

14 June 2021  
LPNHE

# Dark Matter candidates circa 2021: the WIMPs and beyond the WIMPs

Marco Cirelli

(CNRS LPTHE Jussieu Paris)



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# Candidates

The Dark Matter  
theory space:

# Candidates

The Dark Matter  
theory space:

**SuSy  
DM**



**Non  
SuSy  
DM**

# Candidates

The Dark Matter  
theory space:

**SuSy  
DM**



**Non  
SuSy  
DM**



?

# Candidates

A matter of perspective:

**SuSy  
neutralino**

other  
exotic  
candidates

# Candidates

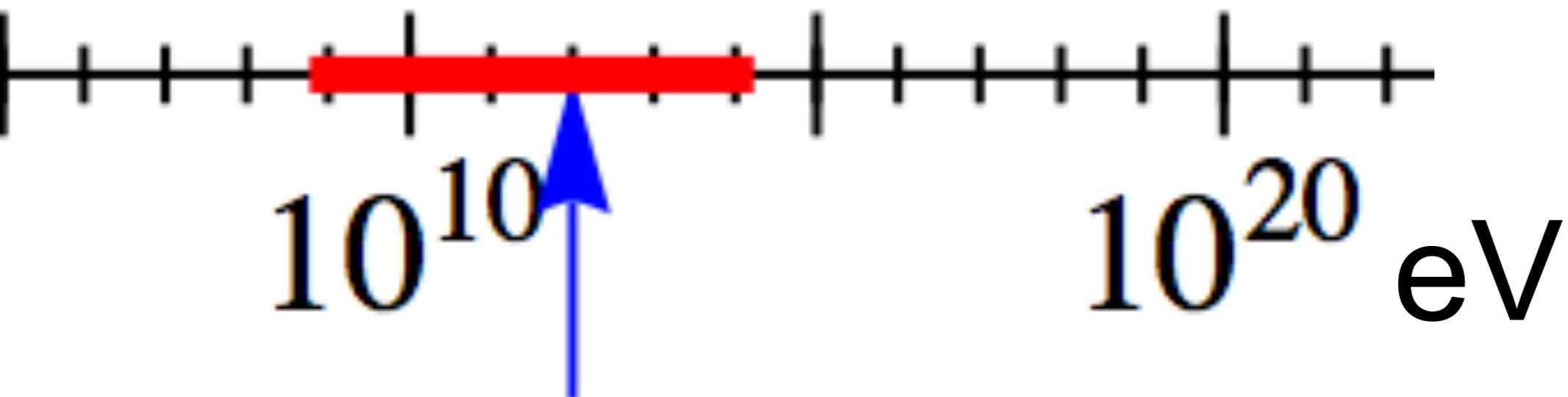


# Candidates

A matter of perspective: plausible mass ranges

thermal

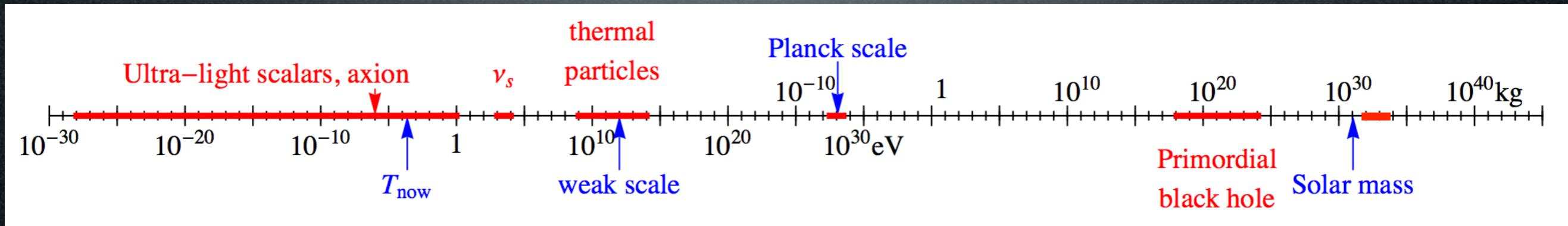
particles



weak scale (1 TeV)

# Candidates

A matter of perspective: plausible mass ranges

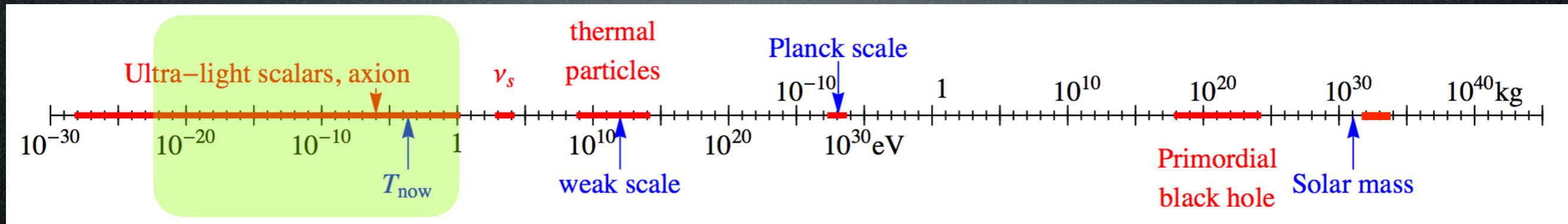


90 orders of magnitude!

# Candidates

A matter of perspective: plausible mass ranges

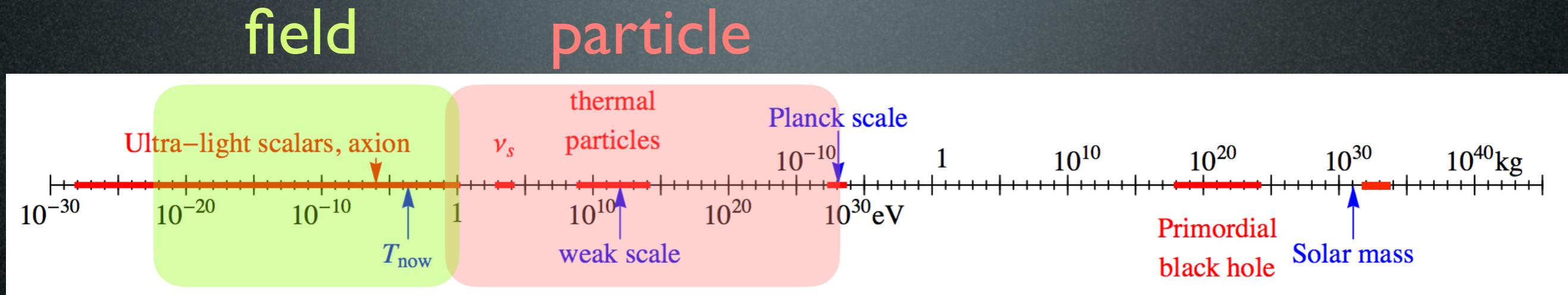
field



90 orders of magnitude!

# Candidates

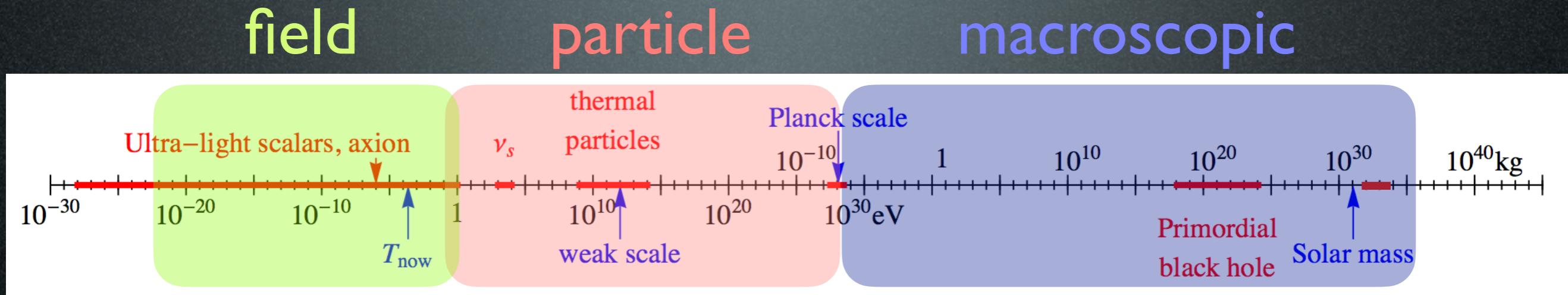
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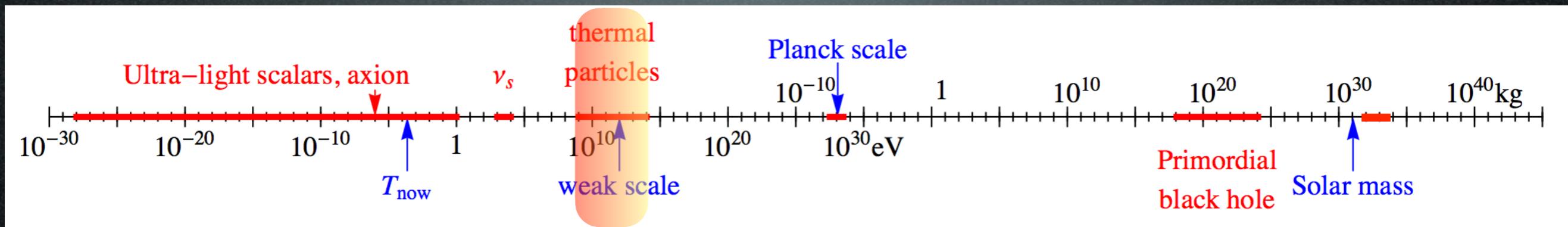
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# Candidates

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# Candidates

WIMPs

# Candidates

new physics at  
the TeV scale

thermal  
freeze-out

WIMPs



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WIMPs

LHC

Indirect  
Detection

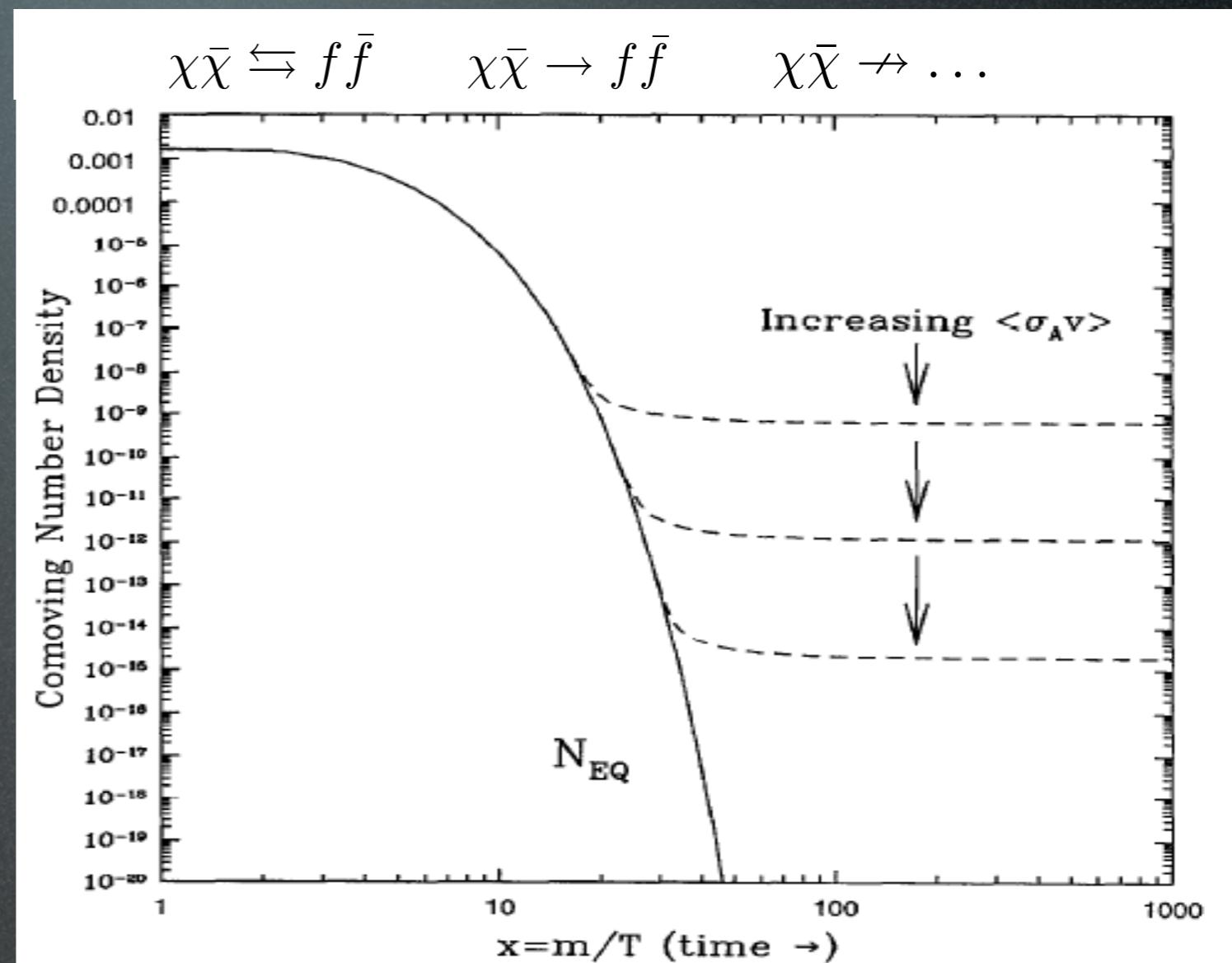
Direct  
Detection

# DM as a thermal relic from the Early Universe

Boltzmann equation in the Early Universe:

$$\Omega_X \approx \frac{6 \cdot 10^{-27} \text{ cm}^3 \text{s}^{-1}}{\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} v \rangle}$$

Relic  $\Omega_{\text{DM}} \simeq 0.23$  for  
 $\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} v \rangle = 3 \cdot 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{sec}$



Weak cross section:

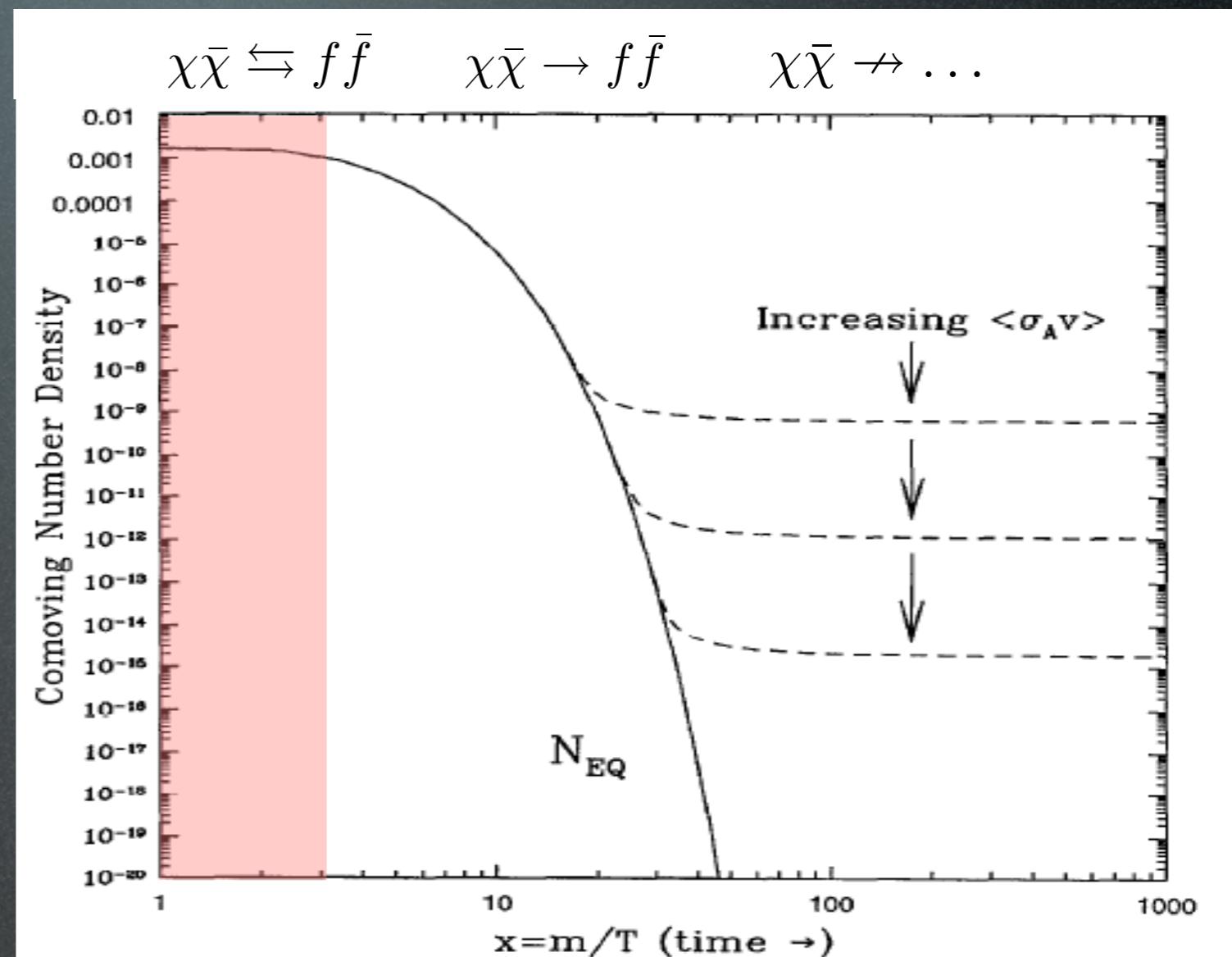
$$\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} v \rangle \approx \frac{\alpha_w^2}{M^2} \approx \frac{\alpha_w^2}{1 \text{ TeV}^2} \Rightarrow \Omega_X \sim \mathcal{O}(\text{few } 0.1) \quad (\text{WIMP})$$

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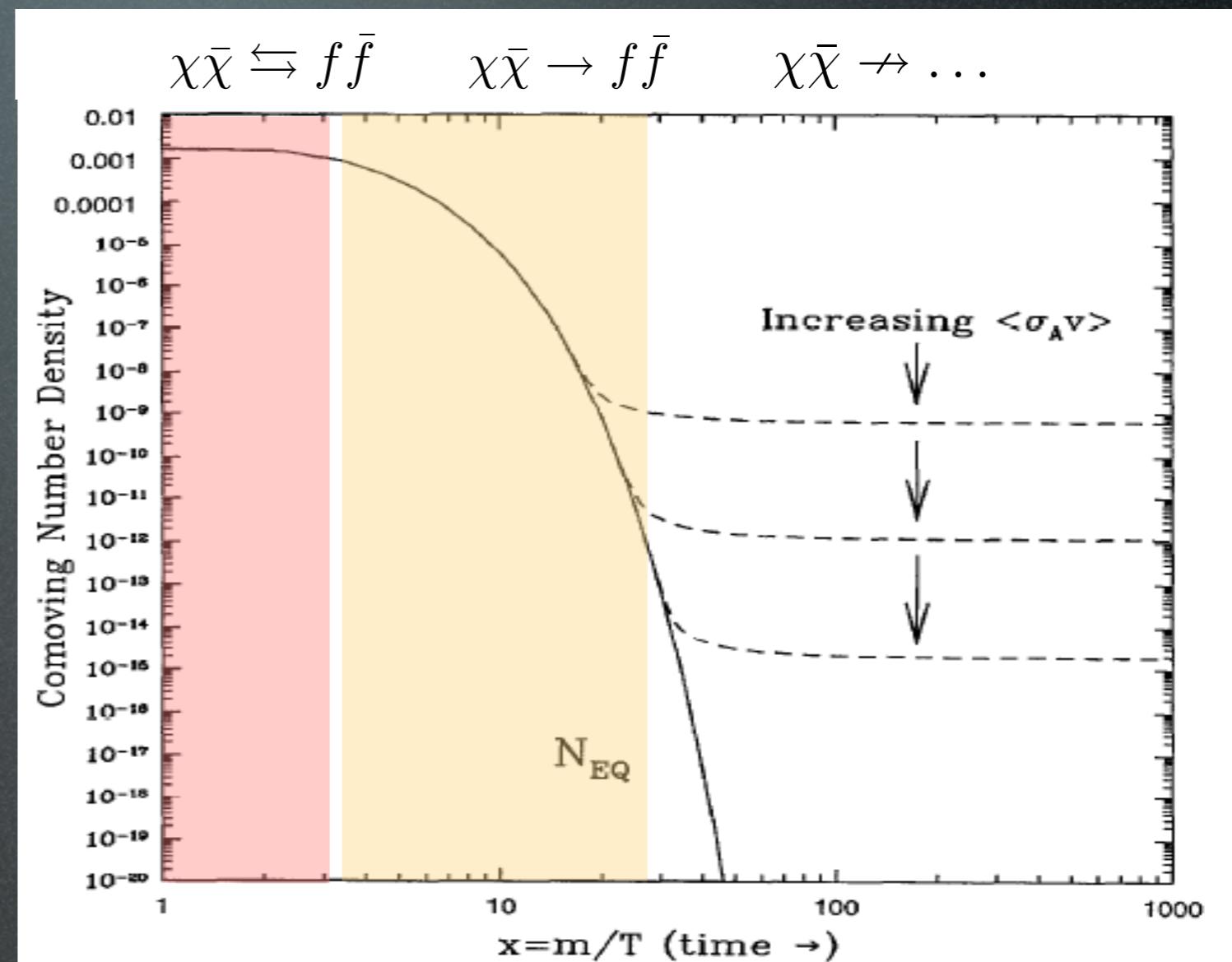
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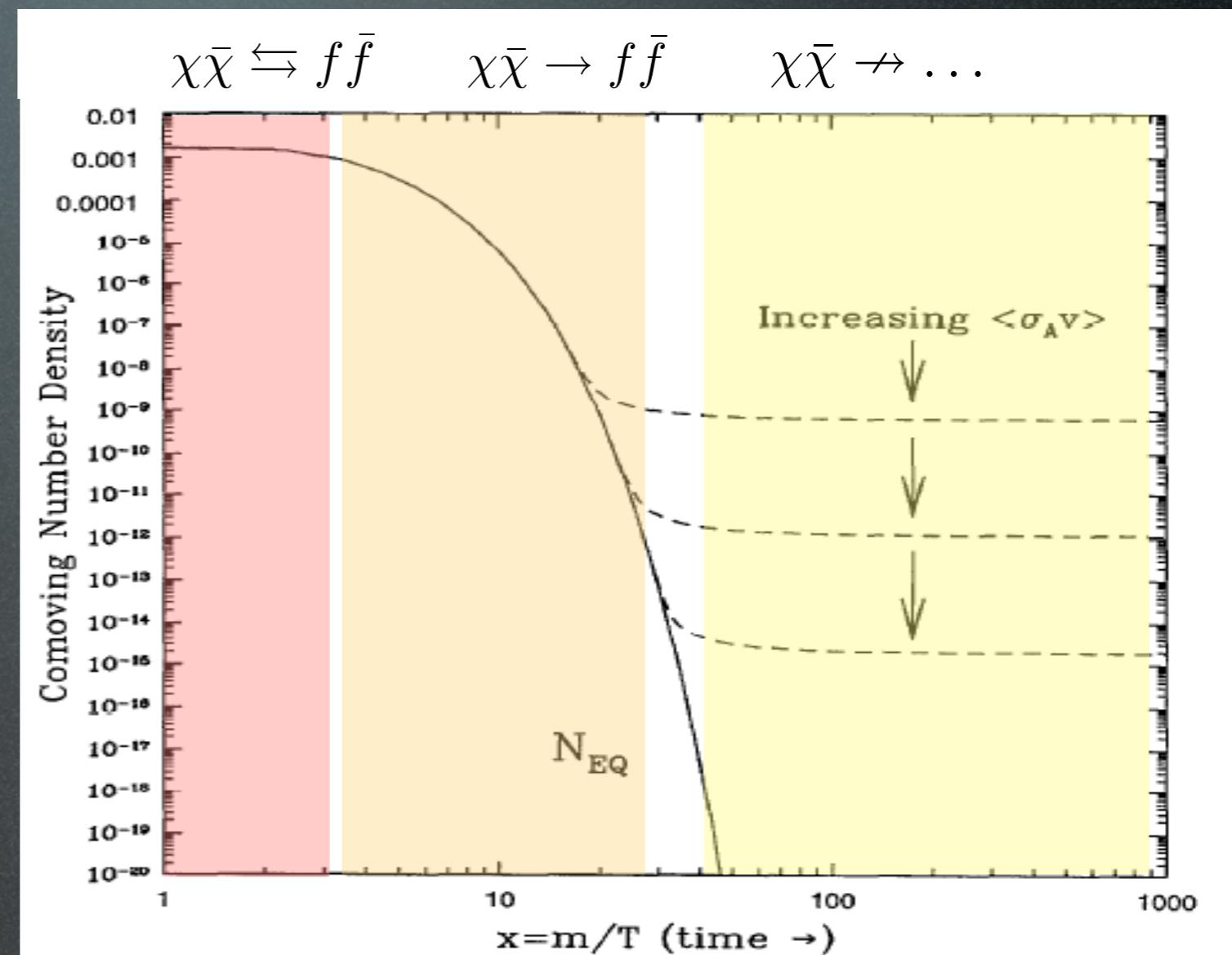
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# Candidates

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the TeV scale

thermal  
freeze-out

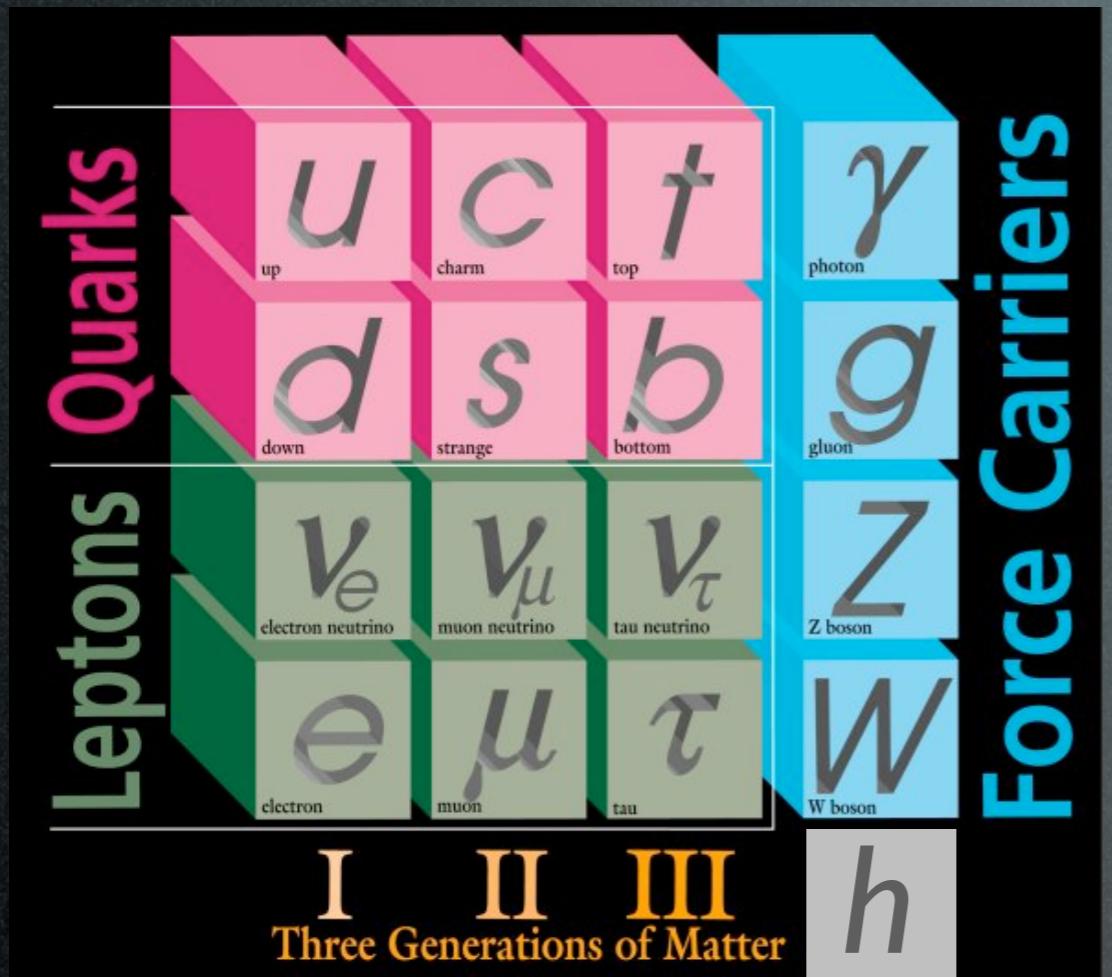
WIMPs

LHC

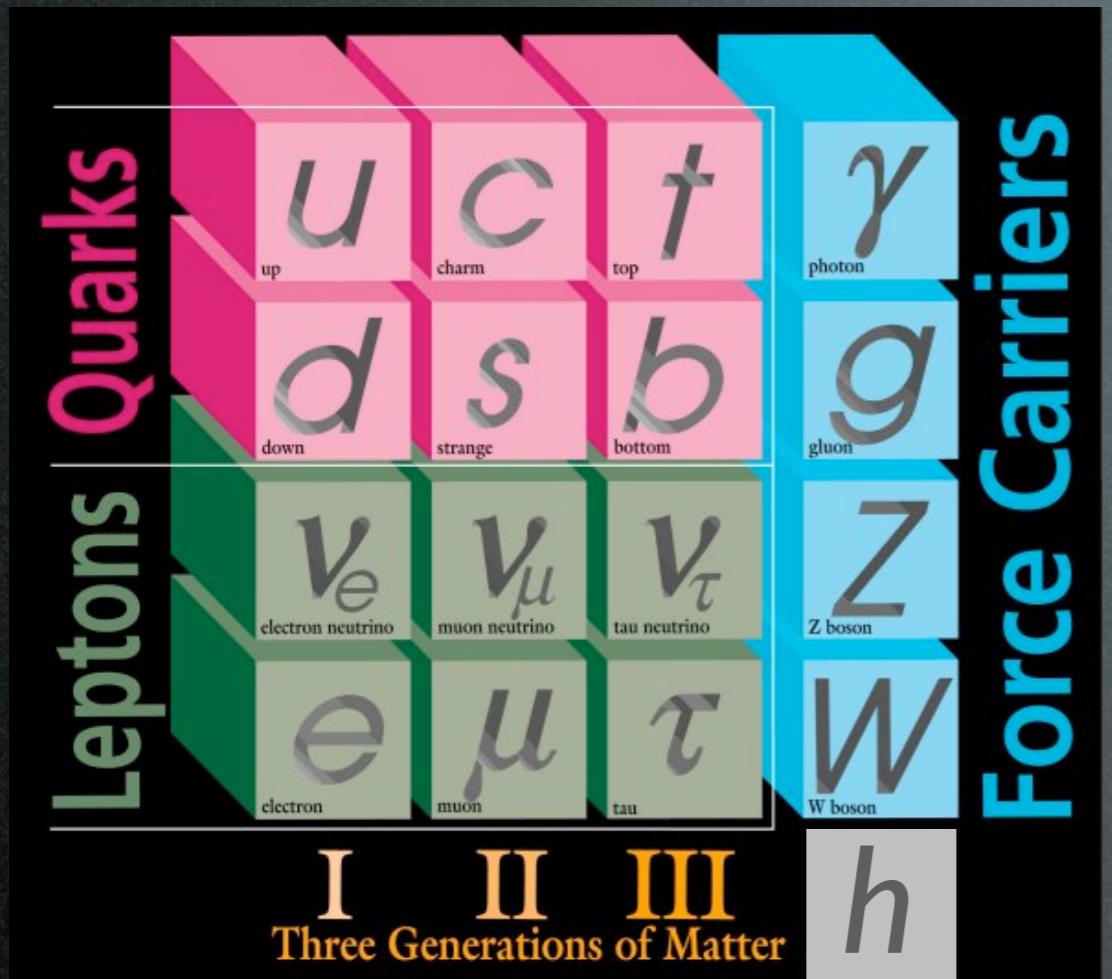
Indirect  
Detection

Direct  
Detection

# SuSy DM in 2 minutes



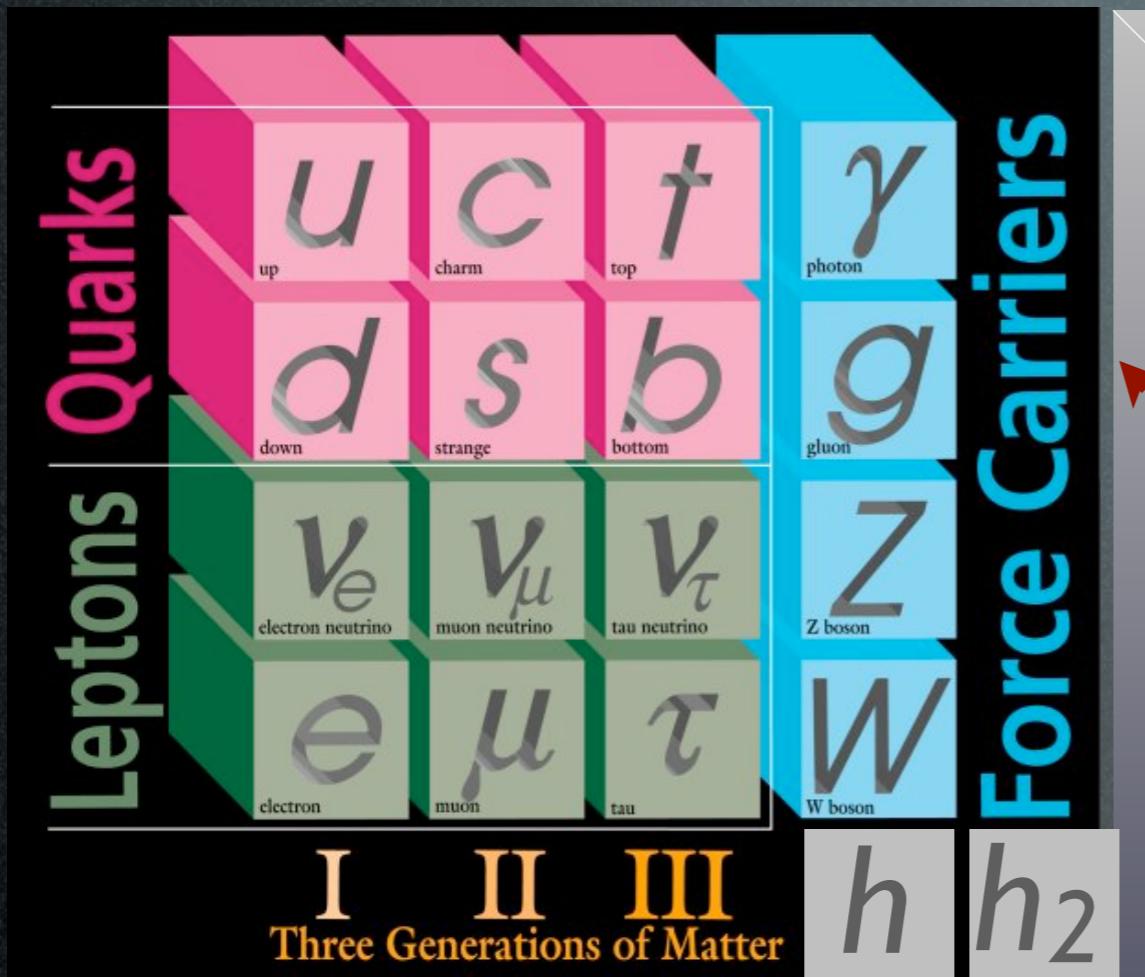
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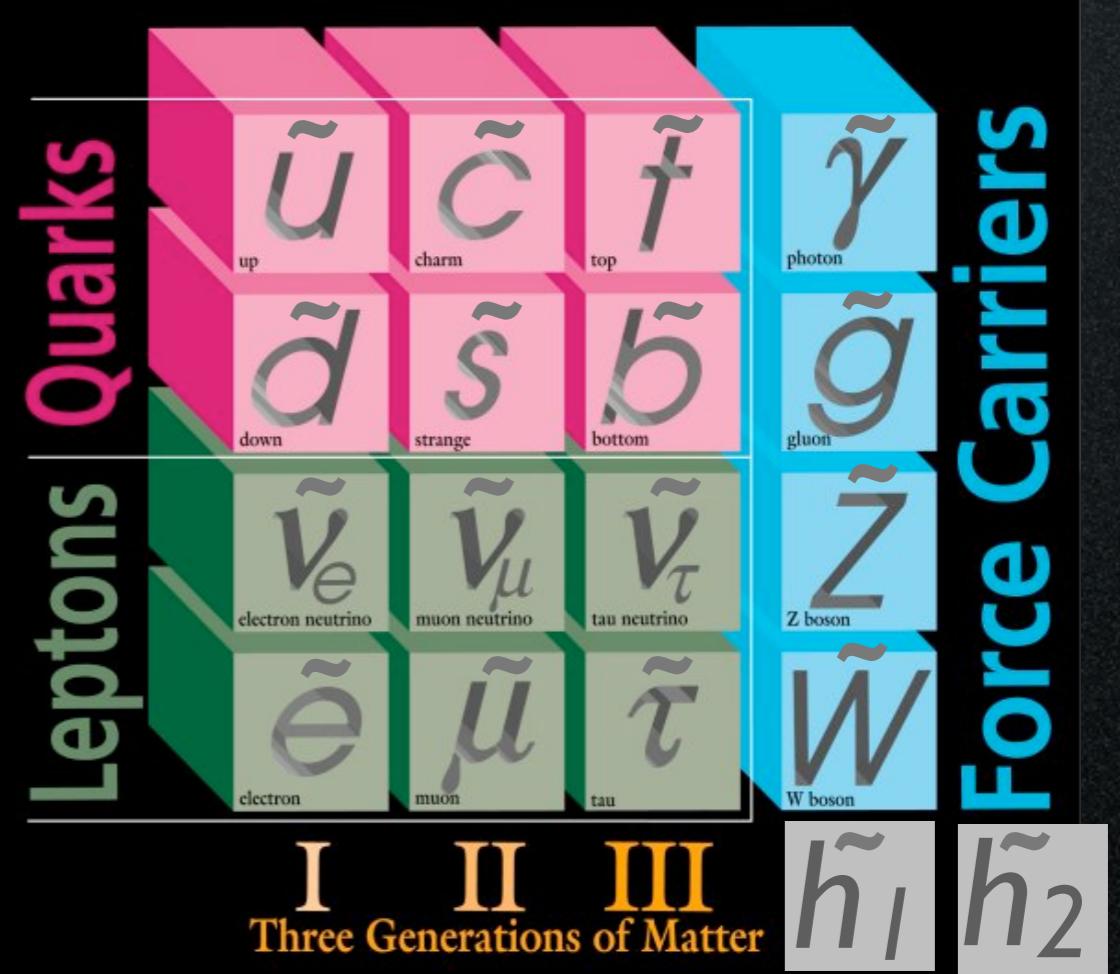
$$m_h \simeq 125 \text{ GeV}$$



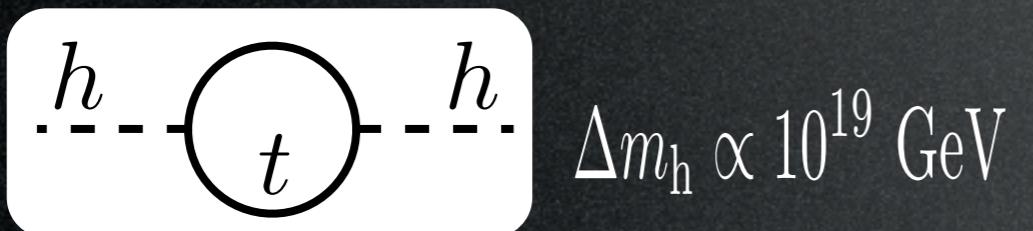
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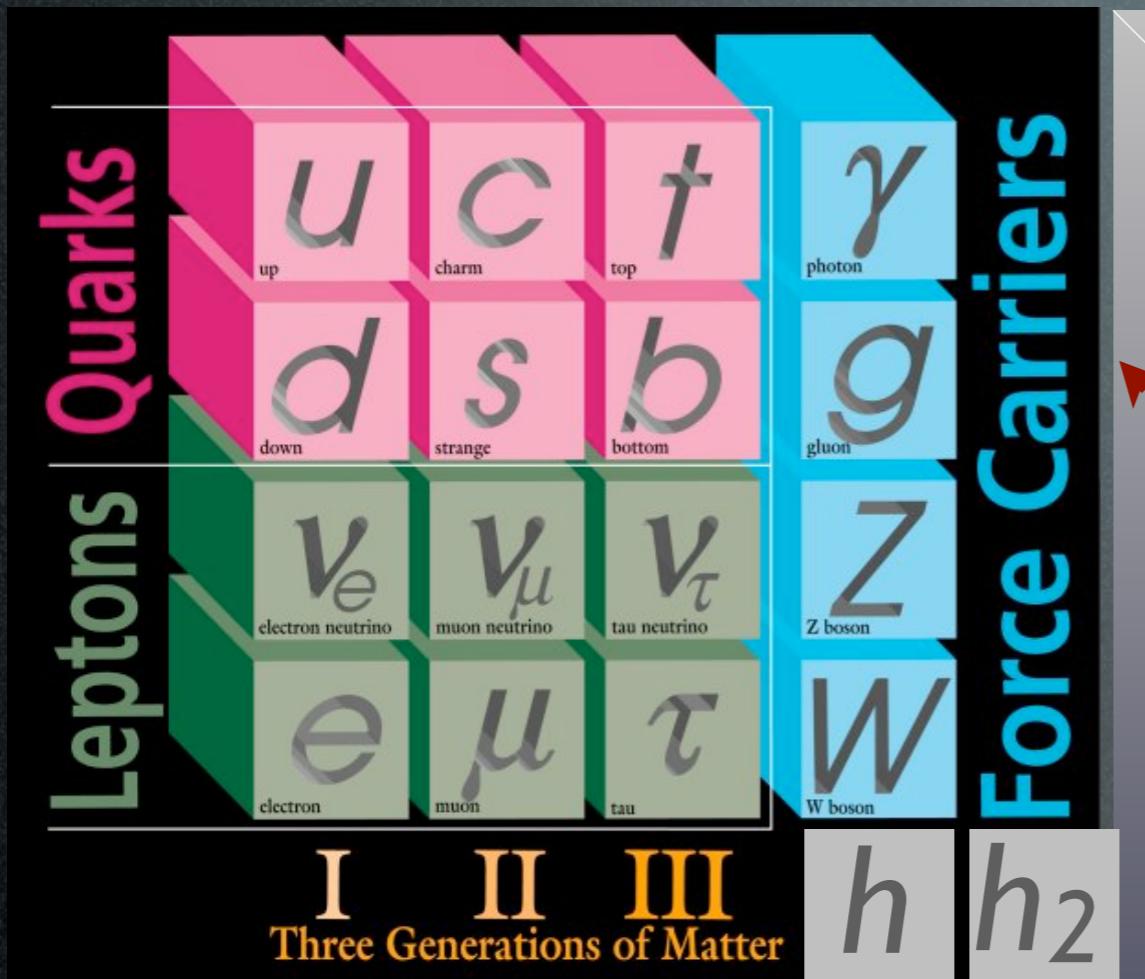
200 GeV



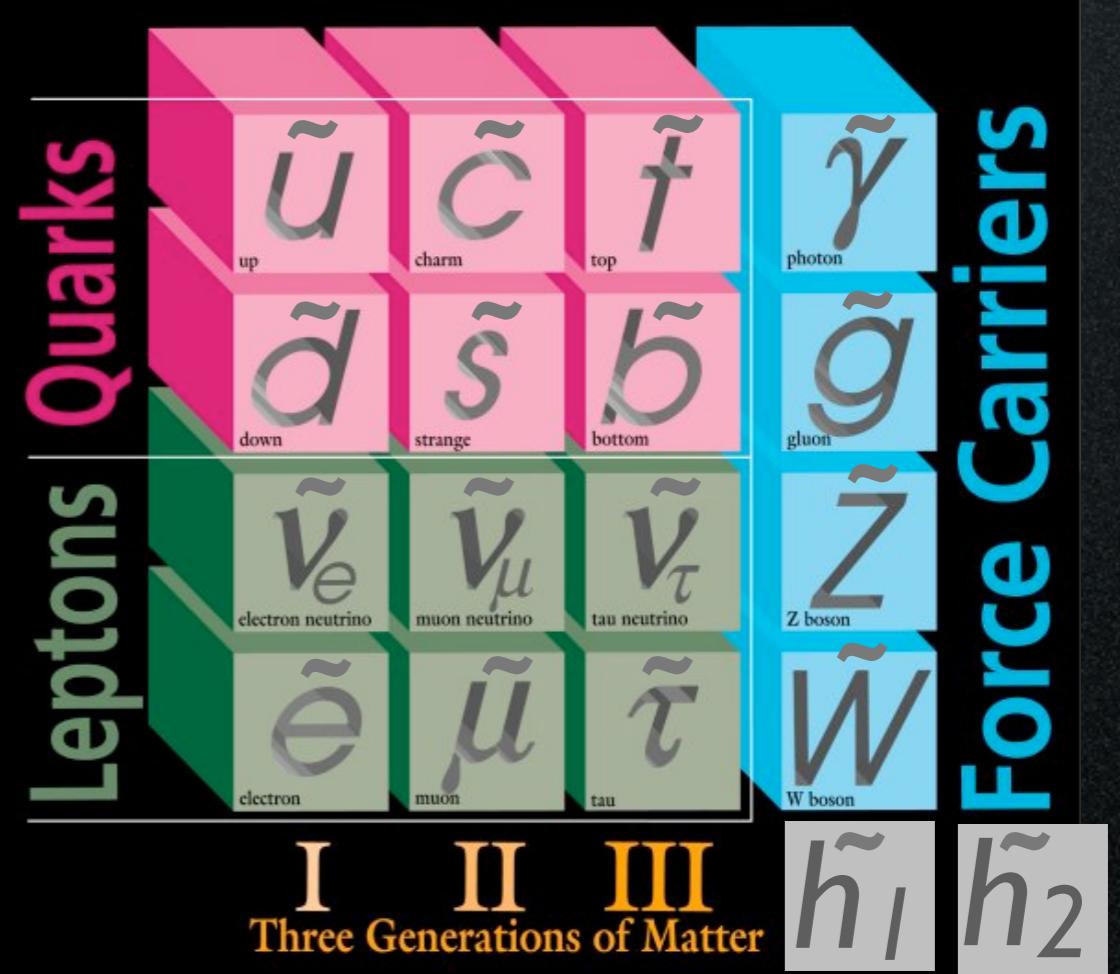
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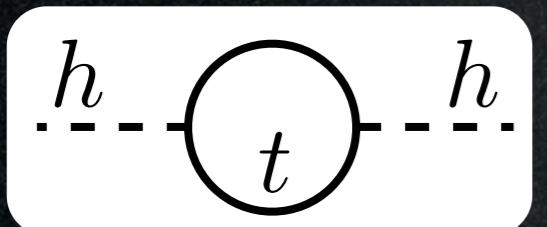


200 GeV



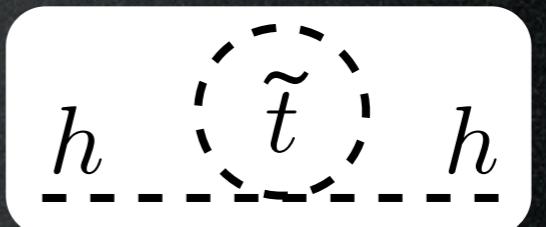
$$R = +1$$

$$m_h \simeq 125 \text{ GeV}$$



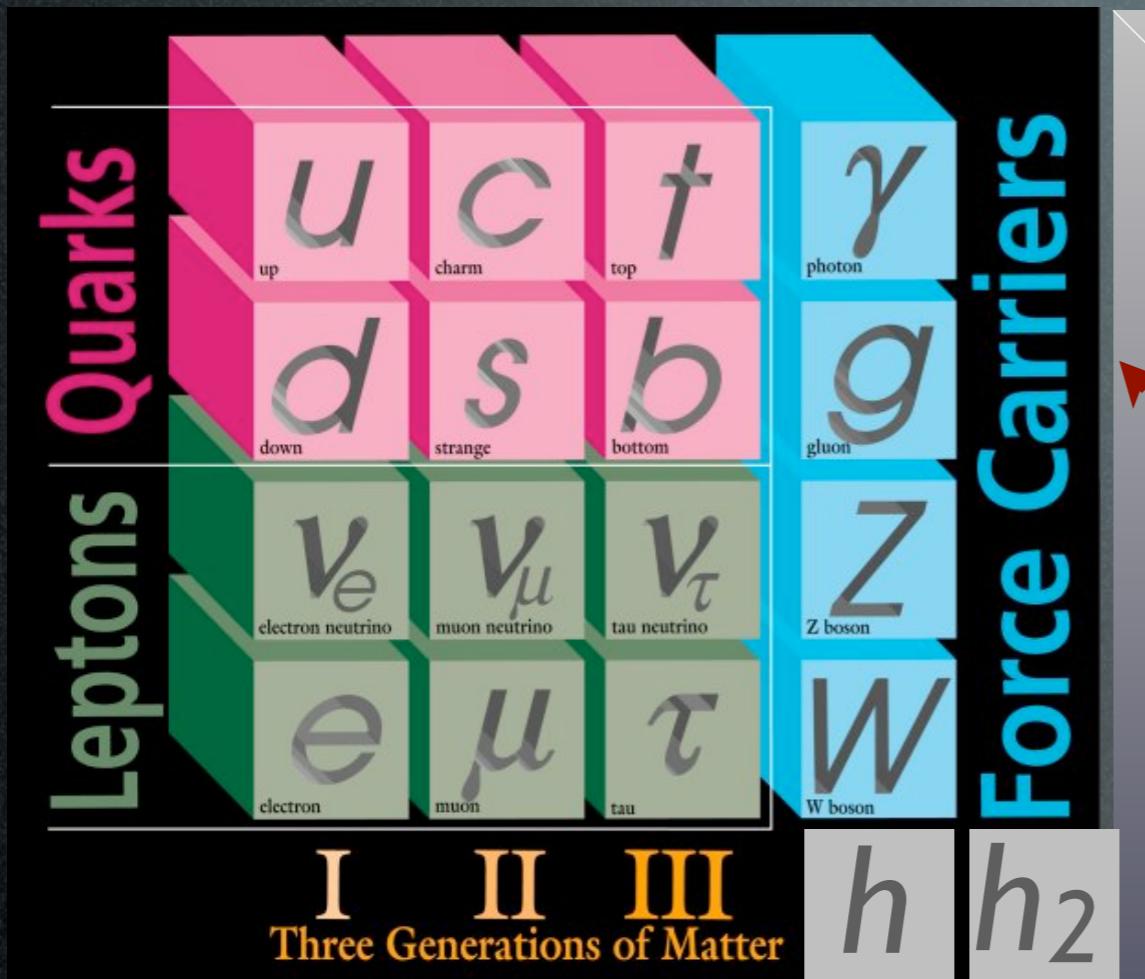
$$\Delta m_h \propto 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$$

$$R = -1$$

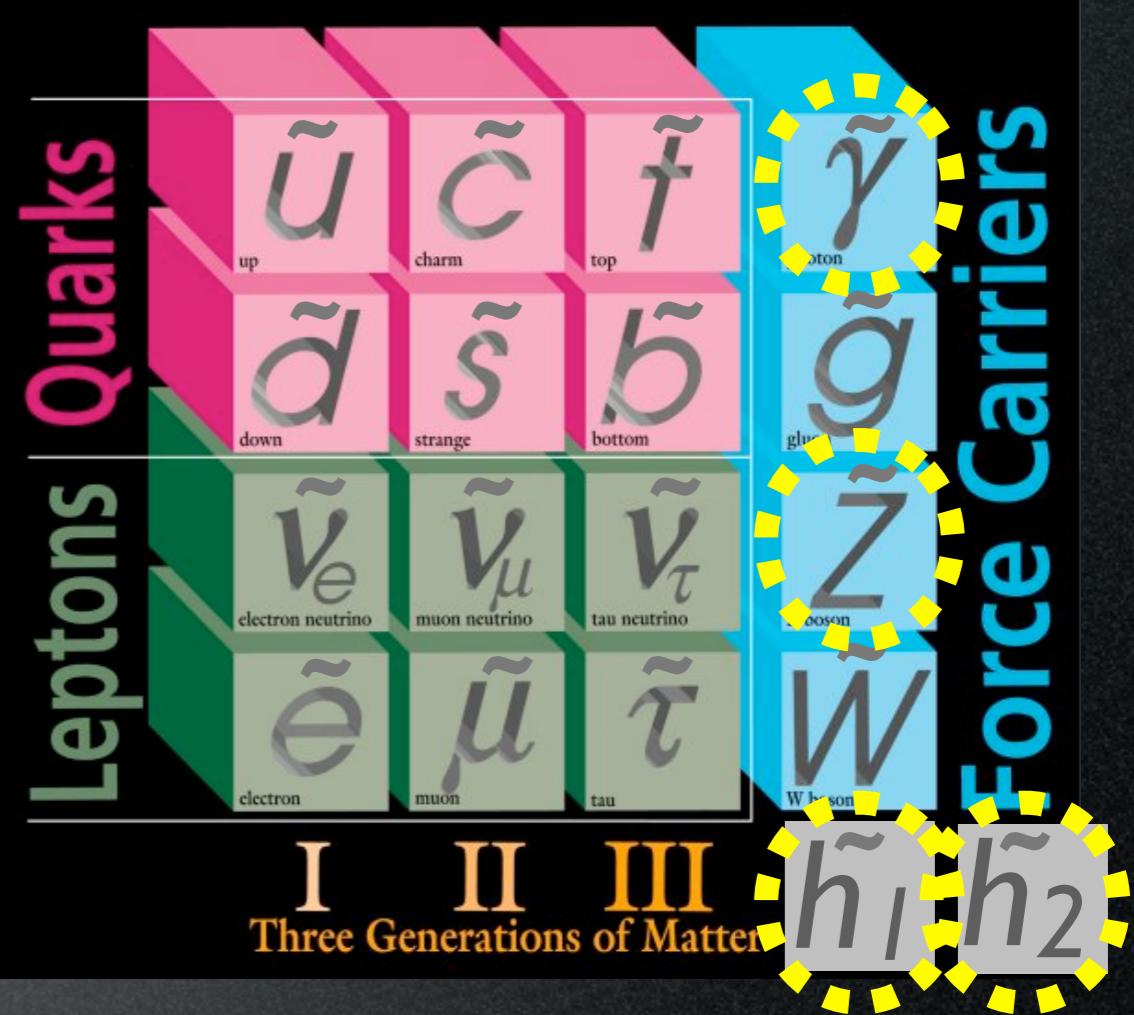


$$\Delta m_h \propto -10^{19} \text{ GeV}$$

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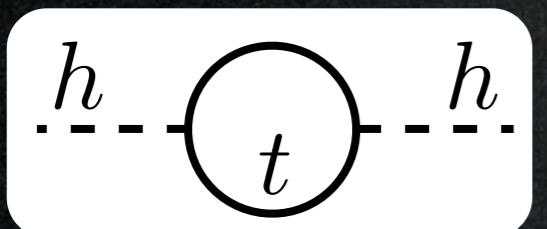


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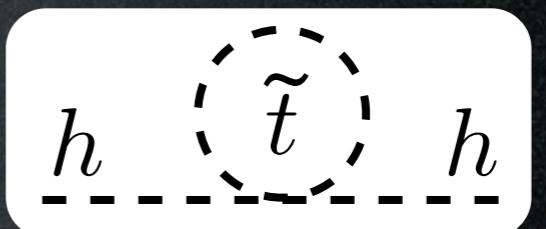
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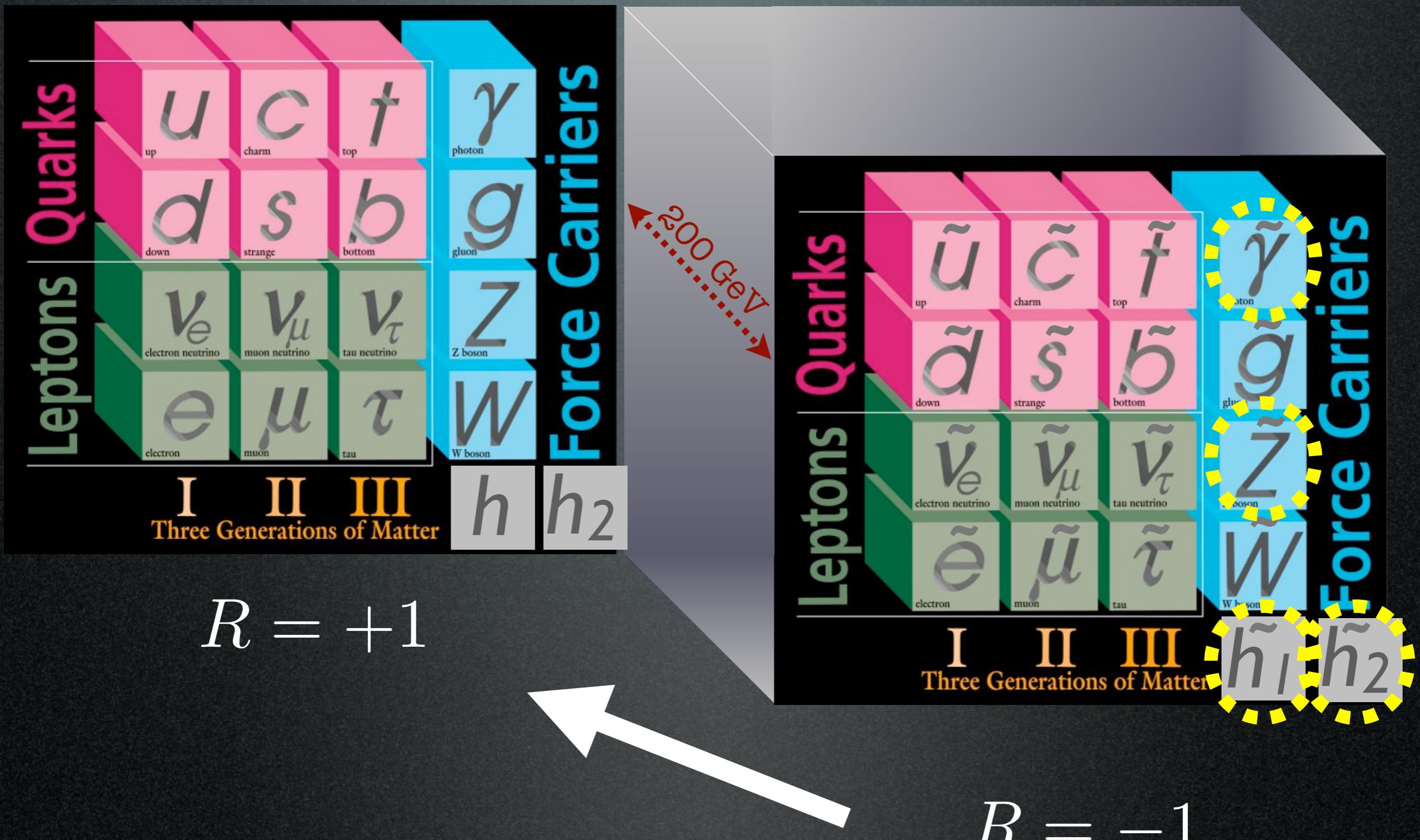
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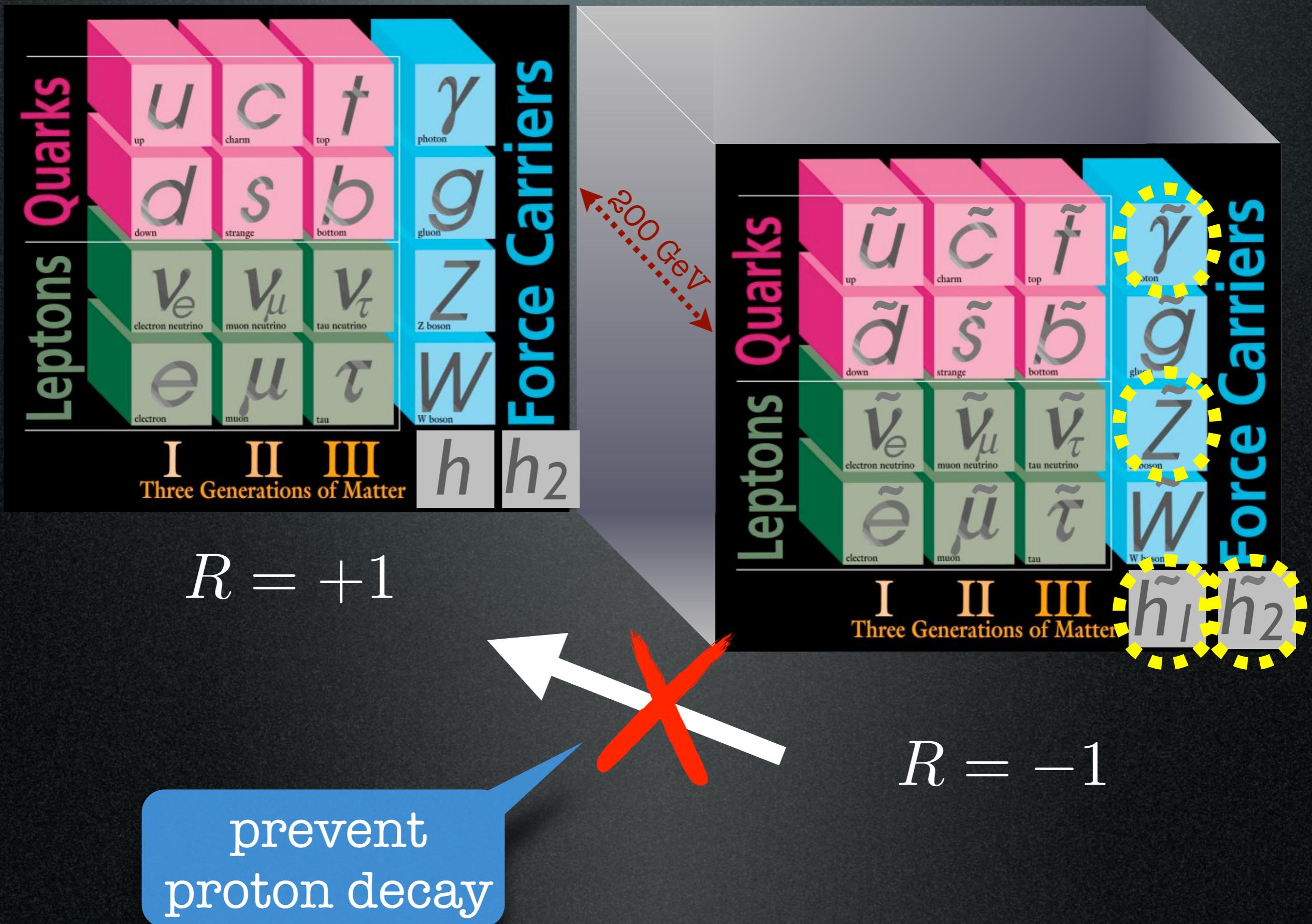


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# SuSy DM in 2 minutes



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# Candidates

new physics at  
the TeV scale

thermal  
freeze-out

WIMPs

LHC

Indirect  
Detection

Direct  
Detection

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1. even without a larger framework, WIMPs are **still appealing**
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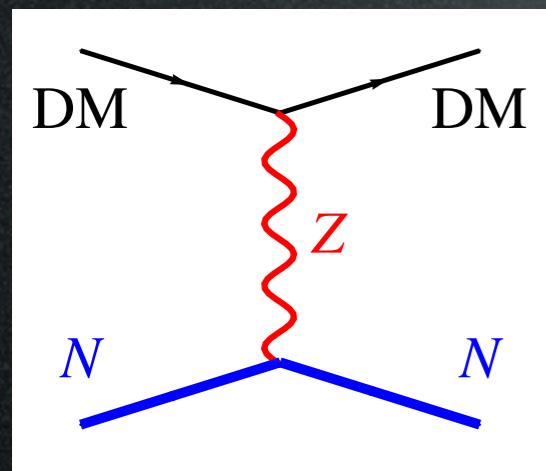
Indirect  
Detection

Direct  
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1. even without a larger framework, WIMPs are **still appealing**
2. the three search strategies are **complementary**

# WIMP DD: ‘theory’

SM weak scale SI interactions

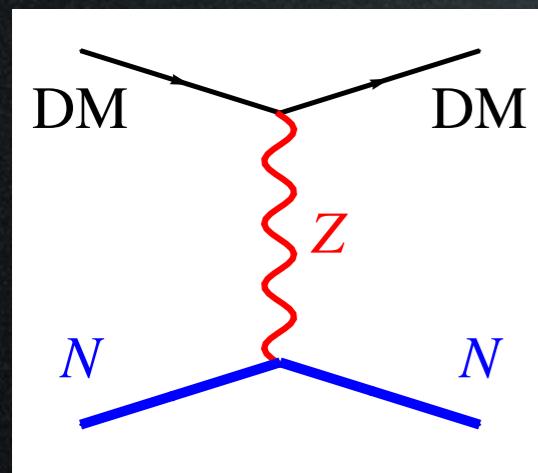


tree level,  
vector

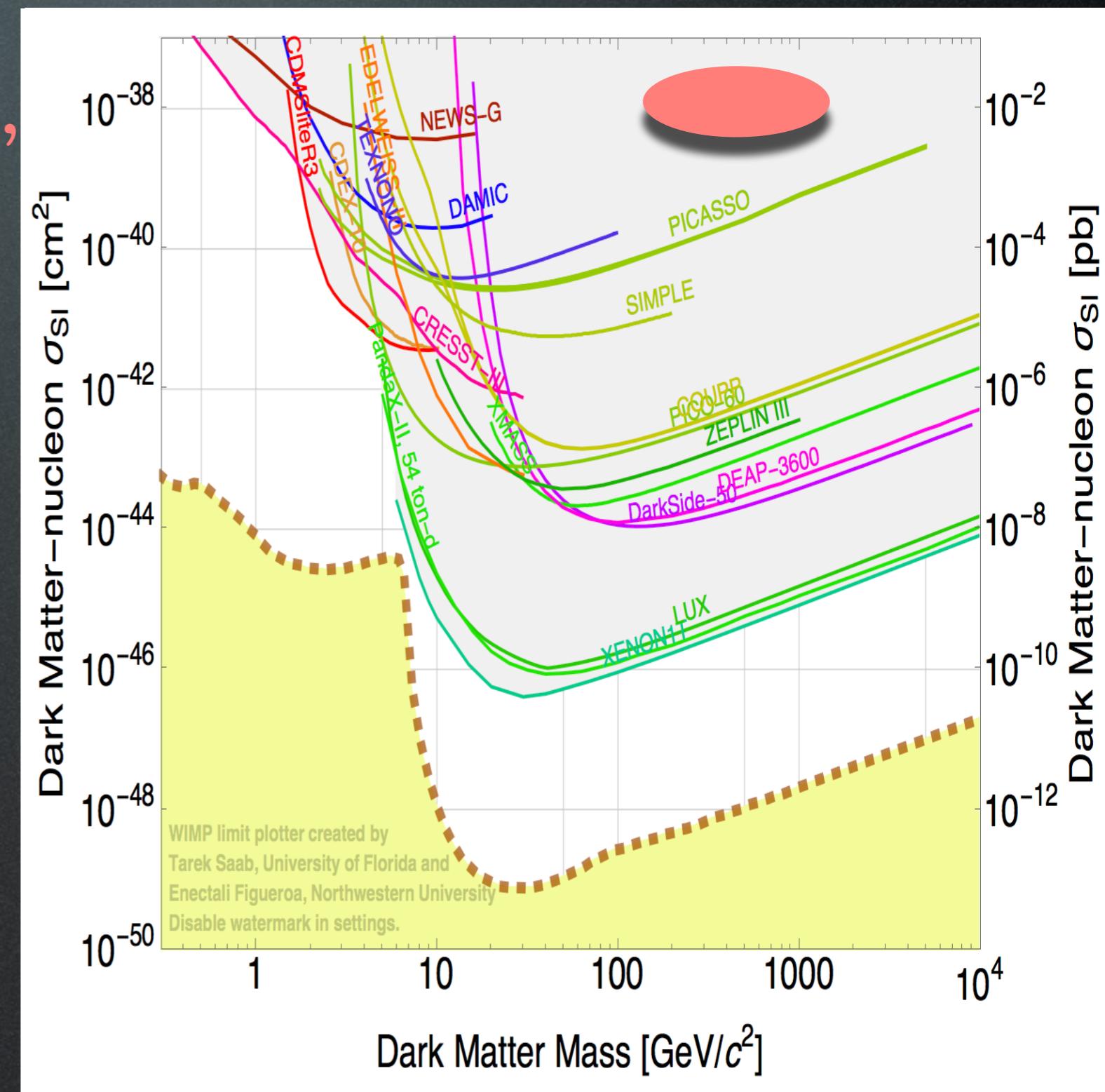
$$\sigma_{\text{SI}} \sim \frac{\alpha^2 m_N^2}{M_Z^4}$$

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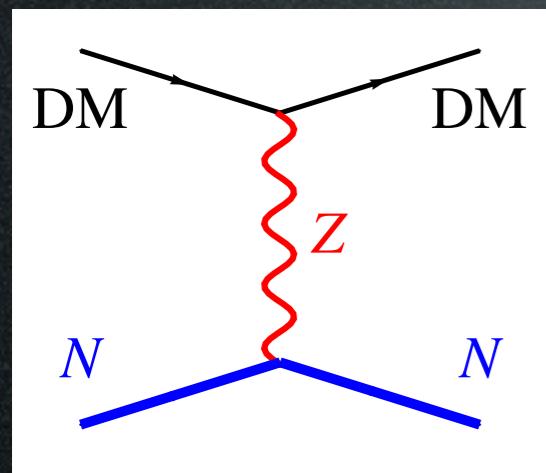


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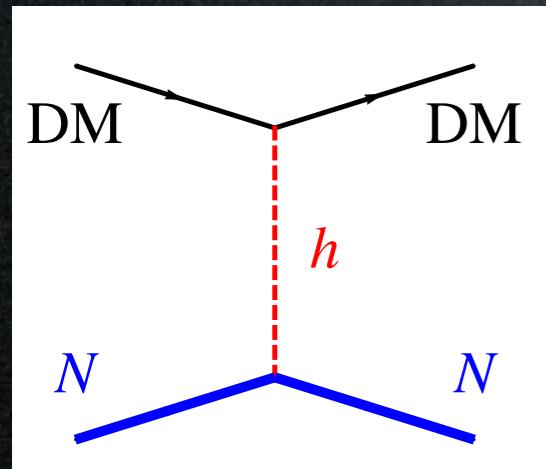
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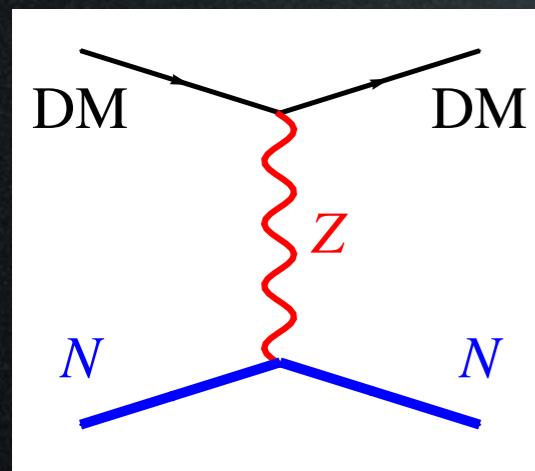


tree level,  
scalar

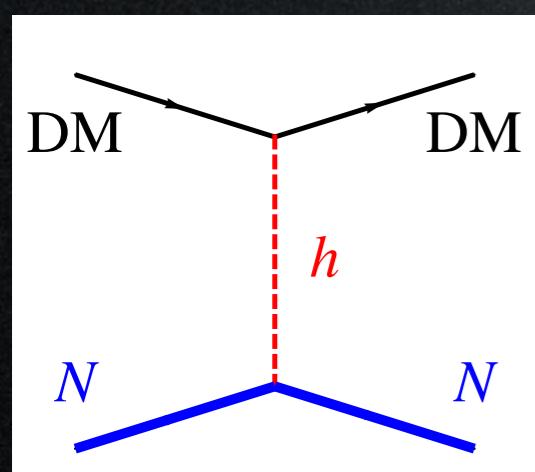
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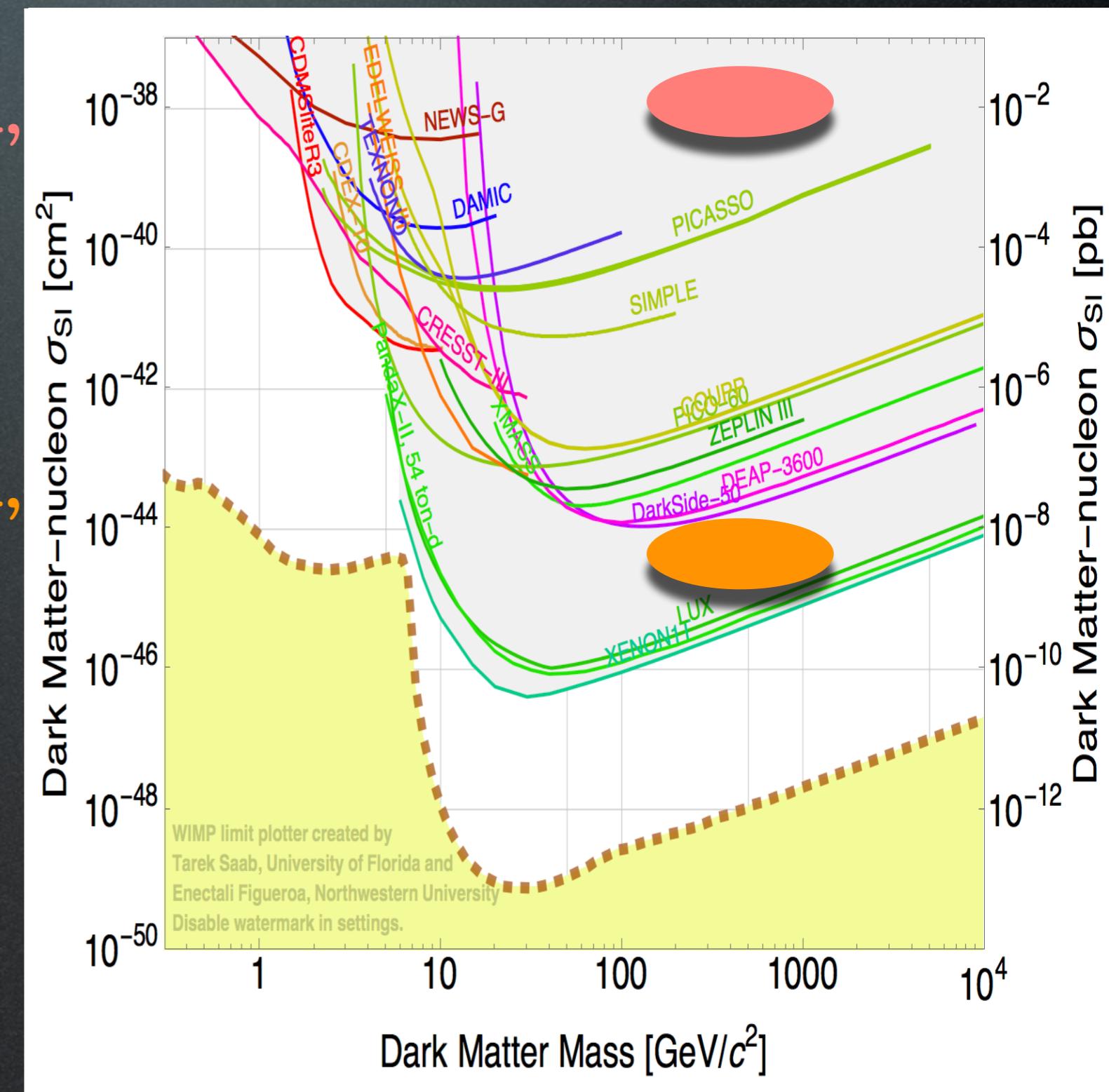
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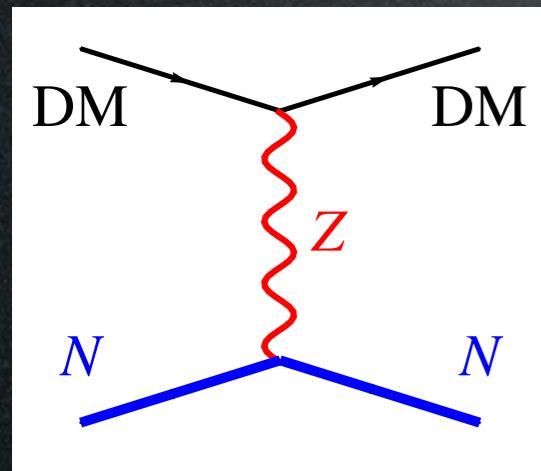


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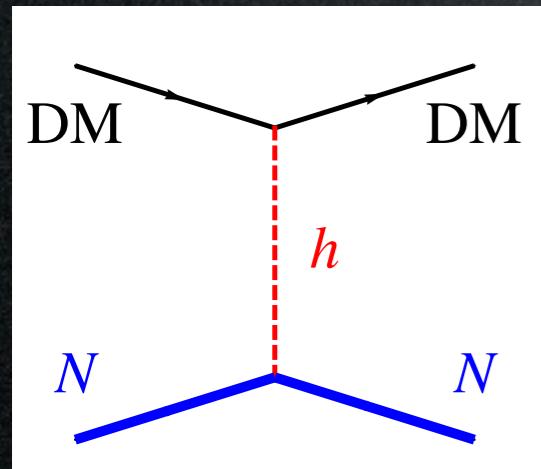
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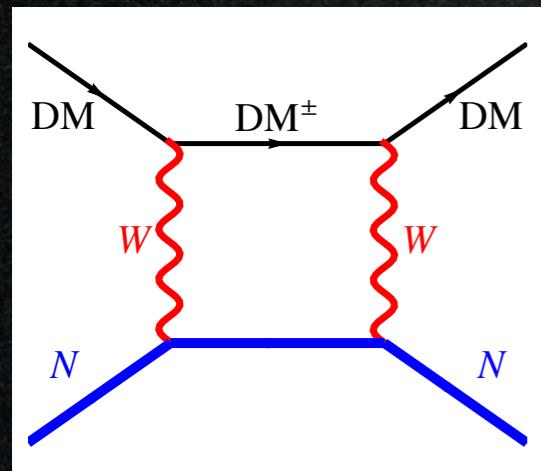
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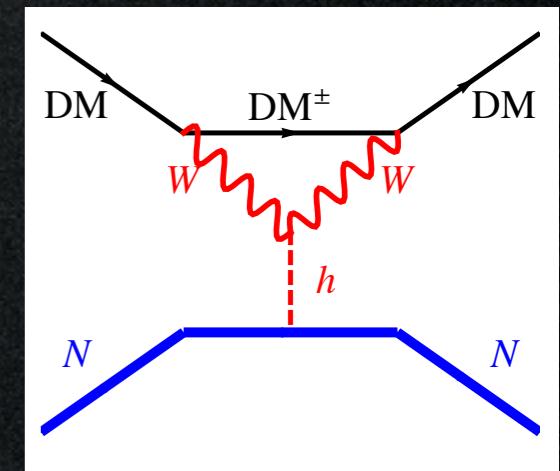
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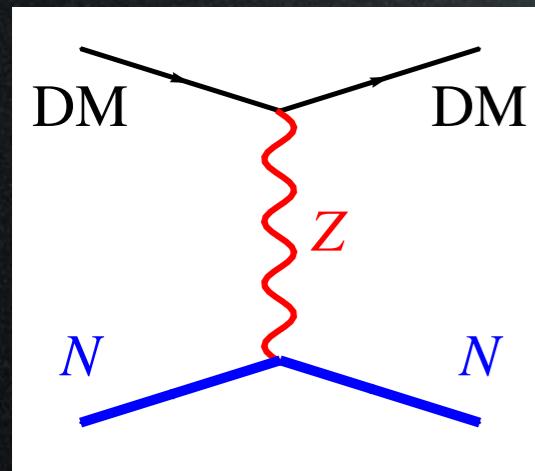
one loop

$$\sigma_{\text{SI}} \sim \frac{\alpha^4 m_N^4}{M_W^6}$$

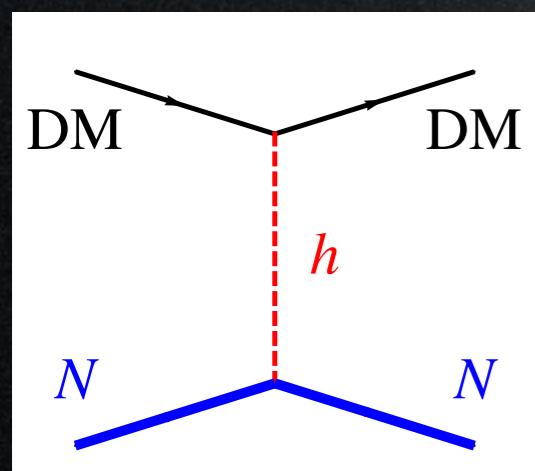


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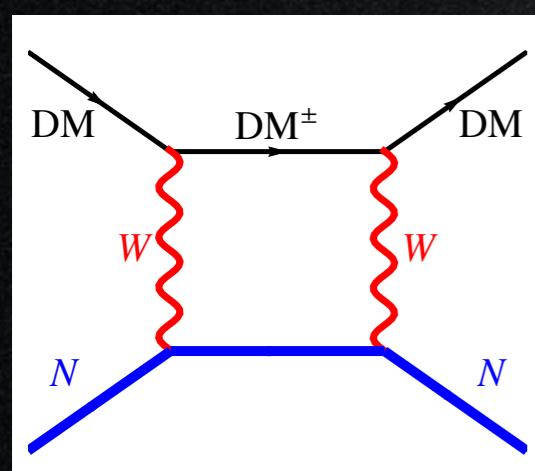
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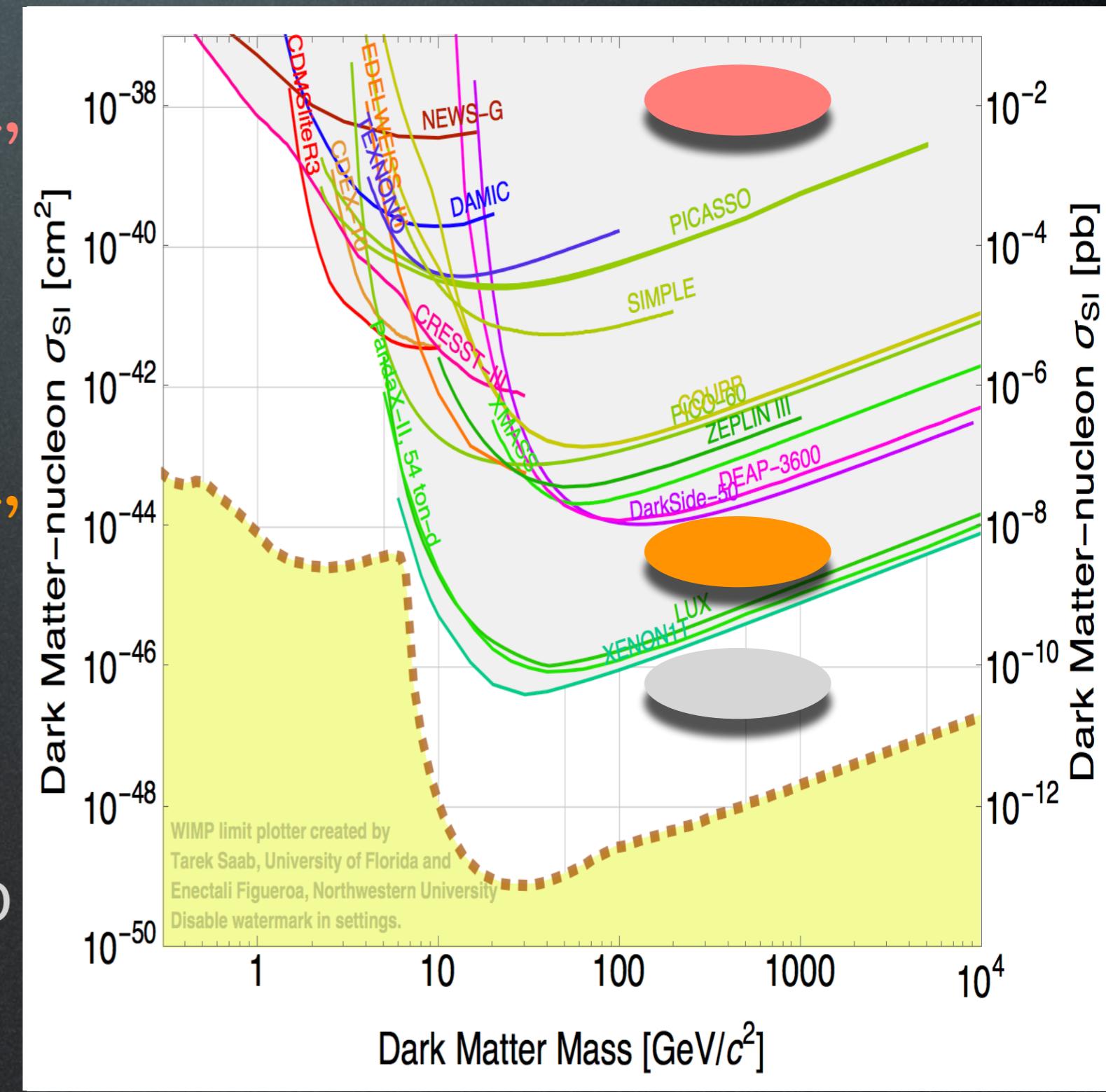
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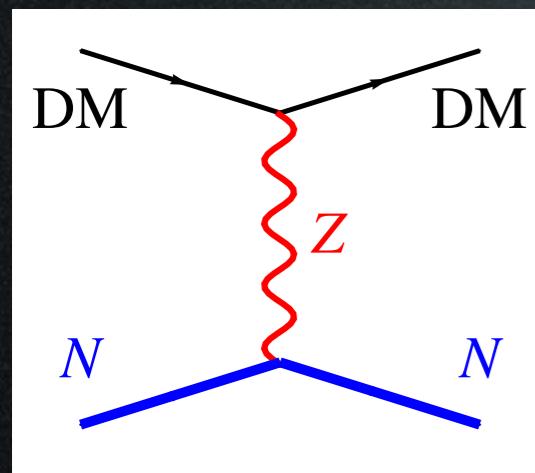


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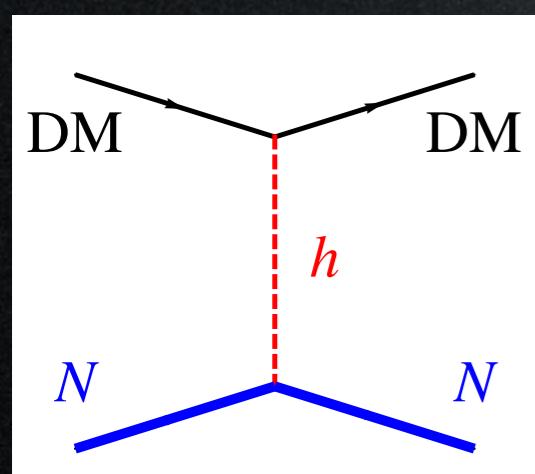


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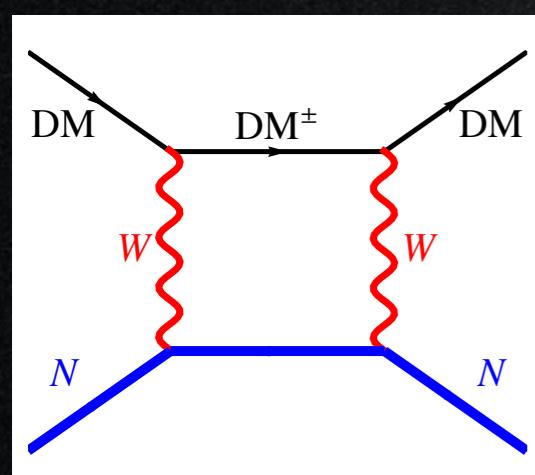
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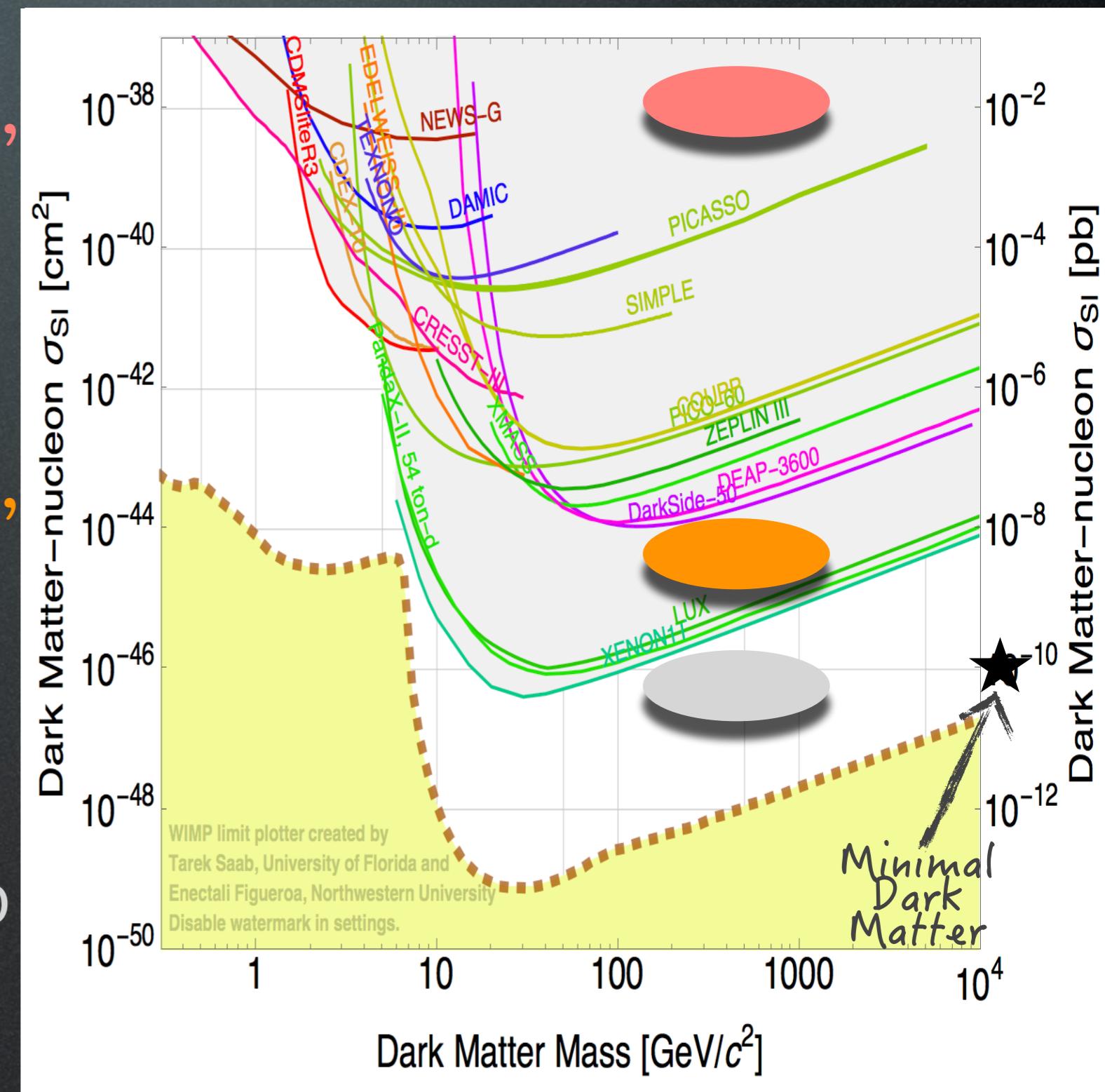
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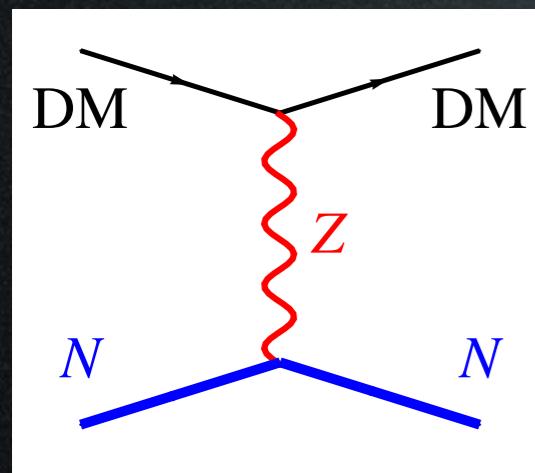


one loop

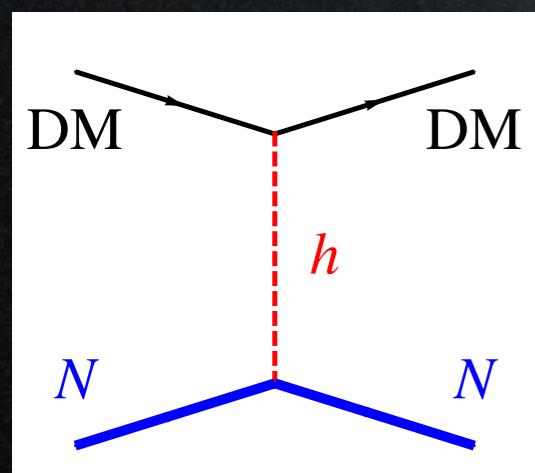


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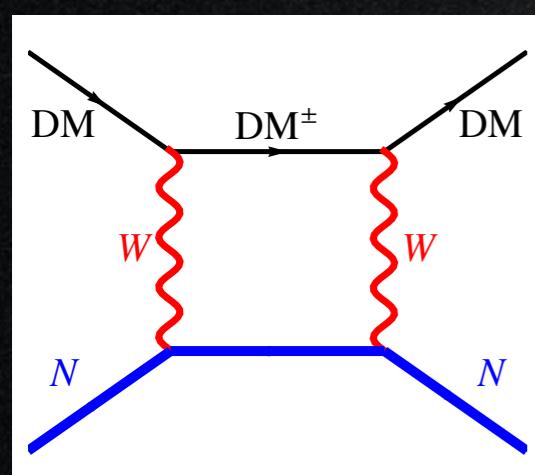
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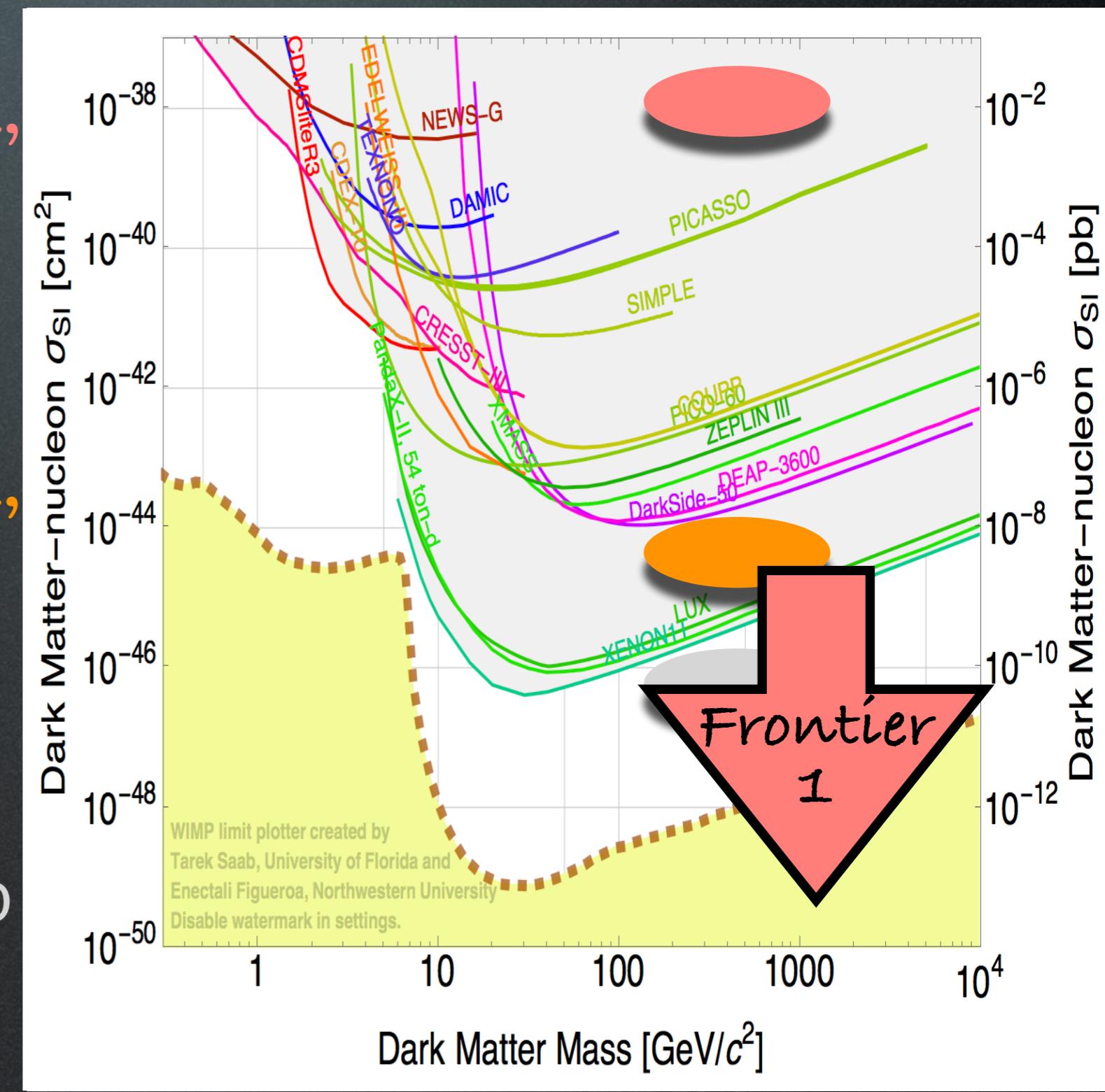
tree level,  
vector



tree level,  
scalar



one loop



# Candidates

new physics at  
the TeV scale

thermal  
freeze-out

WIMPs

LHC

Indirect  
Detection

Direct  
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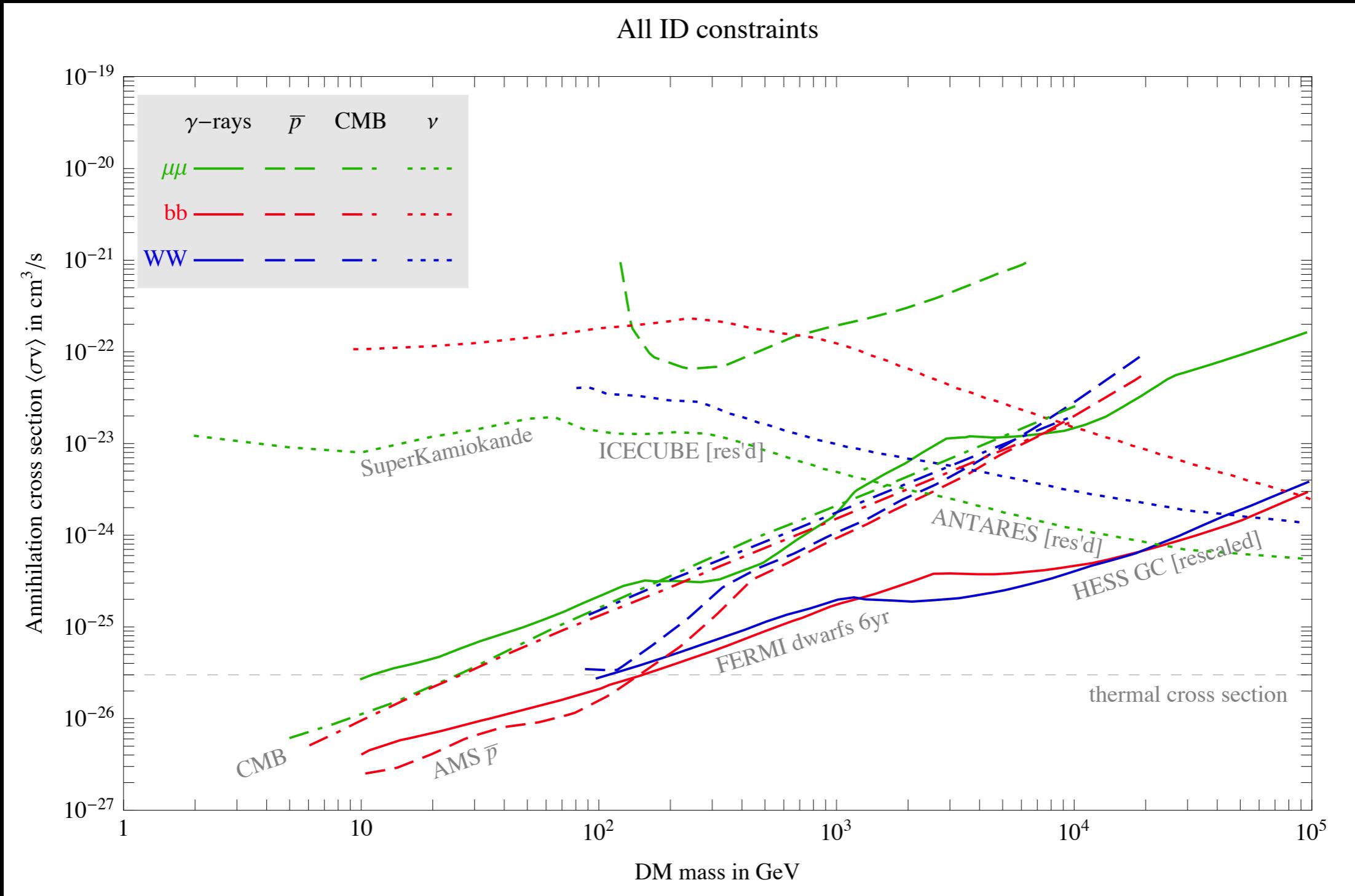
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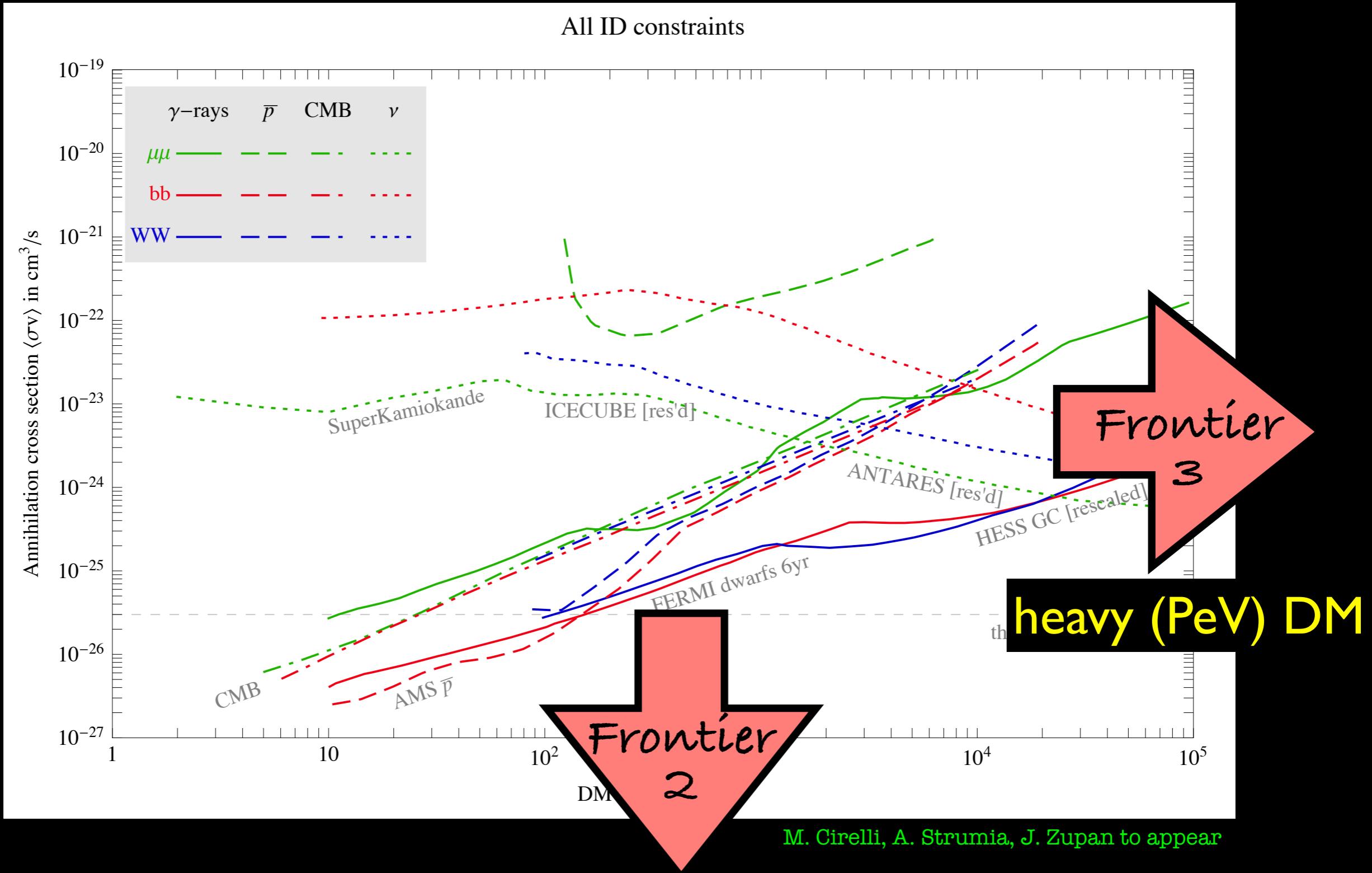
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# Indirect Detection



M. Cirelli, A. Strumia, J. Zupan to appear

# Indirect Detection



WIMPs & very weakly coupled DM

# Indirect Detection

**Frontier 3:**

heavy (PeV) DM

# Indirect Detection

## Frontier 3:

### heavy (PeV) DM

- ‘Pure WIMP’ models foresee multi-TeV DM  
*models with only DM beyond SM,  
no other ingredients*

# Indirect Detection

## Frontier 3:

### heavy (PeV) DM

- ‘Pure WIMP’ models foresee multi-TeV DM
- Heavy DM => weak force as a long-range force

# Indirect Detection

## Frontier 3:

### heavy (PeV) DM

- ‘Pure WIMP’ models foresee multi-TeV DM
- Heavy DM => weak force as a long-range force
  - Sommerfeld enhancement
  - Bound state formation enhancement
  - => heav(ier) DM

# Indirect Detection

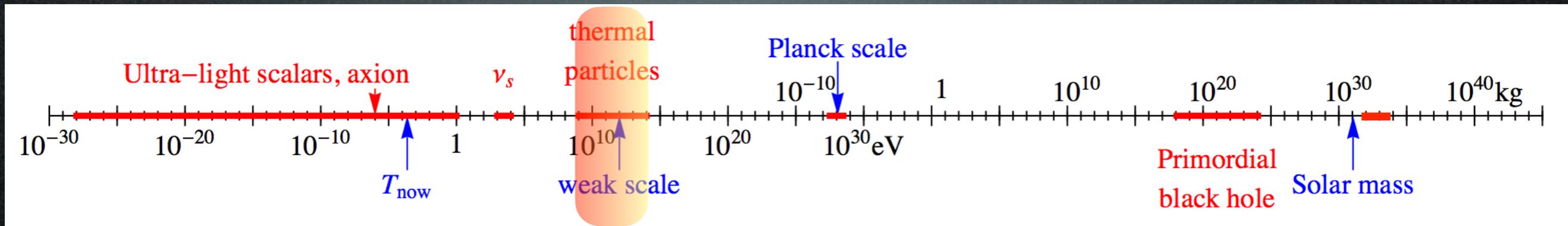
## Frontier 3:

### heavy (PeV) DM

- ‘Pure WIMP’ models foresee multi-TeV DM
- Heavy DM => weak force as a long-range force
  - Sommerfeld enhancement
  - Bound state formation enhancement
  - => heav(ier) DM
- Unitarity bound ( $\sim 300$  TeV) can be overcome

# Candidates

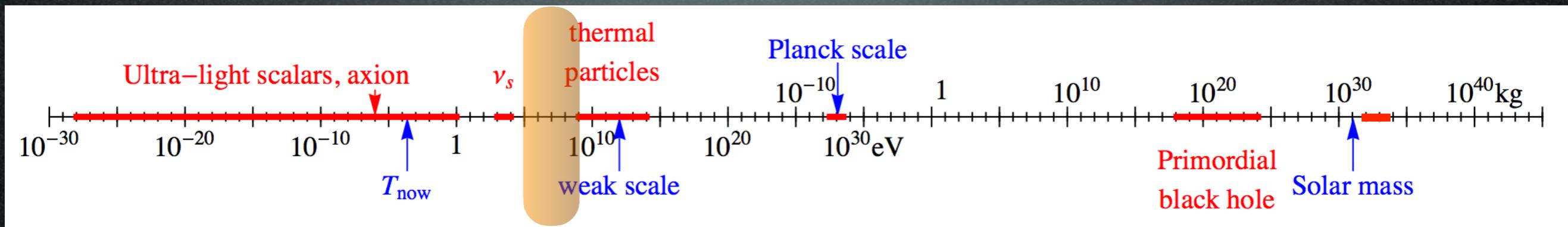
A matter of perspective: plausible mass ranges



90 orders of magnitude!

# Candidates

A matter of perspective: plausible mass ranges



90 orders of magnitude!

**Sub-GeV DM?**

# Candidates

theory?

production?

Sub-GeV DM?

Collider  
Searches?

Indirect  
Detection?

Direct  
Detection?

# Theory

## Sub-GeV DM

- WIMPless Dark Matter

Feng & Kumar 0803.4196

a.k.a. hidden sector DM  
~ secluded DM

# Theory

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~secluded DM

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$$\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} v \rangle \approx \frac{\alpha_x^2}{m^2}$$

# Theory

## Sub-GeV DM

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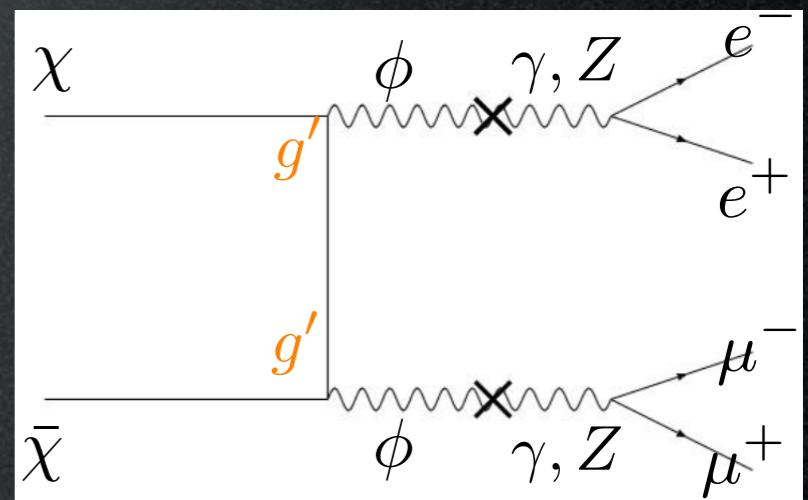
Feng & Kumar 0803.4196

a.k.a. hidden sector DM  
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$$\langle \sigma_{\text{ann}} v \rangle \approx \frac{\alpha_x^2}{m^2}$$

if  $g_x$  is small,  
 $m$  ‘naturally’ small  
(but nothing points to a precise value)



Production mechanism:  
just thermal freeze-out  
of these annihilations

# Theory

## Sub-GeV DM

- ‘SIMP miracle’: scalar DM with relic abundance set by  $3 \rightarrow 2$  processes

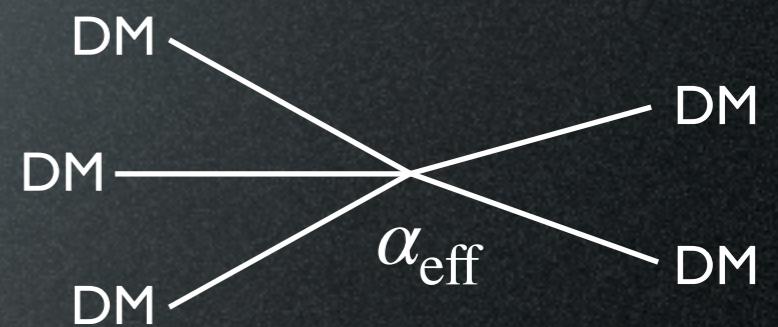
points to

$$m_{\text{DM}} \sim \alpha_{\text{eff}} (T_{\text{eq}}^2 M_{\text{Pl}})^{1/3} \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$$

Hochberg et al 1402.5143

‘naturally realized’ in a dark-QCD-like setup

$$\alpha_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{O}(1) \quad \text{i.e.} \quad g_x \sim 4\pi$$



# Theory

## Sub-GeV DM

- ‘MeV (scalar) DM’ (for the Integral 511 KeV excess?)

Boehm & Fayet hep-ph/0305261

In conclusion, scalar Dark Matter particles can be significantly lighter than a few GeV’s (thus evading the generalisation of the Lee-Weinberg limit for weakly-interacting neutral fermions) if they are coupled to a new (light) gauge boson or to new heavy fermions  $F$  (through non chiral couplings and poten-

# Theory

## Sub-GeV DM

- ‘simplified (light) DM models’

Knapen, Lin, Zurek 1709.07882

# Theory

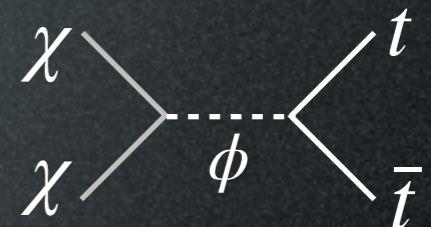
## Sub-GeV DM

- ‘simplified (light) DM models’

scalar DM and  
hadrophilic  
scalar mediator

Knapen, Lin, Zurek 1709.07882

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{2}m_\chi^2\chi^2 - \frac{1}{2}m_\phi^2\phi^2 - \frac{1}{2}y_\chi m_\chi \phi \chi^2 - y_n \phi \bar{n}n,$$



# Theory

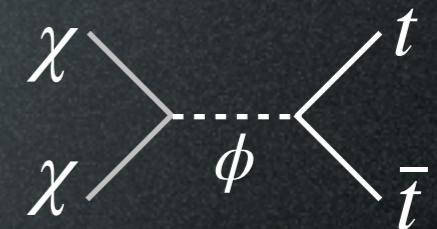
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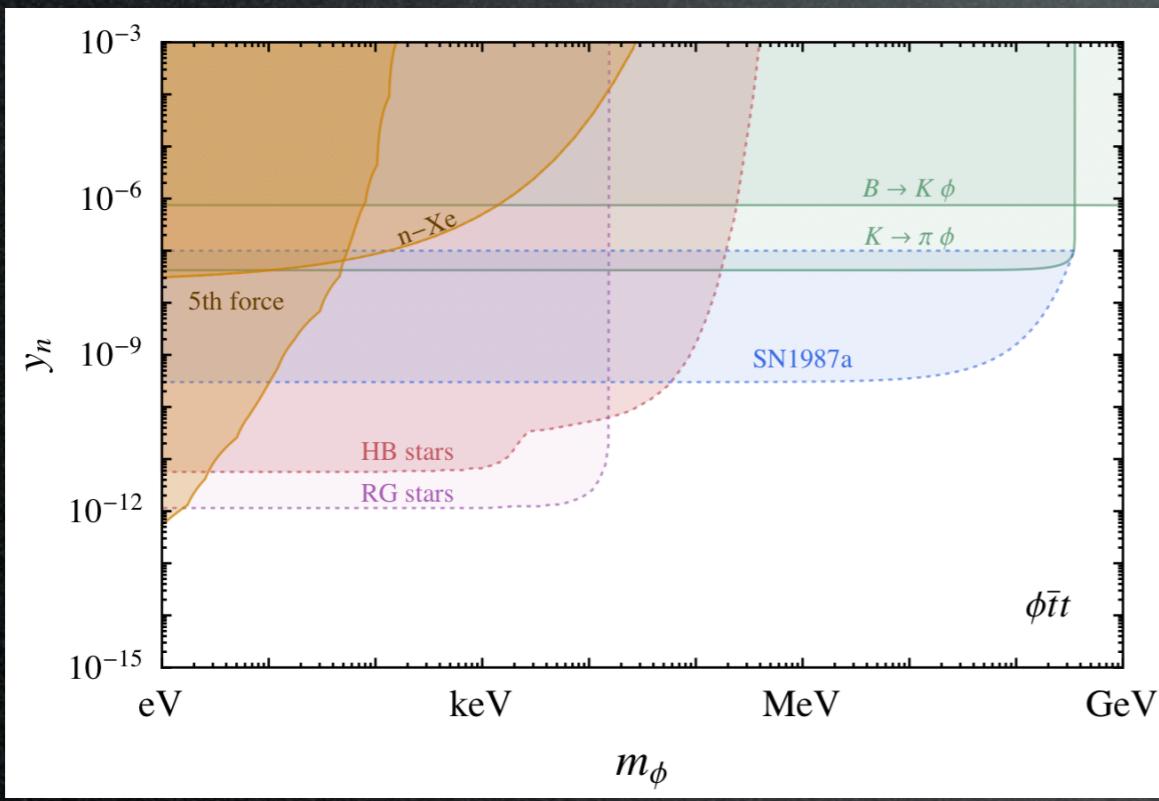
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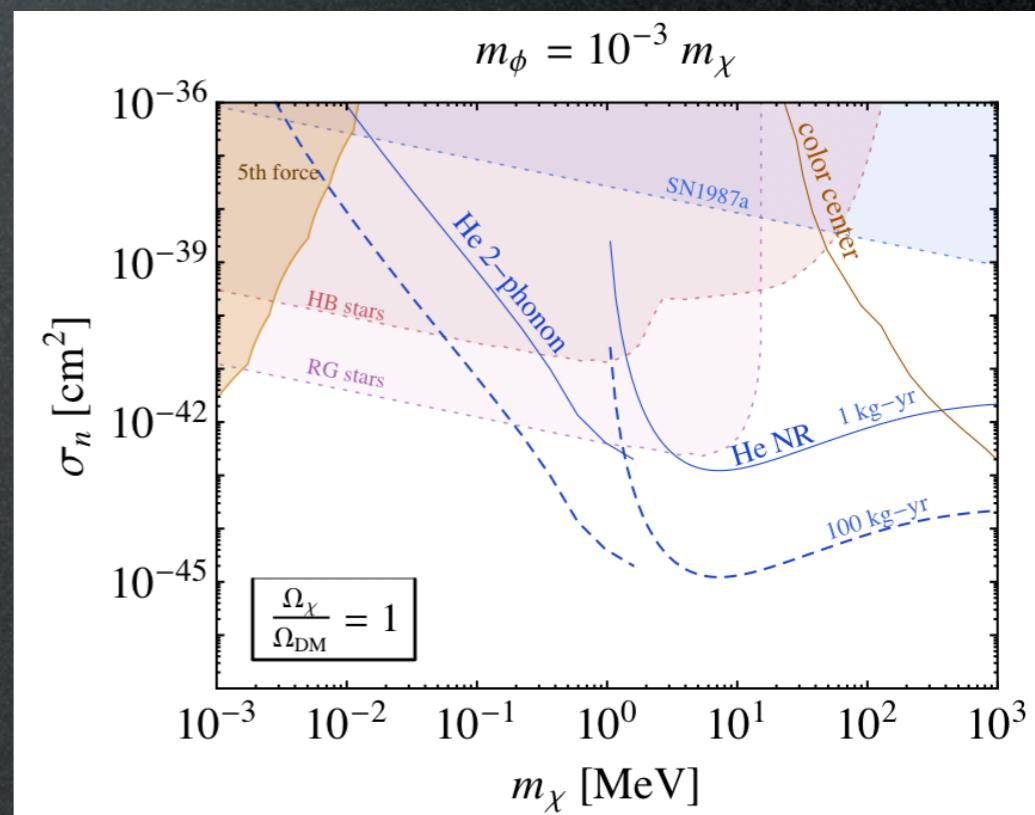
Knapen, Lin, Zurek 1709.07882



constraints on the mediator



constraints on the DM



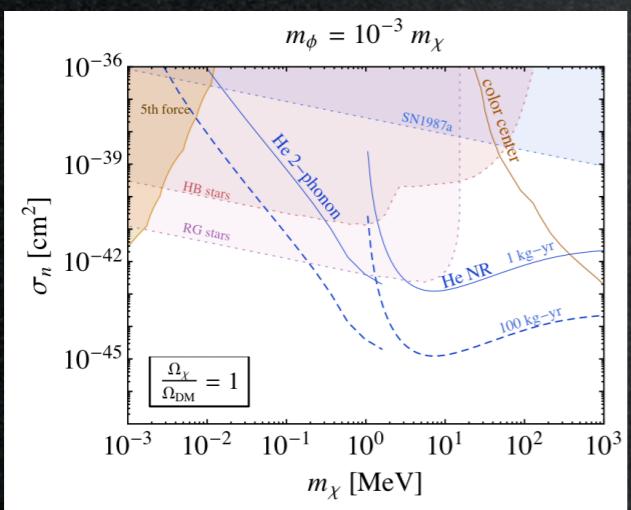
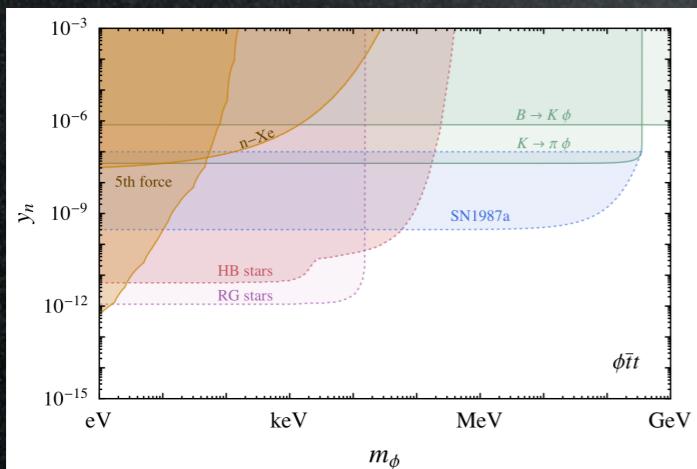
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Knapen, Lin, Zurek 1709.07882

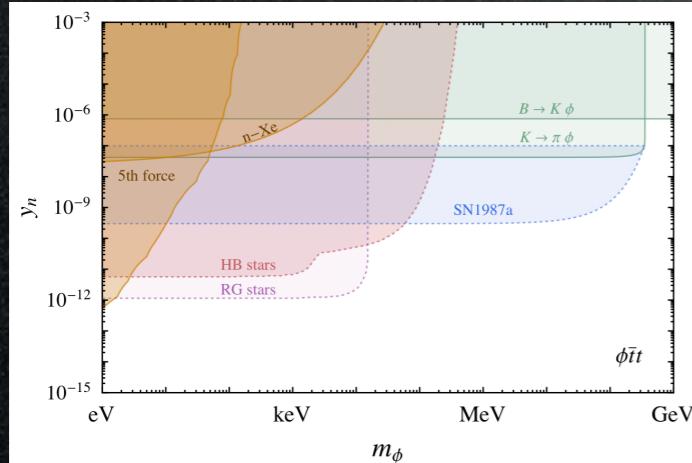
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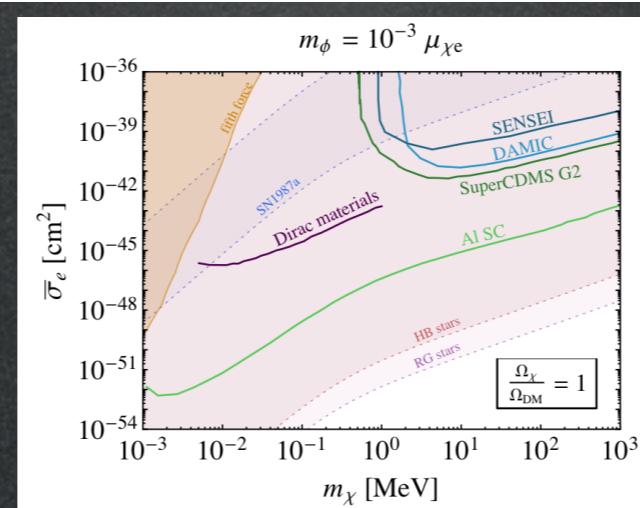
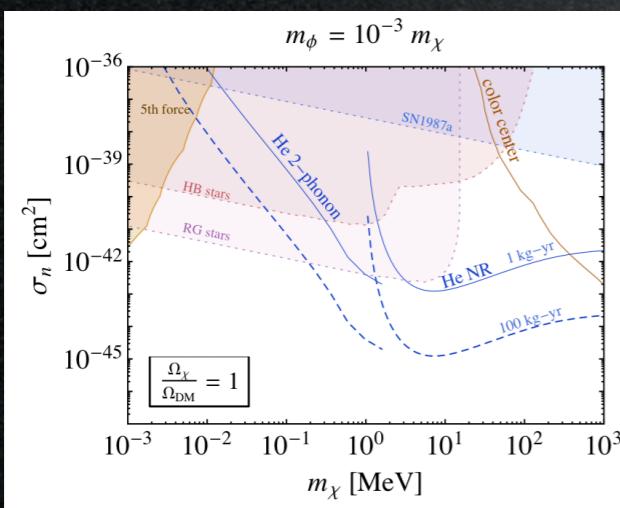
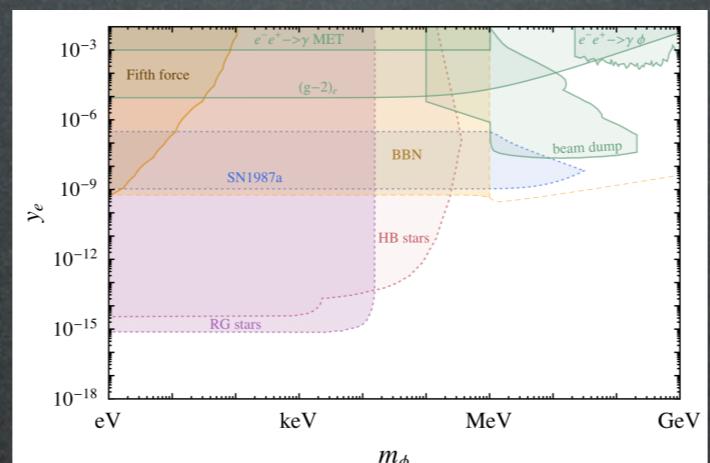
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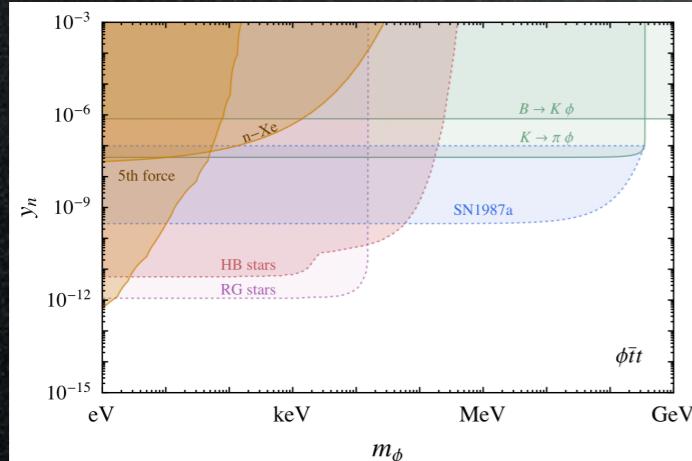
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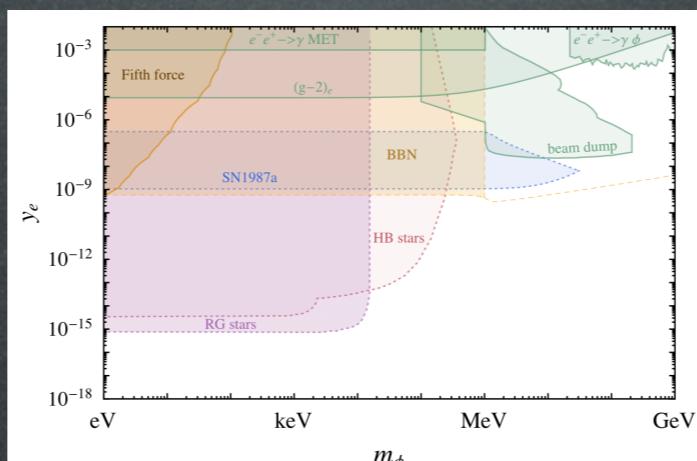
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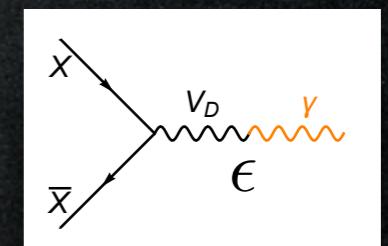
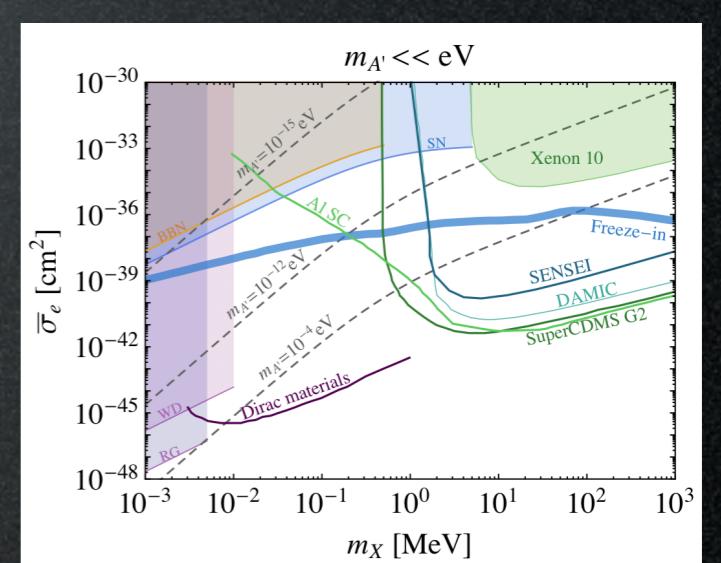
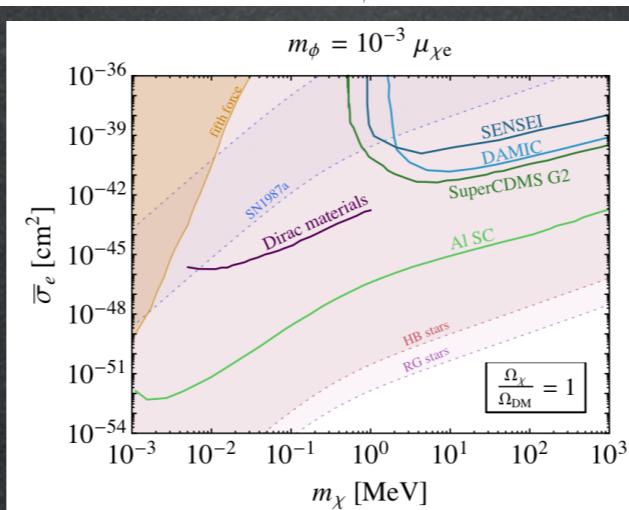
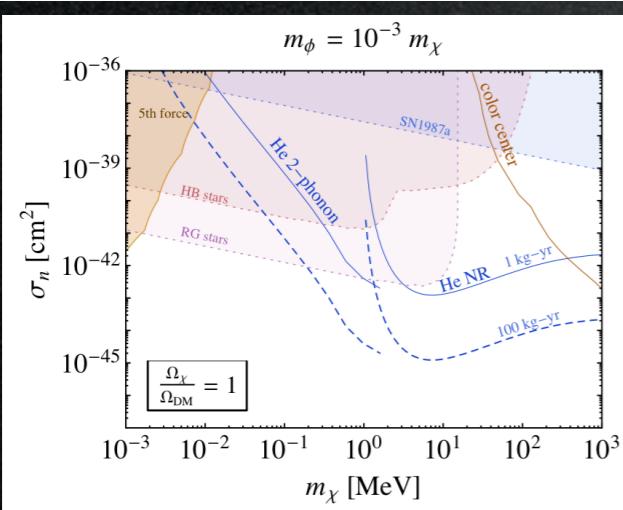
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Knapen, Lin, Zurek 1709.07882

fermionic DM and  
**leptophilic**  
scalar mediator

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{2}m_{A'}^2 A'_\mu A'^\mu - \frac{1}{4}F'^{\mu\nu} F'_{\mu\nu} - \frac{\epsilon}{2}F^{\mu\nu} F'_{\mu\nu} - y_\chi A'_\mu \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi$$



# Asymmetric DM: a completely different relic

$$\frac{\Omega_{\text{DM}}}{\Omega_{\text{B}}} \simeq 5 \quad \text{Just coincidence? Or: signal of a link?}$$

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Baryogenesis:

$$\eta_B = \frac{n_B - n_{\bar{B}}}{n_\gamma} = 6 \cdot 10^{-10}$$

BBN, CMB...

‘Darko’genesis:

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$$m_{\text{DM}} \simeq 5 \text{ GeV}$$

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A variety of specific models/ideas:

transferring or co-genesis

cfr J. March-Russell

DM stores the anti-B number

via leptogenesis

connection to neutrino masses

# Asymmetric DM: a completely different relic

Consider a particle  $\chi$ :

- subject to  $\chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow \dots$
- ‘heavy’ (e.g.  $\gtrsim$  GeV)
- ‘stable’
- in an expanding Universe
- **A**symmetric abundance
- large annihilation cross sec

$$\chi\bar{\chi} \rightleftharpoons f\bar{f} \quad \chi\bar{\chi} \rightarrow f\bar{f} \quad \chi ? \rightarrow \dots$$

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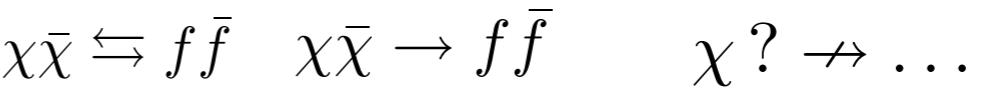
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$$\Omega_X \simeq \frac{m_X s}{\rho_{\text{crit}}} \eta_0$$

The relic abundance is determined by  $\eta_0$  and  $m_X$ .

# Theory

## Sub-GeV DM?

- WIMPless Dark Matter
- ‘SIMP miracle’
- Asymmetric DM
- ‘MeV (scalar) DM’ (Integral 511 KeV excess)
- ‘simplified (light) DM models’
- ...

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Why not!

# Candidates

theory

production

Sub-GeV DM?

Collider  
Searches?

Indirect  
Detection?

Direct  
Detection?

# Candidates

theory

production

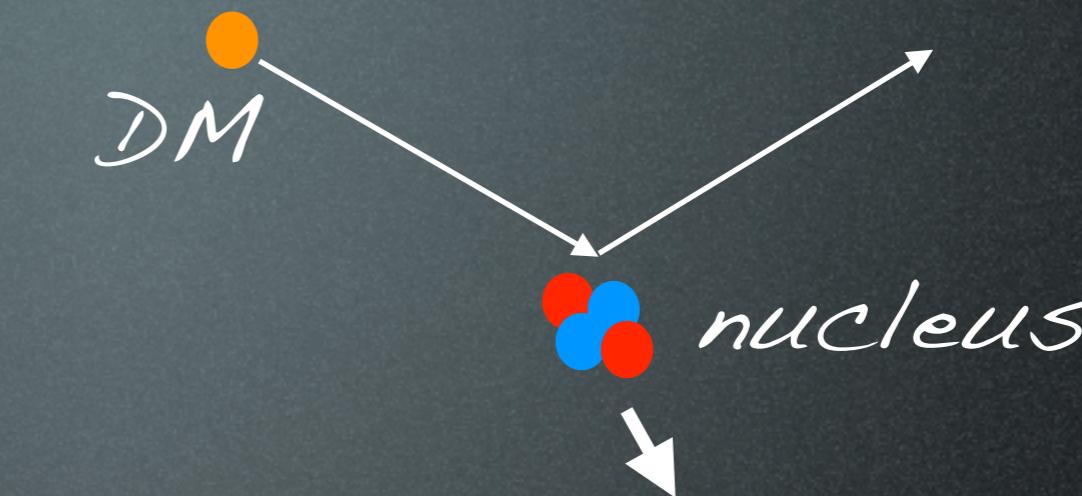
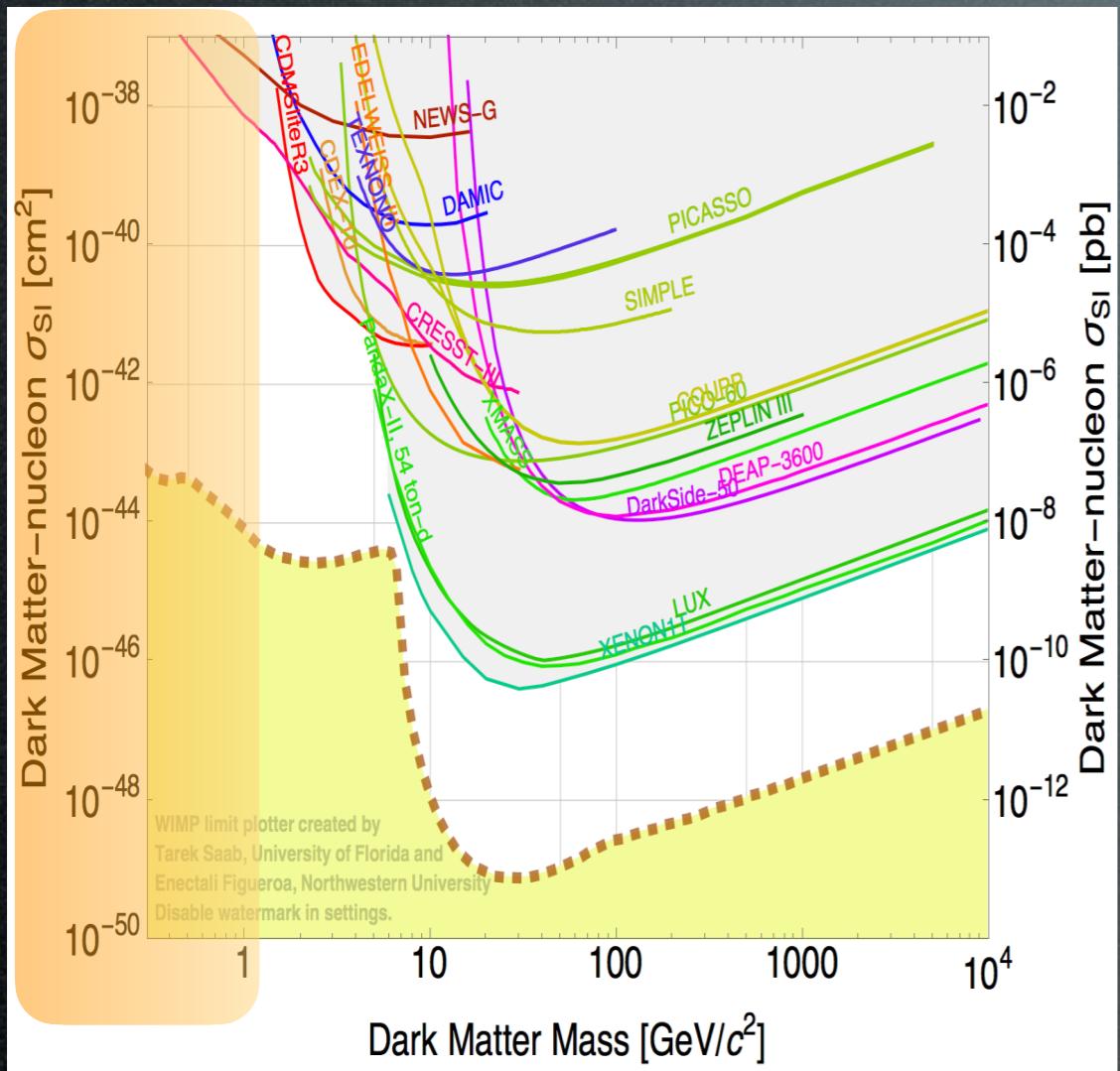
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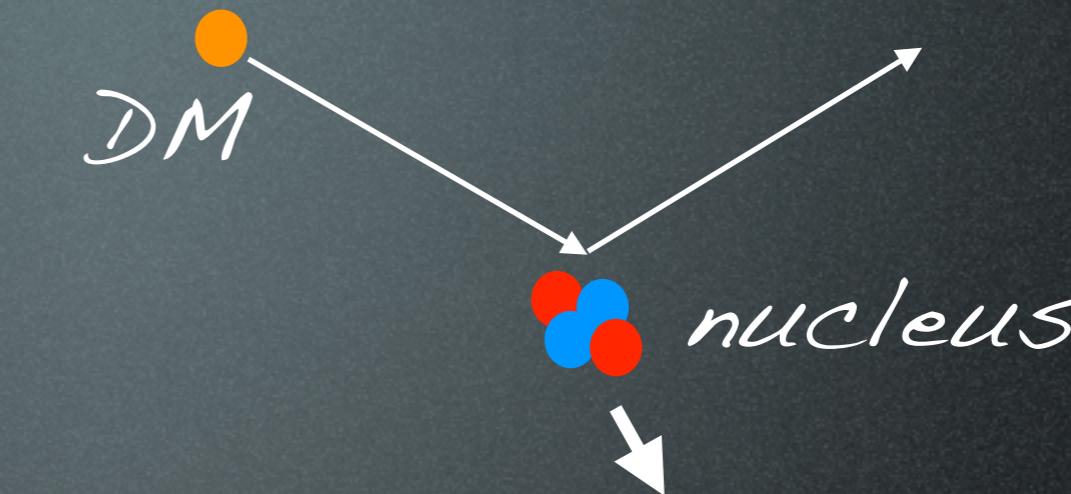
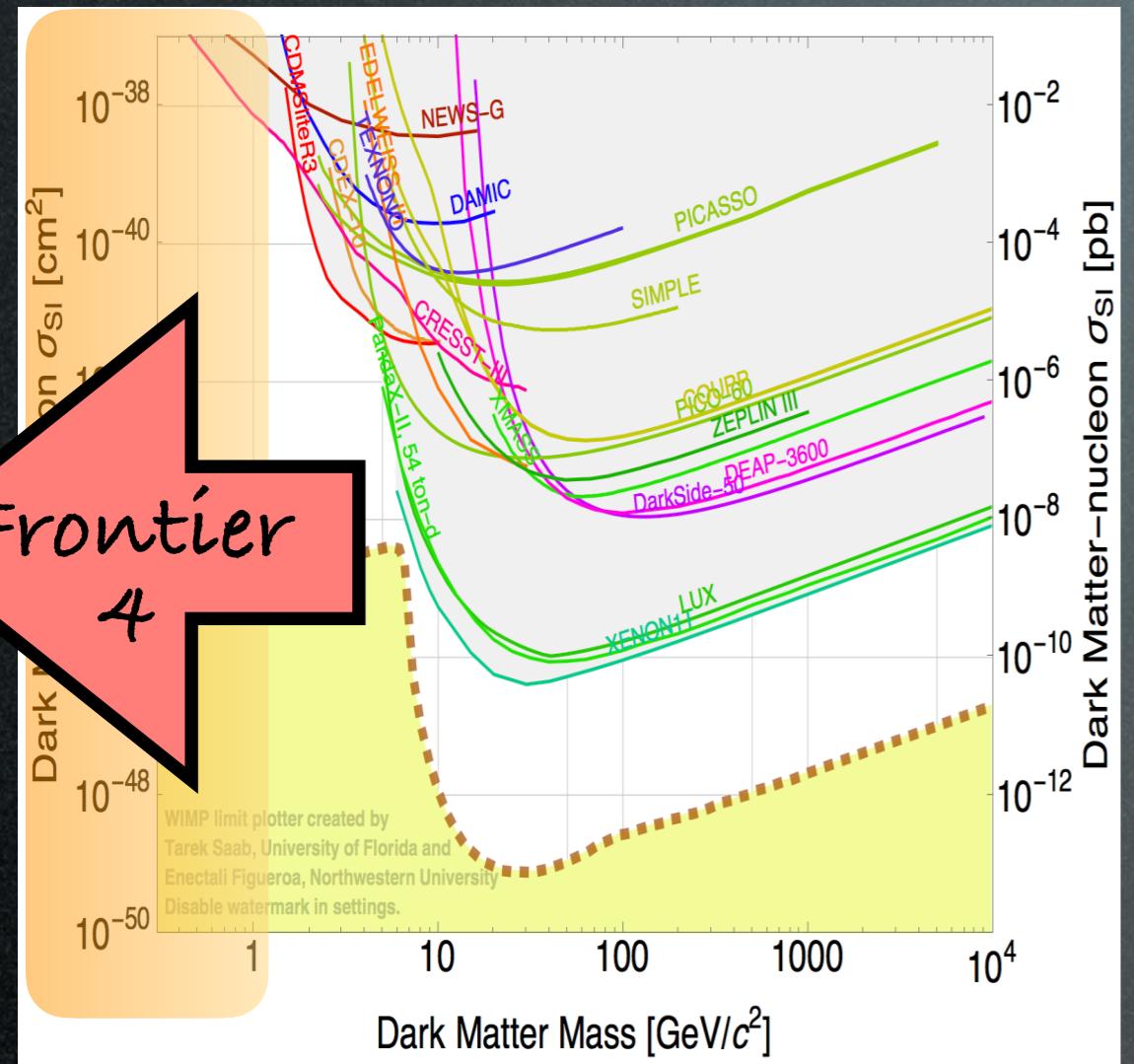
# Direct Detection of sub-GeV DM



deposited energy is  
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- electron recoil signal
- Migdal effect
- new experimental strategies

# Direct Detection of sub-GeV DM



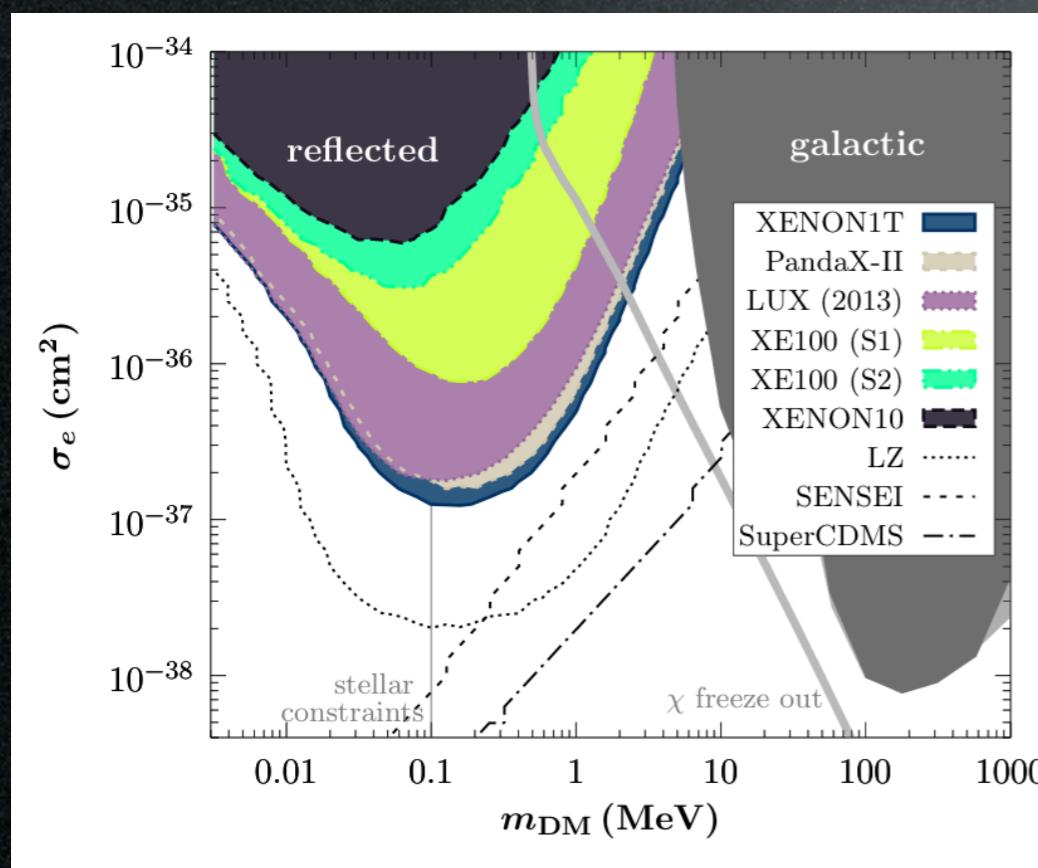
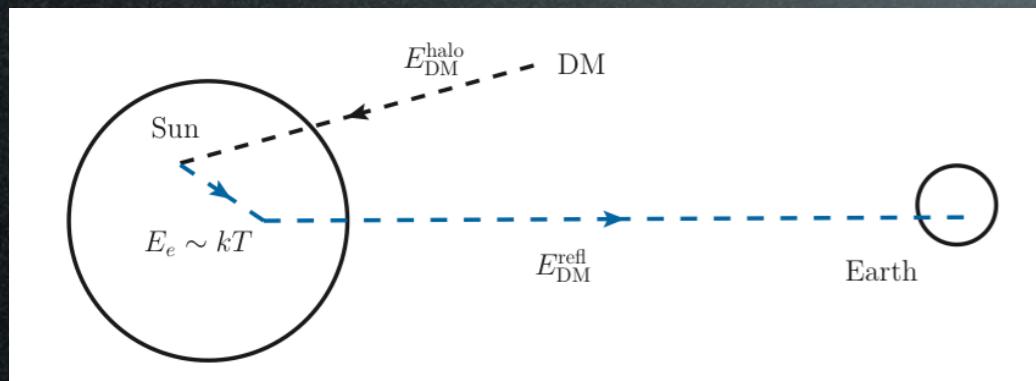
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# “Direct Detection” of sub-GeV DM

## ‘Reflected DM’

light DM upscattered by hot  $e^-$  in the Sun gives signal above threshold  
(DM-e scattering, twice)

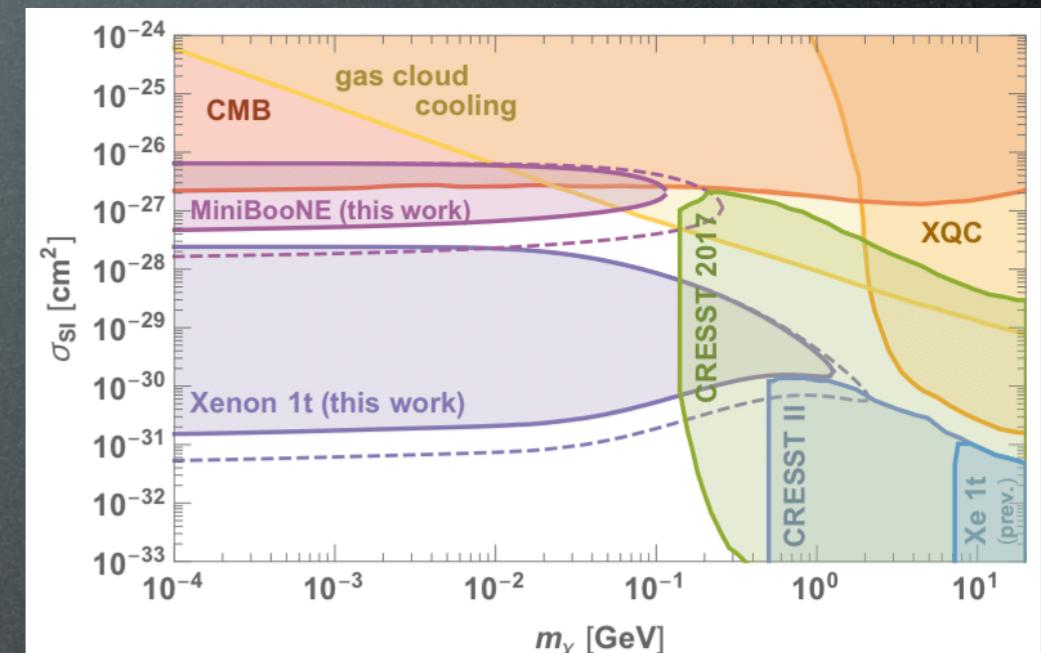


An, Pospelov, Pradler, Ritz 1708.03642

original idea with DM-nucleon scattering:  
Kouvaris+ 1506.04316, 1709.06573

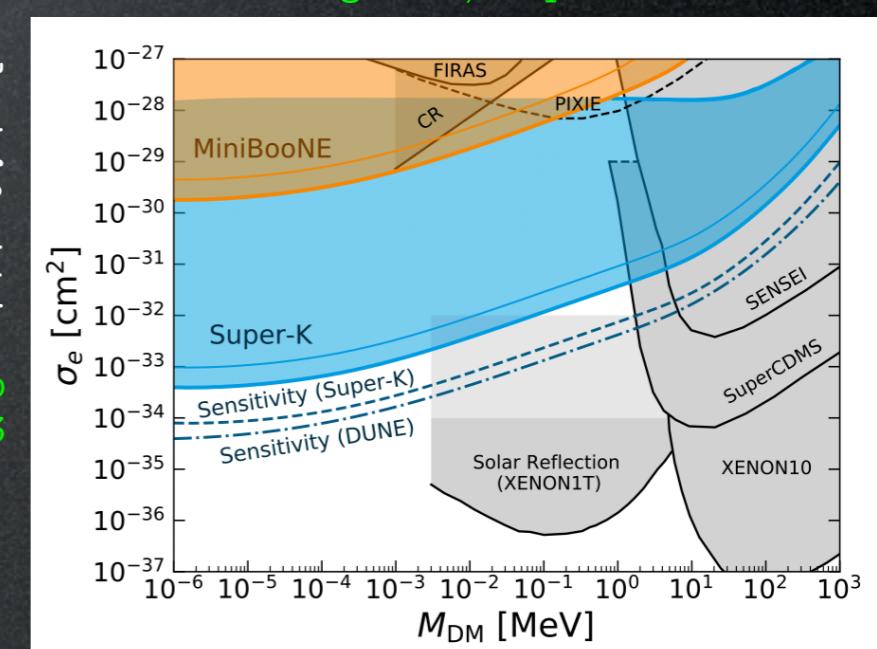
## ‘CR DM’

DM upscattered by HE CRs gives signal above threshold in DD even if light



same idea  
with electron  
scattering  
and signal  
in SK

Ema, Sala, Sato  
1810.10543



improvements: Cappiello & Beacom 1906.11283

another incarnation: light DM produced in spallations of CR on atmosphere

Alvis, Fairbairn+ 1905.05776

# Candidates

theory

production

Sub-GeV DM?

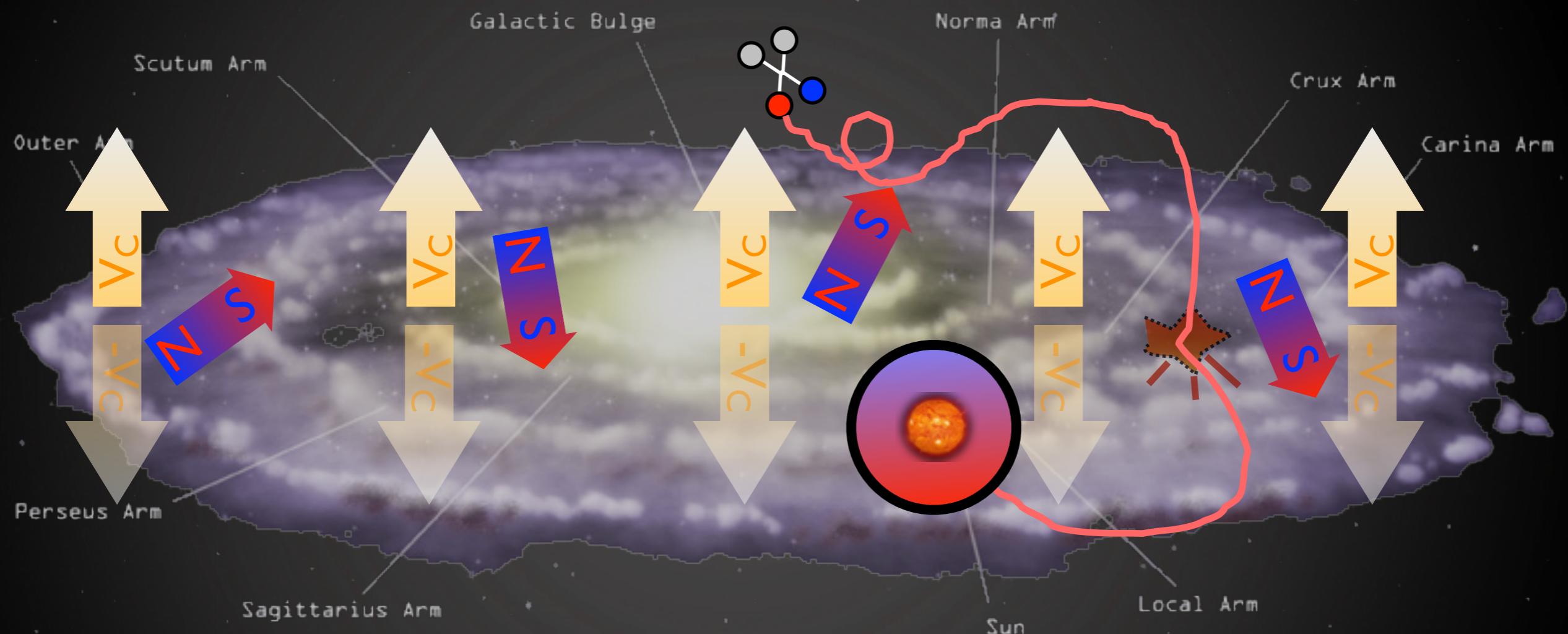
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Direct  
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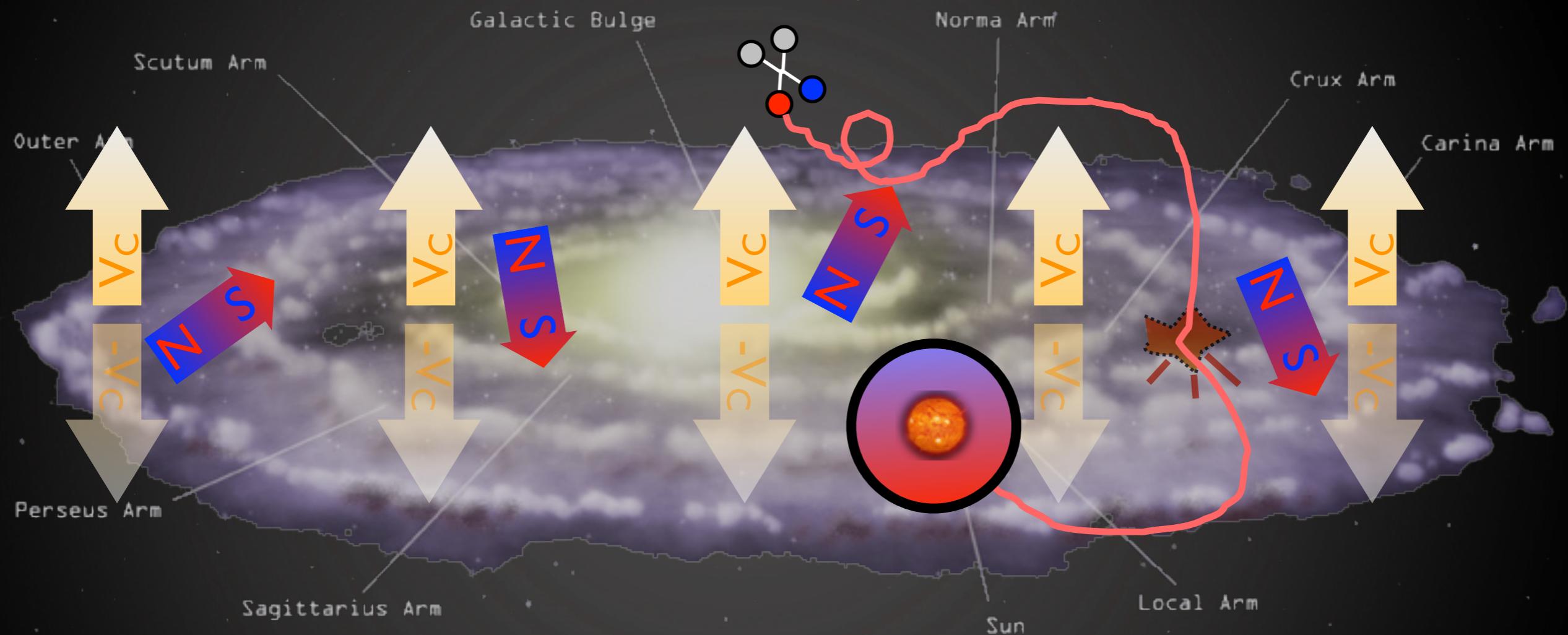
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$\bar{p}$  and  $e^+$  from DM annihilations in halo



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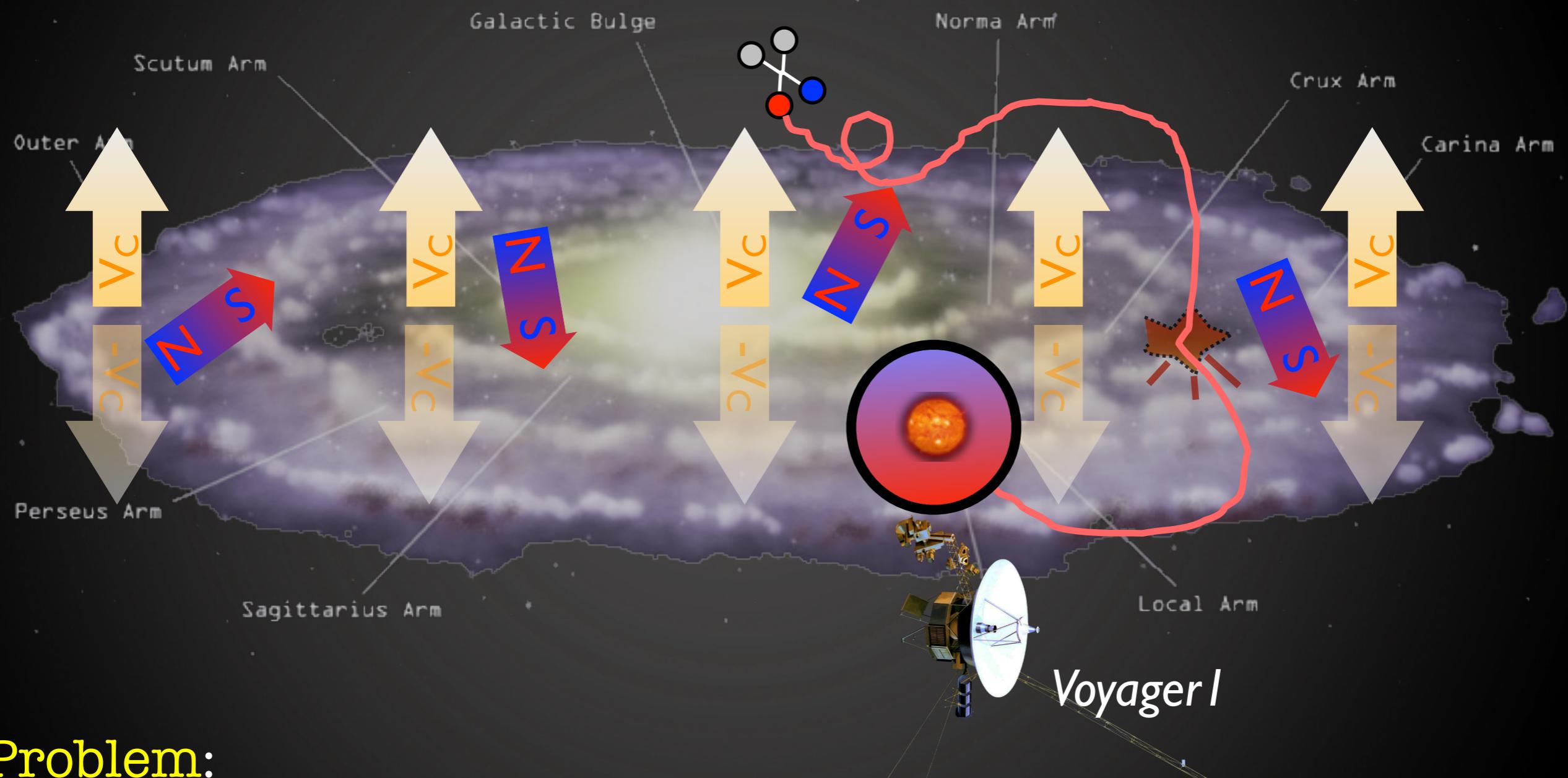


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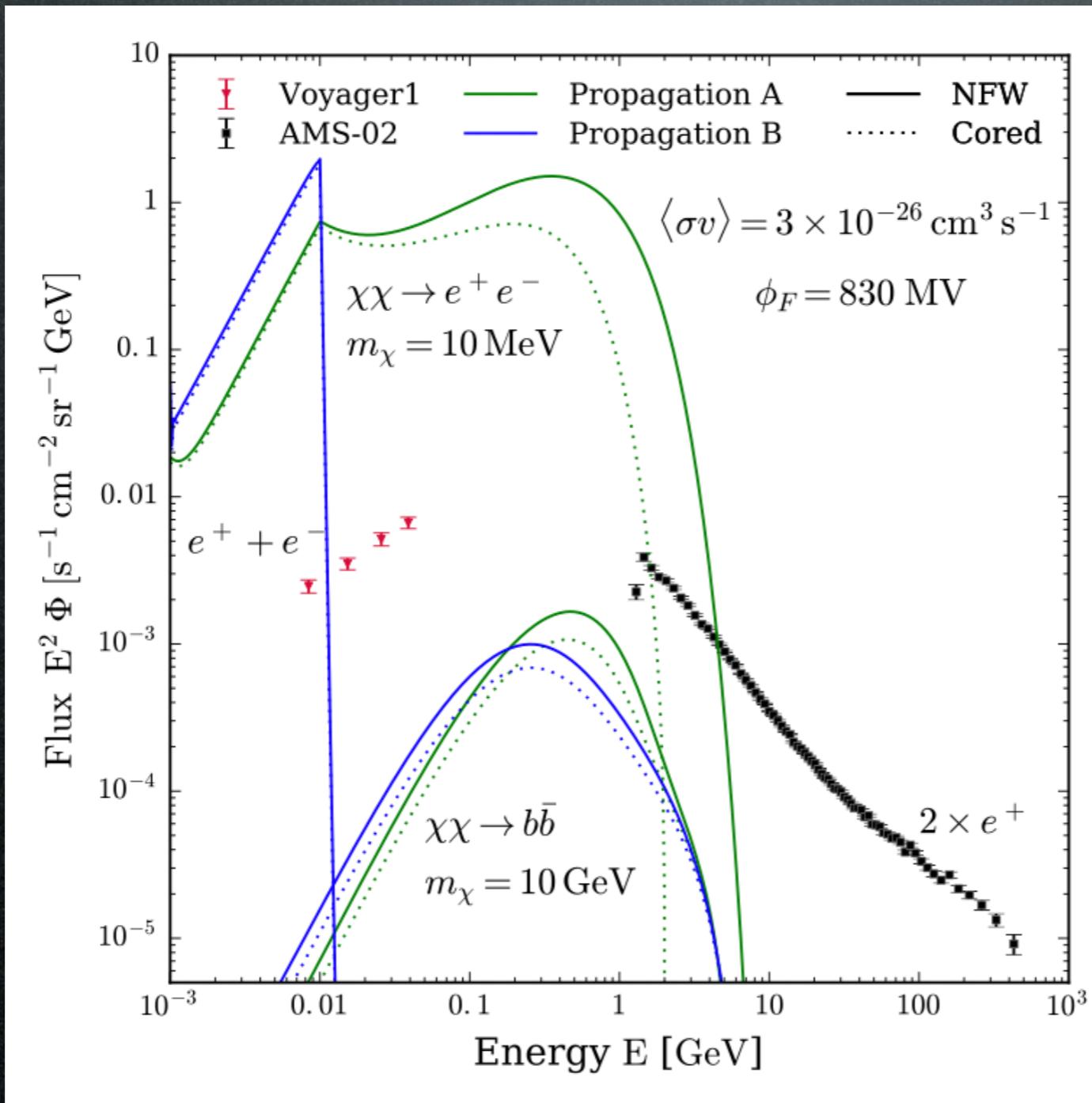
Problem:

sub-GeV charged CRs do not penetrate the heliosphere,  
experiments cannot collect... with one exception!

# Indirect Detection: charged CRs

Boudaud, Lavalle, Salati 1612.07698

Electron+positron measurements by Voyager I

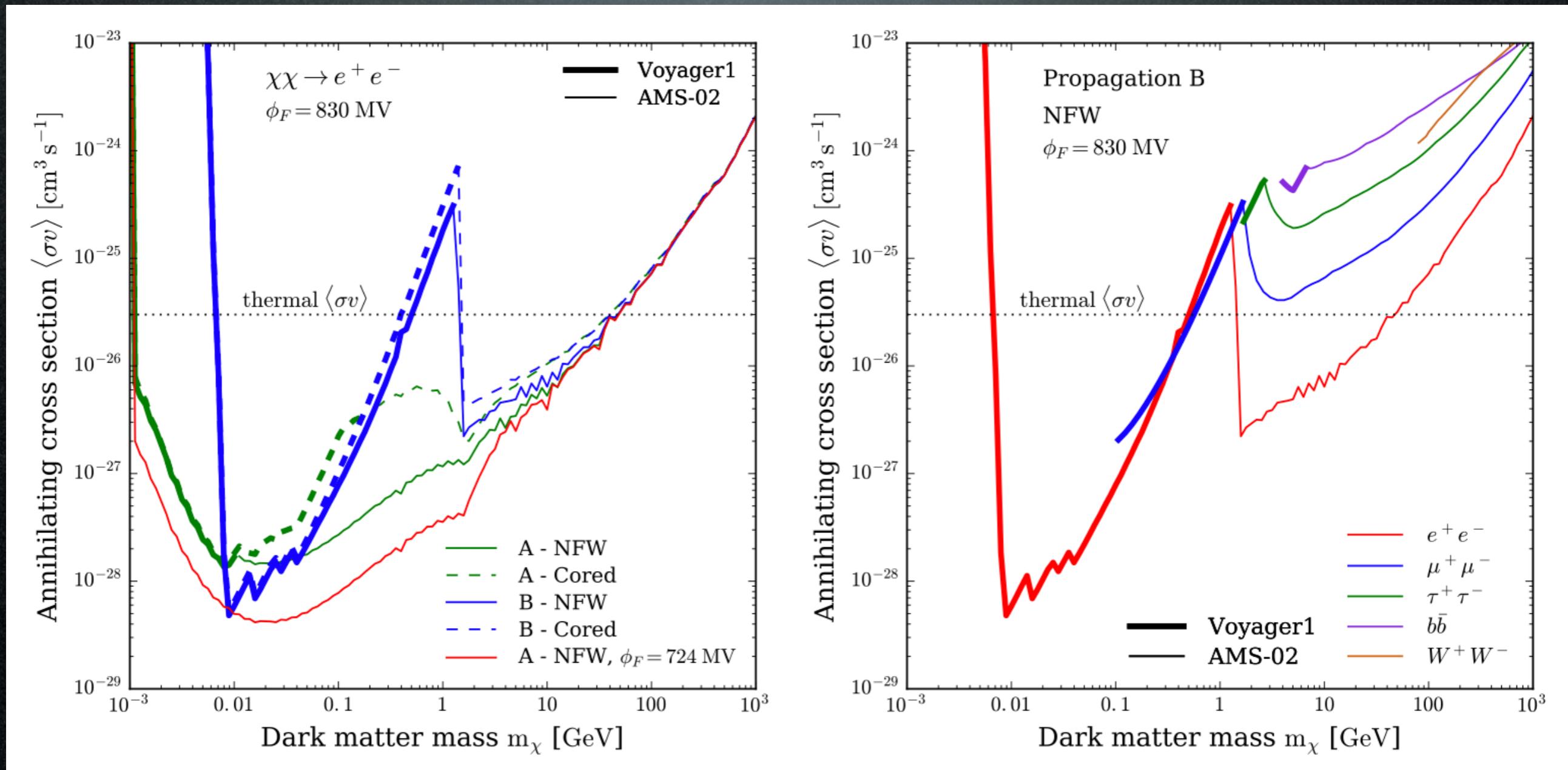


Propagation A = strong reacceleration  
Propagation B = weak/no reacceleration

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Boudaud, Lavalle, Salati 1612.07698

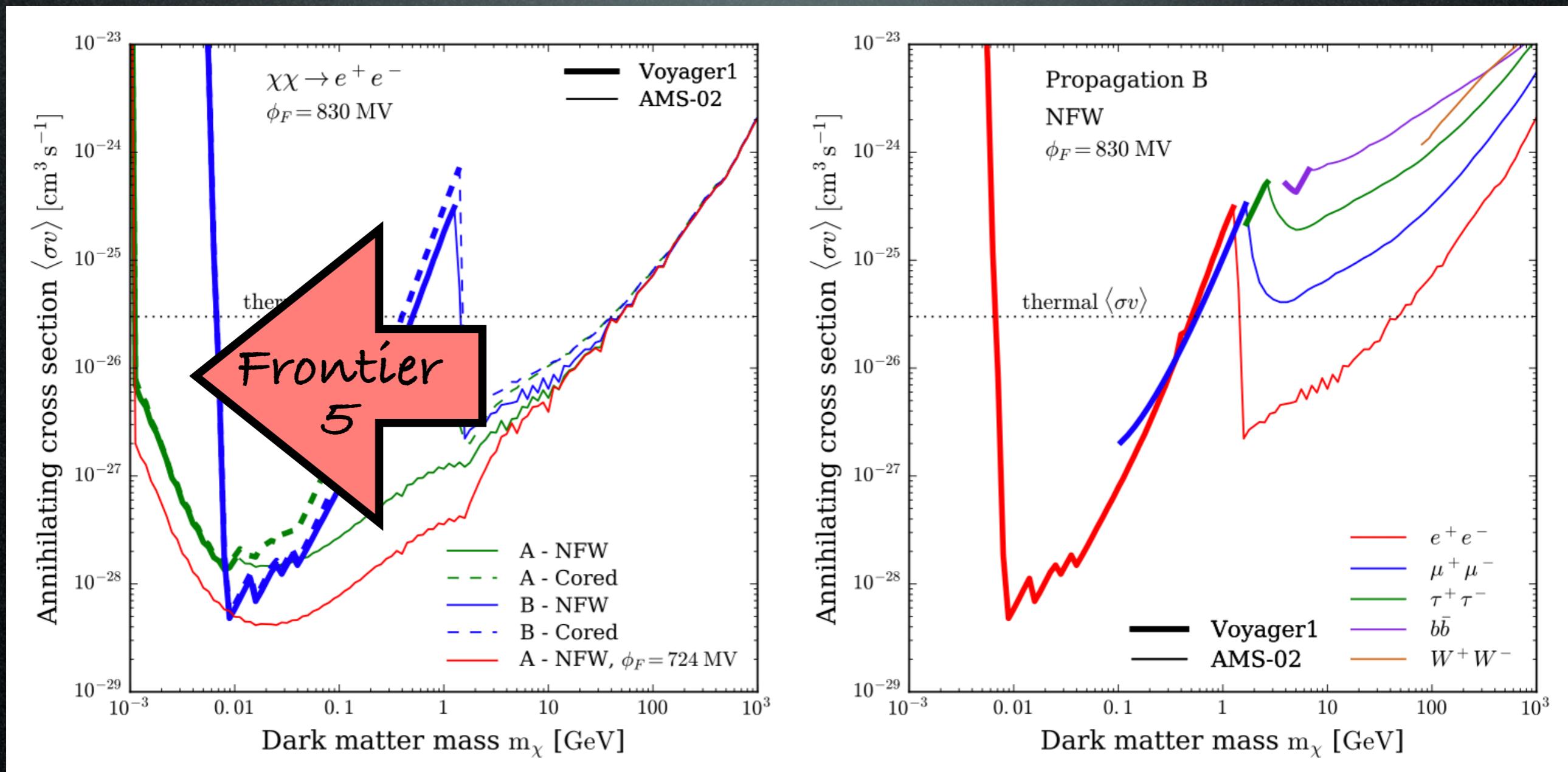
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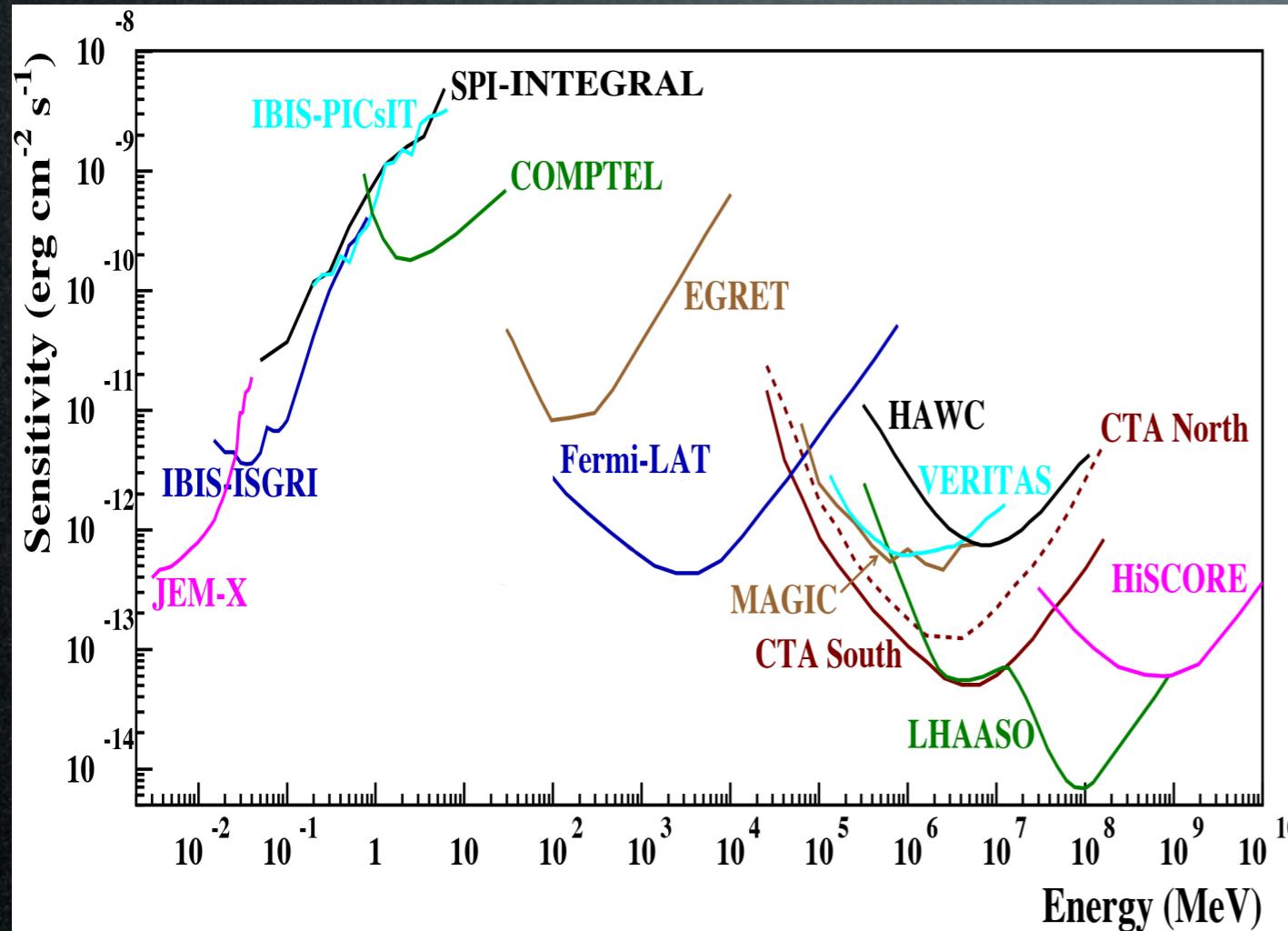
Boudaud, Lavalle, Salati 1612.07698

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# Indirect detection: photons

adapted from 1611.02232



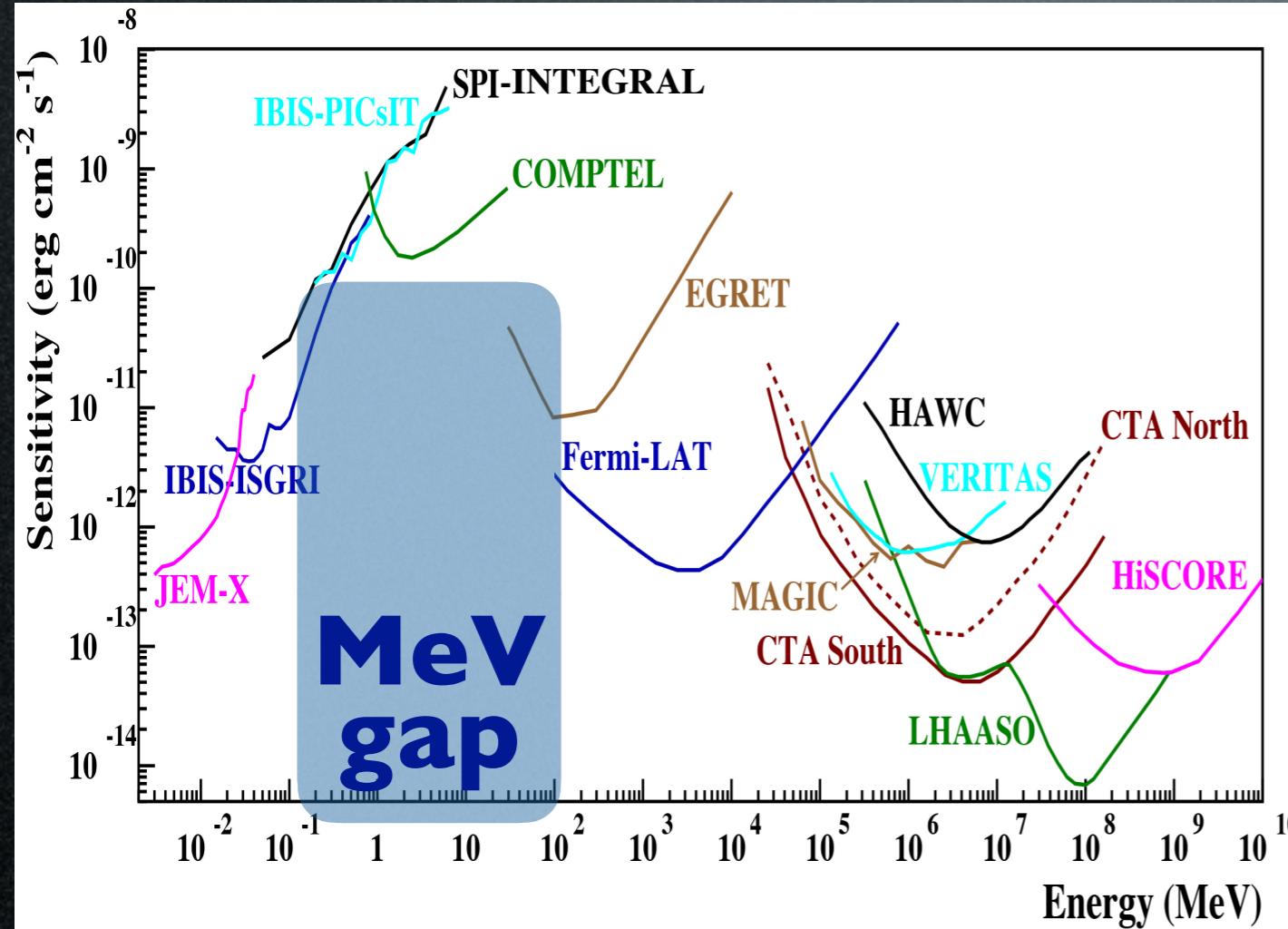
Past/current experiments:  
**Integral, Comptel, Fermi**  
(2002 →) (1991-2000) (2009 →)

Planned/proposed experiments:  
**e-Astrogam?, Compair?, Amego?**

NAME	CHINESE SS	2020s?	HEP detectors	charged CRs	0.0 GeV	1 TeV
AMEGO	satellite	2020s?	HEP detectors	γ-rays	0.2 – 10 GeV	
COMPAIR	satellite	2020s?	HEP detectors	γ-rays	0.2 – 500 MeV	
SKA	S.Africa+Australia	2020s?	radio telescope	radio	50 MHz – 30 GHz	
INO-ICAL	India	2020s?	calorimeter	neutrinos	1 – 100 GeV	
E-ASTROGAM	satellite	2030s?	HEP detectors	γ-rays	0.3 MeV – 3 GeV	

# Indirect detection: photons

adapted from 1611.02232



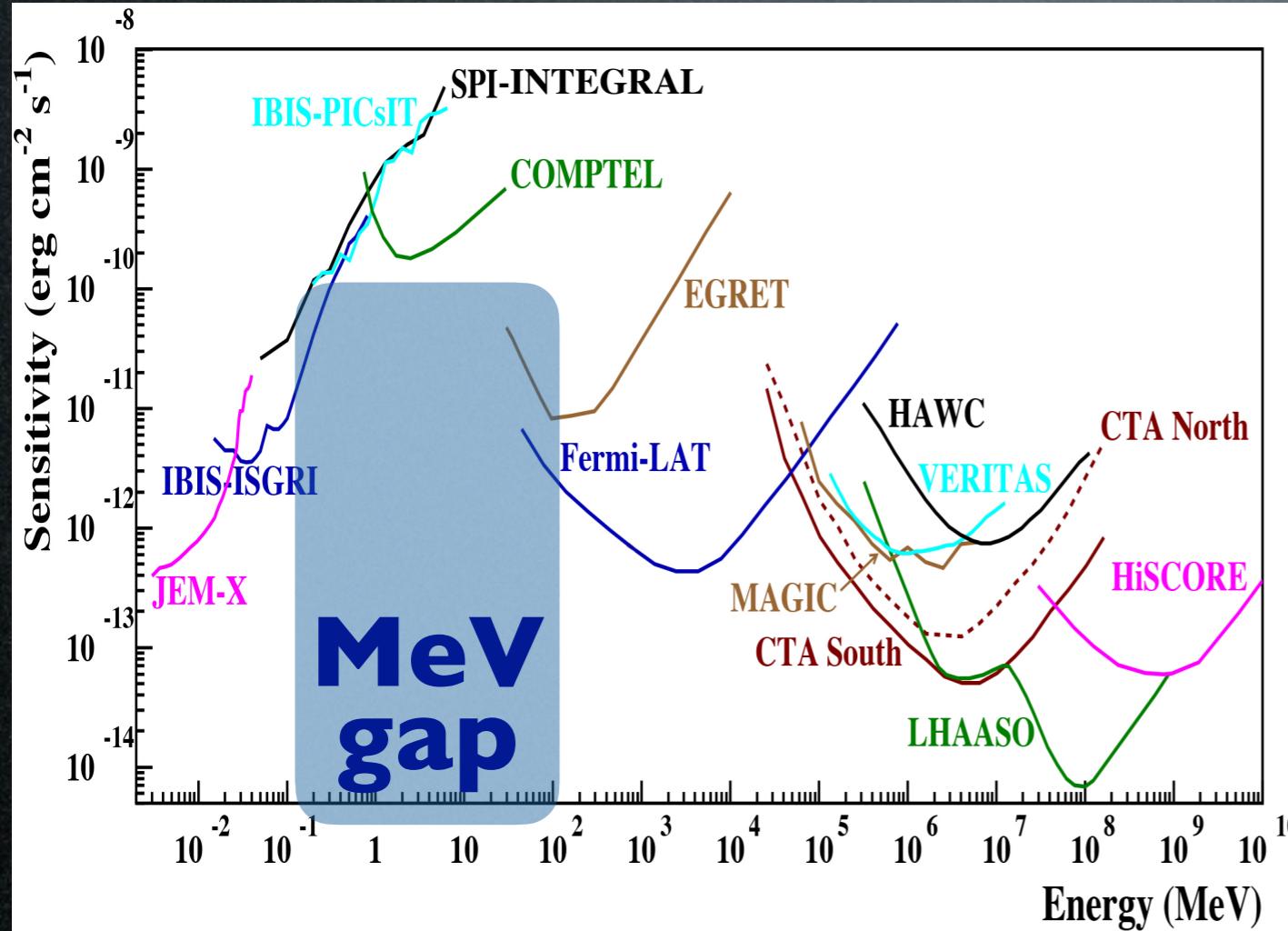
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# Indirect detection: photons

adapted from 1611.02232



How to do better?  
ICS & X-rays!

# Sub-GeV DM & X-rays

Annihilation channels, focus on the MW (assume standard NFW profile)

$$\text{DM DM} \rightarrow e^+ e^-$$

$$\text{DM DM} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$

$$\text{DM DM} \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$$

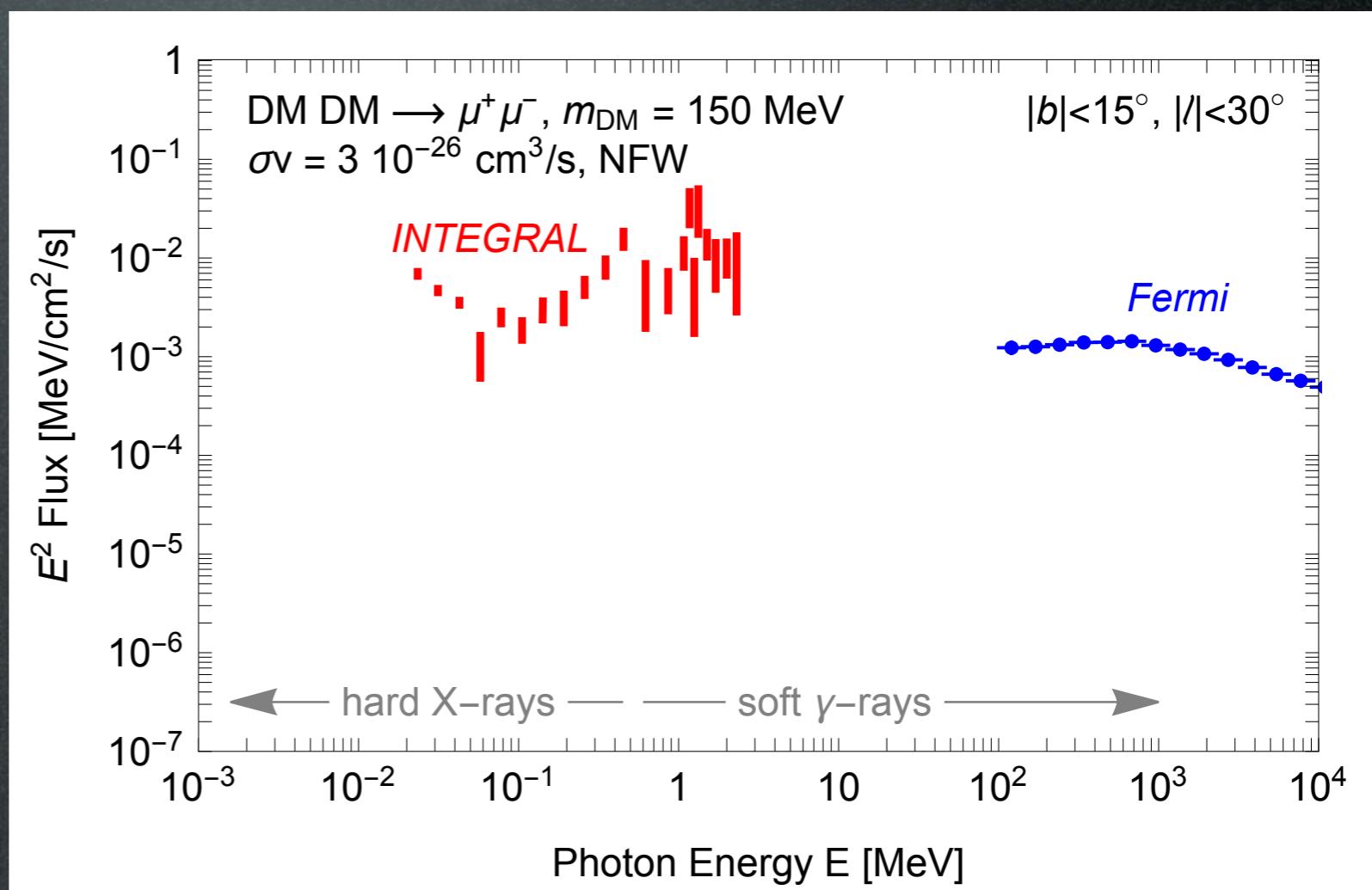
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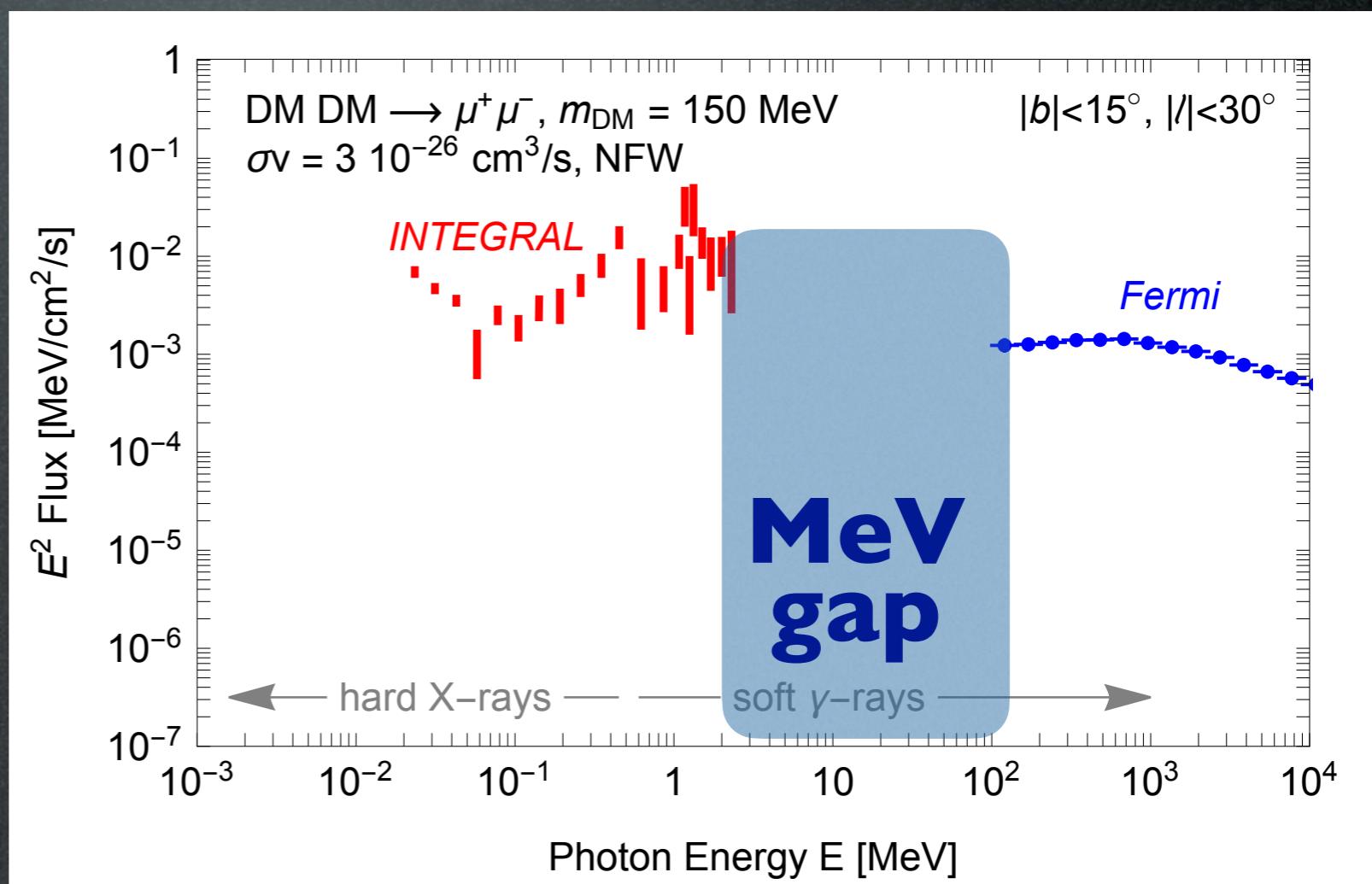
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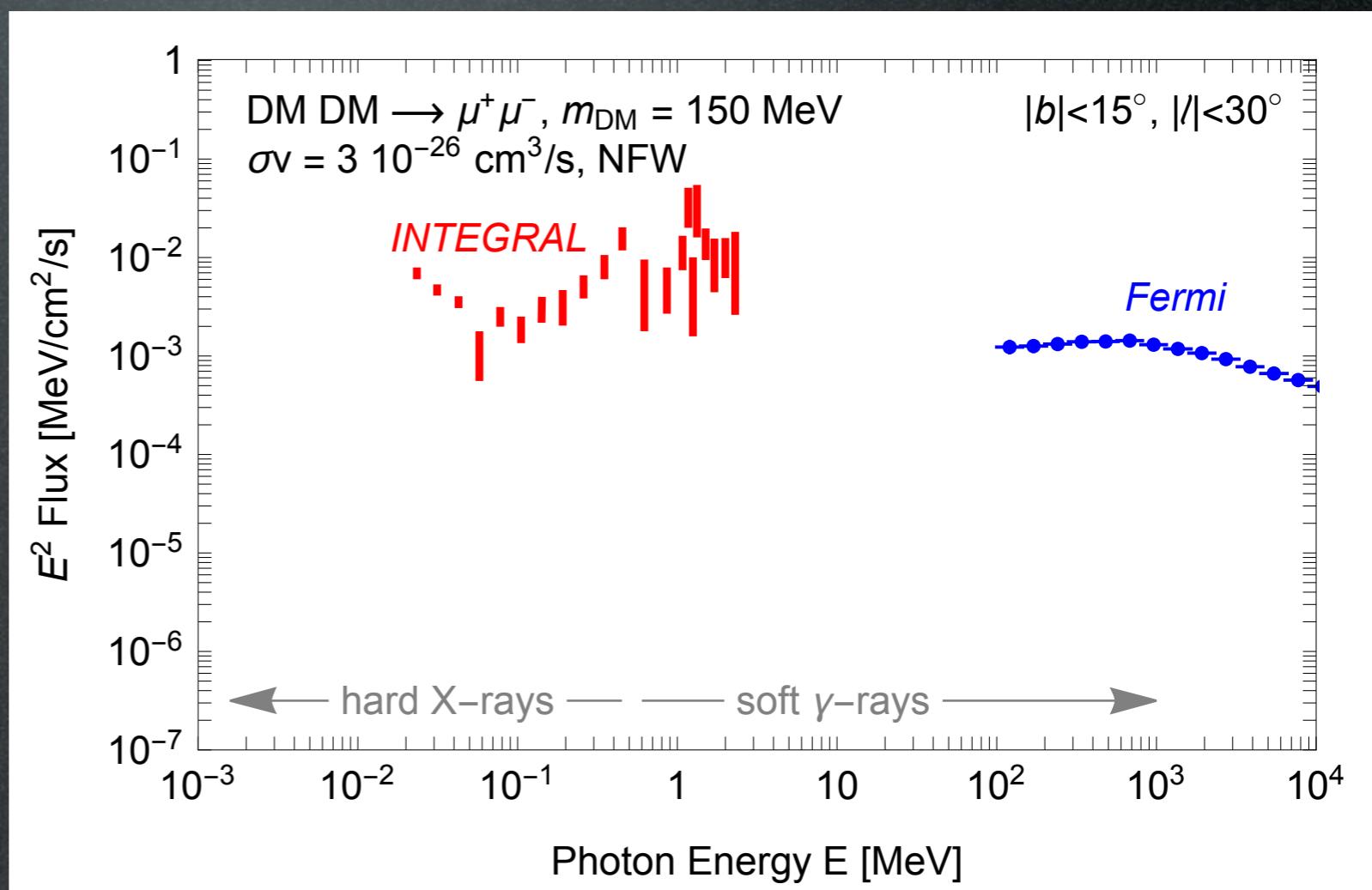
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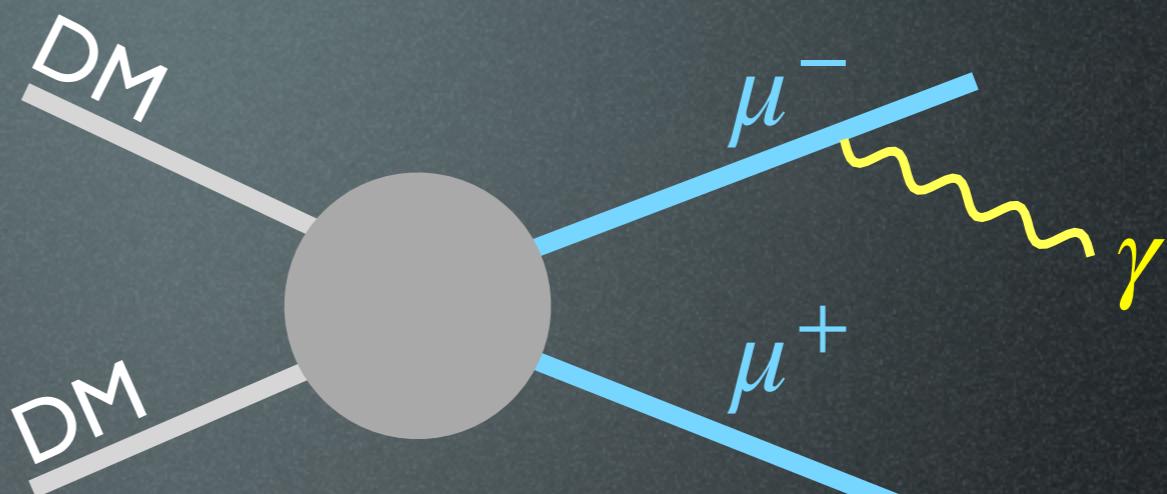
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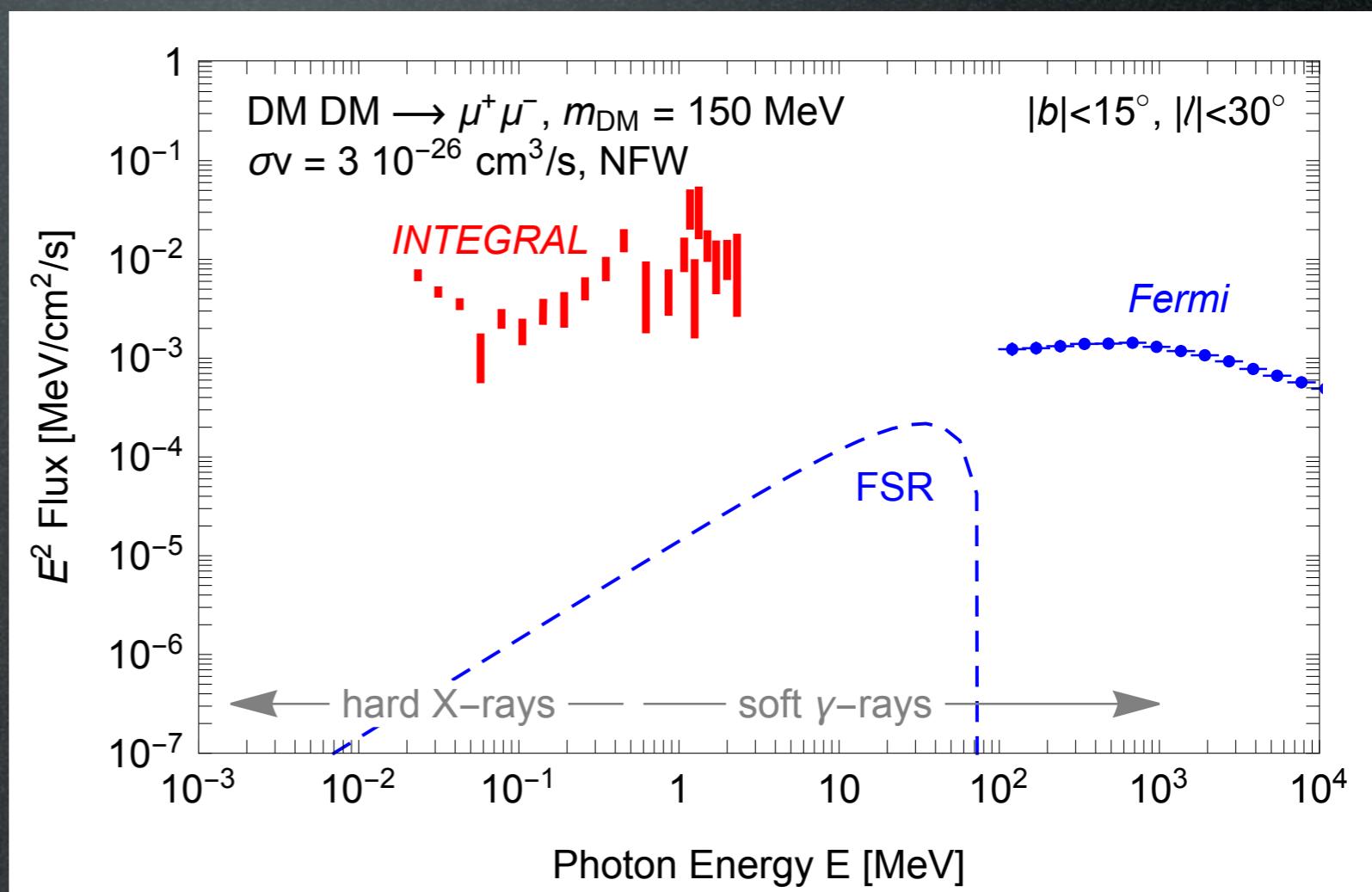
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‘Prompt’ emission:  
Final State Radiation (FSR)



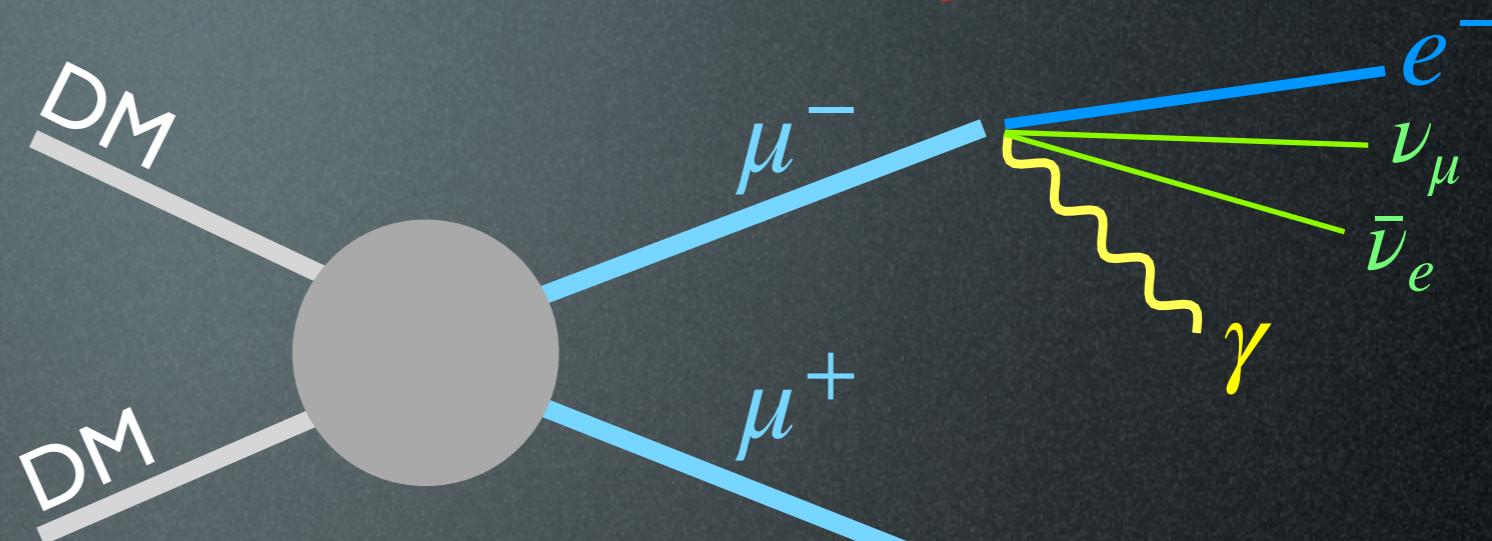
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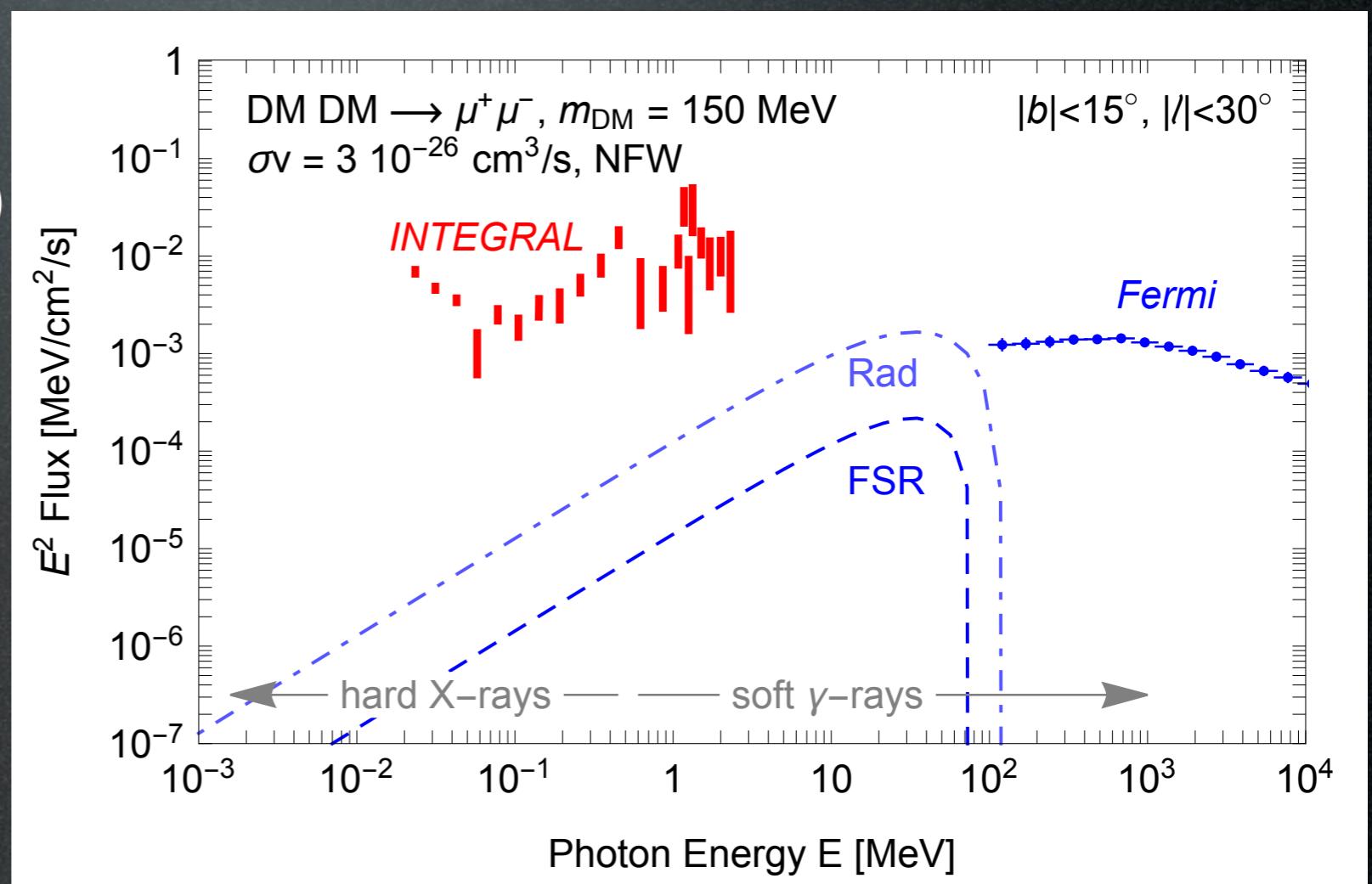
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‘Prompt’ emission:  
Final State Radiation (FSR)  
Radiative  $\mu$  decay

*Usually irrelevant,  
but not for  $\mu$   
decaying ‘at rest’!*



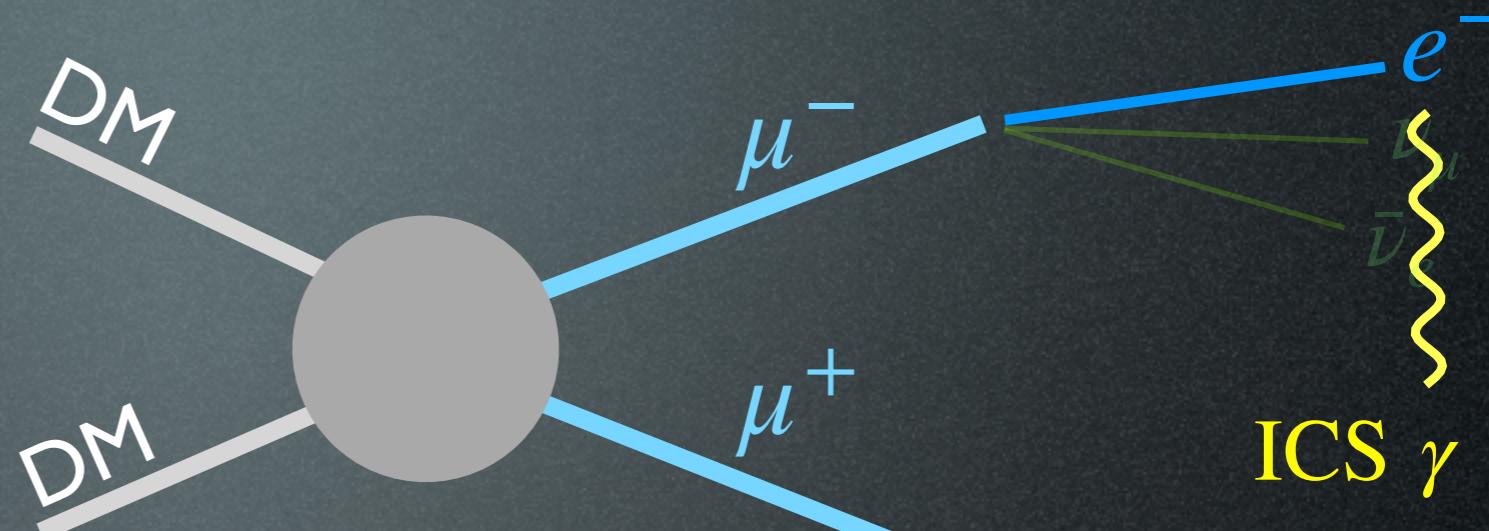
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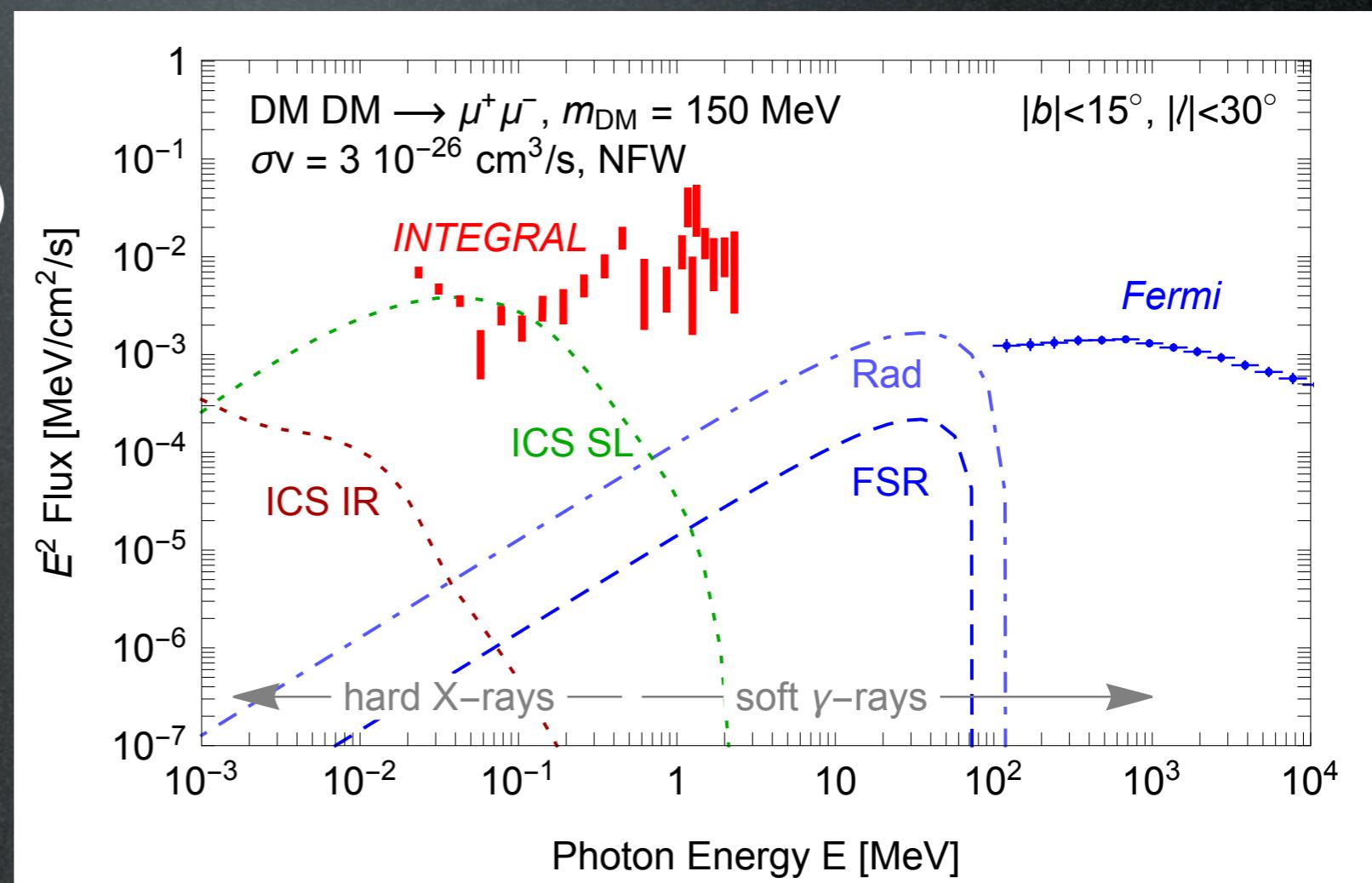
$$\text{DM DM} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$

$$\text{DM DM} \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$$



‘Prompt’ emission:  
Final State Radiation (FSR)  
Radiative  $\mu$  decay

Secondary emission:  
**ICS**: inevitably associated  
to annihil to charged states



# Sub-GeV DM & X-rays

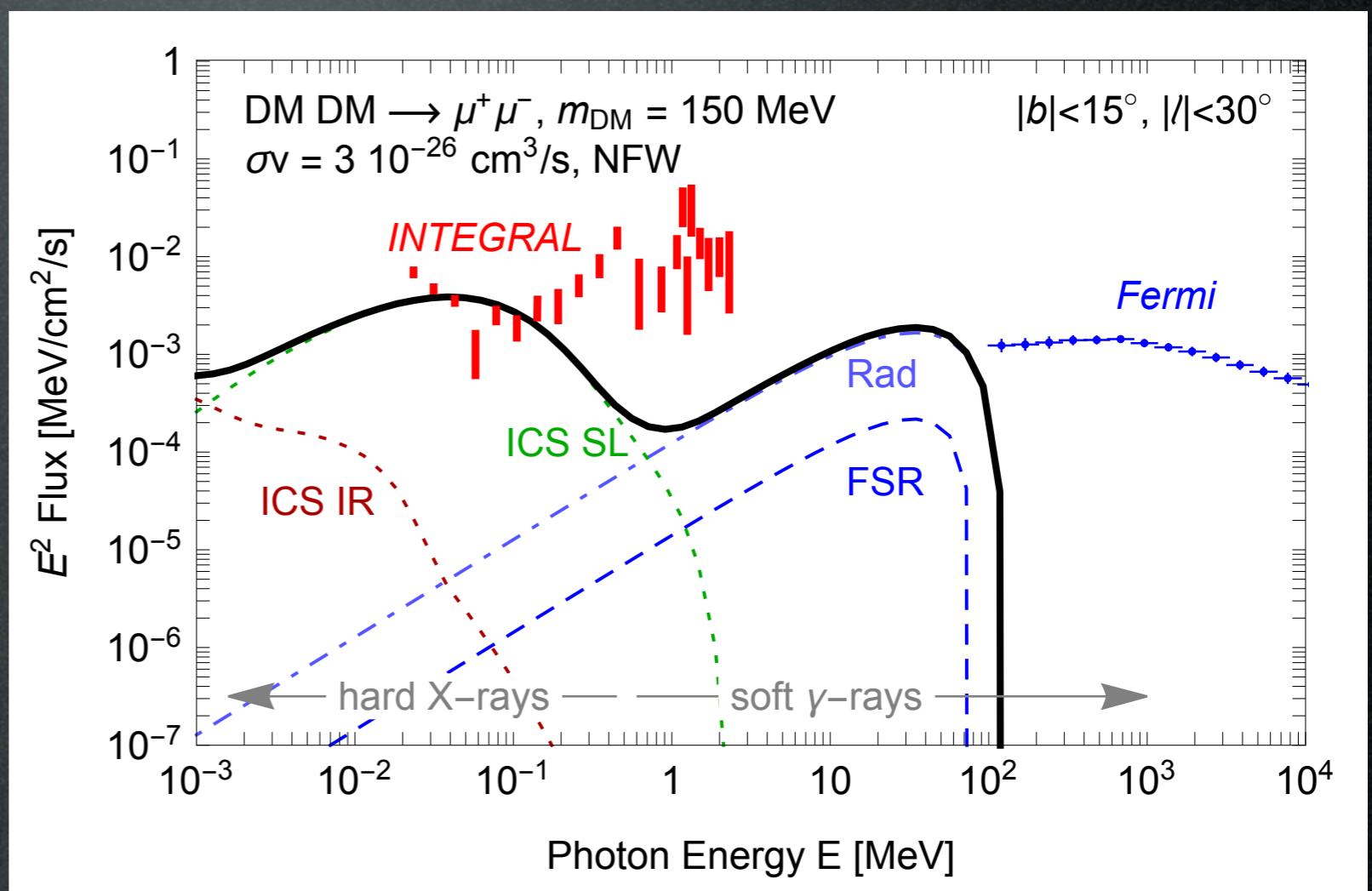
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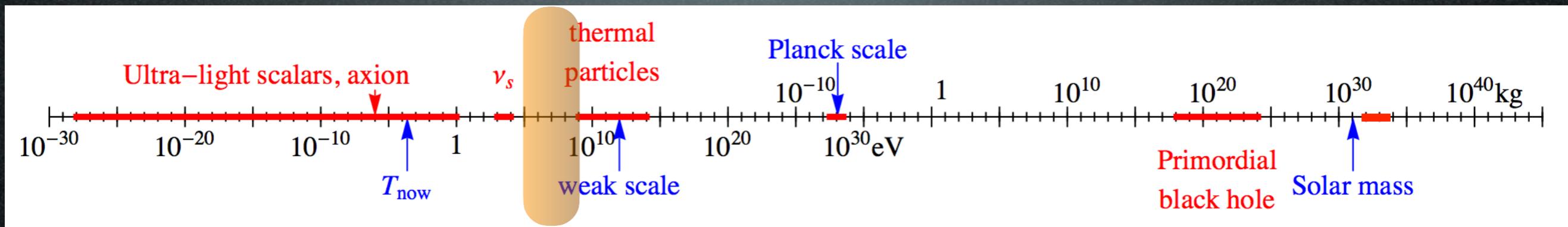
$$\text{DM DM} \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$$

**ICS allows to probe  
sub-GeV DM with  
X-ray data**



# Candidates

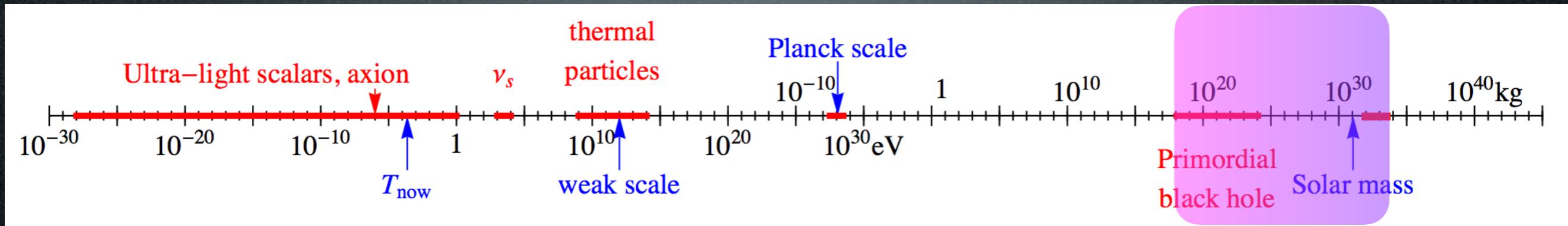
A matter of perspective: plausible mass ranges



90 orders of magnitude!

# Candidates

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**PBH DM?**

**DM can NOT be:**

an astro *je ne sais pas quoi*:

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- gas
- Black Holes
- brown dwarves

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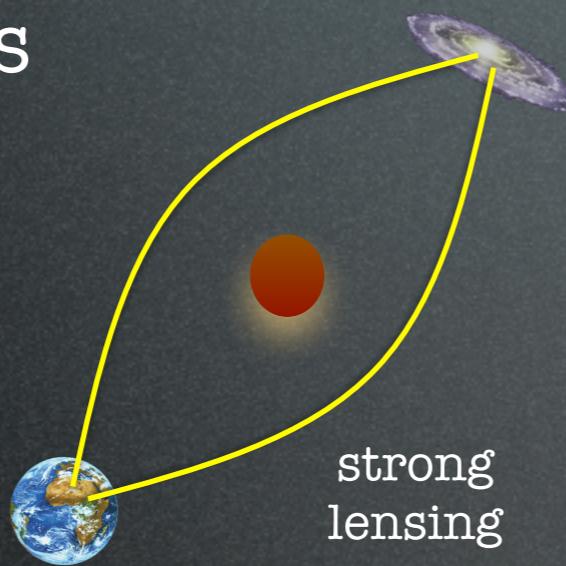
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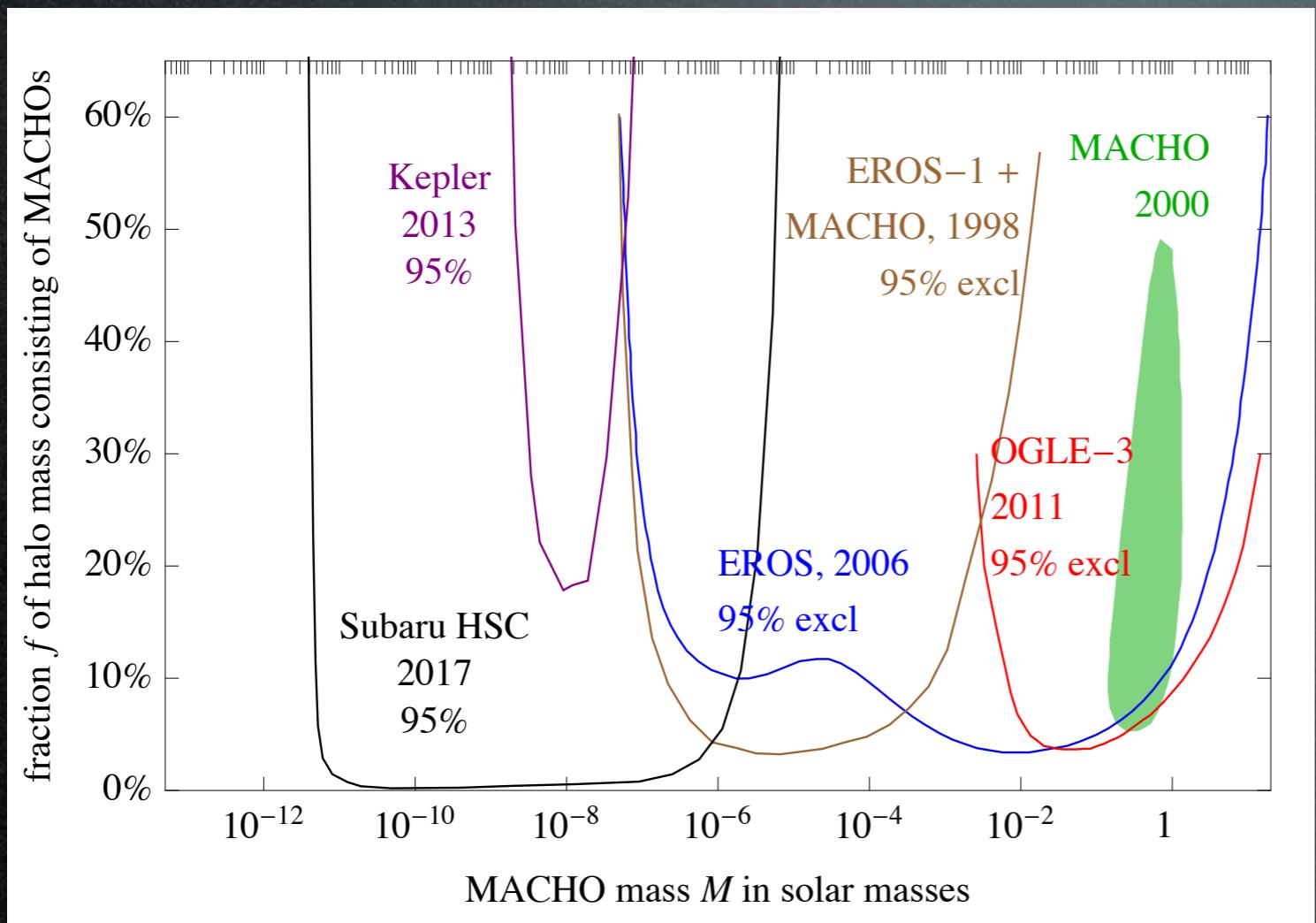
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# MACHOs or PBHs as DM

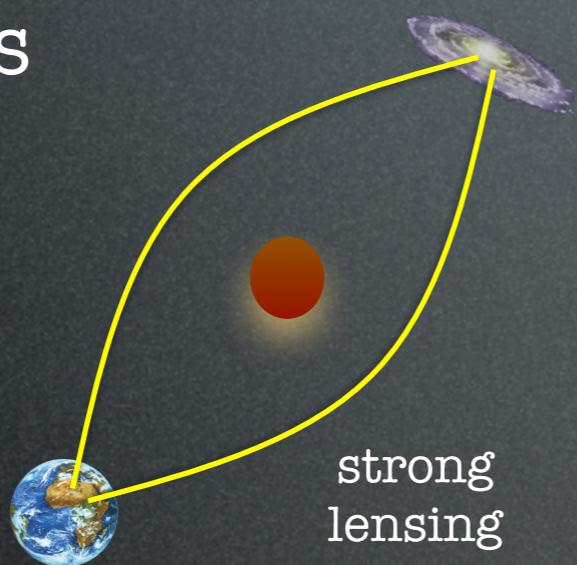


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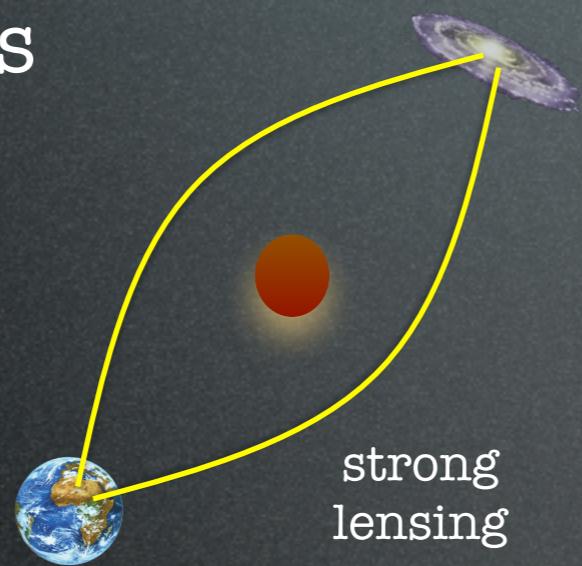
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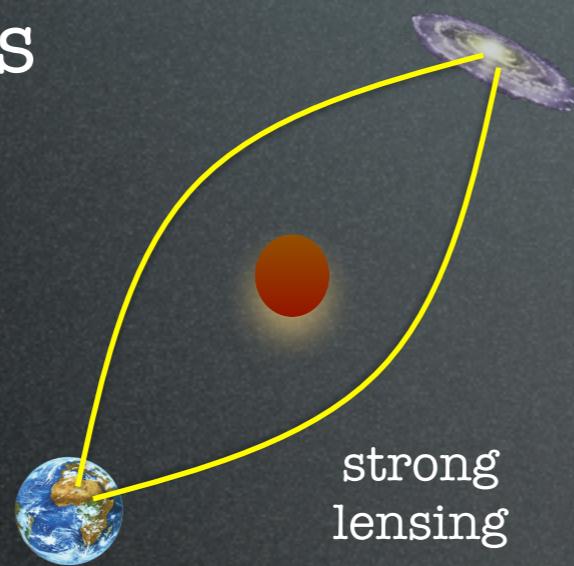
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- BBN computes the abundance of He in terms of primordial baryons:  
too much baryons => Universe full of Helium
- CMB says baryons are 4% max

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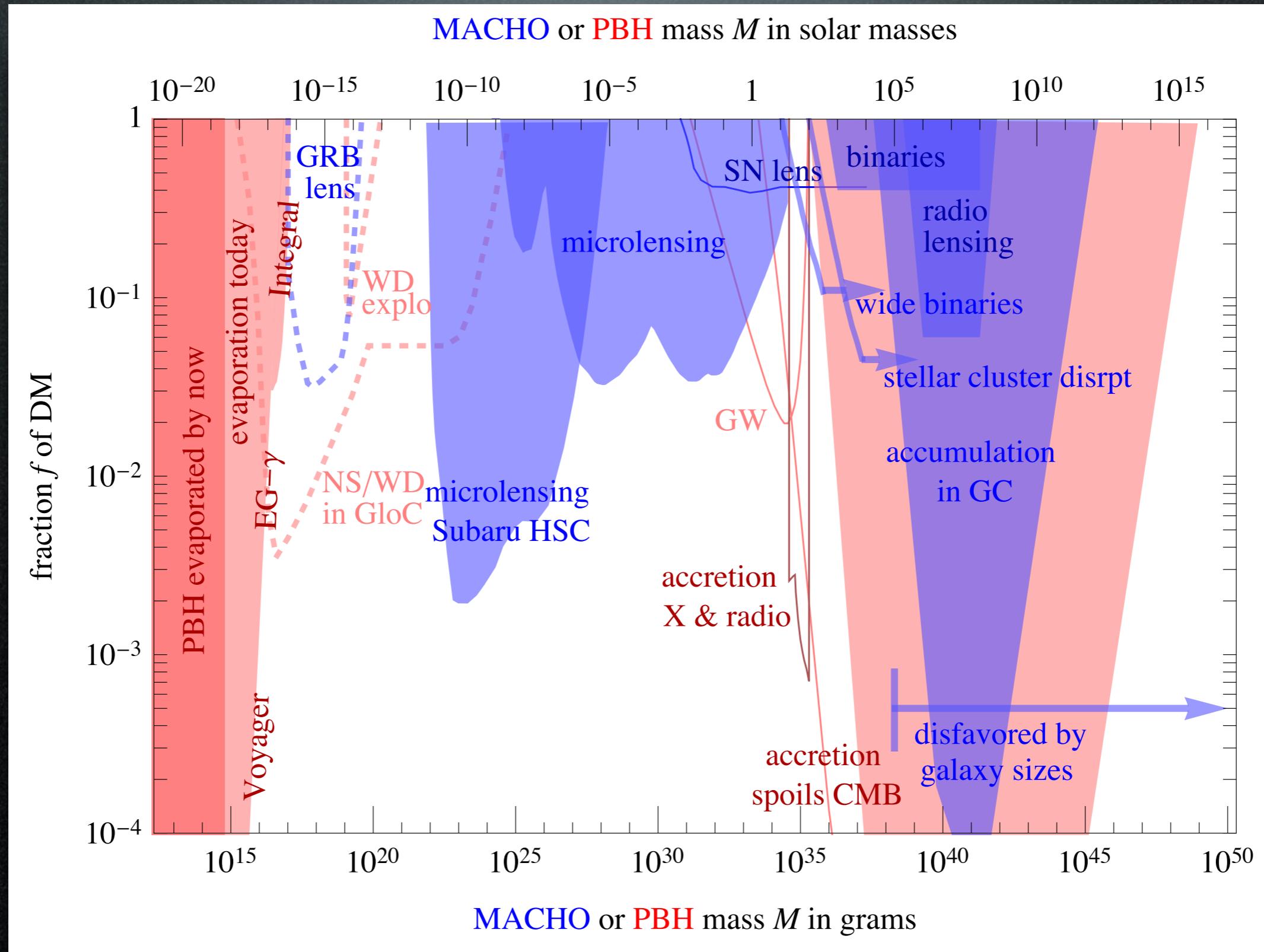
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A loophole: Primordial Black Holes!

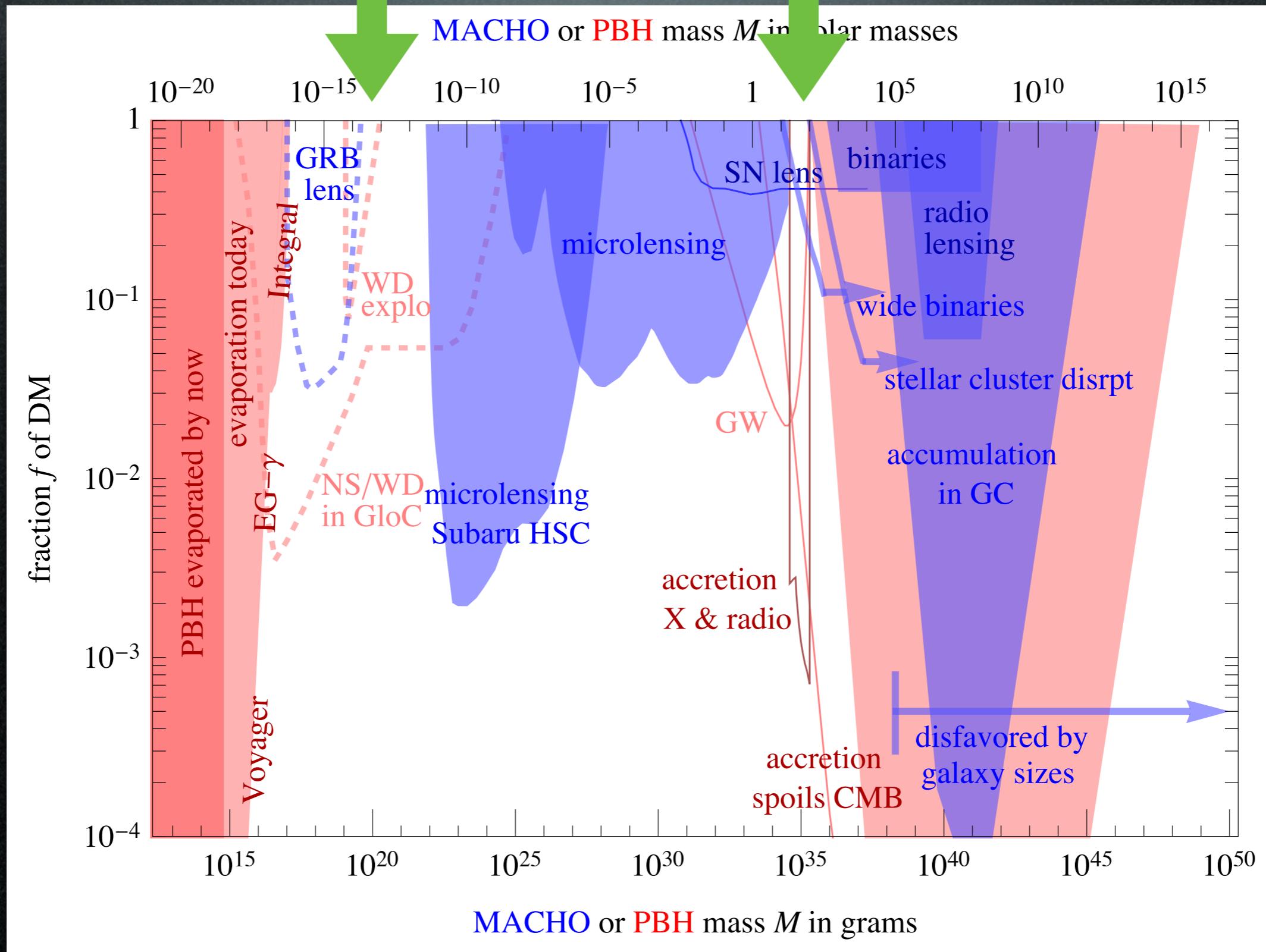
- produced before BBN
- with masses too small/large to lens
- perhaps LIGO is seeing them?

# PBHS as DM



# PBHS as DM

## slivers still open?



# PBHS as DM

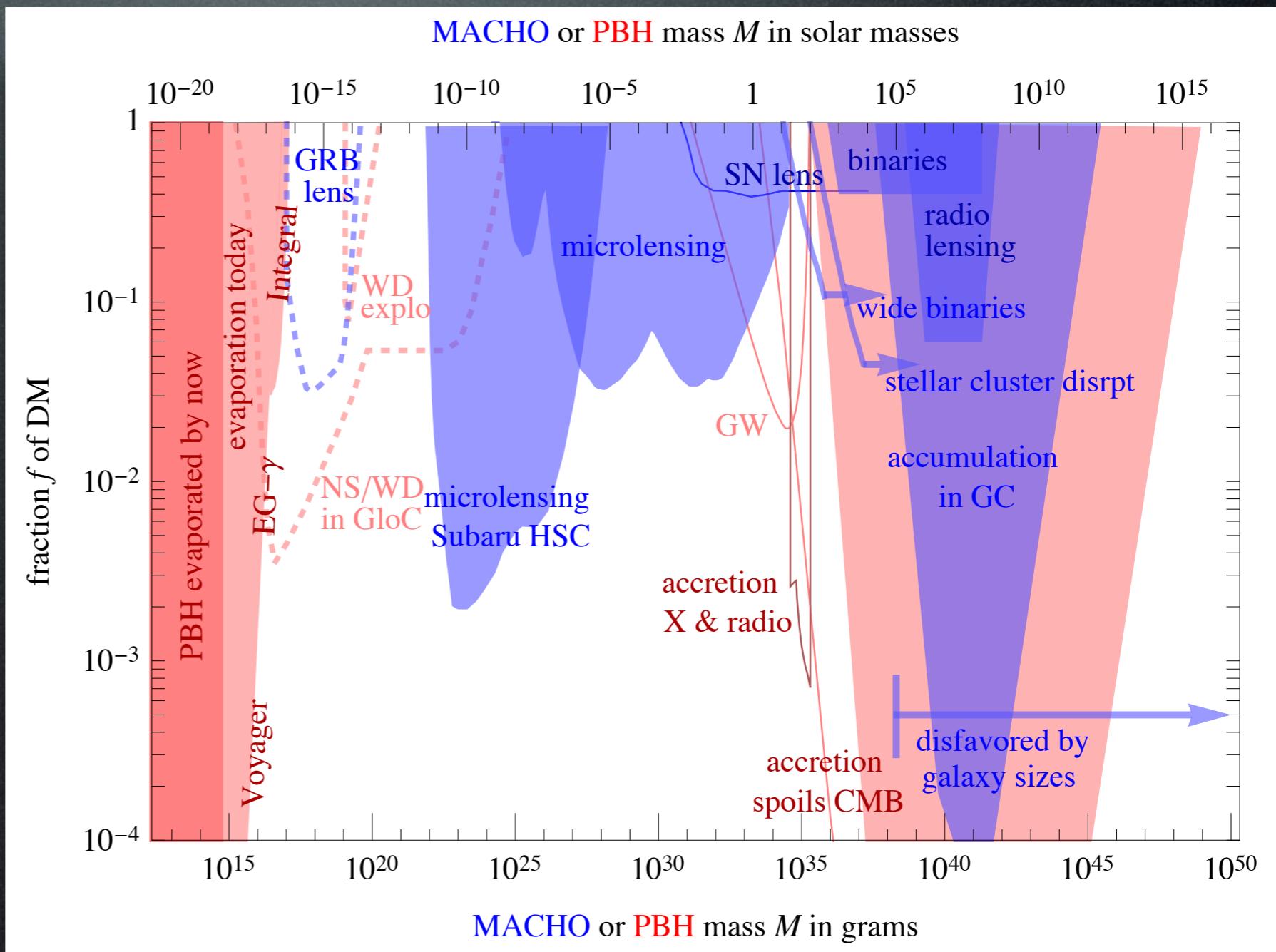
## Constraints on Primordial Black Holes

DM could consist of PBHs

huge range of sizes:

$$M \simeq 10^{15} (t/10^{-23} \text{ sec}) \text{ g}$$

constraints



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'small' PBHs emit today by Hawking evaporation

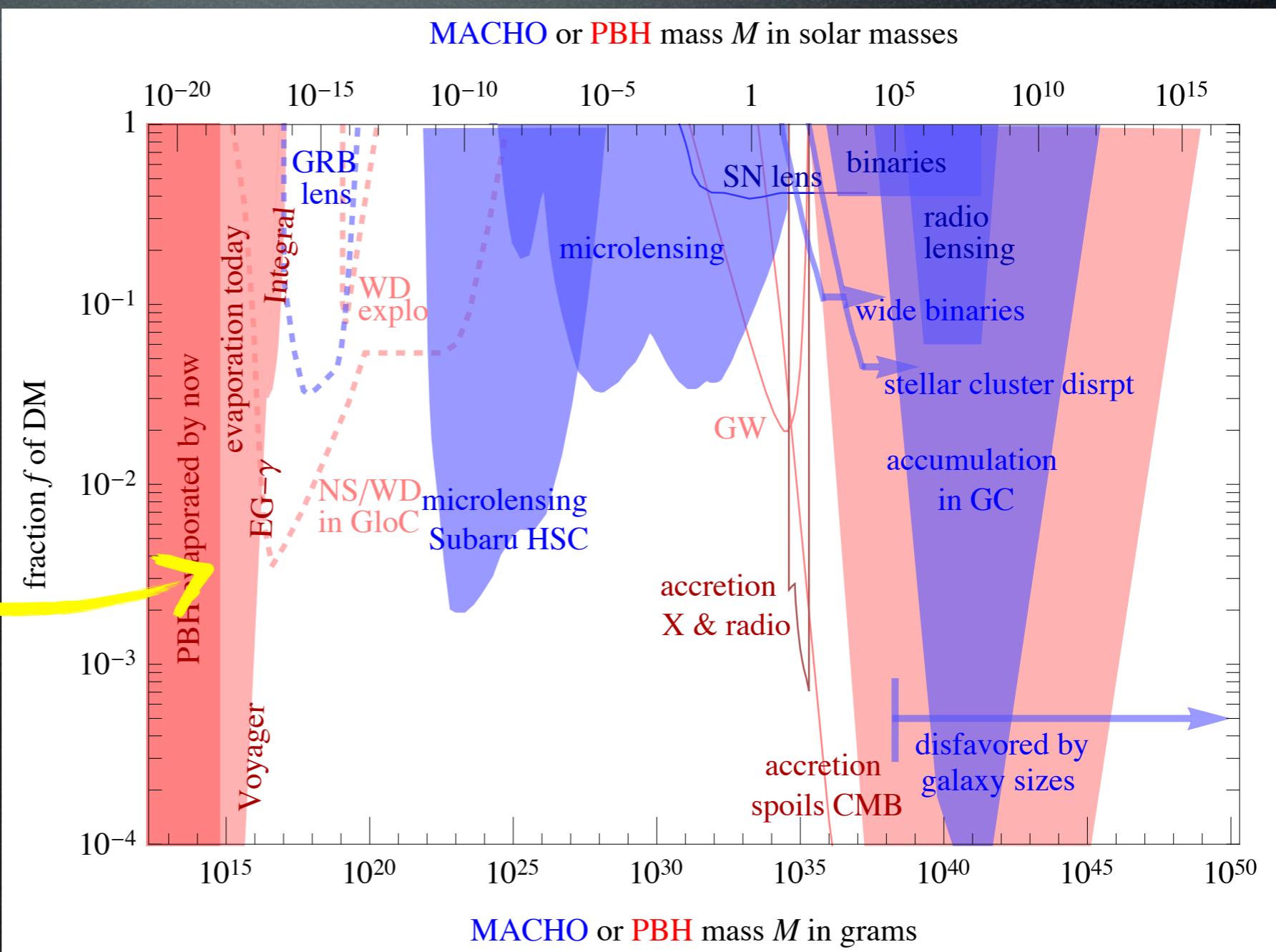
$$T = \frac{1}{8\pi G_N M}$$

rate

$$\frac{dM}{dt} \simeq -5 \times 10^{25} f(M) \left(\frac{g}{M}\right)^2 \text{ g/s}$$

spectrum

$$\frac{dN}{dt dE} = \frac{27}{2\pi} \frac{G^2 M^2 E^2}{e^{E/T} + 1}$$



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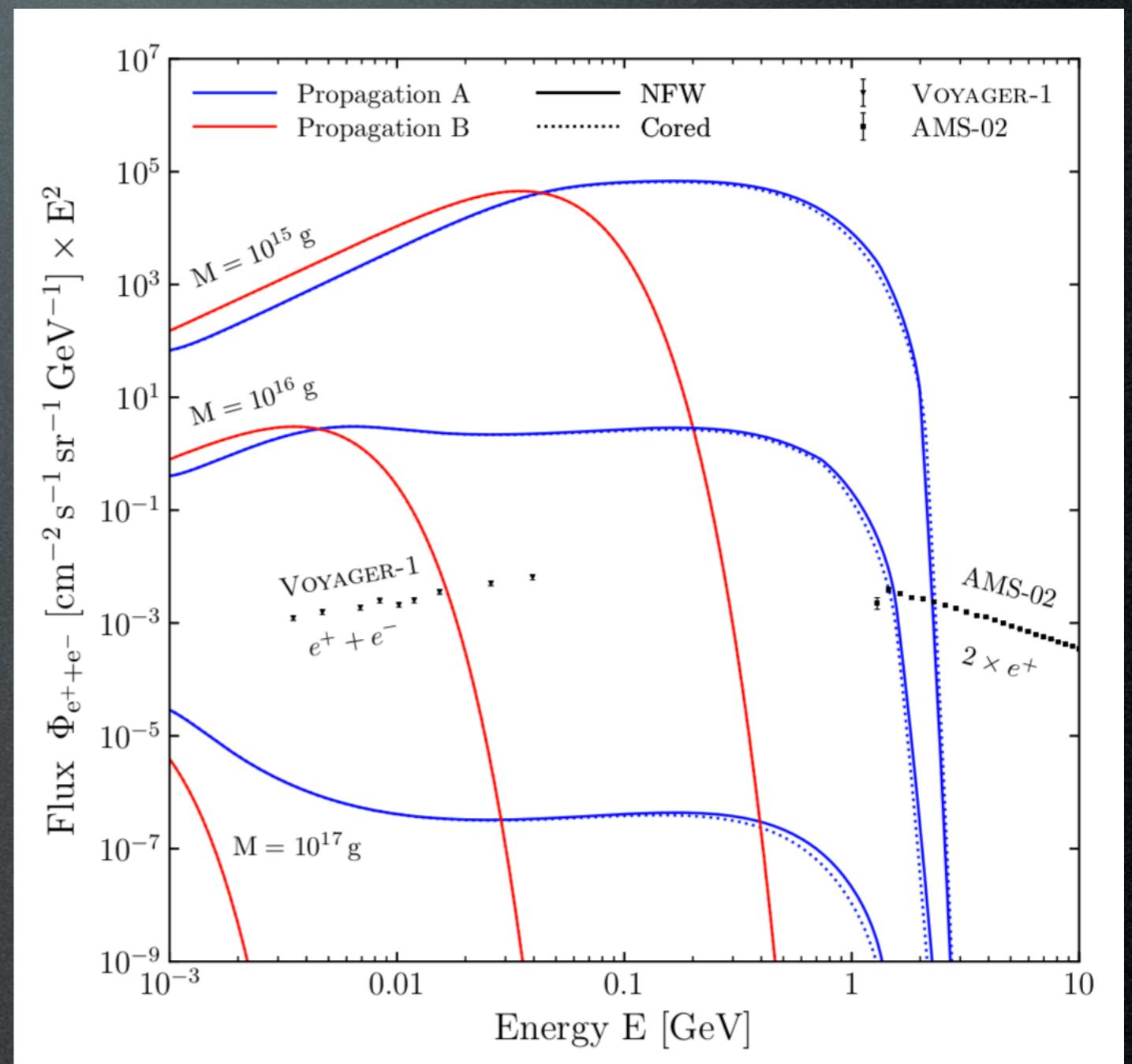
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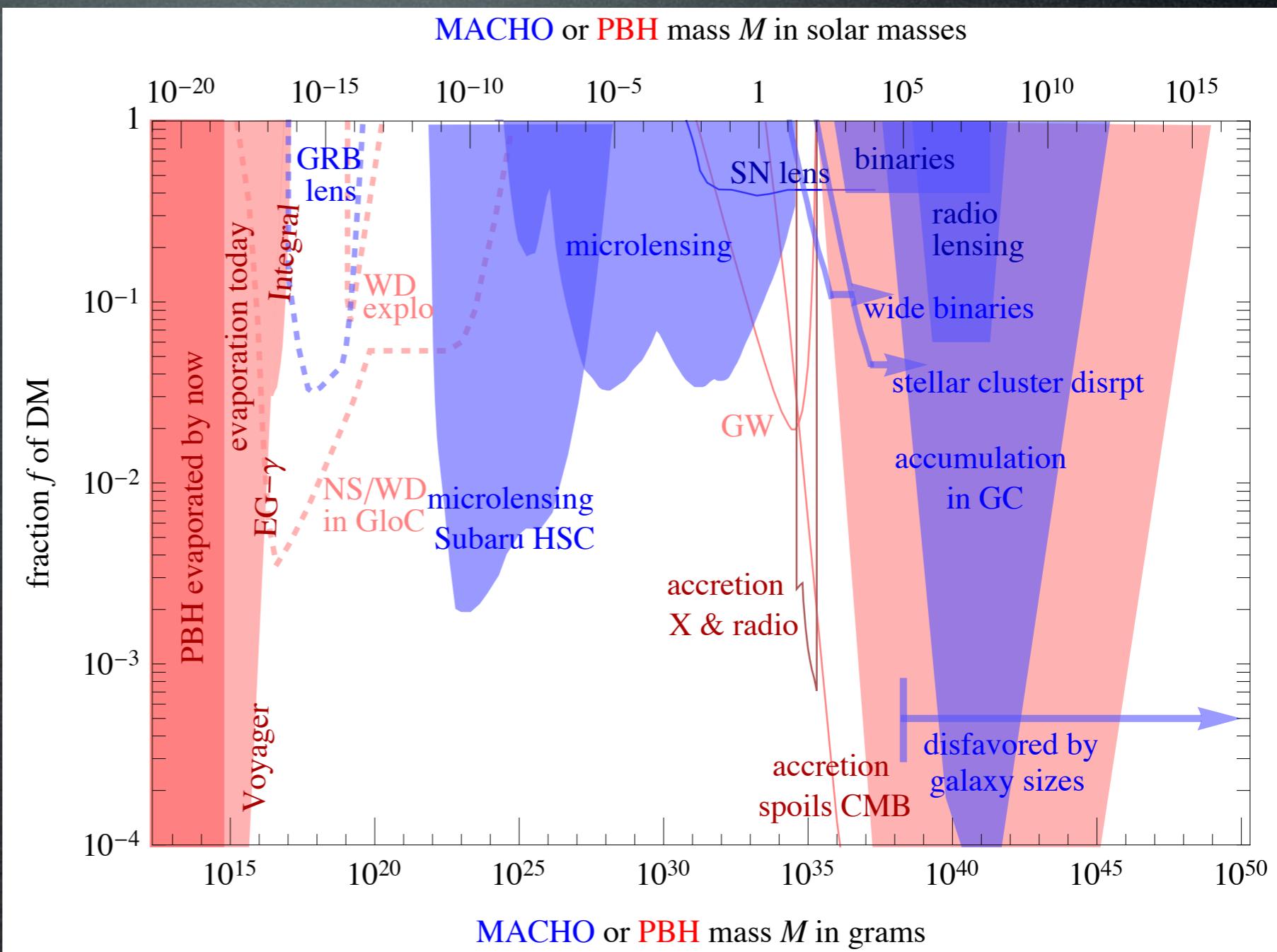
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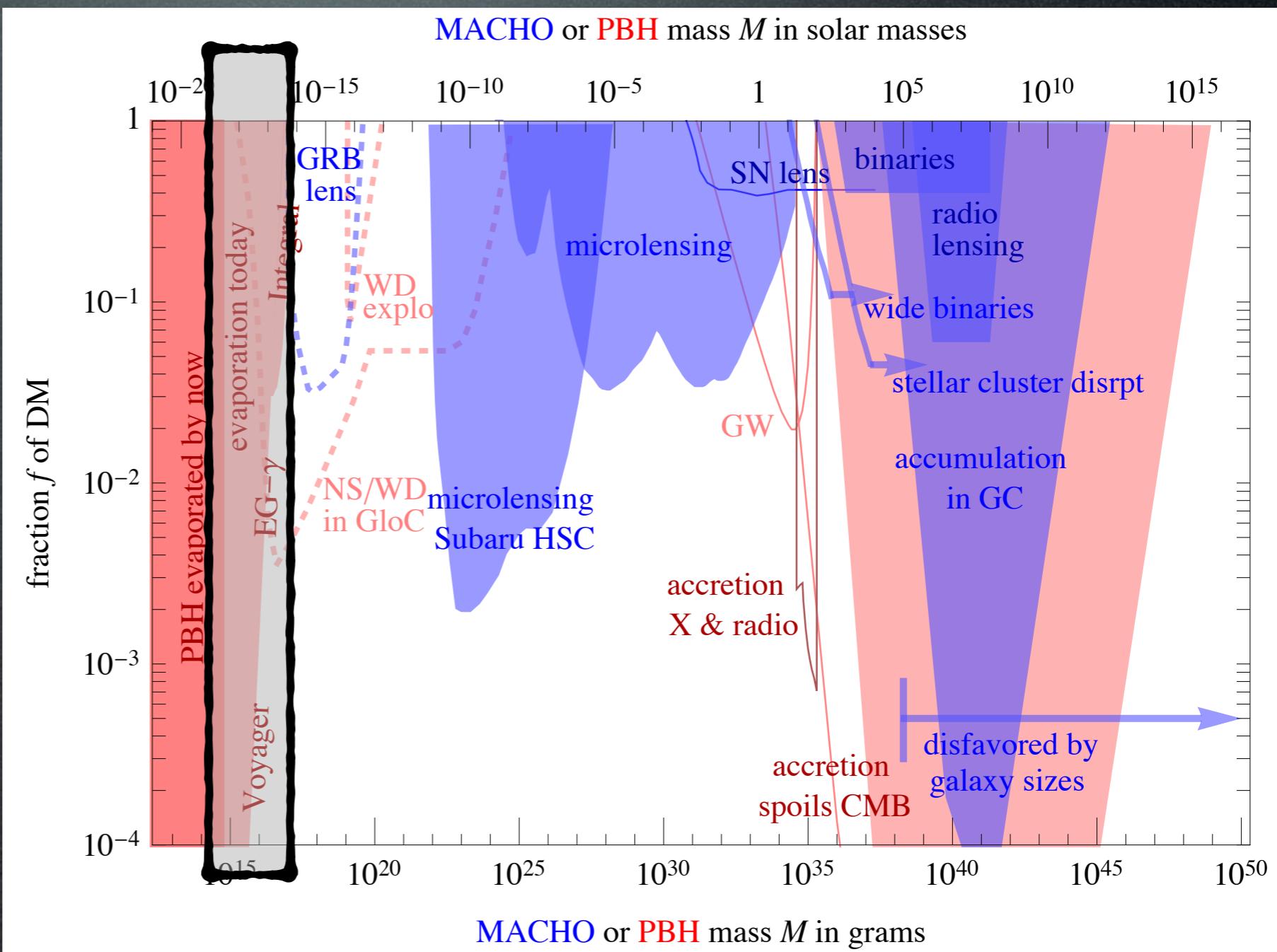
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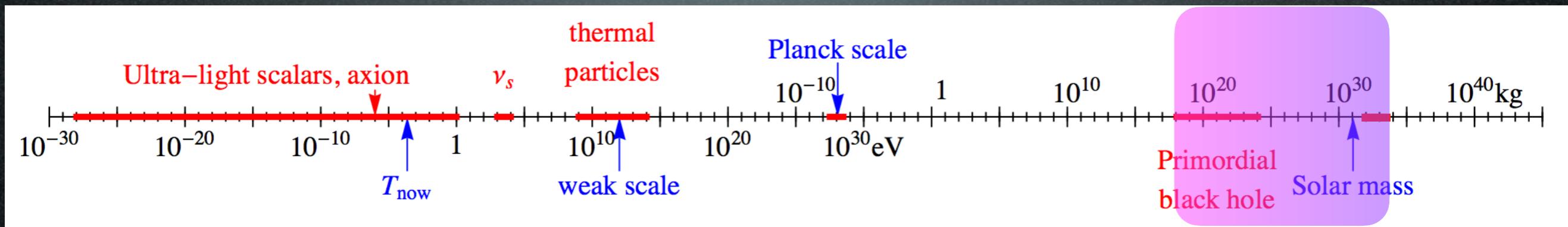
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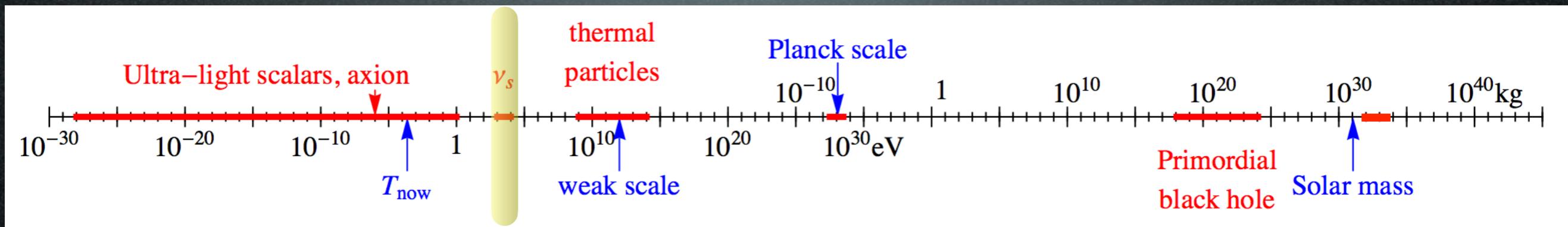
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# Candidates

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**KeV DM?**

# X-ray line

Bulbul et al., 1402.2301

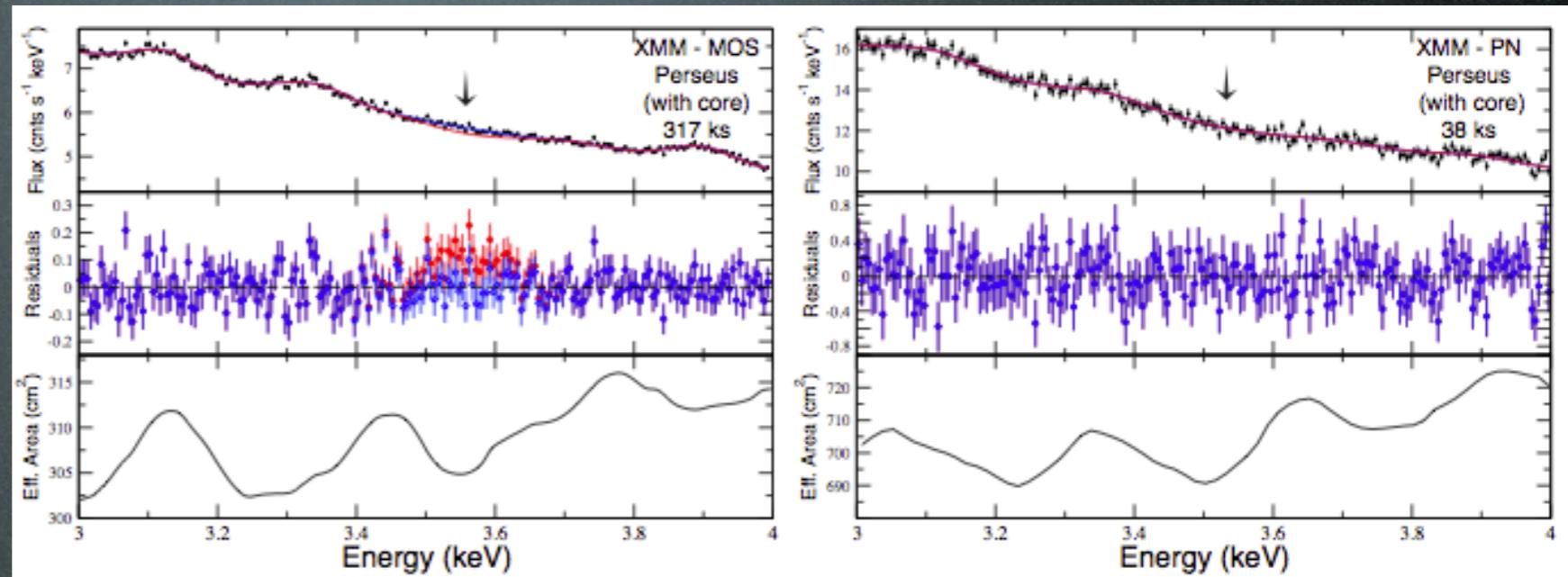
$3.55 - 3.57 \pm 0.03$  KeV

73 clusters

(Chandra & XMM-Newton)

$z = 0.01 - 0.35$

$\gtrsim 4\sigma$



Boyarsky, Ruchayskiy,  
1402.4119

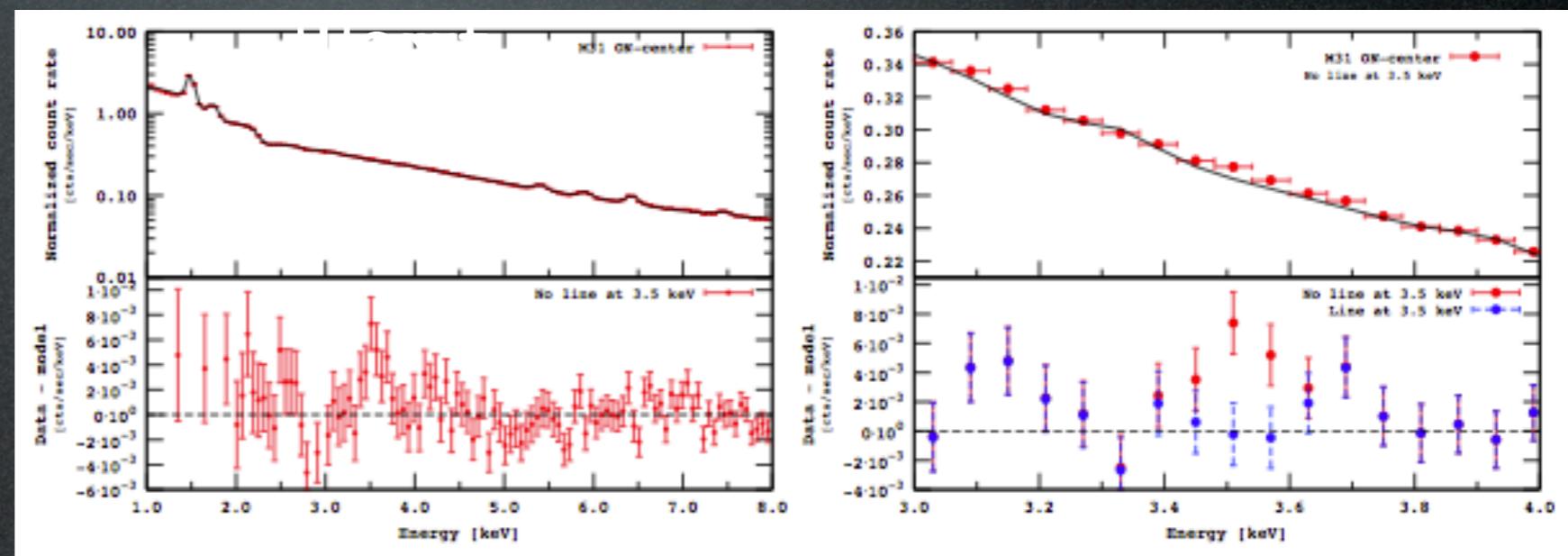
3.5 KeV

Andromeda galaxy  
+ Perseus cluster

(XMM-Newton)

$z = 0$  and  $0.0179$

$4.4\sigma$



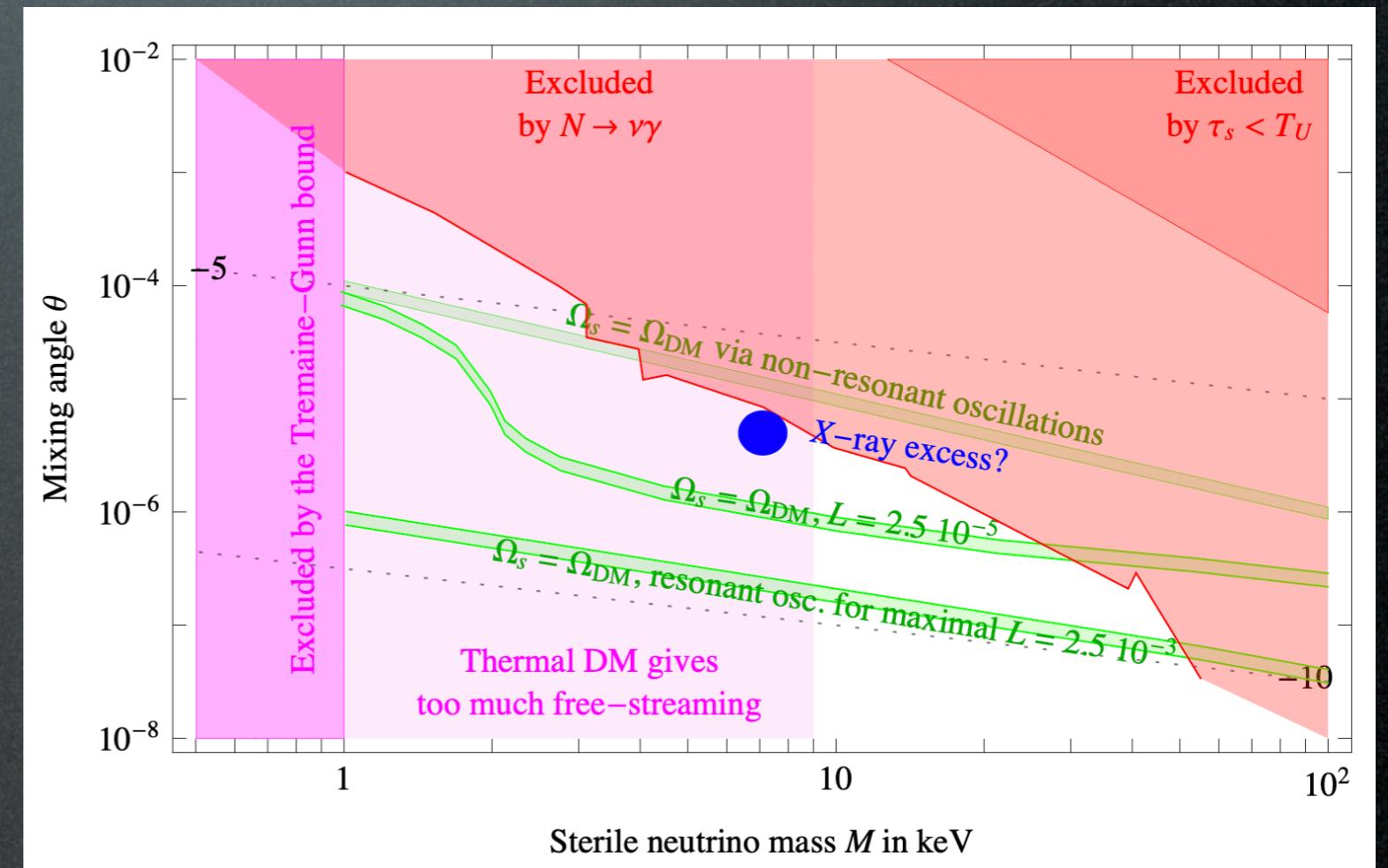
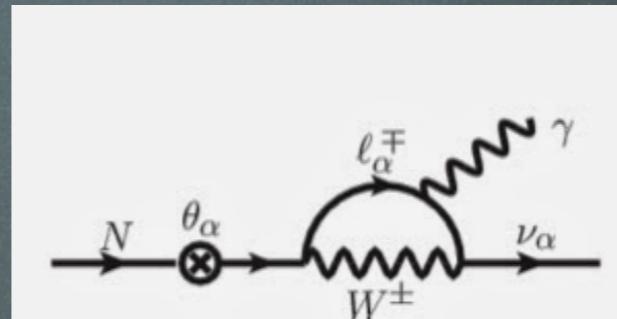
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Sterile neutrino decay

$$m_\nu = 7.1 \text{ KeV}$$

$$\tau \simeq 10^{29} \text{ sec}$$

$$\sin^2 2\theta \sim \text{few } 10^{-11}$$



M. Cirelli, A. Strumia, J. Zupan to appear

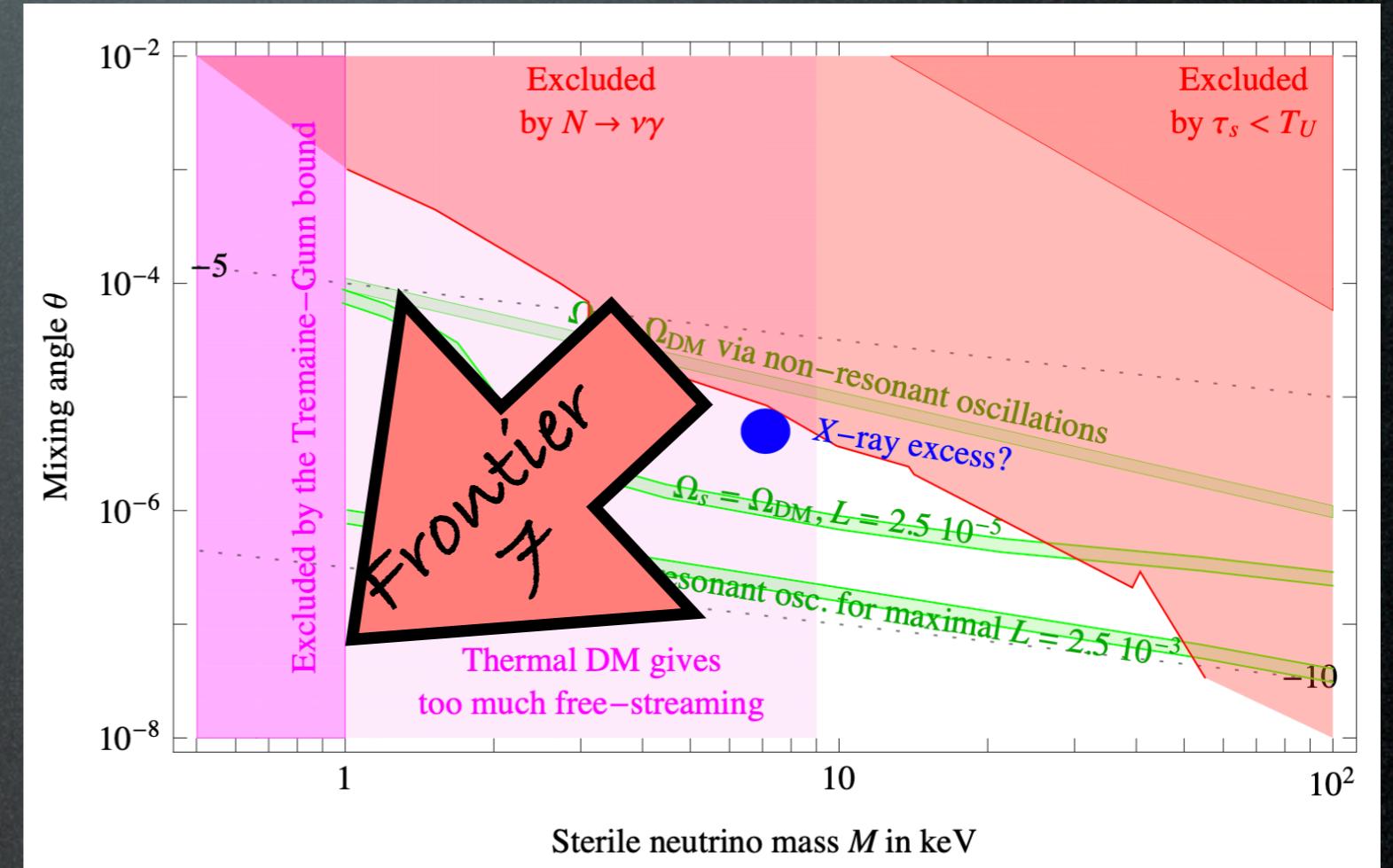
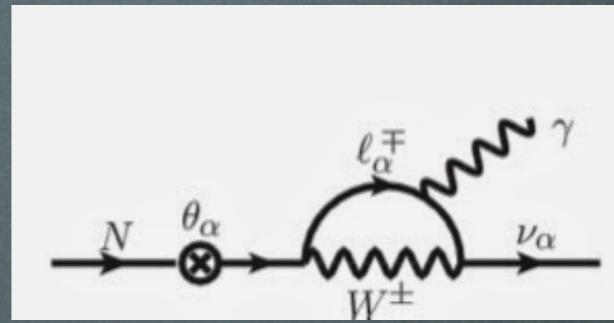
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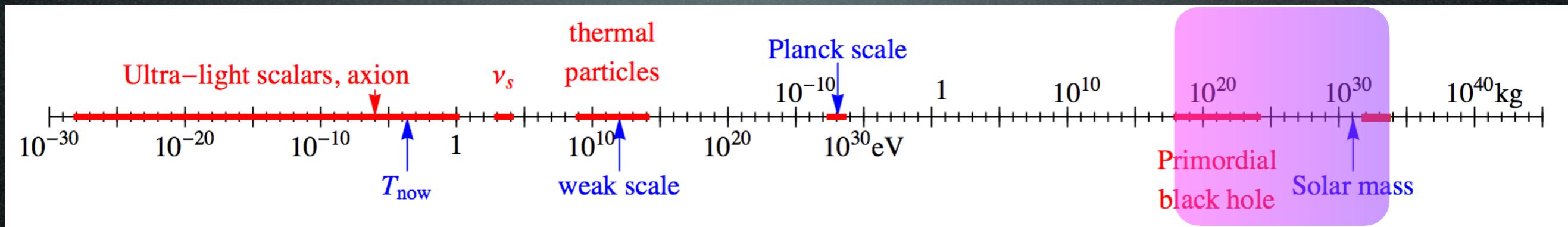
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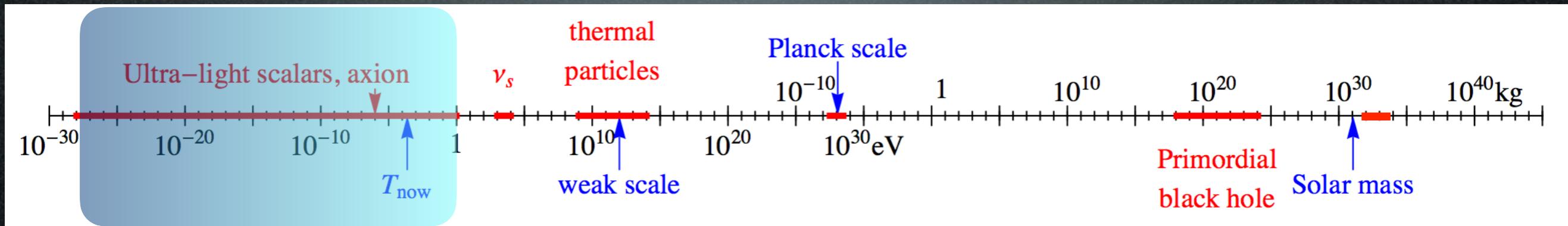
A matter of perspective: plausible mass ranges



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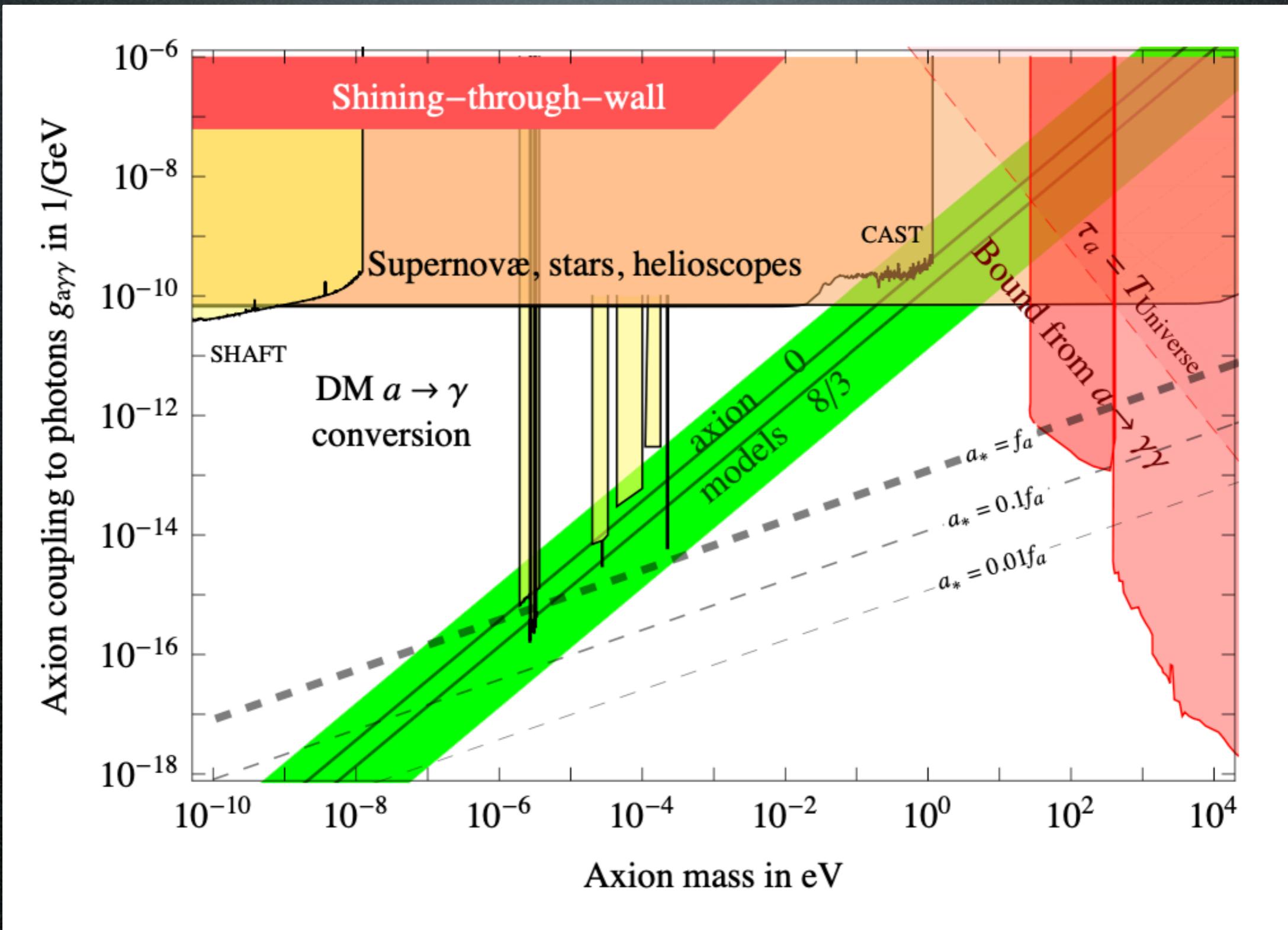
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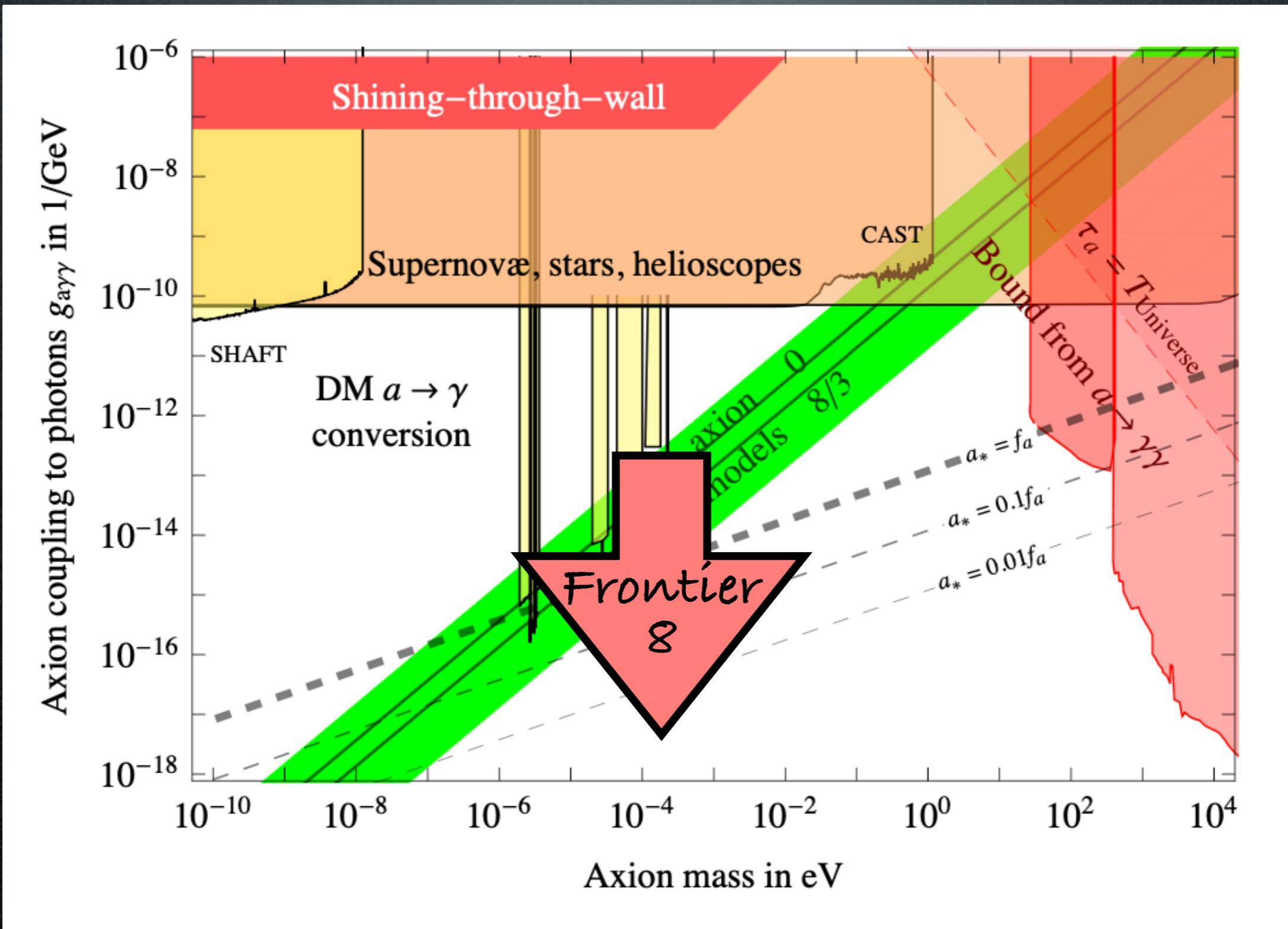
# Axions

Searches:



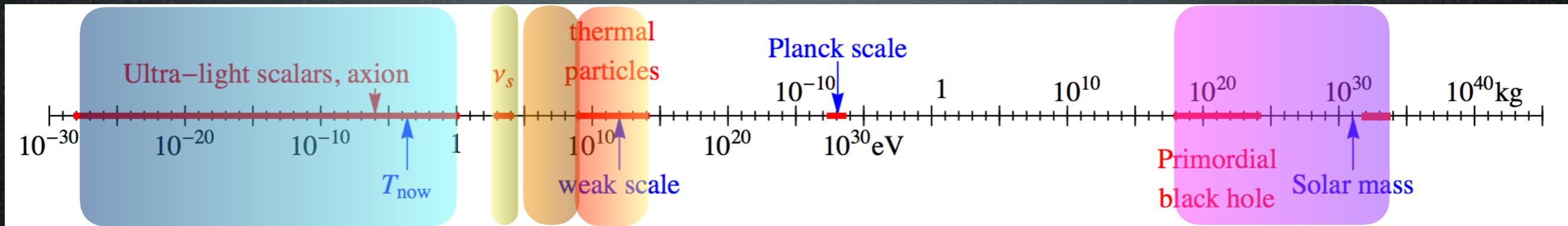
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# Candidates

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**Thermal DM?**  
**Sub-GeV DM?**  
**PBH DM?**  
**KeV DM?**  
**Ultralight DM?**



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Theory can (does) point to preferred directions,  
but actually too many...

**Thermal DM?**

still motivated, frontier is heavy DM

**Sub-GeV DM?**

why not? Challenging detection

**PBH DM?**

old idea with new vibes

**KeV DM?**

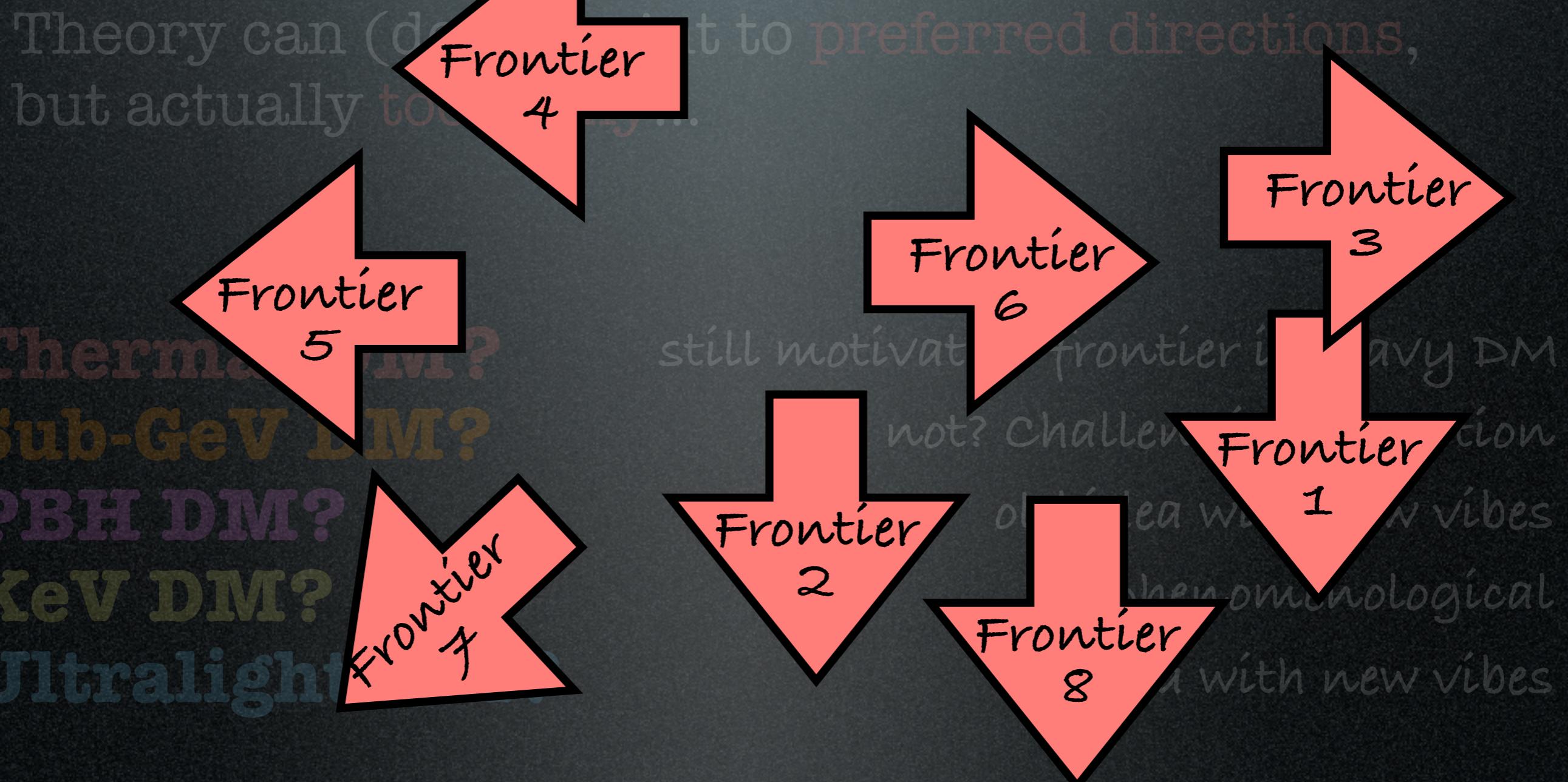
phenomenological

**Ultralight DM?**

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