



Arthur B. McDonald  
Canadian Astroparticle Physics Research Institute

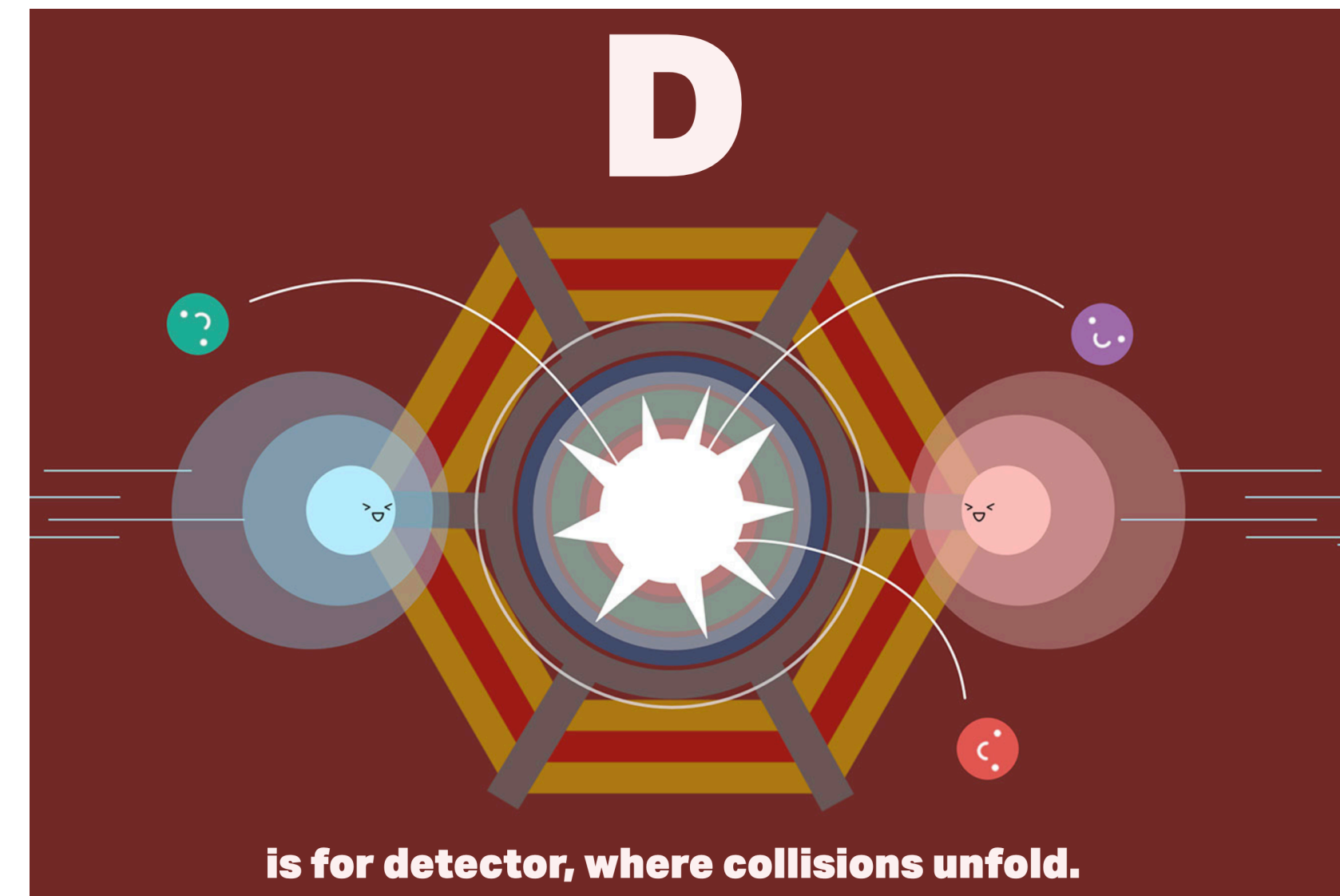


# Dark Matter: Direct and Indirect Detection

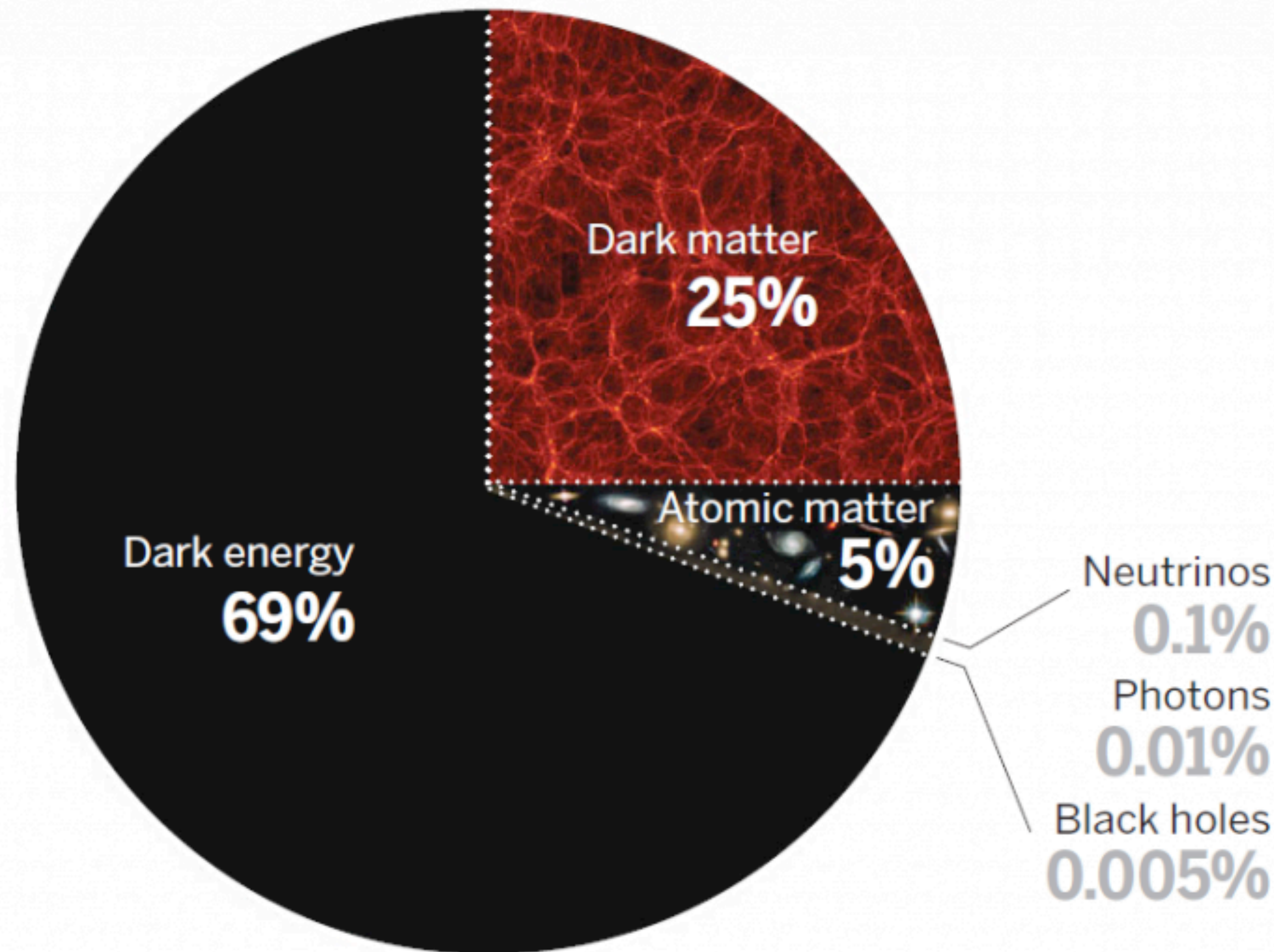
Summer Particle Astrophysics Workshop 2024

Yilda Boukhtouchen

PhD Candidate, Queen's High-Energy Astroparticle Theory Group

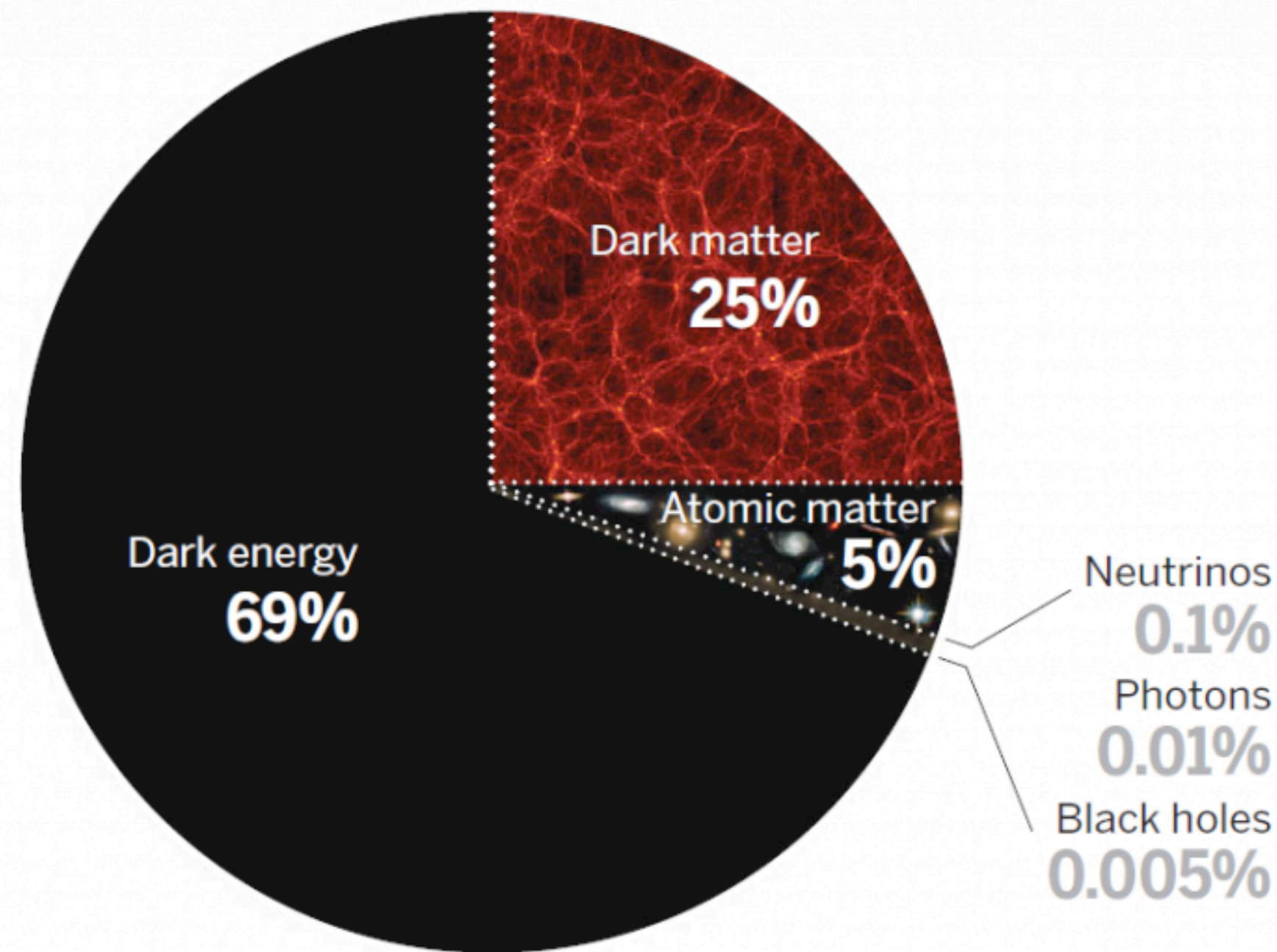


# The search for dark matter is well-motivated

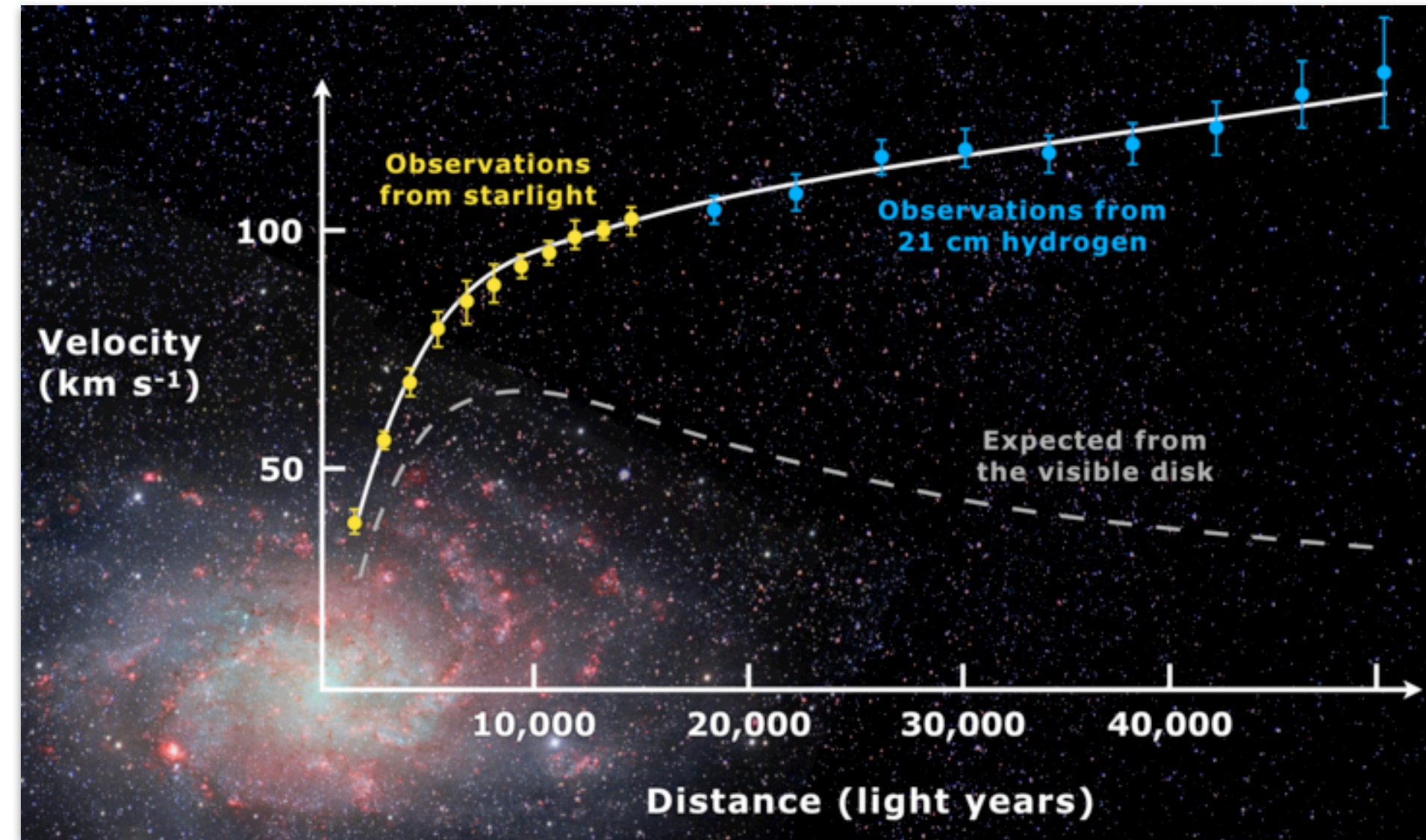


Science/AAAS

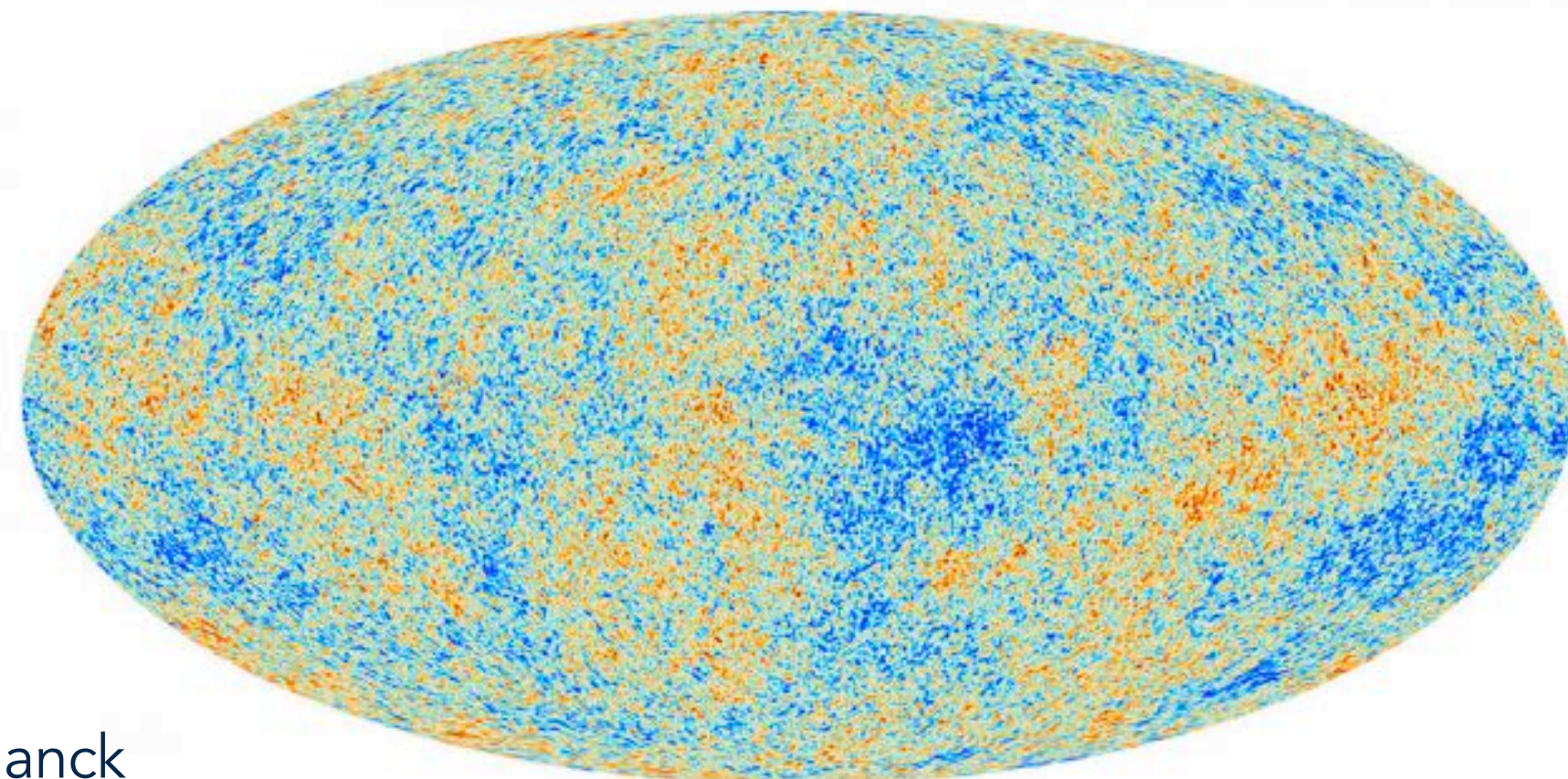
# The search for dark matter is well-motivated



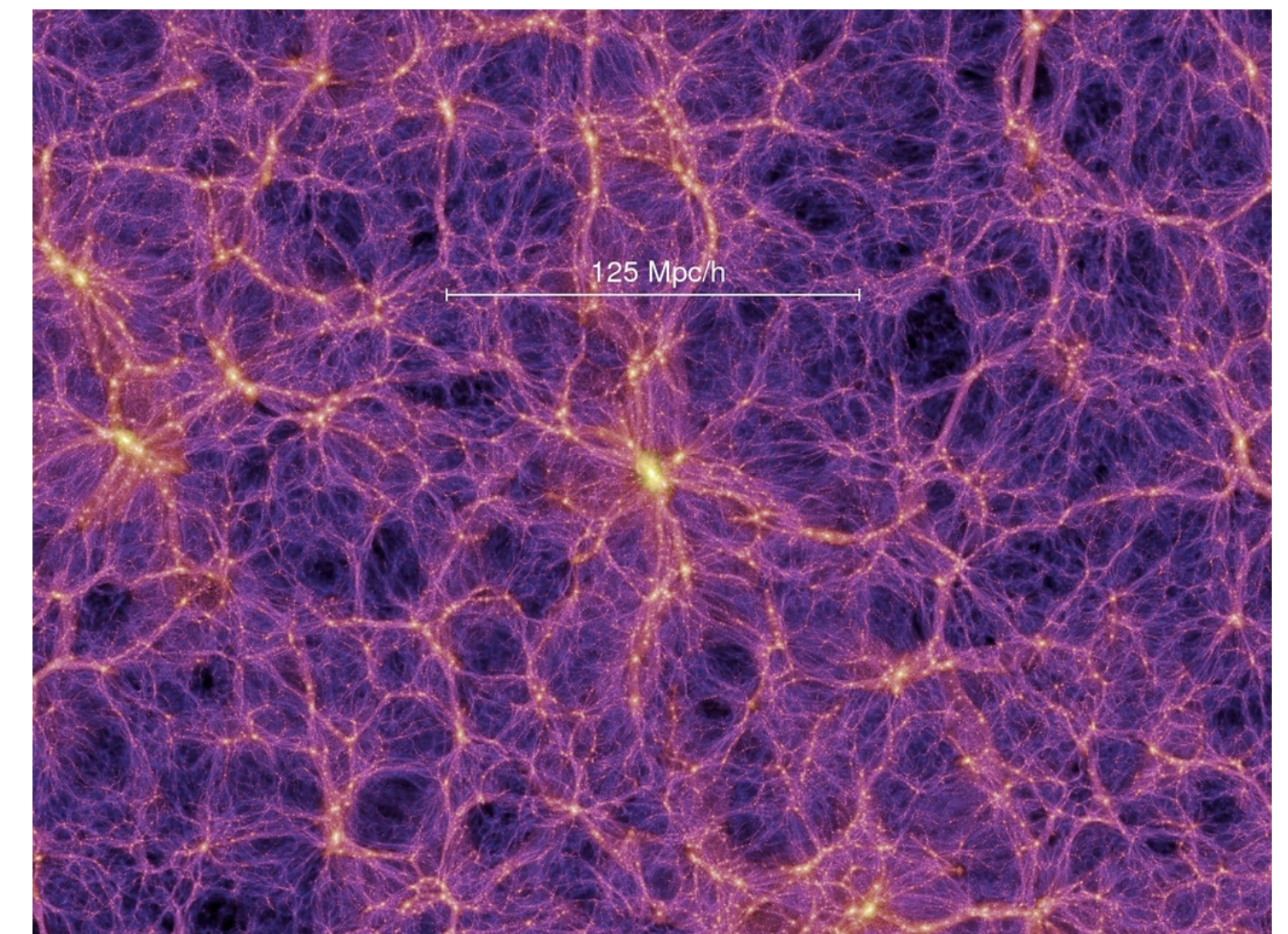
Science/AAAS



De Leon (Infographic)



ESA & Planck

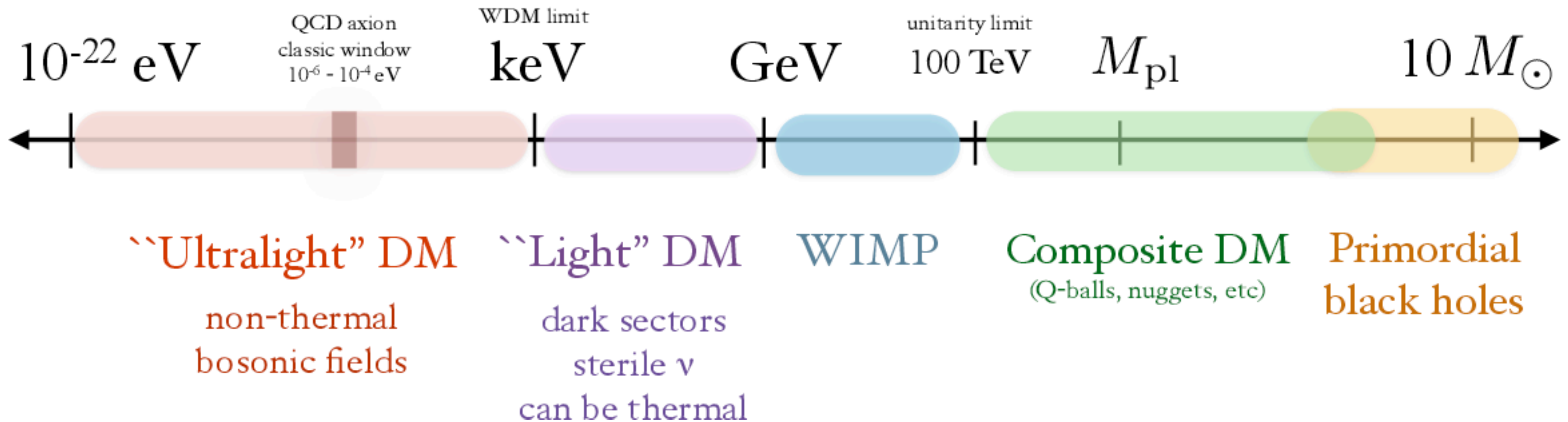


Millenium Simulation

# From these, dark matter should...

- Be produced in the early universe, with observed dark matter abundance today
- Be stable ( $\tau \gg 10^{10}$  years)
- Cold and collision less

# This still leaves lots of possibilities!

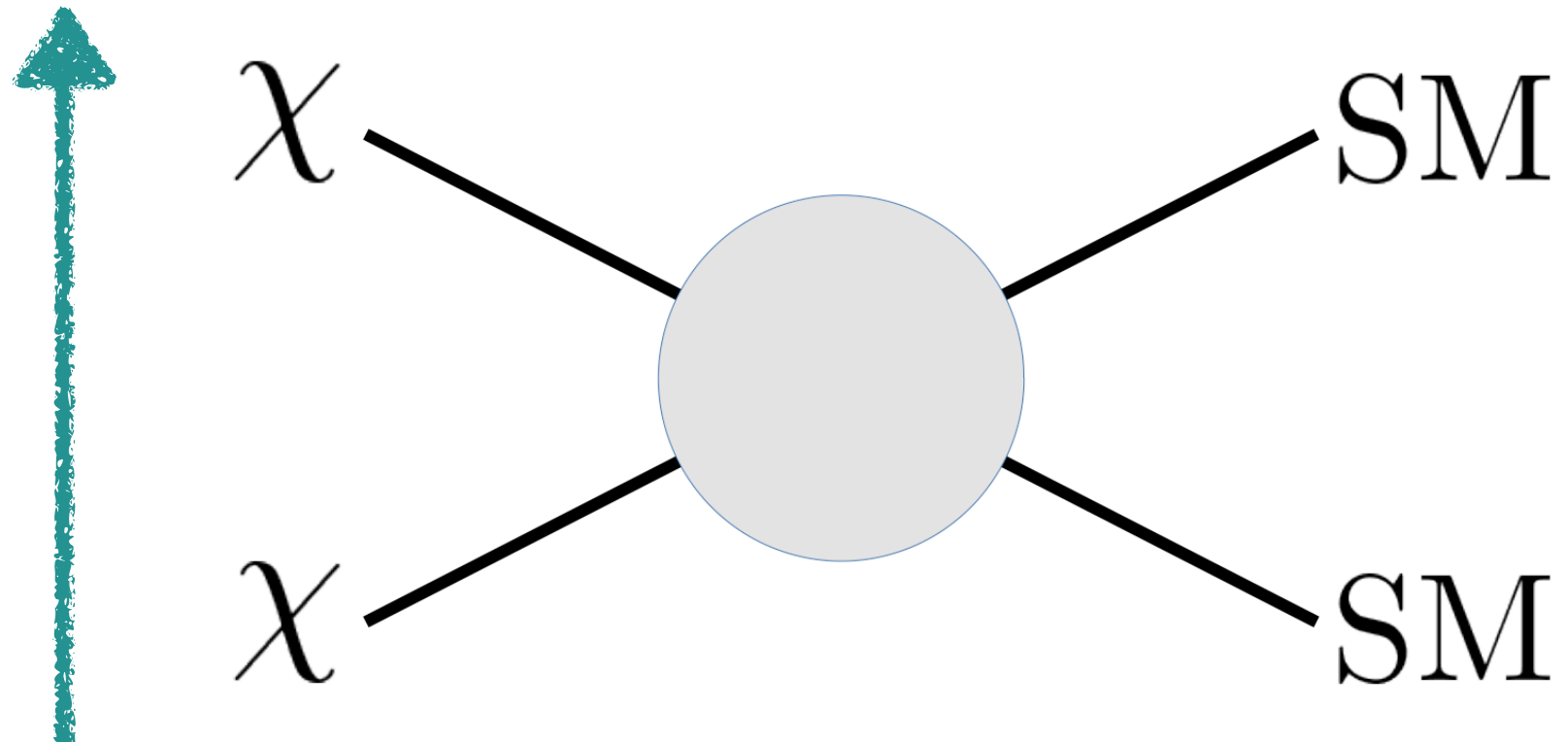


Tongyan Lin

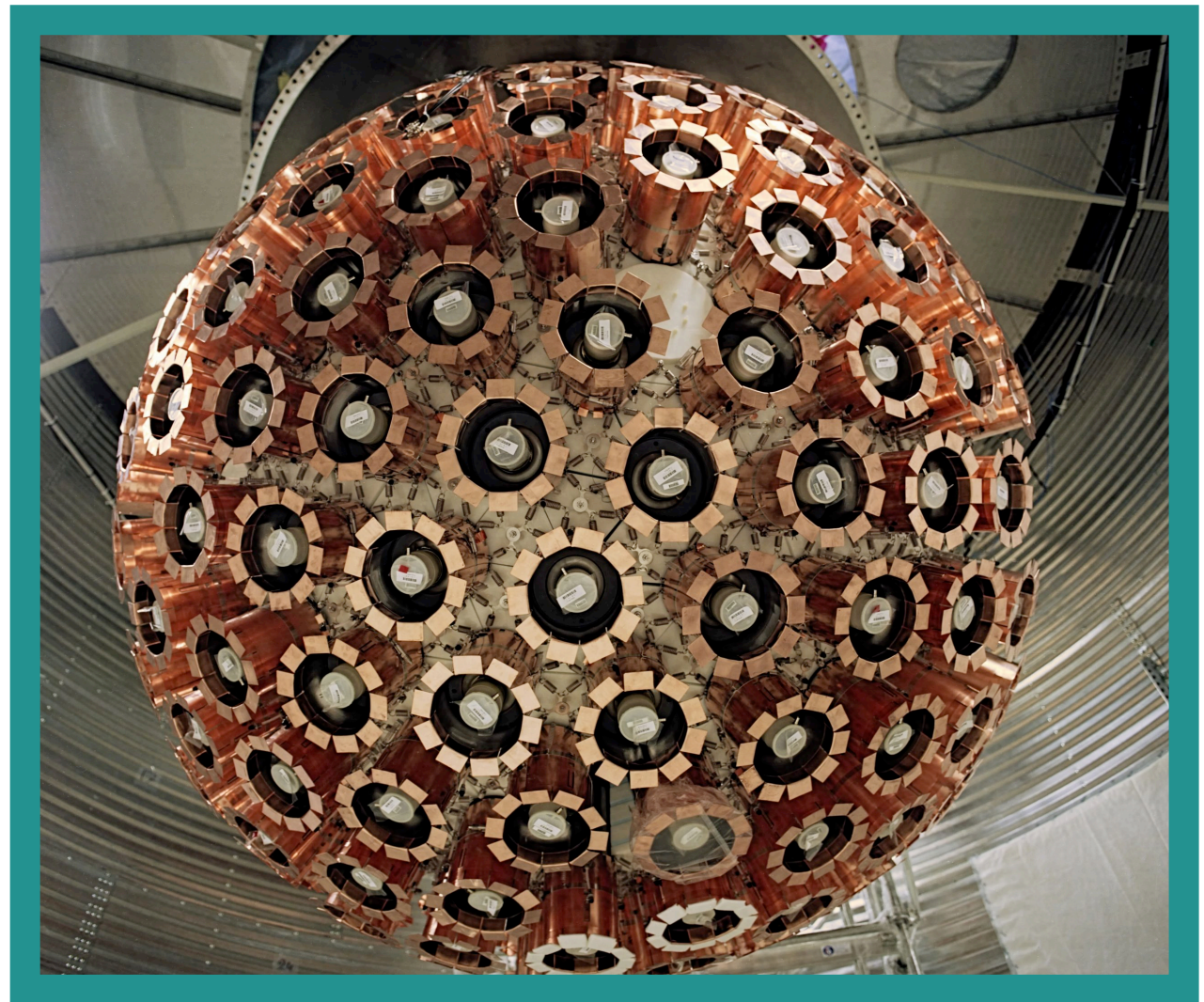
Different models must be targeted with different detection methods.

# Direct detection vs Indirect Detection

## Direct detection

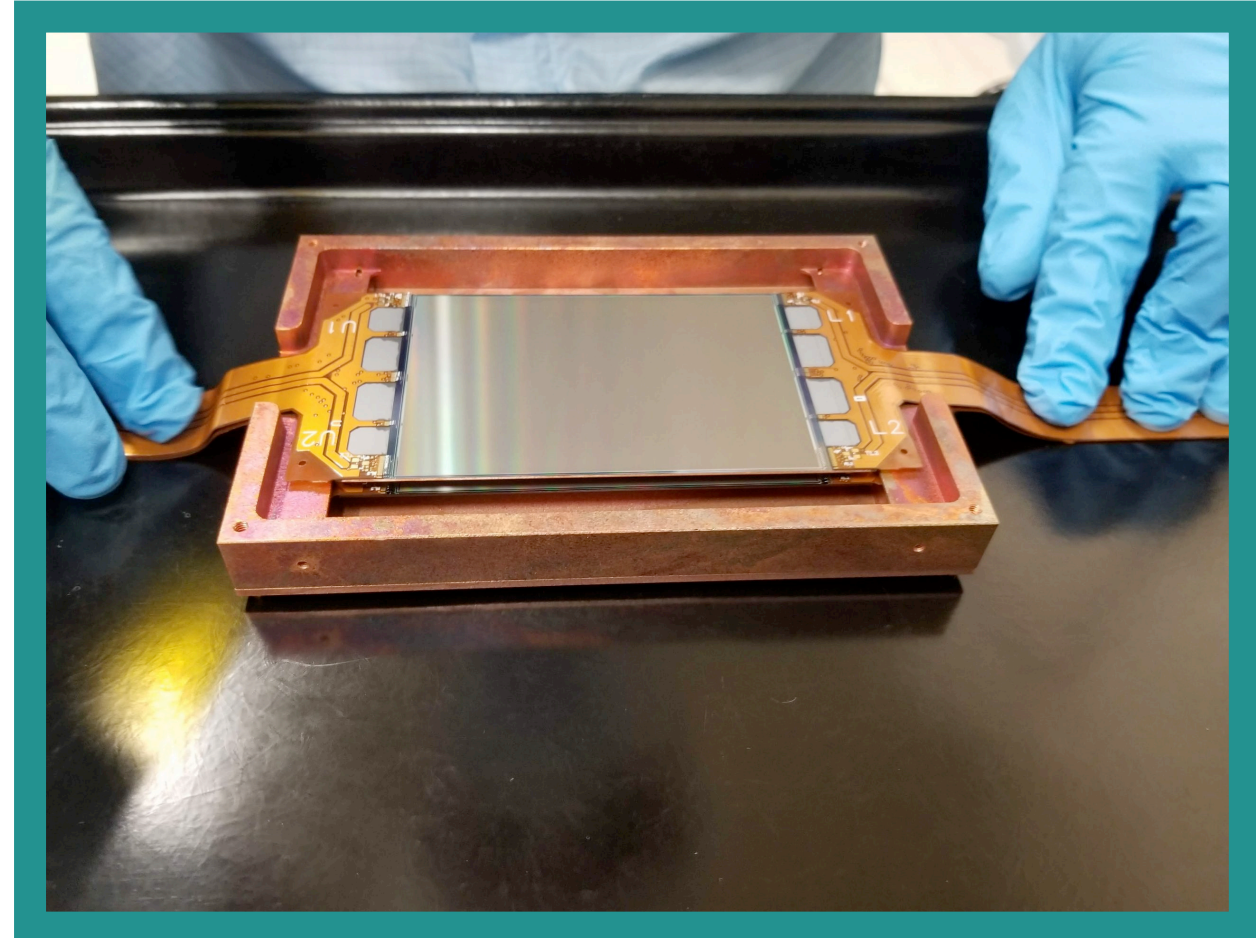


Detecting a dark matter particle colliding with a Standard Model particle



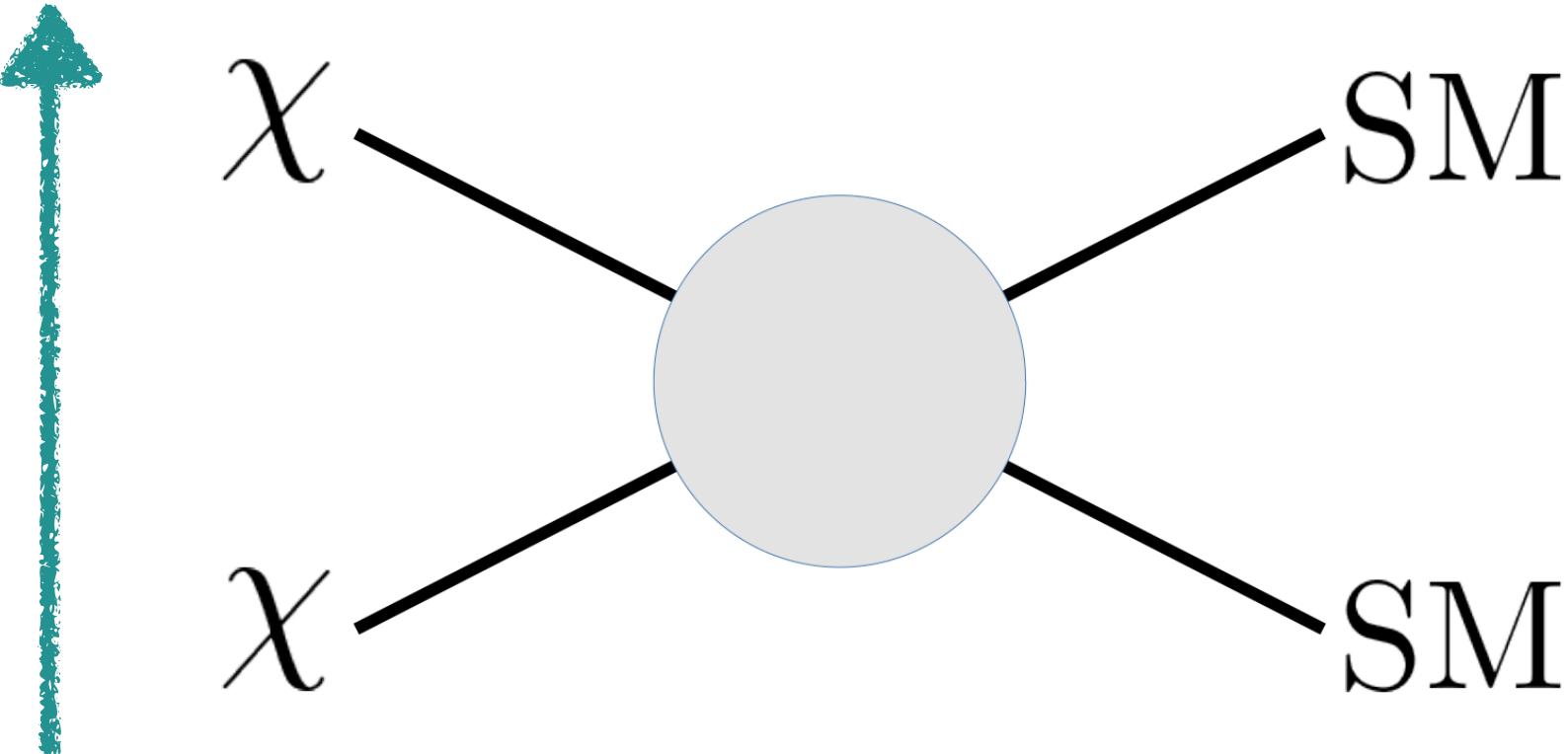
DEAP-3600, SNOLAB

DAMIC, SNOLAB

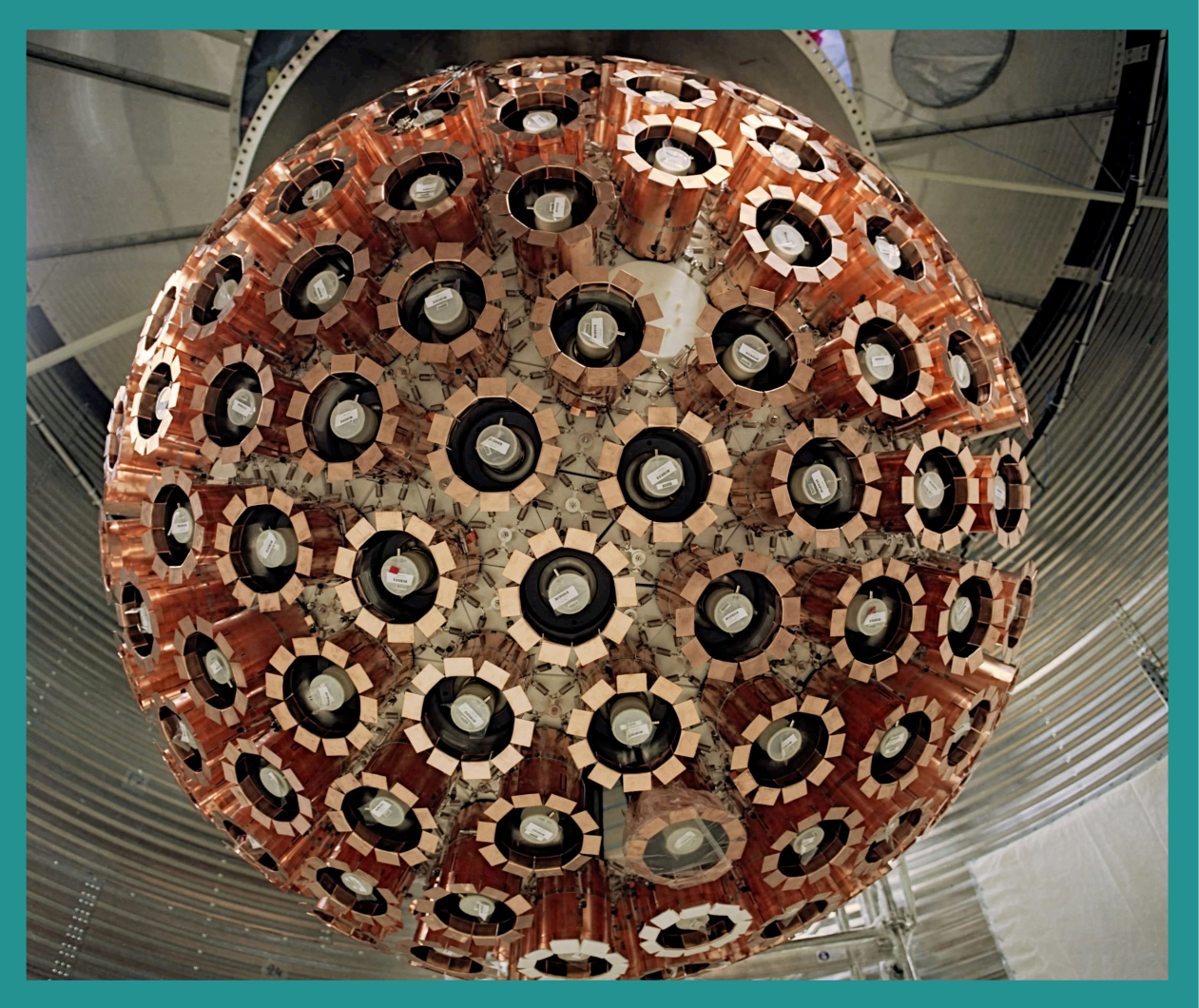


# Direct detection vs Indirect Detection

## Direct detection

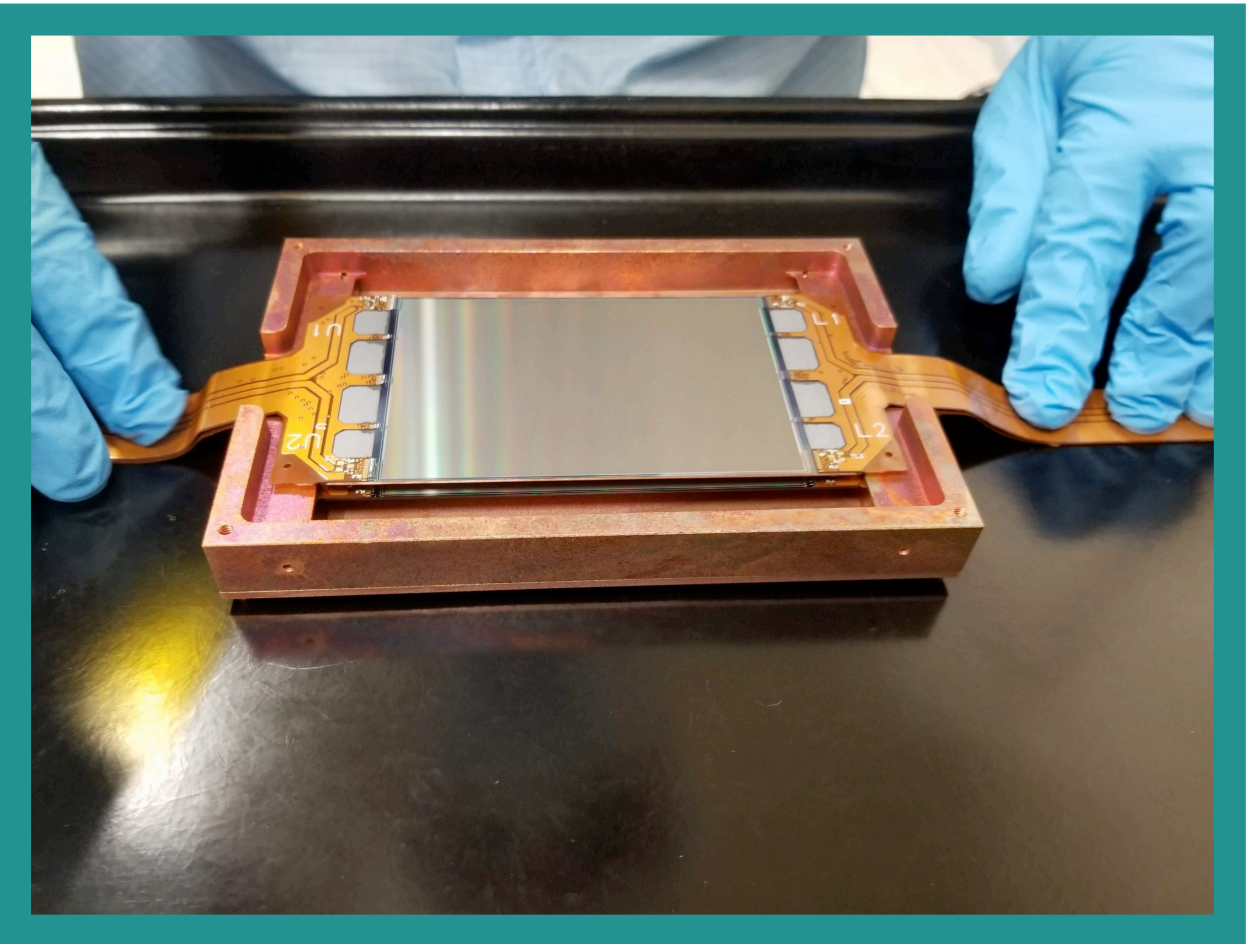


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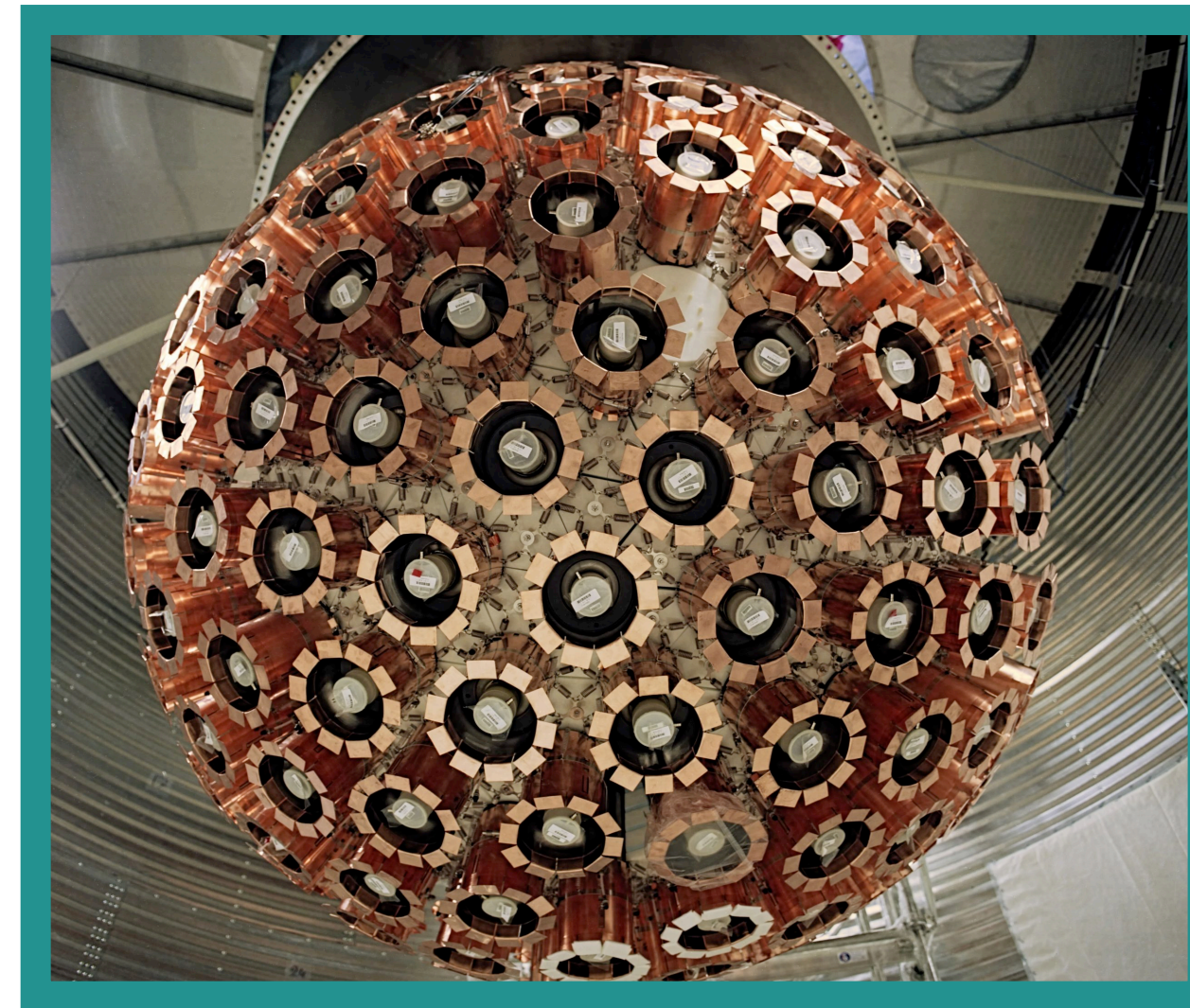
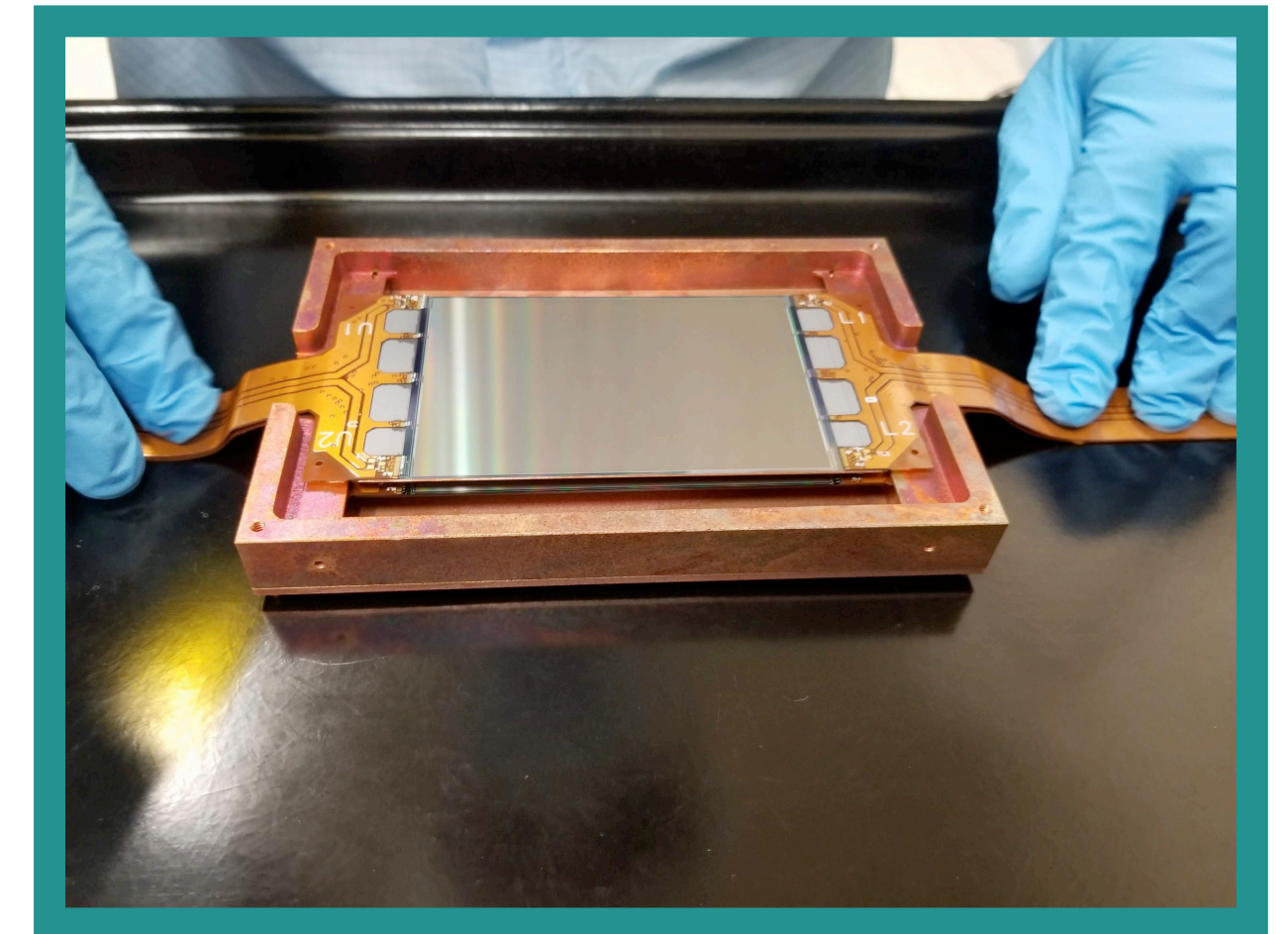
DEAP-3600, SNOLAB

DAMIC, SNOLAB

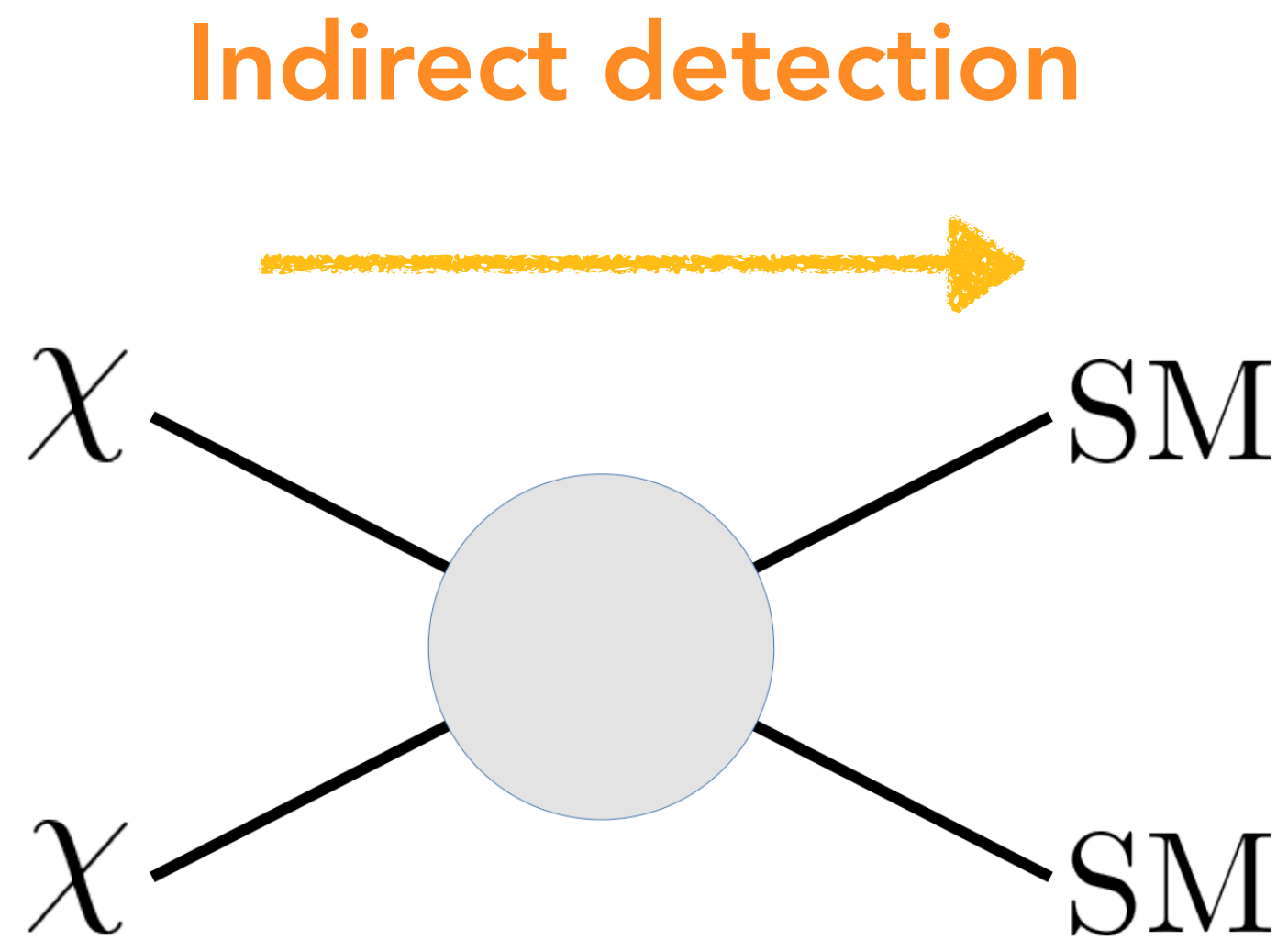


# Direct detection vs Indirect Detection

DAMIC, SNOLAB

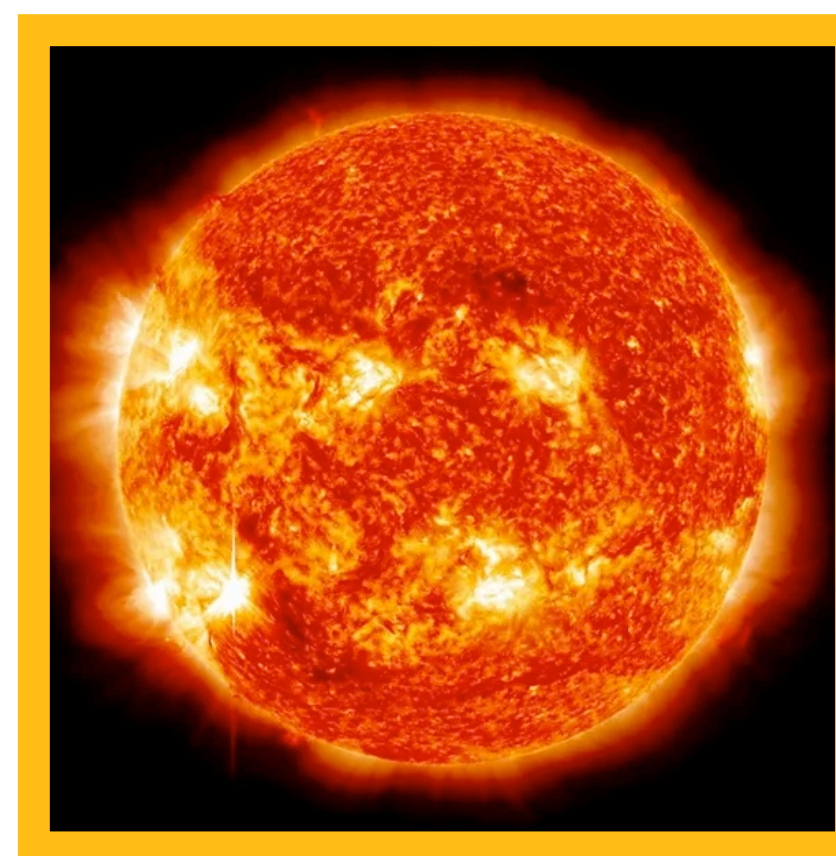


DEAP-3600, SNOLAB

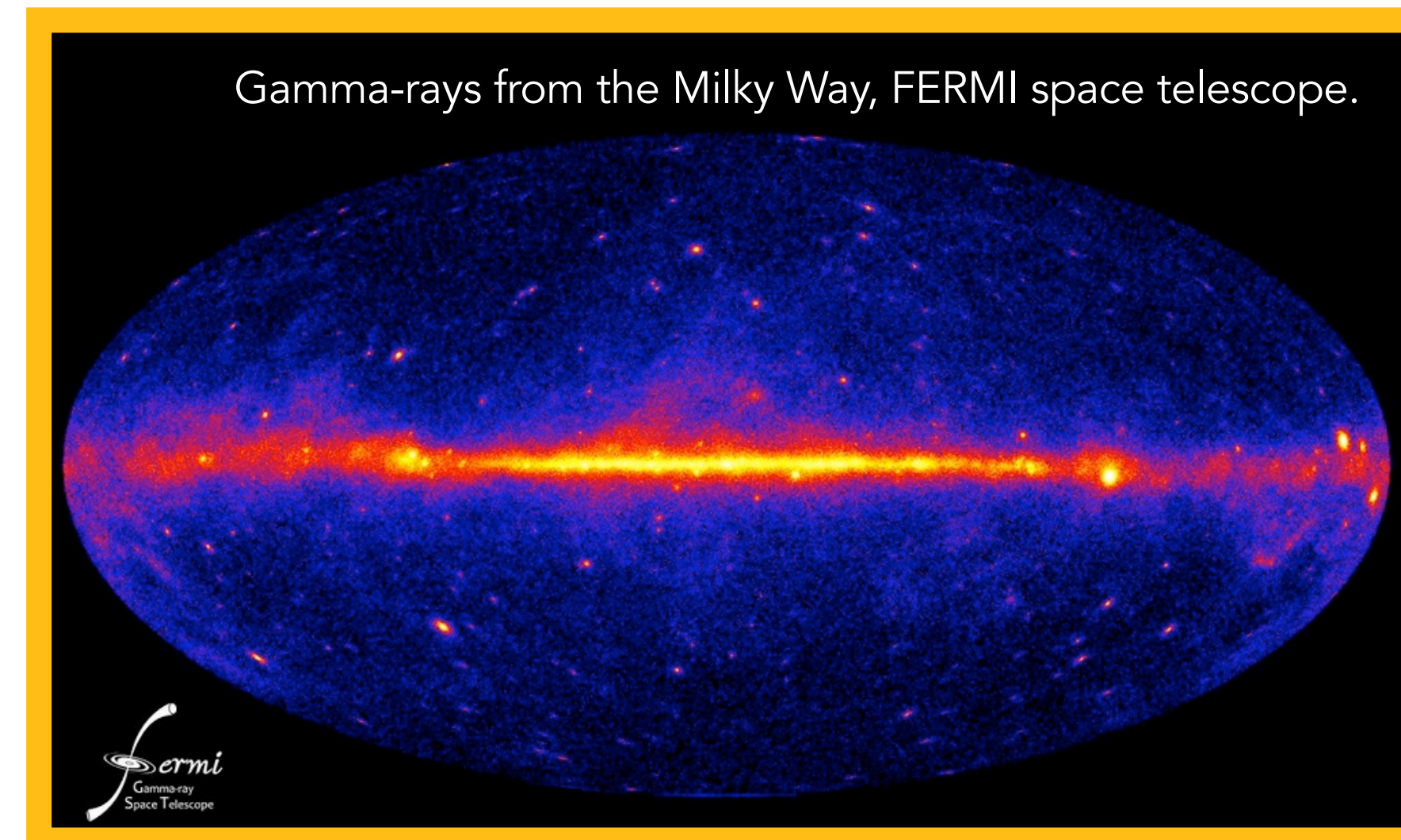


Annihilating or decay to a spectrum of Standard Model particles

The Sun

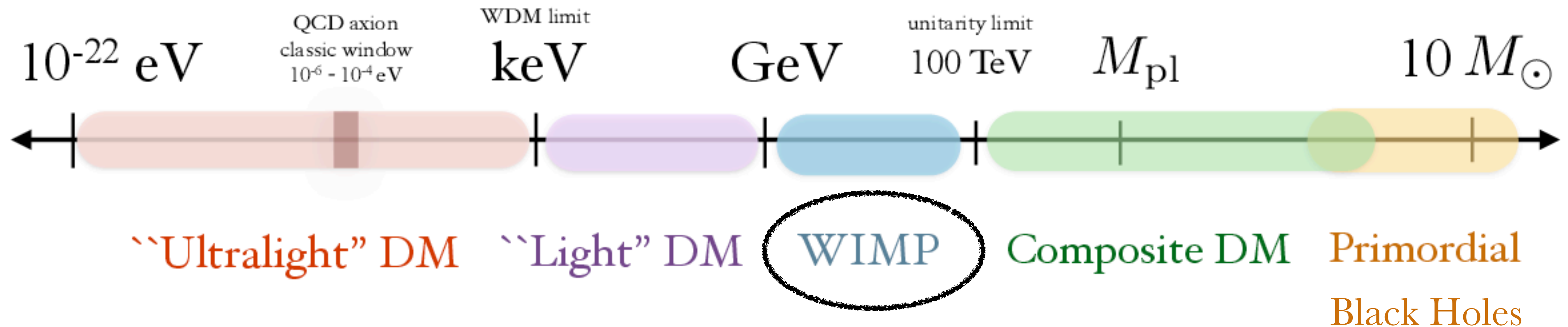


Gamma-rays from the Milky Way, FERMI space telescope.





# Going back to the dark matter landscape



# The “Standard” Thermal WIMP

$$m_\chi = 1 \text{ GeV} - 100 \text{ TeV}$$

**Weakly-Interacting** → interact with force around the weak scale

**Massive Particle** → mass around nucleon / nucleus masses

**Theoretical Motivation:** e.g. supersymmetry yields stable particle in this mass range

$$\tilde{\chi}_1^0 = N_1 \mathbf{B} + N_2 \mathbf{W}^3 + N_3 \mathbf{H}_1^0 + N_4 \mathbf{H}_2^0$$

Standard Model particles



Supersymmetric partners



# The “Standard” Thermal WIMP

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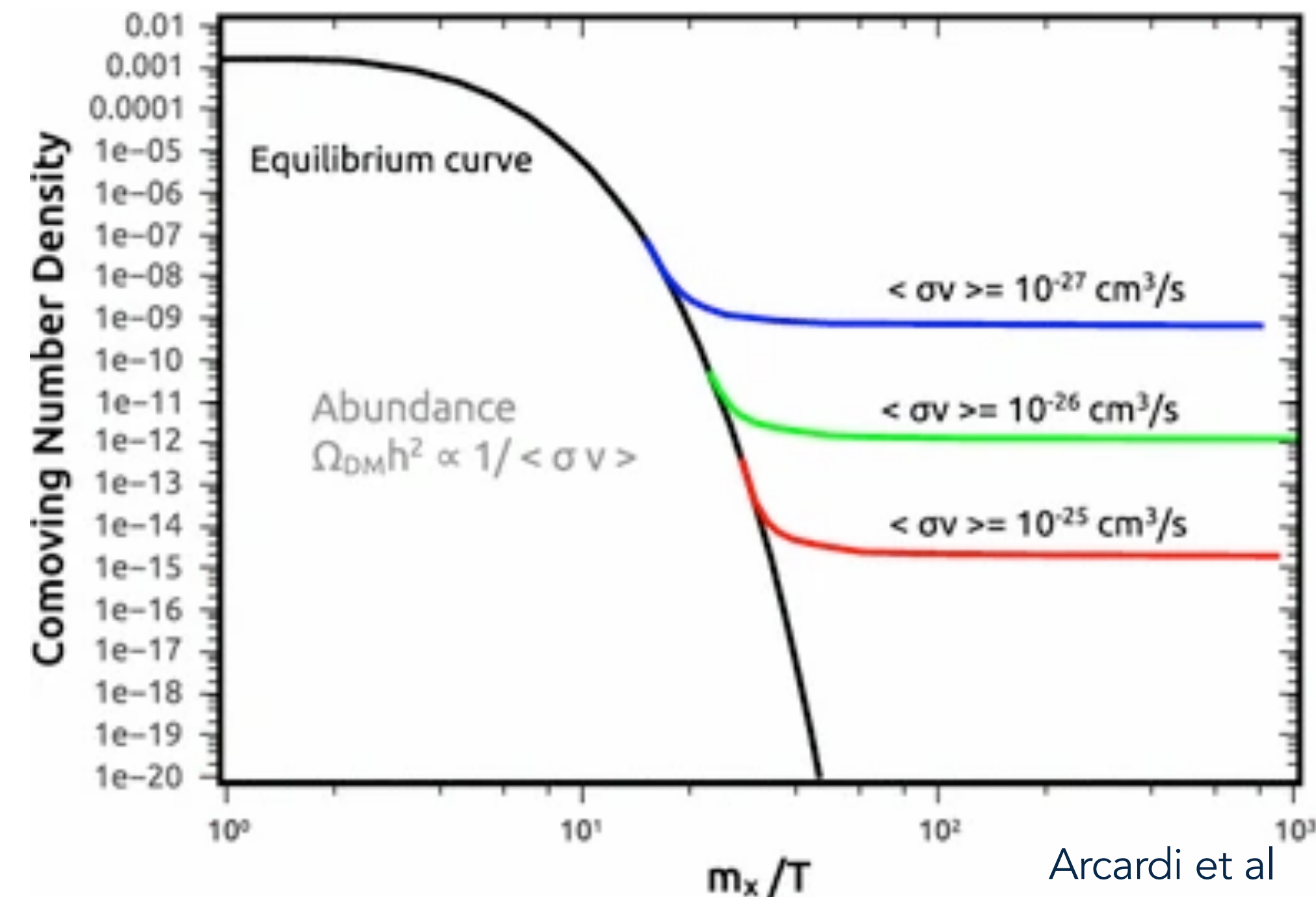
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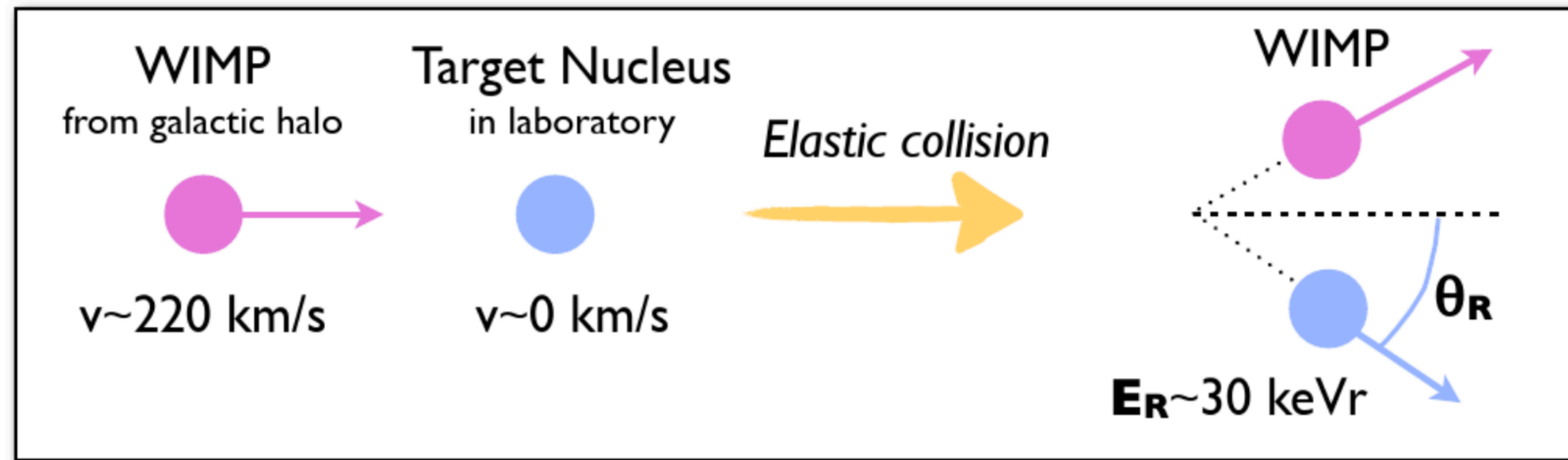
**Theoretical Motivation:** e.g. supersymmetry yields stable particle in this mass range

**WIMP Miracle:** at these masses, thermal freeze-out gives correct DM abundance

**Hooray! So much motivation!**

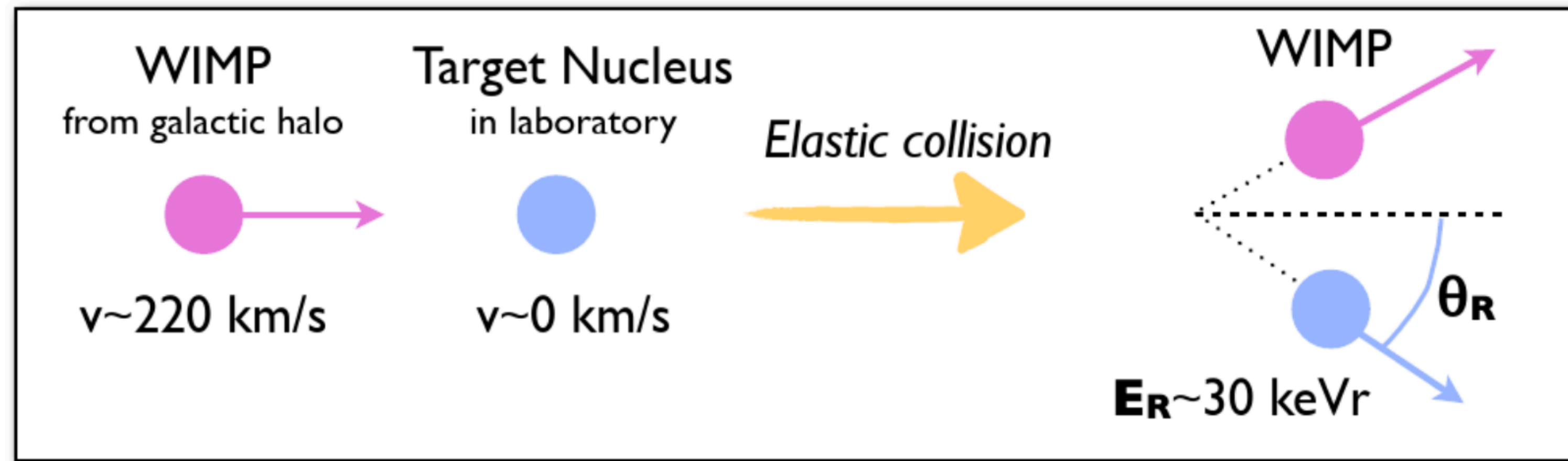


# Looking for WIMP - Standard Model Scattering



Cooley 2022

# Looking for WIMP - Standard Model Scattering



Cooley 2022

In the centre-of-mass frame:

$$q = 2\mu^2 v^2 (1 - \cos \theta_R)$$

$$E_R = \frac{\mu^2 v^2}{m_N} (1 - \cos \theta_R)$$

# Scattering Rate in a Detector

$$N = t \cdot N_T \cdot n_\chi \cdot v_\chi \cdot \sigma_{\chi N}$$

Exposure time of detector

Number of target particles

Number density of the DM

Velocity of the DM

DM-target cross-section

Must take into account the recoil energy spectrum: how many scatters are *visible*?

$$\frac{dN}{dE_R} = t N_T n_\chi v_\chi \frac{\sigma_{\chi N}}{dE_R}$$

# Differential Event Rate

Event rate  $R$  is the number of scatters per unit time per target mass:  $R \equiv N/tM_T$

$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = \frac{1}{m_N} \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \int_{v_{min}}^{\infty} dv \, v \, f(v) \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R}$$

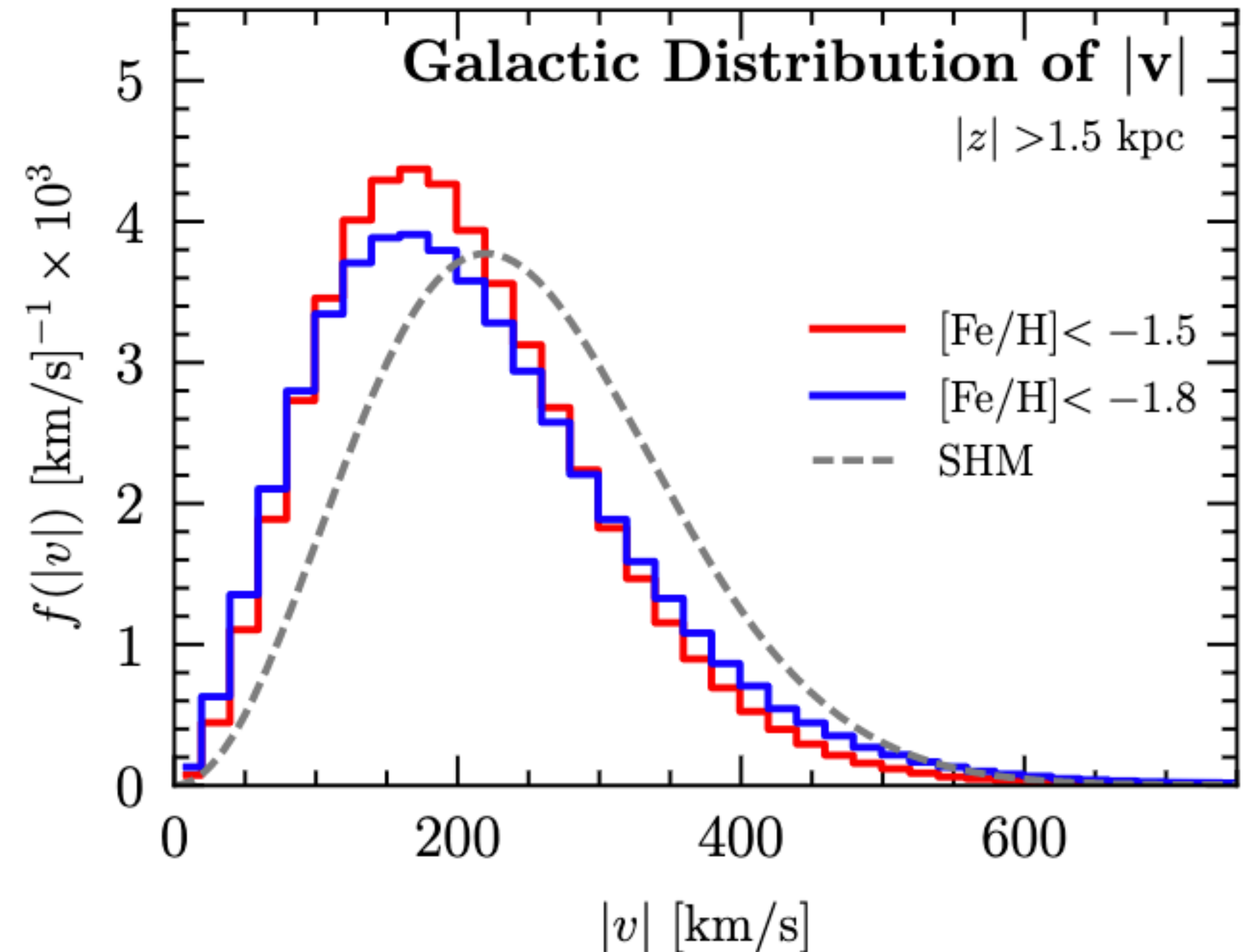
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$$E_R = \frac{\mu^2 v^2}{m_N} (1 - \cos \theta_R) \quad v_{min} = \sqrt{\frac{m_N E_R}{2\mu^2}}$$

Herzog-Arbeitman et al 2017





# Differential Event Rate

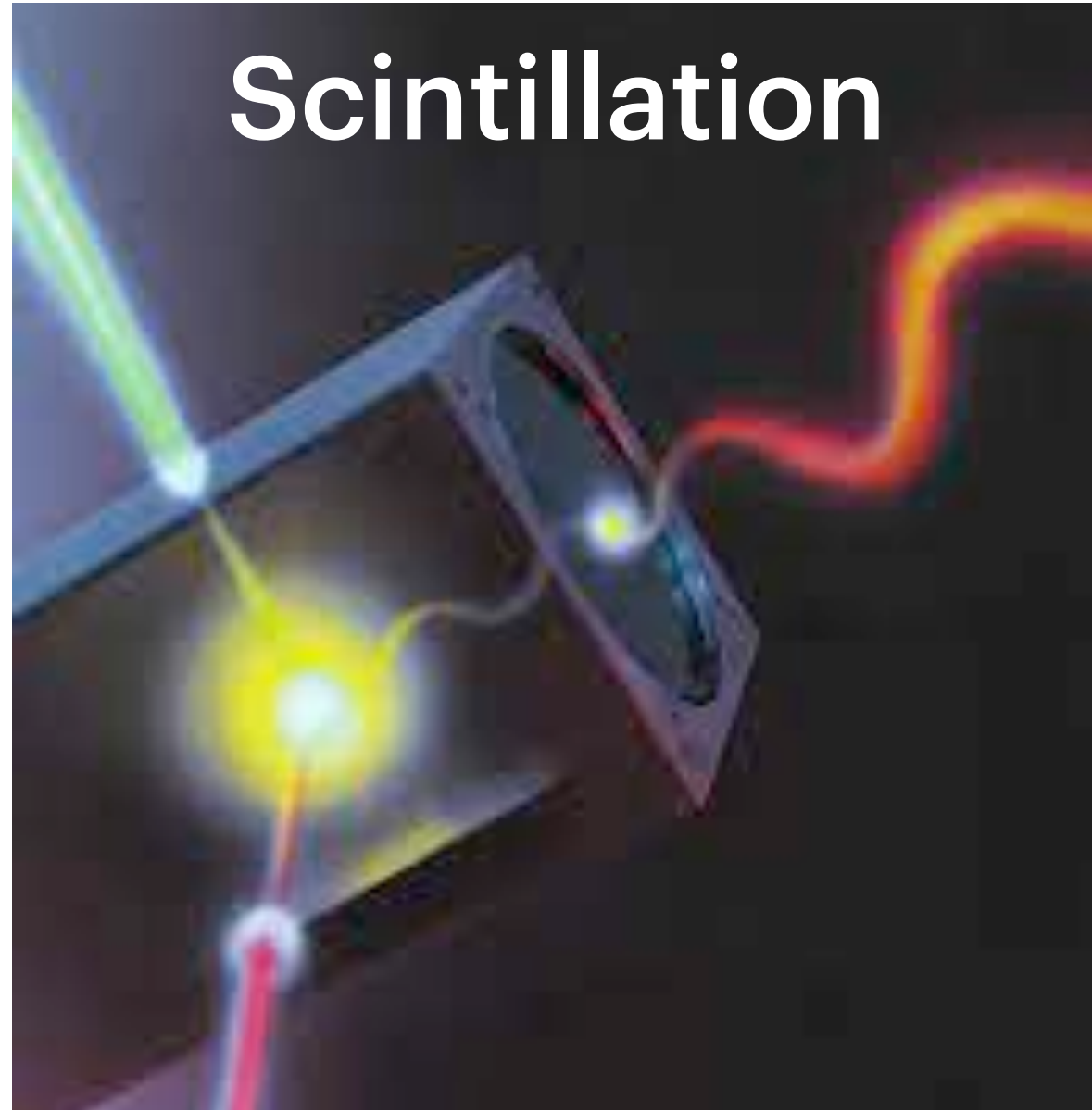
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$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} = \frac{1}{m_N} \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \int_{v_{min}}^{\infty} dv \, v \, f(v) \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} \right)$$

differential cross-section

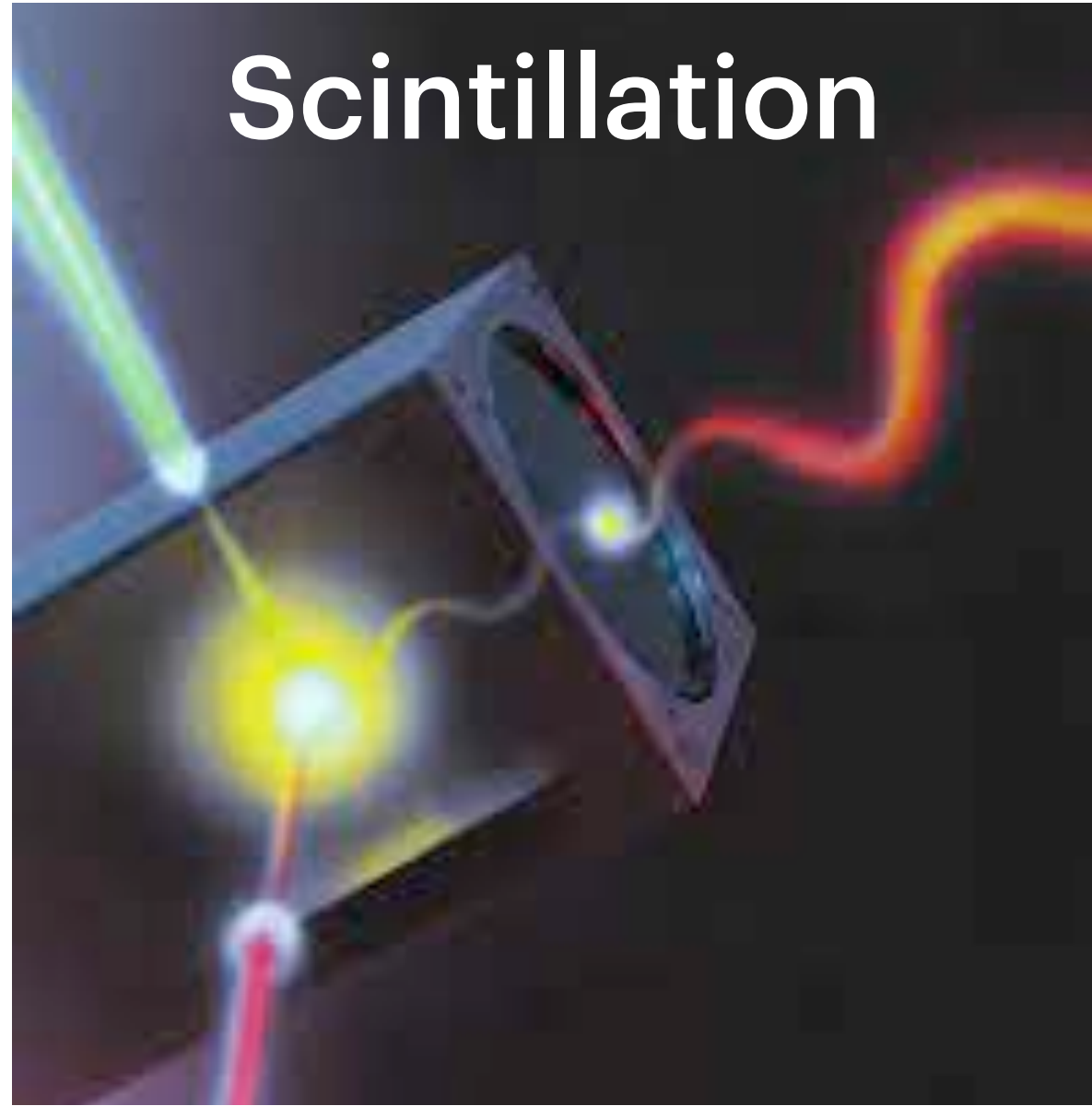
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE_R} = \frac{m_N}{2\mu^2} \frac{\sigma}{v^2}$$

Scintillation

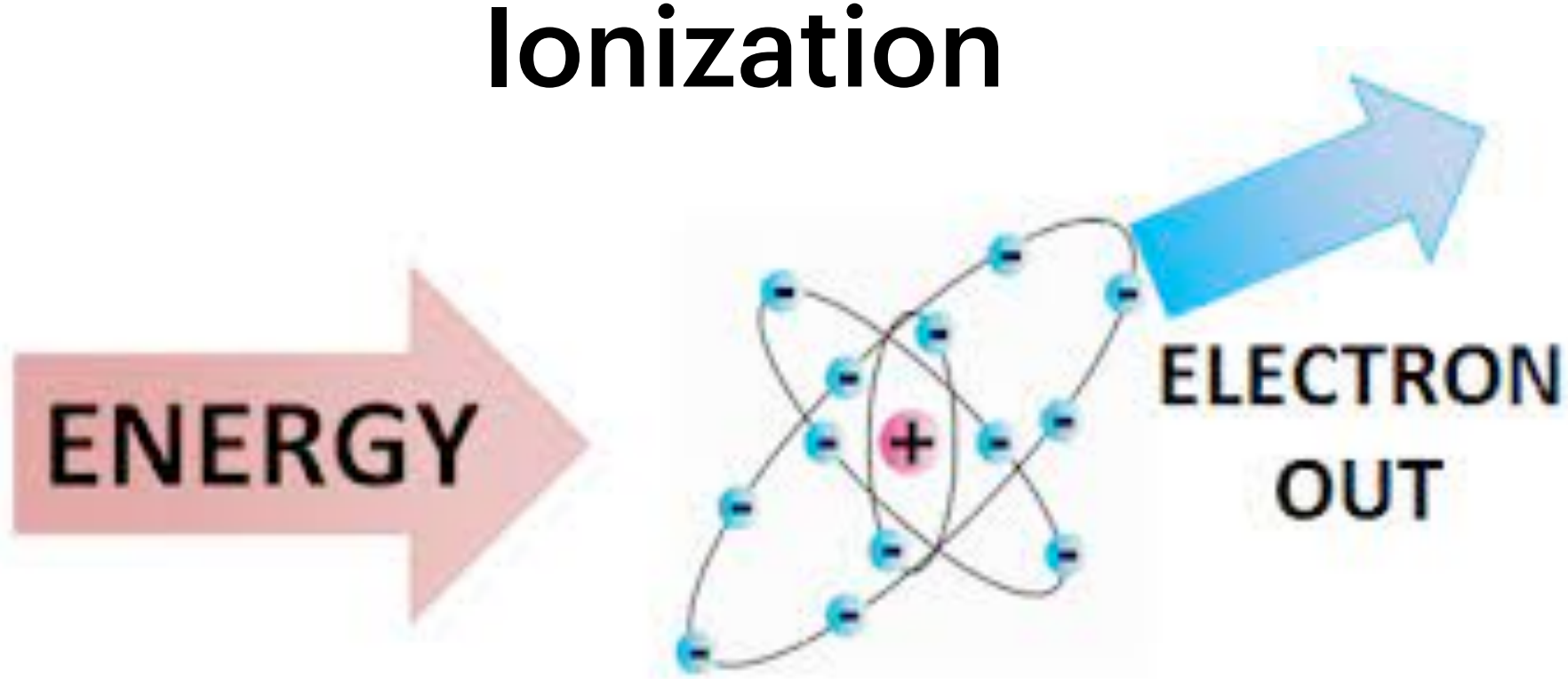
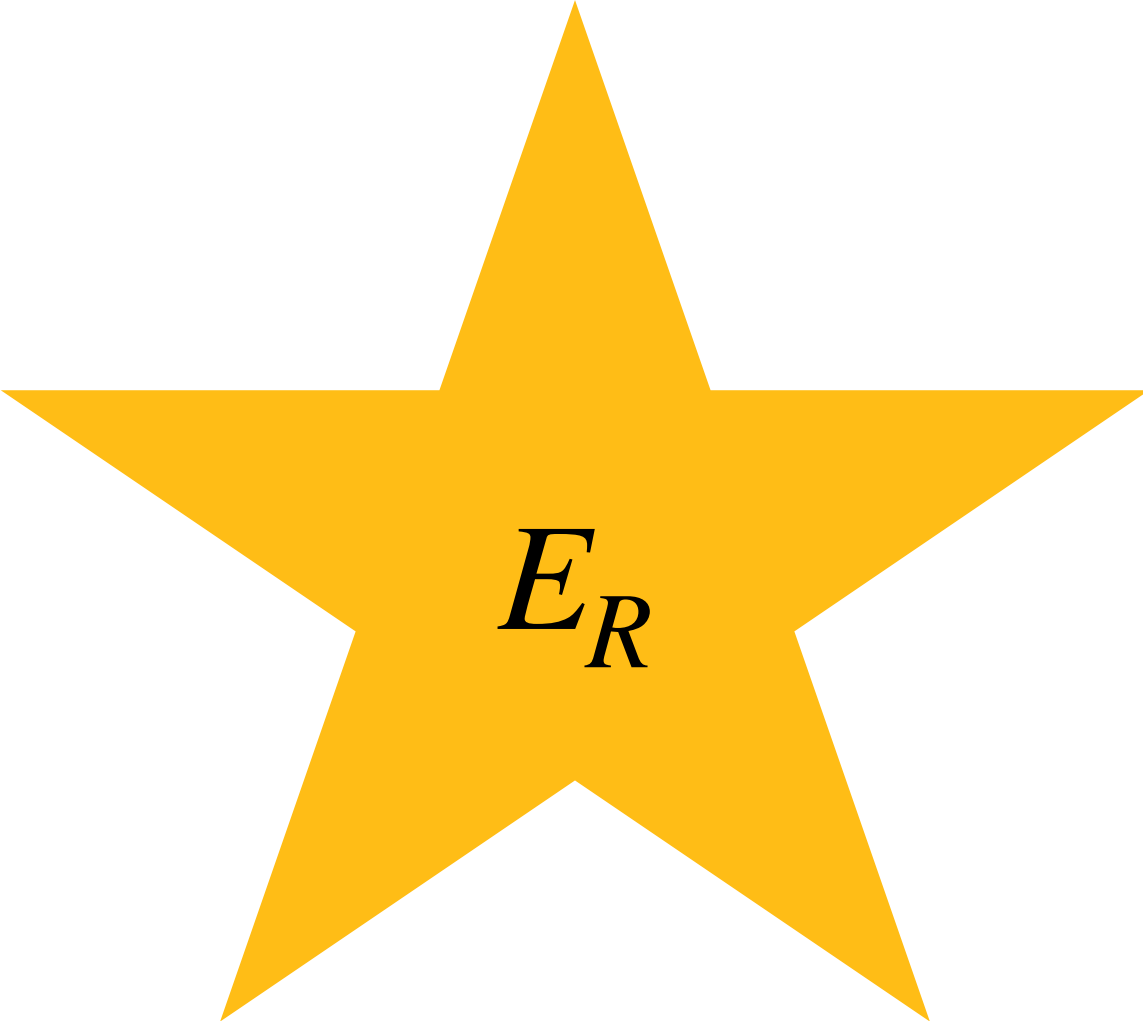


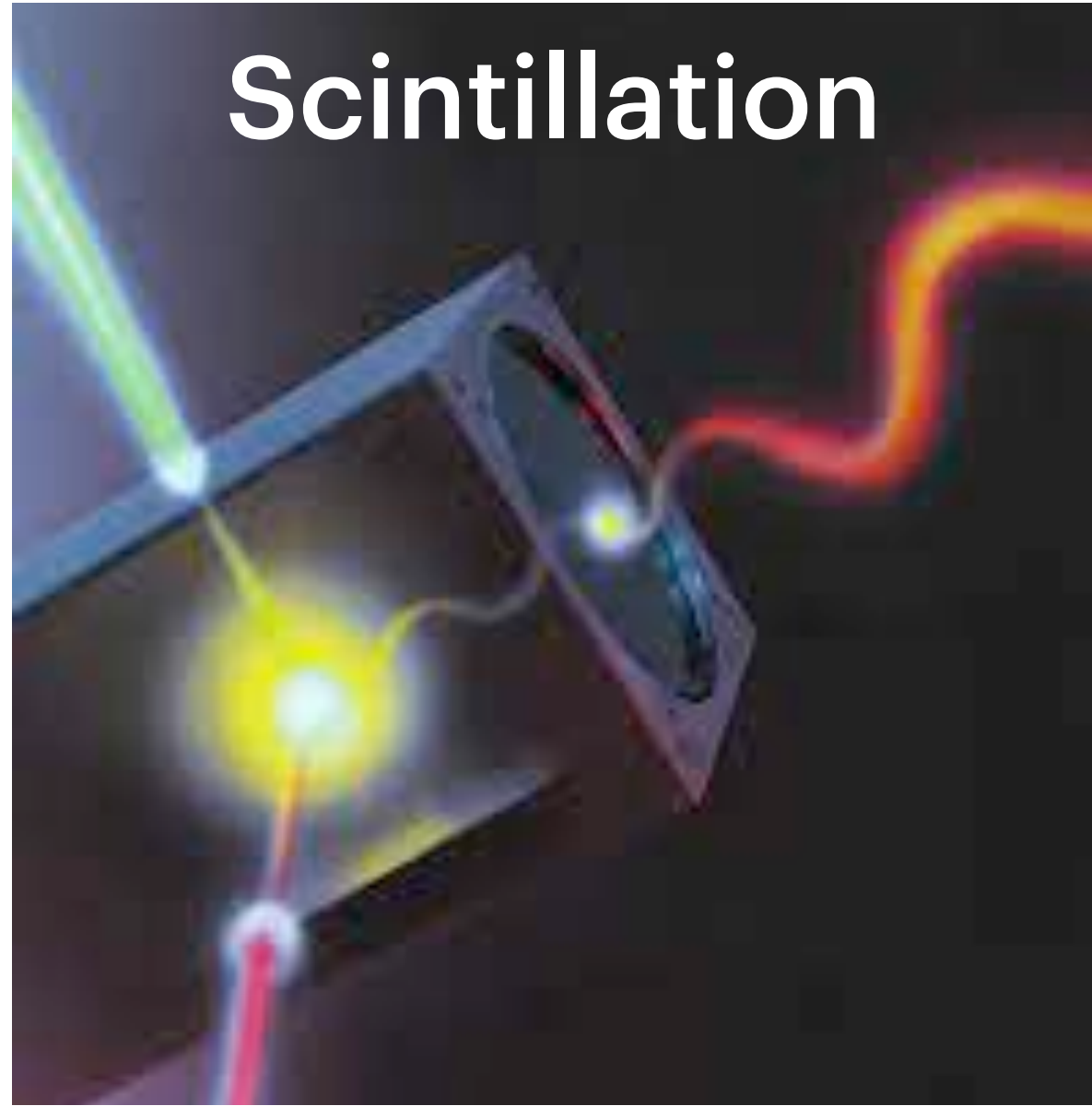
What signal?



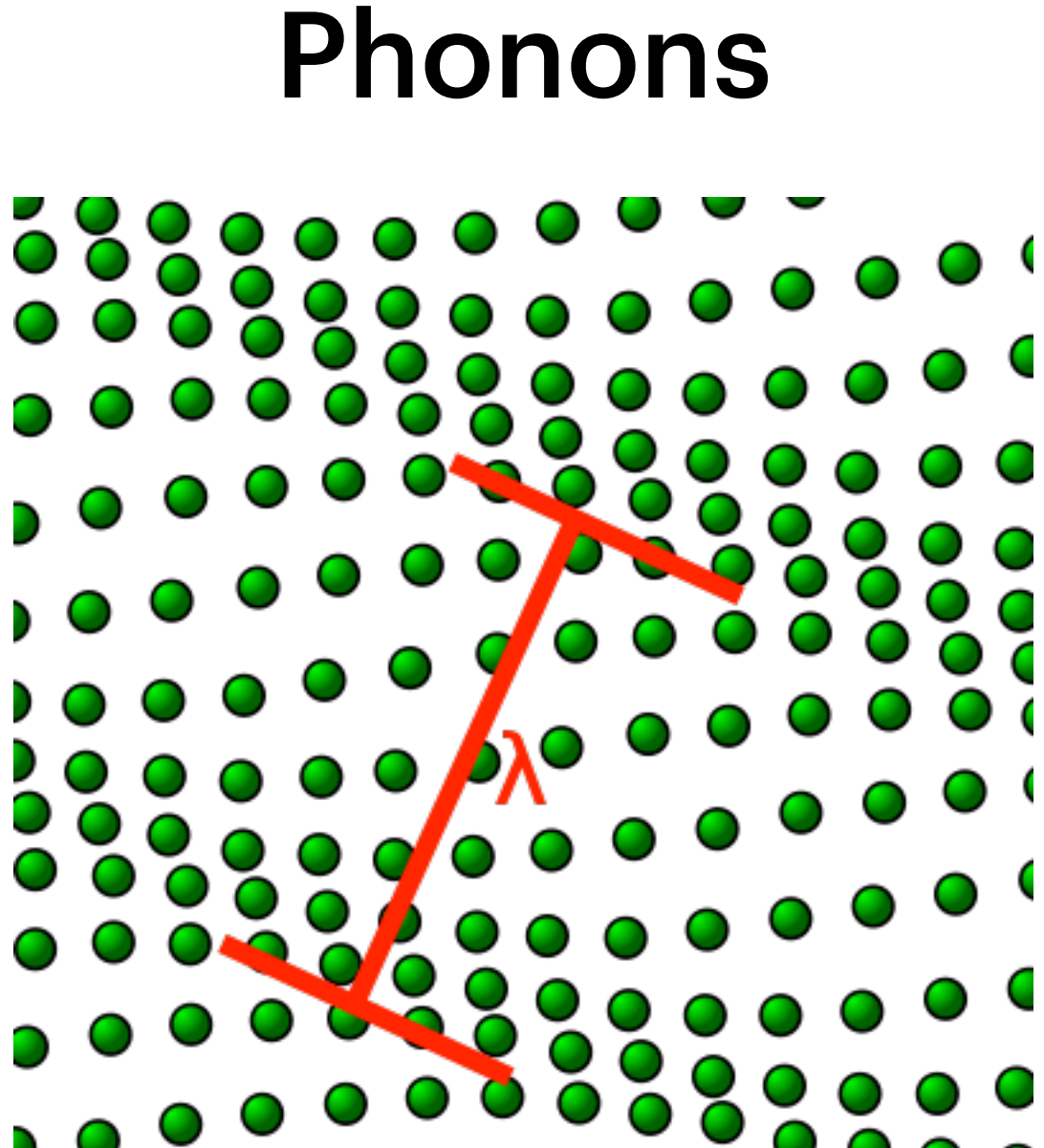
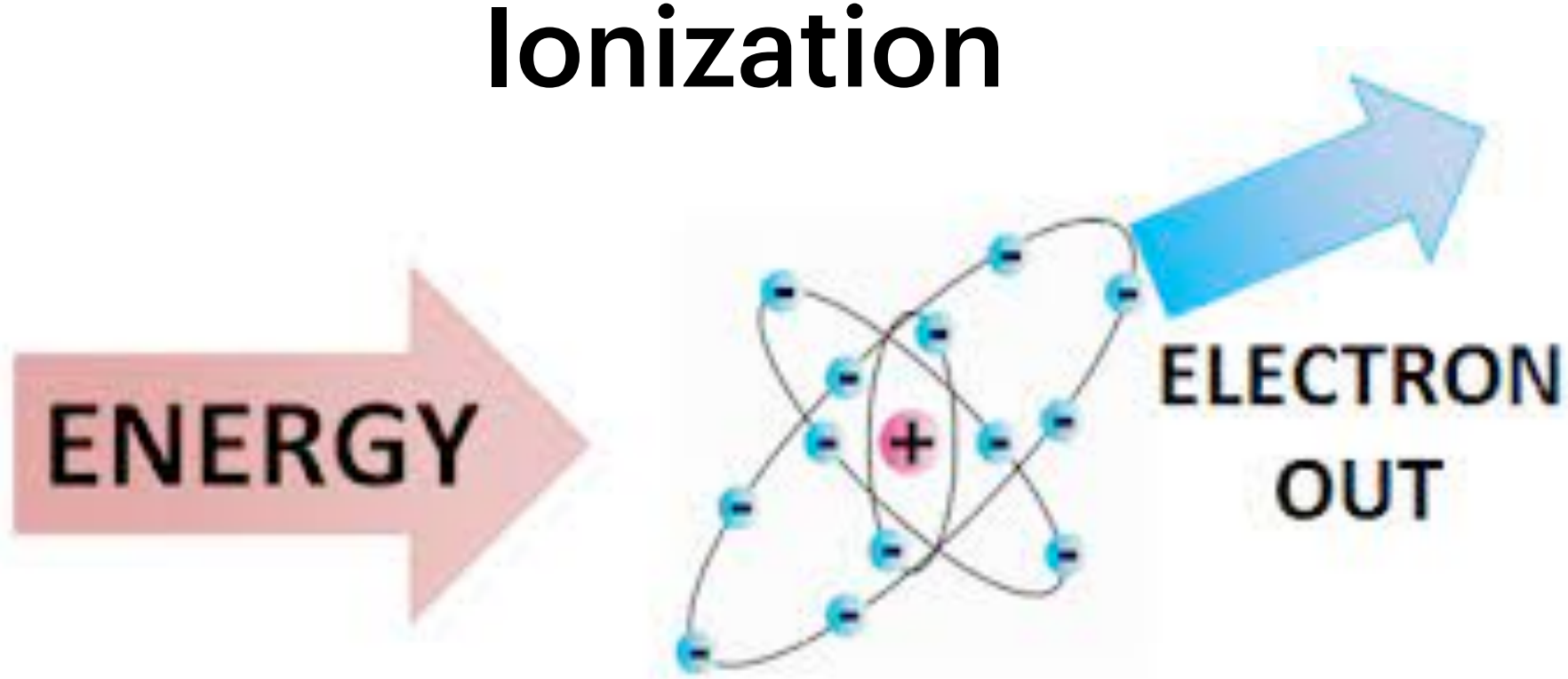
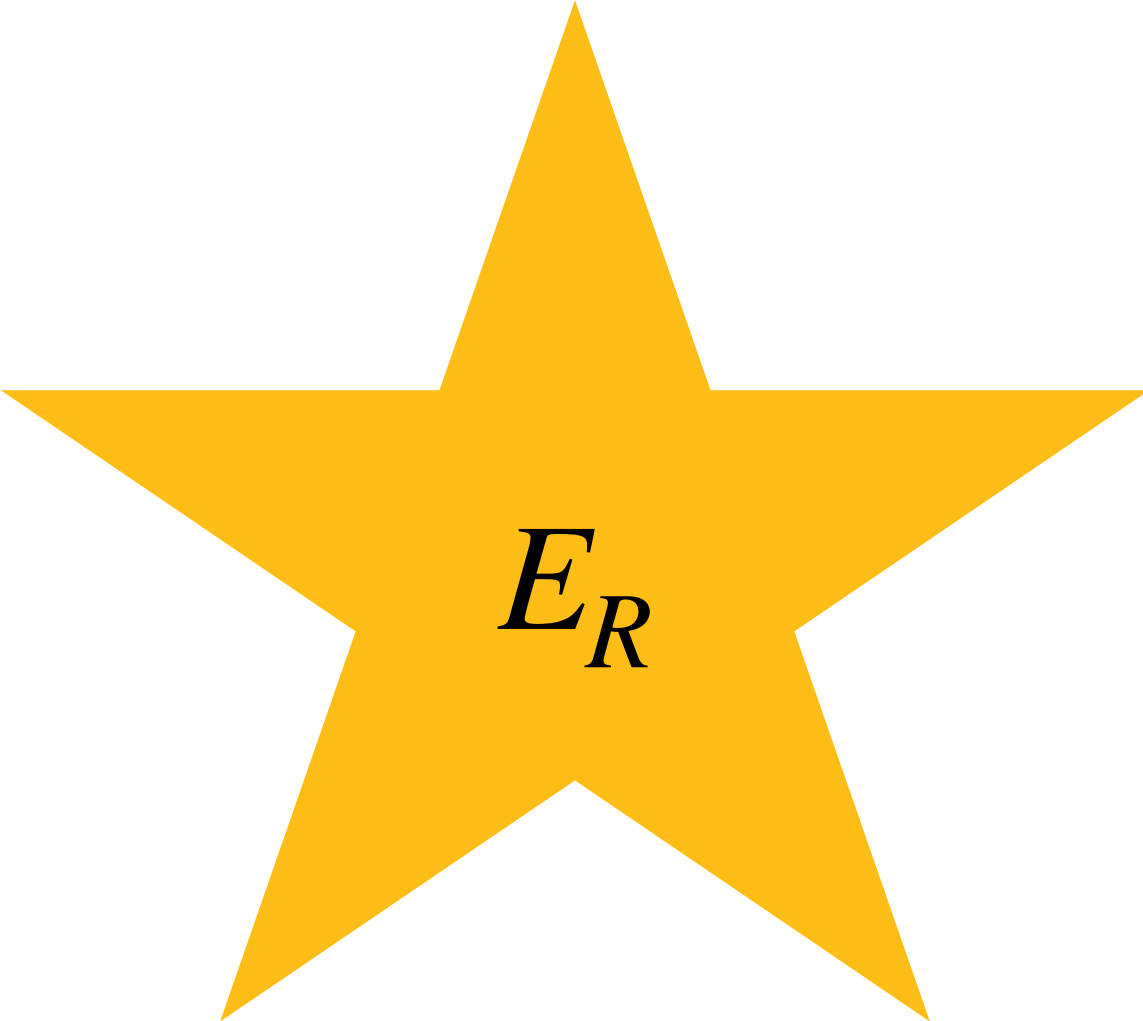


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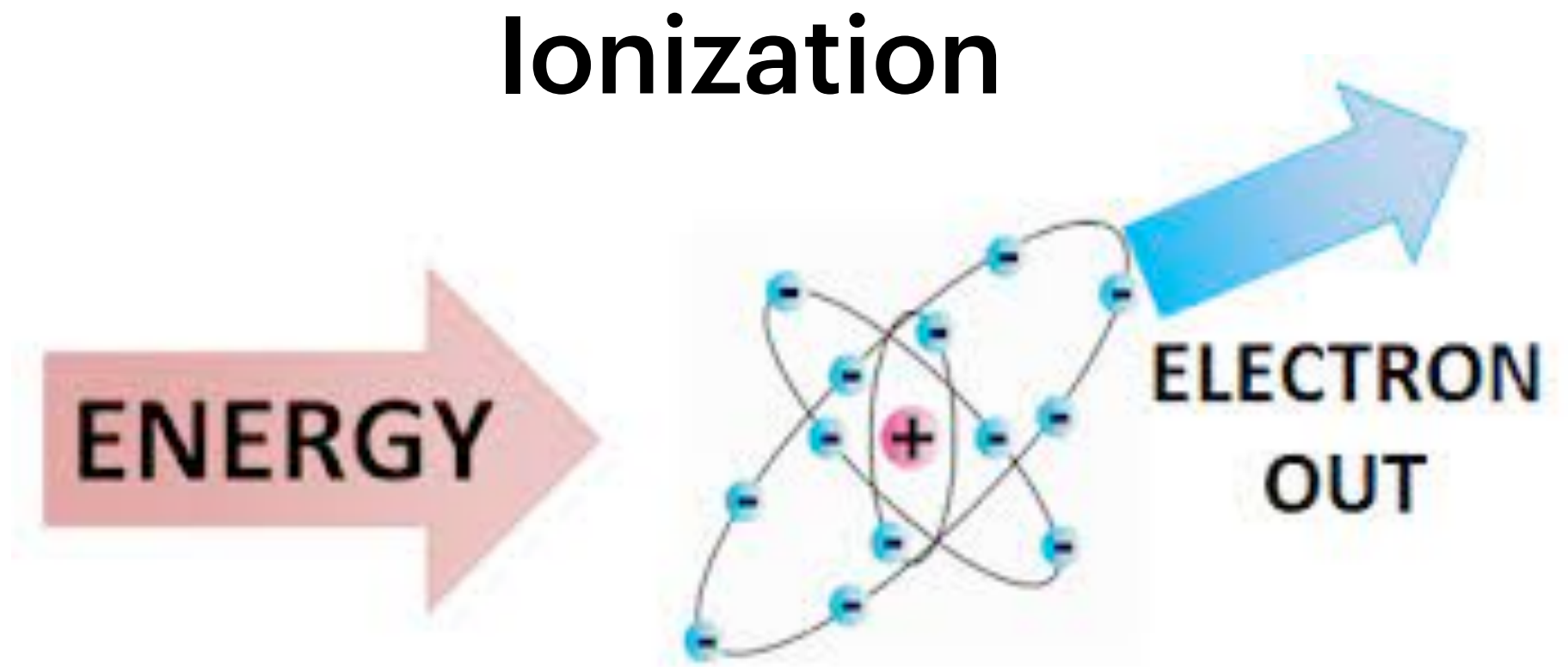
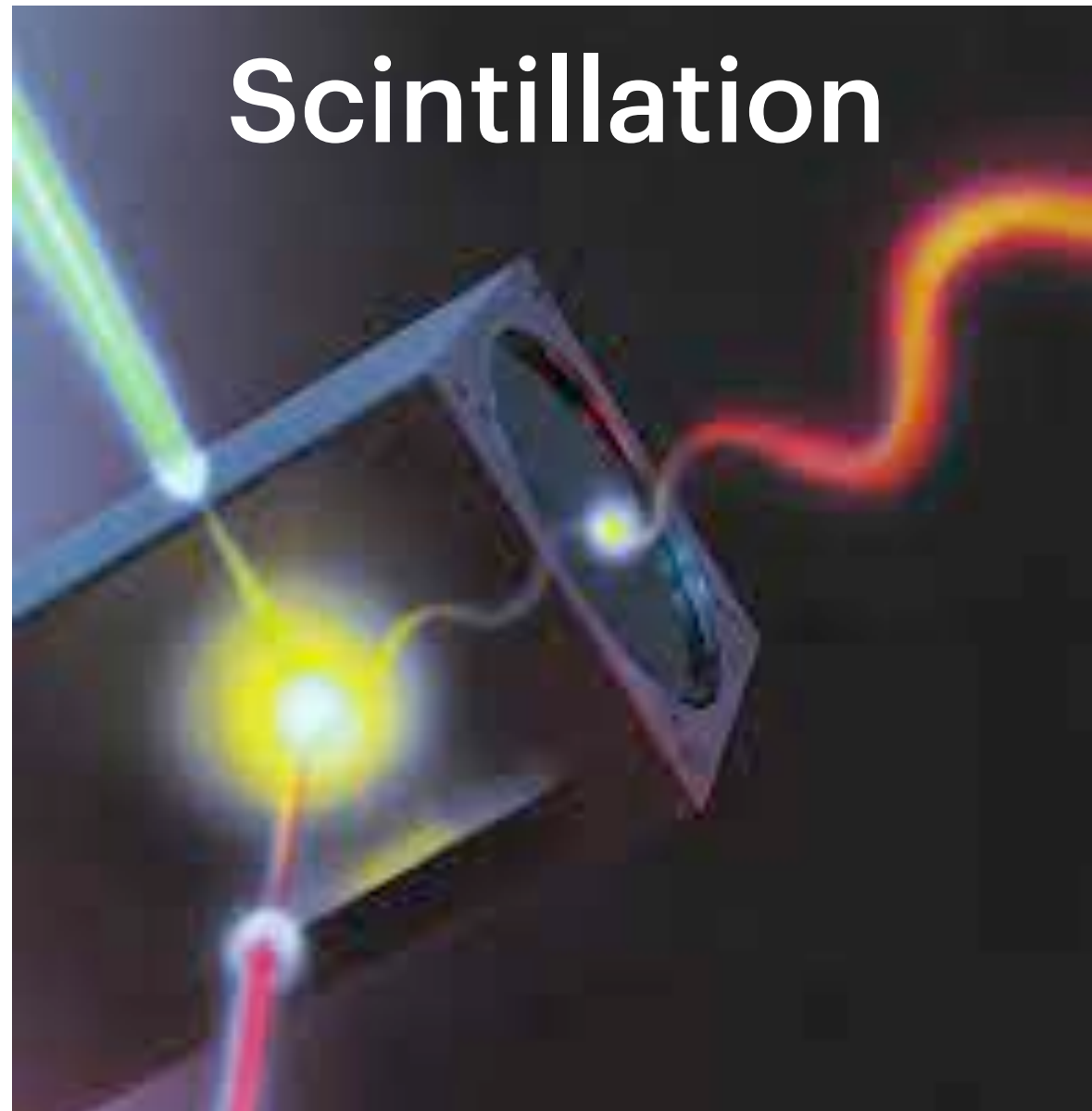




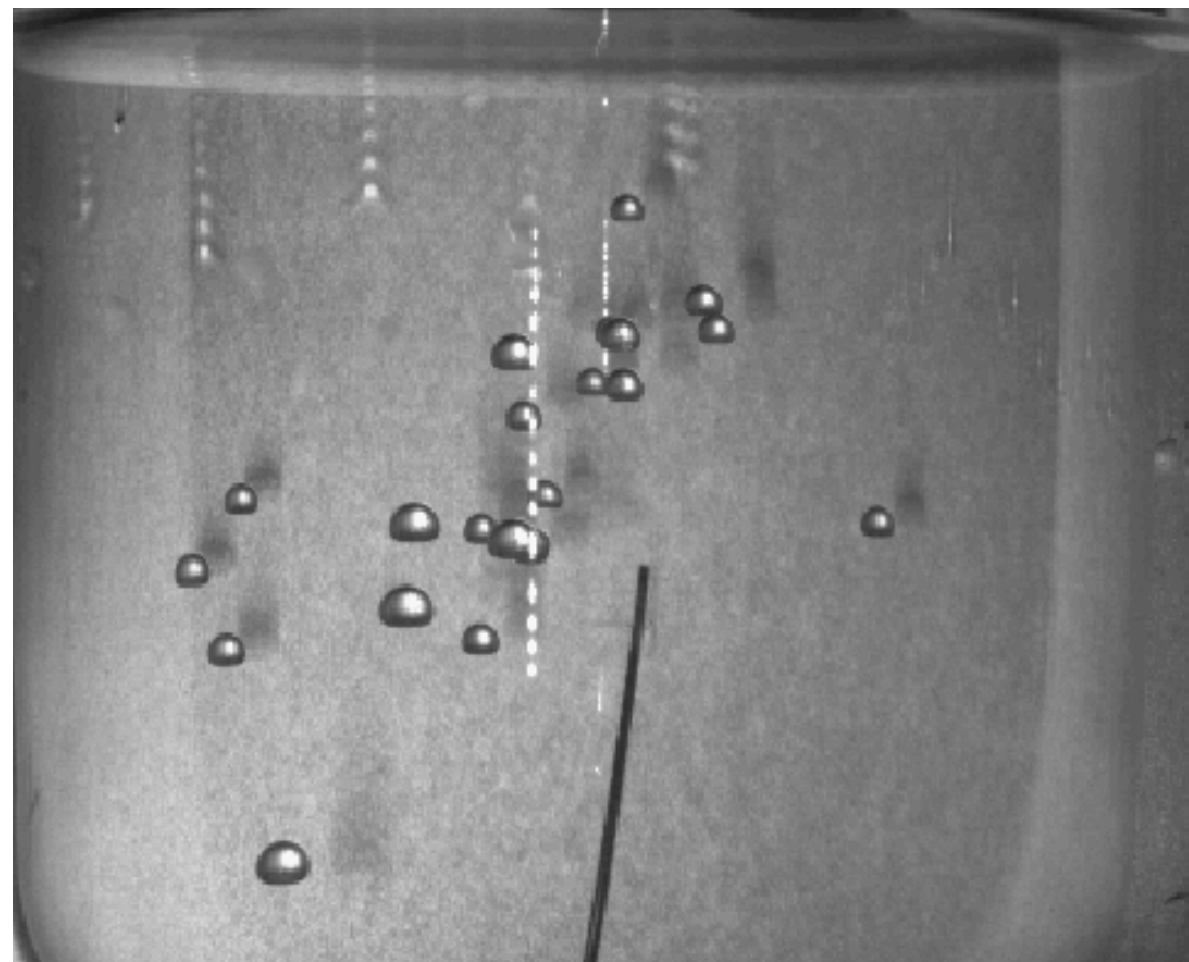
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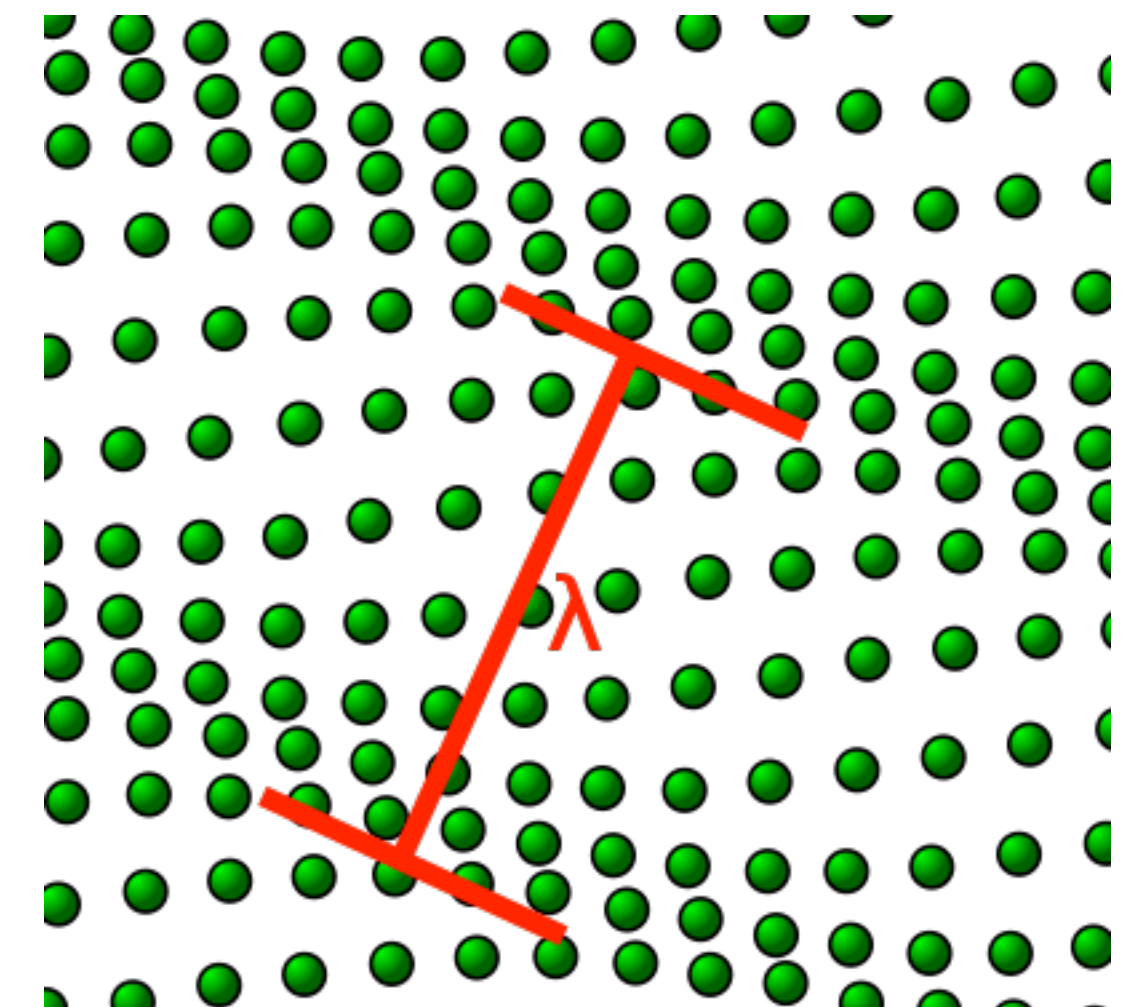
## Phase transition



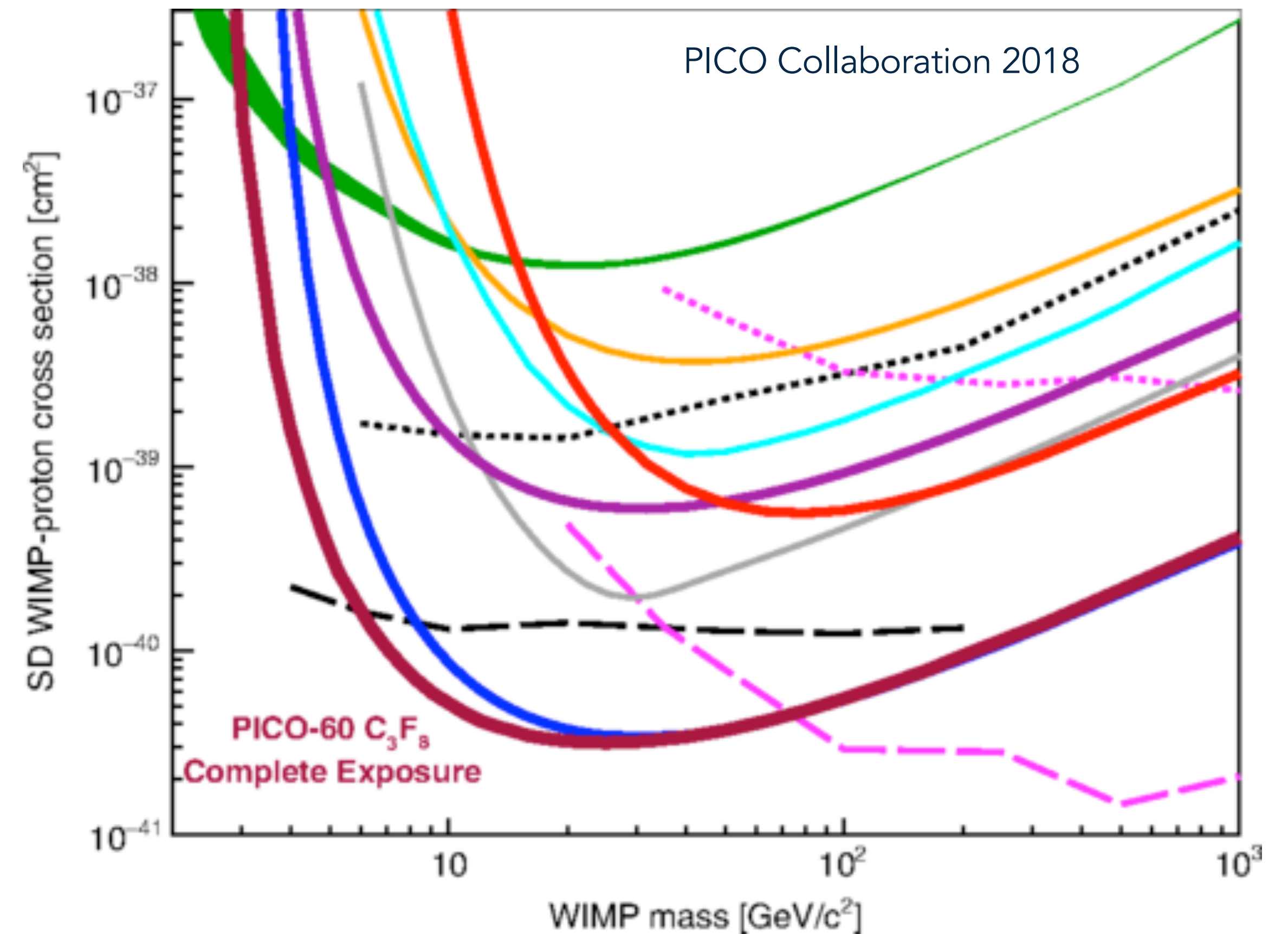
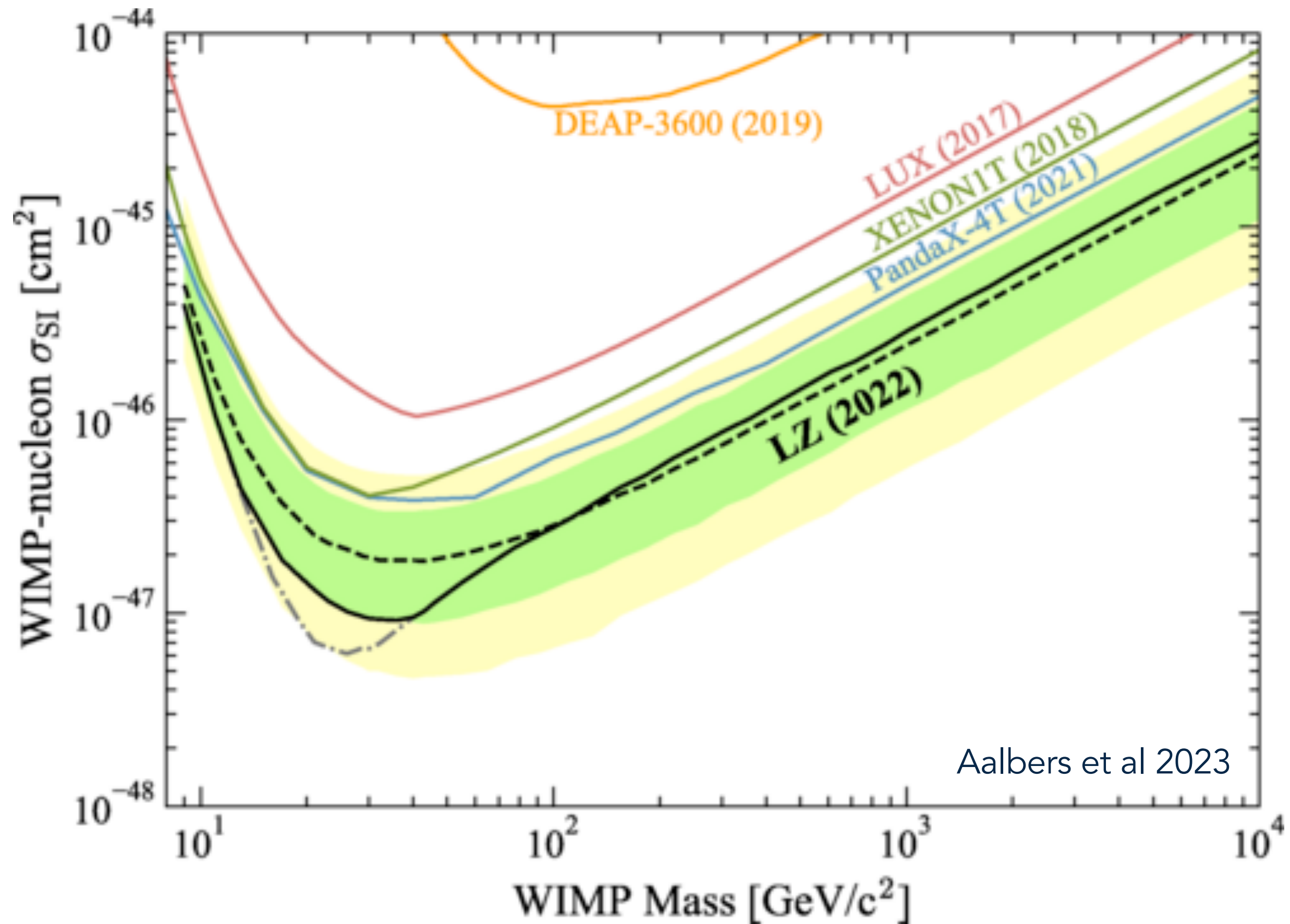
Bubbles in PICO-2L



## Phonons



# Placing Limits on WIMP Cross-Section




# Spin-Independent vs Spin-Dependent Scattering

## Spin-Independent

Interaction does not depend on the spin of the particles involved

$$\sigma_{NX}^{SI} \propto (Zf_p + (A - Z)f_n)^2$$

“effective couplings”



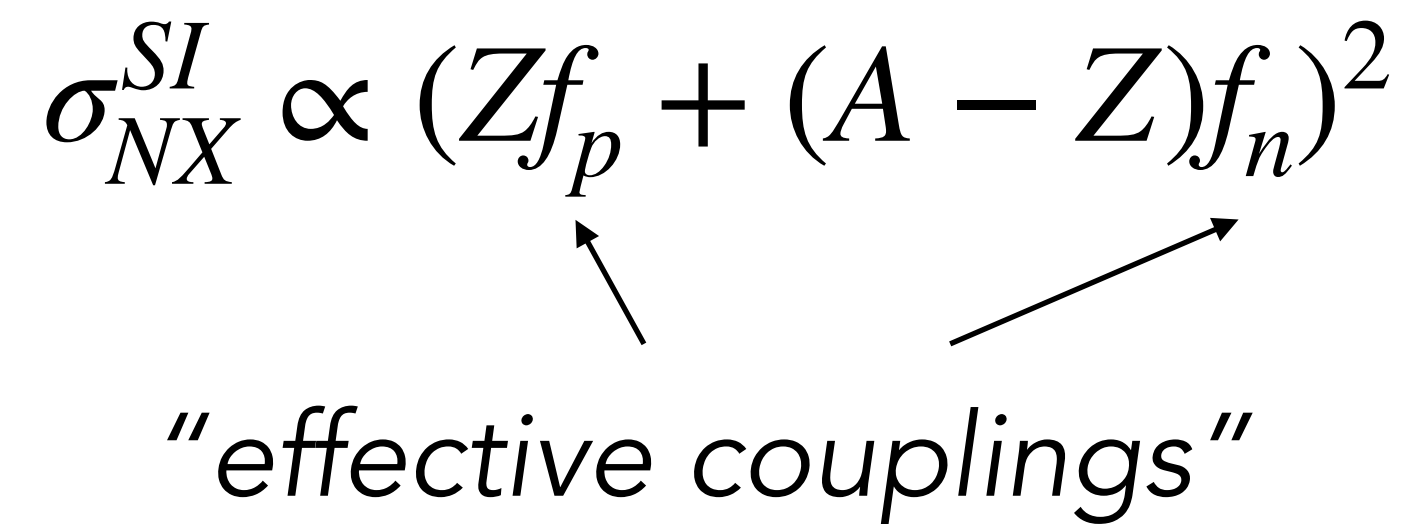
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"effective couplings"



## Spin-Dependent

Interaction does depend on spin:  
effectively couples to the *net* particle spin

*angular momentum of atom*

$$\sigma_{NX}^{SD} \propto \frac{J + 1}{J} [a_p \langle S_p \rangle + a_n \langle S_n \rangle]^2$$

*average nucleon spins*



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Different experiments have different target nuclei: report DM-*nucleon* cross-section instead

$$\sigma_{NX}^{SI} = A^2 \sigma_{nX}$$

$$\sigma_{(p,n)X} \propto |a_{p,n}|^2$$

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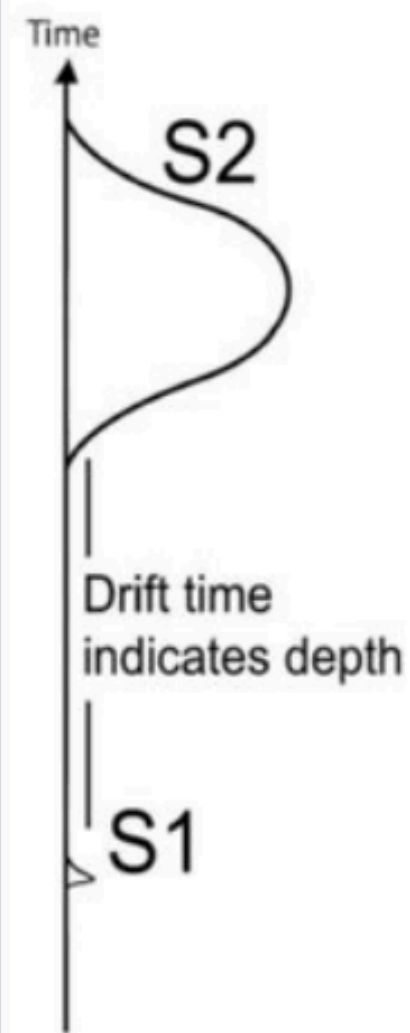
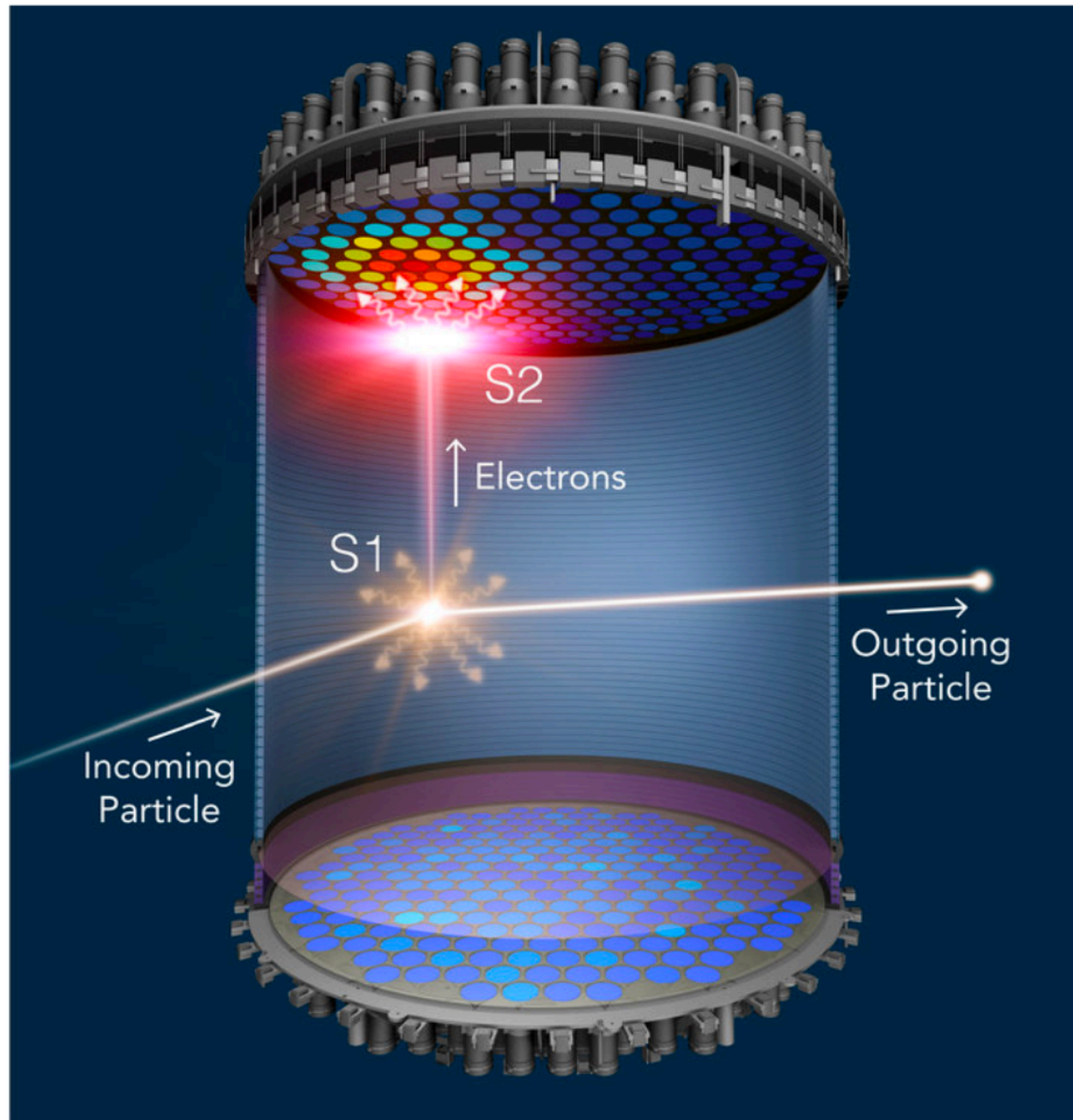
$$\sigma_{NX}^{SD} \propto \frac{J + 1}{J} [a_p \langle S_p \rangle + a_n \langle S_n \rangle]^2 \underline{S^2(q)}$$

Different experiments have different target nuclei: report DM-*nucleon* cross-section instead

$$\sigma_{NX}^{SI} = A^2 \sigma_{nX} \underline{F^2(q)}$$

Form factors take into account the structure of the nucleus: these are not free particles

# SI: Dual-Phase Time-Projection Chamber (TPC)



## Noble liquids:

Xenon (LZ, XENONnT), Argon (DarkSide)

→ avoid radioactive isotopes

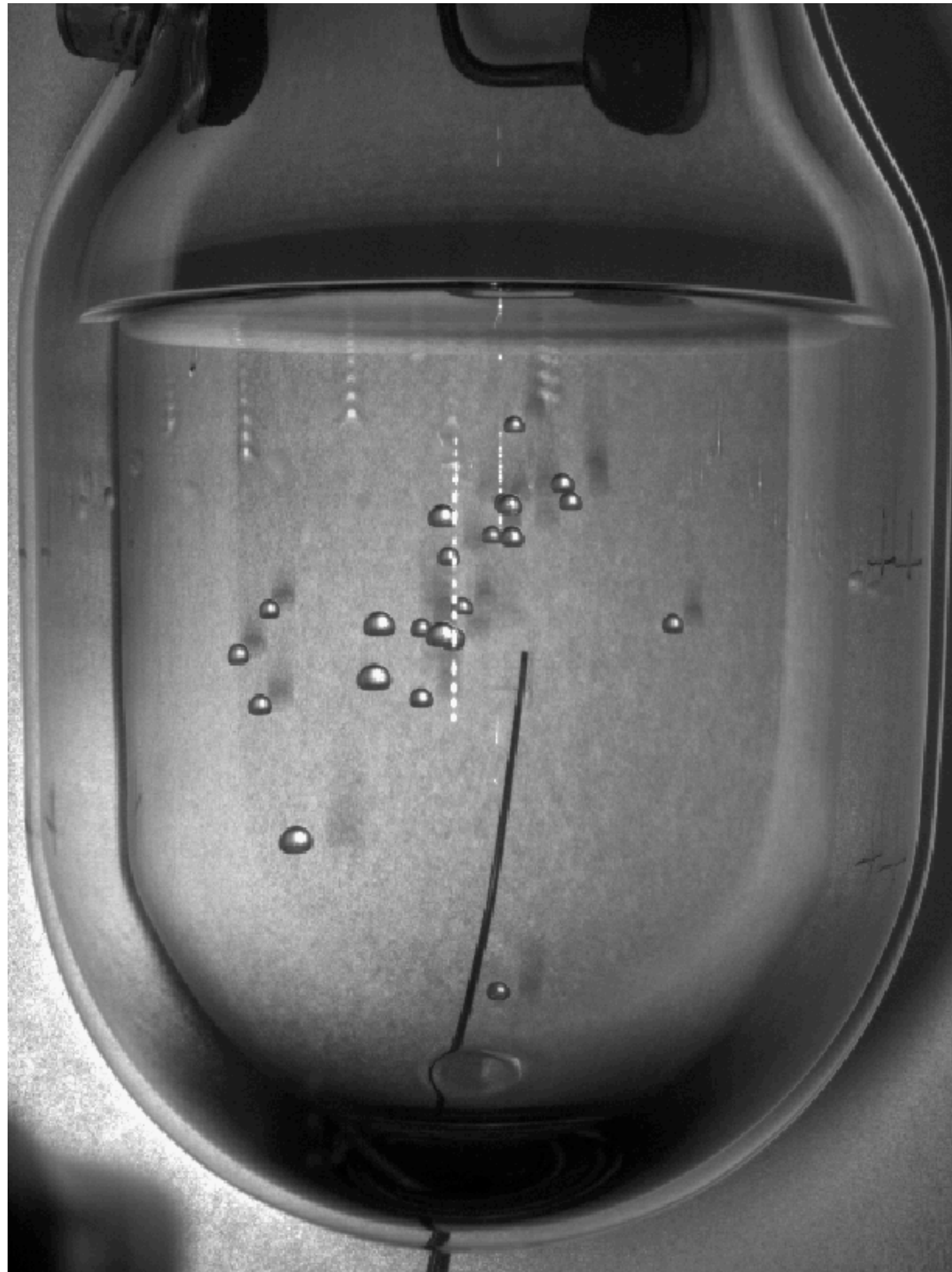
→  $\sigma_{NX}^{SI} = A^2 \sigma_{nX}$  — use a large nucleus!

→ Good scintillator

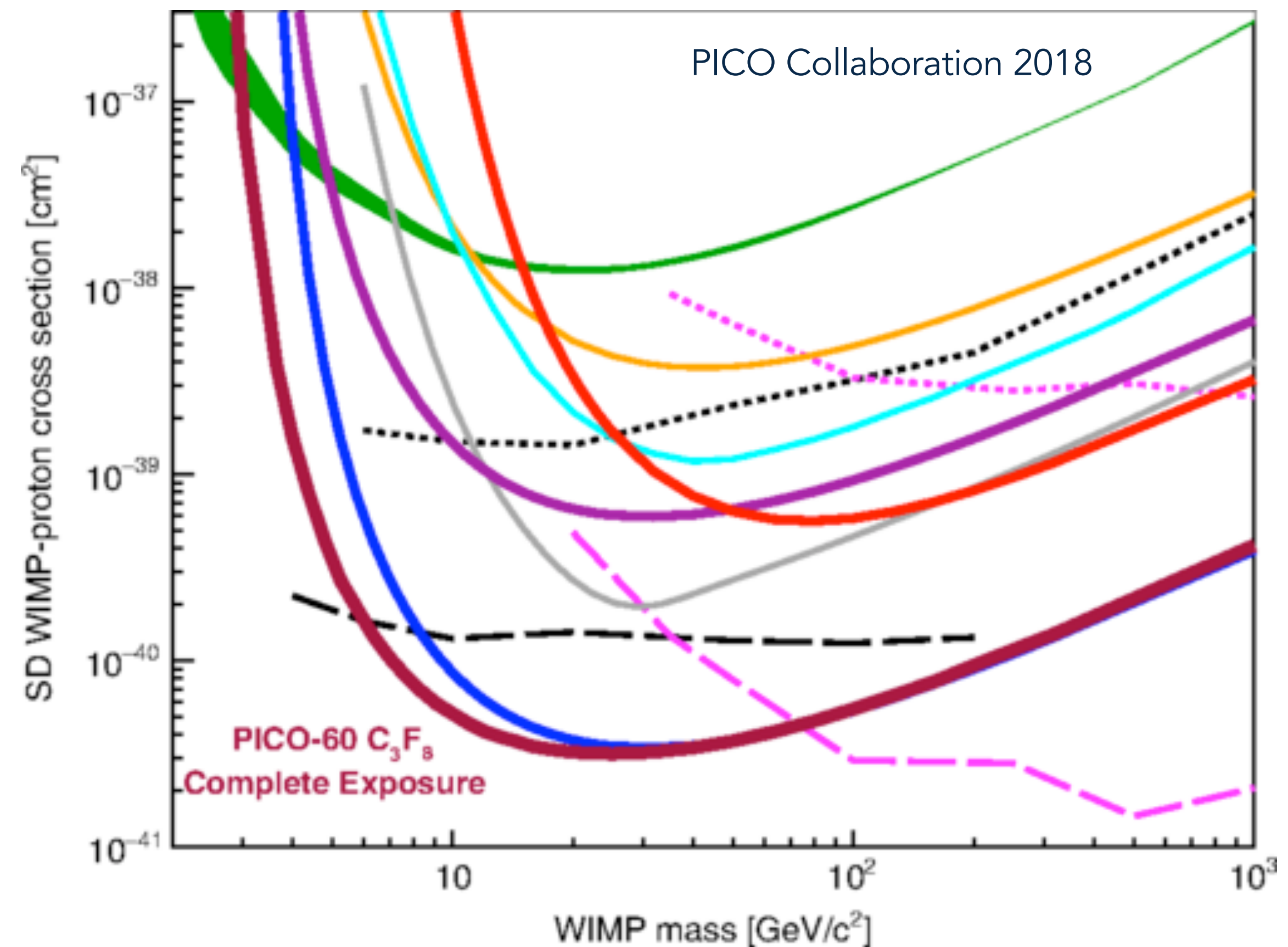
→ Ask the experimental talks why they chose their target!

# SD: Superheated C<sub>3</sub>F<sub>8</sub>

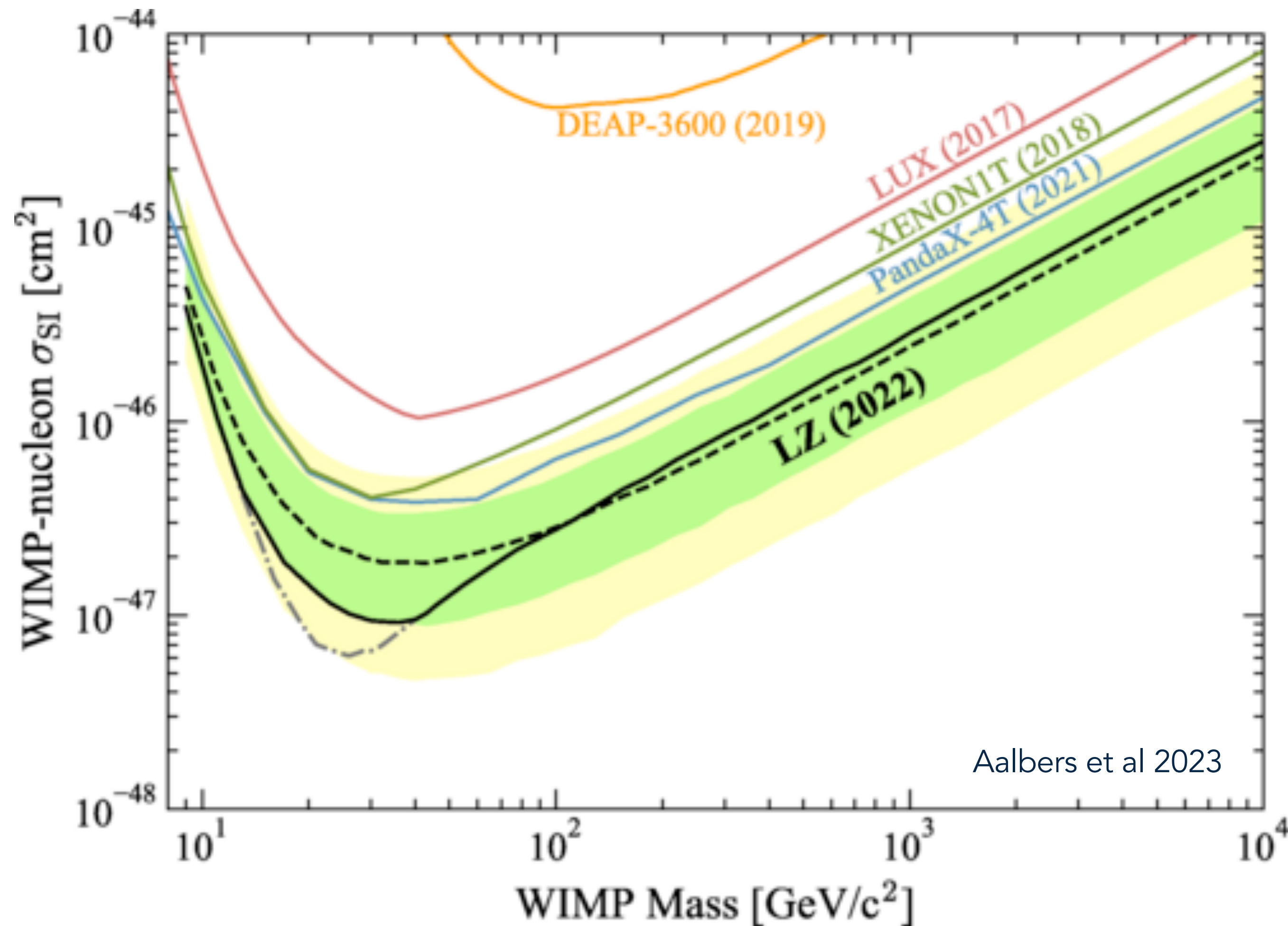
Fluorine's unpaired proton & spin characteristics make it a good target for spin-dependent interactions



Bubbles in PICO-2L, SNOLAB Science Program 2016

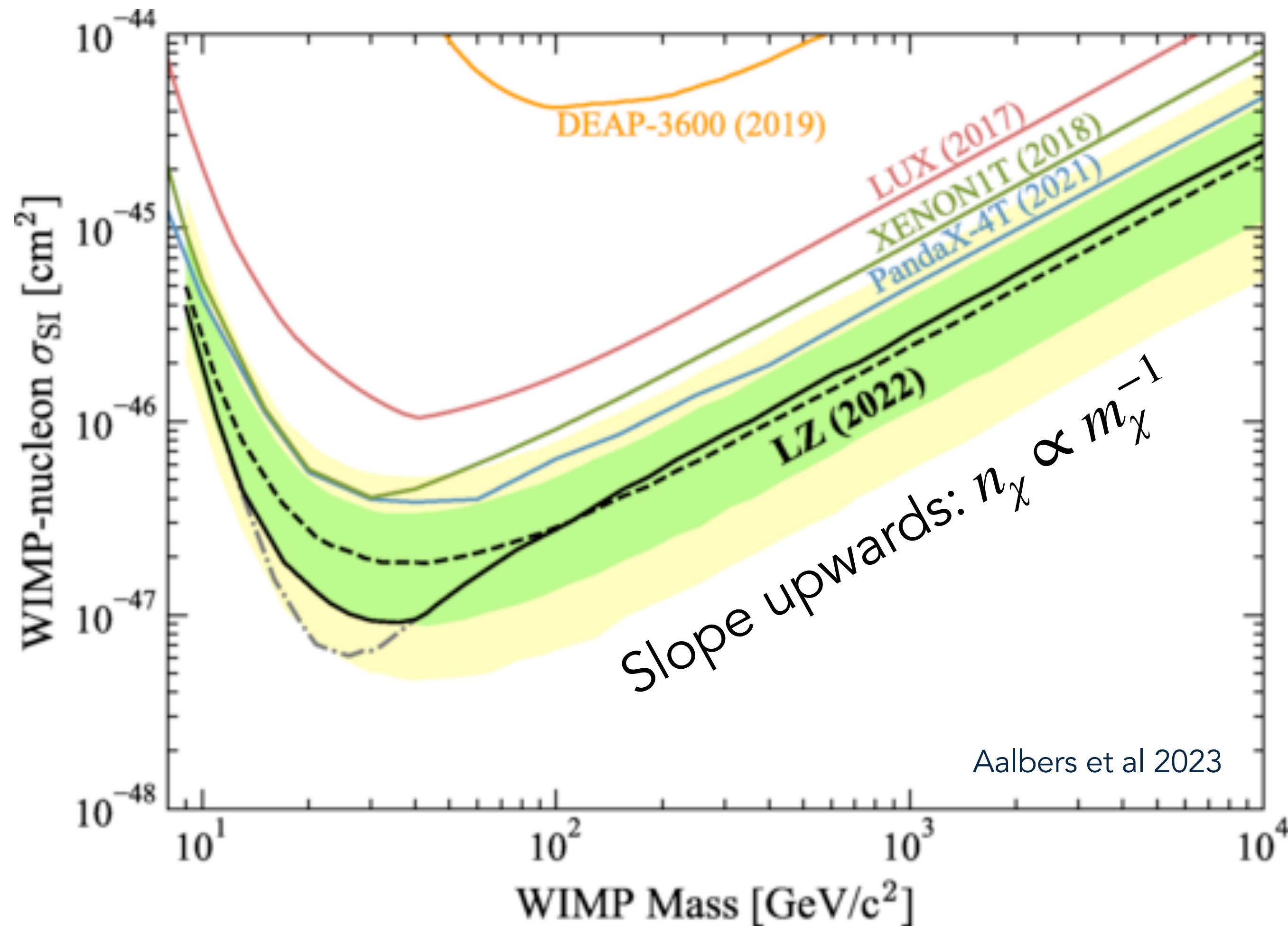


# Reading a DM Exclusion Plot



Anything above each line is excluded to 95% confidence by that experiment

# Reading a DM Exclusion Plot

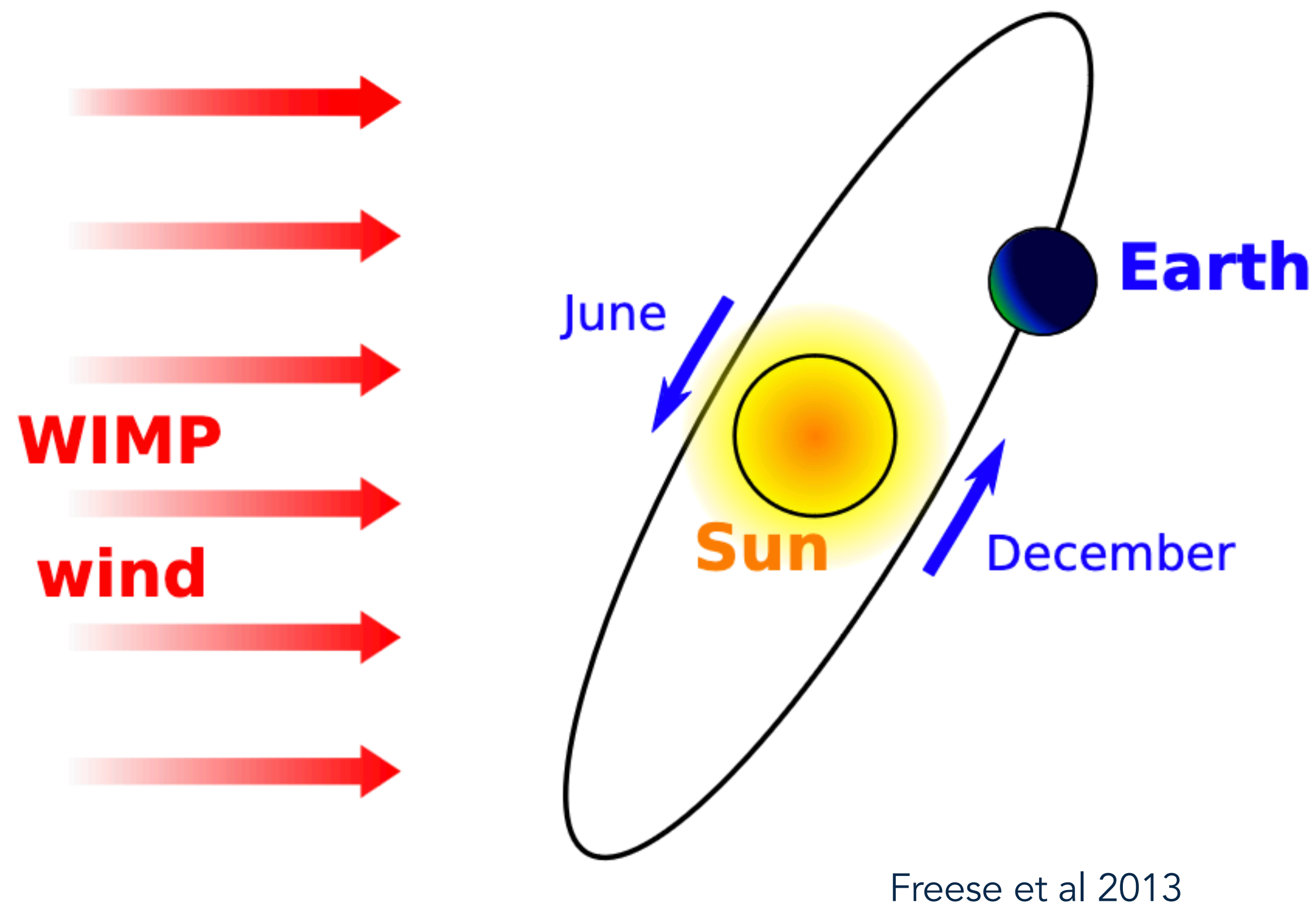


Anything above each line is excluded to 95% confidence by that experiment

Limited at low masses by  $E_{th}$ : recoil is small

Limited at the bottom by exposure (and  $E_{th}$ )

# A Distinctive Signature: Annual Modulation

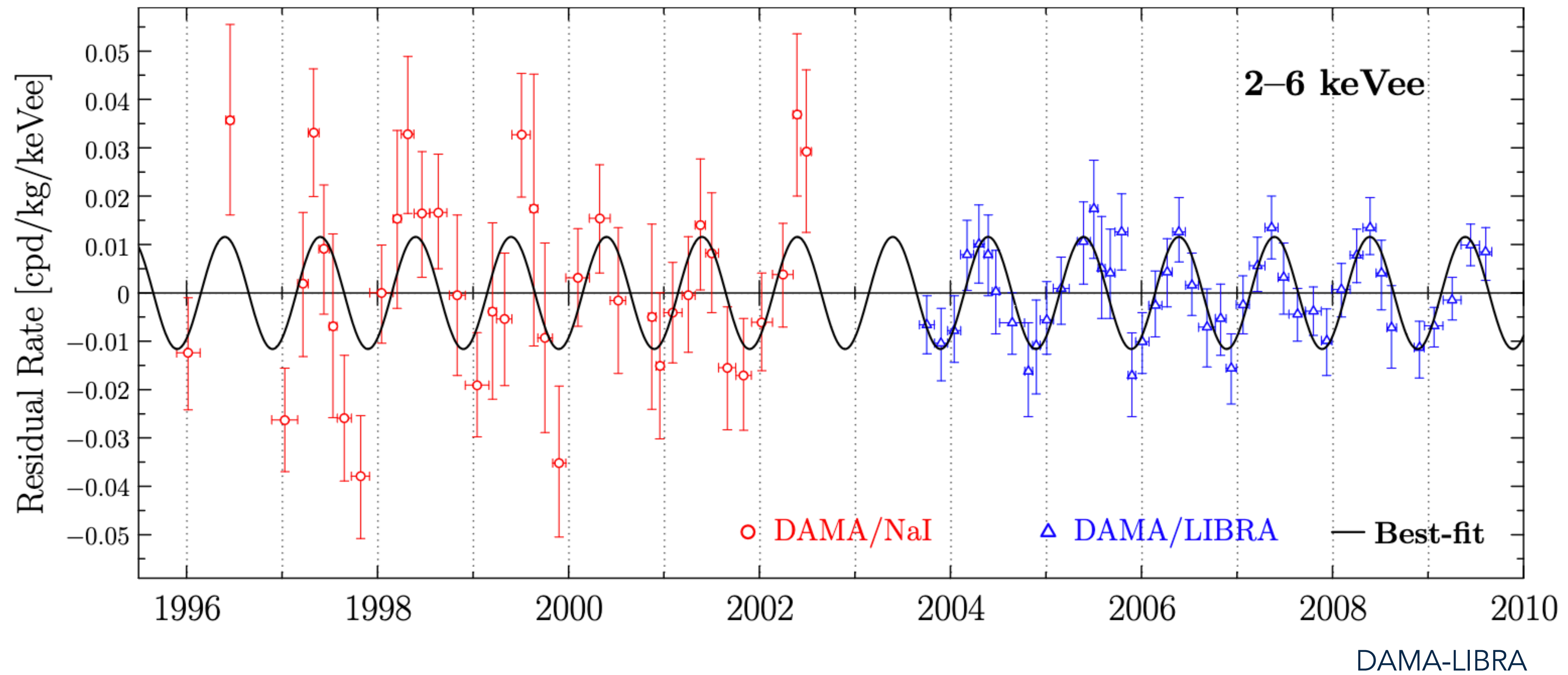


The galactic disk rotates while the DM halo is non-rotating

Change in relative velocity because of Earth's rotation around Sun

DM rates should have some modulation, whereas backgrounds would not

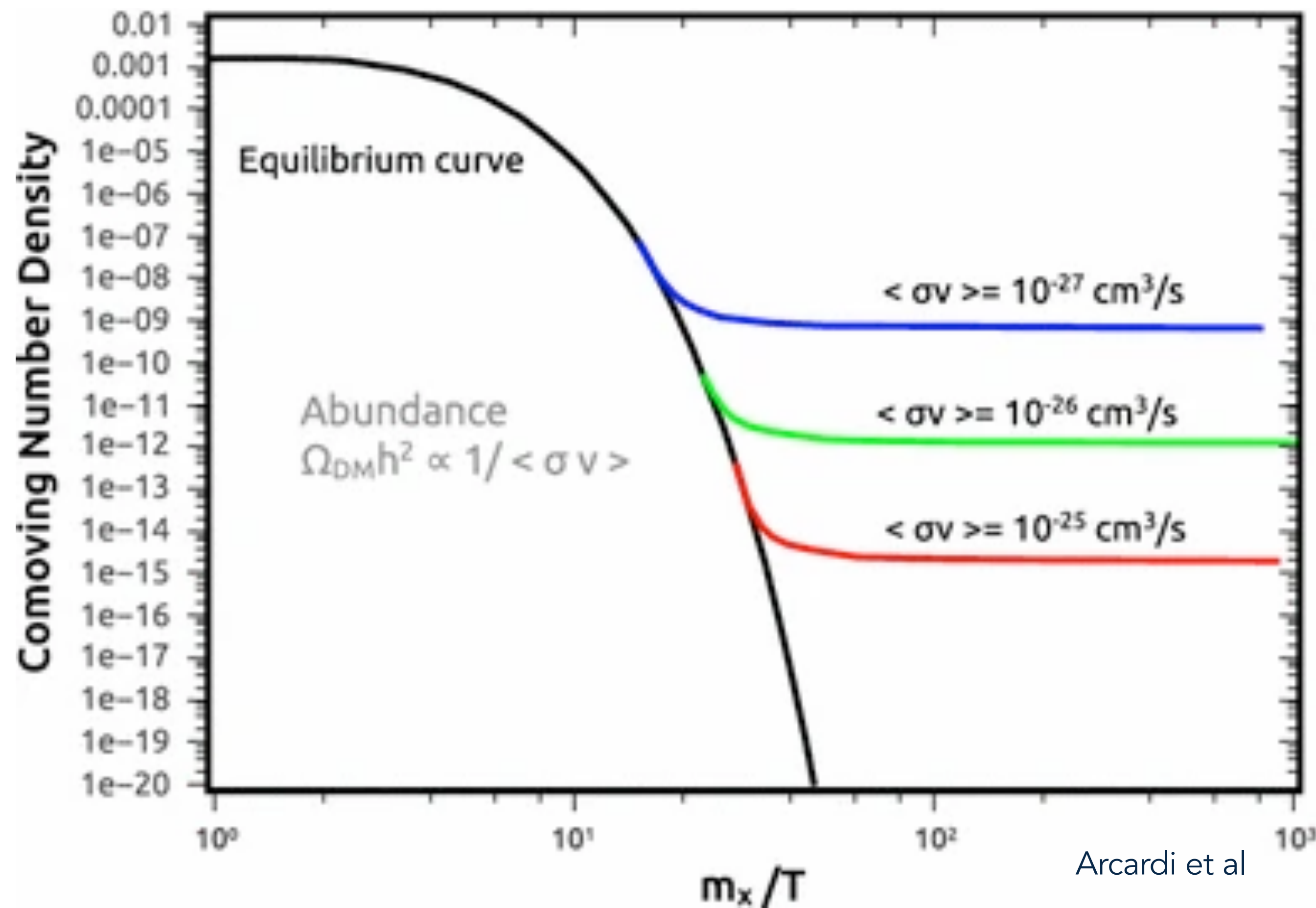
# DAMA(-LIBRA)





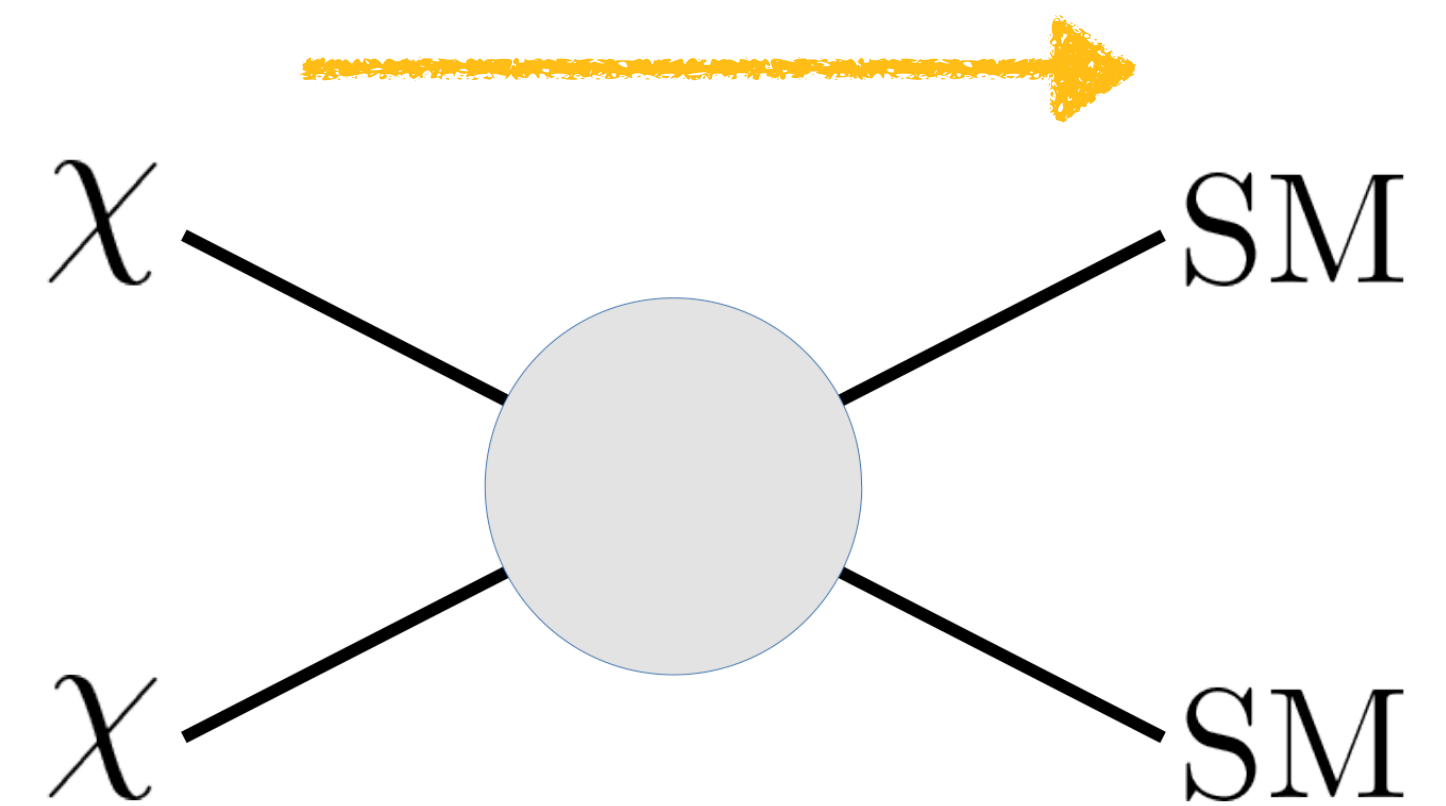
Before we move to indirect  
detection of WIMPs: any  
questions?

# Thermal WIMP abundance was due to annihilations

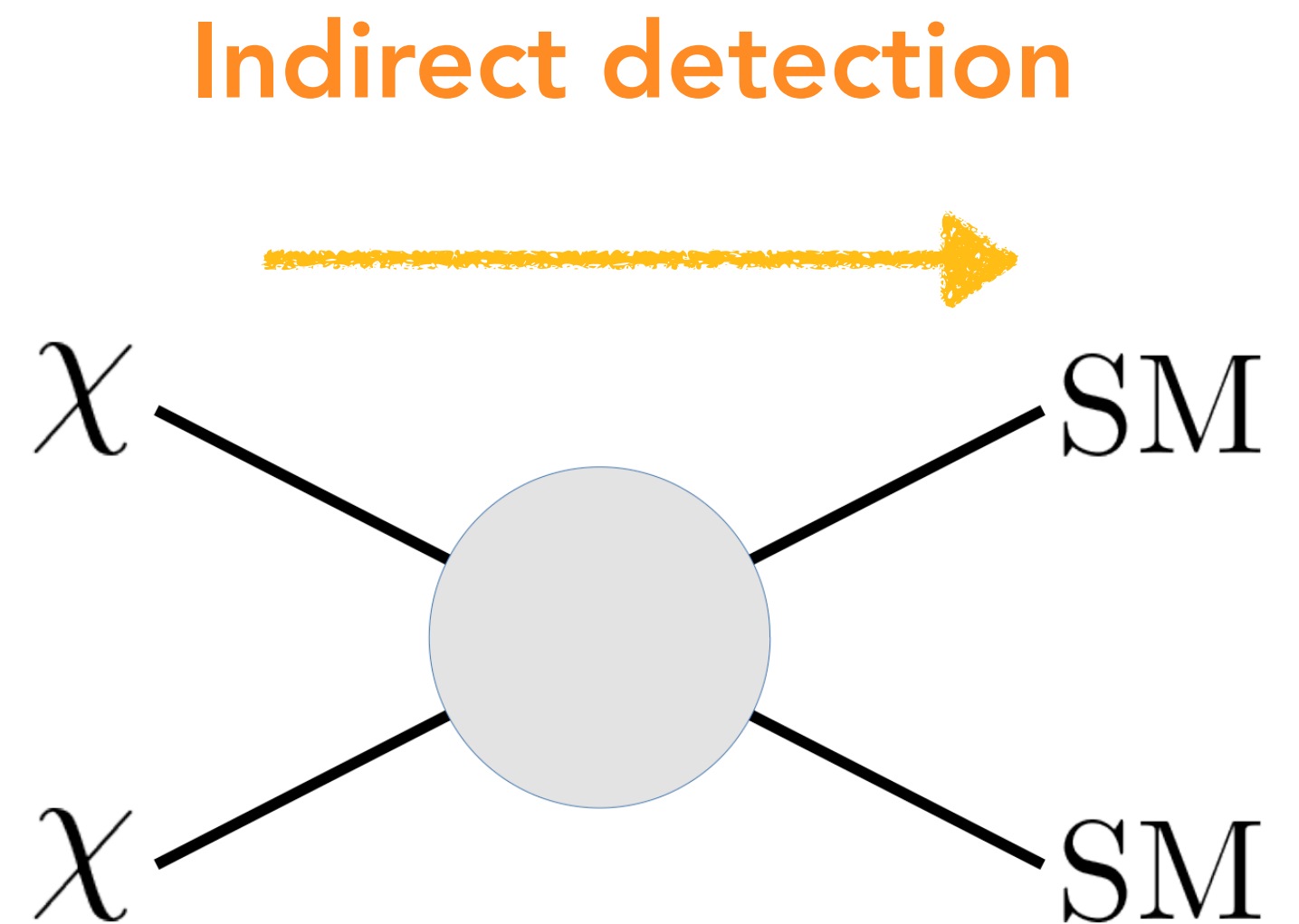
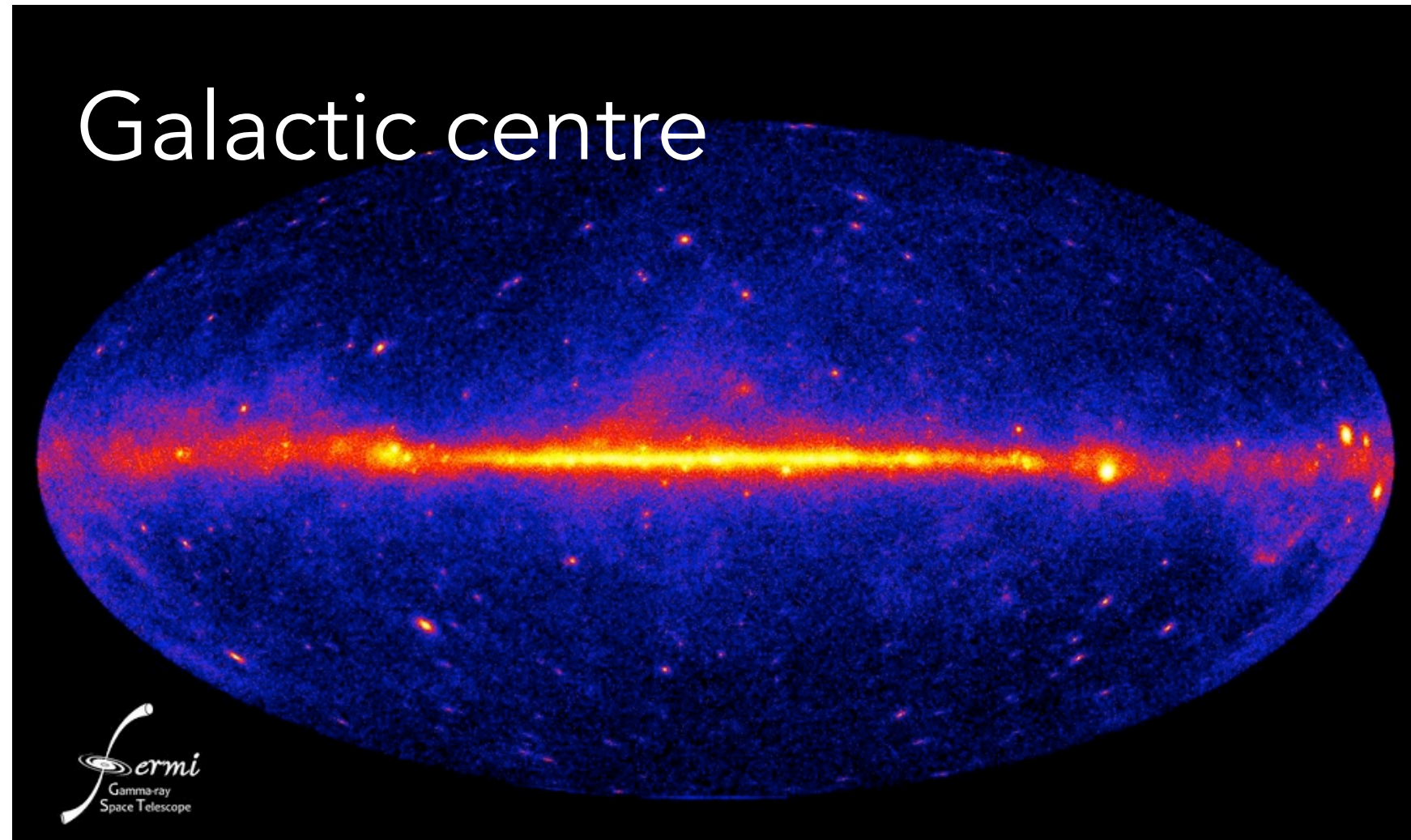


Arcardi et al

Indirect detection

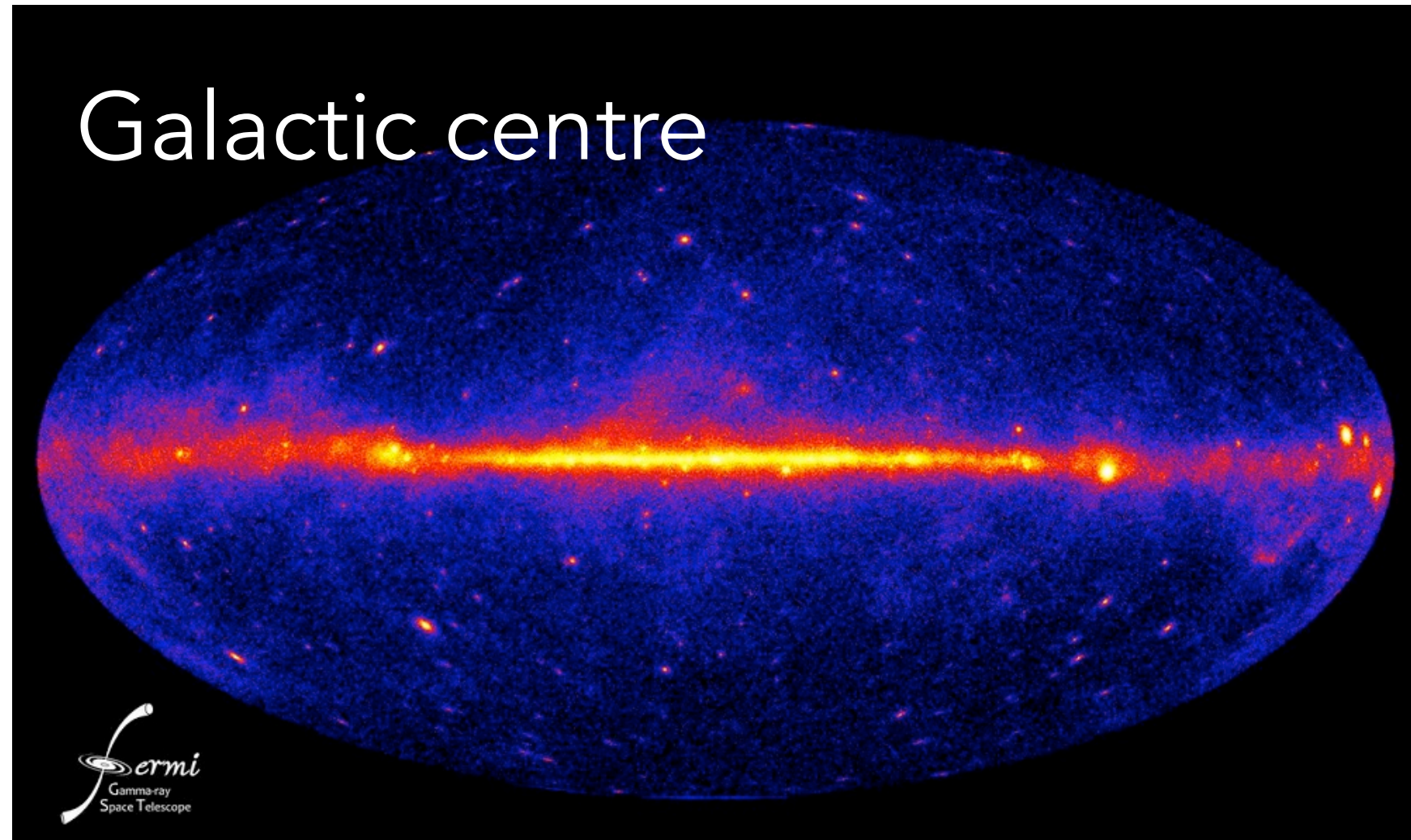


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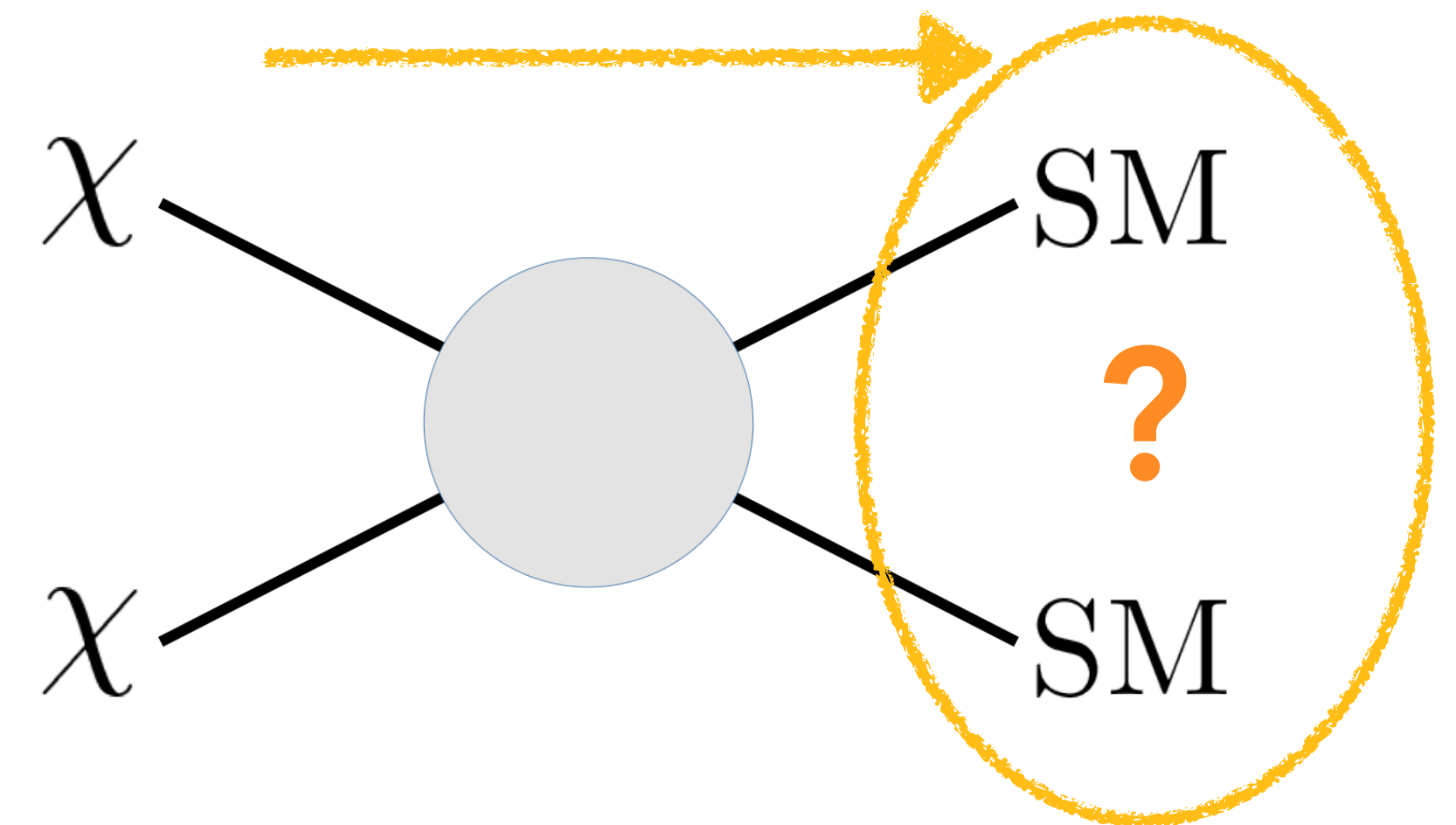


A small amount of annihilation is still possible, in regions with a large density of DM

# Thermal WIMP abundance was due to annihilations



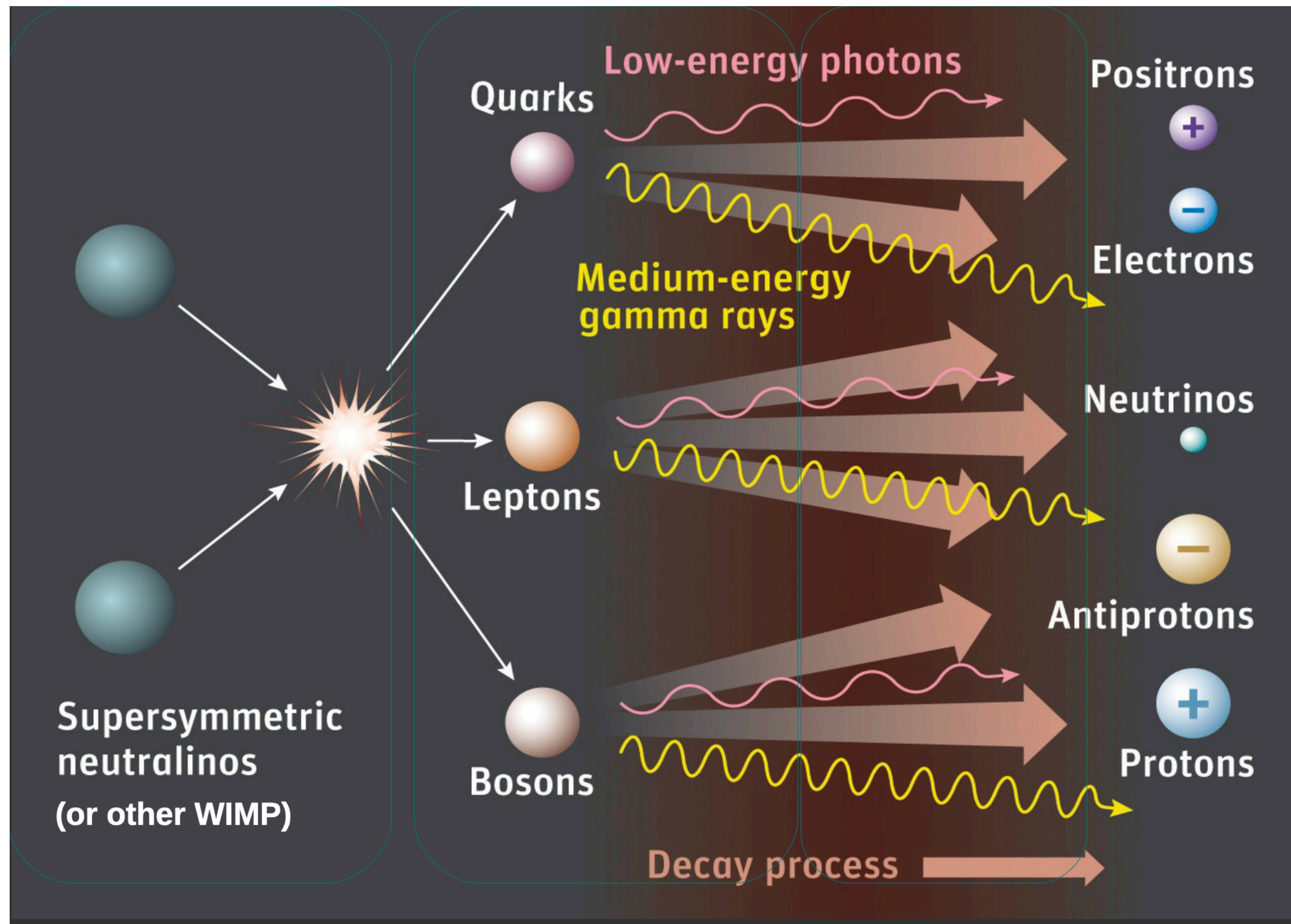
Indirect detection



Eventually...

Photons? Protons? Electrons?  
Neutrinos?

# Why would DM annihilate (or decay) to photons?



The SM products eventually themselves decay/annihilate

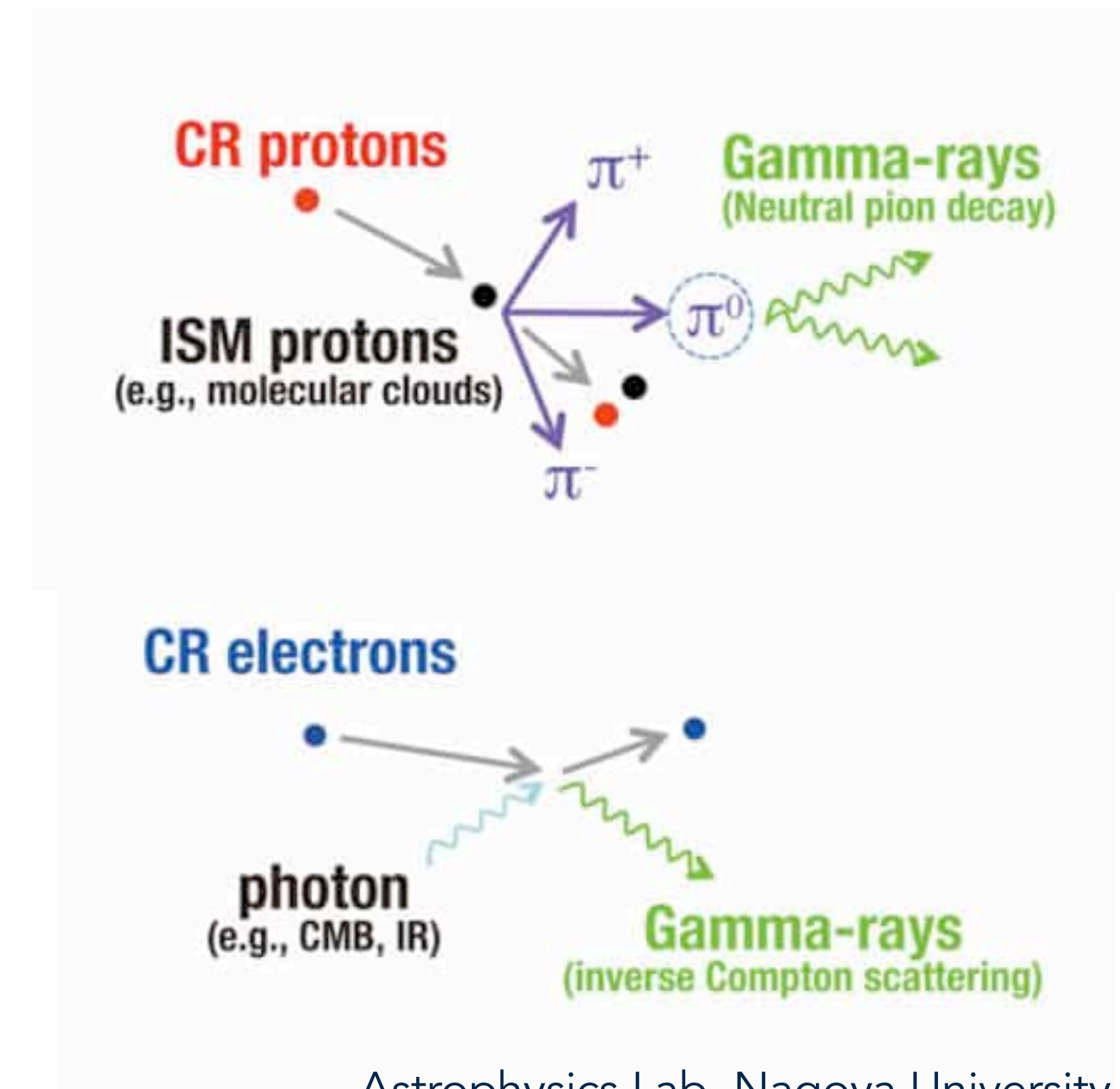
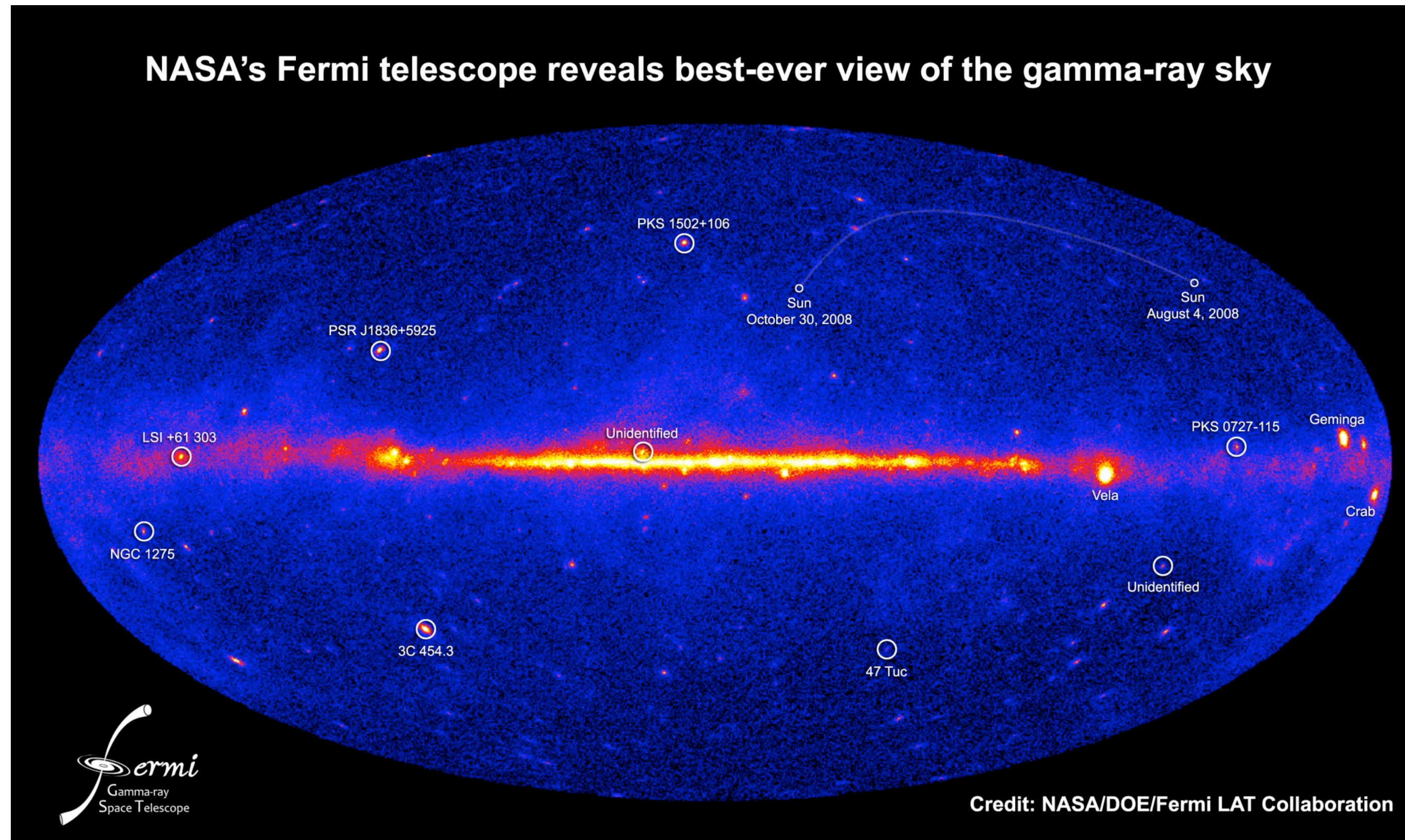
Decays of heavy products produce gamma rays, and e.g. pions, which decay to gamma rays, neutrinos, muons

Annihilation produces radiation

# The Galactic-Centre Gamma Ray Excess

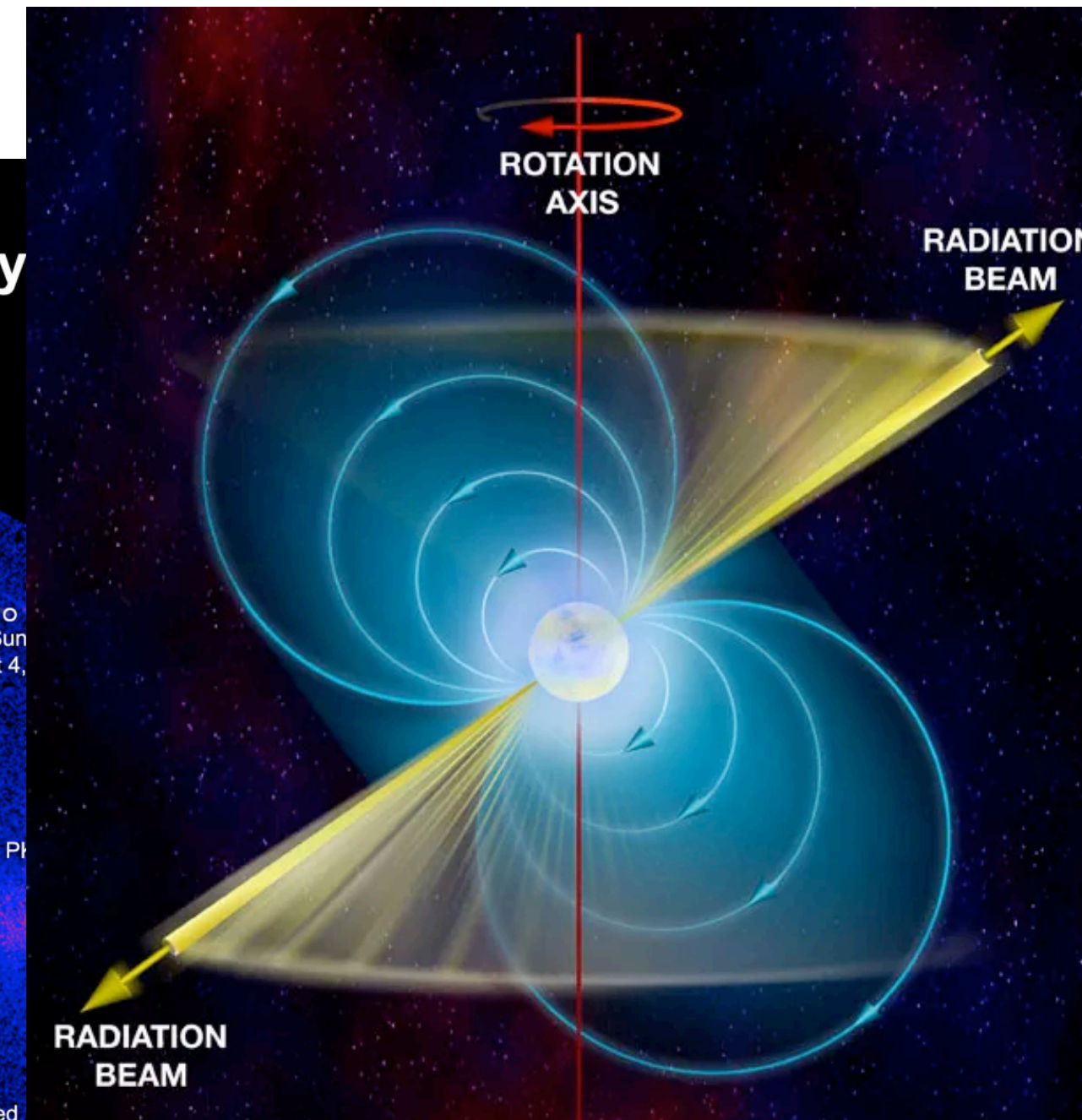
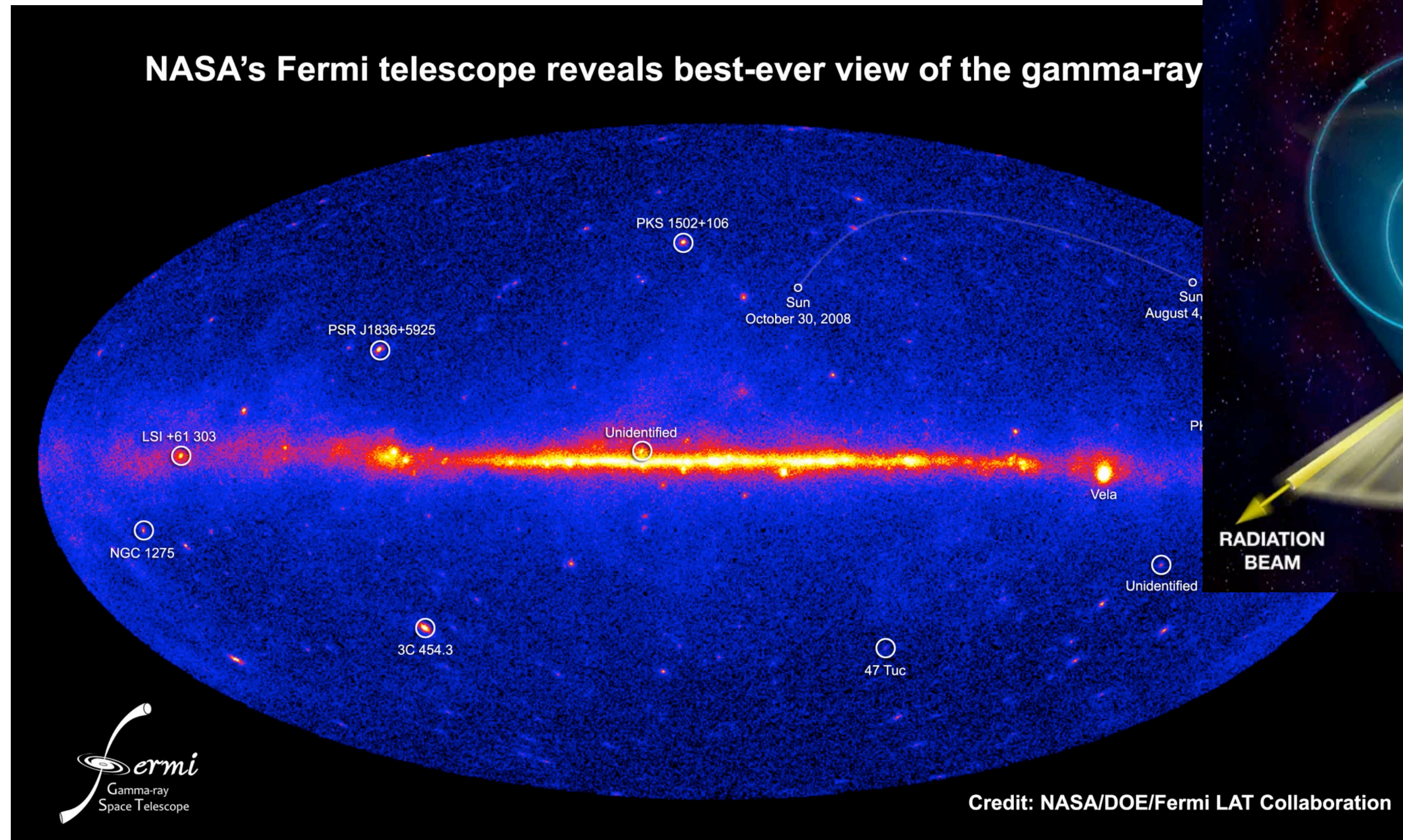
So bright!

Much gas, much cosmic rays



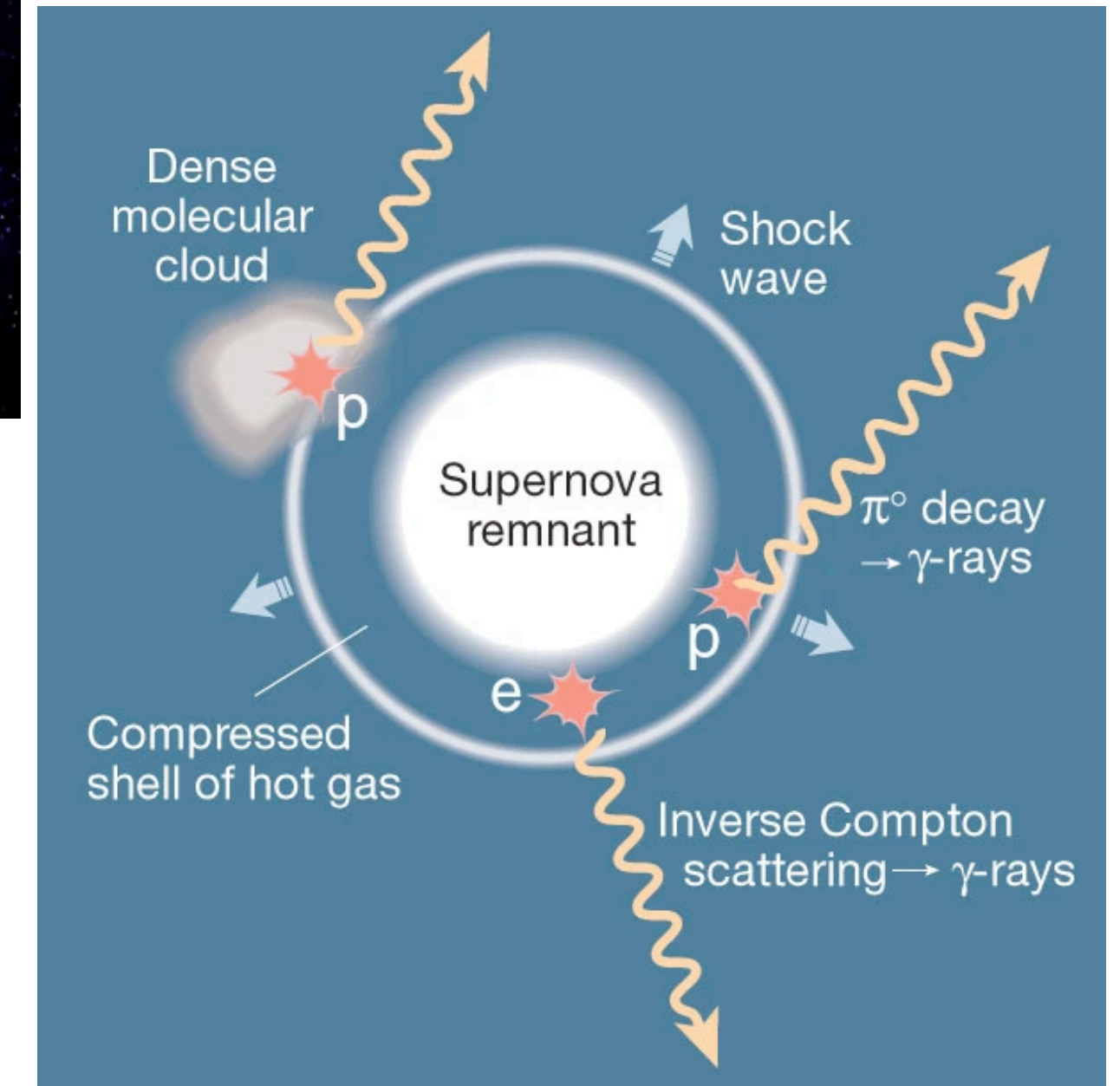
Astrophysics Lab, Nagoya University

# The Galactic-Centre Gamma Ray Excess

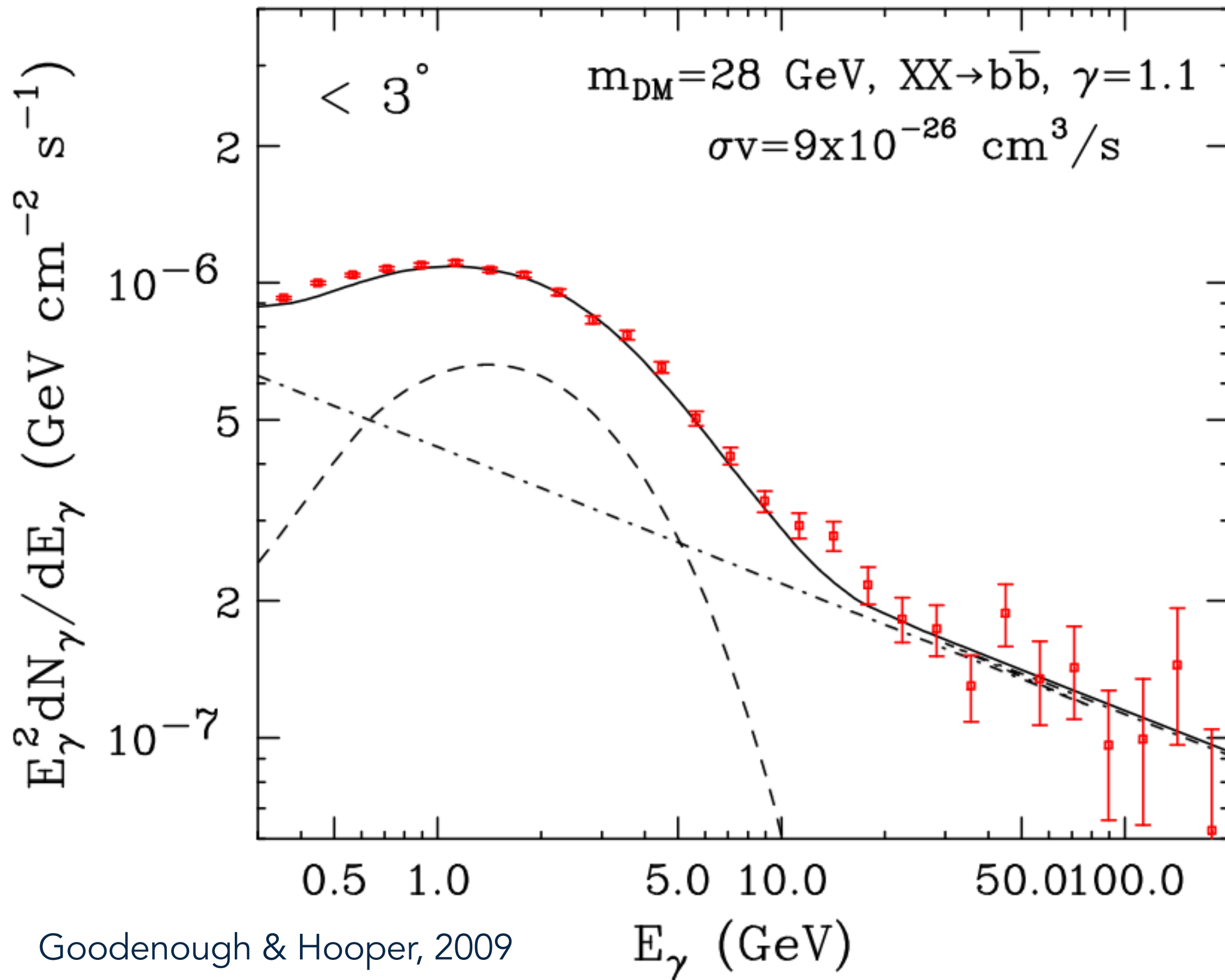


Pulsars accelerating CRs

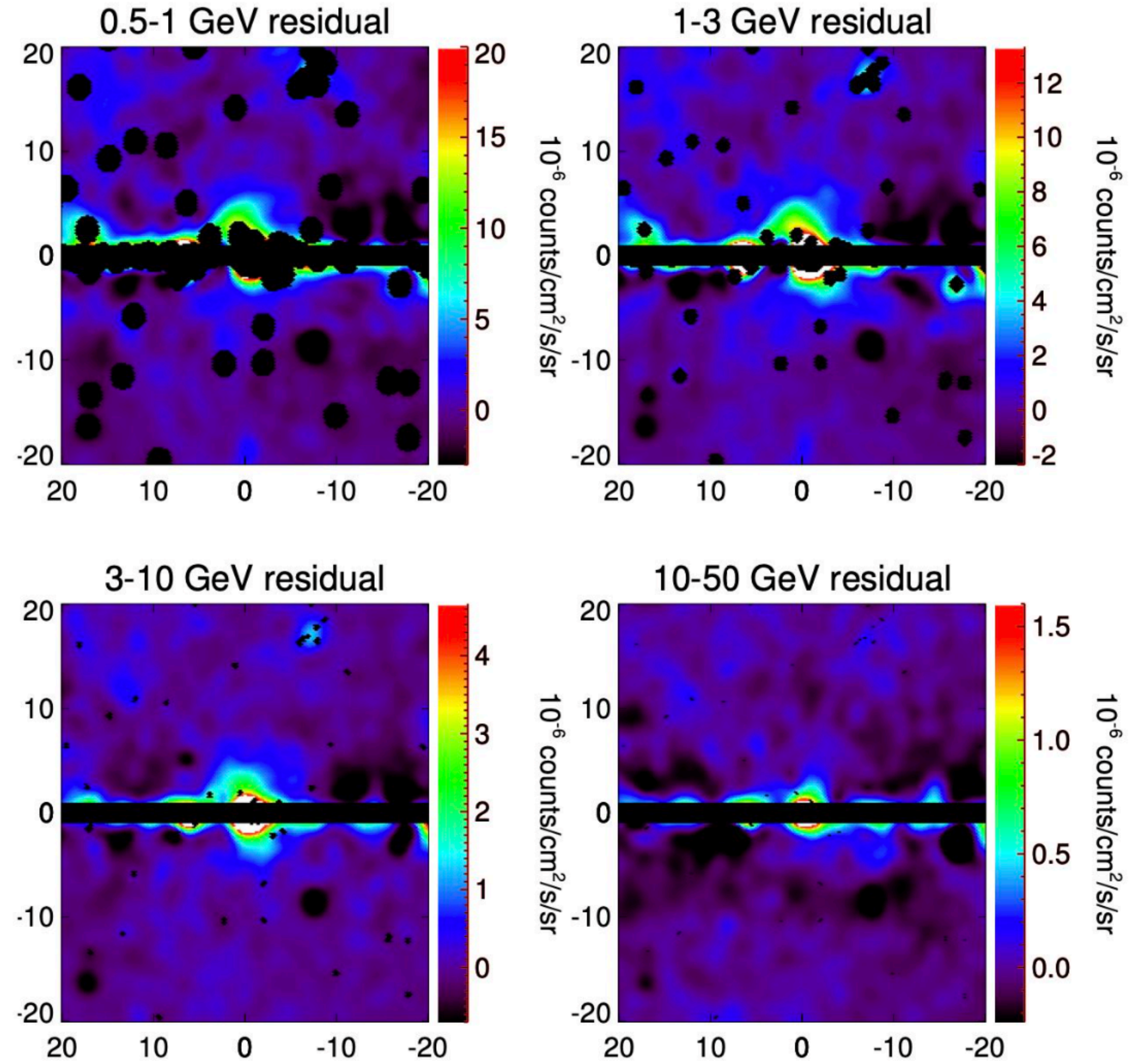
Shock waves from SNR



# An excess of gamma rays?



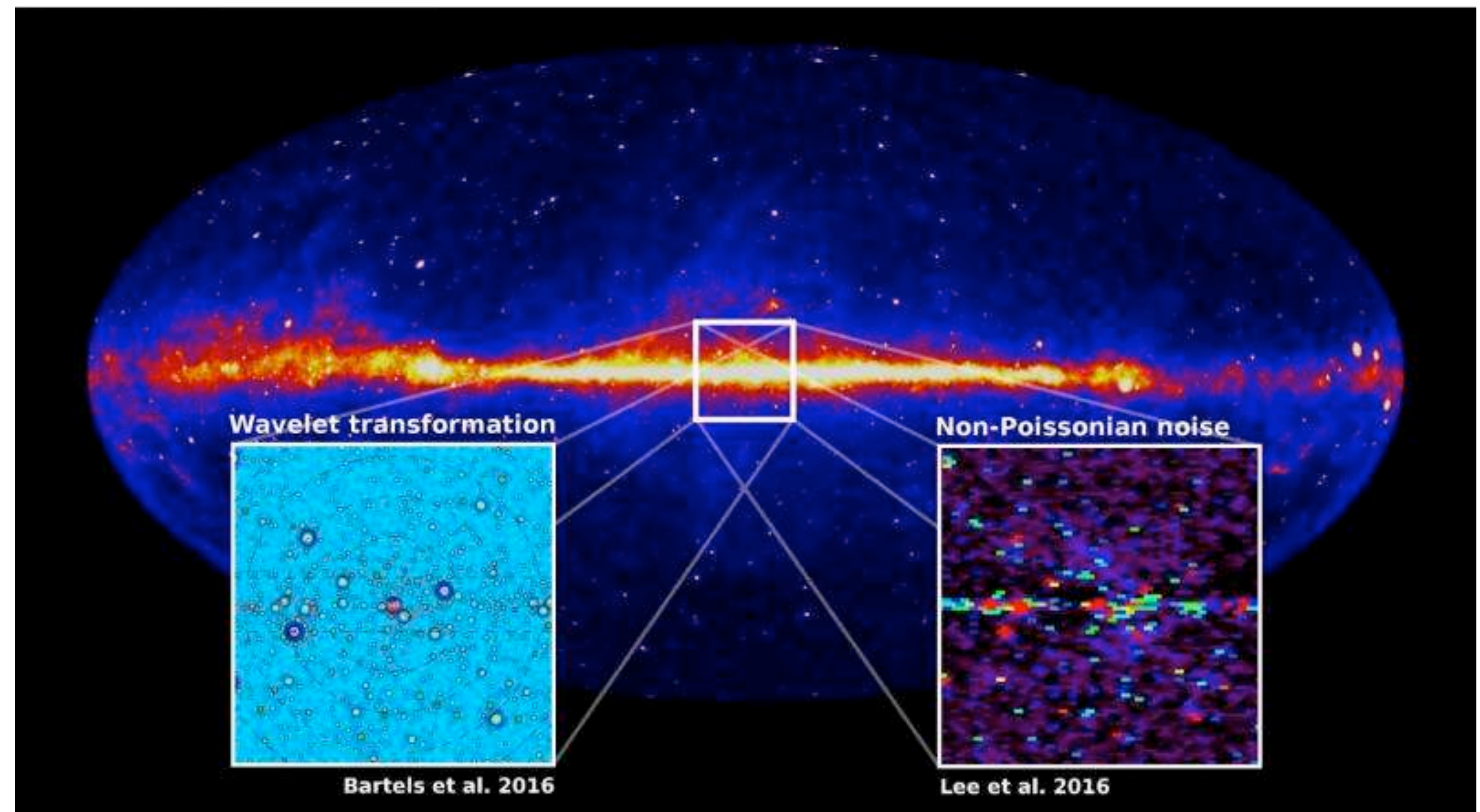
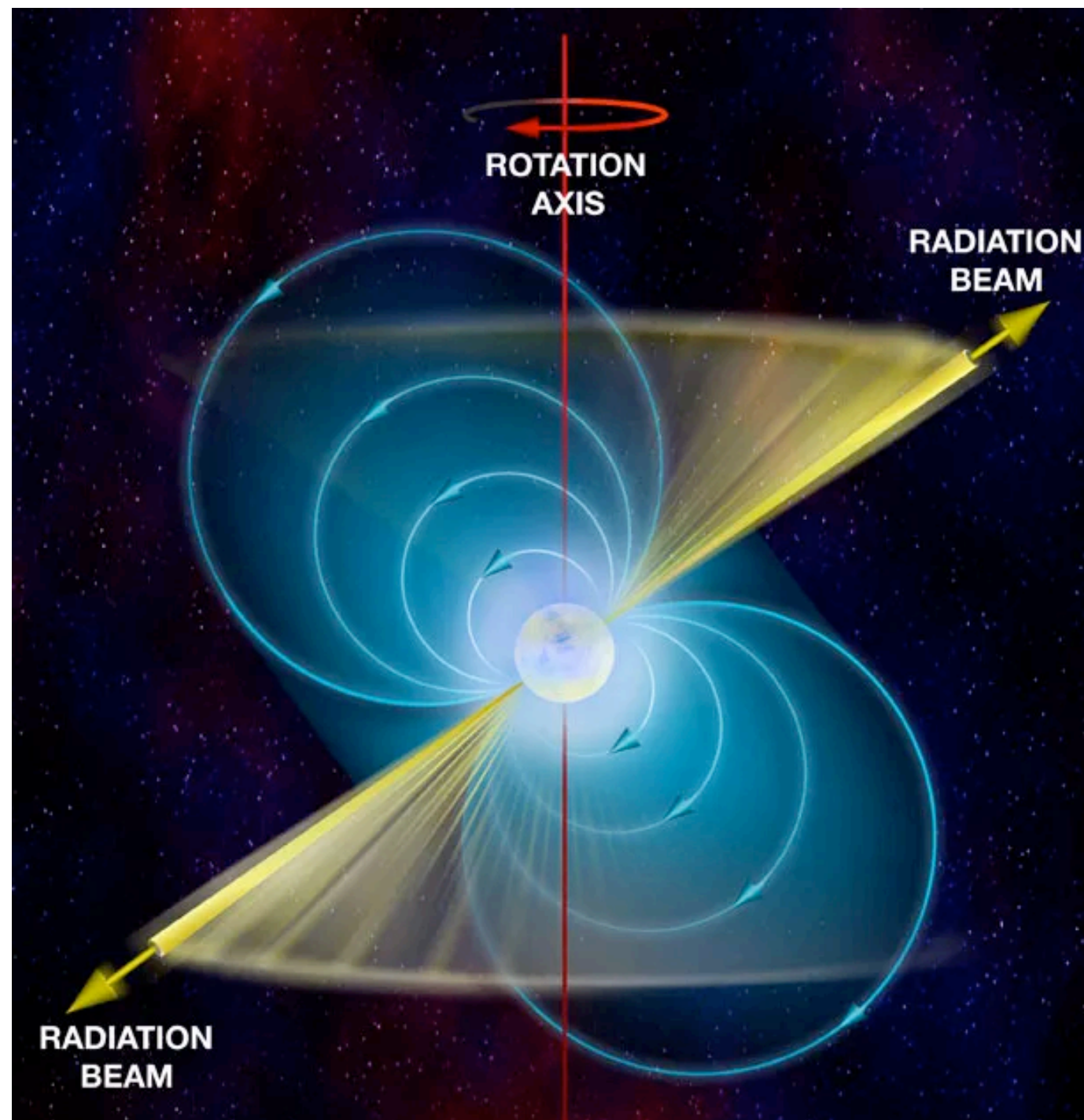
Goodenough & Hooper, 2009





# Or not?

A population of millisecond pulsars that hasn't yet been observed?



# Complementary search: dwarf galaxies



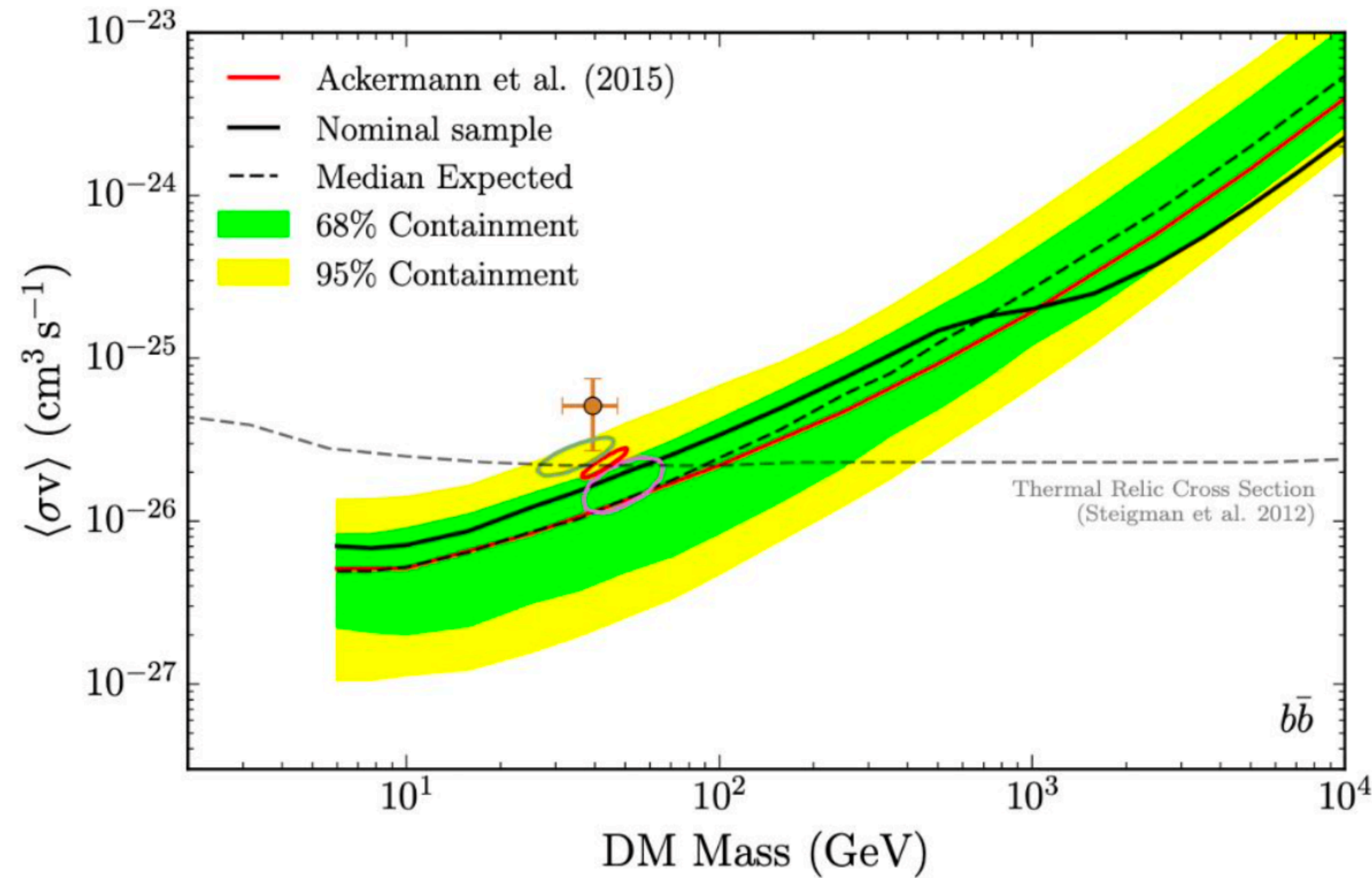
Dwarf Spheroidal Galaxy, Fornax. ESO

Lots of dark matter, not a lot of gas

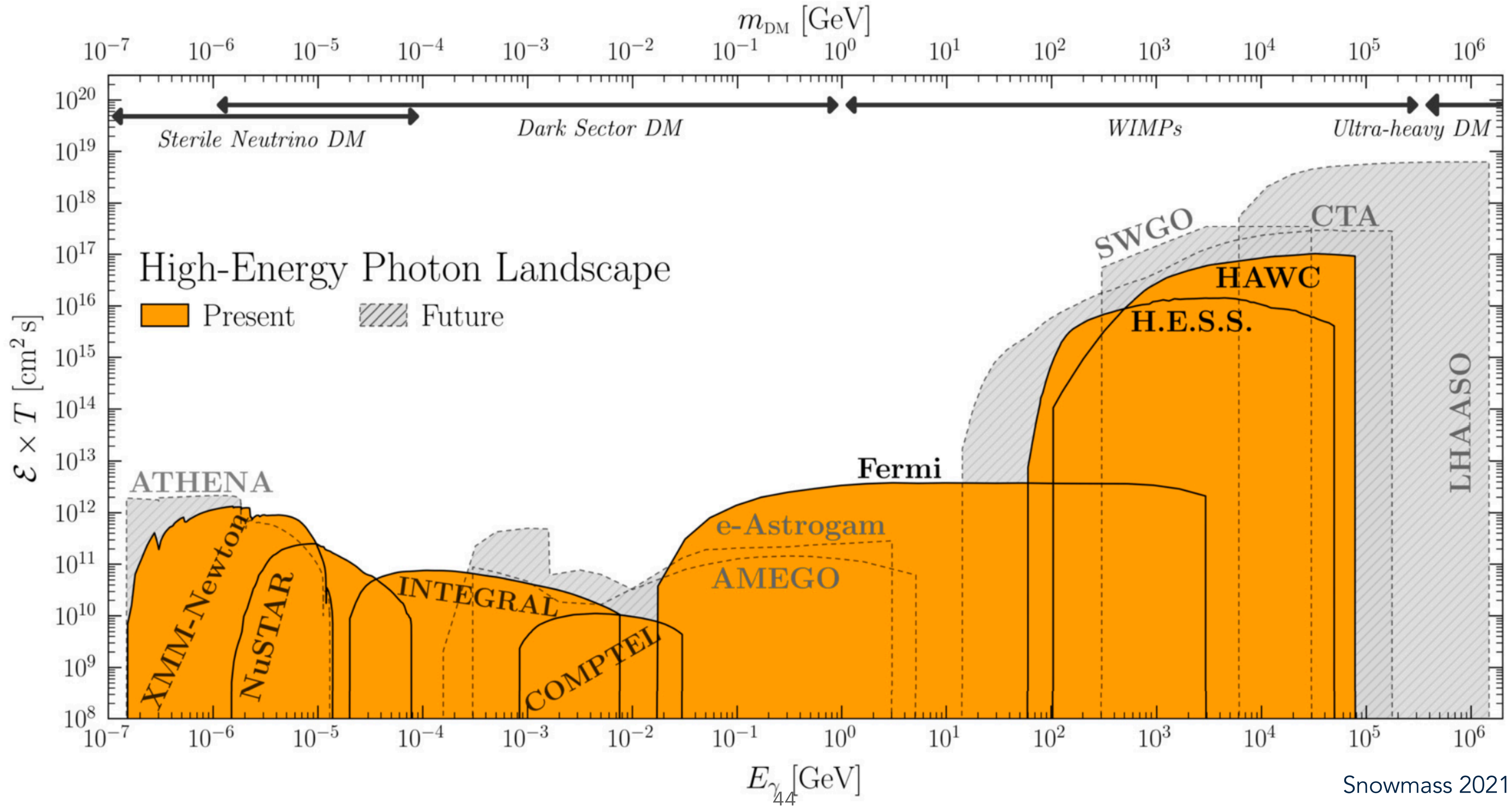
Much smaller than Milky Way, but a lot less background

Many Milky Way satellites

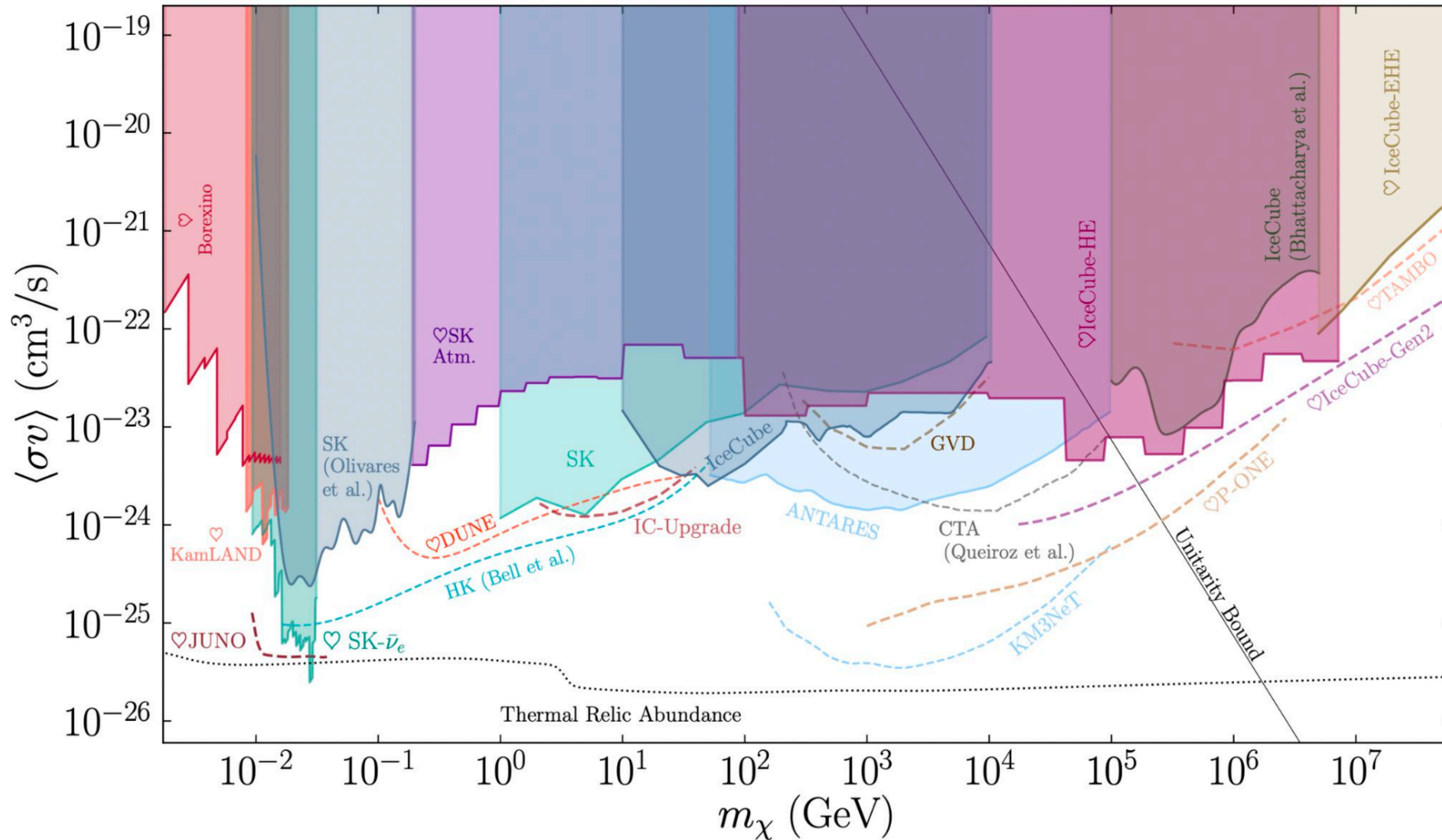
# Complementary search: dwarf galaxies



# Detecting Gamma Rays



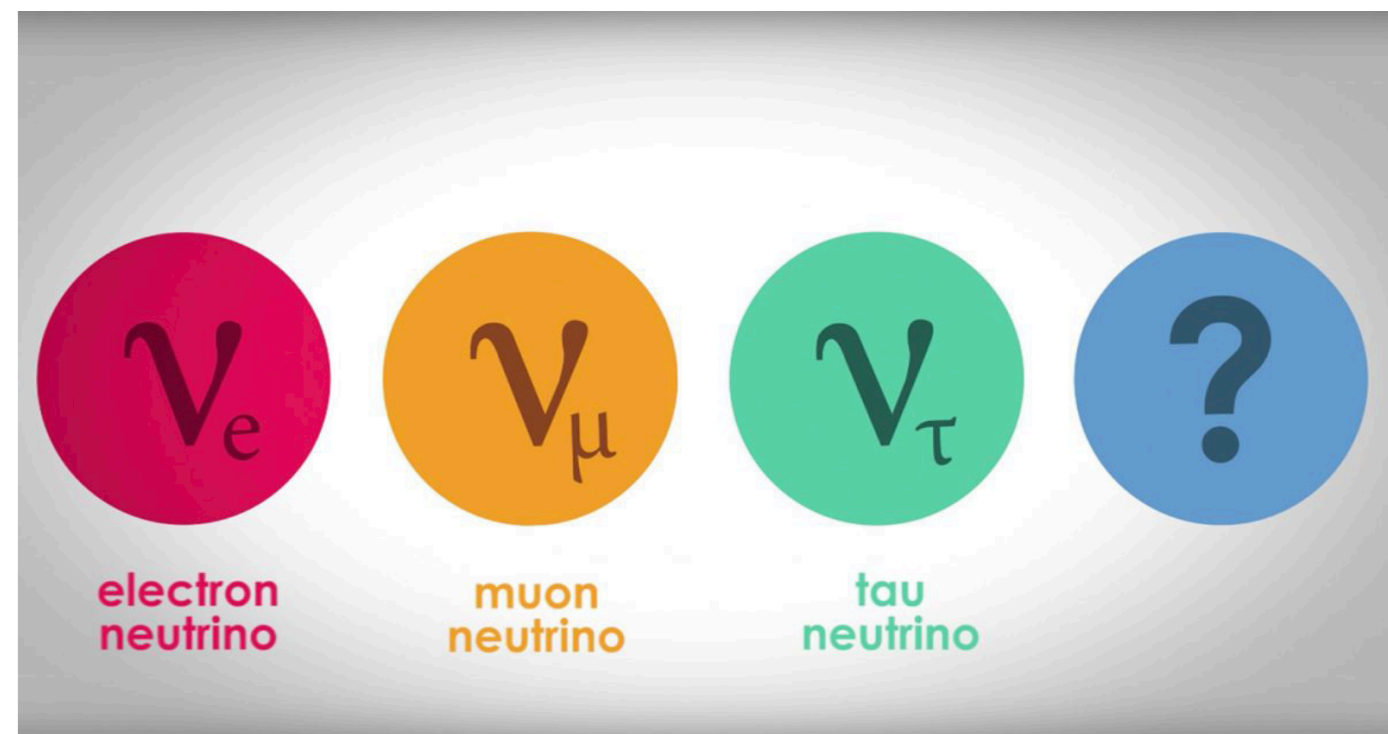
# Annihilation to Neutrinos



*Any* questions?

# What about light dark matter?

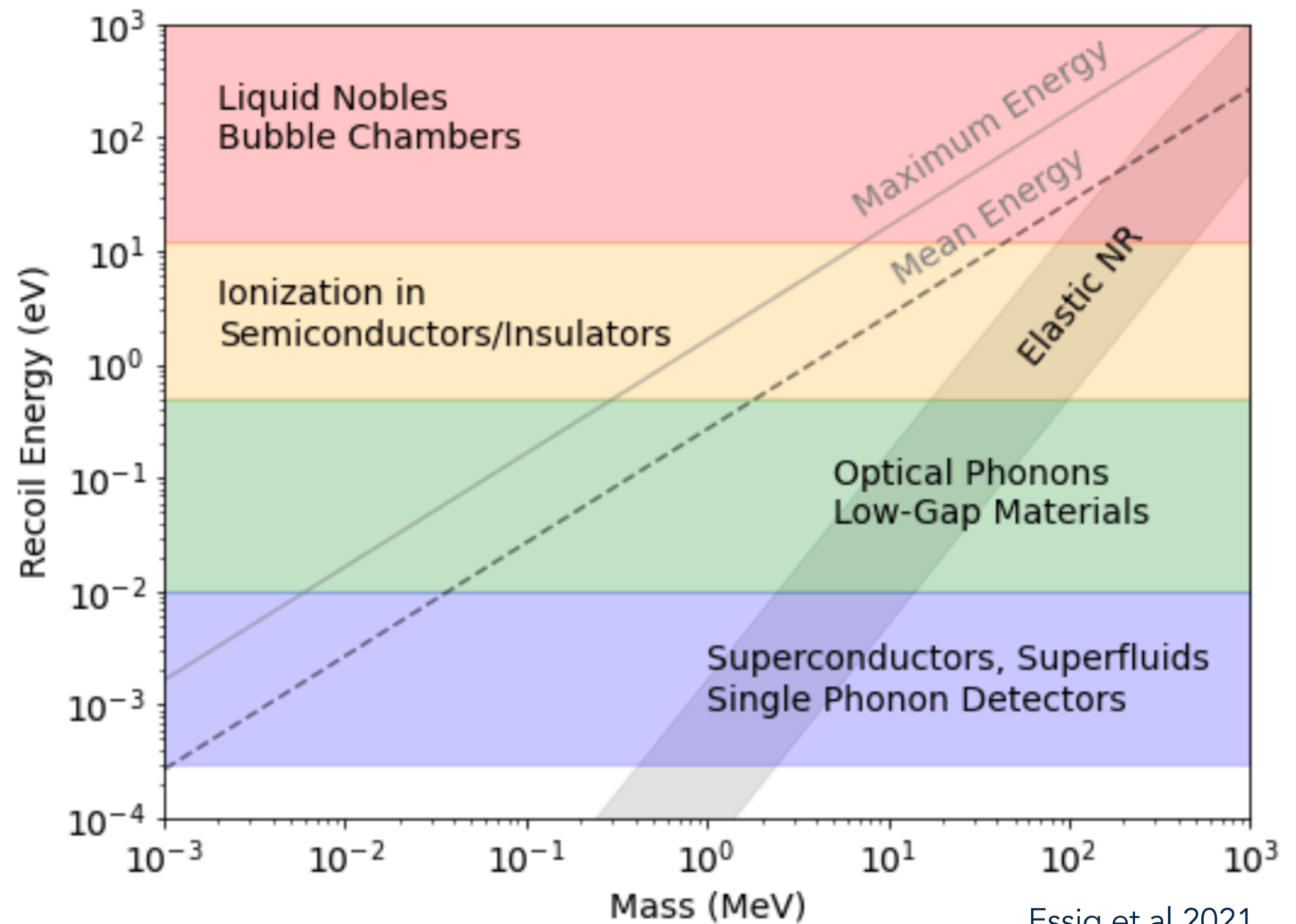
$$m_\chi = 1 \text{ keV} - 1 \text{ GeV}$$



De Gouvea

**Model example:** the sterile neutrino

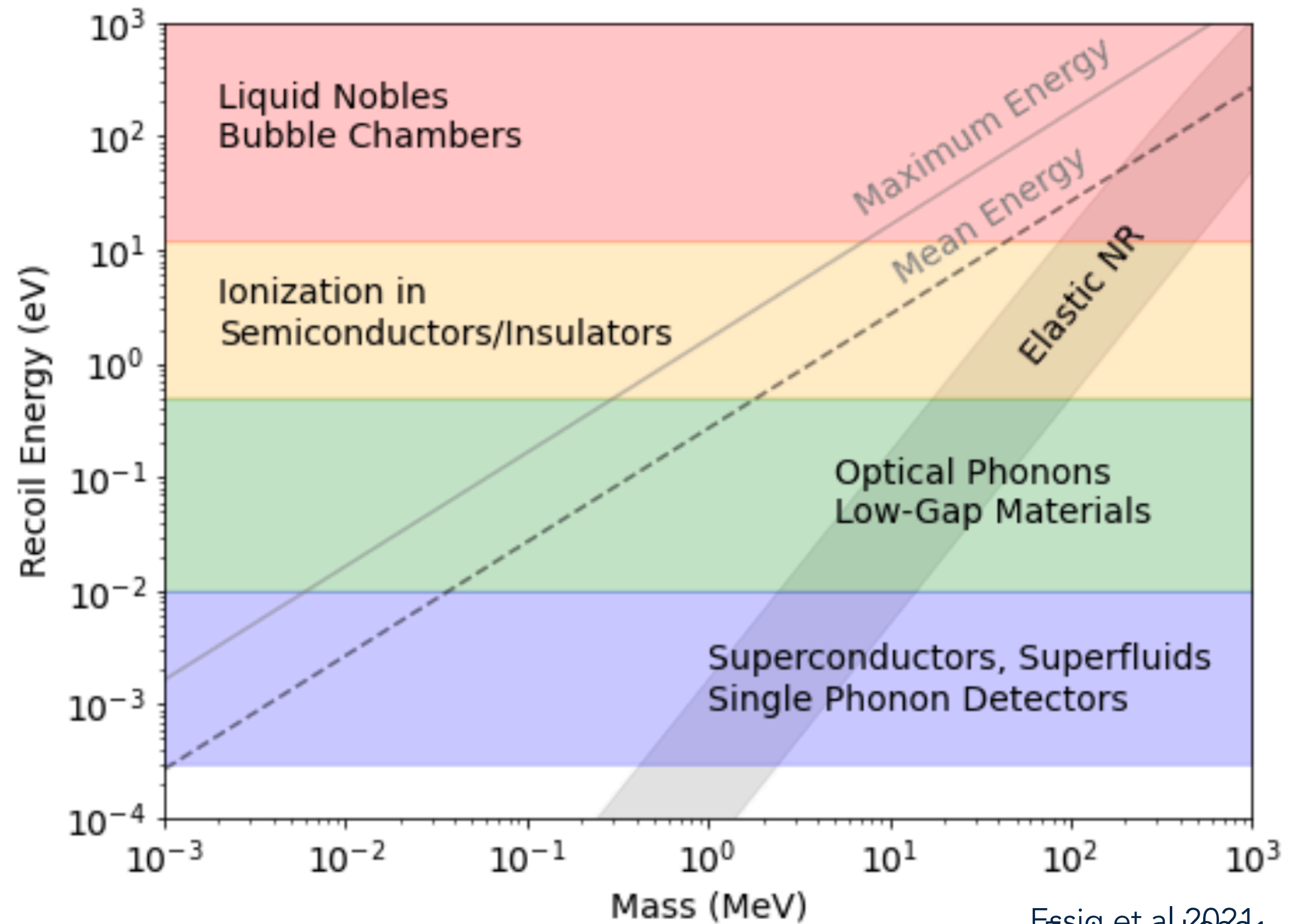
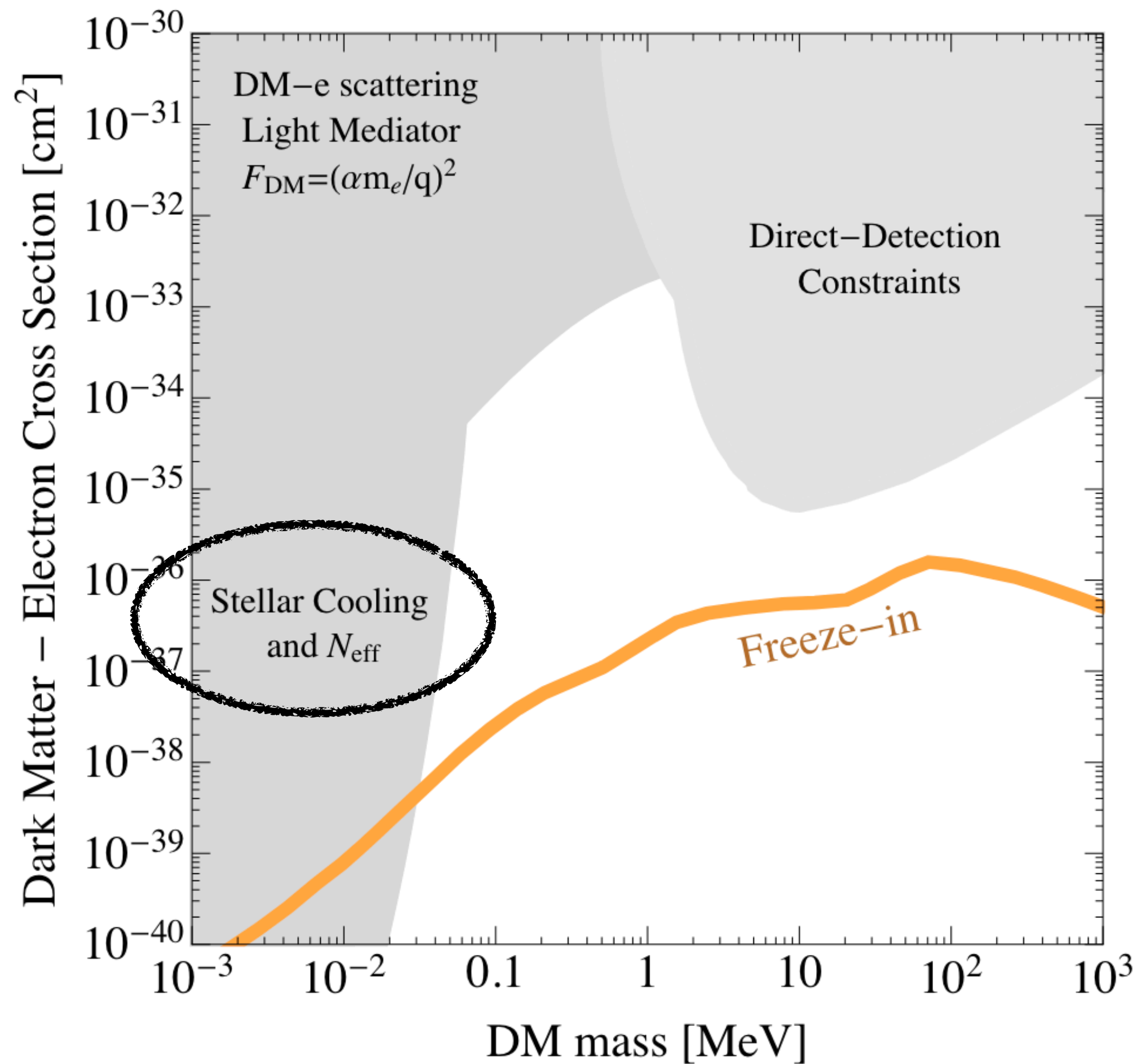
Or, DM with a light mediator



Essig et al 2021

# What about light dark matter?

$$m_\chi = 1 \text{ keV} - 1 \text{ GeV}$$





# Useful References & Review Papers

Which I used to make these slides  
(among others)

**Dark Matter, a Brief Review**, Annika Peter, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1201.3942>

**Dark Matter Direct Detection of Classical WIMPs**, Jodi Cooley <https://scipost.org/10.21468/SciPostPhysLectNotes.55>

**TASI Lectures on Indirect Detection of DM**, Tracy Slater [arxiv.org/abs/1710.05137](https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.05137)

**Les Houches Summer School Lectures on Dark Matter (many topics)**, [https://scipost.org/series/collection/2021\\_07\\_dark\\_matter/](https://scipost.org/series/collection/2021_07_dark_matter/)