^2 |S|^2$$

$$S \rightarrow \chi\chi$$



direct detection
played a crucial
role

This DM framework
is now fully probed

Krnjaic, 1512.04119

$K \rightarrow \pi X, X \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ (neutral mode)

SG, Perez, Tobioka, 2005.05170

* KTeV analysis for $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma \gamma$

* Our new proposed search for KOTO: $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 X \rightarrow 4\gamma$

Challenges of the search:

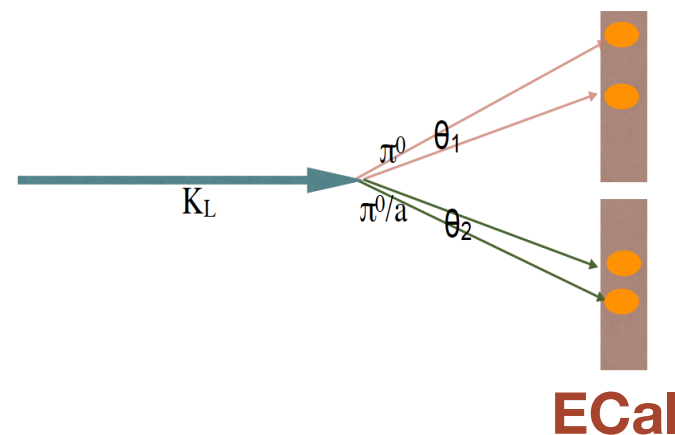
- the decay point is unknown
- combinatorics of $\gamma\gamma$ pairs

Main ingredients :

1. We derive the K_L decay vertex location of the 6 possible di-photon pair combinations, assuming

$$m_{\gamma_i \gamma_j}^2 = m_{\pi^0}^2$$

2. Require $m_{4\gamma} \simeq m_{K_L}$ to find a correct pair



Importance of a good vertex resolution! ($\sim 5\text{cm}$) and small energy smearing ($\sim 2\%$)

We simulate the **main sources of background**:

$$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0, K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma \gamma$$

mainly for $m_a \sim m_{\text{pion}}$

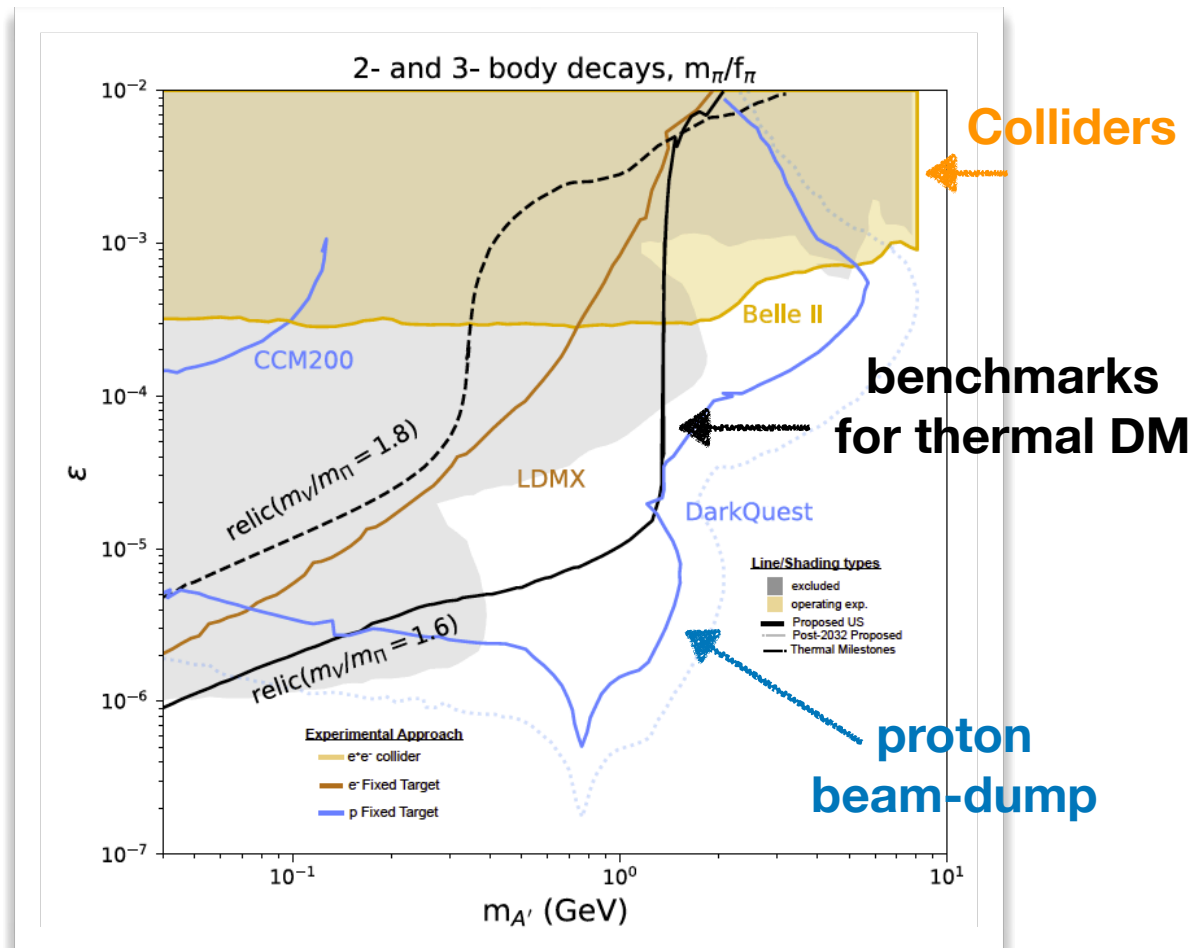
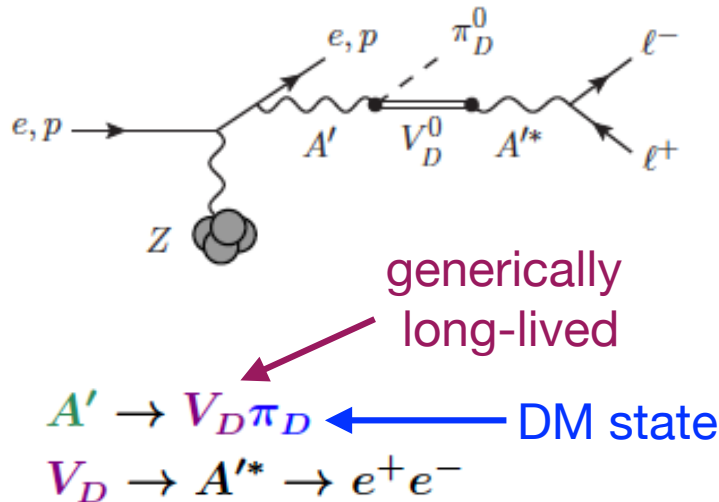
DM in a strongly interacting dark sector

Dark Matter can be the lightest state of a dark QCD-like theory (e.g. a dark pion)

Novel process responsible of freeze-out: $3 \rightarrow 2$ annihilation ← Motivation to consider MeV-GeV DM!

The additional dark states will lead to a richer phenomenology

For example:



DM models with metastable particles

Inelastic Dark Matter

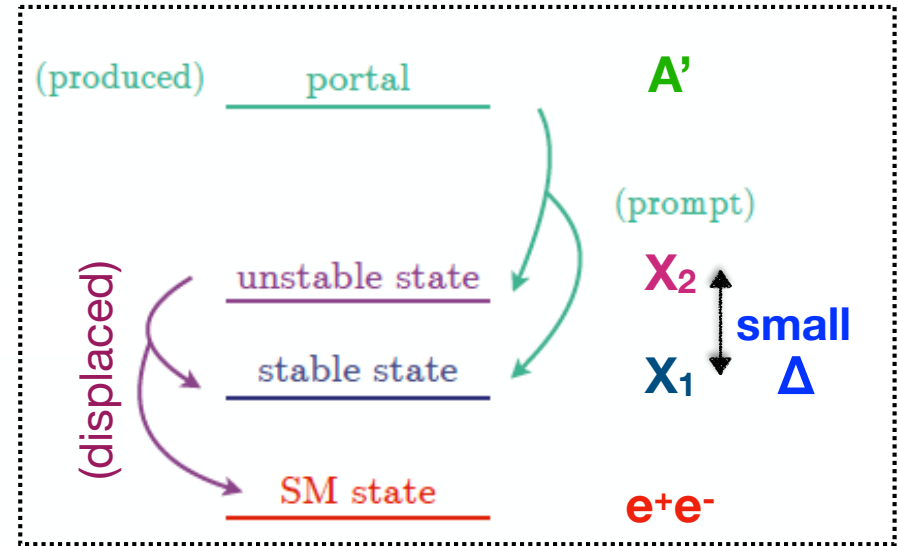
Tucker-Smith, Weiner, 0101138

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{ie_D m_D}{\sqrt{m_D^2 + (\delta_\xi - \delta_\eta)^2/4}} A'_\mu (\bar{\chi}_1 \gamma^\mu \chi_2 - \bar{\chi}_2 \gamma^\mu \chi_1)$$

* A non-minimal freeze-out mechanism:

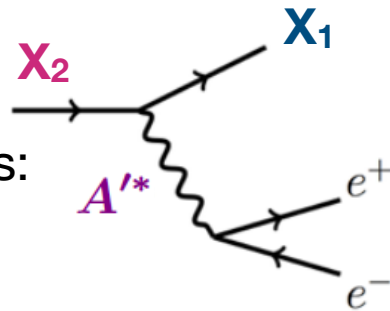
$\chi_1 \chi_2 \rightarrow \text{SM}$

DM **DM excited state**

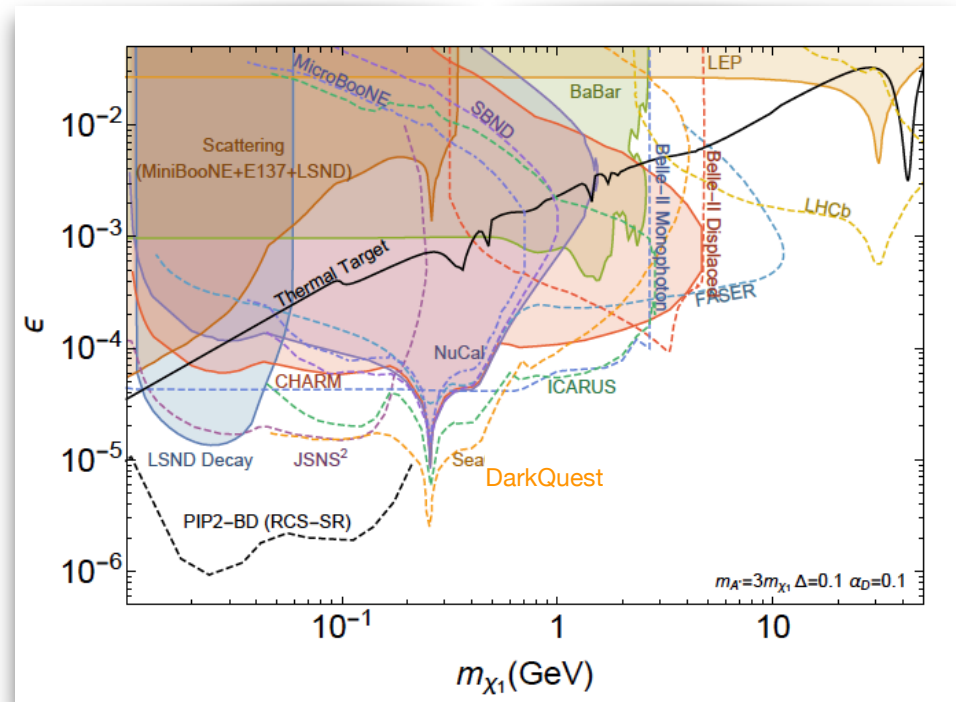


* Signatures in our labs:

$X_2 \rightarrow X_1 e^+ e^-$

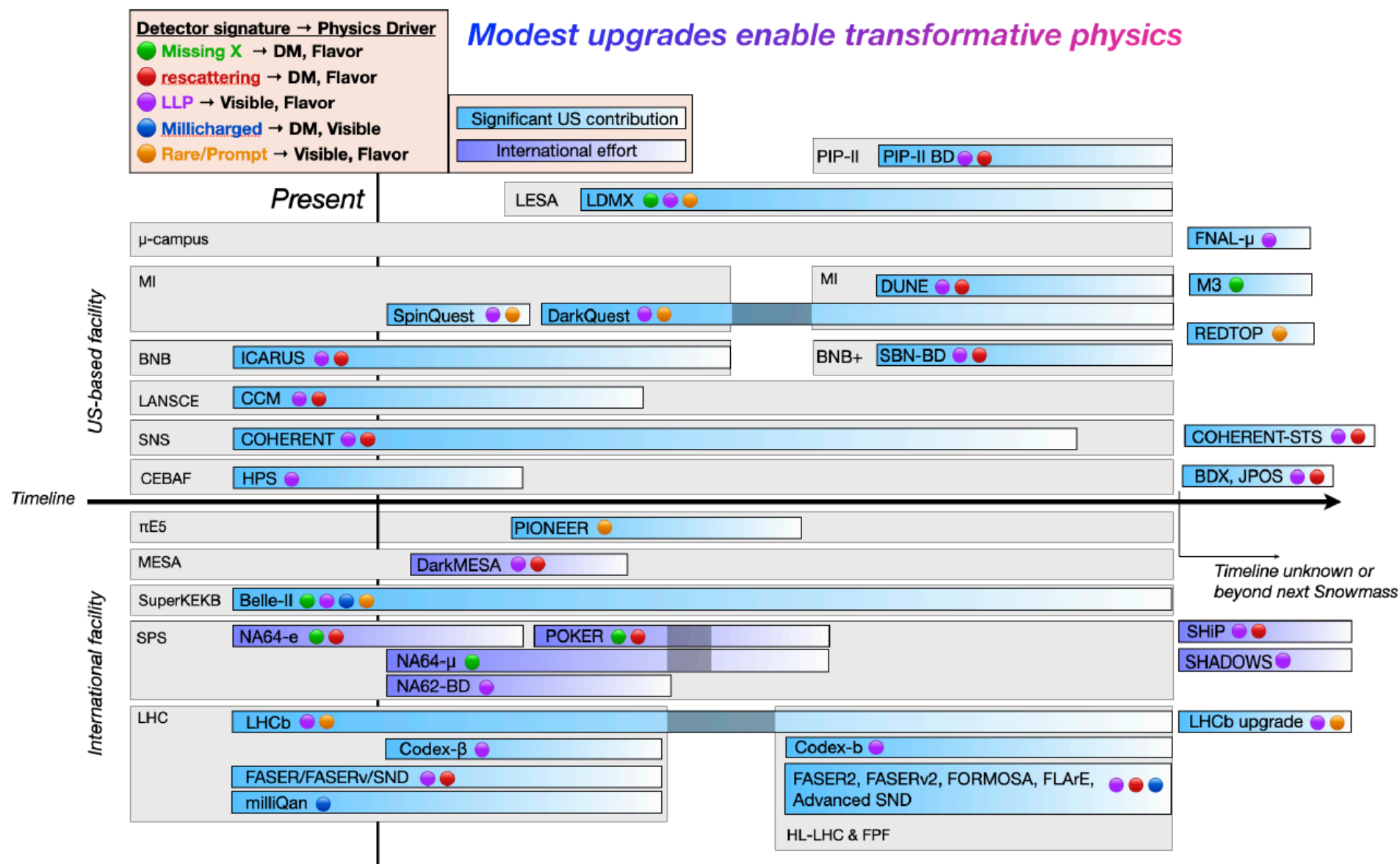


- Prompt visible decays
- Long lived particles
- Invisible component



Experiments/facilities

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.04220>



Final states to look for

a. Invisible, non-SM

Dark Matter production

Producing stable particles that could be (all or part of) Dark Matter



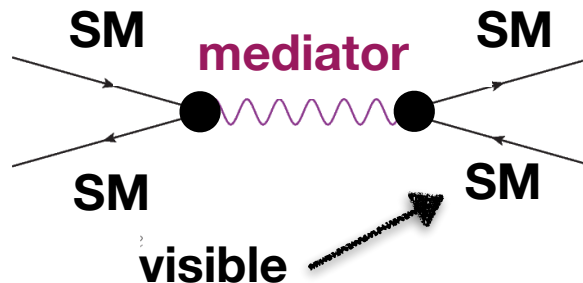
1. Missing energy/momentum
2. Scattering

S.Gori

b. Visible, SM

Production of portal-mediators that decay to SM particles

Systematically exploring the portal coupling to SM particles

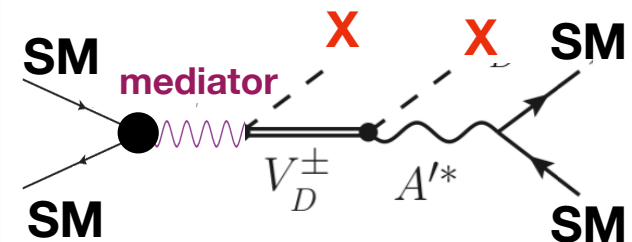


3. Visible decay products

c. Mixed visible-invisible

Production of “rich” dark sectors

Testing the structure of the dark sector

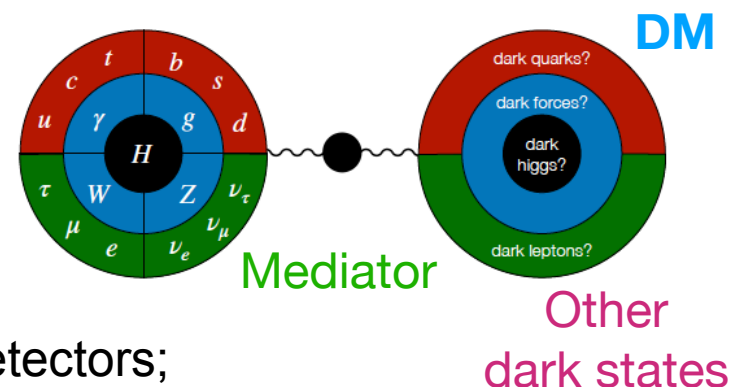


1. Missing energy/momentum
2. Scattering
3. Visible decay products Backup

Experimental techniques

1. Detect dark matter particle production

- (i) inferring missing energy, momentum, or mass;
- (ii) detecting re-scattering of DM particles in downstream detectors;
- (iii) observing semi-visible signatures of metastable **dark sector particles**.



2. Producing and detecting unstable dark particles: Minimal Portal Interactions

Detect visible decay products of the **mediator** (prompt or displaced decays).

Mediator produced at (e^+e^- , pp) colliders, meson factories, fixed target experiments

3. Beyond minimal models

- (i) Detect visible decay products of the **mediator** in non-minimal models, e.g. flavor specific couplings (prompt or displaced decays);
- (ii) Detect visible or invisible signatures of **other dark sector states**, e.g. DM excited states

Variations of the invisible dark photon scenario

