

# Hunt for Hidden Photons in the LZ Experiment

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# Outline

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## LUX-Zeplin Experiment

- LZ Collaboration
- Detector Working Principle
- Projected Sensitivity for WIMP-Nucleon Scattering

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## HP search in LZ

- Background Considerations
- Signal Models and Analyses
- Sensitivity Projection: Hidden Photons

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## Hidden Photons

- Hidden Photon Lagrangian and Kinetic Mixing
- Direct Detection: Hidden Photoelectric Effect
- Connection to ALP Searches

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## Discussions





# LZ Collaboration

38 institutions

250 scientists, engineers, and technicians

## *LUX-ZEPLIN*

- Dark Matter Direct Detection Experiment
- Detector Located at Sanford Underground Research Facility(SURF), South Dakota, USA



*Collaboration Meeting @ SLAC, March 2017*



# LZ Detector

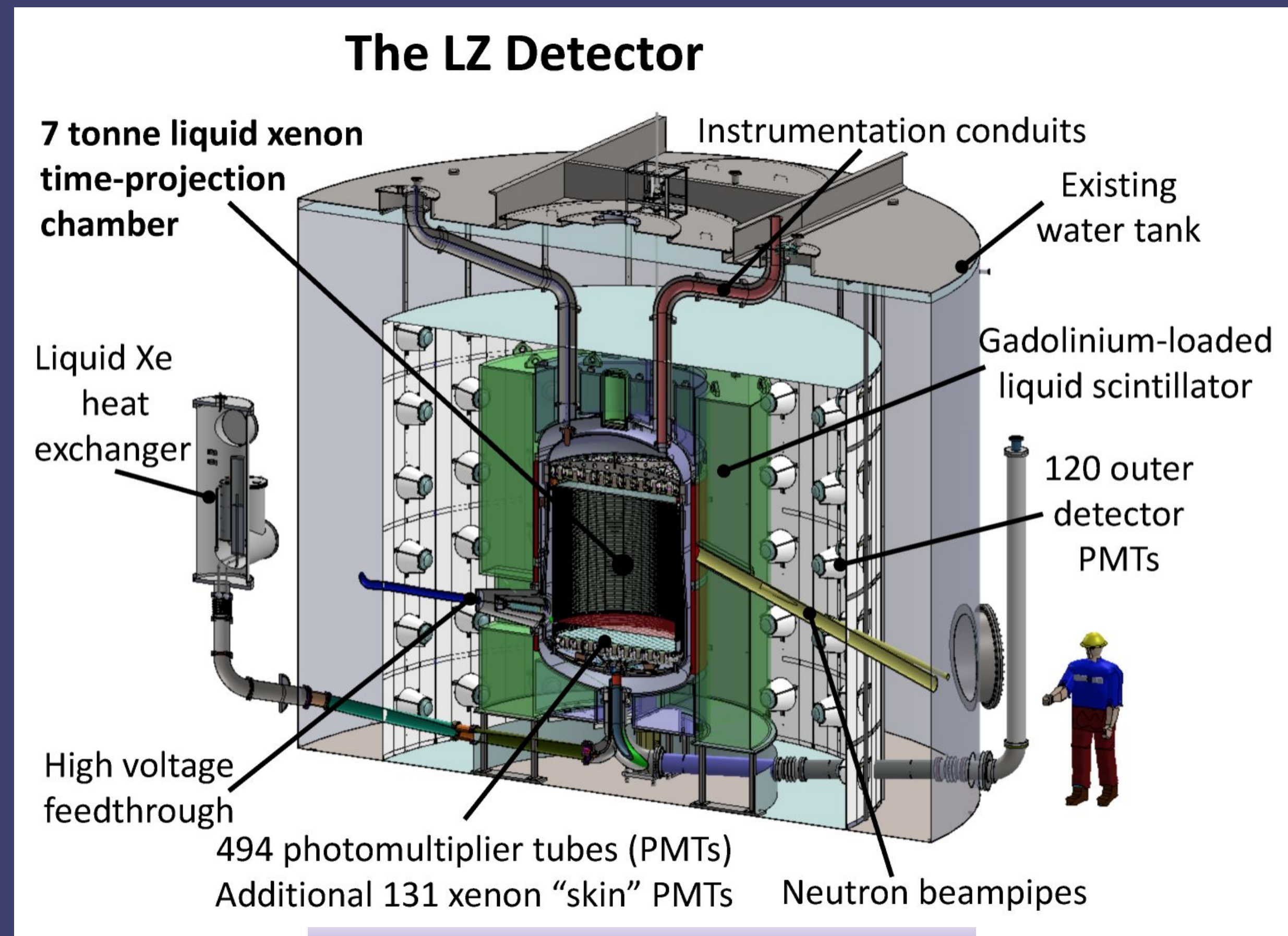


Fig.1 . LZ Detector

- liquid xenon Time Projection Chamber (LXe-TPC)
- 7 tonnes of LXe
- ~50x larger fiducial mass
- 494 PMTs
- (Additional veto) 131 xenon "skin" PMTs
- science run to start in 2020
- 1000 live days \* 5.6 tonnes planned exposure



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# How the detector works

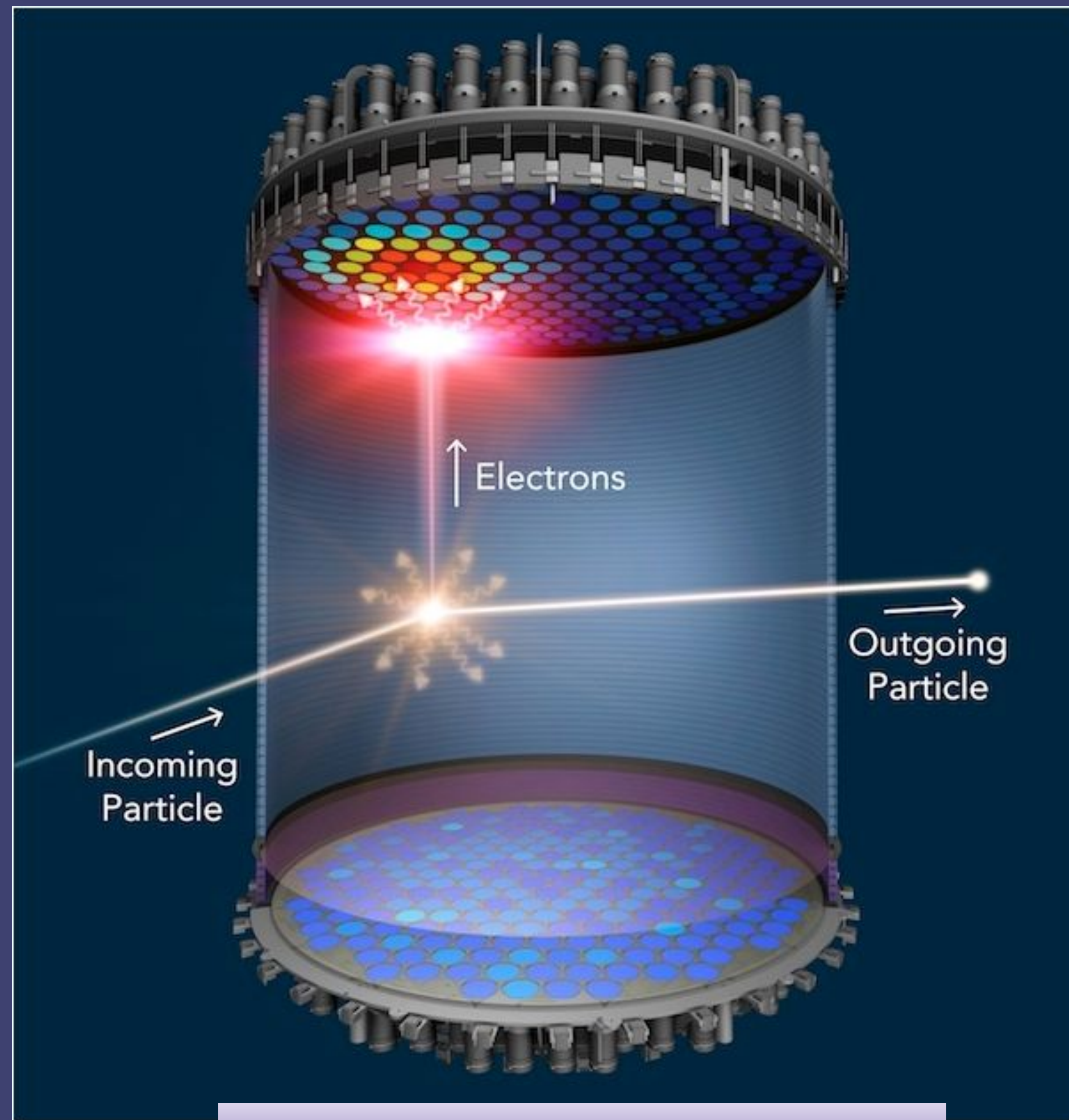
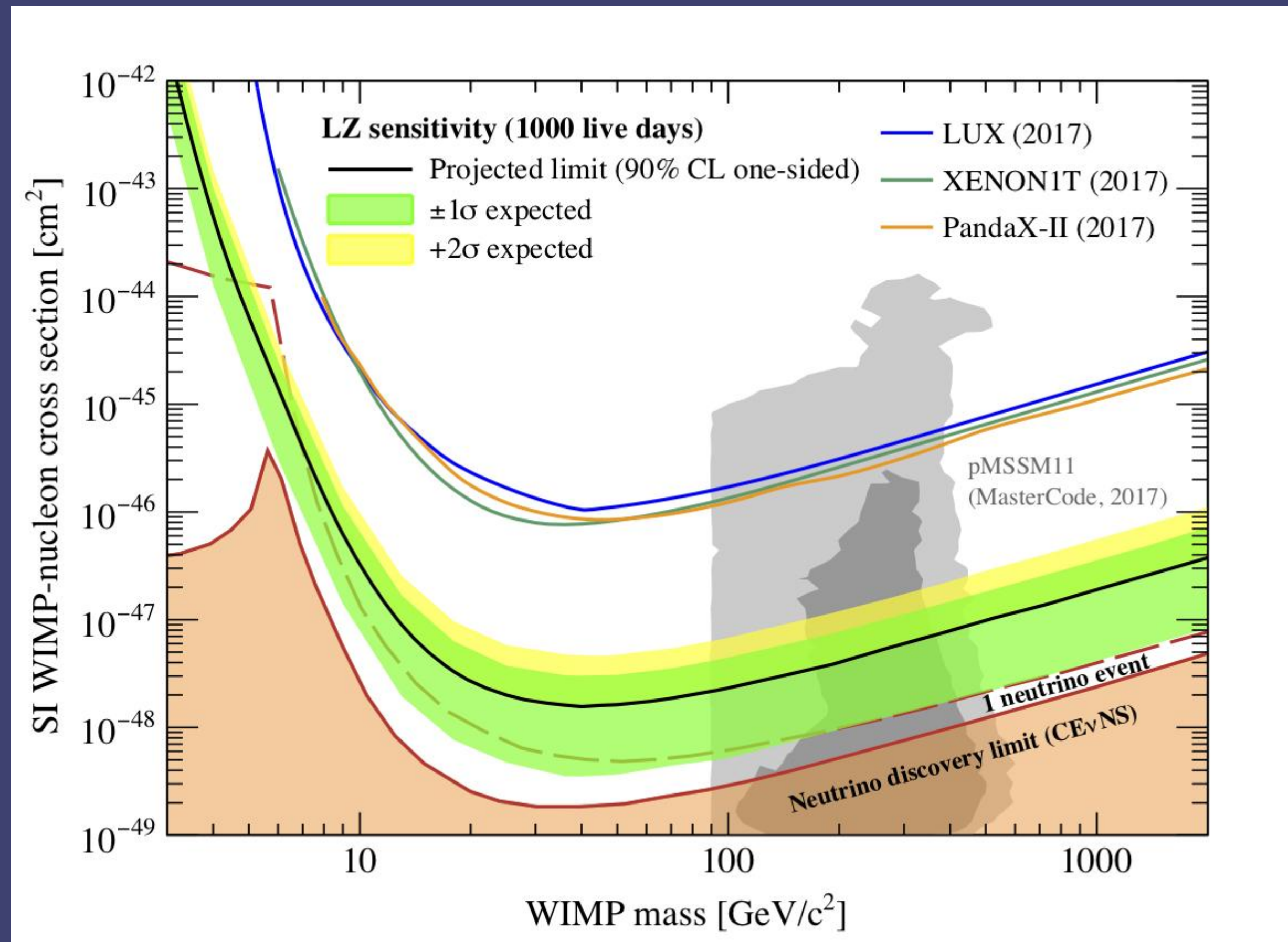


Fig.2 .Working Principle

- Signals due to particle interactions:
  - S1 : Primary Scintillation Signal (prompt photons, directly measured by PMTs)
  - S2: Secondary Ionisation Signal (from electroluminescence of electrons extracted in gaseous phase)
- Energy and Position Reconstruction by S1-S2 Signals



# Projected Sensitivity: SI WIMP-nucleon elastic scattering



- Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs): An well-motivated Dark Matter candidate
- What LZ mainly Looks For: WIMP- Nuclear Recoils
- for 1000~live days and a 5.6~tonne fiducial mass.
- The best sensitivity of  $1.6 \times 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$  is achieved at a WIMP mass of  $40 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ .
- The  $-2\sigma$  expected region is omitted based on the expectation that the limit will be power constrained [8]

Fig.3 . LZ projected sensitivity to SI WIMP-nucleon elastic scattering for 1000~live days and a 5.6~tonne fiducial mass [9]



# But....What if Dark Matter is not a WIMP?

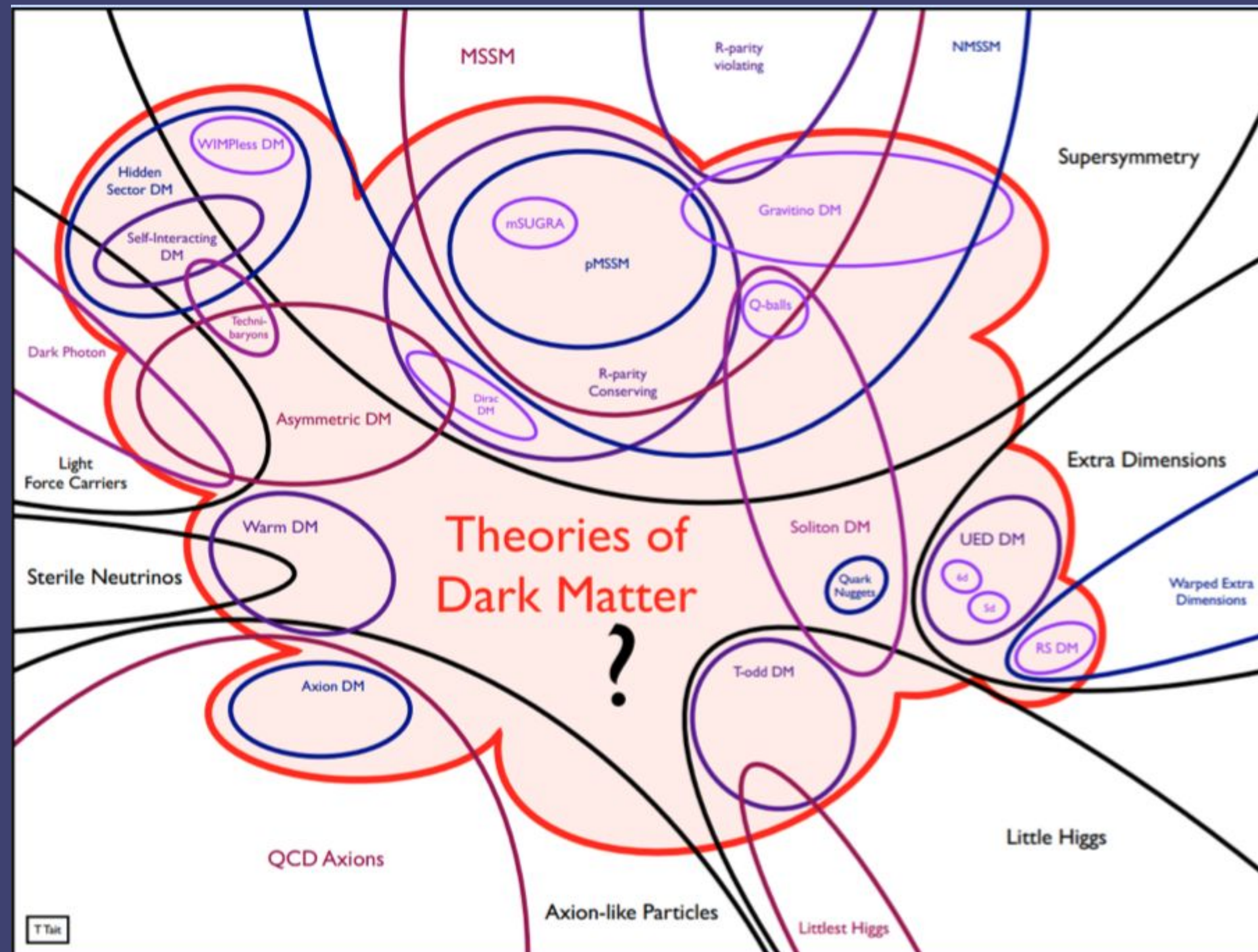
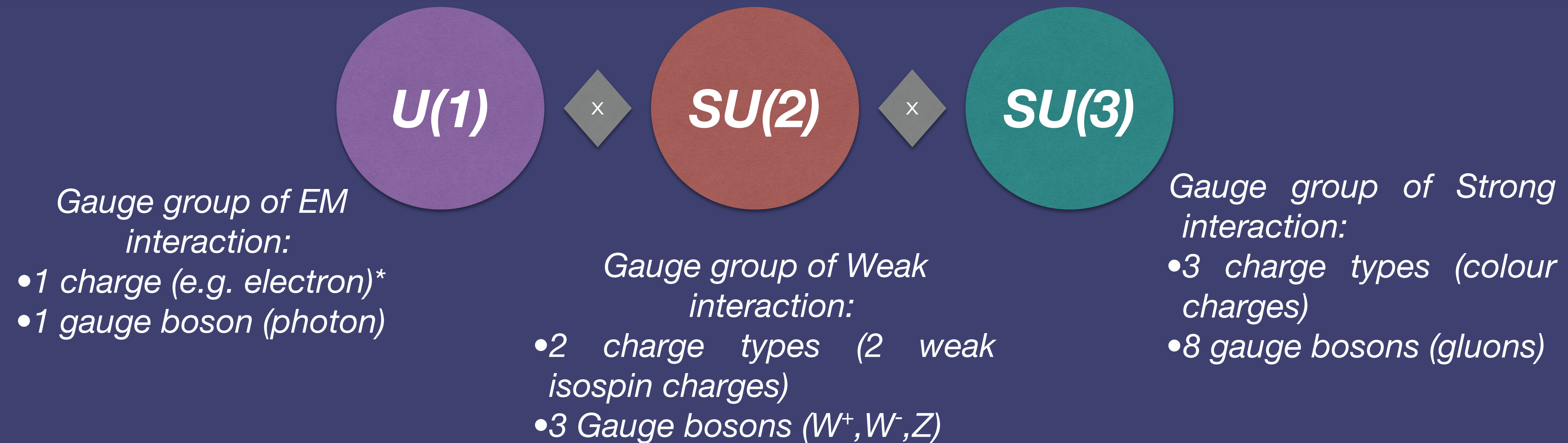


Fig.4. A Vast Possible Theories

- A vast possible scenario.....
- Hence a vast possible searches....

# Standard Model

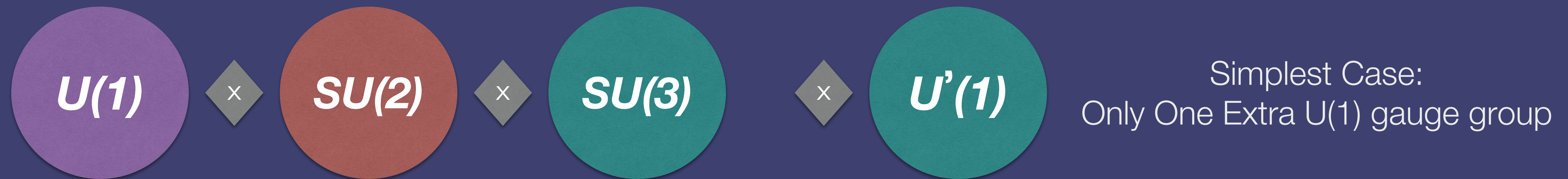


**Is this structure that Obvious?  
No!**

**Then....Can there be any additional gauge forces?**



# Hidden Photon Extension Motivated from Dark Matter



## Lagrangian

$$L = L_{\text{SM}} + L_{\text{D}} + L_{\text{mediator}}$$



- Dark Matter (DM) is secluded from SM
- extra  $U'(1)$  gauge boson as a mediator of SM-DM interactions: Hidden Photons
- Coupling through the mechanism of kinetic mixing
- Correct DM relic abundance can be obtained automatically (M. Pospelov et al. [6])
- Several Other models incorporating U(1) extensions do exist



# Kinetic Mixing and Structure Constants

- ❖ Tree level SM photon  $\gamma$ - hidden photon  $\gamma'$  interaction is forbidden
- ❖ Simplest Case : by a loop of non-SM charged heavy particles,  $\psi'$
- ❖  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma'$  couple to them with strengths  $e$  and  $g_D$
- ❖ Properties of  $\psi'$  particles :
  - they are charged; hence sensitive to EM interaction
  - have not been detected yet in experiments like LHC: mass scale should be above the weak scale
  - this mass scale constrains the coupling strength of  $\gamma'$  to  $\gamma$
  - At Lower Energies  $<$  Weak Scale:  $\psi'$  can be integrated out.

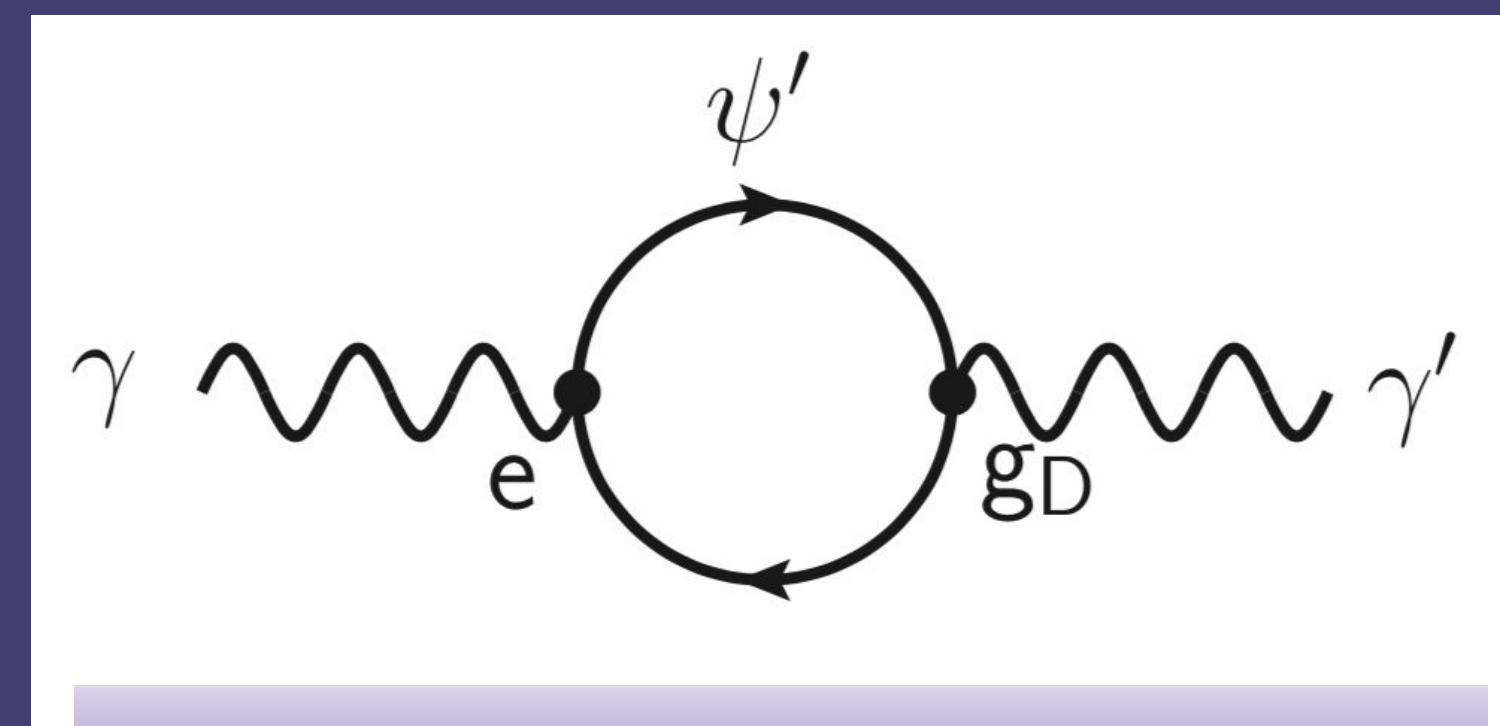


Fig.5. Feynman diagram of kinetic mixing

Below Electroweak Scale

$$L_{\text{mediator}} = \epsilon e j_A^\mu A'_\mu$$

*kinetic mixing factor*

EM Current

hidden photon field

Electromagnetic Fine Structure Constant

$$\alpha = \frac{e^2}{4\pi}$$

*kinetic mixing factor*

Hidden Fine Structure Constant

$$\alpha' = \frac{g_D^2}{4\pi}$$

$$\epsilon = (\alpha'/\alpha)^{1/2} = g_D/e$$



# Hidden Photon Lagrangian: Minimal Model

- single new broken U(1) gauge symmetry and
- kinetic mixing between the corresponding dark photon field  $A'$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} F'^{\mu\nu} F'_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m_{A'}^2 A'^{\mu} A'_{\mu} + \epsilon e A'^{\mu} J_{\mu}^{EM}$$

 $F'_{\mu\nu}$ 

dark photon field

 $m_{A'}$ 

dark photon mass, generated by the Higgs or Stueckelberg mechanism

 $J_{\mu}^{EM}$ EM current with coupling  $e$  $\epsilon$ 

Kinetic Mixing Factor

- models with unbroken U(1) gauge symmetry result in a massless dark photon carrying a long-range interaction.
- A massless dark photon, however, will experimentally be hard to distinguish from the Standard Model photon.



# Direct Detection: Hidden Photoelectric Effect

- Analogous to the photoelectric effect in SM
- Line Spectra

$$\frac{\sigma_{abs} v}{\sigma_{pe}(\omega = m_{HP})c} = \frac{\alpha'}{\alpha}$$

□  $v$  is the velocity of the HP

$\sigma_{abs}$  = cross-section of the absorption for HP

$\sigma_{pe}$  = cross-section of the photoelectric effect

Event Rate:(in LXe)

$A = 131.3$  is an atomic mass of xenon of natural composition

$$R_{HP}[1/\text{kg}/\text{day}] = \frac{4 \times 10^{23}}{A} \frac{\alpha'}{\alpha} \frac{\sigma_{pe}[\text{barn}]}{m_{HP}[\text{keV}]}$$

(Assuming a dark matter density of  $0.3 \text{ GeV}/\text{cm}^3$ )





# Connection to Axion Like Particle (ALP) Searches

Hidden Photoelectric Effect for HPs

$$R_{HP}[1/\text{kg}/\text{day}] = \frac{4 \times 10^{23}}{A} \frac{\alpha'}{\alpha} \frac{\sigma_{pe}[\text{barn}]}{m_{HP}[\text{keV}]}$$

Axio-electric effect for ALPs

$$R_{ALP}[1/\text{kg}/\text{day}] = \frac{1.2 \times 10^{19}}{A} g_{Ae}^2 \sigma_{pe}[\text{barn}] \cdot m_{ALP}[\text{keV}]$$

$$R_{HP}/R_{ALP} = 3.3 \times 10^4 \times (\alpha'/\alpha) \times (g_{Ae})^{-2} \times (1/m_{HP} m_{ALP})$$

Once we have a constraint on  $(\alpha'/\alpha)$  for HP  
we can convert that to a constraint on  $g_{Ae}$  for ALPs



# Background Model

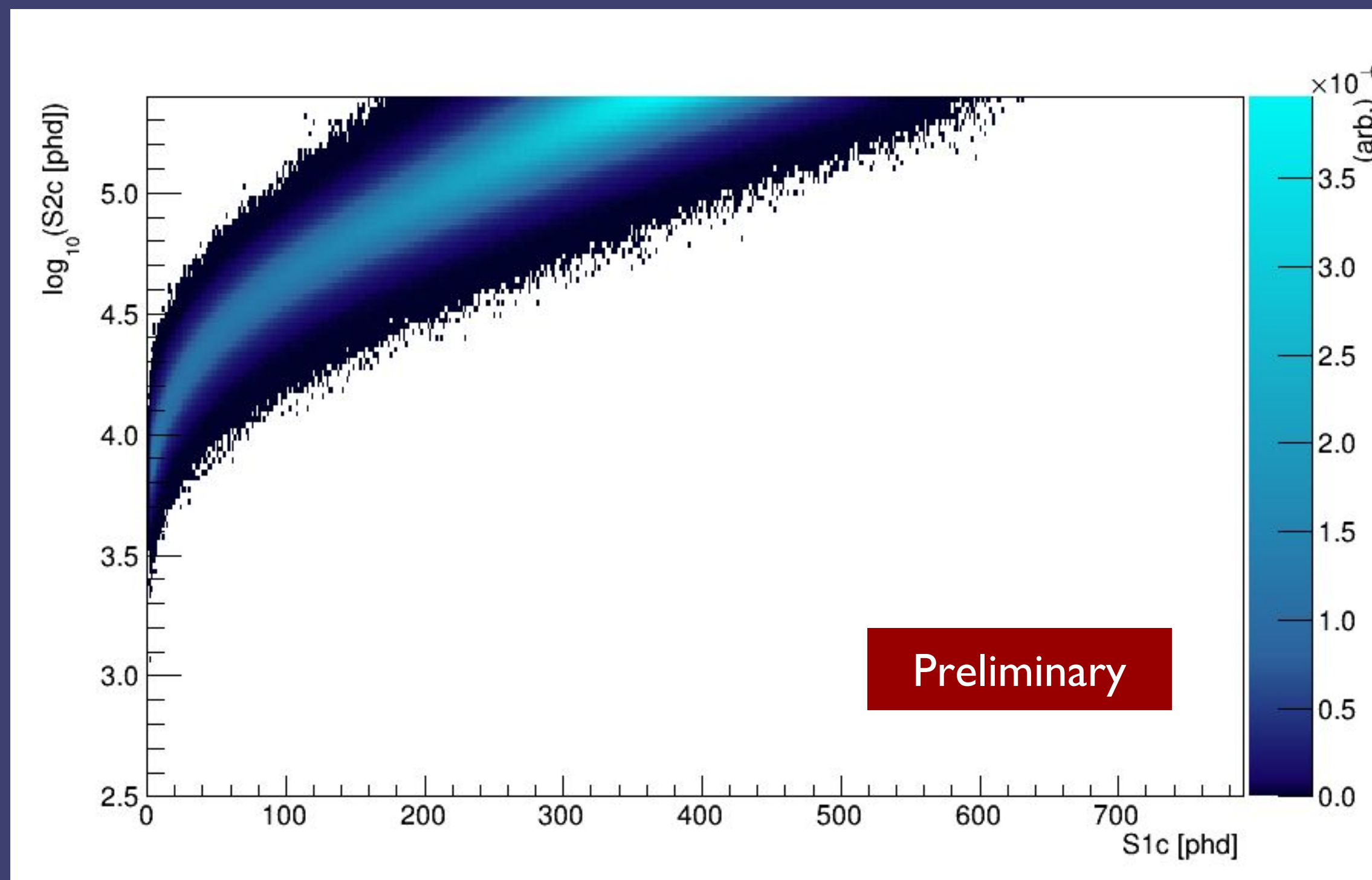


Fig.6. ER Background Model

- Vast Majority of of Backgrounds in ER band
- This Analysis: Used the same Background Models as in WIMP search
- ER Background Model upto 100 keV

Table 1. ER Background Components

Background	Components
ER	Solar pp+Be7 Neutrinos
	Xe136 2vBB Decay
	Kr85
	Rn-222
	Rn-220
	Detector ERs



# Signal Model

- Investigated Hidden Photon Masses from 2 keV to 85 keV
- Theoretical event rates calculated according to Slide 13
- Signal Models generated using NEST (Nobel Element Simulation Technique)

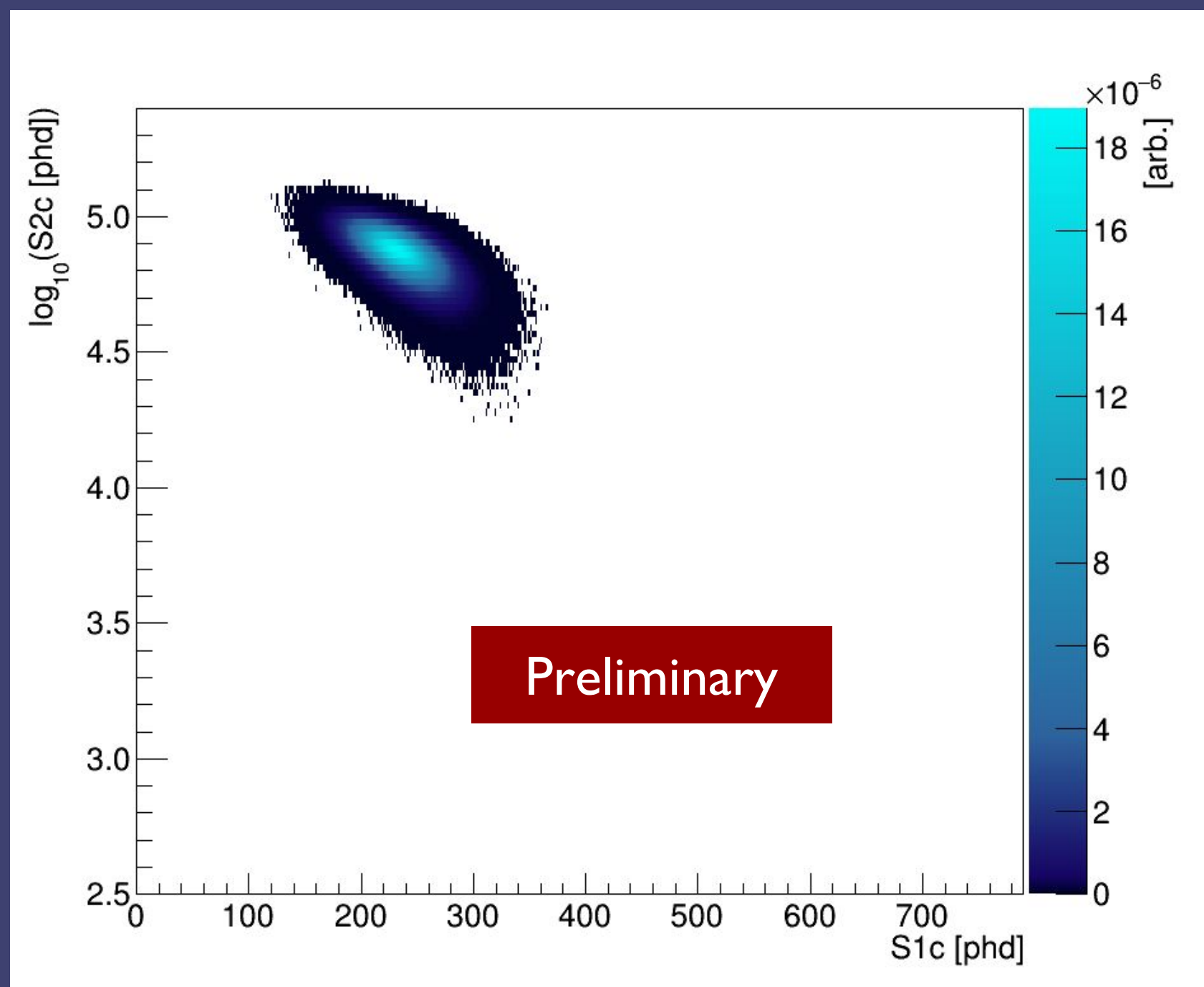


Fig.7. Hidden Photon Signal Model (40 keV)

Energy Reconstruction

$$E_R = W \cdot \left( \frac{S1}{g_1} + \frac{S2}{g_2} \right)$$

*For Projected Detector:*  
 $g_1 = 0.118735$  phd/photon,  
 $g_2 = 79.2291$  phd/electron

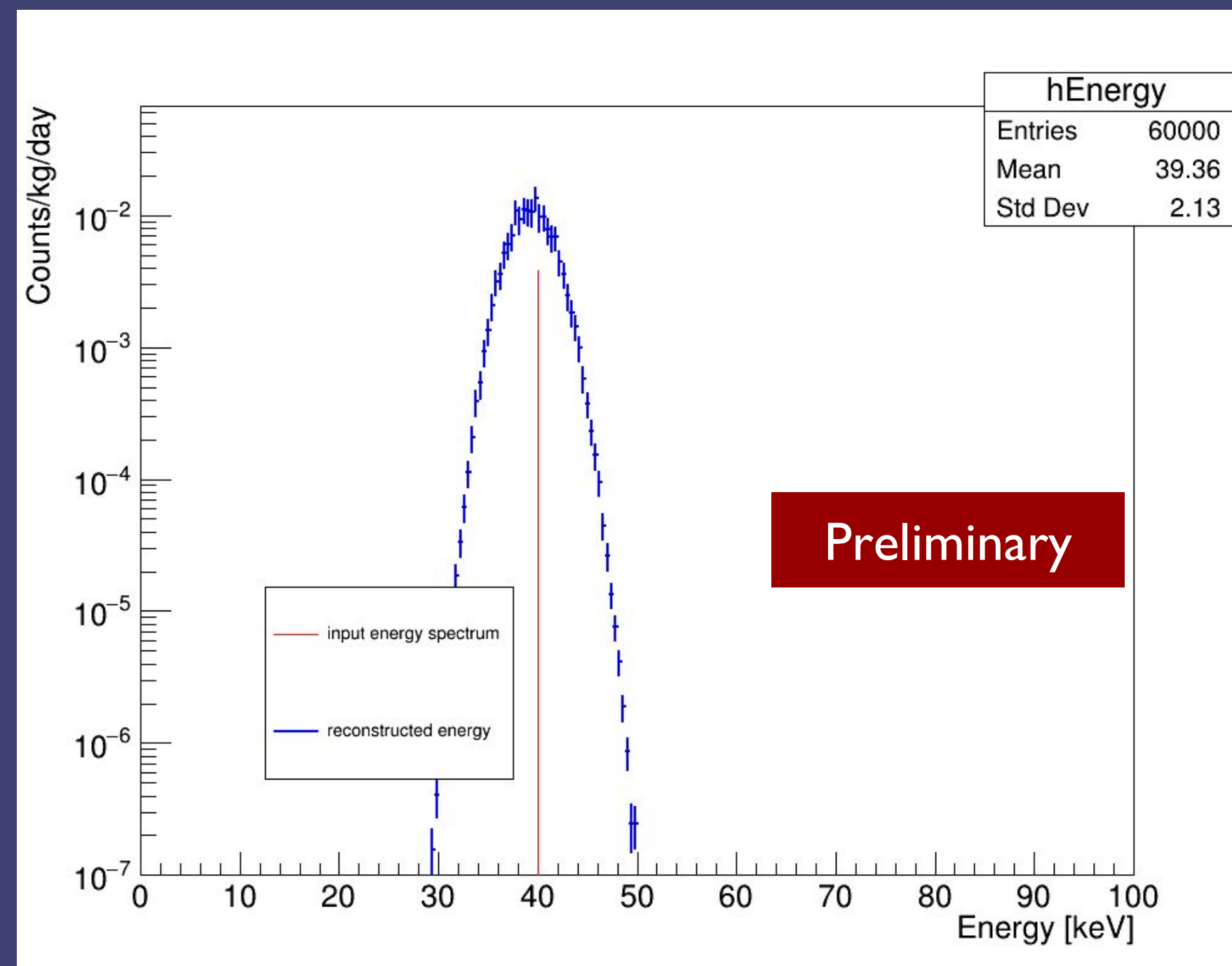


Fig.8. Reconstructed Energy



# LZ Projected Sensitivity for Hidden Photo-electric Effect

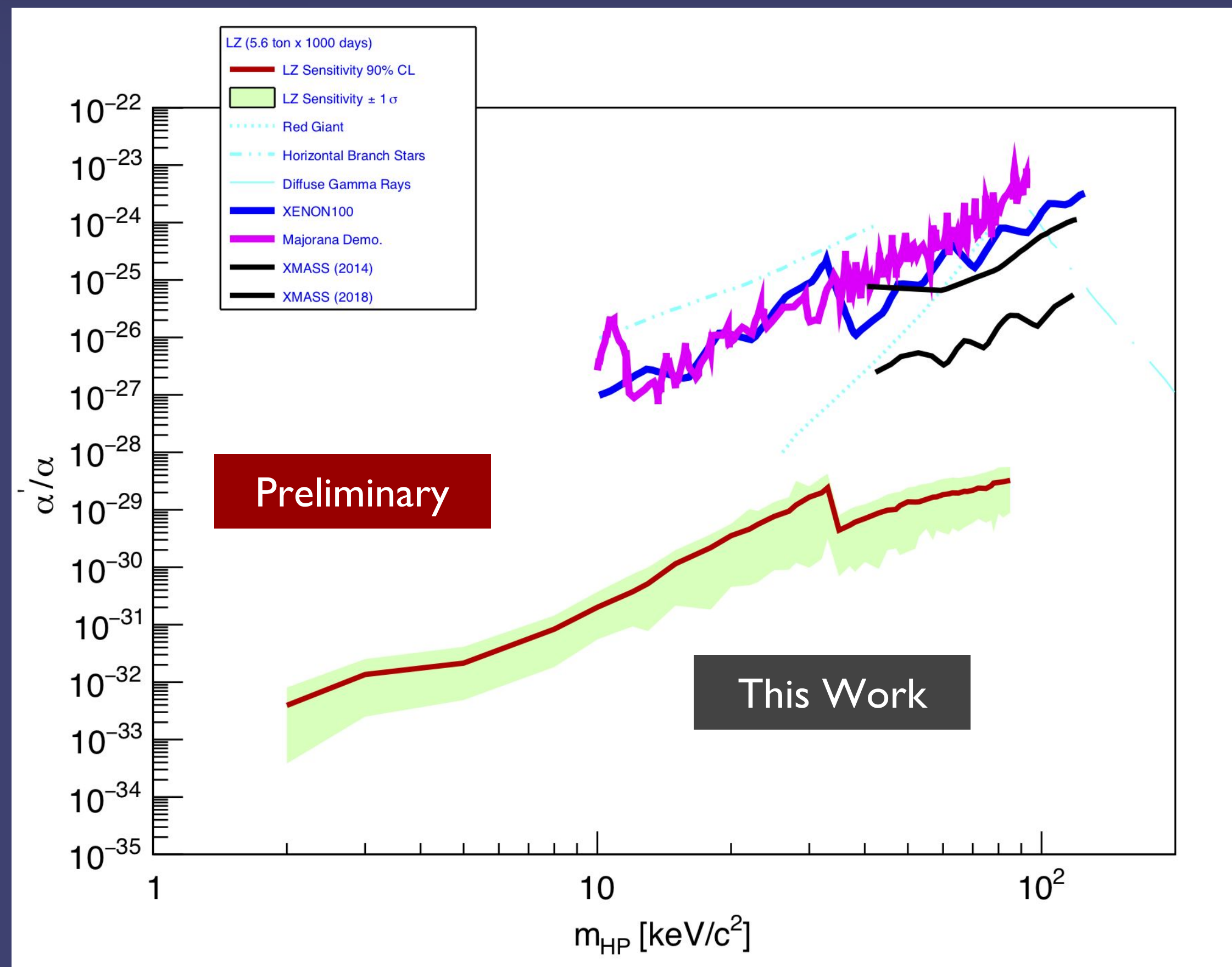


Fig.9. Sensitivity Projection

## Sensitivity Estimation: Hidden Photons

- Statistical Analysis: Profile Likelihood Ratio (PLR) Method
- Hidden Photon Mass (This Work) 2-85 keV
- Experimental limits taken from XMASS 2018 paper [3]



# Discussions

- Hidden Photon Sensitivity: we expect more than  $\sim 2$  order of magnitude improved sensitivity for  $(\alpha'/\alpha)$
- Scaling to ALP sensitivity: Work in progress





# Questions?

# References

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# Backup Slides

# Searches For Hidden Photons in LZ

- **Background Models:**
  - Used Same Background Models as in WIMP search (ER Background Upto 100 keV)
- **Signal Models:**
  - Investigated Hidden Photon Masses from 2 keV to 85 keV
  - Theoretical event rates calculated according to [Slide 13](#)
  - Signal Models generated using NEST (Nobel Element Simulation Technique)
- **Sensitivity Estimation: Hidden Photons**
  - Profile Likelihood Ratio (PLR) Method

