

# Signals of boosted dark matter and neutrinos

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Rencontres de Moriond 2024 @ La Thuile  
Electroweak Interactions & Unified Theories

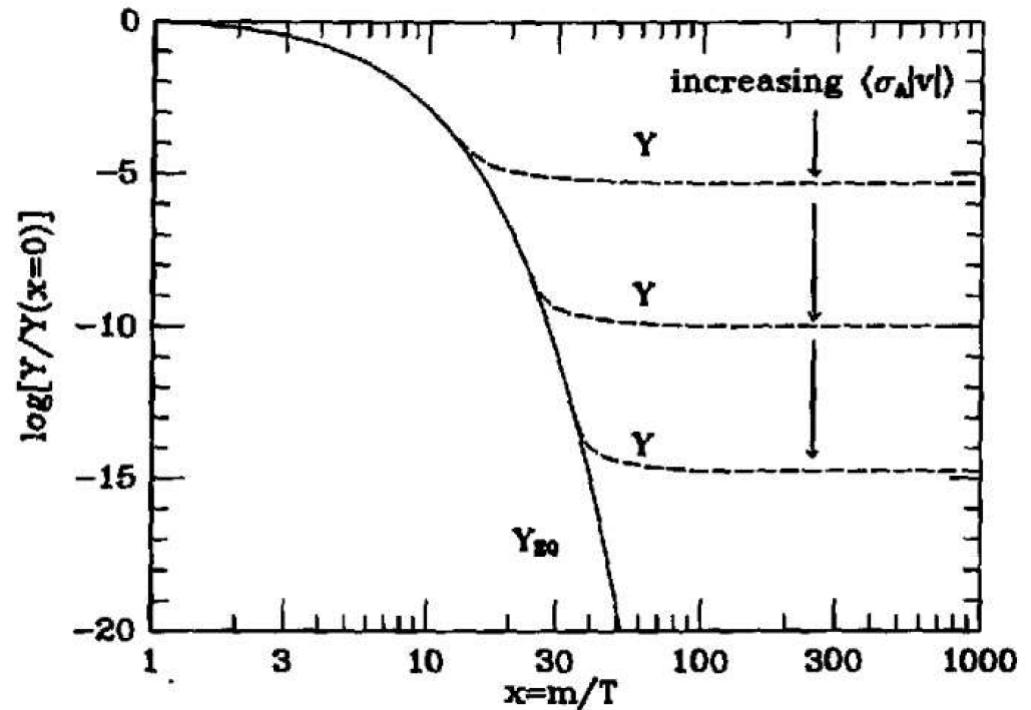
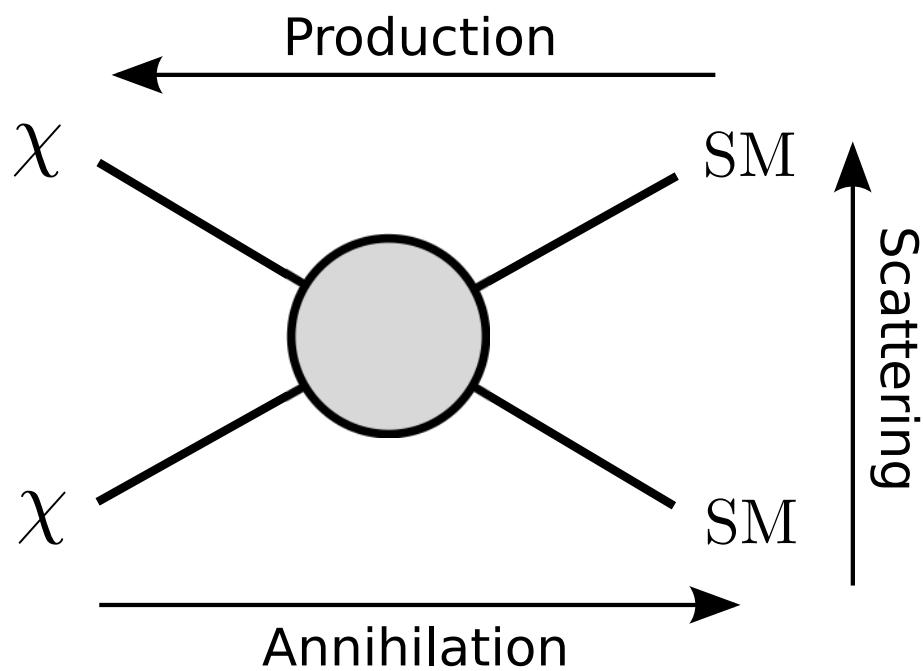


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JCAP 02 (2024) 033

Collaborator: Mayumi Aoki



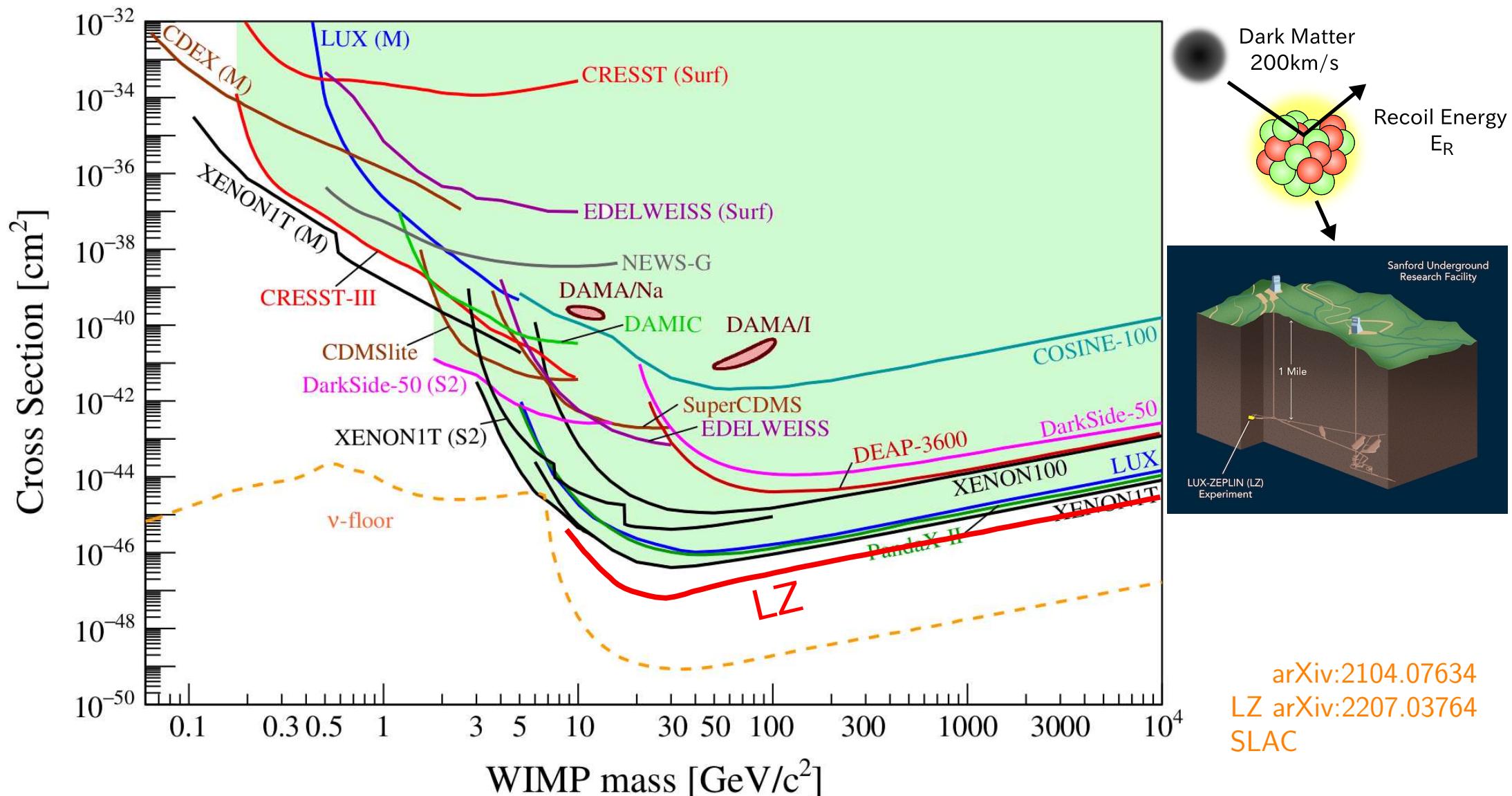
# Thermal dark matter (WIMPs)



$$\frac{dn_\chi}{dt} + 3Hn_\chi = -\langle \sigma v \rangle (n_\chi^2 - n_\chi^{\text{eq}2})$$

- WIMP is thermalized with SM particles in early universe
- To get  $\Omega_\chi h^2 = 0.12$ , roughly  $\sigma \sim 1 \text{ pb} \sim 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s} \sim 10^{-36} \text{ cm}^2$
- Almost independent on DM mass
- Mass range: 10 MeV – 100 TeV

# Status of direct detection experiments



- LZ gives the strongest bound above 10 GeV DM mass at present.

# Wayout

- $v_\chi$  dependent cross section ( $v_\chi \sim 10^{-3}$ )

Ex.1 pNG DM ( $\sigma \propto v_\chi^4$ )

C. Gross, O. Lebedev, TT, PRL (2017) [arXiv:1708.02253]

Ex.2 Fermionic DM with Pseudo-scalar int.

$$\mathcal{L} = a \bar{\chi} \gamma_5 \chi \quad (\sigma \propto v_\chi^2)$$

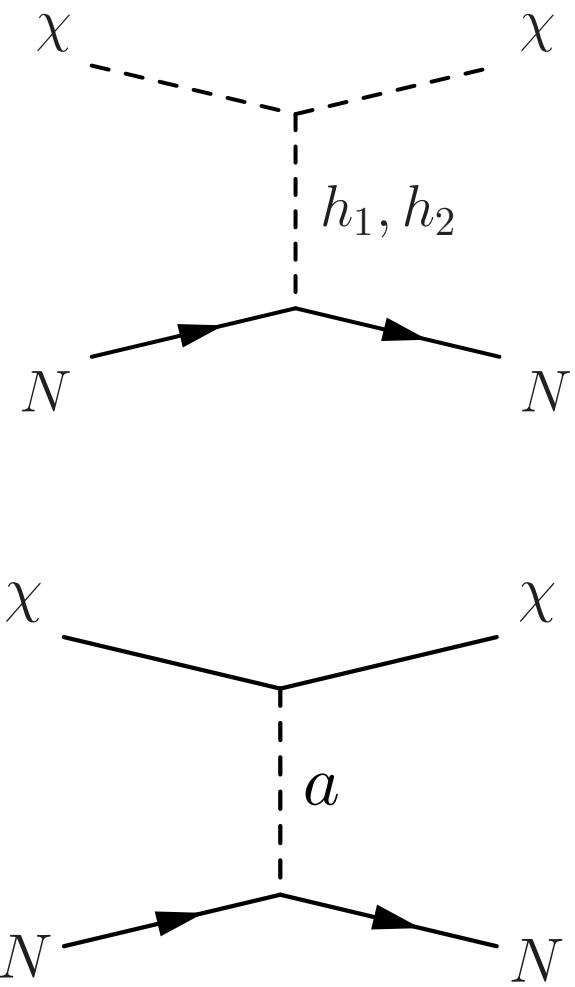
T. Abe, M. Fujiwara, J. Hisano, JHEP (2019) [arXiv:1810.01039]

- Challenging to explore with standard way of direct detection experiments

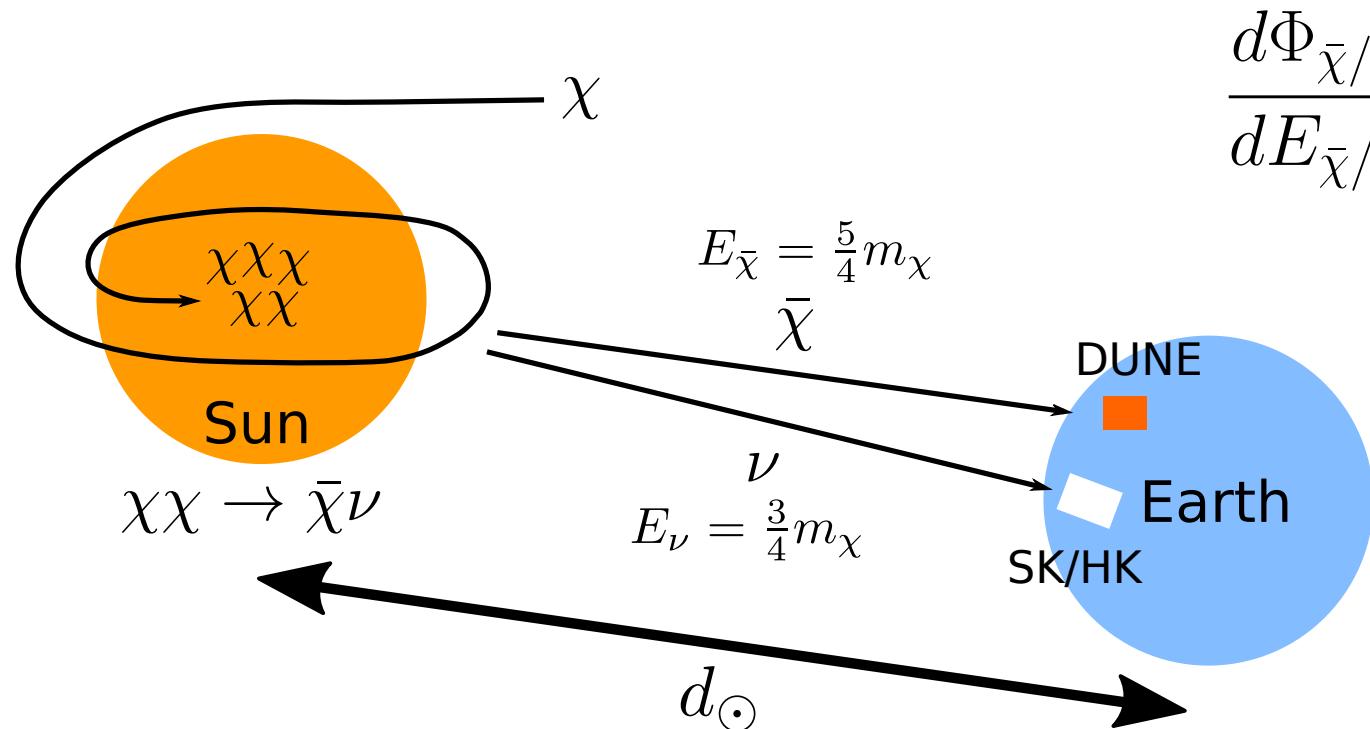
⇒ Could be searched if it is accelerated.

⇒ We consider DM accelerated by semi-annihilation  $\chi\chi \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\nu$

Exotic DM signals



# Signals from the Sun

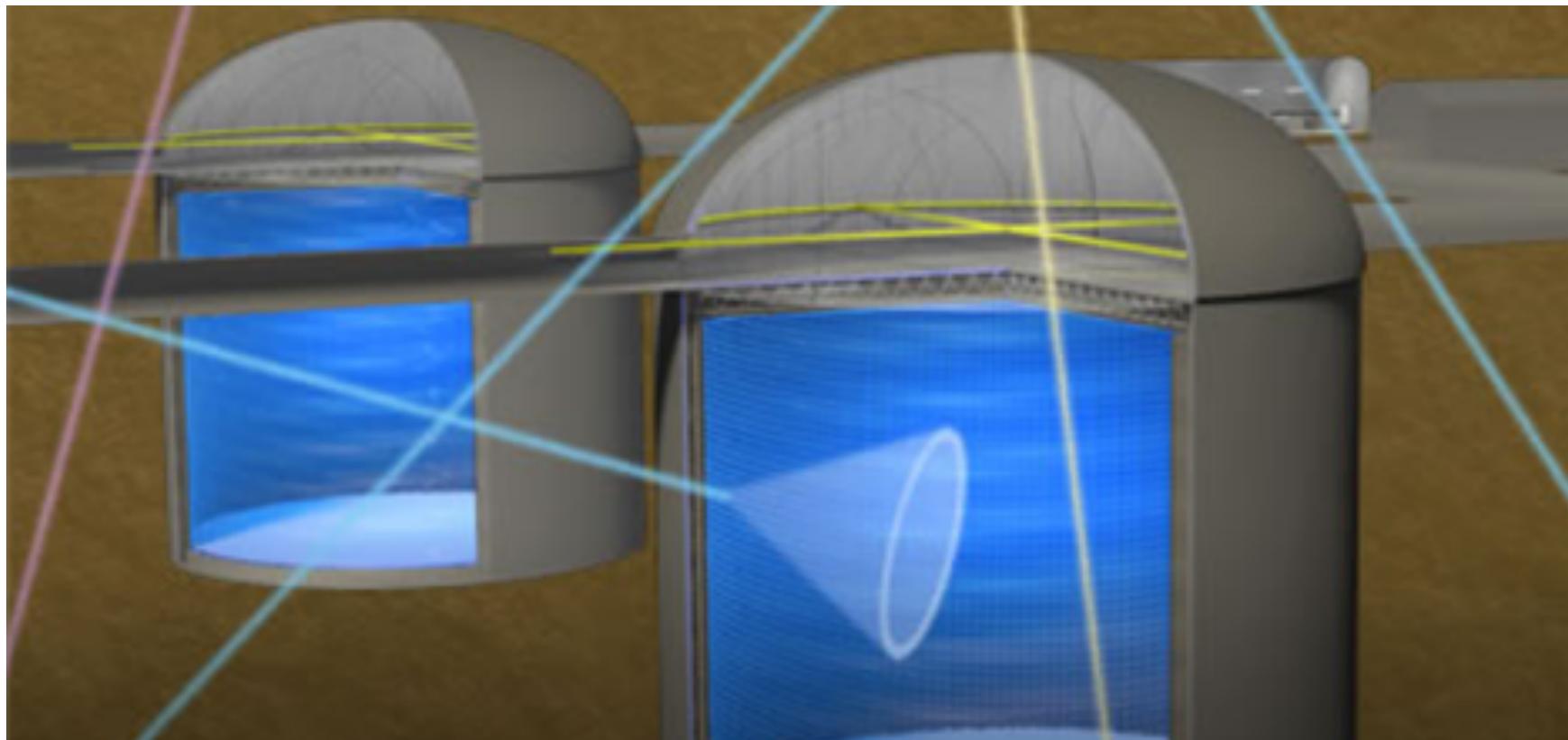


$$\frac{d\Phi_{\bar{\chi}/\nu}}{dE_{\bar{\chi}/\nu}} = \frac{\Gamma_{\text{ann}}}{4\pi d_{\odot}^2} \frac{dN_{\bar{\chi}/\nu}}{dE_{\bar{\chi}/\nu}}$$

- DM particles are accumulated in centre of the Sun.
- Semi-annihilation occurs, and boosted DM and neutrino are produced.
- These can be searched at large volume neutrino detectors (SK, HK, IceCube, DUNE etc).

# Detection of boosted DM

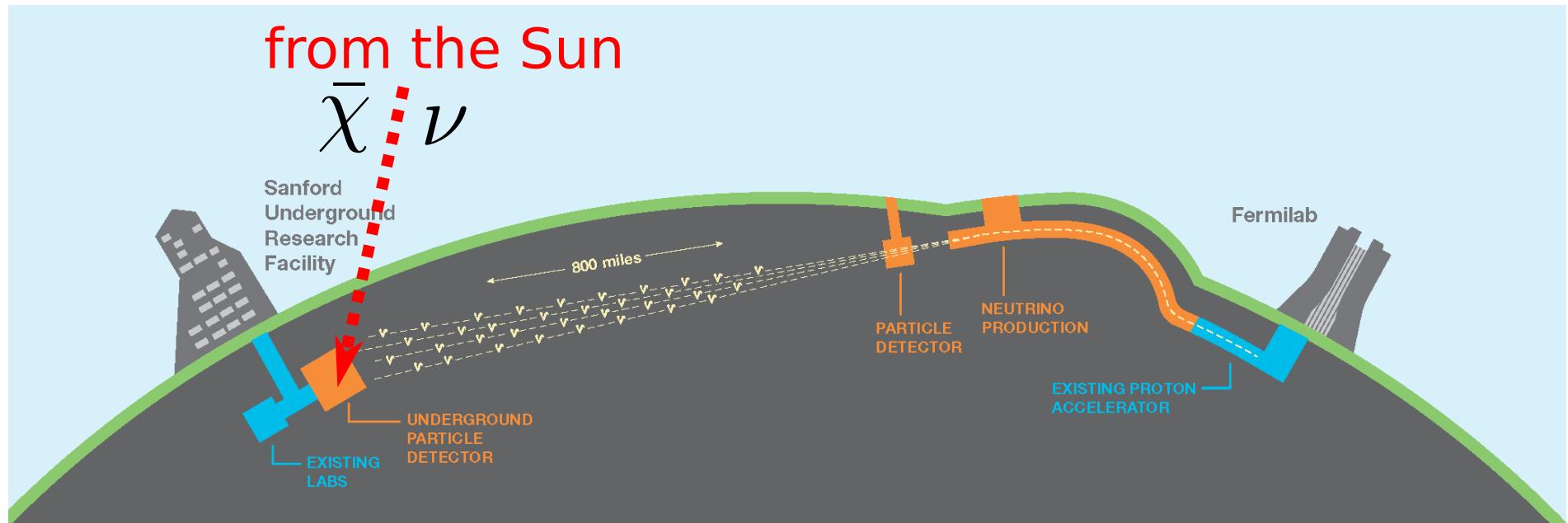
- Boosted DM ( $v_\chi = 0.6$ ) is difficult to produce Cherenkov radiation.  
 $v_p > 0.75$  is required to produce Cherenkov radiation.



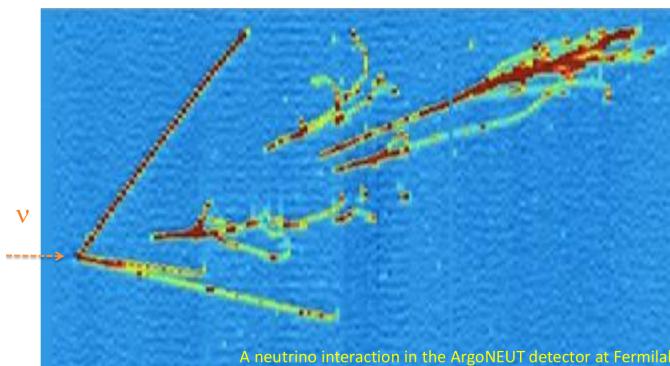
Hyper-Kamiokande Collaboration

⇒ We focus on DUNE.

# DUNE (Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment)



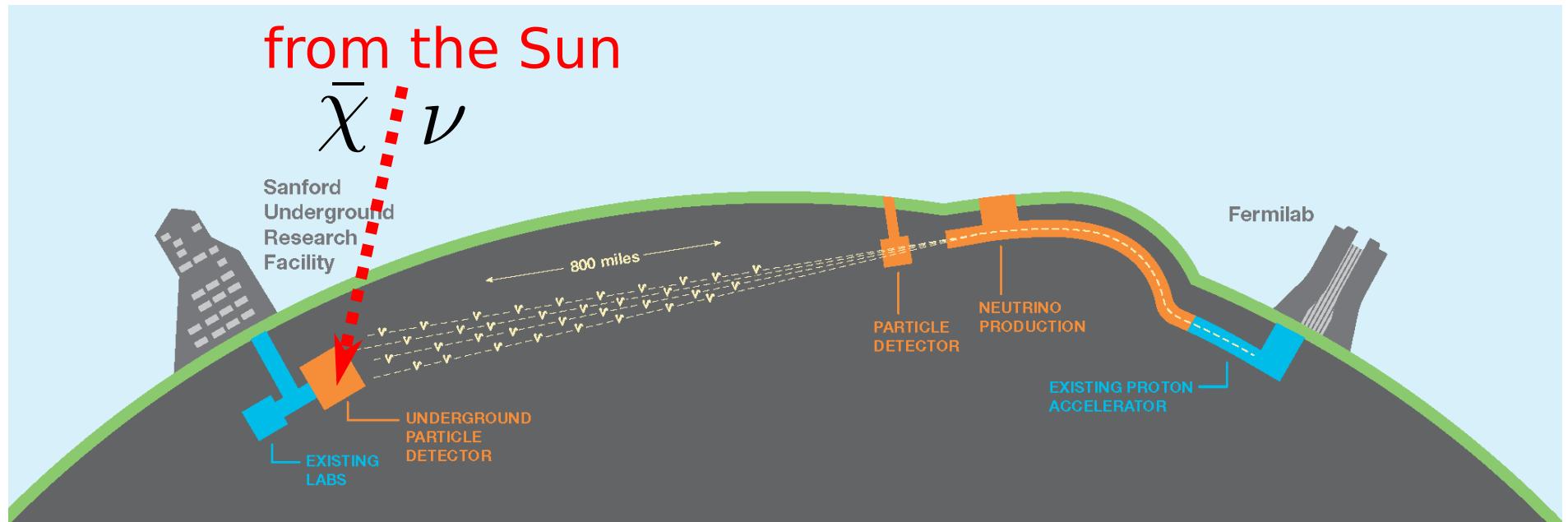
- Two detectors: near and **far** detectors.
- Massive liquid argon (fiducial volume: 40kt)
- Precise reconstruction of particle's trajectories with LArTPC



DUNE Coll., [arXiv:2002.03005]



# DUNE (Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment)



Timeline of far detector modules  $\Rightarrow$  Delayed

DUNE Coll., [arXiv:2002.03005]

More cost is needed than initially expected. ( $2 \text{ billion} \Rightarrow 3 \text{ billion dollars}$ )

- 2029: slimmed version of DUNE will run
- 2035: DUNE full spec (40kt)  $\Leftrightarrow$  2027: Hyper-K data taking  
 $\Rightarrow$  DUNE has no advantage for  $\nu$  mass ordering, CP violation etc.

But boosted DM could be detectable only by DUNE.

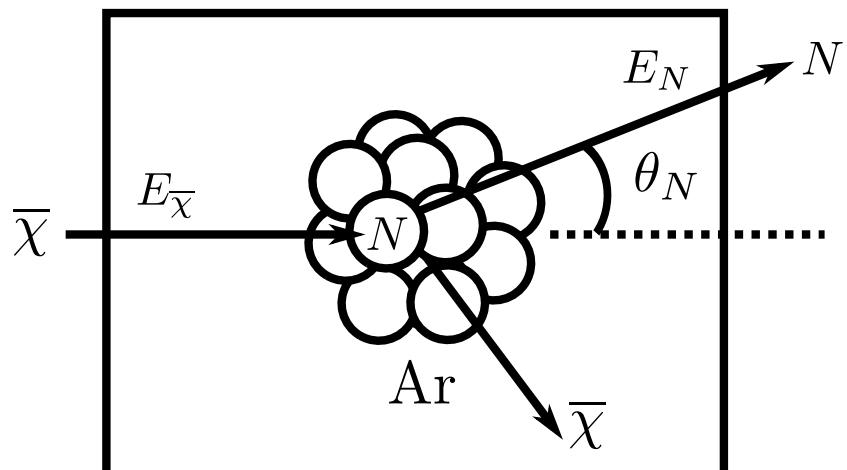
# Setup for boosted dark matter

We parametrize the cross section as

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\chi N}}{dQ^2} = \frac{\sigma_0 s}{4m_N^2 |\mathbf{p}_\chi|^2} \left( \frac{Q^2}{Q_0^2} \right)^n |F(Q^2)|^2$$

- $F(Q^2) = \frac{1}{(1 + Q^2/M_A^2)^2}$        $Q$ : transfer momentum
- Parameters:  $|\mathbf{p}_\chi| = \frac{5}{4}m_\chi$  and  $\sigma_0$  (reference cross section)

- 1  $n = 0$  (constant  $\sigma_{\chi N}$ )
- 2  $n = 1$  ( $Q^2$  dependent  $\sigma_{\chi N}$ )
- 3  $n = 2$  ( $Q^4$  dependent  $\sigma_{\chi N}$ )



# Energy reconstruction

For boosted DM signal

- Elastic scattering is dominant.  
⇒ Energy and angle are kinematically fixed.
- DM energy can be reconstructed from observed values  $\theta_N$  and  $E_N$

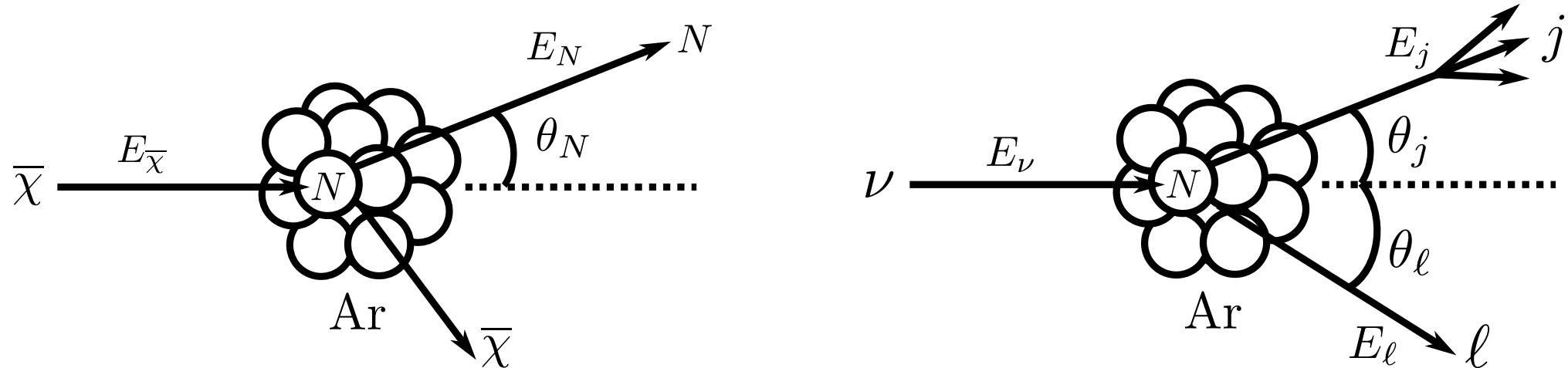
$$\cos \theta_N = \frac{E_\chi + m_N}{|\mathbf{p}_\chi|} \sqrt{\frac{E_N - m_N}{E_N + m_N}}$$

For neutrino signal

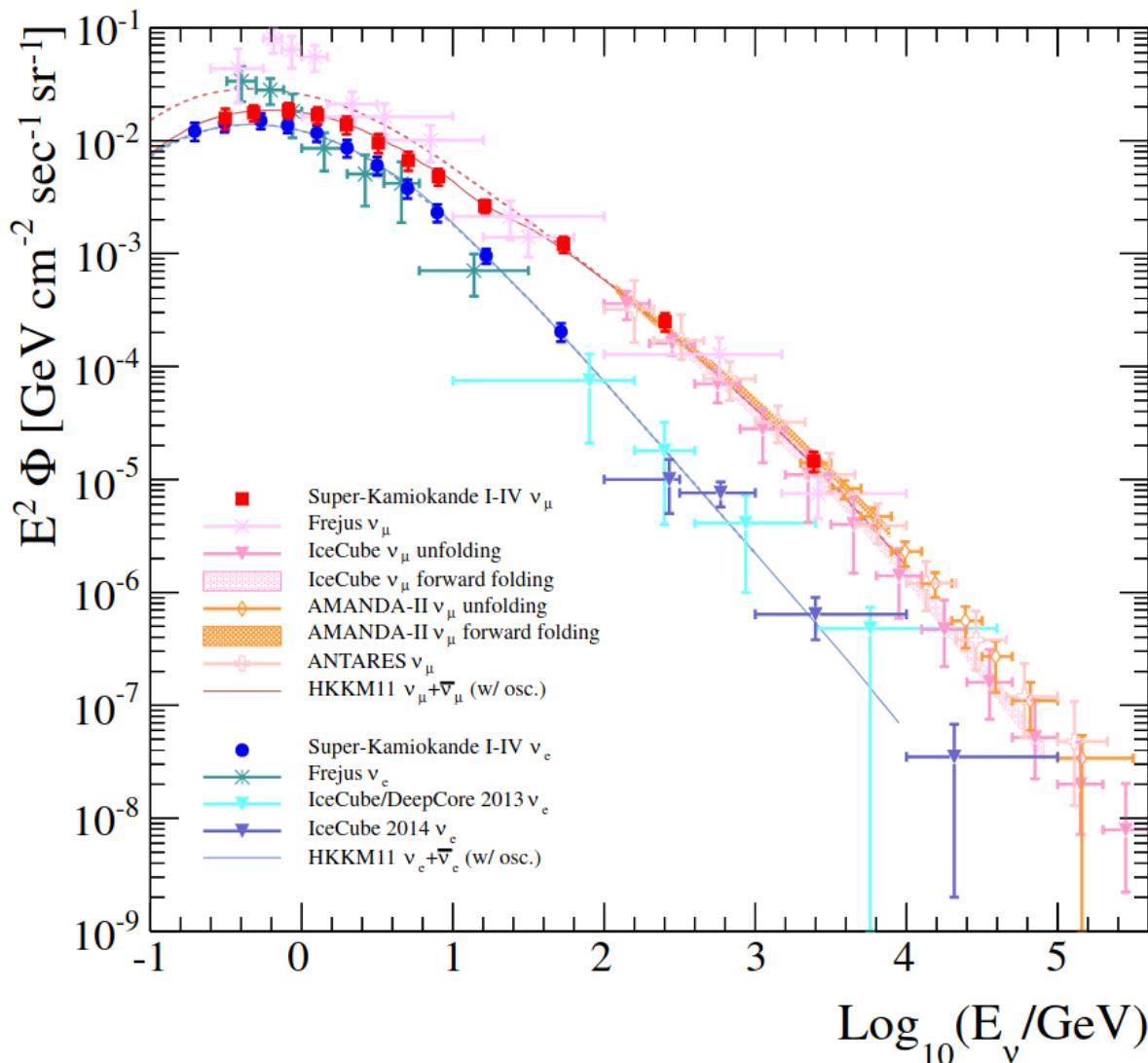
[arXiv: 1903.04175](#), C. Rott et al.

- $\nu + N \rightarrow e^-/\mu^- + \text{jet}$

$$E_\nu = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sin \theta_j (1 + \cos \theta_\ell) + \sin \theta_\ell (1 + \cos \theta_j)}{\sin \theta_j} E_\ell$$



# Background (atmospheric neutrinos)



$$N_{\text{atm}\nu} = N_N T \int \sigma_{\nu N} \frac{d^2 \Phi_\nu^{\text{atm}}}{dE_\nu d\Omega} dE_\nu d\Omega$$

Expected number of bkg events in 10 years with 40kton LAr

**994** via NC int. for  $\chi$  signal  
 $(\nu_{\text{atm}} + N \rightarrow \nu_{\text{atm}} + N)$

**2070** via CC int. for  $\nu$  signal  
 $(\nu_{\text{atm}} + N \rightarrow e/\mu + j)$

<http://www-rccn.icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp/mhonda/public/>

- We use  $\nu_{\text{atm}}$  HAKKM flux at Homestake (close to DUNE detector).

# Results

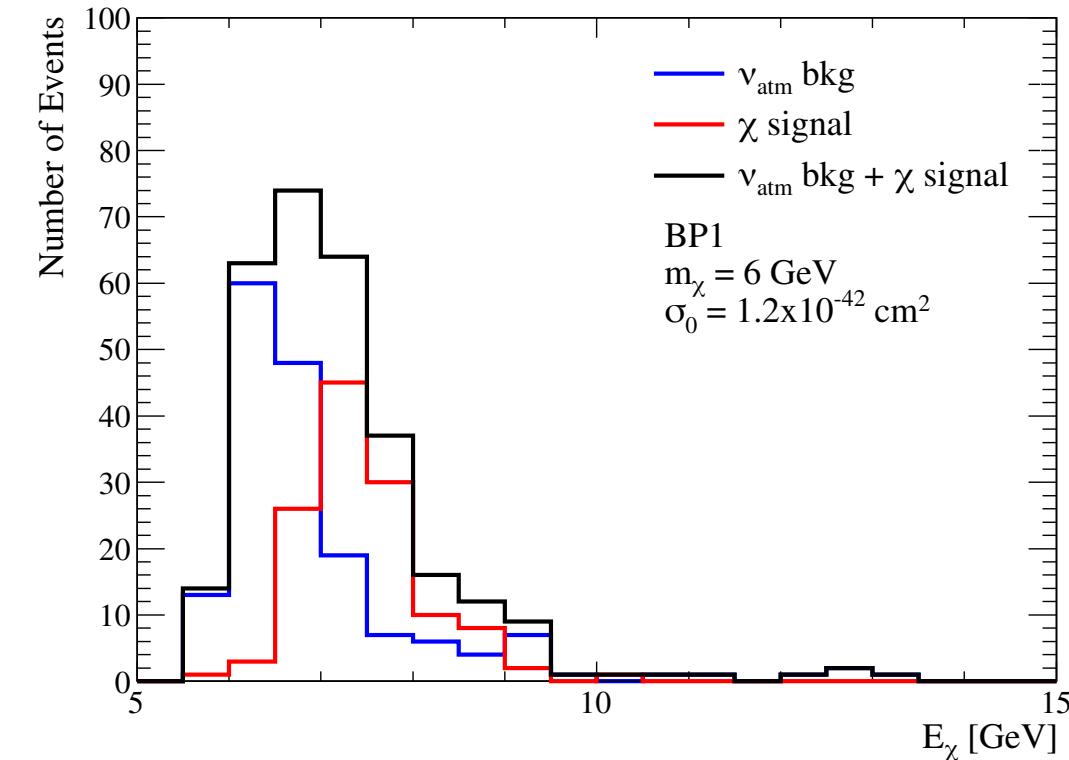
## Benchmark parameter sets

	model	$m_\chi$ [GeV]	$\sigma_0$ [cm $^2$ ]	# of $\nu$ events	# of $\chi$ events
BP1	SD ( $n = 1$ )	6	$1.2 \times 10^{-42}$	$N_{\text{atm } \nu}^{\text{CC}} = 54/2070$ $N_\nu^{\text{CC}} = 18/47$	$N_{\text{atm } \nu}^{\text{NC}} = 98/994$ $N_\chi = 113/372$
BP2	SD ( $n = 2$ )	30	$5.0 \times 10^{-46}$	$N_{\text{atm } \nu}^{\text{CC}} = 1/2070$ $N_\nu^{\text{CC}} = 0/0$	$N_{\text{atm } \nu}^{\text{NC}} = 18/994$ $N_\chi = 405/2117$

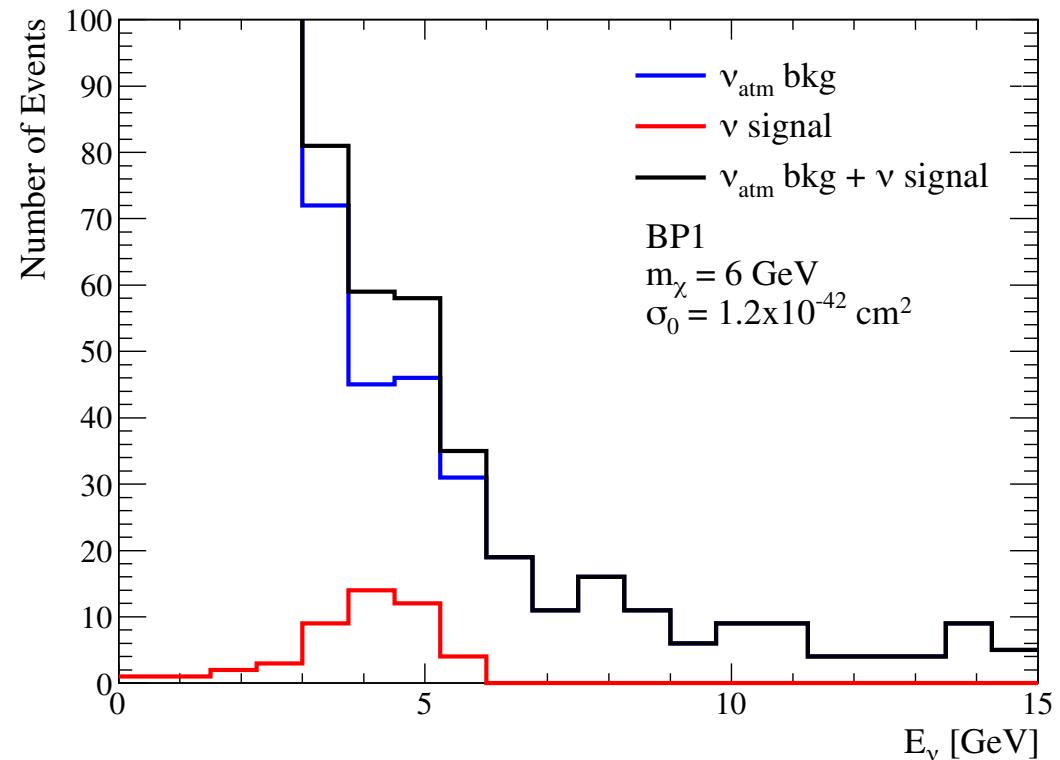
- Assumption:  $V = 40\text{kton}$  liquid argon,  $T = 10$  years exposure
- We use GENIE (neutrino event generator).
- 4th and 5th columns: Expected events / Total events  
(detector threshold and resolutions)
- Large number of BDM signal events  $N_\chi$  for BP2 ( $n = 2$ )

# Energy reconstruction for BP1

## Boosted DM signal



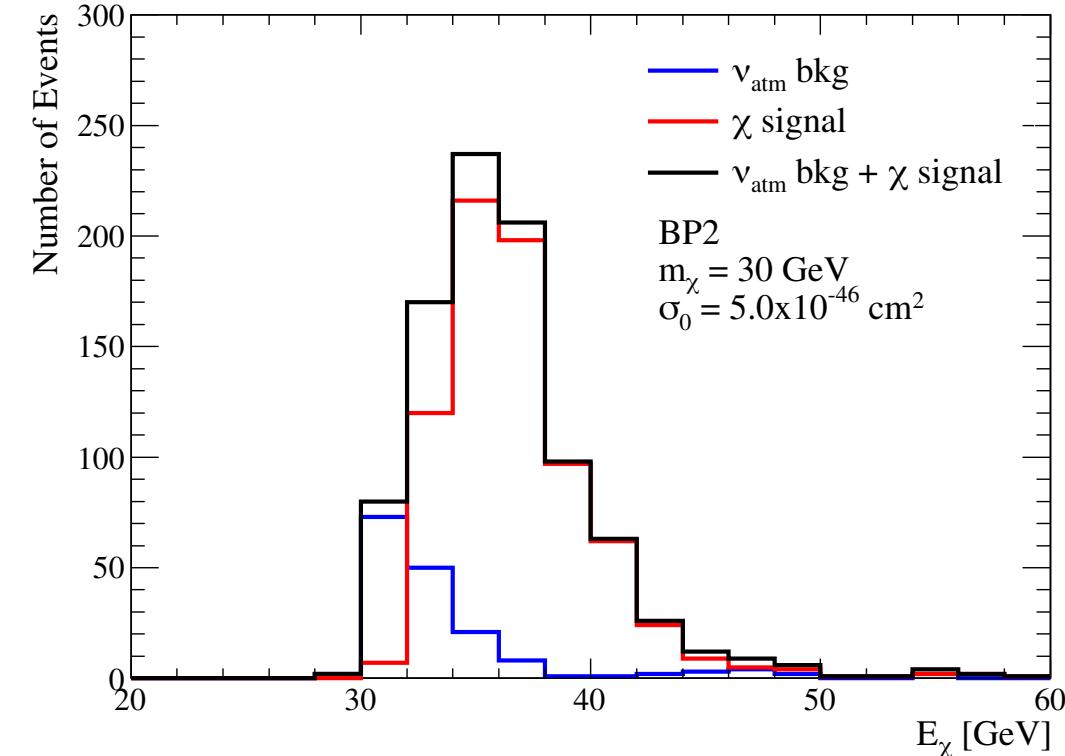
## Neutrino signal



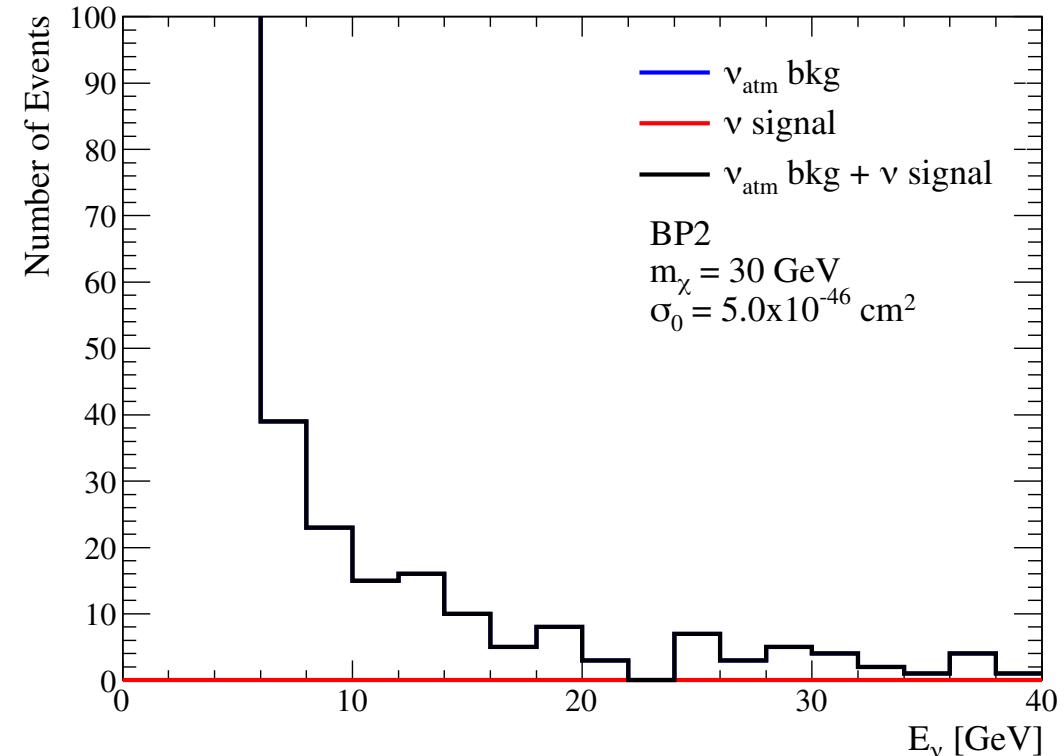
- $E_\chi = 7.5 \text{ GeV}$  and  $E_\nu = 4.5 \text{ GeV}$
- Large number of atmospheric neutrino bkg at low energy

# Energy reconstruction for BP2

## Boosted DM signal

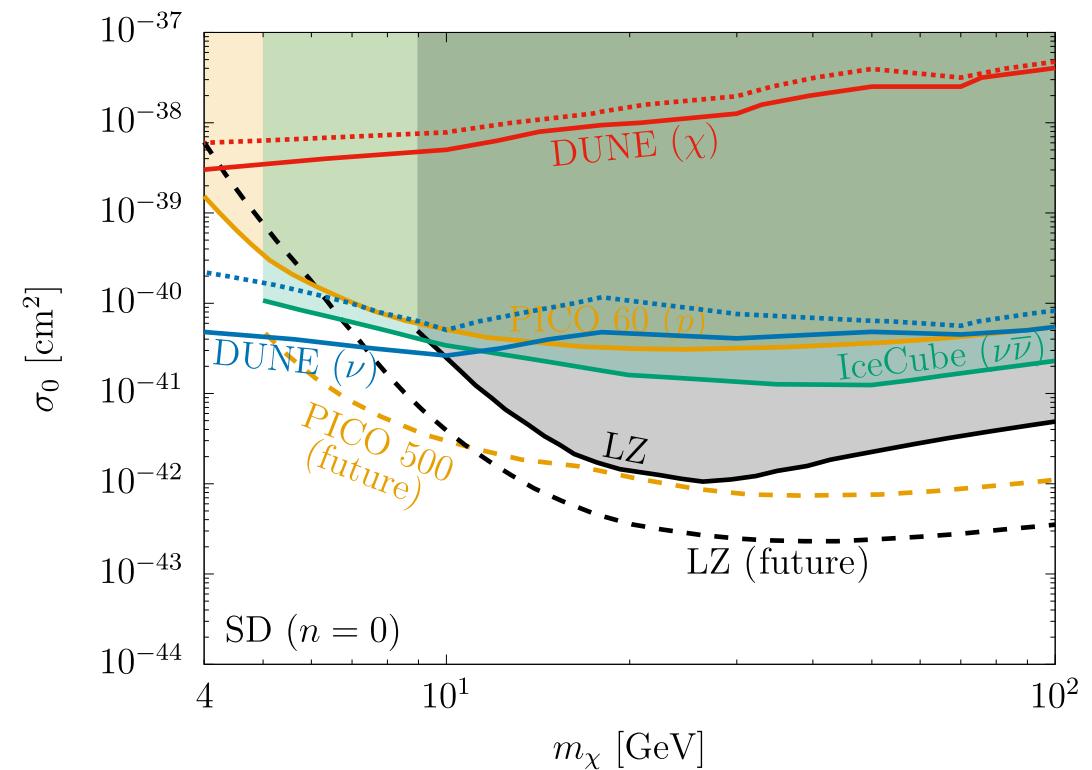
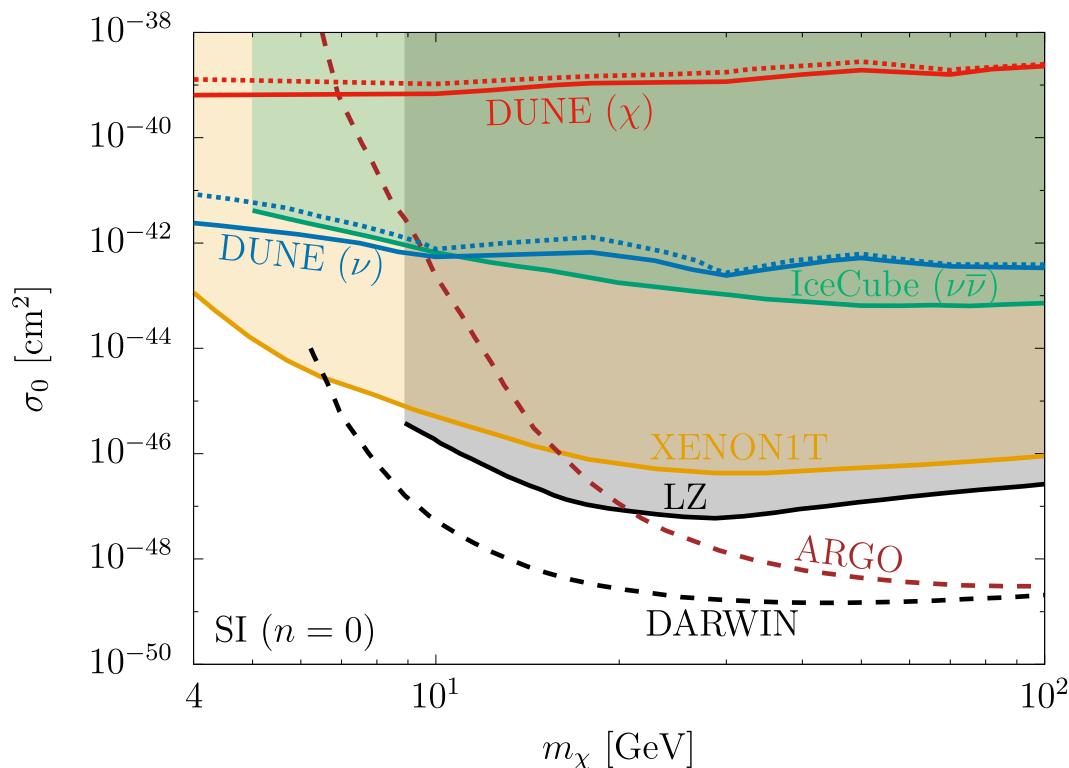


## Neutrino signal



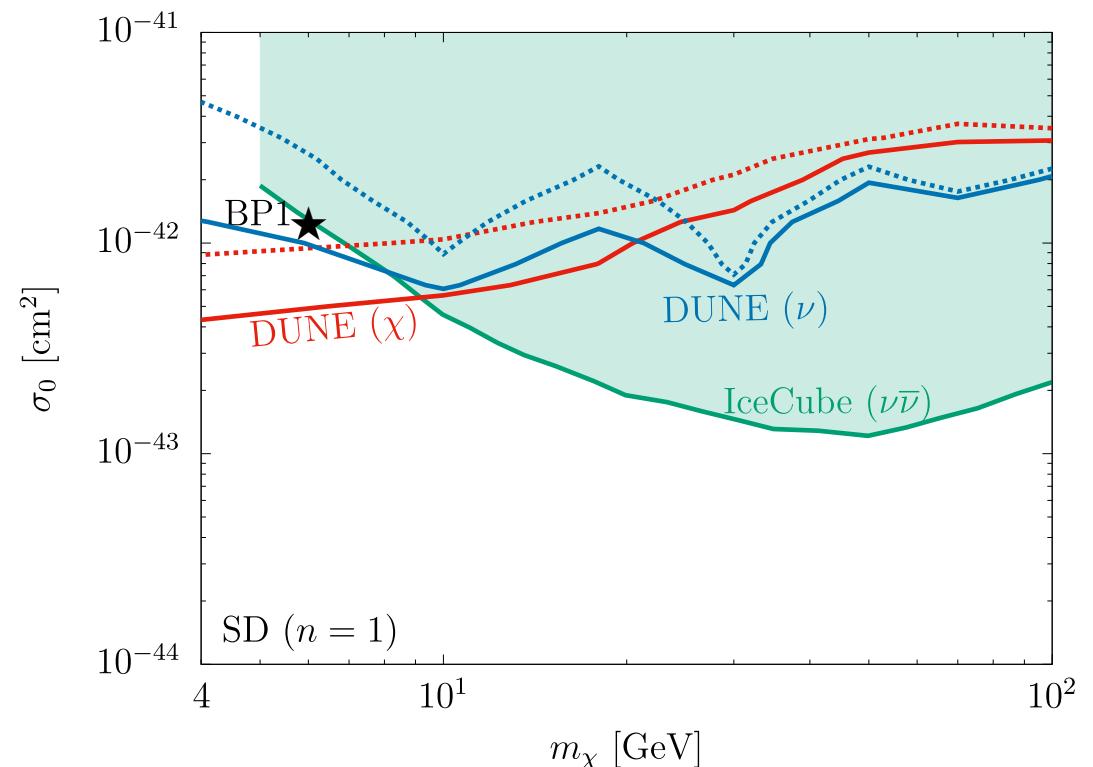
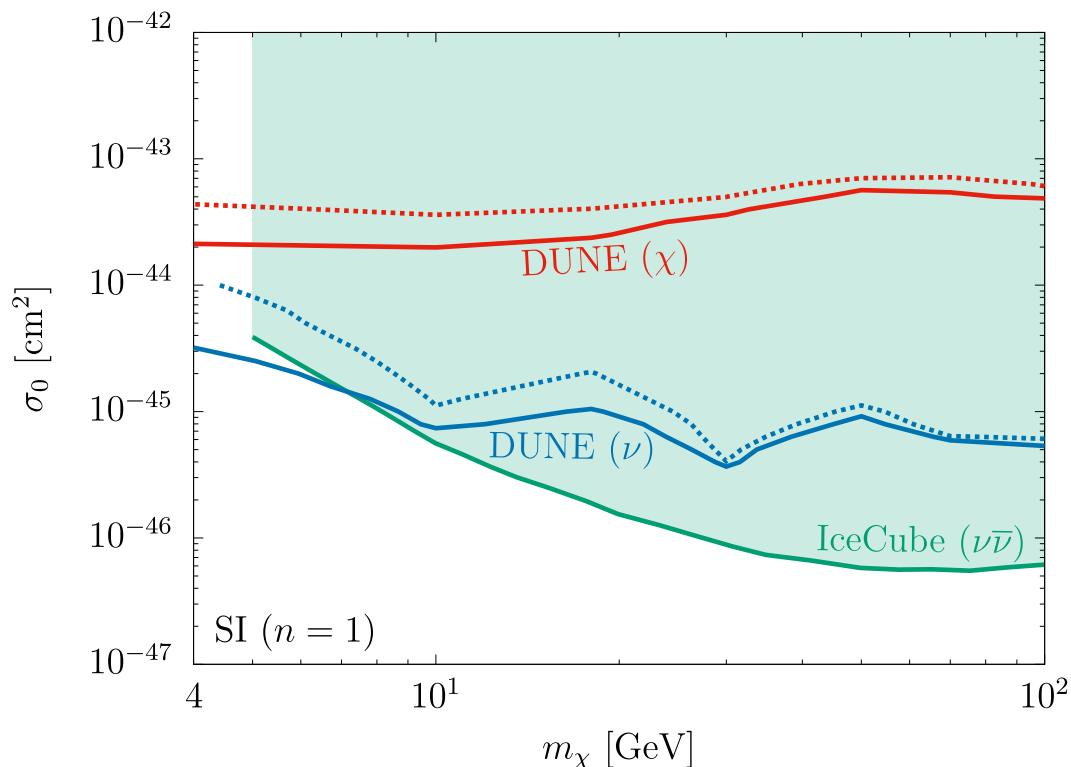
- $E_\chi = 37.5 \text{ GeV}$  and  $E_\nu = 22.5 \text{ GeV}$
- Large number of BDM events (left) due to  $d\sigma_{\chi N}/dQ^2 \propto Q^4$
- No neutrino signal due to small cross section (right)

# Parameter space ( $n = 0$ )



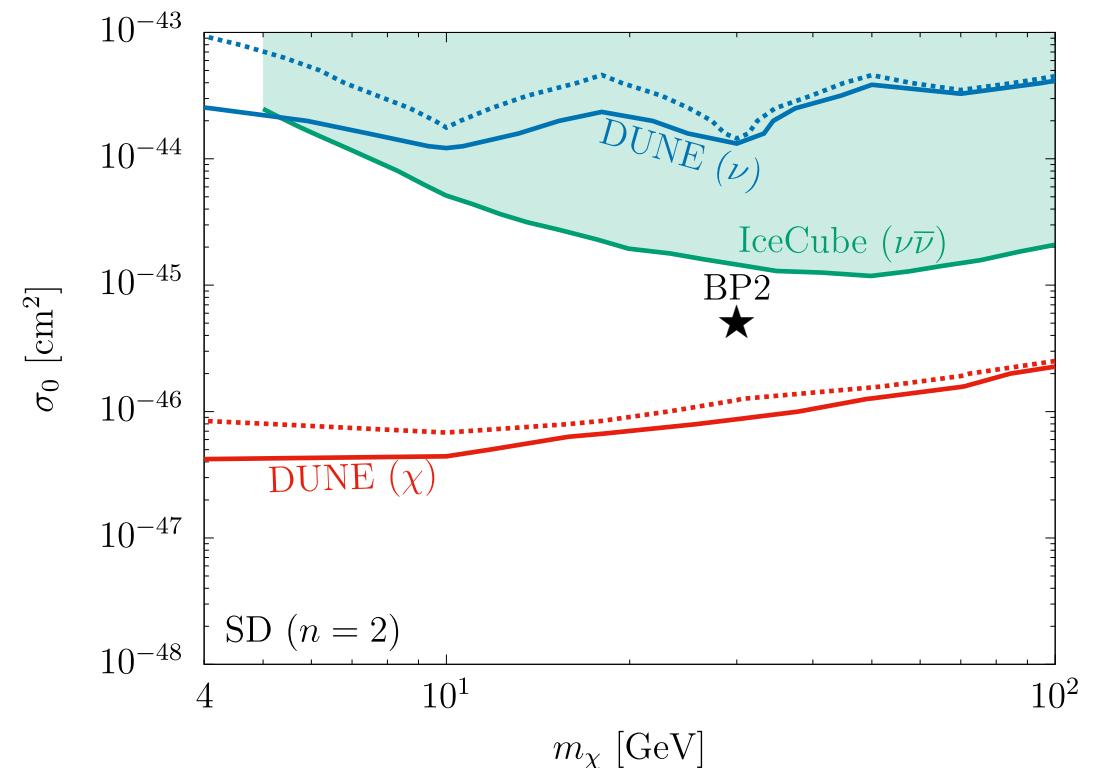
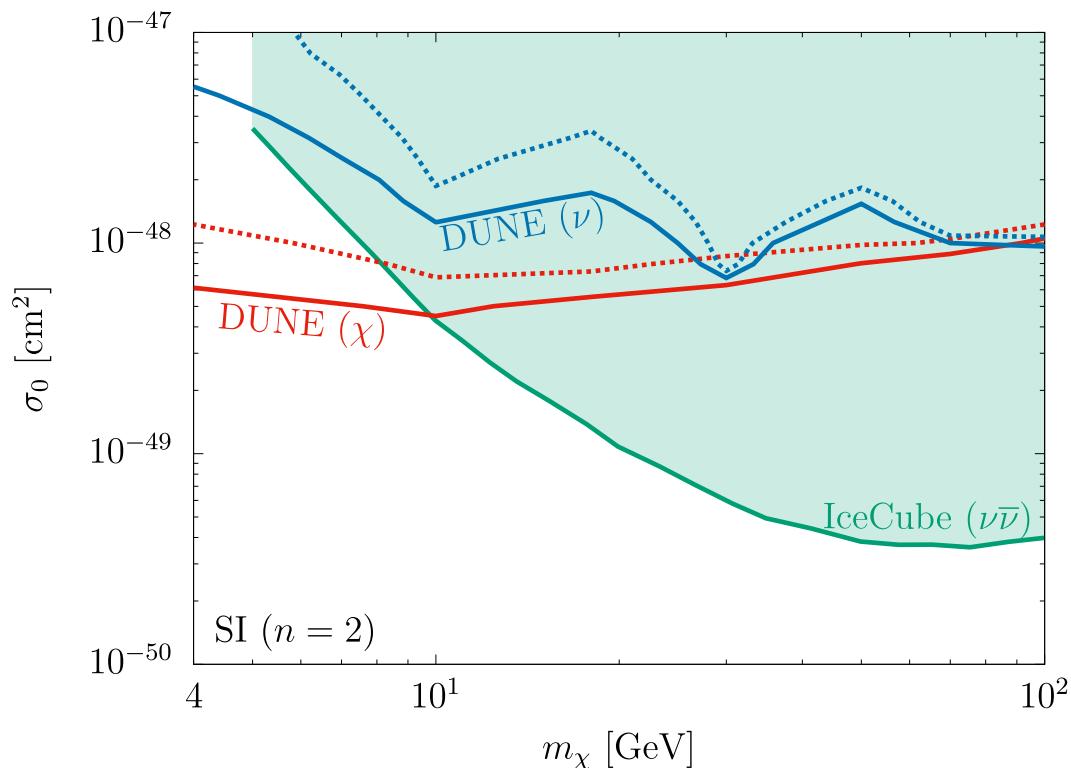
- Significance:  $\mathcal{S} = \frac{N_{\text{sig}}}{\sqrt{N_{\text{bkg}} + N_{\text{sig}} + \delta_{\text{syst}}^2}}$ ,  $\delta_{\text{syst}} : 0\% \text{ (solid lines)}$   
 $20\% \text{ (dotted lines)}$
- Completely excluded by direct detection experiments **as expected**.

# Parameter space ( $n = 1$ )



- No substantial direct detection constraints.
- Sensitivities can be comparable if DM mass is lower than 10 GeV.

# Parameter space ( $n = 2$ )



- Much higher sensitivity for boosted DM (right)  
But large hierarchy with neutrino sensitivity
- Neutrinos cannot be observed at the same time at DUNE  
 $\Rightarrow$  combining with Hyper-Kamiokande?

# Summary

- 1 Direct detection experiments impose the strong bound on (minimal) thermal DM models.
- 2  $v$  suppressed cross section naturally evades the bound.
- 3 Such kind of DM can be searched if it is boosted somehow.
- 4  $\chi\chi \rightarrow \nu\bar{\chi}$  induces two distinctive signals, which can be searched by DUNE, or combining DUNE and SK/HK/IceCube.

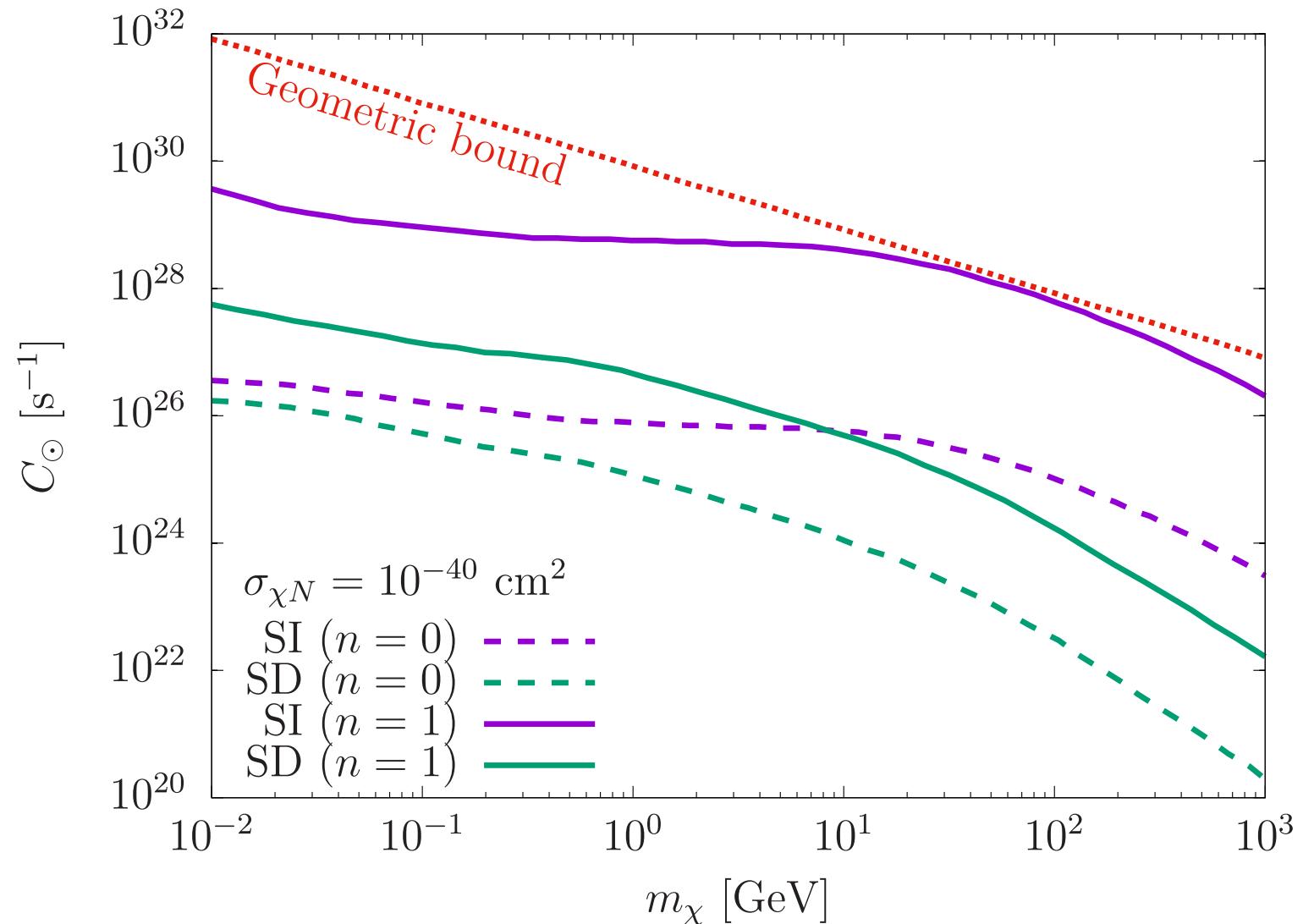
# Backup

# DM annihilation rate at the Sun

R. Garani et al., JCAP (2014) [arXiv:1702.02768]

- Capture rate for  $n = 0, 1$  cases

$$\sigma_{\chi N} \sim \sigma_0 (Q^2/Q_0^2)^n$$



# Simulation tool

## ■ GENIE (neutrino event generator)

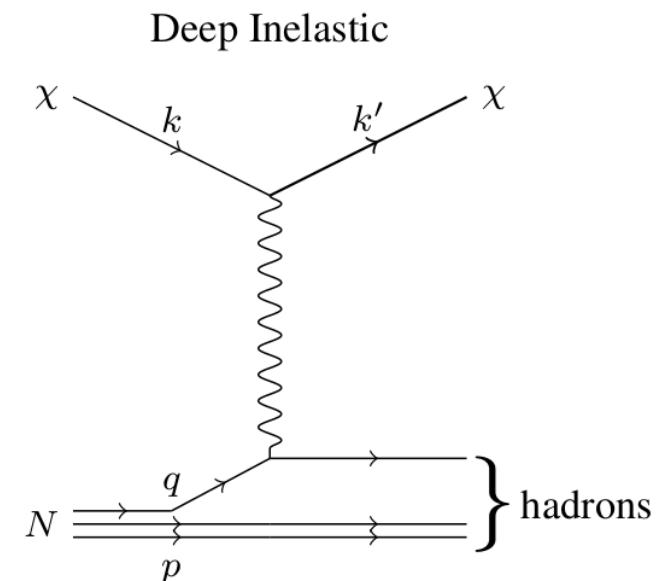
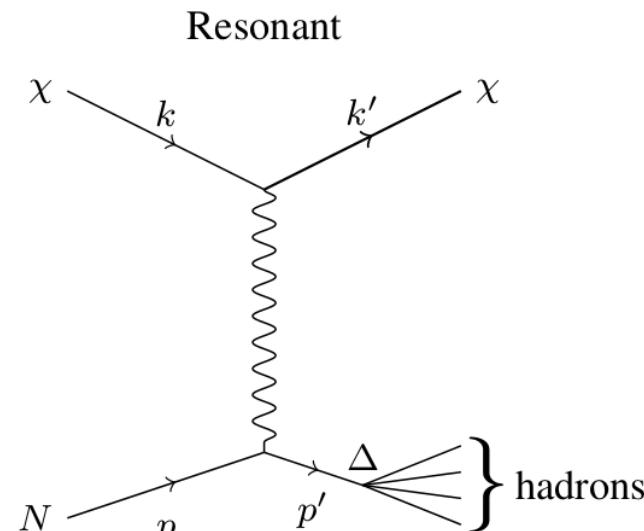
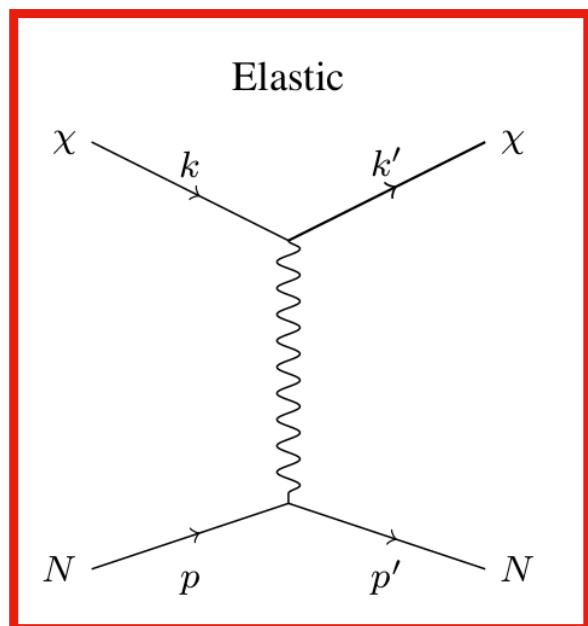
<http://www.genie-mc.org/>

- Detailed experimental simulation (DUNE, SK etc) can be done.
- Boosted DM can also be implemented.



GENIE GHEP Event Record [print level: 3]														
Idx	Name	Ist	PDG	Mother	Daughter	Px	Py	Pz	E	m				
0	chi_dm	0	2000010000	-1	-1	4	4	0.000	0.000	37.500	62.500	**1.000	M = 50.000	
1	Ar40	0	1000180400	-1	-1	2	3	0.000	0.000	0.000	37.216	37.216		
2	neutron	11	2112	1	-1	5	5	0.156	-0.039	0.178	0.929	**0.940	M = 0.897	
3	Ar39	2	1000180390	1	-1	7	7	-0.156	0.039	-0.178	36.287	36.286		
4	chi_dm	1	2000010000	0	-1	-1	-1	0.530	0.110	36.892	62.140	**1.000	M = 50.000 P = (0.014,0.003,1.000)	
5	neutron	14	2112	2	-1	6	6	-0.374	-0.149	0.786	1.289	0.940	FSI = 3	
6	neutron	1	2112	5	-1	-1	-1	-0.569	-0.091	0.611	1.261	0.940		
7	HadrBlob	15	2000000002	3	-1	-1	-1	0.069	-0.015	-0.035	36.286	**0.000	M = 36.286	
8	NucBindE	1	2000000101	-1	-1	-1	-1	-0.030	-0.005	0.032	0.029	**0.000	M = -0.032	
Fin-Init:														
Vertex: chi_dm @ (x = 0.00000 m, y = 0.00000 m, z = 0.00000 m, t = 0.000000e+00 s)														
Err flag [bits:15->0] : 0000000000000000   1st set: none														
Err mask [bits:15->0] : 1111111111111111   Is unphysical: NO   Accepted: YES														
sig(Ev) = 4.88517e-38 cm^2   dsig(Q2;E)/dQ2 = 1.73521e-39 cm^2/GeV^2   Weight = 1.00000														

# Setup for boosted dark matter



arXiv: 1912.05558, J. Berger et al.

- There are 3 processes.
- (Quasi)-elastic scattering is dominant for our case ( $\chi\chi \rightarrow \nu\bar{\chi}$ )

$$0 \leq Q^2 \lesssim \frac{9}{4}m_N^2 \approx (2 \text{ GeV})^2$$

# Setup for boosted dark matter

Number of expected signal events ( $\bar{\chi} + N \rightarrow \bar{\chi} + N$ )

- $N_\chi = N_N T \int \sigma_{\chi N} \frac{d^2\Phi_\chi}{dE_\chi d\Omega} dE_\chi d\Omega$
- Number of nucleons:  $N_N = 2.41 \times 10^{34}$  (40kt fiducial volume)

Exposure time:  $T = 10$  yr

$$\text{DM flux: } \frac{d^2\Phi_\chi}{dE_\chi d\Omega} = \frac{\Gamma_{\text{ann}}}{4\pi d_\odot^2} \sigma_{\chi N} \Bigg|_{E_\chi=5m_\chi/4} = \frac{C_\odot}{8\pi d_\odot^2} \sigma_{\chi N} \Bigg|_{E_\chi=5m_\chi/4}$$

Distance between the Sun and Earth:  $d_\odot = 1.5 \times 10^{13}$  cm

# Threshold and resolution for DUNE

	Detector threshold	Energy/momentum resolution	Angular resolution
$\mu^\pm$	30 MeV	5 %	1°
$\pi^\pm$	100 MeV	5 %	1°
$e^\pm/\gamma$	30 MeV	$2 + 15/\sqrt{E/\text{GeV}}$ %	1°
$p$	50 MeV	$\mathbf{p} < 400 \text{ MeV}: 10 \%$ $\mathbf{p} > 400 \text{ MeV}: 5 + 30/\sqrt{E/\text{GeV}}$ %	5°
$n$	50 MeV	$40/\sqrt{E/\text{GeV}}$ %	5°

- Precise angular resolution (DUNE)  
cf: 3° at SK and HK, 30° at IceCube
- These are taken into account in event selection.

# Example of model building

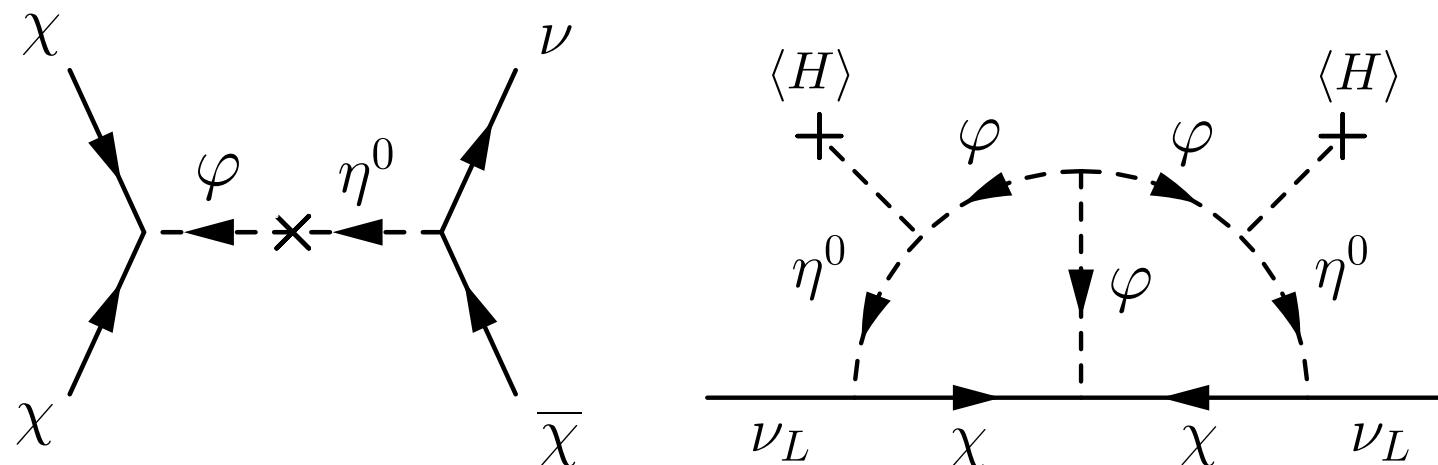
- Semi-annihilation  $\chi\chi \rightarrow \nu\bar{\chi}$

Ex.  $\mathbb{Z}_3$  symmetric model with radiative neutrino masses

M. Aoki and TT, JCAP (2014) [arXiv:1405.5870]

	$\chi_L$	$\chi_R$	$\eta$	$\varphi$
$SU(2)$	1	1	2	1
$U(1)_Y$	0	0	1/2	0
$\mathbb{Z}_3$	1	1	1	1
L number	1/3	1/3	-2/3	-2/3

New particles



# Example of model building

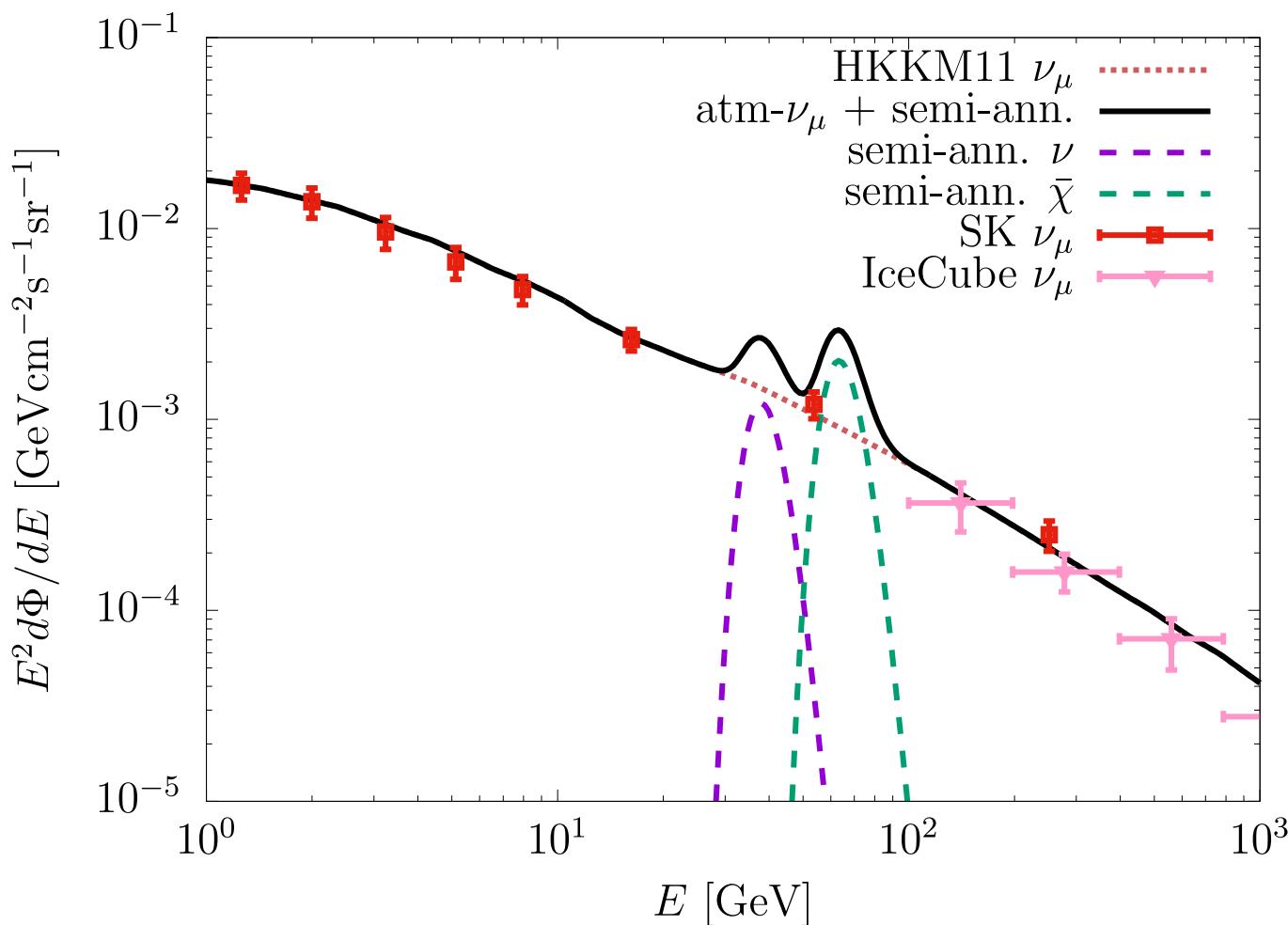
Velocity-dependent scattering  $\chi N \rightarrow \chi N$

Anapole int.  $\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \partial_\nu \chi F^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \sigma \propto v^2$

SP int.  $\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} (\bar{\chi} \chi) (\bar{N} \gamma_5 N) \rightarrow \sigma_{\text{SD}} \propto v^2$

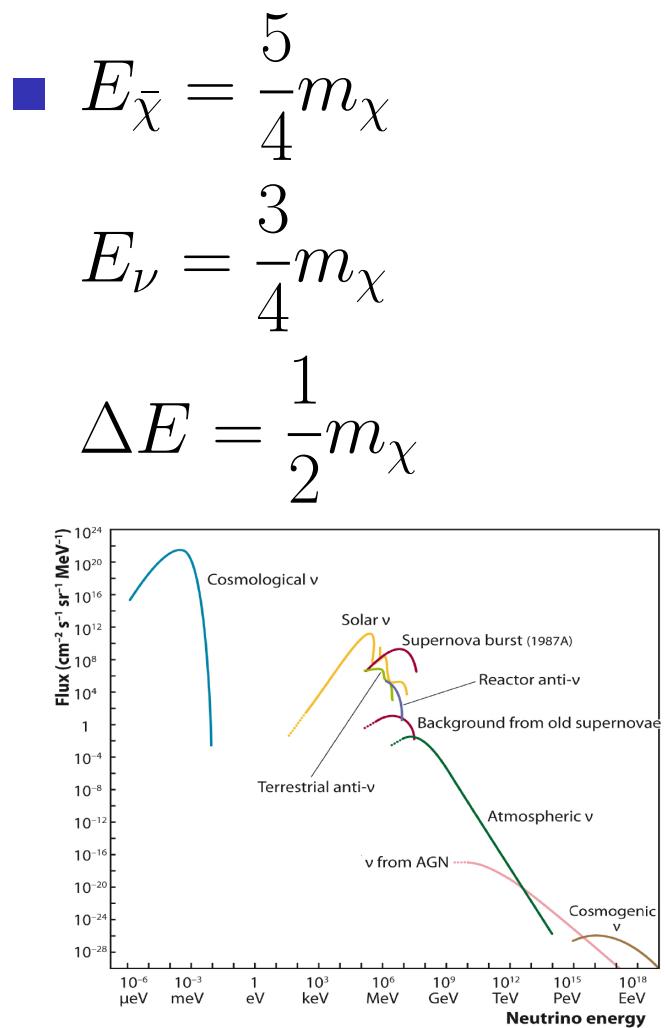
PP int.  $\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} (\bar{\chi} \gamma_5 \chi) (\bar{N} \gamma_5 N) \rightarrow \sigma_{\text{SD}} \propto v^4$

# $\nu + \bar{\chi}$ flux if it is nicely reconstructed



- $m_\chi = 50 \text{ GeV}$  and  $\sigma_{\text{SD}} = 3 \times 10^{-41} \text{ cm}^2$  (non-relativistic)
- $\Delta E/E = 25\%$  is assumed

U. Katz and C. Spiering, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.  
(2012) [arXiv:1111.0507]



# Mechanisms to boost DM

- Semi-annihilations  $\chi\chi \rightarrow \bar{\chi}\phi$  ( $v_\chi = \mathcal{O}(0.1 - 1)$ )  
 $\Rightarrow$  Simple and small uncertainties

## Other processes to boost DM

- SIMP:  $\chi\chi\chi \rightarrow \chi\bar{\chi}$
- Decay or annihilations of heavier particles (non-minimal dark sector)  
 $\chi_2\chi_2 \rightarrow \chi_1\chi_1$  ( $m_{\chi_2} \gg m_{\chi_1}$ )
- Collision with high energy cosmic-rays

Bringmann and Pospelov

PRL (2019), arXiv:1810.10543

- Vacuum decay

J. Cline, M. Puel, TT, Q. Wang

arXiv:2308.01333, 2308.12989



boosted DM



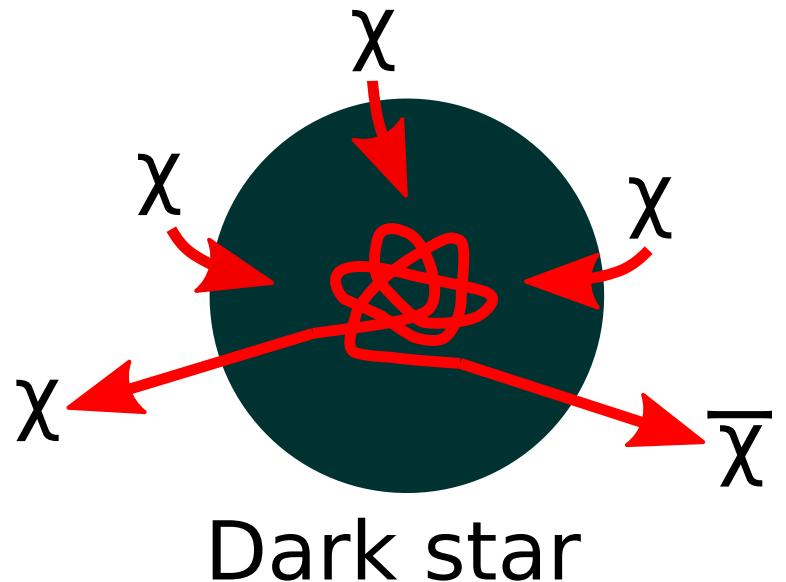
<https://phys.org>

# Future works

- Application to new annihilation processes such as SIMP

- $\frac{dn}{dt} + 3Hn = -\langle \sigma_{3 \rightarrow 2} v^2 \rangle (n^3 - n^2 n_{\text{eq}})$

- Typical mass scale: MeV  $\sim$  GeV
- Boosted DM signals from  $\chi\chi\chi \rightarrow \chi\bar{\chi}$
- can be a smoking gun signature of SIMP



- Need to consider very dense compact objects (dark star)

B. Kamenetskaia, A. Brenner, A. Ibarra and C. Kouvaris, arXiv:2211.05845

$\Rightarrow$  enhancement of point source of boosted dark matter  
 $M \sim 0.1 M_{\odot}$ ,  $r \sim 1\text{km}$