

# Dark matter, on and off the beaten track

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# Outline

## 1. Dark Matter and WIMP

- A. Short reminder and upcoming bounds

## 2. Sub-GeV Dark Matter and dark sector

- A. How and why of sub-GeV Dark Matter

- B. Dark photon mass and dark Higgs

- C. Dark Higgs: signals and constraints

# Dark Matter and WIMP

# The golden path: WIMP

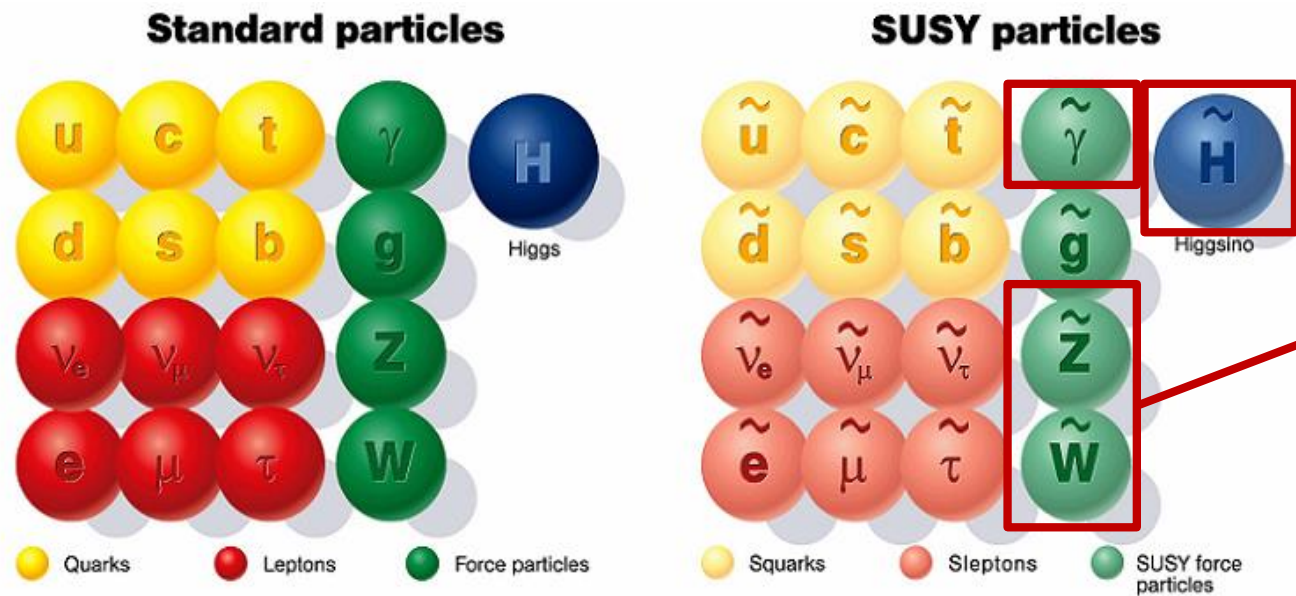
- Weakly Interacting Massive Particle
  - Mass roughly between 10 GeV and few TeV
  - Cross-section of approximately the weak interaction's one
- Works perfectly for interactions mediated by the weak force

$$\Omega h_{\chi}^2 \simeq \frac{10^{-37} \text{cm}^2}{\langle \sigma v \rangle_{\text{anni}}} \simeq 0.119 \quad \langle \sigma v \rangle \sim 10^{-36} \text{cm}^2 y^4 \left( \frac{m}{400 \text{GeV}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{2 \text{TeV}}{m_{\Phi}} \right)^4$$

- Include new physics at the **scale searched for at LHC experiments**

# In particular SUSY-WIMP

- Supersymmetry introduces several good WIMP candidate



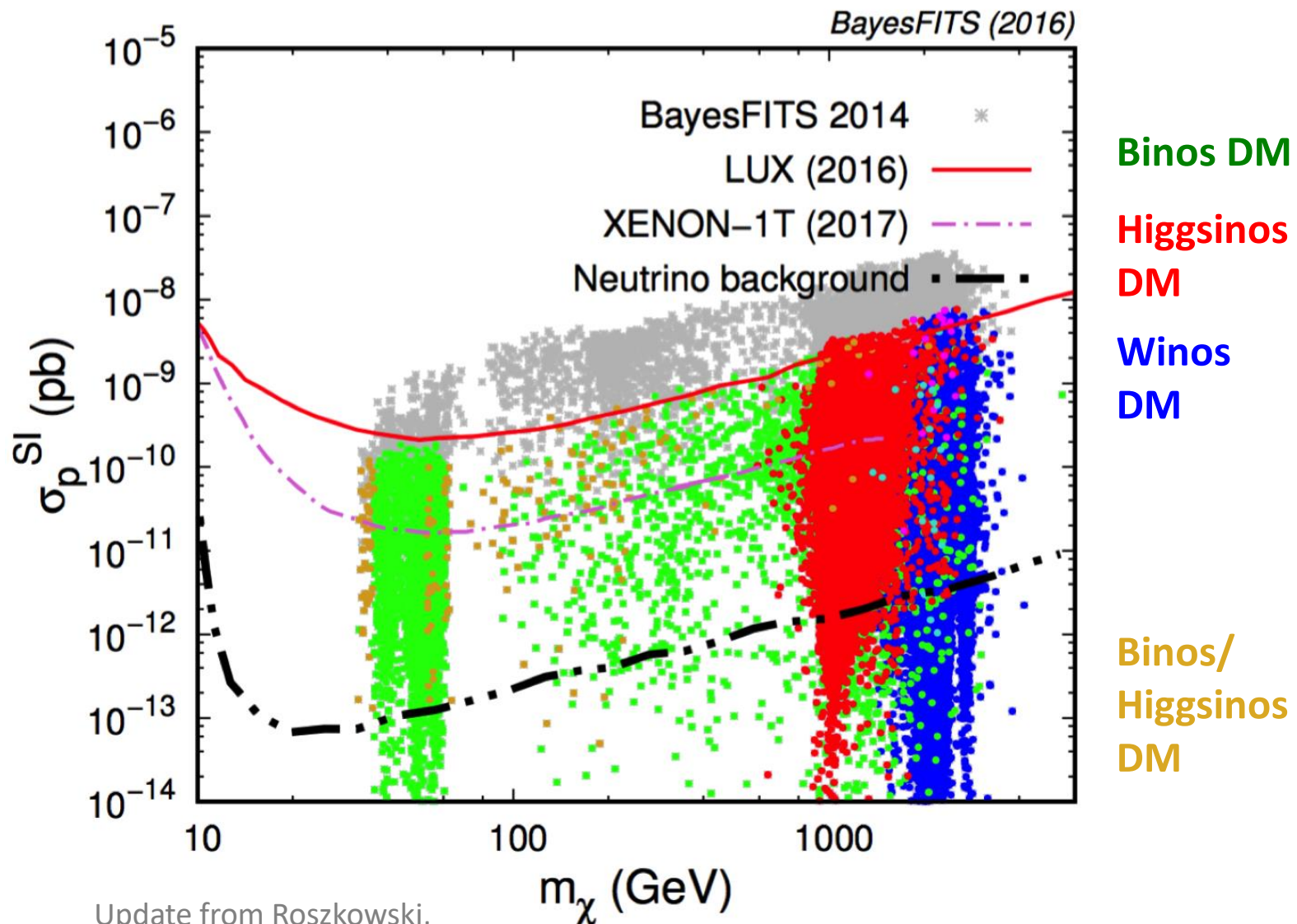
The neutralinos:

- Bino, Wino
- Higgsinos

Protected by a global symmetry  
→ Stable

- Experimentally good target as they can also be searched for at LHC

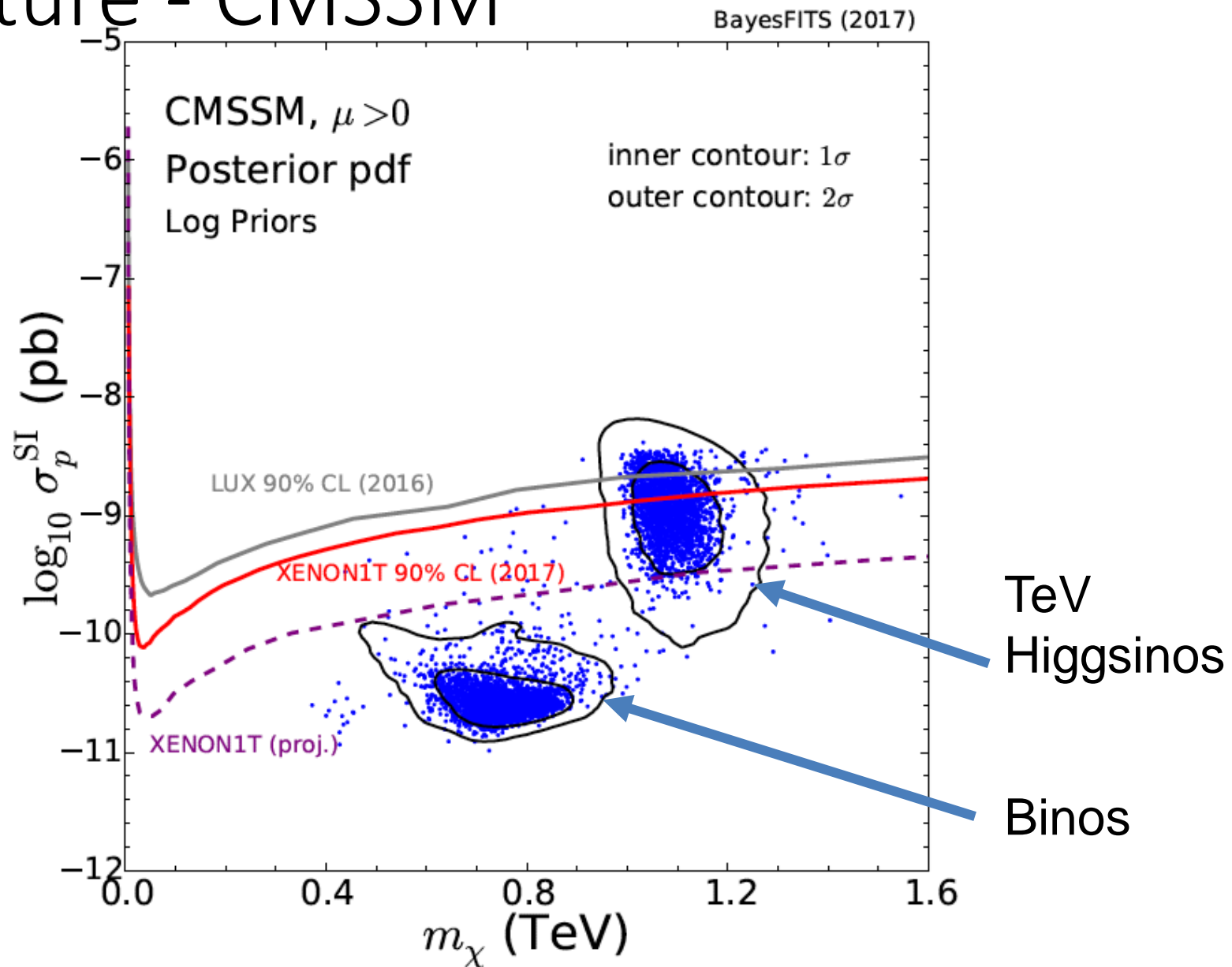
# Direct Detection constraints



- Binos DM require additional mechanisms (e.g co-annihilation) to obtain correct relic density
- Higgsinos in the TeV range are very good thermal DM candidates
- Not directly constrained by collider searches → complementarity

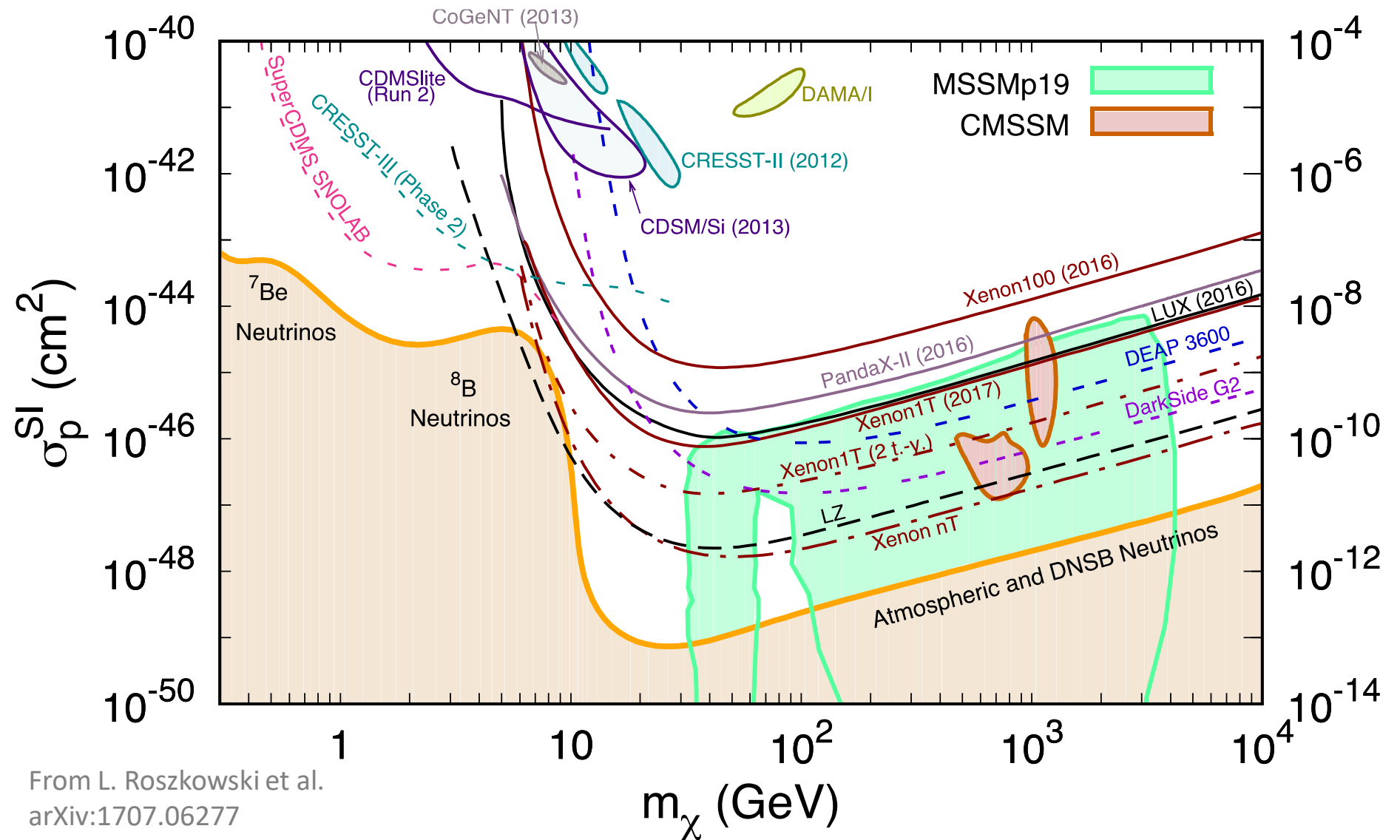
# Turning to the future - CMSSM

- The simplest SUSY realisations **within reach**



# Turning to the future – Direct Detection

- Bright prospect for WIMP searches
- Indirect searches also very constraining.

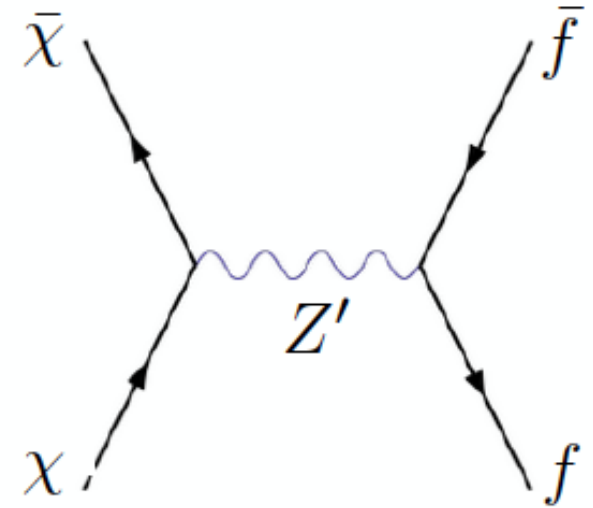




# Sub-GeV Dark Matter and dark sector

# What is required for such a DM?

- Obtaining the thermal relic density (from freeze-out)  
→ effective annihilation mechanism
  - Need a **new, massive mediator, “dark photon”**
  - Massive, around GeV
- Coupling to Standard Model → **mixes with ordinary photon kinetic mixing**
- Certain annihilation channels forbidden by indirect detection
- Self-interaction for Dark Matter, may be helpful in solving **some difficulties** of the CDM paradigm
  - *DM data at short scale* → Core-cusp problem
  - Caveat: baryonic feedback



# A dark Higgs mechanism?

- Most logical way to give a mass to the Dark photon  $\rightarrow$  Higgs mechanism.

$$\mathcal{L}_{A'} = -\frac{1}{4}F'^{\mu\nu}F'_{\mu\nu} - \boxed{\frac{1}{2}\frac{\varepsilon}{\cos\theta_w}B_{\mu\nu}F'^{\mu\nu}} + \boxed{(D^\mu S)^*(D_\mu S) + \mu_S^2|S|^2 - \frac{\lambda_S}{2}|S|^4}$$

Kinetic mixing term

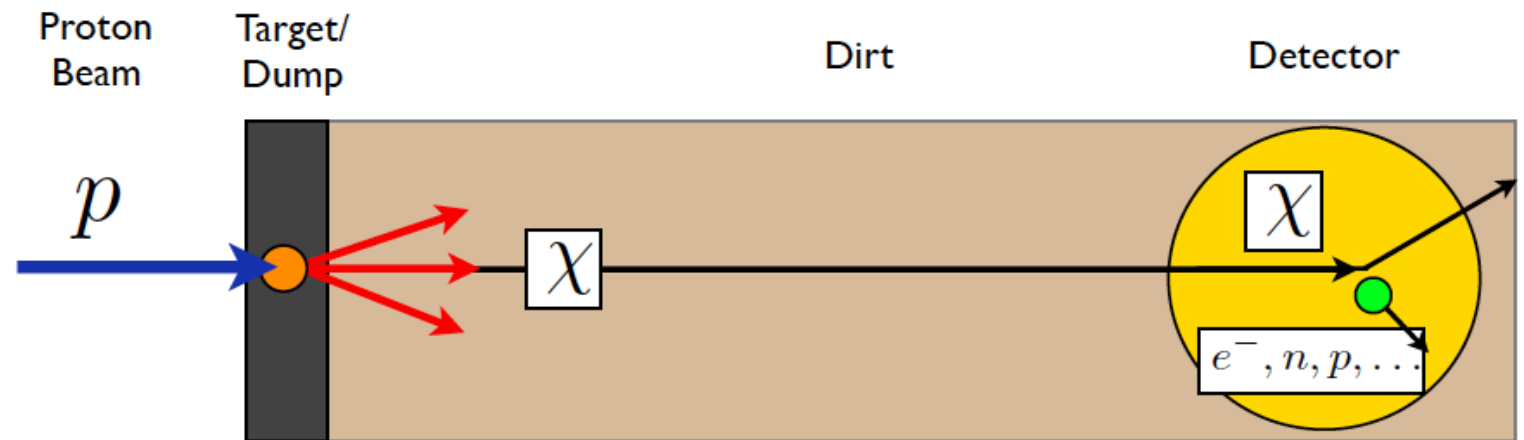
Dark Higgs potential

- The new “dark” U(1) symmetry is broken  $\rightarrow$  the VEV of the dark Higgs gives a mass to the dark photon
- The dark Higgs is typically light and long-lived

# Detection opportunities

- Main challenge: no significant energy deposit during scattering
  - Need dedicated experiments/searches -> many upcoming projects
- Also accessible at the *intensity frontier*
  - Low mass implies that one does not need huge collider, smaller scale installations but high intensity
  - Protons/electrons beam dump experiment (MiniBoonE, LSND, E137 ...)

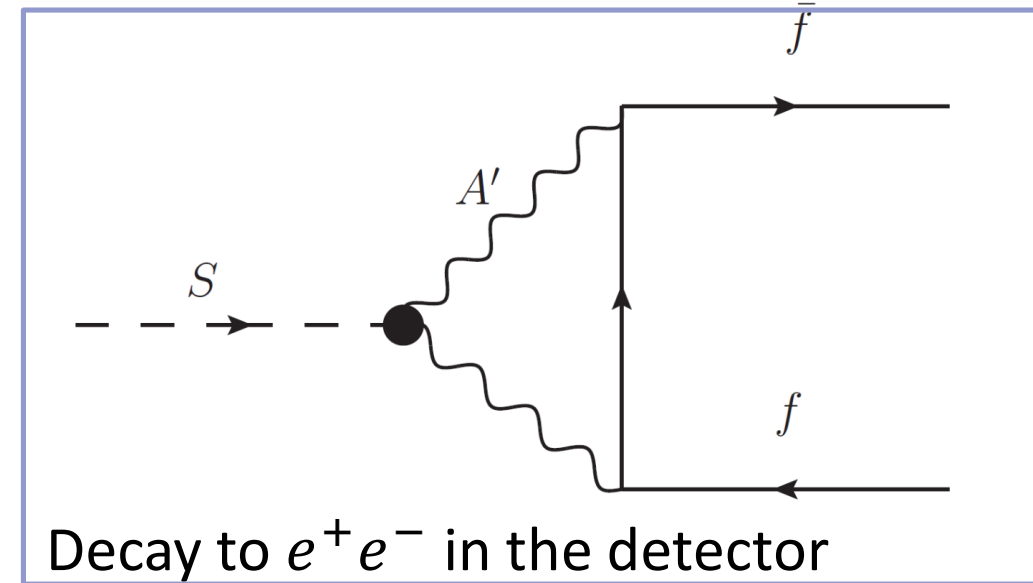
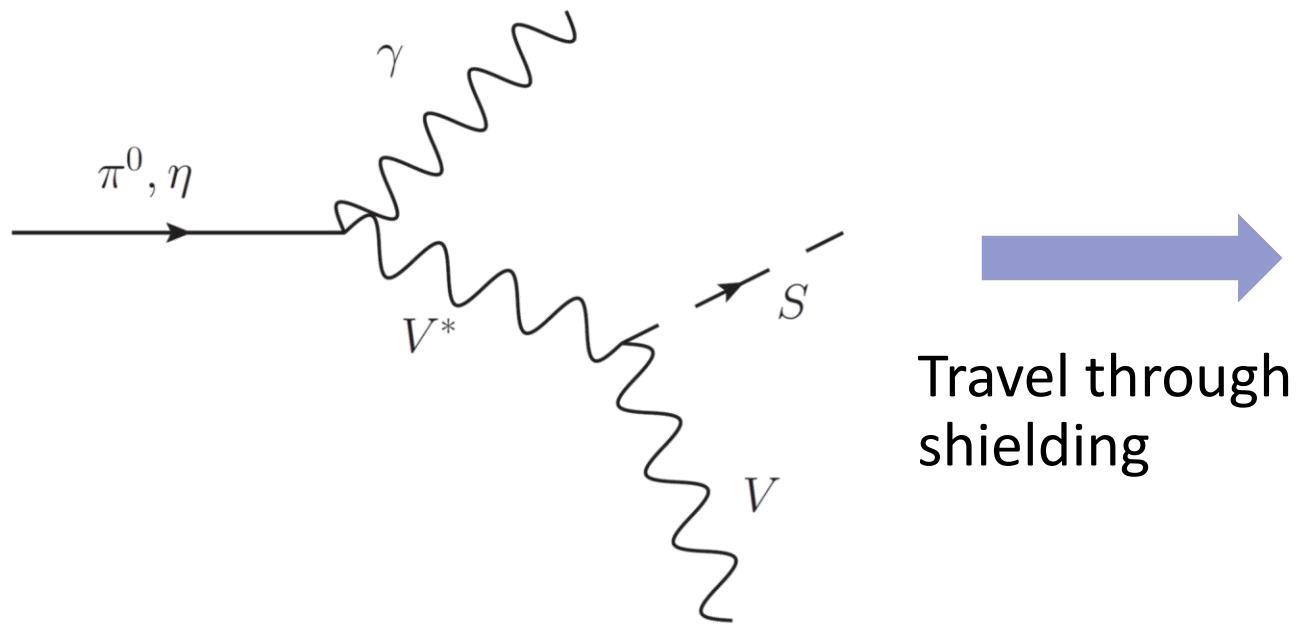
- Dark matter scattering
- Dark Higgs decay
- Dark photon searches (e.g. BaBar)



Suppressed processes – but huge statistics MiniBooNE:  $2 \cdot 10^{20}$  proton on target, LSND:  $10^{22}$   $\pi^0$  mesons produced...

# Dark Higgs signals

- Dark photon can mix with standard photon  $\rightarrow$  kinetic mixing
- Dark Higgs be produced through dark Higgsstrahlung

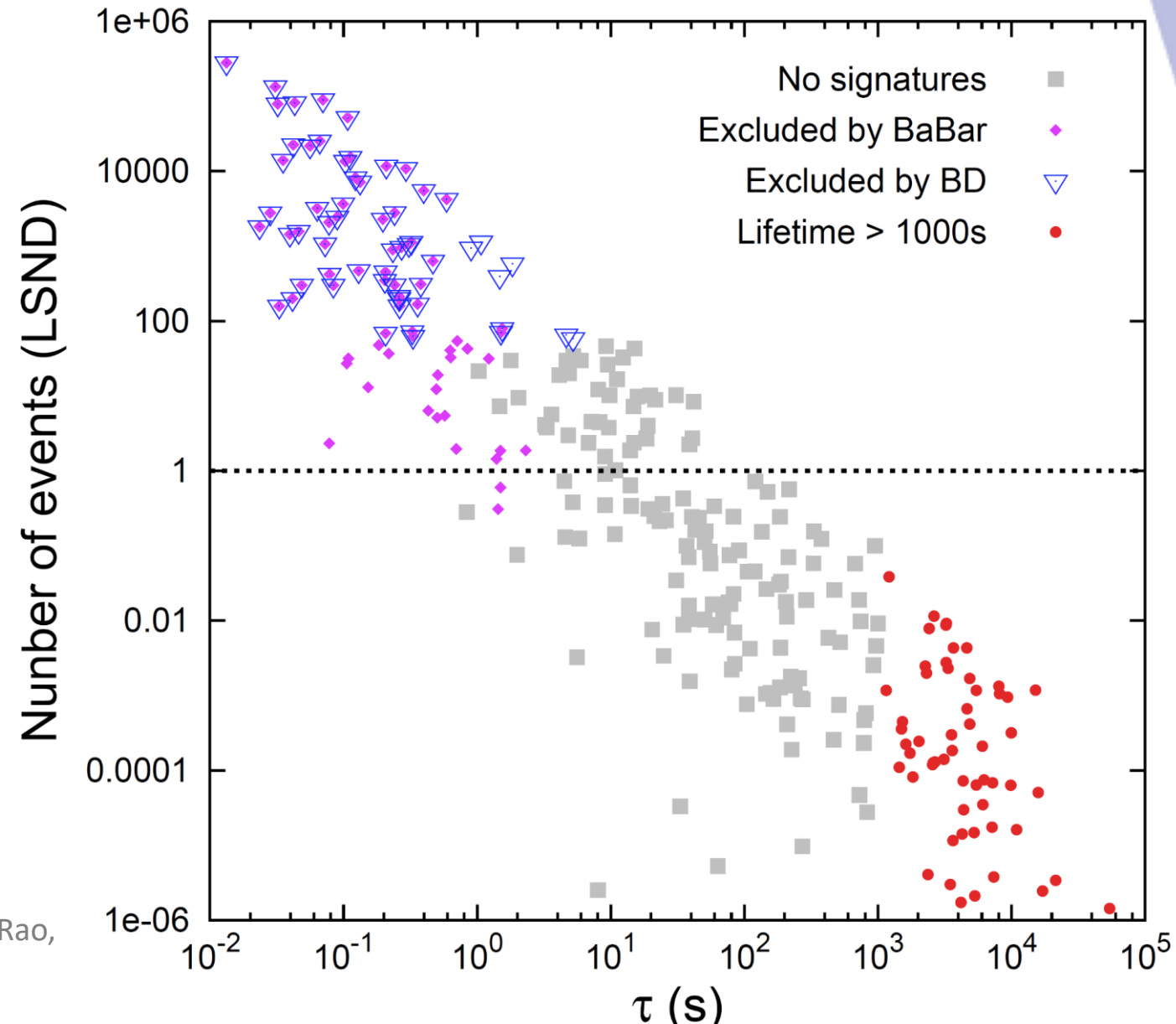


- Phase space suppression compared to DM beam mode, but easier detection (decay to pair electron-positron)

# Dark Higgs constraints

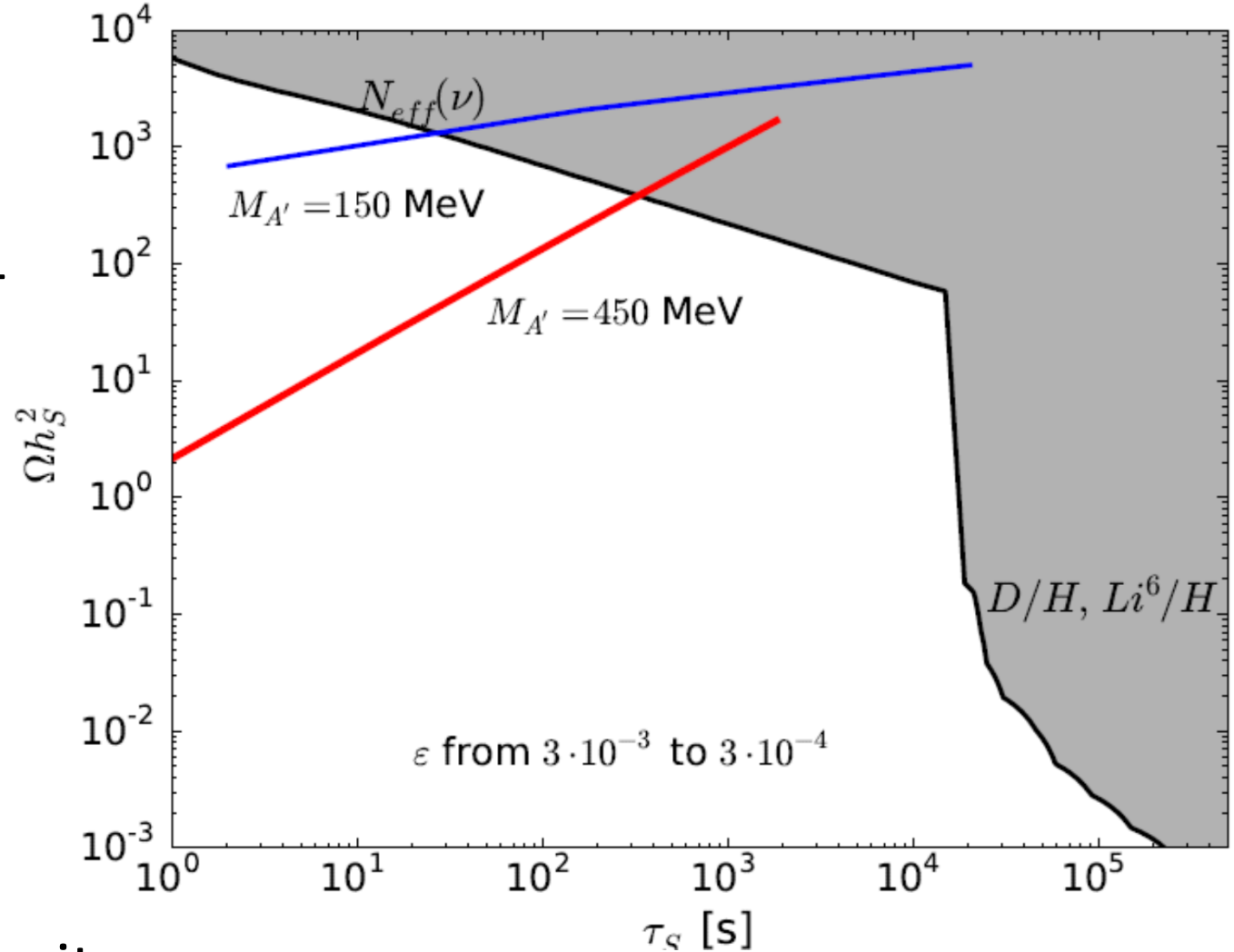
- Bounds from beam dump experiment (e.g. LSND, MiniBooNE ...)
- Strong limit from BaBar, directly on the kinetic mixing  $\varepsilon$
- BBN lower bounds  
→ depends on  $SS \rightarrow \chi\chi$  opened or not

Preliminary result: Darme, Rao,  
Roszkowski, 1710.xxxx



# BBN and indirect detection

- Not many annihilation mechanisms available  $\rightarrow$  Large metastable density after freeze-out
- Two relevant bounds
  - $N_{eff}$  neutrino from late time energy injection ( $\tau > 0.1s$ )
  - Light element abundances, e.g  $D/H$  ( $\tau > 10^4s$ )
- Light dark Higgs only decay electromagnetically (electron-positron pairs)  $\rightarrow$  (relatively) weak bounds



Preliminary result:  
Darme, Rao,  
Roszkowski, 1710.xxxx

# Conclusion



# A lampposts story ...

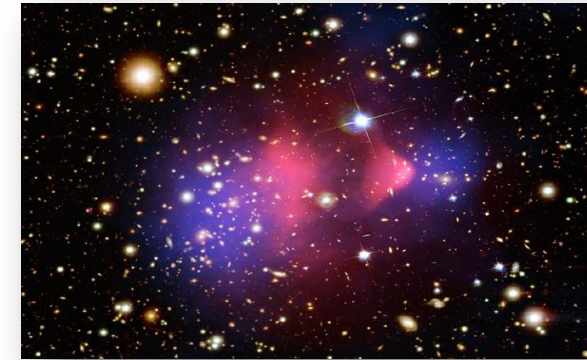
- Thriving experimental effort towards Dark Matter
- In the coming years the paradigmatic WIMP will be soon pushed down to the neutrino scattering limit
- Interesting developments on a sub-GeV DM candidate
  - New detection strategies
  - Rich dark sector phenomenology



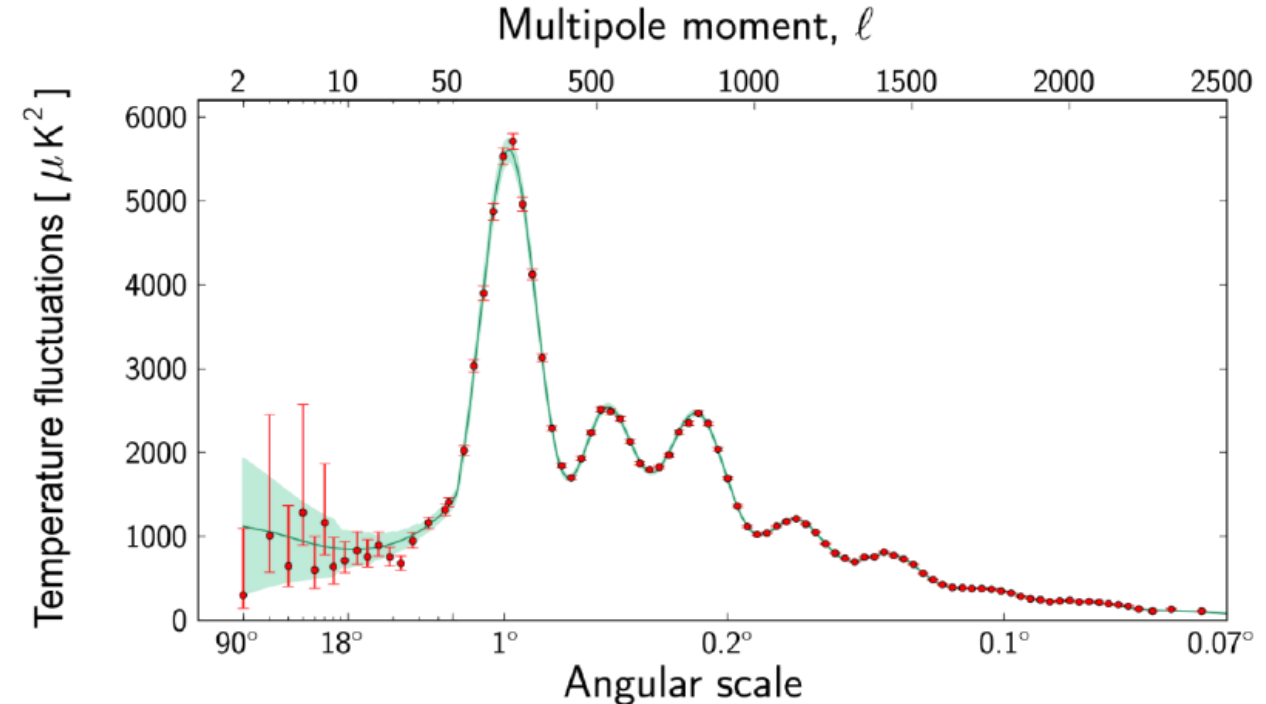
Backup slides

# Other DM gravitational evidences

- Bullet cluster
  - Visible matter in red (gas in X-ray)
  - DM from gravitational lensing in blue
- Large Scale Structure formation
  - DM is needed from N-body simulation
- Cosmic microwave background
  - The shape of the anisotropy power spectrum depends on the density of baryon and DM



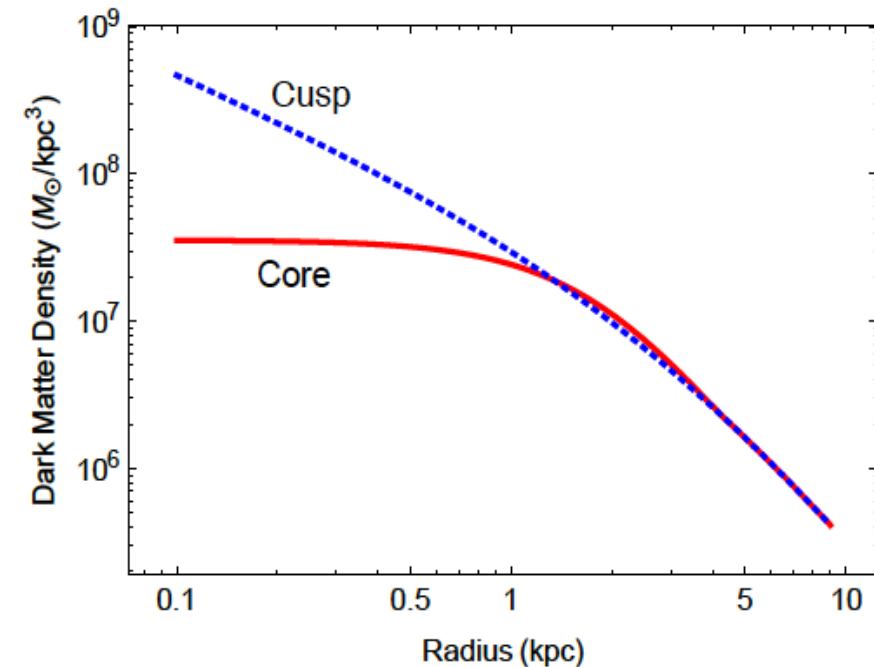
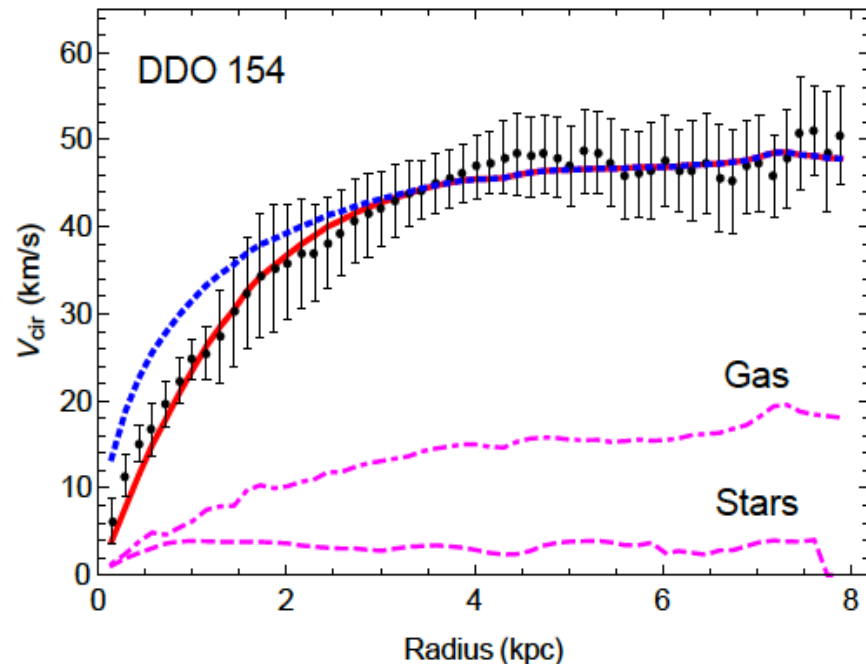
From Chandra X-ray laboratory



# Short scale anomalies

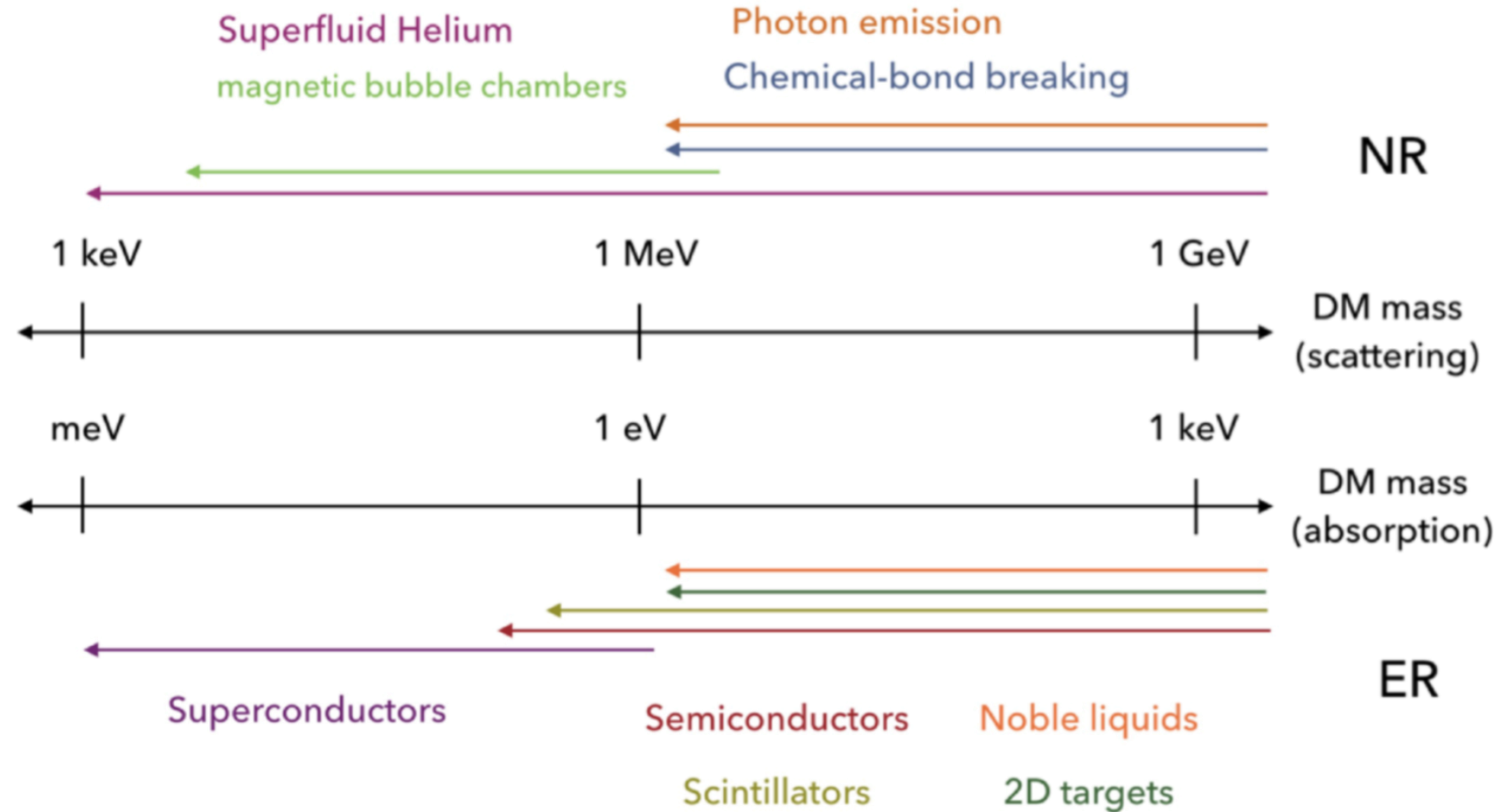
- May be helpful in solving **some difficulties** of the CDM paradigm, *N-body simulations have difficulties fitting the DM data at short scale*
  - Most famous: Core-cusp problem  $\rightarrow$  Current simulations predict too-sharp of mass density profile in DM halo
- Dark photon  $\rightarrow$  new, tuneable self-interaction for DM

- Caveat: debate over the influence of baryonic feedback



# Detection strategies, sub-GeV DM

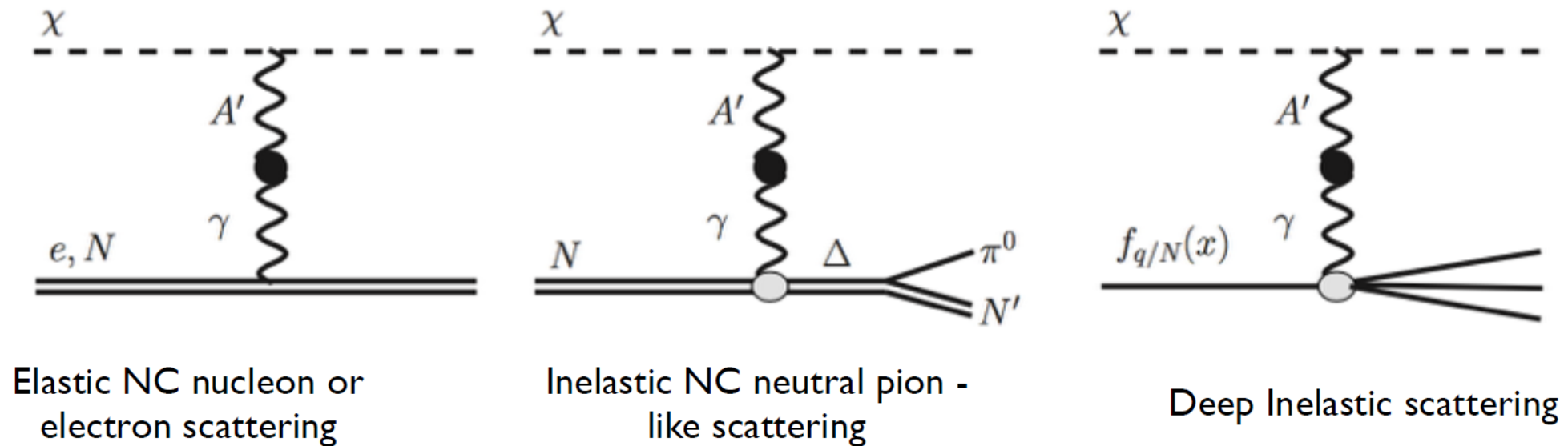
- Need for low-threshold experiments
  - DM-electron scattering
  - DM- low-Z elastic nucleus interactions
  - Bremsstrahlung in inelastic DM-nucleus scattering
- DAMIC, SENSEI, UA', NICE, SuperCDMS, NEWS



From  
arXiv:1707.04591

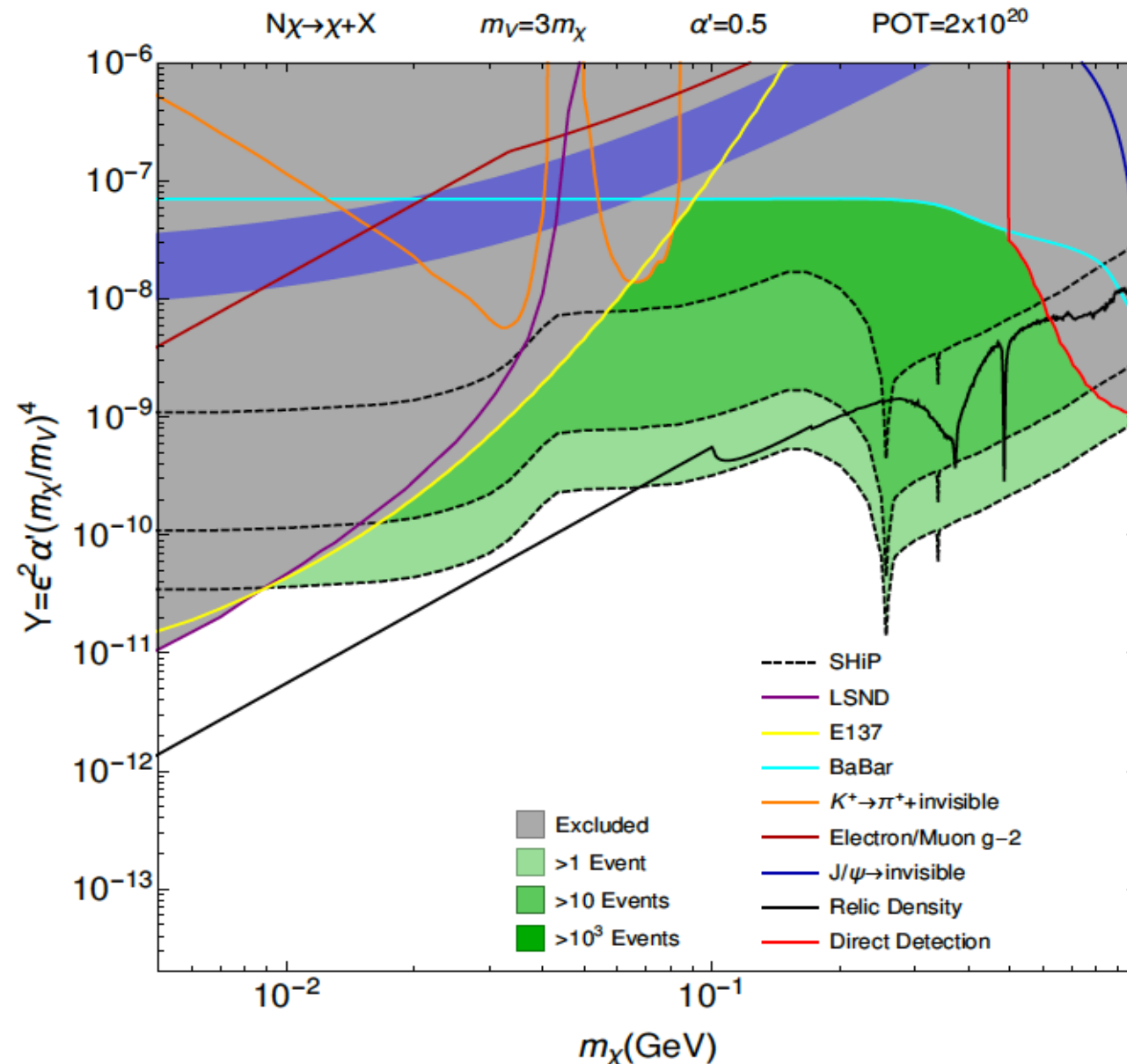
# Beam dump and scattering -- detection

- Dark matter travel through the shielding
- Typically detector tens or hundreds of meter away



- Signature similar to neutrino neutral current interaction  $\rightarrow$  possible to use existing neutrino experiments

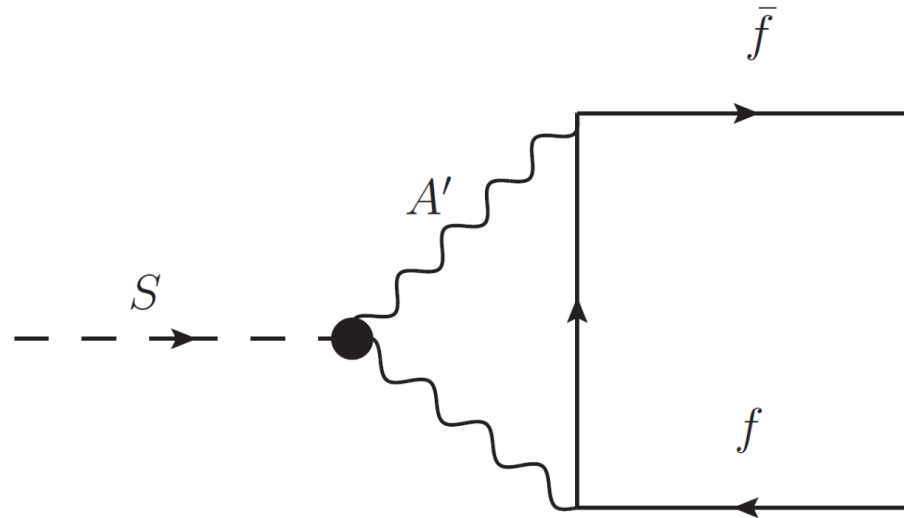
# Example: reach of upcoming SHiP experiment



From deNiverville  
arXiv:1609.01770

# Dark Higgs life-time

- Extremely long-lived
  - Two kinetic mixing insertion needed
  - Loop-factor
- Shorter life-time above di-muon threshold
- Hadronic uncertainties after di-pion threshold



$$\tau_S \propto 1 \text{ s} \times \left( \frac{\alpha'}{\alpha} \right) \times \left( \frac{10^{-3}}{\varepsilon} \right)^4 \left( \frac{100 \text{ MeV}}{M_S} \right) \left( \frac{M_{A'}}{100 \text{ MeV}} \right)^2$$

- If kinematically available, it can decay instantaneously to DM or dark photon



# Dark Higgs decay

- Long-lived, light particles  
→ Signatures at beam dump experiments
- Dark Higgs produced through “dark higgstrahlung”, in e.g. meson decay
- Decay to meson or lepton, depending on its mass

